

Bethany Beales

**Colin Evans – The Bristol Hanoverians in house art critic.**

“The words committee meeting sends a shudder down my grand-kids spine,” says Colin Evans, member of the Bristol Hanoverians, when talking about the future of Bristol and Hanover’s beloved relationship. The twinned cities bring joy to his life but questions are looming ...what is the future of twinning? Are we living in the prime of its time? Or is it already a thing of the past?

Colin is the appointed artist of the Hanoverian group. An experienced art historian he became involved because of his love for art. He discovered the twinning of Bristol and Hannover from his friends in various art clubs and colonies in the UK making art for and with the people of Hannover. These connections intrigued him and before long he had opened himself up to another culture of art creation and history in Germany. His passion for artistry may have been planted in Britain but it certainly blossomed in Hanover. Colin was able to explore the art created in Germany during Hitler’s leadership, a time when artists were strictly banned from portraying anything other than the fuhrer’s aryan ideology: images of blonde, strong soldiers only showing Germany as a country of pure strength and power. In Hannover, he discovered Hanover’s hidden art from the 1930s portraying the darker side to life. Colin believes artists “under pressure” are always better than ones with freedom (such as artists from his home at that time) because not only do they possess great talent, but they are strong willed creators, staying true to themselves and their craft in a time filled with fear.