



EYRE WRITERS AWARDS 2017 COMPETITION RESULTS

Typical Australia: The Land and the Sea

1st Prize:

Tue Per Sempre by Vickie Walker of Orange NSW

Highly Commended:

The Reverend by Jennifer Porter of Montmorency VIC

The Scribbly Gum by Pamela Jeffs of Kenmore QLD

Commended:

Reason to Stare by Naomi Currie of Everard Park SA

Eulogy by Matan Elul of Sydney NSW

Strong by Yvonne Popplewell of Copacabana NSW

Tom Black Memorial Award (Rhyming Poetry)

1st Prize:

On the Evening News by Sharon Foulkes of Whyalla Playford

Highly Commended:

Little Granny by David Campbell of Aireys Inlet VIC

Commended:

Jimmy by Tom McIveen of Port Macquarie NSW

Weep for the Weeping Willows by Jim Kent of Port Fairy VIC

Judge's Comments

On the Evening News is a villanelle, a clever use of the form to encapsulate the horror of bushfire, all the more forceful for being understated without hyperbole or mawkishness. The language is vernacular, the words well chosen, the images vivid.

Little Granny is a longish poem, given point in the last stanzas when the narrator reflects on the odds against his/her forebears surviving to produce succeeding generations. Rhymes unforced, language relaxed.

Eyre Travel Short Story Award

1st Prize:

Where the Heart Is by Mike Woodhouse of Mittagong NSW

Commended:

Three Days of Grace by Aileen Pluker SA

Eyre Writers Inc Non-Rhyming Poetry Award

1st Prize:

Settlement by Dawn Seabrook of Gungahlin NSW

Highly Commended:

The Hand-over by Sharon Foulkes of Whyalla Playford SA

Commended:

Caterpillar Company by Marilyn Humbert of Berowra Heights NSW

Stones by Paul Nolan of Riverwood NSW

Judge's Comments

I was disappointed with the quality of entries this year. Too few demanded a second reading. The winning poems, however, all repay study.

The winning poem, Settlement, with a masterly use of colloquial language, condenses images into a metaphor for the end of a relationship, more powerful for being understated. Trivial amounts of pain and blood cover the deeper wounds beneath. I liked this one very much.

The second poem, The Hand-over, also examines a broken relationship, but from the point of view of the small daughter. It skilfully uses the comings and goings at a roadhouse to parallel the child's bewildering life bundled from one parent to the other.

A big THANK YOU to all those who entered our competition this year, and of course to our wonderful sponsors,



The Theakstone Family

