



Bowmen of Ardleigh  
Small Newsletter No. 118  
December 2020

Well! In something of an understatement, it's been a funny old year and one that we'll all probably be glad to see the back of!

Our last Spoon Shoot of the year took place on the weekend 4<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December and the result was as follows:-

|   | Archer         | H/cap. | All. | Score | Total | Hits | Golds |                               |
|---|----------------|--------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Mia Phillips   | 55     | 987  | 462   | 1449  | 60   | 7     | 450 Junior Badge and 460 Bar. |
| 2 | Chris Phillips | 47     | 940  | 486   | 1426  | 60   | 13    |                               |
| 3 | Chris Pollard  | 36     | 41   | 508   | 1403  | 60   | 14    |                               |

Mia was fully confident that the spoon would be going home with her before the start of the shoot. As in October, so it was! The same day we had a visit from a reporter from the Recorder Group of Newspapers and there was a good article in the Barking and Dagenham Post on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December and the Romford Recorder on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>. There are also photos and a video on the internet for the Recorder Group of Newspapers.

As well as creating a new Club Record, Mia's Portsmouth score of 489 that she shot on 2<sup>nd</sup> November has now been ratified as a new Essex and Suffolk County Record!

As mentioned in Newsletter 117, Mia was also part of the Essex Team in the Southern Counties Indoor Portsmouth League. Three other members, Chris Lowe, Chris Phillips and Steve Jones were also in the team. Full results of this competition aren't available yet.

Havering was in Tier 3 of the Covid-19 restriction scales which meant we could continue to shoot, albeit in very restricted fashion. However, it's just been announced that a new Tier 4 has been introduced for London and this means we can't shoot at all, indoors or out, until Archery GB says we can.

Usually at this time of the year I do a review of 2020 but this year I can't really wax lyrical about anything we've achieved, other than that we're still going and have also managed to gain 5 new members plus 3 potentially from the one session we managed to do in October! I'd like to thank our members for their forbearance since March when our regular Summer Programme was blown into the wind! Only one of our Championships (Indoor) took place making the award of the Ardleigh Archer Trophies a bit problematic. We can still make the Handicap Improvement Medal awards for Indoors and out, and the Spoon Shoot Trophy too, making allowance for the fact that only 5 of the usual 12 shoots actually took place.

I do miss the social contact with people and hope to see all our members participating again soon. As soon as their circumstances permit

We now have “curtain heaters” in the barn by the secondary doors into the barn and at the other end doors. Hopefully these will give us a little bit more warmth, at least by the doors, and encourage more people to shoot in the Barn next year. We shall see!

We have an extensive list of people who wish to try Archery with us and I thank them for their forbearance too. We hoped we’d found a way to give people the opportunity to have a taster session with us but that’s also now in abeyance until Havering comes out of Tier 4 at least. We do have a lot of people on the waiting list and I have concerns that, taking 4 at a time, whether there’s enough time to look after them all before the end of March, even if we can start taking new archers again in January so we’ll need to look at our arrangements when we know what’s going on in the event that, though it seems unlikely, anyone knows what’s going on at the moment.

I’ve been keeping all our enquirers “in the loop” as situations change and will continue to do so.

All that remains now is for me to send my best wishes for good health to everyone for the coming season and the same for an infinitely better 2021!

