

THE “EVENTS TEAM”: DEDICATED TO MAKING EVENTS A SUCCESS

The Event Team of the Commune of Betzdorf is responsible for the planning, preparation and technical implementation of all events organised in the Betzdorf area. David SCHOLTES and Jeff DA SILVA ALVES DA COSTA form the core of the team.



EN *Blummemaart, Quetschefest, Viizfest, Quiitsch Beach*, the communal cultural programme and the Betzfield Open Air... the numerous events which take place throughout the year in the Commune of Betzdorf are testament to the friendliness, joie de vivre and initiative of its inhabitants.

Centre Syrkus are all popular places where residents can meet together for relaxation and entertainment. The maintenance of these spaces and the success of the events held there depend on the discreet but essential work of the communal Event Team.

A cultural life in many places

The number of available venues is just as impressive as the wide variety of events organised in the Commune of Betzdorf: Al Scheier, the Cultural Centre and Al Schmëtt in Mensdorf, Al Millen in Olingen, Al Kierch in Roodt/Syre and the Cultural

A highly accomplished team

This dynamic communal team brings together David SCHOLTES and Jeff DA SILVA ALVES DA COSTA. “We coordinate all events organised in the Betzdorf area,” explains David SCHOLTES. “We participate in the planning, prepare the premises and

provide the necessary equipment. Lighting, sound, video, stage construction: we handle all the technical aspects of events. We also manage the entire infrastructure of municipal event venues: throughout the year, we maintain and keep tables, chairs, refrigerators, beer taps, crockery and other equipment in perfect condition to ensure they are always ready for use.”

These varied tasks are perfectly suited to David SCHOLTES, an experienced events organiser whose expertise grows with each project: “LED technology, new control desks... we have had to adapt constantly to technological developments, and that in itself has been exciting and rewarding.” He shares this responsible role with his colleague Jeff DA SILVA, who joined the municipal Buildings Department in 2014. “Until four years ago, event management was the responsibility of the Buildings Department, before the municipal management decided to create a team dedicated to this activity. The Communal Council then allowed me to take a specialised training course in Hannover on the fundamentals of event technology,” says Jeff DA SILVA.

Comprehensive service dedicated to associations and citizens

David SCHOLTES: “Our working philosophy is simple: anything we can do in-house, we do ourselves. A second option is to hire specialised equipment and operate it ourselves. The third option involves



calling on partner companies for certain services, a solution we reserve for major events such as the Betzfield Open Air. These large-scale events also benefit, if necessary, from the support of the CIGR, Buildings or Drinking Water Departments of the Commune."

The Event Team offers local associations a comprehensive catalogue of event equipment: chairs, tables, bar tables, stage elements, beer tent fittings, refrigerators, and so on. This allows each organiser to select the equipment best suited to their needs.

The team has excellent relationships with association leaders. "Overall, associations schedule one or two major events per year, and we always contribute in one way or another," explains Jeff DA SILVA.

Safety is of course a key consideration in any event planning approach: safety standards are strictly adhered to at all events. This includes providing emergency exits, fire extinguishers and first aid kits. Some large-scale public events require additional security personnel and protocols with the fire service.

The Event Team also organises official events – receptions, inaugurations, national holiday celebrations, which take place alternately in each part of the Commune – as well as private events held in municipal venues. The team provides the necessary furniture and fittings and explains to organisers how to use the available facilities.

Every edition, a renewed pleasure: the Betzfield Open Air

When asked what has been the most memorable event they have organised, the team members are unanimous: according to them, the Betzfield Open Air, a summer festival which has attracted up to 1,600 spectators in recent years, is the jewel in the crown of Betzdorf's cultural programme. Jeff DA SILVA enthusiastically highlights this exceptional setting: a municipal lawn which offers a natural amphitheatre atmosphere. "Every spectator has a perfect view of the stage! The festival has already welcomed renowned artists such as singers Loi and Stefanie Heinzmann, as well as the famous magician duo Siegfried & Joy." An interesting detail: beyond the technical aspects, the Event Team must also meet the specific requirements of each artist.

David SCHOLTES cites the example of Stefanie Heinzmann, who wanted to incorporate soap bubbles into her show, a perfectly reasonable request which was immediately granted.

Cutting-edge technology for high-quality events

The Syrkus cultural centre in Roodt-Syre, a former sports hall converted into a performance venue some fifteen years ago, perfectly illustrates the wealth of event facilities available in Betzdorf. The building houses a full range of equipment: lighting, sound, cabling and stage equipment necessary for organising events.

David SCHOLTES makes no secret of his pride in the state-of-the-art sound system installed in the Syrkus hall: "This example demonstrates the Municipal Council's commitment to offering the citizens of Betzdorf high-quality events using appropriate means."

Jeff DA SILVA speaks for the team when he expresses the satisfaction they all derive from their work: "Our jobs bring us new discoveries and new learning experiences every day... Routine is completely unknown to us!" This obvious passion undoubtedly contributes to the success of the events organised by the team!