

Andrew Heffernan, 49
NED

It will be a third Defender Burghley start for British-based Dutch rider Andrew Heffernan (49). Andrew runs a competition yard, AH Eventing, at Somerford Park in Cheshire. He has represented The Netherlands at Europeans, Olympic Games and World Championships, winning a team bronze medal at the 2014 World Equestrian Games.

Andrew is a British Eventing accredited trainer and Team Netherlands National Coach; he trains with Debbie King and Kim Belton. He is married to Millie and they have a young son, Alfie. He is also an increasingly popular and successful cross-country course-designer.

Harthill Phantom (Hollins Hall-Jaspers Phantom (Jasper's Egon)) is a 14-year-old Irish Sports Horse gelding bred by Nina Barbour and owned by the rider and the Top Eventers Syndicate. This pair won the CCI4*-S at Aston-le-Walls in 2023 and competed at Burghley last year, but retired across country.