



## FITA Star

### 'STAR' HAS A WHIRLWIND

#### but Tony carries on!

It was cold and wet on the Saturday of the popular and, arguably, largest shoot in Britain over the weekend of July 26/27. Archers on almost 70 targets were subjected to rain, cold and wind but, even so, there were many personal best scores achieved. Sunday was different again. Sunny, and quite hot, resulted in the same good turnout and, once again, many more personal bests resulted. A feature of the Andover and Old Basing Double FITA Star is the emphasis on enjoyment and, once again this was achieved but, this year there was a little extra. During the afternoon, the archers were doing what they usually do, the Judges were doing their bit, too when, quite without warning, the gazebo, under which Tony Francis, as D.O.S. was sitting, suddenly lifted up some 20ft. into the air; hats, papers and other flotsam also 'flew!' Tony, looked up to see his shelter swirling away from him and then, quite nonchalantly, returned to his clock and switches - as if it was an everyday occurrence. Gary Hardinges was hit by a flying carpet (but, without the Genie!) and Janet Faralewski had the rear light of her Invacar broken. Apart from that, nothing else was touched and no other part of the field was affected!! Tony then suggested, that a short break might be had to collect belongings. Shooting then recommenced, almost as if nothing had occurred and, at the Final whistle the top placings were:

*Ladies (R)*

1	<b>Sue McGrath</b>	1256/1258=2514
2	Jan Eley	1239/1244=2483
3	Sue Wooff	1218/1250=2468

*Gents (R)*

<b>Steve Hallard</b>	1274/1270=2544
Gary Hardinges	1284/1246=2530
Simon Needham	1268/1243=2511

*Ladies (C)*

1	<b>Nic. Simpson</b>	1283/1283=2566
2	Sue Hamilton	1282/1272=2554
3	Kathy Deacon	1273/1265=2538

*Gents (C)*

<b>Bernie Dicks</b>	1297/1278=2575
T. Course	1252/1256=2554
M. Wheeler (J)	1243/1257=2500

The 1997 tournament was, for the host club members and many of the shooters, tinged with a little sadness as this was the last one at which the regular Judge would preside. **Tony Francis**, who has helped make this one of the most popular tournaments in Britain, is retiring from judging and the organising clubs are going to miss him and his help. He was given a good cheer and a fond farewell but, knowing Tony, he will not be far away from where Archery is being performed. - TED BRADFORD