



ORIEL GALLERY ARTS CLUB NEWSLETTER

November 2006

Dear Member,

I don't know where the year has gone!! It is faintly alarming to mosey around the shops with the singing of Christmas carols for company already!! When you all get round to your Christmas shopping, (you've probably all been far more efficient than me – and done it already), don't forget that the gallery has some lovely small (and affordable) gifts in the shape of decoupage pieces, Peter Crisp glass, Brett Williams bottle holders, guitar holders etc, plus many others. So if you are looking for something a bit unusual, I think you will find it here.

Now, I think I told you in my last newsletter that one of our young builders, Robert Lowther, is a budding artist, and we put some of his work in the gallery for sale. Well, he sold one almost immediately, which was extremely exciting for him and for us!! So looks like he is on his way in the field of art. Gary, the head builder is very worried that he's going to lose his apprentice to Robert's artistic pursuits!! And with good reason. Bravo Robert!!

The building is going very well, and I must say from the outside looks as though it has always been there. So we are rather thrilled with the progress, and hope to be in by Christmas. The noise of drills etc seems to be abating which is a great relief to us (I can now get back to the piano and I fear I shall be back to the Bridal Waltz again, which will drive everyone potty for the second time)! The only one who has been totally unaffected by the noise is Oliver Twist, who of course doesn't hear a thing! The builders have been marvellous as has Darling Norman's son Chris who is painting it inside and out.

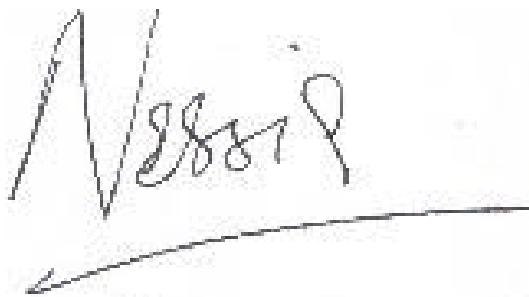
Talking of Chris, he went on a trip to Tamworth to see Darling Norman with a passenger, Oliver Twist. I packed my “running away case” (which I used to use for running away from boarding school), with his coat, lead, water bottle, and any other necessities, and away they went. We didn’t tell Darling Norman that Oliver would be visiting, so it was a huge, and very welcome surprise! Apparently, the minute they got there, Oliver Twist was out of the car and scratching at Norman’s fly door. On entering the room and seeing Darling Norman, Oliver went completely mad, circuiting the room in circles fifteen times!! One can only assume that he was very pleased to see him!! It was a very big trip for such a little boy, and Chris said he behaved impeccably, and he was glad of the company while driving. So it might become a regular jaunt for Oliver Twist!

Now, what about the Oriel Gallery book?! Some of you have been very slack, it’s no good to keep telling me that you have a picture for it in your head – you have to get it **out** of your head and **onto** the paper!!! I have got some real treasures in the book, but there are a number of pages to fill, so I’m going to keep nagging all of you I’m afraid! The recipes for the Oriel cook book seem to have dried up too, I’m sure you’ve all got a favourite recipe, bangers and mash or a favourite cocktail to share?

Our next exhibition is “Private Collections”, a medley of beautiful artworks, some old, some new from various collections, so it will be a bit different to other exhibitions, but I’m sure it will be interesting.

Oh well, enough said. Come and see us soon, we don’t see enough of our lovely artists.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Norman', with a long horizontal line extending to the right underneath it.

P.S. The lovely Duncan Wise who so patiently gives me piano lessons, is playing every Friday and Saturday night at our favourite Italian restaurant Viale Canova, 4/828 Sandgate Rd, Clayfield. Tel: 3256 1901 Exquisite food, beautiful art on the walls by Gerard Manion and Elizabeth Gair Palmer, and great music. Who could possibly want more?!