

# Old Basing Archers

## NEWSLETTER

### April 2004

#### Into Summer!

The new outdoor session is now in full swing; the first tournaments of the year have already taken place (see elsewhere in this Newsletter) and the first beginner's classes are underway. Do make our beginners welcome and give them encouragement, new blood is important to the success of the club. TC has been busy filling in some of the muddy hollows on the shooting line and advising the new grounds-man on marking out the range. The improvements mean that the ground is now in excellent condition. Our record officer reports that some good scores are already being achieved even though the weather has not been particularly helpful so far. All looks set for an enjoyable summer of shooting.

#### Entante Cordiale

Stand by for an invasion! On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May, our friends from Alençon in France will be in town. The history of our town-twinning partners stretches back more than 20 years. During that time some firm friendships have been formed.

Last year a small contingent from Old Basing ventured across the Channel to Alençon. Although the actual shooting competition was dogged by a steady rainfall, this was more than compensated for by the warmth of the hospitality of our French hosts.



Nicole, la  
Presidente of  
Alençon  
Archers with the  
new trophy that  
Alençon won last  
year

The 2004 annual competition will be held over the week-end of 29 – 30 May. Alençon currently hold the trophy and it would be great to have a good turn-out of OBA members. Do take the opportunity to try out your linguistic skills (actually, most of them speak excellent English!)

Alençon is situated in Normandy, west of Paris and is a bustling market town surrounded by beautiful countryside dotted with picturesque villages where you can sample locally made Camembert and cider. The town dates back to the 4th century and is home to beautifully preserved historic buildings as well as extremely friendly locals! Do consider going on the return trip to France in 2005, you are guaranteed a great time.

#### Congratulations!

Having already qualified as Assistant Coach, Mike Ayling has now passed his Coach examination. This has involved Mike attending several all-day courses in Southampton, assessment of his coaching skills, knowledge of the rules and his shooting ability. In addition, Mike will be representing beginners and juniors at committee meetings. Mike joins our other club trainers, Terry Cootes (county coach) and Andrew Hutchison (assistant coach) to provide their expertise and assist you in obtaining more from your archery. If you would like their help just ask, they are not telepathic. Wednesday evenings are set aside for training and coaching so think twice before asking for help at other times. After all, our coaches need time to enjoy their own archery!

#### Welcome

We are always pleased to welcome new members. The latest recruits are:

David Westbrook and Maizie Brooks  
Kate and Jonathan Youll

We trust that you will enjoy many years of pleasurable shooting with us.

*Andrew Hutchison*

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## Results for 2004 Winter Competitions

Before we completely forget about the past winter session, here are the results of our winter competitions.

### Frostbite (Outdoor)

1. Andrew Hutchison
2. Steve Learwood
3. David Bell

### Portsmouth (Indoor)

1. Chris Mossop
2. Pete Hebdidge
3. Julian Ricketts

### Postal leagues 03/04, Frostbite and Portsmouth.

The official results are not in yet.

The compound section did not fare too well this year but they will be put in a more appropriate division next year. Now that Julian has taken up compound there will be less pressure on Robin and Geoff to perform to order in 2004/5!!!!

The recurve teams were in the correct divisions and thus managed to hold their own more.

In the Frostbite competition they won four of their five matches and the Portsmouth competition won three of their five matches.

*Su Elliot*

### OBA St.George Shoot

What can one say – a most excellent shoot! More than 20 members turned out and 7 targets were filled; the sun shone and the bacon sizzled. All sections of the club were well represented with five juniors, three long bows and two compounds. It was good to welcome some ex-members who dropped by and some of our new beginners. I hope that they were not too disappointed by the standard of shooting that they witnessed.

Her concentrated practicing on the previous day paid off and for the second time, Rachael Hutchison walked away with the St.George trophy. Good shooting Rachael!

### Handicap Improvement Medal

Some members have asked about how the Handicap Improvement Medal is awarded; our Records Officer explains.

This medal is awarded by GNAS to a club member who achieves the greatest handicap improvement over the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st.

In order to be eligible an archer MUST have been a club member for at least six months prior to January 1st, must

have a handicap on that date and must have shot a minimum of 8 rounds.

Therefore, to be eligible for the year 2004, an archer must have joined the club before July 2003 and fulfilled the other criteria.

I think this rule is probably in place to make sure that the medal is not awarded to a complete beginner who could, in the first few months, go from nothing to a handicap of 60, which isn't improvement as such.

*Su Elliot*

## Membership Fees

Well folks, it's that time of year again and our Hon. Treas. has been nervously studying the bank statements. With this newsletter, you should receive your 2004 – 2005 Membership Application. If not, Andrew or Chris will be delighted to provide one for you. The actual fees were discussed and agreed at the AGM back in February. The adult fee is less than £2.00 per week which represents extraordinary value for money.

To ensure that you can continue shooting, membership must be renewed before the end of May. Cheque-books at the ready!

## Diary Dates

### May

Sun 30<sup>th</sup>, AC Delco Trinity Shoot, Eastleigh.

### June

Sun 13<sup>th</sup>, Friendly shoot away vs. Bowmen of Burleigh (Time be confirmed)

### July

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Junior National Champs, Andover.

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> & Sun 25<sup>th</sup> OBA & Andover FITA (see Geoff for latest information)

### August

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> OBA Birthday Handicap Shoot

### October

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> OBA Club Champs

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Indoor shooting starts

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> TC's Birthday Shoot!

## Next Newsletter

The next newsletter is planned for the end of June. It would be great to receive contributions from other members. The editor is not fussy about how he receives your literary musings, your jottings can be via email, text or back of an old score sheet! Just put pen to paper or finger to keyboard.

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