



2022 AGM, on 13th March 2022 **(for the year ending 31.12.21)** **RPS South East Region**

The Zoom meeting will commence at 1000
Questions will be taken via the chat function

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 members of the committee are:

Roger Crocombe - Vice RO

Paul Stillman - Committee member

Celia Henderson - Committee member

Melanie Chalk - Committee member and DIG representative



2022 AGM

(for the year ending 31.12.21)

Agenda with all comments/questions/discussion shown in yellow

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies:

Celia Henderson
Roger Crocombe
Paul Connor

Present:

5 members

2. Minutes from AGM 2021

3. Finance report

4. Regional Organiser report

5. Election or approval of officers

6. Any Other Business

7. Close



2022 AGM

(for the year ending 31.12.21)

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Minutes from AGM 2021

- - posted online and there was one question. Minutes accepted as a true record of the event by unanimous show of hands.
- The question was what is a quorum? I looked at the documents online and could find no revenue to a quorum. I also emailed and our Volunteering Manager with the same question but received no reply. I also asked Stewart Wall, chair of MEMCOM, who knew of no regulation regarding a quorum.

3. Finance report

4. Regional Organiser report

5. Election or approval of officers

6. Any Other Business

7. Close

Finance report for year ending 31.12.21

Comments

- 1 This is not much different as was presented in September 2021
- 2 The most significant comment is around the final large closing balance of £19,000. This will be addressed in the RO's report.
- 3 Income over Expenses has halved from 2020 to 2021 due to a better understanding of pricing and demand
- 4 We intend to run a around 120-140 workshops next year, mostly online
- 5 The objective is to not make a loss on individual courses

All these figures are taken from the Finance published **SE Cashbook Q4 2021**

Comments/discussion on the finance report

1. Alan Bousfield, (Thames Valley treasurer), commented on the large balance. He said that he had been given instructions to keep his balance down
2. John Gough said we had halved the net income for 2021 now we had a better handle on attendance numbers and costs. He said he would be covering the use of the positive balance in his report

Expenses

Expense Type	Description	2021	2020
		Gross Amount	
Bank & PayPal Charges	Barclays Bank Charges	£15.00	
Venue Costs	BWC Wildlife Venue Deposit	£384.00	£496.00
	Crawley Down Deposit Refunded	-£150.00	
Lecturers Fees & Expenses	Celia Henderson Lecturer	£10,225.00	£7,680.00
	Hans Strand Photography	£800.00	
	Sukhy Hullait Lecturer	£620.00	
Mileage	Travel to Storage Units	£84.15	£1,127.10
Software	J Gough Zoom Licence	£143.88	
	J Gough Microsoft Office	£89.99	
	R Crocombe Zoom Licence	£143.88	
IT & Website	Exhibition Software	£46.16	
Misc Equipment	Spare Key Cutting	£5.00	
	AGM comp Gift Voucher	£30.00	
Room/Hall Hire	Storage Unit Rental	£540.00	
VAT payment			£100.56
		£12,977.06	£9,403.66

Income

Income Type	Activity Type	2021	2020
		Gross Amount	
VAT refund	Financing	£92.41	£53.70
H/Q Funding	Financing	£1,180.30	£1,245.55
Workshop Fees	Events in current year	£16,505.00	£17,540.00
		£17,777.71	£18,839.25

Income minus Expenses

Description	2021	2020
	Gross Amount	
Total Income	£17,777.71	£18,839.25
Total Expenses	-£12,977.06	-£9,403.66
	£4,800.65	£9,435.59

Bank Statement opening and closing balances

Description	Date	2021	2020
Revised Bank Statement closing Balance	31/12/21	£19,108.07	£14,307.42
Opening Cashbook Balance	31/12/20	£14,307.42	£4,871.83

Regional Organiser report

Hello, and I hope you have managed to read this report online

We are now back in line with the normal timetable of AGMs and today covers the 12 months to December 2021. Because we are only effectively covering 3 months, I will keep it short.

My report will cover the following:

1.Finance - What are we going to do about our very positive bank balance?

2.Our events in 2021 Q4

3.This coming year there still will be many online events, in fact we don't see these ever going away. What will we be offering?

4.We are desperately short of volunteers; please help

1. Finance

As you have just seen in the Finance report we had a positive balance of over £19000 in our bank account at the end of the year.

We pointed out last September :

- We already had the happy position of having a very positive bank balance. We therefore were looking at ways to use this.
- Evan Dawson, CEO of the RPS, put me in touch with Andrew Page, who is the CEO and founder of **Positive View**. This is an organisation/charity that helps disadvantaged young people through photography. This would fit with the RPS strategy of Photography for Everyone.

Since then we have been exploring ways that we could help **Positive View**, and now have the following agreed with RPS HQ:

- We will buying 10 cameras for Positive View to use with their 10 students who participate in every course. The approximate cost of this is £7000

This will reduce our balance to around £12000.

