



MEDIA RELEASE

Issued on behalf of the Commonwealth Games Council for Wales

Welsh Shooting and Archery teams on target for Commonwealth success

The latest teams selected to compete for Wales in this year's Commonwealth Games have been announced. Shooting and archery named their athletes that will head to Delhi in October, and remarkably both teams contain a set of twins.

Janette and Jeanette Howells, 48, from Pontypridd, have been chosen for the archery team while Jenny and Sian Corish, 22, will compete in the women's shooting events.

Jenny, a scientist in a veterinarian centre, and Sian, a physiotherapist, are no strangers to the Commonwealth Games having competed in Melbourne in 2006. Other Games' veterans in the shooting team are reigning Commonwealth Champion, Gold medallist David Phelps from Cardiff, three positional shooter John Croydon from Oswestry, shotgun specialist Mike Wixey from Abergavenny with two games, another Shotgun specialist Malcolm Allen from Abercarn and 2002 Gold medallist Johanne Brekke from Bridgend with three Games under their belts.

Shot gunner Malcolm Allen, 48, from Abercarn, and Steve Pengelly, 51, a civil servant from Oxfordshire, will have racked up five Games after Delhi equaling the record for the number of Welsh Commonwealth Games shooting representations.

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First timers in the team are Helen Warnes, 20, from Cwmbran, Rhys Price, 20, from Abergavenny; Scott Morgan, 20, from Newport; Lancashire-based Jamie Dummer 42; full-bore rifle shooters Gareth Morris, 34, and Robert Oxford, 41, Women's Olympic trap shooters Cheryl Gizzi, 59, from Colwyn Bay and partner Jacquelyn Lewis, 39, from Hereford; Rachel Gravell, 23, from Carmarthen, and partner Nicola Wilson, 30, from Swansea.

Nicola has only been shooting air pistol since 2006 when she saw it being featured on television at the Melbourne Games. Alan Green, 44, originally from Dorset but who has been based in Switzerland since the UK pistol ban, makes up the team.

Shooting team manager John Dallimore, said: "I am delighted that Wales is sending such a strong team and I am positive that all will work hard to fulfil their potential. The balance of age, experience and youth in the team is brilliant and along with coaches Rob Riddett, Richard Stepney, Martin Watkins and Rob Warnes I'm hopeful of a happy and successful games."

Joining Janette and Jeanette on the archery team is teacher Tracey Anderson, 35, from Carmarthen; Tapani Kalmaru, 20, from Haverfordwest; Andrew Rose, 41, from Cardiff; and Geraint Thomas, 26, from Bridgend.

Pat Widger, Chair of the Welsh Archery Association, said: "The Association is delighted that archery has been included in the Games for the first time since 1982. The archers that have been selected to represent Wales will provide a strong compound team and are all continuing to work hard to achieve their full potential. We are fortunate in having MaryAnn Richardson as the Team Manager. MaryAnn has herself been an international archer and an experienced team manager for Wales and, in the past she has also been an Assistant Team Manager for the GB Field Team. I am hopeful that with the wide experience of the team members and the Team Manager that they will have a successful games. I would also like to take this opportunity of wishing all the athletes in Team Wales an enjoyable and successful Games."

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The archery team will compete at the Yamuna Sports Complex in Delhi from 4-6 October, followed by India Gate from 7-10 October, while the Shooting competition will take place at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range from 6 to 13 October.

Up to 8,000 competitors from 71 countries – including up to 200 Welsh athletes – will compete in 17 sports in the 2010 Games from October 3-14.

The tournament is the only multi-sport international event in which Wales competes as a country in its own right, and Welsh athletes hold 15 current Commonwealth Games records in 110 hurdles, 400 metres, cycling, shooting and weightlifting categories. Wales won 19 medals at the Melbourne Games four years ago.

