

October / November 2025



2025  
9TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

~ For the love of field archery ~



# In this issue...

6-13

Shoot Report:  
Henry V France campaign 2025  
by Andrew Brodley.

42-49

Shoot Report:  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Lincolnshire Wand Shoot  
for the Marshal's Cup by OH Boyd.

16-19

Club Information:  
Black Arrow Field Archers.

52-62

Shoot Report:  
Unsighted and Clash of the Classics III  
Shoot III, September 2025.

20

Field Archery News UK:  
Patch information.

64-70

"The Bowyer's Diary"  
by Derek Hutchison.

22-29

Shoot Report:  
Afan Nedd Archers' Dragon Shoot  
30th & 31st August 2025

72

Photography  
by Mark Service.

31

Club Information:  
Row Brow Field Archers

74-77

Shoot Report:  
Delamere Field Archers,  
7th September 2025

32

Photography  
by Doc Smith.

80-82

NEW!  
Puzzle Pages

34-40

FAN UK presents:  
"Meet the Club": Peak Field Archers.

84-91

Shoot Report: "Cotteswold Open",  
13th & 14th September 2025.



92

A Cartoon for You!  
By Via Verde.

120

Shoot Information:  
Delamere Field Archers'  
Unsighted Shoot, 6th September 2026.

94-95

Club Information:  
FAN UK's  
Club Locations List 2025.

122-123

Club Information: FAN UK's  
"Dogs & Crossbows" Club List 2025.

96

Photography  
by Mark Service.

114-115

Puzzle Pages:  
ANSWERS.

98-111

FAN UK presents:  
"Sassanid Archery & the Sassanid Bow"  
by Csaba Fenesi, Archery Historian.

116

Photography  
by Doc Smith.

112

Another Cartoon for You!  
by Via Verde.

118-119

Shoot Information:  
The Clout Collective, 2025 Shoot Dates.



Cover photo by Dave Holland.





# Welcome to the new and enhanced Black Arrow Field Archers Club



We would like to welcome you to join us on the next step of our journey with our new logo and website to promote field archery for everyone.

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# Henry V

## France campaign 2025

Saturday 9th August

Report and pics provided by Andrew Brodley.

My aim when conceiving the Henry V France Campaign was to indenture many goodly longbow archers into the service of the 'Salopia Retinue' and to create a unique and challenging 6 event archery tournament that also interprets the historical commentary of Henry's troops' long-suffering march from Harfleur to one of the most complete English victories at Azincourt.

Then, while employing our Long Mynd Common for a stage, archers to act and to behold the swelling scene, I looked to Shakespeare's Chorus and posed 3 of his questions to myself!

1. Can this Shropshire cockpit hold the vasty fields of France?
2. May we cram within this plateau, the very casques that did affright the air at Azincourt?
3. Therefore, for which supply, will you admit the Salopia Retinue to this history, who prologue-like - your humble patience pray, gently to see, kindly to judge, our play?





And lastly - dear Yeomen,

If you thought our unworthy scaffold brought forth so great an object that would ascend the brightest heaven - of invention - why then, may we happy few - be invited back once again?

**Respectfully yours,**

**Andrew Brodley (Sir Thomas Erpingham).**



**A - THE SALOPIA RETINUE OF ARCHERS COMMENCE THEIR SIEGE OF HARFLEUR.**



**B - HENRY V'S ROUSING  
HARFLEUR SPEECH ...  
"ONCE MORE UNTO  
THE BREACH DEAR  
FRIENDS..."**





**C - HARFLEUR ROUEN GATE &  
YEOMAN ARCHER, GEORGE,  
STRIKES THE FLEUR D LYS.**



**D - THE ENGLISH VIEW FRENCH KNIGHTS & CROSSBOWMEN  
AT EU VILLE IN THE FAR DISTANCE.**





**E - THE SALOPIA RETINUE WIN THE BATTLE & CAPTURE  
THE FRENCH EU VILLE ENCAMPMENT.**



**F - THE SALOPIA RETINUE'S LONG-SUFFERING MARCH FROM HARFLEUR TO AZINCOURT.**





**G - BEING WARNED OF A GREAT AZINCOURT BATTLE,  
THE ENGLISH COLLECT WOODEN STAKES.**



**H - HENRY V'S ROUSING AZINCOURT SPEECH,  
"WE HAPPY FEW, WE BAND OF BROTHERS".**





**I - SIR THOMAS ERPINGHAM THROWS HIS BATON,  
SHOUTING "NOW STRIKE" & ARCHERS LOOSE.**



**J - LORD CAMOYS LEADS THE SALOPIA RETINUE'S LEFT FLANK AT AZINCOURT.**





**K - AZINCOURT - CONSTABLE OF FRANCE CHARLES DALBRET'S  
FATEFUL CHARGE TOWARDS THE ENGLISH.**



**L - AZINCOURT - HENRY V COMMANDS THE CENTRE RANKS  
AGAINST ONCOMING FRENCH CAVALRY.**





**M - KING HENRY IS TRIUMPHANT & WINS THE HEART  
OF PRINCESS KATHERINE OF VALOIR.**



**N - AZINCOURT 1415 BATTLE RANSOM COINS ARE PAID OUT  
TO THE VICTORIOUS ENGLISH ARCHERS.**





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# Discover the Thrill of Archery at Black Arrow Field Archers



Nestled in the serene woodland near Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, Black Arrow Field Archers offers a unique blend of tradition, community, and adventure. Founded in October 2005 by seasoned archers, our club is dedicated to promoting the art of field archery in a friendly and welcoming environment.

## **A Rich History and Passion for Archery**

Black Arrow Field Archers was established with the goal of creating a small, passionate community focused on traditional field archery. Over the years, we've grown into a vibrant club that welcomes both experienced archers and newcomers eager to learn.

Our Archery Experience packages provide an excellent introduction to the sport, offering one-off taster sessions that can serve as the perfect gift for friends and family.

## **Our New Home: Black Arrow Wood**

In March 2015, we relocated to a larger, private woodland area known as Black Arrow Wood. This picturesque setting offers varied and interesting shooting opportunities, ample parking, and easy access.

Our facilities include a club cabin, toilets, storage and high-quality 3D targets, ensuring a comfortable and enjoyable experience for all members.



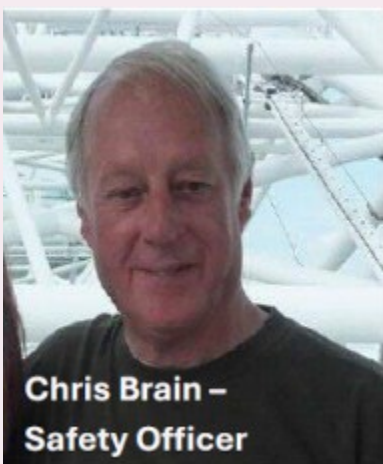
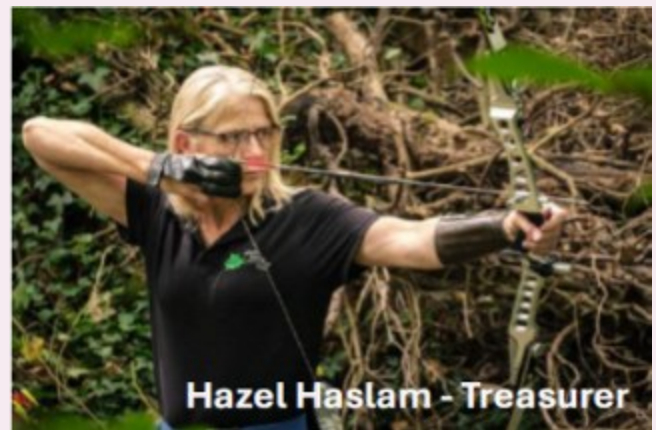
## Membership and Community

Our club prides itself on being one of the friendliest and most relaxed in the area. Membership fees are modest, renewing annually on 1st October.

We welcome young archers, provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian who is also a member. Many of our members enjoy socialising and shooting at the club, while others participate in open shoots and championships across the country, often returning with personal bests, medals and trophies.



## Meet our Team





## Services and Events

Black Arrow Field Archers offers a range of services designed to cater to different needs:

- \* Corporate Events: Perfect for team bonding, our corporate events are tailored to suit your group's requirements. Participants will shoot around our field archery course, guided by experienced archers. The package includes temporary membership, equipment use, coaching, food and liability insurance.

- \* Archery Experience Packages: Ideal for families and groups, these sessions provide a comprehensive introduction to archery. Held on Saturday mornings, the experience includes equipment fitting, instruction and a guided shoot around our course. We can accommodate larger groups upon request.





## **Embracing Nature and Wildlife**

Our beautiful woodland setting is not only a haven for archers but also for local wildlife. We maintain the wood for the club and share it with various natural visitors. Wildlife cameras capture stunning night-time images which we regularly share with our members, adding to the charm and appeal of our club.

## **Join Us Today!**

Whether you're an experienced archer or a curious beginner, Black Arrow Field Archers offers a welcoming community and excellent facilities to enhance your archery journey.

Visit us during our opening hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9am to dusk and discover the thrill of archery in the heart of nature.

***Black Arrow Field Archers Black Arrow Wood,  
Nr Ashby de La Zouch, Leicestershire.***

For more information, visit our website or contact us directly.

We look forward to welcoming you to our club!

<https://blackarrowfieldarchers.co.uk>

[enquiries@blackarrowfieldarchers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@blackarrowfieldarchers.co.uk)







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**Buy NEW  
FAN UK patches**

---

At the request of many readers - and to celebrate entering my  
10th year of "Field Archery News UK" online magazine -  
here is the brand new 2025 patch!



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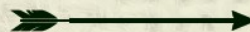
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# Afan Nedd Archers

## Dragon Shoot

30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

*Photos courtesy of Claire Campbell.*

What an absolute pleasure for the team at Afan Nedd Archers to welcome everyone who came to participate in our Dragon Shoot, at our beloved home ground!

DAY 1 = torrential rain and really harsh conditions!

DAY 2 = glorious sunshine and sweeping winds through  
the valley Wales! 😊

Excellent sportsmanship, outstanding dedication and brilliant camaraderie by the bucket-load! You were all amazing and it was really great to see you! 😊



Thanks so much for supporting this event and we hope you enjoyed it just as much as we did!

We hope you all had safe journeys home everyone  
and send you all the very best!



