



# THE ARROWHEAD

THE NEWSLETTER  
OF LASSWADE ARCHERY CLUB



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ISSUE NO. 25 - JANUARY 1998

Dear Members,

I hope you have all recovered from the excesses of the festive season and will get yourselves ready for the remainder of the indoor season. This is the start of the newsletter's third year and I thought it was time to change the front page. I hope the design meets with your approval, the committee likes it, so you are stuck with it. HA!HA! Thanks are due to Athol Pirie for the artwork. I believe I am the first club member to see his wallet! It made a brief, a very brief, appearance at last month's Loreburn shoot. HA!HA!

Anyway, I digress, on to the news.....

## CLUB NEWS

### CLASSIFICATIONS/HANDICAPS

As you will have read in last month's newsletter, Andy Robertson is our new Records Officer.

As your Tournament Secretary, I give Andy all your scores from the tournaments you shoot in, so that he can work out your classifications/handicaps. If you shoot a round even if it is not an official tournament you should still give him your scores. The only way you will know your current classifications is if you do this. By making Andy's job as easy as possible he will hopefully continue in his post for many, many years to come!

### COMMITTEE MEETING

All committee members are reminded that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 5th of February 1998 at 7.30pm.

**NEW MEMBERS**

On behalf of the club I would like to welcome 2 established archers who have joined us, Billy Stewart and his "wee" boy Ross. This means that we now have a Ross Stewart in addition to a Stuart Ross in the club!

**LASSWADE INDOOR FITA**  
**SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1998**

As organiser for the above event I would be most grateful if some of you could help get the range set up on Saturday the 7th at 8.30pm. We will also be holding a raffle on the day of the shoot so again I would be grateful if you could provide some raffle prizes even if you are not attending on the day.

**JUDGES CONFERENCE**  
**LILLESHALL, 14-16 NOVEMBER 1997**

You may ask yourself, what possible interest could this be to me! However, like them or loathe them, Judges are an essential part of the smooth running of any tournament. Without them it would be like a football or cricket match with no referee or umpire. Therefore to ensure that Scottish standards in judging are maintained and improved, it was felt that we should be well represented.

So on Friday 14 November 1997, Watty Wyse, Martin Nicholl and yours truly set off on the 600 mile round trip to Lilleshall, the National Sports Facility in deepest England. We got there without mishap by 11.30pm despite the fog and thankfully the bar was still open, just for us. So a quick dash to our rooms and then down to the aforesaid for the Caffreys and Highland Park chasers. We eventually called it a day at 1.30am.

Saturday started bright and cheerful, you must be joking, by a loud knock on the door, "Good morning Derek, are you up?", eh.... its only 7.30am!!! This was followed 20 minutes later by an even louder knock, this was Callum Miller asking had I seen Walter and which direction was his room? Now completely awake I went for breakfast which was served between 7.30 and 8.30am. Breakfast over, the Conference commenced at 9.00am.

There /.....

There was an Agenda, which promptly was dispensed with. There were in all 26 Judges attending. These included the UK's five FITA Judges, several national Judges, a couple of Regionals, Watty, Martin and myself. The conference was under the Chairmanship of Denis Whiteman. We were privileged to be addressed by Don Lovo, a FITA Vice President and Chairman of the International Judges. He had been addressing the National Judges Conference on the Thursday and Friday and stayed on to meet us. He spoke for most of the morning without the benefit of notes or other visual aids. He drew on his vast experience, not only as an International Judge, but also his experience of appointing Judges in countries throughout the World. Reminiscences of events attended included anecdotes from events such as the World Championships, the Olympic Games and many others. The highs, lows and flat spots of these events were related, not so much as a source of humour, but the lessons which were drawn from them. Controversial issues such as the decision to remove the inner ten ring for Compound Archers were discussed. The costs of staging these types of events were also revealed, who paid for them, how much they cost and which countries they would not go back to were also mentioned. These are only the briefest details of the subjects covered. To go into them all would take more space than your editor would permit. In the afternoon we did return to the Agenda, but only briefly! We seemed to be constantly going off on side issues, which, whilst quite instructive, sometimes did not have a great deal of relevance to the main issues.

After dinner on Saturday evening, we had a viewing of a video of the Team Event Finals at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic's. The purpose being to show how scoring is done at this 70m round. A Judge, Score Caller, Archer's Agent and Runner are behind a blind, 10m from the target! Yes you've got it! Down range from the shooting line! The blinds are set at an angle on each side of the targets being scored. The archers shooting between the blinds. They are constructed of 21mm industrial plywood and being at an angle to the range, should an arrow hit one of them it would be deflected. Nevertheless, I would still be wary about sitting behind the blind. Line cutters are initially scored at the lower value, only when the runner goes to retrieve the arrows are they judged and the scores corrected. Don't ask the South Korean Gents about this. They lost the gold medal to the USA when the line cutters were finally judged. This was an interesting show and perhaps a tape the Club might consider purchasing.

Show over it was back to the bar and the joke telling session began! The Scots seemed to gravitate together but we were joined by one English Lady Judge and also Don Lovo. I think they enjoyed this visit to our table. Age and jet lag caught up with Watty and I and we called it a day quite early, leaving the others to carry on into the wee sma' 'ours.

