

SHOOTING 1983-84



S H O O T I N G B O O K

1 9 8 3 - 8 4



Mel and Pups

March 1983



MOOR REPORTS - 1983/84 SEASONSTEAN - J. FREEMAN18.1.83

A covering of snow at the moment. Quite a lot of birds about, those I have seen have been fit. Cocks are redded up which I think is a good sign. Generally everything going well.

22.2.83

The moors are covered in snow and it is very, very cold. Freeman has put some oats out. There are a lot of grouse about, but he found a dead one on Monday - it had a lot of meat on it and its crop was full. He has put it in the freezer.

4.3.83

At the moment it is fairly quiet. There is still some snow on the high ground. A fair number of grouse about and plenty of food for them.

Freeman tried them with oats while the weather was hard but does not know whether they have taken any.

MOOR REPORTS - 1983/84 SEASONSTUBLICK - T. DAVISON18.1.83

Slight covering of snow but nothing to affect the birds. Grouse are very forward - some of the hens are into their nesting season plumage already. Not too happy about the fact that they are still in packs and not paired up but it may be that the constant gale force winds have disturbed them. Otherwise no problems.

22.2.83

There are a lot of grouse about and they look very fit and healthy. It is very cold and they had about 7" of snow, most of which has now drifted to expose the heather for feed.

4.3.83

Very little snow about now and much milder. Very good weather for March. Quite a lot of grouse about and they are looking very well. He thinks they are very forward for the time of year, but does not know whether this is a good thing or not. The heather is showing through and looks fairly green.

MOOR REPORTS - 1983/84 SEASONWEMMERGILL - P. FAWCETT20.1.83

Last two weeks have had gale force winds and some heavy rain which has not done birds any good. Seen 1/2 grouse in poor condition but weather now changed - cold and dry, no wind. Few birds are paired up, many still in packs - Fawcett feels too many birds left and some will probably die off - some should be shot. Fox or two about and have also caught some mink. No heather burning been done.

23.2.83

There is a lot of snow on the high ground, but on the lower part of the moor there is plenty of heather showing through. The grouse are looking well and have moved from the higher ground to the lower areas.

7.3.83

Most of the snow has now gone although there is still a small amount on the higher ground, but most went over this weekend when it has been much milder. There are strong west winds. There are grouse about in places and none have died - they are looking well.

WEMMERGILL : 30th SEPTEMBER 1983

Master Charles and I today have shot exactly 60 brace of grouse between father and son - 30th September on a fresh quite strong east wind on Wemmergill and that we have never stood in a butt the whole day nor have we stood in a place that a drive has ever taken place on before. We have stood entirely new drives in the open all day and I think that is quite a remarkable achievement and we have named the drive JNPF in the rocks above Green Grain lunch hut.

So that you know where we have been we have had the Allotment from the east of course down wind standing in Wemmergill pasture and then we went up to this new drive which we are calling JNPF, those are the rocks above the lunch hut and this was a splendid drive where we got quite a lot of stuff down the wind - down the line. By the way, I have not got my key of the Mine gate - we should ask for one. Then we got actually 30½ brace there and that was a most marvellous drive. We then tried to bring Cock Lake up with the right hand gun which was CJN near the Green Grain lunch hut and he got 10 brace there. They did not come too well - we got just 5 brace off the Allotments so at lunch we had 46 brace.

Then we went up to the Quarry on the Corbus wall in reverse Quarry on the Mine road and we went in there and tried to get up that limestone place there which was very difficult and CJN was driving. We did not do any damage but it was quite tricky. Anyway I have offered to put in a little road there with Morgan Lynch on Monday and I hope he is going to get it done with his JCB.

Anyway up there we went and it was a longish walk straight after lunch but we made it and we really had a great success. We were facing north and the flank on our right did a marvellous job and pushed the stuff across there really well. Frank Coulthard is a marvellous flanker. Then we turned round and brought the birds up from the Quarry that side all the Corbus drive into it and that did not work. Then they went on our right lower down towards the pastures there. Anyway we came off that hill - two drives there with a longish walk - we came off with 25 brace exactly so that is 71 brace. We then went up new Standards road that I made a few years ago and we stood parallel with the top of the road facing north and at right angles to the line of butts on the Standards drive just on the brow of that hill. The two top guns did not get much shooting but the two bottom guns and particularly the bottom gun which was Charles had a big shoot. So sporting grouse fantastically, sporting grouse and father and son 60 brace on 30th September. Most marvellous day!

I think it is quite significant that father and son have each killed 110 birds in the two days or one has killed 110 and the other 111. We killed 111½ brace the two of us in two consecutive days on 30th and 1st October and I think that ought to go down. That is going into shooting history - absolutely fantastic!

Five guns on Saturday, October 1st. South east wind and some fog. Three drives on Dow Syke in that gill there - up down and up. Father and son - Charles and JN - killed 50½ brace and the day before exactly 60 brace. I think this is worth recording. After that we had the Moss, no, the JN drive. The first time we have done that before we have done the Moss - very few birds on it really. It was good for 7 brace. We had 39½ brace at lunch and then 7 brace off the JN, that is 46½. We would not have more than 10 brace off the Moss which is 57 and about 7 brace off Corbus where we popped in for the last drive. An absolutely super down wind drive, as good as you would want. It was really a normal grouse drive in butts at its best.

STUBLICK MOOR : 1983 SEASONTemperature ReadingsJanuary Min. Max.

1	36°	47°
2	35	48
3	34	47
4	39	39
5	33	51
6	36	37
7	34	-
8	-	45
9	34	41
10	37	50
11	43	46
12	43	46
13	32	36
14	30	42
15	38	47
16	43	46
17	43	45
18	31	33
19	27	33
20	24	39
21	39	45
22	38	46
23	21	47
24	-	47
25	41	46
26	40	50
27	46	47
28	40	48
29	35	39
30	31	33
31	28	44

February Min. Max.

1	33°	36°
2	24	35
3	23	32
4	18	37
5	32	37
6	33	34
7	32	35
8	21	32
9	9	31
10	24	30
11	24	33
12	29	39
13	30	39
14	33	38
15	34	34
16	32	37
17	25	38
18	20	38
19	19	41
20	29	36
21	31	37
22	25	34
23	27	37
24	24	44
25	30	44
26	37	42
27	33	42
28	32	45

March Min. Max.

1	23°	43°
2	33	45
3	40	50
4	33	46
5	37	46
6	43	46
7	41	52
8	39	50
9	37	45
10	43	53
11	34	42
12	39	49
13	41	37
14	42	50
15	31	48
16	39	49
17	44	53
18	45	56
19	39	45
20	40	47
21	34	39
22	29	42
23	34	41
24	32	42
25	31	48
26	26	46
27	34	41
28	28	47
29	34	48
30	34	47
31	36	44

April Min. Max.

1	34°	48°
2	29	48
3	28	46
4	34	51
5	30	49
6	34	51
7	26	52
8	25	54
9	31	54
10	28	41
11	34	42
12	26	51
13	34	51
14	36	50
15	38	48
16	40	54
17	36	52
18	26	49
19	34	38
20	31	52
21	32	46
22	26	45
23	48	55
24	39	56
25	34	51
26	39	53
27	39	-
28	38	56
29	38	56
30	38	56

* From 28th April to
2nd May the minimum
was 38° and maximum
was 56°

Temperature Readings

[illegible]

The following are notes dictated by JN after his visit to the Field Trials in Georgia,
21st February 1983

The wheels had to be moving at 7.20 a.m. so we had to get up at 6.10 a.m. We had breakfast in the dining room where we had dinner the night before. It was a good breakfast. I asked the cook to give me - they stood behind a bar - some extra scrambled eggs and put it between some toast so I had some sandwiches. Incidentally, Maury Flowers was starving by 11.30 a.m. and was delighted to tuck into them. There was no food whatsoever on the waggons. The night before there had been 12 for dinner. John Harbert, Director of the Harbert Corporation who has Pine Bloom, the Flowers and ourselves, the Youngs; he has the R.C. Coca Cola business and is number three in the business. He is 65 and clear to date for the first time in his life. He shares a plantation with Ben Hardaway who was not there. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tift, he is 83 and I have known him for nearly 20 years since I first went to the Olins and he went there.

We had dinner, very southern, very heavy. There were 6 at our table. We started off with some kind of oyster stew which was good. Then we had a kind of little square duck which was about two times the size of a Teal. Some 1970 Sante SS Bordeaux which I thought had been in a hot place and did not taste of much! I had nothing to drink at all before dinner. The Harberts are nice people.

Managed to get to bed by 10 p.m. or soon after in this kind of ranch house bedroom with two single beds and two bunk beds - one up and one down as well.

After breakfast off we went like bombers. After about one hour ten minutes on the road, we saw Flowers' waggon with their six horses in a ditch hopelessly overloaded with not enough weight in the front to help when they put the brakes on. Their hopeful, James, was running first and he had to be there extra early. Quite a performance! Lord of the Superintendent was driving me - salt of the earth. His father was Superintendent in that area and he was helpful and told us lots of things about the locality and all the best plantations and so on.

We arrived at the Horseshoe Plantation which is owned jointly between Fred Hamilton and Jack Dorrance, Hamilton of Hamilton Oils - the first ones to drill in the North Sea, and Dorrance is Chief Executive of the Campbell Soup Company. The family own a large part of both companies from what I can make out. Anyway, they paid \$20m right at the top of the market two years ago. It was dear then and is extremely dear now. I later found out from Pepe Fanjul that the previous owners George Baker, who is a friend of his, was delighted with the price he got which was much more than he expected and, in addition, kept 2,000 acres of the most suitable land for development and understand he is shortly planning to develop. I think this is new information for the buyers.

I made a little speech after dinner and said it was great to have sport together, to get to know each other, and you find out a lot about people out shooting and I said everything changed in life but friendship and shooting don't.

Flowers is a bit of a "buff" I think and is pretty mean. He made a great fuss about getting me some champagne before dinner because I always drink it when he is in the UK, but I only wanted a glass because I was not drinking. One or two other people wanted some more but he told one chap he would have to open another bottle. Of course, the whole thing was such a performance I have never seen anything like it.

200 saddled horses and 30 to 40 waggons and one of the first persons I saw was Kenneth Keith in a stupid looking bright red hat. I could not quite understand, but perhaps he did not know that at a setter trial no one shoots a bullet because they are not retrievers so it was hardly likely that he would get shot with having his head in the wrong place. A shot is fired off straight up in the air after the birds are flushed. His son, Alistair, is engaged to a girl called Teagle and they used to own a lot of land where we were. Kenneth Keith was staying with a man called Fitzgerald who looks splendid and his wife is charming. Very well turned out, both of them, and correct. Young Keith works for Brown Harriman in New York.

NOTE: Chubb's Insurance. Russell C. was there and then a big fat girl with the biggest hat head stuck out of a piggy hat - Katie Ireland. She was ugly enough without the hat! Mrs. Humphrey was an Ireland.

Harbert said about an \$800m contract paid for by the United States Government to make a new airport in exchange for wanting Israel to give up in the Sinai Desert - 100% paid for by Uncle Sam as part of the Camp David deal. He has two sons in the business and should think he has the whole thing very well planned indeed. Said he did not think there was any future in the world for coal and, in fact, had *over*-sold half a million and he had taken shares in oil. Not sure which company but could find out. Fred Hamilton is very tall. His wife Jane is very pretty. They have three children over 20 but it does not look like it.

F.U. Half Horseshoe Plantation was Jack Dorrance's. Hardaway and Young whose wife is called Lucy and was wearing a Hermes shirt, have a plantation 50/50 between them called Mercer Hill. What is important is that I met Mrs. Hardaway and had a long talk with her and liked her. Her husband is crazy about hounds and she described him as the ~~Russell~~ Wallace of the United States! They rent from Allenheads and have done for years and he seems to be in charge of the shooting management. They have about two or three weeks now - two weeks and another period for one week. Seven male guns and some wives - they shoot up to 10. Very happy and said I might ask them over to lunch or dinner one day while there. Might well be worth it.

It costs \$400,000 a year to run Merrilly, including shoots, staff, telephones, rent, etc. A very interesting place and the people I am sure would be very glad to have us, whether we had them or not, but we could have them for grouse and they have virtually asked me. It would be of course the Flowers but I have found out from Lorder that he does not like more than 25 grouse killed to the waggon between two guns for the whole day, and sometimes three guns shooting. Flowers has let Merrilly for a corporation shoot for 40 years.

Fitzgerald who is the friend of Kenneth Keith, lives in Greenwich Village so the places and people would be the Hardaways and Youngs at Mercer Hill, the Flowers at Merrilly, the Dorrances and Hamiltons at Horseshoe Plantation, Harbert who has Pine Bloom on his own; we must bear in mind that two of these shoots are shot alternately by different people so if you went to both you would go and live there which would be a nice way to spend a few weeks. I think it is more or less up to us to make our decision on this.

