



**Bluebells by Jane Duff** (painting)

Jane tends to work outside, *in situ*, finding that her work is more intense and responsive. Does she hear the bodgers? The woods featured in this painting are part of an ancient landscape, close to the Icknield Way, Grim's Ditch and two farms mentioned in the Domesday Book. In response to the agricultural depression at the end of the 1800s the valley changed its emphasis from farming to timber production. This saw the first bodgers in these woods. The bodgers provided timber for the furniture factories in Stokenchurch and High Wycombe. Later on, in the Second World War, the wood was used for rifle butts and aeroplane plywood.