

**Nelson Camera Club
Prints 2023**

B grade

1 Feeling the Texture - This image looks like a pencil sketch to me with the texture and lines. Her pose, I feel, is a bit awkward. I'm not sure why she is looking away and it draws my eye to where it seems she is looking but there is nothing I can see there. There are some streaks of light and dark in her hair and then a patch that is dark without any detail in it. The harsh dark bit down her back is too sudden a contrast to the rest of her body even if it is in the shadow. This doesn't feel cohesive. The texture and markings are beautiful. **Acceptance**

2. Kittyhawk Gloria Lyons - What a historic plane. The gradation of white tones through to black is there. The detail is interesting although I'm not sure what is draped over the wing. I feel that it would have been more interesting, in my opinion, if all the plane was in view. It feels cramped in the frame. The image is sharp with a good depth of field. **Accepted**

3 Listen to the Trees and Dream - The softness of focus on the woman emphasises the dreaming and sets the scene. The way the branches curve along and over her leads me to the leaves and then out of the image as there is nothing to hold my there. The leaves are almost the same tone as her body so they get a bit lost too. Like the idea and I like the feel of the image. **Merit Julia Seagar**

4. Mountain Lake - What takes my attention from the start is the lovely tracery of twigs and leaves against the sky. It is so strong in my opinion that it takes control of the image. I feel if there was some cropping from the top so there was less of the tree that would bring more emphasis to the lake. The only white in the image is in the clouds too. I feel some editing with darkening the sky and lightening the lake would have changed the balance of tones to the lake. I like the lines that lead me in from the sides of the lake and the stones in the foreground anchor it. **Accepted**

5. Softly, Softly Into the Night - I like the way the man and the dog are standing there in a landscape in the last light of evening. The placing of the man has been well chosen as almost half of him is against the lighter sky which draws my attention to him. The dog is harder to see yet it adds to the story. The main characters are sharp and the rest of the image has a softness about it that enhances the story. I like the simplicity of the image. **Honours Jane Pordon**

6. Where's the Dingo - For me this is a great choice of colour for this monochrome. It gives the sand some warmth as if left over from the day. The textures in the sand are really interesting with lines going in different directions giving some movement. The main story is about the dingo and its tracks which

lead my eye into the edge of the gully then reappear towards the end of the gully. It is intriguing wondering if the other tracks in the distance are from the same animal .

Honours Jane Pordon

A Grade

1. **A Man and his Dog** - The silhouettes of the man, his dog and the seat stand out against the the remains of the water and sand/mud. The darkness of the silhouettes gives contrast to the texture of the ground and the bay. The island with the trees gives the image its depth. It is a peaceful scene for me.

Merit Barry Doig

2. **Ballerina** - This beautiful aquilegia is shown to perfection in this image. The detail in all parts of this flower are clearly shown. I like how all the subtle tones enhance the details and the black background helps this. I'm not a fan of the white round the edge as I feel it is too strong for the delicacy of the rest of the image. The inner frame I feel works well.

Honours Irene Callaghan

3. **Big Boy** - I like the gradient of tones from white through to black, in this image. There is lots to see in the details in the engine The variations in the snow are interesting for me and hold my attention. The snow hanging partly over the front of the cowcatcher looks like a blanket just thrown there.

Merit Jean Willis

4. **Brief Encounter in Shanghai** - The more I looked at this image the more it grew on me. The juxtaposition of the tourists looking at the vendor's wares and the washing hanging on the line above the umbrellas is delightful. There is also the contrast with the mess of wires and cables on the left side above the umbrellas and then structured positioning of the wares especially the watches. The black and white takes all colours out of this so makes a clearer scene in my view.

Honours Caroline Foster

- 5 **Clock Tower** - The clock tower is a striking building that pulls me into the image. Although it does stand out I would like to see more clarity in the white. There is a fine line between lifting the exposure and keeping the detail yet I feel that the white needs to be cleaner. The building on the edge of the frame on the left is a bit distracting because of its colour and its sharp edges. The sky tones being muted works well for the tower. **Not Accepted**

- 6 **Finn** - The concentration and effort the dog is using shows in every line of his body. A great story. For me there needs to be more separation between the dog and the background either using light or a shallow depth of field as that would give the dog the separation I feel would make this image stronger. **Acceptance**

7. Girl With Pigeons - This image made me smile. The girl with what looks like something in her hand to feed the pigeons and the way she seems to be stepping carefully in them is lovely. I know it is hard when in the street yet if this had been taken a step either way the woman would not be straight behind the girl. I suggest cropping in from the left as the two men in white are distracting. I like the way normal life goes on in the background. **Accepted**

