

ON THE stroke of midnight, January 1 2007, fireworks and cheers could have been heard all over the country but two archers from Lorn Longbows brought in 2007 in a more unusual way.

medieval German mixture of gunpowder and we used that.
 'It worked really well but he won't tell us what the mixture is.
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We did it just to do something different at New Year and we had a crowd of people watching us to see if it would work

Longbow world champion Sean O'Byrne and Scottish internationalist Martin Ward chose to shoot fire arrows over Loch Etive.

Using a form of gunpowder, the pair lit rags on the end of their arrows and shot them from the slipway at Connel.

Sean said: 'We tried it in Ballachulish a few years ago using salt petre – a primitive form of gunpowder – but the flame would go out after we fired it.
 'However, we found a guy on the internet who had a

would work.'

Lorn Longbows is an archery club which uses traditional longbows as opposed to the more modern archery equipment around now.

The club's competitive season starts in March and Sean will be defending his world championship this summer.
 Sean added: 'The season will be starting soon so we will need lots of practice to sharpen up for that.'



Lorn Longbow archers shoot fire arrows across Loch Etive