

Thanet Archery Club A.G.M Minutes – 2022/23

Held at:-

Frank Pullen Building, Manston airport,

at 10.00am on Sat 25th November 2023



Agenda Items

Participants - 42

Committee members:- Dick Bailey, Dave Batchelor, David Brown, Chris Bullen, Lewis Bullen-Steed, Lee Burns, Mike Davis, Anne Fretwell, Bob Gawler, Fred Hammond, Roy Holden, James Plummer, Pete Verrall, Jim Whiddett.

Club members:- Phil Banks-Francis, Tom Bowling, Phil Bullen, Corey Davis, Dan Davis, Zak Davis, Barry Finch, John Foster, Sharon Foster, Linda Gawler, David Gisby, George Hirst, John Holton, Sue Holton, Lorraine Kent, John Marshall, Alan May, Barbara May, Stuart McCluskey, Trish McCluskey, Alex Moss, John Ritchie, Paul Rockliffe, Naomi Steed, Lucy Steere, Dan Verrall, Ian Weeden, Ryan Weeden.

1. **Apologies for absence:-** Georgina Brown, Graham Brown, Ashley Greenslade, Louisa Greenslade, Lucy Hubbert, Hari Patel, Sheila Pocock, Justine Verrall.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** - Minutes of previous 2021/22 AGM sent out to members on 26th December 2022, and again with agenda for this meeting.
3. **Matters arising from last years minutes** – None; minutes signed off by Mike Davis.
4. **Secretary's report** **- Peter Verrall**

Well, this year has been quite a learning experience for all of us at the club. When we moved up to Manston in October last year, we knew it was going to keep us busy, with a lot of trial-and-error along the way. As so often happens in voluntary organisations, much of the work falls on those who are retired or otherwise have time to spare during the day, but over the last 12 months so many members have helped in so many ways if I tried to list them all I'd be bound to miss someone out. Doubtless other committee members will be adding their own thanks to those who have helped in significant ways other the last year.

However I would like to mention Ashley Greenslade who within weeks of joining the club was developing a Club Sign-In app for us which has undergone 1 or 2 updates to include reporting incidents and allow more experienced members to apply to lone shoot, and as well as doing some of the electrical repairs in the building.

Lone shooting is itself an innovation at the club, which we have not allowed before. This required us to make some changes to the rule book, and look at the related H&S issues, and I would like to thank Andy Doyle for his additional input on that.

Most members won't know Alex Wellard as he normally shoots at Canterbury, but I would like to mention the work he does maintaining our web site, quickly responding to every request I've sent him.

I would like to thank Helen Fox who took over an expanded Safeguarding role last November and put some flesh on the bare bones of the job sketched out in the role description, taking over the DBS registrations from me for all the committee members, and getting the ball rolling on first aid

training. I will look forward to seeing Helen back shooting regularly again with the club.

I would also like to thank Dick Bailey for his efforts on the coaching front (assisted by Bob Gawler) which this year has not just involved running a Have-A-Go, and the usual beginners' courses. He was also involved in the corporate events that were run last summer. What is perhaps not so well known is the significant follow-up effort with new members that takes place in the ensuing weeks, and the time given up by both Dick and Bob when they might otherwise have had more time to shoot rounds themselves.

I would also like to thank Jim Whiddett who took on the role of club captain 2 years ago. This is a big role which includes preparing the fixture list for the year and ensuring those fixtures take place in an organised and safe manner. But of course, the most important part of this role is to make sure we all get our fish & chips on club champs day, and I think we can all agree he carried that off admirably.

We have learnt a lot from the last year which we can take into 2024 and hopefully apply for grants which will allow us to complete some of the outstanding work on the paths during the coming year. What has been clear is that the responsibility can take its toll on those who have worked so hard, and fatigue affects even the most dedicated individuals. So I would like to pay tribute to those committee and club members who have given so much of their time and effort on this over the last year, particularly Mike Davis, who seems to have been permanently club-occupied 24/7 except for a short period in September.

