

# Wishing all of you wonderful writers throughout this great big world of ours a very Happy and Peaceful New Year for 2010

Hello everyone,

I do hope that you all managed to have a peaceful Christmas period whatever your religion, beliefs or preferences may be. I would like to take this

opportunity to wish a very 'Happy and Peaceful New Year' for 2010 to all my fellow writers throughout this big, wonderful but sadly troubled world that we all presently share. My name is Tommy McBride, and I am the Group Secretary and very proud Founder Member of 'The University of Liverpool Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning', which I set up with the kind help and support of The University of Liverpool almost a decade ago now, way back in May 2000. I spent many very enjoyable years there studying most of the different genres of creative writing there.

We are a non-funded but very successful Merseyside creative writing group who are totally independent of The University of Liverpool, but we have always had the full support, help and assistance of the University of Liverpool's Continuing Education Centre for the last ten long but very enjoyable years.

The reason why I am contacting you all now is to tell you about our latest exciting 'Open' creative writing competition that is annually attracting some of the world's best writers entitled, '**The 4th Annual Ted Walters International Short Story, Poetry and Playwriting Competition 2010**' that will be officially launched on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010. This will be our writing group's fourth annual Ted Walters international writing competition that our creative group has run now, and we hope that this competition will be just as successful, or even more successful as our last three competitions have been.

Every single entry that comes into our competition; and you can send in as many entries as you wish, generates a £1 donation for our writing group's chosen charity, which has always been the '**Macmillan Cancer Support**'. We donated a cheque to them in 2007 for the amount of £374. In 2008, Liverpool's year as 'The European Capital of Culture for 2008', we proudly donated a cheque to them for the amount of £801. Last year in 2009 we donated a further £470 totalling £1645 so far. Hopefully for this year of 2010 we would like to generate even more much needed money for such a truly worthy cause that continues to help and support cancer sufferers, but to

do this successfully we will need your help, co-operation, participation and support in this writing competition.



Please find **attached and enclosed** with this email; a Word Document copy of an Entry Form for 'The 4th Annual Ted Walters International Short Story, Poetry and Playwriting Competition 2010', which also includes a list of last years successful winners, runner-ups and third placed, and those writers who were short listed, as well as a competition flyer to put up and advertise the event wherever you can do, and if you would please. We would really appreciate it if you could all forward this entry form onto as many of your contacts as you possibly can please, and ask all of them to kindly do the same. You may copy and print off as many copies of the entry forms as you wish, or contact me by email with your address and I will send you some entry forms out by post if you prefer. If you do have your own website could you advertise this competition there for us as well please? I am told by a very reliable source in our writing group that we should have our own website up and running over the period of the next few months.

This competition was set up by me with the full consent of all of our creative writing group members, to remember one of our own dearly missed and very talented writing group members, Mr Ted Walters, who was in himself an excellent writer and a wonderful compassionate, caring, human being, who sadly died of Cancer on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, I sincerely hope you all have a wonderful and very Happy and Peaceful New Year for 2010, and all take really good care of yourselves, especially with the never ending current Arctic snow and icy conditions that's spread throughout the whole of the U.K.

If you need me to help you to advertise or spread the word around to as many writing groups and writers as possible, about any up and coming writing events, competitions or writing festivals, I will be only too happy to help any one or all of you. Please don't hesitate to let me know if I can be of some help.

## **Please say a prayer for the poor unfortunate people of Haiti**

I know most of you like me, after having witnessed the devastation and the tremendous loss and sufferings of both human and animal's lives, during and after the horrendous earthquake that we saw and heard on our TV's and Radio stations on the Island of Haiti, are deeply upset. I am sure that all of our special thoughts and prayers as well as the courageous specialised manual help and assistance from many concerned countries, will go out to all those unfortunate inhabitants of that small Island at this their very sad time of the year. The inhabitants whose lives have been deeply affected and devastated by a huge earthquake measuring 7.0 that rocked their impoverished Caribbean nation of Haiti, toppling their buildings and causing widespread death, damage disaster and panic. God bless and please help them all.

