



Environmental Friends March 2006

Fifty eight trees have been saved from destruction thanks to a Darlington company turning over a new leaf when it comes to recycling paper.

Staff in the two divisions of BiB Group in Darlington have made a determined effort over the last twelve months to cut back on the amount of paper they use.

Now they have been awarded certificates of environmental accomplishment from Shred-it, the world's leading document destruction company, for the positive impact their efforts have made on the environment.

The team at BiB Underwriters, in Valley Street, saved 25 trees while staff at BiB Darlington, in Northgate, did even better recycling enough paper to prevent the loss of a further 33 trees.

The initiative has paved the way for the company to become virtually paperless later this year.

Group development director Denis Pinnegar said: "We have carried out a three-month pilot and in that time have saved on ten or so filing cabinets full of documents simply by scanning them and saving to disc.

"We're now looking across the whole business to assess how the initiative can be extended. There are significant savings to be made in terms of space and cost of stationery, but also in time and efficiencies for our staff who are able to spend less time on filing."

Mr Pinnegar said the initiative was also proving popular with clients who preferred to communicate by email.

He said: "The opportunity to become paperless is growing as more and more people have PCs at home and opt to receive documentation electronically. However, we recognise that some clients still prefer to receive hard copy documents and we will retain this service as long as people want it."



Save trees: (L-R) Phil Darnton, responsible for recycling at BiB Underwriters, and group development director Denis Pinnegar