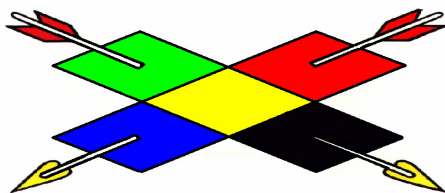


THE ARROW OF ARTEMIS



HARLEQUIN BOWMEN
Affiliated to G.N.A.S., S.C.A.S., B.A.A.

The Official Newsletter of Harlequin Bowmen – the finest Berkshire Archery Club in Oxfordshire

September 2009

Welcome to The Arrow of Artemis, the official newsletter of Harlequin Bowmen.

2009 has so far been a very eventful one. We've had some major changes to our procedures, some cracking tournament results and club records, and a healthy influx of new members - young and old.

Most of the news you will have acquired from the shiny new website, so this will be just a round up for now. All the major events of Summer 2009 will be detailed in this newsletter, along with postal league results, contact details, a competition...and Archie Ree's Surgery, where members can consult the Oracle of Toxophily on all matters bow and arrow related...

I hope you find this newsletter informative and entertaining. It's very much a work in progress, so any suggestions for improvement – or article submissions – will be gratefully received. Please forward them to me at sickofitall28@hotmail.com

Thanks for taking the time to read. Enjoy!

Adrian Chamberlin



NEW PROCEDURES: Lock'n'shoot

Two significant changes came into effect this year. The first one was introduced in May 2009. In short, we no longer have to wake up the sleeping policemen...

A combination lock has been fitted to the storeroom in the cricket pavilion and a new padlock will be fitted to the top of the door.

A safe has been fitted inside the storeroom that will have all the archery club keys inside it, the keys will not be kept in the police lodge anymore.

A key will be issued to each person that needs one for a £5 deposit (That is refundable when the key is returned if you leave the club), you will also be given the combination to the door and the safe.

So the procedure would be as follows. If you are first to arrive take your key and combination to the storeroom at the cricket pavilion. The key will open the padlock and the combination for the lock. Once inside the safe can be opened and the required keys taken. And at the end of the day the last person returns the keys to the storeroom safe and the padlock is locked. If you are leaving and there is only one person left please ensure they have a key and combination. *Also the Archery club keys must not be removed from the site or copied.*

The combination on the door and safe will be changed each year at the end of April for a new membership year, but the padlock will stay the same.

