

Xmas Spectacular

Over 80 people attended the combined Xmas party and awards dinner held in Normandy village hall on the 4th of December, this must have been the best attended event in the club's history and much credit must go to Jamie and his band of helpers for arranging a very enjoyable evening. Though I'm not sure that Jamie enjoyed it as much as everybody else as he seemed 'slightly' stressed on the night, he needn't have worried as the whole event went off without a hitch (that you could see anyway!).

Music

This year we enjoyed a performance from a live band in the shape of The Coffin Dodgers (pictured right), Nigel Sanctuary is their drummer and has recently joined the club, I hope his rock n' roll commitments will allow him to get some shooting in this year. Music was also provided by a disco ably run by Steve Tully with a light show that included projecting huge pictures of various members of the club onto the ceiling of the hall, the response to which tended to depend on whether it was you pictured or not.

Food

Catering was provided by Jamie's mother Sheila who produced the Indian food and Heather Hampton who produced the English food plus a number of others



who made desserts and generally assisted with the mammoth task of feeding so many people, well done to everyone involved.

Prizes

As well as an opportunity for a party this was also when we as a club awarded trophies and medals to those archers who have done well in the various club competitions held throughout the year. It was also good to see that we managed to achieve some success in external competitions; especially the summer Selby league. Well done to everyone who took part, it is

nice to see that we have enough members turning up for these events to field so many teams and I hope this encourages those new archers to come and take part in the postal competitions as the more scores we have to choose from the better our chances.

This year the Lady Paramount for the prize giving was Mike Ney's wife Alison; those of you who have looked at the photos of the event on the web site may be wondering why she is wearing a sling; well unfortunately she was involved in a serious car accident

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A.G.M.

This year's annual general meeting again took place at Normandy village hall, those of you who attended meetings in the British legion across the road, will know what a vast improvement this is. Once again there was quite a good turn out with about 30 members attending.

Apart from the usual business of approving the minutes of last year's A.G.M. and the election of committee members (Please see the section below for a full listing of the new committee) the most substantive items of discussion were:

- Progress towards the new club building.
- Moving the due date of subscriptions.

- Invitation for members to take on the course coordinator and function coordinator roles.
- Reorganisation of the committee structure.

New Building

The details of how we are progressing towards the new building are contained in the chairman's report so I will not reproduce them here. The major part of the discussion on this subject revolved around how we are going to raise the required funds to build it, so if anybody has any great fundraising ideas please speak to a committee member. A dedicated all-weather shooting facility would clearly be of great benefit to the club, especially those members who struggle to get to the Tuesday evening and Sunday afternoon

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earlier in the year, so it was great that she was well enough to attend and present the prizes. Mike tells me that she continues to improve which I am sure you will be glad to hear.

Santa

As a finale to the event we had a surprise visit from Santa bearing gifts for the junior and not so junior members of the club, it was very good of him to take time out from what must be a very busy run up to Christmas Eve and come to visit us. I'm sure that the whole club would join with me in thanking him for making the effort.

Dancing

After the departure of Santa the disco leaped back into life and those that wanted to and several of those that did not, hit the dance floor until 11 o'clock. Of course some might maintain that it was sometime after that but as we wouldn't dream of overstepping our allowed time they must be imagining it.

Thanks

Thanks must go to all those who stayed behind at the end to help clear up, as the old saying goes 'many hands make



light work', with everybody pitching in the clear up did not drag on too long. In closing I would like to extend a thank you to everybody who played a part in making this event a success and I hope to see you all there at next year's event.

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sessions in the winter.

