



Allington Castle Archers
Newsletter December 09

The Dates for Your Diary

13th December Xmas party

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Presentation of trophies

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ACA Frostbite

Sighters 11:00

Silly hats & tinsel, with Christmas colours encouraged
Mulled wine and mince pies half way through, then finger
food and the presentation of the trophies



Merry Christmas to all our members



Archery GB

We have to inform you that Archery GB has stated that all clubs have to sign up to the New Child Protection rules adopted by the controlling body of archery in the UK. The stick is that without this agreement the insurance is invalid. Also there will be a list of telephone numbers in the equipment hut giving essential information - Police, Ambulance, Social Services and Childline numbers. These have to be displayed and all members know of the list in the event of an incident relating to a junior/vulnerable adult.

NEW CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Thanks for everyone's support at the AGM. I now find myself the Chairman of, (probably), the best Archery club in Kent. I don't say this lightly, it is born out by the facts.

1. We have an excellent number of members, currently around 80 archers, (the largest membership of all of the four Maidstone based clubs).
2. We host the Premier Record Status Shoot in Kent, namely, the Sir Thomas Wyatt.
3. We run more external competitions than any other club I know of.
4. We have 40 years of experience as a club, with all the benefits that brings.

The list could easily go on, but I am sure you get the picture. My role as Chairman, as I see it, is to build on what is already a very good track record.

Goals For The Coming Years

There are many short term problems that the club faces at the moment, e.g. the current loss of our indoor venue, which we are trying to resolve as quickly as possible, but as for long term goals, that is a bit more difficult. The points below are some that spring to mind.

1. Help!

At present there seems to be a gap in our system for training. We have a very well structured and well run beginner's course to teach the basics, but, after beginners join, unless they are very determined, they seem to struggle. This is not just limited to new archers, more experienced archers who have

reached a plateau might also benefit from some extra help.

The club has invested in the training of an additional 3 coaches who should qualify shortly and I am hoping that their newly gained knowledge will help ease this problem and give our new coaches an opportunity to practice their new skills.

2. Try Something Different

There are five types of bow recognised by GNAS. Each one of these bow types can be used to shoot in a total of four different formats. Most archers have only ever shot one bow type in one class type, this means that they are only experiencing 5% of the sport of Archery open to them.

Now I am not suggesting we all clear off and do Field Shooting, or throw away £1,000.00 + worth of kit in the bin, but trying different elements of the sport is great fun and would help people appreciate the extent of the sport they are involved in.

3. Enjoy!

Now this is a tricky one. I, like many archers, take my sport seriously. I do not appreciate the Robin Hood jokes made by outsiders or see the funny side of throwing away a personal best score in the last six arrows. However, sometimes it is easy to forget that we are here because we are supposed to enjoy what we are doing. We are not under threat of physical injury if we don't shoot well. Events like the Jelly bow Clout and the Pudsey fun shoot are great opportunities to re-introduce the element of fun. In addition they are more sociable events. Longbow archers mixing with Compound and Recurve archers, (no one mixes with Barebow archers but that is a different story!). This is an important element of club shooting that I would like to build on.

If you managed to get through all of that, then congratulations! I am hoping to add a report to the Newsletter each month, which I will try and keep a bit shorter than this one.

Praise Where Praise is Due

The last thing I would like to add is something I forgot to do at the AGM, and that is to thank Geoff Barker for his work on the Committee. 14 years of long evening meetings, and all of the work that they generate, along with the duties that go with the various Committee roles he has taken on over the years, should not be underestimated. Many thanks Geoff, now you can actually do some shooting!
Neil

Secretary's Sidelines

Well, I am back in action folks, after my illness and am able to give advice – free. But I am still a bit weak and have to take things slowly.

