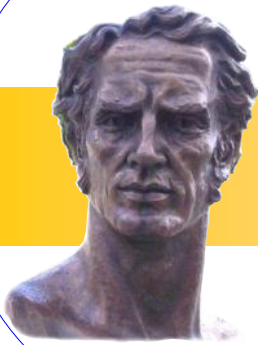




ISSUE 44 — DECEMBER 2017



# THE WAYFARER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ADAM LINDSAY  
GORDON COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE INC.

**THE POET OF AUSTRALIA 1833-1870  
WHO LAID THE FOUNDATIONS FOR LITERATURE AND THE ARTS  
IN AUSTRALIA**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**THIS EDITION IS DEDICATED  
TO THE MEMORY OF  
OUR PATRON  
WESTON ARTHUR BATE OAM  
1924-2017**

We give acknowledgement  
to the National Library of  
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**THE ADAM LINDSAY  
GORDON  
COMMEMORATIVE  
COMMITTEE INC.  
(A0049425F)**

**PATRONS SINCE 2010  
PROFESSOR WESTON  
AND JANICE BATE**

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*Photo by Ian Adams*

The Adam Lindsay Gordon Commemorative Committee Inc. would like to wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2018. We wish to express our sorrow at the passing of our Patron, Professor Weston Bate OAM on 31st October.  
We extend our condolences to Janice and family.

WE DEDICATE THIS EDITION TO THE MEMORY  
OF WESTON ARTHUR BATE OAM (1924—2017)

"His greatest gift was to energise all those he met  
and to inspire historical societies across the state  
to pursue history with more skill,  
passion and tenacity." (RHSV)



*Photo by Helen Dehn*

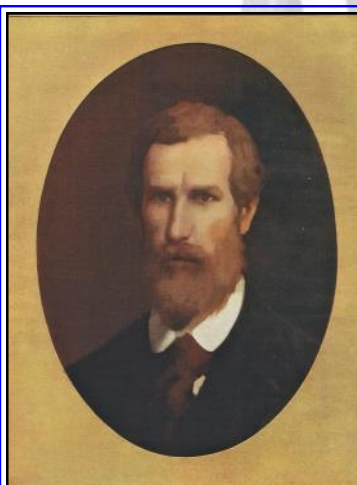
THE  
**ADAM LINDSAY GORDON**  
**MEMORIAL VOLUME**

EDITED BY  
**EDWARD A. VIDLER**



MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY  
**THE LOTHIAN PUBLISHING CO. PTY. LTD.**

1926



Fifty years after the death of Adam Lindsay Gordon, in 1920 a committee was appointed for the purpose of promoting the erection of an equestrian statue of the poet in St. Kilda Road (ed. changed to Spring Street).

It was also decided to publish an edition-de-luxe of his poems. This volume, it was considered, would not only form in itself a fitting memorial, in so far as it

would be a permanent treasure in Australian homes and public institutions, but it would be a suitable means of augmenting the fund for the statue.

The editor has secured the willing and generous co-operation of several of the leading artists of Australia, among whom must be specially mentioned Mr. Hans Heyson, who travelled several hundred miles to and from Mount Gambier, at his own expense, for the purpose of painting the picture of the Blue Lake. The task undertaken by Mr. Leslie Wilkie of painting a portrait of Gordon, depicting him as he was known during the latter years, was naturally one of great difficulty; but with the guidance and helpful criticism of one of the poet's very few surviving intimate friends, Mr. George Gordon McCrae, he has succeeded in achieving a faithful likeness and producing a fine painting. Mr. Wil. Aston painted 'Dingley Dell' on the spot; and Mr. Victor Cobb made a labour of love of his drawing of Gordon's grave in the Brighton Cemetery. The pictures, all of which were painted or drawn specially for this book, form a collection of original works of art never before (we believe) brought together in any volume produced in Australia, and display not only the varied talents of our artists, but also their kindly spirit in so enthusiastically associating themselves with the memory of Australia's Poet Laureate.





