

TIN CAN BAY CAMERA CLUB_2026 DIGITAL COMP_POINTS AWARDS & JUDGE'S CRITIQUE/COMMENTS

MONTH: February

SUBJECT: Nautical

JUDGE: Glenda Worley

Member ID	Member Name	Image Title	Points	Award	Judge's Comments
A GRADE					
21A	John	Better Slow Down Next Time	6	GOLD	This is a great action shot capturing where the boat has travelled across the land as well as the splash where its prow hits the water. Both technically correct and telling a strong story. Well done!
26A	Leigh	Big Boy	4	BRONZE	A well composed image and what a bonus that the colours of the domes on the ship and the tugs match so well. The background is blurred enough to minimise any distractions, however, the ship does appear a little hazy. Applying dehaze to the subject only would make the ship appear sharper and more vibrant and create a stronger image with more impact.
20A	Cheryl	Brisbane Kookaburra Queen	3	MERIT	The exposure is good and the paddle steamer is sharp. It appears that the image has been globally sharpened which causes the water, particularly behind and in front of the boat, to appear too sharp. Applying the sharpening to only the boat and the wake behind it would have been a better choice. This would have been a stronger image it was taken from a lower vantage point, but I don't know whether this was possible.
10A	Maureen	Calm Waters	2	ACCEPTANCE	The subject of this shot is the little dinghy but as presented the eyes are drawn to the lighter water just below the horizon. You could crop the top down to just below the bright water and perhaps a little off both sides to simplify it and make it a stronger image. I don't know what the original colours in this were, however, in black and white the dinghy is quite dark and doesn't really stand out enough. You could try lightening the dinghy or it may have been a better choice to leave this in colour.
19A	Jacquie	Coming Home Loaded	4	BRONZE	The trawler is sharp with lots of interesting detail to keep the viewer's attention on the boat for longer. To create a little more separation between the boat and the background you could try adding some saturation to the reds, cyans and greens on the boat and maybe reducing both the saturation and luminance of the yellows in the trees behind. I don't mind subjects centred in the frame but for this image a little more room for the boat to go into would help.
04A	Julie	Fishing Floats	6	GOLD	The simplicity of this makes it a strong image. The variety of the sizes and colours of the buoys add interest and the neatly coiled ropes add variety. The only thing which could make this even stronger would be to blacken the lighter areas where the background shows through the gaps in the palings. This is more a suggestion if you would like to try it, rather than a critique.
20A	Cheryl	Foot Paddler Vietnam	5	SILVER	The subject is sharp and your choice of aperture has enabled the background to soften into the distance which adds a pleasing sense of depth to the image. We always want the viewer's eyes to be drawn more to the subject than elsewhere. You could add some extra saturation to the subject only, particularly the greens, blues and yellow. Leave the reds as you don't want his skin tone to be too red. Then reducing the saturation in the background would add even more separation. A lot of adjustments are better applied selectively, rather than globally.
06A	Leanne	Golden Dawn	4	BRONZE	A simple and effective composition which works well. The rock on the left is a little distracting and could be removed and there are two birds upper right which would be better removed as they are too blurry to add interest. The vignette is a little strong and too obvious. Often using one of the image tones to create the vignette, rather than just darkening, gives a more subtle effect. Personally I find the yellow is a little too strong and reducing its vibrance a little would result in a more natural and appealing image.

