

The Friendly Times

ALICE SPRING
MASTERS GAMES
The Friendly Games

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Gold foray is pure Gaul

Nick Kossatch
ARCHERY

THERE was a French flavour at the archery in last Thursday's ASMG competition, with seven shooters from French Caledonia competing in the World Recreational archery round class.

Francois Robin is one of the seven who started archery after his two children prompted him to take up the sport.

The competitors are all from the same club in the Northern Caledonian city of Pouembout.

"Here it is more field archery," Robin said.

"The team is going well and we are hoping to get a gold medal."

That is exactly what happened, with the members winning five gold medals, three silver and two bronze between them.

It exceeded expectations with the Olympic-style category as their "strength".

President of the French archery club, Guy Plazanet, praised the Alice Springs counterpart club.

"The organisation here is very good and friendly and it is the first time we set up as a team here for the Alice Springs Masters Games," Plazanet said.

His wife Sylvana also competed at the World Masters Games in Italy, where she took out gold and also has won the French Championships earlier this year.

Competition ended on Saturday, with medal rounds in the ABA 3D category.

Event co-ordinator Darryl Wakefield said a lot of the local shooters benefited greatly from having the French shooters here.

"While they were here, the local archers learned a lot from them as we only shoot targets every now and then," Wakefield said.



This team of archers from New Caledonia were just some of the visitors in Alice Springs for the Masters Games

Picture: PHIL W