

2025 AGM, on 11th March 2025 (for the year ending Q4/2024)

RPS South East Region

**The Zoom meeting will commence at 1900
Questions will be taken via the chat function
The meeting will be recorded**

Welcome

Welcome to this online AGM of the SE region of the RPS

My name is

John Gough, Regional Organiser, RPS SE Region

The other current members of the committee are:

Paul Stillman - Committee member

Melanie Chalk - Committee member

Colin Young - Finance Officer

Tim Gisby - Committee member

Raluca O'Callaghan - Committee member

All committee members were present plus:
Janice Payne
Nicholas Kemp (part time)

It is again disappointing so few members tuned in, especially as 6 others had signed up to join

2025 AGM Agenda

(for the year ending Q4/2024)

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes from AGM 2024¹
3. Finance report¹
4. Regional Organiser report¹
5. Election or approval of officers
6. Any Other Business²
7. Close

¹ See links for these documents

² Please send any motions to me at southeast@rps.org by March 4th 2025

3 Finance report for year ending Q4/ 2024

| Income | |
|--|--------------|
| Income from events | £1,572.10 |
| Expenses | |
| Event expenses | (£1,765.40) |
| Biletto fees | (£150.06) |
| Travel and other costs | (£120.05) |
| | (£2,035.51) |
| Net expenses attributable to RPS-SE | (£463.41) |
| Transfer of funds to RPS | (£12,448.00) |
| Net cash movement | (£12,911.41) |
| Opening Balance | £16,692.08 |
| Closing Balance | £3,780.67 |

Since the last AGM there has been a significant change in the way the regions are financed. We no longer have our own bank account. During the year just under £12,500 was transferred from us to Head Office leaving nearly £4,000 in our account. Head Office now have control of that account, and my understanding is that they will be amalgamating all the accounts in due course.

We are now required to submit an annual budget for expected income and expenditure on an annual basis and Head Office approval of that budget is required.

The effect on the operation of RPS-SE is minimal. Our aim is to provide a series of events for members over the course of the year and to simply break even on those events. The figures for last year which show a deficit of £463 show we are achieving this aim.

The approved budget for next year shows an expected deficit of £875. Most of this small deficit is a result of travel and other expenses of RPS volunteers running free events. However, the recent decision to impose a small charge for these events, mostly to discourage no-shows, will reduce this deficit.

The only comments made were:

- This process of changing the bank accounts has not finished completely
- Some regions are still unhappy with the change but we are not

Colin Young will have already talked about the financial position so I am therefore going to cover:

1. Our events in 2024 and our proposed programme for 2025
2. What does the RPS SE and RPS look like from where I'm standing?

1. Our events in 2024 and our proposed programme for 2025

Based on our chosen strategy we offered a mix of:

- face to face events, which are generally workshops which are paid for
- click events which were meet-ups which entailed only paying an entrance or car park fee
- Zoom events which were a mix of free to attend or paid for

You will see that we are repeating many of the successful events this year. People seem to particularly enjoy getting together and taking photographs in a relaxed atmosphere, hence we will be arranging Bluebells, Lullingstone and an autumn colour shoot again. Getting sole access to places is very popular and we will be looking at visiting the British Wildlife Foundation again and looking at the possibility of photographing birds in Sussex.

2024 Events

| | | |
|--|-------------|----------|
| Street Photography in London Jan 24 | F2F | Jan 2024 |
| LRPS distinction advisory day | Zoom | Feb 2024 |
| Canterbury TWT | F2F | Mar 2024 |
| Bluebell Photo Workshop click event 2024 | click event | Apr 2024 |
| 2024 AGM | Zoom | Apr 2024 |
| Project Photography | Zoom | Jun 2024 |
| Arundel Wetlands click event (pay on the door) | click event | Jun 2024 |
| Bewl Water click event (pay on the door) | click event | Jul 2024 |
| RPS SE unique access to Lullingstone Castle and World Garden | click event | Sep 2024 |
| British Wildlife Centre | F2F | Sep 2024 |
| Explore Knole Forest and Deer with the RPS SE | click event | Oct 2024 |
| Photographing autumn colours in Bedgebury Forest and Pinetum with the RPS SE | click event | Nov 2024 |

