

# Newsletter

## InFocus at DVCC

March 2026



Learn, Develop, Share, Support

1951-2026

### Landscape Photography:

#### A Fresh Look at a Classic Art

Landscape photography has always held a special place in the world of image-making. Whether you're a beginner with a smartphone or an experienced photographer with a full kit bag, the appeal is the same: stepping into the outdoors and trying to capture the feeling of a place.

#### **New to Landscape Photography? Start Here**

If you're just beginning your journey, landscape photography can feel wonderfully approachable. You don't need to master every technical setting on day one.

Start by slowing down, looking around, and asking yourself what drew you to the scene in the first place. Is it the light? The shape of the land? A dramatic sky? A quiet mood?

Beginners often find landscapes easier to practise with because nothing is rushing around. Hills don't blink, rivers don't complain, and trees don't ask for retakes. This gives you time to experiment, adjust your settings, and learn at your own pace.

#### **Why We Love Landscape Photography**

Ask ten photographers why they enjoy landscapes and you'll get ten different answers. For some, it's the peace of being outdoors. For others, it's the challenge of chasing the perfect light. Many enjoy the sense of adventure – early mornings, new locations, and the thrill of seeing a scene come alive through the lens.

There's also something deeply satisfying about capturing a place as you experienced it. A landscape photograph isn't just a record of scenery; it's a memory, a mood, and a moment in time.

#### **A Tradition That Goes Back Centuries**

Long before cameras existed, landscape painters were wrestling with the same questions we face today: light, composition, mood, and storytelling. Artists like J.M.W. Turner and John Constable shaped the way we see the British countryside.

Celebrating 75 years of  
Wath Camera Club.

Put your thoughts of how we can  
celebrate here

In photography, pioneers such as Ansel Adams and Fay Godwin carried that tradition forward. Their work reminds us that landscape photography isn't just about pretty views – it's about emotion, intention, and patience.

## Choosing the Right Kit

You don't need a huge amount of gear to get started, but a few tools can help:

- Wide-angle lens - ideal for sweeping views.
- Tripod - essential for low light and long exposures.
- Polarising filter - reduces glare and enriches colour.
- ND filters - great for creative long-exposure effects.
- Weather protection - because British weather enjoys surprises.
- Even smartphones can produce excellent landscapes with a small tripod and a good editing app



Using a polarising filter and graduated ND filter



Embrace the weather (Liquid sunshine in Scotland)

## Helpful Apps in Planning your landscape photography trip

- PhotoPills - planning light, sun, and moon.
- The Photographer's Ephemeris - sunrise and sunset angles.
- OS Maps - scouting and safety.
- Windy - weather and cloud forecasts.

## Composition Tips

- Rule of thirds.
- Leading lines.
- Foreground interest.
- Natural frames.
- Layering for depth

## Landscapes on Our Doorstep

We're spoiled for choice:

- Peak District - Stanage Edge, Mam Tor, Padley Gorge.
- North York Moors - Roseberry Topping, Rosedale.
- Yorkshire Dales - Malham Cove, Ribbleshead Viaduct.
- East Coast - Whitby, Saltburn, Flamborough Head.

These locations offer everything from rugged gritstone edges to sweeping moorland and dramatic coastline – perfect for photographers of all levels.

## You Tubers

As is always the case there are a multitude, of YouTubers that can tell you all you need to know about landscape photography and also confuse the hell out of you. So I've jotted down a few names and links that you might find helpful.

### Oliver Wright

Although he's widely known for **macro photography**, he also produces excellent **landscape and outdoor photography content**, especially around the Peak District and Yorkshire. His approach is very methodical and technique-driven, which makes him ideal for members who enjoy understanding the *why* behind the shot.

#### Oliver offers:

- A strong grounding in **fieldcraft** and **attention to detail**
- Clear explanations of **camera technique**, exposure, and focus
- A scientific, structured approach that beginners find reassuring
- A creative eye that experienced photographers appreciate
- A deep knowledge of **local UK landscapes**, especially northern England

**He's coming to Wath on the 18th March**

## Nigel Danson

One of the UK's most influential landscape photographers. His videos are filmed in the Lake District, Peak District, Scotland, and Yorkshire – all places your members know well. Why he's great: clear explanations, thoughtful composition, and a calm, encouraging teaching style.

He's also got some great videos on how to convert a camper van to use as a photography base.

<https://www.youtube.com/nigeldanson>

Some other folks you might be interested in

### Thomas Heaton

A calm, thoughtful landscape photographer who films across the UK. **Best for:** composition, storytelling, and real-world shooting.

