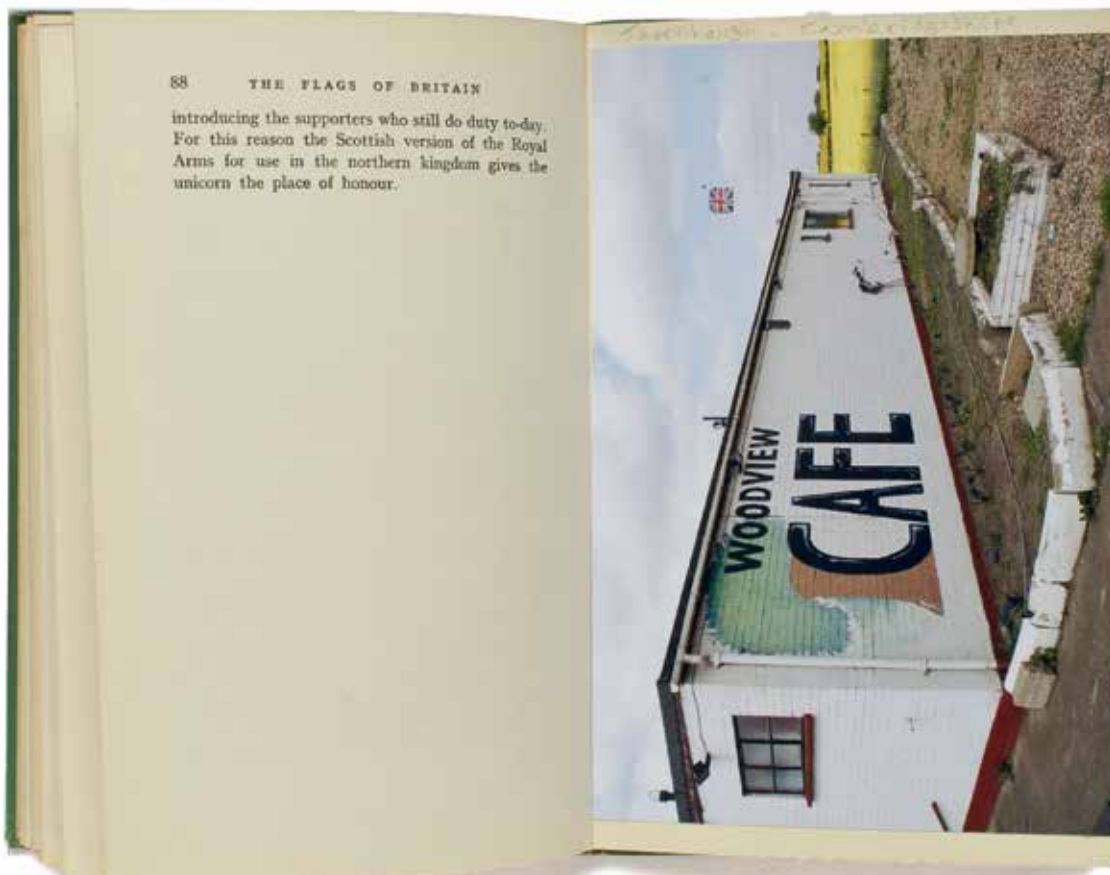


# WORDS AND PICTURES

This month at Fenton House, the Society showcases the shortlisted entries to its first photobook competition. Here's a look at the leading entries

THIS EXHIBITION IS A NEW VENTURE for The Royal Photographic Society and, as such, a step into uncharted territory. It has been set up by joint organisers Rod Fry ARPS and Brian Steptoe FRPS on behalf of the Society, and all the members who sent in photobooks are due our many thanks for all their support.

The selectors, which included the author and photobook specialist Gerry Badger, Ray Spence FRPS, and Brian himself, were looking for books that approached the standards set by international photobook exhibitions, with criteria that include: book [NEXT PAGE]



**FIRST RUNNER-UP**  
**IDENTIFYING ENGLAND**

**Derek Trillo ARPS**

This shows the many ways in which English and British flags are seen in the countryside. Pencilled captions tell the reader their locations. The series began with a newspaper article about two taxi drivers flying St George's flags in their cabs, in defiance of the local council.

