

# MAKE YOUR WOODLAND WORK FOR YOU

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Summary Report



**Forestry Commission**  
England



Cranborne Chase &  
West Wiltshire Downs  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty





# Make your woodland work for you

A one day event for owners  
of woodland with untapped  
potential

**Dinton Village Hall,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire**

**3rd May 2017**

An event organised by the **North Wessex  
Downs Area of Outstanding Natural  
Beauty** and **Cranborne Chase Area  
of Outstanding Natural Beauty** with  
support from the **Forestry Commission**.

Organisation and summary by Meg  
Chambers

## Introduction

The Event Partners: the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Cranborne Chase AONB and the Forestry Commission, aimed to host an event to inform and encourage owners of woodland with untapped potential about the need, benefits and challenges of woodland management.

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DOWNS**  
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AONB Family



## Background

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Around 14 per cent., or 23,000 hectares, of the North Wessex Downs AONB is woodland, but the available evidence suggests that less than half of it is in active management (State of the North Wessex Downs, 2012). The AONB's Woodland Strategy (2005) and the Management Plan (2014) highlight the importance of responsible active management of woodland to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of this nationally protected landscape. The first North Wessex Downs Woodland Forum was held in 2013, with a second event in 2014. This event fulfilled the AONB's commitment to a third Woodland Forum in 2016-17.

Sensitive management of woodland can provide a range of benefits to owners, residents, visitors and society as a whole.

Those benefits take many forms, including:

- increasing long-term asset value and providing an economic return to woodland owners;
- improving habitats for wildlife affected by lack of management;
- providing employment and supporting/creating markets for wood products;
- conserving landscape character;
- increasing the take-up rate of atmospheric carbon and reducing emissions by displacement of fossil fuels by wood;
- protecting archaeological sites ranging from prehistory to the Twentieth century; and
- supporting tourism, recreation and public health and well-being.

Good woodland management helps protect the special qualities for which protected landscapes are designated, and supports the principal purpose of AONB designation: to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape.

## Targetting the right audience

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The event partners wished to reach owners and managers of unmanaged or under-managed woodland to encourage them to bring it back into management for the landscape, wildlife, heritage, recreational, carbon and economic benefits this will bring. By definition, these are hard people to reach and are unlikely to be involved in existing forestry networks. We therefore put considerable effort into careful marketing.



Working closely in partnership with the Forestry Commission and Cranborne Chase AONB, we posted letters and event flyers to owners of woodland not known to be in management, and asked our woodland networks to spread the word. Would-be participants had to request a booking form, answering some screening questions to identify those who fitted our target criteria. They were then sent the programme as well as the booking form to help them decide whether it met their needs. The booking forms requested further information that then helped us prioritise bookings.

Quite against our expectations, we were overwhelmed with interest and had to turn a number of applicants away. The event had been designed for up to 40 people (other than staff, presenters and facilitators) but in the end we decided to squeeze in as many as possible and 57 people attended on the day.



## Aims of the event

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- Engage with those people who own woodland but who are not managing it to its full potential.
- Increase awareness and understanding of the benefits of woodland management, inspiring and encouraging people to manage their woodland.
- Understand better why some woodland owners are reluctant to manage their woodland, and what the challenges of woodland management are from their perspective.
- Provide woodland owners with the opportunity to ask the questions that are important to them about their woodland.
- Engage in insightful discussions with woodland owners to understand their challenges, concerns or areas where they need further guidance and support.
- Come up with ways to address these challenges and increase or improve woodland management.
- defining the role and purpose of the woodland owned, and how best to manage it.
- Provide woodland owners with more knowledge about woodland management, and the confidence they need to start managing their woodland.
- Encourage woodland owners to seek the advice of a forester for their woodland and where appropriate make a woodland management plan.
- Signpost woodland owners to sources of funding, support and woodland management advice.
- Make recommendations to event partner organisations and other woodland management organisations and groups to direct the resources available within existing organisations to encourage and increase woodland management in the south of England.





## Summary of participants

57 people attended the Make Your Woodland Work For You event, in addition to the 17 event partners, speakers and facilitators who delivered the event, making a total of 74 people.

Of the 57 participants, 43 were woodland owners (of whom at least seven were land owners, whether farmers or estate owners), and nine were woodland managers, in that they managed a woodland in a non-professional capacity. Of the nine woodland managers, 6 were involved in managing community woodland for local councils, trusts and LNRs. Only three of the 57 attendees were woodland, forestry or conservation professionals, and the relationship with woodland was not known for two attendees who turned up on the day. Those attending came from as far afield as London, Devon, East Sussex and Oxfordshire, with the majority coming from Berkshire, Hampshire, Somerset, Wiltshire and Dorset.

The woodland holdings owned or managed by attendees ranged in size from a 0.03 acre former allotment site near Bristol to 500 acres of mixed broadleaf and conifer woodland near Warminster in western Wiltshire, and everything in between. Quite a few people owned or managed small

parcels of woodland of 2-5 acres; several had 15 acres and 33 acres; and other individuals owned 180 acres and 300 acres. The total area of woodland owned or managed by the 57 attendees was 2,126 acres.

Woodland type ranged from newly planted or young (15 year-old) woodland, through conifer and poplar plantations to Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW, often referred to simply as ancient woodland), Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and coppice, and restoration of commercial ex Forestry Commission conifer plantation to amenity broadleaved woodland. The predominant woodland type seemed to be mixed broadleaf woodland.

The current woodland management regime in participants' woodland was also very varied. Quite a few of the woods had not been managed in many (30-50) years or only in the last few years, under new ownership; others had been managed regularly with selective felling and restocking. Woodland restoration or bringing woodland back into productive management was a common thread amongst woodland owners and managers, who it was apparent had a thirst for more knowledge about woodland management but were in need of greater confidence to take forward the management of their woodland in the future.

# Make your woodland work for you

## A one-day event for owners of woodland with untapped potential

3 May 2017 from 9:30am - Dinton Village Hall, Salisbury, Wiltshire

This is a great opportunity to discover how to:

- keep your woodland healthy and help it fight off diseases
- improve the quality of habitats for woodland wildlife
- make the most of tax advantages available to woodland owners
- increase the value of your woodland asset
- generate income from the sale of timber and woodland products

The morning will include talks from expert speakers and a workshop session and there will be an afternoon visit to the Teffont Estate woodlands. By the end of the day you'll understand the potential of your woodland, who to contact for advice, where to start and how to take the next steps.



For more information and to reserve your place contact: [info@northwessexdowns.org.uk](mailto:info@northwessexdowns.org.uk) or 01488 685440

More information is also available at [www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/news](http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/news)

This event has been organised by the North Wessex Downs AONB, Cranborne Chase AONB and the Forestry Commission for owners of woodland with untapped potential.



