

Feedback for Gladstone Camera Club

25 October 2019

From Fran McFadzen QPSA PSQA

Criteria provided: Images can be colour or mono.

OPEN

NO	TITLE	FEEDBACK	AWARD
1	Greyballs	<p>The golden colour gives the image a feeling of warmth and power. Good focus shows us the dirt kicking up from the wheels, and the low point of view works well. You have handled the speed of the bike hurtling directly towards you well.</p> <p>To improve your image, think about cropping to remove up to and including the stick on the right side. This will also move your subject out of the middle of the picture.</p>	Highly commended
2	Let the show begin	<p>The swirling canopy of flying embers has made a beautiful almost abstract design. Your camera settings were good, capturing both a correct exposure and long enough time to catch the bouncing action. I also like the close crop which places the viewer right into the image.</p> <p>For improvement, try tilting further in postproduction to increase the diagonal of the top of the swirling. Pleasing compositions seem to come more from diagonals than from level subjects where there are no strong verticals or horizontals to make a diagonal tilt look wrong.</p>	Highly Commended
3	Miss-Jade	<p>Wonderful image, well managed technically. There is a story here written in the intriguing tilt of the model's head and the sulky expression on her face. And the image has lots of impact which I find in the moody sunset sky and the minimal lighting of the subject. Composition is strong with the model on the right and lots of looking room on the left. And the harmonious but brooding tones of the overall image with its repetition of the dark red of her lips, her frock and her brazier has produced an outstanding result. No improvement possible.</p>	Honour
4	O Desert Colour	<p>Uluru is very recognizable, even in silhouette, so we assume rather than see that there is desert colour present. (That title might be a little misleading, or I might be overinterpreting.)</p> <p>The sky, empty of cloud makes a great contrast to the looming presence of the rock. Good composition, with the horizon low to emphasise the clarity and emptiness of that sky. I like the position and inclusion of the last rays of the sun. It adds interest to the scene. Well seen.</p>	Merit
5	O Field of Lights	<p>I think this is also near Uluru? The tangle of wiring in the foreground is interesting, and makes for a pleasant composition with action in the foreground and midground. You have handled the night time exposure well, and the overall result is very attractive.</p> <p>For improvement, just perhaps a tighter crop top and bottom where there is not much happening.</p>	Highly Commended
6	O-Hidden Gold	<p>The brightness of the golden glow around the cloud draws attention first, then the eye roves across the line of boats in the marina, then on down to the reflections of the clouds and the shiny reflections on the water. I like that you have placed the line of boats high in your image; it is detailed and busy there, but the closer parts of the water are still and restful by</p>	Highly Commended

		comparison. The warm colours are harmonious. An altogether agreeable image. No suggestions for improvement.	
7	O-Inviting	This study of light and shade from outside a restaurant is attractive. I like the repetition of the windows and the perspective in their diminishing size. Good camera settings for exposure and depth of field. No suggestions for improvement.	Highly Commended
8	Open – Crossing to the Stars 3	You have done very well to capture this Milky Way shot. I think your composition is good with the road vanishing off into the distance and the dark pines marching down the slope on the right. It is quite suggestive as well as atmospheric. To develop your image – perhaps see if you can get some of the brownishness out of the sky. There are a lot of post processing starscape instructions available on the internet to try.	Merit
9	Open – Forest Kingfisher	Great effort on a challenging capture. The bird is almost silhouetted against the very bright background giving conflicting exposure issues, and the bird is flying at quite a bit of speed. Well done with your camera settings. To improve your image, you will need post production software. If you have Lightroom, Highlight slider down (minus) and Shadow slider up (plus). Go into the colour section, choose the yellow slider and reduce the saturation – that will make the blues of the bird pop out and the yellow muted and less overpowering.	Merit
10	Open – Bee1	Wow, you did get up close and personal with this bee. She has good detail present, but the lighting is working against you, as it is on the side away from the camera. Composition is good and colour is pleasant. For improvement, some post production dodging on this side of the bee might help, and as always – it is nicer to see a face or head when you are shooting a critter.	Highly Commended
11	Open - Bee2	Same type of flowers – different bee, same photographer I assume. This image is much better than your Bee1. There is a lot more light falling onto the bee, so your depth of field is wider, making your focus better. More of the bee's head is visible too. The strong diagonal of the stem also adds to the quality of your composition. Well done.	Merit
12	Open – Azure Kingfisher	Excellent separation of the subject from its background, the sharpness of the kingfisher really jumps it out of the image. I love that you can see the bird has been in the water and still has droplets on its breast. Lovely work. One tiny suggestion – the feathers of the tail look a little oversharpened to me.	Merit
13	Open – Towering over the city	The warm late afternoon sun on these buildings really has pulled out the detail. The sharpness is breathtaking. I love that there are birds in the sky as well as the roseate clouds. There could be a little more water and a little less cloud, compositionwise, but that is really inconsequential – it is a fine image nevertheless.	Honour
14	smell the sunshine	The colour is pleasant, the composition with the offset iris is good. The depth of field has dropped out your background well. To improve your image, I would prefer a wider depth of field so that all of the flower is sharp. At the moment the petal edges are sharp, but your flower centre is not, and that is a bit distracting.	Highly commended