

# The Bowmen Bulletin

Welcome back, to the second edition of the 'Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield Bulletin'. Continuing to keep you up to date with news, forthcoming events, results and anything that we think might be of interest to members of the club. Please feel free to give us your feedback and get in touch with articles and content you would like to see here.



August 2023

**A little bit of history** The Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield archery club was founded in 1963 by Ricky Farrar and is a community amateur sports club (CASC) affiliated to ArcheryGB (the sport's governing body in the UK).

The Valley Bowmen have long been a feature in the local sporting landscape. Our private field on Knowle Lane near Meltham has provided an ideal venue for archery since we purchased it with the support of Kirklees Council in 1991. The field itself is just under two-acres and our archery range is available for members to shoot at twenty-four hours a day all year round.

In 2013 the organising committee of the Valley Bowmen received an "Inspired Facilities Grant" of £50,000 from Sport England. This grant was used to erect a secure store, kitchen and a toilet block including all necessary services and with provision for access for all. This building is now known as "The Farrar Pavilion" named in honour of our founder.



Another grant from Sport England in 2020, as part of the post pandemic "Return To Sport" initiative, enabled the club to add a permanent indoor shooting range to the facilities provided on site. Whereas winter shooting was previously sessions per week at local sports centres, the new range now allows members to shoot every day regardless of the weather conditions.



Club Membership (Adult)	159
Club Membership (Adult 18-21)	7
Club Membership Junior	30
	<b>196</b>

**Membership.** In the 60 years since its inception the club has grown tremendously, we now have an inclusive and diverse membership which breaks down like this;

Adults	105	105
Couples + 1 Junior	2	6
Parent + 1 (18-24)	4	8
Parent + 1 Junior	12	24
Parent + 2 Juniors	2	6
Juniors	13	13
		<b>196</b>



Committee Members		
President	Will Kempf	<a href="mailto:wnt@kempf.org.uk">wnt@kempf.org.uk</a>
Vice President	Alan Marriott	<a href="mailto:alandmarriott@talk21.com">alandmarriott@talk21.com</a>
Secretary	Paul McGuire	<a href="mailto:info@valleybowmen.co.uk">info@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>
Treasurer	John Sinfield	<a href="mailto:treasurer@valleybowmen.co.uk">treasurer@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>
Records Officer	Graham Ivey	<a href="mailto:scores@valleybowmen.co.uk">scores@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>
Junior Liaison Officer	Alan Hoddinott	<a href="mailto:alan@hoddinott.co.uk">alan@hoddinott.co.uk</a>
Membership Officer	Mark Swallow	<a href="mailto:membersofficer@valleybowmen.co.uk">membersofficer@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>
Non-Executive Members of the Committee		
Safeguarding Officer	Les Griffiths	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@valleybowmen.co.uk">safeguarding@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>
Entertainment Officer	John Pawson	<a href="mailto:entertainment@valleybowmen.co.uk">entertainment@valleybowmen.co.uk</a>



Happy Diamond Anniversary to us





## Windy Wetherby Shoot

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023, I (along with a few other archers from the club, Euan O'Connor, John Lane, and associate member Neil Crickmore) attended the YAAs Open Metric Weekend competition held at Wetherby. The competition ran across 2 separate days, with a separate competition on each day – the Saturday consisted of a WA1440 (at the appropriate distance for your age category) and the Sunday a double WA720 (appropriate for your age category and discipline). Let's just say that the weekend didn't turn out as expected! The weather had its own ideas...



Our Ace reporter and competitor Mollie Bower

When I arrived, the field looked good but the wind was a little strong, but Wetherby always is. On the Saturday, we managed to get through the practice and 2½ dozen scoring ends before the shoot was called to a halt. The decision was made, by the judges and tournament organiser, to pause the shoot for 15 minutes to see whether the wind was going to settle down, it didn't so the decision was made to cancel the days shoot entirely. At which point, the awards were handed out based on the scored 2½ dozen.

I thought I'd risk the weather again and went back for the Sunday competition, with hopes that the wind would be lighter. But I was wrong – not only did we have the high-speed wind but we also had periods of heavy rain. So not only were we wind swept, we also looked like drowned rats too! However, we managed a dozen more than the previous day but again the shoot was called to a halt. Again, a decision was made, by the judges and tournament organiser, to pause to the shoot for 15 minutes to see whether the wind was going to settle down. But (exactly like the previous day) the shoot was cancelled as it was deemed dangerous and unsafe to continue and the awards were based on the scored 3½ dozen.

To put it into context, the weather was so horrendous that I had to wind my sight all the way in and still aim in the white on the right-hand side of the target, sometimes (during the higher wind speed moments) even off the target completely! If you watched the arrows as they left the bow, you could see them start heading straight for the target and then all of a sudden be drastically pulled off to the left-hand side! Not only was the wind blowing the arrows, it was also blowing me! I was being blown right to left (not so drastically bad for right hand archers!) and at one point it was also blowing directly at me – certainly couldn't make its mind up! You also have 4 minutes (for this type of competition) to shoot 6 arrows, but due to the wind and trying to shoot whilst avoiding the high-speed gusts some archers couldn't get all 6 of their arrows off within the time limit and therefore one (or possibly more) were counted as misses! Compounds had the worst deal as their arrows were being blown off their arrow rests and shot into the ground at times, making them very difficult to find.

