

ANNUAL APPEAL 2017

KEEPING OUR STORIES ALIVE

Leading the field, Roebuck and Buccaneer thunder down the home stretch of the 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup Steeplechase.

The grandstand at the Morphettville track is filled with a fashionable crowd, cheering and waving their parasols and hats as the turf flies and the horses gallop by in a blur of colour. Roebuck narrowly beats his rival to the line and, under clear spring skies, spectators applaud politely as South Australian Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave KCMG, presents the gleaming golden trophy to the horse's owner and breeder, William Robertson.



ADELAIDE HUNT CLUB CUP

The 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup was purchased at auction by the National Museum of Australia in October 2016. This year the Annual Appeal will assist the Museum with this acquisition.

Very few presentation cups from 19th-century Australia survive today, and only three from South Australia are still in existence. The 18-carat gold Adelaide Hunt Club Cup was crafted by renowned gold and silversmith, Henry Steiner, who established his business in 1858 after arriving in Adelaide from his native Germany. Steiner's neo-classical cup features a scroll handle and inverted spout, while its collared neck is laced with a band of intricate acanthus leaves, inspired by treasures unearthed at the ancient city of Troy.

The Adelaide Hunt Club's annual steeplechase race was one of the highlights on the Adelaide social calendar and was attended by local colonial gentry. Held at the Morphettville track, the 1881 race was narrowly won by Roebuck in a thrilling finish. Robert Barr Smith, President of the Adelaide Hunt Club, donated the glittering trophy, which was presented to Roebuck's owner and trainer, William Robertson, by the Governor of South Australia, Sir Anthony Musgrave KCMG.

'Many gold cups of this era were melted down, so it is wonderful to add this trophy to the National Museum's collection, for all Australians to enjoy.'

CATRIONA DONNELLY, CURATOR, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA



DONOR RECOGNITION

The National Museum of Australia's collections, including the National Historical Collection, have been greatly enriched by the generosity of donors and supporters since its foundation in 1980.

All donors to the 2017 Annual Appeal will be acknowledged in *The Museum* magazine and on the Annual Appeal webpage.

Donors who contribute \$1000 or more are eligible to become a Patron of the Museum, with additional acknowledgement on the Museum's donor honour board and in the annual report.

Please help us continue to develop the National Historical Collection for the enjoyment of all Australians by making a contribution to the acquisition of the Adelaide Hunt Club Cup.

HELP US TELL OUR STORY

The National Museum of Australia's Annual Appeal was established to help acquire, conserve and display significant objects from our shared history – for all Australians to access and enjoy. With your support, we can help fund the acquisition of selected items of national importance for permanent inclusion in the Museum's National Historical Collection.

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