

Sabine Baring-Gould centenary 1924-2024 celebration

SBG24

‘The Sabine Baring-Gould Poetry Competition’

Hosted by Tavistock Subscription Library founded 1799

A member of the Independent Libraries Association

The Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould was not only a very popular novelist, but also collected folk songs, fairy tales and was an amateur archaeologist as well as being the father of fifteen children and the writer of well-known hymns. His list of publications is still growing as more are catalogued, but now totals over 1,240 works. He died at his family home Lewtrenchard near Tavistock in his 90th year in 1924.

‘The Sabine Baring-Gould Poetry Competition’ (2024)

The Themes:

- A) A poem that is based on any aspect of Sabine Baring-Gould’s life or writing. For example, his book of Fairy Tales or collection of folk music.
- B) A poem that includes a reference to any of the novels that he wrote featuring Devon and Cornwall. For example, *Margery of Quether*.

Prizes: There will be two prizes of £50 awarded, one in each category. The prize winners will be notified approximately two weeks prior to the prize giving, which will be during the week ending the 21st of April, 2024.

The entry fees will be used to support the work of the Tavistock Subscription Library (Registered Charity 1118323) in conserving its collection of local history, writing and heritage related books and related educational activities. The library has a large collection of the works of Sabine Baring-Gould. If you live locally, you can drop in on a Friday morning to find out more about the library, which is at Court Gate, Guildhall Square, Tavistock, Devon.

Presentation of the Prizes: The results will be announced, and the prizes presented during the week of commemorative events April the 16th to the 21st, 2024.

Judging: The judging will be in two stages: a final short list of poems will be judged by a panel of authors. Shortlisted entries will be ranked by a final judging panel and Rebecca Tope, who has written a definitive biography of Sabine Baring-Gould will have the casting vote as to the winners.

Tips: The judges will be looking for interesting and original poems.

Publication: Depending on the suitability of the entries received, a selection of poems may be showcased on the Tavistock Subscription Library [website](#).

Entry Rules: ‘The Sabine Baring-Gould Poetry Competition’

For anyone aged 18 or over

Rules and Conditions of Entry

1. Entries must be in English, original and not previously published in any form or broadcast, and no longer than 250 words excluding the title.
2. Closing date: January 31st, 2024.
3. Results: Available to the public from the 21st of April, 2024.
4. Entry fees: Adults – £5 for first entry, £2 for second or subsequent entry. If you intend to submit multiple entries, please submit all entries together.
5. No manuscripts will be retained so contestants must keep a copy of their work.
6. Copyright remains with the author.
7. If acknowledgement of receipt is required, please include a stamped and addressed postcard. All emailed entries will receive a receipt when their entry fee is received.
8. The judges’ decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

In accordance with the 2018 European Union General Data Protection Regulation Act (EU GDPR) your information will not be kept on a database or used for marketing purposes, and we will only contact you to tell you if you have won the competition.

- The full results will be posted on the Tavistock Subscription Library website after the 21st of April, 2024.
- Entries must be typewritten or word-processed on single-sided A4 paper, in 12-point typeface, spacing and number of lines to be decided by the entrant.
- Each page must carry the name of the poem in the header or footer and pages must be numbered. Do not put your name on the pages.
- Please attach a cover sheet with the theme of your poem A or B, your name, address, telephone and if possible, your e-mail contact details, title of your poem, and word count. **Entries may be emailed with subject line SBG24 Poetry to: tavistock.subslib@gmail.com** or delivered by hand or by post to ‘The Sabine Baring-Gould Poetry Competition 2024’, c/o Tavistock Subscription Library, Court Gate, Guildhall Square, Tavistock, Devon PL19 0AE.

9. Please include your payment by cheque (in sterling) made payable to Tavistock Subscription Library or BACS Transfer: Account name: Tavistock Subscription Library, Account number: 00920929 Sort code: 30-98-46
10. Payment may also be made by cash or by card at Tavistock Subscription Library on a Friday morning (see website for times).
11. Entry to the competition implies acceptance of the rules.