

Ripon Poetry Festival 2021 Poetry Competition

The Other Side of the Looking Glass

As part of the fourth Ripon Poetry Festival (7-10 October), local people of all ages are invited to submit poems to the festival poetry competition.

The best of the entries will be collected in a book published during the festival. Everyone who has a poem in the book will be invited to the launch (Friday 8 October) where you will receive a free copy of the book.

There are four categories:

children under 11 (£1 entry fee per poem)

between 11-16 (£2 entry fee per poem)

adults (£3 entry fee per poem or £5 for 2 poems)

schools (£10 entry fee for up to 20 poems)

Poems are invited on any subject. Because this year marks the 150th anniversary of the first publication of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass*, we are also looking for poems about escaping from the strange mirror-world of endless Lockdown. As the White Queen says to Alice, 'It's a poor sort of memory that only works backwards!'

You can submit as many poems as you want. Maximum length for each poem is 45 lines. Poems must be your own work and should not have been previously published. All entries are judged anonymously so please do not include your name on the same page as the poem.

Closing date: 23 July 2021

Name

Address

.....

.....

Telephone.....

Email.....

Title(s) of poems submitted

.....

.....

.....

11 & under []

School []

11 to 16 []

Entry fee enclosed []

Over 16 []

How To Enter

You can send your entry by post (enclosing a cheque) to Ripon Poetry Festival, c/o 21 Wellington Street, Ripon HG4 1PH. Please make cheques payable to 'Ripon Poetry Festival'.

You can hand in your entry at the Little Ripon Bookshop and pay by cash, cheque, debit or credit-card.

Or you can email your entry to submissions@riponpoetryfestival.co.uk.

The Judges

Claire Thompson is the Outreach Librarian at Ripon Library, a big fan of nonsense rhymes and of poems that tell a story. Her favourite poets are Edward Lear, T S Eliot, Paul Cookson and Wendy Cope. **Olivia Mulligan** is currently BBC Radio York's Poet Laureate; her first collection is *Poems on the Gate Post*. She lives in Thirsk. **Andy Croft** is a writer and poet. His most recent books are *The Years of Anger* and *The Sailors of Ulm*. He lives in Grewelthorpe.

