



RPS Landscape Group

AGM 2025

Starting shortly...



RPS Landscape Group

AGM 2025

Colin Balfour, Chair

22/03/25

Welcome

- Please mute your microphone and switch off your camera
 - Voting - 6 votes
 - Q&A - for questions, easier to collate and answer
 - Chat - only for proposers and seconders for voting
-
- Apologies

Voting 1/6 - Minutes

- *Please volunteer in the chat box for one proposer and one seconder*
- **Vote 1 - Do you approve the minutes of the previous meeting?**
 - *Yes/No/Abstain*

Report on Actions from previous AGM

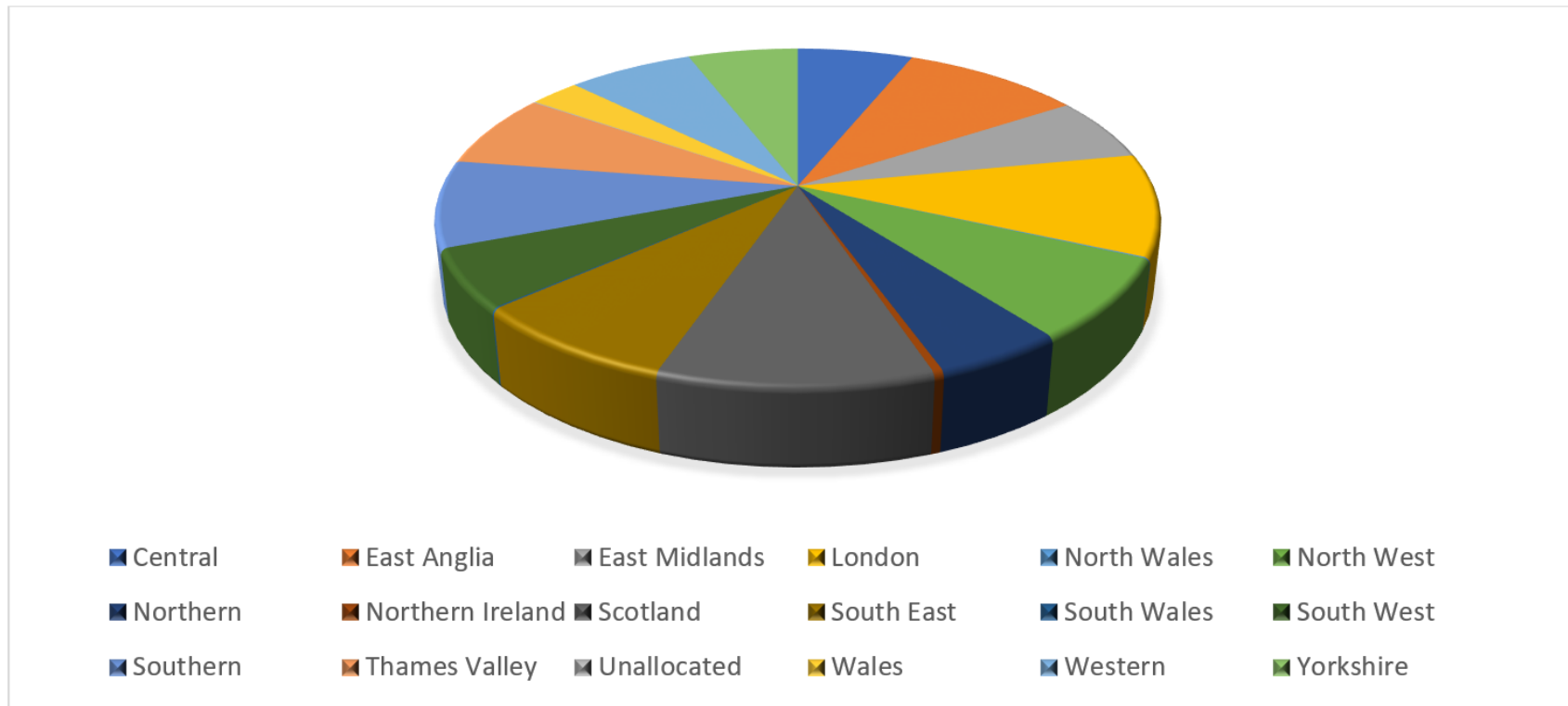
- No Actions from AGM

2024 Review – Membership Information

- The overall number of members has increased by 115, a 10.5% rise on the previous year:
 - 2020: 915
 - 2021: 1028
 - 2022: 1030
 - 2023: 1065
 - **2024: 1180**
- This comprised 174 leavers and 289 new members
- A feedback survey is sent to all leavers, and of those who responded the key reasons given are related reducing personal spend and personal health issues

