

COSTA BOOK AWARDS

The Book Awards were established by Whitbread in 1971 and encouraged, promoted and celebrated the enjoyment of reading. They became the Costa Book Awards in 2006.

There are six awards:

- Novel Award, First Novel Award, Biography Award, Poetry Award and Children's Book Award winners (£5,000 each)
- Book of the Year (selected from five winners above): £30,000
- Total prize fund is £55,000.

COSTA WINNERS 2006 – present

2015	BOOK OF THE YEAR	The Lie Tree	Frances Hardinge	<i>Macmillan Children's Books</i>
	First Novel Award	The Loney	Andrew Michael Hurley	<i>John Murray</i>
	Novel Award	A God in Ruins	Kate Atkinson	<i>Doubleday</i>
	Biography Award	The Invention of Nature: The Adventures of Alexander von Humboldt, The Lost Hero of Science	Andrea Wulf	<i>John Murray</i>
	Poetry Award	40 Sonnets	Don Paterson	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	Children's Book Award	The Lie Tree	Frances Hardinge	<i>Macmillan Children's Books</i>
2014	BOOK OF THE YEAR	H is for Hawk	Helen Macdonald	<i>Random House</i>
	First Novel Award	Elizabeth is Missing	Emma Healey	<i>Viking</i>
	Novel Award	How to be both	Ali Smith	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	Biography Award	H is for Hawk	Helen Macdonald	<i>Random House</i>
	Poetry Award	My Family and Other Superheroes	Jonathan Edwards	<i>Seren</i>
	Children's Book Award	Five Children on the Western Front	Kate Saunders	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
2013	BOOK OF THE YEAR	The Shock of the Fall	Nathan Filer	<i>Borough Press (HarperCollins)</i>
	First Novel Award	The Shock of the Fall	Nathan Filer	<i>Borough Press (HarperCollins)</i>
	Novel Award	Life After Life	Kate Atkinson	<i>Doubleday</i>
	Biography Award	The Pike: Gabriele d'Annunzio, Poet, Seducer and Preacher of War	Lucy Hughes-Hallett	<i>Fourth Estate</i>
	Poetry Award	Drysalter	Michael Symmons-Roberts	<i>Jonathan Cape</i>
Children's Book Award	Goth Girl and the Ghost of a Mouse	Chris Riddell	<i>Macmillan Children's Books</i>	
2012	BOOK OF THE YEAR	Bring Up The Bodies	Hilary Mantel	<i>Fourth Estate</i>
	First Novel Award	The Innocents	Francesca Segal	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Novel Award	Bring Up The Bodies	Hilary Mantel	<i>Fourth Estate</i>
	Biography Award	Dotter of Her Father's Eyes	Mary Talbot and Bryan Talbot	<i>Jonathan Cape</i>
	Poetry Award	The Overhaul	Kathleen Jamie	<i>Picador</i>
Children's Book Award	Maggot Moon	Sally Gardner	<i>Hot Key Books</i>	
2011	BOOK OF THE YEAR	PURE	Andrew Miller	<i>Sceptre</i>
	First Novel Award	Tiny Sunbirds Far Away	Christie Watson	<i>Quercus</i>
	Novel Award	Pure	Andrew Miller	<i>Sceptre</i>
	Biography Award	Now All Roads Lead to France: The Last Years of Edward Thomas	Matthew Hollis	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	Poetry Award	The Bees	Carol Ann Duffy	<i>Picador</i>
Children's Book Award	Blood Red Road	Moirá Young	<i>Marion Lloyd Books</i>	
2010	BOOK OF THE YEAR	OF MUTABILITY	Jo Shapcott	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	First Novel Award	Witness the Night	Kishwar Desai	<i>Beautiful Books</i>
	Novel Award	The Hand that First Held Mine	Maggie O'Farrell	<i>Headline Review</i>
	Biography Award	The Hare with Amber Eyes	Edmund de Waal	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Poetry Award	Of Mutability	Jo Shapcott	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	Children's Book Award	Out of Shadows	Jason Wallace	<i>Andersen Press</i>
2009	BOOK OF THE YEAR	A SCATTERING	Christopher Reid	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	First Novel Award	Beauty	Raphael Selbourne	<i>Tindal Street Press</i>
	Novel Award	Brooklyn	Colm Tóibín	<i>Viking</i>
	Biography Award	The Strangest Man – The Hidden	Graham Farmelo	<i>Faber and Faber</i>

