

Country skills demonstration

UK hedgelaying championship runner-up presents skills in Brechin

THE OLD tradition of hedgelaying, was the focus of an event held at Brechin's Angus showground on Monday.

Guy Robins, the runner up in the 2012 UK Hedgelaying Championships, taught a variety of people from across Tayside how to manage a hedge by the old tradition of hedgelaying.

Guy, who now lives in England, went to school in Fife and has just led a weekend's training at Lochore Meadows Country Park in Fife.

Such is the interest in local people learning, or re-learning, this important countryside skill, he brought his expertise to the old FWAG (Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group)

demonstration hedge in the Angus showground field.

Funded by seedcorn community grant monies from Forestry Commission Scotland, the training event has been fully booked since it was first advertised.

Guy showed those attending how to carry out all stages of laying a hedge in the Midland style which included dressing the hedge, cutting the main stem and laying it over, staking it and tying it all in with hazel winders.

General hedgerow management was also explained, as well as the necessity for coppice management to ensure the sustainable supply of hedgelaying materials in the future.



HEDGELAYING: Guy Robins (left) course leader and runner-up in the UK national hedge laying championships is seen with Alasdair Orr of St Cyrus and Jim Paton of Montrose at the hedgelaying demonstrations in Brechin.

Picture by photosonlocation.co.uk