

Echidna Tracks



Issue 15 Winter/Spring 2025

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Echidna Tracks
Australian Haiku

Echidna Tracks Issue 15: Winter/Spring 2025

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These poems were all based on experiences of life in Australia. They were originally published in weekly groups on Echidna Tracks Australian Haiku website: <https://echidnatracks.com>

The submission request:

For *Echidna Tracks Issue 15* we invite your best and previously unpublished haiku and senryu on any topic that stirs your imagination.

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Echidna Tracks is a collection of Australian haiku.

We honour the enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this land, culture and community.

Australia, in the 21st Century, is a vibrant multicultural society. We hope to celebrate, through the haiku/senryu collected on this website, the diversity of lifestyles, values, characters, customs, cultures, and historical experiences of the people inhabiting Australia, as well as the diversity of our landscapes, flora, and fauna.

Submissions for Issues of *Echidna Tracks* will be requested in April and October each year. See *Echidna Tracks* submissions page for further details. In April and October, a form for submitting haiku will be available from the submissions page.

ice in the birdbath dripping morning light

Mark Miller

early morning
a rolled newspaper
glistens in the garden

Kynan Sutherland

Monday morning
she dances solo
at the bus stop

Michael J. Leach

Flinders Street Station
a suitcase
left under the clocks

Jo McInerney

blended perfumes
in the morning Metro
rush hour

Subhashini Jayatilake

day moon
the whispers behind
manicured hands

Marilyn Humbert

one red sock now he wears shades of pink

Tom Staudt

red wine
the first taste of winter
on the palate

Lorraine Haig

daffodil buds
in a crystal vase
morning frost

Vanessa Proctor

blue
in the winter garden . . .
Ulysses butterfly

Thomas Landgraf

winter mist
the horizon becomes
infinity

Quendryth Young

morning fog
one less hill
in the valley

Sophie Emma Taylor

thick fog . . .
a ship somewhere
behind its horn

Jenny Macaulay

wild shore
a shearwater wades
out of winter

Gavin Austin

snowdrift
the hills webbed
in white

Tom Staudt

snowmelt
over the ashes of winter
a green carpet

Fatma Zohra Habis

winter's end
if only to hear
the warbler's song

Rose van Son

shabby old mare—
the depths of her dark eyes
unreachable

John Low

old wool coat—
I brush off
winter

Lysa Collins

winter wardrobe changing to lorikeet bright

Glenys Ferguson

melaleuca blossom
a glowing bouquet
of river mist

Ron C. Moss

river sunset
the transient moment
of each ripple

Gwen Bitti

skimming the river a stone's smoothness

Nick O'Connor

the rattle
of doves as they lift
school bell

