**South West Regional Organiser's Annual Report 2022**

I took on the role of Regional Organiser on the 1st March 2022. This came after an extended period of inactivity as a result of the Pandemic. Consequently, no events had been planned or put in place for the remaining part of the year.

The first activity I undertook was to familiarise myself with RPS work processes and to meet the staff and put names to faces. The second activity was to find a suitable event venue that sat comfortably with the demographics of the region and was both practical and affordable. We have now established a relationship with MAKE in the town of Bovey Tracey and latterly Liverton Village Hall, close by.

The next step was to engage with the membership of the region. Working with Janet Haines and using her vast experience, knowledge and network of connections within the RPS, we decided to put on the Secret Places on line exhibition which was subsequently followed up with a printed magazine which every member received.

The opportunity was taken using this publication to inform the SW membership of forthcoming events and to promote a relationship that we had formed with the South West Coast Path Association.

This initiative was set against a background of system changes within the RPS. In the early summer, the RPS began a roll out of a new Customer Relationship Management system with disastrous consequences for the membership and volunteers. Even now its functionality is not what it should be. However, work is continuing to get it right.

In December we put on a print and photobook Show and Tell event at MAKE in Bovey Tracey. This was supported by 35 members who were enthusiastic in showing their work. It provided a good opportunity to meet up after a prolonged absence .

Several smaller regional events were organised but unfortunately lacked the support to make them worthwhile. This may have been due to the time of year, so a little more thinking needs to go into planning these events.

Paul Evans - Regional Organiser

February 2023