

The David Roche Foundation House Museum



TDRF: Club Fermoy

Dear friends and supporters,

Welcome to our first fortnightly newsletter from The David Roche Foundation House Museum. Club Fermoy continues the tradition set by David Roche who called his home and kennels 'Fermoy' after the town in County Cork, Ireland, from where his family originated.

In this moment of 'pause' we are upgrading our vitrine lighting, refreshing our displays, and improving the care of the collection. An autumn rather than spring clean of Fermoy House. A comment often heard at the end of a house tour is astonishment at the quality and number of pieces displayed, it can be overwhelming! Now is the perfect time to browse our collection online and seek out those favourites at your leisure.

This week you can find out more about David Roche, his famous kennels, and our new book *Empires & Splendour* which explores over 100 treasures in glorious detail. We also welcome your feedback as to what you would like to see and learn more about in future issues.

Did you know, ice-cream was David's go-to-food in times of trouble or sleeplessness? I

hope you all have something that brings you comfort and that art can help as well.

Best wishes,
Robert Reason
Museum Director

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing some of the most incredible pieces in David Roche's collection with thoughts from his friend, Martyn Cook. While our gallery is closed, we will start by looking at pieces currently displayed in the *Flowers: Passion. Pain. Nation.* exhibition.

Secrétaire abattant, c. 1765-70, attributed to Nicolas-Jean Marchand, France, kingwood, lacquer, gilt bronze, breche d'alep marble

"David thought this secrétaire was so incredibly beautiful with its cascading carnations and their fronds, and he adored the Chinoiserie style of it. The quality is exceptional and the condition of the lacquer is extraordinarily beautiful. At one point it was attributed to Delanois, since then it has been reattributed to Marchand. It stands and has always stood in the Yellow Drawing Room. He often filled the cabinet inside with French porcelain or inkstands."

- Martyn Cook 2018



[View in the online collection](#)

CANINE TIDBITS

Did you know...

David Roche was the first non-British judge at Cruft's Dog Show, the pre-eminent dog show in the United Kingdom. He attended the show on the 7th and 8th February 1969, and judged Best in Show.



You can still see David's invitation letter in the Roman room at Fermoy House.

David later said it made him as many enemies as it did friends, as he judged on merit rather than on connection, which displeased some of those showing!



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Find information and photos relating to David Roche, Fermoy House or the collection. This week we have an article from the Sunday Magazine of The Mail, dated Saturday 29 August 1953, in which our founder, David Roche, is mentioned as an entrant into that year's dog show at the Royal Adelaide Show, and is pictured with two of his beloved Kerry Blue terriers.

[View article](#)

EMPIRES & SPLENDOUR: AT HOME WITH DAVID ROCHE

Now available for purchase in an updated

second edition is our book of collection highlights, *Empires & Splendour: At Home with David Roche*.

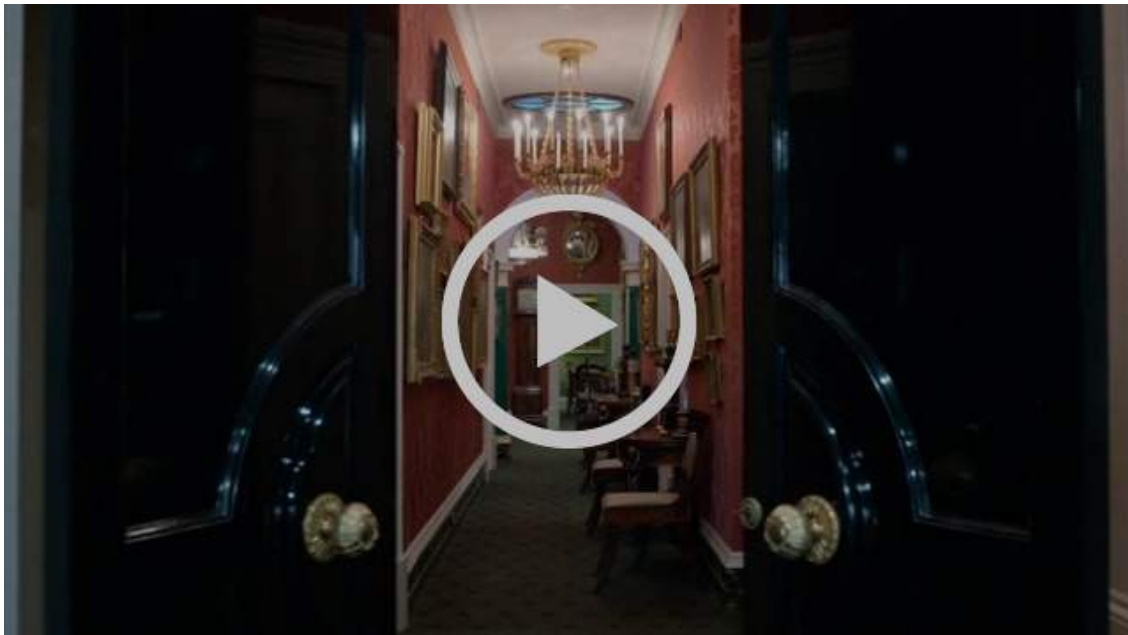
Fully revised and featuring a new biography, plus additional entries and acquisition comments by Martyn Cook, this 300-plus-page hardcover is a wonderful addition to any art lover's library!

Just \$98 plus postage & handling.



Order by phone
on +61 8 8267 3677

MULTIMEDIA



An Introduction to Fermoy House

Now online - watch the introduction for the House tour at TDRF to re-introduce yourself to David Roche's Fermoy House and his incredible collection, featuring Martyn Cook and Robert Reason.

DIGITAL COLLECTION

Did you know that many of the items in The David Roche Collection are available online? Find your favourite piece or discover something new. Click the button below.

And we are always revising and adding more information, so check back regularly!



[View the collection](#)



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LINKS WE LOVE

Love antique silver? Read Shrubsole's *Terzameron, or, Thirty Stories in Silver* in response to the lockdown in New York:

<https://shrubsole.com/news/?p=549>

Fascinated by Napoléon and want to learn more? Head over to The History Website of the Fondation Napoleon:

<https://www.napoleon.org/en/>

The David Roche Foundation
House Museum
241 Melbourne Street
North Adelaide 5006
T: [+61 8 8267 3677](tel:+61882673677)

E: info@rochefoundation.org.au

W: www.rochefoundation.com.au



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