

Newsletter no.87

May 2004

We were going to put out our regular newsletter in January, but it was so slim it seemed hardly worthwhile being more of a waste of paper and postage for those of you who do not attend the field regularly. However at the beginning of that month Brenda put out the 2004 programmes, so you have no excuse to pretend that you do not know what is going on. Do try to keep them somewhere useful and don't mislay them - although for really important events we will remind you in the newsletter. Just remember a lot of time and effort goes into their production.

The previous newsletter just about got us to the end of October.

Surrey Field Championships

Since we started our own mini-field archery sessions down at the field a lot more people have been turning up at Box Hill for the County event, which is a very pleasant National Animal round. High Ashurst Activity Centre is a marvelous and challenging venue for this competition, and in the past we have been generally fairly lucky with the weather. This was not the case this year. It rained fairly solidly throughout the morning, and the afternoon was very mixed too, making conditions underfoot extremely slithery on the steep slopes. For all that 10 from our Club turned up and had an enjoyable day.

1st County Lady Freestyle	Candy Schofield
1st County Gent Traditional	Terry Sandford
1st Gent Longbow	Terry Cramp
1st Junior Gent Longbow (under 15)	Jon Down

Frost Bite

The Surrey Field meant that the Frostbite for November had to be held a week later than usual. We must remind ALL members that this shoot is always on the first Sunday of the winter months, and as we field quite a few teams we do need a decent attendance. In January we were a bit few on the ground and it was doubtful whether we had enough scores for our three Recurve teams. Of course as well as the British Archer and County teams we do run this competition within the Club, and to be eligible for this you must shoot at least four out of five of the rounds, although five out of five is better!.

Surrey Indoor Championships

This competition is actually run by the Club at Woking Leisure Centre, so it is a very busy day for the Organisers.

1st County Lady Recurve	Sue Cooles
2nd County Lady Recurve	Candy Schofield
1st County Gent Recurve	Alan Wood
2nd County Gent Recurve	John Antill
3rd County Junior Lady Recurve	Caitlin Critchley
1st County Junior Gent Recurve	Terry Hunt
2nd County Junior Gent Recurve	Robert Smith
3rd County Lady Compound	Georgina Baglow
2nd County Gent Compound	John Wilkins
1st County Junior Gent Compound	Jon Down
2nd County Lady Longbow	Julia Madelin
3rd County Lady Longbow	Sue Smith
2nd County Gent Longbow	Colin Madelin
3rd County Gent Longbow	Tony Down
1st County Gent Barebow	David Moore
1st O/All Recurve (under 9)	Charlie Critchley
2nd O/All Recurve (under 9)	Harry Taylor
3rd O/All Recurve (under 9)	Jack Biggs
Female H/C Awards (48-71) 2nd	Lesley Biggs.
Double Portsmouth Recurve Male, 2nd	John Antill
Double Portsmouth Recurve Female 1st	Sue Cooles
Double Portsmouth Recurve Female 2nd	Candy Schofield
Double Portsmouth Recurve Female 3rd	Lynne Stephenson

Wheelchair archer - Recurve	Alan Wood
1st County Team Recurve	Alan Wood, Sue Cooles, John Antill, Alan Wood

So that was a very successful day for Woking. Well done everybody.

Booze Shoot

This was held on the second weekend of December, and is our regular pre-Christmas get-together. We shoot a brief round before settling down to the serious business of consuming mulled wine and stuffing our cheeks with some really excellent sausage rolls (many thanks to Mary Tapley for making proper ones) and mince pies. Then Christmas cards are exchanged. The week beforehand had been rather grey and damp, but it was a lovely bright clear Sunday morning, most refreshing. Peter C put up some rather tricky Field archery 5- roundel targets at 20 yards, and we were not allowed to score on any but own chosen roundel.

Andrew Beech and Paul Hood got equal best score, but Andrew won on 'golds' and immediately handed his bottle of 'Old Tart' white wine to Liz! Robert Smith won a large pack of choccies. The Longbows had moved further down the field and used a standard target face at 60 yards (in all honesty hitting those roundels with a classic longbow would have been extremely difficult and not fun at all), and just enjoyed each others company.