*Sandra and the  
Afan Nedd Archers Team X*



































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Photographer: Doc Smith



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**FAN UK presents...**

## “Meet the Club”: Peak Field Archers.

*I got to learn all about the club from the lovely Dave Holland -  
here's what he had to share...*

*Hello, I'm Dave Holland I'm 63 and a care worker. I've done archery since shooting as a child on the farm I lived on (but shooting rabbits mostly, I didn't know it was illegal then). Then there was a massive gap and then - during COVID - I was working a solid week at a time, then having days off, so I started archery again on the farm I was living at the time - this was to give me something to do and keep my brain going.*

*I'm now based near Buxton, Derbyshire where the club is based. We are located in an old quarry, which hasn't been mined since the late 70s. The site is now covered in trees and shrubbery and has two large lakes - one containing crested newts, but neither have any fish.*

*I had been shooting EFAA and WA field and 3D events and I become interested in the courses in Austria and Germany and wanted to build a course that had more rugged terrain. I spent 2 years tracking down*





*different places and found another local quarry, but after some time this fell through, but I'm still working on getting that one.*

*So, after a lot of digging in local council planning applications I found the owner of our present site. I visited the owner and he said, "Yes, that fine". I went away slightly shocked. At this point I had no money for anything, but I had the land sorted.*

*I then started asking clubs for any old bosses I could use and buying the occasional one. I then had some luck - when buying a couple of bosses online and chatting to someone, he offered me around 10 bosses plus trimmers, club bows and tools et cetera. This was a great deal as unluckily for him, his club had lost its grounds, I also got another 14 bosses from a club in Reyleigh in Essex.*

*So at that point I started laying out the course - this was hard one as I had to carry out bosses on my back, the furthest target being half a mile away, a hundred feet up.*

*I then had some luck with a chap asking to help me out... Nigel Braddock then joined me setting up and bashing in posts, until the course had 28 targets in place.*







*I managed to get a £500 fund from the EFAA to help start up the club, which paid for a box trailer to use as our canteen. At this point the club consisted of 4 people, which was enough to register as a club.*

*We then started having classification shoots and we have slowly started building our club membership.*

*This is our first year of having a working club and so far we have held the Cheshire WA 2 day Championship and the EFAA Nationals, plus a classification shoot once a month. So far the clubs rent is paid for by myself as the club doesn't earn enough and any money we do earn goes towards building the club up. Holding a 2-day WA and the EFAA Nationals has put much-needed finances into the club which will be put towards purchasing 3D targets. The quarry has enough room to put in a 3D course alongside the target course.*





*The EFAA course is set up with 28 targets for adults, juniors and cubs; as are the 24 AGB pegs. We can only hold an event once every 4 weeks, but we do have maintenance days - which we do nearly every Sunday - on which club members can shoot round.*

*The ethos of the club is to try and bring archers from target into field and to support archers shooting in world and European competitions to gain more experience with angles, cuts and harder conditions.*

*We were lucky to have been asked to hold the nationals this year and the date was changed so that it didn't clash with the NFAS Championships.*

*We have worked hard to prepare our club for hosting shoots and prior to the EFAA Nationals - having already held the Cheshire Champs, with 50 archers in attendance - we had an idea of what food, drink and parking we would need to provide.*







*We were lucky that the EFAA got us a sponsor for all of the target faces for the 2 days of shooting - this sponsorship was from Chiltern Archery, who also supplied banners and signs.*







*Our plans are to get a 3D course running next year and we will be holding some unmarked 2D EFAA classification shoots before we hold another WA unmarked/marked 2 - day event in June.*





*We will then be heading out to Hungary after that for a road trip to shoot in Germany and Austria and then on to the European Bowhunter Champs.*

*It sounds - when reading this back to myself - that it appears that I've got money to burn! BUT I'm just a care worker on minimum wage who is willing to put the hours in to get what I want.*

*If you want to come for a visit and/or join our club, we shoot under EFAA rules, so in order to join us you would need to first join the EFAA for which I can sign you off after seeing you shoot.*

*The best way to contact me is through Facebook or send an email to*

*[peakfieldarchers@hotmail.com](mailto:peakfieldarchers@hotmail.com).*







# THE REBEL

BY FAIRBOW





## The second annual Lincolnshire Wand Shoot for the Marshal's Cup

by OH Boyd.

Our second Lincolnshire Wand Shoot was shot in brilliant sunshine with a good attendance and a very convivial atmosphere and, importantly, a lot of fun.



After signing in and a welcoming glass of sherry and shortbread, plus the usual safety preamble, 4 competitors at a time went to the shooting line in 4 coloured lanes - shooting three arrows at 20 yards, at 30 yards, 40 yards and 50 yards.

***Pictured:  
Administration.***







***Pictured:  
The Marshal's Cup.***

Three rounds took us to lunchtime and the scores were tallied up - there being a TIE at 10 hits each.



***Pictured:  
Master of Arms  
and Captain of  
Archers.***





***Pictured:  
Our visitors  
from Archers  
of the Tees.***



***Pictured:  
Master of Arms  
with the Captain  
of Archers and  
the current  
World Wand  
Champion.***





After lunch Andrew Delieu and Cory Butler were involved in a fierce shoot-out, with Andrew being the successful Gold Medal winner.



***Pictured left:  
Silver Medallist,  
Dawn Smith.***



***Pictured right:  
Bronze Medallist,  
Leo Armitage.***





There was then our NOVELTY SHOOT, which was to shoot an arrow down a 2 inch diameter pipe at 15 yards to burst a balloon at the other end, for a purse of 280 shillings.



***Pictured: Youngest competitor  
shooting for the balloon.***

This could have gone all day as it is very difficult to do BUT Cory Butler successfully did it with his first arrow - and there being no one else to do so - he thereby won the purse.





Then onto the MARSHAL'S CUP proper...

This is a knockout competition - every archer has three arrows at 30 yards. Miss and you're out. With a hit, step back and you're on to the next round.

It was eventually narrowed down to 3 competitors; Pete Eyles, Rick Sargent and Daniel Armitage.



***Pictured: The 3 finalists for the Marshal's Cup.***



Daniel Armitage of the Archers of the Tees was the successful 2025 champion - congratulations to Daniel!

***Pictured: The Marshal's Cup Winner, Daniel Armitage.***



Prizes were awarded by our Lady Paramount, Sian Sargent.

### **Results:**

#### **Lincolnshire Cup**

Gold Medal	Andrew Delieu	10 hits (tie breaker with Cory Butler)
Silver Medal	Dawn Smith	8 hits
Bronze Medal	Leo Armitage	5 hits

#### **The Marshal's Cup**

Daniel Armitage

#### **Novelty Purse**

Cory Butler





Well done all competitors, it's a very difficult competition and really tests the archer, but most of all it is shot in the spirit of bonhomie and good fellowship.

Special mention must go to our Master at Arms, John O'Boyle and the various other helpers who were involved in the setting up of this event - a big thank you to them.



***Pictured above left: Our new “Bow stand”!***

***Pictured above right: “Well ready for a beer”.***



**OH Boyd - Captain of Archers,  
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# Unrighted and Clash of the Classics III



Longbow  
Vs.  
Primitive



# Unsung and Clash of the Classics Shoot III Report

Rain, wind, and doom? That was the forecast. All week it looked like the shoot would be a soggy washout, with gusts strong enough to knock



arrows off course and archers off their feet! But in true dramatic fashion, the storm blew itself out overnight and by morning... sunshine! The skies cleared, spirits lifted and the third Clash of the Classics was officially ON!

This year's shoot saw Longbow and Primitive archers return to battle it out for glory, honour and more importantly bragging rights. And in a twist worthy of a fantasy epic, even some compound archers swapped their high-tech gear for traditional setups proving once again that the NFAS spirit is alive and well. It's not about the bow, it's about the love of field archery.



Changing of the guard with Mike passing the reins to Pete (aka "Little Bro... he might be bigger, but I'm still the big bro 😊"), the rules were laid out, the battleground set and the



Archer's Pick prepared for the worthy champion. Pete kept things fair and fun, setting the tone for a day of friendly rivalry and impressive shots.



Hazel and the catering crew once again knocked it out of the park and then some!

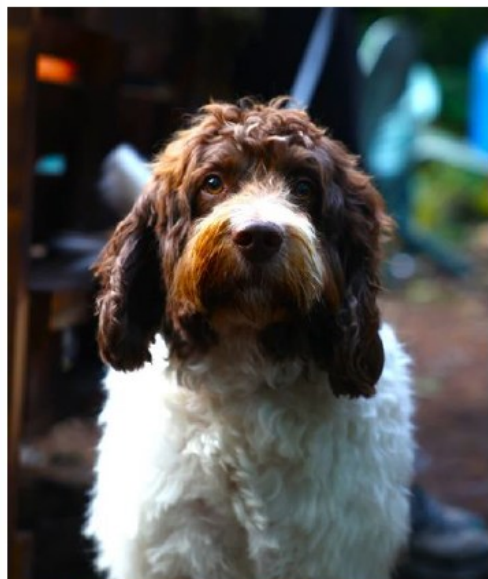


From hearty meals to heavenly cakes (yes, the lemon sponge pudding and custard made a triumphant return 😊), no archer went hungry. We're still dreaming about those slices...



Behind the scenes, Admin ran smoother than a well-waxed bowstring, swiftly handling peg changes and keeping things on track.

Meanwhile, our resident paparazzo was out snapping shots, capturing the action and the laughter while also doing a bit of marshalling. Multitasking level: expert 🧐.



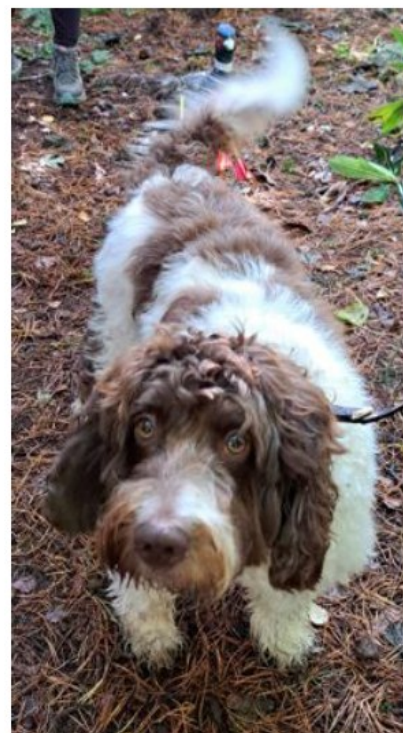
And We're Off!

The starting pistol?

Well... it had stage fright.

So, the trusty air horn stepped in with a blast that kicked off the day with a chuckle.

Spirits were high, friendships rekindled and yes, some furry companions joined the fun (and maybe snagged a few bacon slices along the way 🐾 😊).







The course was no pushover, but plenty of 24s were scored, much to the Riddler's dismay.

He'll be scheming all winter now, plotting trickier shots and devious layouts 🧐.

