2009 Royal Society of New Zealand Manhire Prize for Creative Science Writing

THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE

"I live at the edge of the universe, like everybody else." Bill Manhire

This year we are celebrating the International Year of Astronomy. Ever since Galileo first aimed his telescope at Jupiter's moons, technology has been enlarging our knowledge of the universe. We now know our own insignificance and isolation and yet we have immense power to communicate as never before. The race of humans is isolated in space and time and yet where, as individuals, do we go to be alone?

You are invited to write about the place – past or present or future – of human beings in the universe.

The length of your piece should be between 2000 – 3000 words. There are two categories, fiction and non-fiction. For the purposes of the competition, the fiction category covers science fiction as well as the realistic short story. The non-fiction category covers a wide range of genre from personal essays to profiles to travel writing, but entries must have substantial scientific content. Entries will be judged on their literary merits and the extent to which they engage a non-scientific audience and are accessible to the general public.

A prize of $2500 will be awarded to the winner of each category. Arrangements will be made for both winners to attend a presentation function in November 2009, all expenses paid.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

TO ENTER: send two copies of your manuscript, and an application form to:

Royal Society of New Zealand Manhire
Prize for Creative Science Writing
Royal Society of New Zealand
PO Box 598
Wellington 6140

the ROYAL SOCIETY of NEW ZEALAND TE APĀRANGI

ENTRY FORM

Category (circle one): Fiction
Non Fiction

Pen Name_____

Age, if under 18_____

Email address_____

Postal address_____

_____

_____

Telephone number_____

Title of Manuscript_____

_____

Signed_____

Date_____

☐ I have read and accepted the terms and conditions of entry.

NEW ZEALAND LISTENER

The *New Zealand Listener* and the International Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University of Wellington are proud to support this competition.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 1. Entries must be original work, not published (electronically or in print) or broadcast elsewhere, and the work of the author alone. 2. Entrants must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents. 3. No staff member of the Royal Society of New Zealand, the International Institute of Modern Letters, or the *New Zealand Listener* may enter. 4. No entry may be entered, or have been entered, into any other competition until after the prize presentation date. 5. Only one entry per entrant is allowed in each of the fiction and non-fiction categories. 6. Entrants must use a pen name on their entry. 7. Entries must be received by 5pm on the closing date and late entries will not be accepted. 8. Entries must be typed, in English, and double spaced, with pages numbered. 9. Entrants in the non-fiction category must provide a bibliography and list of other information sources. 10. No responsibility is taken for entries, but receipt of entries will be acknowledged by email, or by post if a stamped addressed envelope is provided. 11. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 12. Manuscripts will not be returned. 13. Short-listed entries will be required to submit electronic versions of their entries. 14. Winners will be required to provide their names, entry details, biographical information and photographs to the Royal Society of New Zealand and the *New Zealand Listener* for promotional purposes. 15. Entrants retain copyright to their submitted works and grant APN Specialist Publications NZ Ltd a licence to publish their works in print and/or electronically.

For further information visit: www.royalsociety.org.nz