



RPS DIGITAL IMAGING Speakers' Day, Print Preview & AGM 20 February 2022

AGENDA

9.30 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Welcome and Apologies

Minutes of the AGM 2021

Report from the Chair

Election / confirmation of the Committee

Address by the incoming Chair

9.55 Introducing Tracy Marshall-Grant, RPS Director of

Development

- 10.00 Print Exhibition Preview
- 10.45 Break
- 11.00 Presentation 'The Sea and Me' by Roger Crocombe
- 12.30 Break & Zoom chat room

Meeting ID: 822 2446 5364; Passcode: 633712

- 13.00 Presentation 'Behind the Photograph' by Charlie Waite
- 14.15 Break
- 14.30 Presentation 'Mindfulness Through Photography' by Paul Sanders





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021 MINUTES

Date/venue: Sunday 28th February 2021: Online – ZOOM® webinar

Called to order: 10.00 hrs.

Attendance: 244 registered participants

Welcome

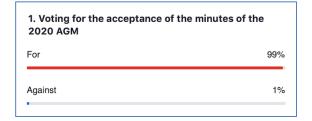
Chair, Ian Race, welcomed the committee, members and guest judges/presenters: Janet Haines ARPS, John Miskelly FRPS, Martin Addison FRPS and also Kate Constance, RPS Volunteering Manager. Ian introduced the programme for day, pointed attendees to the Q&A facility should they wish to ask questions and explained that they would be able to vote using the anonymised polling function.

1. Apologies for absence

Gregg Dunn

2. Adoption of 2020 AGM minutes

AGM minutes adopted by majority vote (99%)



3. Matters arising

Ian Race advised that the RPS council had ratified the Constitution adopted by members at the 2020 AGM.

4. Chair's Report

lan Race shared highlights from his pre-circulated report and began with a summary of the key benefits of Digital Imaging (DI) membership, including:

- Quarterly DI Magazine
- Accolade celebrating distinction success
- Monthly DI News
- Annual print and PDI competitions (with catalogue) plus monthly online competitions
- Regional Centre meetings, on-line meetings and events

lan also reprised the RPS charter and explained that DI is firmly aligned to these objectives. Overall, DI has had an exceptional year, delivering valued content to members under extraordinary circumstances. He thanked the committee for working as a team, going 'above and beyond' and supporting each other. He also thanked those members who have come forward to support the committee in co-opted roles, bringing the essential skills needed to facilitate the rapidly evolving programme of events offered by DI. Ian went on to thank Greg Dunn and Barrie Brown who stepped down from the committee, those who stepped in to help during the year and the Centre Organisers who have responded positively to the challenges they faced.

lan closed by noting that while at the start of the pandemic there was no budget for the Central Committee to run online events and centres were aligned to run face-to-face meetings, the whole group pulled together with spectacular results.





Chair's Report (continued)

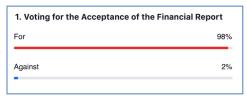
All publications have continued as normal, as have the PDI and print competition. The only casualty was the print exhibition due to the closure of exhibition spaces.

Annual report adopted by unanimous vote



5. Treasurer's Report

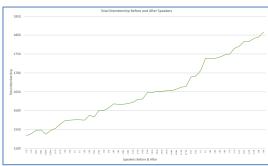
Trevor Pogson summarised the key points of his pre-circulated report and noted that the DI group finances are in excellent health going forward into 2021. The cash balance of £14,246 is aligned to the RPS directive for groups to reduce cash holding (a Charity Commission requirement). Trevor expressed optimism that the DI group and Centres would enjoy an active 2021 with both online and in-person meetings. The financial report was accepted by majority.



6. Zoom Sub-Group Report

Rex Waygood presented an updated version of his pre-circulated report to include data up to the end of February 2021. He noted that over the past 11 months there had been a clear and positive trend in membership, which appeared to track the online events. This positive indication had both reversed the earlier decline in membership, which was impacted by the withdrawal of the complementary Special Interest Group membership for new RPS members, and has increased membership organically.

In summary, DI members enjoy a wide range of Zoom events free of charge and the cost of running the events are generally covered by non-DI members and general public. Overall, the events have broken even, which is the goal. Rex finished by thanking past volunteers for their contribution to the Zoom programme, including Chas, Jeff and Avril, and welcomed Neill, Trevor and Paul who have stepped up to support the future programme.



