

Watch David's video interview [here](#)



Turning the spotlight onto the team...
getting up close and personal, in an interview with...

DAVID DALLAS

Old Master Picture Specialist and CEO



Q What five words best describe you?

A Dave is on the spectrum!

Q If you weren't a specialist - what would you like to be?

A David Attenborough.

Q Favourite piece you have valued and why?

A Pencil drawings by G F Watts, O.M., R.A. To illustrate a batting manual in the collection at Lords. Who would have thought that the great symbolist painter and husband of Ellen Terry was interested in cricket?

Q What's your most memorable moment at DDV?

A Realising that Henry Moore's bronze masterpiece "King and Queen" in the Provost's garden at Eton had been decapitated!

Q What was your most awkward moment valuing a piece and why?

A As a very young man at Christie's, a bit like Rachel's worst moment, involving a lot of hot sweet tea, I had to explain to an elder son that he should have brought the family "Rubens" to be valued before he allowed his younger brother to have the other 1,400 paintings in the collection. The "Rubens" was a studio work worth £1,500 at the time. Heaven knows what the rest of the stuff was!

Q What is your most favourite thing to do outside work?

A Travelling with my family!

Q What would a stranger find most annoying about you?

A My matinee idol looks!

Q Whose collection would you like to value and why?

A The Queen's because there is nothing like it on earth. The only trouble is if I'd started 50 years ago, I still wouldn't be able to finish it.

Q What 3 people alive or dead would you like to invite to dinner?

A Queen Elizabeth I, Charles Darwin and Martin Luther King.

Q Are you doing anything fun this summer of '21?

A Yes, I am going to Applecross in the North of Scotland with my family. We will be eating seafood, walking long distances and looking for Sea Eagles.

Q Do you have another talent?

A Yes, innumerable but let's stick to boxing. I had 25 fights as a schoolboy starting aged 8 and finishing when I was 17. I only lost 2, both on very dodgy split decisions. Barry McGuigan once said to me "you don't look like a boxer Dave. Did ya have fast hands?".

Q Where in the world would you most like to visit?

A Antarctica.

Q Favourite film?

A In the Heat of the Night.

Q Favourite piece of music?

A The Sultans of Swing by Dire Straits. When Mark Knopfler was asked where he would most like to live, he answered: "where the Mississippi meets the Tyne."