5. Treasurer's summary and presentation of accounts - James Plummer

The net cash movement for the year was a surplus of £1,058.48, the closing balance being £11,468.87 and the profit for the year was £1,603.97.

We had our first full season at Manston and are still regularly seeing over 30 archers shooting on Saturdays and we have generated £9,953.69 income from membership and target fees. The number of members is currently 149.

We held one successful tournament this year with the Sylvia making £206.74 profit.

We also ran a few Have a Go and Corporate days this year which generated an income of £1,316.51.

We ran a full indoor season, and this also made a profit of £358.00.

We sold some archery equipment with proceeds of £914.00.

We received a donation of £145.00 from Derek Turner 's widow.

We ran three very successful Beginners courses in May, August and October which brought in £1,360 and subsequently 20 of those who attended have become club members.

Our expenditure was as follows:

We spent £2,982.31 for target and field maintenance and insurance.

We spent £3,596.56 on archery equipment, stationery, trophies and engraving and kitchen expenses.

We spent £470.25 on the Folkestone Commemorative shoot.

We spent £5,825.51 on one-off costs for Manston.

Although we ended the year with cash funds of £11,468.87, we have committed to 24 new all-weather bosses to be delivered in two orders over the next 6 months at a total cost of £7,586.40 plus the committee has agreed to hold £2,500.00 in reserve for each year we are at Manston with a target of £10,000 to build a relocation fund should our lease not be renewed when it expires on 31/12/2026.

In addition, we have received an estimate of £9,663.60 to complete the paths and shooting line which would be suitable for wheelchair access and are in the process of applying to Sport England for a grant to cover this expenditure.

James Plummer
Treasurer

6. Matters arising from Statement of Accounts (if any). – None.

7. Membership - James Plummer

Club membership this year has again been very healthy, and I assume this must be at least partly due to the new facilities at Manston.

At the beginning of the year membership stood at 110. Of these 33 have not renewed, however we have welcomed 66 new members plus 6 returning archers during the year making our total year end membership 149.

Within this number Junior members numbered 14 at the beginning of the year of which 6 did not renew but 5 new members joined, and 1 old member rejoined making our total year end membership 14.

We ran three Beginners Courses this year, in May, August and October. 20 attendees from these courses subsequently joined the club. In addition, 46 other new members joined, being a combination of associates from other clubs, existing archers taking up the sport again and new archers having been assessed.

James Plummer
Membership Secretary

8. Records - Anne Fretwell

This year has been an eventful year we have changed venue and implemented new shooting practices. As archers are now able to shoot anytime many are happy to just come and shoot according to the time they have available rather than to shoot a specific round and submit scores. Most scores are, therefore, those submitted on Club Days.

As a consequence, the number of scores submitted this year has fallen by about 40% with a total of **598 scores** being presented during 2023 Summer Season.

The most scores recorded by archers for this Summer Season were:

Joint 3 rd	Lewis Bullen-Steed and Ryan Weeden who both submitted 24 scores
2 nd	Chris Bullen who submitted 26 scores
Joint 1 st	Fred Hammond and Ian Weeden who both submitted 27 scores

Many of the 598 scores submitted were for Mike's ever popular 48 Badge Scheme and as they are Warwick Rounds they also qualify to be recorded towards the Archery classifications badges.

Accordingly, **28** keen archers qualified for **44** Badges for the 48 Scheme this season.

12 of these were new Members.:

Will Crane, Trevor Suffield, Andrew Spain, Alan May and Conor Hope who all achieved **White Badges**

Corey Davies and **Ray Newman** who achieved **Black Badges**

David Gisby and **Lucy Steere** who achieved **Green Badges** and

Tamara Campbell, Melody Penny and Sally Newman who achieved **Blue Badges**,

We must not forget the determined regulars who after many attempts have achieved the much sought after prestigious Gold and Purple Badges:

Paul Rockcliffe, Barry Friend, Lorraine Kent, Ian Weeden and John Holton have all achieved **Gold Badges** this year

Ian Weeden and **Chris Bullen** both achieved the ultimate **Purple Badge**.

