



RPS London Region AGM

Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.00 for 7.15pm

Via Zoom

The Virtual Door will open at 7.00pm for a 7.15 start

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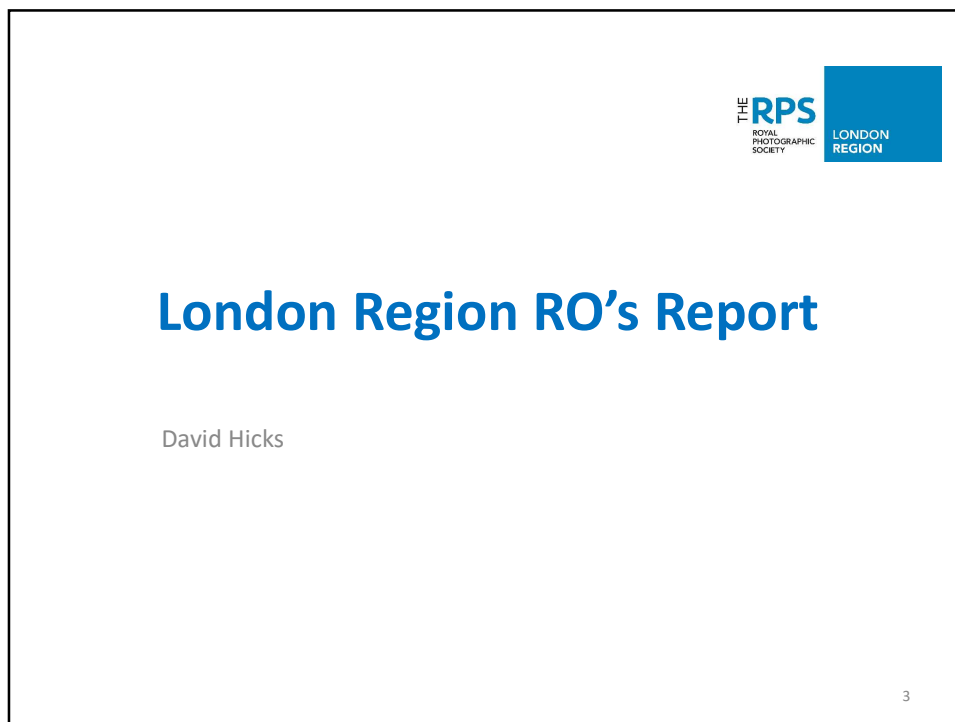


- **Agenda**

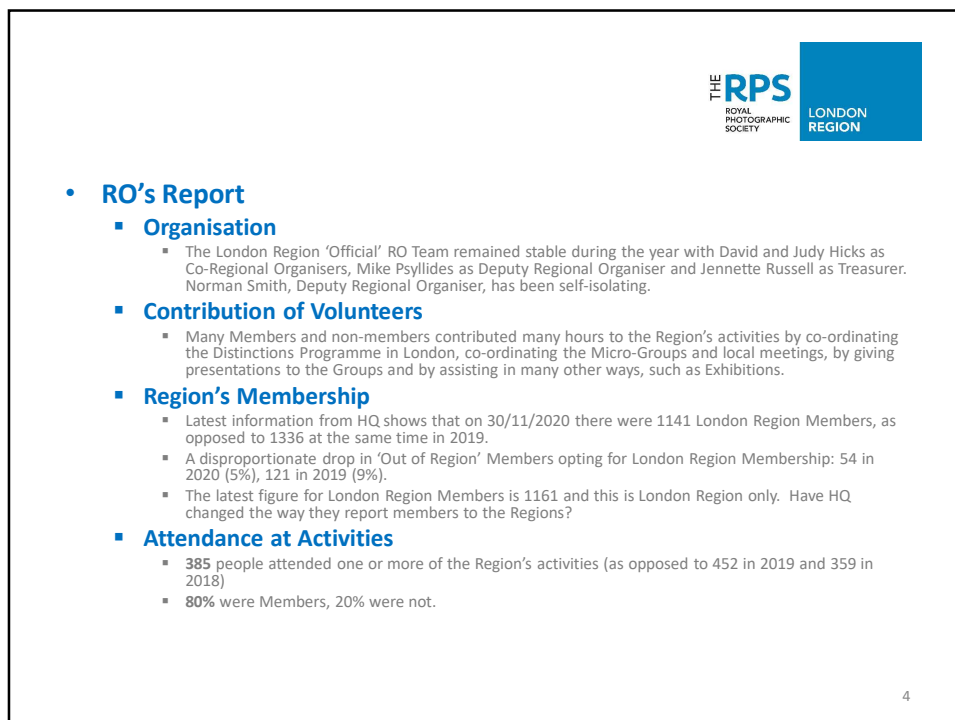
1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of the Minutes of last year's Meeting
3. Regional Organisers' Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of Officers
 - a) Regional Organiser/Co-Regional Organisers
 - b) Deputy Regional Organiser/s
 - c) Treasurer
6. Plans for 2021
7. Other Business