Summary of the AGM for those of you who were unable to be present

1. The Committee members each read their report.
A vote was taken to accept the statement of accounts and the President, as spokesman for the Assessors, made his usual witty remarks about the Treasurer's hospitality before approving them.
2. The Chairman stood down as he has completed his three years in office.
3. The President took the chair and we voted in the new Chairman, Neil Richardson, who then took over; and the President relaxed for another year.
4. The new Committee were voted into power for another year.
5. The first proposal was approved unanimously.
This states that the Club has adopted the Archery GB policy for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.
The Committee will appoint a Child Protection Officer.
6. Proposition 4 made Stan Crowther an honorary member of the Club. Stan is the longest serving full member of the Club and has been a very active committee member for much of this time. He has ceased active shooting this year. May I say on behalf of the members 'Thank you Stan'.
The retiring Chairman was thanked for work done during the last three years.

Beginner's Courses

We plan to have three set dates during the summer season. If you have any family or friends

interested, they need to book one of these sessions.

Coaching tips next month so that you can practice next year!!

See you all at the presentation day on the 13th December.

Your Committee for the coming year is:-
Chairman Neil Richardson,
Vice Chairman Sandra Punton,
Secretary Colin Bowen,
Treasurer Ann Medhurst,
Records Officer Warwick Drew,
Captain Charles Van Rensburg,
Vice Captain Clive Jeffery,
Equipment Officer Roger Oehl,
Social Secretary Jean Barker,
Ordinary Members Pam Peake, Chris Punton and James Bishop

I am sure they will serve you well during the coming year.

Colin Bowen

Captains Corner

We shot the first, delayed, Frostbite on Sunday the 15th. Only eight people managed to make it. Thanks to Roger making up the numbers. Partly due, I guess, to the decision to shoot being made at the dinner on the Friday, and partly due to the alarmist weather reports.

Well, the weather turned out to be just about perfect, some small gusts and not too cold. I don't have the scores to hand, but I will include them in future.

Some of you may have noticed there is a new Captain after Geoff decided to pass the baton and concentrate on his archery, that will be me and, as I'm new to the job and this is my first piece in the newsletter, I'll keep it short.

Any comments/suggestions/criticisms etc are welcome

That's it.

See you on the field Charles

Vice Captain end of season

The **Junior Challenge Trophy** was decided over a six month period from April to September, junior archers shot national rounds, medals were distributed for pure and handicap scores.

The overall winner of the Summer Junior Challenge Trophy was Max Peake with an accumulated total score of **2341** for the six rounds.

A closely fought contest was finally decided during the last round which was shot in September; in a worthy second was Eleanor Peake with an accumulated total score of **2308**.

Archery GB Progress award scheme has started, some junior archers have already achieved the necessary scores for the 36 arrow rounds; the badges have now arrived and will be distributed ASAP.

Details of the award scheme will be publish in the club's equipment hut

Recurve Team

2nd Place - Allington Castle Archer 1st team

Charles Van Rensburg	Recurve	3449
Wayne Powell	Recurve	3225
Clive Jeffery	Recurve	2737
	Team Total	9411

10th Place - Allington Castle Archer 2nd team

Warwick Drew	Recurve	2633
Elaine Smith	Recurve	2569
Gareth Williams	Recurve	1848
	Team Total sore =	7050

Archer's name	Bow style	Badge Award Colour
Amber Read	Recurve	Black
Amber Read	Recurve	Red
Eleanor Peake	Recurve	Red
Jade Smith	Recurve	Blue
Jamie Horton	Recurve	White
Max Peake	Recurve	White
Max Peake	Recurve	Black
William Lay	Recurve	White
Liam Richardson	Recurve	Black

Winter Junior Challenge Trophy

The winter season is almost upon us and I would like to continue to challenge the junior archers. My proposal is to invite the juniors to the frostbite competitions already scheduled in the ACA calendar. The juniors will be shooting alongside their parents in some cases and are invited to join in the event by helping to score a target.

The frostbite is a short metric round, shot over three dozen arrows at a distance of thirty metres. The juniors will shoot the same round, and at the same distance. Younger junior members, those who are unable to shoot to thirty metres, will shoot a similar round of three dozen arrows at a distance of twenty metres.

The frostbite round totals will accumulate a running total for the six scheduled dates (listed below). The junior member with the highest running total achieved at the end of the six dates will receive the winter junior challenge trophy.

