



Club Newsletter March 2025

Welcome to the March Newsletter, after the high winds and wet weather of December, January continued the trend, lots more rain and plenty of mud on the course, one of the wettest winters on record. The cold winds have continued into March although it is much dryer and the new course layout is settling down and drying out. We have lost both of the horses from the fields which has allowed more scope for longer shots though with the cold winds it is a very chilly start to the course.

New Course Layout

To take account of the Ash Dieback and to prepare for the next Open Shoot the course was completely rejigged and now consists of 38 targets, there are 2 more still to be put out so we have a full 40 targets spread over 20 pegs running clockwise around the course which now starts in the top field. There are still minor jobs to deal with such as signage around the course and the water runoff on the top field still leaves a very muddy patch which needs further work to make a dry route.

This is the course we will be using for the Autumn Open Shoot which we are running over a weekend sharing the duties with Brixham.

Car Park

With the increased number of members during the last nine months, we are now approaching a 100 which means there is growing pressure on parking especially at the weekends.

We are working on expanding the car park into a section of the top field and will be improving the surface using material from road renewals for which we now have a licence.

This will allow sufficient parking for the Autumn Open shoot where we are expecting 80 archers to participate together with our own members acting as marshalls, food preparation and admin.



Work Parties

We have had some new members helping out on work parties but need more helpers to reduce the workload on the small number of members who regularly turn up to help with course maintenance. We are appealing for more of our younger members to step up and join the work parties, dates for work parties are given on the WhatsApp group and we try to deal with the work at weekends, to make it easier for members to attend.

To help with the muddy areas we now have a stock of wood chips, if you feel that an area needs some extra there is a wheelbarrow and shovels available on the course.

Beginners Course

The next 'Beginners Course' starts on Saturday 22nd March and runs every Saturday until 19th April. This year we have Sophie Twigg from Exmouth as a second coach so there will be 16 beginners using the practise grounds and on the walk around on the 19th so please be aware and give them space. We welcome any experienced members to assist on the 19th when they will be out in the woods.

New Targets

We need to replace some of the targets that are reaching their 'sell by dates' so any suggestions from members are welcome to make up a 'shopping list'. Suggestions by email to secretary@ashcombevalleyarchers.club or to me on the WhatsApp group.

AVA Monthly Challenge

The monthly AVA challenge will continue during 2025, take up has been improving and my apologies to all for my slow response in producing the results for January/February, I hope to do better during the next few months. It's free, just fill in a score card, which are available in the Visitors enclosure, and leave it in the Visitors Enclosure or the Honesty Box. You can make more than one entry, the best score will be used for the month and there are prizes of engraved wooden coasters for first place in each division. Using archery apps is OK, just send the results by email to secretary@ashcombevalleyarchers.club.



Exmouth Open Shoot

Seventeen of our members attended the first ever NFAS Open Shoot at Exmouth Archery Club where we gathered several prizes. It was a challenging course set in the woods close to the B3179 with thirty six targets spread over a large course.

Results for our archers were:-

Brian Tipping	AFB	Men	372	Bronze
Mark Buckfield	AFB	Men	340	
Dereck Sharland	BB	Men	590	Bronze
Richard Turner	BB	Men	588	
Jamie Tucker	BB	Men	584	
Gary Shaw	BB	Men	352	
Rachel Vowden	BB	Women	512	Gold
Jane Whitford	BB	Women	398	
Tony Vowden	FS	Men	600	Gold
Kevin Brownhill	FS	Men	531	Bronze
Terry MacMillan	HT	Men	326	
Marie Buckfield	HT	Women	324	Silver
Barry Weston	LB	Men	336	
Robin Buckfield	LB	Men	178	
Angela Bolt	LB	Women	342	
Rob Heard	TB	Men	446	
Malcolm Brook	TB	Men	402	

Congratulations to all our prize winners, quite a collection.

As I don't attend many Open shoots myself, I will be pleased to accept items to include in the New Letter from those members who regularly attend these external shoots.



For our newer members the committee members are all listed on the 'contact us' web page of our web site and listed in the current copy of the constitution on display in the club house.

Committee

Chairperson	Stuart Armstrong	chairperson@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Vice Chairman	Barry Weston	vicechair@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Secretary	Malcolm Brook	secretary@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Treasurer	Jamie Tucker	treasurer@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Coach	Kevin Brownhill	coach@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Child Protection	Rob Heard	cpo@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Assistant CPO	Jaine Whitford	cpo@ashcombevalleyarchers.club
Webmaster/DPO	Malcolm Brook	webmaster@ashcombevalleyarchers.club

Malcolm Brook (malbro on Whatsapp)
Club Secretary.