



Forbes-Laird Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd

• Planning • TPO • Safety Inspection • Subsidence • Expert Witness • Design

Principal Consultant:

Julian Forbes-Laird

BA(Hons), MICFor, MEWI, M.Arbor.A, Dip.Arb.(RFS)

JULIAN FORBES-LAIRD

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Julian Forbes-Laird is Director and Principal Consultant of Forbes-Laird Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd (FLAC), a small but nationally reputed practice. He has over twenty years' experience of undertaking a variety of arboricultural assessments for a wide range of public, corporate and private clients.

JFL started his career in arboriculture on the practical side of the profession, before completing a gradual transition to consultancy in 2000. After two years spent working as an independent consultant, he spent a further two years as Senior Consultant at CBA Trees, before establishing FLAC in 2004.

FLAC provides an efficient and approachable service to Expert Witness level, geared to securing our clients' objectives within the required timeframe in whatever area of arboriculture they may instruct us, though we specialise in planning and litigation matters. Notes on specific areas of the practice follow.

Having developed and lectured widely on a respected and peer-reviewed method designed to quantify the risk posed by defective trees (THREATS), JFL is a recognised authority on tree hazard assessment. He has undertaken several forensic accident investigations, including in relation to fatalities caused by trees, and has appeared as an Expert Witness in the High Court. He is Special Advisor on Tree Risk for Network Rail.

JFL has published a number of articles in the arboricultural and landscape press, variously covering tree risk assessment, legal aspects of liability for hazard trees, subsidence, and the arboricultural significance of certain wood decay fungi on trees. In addition, JFL is a well-known figure on the arboricultural lecture circuit.

FLAC has undertaken several projects concerning the assessment, management and preservation of veteran trees and Ancient Woodland. Particular specialisations in this field are determining crown restoration needs, and the management/restoration of historic arboricultural features.

FLAC has advised various landscape design projects focussing on the selection and establishment of woody plants. These include both amenity woodlands and rural and urban planting schemes in the United Kingdom and also abroad.

JFL is regularly instructed in the area of tree root damage to buildings, frequently acting as an expert witness in this demanding area of arboriculture.

A significant proportion of our work relates to Tree Preservation Orders. JFL has been instructed as an expert witness on several occasions to assist local authorities with prosecutions for offences under the relevant legislation, and has appeared for the prosecution in the Crown Court. Additionally, he is author of the TEMPO system for assessing whether trees merit TPO protection; TEMPO is used by over 60 local authorities and dozens of consultants.

Many of our instructions derive from the planning process, and we are well known for our work on major strategic development projects, with, currently five 2500+ unit schemes at various stages of design or construction. We also act on major infrastructure projects, with the Thames Tunnel being a current example. We regularly contribute to all types of planning Appeals, representing both local authorities and also developers. JFL also undertakes advocacy at Public Local Inquiries on behalf of Rule 6 parties.

JFL was a technical editor of BS5837:2005, and is now a technical editor of the emerging BS5837[2012]. For both editions, he was specifically responsible for preparing drafts of the sections relating to tree survey methodology, and demolition and construction in proximity to trees.



www.flac.uk.com



JFL is senior technical editor for a draft British Standard, currently known as BS8516 'Recommendations for Tree Safety Inspection'. He is also a member of the BSI technical committee on trees, B/213.

Julian Forbes-Laird is a Chartered Arboriculturist and a member of the RICS Dispute Resolution Panel 'Expert Advisers in Planning Service', formed principally to advise the Planning Inspectorate. He is a member and Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association, a Member and Registered Consultant of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, through examination at Masters level, a member of the Expert Witness Institute, and a Sweet & Maxwell 'Checked Expert Witness'. He is a member of the Royal Forestry Society and holds its 'Professional Diploma in Arboriculture', a degree-level professional qualification, and is also a member of the Arboricultural Journal peer referee panel.

JFL and FLAC have recently undertaken or have ongoing work on projects for/with the following:

Government, Infrastructure, Health & Education

Cambridge University
Cranfield University
Department of Children Schools & Families
East & North Herts PCT
Environment Agency
Greenwich Hospital
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Moorland Energy
Network Rail
Oxford University
Thames Water
Transport for London
University of Reading
Westonbirt School

Local Authorities

Aylesbury Vale DC (*Strategic Review*)
Cambridge City Council (*Subsidence*)
East Dorset District Council (*Subsidence*)
Forest Heath District Council (*PLI*)
Hart District Council (*PLI*)
King's Lynn & West Norfolk District Council (*Advice*)
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs NPA (*TPO review*)
London Borough of Camden (*Advice*)
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (*Litigation*)
Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea (*PLI*)
St Albans City & District Council (*PLI*)
St Edmundsbury Borough Council (*TPO prosecution*)
Welwyn & Hatfield District Council (*Tree assessment*)
West Lindsey District Council (*TPO prosecution*)
Wokingham Unitary (*Accident investigation*)
Wycombe District Council (*Development*)

Developers

Barratt
Bellway
Catesby Property Group
David Wilson
Fairview New Homes
Gladedale Group
Hermes
Laing O'Rourke
Marriott Construction
Martin Grant Homes
Peel Holdings
Persimmon
Taylor Wimpey

Solicitors

ASB Law (*Subsidence*)
Ellisons (*Litigation*)
Fields Fisher Waterhouse (*Litigation*)
Forsters (*PLI & Litigation*)
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (*Litigation*)
Howes Percival (*Litigation*)
Masons (*Litigation*)
Plexus Law (*Litigation*)
Taylor Wessing (*Planning*)
Tollers (*Litigation*)
Wedlake Bell (*TPO Appeal & Litigation*)
Weightmans (*Litigation*)

Planning Consultants

Barton Willmore
Broadway Malyan
Cluttons
Cushman & Wakefield
Drivers Jonas Deloitte
Hives
RPS
Savills

Architects

Foster + Partners
Hamiltons
Hopkins
Grafik
Scott Brownrigg
Stanton Williams
Wilkinson Eyre

Landscape Architects

Barton Willmore Design
Capita Lovejoy
Christopher Bradley-Hole
Cooper Partnership
Hankinson Duckett Associates

And

Centre Parcs
Maggie Centres
Marie Curie Cancer Care
The Crown Estate
The Diocese of Westminster
The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
Tottenham Hotspur FC