

Pellet Stoves at Bridgend

Scruffs is the largest specialist kite store in the world, situated in the picturesque Garw valley in South Wales, just 5 miles off J36 M4. The store includes an exhibition and display of kites from all over the world and stock children's single line kites, right through to intermediate and advanced level sport and power kites.

A heat-loss calculation was carried out on the building that is single span construction and block wall, with insulated roof and mostly double-glazed. The heating engineer advised that two pellet stoves would produce enough heat for their needs.



Both stoves are installed in the main showroom, one behind the main counter and work bench area, the other in the coffee bar/lounge area. This one has two sofas arranged round it and put out heat into the main showrooms.

“We are delighted with the stoves, with how well they look, the ease of installation, economy and ease of use.”

Scruffs attracts visitors from all over the world, both kite fliers and tourist visiting the area. They are promoted as a tourist attraction by the Council and belong to the tourism forum. The store is set in its own landscaped grounds, has its own car park and enjoys stunning views along the valley. There is also a coffee lounge and local information point.

The coffee bar/lounge area has proved very popular with customers who are intrigued by the stove and enjoy the cosy atmosphere it creates, sitting down next to it to enjoy a coffee and warm up. Many customers ask about the stoves, about the fuel etc and are given a leaflet on the product. They are interested in both the fuel and the green factor.

Scruffs installed two Enviro Fire EF3 pellet stoves in autumn 2002, as the premises did not have any heating. The building is approximately 2000 sq ft most of which is the store/showrooms. After taking advice from their local supplier, it was decided that a system involving pellet boiler and radiators was not necessary, would involve too much expense and loss of space, both for the boiler and radiators.

The fuel used in the stoves is 6 mm pellets, available by the 15 kg sack at a cost between £3.25 and £3.85 plus VAT. If more than a ton is bought at a time, the price per bag comes down. Scruffs collects the fuel themselves as the manufacturer is only 5 miles down the road from their premises. The stoves retail price is somewhere in the region of £1,300.00 each plus VAT.

Fuel consumption depends on the temperature at which the stoves are. On an average winters' day a stove takes about half a sack per day, but can take a bag in very cold weather. By buying the fuel in advance one doesn't run up big bills in cold weather – you simply know how much fuel you are using!! This is important to Scruff as a seasonal business, as when they need to use the heaters most it is a fairly quiet time of year.

The hopper in each stove will hold a 15 kg sack of fuel, and so usually needs filling every other day. The stoves are simply to use; first pull the handle on the blower at the front of the stove, then turn the two control dials and press the “on” switch and the stove begins to warm up. Adjust the damper and feed and blower dials is necessary throughout the day. At the end of the day turn the two control dials off and leave the stove to shut down.

It is all very simple to operate. If necessary the stove can be left on over night. Every 3 to 6 months the ash box needs emptying; the ash is high in phosphates etc and makes good garden fertilizer. The glass door may need cleaning occasionally. The burning process is carbon neutral because the trees absorbed lots of carbon dioxide while they were growing, and the burning process is over 90% efficient. The wood which is used to make the pellets is clean waste wood which otherwise would be destined for landfill.

Primarily Scruffs bought the two stoves because they suited their requirements as well as being a customer friendly and economical heating system for their business.

“The stoves are environmentally friendly, which is important to us, but also very clean and easy to use and economical.”



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E-mail: info@kiteshops.com - www.kiteshops.com

Enviro EF3 pellet stove supplied by **Bio Energy Devices Ltd**, Unit 28 Brynmenyn Business Centre, St Theodore's Way, Brynmenyn Industrial Estate, Bridgend CF32 9TZ
Tel: 01656 724300 - E-mail: MarchHowell@BioEnergy-Devices.co.uk - www.bioenergy-devices.co.uk

The fuel available locally from **Welsh Biofuels** at 32 Chilcott Avenue, Brynmenyn Industrial Estate, Brigend CF32 9RQ - Tel: 01656 7299714 - E-mail: martin@welsh-biofuels.co.uk - www.welsh-biofuels.co.uk



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The National Energy Foundation is grateful to Scruffs for the text that they provided for this case study. The National Energy Foundation cannot accept any responsibilities for information provided by a third party.

This case study has been produced as part of the Log Pile project.
For more information, please visit www.logpile.co.uk



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