

DCAS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2003

FOR ARCHERS IN DEVON & CORNWALL

Issue #14

Please copy and circulate to other club members

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Fourteenth edition of the DCAS Newsletter. Don't forget we are always after your input, so send us your news items, wants & sales, articles etc.

Copy for the Autumn issue (to be distributed at the Autumn Gold Tournament) should be sent to one of the Editorial Team by 31st August 2003, please:

Marion Hutter, 33 Vivary Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3JW Tel 01823-284270

Paul Callaway, 32 Trefusis Road, Redruth Cornwall TR15 2JH Tel 01209-215537

Marj Smith, 3 Ash Close, Biscovey, Par, St Austell, Cornwall PL24 2HD Tel 01726-813481

Tim Pratt, Flat 1, 64 Victoria Road, Exmouth, Devon EX8 1DW Tel 01395-273409

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEWS

England Representation:

Jan Martin won 1st place in the Open Competition at Largs in Scotland and 1st place in the Euronations Ladies Recurve shoot at the event, competing for England: the England Team also gained 1st place in all but one category.

Bob Griffith-Bird won the Compound Division at the Masters at Lilleshall, in doing so broke County and Regional records. He came 3rd at the GNAM but was the winner in the Over 50 age group. Bob also won the Double York at Dunster to retain his title as Grand Western Compound Champion.

Bob was featured on Spotlight TV and interviewed by Radio Devon (*A nerve-wracking experience, no doubt!*).

Jan won 5 trophies at the GNAM, including the Long National and Double Hereford.

Both Bob and Jan have again been chosen to shoot for England, this time at the British Target Championships in the Home Nations Tournament on the 9th and 10th August at Lilleshall. We wish them both the best of luck.

Andrew Callaway came 3rd in the University Championships shoot earlier in the season.

Dunster Week:

GWAS Secretary and Dunster Tournament Organiser, Janet Faralewski achieved her aim this year of having 200+ archers shooting on Longbow Day. In the Albion Sally Sandoe won the Ladies Recurve and Tim Pratt the Gents Recurve. With husband Jimmy, Sally again won the Jack & Jill Trophy for the Westerns. Cilla Bragg was 3rd in the Clout. Other archers from the county gained classification awards and personal best scores.

Marriage:

Sue Robinson to Steve Cotton on 4th May at Penzance. Congratulations.

Obituary:

Mike Cornish, Past President of the Bowmen of Wadebridge, died suddenly in April. Mike was Secretary of the club at the time of his death. Our condolences go to his family.

Marj Smith – PRO
01726-813481

GWAS JUNIOR INTER-COUNTIES

The team for this year consisted of the following juniors:

York - Mark Callaway

Bristol 1 - Robert Cloke

Bristol 2 - Scott Kinsey and Richard Hawkesford

Bristol 3 - Ashley Mclean and Mike Wilde

Bristol 4 – Elli Wilde and Nick Barber

Despite all members of the team shooting well, Dorset & Wilts soundly beat us.



Pictured – The DCAS Team, and all DCAS archers who attended.

NATIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Sophie Woolcock of Brixham Archers, & Richard Hawkesford of Torquay Archers, who in their first visit to these championships shot very well. Sophie, shooting longbow gained 1st place in both Metric & Bristol 3. Richard, shooting compound, shot two PBs gaining a 3rd place Metric 2 & 4th place Bristol 2.

JULY NATIONALS

Don't forget the July Nationals this month. Full details are in the summer edition of Archery U.K. Any problems give me a call.

Brian Hardy. Your Junior Rep. 01566-775831

EUROPEAN POPINJAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Members of Rydon and Dunheved (Launceston) Archery Clubs joined forces to travel to Belgium to compete in the European Popinjay Championships. Fewer juniors were able to travel this year due to National Examinations. The event is held every four years, attracting over 630 Archers from across Europe.

In Belgium this shoot is called Ligende Wipp; we call it horizontal popinjay. The target consists of a stand of metal rods holding imitation chickens, (1 cock bird, 2 hens and 30 chicks) set at 17 metres from the shooting line. Each Archer shoots in turn using a blunt ended arrow to *try to* knock the birds from the rods. The aiming point on the birds is about the size of a fingernail.

A wonderful weekend was enjoyed by all.



The Ladies were unlucky in the individual shoot, but gained 4th place in the team event. This is the same position as four years ago.

Congratulations to Frank Griffith, shooting in the Longbow in the individual event. After a final shoot-off against gents from five other countries, he gained third place and was presented with a medal and a glass vase inscribed to record the event. (*Many of you will know Frank is over 80 years old. So keep at it, you youngsters!! – Ed.*)

Eleven countries in the European Union shot in this mini-Olympics. The President of the European Federation hopes that more countries will be competing at the next event. He is trying to get this event included in the Olympic Games. Dunheved Archers certainly enjoyed themselves over the weekend and hope to return with Rydon Archers in four years' time.

Thanks are due to Awards for All, which made a Lottery Grant towards the expenses of the trip.

