

# MERDON WHITEBOARD

## EDITOR GERRY WILLSMORE

### OCTOBER 2011



#### Dates for your diary.

- 31<sup>st</sup> October** Halloween Fun Shoot 7 p.m.  
 6<sup>th</sup> November FOBB Crookhorn Indoor, Portsmouth  
**13<sup>th</sup> November** Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m.  
 Frostbite 10:30 a.m.  
 AC Delco Indoor Fleming Park  
**9<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Meal 7.30 p.m.  
**10<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Fun Shoot 2 p.m.  
**11<sup>th</sup> December** Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m.  
 Frostbite 10:30 a.m.  
 County Indoor Championships Fleming Park

#### 2012

- 7<sup>th</sup> January HMS Collingwood FITA18  
**8<sup>th</sup> January** Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m.  
 Frostbite 10:30 a.m.  
 HMS Collingwood Worcester  
 15<sup>th</sup> January Guildford FITA25  
**21<sup>st</sup> January** Burns Night Fun Shoot 7 p.m.  
**12<sup>th</sup> February** Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m.  
 Frostbite 10:30 a.m.  
 HMS Collingwood Portsmouth  
**11<sup>th</sup> March** Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m.  
 Winter Championships 10:30 a.m.  
**18<sup>th</sup> March** TAM Shoot 11 a.m.  
**6<sup>th</sup> April** Good Friday Fun Shoot 2 p.m.  
**21<sup>st</sup> April** St George's Day Fun Shoot 2 p.m.  
**22<sup>nd</sup> April** Merdon Fun Shoot 11 a.m.  
**5<sup>th</sup> May** Set up field for Merdon Arrow  
**6<sup>th</sup> May** Merdon Arrow 11 a.m.  
 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May Southern Counties Archery Meeting  
 27<sup>th</sup> May Devizes Top Ten York etc.  
**5<sup>th</sup> June** Queen's Diamond Jubilee Fun Shoot 2 p.m.  
 10<sup>th</sup> June Lytchett Owl Shoot  
 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June Dunster Week  
**7<sup>th</sup> July** Independence Day Fun Shoot 2 p.m.  
 15<sup>th</sup> July Bournemouth Blue Lion  
**4<sup>th</sup> August** Olympic Shoot 2 p.m.  
**20<sup>th</sup> August** Abbey Shoot  
 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August Devizes DWAA Championships  
 27<sup>th</sup> August Guildford Acorn  
**6<sup>th</sup> October** Set up field for Agincourt Arrow  
**7<sup>th</sup> October** Agincourt Arrow 11 a.m.  
**31<sup>st</sup> October** Halloween Fun Shoot 7 p.m.  
**7<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Meal 7.30 p.m.  
**8<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Fun Shoot 2 p.m.

#### New Club Records

- John McCrea  
 Gents Longbow Albion  
 Gents Longbow Warwick  
 Gents Longbow Western  
 Bill Tubbs  
 Gents Barebow National

#### Halloween Fun Shoot

Get away from those pesky trick-or-treaters and come and join us at 7:00 p.m. on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October for the Halloween Fun Shoot. We shoot a floodlit Portsmouth round of 5 dozen arrows at 20 yards. Hot chocolate and marshmallows will be available on the night.

#### Recent Tournament Successes by Merdon Archers

- Don Boddy  
 Agincourt Spoon  
 John Martin  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Agincourt Arrow Gents Barebow  
 John McCrea  
 1<sup>st</sup> Agincourt Arrow Gents Longbow  
 Gerry Willsmore  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Agincourt Arrow Gents Recurve

#### Agincourt Arrow

The club's annual Agincourt Arrow took place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October with the Agincourt Arrow going to Dan Courtneil of Southampton Archery Club who scored closest to his Handicap being just 5 points away from his handicap.

The winners of the different categories were:

Ladies Recurve	Ali Lupton	AC Delco
Gents Recurve	Mick Pinnells	AC Delco
Ladies Longbow	Jan Smith	FOBB
Gents Longbow	John McCrea	Merdon
Gents Compound	Jamie Murfitt	AC Delco
Gents Barebow	David Strong	Petersfield
Junior Girl	Stephanie Pinnells	AC Delco
Junior Boy	Jack Dixon	Canford Magna
Best Gold	Rob Young	AC Delco
Worst White	Don Boddy	Merdon
Gold Colour Prize	John Davies	FOBB
Red Colour Prize	John Foley	Fort Purbrook
Blue Colour Prize	David Critchlow-Wigg	AC Delco
Black Colour Prize	Phil Hodges	FOBB
White Colour Prize	John Foley	Fort Purbrook
Lady Paramount's	Bryan Golden	Sway

#### "El Presidente" revisited

Following his request, Alan Miller came up to me at the Agincourt Arrow to congratulate me on finding the old photo of Ken in last month's Whiteboard. He was so pleased that he asked, nay begged, me to search the archives to see if I could find another photo of Ken in his youth.

