

**Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 1 December 2022 by video conference**

Apologies had been received from:

Angela Edwards
Mike Longhurst
Gerry Phillipson
Rolf Kraehenbuehl
John Stephenson
Armando Jongejan FRPS
Carol Olerud FRPS
Linda Corcoran
Richard Brown
Gwen Norton
David Barnes

Registered to attend were:

Peter Stuart	Fiona Neil	David Rutter
Tim Hancock	Julie Pinington Wright	Lionel Squire
Booker Skelding	Janey Devine	Sarah Smith
David Baxter	Adrian Flint	Vincent Torrens
Peter Dixon	Nick Hodgson	Joanne Court
Andreï Bergmans	Keith Bamber	Alan Bousfield
Joshua Chard	Wayne Richards	Stewart Wall
Gerald Phillipson	Francis Annett	Jenny Owen
Edoardo Santangelo	Gordana Johnson	Andrew Ripley
Simon Street	Michel Claverie	Valerie Mather
Peter Degnan	Joe Egan	Harry Hall
David Collins	David Shillabeer	Nick Linnett
Simon Maddison	Tim Hancock	Carol Hudson
Edward Forster	CAROLYN NEWTON	David Thorp
Malcolm Ganderton	Joanne Court	Lorraine Spittle
Mark Phillips		

1.	<p>Welcome and Minutes of the 2021 AGM</p> <p>The Chair asked if there were any apologies for absence other than those who had previously indicated such. There were none. It was recorded that the meeting had more than 15 members present and was thus declared quorate.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed with the meeting notice, were agreed without change by those present and signed by the Secretary on behalf of the Chair.</p> <p>Simon Madison Congratulated the Chair on his recent Members award recognition which was seconded and supported by all present</p>
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2.	<p>Report from the Chair and Plans for 2023</p> <p>The Chair read his report. A copy of the text is appended to these minutes. The chair took the opportunity to thank all members for their support during the past year and especially to all the volunteers in the regional sub-groups and central team for their continuing contribution.</p> <p>A Zoom poll was taken. The report was carried <i>nem con</i>.</p>
3.	<p>DG Finances</p> <p>The Finance Report had been distributed before the meeting. A copy of the text is attached. It was recognised that CRM problems continue to cause issues with paid events and no new subs have been received, however the cash balance remains healthy and should not prevent any planned activities.</p> <p>A Zoom poll was taken. The report was carried <i>nem con</i>.</p>
4.	<p>Membership</p> <p>The Secretary reported that membership stood at 600 and increase of 10 over the same period last year.</p> <p>A Zoom poll was taken. The report was carried <i>nem con</i>.</p>
5.	<p>Election of the 2023 Committee</p> <p>The Chair thanked committee members and volunteers for their support. There were no recorded nominations for any of the committee roles. The Chair said that members of 2022 committee were prepared to continue. There were no objections to those prepared to continue in post.</p> <p>The Committee was elected as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mark Phillips – Chair b) Andrew Ripley – Treasurer c) Nick Linnett – Secretary <p>Other volunteers and committee members were co-opted and not up for election. The committee indicated it was still open to engage other volunteers.</p>
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>

The formal meeting closed at 18:25 and was followed by an Engagement Talk given by Holly-Marie Cato.

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Chair's report – October 2022 - AGM

Welcome. Having emerged from the pandemic, 2022 was very much about getting back to “normal”. Our Documentary Photographer of the Year Exhibition opened and went on tour, we had a strong series of Engagement Talks and held more workshops. Our regional sub-groups also moved back to more in-person events.

Our DPOTY Touring exhibition started in Oxford (with the help of Thames Valley Region), then moved to Fujifilm London, Newcastle (helped by Northern Region), Oriol Colwyn (and North Wales Region), Inverness and Glasgow (with help from Scotland Region) and finally Chippenham (with help from Western Region). A big thank you to Harry Hall and all the Regional groups support for helping this to happen. Along the way we held a number of talks and events with some of the winners as speakers. We have estimated that over 20,000 viewed the exhibition as it toured. Our Engagement Talks continued, with some ‘big name’ speakers in early 2022 and we have more talks planned into 2023. As ever, they are free, but you can donate if you wish.

Our regional sub-groups held both on-line and re-started in person events, including some jointly with Contemporary. 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. We also joined up with Contemporary and encouraged the use of peer group help for distinctions.

Decisive Moment (DM) continues to develop in terms of content and quality, although we continue to have minor production challenges and resource constraints. We have published more Newsletters this year, mainly aimed at letting people know about our upcoming events. We are still interested in more help to create DM.

We are working on a new workshop, aimed at those working on projects and looking for specific help. This will have an online and in person component, it is aimed at helping you successfully complete the project, and this should be available in 2023.

The biggest challenge of the year has been the issues with the website and the “CRM”, that has made it harder to run paid events and to post them. It has also taken up volunteer time. As a result, we have moved to Eventbrite for event bookings for now, but we plan to return to the new RPS system in 2023.

2023 will also see the next edition of DPOTY, we are already working on this and plan to re-brand this as RPS Documentary Photography Awards as we want to celebrate more than just ‘a winner’. We hope the next edition will allow us to highlight more work and show it in the main exhibition area in RPS House.

Our 2021-2024 Plan is unchanged and posted on the website.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few people ... all the current committee, 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. Looking forward to a smoother 2023.

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RPS - Documentary Group

Hon. Treasurer's Report, FYE 31st December 2021

We started 2021 with a bank balance of £28,296.59, and ended it, after our various activities, with £28,160.94 – an decrease of £135.65 over the course of the year.

As can be seen, our underlying source of funding comes from Members Subscriptions (£5,499.39) which, according to the Committee's long-stated objective, is to be used for the benefit of the Documentary Group membership but this year our income from running the various events topped this at £7767.00

This means subsidising our various events and the activities (including our DPotY competition) required to run the Group, to the following extent:

	2021	2020
Members Subs	£5,859.23	£5,499.39
HO Financing / VAT Refund	£0.00	£434.60
In Year Events	£7,767.00	£4,250.00
Sub Group Income	£0.00	£52.70
<i>less</i>		
DPotY	(£4,594.39)	(£1,026.00)
Decisive Moment	(£0.00)	(£358.84)
Conference	(£0.00)	£0.00
Prior Year	(£0.00)	(£305.80)
Bi-monthly Competition	(£71.95)	£0.00
Events in Current Year	(£8,143.79)	(£3,040.00)
Regional Meetings	(£612.77)	(£350.51)
Admin, Travel, VAT etc	(£338.98)	(£131.33)
Increase (Decrease) in bank balance	(£135.65)	£5,024.41

So, a busy year but we remain comfortably funded.

I thought it pertinent to mention that a lot of expense has been incurred in the December 22 year on the DPOTY exhibition. In addition to this the new RPS CRM system has prevented subs and online income being transferred on a timely basis. The bank balance at the end of October 2022 was £24,088.65.

Andrew Ripley
Hon Treasurer
Documentary Group

28th November 2022