

## Chairman's Report

As always, I hope that this finds you safe and well and thank you all for another period of hard work and effort.

We have now completed the Communications Review, the new structure is in place so Natascha and the team can develop the communications strategy which will guide and inform how we use our various comms channels to deliver the messages about our purpose and activities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took part in our Conference exploring 'Clothing on Paper'. It was our first major on-line event and was a great success. We have learned a lot and will be embedding our lessons learned in the planning and delivery for the conference in 2022.

For me a high point (alongside many fascinating papers) was the award of the Patterns of Fashion and Patterns for Performance awards; it was great to be reminded that our money makes a difference to people who are working in our field of interest and that we are still able to make awards and grants in the names of people who made such a significant contribution to the society and to dress history.

The papers for the virtual AGM have been distributed (thanks to Susan and Beth) and after the membership have voted in the next few weeks, we will have our new committee structure in place:

**Lucy Johnston** will be officially ratified in her new role as VC Grants and Awards (but has been doing sterling work already).

**Clare Bowyer** will become the new Chair of the Programme Sub Committee working alongside Amy to develop and deliver our events and activities including the on-line conference.

Having revisited the roles and responsibilities of the Elected Officers (Trustees) and addressed some of the issues that have been raised about the roles we were able to re-draft the role description and advertise the two vacancies.

I am delighted to say that **Haleh Moravej** and **Helen Persson** responded to that advert and will (subject to the vote of the membership) be joining the Executive Committee as Elected Officers (and will hopefully be attending this meeting as observers before their official terms of office begin)

Thanks to Danielle, Ben, Amy and Clare and Susan and Shaun our plans for menswear 2022 and the conference are beginning to take shape.

I'm really excited that the (always amazing) Journal will soon be joined by 'The Thread' our new member's magazine.

I have recently been in discussion with members of the Bullard family about the future of the Daphne Bullard Grant which is currently administered another Charity of which myself and Janet Wood are trustees. I will bring a report on these discussions to the meeting.

Janet, Lucy and I have also been discussing the future administration of the Elizabeth Hammond Award, again we will report on this to the Committee.

Thank you all once again for your hard work

Philip Warren (Chair) September 2021