



## ESSEX WRITERS – PROSE & POETRY COMPETITION 2018

The charity began holding this popular annual competition in 1955 in order to capture the reminiscences of the older residents of Essex.

Each year a copy of every entry is given to the Essex Record Office to ensure that future generations of Essex people will learn from your story and your experiences, so material with an Essex theme is particularly welcome.

This year's titles are:-

**WINNING AND LOSING**

**MEMORABLE ESSEX**

**CHILDHOOD TOYS**

### ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

- 1) You need to be aged 50 or over and live, or have lived, in Essex.
- 2) Entries must truly reflect your own experiences and may not have been published elsewhere or submitted to Age UK Essex previously.
- 3) Entries must be received by **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018**.
- 4) Entrants may submit one piece of prose and/or poetry from each title (maximum 6 entries)
- 5) Prose should be no more than 1,500 words.
- 6) You may dictate your entry to someone else; however they must confirm the use of your words.
- 7) Each entry must be accompanied by a completed application form. The application forms can be obtained from Age UK Essex or can be downloaded from [www.ageukessex.org.uk](http://www.ageukessex.org.uk). In order to judge the competition fairly the judges should not know your identity until the final decision has been made so please do not put your name or details on the pages of your entry/entries.
8. If possible, please send your entries, attached to an email, to  
[sandra.willsher@ageukessex.org.uk](mailto:sandra.willsher@ageukessex.org.uk)
9. If you are sending your entries by post, please send two copies of each entry– one for us and one for the Records Office, plus 3 stamped self-addressed envelopes regardless of how many entries you submit. One to acknowledge your entry/entries, one for the results and one to post details of the next competition.

10) Postal entries should be sent for the attention of:

**Sandra Willsher, Age UK Essex, Widford Hall**

**Widford Hall, Widford Hall Lane, Off Tattersall Way, Chelmsford, CM2 8TD**

Unfortunately we cannot return your work.

#### **WHAT HAPPENS**

11) There are cash prizes and Certificates for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in each category. Certificates will also be awarded to those deemed Highly Commended by the judges. There will be a further cash prize and certificate for the entrant judged to be the overall winner of those awarded first prize.

12) The Judges share experience in writing poetry and prose including drama, broadcasting and journalism. Some have also spent time in the world of education of both adults and youngsters. All judges are volunteers who are delighted to support this successful and long-running competition.

All judging is done blind - the first time they will know the authors or their names is when they collect the prizes.

**Judges have the final decision.**

Winning entries are published each year in a booklet. Please tell us if you would **NOT** like any publication or publicity or if you do not wish your entry to be placed on the website next year.

We hope you will enjoy telling us your story as much as we will enjoy reading it.

**Terry Cassels and Chris Callaghan**

**Joint Competition Organisers**

AGE UK ESSEX

ENTRY FORM

ESSEX WRITERS PROSE & POETRY COMPETITION 2018

NAME .....

ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE ..... DATE OF BIRTH .....

TEL NO ..... EMAIL ADDRESS .....

FUTURE TITLE IDEAS .....

.....

(Please tick titles and category entered)

WINNING AND LOSING      PROSE .....      POETRY .....

MEMORABLE ESSEX      PROSE .....      POETRY .....

CHILDHOOD TOYS      PROSE .....      POETRY .....

You may submit ONE PIECE OF PROSE AND/OR POETRY FROM EACH TITLE (maximum of 6 entries)

Where did you learn about the competition.....

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