

Newsletter

InFocus at DVCC



Learn, Develop, Share, Support

22nd June 2025

EXTRA SPECIAL NOTICE.

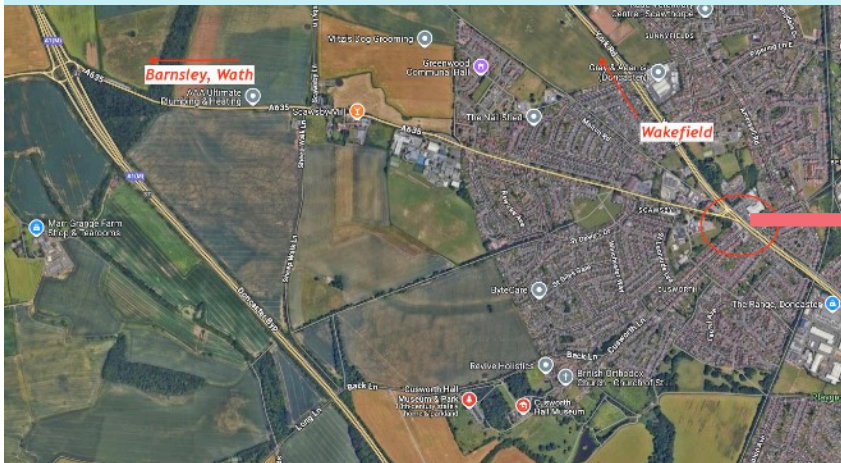
Change to the programme.

This week, 25th June we have swapped the meeting place so we will be meeting at Cusworth Hall Park (Doncaster, DN5 7TU)

However there is a very special thing you need to be acutely aware off.

The car park is locked at 9:00 pm and there is no means of exit.

The official meet time will be 7:00 pm and we will finish in the car park at 8:45. You can of course get there earlier if you wish, and if later than 7:00 arrival look out for us near the house.



On the 2nd July we will be at Wath rugby club when we have two people coming along who have "volunteered" to do some modelling for us. They are not photography models but have kindly agreed to come along and have their photographs taken. You might want to do some research on "photographing couples" in preparation of your session.

Have a look at this YouTube called 10 Tips for posing couples who are not models.

