

Painting Group Report June 2023

A small band of us met up at Startforth Community Centre on this very bright, but cold morning.

Having missed the last two sessions myself, and knowing Anne would have something exciting up her sleeve for us, I was eager to get the old paintbrushes out again. Anne explained that we would be starting off by drawing with graphite...something we hadn't done before, to create a woodland scene. She demonstrated how we should initially draw the trees, but yet through the gaps, create a horizon. The next stage was to work in reverse and fill in the gaps, leaving the trees blank, and adding undergrowth and foliage by using the graphite stick in a multitude of ways. With deep concentration, we worked in silence, until we had each produced our treescape.

A coffee and biscuit break was welcomed and we laughed and chatted, and then returned to work. The next stage was to add colour over the graphite and to work a little detail into the tree trunks, which up until this point, had been left blank. Using the 'lifting out' technique gave the effect of a fading background beyond the trees and a stronger foreground in front. By the end of two hours, we had each produced a unique painting...using yet another fantastic technique.

Another string to our bow!

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