A little more about John Harbert. He got to know John Olin just before he died and spoke to him a few days before he died and that is the only time he spoke to him. As you know, Pine Bloom is next door and Charles and I went ten years ago as a guest of Rockwell with the Governor Mansion which was then reserved and a guest house near the lake with six beds. It has also got a landing strip of 6,000 feet where you can get almost anything in right on the plantation.

Well, we had a long talk to Young about predation and told him about the partridges and we still lost 33% of the nests but our friend lost 80-90%. Do not know enough about quail in the United States and do not pretend to, but they seem to stock themselves. If they had a stock of 6,000 or 3,000 birds the most they could shoot at one harvest is 1,500-1,700 so what happens to them - they must die. I suggested that they should sex all the old birds shot and if they get more cocks than hens it might indicate some hens are killed on the nest.

John Harbert, who is very bright, only had one talk to John Olin about it, but had enough brains to start trapping during the season. Delighted about growing rape and he grows soya and wheat. Altogether a first-class well run chap. Lorder, of course, is very interesting and said the three best plantations were Seminole which is Ranking-Smith and Merrilly and Greenwood. What they do is let the natural balance of nature deal with predation. They do not appear to disturb it. I said it would be very hard work if they did and they would have to do lots of other things as well. The price per quail shot is astronomical compared to grouse or partridges. This Ranking-Smith is in insurance business in Atlanta. His father started at the Seminole plantation which neighbours Merrilly.

Leave Thomasville on 9 mile highway if you want to go to the Ranch and you go as far as 12 mile highway and take a State road 133.

MEMORANDUM TO CHAIRMAN

From R. Johnson Copies to WHJ

Date 12-5-83 Ref. RJ/BS

SUBJECT PHEASANT 1983/4

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Egg Production position up to 8/5/83.

	Hens Rothwell 850 " Tealby 420		Hens Rothwell 909 " Tealby 450	
W/End Date	Per Cent Lay 1983 Rothwell Tealby		Per Cent Lay 1982 Rothwell Tealby	
10/4	5%	6%	13%	16%
17/4	34%	33%	49%	50%
24/4	63%	63%	72%	71%
1/5	72%	72%	76%	69%
8/5	74%	74%	78%	68%
Total eggs to date	14735	7308	18294	8607
Eggs per hen	17.33	17.40	20.12	19.12

Summary

Season is a few days later than last year.

LEADHILLS MOOR

BEAT LOWTHERS AND HOLE

WIND and

DATE AUGUST 15th 1983

WEATHER

DRIVE	Grouse	Black Game	Snipe	Hares	Rabbits
LOWTHERS DOWN DRIVE	12				
LOWTHERS MOSS	15				
MINEHILL	25				
SHIEL-GARR-RIGG	13½				
GOLOSCARS	13				
HOLE DOWN DRIVE	6½				
HOLE FLOW	18½				
TOTALS	102½				
TOTAL BAG	205 head				

LEADHILLS MOOR

BEAT SNAR

WIND and

DATE AUGUST 16th 1983

WEATHER

LIGHT WESTERLY WINDS
SUNNY PERIODS
WARM IN AFTERNOON.

DRIVE	Grouse	Black Game	Snipe	Hares	Rabbits
STANDARD RIGG	7½		1		
THAMISH CLEUCH	5				
SNAR RIGG	8				
THE GROUPS	12½		1		
CORBIE HA.	12½				
THE DOOD	24½				
TOTALS	70		2	1	1
TOTAL BAG	144 head				



*Sir Joseph Nickerson and Joe Woodcock
at Leadhills - August 1983*

J N P E R S O N A L B A G - 1 9 8 3 / 8 4 S E A S O N

12 August Wemmergill North Side 5 drives 58 grouse with 82 shots

Standards	1 bird, 5 shots
Corbus	12 birds + 2 long, 15 shots
Green Grain	15 birds + 1 long, 26 shots
Cocklake	6 birds, 11 shots
Wemmergill Head	21 birds, 25 shots

70 brace at lunch Dry and sunny. Moderate north-west wind

13 August Wemmergill South Side 6 drives 33 grouse with 50 shots

Sledge (1)	1 bird, 1 shot
Sledge (2)	-
Middle Sledge (2 Top Row)	8 birds, 11 shots
	11 birds, 18 shots
Shipka	6 birds, 10 shots
	7 birds, 10 shots

Warm north wind

15 August Leadhills 7 drives 63 grouse with 104 shots

Lowther (1)	12 birds, 13 shots
Lowther (2)	15 birds, 31 shots
Mine Hill	9 birds, 16 shots
Shielgreig	7 birds, 12 shots
Goldsears	8 birds, 14 shots
Hole Down Drive	3 birds, 5 shots
Hole Flow	9 birds, 13 shots

Warm light winds

Sir Joseph guest of Senator Flowers, Joseph Lanier, Howard Love and Joseph Hudson.

Head Keeper Kenny Wilson. The hotel where Sir Joseph stayed with the shooting party was the Hopetown Arms, Leadhills, which was their shooting block.

The guns were Joseph L. Lanier Jnr., and wife Ann. Joe is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of West Point - Pepperell, a textile company and the third largest in the world. Howard Love and wife Jane. Pete is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of National Steel of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Joseph Hudson Jnr., and wife Jean are from Detroit, Michigan.

Sir Joseph and Lady Nickerson were driven up to Leadhills by Holden in the Rolls on Sunday afternoon accompanied by Woodcock in the Range Rover GEE 1. Holden and Lady Nickerson departed on the Monday morning to go to Edinburgh to meet young Jennie and did not return to the shoot at all.

General Notes by J. WoodcockLeadhills

Roads need zigzagging up the moor. It needs draining. Butts need rebuilding with concrete floors for the gun and loader's safety. Heather needs burning round the butts for the picking up. One butt was 66 yards to the other. Mrs. Hamilton JN counter. One butt was or seems to be 20 yards to the next.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Bag</u>	<u>Days</u>
1982	1000	12
1981	1100	13
1980	1500	
1979	300	
1978	5000	

(average back to 1968) 3000 per annum

Acres Leadhills

12000 Heather
 14000 White Ground
 3000 Roe stalking
 No tick, well burned moor

Control of sheep : 1 Headkeeper, 3 Underkeepers, 1 boy. No estate men on moor.

Note: Marquis of Linlithgow. Hopetoun Estate Development Company and Kenneth Wilson has reputation of being a very good keeper. The Agent is James Douglass Mengies (pronounced Mingies). The Duke of Buccleugh is not shooting until September. They got 72 brace on Cowens on the top of Bowland and 46 brace on Burnmoor at Cowens.

DUQUE DE CALABRIA

He has a Monteria shoot, an old partridge shoot, and he has 30 guests which he charges 150,000 pesetas each to come and shoot (20% knocked off by the Agent). Sells all the meat into Germany and doesn't give the guests anything - if they shoot a deer they don't take it home with them, just get the trophy. Does that once a year. Then he has three other shoots.

He is a Director of the third largest company in construction in private hands in Spain - he's on the Board of that. He is also on the Board of one of the largest insurance companies. He is a consultant and visits Mexico every year and he is on the Board of what they call Permex - it is the main Mexican oil company (petrol things and so on). He is also the head of the Wildlife for Spain and that is about what he does.

His wife is the daughter of the Comte de Paris.





WEMMERGILL : AUGUST 1983





12th August 1983



JN with Peter Fawcett, Head Keeper, Wemmergill



August 1983



Rocco Forte



Rocco Forte, Spanish Guests
August 1983



16 August Leadhills - 6 drives 20 grouse with 32 shots
2 Snipe

Standard Rig	1 bird, 4 shots	
Thomas Cleugh	1 bird, 1 shot	
Snaar Rig	2 birds, 2 shots	19½ brace at lunch
Groups	7 birds, 12 shots	
Corby Hall	9 birds, 13 shots	
Dodds	-	-

Warm light winds

17 August Wemmergill - Close House - 6 drives 106 grouse with 167 shots

Close House Up	24 birds, 34 shots
Close House Down	17 birds, 25 shots
Close House Up	22 birds, 31 shots
Moss	15 birds, 35 shots
Long Grain	14 birds, 21 shots
JN Drive	14 birds, 21 shots

Cool at first. Rain Long Grain and Heavy JN Drive

18 August Wemmergill - Allotments - 6 drives 52 grouse with 80 shots

Corbus	6 birds, 6 shots
Green Grain	25 birds, 39 shots
Cocklake	3 birds, 4 shots
Allotments (1)	11 birds, 17 shots
Allotments (2)	1 bird, 5 shots
Allotments (3)	6 birds, 9 shots

19 August Stublick - 4 drives 22 grouse with 36 shots
2 Snipe

Glen Hill	6 birds, 11 shots
Half Moon	3 birds, 3 shots
Chairmans	4 birds, 9 shots
Higher Eshells	9 birds, 13 shots

It was very hot and the wind from south-east first day we shot at Stublick, Friday 19th August. First drive was Davisons and we got 6 brace (4 brace old and 2 young); next drive we had Half Moon and got 12 brace where we killed 7 out of one covey that whole line - 12 brace. Then we had lunch and then we had the Chairmans - first drive after lunch and we got 6½ and then we had Higher Eshells and we got 10½. I think that adds up to 34½ - it should do anyway. Whatever it is we got 34½ and I got a monumental snipe at the Eshells - very high and my dog Teal picked it back there a long way - beautifully high lucky (unlucky!) snipe. Lucky me! I have given it to Manolo and I hope to see it again for breakfast, but that is another story!

20 August Stublick - 5 drives 24 grouse with 38 shots

Churchlands	3 birds, 3 shots
Rebel Hill East	7 birds, 11 shots
Rebel Hill West	1 bird, 3 shots
Churchlands	10 birds, 15 shots
Rebel Hill	3 birds, 6 shots

Heather very late everywhere this year.

22 August Holwick Bottom End - 6 drives 19 grouse with 28 shots

Slits Up	2 birds, 2 shots
Slits Down	7 birds, 12 shots
Sykes	1 bird, 1 shot
Gully	4 birds, 8 shots
Swinkets Down	- -
Swinkets Up	5 birds, 5 shots

23 August Wemmergill South Side - 6 drives 96 grouse with 157 shots

Sledge Butts	12 birds, 17 shots
Middle Top	6 birds, 13 shots
Middle Top	15 birds, 20 shots
Shipka (1)	18 birds, 40 shots
Shipka (2)	27 birds, 39 shots
Shipka (3)	18 birds, 28 shots

24 August Wemmergill North Side - 6 drives 83 grouse with 128 shots

Guest of Tom Cowie

Corbus	4 birds, 4 shots
Standards	8 birds, 12 shots
Green Grain	17 birds, 25 shots
Wemmergill Head 1	15 birds, 18 shots
Wemmergill Head 2	37 birds, 64 shots
Wemmergill Head 3	2 birds, 5 shots

Guns at Wemmergill when I was Cowie's guest on Wednesday, 24th August - Tom Cowie and me, Spaniard called Quintano, Albert Fabre from Paris, Duke of Wellington, Alby Bowes-Lyon - that is what I have seen up to now. It is a foggy morning and we are going up to the Standards to see what it is like. If not, we shall come back to Corbus. We have got the continental system of numbering.

25 August Stean - 4 drives 31 grouse with 56 shots

Glazior	11 birds, 20 shots
Roadside	11 birds, 19 shots
Glazior	2 birds, 7 shots
Roadside	7 birds, 10 shots

26 August Wemmergill Close House - 6 drives 52 grouse with 72 shots

Close House Up	6 birds, 8 shots
Close House Down	18 birds, 24 shots
Close House Up	7 birds, 11 shots
Moss	15 birds, 16 shots
Long Grain	2 birds, 6 shots
Lead Mine	4 birds, 7 shots



WEMMERGILL : AUGUST 1983



27 August	Holwick Top End	-	5 drives	86 grouse with 119 shots
Merry Gill Up	2 birds, 2 shots			
Merry Gill Down	18 birds, 23 shots			
Nickel Hopple Up	9 birds, 17 shots			
Silver Band Up	45 birds, 59 shots			
Black Arc	12 birds, 18 shots			
29 August	Wemmergill - Close House	-	6 drives	37 grouse with 69 shots
Guest of Tom Cowie				
Close House	8 birds, 13 shots			
Bleabeck	11 birds, 17 shots			
Bleabeck	7 birds, 18 shots			
Lune Head	1 bird, 2 shots			
Walker Butts	3 birds, 7 shots			
Walker Butts	7 birds, 12 shots			
A good day in rarely used butts.				
30 August	Stublick	-	5 drives	17 grouse with 29 shots
Churchlands	3 birds, 4 shots			
Rebel Hill	5 birds, 8 shots			
Anchey Clough	3 birds, 6 shots			
Allotments Down	1 bird, 2 shots			
Allotments Up	5 birds, 9 shots			
31 August	Wemmergill South Side	-	6 drives	83 grouse with 131 shots
Middle Top	7 birds, 11 shots			
Middle Top	33 birds, 46 shots			
Shipka	14 birds, 27 shots			
Shipka	11 birds, 19 shots			
Shipka	14 birds, 20 shots			
Shipka	4 birds, 8 shots			
1 September	Wemmergill North Side	-	6 drives	77 grouse with 112 shots
Corbus	23 birds, 29 shots			
Standards	15 birds, 22 shots			
Green Grain	9 birds, 14 shots			
Cocklake	6 birds, 11 shots			
Wemmergill Head	16 birds, 25 shots			
Wemmergill Head	8 birds, 11 shots			

1983

2 September

Reads Island

49 Mallard

76 Teal

125 head

Between 7.30-8.45 p.m. shot 75 ducks. In all fired 211 cartridges (including cripple stoppers) from 2 hides. Picked up 90 that night and 15 the next morning.

