



Kent Archery Association

NEWSLETTER

March
2015

Welcome to the second newsletter of the year. It always seems strange to me that we shoot indoors and outdoors at the same time of year. Mind you those of us who recall the indoor venue at Welcome Archers will testify that it was often colder in than out (same used to apply to the 'cattle shed' at Lockmeadow Market) for that matter.

As usual all the errors in this are mine!!

Mark

TOURNAMENT NEWS

KENT OPEN

I have been asked to say that the Kent Open (details on the web site) is filling up so if you want to shoot and you have not put in your entry don't leave it too late.

KAA 1440.. Sunday 21st of June at Vigo

Details have been sent to all clubs and are on line.

CRYSTAL PALACE OPEN

Entries are coming in nicely for this event as well. Apparently people were turned away last year so again... .. entries in ASAP (I do like advertising my own club's shoot!!)

A message from Allington Archers...

ACA is running two Summer tournaments this year, the Tommy Wyatt and the Whitefriars. Both are record status shoots and we'd like to see as many of our fellow Kent archers there as possible. Please keep the dates in your diaries:

Tommy Wyatt – June 27th & 28th

Whitefriars – August 30th

This year we are holding our shoots at the Kings Hill Sports Park. The entry forms are on circulation, please keep an eye out for them or download from our website www.castlearchers.org.uk
If you can't make it to shoot, please do still pop in to say hello and support your fellow archers. Volunteers are also very welcome, if you'd like to lend a hand, please, please rsvp to the TOs:

Tommy Wyatt – Neil Richardson neil@npr-associates.co.uk

Whitefriars – Ian Sharp ian883sharp@btinternet.com

REMINDER

If an archer changes address they must tell AGB and KAA. This can be done for AGB via the portal but AGB do not tell us so please use the correct form to let me know!

The AGB Fees for new members vary according to when the archer joins the club so do make sure that you pay over the correct amount to the office.

Role of the Line Captain

Line captains at clubs do a valuable job BUT they are not there just to blow a whistle to say that archers can either shoot or collect their arrows etc..

Whilst this is important Line Captains are also responsible for the safety of the field and all the people on it. Most of this is absolute common sense but if the line captain is shooting who is also looking out for problems such as people coming on the range, dangerous shooting styles etc. I do not want to suggest that line captains do not shoot but in my opinion it is always worth coaching **all** club members into being additional safety lookouts!!

Heaven forefend that there should be an accident of any sort on the range but having every one involved in safety is a 'belt and braces' procedure.

DBS Procedures

Getting a DBS check through AGB is now very easy as it is done on line with a senior member of the club (CPO preferably!!) signing off the paperwork. Just search on the AGB website for the contact link. Unfortunately AGB do not always tell you when your check has run out.

Talking of DBS / CPO procedures might I remind you that the procedures are not just for the children in our sport but also vulnerable adults? The definition of the latter can be difficult (I was told the other day that I was vulnerable.. Cheek!). This is a commonly used one:-

A vulnerable adult is someone aged 18 or over: Who is, or may be, in need of community services due to age, illness or a mental or physical disability. Who is, or may be, unable to take care of himself/herself, or unable to protect himself/herself against significant harm or exploitation.

Does your club have a procedure in place to identify any such people? And who works with them?

SCAS INDOOR

This event is on a Saturday this year due to a booking problem and is in April. Details are on the SCAS website and the Sussex Website so go have a look and possibly put in a team as well.

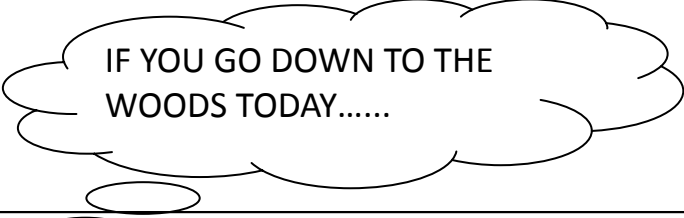
CHRONOTIR

KAA Has purchased a full set of four of the Chronotir lights plus control for use by KAA clubs as well as at our own WA events. Any club wishing to hire them is asked to contact the KAA treasurer or Equipment officer via the KAA website. These are not cheap items so a deposit / letter of guarantee will be required!



FOUND ON THE WEB!!!





IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE
WOODS TODAY.....

To the woods:

I can just about remember a time when I used to love messing about in the woods, yes many years ago when kids were free to do silly, dangerous things, and thought what a chance it would be to do it again. Ok there were one or two things different, no climbing trees, no making dens and no one to shout at us when we got home covered in mud.

On the Saturday we woke to rain, sleet and snow but by the time we turned up to help tidy up the course it was ok, if a little cold. There were a few of us so the work was, hopefully, finished quicker than the KAF envisaged. It was nice to see the course and decide if we really wanted to go through with it on the Sunday. Some of the targets looked challenging but once trees, undergrowth and routes cleared and explained it did not look as bad as I first thought.

Sunday dawned wet and windy, but that is usual for winter shooting isn't it? Once we got to the farm and all toggled up we felt ready for anything.

The day started chilly, ok very cold, but the usual winter layers was all it took to keep the chill off.

The sun was shining and as we got into the woods the birds could be heard. Wellies or strong walking boots a must, as it was quite muddy. Once in the trees the wind chill factor was not quite as pronounced and as the day wore on we were able to start stripping off.

There could have been a bit of tree climbing when someone's arrow hit a tree 20 odd feet in the air but there were some determined fellow archers who wrestled the tree into submission, by shortening it, (don't worry it was already dead), and returned the arrow at the end of the shoot.

On a different target I was allowed to keep the small piece of wood I buried an arrow in as a souvenir. It did take half an hour, a chisel and hammer, to get said arrow out once we got home but the arrow is still usable.

Although there were a number of groups going round the wood at the same time, it was easy to think there were just the 5 of us - 4 archers shooting, and an experienced field archer to explain the ins and outs of shooting up a hill, down a ditch etc. There are different rules for different faces but, as before, that was all explained as were the strict rules for: approaching the next target, walking away from a target and moving onto the next one.

Initially I had been worried that I would lose all the arrows I took, but the distances were from 10 metres up to 60 metres so I knew I should be able to shoot it as long as I had correct sight marks (which I didn't). Note to self, you still have to make allowances but if in doubt ask as everyone is helpful. At each 'peg' the distances were written and you could move around to miss the trees, bushes, horse jumps and grassy knolls. (Well you can move around but that did not always mean you can miss all of the above but that's half the fun...isn't it?)

At the end of the day clearing away was completed, just the same as a target club, although targets are left out and covered the route markers, numbers and faces were packed away and we all dispersed home to clean up.

Would I do it again? Yes you bet I will.

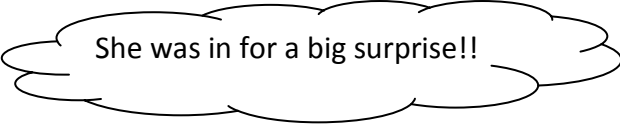
Thank you KAF for a very enjoyable weekend.

Kay

Kaf-chairman@archerykent.org.uk

Kaf-secretary@archerykent.org.uk

Are the KAF contact addresses



She was in for a big surprise!!