

# Snowdrop Cluster - Artwork in Progress by Margaret Shaw

2025 has seen some fabulous snowdrops. A trip to Acorn Bank gave me plenty of photo opportunities. I liked the shape of this cluster.



Sized the image to 40 x 30 cm and gridded to help with the drawing



The flowers in the photo were past their best so used the flowers from this photo to help with the drawing



Drawing done with pencil, then inked in for some simplification and pencil lines removed. Happy with this composition.



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Transferred to black pastel paper with white tracedown.  
Then flowers, leaves and stems marked in greens.



Pastelling commenced.

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Some reshaping / lengthening of petals was required on  
the left snowdrops. Started on the left leaves.



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Completed all the flowers



Then decided to mark in the leaves, making them different shades of green to add interest. More leaves added and some lengthened. Pale green added to the petals at the back of the flowers.



Blended in the petal greens.



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Continued filling in the leaves and adding some texture.



At this point I decided that I didn't like the bells. Made them all 3 petals.



Finished off the drops with their outline and recapped them.



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Completed the leaves with a couple of colour changes on those I decided were too bright.



Last job was to complete the negative spaces with black as there was quite a lot of dust from the other pastels.



This has sat on the Frame it or not stand for a couple of days. I like the stylized approach I've taken but I started to think the snowdrops were too large. So I drew up another image with smaller snowdrops – they didn't match the leaves that I really like – so into a frame it has gone.

Added to the [Flora Artwork Gallery](#).

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