Luckily, I shot better than some and managed to walk away with 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Ladies U21 on both days.

I have been to many competitions over the last 8 years, and shot in so many different weather conditions. There have been pauses at other shoots due to the weather, but I have never been to a competition that has been cancelled before. Let alone 2 in the same weekend!



Our superstar **Euan O'Connor** (hiding under the broly from the inclement weather at Wetherby).

Euan achieved first place in his category on both days.

Boys U.16 – Barebow – Metric 2



Any successful club is contingent on its membership, and more so its younger members. Here at the Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield we are very lucky to have an admirable youth membership. A testament to our facilities and coaching is that our younger members are gaining position in county competitions.



## Forthcoming Club Events

### Bowman Series

Shoot four of six

A competitive target event at club level with the opportunity to shoot and achieve a Bowmen classification.



30/07/2023

10:00 for 10:30

Men	Women	Men 50+	Women 50+	Junior (U21)	Handicap
Age and gender appropriate WA1440 / Metric					N/A
This series of competitions is specifically aimed at those archers who are trying to get a Bowmen classification. Please Note: This does not prevent other members shooting at the field at the same time as this competition.					
Further dates in the Bowmen Series: 20/08/23, 29/10/23					

## Dates for the Diary



**August Monthly Meal** – 2<sup>nd</sup> August 19:00. The Huntsman Inn, Greenfield Rd, Holmfirth HD9 3XF. If people can either WhatsApp/text John Pawson (07866 366060) or email him so he can get an idea of numbers for a table booking please.

**Note on the Yorkshire Day shoot** 6<sup>th</sup> August 10: for 110:30 – A buffet will be provided (Taylors). Please let John know by the 3<sup>rd</sup> August if you require food and any dietary requirements.

**September Monthly Meal** – 6<sup>th</sup> September 19:00. Location tba. (Possibly Thai Sakon).

**Proms in the Park** – 9<sup>th</sup> September, bring a picnic from 5pm, Proms starts at 7pm. BBC's Last Night of the Proms to be shown on a big screen (weather permitting) up at the archery field. Don't forget to bring your union jack flags and silly hats. Pimm's optional. If the weather is poor, we'll retire into the indoor range.



Reight then, come and get thee'sen t'field for t'

### Yorkshire Day Shoot

06/08/2023 10:00 for 10:30



\*Flat' caps are reat up to you, 'for t' targets and folk joining in. But mind, leave them whippersnappers' pigeons back at t' cause

Taylor's'll be providin' a reet good feast, so give John a shout, right, to sort out t' numbers, like: [entertainment@valleybowmen.co.uk](mailto:entertainment@valleybowmen.co.uk)

Blokes	Lasses	Whippersnapper (U21)	Andy Capp
York 6 doz @ 100yds, 4 doz @ 80yds, 2 doz @ 60yds.	Hareford 6 doz @ 80yds, 4 doz @ 60yds, 2 doz @ 50yds.	Age and gender appropriate Bristol	Any Bristol Round

### Bowman Series

Shoot five of six

A competitive target event at club level with the opportunity to shoot and achieve a Bowmen classification.



20/08/2023

10:00 for 10:30

Men	Women	Men 50+	Women 50+	Junior (U21)	Handicap
Age and gender appropriate WA1440 / Metric					N/A
This series of competitions is specifically aimed at those archers who are trying to get a Bowmen classification. Please Note: This does not prevent other members shooting at the field at the same time as this competition.					
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**Bronte Archers** are hosting the 4th Inter-Club Tournament, 13<sup>th</sup> Aug 2023. It's a great relaxed tournament and the perfect external competition for those new to archery, or who haven't shot outside of the club before. It's lots of fun, nominal entry fee, there will be cake, and it's all for charity. It would be great to see the Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield well represented. You never know - we may even walk away with the title and trophy of 'Yorkshire Club 2023'. Let's do Valley proud. Helen-Claire.

### BRONTE ARCHERS HOST THE 4TH YORKSHIRE INTER-CLUB TOURNAMENT



**ALL YORKSHIRE ARCHERS INVITED**

**ENTRY FEE**  
SENIOR ARCHERS £8  
JUNIORS £4

**100% OF RAFFLE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITY PLEASE BRING RAFFLE PRIZES**

**FOOD AVAILABLE ALL DAY**

**CLOSING DATE: 6TH AUGUST 2023**  
No amendments or late entries will be accepted (ENTRY FORM SEPARATE)



**WHEN**  
Sunday Aug 13th 2023  
Assembly 10am

**WHERE**  
Rawdon Meadows  
Apperley Bridge  
BD10 0NR

**WHO CAN ENTER**  
All AGB registered novice and experienced archers

**WHY** For the Title and Trophy of "Yorkshire Club 2023"  
Plus - Yorkshire Spot prizes awarded throughout the day!

**WHAT ROUND CAN I SHOOT**  
Any of Albion's & Windsor's - No limitations  
Choose the round you're able to shoot.

[www.bronte-archers.co.uk](http://www.bronte-archers.co.uk)  
Lord/Lady Paramount - TBA



WE  
NEED  
YOUR



HELP

Please consider that a member who has been a participant on a beginner's course quite likely knows a great deal more about archery than the majority of those participants who are due on the above last 4 courses for this year.

