

Instituted 1921



Federated 1921

School competition format and rules

This long established competition is held annually where pupils from Primaries 4, 5, 6 and 7 perform Burns works in either poetry or song with individual and school awards being given.

Sadly in November 2010 **George Nicolson**, Treasurer and past President of Poosie Nansie Burns Club died following a long illness. George was an enthusiastic supporter of the Schools Competition and was the adjudicator for many years. In order to mark George's huge contribution to both the club and the Schools Competition, members agreed to purchase a bust of Robert Burns

The Bust of Robert Burns is awarded annually to the school whose pupil gives the best overall performance in the competition.

The Flochart Hendry Shield is awarded annually to the school whose pupils accrue the most points in the competition.

The following is the format the competition will take depending on the number of schools taking part that year.

Three School format = 6 performers from each school = 18 performers					
School A		School B		School C	
Section 1 for Primaries 4 & 5		Section 1 for Primaries 4 & 5		Section 1 for Primaries 4 & 5	
Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem
Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem
Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem
Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem
Section 2 for Primaries 6 & 7		Section 2 for Primaries 6 & 7		Section 2 for Primaries 6 & 7	
Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem
Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem
Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem
Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem

Two School format = 8 performers from each school = 16 performers			
School A		School B	
Section 1 for Primaries 4 & 5		Section 1 for Primaries 4 & 5	
Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem
Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem
Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem
Pupil 4	Burns song or poem	Pupil 4	Burns song or poem
Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem
Section 2 for Primaries 6 & 7		Section 2 for Primaries 6 & 7	
Pupil 1	Burns song or poem	Pupil 1	Burns song or poem
Pupil 2	Burns song or poem	Pupil 2	Burns song or poem
Pupil 3	Burns song or poem	Pupil 3	Burns song or poem
Pupil 4	Burns song or poem	Pupil 4	Burns song or poem
Reserve	Burns song or poem	Reserve	Burns song or poem

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Rules

1. Entries could be either a poem, or a song, which would require to be sung unaccompanied.
2. More than one child from any particular school should not perform the same piece of work.
3. The top individual prize would be available to pupils in primary 6 and 7 only.
4. Each school could nominate a reserve for both sections.
5. Pupils from primary 4 or 5 could choose from any Burns work.
6. The Poosie Nansie Club would produce a list of suitable burns work of roughly equal merit from which primary 6 and 7 pupils could choose.
7. If any pupil were already learning an appropriate piece for "The Burns Federation Competition" this would be acceptable.

Notes

- Club members noted that an increased tendency for children to perform long sections of particularly, Tam O'Shanter and while this is admirable it is preferred that they stick to a length similar to for example 'to a mouse' or 'The Toothache'. Longer renditions will not be marked more favourably.
- If teachers have any queries regarding the authorship, availability or suitability of any piece of work they should contact Bob Mitchell for clarification.
- Prizes will be awarded to the winning entries and all participants would receive a token of appreciation.
- A prize will be awarded for the top performer in each school (both sections) plus an overall winner, with the shield going to the school with the most accumulated points.
- In order that the programme and judge slips can be prepared in advance the names of all participants, along with their school section and title of their piece of work must be forwarded to Bob Mitchell at schoolsCompetition@poosie-nansie.com no later than the seven days prior to the competition.
- In order to facilitate catering (including the hiring of some equipment) it is essential that an accurate estimate of numbers be submitted by the end of the school day no later than four days prior to the competition. This should include the number of vegetarian options and an indication of the number of children, teachers and other adults.

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Suitable burns work from which primary 6 and 7 pupils could choose

The numbers in bold after each piece of work indicates the page where it can be found in Mackays 'The Complete Poetical Works'

Title	Page No
Handsome Nell	43
The paraphrase of the first psalm	57
The Ninetieth Psalm Versified	58
The Death and Dying Words of Poor Mailie	62
Poor Mailie's Elegy (on the death of the bard's pet ewe)	64
To a mouse	131
The Cotter's Saturday night (verses 1-6 or 2-6)	147
To a louse	181
To a mountain daisy	203
On a Scotch bard (gone to the West Indies)	212
Address to Edinburgh	262
On scaring some water fowl in Loch Turit	296
My Hoggie	309
The wounded hare	354
Tam O'Shanter (When Chapman Billies – Tam didna mind the storm a whistle)	410
Tam O'Shanter (Till first a caper, sine anither – Tam O'Shanter's Mare)	410
Address to the Toothache	553
The following pieces, although more accurately, songs can also be treated as poetry for the purposes of the competition.	
Rattlin Roarin Willie	320
There'll never be peace until Jamie comes hame	418
Sic a Parcel O' Rogues in a Nation	460
The Deil's Awa Wi' the Exciseman	467
Scots Wha Hae	500
In addition it is hoped that a number of competitors will wish to sing their entry (unaccompanied). Any Burns song of their choice is deemed suitable.	