



● *Where Next?* by Edward Frederick Brewtnall (private collection)

The Pursuit of Leisure

The new exhibition at the Djanogly Art Gallery, which is set to rival 1994's spectacular *Heaven on Earth*, will be officially opened by the Director of the Tate Gallery, Nicholas Serota on Monday November 3, during a reception attended by Sir Harry and Lady Djanogly and many other distinguished guests.

The Pursuit of Leisure: Victorian Depictions of Pastimes includes paintings from many of the nation's finest art collections, and as far afield as New York. Works which normally hang in the Tate, the National Portrait Gallery, Lord's Cricket Ground and even Number 10 Downing Street (as part of the Government Art Collection) have all been brought together for the first time in a major consideration of Victorian art.

The exhibition examines the rapidly

changing face of Victorian society through paintings and drawings which depict the Victorians at leisure — reading a book, playing cricket, or even catching rats!

Contemporary life

"The challenge of representing the rapidly changing face of Victorian society generated a particular vitality, with artists employing a wide variety of different styles, handling and approaches," commented Joanne Wright, the University's Director of Visual Art and co-curator of the exhibition. "Although the theme of this exhibition is leisure pursuits, the paintings also reveal the aspirations, the prejudices and the complexities of an art that attempts to mirror contemporary life."

The Pursuit of Leisure includes works by Lavery, Tissot, Frith, Millais, Holman Hunt

and Alma Tadema. The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday November 1 and continues until Sunday December 14. Opening hours are 10am–6pm Monday to Friday, 11am–6pm Saturday and 2pm–5pm Sunday and Bank Holidays. Admission is free.

● **One leisure pursuit which has stood the test of time particularly well is the Victorian talent for telling a good tale. From Hans Christian Anderson to Oscar Wilde, a range of delightful Victorian children's stories will be read to gallery visitors on three Sunday afternoons during *The Pursuit of Leisure*. Stories will be read for around half an hour, from 3pm on Sundays 9, 16 and 30 November in the gallery or (if the gallery is very busy) in the Angear Visitors Centre. Admission is free.**