3.12 Shot first Teal
 5.30 22 birds
 6.12 30 birds (of the first 30 - 29 Teal and 1 Mallard)
 7.00 37 birds - and missed 15
 7.30 50 birds
 7.50 59 birds
 8.00 65 birds
 8.42 114 birds

These were the birds that dropped close in. In addition 11 more pickable within 100 yard radius but definitely down 125. Ben and Meg were the only two dogs there - they are 20 years old added together. Ben was absolutely whacked but they had been working hard on the Moor.

Gale force west wind.

Bird Counts : August 31st - September 1st

West End Pond

3.35 1-1-1-1-1-1-1
 3.45 1-1-2-3-1-1
 3.50 1-3-1-1-3-1-1-1-1-3-1-1-2-2-1-2
 4.00 3-1-2-3-1
 4.20 1-1-3
 4.30 1-4-1-1-2
 4.45 2-3-1-1-1-1-1-1-1
 4.55 1-1-3
 5.10 1-2-1-1-1
 5.20 1-2-2-2-1
 5.30 3-1-1-1-1
 5.35 4-7-1-2-1-1-1-1-1-3
 5.45 1-1-1-2-1
 5.55 1-3-5-2-3-1-1-1
 6.00 1-1-1

150 birds, 94 chances

East End Pond

3.45 1-4-2
 3.55 3-1-1-1-1-1
 4.10 1-2-1-3-1-1
 4.20 1-1-1-1-1
 4.40 1-2-1-1-3
 4.55 1-3-1-2-2
 5.05 5-2-2-2-1
 5.15 1-3-1-1-1
 5.30 1-1-1-1
 5.50 7-2-2-2
 6.00 1-1-1-1-2
 6.10 2-1-3

94 birds, 56 chances



READS ISLAND 1983
Tufted Duck





WEMMERGILL : AUGUST 1983



3 September - Rothwell - The Ram

Evening flight

Teal 3
 Pintail 1
 Mallard 9
 Pigeon 1

14 Head

5 September

Wemmergill South Side

6 drives

31 grouse with 87 shots

Middle Top 2 birds, 15 shots
 Middle Top 14 birds, 26 shots
 Shipka (1) 8 birds, 19 shots
 Shipka (2) 4 birds, 9 shots
 Shipka (3) 3 birds, 12 shots
 Shipka (4) - 6 shots

6 September

Holwick - Top End

6 drives

44 grouse with 95 shots

Nickel Hopple 8 birds, 15 shots
 Myer Hole 4 birds, 14 shots
 Black Arc 5 birds, 10 shots
 Sykes 6 birds, 11 shots
 Gully 6 birds, 18 shots
 Gully 15 birds, 27 shots

7 September

Wemmergill - Close House Beat 5 drives

58 grouse with 81 shots

Close House (1) 3 birds, 5 shots
 Close House (2) 21 birds, 28 shots
 Close House (3) 1 bird, 1 shot
 Moss 25 birds, 36 shots
 Long Grain 8 birds, 11 shots

8 September

Stean

3 drives

19 grouse with 32 shots
 1 Mallard

Blayshaw 11 birds, 19 shots - 1 duck
 Peat Moor 7 birds, 12 shots
 Blayshaw 1 bird, 1 shot

10 September

Reads Island

Louise shot 1 Canada Goose and 1 teal
 Jennie shot 1 Canada Goose and 2 teal

10 Mallard
 15 Teal
 2 Widgeon
 2 Snipe

making a total of 29 although 35
 on counter some were lost to sea.

16 September	Wemmergill North Side	5 drives	99 grouse with 138 shots
Standards	23 birds, 31 shots		
Corbus	12 birds, 25 shots		
Green Grain	15 birds, 22 shots		
Cocklake	22 birds, 31 shots		
Wemmergill Head	27 birds, 29 shots		

17 September	Wemmergill Close House	5 drives	32 grouse with 67 shots
Bleabeck (1)	9 birds, 14 shots		
Bleabeck (2)	9 birds, 25 shots		
Lead Mine (1)	2 birds, 7 shots		
Lead Mine (2)	8 birds, 14 shots		
Long Grain	4 birds, 7 shots		

19 September	Holwick Top End	5 drives	48 grouse with 100 shots
Merrygill	3 birds, 6 shots		
Myer Hole	7 birds, 12 shots		
Silver Band	4 birds, 14 shots		
Black Arc (1)	16 birds, 29 shots		
Black Arc (2)	18 birds, 39 shots		

Sir Joseph guest of Lord Strathmore

I went to meet my hosts at Holwick Hall and they left their vehicles there and got in with Tom Cowie and me - one of the men also had a dog. They are so mean!

21 September	Holwick	6 drives	66 grouse with 104 shots
Slits Up	4 birds, 4 shots		
Blaebeck Up	13 birds, 14 shots		
Black Arc Up	17 birds, 27 shots		
Nickel Hopple Up	4 birds, 6 shots		
Crookus Gill	15 birds, 25 shots		
Silver Band	13 birds, 28 shots		

22 September	Wemmergill Allotments	6 drives	72 grouse with 109 shots
Allotments (1)	10 birds, 18 shots		
Allotments (2)	11 birds, 15 shots		
Allotments (3)	19 birds, 25 shots		
Allotments (4)	10 birds, 14 shots		
Allotments (5)	9 birds, 12 shots		
Allotments (6)	13 birds, 25 shots		

23 September Wemmergill Close House and South Side 5 drives 73 grouse with 116 shots

Guest of Lord Strathmore

Close House (1)	5 birds, 7 shots
Close House (2)	17 birds, 27 shots
Lune Head Lunch Hut	
Granger Gill	18 birds, 34 shots
Granger Gill	33 birds, 48 shots
Granger Gill	

24 September Wemmergill North Side 5 drives 26 grouse with 49 shots

Guest of Lord Strathmore

Standards	7 birds, 17 shots
Corbus	2 birds, 7 shots
Green Grain	9 birds, 14 shots
Cocklake	3 birds, 3 shots
Wemmergill Head	5 birds, 8 shots

26 September Wemmergill South Side 6 drives 47 grouse with 92 shots

Sledge Butts	11 birds, 17 shots
Sledge Butts	2 birds, 2 shots
Middle Sledge	5 birds, 11 shots
Shipka Pass	13 birds, 27 shots
Shipka Pass	12 birds, 24 shots
Shipka Pass	4 birds, 11 shots

27 September Wemmergill South Side 6 drives 60 grouse with 108 shots

Sledge Butts (1)	3 birds, 3 shots
Sledge Butts (2)	7 birds, 12 shots
Middle Sledge	5 birds, 14 shots
Shipka Pass	17 birds, 37 shots
Shipka Pass	12 birds, 24 shots
Shipka Pass	16 birds, 18 shots

I had 18 shots on the last drive today which was in the butt to the east of the Kaiser drive, coming from the south - the number 7 butt.

I killed 14 grouse dead, had one broken winged runner close in the valley which was picked up and one stung up that went a little way over the top of the hill before it was picked. So I had 18 shots and got 16 birds.

28 September	Holwick	5 drives	26 grouse with 66 shots
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Lord Strathmore's Guest

Swinkets	5 birds, 10 shots
Bläebeck	5 birds, 12 shots
Crookus Gill	4 birds, 17 shots
Nickel Hopple	4 birds, 13 shots
Nickel Hopple	8 birds, 14 shots

29 September

Should have been one of Lord Strathmore's days and Sir Joseph should have been a guest but the whole day was cancelled due to fog.

30 September	Wemmergill North Side	6 drives	48 grouse with 104 shots
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Allotments Pasture - -

PFJN	22 birds, 48 shots
PFJN Return	6 birds, 8 shots
Limestone	10 birds, 20 shots
Limestone Return	7 birds, 18 shots
Standards	3 birds, 10 shots

Never stood in butts all day but experimented with different drives -

- 1) First drive to Allotments Wall
- 2) Then Green Grain drive in reverse
- 3) Then Wemmergill Head drive to Green Grain Lunch Hut
- 4

and Two drives on a green band in a gill near the Standards.

- 5
- 6) Last drive to the "Hushes" (old Lead Mine workings) on the Standards.

1 October	Wemmergill North Side	6 drives	63 grouse with 95 shots
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Granger Gill (1)	9 birds, 15 shots
Granger Gill (2)	7 birds, 10 shots
Granger Gill (3)	11 birds, 16 shots
JN	7 birds, 10 shots
Moss	15 birds, 26 shots
Corbus	14 birds, 18 shots

3 October	Stublick	4 drives	27 grouse with 51 shots
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Rebel Hill	10 birds, 21 shots
Churchlands	5 birds, 12 shots
Lower Eshells (1)	5 birds, 7 shots
Lower Eshells (2)	7 birds, 11 shots

1983

5 October Wemmergill South Side 6 drives 26 grouse with 65 shots

Sledge Butts
 Middle Sledge 3 birds, 12 shots
 Shipka Pass 2 birds, 8 shots
 Shipka Pass 7 birds, 15 shots
 Shipka Pass 9 birds, 14 shots
 Shipka Pass 5 birds, 16 shots

6 October Wemmergill North Side 4 drives 42 grouse with 68 shots

Corbus 13 birds, 18 shots
 Green Grain 11 birds, 17 shots
 Cocklake 5 birds, 9 shots
 Wemmergill Head 13 birds, 24 shots

Fog delayed start until 11.00 a.m.

Absolutely awful shooting these pairs grouse - you shoot one, the other one looks round for the other one, slows up and is very easy to kill with the second barrel, usually. Criminal really.

I think it is essential when you have got a gale of wind, tailing about a very strong wind - when you shoot at a crosser you want to see some daylight between the end of the gun and the bird. In other words you want to swing just as much as usual but not swinging on the bird, swinging at the area in front of the bird. They seem to connect very well and I think we have done that better this season than before. And I am quite sure that very high, very fast, very fast birds, straight overhead - we have got to be into the sky in front of them - it is no good being anywhere near them. Whereas for normal speed birds with a 20 bore I can swing it fast enough to get them in the head but when they are very, very fast you have got to be in the sky in front of them - see some daylight - I am convinced of that. And of course the old story is to get the gun off more quickly. Really you don't want to put the gun up too soon. As you put the gun up you want a split second to line it and a split, split, split second, not to follow it and pole at it, you do need that old split second that I always used to have in the old days. I never would quite agree with this straight up and bang, it wants to be straight up and bang with just the splittest second - and get the gun up faster than you ever could believe you could do and you are on the bird as he comes down. And of course it is very easy to stop swinging - ever so easy to forget to swing at a slow bird, but you have still got to swing at it.

