



The painting of Pall Mall

Brown explains that choosing the position from which to paint the clubhouse was easy; 'Pall Mall is looking fantastic with the two way traffic and new paving. It was a no brainer. I had a very quick scout round but settled on this view quickly with the club standing large and proud in this fabulous street.' He chose to paint the building at dusk, when the setting sun catches the facade. Although most of the street is in shade, Brown wanted to capture the cool light of the end of the day within the shadows that bounce around the pavements and buildings. The painting took three sittings to complete; 'The first sitting was dusk - low even light - but the second two were sunlit summer evenings just before dusk which was a treat. Working on the result of my first go - mainly tones of grey - I put in the sunlight on the buildings and glancing the street. Eventually as I worked up to 7.00pm the sky was by far the lightest and I put that down last of all in the second bash. The third sitting I concentrated on correcting detail, adding any missing bits and adjusting wobbles and errors.'

Working out on the street, Brown is privy to the hustle and bustle of life in the big city.

He says that he has had a lovely reaction to the painting from passers by. 'A lady asked if I'd like a beer - when I told her I did not have time, she put the can of Stella back in her bag.'

Indeed, it is lucky for the club that the painting is still available to be shown in the Hanging Room. 'One man who saw it while passing in a taxi tried to buy it then and there but I put him off as it was for the show.'

*Centenary show, Hanging Room, Pall Mall, Private View Nov 21 6.30-8.30pm
please email: hangingroom@royalautomobileclub.co.uk*

The Mall Galleries comprises eight leading art societies, the oldest of which dates back to 1823, including the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours and the Royal Society of British Artists. Mall Galleries, The Mall (near Trafalgar Square), London, SW1 is open daily, 10am - 5pm during exhibitions (unless otherwise stated), including Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Peter Brown's work can be purchased through his agent, Messum's, 8 Cork Street, London, W1S 3LJ (Tel: +4420 7437 5545)