



On Target

ADELAIDE ARCHERY CLUB NEWSLETTER

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A REPORT ON THE BLUE LAKES ARCHERY TOURNAMENT MOUNT GAMBIER 13-14 JANUARY



For many years now several of our members have travelled to Mt Gambier for the Blue Lake Archers weekend, formerly a program of Indoor, Outdoor and Clout shooting over the Saturday and Sunday.

Held in the middle of January, it is usually a nice getaway in one of the cooler parts of the state although on Saturday, anyway, it needn't have been quite so cool!

The special attraction this year was that the outdoor target event was replaced with a Field shoot.

From my point of view there is nothing better than shooting a field course that I have never seen before.



The prospect was exciting enough for Lorraine to dust off her arrows for the first time in years to have a go.

Last year, Blue Lake stalwart Ian Harris had told me that they had the local council onside (isn't that a nice thing?) and that they had secured an area in the Valley Lake conservation area for the course. The area needed cleaning up and it is a recreation area shared with other activities. We had a couple of trail bike riders flying about!

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Mt Gambier it is at the western end of a volcanic belt that stretches well into western Victoria. The spectacular Blue Lake is in a large crater that overlooks the town and right next to it is the Valley Lake Crater. You can drive down into the recreation park and the field course which is close to Brown Lake.

(continued on Page 3) Article Jeff Nicoll, photos Joe Vardon

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Contact Jeff Nicoll Mobile 0418 806 095



Congratulations!

NOVEMBER HANDICAP AWARDS

KEYRING: Brendan Cummins with adjusted score 927

LONGBOW WOODEN ARROWS: Nigel Steyn with an adjusted score of 844

And the 2023 winner of the Baked Bean Award Is ... a draw between Carol Ashlee (Geelong) and Steve Sykes (Drake) With a score of 11 (this is an award for the longbow with the lowest score achieved with six scoring arrows)

SNIPPETS

FROM THE EQUIPMENT OFFICER, NIGEL STEYN

Two of the timing boxes will get a new battery fitted soon, as they seem to have reached their end-of-life.

(PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU PUT THE TIMING BOXES AWAY, REMEMBER TO PLUG THEM IN TO RECHARGE—EVERY TIME THIS IS FORGOTTEN SHORTENS THE LIFE OF THE BATTERIES—AND THEY COST!)

A new batch of scoresheets has been printed. You will note we have a new sponsor, "Sheridan's Accountants & Financial Planners). They donated the equivalent of \$300 by printing 2500 new scoresheets.



This was a Thursday line-up— economists keep saying that Australia's productivity is falling..... maybe because everyone's at archery!

Photo: Bruce Lang



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And some other congratulations are due

AJAD **Matilda Sims** won the Errol Scott trophy for Excellence

Photo: Andy Stanford



Casey Isles was invited by Archery Australia to attend the Olympic Trials in Canberra last week, after securing several qualification scores above 655 at 70m. Casey performed well and proudly represented SASI, AAC and ArcheryGW

He has been picked as one of eight contenders for a place on the Olympic team

Photo Mariagrazia Panetta

Intercalary Event

Some decisions have been made regarding the running of the **Intercalary Event** on Thursday 29 February

There will be four awards: one for men and one for women in each division of Longbow and wooden Barebow

These awards be for off the bow score (as some people may not have a handicap)

The cost of the event will be \$15.

Wooden barebow will be shot under barebow rules; that is, string walking is permitted, but there may be no additional weights or plunger button

TOURNAMENTS January/February 2024

See Archery SA website for details & to enter these events: <https://archerysa.org.au/events>

Sunday 28 January: Archery SA Australia Day Field Tournament hosted by Great Southern Archers at Strathalbyn, 10.00am-5.00pm

Sunday 4 February: Adelaide Archery Club City of Adelaide Tournament at Adelaide Archery Club, 10.00am-1.30pm, afternoon tea provided

Sunday 25 February: Great Southern Archers Super Field (48 targets) at Strathalbyn, 9.00am-5.00pm

Thursday 29 February: AAC Intercalary Shoot for longbows and barebows

Happy Birthday Barry

A large group of archery friends helped long-time archer, Barry Adams, celebrate his 90th birthday.