7 October Reads Island

Sam's Pond morning :	Mallard	43	West End Evening :	Mallard	26	
	Teal	50		Teal	102	
	Widgeon	7		Widgeon	14	Head: 142
	Snipe	2				
		Head: 102				

Total head for one day : 244

8 October Reads Island

West End Evening :	Widgeon	1	
	Pheasant	1	
	Moorhen	1	
	Snipe	1	
	G. Plover	1	
	Mallard	8	
	Teal	21	Head: 34

9 October Reads Island

Sam's Pond Morning :	Teal	2	
	Mallard	1	Head: 3

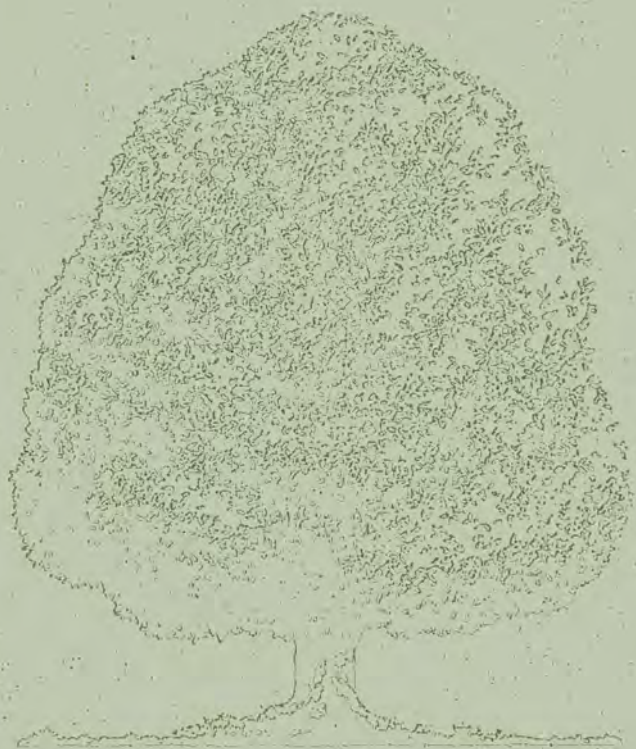
10 October Nocton 5 drives Partridge 60 99 shots
 Snipe 1 61 head

1983

10 October	Thoresway Black Springs	Evening flight	Mallard 20 Pick-Up 18 20 head
11 October	Worlaby	7 drives	90 Partridges 136 shots 90 head
<p>A strong wind and I mean a really strong wind, Force 4 to 5, certainly Force 4. Fired 141 cartridges at partridges and I killed 90. I shot at 17 that I did not kill but I shot at everything using two guns. I did not fail to let fly. Took all comers. I think quietly I shot as well as I did in October 1952 when we broke the records. Killed 15 brace to my own gun the last drive, 6 guns doing that would be 90 brace in a drive if they had all got as many.</p>			
11 October	Ram Pond	Evening flight	15 Mallard 10 Pick-Up 15 head
13 October	Rothwell	7 drives	3 Partridge 46 Pheasant 1 Hare 1 Pigeon 16 Mallard 1 Moorhen 68 head
15 October	East Mere	7 drives Single Gun	36 Red Partridge 4 Grey Partridge 81 shots 40 head
17 October	North Ormsby		
19 October	North Ormsby	7 drives	23 Partridge 58 shots 5 Mallard 28 head
19 October	Reads Island	Evening Flight Johnnie's Pond	45 Teal 10 Mallard 55 head

At 5.37 we are in position at Johnnie's Pond. 30 minutes later at 6.07 we have killed 12 Teal. By 7.30 we had a good lot picked up. Total of 55 altogether. We must have stopped shooting for about a quarter of an hour, so at 7.15 I should say we stopped shooting. Nearly a full moon.

4 hours between leaving Rothwell House and returning after flight.



Cazadero FUENTE ARROYO día 25 de OCTUBRE de 1983

Puestos	ESCOPETAS	1. ojo	2. ojo	3. ojo	4. ojo	5. ojo	Total por Tirador
1	SR. IAN YATES	12	19	9	19	18	77
-	SR. FORTE	8	4	15	11	17	55
3	J. ALFONSO	11	16	10	9	9	55
4	J. JUAN C. FIERRO	33	25	34	9	11	112
5	SIR. NIKELSON	19	37	37	9	18	120
6	SR. TORDONTEGUI	9	10	4	6	5	34
7	LRD. FORTE	5	24	5	3	13	50
8	J. JOSE M. ARBUAGA	15	24	24	12	20	95
9	J. JUAN HERRERA	10	21	4	11	5	51
10	CONDE DE TERA	1	4	2	2	7	16
11	M. DE ALEDO	6	15	9	6	9	45
12	J. GABRIEL AGUIRRE	16	26	18	6	14	80
13							
14							
	Total por ojeo.....	145	225	171	103	146	790

23 October - Nombela	5 drives	Partridge 80 Pigeon 1	146 shots
Sir Joseph Nickerson Lady Nickerson Lord Forte The Hon. Rocco Forte Alfonso Fierro Ian Yates Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.	Drives: Los Banos Buzzard Las Moras Pheasants Cerro Guarda Barrancon Woodcock		
24 October - Nombela	5 drives	Partridge 105 Magpie 1	219 shots
Sir Joseph Nickerson Lord Strathmore Lord Forte The Hon. Rocco Forte Ian Yates Lady Nickerson Jose-Maria Blanc Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.	Drives: Casa Blanca Casa El Chaboa Diana Valley Little Jenny The Wood		
25 October - Camarena	5 drives	Partridge 136	196 shots
26 October - Nombela	5 drives	Partridge 106 Jay 2 Magpie 3	179 shots
Sir Joseph Nickerson Ian Yates Jean-Pierre Guerlain Christiane Guerlain Lady Nickerson Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.	Drives: No. 34 32 35 31 26		
27 October - Nombela	5 drives	Partridge 147 Magpie 2	256 shots
Sir Joseph Nickerson Jean-Pierre Guerlain Christiane Guerlain Lady Nickerson Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.	Drives: No. 17 21 19 18 26		
29 October - Nombela	5 drives	Partridge 115 Magpie 2	199 shots
Sir Joseph Nickerson Comte De Beaumont Lady Nickerson Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.	Drives: Buzzard, Charles Forte, La Ronca, King's First Drive, King's Second Drive		

30 October - Nombela

5 drives

Partridge	111	181 shots
Magpie	2	
Jay	1	

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Comte De Beaumont
Lady Nickerson
Louise Nickerson
Rosemarie Nickerson
Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.

Drives:
Ian Yates
Nava Montero
Argument
Ce Bolletas
Sun in Eyes Wood

1 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridge	177	263 shots
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H.M. The King of Spain
Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady Nickerson
Robert Nickerson
Eugenie Nickerson, Jnr.
Rosemarie Nickerson
Louise Nickerson

Drives:
Tomato Drive
200 River
No. 11
Jay Wood
Senor Blanco

The King fired 310 cartridges - claimed 180 partridges. As JN was next to him on every drive this is an exaggeration but not an enormous one. The King left after fourth drive from Jay Wood.

2 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridges	133	218 shots
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Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady Nickerson
Robert Nickerson
Louise Nickerson
Rosemarie Nickerson

Drives:
Land Rover Round
Jay Trees Field
Cat Drive
High Bird Roadside
Guerlain Bank

3 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridges	109	205 shots
Magpie	6	
Jay	6	

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady Nickerson
Robert Nickerson
Louise Nickerson
Rosemarie Nickerson

Drives:
Casa Blanca
Dirty Farm
Diana Valley
Big Rut Drive
Rosie's Drive

5 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridges	65	147 shots
Magpie	2	

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady Nickerson

Drives:
Olive Drive
Holden Wall
Ram Roc
Mountain
Mountain

6 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridges 85 160 shots

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady NickersonDrives:
Cliff
King's First Drive
King's Second Drive
Charles Forte
Los Banos Dyke

Magpie 2

8 November - Nombela

5 drives

Partridges 96 164 shots

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady NickersonDrives:
Arroyo
Pheasant
Woodcock
Malo
Goshawk

Magpie 4

Jay 2

Nice little morning - 8th November - CJN's birthday 1983. Lady Nickerson and her master, 3 little drives on the eastern boundary. The buzzard sideways on. The pheasant normal and the woodcock normal - all straight down, 56 brace at lunch with two guns.

9 November - Nombela

3 drives

Partridges 67 132 shots

Sir Joseph Nickerson
Lady NickersonDrives:
Tomato
Short Notice
New High Tree

Very wet. Came in after 3 drives.

It seems the only time pretty well, apart from when they are asleep, that the Spaniards are quiet, when it is teeming with rain. The beaters and keepers haven't said one Hobar or Hibar or screaming and shouting, and it is really damp. It is the last day of our trip this year, just the two of us shooting, it's a real damp day. We have had a couple of drives and are just starting the third. They are all very, very quiet. These Spanish partridges want shooting in dry weather and if they have run a long way they don't fly too well when it is wet. But we have had such a sporting season. We have shot now, this is the 14th day and this is the only time that the flight of the birds has been affected. We have had a wonderful wind this year, remarkable wind.

There are some wonderful views of goshawks this visit. What a marvellous bird they are. Magnificent bird in flight, whether they are just flying close to the ground, through trees or however they are flying, and when they are sideways on to you they are quite an enormous bird really.

It would be wonderful to shoot the whole of Nombela in January but with a big population of partridges like that moving towards the boundaries and the boundaries getting shot regularly by our neighbouring shoot owners, they would decrease the birds that we could harvest before January very substantially. So I think that perhaps the message is that in October we should shoot the boundaries all the time and leave the middle for January, probably. Shoot the boundaries in October and November.

It was an interesting thing, I remember asking a restaurant keeper how much they were paying for partridges and they said that depends who you buy them from. If you buy them from the gamekeeper - 4.15 or 4.20 pesetas a partridge, but from the poachers you can get them for 3.50.

We should have a system to call these roads after something. I think it had better be in Spanish. We could have the Casablanca road, but we need the roads that I know, we need the marks putting up on the roads, perhaps different colours so we know where we are and where we have been, and where we are going. There is a kind of a main road that's well metalled that goes through the middle of the place, we might call that the M1 even!

I would like the location of the last drive that we had on our last day marking on my map, and tell Gullick that the partridges got wet on the last day and although they flew jolly well the third drive, the first drive and the second drive, the second drive particularly, they didn't fly too well. Say that I stopped the shoot at lunch time because the birds were wet and I was afraid they wouldn't fly too well. I would like to ask Tom Gullick, if he is in the area, if he can find out anything about this Palhouston which is the next village to Rivescalona, and you go through Nombela and the next village is Palhouston, or Nono Nomesdomez is another village - I don't know who has got either of those two shoots.

First 12 days after arriving in Maqueda shot 10 days - 1219 birds. Average of 200 brace per day at Nombela. Should have had an extra rest day.

It is much better to stand in the open for Spanish partridges rather than behind butts. If the partridges see you they go up and are more sporting. Have tried this several times.

12 November	Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant	60	
			Pigeon	1	61 head
12 November	Black Springs	Evening Flight	Mallard	10	10 head

N O M B E L A

October-November 1983



Castle Escalona



Nombela Village



Spanish Beater







Rothwell : 15th November 1983
Visit of Norberto Azqueta





15 November	Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant 333 Partridge 1 Hare 1	335 head
16 November	Tealby	7 drives	Pheasant 104 Woodcock 3 Pigeon 2 Moorhen 1 Hare 1	206 shots 111 head
18 November	Stainton	6 drives	Pheasant 128 Woodcock 6 Hare 1	135 head
19 November	Reads Island	Morning flight	East End/Sam's Pond: Teal 85 Widgeon 24 Mallard 28	(72 picked) (21 picked) (24 picked)
19 November		Afternoon and Evening flight	West End/Johnnie's Pond: Teal 111 Widgeon 4 Mallard 12 Golden Plover 2	137 head (101 picked) 129 head
21 November	Otby	7 drives Single gun	Partridge 14 Pheasant 17 Snipe 3 Pigeon 1	35 head
26 November	Stenigot	6 drives Single gun	Pheasant 72 Woodcock 1 Rabbit 1	128 shots 74 head

Palace Hill we killed altogether, 148 pheasants over the railway line the next drive, near the tunnel - 104. The wood on the hillside, the new one, nearer Donington, joining up to the valley, 73. Then there were 27 carried through with the pick-up. In the afternoon we went to Wellsdale Bottom and we killed 20 on the South Side and 13 on the return the North Side, not very high. Then we went up to Cherry Holt on top of the hill and killed 10.

27 November	Ram Pond	Evening flight	Mallard 13 Pigeon 1 Starlings 4	18 head
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4.10 at the Ram and we have not had a shot. 4.11 - single mallard came in, reasonably high and I dealt with him rather well, I was pleased. It is now 4.20 and we have not had another shot yet. We have just had the one shot at the duck, he arrived here at 3.30 at the Ram. There are thousands and thousands of starlings coming in to roost at the bottom of Diana Wood and I shot a good pigeon early on although I say it. We have seen a little packet of 7 or 8 ducks winging round some distance away.

