



HARROGATE
Civic Society

Celebrate our past - Enhance our present - Shape our future

Harrogate Civic Society Schools History Prize: Guide for Students:

What is the Schools History prize? Harrogate Civic Society has established a Schools History Prize with the purpose of encouraging the study of the history of Harrogate among school students. This is part of the Society's wider aim to Celebrate our past and of its History Group to research, record and communicate the history of the town.

Why should I take part? The prize gives you an opportunity to do your own research on the history of the town and to write it up for a wider readership. It will also be a valuable addition to your CV.

What are the prizes? The winner's prize will consist of:

- A cash prize of £100
- A book on an aspect of the history of Harrogate
- A year's free membership of Harrogate Civic Society

There will also be two additional prizes of book tokens to the value of £50 and a year's free membership of Harrogate Civic Society. The Society will retain the right to publish any essays in its Newsletter or on the Society website.

How does it work? The entry requirements are as follows:

- The essay prize is open to students aged 16 to 18 inclusive attending a Harrogate school.
- The essay is to be no longer than 3,000 words.
- The essay may be on any subject in the history of Harrogate from the earliest times to the present day. It may also compare and contrast Harrogate with other spa towns.
- The essay should provide references and a bibliography, including primary and secondary sources, which are not included in the word limit. Students may use the referencing style of their choice. There are no further specifications of style so long as the essay is clearly set out.
- The essay should be sent as a Word document by email attachment to History Group member Dr Paul Jennings at paul.jennings@cantab.net Securing permission for the reproduction of illustrations and quotations from copyrighted material is the responsibility of the author. Illustrations should be kept to a minimum.
- All entries must state, in a separate attachment, the student's name, email address, school, essay title, number of words and a statement confirming that it is the student's own work.
- The closing date for entries will be 31 March 2022.

- The essays will be judged by a panel and all will be anonymised at that stage.
- The winners will be notified by late May 2022.
- The decision of the judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- If, in the judges' opinion, the material submitted is not of a suitable standard, no prizes will be awarded.

What are the judges looking for? The judges will be looking for all the qualities which make for a good history essay:

- The extent and relevance of your reading and research
- Your use of evidence to support your points.
- Your use of argument and analysis
- Your clarity of expression, including correct grammar and spelling

How do I get started? Your teachers will be able to advise you, but you could start by looking at the Harrogate Civic Society website which has a dedicated History section in which you will find links to a brief history of the town, books and relevant sources and their location. Visit <https://www.harrogatecivicsociety.org/history>

We very much hope that you will wish to take part. For the sake of fairness, we will not be able to enter into direct communication with entrants but will answer any general questions from your teachers.