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• RO's Report

▪ Volunteers have:

- Managed and supported the Distinctions Advisory Programme in London.
- Managed/co-ordinated our seven existing Micro-Groups:
 - Bookworms, London Naturally, London Street, Midweek explorers and the North, SE and SW Groups
- Started new activities and groups such as the London Urban Group (curtailed due to the pandemic), started a programme of Virtual Walks and a Distinctions Study Group.
- Managed and created opportunities for Exhibitions
- Acted as Mentors – both at the Cafe Art programme and to colleagues
- Supported Cafe Art and Kick-It-Out.
- Acted as Exhibition Designers, Co-ordinators and Selectors
- Supported the RPS as a whole by active participation in the Regional Organisers' Meetings
- Co-ordinated all the above activities, kept records, liaised with Bristol HQ, maintained the website, represented the Region, issued e-mails and Capital Letter And much more

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• RO's Report

▪ Events Overview:

- 93 Events and Meetups in 2020: attendances of 1,775 with a footfall of 385

EVENT TYPE	No. of Events	Attendances
Regular Micro-Groups	Total 73 (85/70)	1340 (1174/929)
Bookworms, N SW & SE London	46	989
London Naturally, Street, Midweek Explorers, Urban & Virtual	27	351
Distinctions Advisory Days & Workshops	Total 13 (6/6)	Total 192 (166/91)
- Advisory Days	7 (6/6)	128 (166/91)
- Study Group	6	64
One Off Events, Workshops & Exhibitions	7 (13/9)	243 (130/107)
TOTAL	93 (104/85)	1775 (1470/1119)
Key Numbers: 2020 (2019/2018)		

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• RO's Report: Distinctions

- We ran two In Person Advisory Days in February – one LRPS & ARPS on 15th February and one FRPS on 29th February.
- Then came “Lockdown” but Brian Connolly and Mike Psyllides very quickly moved the programme online, and we held 5 Advisory Days Online, making a total of 7 for the year.
- Through trial and error, the online events run for a maximum of three hours with 6 panels being reviewed – so smaller events which have proved very successful and popular.
- In July Mike started running a monthly online Study Group for those working towards a Distinction or just starting on their journey – and these have proved popular too.
- We are very appreciative of the time and expertise which the Advisors bring both the the Advisory and to the Study days.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE LONDON REGION MEMBERS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED THEIR DISTINCTIONS THIS YEAR!

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• RO's Report: Exhibitions in 2020

- Exhibitions were curtailed in 2020 (due to the pandemic) but we did manage 5 Exhibitions:
 - N. London Group 'Best work' 7th November 2019 to 15th January 2020 in the UCLH Gallery
 - Colours and Shapes: 8th January to 1st February 2020 in the Putney Library.
 - London Region Members' Exhibition (2019-2020) 6th February to 4th March in Lauderdale House
 - Outdoor Exhibition in Putney from 13th March to date of pictures taken as part of our Totally Thames Project September 2019
 - Covid-19 Lockdown and Totally Thames Exhibition 7th to 30th September 2020 in the Putney Library.
- Selection for the London Region Member's Exhibition 2020/21 took place in November. 61 Members took part. We are working towards an initial outdoor exhibition as soon as Lockdown permits – this to be followed by a “traditional” Exhibition later in the year.

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- **RO's Report – charitable causes**

- **Cafe Art**

- Under Julian's leadership, we have continued to support Cafe Art.
 - although the Calendar programme in its usual form had to be cancelled this year. Two calendars: one worldwide and one London, were produced from "the best of" images.
 - The Mentoring programme continued throughout the year, up until Christmas. We expect to restart this programme 'in the Spring'.

- **Kick-it-Out**

- For obvious reasons, Kick-it-Out has been largely dormant.

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- **RO's Report – Projects**

- Our usual Projects Programme was not possible this year. Hopefully next year!

