

"THE ARROWHEAD"
THE NEWSLETTER OF LASSWADE ARCHERY CLUB

ISSUE NOS. 212/213 - AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2013

Dear Members,

Another double issue for you as due to yet another delay there is not too much to report.

CLUB NEWS

CANCELLED RE-START DATE

It is with much regret and a great deal of annoyance that I have to advise you that the re-start date for this Wednesday the 18th has had to be cancelled due yet again to a delay in the storage containers arriving.

To bring you up to date, I emailed the Centre last week and was advised that the storage containers were due to arrive last Thursday the 12th. To date nothing seems to have happened and with the Council on the September weekend break I would be surprised if I will hear anything earlier than this Tuesday the 17th. To that end, I have another email ready to go if they do not give me good/bad news by Tuesday.

On that day, if you live some way away from the Centre, and see a mushroom cloud in the distance you will know that I have had to send this email!

You may remember in the last newsletter there were three problems which were causing us delay after delay and they were/are as follows:-

1 - THE SAFETY CURTAIN RAIL WHICH WAS TOO SHORT -

This has now been rectified and is now ready for use.

2 - THE NON-EXISTANT FLOOR-MARKINGS FOR ARCHERY -

The markings are now down and Derek was there to make sure everything went to plan.

3 - STORAGE -

By now you will be aware that this is still an outstanding problem. Let me give you an idea how we have been put into the continuing farce this Club is being forced to put up with. Back in 2010/2011 Derek and I attended three pre-build meetings. Clubs were advised that if they did not send representatives to these meetings then their clubs would be given no consideration in the eventual layout of the Centre. After the first meeting all clubs were asked to send in their wish-lists for the new complex.

At the second meeting we were advised that if everything was granted there would be no room to put the field and pitches down!

The third and final meeting was held at the Council Chambers where we saw the floor plans for the new complex and we assumed that storage would not be a problem.

In 2011 construction was under-way and it was decided that the town of Bonnyrigg, which is expanding, would probably need an extension to the school part of the complex as

more small people would need to be educated there and to that end the available storage was to be cut. Small people is a polite term I use for school children!

It got worse. We were advised that there may not be any storage for us at all! Shortly after, we were advised that storage containers would be used so it was assumed that all our equipment would be stored here. The latest news is that it may be a mixture of storage with the Club equipment we use for normal sessions stored indoors and the tournament equipment etc. in part of one of the containers, not dis-similar to the old building where we spent many happy years!

In my own opinion there has been an error somewhere. Why cut storage then decide that containers are needed! What will happen next? Answers on postcard please to the usual address!

As to a re-start date, I will advise you on a weekly basis what is happening.

OUTDOOR CLUB SESSIONS

Now that we have gone over the indoor situation what happens with outdoor shooting at Lasswade which will only be of interest to the minority of you who shoot outdoors anyway! The short answer is nothing!

We have had to look elsewhere to shoot outdoors in the future due to that following problems at Lasswade:

1 - MOVING/STORING EQUIPMENT -

We would lose a lot of shooting time due to the distance we would have to move equipment to the playing fields some distance away and it would be un-likely a container would be placed here anyway.

2 - SAFETY -

One of the main issues here is that a house which I thought would be demolished will be remaining and there is an outside risk that an arrow could find itself a different target!

3 - FIELD HIRE -

This puts the nail in our coffin! When these fields are completed they will consist of 2 football pitches and a rugby pitch. To get the maximum distance we would require plus an over-shoot we would have to hire all three fields.

So what's the problem here you may ask? Money! To hire each pitch for an hour would cost us £27.00, all 3 pitches, £81.00 for a single session! We used to shoot for 2 hours in the old field for about £25.00 per session. Those of you who can do simple arithmetic will have worked out that if we were to repeat this on the new pitches it would only be £162.00 per session. This would be totally un-sustainable for the Club.

