



CLOUT TIMES



ISSUE 8

NCAS TASSEL SCHEME NEWS

DECEMBER 2019

National Clout weekend 2020

2020 sees the National Clout Championships move from its home for the last 12 years, Rawdon Meadows, Bradford, to the Hopgrove Sports Fields in York. This gives me the opportunity to expand the shoot to the whole weekend and introduce a new National Championships, "The Tassel Award Championships".

I must however, first of all thank Bronte Archers for hosting the event over the last 12 years that has seen the attendance grow to a dizzy 177 in the year 2016. It was a big decision to move and hopefully it will prove to be the right decision.

I have been advised via email that a contract to host the National Championships will be awarded for the next 3 years which also gives a little certainty together with the chance to add this further shoot and Championships.

The Sunday will see the Tassel Award Championships with a Metric Clout to be shot. Although not formally raised/agreed with Northern Counties Archery Society, who finance the Tassel Scheme, but I am hopeful that this will just be a formality giving me the opportunity to introduce a new design of medal and/or badge. Maybe even some trophies, if anyone fancies donating/sponsoring one get in contact with me!

Andrew Neal (Organiser)

Remember Kendal.....



National Clout weekend

The National Clout Championship Weekend – 17 & 18th October 2020 – New venue, bigger shoot, new Championships – See aside

Did you know?

212 Imperial Tassel badges, 202 Metric Tassel badges, 20 Metric 3/6 Clout end badges were awarded in 2019. More than 2018!

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

Are there any clouts that you shoot at that don't carry Tassel Award Status? If so have a word with the organiser and see what they say. Believe it or not we're now up to 60 Tassel shoots in the year!

Any news or photos?

Send to me for the next edition.

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Archer profile—Peter Gregory (aka Mr Clout) - Never give up!

Being a passionate clout addict I thought I'd share my feelings with the rest of you who may be in the same boat I was. For almost 30 years I have travelled the length and breadth of the country entering clout competitions from as far as Devon and Cornwall all the way up to Bannockburn in Scotland, I have seen many changes over the years (all for the better may I say) I've had a great career as a recurve archer, winning everything there is to be won, also at one time holding all 8 National recurve records, then 6 years ago I notice my scores weren't what I wanted them to be and finding it harder and harder to get good groups, not normally out of the blue and very rarely missing, as a competitive archer this became very frustrating, convincing myself I would work harder over the winter to get back on track.

Another season came and things didn't improve they just got worse, I was punishing myself and getting frustrated with what was happening, the truth being that over the last 45 years of being in the building trade was starting to show, my string fingers were not coming off the string cleanly due to arthritis (too much holding a hammer and saw), it was getting that bad that I was missing the clout more times than hitting it, I was so fed up with myself I said I was packing the sport in, that was 2018, I wasn't doing much archery and was falling out of love with the sport, I told my archery friends that of 2018 National clout champs I will never shoot a recurve again, in the lead up to the Nationals I thought is this it?? Am I really going to pack in?? What were my options??

Longbow?? Barebow?? None of these are any different to recurve as I still need to get the string off my fingers, the thought of compound sent shivers through my body, I swore I would pack in before I shot one of those, being told by my first club "never go to the dark side" it stuck with me over the years.

I love this sport, I've given too much of my life to it to just pack in and walk away from shooting with my friends.

In October last year I bought my first compound, I'd never shot one before so it was all new to me, I absolutely love it, so much so I wish I'd done it years ago.

It has been a learning curve as you can imagine, 29 years as a recurve archer never having shot a compound, the first clout I tried was a York Archers early in 2019, I had no idea what I was doing or how to aim so I just used point of arrow on flag and hey presto, I won my first clout comp, I couldn't believe it, I thought surely it couldn't be this easy. O my lord the next clout put me back in my place. I came last and over the next three comps I still came last but I'm glad about that because it's made me work harder on understanding this magnificent bow and how to get better scores

Throughout the season of 2019 I've gone from white tassel to gold imperial and red tassel for metric.