**JOURNALIST** Edward Vidler, a keen talent spotter.

**Edward Alexander Vidler (1863-1942)** publisher, journalist and author. Born on 13 August 1863 in London. Educated at a private school at Gravesend, London. At 17 was employed by Cassell & Co., publishers where he was largely responsible for the publication of R. L Stevenson's *Treasure Island* in volume form. He migrated to Melbourne in 1888. On 28 December 1889 he married Florence Jessie Byrchall.

He became editor of the *Evening News* in Geelong and was a founder and life member of the Geelong Art Gallery and life member of the Geelong Public Library. He published commemorative volumes on Geelong (1897) and Warrnambool (1907).

Returning to Melbourne by 1897 and at the 9 by 5 exhibition of expressionist paintings on 17 August 1889, Vidler was alone in championing the works of the artists, in particular Streeton, in his 'Table Talk'.

In 1908 he was appointed head of the publishing department of George Robertson & Co., booksellers and held an active interest in all branches of the arts. After 1918 he began publishing on his own account.

He concentrated on work by local artists and authors in an attempt to popularize Australian art and literature. His business folded in 1930 and he suffered financial losses with the demise of the *Spinner*, the magazine through which he promoted Australian verse.

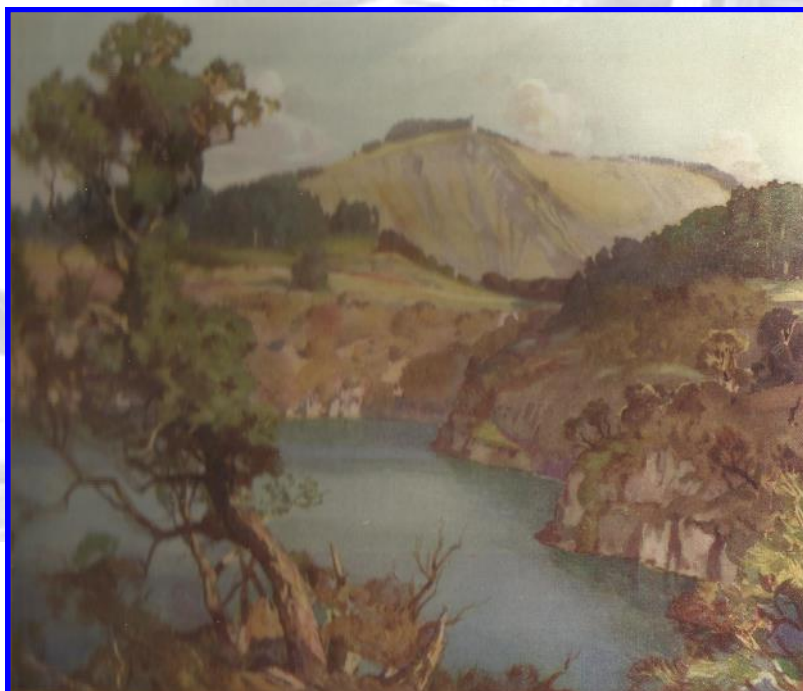
A keen naturalist, Vidler wrote and published books on Australian flora and fauna. In 1932, when appointed an honorary joint curator of the Maranoa Gardens at Balwyn, he helped to design the structure of native plantings.

He died on 28 October 1942 at Surrey Hills and was survived by his wife, son and daughter. He was buried in Box Hill cemetery. His home was demolished and his collection of books has disappeared.

(Australian Dictionary of Biography and Kelvin Freeman)

Footnote. Kelvin Freeman's great uncle is E.A. Vidler, and Kelvin is one of our members.

It is Kelvin's opinion that Vidler put more money, time and effort into promoting our poetry than any other Australian of the time.

