HAIKU IN AUSTRALIA
Collated by Lyn Reeves and Beverley George

Part One—samples of haiku from some of the poets mentioned in the history.

LYNETTE ARDEN—Vice-President, Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz); leader Bindii Japanese Genre Poetry Group.

near Bashô’s statue
a hundred tadpoles striving to become frogs
(The haiku above was displayed by the Basho Museum in Tokyo, as one of the three best English language haiku deposited at the museum for 2012.)

Japanese class
everyone showing off
their I Pad

king tide
the bay ripples
with jellyfish

Presence 44

waltz
an autumn leaf
partners the kitten
5th place European Quarterly kukai 2013

chink in the cloud
a pattern of bare branches
crosses the bus

flood debris
a doll’s limb
pale in the seaweed

Windfall issue 1 2013
night window  
flames in the hearth  
pull closer together  

Famous Reporter  June 2011  
crows in the pines  
the wind tastes  
of yesterday's rain  

FreeXpresSion  September 2012  
squashed in a rack  
flimsy summer dresses  
reduced  

Writers on Parade  2013  
coffee for one  
sharing a chat  
on the mobile  

Writers on Parade  2013  

JOHN BIRD—Founder with Janice Bostok of the Australian Haiku Society.  
Produced the electronic collection Australian Haiku Dreaming.  

dawn shadows  
a crow rides the windmill  
back to the trough  

Yellow Moon 10 2001 HC  
starless night—  
pier lights disappear  
into surf noise  

Yellow Moon 14 2003  
barking dogs—  
the swaggies's slow progress  
into town  

Yellow Moon 15 2004  2nd place  
siesta hour—  
summer wind unpicks  
the jacaranda  

Yellow Moon 15 2004  
chain lightning  
the mid-summer sky  
reseals itself  

Yellow Moon 11 2002 HC  
garbage collection—  
a spider rides our bin  
into the sky  

Yellow Moon 12 2002 HC  
spring morning  
dog and I exchange  
silly grins  

N Z Poetry Society 2002 Anthology
Australia Day
dot by dot she paints
yam dreaming

the dead centre
a disappearing roadtrain
lowers the stars

horned moon—
the fence rider stays
on his side

JANICE M. BOSTOK — Founding patron HaikuOz; Co-founder with John Bird Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz); Acclaimed pioneer of haiku in Australia.

evening bird flight returning less urgent

pregnant again . . .
the fluttering of moths
against the window

amongst the graffiti
a tiny violet
clinging

in this blue
the scalloped flight
of one swallow

stationary bus
talking we visit places
with each other

dark house
only cat’s eyes reflected
in the headlights

no money for the busker I try not to listen

all from *Amongst the Graffiti* (Post Pressed, 2003)
DAWN BRUCE—former Vice-President of the Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz); leader, Ozku haiku group.

the last page of a loved book
autumn rain

First Prize FreeXpresSion April 2008; pub FreeXpresSion Vol XV

moonrise
a flow of shadows
along the river

Equal First Prize Jack Stamm competition 2010; pub moonrise & bare hills (2010)

raindrops
on a nasturtium leaf
I finger my pearls

Second prize Perth Library Haiku comp. 2013

a mud puddle
ringed by butterflies . . .
sunlight flutters

Presence Issue #43, 2011

scent
of old tea roses . . .
faraway moon

Kokako Issue 12, 2010

midnight silence
the carousel horses
moon-glazed

FreeXpresSion HC . . . May 2012 -Volume XIX - 5

river stone
the current of years
in every shape

Windfall: Australian haiku 3 2015

out of black silence
the wobble
of a burnt lamb

The Dreaming Collection
winter’s day . . .  
a blue metallic sky 
over the war zone

Cattails Issue 2, 2014

misty rain . . .  
under the butterfly bush 
a stone Buddha

Presence #41

ROSS CLARK—co-founder Paper Wasp Group.

lighting the gas ring:  
morning’s first  
flower

veranda bed  
corrugated sky &  
nailhole stars

wind in the long grass  
every green thing  
breathing

after the parade  
the dragon head off  
still smoking

LORIN FORD—haiku editor Notes from the Gean, A Hundred Gourds; convenor, Red Kelpies.

