And now to the clever and lucky winners!!    Drumroll…

Third Prize   =  No. 6 – pre-wedding celebration, Bundi
This photo is very vibrant, full of movement, colour and music. Being in the street every onlooker can participate, which  adds to the theme  of celebration.
This shot is wonderfully framed. Keeping the observers on left and right sides; angling to get the feeling of the full length of the street. And then of course the moment is perfect - we see faces and arms raised in obvious joy.

Second Prize  = No 13  - celebration with half full

How imaginative to show a celebration without the protagonist(s) !
We all see little miracles of reflection and colour - but there's genuine skill and artistry in finding the right place for the camera and adjusting the elements in the frame to really make an image "pop".

Champagne has become a symbol and has allowed the celebrating photographer to take a shot through the glass. We liked the contrast between the clear focus on the glass and the landscape distorted in colour and shapes.

First Prize =   No. 41 – Buddhist nun celebrating Australian nature

A celebration of stillness and nature at dawn or at sunset. Beautiful  sand and cloud patterns lead our eye to the calm solitary and serene figure.
The composition contributes very well to the mood: a red , distant figure standing between two contrasting elements of nature.
It is always a delight to see an image where the composition echoes, even amplifies, the story.
There is a lovely contrast between the boisterous celebration in the 3rd prize.with the calm serenity of this scene

YOUTH COMPETITION:
No 3:   has won an encouragement award. Since the youth entries were all by the same person, there wasn't really a 'competition'. However we want to encourage the young photographer to keep up the good work,  so we offer the Encouragement Award, and this note : it is important to learn how to compose an image: this image is essentially an abstract play on colour and light, and might have been helped if the contrast were higher and the foreground cropped.