

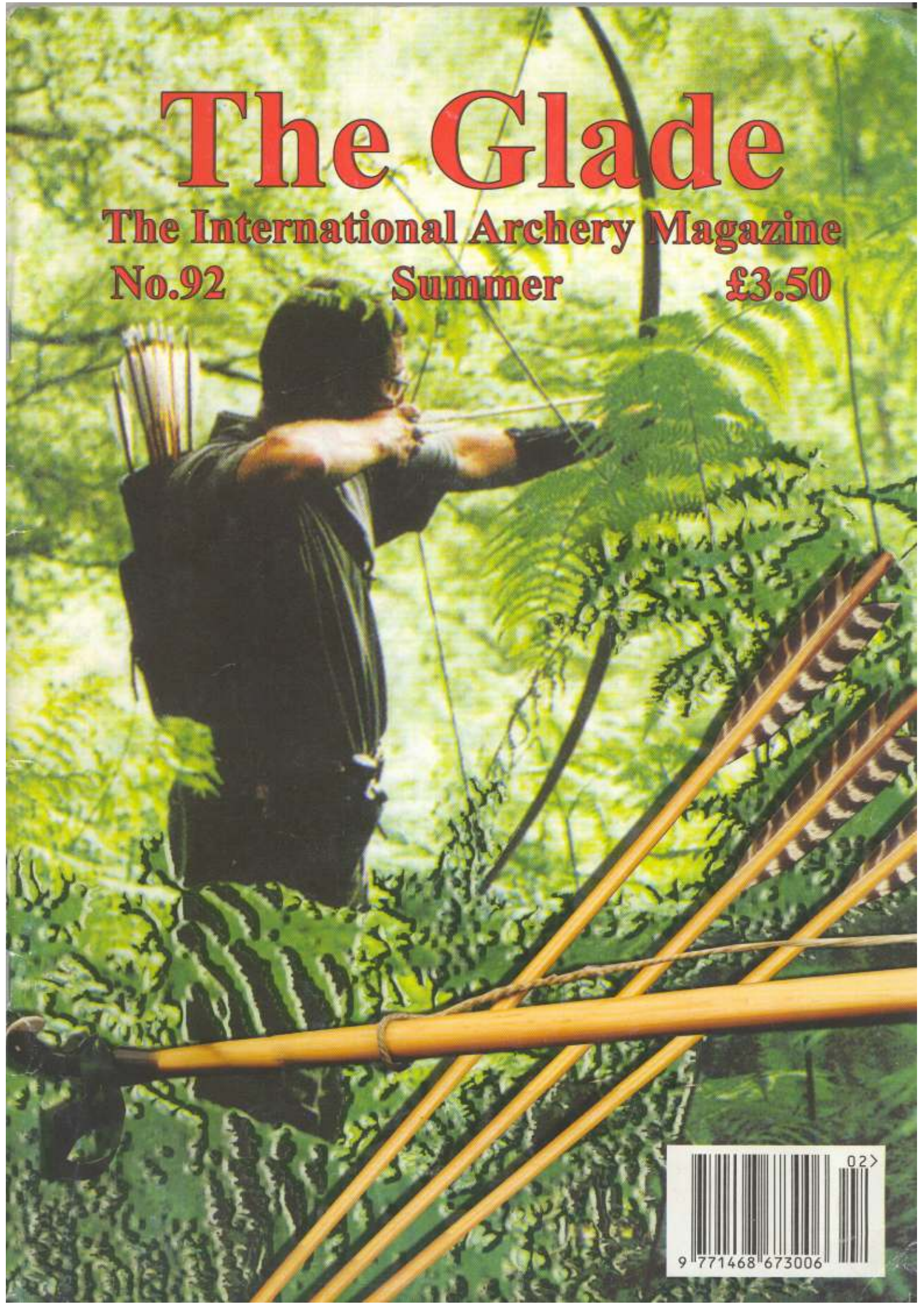
The Glade

The International Archery Magazine

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THE edges of these Editorial pages are surrounded by the contact details of some of the Archery Associations from around the World. I do try to keep them updated but it would be helpful if members of each Association would keep me informed of their changes of address or telephone numbers as quickly as is possible. Over the past couple of editions there have been some changes and I am grateful to those who have notified me of their association's new contact details. Thank you!

IF League shooting is up your street, then may I recommend the 2021 Idea from Steve Stretton and his associates who have devised and launched what we think is a 'first' in archery. League shooting has been done before — 'The Glade' was involved with such for a number of years some time ago but, where Steve scores is that he has devised a system of leagues which will be displayed and regularly updated on the Internet. Allied with many other items, this concept in Postal-type shooting will keep those who enter an idea of where their standing is in relation to other archers in Britain — later, the World. Steve and Co. are enthusiastic and dedicated — I can vouch for that because of the number of telephone calls he has made to me about his idea — and his projections for the future look to be very interesting. He has an advertisement in this edition and also an Introduction in these pages. Why not sign up and give his idea a try? I am convinced that this could be a good venture and I wish it every success.