### Advance Publicity for the Event



# Programme

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- 9.30 Registration and coffee/tea on arrival
- 10.00 Welcome Ted Hiscocks, Chairman of North Wessex Downs AONB
- 10.05-11.00 Talks and Discussion
- TALK 1 - Make Woodland Work Nick Hoare, Stourhead (Western) Estate
- TALK 2 - The Challenges of Woodland Management Steve Russell, Forestry consultant, Woodland and Countryside Management
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30-12.15 Workshops: What can we do to meet the challenges of woodland management?
- WORKSHOP 1 - What do I want from my woodland?
- WORKSHOP 2 - Woodland as part of the farm business
- WORKSHOP 3 - Make woodland management work for you
- WORKSHOP 4 - Optimising timber sales and the available markets
- 12.15-12.45 Short break followed by Workshop wash up
- 12.45-1.00 Signposting session
- Kate Tobin, from the Forestry Commission SW, Sarah Dyke from the Heart of Wessex LEADER Programme, and Martin Hugl from the Woodland Trust Ancient Woodland Restoration Project will provide a quick update on the advice, support and funding available from their organisation.
- 1.00 – 2.00 Lunch
- 2.00 – 4.30 Woodland site visit to Teffont Estate Woodland  
Woodland site visit will be lead by Bill Ayers, Forestry Consultant  
Wash up session in the wood with David Blake, Cranborne Chase AONB
- Return to Dinton Village Hall
- 4.30 End of event



# Report of the day...

## Welcome

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Ted Hiscocks, Chairman of the North Wessex Downs AONB, opened the Event and gave the Welcome, making it clear how important woodland is and always has been to us all: precious places to enjoy and look after.

### WITH PEOPLE, SO WITH TREES

*With people, so with trees:  
where there are groups*

*Of either, men or trees, some will remain*

*Aloof while others cluster  
where one stoops*

*To breathe some dusky secret.  
Some complain*

*And some gesticulate  
and some are blind;*

*Some toss their heads  
above green towns; some freeze*

*For lack of love in copses of mankind;*

*Some laugh; some mourn;  
with people, so with trees.*

**Mevyn Peake 1940**





## Talk: Make Woodlands Work

The first talk was given by **Nick Hoare**, who is the owner of the Stourhead (Western) Estate, and has a keen interest and involvement in the management of the estate's woodland. He and his family have long placed an importance on their woods and in managing them to keep them in good heart.

His talk was given from the personal perspective of a woodland owner, outlining why managing his woodland is important to him and what he gets out of it, with the aim of increasing awareness and understanding of the benefits of woodland management to the audience, whilst inspiring and encouraging people to manage their woodland.



He highlighted the primary reasons for managing woodland as: income, firewood, wildlife, personal enjoyment, global warming, and tax, covering the basics on each of these reasons.

*Some of the key points he raised included:*

- It is hard to make a profit from woodland, but rising firewood prices help.
- Forestry Commission grants can help, but be wary.
- Professional forestry advice is good but can be expensive if you want them to do everything.



Why bother? Pruning is fun. Thinning the poorer quality trees will allow the best to grow better and faster, absorbing more carbon and increasing timber yield. Introducing more light into the woodland by thinning, opening up the canopy and ride widening generates firewood timber, is great for woodland wildlife and flora, dries out the access tracks, and encourages the shrub understorey layer, which improves structural and species diversity and improves the shooting.

He summed up by asking what is woodland management? It is getting your wood to give you what you want; i.e. making your woodland work for you.

Income from forestry is exempt from income tax. A wood which is managed qualifies as commercial woodland and is exempt from inheritance tax after two years of ownership, which is a considerable benefit. See the Forestry Taxation Summary in the Appendices to this report.





## Talk: The Challenges of Woodland Management

The second talk was given by **Steve Russell**, an independent woodland consultant based in Wiltshire, whose business Woodland and Countryside Management Ltd. provides professional advice and support across southern England. Steve was formally the Forestry Officer and latterly the Countryside Manager for Wiltshire Council before setting up his own business in 2010. Steve is the Royal Forestry Society's Southern Division Secretary, a regional committee member of Confor and member of the Wessex Silvicultural Group.

Steve set out the need for woodland management of our non-wild woods in the UK, which are a product of thousands of years of use and management by man. However, figures range from 40-70% of all privately owned woodland in England as being unmanaged. This is a significant untapped resource. His definition of under-managed woodland is: where there is limited canopy growth in a woodland this results in a dense canopy which creates shade which in turn deters the development of a shrub layer and ground flora layer, so that the ability of the woodland to hold a diverse range of flora and fauna is in decline.

He then engaged with the audience, asking woodland owners what their reasons were for not managing their woods to their full potential, saying it was important to acknowledge these challenges before we can move forward to look at ways of meeting and overcoming them. He then addressed those reasons in his talk, covering the economic and practical challenges of managing small-scale woodland, or for not bringing under managed woodland back into management.

*Some of the challenges he outlined were:*

- It would take too much time effort and money to restore the woodland. Woodland not a priority.
- Woodland is owned for many reasons. Timber production is not always a priority.
- Woodland is only a small part of my holding. Often it is not integrated into the farming business, and therefore an untapped resource.
- Timber markets are poor so it won't pay. Unmanaged woods generally produce low quality timber.
- Woodland is small and isolated.
- Lack of labour, suitable contractors and equipment.
- Poor access to and within woods, making management and harvesting difficult and costly.
- Lack of opportunities for collaborative working for all small woodland owners.
- Don't want outside organisations involved.

Despite all this, people like owning woods, which is why there are many new woodland owners joining the woodland community. A survey in the Chilterns in 2004 showed that 90% of woodland owners find their woodland a pleasure to own and only 5% deemed their woodland as unmanaged. He encouraged woodland owners to seek professional woodland advice and guidance in order to help woodland owners overcome the barriers of bring woodland back into management.



## Questions from the floor

*Several interesting points were raised including:*

### **Q: Doesn't letting light into the woodland cause problems with bramble invasion?**

A: Yes, but brambles can be good for natural regeneration; brambles deter browsing deer, enabling trees to establish. Best way to control brambles, and other aggressive species such as bracken, from becoming a problem is to carry out management ie brush cut or spray smaller areas regularly and often. However managing or creating an understorey shrub layer of hazel, thorn or mixed native shrubs is a better solution, which will compete with the bramble, improve the structure of the woodland and potentially provide a crop of hazel poles for firewood or craft materials.

### **Q: The Forestry Commission requirement for very dense tree planting to encourage upward growth means it is hard to let light in – how can we address this?**

A: There are still various ways to allow light in, but managing the woodland is key. Also thinnings are now a source of income for firewood which was not the case formerly, so that there is now a value to thinning conifers instead of birch as before.



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### **Q: Are pigs good at controlling brambles and encouraging regeneration?**

A: Yes, as long as they stay just long enough to remove the brambles and not damage the ground flora or woodland soils. Part of a wood at Urchfont which had pigs during the late C19 now has the best ASNW flora indicators.

