

Newsletter

InFocus at DVCC

1st June 2025



The YPWhat! Awards.

Truth be known, whilst many of us submitted photographs for consideration in the YPU annual exhibition, many were left with a feeling of success and many were left feeling a little dejected.

Feeling dejected because of our photography is not the way of Dearne Valley Camera Club, so Nigel took to the stage to not only appraise us of how hard it is to be a judge (by rather helpfully pointing out things he saw in a award winning photograph that judges hadn't - creases in backdrops, lack of borders, distracting conservatories, ignoring concepts like rule of thirds for composition ...) but he also introduced the inaugural YPWhat! Awards that turned out to be a perfect antidote to any YPU blues.

The tone for the presentation was set on the opening slide as the hall was filled to the sounds of Jimmy James and the Vagabonds signing "Now is the time to set things right". What followed was some judging of the judges and more importantly a celebration of DVCC's photographers and their photographs.

Who needs a "photographer of the year" award when we have awards like these ?

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society Award for the best reference to a book	Keith
The Proclaimers Award for the most miles walked to get a superb landscape photograph	Neil
The B&Q award for the photographer who needs a bigger shelf	Gill
The Nancy Sinatra Award for the best boots	Marsha
The Exchange and Mart award for best ... Exchange and Mart photograph	Rob
The Galloping along to the reserve list award	Nigel
The award for the photograph most likely to upset the sponsors	Patrick
The 'spare some change guv' award for the best photograph highlighting street life	Chrissy
The POTUS Award for the photograph with the best border and why you need one	Ali
The Puffin Books award for the saddest character in a photograph	Cath
The Revs and Relics Award for the best photograph of a biker going for a bacon butty	Dave T
The NHS A-Ward for best body part photograph	Mel
The Award for the best "holy photographers batman" photograph	Brian
The mmmmm it's the David Jason (as Inspector Frost) Steam Punk Award	Monika
The lurking around on street corners and trying not to look suspicious award	Tom

Finding Your Photographic Voice

Photography isn't just about taking a picture—it's about *saying something* with it. And that something? It's you. Your unique perspective, your favourite subjects, even how you see the light. That's what we call your **photographic voice**—and it's something every photographer, beginner or pro, can develop.

Now, if you're new to the club, don't worry—your voice doesn't have to be loud or perfectly formed. In fact, this part of your journey is the most exciting because you get to try everything! Landscapes, portraits, pets, puddles—explore it all. The more you shoot, the more you start to notice patterns in what you're drawn to.

Maybe it's the soft morning light on wet cobblestones that makes you pause. Or the way your daughter's laughter looks frozen in mid-air. Or the symmetry of buildings and doors. All of those little things? That's your voice, quietly speaking.

For more experienced photographers, finding your voice might mean refining it. Ask yourself: *Why do I shoot what I shoot? What story am I telling?* Sometimes we get so focused on technique that we forget to shoot from the heart. So this week, challenge yourself to revisit why you fell in love with photography in the first place.

At our club, we believe in **Learn, Develop, Share and Support**—and that starts by being curious. So this week, we invite you to take your camera (or even your phone!) and capture photos that really feel *you*—why not capture them in Barnsley or Wentworth in the next couple of weeks. Bring them to a show and tell meeting or share in our Facebook group. You might just inspire someone else—or discover something new about yourself.

And remember, no two voices are alike. That's the beauty of it.

For visual learners:

- [How to Find Your Photography Style - Mango Street](#)
- [Tips for Developing Your Own Style - Jamie Windsor](#)
- [Finding Your Creative Voice - Sean Tucker](#)



Photo by Tom who won the YPWhat! Award for "Hanging around on street corners Award"

Coming Sunday 8th June: "Smartphone to DSLR - Photography Is for Everyone"

Whether you're just starting out with a phone camera or shooting full-frame, next week's article is all about making the most of whatever gear you have—and having *fun* doing it!

Finding Barnsley



This week we are meeting in Barnsley for a photography walk-about.

We'll meet on the steps to the Town Hall, there is car parking in County Way.

For those who are familiar with the What Three Words app, the location is /// rear.chefs.gender

Meet at. 7:00pm

Some of the YPWhat! Award Winners



The YPWhat! Awards



Gill also received an extra special award in recognition of her hard work behind the scenes as Chair of DVCC. We hope Eric and his chums enjoyed the treats!



After the awards, members held a 'round table' discussion which resulted in the activity schedule shown below being drafted.

Calendar of events - as always subject to change

04/06/2025	Wed	Barnsley	Street photography walk around Barnsley Meet on the Town Hall Steps at 7:00 pm
11/06/2035	Wed	Wentworth	A visit to capture the essence of Wentworth - be prepared to consider printing your best images so we can display them in Wentworth.
18/06/2025	Wed	Wath Walkabout	A walkabout the village of Wath, can you capture the spirit of Wath
25/06/2025	Wed	Wath	Studio Portrait of an older couple
02/07/2025	Wed	Adwick Nature Reserve and Brickworks Pond	For more information: https://group.rspb.org.uk/shefield/local-wild-places/adwick-washlands/ Meet at 7:00 pm Car parking is on Furlong Road
09/07/2025	Wed	Dearne Valley Park (Barnsley)	Landscape photography Meet at 7pm, Burton Bank Road, Barnsley, S71 2AB
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	Wharncliffe Crags or Natural Light portraits	
12/08/2025	Wed	Wath	Annual General Meeting