



ORIEL GALLERY ARTS CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2006

Dear Member,

Well, it's been quite a month for us at the gallery!!

We said a very tearful goodbye to Darling Norman, who has moved to Tamworth to live with his eldest son, and his partner who is a qualified nurse, so that he can have all the care that he now needs. He left with his entire life's belongings in matching luggage in the form of five dustbin bags!! We miss him terribly - it seems very strange not to have the "limo" parked outside the gallery. I keep expecting him to appear with his pearls of wisdom. Oliver Twist looked for him for days. Anyway I have spoken to him a number of times and he sounds settled in and happy, which is a great relief to all of us. After all he is a national treasure!!!

The building has started and Darling Norman's "boudoir" has gone, as has the deck. It is faintly alarming to see how fast things can be destroyed! We are very excited about the building of our new home, and we hope to be in by the end of October – or at least by Christmas. In view of the renovations, we have decided not to charge any members membership fees this year, as we will not be able to do the amount of entertaining that we have been doing to date, until the building is finished. However, I will continue to send you the newsletter once a month. We have a very attractive port a loo (or dinkum dunny as they call them here), and we have labelled it the Oriel Gallery Powder Room"

Patricia and I went to a wonderful place called the Eyrie outside Maleny for a week, to catch up on some sleep, and generally have a break. We had a wonderful time, being very well fed and looked after by our hosts Peter and June Rogers. If any of you need a break I can highly recommend it. The bed was so enormous that I couldn't find Jeremy under the covers!! I almost needed a map!!

Thank you all for coming to our Easter party and bringing so many lovely eggs. The chocolate eggs were delivered to the children's hospital, and were very gratefully received. We have kept all the beautiful decorative eggs, as a start to a lovely Oriel Gallery collection.

My piano lessons are going really well, and I am enjoying them enormously. To Jeremy's enormous relief I have moved on from the Bridal March! It was beginning to drive us all potty!! Don't forget if any of you have a secret ambition

to learn the piano, Duncan Wise is your man. You are very welcome to have lessons at the gallery if you don't have a piano at home.

We are going to have to close the gallery from 27th May to 12th July so that all the work can be done inside. We are putting in a new kitchen, bathroom, office etc. It will all be a bit chaotic for a while, but hopefully beautiful when it is finished. If any locals amongst you have any work here, I would be really grateful if you could come and pick up your works, before the end of May and then bring them back in July, as I have a horror of anything getting damaged amongst the chaos, and I really have no storage space until everything is finished.

Don't forget our next exhibition is "Glimpses from Four States" beautiful watercolours by Lex Frank. It runs from 20th April to 13th May, so do pop in and see his lovely work.



All that remains is to wish you all a very Happy Easter, (don't get too sick with too many chocolate eggs), and we will look forward to seeing you all in the very near future.

Very best wishes to all,

Handwritten signature "Nessie" with a long horizontal line underneath.