28 November	Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant 414	
			Woodcock 2	
			Moorhen 1	417 head
29 November	Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant 365	
			Woodcock 2	367 head
			JN claimed 215 pheasants at Lincoln Hill.	
30 November	Helmsley Ricaldale	6 drives	Pheasant 142	209 shots 142 head
Drive 1	High Road	Drive 4	Saffy Wood Bog	
Drive 2	Steep Bank in wood	Drive 5	Low End Dale	
Drive 3	Bracken Hill	Drive 6	Leggy Bank	
1 December	Helmsley Beckdale	6 drives	Pheasant 148	246 shots 148 head
Drive 1	Lower Beckdale from SE	Drive 4	Middle Beckdale	
Drive 2	Middle Beckdale	Drive 5	Side Valley of Beckdale Top End	
Drive 3	Upper Beckdale (right of best place)	Drive 6	Near End Side Valley Beckdale	
2 December	Reads Island		Teal 215	(191 picked)
	Morning flight East End/Sam's Pond		Widgeon 103	(91 picked)
	Afternoon flight and evening flight		Mallard 92	(80 picked)
	West End/Johnnie's Pond		Snipe 1	
			Pigeon 1	
				412 head

It is Friday, December 2nd and I am in the easternmost hide at Sam's on the east end of Reads Island. I left home in the dark - very very cold. I left the Lodge in the dark - very cold and a pretty strong southerly wind. Fired the first shot at 7.30 and at 8.15, which it is now, I have 3 long birds in the river on the shore at least and 37 pretty close in. Woodcock is out on the south marsh with Janie and Jan - mallard and teal coming - quite a fair lot of mallard. It is now 8.37 and I have killed 53 duck near to us and 7 which is 60 birds in just about an hour. Benjy Jacob loading for me - no dogs in the hide. Using my 20 bore over and unders as usual with less than an ounce of shot - my number 7's for any teal in the strong winds that come and fives for the mallard. Too much choke in the guns because that is what we like anyway.

Seven long birds - I think I put that on earlier. Now 8.47 and I have 63 close on the clock. Seven rights and lefts on the trot. Not too many teal coming in - I should think I've got about three quarter mallard and the balance teal up to now on the flight and it is now 9.00. Majority mallard and I have shot 7 rights and lefts on the trot - they were coming and a lot of them were pairs and others hovering about and I have taken the chance to be sure of one bird very often which I think is a good motto wildfowling.

Now the widgeon have started coming and I have killed two rights and lefts of widgeon now - 9.03 and knocked another bird down which I ought to have had but he went over the top of the bank which makes 9 long ones. Widgeon have just started to appear to be interested now to come into the grass here. 9.05 and we have 79 plus 9. 9.14 there are duck about but it has slowed down a bit - it has slowed down at 9.14. 9.20 very very dead. Woodcock has gone for a walk round on to the north shore there where I had a towering teal and he has spoilt it showing himself there. You really don't want anybody with you - they have got to keep very still when you are wildfowling - if you show yourself on the Island nothing

will move off the river for 20 minutes. They can see everything those ducks because the ground is absolutely level of course and anything as high as a man walking about and a brown and white spaniel and rat dog running about there. Anything on the far mud - you can see them miles away. Where he is I don't know - we can't get him in. 9.23 we have 84 and 10 long. Hardly any teal lately, 9.33 and I have not shot at a teal for some time, maybe 20 minutes or more I have not seen any teal but the widgeon are just coming. I just killed a right and left at widgeon at 9.30, a cock and a hen widgeon, got them nicely, pop, pop!

9.37 in two hours 101 of which 11 are over the bank and Joe is away with the dogs picking up during the drive. I don't know where he had gone to perhaps he has hidden himself up - I hope he has. Just got a right and left, there are mallard out of a little packet of 3. 9.38 no teal in sight, just mallard and widgeon and chiefly mallard with a few widgeon winging about, but not too many coming into the grass.

9.48 another right and left at widgeon. 9.53 another right and left at widgeon. Just got 2 teal that came but I needed three shots and the first teal we have shot at for some time. 10.07 now and 12 over the bank making 119 altogether. Another right and left at widgeon and a single teal first barrel, second widgeon struggled over the bank. It looked like collapsing and recovered - flap, flap very slowly and the wind has just taken it over the bank so that is 14 out. Another right and left at widgeon. 10.00 now and another right and left at widgeon so I'll have a count up now - 115 birds inside the bank and 14 outside, so 129 birds at 10.00 a.m. Almost immediately another right and left at widgeon. Sun has come out now and just eased up a bit at 10.05 and it is just quieter now. Two widgeon and got them both - single teal just before and got him first barrel. We have now shot 2 more birds than we shot here two weeks ago at this end of the Island and the widgeon are most exciting. The widgeon really are exciting - it is another bird and it is a most exciting bird. A pair of widgeon just came in and I made a mess - wounded the hen. Single teal shot him first barrel.

Another pair of widgeon came - right and left, pop, pop - 10.19. 10.30 exactly 129 plus 15 making 144 at 10.30. 200 widgeon just came at least and it looked absolutely marvellous and I let them come right in really so that I could see them so well. It was a beautiful sight and then when they saw me they lifted and I took a right and left out of the lefthand side of the flock - it sounds very pompous but I did it quite nicely. 10.36 two more widgeon - cock and hen. Ladies first and right and left. 16 - I have just shot a single teal and he dropped just over the bank so he counts as an over bank bird, so 16 and 134 inside the bank - total 150 at 10.40 a.m. Just over three hours and 150 duck. Another right and left at widgeon at 10.59. I got three out of a packet of widgeon just now - two dead and one over the bank. Another 2 widgeon at 11.03 and another two widgeon at 11.06. It is 11.10 and another lovely right and left at widgeon. Another right and left at widgeon - just two birds at 11.14 and ladies first. 11.21 I just killed a right and left at widgeon. The others don't seem to take any notice of the shot - another three came in and I killed a right and left and the third one as it went away. Another right and left at widgeon out of a pair that came - right and left 11.22. 11.25 another right and left at widgeon. 11.28 another right and left at widgeon - ladies first again. 11.31 another right and left at widgeon. 11.33 I missed the chance of right and left and killed a single. Immediately afterwards I killed a right and left. We now have 175 birds inside the bank and 21 outside the bank at 11.33. 11.36 one hundred and seventy nine birds inside the bank and twenty-one outside of the bank. Last bird was one widgeon killed out of a pair - good wind. 200 to my own gun in 4 hours. 11.55 killed a nice lot more widgeon but not enough rights and lefts. Just had a remarkably right and left at teal - very pleased. 12.02 a lovely right and left at widgeon. 12.03 right and left at teal - lovely! 12.09 another right and left at widgeon, no, two widgeon came and I killed both but I needed the second gun.

Now we have moved and we are at Johnnie's Pond at 12.50 - west end. 1.16, which means we have been here 26 minutes and I have killed one goose and 23 teal. Gun stuck once otherwise we have only had one clean miss. I killed 30 within the bank - all teal and one mallard, one ringneck and the first hour at Johnnie's has been really fantastic. I killed 66 head in the first 60 minutes - 63 of them teal - wonderful! I think I have killed four threes and a good lot of two's. The first widgeon down here I killed at 2.14 - quite a lot of widgeon been settling into the Magazine field though but they are all shy of this corner - coming across that north bank, six guns lined there about 60 yards apart would have a lovely shoot.

3 December	-	Welton Woods	7 drives Single gun	Pheasant	46	
				Partridge	1	
				Woodcock	3	
				Pigeon	2	
				Jay	1	53 head
8 December	-	Stainton-le-Vale	7 drives	Pheasant	124	
				Woodcock	1	125 head
9 December	-	North Ormsby	5 drives	Pheasant	46	
			Sir JN shot half day only	Woodcock	1	47 head
10 December	-	Reads Island	Afternoon and Evening flight West End/Johnnies Pond	Teal	85	(73 picked)
				Mallard	18	(15 picked)
				Widgeon	6	(5 picked)
				Moorhen	1	
						110 head
11 December	-	Reads Island	Morning flight East End/Sam's Pond	Teal	19	(17 picked)
				Mallard	9	(8 picked)
				Widgeon	1	
				Moorhen	2	
						31 head

With Benjy Jacob at Johnnies Pond. Shot the first teal at 11.15 a.m. Saturday. Single mallard paid the penalty a minute later, third teal a minute later, third bird. 11.26. We have been here ten minutes and we have got nine teal and one mallard without the long bird. It's now 11.51 now, got twenty ducks without the long ones. One of the birds is a widgeon, two are mallard. That means seventeen teal. We haven't had a miss, we haven't had a proper miss. No, perhaps we shall start missing after saying that. There is a lovely view of a male marsh harrier within thirty yards of us. A beautiful slatey-grey plumage and clearly distinguishable white rump. It is now 12.13 and I have just shot a widgeon out of a packet, the only bird that was near enough to me and immediately after that a pair of widgeon came. I shot the hen and the cock did a tremendous nosedive, the shot went yards away from him. So now the score is twenty eight birds of which three are widgeon, three are mallard and twenty-two teal and this does not include the long birds that Benjy is marking, which are three, on top of the twenty eight and we are still three minutes within the hour. Exactly an hour and thirty dead birds, without the long ones.

1.18 I had my first clean miss, single mallard coming fast downwind, right at me, low. Got back to the Johnnies Pond at 3 o'clock exactly and at 3.21, 21 minutes later, I had killed fifteen teal, which I am pleased about. There were a lot of four came and I got them all, then there was a next lot of four came and just to show me up I only got one out of the four, and now I've had I think three rights and lefts. One I shot sitting and then in case. In the interim I had been down to the 21 Club because Colyer told me that quite a lot of snipe were coming. When I got down there I saw five or six snipe. I dragged two down but I didn't beat them, they were a long way off. When I was there I managed to shoot two cock widgeon from the widgeon butts there in the marsh. Let's make a precis. We arrived at 11.16 and started in Johnnies Corner, 10th December 1983. Thirty in the first hour, twenty four in the second hour and out of those sixty four I only had one clean miss. Soon after that I had my second clean miss. So that's 1.46 we had - 1.16 we had fifty four. Then it took me half an hour until 1.46 to get six more birds, so I had sixty at 1.46. And then I went down for a walk to the snipe butts, 21 Club, and killed a couple of cock widgeon there and I killed one before I left. So that we got back here to the hide at 3 o'clock having sixty three birds knocked down close in, but despite the efforts of six dogs while I was away at the snipe butts, in the middle of a magazine that is, they worked hard the boys did but they only picked up fifty





eight. In addition to that we had three long birds on the marsh. Sixty three down, fifty eight picked, plus three long at 3.00 p.m. By 3.30 had eighty four head, I had eighty four ducks down close in, and now six long ones, so that's ninety birds in total by 3.30.

12 December	- North Ormsby	7 drives	Pheasant	74	
			Woodcock	2	
			Pigeon	1	77 head
12 December	- Grimble Wood	Evening flight	Pigeon	14	14 head
13 December	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	317	
			Carriion		
			Crow	1	318 head
14 December	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	125	125 head
17th December	- Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant	194	
			Woodcock	1	195 head
19 December	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	209	209 head
21 December	- Stainton-le-Vale	5 drives	Pheasant	90	
			Woodcock	5	95 head
22 December	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	174	
			Woodcock	2	
			Pigeon	2	
			Moorhen	1	179 head
26 December	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	339	
			Pigeon	1	340 head
27 December	- Rothwell	8 drives	Pheasant	116	
			Rabbit	1	
			Hare	1	
			Moorhen	1	119 head
28 December	- Tealby	6 drives	Pheasant	97	
			Woodcock	2	
			Rabbit	1	100 head

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30 December	-	North Ormsby	8 drives	Pheasant	60	
				Woodcock	2	
				Pigeon	2	
				Jay	1	65 head
30 December	-	Grimble Wood	Evening flight	Pigeon	5	5 head
				Did not miss		
31 December	-	Stainton-le-Vale	6 drives	Pheasant	84	
				Woodcock	4	
				Pigeon	3	
				Moorhen	2	
				Rabbit	1	94 head
2 January	-	Reads Island	Morning flight Sam's Pond	Teal	23	(21 picked)
				Widgeon	4	(4 picked)
				Mallard	7	(4 picked)
				Pheasant	1	(1 picked)
				Snipe	1	(1 picked)
				Moorhen	1	(1 picked)
				Cormorant	1	
						38 head
2 January	-	Reads Island	Evening flight Johns Pond	Teal	5	(3 picked)
				Widgeon	5	(3 picked)
				Mallard	21	(18 picked)
						31 head



at BALMORAL CASTLE

15th December 1983

Dear So,

This is I'm afraid rather a belated thank you for the two marvellous days I had at Rothwell.

Once again you were both so relaxed and friendly that the shooting apart I could not but have helped enjoy the visit. As for the shooting I know I've said before that it is

a whole different experience. To see the number of birds, the way they flew and the way they were driven was an education and worthy of great credit to all concerned. I again felt both humbled and privileged to have been lucky enough to have been part of two such days. I will always treasure the memories of Rothwell and I cannot thank you enough or really put into words how much I enjoyed my time with you both.

