

**WARE POETS OPEN POETRY COMPETITION 2024
RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTRY**

1. The competition is open to anyone aged 16 or over.
2. Poems should be in English and **must not have been published** either in print or online. They **must not simultaneously be sent to other competitions or submitted for publication**. They **must not previously have been awarded a prize** in any other competition.
3. Poems must be your own original work and may be on any subject. They must be **no longer than 50 lines**.
4. Poems may be submitted:
 - a. either by post to **The Competition Secretary, Ware Poets Competition, 25 Southbrook Drive, Cheshunt, Herts., EN8 0QJ**, using the Postal Entry Form. They must be typed or neatly handwritten on A4 paper. Each poem must be on a separate sheet of paper **which must not bear your name** or any other form of identification.
 - b. or by email with the individual poems as either WORD or PDF attachments to **warepoetscomp@gmail.com**. If submitting by email, please provide your full name and address and titles of the poems you are attaching in the body of the email. Your poems should **not** be in the body of the email but as separate individual attachments **which must not bear your name** or any other form of identification.
5. Any number of poems may be submitted on payment of the appropriate fee, which is **£5 per poem, or £13 for three poems and £4 per poem thereafter in the same submission**.
 - a. If submitting by post, please enclose a cheque with the relevant entry payment made payable to **Ware Poets Competition** with your submission.
 - b. If submitting by email, do not send payment with your poems but please await an acknowledging email which we will send to you as soon as possible following receipt of your poems and which will contain **a link to enable you to make your payment electronically**. As soon as your payment is received electronically your poems will be entered into the competition.
6. If submitting by post and you require confirmation of receipt, please enclose a SAE marked 'RECEIPT' with your submission. If submitting by email, your submission will be acknowledged by email.
7. We regret that we are unable to return poems, or allow amendments to be made after entry.
8. **The closing date for entries is 30th June 2024**. Email submissions received by the deadline will be accepted for entry in the event that acknowledgement of receipt and therefore payment is not possible before that date.

9. We will hold an informal prizegiving event and reading on the evening of Friday 13th September 2024. Names of the prizewinners and commended poets will be published on our website at **warepoets.org** shortly thereafter.
10. Copyright remains with the authors but Ware Poets reserve the right to print winning and shortlisted poems in the competition anthology.