



ULLAPOOL WORDS 500 (UW500) PRESS RELEASE:

The Ullapool Bookshop is delighted to announce the launch of a new Creative Writing competition for Adults and Children. The '**Ullapool Words 500' (UW500)**'s was inspired by the recent local Creative Writing Course, led by Poet Stephen Keeler, to write or create a story of up to 500 words. The **UW500** has its own identity.

It is hoped that the competition will generate some wonderful creative writing during these difficult times and also that perhaps whilst people have a little more time on their hands, this may be a fun way of passing some time and also the added bonus of winning a Competition in its first year.

Competition Details

Deadline

LAUNCH DATE: 1ST JUNE 2020

ENTRIES OPEN: 14TH JUNE 2020

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY: 12NOON ON 14TH JULY 2020

PRIZE WINNERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY: 8PM ON 30TH JULY 2020 AT THE LATEST

Entries will only be accepted from the Ullapool and surrounding catchment area (extending from Ullapool, Lochinver, Achiltibuie and Dundonnell only in its' first year).

The theme in this inaugural year will be 'HOLIDAYS.'

Categories

- 1) Adults: are invited to submit a short story of no more than 500 words.
- 2) Children from both Primary and High School ages: There are 2 sections for the Children's Area: a) for those from 5-8 years old: a short story of no more than 300 words b) for those from 9-18: A short story of no more than 500 words.

Judging

The Adult entries will be judged anonymously by Stephen Keeler (Creative writing teacher) for Adults and Ruth Thomson, English Department, Ullapool High School for Children. Other helpers will read the entries and make comments and overall general recommendations to the judges.

JUDGE: Stephen Keeler is an award-winning poet. He regularly reads from his work at poetry events and book launches and is widely published in journals, magazines and anthologies. His chapbook, 'While You Were Away' is published by Maquette Press. After a forty-year career in international language education, he moved to Ullapool ten years ago, where he has now taught over 30 creative writing courses, residential weekends and poetry workshops.

JUDGE: RUTH THOMPSON: Ruth Thompson has over 10 years of secondary English teaching- and still one of the things that inspires her is excellent writing from young people.

6 prizes of National Book Tokens (donated by Ullapool Bookshop) will be awarded to the 6 top stories, 3 in each category. The 6 prize winners will be Invited to read at an Ullapool Bookshop event during the Winter season 2020. The Ullapool Bookshop also intends to publish a small book later in the year containing all 6 prize winners stories, which will be made available for sale in the bookshop

and also via the Ullapool Trading website. The Proceeds from the sale of this small book, will be put towards encouraging further Creative writing projects and hopefully towards future competitions.

Prizes

National Book Tokens will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes in both the Adult and Childrens section. The prizes can either be redeemed in person when bookshops re-open or can also be redeemed over the phone when placing an order for books. Prizes will be awarded in 2 Categories:

ADULTS:

1st Prize: £50 National book token / 2nd Prize: £30 National book token / 3rd Prize: £15 National book token

CHILDREN:

1st Prize: £50 book token / 2nd Prize: £30 book token / 3rd Prize: £15 book token

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR PRESS CONTACT:

KATHARINE DOUGLAS, ULLAPOOL BOOKSHOP MANAGER (ADMIN MANAGER FOR UW500)

ULLAPOOL BOOKSHOP, QUAY STREET, ULLAPOOL, IV26 2UE

ullapoolbookshop@btconnect.com or sales@ullapooltrading.com

PHONE: 01854 612918 OR 07742 191 210 (KATHARINE DOUGLAS)

JUDGES:

ADULT: Stephen Keeler, Creative Writing teacher

CHILDREN: Ruth Thomson, English Department, Ullapool High School

OVERALL ADMINISTRATOR: KATHARINE DOUGLAS, Ullapool Bookshop Manager

ADMIN ASSISTANT: JILL BRUCE

LOGO DESIGNER: SHIRLEY ROSE, ULLAPOOL

We look forward to reading your stories.

SPONSORS OF PRIZES:

The National Book Token Prizes will be provided and donated by the ULLAPOOL BOOKSHOP (OWNERS WILLIAM AND KATRINA THOMSON).

A HUGE THANK YOU ALSO TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR DONATIONS TOWARDS THE PRODUCTION OF THE BOOKLET. ANY PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE BOOKLET WILL BE RE-INVESTED IN FUTURE CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITIONS:

ULLAPOOL HARBOUR TRUST

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