

BEST OF BRITISH

Gun Trade News presents a round-up of the shooting industry stalwarts flying the flag for Great Britain



Collins Nets

Over 30 years ago brothers Nick and Nigel Collins founded Collins Nets in West Bay, Dorset. Primarily making nets for fish farms & the Environment Agency across the UK.

As the business has grown over the years the range has expanded and we now supply a large range of nets and equipment to the Game Rearing, Small Holders & Leisure Sports markets. The Collins Nets team pride themselves on providing the highest quality products with fast delivery.

Now based in Uploaders, five miles inland; Collins Nets is in the safe hands of Nick's daughter, Dawn, and husband, Ollie, alongside a great team who bring everything together. Collins Nets is a large stockist of a diverse range of products including: Galvanised Wire Netting & Plastic Fencing, Bird Netting, Alke Gas Brooders, Feeders & Drinkers, Vermin & Insect Control Products, Shooting Season Accessories, Waders, Wellingtons & Country Clothing, Shelterflex Waterproof Sheeting, Dip Nets, Hand Nets, Fish Cages and much more!

Collins Nets are also still making Seine nets, fish cages and bespoke fishery nets to order, as they aim to offer a one stop shop for customers, helping them to save time and money. To see more, request a free catalogue now.

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Collins Nets are established as a one-stop-shop for a range of hunting requirements



SP Shoot provide an innovative solution to eye dominance issues

Shoot SP

The SP is a new unique option for shooters looking to control eye dominance both Gun up or Gun down, this is changing how shooters are able to tackle eye dominance. With recommendations from top grounds and coaches this discreet solution is proving a challenge to the normal conventions.

Unlike any other product on the market the SP allows initial control during the set-up by creating a unique stimulant for the eye. The brain reacts to the unique image in the shooters peripheral vision leading to the eye over the rib creating the shot picture with firm focus on the clay or bird and not the gun – it's simple but highly effective.

Designed to be discreet on the gun it makes it perfect for all clay disciplines and game shooting. The high bond tape means the SP is secured on the gun but can be removed if necessary and replacement tapes ordered to place on a new

gun. Already proven at the World Championship level with a Ladies Silver at the ICTSF World championships in Ireland 2019 and Vets Bronze at the European DTL Championships 2019 the product and brand is growing both nationally and internationally.

The product has been designed and developed in the UK and the company has sourced the product and all the support from UK companies. Patents filed cover the UK, Europe and USA.

Presented in a useful reusable tin with an embossed logo, the SP is supplied with smart folding instructions developing into two A4 printed sides of fitting instructions and hints and tips. A wipe is also included along with a holder card presenting the SP to the customer. Trade options for UK distribution and stocking.

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CROOTS ENGLAND

Croots

Croots exquisite hand-crafted products are born from many things. Their craftsmanship, heritage and a commitment to creating the finest field sports accessories and luggage. All these things come together in Malton, the picturesque market town that Croots call home, and a gateway to the shooting grounds of the magnificent North York Moors.

This is where the family-run company still produces every Croots item under one roof. They have been making hand-crafted sporting accessories since the 1970s and each Croots item is a nod to the past, and to the spectacular shooting country that surrounds us. Founded by John and Margaret Smith, the brand continues to combine the best of English craftsmanship with the finest traditional materials to create objects of timeless beauty.

You'll find no mass production at Croots; simply the finest craftsmanship from people



Croots continue to combine craftsmanship and tradition in their hand-made products

who understand the heritage and uniqueness of this special part of the world. When it comes to making shotgun slips, cartridge belts and bags, they know choosing the right materials is crucial.

That's why Croots always insist on hand-picking their own hides and only ever use natural, vegetable-dyed leather to provide an unbeatable combination of suppleness and performance. Croots preferred grade of sturdy cotton canvas can't be bettered, and a pure, natural rubber provides the best waterproofing by far.

From first-class beginnings to the finest of finished articles, dedicated craftsmen imbue every detail of Croots perfectly made pieces with all their experience, knowledge and expertise, every time.

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John Rothery

The name Parker-Hale is synonymous with rifle shooters across the globe. A brand with a huge history, particularly for small arms production during the early 1900's and into the wartime period. Today, the brand is more prominent in the accessories and cleaning market. One of its most famous and popular items is the Parker-Hale rifle cleaning rod.

All components of the Parker-Hale rifle rod are made in the UK, with the complete assembly process taking place at John Rothery Wholesale's Hampshire warehouse. Initially, British steel wire is hardened, straightened, cut to size and threaded in the UK before arriving at Rothery's. Before the rifle rod manufacture takes place, this steel is carefully inspected for quality and rejected if it is not correct. The John Rothery Wholesale team will look to check for any imperfections, length discrepancies, and even the "springiness" of the steel. It must be able to flex and return to its original state with ease.

Once happy with the steel, the process can begin. This involves sealing the steel with layers of polyshrink to protect both the rod itself and the barrel of any firearm it is to be used in. Adhering the polyshrink to the steel is very time consuming and labour intensive process,

involving extreme heat. Once the steel rod is covered and checked again for consistency of all materials, the ends of each rod are cleanly cut and finished.

The next stage of the process is the handle. This freely-rotating handle is complicated in its manufacture. If the slightest part of the process is incorrect, the rotation of the handle will be too loose or too tight. Each handle is checked multiple times for its range of movement, and adjusted if it is not perfect. How the handles are manufactured and attached is one of the more secretive parts of the entire process, but is one of the main benefits of the Parker-Hale rod over a far cheaper, imported rods.

