



SET SUBJECT PROGRAMME 2026

Evaluation Co-ordinators:

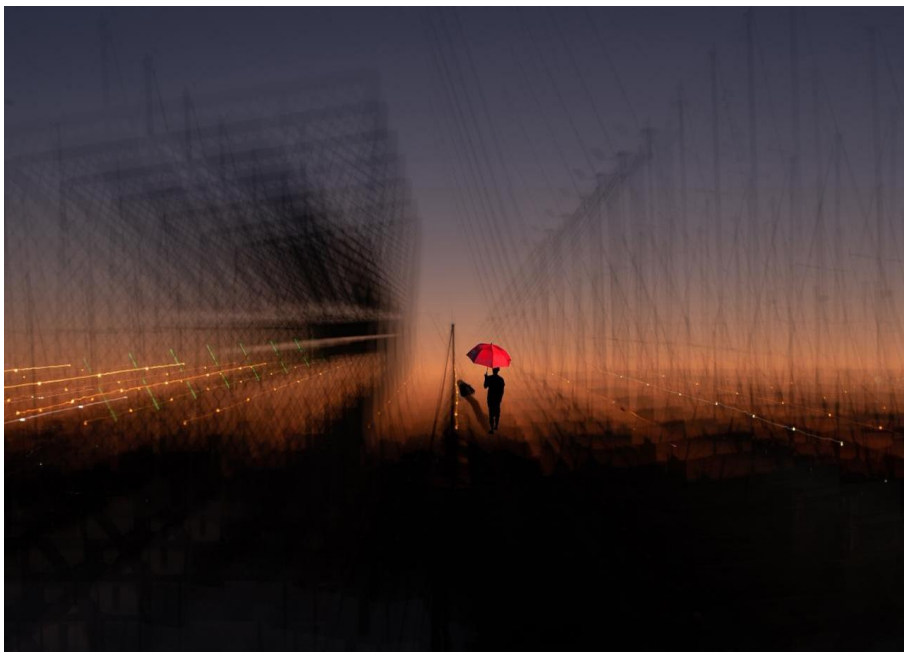
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These guidelines are provided to ensure both the photographer and the evaluation panel/judge are expecting similar things.

Please read the guidelines carefully before you choose the image to enter.



Lone Walker - Philippa Wells

The guidelines can encourage you to take a wider view of the topic than just the first one that occurs to you and hopefully they can inspire you to experiment.

The guidelines also help photographers to understand guidelines/definitions in outside competitions, such as, the National Exhibition and our own Club Salon and choosing appropriate photographs to enter.

Some of the set subjects require you to have an application, such as, Photoshop/Photoshop Elements and the skills to use that software. These skills have become part of modern photography and members are encouraged to develop and use these skills.

You may enter one set subject image and one open image for both Print and Digital (up to four images per month) except for November when there is only an open evaluation.

For more details on some of the set subjects, check the Bylaws on the Club Website, under the Resources Menu.

