









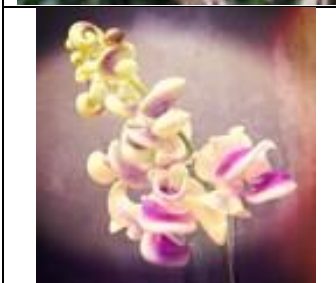












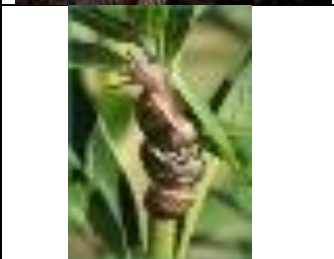




Results Living Creatures – September – 23.25

	<p>1 Go away flies Honours Oh that poor seal, it must be awful to have to deal with that many flies crawling all over its face. I like all the detail in the seal's fur and the sand, and the inside of the mouth is very graphic. Excellent depth of field creating lovely soft background and foreground.</p>
	<p>2 The Fly Merit The fly is sharp and in focus with every detail easy to see. I like the contrast between the green leaf and the background. I do feel that there is a lot of added space that is adding little to the image and would recommend a crop off the bottom of the image.</p>
	<p>3 Ribbit Acc It feels like this guy is staring at me while I assess the image. The eye is so sharp and clear. The frog's mouth is a little soft and I feel the image could have been stronger if the mouth was more in focus.</p>
	<p>4 Well hello Acc Well hello to you too! A lovely portrait of a horse with good composition, the head sitting nicely on one of the thirds. The colours feel a little over saturated and I feel would appear a little more natural if the saturation was a little less.</p>
	<p>5 Breast is best NA A touching family photo with the youngster suckling. The image appears to me to be somewhat pixelated. I suspect it is a large crop. The blur vignette covers some of the image however it is also over the edges of the animals which to me makes the artifacts stand out more. There are also some lines visible at the lower portion of the image where some cloning has been done.</p>
	<p>6 Da Boss Acc The title of this image takes me to the larger of all the eels being Da Boss, yet the smaller eel on the right-hand side draws me away as it is much clearer to see. I feel there is a little too much empty space at the top of the image and would recommend cropping a little off at the top.</p>
	<p>7 Piggyback snail Acc There is some nice detail in the top snail, with one of the antennae also being in focus. I would have liked to see the snail facing the camera instead of just seeing its back. Nice composition.</p>

	<p>8 Fungus Knat NA I cannot see anything in this image that is in focus. The edges of the knat also appear to be pixelated which I feel could be because of a large crop. There are also large areas with blown out highlights. I would suggest a little more practice could be required for macro.</p>
	<p>9 Weta Punga Honours This image is spectacular. The detail is so clear and sharp, the background soft and muted. I am willing to ignore the tiny blown out spot on the back leg, because everything else is done so well. Well done!</p>
	<p>10 Yellow Admiral Merit A nicely composed butterfly with some lovely detail in the face and wings. I like the position on the leaf and the soft background.</p>
	<p>11 Fancy Meeting You Here HC Very cute slimy snails. I like that they are facing the camera and the detail around the heads is good. The crop at the top is a little tight in my opinion and the image would be improved if they were not so high within the frame. Nice depth of field.</p>
	<p>12 Tiri Bellbird Acc The korimako has his eye on the camera and is really to fly off in a moment if he suspects danger. There is some nice detail in the feathers of the bird. I feel that this image could be improved with some noise reduction. The noise detracts from the bird especially around the tail feathers. I also feel that the bird is too tight within the frame. If this is a cropped image I would recommend not cropping in so tightly. I do like the lovely sharp eye and beak.</p>
	<p>13 Portrait of a snail Acc I really had to hunt for the snail in this image. The title had me expecting a close up of a snail, when in fact there is more of the flower than the snail. In my opinion the vignetting on this image is a little heavy especially with the texture over it as well. I would recommend editing back a little. It is a very cute little snail; I just would have liked to see more of it.</p>
	<p>14 Watch me waddle Acc He certainly is a handsome duck waddling through the image. I like that he has room to move within the frame and a clean background. I would have liked to have seen more in the shadowed areas particularly around the right-hand side of the image. Nice composition.</p>
	<p>15 Almost camouflaged Honours This is a work of art! I love that the black and white of the moth is mirrored on the wall beside it and with such lovely clean lines. The detail in the moth is amazing and the little pops of orange add interest. Very well seen!</p>

