



Bittern Countryside CIC



Feel Good about Wood - A directory

All about wood, wood management, wood fuel and wood products in the Arnside & Silverdale AONB

Buy it

Burn it

**Love
it**

**Manage
it**

Grow it

Supporting the Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company
Registered Office: The Old Station Building, Arnside, LA5 0HG
Registered number: 6363720

Editor: Ann Kitchen © Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company, March 2014
Produced with assistance from the Morecambe Bay Nature Improvement Area.

Website: <http://www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk/AONB/Support/Bittern-Countryside-CIC.html>

Why have a Directory and what is it for?

This Directory aims to help:

- **conserve and enhance our local woodlands and their wildlife**
- **reduce our carbon footprint by using local wood as an efficient and sustainable energy source**
- **provide jobs and revenue for local businesses and communities**

The Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a nationally protected landscape - an extraordinary place famous for its amazing wildlife, stunning scenery and superb walks. Woodland covers around a third of the land area and includes many semi-natural ancient woodland sites, designated for their important wildlife, such as the rare High Brown Fritillary butterfly.



Management is essential to maintain our woodlands in good condition. Work such as coppicing, selective thinning or felling and establishing rides and glades, creates structure in a woodland, letting the light in so that flowers such as violets, the food plant for High Brown Fritillary, can flourish. Active management of younger trees also helps protect our old and ancient trees which are so important culturally, ecologically and aesthetically. Carbon is kept locked up by retaining these veterans, including single trees with spreading canopies, small clumps, large standard trees in coppice woods and well-spaced hedgerow trees.

Local contractors carry out this essential management and the work produces a valuable and sustainable supply of woodfuel, which can be used to keep our houses and businesses warm. Establishing such short supply chains within this area creates a truly sustainable energy source. By burning locally sourced woodfuel, you will be helping to sustain the outstanding landscape and biodiversity of the AONB and supporting local jobs and businesses.

Much of our woodland grows on limestone pavement which can make it challenging to manage and special non-intrusive techniques, such as horse logging are sometimes required. Active woodland management has increased over recent years but 46% of the total woodland area is currently not actively managed so there is room to grow.

By listing in one place all those who work with, manage and sell wood and wood products locally, we hope this Directory will help to encourage further good management of our local woodlands, boost the use of wood as a sustainable fuel, help support our local businesses, and promote our AONB as a Low Carbon Landscape.

Whether you are a landowner wanting advice on how to manage your woodland or the owner of a wood-burning stove looking for a good local woodfuel supplier, this Directory is for you!

**BUY LOCAL, USE OUR WOODLAND RESOURCES WISELY,
MANAGE FOR CONSERVATION**

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This Directory is part funded by Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership's Nature Improvement Area (NIA) project - creating a step change for nature by improving and reconnecting the area's special wetland, limestone, grassland and woodland habitats, as well as inspiring community action and supporting sustainable farming, woodfuel and wildlife tourism businesses.

Nature Improvement Areas are supported by Defra, DCLG, Natural England, Forestry Commission and the Environment Agency.

For more information go to www.morecambebaynature.org.uk

The information in this Directory is, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of publication. Please note that it is up to you as a customer to check and obtain work references if thought necessary. The information is not necessarily exhaustive and other contractors may provide services within the area.

More information on burning wood efficiently is available from two of our free Energy Fact Sheets, **Heat from Trees** and **Woodfuel Wisdom** on our BCCIC website www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk/AONB/Support/Bittern-Countryside-CIC.html

Firewood can be provided by the lorryload, in bags or nets. The smaller the quantity you buy the more expensive it is. It is really important to buy dry well-seasoned wood unless you intend to store it yourself for a couple of years. Costs vary widely so it is worth looking at web sites and comparing costs. There is no real standard measurement in firewood sales. You may be offered a lorryload, a dumpy bag, a cubic metre. This makes it very difficult to compare like with like. One way to do this is to find a standard product such as Blazers and see what each firm is charging for a bulk load of them. This will give you some idea of whether the wood prices are likely to be high. You should not remove fallen or stacked wood from the woods and hillsides without the permission of the land-owner. You can get some wood in return for helping as a conservation volunteer (Page 15).

Remember: **BUY LOCAL & ONLY BURN DRY SEASONED WOOD**

Providers are:

John Park - *Witherslack Woodlands*

For hard and softwood logs and kindling from the ancient mixed woodlands round Witherslack, sensitively harvested for your warmth.