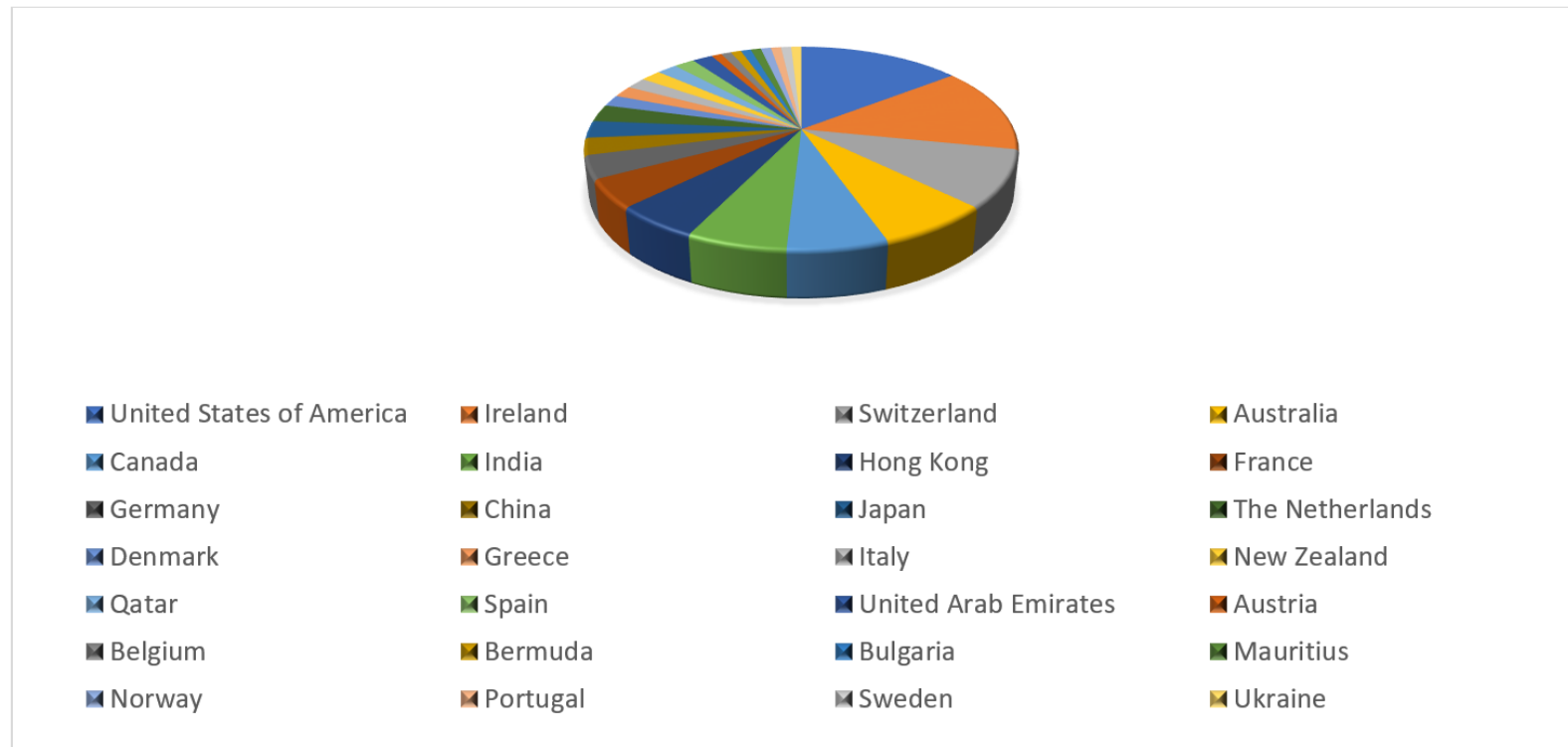
2024 Review – Membership Information

- Landscape Group continues to have members in all the UK regions:



2024 Review – Membership Information

- Overseas membership has reduced as an overall percentage. However, this is largely due to the significant increase in members based in the UK. The actual number of overseas members has reduced by 2.



