

IN & AROUND THE TERRACES

Information and news for Residents

Autumn 2015



Welcome to an Autumnal edition of your newsletter! This month we have a glorious issue for you packed full of information, intriguing people and places - putting you in the know this autumn. If you'd like to know more about the RRCTMA and what we do, please drop us an email at rrcta@live.co.uk.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ALEXANDER MEDDOWES



Alexander Meddowes, our very own resident Fine Art Broker, has lived at 39 Royal Terrace for 31 years - moving up to Edinburgh with his family from London when he was headhunted to run the Picture Department for Christies, Scotland.

At the time the best advice was to find a house within Moray Place or on Heriot Row, but Alex and Jan, with their unerring eye for something beautiful, (and a good investment!), could see potential in the Terraces. How right they have been.

Their property came into it's own when Alex set up his own Fine Art brokering business, with the basement converting perfectly into the gallery space he works from now.

With his expertise and knowledge of the art world, Alex can hunt down the right buyer or source a painting on request for his clients, and getting to play art detective makes for very interesting work - if only all jobs were as much fun!

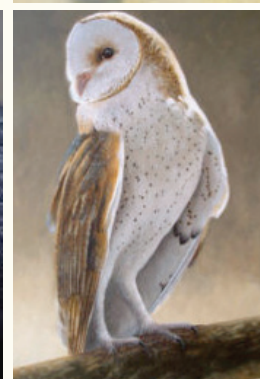
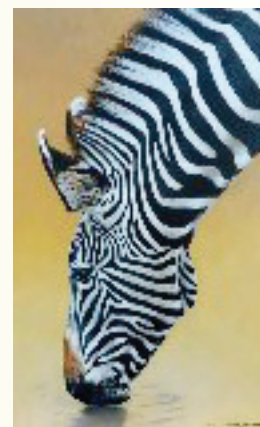
When I asked him to choose, Alex decided that his favourite period for art would be 17th Century Flemish paintings, but it was a hard decision for a man who knows Art inside out.

Alex usually holds two exhibitions a year in the gallery and from October 26th will be showing the work of Colin John Chandler, a wildlife artist he has worked with for many years.

You will see from the stunning images that these fantastic oil paintings of birds and animals are almost 3 dimensional in their brush quality - and hugely realistic.

Having had a sneak preview, I can recommend that any one of these paintings would be the perfect way to commune with nature, from hares to chimpanzees!

Visit this magnificent exhibition from 26th Oct - 4th Nov, 10am -1pm Monday to Friday, or by appointment at 39 Royal Terrace.



SAVE THE DATE - CAROLS IN REGENT GARDENS

Thursday 10 December, 6pm, Meeting on the Leibenthal Lawn

Join us in the Gardens to kick off the Christmas season with hearty carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies. If you play an instrument please bring it along. Last year, we had a keyboard and flute to accompany the singing, it really added to the spirit of the event. On the night the lower gate will be manned in case anyone without

garden keys wishes to attend. If the weather is forecast to be wet, or it takes a turn for the worst, the event will be cancelled and the RRCTMA will send out an email to confirm. **Contact Claire Tait, 0131 556 7565, or just come along on the night. We have music for everyone.**

Regent Royal, Carlton Terraces and Mews Association (RRCTMA)

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One of Edinburgh's most iconic UNESCO World Heritage sites is going to be saved for future generations after planners approved Contemporary visual arts organisation, Collective's proposals to create a new gallery on Calton Hill.

Working in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council, Collective is creating an exciting new-build contemporary visual arts space and restaurant in the City Observatory complex. The new development will open up this historic site to the public for the first time in its history.

"We're delighted the plans for the site have been approved," Kate Grey, Collective's CEO and Artistic Director told us. "The City Observatory's history of stargazing and intellectual endeavour make it an inspiring location for forward thinking contemporary artists. This unique site will have a new future, bringing together contemporary art with the historical innovations it was associated with in the past, creating an exciting environment for both artists, local residents and visitors."

Whilst the majority of funding for the £3.5m project has been raised, Collective is continuing to seek funds in order to start work on site in Spring 2016 with the aim to open up the entire complex early 2017.

CATCHING UP WITH COLLECTIVE



If you'd like to support Collective or find out more information contact Lori Anderson, Collective's Capital Project Co-ordinator and Fundraiser at lori@collectivegallery.net

UPDATE ON TRAFFIC AND PLANNING

RRCTMA monitors the potential impacts on Terrace life

TRAFFIC - I'm sure everyone is aware of the vastly increased traffic flows on the Brae, Carlton and Royal Terrace due to the upgrading of the junctions with Upper Easter Road. The work is to improve facilities for pedestrians and replace traffic signals and scheduled to take approximately 12 weeks - this means completion around the end of November. Our concern is that this new route has been 'discovered'(!) by many more drivers, so we intend monitoring traffic flows carefully when road movement returns to normal.

We also recently spotted a newspaper advert of continuing 'temporary' road works which will mean added usage again of these Terraces - no doubt due to the demolition and rebuild of the St James' Quarter. We're in touch with the Transport Design and Delivery team at the Council and will keep them aware of our concerns. Please update us if you have a specific issue with traffic near you.

Plans have still not been unveiled regarding Picardy Place but we're aware that much discussion is happening in the background.

PLANNING - At the moment there are no planning applications outstanding within the boundary of the RRCTMA however, there is now an application for a new Lidl in Easter Road. Members will have received an email detailing the

proposals. The committee were generally supportive of these plans so are not officially commenting on them, but personal support is welcomed. You will find full details on the Council website using the reference 15/04194/FUL.

The objection window to the plans for the Old Royal High School closed a couple of weeks ago. There have reportedly been in excess of 2000 objections, many, we are sure, from us! In due course the Application will come before the Development and Management Committee, who hopefully will reject the proposal and endorse the alternative use as the new St Mary's Music School. However if it is passed, the Application will definitely be 'called in' by the Scottish Government, as the national Heritage bodies have all strenuously objected.

The St James' Quarter project intends commencing work early in 2016. This will initially involve demolition and clearance of the site which, we understand, will impact heavily on traffic movement around the area and down Leith Walk. The developer does seem keen to communicate with local residents - so we will keep you posted.

As with many issues in the area our best advice is to check the Spurtle website, our local rag, which is often at the sharp end of the news! Broughtonspurtle.org.uk