7. Kate Constance address

Kate, Volunteering Manager, thanked all the volunteers who have freely given of their personal time and stepped up and gone above and beyond to deliver an exceptional programme for members, under exceptional circumstances. Kate remarked that the Digital Imaging team has delivered more than any other group and congratulated us on our achievements this year. Ian Race thanked Kate for her kind observations.

8. Members' questions

Members had been invited to submit questions to the AGM before the meeting; four questions were received and were answered in the reports presented.

Rex confirmed that membership had increased as a result of the on-line events programme and Trevor confirmed that most events broke even financially, with the rare exception of one centre that did not charge an entry fee.





Members' Q&A (continued)

Overall, the financial position balanced nicely and Trevor reminded us that the group is not directed to make a profit but to deliver a sustainable, quality programme for members.

Ian Race answered a question about the deadline for pre-submitted questions in relation to the publication of the reports and agenda. He explained that pre-AGM questions were helpful as the committee could work to provide a fully informed answer and that it did not prevent further questions being raised on the day. A final question was put to Kate Constance regarding the perceived 'suspension' of the Thames Valley Centre prior to its transfer to Thames Valley region. Kate confirmed that at no time was Thames Valley Centre suspended and they moved to region by mutual consent. Other questions, raised through the Q&A feature were answered by text or in person.

Finally, Ray Duffill proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for their work during the year, seconded by Dave Balcome and others, it wasn't technically possible to put to a formal vote, but their sentiment was much appreciated.

9. Elections

Nominations for the committee (formally proposed and seconded) were received two weeks prior to the AGM. Members co-opted to the committee during 2020 were invited to stand for full committee membership, some declined. All nominees stood unopposed and were appointed by a majority vote *en bloc*.

Election of Officers

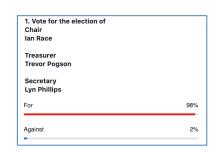
Chair: Ian Race

Secretary: Lyn Phillips

Treasurer: Trevor Pogson

Election of Committee

- Rex Waygood
- Deborah Loth
- Ian Thompson
- Dennis Knowles
- Jeff Hargreaves
- Ken Ness
- John Urguhart
- Neill Taylor





Co-opted to the committee: Holly Stranks - Assistant Accolade Editor; Gary Beaton – DIGIT Editor; Sue Hutton – Web Editor; Jean Robson – Membership Secretary

Election to the RPS Advisory Board

In line with MP004 (section 10.2), Ian Race agreed to stand as the elected member representing the DI group on the RPS Advisory Board. He was unopposed and duly elected by majority.







10. Any other business

None

11. Date of next AGM - 20th February 2022

Main AGM business was completed at 10.35 hrs.

12. Address by Janet Haines

Janet, former Chair of the DI group and now a Trustee of the RPS, presented the outcomes of the recent Governance Review and introduced the new by-laws of the RPS that will be put to the vote at the forthcoming EGM. Janet took questions via the Q&A function and concluded by encouraging everyone to vote at the EGM.

Janet also took a moment to pay respects to a much-valued member, John Long, who had sadly died.

Meeting concluded at 11.00 hrs.

Minutes prepared by: Lyn Phillips LRPS, Hon. Secretary Digital Imaging

Date: 1st March 2021





RPS DIGITAL IMAGING AGM 2022 Report from the Chair

The changes introduced last year to our programme and ways of working by the COVID-19 pandemic persisted into this year. With face-to-face meetings either impossible or impractical, much of our Centres' activity ground to a halt (but with some notable exceptions), and the programme of online events initiated by the Committee has become institutionalized and will continue indefinitely. There is a full report on this from the Zoom Sub Group included in the pack of reports for the AGM. In the autumn the Committee undertook a major survey of the membership and an executive summary of the results is included in the pack of reports for the AGM.

Committee

We would like to thank all the Committee members for their outstanding teamwork and commitment. Our Chair, Ian Race, stepped down for personal reasons in the summer, and Rex Waygood and Deborah Loth stepped in as temporary Co-Chairs. Trevor Pogson, already serving as Treasurer, also joined the Zoom Sub Group and has been hosting its online events.

Membership

We would like to thank Jean Robson who was co-opted as Membership Secretary when Dennis Knowles relinquished the role. Having risen sharply during the early phase of the pandemic membership has remained stable throughout this last year, at around 1870 members, with approximately 7% residing outside UK. The members' survey demonstrated a high level of satisfaction, with particular appreciation of the on-line events amongst respondents. To provide members with more opportunities for interacting with colleagues, we are currently investigating options for offering some form of remote peer support.

