



OLD BASING ARCHERS' NEWSLETTER

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From the Chairman

I'm sure we're all pleased to hear that Trevor is back home and recovering, although it will be some time before we see him back on the shooting line.

The year has got off to a good start for the club. The recent publicity has paid dividends in terms of beginners and "retired" archers wanting to join. It's important that we support the beginners and it may cause some disruption for a few weeks. Beginners are the new blood of the club. We have been decreasing in numbers over the past four years, therefore it's important we make the best of this opportunity. More details in the rest of the newsletter.

I have an apology, I said in the first newsletter we were only supporting two activities – OBA Fete and the FITA star, there is one other that became clear at the last committee meeting. It appears that Basingstoke is hosting the Hampshire and Isle of Wight games this year, and we gave a commitment last year to organise the archery. The recreation ground is booked for the 14th July, we are sorting out the details and will let you know.

I hope you are enjoying your shooting, you can't complain about the weather. (*Ed. note, written before the St. George's day shoot!*).

George

Beginners

Our first 4-week course has finished with a bang (lots of balloons!). We had 14 on the course, and hope to see most signing up to take their place on the line with us. We have over 20 more waiting for the next course, so will have to run two sessions – Monday and Wednesday from 13th and 15th May until 10th and 5th June (The Monday course will skip the Jubilee holiday weekend). This means the Wednesday evenings cannot be used for practice, but please come along and help out instead. Old Basing Carnival – Have-a-go
The carnival takes place on Saturday June 15th, so no shooting that day, but can we have helpers for the have-a-go sessions please.

Achievements

Congratulations to Richard Ayling and Su Elliot for gaining places in the Hampshire team.
Commiserations for their first team outing, to

Eastbourne on the 28th, being abandoned due to strong winds.

At the Andover Saxon shoot on Sunday 21st April the OBA team, comprising Su, Richard, Francis Ayling and George Matthews took second place. Congratulations to Francis for achieving her first junior rose award (Black).

Frostbite Competition 2001-2002

It was clear from the outset that the rapidly improving Francis had only to turn up and shoot to win this handicap competition. Trailing in her wake were George Matthews (2nd), Geoff Machin and Robin Foster (= 3rd).

Indoor Competition 2001-2002

A handicap competition that favours the regular attendee at the indoor shooting. The qualifying Portsmouth rounds were shot on the first Wednesday of each month. The winner was Andrew Hutchison, with Robin Foster 2nd and Kevin Deighton 3rd.

Membership Fees

These now fall due, and a 2002 membership form should be with you. Please note that in view of the increase in fees this year, the club is willing to take three equal instalments as post-dated cheques (May/June/July).

On the reverse of the membership form is a survey, please complete it so we can gauge the sort of activities the club should concentrate on. The results will be announced in the next newsletter.

Western 7.2K Trophy & Monthly Handicap Medals

Traditionally the first Sunday of each month from May to September is for a nominated handicap shoot. This year it will be Westerns in May, June and July, a Windsor for the Birthday shoot in August and York/Hereford/Bristol rounds at the Siege. By shooting these Western rounds, and a couple more, you can qualify for the Western 7.2K trophy (7200 points for shooting 5 rounds to handicap, more if you are improving). To allow more members to participate, you can also shoot your round on the Saturday, or take your best score if you shoot both!

St. George's Day Shoot, 28th April

Our lovely spring weather came to an end this Sunday, but it didn't deter a dozen OBA archers and one guest from braving the wind and showers. Scores may not have been as everyone hoped, but the bacon rolls, cakes, wine and other treats kept our spirits up.



Medals are to be awarded as follow:

Juniors: Gold to Rachael Hutchison (99 hits, 32 golds, 677 scored), Silver to Francis Ayling.

Gents Recurve: Gold to Andrew Hutchison (94 hits, 19 golds, 524 scored), Silver to Pete Hebdidge.

Gents Compound: Gold to Geoff Machin (99 hits, 34 golds, 677 scored), Silver to Robin Foster, Bronze to Colin Hasler.

The St. George trophy goes to Rachael, as the top scoring recurve archer. Well done Rachael (no bias, honest☺)



Hampshire and IOW Games

It looks as though this will be cancelled due to a lack of entries. If it is, we can all go to the Berkshire Championships in Wokingham on July 14th instead.

Festival Of Sport (Alençon)

Our French counterparts, a party of 19, will be arriving on May 17th. The competition will take place on Sunday 19th. Details to be posted in the clubhouse. Please come along to give them a warm welcome and to bolster our chances in the competition.

Handicap Ladder and Knockout

Don't forget the handicap ladder and knockout start this month. New score sheets will highlight it for you.

Archery Etiquette

The beginners who join us will be given a starter pack including advice on good shooting line etiquette. The rest of us must remember to observe those same rules. If you have any doubts about what's involved, you too can have a starter pack to put you straight!

Please turn up for the regular sessions with sufficient time to set up, help with the targets and do your warm-up exercises. Yes warm-ups, highly recommended by senior coaches to improve performance and avoid injuries. When we've got you all doing a warm up we will introduce the concept of warm downs.

Parking

The council have painted fresh double-yellow lines to emphasise the areas to keep clear for emergency vehicles, please observe the rules and park only in the marked bays.

Secondhand Equipment

With so many beginners this season, now is a good time to dust off any spare equipment and offer it for sale. Put a notice up in the clubhouse and we can try to match buyers and sellers to everyone's benefit.

You can also try the following web sites, but beginners should get advice before spending their money:

www.archerysmallads.com

www.haa.org.uk/adv/index.php

May 26th - Friendly Shoot in Wokingham

After last year's Siege shoot turned into a head to head between our clubs, we've been invited back to the Bowmen of Burleigh in Wokingham on Sunday May 26th. They are suggesting a York/Hereford/Bristol format (12 dozen arrows) with suitable distances for juniors and improvers. Please let me know if you are interested. Assembly will be at 10am, bring a packed lunch and those important snacks to keep your energy up throughout the day.

Editor's Footnotes

I'm collecting email addresses with the membership forms, and plan to send out future newsletters and other notices using them. Please let me know if you would rather see a paper copy, or can't deal with the Word 95 document format.

I might get the latest newsletters posted on the web site, with an archive of recent ones if anyone thinks it might be useful.

Those dates for your diaries again:

Beginners (2): Mondays 13th May – 10th June

Beginners (3): Wednesdays 15th May – 5th June

Alençon Match: Sunday 19th May

Wokingham: Sunday 26th May

Old Basing Carnival: Saturday 15th June