

# NEWSLETTER Issue No. 3 - October2021

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YOUR SOCIETY NEEDSYOU Membership Now Open!

# **Christopher Dresser Society**



### Joining the Christopher Dresser Society!

Following the success of the recent Dresser Fest 21, we are inviting you to join a revitalised Christopher Dresser Society.

Some of you will have joined a number of years ago: we want you to show your commitment to Dr Dresser by re-joining what we intend to be a 'new and improved' version.

For others, this will be your first opportunity to join like-minded Dr Dresser enthusiasts.

There will be an Annual General Meeting of the Society on Wednesday 24 November and this will be open to members.

We are therefore inviting you to indicate your wish to be a Member of the Christopher Dresser Society.

We are not asking you for a fee yet.

The AGM will receive a recommendation on fees for the period 1 December 2021 to 30 September 2023 – a period of 22 months as we get the Society established – and if you express an interest in joining the Society, you will be sent a request to pay a membership fee after the AGM.

Thereafter, you will be invited to re-join the Society annually.

All that is required for now is that you e mail the Acting Secretary – Martin Peagam – and indicate your desire to be a Member of the Society.

Please e mail Martin at martin@peagam.co.uk

All those who do this will receive an invitation to attend the AGM – which will be conducted as a Zoom meeting.

### **Inaugural Annual General Meeting Announced!**

At present the affairs of the Society are being managed by an interim Management Committee.

We are enthusiasts keen to revive the Society, but we are self-appointed.

The Society has no formal Constitution.

There are no agreed Membership Fees.

The financial affairs of the Society are not subject to approval and scrutiny.

### **Christopher Dresser Society**



We cannot seek charitable status, which would aid fund-raising.

#### This cannot continue, so we are convening an Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be invited to consider and approve proposals put forward by the interim Management Committee:

- To approve a proposed Constitution for the Society
- To elect people to serve as Officers and Members of the Management Committee to oversee the affairs of the Society
- To approve proposed Membership Fees for those wishing to belong to the Society (and what those Members may expect in return)
- To approve a proposal that the Society seek charitable status
- To receive information on the financial position of the Society
- To appoint auditors for the Society
- To receive information as to the plans of the interim committee for the development of the Society

We believe that we are putting the Christopher Dresser Society on a muchmore sound footing, enabling it to further develop and grow.

We want you to support this aim.

We want you to join us at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 24 November 2021 from 6.00pm (GMT) via Zoom.

If you are interested, please e mail the Acting Secretary – Martin Peagam – on <a href="martin@peagam.co.uk">martin@peagam.co.uk</a>

You will then be sent the agenda and papers for the meeting, and the link to join the meeting.

### **Dresser Fest 2021 a Success!**

Saturday 18 September 2021 was a significant date in the revival of the Christopher Dresser Society.

Dresser enthusiasts from across the world came together to celebrate and learn about Dr Dresser and his designs. Dresser Fest 21 saw technology embraced to unite presenters from both sides of the Atlantic deliver fascinating and informative presentations and tours to eager Zoom viewers who had for too long been denied the opportunity to visit galleries and attend talks.

Our friends at the Kirkland Museum of Fine and Decorative Art in the USA – Maya Wright and Becca Goodrum - brilliantly hosted the event.

# **Christopher Dresser Society**



In a day-long celebration of Dresser, participants were treated to:

A tour of the Kirkland Museum, USA

A tour of the Christopher Dresser Collection at the Dorman Museum, England

Presentations by Harry Lyons, Linda Polley, Gill Moore and others.

A live Question & Answer Session.

For many the highlight was when Kirkland Museum's own Becca Goodrum, along with the Dorman Museum's Louise Harrison, and Harry Lyons, told the amazing story of how an image from the Dorman Museum started a conversation about the attribution of Kirkland Museum's five-legged chair and the reasons why Mr. Lyons believes the chair can be attributed to Christopher Dresser.

For others, the highlight was the opportunity to see two collections of Dresser items, one in the USA, the other in the UK, which they might never have the opportunity to see at any time, never mind at a time when we are subject to international travel restrictions. The power of the internet used to show off nineteenth century design!

Organized by the Christopher Dresser Society and the Dorman Museum, with invaluable support from the Kirkland Museum, Dresser Fest 21 proved a great success and a sign of the ways in which the Society hopes to develop in the future, enhancing our knowledge of Dr Dresser and his work into the future.

#### **Christopher Dresser Society Newsletter**

We have sent you this Newsletter because our records show that you are interested in Christopher Dresser.

If you do NOT wish to receive further communications, please let us know, by e mailing martin@peagam.co.uk

Thank you!