Still, nature claimed a few arrows, trees have a habit of getting in the way in a forest, don't they?

Some even seem to move just as you loose.

Very suspicious...

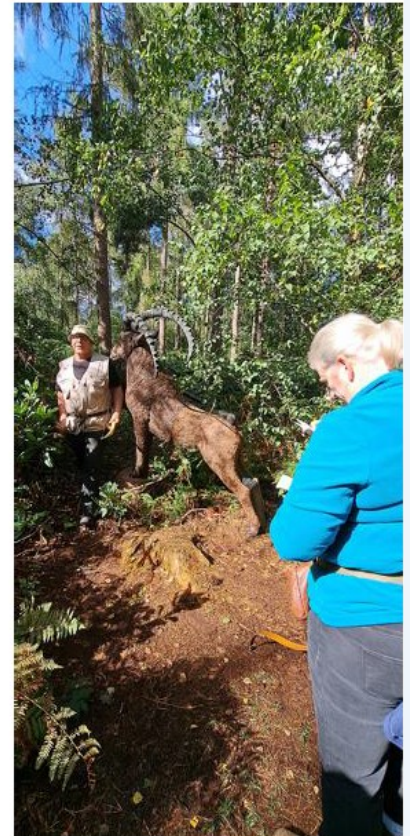
The Panther and Ibex were the stars of the day, beautifully set, deceptively tricky and thoroughly enjoyable. When the sun caught the Ibex it certainly was an experience to be had!

We had more than a few lucky legs too and you couldn't get luckier than these two.

You're not going to believe it, but it was



performed one shot after the other 🧐!

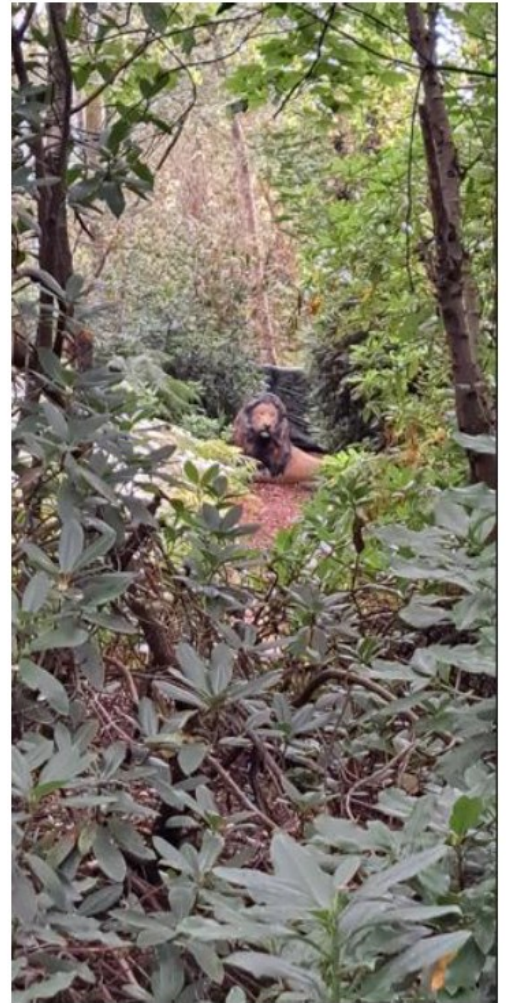




Then there's Leo, our new lion on the block.

He's BIG..... Like, really **BIG**! but don't let his size fool you his clever framing caught more than a few archers off guard.

The turnout of traditional bows was a sight to behold, wood combinations, craftsmanship, and lovingly maintained gear all on display.



Some archers even brought out their finest for the occasion.

It was like a catwalk for bows! The competitive spirit was strong, but the banter was stronger.

Marshals roamed the course, offering help, encouragement and the occasional chuckle. Even the elusive lost arrows were found and returned to the owners.



The atmosphere?  
Top-notch.

The weather?  
Surprisingly  
glorious.

The company?  
Second to none.



The medal ceremony was a joy, applause, cheers, and celebration for both seasoned winners and newcomers alike.



Drumroll please.....

**Clash of the Classics Shoot III Report 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025**



Sue emerged victorious, crowned overall winner for the Longbow and honoured with the Archer's Pick!

A well-deserved triumph! Congratulations!





Thanks for all the fantastic feedback! We're already plotting new challenges and twists for next time. The Riddler is sharpening his pencils and rubbing his hands with glee. So, get practicing, because on 29<sup>th</sup> March, it's going to be a gamechanger.



**Ken Gomezz Adams**

Thank you all for a smashing day out, quick results and fine photos together with really good marshaling, catering and an all around good course. All the best to all at BA. Ken, Ellie and Joan.

1h Like Reply



**Joe Tucker**

Thanks for a cracking day everyone! Well done to you all! 😊🏹

1h Like Reply



**Peter Niall Plunkett**

59m · 🧑

Back from another great day at Black Arrow FAC. Second place 😊 Thoroughly enjoyed it. 😊



**Timon Chatfield**

Well guys this is coming from an UL shooter I would just like to thank ALL of you at black arrow for making us feel so welcome, and running one of the most enjoyable shoots on the nfas circuit, yesterday's "trad" shoot was such a laugh and even more surprising I was shooting tbh and didn't come last lol Cheers

32m Like Reply 1 🗨️



**Sue Fenyn**

1h · 🧑

Thank you to all involved for a great day's shooting. Had a fab day, group, food and weather. 5 raffle prizes a first place and the clash of the classics trophy. Just brilliant thank you.



**Trae OK**

1h · 🧑

Black Arrow never fail to impress. Thank you to all involved for a day of laughter and fun with great company, great food and tricky shots. I ended my day with bling, raffle prizes and a score card that, like my school report card of yesteryear, makes it clear that i "must do better".

A massive thank you to all the archers, volunteers, and members who made the day such a roaring success.

You brought the spirit, the skill and the smiles.

And remember.....

# Longbows Rule!



Clash of the Classics Shoot III Report 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025





## Black Arrow Clash of the Classics 3

September 21st 2025 Open Shoot  
40 target course (Max score 960)

### Clash of Classics – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Class	Club	Score	Spots
Dave	Wood	LB	Paget de Vasey	600	
Jon	Rudge	LB	Independent	564	1
Steve	Mee	PV	Pennington	540	2
Jonathan	Brazel	PV	Independent	536	1
Mark	Tarbuck	LB	Paget de Vasey	534	4
Johnathan	Hill	LB	Pines Park	520	
Ken	Adams	LB	Kings Clipstone	516	1
Graham	Woodhouse	PV	Duvelle Bowmen	512	
Robert	Hickey	PV	Centaura Bowmen	510	2
Pat	Morrow	PV	Black Swan	490	2
Paul	Taylor	LB	Blaidd FA	472	
Dave	Jarman	PV	Pennington	466	2
David	Streather	LB	Harlequin	454	
Darren	Evans	LB	Paget de Vasey	432	2
graham	Baker	LB	Robin hood longbow	424	
Gerry	May	PV	Longbow Heritage	396	
Ryan	Yarnold	LB	RHL Archery Club	362	
Colin	Wood	LB	Pines Park	356	1
Tom	Smith	PV	Harlequin	356	1



### Clash of Classics – Ladies

First Name	Last Name	Class	Club	Score	Spots
Sue	Fenyn	LB	Kings Clipstone	540	2
Kay-Leona	Hodgkinson	LB	Artemis	476	1
Tracy	O'Keefe	PV	Independent	428	
Wendy	Young	LB	Paget de Vasey	408	2
Joanne	Bennett	LB	Blaid FA	252	

### American Flatbow (AFB) – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
Philip	Wood	Paget de Vasey	616	4
Peter	Plunkett	Derwynd FAC	594	4
Andy	Betts	Artemis	566	2
Neil	Collier	Forest of Arden	534	3
Andrew	Elliott	Derwynd	506	
Jeff	Tullin		450	1

### American Flatbow (AFB) – Ladies

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
Joy	Rudge	Paget de Vasey	570	4
Dawn	Purcell	Kings Clipstone	458	
Lana	Waters	Independent	304	1

### American Flatbow (AFB) – Under 12 Boys

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
Freddie	Wood	Paget de Vasey	692	7

### Barebow (BB) – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
Joe	Ward Tucker	Pines Park	714	8
Rob	West	Pines Park	684	5
Laucon	Drennan	Highcross	668	4
Peter	Lowe	Independent	570	2
Garry	Edgington		562	1
Paul	Mucha		552	3
Jacob	Owen	RHL Archery Club	500	1

### Barebow (BB) – Ladies

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
Maureen	West	Pines Park	590	4
Rose	Kasili	Annesley Archers	428	2



### Hunting Tackle (HT) – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
<b>PAUL</b>	<b>BAKER</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Michael</b>	<b>Smith</b>	<b>Wasp Archers</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Chris</b>	<b>Reed</b>	<b>Annesley Archers</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>2</b>
Neil	Groeber	Independent	452	3
Brian	Nash	Wasp Archers	420	1
Stephen	Lovell	RHL Archery Club	280	

### Hunting Tackle (HT) – Ladies

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
<b>Julia</b>	<b>Baker</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Mandy</b>	<b>Collier</b>	<b>Forest of Arden</b>	<b>316</b>	

### Thumb Draw (TD) – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score
<b>Richard</b>	<b>Waters</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>500</b>

### Traditional Bowhunter (TB) – Ladies

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
<b>Paula</b>	<b>Fardell</b>	<b>Afan Nedd</b>	<b>492</b>	
<b>Linda</b>	<b>Crossley</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1</b>

### Traditional Bowhunter (TB) – Mens

First Name	Last Name	Club	Score	Spots
<b>Sam</b>	<b>Ward tucker</b>	<b>Pines Park</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Grant</b>	<b>Gilbert</b>	<b>Audley Parish Bowmen</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Pat</b>	<b>Calvert</b>	<b>Blaidd Field Archers</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>6</b>
Ed	Kovac	Independent	656	6
David	Yates	Audley Parish Bowmen	634	4
Alan	Smee	Wasp Archers	618	2
Tim	Chatfield	Audley Parish	608	3
Paul	Farrimond	Audley Parish	602	2
Adam	Fardell	Afan Nedd	538	2
Phil	Alcock	Audley Parish Bowmen	536	1



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# THE HARBINGER



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# **The Bowyer's Diary**

## **“Flights of Fancy”**

**by Derek Hutchison AKA**

**‘Del the Cat’.**

My interest in Flight Shooting has been reinvigorated by reading “Harry Drake and Flight Archery” by Kay Koppedrayner. It made me realise that to really progress I needed to make a shoot through bow (true centre shot), using a “flipper” release aid, with an overdraw (an arrow rest extending towards the archer) allowing me to shoot shorter arrows which would be lighter and more aerodynamic.

