



News Release

10 September 2012

Weaver Words Hailed a Success

Weaver Words, Frodsham's first literature festival was hailed a success as it closed on Sunday after 12 days of talks, workshops and events.

Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy told a packed hall during her performance: "I really wish this lovely festival well. The atmosphere is fantastic and I hope it continues to flourish."

Weaver Words chairman Sue Thomson, representing Frodsham Community Association, added: "FCA is very proud to be behind the success of Weaver Words and to have introduced this new event to the Frodsham calendar. It has been a committed effort from many volunteers and the enthusiasm of the Frodsham community which can take us forward to another literature festival in the future."

At the final Open Mic Night event, festival patron Tim Firth announced the winners of the Great Weaver Words Children's Story Prize Competition. More than 300 entries were received from North Cheshire school children who responded with a short story based on an opening line provided by Tim.

The winners in the three age categories were named as Heather Stockdale (Helsby High School) ; Anna Holland (St Luke's School); Jessica Doherty (Aston by Sutton School). Book tokens, sponsored by Tim Firth and the Cheshire Education Improvement Partnership, were presented to the winners and the runners-up.

Festival manager Lynn Pegler added: "I think Weaver Words really has woven the pleasure of books, words and literature into the fabric of Frodsham. Five events were sold out, including the Poet Laureate, and we attracted more than a thousand people over the 12 days.

“We have had so much support from local schools, Castle Park, local businesses, writers groups, book clubs, care homes – it has been a true community celebration.”

Great Weaver Words Story Prize Winners:

Senior Yr 7,8,9. Winner: Heather Stockdale. Runners-up: Laura Stock-Caldwell, Jamie Tyghe. Highly Commended: Georgia Clarke, Leah Stockton, Nathan Bentley, Emily Booth, Antonia Sibson, Alex Crombie, Paula Gormley-Flores (All from Helsby High School)

Junior Yr 5,6. Winner: Anna Holland (St Luke’s). Runners-up: Alexandra Condliffe (Frodsham C of E), Jim Scaife (Manley). Highly commended: Charlotte Case (Frodsham C of E), Eleanor Jones (Manor House), Lucy O’Toole (St Luke’s), Oliver Anderson (Hillside), Caitlin Potts (Hillside), Eve Ablett (Manor House), Isabella Lewis (Manley).

Junior Yr 3,4. Winner: Jessica Doherty (Aston by Sutton). Runners-up: Robert Salmon (Frodsham C of E), Don Marquand (St Luke’s). Highly Commended: Sophie Powell (Aston by Sutton), James Elliott (Aston by Sutton), Lauren Skelhorn (Aston by Sutton), Grace Rimmer (Helsby Hillside), Isobelle Holland (St Luke’s), Thomas Clark (Frodsham C of E), Emily Martin (St Luke’s).

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For more information about Weaver Words, Frodsham’s first literature festival, please contact Festival Manager, Lynn Pegler, on 01928 789042/07783 686246. pm@weaverwords.org.uk