

MERDON WHITEBOARD

EDITOR GERRY WILLSMORE

JANUARY 2012



Dates for your diary.

21st January	Burns Night Floodlit Portsmouth 7 p.m.
12th February	Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Frostbite 10:30 a.m. HMS Collingwood Portsmouth
4 th March	DWAA Indoor Championships Salisbury
11th March	Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Winter Championships 10:30 a.m.
18th March	TAM Shoot Western 11 a.m.
6th April	Good Friday Fun Shoot 2 p.m.
8 th April	AC Delco Easter FITA
21st April	St George's Day Fun Shoot 2 p.m.
29 th April	Andover Saxon Shoot York/Hereford
5th May	Set up field for Merdon Arrow a.m. Club Merdon Arrow FITA50 2 p.m.
6th May	Merdon Arrow FITA50 11 a.m.
16 th – 19 th May	Southern Counties Archery Meeting
19 th May	FOBB Longbow Shoot
20 th May	Salisbury FITA
26 th -27 th May	Southampton FITA70 & H2H
27 th May	AC Delco Trinity – Hereford round
3 rd June	Waterside Long Western
5th June	Queen's Diamond Jubilee Shoot Windsor Round 2 p.m.
10 th June	Lytchett Owl Shoot
17 th June	Yateley Windsor
19 th – 24 th June	Dunster Week
1 st July	Wessex Albion, Southampton AC
7th July	Independence Day Shoot American Round 2 p.m.
15 th July	Bournemouth Blue Lion, St George
28 th – 29 th July	Andover FITA Star
4th August	Olympic Shoot FITA70 2 p.m.
5 th August	DWAA Double FITA70
11 th – 12 th August	British Target Championships
12 th August	AC Delco Chris Sherwood Shoot
16 th August	AC Delco Bus Pass Albion
20th August	Abbey Shoot
25 th – 27 th August	Devizes DWAA Championships
27 th August	Guildford Acorn
1 st – 2 nd September	Collingwood York/Hereford
2 nd September	Southampton AC Albion
6th October	Set up field for Agincourt Arrow
7th October	Agincourt Arrow Long Western 11 a.m.
31st October	Halloween Floodlit Portsmouth 7 p.m.
11 th December	AC Delco Indoor
7th December	Christmas Meal 7.30 p.m.
8th December	Christmas Fun Shoot 2 p.m.

Handicap Improvement Medal

The 2011 Handicap Improvement Medal was won by John McCrea who improved his longbow handicap from 56 to 48. Congratulations to John. The medal was presented to him by the President at the January Frostbite. *As detailed in the GNAS Rules of Shooting one of the conditions of the medal is that the "holder of the medal should wear it on all Club Target Days at which he or she is present", so if you see John without the medal then you should grass him up to a committee member as the club can impose any penalty that we deem appropriate!*

The full list of improvements in 2011 was:

Name	Bowtype	Improvement
John McCrea	Longbow	8
Louise Willsmore	Compound	7
Rachel McCrea	Longbow	3
John Martin	Longbow	2
Rachel McCrea	Barebow	2
Bill Tubbs	Longbow	1
Colin Whysall	Recurve	1
Gerry Willsmore	Recurve	1
Ken Bleach	Longbow	0
Mike O'Leary	Longbow	0
Bill Tubbs	Compound	0
Gerry Willsmore	Longbow	0
Louise Willsmore	Longbow	0

As detailed in the December Whiteboard the following are eligible to win the Medal in 2012:

<i>Ken Bleach</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>Margaret Bunyard</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>John Martin</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>John McCrea</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>Rachel McCrea</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>Rob Norris</i>	<i>Recurve</i>
<i>Phil Stringer</i>	<i>Recurve</i>
<i>Bill Tubbs</i>	<i>Compound</i>
<i>Bill Tubbs</i>	<i>Longbow</i>
<i>Colin Whysall</i>	<i>Recurve</i>
<i>Gerry Willsmore</i>	<i>Recurve</i>
<i>Louise Willsmore</i>	<i>Compound</i>

End of Year Handicap Calculations

I have calculated the handicaps and classifications for all club members based upon the scores handed in by 31st December, 2011. The full list has been put up in the club hut.

