

Becoming a Wildfowler – Mel

I began wildfowling at 18 while I was a student, taking up the opportunity to shoot on the Ythan Estuary with two close friends, one of whom was already a WAGBI member. In those early days, I learned alongside my peers, gradually building knowledge through shared experience. Later, more formal guidance came through the GWCA, alongside mentoring that helped refine my understanding.

Like many, I learned through practice — time on the marsh, trial and error, and gradually improving my skills. Even now, going out roughly once a month, I still find deep joy in being out on the marsh. Wildfowling has given me companionship, a connection with others, and a quiet satisfaction in continuing to improve as a shot.