a last year’s lambskin where mushrooms gather dusk


moonshadows  
the bunyip  
in every snag

Modern Haiku 42.3, 2011

a magpie’s solo—  
moonlight  
floods the gully

winter starlight
the sound of the tuning fork
goes on forever

first published Presence #45, voted Best of Issue for #45; still heading out—an anthology of Australian and New Zealand Haiku, 2013

mother’s secrets . . .
I prise open
a dozen oysters

1st Prize 2014 FreeXpresSion Haiku Comp. 2014

on a bare twig rain beads what light there is


where creek willows weave the sunlight ducklings

tinywords, Issue 11.2 25/10/11 still heading out—an anthology of Australian and New Zealand Haiku, 2013

rusted hinge
the butterfly’s wings
close, open

first prize paper wasp Jack Stamm Award, 2005, first pub. Pw JS anthology, rusted hinge; still heading out—an anthology of Australian and New Zealand Haiku, 2013

a dream time
before theirs and mine—
Wollemi Pine


distant thunder
the future
in my bones


from a lifted oar
a shimmer connects the sky
and sunlit river

1st prize Genkissu! World Wide Hekinan Haiku Contest 2009

one tiny feather
all the colours of the bird
weightless on my palm

first published *Presence* 47 2012; republished as a haiga with Mariko Kitakubo and Ron Moss on *Haiga Online* 15 (1) 2014

sultry night
the smell of jasmine
and old oranges

Highly Commended *Presence* Haiku Awards 2003

children’s zoo
the one black-faced sheep
gets all the pats

first published *The Heron’s Nest* 2007; HSA anthology 2007

closing day
vine tomatoes
warm my hands

2nd Prize Kaji Aso Studio 23rd Annual Haiku Contest 2011

train tunnel
the sudden intimacy
of mirrored faces

voted Best of Issue readers *Presence* #22 2004

country graveyard—
a weathered sundial
tells the time

*Spinifex*, Pardalote Press, 2006;

fireside knitting
the unfinished scarf
around my neck

first published *Presence* 42 2010
Anzac Day
a baby’s cry fills
our minute’s silence


lengthening shadow—
above her eggs the hen’s heart
beats against my arm

winner British Haiku Society James W Hackett Award 2003;
published Blithe Spirit 2004; A New Resonance 4 RMP 2005

all haiku from 1997-2014 from: Spinifex; haiku by Beverley George, Pardalote Press, 2006; A New Resonance 4 RMP; The Birds That Stay: haiku by Beverley George Eucalypt, 2013

MATT HETHERINGTON — Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz), Committee Member.

slowly
over the spiral notebook
a caterpillar

2014 Creatrix Haiku Prize

the busy bee
is led astray
by my morning toast

World Haiku Editor’s Special Mention selected by Debra Woolard Bender, Editor-in-Chief, World Haiku Review

winter solstice—
scraping the last rice grains
from the pot

Presence #48.

hung-over—
the red eye
of the traffic light

Going Down Swinging

icy wind—
but it makes the branches
dance

Holland 1945

the river—
dark enough now
to show the moon

Page Seventeen
eating rice
looking at
fields of rice

Cordite Poetry Review

corpses
awaits cremation—
a goat has a nibble

Cordite Poetry Review

full moon—
my tongue
between her teeth

peril 'skin' edition

home late
a rotting flower
blocks the doorway

Shamrock Haiku Journal issue

JOHN KNIGHT — co-founder Paper Wasp Group; editor/owner PostPressed.
mackerel sky and
now the wild geese are calling
into the sunset

spring moon
lighting drunks and
poets home . . .

three a.m.
and you shift my hand
from your breast

five years on
and still I haven’t opened
mother’s suitcases

on my hands now
    grandmother’s
sunspots

white clouds  
hard to believe  
I've been there

rain......filling  
the hole......you left

after rain  
climbing the mountain  
only mist

as we pass  
her tilted umbrella  
drops silver

swirling loops  
in her letter  
her voice

ear plugs in  
no traffic  
no birds

RON MOSS—former Secretary, HaikuOz.

bushfire moon fruit bats in the updraft  
*The Heron's Nest*, XVI.2 (06-14)

a sliver of moon  
the old bluesman  
breaks a string  
*The Heron's Nest*, XVI.1 (03-14)

father's dementia  
the path that rain makes  
through a cloud  
*The Heron's Nest*, XVI.1 (03-14)

all that pain  
in a country song  
the ploughman's blade  
*The Heron's Nest*, XV.4 (12-13)
dead thistles
the feel of a key
in a rusty lock

