At the Grand Western Archery Society's Annual General Meeting on Sunday 23rd March the position of Secretary to the Society was not filled, we had no prior nominations and nobody present at the Meeting was willing to stand. In the end Doug Human volunteered to take on the post as Temporary Secretary. While being very grateful to Doug for putting himself forward I am very conscious that it is very unfair on Doug who already has more than enough on his plate without taking on additional responsibilities. I am, therefore, asking for someone to step forward to take on this very important role within the Society - without a Secretary we cannot function and may have to close the Society. I believe that this would be a huge loss to archers in the South West as the GWAS does a lot to help archery in the Region. I cannot do better than to quote a previous Chairman, Paul Callaway, and his remarks were echoed by his successor, Lynne Evans.

"The Region organises and stages Dunster Week, the Regional Indoor event, the Regional Clout event, the Regional Field Championships, the Junior Regional Championships, the Junior Inter-Counties, the Senior Inter-Counties, all of which are underwritten by the Region.

The Region provides the funding for each County to apply for one FITA Star and one Rose Award shoot each year and grants are also made to archers from the Region who shoot internationally, to help offset the cost of travel, etc.

Disciplinary panels are required from time to time when a case is referred to the Region from County level or from Archery GB. The cost of this is borne by the Region.

The Region has a Regional Coaching Organiser to review and organise coaching within the Region, to arrange coach training programmes and conferences, to maintain a full register of all coaches within the Region and ensure that all coaches are up to date with any new techniques that may have been developed. The RCO also arranges a system of courses and assessments to advance coaches to the next level. This is all funded by your Region.

Judging. In a similar set up to coaching, the Region supports all judges within the Region through the Judging Liaison Officer and a Judging Committee.

The Region provides grants and loan to clubs, if thought applicable, to help with the development of that club.

The Region pays everyone's annual affiliation to the English Archery Federation on their behalf."

The job specification - as described in the Society's 'Terms of Reference' :-

The Grand Western Secretary is an Executive Officer of the Grand Western Council, elected each year at the GWAS AGM by the membership.

The Secretary is responsible to the Membership for the following duties:-

The Grand Western Archery Society Secretary is responsible for the following duties:

- 1. Be the recognised focal point for all communications into the Society.
- 2. Along with the Chairman is the Society's official communicator for all letters and documents issued by the Society.
- 3. Be responsible for arranging the regular Council meetings the General Meetings, and any other special meetings.
- 4. Be the official minute taker at the Council Meetings, and any General Meetings.
- 5. Be responsible for the collation, editing and publishing of the regional data in the Annual Diary of Events and Directory.

Can I ask you to see if anyone you know is willing to take this on, and if they are would you please ask them to contact me as soon as possible?

Many thanks,

Chris Hassall, GWAS Chairman,

38, Acacia Gardens, Taunton, Somerset. TA2 8TA 01823 413624 chairman@gwas.org.uk

If is Hassall