



2019 Poetry Competition

Our native insects and plants are in catastrophic decline. Recent reports have shown how many species are disappearing. We are losing the intricate mix of species that gave the natural world such richness and inspired poets, artists and writers.

Waveney & Blyth Arts invites entries for our **2019 Poetry Competition**, which this year focuses on our theme of Bugs & Blossoms. We have chosen this to draw attention to the worrying declines in our insect and wild flower populations. Our work over the next few years will explore action for plants and insects in the context of orchards (linking with the UEA run Orchards East project), meadows and marshes, road verges and other pocket places. We invite entries that explore these issues and can contribute to our wider campaign.

We are delighted that **Dr Jos Smith** from University of East Anglia has once again agreed to be our judge.

Closing Date: Friday 16th August 2019

Cost: £3 per entry or £5 for two. Maximum of two entries per person.

Prizes: First Prize £100 cash. Runner up prizes – a) one year's membership of PlantLife and b) signed copy of Chris Baines' book on Wildlife Gardening.

In addition the three winners will be invited to read at The Seagull, Lowestoft's *New Words, Fresh Voices* night on 17 November 2019. The winner will have a 15 minute slot and the two runners up will share the second 15 minute slot.

In need of inspiration? Visit the launch exhibition at Palgrave Community Centre near Diss, 24-27 May 2019 or join us on one of our linked Bugs and Blossoms events through the summer. See website for details www.waveneyandblytharts.com

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the Ferini Art Gallery, Pakefield during the Bugs and Blossoms exhibition on Tuesday 17th September.

Full Bugs & Blossoms Poetry Competition entry details:

Theme: Bugs & Blossoms. Poems can feature either insects or plants or both.

Format: Poem max 40 lines

Closing Date: 10pm Friday 16th August 2019

Email entries only. Please send as an attachment in Word format or PDF to mappleby@tiscali.co.uk. Each piece (maximum TWO) must be on a separate sheet of A4. Each piece must have a title and be typed on one side of A4 - no indication of the author's name should appear on this sheet.

Entries must be accompanied by a separate covering note stating the name and contact details (including email address and telephone number) of the author and titles of the work being submitted. Please advise, if in the top three, whether you are able to attend the Arts & Eats event on 17th September at the Ferini Art Gallery, Pakefield.

Payment is by BACS transfer to

Waveney & Blyth Arts, Sort Code 40-19-18, account number 71561014. Please quote the reference: Poetry/'your name'.

or cheques payable to Waveney & Blyth Arts. Envelopes containing cheque payment should be addressed to:

Waveney & Blyth Words, c/o Haymead House, The Street, Wickham Skeith Eye IP23 8LP

When emailing your entry please advise which method you are using so your payment can be traced.

Poems should be in English and should not have been published or accepted for publication elsewhere. Poems that have won or are under consideration in other poetry competitions are not eligible.

Copyright of each poem remains with the author but Waveney & Blyth Arts has the unrestricted right to publish the winning poems on the Waveney & Blyth Arts website plus unrestricted rights to use the winning poems and any related material for PR purposes.

Unsuccessful entrants will be informed by email.

Your poems will not be returned, so do keep a copy. We do not send copies of the results to entrants.

Thank you for your interest in our writing competition. We look forward to reading your work. Good luck.