

DI News November 2021



'Sea Railings' by David Balcombe ARPS

Winner of the Digital Imaging monthly competition for October

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Don't miss out on our special event in January: Julieanne Kost

You may know Julieanne Kost for her brilliantly clear tutorials on how to use Lightroom and Photoshop. But her presentation for Digital Imaging's online programme on 7 January 2022 will be something completely different. In ['Creating Personal Projects that Reignite the Creative Spark'](#) Julieanne applies her exceptional skills to the subject of how to frame and carry out photographic projects. Perfect for starting out the New Year.

What you need to know is that Digital Imaging is offering this talk for free to all RPS members, not just Digital Imaging members. It will be published for the whole of the RPS starting in December. So if you want to ensure that you have a place for it, register soon. This talk could be sold out. Register now: rps.org/digonline28.

Having said that, please only register once. It's easy to forget that you've signed up for a free talk. Lately we've been finding that as many as 25% of the places on our talks are occupied by duplicate registrations.

Still some places on our December event: Jonathan Vaines

On 3 December Jonathan Vaines will be bringing us ['Life in the Blender: A Creative Twist'](#), a deep dive into using blend modes, both in-camera and in post-processing.



Deborah Loth
DI News Editor
dignews@rps.org

(Many thanks to Robin Claydon and Lois Wakeman for their assistance compiling this newsletter.)

SUPPORT THE RPS WHILE SHOPPING ON AMAZON

smile.amazon.co.uk

The RPS has registered with Amazon Smile. If you're buying anything on Amazon, please do so through Amazon Smile and nominate the Royal Photographic Society - it will receive a donation of 0.5% of your net purchase price every time, and it won't cost you anything! Details [here](#).

MONTHLY ONLINE COMPETITION

The winner of our October monthly online competition was 'Sea Railings' by David Balcombe ARPS, featured on the cover. (For more information about the friendly monthly competition, including how to enter, visit www.rps.org/DIGMonComp. Keep an eye out for video slideshows of monthly competition entries on our [YouTube channel](#).)



David Balcombe, ARPS

I was delighted to hear that my photo 'Sea Railings' was voted as the winning image for October. I had watched an RPS presentation by Colin Jarvis back in February and was inspired by his photos. Together with a friend we arranged a one-day workshop with Colin based around Liverpool. We had to wait until September for a high spring tide when he was available, and we could make the long trip from Norfolk. We started in the rain on Crosby Beach on the rising tide then dashed over to West Kirby to catch high tide and photograph the railings around the marine lake by which time the weather had improved. Having got a number of different shots we decided the conditions were benign enough to walk back out to the most distant railings as the rocks they were built on were now submerged, though the flow of tide over the walkway was quite strong and it was a challenge to stop the tripod moving. The benefit of working with someone who had local knowledge was that we could do this safely and were able to visit four different locations on the one tide.

The photo was taken on my Olympus with 7-14mm zoom at 14mm and filters to give 58 seconds at f9.0 200 ISO. I like using LiveTime for long exposure as you can watch the histogram build up and stop the exposure when it looks right. In Photoshop I converted to mono using gradient map and blended the sky into the sea (removing the North Wales coast in the process, sorry to any Welsh readers) and did local adjustments to levels in the foreground to balance the tones. Thank you to all who voted for my picture and all at DIG for their hard work.

Addendum: Many who participated in the voting for the October competition chose 'Rectangles' by John Bull LRPS (see right). When the competition had closed, John realised that he'd already won the September 2020 competition with the image and graciously withdrew it. Many thanks to John for adhering to the spirit of our friendly monthly competition.



Second place was 'Dahlia Explosion' by Melanie Sharp.



