



The Strawberry Hill Trust is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr David Gaimster as the new Director at Strawberry Hill House

David has considerable experience in the museum and heritage world. He was most recently Chief Executive officer of the South Australia Museum, Adelaide. Prior to that he was CEO of the Auckland War Memorial Museum, New Zealand, and Director of the Hunterian, University of Glasgow.

As General Secretary and CEO of the Society of Antiquaries of London, he led the 2007 renovation of the Society's London Piccadilly premises and co-curated its tercentenary special exhibition, *Making History. Antiquaries in Britain 1707-2007*, at the Royal Society of Arts, followed by its national and international tour, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (2007-10).

Chair of trustees, Anthony Nash said: "We are extremely pleased to welcome Dr Gaimster to our team. David brings a wealth of experience, both nationally and internationally. He will help us shape our strategy in these challenging times for historic houses. Both long term financial sustainability and strategic development are our key objectives. We shall continue working with our many supporters and stakeholders to ensure that Strawberry Hill House can be enjoyed by present and future generations."

Dr Gaimster said: "I am delighted and excited to be appointed to the Director role at Strawberry Hill. Horace Walpole's fantasy Gothic castle, together with its collections and gardens, is one of the most inspiring sites of interest in the UK, if not global, cultural heritage landscape. With my knowledge and experience in the heritage economy, built nationally and internationally, I believe I can enable the Strawberry Hill Trust to achieve step change in financial sustainability, civic engagement and social impact over the next few years."

Image Downloads and Credit

High-resolution images for media use can be downloaded via [Dropbox](#).

Please credit the images as follows:

Dr David Gaimster, incoming Director of Strawberry Hill House & Garden, pictured at the Auckland War Memorial Museum in 2019.

All external images of Strawberry Hill House should be credited to Killian O’Sullivan.

All internal images of Strawberry Hill House should be credited to Matt Chung.

Notes for Editors

Strawberry Hill House & Garden has been open to visitors for over 250 years and is internationally famous as Britain’s finest example of domestic Georgian Gothic revival architecture. Horace Walpole was a pivotal figure in 18th-century society, literature, art and architecture. The third son of Sir Robert Walpole, Britain’s first Prime Minister, Horace Walpole was a man of many talents with a large network of influential friends. From 1739-41, Walpole embarked on a Grand Tour and European influences can be seen in the design of Strawberry Hill House and the works that formed its vast collection of treasures. He was author of the world’s first Gothic novel, The Castle of Otranto.

Further Information

For visitor information, ticket prices and availability, visit:

www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk

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For press enquiries, interviews and images, please contact:

press@strawberryhillhouse.org.uk | 020 8744 1241