

## Boyup Brook 2015 – Competition Results

### Open category

Winner:	<i>Eugene</i>	Tom McIlveen	Port Macquarie NSW
Very Highly Commended:	<i>Contemplation</i>	Warren Cox	Brisbane Qld
Highly Commended:	<i>Pilbara</i>	Brenda Joy	Charters Towers Qld
	<i>The Lodger</i>	Keith Lethbridge	Armadale WA
	<i>The Old Wongoondy Hall</i>	Keith Lethbridge	Armadale WA
Commended:	<i>Links</i>	Brenda Joy	Charters Towers Qld
	<i>Old Riley's Billy Lids</i>	Tom McIlveen	Port Macquarie NSW
	<i>Australia's Loss</i>	Val Read	Bicton WA

### Emerging Poet

Winner:	<i>The Doctors Surgery</i>	Freda Harvey	Parkes NSW
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### Judge's Report

It was my pleasure to judge this year's Boyup Brook written Competition. The most pleasing thing for me was the number of well written quality poems, making it hard to settle on the winning entries and I'm sure a different judge would possibly have selected some of the poems that just missed out on an award.

There was so little difference in the quality of many of the poems that in the end it came down to personal preference and even then I found myself swapping poems back and forth, so close were some of the minor placegetters to each other in quality.

The winning poem 'Eugene' was a very well written and touching poem that depicts the problem encountered by returning soldiers suffering from wounds or battle fatigue or even dealing with public opinion about some conflicts.

The poem that was runner up 'Contemplation' was also a beautifully written poem with a wonderful poetic lilt to it which I very much enjoyed reading.

All the other Award winners were well-written poems that could possibly do well in other competitions as opinions among judges do vary.

I enjoyed reading all the poems including those written by people just starting out. There were many very good poems that with a little bit of a polish here and there could really improve them.

On the downside a common mistake in quite a few poems was the failure to maintain the same syllable count in each line once the initial first sentence or stanza had been settled on. This was particularly noticeable in entries from lesser experienced writers but even in a couple of very well written poems as well, which unfortunately resulted in them losing points because of this. Another common mistake was with the meter in some poems, I know just how difficult it can be to master this, but urge all those who struggle with this problem to continue to persevere and it will eventually become automatic and easy pick up mistakes when you're writing Rhyming Bush Poetry.

Finally thank you for entering the Boyup Brook Written Competition and let me wish you good luck in any future competitions you may enter your poems into.

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