

Langdale Estate Press Information

NATIONAL PARK CHIEF FIRES UP TO SUPPORT WOODFUEL AT LAUNCH EVENT

Media invite and news release

What: Richard Leafe, Chief Executive of the Lake District National Park Authority is to help launch one of Cumbria's leading woodfuel projects at the Langdale Hotel and Spa, near Ambleside.

Where: Langdale Hotel and Spa, The Langdale Estate, Great Langdale, near Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 9JD

When: 1pm, Thursday 30th of April 2009

Media who would like to attend the launch should contact Dan Visser on 015394 38001 dan.visser@langdale.co.uk

Richard Leafe, Chief Executive of the Lake District National Park Authority is to help launch one of Cumbria's leading woodfuel projects at the Langdale Hotel and Estate, near Ambleside, on Thursday the 30th of April 2009.

Mr Leafe will join Langdale Estate Director of Resort Operations, Nick Lancaster, to fire up the new, hi-tech woodchip boiler, provide a chipping demonstration, talk to people about woodfuel as a sustainable energy source and show people around the new boiler house.

The Langdale Estate includes a luxury hotel and spa, timeshare and self catering holiday accommodation in the heart of an area of outstanding natural beauty. The Estate management team is striving to balance the requirements of its visitors with the sensitivities of the local and wider environment, so the installation of a new woodchip boiler is part their long term commitment to sustainable tourism and to being an ethical employer.

The new woodchip boiler will replace the Estate's dependency on LPG (liquid propane gas) and the high cost and volatile pricing that it entails. The woodchip boiler will now provide an alternative fuel source to heat the hotel's leisure area, including swimming and spa pools; two restaurants; hotel bedrooms and conference facilities.

Fossil fuels such as oil and gas release carbon dioxide, which both contribute to climate change. Renewable fuels such as wood are part of a cycle where carbon is captured, released and then captured again as the forest grows, so burning wood instead of oil and gas is good for the planet.

The Langdale Estate have also created safe public viewing panels in the on-site fuel bunker and safe access to the main boiler for guided visits from anyone interested in woodfuel.

Nick Lancaster, Director of Resort Operations from the Langdale Hotel, says:

“The decision to use woodfuel was initially brought about by the cost savings involved and a wish to reduce our reliance on LPG. The type of woodfuel we chose, chip rather than pellets, was motivated by a wish to use a locally sourced product that would reduce our Carbon Footprint further, whilst benefiting not only the local economy but also local woodlands and their biodiversity.”

The Langdale Estate was supported by grants and advice from Cumbria Woodlands and the Forestry Commission.

Neville Elstone, Rural Development Officer from Cumbria Woodlands, says:

“Using wood to heat businesses and homes in Cumbria has real benefits for local people and woodlands. Effective woodland management helps to create new markets for timber, which is really good for woodland biodiversity and helps protect our beautiful landscapes.”

The Forestry Commission in England is supporting the development of woodfuel as a clean, efficient and renewable energy source.

For more information on the Langdale Estate woodfuel project visit www.langdale.co.uk/environment/index.htm

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. IMAGES: Images of the new woodfuel boiler at the Langdale Estate are attached. Higher resolution versions are available by calling 015394 38001.
2. Nick Lancaster from Langdale Estate is available for interview by calling 015394 38001
3. The Langdale Estate is wholly owned by Langdale Owners PLC
4. Langdale is committed to its Corporate Social Responsibility which includes establishing the whole operation as a sustainable destination both commercially and environmentally.

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