FEBRUARY PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st January 2026	Hand in Print: 5 February Feedback: 19 February	WATER refers to any photo that emphasis water as the main visual element. That can include landscape photography of an ocean, long exposure photos of silky waterfalls and even shots of particularly photogenic puddles. The goal of water photography is to capture the way water moves and how it interacts with light.
FEBRUARY DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 31st January 2026	Feedback: 5 March	STREET PHOTOGRAPHY - focuses on capturing candid moments of everyday life in public spaces. Every photo should paint a picture about the location, people or mood of the scene. The image must display an unmanipulated scene and not deemed to be a violation of an individual's privacy.
MARCH PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 28th February 2026	Hand in Print: 5 March Feedback: 19th March	CONTRE-JOUR/SILHOUETTE - is a technique in which the camera is pointing directly towards a strong source of light. The subject will have very little or no detail.
MARCH DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 28th February 2026	Feedback: 2nd April	NATURE - these are photographs of natural subjects such as insects, butterflies and moths, birds, animals, plants or geological features. Images which are not allowed under the nature definition or which are wrongly named will not be accepted. Refer to the Club Bylaws for full details
APRIL PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st March 2026	Hand in Print: 2nd April Feedback: 16th April	MONOCHROME - is either an image that gives the impression of having no colour (i.e contains only shades of grey which can include pure black and pure white) OR an image that gives the impression of being greyscale but has been toned in one colour across the entire image (For example, sepia, red, gold, etc.)
APRIL DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 31st March 2026	Feedback: 7 May	TRIPTYCH - a triptych is a presentation made up of three (and only three) distinctly separated photographic images displayed on a common background. The subject matter is open. See nelsoncameraclub.co.nz for more information
MAY PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 30th April 2026	Hand in Print: 7 May Feedback: 21 May	HIGH KEY - an image characterized by predominantly light tones, with minimal dark shadows. Such images display a reduced tonal range, consisting mainly of whites and light greys.
MAY DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 30th April 2026	Feedback: 4 June	ARCHITECTURE - an image that depicts buildings or parts of buildings, including both interior and exterior structures such as bridges or monuments. Exterior images show the building's appearance, while interior images capture the design and atmosphere. The aim is to present the image in a way that engages and appeals to the viewer.

JUNE PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st May 2026	Hand in Print: 4 June Feedback: 18 June	ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAITURE - an image that portrays a person's usual environment, such as in their home or workplace. It typically shows the subject's life and surroundings.
JUNE DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 31st May 2026	Feedback: 2nd July	RULE OF THIRDS - This is a compositional guideline which divides the frame into equal parts with two equally spaced vertical lines and two equally spaced horizontal lines. Key elements are placed along those lines or at their intersections (called power points) to create a more interesting and well-composed image.
JULY PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 30th June 2026	Hand in Print: 2 nd July Feedback: 16 July	STILL LIFE - depicts inanimate objects usually arranged as a small group. Tabletop photography, product photography and food photography are examples of Still Life Photography.
JULY DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 30th June 2026	Feedback: 6 August	IN THE KITCHEN - you may use any style of photography, but the image must be taken in a kitchen or be an object from a kitchen.
AUGUST PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st July 2026	Hand in Print: 6 August Feedback: 20 August	MACRO - this involves capturing extreme close-up images of small subjects or a small part of a larger object, often making them appear larger than life size and revealing details that are not always visible to the naked eye. You could try focus-stacking.
AUGUST DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 31st July 2026	Feedback: 3 rd September	LOW KEY - is an image that emphasis's dark tones and shadows, creating a dramatic and often mysterious atmosphere. Think black cat sitting in a coal bunker.
SEPTEMBER PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st August 2026	Hand in Print: 3 rd September Feedback: 17 September	MINIMALISM - this type of image emphasis's simplicity. Using negative space and clean lines to create an uncluttered image.
SEPTEMBER DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 31st August 2026	Feedback 1 st October	LANDSCAPE - this may combine elements such as land, sea, bodies of water and sky and may include human elements for scale and context but not to the extent that the human element becomes the prominent element. Refer to the Club Bylaws for full details.

OCTOBER PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 30th September 2026	Hand in Print: 1 st October Feedback: 15th October	CREATIVE - a style of photography which is the opposite of documentary or realism. It is often a combination of several images blended together to present a perspective, convey a message, or tell a story. It is about using photography to create something original and meaningful and visually compelling, often by combining technical skill with artistic vision.
OCTOBER DIGITAL Upload digital to Website 30th September 2026	Feedback 5 November	FLOWERS - you may try any style of photography, but the main subject must be flowers or a flower.
NOVEMBER PRINT Upload digital copy of print to Website 31st October 2026	Hand in Print: 5 November Feedback: 4 February 2027	OPEN ONE IMAGE ONLY
NOVEMBER DIGITAL Upload Digital to Website .31st October 2026	Feedback: 4 February 2027	OPEN ONE IMAGE ONLY