Subscriptions

A decision was made to move the due date for club subscriptions to the beginning of May, the reason for this is that the club has to pay a significant part of the monies collected to GNAS, SCAS and SCAA in affiliation fees, these are due at the beginning of October and so if the club does not receive all fees promptly it has to pay the affiliation fees before it has received them from the members. This clearly places the club in an awkward position so it was decided to move the due date to a time just after the affiliation fees are set by the above organisations thus allowing the club plenty of time get the money in. As this would result in a shorter subscription year for 2004 it was also decided not to raise the club retained part of the fees this year. *Please note that there is an error in the published minutes of the A.G.M.; a two stage move to February was proposed but not accepted.*

Coordinators

A request was made for people to come forward and take on the course coordinator and function coordinator roles that Mick and Heather have done superbly for many years, with the increased size of the club and Mick's other commitments as Tournament organiser the workload has grown unreasonable. A job description will be circulated soon outlining the duties involved in both posts, so if you think that you can do either job or just help out then please speak to a committee member. By spreading the work load among many more people we hope prevent any job becoming too onerous.

Committee Structure

There was considerable lively debate on how to organise the committee structure in the light of the increased workload due to the enlarged membership. Unfortunately there was some confusion over just what was planned and eventually it was decided to revisit this subject when it was clearer what was intended.

Volunteers

A theme that ran through much of the discussion during the evening was the need to spread the many jobs that are required to be done to make this club successful among more of the membership, please remember that everything in the club is done by volunteers, nobody is paid for the work they do. So to plagiarise John F. Kennedy; "Ask not what your club can do for you, rather ask what you can do for your club", so whether it's the grass cutting rota or simply helping to keep the club hut clean and tidy please get involved.

G.A.C. FITA 25

The honourable Sue Doughty MP (pictured right) opened the 18th Guildford Archery Club FITA 25 tournament held on the 16th January at the Spectrum leisure centre in Guildford.

Awards

As with last year the large number of entries required that we put on three sessions, this may well have been helped by the decision to include awards for archers who chose to shoot a double round for the first time. A further innovation was the use of trophies that the winners could keep rather than return in time (or not) for next year's event.



Those that have helped with these events in the past, will know that they generally consist of periods of intense activity at the beginning and end of sessions combined with long periods of not much going on. Still it does give you a chance to see some really good archers in action.

Record

Speaking of good archers; in the final session a new (as yet un-rated) UK record was set for a junior longbow by Joe Strudwick with a score of 319, well done to him and everybody who achieved a personal goal during the day.

Target

Many club members also shot in this event, four of whom archived scores over 500 points thus qualifying for a FITA Target award. So well done to them and for those that didn't quite make it, well there is always next year.



Helpers

Many club members pitched in to help with the set-up and general running of the event, even if this required a very early (at least by my standards!) start.

New Committee

The committee elections and officer appointments saw a number of changes as several of the posts had become vacant, the incumbents having chosen to step down. Special mention must go to Heather Brown who after nine years as club secretary has decided that it's time for someone else to take over, the club clearly owes her huge debt of gratitude and I am sure that everyone in the club would join with me in thanking her for all her efforts over the years.



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I am sure that the members of the committee and the other club officers would welcome any support or assistance you can give, so if you have any skills which you think could help them in their various areas of responsibility get in touch and see what you can do. ■

Have-a-go Coordinator

The club is still seeking someone to take on the have-a-go coordinator role, a job description was sent out with the email containing the minutes of the A.G.M. but in case you haven't seen this I have reproduced the job description below: ■

Main responsibilities are to organise and administrate archery have-a-go events for birthday, corporate and offsite events on behalf of Guildford Archery Club. The position holder does not necessarily have to do any coaching, it would be advantageous to have an email address so that web

enquires for these events can be directed to the job holder without involving a third party such as the secretary.

Outside events include village and school fetes and the Guildford Lions show held on Easter Monday.

Qualities required:

- Good at organising

Main responsibilities:

- Advertise dates in the club building (beware not to clash with club events).
- Event duration: two hours.
- Day: Saturdays.
- Times 10 am – 12 pm or 2 pm – 4 pm.
- Evenings (only if helpers are available).
- Birthday parties and corporate events are advertised on the club web site.
- Be main contact point (liaise with P.R.O. & secretary; many enquiries come through the web site to the secretary).
- Organise team of tutors and helpers.
- Liaise with beginners course organiser's team who look after beginners equipment (bows, arrows, tabs & bracers) and report any damages or arrange repair work as required.
- Look after the party with refreshments, collect fees and hand to treasurer.
- Arrange certificates and awards ensure party leave the event happy.