	<p>16 I hate photographs Acc Aww it is hard being a pup when everyone is pointing cameras at you. There is a little bit of movement in the snout which I suspect is the pup avoiding the camera, and I am a little distracted by the lack of paws and tail. In my opinion if the photographer had stepped back a little and included the entire dog, it might not have felt so threatened by the process, and may well have looked up to the camera. Worth a try anyway. I like the pop of colour with the blue collar and yellow registration tag.</p>
	<p>17 Slim Pickin's Acc Mrs Blackbird clearly like persimmons - I think that is what the fruit is, I could be wrong. The set subject is living creatures yet in this image the tree is more prominent than the bird. I feel it would have been better if it was cropped in a little more to give the bird the attention it deserves as the subject. I am also distracted by the stick in front of its head. I like that the eye is sharp, the beak open and the bird enjoying a yummy meal.</p>
	<p>18 Ladies having tea Merit These grand ladies look to be enjoying the melon. They are obviously engaged with the camera with at least one eye clearly looking right into the lens. I like the trees and sky in the background. I do feel that the elephants are a little cramped within the image. I would have preferred to see a little more of the environment around them. I like the detail and colours on their skin and trunks.</p>
	<p>19 Moo looking at you Merit A very handsome cow looking straight at the camera with curiosity as only a cow can. The light is a little harsh being right over head. I like the composition with the wild flowers and the hills and trees in the background.</p>
	<p>20 Raccoon Honours This is so cool! I love the look on the raccoon's face and how it appears to be wearing a black mask! The paw paused but really to move at a moment's notice, the complete connection with the camera. Lovely soft background and good detail in the fur. Great composition, well done!</p>
	<p>21 Seal Acc It feels like the photographer has gotten really close to this seal, I hope it was with a big lens. I would have liked to see the seal looking towards the camera for such an image, if it is being aggressive to another seal, then I feel that having more of the surrounding would have been beneficial. Overall, I feel that the crop is too tight and the seal is somewhat cramped within the frame. I like the detail in the mouth, whiskers and the nice sharp eye.</p>

	<p>22 Bubble Bee Merit I have given this image a merit because I really like the composition. The petals and leaves and the legs of the bee are in focus but to me it appears that there is some movement blur in the bee's face which distracts me. The detail is lost with the movement. I like the soft background clearly separating the subject.</p>
	<p>23 Praying Mantis Acc This little guy is standing tall and proud. He is nicely in focus and there is good detail. In my opinion though, he feels lost in the background and the spikes on the seedpod. I like that the eyes and mouth are so sharp.</p>
	<p>24 Evil Eye Puffer Fish Honours I love this image, the colours, the detail the soft background all work well. Great composition. Well done!</p>
	<p>25 Tuatara HC I like this image a lot. I would have liked to see the tuatara facing towards the camera rather than away but that is not taking away from the great detail in the body, beautiful sharp eye, soft muted background.</p>
	<p>26 Along for the ride Merit I have never seen this sort of thing before. Well spotted! There is some lovely detail in the shells of the snails and the leaves. It feels to me as if this image was taken using a very shallow depth of field as the head of the snail appears a little soft. The background disappears nicely and I like the composition.</p>
	<p>27 Seal pup encounter Acc Wow that is so close! I can see the photographer's reflection in the eyes. I like the little water droplets on the whiskers. In my opinion this image could be improved by adjusting the levels a little to lighten the background and give the seal a little more 'punch'. I feel it is a little flat. Great composition.</p>
	<p>28 Buzzy worker HC A lovely image showing the bee hard at work in its natural environment. I like the layers within this image created by using a wide f/stop. The bee and lavender through the centre of the image are sharp and in focus, the foreground is a little blurred which works and the background of green just finishes the image nicely.</p>