

# JUDGES REPORT

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**OPEN – August 2019**

**Judge: Cheryl Robertson**  
**Townsville**

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
A		Boy in Lighthouse	A fun and interesting image nicely captured. I think it could stand a little cropping to place the face at the intersection of vertical and horizontal thirds, which would make the composition stronger.	8
A		Outback Riverbank	Lovely colours in this image. A limited palette is usually very effective in creating impact. I am wondering if this was taken from a moving boat? It is hard to find where the camera was actually focused, which distracts the eye.	6.5
A		Do Not Disturb	A nice image, nicely composed. However again, I find myself wondering why such a high ISO(800) and such a fast shutter speed for a still subject. More DoF than f/8 would have made the image more pleasing with sharper focus across the whole scene. Some subtle PP could have sharpened the area of fur, and added a little contrast to make the sleepyhead more imposing in the frame.	7
A		You Cannot See Me	These chappies are always so photogenic! Never tire of them as a subject, but this one could have looked much better with a shallower DoF to blur the background and make the bird out more.	7
A		African Beauty	Interesting treatment of a lovely face. No metadata but the eye could have done with slightly sharper focus.	7
A		Desert Rose	Competent capture of a pretty flower, although the white background is a little stark for my taste.	7
A		Boots Made for Walking	Definitely made for walking although they look as though they haven't done any yet. Nicely lit and posed.	7
A		4 <sup>th</sup> July Glacier Calving	Quite a nice capture of an interesting scene, but quite spoiled by needing a WB adjustment. Even if the camera has not been set for the correct WB, this is easily remedied in LR or similar software, especially if shot in RAW. If shooting only jpegs, it is important to set WB in camera.	5.5
A		Lilac Crested Roller	Lovely bird, nicely captured.	7.5
A		Tranquility	An overall pleasing image, with a good DoF and pleasing composition. A pity there wasn't someone with a red hat or shirt just at the point the stream 'ends' but not always possible to arrange. 😊	8

<b>A</b>		Looking and Hoping	A very pleasing scene. Ordinarily it might seem a little busy, but the repetitive vertical lines, cut through by the bridge give the composition some strength. Well captured. The figure is a little small in the overall scene to convey the story inferred by the title, with enough emphasis.	7
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**IMAGE OF THE MONTH**  
(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
<b>A</b>		Boy in a Lighthouse	This image has a slight edge over the other '8' because the photographer has spotted the potential for something out of the ordinary and has a little story to tell. <b>(Elsbeth Twyman)</b>

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
<b>AB</b>		Proud As.....	Nicely composed, and the limited palette is restful and pleasing to the eye. Most photos of peacocks are straight on, so this stands out from those.	7
<b>AB</b>		Sunday Lunch	Poor little bee. Not easy to spot or capture. A little soft where the action is happening.	6
<b>AB</b>		Carpark Reflections	Someone who likes to see things differently!	7
<b>AB</b>		Danger!	Another different view. A slight crop from the bottom could improve the composition.	7.5
<b>AB</b>		Deepest Sympathies	A lovely rose but needing the centre to be a little sharper to give it better impact, contrasting it with the velvety outer petals.	6.5
<b>AB</b>		Peek a Boo	A very good candid capture of another little creature than can move fast. The natural lighting has worked well and I suspect there was a reflector or at least something reflective to help put soft light on her face. The features are perfectly exposed and the eyes sharp.	8.5
<b>AB</b>		Tranquility	Not sure I find this scene tranquil, but it is very attractive and reminds me of locks near Hebden and Todmorden. This has been taken at ISO 50, aperture f/2.4 and a shutter speed of 1/1408s. This suggests to me that it was a fully auto capture, a phone perhaps, because this scene in this good light, with no fast action, would have been better taken with an aperture around f/11, and a shutter around 1/80s. However much a manual camera capture could have been better, this image is nevertheless a very nice one.	7.5
<b>AB</b>		Where did I Leave the Kids	Lovely capture of a lovely bird. Focus around where the action is happening, eye and beak full of fish, could be a little sharper.	7
<b>AB</b>		I'm Looking for Lizards, But Watching You	Well captured Kooka in a great pose looking back over his shoulder like a model. If you can't get one on a branch, the next best thing is an old wooden fence!	8
<b>AB</b>		Natures Fireworks	I recognize the plant. The flowers do resemble a burst of fireworks. Very nicely capture and framed.	7.5
<b>AB</b>		Dinner for One	Gruesome reality of nature extremely well captured. Looks like UK's Great Blue Heron.	8.5

AB		Nuts	Not easy to get these cute little things as they are so fast. Caught in a very nice pose.	7.5
AB		I am Looking at You	I really like the way the photographer has seen the potential in this scene, but I can't score it higher because it is a little overexposed and a little soft. Some PP would help, especially in the sky. This is where multi-segment metering can let you down as well. Spot metering off the soft grey part of the hull would have given a more accurate exposure, or shooting in M, the photographer could have dialed down a stop or increased the shutter speed to get an exposure which does the image justice.	7
AB		Surprise Beauty	A candid capture of flowers hanging in a shadehouse it seems. It is a competent image, but more a record shot than a competition image.	6.5

**IMAGE OF THE MONTH**  
(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
AB		Dinner for One	Very hard to choose because both '8.5's have so much that makes them stand out and both not easy to capture, but the bird just has an edge because there was no second chance with this capture. <b>(Ray Sutton)</b>

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
B		Early Morning in the Centre	Not an easy capture I am guessing, from an aircraft of some sort, but quite an imposing view.	7
B		Abstract of Salt Lake from Helicopter	Very pleasing abstract, nice composition and colours.	7.5
B		Sunrise at Hinchinbrook Island	A beautiful dawn sky, lovely to experience in such a special location. As a competition image however, some PP would have given it more clarity, to do it justice	6.5
B		Hiking at Hinchinbrook Island	A pretty scene that could be improved by some Post Processing, and definitely straighten the horizon. It is not off by much, but it is enough to distract. Easily fixed in software.	6
B		A Mushroom from Below	Macros of mushrooms are not easy to do and underneath is even harder!	6.5
B		Rainbow Bee-Eater	Hard to capture I know because they do move a lot and fast. This is very attractive but lacking feather detail.	6.5
B		Landscape of Iconic Western Movies	Well captured familiar scene from the old Western movies.	7
B		Amazing Canyon Shapes and Colours	Another iconic image, photographed by many, and not easy.	7

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(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
B		Abstract of Salt Lake	Something out of the ordinary is always going to take the eye of the viewer. <b>(Bob Hinds)</b>

