THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION
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THE WR JOHNSTON TRUST
The Johnston Collection was bequeathed by William Robert Johnston (1911–1986) to the people of Victoria and is administered as an independent not-for-profit museum by The WR Johnston Trust.

ABN 87 19 494 0961 | ACN 075 028 287

cover image | Fairhall: The Green Room (as curated by James Broadbent for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India for the annual House of Ideas series, July 2014 - October 2014)
Photographer: Adam Luttick | Lutt Photography
THE CUP THAT STARTED A COLLECTION

William Johnston was given a small Minton potteries teacup (circa 1811), by his grandmother when he was about 8 years old. He kept it all his life, later recalling that this cup started his passion for collecting.

Minton & Co. est. 1793 – cup, circa 1812-15,
The Johnston Collection (A0660-1989)
Our primary focus was the redevelopment of our administration building at 152 Hotham Street. This much needed, and now completed work, has provided an efficient contemporary space for our staff and visitors. It is deliberately simple, black and white and modern, so as to contrast with the richness of Fairhall. The work caused a great deal of disruption to our operations during the year and I extend my thanks to everyone for their patience while the work proceeded.

The refreshed building had a double official opening when, on two consecutive nights in May 2015, we both officially opened the new building and launched our first ever fundraising campaign. Akira Isogawa, who had miraculously transformed Fairhall in 2010 helped with that launch and celebration.

The building has been well received and has greatly improved our services for visitors. We will now turn our attention to rejuvenating 150 Hotham Street before it goes on the rental market.

We also spent much time during the year examining how we might best undertake a fundraising campaign. The Trustees are conscious that, as the endowment is reduced each year, additional sources of revenue are required if the Johnston Collection is to continue to operate as it does. Accordingly we established a Fundraising Committee to assist us with this task. The committee worked hard during the year, resulting in two functions on consecutive nights which launched the appeal on 6th and 7th May. By the end of June 2014 some $350,000 had been given or committed. I am indebted to my fellow Trustee, Peter Walsh, who arranged for a very substantial donation from the Marjorie Kingston Trust to be made over three years. Other Trustees also contributed generously as did many of our Friends and supporters. With funds generously provided by Roger Brookes we were able to employ a part time Executive Officer to assist the work of the Fundraising Committee.

The Trustees also spent time discussing a long term policy framework for the development of Fairhall which was finally adopted in March 2015. This had to take account of many factors including William Johnston’s wishes, an analysis of the significance and nature of the house and collection including changes made to it in the past 25 years, the Trustees vision for the place, planning and financial constraints and trends in the broader arts community. The policy also had to take into account major decisions already made including the sale of 148 Hotham Street, the decision to lease both 148 and 150 Hotham Street and to consolidate our museum operations into Fairhall and 152 Hotham Street.

The result of this work was the articulation of a new vision for Fairhall:

The Johnston Collection aims to respect the legacy of William Johnston through the presentation of his house and collection, and programs associated with it, in a way that is lively, educational, relevant and free from the constraints of normal house museums. We aim to do this with a light spirit but always in a considered manner and at the highest standards. We intend to be taken seriously and make a valuable contribution to the cultural life of Victoria.

This was then followed by a comprehensive policy framework for the property which will now inform planning and programming for Fairhall.

The development of this policy was assisted by a visit the Trustees, Director and several of the Ambassadors made to various museums in and around Adelaide at the end of 2014. This provided a valuable opportunity to see how others are managing similar places and also allowed for relaxed and open discussion about our own work. It is something I hope we will repeat.
From the Director

The Johnston Collection had another strong year highlighted by three successful house-museum tours, the completion of the redevelopment of our administration building, including a new retail area, reference library and offices, and the launch of *Opening Doors*, our first-ever fundraising campaign.

In July, historian, conservationist and author, Dr James Broadbent guest-curated the 2014 iteration of the House of Ideas tour with *An Englishman Abroad: At Home In British India*, which broadly explored life in India at the time of the British Raj, in particular, how an upper-class Englishman might have lived during this period. This was followed in November by our annual Christmas tour, *’Twas The Night Before Christmas: Christmas At the Johnston Collection 2014* which featured the work of artists and makers from the Geelong, Bellarine and Surf Coast area working collaboratively as part of the Geelong Artisans Group. In March, antique dealer and collector Martin Allen shared his passion for and great knowledge of 17th and 18th century English furniture in *Martin Allen Rearranges William Johnston’s Collection*, for the annual William Johnston series. Our menu tours focusing on particular areas in the Collection were presented throughout the year as well as a number of specially curated programmes for Melbourne cultural events such as the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival and the Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival.

We continued to strive to enrich and inspire our visitors with a wide range of lectures and study series throughout the year. These included the *Out of India Study Series* which extended the themes explored in the house tour *An Englishman Abroad; The Jane Austen Series* 2014 and 2015, celebrating 200 years since the publication of *Mansfield Park* and *Emma*. Sylvia Sagona presented the *Invention of Leisure* study series exploring the expansion of leisure in the 19th century; and Eugene Barilo von Reisberg presented the *Capturing Glamour* study series which examined portraiture in the 18th to the early 20th century. We also introduced a new series, *Melbourne Stories* focusing on local social histories.

We were thrilled to receive two prestigious awards this year. In August The Johnston Collection was awarded the Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Small Museums (2015) for the *David McAllister Rearranges Mr Johnston’s Collection* house-museum tour. In May, the museum was Highly Commended for interpretation, learning and audience engagement at the Museum and Galleries National Awards (MAGNA) (2015) for the McAllister tour.

The refurbishment of our Administration Building was completed providing a more spacious reception area and enlarged shop on the ground floor, and a new office and purpose-built collection storage room upstairs. The building redesign has resulted in more functional and connected spaces throughout the building, improving both the visitor experience and the work environment for staff and volunteers.

*Opening Doors*, the 25th Anniversary Fundraising Appeal was launched in 2015 – The Johnston Collection’s first-ever fundraising campaign. Opened by Akira Isogawa in May, the appeal which aims to raise funds to secure the future of the museum as a strong, innovative and accessible part of our lives well into the future, has already got off to a good start.

In 2015, The Johnston Collection celebrated 25 years since it was first opened to the public with more than 100,000 visitors coming through our
FROM THE CHAIRMAN (continued)

We benefitted this year from an excellent 16% return on our investments which are managed by Credit Suisse and our Finance and Audit Committee chaired by Joe Groher. The shop also had very good returns and we hope this will continue to improve with the new purpose built facilities in 152 Hotham Street.

We were all delighted to have received the Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Small Museums 2014 as well as being Highly Commended at the Museums & Galleries National Awards (MAGNA) 2015 in the Interpretation, Learning & Audience Engagement category, for the David McAllister Rearranges Mr Johnston’s Collection tour. This was a wonderful collaboration with the Artistic Director of the Australian Ballet and these two awards provided ample acknowledgement that our work is respected by our peers and is at a high standard. Most of the credit for that goes to our Director and hardworking staff and volunteers.

I take this opportunity to thank a number of individuals and groups who have supported us during the year. Archbishop and Mrs Freier were generous in allowing us to use Bishopscourt for meetings whilst our renovations were underway; The Friends of The Johnston Collection made a very generous donation of $58,000 to support the furnishing of the revamped administration building; the new Fundraising Sub-Committee worked hard to provide a framework for our new Appeal and especially around its launch. Those who have supported the Appeal are listed elsewhere. Roger Brookes gave a generous donation which we have used, in part, to support the Appeal.

This year saw the departure of Rob Craig from the staff. He has made an enormous contribution to the smooth operation of The Johnston Collection and I thank him most sincerely. My fellow Trustees and our Honorary Treasurer, Joe Groher, worked very hard during the year, as did all the staff under the leadership of Louis le Vaillant. I thank all these people most warmly.

Peter Watts AM, Chairman

FROM THE DIRECTOR (continued)

doors since 1990. This is a major milestone made possible only through the generous support we have received since 1990, including this year, from our friends, enthusiasts, and project partners.

We look forward to continuing to be true to William Johnston’s legacy, to keep The Johnston Collection as a living, breathing changing place that continues to provide access, understanding and enjoyment of the visual arts and design through the Collection.

Louis Le Vaillant, Director

below | Fairhall: The Yellow Room (as curated by James Broadbent for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD | At Home in British India, for the annual House of Ideas series, July 2014 – October 2014) Photographer Adam Luttick | Luts Photography
What we do

“My favourite museum in Melbourne.”
LINDA DALE, FACEBOOK, MAY 15 2015

The Johnston Collection sees its role as a museum is to provide access, understanding and enjoyment of the fine and decorative arts through the Collection.

Through a range of programmes, The Johnston Collection aims to encourage visitors to the museum to view and consider the objects in the Collection, the Collection as a whole, and ideas around collecting, in new and challenging ways. By presenting evocative, and sometimes provocative, reinterpretations of William Johnston’s collection, The Johnston Collection aims to challenge visitors’ assumptions about the fine and decorative arts.

The Johnston Collection is a house-museum of fine and decorative arts in East Melbourne. Bequeathed as a gift to the people of Victoria by William Robert Johnston (1911-1986), a prominent 20th century collector and antiques dealer, the Collection is displayed in a constantly changing domestic setting without ropes or barriers in Johnston’s former residence, Fairhall.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION STRIVES TO:

Preserve and display the Collection for the public, and to augment its holdings in fields established by William Robert Johnston (1911-1986), reflecting the interests that he embraced, and maintaining the domestic character of William Johnston’s house, Fairhall.

Provide access, understanding, and enjoyment of the Collection to the public through public programs, special exhibitions, publications, education and research of the highest calibre.

Offer a singular and memorable experience for the visiting public. We aim to provide an engaging view of life and art, especially relating to Johnston’s collection from the English Georgian and Regency period.

Serve as a hub for research and to stimulate scholarship in the history of fine and decorative arts, and the history of collecting works of fine and decorative arts especially from the English Georgian and Regency period.

Support, facilitate and curate specific exhibitions incorporating new work by relevant contemporary writers, thinkers and makers.
Who we are in 2015:
The WR Johnston Trust
Patron & Trustees

The WR Johnston Trust was established in 1986 in accordance with William Johnston’s Will. The Trustees’ role is to oversee and manage The WR Johnston Trust as an independent not-for-profit museum for the Trust beneficiaries, the people of Victoria. Trustees meet regularly throughout the year, including an Annual General Meeting in November.

The appointment of a Patron of The WR Johnston Trust was created in 2009. The role of the Patron includes promoting The WR Johnston Trust and the Collection in the wider community.

PATRON

MR RODNEY DAVIDSON AO OBE LLB*

Rodney Davidson is a solicitor and a company director by profession and a patron of Victoria’s arts and heritage. Mr Davidson is Emeritus President and Emeritus Chairman of the National Trust and was appointed President of the La Trobe Society in 2003, which position he held until 2009. He is now its Patron. He was President of the Friends of the Baillieu Library from 1978 to 1996 and has been its Patron since 2002. He was Chairman of the W R Johnston Trust from 1995 to 2009 and became a Patron of The Johnston Collection in 2009. He was Chairman of the Australian Council of National Trusts for 10 years and is now its Patron.