Shooting compound has put the life back into me as an archer and I can't wait for 2020 season to start, so anyone reading this whether you're a clout, field or target archer and you're on a shooting downer try a different bow style it's certainly kept me in the sport and looking forward to many more years.

Ambitions for 2020, top 5 in the clout rankings, top 3 at the Nationals.



MORE CLOUT FOR JUNIORS?

By Barbara Williams

Recently an 18-year-old moved smoothly from setting girls' Junior National Records to doing rather well at the adults' distance. I was thrilled. Aside from the fact here's someone who can bend down and pick up arrows all day without experiencing back, hips, knees or dropping medication halfway up the field etc., at last here's fresh talent. We yatter on and on about falling junior numbers, how do we get more into the sport and what's been tabled to deflect some of their attention from boys / girls / Gran Turismo / pamper evenings?

I love kids - can't eat a whole one - but mention I have an unfortunate effect on babies; they detect me as some sort of Anti-Christ and my presence will start them howling, often resulting in a severe case of reflux. Moral is, don't hand me one and I don't even know which way up they go. However, my efforts of encouragement with older children of more robust digestive systems has retained a couple of promising juniors, but it's just a sticking plaster on the wound. Then I saw the light - which at the time seemed like the oncoming locomotive in a tunnel.

I was "requested" by my Club's answer to Maggie Smith's character in Downton Abbey if I'd mind



taking over the running of her Junior Fun shoot? Didn't fill me with deepest joy, but nobody refuses this lady unless they have access to a nuclear shelter - and she scares the **** out of me.

I'd inherited the most complex tournament I'd ever seen – two stages, 9 age groups / awards, more trophies than a field shoot and all previous forms on a DTP that I didn't have. Just about to plunge off a cliff I reached the bit in her notes saying "Judges will conduct Clout training just after lunch." Eureka!

I've never come across a Clout – granted one with more fun things at which to aim – exclusively for juniors. For sure the ones I've seen at "serious" Clouts enjoy themselves, but my bunch of 28 juniors had such a ball mulling the hell out of the knights and shields behind the castle walls that the judges had difficulty calling time.

The Agincourt volley at the specially-hatched-for-the-occasion dragon was the high spot. Luckily Lord He Who Should Not Be Named" was made out of ballistic foam. A young lady hit his heart first – but we had a boy's trophy as well so the guys had to go again. There was nearly a riot in the girls' camp as they insisted they shot on.

This was just one; we need more events introducing Clout *just for kids*. These can be held over shorter distances which standard-sized shooting grounds can easily accommodate. Enable them to have such a hell of a good time that Clout – not just archery – becomes embedded. Sure, life and those other interests that teenagers insist they invented (of which we old foggies know nothing) will intrude – but it will take longer for drop outs, and they'll come back as young adults.



DIARY OF SHOOTS – CONFIRMED**Imperial Tassel Award Shoots 2020**

St.Georges	29/03/2020	York
Waterside	29/03/2020	Southampton
Stortford	05/04/2020	Bishops Stortford
Southampton	05/04/2020	Southampton
York	12/04/2020	York
Yorkshire	19/04/2020	Driffield, East Yorkshire
Essex	19/04/2020	Woodford
Archers of East Riding	23/05/2020	Driffield, East Yorkshire
SCAS	07/06/2020	Caddington, Beds
Eagle	13/06/2020	Penrith
Eagle	14/06/2020	Penrith
Coastal	12/07/2020	Burnham-on-Sea
Southampton	02/08/2020	Southampton
Surrey	15/08/2020	Warlingham, Surrey
Neston	29/08/2020	Neston, Wirral
Cheshire	30/08/2020	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	06/09/2020	York
DNAA	13/09/2020	Ashington
Bowflights	13/09/2020	Tardebigge
Thanet/Kent	13/09/2020	Ramsgate
York	10/10/2020	York
Fakenham	11/10/2020	Fakenham
Nationals	17/10/2020	York
Middlesex	24/10/2020	Stanwell
Southampton	06/12/2020	Southampton