Penny Szentkuti

a weeping birch churns the breeze distant school bell

Madhuri Pillai

kindergarten eyes
gaze at their teacher
spring buds

Catherine Smith

a burst of spring
so tender these colours
tendrils of memory

Maeve Archibald

red hibiscus
over-brim the basket
mobility scooter

Alice Wanderer

blossom
above and below
spring in my step

Quendryth Young

en plein air
traces of blue
on the grass

Gregory Piko

spring rain
the sound
of green

Rob Scott

rain front
the sharp smell
of the lake

Leanne Mumford

learning the lake's every shiver spring cygnets

M. Faz

spring snow—
a drift of newborn lambs
in the paddocks

Keitha Keyes

white butterflies
a dance
through delphiniums

Margaret Mahony

delphiniums bend
under the weight
of purple

Kim Nolan

held in a mist
of white butterflies
the scent of lavender

John Low

controlled burning
in Spring stillness
hazy horizons

Carol Reynolds

leaving time behind
as he goes into care
all dad's clocks

Bill Wootten

rippled sandstone
lapping an ancient shore
an ancient moon

Simon Hanson

first stars through the window the scent of wild jasmine

Mark Miller

boronia buds
a chink of moonlight
in the broken vase

Gavin Austin

a gate left open wind among the gravestones

Cara Bruar

bush grave
a droop of dandelions
in a jam jar

Jan Dobb

song of faith
the lean of a headstone
towards the sun

Jennifer Sutherland

goldrush town . . .
her finger runs down the list
of unmarked graves

Sandra Simpson

empty church
the organist plays
jazz blues

Catherine Smith

Sunday walk
through the pine wood
a carpeted church

Ewan Rourke

native seed pods
carpet the earth
a birthing forest

Jennifer Zimmer-Wilson

native garden
poetry written
outside the lines

Fiona H Evans

hummingbird moths
around native foxgloves
the sea's soft murmur

Marietta McGregor

sheltered reef—
she speaks of a friend
taken beyond

Warwick Rope

harbour ferry
the language
of the colours blue

Robyn Cairns

coastal rosemary
a crimson rosella
winging bluish light

Mira Walker

beachside village
eager dogs lead their owners
pavement to sand

Beverley George

wet fiddlehead
in my palm
the rescue pup's nose

Desi Cochrane

beachcombing
mother's wrinkled hands
in a wave

Nathan Sidney

a rhythmic slow
graceful flight
herons into the sky

Maree Myhill

rainlight
silver gulls cluster
on a grey swell

Lyn Reeves

seagulls gather
on the abandoned trawler
drifting clouds

Regina Piroska

a sudden cloud
darkens the sea
moonbirds returning

Judith E.P. Johnson

last light
a silver sky swallows
a silver gull

M. Faz

eventide—
a murmur of pigeons
folds the night

Madhuri Pillai

heralding the moon
a soft glow behind the ridge

Simon Hanson

island nest
a black swan sips
the moon

Robyn Cairns

moonlight
silvers the estuary
silvers the boatman's tongue

Lorin Ford

night market
the scent of Belgian waffles
and Aussie ocean