BIOGS:

Archery

***Tracey Anderson**, 24 Feb 1975, is from Carmarthen and now lives in Newport. She attended Glan Y Mor Comprehensive School and has been competing for 23 years after taking up the sport with her mum. Her parents and sisters are archery coaches. She is a full time teacher working as Head of Art at St Teilos Church in Wales High School in Cardiff. She met her partner of 19 years, Greg, when she represented Wales in Scotland. Her career highlight was gaining a silver medal in Croatia in 2008 in the European Field Championships.

PB- Fita 1368 at Lilleshall and 674 at Long Mynd Fita 720 (2010)

Janette and Jeanette Howells, 24 Dec 1961, from Pontypridd, got involved with archery after the whole family descended on their local club 22 years ago. They attended Hawthorn Comprehensive School in Pontypridd and train at Pentref Bowmen in Llwynypia in Rhondda where they coach each other.

Janette is a legal assistant with a firm of solicitors in Cardiff while Jeanette is the Environmental Support Unit Manager for Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

The twins have been to India before where they represented Wales in the Archery Commonwealth Cup in November 2006.

PB-Janette- 1349, Sept 2009 in Shropshire

Jeanette- FITA Star = 1361 in Lilleshall National Sports Centre in Telford in 2009

FITA 720 = 668 in Litchfield in 2009

Best 12 arrow pass = 112 in Litchfield 2009

****Tapani Kalmaru**, 24 Dec 1989, born in Haverfordwest and now lives in Llanelli. Tapani took up archery while on a family holiday to Centre Parcs and has been competing for eight and a half years. His mum, dad and sister are all involved with archery. He trains at Pentref Bowmen in the Rhondda. Tapani once shot an arrow from one end of a rugby pitch to the other and hit the opposite crossbar. His career highlight was making the British Senior Team in his first season as a senior archer.

PB- 693 at Long Mynd in April 2009

Andrew Rose, 30 Apr 1969, born in Cardiff, currently living in Newport. Andrew has been competing in archery for 19 years and took after his dad, brother and sister who are all involved in the sport. When he's not training at Pentref Bowmen Archery Club, he works as a Technical Manager in an architect's practice in Cardiff. Andrew has competed in India for Wales before in the Commonwealth Archery Championships, as well as competing for Great Britain in two World Target Archery Championships in China & USA

PB-1382 for a men's FITA in Lilleshall 2000, England & 690 for a 720 round in Oxford, England 2003.

****Geraint Thomas**, 08 Jan 1984, born in Bridgend lives in Pontyclun. He has been competing for 16 years and trains at Canada Lake in Creigiau. Geraint's career highlight to date was coming 7th at the IFAA (International Field Archery Association) Indoor Championships in Germany, 2007

PB- 690 achieved at Welbeck near Sheffield on May 31st 2010

Shooting

Johanne Brekke Rifle Bridgend

Johanne women's Prone Rifle has already been to three Commonwealth Games and won three medals (one a Gold) and also a fourth place. At the beginning of August is representing GBR at the World Shooting Championships in Munich. In 2009 finished equal first in the European championships also last year in a major competition equalled current World record.

Career highlight- Jo holds the Commonwealth Record from Manchester 2002. She also the won Gold Medal in New Delhi, competing at the Commonwealth Shooting Federation championships (CSFC 2010).

Jennifer Corish Rifle Caterham

Jenny was brought up in Carrog in North Wales. She joined the GB junior squad when she was 12 years old, represented GB at Europeans at U21 level at age 14, as well competing in the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne. She now lives in Caterham, Surrey, and works full time in a veterinary lab in Horsham running routing blood tests. She trains at Croydon Rifle Club.

Career highlight- Represented Wales at 2010 Commonwealth Shooting Federation Champs (test event) winning pairs silver and bronze badge in 3p and coming 4th in air rifle.

Sian Corish Rifle Newport

Brought up in North Wales and started rifle shooting just before her 11th birthday. With her twin sister Jenny she progressed through school and county ranks and was invited to join the Great Britain development squad the following year.

