



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

Annual General Meeting

The meeting took place on 28th September as advised. The existing Committee was re-elected to serve for a further year. The minutes of the meeting will be circulated when confirmed by the Committee.

Membership Secretary

Clare Church who has acted as Membership Secretary of the FDP for the last 10 years gave notice at the A.G.M. that she would be stepping down after the 2025 A.G.M. The Committee expressed their gratitude to Clare for all her work over the years and for giving the Friends time to find a replacement.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due on 1st November each year.
Please ensure that if you do not pay by Standing Order then payment should be sent to the Membership Secretary at 3 Hudson Walk, Newent, Gloucestershire GL18 1UG or payment made by bank transfer to:

**Friends of the Dymock Poets,
Sort Code 20 45 45, A/c No. 23615529
Ref: SUBS24+surname**

Please be aware that our Bankers are unable to process cheques from overseas accounts. Please contact us if this creates an issue and we can discuss alternatives.

Please also let the Membership Secretary (membership@dymockpoets.org.uk) know if you can receive communications from the FDP by email if you do not already do so.

Meeting of the North Western Group of the FDP (and their friends) held on 14th October 2024 at Potters Barn, Church Street, Ribchester, Preston PR3 3YE. Report from Valerie Haworth

After a lovely lunch, we settled down with former Poet Laureate John Masefield whose father was a solicitor – the family name continues in that profession – but JM formed the desire to be a sailor. He underwent training on HMS Conway, off Anglesey, and suffered badly with sea-sickness but from that inauspicious beginning came an output of maritime verse, including the collection ‘Salt Water Ballads’ one of which, of course, was ‘Cargoes’, which a generation of schoolchildren were forced to learn by heart.

The ‘master of verbal music’ was much in evidence here and in ‘Sea Fever’. In contrast Roger read ‘Port of Holy Peter’, which has much grim imagery, and then ‘On Eastnor Knoll’ a rural area not far from Ledbury (which is a long way from the sea).

From the huge output we noted many sonnets, a number dealing with the downfall of society and the desolation of once-glorious cities. Roger read ‘Is there a Great Green Commonwealth of Thought?’ and Valerie picked the sombre one beginning ‘Like bones the ruins of cities stand’, from the collection ‘Enslaved’.

Our next meeting is scheduled for noon on Monday 24th March – again at the Potters Barn - when the topics will be Walter de la Mare and Edmund Blunden. Anyone who would like to join us (you will be most welcome) or wants further information should contact Jeff Cooper on jeff@jeffcooper.me.uk

Walking Gloucestershire With Ivor Gurney John Simpson Memorial Lecture

A free public lecture will be given by Eleanor Rawling, a geographer, educationist and writer of two books on the local poet Ivor Gurney. She will draw on both Gurney’s written archive and information about the geology and local landscapes that inspired his poetry.

Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 6.45 p.m. in Room TC001, Francis Close Hall Campus, University of Gloucestershire, St Pauls Road, Cheltenham GL50 4AZ

Gurney, I.: Songs, Vol. 2 (English Song, Vol. 24) (M. Farnsworth, E. McElroy)

This second CD has just been released by Naxos and includes his settings of work by Dymock Poets plus amongst others Robert Graves and John Masefield.

<https://www.naxos.com/CatalogueDetail/?id=8.574599>

Publications for Sale

The following items have been very kindly donated to the FDP by Keith Smith who would like the proceeds of any sales to be added to the FDP's funds. We are very grateful for his generosity.

Should you wish to purchase any item(s) please contact Robert Moreland (Chair) at chair@dymockpoets.org.uk

Bibliographies and Check Lists

Abercrombie by Jeff Cooper	£10
Rupert Brooke by Geoffrey Keynes	£10
W.H. Davies by Sylvia Harlow	£10
John Drinkwater by Michael Pearce	£10
Robert Frost by the Christensens	£8
Robert Frost (Clifton Waller Barrett Library) by St. Crane	£8
Robert Frost (Checklist) by Donald Grainer	£5

White Sheep Press Checklists

Abercrombie (2 copies) by Jeff Cooper	£5
Rupert Brooke (2 copies) by Jeff Cooper	£5
Edward Thomas by Richard Emeny and Jeff Cooper	£5

Other Bibliographies

English Poetry of the First World War by Catherine Reilly	£10
The Poetry Bookshop 1912-1935 by J. Howard Woolmer	£20

Miscellaneous

Augustan Books of Modern Poetry - Davies & Drinkwater	£4
Robert Frost, Half of a large catalogue of books from Quill & Brush (The Thomas Shelton Collection) (undated)	£8
Keith Smith Books: Complete set of Dymock Poet catalogues issued 1995-2001	£10
John Drinkwater and Other Georgians, Tindley & Mayall Catalogue 1991	£5
John Drinkwater 1882-1937: A Centenary Exhibition 1982	£10
Edward Thomas: The Man and His Books.	£10
Alan Hancox Catalogue 1972	