



The Ascham

May 2007



www.csarchery.org.uk



Special points of interest:

- * Indoor Champs
- * Adventure in India
- * Tournament Dates
- * National Champs

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Opinions expressed by me **Ed**, are my own and do not necessarily coincide with those of the CSAA or CSSC

Management of the CSAA

In my last article on the above, I re-iterated my plea that we then needed a volunteer for Association Secretary in order that your Committee could take advantage of Robin Jarvis' offer to become Treasurer. Individually, you will all know that there were no takers! However, I am pleased to report that one of the Ordinary Members on the Committee, namely Andy Beecher, has agreed to be Secretary; that appointment and Robin becoming Treasurer were authorised by the Committee at its meeting on 31st March. I have to confess that I engaged in a little arm-twisting, but with the whole CSAA at risk, it had to be done and I am very grateful to Robin for offering a way out in the first place and to Andy agreeing to take it.

Recognising that there was considerable reluctance on Andy's part, the Committee also agreed that I should invite Len Furbank to come onto the Committee as an Ordinary Member, but with an intention that he assumed a (new) role of Minutes Secretary.



Bernard at the Royal Tax match at Pyestock last year

Some of you might be suspecting a South-West take-over since there would then be a total of five from that Region! more than fifty per-cent! However, if that is the area from which our volunteers come, so be it; some years ago the same could be said about the Southern and Midland, in both East and West guises, has always been very supportive. Let us hope that we can look forward to a few years, at least of stability. Could I ask that you all give as much support as possible to the new Officers and, if they ask you to do something then jolly well do it!

Bernard Moore

"if they ask you to do something then jolly well do it!"

2007 CLOUT/INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

As was previously reported, these were planned to be on Saturday 10th March at RAF Cranwell courtesy of Steve Wildman of PAAS. As it turned out, there were so many young footballers using the RAF sports field that not enough space was available for our Clout to be safe. For that reason, the Judge Ted Burnham had no alternative but to refuse to allow it to proceed. This was a great disappointment to all concerned and something that will have to be borne in mind in the future. During the day every effort was made to find a way to shoot later but it proved to be that the space needed never became free.

The CSSC Indoor Championships however did take place as planned and I am pleased to report that they were very successful. The results as prepared by Wendy Hodgkinson are available on the CSAA website; I should like to thank the Organiser, Jim Alford particularly and all others who helped make that part of "our" day go well. I am particularly grateful to our President and Lady Battishill for being there, the latter as Lady Paramount and chief seller of raffle tickets and Sir Anthony for his assistance with all manner of little things. I am just so sorry that they had such a diabolical journey home on the Sunday afternoon/evening. *Continued over:*

Indoor/Clout from page 1

On the following day, the PAAS Indoor took place; although these were well supported by CS archers staying-over from the Saturday (plus one who travelled on the day!), the issues of Iraq and Afghanistan meant that many of their regular attendees were missing resulting in a shorter shooting line than the CSSC event. I can still remember years when the PAAS Indoor extended to two of the available sports halls at RAF Cosford! Part of Sunday's tournament is an inter-Service team competition, which is the prime purpose for which we have encouraged our archers to enter. Quite often teams are sufficiently numerous to have

perhaps five or even six taking part; for the reasons above, PAAS was limited to just the one and there was no other Society/ Club with enough archers to field a team at all. Taking account of all the entrants, Steve Wildman and I decided on teams of nine made-up of 1 compound, 5 recurve and 3 longbows, with 1 discard each in the last two. The CSSC Team was Mike Hesketh-Roberts(comp), Patricia Spragg, Alan Banks, Andy Beecher, Keith Elsley and John Lane(rec) and Alison Smyth, Dave Cochrane and Dick Hilton(L/B). As to the result, I have never known a closer finish; using the aggregate scores of the agreed seven archers,



Pat Spragg showing the rest of us how it's done as she powers to a score of 570

PAAS made 3,468 and CSSC 3,474, only 6 points ahead! In addition, most of our archers took medals in the Society or Visitor section of the results.

Bernard Moore.