Celebrating Prints

2020**photo**vision was formed last year by a group of six photographers – including DI members Jan Beesley ARPS, Angela Ford ARPS and Susi Petherick ARPS – passionate about producing and exhibiting their work in print. Their first exhibition opens this month:

16 November to 12 December 2021
Hanbury Hall, 22 Hanbury Street, London E1 6QR
www.2020photovision.org.uk

Third place was 'St Ives by Val Walker.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Richard Bircham LRPS | Hertfordshire |
| James Brooks | Essex |
| Marco De Sanctis | Middlesex |
| Howard Donohue | USA |
| Jacinta Everett | Ireland |
| Julie Fortune | Powys |
| Paul French | Hampshire |
| Stephen Govan | Hampshire |
| William Gray | Merseyside |
| David Hartley | West Yorkshire |
| Alastair Macdougall | Bedfordshire |
| Katherine Maguire ARPS | Netherlands |
| Steve McEvoy | Middlesex |
| Andrea Oliver | Middlesex |
| Tim Pier | Wiltshire |
| Jacki Rosin ARPS | Coventry |
| Barry Rourke | Surrey |
| Dan Simpson | USA |
| Gary Smith | East Yorkshire |
| Peter Taylor-Medhurst | Surrey |
| Paul Varney LRPS | Hampshire |

PUBLICATIONS

By the time you read this you should have received *DIGIT* 90. If you have something to contribute to *DIGIT* or *DI News* then please do contact dignews@rps.org.



A UK MEMBER

Diane Seddon ARPS shares highlights from her photographic journey and asks, 'Is Photography Art?'



Diane Seddon ARPS

Is Photography Art?

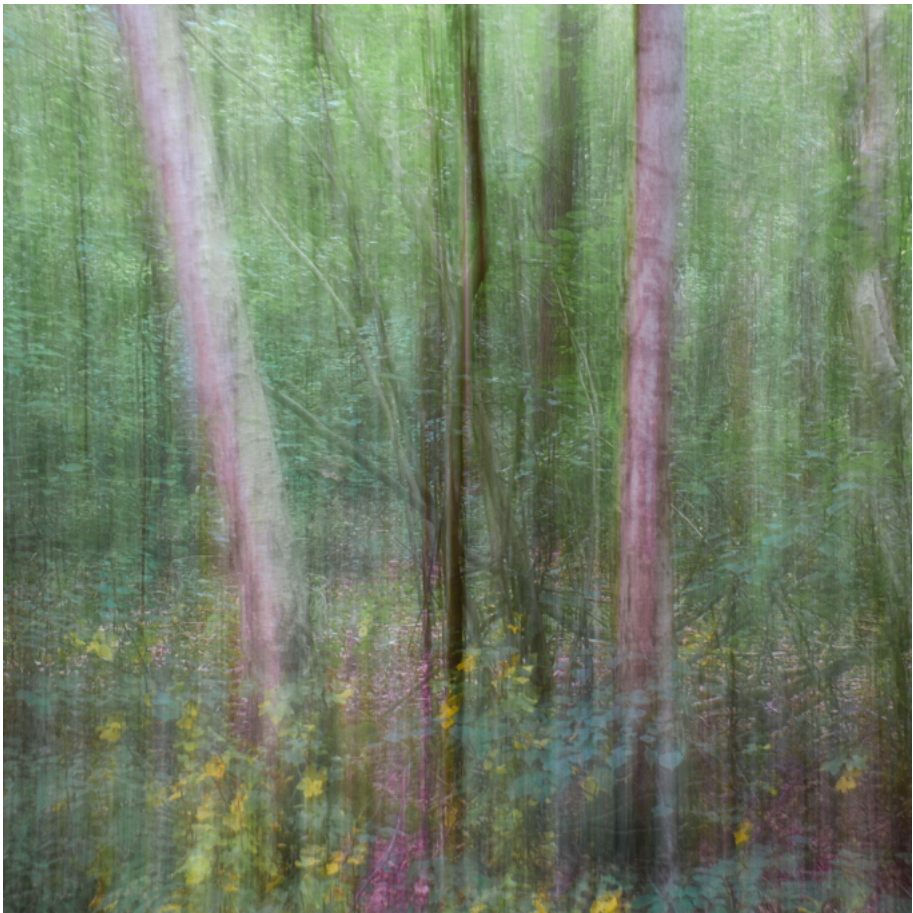
In a word..... 'yes'... we create, we allow ourselves the freedom of expression, and if nothing else, the COVID lockdown has freed me from the restrictions of both photographic work, and the (sometime) constraints of a camera club.

