

The Hugh Miller Writing Competition 2019-2020

Poetry Highly Commended

The Old Man Teeters: Stuart Graham

The Hugh Miller Writing Competition carries the name of one of Scotland's most endearing geologists, Hugh Miller (1802-1856), and aims to honour his legacy by inspiring new, original prose and poetry on the theme of Scotland's geoh heritage. The competition is organised by the Scottish Geodiversity Forum and The Friends of Hugh Miller.

Further details of the competition, and all the winning entries, are available at www.scottishgeology.com/hughmiller/

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The 'Old Man' Teeters

Pangea has her breakdown
As Laurentia departs. Unconcerned
The Plesiosaurs dance from Eigg to Muck,
Dodging the shark infested waters
Where the three toed treads
Point their way to Skye.

McLeod's Table is set for the show,
Whilst Quirang to Storr
The Trotternish teeters,
His high point looking down
On the Bodach, the
"Old Man", who dances
His rotational glide,
lowering his book forged in stone,
his two dozen leaves of lava,
outpourings of Beinn Edra's wisdom.

He Skudiburghs down on Kilmaluag
As below Valtos gathers the dinosaurs
under the helm of his kilt
And fastens tight with
sparkling brooch of zeolite.

By Stuart Graham