

Flight Path



No 3, March 2012

Editors comment:

Welcome to edition 3 of "Flight Path", the newsletter of the British National Flight Archery Association, and a belated Happy New Year. January is never a quiet time for me. After a few months break from Flight, it is time to start arranging this years championships, grounds to book, entry forms to print and send out, equipment to repair or replace. And only 6 months before the first tournament, the West Midlands in July. Hope to see some of you there. As always, your views are always welcome, letters may be edited as space allows. Please keep them coming.

Change of Organisation.

After organising the National Flight Championships for 6 years, Mike Willrich has decided to retire from organizing the event. The new organiser is Tony Bakes, whose address can be found at the bottom of this page.

Dates for your Diary: 2012

West Midland Flight Championships

July 22nd
Adams Grammar School
Longford Hall
Shropshire

Contact Mike Willrich,
5, Broughton Close
Tillington
Stafford
ST16 1QS

Tel 01785 250490

Email mwillrich@virginmedia.com

National Flight Championships

August 18th
RAF Church Fenton
World Record Status

Contact A.Bakes
332, James Reckitt Ave
HULL
Yorkshire
HU8 8LJ
01482 375033
tbakes@tbakes.karoo.co.uk

Northern Counties Flight Championships

August 26th
RAF Church Fenton
World Record Status

Contact A.Bakes
332, James Reckitt Ave
HULL
Yorkshire
HU8 8LJ
01482 375033
tbakes@tbakes.karoo.co.uk

Letters to the editor.

From the Archives:

The 9th National Flight Shoot
Radley College, Oxford – 2nd July 1955

Flight championship without a wind, it's a nice thought, but this time we had a quartering breeze which, without any shadow of a doubt stopped an otherwise 500 yard plus from champion Jack Flinton. As it was, and between you and me, quite contrary to doctor's orders, the old warhorse could not resist just three shots in defense of his title, and by golly, he did it again, pushing up his own record to 490 yards 3 inches.

When one views the incredible expanse of that 700 yards of close mown turf at Radley, one cannot help wishing that it were possible to hold the target championships there as well, but alas being out in the wilds, four miles from Oxford, it would be no doubt be too far from hotels. As if the length of the ground were not far enough, I suspect someone of playing a joke on newcomers to the shoot. They were solemnly informed that the target they could see, set up as an aiming mark, somewhere about 600 yards away was a standard 4 ft one, but when we later got up there we found it to be only 2 feet.....

The shooting was opened by the competitors in the target bow class, the which, I am sorry to report, is likely to be spoilt as a competition to encourage archers to shoot flight by first having a "bash" with their target equipment and subsequently, perhaps, acquiring flight equipment. Why? Because some archers cannot stick to the spirit of the rules. There had to be some sort of rule as to what constitutes a target bow, and the rule is that the competitor must have shot two rounds with it. Well, one CAN shoot a round with a pukka flight bow, after all you don't have to hit the target, and you could only draw it six inches each time, and a National round has only 72 arrows. There are a few

Newsletter of the British Flight Archery Association.

rules which you cannot creep under if you crawl low enough. But perhaps I have said enough.....

If the target class is to be continued, and I think it should as a bit of general fun, then the answer could be contained in a suggestion from Kenneth Ryall Webb, the very excellent organizer of this competition: he says, if I understand him correctly, "let them turn up, and give them, for say, 2/6d, half an hours target shooting (properly controlled), after which they could use anything they jolly well please for the flight, provided they have just used it for target." Any other ideas?

At least you can't fool anyone in the flight class, as we run it unlimited, no classification into weights as the Americans do. There was a record entry in this unlimited competition this year and all the men were using proper flight bows, and so were the majority of the women. There were three American bows, Flinton's Drake, and Ryall Webb and Egerton's Ben Piersons. Kellett, Collyer and Clover were using bows made by Kellett, and Howis and Miss Fellows were using bows made by Howis, of American materials. The Wyer family of Wolverhampton, no less than five of them, were all using Wyer-made bows. Bamber had a metal bow made by himself.

