



Newsletter

April 2008



Now that the days are drawing out and the sun feels that bit warmer, most of us are itching to get out on the field and shoot some arrows. Some of us will have continued shooting outdoors throughout the winter months despite the bad weather, but I need two layers of thermals on indoors, let alone when the icy wind blows from the north and the snow swirls around. Needless to say, I haven't shot much outside this winter and I applaud those of you that have braved the winter chill.

Competitions are fewer in the winter season, but whilst I have travelled around to different events, I have bumped into some familiar faces from our clubs. At the recent Indoor County Champs there were quite a lot of new faces. It is really encouraging to see up and coming archers joining in, particularly some of the very promising younger talent.

A full list of results from the 2008 Indoor County Champs can be found on the website:

www.derbyshirearchers.com

DCAA Officers 2008-2009

The County held its Annual General Meeting in February during which officers were elected, subscription fees were reviewed and last years summer league trophies were presented.

You will all be pleased to know that although the GNAS fees have risen, our subscription fees will remain the same for this year.

Last years summer league trophies were presented to:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Anchor Bowmen | Recurve League Shield |
| Derwent Bowmen | Longbow Trophy |
| LNER | Compound Trophy |
| Burton Bridge Archers | Junior League Trophy |
| Burton Bridge Archers | Handicap League Decanter |
| Paul Croot | Highest Recurve Score |

Welcome to our new Chairman Phil Herrett and many thanks to Phil Rees for his contribution as Chair to the County over the last 4 years.

Also Yvette Spacie takes over from Barrie Monk as County Records Officer. Barrie has done an excellent job over the last few years and we must thank him too. One more change of officer is that Mark Allsopp now takes over from Ken Ness as Senior County Team Selection Officer. Thanks to Ken as well.

Senior Intercounties 2007

It seems a long time ago, but back at the beginning of last September, the senior county team competed for the Thoresby Trophy, Bradgate Trophy and the Boat Trophy at a rather windy Wellingborough, Northants.

Success came for the compound team of Shelagh Fletcher, Vic Eaton, Mike Boyce, Steve Brunt and Tony Fletcher winning with a convincing margin of 215 points.



Once again those Nottinghamshire recurve archers beat us to the top spot, but 2nd place from 5 teams is still something to be proud of. The longbow team came 3rd behind Leicestershire and Notts. Notts taking their revenge for their Tri-Counties defeat.

Shelagh and Tony Fletcher arranged some winter coaching sessions at the Speedwell Rooms, Staveley. The 4 days were split into 2 sessions for non county squad and 2 sessions for those that shot for the county juniors and seniors, last year. Our thanks go to Shelagh and Tony for arranging the sessions and also all coaches who gave their time free of charge. Attendance, however, could have been better!

Derbyshire Young Achievers Award 2007

Congratulations to Gemma Buxton of DAC who received a Derbyshire County Council Young Achievers Award for her sporting success in archery.

She attended the official presentation evening at Highfields School in Matlock back on 14th December. Gemma is pictured here receiving her award from Joyce Sanders, Chair of Derbyshire County Council and Gareth Jones the CITV's How 2 presenter.



Longbow

Some people get their kicks and thrills
from the different sports they play.
I get mine from watching a stick
Hit the gold that I have loosed away.

I talk of the English longbow
That I have had the luck to use
There's other types of modern bow
But the longbow's the one I choose

To draw this weapon with straight arm
When standing on the line
Makes you proud to be an English man
Well, it does when I draw mine

Five hundred years of history
Five hundred years and more
Bring battles to mind
like Crecy and Agincourt

Don't talk to me of logistics
When I'm drawing on my bow
Just give me arrows of five inch barred
And let me see them go

I draw the bow with straightened arm
Till the knock lays on the cheek
Then call upon all my instincts
For the gold I try to seek

I just line up and burn the gold
Loose the arrow and watch it go
And I become part of history
For I've shot the great longbow

BJ 23.09.06

Many of you will probably know the person who has kindly written this poem. If anyone out there would like their work published for all to read, or has any interesting articles for the next newsletter, then email to Sandra-the-archer@hotmail.com

If you are a member of a Derbyshire club and are interested in what's happening to archery in Derbyshire, why not come along to The Lion Hotel in Belper on Wednesday 30th April at 8pm. You can help to mould the future of our pastime.