Proposed Events 2025

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------------|
| Street Photography in London click event | Click event | Jan 2025 |
| LRPS distinction online advisory day | Zoom | Feb 2025 |
| AGM for 2024 | Zoom | Mar 2025 |
| Bluebell Photo Workshop click event | Click event | Apr 2025 |
| Use your phone as a camera | F2F | Apr 2025 |
| RPS SE unique access to Lullingstone Castle and World Garden | F2F | May 2025 |
| RPS SE unique access to British Wildlife Centre 2025 | F2F | Jun 2025 |
| Birds of Prey | F2F | Jul 2025 |
| Broadstairs Folk Week '25 click event | Click event | Aug 2025 |
| Margate click event | Click event | Sep 2025 |
| Autumn Colours click event | Click event | |
| Motor Cycle grass track racing click event | Click event | |
| Banger Racing click event | Click event | |
| Kent Outlaw Oval Racing click event | Click event | October to November 2025 |

2. What does the RPS SE and RPS look like from where I'm standing?

We said goodbye to Paul Burgess in 2024 and I would like to thank him for his great ideas and the workshops he ran.

I am very pleased to say that we now have a Finance Officer, Colin Young. Colin has been treasurer, as it was then called, for the DI SE group before and is a welcome addition to the committee. We also have new volunteer on the committee, Raluca O'Callaghan. Raluca will bring a fresh perspective to the committee with her photographic background.

We will continue to concentrate on offering pre-processing events Face to Face. These will mainly be walks with cameras, (click events). These will be either free to attend or involve a small admin. charge, or an admission charge. We will also offer a few F2F events with a professionally led tutor which we will charge for.

1. We will pursue planning only an online LRPS advisory day once per year
2. We will offer an online exhibition bi-annually. The next is due in 2025, later this year
3. We will continue to use Billetto to advertise and sell tickets to events until the RPS system is seen to work efficiently
4. We will advertise using Facebook photo groups

So, I believe we have a good working strategy and a committee that is excellent at putting this strategy into practice. In my opinion, the RPS SE is looking pretty healthy, although more help is always welcome in the form of a Secretary.

The fact that we are still using Billetto reflects my view of the RPS. It is still trying to rationalise old systems and old working practices. The rationalisation of the RPS CRM system has been ongoing for over 2 years. The sale of RPS House was announced for sometime in 2025. I do not know exactly how this will affect us the SE, but there will be knock on effects of exhibitions, distinctions and events that were held in Bristol needing venues.

Additionally, recent news involving the departure of the CEO and the Hon. Treasurer do mean the RPS is in a state of flux. We aim to carry on and bring stability to the RPS through our actions.

John Gough, RPS SE RO, 20/02/2025

4 RO report for year ending Q4/ 2024

There were no comments

5 Election or approval of officers

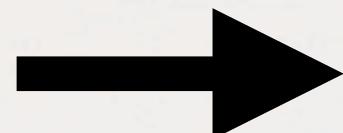
| Name | Post | |
|---|---|---------|
| John Gough | Regional Officer | Current |
| Paul Stillman | Committee member and event co-ordinator | Current |
| Melanie Chalk | Web Master | Current |
| Tim Gisby | Committee member and event co-ordinator | Current |
| Colin Young | Finance Officer | Current |
| Raluca O'Callaghan | Committee member and event co-ordinator | Current |
| Unfilled posts - to be assigned post AGM | | |
| Secretary | Currently fulfilled by John Gough | |
| Publicity Oficer | Currently fulfilled by John Gough and Melanie Chalk | |
| Deputy RO | Unfilled | |

The whole committee were re-elected en-bloc

2023 AGM Agenda

(for the year ending Q4/2023)

- 1. Welcome and apologies
- 2. Minutes from AGM 2024
- 3. Finance report
- 4. Regional Organiser report
- 5. Election or approval of officers
- 6. Any Other Business There was no AOB
- 7. Close



7 CLOSE

Meeting closed at 1924

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(for the year ending Q4/2024)**

RPS South East Region

Many thanks for attending

If you feel you could help, please email me at southeast@rps.org
I will add notes to this presentation and post them on the SE website