Any archer who has shot for some time has the capacity to pass their knowledge on to a beginner. If you're not sure you could do this there are many other ways you could support at a beginner's course without actually coaching a participant, we will not throw you in at the deep end and will usually get you to be field captain, balloon monitor or one of many other supporting roles.

**Thank you** to all those members who volunteered following our June Bulletin request for help with tasters and beginner's courses. We still have a few dates to cover as follows:

**Taster Sessions** – Help needed **27<sup>th</sup> August** and the **3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**. If you are able to help on any of these sessions, please complete the booking form on our website.

**Beginners Courses** (The number of beginners on each course, varies but we look to cover this with 5/6 volunteers). If you are able to help on any of these sessions, please complete the booking form on our website.

Dates (all dates are Saturday afternoons 12:00 to 15:00)		
<b>Course 8</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2023	Lead Coach: Gareth Stott
Current Volunteers: Ian Huntingdon, John Pawson		
<b>Course 9</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023	Lead Coach: Alan Hoddinott
Current Volunteers: Tony Barrett, Mick Robshaw, Clive Morley		
<b>Course 10</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023	Lead Coach: Mollie and Alice
Current Volunteers: Alan Hoddinott		
<b>Course 11</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023	Lead Coach: tba
Current Volunteers: Mick Robshaw, Clive Morley		

## For Sale / Wanted

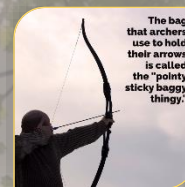
Items For Sale	Price
Recurve (Left Hand) Hoyt with 68-26 Limbs	£ 275.00
Junior Recurve - Wooden Riser (19") with 62-20 Limbs	£ 100.00
One Piece Recurve 69" - 38lb	p.o.a
Recurve - Samick riser and limbs (68-26)	£ 275.00
Junior Recurve - Wooden Riser (19") with 54-20 Limbs	£ 100.00
W&W Pro Accent Limbs 70-36	£ 120.00
WNS Riser + WNS Delta Limbs 66-24 + 24 Easton 1516 Arrows	£ 140.00
Full Kit Core riser + Synergy Limbs 70-32 + 18 Arrows	£ 285.00

**Full details of all items for sale can be found on the club website in the Members section.**

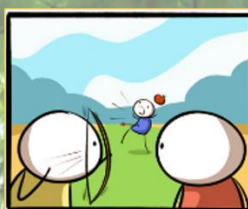
## Coaching Sessions

It was clear from the 2022 Membership Survey that there is a desire for some formal coaching sessions to be available. We have therefore scheduled monthly sessions when at least one of the coaching team will be available to assist members. To ensure greatest opportunity for people to attend these sessions they will alternate between Sunday morning and Monday evenings each month, dates as below. If these dates are inconvenient for you, please contact the coaching team and we will arrange other sessions.

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Aug 19.00 to 21.00
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 10.30 to 12.00
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 19.00 to 21.00
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 10.30 to 12.00
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 19.00 to 21.00



Although we intend these to be "open door" sessions for members to just "drop in", if you do intend coming would you please complete the booking form below or alternatively please email [coaching@valleybowmen.co.uk](mailto:coaching@valleybowmen.co.uk) so, we know how many people to expect.



It should go without saying but, please **don't** try this at the field.

Practice with something larger like a melon first.



## Social Media @ the Valley Bowmen



**WhatsApp** - A light hearted social group for chit chat, questions, memes and more.". Contact one of the administrators to be added. Admin - Alan Hoddinott, Mark Swallow.



**Facebook** - Useful group for seeing what events are happening. Admin - Alan Hoddinott, Wayne Evardson, Mark Swallow



**Golden records** - clubs score keeping resource to track your scores, distance performance and more. Recommended app for submitting scores, checking your records, scores and classification etc.



[valleybowmen.co.uk](http://valleybowmen.co.uk) - the go to resource for members". Club news, Maintenance request forms, Committee info, Coaching profiles and sessions, Resources, FAQ, List of club members, Gallery and Clothing and equipment.

## In Other News



An unknown species of plant has been found growing on the Valley Bowmen field.

Advice was sought from the Royal Botanical Society. We were informed that its quite a rare species of the genus *fletching*, originating from China / Japan. Its Latin name is *Sagittia Flu-Flu*

Photos from the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fun Shoot 09/07/23. For more photos check out the Members pages on the Valley Bowmen website

