

Write on Target!

Stourbridge Company of Archers Newsletter

May 2013



It's been a while since our last Newsletter and with summer almost here (we hope!), it seems like a good time to have a quick round up of what's been going on around the Club over the last couple of months.

One of the most encouraging signs of late, of course, has been the enthusiasm of some of our newer members and juniors and this is demonstrated by their recent forays into open competition

A promising start!

A number of SCOA's novice archers took part in the West Midlands Archery Society Regional & Open Novices' Tournament which was held at Old Leamingtonians on Sunday 28 April 2013. This tournament which is held annually is open to any archer affiliated to GNAS who has joined for the first time since 1st January of the preceding year and as such, it's an excellent and friendly introduction to competitive shooting.



Above: Zach Jewkes with WMAS Novices' Junior Recurve Trophy

No doubt due to archery's current popularity, this year's entry was the strongest for a number of years with over 50 adult competitors taking part, along with some 25 juniors. Our guys therefore had their work cut out, but all five of them shot really well, either equalling or bettering their handicaps – not easy with the pressure of competition (particularly when it's one of your first!) and bearing in mind that there was a medium to strong wind during the afternoon.

Allen Allsop and Dominic Lester continued their close friendly rivalry to finish 17th and 18th respectively in the Gents Recurve (pretty good out of a field of 35!) and our up and coming juniors also excelled with Zach Jewkes winning the Junior Novice Trophy for overall top recurve junior; Holly Goldman securing second place medal in the Girls Recurve Junior Western and Emma Wakefield also putting in a respectable score.

Well done guys!

“Team Stourbridge Juniors”

A number of our junior archers also took part in Bromyard Bowmen's 10th “D's and Down” indoor tournament on Sunday 17 March 2013 and again, they all did really well, with every one of them securing a medal or trophy.

Zach Jewkes was first in the Junior Boys Recurve; Holly Goldman was first in the Junior Girls Recurve, with Emma Wakefield in second place and Megan Schlanker was awarded a class medal for Junior Girls Recurve.

Our Away Shoots Officer, Colin Dewis, also went along, finishing fourth in the Gents Recurve.



Above from left: Zach Jewkes, Emma Wakefield, Holly Goldman & Megan Schlanker at Bromyard D's & Down

Compound Garrington Cup - It's a hatrick!

The end of the indoor season saw SCOA's Compound team (Tony Carter, Michelle Hall and Steve Lines) win the Compound Garrington Cup for the third year in succession!



From left: Steve Lines, Michelle Hall & Tony Carter

The Garrington Cup is an inter-club competition for Worcestershire Clubs which takes place over the winter indoor season. Over the winter months, there are six nominated open tournaments, the results from which are used to calculate the standings in the Garrington Cup. After each round, the team with the highest number of points is awarded 10 points towards the Garrington Cup; the team with the second highest score 9 points; third highest 8 points and so on. A team can comprise up to three archers in any one discipline, one of which must be a lady or junior.

This year, both the Recurve and Compound Garrington Cup competitions went down to the wire, as a result of which, neither the Recurve nor Compound Cup could be awarded at the final indoor round of the season, the WMAS & CWAA Indoor Championships at Evesham on Sunday 3 March 2013.

The Recurve competition in particular was extremely close - the winners, Redhill, beating second place Redditch by only 1 point - 43 points to 42! In the Compound competition, we finished on 48 points, with second placed Redhill on 41 – although it would have been much closer, had we not secured the maximum 10 points at the final round, with Redhill picking up only 5.

SCOA UK Record Status Annual FITA 25m - Sunday 13 January 2013

We had a really good attendance at our annual FITA 25m at Waseley on Sunday 13 January 2013 with 59 archers from various parts of the Midlands (and further afield) taking part. The afternoon session was fully subscribed almost a week in advance, but there were plenty of spaces available for the morning session until a last minute flurry of entries saw this too being almost full.

This year's competition was UK Record Status, as a result of which, we attracted the winner of the National Compound Indoor Championships, Adam Ravenscroft, together with a number of other GB compound archers, as well as Ladies Olympic archer, Naomi Folkard who shot a new Ladies Recurve UK record.