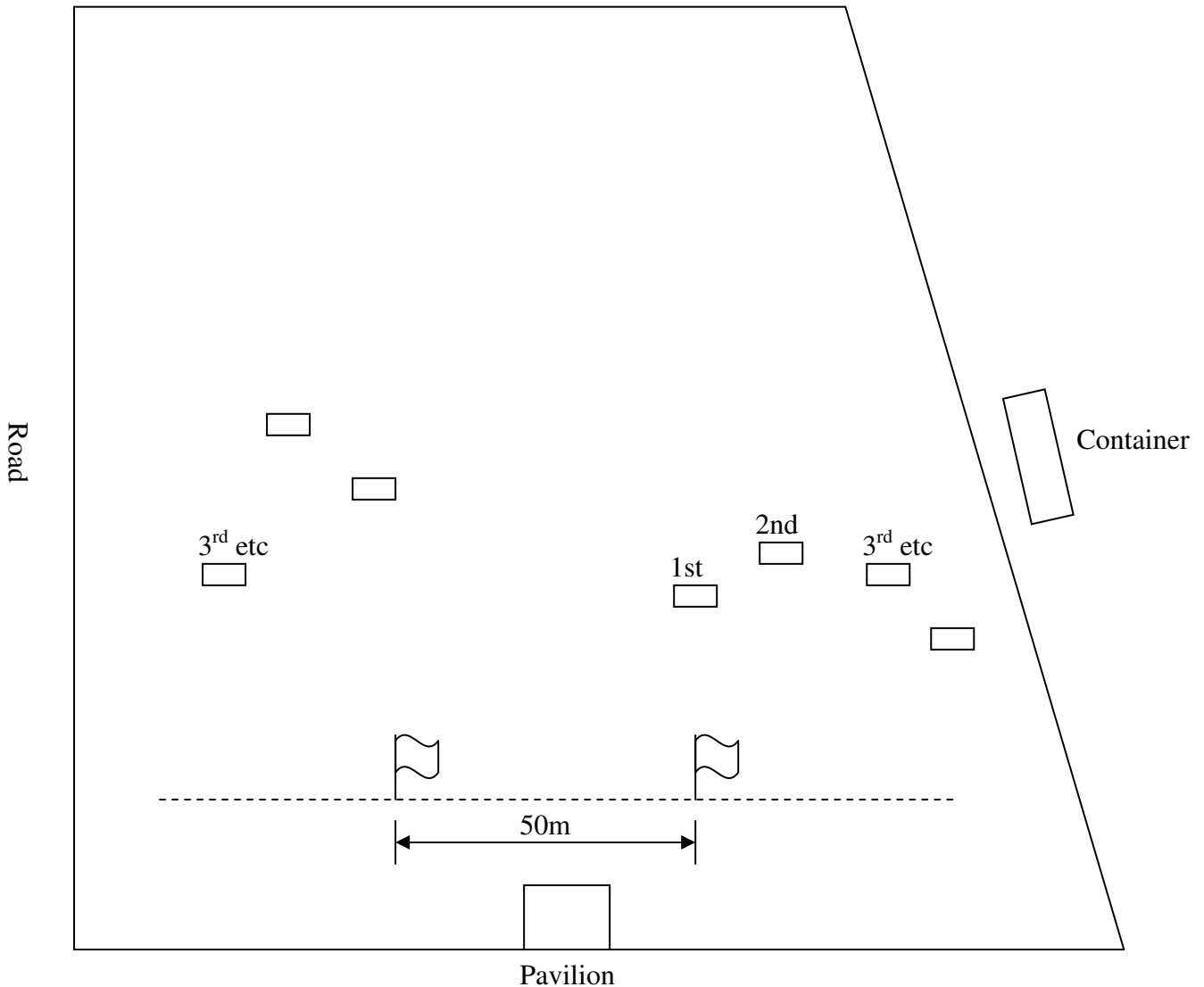
All the keys are numbered and your name will be recorded against the key number and whether you have paid your deposit. Speak to a committee member if you haven't obtained a key yet.

The second change is one that was long overdue. At the May Committee Meeting it was decided that the way we shoot on the field contravened GNAS insurance as it did not comply with GNAS Rules of Shooting.

Since then, the Club has introduced controlled shooting. This has not been overly popular as it has led to a slowdown on the field but the Committee decided there was no choice. There have already been a few close shaves and it was only a matter of time before someone got hurt.

You've probably already seen the new shooting procedure handouts, but to recap here it is again:

All shooting and arrow collection has to be controlled and all done at the same time unless there is a 50 metre gap between each target. As the field is not big enough to do this it has been decided that the field can be split into two controlled sections, with a 50 metre gap between, that can be controlled separately.

