



# Club Fermoy

Issue 75

Dear <<First Name>>

June 2026 is a very special month for David Roche Gallery as we celebrate our 10th anniversary of opening to the public. Forty exhibitions and thousands of Fermoy House tours later we have now welcomed over 70,000 visitors from over twenty countries to DRG. We are honoured that David's legacy has made such an incredible impact and as our building redevelopment reaches its final weeks, we're getting excited to share these new spaces and amenities with you very soon.

To mark this significant milestone DRG has now launched a free exhibition *Making Old New: DRG 10th Anniversary. SA Craft & Design reimagine the Collection*. Featuring ceramics, glass, furniture, jewellery, and sculpture by some of South Australia's most loved artists as well as exciting up and coming talent, the exhibition also draws upon the rich holdings of David Roche's collection to illustrate how the past can inform the future. Accompanying the exhibition is a beautiful, richly illustrated catalogue to celebrate the 10th anniversary.

Please continue reading to learn more about our sculpture of Napoleon entering Cairo and a very early experience David had of exhibiting Kerry Blue Terriers in Adelaide in our Canine tidbit. DRG has also been fortunate to recently secure a desk seal belonging to the Duke of Wellington and your tax-deductible donation big or small will help us acquire this rare object for South Australia.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason,

## CURRENT EXHIBITION

### makingoldnew DRG 10th Anniversary SA Craft & Design reimagine the collection



#### **FREE exhibition Until 1 August 2026**

Developed in collaboration with JamFactory, this exhibition features new work by 20 artists in response to 20 works from the DRG collection. Presenting ceramics, glass, furniture, jewellery, and sculpture, *Making Old New* draws upon the rich holdings of David Roche's collection to illustrate how the past can inform the future.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES



Behind the scenes, works are continuing across several key areas, including the café, loading dock, storage and workshop space. The café exterior has been painted and signage installed, while internal fit-out works are well underway, bringing the space one step closer to completion.

Landscaping of the courtyard garden is also progressing beautifully, highlighted by the addition of a stunning olive tree that will serve as a feature of the space. The gallery shop has also seen exciting changes, with walls freshly painted and a striking chandelier now installed, adding character and elegance to the space.

“The process of designing and refining the redevelopment plan has been many years in the making and is aligned with our 10th anniversary in June 2026. It builds on the success of DRG while providing new reasons to dwell longer and enjoy Fermoy House, our exhibitions, shop and café” –Robert Reason, DRG Director.

“By reimagining the existing ornamental courtyard into a functional entertaining area and café, opens the opportunity to fully exploit the entry as more of a curated welcome and gallery shop, making the most of the existing visitor flow to expand the time spent in the gallery and opportunity to immerse oneself fully in the experience.”  
–David Burton, Director Design by WBL.

## ACQUISITION APPEAL



### **A rare hardstone desk seal belonging to Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington**

Our founder David Roche wanted DRG to be a ‘living’ collection that would grow with judicious acquisitions. The Gallery seeks your assistance in purchasing an impressive gold-mounted banded agate desk seal cut with the coat of arms, initials and crest of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, and a scarce jasper ware portrait of the Duke that was modelled by Alexandre Brachard for the Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory in 1815.

The Duke of Wellington's seal is especially unusual with one face cut with the Duke's coat of arms, and the other face cut with his initials and crest. The Duke's fob seal is today held in the British Museum.

We seek your help in raising \$18,000 toward the acquisition of this significant seal and portrait medallion. With your support, no matter the size of your contribution, will help bring this noteworthy object into the collection, helping us continue David Roche's vision of preserving and sharing exceptional fine and decorative arts with future generations. All gifts over \$2 are tax deductible.

SUPPORT THE GALLERY

## TODAY'S TREASURE



**after Jean-Léon Gérôme  
(France 1824-1904),  
sculptor**

**Ferdinand Barbedienne  
Foundry (France 1838-  
1952), *Napoleon entering  
Cairo, c. 1897*  
silvered bronze**

The statue shows Napoleon entering Cairo on July 25th, 1798, during his victorious three-year Egyptian campaign. It was designed by the sculptor Jean-Léon Gérôme and made by the Ferdinand Barbedienne Foundry in France. This firm began producing elaborate decorative arts from the late 1840s and exhibited in every World Fair in the 1800's, receiving numerous medals at these international exhibitions. Many leading artists and sculptors of the time worked with the foundry in the production of their works, including Antoine-Louis Barye and Rodin.

The silvered bronze statue by Gérôme was the first in a series of historical equestrian figures and was met with immediate critical acclaim at the Paris Salon of 1897, bearing testament to the continuing French pride in Napoleon. The statue represents Napoleon holding his hat aloft in the right hand, the left hand gloved and resting on his thigh. The base of the statue appears to be a carpet of laurel leaves, indicating a triumphant entrance into Cairo. The features of the horse indicate its Arabian origin, and the harness is typically Bedouin. The

breast plate, the frontal horn of the saddle and the woven saddle cloths are all depicted in meticulous detail.