*Just before publication of this report Mr Rodney Davidson passed away on 13 April 2016.

TRUSTEES

PETER WATTS AM | Chairman

Peter Watts trained as an architect and landscape architect but has spent most of his working life as a museum director. He is Emeritus Director of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW and serves on the boards of the Bundanon Trust and the Official Establishments Trust. He is also a member of a number of committees involved in the visual and performing arts as well as building and garden conservation. He is a past Chairman of the National Art School and the Australian Garden History Society and Deputy Chair of Belvoir Street Theatre. Peter has a particular interest in the development of arts infrastructure and ensuring arts institutions are well managed, forward looking and sustainable.

Apart from his work on board and committees, Peter consults on a wide variety of matters involving conservation and the arts and also mentors aspiring arts leaders.

left | artist unknown, untitled (portrait of a Military Officer in an Indian Landscape), circa 1840-1860, oil on canvas on board
The Johnston Collection (A095)-1989
Tom Hazell has been involved with the management of people and property throughout his working life. In 1986 he was appointed Deputy Official Secretary to the Governor of Victoria, managing the Governor’s office. Previously he worked for nearly two decades as Protocol Officer at the University of Melbourne. Recently Tom Hazell has worked as supervisor on a number of restoration works of nationally classified buildings, bothco-ordinating the restoration works and helping with fund raising to finance the work. This role has given him extensive stakeholder management experience with community groups, Government Departments and local authorities. Currently Tom Hazell is supervising the restoration work at the St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church in North Melbourne.

Tom Hazell is fluent in the language and culture of Italy and is a former president of the Dante Alighieri Society of Victoria.

Dr Graeme Blackman is former Chairman of The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and a senior member of several other key boards, church and government groups. He was Chairman of Anglicare Victoria, the State’s largest child and family welfare organisation, for nine years and is a member of Archbishop in Council of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne as well as Chairman of the Anglican Development Fund Committee.

Dr Blackman is Chancellor of the University of Divinity, Chairman of the National Stem Cell Foundation of Australia, a director of the Australian Youth Orchestra and Chairman of Aged Care peak body, Leading Aged Services Australia.

Joe Groher is the Financial Controller at the Environment Protection Authority Victoria, responsible for financial services and providing strategic financial advice to the Authority. In his role as Financial Controller, Joe Groher is also responsible for the Project Management office looking after project management, procurement and contract management. Previously, he worked as Manager Financial Services at the City of Melbourne and the City of Greater Geelong and as the Management Accountant with Shell Australia, working both here and overseas. Joe Groher has extensive experience in governance, budgets and risk management, along with strategic planning and business process improvement.

The Johnston Collection is supported by a small but dedicated team of staff.

The National Trust representative | Trustee

Dr Graeme Blackman is former Chairman of The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and a senior member of several other key boards, church and government groups. He was Chairman of Anglicare Victoria, the State’s largest child and family welfare organisation, for nine years and is a member of Archbishop in Council of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne as well as Chairman of the Anglican Development Fund Committee.

Dr Blackman is Chancellor of the University of Divinity, Chairman of the National Stem Cell Foundation of Australia, a director of the Australian Youth Orchestra and Chairman of Aged Care peak body, Leading Aged Services Australia.

Joe Groher is the Financial Controller at the Environment Protection Authority Victoria, responsible for financial services and providing strategic financial advice to the Authority. In his role as Financial Controller, Joe Groher is also responsible for the Project Management office looking after project management, procurement and contract management. Previously, he worked as Manager Financial Services at the City of Melbourne and the City of Greater Geelong and as the Management Accountant with Shell Australia, working both here and overseas. Joe Groher has extensive experience in governance, budgets and risk management, along with strategic planning and business process improvement.

The Johnston Collection is supported by a small but dedicated team of staff.

Louis Le Vaillant
Director | Curator

Fil Natarelli
Manager Marketing & Administration

Felicity Cook
Marketing & Administration

Sue Chapman
Visitor Services, Retail

Robert Craig (resigned February 2015)
Visitor Services

Sarah Varlen (resigned April 2015)
Visitor Services

Irene Villis (commenced March 2015)
Visitor Services
The Ambassadors

The Ambassadors are drawn from a variety of backgrounds, providing unique insights and expertise to The Johnston Collection. They also offer valuable connections and play a key role in promoting The Johnston Collection to the wider community, along with encouraging bequests and donations. The Ambassadors also help to facilitate loans for exhibitions and other programs at The Johnston Collection and to assist in making links with other institutions.

Currently they are a group of seven appointed by the Trustees.

Ambassadors meet three times a year to discuss strategies to support The Johnston Collection. The Director of The Johnston Collection attends Ambassadors’ meetings and reports back to the Trustees.

This year the Ambassadors continued their valuable work promoting The Johnston Collection to outside specialists. With the generous support of TJC Ambassadors, Mr Roger Brookes and Andrew Dixon, the Sydney-based Australian Silver Society continued their bi-monthly series of Silver Talks at The Johnston Collection.

Other activities the Ambassadors were involved in this year include assisting with the loan of items for the Fairhall house-museum tour, AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD (2014) as well as working throughout the year to forge links with other house-museums and cultural institutions in and around Melbourne.

AMBASSADORS

Mr Peter Walsh
(Trustee representative)

Mr Roger Arturi-Phillips & Mrs Carmela Arturi-Phillips
(until November 2014)

Mr John Brookes

Mr Clive H (Roger) Brookes

Mr William (Bill) Davis

Mr Andrew Dixon

Mrs Robyn Ives (honorary member)

right | Continental ‘Meissen’ urn (pair), Germany, circa 1870 porcelain, gilt
The Johnston Collection (A0224-1989)
The Friends of The Johnston Collection has played an important role in the life of The Johnston Collection since the group was first established in 1999.

The Friends of The Johnston Collection support the development of the Collection through events and promoting the work of The Johnston Collection, along with raising funds for acquisitions for both the Collection and the Reference Library, for restoration projects in Fairhall, for museum equipment, and for support of The Johnston Collection programmes, including house-museum tours and lectures.

The Friends of The Johnston Collection had 210 members in 2015, including 27 new members. The Friends is managed by a Working Committee currently comprising seven people elected from the membership body.

This year The Friends provided outstanding and very generous support towards the 2014 Revitalisation of 152 Hotham Street raising funds of $58,996 to support the project including funds to purchase furniture and light fittings for the public spaces in the building.

In addition, The Friends provided more than $11,465 to support the operations of the museum, including Fairhall tours and the lecture programme presented by The Johnston Collection in 2015.

THE FRIENDS OF THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION COMMITTEE 2015

Sue Logie-Smith (President)
Robbie Brooks (Secretary)
Wendy Babilakis (until September 2014)
Mary Bourne
Sheila Butler
Jenny Carty
Sue O’Flynn
Tony Preston
Cathy Trinca
Jean Verwey

above | left – right
The Friends of The Johnston Collection events, the Annual Christmas Party, and the Fine and Decorative Arts Private Preview at Mossgreen’s.
These volunteers, who come to us from a variety of backgrounds and with a broad range of skills, are extremely dedicated and passionate about their work at The Johnston Collection.

Volunteers are pivotal in the running of the programme of events in Fairhall house-museum, as well as in the Shop and Reference Library. Volunteers also assist The Johnston Collection staff in curatorial, administrative, and publication editorial roles throughout the year.

In 2015 The Johnston Collection engaged 83 volunteers. Thirty-five of these volunteers worked as Guides rostered on every weekday and on the second Saturday and third Thursday evening of each month, taking visitors on guided tours through Fairhall house-museum. Another 16 volunteers worked in curatorial, administrative and editorial roles and another 32 volunteers sat on the W R Johnston Trust committees and the Friends of The Johnston Collection committees throughout the year.


Training for these tours involved working with guest curators, James Broadbent (An Englishman Abroad: At Home In British India) Martin Allen (Martin Allen Rearranges William Johnston’s Collection), and with members of The Geelong Artisans Group for the Christmas tour (’Twas The Night Before Christmas: Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014 - 2015). These training sessions enabled Volunteer Guides to deliver a fresh and informed presentation for each new tour and to work directly with some of Australia’s cultural leaders.

Some Volunteer Guides also initiated, developed and trained Volunteer Guides to present Special Menu tours (Unlocking The Collection, Fairhall & Flowers, and Staffordshire Stories) as well as preparing for the three regular house-museum tours.

This year volunteers donated over 5,900 hours to The Johnston Collection.

VOLUNTEER GUIDES

Volunteer Guides impart their extensive knowledge and passion for the fine and decorative arts to visitors along with their specialist knowledge of the items in The Johnston Collection. They bring William Johnston and his Collection to life and, at the same time, enable visitors to view and appreciate the fine and decorative arts in new and interesting ways.


Training for these tours involved working with guest curators, James Broadbent (An Englishman Abroad: At Home In British India) Martin Allen (Martin Allen Rearranges William Johnston’s Collection), and with members of The Geelong Artisans Group for the Christmas tour (’Twas The Night Before Christmas: Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014 - 2015). These training sessions enabled Volunteer Guides to deliver a fresh and informed presentation for each new tour and to work directly with some of Australia’s cultural leaders.

Some Volunteer Guides also initiated, developed and trained Volunteer Guides to present Special Menu tours (Unlocking The Collection, Fairhall & Flowers, and Staffordshire Stories) as well as preparing for the three regular house-museum tours.

Elizabeth Anderson
Lisa Arrowsmith
Deirdre Basham
Dani Balmford
Marguerite Bell
Ellen Dickison
Denise Farmery
Sue Flanagan
Sandy Gumley
Jan Heale
Walter Heale
Yvonne Hildebrand
Anne Hodges
Robyn Ives
Karina James
Irianna Kannellopoulou
Suzanne Katz
Louise Kinder
Wendy Lee
Linda McFadgen
Roisin Murphy
Christine Newcombe
Trish Nilsson
Anna Paule
Helen Raftis
Rosemary Ramage
Anita Simon
Julie Thompson
Denise Way
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers with a wide variety of skills and experience also assist at The Johnston Collection and play a vital role in the day-to-day running of the organisation. They are deployed in a range of roles including Collection Management such as cataloguing, registration and inventory control; Administration tasks including maintaining our subscriber database, assisting with mail-outs and general office duties; Reference Library roles including cataloguing and inventory control; Shop positions such as assisting in the selection and purchase of items for the shop as well as pricing, displaying goods and customer service.

“...[the volunteer guides] did a wonderful job at making me feel very welcome and making the whole experience vastly more enjoyable.”

