

Welcome to the 45<sup>th</sup> edition of the DCAS Newsletter ☺ Hope you are enjoying being back out in the South West Sunshine on evening's and weekend's! It certainly is great being back outside shooting! The start of the season brings lots of promise and lots of people hunting for early MB scores for the team... so I thought I would be the first to wish you all the very best of luck – lets make this year the first year of many where DCAS shine through in leagues, gain loads of records, and represent our county at various competitions throughout the UK.



Best wishes and Good shooting!

Sami x

### **Lottery Success!**

The Newquay Bowmen are pleased to report that they have been successful in obtaining **£2,615** funding from Sport England. This funding is to support club coaching and includes Child Protection courses for members who are waiting to do a coaching course.

The money will purchase some bows and arrows for juniors and equipment for follow up work after beginner's courses. Intermediate bows and a club longbow and arrows are included to enable new members to make a better informed decision about what equipment to buy for themselves.

The bid also included new bosses, support posts for the nest for "Have a Go" and "Try Archery" sessions which will be put to good use in May when we have two Olympic based events which will give a large number of local children the opportunity of trying the sport.

We need to thank Tretherras Academy and especially Steve Dunn for their continued support of the Newquay Bowmen.

## **Member's Story: Barbara Finney, Exmouth Archers**

In 1979 my daughter joined an Archery activity in the school holidays. Whilst watching her I was encouraged to have a go and was hooked. At the end of July Sarah and I joined Sidmouth Archery Club on Fridays and Sundays. Later Sarah found other things to do and I was left on my own. I went to Coaching courses and elsewhere. By 1983, I had enough confidence to go to tournaments and compete and actually won a few. Outdoors I gained my 1200 FITA, 1100 Rose and attained MB every year from 1987 to 1992. I was also County Champion twice and a member of the County Team six times. I also shot at Dunster for many years and was lucky enough to be invited to shoot at the Royal Tox twice and also at the UK Masters. Indoors I shot quite well in GWAS and DCAS tournaments and in 1988 I won both of these along with the National Championship. Consequently I was invited to be Lady Paramount at the next Junior National. In 1989 I shot for England in the Indoor Championships held at Oxford.



In September 1992 my husband (Jeff) started

working in Hong Kong and it was likely at first to be for a year and a half. I left work at Devon Country Counsel in Sidmouth and flew out at Christmas. After Christmas I started work with Jeff and began to try and find an archery club in Hong Kong. I had been given a contact number and joined the YMCA Club. There were a few ex-pats there and soon I was shooting regularly. Later in the year we moved house outside the centre and I joined the local HK club at Shatin. There were not many English speakers but the Secretary was very helpful and I was soon shooting in the Club team and other tournaments organised by the HKAA and Universities and other clubs.



In June 1995 I was invited to join a selection shoot for the HK team to the World Archery Championships in Jakarta and so I was part of the eight strong team that headed off to Indonesia in July. I was nowhere near the standard of the World Champions but I enjoyed watching the experts and the whole atmosphere. The Opening and Closing ceremonies were spectacular. Later that year we went to Melbourne and I shot in

the Australia Masters and had the consolation of gaining two medals - 1<sup>st</sup> Indoor and 2<sup>nd</sup> Indoor – nearer my age group. In 1996 I was finding the Recurve too much to draw and despite pleas not to go to 'The Dark Side', I bought a compound bow. There were only a couple of Compound Archers in HK at the time so tuning was a little difficult. Jeff's work in HK finished in 1997 and we left after the Hand-Over Ceremony. We flew via the USA as our older daughter lived in San Diego and I had arranged to see Frank Pearson in Vail, Arizona to get my bow tuned and have some coaching.

We arrived home in September finding that Sidmouth Archery Club had closed due to a lack of members and a shooting ground. (New overshoot rules had meant the shooting ground at the Rugby Club was not long enough). I decided to join Exmouth Archers and started indoors at the school in late 1997. I started back on the tournament circuit gaining the Compound 1200 FITA and 1100 Rose, plus County Champion twice and County Team member 6 times.

Despite having been on Scout, PTA and Sidmouth Committees and having decided no more, I was elected Records Officer in 1999. In 2000 I did a Level 1 Coaching Course and started coaching in the Club. I passed the Records Officer role to Glen and took on Equipments Officer, and last year Coaching Officer.

