



FAN UK introducing presents “Siberian Arrow”.

Helen spent some time getting to know **Andrei Yakushin**, owner of **Siberian Arrow**. Here is what he had to share about how he got into archery and the incredible and rather unique 3D targets that he & his wife, Natalya, make (and their cat Thira's role in target approval!) ...



My acquaintance with the bow started with the fact that I gave one to a friend for his Birthday. Then I bought the same one myself. After a while I learned that in our city there is a section on archery. Gradually I began to practice.



When my wife and I travelled, I always took a bow - once, in Spain, we went to a 3D shoot. It so strongly impressed me that I decided to organize training/set up a course on 3D shooting in my city Novosibirsk. I learned the rules and met a man who participated in the 3D tournaments in the European part of our country.

For our first 3D shoot we only had 7 archers attend and only 7 second-hand 3D targets to shoot at, but we still had a good day. Sadly, buying new targets was too expensive for our family budget.

For the other targets I just printed them and secured them to blocks of foam.



But it was necessary to do something further to add a number of targets to the next tournament; so I then began to study the Internet and to think how to make the targets yourself.

*My wife, who is an architect, designed the first target herself. It was a Martes flavigula (a Yellow-throated Marten). Then we picked up the material through trial and error. Oh! ... how much energy, time and money we spent before I found the right density material; **BUT** how nice it was to get the first target correctly shaped!!! Then my friend and I conducted the first tests. We shot Martes flavigula many many times from lots of different distances.*

And then we asked “Is it possible for us to sell our creations?” and we began to make them to order. Then we starting receiving requests for a pig, a bird or something else and so the range of targets expanded significantly.



All the models were made of clay by my wife and I (and our cat Thira!).



We did this in their spare time and with the funds that we earned. Then we came up with a website and more interest was placed the target rat on eBay.



Our first customer was from Sweden. We were very worried about sending our very first international parcels, as even the employees of our post offices didn't know how it was done!!! **BUT** we managed and Sweden is now on our map of many countries to which we ship our targets. It is also very nice to see that what my wife and I make with our own hands is being appreciated by many, many miles away from us!!!



We have no employees or factory and selling targets does not pay much, but we do what brings us pleasure. And since in our city the summer is very short we are now looking for a room to organise year-round 3D tournaments and we will find one, we just need a little time.

Find out more about us at:-

<http://3darcherynovosibirsk.wixsite.com/3d-target>