Six Stourbridge archers took part in the competition (Allen Allsop, Tony Carter, Michelle Hall, Steve Lines, Zach Jewkes and Jeremy Wakefield) and whilst none of them came away with any silverware, a number of them were awarded medals – Tony Carter (Gents Compound B Class medal); Steve Lines (Gents Compound C Class medal) and Jeremy Wakefield (Gents Recurve F Class medal). One of our juniors, Zach Jewkes, also did really well to take second place medal in the Junior Gents Recurve after only a couple of months of shooting and in only his second competition – well done, Zach! As an added bonus, Zach also won one of Margaret's target hats in the raffle (not sure which he was most pleased about – the medal or the hat?!), so it was a good day all round for him!

Thanks to all those who helped out on the day and to Sharon Pennell who was our Lady Paramount.

Preparations are already underway for next year's FITA 25 which will once again be record status and will take place on Sunday 14 January 2014.

Redhill Archers 40th Open American – Monday 6 May 2013

Monday, 6 May 2013 saw the 40th Redhill Open American Tournament and most unusually for a Bank Holiday, the weather was actually glorious! It was a day of mixed fortunes for the seven SCOA archers taking part (Tony Carter, Paul Clay, Michelle Hall, Dominic Lester, Conrad Lowe, Peter Langmaid and Keith Raybould).

Tony was disappointed not to retain the Gents Compound Trophy and repeat his perfect score from the previous year – having to settle for joint third place and a mere 804 out of 810 points – us mere mortals can only dream of scores like that! Conrad Lowe did really well to finish second in the Gents Longbow and Paul Clay was awarded a Gents Recurve third class medal in what was his first open competition. The rest of us had to console ourselves with a pleasant afternoon in the sun!

Incidentally, there was a tie for first place in the Gents Compound with two archers on 808 points and the same number of points and golds. However, as one of them had signed for an incomplete score sheet – his hits and golds not having been added up, he was penalised for this and relegated to second place! Just goes to show the importance of fully completing your score sheet and ensuring it's correct – even if someone else has done the scoring for you!

Luke Pennell

Despite concentrating on his A level studies, our GB Junior, Luke Pennell, has also been continuing to do well on the archery front. Luke shot really well at the Dearne Valley Easter Shoot, despite it being -3 degrees at the early morning start and it not getting much above freezing over the two days. (There are some photos of archers shooting in the snow on the Dearne Valley Archery Club website).

However, in spite of the conditions, Luke shot three new British Records - unmarked, marked and combined! He shot well within the % allowance for a junior qualifying score to represent GB (field) in Italy in August and is currently ranked 1st GB under 21 for the trip. Watch this space!

Due to his commitments over the coming weeks and months, Luke decided to withdraw from the target selection shoots for Romania and China due to the timing around his exams and also, the trip to China clashing with his first month at University. Obviously, his education must take priority and he has been assured that he will not be penalised in future selection shoots for his decision to withdraw.

Hopefully, we will see a little more of Luke once his exams are out of the way, when he will hopefully be able to take a breather before he starts Uni in the Autumn.

Saturday Shooting

Just a reminder that now the football season is officially over, we will have use of the Somers field every Saturday during the football close season. We don't yet have the start date for the new season, but the field should be available on Saturdays throughout June and July. (Keep an eye on your emails and the noticeboard in the Clubhouse for further details of availability).

Beginners Courses

As you may have noticed, this year's beginners courses are under way with two courses currently running – one on Tuesday evenings and one on Friday evenings. We have been inundated with demand for courses this year, as a result of which, a third course has been added which will commence on Friday 21 June 2013. However, despite this, we have still had to turn away numerous enquiries, although hopefully, we may still see some of them at SCOA in the future - if they can get sorted out with courses at other local Clubs.

Archery is certainly on a high at the moment, no doubt due in no small part to the London Olympics and of course, it has also featured in a number of high profile films and television programmes which has also helped to raise its profile. Let's hope it can continue to ride this wave of popularity for the foreseeable future as increased numbers and interest can only be good for us all!

Please be aware that whilst the beginners courses are taking place, the rear seating area should be kept free from bags and equipment on Tuesday and Friday evenings as this area will be needed for instruction. Your co-operation in this respect would be appreciated.

