

# Old Basing Archers NEWSPLETTER October 2005

## Out and About on the Tournament Trail

Tournaments? NO WAY! NOT ME! However, being the only compound lady in the club at the moment, I realized that if I wanted to shoot with other c/p ladies I would have to go to them and so the idea of tournaments beckoned. With great trepidation and feelings of not really 'good enough' to be there, I entered a few shoots. My first big FITA was a disaster. I had equipment failure, the whole field had to stop and wait, and with me stuck on the line I could have died with embarrassment. Despite many offers of help I had to retire but having been consoled by so many offers of help, words of reassurance and tales of similar experiences, I dared to give it another go. I soon discovered that most of the archers I met were a really friendly and helpful lot – asking how was I doing, telling me about shoots and generally encouraging me. And so I became hooked. On August 7<sup>th</sup> I was at the Bournemouth FITA Star but had to reluctantly miss out shooting the next weekend due to a family boating holiday in the Midlands. Determined not to miss a second weekends shooting, we handed the boat back early Friday a.m., drove to Basingstoke where we picked up clean clothes and archery equipment, then drove down to Devon for the Exmouth 2 day weekend shoot. On day 2, I let my support team (Dave & Maizie) have a few hours off which they spent down on the beach!

Then there was a 3 day shoot at Devizes over the bank holiday week-end but unfortunately we could only do one day as we had to come back for the Acorn shoot at Guildford. The first week-end of Sept was another hectic one with Dave and I shooting on day 1 of Solent Archers weekend at HMS Collingwood then back home for the OBA Siege on Sunday.

In less than a month we'd shot in 5 counties, clocked up quite a few miles and had a lot of fun.

And now to looking ahead –

Having spent the last few months honing my eye and shot I am determined to keep at the archery over the winter. If, like me, you can't (or don't want to) cope with the cold, then indoor shooting could be the answer. As well as the clubs Wednesday evenings there are quite a few tournaments around – most rounds are at 20 yards or 18 metres and welcome recurve, compound and long bows. I have details and entry forms of shoots including Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Nov in Portsmouth and Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Nov in Woking. And YES, you are 'good enough' and they are all very friendly. So if you'd like to know more, see me at the club, email or phone me.

*Steffi*

**Secretary: Paul Richards**  
**Editor: Robin Foster**

## Jack Stiles & Scout Archery Champs

Young Jack has done himself and the club proud by winning the 'under-11's Hampshire Scout Archery Association Championships at Southampton on Sun. 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. Jack won through the regional elimination rounds to represent his Cub Pack (Hatch Warren), then shooting the final against 9 other cubs from across Hampshire in his age group.

Hampshire Scout Archery Association is by far (we are told) the 'strongest and largest group of Scout archers in the country'. These annual championships across the county conclude with the finals shot at a Southampton sports field, where 60 archers compete using 10 butts. Four age groups compete. Under 11; under 14; under 18 and over 18yrs. All archers can only use provided equipment, 'Coyote'– type, bare bow and wooden arrows. Fourteen and under shoot at 10yds and all others 15yds. Scoring is per metric. All shoot 3 dozen arrows.

Jack's win with a score of 262 is even more remarkable for not only winning his section by more than 30 points; he was only 2 points short of the highest score of the Championships, shot by an adult!

The picture shows Jack receiving his plaque and medal from the Chairman of the Hampshire Scout Archery Association, Commissioner Dave Foster-Key.

Well done Jack!

*David S*



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## Siege Shoot

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September and more than 40 archers from invited clubs gathered at our ground in the morning mist. The format of a relaxed Hereford and Bristols seems to be a popular attraction and under the watchful eye of Field Captain/Judge Julian, shooting started promptly at 10:00. As the sun quickly burnt through the mist, the day became increasingly hot and resulted in some good scores. Many thanks to Babs, Margaret and the Catering Corps for keeping the troupes well fed. See the Colour Supplement on the club notice board for the pictures.

