

Make a willow ball



Sunday 29 April 2018, 10am – 4.30pm Course Information

A willow ball makes an attractive feature in a home or garden. During this day you'll make a ball of 12-18 inches diameter, entirely from some of our finest willow; there's no wire, string or anything else involved. No experience of working with willow is required but you will need a fair amount of persistence! There will be a wide variety of willows to use so you could leave with something pretty colourful.

Most of the process of making a ball can be carried out successfully whilst seated but there is a large amount of bending and some upper body strength required. There's a walk of about 300m over grass rides (including a slope), from the carpark to the venue, through the lovely woodland although we can provide a lift for you if you need it. If you have any doubt about your physical ability please call for a chat; we'll do all we can to make the day enjoyable for you.

The course also provides the opportunity to spend a day in the beautiful and peaceful setting of Bottoms' Corner Wood. Plenty of tea and coffee with fruit and homemade cake is on offer throughout the day.

Course venue

The course will take place outside in Bottoms' Corner Wood, a working hazel woodland that's part of the Wassledine farm, Upper Gravenhurst, Bedfordshire.

The wood is midway between the villages of Gravenhurst and Campton, near Shefford just within the parish of Gravenhurst. It's a location that's hidden away, so further directions will be sent before the course date. Although it's a beautiful setting, please be aware that the facilities are quite basic. There is off road parking along a surfaced but bumpy track. We have an outside, composting toilet with camping style hand wash.

If you would like to come by public transport, please let us know in advance; we will assist if we can.

What to bring

- Secateurs (we can supply some)
- Packed lunch (we'll provide tea, coffee, drinks, biscuits, fruit and homemade cake)
- Suitable outdoor clothes, boots, waterproofs or sunhat, sunblock (remember we'll be outside all day)

Wet weather plan:

There is some shelter in the wood, so a little rain is not a problem, but if the weather is extremely bad the course may have to be cancelled. The decision will be taken the day preceding the course and we will contact you by phone, so please provide us with the best number to use in case we are very unlucky with the weather. If this happens a full refund will be provided. We will try our best to rearrange another date for the course. If you don't hear from us assume the course is going ahead.

Booking & Payment

The cost of the course is £70 per person. Please complete the attached booking form.

Course tutor

The course will be led by Guy Lambourne of Wassledine. Guy has been growing and making things out of willow since 2003. Why he started making willow balls is a mystery but they have proved very popular. He has made willow balls for many customers who have decorated them with fairy lights, grown plants through them, hung them in trees or simply sat and looked at them in their house or garden.

If there's anything else you need to know just give us a call or send an email.

Jane & Guy Lambourne
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