Equipment Officer

Sadly, after a number of years of dedicated and loyal service on SCOA's Committee, Roger Hanson has decided that he no longer wishes to continue in the post of Equipment Officer. I am sure we would all like to extend our thanks to Roger for all of his hard work and efforts on behalf of the Club. As one of our Level 1 Coaches, Roger will continue to help out with beginners courses and coaching and of course, we hope that he will continue to be a regular at the Somers field for many years to come.

Following Roger's decision to step down, Phil Carter has been co-opted onto the Committee as Equipment Officer, so if you notice any problems with Club equipment or think we are running low on any consumables such as faces, pins etc., please let Phil know.



Welcome!

We also have a couple of new faces in the form of Adam & Nicole Shaw who have rejoined the Club following the birth of their beautiful baby daughter, Jasmine and new member, Ben Bevan.

Farewell to Alyson & Steve

Sadly, we will also be losing two of our regular members this month - Steve Lines and Alyson Smith who are upping sticks and moving down to Kent. Alyson and Steve have been active members of the Club for the last four years and we will be sad to see them go, although we wish them well for the future. I am sure we will all miss Alyson's fantastic cakes and Tony and I will certainly miss Steve as the third member of our indoor Compound team! Hopefully, it will be au revoir, but not goodbye and they will still come back to visit from time to time.

My first time!

As you may be aware, SCOA are once again running a Victor Ludorum (complete archer) competition this year which will comprise indoor and outdoor target rounds, a field shoot and a clout.

The field round was held on Sunday 7 April 2013 at March Hare near Throckmorton and I was somewhat apprehensive, as this was to be my first experience of field shooting – the idea of wandering around muddy woods shooting at animal targets never having really appealed to me!

Having checked with SCOA's own Sharon Pennell (an accomplished field archer) that there would be a ladies toilet (I had visions of being marooned in the middle of nowhere with my male counterparts frequently disappearing behind the nearest bush!), I decided to give it a go.

We arrived at March Hare for the 10.00 am start on what was a bright, pleasant morning – the warmest it had been for many weeks! After having had a few sighters on some practice butts – really weird having to shoot at such short distances – we were divided into small groups and given some brief instruction on the round we would be shooting and how to score.

The round, a "Big Game" round, consisted of twice round 14 targets of varying sizes at marked distances, ranging from as little as 8 or 9 yards to 60 yards. I was a little apprehensive to start with as the scoring seemed really complicated. However, we had experienced field archer Keith Raybould in our group and so we soon got the hang of it.

Despite my misgivings, I actually quite enjoyed the day - it was nice to experience a different type of shooting (although I probably wouldn't have enjoyed it had the woods been wet and slippery and the weather not so good!). March Hare's course was fairly flat and as we had had a dry spell, fortunately, the ground wasn't too muddy.

Although field shooting is probably not my thing, I may well give it another go at the County field shoot later in the year which I believe will be run along similar lines to our field shoot. Watch this space for further details.



Luke Cutler taking aim



but careful not to miss the target – there are no metal detectors out here!

Michelle

Hagley National – Sunday 19 May 2013

The first of this year's outdoor Club shoots, the Hagley National, was held on Sunday 19 May 2013 and if you didn't come down to the field and take part, you missed a beautiful sunny afternoon with almost perfect shooting conditions!

We had a good turnout with 19 of our regular archers taking part. Full results of the competition (which is handicap adjusted) below:-

	Name	Bow	Handicap	Allowance	Made Score	Adjusted Score
Gents						
1	Philip Carter	LB	68	1280	232	1512
2	Adam Shaw	Rec	61	1170	309	1479
3	Steve Kelly	Rec	53	1044	423	1467
4	Dave Johnson	Cmp	48	981	472	1453
5=	Paul Clay	Rec	48	981	471	1452
5=	Dominic Lester	Rec	50	1004	448	1452
7	Mick Woodhall	Rec	48	981	467	1448
8	Peter Langmaid	Rec	41	914	530	1444
9	Tony Carter	Cmp	12	795	646	1441
10	Stephen Lines	Cmp	20	808	616	1424
11	Colin Dewis	Rec	41	914	504	1418
12	Bob Hanson	Cmp	28	836	576	1412
13	Clive Freeman	Cmp	35	872	529	1401
14	Allen Allsop	Rec	49	992	405	1397
15	Jeremy Wakefield	Cmp	49	992	365	1357
Ladies						
1	Margaret Hanson	Cmp	37	885	572	1457
3	Michelle Hall	Cmp	23	817	594	1411
4	Alyson Smith	LB	62	1186	132	1318
Juniors (Short National)						
1	Zach Jewkes	Rec	57	1023	381	1404

President's Trophies for best outright scores were awarded to:-

Recurve - **Peter Langmaid**
Compound - **Tony Carter**
Longbow - **Philip Carter**

Tony's score of 646 was only two points off the maximum for the round of 648 – he only shot one arrow out of the gold during the whole of the afternoon! Well done, Tony!

