

Old Basing Archers

NEWSLETTER

April 2005

The Chairman's Address to The AGM

Good evening and thanks for turning up for the AGM.

From all points of view 2004 has continue to build on our success of 2003. Our membership continues to rise and at 59 must be one of the highest ever, certainly the highest I know off. Also our finances are in a good state, with £2.5K more in the bank.

The beginners from 2003 and 04 are setting in well and improving. We can look forward to fielding a strong team for the various summer shoots. One of the first jobs for the new committee is to set the dates for shoots so everybody can set out their year's calendar. *(See next page. Editor)*

Our principal shoots still continue to be the FITA Star and the Siege. The FITA continues to be a major source of income for the club and the Siege is established as an enjoyable shoot. At present we continue to make the Siege invitation only, with refreshment provided at the club expense, however the income from the raffle means it breaks even.

As last year we have three coaches Terry, Mike and Andrew. Although we have not seen much of Mike lately he says he will be around more this year and also intends to go for County Coach status, which is very good for him and the club. Particularly as I believe Terry intends to surrender his County status and is looking for his continuing challenge in coaching Old Basing Archers.

As I mentioned we have held some enjoyable "Have a Goes"; the OB Carnival, a garden party at Pamber House, and the NT Vine House apple day. Although they are not major fundraisers, they do give a lot of enjoyment and raise our profile in the local environment.

So everything is looking rosy? Well not quite. Our success in attracting more members brings its own problems, especially when they all turn out on a nice sunny summer morning (a dim memory at the present). We can, and have solved it to some extent by extending the shooting line, but there are bound to be times when numbers *will have* to be limited. An example is Sunday afternoons, when the cricketers are playing and our shooting line has to be limited at the cricket boundary line. The problem is likely to get worse. Andrew will report we have a large number of people waiting for the beginner's course and I'm sure we will pick up some new members. So do we set a limit on the membership numbers? Or do we try and manage it? I would prefer to try to manage it, but would be interested in your comments when we open the meeting up. Certainly it's possible to absorb more on Saturday and Sunday

mornings but we would need to be stricter and better managed.

The Clubhouse also needs some TLC, I did mention this last year. It certainly needs a clean up but with the weather lately it would be pointless, as a new layer of mud seems to be added every weekend. The state of the ground and the shooting line hasn't helped. The PC had told us that drainage work and rebuilding the Grounds man's workshop would help solve some of the problem but so far it hasn't gone to schedule. We do need to make some positive progress on these problems this year and the fact we are in a good financial situation will help.

George

A Year With OBA

Well, it's almost a year since Jonathan and I joined Old Basing Archers, and as I constantly remark, it's nice to share a hobby. And it's especially good for a Mum to find something that her growing son is happy to do with her, since it is a well-known fact that children are embarrassed to be seen with their parents!



Kate and her "Robin Hood"
T.C. was not amused!

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So, what has it been like joining the eclectic crew to be found pacing the turf at Old Basing? Well, the first thing to say is how welcome we have felt. Everyone is so friendly and welcoming to new members. It can be daunting to join a new group, but not in this case. We have felt very at home right from the first evening, and you are all such a supportive bunch, and enjoy each others successes, and tease unmercifully at the less good bits!

Both Jonathan and I had had a vague interest in taking up archery, but had never done anything about it, but while we were out cycling last year we stopped to watch a competition. Andrew took time out from the serious business of the day to tell us all about it, and sign us up for the first beginners' course of the year, and the rest as they say, is history.

The beginner's course is worth a mention on several fronts. First of all, a big thank you to Mike, who took us under his wing. Jonathan and I had our first couple of sessions to ourselves, and Mike was patience incarnate and Julian gave us lots of support and encouragement. Would that the same could be said of "El Presidente"!! My first big mistake with TC was to show that I was having fun. I had no idea that laughing and archery had no place together. I fear I took no notice of his severe reprimands. My second mistake was to get a "Robin Hood". (in the gold, I might add) You'd think TC would have been pleased at my meteoric progress, but I was merely told off for ruining a perfectly good arrow..... Ah well, I shall dine out on it for years.

