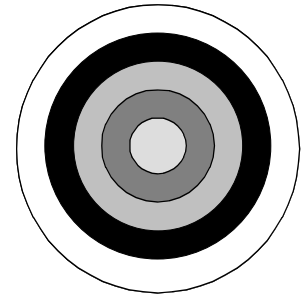




Volume 2 Issue 2

Malvern Archers

Target Times



November 2005

Dates for your Diary

5th December

CWAA AGM

20th December

Christmas Fun
Shoot

17th January

Bow Tuning Ses-
sion

27th January

Skittles Night

23rd February

Equipment Evening

The Editor's Bit

Do you get the impression that the Club is thriving? I certainly do. The number of members is the highest it has been for a long time, and a large proportion actually come and shoot. A Tuesday evening at Dyson Perrins is like a game of Sardines. Not only that, but this edition of Target Times contains words not written by me. Whatever next?

For over 25 years now, Archery has been my main pastime, and I have got a lot out of it, in all sorts of ways. A good club is the foundation of enjoyment of a sport, whether your interest is mainly competitive or mainly social. The social opportunities are obvious (although we could make more use of the bar at Manor Park!), and the club provides the starting point for competitive archery, with league shoots, friendly matches against other clubs,

or just a "loser buys the beer" match between friends.

Having belonged to seven clubs over the years (mainly due to changing jobs and moving house), I can say that the more everybody joins in, whether by shooting, serving on the committee, helping with making and maintaining equipment or beginners courses, or just suggesting things we could do, the better it gets.

We are organising some extra events this winter, as listed on the left. A bow tuning evening at Dyson Perrins and equipment maintenance demonstrations at Manor Park (fletching arrows, making strings etc.), to improve your scores, and a Skittles evening for relaxation.

The New Committee

The following were elected Committee members at the Annual General Meeting in September:

Chairman: Vacant
Secretary: Allan South
Treasurer: Colin Levy
Records: Janice French
Equipment: Paul Biddle
Grounds: Stephen Bliss

In addition, we have co-opted Dave Martel as Tournament Secretary (see his article overleaf)

In addition, Allan will continue to represent the Club on the Manor Park Club Management Committee and the County of Worcestershire Archery Association (and, for the record, will represent CWAA on the West Midlands Committee).

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Tournament Entries

Allan kindly invited me to write a report for the newsletter to introduce myself (to those of you who don't already know me). Just in case there is anyone else out there who does not know quite what the Tournaments Officer does (as I didn't before being conned into doing the job, sorry I should say "gently persuaded"), I will give you a brief overview.

My name is Dave Martel, and from now on you will probably recognize me by the fact I am wandering around at club shooting nights with a blue ring binder trying to persuade people to enter tournaments. So far I have identified 3 main groups in the membership.

1. The highly competitive who already know all of the tournaments (both near and far) and have already entered most of them. To those people I say "Great, I won't get in your way". Please could you just let me know which tournaments you have entered, and how you do. By letting me know where you have entered I may be able to persuade others in the club to enter too. By letting me know how you get on, I can keep a central record of tournaments we participate in, and I can help with feeding back information to our records officer (Janice French).
2. The quieter members who enjoy their shooting at the club, but wonder if tournaments are really for them. I hope to persuade them that tournaments provide an extremely friendly (usually) day out, with a lot of like-minded people. This is only my first year of archery, and so far I have not managed to go to many tournaments. At the beginning of the year this was because I thought they were not for someone like me. Having been to a few now, I realize I was wrong, and I look forward to the tournaments I do enter.
3. Members who will happily go to tournaments, but have not had a chance to find out what is on. For them I hope

the "blue binder" will prove a helpful resource (more of that below).

4. A small group who have already expressed to me the fact that they will not go to tournaments even if the organizers are giving away free plane tickets to Australia for every entrant, because they "just shoot for fun". To those people I say "wonderful, archery is meant to be pleasurable". I will from time to time ask if you want to change your mind, but I will not hound anybody in to competing who does not want to.

So what is the blue binder? It is a central location where all the local tournament entry forms and details can be found (and some of the more interesting ones from further afield). I have been mailing, phoning and emailing as many of the organizers as I can to get the entry forms. For each tournament there is a transparent pouch with a summary of the relevant details, like dates, locations and closing dates for applications. Where I have them I have usually printed 2-3 copies of the entry forms. In some cases I have also put in sets of driving directions. If there is more than one copy of an entry form, and you want to take one, please feel free to do so. Please however make a note on the cover page that you have taken it so I can replenish them. Alternatively if you want to centralize your entry, please talk to me, or enter your details on the form in the binder. (We have in some cases enjoyed discounts on entry fees for large numbers of entries). If you put your details on a form, please make a note on the front summary page so I know it is there. I do not want to leave entries until the last minute, since we can often not then guarantee getting the indoor sessions we would prefer (as I have already experienced). In summary. Please consider going to tournaments. They are fun, and a good way to incentive to focus the mind. It also raises the profile of the club in the area.

Dave Martel

New Members

Welcome to:

John Carpenter

Verity Surrall

Peter Hollick

Thomas Cochrane

Edward Miller

Ashley Collins

Michael Marsh

Rachel Beardsley

Luke Beardsley

Sue Beardsley

Dave Beardsley

New members are the lifeblood of any Club (although if we get any more, I'll have to use a smaller font).

Whether you want to be the World Champion or just to shoot a few arrows at the Club now and again, we hope you will enjoy your shooting and participation in other Club activities.

