



Wodonga / Albury Camera Club

Meeting Date:	May 13th, 2019	Print Secretary Brian Paatsch 02 6025 2117 brianian@dragnet.com.au
Judge:	Graham Anderson	
Subject:	Nature	

Colour Prints – Section 'B' (Red Dot)

1	37	Hiding	9	pts	Place	
A good attempt to capture this honeyeater, however image is overexposed and thus bird is lost completely in the foliage. Exposure has also resulted in the grevillea flowers being blown out and detail lost.						
2	79	Spotted Quoll	11	pts	Place	
I wonder where tis quoll was photographed. As the species is endangered or vulnerable, and are nocturnal, I would be surprised if this was not photographed in a wildlife park, which would disqualify the image normally from a nature competition. Exposure of the quoll is satisfactory; however the background is now overexposed and becomes distracting. The eyes also are a little soft.						
3	116	Scent Sentry	12	pts	Place	
Well exposed and sharp image of this subject. Suggest adding a light vignette would assist in focussing attention on your focal point.						
4	117	Evening Sky	13	pts	Place	2nd Place
A lovely landscape image with warm soft lighting. Layers of the hills does help add some depth to this image.						
5	120	Preening and Cleaning	14	pts	Place	1st Place
Hopefully shot in their natural environment. Good sharp image of the monkeys with some pleasant flat lighting illuminating the right-hand monkey. Nicely captured.						
6	173	Below the Falls	12	pts	Place	Merit
Pleasant landscape with the view up the creek. The lighting at the top of the image is in sunlight, and thus being lighter, does drag your attention to the top of the image rather than through the image. I would suggest shooting from a lower position, and creek would probably lead you better through the image. It is however a pleasant composition and photo.						
7	175	Ghost Gum	11	pts	Place	
Very busy picture that includes the snow gum amongst all the surrounding trees with flat lighting. I think the 2 black tree trunks in front of the snow gum have become the focal point of your image. Was there a different viewpoint available to you? The snow gum, your attempted focal point is also a little soft here.						
8	179	Cactus Island No. 8 is titled Snow Gums, Falls Creek	12	pts	Place	Merit
Pleasant landscape in flat overcast lighting, which sucks much of the life out from this image. Would suggest converting to monochrome with some good contrast adjustments.						
9	189	I'll Bee Around	11	pts	Place	
Whilst the bee is relatively sharp and well exposed, it does get lost in the frame with all of those flower elements present. There are also several distractions, along the RHS, and bottom let, which draw the viewer's attention away from your focal point. A difficult image to have attempted.						
10	54	Bark	9	pts	Place	
Shot in the middle of the day and thus image lack any real strength, colour, or life, and lacks a clear focal point. Probably need to re shoot this at a time of the day with better light, or reprocess differently in software to help make a more effective image,						
11	4	Explosive	11	pts	Place	
Image contains humans and thus acceptance is questionable as human form is not permitted in APS and APJA definitions. However, image itself has been photographed in overcast conditions with flat lighting, and thus needs some vibrance and contrast to strengthen the image.						

Colour Prints – Section 'A' (Yellow Dot)

1	68	Just Looking Around	15	pts	Place	1st Place
Excellent image of this robin? Lovely lighting onto focal point, sharp, and with a catchlight in the eye. Good work.						



