



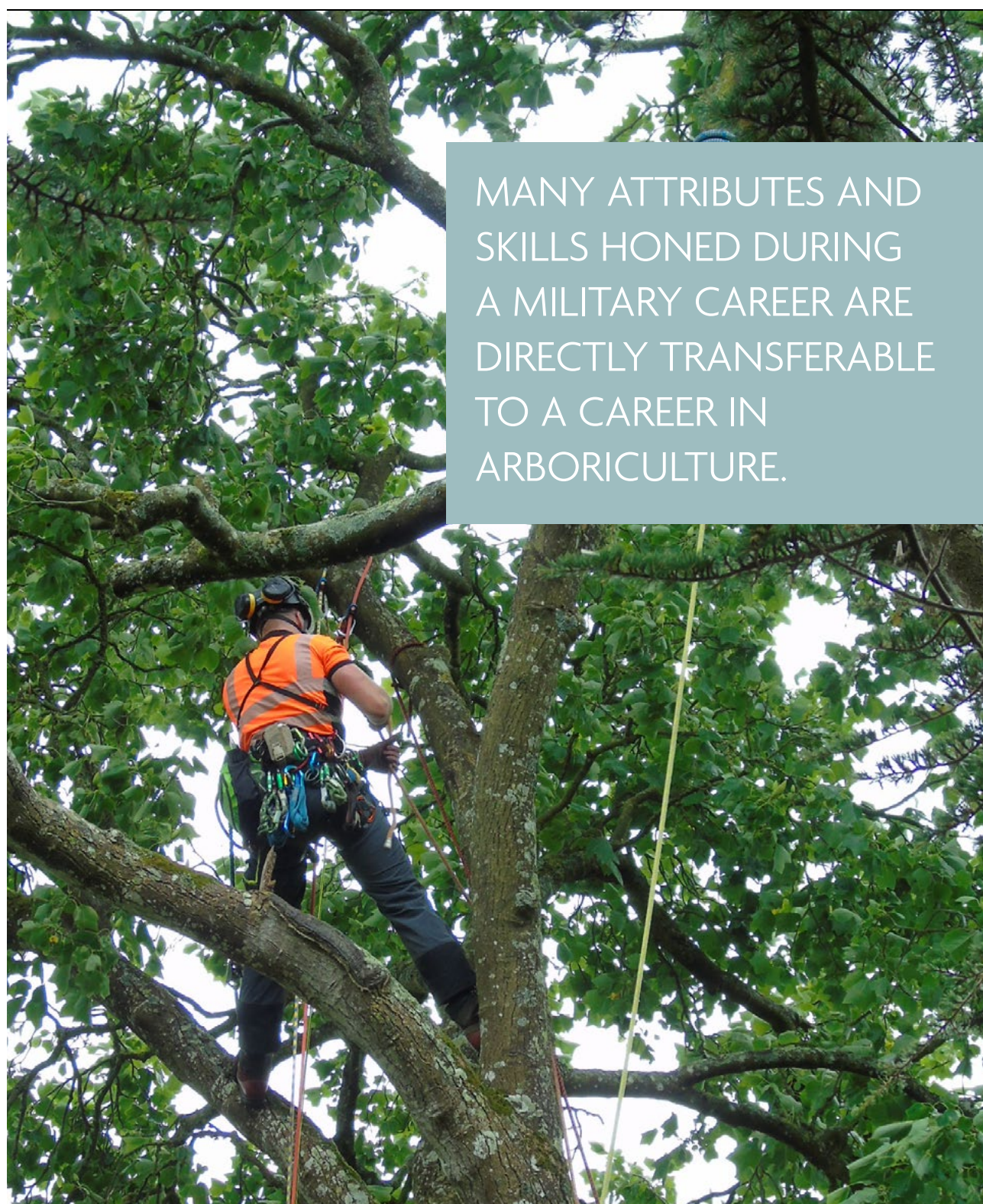
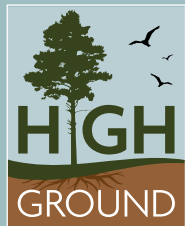
LIFE BEYOND THE MILITARY –
OUTDOORS

LAND BASED SECTOR GUIDE



ARBORICULTURE

www.highground-uk.org



MANY ATTRIBUTES AND SKILLS HONED DURING A MILITARY CAREER ARE DIRECTLY TRANSFERABLE TO A CAREER IN ARBORICULTURE.

