

THE JESTER



JANUARY 2022 ISSUE | WRITTEN BY MARK GARDINER, DEREK YOUNG, PAUL COMINA

HARLEQUIN BOWMEN BERKSHIRE CLUB OF THE YEAR 2022

We are extremely proud to report that at this year's Berkshire Archery Association AGM in January Harlequin Bowmen were awarded the Annual BAA Club of the Year award for our work in organising and running the annual County Championships last July. It was a pleasure to host this event last summer and we are looking forward to doing so again this year. Thank you to everyone at Harlequin Bowmen who supported us in running an important competition so smoothly on such a hot day. We had outstanding feedback from everyone who came along, from judges to BAA representatives to competitors and supporting families. This doesn't happen without the continued team spirit and warm and friendly nature of our club and its members. Thank you!



COMMUNITY

ontarget COMMUNITY AWARD ACHIEVED BY HARLEQUIN BOWMEN

Early in January Harlequin Bowmen were awarded the Archery GB ON Target COMMUNITY award recognising the range of different activities our club offers to its members and the opportunities we provide for new archers to try out our amazing sport. With the regular shooting opportunities and fun events, the 4 annual beginners courses and our capacity to offer taster sessions and have-a-go sessions to interested members of the public we have demonstrated a truly inclusive Club in which archery takes place, recognising the important contributions and interests of ALL of our club members regardless of age, gender, bow type, ability, or preferred shooting activity. It is an exciting start to 2022 and our vision for the Club over the next 3 years which (watch this space) will continue to allow our club to grow and support all aspects of archery.

COACHING TIP OF THE MONTH:

"An essential part of any archer's normal routine should be an effective set of warm-up exercises. Go to www.harlequinbowmen.org.uk/coaching to find links to a set of 16 warm-up exercises you should use when you shoot. Try to practice using these exercises every single time before you start shooting."
Paul Comina (Coaching Officer)

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Fri 4th **NO Indoor Shooting (Venue Closed)**
Sat 12th 13:00 Winter Coaching Session 4
Sun 6th 10:00 Monthly Shoot: Frostbite
Fri 11th 18:00 Indoor Shoot: Portsmouth
Fri 18th 18:00 Indoor Shoot: Portsmouth
Sat 19th **HB Indoor Friendly Competition**
Sun 20th **HB Indoor Friendly Competition**
Fri 25th 18:00 Indoor Shoot: Vegas
Sun 27th 12:30 Winter Clout Shoot

MEET THE COMMITTEE



HELLO ALL, I'M MARK!

MY ROLE ON THE COMMITTEE

I am club Secretary, deputy safeguarding officer and one of the new session coaches.

MY ARCHERY EXPERIENCE

Joined the club in 2016 as something to do with Ryan and Wendy with the aim to just shoot and Secretary post soon followed. Watch out for Paul as he can be very persuasive when needed. Shoot recurve and take my sites away and then the metal detector becomes my best friend. What keeps me shooting: got to be all the friends I have made and continue to make.

DID YOU KNOW

A person who is fond of archery is sometimes called a toxophilite. From the Greek, toxikos, meaning "bow;" and philos, meaning "love."

EMAIL:

secretary@harlequinbowmen.org.uk

HARLEQUIN BOWMEN ANNUAL INDOOR FRIENDLY COMPETITION 2022 – OPEN!

Every February, Harlequin Bowmen hosts our annual Indoor Friendly Competition at John Mason School, Abingdon, and we're doing the same again this year! Our indoor friendly shoot is a non-record status event and is suitable for archers of all abilities and ages, particularly those who want to try a competition in a relaxed environment and for those new to archery.

Morning and afternoon sessions are available on both Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th February 2022. More information and entry forms can be found by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.harlequinbowmen.org.uk/event-info/indoor-friendly-shoot-2022>

January Monthly Shoot



"Great to see so many archers at the first Monthly shoot for 2022 where we shot the American round. The weather conditions were not ideal with wind, temperature drops and the sun overhead (when it came out). Ninety-six arrows in total (including sighters) so a good start to the year and we also beat the rain!"

Mark Gardiner



YOU FEATURE: WITH DEREK YOUNG

"Having spoken many times of my past history of shooting I thought I would share this picture of me on 21st May 1989, (sad I know).

This is me on the shooting line competing at Darentford Archers in Dartford Kent, the round was an Albion and I think I won judging from other pictures I found. I do not have a record of the score, but I did have hair and I still shoot the same bow although not as well.

At the time of this shoot I was working towards my coaching badge, something I intend to regain. Until this happens, I will continue shooting indoors until the weather is warmer and by giving something back to Archery I am the Membership Secretary of Harlequin Bowmen. See you on the line sometime."

HARLEQUIN BOWMEN CLOUT TEAM – CLOUT EVENTS 2022

This year, we're looking to go to as many clout events across the country as possible. Clout archery has been and always will be an essential part of Harlequin Bowmen and that's why we want to rekindle some of that team spirit. If you're interested in shooting at clout competitions and events this year, let us know! Check out the following link to see Ian Downham's clout competitions list for the year ahead:

<https://www.clout-shoots.uk>

We're looking to support club members in entering and getting to clout competitions this year, so let us know which events you're interested in going to, and we'll see what we can arrange. If a large enough group goes to one event, we will do group entries, car-pooling, and maybe even arrange to have some clout team tops! Please email Katherine to find out more: juniors@harlequinbowmen.org.uk

AND FINALLY... ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMING UP!

"In February we will be holding our annual general meeting as usual. Due to current covid anxieties we are re-locating to a bigger venue so that, despite recent relaxation of regulations, we can allow space between us to ensure everyone feels comfortable attending. Our venue is hopefully going to be Didcot Girls School Main Hall, but we are finalising dates and times. Hopefully it will take place in the week beginning 14th February but don't panic it won't be the Monday!

We will be looking to update our Constitution which is now over 10 years old. This will be sent out for club members to review at least 2 weeks prior to the AGM. Comments are welcome direct to me (chair@harlequinbowmen.org.uk). We are also hoping to invite a guest from Campus management to share with you some outline ideas for development of the facilities at Harwell which will potentially benefit us quite significantly as a Club. Exciting times! Finally, the AGM will be an opportunity for the Committee and I to share both highlights of our Club from the last decade, and also our vision for the next 3 years at Harlequin Bowmen. We look forward to seeing you there." Paul, Chairman

DON'T FORGET TO SHARE YOUR PHOTOS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES!



Just a couple of photos from this past month at Harlequin Bowmen. Please do share any pictures that you might have with us, and if you'd like to join either our Facebook Members Group or our WhatsApp Group, please go to:

Facebook Harlequin Bowmen Members Group and ask to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1725619717759679>

WhatsApp Group: contact 'membership', 'secretary', or 'chair', all @harlequinbowmen.org.uk to be added to the group chat.