**150th Grand Western Archery Meeting Commemorative Badge**

As you may or may not be aware, this year’s Dunster Week will be the 150th Grand Western Archery Meeting. To mark this auspicious occasion GWAS are having a commemorative badge commissioned which will be available to purchase.

For those of you who are interested, here is a bit of the history behind The Meeting.

The very first meeting was held on Wednesday 17th August 1861 in Taunton with gentlemen shooting a York, ladies a National, a band playing throughout the day and all finished off with a “Grand Ball”. The event was a great success, going from strength to strength over the next few years, so much so that in 1864 The National Archery Meeting organisers called for it to be abolished and Grand Western badges withdrawn as they felt it outclassed the GNAM!

Fortunately for us “Dunsterites”, the Grand Western organisers ignored the request and continued to put on the Grand Western Archery Meeting for years to come. As a result of The Meeting’s success, The Grand Western Archery Society was formed in 1873. The Meeting moved around the region each year until, in 1955, the very first Dunster Week was held on The Polo Field and in 1958, we hopped over the river Avill to our current venue, Dunster Castle Old Park and as they say, the rest is history……

Back to the badges. These will be made in Birmingham in hallmarked solid Sterling Silver and fired-vitreous enamel. The final price will be dictated by the number we have made up, an initial order of 100 will put each badge at £70 so at this point I am asking anyone who would like one for a £35 deposit which will be returnable if I do not get enough interest to go ahead with the order.

Please complete the order form below and return to me along with your payment as soon as possible (to make my life easier and less stressful 😉) or by Sunday 31st March at the latest. Once I have the numbers in, I will contact everyone who has ordered a badge, ask for the balance of payment and, as the badges will be numbered, if you have a particular numbered badge you would like to purchase.

**Please make payment by bank transfer and record the reference you have used on the form**

**below so that I can trace your payment. My email address; vikki2@btinternet.com.**

**Account name: GWAS Dunster Week**

**Sort Code: 20-94-74**

**Account Number: 53332098**

If paying by cheque, please make payable to **GWAS Dunster Week** and return along with your completed order form and contact details to me at **2 Barrie Way, Burnham-on-Sea. Somerset TA8 1QT**

**Order Form**

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| **Name** | **I Have My Paid £35 Deposit** | **Payment Reference** |
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