



Club Fermoy

Issue 76

Dear friends and supporters,

As we reach the middle of winter DRG remains a warm and cosy destination, making it the perfect time to explore Fermoy House on a tour, or to visit our free exhibition *Making Old New: DRG 10th Anniversary, SA Craft & Design reimagine the collection* before it closes in a few weeks. While the wet weather has hampered finishing the café courtyard, we are hopeful of completing the outstanding work in July and launching this new offering soon. Stay tuned for updates!

We are thrilled to be involved with the SALA (South Australian Living Artists) Festival in 2026 and to present the work of fibre artist Fiona McIntosh and her exhibition *Collections* in the Roman room. Fiona's wool-based forms combine aspects of the familiar and unknowable from the natural history collections she has studied. Learn more about Fiona in this issue of Club Fermoy.

Also in this issue are two historical pieces on David Roche. We revisit Geelong Grammar and the play *Julius Caesar* and take a look back at a fun newspaper article from 1967 when David's Afghan Hounds were shaking up the breed and winning awards across Australia.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason,
Director, David Roche Gallery

CURRENT EXHIBITION

makingoldnew DRG 10th Anniversary

SA Craft & Design reimagine the collection



Until 1 August

Making Old New marks DRG's 10th birthday, and brings together acclaimed practitioners and emerging alumni from JamFactory, drawing inspiration from objects in the David Roche Collection. Each artist has created a new work that reinterprets the past through a contemporary lens, highlighting the enduring influence of David Roche's legacy and Adelaide's significant contribution to Australian craft and design. Free entry!

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UPCOMING EXHIBITION

Fiona McIntosh: Collections

28 July – 29 August



Through the historical lens of the Wunderkammer and natural history collections, fibre artist Fiona McIntosh translates unseen worlds into tactile, wool-based forms. These otherworldly interpretations – familiar yet unknowable - blur boundaries and suggest new ways of seeing and understanding the hidden world around us. Find out more on the website.

[LEARN MORE](#)

UPCOMING EVENT



SALA 2026 Artist Talk: Fiona McIntosh

8 August 3PM | Free entry

Join artist Fiona McIntosh for a free talk discussing her practice and the works she has created for SALA 2026.

[BOOK HERE](#)

TODAY'S TREASURE

Snuff box, c.1765

Vienna, or Berlin



This exquisite oval snuff box is a masterpiece of 18th-century craftsmanship, made in four-colour gold and richly adorned with diamonds and painted enamel panels. Each side celebrates the Arts through allegorical figures and putti: Music on the lid, Painting on the base, while the sides illustrate Architecture, Astronomy, Sculpture and Poetry.

Family tradition states that this box was given as a gift by Frederick II (1712-1786), King of Prussia, to Hermann Werner Franz Gottlob von der Asseburg (1702-1779), and was acquired by David Roche in 2005.

Although the marks inside the lid and base are illegible and the enamel panels are not signed, the box has close affinities with Viennese boxes of the same date. It may also be that Frederick II would have considered the gift of an Austrian box particularly suitable for von der Asseburg. Explore more treasures like this on a guided tour of Fermoy House, book your tour today.

Erin B.
DRG Assistant Curator

CANINE TIDBIT

WHO WAS THAT LADY . . . ? "... THAT WAS NO LADY"



Mr. D. Roche, of Melbourne street, North Adelaide, will have an answer



HIS reply will be "That was no lady . . . that was my Afghan hound, Crown Crest Miss Carousal (Bib to you), brought out from America."

"Who was that lady...?"

"...That was no lady"

The Advertiser, July 4th, 1967.

Crown Crest Miss Carousal (1965) was a US import, from the legendary Crown Crest kennels of Kay Finch (1903-1993), alongside her sister, Crown Crest Miss Capriole (1965). In these images, Miss Carousal would have been around 12 months old and had just come to David Roche at Fermoy Kennels.

Miss Carousal (aka Bib) was sired by Crown Crest Mr Universe, one of the most awarded Afghan Hounds in dog show history, who won 35 all-breed Best in Shows and 100 First places in the Hound group, numbers which would not be beaten for many years.

Miss Carousal herself would go on to be awarded Challenge winner, Best Bitch and Best Opposite in Group in the Hounds category in the Royal Melbourne Show, 1969 and Best in Show at the Royal Adelaide Show, 1971.

This playful diptych by David Roche may have been placed in the Advertiser to promote his kennels or may just have been to show off his exciting and glamorous new import. He was known for having a cheeky sense of humour, which these two captioned images display perfectly.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



In the archival collection is a small album containing photos of the Geelong Grammar school play 'Julius Caesar', 1945, in which a young David Roche played Clitus, a soldier of Brutus and Cassius. In this image, he is almost certain to be the soldier third from the right in the back grouping, next to the Roman military signum topped by an eagle.

The play, presented at the Theatre Royal, was announced an "outstanding production" by the Camperdown Chronicle (Vic: 1875-1954), and a profit of £78 was donated to the Save the Children Fund. Today this would equate to around \$3,420.

While the play's influence on the fifteen-year-old David Roche cannot be known, his later passion for Roman mythology, antiquity and Neoclassical design makes the connection a compelling one. The image of David Roche as a schoolboy Roman soldier seems especially fitting, given that he would later create his own "Roman Room" and collect works inspired by the classical world.

Image: J. Lockwood of Geelong, 1945





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.



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. Sign up and enjoy a range of exclusive

benefits, including 25% off Fermoy House tours, 25% off exhibition tickets, 10% off the Gallery Shop, and much more.



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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'.

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CARRICK HILL

William Morris Winter Wonderland at Carrick Hill
9 - 26 July 2026 | Carrick Hill House Museum

This winter, Carrick Hill will transform into a living work of art as the historic house and gardens come alive after dark in a breathtaking illuminated experience.

Inspired by the iconic designs of William Morris, this immersive nighttime spectacular features animated projections that bring Morris's celebrated patterns to life across the historic house and gardens.

The experience is accompanied by excerpts from William Morris's poetry, read by acclaimed South Australian actor Tilda Cobham-Hervey, alongside a soundtrack featuring Holst's *The Planets* recorded by the Adelaide Youth Orchestra.

Enjoy mulled wine and a delicious winter menu as you wander through this unforgettable after-dark experience

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, The David Roche Collection. Michael Carney, *Endurance* (detail), 2026. Nathan Martin, *This stool is for polishing, not gambling*. Cockfighting stool, 1880-1900, Britain, elm, oak, The David Roche Collection. Fiona McIntosh: Collections works. Picture of Fiona McIntosh (SALA 2026 Artist). Snuff Box, c.1765, Austria, The David Roche Collection. 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.



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 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 emerging.



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