



# Club Fermoy

## Issue 69

Dear friends and supporters,

In 2025, the Art Deco style has been celebrating its 100th anniversary from its origins at the Paris International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts. With its assured lines, symmetry, bold colours, exotic and modern materials, the style flourished and developed internationally, reaching Australia's shores, where it was embraced nationally. *Art Deco: A Modern Vision* opens Saturday, 8 November, and is a joyful celebration of art deco glass, sculpture, fashion, ceramics, and much more from France and England. Curated by DRG, much-loved art deco icons of Adelaide also make an appearance, as well as Australia's home-grown art deco style of the 1930s and 40s. Don't wait another 100 years for an exhibition like this!

A range of programmes complement *Art Deco: A Modern Vision*, including our ever-popular monthly Friday 'tea and tour' and a special twilight evening on 4 December, where you can hear from the Adelaide Chapter of the Art Deco & Modernism Society of Australia. Read further for details and visit our website events calendar.

When you visit DRG over the next few months, you may also notice a range of building activities taking place as we begin phase one of the redevelopment project. This exciting opportunity will allow us to introduce a café to DRG, redesign the shop, make significant operational improvements, and restore DRG's heritage maisonette to the east of Fermoy House. I look forward to sharing further details as the work progresses over the summer.

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memberships that keep on giving.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason  
Director, David Roche Gallery

## UPCOMING EXHIBITION

# ART DECO: A MODERN VISION

Celebrating 100 Years



**8 November 2025–31 January 2026**

Discover the origins of Art Deco, its global journey, and see how this distinctive style became a part of everyday Australian life. *Art Deco: A Modern Vision* celebrates 100 years of glamour, innovation, and design. Step back in time and discover exquisite fashion, sculpture, ceramics, paintings, and much more.

Open from 8 November 2025 to 31 January 2026. Tuesday to Saturday, 10am–4pm. Plan your visit today.

[DETAILS AND TICKETS](#)

## UPCOMING EVENT

# Twilight Evening



## at David Roche Gallery

**Thursday 4 December, 5:00pm**

Join us for our Twilight Evening, when we open late just for you! Enjoy viewing *Art Deco: A Modern Vision*, a joyful celebration of art deco glass, sculpture, fashion, ceramics, and much more from France and England. Enjoy a lightning talk by Di Kempster, collector and committee member of the Art Deco & Modernism Society of Australia (SA Chapter), and delight in cheerful Christmas carols by award-winning a cappella group, High Spirits Harmony.

Whether you are unable to visit the gallery during the day, or you love unique experiences to share with friends or family, our Twilight Evening is not to be missed. Gather your friends and celebrate the start of summer together at DRG!

DETAILS AND TICKETS

### UPCOMING EVENT



## Tea & Tours

with exhibition  
curator, Tim Roberts

Enjoy tea and coffee in the Roman Room from 10:30am then embark on a tour of *Art Deco: A Modern Vision* led by exhibition curator Timothy Roberts. Learn about the fascinating origins of Art Deco and how this distinctive style became a part of everyday Australian life.

Our Friday Tea & Tour is among our most popular events, so book your ticket now to avoid missing out.

DETAILS AND TICKETS

## FROM THE ARCHIVES



### Kay Finch's dog charm bracelet

This charm bracelet belonged to Kay Finch, a leading Afghan Hound breeder, American Kennel Club hound and toy judge, and artist. The bracelet, which was assembled during the 1940s-1960s, consists of 25 pendants and charms on a curb-link chain.

Several charms refer to American, Canadian, and Mexican Champion Crown Crest Zardonx. Whelped in July 1954, 'Zar' won the highly contested Best in Show at the Afghan Hound Club of America Speciality Show in February 1957, just one title among the 8 Best in Show and 45 Best of Breed titles he collected by June of 1957, and another Best in Show at the A.H.C.A the following year. Zardonx and AM CH Crown Crest Tae-Joan produced Crown Crest Zardeeka in 1958, who would whelp Mr Roche's famous UK AUST CH Mazari of Carloway in 1962.

The bracelet also makes many references to Kay Finch's zodiac sign, with gold Leo charms by Birmingham jewellers William Adams Ltd; and silver charms produced by Tallerres de los Ballestros and Margot de Taxco (Mexico), Guglielmo Cini (United States) and David Andersen (Norway).

A special and likely unique charm was made by Kay Finch herself. It shows the sterling silver head of an Afghan hound, moulded with detail and superior expression, the gilding worn down after many years.

