

## Documentary Chair's report – AGM (30 November 2023)

Welcome. Much of our activity in 2022 and early 2023 was a follow-on from our plans.

Our Documentary Photographer of the Year Exhibition completed, having visited seven different locations in England, Wales and Scotland. We took a decision to re-brand the event and to focus on showcasing more work. During 2023 we have run the **RPS Documentary Photography Awards**. These will provide more opportunities for photographers in three categories (Open, Student and Members) to have their work in our touring Exhibition. The Awards will be announced immediately after our AGM. In 2024 the exhibition will tour the UK, covering London, Oriol Colwyn, Inverness, Oxford and finishing at RPS House in Bristol.

A big thank you to Harry Hall (again!) and all the regional groups support for helping this to happen. We also plan to hold several talks and events in conjunction with regional groups and some of the photographers as it tours.

Our **regional sub-groups** held both on-line and in person events, including some jointly with Contemporary. We now have additional groups, including Scotland which has already put on several activities. For details, see the website (About). Some of our groups also held local exhibitions, notably South East and East Anglia. If you have a group near you, please support them and the volunteers who run them. If you don't have one ... you could always try to form one.

Our **Engagement Talk** series continued with a further 5 talks including Holly-Marie Cato, Liz Hingley, Laura Pannack, Colin Wilkinson and Ken Grant (talking about Chris Killip). We do have more in planning. As ever, they are free, but you can donate if you wish.

**Decisive Moment** (DM) has a new editor Nick Hodgson, with Dave Thorp taking over production and publishing. Our **Newsletters** continue to focus on letting people know about our upcoming events and especially our regional events.

Sadly, we did not manage to get the planned documentary workshop up and running but we still intend to do this, when we have time. It will be aimed at those working on projects and looking for more specific help (but it is not distinction coaching).

The issues with the website and the "CRM" continue, that has not only made it harder to post events. It also means we have few people trained and able to post events (basically it's me!). As a result, we have continued with Eventbrite for event bookings and expect to do so at least until April 2024.

Our 2021-2024 Plan is unchanged and posted on the website, but it will need an update next year. Ideas and thoughts are welcome.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few people ... all the current committee and volunteer team, all our regional volunteers who have helped support the group and the regional sub-groups. Without you, there would be nothing.

Separate updates will be provided on finances and membership.

Finally, thank you all for your support.