

# **The Hugh Miller Writing Competition 2019-2020**

## **Under 18 Poetry 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Cairngorms: Penny Capewell**

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/](http://www.scottishgeology.com/hughmiller/)

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## Cairngorms

The moon was high, and shining bright,  
A traveller was lost in the night,  
The snow around him, a blanket of white,  
The traveller looks round in fright.

A silent shadow on the ground,  
The traveller looks all around,  
But the night is quiet; there is no sound,  
The traveller knows not what he has found.

The moon was high, and shining bright,  
A traveller was lost in the night,  
The snow around him, a blanket of white,  
The traveller looks round in fright.

All of a sudden; through the snow,  
There appeared an old black crow,  
As it flew it spoke slow,  
“Tell me what I need to know.”

The moon was high, and shining bright,  
A traveller was lost in the night,  
The snow around him, a blanket of white,  
The traveller looks round in fright.

In his pocket a soft smooth stone,  
Inside that, an animal of bone,  
All of this creature remains unknown,

The traveller wonders whether to let it go.

The moon was high, and shining bright,  
A traveller was lost in the night,  
The snow around him, a blanket of white,  
The traveller looks round in fright.

“Give the stone” seems to whisper the dawn,  
“Or your life will be withdrawn,”  
But in his pocket it is gone,  
His chance of escape seems to be none.

The moon was high, and shining bright,  
A traveller was lost in the night,  
The snow around him, a blanket of white,  
The traveller looks round in fright.

**By Penny Capewell**