

# Fell Foot Wood

## ‘The Home of Pancosmic Pyromanticism’

### Wood as a fuel

Wood is a sustainable natural resource that has been traditionally used as a solid fuel. Because it is a carbohydrate fuel it does not possess the same calorific value as a hydrocarbon fuel. It is a volatile energy carrier that possesses most of its energy in the gaseous flame phase. Because it goes through 3 distinct phases when burned as a solid fuel—dehydration, gasification and charcoal formation and burn-out, it is by its very nature difficult to control and this is made more difficult by differences between tree species, moisture content and the varying sizes of the wood used as the solid fuel.

Its virtue as an energy carrier is that it is an accumulating store of solar energy and theoretically wood and other forms of biomass can provide all of our energy requirements when viewed simply by the amount of energy produced on a day-to-day basis.

There are various forms of wood fuels from charcoal where most of the energy has already been removed through to logs, wood-waste briquettes to low moisture pellets which to some extent are “flowable” and can be used in automated systems that are designed to make wood fuel more convenient.

Woodstoves can be around 80 % efficient whereas open fires without any form of heat retention are generally wastefully inefficient and are often dirty and polluting. Logs in a wood burning stove are best burned as uniform sized pieces of around 20% moisture content which helps with the control of the burning. Technical considerations apart, the burning of wood conjures up primordial imaginings and excitations which stretch way beyond the mere act of keeping warm.



## Wood Fuel

Fell Foot Wood is managed as a sustainable fuel wood resource. This is achieved by thinning and natural regeneration of birch, ash, oak and other useful species rather than by replanting with non-native stock. Coppicing, particularly of sycamore is an active part of the management. Wood is a sustainable solid fuel that is considered carbon neutral and the sale of wood fuel helps to sustain the woodland.



## Back-to-Nature camping, social & cultural activities

Limited camping is permitted in Fell Foot Wood for people who appreciate the natural woodland experience. Please note that the wood is not managed as a commercial campsite/leisure complex. Camping based events are staged during the year featuring non-commercial music and poetry which befits a woodland glade setting. A leaflet is available from the Wood Yard which gives further detail.

Key:	
	Camping Areas
	Event Only Camping
	Parking Areas
	Tracks
	Footpaths

# Camping, social and cultural activities

Within the wood there are discrete areas that provide various forms of tentage such as Tipi style tents, Yurts and Bell Tents where back to nature campers can enjoy the seclusion of their own private space. We do not encourage rowdy groups of people or those who want to play amplified music of any description. Fires are only allowed at designated fire areas.

There is a central wooded glade which we call the pancosmodrome. This area is used at our events and features a stage, bar, catering hut, controlled fire arena and safe electrical power (RCD protected). The space has been used for wedding parties and other celebratory get-togethers.

## **Wild/Back-to Nature Camping. Management Challenges.**

Whilst Fell Foot Wood is managed as a fuel wood resource with permitted wild camping, it does not mean that you can practice bush craft/scouting type activities, shoot wild animals for the pot and cook them over an open fire or cut down poles to construct wigwam type structures etc.

Campers are not permitted to cut down any trees or collect branch wood for fires. Branches from trees are stacked around coppice stools to prevent deer from browsing the new shoots and we do not want these protective branches to be removed.

Things which pose a danger to other campers and which are not allowed are firearms, bows, blow-pipes, traps, fires, rocket launchers, fires (other than in designated areas near hired tents) and driving round tracks other than crawling below 5mph in 1st gear.

We expect campers to understand the need to exercise management controls within Fell Foot Wood and hope that you value your stay and appreciate the wholly unique natural experience.

## **When we permit you to camp, We want you to...**

- Be Safe and Secure and enjoy the solitude of your own space.
- Enjoy the sounds of nature rather than others imposed sounds.
- Enjoy the variable moods of the weather, sunrise and the sun setting over the lake and moonlit nights.
- Respect the environment and take care to leave the woodland as you found it.

## **It is not your scene if...**

- You expect to play dance music to overcome boredom and want to drive round tracks as if you are on a forest rally.
- Can't be bothered to take your litter away and prefer to throw cans & bottles into the undergrowth and dump camping gear which is of no further use to you.

## **When you attend our events, We want you to...**

- Enjoy the friendly atmosphere and alternative music.
- Realise it is irresponsible to consume too much alcohol within a wooded environment.
- Partake of our homemade foods and local wood-brews.

## **It is not your scene if...**

- Your preference is for heated swimming pools, social clubs & bars well stocked with exotic spirits.
- Need to get drunk to have a good time.
- Can't live without TV, commercial pop music and all the commercial trappings of modern life.

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The woodland management is grant aided by the Forestry Commission who also control the thinning and felling of woodlands and promote the use of Wood as a Fuel. [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)