To conclude, here are the winners and the distances:

Flight bows				Target bows			
Ladies	yds	ft	ins	yds	ft	ins	
1 st Miss Fellows	310	0	3	Mrs Ryall Webb	198	0	0
2 nd Miss Tittley	256	1	0	Mrs Ritchie	185	2	0
Mrs G Wyer	246	0	3	Miss Tittley	165	1	3
Gentlemen				Gentlemen			
	yds	ft	ins	yds	ft	ins	
1 st Mr J. Flinton	490	0	3*	Mr R. Bamber	244	2	6
2 nd Mr L. Howis	429	2	0 +	Mr L. Howis	238	2	3
Mr R Wyer	412	2	6	Mr A Klitgaard	225	1	0

* New record

+ New record for a British made bow

The additional competitors were:

Flight class: Mrs Ritchie, Mrs R Wyer, A Wyer, H Kellett, M Egerton, P Clover, R Bamber, O Wyer, K Ryall-Webb

Target class: Dr Ritchie, O Wyer, B Wrensch, W.C.Martin, Rev. Wigg

Proposal on classifications.

It is no coincidence I chose the report for the 1955 National Flight Championships. Before then, we had no classifications.

Then, this appeared in the British Archer in June of 1955, and recognised for the first time the distances we need to make.

"The National Council has approved the following flight shooting classification, retrospective for the current series of National Flight Championships: Gentlemen, 1st class flight shot – not less than 375 yards; master flight shot – not less than 440 yards; grand master flight shot – not less than 550 yards. Ladies, 100 yards less in each class."

Nearly 60 years later, whilst equipment has made great strides forward with faster bows, lighter arrows etc, we still shoot towards those self same distances. The only group who have not benefitted from the new technology are the longbow archers, as even a modest recurve and cheap carbons can easily reach 1st class.

In 1955, no-one shot to grand master, with only one person beating master and the British record for the flight bow was a mere 490 yards. At last year's National flight, 10 archers (17% of the entries in classes A, B, C, E and F) bettered grand master, along with 19 (32%) masters and 10 (17%) first class, a grand total of 39 out of 59 (66%) archers shooting classes other than longbow reached the minimum of 1st class.

A Brief History of flight 3

Obituary

It is with great sadness to announce the death of John Chichester Constable of Burton Constable Hall, Sproatley, nr Hull in December. Though not a flight archer himself, John was a true friend to the sport and supported flight in the UK by providing the venue for the National and Northern Counties championships at his home in East Yorkshire for several years until we outshot the ground. John was patron to the Burton Constable Company of Bowmen.

Achievement News

Congratulations to the following archers for their achievements during 2011

World records:

Ladies target recurve, N/E 50 lbs, Cherry Lyne

British records:

Ladies recurve target, N/E 50lbs, Cherry Lyne
J.Gents recurve target, N/E 50lbs, Harry Spence
English longbow, N/E 50lbs, Harry Spence
Ladies Crossbow, Helen Paszyn
Gents crossbow, Peter Middlestorb

Grand master flight shot

Helen Paszyn
Gordon Brown

Master Flight Shot

Jan Thornton
Greg Salvini
Malcolm Rees
Michael McGowan
Ashleigh McCloud

First Class flight shot

Newsletter of the British Flight Archery Association.

Harry Spence
Paul Smith
Thomas Cram.

Western red cedar
Hickory backed

Ref MW005

For Sale

M.Willrich Longbows

Ipe belly 49 lbs @ 27.5" £200.00
Western red cedar
Hickory & Ash backed

English longbows fashioned by Mike Willrich, built to a full compass design similar to the English Warbow, so that the whole bow is working to give maximum power to the shot. Stitched leather handle, buffalo horn arrowpass and nocks. The nocks are made smaller to reduce weight at the limb-tips, so giving a faster shooting bow. A double-looped 8125 string is included, and all bows have been field-tested with both flight and target arrows. I cannot give any warranty on flight bows as these are stressed to near the limit using flight arrows. A 6 month warranty is given on target bows. Add £60.00 for a full 12 month warranty (target bows only)

Ref MW007

Ipe belly 35 lbs @ 25.5" £200.00
Western red cedar
Hickory and Ash backed

5-laminate flight/clout bows made top order.

Ipe/Purpleheart belly £240.00
Western red cedar core
Hickory and Ash backed

Ref MW001:

Ipe belly 45 lbs @ 27.5" £180.00
Western red cedar core
Hickory backed

Contact

Mike Willrich,
5, Broughton Close
Tillington
Stafford
ST16 1QS

Ref MW003:

Ipe belly 34 lbs @ 28" £180.00

Tel 01785 250490

Email

mwillrich@virginmedia.com

Newsletter of the British Flight Archery Association.

