

Buchan Heritage Society

Doric Writing Competition Results 2021

The Buchan Heritage Society is delighted to announce the winners of this year's Doric Writing Competition. The competition is run as part of the Strichen Festival which was cancelled again this year as a result of Covid – but that didn't quell the North East's creative juices and this year we saw a number of new writers join the race to win much coveted trophies in both Prose and Poetry. The competition attracts entries from far and wide and is also open to schoolchildren across Aberdeenshire.

Judges of the event were Gordon Hay, (Poetry,) and Wilma Mutch, (Prose.) Both were impressed with the high standard of Doric overall, the variety of subjects tackled and they welcomed the abundant use of long forgotten Doric words and sayings.

The Robbie Shepherd Quaich for Doric Poetry went to Belhelvie born Bob Mitchell for his poem, *Charlie n Wullie n Hugh*. Bob is a regular entrant and previous winner of the Prose section. He lives in Haddington but maintains close ties with the area and is a weel kennt face in the annual Strichen Festival competitions.

The Morven Sivewright Ploo was won by Inverurie quine Deborah Leslie, anither weel kent face, with her story, *The Quine in the Floerie Frock*. Debbie is also a keen supporter

of the Festival and, with her story, a worthy winner of the Ploo.

For the 3rd year in a row the Fraserburgh Herald trophy for Intermediate Poetry has been won by Aaron Jones from Kemnay with his poem, *Seelie Braes*, a heartfelt and moving tribute to Bennachie.

Intermediate Prose was won by Morgan Buchan from Banchory Academy with her tale of a successful day out. Morgan demonstrated a fine grasp of Doric and a good ear for dialogue.

The Duncan & Todd Shield for Junoir Prose was awarded to Zach Gracey from Fyvie Primary. Zach wrote a highly entertaining and humorous story about *A Walk through the Wids* where he encountered puddicks, ettercaps, hoolets and a GIANT!

Kate Forrest from Keith won the Johnston Trophy for Junior Prose with her poignant tribute to fallen soldiers called, *Poppies on i Battlefield*. Kate drew on all the richness of Doric vocabulary to remember fallen soldiers and point towards hope for a peaceful future.

The Buchan Heritage Society heartily congratulates all the winners and a huge thank you to all those who entered as well as all the teachers and parents who supported the competition.

Moira Taylor
Buchan Heritage Society