I'm sorry I did not get to talk to you longer at the



BALMORAL CASTLE

'Cooper Dinner', but I'm glad the day on the island was such an outstanding success! I'm rapidly discovering that being away for seven weeks is too long. I'm only just now starting to catch up with myself - and then it's Christmas next week!

I'm much looking forward to joining you again in January in Spain. Thank you again for the marvellous time we had in November. Wishing you

both a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Y- 

Yak.

2 January - Reads Island

In my opinion a duck can remember the events for three weeks. After three weeks it cannot remember where it was shot at. If they are left quiet for three weeks they don't remember the last time they were shot. That is my view. It is absolutely extraordinary how all these Teal and we eat a lot of them, and pretty regularly, they are never ever shot in the body so they always want to be missed in front.

Charles Courtney called me at 5.25. I jumped up and had a good shave. He brought me my breakfast of Kelloggs Allbran with milk, a couple of boiled eggs boiled for five minutes, 2 Ryvitas and some thin slices of farmhouse cured ham and a couple of spoonfuls of honey and a pint of tea. It was a good breakfast, just what I wanted.

6.15 to the minute off we set in the Range Rover with Will Jacob driving with the van specially airconditioned and full of straw for the dogs, following with Benjy and Joe Woodcock driving. Five dogs inside. Patrick and Janie Springer spaniels, Jan a Labrador, Skip a Labrador and Flash a Labrador. Setting forth for Reads Island.

It is a dry morning, seems to be a good wind which was not forecast and the wind is cold. The forecast is for a westerly wind, starting south of west and finishing north of west 20-25 knots forecast with some showers. Three weeks since the Island was shot and I have been saying, and Will is agreeing with me en route, if we shoot well and feel well and all goes well and we pick up well, there is a chance to get 100 wildfowl. It is a most exciting thought. So far I have had 810 Teal to my own gun and a further 500 ducks of various kinds. The majority of these have come from the Island - almost all.

So far this winter we have had very little snow. We had a little light powder of snow which stayed a couple of days, but nothing really. It has been a very open winter. I think it is interesting enough to dictate on the way to the Island just how much clothing I am wearing. Starting off with an Airtex vest and Airtex underpants - on top of that I have got a silk vest and silk long underpants and I have got some Damart type short woollen underpants and then my Nickerson cloth knickerbockers. Carrying on with the top, I have got a woollen flat neck plain Jersey wool, and then I have got a Cashmere fairly heavy polo neck jersey with long sleeves and the flat neck has got long sleeves too, and so does the silk vest. Then I have got my holey Cashmere short-sleeved that is called holey because holes have been shot through it on the shoulder. On top of that I have got a goose from Mr. Bauers of Seattle, a goose waistcoat. On top of that I have got my big Husky, very thin one, 18 years old, which has worn very thin but has got sleeves in. It has got a patch cut out of the shoulder so as not to alter the length of the stock. The goose down has been picked out of my waistcoat. On top of that I have got an old cording coat which they have not made for years. That is just as thin as paper but it keeps the wind out and it is loose and it has good pockets. I have got a Norwegian type of Balaclava to put on which goes over the top of my head, on the righthand side of that has been cut out so that it will not interfere with the gun mounting. On top of that I have a round Russian type of hat with ear covers which flap down if you want them from inside. I have the thinnest pair of shooting gloves you could imagine, but the left-hand one, I have put a beautifully soft, finely knit Norwegian type, very thin woolly underglove for the left hand. I have the Norwegian very thick socks half-way up my leg over my ordinary shooting stockings and some French Chamois boots - leather lined - fully waterproof with zip fasteners in the sides - these are size 13 to accommodate the extra thick Norwegian stockings to get insulation from the cold. I have gone into some trouble about dictating all this because I have gone to some trouble about working it all out. The secret, in my opinion, is to have a lot of layers, thin layers, so you can get the air in between. You have also got to be able to shoot - to be able to move rapidly as possible without any hindrance and swing and also you have got to be so you don't affect your length of your stock with these extra clothes on and therefore the actual right shoulder does not want to have the same thickness as the rest. In any case I hope I shall be able to take some of these things off when we get into action if necessary but the journey on the boat to the Island and then the journey on the sledge behind the tractor from the landing stage to the hide at the east end where I am going is not particularly a warm journey.

Well, we turned off the motorway just before quarter to seven heading west, now parallel with the Humber in the direction of the wind on that hill top and it is fairly taking hold of the Range Rover. There seems to be a lot of wind here, Will says, and he has hold of the wheel. It certainly sounds like it too!

We duly embarked on the boat and we could get on without going down any horrible ladders or anything - just a nice walk on into the creek at South Ferriby and the same landing and approaching the creek in the dock the new pair of flashing lights, one opposite the other, so we went to the west of the Island so we let the tide bring us back and we got absolutely opposite the two lights bang into the creek in the dark with no problem at all and have had a very easy landing on the improved landing stage at the mouth of the creek that Colyer has made - no problem there at all and we are now on the tractor and sledge heading for the east end.

7.13 a.m. - so it is 57 minutes since leaving the concrete and we are just crossing the centre bank on the tractor and sledge pointing to the east end. Using three 20 bore over and under Purdeys that I have been using for the last approximately 10 years and of course only two of them at once with a spare in case, number five shot less than one ounce. We have got a dozen widgeon decoys to put on the grass and we have some mallard and teal decoys to put out on the pool and we shall hide up between the two.

Going through the east end in the dark I can see the forms of a lot of fallow deer in the half morning light - most interesting.

At 7.30 we are in our hide at the East End, just breaking daylight and there are only 3 mallard which flew off Sam's corner when we got here. Joe Woodcock is on the South Marsh and Benjy Jacob is on the North Marsh and both of them are to the west of us. The wind is coming from the south west - there was very little of it when we got on the boat and there is just a little of it now - a tiny little wind just freshening so at 7.30 we are ready for action and in position with the tractor gone. Will Jacob and JN.

Pair of mallard came from the mainland and swooped down on the north bank. Pair of mother drakes came from the east end flighting wide of us, two crows calling out to one another and patrolling up and down on the north side. A single teal came towards us and I let fly at him when he came close in and he turned and jinked and I shot within yards of him but killed him very nicely with the second barrel which pleased me very much indeed - a high swinger! The first bird at 7.44 - the first bird shot at and killed second barrel at 7.44.

7.56 before we got another shot and this was a Mallard drake down wind, a real smasher - had to hurry as he was on us before I got my gun in my hand properly. Missed him first barrel, broke a wing second barrel, wing end and into his body and he has gone out on to the north shore - count him as a long bird. Been here half an hour and a nice sunrise - can't see the sun but just the beautiful pink in the sky and in that half an hour shot at a single Teal and a single Mallard - the only two chances. That is all we have seen apart from two more pairs of ducks in the distance. A little flight of jackdaws from the north to south.

8.04 and three Teal came in - I ought to have had a right and left but missed with the first barrel and killed with the second. A Heron out on the south marsh. Seen the first Curlew. Flock of rooks mixed with jackdaws going from north to south. A few black-backed gulls and a pair of carrion crows still milling around. Two short-eared owls we saw when we first got here in the half light.

8.12 the next shot at a single Teal - shot in front of him first barrel but cleaned him up second. The wind is just getting up a fraction. There is no weight of ducks - a few shell ducks about but just 3/4 pairs of Teal flying about in the distance. A flight of rooks from Yorkshire to Lincolnshire continues over the extreme eastern tip of the Island.

8.14 and we have been here 44 minutes and shot at 4 birds. Three Teal are dead and the other Mallard is on the marsh so that is four chances in 45 minutes.

8.20 - very exciting, changed guns for the choke gun - an enormous goose came right into us - plonked him one. Anyway, damaged him severely and round he went to the extreme end of the Island and we shall see if Benjy spotted him - it is a bit of real exciting performance to try and retrieve him and then a single Teal came in almost immediately and it took me four shots to get him - beautiful these birds are as they are so difficult.

Eight Cormorant in sight at 8.30 and we have been here one hour. Just killed a single down-wind Teal with the first shot and a very good swinging high Mallard duck. First hour and I have had 8 chances. Have not had a clean miss - the result of the eight chances is we have 5 Teal dead, 1 Mallard dead close in, a long goose to retrieve and a Mallard drake to retrieve - 6 on the counter and 8 in total down in one hour. Wind is just beginning to freshen and sky is brightening with the sunrise.

Pair of Mallard nicely up too over the left shoulder - got them both through the head - second one was a good shot because he was curling away. It was pop, pop like that both through the head and neck and down they came, plomp! - lovely pair of shots - beautiful, I really enjoyed that. Even Will Jacob said fantastic! Single Teal came in but didn't make a very good job of it - came down about 100 yards away and I asked Will to go and fetch it during the shoot - very much alive. He brought a cock teal back again and it has been ringed in Holland - a ring on it. The jackdaw flight is over and rook flight.

It is 8.40 now - a single Teal - wounded him and off he has gone on to the north east. He was not hurt tremendously. Then came three Teal, swingers, side wind, very fast, only fired one barrel and killed the nearest bird and it is now 8.47 and we have 10 birds close in and three long (one of the three is not much hurt but the other two are wingers). There is a Kestrel hovering about.

8.53 - the first three Widgeon seen coming down the north bank. Pair of Teal separated - I tried to kill the left hand one a long way off and missed it but turned about and clobbered the right hand one. So far we have not had a clean miss.

8.55 and it is absolutely lovely - the sunrise, to see a pair of Shelducks coming right in very confidently within ten yards of us - beautiful, and there are several little flocks of Shelducks flying around almost the whole time.

I just popped off to do something and young Will had a pair of Teal come in and he shot at one but did not get it and he killed the second one with the second barrel, so that was excellent and I had two high shots at Mallard - very optimistic without connecting - single shots each time - stupid shots really.

Now 9.14 - we brought the Widgeon decoys in and we had a dozen cocks out there - we wondered if that was turning the Mallard away from the hide - they seemed to be shy. Anyway, Will has got them in.

I've just had a good chance at a Mallard and I missed it - I reckon that is the first proper miss at 9.17 - nice long shot at a Mallard, got into the front end of it and he has collapsed over the bank, not more than 30 yards over the north bank, but we have not counted him on our counter.

First shots at Widgeon at 9.24 - we have got two decoy cock Widgeon out on the grass there - plastic and I shot a right and left at the only two Widgeon that we have shot at up to now - there was a pair of them and they are both hens - the only two Widgeon but there were a few Mallard about behind them. We got a right and left at two hen Widgeon there - pleased me very much. Single Teal coming in to settle at 9.30 and 15 birds down inside the bank now in two hours. Fifteen birds down in two hours and one proper miss - one miss that is all, and fired twice at high Mallard but one proper miss out of the first 15.

9.55 now and we have 20 inside the bank - just killed a single Teal with one shot. Joe's whistle was very useful - he is over the bank warning us and Benjy is over the north bank with Skip. Two Teal came and I got them both but I needed both guns - 10.04 and 24 on the clock. Now that is a lost chance - he came down wind a Teal, flat out, and I never saw him coming - he obligingly turned round and came back to us and I missed him, four barrels - that is at 10.06 and that is a bad do. That is two misses - one Teal and one Mallard that we

definitely should have had in total during the morning up to now and 24 on the clock plus 4 long.

10.15 - a nice single swinging Mallard pleased me very much first barrel. I missed two long Mallard and one long Teal.

10.30 - three hours we have been and have 28 down inside the bank and four outside.

10.47 - struck a very wide Mallard and that is ten minutes that we have not had a chance.

10.50 - shot a Moorhen - nice flying Moorhen coming in from the north bank - a nice bird and Will is going to fetch the tractor and whistle up Benjy and Woodcock now to pick up.

11.40 and we have now moved and picked up 29 ducks and a Moorhen and that is all we had claimed inside the bank and we have in addition 6 outside the bank, not picked.

At 11.40 we are in Colyer's new hide on Magazine - very close to the north bank towards the west end near the sneck. We are waiting for the Widgeon hopefully to return - there were several hundred, 500 I should think must have been, flew off as we approached and 30/40 Snipe in total - probably 20 Snipe only that I saw and we will see if they come back.

11.55 - one shot at a Snipe, pretty wide but no luck out of all the hundreds of Widgeon that were sitting here in that 15 minutes, not one has tried to get back - only a pair of Shelducks tried to get back.

