

## Aurora 2-day Shoot 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

We are living in very challenging and worrying times and our thoughts go out to all of you who have been affected by this terrible virus.

There is a constant tension and struggle to get back to some form of normality, whatever that may look like, and as a small step towards that we were fortunate and delighted to be in a position to host our Summer weekend shoot as originally scheduled, albeit on a very restricted basis.



Being able to see old friends, shoot some arrows and hear laughter and banter in the woodland was an absolute joy and we sincerely thank everyone who joined us for two great days together. We really appreciate and value your support and trust in us, and your wonderful feedback makes it all the more worthwhile.

As you would imagine, the weekend was a seriously scaled down event, where normally we would see 140 archers shooting each day, this year we welcomed just shy of 70 to our fabulous Parsons Spring woodland. Even so we had to put in place several measures to fulfil our duty of care and ensure the safety of those attending, for example there was neither catering nor camping available.

We made it on-line / phone booking only (no paper!) and pre-pay with the facility for card payment using iZettle. Something we've been considering for some time but having had our hands forced, I would most certainly recommend it both for pre-payment and in the future, taking payments on the day e.g. in catering.

Top of the list of changes however was the need to maintain social distancing throughout and the only effective way to do that was to use a rolling start. The big plus side of this approach is that it both suits the early birds and accommodates those who have further to travel or find it more difficult to roll out of bed in the morning.

Every coin has two sides however, and having a rolling start means that by design, you don't have a mass gathering before the start nor a medal ceremony at the end, both will be missed but a small price to pay to get out shooting again.

As always, it's possible to over-think these things and in the end, keeping it simple and flexible was most definitely the answer. Try to pin things down too much and you risk becoming a hostage to fortune which is never a good place to be.

As part of the booking process archers were asked to nominate their preferred starting time having been offered 4 half hour windows starting 8.30am. Flexibility here was key

and everyone duly obliged allowing an even split of groups across windows to be constructed – phew!

Emails were sent before the shoot informing the archers of their allocated window along with all the necessary briefing notes. On the day, archers dutifully arrived in time for their window, booked in and then once their group was assembled, were walked out to the course by one of our marshals who gave them the pre-shoot briefing en route.

We didn't have practice bosses available and instead the first target on the course was a non-scoring, whopping grizzly bear at 20 yards allowing three practice arrows per competitor, enough to blow away the cobwebs and brush up on the excuses!

One particularly effective innovation was to ask archers during booking if they would be willing to act as scorer for their group. Then, rather than giving each archer their own cards only to hand them around to whoever was scoring, two packs were created per group containing a card for each archer. These were handed directly to willing scorers meaning that nobody else needed to touch them, thereby minimising contact and chance of Covid transmission through this route.

Once finished, the scorecards were put into a box and left for a couple of days to decontaminate before processing and posting the results online. Medals were then posted out to all winners.

And the result of all of this? Thankfully it all worked extremely well and was afforded a universal thumbs-up by those attending. In fact, it was such a success that we are seriously considering adopting them beyond the current crisis once normal shooting schedule and conditions resume.



What would be change? Well, we chose not to have catering on this occasion as we really wanted to take it one step at a time and getting the shoot format right in the first instance was the priority. We think we've done that now so next time, all things being equal, we hope to consider offering some form of catering.

So, after all that preamble, onto the shoot itself.

The weather was very kind to us over the whole weekend, described by many as perfect archery conditions. As always, we had lots of laughter, delightful woodland, plenty of head scratching and of course, more than a fair share of baboon-related expletives aimed primarily at the course setters, excellent job boys!

The 2 x 20 3D course was laid with each target double-pegged and archers shooting simultaneously from each side, swapping over after the first loop. Massive thanks and congratulations to Paul Little aided and abetted by Ken Sparham for designing the course. Some wonderfully positioned targets in realistic settings created a challenging and very deceptive track, taking full advantage of the amazing terrain at our disposal. Brilliant job guys and fully appreciated by all those who attended.



On now to the traditional round of thanks to everyone that made the day possible and such a success. To every member of Aurora who helped in any way over the weekend and during the run up, a sincere thank you, you are all brilliant and we couldn't do it without you.

To Tom and Molly from Radical Bikes for your wonderful support and humour in allowing us to take over your ground for the day, and to the Rad riders who put on a great show greeted with awe, respect and a few wincing by all those watching! Last but not means least, sincere thank you to Lord Petre for kindly allowing us all to enjoy his fabulous Parsons Spring woodland.

What with the recent changes in Covid-19 guidance from the government, who knows where it might be heading, but we are still planning on holding our New Year shoot as normal on 10<sup>th</sup> January next year. This will be another very restricted event and bookings will open on-line on 1<sup>st</sup> October so do look out for that.

