



Bath Archers at the Great Western Archery Society Indoor Championships, from left, Paul Tuffs, James Annall, Stuart Ohren, Linda Stickings, Jon Smith, Nick Smith, Mike Brown

ARCHERY

Water can't dampen spirits

With over four inches of water flooding Bath Archers' ground at Batheaston in recent weeks, the club had to suspend shooting and engage in a mass clear-up of the ground and the flooded clubhouse - however it has not stopped the shooters travelling to events across the region and putting on an impressive show.

At the end of January, father and son duo Jon and Nick Smith competed at the Brixham Archers Clipper Shoot.

The indoor shoot, a Portsmouth Round (five dozen arrows at 60cm target faces from 20 yards), attracted 51 competitors from across the region and saw Jon come fourth in the Compound category. Nick was third in the Barebow section.

On Sunday, a team of seven archers, including British GB national team member James Annall, competed at the Grand Western Archery Society Indoor Championships in Weston-super-Mare.

Over 120 archers took part, shooting a WA18 Round (a distance of 18m at 40cm targets).

Annall came first in the Barebow category, with Nick Smith 19th. Paul Tuffs and Stuart Ohren were both fourth in the Longbow and Gents Recurve categories, while Linda Stickings was ninth in the Ladies Recurve. Jon Smith and Mike Brown were tenth and 11th in the Compound.

Press officer Steve Walker said: "It's great to see club members doing so well away from home.

"People maybe don't realise that indoor competitions ensure the sport of archery goes on through those cold and wet winter months, and it has certainly been wet.

"Indoor archery is a different ballgame though, with short distances and small targets. It's all good for accuracy training, and it keeps our hands in ready for the summer season, which we're all looking forward to."