Bear in mind I'm only working with wooden bows and arrows, an “off the peg” f/glass or carbon recurve could easily out-distance a wooden bow.

I already had an old reflex/deflex bamboo backed yew bow of about 35-40# which would be a good starting point for a prototype/proof of concept model. I sawed the bow in half and glued additional wood to bulk up the ends where they would slot into the riser, which I built out of scrap plywood, with a forward mounted grip to allow a comfortable draw hand position when shooting a 20” arrow.



The prototype riser worked fairly well but creaked alarmingly, it was also rather wide and bulky forcing my left (bow) arm out at the elbow.

I took it to the club where we have enough clear distance for flight and had a few shots. The string flew off with every shot, but my tiny arrows survived both launch and landing.

It shot 301 yards which was a bit disappointing until I accurately measured the draw weight. It was only 32#, so that yardage is very respectable. It had felt heavier due to the awkward grip and early draw weight.



*Pictured: Mk1 flight bow.*





*Pictured:  
Mk1 fat riser.*

It certainly proved the concept, so I ordered some decent birch ply in a couple of thicknesses and a load of nice flange head screws. I also sawed 4.5" off each limb tip and designed the Mk2 with less deflex in the limb mounting to increase the draw weight.

The Mk2 riser was built narrower at the sockets where the limbs slot in (the limb sockets allow the limbs to be shimmed out to adjust their angle if required) and wider at the centre for the shoot through aperture. The ply is all glued up from one side with the other side face screwed on so that adjustments and modifications can be made. This proved to be much more solid than the Mk1.









*Pictured above:  
Mk2 brush rest.*



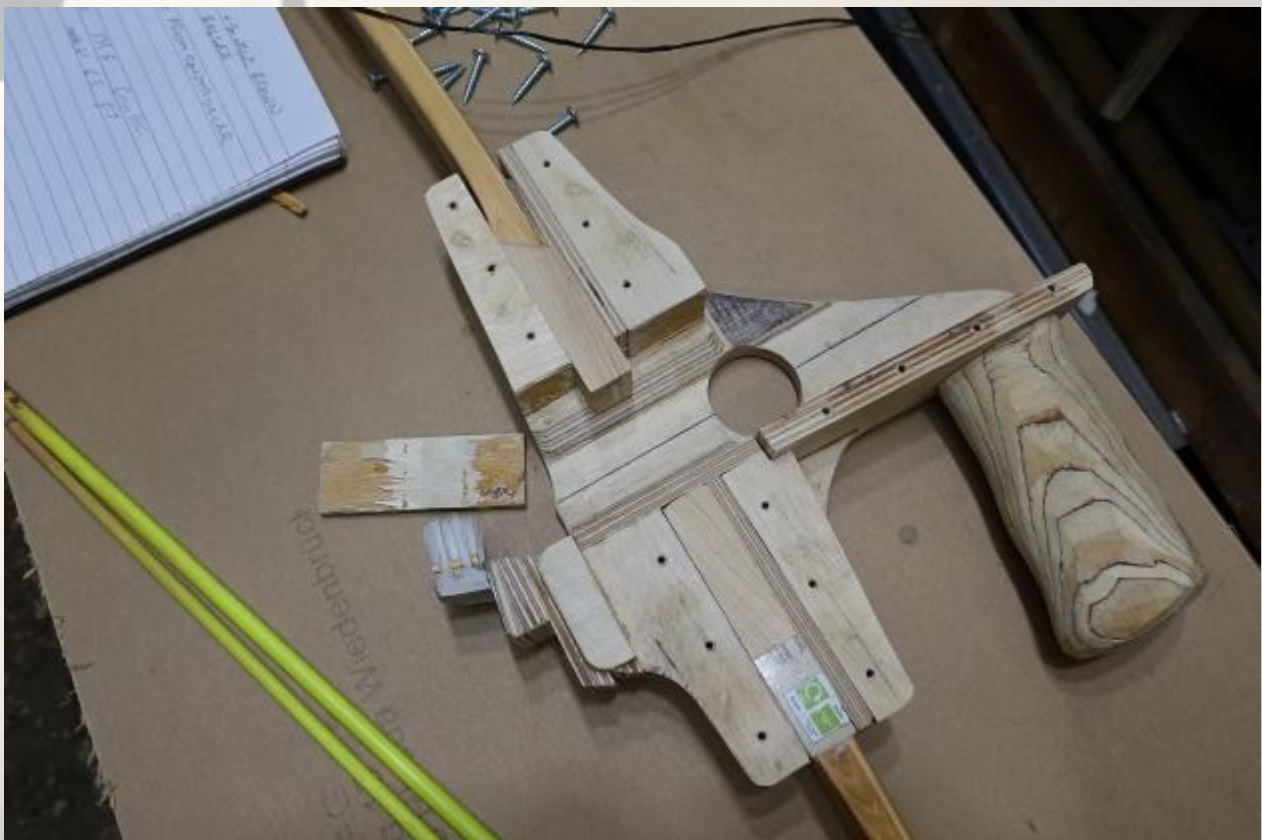
*Pictured above: Mk2 on the tiller.*



I'd made a variety of flight arrows ranging from 141 to 319 grain and 5.5 to 6.8mm diameter all fletched with very thin brown card painted with low viscosity superglue. They were sprayed fluorescent yellow to help with finding them.

The first shot was with the heaviest arrow (to minimise the risk to bow or arrow). It loosed with some noise but no drama. As I loosed the next arrow I saw something white fly forward and left and there was a bit of a clatter.

I found a piece of plywood had come away and it took a while to work out what had happened! The upper limb had been forced down in the socket by about half an inch (probably as the string slammed home) and had pushed out the ply which formed the bottom of the socket (see pic below - *Mk2 failure*). The bow couldn't be shot again without doing some repairs.





I walked down range with one of my chums, who said that the second arrow had come out low, but I think he was confusing it with the ply that flew out (you can't see the arrow go at these speeds).

We found the first arrow at 325 yards and walked on in hope... there was the second, stuck firmly into the ground at a nice 45 degree angle...

365yards, a new PB!

I'm striving to break 400yards and hopefully once I've done the repairs, I'll get close!

See the next instalment in the next issue ...

*Read more from  
'Del the Cat'*

@

<https://bowyersdiary.blogspot.com/>





# Carol Archery

was 41 Years old on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

Can't believe it...41 years (but I'm still only 21)!

Really busy again at the moment, so for lessons, or arrow matching,  
please book in advance.

Of course, I'm still doing mail order for those who know what they need.  
And if you don't, do book a time to visit and get lots of advice and a cuppa!

## ARROW MATCHING

It really isn't possible to sort your arrows over the phone or by email...  
so do book yourself an arrow matching session at my workshop.

One thing though... PLEASE, do *NOT* buy a bow that is too heavy for you...  
or you *will* injure yourself and arrow matching is just not possible.

I have arrows in 1/4, 9/32, 5/16 and 11.32" with most point weights,  
made up for you to try.

Book yourself a session and see the difference it makes to your shooting skills.  
Arrow matching £40 per bow.

Or book an hour's help with your shooting.  
£55 or £85 for two souls.



And Carols Tri-Jig  
will help you make  
your own arrows  
really easily!

I also make leather  
'stuff', including

quivers and armguards, pouches and belts, plus handbags and shoulder bags.

Plus traditional crossbows by my Mick (for NFAS members only) .



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Carolarchery.com +44(0)1932 865181 07957 276892 [carolsarchery@gmail.com](mailto:carolsarchery@gmail.com)





Photographer:

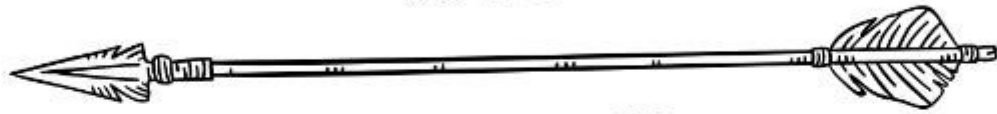
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# Delamere Field Archers

## NFAS Open Shoot

7<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Report provided by Bernie Stafford.**

The undoubted popularity of our Unsighted Open Shoots was confirmed when well over 100 archers turned up on the Sunday morning... two of them weren't actually booked in, but no matter - they were welcome anyway.

They were the first from outside of the club to experience our brand new 36 target course and subsequent feedback indicated that they found it both challenging and enjoyable.

Unfortunately the Weather Gods treated us to three hours of very heavy rain from lunch time onwards - despite this, only half a dozen archers withdrew and left, the rest soldiering on to the finish.

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the raffle was quite lengthy which gave Viv, the co-ordinator, plenty of time to deal with a large number of very soggy score cards and to determine placements.

*Clearly, a good day was had by all and we look forward  
to welcoming everybody back next year.*





## Results:

### **GENTS AFB**

Lee Price	Blaidd	536	2 spots
Pete Plunkett	Derwynd	506	2 spots
Paul Delves	Pendragon	506	1 spot
Andrew Elliott	Derwynd	500	
Geoff Mc Sweeny	Seedfield	494	2 spots
Rob Jones	Duvelle	404	2 spots
Alan Birch	IND	350	1 spot

### **JUNIOR BOY U14 AFB**

Isaac Jones	Duvelle	492	2 spots
-------------	---------	-----	---------

### **GENTS BB**

Ken Davies	Blaidd	650	6 spots
Rob Beal	Lyme Valley	588	5 spots
Lee Kellet	Cheshire Oak	584	4 spots
Daniel Phillips	Lyme Valley	580	1 spot
Michael Kristiansen	Dolphinholme	548	4 spots
Paul Rugman	Cheshire Oak	514	
Mark Warburton	Seedfield	492	2 spots
Rob Mc Bride	Muttley	428	1 spot
David Nixon	Lyme Valley	424	3 spot
Andy Wilson	Cheshire	318	

### **LADIES BB**

Wendy Hewkin	IND	546	1 spot
Trish Gramauskas	Pendragon	538	3 spots
Joanne Bennett	Blaidd	436	2 spots
Kathryn Blackburn	Dolphinholme	434	1 spot
Angela Brennan	Seedfield	400	1 spot
Anita Wilson	Cheshire Oak	398	1 spot

### **JUNIOR B14 BB**

Luke Warburton	Seedfield	516	1 spot
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### **GENTS BH**

Chris Plant	Foxhill	700	9 spots
Gus Gramauskas	Pendragon	658	6 spots
Mark Dellerba	Pennington	626	5 spots
Andrew Booth	IND	526	2 spots
Derek Fuller	Foxhill	518	1 spot





