

**2005 OPEN POETRY COMPETITION**  
**FOR AN ORIGINAL POEM**  
**(NOT EXCEEDING 40 LINES)**

**SENIOR JUDGE: DAVID CADDY** Published poet, founder of the East Street Poets and editor of *Tears in the Fence*.

*Write a poem on any topic of not more than 40 lines for a chance to win a cash prize.*

**MAJOR PRIZES:-**

1<sup>st</sup>. Prize £200  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Prize £100  
3<sup>rd</sup>. Prize £ 50

Three (at least) runners-up £10 + Certificates of Distinction & Merit

**PERFORMANCE PRIZES**

Short listed poems will be showcased at a festival reading **Poetry in the Pub** on Friday 14th October and judged by the audience.

**LOCAL AWARDS Sponsored by the Mere & District Chamber of Trade**

Poem 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.**

11 years & Under  
12 – 16 years inclusive

**ENTRY FEES:-**

OPEN - £3. 00 per first poem  
£2.50 second and subsequent entries

JUNIORS - £1.00 per poem  
25% discount on school entries of 10 or more poems

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 11th JULY 2005**

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

**MLF Competition**  
**Lawrences,**  
**Old Hollow,**  
**MERE,**  
**Wiltshire.**  
**BA12 6EG**

**ADJUDICATION & AWARD CEREMONY - SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER at 3 pm.**

The finale of the Mere Literary Festival

*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, publicly performed 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 suitable 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  
Wiltshire.  
BA12 6EG

# MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL 2005 ENTRY FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

POST CODE \_\_\_\_\_

I am eligible for the Local Award.

AGE (if 16 or under ) \_\_\_\_\_

## ENTRY FEE

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ £3.00 first entry £2.50 thereafter

Juniors \_\_\_\_\_ £1.00 per poem (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 \_\_\_\_\_