Archery Classification Achievements

Now we come to the Archery Classification Badges. Archery GB changed the system for awarding classifications this year and although we are an Independent Club the program we use for recording scores is based on the Archery GB system so we have continued to follow their new system.

This means all classifications achieved are on a par with anyone who is a member of Archery GB so should you wish to attend competitions you would be able to join Archery GB knowing your level of classification and abilities was to their criteria.

Under the old system there were only a limited number of rounds and scores that qualified towards a classification of Third Class, Second Class, First Class and Bowman. Under the new system every round has qualifying scores for the new classifications of Third Class, Second Class, First Class, Bowman Third Class, Bowman Second Class and Bowman First Class.

However, at the beginning of the season all archers had both their Classifications and Handicaps archived and all archers were treated as new to the scheme, initially being Unclassified.

Consequently, there are **36** archers who have over the season achieved a total of **63** Archery Classifications.

14 achieved **Third Class**
11 achieved **Second Class**
19 achieved **First Class**
12 achieved **Bowman Third Class**
5 achieved **Bowman Second Class**
2 achieved **Bowman First Class** those being two juniors **Ryan Weeden** and **Lewis Bullen-Steed**.
3 of these are new archers who have successfully achieved Third Class.

The other **33** are experienced archers many of whom have achieved several classifications during the course of the season.

Handicap Improvement

We also record who has improved their handicap most during the season and this year because everyone had their handicap archived and began as new archers everyone has improved their handicap by at least 1.

There are **5** Archers improved their handicap by **5** or more

11 Archers who have improved their handicap by 10 or more

and **8** archers with an improvement of **20** or more points.

The archers who have improved their handicap most during the Summer Season are:

3rd **Ian Weeden** who went from 77- 55 Improvement of **22**
2nd **Lewis Bullen-Steed (J)** who went from 59 – 34 Improvement of **25**
1st **Oliver Norton (J)** who went from 101 - 68 Improvement of **33**

Club Records

We also had a total of **27** new Club Records achieved this year.

Senior Archers achieved **7** new Club Records.

Including new archer Tamara Campbell who achieved the Club Record for WA50 metric round

The Junior Archers are to be congratulated on achieving **18** new Club Records

Lewis Bullen-Steed achieved **8** club records in **U15 boys compound**,

Alex Moss achieved **7** club records in **U18 boys recurve**,

Ryan Weeden achieved **3** club records in **U12 boys barebow**.

A very respectable accomplishment by all.

Thanks and congratulations are due to all our archers for contributing to such a successful 2023 Season, Hopefully, you will be able to build on what you have achieved this year and look forward to an even more successful and, most importantly, a very enjoyable 2024 Season.

Well done everyone.

We also have a new "252" scheme for everyone to try during the winter if you get bored with shooting at 30m. This involves shooting a frostbite round (3doz arrows), but at any of the imperial distances with imperial scoring. Recurve archers must score 252 (hence the name), compounds start at 300 dropping to 292 for the longer distances, longbows start at 158 dropping to 56 at 100yds, and barebows start at 189 dropping to 139 at 100yds. You can do these in any order, but only one a day, and it must be witnessed. You can use the frostbite score sheets and you get a badge when you achieve the scores.

Anne Fretwell
Records Officer Thanet Archery Club.

9. Captain's report

- Jim Whiddett

The club captain's role is made much easier by other committee members and the groups who help out running the various shoots that happen through the year. Most people seem to enjoy them; the inter-club competition was particularly interesting as I got to be a judge for the first time with a ruler and red pen!

The H&S stuff we're on top of now, with documentation for all the chemicals we use and polices/risk assessments available to read in the kitchen. The H&S stuff was made much easier by the app that Ashley developed, which allows us to log incidents and deal with them. The committee was also very good at dealing with incidents while I was away and putting sensible things in place to keep us safer. The grounds team is doing all they can to ensure that the facilities can be used by everyone safely. Which is brilliant, but I should say that the committee members are all volunteers.