► 21.5x13.5cm, 22 photographs and texts pasted on to pages of the 1934 book *The Flags of Britain*



**WINNER**

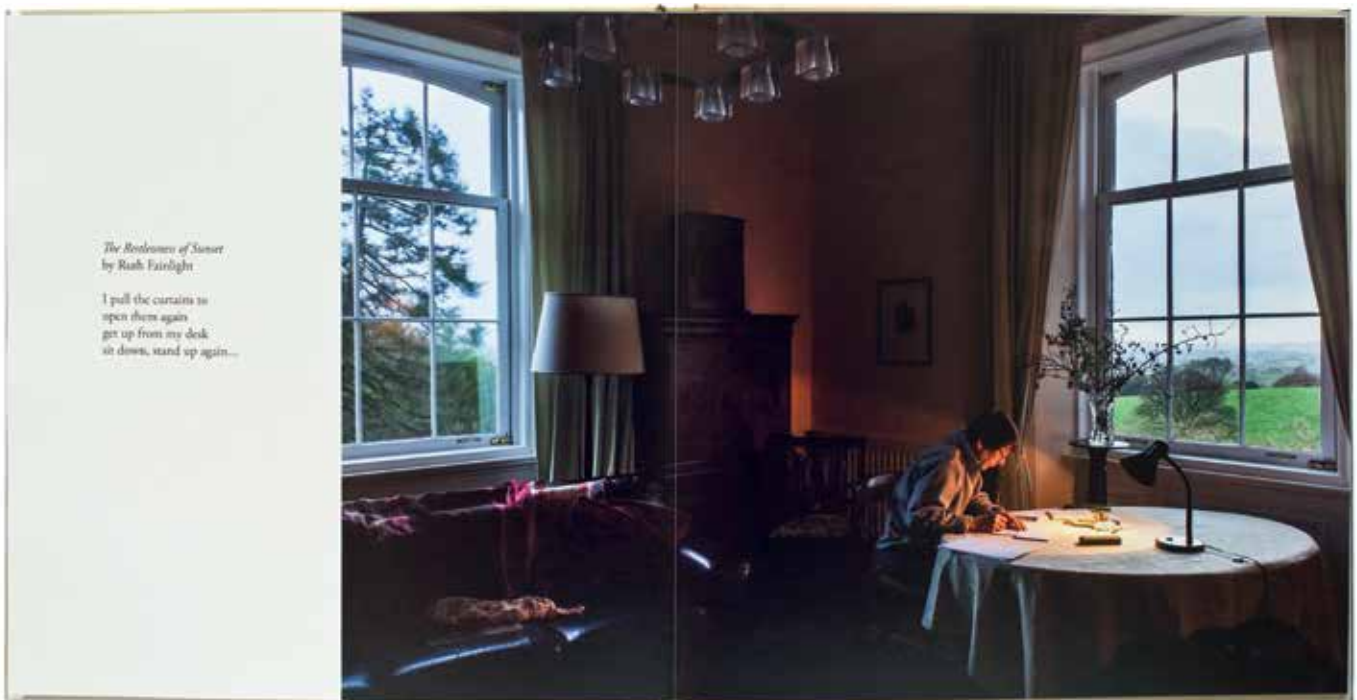
**Be = f (P,E)**

**Karen Rangeley**

The work in this book is based on 20th-century psychologist Kurt Lewin's formula which states that behaviour is a function of personality and environment. The author followed employees at a company in West Yorkshire

specialising in dyeing and finishing cotton and linen cloth, looking closely at how their space has been adapted to their roles and how they mark their personal spaces. The inserts are photos taken by employees on disposable cameras.

► 22x29cm hardback with inserts, 32 photographs, 32 pages and 12 photographs on six inserts



*The Restlessness of Sunset*  
by Ruth Fairlight

I pull the curtains to  
open them again  
get up from my desk  
sit down, stand up again...



