

RPS Central Contemporary / Documentary Group, January 2023

We've had some very interesting meetings recently with some thought-provoking discussions, prompted by the work being shared.

Our January meeting saw Margaret sharing a documentary project about 'The Big Lift' which involved taking the separate parts of a canal culvert from Cannock and putting them in situ at Lichfield for when the Lichfield Canal restoration goes under a minor road in 2023. Discussion here focused on the content of the photographs, and the issues involved with photographing this complex manoeuvre.









At our February meeting, thanks to a question from Margaret, Linda talked us through some of the best materials and methods for hand-made photo-book making. And the sharing of an image made in Auschwitz by new group member Vincent led to a long discussion about both the nature of documentary images and how they are read by the viewer.

Also at that meeting, Clive Haynes shared his series 'Flying the Flag' - a very apt inclusion for a message being sent out today. Clive's accompanying statement reads:

"This series illustrates a variety of locations where, by flying the Ukrainian flag, people in the UK are showing solidarity for beleaguered Ukraine as Russia's brutal invasion continues.

"Ukraine's distinctive blue and yellow national colour appears in numerous settings from the urban to idyllic countryside, villages, within churches and upon narrowboats.

"The colours were also found painted upon a small pebble, a representation perhaps of something more than an irritation in the toe of a Russian jackboot!"



Philip Singleton shared a single (composite) image with us, created in Uffmoor Woods. This led to a discussion centred around metaphor in imagery and evoking more than was seen.



All the best,

Steff

For further details of the Central Contemporary/Documentary Group meetings please contact info@steffhutchinson.co.uk