

WEEKEND IN THE WOODS ~ 6th / 7th October 2007

Bealkelly Wood, Tuamgraney, County Clare

(please note: this is a privately owned woodland not open to visitors outside specific events, except on business).

CELT's Big Woodland /Countryside Skills Training Event

CELT presents, in association with Muintir na Coille (Coppice and Allied Trades Association), choice of 15 courses in environmental and ecological trades for all levels. Trainees already having basic skills are welcome to develop their skills further with the guidance of our highly qualified tutors. Courses are open to all over 14 years and 'Woodcrafts' course open to 8 - 14 yr old children of CELT tutors and course participants only.

PROPOSED COURSES

Split-oak Post and Rail Fencing ~ NEW COURSE !

Construction of a traditional rustic post and rail fence using split lengths of oak fitted together in tight hand-crafted joints without nails or screws.

Course tutor : Josh Brown

Spinning and Weaving ~ NEW COURSE !

Introduction to the age-old craft of spinning and weaving wool.

Course tutor : Susanna Anker

Steam-Bending Wood ~ NEW COURSE !

Steam bending wood is a new course looking at the use of steam, to soften and reshape greenwood. The course tutor will show students how to set-up a steam box, how to select the best timber and help students with individual projects. Material Cost per student 15 euro.

Course tutor: Eoin Donnelly

Stone Carving / Cutting

Introduction to stone carving and cutting techniques and clay sculpture.

Course tutor : Dermot Touhigk

Herb-lore

Plant Magic- Exploration of our native wild and garden plants includes edible and medicinal uses, folklore, gardening tips, herb walk, seasonal recipes, herbal tincture and ointment making.

Course tutor: Kes Clarke

Greenwood Furniture

Selection of different types of native green hardwoods and using them to make interesting furniture using the natural shapes and grain of the wood. Materials charge 20 euro.

Course tutor : Stuart McIntyre

River Ecology and Management

An introduction to the basic principles and dynamics of river ecology and their practical application to the management and enhancement of the riverine environment. Improving a section of a small river or stream for wildlife - especially invertebrates - and creating habitats and spawning beds for fish. A mix of theory and 'hands-on' work. Wellies essential.

Course Tutor: Del Harding

Wood Carving

Using local timber, participants will learn carving techniques and use/care of hand tools. Materials charge 7 euro. Carve an ogham panel or oak leaf panel in 2d (2 dimension)

Course Tutor: Andrew St Ledger

Ti-pi making

Make a 9ft 'children's lodge' - cutting and stitching of canvas plus construction info. Have the experience of making one collectively or 'make your own' -Materials charge 100 euros (if taking away your own ti-pi)

Course tutor : Ti-pi Dave (087-237-3643)

Blacksmithing

Use of small portable forge to make hand tools and decorative wrought ironwork - 10 euro materials charge payable with course fee.

Course Tutor: Peter Collins

Coppersmithing / Tinsmithing

Making basic containers using recycled materials. This is a unique opportunity to gain basic skills in coppersmithing using simple hand tools - Materials charge 10 euro.

Course Tutor: Andy Harris

Basket Weaving

Traditional willow basketry skills for many uses and the varieties of willow available - Materials charge 10 euro.

Course Tutor: Peter Sheehan

Natural Building

On this course we will continue with the building of the cordwood roundhouse, we will build a section of solid cob, and finish the last of the cordwood. We will make a demonstration section to show how cordwood and clay straw can be used in timber frame context. We will work on laying a packed clay floor we will also build a simple but clever wood burner with an oil drum and install it in the building. All in one weekend! (Bring Wellies or be prepared to tread mud in bare feet).

Course tutor: Saul Mosbacher

Silversmithing

An introduction to silver jewelry making. Design and make your own jewelry pieces starting with a ring or pendant. If you have a semi-precious stone that you would like to incorporate in jewelry, bring it along. Also bring protective apron and stool / chair if you can. Small materials charge.

Course tutor: Susi Lewisohn

Sugan Chair making

Using green wood and sisal to make your own small traditional sugan chair.

Materials charge 5 euro.

Course tutor : Sean Walshe

Felt-making

Learn to make brightly coloured felt mats, hats and bags from sheeps' fleece. Please bring wellies, waterproof leggings, a towel and a cushion. Materials charge 15 euros.

Course tutor : Joan Casey

Hemp-Lime Plastering/ Daubing

Hemp and lime plastering and an introduction to lime and it's use in traditional building including, lime mortars, pointing, plasters, and paints to provide a healthy breathable living space. Please wear clothes you are happy to throw away and bring marigold gloves.

Course tutor : Phoebe

Dry Stone & Lime Mortar Walling

Traditional construction techniques for walls and buildings - also garden features (retaining walls, raised beds, seats, steps) plus an introduction to the use of lime mortar which allows a building to 'breathe' letting out water-vapour but preventing rain from getting in. Steel-toe-cap boots are recommended.

Course Tutor: Bob Wilson

For youngsters (8 - 14 yrs) : Woodcrafts

(Children of tutors and course participants only)

Providing children with a basic skills-base for design and construction of simple 'rustic' furniture, musical instruments, shelter building and camping skills. Instruction in use of hammer and nails, rope-making and weaving techniques to encourage children to continue making things at home. The tutor will supervise use of hammers and saw - other sharp tools (e.g. knife, axe) will be used by the tutor only.

Course tutor : Mark Wilson (Many years experience as fully registered tutor with Irish National Teachers Organisation / Heritage Council 'Heritage in Schools' project).

COURSE FEES : €130 IN ADVANCE (or €150 if paying on the weekend).

Woodcrafts (8 - 14 yrs) 2 days €90. Annual MEMBERSHIP is a requirement - €15.

Concessions available for students / unwaged on request.

- Plus any materials charge (payable directly to tutor)

- POST your course fee payment (+ membership if applicable) to confirm booking - cheque or PO payable to CELT

Along with your name and contact details.

Also, please give 2nd and 3rd choices if you can as some courses may be quickly booked up.

Courses run 10.30am - 5.30pm.

Please do arrive early on the Saturday to Register etc. at the gate.

Canteen (Good wholesome food available). Also a Teahouse & Camping (free) for participants only - in the designated area.

Leave only your footprints. Strong boots / Wellingtons, Raingear, Penknife are recommended.

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