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2	78	Busy Bee	12	pts	Place	
One of the better bee photos I have seen. Well exposed, and head of the bee is relatively sharp. Rotating the image 90 degrees clockwise alters the perspective, and I this improves the image. Although the colours of the flower are a little distracting, the work capturing bee is to be admired,						
3	81	Crimson Rosella Hybrid	14	pts	Place	Merit
Lovely photo of the Rosella with good clear background and pleasant soft lighting. Unfortunately, the eyes of the Rosella are a little soft. Good attempt at this image.						
4	1	Red Wattlebird	15	pts	Place	2nd Place
Excellent image of this wattlebird. It is sharp around the eyes and head, and is exposed well. In this image, I do find that the bright areas in the background detract from the image.						
5	10	Last Drinks Before the Storm	13	pts	Place	
Lovely soft lit image with a difficult exposure well handled. Would like to see a little more vibrancy and contrast just to strengthen the image.						
6	12	My Babees	10	pts	Place	
Apart from the image being a little too dark, it appears that bees are all soft. With no clear focal point in the image, the viewer of the image has nowhere for their vision to rest.						
7	113	Red-necked Avocets	13	pts	Place	
Nicely exposed and composed image of the Avocets. Simple non distracting background results in there being a clear focal point.						
8	119	Meandering Along	13	pts	Place	
Well exposed image with flat lighting and warm tones in the natural environment. Required sharpness is present however the image probably needs a little more contrast in order to make bull deer stand out a little more in the image.						
9	129	Fishunter	11	pts	Place	
Image is probably a little overexposed, which results in some loss of detail in the white feather area of the Egret. The angle of view and lighting available does result in a very distracting reflective background. Sharpness of the head and eye is well handled.						
10	1467	Desert Dragon	12	pts	Place	
Well caught image of this dragon with eyes being sharp enough, however the lighting used has resulted in a messy distracting background. Not being aware of the shooting scenario, it would have been preferable to shoot this from a lower viewpoint.						
11	148	White Throated Kingfisher	14	pts	Place	Merit
Lovely sharp well-lit image with a clean non distracting background. Good level of sharpness and exposure well handled. I would suggest just burning in (<i>darkening</i>) the post the Kingfisher is sitting on.						
12	161	Fringed Lily and Pollinator	11	pts	Place	
The lighting on the fringed lily has resulted in a very distracting background which takes your vision away from the bee. In addition, the tree branch in the top right corner of the image is also quite distracting. The position of the bee therefor makes it hard to discern within the image.						
13	163	Iridescence on White	11	pts	Place	
Difficult here to establish the clear focal point in this image as the yellow stamen area of the flower dominates this image. This is a difficult image to get the ideal exposure due to big spread of tones through the image. This difficulty has led to loss of detail in the white petals, and the beetle, although being a little soft, forms only a minor part of the image.						
14	168	Rest	13	pts	Place	Merit
Pleasant picture of a resting walrus. Use of narrow depth of field has resulted in a soft and non-distracting background. I would consider just lightening the head of the walrus by just a very small amount to improve its visibility. Sharpness of the head and eye are good for this image.						
15	43	Homeward Bound	13	pts	Place	
Good attempt at capturing an image of this flying fox. Good exposure with good detail and sharpness held in this image.						



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Monochrome Prints							
1	1	Flying Kite	15	pts	Place	1st Place	
Excellent image of the Kite is good light and well exposed. A high level of sharpness throughout the image is a result of the photographer's good work.							
2	146	Big Red	13	pts	Place	Merit	
A backlit photograph has rim lit the kangaroo, and helped demonstrate its environment in the background in a not distracting way. Exposure, detail, and sharpness has been well controlled.							
3	10	Wax Lip	11	pts	Place		
Nicely exposed image although maybe about a half stop over exposed which has limited the details of the petals. Flower is also a little soft in this instance.							
4	12	Down the Lane	13	pts	Place	Merit	
Nicely composed image which leads the eye through the image and provide great depth. The brightness in the background on LHS and RHS are a little distracting, but have been well held here.							
5	37	View Before the Fall	14	pts	Place	Merit	
This landscape image has a bit of a muddy appearance which probably is due to the processing of the image. A bit more contrast, especially with the sky, would aid the image by giving it a little more drama. With a little more processing work, this image has some good potential.							
6	68	Double Trouble	11	pts	Place		
Difficult lighting has led to an exposure whereby a lot of the white feathers on each pelican has lost some detail, and the background is quite distracting. We have also lost the feet of the closest pelican and the visible eye of each bird appears to be a little soft.							
7	78	Alpine Stream	12	pts	Place		
Pleasant landscape image with what appears to be flat lighting							
8	81	Slender Ringtail Damselfly	13	pts	Place	Merit	
Well captured damselfly with clear non distracting background. Good attempt to getting sharp eyes, and with a lighting available. The wings are nicely highlighted.							
9	113	Wombat	12	pts	Place		
Was this shot in the wild, or in a wildlife park?? Nicely exposed and sharpness is good.							
10	116	On the Move	11	pts	Place		
Well exposed difficult image to capture well. Eyes are a little soft, I would suggest a light vignette just to help focus attention onto the echidna.							
11	119	May I have this Kiss	12	pts	Place		
I don't mind the different composition with this image as it presents your focal point, the 2 sea lions in their environment. Maybe a little soft and the overbright areas do detract a little with your overall image.							
12	120	Craggy Norwegian Mountains	11	pts	Place		
Pleasant sepia toned landscape. Flat overcast lighting has left with a scene which really needs some different processing to give this image some life. Have a look at Peter Eastwat's website (or www.betterphotography.com) and read his notes with regard his processing of images to get printed scene to have the same feeling that you saw at the time.							
13	129	Mobil Home	12	pts	Place		
Well exposed picture of this tortoise with good detail in the shell and feet, however, the eye of the tortoise is a little soft. You just need to watch your aperture and shutter speed, even with an animal they move as slow as these do,							
14	148	The Perfect Pair	14	pts	Place	Merit	
Well executed photo of these pelicans with good lighting and detail held in feathers. Birds are sharp and sit nicely in the frame. I would consider cropping some off the bottom of the photo which would help ensure the pelicans remain the focal point of your photo.							
15	161	The Thaw	14	pts	Place	2nd Place	
Excellent landscape scene in an alpine area. This composition works as the layer of mountains provide good depth to the image. Good range of tones from black through to white.							
16	168	Family	13	pts	Place		
Good shot of advancing herd of elephants, however it is a little soft where sharpness is needed – the eyes especially. Would suggest adding a little more contrast to the scene to strengthen your shot.							