The Hagley National was also the designated outdoor target round for this year's Victor Ludorum competition and the made scores will be used as the basis for calculating scores geared to bow type to count towards this year's Victor Ludorum.

The Victor Ludorum is being organised by Clive Freeman and Dave Johnson and is open to all SCOA members - next round will be Bowflights Clout on Sunday 8 September 2013.

County of Worcester Archery

Tony and I were SCOA's sole representatives at the County Trials which were held at Wyre Forest on Sunday 14 April 2013.

The day got off to a horrendous start with high winds which resulted in a number of bosses actually being blown over, despite them being tethered to the ground! There were constant delays throughout the morning due to additional ropes being required in an attempt to secure bosses and problems with bouncers and at one point, a longbow arrow was turned sideways by the wind and was smashed as it hit the target sideways on! Some of the archers in attendance thought that conditions were actually too dangerous to shoot and that the trials should be abandoned. However, shooting continued at an extremely slow pace and then just for good measure, it began to rain!

There was speculation that rather than shoot the full 12 dozen Gents / Ladies FITA, that we would call it a day at lunchtime and the squad would be selected on the basis of a 6 dozen Gents / Ladies Long Metric, but we continued after lunch and after a long, hard afternoon, eventually finished the full 12 dozen round.

In spite of the appalling weather conditions, Tony did really well to finish top Gents Compound and I managed to finish a pretty close second in the Ladies Compound, both of us securing places in the County squad for the first two matches.

Our first match was the Three Corners match (Staffordshire–v–Cheshire–v–Worcestershire), a York/Hereford which was held at Rodbaston College, Penkridge on Sunday 28 April 2013. I was really pleased to finish second in the Ladies Compound with a score of 1174 (only 10 points behind the overall winner and matching my PB which was shot in near perfect conditions – not bad considering that conditions at Rodbaston were pretty tricky with a fairly strong wind which was regularly changing direction – must have been all that practice at the Somers field in similar conditions!). Tony finished a respectable 5th in the Gents Compound and we both made the Worcestershire team. Worcestershire were convincing winners, with Cheshire second and Staffordshire bringing up the rear.

The match between Worcestershire and Gloucestershire on Sunday 12 May 2013 was a closely fought affair with Worcestershire winning by a narrow margin. Once again, the weather lived up to expectations with fairly strong winds and rain throughout the day. Tony and I shot reasonably well and once again, we both made the Worcestershire team.

Michelle

Calling all Juniors!

The County Coaching Organiser is running a Junior Day on Saturday 1 June 2013 at Droitwich Rugby Club. The purpose of the day is to give juniors a chance to have an enjoyable day of archery, meet other juniors and talk to coaches. It is NOT an elite event, but two of the County's outstanding juniors (Sally Gilder and Jason Relf) will be there to talk to those interested in stepping up to this level.

The event is open to any under 18 archer affiliated to County of Worcester Archery Association and those attending must have their own bow and be accompanied by a parent / appropriate adult.

There is an entry fee of £5.00 which includes a simple lunch for the archer and one accompanying adult.

Full details (including a booking form) can be found under the Coaching section of the County of Worcester Archery Association website www.worcestershirearchery.co.uk.

Archery GB January Challenge

Archery GB once again ran the "January Challenge" postal shoot this year, whereby GNAS archers were invited to submit their best Portsmouth score shot during the month of January. Submitted scores were then compiled into a ranking order based on bow type and experience, i.e. Beginners (started archery in 2012/13), Experienced and Senior (started archery before 1988). There were 1176 entries from 98 Clubs and overall entries were up 9% on 2012.

Unfortunately, SCOA members only got to shoot one Portsmouth round during the whole of January due to the late reopening of the School following the Christmas closure and the subsequent cancellation of one of our indoor sessions due to bad weather conditions. Our Records Officer therefore had to submit the scores from the postal round shot on Friday 25 January 2013.

