

CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum Newsletter

Issue 49



2024 offers plenty of opportunities to enjoy David Roche's superb collection in Fermoy House.

From the Museum Director

Dear friends and supporters,

The David Roche Foundation ushered in a busy start to 2024. The final weeks of *Wedgwood: Master Potter to the Universe* drew fans from across Australia to see this once in a lifetime exhibition. If you missed out, not all is lost as the fully illustrated exhibition catalogue remains available onsite and online.

Our next exhibition *Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900* opens 15 February. This display of quilts made from military fabrics comes to us from the collection of Annette Gero. The incredible workmanship of soldiers and tailors from times past makes this a must-see exhibition for quilters, textile lovers, and anyone interested in military history.

The beautifully crafted exhibitions you'll experience throughout 2024 include *The Luke Jones Collection of Australian Toys*, an enthralling selection of children's toys dating from the 1880s through to the 1960s. Later in the year *Salon des Refusés 2024*, S.H. Ervin Gallery's celebrated 'alternative' Archibald and Wynne prize exhibition, travels to Adelaide. The year closes with *Style & Spirit: The Fashion of Chester Weinberg* where you're transported to the salons of New York high society during the swinging 60s and finish with designs for Calvin Klein Jeans. There's no better opportunity than now to enjoy David Roche's

superb collection. As we install *The Fabric of War*, Tours of Fermoy House are just \$12 Adult and \$10 Concession, and \$9 for TDRF Members.

With such a range of offerings to enjoy in 2024, why not become a TDRF Member? - enjoy discounted entry tickets to all our exhibitions and special invitations to events throughout the year! Happy days and read on to find out more.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason

THIS MONTH

Quilts

The Fabric of War

1760 - 1900

The Annette Gero Collection



Image: *38th Regiment of Foot flag quilt*, made in England c. 1815 (detail), wool broadcloth, silk embroidery, The Annette Gero Collection.

Historical quilts with striking geometric patterns, exotic animals, biblical stories, and even the Venetian state galley are but a few of the extraordinary images you will see displayed in this exhibition from the renowned quilt collection of Annette Gero. Using brightly coloured military fabrics from eighteenth and nineteenth century uniforms these rare patchwork quilts were made by men. Some during military service and others sewn after the tailors or soldiers returned home. Through their fabrics, these quilts reveal military service in the Prussian, Napoleonic, and Crimean wars, and British India.

This exhibition reveals new and unseen treasures acquired in Australia and abroad from the private collection of Annette Gero. An Adelaide-exclusive exhibition not to be missed.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

An extensive, richly illustrated catalogue accompanying the exhibition is available for purchase at the TDRF Store for \$49.50.

Publication sponsored by the Gordon Darling Foundation.



From 15 February 2024
Tuesday to Saturday
10:00am – 4:00pm

[Purchase your ticket online](#)
Tickets also available at the door

\$12 Adult. \$10 Concession.
\$9 TDRF Member.
Children under 12 free.

Guided Exhibition Tours
Thursdays 11:30am
[Book your tour here](#)

SPECIAL EVENT



TEA & TOUR QUILTS: THE FABRIC OF WAR

Friday 16 February 10:30am–Noon

In celebration of our new exhibition *Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900* we are proud to present a very special Tea & Tour with the curator and custodian of these dazzling works of art.

On Friday 16 February, enjoy tea and coffee in the Roman Room from 10:30am, before embarking on a tour of *Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900* with guest exhibition curator Annette Gero, who will share the stories within these works, and how she came to collect them.

Our Tea & Tours routinely sell out within hours, so book your ticket now!

Friday 16 February | 10:30am-Noon

General: \$18 | TDRF Member: \$14

Includes light refreshments on arrival and tour of *Quilts: the Fabric of War 1760-1900* with guest exhibition curator Annette Gero. No access to Fermoy House.

[Book now](#)

SPECIAL EVENT



SUMMER TWILIGHT EVENING QUILTS: THE FABRIC OF WAR

Thursday 22 February 5:00–7:30pm

Join us for an evening viewing of *Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900*. Marvel at the dazzling patterns and images on these quilts from the collection of Annette Gero, and be amazed by this art form's connection to eighteenth and nineteenth century battlefields. Enjoy refreshments on the forecourt (your first is on us!), and browse our merchandise in the TDRF Shop, including the richly illustrated and informative exhibition catalogue.

Capacity is limited, so reserve your place now! You may pre-purchase your ticket online, or register your attendance and pay at the door when you arrive.