**SECOND  
RUNNER-UP**  
**TO GO TO THE  
WINDOW**  
**Kate Wentworth**  
**LRPS**

The window faces west, looking out over the Yorkshire Dales. The light from it fills the room and the author captures

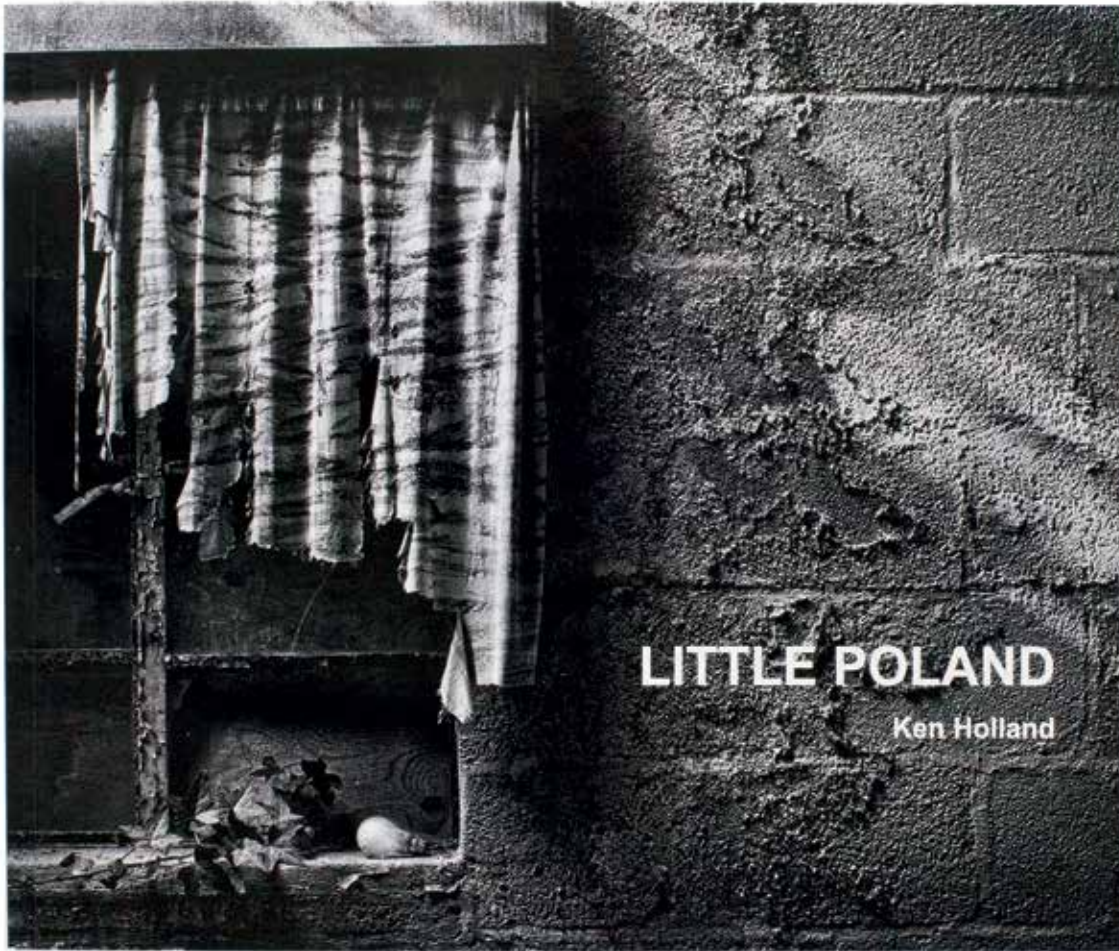
the light, the view and the features in the room, scenes both beautiful and unsettling; a succession of stilled

moments. The book is divided into three sections, documenting the window at different periods of the day:

morning, afternoon and evening.

► 20.5x20.5cm hardback, 20 photographs, 42 pages





**HONOURABLE  
MENTION**

**LITTLE POLAND  
Ken Holland ARPS**

Little Poland is the name given to Ilford Park Polish Home near Newton Abbot. It is a story of migration which aims to show the life of the individuals who lived there but have now moved on. The images in the book show what was left of the place and the belongings that were discarded before it was demolished. It also shows the demolition and the new home in which the remaining inhabitants are now housed.

