



Well that's another Wildfowling season over I hope you've been lucky and topped up your freezer compartment with some of Scotland's finest eating. For those who haven't there is always next season when you can add much of what you have learned and rule out any mistakes that you think you have made.

The last few weeks were slightly disappointing due to mild and windless conditions. Going out over the estuaries in this type of weather has proved extremely difficult and resulted in empty game bags and few or nil shots. However birds were plump and in perfect shape when on occasion a little bit of luck did come your way.

This time of year is generally a busy and exciting time for all fowlers - not only for wildfowl - most of our club members are involved with local estates and beat throughout the season. This is rewarded with Beaters Day and also cock only day. A fine opportunity to put more than half a dozen cartridges in your pocket and also a wee reminder on how skilled you have to be to succeed in hitting a well driven bird.

It goes without saying that these special days are all the more enjoyable when you are mixing with quality people who all understand the way of the countryside. It just wouldn't be the same if it weren't for a few characters who keep us smiling season after season, oh and that goes for the dogs too!!

Last pink of the season for me - I was able to call this bird over from a party of 6 or so that were edging past just out of shot. I guess my dulcet tones of this particular species weren't that bad after all! It was soon transformed into a

delicious fillet surrounded by local home grown vegetables, tomatoes, and washed down with home-brew strawberry gin.



Time now to get all those close season jobs done and one of them is to help my daughter and son in law with their fast maturing Cocker Spaniel. Will he join the ranks next season? We will just have to wait and see. One thing's for sure the Trialling guys can relax we won't be bothering them this year!



Have a restful close season.

JM

TVWA Secretary .