Photos Eileen Hullstrung, Annette Humphries



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FROM THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR, CAROL ASHLEE

I would like to thank those who helped with the set-up prior to The End of Year break-up and Awards Presentation in December. About 45 archers and families took part. Congratulations to all the winners – prizes were awarded for:

- Two teams for the best average score;
- The longest arrow throws in 4 categories;
- The best costume.

Over half of the awards for the year's competitions were presented on the day; the rest will be awarded when archers are at club shoots.

A PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION

A motion was put forward at the club's January General Meeting, that AJADs (juniors) should have a distinct shirt and jacket design.

This has been deferred to allow more discussion, but the following points have been made:

If the motion is carried, we will then select a design and obtain a cost. Current feedback from kids and parents on the preferred shirt is: *Pacific* design (right) The club may be interested in proposing a new club jacket for adults as well for use on colder days?

Discussion:

- This could separate the juniors from the seniors rather than bring the club together;
- It may provide the juniors a feeling of belonging to a "group" which is not associated with "older members", which the juniors might be excited about;
- We are one club, so should stay as one;
- If approved, the current club logo should be used.



PLEASE REMEMBER: DECISIONS MADE AT CLUB GENERAL MEETINGS ARE BINDING ON ALL MEMBERS;

ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MEETINGS AND HAVE THEIR SAY;

ALL CLUB MEMBERS ALSO HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE:

SO IF YOU DON'T LIKE SOMETHING BRING YOUR CONCERNS TO A MEETING; IF YOU ARE SUPPORTED THEN SOMETHING WILL BE DONE;

EVEN BETTER, BRING A POSITIVE SUGGESTION THAT WILL BRING ABOUT USEFUL CHANGES

MORE ON THE BLUE LAKES ARCHERY TOURNAMENT

Last year, Blue Lake stalwart Ian Harris had told me that they had the local council onside (isn't that a nice thing?) and that they had secured an area in the Valley Lake conservation area for the course. The area needed cleaning up and it is a recreation area shared with other activities. We had a couple of trail bike riders flying about!

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The briefing before we set off to shoot included a "run for it" advice if we heard any rumbling!

My group of three included Jamie Hyde of Southern Vales Archery Club and Jeremy Koopmans of Blue Lake.

Jeremy told me that he had his first taste of archery as one of our AJADs twenty odd years ago. He remembered me coaching him. I told him that I was glad that I hadn't put him off!

Jeff Nicoll

GAMEDAY WILL SOON BE A THING OF THE PAST

The new national membership database system (Assemble Sports) is being rolled out. Training and further information is still pending. We hope when the new system is up and running, we may be able to eliminate paper membership forms and move completely online – it is noted that new members have to fill in the same data online that they wrote on the paper form.



Bow International - What's in this month? By librarian Steve Sykes

Perhaps you didn't receive that special Yule-tide archery gift you longed for, or you're still searching for that special self-gift to mark the New Year? Head to ***Bow International Edition 173*** for a post-holiday perusal of the 2023 Seasonal Gift Guide feature. Nine pages of gift ideas offer suggestions from a low end of budget £1.70 for a Beiter Push'n'pull nock tool to a high cost Matthews Title compound bow coming in at **£2,099.00!** (yes, that's pounds, not dollars)

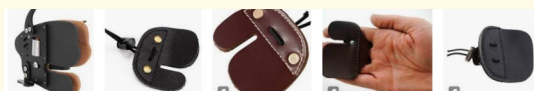
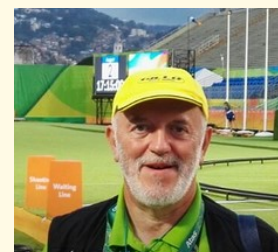
The most recent issue of *Bow International* to arrive will be in the club room for members to read and, as usual, in addition to reports more relevant to archers in the UK, it contains a number of articles that will be of inter-



This edition's gear review looks at "The Steady Aim" a mountable piece of shot analysis equipment. Being no larger than a compound scope, it is attached to your bow or sight bar and when synced to the app, should apparently make shot analysis a seamless and hassle-free process. The device keeps a comprehensive history and detailed record of training sessions for those who wish to micro-analyse their practice progress.

