



USCQ TEA SET COLLECTION



For many years, the Club had held a modest collection of Tea Sets for use by members and on display.

In 2015, two Club members catalogued the collection, and added to it from their own collections, together with donations from fellow members.

These members – Mrs Christine Purvis and Major Roslyn Carlyle – created a photographic record of the collection, and in 2020 published a colour handbook for the reference of members. They also arranged for the Tea Sets to be stored in a glass-fronted cabinet in the Club Foyer for the enjoyment of members and guests.

The Club adopted the practice of putting these beautiful articles to practical use, enhancing the tables at High Teas and similar events organised by the Club.

The collection has approximately 135 complete “trios” (cup, saucer and plate), and a large number of individual items.

In conjunction with research in 2023, the collection was catalogued and photographed in its entirety and a display in a more fitting home for the collection was arranged to better enable members and guests to appreciate the collection as works of art.

Regrettably, the Club has not maintained comprehensive records of donors and the provenance of the items. Attempts have been partly successful in completing this information, but many gaps exist. Our apologies to anyone whose donation has not been recognised – we are keen to rectify any errors or omissions.

NOTABLE DONORS

Mrs Christine Purvis

Believed to be donor of set # 36 – handed down to her from her grandmother, Mrs Ruby Stanley – wife of Lieutenant Colonel R. A. Stanley DSO, VD, Club President 1925-26, Life Member 1928. A member of the Club from 2020. Mrs Purvis sadly passed away in 2021.



Major Roslyn Carlyle

Believed to be donor of set # 1 – handed down to her from her grandmother, Mrs Gladys Hutchinson. A member of the Club from 2008 to 2020, and the Committee from 2015 to 2019. Major Carlyle served as an Army nurse and medical administrator in Australia and on deployment overseas to Rwanda.



The Sisters of St Joseph

Are reported to have donated a number of settings.