

**2024 AGM, on 28th April 2024  
(for the year ending Q4/2023)  
RPS South East Region**

**The Zoom meeting will commence at 1000  
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*

**Paul Burgess** - *Committee member*

**Tim Gisby** - *Committee member*

**Paul Markides** - *Committee member has stood down due to work commitments*

## Attendees

- Janice Payne (RPS SE member)
- John Gough (RPS SE committee member)
- Melanie Chalk (RPS SE committee member)
- Paul Stillman (RPS SE committee member)
- Colin Young ((RPS SE committee member)

## Apologies

- Tim Gisby (RPS SE committee member)

## Comments

- John Gough: Another disappointing turnout for the AGM, but many thanks to Janice for attending

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of a bouquet of flowers. The bouquet includes several light pink flowers and some purple flowers, all set against a light, neutral background. The flowers are slightly out of focus, creating a gentle, aesthetic backdrop for the text.

# 2024 AGM Agenda

(for the year ending Q4/2023)

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes from AGM 2023
3. Finance report
4. Regional Organiser report
5. Election or approval of officers
6. Any Other Business
7. Close

# 2024 AGM Agenda

(for the year ending Q4/2023)

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1. Welcome and apologies
  2. Minutes from AGM 2023- there were no direct questions from last year
  3. Finance report
  4. Regional Organiser report
  5. Election or approval of officers
  6. Any Other Business
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# 3 Finance report for year ending Q4/ 2023

All these figures are taken from Finance published figures in the **SE Cashbook Q4 2023**

RPS SE

Finance report to 2023Q4

## Expenses

Expense Type	Description	Gross Amount
Storage	Asset storage	£540.00
Lecturers Fees & Expenses		£1,175.00
Mileage	Committee meeting and storage sort:	£110.70
IT & Website	1 Zoom licence	£143.88
Software	For exhibition	£25.55
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,995.13</b>

## Income

Income Type	Activity Type	Gross Amount
VAT refund	Financing	£61.55
H/Q Funding	Financing	£1,158.55
Workshop Fees	B/f from 2022	£702.00
Workshop Fees	Bill Brooks	£70.00
Workshop Fees	Roger Crocombe	£100.00
Workshop Fees	Wildlife day	£1,080.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,172.10</b>

## Bank Statement opening and closing balances

Description	Date	Gross Amount
Opening Cashbook/bank balance	31/01/2023	£15,515.11
Income		£3,172.10
Expense		-£1,995.13
Actual closing balance	31/12/2023	£16,692.08

## Overall comments

1. Bank balance risen by £1176.97, so without HQ funding we spend what we earn.
2. There will be no direct contribution to the regions in future years
3. As we aim to break at least even on all paid events, this lack of funding is unlikely to affect us much
4. This is the last year for storage rental as all assets have been dispersed amongst committee
5. Turnover is markedly down due to transfer of events to DI
6. We still have a very high positive bank balance going forward

## Questions on the day

- Janice Payne asked about the news that the RPS are planning to take away the balances of all the regions and SIGs. Based on a budget for the following year the RPS would supply only the required amount for the year
- John Gough replied that it is true that the RPS had announced they were planning to access the large sum of positive balances across the regions and SIGs
- In our case, with our high net balance John Gough thought we could cope with a balance of £10k less than now
- Melanie Chalk said her understanding is that they are not going to take it all, but just a proportion
- John Gough said more details will be revealed at a meeting next week of MEMCOM. I will report on this in a future newsletter
- The report was unanimously accepted

Hello, and I hope you have managed to read this report online  
 This report covers us financially to the end of 2023 so we can now report on a complete year now and in future years.  
 I have already talked about the financial position so I am therefore going to cover

# 4 RO report for year ending Q4/ 2023

- 1. Our events in 2023 and 2023 to date**
- 2. Reminder of our event and operating strategy**
- 3. Volunteers**

**1. Our events in 2023 and 2024 to date**

We offered a number of click events which have become increasingly popular and rewardingly are fully attended. We managed to fill our British Wildlife Centre event by offering places to outside the RPS SE. Special thanks must go to David Jordan who hosted a sold out online LRPS advisory day. An invaluable session now the RPS have announced that all LRPS distinctions will be digital from April 2024. (This was not a popular decision judging by the reaction of some of the participants).