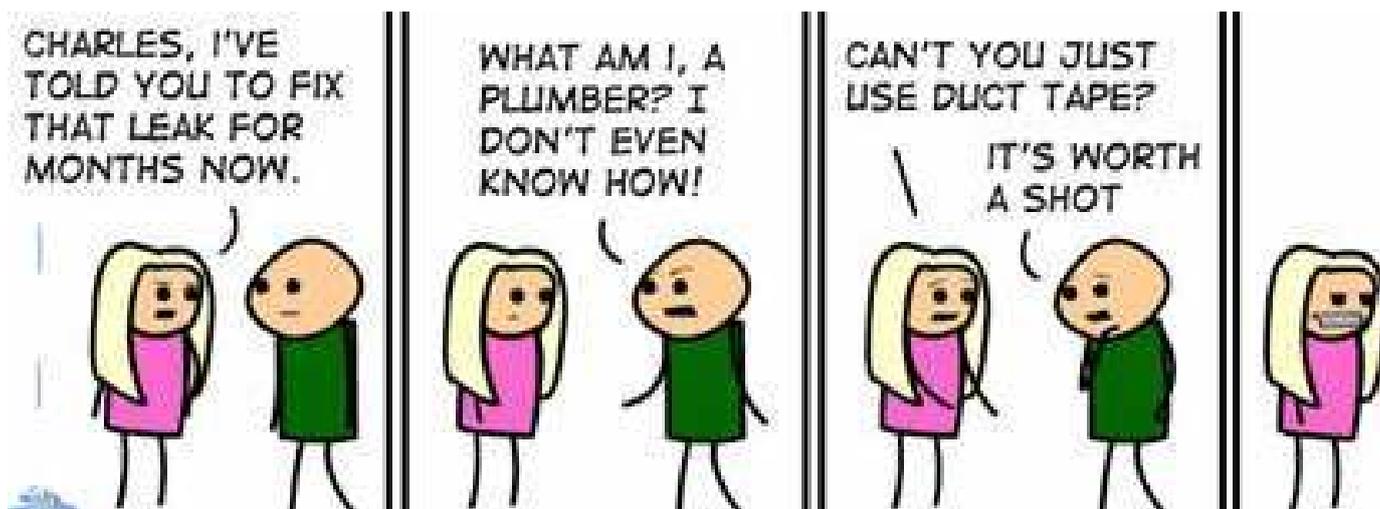
By 2005, I was having back and shoulder problems and eased off of shooting tournaments. I carried on Club shooting but now arthritis is taking hold and restricting my efforts. This, however, does not stop me coaching and helping new and existing Archers.

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### Quick-Fire

1. Energizer Bunny arrested; charged with battery.
2. A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
3. I used to be a lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe
4. When you dream in colour, it's a pigment of your imagination.
5. Reading whilst sunbathing makes you well-red.
6. Why don't aliens eat clowns? Because they taste funny.
7. Two peanuts walk into a bar. One was a salted.
8. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is it naked or homeless ?
9. What do cows do for entertainment? They rent moovies !
10. What do you call a sheep with no legs? A cloud.





### DCAS Diary May - July

#### May

|      |                          |                                        |
|------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 6th  | DCAS Grand Day - Exeter  | Nationals                              |
| 13th | Kyrton Open              | Westerns                               |
| 13th | Redruth Archers FITA 70m | World Record Status Double FITA 70m    |
| 20th | Bowmen of the Tors       | York / Hereford / Bristols / Nationals |
| 27th | Brixham Archers Open     | York / Hereford / Bristols / Nationals |

#### June

|              |                                         |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4th          | Exeter Co of A Diamond Jubilee Open     | St George / Albion / Windsors     |
| 9th/<br>10th | DCAS / Exmouth Archers Double FITA Star | Ladies and Gents FITA, Metrics    |
| 17th         | Lizard Peninsular Open                  | St George / Albion / Windsors     |
| 24th         | Redruth Double American                 | Double American and Junior Rounds |

#### July

|      |                                            |                                        |
|------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1st  | Wadebridge Open                            | Mixed Hereford / Bristols              |
| 8th  | <a href="#">Exmouth Archers</a> Open Shoot | York / Hereford / Bristols / Nationals |
| 22nd | DCAS Champs Newquay Bowmen                 | York / Hereford / Bristols / Nationals |
| 29th | Kenwith Open                               | York / Hereford / Bristols / Nationals |

## **DEVON AND CORNWALL ARCHER HAS ALL OF THE GNAS AND DCAS ROSE AWARDS!**

Amy Wilde has had both the GNAS and the DCAS Rose Awards for almost four years; which includes a possibility of being the first person to get a Purple rose badge for the GNAS set - for a score of almost 700 on a Bristol 4 at Devizes. Amy is too modest, so it has never come to light! Congratulations Amy!



