ANDREW BUTLER

Known for his high-quality approach to photography, Andrew Butler is a professional photographer based in Exeter in the South West of England. His work, commissioned by clients throughout the UK and Europe, covers a range of subjects including: headshots and portraits, engineering and construction, property and architecture as well as motor-vehicles.

Andrew’s career in photography spans three decades, including periods including both graphic and web design, where he has worked on high profile projects such as the Arts Award for Arts Council England. As well as his photography work, Andrew has an honours degree and won the Ted Wragg award whilst gaining his PGCE teaching qualification.

With absolute commitment to high-quality work, Andrew currently focusses on commercial photography projects shot either on location or from his studio in central Exeter.

Contact Details (link)
It’s fair to say that being photographed doesn’t always fit well with the British psyche. Furthermore, in this era of the ‘selfie’, being photographed by someone else implies a need for trust and an appreciation of the value that brings.

It is almost a mantra of Andrew’s that the individuals who make up an organisation - commercial or not for profit - are an essential aspect of the brand DNA, and that there is often little reason to look beyond high-quality photography of the team when developing a brand image library.

Andrew Butler specialises in commercial headshot photography, whether from his Exeter studio or on location at the clients’ premises. His work practices are collaborative; sitters are encouraged to be part of the process, and most headshot work is shot straight to the computer, allowing immediate appraisal.

Retouching is kept to a minimum; of high quality, it is always subtle and discreet. Andrew Butler’s work reflects individuals rather than popularised versions generated through software retouching packages.

Andrew Butler’s portrait and headshot work reflects the individual rather than popularised ideals generated through software retouching packages.
Tethered shooting where practical, previews of the images can be viewed and discussed either face to face or via an online presentation. Final images supplied via WeTransfer

CORPORATE PEOPLE

Working for a range of large organisations, Andrew Butler is regularly invited to document corporate events through photography.

Typically the approach will be documentary and non-intrusive in style. Attendees and speakers alike forget that the event is being captured and therefore behave naturally and in a relaxed manner.

Having worked for Browne Jacobson’s Exeter office it was great to be invited to photograph new graduate members of the team at the head office in Nottingham.

A lot of ground was covered in the day with informal shots documenting the welcoming workshops, formal staff headshots - we set up a studio in a boardroom - and relaxed group-shot. In an effort to avoid a clichéd look the group shot was shot externally and although lit with powerful lighting the team were encouraged to find their own space and style in the shot. Shooting tethered to the Mac an immediate sign-off could be made on the image.
It’s an honour and a privilege to photograph engineering and construction work. There is a responsibility to being allowed onto active engineering sites and Andrew Butler has photographed Network Rail sites and national airports as well as land and marine based civil engineering work.

Often working on live sites day and night and in hostile weather conditions this is both specialist and varied work. With an emphasis on a real-world document rather than a reliance on set up clichés Andrew Butler’s images will convey the quality of your work.

Images are used for tenders and marketing, websites, brochures and press-releases; even the board-room wall.
MOTORING & BIKES

Studio quality photography on location or at motoring events is as much about the people as the machinery. Quality is everything, regardless of location.

With commissions ranging from calendar shoots to European magazines, insurance company websites to personal collections, Andrew Butler offers exceptional experience and knowledge of photography in the motoring arena.
Space of Exeter are “workspace transformation experts who increase productivity and employee wellbeing through collaborative working and creativity” and it is a delight to work with them on a range of commissions.

The initial meeting was a single headshot session with Tim Wadsworth the MD. Since that time we have collaborated on a number of shoots capturing the projects that they have undertaken for clients. These projects now populate their recently updated website case-studies.

Of course as the team develops new members have visited the headshot studio to retain consistency.
Every building brings with it new photographic opportunities and challenges, both from the outside and within. Planning the journey through the property is essential, understanding the structure, the form; how and where the light will fall. The photographic record may be a document of the fabric of the building but it may also be a description of the capacity of that building to nurture life, bring warmth, to shelter, to comfort and to excite.

Most architectural work is shot directly to the computer – tethered – meaning that a collaborative approach is easy to achieve. Where possible, additional lighting is kept to a minimum.

Frequently clients will receive images shot in a range of styles, some focussing on the big picture - a record - and some highlighting the life of the structure.

These images were shot for Yorkshire based PodSpace in Hayling Island - Hampshire as well as The University of Exeter in Devon.

Client: PodSpace
STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY

A beautiful object deserves to be photographed well and this is an essential aspect of taking a product to market. Clients have approached Andrew Butler with very clear and business-minded briefs: ‘I want you to photograph my product better than I can so that I can sell it at the price that my business needs it to sell at.’

Your place or ours? It depends very much on what is being photographed but, with a bit of space, a temporary studio can generally be set up on location. The decision is usually a pragmatic one based on the options at hand.

If you value your product, capture it professionally.
Imelda May and The Luck at Chagstock Music Festival in Devon

There are huge challenges to capturing live music performances, the lighting is unpredictable and often low, the stage rarely forms a static platform to rest on and the performers are rarely static. The pleasure in overcoming these challenges is immense and the skills are transferable.

And sometimes, as was the case with Imelda May, the performer performs to the camera as well as the wider audience.
Over the years I have both been besotted with the place and formed a long term relationship. We have had countless visits to Sicily and Palermo in particular. A vibrant city and a place steeped in tradition with a history that clearly informs the present, there is an impatience to the traffic and a life to the streets the transport of the place has always fascinated and the cultures
A city of romance where past and present cohabit with comfort.

Tread gently in Paris, the streets are generally wide and there is no-where to hide. In spite of a rich heritage of photographic practice it’s fair to say that photography isn’t overly welcomed. However the city is rich with subject matter and suits a range of light and weather.

Paris is a city that I ‘need’ to visit, as I write the next visit is already booked.
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