

## 2010 Toolangi Festival Poetry Competition Rules.

1. Entries for the 2010 Toolangi Festival Poetry Competition close on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2010. No late entries will be accepted.
2. There will be 5 categories:
  - 2.1 Open
  - 2.2 Birds of the Singing Gardens
  - 2.3 Poems written by Adults for Children
  - 2.4 Primary Schools: Prep to Grade 6
  - 2.5 Secondary Schools: Years 7-12
3. Prizes:
  - 3.1 Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third in each category.
  - 3.2 Prizes will be awarded on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010.
4. Entries will be accepted from contestants throughout Australia.
5. A maximum of two entries per category will be accepted from each contestant.
- 6 Entries
  - 6.1 Each category of poetry entered, must be accompanied by a completed entry form
  - 6.2 Open category entries \$5 per poem / Children \$2 per poem. Cheques made out to Toolangi District Community House Inc (Toolangi Festival).
7. Entries must be original works. They must not exceed 81 lines in length and preferably be in the style of C.J. Dennis.
8. The length of a poem shall not be taken into account when evaluating its merit.
9. Entries should be written between 1st November, 2009 and 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2010 – C J Dennis's birthday. The aim of the competition is to encourage the activity of writing which relates to Toolangi's history, activities, environment and personalities. Please enter the spirit of the contest and do not submit previously written material.
10. Entries must be in English on A4 paper, double-spaced with numbered pages. Hand-written poetry will be accepted, provided that it is clearly legible. Poems to be on plain white paper only, no photographs or pictures
11. The name of the entrant must not appear on any page of the submitted poetry.

12. Each entry must include a brief biography of between 30 to 50 words. Please note that each winning entry's biography will be published.
13. To enable entries to be returned together with a receipt, entrants must include a stamped self-addressed envelope with each entry.
14. Copyright for all poetry entered shall be retained by the individual authors. By entering the competition, authors give permission for their work to be included in a published book relating to the Toolangi Festival. However; the organisers give no firm undertaking that such a book will be published.
15. The publisher reserves the right to edit all winning entries. This editing will be confined to spelling and punctuation.
16. The judge's decision shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

**Example of Biography Required.**

*I, Joe Bloggs have lived all my life in Toolangi. I went to school in Healesville and currently work at the local nursery. This is my first published poem. I have a keen interest in bush walking and this is evident in my work.*