To my delight, and I am sure Alan's, I found the photograph below. As you will see Ken was dressed in the trendy fashion of the day, looking a real cool dude who must have turned all the ladies heads. I may be wrong but I swear he still wears the same hat at the Wednesday meeting of the old codgers.



## A Plea From Your Records Officer

I recently picked up six score sheets from the club hut only to find the following:

- 5 without the round specified
- 3 with errors in the score
- 3 without any totals completed
- 1 without the bow type specified
- 1 where I couldn't positively identify the archer

Since taking over the role of records officer I have tried my best to keep the records as current as possible and to make them useful to the archers so that you can measure your progress if you want to, and to have targets and records to go for. Whilst I accept that errors do occur in scoring, heaven only knows I have made enough of them myself, and I am not concerned about the totals of hits and golds not being completed but I would be grateful if you could ensure that your score sheet contains the following items correctly,

- Date
- Round
- Bow type

and ensure that you can be identified, especially if you have the same first name as another member. Remember that this is the archers' responsibility, not the scorers'.

## Archery GB National Series

For those of you with an interest in archery beyond the Merdon gate I thought I should bring you up to date with the Archery GB National Series, the premier series in British archery.

For those of you who are not familiar with the format of the National Series it consists of 5 qualifying rounds consisting of FITA 70 ranking rounds followed by Head to Head knockouts with points being awarded for finishing position. The top 4 in each category then went into a final staged at Liverpool which consisted of Head to Head matches to determine gold, silver and bronze positions.

At the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> qualifying event at York our own **Colin Whysall** finished in 7<sup>th</sup> position overall, a fantastic performance against the best archers in Britain. Mind you half the organisers thought he was a member of Meriden Archery Club. The winners of the four categories were:

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Gents recurve   | Simon Terry       |
| Ladies recurve  | Charlotte Burgess |
| Gents compound  | Chris White       |
| Ladies compound | Lucy O'Sullivan.  |

I was particularly pleased to see Lucy win as, by a quirk of ecclesiastical hierarchy, she is a Hampshire archer, as she is affiliated through Jersey. When I was team manager for the Hampshire team she was the mainstay of my compound ladies so I am disappointed that compound bows are not included in the Olympic games as I would have loved to have cheered her on at London 2012.



*Colin shooting at the TAM shoot earlier his year.*

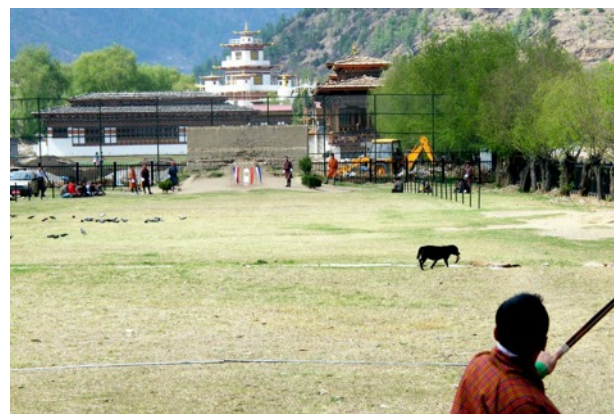
## They Do Things Differently in Bhutan

You may be aware that archery is the national sport of Bhutan. Indeed archers are the only Bhutanese athletes to have attended the Olympic Games. Back home, though, they have some different ideas on how archery should be conducted, which might cause the GNAS (sorry, Archery GB) to have kittens.

Some of their archery venues are a bit more impressive than the best archery grounds that I have come across in England. For example several tournaments are shot at beautiful temples like the one below. Indeed there is a long link between religion and archery in Bhutan as you will see later.



On the other hand I also found the following photo where the archery appears to be taking place on a building site, much like the field where we shot the Salisbury FITA earlier this year, although the backdrop is spectacular. It also seems that they are not as hung up about health and safety as this country, as the dog wandering across the field and the judges, spectators and digger all within our overshoot and safety lines demonstrate. No doubt it would give the average judge a heart attack.



Bhutanese teams bring their own cheerleaders. Mind you, as you can see from the photo below, I don't think the Dallas Cheerleaders have anything to worry about. I can't see them producing a Bhutanese Cheerleaders calendar each year. Their role is to chant support for their team and to rubbish the efforts of the opposition. Perhaps Team GB should consider getting our own cheerleaders for London 2012. I think that a load of nubile young women chanting "Go Larry, go Larry" or "Go Lenny, go Lenny" might encourage our team to do a bit better than they did at the Test Event. Then we would have to get some hunky male cheerleaders to encourage Alison, Naomi etc.



Boasting and one-upmanship are not totally alien to the British archery field, not to mention gamesmanship and just plain bull####, but in Bhutan it is part of the competition. Contestants face each other off and boast about their exploits, praise the members of their own team whilst taunting and rubbishing the efforts of their opponents, especially with witty rhymes. I have resisted the urge to include any of these rhymes as, frankly, they lost an awful lot in translation.



