

# Old Basing Archers NEWSLETTER December 2004

## Thoughts of Chairman George

Archery like many sports goes through cycles of popularity. Over the last ten years I have seen our membership go from 50 plus down to about 30 and now back up at over 50. Also, encouragingly for those of more mature years, a drop in the average age of club members. This success owes much to the hard work of our coaches in running the beginners courses at the beginning of each year.

Unfortunately success brings its own problems especially when we all turn up to shoot at the same time, Saturday mornings being a prime example. The committee has taken some of the comments and ideas you made to help; the board to bid for distances, and moving the safety rope out further, being two.

These have helped, and also so will following; the GNAS motto of "Courtesy". These are

: - Turn up on time to set up your equipment and help set up the field.

: - Help clear the field afterwards; if you do turn up late this point is particularly appreciated.

: - Keep your equipment, bows, stands, boxes and telescopes behind the equipment line (5 yards behind the shooting line)

: - If you use a scope on the line, bring it back when you have finished shooting (unless otherwise agreed with your target companions)

: - Try not to distract other archers when they're shooting. Talk behind the equipment line. (5 yards behind the shooting line)

The winter will bring it's own solution to these problems as our more fair weather archers hibernate for the winter, but please bear them in mind for next summer and help us all enjoy our archery as we should.

*George*

## Club Championships

Seems like they were ages ago now but it was only 5<sup>th</sup> October. In spite of the grey day and poor weather forecast, about 30 enthusiastic souls prepared to give the York, Hereford and Bristols their best shot. Shooting started under leaden skies and the non-existent wind eliminated a few excuses from the popular publication "101 Reasons Why I Missed The Target". After the first dozen, the wind started to get up and before the end of six dozen, a light drizzle was falling. The lunch break was cut to 45 minutes, as it was plain that the weather was going to deteriorate further. Even so, the majority of members completed the 12 dozen and demonstrated the stuff of which OBAers are made.

## Results

Gents recurve champ

Richard A

Lady recurve champ

Denise B

Compound champ

Paul R

Junior champ

Rachael H

Longbow most hits

Sam W

Best gold (recurve)

Dave W

Best gold (compound) Capt Of The Arrow

Geoff M

Veterans Trophy

Harry H

7.2k Trophy

Harry H

Brooks Trophy

Rachael H

Bunkle Rose Bowl

Richard A

*(see the Colour Supplement for more pictures)*

## Editor



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## Overheard At The Shooting Range

Archer A "Oh dear, I've left my arrows at home!"

Archer B "What length are your arrows?"

Archer A "I shoot 28 inches"

Archer B "And what is your bow weight A?"

Archer A "My bow is rated at 36 pounds"

Archer B "No problem A, you can borrow my spare arrows!"

Archer A "Thanks very much but I left my bow at home as well!"

*Editor*

## TC's Birthday Shoot

Veteran's shoots have become more common at Old Basing Archers in the last few years, but I think TC's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday shoot must be the first to reach that record.

About 20 of us turned up on a beautiful Sunday morning the 10<sup>th</sup> Oct (TC's birthday wasn't until the Monday but who's counting over 70 years).

The closest official round to 70 is 6 dozen arrows at 70 metres so that's what TC chose. Originally he had suggested subtracting the last two highest scoring arrows at the last end, to make it exactly 70 arrows as well. However as there is no official club record for the 70 metre round, TC decided to stick to the official round, that way he could practise in the week before and held the club record for that round for at least a week, but that's another story.

As I said it was a lovely morning, bright and sunny and we thoroughly enjoyed the shooting, stopping at 3 dozen for a short drink and snack and enjoying a much bigger break at the 6 dozen with wine, various nibbles and a special "El Presidente" cake. Half of which TC took home after we'd eaten our fill, that'll put a dent in his diet.

We managed to just finish the eats and were taking the pictures when the afternoon footballers arrived, so that explains the odd shed door and flagpole in the background of the pictures. (*see the Colour Supplement on the club house notice board*)

Anyway thank you for a very enjoyable shoot TC, and happy shooting for many more years to come.

*George*

## Compound Achievement

You probably don't remember it but Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September was a really windy day. In spite of that, Paul managed to shoot a six-gold-end at 80yards. Good shooting Paul!

*Editor*

## New Members

We have some more new members. Iain Fletcher, Charlie Keighley, Steve and Sally Potts have recently joined. We hope that you will enjoy shooting at the 'Rec'.

## Hampshire Championships

This year were held at AC Delco in Eastleigh. Rachael and I were the only OBAs at the championships. Rachael was disappointed with her performance, but it still sufficed to eclipse her opponents by about 200 points!

Rachael, Bristol 3, 972 scored, 38 golds, 144hits. - 1st place, Hampshire Junior Ladies (U16) Champion

Andrew, York, 777 scored, 22 golds, 139 hits.

*Andrew*

## New Round

Much to everyone's surprise, a new round has been devised. It comprises of 4 dozen at 60 yards and 1 dozen at 50 yards. It is to be called The Matthews round in honour of its inventor, but is unlikely to be recognised by GNAS! For those that weren't at the field on 13<sup>th</sup> November, our chairman leads such a busy life since his retirement that he starts to pack away the target before he's finished shooting a National round.

*Editor*

## Indoor Shooting

If you've not yet made it down to the village hall on a Wednesday evening, don't miss the opportunity to keep in practice through the Winter. Come along on December 15<sup>th</sup> for the last session before Christmas, or on January 5<sup>th</sup> for the postal and club indoor championships.

*Andrew*

## AGM Monday February 21<sup>st</sup> 20:00

Please put this date in next year's diary and come along to the Parish Committee room to have your say in the running of the club. Better still; volunteer to be a committee member as there will be places to fill. More details in the New Year or ask one of the committee.

*Andrew*

## Tail End

As this will be the last newsletter this year, I'd like to say a big "thank you" to everyone who has contributed to the Newsletter during 2004. Your writing and pictures have added variety and interest; I hope everyone has enjoyed them. Finally let me be the first to wish all our members very best wishes for Christmas and enjoyable shooting in 2005

*Editor*

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