Watching many wonderful speakers over the months, I witnessed differences in attitude and experience – remembered that photographic creativity is just not something we can learn. Realised that it required a change in my mindset, and is something that needs constant practice.

I learned new techniques, found I had the freedom to shoot what I wanted and



'Blowing in the Wind' by Diane Seddon ARPS



'Autumn Tints' by Diane Seddon ARPS

how I wanted. Wondered why I hadn't done this before. There were new things to try, and a building of creative energy.



'Woodland Walk' by Diane Seddon ARPS



'Grass' by Diane Seddon ARPS

from massive support from friends whom I trusted to be honest about my work, and with great assistance from advisory days run by the RPS. They were not images that were successful in the club world.

Today I have new projects in mind, and they're not finished yet. A friend asked me when they would be... "I don't know," I said, "but probably when I think I'm done with it."...

"But then you might never finish" he said. "So what!" I replied, "I'll finish when I'm not interested in it any more..."

Find your own voice and stick with it... Keep learning...

'Poppy' by Diane Seddon ARPS

Photographers need to compel themselves to experiment, be artistic and ask that all important question "What if I did this?"

I saw many photographers using this skill, and making amazing art. I wanted to be one of them.

My priorities have changed over the last two years, I'm feeding my own soul, and I've stopped worrying about what other people think of my work. By trying to please everyone, I realised I was failing to please myself. Isn't this what photography, and art making is about? Please yourself first, and everyone else second....

I gained my ARPS just about two years ago on the first try, using multiple exposure images 'in the round'. The final success came



PRINT EXHIBITION 2022 COMPETITION



'Too Many People' by Helen Jones ARPS, 2021 Winner of the Print Exhibition Gold Medal and Chairman's Cup

The Digital Imaging 2022 Print Exhibition will open for entries on 1 January 2022. Full details will be available in December. In the meantime, for an overview of the 2021 Print Exhibition Selection and to download catalogues from previous years' exhibitions, visit the Digital Imaging Print Exhibition page on the RPS website: www.rps.org/DIGExhibition. Selected images for several previous years' exhibitions can be viewed on the [Digital Imaging Hall of Fame](#).

DIGITAL IMAGING AGM & SPEAKER DAY

20 February 2022 will be the Digital Imaging AGM & Speaker Day:

- A brief business meeting
- A presentation by the selectors of the 2022 Print Exhibition images
- An inspiring guest speaker

As in 2021, the event will take via Zoom videoconferencing. Watch for further details in December.

AN OVERSEAS MEMBER

Paul Herbert ARPS writes from Jersey to describe how his lifelong interest in photography developed into a fine art practice.