Kind Regards

Tommy McBride:

Group Secretary / Founder Member.

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**‘The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ted Walters International Short Story, Poetry and Playwriting Competition 2010’ details are as follows....**



**Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning**

**Associated Group Members**

**Of**

**The National Association of Writers' Groups**

Is to Commemorate



**‘The 4th Annual Ted Walters International Short Story, Poetry and Playwriting Competition 2010’**

**2010: The City of Liverpool's Year of Innovation, Health and Well Being**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize Short Story Category:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize**

**Competition Winner will receive £200**

**Runner-Up will receive £50**

**Third Placed; a £15 Book Token**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize Poetry Category:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**

**Competition Winner will receive £200**

**Runner-Up will receive £50**

**3rd Prize**

**Third Placed; a £15 Book Token**

**1st Prize Playwriting Category:**

**Competition Winner will receive £200**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**

**Runner-Up will receive £50**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize**

**Third Placed; a £15 Book Token**

**There will also be a Short List of entrants in all of the three categories**

### **Competition Entry form and Rules.**

**(The deadline for all categories will be 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010)**



### **Linda Walters: Judge of Competition 2010**

We are now embarking on the 4<sup>th</sup> year of Ted's competition and I am thrilled with its success. This kind of success doesn't happen without enthusiastic contributions and support. It wouldn't happen without the hard work of our selfless secretary, Mr Tommy McBride and Pam Philburn, our treasurer, who supports him so diligently. It wouldn't happen without the willingness of the University of Liverpool Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning to continue to hold Ted Walters' memory in affection. It wouldn't happen without the generosity of our sponsors. Mostly and primarily, it wouldn't happen without all of you poets, authors and (this year) playwrights who continue to surprise me with the quality and diversity of your work. I am proud to be associated with this competition and to have the pleasure and privilege of judging your entries and I know that Ted would feel proud and privileged too.

### **To commemorate once again in 2010**



**Ted Walters.** Was born in Liverpool, on the 17th April 1951. He grew up in the City, attending the Liverpool Collegiate School as a boy. Ted was always a very

gifted communicator, with an impeccable sense of comic timing. He would often write long and hilarious letters to his friends and family, who persuaded him to try and share his talent with a much wider audience. His stories were always well received, and Ted's writing was eventually published and broadcast on radio. Ted was a committed member of The University of Liverpool Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning. His enthusiasm for writing was only rivalled by his passion for football, and a life long love-hate relationship with Liverpool Football Club. Ted died of cancer on 15th August 2006.



### **Acknowledgement from the Group Secretary**

**Tommy McBride.** As Group Secretary and Founder Member of The University of Liverpool Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning, I must say that the response and the quality of the writing to 'The 3rd Annual Ted Walters International Short Story and Poetry Competition 2009' was fantastic. With many entries coming in from all over this big wonderful but troubled world that we all share. Over the last three years we have now managed to raise a total of £1,645 for our creative writing group's chosen charity, the '**Macmillan Cancer Support**'. I would like to personally thank each and every one of you writers throughout the world, to which I have made many good friends, and to all of you who participated in our last three annual Ted Walters international writing competitions, because without you the money raised for the Macmillan Cancer Support to help those unfortunate cancer sufferers wouldn't have been possible. Thank you all so very, very much, you're wonderful submissions are really appreciated by all concerned.

**Now for the names of the winners, runner-ups and short listed for the 2009 Ted Walters Competition. Our warm congratulations go out to all of them.**

**Short Story Section Winner 2009:** Andrew Dutton, Derbyshire. Received £200.

Runner-Up: Martin Badger, Barcelona, Spain. Third Placed: Christopher North, Alicante, Spain. Received a £10 Book Token

**Short Story / Short Listed 2009:** Richard Gibney, Dublin, Ireland. Sandra Banawich, St Helens, Merseyside. Samantha Priestley, Sheffield. Marg Roberts, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Martin Towers, Birmingham. Kath Kilburn, Halifax, West Yorkshire. Pauline Rowe, Liverpool.

