

ROBERT MONTEITH INTERNATIONAL

COMEMORATIVE POETRY COMPETITION.

Robert Monteith Inaugural Poetry Competition 2016

This is a new annual competition open to published and un-published poets, spoken word poets and students over 18 years of age.

The Robert Monteith International Poetry Competition is focused on becoming an important annual event in the cultural calendar of Wicklow and Ireland.

It commemorates Captain Robert Monteith, of the Irish Brigade who played a very active role in the events leading up to 1916.

More details can be found on <http://www.irishbrigade.eu/recruits/monteith.html>

This years poetry theme is 1916.

Entry

Poems in English written or spoken word, are welcome.:

This is an international competition and entries are encouraged from all parts of the world.

We hope develop a poetry competition for younger poets within the competition in the future.

Entry is €5 per poem and is by postal submission only.

**Competition details and entry form can be gotten by email from ;
robertmonteithpoetry@gmail.com**

Personal cheques, postal orders, bank drafts & international money orders are accepted. Competitors from all other countries than Ireland must use a valid method of payment.

All entries must be posted to;

Huw O'Toole, Kiltimon, Newcastle, Greystones, Co. Wicklow. A63ED68, Ireland and should be clearly marked **Robert Monteith Poetry Competition.**

Spoken word entries are to be on non returnable CD or SD only.

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No entries by hand or email.

All entries must be the original work of a living author.

Poems must not have been previously published, self-published or published on a website or broadcast.

The poems must not exceed 50 lines, typed **not written** on one side of the paper only.

The poems and payment, should be included in the entry.

The name of the entrant or identifying remarks **must not** appear on the poem itself.

A sepearte sheet of paper must include the name and contact details of the poet or it will be disqualified immediatly.

No canvassing is allowed. This will immediatly disqualify the entrant.

- No alterations can be made to the poem once it has been submitted and no entries can be returned.
- The judges' decisions is final and no correspondence can be entered into regarding those decisions. The closing date is 16th May 2016.
- The winner and the prizes will be announced and awarded during Newtownmountkennedy Festival 12th June 2016. A shortlist will be contacted 2 weeks prior to this event
- Short listed poets will be asked to read some of their work.
- Copyright will remain with the poet, but Robert Monteith Poetry Competition reserves the right to arrange first publication or broadcast of selected poems as it sees fit.
- Submission of a poem implies the competitor's acceptance of the conditions set out above.

Competition calendar

Entries open: 11 February 2016

Closing date: **16 May 2016.** (entries can be postmarked 16th May)

Winners notified: By 30th May 2016

Awards ceremony: 12th June Newtownmountkennedy festival.

Judges

Entries will be judged by the Wicklow poet Breda Wall Ryan

Our intent/objective;

Is to exploring Irish society's development and justice during and since the Rising of 1916.

It is also developing through poetry and of literature the challenge of engaging in complex issues.

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Prizes.

Winning entry will be read by the poet if desired on East Coast FM.

Poems published on our web page.

Winning Poem publicised on Poetry Ireland and Irish Writers Centre.

Winning Poem Published in Local Papers.

Books

ADULT CATEGORY (PUBLISHED and UNPUBLISHED)

Winning Prize:

One single prize of € 250.00 for the winning entry.

(Sponsored by Newtown Tidy Towns Committee)

A stay on Tigh Oilean Westmeath on Lough Ree's famous Inch Mor island for 2 people.

This house is an ideal writers retreat and is set in an SAC area.

Very quiet and calm. Access is by local boats. No ferry or landing facilities.

Its the ideal peaceful retreat. Self catering.

Email; tigoilean@gmail.com Website www.islandlife.ie

(Sponsored by Huw O'Toole Designs Ltd)

Runners-up: The last 4 runners up will be published on our web page, and a book token will be given.

(Sponsored by Dubray books)

Thank you and good luck

Huw O'Toole

11th February 2016.

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A Brief Synopsis of Captain Robert Monteiths.

Robert Monteith soldier and Nationalist, was born in a farmhouse in the village of Newtownmountkennedy on March 1, 1879. His family farmed at Season Park and he attended school in the locality.

Robert joined the British Army and serving in India during the border wars and South Africa during the Boer War.

He joined the Irish Volunteers and served them in Ireland, America, Germany, Tralee and was with Roger Casement through his final months.

On Roger Casement after landing with him on Banna Strand

“Had I known the ending of the chapter, I would surely have let him sleep into eternity in the foaming water on Banna Strand, the water that had tried to be kind to one of Ireland’s heroes”

Robert Byrne

Conclusion:

Robert Monteith, was a soldier, a poet, an intellectual, a visionary, and a deeply spiritual Irishman who made many sacrifices to effect the impossible dream of freedom for all.

His poetry portrays a uniquely soulful patriot, who until this point has been largely overlooked.

He is one of the few persons who really understood Roger Casements commitment to Ireland.

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