



Newsletter

May 2011

Visit to Falkirk

On October 5th a group of approximately 10 visited Falkirk Group where we were tasked with bringing to the night 'a story in 50 words'. There was a wide variety of topics aired amidst much amusement. We were treated to warm hospitality and an excellent supper, and everyone agreed it was a very enjoyable evening.

Jim Douglas

Local writer, poet, song-writer, artist and many other talents besides, visited us on 19th October, and spoke about creativity and what inspires him. He demonstrated this process through his paintings, wood carving, and silver jewellery. It was a very entertaining evening enjoyed by all those present.

Poetry Competition

Helen Lawrensen announced the winners of the poetry competition when she visited us on 16th November.

1st Caroline Mackay

2nd Jim Waite

3rd Anne Pack

The prizewinners read their own entries, after which Helen spoke to members about the process of writing, things to observe when doing so, and gave tips on rhyme. She read her own and other peoples' work to give examples of style.

The prolonged spell of inclement weather meant we had to postpone two meetings, but we gathered again in early February where we made up for lost time, by holding the silent auction, a workshop and heard the results of the schools poetry competition, all in one evening.

Schools Poetry Competition

Jim said that he had been disappointed by the low number of entries, and by the standard of some of them. However, the winners, Joshua al Nazar and Grace Macdonald, were awarded, personally, with their prizes, by Jim when he visited their school, Breadalbane Academy. It is hoped the resulting press photograph will encourage children to enter in future years.

Olive Lawrie Competition

Novelist Kirsten McKenzie gave an interesting evening on 15th February when she gave an adjudication on the Olive Lawrie competition. The winners were:

1 Jim Waite

2 Stuart Wardrop

3 Loretta Whitcomb

Pocketful of Perthshire

Weaving through the meetings, updates were given on the plans for this year's Pocketful of Perthshire which will take place on 26th May. Gill, Anne, Jim and Margaret met several times to compile a programme, which promises to offer just as great a variety as last year.

President's Prize

Jim gave a detailed adjudication on the entries for the President's Prize, saying he was pleased with the number and quality of entries. The winners were:

1st Loretta Whitcomb

2nd Stuart Wardrop

3rd Ian Steven

Commended – Jean Pearce

Writer of the Year

Jim Waite was Writer of the Year.

Annual Dinner

On 15 April a dozen members and friends enjoyed dinner in the pleasant surroundings of a private dining room at The Aviator, Scone.

Scottish Association of Writers (SAW)

Anne contacted SAW to find out why PW had not received notification of the call for annual subscription. It transpired that our contact details had dropped off the system. Anne ensured they were reinstated, and she attended the delegates meeting on 7th May in Perth. Following the meeting, Anne arranged for a two-way link between the websites of both groups, and updated the PW details on the SAW site.

I hope the above information has been helpful. If you would like more/less please let me know. I am happy to be advised for future editions.

Anne Pack

Secretary

Tel: 01828 686510

Email: anne@annepack.co.uk

14 May 2011