2024 Review – Membership Information

- 47% of members have distinctions:

	2024	2023	2022
FRPS / <u>HonFRPS</u> (Any Genre)	3.4%	4%	4%
ARPS (any Genre)	16.2%	17%	17%
LRPS	27.5%	31%	32%
No Distinction	53.0%	48%	47%

2024 Review – Magazine

- **Magazine goes from strength to strength**
 - Relaunched last year, fantastic feedback
 - Two regular editions per annum
 - On Landscape collaboration featuring Joe Cornish articles
 - Many other exciting new features and articles with more to come

2024 Review –Talk-Walk-Talk

- **Talk-Walk-Talk (TWT) collaboration with DIG**
 - Building on the success of the first two TWTs
 - Third TWT (Spring) on Architecture and Built Environment (ABE)
 - Mark Reeves FRPS presented the talk
 - 340 participants and 40 walks across the UK
 - 30 International and islands bookings
 - Final selected images published as a zine
 - Fourth TWT (Autumn) on Woodland
 - Paul Mitchell FRPS presented the talk
 - 359 participants and 52 walks across the UK
 - 31 International and islands bookings
 - Final selected images published as a zine
 - More on future plans later

2024 Review – Projects – Sound-Scapes

- **Sound-Scapes – a joint project with the Audio-Visual Group**
 - Sound-Scapes was a project to encourage members to try out a new way of presenting landscape photography
 - Videos featured at Landscape Group Conference and available online soon
 - All you need to know is on the project webpage here:
<https://rps.org/groups/landscape/projects/sound-scapes/>

2024 Review – Projects - Calendar

- **Calendar Project**

- First ever calendar
- 120 images submitted
- Season and month appropriate
- Final images chosen by a judging panel
- Calendar was available in time for Christmas
- Will repeat for 2026, more news soon

2024 Review - Projects - The Shipping Forecast

- **The Shipping Forecast**

- Members captured 17 coastlines based on the Shipping Forecast
- A selection of the submitted images were chosen by a judging panel and are now displayed in a web gallery
- We received over 140 images
 - 20 were chosen as winners for their respective sea area
 - Another 26 images were commended
- The project has been extended
- Working with AV Group – four special AVs created which will be featured on our website

2024 Review – Member-Led Events

- **Member-Led Events (MLEs)** have continued to be incredibly popular
- In 2024, we ran 27 events (with 22 sold out) and a total of 200 bookings (before 3 cancellations)
- We have had very positive feedback
- We currently have 29 events launched to date for 2025
- We'd like to run more events, but the limiting factor remains the number of members willing to lead, so please get in touch if you are interested

2024 Review – Professional-Led Events

- **Professional-Led Events (PLEs)** are also very popular
- We really value working with professional photographers who deliver a superb range of excellent workshops
- These vary from one day workshops to a week-long residential course, which was held on Harris and Lewis in 2024
- 24 in-person events took place in 2024, as well as three online talks

2024 Review – Newsletter and Competitions

- Currently reviewing the **Newsletter**, update soon
- Regular member emails twice a month
- We continue to run regular **competitions**, both monthly and themed
 - The monthly competition allows for images taken at any time to be submitted
 - The themed competitions encourage new work to be submitted
- There is a wide variety of themes
 - Current theme is Structures in the Landscape
- Many thanks to our sponsor FotoVUE for very kindly providing one of their excellent photography books for each winner

2024 Review – Circles and Social Media

- **Circles** continue to prove very popular
 - We now have 106 members across 13 circles
 - The circles cover print, processing, and critique
 - This does not represent 106 unique members as some people are in more than one group,
- **Social media** is important for us too
 - We have a very active private Facebook group (currently 529 members, up from 510 last year)
 - We also have our public facing Instagram feed (currently 1,743 followers, up from 1,478 followers last year).
- ***More details of all the above 2024 activities are in our full Committee Report which is online.***

2024 Review – Finances

Full Annual Accounts and Committee Report are in the AGM Papers and Reports on our website

Receipts		Payments		Balance Sheet	
Conference	£18,118	Committee	£2,501	Opening	£39,633
Events	£27,901	Conference	£16,857	Closing	£52,909
Subs	£17,141	Events	£22,684		
Misc	£2,710	Magazine	£8,470	Surplus/Deficit	£13,276
Total	£65,870	Misc	£2,082		
		Total	£52,594		

