

# Old Basing Archers Newsletter 2006

## • A Conundrum

What have the following got in common: the wedding of Princes Ann and Capt. Mark Phillips, Mutant Ninja Turtles, Battle of Britain 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Playboy and Mars bars?

The answer is elsewhere in this Newsletter.

## • Siege Shoot

Drizzly rain scuttled across the range, urged on by a gusting wind, as 38 archers from 5 clubs huddled together under a leaden sky to hear George welcome all to this year's *OBA Siege Shoot*, before handing over to Steve, the Field Captain for the Day.

The twelve targets looked forlorn as they rattled their faces in the wind. Sadly, this year's entries were vastly down on last year when we all roasted under a baking sun, remember? But were we downhearted? Not on your life – we archers are made of sterner stuff. The weather wasn't too good at Agincourt and Crecey, and that didn't put the boys off either!

Slowly the grey sky rolled back and the sun began to shine, but the cost was an even stronger wind. Now blowing at steady F5 from behind, arrows danced merrily on the gusts and doing their 'own thing' – very few 'personal best' bettered for the Hereford and Bristol rounds today methinks.

Disappointingly, there were 'no bacon butties' this year. This is due to the new cooking regulations for the pavilion kitchen. However, Sue and her ladies more than made up for it with delightful tasty bits, tea and sympathy.

"Fast" was bellowed several times as target faces were hurriedly re-pegged and on one occasion a loud gasp went up as a compound target fell victim to the wind and crashed over – fortunately for all the embedded arrows, on it's back!

The final few ends became very pleasant to shoot as the wind eased and we were left with a warm azure sky. Steve tooted his whistle and another Siege was over.

Most of the 'gongs' were won by our guests, a very the sporting thing to do I think and will no doubt entice them to return next year.

A special thanks to Steve for keeping a firm control on all in the field; George, for his welcoming charm and good looks; Sue and her ladies for our watering and feeding and Dave for organising and checking the scores. Last but not least a special thanks to those nameless stalwarts, who set the field – without them, nothing would have happened.

*Trick Shot of the Day*

Our most respected of coaches demonstrated how to 'shoot a longbow down range whilst leaving the arrow on the shooting line' - not to be encouraged or copied!

He also won a gong for the 'Best Gents Longbow', but we all know it was really for his trick shot!

*Bad Luck Story of the Day*

A certain elderly gent, renowned for his fine collection of 'greens', found one of his 'lost' arrows neatly cutting the line of the 'custard centre cross'. "Wow!" he exclaimed, not believing his eyes. Only to be followed shortly by "Oh no!" when Steve announced, "The next end will be - 'Best Gold'"

His agony continued. Steve then announced the 'Worst White'. There, 1/16" from the outside edge of the 1 (in the petticoat) was his best arrow!

(I'm thinking of taking up Golf – less frustrating!) .....and a good day was had by one and all. See you next year?

Dave S.

## • Alton & Fourmarks Shoot

The weather for the Alton and Fourmarks shoot proved to be an almost perfect late summer's day. As usual, it was a nice friendly shoot and it was good to have some of the new members there with us - Tony & Harry Turner, Amy Pullen.

**Results:**

Mark Gales. Gents Recurve, 3rd place.

Pete Hebdidge. Veteran's Trophy (photo in Colour Supplement)

Maizie Brooks. Compound Trophy (photo in Colour Supplement)

David Westbrook. Longbow, 2nd place.

Andrew Hutchison. Longbow, 3rd place.

Rachael Hutchison. Guest, Recurve, 3rd place.

David & Stephanie Westbrook. Married Couple's Trophy (photo in Colour Supplement)

Also: Most raffle prizes: Harry Turner (photo in Colour Supplement).

Andrew

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- **SIEGE SHOOT RESULTS**

**Junior Colour Prizes:**

White: Beth Gore; Andover.  
 Black: Jonathan Youll.; OBA.  
 Red: Gemma Flippance; Andover.  
 Green: Tommy Walker; Guilford.

**Senior Colour Prizes:**

Blue: Harry Holt - OBA .  
 Red: Clive Singer - Guildford.  
 Gold: Clive Singer - Guildford

**Worst White:** Beth Gore - Andover.

**Best Gold:** Ian Hartfree - Burleigh.

**Girls Bristol IV R**

Amy Pullen OBA

**Boys Bristol IV R**

Jack Stiles OBA

**Girls Bristol III R**

Vicky Eales Burleigh

**Boys Bristol III R**

Jonathan Youll OBA

**Boys Bristol II R**

Joshua Robinson Cody

**Boys Bristol II Longbow**

Tommy Walker Burleigh

**Ladies Hereford R**

Sally du Feu Burleigh

**Gents Hereford R**

Rob Caldeira Hankey Cody

**Ladies Hereford Longbow**

Sue Elliott OBA

**Gents Hereford Longbow**

Terry Cootes OBA

**Ladies Hereford Comp**

Julie Histon Guilford

**Gents Hereford Comp**

Ian Hartfree Burleigh

*In total there were 38 Archers shooting*

Andover - 4

OBA - 15

Cody - 5

Guildford - 10

Burleigh - 4.

The weather was fine and as usual the archery was a star attraction. We raised £120.00 but it was very hard work and we could have done with more volunteers. Thanks to Ian Boreham, T.C., Phil Lamb, Geoff Machin, Geoff McCann and Nigel Veitch.

