

Passion for Birds of Prey Turns into Business



Hawksdrift falconry was founded by owner Layla Bennett who has turned her passion for birds of prey into a thriving business.

At the tender age of 16yrs Layla decided to pursue a career in falconry. Initially she took work with other falconer companies and quickly learnt that trained Raptors could be used to control and disperse huge colonies of pest bird species.

This - to an budding Entrepreneur - made the Raptor one of the most uniquely talented working animals imaginable.

Layla began to develop a range of program's that use birds of prey to disturb a variety of pest bird species from their roosting nesting and feeding grounds. Slowly Layla built up her own 'fleet' of hawks and falcons, each one personally reared and trained by her. In 2006 Hawksdrift Falconry was hatched! Layla brought a field in rural Wales, there she set up aviaries and drew planning permission to live in a caravan on site. From these humble beginnings Hawksdrift began to grow. The use of birds of prey to disperse pest birds was beginning to grow in popularity in the commercial market and Hawksdrift was well timed to take advantage in this sector.

Over the coming years Hawksdrift was set to win numerous contracts control pest birds on factory, industrial, marina, landfill and airfield locations. Today their clients include large Ports and Royal Naval bases.

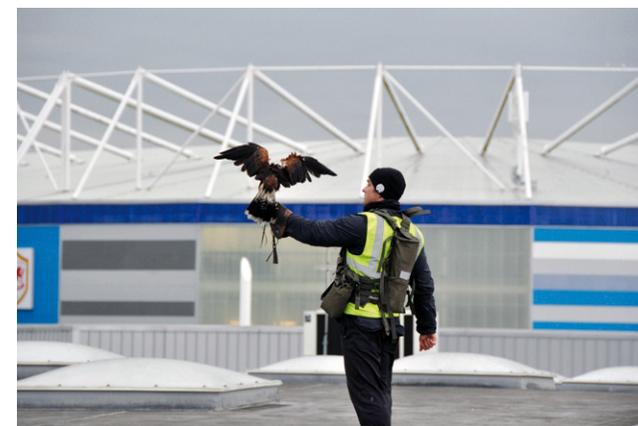
In 2009 at just 25yrs Layla won the Young Entrepreneurship award

at Powys Business Awards, this sparked publicity which lead to Layla and her falcon 'Monty' presenting in the Dragons Den. Resulting in an investment from Duncan Bannatyne this programme gave Hawksdrift the high level publicity it needed. Soon after Layla was recognised as a Woman of Achievement by the Woman of the Year foundation, this, says Layla, was one of the most humbling moments of her life.

Today Hawksdrift is one of the largest suppliers of Falconry as a bird control method in the UK. Layla and her falconers Mike, Simon, Brian, Pat, Adrian and Chris fly the companies 39 birds of prey and are proud to provide a professional bird control service to over 50 commercial clients. This modern use for the ancient art of falconry ensures the continuation of the traditional skills and longevity to the requirement of birds of prey in today's society.



Pictured: Monty, Hope, Sharpe and Simon



For further information visit the website www.hawksdrift.co.uk