

Open Theme

Image Title	Judge Comment	Result
Feeding Time	A lovely study of this black cockatoo caught eating the fruits of the tree. Nicely framed but the bird's head is just a little soft and detail on the wing has been lost – perhaps you have cropped in quite a lot. I would also raise the shadows a little so that we can see more detail in the dark feathers.	Highly commended
Whoops	This looks like the other end of the same bird. Not such a good story here but the tail feathers are interesting. Again the image is a little soft and I would tone down the highlights and raise the shadows a little.	Acceptance
Carmine Bee-eaters	What a lovely bird and a bit different to the bee-eaters found in this part of the world. I would suggest straightening the image so that the ground is level which would look better and perhaps crop a little off the bottom. I would also add some white to make those colours pop a little more.	Merit
Hiding in the clouds	This must have been a very impressive mountain range without the clouds and we still get just a glimpse of the craggy peaks. The large expanse of trees in the foreground rather dominates the image though – perhaps you could crop most of that away and make it a panorama. Good exposure with a wide range of tones.	Acceptance
Busy Bee	Bees make wonderful subjects and you have done well to get his eye and face sharp. It is a shame that there is not more in focus – you can afford to have a smaller aperture with a telephoto lens and still keep the background blurred. I would perhaps tone down the yellow a little as it is tending to overwhelm the bee.	Highly commended
Fireworks	Great shot of the fireworks, looking a bit windblown. The composition works very well with the masts balancing the fireworks and the boats providing a base. The marina in the foreground provides plenty of interest. Exposure is excellent and everything is sharp, with nice little starbursts along the boats.	Honour
Mine Relics	An interesting site with lots of different mine parts, not to mention the damaged hillside. As a competition photo though it looks a bit messy. The chimney is the centre of attention – perhaps you could have focused on that. Be	Acceptance

