

***Coppice Association North West,***  
***with the Wood Education Programme Trust (WEP)***  
and in association with

*Arnside and Silverdale AONB, Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust (BHMAT), Centre for North-West Regional Studies (Lancaster), Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumbria Woodlands, East Cumbria Countryside Project, English Nature, Forestry Commission, Friends of the Lake District, Lake District National Park Authority, National School of Forestry (UCLAN), The National Trust, New Woodmanship Trust*

## 21st Century Coppice

A three-day conference with linked seminars and visits

***Thursday 11 to Saturday 13 May 2006***

***(additional Post-Conference Field Day 14 May)***

Grange over Sands, Cumbria, UK, *based at the Cumbria Grand Hotel*



### ***"A pathway to the future"***

A conference of interest to all who have involvement with coppice woodlands and their future. Themed to consider coppice management, the working skills involved, the conservation of woodlands and their wildlife, and the future of both production and amenity. Though based in the southern Lake District contributions will take a wider national and international perspective.

The last time there was a major gathering of coppice and greenwood workers, researchers, conservationists, land managers and producers was in 2001 at the launch of BHMAT. Much has changed in the last few years and a further gathering is long overdue. This will be a national and international opportunity to share information and exchange views.

To give greatest flexibility of costs for attendees the conference is non-residential. There is a very wide variety of accommodation in the immediate vicinity - hotels, bed and breakfast, caravan and campsites etc. A special discounted rate will be available for bed and breakfast at the Cumbria Grand Hotel for those preferring to stay on site.

Expected contributors include

*Edward Acland, Debbie Bartlett, Martin Clark, Fred Currie, Jackie Dunne, Sam Ellis, Rob Fuller, Ralph Harmer, Keith Kirby, Rebecca Oaks, Peter Quelch, Oliver Rackham, Steve Robertson, Alan Shepley, Geoff Sinclair, Helen Sweeney, Judy Walker*

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# 21st Century Coppice

## Provisional Programme

### Thursday 11 May - **Coppice and Conservation**

*In the Chair* : Edward Mills, Director, Cumbria Woodlands

- 10.00 Assemble, Registration and Coffee
- 10.30 Preliminary announcements
- 10.40 Introductory remarks from the Chair
- 10.50 *Coppice and Biodiversity Action Plan targets* - Dr Fred Currie, Forestry Commission  
*The biology and silviculture of coppice stools and woodlands* - Dr Ralph Harmer, Forestry Commission  
*The contribution of coppice management to wildlife conservation* - Dr Keith Kirby, English Nature
- 12.50 Lunch; opportunity to view displays/posters
- 13.30 Afternoon field visits to Arnside and Silverdale AONB or Staveley near Kendal
- 17.30 On-site demonstrations by greenwood workers/ opportunity to view displays/posters
- 18.00 Evening meal break
- 19.45 *Bird life in coppices* - Dr Rob Fuller, British Trust for Ornithology

### Friday 12 May - **Management Approaches**

*In the Chair* : Rt Revd Alan Chesters, formerly Bishop of Blackburn

- 9.00 Preliminary announcements
- 9.10 Introductory remarks from the Chair
- 9.20 *The threads of the past: how we got to where we are* - Alan Shepley, CNWRS Lancaster University
- 10.00 *Past products, present problems?* - Dr Oliver Rackham, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
- 10.40 Coffee; opportunity to view displays/posters
- 11.20 *Coppice management for butterflies* - Dr Sam Ellis, Senior Regional Officer, Butterfly Conservation  
*Coppice and Wood Pasture, a bio-cultural heritage* - Peter Quelch, Consultant
- 12.40 Lunch; opportunity to view displays/posters
- 13.30 Afternoon field visits to Arnside and Silverdale AONB or Staveley near Kendal
- 17.30 On-site demonstrations by greenwood workers/ opportunity to view displays/posters
- 19.00 Conference Dinner
- 21.00 *Oaks Wood: a personal, hands-on experience of a small woodland* - Edward Acland, Woodland Owner

### **DISPLAYS - POSTERS - DEMONSTRATIONS**

If you have any displays or posters relating to your project/research/organisation these would be most welcome at the conference. Anyone willing to put on a demonstration of greenwood working is also welcome to discuss this.

**Arrangements, in either case, should be discussed beforehand with CANW Secretary on 01539 723325 or via email on [canw@coppicenorthwest.org.uk](mailto:canw@coppicenorthwest.org.uk)**

Saturday 13 May - **Pathways to the future**

*In the Chair* : Dr Eunice Simmons, Head of the National School of Forestry, University of Central Lancashire

- 9.00 Preliminary announcements  
9.10 Introductory remarks from the Chair  
9.20 *Coppices in SE England* - Debbie Bartlett, Consultant  
*The BHMAT experience - Coppice Apprenticeships and the validation of training* - Rebecca Oaks, BHMAT and Judy Walker, Green Wood Centre  
*'Allotment Forestry: promoting a local wood using culture'*- Geoff Sinclair, an Essex forester and volunteer with Allotment Forestry Project  
10.30 Coffee; opportunity to view displays/posters  
11.00 *North Highland Forest Trust* - Steve Robertson, NHFT  
*Coppicing and Community Woodlands*, Jackie Dunne, Woodland Trust  
*Biomass, woodfuel - where to now?* Helen Sweeney, Government Office for the North West  
*Other perspectives* - Ireland?, France?  
12.00 *Products for the future* - Martin Clark, Clark Mactavish  
12.40 Lunch; last opportunity to view displays/posters  
13.20 *Opening the gateway - the pathway to the future*  
A debate on how, in the light of the conference experience, we can identify an *Action Plan* for the immediate future  
15.30 Main conference ends

**Site Visits: all Thursday/Friday participants will have the opportunity to visit both areas  
*Arnside and Silverdale AONB***

The AONB area lies south of the estuary of the River Kent in the Morecambe Bay Limestone Character Area (20). It has several conservation sites of international status, a mild climate, and wooded limestone pavements. The focus will be on the restoration of coppices with an emphasis on the commercial production of hazel. This contrasts with:

***Staveley, near Kendal***

A little inside the Lake District National Park boundary, and with considerable landscape impact, sites here lie on the junction between South Cumbria Low Fells (19) and Cumbria High Fells (8) Character Areas on poor grits and shales with significantly lower temperatures and higher rainfall. These coppices are all managed for a wide range of conservation objectives and are, in part, designated wildlife reserves.

Both areas have a heritage of coppicing over a long period and were then largely neglected after WWII.

**Additional Programme**

Sunday 14 May - **Post-Conference Field Day: *Industrial Archaeology in the South Lakeland Woodlands***, led by *Alan Shepley*. This is a joint day with members of the Cumbria Industrial History Society and organised through WEP. It will be based in the nearby Newby Bridge-Haverthwaite area. Pre-booking on the form is advisable (£5 for the day). *Please note that no transport will be provided.*

**Conference Booking Form  
is overleaf**

**please return with your payment as soon as possible**

