

# GRANGE COMPANY



## TARGET ARCHERS

Newsletter by The Grange Company of Target Archers Inc.

[www.grangearchery.org](http://www.grangearchery.org)

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### A SEARCH FOR ANSWERS - (follow up)

In the last newsletter we asked for comments about things that the Club might do to encourage participation in the Club and the sport of archery.

This was not a TOTAL failure; we actually had some replies which raised a number of points which we need to consider.

One of the comments related to the restriction on access to the Club facilities - essentially only Wednesday morning, Wednesday evening and all day Saturday. There might not be an easy answer to this, as we access through council controlled gates and so security, insurance and legal liability become considerations.

Another comment related to the more formal aspects of target archery over some of the other disciplines, and a third comment related to the perceived necessity to have at least two archers to score and complete rounds to have scores count.

This perception is not totally accurate. My personal opinion is that it is a good practice to complete and score any of the particular rounds that you wish to shoot. It does not have to be any of the listed rounds for the day in the Club calendar. It is really only by comparing scores over time that you can measure progress (or lack of it!)

An un-witnessed round, or an off-calendar round is counted as a practice round - there can be no claim for records under SQAS rules, but it does give an archer a personal recording of their stage in the learning process. This "practice round" situation has probably not been advised to Club members as widely as it might have been.

Thanks to the members who provided input - anyone else want to say anything?

We will be getting back to archers who have provided input.

HAVE A LOOK AT THE NEW NOTICEBOARD at the Samford grounds.

There are notifications of up-coming invitational competitions, and the latest intra-club rankings for the various classes of "shoots" we do. Currently there are the member's rankings in the Silver Arrow Target, S.A. Field and S.A. Indoor competitions (which are postal shoots), as well as the Club Championship rankings - gathered from the Monthly Club Shoots. I'm not able to make any comment about the Monthly Indoor Medal, because it's not something with which I have any connection. (EF)

The **HERVEY BAY Club Percy Davidson Memorial** shoot on Saturday and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled for lack of attendees.

The **GOLD COAST Club** has the **Jeff Crosby Memorial** on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

The **Tom Hannay Memorial** Silver Arrow Field and QRE is to be held at the **Mount Petrie Bowmen** (Belmont) on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### THERE WILL BE



at the Samford club grounds on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October**, in preparation for the **SQAS Short Range Championship on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**. This will be a great shoot, suitable for all classes and ages of archers, and should see a LOT of visiting archers.

Anyone available to help on the 9<sup>th</sup> and able to shoot on the 15<sup>th</sup> should expect to have quite a lot of fun.

On **SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**, the Grange Company will host the **Merv Kelly and Ron Tucker Short Range Invitation** shoot (which will be Canberra Rounds).

**THE CHRISTMAS BREAKUP, FUN SHOOT AND AWARDS DAY/NIGHT** will be held at the Samford grounds on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, and the following is **A SPECIAL NOTICE FROM THE EDITOR - REPEATED**.

**IF YOU HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONSIDERED** in the Christmas “Year-in-Review” presentation, please get them to me, by e-mail, CD, DVD, printed photographs (which I will scan), or whatever, **BEFORE** the end of November (**ABSOLUTE LAST DATE NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**).

**PLEASE NOTE HOWEVER**, that there could be **MANY** photos to consider, and we don’t want to be there **ALL** night. Some might not make the final cut, and there will be no “Director’s Cut”. The Editor also reserves the right to add suitable comments, if not directed otherwise.

**THE ARCHERY AUSTRALIA INDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** were held in Toowoomba on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of July. Neil Digweed (who else) came away with the top ranking in the Veteran Mens Compound with 1131 out of a possible 1200. Well done Neil!

Rod Brier-Mills, Mike Schilling, Shane Beard, Shelley Allsopp, Scott Hagaman, Mark Logan, Madeline Ferris (not often seen but usually a winner), Brian Hagaman, Greg Jackson, Patrick Barden, David Arrowsmith, Kynan Schilling, Maddison Stuart and Fraser Miller all gave creditable accounts of themselves.

Neil Digweed has also contributed some photographs.



The usual suspects.



**A NUMBER OF CLUB MEMBERS WENT TO THE FITA STAR WEEKEND** at the Mount Petrie Bowmen grounds at Belmont on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of August.

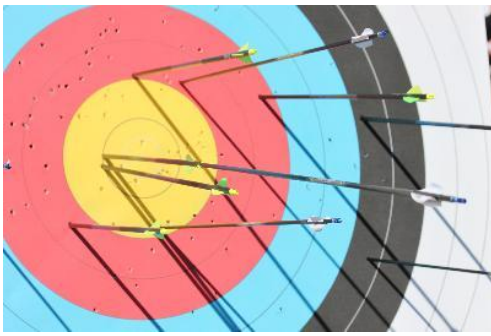
It was quite a fun and relaxed weekend, although the last few ends on the Sunday were shot with more attention to the looming rain clouds than was conducive to good shooting.