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17	173	Swift Water	11	pts	Place	
Pleasant scene of a river flowing through rocks, with good sharpness, however I think a lower viewing point may have resulted in a scene with more depth and feeling.						
18	175	Whale Rock	12	pts	Place	
Bland and featureless sky drags attention away from the largest rock, which is your focal point. As you cannot replace skies in this nature category, I would suggest doing a sky swap and entering the image into an open competition.						
19	179	Silver Thatch Palm, Barbados	10	pts	Place	
We have competing elements here to be the focal point of this image – the top of the palm tree, or its fruit, so the viewer doesn't know where to look. In addition, the very light portions of plant and sky also work to draw attention away from your probable focal point of the image. For something like this to work as a competition image, it is preferable to simplify your composition.						
20	189	Time for a Cuddle	10	pts	Place	
The variation in tone here from the very light to the shadows on the koala, results in the viewer being drawn away from your focal point, the koala, to the brightest parts of the image. A more even light will result in much more pleasurable image.						
21	43	A Little Black Duck	11	pts	Place	
Pleasant photo which is sharp, however with the background of the photo being of similar tones, your focal point, the duck fails to stand out. We really need a different setting to make this work competitively.						

EDIB Competition

1	36	I See You	12	pts	Place	
White balance has been set to cloudy which has resulted in the image being too warm and resulting in the dragon being coloured wrong. The dragon has been well caught and appears to be sharp. I do however find the white background behind the dragon is a bit distracting.						
2	37	Ouch	10	pts	Place	
This image of fungi is overexposed and thus there is quite a bit of loss of detail in the image. A smaller aperture, say F 11 or 16, might well have provided a sharper image as this one appears to be a little soft. Flat lighting also results in a loss of depth to the image and some off-camera lighting would have added some strength to the image.						
3	79	Kimberly Pool	11	pts	Place	
There are several bright sunny patches in the image that grab your attention and take you away from viewing the waterfall and pool. In addition, there are a number of instances, notably along the bottom and upper RHS whereby fronds are shown and are visual distractions as well. The time of day when the image shot results in quite harsh lighting.						
4	86	Fun Guys	13	pts	Place	2nd Place
Comments: Pleasant image with lighting flat and non-directional. A couple of instances where parts of fungi at edge of image are a little distracting. Appears to be sharp at front of image with focus drop off visible due to depth of field from aperture used.						
5	116	On a Log	12	pts	Place	
Again, difficult lighting (due to the time of the day when shot) does not help the overall appearance of your image. We do need the eye of the turtle to be sharp, but here it is a little soft, probably due to the lens focal length (720mm) with a shutter speed of 1/125 sec.						
6	117	Stark Beauty	11	pts	Place	
I would suggest that this image probably does not meet the criteria for a nature image, as the pathway is a major part of the image and is manmade, however the club has agreed to the acceptance of the image. The overcast lighting results in a relatively flat and lifeless image. I would suggest converting to a monochrome image with some additional contrast might lead to a much stronger image.						



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7	120	Eating My Way to a Butterfly	12	pts	Place	Merit
Was this leaf on a tree that had grown naturally without any human assistance? From the image title, you may want the caterpillar to be your focal point, however it forms a very small and incidental portion of your image. Whilst I applaud your attempts to capture the caterpillar; we miss what you were aiming for.						
8	173	Busy Bee	10	pts	Place	
Unfortunately, here, the whole image is quite soft (<i>out of focus</i>). Bees are always difficult to shoot and have your bee, the focal point of the image, sharp. You have also encountered difficult lighting which does not help you. Also, watch out for distractions at the edge of the frame.						
9	175	Early Light	14	pts	Place	1st Place
Early shot image has very pleasant and warm lighting with silhouettes having a marked impact on the overall image. I also wonder what the image could have been if shot from a lower viewpoint.						
10	176	All Bow Before the Sun	12	pts	Place	
Pleasant sunrise image with warm lighting in the distant part of the image, however the difficult is that all else in the image is in shadow and we lose the depth to the image. If shot at F22 aperture, you might also have a greater star effect with the rising sun. I would love to have seen the image about 2 minutes late as I suspect it might have been more dramatic. This was a good attempt at the difficult job of balancing your exposure.						
11	179	Flycatcher	12	pts	Place	
Comments: The available lighting here has let this image down as bird is in shadow and thus not shown at its best. At the lens focal length uses (792mm) and with a shutter speed of 1/160 sec, I suspect that the sharpness of the bird is lacking when projected.						
12	187	Warts and All	9	pts	Place	
Lighting available for this image has resulted in many highlights being blown out with no detail available. These bright areas attract attention and there does not appear to be any real focal point in this image to take your attention.						
13	189	Two Sets of Wings	12	pts	Place	Merit
Unfortunately, sharpness of the eye area of the bird is left wanting. A long focal length (<i>effective 600mm</i>) and a shutter speed of 1/125 sec give a good indication of the cause. Placement of the bird in the frame has resulted in a large amount of distracting "whiteness" along the right-hand side of the image.						