	Poetry Award Children's Book Award	Life of Paul Dirac, Quantum Genius A Scattering The Ask and the Answer: Chaos Walking, Book Two	Christopher Reid Patrick Ness	<i>Arete Books</i> <i>Walker Books</i>
2008	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	THE SECRET SCRIPTURE The Outcast The Secret Scripture Somewhere Towards the End The Broken Word Just Henry	Sebastian Barry Sadie Jones Sebastian Barry Diana Athill Adam Foulds Michelle Magorian	<i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Chatto & Windus</i> <i>Faber and Faber</i> <i>Granta</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Egmont Press</i>
2007	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	DAY What Was Lost Day Young Stalin Tilt The Bower Bird	A L Kennedy Catherine O'Flynn A L Kennedy Simon Sebag-Montefiore Jean Sprackland Ann Kelley	<i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Tindal Street Press</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Cape Poetry</i> <i>Luath Press Limited</i>
2006	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	THE TENDERNESS OF WOLVES The Tenderness of Wolves Restless Keeping Mum Letter to Patience Set in Stone	Stef Penney Stef Penney William Boyd Brian Thompson John Haynes Linda Newbery	<i>Quercus</i> <i>Quercus</i> <i>Bloomsbury</i> <i>Atlantic Books</i> <i>Seren</i> <i>David Fickling Books</i>

WHITBREAD WINNERS 1971 – 2005

2005	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	MATISSE: THE MASTER The Harmony Silk Factory the accidental Matisse: The Master Cold Calls The New Policeman	Hilary Spurling Tash Aw Ali Smith Hilary Spurling Christopher Logue Kate Thompson	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Harper Perennial</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Faber and Faber</i> <i>The Bodley Head</i>
2004	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	SMALL ISLAND Eve Green Small Island My Heart is My Own: The Life of Mary Queen of Scots Corpus Not the End of the World	Andrea Levy Susan Fletcher Andrea Levy John Guy Michael Simmons Roberts Geraldine McCaughrean	<i>Headline</i> <i>Headline</i> <i>Fourth Estate</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Oxford University Press</i>
2003	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME Vernon God Little The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Orwell: The Life Landing Light The Fire-Eaters	Mark Haddon DBC Pierre Mark Haddon DJ Taylor Don Paterson David Almond	<i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Chatto & Windus</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Hodder Children's</i>
2002	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Award Novel Award Biography Award Poetry Award Children's Book Award	SAMUEL PEPYS: THE UNEQUALLED SELF The Song of Names Spies Samuel Pepys: The Unequalled Self The Ice Age Saffy's Angel	Claire Tomalin Norman Lebrecht Michael Frayn Claire Tomalin Paul Farley Hilary McKay	<i>Viking</i> <i>Review</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Viking</i> <i>Picador</i> <i>Hodder Children's</i>

NB: The structure of the Awards changed for the final time in 2002, and the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year reverted to the original format of being one of five categories, with its winner, like the others, selected by the category judges and competing for title of Whitbread Book of the Year.