Shooting Programme

Date	Event	Venue	Rounds	Status
8th Jan		Stourbridge	FITA 25	
15th Jan	Gloucester Indoor	Cheltenham	Portsmouth	Rec
29th Jan	WMAS Junior Indoor	Smethwick	Portsmouth	Rec
12th Feb	Wyre Forest	Stourport	Portsmouth	
5th March	Worcs and WMAS	Evesham	FITA 18m	Rec
18/19 March	National Indoor	Lilleshall		

Outdoors (hurray!)

2nd April	Spring Shoot	Wolverhampton	York/Hereford/National	Rose
9th April	County Team Selection	Evesham	York/Hereford/Bristols	Rec
17th April	Easter Bunny*	Cheltenham	Nationals	
29/30 Apr	WMAS FITA STAR	Lilleshall	FITA	Star
1st May	Redhill archers	Wythall	American	ST
14th May		Bromyard	FITA 900	
21st May	Spring Shoot	Evesham	70m + head-to-head	Rec
21-23 June	GNAM	Lilleshall	York/Hereford	Rose

* We don't actually shoot any bunnies—it's just what the shoot is called.

Use (of) the Ground at Manor Park

For those of you who don't know my name is **Stephen Bliss** and I am the new Grounds Officer. I have never held a post within a club before, so please be patient with me if I am slow to react to any suggestions or requests you may have.

I have produced a field use record sheet which will be placed inside the equipment shelter. The reason for this is that when our club representative has meetings with Manor Park it may be beneficial for the club to have a record of the amount of archery taking place at the field. It may also be of use in many practical ways, such as predicting the provision of equipment for the field. I don't know if it will prove successful but I would ask all members to give it a chance & provide the information requested, i.e. date, name, senior/junior, start time, finish time, duration.

Finally don't forget that it may be winter but the field is still there for the enjoyment of us all, (I ride motorcycles & I don't give that up in winter either) just dress up warm. If you have any problems or suggestions I can be contacted on 01684 560 236 or email blisteph@aol.com

(Editor's Note: The Manor Park Trustees have suggested building a new sports hall on the archery ground. This may not happen, and if it does it will not be for several years, but it would mean that we would have to find another outdoor shooting range. We need to gather evidence to show how much we use the field, if we are to resist this idea.)

MALVERN ARCHERS

Butts:

Manor Park Club
Albert Road North
Malvern
Worcestershire

Secretary:

Allan South
24 Red Earl Lane
Malvern
Worcestershire, WR14 2ST

Newsletter Editor, Secretary and general dogsbody: Allan South
All contributions gratefully accepted (but not necessarily included, and may be edited anyway!) preferably by e-mail to: Allan.South@btinternet.com
01684 563 495

Views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Club, its Officers, or the Manor Park Club or its Officers

SAFETY REMINDERS

- Always put up the warning signs at the entrances when shooting at the field.
- Make sure that targets are securely roped down.
- Don't leave bows or personal belongings unattended at the bottom of the field when you collect your arrows.
- Manor Park is suffering an outbreak of vandalism. If you see any incidents or discover the results, please report them to me or the Club Manager, Andy Nicholls, who should be in the office between 10am and 2:30pm.

Club Business

Indoor Shooting Venue

It will be apparent to all of you who shoot indoors that we need a larger venue. It will be several years (if ever) before the Manor Park Club builds a suitable place, so if anyone knows of a hall at least 15m by 25m that we could use next winter, please let someone on the Committee know. We are also looking into the possibility of using the Dome at Malvern Girls College (in Imperial Road) as an extra venue, possibly on Thursday evenings. If it does prove suitable, and not too expensive, perhaps we should move there full time next winter?

Club Target Days

This is probably not the best time of year to raise this, but I have long felt that we should encourage members to shoot at the club at the weekends. I know that one or two are often there on Saturday mornings. Most clubs have official club target days, when members meet to shoot a round, ideally all shooting the same round with a various distances for the different age-groups, etc. Where possible, everyone should start at the same time. How about sighters at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings? Some may be away at tournaments, of course, but I would like to get back into the habit of shooting at the Club on Sunday mornings, or even all day when the weather warms up.

Centenary

Following our successful (in spite of everything the weather could do) Centenary, the AGM voted to run another tournament next year. It will be basically the same as the Centenary, but the trophies will be returnable, on the assumption that it will become a regular event. We haven't fixed a date with Malvern College yet, but it should be in July.

Apologies

I had hoped to include a picture in this edition, but since I upgraded to Windows XP, MS Publisher refuses to load files with pictures in them. In fact, I have just had to re-assemble this whole edition at the last minute, so apologies for any errors that have crept in during the rush.

The Last End

Excuses, Excuses....

Part 1 of an occasional series by Jason and Jude

1. **Magnetic Fields:** if your arrows miss the target, blame the magnetic fields! (especially useful when there are lots of sunspots—Ed).
2. **Insects:** if you miss, say your arrow swerved to avoid a fly!!
3. **Pigeons:** say your arrow missed because of a low-flying pigeon!!!

So, beware what you say when Jason and Jude are around; you may find your remarks recorded for posterity. Here is another that I heard:

Back in the 80s, I belonged to a club that had a ground a few miles from Heathrow Airport. One day when we were shooting, one of the members was listening to Air Traffic Control on a portable radio. They tell the pilots of incoming aircraft what the local air pressure is, to calibrate their altimeters, and he claimed that his arrows were going high or low as the air pressure varied.