New Club Records

John McCrea
Gents Longbow Hereford
Louise Willsmore
Ladies Compound Frostbite

Badges Awarded to Merdon Archers

New boy David Holt has achieved the Blue Progress Award shooting barebow. See picture opposite.



*John receiving his medal from the President, whilst Dave Holt gets his progress award.
Photo by Caroline Bolton*

New Target Stands

At the January Committee meeting it was agreed that we would have seven new stands made to a prototype designed and built by John McCrea and Scott Dyer. The stands are designed so that the boss stands away from the uprights, see photo below, in order to minimise arrow damage. The prototype is being finished by John and will be put on the 30 metre target to give archers a chance to try it out and to give any feedback. We will also be trying a new backing pad between the boss and the uprights designed to slow arrows to further reduce the chance of damage to arrows. The Committee would appreciate feedback from archers, particularly on the efficiency of the backing pad.



Photo by Scott Dyer

Burns Night Floodlit Portsmouth

On Saturday 21st January the club is holding a floodlit Portsmouth to celebrate Burns Night starting at 7:00 p.m. (assuming that the electricity is working).

Just why an archery club on the south coast of England, just about as far away from Scotland as you can get, should be celebrating a Scottish holiday is beyond me, but what the hell?

For those of you who haven't shot a Portsmouth round it consists of 5 dozen arrows at 20 yards on a 60 cm target face.

The shoot is **free** to all club members and will include shortbread and tea, coffee or chocolate (I voted for whisky but lost). If you would like to shoot please add your name to the list on the whiteboard in the club hut.



January Frostbite

A lucky 13 archers took part in the January Frostbite on Sunday 8th January, the weather being kind yet again with little or no wind and the shoot finishing in sunshine.

The scores and the current Championship allowances were:

	Hits	Golds	Score	Allowance
Barebow				
David Holt	23	0	105	N/a
Compound				
Louise Willmore	36	18	338	N/a
Bill Tubbs	36	12	331	27
Scott Dyer	35	5	290	N/a
Longbow				
John McCrea	36	2	219	132
Mike O'Leary	29	0	150	243
Margaret Bunyard	25	1	131	231
Ken Bleach	25	0	104	231
Recurve				
Gerry Willmore	36	6	308	48
Ken Hedley	36	10	301	65
Rob Norris	36	3	271	91
Phil Stringer	32	1	204	165
Julie Stringer	30	0	154	203

Note that the allowances are subject to change following the February Frostbite which takes place on Sunday 12th February, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Caption Competition



Can you provide a suitable (clean) caption to accompany the above photograph of John and Ken at the January Frostbite? Let me have your suggestions via email, in person or leave a note in the club hut. I will try to arrange a suitable prize for the best caption.

Photo by Caroline Bolton.

Hoyt Eat Your Heart Out

With the “recovery” beginning to bite and with the man in the street having to tighten his belt to ensure that the bankers continue to receive their 6, 7 or 8 figure bonuses, it is obvious that the average club archer is going to find it harder to justify that new bow etc., especially with a fully equipped Hoyt RX costing in the region of £1,850.

It is, therefore, no wonder that some archers have found other ways to continue with their sport without resorting to spending a small fortune:



Korean Ladies Archery Team Selection Test part 8



Once again my spy has managed to smuggle out a photograph of the Korean Ladies Selection tests in readiness for the 2012 Olympics. Shooting backwards without a mirror - now that takes real skill.

A Different Archery Range

At the 2009 Archery World Cup Finals in Copenhagen the FITA70 was shot along the canal. The location was great for spectators and an unusual setting for the archers. On the other hand it wouldn't do to have a bouncer or miss or there goes your £40 X10. And you have to keep your wits about you and not go wandering off to collect your arrows.

Over the years I have shot in a variety of locations but none as imaginative as this one. My most memorable location was in the courtyard of Kenilworth Castle in 1966 at an event to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the siege of Kenilworth Castle when my then club, Kenilworth Archery Club (just 3 years old at the time), put on a demonstration of archery as part of the celebrations.



The courtyard of Kenilworth Castle where we did our archery display back in 1966. We placed the backstop net and targets in front of the far wall in this picture, reasoning that if Henry III's siege equipment couldn't damage the wall it would certainly stop any stray arrows. We were able to get a range of 40 yards which, given the accuracy of the equipment back then, would be equivalent to 60 yards today.