

Phillip Island Monthly Club Competition – Judge Feedback for - **October 21** - Subject - **Around the bend** - Judge - **David Belcher**

Please refer to Judge Instruction Letter for ratings: **HC** (Highly Commended) - **C** (Commended)

Sequence by Title	Member No	Title	Judge Rating	EDPI
1	852	<b>a drive in the bush</b>		A typical winter scene in the bush with a car in the far distant. The image is well taken with a good POV. Taking this a couple of seconds later so that the car was more prominent in the frame may have taken this image to another level.
2	770	<b>after_the_storm</b>		Interesting combination of elements in this image though I found my eye flitting around the picture looking for something to anchor too. I feel that including a clear point of interest (person, animal etc) would have helped in lifting this image.
3	875	<b>A board Walk</b>		Nice image with the boardwalk leading you into the frame. There is a nice combination of conflicting lines and shapes in that boardwalk yet still taking you down the pathway. Nicely spotted.
4	487	<b>Along the Way</b>	C	I really like this one. That curving walkway has a lovely shape to it with the beach/sea/sky adding nice bright and clean backdrop. A nice point of interest is that curved roof which acts as a resting place for the eye. I would be tempted to try cropping this top and bottom so that that first lamp post becomes very prominent in the frame. Well spotted scene and well taken.
5	869	<b>Around The Lot</b>		Interesting image in monochrome with interesting shadows outlining the roadway in this property. The grittiness of the road itself adds real texture to the foreground.
6	487	<b>Caught in the Rain</b>		Very moody image and an interesting place with that bridge capturing the eye going from that deep yellow roadway to the lighter brown. The sky troubles me a little as the real interest is much lower down.
7	863	<b>dawn_fishing</b>		A very blue dawn and a very large expanse. The enormity of the scene is shown by the insignificant size of the city in the background and the pelicans that are doing the fishing from those posts. A well spotted scene that might have benefited from a bit more focus on those Pelicans.

8	601	<b>Exploring the Path</b>	C	A clear image of a hiker off for a stroll in the bush on a hot bright day. You have handled the brightness of the sun very well and your subject is well lit and detailed. A pleasing image.
9	601	<b>Around Here</b>	C	Another woodland scene and another path going around a bend. The path and scenery may not be quite as nice as some of the earlier images but it is greatly enhanced by the person in the centre. The dappled lighting in the background also adds to this image. You have handled the lighting on the girl against the bright background very well.
10	601	<b>What's Around the Bend</b>	C	A nice colourful image of a stretch of water in the bush. The cloudy sky adds a nice mood to this scene. I would be tempted to push the contrast a little to see if I could get even more out of that sky.
11	601	<b>Wonder where the Road Leads</b>		An interesting bend in the road lined with trees on either side. The monochrome treatment works very well in this scene. The bright sunlight casts nice if a little harsh shadows but has been well handled. Whilst the subject here is clearly the road, a clear point of interest such as an old automobile travelling along it would really lift this image to the next level in my view.
12	869	<b>Entering The Maze</b>	C	An intriguing arrangement of tree stumps and ground indentations that captures the imagination. You have selected a good POV that adds to the intrigue. The tree stumps are an essential anchor in the image. A nice background scene completes the image.
13	326	<b>Exploring</b>	C	Definitely Exploring. I do hope that club members can see how having a point of interest such as a person in a scene such as this can greatly enhance it. Here we not only have the person but the leading lines of those steps taking your eye straight up to her and then the framing of the trees keeping you there. A well composed image.
14	863	<b>fire_break</b>	C	An interesting scene that has been well spotted and captured. The red digger really stands out against the greens and browns of the trees / land. I particularly like the row of trees on the left. You have obviously spotted the potential in this image but to take it to the next level, ask yourself how you could have taken the image from a different POV.