Anybody interested in Popinjay, or would like to know more about it, can contact Phyllis Griffith of Rydon Archers or Brian Hardy on 01566-775831

JUDGING AT THE ISLAND GAMES

The games are made up from 5 core sports, and then a choice of 7 from 9 other. Archery was one of the seven.

It started back in October 2002, when John Poyner asked if I would be interested in Judging a double FITA in Guernsey the following September for Guernsey Archers.

I was very pleased to accept. February arrived and some of the paperwork arrived, followed by a phone call from Roger McMullen (Judge) asking 'would I like to judge at the Island Games in late June for a week'. I jumped at the chance, and was asked to book the air tickets for my wife and myself.

Two months later a programme for the shooting week arrived. Sunday practice, A FITA shot over two days Monday & Tuesday, Wednesday an individual Head to Head and Thursday the Team Head to Head. I spent the next few days during tea and dinner breaks checking and brushing up on the rules !

Saturday 28th June saw us at 6.15 am at Exeter Airport. The 'plane was on time, up and over to Guernsey within 25 minutes. We were met by Caroline (Kes), one of the lady compound archers from the host club. She drove us around to the tournament field. And was introduced to the organiser Dave Ingles. As it was still only 9.am Kes took us to the hotel to book in. We went for a short walk to the sea front and out on a headland, then to the archery field which was only 5 minutes walk away, and met up with John Poyner and Roger McMullan who had already measured the field. The field crew were putting the finishing touches to the field, putting up gazebos for the archers and a grand one for the Judges. Lunchtime we returned to the hotel and our fourth Judge, Richard Hillier, had arrived. During lunch the Hire Cars were delivered, one for me and one for Roger and Richard. John had brought his over on the ferry.

The opening ceremony was held at St Peter Port Marina. All the 2,500 athletes paraded past us each behind their flags, as in the Olympics. They all lined up on the breakwater and the ceremony of mixing of the waters of each Island competing took place. Boats with representatives of each country poured their water into a special display and a fountain came up, when all the boats had passed and many fountains were displayed, one huge plume of water replaced all the smaller ones. The Bailiff of Guernsey, Sir de Vic Carey declared the games open, and a huge inflatable donkey was lowered across the marina. Daniel the donkey was to be the mascot for the week.

*The rest of the week from Sunday onwards will be printed in the Autumn Edition.
Colin Holmes.*

ARCHERY IN HONG KONG PART 2

June, July & August are usually free of tournaments due to the heat, humidity and typhoons. The threat of a typhoon or thunder storm would cause a postponement. I once turned up to find I was the only one there as I had not heard the typhoon signal was up.

Most tournaments are organised by the HKAA. A list is issued for various Cups, Shields, the Easton Challenge, Beman Cup and the Hong Kong Championships. Some of these are shot over two days but a week or so apart. The Hong Kong Championships in 1997 consisted of a FITA Star on the Saturday and elimination rounds on the Sunday. These were usually in November and were followed by the Annual Dinner and presentation of trophies.

Entry forms are sent to Clubs, mostly in Chinese so I had to get someone from my office to translate. The FITA Stars were in English. Fees had to be paid into the HKAA account in the Bank of China and the receipt sent with the entry form. Entries were not accepted without the receipt.

Clothing rules are FITA based with skirts/trousers in white but tops could be in Club colours, my Club issued yellow polo shirts.

In 1992 when I arrived only recurves were being shot but by 1995 compounds were being introduced, although only a few of the men changed entirely, some kept their recurves to shoot the important tournaments. I started compound and found I had to shoot against the men and as mentioned earlier distance, was limited.

Target lists are posted by the officials and the host club sets out the field, measuring distances with ropes and squaring the field. Stands and bosses are collected by each target's members and erected themselves. Faces and pins are collected and recorded in the office and had to be signed off afterwards. Judges check the targets. At each change of distance each target, is responsible for moving their target, although the men would help the ladies. After shooting finishes everyone helps to clear away. All very quick and efficient and everyone gathers for the result.

Food and drink are not provided, if in a town most of the archers go out to a local restaurant, if it is too far a couple of the archers take a car for a takeaway meal for those who wanted it.

Scoring is different - detail A,B, C or D is announced at the beginning of the day and that person acts as scorer, but on the next target. Once they have recorded the scores they return to their own target where the others have recorded their score and pulled their own arrows leaving theirs for them to check. I took my turn hoping I could understand the numbers but most would call in English. Most children have English lessons at school.

One hazard to tournaments in progress is the weather. A heavy shower will send everyone under their umbrellas (big advertising umbrellas) but a storm signal or a thunderstorm will clear the field very quickly. At least the rain is warm and clothes dry out quite quickly. Tents are not known and picnic tables and those big umbrellas are the norm.

Results are posted very quickly although I could not work out who won until the presentations as the names were in Chinese script, my name stood out though. Results lists were not issued to each archer but after a while you were given your score sheets.

I must record that everyone, officials and archers, were very helpful to the lone Englishwoman and it was very seldom I did not get a translation of the announcements from fellow archers and Judges. After a while Jeff and I were recognised and welcomed by many of the archers and were accepted by them. Unfortunately our contracts ended and we left Hong Kong very reluctantly.

Barbara Finney, Exmouth Archers.