

*'Men are born with various manias: from my earliest childhood, it was mine to make a plaything of imaginary series of events; and as soon as I was able to write, I became a good friend to the paper maker'*

(RLS, "My First Book: Treasure Island", The Idler 6 [August 1894])

## Creative Writing Competition:

*The Life and Work of Robert Louis Stevenson*



Image Courtesy of Mark Butterworth

Open to  
years  
S4 – S6

Closing  
date  
27<sup>th</sup> April  
2018



## Contact Details

Duncan Milne  
Office G5  
School of Arts and Creative Industries  
Edinburgh Napier University  
Merchiston Campus  
Edinburgh EH10 5DT

Email: [d.milne@napier.ac.uk](mailto:d.milne@napier.ac.uk)

## Competition Instructions

Candidates should submit **one** piece of writing drawn from **one** of the following categories:

### **Fiction, Reflective Writing, Poetry**

The piece submitted should be directly inspired by Stevenson's writing or some aspect of his life. Candidates should write a brief paragraph describing this stimulus and how it has influenced them to write.

We encourage entries written in Scots or in English.

**Creative writing produced for SQA folio work may be submitted.**

Prose items should be no more than 1500 words, poetry no more than 40 lines.

Entries should be submitted via email to [D.Milne@Napier.ac.uk](mailto:D.Milne@Napier.ac.uk). Please attach an entry form, available from [www.robert-louis-stevenson.org/writing-competition](http://www.robert-louis-stevenson.org/writing-competition)

Seeking ideas? Visit the Edinburgh Writers' Museum ([www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk](http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk)) and [www.robert-louis-stevenson.org](http://www.robert-louis-stevenson.org)

## Aims of the competition

The project has two aims:

1. to increase awareness and deepen interest in the life and works of Robert Louis Stevenson among senior pupils in Scotland's secondary schools.
2. to support the ongoing development of pupils' creative writing skills in which schools are already engaged, especially for folio work written towards national assessment.

## Prizes for the competition

The entries will be judged by acclaimed author **Louise Welsh**, who will also lead a **writing workshop** for the best entrants, with up to twelve places on offer. All those selected will receive a certificate and a **year's free membership** of the Edinburgh Robert Louis Stevenson Club.

In addition, **four individual awards of £100** are available for Fiction, Reflective Writing, Poetry and Writing in Scots (in any of these three forms). There will also a trophy for the overall winner's school.

## Prize-giving

Certificates and prizes will be presented at a buffet reception at Edinburgh Napier University in June 2018.

The winning entries may be **considered for publication** in the Journal for Stevenson Studies and for **posting on [www.robert-louis-stevenson.org](http://www.robert-louis-stevenson.org)**

The services of two secondary English teachers are required to assist the writer leading the workshop. All teachers whose pupils receive an award will be invited to the prize-giving.



Edinburgh Napier University  
Merchiston Campus  
Edinburgh EH10 5DT  
Directions:  
[www.napier.ac.uk/aboutus/Campus/Pages/Merchiston.aspx](http://www.napier.ac.uk/aboutus/Campus/Pages/Merchiston.aspx)