Centres

There are five regional Centres all of which have felt the impact of their inability to hold face-to-face meetings. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to find a new Organiser for the Eastern Centre. As mentioned above, we are in the process of developing other opportunities for members to interact.

Report from the South East Centre (Melanie Chalk): Digital Imaging South East Centre offered a wide variety of workshops and talks, not only to our local membership, but national and international attendees too. We had wonderful talks from Valda Bailey and Joe Houghton. There was a new initiative with RPS DI and the Royal Horticultural Society, collaborating to stage a talk, and we hope to collaborate on more events in the future benefiting members of both organisations. We continued to offer both one-off workshops and also some with several sessions, all proving very popular and a sellout in many cases. Working with the RPS South East Region we have together facilitated some 260 separate sessions over the past year.

Report from the Yorkshire & Northeast Centre (Susan Gibson): 2021 was again another year of challenges. The committee worked hard to keep to the four meetings a year. Starting in February, via Zoom, we welcomed Diane Seddon and in April we welcomed Tony North, where we had an audience of 90+ members not only in the UK but as far afield as Hong Kong. Our venue Clements Hall in York reopened in September and in October we had our first face-to-face meeting, where we welcomed Brian McCarthy FRPS who was thoroughly enjoyed by all, only 8 people turned up. We planned a December meeting, but we had to cancel due to lack of support and illness.

Report from the Northwest Centre (Malcolm Blackburn): The NW Centre has given members three first-rate Zoom talks during the year. The first was from David Keep with 267 attendees around the world. The second was from Prof. Terry Hewitt with 249 attendees. The third was from Tony North with 116 attendees. The Zoom meetings have many more attendees than conventional face-to-face meetings in our area.



The success of the Zoom meetings has led my colleagues to question whether local meetings provide the best value for both members and the effort put in by volunteers. That leads me to sincerely thanks my colleagues, John Hartley, Andrew Williams and Peter Jarvis for their valuable help since 2016. After seven years, I am stepping aside from the post of NW Organiser and hoping that the centre will find a new leader to take us inti the future.

The Western Centre held one online meeting and the Southern Centre was dormant in the last year.

Publications

DIGIT magazine continued publication on a quarterly basis, despite the need of the editor, Gary Beaton, to take time out for personal reasons. Janet Haines stepped in as Commissioning Editor and Steve Varman as temporary Production Editor for two issues. Many thanks to all three, and to assistant editor Ian Thompson, for providing one of the aspects of the group most valued by members.

Dennis Knowles (editor) and Holly Stranks (assistant editor) produced two editions of our digital publication *Accolade*. While this has been a members-only publication since its inception, it has become relatively inaccessible since the new website (in 2019) made it impossible to give logged-in members automatic access to it. So in January 2022 the Committee decided to make Accolade available to the public.

After Greg Dunn's resignation as Catalogue Editor last year, his replacement, too, stepped down, and lan Thompson added that role to his portfolio, heroically producing a catalogue for last year's Print Exhibition at short notice and later a bumper catalogue for the Projected Image Competition.

Jeff Hargreaves, who has been our point of liaison with our printers, Henry Ling, for our print publications, is stepping down from the Committee. Until a replacement can be found, Ian Thompson is taking on that role.

There were eleven issues of *DI News*, the monthly digital newsletter, with a combined July-August issue.

Print Exhibition

The Committee would like to make it a priority to stage its print exhibition in at least one venue this year.

In General

We continue to lobby RPS management to resume its offer of a free first year of SIG membership to new RPS members, as this was our primary source of new members before we had our online events programme.

Rex Waygood and Deborah Loth Digital Imaging Co-Chairs 14 February 2022

AGM Finance Report 20th February 2022

Income

2018 £21,714 2019 £24,429.04 2020 £28,539.27 2021 £34,377.73

Membership subscriptions increased in 2021 by £5,263 which equates to +22.6%

Hopefully we can encourage even more new members going forward.

The print exhibition income relates to monies paid by members for the printing and return of their prints from the print selection at the 2021 AGM.

And finally we received £329.28 for VAT we were able to claim.

Expenditure

Digit magazine and the catalogues printing costs remain our highest expenditure.

