

Wigtown POETRY PRIZE 2021



In association with The Gaelic Books Council, Moniak Mhor, Saltire Society, Scottish Poetry Library, StAnza

WIGTOWN PRIZE £1500
RUNNER-UP £200



WIGTOWN SCOTS PRIZE £500
RUNNER-UP £200

WIGTOWN SCOTTISH GAELIC PRIZE £500
RUNNER-UP £200

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY FRESH VOICE AWARD

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT INCLUDING MENTORING BY WIGTOWN FESTIVAL COMPANY AND A RETREAT AT MONIACK MHOR CREATIVE WRITING CENTRE

ALASTAIR REID PAMPHLET PRIZE

PRODUCTION OF A PAMPHLET SET BY GERRY CAMBRIDGE

INVITATION TO READ AT STANZA 2022

A WINNER FROM ONE OR MORE CATEGORIES WILL BE SELECTED AT THE DISCRETION OF STANZA AND WIGTOWN FESTIVAL COMPANY

CLOSING DATE: 31 MAY 2021

For more information, rules or to enter online please visit www.wigtownpoetryprize.com
www.facebook.com/WigtownPoetryPrize or telephone 01988 402036

THE JUDGES



WIGTOWN PRIZE AND ALASTAIR REID PAMPHLET PRIZE

William Letford



WIGTOWN SCOTS PRIZE

Robert Alan Jamieson



WIGTOWN SCOTTISH GAELIC PRIZE

Sandy NicDhòmhnaill Jones

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY FRESH VOICE AWARD

Open to poets living in or from Dumfries & Galloway who have never professionally published a full-length collection, but who show promise.

ALASTAIR REID PAMPHLET PRIZE

Named in memory of the local poet who was one of Scotland's foremost literary figures, renowned for poetry, prose and translation.

PHOTO ON FRONT: HELEN RYMAN AT MOCHRUM ESTATE

Wigtown became Scotland's National Book Town in 1998, a mecca for booklovers drawn to this beautiful area of south-west Scotland by its secondhand bookshops and award-winning autumn literary festival. To find out more, go to www.explorewigtown.com.

Wigtown Book Festival takes place from 23 September - 3 October 2021. www.wigtownbookfestival.com.

WIGTOWN PRIZE WINNER 2020

Robert Duncan, *A Drystane Dyke*

A Drystane Dyke

I'll bigg a drystane dyke
fae Solway tae the Tweed
and I'll mak ilka stane
a word o guid Scots leid.

First lay the siccar hert
doun in its bed o yird:
misglimmed churls and chads,
grummel and grush and groll
gaihert fae garths and lanes,
blaes fae forhooit bings,
stanners fae Orkney strands.

Syne rickle it tae its fou heicht
tentily, tyre by tyre;
clinkers, lecks and haithens,
freestane, kingle, scurdie,
risers, parpens, throu-bands,
uncloured, undressed, unpunished,
nae lime or slime or mortar,
hauden fair and haint
by their ain wecht
and their sib rauch faces.
Gin there's an eemis stane,
pace and pace again
until it stands as sted
as ony ither.

A drystane dyke's no proud.
A drystane dyke's no pink.
A drystane dyke hauds aa sorts.
Winds o aa airts breathe throu it,
but nane steers it.
Baith sides are equal
and aa Jock Tamson's bairns
can add their stanes tae it.

I'll bigg a drystane dyke
fae Solway tae the Tweed
and ilka stane will be
a word o guid Scots leid.

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Delivered by
Wigtown Festival Company
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Scottish Poetry Library
Bringing people and poems together



Wigtown Festival Company is limited by guarantee with charitable status. Charity number SC037984.