08A	Maree	Leasure Cruise	3	MERIT	The man at the rear looks totally relaxed which suits your title. The yacht is sharp and its red sail immediately draws the eyes. I kept wondering what the rope to the left was towing behind the boat so may be best to remove it. The buildings behind the yacht are distracting but would be difficult to remove without affecting the rigging. The colours in the sky upper right also kept drawing the eyes with all the different hues of blue and cyan. If you use Lr or ACR use the point colour in the colour mixer section and click on one of the paler blues then slide the variance slider to the left. This tends to blend the colours more naturally. You should do it within a sky mask so you don't also affect the water.
10A	Maureen	Let's Go Girls	5	SILVER	Good action shot with the jet ski and that splash of water lovely and sharp. The girls appear a little dull in the shot and selecting just the girls, lightening the shadows and lowering the highlights a little would help. Your crop works as whilst the background isn't blurred reducing its size has also reduced its impact and you have left enough room on the right for the jet sky to move into.
21A	John	Living the Dream	6	GOLD	The surfer and the white water are sharp and the blues of the background ocean contrast nicely with the greens of the wave. It is a good action shot with the angle of the board and the surfer giving a dynamic feel to the image.
26A	Leigh	Mallaig Fishing Boats	3	MERIT	This image appears to be two images in one with the red boats on the left and the black ones on the right competing for attention. It would have been a better choice to concentrate on just one group and preferably the red ones as they have a less distracting background. Cropping the boats out of the right and some from the bottom would create a much stronger image. The image is sharp and well exposed but often less is more when it comes to the subject.
03A	Mary	Mooring at Sunset	3	MERIT	The sunset colours are lovely and saturated to the right amount – any more would have been a step too far. The yacht is the subject of the shot, but what draws the eyes is the bright water behind it. Being able to see a little more detail in the yacht would make this a stronger image and combining bracketed shots would have probably been the best way to do this. Having the silhouetted yacht cross the dark land behind it means its outline becomes confused.
06A	Leanne	Ocean Views	3	MERIT	The composition with the various layers works for this image and your choice of pastel tones with low contrast gives the image a calming and ethereal appearance. I could see this working as a large print in a bedroom where we prefer a more relaxed vibe. The breaking wave is well placed in the frame and gives the eyes somewhere to rest. However, whilst beautiful, it isn't a really strong nautical image as it is only of the sea and would be stronger with a subject enjoying it. I would have given a much higher award in an open competition.
04A	Julie	On the Hard	3	MERIT	A busy image, however, very interesting with the little beached dinghy in the foreground and the larger vessel in the midground. The colours of the foreground are similar to army camouflage and add interest to that area. There are lots of halos around the tops of the buildings and the background area which should be removed. The sky in this image should have merely a supporting role but with its heavily textured appearance it competes with the vessels for the starring role. Reducing the texture and clarity in the sky would reduce its impact.
01A	Cathy	Safe Harbour	5	SILVER	This is a lovely peaceful image which is sharp and well composed. The line of boats leads the eyes into and through the image. The colours have a pleasing natural appearance and the lone bird flying above adds another point of interest. Whilst a good image it doesn't have quite the impact that others in this theme have.

08A	Maree	Tall Ships	3	MERIT	An interesting choice to concentrate on the upper area of this vessel and show in detail the very complicated rigging. The buildings lower right are distracting and perhaps could have been eliminated by shooting from a slightly different position. Whilst sharp and well exposed, with so many ropes it is extremely busy and becomes a bit of a tangled mess if the eyes try and follow any to their end.
19A	Jacque	Tied Up Secure	5	SILVER	Simple and effective. There is good detail in the rope which is the obvious subject. The checker plate is a little bright and tends to draw the eyes away from the rope. However, darkening it would bring its tones too close to the rope. Maybe its impact could have been lessened with a slightly different composition. It is always a good idea to experiment with shooting a static subject in different ways.
03A	Mary	Trawlers	2	ACCEPTANCE	You probably chose to include the railings as foreground interest, however, they tend to give the impression of stopping entry into the image. Shooting over or through them and using that one lone pylon as foreground interest would be a better choice. The trawler area is very busy and cluttered. If you couldn't isolate just one trawler, eliminating the left side and concentrating on the two trawlers on the right would make a stronger image. The image appears oversharpened with lots of halos. Often these can be eliminated by reducing the sharpening.
01A	Cathy	Washday Blues	4	BRONZE	You've included enough of the yacht and the washing hanging on the side tells a strong story of life at sea. The sky appears a little dull, maybe you tried to darken it, and now the tones are looking a little muddy. You could also brighten the washing a little. There are numerous halos and the ocean looks a little too sharp. Try sharpening just the subject in future, particularly when there is water in the shot. I'll often select the subject then contract the selection by 1 pixel before sharpening which helps to prevent halos appearing.

B GRADE					
07B	Lynn	All Aboard	4	BRONZE	The composition works with the diagonal line of the boat leading the eye, although a little more room at the top to include the flags would have been better. The boat is sharp and the colours are good. You could lift the shadows a little to make the people about to board the boat more prominent and show more detail in the darker areas of the boat. There are visible halos, possibly caused by over sharpening, which is something to <u>keep an eye on in future</u> .
25A	Greg	Must Catch the Wave	5	SILVER	This is a simple composition which works and tells the story of a surfer heading out and hoping to catch a wave. Your choice of aperture and focusing on the surfer means he and the foreground are sharp and the background ocean is nicely blurred, which gives a good sense of depth to the image.
25A	Greg	Night Fishing	3	MERIT	You've chosen to do some creative processing on this image and it has definitely made the fisherman and his rod prominent in the scene with their lighter tones against the darker background. The image is well composed with the man well placed in the frame. There is some fringing around the top of his hat and down the left side of his jacket which may have been caused during processing. You could afford to crop some of the dead space from the top of the image. The bottom with his reflection and the line of white waves adds interest to the foreground.
07B	Lynn	Spare a Coin	6	GOLD	This is a good story telling image as it includes their mode of transport as well as their type of accommodation in the background. There is good eye contact with all three humans and three very different facial expressions which adds interest. You could raise the midtones a little. If you use Lr go to Colour grading, click on midtones and raise the luminance slider.