



FOXNEWS
FEBRUARY 2011

Hello again everyone and a belated happy New Year. Once again I seem to have waited a long time between newsletters, but this way there is more to write about.

December was a quiet month for archery for us. First the snow led to the cancellation of our first Christmas Dinner. Coupled with the school's Christmas shut down, I think we lost four Sunday shoots. However the Christmas Dinner did go ahead in January, which allowed more people to come along. I think there were over twenty people there at The Chaser in Shipbourne. The food was good and we all had a good time. I hope this becomes a regular event.

Kent Indoor Championships

Fourteen Fox Archers set out to Tenterden on the afternoon of Sunday November 14th. This was an excellent turnout for the club and resulted in quite a haul of trophies and medals. Lynn won her session in the long bow competition and came away with a silver medal. Stevie Kent won the junior compound, Ken Davies came second in the gents compound and I came first in the gents recurve. Our recurve team of Derek, Phil and me came second and the compound team of Stevie, Annette and Ken came fourth. I think that adds up to seven medals, three trophies and two County Champions. Not bad for a small club.

Shrimp Shoot

We did not enter so many archers into this shoot, but we still came away with a few medals. Well done to Lynn, who romped home to win gold in the ladies long bow. I picked up a silver and the recurve team (same as above) came third, missing silver by one point.

Well done Simon. Below is proof that practice, skill and perseverance will pay off in the end.



Fox Website

I hope you have all now seen the new website (apart from Derek – still in the dark ages). Thanks must go to Peter Drewry, who took on the task of getting the website running properly. The most important part of the website is the diary. There are the dates of our shoots, Mid Kent League matches and lots more. Do have a look on a regular basis at foxarchers.co.uk.

Swan Shoot

Well, the first Swan Indoor shoot turned out to be a bit of a medal-fest for Fox. In the longbow competition, John Weatherley won gold with Tim Souch coming in Sixth, and Lynn Archer won gold in the ladies competition. The three of them won Gold medals as a team. Jaimee Mallion came second in the Junior Recurve. In the Gents Recurve I came second, Phil Tester fifth and Derek Hexter twelfth, picking up the team gold this time. Well done all. It would be good to have more team entries this year.

Outdoor Shooting Programme

We start shooting outside on Sunday 27th March. We will be meeting at 10am, with the aim to start shooting at 10.30 sharp. Please try to be as prompt as we have been indoors so that we can all start and shoot together. This year we will be introducing a few rounds that we have not shot before, including FITA rounds. The programme will be published on the website soon. I expect we will start with the usual Windsors, Albions etc for the first couple of weeks. On the first Sunday, some members will be away at a shoot in Surrey. The field will be marked out already. The key to the new container and pavillion are hanging up in the old container.

I went down there a few days ago, and the area below the gate to the field looks to have been seeded with grass. So until we have permission from Jim the groundsman could we leave **ALL CARS IN THE CARPARK**. I will try to find out beforehand about disabled access.

New Members

During the indoor season, Fox Archers has welcomed many new members. We have been joined by many members from Sennocke as they are losing their ground soon. We have also been joined by quite a few other experienced archers this winter. If you see people you don't know, shooting with us this summer, then do go and say hello, I'm sure they won't bite.

Sutton Bowmen Charity Shoot

This was held in March 13th. Well done to John and Lynn, who came first in their long bow competitions. Especially well done to Stevie Kent, who won the Junior Compound. He also beat the winning adult score!

Committee Meeting

I hope you have all seen the minutes of the last committee meeting. A few highlights were as follows:-

We are having new medals made. They will be a little smaller, but they will be enamelled. I think they will look fabulous, and should be cheaper too. We are also having some cloth badges made, to sell this summer.

We have withdrawn from the Darent Valley League.

The club outdoor Championships have been moved from rainy October to (probably rainy) August 21st. It will be followed by a barbecue.

Next winter we will be holding our own indoor open competition, on December 11th. It will be a Portsmouth with three sessions. Fox members will be able to shoot, but we will need lots of help from members. We are also hoping to have an evening session next winter, if enough people want it.

I learned about shooting from that

I went to the Southern Counties Indoor Championships with high hopes on Sunday March 6th. I can shoot in a friend's barn during the week. So in the week before the competition I practised in there in the cold. I did a bit of bow tuning, moving the nocking point down slightly. Bare shafted arrows were in the middle of the fletched group – perfect. My sight pin was near the top of its travel, but there was still a bit of room. Sunday morning in the barn I shot a good practice round and went off to the shoot in good time, all first class preparation as far as I could tell.

The K2 sports hall was lovely and warm when I arrived. My first three sighters were a bit high, so I adjusted the sight up a little. The next three were still high, so another tweak of the sight took it up to the top of its travel. It's not easy trying to aim one inch low on a Portsmouth target. I shot my lowest score of the winter.

So the moral of the story is that bow performance varies with temperature, to a greater degree than I knew. I should have been less lazy and adjusted the sight bar when I was tuning, so that there would have been plenty of adjustment room. Oh well, next year.....

Indoor Championships

The end of the indoor season saw a very well attended Indoor Championships last weekend. I missed it due to work but looking at the results, there were not many people missing. Congratulations to :-

Gents Recurve	Ken Davies	538
	Mike Jackson	523
	Phil Tester	523
Ladies Recurve	Gillian Redfern	500
	Paula Young	470
	Lynn Archer	447
Gents Compound	Johannes Kroonsberg	515
	Stefan Erasmus	492
Ladies Compound	Annette Salmons	512
JuniorCompound	Stevie Kent	563
Junior Recurve	Jaimee Mallion	418
	George Dinnis	357

Well done to everyone, and for all our sakes, let's hope Stevie sticks to compound!

Well that's it. I know this newsletter was titled February and that's when I started it. It seems we need to take more pictures indoors next winter, as there are not many here. I'll see you all outside soon.

Happy shooting, Graham.