**Metric Tassel Award Shoots 2020**

Sherwood	16/02/2020	Kirlington, Notts
Waterside	28/03/2020	Southampton
Stortford	04/04/2020	Bishops Stortford
Yorkshire	18/04/2020	Driffield
Kettering	19/04/2020	Kettering
Cheshire	08/05/2020	Neston, Wirral
Archers of East Riding	24/05/2020	Driffield
Eagle	13/06/2020	Penrith
Cumbria	11/07/2020	Penrith
Cumbria	12/07/2020	Penrith
Kirknewton	26/07/2020	Wooler
Sussex	09/08/2020	Crawley
Essex	09/08/2020	Woodford
Neston	31/08/2020	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	05/09/2020	York
Fakenham	10/10/2020	Fakenham
Tassel Championships	18/10/2020	York



MY UNEXPECTED JOURNEY INTO CLOUT

By Steve Kelley—Goldcrest Archers

I didn't plan to take up Archery, a family member came to visit one day and announced he had joined an archery club in Hyde.

By way of polite conversation I mentioned that I had never done any archery, my shooting being of the rifle & pistol sort many years ago.

Thought nothing more of it until a few weeks later I was presented with a Fathers day card with an enclosure for a beginners course starting in a couple of weeks.

As this was a present I had little choice but to attend said lessons.

Week one, yea - yea bows and arrows no accuracy, random hits on a target.

Week two, ah that's more like it – sights on a real take down bow, much better.

Week three, making things difficult now, not got to hold the bow and they made it even heavier to lift with this long rod thing.

Week four, at last its coming together and the arrows are finally in the gold, I now like this very much and agree to join the club there and then, at this point Peter says we have a competition this Saturday, you should come and join in.

I say hold on I'm not that good, he laughs and says "no just come along and see how it all works", I do and I am hooked.

A couple of months in and Peter tells me a group of the guys are going to Kendal to shoot Clout, I ask what that is all about and again I am persuaded to join in just for the one day

I am advised to shoot my recurve bow without sights and long rod in (bare bow) style, which I do and achieve a white tassel award score at my first attempt.

Sadly my application is denied as I incorrectly fill in the form as a recurve bow as that's what I thought it was (just shot bare bow style).

So I am now determined to try again at the earliest opportunity, and I have a new addiction Clout, the next tournament the guys are camping again and are making offers of a loan of a tent, to which I reply "I am not starting sleeping under canvas again at my age (60) "

Six months later I have purchased a trailer tent and all associated camping gear to go with it. I am now mad for Clout archery and go to as many as I can as I am collecting badges quite quickly.

Twelve months on and I not only win the event on Saturday but get a Grand Master Bowman score and the gold badge to go with it, on the Sunday I am still on a high and pop in a six gold end on the metric target.

Clearly you don't have to wait years and years to get wins, just be determined to win and practice as much as you can.

Apart from my successes I have been amazed by the friendliness of the other competitors in this sport, not incurring anything like it in other things I have tried.

For someone who you have just beaten for first place to shake your hand slap you on the back and say well done is overwhelming, and its not been an isolated incident either.

I truly wish I had taken up Archery when I was much younger as I know I have missed out on so much fun.

I feel so strongly about archery that I took the opportunity to go on a coaching course and have now been teaching beginners our beloved sport.

A BIG Thankyou

I'm sure most of you are aware of the sterling work Ian Downham does in producing his website <https://iandownham.wixsite.com/clout-shoots> that enables us mere mortals to find all the entry forms and results for every clout in one handy place.

I would just like to say a big thankyou to Ian on everyone's behalf and to keep up the good work, and a reminder to tournament organisers to forward your dates, entry forms & results to Ian.