**Su**

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 Editor: Robin Foster

- **Is He A Young Kray or Ronnie Carol?**

The answer to the picture quiz in the last Newsletter is Terry Cootes, TC or as most of us know him 'El Presidenti'



- **Dave S's Corner**

*It Just Aint' Fair*

It's been my privilege and pleasure to have shot with Margaret & Harry on several occasions. Besides being the delightful shooting partners I have picked up many useful tips from their vast experience in the sport. Unfortunately, Margaret and I have almost identical arrows apart from her white cock fletching. We shared purple + white knocks, which can be confusing when bunched together – not that it happens often, because Margaret dominates the centre and me the petticoat, at best. I decided it was time for a change of colour. I opted for a 'bright orange cock fletch and orange knock'. This was fine until the Siege Shoot when to my horror I found that I had now moved into Kate's territory, with who I shared target. Our only difference was our cock fletching; Kate's yellow against my orange. It seemed to take ages to sort out our scores and Kate effectively told me to 'never darken her doorstep (or target) again with my arrows!' – I was mortified.

I have now re-fletched and knocked to 'all bright cosmic green', I'm sure no one in the club has a similar set? – That should fix it!

.....Oh No! I've just remembered where most of my arrows end up! Thank God for the metal detector.

Back To School

The answer to the poser in the last Newsletter  
 Oldies Version £3 . 8s . 8d winner Geoff M  
 Metric Version £70.00 winner: Steve L

And now a poser for Dave S (and any one else who wants to have a go)

An 18<sup>th</sup> Century English tailor purchases 4 ells of Lincoln green cloth to make a shooting jacket for a Gentleman Toxophilite. The cost of the cloth was 9d per foot.

What was his cost of material? Answer in £sd please.

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### • Hampshire Championships

On the morning of Sunday 24th September I awoke at around 5am to the sound of a waterfall outside the bedroom window. I knew rain had been threatened for the day of the championships, what I now discovered was a blocked gutter that could not cope with the downpour. This didn't bode well for our day in the field and I struggled to get back to sleep. Also playing on my mind was the target list I'd seen, putting me on a longbow target with Russell French and Dave Strong. I only know Russell by his reputation, as one of the UK's leading longbow archers and holder of many national records, Dave I have met and he's the leading Hampshire longbowman. The worry was how not to look a complete fool in such company. My only comfort was to note that Terry was shooting longbow on the next target, perhaps he could distract them while I was shooting.

When the time came to get myself, Rachael and Richard out of bed the rain had passed, the day was brightening up we had the chance of a reasonable day. We set off to the AC Delco ground near Eastleigh in high spirits and with but one thought in my head, to keep right at the end of the M3 and avoid getting lost like last year. We duly arrived in reasonable time and parked up outside the mudbath that was the entrance to the AC Delco field. Dave and Steph arrived just after, remarking as they did that "we must be late if you are here already". Rachael and Richard began by working out who they had to compete with, worrying about local archers and discounting the visitors. Would they be able to retain their titles for another year? I went off to greet my companions for the day at the other end of the shooting line. My first surprise was meeting Russell, younger and smaller than I had imagined and carrying a recurve bow. Not the great man it seems but his namesake, a relatively new entrant to the sport. Dave Strong was there though, fresh from yet another victory the day before in the longbow championships. I looked around for Terry's moral support, but he hadn't turned up. The whistle blew for sighters and I took aim at the tree line above my target. To my amazement the first arrow hit so no need to adjust my aim, four more arrows followed it including a gold. Five hits at 100yds, matching Dave Strong's efforts, how good that felt. Now for the first scoring end; brimming with confidence I took my shots, but this time only one hit scoring one point. The second end was better and so a pattern emerged - one or zero points for my first half dozen, a few more points on the second. Dave Strong did not feel threatened any more and steadily pulled ahead on hits and points. To add to my woes, my misses were finding stones in the ground behind the target and two of my lovely new arrows had their points broken off.

Also spending some time behind the target was our Julian so I went to help with a cheery call of "have you lost one". "No" came the reply, "Four!" AC Delco have some really rough ground beyond their targets and they went deep into the tussocks, beyond the reach of the metal detector. We searched after every end up to lunch and beyond, until eventually they were found with the help of rakes and golf clubs. My afternoon shooting went well, fortified by a large farm shop pasty, and I had a respectable score building up. Dave Strong was still putting on a great show and beginning to anticipate a red-rose score for himself. The weather was steadily improving, no sign of any showers and warm sunshine breaking through. Further down the line Rachael was fighting back from a great sighters/poor start situation to overhaul her nearest rival, Richard was also settling down and scoring well. In the closing stages at 60yds I finally passed my previous 153 PB for a York, set way back in 2000. With a final spectacular end of 38 (9,7,7,7,5,3) I reached a very satisfying 203. Dave Strong faltered at the end to just miss out on his red rose, but as he could still claim a blue rose he wasn't too disappointed.

In the final analysis the Hutchison family did well out of the championships, with the county titles going to Rachael and Richard in their age groups, me with my PB confirming my improvement from 3rd to 2nd class this season and two raffle prizes. For the club there was also a compound team silver medal for Paul, Dave and Steph, and a best gold medal for Steph.

### Results

Rachael Hutchison, Junior Lady Bristol 3 Champion, 1108 scored.

Richard Hutchison, Junior Boy Bristol 3 Champion, 692 scored.

Compound Team, Silver Medal, Old Basing: Paul Richards, Stephanie Westbrook, David Westbrook

Andrew Hutchison, Longbow York, 2nd place, 203 scored (a PB!)

Compound Best Gold, Stephanie Westbrook.

Andrew

### • A Conundrum

The answer is that all these things (and many others) are depicted on the tea and coffee mugs in the club house. Someone once said that OBA was an eclectic bunch of people; the same must be said of our coffee mugs! If you didn't know the answer to the conundrum, perhaps it might be because you haven't done the washing-up. Rumours that this task is performed by a friendly group of archery elves are completely untrue!