CONSIDERING A CAREER IN ARBORICULTURE?

Arboriculture is the cultivation, management, and study of individual trees and perennial woody plants. The science of arboriculture studies how these plants grow and respond to different surroundings and environmental changes. The practice of arboriculture includes selection of right tree for right place, planting, training, fertilization, pest and pathogen identification and control, pruning, shaping, and removal. Essentially the establishment, care and management of individual trees.

A Tree Surgeon is a professionally trained Arborist, may also be referred to as an Arboriculturist, who in addition to having a broad knowledge of arboriculture, will also be proficient in the use of ropes, pulleys and climbing techniques, and use of associated machinery and power tools. A Tree Surgeon will work at height in the tree canopy utilising harness and ropes or elevated platforms, dependent on access, using a chainsaw and other tools to prune or dismantle the tree for the purpose of reduction or removal. Work can be varied and across the following areas, with some specialising in one particular area:

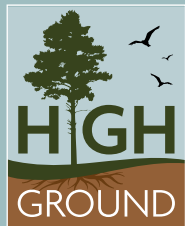
- Domestic
- Commercial
- Utilities



WHY WORK IN ARBORICULTURE?

Arboriculture offers outdoor work in a variety of locations both urban and rural, across UK and overseas. From domestic properties and communal areas such as parks, to private country estates, farm land and open countryside. With no two jobs/contracts the same the opportunity is there to continue learning and further develop skillsets, and progress through a defined career structure. Opportunities exist for employment and self-employment.

Many attributes and skills honed during a Military career are directly transferable to a career in arboriculture. From leadership and management of manpower and resources, to navigation and self sufficiency enabling operation in isolated locations.