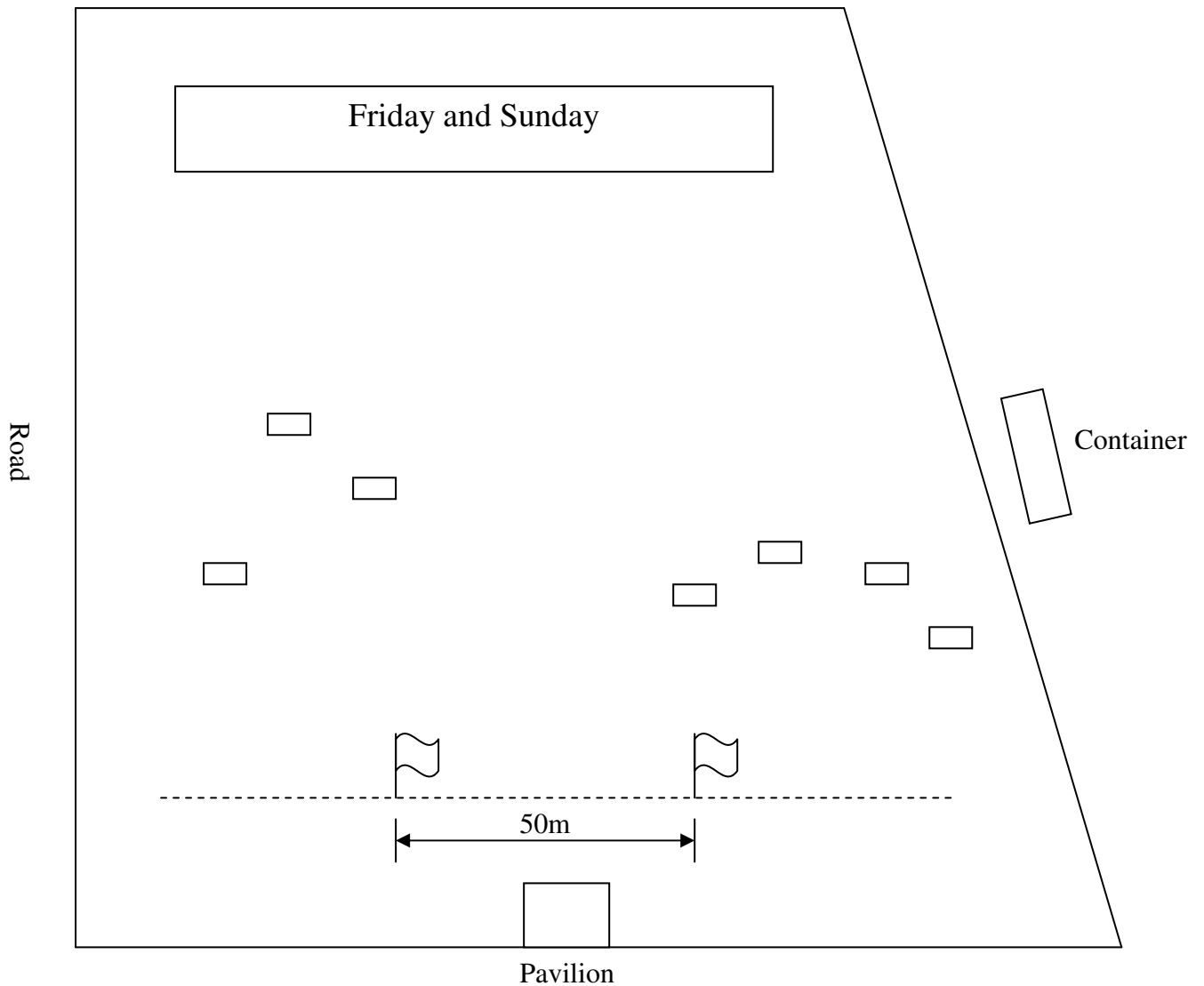


On Friday evenings and Sundays the field can be split evenly with the 50m gap in the middle and the two sections set out on each side of the gap. The targets should be set up close to each other, as there is not a need to leave a large gap between targets (approx 15 feet is ideal) that way at least 10 targets can be fitted in on each side.

One person would then be responsible for controlling the shooting in each section with a whistle. One blast to start shooting when you are sure that everyone is back. Two blasts for collection of arrows.

You can shoot in either section, but if you are shooting 80 yards and above it would be better to shoot on the left hand side, because it has longer overshoot. It does not mean that shorter distances cannot shoot with the longer distances, just so long as the shooting is controlled.

So when you arrive to shoot please set up the flags 50m apart in the middle and set your target at the flag position in which ever section you want to shoot in. The next people that turn up decide whether to join you, if you agree, setup a new target next to yours, but setup the target while you are collecting your arrows, even if this takes two

