

Number	Image #1 Title	Grade	Comments
1	AO After the Rain	M	We enjoyed the choice of background and how you handled it. This style of image begs you to enjoy the detail but because of the underexposure and quality of light, this is harder to see. Be careful of the depth of field you choose to use in an image like this, in this case it looks too narrow. We loved the addition of the rain drops to add an additional texture and detail to the image
2	AO Black Hollyhock	A	A black flower on a bright day, this is a challenging subject to capture. Well done for getting texture in the petals and those lines help the composition. However the image feels too tightly cropped and busy. Watch out for distractions. We feel that this may have been better captured later in the day or in early morning light when the light is less contrasty
3	AO Cloud Walker	HC	Love the detail of the scooter rider against the clouds. The title says cloud walker, its an evocative title. We like the elements but the arrangement in the frame feels a bit static and disjointed from the story being told. Where will the rider land, is this a composite image? Maybe by adding a sense of movement this might be improved. Well done for being able to freeze the scooter rider at the peak of the action.
4	AO Cockroach	H	Sharp where it needs to be, and a great composition to show this unusual view of an insect we normally loathe. Honors is given to those images that display a wow factor, and you certainly have done this. Well done.
5	AO Cuba St Bus Stop	M	First of all I love the paper this is printed on, I would love to find out more about it. The artwork on the fence is a great subject in the image, but the story surrounding this we struggled to connect with. We found the subjects in the left hand portion of this image a distraction. The person holding the coffee is a good character to build the story around, be patient, a better scene may be just about to happen.
6	AO Early morning Port Albert	HC	Great timing and choice of shutter speed. We enjoyed the inclusion of the perch to give the bird a place to soon land on. The blues in the image are striking but on the bird we found that they were a bit of a distraction, maybe reduce the saturation a hair. Love your dedication to get this image, we know that this would have taken a lot of patience and awareness.
7	AO Kereru	HC	Bird photography is all about timing, patience and a dose of luck. Congratulations on getting the image, it is technically quite good and well handled. It just needs something extra to lift it, beautiful light, and interesting interaction with something else, something to lift it above the many other images of Kereru captured each year.
8	AO Ngawi Beach	M	A sweeping landscape, the kind of beauty NZ is famous for. Technically it is well handled but we feel that this image needs something for the eye to be led to, for it to linger on and enjoy. The vantage point is striking, remember it for next time. Landscape photography is all about patience and combining the elements to tell an interesting story of the landscape before you.
9	AO The Baroque of the Agapanthus	H	Beautiful lines, tones and texture. Well seen and executed. But don't stop here, play with the exposure and textures to see what possibilities are yet to show themselves, this image is worth the time. Polish it.
10	AO White-faced Heron With Mud Crab	HC	The bird, the crab, the bite! We would have loved to have captured this. A question to consider is, can any further detail be brought out in the bird. The background in the image does not add a great deal, could you have got lower to throw it out of focus, or chosen a different angle to improve it? Keep at it, and you will get an even better image.
11	AS Drafting Sheep	A	An interesting image with a great vantage point. Be careful of lines and flow. For us the horizontal lines act in a way that prevents the eye from moving through the image and instead feel more like a full stop. Breaking up the composition into what feels like 2 or 3 smaller images. Love the detail in the sheep and the choice to make this a black and white image.

12	AS Fishermen at Jackson Bay	M	Good scene of weekend adventures. The boat instantly draws the eye and gives an obvious subject. Be careful with strong lines like this in an image as they can divide the image rather than lead the eye. A good memory of fun weekend.
13	AS Haymaking, Summer farming.	A	A classic kiwi summer scene with scorching sun and golden hay. Good on you for making the time to get out and finding this beautiful scene. The balance of this image feels a little left hand side heavy, especially how the colours in the tractor lead you out of the scene. Be careful of intersections as well. The lines leading in from the right hand side were good, try to make more use of these to balance the image.
14	AS On our Terms	A	Love the rain in the image and the mood it brings. This looks to be a grizzly day where the ball can feel like a bar of soap. This image would have been stronger if we could see the ball, without the ball we felt a little lost as to what was going on and what would happen next. Good on you for braving the conditions, keep at it, club rugby needs you.
15	AS Snow Tow	H	A fun image of the day that tells a great story. We loved the faces and the interactions. Some minor things which we thought might be worth a try would be to try and remove the red pole or narrow the depth of field to reduce the distraction. Well done and thanks for sharing.
16	AS Top dressing. Loading bucket with fertiliser.	HC	Good separation of subjects in what is quite a complicated scene. We enjoyed the simplified colour palette. The line from the fence to the digger was a minor distraction but did not bother us too much. If you find yourself in this situation again try a longer shutter speed to see if you can get more blur into the helicopter blades, this is tricky but can lift the image substantially. Have you shared this image with the pilot, they may like to use it for their website or in some other promotion.
17	BS Grazing in Connemara	A	The lines of the image are well placed and lead you through the image. The image is well exposed and captures the moodiness of the scene. With lines you have to be careful that the journey you take the viewer's eye on, leads the viewer to something that holds the viewer's attention, else the line will lead the viewer right out of the image. The sheep in the foreground of the image were a good inclusion but wait for the sheep to look up or do something which will give them more visual interest and weight. This image has good bones, you are not far away, keep going.
18	BS HARD AT WORK	M	Well exposed image with good detail throughout. The Z in the door draws you into the subject. Through this and the boy a line is formed taking you on a journey in the direction of the implied motion. What would make this image stronger, consider including the place they are walking to, the person that they are helping. Also consider lowering your viewpoint so that the child is higher in the frame. This is a beautiful scene and one that will hold memories for years to come.
19	BS Rural Mail	M	A good study in the range of commercially available letter boxes. A great subject to find. Photographs can be considered to be made up of two key types of elements, subject(s) and the space that they occupy. Be bold with this, consider what are your subjects and what is background. Background objects ideally give your viewer context. But background objects can also distract and at their worst confuse the viewer. The objects you include in the background (anything not considered as the subject) therefore need to be chosen carefully. In this case if we crop the image to a more panoramic image format by cropping both the top and bottom of the image, then the subjects become more prominent. Do you feel that improves the image? We think it does, it's just our suggestion.
20	BS Smoko Time	H	Clever use of lines and subject to draw the viewer's eye. The word "Skellerup" immediately draws the eye and starts the viewer on a journey. We like the reduced colour palette and how this supports the subject and feel of the image. It feels as if the owner of the gumboots has just disappeared inside for a well earned break. Well done.
21	BS-Cuddles	M	We like the interaction between the sheep and the woman. The group of sheep behind the main subject, support the story well and the lines in the grass are a nice inclusion. The image feels a little underexposed. There are a few distractions in the image which could be cropped out to simplify the image.