



Wodonga/Albury & Benalla Camera Clubs

The Paatsch Shield Challenge 2019



| Meeting Date: | | 31 st August 2019 | | | Host Club's Contact Details Sylvia Baumgarten 0419036954 | | |
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| Judge: | | Vicki Moritz | | | | | |
| Subject: | | The Importance of Water to Our Community | | | | | |
| 1 | Cath Duncombe | Cormorant | pts | 13 | Place | Merit | |
| Classic image of the cormorant drying its wings- good focus and the sun on the bird helps to lift it from the background. A small crop from the RHS would make the bird head shaped piece of wood more obvious. Consider a mono conversion. | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Debbie Shepherd | On the Land | pts | 14 | Place | 2 nd Place | |
| Yes, stock need water. I enjoyed the warm tones of this image, layering of subject matter and the pano format. There is a lot to look at in this image. Try a crop of the LHS leaving the 3 cattle to left of the middle tree to better balance the 2 dominant trees in the frame. | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Cath Duncombe | Looney | pts | 11 | Place | | |
| The subject matter is sharp and the story clear, but this image was held back by the amount of distracting detail in the background. A crop from the top would remove some of this. | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Jan Paatsch | Feeding The Birds | pts | 13 | Place | Merit | |
| This met the brief very well and demonstrated the enjoyment a body of water can bring to people of all levels of fitness. I enjoyed the mix of birds and the small touches of colour on the scooter and the feet of the birds. | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Fritz Suendermann | Trio of Pelicans | pts | 10 | Place | | |
| The placement and expression of the pelican on the RHS work well. The pelican on the LHS is looking away and could be cropped to give a stronger story. When shooting bodies of water in the sunlight think about using a polariser. Colours will be stronger and it will reduce the distracting specular highlights in the water. | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Christine Scarlett | Sunday Outing | pts | 10 | Place | | |
| This meets the brief in terms of people enjoying the waterfront, but they are a little lost in the foliage. A crop from the top will bring the focus back to the people, though the tree in the middle of the frame is a bit distracting. | | | | | | | |
| 7 | John Barry | Mulwala | pts | 10 | Place | | |
| The diagonals of the dam wall add interest to this composition and the top of the wall leads the eye into the frame. A crop from the top and a mono conversion may make this a stronger image but it meets the criteria as is. | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Judy Hofmeyer | Just for Fun | pts | 10 | Place | | |
| The upright tree in the water on the RHS balances the frame with the sails of the 2 boats. The boat leaning into the frame implies movement while the LHS boat is static but stands out as it has the light on it. May be a stronger presentation as a mono image. | | | | | | | |
| 9 | John Barry | Use of Water | pts | 11 | Place | | |
| Fishing is certainly a good use for a body of water. The solitary fisherman told a story, but this was reduced by the inclusion of the dam wall in the frame. A crop just below the dam wall and a bit from the right would leave the trees as framing. Midday sun has provided dappled light on the subject which was distracting, but I understand the challenge came with time constraints. | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Attilia Heath | Sunday sailing | pts | 10 | Place | | |
| The bright boat is well presented, and the use of it for sailing is implied, but it would have been better to see it on the water. | | | | | | | |



