

Hedge Laying



Participants thin out small trees to help minimize erosion at the South Hams hedge-laying taster session.

Preventing Erosion

Think Nature's Emma and Ed Parr-Ferris ran two taster sessions – An Introduction to Hedge Laying – on the weekend of 23rd and 24th January. The participants worked on an existing hedge that was suffering natural erosion because of a sliding bank. They learnt how to support and tidy the hedge by making various cuts at the base of stems, and examined the properties of different shrubs for hedges.

Real Sense of Achievement

Attending were husband and wife Debbie and John Dupree, who are interested in hedge-laying because 'we've got hedges on our own land, which are becoming straggly and sparse. We want to become competent in hedge-laying so that we can make them solid boundaries and make them look more attractive. Also, we're interested in creating habitats for animals in our hedges. Ed and Emma were very mindful of the fact that hedges are homes to many creatures during the session. We had a real sense of achievement at the end of the course and it was good fun. My wife and I are looking forward to practising our new skills on our own land.'