

Grays of Westminster®

Exclusively... **Nikon News**

COMETH THE HOUR, COMETH THE D2X

It has been said that heroes and innovations always emerge at times of crisis or need. Photographically speaking, the need or desire for a camera that caters for the requirements of the modern digital SLR user has been answered in the shape of the new Nikon D2X.

Judging by the large numbers of advance orders that we received, the excitement that followed the announcement of the details of this new professional digital SLR by the Nikon Corporation has been well deserved. Designed as a truly versatile workhorse camera for many professional disciplines, the D2X blends for the first time the high levels of resolution that commercial clients demand with superb image quality, colour consistency and class-leading speed.

The D2X delivers high image quality using brand-new innovations that produce ultra sharp images with very fine gradations and smooth colour transitions across the colour range – all while maintaining impeccable colour accuracy, even when shooting under rapidly changing lighting conditions. High resolution is achieved by an all-new 12.4 million-pixel DX Format CMOS¹ image sensor and a new image-processing engine that works seamlessly with optimised systems throughout the camera. Even with this tremendous resolution, the D2X can comfortably shoot full resolution images at 5 frames per second (up to 21 consecutive JPEGs and 15 NEFs). When the situation demands yet faster frame rates, the D2X has a unique 6.8 megapixel 'High Speed Cropped Image' mode that boosts the shooting rate to 8 frames per second, up to 35 consecutive JPEGs or 26 NEF images, by cropping the number of pixels used on the sensor to create the image.



The Nikon D2X

The D2X proves to be the only digital SLR camera truly equipped to meet the changing landscape of professional photography. Not only does it successfully combine high resolution, speed and quality, but it also introduces exclusive technologies that promise to expand the realm of digital photography. Options such as the newly introduced WT-2A Wi-Fi transmitter achieves full wireless remote camera control and transmission, while the revolutionary i-TTL Speedlight technology included in the D2X ensures radical new possibilities in creative lighting.

With the high performance 12.4 megapixel DX Format CMOS sensor, the D2X delivers the high resolution and sharp detail needed for professional results. However, a high-resolution sensor is only part of the equation in delivering the ultimate image quality. The D2X employs Nikon's new generation system LSI that greatly improves the precision of processing during the analog/digital conversion. After digital conversion, a new processing method has been added to increase image-processing precision in the ASIC² for a smoother display of tones from highlight portions to shadow portions of the image. With optimised distribution of analogue and digital white balance gain, the new engine produces smoother gradations with consistent and smooth transitions, all with exceptionally pure colour rendition.

In addition to two new Adobe RGB colour modes that further expand professional colour space options with the new engine, the D2X also supports the sYCC colour profile found in many of the latest printers. With sYCC support, photographers can produce JPEG files with a gamut wider

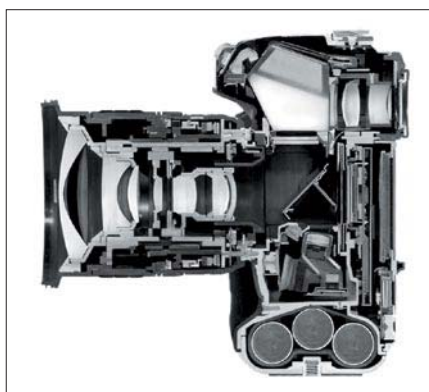
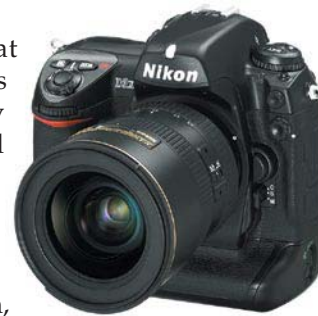
than sRGB and fully exploit the output capabilities of their latest colour printers.

An improved metering system in the D2X, called 3D-Colour Matrix Metering II, allows Nikon's acclaimed 1,005-pixel RGB Exposure/Colour Matrix Metering Sensor to better determine the position and size of shadow or highlight areas and achieve optimum exposure for each shot.

