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A round up of News and Events – September 2010

1. Firearms Control Inquiry – Deadline Extended
2. FINAL REMINDER for this year's Prize Draw
3. *Livin' Country*
4. Show Dates
5. Advice
6. Member Discounts
7. Do we have your correct Email address?
8. UCSW Merchandise

1. FIREARMS CONTROL INQUIRY – DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Home Affairs Select Committee's (HASC) email system has been 'swamped' with evidence from the shooting community wishing to submit evidence to the current inquiry on Firearms Control which was due to close on 27 August, 2010. The HASC has now extended the deadline and will accept further comments until October when the evidence will be collated and presented to MPs when they return to Parliament. For more information visit <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news/firearms-control/>. In particular the inquiry will focus on:

- The extent to which legally-held guns are used in criminal activity and the relationship between gun control and gun crime, including the impact of the Firearms (Amendment) Acts 1997;
- Whether or not the current laws governing firearms licensing are fit for purpose, including progress on implementing the Committee's recommendations set out in its Second Report of the 1999-2000 session;
- Proposals to improve information-sharing between medics and the police in respect of gun licensing;
- Information-sharing between police and prisons in assessing the risk of offenders who may have access to firearms; and
- The danger presented by, and legislation regulating, airguns.

The Committee is seeking written submissions of no more than 2,500 words from interested parties. If you have not already made your views known, you can still do so by emailing homeaffcom@parliament.uk using either Word or rich text (no pdf's, colour or photos). On all correspondence please include your name, telephone number and address. You should also tell the Committee the type of shooting that you do, how long you have been shooting and why it is an important part of your life. Paragraphs should be numbered for ease of reference. If you don't have email then send a hard copy to: Home Affairs Committee, House of Commons, 7, Millbank, London SW18 3JA.

2. FINAL REMINDER for this year's PRIZE DRAW

Please return all Prize Draw tickets to the office no later than Wednesday 15 September. 1st Prize - £200, 2nd Prize - £100 and 3rd Prize - £50. The draw will take place at the Midland Game Fair on 19 September.

3. **LIVIN' COUNTRY** If you have an article, photographs or comments that would be of interest to fellow members and you would like us to consider them for *Livin' Country*, please email us at: office@ucsw.org The copy deadline for the next issue is 16 September 2010.

4. SHOW DATES

Below, we have listed the shows that the UCSW will be attending for the remainder of this year's show season. For more details on these and all the other shows (dates and links to show sites), please visit our website: www.ucsw.org Do come and visit us!

Sept 12	Frampton Country Fair, Gloucestershire
Sept 18 & 19	Midland Game Fair, Weston Park, Staffordshire.

5. ADVICE

The UCSW is here to help those employed in country sports with their employment, housing or other job related problems. If you need help or would just like to talk through a work issue, please call the office on: Tel: 01295 712719.

6. MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The UCSW has organised discounts for members on a range of products:

- **Membership to C³** It's benefits include insurance – see home page of our website www.ucsw.org for a link on how to join. Over the last few years, UCSW members have been asking if the Union can offer insurance. As a result UCSW has been looking at the different insurances available for country sports people. It did not want to add compulsory insurance on to UCSW membership in a time of financial uncertainty, thus incurring additional costs for its members who did not want extra insurance. Optional membership to C³, which includes insurance, is the best way to meet UCSW member needs.
- **Webury.com** – UCSW Trade member – is offering UCSW members a 10% discount for items on their website www.webury.com. To find out how to take up this offer email the UCSW: office@ucsw.org. Webury.com is a family run business, deeply rooted in the countryside. They claim to be Europe's largest Driza-Bone ® stockists, and their expertise in Wellington Boots is second to none, with prestige brands Aigle (including the Equestrian ranges) and Le Chameau. Quality items to suit Gardeners to Gundogs, Campers to Coffee-holics, Foodies to Fashionistas, "there is something for everyone".
- **Special rates for websites, logos, brochures and photography from EquineIT.com** for UCSW members. Logos from only £75 and websites from only £250. Contact Ian Piper on 07811 450158 and mention that you are a UCSW member.
- **Utility Warehouse Discount Club** – Help us, Helping you.... please see enclosed blue leaflet.

7. EMAIL & POSTAL ADDRESSES

As we are using email more and more for relaying information, please make sure we have your current email address – and if you have changed your email or postal address recently, do let us know! Contact the UCSW office or email us on: office@ucsw.org

8. UCSW MERCHANDISE

The UCSW holds various items of UCSW branded stock including: ties, baseball caps, polo shirts, sweatshirts and enamel membership badges which can be viewed by looking on the website under Merchandise: <http://www.ucsw.org/Merchandise.htm>. There are also a number of fun/gift items such as sporting notelets, badges and car stickers, 'hunting' mouse mats, jute bags, etc.

Merchandise can be purchased through our website with a credit card using the secure Paypal system or send in your request noting which item/s you require together with a cheque (made payable to "UCSW") to the office including a donation for p&p or enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for all orders. Thank you.

We would like to thank all our members for their support through their membership, fundraising and donations, without which the UCSW would not be here. Please encourage your friends who are involved in country sports, whether workers or supporters, to join us – together we can be stronger...