### James Popsys

Creative, humorous, and great for thinking differently about landscapes. **Best for:** inspiration and breaking the rules.

### Gary Gough

Yorkshire-based photographer with clear, practical tutorials. **Best for:** beginners wanting step-by-step guidance.. Fascinating tutorials on Mach Loop s well

### Chris Sale

Lake District photographer who focuses heavily on simplifying scenes. **Best for:** composition and visual clarity.

### Mads Peter Iversen (not UK, but shoots here often)

Excellent for advanced composition and visual storytelling. **Best for:** experienced members wanting deeper theory.

## Facebook Competition

Our current Facebook challenge is 'Street Wall Art' and is set by Cynthia who will also choose the winner. A 64GB SD memory card awaits the photographer of the chosen image who also gets to choose the theme for the coming month she also gets to pick the winner.

## DIY Photography Hacks

Quite often when doing photography we can get hung up (no pun intended) about kit and things like backdrops, but have you ever thought about the things in the house (or in places like Dunelm, B&M etc that you could add to your photography tool box

A few weeks ago Gill brought along some "Funky felt" - or was she just feeling funky :) - which made a great plain grey background (other colours are available) and it costs about £3.00 of a pack of 10 sheets of A4. This got me thinking about what other things could you use to create your photography sets.

How about:

For a natural looking backdrop what about:

Wooden cutting boards, slate or bamboo placemats, old chopping blocks, worktop and floorboard offcuts, cork tiles, Maybe some spare parts of garden fence panels or decking. You could always take photos of these to act as digital backdrops.

Need a softer backdrop:

Throws and blankets, scarves, pillowcases, bedsheets, tea towels, curtains, tablecloths,. Maybe some upholstery samples and fabric offcuts / roll ends

Need something minimalist

Baking parchment, foam board, poster boards, coloured chopping boards, ceramic tiles

Something left field:

Shower curtain, bubble wrap, radiator heat reflectors, yoga mat,

Want a simple reflector?

Cut out a piece of a cereal box, cover it with crumpled up (and then flattened) kitchen foil. Maybe cover the card with 'duct tape' to give it some strength.

You could wrap it around your flash unit and hold it in place with a rubber band to act as a flash reflector

Have you eaten all the Pringles ?

Look up Michael Widell on YouTube and see him turn a Pringles can into a **directional macro light shape that** Channels light from an on-camera flash down toward the subject. Acts as a reflector/diffuser hybrid, softening the light, Reduces harsh shadows and improves detail on tiny subject. It's basically a DIY version of a macro softbox, but slimmer and easier to position close to insects or flowers.

Click on the computer screen to go Michael's YouTube channel.

Got a lot of space ? Use insulation boards as reflectors - paint one side matt black so it can act as a light absorber



## Me and My Photography

This week's show and tell is "Me and My Photography" and its about you celebrating your photography and sharing that with other members - what makes you tick (or should that say click),

Share three or four photographs that tell us about what interests you and what got you into photography, it might be that its your hobbies and past times like painting or crafting that got you into photography so let us know - there may be a kindred spirit across the room. For me, perhaps like a lot of us it was capturing memories of my children that got me into this

So I'll add bit here ...

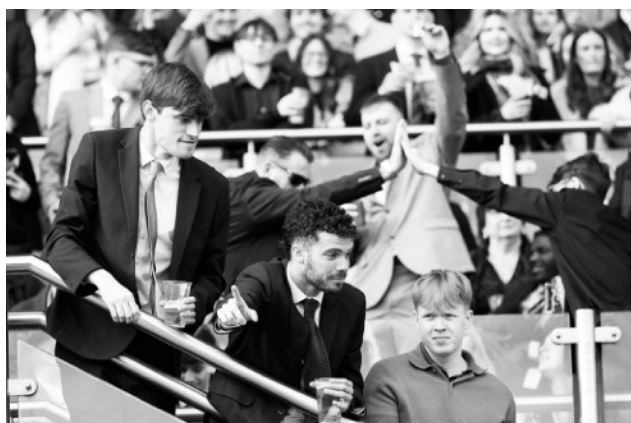
Photography, for me, has always been about people – their energy, their character, their stories. While I occasionally point my lens at a landscape, my heart has always belonged to sport and portraiture. Its about people – their energy, their character, their stories. There's something uniquely satisfying about freezing a moment of intensity on the pitch or capturing the quiet honesty of a face in a portrait. Those are the moments that feel alive to me.



From the family archives, one of my early sport photos from about 30 years ago. Look how little the 'guys' in orange are!

