

JUDGES REPORT

2024 September Fauna John Blessas Mackay

Image Title	Comments	Score
Resting in the Light	Simple. Beautiful.	8
Tasty Leaves	Wow. So crisp in capturing the caterpillar's hairs. These itchy protective mechanism tools make good images. You have caught this so well.	8
Dive! Dive! Dive!	Ohh. Really well-timed shot. The water droplets make the image pop.	8
Wistful Gaze	A very relaxed image. The big eyes of the seal almost glow in the light. A slight negative is the similarity of the colour pallet of the seal and the background. Was there a possible different angle? Was there room to go to a shorter focal length and blur the background a little more? A lovely quiet image.	6
Taking a Break from Laughing	Beautiful image. The colours of the bird and the grass are so complimentary. Could lightening the face and eye have given a little more "life" to the image? A really nice shot. (Blue winged kookaburras don't laugh.)	7
Weary Wombat	A simple portrait. The light is not helping here. With the need to bring the image out there has been a loss in resolution. The Image is well composed and it is a good illustration.	6
Kea	Interesting bird portrait. Those feather colours are quiet but very well illustrated. The catchlight in the eye adds to the images appeal.	7
Snake	Simple. Excellent!	7
King of the Savannah	Simple power. No illustration ever gives the real scale of a male lion. Being this close in the wild is literally the only possible way to appreciate their magnificence. Nice shot.	8
Martial Eagle with Guineafowl	Simply wow. Well caught image.	7
Donald Landing at Hastie's Swamp	Different. The colour pallet here is so out of the ordinary. Very interesting shot.	8
Grasshopper Joins Us for Tea	Those things bite. Beautifully caught though. The antenna leads the eye back and forth to and from the grass hopper, always bringing the focus to its face. Well done.	7
Off to the Galah-pagos	Sometimes an image that is just "average" has something that pops it. The light here really lifts this image above the average bird shot.	9
You Talking to Me Punk	Another lovely emu portrait.	7
Is That Right!	Quirky and effective.	7

Surprised	Simple Australian furry friend portrait. Very nicely composed and a good illustrative image.	6
Are Two Heads Better Than One	Nice image. In its context it really illustrates how something so big and boldly marked can blend into the landscape. Well shot.	6
Who Is a Little Devil	Nice shot. Did you try from different angles? The animal isn't really well illustrated and perhaps a different angle and/or height may have given a stronger image.	6
Wedgetail Eagle at Sunset	The light is so effective here. The juvenile coloring pops out against the sky, showing the majesty it will grow to.	7
What a Cutie	The title rules the feel of the image. A wonderful portrait.	7
Green Python	These are cute. So hard to see in the wild. This is a very good illustrative shot that could be used for brochures or book illustrations. Excellent.	8
Looking Right Back at You	Size. The bulk and power are well illustrated here. An interesting side note is the willie wagtail. Nice shot.	7
Grazing Rhino	Captured power! (The mono treatment really lifts the image.)	9
Lost in Thought	Very contemplative. Would lightening the eyes have brought more life to the image? (Try using MCPs free "Touch of Lightness, Touch of Darkness). Good image.	8
Galah	Simple colour. This is well framed and the light pops the image.	7
Learning the Ropes	Beautiful. Mom and the kid in a wonderful portrait.	8
At the Watering Hole	Another good travel image. The amount of water the animals need in a dry landscape is incredible. A good shot.	6
Kudu Bucks	Nice soft light. Possibly running the image through an aftermarket sharpening program may bring out a little more in the image.	6
I Am Resting	Wow. The feel of power. These are the most spectacular of the big cats in Africa. You have a brilliant portrait here.	8
In Love	A really wow shot. The bond shows and the really good light on the cats helps. Possibly a little less processing may have given as strong an image without some of the harsh cutoffs. Good pair.	6
Relaxing After Zebra	Beautiful shot. The power is evident, but also the simple knowledge that it is the top carnivore here and now. Nicely composed image.	8
The King Has Eaten	Simply wow, right down to the flies.	9

Image of the Month

Image Title	Reason for Placing
Grazing Rhino	The simple but majestic portrait has an incredible feel and is simply a marvelous image. (Marcia Bacon)