I'm stepping down as club captain because of work commitments, which means I cannot give the club what it needs from a club captain. But while I am stepping down, I am going to try and be available on occasion to help with ground works as needed. Being on the committee means I have seen how much time and effort these people put in so that we can enjoy the sport that we love. So I'd like first to put the invitation out for members to help where they can (many hands make light work), and secondly thank the committee for their support, and also to the members who've mucked in when I've put a shout out for help with shoots, or minor jobs at the start of a shoot. Apologies if I've

ever come across as a bit grumpy, but I'm only human. 😊 Thanks for putting up with me – it's been a pleasure being club captain.

Thank you very much,
Jim.

10. Head coach's report

- Dick Bailey

Firstly, though I am Head coach, it's not just me, - Bob and Mike are always there to help with coaching as well as Dave Batchelor. We're not all trained up to a high level, but we do our best, and if we don't know the answer, we surely can find someone who does.

There's a lot of interest in joining the club; I currently have a waiting list of nearly 40 people for beginners' courses next year, and that's before we start getting enquiries next year – which we will!

I was involved in 2 beginners' courses this year both of which were fully booked, but not fully attended, but we are looking to improve the system on that so we can accommodate people more efficiently – particularly important with so many interested every year.

We are so lucky to have the facilities here with 3 main ranges, which shows when the beginners come and see what we have – that's obviously down to a lot of hard work from a lot of people.

Thanks to all who helped out on the beginners' courses – in fact we had more helpers than beginners at one point. We've implemented a new system to try and support our new members, so they have Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings (during the summer) to have a bit of extra support to help get them integrated into the club.

We've been very lucky with our new members this year, they're all nice people who are keen to learn and settling in to the club and enjoying the club events, and thanks to everyone for making them feel welcome. We are a friendly, safe and inclusive club, and let's try and keep it that way.

I'm standing down as head coach, but I will continue to assist the committee and be part of the coaching team going forward.

11. Safeguarding officer

- Vacant

12. Building, Field & Equipment Officer

- David Brown, Chris Bullen, Bob Gawler

Building report – David Brown

Yearly review (for AGM)

- We have just completed one year since we started shooting at Manston a lot of work and effort in the building and club have taken place to give you facility. A key core of people have helped get the building where it is today with a special mention to:

Terry Stevens & Andy Doyle (doors and flooring wks.), Barry (mower enclosure & external paint removal), Wally (flooring works), Ashley (electrics and the signing in system), Bob (plumbing), Fred (variety of internal jobs), David Rhodes(gutter cleaning and external paint removal and Anne, Linda and Viv who help keep the building tidy and clean, without whose help none of this would be possible including the very early days cleaning crew plus all the others who give their time on a Wednesday a very Big Thank you. We have future plans providing we can extend our lease.

Field report – Chris Bullen

I would like to say a big thankyou to all that have supported me in my role over this last year. Special thanks go to Pam & Ron Davies, Fred Hamond, Lewis, Stuart Hibberd and Dave Brown for your help and support when I asked for it. I would like to stand again for this year coming 2024.

To set out some of the work I have done over this last year:-

- Regular grass-cutting on the practice/frostbite range and the main range, including the bank behind the path on the practice range to stop weeds and long grass covering the path.
- Keeping the grass pathways free of trip hazards.
- I've cut the grass, trees & brambles back from around the building, as well as trying to keep it clear of stinging nettles.
- Made the What-3-Words signs that are placed at strategic points around the site
- I've now had the chance to cut back/prep the ground for the 100yd walk-back on the far side of the main range and may be used even while the main range is in use.
- I've marked the distances with blue signs for metres and black/white signs for yards on both of the walk-back ranges.
- I've also been cutting back between the main range and walk-back to make room for a clout range which I hope will be ready for next year.
- I've started to cut back behind the main back-stop net which is ongoing, but should make it easier for us to find lost arrows.
- I've kept the 3D paths clear of grass and kept the brambles cut back so they don't cause a problem.
- I've started to cut back the brambles around the car park to try and increase the parking space and keep it safe to use. I've also removed some of the trees
- I've also helped out on Wednesday mornings with the work party.
- I've also taken the lawn mower for repairs/maintenance in the trailer.