2001	BOOK OF THE YEAR	THE AMBER SPYGLASS	Philip Pullman	<i>Scholastic</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	The Amber Spyglass	Philip Pullman	<i>Scholastic</i>
	First Novel Award	Something Like a House	Sid Smith	<i>Picador</i>
	Novel Award	Twelve Bar Blues	Patrick Neate	<i>Viking</i>
	Biography Award	Selkirk's Island	Diana Souhami	<i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i>
	Poetry Award	Bunny	Selima Hill	<i>Bloodaxe</i>
2000	BOOK OF THE YEAR	ENGLISH PASSENGERS	Matthew Kneale	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	Coram Boy	Jamila Gavin	<i>Egmont</i>
	First Novel Award	White Teeth	Zadie Smith	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	Novel Award	English Passengers	Matthew Kneale	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	Biography Award	Bad Blood	Lorna Sage	<i>Fourth Estate</i>
	Poetry Award	The Asylum Dance	John Burnside	<i>Cape Poetry</i>
1999	BOOK OF THE YEAR	BEOWULF	Seamus Heaney	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	J K Rowling	<i>Bloomsbury</i>
	First Novel Award	White City Blue	Tim Lott	<i>Viking</i>
	Novel Award	Music and Silence	Rose Tremain	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Biography Award	Berlioz, Volume 2	David Cairns	<i>Allen Lane The Penguin Press</i>
	Poetry Award	Beowulf	Seamus Heaney	<i>Faber & Faber</i>

NB: The structure of the Awards changed once more in 1999 when the winner of the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year was selected by the final judging panel and then judged against the other four categories for overall Whitbread Book of the Year.

1998	BOOK OF THE YEAR	BIRTHDAY LETTERS	Ted Hughes	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	SKELLIG	David Almond	<i>Hodder Children's Books</i>
	First Novel Award	The Last King of Scotland	Giles Foden	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	Novel Award	Leading the Cheers	Justin Cartwright	<i>Sceptre</i>
	Biography Award	Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire	Amanda Foreman	<i>HarperCollins</i>
	Poetry Award	Birthday Letters	Ted Hughes	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
1997	BOOK OF THE YEAR	TALES FROM OVID	Ted Hughes	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	AQUILA	Andrew Norriss	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	First Novel Award	The Ventriloquist's Tale	Pauline Melville	<i>Bloomsbury</i>
	Novel Award	Quarantine	Jim Crace	<i>Viking</i>
	Biography Award	Victor Hugo	Graham Robb	<i>Picador</i>
	Poetry Award	Tales from Ovid	Ted Hughes	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
1996	BOOK OF THE YEAR	THE SPIRIT LEVEL	Seamus Heaney	<i>Faber & Faber</i>
	CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR	THE TULIP TOUCH	Anne Fine	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	First Novel Award	The Debt to Pleasure	John Lanchester	<i>Picador</i>
	Novel Award	Every Man for Himself	Beryl Bainbridge	<i>Duckworth</i>
	Biography Award	Thomas Cranmer: A Life	Diarmaid MacCulloch	<i>Yale University Press</i>
	Poetry Award	The Spirit Level	Seamus Heaney	<i>Faber & Faber</i>

NB: The structure of the Awards changed again in 1996 when the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year became an award in its own right (ie not judged against the other four categories) for the first time, with prize money of £10,000.

1995	BOOK OF THE YEAR	BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM	Kate Atkinson	<i>Doubleday/Black Swan</i>
	First Novel	Behind the Scenes at the Museum	Kate Atkinson	<i>Doubleday/Black Swan</i>
	Novel	The Moor's Last Sigh	Salman Rushdie	<i>Jonathan Cape</i>
	Biography	Gladstone	Roy Jenkins	<i>Macmillan</i>
	Poetry	Gunpowder	Bernard O'Donoghue	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Beefeater Children's Novel	The Wreck of the Zanzibar	Michael Morpurgo	<i>Heinemann/Mammoth</i>
1994	BOOK OF THE YEAR	FELICIA'S JOURNEY	William Trevor	<i>Viking</i>
	First Novel	The Longest Memory	Fred D'Aguiar	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Novel	Felicia's Journey	William Trevor	<i>Viking</i>