She has represented GBR at eight U21 European Championships (10m and 50m), two U21 World Champs, as well as competing at the 2007 World Student Games, two senior World Cup appearances, two CSF Championships and has now been selected for my 3rd Commonwealth Games at the age of 23.

Her career highlights to date are...

- finishing 4th in the individual 3p event at the 2006 Commonwealth Games
- winning the air rifle Grand Prix of Pilsen as a junior breaking the British record in the process in Jan 2007

Together with her sister Jenny, she finished in the silver medal position in the 3p pairs match at the CSF test event for the Games held in Delhi in February of this year.

Helen Warnes Rifle Cwmbran

This will be Helen's first Commonwealth Games although she has represented GBR on many occasions since the age of 15. She was a member of the Commonwealth Youth Games PUNE 2008, and will be representing GBR at the World Shooting Championships in Munich.

Career highlight was winning the pairs medal at the (CSFC 2010) earlier this year with Jo Brekke.

Cheryl Gizzi Shotgun Colwyn Bay

This is Cheryl's first Commonwealth Games. She has shot competitively for 25 years, representing Wales at home internationals and progressing to representing Wales at overseas internationals.

Recent wins are Cyprus Grand Prix, and Malta.

Trains at East Yorkshire mainly and also at Griffin Lloyd with Jackie Lewis pairs partner in October.

Jacquelyn Lewis Shotgun Hereford

This Jacquelyns's first Commonwealth Games after converting to Olympic Trap 15 months ago.

Rachel Gravell Pistol Carmarthen

First Commonwealth Games for Rachel, after missing out on selection four years ago, securing selection against some strong opposition. Welsh Speaking

Nicola Wilson Pistol Lower Cwmtwrch, Swansea

Nicola has represented Wales on many occasions. Her career highlight was winning her first Gold medal at the CSF(ED) games in Gibraltar in 2008. Her PB is 377/400, which was achieved at the West Midlands Open in June 2010. Nicola also holds the Welsh Record in 10m Air Pistol. She shoots with a Steyr LP10.

Malcolm Allen Shotgun Abercarn

First competed for Wales in the Olympic Skeet in 1990, and represented GB in 2002. Went on to compete in Commonwealth Games in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, 2002 in Manchester and 2006 in Melbourne.

Commonwealth Shooting Championships

- Delhi '95, KL '97, Auckland '99, Bisley '01, Melbourne '05 and Delhi '10

Malcolm has been the Welsh ranking No.1 since 2001 and has been winning many Welsh titles since 1995 and has competed in 12 International events for GB

Other rankings include-

2007 UK Championships Gold, GB rank 4.

2008 GB rank 1.

2009 Brit Grand Prix Gold, GB rank 4.

2010 Commonwealth Shooting Championships Gold medal

2010 European Championships GB

- current GB rank 4 June '10

Rhys Price Shotgun Monkswood, Usk

First Commonwealth Games after converting from English Skeet. Rhys is ranked No2 behind Malcolm Allen who he will partner in pairs event.

Mike Wixey Shotgun Pandy, Abergavenny

Third Commonwealth Games, Won Medal pairs medal in Manchester 2002. Mike has competed in Delhi at World Cups in 2003.

Scott Morgan Shotgun Ynysddu, Blackwood

This is his first Commonwealth Games although he has represented GB on many occasions in 2008/9/10. He will be representing GB at the World Championships in August. Made final at the (CSFC 2010) earlier this year

David Phelps Rifle Cardiff

Aged 33

Is engaged to Sheree, a fellow rifle shooter who has been selected to represent England. David has been shooting since he was 4 years old. He has been competing Internationally for Wales and GB since the age of 14 in which time he has won numerous caps at all levels. He has represented Wales at two previous Commonwealth Games; Manchester 2002 and Melbourne 2006. It was in Melbourne he achieved his highest peak to date in winning individual Gold medal in the Men's Prone Competition along with a Bronze medal in the pair's event.