Some of us didn't fare as well in the standings as last year, but we all did pretty well considering that we only had one shot at it - whereas many Clubs used their best scores from the whole month! See below for SCOA members' standings:-

- **Gents – Beginners – Recurve**
 - Allen Allsop - 77th out of 196 archers
 - Zach Jewkes - 158th out of 196 archers
 - Seth Faulkner - 192nd out of 196 archers
- **Gents – Recurve**
 - Colin Dewis - 184th out of 339 archers
 - Martin Woodhouse - 257th out of 339 archers
 - Jeremy Wakefield - 298th out of 339 archers
- **Gents – Senior – Recurve**
 - Peter Langmaid - 13th out of 22 archers
- **Ladies – Beginners – Recurve**
 - Holly Goldman - 40th out of 72 archers
 - Emma Wakefield - 44th out of 72 archers
- **Gents – Longbow**
 - Philip Carter - 57th out of 67 archers
- **Gents – Compound**
 - Luke Pennell - 24th out of 117 archers
 - Tony Carter - 67th out of 117 archers
 - Clive Freeman - 101st out of 117 archers
- **Gents – Senior - Compound**
 - Bob Hanson - 9th out of 11 archers
- **Ladies – Compound**
 - Michelle Hall - 16th out of 33 archers

Our juniors did particularly well bearing in mind that there were no junior sections as such and so they were ranked in the adult sections!

Well done everyone!

New Classifications

Congratulations to the following archers who have gained new classifications since the last Newsletter:-

- Zach Jewkes Junior Bowman (Boys Recurve Under 14)
- Allen Allsop Second Class (Gents Recurve)
- Paul Clay Second Class (Gents Recurve)
- Dominic Lester Second Class (Gents Recurve)
- Holly Goldman Second Class (Girls Recurve Under 16)
- Emma Wakefield Second Class (Girls Recurve Under 16)
- Jeremy Wakefield Third Class (Gents Compound)

Update on Postal Leagues

Thanks to all those archers who took part in our indoor and outdoor winter postal shoots.

The final results for the BA Postal League have not yet been published. However, in the West Midlands Archery Society Winter "Portsmouth" Postal League, SCOA finished third in Division 2, narrowly missing out on promotion to Division 1 - Redditch beating us to secure the second promotion place by only 66 points!

Our juniors made a valuable contribution throughout the season, their scores earning us valuable points in the handicap adjusted section. Some of them also got special mentions in the results during the latter stages of the season:-

- Emma Wakefield – Highest Handicap Adjusted Junior Ladies score (across all bow types) for December 2012 / January 2013
- Zach Jewkes – Highest Handicap Adjusted Junior Gents score (across all bow types) for December 2012 / January 2013
- Luke Pennell – Highest Made Junior Gents Compound score for February 2013.
- Jake Jancso – Third Highest Made Junior Gents Recurve score for February 2013.
- Seth Faulkner – Second Highest Junior Gents Handicap Adjusted Score (across all bow types) for March 2013.

We are entered in the West Midlands Summer Postal League, so keep an eye out for the dates of further postal rounds throughout the summer. **Round 1 (Short Metrics) is to be shot this Sunday, 26 May 2013, so please try to come along and shoot the appropriate round for your age and gender, if you can.** (We have to put in two teams, one based on highest scores and one based on handicap adjusted scores, so everyone's contribution is important),

New Club Records

Gents Compound

FITA 18	-	Tony Carter	562
Frostbite	-	Tony Carter	352
National	-	Tony Carter	646
Short Metric	-	Tony Carter	672
York	-	Tony Carter	1188

Ladies Compound

Frostbite	-	Michelle Hall	340
Long Metric Gents	-	Michelle Hall	520
Western	-	Michelle Hall	828

Junior Girls Under 18

Portsmouth	-	Megan Schlanker	268
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Junior Girls Under 16

Junior Western	-	Holly Goldman	627
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Gents Recurve

Frostbite	-	Colin Dewis	309
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Gents Longbow

Frostbite	-	Keith Raybould	210
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Boys Recurve Under 16