Contact details:

01539552353

info@witherslackwoodlands.co.uk

www.witherslackwoodlands.co.uk



David Brailsford,

We fell and extract timber from our own local woodlands to sell as firewood under various environmental schemes. The timber is put through a processor, cut to clients requirements and sold loose by the pick-up load 1.25 m³, delivered locally. We offer the same felling and extraction service including construction of extraction tracks/roadways using our own plant and machinery.

Contact details:

01524781952 or 07860526083

dbrailsford@gmx.co.uk

www.dbrailsford.co.uk



Richard Cheeseman - *Lumberjax Firewood*

Local supplier of seasoned hardwood and softwood logs. free delivery within a 10 mile radius of Milnthorpe

0153962280 or 07535 866723

lumberjaxfirewood@hotmail.co.uk



For Hard and Softwood logs, Blazers, Fuel Logs and Wood pellets. We believe that traditional fossil fuels will become more expensive as the world demand for energy grows. Only renewable fuels offer a way to affordably heat our homes.

Contact details:

01768 896634 or 07943 910332

info@cumbriagreenfuels.co.uk

www.cumbriagreenfuels.co.uk



Stephen Talbot - Logs Direct Ltd

The Logs Direct factory in North Lancashire, established in 2002, continues to be home to one of the leading suppliers of winter and summer fuels and logs for sale here in the UK. All our quality kiln-dried firewood is dried to below 20% moisture. We also sell softwood and part seasoned wood, Eco logs, pellets and charcoal.



Contact details:

01524 812476

enquiries@logsdirect.co.uk

www.logsdirect.co.uk

Cameron & Hilary Durie

Our logs are all hardwood, mostly Oak, Birch, Ash, Sycamore and bits of all the others like Hazel. Our timber has been cut and kept under cover in our yard for at least two years, they are then logged and stacked in a shed for a further 6 – 12 months, so are lovely and seasoned. We can fell and extract timber in reasonably accessible places but not next to power lines or large trees next to property.

Contact details:

01524 761184 or 07747 603 284

hilary@theduries.wanadoo.co.uk

Andy Little - Greenfires

We supply high quality UK manufactured firewood briquettes produced from 100% wood – no glues or additives of any kind. More heat than logs, drier, cleaner and consistent in quality and quantity. No more guessing how much you'll get or if it'll be dry enough to burn! Fraction of the storage space required.

Contact details:

01524 730272 or 07595834257

greenfires@gmx.com www.greenfires.co.uk

Other providers are:

Sam Ansell: page 8, Sam Hanafin: page 12, Chris Killilea: page 11, David Wain: page 11, Westmorland Tree Care: page 9.

Sometimes you just want a small bag of logs for the fire or a bag of charcoal. While not the most cost effective way to buy firewood, the following sell bags of logs, kindling and charcoal.

Carr Bank Garden Centre, 0843 5065536 **Iretons**, Carnforth, 01524 732675

Houghtons, Milnthorpe, 015395 63904 **Mossdale Garage**, Hale, 01524 781381

Coppicing & Greenwood Work

All broadleaf trees will coppice and have been managed in this way throughout history. The tree is cut down to ground level or just above, on a 5 to 25 year cycle. The abundant new shoots that grow up are favourite food for deer, therefore the regrowth needs protection with temporary fencing for 2 to 3 years until they grow up above deer head height. Pollarding is an alternative, where the trees are cut above deer head height however the regrowth is not as usable or as easy to harvest as coppice poles.



The Coppice Co-operative

is situated in the AONB. Their members:

- run courses in all sorts of coppice skills,
- carry out various woodland management contracts,
- make all sorts of greenwood furniture and small decorative items,
- produce hurdles, fencing and baskets,
- make birdboxes and even musical instruments,
- produce charcoal and firewood,
- provide high quality services,



Main contact - 01524 720292

info@coppicecoop.co.uk www.coppicecoop.co.uk

Member contact details are -

Sam Ansell - sam.a@coppicecoop.co.uk www.coppicework.co.uk

James Benson - james@coppicecoop.co.uk

Grace Holland - grace@coppicecoop.co.uk

Louis Le Glas - louis@coppicecoop.co.uk

Kath Morgan - kath@coppicecoop.co.uk

Tony Morgan - tony@coppicecoop.co.uk www.bodgermorgan.co.uk

Sam Robinson - sam.r@coppicecoop.co.uk

www.samrobinsoncoppiceapprentice.wordpress.com

Others working with coppicing are:

Chris Killilea: page 11, Rebecca Oaks: page 7, Timberwolf: page11

Mobile sawmills

Stephen Lewis

For beams, planks, furniture and mobile sawmill based in the Yealands.