Professionals need their cameras to work as fast as they do. Therefore, similarly to the blazingly fast D2H, the D2X adopts a holistic³ approach to speed. The camera is ready to shoot the instant it is turned on and has an almost imperceptible 37ms shutter lag time, an astounding achievement at this resolution level. Using a new high-speed 4-channel output method, and improved speed of transferring image data from the image sensor to a memory card, the D2X is capable of shooting 5 frames per second at full 12.4 megapixel resolution for up to 21 JPEGs or 15 NEFs. The camera's unique High Speed Cropped

energy efficient design that when combined with its unrivalled lithium-ion battery system, delivers extended longevity and high-energy capacity capable of approx. 2,000 shots per charge, with accurate real-time system status displays. A new 2.5-inch, 235,000 pixel high resolution LCD monitor features an all-digital interface for clear, flicker-free display of preview images and logically organized Shooting, Playback, Set-up and Custom Settings menus. On-demand information includes an improved histogram and new RGB Histogram displays, as well as a chronological 'History Menu' that lists recently accessed settings.

The D2X has arrived and if you would like to order yours please telephone us on 0207 828 4925 (International +44 207 828 4925).



"The camera's unique High Speed Cropped Image mode allows photographers to achieve an even higher continuous shooting rate of 8 frames per second by using a dual area sensor that records only 6.8 million pixels in the centre of the sensor."

Image mode allows photographers to achieve an even higher continuous shooting rate of 8 frames per second by using a dual area sensor that records only 6.8 million pixels in the centre of the sensor. While photographers are generally satisfied with 5 frames per second for most applications, this new mode gives them the duality of having the option to shoot at faster framing rates for specific situations, within one camera body.

The D2X also boasts Nikon's acclaimed Multi-CAM2000 high-speed AF system that features eleven autofocus sensors of which nine are cross-type and placed in the Rule of Thirds layout.

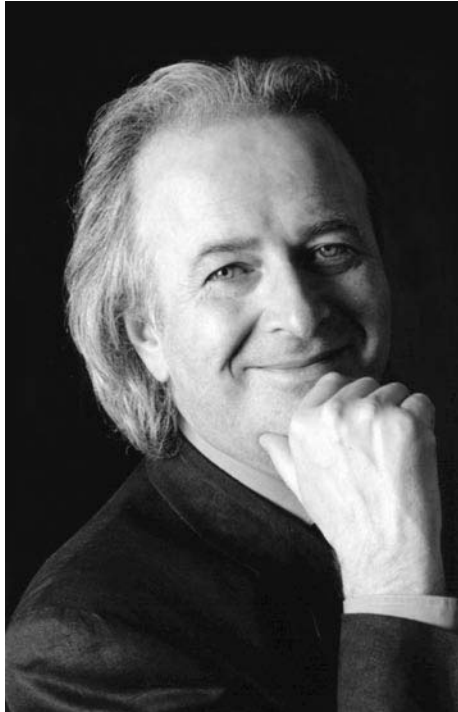
The Nikon D2X is consistent with the D2H in terms of body design, ergonomics and interface. The camera's large controls and buttons are positioned for intuitive control that frees the photographer to concentrate on the composition. Regardless of the camera's orientation, operation remains consistently comfortable and with virtually the same access to primary controls. The D2X features an improved

DEFINITIONS:

¹CMOS: Complementary Metal Oxide Semi-conductor is a type of light sensor that is used by manufacturers as an alternative to the more widespread Charge-Coupled Device (CCD) sensor types. In very broad terms CCD sensor types exhibit a higher power consumption compared with CMOS designs.

²An ASIC (Application Specific Integrated Circuit) chip, which is sometimes referred to as a Custom Chip, is an integrated circuit designed to perform a specific function, as opposed to programming a general-purpose microprocessor to perform the same task using software. The principal benefit of an ASIC chip is speed, as they are significantly quicker than the software solution. For example, in most digital cameras an ASIC chip is used to perform the processing of the image data after it has passed through the Analogue-to-Digital converter (ADC).

