



CLOUT TIMES



ISSUE 7

NCAS TASSEL SCHEME NEWS

DECEMBER 2018

WEATHER GODS DON'T DO CLOUT

Barbara Williams

“The Beast from The East Joins Storm Emma for UK Ice-blizzard Killer Hell.”

The Media introduced new levels of danger for news bulletins back in March – perhaps as a result of boredom on Brexit negotiations? I didn't want to believe it. For God's sake, I'm British, I shoot Clout which indicates of level of hardiness / stupidity and it's the second week in March. Bung on an extra jumper and a hat if you're a wuss. We don't have extreme weather in England – just heavy or light drizzle.

The weather gods passed a thunder-bolt over our bows as Kettering's Clout disappeared below a blanket of overnight snow. Crazy Clouters stripped down to their vests – it was Kettering so no surprises here – and cleared the white stuff off the important bits of the field. Unfortunately, I didn't get to see Dave and mates semi-naked (?) realising I wouldn't get my short-on-the-tyre-car through the thaw at the entrance to the field. The brave bunch of bonkers bowmen's hard work was rewarded by (allegedly) the best shooting conditions all year. Stability was astounding as boots sank, deep into the mud.



The Ray Defty the following weekend was less fortunate. I didn't make it. Despite the pleas of my husband and my transport just about as sensible as a pair of Theresa May's shoes, I travelled in hope. I soon ground to a halt on what's called a hill in this part of Hertfordshire where off-roading enthusiasts were doing manly things with ropes to a Honda Jazz.

Reminder

The National Clout Championships – 19th October 2019 – Rawdon Meadows, Bradford. Watch out for the entry form.

Did you know?

153 Imperial Tassel badges and 184 Metric Tassel badges were awarded in 2018! Together with 18 Metric 3/6 Clout end badges.

Need a Classification badge?

They can be bought from me for £4.00 each or if ordering 10 or more, £3.00 each.

More Clouts needed

The calendar is still missing Tassel shoots in Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland. Do you attend any? If yes get the organiser to contact me.

Any news or photos?

Send it/them to me for the next edition.

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Crazed Clouters who made it on Saturday halted after the first Single due to a blizzard selfishly obscuring the flags. On Sunday the drifts were initially deep enough to bury Dave (or maybe even H laying down?), but in same spirit which Shackleton displayed in the Antarctic, Crazed Clouters managed to break through and the event ran full distance.

The Weather Gods haven't been kind to Clout this year. Spring was late as Siberia's North-east wind graced many an event – along with hailstones. From being frozen / buried, bruised and dealing with wind which made accurate shooting similar to solving Rubik's Cube while walking barefoot on Lego, Zeus then flipped the switch and we roasted. Wear a hat, sunscreen and keep hydrated said the judges – fine, but where's the nearest ladies? Challenge of The Season become getting arrows to stop on the rock solid, dead grass surface. It was either the puff of dust as arrows (they were always going to hit the gold, weren't they?) spun out, or dig them out of the miniature mole runs created through the dead-grass thatch.

Come September, I drove to NCAS in God's Own County (had my jabs beforehand) searching for English weather. All weekend we had cloudless skies and a tropical headwind - get a grip on things please Andrew!

October taunted us – beautiful sun-kissed, pastel coloured weekdays with temperatures into the high 20s - and downright nasty weekends. Waterside lived up to its name with 100% rain at various angles on Saturday with a biting North wind blasting through the only gap in the New Forest. 24 degrees graced Fakenham the following Saturday - along with a headwind gusting up to 49.1mph. Zeus must have been laughing all the way up Mount Olympus for Sunday; 19 degrees, still and cloudy early morning then came sighters and hell froze over.

Thanks a bunch. Come the Nationals in the darker half of October it's perfect – sun, calm, useless! Practised all this year for a good blast of Bradford wind and the Weather Gods were on their autumn break in the Caribbean.



Clout Rankings 2018

As many of you will be aware these were released on Facebook w/c 17 December only to be withdrawn when I realised 2 shoots were missing! Sorry! They have now been re-released on Facebook and can also be found on the www.ncas.co.uk website.