Contact details: 01524 735790 or 07771518791

Stephen@lewis303.fsworld.co.uk

Woodland Management and Consultants

Knowing what to do with your woodland is the key. Using a consultant can save you money in the short and long term. A consultant can:

- Help you make a viable plan for your woodland.
- Find out if any grants are available.
- Explain how your woodland can be productive rather than a drain on your resources.
- Explain how management for conservation can enhance your woodland.

However you can get good advice from professionals like tree surgeons and Coppicers.

Consultants in our area are:

Roger Cartwright of *Rural Landscape Design*

A sole practitioner who provides practical advice and assistance with tree and woodland management at sensible costs: For landscape design of new development, including parks and ponds, woodland, tree and shrub planting.

Available to help local landowners, farmers, Hotels and Caravan Parks practice environmentally friendly woodland and grounds management. Also available for Deer Management and Conservation Grazing

Contact details:

01524 701115

rogercartwright@btconnect.com

www.rogercartwright.com



Martin Wain - *Morecambe Bay NIA and Butterfly Conservation*

Advice to landowners on grants and woodland management.

I work with volunteers, community woodland groups and partner organisations to bring win-win benefits for landowners, butterflies, business, and volunteers, and help to support and build a local wood fuel system.

Contact details:

01524 33851 or 0777 34 314 20

mwain@butterfly-conservation.org



Rebecca has been advising woodland owners through her work with Cumbria Woodlands over the past couple of years and she is now able to offer this service on a freelance basis. She has twenty years' experience of the coppice industry, having built a thriving business as a coppice merchant. She can offer a full range of practical and experience based solutions for woodland owners.

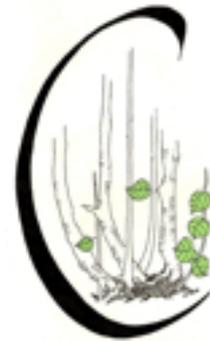
- ☒ Advice and support on grant applications
- ☒ Management plans and New woodland creation
- ☒ Coppicing and Coppice products
- ☒ Woodfuel, including firewood and charcoal
- ☒ Value adding to timber products

Contact details:

01524 781375

rebeccaosaks@btinternet.com

www.rebeccaosaks.co.uk



**Rebecca
Oaks**

**HARTERED
FORESTER**

Coppicing a speciality

Terry Sheldrick - RTM Surveys

Tree owners have a legal duty to protect people and property from foreseeable injury and damage caused by trees.

RTM Surveys can help you in your legal duty by undertaking tree safety assessments of the trees on your site.

Contact details:

07414 720 548

info@rtmsurveys.co.uk

www.rtmsurveys.co.uk



Sam Ansell - Coppice Management

We are focused on quality coppice woodland management, and providing local, sustainable resources and services to local residents. We also work with the Arnside and Silverdale AONB, the National Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Cumbria Woodlands and various private bodies to ensure that coppicing and coppice crafts are able to thrive. We supply a wide range of coppice products and greenwood furniture as well as firewood and charcoal.

Contact details:

07990952473

sam.j.ansell@googlemail.com

www.coppicework.co.uk



Others giving advice on woodland management are:

Aspen Tree Services: page 9, Bergen Tree Services: page 9

What is a tree surgeon?

Many of our trees are specimen trees in gardens and parkland. Often they need attention either because they appear to have some disease or because they are becoming too large for their position. In many such cases taking them down or removing diseased tissue is a very skilled job. A tree surgeon can diagnose what is wrong with your tree and also, if it needs to be removed or pruned in any way, do it safely without damaging the surrounding foliage and property. Tree surgeons deal with individual plants rather than whole forests.

Tree Surgeons in our area are:

Graham Neesham - Westmorland Tree Care Ltd

Established in 1996, we are a local company offering a diverse range of tree related services from single tree issues to full site clearance.

Also offers

Chipping, Contracting,
Firewood and Stump grinding.

Contact details:

01524782648 or 07836653223

g.neesham@btinternet.com

www.westmorlandtreecareltd.com



Mark Sigrist – Aspen Tree Services

A small well established business in the local area with 30 years experience in quality arboriculture or forestry. We offer a wide range of tree surgery services including pruning, felling, stump removal, tree planting and woodland management. Fully insured.

Firewood processor for hire

Contact details:

015395 52366 or 07736 726983

sigtrees@aol.com

www.aspen-trees.co.uk



Andrew Hancock - Bergen Tree Services

Established in 1990 to provide professional tree care solutions. We offer a complete tree management service from a single tree to a whole woodland.

Other services include Weed Control, Stump Management, Chipper Hire and Green Waste Processing.