## Alton & Four Marks Shoot

OB have always had a good attendance at this shoot but this year, their 25 anniversary shoot, we turned up in force which went through to the medals as can be seen below. The shoot is unusual in that it is intended for archers whose handicap has not bettered 45 and therefore gives beginners (and older archers) a chance at the medals. It is always a very relaxed and friendly shoot but the weather can be a bit less than friendly and was rather cold with a short bout of drizzle about half way through. The is the Watercress line not far from the shoot and the steam whistle and odd "steam train noises" combined with the drizzle and longbow arrows thudding you feel you had time-slipped a hundred years or so.

All in all a very enjoyable shoot well rounded off with a delicious hog roast to finish off the day. Those archers with a better than 45 handicap can shoot as 'guest' with a long bow if so inclined, I can personal recommend it. It's a pleasure just to shoot arrows without the pressure to shoot and concentrate one gets with recurve.

### George

There were 10 clubs were represented at the shoot

#### RESULTS

Longbow Competition

2<sup>nd</sup> Debbie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dave Westbrook.

Guest Ladies

1<sup>st</sup> Denise, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rachael

Guest Gents

2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew H.

Compound Competition

1<sup>st</sup> Stephanie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Julian.

Junior Girls Competition

3<sup>rd</sup> Maizie

OBA were 3<sup>rd</sup> in the team competition (Mark G, Geoff McC, Maizie)

## Guildford Archers 51<sup>st</sup>. 'Acorn' Shoot

This was a mixed Hereford shoot on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

The OBA contingent consisted of Andrew, Rachael, Richard, Dave, Steffi, Mazie and Robin.

#### RESULTS

Lady Compound: 2<sup>nd</sup> ,Steffi

Bristol 3 Girls: 1<sup>st</sup>, Rachael

Handicap Awards, Lady Compound: Steffi

Handicap Awards, Gents Longbow: Dave

## Dark Arts Triumph!

Every winter (October to March) we shoot the BA Winter Postal Leagues. There is an outdoor round, called the Frostbite (3 doz at 30 metres on 80cm faces) and an indoor round called a Portsmouth (5 doz at 20 yards on 40 cm faces). Both the Frostbite and Portsmouth have recurve and compound leagues which are divided into divisions according to performance in the previous year.

In the 2004 – 2005 BA Winter League

Compound Frostbite OBA won the division

Compound Portsmouth OBA won the division

Recurve Frostbite OBA came in third

Recurve Portsmouth Last unfortunately

This means that for the coming winter season, our gallant Dark Arts practitioners will probably be placed in a higher division and are unlikely to repeat this performance. The honour of the club will rest on the shoulders of the recurve contingent in the coming competitions.

## New Members

As the summer draws to a close, the number of new members that we are welcoming into our ranks not as great but it is still a pleasure to greet Charlie Keighley, Mark Hussey, Lydia McCann, also welcome back to Steve & Sally Potts.

## Bowmen of Burleigh Friendly

It was a beautiful July day with a good OB turnout, unfortunately so did Burghleigh and their quality showed through. Shooting conditions could not have been better, virtually no wind and getting hotter as the day went on. The longbows were out in force, with Sam setting the dress standard, jerkin, tights and sword, not to mention the codpiece. I must admit that as the day warmed up I didn't envy him but it would be interesting to see if we have an increase in lady members if all the gent long bows followed the same dress code of *Men in Tights*.

Mark did his best to compete with Sam but was rather more "Star Wars" than "French Wars".

Unfortunately we lost but with our improving performance across the newer members we will stand a much better chance at next years return match.

My thanks to the "catering" crew, TC and Geoff, who did the morning bacon butties etc. and Babs for the afternoon. Also to Su, as always, for her baking skills.

Lots of pictures were taken, so see the Colour Supplement on the club notice board.

Our team was Andrew B, Rachael, Ken, Denise, Steve and Harry, scoring 5133.

Bowmen Of Burleigh got 5931!

### George

## Club Champs

The traditional climax of the outdoor shooting season is on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The rounds are York, Hereford and Bristols and field set-up is at 9:00 hrs with sighters at 10:00. Dare you miss it?!

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