Club Annual Dinner

For the second year running we went to The Cricketers in Horsell. The reason for the switch was that the Red Lion could not always give us the space we needed. This year the Cricketers did not offer a very inspired menu, so numbers were well down on previous years. It was an enjoyable evening as far as the company was concerned, but in all honesty the food was not very good. Hopefully we can get back to The Red Lion next year. For all that, many thanks to Peter Gray for organising this event.

Wand Shoot

This event happened in the middle of February, unfortunately clashing (as always) with tile SCAS indoor Target Championships. However it was a lovely fresh day with quite a challenging wind, and it was splendid to see some of our newer members having a go. For those of you who were not there, the shoot involves shooting at polystyrene foam fronted posts, 4 inches wide and about 6 feet high. Gentlemen shoot the full 100 yards, ladies 80 yards and juniors 60 yards. Wand shooting is a very ancient tradition going back to the middle ages, and legend would have it that only when the first person actually scored a hit were the archers let off practice and allowed to go to the tavern. We suspect that distances were much greater than they are today.

Unfortunately the results did not come to hand when this newsletter was being prepared.

SCAS Indoor Target Championships

This is one of our big regional events, and it was a pity so few from our Club thought it was worth attending as we only had to get to Guildford. There was a very good crowd of archers from all over the southern counties region and some good close scores.

2nd Lady Recurve	Candy Schofield
2nd Gentleman Recurve	John Antill
1st Lady Longbow	Julia Madelin

From the results sheet it looked as if we should have beaten Harrow who officially took first place in the team event, but at the shoot it was not made quite clear exactly how the team should be nominated and we obviously got it wrong as far as the Organiser was concerned. Candy is very miffed about this. Well done anyway.

Frostbite Balti Shoot

For a number of years now we have celebrated the final round of the Frostbite competition, turning it into a good excuse to consume quantities of curry afterwards. It was a lovely morning, but turned quite chill and windy after we had finished shooting, so the assortment of tasty food was very welcome. We had a choice of three curries, two chicken and one vegetable, courtesy of Candy Schofield, Moira Kendall and Richard

Tapley, and lovely savory rice from Sarah Corvi. Hot naan bread was also on hand. Many thanks to all who set this up.

Double Clout

Well a 'double' was what was on the programme. In actual fact the morning was quite briskly windy and it was not at all pleasant. A timely reminder that winter was still with us in the middle of March. By the last six arrows of the first clout round, it started to rain, so it was decided that a double would not be sensible.

1st Lady Recurve	Sue Cooles
1st Gent Recurve	Shane Biggs
1st Junior Boy	Terry Hunt
1st Junior Girl	none shot

Annual General Meeting

Although this was scheduled for the very end of March it was brought forward a couple of weeks to enable Brenda and Peter to go off to Florida on holiday. We had quite a reasonable turnout in the end, although the early starting time fooled quite a few people. This is the meeting when all the awards and medals are handed out for the winter shooting programme, and the results are on the pages attached to this newsletter.

April Club Shoot

Peter and Brenda were still on holiday, so we are not quite sure what happened with regard to the distribution of trophies, black badges and so on. However for those newer members the Summer Club Shoots are always on the first Sunday of each month from April to September, and we shoot for monthly awards, some of which are calculated on handicap and some on outright score. However the April Club Shoot is special in a different way, in that we have a season-long knock-out competition, and attendance at the April shoot gives you automatic entry into this competition. After April your first score submitted each month, on the same bow type, determines whether you stay in the competition and progress to the next stage, or are knocked out.

1st O/All Senior Gent Recurve	Andrew Beech
1st O/All Senior Lady Recurve	Lynne Stephenson
1st O/All Junior Recurve, over 9	Terry Hunt
1st O/All Junior Recurve, under 9	Jack Biggs
1st O/All Senior Gent Compound	Mike Piper
1st O/All Junior Compound	Jon Down
1st O/All Gent Longbow	Lawrence Braithwaite
1st O/All Lady Longbow	Helen Barrett
1st Lady Recurve on H/C	Mary Tapley
1st Gent Recurve on H/C	David Moore
1st Junior Recurve over 9 on H/C	Terry Hunt
1st Junior Recurve under 9 on H/C	Jack Biggs
1st Gent Compound on H/C	Mike Piper
1st L/B on H/C	Lawrence Braithwaite
1st Black Badge (Unrewarded)	John Antill
2nd Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Ruth Miles
3rd Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Richard Chadler
4th Black Badge (Unrewarded)	John Scott
Wooden Spoon (lowest on H/C)	Mike Piper

Surrey Longbow Championships

The first Saturday in May saw our Club hosting the traditional two-way Western round on our field. After a very soggy week the going was definitely 'heavy', but thanks to an intrepid band who formed the field party, we got set up in good time before the arrival of the hordes from all over south east England - nearly 90 of them! Special thanks to Richard, James, Kelvin, Mary and Lynne and of course the longbow brigade.