Contact Details:

01524 782898 or 07771931193

info@bergentreeservices.co.uk

www.bergentreeservices.co.uk



Since 1999 Beaver Tree Surgeons has been providing a highly professional, yet friendly tree service to both domestic and commercial customers. Owner John-Paul Davy spent 2 years studying forestry at the National School of Forestry and gaining his National Diploma and many NPTC certificates, in the use of chainsaws and tree climbing. Our reputation has continued to grow from day one due to our highly professional, reliable approach to all aspects of modern tree care. We offer

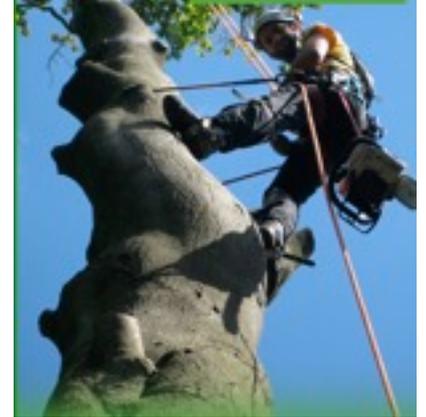
- Tree pruning, shaping and thinning
- Trees felled and dismantled in awkward areas
- Chipper hire, Stump grinding and removal
- Mobile saw milling
- Woodland management, Site clearance
- Removal of dead or dangerous trees

Contact details:

01524 733558 or 07814 009994

beavertreesurgeons@hotmail.co.uk

www.beavertreesurgeons-northwest.co.uk



Other Tree Surgeons in our area are:

Sam Hanafin: page 12, Chris Killilea: page 11, David Wain: page 11.

Chipping/ Shredding and Stump Removal

It used to be common practice for all brash and stumps that were left to be burnt on site. As well as causing pollution and releasing a great deal of carbon into the atmosphere a valuable resource was thus lost. Shredding/chipping the brash provides a valuable mulch and helps to prevent the soil being washed away before the understory has a chance to grow back. In a small garden the stump of a tree may need to be removed to allow for replanting.

Chippers, Shredders and Stump Removers in our area are:

J L Mason - Stumptechnik

I am NPTC Qualified in stump grinding operations, brushwood chipper operations and tractor driving and related operations. Full Public Liability Insurance.

Contact details:

01539567756 or 07771766140

<http://stumptechniktreeservices.com/>



Others in our area are:

Aspen Tree Services: page 8, Beaver Tree Surgeons: page 10, Bergen Tree Services: page 9
Sam Hanafin: page 12, Westmorland Tree Care: page 9.

Sometimes it is necessary to look at our limestone pavements and woodlands as a whole. A conservation contractor will also look at scrub clearance, grassland management, coppicing as well as tree removal and planting.

Mike Ward - *Timberwolf*

Timberwolf are specialists in habitat management, and work across Cumbria, based in the south Lakes area. They work on SSSIs for many of the major conservation bodies in the Arnside & Silverdale AONB. Timberwolf has been operating for over 20 years, carrying out works such as Coppicing, Scrub management, Wetland management, Limestone management, Deer fencing and other aspects of woodland work.

Contact details:

015395 63731 or 07754462819

timberwolf1992@hotmail.co.uk



David Wain - *Countryside Contracting*

A contractor with 30 year's experience and a BSc in Environmental Management leading a team specialising in environmental, arboricultural and landscaping work sensitive to a client's objectives. Undertaking large and small scale projects. Felling, fencing, planting, scrub clearance, dry stone walling, hedge-laying and deer management. Logs available.

Contact details:

01524 701294 or 07967 817382

david.wain01@btinternet.com



Chris Killilea

With each of us having over 20 years experience in differing aspects of forest management, myself and colleagues working cooperatively together can deliver on any scale of project. Knowledge, experience and enthusiasm is shared freely with clients to optimise output and results.

Other services include - Firewood, Coppicing, Hedging, poles, rails and fencing, Tree surgery, Tree planting and Contracting.

Contact details:

015395 730080 or 07748826451

chris.killilea@virgin.net



Others working in contracting are:

Aspen Tree Services: page 8, Beaver Tree Surgeons: page 10, Bergen Tree Services: page 9, Westmorland Tree Care: page 9.

Large Scale Felling

Active management of woodlands is important for the health of the woodland, for maintaining woodland habitats and for providing a renewable resource. Another reason for undertaking large scale felling is to remove non-native conifers which were planted in serried rows in the 1940's and 50's. These conifers are not long lived and were planted for woodpulp and pitprops. They are now coming to the end of their useful life and need to be removed.

