HETHERINGTON, TERRY

Born to Irish/Welsh parents in Neath in 1935 Terry Hetherington spent his early working life in the Welsh heavy industries, tinplate, coal and steel. He became active in the political hotbed that these industries had generated. A move to labouring work on local building sites led, eventually, to him joining an itinerant Irish navvy gang, and moving on with them to "follow the shillings" as they put it. Intended only as a means of record keeping, he wrote poetry and prose at that time, much of it pertaining to events and characters encountered. A belated return to more stable employment in his own home area, ended due to injury and ill health in the 1980's .It was then that he developed as a poet and has since had work published widely in the Welsh magazines and anthologies. He has given public readings of his work at many venues throughout Wales, and has organised and ran poetry groupes in his own locality. A selection of his poetry, The Undiminished, was published by Swansea Poetry Workshop in 1997.