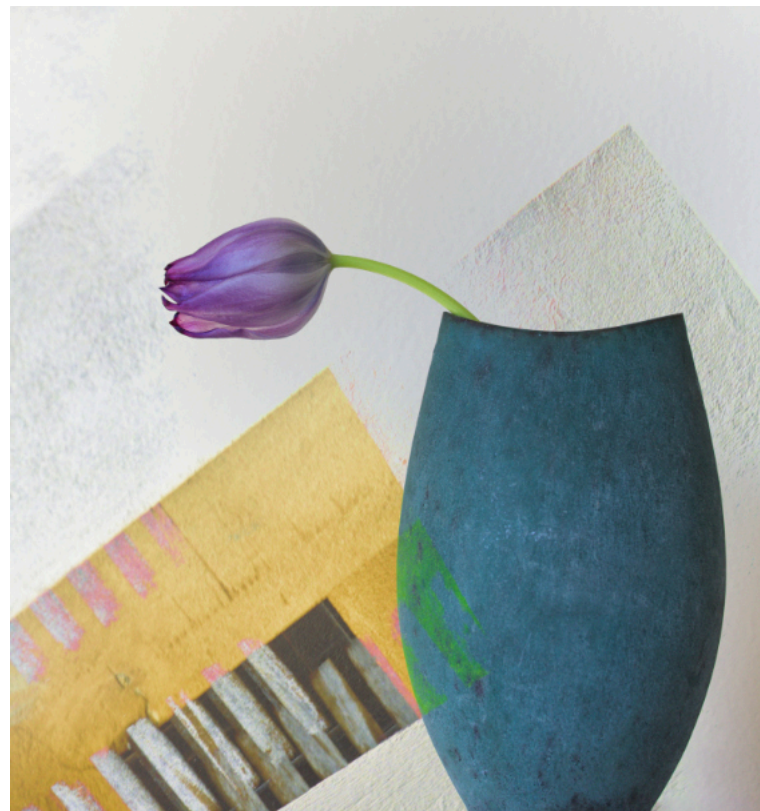
Paul Herbert ARPS

I live in Jersey, which is the largest of the Channel Islands and where I was born and brought up.

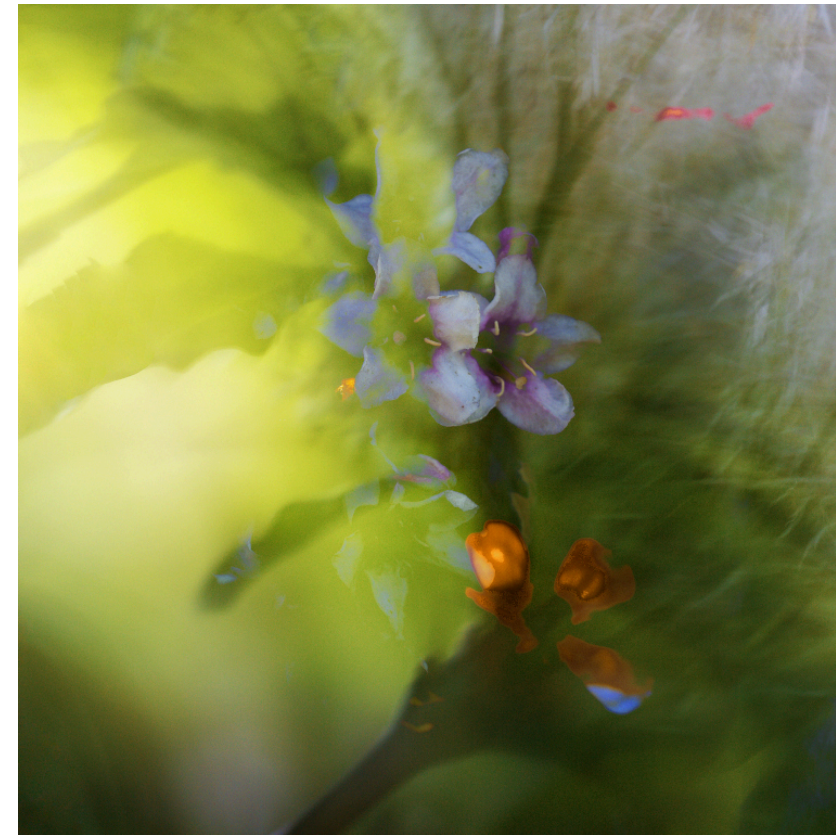
My dad was an amateur photographer and cine-film enthusiast and started my interest in photography by giving me my first camera, a Kodak Brownie 127. After years of using film cameras (I still have my 35mm Olympus OM1-n from the 1980s) I started using small compact digital cameras in 2000 mainly for holiday snaps.

In 2010 I decided to re-kindle my interest in photography as a hobby, bought my first digital SLR, and four years later joined the Jersey Photographic Club (JPC) where I discovered what RAW files were for! Since then, photography has become a very important part of my life. I am now in my third year as JPC Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and it is great to be able to put something back into the club that has helped me so much.