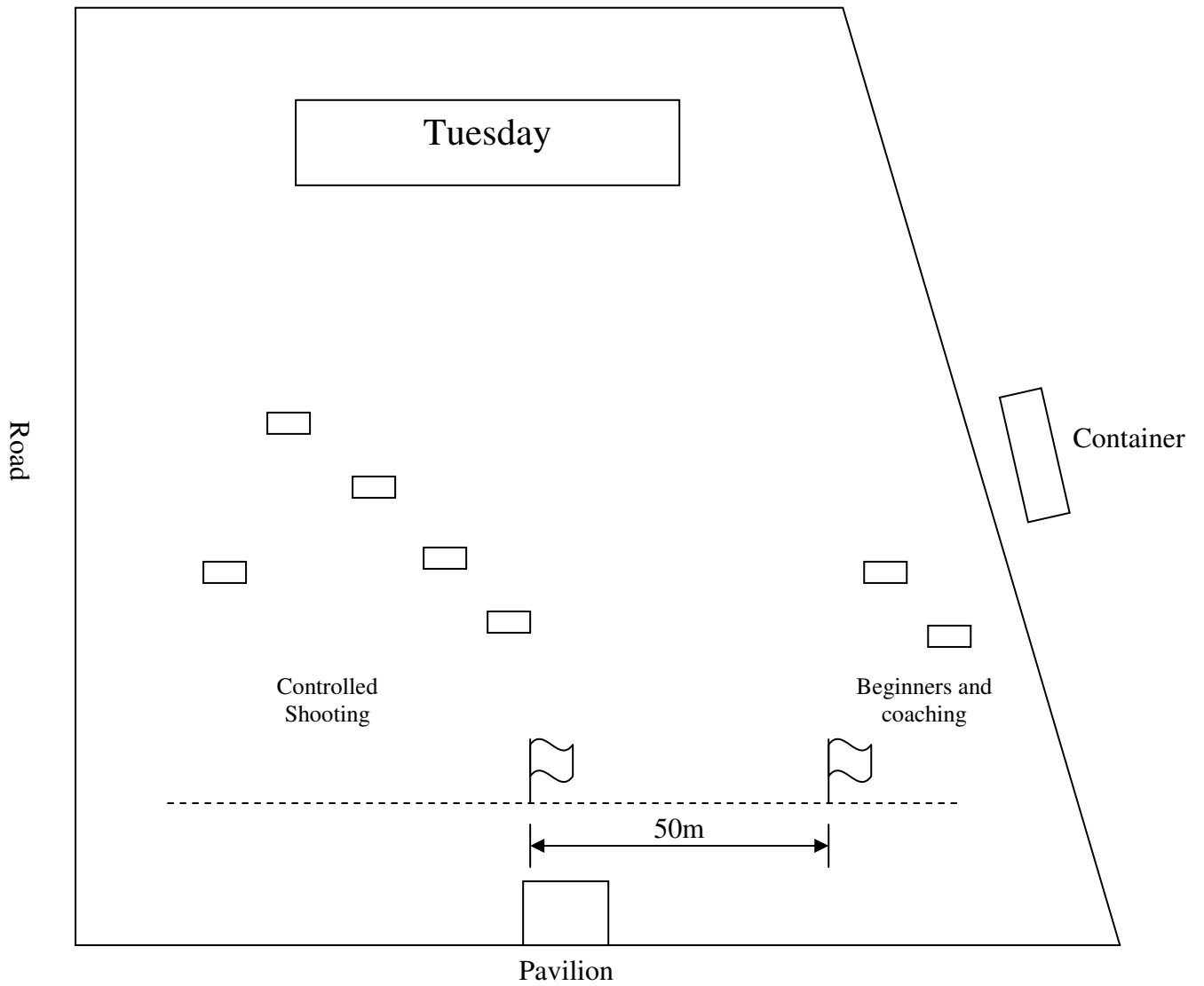


ends so as not to slow down your shooting. Or setup in the other section. When everyone has shot, in one section, you can all collect your arrows. If there are only a couple of targets the signal to start and collect can be spoken, but if there are a larger amount of targets a whistle will have to be used.

When you have finished shooting, please put your boss away in such a way that does not hinder the people that are still shooting, even if this takes a couple of ends. Eg. Remove face and pegs one end and then take boss and stand at the next end.

On Tuesday evenings the system will have to be slightly different as Tuesday is beginners course night and coaching. Therefore the right hand side of the field (Container side) will be used for beginners and coaching. It is thought that only approx 30 yards of the right hand side will be needed for beginners and coaching, leaving the rest of the field after the 50m gap for shooting. The exact space needed

may have to change after we try it out. The system for shooting will be the same as for other days.



Of course, we've shot like this all summer, so we're all used to it now. Not only has this resulted in safer shooting, it's encouraged more social shooting.



LAUGHING POLICEMEN

Sadly, car parking is still an ongoing issue with no resolution in sight. Depending on who's manning the gate, club members are allowed to park the cars in the park on weekdays and Saturdays, but definitely not on Sundays. However, one of our newest members, Ian Johnson, is a police officer based at the Harwell site, so...
If in doubt – ask the officer on the gate. DON'T upset them...those guns are loaded...