CSAA V PAAS

"As to the result I have never known a closer finish"

2007 Nationals

As you will see elsewhere, the forms for this year's Championships are now available. As announced at the 2006 AGM at Cheltenham, they are in Belfast; we have been to Stormont twice before: in 1990 and 1998 and on both occasions NICSSA did us real proud. With what I already know of their plans for this September, 2007 is going to be no different. The tournament is really the Finals of a zoned competition within all twelve CSSC Regions; each is entitled, and should, hold a Regional Championship. At each, four recurve archers should be determined to represent the region and for a trial period, three compound archers also. These seven are made-up the four Champions and the next three scoring archers; full details are in the Regulations. Of particular interest is the fact that all the seven are entitled to CSSC rates of T&S. Your particular Regional Rep will no doubt have already let you know when and where your championship is; if in doubt, please contact Anita Baily, the Regional Rep Co-ordinator, also

CSAA Membership Secretary.

With such a diverse range of Individual and team awards available, it is absolutely essential that the Organiser(s) know exactly from which employing Dept./Fringe Body/ Agency/etc each entrant comes and their CSSC Region and Area. These last have been re-cast during the last couple of years, so please check with the printed list those that are correct for you. Each year someone has to sort out the gaps and errors: in 2006, there were no fewer than fifteen! and that was just my list! Another cause of confusion is the fact that the Championships are those of the CSSC; there is no requirement to be a Member of CSAA, but we do need to know if you are as there are awards for Associates. One thing is certain, you have to be a current member of CSSC to win any of those awards; we believe that one or two archers have been getting away with not having up-to-date membership. On behalf of CSSC, we will be confirming in the run-up to the event; if you think that you might

have been slipping-under-the-wire, then you need to get it sorted!

Finally, whilst our Nationals are effectively a "closed" competition, we do welcome other CSSC archers to compete on equal terms as an "open" event, together with other Members of CSAA and archers with no CS connections at all as Visitors. I am hopeful as always that our third visit to the Maynard Sinclair Pavilion on Stormont Estate, Belfast will be the biggest and best.

Bernard Moore



Flying the flags last year at Cheltenham

2nd Commonwealth Archery Championships India – November 2006.

Jane & I were invited by the English Archery Federation to manage a team for the above Championships. 16 archers were invited (4 archers in each bow discipline and gender). We left Heathrow on a cold and frosty morning for the nine and a half hour flight to Calcutta. We arrived at 2am local time where the temperature was 25c. We were taken to a rest house for a few hours to rest prior to being taken to the main railway station for the 7am express to Jamshedpur; journey time on the train 4 hours. We arrived at the station at 6am

to find it and the surrounding roads packed with people and traffic. We eventually found our seats on the luxury! air conditioned coach. As you can imagine each archer had a bow case plus suitcase. Surprisingly there was no room on the train for our luggage so it was stacked by the doors and down the aisle of the train making movement extremely difficult in the carriage. We could not see out of the window (glass not clean), so I went to the end of the carriage and opened the door to look out at the passing countryside which was

very fertile. Yes people do hang on the outside of the trains. Eventually we arrived at Jamshedpur where, thankfully, the carriage was disconnected from the train allowing us time to get off with our luggage. Buses were outside to take us to our accommodation. Luxury air conditioned buses (open windows with a fan above each seat) again no luggage space on the coaches so it was all piled inside with us – not a lot of room left. The guest house was about 10 minutes from the practice ground and 5 minutes from the tournament location.



Ted, complete with England pork pie hat!

“Was it worth it? Yes it was an experience. We had never seen such poverty”

Rooms and food in the accommodation were fine the laundry service, provided by the house boy was excellent and cheap. Jamshedpur is not on the tourist routes at all, they were not used to seeing a large number of white skinned people in their city so we were objects of curiosity to the locals.