Maddison Stuart succeeded in producing her first “Robin Hood” and Ariana Miller felt the pressure of shooting with all of the line watching her performance after she had an equipment failure. She did it well, too!

Tim Millis has contributed some pictures from that day:



Split-millis-second timing!  
He’ll call it timing, I just call it luck!



Maddie's "Robin Hood"



We can't show you her face – if only because she won't turn around.



"Pure elegance" – I can say that because I've got the pen – or the keyboard.



Good concentration, Ariana!

**OTHER ARCHERY CLUBS ALSO PRODUCE NEWSLETTERS** and some of the material is very interesting.

With permission from Tom Woodley (then Editor), Strafford Stark (President), and the Centenary Archery Club, I have taken the liberty of including an article from Number 2 issue for 2011 of "The Sped Arrow", the newsletter of the Centenary Archery Club.

It describes a relatively simple method of setting of "Centre Shot" on a compound bow. I found this quite valuable.

#### **"SETTING CENTRE SHOT ON A COMPOUND BOW**

How many compounders are there in the Club who are absolutely certain that they have centre shot correctly set up on their bow? There are a couple of ways of doing it - one is to "paper tune", which I and a lot of other archers do not favour, and there is what is known as the "French

Method" of walkback tuning and an abbreviated version of this.

I'm going to talk about the abbreviated French Walkback method because it is easier for people to do at home.

The idea behind setting centre shot correctly is to get the arrow travelling off the rest on release, along the true centre line of the bow/string combination. First up and important too, is to set correct nocking point on the string.

On any compound bow, the correct position for the nocking point is such that the arrow, when sitting at rest is at 90 degrees to the string. For compounds it is a myth that the nock has to be set high - it doesn't. That said, for some rests, notable the spring blade rests, you can stop fletching contact with the rest by raising the nocking point slightly - up to 1/8 inch above the 90 degree point. Not that this really matters because tests done with the spring blade rest indicate that you can fire the arrow upside down



such that the cock feather/vane is pointed downwards for maximum vane contact and this apparently has no effect on the grouping capacity of the rest.

So, let's assume you have set the correct knocking height. The next thing to do is to set the windage on your bow sight such that the bow string, when lined up correctly on the riser/limb combination, is passing through the centre point of the sight. Please note that most compound bows have their strings set to the left of the centerline, because of the axles, and therefore you have to line up the string off centre against the riser/string. Take some time to do this properly, it pays dividends later on.

Now you need to set the arrow rest at the approximate centre position. For most bows, the manufacturers recommend setting the rest out 13/16" from the riser side - i.e. if you put an arrow on the rest and adjust the windage of the rest so that the arrow lines up at 13/16" on a ruler, then you are approximately correct.

Actually you could now shoot the bow quite well by doing nothing more to it, but if you want to get things exactly right then there are some extra things that have to be done.

Now find a target butt or use what you normally use at home. Either draw a vertical line (or tape one) on the target face or hang a string on a plumb bob from an arrow inserted into the butt at a point high up on the butt. The first part of this method is to set the correct centre position for the sight scope - i.e. the centre of the windage range.

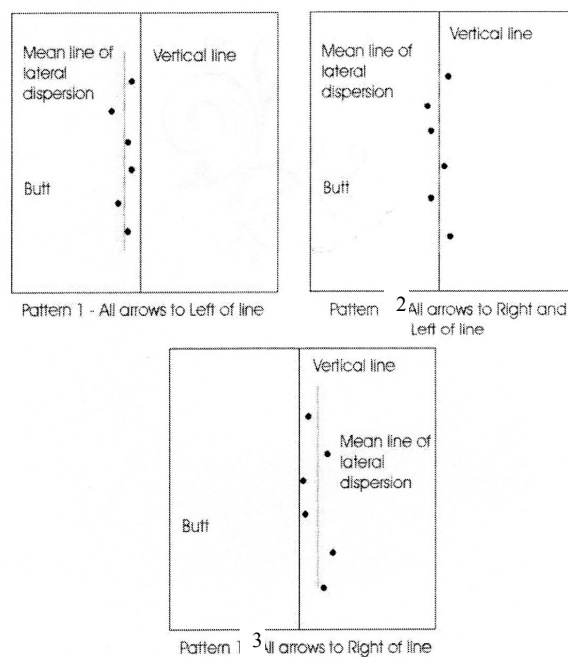
Position yourself 6 feet in front of the butt - no further away please otherwise you get false readings. This close to the target butt the lateral position of the arrow rest has virtually no influence on arrow flight.