OOH! SHINY!

The all-singing, all-dancing new website is up and running and it looks great. Congratulations to Brian and Dan Taylor for this. Not only are all the results up from the Diana and the Berkshire Championships, there are some great photo galleries of the tournaments, some cringe-inducing shots of some our less-than-perfect archery skills, and a gallery of snaps from times gone by.

If you haven't discovered it yet, go to:

<http://www.harlequinbowmen.org.uk/>

YOU GREEDY PIGS!

The catering under Nick Buckel's care has been a huge success – the most noteworthy being the introduction of hot pork rolls at the Diana and the Berks Champs. Both were immensely popular with both club members and guests, sellouts, and will hopefully be a regular feature on our future tournaments. Our famous cake stall was also well received. We also have a kettle for hot drinks in the small pavilion and a wide range of refreshments in both areas – the jelly snakes have made themselves at home.

COACHING:

Steve Barry and Brian Taylor have both passed their internal assessments – their externals will take place on the 20th of September. Well done, both – and good luck for the next step.

EQUIPMENT:

An army of new H frames has been constructed by the tireless Brian Taylor. Unit 164 has undergone a facelift. Some racking has been put in place, the spiders have been evicted and a lot of the older bosses have been retired. There may be still a few left if you wish one for your own use – talk to Chris or Mick.

On a sadder note we've had to say farewell to our faithful old gazebo. It was completely trashed on the night before the Berks Champs, and one of the 3m gazebos isn't looking too healthy. The committee has decided to invest in a new one because on the financial side things have been looking flush.

ON THE MONEY:

Treasurer Andrew Gledhill has reported in the 2009/2010 financial statement that we have a larger than usual surplus – the variance between income (£5255.23) and expenditure (£1.354.69) is a big fat £3900.54.

Much of this was down to the beginner sessions, the Diana (£636.11 profit) and the Berks Champs (£628.77 profit). He has promised not to spend it on Bugati Veyrons and helicopters. Not this year, anyway...



"We can't buy the entire concept, Mr. Hood; but that part about taking from the rich has potential."

FOR THE RECORD:

From May this year, they are as follows:

Club Record	Round	Score
Brian Taylor 1198	Hereford	
Elizabeth Wilson	Short Metric Senior	580
Daniel Taylor	Albion	938
Mick Tappin	Albion	254
Lewis Miltenberger	Junior Western	350
Mandy Tappin	National	276
Mandy Tappin	Long National	90
Mick Tappin	Long National	117
Club and County Records	Round	Score
Elizabeth Wilson	Western Snr & U18	784
Elizabeth Wilson	Short Metric U16 & U18	580
Club, County and National Records		

Brian Taylor also achieved Six Gold End badges and has forwarded the claim to GNAS.

Congratulations to all!

JUNIORS

Our juniors make it look so easy, don't they...

Ben Dunk and Nicole Sliney made their competition debuts this year. Ben won the Junior Windsor at the Diana and Nicole was runner up in the Berks Champs Bristol IV. Elizabeth Wilson made a National Record claim for a Western at Burleigh, and Eleanor Barry won the Berks Champs Bristol III trophy.

Well done to you all. Keep it up.

EVENTS & TOURNAMENTS

Sadly, very few of us have competed in outside tournaments - although Dunster and Devizes saw the usual suspects, and more members are trying their hand at Clout. The next Clout Competition at Salisbury at the end of September will see at least ten Harlequin members attending, so wish them all luck...

The next major event is of course our Club Championships to be held on 20th September. Nationals, and Clout will be the order of the day...

10.00am - Clout Round (all age groups, all bow types)

12.00 - BBQ/Food

1.30pm - Target rounds (Nationals)

National- 4 dozen arrows @ 60yd 2 dozen @ 50yd

Short National- 4 dozen arrows @ 50yd 2 dozen @ 40yd

Junior National- 4 dozen arrows @ 30yd 2 dozen @ 20yd

This year archers will shoot in two details, four archers to a target, shooting 6 arrows at a time.

Please remember to return any trophies or awards you won last year on the day.