▶ 20.5x23.5cm  
softback, 90  
photographs, 92 pages

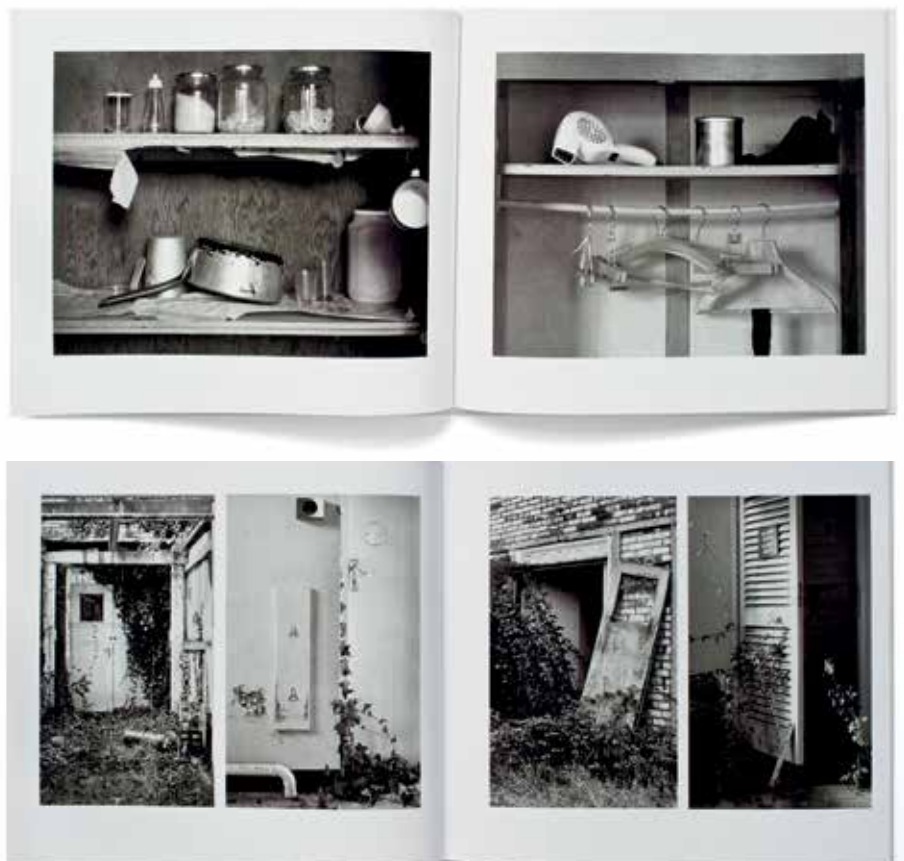
[PREVIOUS PAGE] topics of substance; photography of suitable strength; and book design and sequencing that support the purpose of the book and the book's overall characteristics as an object. In summary, it is about treating the photobook as an entity in its own right, rather than a means of showing a set of photographs.

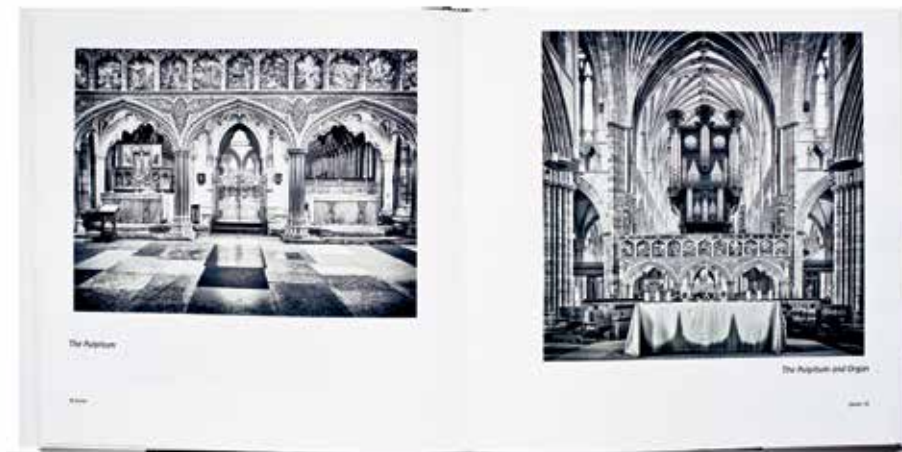
From the range and quality of the submissions it is clear that the entrants have carefully considered the criteria. The selection of the 21 shortlisted titles was largely determined by the strength and value of the chosen book topic, with subsequent considerations about the photographs, book design and production values stemming from this.

