

The THORESBY Trophy

The Regional InterCounties' Team Championship
2018





This year's THORESBY team badge to stick on kit boxes, etc..
Courtesy; A. Tonge

This year the County hosting the Regional Inter-Counties was Derbyshire. Burton-on-Trent's club, Burton Bridge Archers, hosted the event. BBA have a track record for hosting competitions and their events have always been well organised and very sociable. The club shoots at the Washlands Sports Ground which, granted, isn't the easiest of sports fields to find the first time out but is worth the trip.

Shooting is carried out over the cricket field towards the tree line. With buildings behind the shooter and to the

field's left the shooting line tends to be fairly sheltered.





As can be seen there is some good shelter from the wind down the left side of the field. Behind the shooting line there is a large clubhouse containing a bar and other aspects of a civilised society (toilets and a supply of tea).



The start of the day was cool, bright and calm; ideal for shooting a York/Hereford in which 50% of the scoring arrows are shot at the longest distance of 100yds. Many people had excellent sighters and doubtless thought a good score lay ahead. However, when the shoot started the temperature started to rise and with it the wind.





As the weather became warmer the wind began to pick up and became 'twitchy'. Strange things began to happen at the target end leading to some usually accomplished archers struggling. Some Counties such as Notts and Derbyshire were able to field excellent teams; those Counties being supported by some of their best archers (even though they do shoot lots of FITAs). The only minor hold-up was a dog walker who strolled onto



the field beyond the 100 yard targets. As so often happens the observation that the archers were not actually shooting at the time was used; the other one being that the archers are *only* using bows and arrows, of course.

Derbyshire loaded its team with some excellent shooters, some of whom had foregone the opportunity to shoot other matches in order to support the County. As a result (and the fact that they were the only County to field a complete team) they took first place - a well deserved win because they worked hard. L&R, meanwhile settled for a fairly close second place.