Did you know?

Since they were introduced in 2010 112 Metric 6 Clout End badges have been awarded and 100, 3 Clout End badges for Longbows.

Archer profile – Chris Baigent

I started archery when I was 12 back in 1996 after trying my hand at it on a school camp. As soon as I came home my mum found a local club for me to join and to carry on my enjoyment of the sport. Since then my archery in general has gone from strength to strength. I have been Master Bowman at target since 2008 and finally managed my Grand Master Bowman this year after many years of being close. I also finished 14th in the UK target rankings this year which is my highest placing so far.

I started clout shooting in 2009 where a fellow club member, Dicky Summers, helped instruct me on clout shooting technique. After a slow start I began to get the hang of things using my knuckle on the horizon as a sight mark, which still serves me well to date. In 2012 a friend suggested I travel up to Bradford to shoot in the National clout championships, which to my surprise I won with a respectable score of 230. I have also managed to win the Nationals in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2018, SCAS regional champion for 5 years running and this year managing to win the English championships for the first time.

I am over the moon with all I have achieved so far at clout. I hold 7 out of the 8 UK records, claimed my purple tassel for both imperial and metric, claimed my Grand Master Bowman classification and ranking number 1 in the country for clout since 2014.

I hope to continue improving my scores and keep promoting clout archery to all archers across the UK.



Clout vandals strike again!

Let me have yours from 2019

DIARY OF SHOOTS – CONFIRMED

Imperial Tassel Award Shoots 2019

Waterside	17/03/2019	Exbury, Hampshire
Southampton	07/04/2019	Southampton
York	14/04/2019	York
Essex	14/04/2019	Woodford
Yorkshire	21/04/2019	Driffield, East Yorkshire
Gordamo Valley	19/05/2019	Wraxall, Bristol
Archers of East Riding	25/05/2019	Driffield, East Yorkshire
SCAS	02/06/2019	Caddington, Beds
Eagle	08/06/2019	Penrith
Eagle	09/06/2019	Penrith
Southampton	04/08/2019	Southampton
St.Georges	04/08/2019	York
Surrey	17/08/2019	Warlingham, Surrey
Neston	24/08/2019	Neston, Wirral
Cheshire	25/08/2019	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	08/09/2019	York
Bowflights	08/09/2019	Tardebigge
D&N	15/09/2019	Ashington
Kendal	28/09/2019	Milnthorpe, Cumbria
Kendal	29/09/2019	Milnthorpe, Cumbria
Hampshire	06/10/2019	Exbury, Hampshire
York	12/10/2019	York
Fakenham	13/10/2019	Fakenham
Nationals	19/10/2019	Bradford
Southampton	01/12/2019	Southampton



Metric Tassel Award Shoots 2019

Waterside	16/03/2019	Exbury, Hampshire
Kettering	07/04/2019	Kettering
Yorkshire	20/04/2019	Driffield
Cheshire	06/05/2019	Neston, Wirral
Archers of East Riding	26/05/2019	Driffield
Eagle	08/06/2019	Penrith
Cumbria	13/07/2019	Penrith
Cumbria	14/07/2019	Penrith
Sussex	11/08/2019	Crawley
Essex	18/08/2019	Woodford
Neston	26/08/2019	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	07/09/2019	York
Hampshire	05/10/2019	Exbury, Hampshire
Fakenham	12/10/2019	Fakenham
Rutland	20/10/2019	Great Casterton
Northamptonshire	03/11/2019	Kettering



A personal thank you!
I really was a little over
whelmed when
receiving Geoff Fisher's
nomination, together
with all the kind
comments made on
Facebook!

Rankings, Records and Relocation

It's been a fantastic year for the ever growing collection of clouters at Burton Bridge Archers; so many that we borrowed a minibus to take us to the Northamptonshire Clout at Kettering Archers, with 20 of us marching across the field to the shooting line under the club flag! We had more than our fair share of trophies and medals, plus as a team effort, we also beat Kettering in raffle prizes... (these things are important).