All the shortlisted entries are on show at Fenton House this month and all, apart from a few delicate ones in a glass display case, are available for browsing. What is more, prints of the book covers and a selection from the winning entries are also on display.

**SPONSORS**

We owe appreciative thanks to our sponsors for the winner and two runner-up awards: Dewi Lewis Publishing and Aperture Books





**HONOURABLE MENTION**  
**ENGLISH MEDIEVAL CATHEDRALS**  
 John Eaton ARPS

This book conveys the excitement the author experiences as he enters any of the great English medieval cathedrals.

Twenty three of these are included in this book, each with a detailed plan, historic text and several captioned

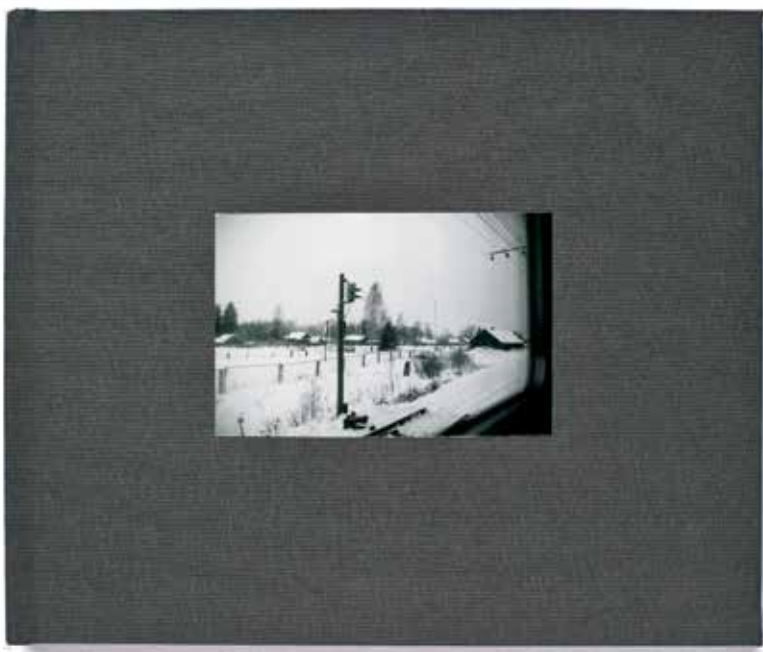
photographs in black and white.  
 ▶ 30.5x30.5cm hardback, 248 photographs, plus floor plans, 264 pages



**HONOURABLE MENTION**  
**SLEEPER**  
 Tamsin Green ARPS

*Sleeper* is a series of photographs taken on a train journey from London to Mumbai, illustrating the experience of getting somewhere slowly, feeling the landscape change and being in no hurry. The author travelled across eastern Europe and Russia, through Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and on through India.

▶ 20.5x21cm hardback, photo pasted on cover, 86 photographs, 92 pages



**SELECTOR REMARKS**

Gerry Badger

These were an interesting and imaginative selection of books. The standard of picture making was high, so congratulations to all. Most people were making books on subjects about which they were passionate. Having said that, too many books were let down by their design, and in particular their typography. Turning to the winners, my first choice, *Be = f (P,E)*, and *Identifying England* were examples of what has become an interesting trend in current photobook strategy, the 'layered' narrative, where two strands of narrative are combined and set off against each other to make for a more complex and challenging result. *To Go to the Window* was simple and heartfelt, let down slightly by its design and the rosy glow of some images.