



**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](http://www.poetrypf.co.uk)



# Open<sup>2023</sup> Poetry Competition

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

SOLE ADJUDICATOR

**Greta  
Stoddart**

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

**CLOSING DATE:** 30TH APRIL 2023

# Greta Stoddart

Ware  
Poets



Greta Stoddart's three poetry books (*At Home in the Dark* and *Salvation Jane* (Anvil), and *Alive Alive O* (Bloodaxe)) have won or been shortlisted for poetry prizes such as the Geoffrey Faber Memorial, Forward, Roehampton and Costa Award.

Her long radio poem *Who's there?* was BBC Pick of the Week and shortlisted for the Ted Hughes Award.

Her fourth book *Fool* was published by Bloodaxe in September 2022.

She lives in Devon where she teaches for the Poetry School.

Ware Poets

**COMPETITION ANTHOLOGY 2023**

We will publish an anthology of the winning and shortlisted poems in July 2023. The price will be £5.00, post free. To receive a copy, please complete and return the form opposite.

## Rules and Instructions for Entry

1. The competition is open to anyone aged 16 or over.
2. Poems should be in English and **must not have been published** either in print or online. They must not simultaneously be sent to other competitions or submitted for 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 **£5 per poem**, £16 for 5 poems, and £4 thereafter in the same submission. Cheques and Postal Orders (in sterling only) should be made payable to **WARE POETS COMPETITION**. Entrants who are unable to pay in this way may pay online, adding a handling charge of £2 (per entry, not per poem), and sending fees to our account (no. 00728105; sort code 30-94-30; IBAN/Swift code available on request). If paying online, your bank will ask for a reference: please use your name, followed by the number of poems sent and the number of anthologies ordered (for example: Smith 4;1), to enable us to process your entry.
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 2023**; results will be sent out in mid-June. We will hold an informal prizegiving event and reading on Friday 14th July 2023.
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

Ware  
Poets

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Poem Titles

*Continue overleaf if necessary*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment

I enclose a cheque/PO (*payable to Ware Poets Competition*)

the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_

to cover \_\_\_\_\_ poems and \_\_\_\_\_ anthologies.

**Or**

I have paid online (*to account no.00728105; sort code 30-94-30*)

the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_

to cover \_\_\_\_\_ poems and \_\_\_\_\_ anthologies, and the  
£2 handling charge.

**I heard about the competition...**