



ORIEL GALLERY ARTS CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Dear Member,

Well, now Easter is over, and we've all overdosed on chocolate – I certainly won't be eating any for a while, well, not for a few days anyway.

Our Easter party was huge fun, and I thank everybody who brought an egg with them, either decorative or chocolate. All the chocolate ones went to the children's hospital, and all the children who had not been well enough on Easter day to enjoy eggs were very happy to have some eggs when they were better! The decorative eggs have gone into the Oriel Gallery treasure chest for another year. We hope all the children had a good time, and a big thank you to their parents for not letting them leave chocolate embedded in the sofa or carpet in the gallery following the Easter egg hunt! A big thank you too to Ashleigh, Hannah, Ruthie and James for all their help. It goes without saying that the catering by Lorenzo and Massimo of Viale Canova was superb. I was very grateful to Massimo for dancing with me, as it was quite hard to find a willing dancing partner!! You Aussie men are not good at dancing!!!

We hope you all enjoyed the Oriel Jazz Quartet, who are always terrific, and always very generous giving us extra playing time, as they love to see everyone dancing and having a good time with their beautiful Jazz. I'm sure we can think of an excuse to have another party, and invite the band to play again without too much difficulty!

Since the party, we have spent a lovely weekend with three of our members, Sandra and "Picasso" Moffat, and Lizzie Palmer on a houseboat on the Coomera River. Unsurprisingly it was not without it's dramas! The loo flooded twice, which gave Sandra the opportunity to become the "Loo Inspector" checking that we had all flushed it satisfactorily. The loo finally gave up altogether on the last night, so buckets were sought in case of emergency. We have since added to our list of things to take on the houseboat in future: Potty, plunger, and ear plugs (the ear plugs not only to avoid the sound of the loo pumping which was not dissimilar to an erupting volcano, but also to stem the running commentary from Sandra on the state of the workings – or not – of the loo!) we did catch an enormous amount of fish, all of which were "**gigantic**" according to Picasso, I think he must wear magnifying glasses! At least this time we didn't get grounded, managed to hang on to the crab pot (which was only ever full of our leftovers – no crabs), and unlike last time we did have a propeller on the tender – we couldn't get it going, but we did have one! Lizzie very bravely took to rowing.

Anyway we all survived, nobody went overboard, nobody lost their sense of humour, but we did make an executive decision that next time we wouldn't take the "Aussie Belle – now renamed the "Aussie Hell" but would hope for another boat with a rather more satisfactory plumbing system!

Now, on to more serious business. We have a beautiful exhibition opening on Wednesday 2nd May, "Earthly Delights" with works by three wonderful artists, Jacinta Howard, Gabrielle Turnbull and Julie Vine. This is their first exhibition at Oriel Gallery, and we are very excited

at having them on board. The exhibition continues until Saturday 2nd June, so do come and see it – you won't be disappointed.



The three girls with work by Gabrielle

Now that the house is finished at the back of the gallery and the landscaping we hope will be finished in a few weeks time, we will be having our artist's lunches, which we love you all to participate in. As you know none of our members have been charged for their membership for the last year as we didn't feel it was fair to charge you when we couldn't entertain you. Now we are able to again, we hope you don't mind if we charge you \$50.00 a year, to contribute towards the lunches and any other entertainment. We think it is worthwhile to get all our artist's together to exchange notes on what is happening and what everyone is doing, and apart from that it is always good fun. So, if you would like to renew your membership, perhaps you could be kind and forward a cheque payable to Oriel Gallery when you have a moment.

Darling Norman, and Oliver Twist are both well. Darling Norman is still threatening to come up and stay with us, so I will keep you posted, as I know a lot of you would like to see him, and he would love to see you.

All of us at Oriel Gallery look forward to seeing you very soon.

Very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nessie". Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly curved line.