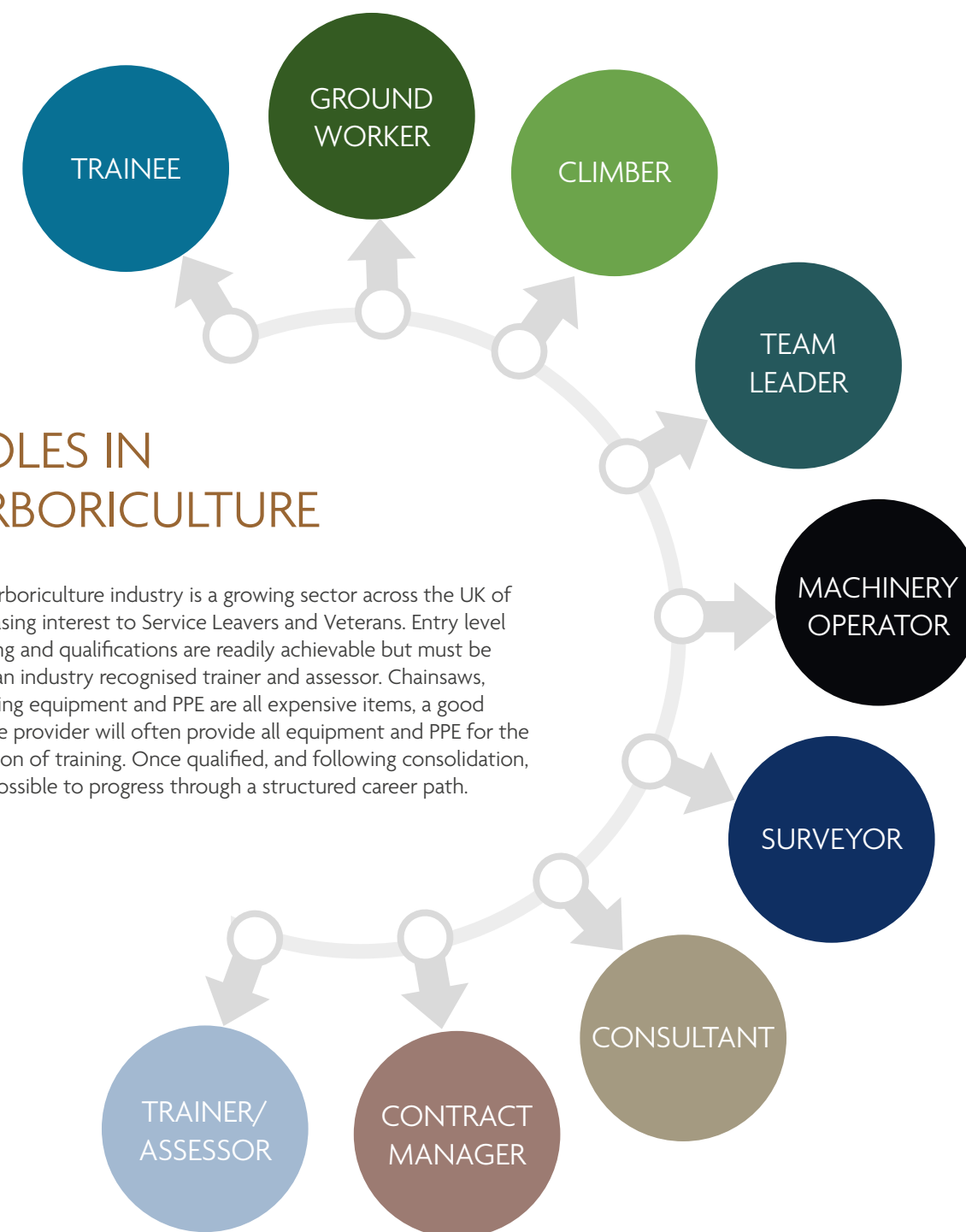


ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING SERVICE LEAVER AND VETERAN RECRUITMENT



ROLES IN ARBORICULTURE

The arboriculture industry is a growing sector across the UK of increasing interest to Service Leavers and Veterans. Entry level training and qualifications are readily achievable but must be with an industry recognised trainer and assessor. Chainsaws, climbing equipment and PPE are all expensive items, a good course provider will often provide all equipment and PPE for the duration of training. Once qualified, and following consolidation, it is possible to progress through a structured career path.





ROLES IN ARBORICULTURE EXPLAINED



TRAINEE

Someone who is either newly qualified and consolidating or in the process of gaining arboriculture qualifications. Could be through an apprenticeship or company training programme.

GROUND WORKER

Would usually have at least the basic qualifications of Level 2 chainsaw maintenance, cross cutting and felling up to 380mm plus woodchipper. Would be involved in felling, processing timber, clearing / chipping brash and assisting the climbers from the ground (fuelling chainsaws, removing brash, rigging). May hold tree climbing and aerial rescue qualification in order to be able to assist with rescues on site.

CLIMBER

Would have at least Level 2 chainsaw maintenance, cross cutting and felling up to 380mm, Level 2 tree climbing & aerial rescue, Level 2 aerial cutting of trees with a chainsaw using freefall techniques, with the more experienced also having Level 3 aerial tree pruning and Level 3 aerial tree rigging. Would be involved in access of the tree's canopy using ropes and harness, use of chainsaws / handsaws to prune, dismantle and fell trees, reduction or removal of branches to facilitate access. May also be qualified to safely perform clearances around utilities and reduce risk of windthrow using rigging and pulleys to lower sections of timber under control. Would work on wide range of trees in urban and rural locations for domestic customers, commercial clients and utility providers.

TEAM LEADER

Could be either a ground worker or climber with additional duties of supervising the team, organising and managing the work, completion of paperwork, liaising with field / contract manager, clients, other contractors on site and taking responsibility for site safety.

MACHINERY OPERATOR

Would hold qualifications in specialist machinery such as tractors, excavators and Mobile Elevated Working Platform (MEWP). Would assist in work in large felling operations, winching, timber extraction and top down dismantles as well as pre-construction clearance work.

SURVEYOR

Would be involved in tree surveys and arboriculture inspections, meeting with customers, and producing reports and risk assessments. Work could include both rural and urban locations. Qualifications such as Level 3, 4 or 6 Arboriculture, Lantra PTI and NPTC UA5 would usually be required for this role as well as experience within arboriculture

CONSULTANT

Would be responsible for arboriculture consultancy and advisory services, involving tree surveys (including BS5837 surveys) and inspections, report writing and offering professional advice to clients. Would usually hold Level 4 Arboriculture or above and have a high level of tree physiology and tree disease knowledge.

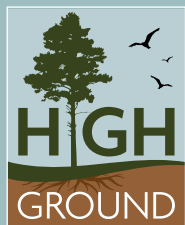
CONTRACT MANAGER

Would be responsible for running either one or multiple contracts for an organisation including managing work flow and finances, supervising and organising staff, liaising with clients, ensuring health and safety standards and work quality standards are adhered to.