### **Q: Pests and tree diseases: how to respond?**

A: Chalara, Phytophthora and other diseases: their spread is a result of world trade. Grey squirrels: reintroduction of pine marten has had a good effect in parts of Scotland, and the New Zealand squirrel trap is being licensed and could be very useful. A greater diversity of tree species and age is encouraged now in an attempt to reduce the impact of pests and diseases on forestry. Plant in a more random and varied way than hitherto (not in straight lines), include more shrubs, and consider the most suitable species for your site. Ensuring trees and shrubs are as healthy and strong as possible gives them the best chance to resist threats, by planting site-appropriate species and managing them to allow lots of light and air flow. The Forestry Commission's Ecological Site Classification system, ESC4 helps woodland owners select the most appropriate tree and shrub species for their woodland site.



# Workshops

What can we do to meet the challenges of woodland management?

## Workshop 1: What do I want from my woodland?



*Facilitator: Nick Hoare, Stourhead (Western) Estate.  
Note taker: Kate Tobin, Forestry Commission*

**Workshop participants:** 17 people attended

this workshop from Berkshire to Dorset, 14 of whom were woodland owners whose woodland ranged in size from 0.03 - 95 acres, from a former allotment site to ASNW, poplar plantation and recent planting, although most were mixed broadleaf woodland and quite a few had a coppice element. Several woods hadn't been managed in many (30-50) years or only in the last few years, although one had been managed regularly since 1985.

*The main issues discussed were:*

### Coppicing

There were lots of coppice owners in the group, many recommended Small Woods Association who have really helped them to start managing their woodland. Some sold wood to master thatchers, one sold poplar for camembert boxes.



Some discussion about how people coppice e.g. billhooks vs chainsaws, importance of leaving spikes on stools and use of brash to cover stump or stool to deter deer.



Many had difficulty finding coppice contractors. Lots of local coppice workers said that they were too busy or the quality of the stools wasn't right. They did not have contact with the coppice groups and would welcome that. Many found that firewood contractors wouldn't take birch and best use was for wildlife piles.

## Firewood

Most people were cutting for their own woodfuel but would like to sell too. Steve Russell told us about his woodfuel co-operative, who cut, stack and dry in the woods and deliver for £85 per m<sup>3</sup>. Attenders would like more information on quality of different species for firewood. All agreed very important to ensure that your firewood contractor also deals with the brash created and doesn't just leave it on site.



## Tree planting

Most doing it for landscape reasons. Ian Briscoe advised looking at what is growing naturally around you and replicating it. Try to achieve species and age diversity. Can also look at ESC4 (the Forestry Commission's Ecological Site Classification system) to get an idea of what should grow well in your area and forecasts for different climate change projections. For more information on the ESC system, see the Woodland Management section in the Links to useful sources of information and guidance at the end of this report.



## Insurance questions

It was generally recommended that everyone should have public liability insurance and have agreements in place with groups using their woodland to clarify who was providing insurance cover, as well as other matters.

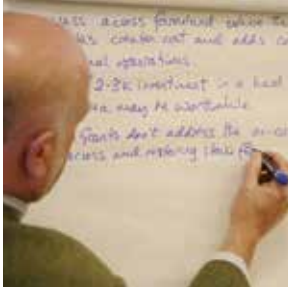
## Woodland buildings

Several had built or wanted to build cabins for occasional use. Need for more advice on planning issues and construction.

## Woodland management

There was interest in woodland management courses and need for more information on how to write a good management plan. If there had been time, some would have liked to spend more time talking about management for biodiversity and how to sell small numbers of single-stem oaks.

## Workshop 2: Woodland as part of the farm business



*Facilitator: William Hamer, Forestry Consultant.*

*Note taker: David Blake, Cranborne Chase AONB*

### Workshop participants:

11 people attended this

workshop from Oxfordshire to Dorset, 10 of whom were woodland owners and at least five farmers with one estate owner. The Group had within it a great diversity of woodland size (15 – 500 acres), type (recent conifer plantation, ASNW, PAWS, SSSI and coppice, although a lot of it seemed to be mixed broadleaf woodland), and current management regime, from no current management to selective felling and restocking. Participants' woodland was currently producing coppice, game, pea sticks, income from weddings and timber.

*Main questions from the group:*

**Q How can it wash its face?**

**Q How can I create income?**

**Q How can we create income from the bits of the wood not currently used?**

**Q What products/trees for the future?**

*Some key points that inspired discussion:*

- Not every operation, such as coppicing and thinning, will create income, but they may improve the asset for the future and fulfil another of the owners' objectives. These management operations are vital investments in your woodland, maintaining growth rates and improving quality and quantity of woodland products.
- Grants don't address on-costs such as access and restoring stock fences after felling operations. Re-fencing a farm woodland after forestry operations adds cost, which is not covered by grant.
- Having a good ongoing relationship with the contractor/consulting forester gives continuity and builds local knowledge of how the farm works.
- Poor access across farmland where there are no tracks creates cost and adds cost to individual operations.
- £2-3K investment in a hard standing/timber loading area may be worthwhile, even if you cannot afford to create hard tracks. Good hard access often benefits the farm as well as the woods.
- Using self-supplied woodchip to fuel a biomass boiler, or heat a house or grain dryer was one possible market being considered by one of the group.





- “Grant schemes can end up being a straitjacket that precludes us taking up other opportunities”. Bear in mind that the objectives of the grant scheme may not coincide with the owner’s objectives. Only take the grant if there is a sufficient incentive and you are not compromising your own management objectives.
- “Uncertainty: with everything up in the air, I don’t want to put all my eggs in one basket and commit to delivering a grant scheme”.
- Woodchip, firewood and timber are very different markets and you must understand the scale and logistics of each to decide which best suits what your woods can supply. This may be the same for other products or uses in your woodland.

### What’s a Woodland Management Plan?

A grant is available to write a plan for 3+ha of woodland. An independent woodland advisor will usually create a plan for you for the cost of the grant. Your local Forestry Commission Woodland Officer is a great place to start if you don’t already know a forestry consultant.

- Your Plan is the gateway to most/all schemes and permissions, and can also help to demonstrate to HMRC that your woodland management is a “business” for tax purposes.
- A plan does not commit you to anything, but gives you lots of information about the woodland and its potential and will give you the relevant permissions for all operations you include in the plan.
- Forestry advisors may not be the best people to advise on alternative uses like burials, paintballing etc. The owner or other interested party may be better placed to provide the entrepreneurial drive for these alternative businesses.
- There are opportunities for woodland owners to co-operate through sharing woodland advisors, contractors and joint marketing. The Hampshire Woodfuel Co-operative is another example of owners working together.

## Workshop 3: Make woodland management work for you



*Facilitator: Bill Ayers, Forestry Consultant.  
Note taker: Henry Oliver, North Wessex Downs AONB*

**Workshop participants:** 17 people attended this workshop

from East Sussex, Wiltshire, Somerset, Dorset and Devon. 11 were known to own woodland and four managed woodland (two of which were community woodland), their woods ranged in size from 5 - 55 acres, with three new or young (15 year-old) woods to ASNW and restoration of commercial ex-Forestry Commission conifer plantation to amenity broadleaved woodland, although predominantly they were mixed broadleaf woodland. Most of the woodland hadn’t been managed in many (50) years or only in the last few years, so woodland restoration was a common thread amongst owners and managers.