	Biography Poetry Children's Novel	D H Lawrence: The Married Man Out of Danger Gold Dust	Brenda Maddox James Fenton Geraldine McCaughrean	<i>Sinclair-Stevenson</i> <i>Penguin Poetry</i> <i>OUP</i>
1993	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	THEORY OF WAR Saving Agnes Theory of War Philip Larkin: A Writer's Life Mean Time Flour Babies	Joan Brady Rachel Cusk Joan Brady Andrew Motion Carol Ann Duffy Anne Fine	<i>Andre Deutsch</i> <i>Macmillan</i> <i>Andre Deutsch</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Anvil Press</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
1992	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	SWING HAMMER SWING! Swing Hammer Swing! Poor Things Trollope The Gaze of the Gorgon The Great Elephant Chase	Jeff Torrington Jeff Torrington Alasdair Gray Victoria Glendinning Tony Harrison Gillian Cross	<i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Bloomsbury</i> <i>Hutchinson</i> <i>Bloodaxe Books</i> <i>OUP</i>
1991	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	A LIFE OF PICASSO Alma Cogan The Queen of the Tambourine A Life of Picasso Gorse Fires Harvey Angell	John Richardson Gordon Burn Jane Gardam John Richardson Michael Longley Diana Hendry	<i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Sinclair-Stevenson</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Julia MacRae</i>
1990	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	HOPEFUL MONSTERS The Buddha of Suburbia Hopeful Monsters A A Milne: His Life Daddy, Daddy AK	Nicholas Mosley Hanif Kureishi Nicholas Mosley Ann Thwaite Paul Durcan Peter Dickinson	<i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>The Blackstaff Press</i> <i>Victor Gollancz</i>
1989	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	COLERIDGE: EARLY VISIONS Gerontius The Chymical Wedding Coleridge: Early Visions Shibboleth Why Weeps the Brogan?	Richard Holmes James Hamilton-Paterson Lindsay Clarke Richard Holmes Michael Donaghy Hugh Scott	<i>Hodder & Stoughton</i> <i>Macmillan</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Hodder & Stoughton</i> <i>OUP</i> <i>Walker Books</i>
1988	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	THE COMFORTS OF MADNESS The Comforts of Madness The Satanic Verses Tolstoy The Automatic Oracle Awaiting Developments	Paul Sayer Paul Sayer Salman Rushdie A N Wilson Peter Porter Judy Allen	<i>Constable</i> <i>Constable</i> <i>Viking</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>OUP</i> <i>Julia MacRae</i>
1987	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	UNDER THE EYE OF THE CLOCK The Other Garden The Child in Time Under the Eye of the Clock The Haw Lantern A Little Lower than the Angels	Christopher Nolan Francis Wyndham Ian McEwan Christopher Nolan Seamus Heaney Geraldine McCaughrean	<i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>OUP</i>
1986	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	AN ARTIST OF THE FLOATING WORLD Continent An Artist of the Floating World Gilbert White Stet The Coal House	Kazuo Ishiguro Jim Crace Kazuo Ishiguro Richard Mabey Peter Reading Andrew Taylor	<i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Heinemann</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Century Hutchinson</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Collins</i>
1985	BOOK OF THE YEAR First Novel Novel Biography Poetry Children's Novel	ELEGIES Oranges are not the only Fruit Hawksmoor Hugh Dalton Elegies The Nature of the Beast	Douglas Dunn Jeanette Winterson Peter Ackroyd Ben Pimlott Douglas Dunn Janni Howker	<i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Pandora Press</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i> <i>Julia MacRae</i>

NB: The Whitbread Book of the Year was awarded for the first time in 1985 when the format of the Awards was changed. Prior to that, the

Whitbread Literary Awards (as they were then called) were given as follows:

