



Events

We have 2 events in June, Knebworth House in Hertfordshire and Buxton Pavilion Gardens. We will have our own stand at both and lots of framed and unframed photographs, posters, books and more.

- Saturday 2nd to Tuesday 5th June, 10am to 5pm, [Knebworth Craft and Design Show](#), Knebworth House, SG1 2AX. About 50 exhibitors with a wide range of work.
- Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July, 10am to 4.30pm, free admission, Artist and Designer Fair at Buxton Pavilion Gardens. About 45 exhibitors.

Landscape Photography Courses

Our next courses are in Glen Coe, 25th to 27th September and Eskdale in the Lakes, 3rd to 5th October. Each of these offers 3 full days of practical photography, no classroom sessions, just 5 people with 2 tutors. Suitable for complete beginners to advanced photographers with both digital and film cameras; colour with a strong bias to black and white photography. We do all the driving once you arrive and cover the basics up to whatever advanced techniques are needed to get the shot. If interested book through davebutcher.co.uk. You can also do just 1 or 2 days in these locations if that suits you better. They are booking up but both have places available.

- If you are looking for a 1 day landscape photography course there are still places on the last Peak District course for 2012; Saturday 20th October in the Peak District. There is more information on the web, or call me for a chat, or email me if you are interested.
- If you would like more attention than is possible in a group, or you have your own group then talk to me about what we can do for you.

- I'm finding that courses are taking their toll on my bad back so we have already decided that our course programme will be reduced in 2013. In particular, the 3 day courses will be run for private bookings only and better spaced out from other commitments than we managed for this year. If you are thinking of coming on a Lakes or Glen Coe course then we would suggest you consider the September and October dates for these as there are no plans to run these next year.
- If you are interested in a private course in any of the locations that we use there are now standard prices for these. There is much more on the web site: www.davebutcher.co.uk/courses/personal-photography-course

Darkroom Printing Courses

The darkroom printing courses are £150 per place and include all paper and chemicals generously supplied free of charge by Ilford Photo. There are just 2 places on each course so you are assured of lots of attention during the day.

- Next course is Sunday 21st October, 1 place available.
- [Private darkroom courses](#) also available, more details added to the web site recently.

New Photographs

I have added new images of London to the web, still quite a few more to add when I find time. Here are a few images to give you a taster.

Shard from The Scoop Outdoor Theatre at City Hall

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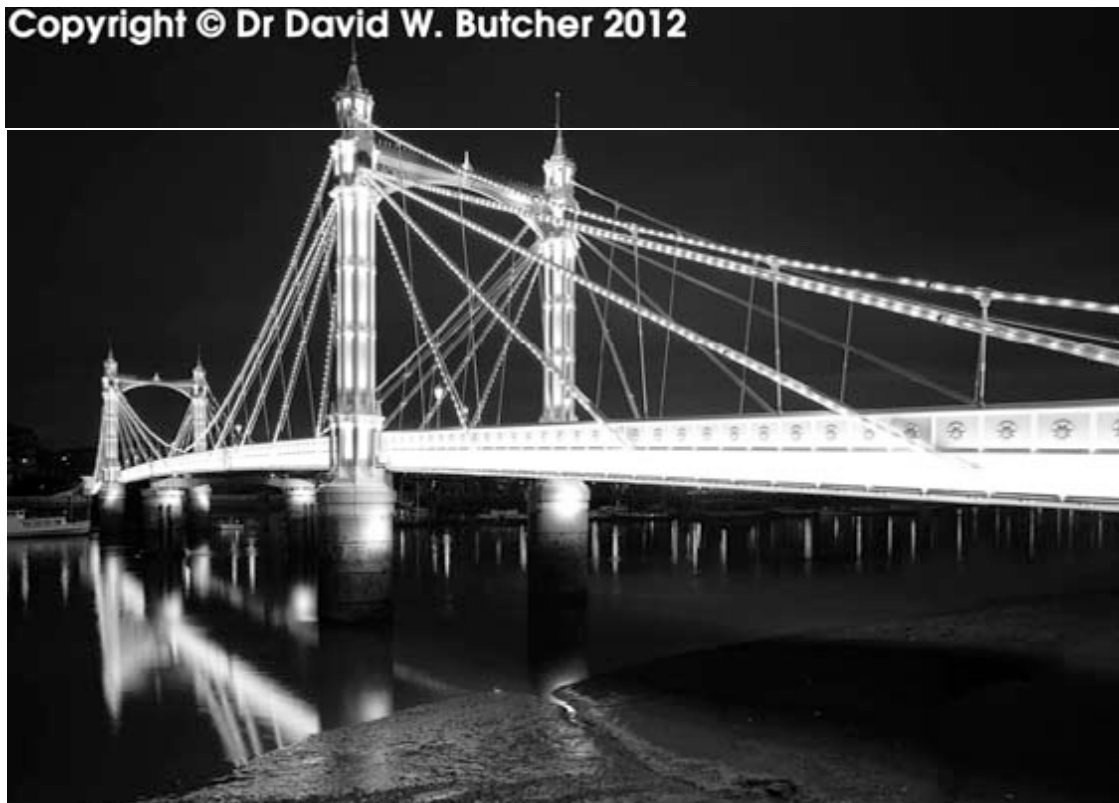
Burlington Arcade

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Albert Bridge at Night

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Shard Reflections in the River Thames

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Covent Garden Interior

Copyright © Dr David W. Butcher 2012



Big Ben Light Trails

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[Photo Tips](#)

I seem to be doing quite a bit of night photography recently so thought it may be useful to explain how I do it.

- Using film means that I can't see if the exposure is wrong until the films are processed. To get around this I always bracket my exposures in 1 stop steps (a stop is a doubling or halving of the exposure, depending on which way the change is made).
- My Sekonic spot light meters have a maximum sensitivity of 15 seconds at f 5.6. If I need longer than this it gives the message E.U., which means pack and go home! In fact it just means you are on your own so it becomes guesswork beyond this.
- For me I bracket by doubling the exposures, 8, 16, 30, 60, 120, 240 seconds. I choose which 2 or 3 exposures to use depending on the scene and experience; I'm quite good at judging how long I need just by looking at the scene.
- It is essential to use a tripod as the exposure times are often many seconds to several minutes. I don't know about you but I can't hand hold at these times!
- If you put anything bright in the foreground chances are it will overpower the picture so I avoid having bright lights close to the camera. This also lets me mostly use the lens almost wide open at f5.6 (1 stop closed down from f4 maximum). With nothing close to the lens I don't need lots of depth of field. This keeps the exposures shorter so film response is still reasonable.

- At really long exposures reciprocity means that when you double the exposure time the real increase is quite small (and nowhere near double) so you are always chasing the sensitivity of the film in this area.
- Dusk is often the best time for night shots as you can have the feel of a night shot as lights will be turned on but you also have detail in the sky. If it's broken clouds, or maybe a windy evening, they can look great.
- Light Trails are quite interesting too, as in the Big Ben image above. I find that it's best to try and have an exposure time that allows them to run in and out of the picture. If the exposure stops before they reach the edge of the frame it looks odd.
- Buildings seem to be better lit in the winter months too. I think this may be because when people leave work and it's still light outside they can switch off their office and building lights as they leave. In the winter they don't do this. Check it out to see if you agree.

Email Changes

Please use mono@davebutcher.co.uk to reach me and jan@janbutcher.co.uk to contact Jan.

Next Newsletter

My newsletters appear every month or so at the moment.

- If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter then please pass it on using the button below and they can also subscribe by [signing up through my web site](#).
- Previous newsletters are [archived on my web site](#) as pdf files.