There is a well established procedure for running these events further details of which are available to anyone who is interested in taking on the role. Please consider carefully whether this is something you think you can do as these events are a source of income for the club. This income will be most useful if we are to achieve the necessary funding required for the new building and if no one comes forward then these events will not be able to be run. ■

An Appeal from the Editor

As you can see from the committee article I have taken on the task of editing the club newsletter; Gold. Over the last few years it has tended to become a rather sparse document, this has been mainly due to a lack of involvement by the club membership.

Appeal

So I am appealing to you to see what you can do to help me make it a more interesting read. I am looking to include reports from tournaments that club members have attended, reports of the social events held by the club and any articles that may be of interest to club members in this newsletter. So if you attend a tournament and would like to write an article describing the event then please get in touch and I'll coordinate things so we don't get multiple reports for the same event [Like that will happen!].

Articles

Similarly if you have an idea for an article you would like to write then let me know and I'll do everything I can to help. Don't think that just because you may be relatively new to the club or to the sport of archery that your views aren't of interest to others, I personally would like to see an article from a new joiner describing their experiences. So if that sounds like something you would like to do then send me an email or speak to me when you see me. ■

Awards for Achievement

At the recent FITA 25 competition I discovered that there was a FITA Target award for scores shot above certain values in appropriate competitions. This was something I was unaware of at the time and it was only because an archer on my target mentioned it to me that I set about claiming it. It has occurred to me that there may be many archers both new and established that are not aware of the awards they can claim for their achievements in competition. So I hope the following list will be of interest:

GNAS

GNAS Roses are awarded for scores achieved in approved competitions, if an event is Rose status then this is usually indicated on the entry form and in the calendar entry in ArcheryUK. A Rose qualifying round will be a York for gents and a Hereford for ladies, the badge colours and the score required are indicated below:



White for 800 points.
Black for 900 points.
Blue for 1000 points.
Red for 1100 points.
Yellow for 1200 points.

FITA

FITA have a similar system in place for competitions run under FITA rules, in this case the awards are called Stars. Once again the competition will state up front whether it is a Star status event. In this case the round shot will be a Gent's FITA for the gents and a Ladies' FITA for the ladies. Badge colours and the scores required are indicated below:



A plain star for 1000 points.
A star on black for 1100 points.
A star on blue for 1200 points.
A star on red for 1300 points.
A star on yellow for 1350 points.
A star on purple for 1400 points.

In addition to this there is the FITA Target award for the other FITA rounds not covered by the Star scheme. In practice this will generally apply to indoor rounds such as FITA 18 and FITA 25 the badge colours and score required are shown below:



White for 500 points
Black for 525 points.
Blue for 550 points.
Red for 575 points.
Yellow for 585 points.
Purple for 595 points.

Claims

One thing to remember is that you must claim your award at the time you achieve the score, so before leaving the event you need to see the organisers and register your claim. You will need your GNAS number to do this so please remember to take your GNAS card to the shoot. I hope this helps you to be aware of some of the forms of recognition that are available to you and good luck with trying to achieve them. ■

Your County Needs You!



As members of the Surrey County Archery Association we are all eligible to shoot for the county at inter-county matches. Selection for the team is based on the scores submitted to Ruth Hung at ruth@hung-family.co.uk or by post to:

Ruth Hung
County Records Officer
C/o Quicks Archery Centre
Apps Court Farm
Hurst Road
Walton on Thames,
Surrey

The selectors look for archers capable of shooting 12 dozen arrow rounds with consistent 1st Class or above scores. So if you wish to be considered for the county team (either adult and junior) it is your responsibility to submit your scores to Ruth. Recently both Clare Kinsey and Matt Tulley have shot for the county so if you want to know what it is like why not ask them. ■

G.A.C. 50th Anniversary Party

Words and pictures by Paul Hampton

On Saturday 21st August 2004, Guildford Archery Club celebrated its Golden Anniversary, with a fun shoot and family party, held at the shooting field in Normandy. After a week of rain, the skies miraculously cleared and the 70 or so partygoers enjoyed glorious sunshine, with an occasional breeze catching the rainbow of flags and bunting that adorned the hut and the eclectic congregation of gazebos.



