



# The Ascham

May 2008



www.csarchery.org.uk



## Special points of interest:

- Indoor/Clout 2008
- Rep Matches
- Active Archer Survey

## Inside this issue:

2008 Nationals	2/4
Indoor Champs	1
2008 Rep Matches	1
Team Selection	3
Active Archer	4
Contacts	4

As previously notified, these were held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the Sports Hall at RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire by courtesy of Steve Wildman of PAAS, with their Indoor being on the Sunday. The Association is particularly grateful to Steve for arranging the venue and to Anita Baily who was able to take over the role of Tournament Organiser at relatively short notice. Those who took part will know that they were a success and all who contributed to them are to be congratulated; the results are available on the CSAA website. With the date being one week later than originally planned, Sir Anthony

Battishill, GCB, our President was not able to attend with Lady Battishill; however, he very kindly arranged that Mrs Wendy Hodgkinson, one of our vice-Presidents, should attend on his behalf and to be Lady Paramount for the Championships: this was in addition to her duties towards the scoring.

Several CSSC archers taking part on the Saturday, had also entered the PAAS event the following day and these formed the nucleus of the Association team in competition against a matching team from the hosts. This year

though, PAAS had strength in depth and easily won, 4852 to 4724. The teams consisted of five recurve, three compound and one longbow archers; might this turn out to be a pointer towards a win for them in the Rep Match later in the year?

As in last year, it was not possible to include a Clout Championship during the morning for safety reasons; the Committee is investigating



## 2008 Rep Matches

All of our usual three matches have now been arranged;

All CSSC archers are asked to get in touch with me as soon as possible if they are available on any or all of the above days and would like to be considered for the CSSC Team(s). Both ladies and gentlemen shooting in the three bow types are required, particularly for the match with RTS. CSSC archers might like to know that the other matches also usually include all the above six categories and for the one with the Police, there is the biennial tri-Service Trophy to be shot for.

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

'Home' against Royal Tax on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July at Pyestock,  
 'Away' with the British Police on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July at Cranwell,  
 'Home' against PAAS on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August at Cheltenham.

**Bernard Moore**



## 2008 Nationals (CSAA Annual Championships)

These will be staged on the CSSC Ground at Elmdon, Birmingham on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. As a reminder to all CSSC archers, these are the finals of a zoned competition using the winners from each of the twelve CSSC Regions; could I therefore impress on all Members to take part in their Regional Championships, details of which will have been promulgated elsewhere in this Ascham and/or various CSSC publications such as "Leisure Scene". 2008 is also the last year of a trial period in which compound archers have been included in this zoning; details of this arrangement will be known by all the Regional Reps and will be in the Tournament Entry Form on the Association's website. As with the Indoor, Anita Baily has agreed to be our Tournament Organiser, with John Lane being responsible for staging the actual event at Elmdon.

*Bernard Moore*

### Additional CSSC Colour Badges

These were announced in a previous Ascham and take the form of the CSSC "Starburst" badge in enamel. Total numbers of these are limited and so it is not known for how long we can award one of these to those that might like to have the alternative/ additional recognition of their "Colours".

The first group of eight recipients were presented with their badges, suitably engraved with their name, Department and year of first being awarded CSSC Colours, at the Indoor in March. vice-President Wendy Hodgkinson did the honours in the absence of Sir Anthony Battishill, GCB. The eight were, in alphabetical order: -

### Lady Sybil Ryland

It is with great regret that I have to write that Lady Ryland passed away peacefully just one day short of her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Sybil Ryland was the widow of Sir William Ryland, CB our President in the years 1984-7 and since Sir William's death in 1988 has always maintained very close ties with the Association as one of our Honorary Members. Whilst Sir William was alive, both he and Lady Ryland attended many of our events, including the Nationals at Cardiff, York and Ayr in '84, '85 and '86 respectively and some of the Rep Matches, particularly any at the HAC ground, City Road, London with the Metropolitan Police.