³Holistic: emphasizing the importance of the whole and the interdependence of its parts.



Photograph by Paul Dawson

A very warm welcome to the latest issue of the *Grays of Westminster News*. Apart from the news of the new D2X, Nikon surprised everyone by announcing a new film flagship SLR – the Nikon F6. The surprise was occasioned by the general opinion that the F5 would be the last in the famous flagship film camera series. The F6 has been met with universal approval from both the photographic press and camera users. Simon Stafford technical editor of *Nikon Owner* magazine summed it up by saying “I can put it no more succinctly than to say the F6 is a truly outstanding camera.” It additionally received high praise from such diverse publications as the *BJP* (*British Journal of Photography*) and *AP* (*Amateur Photographer*). It also has just won 35mm Film SLR of the Year in the **Amateur Photographer Awards 2005**.

The technology in the D2X has already given its sibling, the D2H, a retro-upgrade. The use of D2X technology in the new 4.1MP D2Hs makes for even faster image handling and transmission, higher quality images and more accurate exposures. The mechanism, battery, Speedlight system, metering and TFT-LCD are all now common to X and H.

As if the news of the F6 was not enough to stir the blood of film enthusiasts everywhere, we have just heard that that Nikon

have produced a limited edition replica of their



original Nikon SP in a black finish fitted with a 3.5cm f/1.8 W-Nikkor lens. They have manufactured just 2,500 of these cameras for sale within their domestic market, and there is a distinct possibility that we may be able to obtain several of them for our customers. If you are interested, please contact us on 020 7828 4925.



December 2004 saw the release of the AF-S VR Nikkor 300mm f/2.8G IF-ED, a new high-speed super-telephoto professional lens for Nikon digital and 35mm SLR cameras. The AF-S VR Nikkor 300mm f/2.8G IF-ED offers Vibration Reduction (VR) technology, focus preset functions and Meniscus front element as well as being the first Nikkor lens to feature Nikon's Nano-Crystal anti-reflective coating, delivering the very best professional quality to sports and action photography. With Silent Wave Motor Autofocus Performance, Internal Focusing, Nikon ED Glass for extra-low dispersion, and G design for use with Nikon SLR models that feature Command Dial and Sub-Command Dial control, the AF-S VR Nikkor 300mm f/2.8G IF-ED will undoubtedly prove extremely popular among professional photographers.



AF-S VR 300 f/2.8

This lens features optimum performance among Nikon's selection of compatible SLR bodies, including the newest selection of 35mm SLR models and the new Nikon F6 as well as all of Nikon's D-Series Digital SLR cameras – D1, D1H, D1X, D2H, D100, D70 and the newly released D2X.

An important addition to this already fast and powerful lens is the benefit of VR (Vibration Reduction), an innovation that makes it possible to take sharper handheld shots especially when limited to shooting at slower shutter speeds than normally thought possible. This provides the advantage of being able to shoot more effectively at indoor locations and outdoor, under dimmer lighting. With a 300mm lens, most photographers would limit their choice of slow shutter speed to 1/300 second. With the VR advantage, one could expect to shoot with the slowest speed that is up to about 3 speeds slower – as low as about 1/30 second!

Compatibility with Nikon's TC-14EII (1.4x), new TC-17EII (1.7x), and TC-20EII (2.0x) teleconverters extends the flexibility and total reach of the lens to as long as 600mm when mounted on a 35mm film SLR, and the same angle of view as a 900mm when mounted on a Nikon D-SLR camera.

HE CAME TO SERVE



I am particularly pleased to introduce you to our new member of staff, Mr. Toni Kowal. Toni's interest in photography began with his first camera, a Kodak Brownie 127, at the age of eleven, and flowered throughout the school years that followed when he printed photographs to make additional pocket money.

He landed a part-time job at Kirks Cameras in Sydenham. His passion for cameras subsequently led him to study for a degree in Physics at Royal Holloway College, London.