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P.S. The editor would like to thank **Archery Link** with their continued support of the DCAS Newsletter ☺

## **Let the competition begin!!!!**

Following on from the various articles and information on how to qualify for County Team, now is the time to show that you mean business by shooting those PB's (hopefully MB scores) and handing them in.

I will not reiterate the qualifying process again, but if you have not yet understood the method, please either review the last few newsletters or email me on [srglover01@btinternet.com](mailto:srglover01@btinternet.com) or ask me at a local shoot. Details are also on the County website.

It would appear that interest in qualifying for the County team this year is keen and that new names may well be appearing in the list of average handicaps shot in qualifying rounds.

I will monitor all scores shot in County, but if you do shoot a score out of County, please email it to me with a copy of the official results for the shoot or a link to where I can get them from. I will arrange for a posting to appear monthly updating scores to date on the County website. If you wish to receive this summary, please let me know your email address and I will put you on the circulation list.



I know some have already shot scores that count and let's hope that the weather now improves, and through friendly competition, we can make sure that we have a County team that we can all be proud of and more importantly, one that finishes first and not second at the Intercounties at the end of the outdoor season.

Remember, it is an average handicap for your best 5 qualifying scores of the season.

Good shooting, and may all your arrows find the Gold!!

Steve G  
County Team Manager

[srglover01@btinternet.com](mailto:srglover01@btinternet.com)

### **Archery champion lives on in thriving sport in Cornwall**

Family and friends of a woman who championed the sport of archery in Cornwall and the south west have paid tribute to her following her death aged 89 years. Gwen Skipper and her husband Roy first took a beginners course and learned to shoot in the late 1950s in London and Gwen quickly realised that this was one thing she was better at than her husband. During the 1960s Gwen and Roy became very active in West Herts Bowman in Watford, Hertfordshire, a club which uniquely for the time had many paraplegic archers – one of whom (Margaret Maugham) won the first Paralympic gold medal in the sport.

Gwen rapidly achieved National Championship status during this time, won the first UK 1100 FITA star and also held the Guinness World Record for a Women's FITA score for many years. Both she and her husband became active coaches and Roy became a much respected National Judge and tournament organiser. In 1974 Gwen, Roy and family moved to Porthtowan in Cornwall and immediately joined the recently formed Redruth Archers. Their enthusiasm and extensive experience in the sport galvanised the club members and membership tripled within a year due to regular 'have-a-go' stands at town and county shows and abundant press coverage.

Despite a busy job as a Clerical Officer in the Brucellosis and TB section of the Ministry of Agriculture in Redruth, Gwen continued to achieve high scores. She was on the Devon and Cornwall Archery Team from 1977 to 1983 and in 1981 swept the competition board, winning Champion of the West, county, indoor, clout and FITA Star prizes. In 1983 Gwen won the national Civil Service Sports Authority 'Centels Salvo' for the best record of achievement of a woman in any Civil Service sport.

Between the mid 1970s and 1990s Gwen and Roy injected a huge amount of their energy into archery in the south west, never turning down an opportunity to help a club with coaching, organising tournaments, and working for the sport at regional and national council levels. They helped to start up new archery clubs in Cornwall including the City of Truro Archers, St Mellion Bowmen and Newquay Bowmen. In 1984 Gwen was invited to accept a more senior post at the Wadebridge Ministry of Agriculture office, despite being at retirement age. She and Roy therefore moved to Rumford near Padstow, and promptly started The Bowmen of Wadebridge, which rapidly grew to the thriving club it is today.