4 January	- Rothwell	Sir Joseph shot 3 drives only	Pheasant	212	
			Pigeon	1	213 head
5 January	- Rothwell	Sir Joseph shot 3 drives only	Pheasant	234	
			Carrion Crow	1	235 head
7 January	- Sherbourne Park	7 drives	Pheasant	32	
			Woodcock	2	34 head
9th January	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	199	199 head
10 January	- Rothwell	4 drives	Pheasant	195	195 head
11 January	- Rothwell	6 drives	Pheasant	193	
			Mallard	2	
			Rabbit	4	199 head
12 January	- Rothwell	5 drives	Pheasant	312	312 head

14 January	- Brocklesby	6 drives	104 shots	Pheasant	56	
		Single gun		Woodcock	2	
				Jay	1	59 head

The 100 mile an hour gale of the Century. The Earl of Yarborough (John) invited me to shoot, meeting at Pelham's Pillar at 9.30. I was there at 9.18. So we meet - everybody dressed in a Barbour coat, without exception, except me.

Can't drive Subaru's or Range Rovers on the skiddy drives. The Keeper has the wood surrounded by white flags across ploughed fields - a pheasant at this time of year is not going to run across this deep climb with the wide front it has to get out of the wood. He also has the rides fenced off with sheep netting and so they can't scratch their way under the sheep netting like rabbits he has logs of wood to hold it down.

We were 9 guns - one was Bobby Hope-Barton with whom I used to shoot before the War and he was so complimentary about me turning in this high wind - 100 mph today. The whole thing was a pretty poor show - shooting in a big wood with nothing much higher than the trees. There were a lot of woodcock about. Single guns - 450 pheasants - the author JN shot over 70 and 2 woodcock. Ian Garfoot loading for me - his father used to be Keeper on that beat which is why I took him. I missed practically nothing - shot 24 out of 26 at one stand, I remember. All first barrel except one and all cocks except three and two of those were blackhens. Very fast birds indeed, very fast. Killed 70 pheasants and 2 woodcock and am reasonably pleased with myself. Could have had a few more shots but not many - very pleased. Brought off a few odd spectacular shots - great fun!

I had a lot of clothes on because I was determined to keep warm and I did. Took a few Bath Olivers and some butter and Gruyere and consumed these things between 12.00 and 12.30 so I didn't have to eat too much of the lunch that was provided. I had young Bess with me in the morning but Woodcock hadn't bathed her or got the dust out of her and she was very badly turned out and didn't shine at all so I sent Garfoot back at lunch-time to get me Teal whose skin looks well.

What I found quite strange - there were no wood pigeons coming in and I didn't see a single hare all day, no fox was seen and no deer. It was a tremendous gale and extraordinarily cold. By God it was windy today - the trees were swaying about and I kept saying to Garfoot, now don't you let us stand anywhere near a tree that is old enough to crack down on us. They were swaying about like mad. It was the biggest gale that I think I have ever shot in and we were very careful not to stand near the trees that were a bit old and dangerous.

The same day Robert and 4 or 5 people that I wanted him to ask shot 102 pheasants at Tealby. A couple of our girl beaters fainted - it was so cold.

17 January	- Nombela	5 drives	81 Partridge	184 shots
			4 Magpie	

18 January	- Nombela	5 drives	121 Partridge	203 shots
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1984

20 January	-	Nombela	5 drives	116 Partridges	192 shots
21 January	-	Nombela	5 drives	112 Partridges 1 Magpie 1 Jay	192 shots
22 January	-	Nombela	5 drives	79 Partridges 1 Magpie	154 shots
24 January	-	Rothwell	3 drives	142 Pheasants 1 Woodcock 1 Pigeon	
25 January	-	Rothwell	5 drives	157 Pheasants 1 Woodcock 1 Moorhen 1 Jay	
26 January	-	Black Springs	Evening flight	8 Mallard 3 Tufted Duck 4 Coots 4 Moorhen 1 Snipe 1 Trout	
27 January	-	Rothwell	4 drives	275 Pheasants 2 Pigeon 1 Magpie	345 shots
28 January	-	Rothwell	5 drives	174 Pheasants 2 Woodcock 2 Pigeons 1 Moorhen	
29 January	-	Reads Island		9 Mallard 9 Teal 6 Widgeon 3 Golden Plover 1 Coot 1 Pigeon 1 Fieldfare	



N O M B E L A

January 1984





N O M B E L A

January 1984





S P A I N

January 1984





Maqueda Village



I am at the East End Hide of Reads Island on the last Sunday in January 1984. Joe Woodcock loading for me. We arrived in this hide and got kitted up 7.15 a.m.

Been here about three or four minutes - I shot at widgeon and a teal, or what looks like that.

I was called this morning by Charles Courtenay who is training under McDonald - good boy, aged 18. He called me at 4 o'clock with an enormous pot of tea. He made me a bit of toast and at 4.30 we were on the garage yard. Joe Woodcock was ready and young Douane. We took Tugby mistake, it is a pity because Jennie was at home for the weekend. Patrick with him, Skip and Flash.

4.35 a.m. - wheels were moving, driven by Woodcock, pretty fast. We did it in just under the half hour, we sailed out of the creek at 5.10 a.m. with a 4.47 high water, so we were 37 minutes within the 2 hours, but at this time the tides were in low tides - you can't rely on that. We could see about a foot of the big board across the Ferriby Creek near our moorings by the time we sailed.

We were tied up on Reads Island lower jetty at 5.15. The pairs of flashing lights, which happen to be an idea of mine, modestly do help you to line up to come into the creek beautifully and the Colyer's handled the boat magnificently. Had a very good crossing. All the kit on the tractor and up to the house. I had twenty minutes sleep. Unpacked the kit. Chose what clothes we were going to wear, etc. Had 3 boiled eggs, some more tea and some toast and off we went.

There is ice on Sam's Pond - in fact 80% of it is ice and 20% water.

There has been a tremendous lot of stuff coming in, Mrs. Colyer said. But now it has thawed, there is water everywhere. The ice hasn't thawed on this pond but there is an open water on the Island and the snow has melted with a rapid thaw - heavy fall of snow - rapid thaw and that is what has put pools of water everywhere. The ice has been three inches thick on Sam's Pond, for example. It has hardly melted at all.

Within ten minutes of being there we have heard two packets of geese.

A week ago today we shot 154½ brace of wild partridges in Spain - four of us. We travelled on the Monday, shot over the afternoon, my wife and I shot 222 pheasants. Tuesday afternoon three little drives, just the two of us, and then two of us with Greta Fenston on Wednesday, shot 815. Thursday I worked in the office, went to fly to Black Springs - 21 head of one sort or another were picked up. Friday - 540 with Ray Caudwell and Ian Yates at Rothwell. Yesterday, Saturday, 525 - Ian Yates, JN, Bill Thomson from Shell - Finance Director, and Patrick Dean. Young Jennie came home from Ascot on the early train - joined us at the bottom of Great Walk - she killed 42 for the day with her own gun. My wife joined us for the afternoon to shoot Bills Drive which with the fog is the first time it has let us down.

Back to Reads Island, Sunday 29th January. By 7.27 a.m. we shot at 3 birds and got 3 birds. It is a quarter to eight and we have got 5 birds, that is everything we have shot at except a pair of Teal coming down the wind - shot at one of them - beat me. The Harrier came very slowly past us, white rump, plainly identifiable. Rather a long tail sideways on, it was. Did a kind of a hover like a kestrel just on top of the bank - it was level with us. There was about four feet higher than the bank - it came up the wind there, gave the most beautiful view.

Just a couple of minutes to 8 - it is now 8 o'clock and we haven't had a shot for a quarter of an hour. Shelducks are coming in and settling around us. We have been here virtually an hour. It is 8.12 - I have just shot another Teal out of a packet of 3 and stung up another bird very hard, so we have three long birds up to now. Two mallard and one teal long in addition to the 6 I have got on my clock. This is 9 birds in the first hour.

We have been here an hour and a half now. Got 11 ducks. Very few birds about. They are landing on this marsh - it has been well cut down with the reaper so that we got it at close - it is flooded a little bit - where the snow has melted the water stayed in the low places. Mallard, Widgeon and Teal. When we write the book we ought to say that we thought of putting the cartridge belt clips around the game bag.

We have been two hours now. 9.15 - 13 dead ducks inside the bank, plus 2 mallard and a teal and a goldie outside the banks. So that is 17 head in total for 2 hours - $8\frac{1}{2}$ an hour.

There has been an almost continuous flight circling Shelduck.

10.15 - and here is the tractor. 18 on the clock and 2 mallard and 1 teal over the bank.

Well, after a steak at 11 o'clock in the morning, a couple of hour's sleep, we are back at Johnnie's Pond - West End. 2.30 p.m. - bright sunlight. On the way down about 500 widgeon lifted from the Magazine Field proper from our hides lookout and there were hundreds also on the south Magazine Field, south of the centre bank. In the long grass there that was flooded. A lot of fowl about. Anyway, of course, the tractor moves absolutely everything and it has just gone away now. We have got Duane Downing with the four dogs in my hide with the thunder whistle to let us know if there is anything coming towards the bank which we shouldn't see, and we have got Charles Courtenay within the wooden box hide on the widgeon marsh on the south side. We have got a fair lot of widgeon decoys out on the grass around us and teal and mallard in the few yards of open water laid on the pond.

Well, it is 3 o'clock. We haven't had a shot except a black-backed gull which we have got on our score sheet. Black-backed gull. That is all we have managed to do in the first half hour there. Ten past three - all we have seen - 2 pairs widgeon together - I let fly at one drake.

That has been the first hour, only shot at one teal - killed it, killed a black-back and shot a wide widgeon in the first hour. The sun is still shining beautifully at 3.30.

Quarter to 5. I have been here at the West End for 2 hours and a quarter and I have killed four head. Golden Plover, black-backed gull, a teal and a widgeon. Four birds. I can remember all the four shots - good shots.

30 January - Rothwell

4 drives

Pheasant	99
Pigeon	2



SIR JOSEPH'S PERSONAL BAG - 1983/84 SEASON

ROTHWELL PIGEON SHOOTS

Pigeon	18
Hare	4
Rabbit	4

<u>Head:</u>	26
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READS ISLAND

Pigeon	2
Moorhen	5
Teal	865
Widgeon	178
Mallard	345
Snipe	7
Cormorant	1
Coot	1
Golden Plover	6
Fieldfare	1
Pheasant	2

<u>Head:</u>	1413
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RAM POND

Mallard	37
Teal	3
Pintail	1
Pigeon	2
Starling	4

<u>Head:</u>	47
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BLACK SPRINGS

Mallard	38
Tufted Duck	3
Coot	4
Moorhen	4
Snipe	1
Trout	1

<u>Head:</u>	51
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GRIMBLE WOOD

Pigeon	19
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<u>Head:</u>	19
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A very interesting thing from young Benjy Jacob - a common gull found at Rothwell in a badly decomposed state had been ringed in Russia and was eleven years old.

RECORD OF RINGED BIRD		NATSALU		Ring number:	
Species:	COMMON GULL	GPV		SUE	U37934
Age/Sex:	NESTLING	1	CODES	CODES	CODES
Ringed Information:		Date accuracy (time)		Co-ordinate accuracy	
2 JUN 72	±	59 25' N	23 10' E	±	
PAELAIU,					CODES CODES
ESTONIA, U.S.S.R.					5000
Ringed Information:		Date accuracy (time)		Co-ordinate accuracy	
23 JUL 83	±	53 29' N	0 16' W	±	
ROTHWELL,					CODES CODES
CAISTON,					GBL3
LINCOLNSHIRE, ENGLAND					CODES CODES
MR B. JACOB,		Finding Details:			
BECK SIDE,		3	CODES	CODES	CODES
ROTHWELL,		DEAD (NOT FRESH)			
LINCOLN LN7 6BD		BIRD FOUND			
		(BADLY DECOMPOSED)			
		Distance:	Direction:	Duration:	
		1555 KM	249 DEG	4074 DAYS	
Ringer:					
Finder's copy of details recorded in our permanent file. If you find any factual error please inform us, B.T.O. Beech Grove, Tring, Herts HP23 5NR, England.		301063	CODES	CODES	CODES

FINDER

LINCOLNSHIRE VERMIN KILL - 1983

SPECIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL FOR 1983
Toby	-	2	3	5	11	5	5	7	15	11	8	5	77
Stoat	10	4	18	17	11	1	5	14	13	21	10	6	130
Tab	2	4	5	5	8	7	8	8	4	7	4	5	67
Rat	22	36	36	37	13	9	10	23	71	45	20	23	345
Crow	-	12	14	14	1	4	2	2	1	2	-	3	55
Weasel	3	3	10	8	3	1	2	9	6	8	4	-	57
Magpie	-	4	9	14	8	5	1	4	2	3	1	-	51
Moorhen	91	11	-	23	-	3	2	-	-	-	8	-	138
Mole	6	-	-	1	-	5	9	3	2	2	7	3	38
Jackdaw	1	-	1	4	19	17	2	3	-	1	-	-	48
Rook	-	9	-	15	33	130	60	12	-	3	-	-	262
Squirrel	2	5	4	2	4	1	2	3	-	3	2	-	28
Badger	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hedgehog	-	2	16	30	15	15	17	5	20	5	8	-	133
Jay	1	-	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	14
Ferret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Little Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BB Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Hooded Crow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	138	92	119	176	128	204	126	95	135	113	74	48	1448

