

AGM – Royal Photographic Society Landscape Special Interest Group

At our conference in March 2019 we will also be holding our AGM. The agenda is below. If you would like to stand for a named committee position please complete the nomination form on the website. However, if you would like to join the committee as a member without portfolio we will be accepting nominations on the day of the AGM.

The reports of the officers with the exception of the treasurer are below. The treasurer's report will be posted on the website before the AGM once it has been approved by RPS HQ.

AGM AGENDA

3 March 2019 @ 11.45 am

Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern

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| 1 Welcome | Richard Ellis |
| 2 Review of the Landscape Special Interest Group - Q+A | Richard Ellis |
| 3 Financial review - Q+A | John Urquhart |
| 4 Vote to accept the committee reports – opportunity for questions | |
| 4 Election of committee for 2019 | |

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Events Manager
 Events Manager professional
 Events Manager member led
Newsletter editor
Web editor
Magazine editor

Committee Member x 3
nominations for these positions will be taken from the floor so this is an opportunity to sample committee life before taking on a full role

6 Adoption of the accounts for 2018

7 Vote to accept that the chairman will be the representative from the Landscape SIG who attends the Advisory board or equivalent

8 AOB

Committee Reports

Chairman's Review Royal Photographic Society 2019 Landscape Special Interest Group

Our organisation continues to go from strength to strength with new activities and an expanding membership. The dedication of the current and previous committee has led to a thriving organisation with over 800 members. The membership covers all ages and is located all over the world reflecting the broad interest in landscape photography.

During 2018 we consolidated our existing offering in terms of guided walks largely led by members and workshops largely led by professionals. The print circles continued to thrive and we added a PDI critique circle and set up a processing circle. Our first magazine dropped on members' door mats and was well received. The newsletters continue to provide interesting timely content and the website detailed our activities to the wider RPS community.

Our finances are in great shape and we are confident we can fund an exciting programme for 2019/20. This will build on our workshop and guided walks programme and continue with the newsletter and magazine.

There is one area where the group is not doing well and that is in attracting more volunteers to help run group activities. Despite numerous appeals for help for tasks that are both photographic and/or administrative the response is minimal. The SIG runs on a volunteer engine and needs constant replenishment. Please make 2019 the year you commit to action and come and join us. Not all activities are committee position and some can be done from the comfort of your home.

It has been my pleasure to serve as chairman and I am delighted to have the support of a talented, resourceful and dedicated committee. We all owe them a great debt of gratitude for all their hard work.

Richard Ellis ARPS
Chairman

Secretary Report to RPS Landscape Group AGM 2019

Role description

The main duties of the Secretary's role are to:

- Arrange an annual schedule of SIG committee meetings and ensure that all committee members are informed of the schedule.
- Make suitable arrangements for the holding of all SIG committee meetings – whether these are online or face-to-face.
- Compile agendas for all committee meetings and circulate by email approx. one week in advance of each meeting.
- Ensure effective minutes are recorded at all meetings and distribute draft minutes to all committee members within one week of each meeting.

- Send a monthly welcome email to all new members of the SIG providing relevant information about the group.
- Maintain contact with Regional Organisers.
- Arrange an annual general meeting in accordance with the group's constitution and relevant society procedures in conjunction with the chairman.
- Organise nominations and elections to the committee in accordance with the group's constitution and relevant society procedures.
- Be an active participant and contribute to all the work of the committee.

Achievements up to 2019

I have arranged and led two Field Trips; helped with the organisation of a weekend Field Trip to Norfolk; written an article for the Landscape Newsletter; planned and organised a Members' Day event with the help of another committee member.

Pauline Benbrook

Officers reports AGM 2019 - Magazine Editor

Role description

Editor of the groups magazine has evolved to cover the periodical production a printed magazine, that includes members content and also content related to the genre of

Landscape Photography, that the members may find of interest.

Achievements up to 2019

Progress since the last AGM has seen the successful production and distribution of Issue 1 of the groups magazine to all members in November 2018. Issue 2 has been distributed to members prior to the AGM, which includes the second part of an interview with Charlie Waite, along with members contributions

Future plans

I am proposing to produce Issue 3 late summer 2019 although this is dependent upon the following.

1. Agree printing timescale / number of issues per year
2. Agree magazine page count (currently 32) / variable dependent upon content

Robert Brittle
Magazine Editor

Web Editor's AGM 2019

Role description

The role of Web Editor was established in June 2018, when the role of Communications Manager was split between Web and Newsletter Editor.