EDIA Competition

1	1	In the Dying Light	14	pts	Place	Merit
Lovely image of the Major Mitchells in some flat lighting which does not detract in this image. Good use of depth of field illustrates getting some depth in the image. A couple of small white areas to the rear and at the base of the tree stump are a little distracting.						
2	10	Ghosts in the Forest	14	pts	Place	2nd Place
Lovely fungi image using long exposure and what appears to be natural light. Well exposed and lovely composition. Clear focal point and distraction free. Excellent image.						
3	12	Afternoon Light	11	pts	Place	
Lovely landscape image with good warm light. Would consider cropping off the top 1/3 of the image to help push all attention to the main body of the image. Some different image processing could be used to intensify the drama in the image.						
4	68	Pink Tailed Goanna	11	pts	Place	
Goanna is lost to the viewer in the image due of course to its own camouflage, hence some off-camera lighting could be used in an attempt to make the goanna stand out in this image. Also, the bright area to the RHS in this image are distracting and draw your attention away from what should be your focal point. This is a difficult subject to achieve well what you want.						
5	78	Lunch	10	pts	Place	
The beetle in this image is unfortunately out of focus, especially in the head area which we need to be sharp. The whites to the top right of the image are distracting and draw attention away from the beetle. I think the shutter speed of 1/15 sec is probably too slow for this image.						



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6	81	Chilean Flamingo	12	pts	Place	
Lovely warm lighting and a moment well caught. The eye area of the flamingo is soft and there is some loss of detail in the feathers on head and neck. I suspect a faster shutter speed would have helped the sharpness and the lens is probably a little soft wide open at F6.3. A good moment well caught otherwise.						
7	113	Gang Gang Cockatoo	15	pts	Place	1st Place
Lovely image of the Gang Gang, with bird nicely framed by foliage. Lovely lighting and a good sharp eye help make this a lovely well caught image. Well done.						
8	119	Still Finding My Way	13	pts	Place	
I am wondering whether the plant shown in this image (<i>and forms a major part of this image</i>) is in the wild, or whether it a grown and cultivated by humans, which would disqualify the image. However, the club has detailed that images have been accepted. The bird here is sharp, well exposed, with a nice little catchlight in the eye, and has been photographed well.						
9	129	On Guard	12	pts	Place	
Nicely taken shot of squirrel? With lovely rear lighting. Composition is OK although I would have liked a little more room of LHS. Just watch out for distractions at edge of frame such as grasses at bottom left.						
10	146	Golden Arch	12	pts	Place	
Lovely sunset image. I would suggest cropping some off the top and a little of LHS to put more weight onto the rock structure.						
11	148	Tiny Dragonfly	14	pts	Place	Merit
Well caught image of the dragonfly, and whilst not pin sharp, will be sharp enough for viewing. Aperture of F8 provides a good level of depth of field, especially with a background without distractions as in here. Good work here.						
12	161	Across the Peaks	14	pts	Place	Merit
Lovely late afternoon light, and the composition shows good depth as there are many layers to the photo to take you from front to back.						
13	168	Hello	11	pts	Place	
I don't mind the composition with the negative space of the RHS of the image, but I would have preferred the head to be a little higher in the frame. Flat lighting results in a less dynamic image. The image is a little soft and there some loss of detail in the white feather of the head. Shot at F2.8 results in a very narrow depth of field, so I believe F4 or even F5.6 would have resulted in a sharper image.						
14	43	Coastal Rock Syncline	11	pts	Place	
Flat lighting here does not assist your image and I suspect that sharpness in the overall image is a bit lacking. We need an aperture here which provides a greater depth of field and different image processing could make this image stronger.						