Sybil, and yes she was "Sybil", always called on the telephone after our usual exchange of cards at Christmas to enquire of the Association; indeed, her daughter, Gill emphasised her Mother's affection for and interest in the CSAA in her various letters since March. The funeral took place in Charlton Kings, Cheltenham on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April, with that particular location being very significant in the

Anita Baily, HMRC (originally awarded in 2007), Len Furbank, DCMS (2000), Mike Hesketh-Roberts (1998), Robin Jarvis, MOD (2003), John Lane, BT (1978), yours truly, MOD (PE) (1982), Alan Murphy, PO (1990) and Liz West, MOD (2000).

I already have further requests for these badges, but will wait until I have a similar number for a second tranche in order to keep costs down. So, if you would like one of these, please let me know and I will do my best to continue for as long as they are available from CSSC.

*Bernard Moore*



A Photograph taken at the 1986 Nationals with Bernard Moore and Sir William and Lady Ryland

*Continued page 3*

*Continued from page 2:*

Ryland family as Sir William's father had been largely instrumental in establishing the Baptist Church there. Lady Ryland was laid to rest next to Sir William in the graveyard of that church. Together with John Lane, I was pleased to be able to represent the Association at the funeral and there was no doubt that our presence was very much appreciated by Gill and her brother. It was particularly appropriate that John and I were there as he had received his award for CSSC Champion from Lady Ryland at York in 1985 and I had been presented with my CSSC Merit Award for that year by Sir William at Ayr in 1986.

### **Bernard Moore**

**Calling all archers —**



**we need you!**

A long time ago in a land far away, well Leicester to be exact, I was watching my son take part in another archery competition when it dawned on me that if I were to take this bow and arrow thing up as well, it might help the day go quicker. So I promptly signed myself up for the next beginners' course at his club. Six weeks later I was a fully fledged novice archer. Being a simple soul, all the gadgets and gizmos of the recurve and compound bows seemed far too technical to master so I decided to take up the longbow. What could be simpler than shooting a stick off a slightly bigger stick? Convinced that archery can't be as hard as golf (my other sporting interest) and let's face it, there are not that many bunkers on an archery field, I prepared to set out to impress the world with my yet to be tested but undoubted prowess.

One of the first tournaments I entered was the Civil Service indoor shoot at RAF Cranwell. You can imagine my surprise to receive a letter from the Civil Service Team Manager inviting me to shoot for the Civil Service Team that year – which was apparently short of longbow archers. Even more surprising, with hindsight given that I now know the Manager to be an individual not moved to rapid or rash decision-making, but indicative maybe of the need for more archers to be found who would be willing to represent the Civil Service at one or more of its 3 annual matches (the opposition being the RAF, The Police and The Royal Tax). I declined the invitation at that time, having discovered, that my undoubted prowess was taking longer to materialise than I had expected.

However, the seed had been planted and it became one of my objectives to reach a standard sufficient to be invited to take part in these friendly but competitive matches. This might be a

## **Regional Qualifiers**

### **South West Regional Championships**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2008, Civil Service Club, Taunton  
Rounds York/Hereford. Contact details: Hilary Collins  
Tel: (Day) 01823 337900 Ext:4882. Tel: (Evening) 01823 276808  
Email: [archery@xxxmail.me.uk](mailto:archery@xxxmail.me.uk)

### **CSSC Yorkshire Regional Championships**, Grange Park,

Wetherby on 1st June 2008 Contact David O'Carroll  
[david.ocarroll@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.ocarroll@ntlworld.com)

### **Midlands Regional Championships**, 21st June 2008 at Blessed Robert

Johnson School, Wellington, TELFORD TF1 3DY. Contact details: Martin Knowles, 8 Bader Close, Leegomery, TELFORD TF1 6YB  
Email: [mjknowles@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mjknowles@blueyonder.co.uk) Tel: 07954 604024

### **Scottish Regional championships**, 21st June 2008, Stirling.

Contact details: [ciaran.murphy@btinternet.com](mailto:ciaran.murphy@btinternet.com)

**London and South East regional qualifiers** to be held on Saturday 21st June at Civil Service Sports Club, Recreations Close, Maidstone. Assembly 10.00am.

London Entries to Anita Bailey and SE to Ron Simpson. (Details from AB)

good point to set out exactly what are the criteria for team selection.

