



The 7th Northern Flight and Clout Championships.

August 26th 1962



TOP FLIGHT – From right to left, here are Ray Bamber and Jack Flinton inspecting the American “Perry” flight bow held by American flight champion Davy Davis, of Studio City, California.

Photograph by courtesy of “Lancashire Evening Post”

The 7th meeting was held on Grange Park, Preston, Lancashire, and despite heavy rain, the heaviest for 20 years, archers were determined to complete this year’s championships. Internationally known flight champion Davy Davies, chairman of the American Flight Association flew into Britain to compete in the flight tournament. After the deluge, he declared “I am amazed at the spirit here in England”.

Judge for the day was once again, Jack Flinton. All the advertised events were held, with the exception of the “clout” shoot which had to be abandoned owing to the terrific rainstorm. Several times, all the competitors had to run for cover, and it was during one of these breaks that Davy Davies gave a talk on Flight Archery in the USA., including details of flight bows, weights, sizes, distances and so on.

Many keen competitors had travelled a long way, including Ernie Smith (a wheel chair archer) all the way from Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. All determined to carry on shooting despite the deluge.

A new Northern record was set up after this meeting, by Davy Davies of Studio City, California, in the open class with a distance of 506 yards. He was presented with a Northern Counties Flight badge by Jack Flinton. (Mr Davies cannot take the open trophy with him, not being a resident of the U.K.).

In the crossbow section, a new world record for a 50lb crossbow was set up by Stan Turner with a distance of 552 yards, beating the American held record of 515 yards. The longest distance crossbow of the event was won by Mr. Davis of Bolton with a distance of 576 yards (Mr. Davis’s crossbow was heavier than Mr. Turner’s).

The Northern Flight Committee hope that by this time next year, there will be new amended G.N.A.S. rulings on flight shooting in the different bow classes.

Results (open Flight Bow class)

Gentlemen

1 st Champion – D. Davis (California, U.S.A.)	410yds
2 nd Champion – W. Wilding (Preston) Flight Trophy	340 yds

Ladies

1 st Champion – Mrs Hodkinson (Wendy Miles)	245 yds
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Target Bow up to 45 lbs

Gentlemen

1 st – W. Wilding (Preston)	290 yds
2 nd – A. Kiddy (Dearne Valley)	280 yds

Target Bow up to 35 lbs

Gentlemen

1 st – Mr. Saunderson (Blackpool)	268 yds
2 nd – P. Swift (Preston)	260 yds

Cross-bow Flight

1 st – Mr. E. Davis (Bolton)	576 yds
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