

Xmas Party

On Saturday the 17th of December the club held it's annual awards dinner and Christmas party. The event held at the Park Barn Centre was attended by a large proportion of the membership who enjoyed a Christmas dinner before the awards presentation compared by our new records officer Peter Hansen with Heather Brown as Lady Paramount for the evening.



Preparation

Once everyone had assembled they had a chance to mingle and reminisce about last season, helped by a slide show of photos from the last year. Due to the extensive preparation of the team by people helping to run this year's event it wasn't long before we were able to sit down to dinner. It was quite funny to see people running around in black tie with



aprons and paper hats but a huge thank you must go to those people who gave up their time to prepare the food and risked their finery to serve it.

Visit

This year we were lucky enough to be visited by King Henry V and one of his chief noblemen (pictured right) who discussed the difficulties of organising an army in the modern world of health and safety regulations, much to the amusement



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51st Acorn Open Tournament



On the 29th August the 51st Acorn tournament was held at the club ground in Normandy. Once again we had a great turnout for this event with 30 targets in

action and the archers were treated to a glorious day's shooting with bright sunshine and a light breeze to take the edge off the heat.



Tradition

In keeping with tradition the shoot was opened by the mayor of Guildford Councillor Tamsy Baker who hit a gold during her three arrows Much to every-

one's delight. Speaking of delight while the mayor was shooting one of our judges for the day; Maggie Wolf had the task of looking after the mayoral chain office, which she did by wearing it!

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of all present. After which the 'serious' business of the evening got into full flow.



Awards

This year saw a different format for the awards ceremony; Peter presented the awards with the aid of a power-point presentation which enabled the participants of each event to see where they placed overall. This was especially useful for the events scored on a handicapped basis as without doing the maths you cannot know how well everyone is doing.

Mention should be made of Nikki Stolarski who was kept busy throughout the evening as she received trophy after trophy, the other ladies will have to make a better effort next year to spread the glory around. It was good to see several new members pick up trophies I hope this will encourage the newer members of the club to enter the competitions after all there is every chance that you may win if you shoot to the best of your ability.



Raffle

After the awards it was on to the raffle and then the dance floor was opened up for the participants to boogie the night away, well until 11 o'clock anyway. While this was happening a dedicated group of helpers attacked the washing-up and after the disco ended made a start on tidying the hall but as it was getting late it was decided to finish the tidying up in the morning.

Congratulations

Thus another year's awards dinner was over; a great time was had by all and a huge thank-you must go to those who put so much time and effort into making it a success.

Speaking of which Jamie has sent me the following note of thanks to acknowledge the help he received from various club members.

This special Christmas Archery evening could not have taken place without the assistance of some very dedicated people.

The following people deserve many thanks for their participation:

Paul and Heather Hampton for designing the menu, and managing the preparation & cooking on the day.

Anthony and Patsy Jempson for organising the venue, their ideas, being responsible for the shopping and much more.

Nikki & Jan Stolarski for all the assistance with the event.

Special thanks must go to Marek Stolarski for managing all the washing up during the event.

Peter Hansen for conducting an enjoyable awards presentation.

Jeff Bayton & Rodney Morrison for being brave and entertaining us all with their very funny sketch.

Steve Tully for playing some great tracks and running an enthusiastic disco.

Val Smith and Clare Kinsey for selling the raffle tickets.

Heather Brown for being a fantastic Lady Paramount.

Finally, much thanks to all of you for attending and making it a lovely evening!!

Jamie Vanga

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Results

At the end of a fine day's shooting the Guildford team consisting of Peter Hansen, Steve Lingwood and Neil Bentley claimed third prize with Peter also getting third in the overall gents recurve and Marek Stolarski collected third place in the Junior Boys Bristol 1.

Well done to them and everybody who took part or were part of making it another very successful tournament.

Petersfield Floodlit Shoot

It was on a starry, moonlit evening in October that we made our way to Petersfield to take part in their annual Floodlit Tournament.

As we set up our equipment under the floodlights, the weather proved perfect for shooting – no wind and not too cold.

Last Minute

Neil Bentley arrived at the eleventh hour having seen the delights of Petersfield's one way system several times, but was worth it in the end as you will see!

Wine

All went swimmingly with no equipment failures to hold up proceedings. We broke for a much needed free mulled wine midway through and a steady stream of beer from the bar, for those who preferred something a bit stronger, was provided by two very able barmaids in the form of Heather Brown and Pat Lingwood! For some the shooting seemed to improve!

Chili

After what was a very pleasant three dozen arrows, we retired to the Clubhouse for homemade chili followed by apple or rhubarb crumble and custard.

Gongs

Guildford was in strong force with around a dozen members taking part; this is a great shoot for beginners to have a go at in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. We started off by sweeping the raffle prizes and then trouncing the other Clubs on the medal front.

Those who won a gong were:-

1st – Gents Recurve Neil Bentley
(well worth the journey in the end)

1st – Ladies Longbow Jane Readings

1st – Gents Compound Colin Ellsley

1st – Ladies Compound Val Smith

1st – Junior Boy Recurve Marek Stolarski

2nd – Ladies Recurve Nikki Stolarski

We shall return no doubt next year, hopefully with some of the new archers.