Louise Hopewell

midnight visitor
the moon
tethered to a chimney

Lynette Arden

gardenia at midnight
a drunken song
of scent

Maria Koukouvas

too late
questions I should have asked
my parents

Ron Chato

wineglass brimful
at dinner with her parents
surface tension

Rodney Williams

radiating circles
on a calm pond . . .
my anxiety

wanda amos

tidal bore—
the rough wash
of his words

Lysa Collins

wedding ring
where you left it
before you left

Kash Thomson

a twist of guilt
crimes of the past
heavy this load

Maeve Archibald

fall out
with a friend—
the comfort of waves

Lyn Reeves

doctors' rooms . . .
knowing the test results
I stare at the hills

Rob McKinnon

first rain
new shoots pierce
lawn's brown lattice

Kirsten Johnston

bracelet making
the rain beading
on the window

Sophie Emma Taylor

change of season
I swirl tea leaves
to a fresh pattern

Lynette Arden

grandpa's plum tree
in its shade his grandson
savours the sweetness

Vanessa Proctor

soft drumbeats
as the service ends
a boy's glance upward

Jo McInerney

reading the ode—
a rising sun glitters
on his slouch hat

Colleen Keating

luminous skies . . .
the wilting wildflowers
on a soldier's grave

Samantha Sirimanne Hyde

windblown sky
a contrail threads
the clouds together

Robyn Braithwaite

forked lightning . . .
the cockatoos'
sudden silence

Elaine Riddell

blackberry thorns
her mother
finally at peace

Helen McDonald

closed blinds
the weight of dust
on mum's jewellery

Penny Szentkuti

shifting camps
in endless war
sibling rivalry

Jahan Tyson

Kyneton café
a little girl serves
empty teacups

Wendy Purcell

all year
my favourite flower
china tea set

Judith E.P. Johnson

Metamorphosis—
from molten glass
an angel flies

Pip Griffin

forest wind
across the track
shadows rumba

Marilyn Humbert

hanging low
among the fruit
boab moon

Maurice Nevile

seniors' night
the last cicada
clears his throat

Desi Cochrane

red centre
all the colours
of Nampijila

Jennifer Sutherland

the red faces
of Sturt's desert pea
Uluru sunset

Lorraine Haig

red rain sunset
waterfalls on Uluru
pouring with light

Ron C. Moss

resort day six
frangipani blacken
in the stone bowl

Maurice Nevile

a cabbage tree shadow
swallowed
by the hillside shadow

Carole Harrison

rest stop—
a country pub full
of *g'days*

Lorin Ford

below a dark cloud—
the long roots
of a pulled tooth

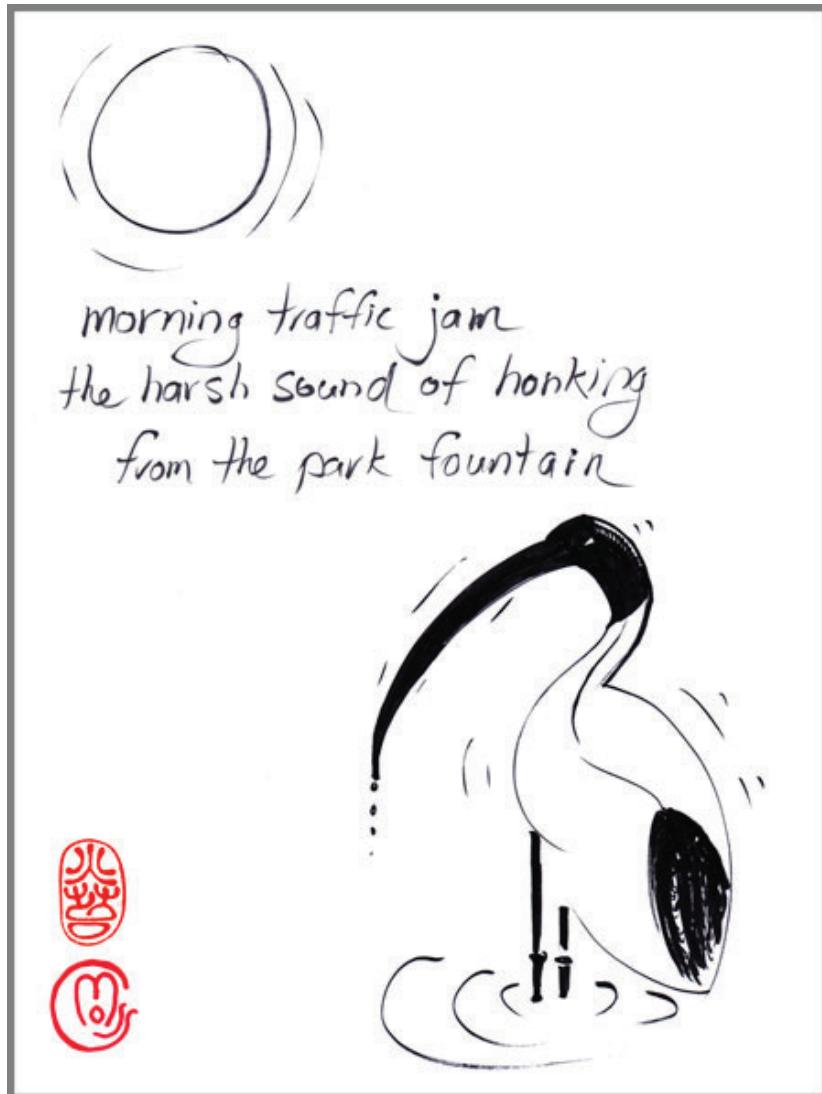
Rohan Buettel

reading Homer
dusk's patina thick
on the olive trees

Nathan Sidney

spreading mortar
in a lemon scented breeze . . .
the bricklayer's smile

Thomas Landgraf



First place Echidna Tracks Haiga Collection 2024

Traditional, hand drawn:
Ron C. Moss, "morning traffic jam"



First place Echidna Tracks Haiga Collection 2024
shahai, or haiku twinned with photo:
Wanda Amos, "long days . . ."

blue
in the winter garden . . .
Ulysses butterfly

Thomas Landgraf