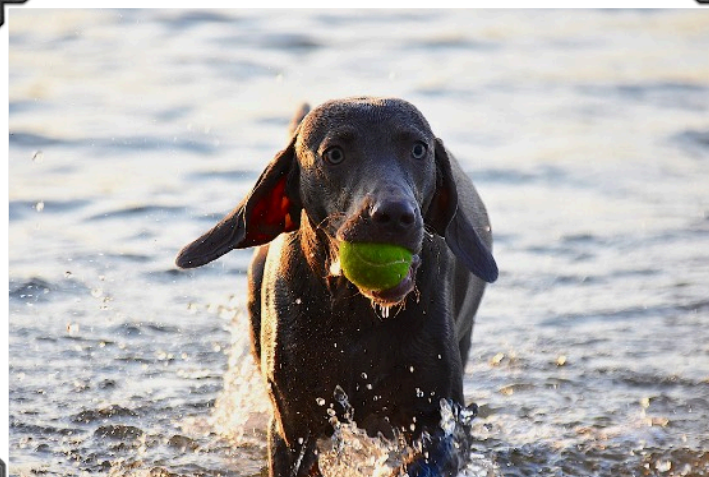
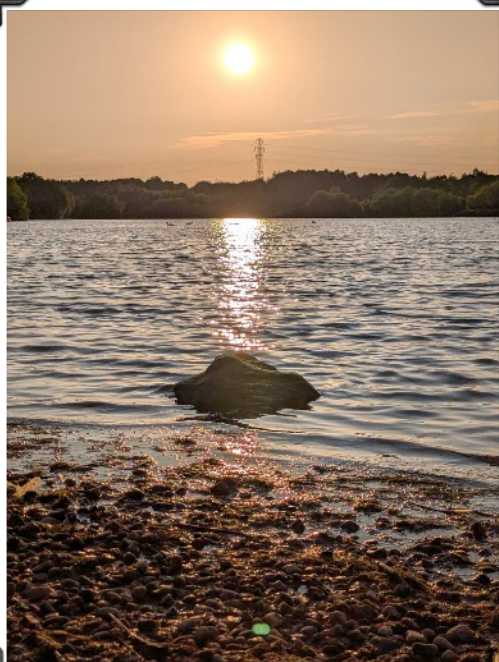
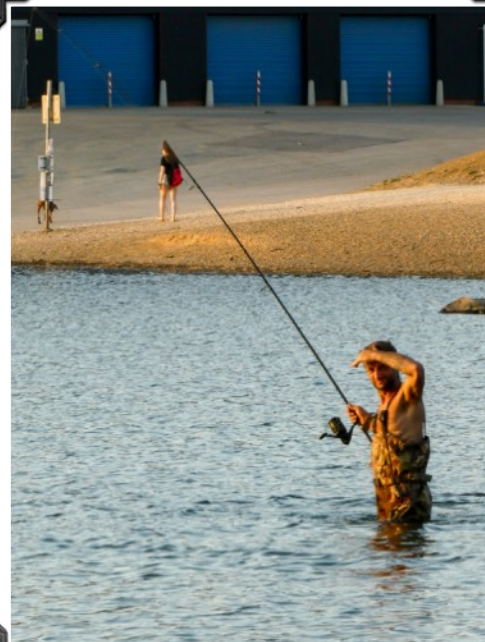
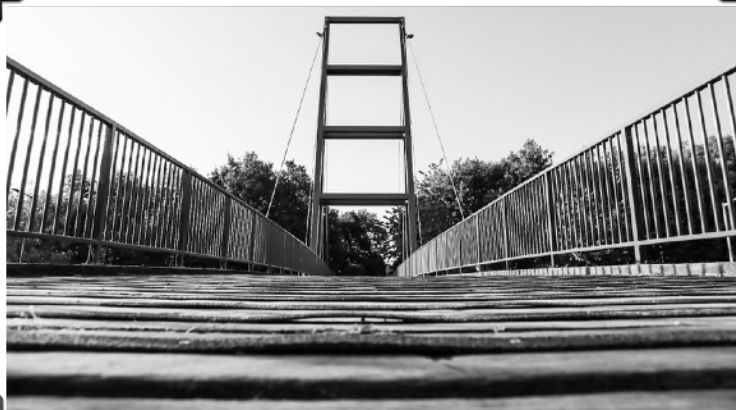
A date for your diaries:
Alexander Keighley Day Event

This year's Keighley Day event will be held at Carleton Community Centre on Saturday 15th **November** 2025. 10.00am - 4.00pm
The sessions include talk by Bill Ward

Bill Ward Photography - Shop - Prints

Images from Wath wanderings:

On a very hot summer's night with a very busy cricket field area we ventured off over the bridge to Manvers Lake, and whilst too early for sunsets we took photographs of the landscape, flora and fauna, chatted to and took photographs of fishermen, (not sure if they caught anything) and dog owners and, of course, their dogs.



Wentworth.
There is still time to upload your images
from Wentworth

<https://www.dvcc.co.uk/imageuploads>

Sunday Shutter Sessions – “Shooting in Black and White – See the World Differently”

There’s something special about black and white photography. Stripping away colour helps you see the world in a new way—through shapes, tones, textures, and light. Whether you’re a beginner or a seasoned snapper, shooting in monochrome can boost your skills and refresh your creativity.

Black and white is brilliant for strong contrasts. Dramatic shadows, soft light on misty mornings, or the harsh midday sun all behave differently without colour. Monochrome lets mood take centre stage. Old buildings, street scenes, portraits, and bad-weather days suddenly become photo gold.

If your camera or phone has a monochrome mode, give it a go—it helps you visualise without colour distractions.

But if you’re unsure, shoot in colour and convert to black and white when editing. You’ll have more flexibility with contrast and tone. (Top tip: editing in black and white is all about dodging and burning—adjusting brightness locally to guide the viewer’s eye.)