1st County Lady on hits	Julia Madelin
3rd County Lady on golds	Pauline Pringle

And Woking managed to get back the Open Team Trophy, but only just. Terry Cramp, Shane Kelly and Julia Madelin formed the team.

May Club Shoot

This mini-event saw arguably the best weather of the bank holiday weekend - it was very pleasant indeed.

1st O/All Senior Gent	Recurve Andrew Beech
1st O/All Senior Lady Recurve	Sue Cooles
1st O/All Junior Recurve, over 9	Terry Hunt
1st a/ All Junior Recurve, under 9	Jack Biggs
1st O/All Senior Gent Compound	John Wilkins
1st O/All Senior Lady Compound	Georgina Baglow
1st O/All Lady Longbow	Julia Madelin
1st O/All Barebow	Elliott Bull
1st Lady Recurve on H/C	Lesley Biggs
1st Gent Recurve on H/C	Andrew Beech
1st Junior Recurve on H/C, over 9	Archie Campbell
1st Junior Recurve on H/C, under 9	Jack Biggs
1st Gent Compound on H/C	John Wilkins
1st Longbow on H/C	Julia Madelin
1st Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Mary Tapley
2nd Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Terry Hunt
3rd Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Georgina Baglow
4th Black Badge (Unrewarded)	Ruth Miles
Wooden spoon (lowest on H/C)	Shane Biggs

Intercounties 'Friendly' with Kent

The second Sunday in May saw a goodly crowd from our Club who had been selected to shoot for the County in the first of several Intercounties matches.

Andrew Phillcox, Andrew Beech, Candy Schofield, Andrea Gales, Sue Cooles and Rachel Barnard were part of the Recurve Team.

John Wilkins shot for the Compound Team. Julia Madelin shot for the Longbow Team.

This year the match was declared to be a draw. Our Senior Recurves and Compounds won their matches against Kent, and our Junior Recurves and Longbows came 'second'. Candy Schofield was the best Lady Recurve Archer of the day.

New Members

Over the last six months we have welcomed a huge number of new members to the Club. Apart from getting them used to shooting it would be nice if we all remembered that they may have a host of little things they are unsure about that we take for granted, so let's try to be helpful when they look a little lost and may not quite understand what is going on.

We have a number of points we would like to bring up as well

There is a speed restriction which must be observed when driving past the cottages of Deers Farm Close. All members must keep their speeds really low, preferably little above walking pace - the last thing we need to do is antagonise those RHS staff which live in that complex, and one or two of them are quite sensitive to that sort of thing.

The wooden deer proof gate at the far end of the drive past the trials grounds must be kept closed at all times. There are quite a lot of deer in the neighborhood, and if they get into the planted area they will be shot, as they cannot easily be shooed out again. We have been getting very careless and are leaving this gate open while we are shooting. This applies to everybody, at the May Club shoot the gate had to be closed on several occasions because car drivers could not be bothered to stop after opening the gate and driving through.

Dog owners should be aware that mouse/rat poison is routinely put down in our sheds. Apart from the safety aspect of keeping domestic animals on leads at all times, they must not be allowed to sniff round the equipment areas.

We are NOT a Kindergarten. It is wonderful to see more families being an active part of the Club, but to those parents who shoot as well as their children we would say that you should not assume that other people can mind your children because you are on another part of the shooting line. A little bit of give and take is needed and at all times parents are responsible for their children.

One of our members, Alan Wood, who mostly shoots from a wheelchair, has been selected for the UK Squad, and hopefully will be shooting for Britain. He has asked to have a target set up for him down at the field for practice purposes, as obviously he is unable to get boss and stand out every time he wishes to train. It is planned that this will be set up and will have a waterproof cover for protection. No other Club members will be permitted to use this target. When the rest of you want to shoot you must. Get your equipment out of the sheds in the usual way.

Finally, at the last Club committee meeting Candy Schofield, our Treasurer, asked that members let her have their e-mail addresses.