Natural History

**11 Lavender Head**

The spittle bug has grown up and left home., This image works really well with the spittle on the bend of the stem, which makes you follow up the stem to the bug then to the flower head nice and sharp and well exposed. The out of focus background works, except for the white patches which are very distracting, you probably could of darkened them down a bit.

**12 Common Blue**

What a lovely image, the butterfly is very sharp right across the lower part of the wings and the antenna this side the left antenna is going to be soft due to the focal plane. You could say the flower heads are too dominant, but I’m happy with this as the part of flower the insect is stood on is sharp, great background colour with no distractions.

**13 Small Tortoiseshell**

If you ever want your butterflies sharp all over this is how you do it, I am certain it is resting on a flower head but you could visualise it to be flying it’s almost like a 3D image due to the out of focus background. It has been taken placed on the bottom third given it space to fly into. Exposure is spot on.

**14 Beautiful Demoiselle**

I like the idea of cropping the image with a little part of the distance background showing. The angle of the demoiselle is pleasing, the shadows gives the image depth. The white line down the leaf is a little distracting but nothing can be done about it. It feels to me that it isn’t fully sharp on the head which is a same.

**15 Risky**

At a first glance I couldn’t see where the risk was then you instantly see the eye and mouth of a big fish and yes that is very risky. It looks like this has been taken on a very bright day, I like the way you have shown the background very slightly out of focus the damselflies are sharp, I guess they would be moving with the motion of the river. I do think you could darken the fish a bit as it does take your eye away for the damselflies.

**16 Cockchafers head**

Wow that is close, what a great macro shot you could count all the individual hairs, the narrow depth of field (which is what you get with a macro lens) works really well. I wondered about the tight crop with the legs going out of frame, but after studying it I think it does work as both sides are nearly symetrical. Look at those eyes staring at the photographer. You would think these would eat small insects but no they chew on flowers and leaves.

**17 Large White Nectaring**

Another very good shot of a butterfly this time it is doing what butterfly’s do drinking nectar; again it is nice and sharp, lovely soft background the important part of the flower is sharp. If you look on the left of the plant where there is a cobweb you will see a greenfly, Exposure is perfect.

**18 Early Morning Fox**

This image has got potential, when you first look at it your eye is drawn to the brightest part the dead tree then across the bushes and then down to the reflection you actually miss the fox due to its size in the image.

I would crop it just below the tree branches then the main feature is the fox, you are able to see what is behind him in the reflection, It is sharp and exposed well. Well seen.

**19 Kestrel with Prey 2**

What a great capture, I have seen instances like this but I’m not quick enough to capture it. The talons are wrapped around the animals neck holding tightly. Love the soft mottled sky it just gives a very faint bit of detail in the background. Beautifully sharp image and exposed well.

**20 What you Looking at**

These birds are so graceful when hovering above you, I could spend hours just watching Kestrels, a deeper blue sky and no distracting clouds. I like the bit of sunlight captured on the face and front part of body, nice and sharp and well exposed another great shot.

**21 Sea Anemone**

A bit of underwater photography or looking into a pool either way you have captured the wonderful colours and movement of the anemone collecting its food. I think you might of used a flash but that does not detract from the image at all again nice and sharp and exposure has been handled well.