Our Zoom licence costs were lower than last year but our presenter fees were higher. This year we have spent £3,379 on Zoom licence fees, presenters and commission on ticket sales to Eventbrite, this was compared to £5,467 in 2020

We have sold £4,119 of event tickets.

Competitions

The DPI and print competition expenses were down on 2020 - this was due to Covid-19 as the events were held online.

Centres

Safe to say that as last year, Covid-19 significantly curtailed our regional centre activity during 2021

We had 6 active Centres at the start of 2021, since then a number of centres have held events on-line, some using their own facilities and some making use of the DIG Zoom licence. The active centres have all been trying their best in supporting their membership. The plus side for holding them online is that the centres have reached a wider audience than their geographical locations would normally permit.

We hope that as Covid restrictions reduce and hopefully things start to return to pre-pandemic conditions, 2022 will be another active and successful year for all our Centres and for the benefit of all our members either on-line or holding live meetings again.

Any Questions?

Can I propose that the accounts be approved and adopted?

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY DIGITAL IMAGING GROUP AS AT 31/12/2021

INCOME

	Members Subsriptions	£	28,573.45
Event Ticket Sales £ 4,119.00 Print Exhibition Postage Income for return of Prints £ 40.00 Printing fees £ 560.00 VAT refund £ 329.28			
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Printing fees £ 560.00 VAT refund £ 329.28		£	40.00
VAT refund £ 329.28	Printing fees		
			300.00
	VAT refund	£	329.28
	Total	£	34,377.73

EXPENDITURE

DIGIT magazine costs		
Printing & Distribution	£	19,261.82
DPI Catalogue Printing	£	1,809.00
Print Catalogue Printing	£	2,346.05
VAT	£	56.23
Committee Expenses		
Accommodation	£	-
Travel & Subsistence	£	-
Postage & Stationery	£	756.03
Room Hire		
Software	£	447.92
AGM Speaker fee	£	-
Zoom licence	£	940.68
Zoom Presenters	£	2,036.07
Eventbrite Fees	£	403.04
DPI Competition		
Medals & Ribbons	£	
Print Exhibition		
Print Exhibition Boxes courier	£	116.40
Print Exhibition Postage	£	171.77
Print Exhibition Medals & Ribbons	£	10.44
Print Exhibition Printing & Stationery	£	64.00
Room Hire	£	-
Miscellaneous expenditure		
Joint venture income paid to regions 2020	£	505.40
	£	28,924.85

		2018		2019		2020		2021
Bank Balance b/f	£	20,642.96	£	21,249.04	£	19,894.87	£	14,246.55
Income	£	23,365.54	£	24,429.48	£	28,539.27	£	34,377.73
Total	£	44,008.50	£	45,678.52	£	48,434.14	£	48,624.28
Expenditure	£	22,759.46	£	26,006.43	£	34,187.59	£	28,924.85
Final Bank Balance	£	21,249.04	£	19,672.09	£	14,246.55	£	26,912.91
Income against Expenditure for year	£	606.08	-£	1,576.95	-£	5,648.32	£	5,452.88
Balance comprises:								
DIG RPS Account	£	21,249.04	£	19,620.89	£	13,827.85	£	26,912.91
Uncleared payments	£	-	-£	448.02			-£	3,232.86
Uncleared receipts - Y&NE			£	722.00	£	418.70		
Yr end Balance	£	21,249.04	£	19,894.87	£	14,246.55	£	23,680.05

	Eastern	Southern	Western	North W.	Sth East	Yorks & NE	Totals	
NET INCOME								
Events	£0.00	£182.28	£84.42	£631.70	£13,842.00	£384.00	£15,124.40	
Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Publications	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Raffle	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
VAT	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.27	£0.00	£0.00	£0.27	
Grants Received	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Total Income	£0.00	£182.28	£84.42	£631.97	£13,842.00	£384.00	£15,124.67	
EXPENDITURE								
Events	£0.00	£0.00	£50.00	£150.00	£8,880.00	£81.00	£9,161.00	
Administration	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£150.00	£0.00	£01.00	£9,161.00	
Advertising	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
VAT	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		
Repayment of Grant	£0.00						£0.00	
Equipment		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Total Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	£50.00	£150.00	£8,880.00	£81.00	£9,161.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit	£0.00	£182.28	£34.42	£481.97	£4,962.00	£303.00	£5,963.67	
Opening Bank Balance - 1/1/21	£1,395.81	£3,107.26	£2,432.44	£1,770.37	£3,241.67	£209.58	£12,157.13	
		•	•	•				
Cash float	£0.00	£50.00	£0.00	£105.22	£241.37	£0.00	£396.59	
Uncleared payments	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	
Closing Bank balance - 31/12/21	£1,395.81	£3,057.26	£2,466.86	£2,146.85	£7,962.30	£512.58	£17,541.66	
Revised Bank balance inc. cash float	£1,395.81	£3,239.54	£2,466.86	£2,252.07	£8,203.67	£512.58	£18,070.53	