Portsmouth	-	Seth Faulkner	435
Short National	-	Seth Faulkner	386

Boys Recurve Under 14

Frostbite	-	Zach Jewkes	224
Junior Western	-	Zach Jewkes	697
Short National	-	Zach Jewkes	381

Dates for your Diary

Just a reminder of upcoming SCOA events:-

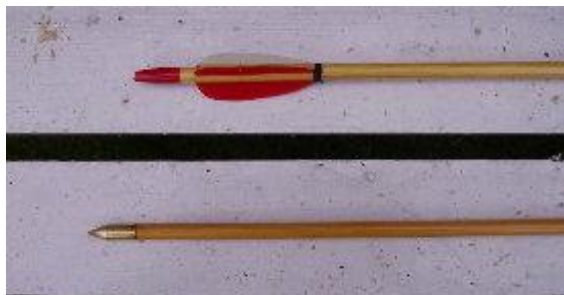
- 26 May 2013 - Short Metric (Postal) (Club Members only)
- 9 June 2013 - Western (Postal) (Club Members only)
- 16 June 2012 - Breakfast Shoot (Club Members only)
- 30 June 2013 - Club Champs (Club Members only)
- 14 July 2013 - Rat's Ashes (American) (Open to all)
- 11 August 2013 - Stourbridge Albion (Open to all)
- 1 Sept 2013 - Sheriff's Western (Open to all)
- 8 Sept 2013 - Clout (Bowflights) (Victor Ludorum round)
- 15 Sept 2013 - All-Comers Warwick / Postal (Club Members only; handicap adjusted)
- 22 Sept 2013 - Derek Peacock Memorial Longbow Shoot (Two Way Western) (Club members only)
- 4 Oct 2013 - Indoor Shooting starts at Waseley
- 14 Oct 2013 - AGM
- 17 Nov 2013 - Annual Worcester (Indoor) (Open to all)
- 12 Jan 2014 - Annual FITA 25m (Indoor) (Open to all)

Don't forget that in addition to the above Club competitions, there are also plenty of tournaments organised by local Clubs that you can enter – see the noticeboard in the Clubhouse for a detailed calendar and further details of Away Shoots or speak to our Away Shoots Officer, Colin Dewis. We usually have a group of people taking part in local tournaments, so you won't be on your own!

Classified Ads

For Sale

One Matched Set of Twelve 5/16" Wooden Arrows for Longbow/Flatbow for 35/40lbs draw weight. Scots Pine, 25 3/8" from nock slot to start of point (26.5" from nock slot to extreme point end). 25/30 spine, suitable for 35/40lbs draw weight bows. Fletched with Red and White feathers with bound front edges, 63 grain brass bullet points, double varnished and transfer numbered (See picture). The shafts are all in good condition, having had little use.



Price: £45.00 (similar new price is £80.00). Please see Roger Hanson.

For Sale

One Wooden Arrow with "Whistling Point", 29.5" nock slot to end of point.

A 5/16" varnished pine shaft, fitted with a grey metal "whistling point" which will give a loud whistle when descending after being shot up into the air!! Fitted with Blue feathers and in good condition. For Longbow/Flatbow clout type shooting (venue permitting!!).

Price: £8.00 the complete arrow. Please see Roger Hanson.

For Sale

Recurve Bow 64", right-hand, 32lbs @ 27" comprising Matrix 25" Riser (Burgundy); Border Limbs (Slate Grey); Bowstand; Stringer; Tab; Quiver; Armguard and lots more. All boxed.

Plus 10 No Easton ACE Arrows (1206/G/Series/670) (Pin Nocks)

8 No Easton ACC Arrows (3-18/560 Superlite)

£400 THE LOT OR MAY SPLIT! Contact Keith Raybould – 07837 542266

For Sale

50lbs Longbow – Good Condition. Contact Keith Raybould – 07837 542266

Thoughts from the shooting line



One of our Longbowers, Conrad Lowe, wants to know if he gets a badge for a longbow arrow in the X!!!

Now who says longbows aren't precision instruments!

Conrad shot this with a bow he made himself – maybe we should get him to make us all one!

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Anyway that's it for now. Thanks to those who have submitted photographs and information for this newsletter. Don't forget if you have anything that you would like to see included in future newsletters, please let me know, either in person at the Club or by emailing me on michelle@eitmail.co.uk.

Good shooting!

Michelle