

GVA Newsletter March 2026



Easter Fun Shoot – 5th April 10:30 to 1:30



Please put this date in your diary, this is one of the clubs annual Fun Shoots with Easter theme target faces and prizes for each age group, gender and bowstyle.

Record Officers Round up

Hi all just a quick congratulations to all the Club members Who have put in Scores this month. Long may it continue. A massive congratulations must go to the below Members for obtaining new Club Records.

- James A
- Robert P
- Sam P



I will not embarrass them by posting all the details here, if you would like to see all the current record holders the information is available on the website – it still needs improving - but here is the link [Club Records](#)

See you on the line. Chris

Club Coaching Clinics

Initial dates for May, June and July are now agreed and available to book. These are all Sunday afternoons 2-4pm. To book

[10th May 2026](#)

[28th June 2026](#)

[12th July 2026](#)



We hope to announce other dates and times that are Saturdays and Sunday mornings very soon.

ECAA Indoor Coaching Clinic at Gosfield School - there is one remaining on the 28th February. Held at Gosfield School, CO9 1PF. From 10:00 – 13:00 and cost £5. You will have access to coaches from across the county to help you. Sign up and pay using the link below. [To Book](#)



ECAA Summer County Coaching Sessions are being planned to be held at club ranges in the Essex and Suffolk. Dates and venues will be announced in the next month or so.



Junior Coaching Event – CADAC 19th February.

Imogen attended from the club, and this was her review of the event.

My 4-hour coaching experience at Colchester and District Archery Club was amazing. We did coaching for half of the time and then fun games of popping balloons afterwards with a small competition between us.



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With the coaching I learnt a lot about my form and my setup for aiming. These coaches were teaching me amazingly. They were so much fun and thoughtful, they will listen to you all the time. The tips they give are so good.

They love to make everyone laugh and have a good time. This was probably my best archery experience ever. I would rate this a 5 out of 5 and would recommend to anyone.

Five GVA Archers go to Essex

To participate in the Braintree Bowmen Worcester Sandwich

This is their accounts of the event.

Chris P - On 1 February 2026, five archers from GVA travelled to Braintree Bowmen for the Worcester Sandwich—an enjoyable competition day made up of three sessions.

Session schedule:

- **Session 1:** WA18 round, sighters at 08:45
- **Session 2:** Worcester round, sighters at 12:15
- **Session 3:** WA18 round, sighters at 15:45



Upon arrival, the venue was clearly signposted, and a friendly member of Braintree Bowmen welcomed archers as they signed in—a great start to the day.

I had chosen to shoot in Sessions 1 and 2. For the first session I was shooting alongside Steve and Micky, both fellow GVA members. The session began promptly at 08:45 and, from my perspective, ran smoothly throughout.

In hindsight, I probably shouldn't have made such drastic changes to my setup two weeks before a competition—and definitely shouldn't have experimented with a new release aid on the day. But life is supposed to stay interesting, right?

For Session 2, Steve and Micky departed while Norman and Caroline arrived to shoot. This was also the moment I began to feel slightly out of my depth, as several Clickers Shop team members appeared, along with a junior Team GB Academy archer and Team GB archer Michael Judd.

Once again, the session began on time and ran without issue. By the time I reached my 90th arrow of the day, I was definitely feeling it—but I managed to complete both sessions, even if I did finish last. For any club members thinking about trying competition shooting, I highly recommend giving it a go. It's a fantastic experience and makes for a great day out—just maybe avoid making major kit changes right beforehand!

For those interested, I'm planning to enter the **Botolph's Bowmen WA 900** on **24 May** in Diss. It would be great to get a group of club members together for the event.

Caroline - I thoroughly enjoyed myself, having not competed since pre covid, and I knew I wouldn't win as my scores are not what they were 7 years ago, but I was very pleased that I didn't come last either!

It was very friendly competition, everyone chatting to each other between ends, I've made some new friends, who I plan to meet next year at the competition, if not before at other events!

Highly recommend going to these less formal events as it's a great place to meet other people and share experiences, as well as have a great day out.



Micky and Steve - Hi all me and Steve and Chris took part in the morning WA18. I really enjoyed this event, and shooting an actual indoor event is way more challenging than shooting our indoor, outdoor. Indoor lights can be a little difficult to adjust but great fun. I highly recommend our members to sign up for these events. You get to meet others in the archery community and even see some top archers doing what they do best.

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Norman - Good day all, Sunday 1st Feb was the first time I've been allowed out to play, (well the first time since COVID), and went to Gosfield school to take part in their annual Worcester sandwich, WA18 in the morning, Worcester round at lunchtime, and another WA18m in the afternoon. I only went to shoot the Worcester round, I was made to feel very welcome by Braintree Bowmen who were running the event, they are a very friendly club, and it is always nice to chat with other archers from different clubs, I would definitely recommend to any archer wishing to test their skill against others and to enter a competition. I didn't win but I also didn't come last. It was a good day out which I thoroughly enjoyed.

County Championship Record Status Indoor WA18 – 15th February



Micky and Steve recently took part in the Indoor WA18 Championship at Chelmsford Sandon School. The venue was easy to find, the journey was straightforward, and the car parking was excellent – always a bonus on competition day. The event was very well organised and provided a fantastic opportunity to meet new archers and experience a competitive indoor atmosphere.

We would highly recommend taking part in events like this. Even if you feel you're "not good enough," competitions are invaluable for building experience, confidence, and consistency under pressure.

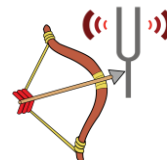
The only challenge for us was the lighting. As our indoor season is currently shot outdoors, adjusting to a fully indoor lighting setup took a little getting used to. However, that's all part of the learning process and another reason why entering competitions is so beneficial. Overall, a great experience and one we'd definitely encourage others to try.

Bow Tuning

As part of the Development Coaches training recurve bow tuning is included so this knowledge can be passed on to archers in the club, allowing them to tune their own bows and can check and adjust the following themselves.

Static checks - Tiller; Limb alignment; Brace height; Button position; Button tension; Rest position; Centre shot; Nocking point height

Dynamic checks - Button tension; Nocking point height; using bare shafts and walk back.



John D volunteered at the recent Development Coach Recurve Tuning training event and kindly provided this feedback for the newsletter "I found the event very helpful and the chaps who tuned my bow were very friendly and helpful well pleased with the result I would recommend this for every recurve archer."

GVA Range Visitors and Guests

All members are reminded of the importance of signing the register on each visit. On club days (Saturdays and Sundays) and non-club shooting days. When a committee member is present, they may ask to see an Archery GB membership card if there is any doubt.

Archery GB members are welcome to use our range on a Saturday or Sunday. There is a green fee of £5 for non-club members, which will be collected by a committee member.

Regards

GVA Club Committee

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