In the 1990's Gwen's declining eyesight and husband Roy's ill health led to a gradual slowing of their activities and a move to a smaller house in Sticker, St Austell, but they still maintained an active interest in the sport. Acknowledgements of their contribution to archery were many, with many Life Honorary Memberships being bestowed upon them both and an individual honour to Gwen from the Civil Service Sports Association. Roy's death in 2001 was followed by Gwen having major heart surgery in 2002 and a stroke in 2005. Nevertheless, despite being in her 80's Gwen recovered her health by going to Saints Gym in St Austell. She enjoyed life, regularly attending the Age UK Day Centre in St Austell and occasionally acting as Lady Paramount at archery tournaments.

**Jackie Skipper**

### ***Barnstaple Archery Club Open Warwicks***



The 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstaple outdoor open Tournament took place on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Despite a horrific weather forecast for heavy rain all day and very strong winds, club members were working hard all through the week before in preparation for hosting our first ever tournament.

The day dawned, wet and windy, but nonetheless club members rallied on the field for 7:30am to tackle the task of setting up the field. 2 hours of hard work followed, with both the field crew and catering crew working really hard to be ready for the arrival of the archers. Even if the weather itself did not result in the event being cancelled, news bulletins of roads blocked by trees made it sound like no-one would be able to get to us to shoot. However, archers did arrive and found bacon sandwiches cooking, targets to shoot at and a warm welcome from all at BAC!

Shooting was very challenging with the wind very strong and gusty and the rain coming and going. If the archers thought they had it bad the catering crew were suffering too, with the gazebos not up to the weather and a collapse resulting in toppled tables, broken crockery and a cut hand!

The field crew then had their biggest challenge of the day just after the first dozen arrows had been scored, when the pegs holding the legs started pulling back out of the very soggy mud and two targets toppled over backwards (fortunately we had just pulled the arrows out at the time). An unplanned break was incorporated and half an hour later, with a bit of creative problem solving, utilising every peg the club members could find and supplementing with some bent copper tube, the targets were secure and shooting could continue.



From that point forward things went well, the weather improved a little in the afternoon with less rain and slightly less strong winds and the shoot continued without further incident.



A visit from the North Devon Journal resulted in a slight interruption to shooting at the beginning of the last distance when they wanted to do a photo shoot with some of the club members around a target full of arrows, but we still finished in good time and got the raffle and most of the prize giving done before the rain returned.

For some archers competing, this was their first ever competition, and others for whom it was their first outdoor competition and certainly proved to be a challenge, but we had very few

retirements and it was still good experience, if they can shoot through the conditions we had, they can shoot in anything!

The weather affected the scores dramatically, but nonetheless there are 12 county records and 4 regional records that can be claimed from the event, due to that fact that Warwicks have not been shot in a tournament locally before. As the scores are all low due to the weather, there will be plenty of opportunity for archers to come next year and try for new records.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and those who supported us, including our sponsors Fremington Parish Council, Barnstaple Town Council and Quicks, and hope that despite the weather everyone enjoyed the shoot and will come back again in the future.