It has to be said, that after such an amazing start, I thought I was destined for greatness, but the frustration of the sport has now hit me. Why is it that one moment you're inspired, and the next you're jumping up and down on your bow in frustration? But despite that, Jonathan and I really enjoy it – he has just been given his own bow for his birthday (thanks to TC for investing a morning with us at Quicks, and helping me spend a small fortune), do go and admire it next time you see him, he is chuffed to bits with it. I daresay I should invest as well if I am going to fulfil my original promise(!), perhaps the birthday fairy will be kind to me as well.

Here's to success (and fun, with TC's permission) in 2005.

Kate

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Guildford YMCA is seeking an energetic, hard working **Archery leader**. The ideal volunteer must have previous experience working with children; have strong organisational and leadership skills.

Volunteers would ideally have relevant work experience, clean drivers licence, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, excellent organisation skills and a flexible approach to working hours, especially during Summer Camp.

There is the option of **paid work** to cover a three month period. Please enquire for more details on 01483 565969 or lscott@guildfordymca.org.uk

Committee

Following the AGM, your committee for the coming year is:

Chairman	George M	}	Officers
Treasurer	Steve L		
Secretary	Paul R		
Records Officer	Su E		
CPO & Beginners	Mike A		
H.A.A. and ANDOBA	Geoff M		
Equipment Officer	Simon G		
Tournament Secretary	John N		
Compound Rep	Julian R		
Webmaster	Kevin D		

Do give the committee your support, ideas and turn up for events that are organised.

Editor

Shooting Times

As the club continues to grow, we need to be better organised on shooting days. It is most helpful if you can arrive at the ground half an hour before sighters to assist with setting up targets. This will ensure that your target requirements are catered for and we have a spread of archers on each target.

Editor

Dates For Your Diary

April

Wed 6th Equipment Night TC will explain the mysteries of string making and fletching
Sun 17th St. Georges Shoot

May

June

Sun 12th Friendly v Burley Bowmen (at Old Basing)
TBA Old Basing Carnival

July

Sat 9th "Have-a-Go" Session at Cranbourne School
Sat 30th & Sun 31st ANDOBA FITA at Andover

August

Sun 7th Birthday Handicap Shoot

September

Sun 4th Siege Shoot

October

Sun 2nd Club Championships
TBA "Have-a-Go" Session at The Vine N.T. House

GNAS Website

The new style GNAS web-site is now up and running. Among the improvements is the provision to down-load the latest Rules of Shooting. A big step in the right direction! Have a look for yourself at www.gnas.org

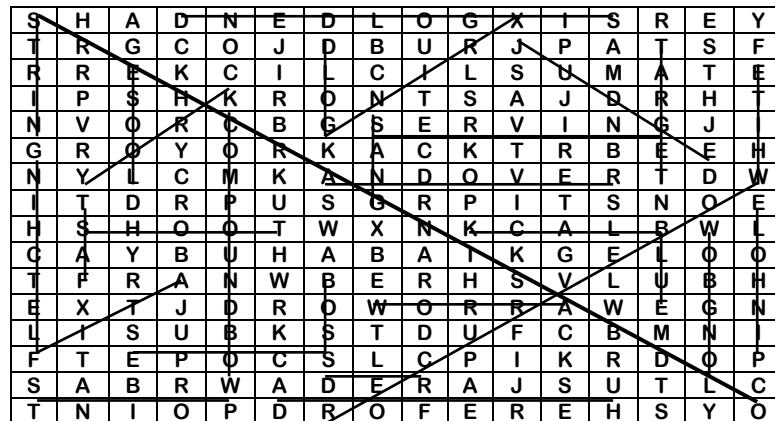
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Word Search Solution

Here is the solution to the word search which appeared in the last newsletter. To those who thought that “Shadnedlog” was the latest wonder bow from Korea, I’m sorry, it’s not! (As far as I know!)



ANDOVER
ARROW
BLACK
BLUE
BOSS
CAM
CLICKER
COMPOUND BOW

FAST
FITA
FLETCHING
GNAS
GOLD
HEREFORD
JUDGE
LONG BOW

LOOSE
NOCK
OLD BASING ARCHERS
PIN HOLE
POINT
RECURVE BOW
RED
SCOPE

SERVING
SIX-GOLD-END
SHOOT
STRING
TARGET
WHITE
X RING
YORK

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