TRAINER / ASSESSOR

A role for an experienced arborist. Would involve teaching arboriculture skills, both practical and theory, to both new and experienced arborists. Some courses require teaching to a specific criteria, others may be bespoke and designed to cover a clients specification. Assessors would usually work for NPTC and/or Lantra assessing their range of arboriculture units. Assessors go through a verification process to qualify them to assess specific units.





ENTRY LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING REQUIREMENT

NPTC and Lantra are the awarding bodies within the UK for practical qualifications. Some contracts will only recognise NPTC for chainsaw units so currently it would be recommended to gain NPTC qualifications. These are also recognised overseas. The main / essential qualifications an employer will expect when recruiting a climber and ground worker:

CLIMBER

- Level 2 Chainsaw maintenance and cross cutting 003920 (formerly CS30)
- Level 2 Felling small trees up to 380mm 003921 (formerly CS31)
- Level 2 Tree climbing & aerial rescue 003922 (formerly CS38)
- Level 2 Chainsaw from a rope and harness 003923 (formerly CS39)

Additional qualifications that would be useful:

Emergency First Aid at Work plus F
NPTC or Lantra Woodchipper.

GROUND WORKER

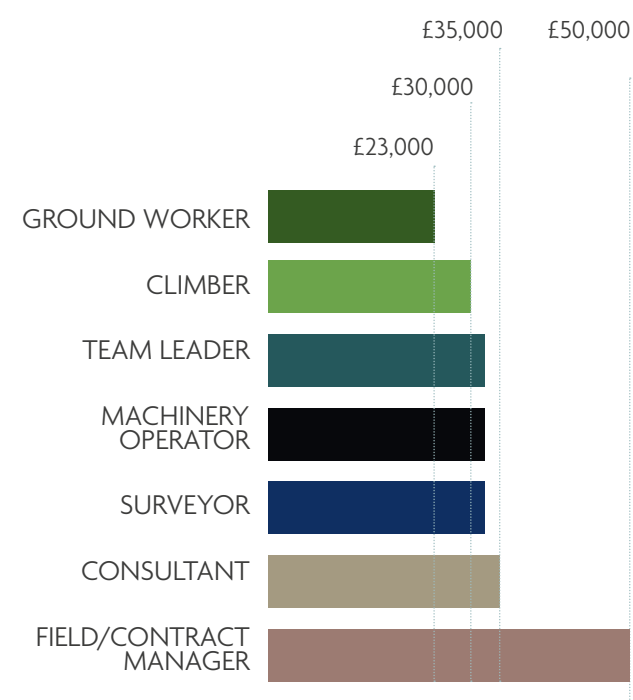
- Level 2 Chainsaw maintenance and cross cutting 201 202 (formerly CS30)
- Level 2 Felling and processing trees up to 380mm 203 (formerly CS31)

Additional initial qualifications that would be useful:

Emergency First Aid at Work plus F
NPTC or Lantra Woodchipper
Entry level qualifications and training requirement.

POTENTIAL SALARY AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Average salary range
for employed roles



Employed benefits include:

- Paid holiday / bank holidays
- Issue of required PPE
- Issue of required climbing equipment
- Pension scheme

Employed benefits may also include:

- Monthly bonus scheme
- Use of company vehicle

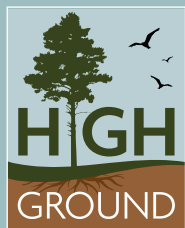
Potential salary and self employment benefits

- Climber Day rate - £100 - £200 per day

Self-employment benefits include:

- Being your own boss





USEFUL READING

WEBSITES

www.arbjobs.com
www.trees.org.uk
www.nptc.org.uk
www.forestryjournal.co.uk
www.hi-line.co.uk
www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
www.forestryengland.uk
www.countryside-jobs.com
www.treecouncil.org.uk
www.lantra.co.uk



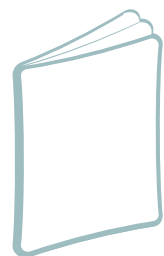
BOOKS

Collins Tree Guide
Tree Climbers Knot Book
Collins Gem Trees
Trees, their natural history – Peter A Thomas
Manual of wood decays – K.Weber, C.Mattheck
Arb Association Technical Guides – TG1, TG2, TG3, TG4, TG5 – www.trees.org.uk



MAGAZINES

Forestry Journal
Essential Arb
Arb Climber
Pro Arb
Arb Association Members Magazine



TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

Arboricultural Association – www.trees.org.uk





For more information about HighGround's services please contact Tim Lever.

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