Glyn Jones

Mercia Archers

Clout Rankings 2019

With more shoots in 2019 this has taken a little longer than usual together with the annual problem of spelling differences and club changes throughout the year! Apologies for the omission of both Shropshire and Fakenham in the initial release. Full details can be found on the www.ncas.co.uk website.

CLOUT CLASSIFICATIONS – DON'T FORGET TO RE-CLAIM

As you will from the table below there were a few more archers claiming GMB/MB/JMB in 2019 although I am still very much aware there will still be archers not having bothered to make a claim given they have already achieved the standard. What immediately jumps out is that we have 5 junior archers having made claims, albeit one of those has now moved to the senior ranks! Brilliant news but there's still room for more! 2018 Shown in brackets.

2019	Ladies	Gents
Master Bowman	Recurve x 4 (3)	Recurve x 1 (5)
	Compound x 1 (2)	Compound x 7 (3)
	Longbow x 3 (2)	Longbow x 2 (3)
	Barebow x 3 (2)	Barebow x 2 (3)
Grand Master Bowman	Recurve x 2 (3)	Recurve x 1 (1)
	Compound 3 (2)	Compound 3 (2)
	Longbow x 4 (1)	Longbow x 2 (1)
	Barebow x 2 (2)	Barebow x1 (2)
Junior Master Bowman	Recurve x 1 (0)	Nothing awarded in 2018 or 2019
	Compound 1 (0)	
	Barebow 3 (1)	



Roz Summers gets what we think is the first Imperial Longbow 3 clout end

Ideas for discussion – How about?

National Series—Initial thoughts on this are that I would nominate and award status to say 6 or 7 shoots nationwide that would count towards this, with say 3 or 4 shoots to count for the overall placings. One shoot that would have to be completed would be the end of season Tassel Championships. This series would be open to all archers but only 1 bow discipline per archer would be allowed, by either nomination before the first shoot or taken as the bow discipline at the first series shoot attended.

Masters Tournament—To be held at the National Clout/Tassel Championships in 2020 with both rounds counting towards the awards. The awards would only be available to those archers having attained the standard of Grand Master, Master or Junior Master Bowmen in the preceding year or in the current year prior to the Championship weekend, and having made a valid claim.

Both these shoots would have points awarded for placings from 1st down to 10th in each bow discipline. A suggested format being as follows:

1st—20 points, 2nd—15 points, 3rd—11 points, 4th—8 points, 5th—6 points, 6th—5 points, 7th—4 points, 8th—3 points, 9th—2 points & 10th—1 point.

Let me know what you think about these ideas and if enough feedback/support is received I will make the decision whether to run with it/them.

Classification and Tassel Awards



Grand Master Bowman

Alan Holder	Forest of Bere	Bare bow
Andy Sollars	Waterside	Longbow
Barbara Williams	Herts	Bare bow
Carol Fairbrother	St.Georges	Bare bow
Catriona Charters	Hinckley	Longbow
Chris Baigent	Waterside	Recurve
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Compound
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Erin Mayer	Stalybridge	Recurve
Jane Lomas	St.Georges	Compound
Jason Terry	Bourne 55	Compound
Jeanette Holder	Forest of Bere	Compound
Kath Hall	Killingworth	Recurve
Katrina Horton	The Longbow Club	Longbow
Malcolm North	Abbey (Herts)	Compound
Michelle Loxley	Osprey	Compound
Roz Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Tracy Cross	Goldcrest	Longbow