**LADIES JUN U16 BH**

Sophia Henshall	Lyme Valley	362	1 spot
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**GENTS HT**

Paul Baker	IND	584	5 spots
(Mark Gill	Pennington	520	1 spot
(John Rowlands	Derwynd	520	1 spot
Derek King	Fleet Ibex	510	
Alan Booth	Cheshire Oak	486	2 spots
Pete Whieldon	LEFA	466	1 spot
Phil Lindley	LEFA	454	
Colin Cavanagh	-	310	

**LADIES HT**

Susan Gill	Pennington	498
Julia Baker	IND	442
Sarah Cavanagh	Blaidd	238
Abi Cavanagh	Blaidd	214

**GENTS LB**

Paul Taylor	Blaidd	552	5 spots
Simon Evans	Muttley	488	1 spot
Richard Beal	Cheshire Oak	470	2 spots
Peter Evans	Paget	434	
Colin Cavanagh	Blaidd	310	

**LADIES LB**

Alison Rayson	Dolphinholme	524	2 spots
Jan Booth	IND	482	3 spots

**GENTS PRIMITIVE**

(Neil Beeby	DW Longbow	512	2 spots
(Brian Robinson	Dolphinholme	512	2 spots
Joe Nicholson	Riggwelter	452	4 spots
James McSweeny	Seedfield	434	1 spot

**LADIES PRIMITIVE**

Tracy O'Keefe	-	424	1 spot
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**GENTS TD**

Derek Jones	Blaidd	556	4 spots
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**LADIES TD**

Victoria Jones	Blaidd	398	1 spot
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### GENTS TBH

Simon Thomas	YOD	656	3 spots
Phil Huburn- King	LEFA	590	1 spot
*Joe Mullally	Blaidd	586	2 spots
Luke George	DW Longbow	580	4 spots
Dennis Lownds	Audley	570	3 spots
Chris Sharp	IND	562	4 spots
Nathan Vaughn	Blaidd	558	3 spots
(Marc Lovell	Blaidd	556	3 spots
(Marcus Williamson	DW Longbow	556	3 spots
David Sargeant	Lyme Valley	556	1 spot
Steve Smith	Muttley	550	2 spots
Mark Hinks	YOD	548	1 spot
Colin Price	Blaidd	538	2 spots
Steve Manwaring	-	526	2 spots
Robert Dolman	Blaidd	524	1 spot
Phil Peak	Muttley	520	1 spot
Howard Roberts	Pendragon	518	3 spots
Antony King	Stewartry	516	1 spot
Jack Nicholson	Riggwelter	490	2 spots
Tom Davies	Blaidd	484	1 spot
David Buckley	Firebird	482	
David Vickers	Blaidd	468	
Tony Yearsley	Audley	458	
Adam Hill	YOD	450	3 spots
Roger Birt	IND	448	2 spots
Will Corteen	Bowderyn Vannin	442	1 spot
Steve Merrigan	-	440	1 spot
Tony Commander	-	424	2 spots

\*apologies to Joe Mullally who did come third but his wet card had stuck to another competitor's and was hidden

### JUNIOR BOYS TBH U14

Jack Nicholson	Riggwelter	490	2 spots
Rowan Peak	Muttley	420	1 spot

### JUNIOR U16 BOY

Ben Cavanagh	Blaidd	336	
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### TBH LADIES

Deb Dixon	Audley	412	1 spot
Toni Manwaring	Blaidd	378	
Julie Corteen	Bowderyn Vannin	360	

### JUNIOR GIRL U14

Freya Allcock	Lyme Valley RTD	110	half way
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### JUNIOR 16+

Emily Curtis	Blaidd RTD	238	half way
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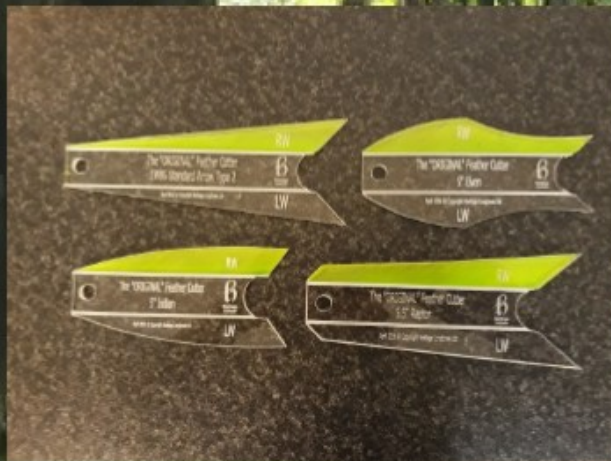
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NEW WEBSHOP COMING SOON!





# Puzzle pages

## Club Logos

### PICTURE PUZZLE

Can you guess the club from the pictures below?

*Hint: they are all affiliated to the NFAS or IFAF!*

**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**





# Field Clubs

## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Find the field archery clubs hidden below in the grid.

*Hint: they are all affiliated to the NFAS or EFAA!*

D	G	O	U	L	F	W	R	E	K	L	D	V	R	O	W	B	R	O	W	E	E	H
M	E	D	I	E	V	A	L	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y	B	O	W	M	E	N	I	H
I	P	Y	Y	V	B	D	I	J	A	U	D	R	I	S	H	A	R	T	C	Z	T	J
U	O	T	R	Z	A	N	E	F	Z	K	P	P	Y	G	Q	J	T	U	N	H	G	U
O	J	E	V	N	V	G	O	K	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	E	S	O	R	D	E	R
Z	Z	Z	T	V	R	A	R	T	E	M	I	S	A	R	C	H	E	R	S	F	D	G
O	J	K	H	P	E	N	N	I	N	G	T	O	N	L	N	W	P	T	X	Y	O	D
P	K	T	W	R	E	K	I	N	F	O	R	E	S	T	E	R	S	L	G	N	O	J
T	P	J	Y	T	X	I	S	F	O	Y	N	A	P	M	O	C	F	V	R	P	W	E
O	P	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	T	E	S	N	U	S	Z	V	I	U	R	G	Y	H
G	T	E	T	Q	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	D	L	E	I	F	K	A	E	P	L	L
Z	L	U	W	A	Y	U	D	F	Q	I	O	G	Y	T	S	V	X	W	E	U	L	D
S	G	Y	Y	M	O	F	F	I	J	V	N	O	R	T	H	L	A	K	E	S	O	M
K	I	N	G	S	F	O	R	E	S	T	B	O	W	M	E	N	G	H	L	Q	H	M
E	T	W	Y	E	C	F	L	E	E	T	I	B	E	X	Q	H	T	U	H	Q	P	Y
Z	P	Z	S	S	L	O	N	G	B	O	W	H	E	R	I	T	A	G	E	X	G	X

MEDIEVAL SOCIETY BOWMEN

KINGS FOREST BOWMEN

PEAK FIELD ARCHERS

WREKIN FORESTERS

Longbow Heritage

COMPANY OF SIXTY

RED ROSE ARCHERS

ARTEMIS ARCHERS

SUNSET ARCHERS

AUDRIS HART

PENNINGTON

NORTH LAKES

FLEET IBEX

HOLLYWOOD

ROW BROW



# Horseback Archery Clubs

## ANAGRAMS PUZZLE

Unscramble the horseback archery clubs below.

*Hint: they are all affiliated to the BHAA!*

1. ARCHY JECHO REEMBARKS
2. ANNORA CHERUBIM THUNDERSTORM
3. ENERVATOR QUESTION
4. CASHERS SHEERER SOX
5. NEUROTROPIC SQUARELY
6. OUTLAWRIES QUEENS
7. RAPHAELA SNOWSTORM
8. ACCENTED HUSTLED TOMORROWS
9. DEMAND GENTLEFOLK HINDSIGHT
10. ANCHOR ARROWED SHELLS



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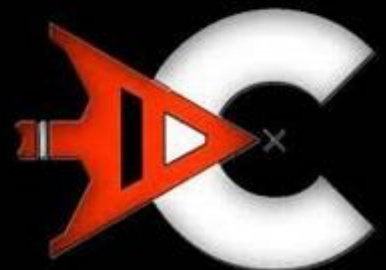


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Email: [info@thearcherycompany.com](mailto:info@thearcherycompany.com)

The Paddocks Deepdale, Potton, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2NH







# "Cotteswold Open", 13th & 14th September 2025.

Report and pics provided by Helen Barnes.

Our competition didn't get off to the best start when not one but two competitors' vehicles broke down on the way and they didn't make it to the venue. However, we still had enough arrivals for a records and ranking competition and started off on Saturday morning with a track we are trialling, the Tower Walk 60. It does what it says on the tin, 6 runs of tower on 60 metres at walk, the only restriction being you can shoot a maximum of 10 arrows per run. Following that we did a canter Tower 90 and then one group of Raid 234, dodging the showers!

On Sunday we started early with the second Raid group and then on to the main event, the eagerly anticipated Hunt Track.

We had just one competitor in the BHAA prelim Walk hunt and she did an excellent job shooting her 10 targets.

The main canter track was 750 metres long, with a knock-down target requiring a flufu arrow; and - for the first time in the UK - a jump shot.

Other tricky shots included a hanging cube target and our old friend on loan from France, Gorbag the Orc.



Congratulations to our very own Oli Secker, riding Zavon, who won all 3 HBAE events to take the top spot; and also to Amy Lewis from the Ribble Valley Mounted Archers who won the walk competition.

Huge thanks to Head Judge John Goodwin and to all our volunteers who came to help, especially with the hunt track.

Full results available on [ihaa.eu](http://ihaa.eu).

See you all next year!

Helen Barnes,

Cotteswold Mounted Archers.

[www.mountedarchery.org.uk](http://www.mountedarchery.org.uk)





























# A Cartoon for you!



By Via Verde.





