

2006 OPEN SHORT STORY COMPETITION

FOR AN ORIGINAL STORY NOT EXCEEDING 2,500 WORDS

SENIOR JUDGE: MICHAEL JECKS Best selling author of the Templar Series
of medieval mystery novels.

Write a story on any topic of not more than 2500 words for a chance to win a cash prize.

MAJOR PRIZES:-

- 1st. Prize £300**
- 2nd. Prize £150**
- 3rd. Prize £ 75**

Three (at least) runners-up £15 + Certificates of Distinction & Merit

PLUS

LOCAL AWARDS Sponsored by the Mere & District Chamber of Trade

Story by a resident living within a 10 mile radius of Mere.
(Please tick box on Entry Form if eligible.)

JUNIOR SECTIONS Short Story AGE AS AT CLOSING DATE OF COMPETITION.

- a) 11 years & Under - (Max.1000 words)**
- b) 12 – 16 years inclusive - (Max.1500 words)**

ENTRY FEES:- Please make cheques or POs payable to Mere Literary Festival

OPEN - £4. 00 per first story
£3.50 second and subsequent entries

JUNIORS:- £1.50 per story
25% discount on school entries of 10 or more stories

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES JULY 10th. 2006

Please send entries **by post** as early as possible to-

MLF Competition
Lawrences,
Old Hollow,
MERE, Wilts. BA12 6EG

ADJUDICATION & AWARD CEREMONY - SUNDAY OCTOBER 15th. 3p.m.

The finale of the 2006 Mere Literary Festival (October 9th.–15th.) with Michael Jecks
and the Local & Junior judges.

All short-listed entrants and merit awards will be informed before 30th.Sept and invited to the awards, although you don't have to be a winner, or even an entrant, to come along to this event. Adjudications given by experienced and successful writers are a great way to learn.

Please read the competition rules before completing your entry form and posting off your story. Your entry will help the work of the Mere & District Linkscheme (Reg Charity No;1062328)and your support is much appreciated

MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL COMPETITION RULES

1. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not have been previously published, broadcast on radio or TV, or awarded a prize in a competition.
2. Entries must be in English and typed or very clearly written on one side only of A4 paper.
3. Submissions must not bear the name of the author or have any other form of identification. The author's name must only appear on the Entry Form. Submissions bearing identification of any kind will be disqualified and entry fees will not be returned. Entries will be coded for the judging.
4. Any number of entries may be submitted providing the relevant fees are enclosed. The Entry Form may be photocopied.
5. No competitor may win more than one prize. This does not apply to supplementary or special prizes.
6. Entries will not be returned and competitors are advised to keep a copy of their work. All reasonable care will be taken, but the Mere & District Linkscheme accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage to manuscripts.
7. Submissions will not be acknowledged unless a suitably worded, stamped addressed postcard is included with the entry.
8. The Judges decisions are final. No correspondence will be entered into.
9. Copyright of material remains with the author but the Mere & District Linkscheme reserve the right to use entries at festival events.
10. Trustees of the Mere & District Linkscheme and anyone helping to organise the festival are not eligible to enter any competition.
11. Short-listed entrants will be notified and all winners will be announced at the Festival Sunday Event. Results will be made available to the Local & Writing Press. Competitors wanting a Copy of the results or monies raised should enclose sae marked RESULTS or MONEY with their entry.
12. In the event of the festival being cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, all monies will be refunded in full.

Entrants are asked to pay particular attention to rules 1 – 3

Entries should be sent by post to arrive by the competition closing date to:

MLF Competition
Lawrences,
Old Hollow,
MERE
Wilts.
BA12 6EG

MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL 2006

ENTRY FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ Post Code _____

I am eligible for the Local Award.

AGE (if 16 or under) _____

ENTRY FEE

_____ **£4.00 first entry £3.50 thereafter**

Juniors _____ **£1.50 per entry** (Less 25% Block School Entry)

TOTAL _____ **Please make cheques /POs payable to
Mere Literary Festival**

TITLES OF ENTRIES

I have read and accept the competition rules

Signed _____

Date _____