



'HK's JUNE BLOG'

Issue 11 – June 2013

The blog of Mullenscote Dog Training Centre and Lains Shooting School

More often than not my very first reference in this Blog is a mention of the weather, it's just that stating the obvious it makes so much difference to the way that everyone feels and in our job it seriously affects what we do here. This fantastic run of Spring weather is wonderful, everywhere is green and lush my very favourite time of year. The lovely weather has meant that our first shows have seen us basking in the sunshine along with the huge crowds that the weather brings out. The New Forest Spring Fair and Surrey County were really great once again the dogs were ace. ITV cameras followed us to the New Forest and filmed Buck making his debut appearance in the arena, true to form he was full of beans and duly entertained the audience (and probably 5 million of Paul Ogrady's viewers) by picking up the dummy and galloping around the arena.



Ironically it's the demo's we deliver that don't quite go to plan that audiences remember the most, a particularly infamous one of mine being when giving a demo at Amport Village Fete I had manoeuvred myself to the South end of the arena where the bulk of the audience had collected. I bent over to reach for a dummy and my shiny brand new Moleskins 'exploded,' they quite literally split from the waistband all the way around to just under where a Gentleman's brains live (Mums you'll have to explain that one to the children) in one ear splitting 'crack.' My brain goes into overdrive, " Ohhhh My Lord I'm bent over exposing my backside and some of my brains to the Cream of Amport Society," The Parish Council and no word of lie and least 70% of the WI had chosen this unfortunate part of the arena to set out their chairs." This moment required a cool, calm, head. Slowly I stood back up and clenched my buttocks, "I bet no one's even noticed" I thought. The silence around the arena said different, the silence seemed to last forever as the WI contained themselves. Then and it's still painful now, the silence was destroyed by a roar of laughter which came from a dreadful man (Tim Stevenson I hate you) followed quickly by an almighty exhaling of breath and then rapturous giggling from the WI and everyone else in Amport. Still frozen to the spot, buttocks still clenched and pointing at the WI I turned towards my tormentors and for some bizarre reason announced over the 'Mike' "ladies and gentleman, boys and girls I suspect that some of you may have noticed that I have a small problem." Unfortunately this only served to make things worse and armed only with a limp smile I stood for what seemed like an eternity whilst my audience laughed themselves into exhaustion.

Mrs Stevenson, the only person in the whole audience that showed an ounce of sympathy towards my plight rushed out from behind the arena fence and very kindly tied her cardy around my waist, I did note that you weren't totally sympathetic Mrs. Stevenson it was your giggling that gave it away.

Like a true professional I continued my demonstration thanked the audience for their support, yeah right! And quietly slipped home.

The moral of this story is, never work with animals, children or tight moleskins. Needless to say Amport Fete have booked me every year since!

Top Handlers



It's essential that I give a mention to the time, thought, effort and dog training skills that so many of our dog clients are achieving. I work with a lot of dog owners on our courses and lessons and whether you are producing a Companion or Gundog I'm just so impressed at how hard people work to ensure they do their level best for dogs.

Learning to train a puppy from scratch is no easy task, the puppy develops so quickly both mentally and physically and first time owners can easily be left behind, fire fighting trying to deal with problem behaviours. Consistently now I work with owners that are working really hard to prevent problems becoming ingrained. It's difficult you have to acquire skills so quickly and whilst it's essential that you research, read and watch DVDs there is no substitute for real hands on picking up the lead and going training.

Charlie's Pit Challenge

Starting on the 1st July we'll be running a Shooting competition and there's an opportunity for you to improve your shooting and win a Years free Membership to the Shooting School, there will be Junior, Club, Ladies and Advanced classes to ensure you are shooting on a level playing field and we will have a leading Shooters Board posted in the clubhouse displaying the competition leaders. It will run for three months so you can shoot it loads of times and post an unbeatable score. Competitors will need to shoot a set of 25 driven targets launched randomly over Charlie's Pit in an arc of approx 45 degrees to the right and left of the stand. Charlie's Pit has become a real favourite with our clients "its brilliant practice for game shooting" said Lains regular.....



