



Welcome to The Coppice Plot's first newsletter. I'm pleased to say that my first year of woodland management and charcoal production has gone very well, mostly thanks to the support that you've all shown in stocking and/or using my charcoal. I hope that you've been pleased with the product and the service I provide, if you have any suggestions or comments then please do get in touch.

These newsletters will go out every quarter and will have general information on what is going on in The Coppice Plot and the wider woodland world, updating you on new ideas, projects and products. If you prefer not to receive these then just drop me a line saying so and I'll scrub you off the list.

How's it all made then?



First the local Pembrokeshire hard wood is loaded into the inner chamber of the retort.

(For more info on the retort please read the following [article](#))



The retort is then lit and fed with scrap wood until it reaches 375 C. At this point the gases are hot enough to be lit and are then redirected into the fire box (outer chamber of the retort) where they are re-burnt, further heating the charcoal in the inner chamber.



Once the retort finishes shooting flames everywhere (it can get pretty lively) I know that all the wood has been converted to charcoal. At this point I leave it all to cool overnight before bagging it up ready for market.

BBQ recipes

For next season I'm planning on providing A5 sized BBQ recipe cards with all charcoal. Each retailer will get a pack in a simple, small, wooden dispenser. The recipe cards are an optional extra and if you feel they do not suit your shop then you can ask not to have them with your delivery.



Not just charcoal



The Coppice Plot isn't just about charcoal. I also provide the following services and products:

- 1/ Woodland management - using traditional hand tools (axes and cross cut saws) and aiming to improve the overall health and biodiversity of the woods.
- 2/ Greenwood products - I make a variety of products ranging from household items such as furniture and kitchen utensils to practical items such as axe blocks, saw horses and shave horses. I am developing a small portfolio which I'll put on my website in due course.

In the news

The Coppice Plot has featured in a couple of local and national publications recently including the Pembrokeshire Biodiversity Partnership Newsletter and Living Woods Magazine. Links to both these articles can be found on my blog - see below for more details.



Activities

Open day

In early 2014 I'll be getting back behind the retort making more charcoal. If you would like to see the retort in action then I'll be holding an open day which will talk you through the process and provide a guided tour of the woodlands I'm managing. There will be some lunch on offer as well. The day will be free of charge to all existing customers, so I hope you can make it.

I'll get in touch closer to the time with more details.

Blog

I've been writing a blog that covers a variety of woody topics. You can find it at www.thecoppiceplot.com. I hope you find it interesting.



The Coppice Plot - Pembrokeshire
www.thecoppiceplot.com
07770 776 402
david@thecoppiceplot.com