In 1968, he took a trip to Japan and auspiciously sold a camera to a Japanese store. One thing led to another and in 1971 he founded Vintage Cameras Ltd. with John Jenkins, owner of Kirks Cameras. The company went on to become the world's premier supplier to museums in Asia, North America and Europe.

He continued his studies and completed a Masters degree in Applied Optics at Imperial College. The Japanese market for historic cameras saw explosive growth and he again took to his books in 1974 and commenced a four-year degree course in Japanese studies. The combination of Optics and Japanese proved to be a winning formula as far as the export of photographica was concerned although he strayed into the realms of general trade and commerce with Japan until his son Tad took up photography and the collection of Nikon equipment in 1999. Toni then switched attention to the importation of Nikon equipment and Nipponcamera was launched in 1999 with the intention of becoming Europe's leading specialist supplier exclusively dealing with Nikon accessories both second-hand and new, current and discontinued. Our business association with Toni began some years ago and increased to such a point that at the end of last year he announced, *"I have accepted a generous invitation from Europe's most prestigious and exclusive Nikon specialists, Grays of Westminster, to add my extensive stock of accessories to their wide repertoire of Nikon cameras and lenses and to work together with the Grays of Westminster expert team."*

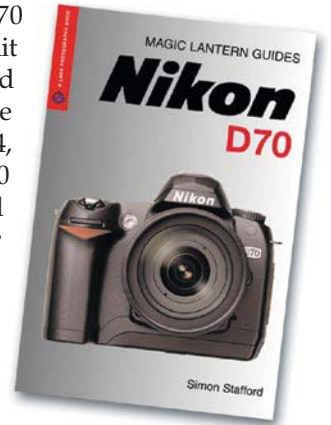


ALL THE GLITTERING PRIZES

In 2004 we established an award that was created to acknowledge those individuals or organisations that have made a significant contribution to photography. This was presented to *Amateur Photographer's* editor Garry Coward-Williams in recognition of their 120th Anniversary.

THE NIKON D70 GUIDE BY SIMON STAFFORD

The award-winning Nikon D70 digital SLR was an immediate hit with photographers all the world over. The runaway success of the D70 was such that by Autumn 2004, production was raised to 90,000 units per month with a projected total run of over 800,000 units for the first year. Keeping to this pace of production will soon elevate the D70 as the most multitudinous Nikon SLR. The well-respected photographer and technical editor of the Nikon Owners' Club, Simon Stafford's new 240-page *Magic Lantern Guide Nikon D70* is now available cost £14.95. The D70 won the DSLR of the Year and the overall Product of the Year award at the recent **Amateur Photographer Awards 2005**.



HEATHER ANGEL WILDLIFE & NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOP JULY 2005

We are now taking bookings for the **9th Annual Heather Angel Wildlife and Natural History Nikon Workshop** which will take place on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th July 2005 at Saint Hill Manor in West Sussex, England, from 9.15 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.. These hugely popular two one-day workshops conducted by world famous wildlife Heather Angel are perfect for both the newcomer and experienced photographer alike. Each day's schedule includes lectures, demonstrations and the chance to handle and use a huge range of new Nikon digital and film equipment. Now in their ninth year, these workshops attract visitors from all over the U.K., Europe and throughout the world. You can book a place (£150 per person) by telephoning 0207 828 4925 or book online www.graysofwestminster.co.uk

Well, now I must lay aside my keyboard and notes. There is a promise of spring in the air and beyond that, summer awaits us. The days begin to lengthen and there are images to be captured. Here at *Grays of Westminster* our entire staff look forward to being of service to you. ■

Gray Levett

The 9th HEATHER ANGEL Wildlife & Natural History Workshop

with **Nikon** U.K. Limited



Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th July 2005

Saint Hill Manor, East Grinstead
West Sussex, England

The internationally acclaimed wildlife photographer Heather Angel is the celebrated author of forty-six books and writes regularly for the worldwide photographic press. Through her lectures, workshops and writing, Heather has always been an enthusiastic tutor of wildlife and nature photography. Her work has been recognised by worldwide honours and awards. Her yearly workshops provide a rewarding opportunity to improve your photography with inspiring and expert tuition in one of the most beautiful locations in the U.K..