*Main questions from the group were:*

### Q: How to get coppice back into rotation?

A: Used to use Woodland Improvement Grant. Now might ask woodman to cut it for payment, and offer the incentive of first option on higher quality regrown coppice once back in rotation.

### Q: What to do with wood damaged by squirrels above a certain height?

A: Take out affected trees. If you do a heavy thin, be aware that future damage will be focused on remaining trees.

**Q: How do you establish woodland ground flora in a new woodland?**

A: Ground flora characteristic of ASNW will only move and establish very slowly, but you can accelerate the process. For more information on this, see the “Enhancement of woodland ground flora in new woodland” section in the Links to useful sources of information and guidance at the end of this report. It is also important to create variety of vertical structure in a young woodland (short vegetation along rides, tall grasses, shrub, small trees and high canopy) to create the right conditions for the ground flora to establish.

**Q: When ‘brashing’ or high-pruning trees do you leave the brash or tidy up?**

A; Cut into short lengths so it has good soil contact and decays quickly, otherwise use it to make windrows or dead hedging.

**Q: Is there a directory of contacts or a network of woodland advisors to answer questions on common problems?**

A: See the “Woodland networking organisations and local forestry groups” section in the Links to useful sources of information and guidance at the end of this report. Forestry Commission also hold a list of woodland advisors.

**Q: How to find people who can help with deer management and coppicing etc.?**

A: Contact the Deer Initiative and local coppice groups; see the Links section.





*Principal issues discussed during the workshop were:*

## **Need for woodland management**

There are two types of wood: amenity woodland and commercially viable woodland; where is the line between them? Issues: Cost of contractor and equipment. The value of extracted timber needs to exceed the cost of operations. Management is necessary because of our history of human intervention. Need to control deer, grey squirrels etc. The best way to carry out management is little and often, but costs may make this difficult.

## **Scale of woodland management**

Little and often is best but economics mean you generally need to harvest a minimum of 200m<sup>3</sup> timber to cover the costs of management operations so, with an average yield of 20m<sup>3</sup> per hectare from thinnings, 10ha of woodland is ideal as a minimum size for commercially viable woodland.

## **Coppice workers**

The shortage of coppice workers with appropriate skills in Thames Valley is a problem. Ensure they have insurance and NPTC certificates. Not enough coppice is in rotation. If managed well it can yield a small but regular income.

## **Tree diseases**

Almost every major UK tree species is affected by a disease. Need to be mindful of this and grow trees in the optimum environment to keep them healthy and vigorous, in order to give them the best chance to resist or fight off disease. Know the key environmental requirements of each species. Chestnut Blight affects Sweet Chestnut; not new but getting worse. Chalara affects Ash. Ash regenerates well naturally but needs light once established, so give it the best chance to avoid Chalara infection by matching growing conditions as closely as possible to its requirements. Don't remove all Ash, as there



Ash Chalara © Forestry Commission

may be resistant trees amongst the infected ones from which a resistant strain could emerge or be bred. Avoid moving material wherever possible in order to limit infection elsewhere. Burn material on site and clean boots and vehicle tyres.

## **Management of invasive and non-native species**

Japanese knotweed - Often a problem alongside watercourses and road verges where water or mechanical cutting spreads the plant. Try to stem the spread first. Treatment with herbicide may be necessary even though it may inhibit regeneration.

Rhododendron and Cherry laurel - Woodland Trust and Forestry Commission may help with removal of these in ASNW and elsewhere, because Rhododendron hosts Phytophthora, which threatens Larch. Symptoms: black blotches on leaves, plant looking sick. Saturation of spores e.g. on Rhododendron will infect and kill other tree species. Care needs to be taken when restoring woods post-Rhododendron, because Phytophthora spores will persist in the soil and leaf litter.



Bramble, Bracken and Holly. These species are invasive or rather aggressive but native and natural; it is possible to manage them to minimise problems, by brushcutting, less ideally by herbicide treatment and, preferably, through the development of a shrub/Hazel understorey layer.

*Some key points that inspired discussion:*

## Woodland management systems

The owner needs to set out her/his aims and objectives. The forester then identifies the choice of methods to achieve those aims, e.g. coppicing, continuous cover or clear cut system. Annual harvest can be auctioned as a standing crop, e.g. for spars or firewood, or the thinning work can be tendered out to contractors.

Traditional thinning can lead to a monoculture, with clear-felling in time. Understand the implications of the action. Other thinning approaches avoid clear felling and emphasise a more diverse structure. Approach to thinning and clear-felling can be at different scales: whole landholding or just the individual wood or parcel. Avoid large-scale disturbance to habitat.

Bill Ayers' advice is "A monoculture of anything is not clever". Manage for diversity. Look at what soils and species you've got in order to plant appropriate species. Whatever timber you plan to plant/manage for, there needs to be a market for it, so long term planning is required.

Landscape and visual impact of new woodland planting is affected by how you plant. Wherever possible avoid planting trees in straight rows.

## Good timber tree species

Scots Pine and Oak are thought to have a sort of symbiosis. Don't just thin the pine, but go for mainly oak but with some pine. Avoids vulnerability of monoculture and applies to oak too.

Western Red Cedar is liked by some because it is good on chalk (other conifers are not), produces good timber and provides good cover for pheasants. However, it also shades out woodland flora, offers little benefit for native wildlife and can be controversial because of its impact on landscape character.

Southern Beech (*Nothofagus* spp.) is similar to Common Beech, but vulnerable to late frosts.

Changes to national policy in the 1980s mean that broadleaf woodland cannot now be changed to conifer plantation.

## Management of ancient woodland and veteran trees

Halo (i.e., maintain clearings around) existing veteran trees and identify future veterans. Manage to retain dead wood (both standing and lying) for bryophytes and invertebrates.

Get the next generation engaged, excited and involved. This is most important as they are the future for our woodland. Hold events in woods.





## WORKSHOP 4: Optimising timber sales and the available markets



*Facilitator: Mark Gurowich, Canopy Land Use. Note taker: Caroline Parker, Forestry Commission*

**Workshop participants:** 15 people attended this workshop from East

Sussex to Dorset. Seven were known to own woodland and five managed woodland (four of which were community woods). The area of woodland involved ranged in size from 2.5 - 100 acres, with ASNW, PAWS, and mixed broadleaf woodland with coppice. Some woodland had only been managed a little in recent years.

*Main issues discussed during workshop were:*

### Current market conditions

There is a market for both 'red log' (knottier/less straight wood) and 'green log' (better

quality/clean/straight/knot-free wood). Whilst the market for 'red log' is buoyant, there is high demand for 'green log', and particularly for Douglas Fir, Larch and Western Red Cedar.

