

THE FIELD®

SEPTEMBER 2019 £5.50

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Partridge Special

How to shoot the coveys crisply



Gundogs from ancient lines

The true aristocrats of the canine world

Catching 40lb British salmon

The glory years of the River Wye



Field Notes

Orvis UK saves 'The Salt' Festival

The UK Saltwater Fly Fishing Festival, known as 'The Salt', is going ahead as planned this September (12-15) after Orvis UK stepped in after the previous sponsor pulled out.

The event, started by Tim and Amelia Whitaker in 2014, attracts anglers from all over Britain who come to sample the saltwater fly-fishing along 12 miles of coastline around the Cornish village of St Mawes.

"Catching bass on the fly on the beach or rocks is quite easy once you know how. You need to understand where they like to patrol and feed," said Martin Webster, who won the annual *Field* trophy at last year's competition after catching 29 bass.

This year, Webster will be offering advice to anglers during the Festival. "You need to be a competent

caster and use the right flies and you will succeed," he says. Rods also need to be prepared to get up early in the morning and get "stuck into the waves, the currents and the tides".

As well as bass, anglers can fish for mullet and mackerel. This year there is a special prize for the lady fisher who catches the biggest variety and length of fish. Young fishers are also being encouraged with taster sessions on the beach in St Mawes with guides. Michael Rescorle, from the Bass Anglers Sportfishing Society, is among the saltwater fly anglers giving demonstrations.

A drinks reception sponsored by Curio Gin is held on the Thursday to welcome competitors; on the Friday there is a quiz; and on Saturday a festival party takes place.



"Saltwater fly-fishing offers some fantastic opportunities to explore our amazing coastlines," said Brian Campbell-Kearsey, head of marketing at Orvis UK.

Fishers taking part are offered a special package of £60 a night at The Ship & Castle Hotel in St Mawes. Registration for the fishing costs £90. Visit: www.saltwaterflyfishinguk.com

First H&H bursaries fund further study



An underkeeper from Scotland is off to New Zealand to study predator control after winning a bursary from Holland & Holland. Sam Kilduff, 18, is the first recipient of the bursary, launched to give young keepers and stalkers the opportunity for further study.

Iona Macpherson, 20, was also given funding to carry out a 12-week trial on the Angus Glen moors this year to identify the best tick control methods for improving survival of ground-nesting birds.

Liam Bell, chairman of the National Gamekeepers' Organisation, said the H&H bursary, "may well be the vehicle for supporting, encouraging and, ultimately, unlocking real talent".

Other shortlisted applications were: George Wissett-Warner for his plan to supply sustainable local venison to south-west England; and Albert Barker for his partridge reintroduction scheme.

In brief

SOLO SHOW FOR FARMER TURNED PHOTOGRAPHER

Wiltshire farmer turned photographer David White is holding his first solo show at the Osborne Studio Gallery from 17 September to 5 October. On show are 40 works, printed on aluminium plates in an edition of nine. Subjects range from the wildlife of White's Wiltshire habitat to the flora of Japan and rare pheasants from Nepal, which he was invited to visit by the WPA (World Pheasant Association). All are priced at £275. For details, call 020 7235 9667 or visit: www.osg.uk.com



HABITAT HELP FOR WATER VOLES

Buffer strips, control of American mink and restoring wetland habitats are needed to help the water vole, numbers of which have crashed by 90%. A new guide from the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) for landowners offers advice on how to improve habitats for water voles.

"Farming has a huge impact on water quality, and I hope this guide will help motivate landowners to create habitats that help our water vole population flourish," said Hilary Benn, MP, PTES' species champion for water voles.

THE FIELD AT BURGHLEY

For those of you attending the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials (5-8) there's a *Field*-sponsored demonstration by gundog trainer Adrian Slater on the Thursday at 12.30pm. This will be followed by *The Field's* Gundog Awards, sponsored by Skinner's, presented by The Editor and team. We look forward to welcoming readers onto stand A19, and subscribers can also enjoy a free glass of champagne at the Pol Roger Lodge by pre-registering at: thefield.co.uk/rewards

TO CONTACT THE OPENING SHOTS NEWS DESK SEND AN EMAIL TO CAROLINE.BANKES@TI-MEDIA.COM

The Naked, Strewth

A MONTHLY EXPLORATION OF THE BRITISH FONDNESS FOR REMOVING CLOTHES IN A GOOD CAUSE



THE ROYAL HOLLOWAY RIDING CLUB CALENDAR 2019

It was boots on bras off for students at the Royal Holloway Riding Club to support their local branch of Riding for the Disabled, SAMBER, based in Chobham. The calendar is no longer on sale but you can donate at www.rda.org.uk. *The Field* has contributed to the cause.