Master Bowman

Alison Williams	The Longbow Club	Longbow
Andy Carr	Eagle	Compound
Christine Heap	Wakefield	Recurve
Diane Pople	Sevenoaks	Barebow
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Compound
Erin Mayer	Stalybridge	Recurve
Geoff Fisher	Mercia	Longbow
Geoff Ingleby	Ebor	Barebow
Glyn Jones	Mercia	Barebow
Helen Horsley	Riverside	Longbow
Jane Lomas	St.Georges	Compound
Jasmine Simpson	Wyre Forest	Barebow
Jason Terry	Bourne 55	Compound
Karen McKay	Wyre Forest	Recurve
Maggie Johnston	Abbey (Herts)	Barebow
Mark Fenwick	Grimsby	Compound
Paul Lomas	St.Georges	Compound
Peter Gregory	Goldcrest	Compound
Rebecca Giddings	Forest of Bere	Recurve
Rob Fayers	Bitton	Compound
Roz Summers	Southampton	Longbow
Steve Mayer	Stalybridge	Recurve

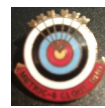


Evie Finnegan	Assheton	Barebow
Hannah Fox	Archery GB	Recurve
Jasmine Simpson	Wyre Forest	Barebow
Jessica Hardesty Dean	St.Georges	Barebow
Jessica Pollitt	Neston	Compound



Longbow - Metric 3 Clout End

Andrew Rowe	Assheton
Angela Loten	Chichester
Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton
John Boddy	AOER
Jonny Mylchreest	Goldcrest
Joseph Burlington	Kettering
Kevin Hill	Stortford
Lee Brackenbury	Kettering
Philip Short	Meriden
Richard Gregory	Mercia
Steve Watts	Stalybridge



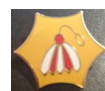
Metric 6 Clout End

Chris Moore	Hingham	Compound
Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton	Barebow
Jason Terry	Bourne 55	Compound
Jessica Pollitt (J)	Neston	Compound
Katja Monks	Goldcrest	Barebow
Kenneth Almond	Pilgrim	Compound
Lottie Pinson (J)	Kettering	Barebow
Patience Wood (J)	Bebington	Compound
Rachel Garratt (J)	Alsager	Recurve
Rob Fayers	Bitton	Compound
Roxanne Prime	Eccles	Recurve
Zara Green	Ditchling	Compound



Purple - Imperial

Andy Sollars	Waterside	Longbow
Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton	Barebow
Joshua Moore	Hingham	Compound
Roz Summers	Southampton	Longbow



Gold – Imperial

Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton	Longbow
Hannah Fox (J)	Archery GB	Recurve
Jessica Hardesty Dean (J)	St.Georges	Barebow
Jessica Pollitt (J)	Neston	Compound
Peter Gregory	Goldcrest	Compound
Rachel Boynton	Stortford	Compound
Richard Allan	York	Barebow
Stuart Barber	Stortford	Compound



Purple – Metric

Dicky Summers	Southampton	Compound
Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton	Barebow
Geoff Ingleby	Ebor	Barebow
Jason Terry	Bourne 55	Compound
Jessica Hardesty Dean (J)	St.Georges	Barebow
Julian McNair	Goldcrest	Barebow
Rachel Garrett (J)	Alsager	Recurve
Sharon Lawrence	Noak Hill	Longbow



Gold – Metric

Elaine Jobson	Morpeth	Longbow
Evie Finnegan (J)	Assheton	Longbow
Gillian Brown	LAOFAC	Barebow
Helen Horsley	Riverside	Longbow
Jasmine Simpson	Wyre Forest	Barebow
Jason Terry	Bourne 55	Compound
Jessica Hardesty Dean (J)	St.Georges	Barebow
Jessica Pollitt (J)	Neston	Compound
Jonny Mylchreest	Goldcrest	Longbow
Julie Taylor	Rutland	Longbow
Karen Blake	Bitton	Barebow
Kenny Almond	Pilgrim	Compound
Lucie Matthews (J)	Corby	Barebow
Mark Allison	Kettering	Barebow
Mark Burton	Sherwood	Barebow
Patience Wood (J)	Bebington	Compound
Rob Fayers	Bitton	Compound
Stuart Burnett	Sellafield	Compound

Clout Classification scores

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



Our Russian friends