Fit an arrow and draw back as normal. You really should have the target butt mounted such that you are shooting horizontally at it and not down- or up-hill. Now take very careful aim on the line/string/tape and try to get off a perfect release with the sight held steadily on the line. This is the hardest part of the exercise and if you find it difficult to do then don't give up on it - keep at it until you can do this properly (it's good training too).

The arrow will do one of three things. It will hit the line perfectly (as if!) or it will land to the left or the right of the line by anything from a tiny amount to a relatively large distance. Repeat this exercise at least 3 times aiming down slightly lower on the line each succeeding shot. It is even better if you can shoot a full 6 arrow end at the

line.

What you will end up with, assuming that you are holding steadily, will be one of three patterns:-



Now you will adjust the windage of your scope. At very close range, it takes a large lateral movement of the scope to shift the point of impact, so start by moving the scope a full 1/8 inch at a time. To do this you need to leave the windage knob alone and loosen the fitting holding the scope onto the sight and physically move the scope the required amount. For Pattern 1 move the scope a full 1/8 inch left, for Pattern 2, do nothing, for Pattern 3, 1/8 inch to the right. Carefully re-tighten the scope clamping screw(s).

Now repeat the whole exercise again. All things being equal, Patterns 1 and 3 should show the arrows landing left and right of the line, but closer in to the line. If you've been very lucky you might achieve Pattern 2 immediately, in which case you can stop. So if the arrows are again off to one side or the other, move the scope another 1/8 inch in the direction of the group. Repeat the exercise until you get an even spread either side of the line (even better if you can get them all right on the line). Your sight is now correctly centred in its fitting.

Move back to at least 10 metres from the target (more if possible). We will now adjust the arrow rest for centre shot. Do not touch your sight at all now.

Repeat the same shooting exercise as before - i.e. six well-aimed, well-released shots at the line on the target butt. As before you will get

the same sort of patterns as previously. Now we need to move the rest laterally to correct any deviation away from the vertical line. With the arrow rest you need to move it in the direction you want the arrows to go - i.e. if you get Pattern 1, then move the rest to the right. Give it about 1/16" movement at this stage. Repeat the exercise, correcting the lateral position of the rest depending on where your arrows fall relative to the vertical line. You want to achieve a pattern similar to Pattern 2. When you do, you are now very close to correct centre shot.

You can now stop any further tuning and the bow will shoot very well indeed. However, if you want to take things further by one more step, then you need to attend the range and set yourself up at 50 metres. Tape a vertical line on the target. You must be able to see it clearly at 50 m.

Do not touch the sights or the rest (Except for distance? - EF). Now fire off 6 arrows at the line and then observe what sort of pattern results. Do NOT adjust your sights. Instead, if your arrows are off the vertical to one side or another, adjust your arrow rest laterally by a small amount in the direction you want the arrows to move.

Repeat this exercise until you can get your shots centrally on the line, at which point stop - you now have a very well set-up sight and centre shot. Enjoy!"

**IT OCCURS TO ME** that we currently have Dave Arrowsmith doing a sterling job maintaining the Club equipment - particularly the arrows, so if we can encourage people with names like Bowyer, Stringer, and Archer to join the Club, we should start to get really well set up.

**GCTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** will be held **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 12 noon**. There will be a barbeque lunch. Please turn up to hear what has happened, and will happen in the Club. There are changes being planned. YOUR input could be important. Don't worry; if you haven't already been approached you probably won't end up with a specific job. (Having stressed the importance of the meeting I can't be there because I'll be working - EF).

#### INTERNET ADDRESSES OF ARCHERY INTEREST

[www.archersreference.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk](http://www.archersreference.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk) - a reference for Recurve shooters. May take a while to download.

[www.centenaryarchers.gil.com.au](http://www.centenaryarchers.gil.com.au) - Centenary Archers west of Brisbane. Much information. Good newsletter.

[www.centenaryarchers.gil.com.au/images/Bow%20Stabilisation.pdf](http://www.centenaryarchers.gil.com.au/images/Bow%20Stabilisation.pdf) - A technical, but informative article about using stabilizers on bows.

**ON SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> AUGUST SOME PEOPLE WERE practicing at the club for the SQAS Clout Championships the next day at Belmont.**

Mark Logan took their picture.



Choose your title: "Clout for Ducks", or "Just Walkin' In The Rain"

#### NEW MEMBERS

Some 30% of people in the last Beginners Course have joined the Club. Great to have new blood - "Bloood, yes, ve must have blooooood, hhhhaahhhaaaaa! (ghoulish laugh).

Welcome to what we hope will be a long and happy association (despite the above).

Below are some badges that you can work towards attaining - (left to right)



Master Bowman, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Archer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Archer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Archer.

Ask **Tim Millis** (the Club Recorder) what you have to do to be awarded these classifications.

"May your arrows fly straight" - (Brian Hagaman)

"I hope you've aimed them at the right spot" - (Evan Fisher)