The Heron’s Nest, XV.2 (06-13)

dead of a friend
the empty moon stroke
still in my brush

Bottle Rockets, No 29, 2013

refugee huts
ravens rest inside
the shadows

Shiki Internet Kukai, Jan 2012

dead of night
the hoot of a barn owl
whitens the moon

Shiki Internet Kukai, May 2014

long twilight
the first star twinkles
above stacked hay

Frogpond, Fall 2011

fairy penguins
break the surface . . .
winter light

Windfall: Australian haiku, issue 2013

JACQUI MURRAY—co-founder Paper Wasp Group; Committee Member, HaikuOz;
Editor, paper wasp

writing till sunrise
a slice of moon and two stars
linger with me

pruned branches
sun already hot
on mother’s grave

across sun
shower light a reckless
flash of parrots

after the storm
Southern Cross upside down
in tree tops
this letter
after your funeral
wishing me well

winter
warmed by half
a biscuit moon

I drink in
the lake’s peace with the water
from my flask

eagle drops
with the last cloud into
haze of far off hills

freshly furrowed
field races a tractor
to the horizon

I withdraw
into the pages of a book
the serenity of tea

GREG PIKO—former Secretary, Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz)

my old face  follows
a butterfly  this floating world

the way a mango  feels so heavy . . .
her breast in my hand

too many clouds learning to share the sky

her grandson’s lips
just a little like hers
chinese whispers

a quiet kind of love
autumn crocus

Modern Haiku, Vol 45.1, Winter-Spring 2014

Frogpond, Vol 36.1, Winter 2013

Bottle Rockets, #27, 2012

First Prize, Haiku Section, N Z Poetry Society’s 2011
International Poetry Competition

Modern Haiku, Vol 42.3, Autumn 2011
a crow at dusk—
ink sinks deeper
into the page

I risk showing
a little more of myself
hibiscus bud

cold tea
in the tea cup
no more to say

another summer
the butterfly, still safe
under his steel pin

summer evening
the sea edges closer
to the sun

VANESSA PROCTOR—Committee Member Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz)

all that I am mountain spring

bushfire season
from dry leaves
the crackle of lizards

dust storm
the red kelpie
blending in

Overall winner NZPS International Haiku Competition 2014 Winner of Jeanette Stace Memorial Prize; published in the New Zealand Poetry Society 2014 Anthology, take back our sky.

Second Prize 2000 Paper Wasp Jack Stamm Haiku Award The Second Australian Haiku Anthology 2004

Third Prize 2003 Paper Wasp Jack Stamm Haiku Award

The Heron’s Nest, Vol 12.1, March 2010

Bottle Rockets, #20, 2009

The Heron’s Nest, Vol 8.1, March 2006

Modern Haiku, Vol 37.2, Summer 2006

Yellow Moon, #14, Spring 2003
barbed wire
a magpie teases out
a strand of wool

*Windfall* #1; Runner up *Haiku Calendar Competition 2013; A Vast Sky Anthology 2014*

sharpness of a winter’s day gathering fallen limes

Third Place *FreeXpression* Haiku Competition 2014

storm clouds . . .
a sea eagle’s shadow
sweeps the treetops

Commended Haiku *Presence Award 2013*

such restlessness ...
the pinwheel in the plant pot
keeps on turning

*Presence #48*

the softest breeze...
my daughter wakes
murmuring ‘butterflies’

*Presence #43; Jacaranda Baby* (Snapshot Press 2012);
*This Strange World* (YSP, 2013)

not a single shell the length of the beach

*Presence #42*

night of her death
through our telescope
the moons of Jupiter blur

Winner Kokako New Zealand Haiku Contest 2003
through dunes to surf  
...a trail of gold  
toffee wrappers

*Frogpond* 24:1

at the crematorium  
a dark butterfly  
alights on your casket

*Frogpond* 19:1

vapour trail  
four black kites  
circle the day moon

finalist, inaugural Janice M. Bostok Haiku Award;  

at her funeral  
all the women feel  
pain in their breasts

*Walking the Tideline* (Pardalote Press, 2001)

in the wardrobe  
his dead wife's dresses  
wear her perfume

*Walking the Tideline* (Pardalote Press, 2001)

blurred moon...  
a snowflake melting  
in the dark river

honorable mention, *Mainichi Daily News* Haiku in  
English Contest 1994

beginning rain  
a soft wind brushes  
the casuarinas

*The Dreaming Collection* *Australian Haiku Dreaming* 2009

winter park  
the metal nametags  
of dormant plants

my book forgotten...
the changing script
of clouds

afternoon beach
the young lovers cast
a single shadow

snowmelt
the scent of freesias
opening

DUNCAN RICHARDSON—Haiku Editor, Stylus Poetry Journal; contributing editor, paper wasp.