Whether you are unable to visit the museum during the day, or you love unique experiences to share with friends or family, our Twilight Evening is not to be missed.

Thursday 22 February 2024 | 5:00-7:30pm

Admission: \$20 | Children under 12: Free

Includes beverage on arrival and access to *Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900*. Last entry tickets sold 7:00pm. No access to Fermoy House.

[Book now](#)

CANINE TIDBITS



Image: Ausscot Beau Geste, known as Bee Gee, 1970s. Seeking a companion dog that could also watch Fermoy House, David Roche imported the German Shepherd from the United Kingdom in 1974.

David Roche's collection of fine and decorative arts contains an abundance of canine imagery. In Fermoy House many breeds of dog may be seen within paintings and sculpture, on ceramics and cushions, and even on a wallpaper. Fermoy House was also very much home for some dogs, including German Shepherd Bee Gee.

Remembering an intruder's attempt to enter Fermoy House, David desired a house dog that was alert and observant. Consulting with his great friend Thelma Gray, David Roche imported Ausscot Beau Geste, a German Shepherd Dog from the United Kingdom in 1974. Bee Gee, as he was known, had an exceptional character, and was remembered for his superb temperament. Testament to his protective instinct, each evening Bee Gee played piquet by sleeping across the main bedroom door.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

During a recent sorting of archival material, a red leather-look photograph album was an unassuming housing for a small group of newspaper clippings that date to the earliest days of David Roche's career as a breeder and judge of the all-breeds standard.

Clippings from the *Waterbury Sunday Republican* (USA) in August 1952 record Roche's attendance at Great Barrington Kennel Club's 10th Annual Show, and report his judging of the Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club's match. The letter of invitation to judge at this event, and an announcement for the event are also held.

Most importantly in this group are clippings from *Dog World* (UK) that report on David Roche's judging and record his comments for the British Breed Dog Society's all British Breeds Show at Ascot Wood, Berkshire. This major event saw near-record level entries, resulting in David drawing an entry of 137, with 56 exhibitors. He was reported favourably for his diligence when carrying out his judging responsibilities.

Smaller clippings give a deeper insight into his work. One notes his appointment to Vice-President of the Kerry Blue Terrier Club of England, and another reports on his purchase of Berenwode Outrider, a Kerry Blue Terrier.



MEMBERSHIP



Are you a regular visitor to The David Roche Foundation House Museum? Even if you're not but are keen to support the work of the Foundation, then becoming a TDRF Member would be the ideal thing for you!

TDRF Members enable the Foundation to maintain David Roche's exquisite collection, present world-class exhibitions, program lectures with expert guest speakers and to fulfil its vision as a centre of excellence and a leader in decorative arts in Australia. By becoming a TDRF 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)
- 25% discount off full price exhibition entry fee
- 10% discount off full price purchases in the shop (this excludes online shop)
- 10% discount off full price TDRF Lecture Series tickets
- Invitations to exclusive tours and special events
- Advance notice of TDRF programs and events
- Members only events & trips

Become a TDRF Member

You can now join the membership online by visiting www.rochefoundation.com.au/membership/

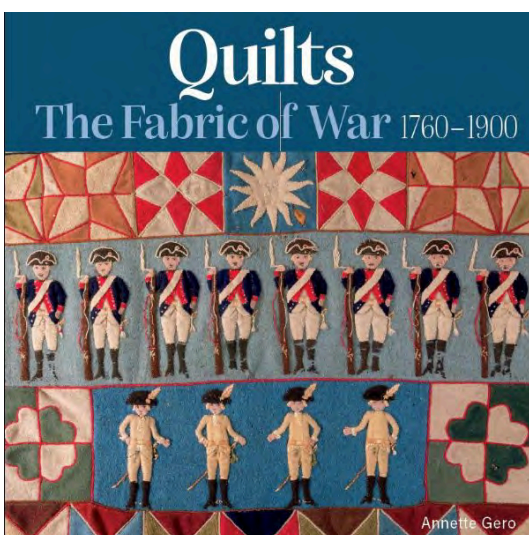
Alternatively, please call into the museum or download the membership application form [here](#).

Please return your completed form by post or by dropping it off at the museum.

For further information please e-mail memberships@rochefoundation.org.au or phone 08 8267 3677.

