

NANDEWAR POETRY COMPETITION 2017

Results have been received from Max Pringle in Narrabri for the Nandewar Written Bush Poetry Competition.

WINNERS

First	Tom McIlveen –	Under Southern Soil
Second	Brenda Joy –	Through the Dreams of a Child
Third	Tom McIlveen –	Won't you Come?
Highly Commended	Arthur Green –	Play Wellington at Waterloo

JUDGE'S REPORT

Congratulations to all those who took out a prize and to all who entered.

Our judge commented that there were a large number of poems written on well worn themes. The bulk of the poems were set in the past rather than the present. Without trying to look towards more modern themes and settings, we take the risk of being viewed as irrelevant as writers, no matter how worthy the poem is of being written. After reading through initially, 13 of these poems were still in contention for the prizes on offer. Some of the poems culled at this early stage may have been in contention as well if some careful thought and revision had applied, proving that it is well worth the effort to sit down and polish your written work until it can really truly shine. There were some that were well written but had potential flaws in their storylines, suggesting that they should have been researched better.

After re-reading the contenders, my second cull reduced the field to three poems. On this run through, a number of entries were removed for the use of inverted phrases or for that matter some lines that were badly phrased in other ways. There were some errors made with the use of correct tense and these were also discounted.

The highly commended that I have given this year was well written for the most part with good rhyme and metre, a few typos here and there and some small errors in tense let it down. It was the poem that I found most entertaining out of all those that were entered and I felt that I would give this award as encouragement to its author.