1983

LINCOLNSHIRE VERMIN KILL - 1983

KEEPERS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Farmery	7	16	36	44	13	-	1	9	24	21	13	12	196
Hassall	16	18	32	56	10	12	15	18	56	24	5	-	262
Garfoot	10	12	25	26	23	12	15	16	18	29	31	10	227
Frankish	8	17	14	21	24	25	11	10	13	19	-	13	175
Wolsey	97	29	12	29	58	155	84	42	24	20	25	13	588

TOTAL HEAD FOR 1983 : 1448

NOMBELA 1983 - VERMIN RECORDS

SPECIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL KILLED
Fox		1		8 (7)		3		1	1	2	5	2	23
Cat - Dom		4	1	2	1		3	2	2	3	3	3	24
Badger/Civet			1									1	2
Dog - Stray													
Polecat													
Weasel						6				4			10
Hedgehog	6	7	12	45 (12)	39	35	14	8	2	10	3	2	183
Magpie/Jackdaw	147	101	121	281 (202)	68	153	204	134	51	101	232	322	1915
Crow		2		22 (21)									24
Lizard			47	214 (107)	146	131	72	20	1				631
Rat/Careta	56	472	1029	831 (150)	371	120	59	42	28	42	12	21	3083
Snake	1	6	43	77 (5)	86	116	63	38	7	20	9		466
TOTALS	210	593	1254	1480 (504)	711	564	415	245	92	182	264	351	6361

SUMMARY OF SIR JOSEPH'S BAG AT NOMBELA AND GRAND TOTAL FOR SPAIN 1983

Date	Part.	Cum. Total	Pgn	Jay	Mag	Ph.	Mall	Teal	Total	Cum. Total	Shots	Cum. Total
23 Oct	80	80	1						81	81	146	146
24 Oct	105	185			1				106	187	206	352
25 Oct	136	321							136	323	196	548
26 Oct	106	427		2	3				111	434	179	727
27 Oct	147	574			2				149	583	256	983
29 Oct	115	689			2				117	700	199	1182
30 Oct	111	800		1	2				114	814	181	1363
1 Nov	177	977							177	991	263	1626
2 Nov	133	1110		6	6				145	1136	218	1844
3 Nov	109	1219			4				113	1249	205	2049
5 Nov	65	1284			2				67	1316	147	2196
6 Nov	85	1369			2				87	1403	160	2356
8 Nov	96	1465		2	4				102	1505	164	2520
9 Nov	67	1532							67	1572	132	2652
TOTALS												
14 days	1532		1	11	28				1572		2652	
GRAND TOTAL	1532		1	11	28				1572		2652	

SIR JOSEPH'S PERSONAL BAG - NOMBELA - JANUARY 1984

Date	No. of Drive	Shots	Parts	Shots /Kill	For drive			Cum. Total Shots	Cum. Total Parts	For day			Grand Cum Total	Cum. Total Shots	Cum. Total Parts	For visit			Grand Cum. Total
					Pig	Other Jay	Mag			Pig	Other Jay	Mag				Pig	Other Jay	Mag	
17.1.84	1 2 3 4 5	22 25 54 25 58	9 9 17 12 34	2.4 2.7 3.1 2.0 1.7				22 47 101 126 184	9 18 35 47 81										85
18.1.84	1 2 3 4 5	34 64 30 40 35	24 43 16 18 20	1.4 1.4 1.8 2.2 1.7				34 98 128 168 203	24 67 83 101 121				121	387	202				206
20.1.84	1 2 3 4 5	29 32 37 36 58	19 17 14 26 40	1.5 1.8 2.6 1.3 1.4				29 61 98 134 192	19 36 50 76 116				116	579	318				322
21.1.84	1 2 3 4 5	18 29 38 51 56	12 20 21 32 27	1.5 1.4 1.9 1.5 2.0				18 47 85 136 192	12 32 53 85 112				118	771	430		1	5	436
22.1.84	1 2 3 4 5	32 30 28 32 32	15 18 14 14 18	2.1 1.6 2.0 2.2 1.7				32 62 90 122 154	15 33 47 61 79				80	925	509		1	6	516
TOTALS 5 days	25 Drives			1.8										925	509		1	6	516

SUMMARY OF SIR JOSEPH'S SHOOTING IN SPAIN - 1983/84 SEASON

19 days at Nombela 2041 Partridges with 3577 shots

+ 1 Pigeon
 12 Jays
 34 Magpies

—
2088
—

1 day at Camarena 136 Partridges



SIR JOSEPH'S PERSONAL BAG - 2nd FEBRUARY 1983 TO 1st FEBRUARY 1984

UNITED KINGDOM

Grouse	1866
Partridge	233
Pheasant	6206
Pigeon	65
Rabbit	12
Hare	9
Moorhen	18
Woodcock	45
Jay	4
Magpie	1
Teal	847
Widgeon	178
Mallard	444
Snipe	16
Cormorant	1
Carrion Crow	2
Tufted Duck	3
Coot	5
Pintail	1
Golden Plover	6
Fieldfare	1
Starling	4

TOTAL BAG 9967

AMERICA

Quail	5
Snipe	4

TOTAL BAG 9

SPAIN

Partridge	2041
Magpie	34
Jay	12
Pigeon	1

TOTAL BAG 2088

GRAND TOTAL BAG: 12064

GROUSE BAG - SPLIT BETWEEN THE MOORS

Wemmergill	1354
Stublick	90
Stean	50
Holwick	289
Leadhills	83

Partridges UK

Rothwell	4
North Ormsby	23
As Guest	206

Pheasants UK

Rothwell	4884
Tealby	201
Stainton-le-Vale	426
North Ormsby	180
Reads Island	2
As Guest	513

Partridges Spain

Nombela	2041
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SHOOT STAFF - 1983/84 SEASON

Bill Jacob
Bob Johnson

ROTHWELL

KEEPERS

Alan Farmery	<u>Beat:</u> The land known as Cherry Garth (Top) Farm through to the Binbrook road to the South and East. Also Lings Farm, Croxby, Roman Holes, Thoresway, Thoresway Grange Farm, Thoresway Manor Farm, and Thoresway Stone Farm.
Ian Garfoot	<u>Beat:</u> The land within the boundaries Thoresway Road field to the South West, Chapel Field to the East including all the land at Cabourne and the farms previously held by Mr. Addison and the Earl of Yarborough. Also the Rothwell Glebe land farmed by Mr. Ormond and Glebe and Grange Farms, Nettleton, incorporating Tugdale. Plus the land at Nettleton farmed by Mr. Cooper, Jnr.
Eddie Hassall	<u>Beat:</u> The land to the West of the Rothwell to Binbrook Road bounded on the West by the High Street and on the North from the northern boundary of Badger Top field through to the Rectory.
Graham Frankish	<u>Beat:</u> Bayons Manor Estate, Tealby.
KELSEY INC. CHERRY VALLEY	Frank Wolsey
STANTON	Walter Tirrell
READS ISLAND	Brian Colyer
STEAN MOOR	Joe Freeman
STUBLICK MOOR	Tom Davison (Helper on shoot days : Walter Rutherford)
WEMMERGILL/HOLWICK MOORS	Head Keeper : Peter Fawcett Under-Keepers : Peter Bartram, Nigel Winter, Jim Bush, Nicky Lee-Shield

KEEPERS - Continued

NOMBELA - SPAIN

Head Keeper: (Guarda Mayor) : Santos
Pablo
Jesus
Paco
Tino

Domingo was Head Keeper to Leo Biaggi for 27 years but now retired.
Still helps with the shoots.

Loader Spain : Senor Manuel Abad - Manolo

LOADERS

Bill Jacob	Joe Woodcock (Dog handler, Rothwell)
Ben Jacob (brother to Bill)	John Grave (formerly Sir Joseph's Head Keeper,
Benjy Jacob)	Wemmergill, now self-employed contractor)
Will Jacob) Bill's sons	Harry Hope
	Frank Coulthard

PICKERS-UP

Father A.W. Jacob (Head Keeper at Rothwell for 28 seasons, now retired, father of Bill)
Mary Keal Cliff Chase Alan Smith Brian Wall
Tom Farmery (occasionally)

KEEPERS' WAGES

Farmery, Garfoot, Hassall and Frankish each received £102.42 per week plus £5 for every shoot attended, plus £351 tips each. The two trainee keepers, Duane Downing and Mark Lawrence, received £39.00 per week plus £5 for every shoot attended, plus £76.50 tips each.

Frank Wolsey received £102.42 per week and the Kelsey shoot tips, also £9 attendance on shoot days.

Joe Woodcock received £102.42 per week plus £5 attendance on shoot days and personal tips from Sir Joseph.

Loaders pay was £10 per day. Pickers-up pay £12 per day.

Beaters pay: £9 per day over 16
£6 per day under 16

1983/84 SEASON

SALE OF GAME

Pheasant sold to Frans Buitelaar, Game Dealers of Wyberton, Boston (through J. Buckner, Cherry Valley) made £3.60 a brace in October 1983 and £3.00 a brace thereafter for the rest of the season.

SALE OF GROUSE

Steau : Total sale of grouse realised £151.00

Prices:	August	y:	£3.00
		o:	1.00
		y:	2.40
		o:	.70
	Sept.	y:	2.50
		o:	1.00

Stublick : Total sale of grouse realised £524.00

Prices:	August	y:	2.80
		o:	1.00
	Sept.	y:	2.20
		o:	.80
	Oct.	y:	2.60
		o:	.80

PRICE OF GAME FOODS

Chick Crumbs £203.80 per tonne, Rearing Food £191.50 per tonne, Growers Food £198.00 per tonne.

NEW HARVEST WHEAT

The price in August 1983 was £116.00 per tonne then rose to a maximum of £122.90 per tonne until March 1984.

GAME BAG - SEASON 1983/84

Pheasant Only

Location	Pheas Release	Pheas Recy	Pheas	Part	Grouse	Wood Cock	Hare	Rabb	Pgn	Mall	Teal	Moor Hen	Other	Total Bag	"Caught Up"	Total	Total Recovery
Rothwell	19694	55%	10751	10		21	15	22	67	78	3	8	10	10985	1359	12110	61.49%
Tealby	3406	42%	1418			24	1	7	7			12	2	1471	430	1848	54.25%
Roman Holes	642	72%	463			9	1		3					476		463	72.11%
Tugdale	1700	42%	707			1		3						711	114	821	48.29%
Stainton	2330	44%	1032			25	4	2	1	1		5		1070	25	1057	45.36%
Kelsey	300	61%	182	5		17		2	8				2	216	74	256	85.33%
Reads Island			2						2	343	866	5	195	1413			
Black Springs										38		4	9	51			
Wemm/Holwick					3948					1			7	3956			
Stean					118								1	119			
Stublick					384		4						1	389			
Spain				5627					1				42	5670			
TOTALS	28072	52%	14555	5642	4450	97	25	36	89	461	869	34	269	26527	2002	16555	58.97%
North Ormsby			1094	811		23	48	13	43	408		4	6	2450			
Wemm/Holwick As Guest					1614								4	1618			
GRAND TOTALS	28072	52%	15649	6453	6064	120	73	49	132	869	869	38	279	30595	2002	16555	58.97%



SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK

31st January 1984

Dear Jo,

This is a very inadequate thank you for the three marvellous days we had together in Spain. Going somewhere to shoot for the first time is always very exciting - if a little nerve-racking! However I never expected what I eventually found.

Everyone was so friendly and so enthusiastic, everything was so beautifully managed and controlled. We had a lovely lot of shooting and I think have left an excellent stock. I will long remember my three days at Nombella.

My only regret when I got home was when I jumped on the scales. We had such fun in the hotel, the food was so good I ate much, much too much. No permanent harm done,



SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK

it will just make the fitness process that much more painful in February!!

I do hope you had a good trip home. Since Amos was so kind to me at the airport and took care of my guns and the customs etc. etc..

We've now had our final day at Lakeside - our 15th this year with over 50 cochs which

I was very pleased about. We also had a lovely drive down on the Lake. I had no idea they flew so high! I hope your final trip to the "Island" lived up to expectations.

If you hear of a good young keeper I would still be very grateful to hear about one.

Once again many many thanks for three marvellous and exciting days.

With all best wishes for 1984.

Y- — *John*

