

# Over Peover WI Enjoy Pottering At The Emma Bridgewater Factory



**The skilled decorators made it look easy!**



**Our host Lorraine introduces us to the Diddler & Sponge stick.**

Members of Over Peover WI thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Emma Bridgewater Factory in Hanley.

They were greeted by their host Lorraine who had worked at Emma Bridgewater for over 26 years, originally in the decoration section. Lorraine explained the history of the company and how the site had grown into the flourishing business it is today. As they toured the facility she introduced the group to a new language of “Jolliers & Jiggers”, “Fettlers & Spongers” and not forgetting the essential Potters tool called a “Diddler & Sponge” stick.

Starting in the Slip House, the tour took them through the various processes, into the Kiln Room where the pots were fired, onto the dipping process and then the decorating process. It was fascinating and the skills of the workforce were clear to see as they made it all look so easy.

Lorraine explained how every piece is marked with a graphic to show the year of production, along with the initials of the decorator.

Once the tour was complete the group headed for the shops, enthused by the various racks of items they had seen on the tour.

Shopping done, it was time for refreshments, a delicious cream tea. A perfect end to the visit.

As they headed home, loaded with gift bags, everyone agreed it had been a super day. Roll on the next outing.

