

POETRY COMPETITION 2021

In aid of The Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary. Deadline for entries: June 7th 2021

We are inviting you to send us poems for a competition in aid of The Lord Whisky Sanctuary

A competition for poems on the theme of HEALING. This can be widely interpreted, for example the work of doctors and nurses, physical and psychological healing, the process of healing a rescue animal after bad treatment, the healing companionship of animals for human beings, spiritual leaders, the healing effect of writing or art etc.

Prizes: First prize of 25% of total entry fees received

Second prize of 10%

Third prize of 5%

Prize of 5% for a poem on a rescue animal or an animal sanctuary and its work

Prize of 5% for a poem by a previously unpublished poet

These percentages may be adjusted depending on the total entry in 2021, but the prize fund is set at 50% of total entry fees.

A set of shortlisted poems and poets will be published.

All entries will be considered for the main prizes as well as any category (unpublished writer/ rescue) which they qualify for.

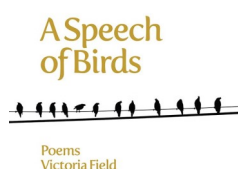
ENTRY FEE: £5 per poem. Entry is by donation to the sanctuary (see rules for further details on how to submit)

50% of all proceeds will be used by the sanctuary for the care of the animals. Last year the competition raised over £300 for the charity and gave total prizes of over £300.

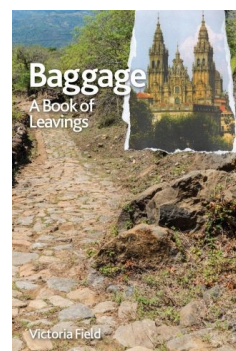
Judge: Victoria Field, prize-winning poet, writer and poetry therapist



Photo by Randal MacKechnie



Recent collection



Memoir

Victoria Field is a writer and a poetry therapist. She has published four collections of poetry. Her most recent, *A Speech of Birds*, published by Francis Boutle (<https://francisboutle.co.uk/products/a-speech-of-birds>) came out in 2020. Her previous collection, *The Lost Boys*, from Waterloo Press in 2013, won the Holyer An Gof prize for Poetry and Drama. *Many Waters* (2006) was based on a residency at Truro Cathedral. She also writes fiction, drama and memoir and is currently researching pilgrimage at Canterbury Christ Church University. Her website is www.thepoetrypractice.co.uk

Margaret Todd, the founder of The Lord Whisky Sanctuary, or a member of her family, will judge the prize for a poem on a Rescue Animal or Sanctuary.

Poems must be 40 lines or less.

The results will be published on <https://www.lordwhisky.co.uk/news-and-events> by August 14th. Winners and listed poets will be invited to take part in a Zoom reading in September.

PLEASE READ THE RULES BELOW CAREFULLY. We look forward to receiving your entries.

HOW TO ENTER: Online entries:

1. Please read all the rules of the competition. Poems that do not follow the rules may be disqualified.
 2. Make a donation of £5.00 per entry to Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary at <http://www.lordwhisky.co.uk/donate> Additional donations are of course welcome to help with the work of the sanctuary.
 3. Make a note of your PayPal transaction number.
 4. Attach your poems, each in a separate document, to an e-mail. Please submit as .doc or .docx or .pdf. In the subject line of the e-mail, please write **Poetry Competition**
- In the body of the e-mail, include your **name** and **postal address** and at least one **telephone number** and **e-mail address**. Include the **titles** of all your poems.
- Include the **Paypal transaction number** and the **amount in pounds of the donation** you have made.
5. Send the e-mail to lord.whisky@btinternet.com

Postal entries

1. Include a cheque for the amount of £5.00 per poem entered, payable to Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund.
2. **Send TWO COPIES of each poem.** Type your poems, each on one sheet of A4 paper and put in the same envelope with a separate A4 cover note.
3. The cover note should include your **name, postal address, telephone number, e-mail address** if you have one, and **fee paid**.
4. Post the entries, cover note and cheque to: Poetry Competition, Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund, Park House, Stelling Minnis, near Canterbury, Kent CT4 6AN.

RULES

- Your name must **NOT** appear on the poem itself nor anything else which might identify you. All poems will be judged **anonymously**.
- Each entered poem, including its title, should be typed **in a standard 12 point font** such as Arial and should not bear anything to identify the poet. No fancy/coloured/oversized fonts or images please! Maximum length, excluding title and any blank lines: **40 lines**.
- Poems must be the **original work** of the entrant, unpublished, and must not have won a prize in any other competition. No entrant may win more than one prize.
- Poems should be on the theme of Healing. It can be widely interpreted.
- The competition is open to entrants over 16 years of age from the UK or any other country.
- All poems received will be considered for the main prizes by the judge.
- IMPORTANT:** You may wish your poems to also be considered for the other categories of POEM BY A PREVIOUSLY UNPUBLISHED WRITER and/or POEM ABOUT A RESCUE ANIMAL OR SANCTUARY. If so, please write at the top of your poem, after the title, either PUW or RESCUE or, if applicable, both.

Please note: The Previously Unpublished Writer category is for poets who have had **no poems published in books, magazines, online magazines or anthologies**. If you have put poems on your private Facebook page, you can still enter the PUW category.

- Entry fee: £5.00 per poem.** Payment is by donation to the Lord Whisky Sanctuary through the Sanctuary website. Payment is made via PayPal's secure server. You do not need a PayPal account to pay in this way.
- Entries close at midnight (local time) on 7th June 2021.
- As there is a different judge this year, you can, if you wish, re-enter poems from previous competitions, provided they were **not** awarded a prize and were **not** shortlisted. Previous years' prize-winners are welcome to enter new poems.
- Copyright remains with the poet but the Sanctuary **may publish any prize-winning poems** in its magazine or online.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Please keep a copy of your work, as we cannot return entries. Please check your entry before you send it, since we cannot amend it for you later.
- The judge's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. Winners and shortlisted will be notified by e-mail, post or phone.
- Copyright remains with the author, but we would like to display winning entries either on the website or at the Sanctuary.
- All poems will be read by the main judge. Results will be posted on the Lord Whisky website.
- Margaret Todd, founder of the Lord Whisky Sanctuary, will judge the 'RESCUE' prize.
- We plan to invite all shortlisted poets to read at a Zoom event, probably in early September 2021.
- All revenue from the competition after prizes is for the Sanctuary.

THANK YOU FOR ENTERING AND FOR SUPPORTING THE SANCTUARY