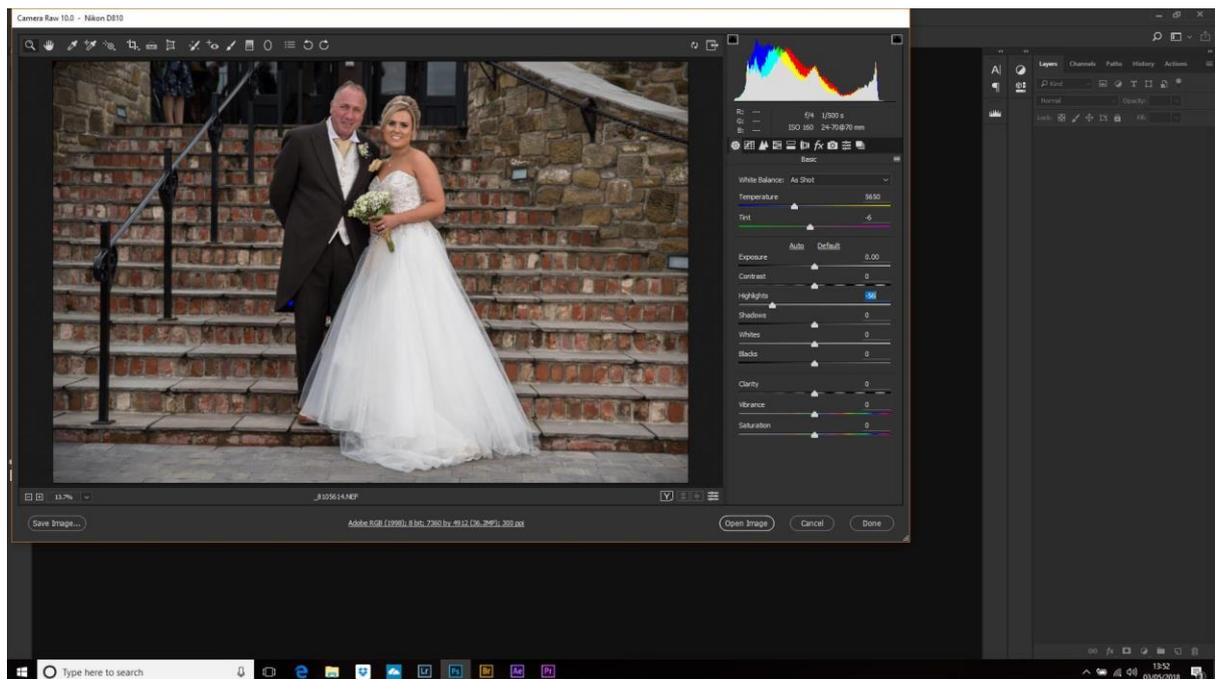


Recovering Highlights

Wedding photography is one of the hardest types of photography due to time pressures and the fact that usually the bride will wear a white dress and the groom will wear something dark making exposures tricky. It is very easy to over expose the dress and lose all the detail.

This handout shows a little trick to recover the details, but it relies on the start image not being completely 'blown out.'

Again, shooting in RAW will give the highest dynamic range (detail in darks and lights) and hence the best chance of getting those all important details.