Sunday's rude awakening came round again all too early. Today we did adhere to the Agenda slightly more than Saturday. Many topics were discussed, not the least being Judges expenses. The Scots, "canny folk" made their feelings known, especially as Judges travelling to Scotland have all expenses paid. The Chairman was given to understand that this should be the case throughout the UK, although accommodation at a 5 star hotel was not to be considered as the norm. Whilst not entirely supported, there was generally a broad feeling that Judges should not be out of pocket to travel and be accommodated when attending a shoot. Further developments on this subject are awaited with interest. It was interesting to hear however, that FITA Judges expenses are only paid from the time they arrive in the Country where the event is taking place. They have to pay their own return travel, unless of course you decide to take up residence there. So being a FITA Judge is not a cheap way of filling time.

We also had a demonstration of how shooting the final in a head to head competition takes place. Each archer can put the other under pressure, not only by the score of the arrow, but when they decide to shoot it. In this event the archer gets only a limited time to shoot and the other cannot start until the first has shot.

There was a slight controversy about FITA Judges wearing their uniform, Dark Blue Blazer and Grey Trousers, at GNAS events. It was felt that provided the event was a FITA round then there should be no exclusion of the FITA uniform. Indeed it was considered to be an enhancement to have a FITA Judge(s) present. At Imperial Rounds, where GNAS dress regulations apply, they could not wear their FITA gear. Whilst on the subject of FITA Judges, it has been agreed that they will be available to attend training events organised throughout the Regions. They all seemed keen to attend such events which may be organised in Scotland. I wonder why?

After lunch on the Sunday, a short de-briefing session was held and thanks were expressed to all those attending the Conference. Scotland came in for special mention having five judges attending. There would have been six had not Bob Darling been struck down with tonsillitis. It was then time to bid our farewells and depart early enough to get at least part of the homeward journey in daylight.

We finally reached Lasswade about 9.30pm tired but having had an interesting and informative week-end. The Judges Conference is a bi-annual event and I think it is probably as well. It's a long way for what is less than two days, especially at this time of year.

Would I go back? I'll tell you in two years time if I'm still a Judge.

Derek Sangster

## RULES OF SHOOTING

As you will have read in Derek's report, Watty also attended the Conference. Here is the first in a series of several items he will write for the newsletter over the next few months.

Rules! Who needs them, you may ask yourself. Well the fact is we all need them. Rules are there to ensure that justice is done and that nobody has an unfair advantage over the rest. At competitions the person who will interpret the rules is the JUDGE. The Judge is there to explain the rules and see that a sense of fair play exists, so that all the archers can produce their best, so please if you are in doubt ask the Judge.

In the UK we operate with two sets of rules, which does add to the confusion, they are:

1. Federation International de Tir a'l'Arc (F.I.T.A.)
2. Grand National Archery Society (G.N.A.S.)

When shooting metric distances, we observe the rules of FITA and when the distances are in good old fashioned yards, the rules are predominantly GNAS, with a hint of FITA.

Often archers turn up to shoot not properly attired for the occasion and are embarrassed when the Judge reminds them of the dress regulation, this is not always the fault of the archers but is due to their club not keeping them properly informed.

GNAS rule 107 is the dress code which states that all competitors should wear clothing which is coloured dark green or white or a mixture of both and that the accepted dress for ladies being a skirt/dress trousers/shorts and a suitable top (not strapless or beachwear). Gentlemen should wear trousers or shorts and a long or short sleeved shirt. Sweaters, cardigans and blazers may be worn if they are of the appropriate colour. Shoes must be worn and although it is not stipulated, but highly recommended for safety reasons, they should NOT be open toed ie. sandals.

The above rule covers all shoots of National record status and all FITA STARS. Any archer who is not properly attired may be asked to leave the shooting line. This rule applies to Officials as well as Archers. You may be asking yourself why must we wear these colours? Other than it being the accepted dress code of GNAS, and it looks good to spectators, it also assists the Judge to identify archers from any onlookers who may trespass into the shooting arena as they will probably be wearing multi-coloured clothing.

There are occasions where this rule may be waived, such as when you are shooting for your country you are allowed to wear the official team colours.

Our aim is to help you enjoy your chosen sport so if there is anything you would like clarified or a particular subject covered, please contact me.

Next edition:                      The Whistle and Time control

Watty Wyse

### JAMIE SMITH

It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death of Jamie Smith from Bonnyrigg.

Jamie was a member of our junior club for some years before he eventually left school to take up a post at the Sheraton Hotel in Edinburgh. Apparently, he was struck by a motor vehicle on the city's Western Approach Road while on his way to his home nearby.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his family at this time.

### TOURNAMENT REPORTS

As an aid to new members, or any old members, after I have written the name of a shoot it will have a 3 or 4 digit number after it in brackets. This will indicate the highest score possible for the round which was shot eg. 600 for a Portsmouth, 1440 for a single outdoor FITA.

### NCAS INDOOR SENIOR AND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (600) KILLINGWORTH - 16 NOVEMBER 1997

Three members attended this Portsmouth round with Meg winning the first lady visitor recurve medal.