Equipment – Bob Gawler

It has been a busy year for the club moving to our new venue, and an exciting one. I took on the role of equipment officer & we are lucky to have a designated equipment room, something we have never had before. We also have a workshop that is coming along nicely. What we have got is the envy of anyone that comes from other archery clubs.

But this did not just happen; it has taken a lot of hard work, which was carried out by lots of club members with clearing of rubbish, making and putting up racks & shelves, repairing arrows & bows, the making of strings, etc. I won't name them as this would only be repeating what will be in the chairman's report. It is also very encouraging that there is still lots of interest in joining the club. We do need more junior members to help move the club forward.

13. Junior Rep

- Lewis Bullen-Steed

I would like to say a "thank-you" to all that have helped over the year in my role as Junior rep. I would like to thank 2 of our junior members - Oliver & Ryan - for what they have given to the club, helping with major works that have been carried out.

I have promoted the club to my friends at school and I have had some interest from them. I have helped at the club doing the ground works and helping with the Easter egg hunt. I have also helped out at beginners' courses, and the museum event.

I have also been to club on Wednesdays during the school holidays to help out with work and have helped my dad with cutting back brambles and clearing areas that need doing. I have also cut back trip hazards as I have seen them.

I would like to stand again for the coming year 2024.

14. Chairman's Report

- Mike Davis

I quite often just walk around this site and am amazed at what we have achieved. If you saw this area when it was offered to us it was in a pretty poor state. Through a lot of work and vision we have achieved a great deal. Visitors from RSP, the company who own the airfield, a representative from KAA, several companies we have invited to site, and our friends from other clubs are amazed at what we have here and what we have achieved.

There was a long list of work mentioned in the former reports.

Many of these major achievements have been carried out by the Wednesday team this consists of:

Bob & Linda Gawler
Chris Bullen
Lewis Bullen-Steed
Anne Fretwell
Dave Brown
Dave Rhodes
Fred Hammond
George Hirst
Wally Gibson
Barry Finch
Oliver Norton
Ron & Pam Davies
Richard & Viv Clark

And Me

I would also like to thank all the people that have not been mentioned above but have helped from time to time. However, most of this work has been carried out by a small group of people. When I say small group probably 16-20 people out of nearly 150 members. Many of these people are not young; the average age is probably between 50 and 60 years of age. You must remember that this average is brought down by the likes of Lewis and Oliver.

These people have been supported by your committee, again many of the people on the committee are the same as those who do the work to develop the facilities you enjoy. This is not sustainable as this group gets older; they feel that they should be able to enjoy their archery and not be working constantly to provide it for others. We also need to ensure that new ideas and skills are brought into the work group and the committee.

Going forwards there will be fewer major projects as we move into a more maintenance mode but we cannot keep relying on this small group of people. This is a club not a business; the maintenance is up to us all. Please offer to help, offer to join the committee, help organise events. I know that many of the younger people must work for a living but please remember some members of the committee have been on the committee for many years and have only retired in the last few years.

Maintenance and development does not have to be done only on Wednesdays, it can be carried out any time if we make the membership aware.

We are hoping that RSP will eventually succeed and get through their battle with the people who do not want the airport developed as we are already in conversation with the General Manager of RSP about extending our lease.

We are hoping to get a grant from Sport England to tarmac the pathways, flatten the shooting line on the main field and purchase the new bosses for the practice field. We hope to reintroduce the clout shoot this year and have been discussing holding a flight shoot at some time. We may look at developing a further short range for have-a-go's and demonstrations in front of the building. We will put off any further development until a decision on a longer lease is received.

To continue to develop the facilities we have, upgrade the equipment and to keep the club fees at a reasonable level it is vital that we run more fund-raising events during next year. To do this your ideas and help will be required. If you have ideas, or do not like the way things are done or the

way in which the club is going step up and change it.