SARAH PRICE, EMAIL 12 MARCH 2015

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

A Fundraising Sub-Committee was established in October 2014 to spearhead the launch of the OPENING DOORS | The 25th Anniversary Fundraising Appeal with the aim of securing the long-term future of the house-museum. The Committee met seven times during the year to develop and execute strategies for the campaign.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE 2015

Peter Watts (Chairman)
Peter Walsh (representing Trustees)
Sue Logie-Smith (President, The Friends of The Johnston Collection)
Elizabeth Anderson (Volunteer Guide)
Lisa Arrowsmith (Volunteer Guide)
Holly Barbaro (volunteer)
Bernadette Dennis (Prospect Researcher)
Anne Hodges (Volunteer Guide)
Margaret Knight
Linda McFadgen (Volunteer Guide)
Anna Paule (Volunteer Guide)
Robert Thomson (resigned December 2014)
OPENING DOORS

In 2015 The Johnston Collection commenced its OPENING DOORS | The 25th Anniversary Fundraising Appeal with the aim of securing the long-term future of the house-museum.

The OPENING DOORS public appeal was launched in May 2015 by fashion designer and former guest-curator, Akira Isogawa, at two consecutive evening events at The Johnston Collection. OPENING DOORS is the first appeal ever set up by The Johnston Collection and, with a target of $1 million to be raised over two years, the objective is to raise sufficient funds to enable the revitalisation and upgrading of Fairhall house-museum and garden; a continuation of the innovative public programmes at the Collection including the commissioning of new works by Australian artists, designers, and creative communities; and for an increase and broadening of public participation in the activities and events provided by the house-museum.

The Johnston Collection applauds the generous inaugural support of the OPENING DOORS appeal by the following individuals and foundations:

**Chelsea © $5000 +**
- Lisa Arrowsmith
- Maggie Cash
- Graham & Anne Hodges
- Sir Wilfred Brookes Charitable Trust

**Sheraton 1000 +**
- Sirius Foundation Ltd
- Holly & Joseph Barbaro
- Christine Bell
- Carol des Cognets
- Andrew Dixon
- Diana English
- Anne & Peter Glynn
- Stephen & Sandy Gumley
- Robyn & Bill Ives
- Karina & Sholto James
- Dorothy Morgan
- Robert Thomson & Hugh Ratten
- Cathy & Philip Trinca
- Peter Walsh
- Peter Watts AM

**Coalport © $500 +**
- Anonymous (2)
- Dani Balmford
- Louise Box
- Bronwen Cavallo
- Jennifer Carty
- John S Chambers
- Sally Cooper
- Bernadette Dennis
- Jan & Walter Heale
- Irene Irvine
- Irene Kearsley
- Vivien Knowles
- Zara Kimpton OAM
- Heather Mallison
- Patricia Nilsson
- Rosemary (Posey) O’Collins
- Rosemary Stipanov
- Sue Logie-Smith

**Other**
- Anonymous (1)
- Pamela Bailey Palmer
- Barbara Beard
- Sheila Butler
- Adrian Dickens
- Diana Dolan
- Keira Gee
- Pamela Hartman
- Allan Hamilton
- Darren Head
- Sally Holdsworth
- Marilou Hudson
- Helen Hunwick
- Victoria Jennings
- Gillian Lambert
- Robyn Lateef
- John & Andrea Maynard
- Leonie Moran
- John Nairn
- Anne Neri
- Sue O’Flynn
- Susan Perry
- Jesse Raen
- Elspeth Riggall
- Anne Riseborough
- Jennifer Ross
- Pamela Spradbery
- Richard Stuart-Smith
- Marjorie Todd
- Margaret Toomey
- Jane Walters
- Judy Watts
- Sue Williams
- Kerry Viksne
- Margaret Ygoa

Information correct as of 30 June 2015
THE FRIENDS OF THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION DONORS

The Johnston Collection is proud to acknowledge the generous support and encouragement that it receives through annual giving. The following have given over $20:

Anonymous (32)
Bill & Terri Allen ^
Elizabeth Anderson-Ovenden ^
Roger & Carmela Arturi Phillips *
Stella Axarlis ^
Eugene Barilo von Reisberg ^
Peter Bennett * #
Paulette Bisley ^
Clive H (Roger) Brookes * ^
David & Mary Bourne * # ^
Louise Box * # ^
Heather Campbell ^
Margaret Cash *
Bronwen Cavallo * # ^
John & Loreen Chambers * ^
Andrew Churchyard * # ^
Bernadette Dennis * # ^
Adrian Dickens ^
Carol des Cognets * ?
Marg Goodall ^
Helen Hunwick * # ^
Irene Kearsley *
Zara Kimpton * # ^
Richard Knight & James Baxter ^
Vivien Knowles * # ^
Sue & Rob Logie-Smith # * ^
Patricia McCallum ^
Patricia McKenzie ^
Heather Mallinson *
Greg & Leonie Moran ^
Diana Morgan #
Julie Nicholson & Bernard Crosbie * # ^
Posie O’Collins * # ^
Lady Potter AC * # ^
Anne Preston-Flint * # ^
Geoff Richards * # ^
Prue Roberts * # ^
Jennifer Rass * # ^
Anita Simons #
Maxine Sindler * # ^
Marilyn & Charles Smith # * ^
Emily Sreco * # ^
Rosie Stipanov * # ^
The Marjorie Kingston Charitable Trust *
Robert Thomson & Hugh Ratten * # ^
Julie Walsh * ^
Jane Walters * # ^
Michelle Williams ^
Gabrielle Walters ^
Heather Campbell ^
Adrian Dickens ^
Peter Bennett ^
Paulette Bisley ^
Margaret Joseph ^

^ made donation to the Collection in 2014-2015
# made donation to the Collection in 2013-2014
* made donation to the Collection in 2012-2013

BEQUESTS
The Johnston Collection acknowledges with great appreciation ongoing bequests from the following benefactors. These bequests will be invaluable in the achievement of the Collection’s objectives:
Nina Stanton bequest
(to acquire 18th century porcelain)
Alwynne Jona OAM bequest
Merell Browne MDIA

CULTURAL LOANS
The Johnston Collection would like to acknowledge the many private and public lenders for their support of TJC exhibitions and house-museum tours.
We are particularly grateful to the support of The National Trust of Australia (NSW) for their support of the house-museum tour, An Englishman Abroad: At Home in British India

SPONSORS & SUPPORTING PARTNERS
AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: AT HOME IN BRITISH INDIA | HOUSE–MUSEUM TOUR
James Broadbent AM
Clive H (Roger) Brookes
Suzie Forge
Harps Australia
Christine Reid
Richmond Football Club
Prof. Colin Sullivan AO & Janette Sullivan
The National Trust of Australia (NSW)
The Geelong Artisans Group

MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION | HOUSE–MUSEUM TOUR
Martin Allen Antiques

above | Fairhall: The Yellow Room (as curated by James Broadbent for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD | At Home in British India, for the annual House of Ideas series, July 2014 – October 2014)
Photographer Adam Luttick | Luts Photography
THE FRIENDS OF THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

2014 REVITALISATION PROJECT

The Friends of The Johnston Collection provided funds of $58,996 from their reserve to support the 2014 Revitalisation Project for 152 Hotham Street.

FURNITURE & FITTINGS

The Friends of The Johnston Collection provided funds for the purchase of furniture and light fittings for 152 Hotham Street. (See Appendix 5 for full list of Furniture & Fittings)

COLLECTION

Contributed funds towards the installation of a new picture hanging system in the Study of Fairhall.

CONSERVATION

Contributed funds towards conservation treatment of the frame of untitled (presentation of the Christ Child, attributed to Pietro de Cortona (A0944-1989), and on the Venetian polychrome mirror (A0018-1989).

PUBLICATIONS

Contributed funds towards the production and distribution of fairhall issues 12, 13, and 14.

PROGRAMMES

Contributed funds towards the development of Fairhall house-museum tours AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India (18 July 2014 – 21 October 2014), and MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION (13 March 2015 – 23 June 2015)

LECTURES

Contributed funds towards costs for bringing the following interstate lecturers:

FURNISHING THE COLONIAL HOUSE | INDIA & AUSTRALIA, CONTRASTS & PARALLELS
James Broadbent | 16 July 2014

THE BRITISH-INDIAN BUNGALOW
Clive Lucas | 13 August 2014

STAFFORDSHIRE OR CANTON, CALCUTTA OR BIRMINGHAM? | HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN BRITISH COLONIAL INDIA
James Broadbent & Christine Reid | 27 August 2014

INDIAN ACCENT | EUROPEAN STYLE IN INDIA
Ian Stephenson | 10 September 2014

EATING EMPIRE 2 | SPICING AND THE TASTE FOR CURRY
Jacqui Newling | 24 September 2014

‘DRESS SOFT’ | FROM THE PRINCE OF WALES TO THE PREPPY LOOK
Peter McNeil | 15 October 2014

THE HUGUENOT ARTISTIC TRADITION IN AUSTRALIA
Robert Nash | 24 October 2014

1980’S FASHION | FROM THE STREET TO THE MUSEUM
Peter McNeil | 24 February 2015

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right | Fairhall: The Study (as curated by James Broadbent for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD | At Home in British India, for the annual House of Ideas series, July 2014 – October 2014) Photographer Adam Luttsick | Lults Photography
The Johnston Collection Programmes
Our Activities & Programmes

The Johnston Collection provides an extensive programme of changing house-museum tours, including menu tours and other specially curated house-museum tours, study series, lectures, and special events throughout the year.

It also runs a range of outreach programmes, engaging with local communities as well as providing internships and work experience for selected post-graduate and secondary school students.

The support group, The Friends of The Johnston Collection, runs its own series of events and activities, including the publishing of their magazine, fairhall, three times a year. Activities and ongoing educational enrichment programmes are also provided to Volunteer Guides and Volunteers throughout the year.

The Johnston Collection also incorporates a retail shop and a reference library.

“I think this is the most interesting collection in Melbourne. I tell everyone about it…”

PATRICIA KELSELL, FACEBOOK, 3 OCTOBER 2014

above | Fairhall: The White Room (as curated by James Broadbent for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD | At Home in British India, for the annual House of Ideas series, July 2014 – October 2014) Photographer Adam Luttick | Luts Photography
Fairhall house-museum tours

It was William Johnston’s wish that Fairhall be regularly rearranged. Since it was first opened to the public in November 1990, a series of creative individuals with a background in architecture, design, art, interiors, fashion and antiques, have been invited to rearrange (or ‘guest curate’) The Johnston Collection. From this, three distinct annual house tour series have emerged.
For his collaboration with The Johnston Collection, Broadbent curated *AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India* (Friday 18 July 2014 – Tuesday 21 October 2014), a guided house-museum tour broadly exploring life in India at the time of the British Raj and, in particular, the life of an upper-class Englishman living in India during this period. For this project, Broadbent recreated Fairhall as a British-style interior found in India around the 1830s, using the house-museum as an evocative background in which to consider the early 19th century British response to things Indian. *AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India* examined the colonial domestic interior and the factors that shaped its appearance during this period. This house-museum tour also provided insights into the relationships between European, Indian and Chinese craftsmen in the first half of the 19th century.

