

# Wigtown POETRY PRIZE 2021



In association with The Gaelic Books Council, Moniack 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](http://www.wigtownpoetryprize.com)  
[www.facebook.com/WigtownPoetryPrize](https://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 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  
gaithert 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 hainit  
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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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](http://www.explorewigtown.com).

Wigtown Book Festival takes place from 23 September - 3 October 2021. [www.wigtownbookfestival.com](http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com).



Delivered by  
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DG8 9HN



Scottish Poetry Library  
Bringing people and poems together



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