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- **RO's Report**

- **Summary**

- 2020 was not "Business as Usual"
 - We adapted quickly in March to 'new ways of working' and moved all our regular meetings online almost seamlessly.
 - Brian Connelly, Mike Psyllides and David adapted Distinctions Advisory Days for the online platform and with great support from Advisors, continued to run this programme.
 - Mike introduced Monthly Online Study Groups in July and these have been very successful.
 - Photo-walks were seriously curtailed but compensated in part by introducing a series of virtual walks, whereby people take pictures on a theme in their local area or at home and then share Online with the Group.
 - Held our first ever Outdoor Exhibition beside the Thames at Putney
 - The Cafe Art Calendar Programme could not be run in the usual way, but two calendars were printed using the best images from previous years.
 - The Cafe Art Mentoring programme continued online until Christmas and is expected to restart in the Spring
 - RPS HQ, other Regions and SIGS initiated a programme of talks with high profile photographers and a particularly strong series of talks and events relating to the Distinctions programme. We endeavour to compliment these, not compete with them!
 - Now to the details...

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- **RO's Report – and finally**

- The Region is run entirely by volunteers with support from a small staff at HQ.
- Our aims as Regional Organisers are to:
 - to support the strategic aims of the RPS in bringing photography to a wide audience. We do this through running 'open' groups and activities, through our projects and exhibitions.
 - To engage with the London Region Membership and welcome non-Members
 - Most importantly, to help you enjoy and improve your photography (if you wish!) in the company of like-minded individuals
 - And to have fun!
- We understand that the new "strapline" for the RPS is, '*Photography for All*', which is very much in line with London Region's ethic.

We hope that amongst our varied programme here is something for everyone.

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London Region Treasurer's Report

Jennette Russell LRPS

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• Financial Headlines

- Accounting in the Regions is on a cash basis (reporting is VAT inclusive)
 - As at 31st December 2020 the Region had £9,465.89 cash in hand
 - Funds allocated to the Region for 2020 amounted to £1,928.50, based on Membership headcount at the beginning of the year. (A drop in headcount this year means we must expect a proportionally smaller contribution this year).
 - Reduced 'in person' events this year, reflected in reduced income and cost this year.
 - Main costs have been IT, payment processing and project exhibitions. The cost of exhibitions has been substantially offset by donations from participants.
 - Given issues with the RPS payment processing/booking system, the Region moved to Eventbrite for most event bookings in September.
 - RPS HQ have begun the process of centralising Regional accounting. The intention is to move to a single centralised bank account by March 2021 with individual regional cashbooks maintained.
 - Important going forward to quote the regional reference code on any direct bank payments made to RPS directly.
- '104 + Surname of Payee'
- Following is a cash summary and high-level expenses statement

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- **Financial Summary as at 31 December 2020**



Category	Income	Expenditure
Opening Balance at Bank 01 Jan 2020	8,314.17	
Sales - Distinctions	760.00	
HQ funding	1,928.50	
VAT refunds	400.65	
Members 2020/2021 Exhibition (pre-payment)	610.00	
Donations towards Exhibition Printing Cossts and Room Hire	705.00	
Incorrectly allocated funds	-200.00	
Cost - Distinction Days		1,078.53
VAT		34.17
Eventbrite Cost		129.94
Exhibition Costs		991.40
IT & Website (London Projects)		390.69
Room Hire London Urban		115.20
AGM		312.50
Sub-Total	4,204.15	3,052.43
Closing Balance at Bank 31 December 2020	9,465.89	
Notes:		
Income from Members Exhibition is effectively a pre-payment and will go towards the cost of printing and staging the LRM 20/21 Exhibition		
Statement gross of VAT		

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Appointment of Officers

Regional Organiser/s

Treasurer

Deputy Regional Organiser/s

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Plans and Ideas for 2021

Plans in Place

- **Opportunity to Showcase your Work**
 - London Region 2020/21 Members' Print Exhibition – Locations to be confirmed but likely to be an Outdoor Exhibition in the next month or so with a 'traditional' indoor exhibition later in the year, if restrictions permit.
 - Sub-Group 'local' Exhibitions: Putney & Brixton Libraries provisionally booked for later in the year.
- **Meet with like-minded photographers**
 - Continue with monthly Micro- and Sub-groups
- **Distinctions**
 - Continue to provide Advisory Days ('L' and 'A')
 - Continue with the Study Group

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Plans and Ideas for 2021

Plans in Place

- **Offer more interest specific events including, for example,**
 - Landscape/Seascape/Cityscape – see London Events [SE London January 2021 ONLINE \(rps.org\)](#)
 - Wildlife - see London Events [London:Naturally Wildlife and Nature Picture Sharing \(rps.org\)](#)

Projects

- A project "Putney then and now" is in the planning stage
- An RPS-wide project "Frontiers", which we as a Region would like to take part in – details to follow (when known!)

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Plans and Ideas for 2021

Brought forward from 2020

- Expand our Events to include visits (e.g. to photo archives), talks and maybe trips away from London
- Professional critiques of our work, esp. (for example) projects.

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