



Kent Archery Association

NEWSLETTER

January
2014

Greetings to you all and a belated 'Happy New Year.. May all your arrows go where you want them to. As usual all the content is my fault and so are any errors etc. Don't forget that if you want articles etc. in here then you have to let me have them!!

As usual I ask that club secretaries pass this on to all club members.

I have to start with two pieces of sad news, both have I believe appeared on the KAA website but I am putting them here as well. The first person, Tom Foy sold me much of my early kit and helped many of my school club:

It is with sadness that we have learned of the death of Tom Foy who passed away on December the 9th 2013.

Tom went to the Beckenham and Penge County Grammar School for boys before going to work at W.H. Smiths in Bromley where he happened on a magazine called The British Archer....!

Tom bought his first bow back in 1951 (apparently with the wages he earned in his first week of work) and went on gradually at first, through the stages and became Master Bowmen in 1960 through to 1965. He shot at the International trials seven times, winning in 1960 (the Nottingham event) and became London champion in 1963. He also won his FITA star in 1965. Apart from target archery Tom was a lover of field archery as well shooting with the Company of Sixty.

In 1966 he worked with Redifusion to produce what may well have been the first programme on archery to be broadcast

He managed the archery shop in Wastdale road before setting up his own business in Battersea in 1975, moving quickly to Croydon in 1976 and then to Hawkhurst in 1982.

Tom was a County Coach and helped found the Crystal Palace Bowmen in 1960, a club that still shoots to this day, originally at Crystal Palace itself and then at Virgo Fidelis Convent and now at Park Langley. The full story of his work in setting up the club is available on the crystal Place Bowmen web site. He was the author of two major archery books 'Know the Game... Archery' and 'A Guide to Archery'.

While a lot of stories about Tom may well be apocryphal (and some certainly cannot be told in public) he was approached by the custodian of Bodiam Castle during it's 600th anniversary and as a result of this the first Bodiam shoot was held one evening in the grounds of the castle. The event grew rapidly and with the help of colleagues it became an annual event only ceasing a number of years later. It was attended by some of the cast of the 'Robin Hood' series on television and became a must attend event for many Long Bow archers before they were as popular as they are now.



We have also lost Pauline Pringle.

I am grateful to Tom Firth for permission to use this photo from her funeral service. Pauline had a varied sporting history being one of the few women to take part in the 'Tough Guy' competition, she ran marathons but as an archer she was SCAS Lady Long Bow champion, GNAS Champion and champion at the Marks on many occasions. She also held a number of GNAS records. In 2008 Tom and Pauline took top places in Guernsey with the Long Bow!

Pauline suffered a number of illnesses during her life and finally succumbed to four of them at Christmas. As Tom said 'she never did anything by halves'.

Pauline was a club archer and always prepared to help others by passing on her expertise both at her club in Surrey and at CPB and Black Prince. Pauline still holds the KAA Long Bow record for the SMetric1 at 299!!



I was browsing around a web site called the Gutenberg project (<http://www.gutenberg.org/>) which specialises in providing free books and I found two about archery,, in particular a free copy of Horace Ford's book 'Theory and Practice of Archery' which is free to download. I also found a lot of archery books for Kindle on the Amazon site but beware if you just type in 'archery' as I got some books that made me blush!!

Did you know that there are some very old records on the KAA website that really need to be broken! We seemed to have some amazing scores from the last century.

C/U Lady	New National	R. Herridge	1994	572
C/U Lady	Hereford	J. Wright	1989	1258
C/U Gent	Dbl American	T. Vincer	1987	1608
R/C Lady	Albion	P. East	1982	888
R/C Gent	Windsor	W. Quilter	1980	942
L/B Gent	N Western	J. Crisp	1988	314



Some while ago I researched the history of a local (to me) archer for an article in the Archer Antiquary journal and this picture (taken in 1958 at the University of Bristol). Just shows that they could still wreck arrows even then (and if you want a face change at your next shoot just take a look at the state ofr this face!). Those of you interested in the history of archery and archery equipment would do well to have a look a the Societies web site.

Dates for the diary Update

February 24th Archery GB meeting in Kent (more details on the web site)

April 27th Crystal Palace Bowmen Record Status & Rose Award Open (details on their website)

June 22nd KAA will be hosting a WA event on the Vigo range. Details are still in the planning stage but it will be Record Status!

At the recent KAA committee meeting it became clear that some archer's scores are not reaching the selection committee. You must make sure your scores are in on time for any Team event (or to be invited to the Captain's invitation shoot). If you are not sure if your club sends the scores in do it yourself (details on the KAA website).

Finally...

Have the straps come off your bosses at the club? KAA has a bander that can be borrowed! You can also purchase replacement strapping and clips from us. Contact the KAA equipment officer. Anything you want in this newsletter.. Let me know!