15	487	Golden Cliff	Beautiful light on this cliff making it golden as in the title. The sea and sky provide interest as does some of those patterns in the sand.
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16	770	Guangzhou		Not an area of Guangzhou that I remember being more familiar with the busy city streets and the river. With all the bustle of the city this must make for a pleasant walk despite the buildings that can be seen through the trees. The hanging lamp shows its distinct Asian heritage. If you are handy with Photoshop, I would try removing that messy drain area at the bottom of the image.
17	431	Heading_South		Good capture of a road train in the distance travelling across the landscape. Overall this is a very pleasant scene that has been well taken. The bright area at the top of the image is distracting and could be removed by cropping. There is an area of heat haze which detracts from the view plus there is a round artefact (dust spot ?) in the centre which should be removed.
18	326	I Can See the Sea	C	Good scene, well captured and it looks particularly good in black and white.
19	361	In The Parsley Patch		Gosh, he does look like a monster of a cat. A good capture that I am sure will give a lot of pleasurable memories to this cat owner for many years to come. The eyes are nice and sharp and the image is clear.
20	431	In_a_Cloud_of_Dust		A cloud of dust indeed. Shooting towards the sun like this is always difficult as it stretches the capabilities of your equipment. Here it has produced that horrible green blob in the middle of the scene. The idea behind this image was a good one but having the sun so prominent in the scene has created problems for you.

<b>21</b>	863	<b>Island_bridge</b>		Nice and unusual point of view. I especially like the fact that you have filled the image top to bottom with the subject matter. This can be a very powerful feature in images particularly if you can find an unusual viewpoint.
<b>22</b>	770	<b>Le_Haut_Kceigsburg</b>		This spiral staircase certainly takes you around the bend. These sorts of images either work or they don't and its about getting the geometry right to make it interesting. Here the stone centre together with the grain in the wooden steps helps to make the image all the more interesting. Well done.
<b>23</b>	870	<b>Left or right</b>		Or through the gap in the middle. Its very unusual to see a rock of this size split so cleanly and still in an upright position. It begs all sorts of questions how it came to be like that and you can imagine people in ancient times attaching some sort of mythological story to it. Taking this image in softer light maybe at sunrise or in a real storm might give this image more of a wow factor to take it to the next level.
<b>24</b>	870	<b>Lonely</b>		A very different image that holds your imagination because of that. The grainy style works very well with the roadway giving it a very gritty and pleasing appearance however this doesn't work quite so well with the sky area giving it an over processed feel. If you can split the image and process the two halves differently, this may help overall.
<b>25</b>	487	<b>Long, Slow Climb, Denali National Park</b>	C	I really like this image. It fully describes the loneliness and also the beauty of the area. Its a shame the roadway on the right has been cropped off as this would have taken the viewer down that road and right into the scene. Cropping some of that sky might help the overall image.
<b>26</b>	852	<b>Lost child</b>		Lost indeed. This image invokes all sorts of questions about why that child is there all alone that it captures the imagination. This image has been well seen and taken, I just wonder on why the choice of Portrait format ?
<b>27</b>	852	<b>Mildura</b>	HC	A lovely long exposure image, nice light and expertly taken. Well Done.
<b>28</b>	431	<b>Murchison_River mist</b>	C	Nice image with the subject filling the frame. It certainly has that eerie feel to it doesn't it ? A good well taken image
<b>29</b>	431	<b>Murray_River_Campsite</b>		Bush camping at its best. I might even have stayed there certainly one like it. There is some lovely sunlight on this scene giving it a warm golden glow. The

			deep tracks in the dirt roadway tell a story of many a camper travelling along this road in the wet whilst the camp site over to the right shows us some of the activities going on over there. A good capture. Well Done.
<b>30</b>	866	<b>Murray_River_Sunrise</b>	A common sight on on the Murray which has plenty of scenes like this. The river seems to attract that golden light and the slow moving nature of the river lends itself to those tree reflections. The tree roots in the foreground add to the scene.

