

## COURSE DETAILS – LONG WEEKEND LW0028

TITLE: THE SUSTAINABLE CONTAINER – BASKETS FROM WILLOW

TUTOR: MARY BUTCHER

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

### AIMS OF COURSE:s

The aim of this course is to encourage the use of renewable resources by weaving with a sustainable material which has strength, beauty and a long life. Designs for today's lifestyles – rectangular baskets for supermarket shopping, arm baskets for the farmers market, box baskets for home storage, letter trays for the desk, and washing baskets can be chosen after discussion with the tutor.

### WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD ACHIEVE:

You will gain or improve their willow skills, producing two pieces of average size. You also learn something of the history of this traditional material, details of growth, harvesting and preparation and be able to continue weaving at home.

### MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES COVERED:

Willow available will be both peeled and boiled buff and brown, with barks of many beautiful colours. Techniques include the use of a screw block for weaving square structures in a simple way, a variety of weaves and handles, as appropriate.

### TEACHING METHOD:

You work on individual projects, following a discussion with the tutor. There will be group demonstrations, observation of completed objects and samples, by practice, by discussion with the group and individually with the tutor.

### EVENING SESSIONS:

#### **First evening session – attendance is an essential part of the course:**

The first evening will involve an introduction to the course and each other, health and safety, setting up work for the weekend.

#### **Other optional evening activities:**

The tutor will be available for an hour after dinner for two evenings of the course. You may continue to work unsupervised, until 10pm, providing work has been agreed with the tutor.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE: (\*on sale at the College Shop)

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON PRACTICAL COURSES YOU MAY WELL NEED TO PURCHASE MATERIALS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE TO COMPLETE PROJECTS

Included in the non-residential fee for this course is the cost of the willow. However, an extra charge may be requested for large or multiple items, this should be paid to the college shop as requested at the end of the course.

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Tools may be borrowed from the tutor but please bring as many of the following as you have available (but do not buy anything specially before you come):

#### For willow basketmaking

Tape measure  
 Old bath towel/piece of old blanket at least 5 ft long (essential)  
 Notebook and pencil  
 2–3 spring clothes pegs  
 Pair of sharp secateurs (preferably 'parrot-beak' shape)  
 Small hammer or rapping iron  
 Basketmaker's bodkin (at least 5")\* – can be borrowed from the tutor  
 Ruler – at least 1 ft long  
 A good pen knife  
 Masking tape\*  
 Side or wire cutters  
 A spray bottle for water

NOTE: If you are in doubt as to the requirements for the course, please contact the tutor for advice:  
 Mary Butcher, 6 Downs Road, Canterbury, Kent. CT2 7AY Tel: 01227 766427

#### **COURSE TIMETABLE** (unless otherwise stated above or agreed with the tutor during the course)

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

<b>Arrival Day</b>	From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15–9.15	First teaching session.
<b>Daily Timetable</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Morning classes.</b>
	10.30	Coffee.
	12.45pm	Lunch.
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Afternoon classes.</b>
	3.30	Tea.
	5.00	Classes finish.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15	Evening working – students may have evening access to certain workshops in the absence of their tutor, but only with their tutor's permission and provided it is safe to do so.
<b>Departure – last day</b>	10.00am	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms.
	3.00pm	Classes finish.
	3.30	Tea then departure.