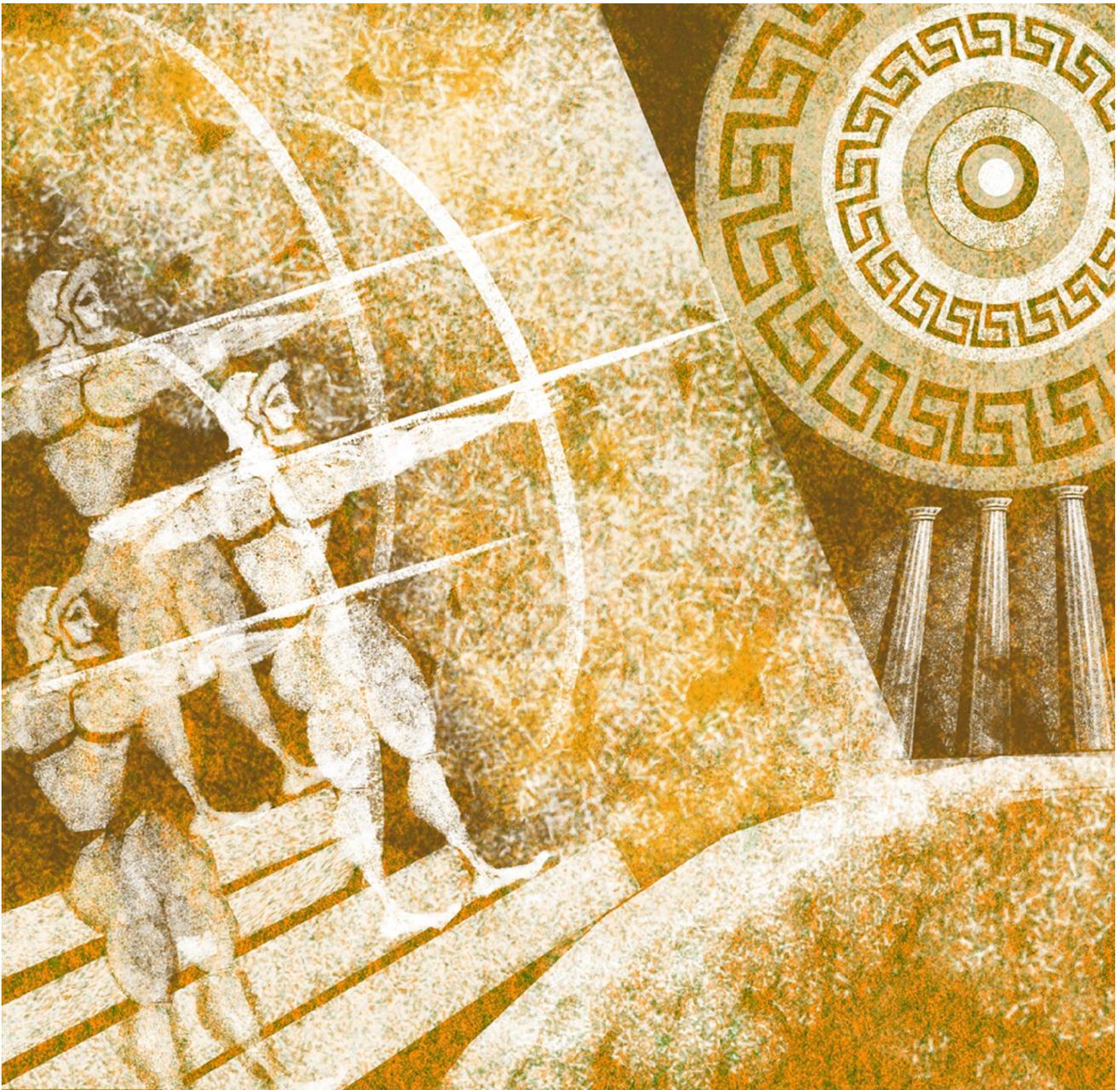


Allington Castle Archers

Nocking Point

March 2010



Dates for your diary

Frostbite Sunday 7th March 10:30 for 11:00

Bow tuning session Saturday 13th March (TBC) 2:00pm

Chairman's chat

Many thanks to all those who helped out at our indoor tournament at Lock Meadow. The tournament was fully booked and ran very smoothly. I will leave it to Charles to give the details in his report, but for the Compounds, Dave has rediscovered his old form with Deryck chasing all the way to the finish line. For the Recurves, Charles also did extremely well.