Copy date for next issue: 30 April 2012

A.Bakes, 332 James Reckitt Ave, HULL Yorkshire HU8 8LJ, tel 01482 375 033
Email tbakes@tbakes.karoo.co.uk

Grand National Archery Society
65th National Flight Championships 2012



- Location:** RAF Church Fenton, Tadcaster, Yorkshire LS24 9SE. See map below.
- Status:** National Record Status and World Record Status
- Date:** Saturday 18th August 2012
- Guest of Honour:** To be confirmed
- Judges:** Range Captain: Amanda Bartram
Assistant Range Captain: Andy Pointon
- Round:** GNAS Flight and FITA Flight:
The National Trophies and Championship title will be awarded to the highest placed British GNAS member. GNAS Bow Weight Classes, will be converted to the Equivalent FITA Flight Bow weight Classes, most are the same. Any FITA Bow Classes and FITA Weight Divisions can be shot. THESE TO BE DECLARED AT REGISTRATION
Distance Measurements will be in Metres for FITA requirements & converted to yds – ft – in for the GNAS Results. Separate FITA Bow Class and Distance Results will be produced for World Record Claim Purposes.
- Timing:** Bow weighing from 9:30 am onwards. Assembly 10:30 am
- Arrangements:** Four ends of six arrows will be shot, four class/weight divisions may be entered.
Only one class/weight division may be shot per end.
- Access:** The range is on an RAF station; for security reasons, vehicle details are required with your entry. Check-in at the Guardroom for access to the site.
- Dress:** It is recommended that all competitors wear bright visible colours.
- Drug Testing:** Archers will be liable for drug testing, and competitors approached to give samples must comply. If they refuse, that refusal will be treated as a positive result. Entries from archers under 18 must be signed by a parent/guardian to signify their consent to their child being drug tested if approached.
- Photography:** In view of the provisions of the GNAS Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy, those who wish to take photographs at this event are to register with the Tournament Secretary on arrival. No unauthorised photography will be permitted.
- GNAS Cards:** Archers should have their membership cards available.
- Results:** Results will be published on the GNAS website. Go to www.gnas.org/nationaltournaments/ and then click on National Flight. If absolutely necessary, paper copies of the results can be sent; please enclose a stamped addressed C5 envelope (9" x 6½") with your entry.
- Entry fee:** £20.00 for the day Cheques payable to "Flight Path"
No refunds after the closing date.
- Closing date:** Monday 7th August 2012
- Tournament organiser:** A. Bakes, 332 Reckitt Avenue, Hull, E. Yorks. HU8 8LJ
E-mail: tbakes@tbakes.karoo.co.uk Tel: 01482 375033

65th National Flight Championships 19th August 2012 – Entry Form

Forename:	Surname:
Address:	
Tel No:	E-Mail address: <small>(Please write clearly)</small>
Male/Female:	GNAS No:
Club:	County:
Nationality:	
Car Make	Car Registration Number

In which year were you born?

1992 or earlier

1993 or later (FITA Junior)

In this case only, please give date of birth: _____

Bowstyle and Bow Weight: Please tick relevant box(es) indicating bow style and weight division. You may enter a maximum of 4 bowstyle/bow weight combinations.

Bowstyle	Bow Weight Division		
	Under 35lbs	Under 50lbs	Unlimited
Class A: Recurve Target Bow			
Class B: Conventional Flight Bow			
Class D: English Longbow			
American Longbow <small>Although not recognised by GNAS, awards will be given</small>			
	Under 45lbs	Under 60lbs	
Class C: Compound Target Bow			
Class F: Compound Flight Bow			
	Under 95lbs		
Class E: Crossbow			

I certify that I am a member of GNAS or a FITA Member Association. I will abide by current drug and dress regulations. Signature of archer:	If approached to for drug testing, I am willing for my child to be tested. Signature of parent/guardian of junior under 18:
--	--

If you use a wheelchair or have special requirements, please give details:

Entry fee: £20.00 for the day Cheques payable to GNAS
No refunds after the closing date.