Using Fairhall as a space to convey the stories of colonial British-India, Broadbent created themes for each of the rooms. Focusing on the early 19th century British-Indian items in the Collection, Broadbent carefully selected pieces for each room that reinforced and elaborated on each of these themes. The Blue Room, for example, was conceived to represent imperial Indian Raj style and for this room Broadbent selected the grander pieces, such as the ‘salon suite’, which William Johnston had acquired from Government House in Kolkata (Calcutta), and other examples of imperial Indian style from the Collection for display. The Green Room was transformed into a ‘night after’ scene following an indulgent and rowdy dinner party in colonial India, informed by a popular painting of the period, A Day’s Pleasure by English artist Charles D’Oyley. In contrast, The White Room was used as a more conventional exhibition space with the rare Indian company paintings from the Collection put out for display.

A Study Series *OUT OF INDIA* was also presented with well-known art and cultural historians giving a series of eight lectures, expanding on the themes introduced in the house-museum tour. In *OUT OF INDIA*, the architecture, furniture and furnishings, food, fashion and gardens of the period were explored, providing additional insights into life in India during British colonial rule. This Study Series was also developed to engage more widely with audiences and interest groups alongside our regular and new visitors to the house-museum tour.

The Johnston Collection’s vision for the House of Ideas series is to provide an opportunity for Fairhall and the Collection to be continuously re-contextualised and re-historicised with the aim of attracting new, more diverse audiences as well as repeat visitors with each new tour. With Broadbent’s specialist knowledge of colonial history applied to his curation of Fairhall, with the focus on the British-Indian items in the Collection, *AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India* enabled the histories of the British-Indian colonial period alongside those of William Johnston and his Collection to be shared in a fresh way, providing a new understanding of the Collection to first-time and repeat visitors alike.

A large proportion of visitors to *AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India* were first-time visitors to The Johnston Collection. To attract new visitors to this tour, The Johnston Collection targeted its marketing campaign to the local British-Indian and Indian communities as well as to
“I was most impressed by the exhibition I saw in October on British India, and look forward to seeing more next time in Melbourne.”

ROS COVENTRY, EMAIL 3 DECEMBER 2015

heritage and history enthusiasts. To this end, links with local British-Indian and Indian community groups, historical societies and history teacher associations were initiated and advertisements were placed in local and community media, as well as heritage and art journals. Articles about AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India were published in the major press, and online blogs and social media platforms. ABC Radio 774 also featured an interview about this tour promoting a further awareness of The Johnston Collection to the wider community.

AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India was conceived to feature the British Indian items in The Johnston Collection (regarded as one of the strengths of the Collection) and to provide an opportunity to engage with and be an attractor to British-Indian and Indian communities living in Melbourne who may not be aware of the house-museum’s existence, let alone its collection strengths. Anecdotally, this group was well-represented amongst first-time visitors on this tour and many expressed to the Collection’s volunteer guides, both their enjoyment of the tour and their discovery of The Johnston Collection.

For repeat visitors, James Broadbent’s re-historicisation of Fairhall from its previous iteration as an English-style interior, into a British-Indian domestic interior in AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India, provided a transformative experience. This was achieved by allowing the integrity of William Johnston’s collection to be retained whilst enabling previous visitors to re-engage with Johnston’s collection through the alternate history presented in AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India.

AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India was officially launched by Peter Lovell, Director, Lovell Chen, Architects and Heritage Consultants, at an opening function held at The Johnston Collection on 17 July 2014.

CHRISTMAS AT THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

Since 2006, artists and crafts people from a different region of Victoria have been engaged by The Johnston Collection to create works inspired by Fairhall and the Collection for the Christmas at The Johnston Collection house-museum tour.

Hundreds of makers are involved in producing the work for this popular tour each year. The artists work on their projects for up to 18 months before the show and then from November to February, the works are displayed in Fairhall against the backdrop of William Johnston’s collection.

Through working with the creative guilds, craft societies and communities of artists across the State, The Johnston Collection has been able to support the continuation of the traditions of crafting and artistry in rural Victoria. When creating work for the Christmas tour, makers are encouraged by The Johnston Collection to use their craft in new and challenging ways. By supporting the continuation of old crafts utilizing new designs, The Johnston Collection has helped to re-invigorate the guilds, societies and communities of participating artists.

above | Fairhall: The Green Drawing Room (room decorations designed and made by members of The Geelong Artisans Group for ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS | Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014, November 2014 – February 2015), Photographer Adam Luttick | Lutt Photography
‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS | CHRISTMAS AT THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION 2014
6 November 2014 – 24 February 2015


Working collaboratively as part of the Geelong Artisans Group, participants include members of Geelong & District Porcelain Painters, Geelong Handweavers & Spinners Guild Inc, Geelong Patchworkers & Quilters’ Guild Inc, Leopold Lacemakers, The Bead Society of Victoria (Geelong branch), The Embroiderers Guild of Victoria (Geelong branch), The Trolly Dolly Cloth Doll Club Inc, as well as individual artists.

(See Appendix 1 for full list of contributors)

This is the second time that makers from the Geelong region have presented their work at Fairhall, with their first Christmas at The Johnston Collection exhibition in 2009-2010.

Taking the brief (which is the same each year) – that each creation should be inspired by objects in The Johnston Collection, the story of William Johnston and Christmas itself – the makers worked on their pieces for over eighteen months with some individual pieces taking hundreds of hours to complete. Displayed in the Kitchen for example, was a finely hand-sewn teacosy made by lacemaker Wendy Rowe which took her more than 230 hours to complete, and a milk jug cover that she worked on using 158 lace bobbins for more than six months. The painstaking art of delicate beadwork was also displayed in the Bead Society of Victoria’s (Geelong branch) many works throughout the exhibition, including a draughts set in The Study constructed from 12,000 tiny beads.

This well-received tour promoted the work of Geelong, Bellarine and Surf Coast area artists and craftspeople to a large state-wide audience, bringing a greater recognition and appreciation of the creative work from this region of Victoria.

‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS was officially launched by Barbara Abley AM, G21 Director and Chair, Arts and Culture Pillar, at an opening function held at The Johnston Collection on 5 November, 2014.

“Thoroughly enjoyed the “Twas the night before Christmas” tour yesterday ~ many thanks to The Johnston Collection for putting on such a wonderful display”

BARRIE CAROL DU PLESSIS,
FACEBOOK, 29 JANUARY 2015
WILLIAM JOHNSTON AND HIS COLLECTION

In the William Johnston and his Collection tour, individuals from the wider community are invited to rearrange Fairhall, generally using only the items in the Collection. Recent guest curators have included those with a background in design, interiors and antiques. This tour provides an opportunity for talented individuals with a strong and distinctive aesthetic, along with an expertise in and knowledge of antiques, collecting and interior design, to share their response and interpretation of William Johnston’s collection with visitors.

MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION

13 March – 23 June 2015

Martin Allen, founder of Martin Allen Antiques in South Melbourne, rearranged Fairhall for the William Johnston & His Collection series, in 2015. Martin Allen is a collector and antiques dealer who has been in the business for more than three decades, specialising in 17th and 18th century English furniture.

Allen regarded his collaboration with The Johnston Collection as an opportunity to share his considerable knowledge and passion for the decorative arts with a new museum audience. He is a great admirer of the 18th century London cabinet-maker and furniture designer, Thomas Chippendale, and for his rearrangement, Allen introduced contemporary soft furnishings by surface designer, Emily Holmes, featuring the mastercraftsman, with the aim of encouraging visitors to think about and enjoy Chippendale’s work.

For his rearrangement, Allen applied his personal maxim of ‘more is more’. To this end, he brought out from storage many items in the Collection that had rarely been on display. These included the Anglo-Indian circular Centre Table (circa 1840) which had been on loan to Government House for at least a decade. This impressive table, with a figured marble top and heavily carved pedestal, was purchased by William Johnston from a Maharajah’s palace.

Allen’s ‘maximalist’ response to his rearrangement of Fairhall, enabled visitors to Fairhall to see, perhaps for the first time, the true extent of William Johnston’s collection.

The MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION tour engaged with many antique collectors and dealers and other affiliated groups. To further promote the tour, The Johnston Collection printed flyers which were distributed both to outlets within the antiques sector, and more generally.

MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION was officially launched by Justice Michelle Gordon, at an opening function held at The Johnston Collection on 12 March 2015.
“... The Johnston Collection operates as a museum, but with one big difference: the rooms are completely rearranged several times a year. It’s what Johnston stipulated in his will – and it’s what Le Vaillant loves most about the collection. It’s a living thing. “We invite people in to curate the house – people who are likeminded to Johnston,” he explains. At the moment, the house is curated by antique dealer Martin Allen.”

ROSE JOHNSTONE, MEG CRAWFORD, TIME OUT, MAY 2015

OTHER TOURS

SPECIAL ‘MENU’ TOURS

In addition to the three main house-museum tours each year, special menu tours have been developed to focus on a particular area of the Collection and enable visitors to see aspects of items in the Collection that are often hidden or go unnoticed during other Fairhall tours.

UNLOCKING THE COLLECTION

The Unlocking The Collection series of house-museum tours were programmed for one day each month from July to October 2014 and again from April to June 2015. The Unlocking The Collection tour allowed visitors to see the hidden features of items in the Collection. Working in pairs, Volunteer Guides unlocked cupboards, pulled out secret drawers and lifted the lids and covers of objects, to reveal the often intricate and embellished interiors of pieces in the Collection.

STAFFORDSHIRE STORIES

The Staffordshire Stories house-museum tour was presented on one day each month from July to October 2014 and again from April to June 2015. This tour focused on the Staffordshire figures that were of special interest to William Johnston, exploring the wide variety of popular and historical subjects that the figures represent.

FAIRHALL & FLOWERS

The Fairhall & Flowers house-museum tour was programmed for one day each month from July to October 2014 and again from April to June 2015. This special tour explored the social and cultural histories of botanical motifs through their representation on porcelain, printings, furniture and other decorative objects in the Collection.
Study Series

In conjunction with our regular lecture series, The Johnston Collection runs a number of Study Series from March to October. Presented by well-known art and cultural historians, the Study Series allows for the exploration of a topic to be further extended and developed. A Study Series will often continue with themes explored in a concurrent house-museum tour.

“...The house experience (which includes a guided tour) is complemented by a exhibition programme and a lively and thoughtful series of public programmes and study days for the curious and information hungry.”

MINNIE RENAUT, TRIP ADVISOR, 1 NOVEMBER 2014

OUT OF INDIA STUDY SERIES

FURNISHING THE COLONIAL HOUSE | INDIA & AUSTRALIA, CONTRASTS & PARALLELS

16 July 2014
James Broadbent, cultural historian and guest curator of the house-museum tour AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India.

QUEEN VICTORIA ’S MAHARAJAH | THE MANY LIVES OF DULEEP SINGH

30 July 2014
Eugene Barilo von Reisberg, writer, researcher, and art consultant.

THE BRITISH–INDIAN BUNGALOW

13 August 2014
Clive Lucas, architecture and heritage consultant and Director of Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners Pty Ltd.

STAFFORDSHIRE OR CANTON, CALCUTTA OR BIRMINGHAM? HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN BRITISH COLONIAL INDIA

27 August 2014
James Broadbent, cultural historian and guest curator of the house-museum tour AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India and Christine Reid, garden writer and convenor of OUT OF INDIA Study Series.