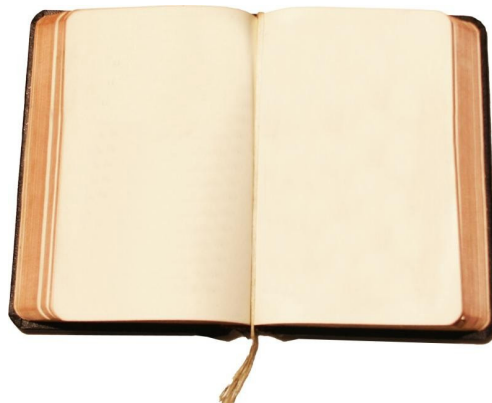


POLITE REMINDER:

Just to reiterate the email from Mick Tappin last week – please ensure all equipment, markers etc are cleared from the pitch at the end of the shoot. Two T markers were left in the ground last week which could have caused significant injury and/ or damage. Also, please pick up any pieces of wood which have sheared away from the H frames.

Let's keep our good reputation for safety! Thank you.

COMPETITION – The Archer's Book Of Excuses



Oh dear. Looking a bit blank, isn't it? This is why it's not available on Amazon.com or Barnes & Noble. So, let's change that shall we?

And what better way than a COMPETITION. We all have our excuses for poor performance – wrong kind of wind, low sun etc.

Please send your funniest/best excuses to my email address – sickofital28@hotmail.com. The one that makes me laugh the most will get a bottle of their favourite tippie (subject to price and availability) and the best five will be published in the next issue.

Deadline – 15th December 2009.

ARCHIE REE – The Oracle of Toxophily



Poor old Archie's been a bit under the weather. A nasty dose of swine flu and target panic - and lack of Windolene for his crystal ball - has meant he's not been receptive to the whispered wisdom from the Gods of Archery.

Fortunately, club member Bryan Regan has stepped up to the mark with an interesting view on the question of shooting long distances.

Over to you, Bryan...

Why shoot long distances? It's tempting to stay in your comfort zone, especially if you're getting good scores at a particular distance/round.

If you're interested in improving your handicap or classification you may well find it easier by shooting longer distances. For example if you're a senior men's recurve archer and shoot a 'New National' round (eight ends at 100yds followed by fours ends of 80yds) shooting dozens such as 55333M, 7551MM would give you a second class and dozens like 77553M, 775511 would make a first class score.

Furthermore if you wish to head for bowman and beyond 90metres and/or 100yds are compulsory distances.

Good luck if you give it a go – Remember even Grand Masters missed when they first tried 100yds!

Thanks for that, Bryan. May the Gods of Toxophily guide your arrows to perfect 10s...

Any questions/queries that you would like Archie to ask the Gods, please drop his apprentice a line on sickofital28@hotmail.com.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Come and talk to us if you have any problems/queries. We're friendly, and won't shout at you. Much.

Mick Tappin	-	Chairman/Coaching Officer
Pauline Tappin	-	Secretary
Lynn Wilson	-	Membership Secretary
Brian Taylor	-	Equipment Officer
Denys Barrett	-	Records Officer
Steve Barry	-	Junior Rep
Andrew Gledhill	-	Treasurer
Nick Buckel	-	Catering Officer
Chris Wilson	-	Events
Margaret Leishman	-	Child Protection Officer
Mark Sliney	-	Deputy Child Protection Officer
Danny Taylor	-	Website
Mike Baines	-	Committee Member
Adrian Chamberlin	-	Committee Member

USEFUL LINKS AND ADDRESSES:

Websites:

GNAS – <http://www.gnas.org/>

Harlequin Bowmen - <http://www.harlequinbowmen.org.uk/>

Berks County Archery Society <http://www.berkshirearchery.co.uk/>

Archery Interchange – <http://www.archery-interchange.net/>

Quicks - <http://www.quicks.com/>

Aim 4 Sport - <http://www.aim4sport.com/>

NOTE:

Thanks to Denys Barrett for the photos.

Once again, if you have any articles or material you'd like to see in the newsletter – or any equipment you'd like to sell – please contact me on sickofitall28@hotmail.com or phone 07986 285017.

Thanks for reading. Next issue will be in December 2009.

Adrian Chamberlin.