# Carol Archery

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***Even if it is for yourself!***

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***The long jig takes up to 9" feathers and the slot takes ½" shafts...£89***

***It can also be used for 6 fletch 'Flu-flu's' and 4 fletch horse-bow arrows***

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# Club Locations List

## 2025



I have noticed a lot of discussion lately on field archery social media groups regarding the UK/ROI/NI they are so if your club is interested in being included on such a list, I shall be happy to include it on the list. People like to have a rough idea of how far/close clubs are from them. You can submit your club info to me via email ONLY please at [fieldarcherynewsukmag@gmail.com](mailto:fieldarcherynewsukmag@gmail.com)

Club name, Society/Societies covered

e.g. [Audris-Hart Field Archers](#),

If you want to include info as to whether or not your club allows dogs or crossbows

Club Name	Society/Societies covered by club	County	Country
AFAN NEDD	NFAS, WFAA	Neath, West Glamorgan	Wales
Ashcombe Valley Archers	NFAS	East Devon	England
Audris-Hart Field Archers	NFAS	North Devon	England
Black Arrow Field Archers	NFAS	Leicestershire	England
Bourne Retinue of Archers	The Medieval Society	Kirmington, North Lincolnshire	England
High Cross Field Archers	NFAS	Chedworth, Gloucestershire	England
Regent Archers	NFAS	East Yorkshire	England
Strongbow Archers	IFAF	Co. Laois	Republic of Ireland
Wrekin Foresters Field Archers	EFAA	Telford, Shropshire	England





ormation

*\* Current list updated 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 \**

compiling a list of clubs which includes the basic information of roughly whereabouts in  
shall begin compiling one and include updated versions in each upcoming issue of Field  
n so I am more than happy to start doing this to help fellow archers!

[zine@gmail.com](mailto:zine@gmail.com) in the following format -

ed by your club, County and Country

NFAS, North Devon, England.

then please do so and I will add that to the existing list in the magazine also 🙄🐱🏹







Photographer: [Mark Service](#)





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# THE DEVOURER MK2

Mandarinduck.net





FAN UK presents...

# "Sassanid Archery & the Sassanid Bow"

by Csaba Fenesi, Archery Historian.

<https://archeryhistorian.com/>.

The Sassanids were the last and longest-lived dynasty of Persia before the Muslim conquest of the seventh century A.D. They employed many of the cavalry tactics of the Achaemenids and [Parthians](https://archeryhistorian.com/parthian-shot/) (<https://archeryhistorian.com/parthian-shot/>) who came before them. Relying on powerful composite bows, Sassanid archery involved shooting on foot, as well as on horseback. Being neighbours with [Turkic](https://archeryhistorian.com/turkish-bow/) (<https://archeryhistorian.com/turkish-bow/>) peoples in the north, as well as the [Huns](https://archeryhistorian.com/hun-bow/) (<https://archeryhistorian.com/hun-bow/>), and inheriting the domains of the Parthians, the Sassanids were well acquainted with the martial tactics of the mounted archers. Beautiful depictions of Sassanian warriors, mounted and in full combat apparel, discharging their bows are well preserved on metal plates. This article explores Sassanid archery and the Sassanid bow.





## Sassanid Empire

Before delving too deeply into the nuance of Sassanid archery, let us briefly explore the Sassanids themselves and their empire of late antiquity.

The Empire was founded by a local Iranian ruler named [Ardashir I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ardashir_I) ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ardashir\\_I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ardashir_I)) who gradually rose to prominence as the Parthians grew weak from wars with their great rival Rome, as well as from internal struggles for power.

The dynasty was officially established after a decisive defeat of [Artabanus IV](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artabanus_IV) ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artabanus\\_IV\\_of\\_Parthia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artabanus_IV_of_Parthia)), the last Parthian monarch, at the [Battle of Hormozdgan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Hormozdgan) ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Hormozdgan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Hormozdgan)) in 224.



Ardashir I set out to restore the ancient empire of the [Achaemenid Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire) ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid\\_Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire)) by expanding Iran's influence. The Parthians were seen by some local powers as usurpers and outsiders who had taken power by force and not by legitimate hereditary means. The Sasanian Empire at its height encompassed all of present-day Iraq and Iran and stretched from the Eastern Mediterranean (Egypt, modern-day Turkey) to Pakistan and parts of southern Central Asia.



*By Shaahin (talk) 17:49, 10 November 2008 (UTC) – Own work, Public Domain,*

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5175373>.

The Sasanians oversaw a golden age during the 400 years of its reign. They tolerated the multitude of various cultures and faiths of their subjects, yet were able to rejuvenate Zoroastrianism as a unifying force. Through strong centralized government, they oversaw the building of great monuments and public works.



It was the Sasanians who transferred Persian culture to the coming Islamic culture, exerting great influence with regards to architecture, art, literature and philosophy.

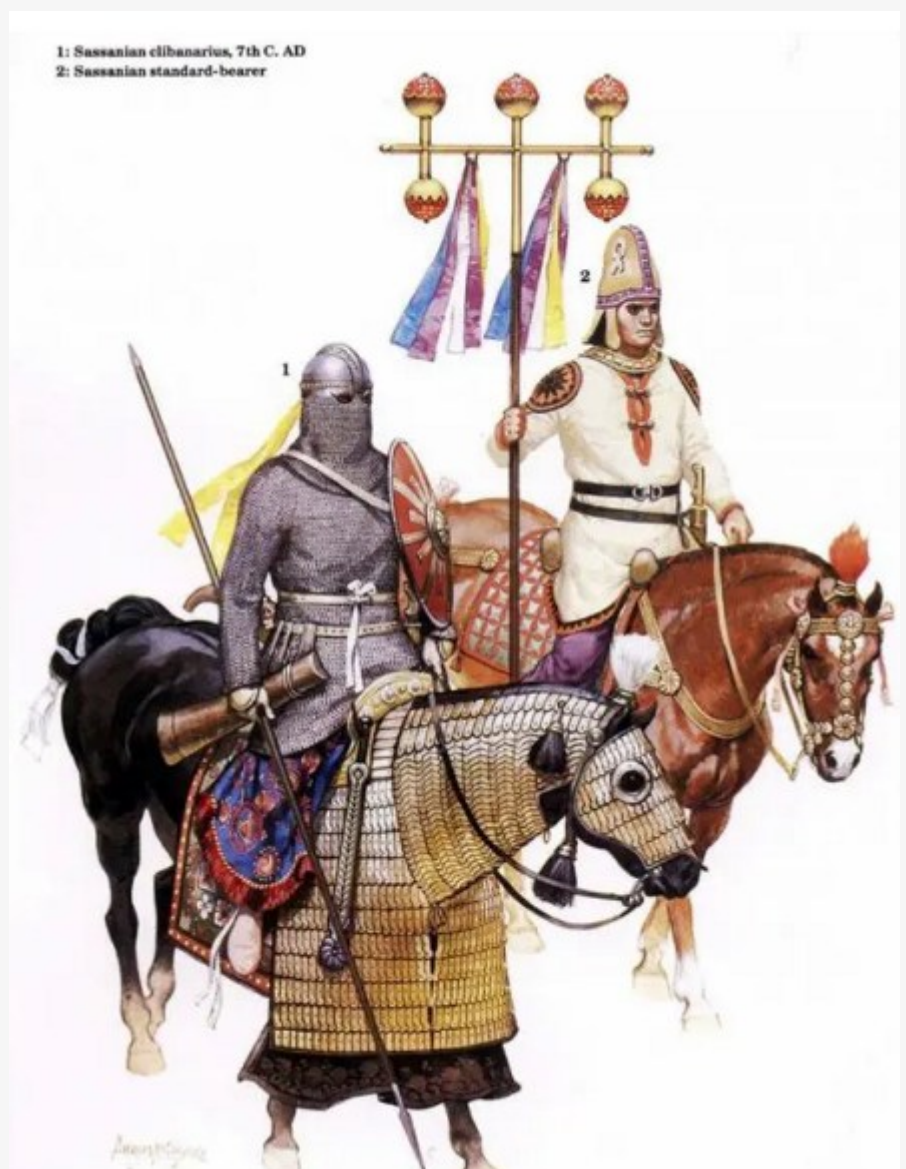
## Sassanid Cavalry

The armies of the Sassanids included a mixed and varied force of infantry and cavalry recruited from local sources as well as mercenaries. However, the most prestigious and notorious component of the Sassanid armies was the cavalry.

The army units and organization of the previous Parthians were retained and consisted of light cavalry, primarily horse archers and the heavy cavalry - the infamous Cataphracts.

*Pictured right:*

*Art by Angus McBride.*





Light cavalry units were recruited from nomadic tribes to the north, notably Turkic tribes such as the Hephthalites and Khazars. The Cataphracts were made of noblemen who underwent extensive military training.

Another aspect of the Sassanian cavalry that is worth mentioning is the use of war elephants. Unlike the Parthians who came before, the Sassanids recruited and trained an elephant corps from the Indus Valley civilization. The war elephants apparently made an excellent platform from which to discharge arrows. Their presence on any battlefield would also be quite intimidating from a psychological warfare point of view.

## Sassanid Cataphract

The word Cataphract is a derivative of the Greek κατάφρακτος kataphraktos (plural: κατάφρακτοι kataphraktoi), meaning "totally enclosed" or "completely armoured"; the prefix kata-/cata- implying "intense" or "completely").

The fighting equipment of the heavily-armed Sasanian horsemen was:

- helmet, hauberk (Pahlavi griwban)
  - breastplate
  - mail coat
- gauntlet (Pahlavi abdast)



- girdle
- thigh-guards (Pahlavi ran-ban)
- sword
- mace
- archery equipment: bow case with two bows and two bowstrings, quiver with 30 arrows and two extra bowstrings
- horse armour (zen-abzar).

Greek historian, Ammianus Marcellinus's description of Shapur II's cavalry sheds some light on how heavily equipped it was:

*"All the companies were clad in iron and all parts of their bodies were covered with thick plates, so fitted that the stiff-joints conformed with those of their limbs; and the forms of human faces were so skilfully fitted to their heads, that since their entire body was covered with metal, arrows that fell upon them could lodge only where they could see a little through tiny openings opposite the pupil of the eye, or where through the tip of their nose they were able to get a little breath. Of these, some who were armed with pikes, stood so motionless that you would have thought them held fast by clamps of bronze."*





## Sassanid Archery & The Thumb Release

Being the inheritors of the previous Parthian domains, as well as neighbours to various mounted nomads, the Sassanians would have been all too familiar with the techniques of archery used during their time.

Powerful composite recurve bows, expertly crafted from wood, horn and sinew, would have been their go-to weapons. Sassanid archery was a prized skill during the dominion of the last pre-Islamic empire of the Middle East.

One of the more intriguing aspects of Sassanid archery is the uniqueness of their draw (<https://archeryhistorian.com/how-to-draw-a-bow-and-arrow-traditional-to-modern/>). Being heavily influenced by the Parthians as well as various nomadic tribes to the north and east, the Sassanids would have encountered archers who loosed their bows with a thumb draw, also sometimes referred to as an eastern or Mongolian (<https://archeryhistorian.com/mongol-bow/>) draw.





To perform the typical thumb draw the thumb hooks the string and the index finger is secured over the thumbnail for additional support.