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This issue's interview is with Vittorio Frangelli and Part 1 covers equipment. With a long coaching history, most associate Vittorio with Gillo, the archery brand and its risers, which is also the nickname of his son, Michele. This year marks the 10 year anniversary of the G1 riser and its history amongst other things are covered in the story. At the end of the article, a page is devoted to a new development in riser technology, the GY family with its floating limb pocket system, which offers an unmatched poundage range adjustment with the same pair of limbs and targets the beginners market.



Advice for the beginner recurve archer on hooks and tabs is provided by author Andrew Smith. The article talks about the hook and its function and the effect a tab can have on your shot. In this, Andrew discusses the importance of choosing the right tab for the archer.

members.

Shopping around for tungsten points is covered in a 'what's on the market' article and considers two key factors, viz. point weight and budget in describing five different types.

"How to Pass your Archery Exams" is this edition's history article and is an interesting read covering Chinese archery traditions over a 1000 year period. By the time of the Ming dynasty, archery was added to list of skills that individuals were required to pass by examination in order to become a civil servant at many levels of state bureaucracy and thus a pathway to a 'golden' future. Later, archery was a key part of military exams for appointment to the officer class of the time. Much of the origin of Chinese archery revolves around the founding philosophy of Confucius, who regarded the practice of our sport as integral to human evolution.



Tuning and choosing arrows for indoors is an article aimed mostly at compound shooters. Factors covered in this quest include diameter, length, vanes, nocks, points and their weight, all of which probably seem obvious. The author considers that Indoor archery is the ultimate test of the archer's skill, accuracy and nerve since it has none of the other variables associated with outdoors - it is really just the archer and the target.

AND FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Newly printed Shooting Attendance Registers

As the last register was used in just over 4 months, two new booklets have been printed and bound for when the current one is filled. Because our numbers are increasing, the new registers are 200 pages long as opposed to the previous ones being just half this number. When needed, a new register can be located in the librarian's draw near the club room telephone.

GROUNDS AND EQUIPMENT

The committee plans to hold a meeting to discuss the new butt frame. It is complete and has been galvanised – see photos below (prior to galvanising). Arthur has obtained some conveyer belt rubber to glue onto some of the exposed edges, the intention being to provide (some) protection for wayward arrows. Arthur will bring the new frame into the clubrooms after which a meeting will be held to inspect it and plan its installation.



Archery SA Volunteer Award Nominations

Archery SA has established two new awards for club volunteers who are considered to make outstanding contributions to their club. One award is for a club officer, and the other is for a club member who is not an officer. They invited each club to nominate one person as a contender in each category.

The club received a number of very deserving nominations, and, with some difficulty, chose of two of them.

The club has nominated **James Henriks** for the club officer award, and **Graham Winston** for the member who is not a club officer award. We hope that one of them, or even better, both of them, will achieve the state-wide award.

James Henriks – Coaching

Coordinator James has devoted over 28 years of his life to coordinating beginner courses, and has introduced thousands of new archers to our sport.

His dedication earned him a Life Membership at Adelaide Archery Club in 2011 and he has continued to devote his time to new archers in the 12 years since, coordinating over a dozen courses each year and being the head coach at each of them.



Graham Winston - Coach Graham devotes much time training our club's young archers, spending nearly every day at the club. Several of his students are now competing at the highest level in the country.

He has also organised several 'come and try' days for youths, para-archers and corporate groups, thus introducing more people to archery.

He is currently running a two programs: SASI talent identification program and inclusive Archery Centre of Excellence (iACE).



About thirty archers took part in the special **St Sebastian Day shoot**, in honour of the patron saint of archers, and enjoyed a barbecue tea afterwards, laid on by Social Coordinator, Louis des Landes.



The round was a reverse Robin Hood, starting on a 40cm target from 20m, with the size increasing as the archers moved back to 30, 40 and 50m. Archers who could not attempt 50m shot a short Reverse Robin Hood from 10m, 20m, 30m and 40m.

