



ORIEL GALLERY ARTS CLUB NEWSLETTER

9th March 2006

Dear Member,

Well, have I got some news for you!!! We have at last got planning permission from council to build at the gallery!! It's only taken three years, not to mention thousands of dollars to get it!!! So we are very excited, and work starts at the end of this month. It should only take about 6 months – give or take a bit – to get it all finished. Everyone will have to put up with the noise, and quite a bit of dust while we are building, but we are hoping that we will be able to keep the gallery open for you all to come and visit us.

Darling Norman, who has been such an integral part of Oriel Gallery is moving to Tamworth, to live with his son for a while, until he can get into a home where he wants to be. We will all miss him desperately. He has been a major part of our lives at Oriel Gallery, and has really become part of our extended family. I will miss his cooking tips, his delicious rock cakes and his many words of good old-fashioned wisdom. Oliver Twist Middleton, (otherwise known as the Duke of Buccleugh), will miss his pampering – being hand fed his fillet steak – and on occasion being sworn at. Thank God Oliver Twist is deaf!! Norman has been immensely loyal to all of us, extremely grumpy at times, but there has never been a dull moment while he's been here – which is now almost six years. I know that so many of you have been so kind to him, and he has valued your friendship, so on his behalf I thank you all for your affection towards him. It is the end of an era!!

Now, I've had Jeremy in ICU yet again with a twisted knee. We are beginning to know our way around St Andrew's pretty well!! So he has

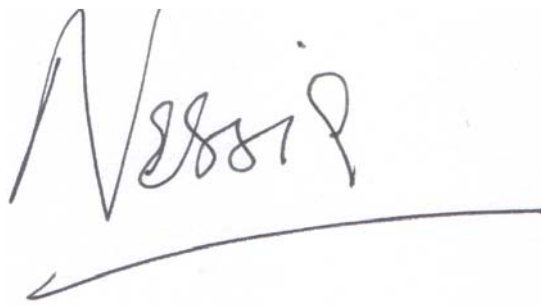
had his leg suspended in the air, being rather scratchy with frustration, but it is so much better now. Men just seem to be very bad patients!!

I am having piano lessons with the adorable Duncan Wise, and I must say I'm really enjoying them, the only frustration is I want to be able to play Beethoven's number fifth symphony by next Tuesday, which is a bit ambitious when you are still learning scales!! My homework now is to play "The Bridal March" by Wagner, which is absolutely guaranteed to drive everybody potty!! If any of you have a yearning to learn to play the piano, I highly recommend Duncan as a teacher, as long as you are prepared to listen to the odd wonderful story in between sonatas! If you don't have a piano at home, I am very happy for you to have lessons at Oriel Gallery – after all we need a few more budding musicians to play here!

We are looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday 19th March for our Easter party, (don't forget to bring an egg in hand), at 3pm, catered by Massimo and Lorenzo from Viale Canova, which I have to say is the best Italian restaurant we have been to in Brisbane! So don't go overboard on lunch!!

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Massimo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly curved line that extends across the width of the signature.