

III	SET:	Judge:	
Name	Title	Result	Feedback
B Grade Set Subject	BS		
	BS Bird Nest Fungi	Highly Commended	Great capture of this tiny fungus in its natural environment. Composition and perspective work well to show off these beauties. There is some burnt out parts in the fungus itself. Adjusting the exposure composition in post processing may bring back this lovely detail. Also try the burn tool to dull down other distracting light spots in the image. Well done.
	BS Bunny Tails	Merit	The rim lighting on these bunny tails is divine, as is you composition. You've captured some minute details but it makes me want to see more. Next time try and get closer to capture more intricate parts of these lovely plants. Good spotting.
	BS In the Pumpkin Patch	Accepted	Congratulations on finding these little beauties amidst the pumpkin patch. You've captured great detail on the leaves and curly vines. For a stronger image you need a centre of focus. What is the first thing you'd like the viewer to see? Put that in a key position on your image. Good find.
	BS Nest building Gannet Muriwai	Accepted	In all my years as a bird photographer I have yet to capture a Gannet in flight. Kudos to you. You should consider entering in the Open category as it does not meet the set subject brief.
	BS Snowdrops	Merit	After seeing this image I'm on a mission to find Snowdrops. They are lovely. You've enhanced the story by showing two perspectives of the flower. For a stronger image, experiment with different crops for the best vantage points. Also, watch for bright, distracting elements on the edge of the image. They lead our eye out. Well done!
A Grade Open	AO		
	AO By Candle light	Honours	This image transports me back in time. Trying to read just a bit more before being in total darkness, with only the light from a candle and old spectacles to help. This image ticks all the boxes for me. Great story, lovely light, and fabulous props. Excellent work.
	AO Hes right behind me isn't he	Merit	The Albertaceratops seems to be enjoying teasing her mate. Love the contrasting colours and composition. For a stronger image, try a greater depth of field. The front foliage and dinosaur's face are the only things in focus. Would like to see more. Fantastic story. Very creative.
	AO Rangiwakaoma - where the sky runs	Honours	This image takes me on a wonderful journey; from the lighthouse, along the boardwalk by the jagged rocks to the gorgeous sky. Composition, light, colour everything is spot on. I have no suggestions for improvement as this image is lovely as it is.
A Grade Set Subject	AS		
	AS Allium Seed Head	Highly Commended	Thank you for showing us this great pattern of seeds, all sprouting at different stages. They are pin sharp. The colours are very delicate. The foliage provides a great leading line for the seed head. One suggestion would be to choose one without scrapes and scuffs to better compliment the image.
	AS Ayesha	Honours	It all starts with a perfect little pink flower. Add a net work of stems, buds and petals and place it on a bed of green and you have perfection. Love the fuchsia/green combination. Could see this printed, framed and displayed. Beautiful work.
	AS Bee on daisy	Honours	I could see what attracted this bee to this daisy, it's perfect. Both the bee and flower are pin sharp with delicious detail. One word of caution. Ensure you have a clean sensor for these spectacular closeups. Excellent work!
	AS Dandelion	Merit	To me this is one of the wonders of nature. These seeds will soon fly away and start new lives. They are beautiful and sharp. One slight criticism is the background competes with the delicate pod. One that's soft and muted would suit better.
	AS Denniston Coal Truck	Accepted	I feel this image would have been a great addition to the open category. To me, it doesn't suit set subject criteria.
	AS Emperor Gum Caterpillars	Honours	In my opinion this is a prime example of the "World in Close Up" set subject. The lovely detail, colour, story; it has it all and then some. It is beauty as nature intended. Very well done.
	AS Frond Friends	Accepted	This is a classic Kiwi image with the two strong spiral shapes. I feel the photographer met with some challenges. The image appears to be over sharpened and is very noisy. If you get the opportunity I would suggest revisiting as the composition showed great promise.
	AS Giant dragonfly	Highly Commended	You've captured this dragonfly beautifully. He appears to be hanging on for dear life. The details in his wings and body are very sharp in deed. I would be tempted to give the image a wee counter clockwise turn. Try it and see if you feel it strengthens the composition. Well taken.
	AS Hope	Merit	Out of the depth of darkness appear life. What a strong story. It is demonstrated very well. Would like to see more of the green leaf; perhaps a wee bit more light would help. Enjoyed the story.