We are very pleased to announce the dates for this year's workshops with Heather Angel. There are two one-day workshops from which to choose: either Saturday 23rd or Sunday 24th July 2005.

PRACTICAL SESSIONS AND LECTURE:

As well as seminars and practical sessions, the schedule for the day will include a special talk by Heather who will present a stunningly illustrated lecture of her work from all parts of the world, and will be available to answer your questions at the end of her talk.

NIKON DIGITAL & FILM EQUIPMENT:

Mark Fury and the team from Nikon U.K. Ltd. will return to Saint Hill again this year and will be joined by Nikon's Training Manager John McDonald. You will be able to handle and try out a huge range of Film and Digital Nikon equipment including the very latest digital SLRs: the Nikon D2X, D2Hs, D70 and D100 plus the Nikon F6, F100, F80, FM3A cameras. The complete range of lenses from the 10.5 mm to the 600mm f/4D AF-S IF-ED lenses will also be available, as well as speedlights, binoculars and fieldscopes. You will be able to discuss any Nikon related subject with Mark Fury and the staff of *Grays of Westminster*.

GITZO, HASSELBLAD & LOWEPRO:

The staff from Gitzo, Hasselblad & Lowepro will also be present, and you will be able to examine the range of Gitzo carbon fibre tripods and monopods, Hasselblad Xpan II with Paul Fullegar of Hasselblad U.K. (importers of Gitzo). Allan Withers from Lowepro will be on hand to show you the fantastic range of their superb bags, backpacks and accessories.

Booking Details:

The workshop starts at 9.15 a.m. and runs until 5.00 p.m.. A ticket, which includes refreshments and lunch, costs £150.00 for the day. To book your ticket(s) contact *Grays of Westminster* today by telephone: ++44 (0) 20-7828 4925 or book online at www.graysofwestminster.co.uk



Award-winning *Grays of Westminster*, 40 Churton Street, London SW1, is a charming period shop specialising exclusively in Nikon.

It is situated in a quiet location in central London, a few minutes walk from either Victoria Railway Station or Pimlico Underground Station, and is superbly located; the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, the Tate Gallery, River Thames and Knightsbridge are all within easy reach.

It has the unique distinction of being the only company ever to have won all three Dealer of the Year awards voted by the readers of *Amateur Photographer*, *Practical Photography* and *Buying Cameras* magazines.

Grays of Westminster stocks the Nikon digital single lens reflex cameras: the Nikon D2X, D2H, D70, D100, plus the Nikon Coolpix range of cameras. They additionally supply the Nikon film SLRs: Nikon F6, F100, F80 and FM3A, as well as Nikon scanners: Coolscan V ED, Super Coolscan 5000ED and 9000ED models.

In addition, *Grays of Westminster* stock a very extensive range of autofocus Nikkor lenses as well as a vast range of accessories from eyepiece



correction lenses to lens hoods. New Nikon equipment comes with a special two-year warranty.

Grays of Westminster provides a comfortable atmosphere, in unashamedly old-world style, with leather-topped desks and soft furnishings. By dealing in just one brand, Nikon, clients are also provided with a distraction-free environment.

Here customers can gain an introduction to the Nikon system and have their questions answered. The staff is highly knowledgeable, yet friendly and relaxed in their approach. Those already familiar with the Nikon system will no doubt have heard of *Grays of Westminster* but may not have experienced its service first-hand. Everyone is welcome to visit.

Furthermore, there is a huge amount of second-hand Nikon equipment on display. Nearly all of the second-hand stock has been amateur-owned, and is in mint or near mint condition. Second-hand equipment is covered by a full year warranty.