Find out more

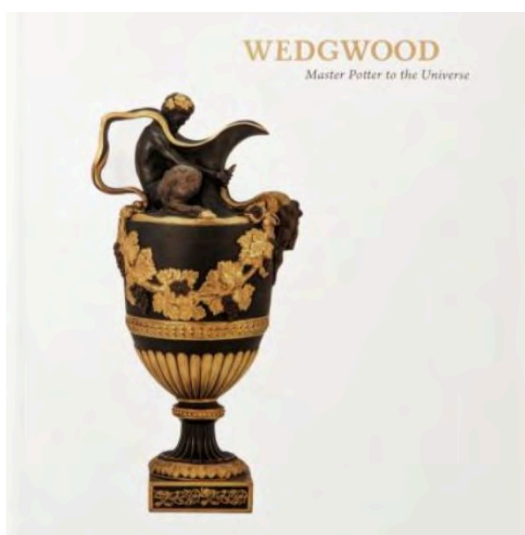
GIFT SHOP



Quilts: The Fabric of War 1760-1900 is richly illustrated and makes an excellent companion to our new exhibition.

\$49.50

Buy Now



Missed out on visiting *Wedgwood*? Our exhibition catalogue includes a photograph list of every work!

\$35.00

Buy Now

Order online at <https://www.rochefoundation.com.au/shop/> or by calling us on (08) 8267 3677 or emailing us at info@rochefoundation.org.au (with your contact details). Click and collect is available.

We now post internationally!

[Visit the shop](#)

EVENTS AT A HOUSE NEAR YOU

Our friends at The Cedars and Carrick Hill offer wonderful experiences and events. Here's what's on:

THE CEDARS

Birds of The Cedars painting workshops

Saturday 11 February 2024 | 12:00 – 4:00pm

Surrounded by the beautiful flora and fauna of The Cedars, guests will be guided in painting the birds that live in the garden. Each month will feature a new bird and flower choices will be governed by the seasonal plantings in the garden. No painting experience is required as local artist Zinia King will guide the painting process step-by-step. Book into several sessions and collect a series of bird artworks for your wall.



After the workshop, enjoy a complimentary tea or coffee in the Cedars Café & Tea Rooms. Numbers are strictly limited for this event so book now to avoid disappointment.

[BOOK NOW](#)

En Plein Air painting workshops at The Cedars

Saturday 2 March 2024 | 10:00am – 2:30pm

Explore the vibrant world of outdoor painting in our 'Introduction to Plein Air Painting' workshop. Over four immersive hours, discover essential techniques and tips, begin colour blending, and capture the essence of nature on canvas. Whether a novice or experienced artist, join us for a transformative journey into the art of open-air expression.

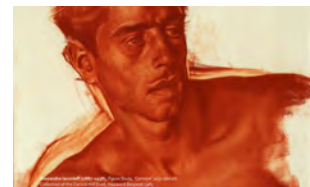
[BOOK NOW](#)

CARRICK HILL

To Bare All: The Hayward Nudes

14 February – 30 June 2024

Like many avid collectors, the Haywards acquired various works depicting the nude form. From the sensual and beautiful, to the lewd and rude, this new exhibition shines a spotlight on representations of the bare form in our collection.



Featuring works from artists such as Sir Jacob Epstein, Alistair Smart, René Lalique, Augustus John and Sir Ivor Hele, this installation allows us to consider how interpretations of the human figure developed over the early-mid twentieth century.

Exhibition entry is included with house admission: Adult \$17 | Concession \$13

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

COLLECTION

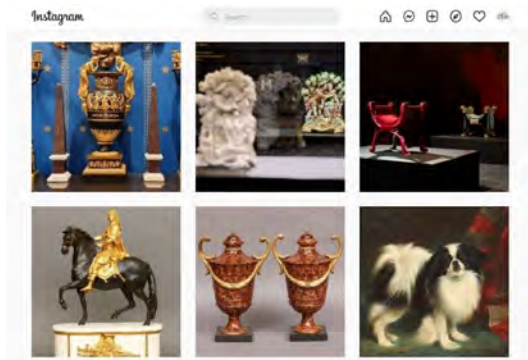
Did you know that many of the items in
The David Roche Collection are available
to view online?

Use our collection search to find out more
about your favourite piece or discover
something new.



[Search the collection](#)

KEEP IN TOUCH



We are on Facebook and Instagram!

We provide regular content through our social
media channels. Follow us now to keep in the
loop.



Facebook



Instagram



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House Museum**

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TDRF 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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