Try a photo walk around your town or village. Look for interesting shadows, gritty textures, leading lines, and expressive faces. Don’t be afraid to experiment! It’s a great way to slow down and focus on composition, contrast, and storytelling.

Now let’s talk light and shadow. In colour photography, the eye is often drawn to bold colours. In black and white, your eye follows the light. Highlights and shadows become your storytelling tools. A lone tree lit by afternoon sun or the texture on an old man’s face becomes deeply emotional when colour steps aside. High contrast lighting can be used to add drama, while softer tones evoke peace and subtlety.

Monochrome is a landscape photographer’s secret weapon. A cloudy sky that might look dull in colour becomes dramatic and moody in black and white. Bare trees, rolling hills, mist on the moor—these take on a timeless quality. South Yorkshire is full of spots to explore: from the industrial beauty of disused railway lines and pit heads to the rolling farmland and moody Pennine edges.

Composition becomes even more important when shooting landscapes in black and white. Look for leading lines—like fences, dry stone walls or winding rivers—and strong focal points like lone trees or silhouetted buildings. Patterns, symmetry and texture all jump out in monochrome, so train your eye to spot them.

And let’s not forget the fun! Challenge yourself to shoot a whole day in black and white. It might feel strange at first, but it will sharpen your awareness of light and form.

At the Dearne Valley Camera Club, we believe in our motto: Learn, Develop, Share and Support. So show us your moody moorland, your gritty Sheffield side-streets, or your pet dog looking like a rock star in high contrast! Whatever your subject, black and white is a creative playground—enjoy it.

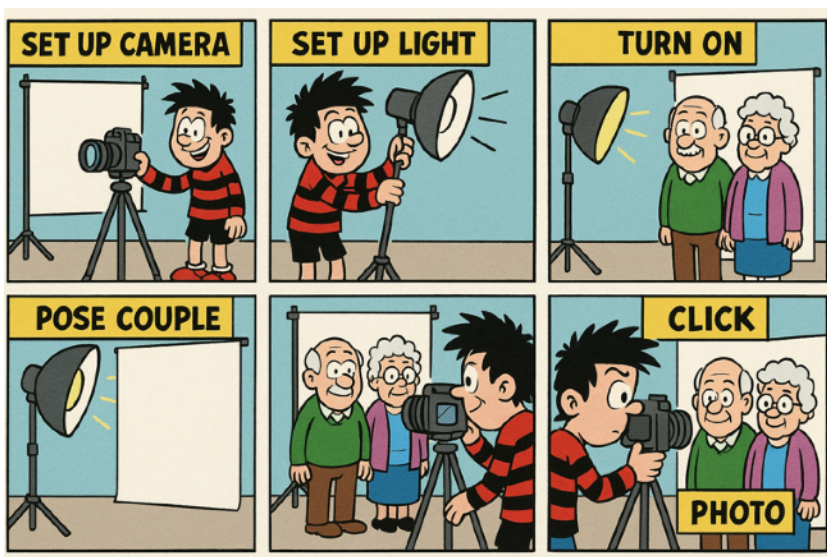
Follow these links to see YouTube videos to learn more about Black and White

Editing in Black and White
Thomas Heaton

Black and White
Photography Tips
Sean Tucker

Why shoot Black and White
Jamie Windsor

Getting ready for portraits on the 2nd July



Getting ready for the 2nd of July

At the Photography Studio Workshops in Pontefract they have a pet phrase. **"nose to the light and it will be alright"**

This is a handy **photography rule of thumb** for studio portrait lighting, especially when using a key light like a softbox or beauty dish.

What it means: Position the subject so that their nose is pointing toward the main light source. This usually results in flattering, even lighting on the face.

