



ORIEL GALLERY ARTS CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2007

Dear Member,

Hope you have all had a wonderful break. We have been busy moving into the house at the back of the gallery. Jeremy fell off the veranda on to bricks and broke two vertebrae and two ribs, so is now wearing a huge brace around his tummy, making him look not unlike a member of the FBI in a bullet proof vest! He has to wear the brace for another two months at least. Personally, I think it was all too perfectly timed, and was just a rouse to get out of packing up the house and moving into the new one! The lengths you boys will go to get out of something you don't want to do!!

Anyway we are very happy with our new abode, and have settled in very well. You will all be glad to know that we have an enormous deck at the back of the house, perfect for parties, dancing and all the other things that happen at Oriel Gallery.

Oliver Twist has been doing quite a lot of visiting and sleep overs while the building was going on. The noise at times was unbearable, but of course it didn't bother Oliver as he can't hear a thing. He was the only one who didn't suffer at all through out the whole exercise!! Oliver has been a bit of a hero. He was staying with Patricia when she had an epileptic fit and fell out of bed. She woke up to find Oliver Twist with a mouthful of her hair desperately trying to wake her up, which he did with a lot of determined tugging. The danger of course with an epileptic fit is that you can swallow your tongue, so he probably saved her life! We think he deserves a medal!

We had a distress call from Darling Norman's son Chris saying that he thought Norman might be on the way out and that he'd really lost the will to live, so we flew down to Tamworth to see him. There he was in all his finery in the hospital bed wearing his all too familiar green track suit holding court! Following our visit one of our artists rang him for a chat and Darling Norman told her that Jeremy and I had flown down specially to see him, and he thought, "that it had been worth our while"!!! I am convinced that he will outlive us all!!

Here we are in February already!! Holidays are well and truly over, and we are re-opening on Valentine's day, with "More Red", an exhibition of works by Dave Machen, Archibald Packing Room Prize winner. It is sure to be an exciting exhibition. Any of you who have met Dave will know that he has a huge personality, which is very clear in his work! Exhibition continues until Saturday 10th March, so don't miss it! We have some other great exhibitions this year, with some wonderful new artists and some who have exhibited here before.



More Red

We will be having some artists lunches again, now that we are better organised. We will look forward to those, as they are always fun and it's lovely to get artists together with other friends of the gallery. Any of you who haven't yet done anything in the Oriol Gallery book, please either do something straight on a page in the book or send us something we can stick in it. It is filling up gradually with some gorgeous sketches.

Hopefully we will have the dolls house this year, which is being made by our lovely friend Robert Rae. I think it is proving to be a bit of a challenge, but I'm sure will be beautiful when it is finished.

No more news, but please do come and see us soon, we always love to see you, and hear all your news.

Best wishes to all of you,