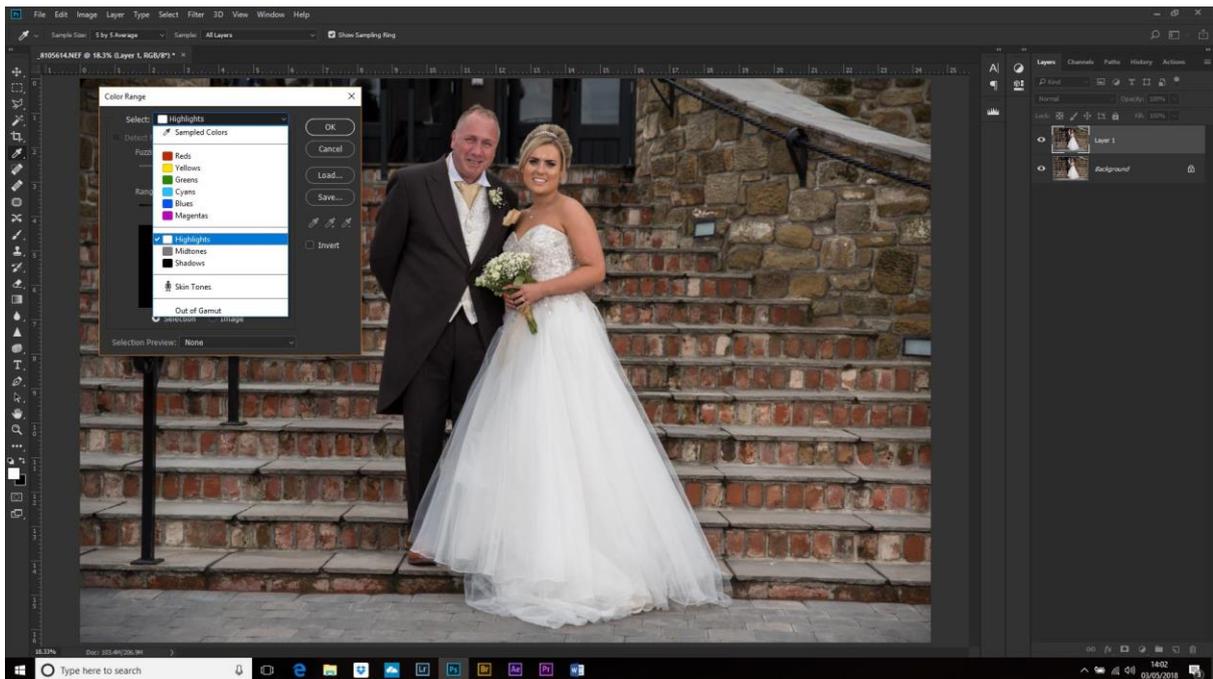


Open your image in Adobe Camera RAW and move the Highlights slider to the left. This will recover most of the detail. This may be good enough to use if you are lucky!

Otherwise, bring your image into Photoshop.

Make a copy of the background layer (Ctrl+J).

Select>Color Range and choose Highlights from the dropdown. OK.



Take this selection onto a new layer (Cntl+J) and change the blending mode to Multiply. You can reduce the opacity of the layer to suit.

Add a mask and paint with black any parts you don't want to darken (tiara, teeth etc.)

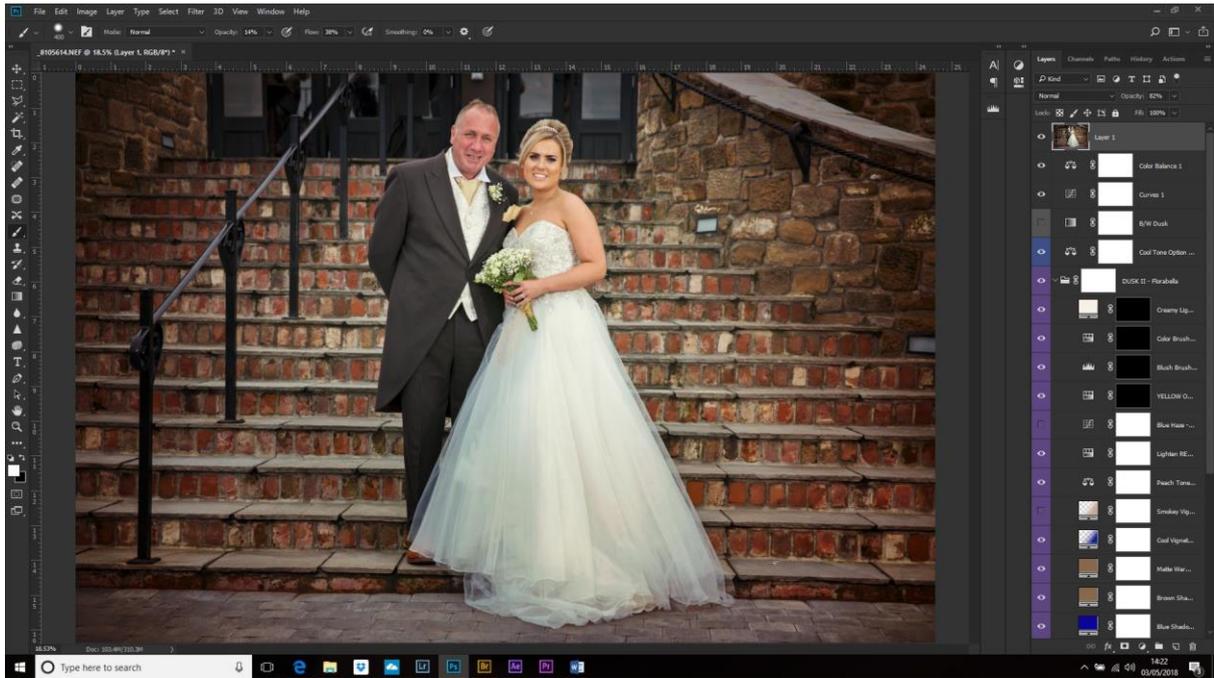
Now for those annoying legs!! We showed last night that using the content aware fill was a bit rubbish on this occasion. Here is a better method.

I made a stamp layer (Cntl+Shift+Alt+E) which brings all the layers together into one layer – make sure this is at the top of the layers stack.

I then made a selection of the door at the top of the stairs on the right-hand side using the rectangular marquee tool, feathered this by 2 px and took it onto its own layer (Cntl+J).

Edit>Transform>Flip Horizontal. Select the move tool and move it into position over the offending legs! Use the arrow keys to get this aligned perfectly.

Lastly, I finished by adding a Florabella preset (tutorials to follow!) then altered this with a Colour Balance and a Curves adjustment layer followed by a vignette using the RAW filter.



NB. I would further adjust the skin tones prior to giving them to the client.

Done!