From: Evan Dawson
Subject: Snapshot - No.6
Date: 04 September 2020 18:10:09

Dear RPS Trustees, staff and volunteers

It turned **autumnal** this week in Bristol, with dusty jumpers emerging from drawers, and trees becoming photographic again...

We've realised that amongst our stock of wonderful photographs we have very few images of people enjoying the *experience* of photography, including those doing so through RPS projects. **Rebecca** and I would like to request that you send us any great images you have handy, to help us encourage and inspire more people. Details at the bottom of this email.

This week has also seen more people coming into **RPS House**, giving it much more atmosphere. It's been great to have **Kimmi** on the front desk again, and to have the Distinctions team working in the store and lecture theatre, assessing print submissions. Do take a look at our updated Covid19 advice please.

The Distinctions online "**roadshows**" have got underway this week, with several hundred people attending each. **Andy** says they're going really well. Please do see the website for details of the next events.

The latest **Journal** edition landed this week too, which looks fantastic. We've had more really encouraging feedback about its content and design. I hope you received your copies, and were pleased with it too. Please note that it contained the formal notice our forthcoming AGM on 26 September, details here.

On **Tuesday**, I had the pleasure of calling **Alan Cross** to mark his 12 years of volunteering for the RPS, which means he will receive a Gold certificate for volunteering. It was interesting to speak with him about his experiences during this time. As on many occasions, I'm staggered by how much time, energy and expertise is given to the RPS by its volunteers, without which the organisation simply wouldn't work. I also spoke with **Andy Golding**, who is leading our new approach to diversity and inclusion. We will be developing this further over the coming weeks and months, ensuring we measure our progress with honesty, and update everyone openly through the website, such as in this article.

On **Wednesday**, I had several conversations about our events ticketing systems. Some groups are keen to use Eventbrite, which offers lots of extra functionality. **Rex Waygood** (DIG) is going to work with **Alan Hitch** to see how it can be incorporated into our finance systems. I also had a meeting with trustees to discuss the next steps in our **strategy development**. I spoke with **Kathleen** and **John Innes** at Think about their long-term involvement with the Journal, and plans for the future. Finally, **Nikki**, **Emily** and I reviewed the budget for the website, to identify what fixes and developments we can afford. Please note that the issue with thumbnails in the members' galleries is now fixed, and the search function has been improved so that members can be found more easily. Thanks to **Emily** for her hard work on this.

Yesterday, I spoke with **Bruce Broughton-Tomkins** about his experiences in the South East region and beyond; and with **Judy and David Hicks**, who leads our work in London. **Nikki** and I spoke with **Ian Race** (DIG) who is kindly helping us think about the CRM replacement process over the coming year. I had a meeting (in person!) with **Rebecca** at

RPS House to consider our comms strategy, and with **Seamus McGibbon** at AOP about our partnership with them. In the evening, I then raced home to teach "long division" to my son (do you remember how to do that!?), and finally do another concert shoot for St George's.

Today started with a video call to Australia, where **Elaine Herbert** is representing our international members. They make up around 12% of the total, so it's a significant number. We discussed developing a new strategy to understand these members better, and attract more of them. I then cycled to meet **Mike Taylor**, who has started to work on our governance review. It was great to see him again. I then met online with **Mark Phillips**, who leads the Doc Group, and explained the difference to me between "documentary" and "documenting". Finally, **Alan Hodgson** and I compared notes at the end of the week...

Next week might be a little less hectic (!), with some all staff meetings, some more volunteer conversations, and a meeting with Tracey Marshall of Bristol Photo Festival.

I hope you're enjoying my weekly Snapshots, and please do send me anything you'd like me to share. I would be grateful if chairs and ROs could circulate this to their group members, if appropriate - and if you are receiving this indirectly, do drop me a line if you'd like me to add your email to the circulation list.

As always, please keep in touch, and do let me know if you'd like to discuss anything.

Happy weekending!

Evan

From Rebecca:

Call Out: The Joy of Photography

We're expanding our library of images that we use across our channels and in our wider communications – and would like you to be a part of it.

We're looking specifically for images that capture 'behind the scenes' moments. We want to see people with their cameras and images that sum up the excitement of taking photographs.

A few ideas: Have you attended a workshop or group event in the past and snapped your friend with their camera in hand, moments away from taking that winning shot? Or perhaps you've spent the last few months with family and happened to document your children eagerly inspecting your kit or experimenting with camera-less techniques.

If you think you have what we're looking for, please send your images to media@rps.org with the subject line CALL OUT. We may want to use your images on our social media platforms or website, so please make sure you're happy with this before submitting.

Please do circulate to any volunteers or members you think would be interested.

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