



OLD BASING ARCHERS' NEWSLETTER

www.oldbasingarchers.co.uk

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Annual General Meeting

Following the AGM on 17-Feb, your committee for the year is:

Major Office Holders

Chairman	George Matthews
Secretary	Andrew Hutchison
Treasurer	Chris Mossop
Records Officer	Su Elliot

Other Committee Members

Juniors/Beginners	Mike Ayling
Web Master	Kevin Deighton
Life President	Terry Cootes
OBA/Andover FITA	Geoff Machin
News letter editor	Robin Foster

OBA Club Colours?

Having read in winter edition of "Archery UK" about GNAS proposals for clubs to register their own colours, Steve and Pete decided to have a go at designer head-gear. Their efforts were displayed at the January Frostbite



Thanks to Debbie for the image

Wake up call

At this time of year when shooting is very much at the mercy of the elements and you are experiencing the faint stirrings of interest in the forthcoming season there is some thing you can do---GET READY.

First, empty your tackle box; throw away the sweet wrappers, old tubes of Fletchite, odd old non-current fletchings, nocks and piles. Sort through all the bits and pieces of sights and stabilisers that you thought might come in handy some day (they seldom do!)

Make sure you have the important little bits and pieces neatly organised in your box

- 1) Spare fletchings and nocks for your current arrows—plus the appropriate adhesive
- 2) Tools-Allen keys to fit bow, sight, button, and clicker. Screwdrivers, pliers assorted sizes can also be handy
- 3) Plasters for sore fingers and other damaged bits (First Aid kit if you are so inclined)
- 4) Spare tab, spare string.

Now have a look at the major components of your shooting

- 5) Arrows
 - a) Straightness- not so much a problem with carbon arrows which shatter rather than bend, aluminium arrows are prone to bending if they strike the boss or stand at an angle, so spin check for straightness and straighten as needed
 - b) Fletchings –replace any damaged or tatty fletchings, ideally completely re-fletching all your arrows (new fletchings look so nice and your arrows will fly better).
 - c) Nocks-these do wear and become loose on the string – resist the temptation to wind dental floss around your nocking point and get new nocks if the old ones are noticeably loose.(Note that a worn nocking point can be a contributory factor to this problem—more of that later!
- 6) String-. MAKE A NEW ONE- attend a tackle evening and the arcane art of string making will be revealed, if, however you are too idle or uninterested at least check your servings, try the bracing height on your bow, twist the string as needed to achieve the correct bracing height and finally re-wax.

Nocking points wear, and dental floss, insulation tape, Fletchtite are not the answer, only a new centre serving will suffice. That, plus a neat hand crafted nocking point which fits your nocks snugly, will ensure that your arrows leave the bow smoothly.

- 3) Bow.- clean the limbs, get all the mud out of the nock ends and string grooves. Inspect for twisting, delamination and cracks (although these potential faults are not too common nowadays) Check the riser, check, adjust and tighten all the locking bolts and adjusters.
- 4) Sight. - lots of nuts ,bolts, screws and bits to come loose and fall off, so check them all. A little wipe of oil on the adjustable bits will help smooth sight mark changes.
- 5) Pressure button. Make a note of the current settings- spring pressure and deviation from centre shot (in and out). Take the button apart and clean inside and out with a dry, lint free cloth or tissue, cotton buds are good for getting in the barrel. Use no oil. Two things to check for wear- the Teflon or stainless steel insert which can be abraided by the arrows and the spring itself, which can become slack through repeated compressions and expansions. Spares for most modern buttons are available from Quicks or whoever.

Remember, nothing lasts for ever!

RIGHT—You have done all of the above (haven't you ?) and now its off to the range to do a spot of basic bow tuning plus a serious warm up as a little hors d'oeuvre to your best season ever (If not- blame the coach, as usual.)

TC

Cheap Archery Gear

An increasing number of club members shop for their archery equipment on line and enjoy the savings. Two popular sites are www.altservices.co.uk and www.bowsports.com

A new site has just appeared www.aim4sport.com The product range is currently a bit limited, but the prices are very competitive. If you want to try before you buy, Quicks is still the only choice. Our coaches will be pleased to offer advice about anything you are considering buying; they could save you from making an expensive mistake!

El Presidente Reminisces

An occasional series of jottings from our Life President and Senior Coach

Some years ago, I was at a shoot in Ruislip – a York if my memory serves. After heavy rain, the weather improved and so did my score. However, there was a young chap on my target moaning about his poor score, he didn't feel comfortable etc, etc. All the usual pathetic whinings of the off-colour archer.

So, I with my brand new "coach" badge gleaming in the watery sunshine, proceeded to give him the benefit of my vast knowledge and great experience (albeit only recently acquired), only to be told by the ingrate that he was a member of the Great Britain Olympic squad and that the squad National coach would probably disagree with my diagnosis!

At that, I let him get on with it and proceeded to demonstrate my immaculate technique by shooting my bracer off!!

When my eyes stopped watering, I did acknowledge the principle that it is best to stick to your own coach and disregard helpful advice from well meaning strangers.

You have been warned!!!

TC

Club Website

Did you know that the club has its own website? See the heading of this newsletter for the URL. The committee (and our web-master in particular) would like to know what you think. Perhaps you found OBA via the internet, maybe you would like see it used as an additional method of communicating with each other. Do let us know how our website could be improved.

Tournament News

50th Merdon Arrow Tournament on Sun 2nd May (the day before the OB Parish Sports Day). This is a popular shoot that may fill-up early, see the notice board in the club house for details.

Next Issue

Contributions for the next edition to the editor by Fri, 16th April