The Glade 70M Internet league was concluded in October-2009, the final position in the league and awards are listed below:

Recurve Individual

1st Place Elaine Smith (women) - Individual aggregated score **2569**

2nd Place Charles Van Rensburg (men) – Individual aggregated score **3449**

Sunday October-4th

Sunday November-1st - **Abandoned due to inclement weather**

Sunday December-13th ACA club trophy awards session

Sunday January-3rd

Sunday February-7th

Sunday March-7th

Worcester/Portsmouth Tournament
Sunday 22nd November 2009

Another done and dusted, the tournament went well without too many hic-cups. We had to make a slight adjustment to some of the Portsmouth faces as the compound archers were trying to rearrange the boss and each other's arrows. However, everyone seemed to be enjoying the day I believe due to the fact that I have not received any complaints (yet).

The results of the tournament will be published in the next week or so, this is a little later than usual having to complete my portfolio and arrangements for the final assessment on Saturday 28th November 2009 of our Level One Coaching Course.

However, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all who gave their time to help on the day, to the guys who were there in the morning and evening to set up and dismantle the hall and returned the equipment safe and sound to the shed. To the girls (Ann, Shelia and Chris) who once again worked their magic and produced the results with speed and accuracy, sorry Margaret was unable to attend hope you feel better soon. To my catering staff Pam and Roger the food was great especially the lunch and service received most enjoyable. Last but not least to Cecile for agreeing to be my lady paramount (you poor miss guided fool) you do a great job X.

I have also attached a copy of an email I received on Monday 23rd November 2009 which I would like to share with you and hopefully I will see you all again on the field soon.

Many thanks Sandra.

And from an archer at the shoot:-
Sandra,

Just a short note on behalf of the four of us who travelled from Braintree to Maidstone for yesterdays competition - Ian Bugbee, Steve Smith, Pam Hardy and myself. We all felt that this was one of the best competitions we had attended, well organised, really friendly people and great facilities (a 'heated hall!!!). We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and look forward to attending future events.

Our thanks to you and the team for making it a great event.

Best wishes

Nigel

Twig & stick

As I am no longer the Club Captain I have decided to resurrect the longbow section in the newsletter as you can see. Any input from the longbows would be appreciated.

New setup in the club for the 2000 teens, how about a name for the newsletter?

A few suggestions

Anchor Point

The Nock

Nocking Point

MB progress report

Step two - back to the basics checking equipment, arrows, knocking point and mostly technique.

First equipment checks to be made are the nocking point and bracing height. I am going to apply the un-fletched arrow tuning for the knocking point height check. This requires me to shoot at very short distance, say 20yds.

Shooting three fletched arrows and one un-fletched, and see where the un-fletched is in relation with the three arrow group. Un-fletched above the group means my knocking point is low and needs raising. Low and the reverse is true.

Rounds shot, A New National 7th Nov. A very good day, no wind, the sun was out and not cold. Managed to shoot a score of 213. 6-golds, 45-hits, a new club record (sorry Neil) and a 52 handicap. More to the point it's a Kent record too, previously held by Clinton Hill 199. No apologies this time.

A New Western on 15th Nov, another good day. I shot a 290 6-golds, 66-hits, a club record (sorry again Neil) and a 52 handicap

So far so good.

Coaches

The three **coaches** (Sandra, Warwick & Chris) have come to the end of their course. The assessment day was 28th Nov, so we congratulate them on passing. They are now **level 1 Coaches** and I look forward to them taking on many new beginners in the new year.

Tuning Workshop

It is in the planning stage to have a bow tuning workshop for any ACA recurve archer in the near future. It will consist of the basic Un-fletched arrow tuning & Walkback tuning.

If interested please let me know.

Geoff B



One for your photo album. Colin's still got it at the Frostbite on Saturday. 10-10-10

Social Secretary

Just a short report about our annual dinner. 25 of us met up at the Grangemoor Hotel and went to the Moor room for our meal. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and conversation flowed. If anyone has any comment to make please let me know.

13th December – Please bring your offerings of food to the mobile classroom so that I can get it all sorted and arranged for your delectation. I'm hoping that my mulled wine works out as well as it has for the last two years. A minor miracle as I don't actually like it so it's a lot of guesswork!

Jean