



THE BLACKENED BILLY VERSE COMPETITION 2016

Results

1st Prize: Bond of Love.....	Brenda Joy.....	Charters Towers Qld
2nd Prize: Fallen Majesty.....	Catherine Lee....	Tungmahamek Bangkok
3rd Prize: Bobby's Return.....	Tom McIlveen....	Port Macquarie NSW
HIGHLY COMMENDED		
Billy Crowe.....	Leonie Parker....	Brassall Qld
The Long Dusty Road.....	Terry Piggott.....	Lynwood WA
The Letter Home.....	Tom McIlveen....	Port Macquarie NSW
Accordin' Ter Rose	Shelley Hansen.	Maryborough Qld
The Ugly City Street.....	Terry Piggott.....	Lynwood WA
Sealed With A Kiss.....	Tom McIlveen....	Port Macquarie NSW
I Rather Like The City At My Door.....	Mal Beveridge...	North Lakes Qld
The Day That Mum Cooked Elvis.....	Leonie Parker....	Brassall Qld
A Message From An Anzac's Grave. .	Ron Stevens.....	Dubbo NSW
Jack, My Friend.....	Shelley Hansen.	Maryborough Qld

Judge's Comments

Entries for the Blackened Billy for 2016 were one hundred and twenty two, which was well down on previous years.

However, once again, those entries were generally of a very good standard. Many subjects were covered, both poignant and humorous. This is my fourteenth year of adjudication and maybe it is time that someone else took over the reins of a job I have found stimulating and rewarding.

It was fitting that the Blackened Billy competition was acknowledged last year with the book "The Blackened Billy Turns Silver", a tribute to all the previous winners. I would encourage those people without a copy to purchase this fine anthology.

Once again, thanks to Jan Morris for her tireless energy in promoting this competition over a great number of years.

FIRST PLACE:

BOND OF LOVE by BRENDA JOY, Charters Towers Qld

A beautifully written, but tragic story about the stigma attached to unmarried mothers in past years. The descriptions of sorrow and heartfelt loss are palpable in this vivid story of a mother's deprivation of her child. Alternate rhyme was well handled, the text was of suitable length and the tone was maintained from the heart-wrenching first verse to the last.

A worthy winner of the Blackened Billy for 2016.

SECOND PLACE:

FALLEN MAJESTY by CATHERINE LEE Tungmahamek, Bangkok

I was impressed with the imagery contained in this description of the fallen eagle. The writer has captured the dignity of the great bird of prey which has finally lost his earthly territory, never more to roam the skies in his majestic manner. An extremely well written interpretation. Congratulations.

THIRD PLACE:

BOBBY'S RETURN by TOM McILVEEN, Port Macquarie NSW

This is an extremely well written story of a war hero and the consequences of his mental and physical handicaps when he returns. Imagery and timing in this story are very well handled and I was captured by the writing which held me spellbound throughout. Starting and concluding verses were fitting for this narrative, Congratulations.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

LEONIE PARKER..... Billy Crowe
TERRY PIGGOTT..... The Long Dusty Road
TOM McILVEEN..... The Letter Home
SHELLEY HANSEN..... Accordin' Ter Rose ...
TERRY PIGGOTT..... The Ugly City Street
TOM McILVEEN..... Sealed With A Kiss
MAL BEVERIDGE..... I Rather Like The City At My Door
LEONIE PARKER..... The Day Mum Cooked Elvis
RON STEVENS..... A Message From An Anzac's Grave
SHELLEY HANSEN..... Jack My Friend

Keith Jones
Adjudicator