INDIAN ACCENT | EUROPEAN STYLE IN INDIA

10 September 2014
Ian Stephenson, Curator, University of New England.

EATING EMPIRE 2 | SPICING AND THE TASTE FOR CURRY

24 September 2014
Jacqui Newling, Sydney Living Museums (formerly Historic Houses Trust of NSW) resident gastronomer.
HEAD FOR THE HILLS | MT MACEDON MEETS THE RAJ

8 October 2014
Stephen Ryan, horticulturalist, author and broadcaster.

WRAPPING THE BODY, DRAPING THE ROOM: KASHMIR SHAWLS IN BRITISH INDIA

22 October 2014
Susan Scollay, independent art historian and curator specialising in Islamic art and culture and historic textiles and contributing editor to HALL, the London-based journal of carpet, textile and Islamic art, and Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, London.

THE SYLVIA SAGONA STUDY SERIES

THE REVOLUTION, ROUSSEAU AND THE RESTAURANT | THE INVENTION OF THE RESTAURANT IN ANCIEN REGIME PARIS

17 July 2014
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

ILLICIT PLEASURES | CHANGING ATTITUDES TO THE REPRESENTATION OF FOOD AND FEAST IN FRENCH ART AND LITERATURE

7 August 2014
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

JANE AUSTEN SERIES 2014

MANSFIELD PARK 1814 STUDY SERIES

NO MORAL EFFECT ON THE MIND: MUSIC IN MANSFIELD PARK

28 August 2014
Gillian Dooley, Honorary Senior Research Fellow in English and Special Collections Librarian at Flinders University, Adelaide.

‘WITH SHIPS & SAILORS, SHE FELT HERSELF AT HOME’

11 September 2014
Lise Rodgers, dramatic performer.

MANSFIELD PARK 1814

7 October 2014
John Wiltshire, Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University.

THE EUGENE BARILO VON REISBERG STUDY SERIES

CAPTURING GLAMOUR | SOCIETY PORTRAITS DURING THE LONG 19TH CENTURY 1789 – 1914

MASTERS OF THE ‘SPEAKING LIKENESS’

25 September 2014
Eugene Barilo von Reisberg, writer, researcher, and art consultant.

THE CONTINENTAL ROMANTICS

9 October 2014
Eugene Barilo von Reisberg, writer, researcher, and art consultant.
BETWEEN TRADITION & MODERNITY
23 October 2014
Eugene Barilo von Reisberg, writer, researcher, and art consultant.

THE SYLVIA SAGONA STUDY SERIES
THE INVENTION OF LEISURE
16 April 2015
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

THE BEAST IN THE BOUDOIR
23 April 2015
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

DISCOVERING THE SEASIDE
23 April 2015
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

COURTESANS AND CONSPICUOUS CONSUMPTION
7 May 2015
Sylvia Sagona, internationally recognised specialist on 19th century French society.

JANE AUSTEN SERIES 2015
THE FORTUNES OF THE ENIGMATIC MR DARCY
4 June 2015
John Wiltshire, Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University.

GETTING DRESSED WITH JANE AUSTEN
11 June 2015
Lise Rodgers, dramatic performer.

PROJECT SERIES
VIRGIN AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE FASHION FESTIVAL CULTURAL PROGRAM PROJECT SERIES 2015
FASHION IN LITERATURE | OUT LOUD | 3 LADIES OF STYLE: 3 AUTHORS, 3 ERAS, 3 CONTINENTS
19 February 2015
Lise Rodgers, dramatic performer.

1980s FASHION | FROM THE STREET TO THE MUSEUM
24 February 2015
Peter McNeil, Professor of Design History, University of Technology Sydney and Foundation Professor of Fashion Studies at Stockholm University, Sweden.

SPECIAL SERIES: MELBOURNE STORIES
‘WHELAN THE WRECKER WAS HERE ’
14 May 2015
Robyn Annear, author.

REMEMBERING GEORGES
17 June 2015
Annette Cooper, author.
Lectures

Lectures are held regularly (usually twice-weekly) in the Gallery and the Kent Room from March to October. Speakers hail from a wide variety of disciplines and address a broad spectrum of topics.

**DR JOHNSON AND WOMEN**
15 July 2014
John Byrne, Governor, Dr Johnson’s House, London.

**CHARLES DICKENS’ JOURNALISM**
24 July 2014
Margaret Mendelawitz, researcher and Dicken’s specialist. Nicholas Partridge, radio and television journalist and broadcaster.

**PLUMASSIER | MASTER OF THE ART OF THE PLUME**
5 August 2014
Paola di Trocchio, Curator, Fashion and Textiles at the NGV, Melbourne.

**THREADS ACROSS THE EMPIRE**
6 August 2014
Dorothy Morgan, guest curator & lecturer at The Johnston Collection.

**THE IMPACT OF THE REFORMATION ON BRITISH ART**
14 August 2014
Ian George, art critic

**SIR JOSHUA & THE DOCTOR**
19 August 2014
John Wiltshire, Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University.

**FROM KEDLESTON TO CALCUTTA | LORD CURZON & INDIA**
20 August 2014
Dorothy Morgan, guest curator & lecturer at The Johnston Collection.

**A PAINTER IN REVOLUTIONARY TIMES**
3 September 2014
Peter McPhee, Professorial Fellow at The University of Melbourne.

**THE ECSTASY OF TEA AND PORCELAIN**
14 October 2014
Robyn Ives, President of the Wedgwood Society of Australia.

**‘DRESS SOFT ’: FROM THE PRINCE OF WALES TO THE PREPPY LOOK**
15 October 2014
Peter McNeil, Professor of Design History, University of Technology Sydney and Foundation Professor of Fashion Studies, Stockholm University, Sweden.
THE HUGUENOT ARTISTIC TRADITION IN AUSTRALIA
24 October 2014
Robert Nash, Secretary of the Huguenot Society of Australia.

IN THE WRITER’S HOUSE MUSEUM | VICTOR HUGO’S HAUTEVILLE HOUSE
26 March 2015
Bertrand Bourgeois, lecturer at The University of Melbourne and author.

THE SPIRITUALITY OF MODERN ART
8 April 2015
Ian George, art critic.

“NOT TO MODERN TASTE ” | THE PLEASURES AND PROBLEMS OF DEFINING DECORATION
29 April 2015
Sophia Errey, artist, educator and writer

THE ENCHANTED GARDEN IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND
5 May 2015
Luke Morgan, Senior Lecturer in Art History and Theory at Monash University.

FANNY BURNEY | HER FAMILY, HER FAME, HER FORTITUDE
12 May 2015
John Bryne, Governor, Dr Johnson’s House, London.

ROAD SKATES AND A HISTORY OF THE WORLD
20 May 2015
Valerie Krips, Fellow in the School of Culture and Communications at The University of Melbourne and formerly of the English Department, University of Pittsburgh.

DISCOVERING AUSTRALIAN FLORA
26 May 2015
Jennifer Jones-O’Neill, Head, School of Arts at Federation University.

CHOCOLATE, WOMEN & EMPIRE
28 May 2015
Emma Robertson, Lecturer in History at La Trobe University.
Building & Collection
Buildings

BUILDING REDEVELOPMENT STAGE 01

The Building Redevelopment | Stage 01 of 152 Hotham Street was completed by contractors, Ausbuild Pty. Ltd., in late February 2015 and the visitor reception, shop, administration offices, and reference library were relocated from 150 Hotham Street to the refurbished building.

A contemporary design, drawn-up by trethewan - architecture interior design, was used for the refurbishment to more strongly delineate the administration and reception spaces and their functions from those of the house-museum.

On the ground floor, the refurbishment incorporated a more spacious visitor reception area leading to an enlarged shop space, with an adjacent kitchen and storeroom. The redesign allows for greater functionality and accessibility, along with increased connectivity to other areas in the building.

The first floor was redesigned with one large office space with a large central desk divided into individual work stations. Adjacent to this is the reference library, open kitchen and a private meeting area.

The redesign also incorporated a purpose-built collection storage room on the first floor. This room has temperature controls and includes a BAC and Dexion collection storage system providing a more functional workspace for The Johnston Collection’s curatorial team.

The building redesign also included the placement of a doorway connecting Fairhall and 152 Hotham Street on the first floor level, enabling direct access to the house-museum from the collection storage and the administration offices, creating a more functional and connected space.

With contributions from The Friends of the Johnston Collection, contemporary furniture and light fittings were purchased for the redesigned spaces. Referencing William Johnston’s collection, the items selected were by contemporary British and European designers, craftspeople and companies that continue to maintain traditions of design and style based on English Georgian period furniture and European lights. (see Appendix 5 for list of furniture and fittings purchased)
ACQUISITIONS

In keeping with The Johnston Collection’s Deed of Trust (1 June 1987) which states that the Collection ‘shall also include other antiques and/or arts works which by any means and at any time may be added to The WR Johnston Collection’, a number of items were added to the Collection this year through gifts and purchases from bequest funds. These acquisitions enable The Johnston Collection to enhance and develop the museum’s displays or study collection as a primary resource for research relating to one of the museum’s key themes.

This year Christine Bell gifted ten items including exemplary examples produced by the leading 18th and 19th century English porcelain manufacturers, Wedgwood and Staffordshire, as well as a collection of four 18th century enamel patch boxes. Interest accrued on The Nina Stanton Bequest to acquire 18th century porcelain for The Johnston Collection enabled the purchase of eight items for the Collection including a number of Wedgwood portrait medallions.

(See Appendix 4 for full list of Acquisitions)

CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Providing care of the Collection is a primary objective for The Johnston Collection. This year a number of treatments were completed including restoration work on the frame of untitled (presentation of the Christ Child, attributed to Pietro de Cortona (A0944-1989), on the Venetian polychrome mirror (A0018-1989), and porcelain and polychrome enamel jardinière (A05069-1989).

above | left
Flight Barr and Barr period (1783-1840)Worcester porcelain factory (est. 1751-2009)urn (pair), Worcester, England, circa 1815 porcelain, enamel, gilt
The Johnston Collection (A0452-1989)

above | right
detail, (frame) untitled (presentation of the Christ Child), Italy, circa 1635
(formerly attributed to) Pietro da Cortona, Italy, (1596-1669) oil on stretched canvas
The Johnston Collection (A0944-1989)
### VISITORS

The City of Melbourne planning permit allowing The Johnston Collection to operate as a museum in a residential area stipulates that no more than 24 visitors are permitted to be in Fairhall house-museum at any given time, with a maximum of 72 visitors per day. A maximum of 33 people are permitted to attend a lecture in the Kent Room at the same time.

A total of 6,783 people visited The Johnston Collection for house-museum tours and lectures in 2014 - 2015, a decrease of 15% over the previous year.

This year, 5,743 people visited Fairhall house-museum (down 18%). There was a drop in visitor numbers to all three house-museum tours over the year. The reason for this is not entirely clear, but can partly be attributed to a reduction in the number of house-museum tours scheduled during 2014 - 2015 while the Administration Building was being refurbished and visitors were taken to 150 Hotham Street for their introduction and refreshments.

