



NEWS FROM THE BEACON

Issue No. 4

May 2008

Field Rules

1. Sign the shooting register in the shop. If the shop is shut, sign the register in the shed and make sure someone knows you are on the field. Ideally do not shoot alone.
2. Only use bosses marked with a 'B' on the back. Please do NOT use bosses and stands marked with Orange paint
3. Use the trolley to move the bosses - do not roll them.
4. Always tie down bosses.
5. Use a shooting line.
6. If you wish to use more than one shooting line they must be a MINIMUM of 25 yards apart.
7. Put all equipment back in the shed when you have finished and in the correct locations (do not assume that someone will arrive after you to use it).
8. Remove tie down nails from the side of the boss before putting it away.
9. Tie up all ropes (tie down and shooting line).
10. Broken arrow points must be removed from the boss (otherwise mark the location and report it to the shop).
11. Breakages and equipment faults MUST be reported immediately to a member of staff in the shop or the equipment officer.
12. Do not leave litter on the field or in the shed Please place any old targets or paper litter in the bin provided. Do not leave food in the bin as this attracts mice etc into the shed – take it with you.
13. Do NOT park cars on the field unless special permission has been given by The Archery Warehouse or a member of the committee.
14. Dogs are not allowed on site.
15. Place any found and unclaimed arrows in the lost and found box in the shed.
16. If you need a new target face, take the old one to the shop for a replacement.

Chairman's Intro

It's been only a few months since the last newsletter but again we have so much we can be proud of.

We held our first two open tournaments which were a fantastic success in spite of the weather trying to ruin them. A big thank you must go to all the club members who helped make these days go off without any problems; you all know who you are.

We had a fantastic finish to the clubs first indoor season by taking away a load of silverware and medals at the Southern Counties Archers Championships. Awesome shooting everybody, now we just have to defend it all next year as I am certainly not giving my big shield back !!!

We were also successful claiming victory in the two out of the 3 Hert's county winter outdoor leagues. Well done everybody again for putting in such great performances in some horrible weather. We also placed well in the indoor leagues, details of which you can find on the web site.

The website continues to evolve a rapid rate with some more fun stuff being added. The site also contains a hidden link to something a little different, so see if you can find it. If you want to find out the weather forecast for our shooting field you can use the link on the web sites information page. But remember we do seem to have a weather system that has a mind of its own on the field.

Well that's all for now, see you on the line.

Phil Hodgins
Chairman

HELP!!!!

Calling **all** Beacon Archers.

In order to keep membership fees down and to enable us to maintain our equipment, the club needs to undertake some fundraising over the summer.

In addition, through these fundraising events, we can promote the club and encourage new members.

So, we are looking for a rota of volunteers to help at some have-a-go events. Don't be put off if you have not done this before - it's not hard - and we will offer training beforehand.

Please, as a matter of urgency, can you let me know if you are willing to help out on:

Monday 5 May - May Fair, Leighton Buzzard Recreation Ground

Saturday 10 May - Totternhoe Fete

Saturday 7 June - Wilstone Village Fete

Saturday 14 June - Edlesborough School Fair

Saturday 5 July - Edlesborough Fete

Sue Matthews

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Phil Chairman 07767 206916

Kevin Secretary 07802 890299

Nigel Treasurer 07877 040751

Mike Tournaments 01525 229374

Peter Equipment 07989 421769

Sue Newsletter 01525 229374

Alison White Lion 07740 088093

Josh/Gordon Juniors 07931 891043
07883 025935

Club shooting times

Outdoors on the field:

Fridays 5.00pm - dusk

Saturdays 10.00am - dusk

Sundays 10.30am - 2.30pm

Equipment

I would like to thank Gordon for all his efforts over the past months with the upkeep of the shed but now; The Shed is under new management.

As a club it is the responsibility of all to keep it clean and tidy, thanks to those who stayed after the frostbite shoot on the 24th February you will be aware that we made some upgrades to the shed, this is to make it easier and safer for all to use, since then I have made some more changes by replacing the two large boxes with three smaller ones which are on a lower shelf for easy access. There is enough bits in one box to set up three targets one of the other boxes contain the shooting line and metal stakes.

