

Welcome to our August newsletter even if it is a little late. This summer of sport has been one of the very best and after covid one of the most needed. Wimbledon, Tour de France, Golf at St Andrews, World Champs at Oregon then the Commonwealth games in Birmingham.

Attempting to get things done with all the excellent TV coverage has left me with a things to do list that that is urgently requiring attention. I would imagine like me you will have been busy with other interests outside of Wildfowling and within our club there are more than a few talented guys out there all doing great things within our community.

It looks like it will be a rather difficult season for some of our game shoots. I was assisting with delivery of pheasant poults at my local estate but not everyone is going to be in the same position. Cases of bird flu out on our Bass rock have been sounding alarm bells especially for the Gannet colony out there, thankfully on our mainland estuary's and lochs I haven't seen any evidence of similar cases.





Just in case you haven't noticed here's what's happening on our streets this seagull will have to be quick as there are crows, magpies, buzzards, woodpeckers and jays queuing up to do the same. I never snapped this gull in action but whilst out early morning cycling I counted 4 dead gulls by the roadside around my home town I can also add 2 roe deer and 3 hedge hogs that's just one morning before 8am in 1hr

As we all know the gulls have come inland for easy pickings simply because the sea is emptying fast of what they used to feed on. Our landfill sites are a massive attraction providing all sorts of goodies that we've tossed out. However the situation is made far worse when the public litter the streets and parks with left-over food. In my town if you get up early and bike, jog, or walk round the shops, streets and parks you will see what I mean, bins are overflowing with litter park seats and play areas are similar also plastic bottles being amongst the assembly of rubbish. The council squad which we all pay towards come along and tidy things up and in between this time the birds are having breakfast which can be anything which helps them survive. How on earth are we going to save the planet when we can't even keep our streets and parks tidy? (Rant over)

The nights are fair drawing in as they say so I hope you've all made the best of it I know for sure that our Gundog guys will have made good use of the long nights bringing on fresh young dogs that could well turn out to become future superstars, oh and well done at the Scone Game fair representing Scotland must be a huge privilege.

Salmon anglers will have been fishing on to what I call Bat time allowing the day to cool down and the sun to dip lower in the sky a magical time for a take just before dark. Numbers on the Tay seem to have been good this season and that's before the larger numbers of Grilse and late salmon appear, fingers crossed.

Wildfowlers will have been out in their summer wear with midge netting in place hopefully finding a few new areas.

Which reminds me I will be getting in touch with a couple of new members for a familiarity couple of hours around the estuary I might even arrange for our chairman to grace us with his presence.



Memberships will be renewed as usual in September along with any new members.

Good luck for the 1st Sep. And take care out there!

JM