

Old Basing Archers NEWSLETTER August 2006

• The Burleigh Bash

Sunday 11th June dawned as the perfect summer Sunday, bright and sunny. A hand-picked squad of Old Basing's finest archers made ready to do battle with the Bowmen of Burleigh. OK, hand picked because they were the ones who put their hands up, but determined none the less. We arrived at Burleigh's ground and climbed the stile in eager anticipation, for they had made us the offer of bacon butties for breakfast. OBs finest quickly claimed the high ground and awaiting the start (picture 1).



However, Burleigh had prepared a cunning game plan; firstly the barbeque hadn't been lit so the food would now be served at first break; secondly, no toilets would be available in the afternoon. A shorter round was discussed, an attractive option given the evident heat of the day ahead, but then the 12 dozen round was reinstated when the toilet key was found. After a slight delay the competition got going and it soon became clear, despite some heroic performances, that we were being outclassed. We resorted to the back up plan of just enjoying ourselves and really tucking into the fine food and drink on offer (pictures 2 & 3).



After the final addition was done, closely scrutinised of course (picture 4), we had to congratulate Burleigh and be on our way. Next year we have a huge challenge to overcome; can we either out-shoot or out-cater Burleigh?



Andrew H

• Thursday Evening Practice

At the request of the junior cricket league, the committee agreed to give-up our traditional Wednesday evening practice sessions and change to Thursday. We have since been informed by the Recreation Ground Committee that they have allocated four Thursday evenings to public cricket matches. The club committee regrets that there will therefore be no practice sessions on the evenings of 6th, 13th, and 27th July and 3rd August.

• Alençon Visit

The biannual visit of our friends from across the English Channel is always a cause of intense rivalry of the friendly variety. This year was no different and apparently somebody circulated a rumour among the French archers that the distance to be shot was 100 yards! As the normal distance that is shot in Alençon is 50 metres, this caused some frantic sight calibration just prior to departure for England. The French came well prepared with numerous sweaters in anticipation of traditional British temperatures, but again we fooled them with a fine display of glorious sun-shine. The mayor of Basingstoke and Deane, Tony Jones, arrived for a brief photo opportunity prior to sighters then we were into the serious stuff. For the purposes of the competition, the six archers from Alençon were paired with an equivalent Old Basing archer with the result that OBA won five of the pairings and lost one (don't ask the editor who lost!). So the trophy is on British soil for the first time in several years. To add insult to injury, poor Nicole Duval went home with one less arrow after one of her shafts was "Robin Hooded" by the editor.



Next year it is our turn to venture back into France. Apparently 2007 will be the twenty fifth anniversary of these enjoyable competitions and we understand that our hosts will be preparing something a little special! If you would like to go to Alençon during the May bank holiday 2007, the hospitable French can usually accommodate more people than actually go from our side.

• Coach

Congratulations to Julian, who has achieved his Level 1 Coaching Qualification.

"I've enquired about the Level 2 qualification" said Julian, "but was told that the manual is still being written!"

• Not a Perfect Trinity, But Two Out Of Three Ain't Bad

During a month of downpours, cold winds and showers, Sunday 28th May dawned with a hint of promise. The Hutchisons set forth in high spirits to participate in the annual AC Delco Trinity shoot, comprising a mixed Hereford round for the adults and Bristol rounds for the juniors. The weather was kind to us with hazy sunshine and only a light breeze, clearly unexpected as each of us got a little sunburnt from it. Our shooting showed a lack of practice with each of us getting off to poor starts. To Rachael's frustration she found herself being outshot by a barebow archer on her target, clearly a talented young lady who had travelled from Wales for the tournament. Richard had forgotten his glasses and so was having trouble setting a decent sight-mark. I was rejoicing in having a tree tall enough to be able to aim my long and over-fletched arrows, but the hits were slow in coming. As the day went on we each got into our stride and were enjoying ourselves, but as usual the medals went only to the junior Hutchisons with Rachael and Richard both getting top place in their sections. Rachael also managed to overhaul the barebow archer in the closing stages and also beat her in final of the 1-arrow elimination event at the end to pick up a second medal. Richard also picked up a raffle prize, but his glee was short lived when he found only face cream, bath salts and a vanity case left on the table. Not a bad day out, but a pity nobody else from the club was present at this friendly and well-run local shoot. For the record, our scores were: Rachael, 1005; Richard, 680; Andrew, 264.

Andrew H

• New Members

The past couple of months have seen a bumper crop of new starters and it is especially pleasant to welcome the following new archers to our ranks.

Simon Burgess (no relation to Denise)

Samuel Lomax

Richard Nutton

Robert Hughes (from beginners course)

Rhoswyn March (archer coming back after time out)

Amy Pullen (from beginners course)

John Austin (from beginners course)

Gurcharan S Ghatahora

Leonard & Jonathan Crane (beginners from Yateley)

Anthony & Harry Turner (from beginners course)

Vance & Andrew Sarson (from beginners course)

Andrew Scullion (from beginners course)

Charles & Jonathan Philip (from beginners course)

David Crowther

Secretary: Paul Richards
Editor: Robin Foster

sec@oldbasingarchers.co.uk
robin.f@oldbasingarchers.co.uk

- **Tanya Writes**

“In my job I meet and greet people all of the time. I'm a secretary to two directors - Sales and Lettings/ Site Acquisition & Planning. Not very exciting but I do have to deal with MP's and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. I've also served tea and mince pies to a Lord”, said Tanya.

“Regardless of all this experience, joining new groups of people does bring with it a certain amount of apprehension” she continued.

“I just wanted to take this opportunity to say thanks to all of you who have taken the time and effort to help me settle back into the sport and more importantly - have made me feel very welcome.”

Tanya

- **ANDOBA FITA**

No, the editor has not turned off his spell-checker! The ANDover Archers & OBA double FITA is a major national tournament that attracts archers from all over the country and frequently members of the national team. Your help is requested on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July and there are jobs for everyone. Ladies can be 'runners' (collecting scores at the end of each dozen), juniors selling raffle tickets and blokes by shifting targets and doing the manual labour. In between bouts of frantic activity, we generally find time for a bit of relaxation and watching some of the top competitors in our sport. Our chairman, Su, will be drawing up a list of volunteers, so if you want to be a part of one of the most popular shoots in the country, put your name down!

- **Dates For Your Diary**

Shoots at Basing

Sun 6th Aug – Club Birthday/Handicap Shoot*

Sun 3rd. Sept – Siege Shoot

Sun 1st. Oct – Club Champs

* This is a handicap shoot and so new starters usually shine. You need to complete 3 rounds so that the Records Officer can allocate your handicap.

Other Shoots

Sat 29 & Sun 30 July – ANDOBA Double FITA Star

6 Aug Petersfield Saint (recurves and compounds) and Halo (longbow) St George and Albion

6 Aug Bournemouth FITA Star

13 Aug AC Delco Chris Sherwood memorial Shoot Western round

26 Aug Devizes Longbow two-way western and Clout

27 Aug Devizes York and Hereford

28 Aug Devizes American

28 Aug Guildford Acorn Hereford

2 Sept Solent FITA

2 Sept SCAS Junior Champs Rayleigh Essex

2 Sept County of Surrey Autumn Longbow shoot

17 Sept Alton and Four Marks Windsor (particularly good for beginners as 1st class archers ineligible)

23 Sept Hants Longbow Champs 2 way double National at AC Delco

24 Sept Hants Champs York and Hereford at AC Delco

8 Oct Laleham Albion

If anyone has any queries what-so-ever about entering any completions please contact Dave Westbrook at david.westbrook1@ntlworld.com or speak to any member of the committee.

David W