Parker-Hale rods have been known as the best rod in production for many years. Under the John Rothery Wholesale banner, and actually assembled in their own warehouse using the highest-quality materials made in the UK, this will continue for many years to come!

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All Parker-Hale products are produced in-house by John Rothery



The new Bystronic Xpert 100/3100 CNC machine is part of Brattonsounds ongoing investment

Brattonsound

As part of its ongoing investment in its UK factory, gunsafe manufacturer Brattonsound Engineering has recently taken delivery of a new Bystronic Xpert 100/3100 CNC folding machine.

Brattonsound has manufactured all of its gunsafes in the UK since the company was founded in 1982. The addition of this state-of-the-art machine will expand what the company claims is one of the most advanced manufacturing facilities in the industry.

Sales Manager James Tagg explained: “As the foremost gunsafe manufacturer in the UK

the Brattonsound name has become synonymous with high quality products and superb customer service. Buying a Brattonsound safe is a guarantee of value, quality and security. It also minimises



UK Custom Shop

UK Custom Shop have established their name by creating moderators built to last. Their Wildcat range has continued to grow since Andrew and Carole Banner launched the Predator over 20 years ago, with more recent additions becoming increasingly popular and timeless.

UK Custom Shop design and manufacture the entire Wildcat Sound Moderator range, this includes the Cub, the Whisper, the Predator 8 and 12, the Evolution and the Wildcat Panther, all made in Worcestershire by their own engineer. The team oversees the R&D and complete everything internally, from their factory in

your environmental impact whilst protecting UK manufacturing jobs.”

“At a time when most other gunsafes brands are imported from Europe, and even as far afield as China, we are proud to support British jobs, comply with this country’s high environmental standards and save the need to transport gunsafes hundreds or even thousands of miles to place them for sale in the UK.

Brattonsound are so confident of the quality of their gunsafes that their entire range, which includes the Atlas, Titan, Sentinel Plus and Sentinel brands, is backed up by the company’s comprehensive three year on-site warranty.

James concluded: “Many imported gunsafes are made to a lower standards and may not have been tested to BS7558, which is your basic guarantee of police acceptance. Why compromise on your security? When it comes to gunsafes quality really does matter.”

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Redditch. Nothing is outsourced, everything is designed by the family.

For over 20 years UKCS have been considered as the UK’s premier manufacturer of sound moderators for small and full-bore rifles. They have even been enjoying a revival in the past few years, spearheaded by the release of the revolutionary Evolution mod and the business philosophy that shooting accessories needn’t cost a fortune.

The servicing and repairs that UKCS offer has recently moved from Hampton Lovett to Hartlebury. As well as providing specialist rifle and shotgun work, the new location will house a new CNC machine, providing Wildcat designers with more scope for R&D and the chance to bring products onto the market even quicker.

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The Predator 8 is one of the most popular moderators in the UKCS range

Classic Canes

Walking stick specialists Classic Canes have grown and manufactured rustic, country walking sticks in their Somerset woodland since the 1980s. The business was born when founders Ben and Diana Porter bought the woodland in order to restore and live in the Tudor hunting lodge at its heart. They discovered the woodland was naturally growing suitable native hardwoods such as ash, hazel and blackthorn: perfect for making traditional walking sticks.

Originally these were offered to local retailers but demand soon grew and now Classic Canes has stockists in around 40 countries worldwide. The woodland is managed through the traditional forestry technique of coppicing, which ensures each tree produces a fresh crop of walking sticks every few years. These are harvested in the winter and dried for a few years before being steamed, straightened and finished in the Classic Canes workshop.

This system produces sought-after thumbsticks, knobsticks and hiking staffs as well as sticks fitted with antler and animal head handles. Each piece of wood has its own character and it is the job of the craftsman to ensure it is used to its best advantage.

The Classic Canes range also includes many contemporary, formal and folding canes as well as a selection of seat sticks and umbrellas. This ensures there is a walking stick for everyone, whatever their personal sense of style. Walking sticks make excellent Christmas presents, being practical and attractive as well as highly collectible.

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Classic Canes
The Walking Stick Specialists



Classic Canes craftsman, Alan White, working on an Ash walking stick



ELEYHAWK



Eley Hawk’s Pro Eco Wad has been one of the innovations of 2019

Eley Hawk

Eley Hawk Ltd is a company with “The Best Of British Innovation” written into its DNA. Having been in existence since 1828 they have been leading shooting performance in shotgun cartridges ever since. Eley Hawk’s history of innovation is the bedrock of modern ammunition.

Earlier this year Eley Hawk launched the latest in hydrosoluble and biodegradable wads. The VIP Steel Pro Eco wad cartridge is the first of its kind to be launched by a UK manufacturer. When the wad falls into water it will dissolve in 24 hours, if it falls on land it will breakdown in anywhere between 30 days and three months. The 32 gram 3 and 5 shot game cartridges have been launched in Standard steel shot proof (740 bar) and a 70 mm case length to ensure they fit

most Standard Nitro proof guns on the market (A clay version in 28 gram 7 shot is also available).

It’s worth watching the Shooting Show TV to see its effectiveness by both Geoff Garrod and Gerwyn Jones on both pigeon and ducks. Speaking about the launch – Rodrigo Crespo Managing Director said: “We are particularly proud of this development as for the first time we have a cartridge that has does not leave behind plastic in the environment.”

The VIP Steel Pro Eco wad cartridges are now available to buy and stock as the wildfowling and game season progresses.
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