Also there are now tubes to keep the target faces tidy these are also there for easy access to the faces and once more to keep the shed tidy. Please do not leave old target faces on the shelf. If you are sure it is unusable then throw it away in the bin or bag in the shed, if in doubt of its condition ask someone. There are more jobs planned, one of which is to remove and replace the roofing felt and reseal the roof that will take place when the weather breaks - help would be appreciated. If any one has any ideas or thoughts for improvements please let myself or a committee member know. Please keep it clean and keep it safe.

Peter Morgan

April caption competition

Last issue's winner (as judged by our resident judge Kevin) was Gordon Hurn, with:

"Pete, I'm telling you now I am not going on to that shooting line with these blue trousers on."



Club Colours

Please let me know what size and style of club shirt you want.

I will be placing an order within the next couple of weeks.

There is a minimum quantity required and a discount for larger numbers. So please order now.

If you decide you want one later in the season, it may cost you more money.

Please telephone or email to let me know quantity and size.

Sue Matthews

News from the secretary

As most of you know from the email I sent out in March, GNAS has finally accepted Beacon Archers as a resisted club.

As a result of this, your proper membership stickers have arrived. These replace the temporary ones that Nigel gave you. Place them over the top of the temporary sticker. At the Indoor Club Championship I handed some of them out. The balance is at The Archery Warehouse for you to collect.

I am expecting the next batch in the near future. I was expecting that these first thirty members would have received the GNAS magazine (Archery UK) by now, but on checking with some of you this was not the case. I have spoken to the GNAS office recently and have been assured that they have now been sent out.

The summer is fast approaching and in the last day or so I have had an invitation from the Herts County asking if the club would like to enter a junior team in the summer league, I have handed this on to Phil to try and drum up some interest.

Two weeks ago I came across some of the club members shooting at the Richmond Pagoda shoot at which I was judging, I hope to see more of you in the next few weeks at shoots at which I am judging.

Best wishes to all of you for the coming summer shooting season.

Kevin

May caption competition

Come up with a caption for this one!



Records

The club records system has been updated to include the outdoor season rounds now that the season is under way. The web site has a full list of club records for both the Imperial and Metric rounds, already a few spaces have been filled but there are loads more up for grabs. So pick a round that has an empty space and get a club record - easy.

Valid scores can be shot at any competition or on a club designated target day. Currently the club target days are Sunday, Thursday and Friday. From the 1st May 2008 Saturday will be a designated day instead of Thursday as from the end of April we will no longer be shooting indoors at the school.

The web site now has Archer's handicaps and classifications for over 20 members who have been submitting scores on a regular basis. As the outdoor season is now under way additional classifications and handicaps will be added to cover the outdoor season.

We are also introducing a classification badge system from the start of the outdoor season. This requires you to shoot 3 rounds which will then determine your starting classification from the scores achieved at those rounds. You will then receive a badge of the appropriate class which you can put on your quiver. If through the season your submitted scores for rounds improve to reach the next class then you can exchange the badge for the next one up (as long as it's in good condition). Alternatively you can purchase the next one up for a few pounds. If you would like to find out more information please contact me.

Congratulations to Peter Grand and Gordon Hurn who are the first Beacon Archers to achieve their first class badges - well done to both of you!

Keep the scores coming

Phil



The Gents shirt is available in sizes: S(38") M(40") L(42-44") XL(46") XXL(48"),

The Ladies shirt is available in: S(30-32") M(34") L(36") XL(38")

Inter club event

Put Friday 20 June in your diaries.

Beacon has invited Westcott (a Buckinghamshire based club) to a shoot here at our grounds.

We will shoot a National (4 doz at 60 and 2 doz at 50yds) or a Junior National for youngsters and beginners (4 doz at 40 and 2 doz at 30yds).

This is the first time we have played host to another club - and we want to put on a good show - so we need as many of you as possible to attend and play host.

Sue Matthews

Summer league

Beacon Archers have entered the Hertfordshire Summer League this year.