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| 11 | Keith O'Brien | It's all happening | pts | 12 | Place | |
| A good photojournalism image with the floundering boat being assisted by the other boat- or is it? I was left wondering. Consider a wider aperture to reduce the background distractions or crop out some of them. | | | | | | |
| 12 | Jodi Kelly | The Fleets In | pts | 10 | Place | |
| The jaunty little craft with their white sails against the water were interesting. I liked the red top of one of the crafts and the separation of the 2 on the LHS. Next time- any chance of a higher vantage point? This would better separate the boats from the dead trees in the background. A pano crop to reduce the amount of water and mono conversion would help the boats stand out. | | | | | | |
| 13 | Mark Greenhill | Boat Racing | pts | 11 | Place | |
| Well captured with a high shutter speed and f8 ensuring all is in focus. The boat wakes provide implied movement and the boat in the background sits well in the frame. This needed a bit more creative camera craft (<i>panning, wider aperture</i>) to move into the awards. | | | | | | |
| 14 | Kaye Kennedy | Preparing to Sail | pts | 11 | Place | |
| The story is clear and the mast rising into the delightful cloud layer draws the eye. A bit of perspective correction is needed to straighten the sloping horizon, which is very distracting | | | | | | |
| 15 | Mark Greenhill | Sailing | pts | 11 | Place | |
| The model boats are a good subject but a little lost in the specular highlights. A good candidate for a polariser. | | | | | | |
| 16 | Graeme Milsome | Snagged | pts | 12 | Place | |
| The diagonal object the person is trying to get past adds a dynamic to the frame. The climbing subject adds interest. With this sort of image where the colour palette is not very interesting but where there is texture and strong lines - consider conversion to mono. | | | | | | |
| 17 | Mike O'Connor | Pool | pts | 10 | Place | |
| A nice piece of lateral interpretation of the subject. Perhaps a different perspective and use of a ND filter to smooth the water would have provided a stronger result? | | | | | | |
| 18 | Maree Mills | The Drag Line | pts | 10 | Place | |
| An interesting piece of equipment with lots of detail. The areas of rust add value to the subject. To make this clearer in the frame and minimise background distractions consider shooting low and wide with the object filling the frame. Always review your image and see what is in the background-and whether it adds value of whether the image is better without it. | | | | | | |
| 19 | Noel Baumgarten | Fisherman | pts | 13 | Place | Merit |
| I enjoyed the story of the 2 fishermen with their 4 rods relaxing by the side of the reservoir. For improvement- they could be a bit lighter and the sky a bit darker. | | | | | | |
| 20 | Sharon Alston | Every Dog Has His Day Out | pts | 13 | Place | Merit |
| Lovely image with the 2 people and their dog in their tinnie. The dog standing on the front of the boat looks like a relaxed and accomplished sailor. Grey muzzle suggests he's been doing this for a while, nice story and well captured. Consider cropping more from the top to keep the focus on the foreground subject. | | | | | | |
| 21 | Sue Thompson | Algal Bloom | pts | 11 | Place | |
| This image provides a commentary on when the water quality is not so good- perhaps by the hand of man. If possible, a lower wider angle would have made more of the algae. | | | | | | |
| 22 | Brian Paatsch | Grain Storage | pts | 9 | Place | |
| The link between this subject and the topic is a bit more tenuous than the other images where water is generally featured in the image. An interesting image with some strong angles which could do better in a mono competition. | | | | | | |



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| 23 | Sylvia Baumgarten | On Tap | pts | 11 | Place | |
| <p>The association of the water coming out of the tap and the body of water suggested in the background meets the brief. Another image that may look better in mono to minimise the impact of the background greens and bring out the textures and water drops associated with the tap.</p> | | | | | | |
| 24 | David Willis | Is He Still On? | pts | 14 | Place | 1st Place |
| <p>This image shows a degree of technical expertise in terms of selection of a shutter speed that allows the panning shot. This has rendered the boat sharp and by blurring the background it becomes less of a distraction. Consider cropping out some of the water at the bottom of the image- it doesn't add to the story. One person looking forward one looking back - well done.</p> | | | | | | |

Individual Placing's

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| Best Image | Is He Still On? ~ David Willis ~ WACC | pts | 14 |
| 2nd Place | On the Land ~ Debbie Shepherd ~ WACC | pts | 14 |
| Merit | Feeding The Birds ~ Jan Paatsch ~ WACC | pts | 13 |
| Merit | Cormorant ~ Cath Duncombe ~ BCC | pts | 13 |
| Merit | Fisherman ~ Noel Baumgarten ~ BCC | pts | 13 |
| Merit | Every Dog Has His Day Out ~ Sharon Alston ~ WACC | pts | 13 |

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| Total Score: | BCC = 134 | WACC = 136 |
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