Without going into great detail here, some time ago Derek, Billy and Myself paid a visit to a potential outdoor venue. We met the land owner and had a look over the area which is also used by another Club. It looks like it would meet most of our requirements but would be subject to an inspection by an archery judge.

A short while later another committee meeting was held and all the members of the committee had a look at some photos Billy had taken of this venue. Derek then prepared a letter for the landowner with our proposals for hiring the ground.

He has since come back to us and would like a bit more for using the ground. Our proposal for a hire charge was based on the number of members who shoot outdoors while his is based on the whole current membership. You will be advised on what happens as and when. There is more to report on this subject but I don't want to go into any great length at this time.

My thanks to Jen, one of our newest members, who has also suggested another area that could be of use to us so this could be looked into as well.

CLUB FEES

I explained to you in the last newsletter about the situation regarding Club Fees. Over the last two committee meetings the subject of our Club fees was discussed and Joan prepared a letter with 2 options on what you would like to do to try and keep the Club fees down to a smaller increase. All of you should have received this letter by post and have until Thursday the 19th of this month to respond with your preferred options.

Should you choose the option which would involve us losing one of our two indoor weekly sessions then based on attendances from last season then we may drop the Saturday afternoon session which has had a lower attendance rate than the Wednesday evening session.

AFFILIATION FEES FOR 2013/2014

All of you were emailed by me about the compulsory Affiliation Fees and to re-cap here are the fees due from each member and paid to myself or Joan by Wednesday the 2nd of October. If paying by cheque please make it payable to Lasswade Archery Club

SENIORS (OVER 18) - £67.00

SENIORS (OVER 60) - £61.00

JUNIORS (UNDER 18) - £10.00

DISABLED (TBA) - There are currently 4 of you and only 1 has confirmed to renew so far. I have already emailed the 4 of you as to how much you will have to pay based on some or all of you re-affiliating. To all members, you can return your payments as Joan has suggested in the envelope that you will use to send the option letter back if you have not already done so.

DIS-ABLED CLUB MEMBERS

When I advised you on how to get to the new hall I estimated that it is about 30 metres along from the reception. It's nearer a hundred!

There are 15 disabled spaces not too far away from the building but I am afraid it will be a distance further away than the old building was. In the event that all spaces are taken by non-disabled users I cannot see the Centre enforcing this area. As I said in my email to all members about the affiliation fees this building is clearly under-staffed. If you do have problems then let me know guys.

KEY-HOLDERS

Apart from myself several of you have a set of keys for the storage cabinet and the lockers used for outdoor equipment.

When I issued you with a set all your keys were colour fobbed and now that we have left the old building please do the following if you have not already done so:-

1 - OUTDOOR KEYS -

Dispose of the yellow-fobbed key which opened the gates to the old outdoor area as it is no longer needed.

The orange-fobbed key can be removed or retained. It opened the outer store door in the old building but the padlock for these doors was retained by Derek as it belongs to him.

The 2 flat silver-coloured skeleton keys, one of which was twice as long as the other, can be disposed of. They opened the 2 tall green storage cabinets which we left behind as they were not needed.

The blue, green and red-fobbed keys should be retained as they will be needed to open their appropriate cabinets if we ever get them back to Lasswade.

2 - INDOOR KEYS -

The red and black-fobbed keys should be retained as they open the padlocks on the green cabinet.

In addition, on my set, I have a long silver key which opened our old indoor store cupboard. Obviously, this does not serve any purpose now but is my little keepsake from the old building!

LASSWADE COMBINED FITA – SUNDAY 13TH of OCTOBER 2013

We will need some of you to assist us in setting up on Saturday the 12th. As the normal Saturday session will run from 2 to 4pm all Club sessions on tournament weekends will be put back one hour. As we can usually get things set up within the hour we would shoot between 3 and 5pm with the centre closing at 6pm. If we did not move the Club session then we would be away by 5pm.

Oh! As with all our tournaments, some donations from you for the tournament's raffle would be appreciated.

That, thankfully, wraps things up for this edition.