tiller in my hand
I move
  the world

with still wings
sea eagle smooths
the sky

crematorium
early and late mourners
compare deaths

grey gum trees
climbing the mountain
—out of breath

alone in the forest
how close the trees

where rivers meet
ripples running
both ways
over the road works
an unfinished moon

ironing
—all those wrinkles
on my hand

old whelk shell
spiralled back
to nothing

CYNTHIA ROWE—Current President, Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz).

tree-lined stream
the falcon rowing
through air

1st Prize Thirteenth Annual Paper Wasp Jack Stamm Haiku Award; published paper wasp volume 18 (1); published Diogen June 2012

enamelled top
my son's smile spins
around the floor

Highly Commended Katikati Haiku Contest 2012

tidal flats
the white-faced heron wades
into a rainbow

1st Prize Polish International Haiku competition—published on Polish International Haiku website; published Diogen June 2012

home late...
skipping through trees
the man in the moon

Commended New Zealand Poetry Society Competition 2012, published NZPS anthology, Building a time machine

mangrove
a crab's pincer wedged
in tangled roots

1st Prize - Top Prize - 66th Matsuo Bashō Festival Haiku Contest 2012 – Bashō Memorial Museum; published Bashō Festival Haiku Anthology
scattering his ashes
the lifeboat lifts
with the tide

1st Prize City of Perth Library Competition 2012

evening star
a bouquet of cherry blossom
on my front porch

Honourable Mention Vancouver Cherry Blossom
Festival Haiku Invitational Competition 2014

sundowner
a backlit cloud behind
the soup van

3rd Prize 7th Kokako Haiku and Senryu Competition

on the pine
a feather stiff with sleet
ice moon

Highly Commended IHS International Haiku Comp 2013

last ferry home
the night empty
of stars

Commended New Zealand Poetry Society Competition
2014

KATHERINE SAMUELOWICZ — Editor, paper wasp.

still morning
in and out of the mist
oars’ white blades

at the car park
as we say goodbye
a swirl of old papers

walking along the beach
my shadow
still young
black cockatoos
the distant rumble
of Harleys

school tuck-shop
a drone of bees
by the bubblers

mid-summer night
naked at my computer
the screen flashes back

her graduation
the strelitzea
stands tall

ocean swell
the corrugated roof
of the beach shack

passing traffic
the flicker of bees
among grevillea

rejection letter
the willy-wagtail
flicks its tail

evening star
an apple falls
to the earth

garage sale
a Rolls Royce
with a roof rack

moving house
a snake skin
in the shed
RODNEY WILLIAMS—Secretary, Australian Haiku Society (HaikuOz).

stockman's hut
by the high-plains track
a wild horse snorts

barn owl blinking . . .
a lamp flickers
in the broodmare's stall

a flame robin
lands on the spade handle—
new snowdrops

that same sweet phrase—
rustling through leaf mulch
a song thrush

the main canal
flooding reclaimed fields . . .
no time for tears

poacher's lantern—
all around the island
waves whisper

whooping crane
finds its feet in the gulf—
winter haven

shingle beach . . .
trying out its third couple
a dog lost at dusk

library time—
a young boy reads
the fish tank

middle-age now—
my hairdresser asks
eyebrows too, sir?