Her score of 550 would have won her first place overall if this had been an open shoot.

"Aunty Joan" finished further down in 20th place with a 493. Two other ladies equalled Joan's score, but they had more golds. Joan's objective for the season: **MUST TRY HARDER. HA!HA!**

Our sole gent recurve, Bill C shot a 534 for 27th place.

Sorry for the lateness of this report. The organisers only sent me the results just before Christmas!

**7TH CHRISTMAS CRACKER FUN SHOOT (600)**  
**CLEADON, TYNE AND WEAR - 14 DECEMBER 1997**

Seven of us piled into a hired minibus, driven by me, for this annual fun shoot.

After collecting everybody from around Midlothian, we made our way down south stopping off for breakfast on the way. We arrived in good time despite the fact that we missed our turn-off and nearly ended up in Durham! The theme for this year's shoot was New York, 1927, gangsters, *molls etc.* The round was a 25 metre Fita which is not commonly shot by us. The shoot itself progressed well although we all shot below our previous year's scores. My mind was on the evening meal on the way home, reflected in a 3 arrow end of 8-1-1!

After the conclusion of the shoot, we made our way to the presentation ceremony. As mentioned, we did not shoot our best so we did not win any medals or raffle prizes. Our most notable achievement was by Barry whose score of 226 earned him a sealed score prize as the nearest to 230. The prize was a box of Maltesers which the wee glutton kept to himself!

The problem with shooting down south is that there are too many English archers. HA!HA!

On the way back from Cleadon we stopped off for our evening meal which was excellent. Un-like Loreburn the previous Sunday, the weather was dry so the journey home was an easy one.

Hopefully, more of you will attend this shoot in 1998.

The bad news reads as follows:-

<u>LADIES</u>	Meg Wyse	(511)	Below Personal Best
	Joan Smith	(466)	Below Personal Best
<u>GENTS</u>	Bill Carmichael	(524)	Below Personal Best
	Watty Wyse	(476)	Below Personal Best
	Ian Hunter	(303)	(his first 25m shoot!)
<u>COMPOUNDS</u>	Donald Cameron	(409)	Below Personal Worst!
	Barry Galbraith	(226)	(his first 25m shoot as well!)

I do not know what our placings were and I don't want to know. HA!HA!

MEG'S FAMOUS CHRISTMAS SHOOT (192)  
LASSWADE - 17 DECEMBER 1997

Continuing the Christmas theme, we held our own annual fun shoot which was organised by Meg.

The novelty faces this year were based on the 8 days of Christmas - yes I know there are 12 but we only have room for 8 targets!

The scoring was as follows:- white - 1 point, red/brown - 2 points, yellow - 5 points and green - 8 points.

The faces had been designed cleverly, with the green areas being the smallest, meaning that if you missed a green area you landed in a white area as I found out to my cost!

Due to a shortage of time we only shot 2 dozen arrows instead of the usual 3 dozen.

After the shoot we then made our way to the cafeteria for seasonal refreshments.

Thanks to Joan for the mince pies, Bill M for the mulled wine and a big thank-you to Meg for taking the time and trouble to organise things. She gets my nomination as organiser for the Double Fita Star in September! The placings for the top 3 in each group were as follows:-

<u>LADIES</u>	1st	Muriel Kirkwood	(68)
	2nd	Diane Armstrong	(55)
	3rd	Joan Smith	(52)
<u>GENTS</u>	1st	Bill Carmichael	(105)
	2nd	Graeme Mitchell	(88)
	3rd	Ian Hunter	(64)
<u>JUNIORS</u>	1st	Barry Galbraith	(57)
	2nd	Paul Young	(44)
Equal	3rd	James McCusker	(37)
		Peter Rogers	
<u>COMPOUNDS</u>	1st	Billy Stewart	(153)
	2nd	Andy Robertson	(151)
	3rd	Neil Fraser	(120)
<u>TARGET 1</u> (10 yards)	1st	Jade Hunter	(89)
	2nd	Jill Van Milligan	(77)
	3rd	Paul Young	(66)

Do I have double vision or do we have 2 Paul Youngs?



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**1998**

**FEBRUARY**

**TOURNAMENT/ROUND (OR EVENT)**

Sunday, 1st	3 SPOT FITA and HEAD to HEAD Cluny Clays, Fife
Thursday, 5th	Club Committee meeting
Sunday, 8th	Indoor Open/FITA 18(BRS) Lasswade
Sunday, 15th	WoS Indoor Championships/PORTSMOUTH Wishaw
Wednesday, 18th	Postal Shoot/PORTSMOUTH

**MARCH**

Sunday, 1st	S.A.A. Indoor Championships/FITA 18 Linwood
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**T.B.A.**

Intertown shoots against Penicuik AC, INDOOR/PORTSMOUTH,  
OUTDOOR/FROSTBITE and Lasswade AC Indoor Championship/PORTSMOUTH

That concludes the first edition of 1998.

Contributors for this issue:- Derek Sangster and Watty  
Wyse.

Any items for the next issue should be submitted to me  
by Wednesday 4th February 1998.