



## Was it worth it?

### Trug Making

"Very professional, a friendly and enjoyable day."  
 "Excellent trainer very knowledgeable and helpful with a good sense of humour."

### Willow Garden Structures

"Very well taught, informative and enjoyable."  
 "Great day, thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to experimenting with structures in the garden."

### Hedgelaying

"I will be able to apply all I have learned today at home and in my woodland."  
 "The course was very useful, and covered the subject fully."

### Charcoal Making

"Excellent and very informative as well as some of the history behind it."  
 "I hope to use these skills to increase our recycling of tree waste."  
 "This will help me to diversify my business."

### Stock Fencing

"Perfect for my needs" "Excellent day in every way." "Most enjoyable."

### Besom Brooms

"Great course, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Will certainly put it to good use."



## Rural Skills Courses



**Plumpton College at Netherfield  
 Centre for Sustainable Food and Farming**

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## RURAL SKILLS and CRAFTS

Concern that some of our traditional skills are set to disappear has led to a revival of interest in the products of traditional crafts using locally sourced sustainable materials. Plumpton College at Netherfield is running rural skills and crafts courses using trainers who are practicing their crafts. Skills taught in our courses are mainly Greenwood Trades which reflects the wooded nature of our surrounding countryside. The courses are all very practical and some can be physically demanding.

### Our Courses are aimed at:

- Woodland and farm enterprises wishing to diversify and add value
- Landowners and Landscape gardeners who want to extend their skills in fencing and garden structures
- General public with an interest in rural skills and crafts

### Where do the courses take place?

The courses are based at Ivyland Farm, Netherfield, Battle. Most of the courses contain a practical element which will be carried out at or near Ivyland Farm.



## THE COURSES

### CHARCOAL MAKING

A practical course covering the history of charcoal making, suitable woods and using a number of different small scale kiln types making charcoal. Charcoal making can be a useful added value product to woodland management.

### HEDGELAYING

A practical course learning the South of England style of hedgelaying. By the end of the day you will have completed laying a section of hedge. The course will cover tools, clearing, pleaching, and stakes and binders. This course will run between October and March

### POST AND RAIL FENCING

A practical hands on course covering equipment, tools and techniques; learn how to set uprights in the ground and fix rails on this practical course using locally harvested chestnut.

### STOCK FENCING

Using chestnut stakes, stock netting and barbed wire, this practical course includes putting in strainer posts and struts and tensioning the wire.



### WILLOW GARDEN STRUCTURES

Willow Garden Structures will take you through the materials and techniques required to make a structure, used to support plant growth, by the end of the day you will have designed your own structure.

### BESOM BROOM MAKING

Beson brooms are a traditional broom, particularly used for sweeping leaves. In this course you will make your own broom and learn about the materials and techniques used. This is a half day course.

### TRUG MAKING

Trugs have been handmade in Sussex for the past 150 years and our course will give participants the opportunity to make their own trug and find out more about the locally harvested materials used to make them. To ensure you complete your own trug the course will run from 9.00 to 5.00.

### HURDLE MAKING

Practical courses in making hurdles from split hazel or chestnut for using in the garden or the lambing shed.

### CHAINSaws

Suitable chainsaw courses for the domestic user. Also enquire about certificates of competence for the professional user.