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31	641	Open Pit Kal	HC	A very dramatic and well spotted image. The car parked towards the bottom of the frame sets the scale of this image. A bit more work with the B/W conversion may lift this even more. Well Done.
32	866	Path_to_Pyramid		The path down to pyramid rock here shown in subdued light. The colours and detail are rich in this fine image and there is a colour in the sky from the sun that has just set. The path leads the eye down into the image and to the rock itself. Brightening up the image or better still, taking the image before the sun actually set may take this to another level.
33	641	Pier Welshpool		I know this one as I was in Welshpool just a few months ago. Most photographers taking shots of this pier would try to show the enormous length of it where as here, the maker has decided to show us just a small section of it. I think this approach probably works better. The sea is very rough and provides a lot of interesting detail as does that threatening sky. A red cover on a pole down the pier provides an important catch point for the eye. To take this to the next level, I would try playing around with contrast and maybe even trying a B/W version. It might also have been interesting to try a long exposure shot on this scene particularly with that choppy sea.
34	866	Rhyll Inlet		A nice sunset with vivid colours. The sweeping expanse of the bay adds a pleasant calming contrast to the fierceness of the sun. To take this to the next level, I would consider an aggressive cropping (50% of the image ?) to the top part of that sky to focus attention on the really interesting sunset in the lower half of the frame. Never be afraid to crop if it leads to a better image.
35	377	Round The Bend 1	C	A good dramatic scene that is well captured. The image is made by having the driver leaning out to watch the train going around the bend – an essential element in my view. This image lends itself to some playing around in Photoshop to see if you can get any more out of it. Play around with contrast, brightness and colour saturation as well as trying a B/W version to see what you can get. A very good capture.

36	377	<b>Round The Bend 2</b>	HC	Well spotted and taken. Lots of interest in that unusual tree shape and the deep colours of the sky and grass add to the scene. You have done very well with this one and the only possible downside that I can see is the fact that you have cropped off the end of your subject on the right but as I don't know what was there, maybe you had no choice.
37	377	<b>Round The Bend 3</b>	HC	Another good well taken dramatic scene. The eye immediately goes to that tree on the left of the scene where it rests a moment before going over the edge of the cliff to follow the river upstream. Lots of detail, colour and interest. Well Done
38	377	<b>Round The Bend 4</b>		A rich garden scene with good colour and many points of interest. The image has been well as spotted and taken.
39	641	<b>Stower Motor</b>	HC	A lovely detailed image of this old motor. Well polished copper and brass parts often add interest to these kind of images as demonstrated here but the crowning glory is that red name on the engine block. The maker has captured this well.
40	326	<b>The New Esperance Pier</b>		Nice image of the underside of this pier. The clean hard lines of those support posts contrast nicely with the choppiness of the water. Nice black and white treatment suits this image. The image has been well taken.
<b>41 and there is a nice sunset</b>	326	<b>The Walking Track</b>		A good image of a walking track through typical Australian bush country. The track leads the eye into the image but then there is little to anchor it. This is another image that just needs some object, person or animal in it to provide that resting place. The image has been competantly taken with few faults.
42	852	<b>The Yarra</b>		Nice moody image of the Yarra as it wends its way. The mist in the scene provides the mood whilst the river itself sweeps you along and takes you under the bridge and to the other side. Unfortunately, the bush on the top right intrudes into the image and is a little distracting. Sometimes you just can't avoid these things. What is more of a problem is that out of focus twig (?) just below it and I would certainly look at removing that. Overall, this is a very nice image.

43	770	the_temple_of_heaven		Chinese architecture is always so interesting especially the old palaces and temples. Here you have caught one of the famous temples of Beijing (I think) but you have taken it from a different POV than the more common images of this building. The light in this image is soft and mellow and really adds to this pleasing image whilst the roof of the red building at the end really captures the eye. You have done well with image.
44	875	Trail In The Fork		Good pov taking this boardwalk through the fork in the branches of this old tree. This is a very good example of how you can use a different perspective to change a very ordinary image into an interesting one. The browns and reds in the old wood really contrast with the greens and greys of the rest of the scene. The image is well taken, sharp where it needs to be and you have handled the depth of field very well. Well Done.
45	870	ULURU going round	HC	There is a very nice almost surreal feeling to this image, I could see this hanging from a wall in some foyer of a corporate building or airport lounge somewhere. That sky and clouds so typical of the area almost look like they have been painted on. Uluru in the background is soft and possibly a little out of focus but to me and in this image, this has a positive effect. You have done very well with this shot.

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46	641	Water Pump	HC	The red paint on that housing really makes this image especially against those dull darker colours of the machinery. The red grabs your eye and keeps on taking you round that bend and whilst you might look at other parts of the image, its not long before your eye is back to the red. Well done on spotting this image.