### Types of markets

- **Chipwood:** the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) has created a market and this is currently buoyant. Mixed conifer is generally acceptable. The equine market will use white wood (Spruce particularly, but also Poplar roundwood). Roadside price: £25-32 per tonne.

- **Sawlogs:** (diameter 20-55 cm red log, 30+cm green log)  
Lower quality conifer logs from Larch, Spruce, **Douglas Fir** - roadside price: £40-50 per tonne.

Higher quality **conifer logs** from Larch, Spruce, Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar – roadside price: £50-90 roadside per m3.

**Hardwoods**, inc. Oak, Beech, Ash - roadside price: £50-£250 per m3

- Niche markets:  
**Cordwood** (tops) as firewood – roadside price: £30+ per tonne.





**Oak** - straight stems 2-10 m long

**Knotted stems** (catspaw) – veneer markets.

**Cedar** – good for cladding.

**Coppice** - can be sold standing to local contractors dependent on quality; a good way to bring coppice back into rotation.

**Charcoal** – kilns can be sited within the woodland. All material can be used in small/medium quantities.

**Small-scale mobile mills** – can be located on site to use small volumes. Sought-after species include-Oak, Western Red Cedar, Larch and Douglas Fir.

**Firewood** – sold standing or roadside in larger volumes (20+ m3). Local contractors will often thin woodland for the firewood or for a share of the firewood.

**Play area timber for children's parks/schools** – Larch, Oak, Western Red Cedar. Small scale.

- Export markets

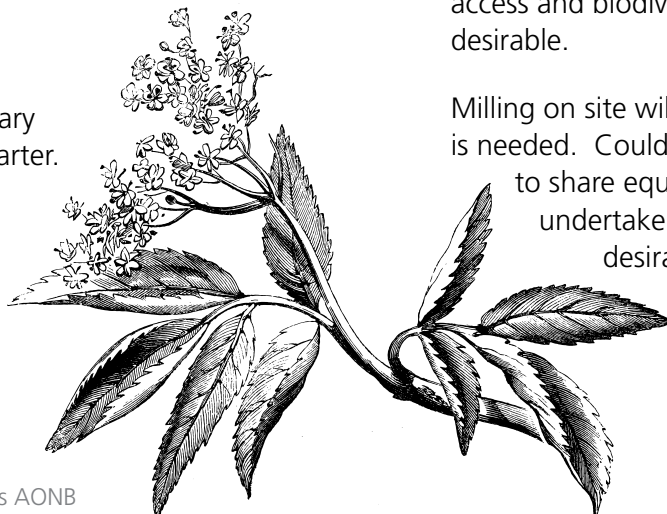
**Large Spruce** (diameter larger than 60cm) difficult to sell in the UK.

Large, clean Poplar log (diameter larger than 40cm) in large volumes (250+m3) can be sold to the Far East.

Value of Spruce approx.  
£50 per m3.

Poplar £35 per m3.

Market value can vary  
from quarter to quarter.



## Timber buyers

Several sawmills regionally, e.g. BSW, will take Douglas Fir, Spruce, Larch.

Large forestry businesses: will buy standing wood and ensure all paperwork and health and safety compliance is in place. In practice, they are likely to fell and stack the timber they want from your woods, then collect timber at a later stage.

Other forestry businesses: e.g. Timber To, will organise the sale and haulage of timber to appropriate markets for a fee per tonne or m3 and will provide better advice generally.

## Management of contractors

Employ a contractor directly (i.e. not through a timber buyer) to mark-up trees directly and in line with your woodland management plan. This will avoid the timber merchant taking only your best trees and allow your own wishes to drive the woodland management. Ensure everything is written down in an agreed contract. Doesn't have to be complicated.



## Other considerations

Extraction needs access. Rides are good for access and biodiversity. Haulage access highly desirable.

Milling on site will increase prices but equipment is needed. Could you partner with a neighbour to share equipment costs? Partner to undertake work sequentially. This is a desirable prospect for a contractor.

Do you have employed labour that could train to use a chainsaw in the quiet times around the farm?



## Challenges

- Size of vehicles in woodland. Wide variety available. Can be suited to your wood and your long-term aims.
- Public rights of way in woodland and designations (e.g. SSSI, Scheduled Ancient Monument etc). These will require greater care in management approach, equipment selection/use and timing, and can limit operations.

Silvicultural techniques for managing woodland

Clear-felling, thinning, coppicing, regeneration felling.

## Other requirements:

If extracting more than five tonnes of timber per calendar quarter, you will need a felling licence.

To apply for a felling licence, contact the Forestry Commission.

[www.forestry.gov.uk/england-fellinglicences](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-fellinglicences)

At a later date, get a management plan. This will make you eligible to apply for woodland-related grants.

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-9bmjwe](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-9bmjwe)

Applying for a woodland management plan can be time-consuming. Funding is available which will allow you to pay for an advisor to assist you.

[www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-management-plan-pa3](http://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-management-plan-pa3)



# Signposting Session Talks

Three speakers each gave a five-minute presentation on the advice, support and funding available from their organisation or scheme, highlighting the key information and encouraging attendees to come and talk to them during the day.

## **Kate Tobin, Forestry Commission South West**

The Forestry Commission's mission: to protect, improve and expand woodland in England.



Protect Tree health: information, events, conferences, woodland resilience work against pests and diseases and climate change, flood management.

Improve Get woodland into good management – including conservation and landscape.

A Woodland Management Plan usually provides a ten-year felling licence, as well as setting out your intentions and plan for managing your woodland to your family and colleagues. On applying for a management plan grant, your local Forestry Commission Woodland Officer will come out and visit you and your woodland to give support and advice. WMP grant: 3-50 ha is £1,000 flat rate, then £20/ha from 51 -100 ha, then £10/ha above 100 ha.

The Woodland Improvement Grant (WIG) scheme is closing in May 2017, but there is likely to be a similar grant available in future.

Machinery grants are also available.

Expand Planting grants for 3+ ha, or 1 ha in Catchment Protection Zones. 30+ ha eligible for the Woodland Carbon Fund.

Top tip: Sign up to **Forestry Commission** e-alerts; emails which include details on upcoming training and events, and information on pests and diseases.

## Sarah Dyke, Heart of Wessex LEADER Programme

The LEADER European rural development fund has funded capital items

such as forestry equipment and supported the establishment and growth of rural businesses across the Cranborne Chase and North Wessex Downs AONBs through LEADER Local Action Groups since 2009.

Projects must be approved and receive a Grant Funding Agreement by 31st March 2019.

Forestry and Micro enterprises / small and medium-sized enterprises, which includes farm diversification, are the two most applicable of the six LEADER themes to woodland owners.

LEADER aims to support projects which: create permanent new supply chains, create or support jobs, add value to timber and bring woodland into management.

Maximum 40% grant for commercial business projects and up to 80-100% for not-for-profit projects. Minimum £5K grant, maximum usually £100K, with some limited flexibility depending on value for money.

For more information contact:

**Sarah Dyke**, Heart of Wessex LEADER Programme Manager

E: [sarah@heartofwessex.co.uk](mailto:sarah@heartofwessex.co.uk), T: 07826 907361.