Sports photography demands instinct, timing, and a willingness to get muddy or soaked if that's what the shot requires. There's nothing quite like catching the exact moment a tackle lands, a try is scored, or a player's expression tells the whole story of the match.

Whether I'm shooting sport, portraits, or community events, my aim is always the same: to show the emotion behind the moment and the story. Here are a couple to be going on with



Faces at the Races



Wheelchair Rugby League.  
Disability and Ability

Doncaster Races

Can those who went to the races upload their best three images via the website please

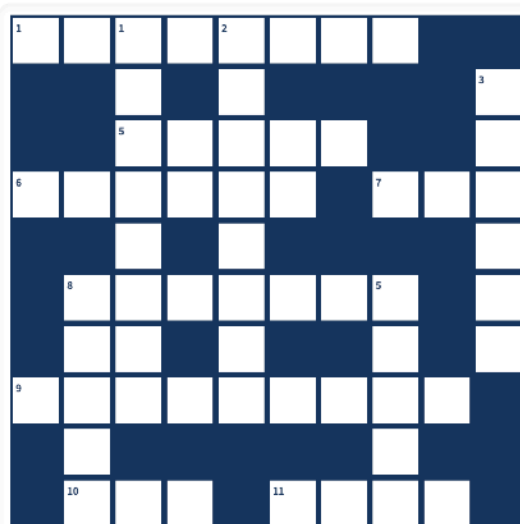
## Uploading your images

By way of reminder, here is a bit a of a guide to uploading your images via the clubs web site. Doing it this way also saves lot of time getting the slide shows together.

- Outside of the Lightroom (or whatever you are using) in File Explorer or Finder create folder called "Photographs by MYNAME"
- In the export dialogue boxes make sure you
- **export your photographs to the folder called "Photography by MYNAME"**
- give your photographs a meaningful name
- When you are in [www.dvcc.co.uk](http://www.dvcc.co.uk) and are in the image uploads section upload the folder - this will upload the images within the folder
- Add your name and your email address to the dialog box that pops up when you are uploading - this way you will get an email from Dropbox saying images have been uploaded.
- Uploading the folder "Photographs by MYNAME" means that when the slide show is put together we can credit you when the slide show is put together.
- Don't forget to empty the folder ready for the next upload (or call the folder "Photographs of <<< topic >>>> by My NAME" and change the topic for each upload.

### Photography Crossword

Test your camera knowledge!



#### → Across

1. Opening in the lens that controls light (8)
5. Fixed focal length lens (5)
6. Pleasing out-of-focus background blur (3)
7. Sensitivity setting for the sensor (3)
8. Distance from lens to subject determines this length (5)
9. Adjusting exposure settings precisely (8)
10. High dynamic range imaging technique (3)
11. Variable focal length feature (4)

#### ↘ Down

1. Long exposure creates light paths (8)
2. Three-legged camera support (6)
3. Point of sharpest clarity (5)
4. External light source device (5)
5. Glass element that bends light (4)

▶ Show Answers

## Members Showcase

We recently had a show and tell on "street and urban photography. Here are suite of images from Neil.



## What are we up to.

As always, watch out for changes - look in Facebook, or Whats' App. And (don't start a sentence with 'and') if you have any ideas as to what we could do on a club night let us know.

How to photograph plant pots anyone ?

Date	Main Theme	Type
11/03/2026	Show and Tell - "Me and My Photography"	Show and Tell
18/03/2026	Oliver Wright external speaker: Landscape	Presentation at Wath
25/03/2026	Night time photography. Show and Tell	Show and Tell
01/04/2026	Grumpy Old woman with camera, guest visitor	Guest Visiting speaker
08/04/2026	Abstracts	Learning
15/04/2026	That's Safari enough (My photography journey)	Member presentation
22/04/2026	St George's day photos / The Spirit of England	Show and Tell
29/04/2026	Landscapes	Show and Tell
06/05/2026	World Cup Football theme - practical TBC	Practical
13/05/2026	Outdoor model fill in flash. Plus alternate activity	Practical
20/05/2026	YP What awards	Presentation
27/05/2026	Outdoor model fill in flash. Plus alternate activity.	Practical

You will find dates, times, places and topics on the club's website.

Curiously it is under the menu item on the top of the web pages called "What's On"

Crossword

Across Answers:  
1. APERTURE  
5. PRIME  
6. BOKEH  
7. ISO  
8. FOCAL  
9. METERING  
10. HDR  
11. ZOOM

Down Answers:  
1. EXPOSURE  
2. TRIPOD  
3. FOCUS  
4. FLASH  
5. LENS