Zoom Sub Group Update since Feb 2021*

Members

Neill Taylor, Trevor Pogson, Deborah Loth, Rex Waygood

Sub Committee Meetings

16

Events run

DI 14

Other 10 This includes 3 ISG events as well as Centre/Region events.

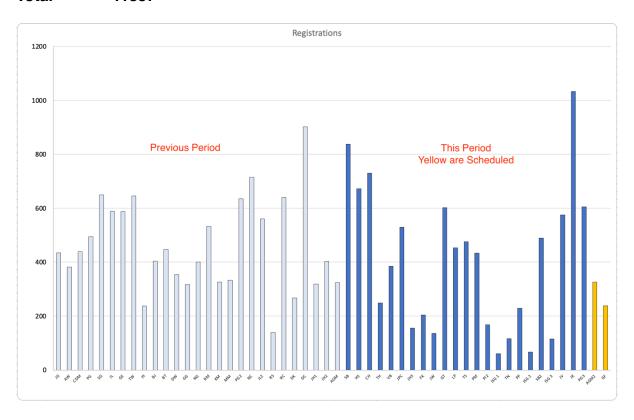
Total 24

Frequency of events

In August we increased the event interval from 21 days to 28 days.

Registrations

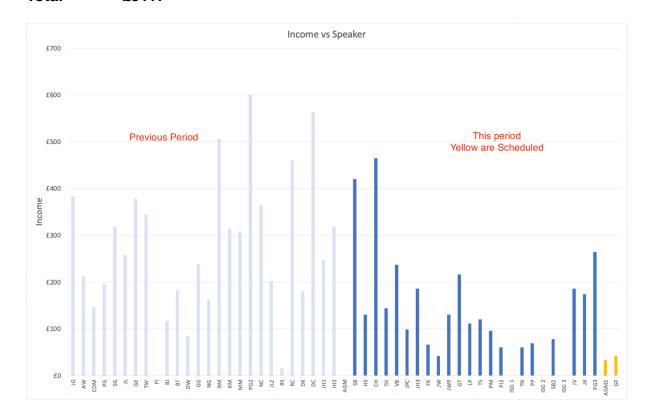
DI Events 8803 DI Centres 3034 **Total 11837**



Income

DI Events £3175
DI Centres £1942 **Total** £5117

Note: Centres took their own income and paid their own expenses.



Zoom Licence

The licence was reduced from 1000 to 500 in August. This saved over £2000 pa. There was a one month increase to a 1000 off licence for Julieanne Kost. A subsequent negotiation with Zoom led to the restoration of our 1000 licence at no additional cost and a back date to include Julieanne Kost.

Julieanne Kost

This event was run for the benefit of all in the RPS.

Given the restrictions on the way we are allowed to communicate with RPS members we were still able to get to a good proportion of RPS members registering.

DI/DIO Members 553 RPS Members 411 Non Members 69

Hong Kong

India

Ireland

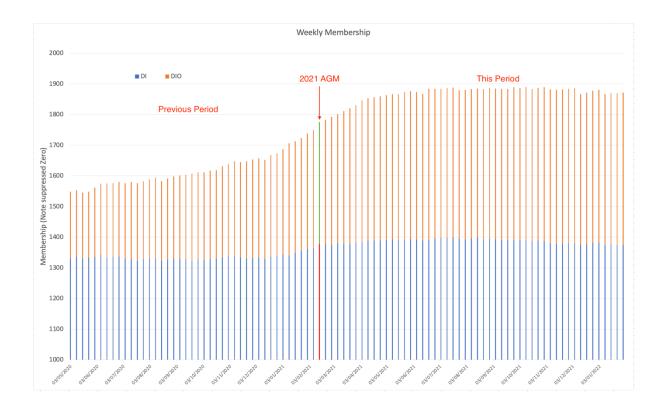
Italy

Madagascar

Mauritius

New Zealand
Philippines
Poland
Singapore
Slovakia
Sri Lanka
Switzerland
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States of America
Registrants' countries (25)
Australia
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
Cyprus
France
Germany
Gibraltar Membership Membership gain since the AGM ~90, ~300 since the start of events.