During Napoleon's campaign in Egypt, he acquired an Arabian horse following the Battle of Abukir in 1799. He took the horse back to France and a year later in 1800 the horse carried Napoleon safely through the Battle of Marengo in northern Italy. This was a decisive victory for Napoleon, and his horse was named after that battle. Marengo had a remarkable career, and he was ridden by Napoleon in the battles of Austerlitz, Jena-Auerstedt, Wagram and the Battle of Waterloo. It was at this battle in 1815 that Marengo was captured by the British and taken back to the United Kingdom. He eventually died at the age of 38.

Ruth W.  
DRG Guide

## CANINE TIDBIT

### ***Ch. Schorn of Inglewood*** **Kerry Blue Terrier**

**Bred & Owned by Harry W. Parks, exhibited by Master David Roche**



The first known Kerry Blue Terriers to be imported to Adelaide were brought over by Dr Arthur Kyle Gault in late 1935, at a time when the breed was still considered 'little known in Australia'. Dr Gault's first two Kerry Blues were mentioned in local newspapers as exciting additions to the state, and within a year his dog Dunloe Underbridge Patrick (IMP) was awarded Best in Show at the Terrier Club in Wayville, becoming one of the first Kerry Blue champions in Australia.

Dunloe Underbridge Patrick and Dunloe Underbridge Nora (Dr Gault's first imported pair) produced Ardmeen Danny Boy, who paired with dam Ardmeen Clodagh to produce Schorn of Inglewood, born July 22nd, 1943. Schorn was bred by Harry W. Parks and was shown by David Roche starting from the age of just 13.

Schorn won two First Prize awards at the Canine Fanciers' Kennel Club of SA's Second Championship Show and two First Prize awards at the Adelaide Children's Hospital Christmas Fund Appeal – Combined Clubs Championship Show, all in November 1943. September and November of 1945 saw more First Prize awards for David Roche and Schorn of Inglewood, again for the Adelaide Children's Hospital, the South Australian Kennel Association, and the Terrier Club of South Australia. From 1946 to 1949, David Roche and Schorn of Inglewood continued to win First Prizes at numerous shows across South Australia and New South Wales.

At only 13, David was involved in exhibiting and grooming Kerry Blues, a breed scarcely seen in Australia at the time. Schorn of Inglewood shows that at a young age, David Roche was already following his strong life-long passions and learning the obsessive attention to detail and importance of good provenance that he would carry with him for life, both in the dog world and the art world.

# DOG Shop Online



## NEW CATALOGUE

### 'Making Old New'

Discover the beautiful and inspiring works featured in *Making Old New*. Learn more about the artists, their creative practices, and the stories behind their work.

CATALOGUE



## Empires & Splendour

Now available at a reduced price, this fully revised second edition of *Empires & Splendour*, is a must-have for any art lover's library!

BROWSE BOOKS

Works featured in the exhibition are also available for purchase. To find out more, please speak with our staff upon arrival.



# Become a Member

As a valued member, you play an essential role in preserving David Roche's collection, supporting the presentation of world-class exhibitions, and program lectures with expert guest speakers. Your support helps DRG continue to grow as a centre of excellence and a leader in decorative arts in Australia.

In return, members enjoy a range of exclusive benefits, including 25% off Fermoy House tours, 25% off exhibition tickets, 10% off the Gallery Shop, and much more.



[LEARN MORE](#)

## OTHER ART HIGHLIGHTS



### THE CEDARS

#### **Botanical Drawing Workshop**

Join renowned botanical artist Sandra Johnston for a delightful series of Sunday workshops where she will guide you through creating your own botanical masterpiece inspired by nature. This Sunday Sandra will be hosting her next workshop at The Cedars on the theme 'Gum Blossoms'.

[LEARN MORE](#)

### CARRICK HILL

**FUSE Glass Artist Residency Exhibition | Nadège Desgenètez: This Body, Echoes**

**16 May – 28 June 2026 | Wall Gallery, Carrick Hill House Museum**

JamFactory and partner Carrick Hill present the 2026 FUSE Glass Artist Residency Exhibition showcasing Melbourne based glass artist Nadège Desgenétez. Desgenétez draws on the movement of her body in making, the processes of glass blowing, combined with mirroring, carving, polishing, and sanding to find ambiguous forms and mine the optical and tactile qualities inherent to the medium.

LEARN MORE

## ARTSNATIONAL ADELAIDE

**Claudia Chan-Shaw | Well Heeled: Shoes Through Time**  
**24 June 2026**

Join Claudia Chan Shaw for an intriguing look at our fascination with shoes and the stories behind them - from flats and stilettos, to trainers, Crocs and the catwalk. Just think of Cinderella or the Wizard of Oz – it's all about the shoes in the end.

LEARN MORE



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: Louis Moinet, *Prince Ernst August of Hanover's clock* (detail), c.1810, David Roche collection. Michael Carney, *Endurance* (detail), 2026. After Jean-Léon Gérôme (French, 1824–1904), *Napoleon Entering Cairo*, c. 1897. Ferdinand Barbedienne Foundry (France, 1838–1952). Silvered bronze. 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 Roche Collection. Art Highlights: Nadège Desgenétez, *Orb*, 2018. Photo courtesy of the artist.



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,  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5006

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

---

GALLERY OPEN  
TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
10AM – 4PM

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



[View email in browser](#)

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)