



Media Release – Immediate

Ref 13300

4 February 2010

Kindle Your Enthusiasm for Woodfuel at Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood

If you are looking for a fantastic family day out over the weekend of Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st March, the 'East Midlands Woodfuel Fair - Kindling Your Enthusiasm' could be just the ticket.

A huge variety of activities and entertainment will be on offer, promising something to suit every taste, so bring your family and friends to Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood and join in the fun.

Visitors young and old are sure to be amazed by the hair-raising displays of axe-racing and chainsaw sculpting. For those with a sense of adventure, the Arboriculture Team from Moulton College will be available to supervise and assist visitors wanting to try tree climbing using all the appropriate safety equipment. The team will also be demonstrating the equipment and techniques used in aerial rescues.

For people who prefer rather more sedate entertainment, there will be an impressive array of basket weaving, wood turning and cooking demonstrations, alongside a great range of stalls selling high quality wood crafts and furniture.

Sarah Walker, Visitor and Communities Services Manager at Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood, said:

“As well as being a great family day out, the Woodfuel Fair will act as a one-stop-shop for anyone with an interest in Woodfuel. If you are considering burning firewood in your home, would like to know how to produce your own firewood or would simply like to find out how to get the best from your stove, come along. There will be experts on hand to offer valuable advice and guidance on topics such as firewood quality and seasoning, sustainable heat and power.”

Kindle Your Enthusiasm for Woodfuel at Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood (Cont.)

Sarah continued:

"As well as offering a tremendous array of activities and demonstrations for all the family to enjoy, visitors interested in purchasing stoves, range cookers and ovens will be able to discuss their needs with a variety of suppliers who are attending the event. People interested in producing their own woodfuel can benefit from the forest consultancy at the event and see displays of firewood and kindling processors, log splitters and other forestry equipment."

"The Woodfuel Fair promises a really fun and family-friendly atmosphere. Over the weekend there will be music provided and refreshments available. Children will be able to try their hand at willow weaving and to see how a bird box is made on the RSPB stand. There really is something for everyone – so come along!"

The Woodfuel Fair will take place at Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st March, from 10am until 3.30pm. The event is free of charge and normal parking fees will not apply. For more information about the Woodfuel Fair, please go to www.forestry.gov.uk/woodfuelfair.

- Ends -

NOTES TO EDITOR

About the Forestry Commission

1. The Forestry Commission is the government department responsible in England for protecting, expanding and promoting the sustainable management of woods and forests, and increasing their value to society and the environment. Forestry makes a real contribution to sustainable development, providing social and environmental benefits arising from planting and managing attractive, as well as productive woodlands. Further information about the Commission can be found at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/>
2. Northants Forest District runs from Grantham in Lincolnshire right down to Ampthill in Bedfordshire, taking in many beautiful and varied woodlands.
3. Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood, north Northamptonshire

Top Lodge, Fineshade Wood is part of Rockingham Forest. Corby and Stamford are the nearest towns. Fineshade is signposted from the A43, 9 miles northeast of Corby, and 6 miles southwest of Stamford.
www.forestry.gov.uk/toplodge.

MEDIA CONTACT

Sarah Walker, tel 01780 444920 or email sarah.walker@forestry.gsi.gov.uk