All haiku from *A bird-loving man: haiku and tanka*, Ginninderra Press.
QUENDRYTH YOUNG—*The Whole Body Singing*, Dragonwick, 2007

mosquito
a stranger’s blood
on my hand

grey butcher bird
the whole body
singing

backing out
of the spider’s web
. . . sorry

retirement village
she carries his old dog
up the rise
Part Two: Selected haiku from Pardalote Press Publications, *Yellow Moon: A Literary Magazine for Writers of Haiku and Other Verse*, and *Windfall: Australian Haiku* [selections from the print journal *paper wasp* are included in part 1]

**PARDALOTE PRESS 2000-2013** [Owner, manager, editor: Lyn Reeves]

on the tea caravan trail  
stones rubbed smooth  
my bare feet

Jodie Hawthorne — *Watching Pilgrims Watching Me*

old Russian scope  
the silent snow dance  
of Tibetan cranes

Jodie Hawthorne — *Watching Pilgrims Watching Me*

stumbling along  
the path to enlightenment  
the Living Buddha

Jodie Hawthorne — *Watching Pilgrims Watching Me*

where children play  
the words of Mao  
whitewashed

Jodie Hawthorne — *Watching Pilgrims Watching Me*

old wallpaper  
my daughter reaches  
for the butterfly

Graham Nunn — *Measuring the Depth*

thinner this year  
the old dog’s  
winter coat

Graham Nunn — *Measuring the Depth*

election day  
in fine rain  
snow

Peter Macrow — *Oil Slick Sun*

school holidays  
so gold the daisies  
in deep green grass

Peter Macrow — *Oil Slick Sun*
snow gum
branches arched against
the summer wind

Jenny Barnard — *Watersmeet: haiku*

at the heart
of the dying willow
a bird’s nest

Jenny Barnard — *Watersmeet: haiku*

after the market
garbos and seagulls
pick up the scraps

Jill Cartwright — *Watersmeet: haiku*

end of summer
thistledown caught
in a spiderweb

Jill Cartwright — *Watersmeet: haiku*

through the leaves
weaving a pattern in the wind
blue sky

Ross Coward — *Watersmeet: haiku*

raindrops gather
on silver birch ... branch by branch
leaf by leaf

Ross Coward — *Watersmeet: haiku*

no rain –
the touch of one finger
crumbles moss

Christina Kirkpatrick — *Watersmeet: haiku*

a winter’s morning
wind ruffles grey feathers
on the heron’s back

Christina Kirkpatrick — *Watersmeet: haiku*

wooden sculpture
the water flows
in an upturned sky

Ron Moss — *Watersmeet: haiku*

Salamanca Market
a child steers a doughnut
with both hands

Ron Moss — *Watersmeet: haiku*
April gale—
the carp windsock
tugs at its hook

Lyn Reeves—Watersmeet: haiku

snow crust
broken by spears
of seeding grass

Lyn Reeves—Watersmeet: haiku

stirring
in the fireside logs
last summer’s wasp

John Ward—Watersmeet: haiku

fireglow—
from arms to loving arms
the child's first steps

John Ward—Watersmeet: haiku

night storm—
on fallen mountain ash
new mushrooms

Stuart Solman—Watersmeet: haiku

cutting firewood
the axe splits
a skink

Stuart Solman—Watersmeet: haiku

train tunnel—
the sudden intimacy
of mirrored faces

Beverley George—Spinifex

country town
a scuff of dust
behind the schoolboy

Beverley George—Spinifex

cracking earth—
a cow bellows
from the sale yard

Beverley George—Spinifex
under the wisteria
his old cane chair
unravels

Beverley George—Spinifex; broadcast ABC Radio Poetica

in evening shade
lupin leaves still cradle
drops of dew

Lyn Reeves—Walking the Tideline

along the beach
roses someone scattered
out at sea

Lyn Reeves—Walking the Tideline

crusty streetkid
leaning over someone’s fence
to smell the roses

Lyn Reeves—Walking the Tideline


ankou-no tsurusarete kage mochi-ni keri
the angler fish
hung by a hook now has
a shadow
Dhugal Lindsay

oniokoze mono omou-bodo mono kiyuru
stonefish...
the more a thing is thought about
the further it recedes
Dhugal Lindsay

one drop
from the heron's foot
splits open the sky
Christina Kirkpatrick

alone at night
— the loudness of petals
falling from a vase
Christina Kirkpatrick
turning the compost
the scent of violets
somewhere

