

enjoy
crafting
more



Sarah Le Breton

CREDIT: HEADCAKE PHOTOGRAPHY

weaving magic

Is it possible to make a traditional basket in a day? Jane Fitzgerald heads to **RHS Rosemoor** to find out

I love a good basket, from the tiny shopper I carried as a child (still in the toy cupboard), through to my old wicker doll's cradle (currently in the attic), and the French shoppers and sturdy wicker baskets stacked precariously above my kitchen cupboard. I love them because they're both useful and beautiful, but it never occurred to me that I could make one myself.

In December last year, I dipped a toe into willow work when I made a base for a wreath by twisting together willow

rods cut from the field behind my home. Then, when looking at RHS Rosemoor's spring programme, I spied a one-day basket making workshop led by Sarah Le Breton and signed up on the spot...

I arrive with full waterproofs and secateurs, ready for a chilly day spent outdoors. It turns out that the workshop is being held in one of Rosemoor's warm Learning Centre spaces, which has picture windows overlooking a beautifully tended garden. I'm one of eight participants – some beginners like me, others