

Becoming a Wildfowler - A New Newcastle Wildfowler

Alan is with Newcastle wildfowlers for overall about 18 months to two years.

How did you become involved?

I was just walking around and I was talking to Steve (A Member) at the time because he hadn't all moved there and I said oh I'd love to get into shooting, but because you need this and you need that to get into shooting now there's no way to do it. Steve says don't talk a load of rubbish that's what they want you to think I'm going to help you do it he says. You apply for your license and find a pigeon shooting club. Ironically the shooting club that I contacted when I got there there was a guy who I'd known for many many years. So I got my shotgun certificate and then about seven years ago.

Why did you want to go wildfowling?

It's just, I don't know, it's just something that's in me, I'm sea daft anyway because I've always been with the sea, fishing, the shore, and I don't know, I think it was when I was a kid, sort of bits of books and things like that, not that I was a reader, but my father had an old shotgun book, how to learn how to shotgun, which must have been 500 years old, but it had a bit in it, Well, and how you're going in the mud flats and things like that, that's just the art.

What do you get from shooting?

I just find it relaxing, it's time away from the reality of everyday life, you know, life these days is just so fast and so mad and pressure on, you just, you're out, you're in the countryside and like I said before, nine times out of ten you take the gun for a walk and you're watching, you're watching what's going on around you, you're saying, you're sniffing, you're hearing and you're just, the quiet and the calm away....because obviously you're trying to find something to, you know, you're either stalking or you're doing the rabbits or whatever, you're being quiet, you're watching what's going on and you're watching and you're looking for trails and things like that and it's just, it's a complete different world to the everyday chaos, you know, it just makes sense, you know what I mean, yeah it's just, it's like when you go fishing on the boat, there's nothing else to say,