My photographic subjects range from landscapes, seascapes and architecture to



'Still Life' by Paul Herbert ARPS



'Impressions of Spring' by Paul Herbert ARPS

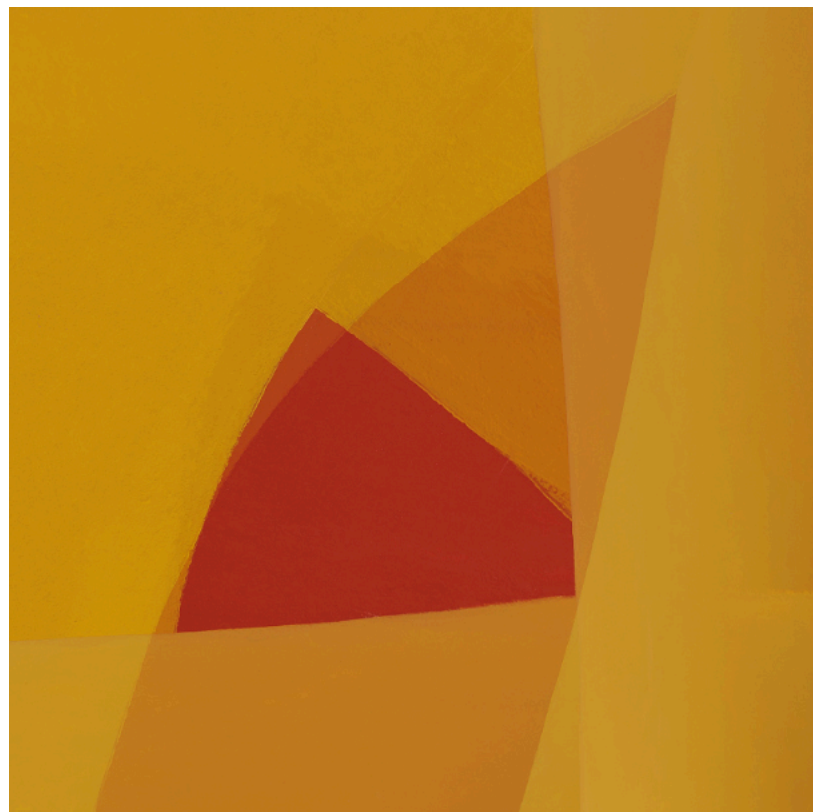
macros of insects and flowers. I like using long exposures and looking for an abstract perspective, but the outcomes were generally quite traditional in nature until 2017 when our club had an inspiring presentation by Valda Bailey. Valda opened my eyes to a more creative and less representational approach to photography, using both in-camera multiple exposures with different blend modes and intentional camera movement. In addition to using in-camera creative techniques I now often aim to make my traditional images more abstract or 'intimate', sometimes by viewing the subject from an unusual angle or from close up. Sometimes I'm become so involved in making an image that I lose track of time – it's almost a form of 'mindfulness' and definitely relaxes me.

In recent years my post-processing has also become much less constrained and nothing is really off-limits now provided that the final results work for me. If the outcome requires the viewer to think about what the image is, all the better.

I was really pleased to be awarded an ARPS in the Fine Art category in 2020 for my panel of multiple exposure images made in Ibiza, and in future I plan to continue developing my 'creative' side alongside more traditional work, possibly with further RPS distinctions in mind.



'Samares Swirls' by Paul Herbert ARPS



'Abstract Architecture' by Paul Herbert ARPS



'Rust Works' by Paul Herbert ARPS

RPS AWARDS



Rex Waygood, DI Co-Chair

Congratulations to the five Digital Imaging members who were honoured in this year's round of [RPS Awards](#).

Rex Waygood, our current Co-Chair, was awarded the Fenton Medal and Sheila Haycox, Western Centre Organiser, was given the Member's Award.

Digital Imaging members Stewart Wall, Mark Reeves and Mary Crowther were also awarded the Fenton Medal.



Click on this page from the RPS Journal to view the full profiles for all awardees.

DIGITAL IMAGING COMMITTEE

The Digital Imaging Committee is busier than ever, with several of its members still doing more than one job. Why not step up and give a hand?

We would love someone to put themselves forward to be the new **Digital Imaging Chair**. Especially if you have experience volunteering with photographic organisations, please consider helping Digital Imaging take advantage of the new opportunities before us in the post-pandemic world.

We are also looking for help with other roles: Deputy Chair, Editor for DIGIT, Centre Organisers for our NW Centre and Eastern Centre, Online Event Programme (Secretary or Assistant), Social Media Manager.

For some of the roles, if you don't have the time to take over the whole job, assisting someone who is already juggling the role would also be helpful.

