WARE POETS was founded in 1991 to provide a forum for poets to read their own work, and also to hear and enjoy guest poets. The group usually meets on the first Friday of each month. There is a modest entrance charge, and refreshments are available. Everybody is welcome and has the opportunity to read one or two of their own poems in the first half of the evening - or to read poems by other poets. Regulars come not just from Ware, but from a wide area of Hertfordshire, Essex, Bedfordshire and North London. Ware Poets meets at Ware Arts Centre, Kibes Lane, Ware SG12 7BS. Details of forthcoming Ware Poets events can be found in the relevant area of the POETRYPF website at www.poetrypf.co.uk

Open Poetry Competition 2020

- 1st Prize £600
- 2nd Prize £300
- 3rd Prize £150

plus The Ware Sonnet Prize of £150 awarded for the best sonnet submitted.

CLOSING DATE: 30TH APRIL 2020

SOLE ADJUDICATOR
Glyn Maxwell
Glyn Maxwell is a poet, playwright, critic and librettist. His books of poetry include *Pluto, The Nerve* and *The Sugar Mile*. All of his collections have been shortlisted for the major UK poetry prizes, and in 2014 he received the Cholmondeley Award from the Society of Authors. He has published many translations of Joseph Brodsky. In 2012 Maxwell published the critical guidebook *On Poetry*, then in 2016 its fictional sequel *Drinks With Dead Poets*.

*Time’s Fool*, his 1999 verse-novel based on the legend of the Flying Dutchman, is in production as a feature film with Fox Searchlight. Many of his plays and adaptations have been performed in London, Chester, and New York, and have been broadcast on BBC Radio.

Maxwell has composed libretti for several operas staged at the Royal Opera House and Glyndebourne. He lives in Islington, London and teaches at The Poetry School. He is represented by Micheline Steinberg Associates.

**Rules and Instructions for Entry**

1. The competition is open to anyone aged 16 or over.
2. Poems should be in English, **must not have been published** either in print or on a website, nor be currently submitted or accepted for future publication. **They must not previously have been awarded a prize in any other competition.**
3. Poems must be your own original work and may be on any subject. They must be typed or neatly handwritten on A4 paper, and **no longer than 50 lines**. Each poem must be on a separate sheet of paper **which must not bear your name** or any other form of identification.
4. On the entry form or a separate sheet of paper, please give your name, address and email address (Details are kept securely, used only for competition purposes, not shared with third parties, and destroyed after the competition). Sonnets to be considered for The Ware Sonnet Prize should be marked with an “S” in the top right hand corner. They will also be considered for the main competition.
5. Any number of poems may be submitted on payment of the appropriate fee, which is **£4 per poem, £12 for 4 poems, and £3 thereafter in the same submission**. Cheques and Postal Orders (in sterling only) should be made payable to WARE POETS COMPETITION.
6. If you would like receipt of entry to be confirmed, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope marked RECEIPT. For the results sheet, enclose SAE marked RESULTS.
7. We regret that we are unable to return poems, or amend them after entry.
8. The closing date is **30th April 2020**; results will be sent out in mid-June. An informal prizegiving ceremony and reading will be held at Ware Arts Centre on Friday 10th July 2020.
9. Copyright remains with the authors but Ware Poets reserves the right to print winning and shortlisted poems in the competition anthology.
10. Entrants in the competition will be deemed to have accepted these conditions of entry. The adjudicator’s decision will be final; no correspondence can be entered into.
11. Entries should be sent to: The Competition Secretary, Ware Poets Competition, 21 Trinity Road, Ware SG12 7DB. We are unable to accept entries by email.
12. Please tell us where you heard about the competition.

**Entry Form**

| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Email |  |

**Poem Titles**

Continue overleaf if necessary

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

I enclose a cheque/PO (payable to Ware Poets Competition) to the amount of £

I heard about the competition...

*Please send ______ copies of the Ware Competition Anthology 2020 at £4.00 per copy to the address above.*

(please add the relevant amount on to your entry fee.)