Felling may be needed where an unmanaged area that used to be coppiced has grown up and the trees have matured. If the woodland is to be coppiced again most of the mature trees will have to be removed and the young growth encouraged. Even if the area is to stay as a mature woodland it will need to be thinned as trees that grow too close together are spindly and liable to damage from wind rock. The cost of removing the trees will vary with the type of terrain and the quality of the timber. Some contractors will sell the wood for you and set the money obtained against the bill.

Large Scale Felling operatives in our area are:

Sam Hanafin - *MD Hanafin & Sons Ltd*

A family run business established over forty years, we undertake small and large scale felling and extraction projects with a 12 tonne capacity forwarder and 10 tonne skidder/winch, smaller equipment available.

Other services include - Firewood, Posts, poles, rails and fencing, Chipping, Tree surgery, Tree planting and Contracting.

Contact details:

015395 63348 or 07740413239

sam.hanafin@btinternet.com

www.mdhanafin.co.uk



Other operatives are:

Countryside Contracting: page 11, David Brailsford: page 4, Timberwolf: page 11

Chris Killilea: page 11.

Low-impact timber extraction and removal

Much of our woodland is on difficult terrain. The traditional way of managing such woodland was to cut and process the wood on site, removing the finished product, be it charcoal, building timber or firewood, and burning the brash on site. This was extremely labour intensive and nowadays often only the large timber is deemed worthy of extraction and the rest is left as habitat piles to rot down or burnt on site causing pollution and the waste of what could be a valuable heating source. On difficult sites even the large timber may be left. Management of such sites is often avoided.

Depending on the woodland and the product to be extracted, one of the extraction methods below will provide an efficient means of timber extraction.

It is important to produce a strategic work plan prior to carrying out any works in order to best use these services. The woodland management advisors (pages 7 & 8) and the contractors below can offer advice on felling, getting the best value out of your timber and how to go about works prior to extraction.

Horse logging – Rebecca Corrie-Close

Horses can perform well on difficult terrain and access sites that machinery often struggles to reach. With minimal ground damage and soil compaction, horse logging is a viable, sensitive and sustainable method of extracting timber. The horse can move timber from where it is felled in long lengths to track or roadside.

Horse logging works best moving high volumes of timber over short distances.

Other services include: bracken control, off-road transport for woodland equipment and products, conservation grazing.

Contact details:

07825654691

bekka_close@hotmail.com



Compact tractor – David Corrie-Close



Narrow and lightweight, the compact tractor with winch and timber trailer can negotiate small gateways, large rocks, stumps and brash. Depending on the site, the tractor can work from where the timber is felled with the winch and can also quickly move long length logs to the edge or out of the woodland. Three-tonne capacity.

Contact details:

07787422568

david_corrie@hotmail.com

For environmentally sensitive timber harvesting on any terrain using draft horses. Horses are environmentally friendly, sustainable and live on grain and hay produced by our solar system. The by-product goes back into the soil to nourish and sustain further growth.

Contact details:

01539535545 07900395461

lenihan214@btinternet.com

www.celtichorselogging.com



Others working in Low-impact timber extraction and removal are:

Sam Hanafin: page 12, Timberwolf: page 11

Conservation Grazing.

Although conservation grazing may not immediately spring to mind with tree management, it can be very useful on mixed habitats.

Bill Grayson - *Morecambe Bay Conservation Grazing Company*

Providing specialist grazing on sites being managed for nature conservation, mainly with native breeds of cattle. Much of this land is wood pasture, where the cattle graze beneath the tree canopy, keeping the ground more open and promoting development of a diverse mix of flowers and grasses. This creates a varied mosaic of light and shade that is particularly attractive to birds and insects. The animals are all managed to full organic standards, certified by the Soil Association.

Contact details:

01524761347

billgrayson@phonecoop.coop



Working as a Woodland Volunteer

Volunteers who join the variety of conservation working parties run by the AONB, the National Trust, the Landscape Trust and other conservation bodies on sites and reserves around the AONB, carry out a broad range of tasks, including scrub clearance and other woodland management. Often the volunteers get a share of the surplus wood produced during working parties to season and burn at home.

For full details of such opportunities, contact the AONB Office on 01524 761034 or visit their website at www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk/AONB/Enhance/Volunteering.html

Felling is regulated and a license may be needed from the Forestry Commission. Some trees and groups of trees are protected and can not be removed. Your Contractor will be able to help you with this or you can get details of those areas/trees affected from either South Lakeland District Council or Lancaster City Council. There are large fines for working on such trees without permission from the local authority.



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