So please contact Lyn Phillips (digsecretary@rps.org) if you are interested.

RPS DISTINCTIONS

This year’s season of Distinctions assessments is almost drawing to a close, but an official announcement about the process for assessments for 2022 is expected in the next few weeks – ‘hopefully a bit more normal’ – in the meantime, Zoom assessments continue.

2021 has ushered in exciting changes to the RPS Distinctions programme, including advice on Statements of Intent, new Portraiture and [Photobook](#) genres, and observer places at Fellowship Assessments as well as Licentiate and Associate.

You can book a [1:1 portfolio review](#) and/or a [1:1 statement of intent review](#) session with a panel member appropriate to your genre/distinction, but be aware there can be a waiting list for both. These are covered on the [Distinctions Update](#) page of the RPS website. Some regions are now offering [Advisory Days](#) in person and online into next year.

From Natural History to Visual Arts, will soon be able to book your Distinction assessment (print, digital and book submissions) for each level and every genre. 2022 dates are forecast for November and are expected to fill up quickly, so keep your eyes open! [Online observer tickets](#) for all assessments are still available to book.

For the most up-to-date information on the availability of Distinction Assessment Days, see the following links:

- [Licentiate \(LRPS\)](#)
- [Associate \(ARPS\)](#)
- [Fellowship \(FRPS\)](#)

The RPS has a [FAQ page](#) where you can find out more about the status of the assessment programme. In addition, a number of Chapters and Regions have begun to offer online Distinctions Study Groups. You can find these by [searching the RPS website](#).

You can see some example [LRPS panels](#) and [ARPS panels](#) to guide you, and there is detailed advice for each category of distinction available by following the links on the [RPS qualifications page](#). Genres for ARPS and FRPS are further detailed in this PDF document: [Genre Definitions - January 2021 \(rps.org\)](#).

If you missed any of the excellent Distinctions Live talks, you can [catch up](#) here.

The closed Facebook Group: [RPS Distinctions **Official Group**](#) now has over 3,600 members, and is a civilized venue to ask questions, share your successes – and disappointments – and ask for critique on your proposed portfolio.

For Digital Imaging members, issue 9 of *Accolade*, which delves into members’ Distinctions successes, is now available. See the email message which announced this newsletter for a members-only link to issues of *Accolade*.



MEMBER DISTINCTIONS

Congratulations to members who were recently awarded Distinctions. All will be invited by Holly to submit their work and story to *Accolade*.



Alexandra Prescott	FRPS	Contemporary
Simon Street	FRPS	Contemporary



Martyn Scull	ARPS	Landscape
Tina Westcott	ARPS	Landscape









Mike Brown	LRPS
Peter Bushby	LRPS
Brian Doyle	LRPS
Christine Holt	LRPS
Steve Peel	LRPS
Claude Trew	LRPS

DIGITAL IMAGING EVENTS & LISTINGS

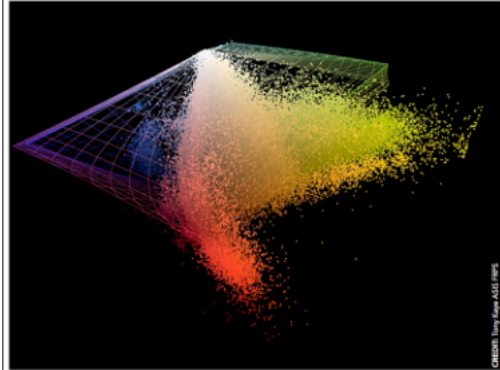
Although some real-life (as opposed to online) events have been organised, they still may be disrupted by the COVID pandemic. So check on the [events page](#) or with the event organiser for the latest status of any event. There are more events in the pipeline. You can sign up to receive our events listing email at bit.ly/RPSDIEvents. And if you'd like to lend a hand, Centres need volunteers to help with Zoom events, so contact Lyn Phillips (digsecretary@rps.org) to get involved. Please check that you haven't already registered before you book so as to avoid duplicate bookings.