St. Sebastian was a soldier in the army of the Roman emperor Diocletian, who converted many people to Christianity. He was martyred during Diocletian's persecution of the Christians when 'the archers shot at him till he was as full of arrows as a urchin', leaving him for dead. Miraculously the arrows did not kill him. The emperor was surprised and angry and ordered Sebastian to be beaten to death and his body thrown into a trash pit. Later it was retrieved and buried in the catacombs by a Christian widow. He is also the patron saint of soldiers, plagues and athletes!





Long-time compound shooter, Sue Martin, was persuaded to have a go at longbow. It didn't take her long to get the hang of it, but I don't think we have managed to convert her (yet!)

MORE OF THE OCCASIONAL REPRINTING OF OFFICERS' REPORTS FROM THE LAST AGM

Building officer (Junior Alexander)



There is not much to report this year about the building, other than it still stands proud in the parklands. The year has been a quiet year with COVID keeping members away from shooting which creates an absence of members keeping an eye on our surroundings. Unfortunately, again this year we saw the emergence of our old friends the graffiti artists. Yes, our safety fence is a big billboard but, I wish they would find somewhere else to ply their ugly artist trade. The graffiti was removed fairly quickly which upsets the so-called artists to show their friends of what a good job they did not do. Thanks to Tony Ward for reporting it to the council as soon as he found it while doing his rounds of the grounds.

The building is anticipating a face lift hopefully in coming years. One gripe (only one gripe you say) is that if you use the work room or go to the groundsman's room to get something for goodness' sake clean up after yourself and put things back where you have taken them from. There are quite a lot of lazy archers in this club. Officers are reminded to turn off the urn, lock all doors and set the alarm when leaving the clubroom.

Equipment officer Chris Lech



Target Faces: A big thank you to our Assistant Equipment Officer **Keith Casperson**, who sadly recently passed away, and his reliable sidekick **Paul Bergin** for providing all our target faces used in our regular shoots and high-profile competitions. It is an onerous task and quite a team effort. Jeff Nicoll regularly brings in a trailer full of collected cardboard, which must be cut to size, glued to the target faces, dried and stored. After the centres have been shot through the targets are reworked and so the process continues ad infinitum. In one 90 arrow shoot, three shooters on one target will put over 270 holes (unless of course they are longbowers!). Compounders could well shoot out the centre in one shoot.

Longbows: This year has seen a marked increased usage of our club's longbows and arrows. This may well be due to the number of light poundage longbows now hanging on the rack in the Equipment Room.

Unfortunately, this migration to using longbows has come at a cost, both time wise and expense for the Equipment Room. A great deal more repair is needed to replace the stripped and bent arrows of the feathered arrows used by beginners. I request that club officers and coaches monitor new members and how they handle our longbow equipment to increase the longevity of longbow arrows.

Arrows: There are now a greater number of extra-long shafted arrows available for beginner shooters with an extended reach.

Arrow cutter: Our old arrow cutter was on its last legs for a considerable time and Jeff Nicoll has kindly lent the club his personal one until a shroud and vacuum system to remove carbon fibre dust has been attached to the new one. Carbon fibre dust can be hazardous to health. Thank you to Andy Cooper for his work on it so far.

There are many able people who assist in the Equipment Room; arrow straighteners (**Jeff Nicoll**), string makers (**Andy Cooper**), and volunteers who regularly return repaired arrows to their rightful quivers (**Tony Ward**). But there is one person in particular who has not only donated thousands of fletches and nocks to the club's Equipment Room but has also spent his own time ordering from our suppliers, collecting the items, and even assembling the new arrows ready for beginner shooters.

Adelaide Archery Club Inc.
Bundeyes Road & War Memorial
Drive
North Adelaide 5006
PO Box 133, Walkerville, SA 5081

News, letters, comments
and photographs are all
welcomed by the editor

Email info@adelaidearchery.org.au
Or email editor:
publicity@adelaidearchery.org.au
Web www.adelaidearchery.org.au