Joanna Preston

in the wind
a falling leaf
stops falling

Myron Lysenko

pale day moon
circling around the pond
the lame duck

Carla Sari

waiting for guests
a ribbon of birds unfurls
over the roof garden

Carla Sari

on the coffin lid
our faces
in the clouds

Jeffrey Harpeng

long summer night
keeping me awake
the mosquito’s silence

Sue Mill

blossom—
I walk through the sound
of bees

Nathalie Buckland

cliff-top walk
heavy rain joins
sky to ocean

Nathalie Buckland

forest dawn
the shadows within
a pine cone

Sharon Trevelyan Dean

cool change
yellow leaves tumble
over sand

Sharon Trevelyan Dean
garage flies
in a holding pattern
this heat

Marina Scott

passing the cemetery—
just the verge between
me and these graves

Lesley Walter

dark sky—
marigolds grow bright
before the storm

John Turner

autumn wind
whips the campfire
into stars

Bob Jones

moonlit grave—
the gliding shadows
of classmates

Ross Bolleter

desert campsite
amongst the ochre shadows
the smell of warm rock

Pam Smith

camp shower . . .
starlight
on my body

Leonie Bingham

traffic lights
all eyes follow
the butterfly

Belinda Broughton

nesting season—
two magpies eyeing off
my silver hair

Lesley Walter

winter night
the house darkens
to one lighted room

Judith E.P. Johnson
fast train —
travelling with us
rice fields
Lorraine Haig

heavy rain
on the jacaranda
this sense of loss
Max Ryan

overflowing gutter
the bed too wide
without you
Max Ryan


[About Yellow Moon: It was founded in 1997 by Pat Kelsall who produced and edited issues 1–8. Issues 9–20, 2000–2006 were produced and edited by Beverley George. The magazine was competition-based and included 11 genres per issue, with four of them Japanese poetry genre-based: haibun; haiku; tanka and varying others such as haiku sequences; *kasen renga*.]

The haiku and related genres were open to international competition. Shown here are those 1st- and 2nd-placed poems 2000–2006 written by Australians.

**First Place Yellow Moon 9 2001**

cupped hands at communion
outside on bare boughs
magnolia
Janet Howie

**Second Place Yellow Moon 9 2001**

baby photograph —
sunlight fades the colour
from his smile
Lyn Reeves

**First Place Yellow Moon 10 2001**

crow strings his cry
loosely across white clouds
this hill to that
Lenore Rays
First Place *Yellow Moon* 11 2002

reaching out
the cat arches her back
into my hand
Ron Moss

First Place *Yellow Moon* 12 2002

fallen snow
bringing the headstones
. . . together
Ron Moss

First Place *Yellow Moon* 13 2003

steady rain—
the park puddle connects
the ibis to me
Alma E Bird

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 13 2003

summer night
the old windmill blades
swiping stars
Ron Moss

First Place *Yellow Moon* 14 2003

summer evening
the sea edges
closer to the sun
Greg Piko

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 14 2003

colourful saris
hung to dry
shape the wind
Ellen Weston

First Place *Yellow Moon* 15 2004

stargazing—
the outback camp oven
glows red
Ron Moss
Second Place *Yellow Moon* 15, 2004

barking dogs—
the swaggie’s slow progress
through town

John Bird

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 16, 2004

red and white snow
on the monk’s hands
pig’s blood

Jodie Hawthorne

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 18, 2005

peeling potatoes
I watch the full moon rise through
the kitchen window

Anne Drew

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 19, 2006

fireworks
the shriek of lorikeets
taking flight

Karen Dooley

First Place *Yellow Moon* 20, 2006

bare twigs . . .
flurry of the swamp hens’
mating dance

Nathalie Buckland

Second Place *Yellow Moon* 20, 2006

anzac dawn service—
the baby’s fontanel
pulsing

Cate Juno
frozen cobwebs
interlace the fence wires—
winter at the farm
   Pamela Smith

campfire embers—
stars shine out
from the blackened billy
   Lyn Reeves

evening hush—
the sound of a wallaby grazing
   Nathalie Buckland

barbed wire
a magpie teases out
a strand of wool
   Vanessa Proctor

the breakwater
glints with seaweed
starry night
   Marilyn Humbert

fairy penguins
break the surface . . .
winter light
   Ron Moss

cloudless sky
the village church
holds up a cross
   John Bird

South Golden beach hall—
voices from the choir rise
above the ocean’s roar
   Pamela Smith

rushed out to call dinner
held… in the sun . . .
to children calling wickets
   Alex McKeown
afternoon mist . . .
cracks in the old race track
spill native grasses
  Leonie Bingham

