



26 August 2010

NEWS RELEASE

Festival highlights opportunities for Trading with Trees

An arboreal highlight of this year's Westmorland County Show (Thursday, 9 September) will be the Trading with Trees event, part of the Cumbria Wood and Forestry Festival 2010.

"We have been holding various tree- and wood-related events across Cumbria since last September," says the Festival's Project Manager, Iris Glimmerveen of Woodland Inspirations, "and each one has looked at different aspects of our woodlands. The Westmorland County Show activities will focus very much on the commercial aspects of our local forests and woodlands and the various uses of their timber and other forestry products."

Participating businesses include Longbow Forestry of Ulverston, Cumbria Green Fuels of Ainstable and Dunnewoods of Morland and there will also be various sculptors, willow weavers and woodland organisations. Rebecca Oaks of Carnforth will be demonstrating charcoal making in a barrel and Arbortec Tree Care of Keswick will be showing how to convert trees into useable timber.

Iris confirms: "The aim is to give visitors all sorts of information and expert advice on how to manage small woodlands, grow trees and use their wood in sustainable ways for fuel, construction or just for the fun of it!"

The Westmorland event is one of a series of events across Cumbria that have made up the Cumbria Wood and Forestry Festival. Previously, more than 2000 people took part in a Talkin Treemendous celebration of trees, forests and health at

Talkin Tarn Country Park near Brampton (May 2010) and a Greenwood Fair is planned for Arnside and Silverdale AONB later in October (Sunday 31).

“We had been conscious for a while that the public were not getting the most out of our local Cumbrian wood and forestry sector,” says Alan Shepley, Secretary of the Wood Education Programme Trust and one of the initiators of the Festival.

“Equally, those working in our woodlands were not reaching some of their potential markets either so one aim of these Festival events is to bring public and woodworkers together and make the most of those new connections.”

“We are delighted to add our support to the Cumbria Wood and Forestry Festival and help showcase the county’s woodland opportunities to the visitors at the Westmorland County Show.” Says Christine Knipe, Chief Executive of Westmorland Agricultural Society. “We have been working with the Festival organisers since the launch at last year’s Show to ensure a good mix of businesses are included.”

Details of this and future woodland events can be found at www.cwff.woodlandrecollections.org and full information on this year’s Westmorland County Show is online at www.westmorlandshow.co.uk.

ENDS

CAPTION: A wood mizer mobile saw mill planking trees.

The Cumbria Wood and Forestry Festival is a joint project organised by The Wood Education Programme Trust with the help of Woodland Inspirations Limited. It is funded by Arnside and Silverdale AONB, Bassenthwaite Reflections, Cumbria Fells & Dales and Solway, Border & Eden Leader Programmes, Carlisle City Council, Coppice Association North West, Grampus Heritage & Training Limited, Westmorland County Agricultural Society and Woodmanship.

For media information, please contact:

Sally Seed
Stoneleigh Communications
01539 624732

Iris Glimmerveen
Woodland Inspirations
01768 881775