Subscription fee

- Subscription fee is reviewed annually, and any change is confirmed to RPS HQ by September each year
- Any change is implemented the following January
- Finance statement
- ***There have been changes to the basis on which the finances for Special Interest Groups are managed which was implemented during the 2024 year. After consultation with Memcom, and with the agreement of the Group representatives, it was agreed that a management fee would be implemented charged to all groups on a per-capita basis to contribute toward the administrative costs of supporting group activities borne by RPS, as well as the cost of maintaining and developing our platforms and services. As a parallel activity RPS has begun the process of consolidation of individual Group bank accounts into aggregated accounts, to make things easier to manage and reduce banking overheads, although individual Group reserves will be tracked and maintained.***
- ***This fee was implemented from July 1 and the balance in respect to the six months to the end of 2024 was debited from Group bank accounts in December. The management fee for 2025 has been calculated and communicated to Finance Officers and Group Chairs and will be collected monthly, commencing in January 2025, and thereafter will be determined annually based on membership numbers of each Group.***

Q&A on 2024 Review and Financial Report

Voting 2/6 - Report

- *Please volunteer in the chat box for one proposer and one seconder*
- **Vote 2 - Do you accept the report as a true record of the Landscape Group's activities in 2024?**
 - *Yes/No/Abstain*

Voting 3/6 - Accounts

- *Please volunteer in the chat box for one proposer and one seconder*
- **Vote 3 - Do you agree to adopt the accounts as presented?**
 - *Yes/No/Abstain*

Voting 4/6 Election of Committee

- All committee volunteers have already been proposed and seconded
- New Terms of Reference now in place
- Committee members now voted in for a period of 3 years
- Thereafter can be renewed for a further 3 years
- **Vote 4 – Election of Committee**
- 7 Roles, 1 vote for each
 - *Appoint <NAME>/Re-open for nominations/Abstain*

Chair (Officer)	Colin Balfour
Secretary (Officer)	Viv Cotton
Finance Officer (Officer)	Trevor Judd
Engagement & Events Officer (Professional Events)	Chris McIntosh
Engagement & Events Officer (Member Events)	Howard Klein
Group Communications Officer	Candia Peterson
Member without Portfolio (Circles, Non-Officer)	David Travis

Voting 5/6 - MemCom

- *Please volunteer in the chat box for one proposer and one seconder*
- **Vote 5 – The Members’ Committee (MemCom) is a representative body that advocates for RPS Members and Volunteers, providing expertise and recommendations to improve and ensure consistency across the Society’s Volunteer-led activities. Do you agree that COLIN BALFOUR (Chair) should represent the Landscape Group at the Members’ Committee (MemCom)?**
 - *Yes/No/Abstain*

Voting 6/6 – Subscription fee

- *Please volunteer in the chat box for one proposer and one seconder*
- **Vote 6 – Do you consent for the Committee to review and change the subscription fee for 2026 if necessary?**
 - *Yes/No/Abstain*

Looking ahead – Plans for 2025 and beyond

- 10th Anniversary Plans
 - Special edition of the magazine
 - Showcase and celebrate previous projects, work and more
- 2027 Residential Conference
 - 2025 conference just finished, very successful, great feedback
 - Planning has already started for the next conference in 2027
- More Member-Led Events and Professional-Led Events
- Projects
 - 2026 calendar launching soon
 - More projects planned
- TWT collaboration with DIG continues
 - Spring – Parks and Gardens starts 10th April
 - Autumn – Inland Waterways
- Collaboration with other Groups and Regions
 - AV Group
 - Region presentations

Looking ahead – Plans for 2025 and beyond

- Second Members' Outdoor Exhibition, 2025/2026
 - Starts Southwark Cathedral, London 17th May then touring the UK
 - Other 2025 locations include Bristol, Nottingham, York, Chester and Keswick
 - Scotland locations to be announced for 2026
 - 80 stunning prints from London to Antarctica
 - Wide range of themes
 - More details on our website

Thank you to our Committee and Team

Mark Reeves

Viv Cotton

Trevor Judd

Chris McIntosh

Howard Klein

Candia Peterson

David Travis

Gaynor Davies

Paul Cayton

Lou Mason-Walsh

Elliot Banks

Sue Wright

Ilan Jacobson

All are unpaid volunteers who contribute a huge amount of time and effort to the Group.

Many thanks to everyone!

Special thanks to Mark Reeves

- Mark is one of the co-founders of the Landscape Group along with Richard Ellis
- Mark organised the very successful residential conference in North Queensferry
- Huge amount of work with lots of logistics
- As we approach our 10th Anniversary, Mark has decided to step down from the Committee
- However, he will remain a very valued member of the Group
- On behalf of the Committee, I'd like to thank Mark for all his hard work and huge contribution to the Landscape Group

Closing comments

- Any further questions can be sent to: landscapesecretary@rps.org
- Next AGM, March 2026, date and time TBC

Thank you