Surrey estate wins silviculture award

Shere Manor Estate in Surrey has won the Royal Forestry Society 2019 Excellence in Forestry Silviculture Award for a plantation of 12-year-old naturally regenerated Scots pine that judges described as "exemplary".

The award recognises silviculture in commercial woodland or compartments of established crops less than 30 years of age where wood production is the primary aim.

The estate beat strong competition from woodland across London, southern and south-east England in a category that judge Dr Christine Cahalan said had attracted, "an extraordinarily varied and unfailingly high standard of entries".

Handa Bray – whose family has owned Shere Manor Estate for 500 years – said: "I am absolutely delighted to be recognised for our forestry and for the quality of the ongoing woodland management. As



an estate we are very proud of our woodland. It was my Uncle Reggie who opened them to public access as much as possible, making us one of the first estates in the country to do so."

Winner of the Duke of Cornwall's Award for multipurpose resilient forestry was Bramshill Plantation, created on barren land in Hampshire previously used for gravel extraction. Over the past 50 years the woodland, which is managed by Forestry England, has become an important habitat for birds and dragonflies. A more diverse range of tree species is being planted to ensure the habitats remain resilient to climate change.

Winner of the 2019 Small and Farm Woodland Award was a native broadleaved woodland created on an arable field outside Oxford by Riki Therivel, with help from volunteers and school children.

DIARY DATES: SEPTEMBER

1 Hampshire Country Sports Day
Bereleigh Estate, Petersfield (fundraiser for the CA).
Tel 01380 831068;
www.hampshirecountysportsday.co.uk

7 Braemar Highland Gathering
Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park,
Braemar, Aberdeenshire.
Tel 01339 741527; www.braemargathering.org

7 Moreton-in-Marsh Show
Moreton, Gloucestershire.
Tel 01608 651908; www.moretonshow.co.uk

7-8 Dorset Food Rocks Festival
Lyme Regis, Dorset (fundraiser for the Fisherman's
Mission and RNLI).
For tickets to the supper clubs, visit: www.hixrestaurants.co.uk/restaurant/food-rocks

7-8 Sandringham Game and Country Fair
Sandringham Estate, Norfolk.
Tel 01283 820660;
www.sandringhamgameandcountryfair.co.uk

8 Frampton Country Fair
Frampton on Severn, near Gloucester.
Tel 01452 740152; www.framptoncountryfair.co.uk

13-18 LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair
Berkeley Square, London W1.
Tel 020 7823 3511; www.lapadalondon.com

13-22 Heritage Open Days
Theme for 25th anniversary year is 'People Power'.
Tel 020 7824 7180; heritageopendays.org.uk

14 Ride+Stride for Churches
Money raised will help repair some of Britain's
42,000 churches and chapels.
Tel 020 7222 0605; www.rideandstrideuk.org

14-15 Midland Game Fair
Weston Park, Shropshire, new home for World
Hunter Field Target Championship.
Tel 01889 563232; www.countrymanfairs.co.uk

17 Holts Auction of Fine Modern & Antique Guns
The Army Reserve Centre, Adam and Eve Mews,
Kensington, London W8 (viewing on 13-16).
Tel 01485 542822; www.holtsauctioneers.com

21-22 Royal County of Berkshire Show
Newbury Showground, Thatcham, Berkshire.
Tel 01635 247111; www.berkshireshow.co.uk

24-6 Oct (closed 30 Sept) Goldsmiths' Fair
Foster Lane, London EC2. Latest collections from
136 jewellers and silversmiths.
Tel 020 7606 7010; www.goldsmithsfair.co.uk

28-29 Wiltshire Game & Country Fair
Bowood House, Calne.
Tel 01283 820548;
www.wiltshiregameandcountryfair.co.uk

OCTOBER ISSUE
TOP FIELDSPORTS KIT
OUT ON 19 SEPTEMBER