2. Our events in 2021 Q4

We carried on with a significant number of workshops from Celia Henderson and Joe Houghton. We even had our first Face to Face event in November, when the subject was photographing Autumn trees. We hope to repeat this event for 2022.

We put on over 180 workshops in total last year, with, I hope, thousands of satisfied customers.

3. Our events for 2022

In a nutshell, we will be continuing to offer a significant number of courses online plus a small number of Face to Face events as restrictions and condition allow.

Celia Henderson will be offering 36 which are all 2 workshops long. The idea is to pick and choose what suits your requirements.

Joe Houghton will also be offering similar events exploring ways of improving your Lightroom knowledge.

Paul Stillman is busy looking at the Face to Face courses and these include Birds of Prey, RSPB wildlife and a visit to the Wildlife centre.

Melanie Chalk, who is a member of our committee is now on the DIG SIG committee, so all our events will be advertised by them as part of our ongoing cooperation

In the planning stage is an online LRPS advisory day and an ARPS Face 2 Face advisory day in Crawley Down

4. We are desperately short of volunteers; please help

This section is almost identical to the plea from last September. We are even shorter of volunteers now as Jan Beesley has left us after years of sterling service to the committee.

May I say thank you to the committee for all their hard work? The remaining 5 of us all wish to stand again, and this is covered in the next section.

Finally, many thanks to all of our members in the SE for your support and encouragement.

Photography for Everyone

1. INSPIRE "See Photography"

- 1.1 Exhibitions
- 1.2 Awards
- 1.3 The Journal
- 1.4 (New) RPS Collection
- 1.5 Campaigns and Public Initiatives
- 1.6 "Photographer Laureate" and high-profile photographer partnerships

2. CREATE "Make Photography"

- 2.1 Learning programme for everyone to improve their skills
- 2.2 Distinctions, Bursaries and Qualifications
- 2.3 Communications - Photography for everyone – throughout the world – the photography "journey"
- 2.4 New initiatives : National photo day, celebrity partnerships and creative challenges
- 2.5 Photography and Mental Health - photography for specific disadvantaged individuals and groups
- 2.6 RPS House – interactive experiences, shop sales, engaging with local community

3. CONNECT "Share Photography"

- 3.1 Regions – volunteer-led local communities
- 3.2 Specialist Groups – specific areas of photographic expertise/interest
- 3.3 Chapters – international community and role
- 3.4 Competitions
- 3.5 COVID-19 – opportunity to support people who are isolated or restricted
- 3.6 Young photographers – new community to develop and support

Our support of PV supports the strategy here



Regional Organiser report

Questions and comments/discussion during/post the report

1. John Gough expressed his disappointment at the very low turnout of 2 members. This was meant to be a low key affair but not this low key!
2. John Gough said that originally we were also going to fund the RPS Science Photographer of the year by £7000. This would have taken our balance down to c. £5000. Unfortunately the project was cancelled for 2022 due to lack of funds despite our pledge.
3. Alan Bousfield asked why the current crop of courses by Celia were offered in other regions before the SE? John Gough replied that there had been a problem with the broadcast, which was intended to go out the same day as emails to all other people who had previously been on one of Celia's courses. Because of this, and the likely delay in CRM, we are going to investigate MailChimp again.
4. John said it was his personal view that Zoom events such as Celia's, the audience is national, and as such, there needs to be a national body representing the members, not a regional body like the SE region. He said that DIG could be well placed to handle this but were not keen at this moment in time to change their way of working. Alan asked if maybe the RPS could run all these courses? John replied that his opinion is that there are too many for them to manage and their current courses are also more expensive.
5. Alan went on to describe his F2F courses, one of which is £10 pp. Paul Stillman asked if Alan thought if it was our content or cost that put people off our F2F courses. John's summary of a long discussion by Alan was it is probably cost.
6. Alan also talked about the use of a season ticket for a number of courses. This involved a small discount for a number of courses and worked well.
7. Alan generously offered to run a F2F course for us involving photography orchids at Samphire Hoe. He will write to Melanie Chalk with a proposal.

Election or approval of officers

Election of Committee	Post	New or in current position from last AGM	
John Gough	Regional Officer	Current	All voted to remain in place, en bloc, unanimously
Roger Crocombe	Vice RO and event coordinator	Current	
Paul Stillman	Committee member	Current	
Melanie Chalk	Web Master and DIG rep	Current	
Celia Henderson	Committee member	Current	
Committee member - currently unfilled	Treasurer - currently fulfilled by John Gough		These are the vacancies and we need at least 2 more people to help us function as a committee
Committee member - currently unfilled	Secretary		
Committee member - currently unfilled	Publicity Officer		
Committee member - currently unfilled	Event co-ordination		



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6. Any Other Business - there was none
- 7. Close**
 - John Gough closed the meeting, thanking those present for their support