1984	First Novel Novel Biography Short Story	A Parish of Rich Women Kruger's Alp T S Eliot Tomorrow is our Permanent Address	James Buchan Christopher Hope Peter Ackroyd Diane Rowe	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Heinemann</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i>
	Children's Novel	The Queen of the Pharisees' Children	Barbara Willard	<i>Julia MacRae</i>
1983	First Novel Novel Joint Biography	Flying to Nowhere Fools of Fortune Vita King George V The Witches	John Fuller William Trevor Victoria Glendinning Kenneth Rose Roald Dahl	<i>Salamander Press</i> <i>Bodley Head</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i>
	Children's Novel			
1982	First Novel Novel Biography Children's Novel	On the Black Hill Young Shoulders Bismarck The Song of Pentecost	Bruce Chatwin John Wain Edward Crankshaw W J Corbett	<i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Macmillan</i> <i>Macmillan</i> <i>Methuen</i>
1981	First Novel Novel Biography Children's Novel	A Good Man in Africa Silver's City Monty: The Making of a General The Hollow Land	William Boyd Maurice Leitch Nigel Hamilton Jane Gardam	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Julia MacRae</i>
1980	Novel and Book of the Year Biography	How Far Can You Go? On the Edge of Paradise: A C Benson the Diarist John Diamond	David Lodge David Newsome	<i>Secker & Warburg</i> <i>John Murraray</i>
	Children's Novel		Leon Garfield	<i>Kestrel</i>
1979	Novel Autobiography Children's Novel	The Old Jest About Time Tulku	Jennifer Johnston Penelope Mortimer Peter Dickinson	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Allen Lane</i> <i>Victor Gollancz</i>
1978	Novel Biography	Picture Palace Lloyd George: The People's Champion The Battle of Bubble & Squeak	Paul Theroux John Grigg	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Methuen</i>
	Children's Book		Philippa Pearce	<i>Andre Deutsch</i>
1977	Novel Biography Children's Book	Injury Time Mary Curzon No End to Yesterday	Beryl Bainbridge Nigel Nicolson Shelagh Macdonald	<i>Duckworth</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i> <i>Andre Deutsch</i>
1976	Novel Biography Children's Book	The Children of Dynmouth Elizabeth Gaskell A Stitch in Time	William Trevor Winifred Gerin Penelope Lively	<i>Bodley Head</i> <i>OUP</i> <i>William Heinemann</i>
1975	Novel Autobiography First Book	Docherty In Our Infancy The Improbable Puritan: A Life of Bulstrode Whitelock	William McIlvanney Helen Corke Ruth Spalding	<i>Allen & Unwin</i> <i>Cambridge University Press</i> <i>Faber & Faber</i>
1974	Novel	The Sacred & Profane Love Machine	Iris Murdoch	<i>Chatto & Windus</i>
	Biography Joint Children's Books	Poor Dear Brendan How Tom Beat Captain Najork & His Hired Sportsmen The Emperor's Winding Sheet	Andrew Boyle Russell Hoban & Quentin Blake Jill Paton Walsh	<i>Hutchinson</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i>
	First Book	The Life & Death of Mary Wollstonecraft	Claire Tomalin	<i>Macmillan</i> <i>Weidenfeld & Nicolson</i>
1973	Novel Biography	The Chip Chip Gatherers CB: A Life of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman The Butterfly Ball & The Grasshopper's Feast	Shiva Naipaul John Wilson	<i>Andre Deutsch</i> <i>Constable</i>
	Children's Book		Alan Aldridge & William Plomer	<i>Jonathan Cape</i>

1972	Novel Biography Children's Book	The Bird of Night Trollope The Diddakoi	Susan Hill James Pope-Hennessy Rumer Godden	<i>Hamish Hamilton</i> <i>Jonathan Cape</i> <i>Macmillan</i>
1971	Novel Biography Poetry	The Destiny Waltz Henrik Ibsen Mercian Hymns	Gerda Charles Michael Meyer Geoffrey Hill	<i>Eyre & Spottiswoode</i> <i>Hart-Davis</i> <i>Andre Deutsch</i>