**Monday Art Group**

***The group adapts to lockdown 2021-22***

**All was going swimmingly until Covid came along, but we were not going to let that hinder us more than it had to. In the first lockdown we had to close activities at the hall but we did switch to socially distanced ‘en plain air' painting around the village when the weather was fit. This included some riverside and garden sessions. As rules changed, we flexed around.**

 For quite a period, under the 'Rule of 6' we were able to return to the MRCC. This rule took a little fathoming, as did much of Government guidance. Six was, in fact, the maximum number of people who could meet together - say round a restaurant table - two metres away from any other grouping. With the two metre rule, we could meet as individuals, seated at separate tables, in numbers up to the safe capacity of the hall. As the out-of-school club needed the main hall, we had both the small hall and meeting room, with ample distancing and masks until seated, hygiene regulations, etc.

In the early 2021 lockdown, that option was no-longer available. Instead, those, who could, met on Zoom. At the time of writing, we still are, though we will be returning shortly to the two metre system we once had. Although it was not as good as the face-to-face sessions, we met as a group and, those who wish, submit photographs of artwork before the Monday session which are both viewed at the zoom meeting, and circulated to the whole group after the zoom. As well as members zooming, some who cannot get on-line submit artwork for all to enjoy.

The results have been quite amazing as the zoom sessions incentivise the group to do some art, rather than sit and fester, and it helps keep contact with those who have been isolating since day one - now over a year. The standards of artwork have improved during lockdown and, it is surprising, how many have tried new techniques.

**Displayed Artwork**

The artwork shown on this site gives a sample of what has been produced by Monday Art members during lockdown.

Jim Wishart