Black and White (digital) Photography	Zoom	February 2023
The Hothouse at Wisley	click event	March 2023
Restoring Old Photographs	Zoom	April 2023
Tulips of Arundel - click event	click event	April 2023
Broadstairs Folk Week '23	click event	August 2023
2023 AGM and digital exhibition	Zoom	September 2023
British Wildlife Centre	F2F	September 2023
Folkestone TWT	click event	October 2023
Ramsgate Royal Harbour	click event	October 2023
Street Photography in London Jan 24	F2F	January 2024
LRPS distinction advisory day	click event	February 2024
Canterbury TWT	click event	March 2024

**Questions and comments**

- John Gough added that the online LRPS advisory day was sold out after offering it to all regions
- John Gough also said that our pricing structure was £5 for RPS members, £10 for non-RPS members and free for observers

**2. This is a summary of our event and operating strategy**

1. We will concentrate on offering pre-processing events Face to Face. These will mainly be walks with cameras, (click events). These will be free to attend, but may involve an admission charge. These events will often offer a free to attend Zoom event with a professionally led tutor prior to the event.
2. We will also offer a few F2F events with a professionally led tutor which we will charge for
3. We will not be planning any F2F ARPS and LRPS advisory days. We will pursue planning only an online LRPS advisory day once per year
4. We will offer an online exhibition bi-annually. The next is due in 2025
5. There will be very few workshops via Zoom following the transition to DIG running these
6. We will continue to use Billetto to advertise and sell tickets to events until the RPS system is seen to work efficiently
7. We will advertise using Facebook photo groups. There is a SE Facebook group

**3. We are desperately short of volunteers; please help**

The second area outlined in a meeting I attended at Bristol in February, this year, was around the composition of the committee that runs the regions. In summary they are being relatively prescriptive about the makeup of the committee. The requirement is to have a Regional Organiser, a Secretary and a Treasurer plus committee members. We do have these functional positions but at the moment they are all carried out by 1 person. The position of treasurer is not complex with relatively few events now compared to the days of 100 Zoom events per year. The Secretary is also not an arduous position for the same reasons. Personally, the main reason to recruit 2 or 3 new members on the committee is to get more diverse input and ideas, but putting a name to the functions would be very helpful. So can I extend this plea for a bit more help on the committee?

**John Gough, RPS SE RO, 28/03/2024**

# 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
Paul Burgess	Committee member and event co-ordinator	Current
Tim Gisby	Committee member and event co-ordinator	Current
Colin Young	Finance Officer	New
<b>Unfilled posts - to be assigned post AGM</b>		
Secretary	Currently fulfilled by John Gough	
Publicity Officer	Currently fulfilled by John Gough and Melanie Chalk	
Deputy RO	Unfilled	

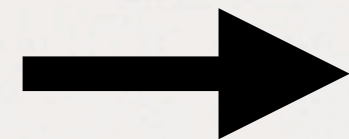
## Questions and comments

- The names above were approved en bloc unanimously

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### Questions and comments on the day

- Janice Payne said she was in agreement with our pricing structure for the online LRPS advisory days
- Melanie Chalk replied saying that David Jordan had put many hours of work into the day and we paid him £50 for the effort
- There was short discussion on the move to digital only LRPS distinctions
  - There was no consultation with the members
  - Some people who submitted in print, prior the the change, and failed are not able to re-submit in print
  - The removal of choice of print or digital is regrettable
  - Apparently the RPS strategy is to attract young people with their phones and hope they follow with an ARPS
    - The general consensus is this is not going to happen and the RPS should look at most camera clubs age profiles



Questions and comments on the day

- John Gough thanked all the committee for their support in the past year
- He also thanked everyone for attending, in particular Janice Payne
- Sorry about the IT problems. It seems the presentation is the piece of software affecting Zoom. Lightroom works fine!

# 7 CLOSE

# 2024 AGM, on 28th April 2024 (for the year ending Q4/2023) RPS South East Region

Many thanks for attending

If you feel you could help, please email me at [southeast@rps.org](mailto:southeast@rps.org)

I will add notes to this presentation and post them on the SE website