It was touch and go as to whether it would be run this year but someone from Herts Archery Association has now stepped in.

For those of you not familiar with the Summer League, it is similar to the Winter League – except that you have to go somewhere!

Every month – on a Sunday, a match is shot against another club either at home or away.

It's a great opportunity to shoot formal rounds and meet other members of other clubs.

The whole league shoots a short metric round – 3 dozen @ 50 M followed by 3 Dozen @ 30M on a 80cm face

Away matches are a case of turning up on time but home league matches involve setting up the field etc and the home team providing a light tea whilst the scores are sorted.

It's all good fun and a real chance to get involved with the club and the running of a tournament.

I will need names and contact details of all that are interested and it is open to all club members, all bow types and abilities. Juniors will shoot a Short metric 3 or similar.

Matches start in May and go through to September. You don't have to turn up for all of them but I'm not going to put up targets on my own. As for away matches I suggest car sharing would be an idea.

Once the match dates have been agreed they will be posted in various places including the website, shed and shop.

Contact me or Phil.

Mike Philliskirk

Past club events

We had two fabulous Beacon events in April - the Warwick and the Siege.

Despite wind, rain and a heavy layer of snow - the two days went fantastically well and everyone enjoyed themselves. We had visitors from clubs across the region - and I think they were all impressed with what Beacon presented.

Visit the website for pictures.

Thanks especially to:

[Peter Grand](#) for the admin, marking out and setting up the field, making the announcements and supplying a lot of the equipment.

[Peter Morgan](#) for taking two days off work to help with the setting up of the field.

[Joyce Morgan](#) for making the dummies, flags, tablecloth, etc. etc

[Phil Hodgins](#) for taking time off work to help set up the field - and for his overall support.

[Janice Blades](#), [Fergus Bradfield](#), [Alison Evans](#), [Jo Cooper](#), [Alison de Burgh](#) and [Karen Freeman](#) for helping with stuffing dummies plus the set up and running of the days.

The events couldn't have taken place without you.

All Beacon members are encouraged to help with future events.

Sue Matthews

Tournaments successes

Beacon has continued to perform well at outside competitions.

Since the last newsletter club members have shot at the Southern Counties Archery Society Indoor Championships.

We came away Recurve Team winners (Mike Philliskirk, Phil Hodgins, Sue Matthews and Sue Gardner); Longbow Team winners (Gordon Hurn and Sue Matthews). You can see the trophies in the shop.

We also have the Longbow Gents champion (Gordon) plus Longbow and Recurve Ladies champion (Sue).

Beacon Archers also shot at the Pagoda shoot in Richmond and at the Whiteleaf Longbow tournament - see the website for details and photos.

We would like to see more Beacon members taking part in these events - there is a list below for you to choose from.

11 May	Kestrels
1 June	Diana Shoot
8 June	Windsor Forest
15 June	Bowmen of Burleigh
27 July	Crowthorne
7 August	Oxford Archers
8 August	Beds County
7 September	Bucks County
14 September	Bowmen of Warfield

See the Mayflower website for more information (there is a link on the Beacon Archers website on the News Page).

News from Whitelion

Whitelion Bowmen have recently taken part in a number of field shoots and are looking forward to a full filled season of shooting. A few members were invited down to a Rove shoot by the Medieval Society, based at Ufton Court in Berkshire. The day proved to be very enjoyable despite the strong wind and rain on the day, arrows being blown off course did not deter the archers from reaching the marks.

Saturday 26th April Whitelion Bowmen were at Magna Carta near Guildford where archers shot a mixture of paper animal and 3D targets. In addition to the challenge of hitting the targets which seemed to get smaller and further away as the day progressed was that of finding the arrows that missed in the dense Rhododendron packed undergrowth. On Sunday, 27th April, more members attended the 3D shoot at Avalon Archers near Biggleswade. Both shoots experienced good weather, most archers

able to shoot in short sleeves, despite the dire warnings for Sunday by the weather men. May 2nd - 5th the majority of Whitelion are attending Rockingham Fayre where they are setting up a medieval living history camp for the weekend.

Alison Evans

