

Commonwealth Writers Prize

The Commonwealth Writers Prize, established in 1987, is sponsored by the Commonwealth Foundation and administered by Book Trust. Any work of prose fiction is eligible, i.e. a novel or collection of short stories. The work must have been written by a citizen of the Commonwealth, must be of a reasonable length and be in English. There is no restriction on setting, theme or mode.

2005

- Best book: **Small Island** Andrea Levy
- Best first book: **Purple Hibiscus** Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

2004

- Best book: **A Distant Shore** Caryl Phillips
- Best first book: **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time** Mark Haddon

2003

- Best book: **The Polished hoe** Austin Clarke
- Best first book: **Haweswater** Sarah Hall

2002

- Best book: **Gould's book of fish** Richard Flanagan
- Best first book: **Ama, a story of the Atlantic slave trade** Manu Herbstein

2001

- Best book: **True History of the Kelly Gang** Peter Carey
- Best first book: **White teeth** Zadie Smith

2000

- Best book: **Disgrace** J M Coetzee
- Best first book: **Prisoner in a red-rose chain** Jeffrey Moore

1999

- Best book: **Eucalyptus** Murray Bail
- Best first book: **The Electrical field** Kerri Sakamoto

1998

- Best book: **Jack Maggs** Peter Carey
- Best first book: **Angel Falls** Tim Wynveen

1997

- Best book: **Salt** Earl Lovelace
- Best first book: **Fall on your knees** Ann-Marie MacDonald

1996

- Best book: **A fine balance** Rohinton Mistry
 - Best first book: **Red earth and pouring rain** Vikram Chandra
- 1995
- Best book: **Captain Corelli's mandolin** Louis de Bernieres
 - Best first book: **Seasonal adjustments** Adib Khan
- 1994
- Best book: **A Suitable boy** Vikram Seth
 - Best first book: **The Case of Emily V** Keith Oatley
- 1993
- Best book: **The Ancestor game** Alex Miller
 - Best first book: **The Thousand faces of night** Gita Hariharan
- 1992
- Best book: **Such a long journey** Rohinton Mistry
 - Best first book: **Divina Trace** Robert Antoni
- 1991
- Best book: **The Great world** David Malouf
 - Best first book: **Shape-Shifter** Pauline Melville
- 1990
- Best book: **Solomon Gursky was here** Mordecai Richler
 - Best first book: **Visitors** John Cranna
- 1989
- Best book: **The Carpathians** Janet Frame
 - Best first book: **Women of influence** Bonnie Burnard
 - 1988 **Heroes** Festus Iyayi
 - 1987 **Summer lightning** Olive Senior