THE RIALTO NATURE & PLACE POETRY COMPETITION 2027

THE RIALTO WORKING IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE **RSPB**, **BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL**, AND THE **CAMBRIDGE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE.**

PRIZES

1st prize	**£1000**
2nd prize	**£500**
3rd prize	**£250**

The winning poems will be published in The Rialto

Closing Date April 1st 2027

Poems are invited that deal with any aspect of nature and place – these terms will be given a wide interpretation by the judge Jacob Polley.

JUDGE – JACOB POLLEY

Jacob Polley was born and grew up in Cumbria. He won the 2016 T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry for his fourth book of poems, *Jackself*. His fifth, *Material Properties,* was published in 2023 and his *Selected Poems,* drawing on two decades of work, in 2026. He's also published an award-winning novel, *Talk of the Town,* written radio plays and film scripts, and collaborated with lots of people to make art, sound and performance work. He is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University and lives with his family on the north-east coast of England.



ENTER AND PAY ONLINE AT THERIALTO.CO.UK

THE RIALTO

BirdLife INTERNATIONAL

Cambridge Conservation Initiative

RSPB

ENTRY FORM

ENTRY FEES

£7 FOR YOUR FIRST POEM
£4 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT POEM

The prizewinners will be invited to read their poems at an event at CCI in summer 2027. The winning poems will be published in The Rialto, Britain's leading independent poetry magazine.

ONLINE ENTRY

You can also enter and pay online via submittable.

To enter online go to www.therialto.co.uk and follow the link.

POSTAL ENTRY FORM

Complete this form (in BLOCK CAPITALS) and send it with your poems and payment (cheque payable to The Rialto) to:

Nature and Place Competition, 66 Salisbury Road, Norwich NR1 1TU

Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Phone

Poem Titles (Continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

1

2

3

4

5

Nature and Place Poetry Competition 2027

	Quantity	Fee
First poem £7.00	1	£7
All other entries £4 per poem		
Total	£	

Please make your cheques (Sterling only) out to The Rialto.

I have read and accept the competition rules ☐

If you wish to be included in mailings for competitions and offers from The Rialto tick here ☐

Signature

COMPETITION RULES

- Closing date of the Competition is midnight on April 1 2027.
- The Competition is open to anyone over the age of 18, other than Rialto team members and staff of the RSPB, CCI, UK staff of BirdLife International.
- Poems must have a title and must be no more than 40 lines, excluding the title, and be typed in black ink on one side of A4. The restriction of 40 lines does not include the poem title or stanza breaks, only the lines of the poem's text.
- Poems must be the original work of the entrant and must not have been published, self-published or published online or broadcast. Poems are judged anonymously so the poet's name address etc., MUST NOT appear on the poem.
- If entering poems online via Submittable, In the 'title' field on Submittable form please only enter a title that does not include your name – e.g '3 poems for Nature and Place Comp' or simply list your poem titles.
- Poems must be written in English.
- No corrections can be made to poems entered, nor can fees be refunded.
- Entries cannot be returned.
- If you require confirmation that your postal entry has arrived please enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard marked 'Acknowledgement'.
- Copyright of each poem remains with the poet, but by entering the competition you give the organisers the right to publish the winning poems both online and in printed media.
- The judge's decision is final and neither they nor the organisers will enter into any correspondence.
- Prizewinners will be notified in May and lists of the prizewinners and the long-listed contestants will be published on The Rialto website.
- The competition organisers reserve the right to change the judge without notice and not to award prizes if in the judge's opinion such an action is justified.

There are a limited number of free entries available for writers on low or supported incomes. These will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and will cover the submission of up to two poems. To enter, please email your work to matt.howard@therialto.co.uk . Entries will be anonymised and entered into the Submittable system.

The Rialto is a Registered Charity No. 297553. | Image: Nick Stone | Portrait of Jacob Polley by Ian Fenton