



Sturminster Newton Literary Festival

Poetry Competition 2019

We are really excited to announce the launching of The Sturminster Newton Literary Festival Poetry Competition and invite you to send in poems on the theme of **Water**.

Primary school children age 4-11: up to three entries of no more than 20 lines
Secondary school children age 11-18: up to three entries of no more than 40 lines
Adults: £3 fee for up to three entries of no more than 40 lines

The Poetry Competition is being run on behalf of the Festival by The Friends of Sturminster Newton Library and is being judged by local poet Valerie Bridge. A love of words has always been Valerie's passion. Her work has been published in several of the poetry presses and prize anthologies: *Envoi*, *Tears in the Fence*, *Brando's Hat*, *Smoke, Fire, Kent and Sussex Anthology*, the *Exeter Prize Anthology*, *Poetry Monthly*, *Dorset Waters*, *Dorset Contours* and the Russell Cotes Museum's *Poetry Under Painted Skies*. In 2004, she won Ottaker's regional poetry prize. Valerie has two collections of poetry published: *A Somersault of Doves* (2013), which won first prize at the Winchester Writers' Conference in the Slim Volume Small Edition 2013, and *air dumplings and paper cutlets* (2001).

Prizes:

The winning and shortlisted writers will see their entries published in an anthology which will be released in October 2019.

Closing date:

Midday on Saturday 1st June 2019.

The winners will be announced during the evening performance of the Festival in the Stour Hall on Saturday 15th June 2019. Winners will also be notified by post in the week immediately following the Festival.

Writers of winning and shortlisted poems will be invited to the Festival's Poetry Awards Ceremony at The Exchange, Sturminster Newton on Saturday 26th October 2019 at 2.30pm.

Full details are available at Sturminster Newton Library, or visit www.sturlitfest.com



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Poetry Competition Terms and Conditions

1. The theme for the 2019 Poetry Competition is **Water**.
2. Poems must be received on or before Saturday 1st June 2019.
3. All poems must be the original work of the entrant and should not have been previously published, accepted for publication by a magazine, nor entered in other competitions.
4. The length of each poem **must not exceed 40 lines for entries in the adult and 11-18-year-old secondary school age categories and 20 lines for 4-11-year-old primary school age entries** (excluding title and line breaks).
5. Each individual poem, regardless of length, must be typed on one sheet of plain A4 paper (except entries for primary school age child category, which can be handwritten).
6. The entrant's name must NOT appear on the poem.
7. All poems must be accompanied by a fully completed entry form and the **£3 fee** in the case of adult entries.
8. Please keep a copy of your poem, as manuscripts cannot be returned.
9. Copyright remains with the author, but Sturminster Newton Literary Festival reserves the right to have entries published on the internet, in an anthology or used for publicity purposes at any stage in the future. Submission of a poem implies acceptance of the conditions set out.
10. No acknowledgement of entry will be sent unless the competitor sends an SAE marked 'Acknowledgement'.
11. Competitors wishing to be informed of the results should enclose an SAE marked 'Results'.
12. The decision of the judge is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
13. The Festival reserves the right to withhold prizes if such an action is justified.
14. Entries not complying with competition rules will be disqualified.
15. **THE FESTIVAL CANNOT PAY TRAVEL COSTS FOR ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THE WINNERS' EVENT.**
16. All winners will be requested to provide a biography and photograph and take part in any subsequent publicity surrounding the competition.

Please send a copy of your poem, the completed entry form and payment (for adult entries) to:

Sturminster Newton Literary Festival Poetry Competition,
c/o The Friends of Sturminster Newton Library,
Bath Road,
Sturminster Newton,
DT10 1EH.



Sturminster Newton Literary Festival

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to **Friends of Sturminster Newton Library**.

Postal Entry Form

Name.....

Date of birth if 18 years or under.....

Home address.....

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Email address.....

Telephone number.....

I enclose the following poems:

Title 01.....

02.....

03.....

Please send this form, your poem(s) and payment (for adult entries only) to:
Sturminster Newton Literary Festival Poetry Competition
c/o The Friends of Sturminster Newton Library
Bath Road
Sturminster Newton



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DT10 1EH

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