Grays of Westminster provide fast and reliable mail order to all worldwide destinations. All major credit and debit cards are accepted. ■

STANLEY KUBRICK & GRAYS OF WESTMINSTER

"Stanley Kubrick left school in the mid-1940s and became a professional photographer for Look magazine. In fact, as a teenager, he was the youngest staff photographer the magazine ever employed. He began with a plate camera and then moved on to the 2.25 format.

In the early 1950s he moved over to 35mm SLR cameras and never looked back. He probably had more cameras than shirts and though he sometimes dallied with other makes, Nikon was always his preferred system.

I only ever knew him to defer to two people on matters photographic:



Geoffrey Crawley, one time editor of the BJP, and Gray Levett and the Grays of Westminster gang down in Pimlico who continue to give us an unrivalled service."*

Tony Frewin

Personal Assistant to Stanley Kubrick

Stanley Kubrick, legendary film director of: *Eyes Wide Shut*, *Full Metal Jacket*, *The Shining*, *Barry Lyndon*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Dr. Strangelove*, *Lolita*, *Spartacus* and *Paths of Glory*

*BJP: *British Journal of Photography*

NIKON WANTED FOR CASH



At Grays of Westminster we are very keen to buy your mint or near mint examples of the following Nikon camera equipment:

NIKON CAMERAS:

Nikon F100, FM3A, FM2n, D70, D100, D2H, D1X and D2X.

AF-D NIKKOR LENSES:

14mm f/2.8D IF ED, 16mm f/2.8D Fisheye, 20mm f/2.8D, 24mm f/2.8D, 28mm f/2.8D, 28mm f/1.4D, 35mm f/2D, 50mm f/1.8D, 50mm f/1.4D, 85mm f/1.4D IF, 85mm f/1.8D, 105mm f/2D AF-DC.

AF-D ZOOM-NIKKOR LENSES:

18-35mm f/3.5-4.5D IF-ED, 24-85mm f/2.8-4D IF, 28-105mm f/3.5-4.5D IF, 28-200mm f/3.5-5.6D, 35-70mm f/2.8D, 70-300mm f/4-5.6D ED, 80-200mm f/2.8D ED AFN, 80-400mm f/4.5-5.6D ED AF VR

AF-S SILENT WAVE NIKKOR LENSES:

12-24mm f/4G IF-ED DX, 17-35mm f/2.8D AF-S, 24-85mm f/3.5-4.5G IF-ED, 24-120mm f/3.5-5.6G VR AF-S IF-ED, 28-70mm f/2.8D AF-S, 70-200mm f/2.8G VR AF-S, 300mm f/2.8D AF-S IF-ED II, 300mm f/4 AF-S ED and 500mm f/4D AF-S IF-ED II plus TC-14E II 1.4x, TC-17E II 1.7x and TC-20E II 2x teleconverters

AF MICRO-NIKKOR LENSES:

60mm f/2.8D AF Micro, 105mm f/2.8D AF Micro, 200mm f/4D AF ED Micro, 70-180mm f/4.5-5.6D AF ED Micro.

NIKON SPEEDLIGHTS:

SB-800, SB-80DX, SB-600.

NIKKOR AIS MANUAL FOCUS LENSES:

20mm f/2.8 AIS, 24mm f/2.8 AIS, 28mm f/2.8 AIS, 50mm f/1.2 AIS, 50mm f/1.4 & 1.8 AIS, 58mm f/1.2 Noct-Nikkor AIS, 105mm f/4.5 UV AIS, 85mm f/1.4 AIS, 105mm f/2.5 AIS.

NIKON F & F2 EQUIPMENT

We are looking for fine examples of the following models: Nikon F bodies with serial numbers commencing 640xxxx, any 66xxxxx, black finish Nikon F cameras with the Nippon Kogaku triangle logo. Early pre AI Nikkor lenses with the focal length marked in centimeters rather than millimetres for example 5cm f/2 Nikkor. Nikon F2SB, Nikon F2AS Photomic bodies.

Please telephone 020-7828 4925 or you can email us at info@graysofwestminster.co.uk for our highest offer.