As far as outside shooting goes, we continue to be at the whim of the current bad weather. It was encouraging, however, with the temperature only just above zero to see one of our archers wearing sandals on the field! "Stiff Upper Lip" and all that, or maybe he just forgot his wellies!

The wand target, (six feet high and four inches wide), got its first trial run on the field this month, with a view to incorporating it as an extra within the club Longbow Championship. The next traditional target project is a Popinjay target, (look it up in your GNAS book / Website), but I need a 30 m high mast for that one so don't expect it anytime soon!

At the last committee meeting, one of the many items discussed was the role and responsibilities of the Field Captain. For those newer shooters, I will attempt to give a brief description. When shooting is in progress, someone has to act as Field Captain. It is this person's responsibility to look up the field and / or along the shooting line to check all is safe and then to signal when shooting can commence, (one whistle), and when it is safe to retrieve arrows, (two whistles). In addition, if there is some reason to stop shooting in the middle of an end, the Field Captain must signal to all shooters to stop by whistling three times, or more usually, shouting, "Fast", although

this emergency stop procedure is every archer's responsibility should they see something potentially dangerous.

The role of Field Captain isn't particularly complicated, it just needs the person chosen to pay a little bit more attention to what is going on around them. It also doesn't tie the person to the job all morning, the role can be transferred to another individual when you wish to stop shooting. We would like to see some more people taking on this task rather than just the same old, (not so old), faces. If you are still uncertain about what is involved, but don't mind helping out, just speak to one of the more experienced archers who will talk you through it.

Lastly, and before I forget again my Vice Chairman, Sandra, is also a valued member of our Committee and does a lot of hard work for the Club. I can not believe I could have been so callous and unthinking to have missed her name off last month's list of committee members, but I did and now I have to grovel! Sorry Sandra, it won't happen again!

We won the February recurve frostbite by 55 points and the compound Portsmouth by 42 points, (compound Frostbite still waiting for score, recurve Portsmouth, not enough people to make a team at the Lockmeadow).

The Frostbite scores were
RECURVE

Charles-Van Rensburg	36-303-4
Wayne Powell	36-291-5
Ken Garrett	36-280-7
Alf Kershaw	36-270-3
Roger Oehl	35-266-3
Christopher Punton	35-257-0
Cecile Midroullet	35-242-4

Barry Ruck	35-213-1
Sandra Punton	36-203-0
Amber Reed	35-202-1
William Lay	33-175-2
Colin Bowen	31-175-1
Kevyn Brooks	29-125-0
BAREBOW	
Neil Richardson	35-248-1
COMPOUND	
Dave Corke	36-332-14
Steve Mills	36-328-10
Andy Route	35-301-8
LONGBOW	
Geoff Barker	36-212-3

I also mention that this Sunday is your last chance to "shine" at the Frostbite until November!

Good Shooting.

Neil

Vice Chairman's chat

Worcester/Portsmouth Tournament

On Sunday 21st February 2010 we held the Worcester /Portsmouth Tournament at the Lockmeadow Hall. Once again we arrived at the crack of dawn and prepared the venue for the archers who were soon to arrive.

With anticipation at the start of another day I was hoping that I had not over subscribed too many people to the shoot, or that I would need to use my contingency plan (the 20th target) but someone must have been looking down

on me as it all panned out ok with the final count.

As Pam and Roger started to brew the tea and cook the breakfast the archers started to descend on us, but as usual the girls were at hand having all in order.

With assembly over, sighter's shot, the show was on the road. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. Before long the morning was over and the first medals of the day were being presented and once again I was being heckled from a few of the riffraff (no names mentioned) who happened to wander in that morning (I must watch who I let in, in the future).