Netherlands



The Future

We have recruited about 300 members since the first event and that is most likely due to the events.

A lot of feedback from members indicates that we should carry on running these events. Due to the recruitment, we have converted paying registrants into DI members who do not pay. This has caused our event income to decline but provided membership income. This means we need to reach a wider, paying, audience or consider our actual finances carefully, or both.

Zoom Sub Committee Rex Waygood 4/2/22

* From 28/2/21 to 4/2/22





RPS DIGITAL IMAGING MEMBERSHIP SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2021

Digital Imaging last surveyed its membership in 2018. Since that time the environment for photography groups has been transformed in many ways, not least by the COVID-19 pandemic with its huge impact on everyone's ability to travel and to meet in groups.

At the end of September 2021 Digital Imaging had about 1890 members, 449 of whom – about 24% - took the trouble to complete a long questionnaire.

The results of the survey are presented in this document, including respondents' full replies to some of the open-ended questions.

Executive Summary

As compared to 2018, a higher percentage of respondents were UK members 65 and over (61.5% as opposed to 51.4%), and a lower percentage were UK standard members (18.3% as opposed to 29.8%). We're getting older. The proportion of online-only members has risen from about 10% to 25% of membership. In 2018 the Visual Art SIG was the top other SIG membership, but this year the Landscape SIG was much more prevalent. Most members live in the South and East of England, followed by the Midlands.

When asked about photographic interests, Landscape Photography selected by 74.6% of respondents, and Camera Club membership was the next closest 'photographic interest', with 69% selecting it. Camera Clubs were also cited by many as their source of information about DI online events.

Relatively few respondents were aware of Digital Imaging Centres, with even fewer attending their pre-pandemic meetings. As for post-pandemic face-to-face meetings, most respondents thought they would probably want to attend in-person talks and workshops one day, but not necessarily just yet. About a third would be content with online meetings only.

There was a resounding consensus that Digital Imaging was is a worthwhile, even outstanding, RPS special interest group, with many of the opinion that there was no need to change its name. The overall impression is that members are most interested in learning about techniques to improve their photography and the art of photography. Digital Imaging is perceived as a sort of mini RPS serving the interests of photographers across all genres, a position which is at once its great strength and its great weakness.







Candidate statement for RPS Digital Imaging Group Chair RPS DIG AGM 20.2.22

'Learn and develop together, having fun'

I am pleased to apply as candidate for the Chair of RPS DIG. I was equally pleased when co-opted to the DIG committee last year.

During that time, I have been privileged to learn from a stellar team of friendly volunteers of one of the largest RPS groups who collaborate cohesively and tirelessly on your behalf under the leadership of Deborah Loth and Rex Waygood, co-Chairs. I share their member-centric ethos and that of Janet Haines, past long serving DIG Chair, with whom I worked whilst we were both on the RPS Council and Board of Trustees last year.

Both Deborah and Rex will continue to harness their experience and expertise on your behalf; I would thus be an addition, not a substitution. I would continue the best of existing DIG activity while expanding to new channels guided by member feedback. In addition, I bring my knowledge of RPS HQ to the benefit of DIG members.

The recent DIG survey exemplifies the DIG committee reflective practice ethos of proactively seeking out, learning from and responding to who we are, where we are, what we experience, feel and want. I have similarly engaged with other professional, educational, Arts and membership organisations including the RPS Contemporary Group (vice Chair 2019-2021) to enhance 'member' experience and published findings thereof for over 12 years.

DIG is a multi-genre group – a microcosm of the entire RPS and therefore well positioned to embrace developments in computational imaging, including artificial intelligence which is now available to members in commercial software. With my background in computational imaging and applied psychology, I'm delighted to work with the DIG talk subgroup to deliver a future series of online and potential face to face (pandemic willing) events which embrace modern developments and also the aesthetics and philosophy of photography about which I communicate via talks and articles.

If elected to Chair, I would endeavour to work hard to repay your vote.

Dr. Avijit Datta FRPS FRSA FLS FTPS ASIS

