



Just a couple of extraordinary guys shooting pigeons

It was sad to hear the passing away of Jack Charlton. Most people will remember him from his footballing days with Leeds United and of course the England world cup team in 1966. Others will know that he liked nothing better than fishing shooting and other country pursuits which were all a million miles away from his footballing achievements. I always regret only just missing him by a few hours at a Bed&Breakfast down in Newton Stewart, we were both Wildfowling on the mouth of the river Cree and Jackie had been and gone before I arrived.

Now that we are into August thoughts on the season ahead are no doubt beginning to stir up some kind of action from all Wildfowlers out there. Shed doors will be getting swung open to find decoys all covered in cobwebs, waders with holes that require repair, string lines and weights that need replacement, mice may have used your game bags for nesting purposes or even worse chewed on any leather available to them. Or maybe you're way ahead of the game and all your equipment is neatly hung up, waders patched months previously, game bags clean and leather straps coated with a luxurious wax. Then there are boats which I will leave to you seafaring experts.



Permits for 2020/2021 are usually issued via Fife Council for the Eden Estuary. These are normally issued in August so it will be interesting to see what effect the recent disruptions will have had on the Admin staff and at what date they will be able to distribute them to those Wildfowlers concerned.

Preparations for September all need to be put in place especially if you want to stay safe and dry. And if you are lucky enough to be introducing a new four legged friend - exciting as well. Good luck with the season ahead and take care out there, be it walking through the reed beds or out over the flats.

JM