The period of Mrs Finch collecting and owning these charms coincides not only with her champion dog kennels, but also her own artistic career. Her love for both





## Roche (Viscount Fermoy) family crest

Another item discovered is this round steel die engraved with the family crest of the Viscount Fermoy Roches, the Lords of Fermoy in north Cork, who were expelled and removed from their properties in the late 1600s due to Catholic insurgency. This canting crest shows a sea bird standing with wings spread on a rocky outcrop (Roche being the old French derivative of rock), holding a roach fish out of the water with one claw, fish being a common symbol for Christ. The crest is often matched with the motto “Mon Dieu est ma roche” / “My God is my rock”.



## Become a Member

DRG Members enable us to maintain David Roche's exquisite collection, present world-class exhibitions, program lectures with expert guest speakers and to fulfil our vision as a centre of excellence and a leader in decorative arts in Australia. By becoming a DRG Member, you will meet like-minded enthusiasts who share your passion for art and history, and receive many great benefits including:

**25% discount off full price house tour ticket (4 times per year) and full price exhibition entry fee • 10% discount off full price purchases in the Gallery shop (excluding the online shop) and 10% off full price DRG Lecture Series tickets • Invitations to exclusive tours and special events • Advance notice of DRG programs and events • Members only events & trips.**

# DRG Shop Online



## Shower Steamers

Spice up your shower routine with our new shower steamers, available in Mandarin & Orange or Rose & Peppermint

[SHOP ONLINE TODAY](#)


## Gift Card

Spoil your loved ones this Christmas with a DRG gift card, redeemable on house tours, exhibition tickets and items from the Gallery Shop.

[SHOP ONLINE TODAY](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS AT OTHER HOUSE MUSEUMS

### THE CEDARS

**The Cedars - Heysen house  
Guided Tour | \$22**

In the heart of Adelaide Hills is the beautiful, historic home and property

### CARRICK HILL

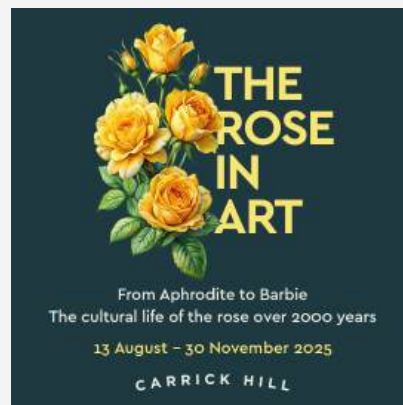
**The Rose in Art  
Ticketed Exhibition | \$20**

A bold new exhibition at Carrick Hill traces the cultural life of the rose

an unforgettable look at an Australian cultural treasure and one of the world's few fully preserved historic artists' homes and studios containing the original working and living spaces of both Hans and Nora Heysen and their family.


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the rose from religious art and genre painting to high fashion and pop culture—from the worship of Aphrodite to the iconic Barbie. Featuring highlights such as Meissen porcelain, Fantin Latour and Elsa Schiaparelli.


[MORE INFORMATION](#)

## YOUR GIFT HELPS US DO MORE



Your donation will help David Roche Gallery reach its full potential to acquire works of art and present innovative exhibitions that will add to the cultural life of South Australia. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

No matter how large or small, your gift will help us do more.

[DONATE TODAY](#)

Images in this newsletter: **Club Fermoy Banner:** Rex Wood, *Geelong Grammar graduation portrait of David J Roche* c. 1948, oil on canvas. The David Roche Collection. **Exhibition:** René Lalique, *Suzanne*, 1925, glass. Private collection. **Tea, Talk & Tour:** Bakewell Brothers, 'Pontiac' tea set, c.1940, glazed earthenware. Private collection. **Museums:** Heysen, The Cedars, House Tour Website. **DRG Membership banner:** Germany, *Armchair (Fauteuil)* c. 1750, oak, pine, gilt, replacement silk upholstery. The David Roche Collection. **DRG Shop banner:** George Bullock, *Specimen table* c. 1815, Brazilian rosewood, brass, gilt bronze, hardstones. The David

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David Roche Gallery  
continues the work of The  
David Roche Foundation,  
established in 1999 by David  
J Roche AM (1930–2013).

DAVID ROCHE GALLERY

241 Melbourne St,  
North Adelaide,  
Sth. Australia 5006

FERMOY HOUSE TOURS  
TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
10AM – 12PM – 2PM

GALLERY OPEN  
TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
10AM – 4PM

DRG acknowledges the Kaurna people as the traditional owners of the Adelaide region. We recognise and respect Kaurna heritage, beliefs and spiritual relationship with Country, and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and eme



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