After a most enjoyable lunch, it was time to start all over again, assembly over for the afternoon (hecklers still managing to get in) Sighter's shot (as well as the hecklers) and they were off. Again all went well without too many problems. Soon the end was in sight with many weary people. Medals again were presented and with the clearing up done it was time to say our goodbyes as the tournament drew to a close. With the end of another winter session over and a touch of sunshine hopefully to be on the way.

I believe I may have got it, as I am receiving more thanks for the effort of myself and especially the team who helped to deliver another successful day.

On that note, I would like to extend my gratitude to all the people who give their time to help make this day enjoyable for all the participants.

Thanks go to:

Ann for calculating the scores and for standing in as my lady P

Shelia, Chris, and Margaret for running

Pam and Roger for the great cuisine

Colin for presenting the raffle

Mark and Ken for being the judges for the day and Alf who received a huge learning curve.

I would also like to thank all the guys who helped to set up and dismantle the venue and returned all the equipment to stores and also Dave, for being the duty driver of the day once again.

Many thanks

Sandra

Captains Corner

Windy and wet is how I'd describe the frostbite. Oh yes, and cold, so no change there then. There was a good turnout which mitigated against the weather. The results are somewhere in this newsletter.

The indoor competition has come and gone. We had a good turnout of helpers on the Saturday and Sunday, which really helped get the hall set up in record time. Thank you too all those that helped. Personally, I've shot better, but I was with a good bunch of archers, which made for a fun day.

The website is progressing. There are now a couple of links pages. If anyone has any extra links or just general comments on the website, then please do get hold of me, either on the field or by email. Also if you have an email address and are not receiving the newsletter by email and you would like to, then send either Geoff or me your email address and we'll add you to the email list.

In the next week or two I, with the help of Clive, will be adding a junior section. So please look out for that and if you have any juniors in the household, please get them to look at it and send me any constructive comments. Also going up at some stage will be a coaching page.

That's it, I know I've said this before, but the weather really does look to be improving, so see you on the field.

Charles

Secretary's Sidelines

The weather has not been friendly so many of us have not shot many arrows during the winter. Field rent has still to be paid and the summer season is about to start, so dig deep in your pockets and let us have some money. YES, CLUB FEES ARE NOW DUE!!!

Please make cheques out to Allington Castle Archers and send to The Treasurer Ann Medhurst 1, Beaver Road Allington Maidstone Kent.

FEES

Senior £50.00 Junior £25.00

Family £125.00 Assoc. £30.00

Any member who did not affiliate in September will need to do so before they can shoot. Fees are £39.50

We have a number of enquires for the Beginners Course which starts on April 3rd, so expect to see lots of new faces on the field and busy coaches. Please make them welcome.

Any equipment that you wish to sell should be entered in the folder, in the hut. Make sure you state length and poundage of limbs, and arrow spine & length.

Colin

Twig & Stick

The weather has gotten better, slightly, so the shooting is getting more frequent. I still have not done that short distance check on my nocking point.

I have been contacted by **Darentford Archers** about the **Longbow Challenge** trophy. Provisional date is Saturday 10th April 2pm on our field as we host it this year.

Two items of interest are **field shoots** in May & Sept. at Friarsgate one day Forester rounds. Also, if there's enough interest, I would like to organise a **fun field shoot** depending on the numbers. This would consist of 10 targets ranging from 5 M to 50M, three arrows per target. Hopefully, sometime in April.

Let me know if you're interested.

Bow tuning session.

The date proposed is 13th March Sat 2:00 pm

If any one is interested please let me know.

New Season – New Style

As I am sure you are aware the summer season is nearly upon us. 2010 is already looking to be a promising year for the club with three new coaches and new chairman and committee. Why not start off this season in style? Over the next few months I will be rolling out new club polo shirts at a cost of £12.50. If you would like to order a new shirt then please come and see me on the field or complete an order form and pass it to me with your payment and I will order your items. If you would like to see a sample of the shirt before you order then I will have one available within the next few weeks. Should you require any other club merchandise I also have available Enamel Badges at £2.50, Cloth Badges at £2.50 and Club Banners at £7.50. Good shooting guys and girls

Chris Punton.



Roger's contribution