PB in competition is 598 points out of 600

Jamie Dummer Rifle Pendleton, Clitheroe

Jamie's first Commonwealth Games. Competed at (CSFC 2010 New Delhi) earlier this year.

John Croydon Rifle Oswestry

Third Commonwealth Games made fourth place in Melbourne 2006 has competed at New Delhi in the CSFC 2010 earlier this year.

Steve Pengelly Pistol Benson Oxford

Started pistol shooting in 1982 and first represented Wales in Feb 1986. He became a member of the Great Britain pistol squad in 1990, and has remained a member of both squads every year to date.

Steve has already represented Wales at four Commonwealth Games, and the fifth in Delhi will mean he has equalled the record for Welsh shooters, currently jointly held by Lord Swansea (rifle) and James Birkett Evans (shotgun).

Outside of shooting, Steve served for 30 years in the Royal Air Force as an aircraft technician and is now employed as a Civil Servant.

Career highlight- Won medals at CSFC 2005 Melbourne and CSFC earlier this year in Delhi competed in European Championships in 2007

Alan Green Pistol Filzbach Switzerland

Lives in Switzerland to enable him to train regularly Second Commonwealth Games Career highlight-Won medals at CSFC 2005 Melbourne and CSFC earlier this year in New Delhi

Robert Oxford Fullbore Rifle Camberley

This will be Robert's first Commonwealth Games. He travelled to Delhi in April where he won two Gold medals at CSFC champs in Delhi 300mtr and Queens

Gareth Morris Fullbore Rifle Stanstead

Gaz started shooting smallbore in 1989 and then took up full-bore in 1990. Despite shooting in the GB U19 team in 1994, Gaz did not receive his first GB cap until 2006 but then went on to be a part of the team which won the World Long Range Championship in 2007. He has over 20 international caps for Wales, including the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

PB- Gaz and his shooting partner Bob Oxford won three of the four gold medals at the 2010 Commonwealth Shooting Federation Championships in New Delhi at the same venue as this year's Commonwealth games and are aiming to continue the good results in Delhi later this year.

Shooting team coaches

Martin Watkins	Fullbore Rifle	Crickhowell
Richard Stepney	Shotgun	Cross hands Llanelli
Robert Riddett	Rifle	Cardiff
Robert Warnes	Pistol	Cwmbran
Wm John Dallimore	Manager	Croesyceiliog

-Ends-

Notes for editors:

- 1 The Commonwealth Games is the only multi-sport event where Wales competes in its own right.
- 2 Wales is one of only six nations to have competed in every Games since 1930, winning 215 medals – including 49 gold, 69 silver and 97 bronze.
- 3 Swimmer Valerie Davies, from Cardiff, who struck two silvers in the 1930 Games in Hamilton, Canada, won Wales' first Commonwealth medals.
- 4 Weightlifter David Morgan is Wales' most successful Games' athlete, his haul of nine gold and six silver medals collected over six tournaments.
- 5 Cardiff hosted the Games in 1958, when it was called the Empire Games.
- 6 Wales recorded its highest position in the medals table (11th) at the Manchester Games of 2002, winning six gold, 13 silver and 12 bronze.
- 7 Welsh athletes hold 15 current Commonwealth Games records in 110 hurdles, 400 metres, cycling, shooting and weightlifting categories.
- 8 Up to 8,000 competitors from 71 countries – including up to 150 Welsh athletes – will compete in 17 sports in the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi from October 3-14 next year.
- 9 Wales Commonwealth Games stars of yesteryear include Lynn Davies, Nicole Cooke, Colin Jackson, Iwan Thomas, David Davies, Berwyn Price, Jamie Baulch, David Roberts, Kelly Morgan and Tanni Grey Thompson.

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