Firstly of course, each potential archer has to be a full member of CSSC and available on the particular day(s) of the matches; there is no doubt that increasingly line managers are having difficulty in granting the necessary time-off, this despite the system paying lip-service to CSSC and the benefits of sport and recreation to staff morale. Secondly he or she and, yes as much as possible ladies are included in each of the teams, has to be of 1<sup>st</sup> Class or Bowman standard, though this last requirement has to be flexible on occasion to ensure that all team places are filled. Beyond those two, team selection is probably one of "feeling" as to how individual archers have performed "on-the-day". It is undoubtedly the case, that some of the best scores are achieved when it is only for the individual's benefit, but there are those that thrive on the team result.

Moving the story forward to the present day. This year will be the third year that I have represented the Civil Service in the rep matches (subject to the Manager not dropping me for my comments about regarding hasty or rash decisions!). I have to say I find them very enjoyable and sociable occasions. If we are blessed with sunshine too, they make a great way to spend a day's special leave (now there is an incentive if ever there was any!). So, if you are an archer who meets the above criteria and would like to be considered for the Civil Service Team why not get in touch. Contact us on [www.csarchery.org.uk](http://www.csarchery.org.uk) and let us know what bow you shoot and to what standard. We would love to hear from you. Details of this year's matches are elsewhere in this Ascham. **Dave Seymour**



Civil Service Archery Association



www.csarchery.org.uk

President Sir Anthony Battishill GCB

Vice Presidents: Wendy Hodgkinson

Dr Alf Webb & Denis Beresford

Committee

Chairman:

Bernard Moore

Ordinary Committee Members

Dave Seymour

Len Furbank

Secretary:

Andy Beecher

Treasurer:

Robin Jarvis

Membership:

Anita Baily

Winter pairs :

Raymond Martin

Ascham Editor:  
Mike Hesketh-Roberts

## 2008 National Championships

Bernard has already mentioned these but thought I would have my two pence worth as well! These will be held at the CSSC club at Elmdon and as Bernard has stated it is the final year of the funding exercise for those CSSC members shooting the Compound Bow. If not enough of you participate at your Regional Qualifiers any future funding may be jeopardised. Entry forms will be available from the CSAA website or if you can not print them yourselves let me know and I'll post them to you.

*Ed.*

## Active Archer Survey

Included with this Ascham is a questionnaire which the committee would appreciate responses to. It is hoped that you can complete this on-line at

[www.csarchery.org.uk](http://www.csarchery.org.uk) or you can return the form to me or email me your answers. *Ed*

## Back Page Story

### Frozen Fita!

For the last 10 years Chippenham Archers have hosted a two day British Record Status Fita in early April. The weather has varied from torrential downpour to Mediterranean, last year for example the archers were basking in temperatures of 24C. No such luck this year in fact it was below zero for both days with snow flurries on the Sunday. It is a definite fact that the weather in the UK is decidedly fickle and sometimes if you believed the forecasts you would never step outside of your front door. I have just returned from competing in the Middlesex Championships at Greenwood Osterley and the forecast for the Sunday was dire, Heavy rain and winds up to 20mph, fortunately the rain whilst constant was not as heavy as forecast and the wind not as severe. I achieved a



Len Furbank keeping the leader board going and suffering with the cold at Chippenham Archers two day Fita last month.

reasonable 1144 shooting the York round which for my second outing this year I was reasonably content with. I was also going to shoot the Fita Star on the May Bank Holiday Monday but this day turned out to be horrendous! The temperature was just hovering above 10C, the rain was torrential and the winds were gusting over 30 MPH. Now I'm not a fair weather archer by any means and I have taken my share of being soaked to the skin, not being able to feel my fingers and having the joy of trying to dry all of my equipment when I got home. I was hospitalised two years ago when I got pneumonia so decided to come home and finish the Ascham instead. I do feel tremendous sympathy however for the Tournament Organiser and the working party who do not have the same choice. It is particularly bad luck to have this kind of extreme weather at the end of May. Most of us who go to shoots take it for granted that they just happen, this of course is not the case. It takes months of planning and a lot of effort on the day of the shoot. The organiser, working party and judges all contribute to the effort for our enjoyment. Next time you go to a tournament at the end of the shoot thank the organiser, they will appreciate it. *Ed*

Next copy by 30th August 2008