As I mentioned above there is a long link between archery and religion in Bhutan. This goes back to the 10<sup>th</sup> Century when the Buddhist monk Lhalung Pelgi Dorji, whilst performing the Black Hat Dance, on bowing to the despised Tibetan King Langdarma, produced a bow and arrow out of the big sleeves of his ceremonial dance costume and shot the king dead.



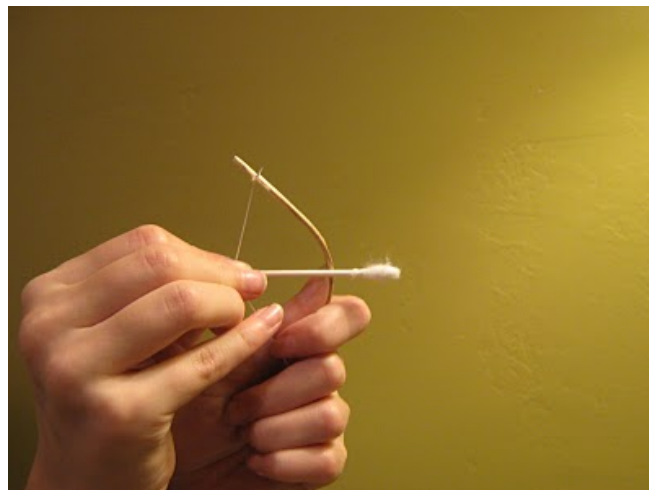
## Winter Championships

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October saw the first qualifying Frostbite for the 2011/2 Winter Championships with no less than 16 archers taking part.

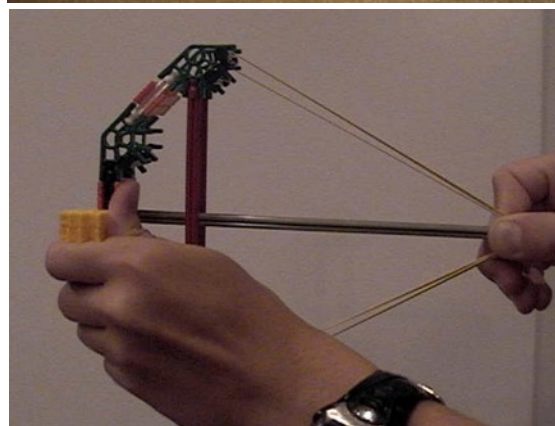
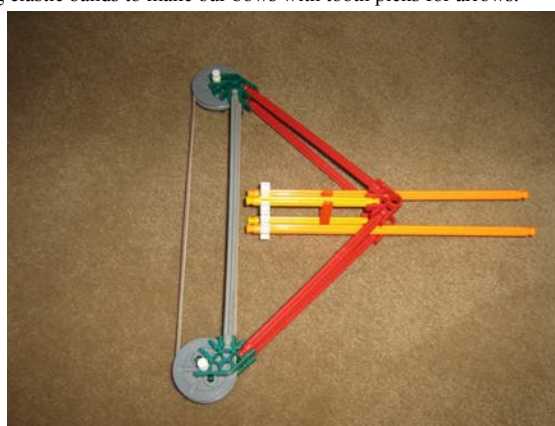
For those of you who are new to the Winter Championships it consists of 5 qualifying rounds from which archers must shoot at least 3 in order to be eligible to compete for the Championship itself. Those archers who qualify for the Championship have a handicap allowance calculated from their three best qualifying scores, which is then added to their score in the finals in March with the archer with the highest overall total being declared the Club Winter Champion. Don't despair, however, if you cannot do 3 qualifying rounds as you are still able to shoot at the finals and compete within your bow category. The next round is on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November, sighters at 10:30 a.m.

<b>Barebow</b>				
	Dee Corlett	28	1	142
<b>Compound</b>				
	Bill Tubbs	36	20	340
<b>Longbow</b>				
	John McCrea	36	2	232
	John Martin	31	0	146
	Rachel McCrea	25	0	129
	Mike O'Leary	28	0	105
	Margaret Bunyard	21	0	93
	Ken Bleach	19	1	72
<b>Recurve</b>				
	Gerry Willmore	36	6	308
	Phil Sellwood	36	4	296
	Ken Hedley	36	3	285
	Rob Norris	36	2	262
	Julie Stringer	31	0	158
	Mike Moran	29	1	153
	Phil Stringer	23	2	133
	Bill Jones	22	0	101

## Hoyt Announce Super-light Recurve Bow



Many years ago on those boring days in work we would make small bows and arrows to shoot at each other. We preferred to use large metal paper clips and strong elastic bands to make our bows with tooth picks for arrows.



These days people use K-nex to make sophisticated toy bows, but I bet they aren't as strong as the good old paper clip and rubber band.