Lecture attendance grew by 5.3% from the previous year with 1040 people coming to The Johnston Collection to attend a lecture, study series or workshop. There was a 45% increase in people attending lectures for the period July to October 2014 compared with 2013-2014 figures, with a total of 634 people attending lectures during this period. This included 282 who attended the eight lectures in the OUT OF INDIA Study Series.

Attendance at the Lecture Series from March – June 2015 was down 26% with 406 people attending lectures during this period, compared with 552 the previous year. Lower attendance figures for lectures in the first half of 2015 can be attributed partly to the lecture programme being reduced while the relocation of the lecture space from 150 Hotham Street to the newly refurbished Administration Building, took place. To accommodate the relocation and to minimise disruption, only 17 lectures were programmed for the period March to October 2015 compared with 24 lectures programmed in the previous year for this period.

### THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION VISITS

#### HOUSE-MUSEUM TOUR:

**AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD:
AT HOME IN BRITISH INDIA**

18 July 2014 – 21 October 2014

| TOTAL VISITS: 1245 |

#### ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS | CHRISTMAS AT THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION 2014

6 November 2014 – 24 February 2015

| TOTAL VISITS: 3506 |

#### MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION

13 March – 23 June 2015

| TOTAL VISITS: 992 |

#### LECTURES:

| TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 1040 |

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*below | Martin Allen and guests at the opening of MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION.*
Our Engagement With The Community

The Johnston Collection participated in a number of community events throughout the year, with unique programmes curated especially for these events. With the aim of engaging more broadly with the community, the special outreach programmes targeted groups who might not ordinarily visit The Johnston Collection. They provided additional opportunities for everyone to enjoy the Collection, as well as increasing awareness of the Collection in the community and encouraging new visitors to the house-museum.

SPECIAL EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE
MELBOURNE (OHM)
26 July 2014

The Johnston Collection has participated in this annual citywide event since 2010. Entrance to Fairhall is by ballot only, with the house-museum receiving 1,275 ballots in 2014 for the 66 available places (the maximum visitors per day allowed under The Johnston Collection’s permit to operate as a museum in a residential area). OHM said that, of the buildings only accessible by ballot, “the numbers of applications for the ballot... is a true reflection of their popularity”.

VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL
6 – 10 October 2014

The Johnston Collection participated in the Victorian Seniors Festival programme of events in 2014, offering a discounted admission price to Seniors to tour Fairhall during the week of 6 – 10 October.

OPEN DAY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE 2015
26 January 2015

The Director and Volunteer Guides were present at Open Day at Government House 2015 to talk to visitors about The Johnston Collection and Government House.

MELBOURNE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL
10 - 11 March 2015

The Johnston Collection participates in the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival annually, engaging a different prominent Melbourne chef or food artisan each year to prepare and present dishes based on a particular theme. In 2015, affineur, Anthony Femia of the Cheese Cellar at the Spring Street Grocer, presented Still Life with Cheese. Visitors were served specially selected cheeses with matched wines in different rooms in Fairhall, during their tour of MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION.
VIRGIN AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE FASHION FESTIVAL CULTURAL PROGRAM PROJECT SERIES 2015

March 2015

The Johnston Collection was selected to be included in the official VAMFF Cultural Program 2014 with two lectures: FASHION IN LITERATURE | OUT LOUD | 3 LADIES OF STYLE: 3 AUTHORS, 3 ERAS, 3 CONTINENTS with Lise Rodgers (19 February) and 1980S FASHION | FROM THE STREET TO THE MUSEUM with Peter McNeil (24 February).

ARTISANS OF GEELONG SHOWCASE 2015

13 & 14 June 2015

The Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014 exhibition, ’TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, was displayed by the Artisans of Geelong at the Geelong Club in June 2015, further increasing access to the works created by the contributors from the Geelong and Surf Coast area.

AUSTRALIAN SILVER SOCIETY TALKS

Australian Silver Society meetings held at The Johnston Collection on the following days: 21 August 2014, 16 October 2014, 19 February 2015, 16 April 2015, 18 June 2015. These events were generously supported by TJC Ambassador, Mr Roger Brookes.

TJC SPEAKERS

The Director and some Volunteer Guides presented illustrated talks on The Johnston Collection to various clubs and organisations around Melbourne and Victoria throughout the year. These include: Malvern Artists Society Gallery (12 July 2014), Menzies Independent Living Centre (29 July 2014), Eastern Regional Libraries & The Yarra Ranges Museum (9 October 2014), and at Old Colonists at Rushall Park (11 November 2014).

EDUCATION

In keeping with the goals and objectives of The Johnston Collection, to ‘serve as a hub for research and to stimulate scholarship in the history of fine and decorative arts’, The Johnston Collection offers curatorial placements to postgraduate students. From time to time, The Johnston Collection also works with students from secondary and tertiary institutions on special collaborative projects as well as offering work experience placements to secondary students. The Johnston Collection also aims to provide optimum access to the Collection to art and design students. To this end, the museum works with tertiary institutions throughout the year to facilitate groups of art and design students visiting Fairhall free-of-charge, as part of their undergraduate coursework.

INTERNSHIP & WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS 2014 | 2015

The Johnston Collection provided the following placements during 2014 | 2015:

SEPTEMBER 2014 – JANUARY 2015

TJC offered a work experience placement to a recently graduated Masters student, Samantha Wilson, from the United Kingdom, who, after completing her placement at TJC, returned to the UK to work at the Bloomsbury house-museum, Charleston, in East Sussex.

JANUARY 2015 – MAY 2015

Master of Art Curatorship student, Madeleine Dorevitch, from The University of Melbourne, completed an internship at The Johnston Collection.

JANUARY 2015

Secondary school student, Arthur Duckworth, completed a work experience placement at The Johnston Collection.
The Friends of The Johnston Collection

EVENTS

Throughout the year, the Friends’ Committee organises special outings and events with the aim of providing a socially enjoyable event for The Friends members and to raise significant funds for The Johnston Collection.

In 2014 – 2015 The Friends of The Johnston Collection enjoyed the following activities:

A PRIVATE EVENING AT KOZMINSKY’S

29 July 2014

Friends attended a private viewing and illustrated talk at Kozminsky’s jewellery store.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & NEW MEMBERS EVENING

19 August 2014

The AGM was held at The Johnston Collection in East Melbourne. The Friends Committee also welcomed new members at this event.

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY 2014

25 October 2014

The Friends visited Coombe Cottage, former home of Dame Nellie Melba and part of the Melba Estate, where they enjoyed a tour of the property and garden, including a visit to the Melba Gallery, followed by lunch provided by the Provender’s Garden.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

4 December 2014

Hosted by Alan and Myra Scott, at their Toorak property, ‘High Branches’.

AFTERNOON TEA AT THE AUSTRALIAN CLUB

17 February 2015

Friends visited the exclusive The Australian Club where they heard a talk by author Patricia Fullerton about the artist, Ellis Rowan, whose murals feature on the walls of the Club, followed by afternoon tea.

ST MARY’S STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

15 April 2015

Friends enjoyed a tour of the historic St Mary’s Star of the Sea Church in West Melbourne, led by Tom Hazell, AO, Deputy Chair of the WR Johnston Trust and co-ordinator of the restoration project at the Church.

FINE AND DECORATIVE ARTS PRIVATE PREVIEW

11 June 2015

Friends attended a private viewing of the items on offer prior to Mossgreen’s fine and decorative arts auction.
FAIRHALL NEWSLETTER

The newsletter of The Friends of The Johnston Collection, the Volunteer Guides and Volunteers, fairhall, is printed and distributed three times each year. The editor of fairhall newsletter, Anne Glynn, is a volunteer.

This newsletter keeps The Johnston Collection’s support groups up-to-date with the museum’s news and events, as well as providing informative articles on subjects relating to the fine and decorative arts and history. Articles are researched and written both internally and by outside sources.

This year saw the publication of Fairhall issue # 12 (July 2014) issue # 13 (November 2014) and issue #14 (March 2015).

Circulation for Fairhall this year was more than 400 per issue. The National Library of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, the State Library of NSW and the State Library of Victoria are all subscribers to the newsletter, ensuring Fairhall’s preservation in Australia’s documentary heritage.

Awards Nominations

MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) AWARD FOR SMALL MUSEUMS 2014

The Johnston Collection received the prestigious Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Small Museums in 2014 for the Fairhall house-museum tour, DAVID McALLISTER REARRANGES MR JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION. The award was presented by Dr Robin Hirst, Director, Collections, Research and Exhibitions at Melbourne Museum, at a ceremony held at the Melbourne Museum on 7 August 2014.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES NATIONAL AWARDS (MAGNA) 2015

The Johnston Collection was Highly Commended in the Interpretation, Learning & Audience Engagement category at the Museums & Galleries National Awards (MAGNA) held in Sydney on 22 May 2015 for the DAVID McALLISTER REARRANGES MR JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION house-museum tour.

“... I am so pleased that [the David McAllister house-museum tour] went so well. It was one of the most exciting things I have done and I really miss my visits to Fairhall ...”

DAVID MCALLISTER AM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET, EMAIL 28 MAY 2015
Volunteer Events

The Johnston Collection organises a number of different events throughout the year for Volunteer Guides and other Volunteers as a way of recognising the invaluable commitment and support they give to The Johnston Collection. The following events were organised for Volunteers and Guides in 2014 | 2015:

VOLUNTEERS END OF YEAR FUNCTION

24 November 2014

In 2014 The Johnston Collection celebrated 15 years of volunteering at the house-museum with an evening event for volunteers at The Terrace function rooms in the Royal Botanic Gardens, South Yarra. The Johnston Collection volunteer groups, including Trustees, Ambassadors, The Friends Committee, Volunteer Guides and Volunteers, were acknowledged at this special Volunteers End of Year Function for the valuable support they have given the Collection throughout the year.

Chairman of The WR Johnston Trust, Mr Peter Watts AM, then presented awards to Karina James, Anne Glynn, and Helen Raftis (in her absence) for their 15 years of volunteering at The Johnston Collection, and to Sue Flanagan, Anita Simon, Wilma Oxley, and Maggie Cash (in her absence) for their 10 years of volunteering at the house-museum. TJC Ambassadors, Roger Brookes, Carmela Arturi Phillips, and Roger Arturi Phillips were acknowledged (in their absence), along with John Brookes, Bill Davis, and Andrew Dixon, for their 5 years of volunteering as Ambassadors and were presented with certificates by Mr Watts in recognition of their service to the house-museum.

VOLUNTEERS DAY OUT

Each year, The Johnston Collection celebrates the birthday of William Johnston (6 June) with a Volunteers Day Out.

Volunteers Day Out consists of a visit to places of historical and cultural interest. This excursion is also part of The Johnston Collection’s objective to provide volunteers at the Collection with ongoing educational enrichment programmes.

On 3 June 2015, volunteers and staff members travelled by bus to the Bellarine Peninsula to visit the historic and architecturally significant Coriyule Homestead in Drysdale followed by lunch at the Jack Rabbit Winery nearby.

