



Promoting Continuous Cover
Forestry for 25 years

CCFG celebrate 25 years

The Continuous Cover Forestry Group (CCFG) celebrates its 25th Anniversary in 2016 with lectures from two distinguished European foresters at a dinner at The Castle Hotel, Llandovery, Wales on Thursday the 29th of September.

CCFG is a group of foresters who support *Close-to-Nature* forest management as an alternative to the conventional clear felling systems widely used in forests in the northern hemisphere. CCFG believe that the more sensitive management approaches they promote will produce attractive forests with a mixture of species and structures. These are more resilient to the effects of climate changes, can better withstand the impacts of pests and diseases, are more pleasing for visitors and beneficial for wildlife, and can still produce valuable timber. CCFG is a member of ProSilva Europe, a federation of forestry organisations committed to advancing "close to nature" silvicultural systems.

Since its foundation in 1991, there has been increasing recognition of the important role that Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) can play in delivering a wide range of ecosystem services while also helping to adapt British forests to the challenges posed by climate change and by new pests and diseases. The contribution of CCF is recognised in country forestry policies and the area under CCF management is slowly increasing throughout Britain. This meeting will pay tribute to the small group of visionary foresters who founded the CCFG, will recognise what has been achieved over the last 25 years and will consider the challenges that lie ahead. The speakers at the meeting will be Philippe Morgan, of ProSilva Europe and Professor Jurij Diaci of the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Philippe Morgan has been a leader in the development of Continuous Cover Forestry in Britain and Europe and is the first British forester to hold the prestigious position of President of ProSilva Europe.

CCFG News Release

Professor Diaci is internationally recognised for his work on the dynamics of natural and managed mixed forests in Slovenia, a country where CCF has been adopted as the main management system for over 50 years.

The anniversary dinner will be followed by CCFG's Welsh field visit on Friday the 30th of September to Bryn Arau Duon, a fascinating example of how the principles of continuous cover forestry can be applied in what most British foresters would normally consider to be clearfelling territory; an upland, even-aged Sitka spruce plantation.

Chair of CCFG, Bill Mason, stated "We very much look forward to this meeting which offers us the opportunity to recognise the achievements of our founders and to consider how and where close-to-nature forestry can best be used in our forests in the future to deliver a wide range of benefits. It will also offer us a chance to share our experience with some of the leading European experts on the theory and practice of Continuous Cover Forestry."

If you would like to attend CCFG's dinner or field visit or would like further details, please visit www.ccfg.org.uk or contact administrator@ccfg.org.uk.

Ends

1st September 2016

Media Enquiries

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Notes to Editor

- CCFG was established in 1991 and celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2016.
- CCFG represents foresters throughout Great Britain who support close-to-nature forestry and is the British associate of ProSilva.
- CCFG are a technical and professional organisation dedicated to developing skills and disseminating knowledge. In addition, it contributes to policy formulation and wider debates about sustainable forestry in Britain.
- More information is available at www.ccfg.org.uk and www.facebook.com/ContinuousCoverForestryGroup