Every year at the AGM the committee give the Achievement Award to a person who has achieved something unexpected or has put themselves out for the betterment of the club.

So many people have worked hard this year to make the building and grounds into what we have, so the Achievement Award this year will be presented to the Wednesday Team as a whole and I would like to ask one of that team to come and collect it. This person has helped work on the grounds, improved his shooting, led us on Remembrance Day, and tried to be a very good Junior Rep for the committee. Lewis, will you come and collect the Trophy on behalf of the Wednesday Group?

15. Propositions previously circulated

a/ **Clause 2 para a & Clause 4b** - Move requirement for prospective members to have either completed a beginners' course or to have had an assessment before joining. The beginners' requirement was previously part of clause 4b but now fits better here. It also brings a very outdated clause 4b into line with current practice.

b/ **Clause 3a para 1, 2 & 4a, clause 4c para 2, clause 4e & clause 9** - All members' fees contribute to the upkeep of the club, as well as insurance, regardless of any Archery GB, NFAS or BLBS membership (or none). It therefore makes sense to give those members with the above affiliations the same membership as everyone else. This is in effect a vote to do so, and these changes are to reflect that. Those currently defined as associate members will not need to do anything to switch membership – it will happen automatically.

c/ **Clause 3a para 4b** – This is to redefine Associate membership to accommodate those who only shoot occasionally and previously would have paid for 25-shoot membership. They will now simply pay the same target fee as visiting archers and have the same voting rights as social members.

d/ **Clause 4a** – All fee changes must be agreed on by the membership, so it therefore makes no sense to have monetary fee clauses in the constitution which also have to be amended (and therefore voted on) every time we change the fees. This amendment falls into that category.

e/ **Changes to membership fees and removal of 25-shoot membership.** - By redefining associate membership, we are already simplifying the fee structure. To simplify the fees further, we propose to scrap limited shooting (i.e 25-shoot) membership. However, in line with our CASC commitment we wish to keep fees as affordable as possible, so if members **need** to spread their membership costs they may pay by quarterly standing order.

The proposed new fees are as follows:-

- There is one fee per senior and junior member which covers membership, insurance & target fees. Family members' fees may be paid together.
- Senior membership - £65 (may be paid in full or £16.25/quarter by s/o).
- Junior membership - £30 (may be paid in full or £7.50/quarter by s/o).
- Senior disabled - £58.50 (10% discount - may be paid in full or £14.62/quarter by s/o).
- Junior disabled - £27 (10% discount - may be paid in full or £6.75/quarter by s/o).
- Honorary members are only required to pay the insurance component of the Senior members fee, which is £10/yr.
- Visitors fees remain unchanged at £5 for adults and £2.50 for juniors. Associate members will now pay the same fee.

Proposition	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	Result
13 a/	38	0	0	Passed
13 b/	38	0	0	Passed
13 c/	38	0	0	Passed
13 d/	38	0	0	Passed
13 e/	38	0	0	Passed

16. Election of Committee members

Post	Nomination	Proposer	Second	Votes (for/against)
Club President	Fred Hammond	Lorraine Kent	John Marshall	38
Club Chair	Mike Davis	Dick Bailey	David Brown	38
Club Captain	Paul Rockliffe	Lorraine Kent	Jim Whiddett	38
Club Secretary	Pete Verrall	James Plummer	David Brown	38
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	James Plummer	Pete Verrall	Mike Davis	38
Head Coach	Bob Gawler	Dick Bailey	Jim Whiddett	37
Records Officer	Anne Fretwell	Pete Verrall	James Plummer	38
Trophy Officer	Lee Burns	Mike Davis	Dave Batchelor	38
Equipment Officer	Ian Weeden	Linda Gawler	Bob Gawler	38
Building Officer	David Brown	Jim Whiddett	Dick Bailey	38
Field Officer	Chris Bullen	Fred Hammond	David Brown	38
Safeguarding Officer	Trish McCluskey	Mike Davis	Pete Verrall	38
Junior Representative	Lewis Bullen-Steed	Bob Gawler	David Brown	38
Ordinary member	David Batchelor	Fred Hammond	James Plummer	38
Ordinary member	Andy Doyle	Jim Whiddett	Fred Hammond	38
Ordinary member	Roy Holden	Pete Verrall	Fred Hammond	38
Ordinary member	Stuart McCluskey	Trish McCluskey	Ian Weeden	38
Ordinary member	George Hirst	Jim Whiddett	Fred Hammond	38

