



**A canvas Christmas tree is part of the display.**

# Feast your eyes on this collection

DECK the halls. It's time for Christmas decorations.

Some prefer contemporary themes while others will load the tree with time-worn, but cherished, trinkets – the choices are endless.

For a modern touch, flashing fibre-optic path lights can brighten the entrance to your home or, if you prefer stars in your eyes, light up your living room with LED star lights.

For some, Christmas isn't complete without an advent calendar, garlands of red and green and holly.

Be inspired first by the Johnston Collection of Christmas decorations,

at Fairhall, before deciding on your theme this year.

The former home of antique dealer and collector William Robert Johnston, Fairhall is a feast for the eyes and mind.

"This year the W. R. Johnston Trust invited groups and individuals from Ballarat to create decorations inspired by the furniture, ceramics, paintings and other decorative arts in the Johnston Collection," director Nina Stanton said.

"As a result, embroiderers, quilters, lace-makers, beaders and many more have created the decorations."

Participants include the Embroiderers Guild of Victoria Inc (Ballarat branch), Ballarat Crafts Council, Australian Lace Guild – Ballarat group, Country Women's Association, Begonia Quilters Inc and Ballarat Textile Network.

Visitors can admire the patchwork stockings in front of the fireplace and marvel at the chain of 52 lace links decorating the hallway.

Fairhall is in East Melbourne.

Tour prices are \$20/\$16.50 and \$128 for groups of eight people.

Bookings are essential, on 9416 2515.