Closing date: Monday 7th August 2012



Northern Counties Archery Society *Flight Championships 2012*

- Location:** RAF Church Fenton, Tadcaster, Yorkshire LS24 9SE. See map below.
- Status:** National Record Status and World Record Status
- Date:** Sunday 26th August 2012
- Guest of Honour:** Mr M Willrich
- Judges:** Range Captain: Amanda Bartram
- Round:** GNAS Flight and FITA Flight:
The Northern Counties will be awarded to the highest placed NCAS members. Open titles will be awarded to the highest placed visitors. GNAS Bow Weight Classes, will be converted to the Equivalent FITA Flight Bow weight Classes, most are the same. Any FITA Bow Classes and FITA Weight Divisions can be shot. **THESE TO BE DECLARED AT REGISTRATION** Distance Measurements will be in Metres for FITA requirements & converted to yds – ft – in for the GNAS Results. Separate FITA Bow Class and Distance Results will be produced for World Record Claim Purposes.
- Timing:** Bow weighing from 9:30 am onwards. Assembly: 10:30 am
- Arrangements:** Four ends of six arrows will be shot.
Four class/weight divisions may be entered.
Only one class/weight division may be shot per end.
- Access:** The range is on an RAF station; for security reasons, vehicle details are required with your entry. Check-in at the Guardroom for access to the site
- Dress:** It is recommended that all competitors wear bright visible colours.
- Drug Testing:** Archers will be liable for drug testing, and competitors approached to give samples must comply. If they refuse, that refusal will be treated as a positive result. Entries from archers under 18 must be signed by a parent/guardian to signify their consent to their child being drug tested if approached.
- Photography:** In view of the provisions of the GNAS Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy, those who wish to take photographs at this event are to register with the Tournament Secretary on arrival. No unauthorised photography will be permitted.
- GNAS Cards:** Archers should have their membership cards available.
- Results:** Results will be published on the NCAS website.
- Entry fee:** **Adults:** £4.00 per class
Juniors: £2.00 per class
- Closing date:** Monday 7th August 2012
- Tournament organiser:** Mr A. Bakes, 332 Reckitt Avenue, Hull, E. Yorks. HU8 8LJ
E-mail: tbakes@tbakes.karoo.co.uk Tel: 01482 375033

Northern Counties Flight Championships 26th August 2012 – Entry Form

Forename:	Surname:
Address:	
Tel No:	E-Mail address: (Please write clearly)
Male/Female:	GNAS No:
Club:	County:
Nationality:	
Car Make	Car Registration Number

In which year were you born? 1992 or earlier

1993 or later (FITA Junior) In this case only, please give date of birth: _____

Bowstyle and Bow Weight: Please tick relevant box(es) indicating bow style and weight division. You may enter a maximum of 4 bowstyle/bow weight combinations.

Bowstyle	Bow Weight Division		
	Under 35lbs	Under 50lbs	Unlimited
Class A: Recurve Target Bow			
Class B: Conventional Flight Bow			
Class D: English Longbow			
American Longbow Although not recognised by GNAS, awards will be given			
	Under 45lbs	Under 60lbs	
Class C: Compound Target Bow			
Class F: Compound Flight Bow			
	Under 95lbs		
Class E: Crossbow			

If you use a wheelchair or have special requirements, please give details: **Entry fee: Adults £4.00 per class**

