



Chair's Report for AGM 2023

David O'Neill LRPS

The RPS Website

There have been further signs of improvement with the website for both administration and events and it is now less disruptive to Group activities. However, we still have compromises in place for events and some aspects of administration are still causing issues.

Photographic Competition

We plan to launch our inaugural photographic competition shortly and a more detailed broadcast will be sent out to Members by Julia Wainwright.

The main advantage of PhotoComp is that it has the same look and feel as PhotEx, which means that Members who have entered exhibitions before should already be familiar with the way it works.

Events

Unfortunately, Nick Bowman needed to step down from the Committee recently and I would like to thank him for the valuable support he has given Ann in planning and running events.

Ann Miles is continuing her work to extend our range of events to as many counties as possible and we are hoping to encourage more Members across the UK to offer to host events in their local areas. If you are a regular visitor to a local nature spot, then please consider organising an event and sharing your knowledge with other Members. If you are interested in doing this, then please contact Ann Miles or any other Committee Member.

Advisory days have also become a regular feature of our calendar and have proven to be both popular and successful.

We are also looking for Zoom speakers so that we can continue to offer a variety of talks that are available to Members and I would like to encourage anyone who has experience of giving talks on nature to consider presenting a talk for the Group.

Young Persons Membership

There is now a section on the website for Young Photographers that can be used to monitor the progress of the RPS offering. This is planned to include a specific magazine for young people, workshops throughout the year and online digital content for them to access such as activities and competitions.

<https://rps.org/youngphotographers>

This includes 'Coming Soon – RPS Young Photographers', which is a survey aimed at Young Photographers between the ages of 12 – 16.

'The Royal Photographic Society strive to make photography exciting and accessible to everyone. Our education team are looking at ways that they can give young people interested in photography the resources and opportunities that are important to them. We really value the opinions of young people that want to engage with us and our programme, and want to hear what it is that you want from the Royal Photographic Society, and the things that will help you on your journey as a young photographer.'

The Sharp Shots Photo Club section covers workshops and courses, which includes Duke of Edinburgh awards.

There are many other articles on this page including a section on Activities and Resources.

Other Committee Business

This is my last report as Chair, so I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone on the Committee for the support that they give to the Nature Group.

Duncan Locke as Secretary and Membership Secretary has a strategically important role with organising Committee events and supporting New Members, but is now taking over from me as Chair.

Christine Holt will take on the Membership Secretary role, but at the time of writing we still need a new Secretary.

Peter Ward as Treasurer looks after our Finances, which is a vital and often overlooked role.

Ralph Snook looks after the Website and continues to manage the Exhibition every year which is a major event in our calendar that celebrates the photographic achievements of Members.

Dawn Osborn has managed the transition of The Iris into an A4 magazine, which has received a lot of highly positive feedback from Members as the flagship of the Group.

James Foad continues to manage Residential Meetings, which despite the setbacks of Covid have all been popular and well attended.

Ann Miles who in addition to her work on Events looks after Advisory Days too.

Julia Wainwright manages a thriving Facebook community of 285 Nature Group Members in addition to the new Photography Competition.

David O'Neill LRPS
15th March 2023