

**Your Hopkins Farmers FITASC. 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 – Purbeck Shooting School.**

The first shoot of our new campaign set some impressive standards for the coming season. A great start to 2018 had 7 squads - 46 guns enjoyed a superb day at Purbeck with good weather and a fantastic variation of targets. The new FITASC areas have everything required to show the very best in challenging targets with easy access via vehicles to all of the ground.

**End of Bank-** Started with a variation of tight driven targets, a distant looper and a fast quartering bird. The clever combination in the doubles caught many out who thought that a clean score was inevitable. **Windfall & Gully-** This would have been a favourite for many with great use of the gully. A close run contest between Andy Herbert-Smith & John Pool resulted in John winning 'High Gun' by one clay over Andy who won Class 'A' - with 92. The two scores were ever impressive being that there was only 5 other guns achieving 80 and above. Class 'B' was won by Ray & Mike Hillyer who both shot 80. 'C' Class and most improved winner went to Ian Gillespie who shot an excellent 77. Frank Hodges won 'D' Class with a fine 61.

**Class Results.**

High Gun – John Pool 92

Class A – Andy Herbert-Smith 91, Kevin Young 86, Colin Hanson 85.

Class B – Mike & Ray Hillyer 80, Dave Vickery 79, Dave Coward 76.

Class C – Ian Gillespie 77, Richard Taylor & Sean Teversham 73, Roger Wheeler 72.

Class D – Frank Hodges 61, Rob Fricker 59, John Heenan 55.

Most improved – Ian Gillespie + 12.

Draw prize winner – Ray Hillyer.

Both Ian & Ray win 250 cartridges kindly sponsored by Hopkins Concrete Ltd.

**A word from the winner – John Pool.**

Never too old to start! I started shooting at the age of 40 after I was invited to a corporate day. After giving up Rugby I still wanted to compete so thought I would have lessons to try and win the corporate day (which I did). I then went back to the coach for more lessons to see if I could shoot to a higher level, now the work starts the coach said! The coach was Roger Silcox, after numerous lessons with him and shooting most weeks I started to improve and after three years I was invited to shoot for England. From that I was invited to shoot for GB where I became captain. "I've been all around the world shooting for GB. I still enjoy shooting with friends at the farmers FITASC".

My top tips for this month:

1. Make sure that you know where the clay is coming from, so you can adjust your start position to suit.
2. If it is not working- keeping analysing and adjusting and don't accept missing.

Next month we are at Ham Cross Shooting Ground Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, details will follow next month.

Finally – many thanks to all who shot and hopefully enjoyed our first shoot at Purbeck this season. Thanks to Graham Brown & all of the staff at Purbeck who set some great target and especially the refs who looked after us. Not forgetting of course Gail who as always provided us with a superb lunch.

With thanks & kind regards

Richard.