The recent combined rankings (thanks Andrew!) boasted members Darren Barker (Recurve) in 2nd, Glyn Jones (Barebow) in 5th, and Geoff Fisher (Longbow) in 2nd, as well as setting a new UK Record at the Northamptonshire clout! Eager to encourage greater opportunities for clout archery in harmony alongside target, almost all of our regular clout archers have founded a new club in South Derbyshire, forming the very new, very friendly, and very exciting Mercia Archers!



As well as taking on the clouts from BBA (Imperial in May, DCAA Imperial in August, Metric in October), when properly set up outdoors in February, we are welcoming guests to come and practice, and associate members to make use of our huge new field for clout. We are hoping to encourage more local clubs to start taking up clout with us, put on training and coaching sessions, and perhaps even expand on our clout tournaments. Keep an eye out for more news from Mercia Archers in the New Year...

CLOUT CLASSIFICATIONS – DON'T FORGET TO RE-CLAIM

Well as you know I revised, and dropped, the qualifying scores for both Master Bowmen and Grand Master Bowmen for the year 2018. The table below shows the claims made, together with those of 2017 in brackets. Whilst overall the claims have increased a little, they are not what I was hoping for. Is this because archers once having claimed the badge are not bothered in re-claiming, or is it that the weather was more than a little testing at times throughout the year? I know from feedback that although we basked in glorious sunshine most of the summer that was not always the case when the clout shoots came around. What with gale force winds and rain just to name a couple!

It is also very disappointing that no juniors made claims this year! That said, where are our juniors? Most shoots this year lacked juniors. Why?

Classification Awards 2018

	Ladies	Gents
Master Bowman	Recurve x 3 (2)	Recurve x 5 (0)
	Compound x 0 (2)	Compound x 2 (3)
	Longbow x 1 (3)	Longbow x 3 (4)
	Barebow x 2 (2)	Barebow x 3 (3)
Grand Master Bowman	Recurve x 3 (0)	Recurve x 1 (0)
	Compound 1 (0)	Compound 2 (0)
	Longbow x 1 (2)	Longbow x 1 (1)
	Barebow x 2 (2)	Barebow x 2 (2)
Junior Master Bowman	None submitted in any discipline	

How do we attract more junior archers to Clout?

Some Counties have made the decision not to charge entry fees for juniors. Would this help? For the few juniors we are seeing could this be worth trying across the country? Well in my mind it wouldn't be too much of a loss if we did it, and you never know we might get a few more seniors as well?

For those that have read the introduction to the Clout Rankings will have noticed a drop of 13% in imperial and 7% in metric clout archers in 2018 compared with 2017, reduced numbers of rounds having been completed 2763 in 2018 to 3183 in 2017. Why? Are we all getting too complacent? Are we failing to attract new archers to our exciting discipline? We all know the weather has had an impact this year, but are there other reasons? Is there anything that can be done to attract more archers? Let me know.





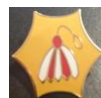
Grand Master Bowman

Alan Holder	Forest of Bere	Barebow
Barbara Williams	Herts	Barebow
Carol Fairbrother	St.Georges	Barebow
Catriona Charters	Hinckley	Longbow
Charlotte Baigent	Waterside	Recurve
Chris Baigent	Waterside	Recurve
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Geoff Ingleby	Ebor	Barebow
Jeanette Holder	Forest of Bere	Compound
Kate Carter	RLSAS	Recurve
Kath Hall	Killingworth	Recurve
Malcolm North	Abbey (Herts)	Compound
Mark Hayes	Savile	Compound



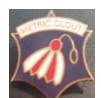
Purple – Imperial

None



Gold – Imperial

Len Rathbone	Killingworth	Compound
Zeyd Ajraou (Jnr)	Nuneaton	Barebow



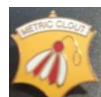
Purple – Metric

Alan Tonge	Archery GB	Compound
Diane Pople	Sevenoaks	Barebow
Maggie Johnston	Abbey (Herts)	Barebow
Malcolm North	Abbey (Herts)	Compound