ANOTHER good idea is to get your archery equipment fully and properly insured. We carry our equipment, sometimes totalling several hundred pounds (£££) in value, to and from practice and tournament events and, should we be unfortunate enough to have it stolen/damaged, it has to be replaced and, if stolen, possibly the whole caboodle! This would be catastrophic! Well, an archer has launched a new insurance company that is right up our street. His annual premium for £1,000 cover is quite reasonable and, for just an extra £2.50 p.a. you can be covered for £1m Personal Liability cover and Third Party damage. I have often received calls from readers who tell me the sad tale of having their equipment stolen, particularly from their cars and, in one case, a thief broke into a garage, stole every item of archery equipment but left the tools (some power) where they were!! Clubs, who often have their equipment stolen or damaged are offered cover and there are other items such as hospitalisation benefits. Might I suggest that, to take the worry of equipment insurance off your mind, you read Page 64 to find out just what is on offer and give Mark a call.

OVER the years that I have been producing this magazine I have made it known that I think our International Archery teams should be accompanied by a qualified coach — the same as virtually all other international teams. I am pleased to hear that, at last, this idea seems to be being given some consideration by the powers-that-be. Brenda and I have witnessed many occasions when a coach would have been an undoubted benefit to our archers when on international duty. I can cite one particular case when one of our most successful shooters was, at that time, experiencing a little problem that a coach would have seen and put him right and back on track. However, as there was not a regular team coach present who having been responsible for his Squad coaching and, therefore, understanding the archer's shooting, he was given the incorrect feed-back and, consequently did not realise what was going wrong. It is only too noticeable that when a team has a regular coach who travels to ALL tournaments with the National team, there is respect for the coach and instant help from the coach when needed.

While I am in agreement and, actually advocate, the inclusion of a coach and, one that is respected by all members of the team, I draw the line at sending archer's personal coaches on away duty. Just imagine the furore that would ensue if this were to happen and the 'grass roots' archers heard of it. Already they

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believe that too much of our income is spent on an elite few and this extra expense, I reckon, would not go down very well. We want support for our International shooters; not vilification for being the reason that more money is being taken out of an ever-decreasing purse. Having attended many international events I can honestly say that, in only one case, have I come across an international archer being accompanied by his personal coach and, this gentlemen, I understand, pays his own expenses. Can you imagine coaches paying their own expenses?

I definitely would like the British team to have the benefit of a GOOD coach to go along with them and, very important, that he be a regular member of the team. I do not think it necessary that it would add to the expense because we could dispense with one of the management and, if necessary, the coach could double up as Team Manager. Most teams have their national coach who stays with them for years and who accompanies them when they shoot internationally. Are we to have less?

THERE IS a great deal to read in this edition, so I'll take leave with the wish that your season goes well for you. Shoot strong, Shoot straight — TED

EQUIPMENT REVIEW

There are times when a piece of equipment really grabs one's attention. Such a piece is a spotting scope from Yukon™, a 9" variable Powered Spotting Scope that I believe is ideal for archers and, very important, won't break the bank! I have tried the 20-50x50 WA Red and I am impressed and definitely want one for my use. This scope features variable magnifications of between 20 and 50 and, with its large 50mm front lens, gives a clear image; it also has a Sapphire (Red) coating which enhances the contrast without glare from off white but, at the same time gives greater clarity on the not-so-rare dull days.



Speaking of optics and clarity, I must say how wonderfully clear the view is at all magnifications, which can be obtained with the Zoom facility. The scope (pictured) is lightweight, has a covering of 'rubber armour' and, for us archers in Britain (very important), they are water resistant. I found it to be quick to focus at the lower magnifications but marginally longer for the higher magnification but, we are only talking in seconds. For the majority of my test I used it at 60 yards to 70m and found that at the lower magnification setting I could easily get the full 122cm face in view and then, if needed, I could close down on Red/Gold or, even Gold, at the higher magnification. This helped for a very quick 'pick-out' of arrows on the target and with the clarity the scope has, it is not a problem to sort them out. For tripod mounted use there is a 1/4" and 3/8" thread mounting and, when not in use, there is neat, padded carrying case to keep it safe. There are 6 different models ranging from £30.00 for the 20x50 magnification to the Variable-Powered superb 20-50x50 WA Red at £65.00 which weighs only 0.7kg. All prices include Post and Packing.

This scope is, without doubt, worth its price and I have only one, very slight criticism: when using zoom from lower to higher magnification, it is necessary to re-focus. A small price for such a useful shooter's accessory.

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