

Wildfowling history - The Foreshore as a Place of Observation

For many, wildfowling is not only about shooting but about spending time observing wildlife in the estuary landscape. A wildfowler recalls an afternoon when he watched a large group of wigeon swimming up the river in the sunlight. Although the birds came close enough to shoot, he chose not to take a shot and instead simply watched them pass.

“They shone so nice in the sun... I didn’t even bother shooting. I quite enjoyed just watching them.”

The story reflects a broader ethos among many wildfowlers that values time spent in the landscape, observing wildlife and seasonal changes, as much as the act of harvesting birds.