Social Media

We are now posting a lot more of our day to day fun and games on Facebook so you can keep up with who, when, and what on our Mullenscote and Lains Shooting School Facebook page. Even if you don't choose to visit the page very often please help us out and go to the page and give us a LIKE'
<https://www.facebook.com/MullenscoteGunDogs>



East Tytherley Fete 8th June

Cheshire County Show 18/19 June

Welsh Country Fair 22/23 June

Amport Fete 13 July (Promise not to Expose myself!)



New Building at Mullenscote

After 25 years of trying we have finally been granted planning permission for a permanent residence here at Lains. Along with other measures in place this will obviously complete the security arrangements necessary for our estate.



We are well on the way with the build of our new Norwegian Log Cabin, the weather has been kind to us and the major structure is now up, won't be long before I take up residence so very excited about that.



Quote of the Month

(You need to adopt a very plummy British accent and mindset for this one)

Posh client says "ohhh Howard you're building a lovely new block of kennels over there."

Howard replies "Oh no Madam that's my new Norwegian Log Home, I'm really excited about moving into it."

Posh lady "Really... you're going to live in THAT!"

Howard. "Yes Madam that's the way it is for us poor people"

Posh Lady "Ohhh dear."

I'm certain she meant well.



NEW COURSE DATES

Course	Brief Description	Dates	Entry Requirement
Foundation Course	<i>Basic course for young gundogs at the start of their training. Instruction will concentrate on the basics of heel work, sit, stay, recall and introduce the dog to basic retrieving. Socialisation with other dogs and handlers will also be covered.</i>	This course will start on Tuesday 9 th of July 2013 running from 6.00pm until 07.30pm. This course will be meeting for 6 TUESDAYS with Assessment on the sixth meeting, at the price of £125.00. Dates are: 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th of July, 6 th of August and Assessment on 13 th of August 2013	Open to all breeds of gundog aged 20 weeks to 1 year*, including non-pedigree and non-KC registered dogs. Dogs should be non-aggressive.
Bronze Courses	<i>Entry level course following on from foundation training aiming to prepare handlers and dogs for taking the Kennel Club Working Gundog Certificate. Dogs will be streamed into classes to match their stage of learning.</i>	This course will start on Wednesday 10 th of July 2013 running from 6.00pm until 7.30pm. This course will be meeting for 6 WEDNESDAYS with Assessment on the sixth meeting, at the price of £125.00. Dates are 10 th , 17 th , 24 th and the 31 st of July, the 7 th August and Assessment on 14 th August 2013	Open to all breeds of gundog including non-pedigree and non-KC registered dogs. Dogs should be capable of remaining focused in a class of multiple dogs, be able to walk on a lead, demonstrate a desire to retrieve and be non-aggressive.
Silver & Gold Course	<i>A follow on to Basic Training courses, aiming to produce a well trained Shooting Dog that is now handled off lead and continues to advance retrieving skills to multiple retrieves, blinds, Gunshot and steadiness.</i>	This course will start on SATURDAY 27 th of July 2013 running from 1.30pm until 3.00pm. This course will be meeting for 6 SATURDAYS with Assessment on the sixth meeting, at the price of £125.00. Dates are 27 th of July, 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th of August and Assessment on 7 th of September 2013	A follow on to the Entry Level courses. Course Open to all breeds of gundog including non-pedigree and non-KC registered dogs. Dogs should be capable of remaining focused in a class of multiple dogs, and be non-aggressive.

Please call the office if you would like us to tailor a package to meet your specific requirements on 01264 889467.

KEEP TRAINING!!!



Howard

If the cap fits wear it !

Following on from Freddie's contribution 'I Have Sinned' from last year I would like to tell you that we spent last summer at Lains first doing a Gold Gundog Course, followed by the KC Gundog Certificate plus a selection of 'Aim High Days' I began to think it would be easier to pitch my tent at Lains !!

The outcome of it all was that Freddie developed into the steadiest, most diligent worker you can imagine. He was an absolute joy to have out on the shoots.

I am going to award Howard the cap (along with the numerous other awards he is collecting). It proves that even Howard can train a Golden Retriever, be it his least favourite of tasks !!!

(Just joking Howard!) Hazel



Mullenscote Links and Information

Club Membership – free access to rabbit and bird pens, 10% discount on dog food and much much more for just £48 for the year. Call for details on 01264 889467

Course Dates - <http://www.mullenscote.co.uk/courses.html>

Shows and Events - http://www.mullenscote.co.uk/shows_and_events.html

Training DVDs, Hunter Wellies and more



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