	AS Jack frost at work	Accepted	I feel very cold looking at this image. The leaf is gilded with crisp, sparkly, white ice crystals. I would like to see more of the plant itself and perhaps a bit of the background for a stronger story.
	AS Jarli	Highly Commended	I got the eerie feeling Jarli was watching from around the corner. You've captured stunning detail, especially in the feathers around the bird's beak. I love the composition. It's different but you pulled it off. He stands beautifully in front of the green background. Unfortunately, there's green fringing on the edge of the bird. Well done!

	AS Monarch	Merit	Seeing the butterfly's gorgeous patterns, polka dots and even his chewed up wings is a treat. Would like to see more of it's face. Lightening the area a bit would help. Be careful about bright areas on the border. Our eye is drawn to the lightest part of an image and in this case it takes us right out of the picture.
	AS Moonfish	Accepted	This image made me smile. The fish blends right into the moon. Increasing the contrast and separating the fish from the background would make a stronger image. Well seen.
	AS natures stars	Highly Commended	I am really drawn to the centre of this image. The patterns are delightful and very sharp and loaded with detail. The shallow depth of field works well to separate the centre from the remaining part of the flower. The square crop highlights the flower. Well done.
	AS Nectar Collector	Merit	Love the bee. He is beautiful and sharp, as is the flower. For a stronger composition, try giving the image a quarter turn anti clockwise. See what you think. The right side of the petals have blue fringing. Post processing can eliminate that. Good job.
	AS Nick in his world	Accepted	Thank you for inviting us into the world according to Nick. The monochrome treatment with a spot of colour really works. This was a very novel way of interpreting the set subject. Unfortunately, it did not fit the brief.
	AS Pholcus spider with prey	Honours	This is an amazing story. The spider with his cache of delicious insects. The spider and two colourful insects make a great triangle. There's even a spider busy working in the back ground. Great image.
	AS Praying mantis	Highly Commended	The praying mantis clutching to the front flower petals with a knowing look on his wee face. Love the way he fills the frame. The soft colours are very delicate and attractive. The image is sharp. There is something between the Mantis's front legs that is distracting. The white border works well.
	AS Purple Haze	Merit	This is a great perspective looking down on the thistle with the grass below. The purple, dotted with white stands out nicely against the green backdrop. The thistle is pin sharp and the focal point sits nicely right of the centre. The square crop works well here.
	AS Rear View	Honours	As a bird photographer I've taken a lot of images in my time. I was just thinking I may be focussing on the wrong end of the bird. This is a superb image. It's got lovely light, patterns and symmetry. A real pleasure to view.
	AS Sunflower Melee	Accepted	This sunflower seems to be fighting against the wind. I can feel the motion in this image. I find it very creative and innovative. Would have scored highly as an open image. Don't think it fits the set subject brief.
	AS Tuatara.	Merit	Would have loved to see more of this lizard. Perhaps using a greater depth of field would have his entire face in focus. I find the Tuatara competes with the contrasty background for attention. Good spotting.
	AS Tunnelweb spider	Accepted	This is such an intriguing looking spider, I'm curious to see more of him. A greater depth of field would have more of him in focus. Love the detail in his web. Scary find.
	AS Underneath	Honours	Capturing the fungi from underneath is the perfect perspective. We see the base, the lovely curved stock and the delicate, white gills. It is very sharp on a blurred background. Great nature study.
	AS Waxing Moon	Highly Commended	Seeing the moon up close and personal is very exciting, all the little crevasses unseen by the naked eye. Stands out brilliantly against the black background. Well done.
	AS Willowherb (Epilobium SP	Honours	This image is exquisite in its' delicacy. Simple but complex. Beautifully done.
	AS Window Sticker	Merit	I feel like I'm watching an episode of Invasion by the Giant Bug. The stick bug fills the frame, towering over the colourful landscape. Looks like it's ready to take over the world. There is magenta and yellow fringing around the bug. This could be eliminated with post processing. Good find.
	AS Wool Carder Bee	Honours	There is beautiful detail in the bee. I almost feel like I could touch it. Ideal placement in the frame. The yellow on the bee looks fabulous on the purple bloom. Award winning image.
	AS Bladder Hibiscus (Trionum)	Merit	This is a very interesting view of the seed pod of the Hibiscus. It's pin sharp. I feel it's a bit too contrasty and could be toned down a bit. Thank you for the great story.