This event was generously supported with funds provided by The Marjorie Kingston Trust.
**VOLUNTEER GUIDE TRAINING DAYS**

Volunteer Guide Training Days are usually held on the Friday preceding the opening of each new house-museum tour.

On Volunteer Guide Training Days, Volunteer Guides are briefed on the new tour, are given Tour Notes prepared by the Director, and then taken through Fairhall with either the rearranger, (David McAllister) Guest Curator (Rosslynd Piggott or, in the case of the Christmas tour, with the contributors of the work in the tour.

Training Days enable our Volunteer Guides to learn about and practise their presentations for each new tour. Training days also provide Volunteer Guides with an opportunity to share knowledge about the tour and the Collection with other guides.

In 2014|2015 Volunteer Guide Training Days were held for the following tours:

- **AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD** on 10 July 2014
- **TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS** on 30 October 2014
- **MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION** on 5 March 2015.

**VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SHARING DAYS**

An Information Sharing Day for volunteers, including Trustees, Ambassadors, The Friends of The Johnston Collection Committee, Volunteer Guides, Volunteers and staff is held at The Johnston Collection twice a year.

The aim of Information Sharing Days is to facilitate the discussion of ideas and information relating to the work of volunteers at The Johnston Collection, with attendees encouraged to make suggestions or raise any concerns they may have about the programmes or the day-to-day running of the organisation.

Attendees are also briefed by the Director on upcoming programmes and events at The Johnston Collection as well as any developments or operational changes that may affect their work as volunteers.

Volunteer Information Sharing Days were held on 17 September 2014 and 5 March 2015.

**EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES**

Throughout the year, The Johnston Collection organises for Volunteer Guides to attend talks and workshops on the fine and decorative arts as part of their ongoing educational enrichment programmes.

Volunteer Guides attended the following professional development talks and workshops in 2014 - 2015:

- **DESIRE & RICHES – THE FASHION OF WEDDINGS**
  - 1 August 2014
  Volunteer Guides and Volunteers visited Rippon Lea House and Garden to view the exhibition DESIRE & RICHES, looking at the fashion of weddings.

- **AUSTRALIAN SILVER SOCIETY TALKS**
  - Volunteers attended Australian Silver Society meetings held at The Johnston Collection on the following days: 21 August 2014, 16 October 2014, 19 February 2015, 16 April 2015, 18 June 2015.

- **AT HOME IN LONDON | REMEMBERING THE PAST & RECREATING FOR THE FUTURE**
  - 17 September 2014
  Volunteers attended an illustrated lecture by Louis Le Vaillant, Director | Curator of The Johnston Collection as part of the Information Sharing Day held at The Johnston Collection on 17 September 2014.

*left | James Broadbent with volunteer guides on Volunteer Guide Training Day for AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD | At Home in British India, 10 July 2014.*
Shop

The Shop is an important part of the visitor experience at The Johnston Collection as well as generating revenue to support the house-museum’s programmes and other financial needs.

The items sold in the Shop are carefully selected to reflect both the content of the Collection and the museum’s programmes, providing an extension of the visitor experience. The Shop also plays an educational role through retailing a wide variety of publications that offer information to visitors on the decorative arts and history.

A new purpose-built shop was included in the redevelopment of the Administration building and this was opened to the public in March 2015. The retail floor space was doubled and floor to ceiling display cabinets installed as well as moveable modular units used for point of sale and additional display purposes. The new Shop location and fit-out created a more functional and accessible retail space with greater connectivity to other areas in the Administration Building and Fairhall, allowing visitors to enter and leave the Shop space with greater ease.

The new retail space also enabled the Shop to expand the number of products on sale as well as allowing for a higher volume of stock to go on display.

In addition, a new point of sale software system, Vend, was installed in the Shop which enabled smoother and faster sales transactions as well as inventory management.

In 2015 Shop sales of $74,307 remained consistent with the previous year (compared with $74,842 in 2013–2014). Spend per visitor increased in 2015 by around 17% with visitors spending an average of $10.95 per visit compared with $9.36 in 2013–2014.

In 2015 net income from the Shop was down 18% from the previous year, however this was due to the expenses associated with the new Shop fit-out and the introduction of the Vend point of sale software system.
Marketing
Marketing Overview

The key marketing objectives of The Johnston Collection in 2015 were to increase awareness of the museum’s programmes and activities in the broader community with the aim of attracting new audiences, particularly under-represented groups, as well as repeat visitors to house-museum tours and lectures. To this end, in 2014 – 2015, the museum created a number of marketing and communication campaigns targeting different audiences.

Each campaign included single or multiple executions of the following:
advertising, distribution of printed collateral, publicity/media, programme launch events, social media, website, and electronic direct marketing.

To attract new visitors to AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India, The Johnston Collection targeted its marketing campaign to the local British-Indian and Indian communities as well as to heritage and history enthusiasts – audiences who had previously been under-represented in the museum’s visitor profiles. Links with local British-Indian and Indian community groups, historical societies and history teacher associations were initiated and advertisements were placed in local and community media, as well as heritage and art journals. This strategy achieved its aim, with articles about AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India published in the major press, online blogs and social media platforms, as well as an interview on ABC Radio 774. AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD attracted both new audiences, particularly from the local British-Indian communities, as well as repeat visitors, with this being ascertained from Volunteer Guides’ conversations with visitors to this tour.

For ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014-2015, local media from Geelong, Bellarine and the Surf Coast area were targeted resulting in articles about the exhibition being featured in newspapers and online blogs from that region. The Weekly Times newspaper, which has a strong rural readership across Victoria, also featured an article on ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS. Regional coverage of the exhibition resulted in
a corresponding increase in new visitors to The Johnston Collection from the Geelong area for the Christmas exhibition.

The marketing campaign for MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION focused on digital media. Martin Allen has a strong Instagram and Facebook presence and for the period of the tour, Allen regularly shared The Johnston Collection Facebook posts enabling TJC to reach his audience directly. In the last month of this tour, The Johnston Collection also set up Instagram and Twitter pages to further build its digital audience.

The Johnston Collection lectures received multiple coverage throughout the year in The Age newspaper. John Wilthshire who regularly lectures at The Johnston Collection was interviewed on 774 ABC Radio about his talk, The Fortunes Of The Enigmatic Mr Darcy. Lectures were also strongly promoted in the monthly e-news.

SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK

The Johnston Collection continued to promote its programs and engage with potential and actual visitors through its Facebook page. As well as keeping followers informed of programmes and events, TJC’s Facebook page provided a platform for users to give feedback on their visitor experience and encourage others to visit the Collection. The Johnston Collection also connected with other similar cultural organisations by linking with their pages and sharing posts. At 30 June, The Johnston Collection Facebook page had 640 followers. The high number of TJC post likes indicates how actively engaged TJC’s followers are. A post on 8 February 2015 for example, received 89 likes representing more than 15 percent of followers.

TWITTER

The Johnston Collection joined the Twitter conversation in June 2015 with the Twitter handle @TJCMuseum, allowing us to communicate with new audiences in a cost-effective way. This site soon attracted followers and the numbers continue to increase.

INSTAGRAM

The Johnston Collection launched an Instagram account in June 2015 with the username tjcmuseum, allowing us to communicate with new, especially younger, audiences in a cost-effective way. This site attracted followers straight after the launch and the numbers continue to increase.

TRIP ADVISOR

Reviews of The Johnston Collection on Trip Advisor continued to be favourable with the house-museum retaining its place in the top ten museums in Melbourne to visit.

“My experience of The Johnston Collection was great ... It is well worth a visit.”

TIMBIN, CORRYONG, AUSTRALIA, TRIP ADVISOR 4 OCTOBER 2014

WEBSITE

Traffic to The Johnston Collection website continued to increase and was cited by many first time visitors on their booking form as the source of their awareness of The Johnston Collection. Online bookings continued to be the preferred booking method for our visitors with a corresponding reduction in the number of telephone bookings received in 2015. From July 2014 to June 2015 the following analytics were recorded:

Unique visits 28,527 (+11%)
Visits 41,585 (+11%)
Page views: 144,846 (-11%)
ELECTRONIC DIRECT MAIL ("EDM")

The Johnston Collection email distribution list increased this year, from around 8,300 in July 2014 to more than 9,750 in June 2015.

The twice-yearly What’s On brochure continues to be primarily distributed by EDM with more than 90 per cent of those on our combined email/hard-mail subscriber base receiving the brochure by email, with a resultant reduction in postage costs.

The monthly e-newsletter highlighting upcoming programmes and other news related to The Johnston Collection, is our most effective and efficient marketing tool. This is demonstrated by a spike in bookings for our programmes immediately after its distribution. As well, the e-newsletter was the source of many media enquiries and subsequent publicity.

EDM’s were also successfully utilised to publicise our Opening Doors fundraising campaign as well as other services including the Shop and affiliated support groups such as The Friends of The Johnston Collection.

MEDIA

The Johnston Collection received wide media coverage throughout the year for its house-museum tours, lectures and special events. Media highlights included articles on AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD: At Home in British India in The Age and an interview on ABC Radio 774. ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014-2015 received strong coverage in regional print and broadcast media as well as a feature story in the statewide Weekly Times newspaper.

The Johnston Collection lecture series’ received coverage in The Age newspaper and on ABC Radio, as well as on social media throughout the year.

See Appendix 2 for full media listings.

ADVERTISING

Advertising and publicity campaigns were developed for each of the three house-museum tours. These included advertisements for each of the three house-museum tour being created and placed in local and community media, as well as heritage and art journals.

Other paid advertising undertaken this year included:

- Printing and distribution of 11,000 copies of What’s On brochure in July and March to the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square, museums, galleries, other cultural institutions, including libraries and bookshops, across Victoria as well as to local East Melbourne residents.
- Ongoing printing and general distribution of DL Fliers promoting The Johnston Collection
- Printing of DL Fliers promoting ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014-2015 distributed around the Geelong and Surf Coast region
- Monthly e-newsletter distributed by Jewel Campaign Manager

See Appendix 3 for full advertising listings.
Our Finances
Current Financial Structure

The Johnston Collection is a not-for-profit institution that relies on six principal funding sources to enable it to create, present and promote its programmes to the highest possible standard.

These sources are:

- Annual distributions from The WR Johnston Trust
- Earned income from house-museum admission sales
- Earned income from lectures, exhibitions, workshops and study day admission sales
- Earned income from Shop sales
- Annual distributions from The Friends of The Johnston Collection
- Other earned incomes such as investment income, donations and interest.

left | Fairhall: The White Room (as rearranged by Martin Allen for MARTIN ALLEN REARRANGES WILLIAM JOHNSTON’S COLLECTION, for the annual William Johnston and His Collection series, March 2015 – June 2015) Photographer Adam Lutrick | Luts Photography
Profit & Loss Statement
July 2014 – June 2015

The Johnston Collection made a total Net Surplus of $149,441 for the year ending June 2015. While this is a credible result if the net capital gains of $279,716 from the investment portfolio are excluded, the Collection’s net result for the year was a deficit of $130,275. Investment portfolio gains are subject to market forces and cannot be relied on to provide a consistently high return.

