

~~~ Review of the Castle Bowmen Archery Year 2017 ~~~

2017 was yet another record breaking year for Castle Bowmen ... mostly because we broke lots of records again.

The Club's numbers have also stayed fairly consistent with over 100 members keeping us one of, if not THE, biggest club in Wales.

Club of Champions

This year our awesome archers won over 70 tournament medals, 7 County championship titles, numerous County & Welsh records and another Welsh Champion title, and won the Barebow Team Trophy at the Indoor County Championships.

We also have the top 3 ranked Lady Barebow archers in Wales and more archers in the Welsh rankings than ever before.

Every member of Castle Bowmen shot exceptionally well over the year, many attaining new PB's (Personal Best scores) with more than 43 archers being awarded new Classification badges.

Castle Bowmen Juniors

Castle Bowmen Juniors had some good success stories this year.

Candice L' was awarded the 'Vic Williams Trophy' by the Welsh Archery Association for being the most improved Junior Lady in Wales for the year. A well deserved award as she went from beginner to Master Bowmen in less than a Season.

Sarah I' retains her title of Welsh Outdoor Champion for her age group as well as Glamorgan County Champion for Indoor. Sarah also competed in the British Barebow Indoor Championships in December and placed 6th in her age category - That's 6th in the whole of the UK, so a big well done to her.

Rachel T' and Owen C' also did well at the Glamorgan Junior Indoor Championships and won their age categories to become County champions in their respective age groups.

Coaching

More than 70 trainee archers have joined our beginner courses over the last year to be coached by our awesome coaches and many have then gone on to become full members.

We have extended our excellent and unrivalled coaching team with another of our members, Mike B' graduating the ArcheryGB coaching course to become our 9th Level 1 club coach.

New Venue

This year we started shooting at another indoor shooting venue in addition to our usual excellent sports hall at St Davids College. It's only been a couple of months at St Teilos School but the Improvement in terms of accessibility, warmth, facilities and reliability has pleased everyone no end.

Castle Bowmen AGM

The Castle Bowmen AGM was accompanied this year once again by a very nice buffet and drinks and was well attended. Chairman Rick S' couldn't attend due to work commitments but sent a message of support to all members. Steve C' ran the official procedures with great professionalism as we discussed future improvements to the club for the coming year, and voted in the new committee charged with the running of the club. An excellent review of the year was also given by Mike W' the

records officer, highlighting the many achievements and accomplishments of Castle Bowmen members.

The Annual award for the archer making an exceptional contribution to the club, the 'Arthur Knighton' trophy, was presented to Mike Wo', for his exceptional shooting, namely gaining the Classification of Grand Master Bowmen for Barebow in only one year.

Club Tournaments

We started 2017 with our customary cold and muddy New Year Handicap shoot to determine our club champion, which was awarded to Caz' P' for the 3rd year running.

Our other tournaments throughout the year were very well attended and greatly enjoyed by all:- From the Easter shoot, the most chocolately competition in Wales and also a Welsh Ranking event, The 'Val Goodman' Junior May Metrics (The Only annual Junior-Only 12 dozen round tournament in Wales) to the Doug Woodley mid summer WA900 shoot, all the visiting archers from other clubs agreeing they had a very enjoyable time.

And not forgetting our unique annual Club Team Head-to-Head Tournament in October, with 30 of Castle Bowmen's archers shooting this year competing to win officially the biggest Archery medals in Wales, and the even more sought-after Losers Wooden spoon trophies.

Postal Leagues:-

In the winter

3 out of 4 of our winter postal teams won their divisions and received shiny new winners badges. Mike Wo' for Team A and Caz' P' for Team B were both the highest scoring Gent and Lady for January for the whole division in the UK.

In the summer

3 teams won their divisions including all of the longbow divisions and all received their customary winners badges

Glamorgan County Team

Six archers from Castle Bowmen, Andrew P', Michelle W', Sarah I', Candice L', Wendy W' and Mike Wo', were chosen to be members of the Winning Glamorgan County team for the WAA inter county championships held in East Wales. Mike, Andrew and Sarah also received an individual category medal for winning their respective Barebow categories.

2017 Glamorgan County Champions:-

Kathy C' - Lady Barebow Champion (INDOOR and OUTDOOR for the 2nd year running)

Mike Wo' - Gent Barebow Champion (His 11th County Champion title)

Sarah I' - Jnr Lady U18 Barebow Champion (INDOOR for the 2nd year running)

Rachel T' - Jnr Lady U16 Barebow Champion (INDOOR)

Owen C' - Jnr Gent U14 Barebow Champion (INDOOR)

Castle Bowmen win the Barebow Team Trophy at the Indoor Championships

Glamorgan county records claimed:-

Andrew P' - St George Round - Gent Barebow (Master)

Sarah I' - Short National - Lady Barebow U18

Michelle W' - National Round - Lady Recurve

Alan G' - St George round - Gent Longbow (Senior & Veteran)

Kathy C' - St George round - Lady Barebow

Kathy C' - Western Round - Lady Barebow

Caroline P' - Western Round - Lady Barebow (Master)
Peter W' - Western Round - Gent Barebow (Veteran)
Rick S' - Western Round - Gent Recurve (Veteran)
Sarah I' - Metric 2 - Lady Barebow U18
Sarah I' - WA 900 - Lady Barebow U18
Caroline P' - WA 900 - Lady Barebow (Master)
Candice L' - Bristol 4 - Lady Recurve U14
Candice L' - Metric 4 - Lady Recurve U14
Geoffrey C' - Metric 3 - Gent Barebow U14

2017 Welsh Champions:-

Sarah I' - Lady Barebow U18 Championess (Outdoor)

Welsh Records claimed:-

Kathy C' - St George round - Lady Barebow
Alan G' - St George round - Senior & Veteran Gent Longbow
Geoffrey C' - Metric 3 - Jnr gent Barebow U14
(plus individual distance records for 50m & 30m)

Welsh Rankings

This year we had more Archers featuring in the Welsh rankings than at any other time since they were devised in 2007. And since that date Castle Bowmen have had an archer placed Number 1 in a Bow category every single year but two (but even then they were still placed 2nd and 3rd for them years).

Lady Barebow -
Kathy C' at number 1 in Wales
Caz P' at number 2
Sarah I' at number 3
Rachel T' at number 6
Gent Barebow -
Andrew P' at number 4 in Wales
Mike Wo' at number 7
Dave M' at number 10
Zoltan V' at number 12
Peter W' at number 19
Gent Longbow -
Alan G' at number 5 in Wales
Lady Recurve -
Wendy W' at number 14 in Wales
Gent Recurve -
Rick S' at number 15 in Wales
Steve C' at number 16
Ryan P' at number 17
Mike Wo' at number 27
Shaun T' at number 34
Gent Compound-
Serge L' at number 23 in Wales