8 Harriet - I feel this is a very clever image. There is really only Harriet's head yet the way the texture of the scarf or whatever it is, is draped, suggests so much more. It is the expression in Harriet's eyes that capture me and hold me there. There is a wristfulness and sombreness that makes me wonder. She is well positioned in the frame. I want to know more about her. **Honours Jon Coe**

9. Lake Ferry - I like the clarity of tones in this image. There are clear blacks and whites with tones in between. I follow the streams of the retreating water down the beach to the rock which stops me exiting and then along the water's edge yet the way the lines go to the rock tends to take me out of the image as it is so close to the edge of the frame. Maybe something along the waterline would have given a focal point in the image. **Acceptance**

10. Mckenzie's Dog - The topic was monochrome and unfortunately this image doesn't fit the topic as there are tones of blue, brown and green in it. Also the image isn't attached to the matt well enough and came apart. **Non Acceptance**

11, Night Service - The arches make a clear statement and the stained glass tells me this is a church. I feel the image is underexposed as the blacks are rich but there is no white. The centre arch would benefit from more exposure, in my view. The lens used has made the side arches tilt inward which feels a tad strange. I can make out some people in the image and yet I have to look hard to see them. They would also benefit from some extra exposure. I suggest you try this subject again as there is potential there. **Not Accepted**

12. Rising Cloud - I love the way the cloud pulls my eyes up with all the tendrils and variations. The boat adds a counter point. Parts of the cloud I feel would be better with more exposure. This could be done in post production. I would have liked to see some black in the darks too. Depending on the subject, it helps to have a range from white to black in a black and white image if possible. This gives more life to the image and more depth and contrast. **Acceptance**

13. Smoko and the Old Forge - This is an iconic shot of an everyday occurrence yet looking back over time indicating the timelessness of some things. I'm wondering if this is the old forge at Teddington. There is a more modern touch with the Worksafe note on the notice board yet the rest takes me back to the days of my childhood when life moved at a slower pace. I don't mind the lack of contrast in this image as that makes it more fitting for the agelessness, to me. The men on

either side of the doorway frame the view inside to all the treasures.

Merit Caroline Foster

14. Stirling Castle - I like the way the castle is outlined by the hazy sky so that its roof line is seen and emphasises the position on the cliff. The foliage on the hill leading up to the castle dominates the image in my view. I would like to see more of the castle and less trees. **Not Accepted**

15 Take It Easy - This is obviously a fishing story as the two rods tells me. Apart for that it is the white of the waves and the white in the sky that takes my eye. I pass over the person in the chair as they are almost invisible and don't stand out against the sand. Maybe more contrast in the tones would help this or changing the view of the person in the chair. **Not Accepted**

16. The Accordion Cat - I love the way the cat is looking back - almost as if saying "What's happening?" The contrasting tones and the clarity makes this image. There are clear blacks and whites and a tonal range in between. Even though the man's striped shirt pulls me in, it still takes me up to the man's face and his eyes. For me it is a well balanced image. **Merit John Miles**

17. The Conservatory - There are some lovely texture and lines and tones in this image. The contrast between big and small interests me, in both the leaves and the pots. I feel the composition lacks cohesion and I suggest next time arranging the plants as a still life would give it that cohesion and flow that it lacks at present in my view. **Acceptance**

18. The Majestic Mt Cook - That is an unusual sight with those clouds above Mt Cook. I know this is taken long distance but it still needs to be sharp and for me the top part of Mt Cook isn't. I also feel the image needs more contrast. Snow with sun on it is dazzling white yet it isn't in this image. I feel more contrast would make the mountain stand out more. **Acceptance**

19. The Perfume Chest - I love all the perfume bottles. The light on them gives a clear indication of the intricacies of the patterns on them. Whether they are cut glass or crystal, they are beautiful. I realise they are arranged in size. This has placed the brightest first and so my eyes keep going to it and not further in. Maybe they could have been arranged in a way that the brightest pulled me into the image more. I'm unsure where the chest fits the story as the bottles appear to be sitting on it and yet the lid is open. Something doesn't gel there for me. Great subjects that interest me. **Acceptance**

20. Waiting - There is a poignancy in the look of this woman. I'm wondering what she is thinking or waiting for. The rain drops running down the window add to that feeling, in my view. The placement of her hand in that the way adds to that sense of waiting. It tells a story simply and well. **Merit Irene Callaghan**

21. Wake on Calm Lake - What wonderful patterns in this wake. The scalloped edges of white around in a curve take my attention from the start. Then I see all the more subtle patterns in the darker water. I feel the bush doesn't add to the story and could be cropped out. That brings the emphasis back to the water in my view. I feel the image needs a stronger focal point and changing the light on the wake to give some variation would do this. **Acceptance**

23. Young Admirers - I like the way the player is darker and the two admirers are light coloured yet they are easily seen. It is a delightful cameo. The tones cover the full range and the story is clear and simple. **Merit John Miles**