

## Working with Green Timber

### **Green timber techniques**

Participants made traditional post and rail fencing as well as crafting wooden spoons. To make post and rail, each participant split a section of tree trunk repeatedly to create a post, shaped the end to make a point, and carved a mortice for the post to fit into. The learners then made the posts using the same techniques. It was tutor Ed Church's first time teaching the subject, and he was delighted with its success. 'The participants learnt the working techniques for green timber, such as carrying out wood cleaving using chisels and hand tools, and using basic knife skills to split a greenwood log. The majority of them are coming back next week for a second course, which must be a good sign!'



*Participants get to grips with green timber in the winter sunshine.*

### **Absolutely brilliant!**

Learner Christina Knight works as a volunteer at the local nature reserve and is a professional gardener so she is already a seriously outdoor type of person. 'But', said Christina, 'I've never been in a position to learn to do these things before. It was absolutely brilliant and really informative. In just one morning I made a post and rail. I was pretty impressed with myself as I've never done anything like this before! The skill will definitely come in useful for me in my working life.' Learner Clare McIntosh was attracted to the course because of her interest in woodwork. She also feels that making post and rail fencing is a useful skill, 'I'd love to have my own garden and make proper fencing around it.' Mike Roope took the course in order to expand his professional skills. A woodworker by trade, Mike is looking to change some parts of his job to accommodate a back problem. 'I went to the course with the idea of increasing my skills, and thoroughly enjoyed it as well. It was very hands-on and working with green timber was new to me. It was fun, I had a few laughs, and I learned some new and useful things.'