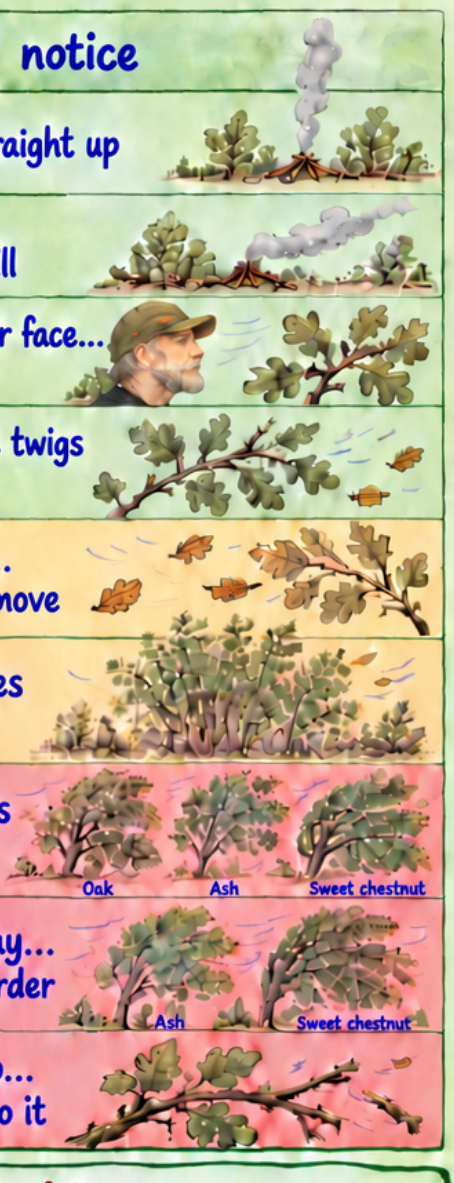
WIND IN THE WOODS !

A Beaufort guide from Mick's notebook

Mean wind speeds • mph • Watch the gusts too !

Force	Wind	mph	What you'll notice
0	Calm	<1	Smoke heads straight up
1	Light air	1 - 3	Smoke drifts... leaves mostly still
2	Light breeze	4 - 7	A breeze on your face... leaves rustle
3	Gentle breeze	8 - 12	Leaves and little twigs keep moving
4	Moderate breeze	13 - 18	Loose leaves lift... small branches move
5	Fresh breeze	19 - 24	Small leafy trees start swaying
6	Strong breeze	25 - 31	Bigger branches on the move
7	Near gale	32 - 38	Whole trees sway... walking gets harder
8	Gale	39 - 46	Twigs may snap... hard to walk into it



E&O... Wind Safety Instructions

- Up to Beaufort 5 (about 24 mph mean wind): MAY proceed, subject to the site assessment, forecast gusts and conditions on the day.
- Beaufort 6–8: NO GO for woodland sessions. A Met Office Amber Warning for wind is also a NO GO — move to an assessed alternative or postpone.
- Do a tree-hazard recce before entry... activity area AND walking routes in and out.
- Look UP ! Check for hung-up dead fall, damaged limbs and signs of unstable trees. Keep everyone out of suspect areas.
- Gusts count too ! A mean wind below 24 mph isn't an all-clear.
- Keep checking... stop or move if wind, gusts or tree movement cause concern.
- Conditions changed since the recce ? Recheck before the group enters !

Look UP before you stop ! Watch for 'dead fall' — dead branches hung up overhead. Always check above before stopping under a tree or trees. If in doubt... move away !

Embers & Oak