bus interchange
the bag lady humming
her own tune
  Gavin Austin

long run
the old dog
in the cyclist's back-pack
  Judith E P Johnson

a green tree frog
peers down from the wall
country clinic
  Cynthia Rowe

Lismore sunday
nothing for sale
but garden gnomes
  Joanne Watcyn-Jones

a July moon chases us
through empty streets
railway town
  Jennifer Fell

rainforest
one mosquito following
my citronella
  Grace McKenna

ripple
of a caterpillar
butterfly effect
  Alex Ask

schools of tiny fish
tacking in unison
their shadows too..
  Helen Davison

breath —
a thousand eucalypts
and me
  John Bird
midday
the silence both sides of
a kookaburra’s laugh
    Jan Dobb

evening cuppa
pulling pink water
from the stream
    Greg Piko

primed
for hostilities
red bull ant
    Margaret Conley

black dog night
brush of dawn dusts air
clean-sighted
    Peter Mitchell

grey dawn
the first rumble
of trams
    Graham Nunn

CWA stall
elbows compete
for the ‘best bake’
    Lee Bentley

she touches
her new nose-ring . . .
cattle show
    Dawn Bruce

young mother juggles
pram mobile phone and cigarette
    Ron Heard

bitter wind
a brush turkey stalks
the backyard chooks
    Vanessa Proctor

vanishing bushland
a possum
opens the cat door
    Lorin Ford
distant crows
a road train shimmers
in outback heat
  Ron Moss

smoke pall
on this New Year’s Day
the cry of currawongs
currawongs
  Dawn Bruce

march heatwave
even the shivery-grass
is still
  Judith E P Johnson

seven down-lights
on the helicopter’s belly
star-filled night
  Leonie Bingham

peace lilies
grow under the verandah
where he threw them
  M L Grace

after my confession
even the galahs
sit quietly
  Greg Piko

his smooth voice
by the twists and turns
of a bottlebrush
  Marisa Fazio

jazz
every body
moves something
  Helen Davison

windy morning
my pavement shadow
has some crazy hair
  Alex McKeown

that cane toad,
CT in the freezer,
wasn’t chicken thighs!
  Barbara A Taylor
warm winter day
I peg the socks up
one by one
Grace McKenna

hair and native grasses
combed in all directions—
autumn gusts
Beatrice Yell

blistering wind
sheets rip the pegs from my hands
and hug the Hills Hoist
June Spencer

flood debris
a doll’s limb
pale in seaweed
Lynette Arden

blowing in the wind—
that gritty taste
of Mallee storms
Liz Rule

flooded cellar
the wine labels lapping
on water
Cynthia Rowe

window cleaning—
I wave a warning to
the wonga pigeon
Nathalie Buckland

rock pool—
a sooty oyster catcher
scissors through sky
Lorraine Haig

the treacle song
of bellbirds at dusk—
I await the stars
Kent Robinson

cloud-watching—
a high wind
unravels the sky
Lyn Reeves
summer olympics
synchronised laughing
kookaburras
   Alex Ask

kimberley camp
the stars in our salad
kapok flowers
   M L Grace

dark mountain—
a flock of gulls
curve into light
   Lorraine Haig

a fresh south westerly
waist high in wheat
waves of gold
   Simon Hanson

across our lawn
on dewy nights
ten thousand tiny moons
   Simon Hanson

Cabbage Tree Creek . . .
a goanna passes
from time to time
   Lorin Ford

campground
the yellow squares of grass
where summer was
   Jan Dobb

a chrysalis
waits for spring
autistic son
   Marilyn Humbert

we like to think
it is the same magpie
our visitor at dusk
   Athena Zaknic

summer holiday
a wonga pigeon
counts the seconds
   Quendryth Young
fading sky
I wait for a dusk
of kangaroos
    Keitha Keyes

Uluru
every camera points away
from sunset
    Liz Rule

sandstone gorge
a hang glider rides
the valley winds
    Gavin Austin

bird bath
an itinerant drops
a palm seed
    Quendryth Young

Windfall 2 2014 edited by Beverley George for Blue Giraffe Press. Owner/manager Peter Macrow.