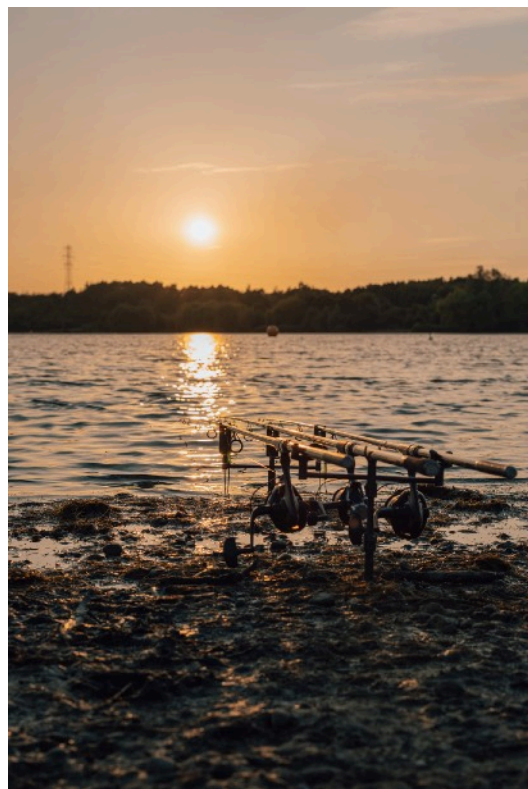
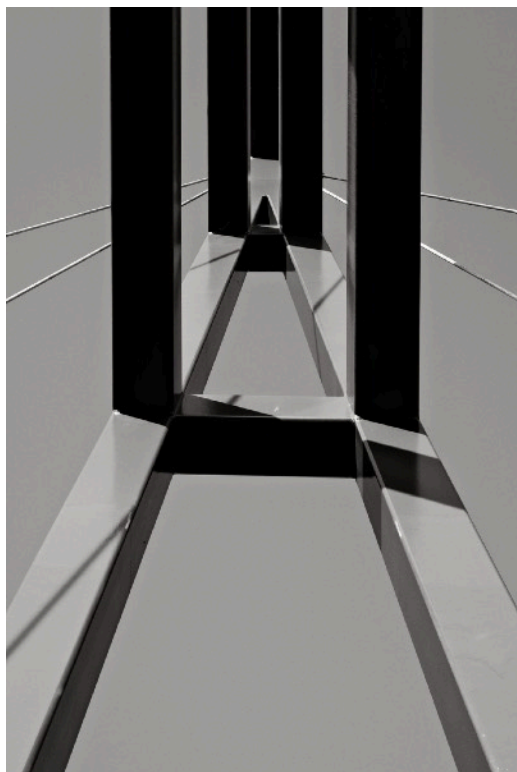
Why it works:

- **Reduces harsh shadows** on the face, especially on the nose and under the eyes.
- **Highlights both eyes**, making them sparkle (catchlights).
- **Slims the face** by using shadows creatively and evenly.
- Prevents unwanted side lighting that can emphasise skin texture or wrinkles.

When to break the rule:

- For dramatic lighting styles like **Rembrandt**, **split**, or **short lighting**, where you *want* more contrast.
- When you're using **multiple light sources** and the main light isn't dominant.

It's a great guideline, especially for beginners, to ensure simple and pleasing lighting in studio portraits.



Images from Dave, Neil, Patrick, Joe, Denise, may have been cropped to fit space in newsletter

Calendar of events - as always subject to change

25/06/2025	Wed	Cusworth Hall	Landscape, Architecture, flora, fauna... Location DN5 7TU Meet at 7:00 pm MUST exit car park before 9:00 pm
02/07/2025	Wed	Wath	Studio Portrait of an older couple
09/07/2025	Wed	Dearne Valley Country Park (Barnsley)	Landscape photography Meet at 7pm, Pontefract Road, Barnsley, S71 1HS Dearne Valley Country Park Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
17/07/2025	Thursday	Elsecar Heritage Centre	Motor bikes and scooters, environmental portraits, architecture, heritage 7:00pm meet at Elsecar Heritage Centre
23/07/2025		Doncaster Race course	Horse racing TBC
30/07/2025	Wed	National Coal Mining Museum Or Canon Hall Gardens	
06/08/2025	Wed	Wharnccliffe Crag or Natural Light portraits	
12/08/2025	Wed	Wath	Annual General Meeting