17. Trophy/Award Presentations –

Achievement trophies – Handicap improvement

New archers - Oliver Norton

“Old hands” – Ian Weeden

We also have framed photographs of those people who won trophies at the End of Season/ Club Championships. Please come and collect those after the meeting.

18. Christmas Shoot Sat 16th Dec (hopefully!) + President’s report

What an exciting year we’ve had!

On March 24th, we held a have-a-go and barbecue evening as a thank-you to the Manston staff who helped facilitate our move to Manston. There was supposed to be a bonfire to burn all the brambles cleared from the shooting areas, etc, but high winds stopped play.

In April, Helen Fox organised a Have-a-go and Easter egg hunt – the latter was mainly for the children, but I am sure the adults taking part had just as much fun. The event was very well attended. Our thanks go to Helen for organising the event.

On Sunday 2nd April we held our first competition shoot to mark the end of the frostbite season with guests invited from Folkestone and Canterbury. The event was well attended.

We held our first beginners’ course on Sunday 14th May. This was a full day with 11 people trying their hand at archery and I am happy to report that the day went very well and all 11 joined the club. Induction evenings were held on Tuesdays to acclimatise the new archers to the rules and regulations of safe shooting.

On Sunday 4th June we held our first corporate event, which was very successful and led to several people saying that they would be interested in joining the club.

On Sunday 11th June we held the club Sylvia Hogben memorial shoot, which was also very successful and very well attended by our archers and those from other clubs. Congratulations to Jenny Walsh who won the Sylvia Trophy, Chris Bullen who won the Team Salver and Stuart Hibberd, who won the Sylvia Book. Adrian Prior from Canterbury Archers achieved the Best Gold of the day.

On the weekend of 15th/16th July, we were asked by Manston Museum to take part in their “Skirmishes Through the Ages” weekend and host a have-a-go on both days. Unfortunately, the weather was against us, with high winds and a Yellow weather warning in place. This put a lot of people off attending and did not help the arrows fly straight. Even so we did make £62 for our efforts.

On 23rd July we held our return match with Folkestone. It was a celebration of 70 years collaboration between the clubs, and was marked with an anniversary cake,, organised by Bob Gawler, so thank you very much for your thoughtfulness.

On 28th October we held our club championship shoot, which proved to be another very wet experience for all archers, and I’m sure that the fish & chip lunch organised by Jim Whiddett did a lot to restore people’s flagging spirits.

On 31st October we organised a Halloween fun shoot at Ursuline. It was very well attended, and I hope it was enjoyed by everyone who took part. Thanks to David Brown and Dick Bailey for helping to set this up. A special thank you goes to Dick for all his hard work in pumping up the balloons.

A massive thank you must go to Lewis for his organising and reading the poem on Remembrance Day. He did a fantastic job and it is nice to see respect in someone so young. Well done, Lewis.

Lastly I would like to say a massive thank you to Bob and Mike for all their hard work and dedication to the club, and I’m sure that every member of the club would like to join with me in showing their appreciation and thanks to every committee member, and working party member that have helped to make this a great club.

Now for the Christmas shoot – this will be held on the frostbite field from 10am on Sat 16th December, with 12 targets set at varying distances. Please bring:-

- a Secret Santa wrapped present suitable for any age/gender costing not more than £3.50.
- food/drink for the buffet to share, please don't all bring sausage rolls and mince pies!
- Christmas-themed fancy dress, while not obligatory, would be appreciated.
- raffle prizes

Fred Hammond.

Pete Verrall closed the meeting at:- 11:05am