**Dawn Hamblin**, North Wessex Downs LEADER Programme Manager

E: [dawn.hamblin@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.hamblin@wiltshire.gov.uk), T: 01488 680458 or 07771 335565.



## Martin Hugi, Woodland Trust South East

### More Woods Offer

For planting trees to create new woodland.

Minimum 500 trees on 0.5ha or 1.25 acre site. Site-specific advice on tree species and protection, 50-60% funding of trees, protection and planting. All the saplings provided are sourced and grown in the UK to minimise the risk of importing and spreading tree pests and diseases.

Up to 80% funding for new 0.5-5 ha woods through More Woods to commemorate the First World War, including a commemorative plaque.

### New Ancient Woodland Restoration Project

Free PAWS survey, assessment and PAWS restoration plan available to woodland owners, funded by the Woodland Trust and carried out by a local forestry consultant. Follow-up site visit to discuss the PAWS restoration plan and report and consider the restoration options. Funding may be available for the actual PAWS restoration work. Woodland owners throughout the SE, including all of the NWD AONB, are eligible for a PAWS assessment and those further west may also be able to apply for a free PAWS survey from Woodland Trust SW.

For more information on PAWS assessment surveys and restoration, woodland owners should contact **Martin Hugi (SE) or Mick Bracken (SW)** at [restoration@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:restoration@woodlandtrust.org.uk)





# Site visit

## Woodland site visit to the Teffont Estate, Woodland Compartment 8

Having travelled up to the Teffont Estate woods in convoy, participants divided into two groups for the afternoon woodland site visit, to enable speakers to be heard and questions to be answered.

Compartment 8 is an area of predominantly mixed broadleaf woodland with a Hazel understorey which was planted with Oak, Walnut and conifer in the mid-late 1960s. There are also Ash and Western Red Cedar standards. The larch was felled and replanted with Oak and Ash (pre-Chalara) around eight years ago, but there is also good Ash regeneration in this area. It is an area of ancient replanted woodland (not ASNW) with reasonably good ground flora including some ancient woodland indicator species such as Yellow Archangel, Herb Paris and Sweet Woodruff. This woodland has been consistently in management and the results are noticeable. The aim of taking woodland owners to this wood was to show them the impact and benefits of long-term woodland management.

Bill Ayers, Jasper Bacon the Teffont Estate farm manager, William Hamer and Mark Gurowich took one group one way round Compartment 8, to discuss the history and management of Teffont Estate, its woodland generally and specifically the compartment/s visited. The group also discussed silvicultural practices, replanting Oaks, tree diseases, markets for timber and the potential for collaborative management with neighbouring woodland owners.



David Blake, Steve Russell, Kate Tobin, Ian Briscoe and Martin Hugi took the other group the other way round the wood, and discussed identifying Chalara, or Ash dieback disease, and why ivy on trees is almost always a good thing. Kate and Ian answered questions on the support and advice available from the Forestry Commission, and the grant schemes available from the Forestry Commission for improving access within woodland and to bring under-managed woodland back into productive rotation. Martin gave more information on the Woodland Trust's new PAWS assessment and restoration project, how it works and how to apply.

Then after 45 minutes the groups swapped over and walked the other half of the loop round the wood with the other group leaders, so everyone had the benefit of all the leaders and both discussion areas.

David Blake from Cranborne Chase AONB summed up the day, thanking the Keating family for allowing us to visit their estate, all the speakers and workshop facilitators for their time and expertise, and all the participants for coming and engaging in so many interesting and varied discussions. He commented on how interesting the day had been; how much the woodland



owners present had enjoyed it and got out of it, with plenty of opportunities to ask their questions and discuss their site-specific conundrums; and hoped that everyone would go away clearer and with more confidence of what they wanted to do with their woodland, how to manage it and who to contact to ask for specific advice, as well as the benefits of having a woodland management plan.





## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### 1. What do I want from my woodland?

*Facilitator: Nick Hoare, Owner of Stourhead (Western) Estate*

*Note taker: Kate Tobin, Forestry Commission SW Partnership Manager*

Name	Details of Woodland owned
Bernard Clark <b>WO</b>	Woodland owner, Berkshire
Rosemary Clary <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset
Richard Comstive <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Somerset
Peter Farquhar <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Suzanne Keene <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset
Adrian Lewis <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Hampshire
Sally Hall <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Guy Vowles, <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Somerset
Colm O'Kelly <b>WO, WP</b>	Woodland Owner near Bristol & Tree & Landscape Officer for Bath & NE Somerset
Simon Walker <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer/Estate Owner? Wiltshire
Julie Wear <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Hampshire
Ross Whatley <b>WO, CP</b>	Woodland Owner Hampshire & Forest school practitioner
Richard Southwell <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner
Elizabeth Maclay <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Hampshire
Marcus Stroud <b>WP</b>	Forestry consultant & woodland manager across South of England, based in Wiltshire
Steve Russell <b>WP</b>	Independent forestry consultant & woodland manager
Ian Briscoe <b>WP</b>	FC Woodland Officer for Wiltshire

### 2. Woodlands as part of the farm business

*Facilitator: William Hamer, Forestry Consultant*

*Note taker: David Blake, Cranborne Chase AONB Project Development Officer*

Name	Details of Woodland owned
Sharon Bovingdon <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner West Berkshire
Peter Maclean <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer/Estate Owner? Dorset
Mark Maclay <b>WO, Farmer</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer North Hampshire
Barney Stratton <b>WO, Farmer</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Wiltshire
Peter Thompson <b>CP</b>	Biodiversity advisor to Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, works with farmer clusters in Wiltshire
Eve Worrall, <b>WO, WM</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Dorset
Mary-Vere Parr <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner North Hampshire
Alexander Stanier <b>WO</b>	Woodland & Estate Owner, East Oxfordshire
Gary Adams <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Dorset
Charles Buckler <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Somerset
Quentin Edwards <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Wiltshire

### 3. Make woodland management work for you

*Facilitator: Bill Ayers, Forestry Consultant*

*Note taker: Henry Oliver, North Wessex Downs AONB Director*

Name	Details of Woodland owned
Alice Favre <b>WO</b>	Woodland & Farm/Estate Owner Dorset
Christine Gent <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner East Sussex
Christopher Hedley <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset

Pepita Hurd <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Ian Priest <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Edgar Valentine <b>WM</b>	Woodland Manager for (ex FC site) Community Woodland
Becca Charron <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset
Amanda Mathews <b>WO, CP</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire & National Heritage Adviser (inheritance tax exemption) for Natural England
Teian Mitchell <b>WM, WP</b>	Woodland Owner Devon & Project Manager for the Sustainable Coppice Partnership
Jonathan Seymour-Williams <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire & Steward/Woodland Manager for FC woodland
Jonathan Stewart <b>WM</b>	Woodland Owner Somerset
Phil Tansley <b>WO, WM</b>	Woodland Owner/Manager? of Community woodland, Wiltshire
Jonathan Thomson <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Susan Favre <b>WO</b>	Woodland & Farm/Estate Owner Dorset
Michael Wales	
David Clary <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset
Tim Scott-Bolton <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire

