

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED FROM  
RESURGENCE & ECOLOGIST'S  
FIRST NATURE WRITING COMPETITION**

*Resurgence & Ecologist* magazine is delighted to announce the winners of its first nature writing competition.

The judging panel was led by the internationally-acclaimed author Michael Morpurgo and included amongst others Ruth Borthwick, chief executive of the Arvon Foundation, Harry Barton, chief executive of Devon Wildlife Trust and poet Miriam Darlington as well as Satish Kumar, editor-in-chief of *Resurgence & Ecologist*.

Three winners and one highly commended runner up have been chosen. These four pieces will be published in the July/August 2013 issue of the magazine. Other pieces within the 80-plus 2013 entries will be published in the magazine over the course of the year.

**1<sup>st</sup> prize: Wild Wales by Julie Bromilow**

Julie has won £500 plus a week-long residential writing course generously donated by the Arvon Foundation and worth £655. The judges described her essay as unusual, fresh, original and beautifully written.

Judge Ruth Borthwick says: "Wild Wales is fresh, engaging and optimistic. Through her account of a journey around Wales following in the footsteps of Victorian George Borrow, Julie paints a lively picture of contemporary Welsh society. There are gorgeous descriptions of Nature using bright colours and memorable textures, 'smashed orange beech leaves' and 'cashmere clouds soften the hills'. Above all, Julie expresses a sense of change as opportunity and not necessarily a bad thing: 'Times have changed, and they'll change again.'

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize: In Search of Ramonda by Sue Kindon**

Sue has won £250 and a botanical coastal walk with Satish Kumar, followed by afternoon tea at his Devon home. The judges particularly enjoyed her very detailed description of a plant hunting expedition which although she had set out to find an entirely different species -led the writer to the elusive ghost orchid.

**3<sup>rd</sup> prize: I Will Remember by Sarah Walsh**

Sarah won £75 and a year-long membership of the Devon Wildlife Trust; plus a guided tour of the Trust's Marsden Wildlife Reserve. The judges felt Sarah conjured a much-loved and deeply-felt landscape, taking the reader on a unique journey across Bodmin Moor and cleverly using sound as a very original way to share her knowledge of that less well known and often challenging landscape.

**Highly Commended: Allotment by Peter Jewel**

# Resurgence & ECOLOGIST

Peter has won a year-long extension of his membership of The Resurgence Trust and will receive six complimentary issues of Resurgence & Ecologist magazine. The judges agreed his piece captured both a natural curiosity that shone through the writing and a sense of the essence of Resurgence & Ecologist magazine.

Judge Miriam Darlington says: “In the end it was the freshness of expression, the surprises and the sheer narrative energy of the winners that I admired the most. Each chose a different style in approaching the theme of rootedness and skilfully took the reader by the hand into a place that was alive with finely wrought textures, sounds and sensory details. The winning pieces distinguished themselves by inquisitiveness about the ecology of each chosen place and by creation of sympathy with their human and non-human inhabitants.

Satish Kumar, editor-in-chief of Resurgence & Ecologist adds: “We were impressed by the diversity of the entries and the different voices that emerged to tell stories of climate change, walking, plant-hunting, gardening, wildlife-spotting, camping, star-gazing and even blackberry picking.”

**For full details of the 2013 Resurgence & Ecologist Nature Writing competition, the suggested themes (which many of the writers adopted) visit our websites, <http://www.resurgence.org/magazine/article3746-nature-writing-competition.html> [http://www.theecologist.org/News/news\\_analysis/1560376/nature\\_writing\\_contest\\_2013.html](http://www.theecologist.org/News/news_analysis/1560376/nature_writing_contest_2013.html).**

**For further information, please, contact:**

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**Notes to Editors:**

1. The following are the Judges for the **Resurgence & Ecologist Nature Writing Competition 2013**: Michael Morpuro – chair; Satish Kumar – Editor-in-Chief, Resurgence & Ecologist magazine; Ruth Borthwick – chief executive, Arvon Foundation; Harry Barton – chief executive, Devon Wildlife Trust; Peter Reason – author, nature writer and Resurgence contributor; Miriam Darlington – poet, nature writer and Resurgence contributor; Jeremy James – author, nature writer and Resurgence contributor and Susan Clark – Associate Editor, Resurgence & Ecologist magazine
2. For further information about Resurgence and the Ecologist visit [www.resurgence.org](http://www.resurgence.org) or [www.theecologist.org](http://www.theecologist.org).
3. Resurgence and the Ecologist are published by The Resurgence Trust (no.1120414) an educational charity registered at Ford House, Hartland, Bideford, Devon, EX39 6EE, UK.