dandelions
a field of wishes
blows away
    M L Grace

full moon
fishless, the net
weighs light
    Jan Napier

beach cricket—
a border collie
at silly mid on
    Lorin Ford

new pram
the baby’s coverlet
sprinkled with stars
    Lynette Arden

world stirring
water in the poacher
starts to simmer
    John Bird
blossoms—
swapping the black skivvy
with a white shirt
   Marisa Fazio

puffing billy
a small child waves
to every one
   Jennifer Sutherland

skate park
the boy hi-fives
his dog
   Gavin Austin

mowing the lawn
our daughter swerves
around the daisies
   Simon Hanson

back road at dusk
seeing a kangaroo
in every shadow
   Mark Miller

a dingo slinks
through the mulga
moonlit eve
   Marilyn Humbert

fly tent—
looking at the emu
looking in
   John Bird

dust bowl
the sheep's head
deep in the trough
   Rob Scott

after the firestorm
a wallaby's rib cage
curved to the sky
   Ron Moss

gold rush town
the sandstone well
brims with algae
   Leonie Bingham
rock climb
every step has its own
waterfall
    Myron Lysenko

waterbirds rising
black as the river
before the ferry
    Marina Scott

autumn rain—
yet the road
is shining
    John Carroll

quiet roadside
a wooden bee box
lid askew
    Jennifer Fell

a flock of emus
topiary figures
hedging the plain
    Mardi May

min-min lights—
we all draw closer
to the campfire
    Lorin Ford

black dog barking
she waits for the creek
to go down
    Greg Piko

fallen camellias
turned brown underfoot
. . . this lonely path
    Nathalie Buckland

early frost
a butcherbird takes mince
from my hand
    Vanessa Proctor

memorial service
the trumpet lilies
fragrant
    Cynthia Rowe
pink lady
arranges the flowers
and her smile
    Dawn Bruce

illusory
in the soft twilight
scampering rabbits
    Beatrice Yell

whale songs
at dusk — that smell
of jam and fishing nets
    Sarah Clarkson

twilight fades —
the large web suddenly
invisible
    Pamela Smith

night of no moon
torches flush up
the prawn
    Graham Nunn

ant mound
basalt soil erupts
into sunlight
    Quendryth Young

truck window —
red dog logs on
to the wind
    Hazel Hall

empty nest
two young frogmouths
fill the lens
    Jan Dobb

Norah Head
lighthouse restored
by lifting fog
    M L Grace

sea-mist rolls in . . .
headlights from the school bus
weave through the valley
    Pamela Smith
this frosty valley
layers of chimney smoke
lit by the moon
  Daniel Wolfe

coming out of the mountains
how high the moon
over the valley
  Judith E P Johnson

a clatter
of milking pails—
full winter moon
  David Terelinck

sleepless . . .
before the light
the magpie
  Quendryth Young

sudden breeze
the melaleuca releases
one leaf
  Cynthia Rowe

thirsty—
the sound of a saw going back and forth
  Matt Hetherington

jewellery box—
my bird earrings caught
in my cat ones
  Lesley Walter

landscape
by Fred Williams
rearranged by mining
  Margaret Conley

smoko:
the logging truck’s heavy load
bleeding sap
  Ivan Randall

beach picnic
a buff-banded rail
picks at rubbish
  Helen Davison
clear water
in Wineglass Bay, we skim
over whale bones
    Leanne Mumford

outgoing tide
green buoys lean
with the wind
    Grace McKenna

sunshine fills
each web of dew—
old hoop pine
    Bev Sweeney

garden café—
    the gardener
    resents the customers
    Michael Thorley

rose garden
the neat-edged bed
of straggly blooms
    Lyn Reeves

wildlife park
the echidna
paces its cage
    Lyn Reeves

orange waves . . .
the taste of air
at sunset
    Carole Harrison

buying fish
on the seller’s gloves
the glitter of scales
    Arjun von Caemmerer

snake-hipped boy skates by—
    flash of orange undies
    and slipping-down jeans
    Robyn Mathison

autumn sunset
the cockatoo turns
to bronze
    Kieran O’Connor
fields of stubble
the sky thick
with stars
  Rob Scott

lighting their faces
stories around the fire
  Simon Hanson

warmer days . . .
balloon-vine tendrils twist
between the floorboards
  Barbara A Taylor

through spray
  over the lettuce field
  a rainbow
  Lorraine Haig

mother’s eighty-fifth
another spring
in her step
  Rose van Son

homecoming—
  meatballs roll
  off the bench
  Rose van Son

chilly night
the cat curls closer
behind my knees
  Norma Watts

an inch between us—
the candle softens
and spills
  Ruby Michael

Copyright remains with each author.