#### 4. Optimising timber sales and the available markets

*Facilitator: Mark Gurowich, Forestry Consultant for Canopy Land Use: Timber-To marketing scheme*

*Note taker: Caroline Parker, Forestry Commission SE Local Partnership Advisor*

Name	Details of Woodland owned
Mark Holley <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner West Berkshire
David Hadrill <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner East Sussex
Simon House <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset
Stephen Hurd <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Max Lacy <b>WO &amp; WP</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset & Firewood & coal merchant
David Corbin <b>WM</b>	Woodland Owner & Farmer Dorset
Rachael Shefford <b>WM</b>	Woodland Manager of Community woodland for Purbeck District Council, Dorset
Kit Vaughan <b>WO, WM</b>	Woodland Owner Dorset at Prime Coppice, Small woodland contractor & coppice worker, developing community approach to woodland management
Damian Culshaw <b>WM</b>	Woodland Manager of (ex Woodland Trust) Community Woodland Oxfordshire
R Organ <b>WO, WM</b>	Woodland Owner/Manager? of Oakfrith LNR Wiltshire
Mike Weston <b>WM</b>	Woodland Manager of Greyfield community woodland Berkshire
Andy Herriott <b>WO</b>	Woodland Owner Wiltshire
Charles Fuller	
Ben Jukes <b>WP</b>	Land Agent with WO clients
Mick Bracken <b>WP</b>	Woodland Trust SW, Ancient Woodland Restoration Project Manager

#### Other Event Attendees:

Martin Hugi <b>WP</b>	Woodland Trust SE, Ancient Woodland Restoration Project Manager
Sarah Dyke	Heart of Wessex LEADER Programme Manager
Dawn Hamblin	North Wessex Downs LEADER Programme Manager
Meg Chambers <b>WP, CP</b>	Independent Woodland & Conservation Advisor, & Event Organiser for Make your woodland work for you on behalf of the North Wessex Downs AONB
Rose Somerset	North Wessex Downs AONB Communications Officer
Mary Yorke	Bespoke caterer specialising in local produce

Woodland owner (**WO**) Woodland manager (**WM**) Woodland professional (**WP**) Conservation professional (**CP**)



# LINKS TO USEFUL SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

Make Your Woodland Work For You

## Sources of advice

### Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty:

[www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk](http://www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk)

tel: 01725 517417

email: [info@cranbornechase.org.uk](mailto:info@cranbornechase.org.uk)

### North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty:

[www.northwessexdowns.org.uk](http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk)

tel: 01488 685440

email: [info@northwessexdowns.org.uk](mailto:info@northwessexdowns.org.uk)

Advice on landscape character, wildlife and heritage conservation, local land management priorities etc..

See the AONB Management Plan for your area.

**Woodland Trust:** restoration of plantations on ancient woodland

**Forestry Commission:** general woodland management advice. If putting together a woodland management plan (WMP), the Woodland Officer will provide feedback on your application to ensure the plan is compliant with UK Forestry Standards (UKFS).

**Forestry Agent:** more detailed woodland management advice. A forestry agent will also assist you in writing your WMP.

## Woodland management

**Felling licence:** If extracting more than 5 tonnes of timber per calendar quarter, you will need to apply for a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.

The law and application forms can be found at [www.forestry.gov.uk/england-fellinglicences](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-fellinglicences)

**Woodland Management Plan:** Having a Woodland management Plan will allow you to apply for woodland-related grants.  
[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-9bmjwe](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-9bmjwe)

**Woodland support:** [www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-woodland-support](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-woodland-support)

**Sign up for Forestry Commission e-alerts on woodland grants:**  
[www.forestry.gov.uk/england-grants](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-grants)

**The Forestry Commission's Ecological Site Classification (ESC) decision support system:** a tool to help you decide what trees to plant where.  
[www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/INFD-7NKFMQ](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/INFD-7NKFMQ)

To use this online tool, go to [www.eforestry.gov.uk/forestdss/](http://www.eforestry.gov.uk/forestdss/) (no need to register: go to the New users section and click on the link for the latest version of Ecological Site Classification)

**The Deer Initiative:**  
[www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk](http://www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk)  
Contact Jamie Cordery  
email: [jamie.cordery@thedeerinitiative.co.uk](mailto:jamie.cordery@thedeerinitiative.co.uk),  
tel: 01962 679699,  
mob: 07790 583867

**UK Squirrel Accord:** [www.squirrelaccord.uk](http://www.squirrelaccord.uk)

**Guide to woodland conservation and pheasants:** from the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust  
[www.gwct.org.uk/advisory/guides/woodland-conservation-and-pheasants/](http://www.gwct.org.uk/advisory/guides/woodland-conservation-and-pheasants/)

**Heritage:** many woodland sites are rich in archaeology and heritage, including scheduled ancient monuments, with implications for management operations. To search the Historic Environment Record for your woodland visit [www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/)

## Funding and Woodland grant schemes

**Funding for a woodland advisor:** Applying for and producing a woodland management plan can be time consuming. Funding is available to pay for an advisor to assist you [www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-management-plan-pa3](http://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-management-plan-pa3)

**Forest business support:** [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/bee-h-a83db6](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/bee-h-a83db6) - a web page that provides forest businesses with general advice, alternative funding options and advice on completing non-Countryside Stewardship funding application forms

## Preparing a woodland management plan

**Countryside Stewardship:** [www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-get-paid-for-environmental-land-management](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-get-paid-for-environmental-land-management)

Higher-tier covers environmentally significant sites, commons and woodland.

Mid-tier open until 30 September 2017, but doesn't cover woodland.

**Countryside Stewardship:** Capital Grants will fund capital items only. The gov.uk website provides a link to a grant finder tool which includes information on what items are included [www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants?keywords=andgrant\\_type%5B%5D=capital-item](http://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants?keywords=andgrant_type%5B%5D=capital-item)

**Countryside Productivity** is currently closed. [www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-forestry-grant](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-forestry-grant) The aim of the grant is to support woodland owners and forestry contractors to improve forestry productivity



© Blue Sky Images



## Tree diseases

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**Sign up for Forestry Commission e-alerts on tree health:**

[www.forestry.gov.uk/pestsanddiseases](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pestsanddiseases)  
by going to the Tree Health News page on the right

**Chalara (ash dieback) and monitoring of spread:** [www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara)

**Natural England** has published advice on the best alternative species to ash for their traits, the number of ash-associated species they support, and their ecological functions: Assessing and addressing the impacts of ash dieback on UK woodlands and trees of conservation importance (2014). Visit <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk> and search for "NECR151". See the table on page vi and other info

## Woodland Trust support for owners of ancient woodland

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The **Woodland Trust** is offering free professional management advice and support to owners of ancient woodland in south west and south east England which has been planted with non-native conifers or has invasive species.