In the meantime, stay safe, keep well and we look forward to seeing you out in the woods very soon.

Martin Joy

Aurora weekend Shoot 5th - 6th Sept 2020								40 targets - Big Game scoring															
		Sat Score	Sat Spots	Sun Score	Sun Spots	Total Score	Total Spots			Sat Score	Sat Spots	Sun Score	Sun Spots	Total Score	Total Spots			Sat Score	Sat Spots	Sun Score	Sun Spots	Total Score	Total Spots
<b>AFB - M</b>								<b>FS - M</b>															
Jones	Mark	668	5	646	2	1314	7	Pleasants	Chris	806	14	818	18	1624	32			<b>PV - M</b>					
Young	Anthony	534	2	534	3	1068	5	Stanbury	Scott	808	12	802	15	1610	27	Button	Kevin	606	3	598	2	1204	5
Maxan	Michael	520	0	494	2	1014	2	Green	Richard	798	14	778	12	1576	26	Neville	Andy	502	2	508	2	1010	4
Cooper	Barrie	534	2	406	0	940	2	Gardiner	Richard	774	12	772	10	1546	22	Hankin	Paul	510	1	478	0	988	1
Nuttal	Ian	684	4			684	4	Hake	Simon	738	12	758	7	1496	19	<b>PV - F</b>							
Joy	Steve			564	1	564	1	Doyle	Andy	604	2	654	3	1258	5	Neville	Carolyn	494	3	504	1	998	4
<b>AFB - F</b>								<b>FS - F</b>															
Morgan	Joyce	504	1	542	2	1046	3	Howard	Karen	650	3	682	4	1332	7	<b>TB - M</b>							
								Hake	Sarah	666	3	660	4	1326	7	Simmond	Dan	650	4	672	4	1322	8
<b>BB - M</b>								<b>HT - M</b>															
Cullen	Jed	796	11	788	11	1584	22	Gamble	Neil	706	5	634	3	1340	8	Lehane	Andrew	658	5	628	1	1286	6
Stevens	Terry	784	12	744	7	1528	19	Rand	Steve	678	5	650	2	1328	7	Wiseman	Mark	616	4	660	5	1276	9
Johnson	Philip	628	1	690	5	1318	6	Rose	Colin	616	4	642	2	1258	6	Morgan	Peter	656	1	616	4	1272	5
Fisk	Garry	638	3	652	3	1290	6	Moore	David	652	3	566	3	1218	6	Cathmoir	Tim	678	4	582	1	1260	5
Humphre	Peter	566	3	662	3	1228	6	Peet	Mark	518	2	510	0	1028	2	De-Buriat	Roger	522	2	424	0	946	2
Melton	Neil	436	1	424	1	860	2	Proehl	Brian	498	1	468	1	966	2	Robinson	Steve			476	0	476	0
<b>BB - F</b>								<b>HT - F</b>															
Motchmal	Viktoria	484	1	474	3	958	4	Morgan	Olivia	502	1	528	1	1030	2	<b>TB - F</b>							
Hart	Mel	340	0	348	0	688	0	De-Buriat	Samantha	460	1	542	1	1002	2	Johnson	Jacqueline	556	3	620	5	1176	8
								Parfit	Clair	534	1			534	1	Lehane	Linda	500	0	498	2	998	2
<b>BB - U16G</b>								<b>LB - M</b>								<b>UL - M</b>							
Simmond	Kalli	578	2	646	3	1224	5	Nash	Cliff	628	5	584	3	1212	8	Williams	Andy	864	21	870	24	1734	45
								Stanley	Ian	578	3	612	6	1190	9	Hill	David	834	15	790	12	1624	27
<b>BH - M</b>								<b>LB - F</b>								<b>UL - F</b>							
Andrews	Dave	678	5	736	9	1414	14	Grew	Roger	592	0	502	1	1094	1	Dickensor	Steve	770	9	762	10	1532	19
Rushton	Tom	588	1	628	3	1216	4	Sharp	Keith	562	2	518	0	1080	2	Birch	Graham	758	10	734	9	1492	19
Gillespie	Jim	532	1			532	1	Hill	Kevin	524	2	528	3	1052	5	Hardy	Barry	730	4	674	2	1404	6
<b>BH - F</b>								<b>UL - F</b>															
Birch	Sue	596	2	642	5	1238	7	Walker	James	504	1	462	0	966	1	Dickensor	Sue	834	14	848	22	1682	36
<b>CL - M</b>								<b>LB - F</b>															
Knott	Andrew	724	5	648	3	1372	8	Grew	Pennie	542	3	494	0	1036	3								
								Tyler	Alex	448	1	562	1	1010	2								