

Rules

- All poems are judged anonymously and the name of the poet must not appear on the manuscript.
- Each poem must be typed on a separate sheet of paper and clearly state which part(s) of the competition it is entered for (Main Prize, Gaelic or Scots).
- The same poem can be entered for more than one part of the competition but it must be typed up separately for each part and counted as a separate entry.
- For postal entries please include two copies of each poem submitted.
- Poems must not exceed 40 lines (not including title).
- All entrants must be 16 years of age or over.
- Entries may be in English, Scots, Scots/Irish Gaelic.
- The competition is open to anyone throughout and outside the United Kingdom.
- Poems must not be previously published, accepted for publication or currently entered into another competition.
- There is no restriction on the number of poems submitted by each applicant to each category of the competition, provided the appropriate entry fee is included.
- Competition entries cannot be returned.
- Alterations cannot be made to poems once they have been submitted.
- All Main Prize Entries will be read initially by the Scottish Poetry Library who will create a short list prior to the final judging.
- Closing date for entries is Friday 30th May 2014. No entries will be accepted after this date.
- Winners will be notified by Friday 15th August 2014. Winners will be listed on the Wigtown Book Festival website from Friday 19th September 2014. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- No employee or board member of Wigtown Festival Company, the Gaelic Books Council, Saltire Society or Scottish Poetry Library may enter the competition.
- The copyright of each poem remains with the author. The authors of the winning poems grant Wigtown Festival Company the right to use the poems, including in Southlight Magazine, for one year from 19th September 2014.

Fee Structure

The first poem submitted costs **£6.50**

Multiple entries: the first three poems cost a total of £17.00.

Each subsequent entry after the first three costs £5 or a total of £12 for every additional block of 3, ie:

1 poem **£6.50**; 2 poems **£13**; 3 poems **£17**; 4 poems **£22**; 5 poems **£27**; 6 poems **£29**;
7 poems **£34**; 8 poems **£39**; 9 poems **£41**; 10 poems **£46**; 11 poems **£51**; 12 poems **£53** etc.

WIGTOWN BOOK FESTIVAL PRESENTS

2014 Wigtown Poetry Competition

In association with the Scottish Poetry Library

Main Prize £2000

Runner-up £400

Eight additional prizes of £25 each

Judge: W.N. Herbert

Gaelic Prize £250

Judge: Anne Lorne Gillies

Scots Prize £250

Judge: John Manson

For more information or to enter online visit:

www.wigtownbookfestival.com/poetrycomp or telephone 01988 402036

Scotland's International Poetry Prize, Open to All

Wigtown became Scotland's National Book Town in 1997, a mecca for booklovers drawn to this beautiful part of southwest Scotland by its secondhand bookshops. In January 2012, it was also designated Scotland's most creative small town in the inaugural Creative Place Awards.

www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk

Now in its 16th year, Wigtown Book Festival takes place from 26th September to 5th October 2014

www.wigtownbookfestival.com



THE JUDGES

Main Category: **W.N. Herbert**



W.N. Herbert is a widely published poet, his most recent collections include *Omniesia* (Bloodaxe, 2013), a PBS recommendation, and *Murder Bear* (Donut Press, 2013). His libretto *AntiMidas*, or *Bankers in Hades* (composer Evangelia Rigaki), was recently performed in the Beckett Theatre, Dublin. His books with Bloodaxe have been, variously, selected for the New Generation promotion, shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot, Forward and Saltire prizes and received Poetry Book Society Recommendations as well as Scottish Arts Council book awards. He reviews for numerous journals, including *Edinburgh Review* and *Poetry London*, and was selector for the Poetry Book Society. In 1992 he was Writer in Residence in Dumfries and Galloway. He taught Creative Writing at Lancaster, and is now Professor of Poetry and Creative Writing in the School of English at Newcastle University. He has judged numerous poetry competitions, including the Forward, the T.S. Eliot, the Arts Foundation and the National, and will shortly take over as judge of the Times Stephen Spender Prize for translation.

Gaelic Category: **Anne Lorne Gillies**



Dr Anne Lorne Gillies is not only a distinguished singer/song-writer but also a prolific, award-winning writer in both Gaelic and English. Her work has been published by Birlinn, Polygon, Mainstream, Acair, Gairm, Chapman, Northwords et al and includes short stories, articles, reviews, children's novels, autobiography and poetry. She has also written plays, film and television scripts, educational resources, and as editor and contributor, poetry anthologies – from *Seinneamaid Còmhla/Let's sing* (1983) – among the earliest Gaelic children's books – to *Can gun robh/What If* (2010) – a ground-breaking anthology reflecting the wide-ranging experience of today's Gaelic-speaking teenagers; from the seminal *Songs of Gaelic Scotland* (2005) currently in its 3rd edition, to *Coille an Fhàsaich/The Deserted Wood* (2009) the life-work of Berneray bàrd Donald MacKillop. She was Gaelic lecturer in the Education Faculty of Strathclyde University and has led writers' workshops in universities, festivals and schools from Applecross to Aberdeen, Kilmarnock to Tíree, Glasgow to Stornoway.

Scots Category: **John Manson**



John Manson, the literary critic, poet and translator, came from a Crofting background in Caithness; moving with his mother to a croft in Sutherland in his early twenties, he balanced teaching and poetry writing for many years. He has also lived in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, Motherwell, Roxburghshire, Cumbria, Edinburgh, Fife, and for 37 years in Galloway. He took early retirement from his profession as a primary school teacher to concentrate on research into Scottish authors of the 1930s, in particular Hugh MacDiarmid, Lewis Grassie Gibbon and James Barke; and on translation of prose and poetry into English and of poetry into Scots. In 2011 *Dear Grieve: Letters To Hugh MacDiarmid* (selected and edited by John Manson) was published. In 2012 The Saltire Society awarded him the Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Scotland's life and culture. As a literary sleuth he discovered around 300 MacDiarmid poems and a previously unpublished poem from one of the foremost Scottish poets of the twentieth century, Sydney Goodsir Smith.

Wigtown Poetry Competition

2014 Entry Form

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone (Daytime): _____ Mobile: _____

Title(s) of Poem(s)	Category (please tick)		
	Main	Gaelic	Scots

Total number of poems entered:

Total Payment:

Please make cheques payable to **Wigtown Festival Company** (see overleaf for fee structure)

To pay by credit or debit card:

Visa / Mastercard / Delta / Maestro (please delete as appropriate)

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Valid from: _____ / _____ Expiry: _____ / _____

Issue Number (Maestro): _____ Three Digit Security Code: _____

Please send to:
Wigtown Poetry Competition, Wigtown Festival Company,
County Buildings, Wigtown, DG8 9JH.

If you would prefer your details not to be added to the Wigtown Festival Company database to receive future information about the poetry competition and festival activities, please tick here
Wigtown Festival Company, County Buildings, Wigtown DG8 9JH Email: mail@wigtownbookfestival.com