
Elmbridge 17th Literary Competition

Terms and conditions of entry

Please read these carefully as some of the terms and conditions regarding layout and submission have changed. Entries that DO NOT comply to the conditions set out below will not be accepted.

Entry to the Elmbridge Literary Competition for adults is £5 with under 18s free. **Entry Fee:** Adult Entries, once submitted, the £5 entry fee should be paid via PayPal on the R C Sherriff Trust Website. Please ensure you use your name as reference. If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to The R C Sherriff Trust.

Age Categories:

- Ages 5 – 7; Little rhymes and stories.
- Ages 8 - 11 (Junior); Poems and short stories.
- Ages 11 (Secondary) - 13; Poems and short stories.
- Ages 14 - 18; Poems and short stories.
- Ages Adult; Poems and short stories.

Judging

A panel of professional authors, the Director of The RC Sherriff Trust and the Arts Development Officer for Elmbridge Borough Council will judge the entries.

Submission Format

- All entries must be typed, using **Arial font** and double-spaced on single sides of A4 paper.
- **Short stories** must be in English, previously unpublished and a maximum length of 1000 words (8-13 years) or 1500 words (14+).

- **Poems** must be in English, previously unpublished and a maximum length of 30 lines typed, using a standard, legible font, double-spaced on single sides of A4 paper.

Entries that do not adhere to the above conditions will not be considered.

- **Little Rhymes and Stories for the 5-7 years group** should be no longer than 20 lines (Rhymes) or 500 words (Stories) and can be hand-written (but must be legible). Where possible we suggest a typed copy is attached. **The Judges will not consider any entries which they cannot read.**
- All entries **must** be accompanied by a cover sheet stating: age category being entered, the title of the story/poem, word/line count, author's name, age (if under 18), a postal address and daytime telephone number and email address. **This should be the first page of all entries and NOT on a separate sheet or embedded in an email.**
- A maximum of one story and one poem per person can be entered.
- Where possible please email your entry.
- Entries must be submitted as a Word Document or a PDF. **Please do not send scanned PDFs.**
- Email entries to elmbridgelitcomp@outlook.com
- For posted or hand-delivered submissions, please provide **six** copies.
- Entries cannot be returned.
- The Judging Panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- The closing date for entries is **Friday 28 February 2021 at 5pm. Entries received after this time and date will not be accepted.**
- Postal/hand-delivered entries to the RC Sherriff Trust, Office 25 CBS, 2nd Floor, Hersham Place Technology Park, Molesey Rd, Hersham, KT12 4RZ
- Please mark your envelope and email title **'ENIGMA'**.

Prizes

All prizes for Children's entries are in the form of book tokens. Entry to the Competition is free.

- 5-7 Year Olds: 1st £12 2nd £10 3rd £8
- 8-11 Year Olds: 1st £15 2nd £12 3rd £10
- 11-13 Year Olds: 1st £20 2nd £15 3rd £12
- 14-18 Year Olds: 1st £25 2nd £20 3rd £15

All successful Adult entries are in the form of cash prizes.

- 19+ (Short Story): 1st £250 2nd £150 3rd £100
- 19+ (Poem): 1st £250 2nd £150 3rd £100

The Elmbridge Award

£50 Book Token. Presented to the best adult short story or poem from an Elmbridge resident.

Winners: Short Story & Poetry Category:

The winning entries in each age group will have their work printed by Sampson Low as a Chapbook. (Chapbooks are A6 size (landscape or portrait orientation), 16 page (1x back cover, 1 x front cover, 14 x inner pages), full colour, ISBN, in plastic sleeve.)

- 100 copies printed per winning entry.
- 20 copies to Sampson Low (6 to send to deposit libraries - British Library, Oxford, Cambridge, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. 14 to recoup ISBN costs, plastic sleeve costs etc.)
- 60 copies to the author
- 10 for The RC Sherriff Trust
- 10 for Elmbridge Borough Council

The winning, highly-commended and commended entries will be showcased online on the RC Sherriff and Elmbridge Borough Council websites.

A Celebration of the Competition, featuring prize-giving and readings of winning and highly-commended entries, to which winning, highly-commended & commended writers and their guests will be invited, will take place in April 2022.

Fee for entry

Entry to the Competition is £5. Payment can be made via the R C Sherriff Trust website: www.rcsherrifftrust.org.uk/competitions (**please ensure that the name by which you make the online payment is on your submission front page *if* it differs from the name by which you have entered your short story or poem**) or by cheque made payable to 'The R C Sherriff Trust' and sent to: The RC Sherriff Trust, Hersham Technology Park, Sterling Suite, Molesey Rd, Hersham, KT12 4RZ (please ensure your name, the title of your short story/poem and age category in written on the reverse.)

Feedback from the jugdes

There is a £10 charge if you would like to receive written feedback from the judges, £25 if you would like a full written critique of your piece by one of the professional authors. (Payment must be made in advance via PayPal on the R C Sherriff website. Cheques must be made payable to The RC Sherriff Trust.)

For any further information, please email arts@rcsherrifftrust.org.uk or arts@elmbridge.gov.uk.