We were advised that the temperature at Jamshedpur this time of year would be about 18c and dry. It was 35c and humid, it does not rain there in November

they said, but it did, the English had arrived and brought it with them. The local and national press/TV were very interested in the event and covered the whole week. I was interviewed a number of times on TV about our participation in the event. We were treated to very colourful cultural displays during the opening and closing ceremonies. The tournament ran smoothly with the electronic timing boards failing at odd times due to the open wiring and rain, not a good

combination. Every member of the English team came home with at least one medal. No doubt you will have seen details of medals etc. elsewhere. Shooting was to a very high standard equaling Olympic scores and subject to ratification a new world record was shot for a FITA master. The journey home was a nightmare. The train taking us back to Calcutta was late, again no room for kit and cases. Most of the team were on the train, with 2 on the platform passing cases up to

us, and then the train started to leave !! Jane had to run to get on, I could not reach the stop cord but she managed to get hauled up into the carriage as did the other team member. On arrival in Calcutta we had an hour bus journey to the airport, for a six hour wait before we could check in for our 3am flight back to London.

Was it worth it? Yes it was an experience. We had never seen such poverty; it upset some of the team members. We all enjoyed our visit to India. The event was a success as Archery is now in the 2010 Commonwealth Games program for New Delhi.

Ted & Jane Burnham

Rep Matches 2007

Our three matches this year are in fact two! To assist both the British Police Archers and PAAS, these two are to be combined into one tournament at RAF Cranwell on Friday 13th (!) July; doing this, enables both opponents to field fuller and stronger teams, though not too strong I hope! The third match is with The Royal Toxophilite Society on their ground

in Burnham, Bucks on Saturday 25th August. For both dates, I would like to receive information from CSSC archers as to their availability and their standard: both shoots will be using the York/Hereford rounds. Because the make-up of the (two) teams in July will be different, the CSSC contingent could well be greater in number than the nine against

PAAS. I am pleased to report that some longbow archers will be included in one or both of those teams as well as the one in August. I look forward to hearing from you if you want to be considered.

Bernard Moore





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President: Sir Anthony Battishill GCB

Vice Presidents: Wendy Hodgkinson
Dr Alf Webb & Denis Beresford
Committee

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Bernard Moore

Secretary:
Andy Beecher

Treasurer:
Robin Jarvis

Membership:
Anita Baily

Winter pairs :
Raymond Martin

Ordinary Committee members
James Alford

Ciaran Murphy

Len Furbank

Ascham Editor:
Mike Hesketh-Roberts

Back Page Story

I spent nearly twenty years working for the Ministry of Defence and made some good friends especially amongst my fellow photographers. At the time I started there were some 700 photographers employed in MOD, a far cry from the few employed now.

In the early 80's I transferred to a R&D bombing range in south west Scotland where I came across Terry a fellow photographer whom I had fleetingly first met when working at Farnborough. We became good friends and had quite a laugh during and imbetween the trials. The days of political correctness were on the horizon but had not yet arrived. In the summer we would fill surgical gloves with water and toss them over the Nissan hut roof and wait for the screams of the camera mechan-

ics who were sunbathing on the other side; happy days! Terry retired last year and moved to Crete to live the dream. I took the opportunity in February to pop over and visit having not been before. I'm not sure it would be the right choice for me, the bureaucracy is unbelievable but I admire his courage in going for it. *Ed*



Dr Alf Webb

As a postscript, I have recently learnt that one of the regular attendees at our Nationals will not be able to be in Belfast this year. I refer to one of our vice- Presidents, Alf Webb, probably our longest serving (and suffering!) Member. Dr. Webb is still suffering from the side effects of the treatment to kill-off the dengue fever contracted during his war service and to compound his problems, he suffered a minor stroke towards the end of 2006. These two factors have left Alf somewhat infirm physically and so has to tender his apologies for not being able to travel. Nonetheless, he sends his best wishes to the Association.

Bernard Moore

National Championships

As Bernard has said, this years nationals are to be held in Belfast. The entry form is available on the website but I am more than willing to send out hard copy for those of you without internet access or a printer. *Ed*

Regional Qualifiers

South East and London regional csaa qualifiers are to be held on Saturday 9th June at Maidstone. London archers contact Anita Baily, details as above. SE archers to contact Ron Simpson

South West Regional Championships
Friday 20th July, Civil Service Club, Taunton
Rounds York/Hereford Contact details: Hilary Collins

Midlands Regional Championships— Telford
23rd June Contact Martin Knowles,

These are the only dates notified to me, please contact your regional rep for details of your regional tournament *Ed*

Next copy by 15th July 2007