Email: [restoration@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:restoration@woodlandtrust.org.uk)  
to find out if you are eligible for support

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/about-us/ancient-woodland-restoration](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/about-us/ancient-woodland-restoration)

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2015/12/ancient-woodland-restoration](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2015/12/ancient-woodland-restoration)

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees)

## Enhancement of woodland ground flora in new woodland

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**Flora locale:** [www.floralocale.org.uk](http://www.floralocale.org.uk)  
promotes the conservation and enhancement of native wild plant populations. It offers advice, training and a directory of accredited wildflower seed and plant suppliers

Report of research by Imperial College and the Milton Keynes Parks Trust on the enhancement of new woodland with native woodland wildflowers  
[www.floralocale.org/page23980](http://www.floralocale.org/page23980)

For more notes on wildflower establishment in woodland:  
[www.reallywildflowers.co.uk/advice/faqs/faqs-habitats](http://www.reallywildflowers.co.uk/advice/faqs/faqs-habitats)

[www.charlesflower-wildflowers.co.uk/seed\\_mix\\_5\\_Woodland.html](http://www.charlesflower-wildflowers.co.uk/seed_mix_5_Woodland.html)

## Woodland as part of the farm business

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**Woodland taxation:** [www.scottishwoodlands.co.uk/investment/forestry-taxation.php](http://www.scottishwoodlands.co.uk/investment/forestry-taxation.php)

Key information on the tax implications of forestry for income tax, inheritance tax and capital gains tax

## Timber marketing

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**Timber-To:** round timber marketing scheme. Timber-To provides a collaborative approach to marketing sustainably produced round timber from small to medium sized woodland direct to end users. [www.canopylanduse.co.uk/round-timber-marketing-timber-to.htm](http://www.canopylanduse.co.uk/round-timber-marketing-timber-to.htm)

### Hampshire Woodfuel Co-operative:

[www.hwfc.co.uk](http://www.hwfc.co.uk)

This local woodfuel co-operative enables small woodland owners to sell small quantities of lower quality timber suitable for woodchip.

Contact William Hamer

tel.: 07768 491268

email: [info@hwfc.co.uk](mailto:info@hwfc.co.uk)

### South East Woodfuels:

[www.southeastwoodfuels.co.uk](http://www.southeastwoodfuels.co.uk)

## Woodland networking organisations and local forestry groups

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**Royal Forestry Society** meetings and woodland visits. [www.rfs.org.uk/events/woodland-meetings-by-division](http://www.rfs.org.uk/events/woodland-meetings-by-division)

Contact Steve Russell, regional secretary for Southern Division (Berkshire, Wiltshire, Hampshire and IoW) at [events@rfs.org.uk](mailto:events@rfs.org.uk)

### Royal Forestry Society training courses:

[www.rfs.org.uk/events/training-courses/](http://www.rfs.org.uk/events/training-courses/)

**Small Woods:** the national organisation for woodland owners, workers and supporters  
[www.smallwoods.org.uk](http://www.smallwoods.org.uk)

### Small Woodland Owners' Group:

[www.swog.org.uk](http://www.swog.org.uk)

**Woodnet:** [www.woodnet.org.uk](http://www.woodnet.org.uk)

**MyForest:** [www.sylva.org.uk/myforest](http://www.sylva.org.uk/myforest)

Contact Alistair Yeomans at the Sylva Foundation

email: [info@sylva.org.uk](mailto:info@sylva.org.uk)

tel: 01865 408018

### Sustainable Coppice Partnership:

[www.sustainablecoppice.org/](http://www.sustainablecoppice.org/)

Contact Dr Tean Mitchell at

email: [tean@sustainablecoppice.org](mailto:tean@sustainablecoppice.org)

tel: 01747 820718

mob: 07970 116525.

### Dorest Coppice Group:

[www.dorsetcoppicegroup.co.uk](http://www.dorsetcoppicegroup.co.uk)

### Hampshire Coppice Group:

[www.hampshirecoppice.co.uk](http://www.hampshirecoppice.co.uk)

### National Coppice Federation:

For details of all local coppice groups:

[www.ncfed.org.uk](http://www.ncfed.org.uk)

For information on professional coppice services and local greenwood workers:

[www.ncfed.org.uk/join-ncfed/affiliated-member-groups/](http://www.ncfed.org.uk/join-ncfed/affiliated-member-groups/)

### Wessex Silvicultural Group:

[www.wessexsilviculturalgroup.org.uk/](http://www.wessexsilviculturalgroup.org.uk/)

Contact Ian Briscoe, secretary at

email: [ian.briscoe@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ian.briscoe@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

### South West Woodland Directory:

[www.woodland-directory-sw.org.uk/](http://www.woodland-directory-sw.org.uk/)

### Marshwood Vale Woodland:

[www.primecoppice.com](http://www.primecoppice.com)

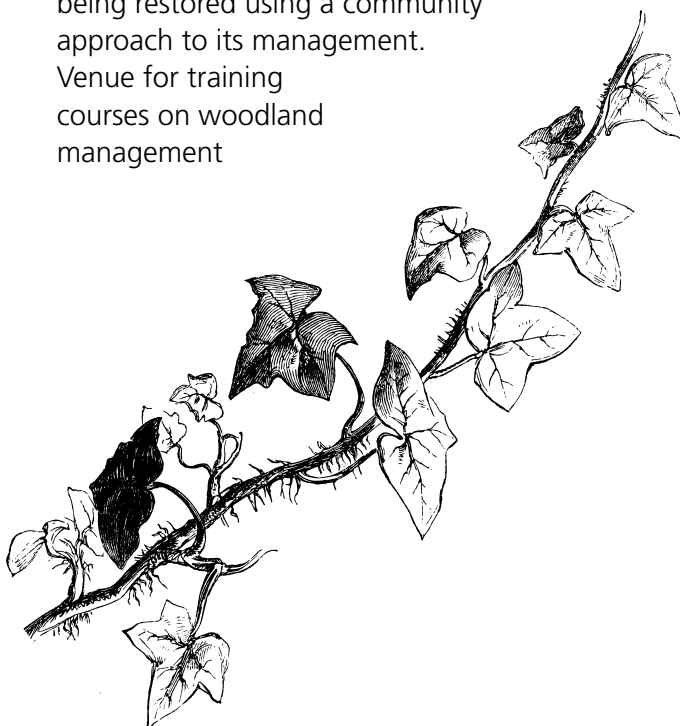
Contact Kit Vaughan

email: [kitclimate@gmail.com](mailto:kitclimate@gmail.com)

tel: 01297 489738

Novel woodland management model: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland near Bridport, Dorset being restored using a community approach to its management.

Venue for training courses on woodland management







info@northwessexdowns.org.uk



01488 685440



@northwessexAONB



North Wessex Downs AONB

www.northwessexdowns.org.uk

### North Wessex Downs AONB

Units 3-4 Denford Manor

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