*Photos taken by Estelle Edwick and Paulette Mills*

| Date          | Round               | Bow              | Score    | Name             | Date and Venue        | Previous              | GWAS    |         |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| 28-Aug-11     | Ladies              | Double Fita      | Longbow  | 1214             | Sarah Conisbee        | 06/07/11 Redruth      | 1042    | Yes     |
|               |                     | Fita             | Longbow  | 623              | Sarah Conisbee        | 07/08/11 @ Redruth    | 564     |         |
|               |                     | 60m Distance     | Longbow  | 178              | Sarah Conisbee        | 07/08/11 @ Redruth    | 176     | Yes     |
|               |                     | 50m Distance     | Longbow  | 140              | Sarah Conisbee        | 06/08/11 @ Redruth    | 129     | Yes     |
|               |                     | 30m Distance     | Longbow  | 240              | Sarah Conisbee        | 07/08/11 @ Redruth    | 228     | Yes     |
|               |                     | New National     | Barebow  | 71               | Jane Farrow           | 24/07/11 @ Crowthorne | new     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Long National    | Barebow  | 138              | Jane Farrow           | 24/07/11 @ Crowthorne | new     | Yes     |
| 28/11/11      | Ladies              | Long Metric      | Recurve  | 621              | Estelle Edwick        | 13/08/11 @ Lilleshall | 588     |         |
|               |                     | 50m Distance     | Recurve  | 311              | Estelle Edwick        | 27/08/11 @ York       | 308     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Stafford         | Recurve  | 668              | Estelle Edwick        | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | 665     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Double Stafford  | Recurve  | 1314             | Estelle Edwick        | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | 1301    | Yes     |
|               |                     | Worcester        | Recurve  | 279              | Estelle Edwick        | 09/10/11 @ Crediton   | 268     |         |
|               |                     | Worcester        | Recurve  | 283              | Zena Barker           | 13/11/11 @ Newquay    | 279     |         |
|               |                     | Double Worcester | Recurve  | 559              | Zena Barker           | 13/11/11 @ Newquay    | 515     |         |
|               |                     | Long Western     | Barebow  | 212              | Angela Bovey Martin   | 04/09/11 @ Wadebridge | new     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Long Western     | Longbow  | 328              | Sarah Conisbee        | 04/09/11 @ Wadebridge | 254     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Hereford         | Longbow  | 575              | Sarah Conisbee        | 02/10/11 @ Exeter     | 535     |         |
|               |                     | Worcester        | Longbow  | 190              | Sarah Conisbee        | 13/11/11 @ Newquay    | 189     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Worcester        | Barebow  | 206              | Jane Farrow           | 09/10/11 @ Crediton   | new     |         |
|               |                     | Double Worcester | Barebow  | 311              | Jane Farrow           | 13/11/11 @ Newquay    | new     |         |
|               | Gents               | Stafford         | Compound | 681              | Andrew Scott          | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | new     |         |
|               |                     | Double Stafford  | Compound | 1344             | Andrew Scott          | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | new     |         |
|               |                     | Long Western     | Longbow  | 318              | Scott Williams        | 04/09/11 @ Wadebridge | 174     | Yes     |
|               |                     | Gents Fita       | Barebow  | 1008             | Rich Burridge         | 21/08/11 @ Exmouth    | 953     |         |
|               |                     | 50m Distance     | Barebow  | 263              | Rich Burridge         | 21/08/11 @ Exmouth    | 207     |         |
|               |                     | 70m Distance     | Barebow  | 234              | Rich Burridge         | 21/08/11 @ Exmouth    | 216     |         |
|               | Junior Gents        | Long Western     | Longbow  | 109              | Bradley Hingston      | 04/09/11 @ Wadebridge | new     | Yes U18 |
|               | 2-Way Western       | Longbow          | 227      | Bradley Hingston | 27/08/11 @ Devizes    | new                   |         |         |
|               | York                | Longbow          | 64       | Bradley Hingston | 28/08/11 @ Devizes    | new                   | Yes U18 |         |
|               | Hereford            | Longbow          | 102      | Bradley Hingston | 14/08/11 @ Bath       | new                   |         |         |
|               | Stafford            | Recurve          | 570      | Johnathan Nash   | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | 524                   |         |         |
|               | Double Stafford     | Recurve          | 1114     | Johnathan Nash   | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | 1012                  |         |         |
| Junior Ladies | Stafford            | Compound         | 613      | Jessica Luck     | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | new                   | Yes U14 |         |
|               | Double Stafford     | Compound         | 1220     | Jessica Luck     | 16/10/11 @ St Austell | new                   | Yes U14 |         |
|               | 100 yd Single 2-way | Longbow          | 33       | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | n/a                   | Yes U16 |         |
|               | 100 yd Double 2-way | Longbow          | 81       | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | n/a                   | Yes U16 |         |
|               | 100 yd Single 1-way | Longbow          | 44       | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | n/a                   | Yes U16 |         |
|               | 100yd Double 1-way  | Longbow          | 92       | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | n/a                   | Yes U16 |         |
|               | 90m Single Clout    | Longbow          | 108      | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | new                   |         |         |
|               | 90m Double Clout    | Longbow          | 224      | Amy Wilde        | 27/08/11 @ Neston     | new                   |         |         |
|               | 90m Single Clout    | Recurve          | 153      | Amy Wilde        | 08/10/11 @ Fakenham   | 118                   |         |         |
|               | 90m Double Clout    | Recurve          | 299      | Amy Wilde        | 08/10/11 @ Fakenham   | 258                   |         |         |
|               | 100 yd Single 2-way | Recurve          | 88       | Amy Wilde        | 09/10/11 @ Fakenham   | n/a                   | Yes U16 |         |
| 16/04/12      | Junior Gents        | Portsmouth       | Recurve  | 590              | James Montgomery      | 03/12/11 @ JNIC       | 583     | Yes U18 |