The role of the Web Editor is to

- Maintain all aspects, other than events, of the SIG's microsite on the RPS website, ensuring that content is relevant, engaging, up to date and functioning correctly.

- Administer and moderate the group's Facebook page

Achievements up to 2019

As Communications Manager, a further six editions of the newsletter were produced. This was followed by a handover to Mick Rawcliffe, to whom support was provided in the production of the June and August newsletters.

As Web Editor, the main activities have been updates to the Committee page, the posting of newsletters and the addition of Galleries of images from group events.

Administration and moderation of the Facebook page has continued. Thanks are due to Dawn Black for her assistance in the moderation of the page.

Future plans

There are no major plans for the next 12 months beyond the continued maintenance of the website, and administration of the Facebook page, as described above.

Some consideration should be given to the best use of the blog, given the need for content across three media – magazine, newsletter and magazine.

Jim Souper

Events Manager report AGM 2019

Role description

The main responsibility of the events manager is to ensure that there is a vibrant and varied programme of events that reflects the wishes of the group's membership and the views of the committee.

In view of the growing programme of regular events and, hence, the growing workload, the role has been divided on a

trial basis. As events manager, I still have overall responsibility for the events programme and I directly organise all our events that are led by professional photographers. The organisation of member-led events has been taken on by group member David Glenn.

Achievements 2018

Since I took over the role of events manager in December 2016 I have worked to increase the diversity, geographical spread and number of events offered by the group. This increase in the scale of the programme has largely been achieved by engaging the services of professional workshop providers; skilled landscape photographers with a track record of high quality photography and of running workshops.

During 2018 the programme featured 37 workshops and field trips (2017 = 24) in 13 different RPS regions (2017 = 9). Of these events, 20 were led by professionals (2017 = 5).

The aim of our professionals' programme is to offer teaching to workshop participants, whereas the aim of the member-led programme is to invite other group members to locations that members know well and think others will enjoy. Big thanks are due to the members who led events during 2018; Rob Duncalf, Richard Glynne-Jones, Pauline Benbrook, John Fuke, Barry Freeman, John Urquhart, Diana Wyn, David Harper, Peter Douglas-Jones, Mick Rawcliffe and Richard Ellis.

Future plans

It is my hope that next year we will have a similar programme to 2018 – but with more events spread across more areas of the country.

Although employing professionals is working very well so far, there is something very nice about being shown around a favourite location by a fellow member. Not because they are being paid, but because they love what they do and want to share it with others. Everyone who has led location shoots has told me that they have enjoyed it, so please, if you know a

location near you that you enjoy going to, do consider sharing it with others by offering to run a guided shoot. You will be covered by RPS liability insurance and the group will pay your expenses. In return, you will hopefully have a great day out in good company, and you may well make new friends!

Mark Reeves
Events Manager

Newsletter Editor's Report AGM 2019

The Role.

My role is to produce, publish and disseminate at least 9 newsletters each year. The contents should include

a) Details of forthcoming SIG events, together with details of other Society and external events likely to be of interest to Landscape members.

b) Input from group members

c) Reports of relevant landscape committee business

These group newsletters are to be publicised and available for reading or download on the website, and done in conjunction with the website editor.

Achievements up to 2019.

As I have only recently taken over from Jim Souper, (June 2018) most of this analysis falls under his watch, and I will take this opportunity to thank him for his work and expertise. I hope to build on his success in the coming year.

2017 - 10 editions published

2018 - 8 editions published. (one cancelled due to lack of content)

Future Plans

The landscape committee have agreed to commission articles from professional landscape photographers, in addition to content from members. The first will appear early in 2019, and it is planned to deal with some speciality or technical aspects of landscape photography, rather than simply increasing exposure of a particular photographer's work.

Consideration will also be given to opening up the newsletter to members' comments or debate, but the current frequency of publication, i.e. approximately every six weeks, is problematic

to a meaningful 'debate'. Feedback on members' images appears to be successful on our Facebook page, and is not easily transferrable to written media.

With the advent of a second publication for members, i.e. the Landscape Magazine, there is, and will continue to be, close liaison with the magazine Editor, to pre-empt any clash, or repetition, between the two publications.

Mick Rawcliffe LRPS
Newsletter Editor

Version: 7 Dec 2018