The Sassanids however, as can be discerned from artwork, most notably on metal plates, are shown to have an entirely unique draw. It is not known for certain, yet it appears that the thumb may have been used to engage the string, with the middle and ring fingers resting on top of the thumbnail. The index finger is free and often depicted as outstretched, possibly along the arrow shaft. The pinky finger is also unengaged. It looks like the archers are giving the "devil's horns" gesture as is or has been quite popular to do in the rock and roll era.

Having the index finger outstretched and placed along the shaft of the arrow would help secure the arrow in place along the side of the bow. Another practical reason for outstretching the index and pinky finger is that it would anatomically encourage the other fingers to open faster.

It could also be argued, that the Sassanians were, in fact, using a finger draw, more similar to the Mediterranean draw than the thumb draw. Instead of the thumb engaging the string, the middle and ring fingers would draw the string, with the thumb resting over the drawing fingers to form a lock ...

the issue does not seem to be settled.



## Hand Position and Release Method

One interesting feature of some of the depictions of archers at full draw on metal plates seems to be the angle of the draw hand. The depictions vary, and as previously mentioned, this may be due to artistic oversight, yet some of the draw hands of the Sassanian archers seem to be either vertical, while others are clearly depicted as having hands turned towards the horizontal.

In order for the thumb, or thumb ring to be in full contact with the string, the hand is in a horizontal position, with the palm of the hand parallel to and facing the ground. When the hand is turned towards a more vertical position, the thumb and/or thumb ring will not fully engage the string.

This method of drawing the bow with the thumb is still practically possible and allows for a faster disengagement from the string due to the decrease in contact and friction with the string as opposed to a fully horizontal hand position.





For a more in-depth analysis of the sassanid archery and their unique draw, please check out the video below!

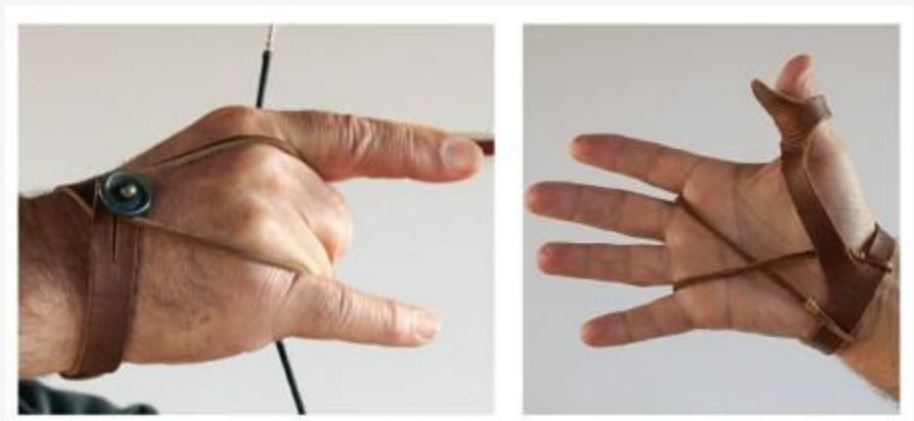


<https://youtu.be/i17V2vJjbXo>

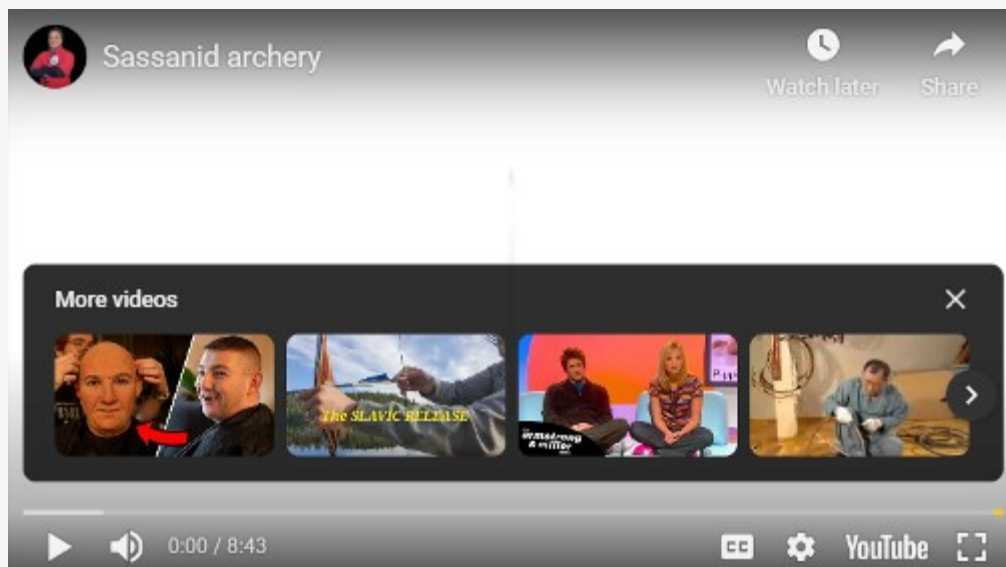
## Sassanid Archery & The Shooting Glove

The Sassanids are sometimes depicted as wearing a particular device on their drawing hand. It is visible on the back of the hand as two cross straps, possible leather. What is going on on the other side of the “glove” is not clear. Knowing this would of course help us in determining what style of draw they were using; finger draw or thumb draw. Modern reconstructions of this sassanid archery shooting glove have been reproduced to aid in drawing the bow in both finger and thumb style draws.

*Credit: Mike Loades*







<https://youtu.be/7xS2JkAgSnY>

## Sassanid Archery Depicted on Plates

The Sassanians were an artistic group of people. During the 400 year reign of this dynasty, Persian art, architecture and culture in general went through a golden age. They would go on to influence much of the Islamic world, especially in art and architecture.

One of the most fascinating archaeological finds from the Sassanian era (224–651 A.D.) is the several metal plates found throughout their old domains. They vary in size, but most are approximately 25 to 30 centimetres in diameter. Being exquisitely crafted, they are typically made from silver. The usual theme depicted on these plates is the Sassanid king on the hunt.



Although ancient artwork was idealized to a certain extent, the depictions are highly detailed and skilfully crafted. The depictions on these plates give us some interesting insights into Sassanid archery.

Firstly the artwork depicts the shape of the composite bow the Sassanids used during this time. It appears with exceptionally long siyahs (the straight, non-bending tips of the bow). The artwork shows the archer at full draw, with the bow under maximum strain. The bow exhibits the classic curves of composite recurve bows used throughout the steppe.

The archers, being depicted at full draw, also illustrates the unique draw of the Sassanids as discussed above. The draw seems to be quite a healthy length, with most archers drawing to the ear and some well past the head.





Even though these plates had a distinct style which can easily be recognized as Sassanian, a wide variety of shooting configurations and hunts are shown. Some of the archers shoot forward in the saddle, while others perform the infamous Parthian shot, shooting backward at full gallop. Some plates even show the mounted archer sitting backward on the horse, shooting to the rear.

Although horses seem to have been the preferred mode of transport for royalty, archers and cavalrymen are also depicted riding camels and elephants.

## The Sassanids and the Huns

The Sassanian Empire and their arch-rival the Byzantines (East Romans) did indeed have many things in common. One of these commonalities was their nomadic enemies on their borders. Both the Byzantines and the Sassanians were nearly constantly engaging with the nomadic hordes to their north and east.

While the Byzantines would have their hands full with the [Hunnic tribes](https://archeryhistorian.com/hun-bow/) (<https://archeryhistorian.com/hun-bow/>) who would migrate westwards into Europe and reach their height of power under their infamous King Attila, the Sassanians had to deal with other Hunnic tribes who were raiding and pillaging their northern frontiers.



*Note the elongated skull/head.*

*By Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.*

<http://www.cngcoins.com>, CC BY-SA 3.0,

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=95360176>

In the early 400s, tribes known as the "White Huns" or Hephthalites attacked and raided northern Iran. They were expelled and reappeared several times throughout the Sassanid empire. Alliances were sometimes made with these nomads in order to attack the Byzantines.

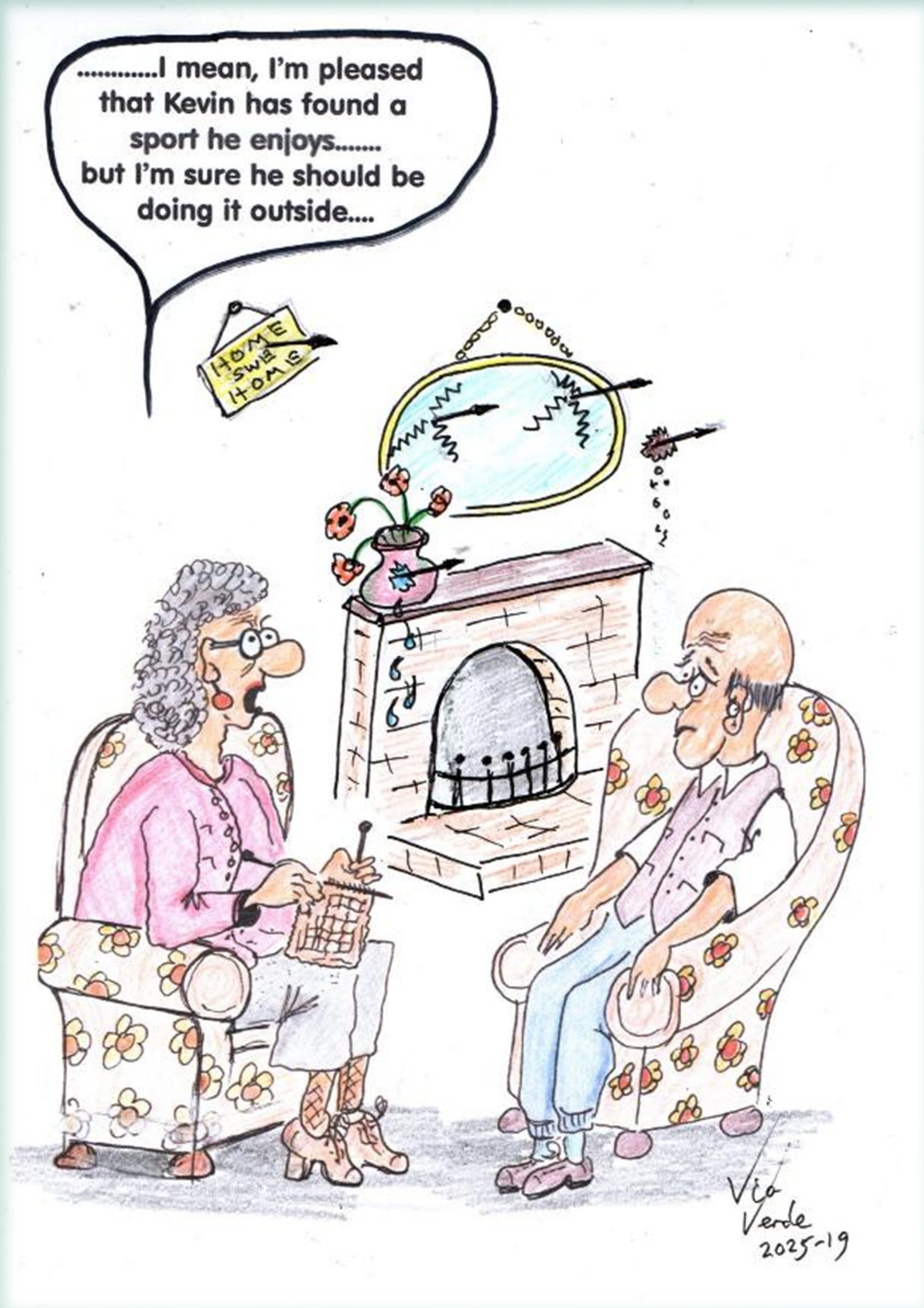
Some other tribes of Huns that bordered and interacted with the Sassanids include the [Alchon Huns](#) and the [Nezak](#).