Master Bowman

Andy Sollars	Waterside	Longbow
Barbara Williams	Herts	Barebow
Christine Heap	Wakefield	Recurve
Darren Barker	Burton Bridge	Recurve
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Recurve
Erin Mayer	Stalybridge	Recurve
Glyn Jones	Kettering	Barebow
Ian Stowell	The Longbow Club	Longbow
Julian McNair	Goldcrest	Barebow
Karen McKay	Wyre Forest	Recurve
Katja Monks	Goldcrest	Barebow
Luke Jones	Coastal	Recurve
Mark Fenwick	Grimsby	Compound
Paul Davis	Whiteleaf	Recurve
Paul Lomas	St.Georges	Compound
Phil Lambert	Long Mynd	Recurve
Roz Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Steve Yates	Guernsey	Longbow
Tony Nordoff	Goldcrest	Barebow



Gold – Metric

Alison Page	Derbyshire	Recurve
Chris Hood	Kirknewton	Barebow
Danny Walsh	Adwalton Moor	Recurve
Ebony Marsh (Jnr)	Bourne 55	Barebow
Hannah Mitchell	AC Delco	Recurve
Joanne Astall	Goldcrest	Barebow
Katja Monks	Goldcrest	Barebow
Kevin Hill	Stortford	Longbow
Martin Sutheran	St.Georges	Barebow
Rachael Sanders	AOER	Barebow
Steve Yates	Guernsey	Longbow
Tony Juncar	Burton Constable	Recurve

Clout Classification scores

These can be found on the Northern Counties Archery Society website, together with GMB/MB/JMB claim forms.

Please re-claim even if you have received your badge in a previous year.



Junior Master Bowman

None

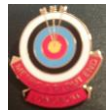


Metric 6 Clout End

Alison Page	Derbyshire	Recurve
Bradley Ridpath (Jnr)	Eagle	Compound
Chris Hood	Kirknewton	Barebow
Christopher Haynes	Southampton	Barebow
Danielle Seery	Goldcrest	Recurve
Glynn Jones	Kettering	Barebow
Greame Gibson	Neston	Compound
Hannah Fox (Jnr)	Burton Constable	Recurve
Hannah Mitchell	AC Delco	Recurve
Steve Kelley	Goldcrest	Recurve
Tony Juncar	Burton Constable	Recurve

Facebook Group

Did you know there is a Facebook Group titled Clout Tournaments? Why not search for it and request to join. It includes details of events, discussion items and general clout information.



Longbow - Metric 3 Clout End

Gavin Long	LNER	Longbow
Ian Marr	St.Georges	Longbow
Michael Wollaston	Noak Hill	Longbow
Roger Spillane	Aquarius	Longbow
Roy Moyden	Bowbrook	Longbow
Tony Davis	Bowflights	Longbow

Discussion item

What do you think about more standardization of clout ropes?

We all know ropes vary across the country with some made of heavy gauge steel rope to others made of nylon rope that does stretch a little with the help of a boot applied when pulling the cord tight!

Is it time for all scoring ropes to be made the same? Let me know what you think?

Editor Plea:

Please let me have some articles to publish, whether these are reports from shoots or general discussion documents. I would like to share more news and not just award achievers. How about a letters page?

Clout Rankings (a different approach)

As we await the current National Ranking scores for the current clout season. It occurs to me that there might be a more favourable way of calculating the outcome. It always troubles me that you may be a very good archer, but on the days that you shoot the weather might not always be the best and you put in your best effort but don't achieve a good score.

Would it not be fairer to award points on the place you achieve on the day, say 10 points for 1st, 9 points for 2nd and so on to 1 point for 10th.

There might be two clouts on the same day in different locations, one with bright sunshine and no wind the other with rain and strong winds. Why should you be penalised for choosing the wrong location? This way both archers who win are awarded the same points for being the best archer on the day in the conditions present.

I would also suggest that you take all your scores for the year not just your best 3 or 4 as at present. This could encourage more people to take part. The more clouts you do the more points you could achieve.

As I said this is only a discussion point and would welcome any comments on the FB Clout page forum.

Glyn Jones
Burton Bridge Archers