Excluding the investment portfolio contribution the Museum operations made a deficit of $303,969 broadly in line with the performance at the same time last year (2013/14 deficit $357,560).

Another strong contribution came from the shop which provided net income of $31,203 to the Collection.

The Friends of Johnston Collection activities and membership added a net $10,505 after expenses. The surplus provided from the Friends activities was used to support the Museum’s operations and the revitalisation program.

This was the first year of the “Opening Doors” fundraising appeal which was a strategic fundraising activity initiated by the Trustees aimed at securing the Collections long term financial sustainability. The Collection recognised $89,345 in donations and more commitments and donations have been promised in the coming years.

Joe Groher, Honorary Treasurer
The Trustees
The W R Johnston Trust
P O Box 79
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Review of the W R Johnston Trust Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying 30 June 2015 special purpose financial report of The W R Johnston Trust, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in note 1, other selected explanatory notes and the statement by the trustees.


The Trustees of the trust are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 30 June 2015 financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in note 1 to the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements in accordance with the trust deed and the needs of the trustees. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the 30 June 2015 financial report to ensure it is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, together with selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Assurance Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the 30 June 2015 financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400 Review of a Financial Report Performed by an Assurance Practitioner Who is Not the Auditor of the Entity. In order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the trustees applicable financial reporting framework. ASRE 2400 requires us to comply with the requirements of the applicable code of professional conduct of a professional accounting body.

A review of a 30 June 2015 financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

163712_TJC Review Report 15_R.doc

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation
Appendices

1. Christmas at The Johnston Collection contributors
2. Media Listings
3. Advertising
4. Acquisitions – Collection
5. Acquisitions – Furniture & Light Fittings
6. Trustee Meetings and Sub-Committee Meetings
APPENDIX 1: ‘Twas The Night Before Christmas

‘Twas The Night Before Christmas | Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014-2015 contributors list led by The Geelong Artisans Group:

THE ENTRANCE HALL
THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
Team Leaders: Pauleen Shirlow | Sandra Snow

GREEN DRAWING ROOM
CHRISTMAS EVE
Team Leader: Sue Patterson

WHITE ROOM
WOMAN’S SITTING ROOM
Team Leader: Gail Spong

BLUE ROOM
GIFT WRAPPING
Team Leader: Janet Jenkins

KITCHEN
BREAKFAST IS READY
Team Leader: Jenny Pitcher

UPPER LANDING
A QUIET AREA
Team Leader: Roely Jenkins

BEDROOM
TO BED
Team Leader: Patricia Norton

DRESSING ROOM
PREPARING TO TRAVEL
Team Leader: Patricia Norton

BATHROOM
Team Leader: Kathleen Williams

YELLOW ROOM
MYTHICAL BEASTS | MAGICAL ANGELS
Team Leader: Mary Connolly

STUDY
GAMES
Team Leader: Suzanne Hughes

CONTRIBUTORS:
THE BEAD SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (GEELONG BRANCH) INCLUDING BSJV JUNIOR GROUP
Felicity Ashman, Jackie Bailey, Tiffany Brew, Mandy Clarke, Clare Chisald, Eloise Close, Lorraine Coles, Jo-Anne Craddock, Roslyn Eddington, Kay Francis, Sharon Gibbons, Yvonne Ison, Janet Jenkins, Alexis Ferry-Jenkins, Roely Jenkins, Dot Keating, Glenda MacNaughton, Carmel Manley, Athalie Mass, Diane McKenna, Jenny Mutimer, Melissa Miller, Barbara Oates, Myrna Roche, Sandra Schmid, Lea Sinclair, Samantha Williams

EMBROIDERERS GUILD OF VICTORIA (GEELONG BRANCH)
Bobbie Bowen, Claudia Britt, Jo-Anne Britt, Angelika Butler, Dianne Clarke, Janet Clarke, Lyn Cole, Rosa Cullen, Marion Dines, Cecily Dow, Tina Elms, Barbara Grase, Alice Harrington, Lyn Hughes, Sue Jennings, Valda King, Beryl McCasker, Pauline Mackenzie, Berry Millard, Gillian Norris, Carol O’Laughlin, Sue Patterson, Madge Pinge, Alison Quick, Jean Shinners, Pauleen Shirlow, Gail Spong, Laurene Wilks

HANDWEAVERS & SPINNERS GUILD INC.
Kaye Cooper, Freda Duke, Joan Karn, Judy Sheppard, Kathleen Williams

PATCHWORK & QUILTERS
Yetti Barrett, Jan Blyton, Brenda Buchanan, Robyn Coots, Ayn Eyrkove, Chris Fox, Ethel Gibb, Kerrie Maloney, Magda Moore, Patricia Norton, Annette Packett, Margaret Page, Margaret Tembo

LEOPOLD LACEMAKERS
Janice England, Shirley Menz, Wendy Rowe, Maureen Ryan, Therese Schreurs, Jeneve Steel, Kathryn Storey, Margaret Walters

TROLLEY DOLLY CLOTH DOLL CLUB INC.
Jenny Baks, Jan Brasher, Mandy Brasher, Hilary Clarke, Sharon Clearwater, Mary Connolly, Faye Dodd, Helen Dole, Shirley Galvin, Judy Griffiths, Adrienne Hare, Dianne Hendra, Maureen Holmes, Suzanne Hughes, Myrna Johnson, Nina McPherson, Kerrie Maloney, Maureen Rose, Hilary Steel, Debbie Slater, Mary Smith, Janece Whelan

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS
Joy Beeby, Jenny Deans, Gordon Griffiths, Annie McDonald, Sandra Snow

OTHER ASSISTANCE
the late Faye Dodd, Mary Smith

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BREAKFAST IS READY
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INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS
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OTHER ASSISTANCE
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APPENDIX 1: ‘Twas The Night Before Christmas | Christmas at The Johnston Collection 2014-2015 contributors list led by The Geelong Artisans Group:
### APPENDIX 2: Media Listings

#### PRINT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Author</th>
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<td>The Age</td>
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<td>12 July 2014</td>
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<td>19 July 2014</td>
<td>Feature Story</td>
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<td>Angela Hesson</td>
<td>August 2014</td>
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<td>The Age</td>
<td>Ray Edgar</td>
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<td>13 September 2014</td>
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<td>Margaret Linley</td>
<td>1 October 2014</td>
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<td>Cathy Gowdie</td>
<td>18 November 2014</td>
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<td>City of Melbourne</td>
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<td>Margaret Linley</td>
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#### RADIO

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#### ONLINE MEDIA

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<td>Festivale</td>
<td><a href="http://www.festivale.info/melbourne/galleries/dbjohnston_collection.htm">http://www.festivale.info/melbourne/galleries/dbjohnston_collection.htm</a></td>
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## ONLINE – FORUMS & NEWSLETTERS

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## ONLINE – BLOGS

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## ONLINE – TJC PARTNERS

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<td>East Melbourne Group</td>
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APPENDIX 3: Advertising
Print & Online Media

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<td>National Trust News</td>
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<td>East Melbourne &amp; Jolimont Magazine</td>
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<td>East Melbourne &amp; Jolimont Magazine</td>
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<td>Art Life</td>
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APPENDIX 4: Acquisitions – Collection

GIFTS


- maker unknown, patch box, with motto "A Pledge of Love", England, 18th century, enamel. Gift of Christine Bell, (A1357-2014)

- maker unknown, patch box, with motto "A Trifle from Landan", England, 18th century, enamel. Gift of Christine Bell (A1358-2014)

- maker unknown, patch box, with motto "Let Marriage Know I’m True to You", England, 18th century, enamel. Gift of Christine Bell (A1359-2014)

- maker unknown, patch box, with motto "Love the Giver", England, 18th century, enamel. Gift of Christine Bell, (A1360-2014)

- maker unknown, patch box, with motto "Love for Love", England, 18th century, enamel. Gift of Christine Bell, (A1361-2014)
PURCHASES


WEDGWOOD, Staffordshire (est. 1759 - , portrait medallion (Lord Nelson), English, 19th century, black basalt, 115 mm diameter. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1366-2014)


WEDGWOOD, Staffordshire (est. 1759 - , portrait medallion (Lord Nelson), England, 19th century, black basalt, 115 mm diameter. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1367-2014)

WEDGWOOD, Staffordshire (est. 1759 - , plaque (The Duke of Wellington), England, 19th century, jasperware, 110 mm high. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1364-2014)

WEDGWOOD, Staffordshire (est. 1759 - , portrait medallion (Lord Nelson), England, 19th century, black basalt, 115 mm diameter. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1368-2014)

SPODE, Stoke-on-Trent (est. 1767 - , plate (pair), (crested with the seal of the King of Oudh to commemorate the siege of Lucknow), English, circa 1815, porcelain, 210 mm diameter. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1365-2014)

WEDGWOOD, Staffordshire (est. 1759 - , urns (three piece garniture), England, 19th century, blue jasper. Purchased with Nina Stanton Porcelain Bequest funds (A1369-2014)


APPENDIX 5: Furniture & Light Fittings

Purchased with funds raised by The Friends of The Johnston Collection


Sky Garden (pendant lamp), designed 2007 designed by Marcel Wanders, (The Netherlands, born 1963) for Flos, (Italy, est 1962)

left | Prague Estates Theatre (pendant chandelier), designed 2013. from The Neverending Glory collection (5 chandeliers, 5 scenes, 5 stories … ) designed by studio Jan Plechá and Henry Wielgus, est. 2011 for Lasvit,(est. 2007), Czech Republic
	right | Bell Lamp (pendant lamp), designed 2013 designed by Marcel Wanders, (The Netherlands, born 1963) for Moooi (Marcel Wanders and Casper Vissers), est. 2001, The Netherlands hand-blown glass

BAC and Dexion collection storage system Ethafoam shelf lining

left | SIM (stackable chairs and trolley system) designed by Jasper Morrison, (England, born 1959) for Vitra, Weil am Rhein, Germany
	right | Wingback armchair, designed 2009 designed by Tom Dixon OBE, (Tunisia / England, born 1959) handmade in the George Smith factory, Newcastle, England solid birch and stuffed with layers of natural cotton and boar bristle, wool

left | Wingback armchair, designed 2009 designed by Tom Dixon OBE, (Tunisia / England, born 1959) handmade in the George Smith factory, Newcastle, England solid birch and stuffed with layers of natural cotton and boar bristle, wool
	right | Peg Coat Stand, designed 2010 designed by Tom Dixon OBE, (Tunisia / England, born 1959)

right | Peg Coat Stand, designed 2010 designed by Tom Dixon OBE, (Tunisia / England, born 1959)
### APPENDIX 6: WR Johnston Trust Meetings & Sub-Committee Meetings

#### TRUST MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Eligible to attend</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Watts AM</td>
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<td>Mr Tom Hazel AO</td>
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<td>Dr Graeme Blackman OAM</td>
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<td>Mr Peter Walsh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Joe Groher</td>
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#### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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<td>Dr Graeme Blackman OAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Joe Groher</td>
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#### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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