Nikki Stolarski

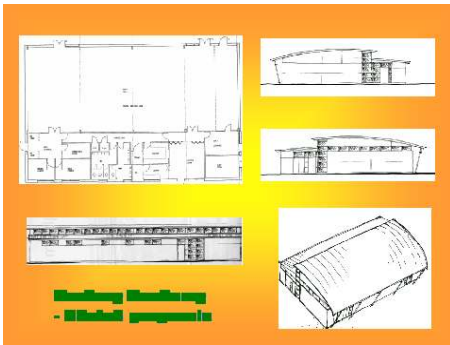
GNAS Support Prompts Archery Academy Funding

By Steve Tully

In the Autumn edition of Gold we reported plans were being made to start our funding applications for the Clubs new indoor shooting range. I am pleased to report that we are making some very positive progress. You will notice from the headline that we have started to refer to the project as an Archery Academy. The committee have realised that in order to raise the funds necessary for our project, we must increase the projects profile and sell our proposals to a much wider audience.

Regeneration

We have capitalised on the fact the



GAC is part of a bigger regeneration project at Manor Fruit Farm - not simply an Archery Club looking for new facilities. The bigger project has already delivered a village hall, infra structure, horticultural therapy unit and 12 affordable houses - obvious really to us but these things need to be pointed out.

Olympics

Our vision for a Centre of Archery Excellence is simply another part of this larger regeneration jigsaw. It has also become apparent that there is a much greater awareness of grass roots sport in the UK - linked to the UK's successful bid for the Olympic Games. We are trying to capitalise on this interest and our strategy is beginning to pay off. Recognising all of these possibilities we have directed our funding campaign into five key areas. These are:

- Government/ Local authority organisations
 - Charitable trusts
 - Corporate sponsorship
 - Wealthy individuals
 - Our own sports governing body
- ### Sport England

During September we visited Sport England and presented our proposals to them. Some of you may have seen part of this on the notice board in the Club hut. We have since heard that they are considering our application and we have been invited to update them on progress in the

New Year. Its early days but the news is encouraging.

GNAS

The GNAS have confirmed they will provide seed corn funding of £1,500 towards the project. This is very significant because it demonstrates the governing body's support for the project backed by financial help for the scheme. In fact we are the first and (as far as I am aware) the only Club to have ever been extended this monetary help!

Guildford

Much time has also been spent courting Guildford Borough Council and a meeting has now been arranged to brief the Leader of the Council on our proposals. We have already gained support at officer level and have high hopes that GBC will fund a large element of the project cost.

Sponsors

Numerous letters have been sent to potential corporate sponsors - many involved with the UK's successful Olympic bid. Progress is slow in this area but the important issue here is to demonstrate to other organisations that efforts are being made.

Planning

On the planning front - even though we are building in the Green Belt - we have received written officer support. This is also a very significant achievement.

Loan

In addition to the above, the Surrey County playing fields association have offered a £25k loan. Together with monies raised by the Bowling Club and our own funding efforts I estimate that we currently have c.£71k available for the scheme with much potential still to explore.

Thanks

Finally, big thanks to Gary Readings and his team who have worked tirelessly throughout the Summer and raised over £3,000 running Archery Parties - fantastic!

Much still needs to be done and if you would like to lend a hand please contact one of the facilities committee or e mail Steve Tully on s.f.t@btinternet.com .

Fancy Shooting for the County?

Any club archers interested in shooting for the Surrey county team can submit their scores to the county records officer via the club records officer Peter Hansen.

So if you have a handicap at the top end of first class or above and would like to be considered for the county team let

Peter know and he will submit any qualifying scores on your behalf.

Simply send him an email at records@guildfordarcheryclub.co.uk or have a chat the next time you see him.

Party

Saturday 25th March has been designated as a working party day at the field in Normandy. The aim is to carry out any repairs or maintenance to the shooting range, clubhouse and club equipment in preparation for a great outdoor season of shooting.

By doing this we will be off to a flying start and so help us all to make the most of the time we can find for shooting.

The work to be done is quite varied but no particular skills are needed, mostly just some graft! If you can spend some of the time on the day, even an hour or two will help greatly so please come and join in.

We would ask that you bring some tools such as spades, rakes, pruning tools and wheelbarrows etc. but they are not compulsory! If you haven't tried it, give it a go. Many hands make light work or so they say! Meet at the clubhouse at 10am.

Spelthorne Indoor

On the 8th January a large contingent of Guildford archers made their way up to Sunbury for the 21st Spelthorne indoor Portsmouth. The journey proved to be well worthwhile as Guildford archers came home with a sizable collection of medals. These included: 4th lady recurve for Nikki Stolarski, 5th gent recurve for Peter Hansen, 3rd Junior boy for Marek Stolarski who also with Christian Drew claimed



the junior pairs trophy. Guildford also won silver in the team competition by one point! Well done to everyone who took part.

Don't forget the AGM 8pm on Friday 27th January at Normandy village hall