Fun Shoot

The day started with a fun shoot, where the archers tried their luck at a variety of challenges, such as avoiding balloons on targets, shooting at playing cards, and forming words by shooting at letters in a grid. The party enjoyed a warm family

picnic atmosphere; kites flew (with target motif, naturally) and young and old alike enjoyed garden games such as Jenga, Connect 4, golf and boules.



Picnic

Everyone then settled down on picnic tables, chairs and country-fair style bails of hay, to enjoy the Anniversary beer and BBQ (many thanks to the servers!) and a vast array of nibbles, and home made salads and desserts, the vast majority prepared and provided by club members themselves (many thanks to you all!). After the awards ceremony, the culinary delights were complemented with an excellent 50th Birthday Cake, baked for the occasion by Mick and Heather; and a memorable speech from our treasurer Colin.

Revelers

As the shadows grew long and the lanterns lit, (and the boules competition finally found a winner under torchlight!), the music started to swing, courtesy of our resident DJ, "Steve T". Spirits were high (and flowing!) and the grassy dance floor was thronged with revelers jumping to the rhythms of 'The Macarena' and other party classics: a fine interactive rendition of 'I am the Music Man' also demands a mention!



Fireworks

The grand finale for the evening was a spectacular fireworks display designed and orchestrated by Jamie, with only the light of his miner's hat betraying his fran-

Winter Indoor House League

Words by Peter Hansen

This year we introduced an Indoor House League, which we managed to squeeze into the already busy indoor shooting diary. The league consisted of a team from each of the GAC House-groups (Agincourt, Crecy and Poitier). It was shot over 5 Sundays during the indoor season and consisted of a FITA 25m, FITA 18m, Vegas, Worcester, and Portsmouth round. The aim of the league was not to win - but to have some fun, a bit of friendly compe-

tion, and introduce the indoor rounds to new members. The league has proven to be quite popular with 15-25 archers shooting each leg. Scores were adjusted based on individual handicaps, so no matter your standard, you had the ability to help your House by turning up and shooting to the best of your ability. I would like to thank everyone joining in for making this a success, and would be happy to do this again next year.

I've attached the results from the House League - if you are interested in the individual scores then all individual results from each leg can be found on the Results page on the GAC web site.

House	FITA 18	Vegas	FITA 25	Worcester	Portsmouth	Total
Poitier	1544	2088	2710	1430	2870	10642
Crecy	2023	2562	1663	1437	2772	10457
Agincourt	2617	1605	1990	764	2191	9167

tic dashes between the rockets! The display was superb and thoroughly enjoyable with unexpected excitement and amusement provided by a wayward rocket!

Celebration

The fading strains of 'New York - New York', marked the end of a wonderful and fitting celebration of the club's 50th anniversary; I'm sure I speak for everyone who was present in saying that we all had a fantastic time. Many thanks to all those who helped make it a resounding success (including the bleary-eyed that helped clear up the following morning!), and special thanks go to Jamie for organising the event.

Many club members (some of which are pictured above) attended the S.C.A.S. 27th indoor championships held at the Spectrum leisure centre on the 13th of February. There was a good turnout for the setup which started at 7am and as with FITA 25 we soon had the field set out to the judges satisfaction.

Results

Josie Chandler of Forest of Bere won the ladies with 577 and Wayne Stoker of Reading won the gents competition with 579, the highest placed Guildford members were Nikki Stolarski for the ladies and Philip Bendall for the gents with 520 and 557 respectively. It was good to see so many new members take part in this competition I hope they enjoyed it and will be encouraged to take part in many more external competitions in the coming year.

Postal

It so happened that this event coincided with a Portsmouth postal league shoot in the afternoon, well done to everybody who managed to get over to Ash Manor in the afternoon and shoot another full Portsmouth round. I know I found it tough going but still it's all useful practice for the summer and those 12 dozen rounds.

S.C.A.S. 27th Indoor Championships