**Archery Historian**

<https://archeryhistorian.com/>



# Another Cartoon for you!



By Via Verde.





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## Puzzle Answers

# Club Logos

## PICTURE PUZZLE ANSWERS

**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**



# Field Clubs

## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE ANSWERS

D	G	O	U	L	F	W	R	E	K	L	D	V	R	O	W	B	R	O	W	E	E	H
M	E	D	I	E	V	A	L	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y	B	O	W	M	E	N	I	H
I	P	Y	Y	V	B	D	I	J	A	U	D	R	I	S	H	A	R	T	C	Z	T	J
U	O	T	R	Z	A	N	E	F	Z	K	P	P	Y	G	Q	J	T	U	N	H	G	U
O	J	E	V	N	V	G	O	K	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	E	S	O	R	D	E	R
Z	Z	Z	T	V	R	A	R	T	E	M	I	S	A	R	C	H	E	R	S	F	D	G
O	J	K	H	P	E	N	N	I	N	G	T	O	N	L	N	W	P	T	X	Y	O	D
P	K	T	W	R	E	K	I	N	F	O	R	E	S	T	E	R	S	L	G	N	O	J
T	P	J	Y	T	X	I	S	F	O	Y	N	A	P	M	O	C	F	V	R	P	W	E
O	P	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	T	E	S	N	U	S	Z	V	I	U	R	G	Y	H
G	T	E	T	Q	S	R	E	H	C	R	A	D	L	E	I	F	K	A	E	P	L	L
Z	L	U	W	A	Y	U	D	F	Q	I	O	G	Y	T	S	V	X	W	E	U	L	D
S	G	Y	Y	M	O	F	F	I	J	V	N	O	R	T	H	L	A	K	E	S	O	M
K	I	N	G	S	F	O	R	E	S	T	B	O	W	M	E	N	G	H	L	Q	H	M
E	T	W	Y	E	C	F	L	E	E	T	I	B	E	X	Q	H	T	U	H	Q	P	Y
Z	P	Z	S	S	L	O	N	G	B	O	W	H	E	R	I	T	A	G	E	X	G	X

# Horseback Archery Clubs

## ANAGRAMS PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. EJM Horseback Archery
2. Northumbrian Mounted Archers
3. Overton Equestrian
4. Essex Horse Archers
5. Currypool Equestrian
6. Sowelu Equestrian
7. Alphamstone Arrows
8. Cotteswold Mounted Archers
9. The Knights of Middle England
10. Lowland Horse Archers





Photographer: Doc Smith





# Fairbow

28 November Black Friday  
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29 November , Discount party at our  
shop & online !  
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1 December Cyber Monday 15 %  
discount on all online orders!

IK GA NAAR  
DE WINTERSALE.  
JIJ OOK?







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small club



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**Sundays**



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[www.thecloutcollective.com](http://www.thecloutcollective.com)



Sat 15th March

Sat 10th May - D

Sun 11th May

Sat 5th July -

Sat 2nd August

Sat 13th Dec - T



All details and online entry on the website



# Collective

, big heart

Workshops Sessions  
Days 1-4pm <sup>GB</sup>

in Derbyshire

[e.co.uk](http://thecloutcollective.co.uk)

h - TCC Spring Clout

OCAA and Open Clout

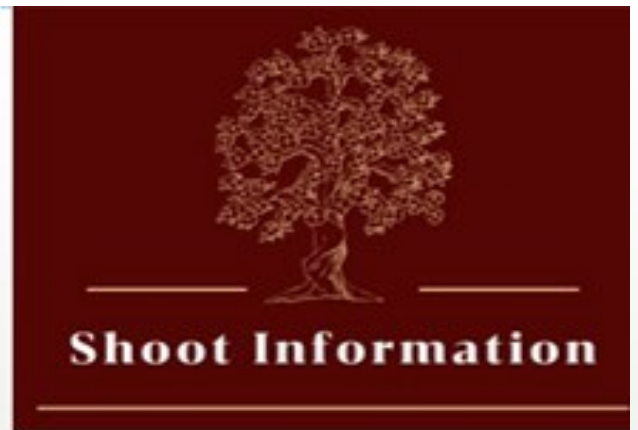
- TCC Imperial Clout

- TCC Metric Clout

- TCC Siege of Harfleur

CC Winter Wand Shoot

bsite <https://thecloutcollective.co.uk/>







**Delamere Field Archers**

**NFAS Open Shoot**

**6<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

# Shoot for Unsighted Bows Only

**Any style of bow (except x-bows) may enter,  
provided that it doesn't have sights**

**Course of 40 targets, full catering, ample parking**

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***Pre-pay only***

**Paypal to [dfashoot@gmail.com](mailto:dfashoot@gmail.com)**

**If paying by Paypal, please remember to use "friends & family"**

**BACS: 60-15-29 a/c 76620824 (don't forget your names!)**

**Adults £10, juniors free**

**No refunds for cancellations within one week or no-shows**

**Please note that our entrance is now on the A556 at:**

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**W3W: increases.reporter.army**

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Tel: 01767 262 533

[www.thearcherycompany.com](http://www.thearcherycompany.com)

Email: [info@thearcherycompany.com](mailto:info@thearcherycompany.com)

The Paddocks Deepdale, Potton, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2NH







# Dogs & Crossbows

## Club List 2025

Club info

To help archers choose clubs that they can shoot crossbows at and/or take their trusty companions to, I have compiled this list based on the most recent status on these queries! If you would like your club to be included in the list then just let me know and I will add it regarding Crossbows at your shoots. You can contact me in the following ways:- 1. Email [fieldarcherynewsuk.wixsite.com/fanuk](mailto:fieldarcherynewsuk.wixsite.com/fanuk) or 3. FAN UK Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/FANUK>

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Crossbows</u> <u>allowed?</u>	<u>Dogs</u> <u>allowed?</u>
Archers of Dolphinholme	YES	YES
Artemis Archers	YES	YES
Ashcombe Valley Archers	YES	YES
Auld Kirk Bowmen	YES	YES
Aurora FAC	YES	YES
Avalon Archers	YES	NO - unfortunately the land owner does not accept dogs.
Birkhill FAC (near Wormit, Fife, Scotland)	Sorry, it's a NO.	YES - well behaved dogs on leads at all times please.
Black Arrow Field Archers	YES	YES
Black Sheep Archers	YES	YES
Bowbearers of Wyresdale	-	YES
Brixham Archers	NO	NO
Butsfield Bowmen	YES	YES
Centaura Bowmen	YES	YES
Cheshire Oak Bowmen	YES	NO
Company of Sixty	YES	Not at Open Shoots
Delamere Field Archers	NO	YES, with well-behaved owners!
Druids Field Archers	YES	YES - on leads please.
D W Longbow	YES	YES - on a lead please.
Forest Spirit Archers (near Cluny in Fife)	NO	YES
Hanson Bowmen	YES	YES
High Cross Field Archers	YES	YES
Kings Lynn FA	YES	YES
Lakeland Field Archers	YES	YES
Longbow Heritage	YES	YES
Long Eaton Field Archers	YES	YES
Muscovy Archers	YES	YES
Oakwood Bowmen	NO - sorry.	No - sorry.

*Thank you to all clubs that have let me know so far, Hels :-)*

\* Current list updated 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 \*

nions with them to shoot, I have compiled an albeit short yet important list of clubs and their  
 et me know - all I require is your Club's Name and a 'Yes' or 'No' regarding Dogs and a 'Yes' or 'No'  
[fieldarcherynewsukmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:fieldarcherynewsukmagazine@gmail.com); 2. Contact form on the FAN UK website at <http://fieldArcheryNewsUK/>.

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Crossbows</u> <u>allowed?</u>	<u>Dogs</u> <u>allowed?</u>
Paget de Vesey	YES	YES
Pennington Archers	YES	YES
Pentref Bowmen	NO	We have a no dogs on the course policy however, archers are welcome to bring their pets but they must be left in their vehicles while the shoot is in progress.
Pines Park Archers	NO - sorry, due to landowner restrictions.	YES - on leads & with owners at all times please.
Redgauntlet Archers	YES	YES
Regent Archers	NO	YES
Rednex	YES	NO
Redoubtables Archery	YES	NO
Riggwelter Field Archers	NO	YES - but on a lead.
South Hams Field Archers	YES	YES
Spirit of Sherwood	YES	YES
Stonebow Field Archers	NO - sorry.	NO - sorry.
Toad Hollow Archers	YES	YES - on leads at all times please.
Westcombe Archers	YES	YES - with advance notification, on leads & with owners at all times please.
Wolfshead Field Archers	YES	YES - on leads at all times please.
Wrekin Foresters Field	NO	YES
Ye Olde Delph Bowmen	YES	YES

**KEY:**

RECENTLY ADDED!





# Making Wooden Arrows

A Master's Guide



John Potter

Find me on Facebook  
@ "Twangers Arrows"



or email me at:

[johnp1963@sky.com](mailto:johnp1963@sky.com)





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Tel: 01543 898660



# 9th year Anniversary

Huge thanks to my awesome contributors,  
supporters and - of course -  
to you lovely readers all  
over the world!

FREE to all since day 1 & proud  
to still be FREE TO ALL today!

~ For the love of field archery ~



2016 - 2025

Thank you for reading and for  
your ongoing support,  
Hels.

P.S. NEW patches out now!

[https://fieldarcherynewsuk.wixsite.com/fanuk/  
new2025patches](https://fieldarcherynewsuk.wixsite.com/fanuk/new2025patches)



2025  
9TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
~ For the love of field archery ~