**Poetry Section Winner 2009;** Rosie Shepard, London. Received £200. Runner-up Simon East, Sussex. Received £50. Third Placed: Charles Evans: London. Received a £10 Book Token.

**Poetry Section / Short Listed 2009:** Martin Domleo, Preston. Marie MacSweeney, Drogheda, Co. Leath, Ireland. Denis Joe, Liverpool. Charles Evans, London. Wendy Webb, Norwich. Christopher North, Alicante, Spain. Alan Murray, Liverpool.

**Highly Commended Certificates 2009:** Awarded to Neelam Shah, Surrey. Eleanor Equizi and Anna Equizi, Birkdale, Merseyside. Aishia Stott, Wirral. Asha Billington, Wirral.

**Group winner for the Short Story Section:** Phil Leeson, Liverpool.

**Group Winner for Poetry Section:** Suzanne Flynn, Liverpool.

### **Well done to each and every one of you!**

I can never run out of good things to say about Ted Walters, because he was a man of great character with an infectious sense of humour and quick wit. He was always a very popular but valuable and sincere member of our successful writing group, and was respected by all, and gifted with the ability to make people feel at ease in his company. We all feel extremely proud to be running this annual writing competition which is now in its fourth year; and is getting bigger and more popular every year in the very good name of Ted Walters.

**Tommy McBride; Group Secretary and one of Ted's many friends.**

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**(Please tick one or both of the appropriate boxes below)**

I enclose a stamped addressed postcard / envelope for acknowledgement of receipt of entries please.

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for acknowledgment of all winners.

### **Competition: Rules of Entry**

**(The Competition's Ten Commandments are as follows)**

- I. Entries must arrive on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010. (Deadline)
- II. Results of all of the three winners, the three runner-ups and the third placed will be available after the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010. The three winners, runner-ups and the three third placed will all be notified by our Competition Judge: Linda Walters by phone, post or email shortly after.
- III. Identifying names (only) must not appear on any of the entries of the Short Story, Poetry or Playwriting categories, but please ensure that your name and the titles of your work are either on your **'Entry form'** or on a short **'Covering letter'**. Please take the time to write your details down clearly on your entry form or covering letter, it makes my job a lot easier.

- IV. Poems may be on any subject or theme, in any style or form. All poems must be type written and must not exceed 40 lines. (Maximum)
- V. Short Stories may be on any subject or theme and must be type written, double spaced and no more than 2000 words. (Maximum)
- VI. One Act Plays may be on any subject or theme and type written, double spaced and on one side of the page only, including a cast of no more than four characters. Good presentation and a list of characters and any other relevant information must be included. 20 Minutes (Maximum)
- VII. Two copies of each and every short story, poem and play must be submitted with your Entry Form or Covering Letter please.
- VIII. All entries to be typewritten on plain white A4 paper in a standard black typeface on one side of the page only. First or second class postal entries only please.
- IX. If the rules do not say that you can – then you can't; and all copyright shall remain with the original Authors. Please do not send me the only copy of your work because it will not be returned.
- X. Please do not send entries by Recorded or Special Delivery. Please make sure the correct postage is paid. Entries with insufficient postage will not be accepted from Royal Mail. Please do not use sticky tape to make an impregnable package. E-mail entries are not acceptable.

(If the rules don't say that you can, then you can't!)

Please send all of your competition entries to...

Tommy McBride (Group Secretary)  
The University of Liverpool Creative Writing Society for Lifelong Learning.  
50 Onslow Road,  
Elm Park  
Liverpool,  
Merseyside.  
L6 3 BB.  
United Kingdom.  
**E-mail:** [thomas.mcbride2@sky.com](mailto:thomas.mcbride2@sky.com)

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ted Walters International Short Story,  
Poetry and Playwriting Competition 2010 is being sponsored  
by... (More sponsors to be added)**

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Slán go fóill (Stay safe until we meet again.)

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Mr Neill Foster



Looking forward to hearing from some or even all of you, take really good care of yourselves for now.

Tommy McBride.