Click on any of these ads to visit the event page:

<p>Digital Imaging: Online Saturday 4 December 2021 Online</p>  <p>Jonathan Vaines Life in the Blender: A Creative Twist www.rps.org/DIGONLINE27</p>	<p>Digital Imaging: Yorks & NE Saturday 4 December 2021 York YO23 1BW</p>  <p>Paula Davies FRPS & Guy Davies ARPS A Bit of This and a Bit of That www.rps.org/groups/digital-imaging/dig-yorkshire-and-north-east/events/</p>	<p>Digital Imaging: South East Friday December 10th</p>  <p>Joe Houghton Presentation Who Needs Adobe? Processing for Free https://rps.org/events/groups/digital-imaging/2021/december/who-needs-adobe-with-joe-houghton/</p>
<p>Digital Imaging: Online Saturday 8 January 2022 Online</p>  <p>Julieanne Kost Creating Personal Projects that Reignite the Creative Spark www.rps.org/DIGONLINE28</p>	<p>Digital Imaging: Online Saturday 5 February 2022 Online</p>  <p>Paul Gallagher Working in Another Light www.rps.org/DIGONLINE29</p>	<p>Digital Imaging: Online Saturday 12 March 2022 Online</p>  <p>Gary Friedman Computational Photography: Why Your Smartphone Takes Better Pictures than Your Big Camera www.rps.org/DIGONLINE30</p>

SOME OTHER VOLUNTEER-LED EVENTS

Clicking on any of these ads will take you to its RPS Events page where you can find more information:



All About Colour - Gamuts & the Colour Response of Cameras

DATE AND TIME
Wednesday 24th November, 8-10 pm

VENUE ADDRESS
Online
Join from your location
Link will be supplied




Thames Valley Meeting - Dave Mason talk

DATE AND TIME
24 November 2021 18:30 to 20:30
Zoom links will be sent out around 24 hours before the event (23 November).

VENUE ADDRESS
Online
Join from your location
Link will be supplied

[Book Online](#)
FREE




Preparing your work for publication or to enter competitions

DATE AND TIME
21st November 2021 14:30 GMT

VENUE ADDRESS
Online
Join from your location
Link attached to event booking confirmation email

[Book Online](#)
FREE



The environmentalist, the educator and the artist

DATE AND TIME
Saturday December 18th, 2021 10am UK time

VENUE ADDRESS
Online
Join from your location
Link attached to event booking confirmation email

[Book Online](#)
FREE

DIGITAL IMAGING DISCUSSION GROUP

If you're feeling a bit isolated and would like to hang out and chat about photography, please drop by [Digital Imaging](#) on Facebook where you can also ask – and answer - questions. You'll need to join it before you can participate, but the advantage is that it's a closed group open only to Digital Imaging members. It's especially useful if you are experiencing FOMO - Fear Of Missing Out - as a number of useful things often show up there first.

THE RPS WEBSITE

For guidance from the RPS on its website basics, visit <https://rps.org/new-website>. For detailed information on setting up your profile and how to set up a gallery, visit <https://rps.org/media/i3aaf51z/myrps-editing.pdf>.

The RPS maintains a page with updates to COVID-19 issues here: <https://rps.org/covid-19>.

For everyone's convenience, we include this list of shortcuts to the main Digital Imaging pages at the end of each newsletter.

Digital Imaging website shortcuts:

Digital Imaging Home page www.rps.org/DIG
Membership www.rps.org/DIMembership
Committee www.rps.org/DIGCommittee
News www.rps.org/DIGNews
Monthly Competition www.rps.org/DIGMonComp
Print Circle www.rps.org/DIGCircle
AGM www.rps.org/DIGAGM
Print Exhibition www.rps.org/DIGExhibition
Projected Image Competition www.rps.org/DIGPDI
Tutorials www.rps.org/DIGTutorials
Publications www.rps.org/digpubs

There are links to all the Centres from the Digital Imaging Home Page.

The three members-only links (DIGIT Archive, Accolade and Welcome Page) are to be found in the email message announcing this newsletter.

The RPS Digital Imaging constitution can be downloaded [HERE](#).

You can subscribe to our events listing email here: bit.ly/RPSDIEvents.