Juniors: £2.00 per class

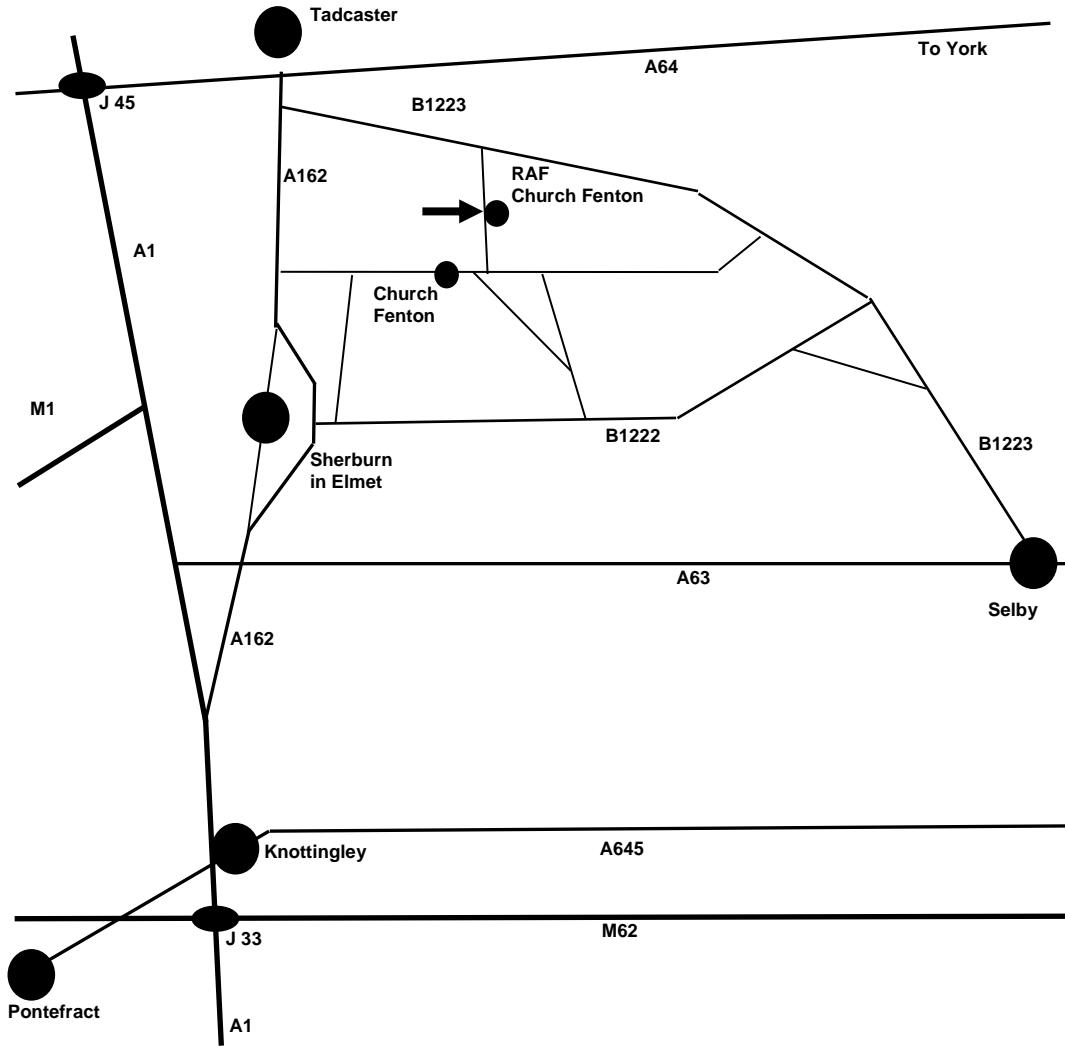
Cheques payable to Flight Path

If approached to for drug testing, I am willing for my child to be tested.

Signature of parent/guardian of junior under 18:

Closing date: Monday 7th August 2011

Entries to: Completed entry forms, with cheques payable to Flight Path to be forwarded to the Tournament Organiser, Mr Tony Bakes, 332 Reckitt Avenue, Hull, E. Yorks. HU8 8LJ, Tel: 01482 375033



18th WEST MIDLANDS ARCHERY SOCIETY AND OPEN FLIGHT CHAMPIONSHIPS - Sunday 22nd JULY 2012

**Venue: Longford Hall (Adams Grammar School) Shropshire.
Bow Weighing: From 9.30am : Shooting Starts @ 10.30am**

Lady Paramount: T.B.A. Range Master: T.B.A.

G.N.A.S. Rules of Shooting B.L.B.S. & N.F.A.S. Archers Welcome

ENTRY FEE per CLASS / Wt.Div

**JOINT WMAS & OPEN :- Adults - £5/Class , Juniors - £3/Class
Non WMAS Archers OPEN ONLY :- Adults - £5/Class , Juniors - £3/Class**

**ENTRIES TO: Mr. M. Willrich, 5 Broughton Close, Tillington, Stafford, ST16 1QS
Tel: 01785 250490 e-mail : mwillrich@virginmedia.com
Cheques Payable to: Mr. M.Willrich**

Max 4 - Classes per Archer -Total 4 x 6 Arrow Ends

Please tear off below line & Return

.....

Bow Class	WMAS Closed	WMAS Open	Gent	Lady	Jun Gent	Jun Lady
Class A Target Bow N/E 50lb						
Class A Target Bow N/E 35lb	////////////////////					
Class B Flight Bow N/E 35lb	////////////////////					
Class C Cmpd. Tgt. Bow N/E 45lb						
Class D English Longbow Unlimited						
Class D English Longbow N/E 50lb	//////////////////// ////////////////////					
Class D English Longbow N/E 35lb	//////////////////// ////////////////////					

Please Tick Appropriate Boxes Above

**WMAS Closed Championships : 3 Classes only as follows:
Target Bows N/E 50lb, Cmpd. Tgt. Bows N/E 45lb & Unl. English Longbows**

**GNAS No:BLBS No:..... NFAS No:.....
Name :
Address :
.....
Club : Entry Fee Enclosed :**

Advanced Entries Appreciated to determine the Number of Awards

M.Willrich WMAS Flight Organiser