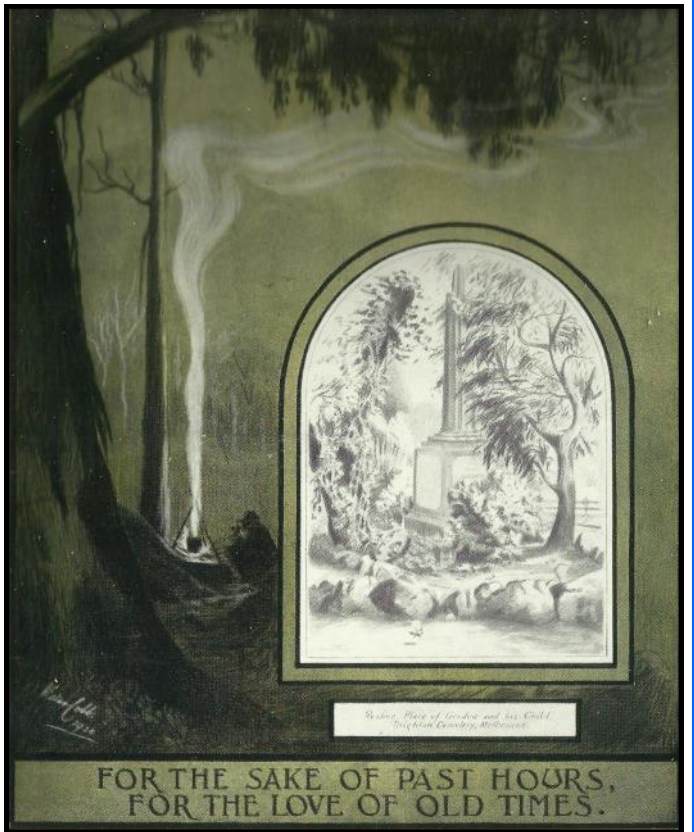


**THE BLUE LAKE**  
**MOUNT GAMBIER SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
*Painted by HANS HEYSEN*

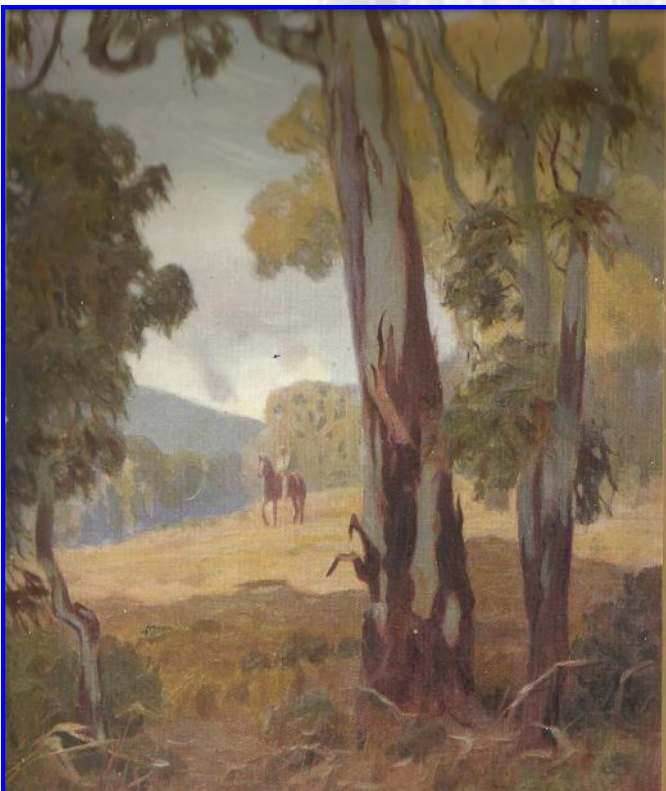


**"DINGLEY DELL" PORT MACDONNELL SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
Painted by WILL ASHTON

**WHERE GORDON LIES IN THE BRIGHTON CEMETERY**  
MELBOURNE Drawn by VICTOR E. COBB



FOR THE SAKE OF PAST HOURS,  
FOR THE LOVE OF OLD TIMES.

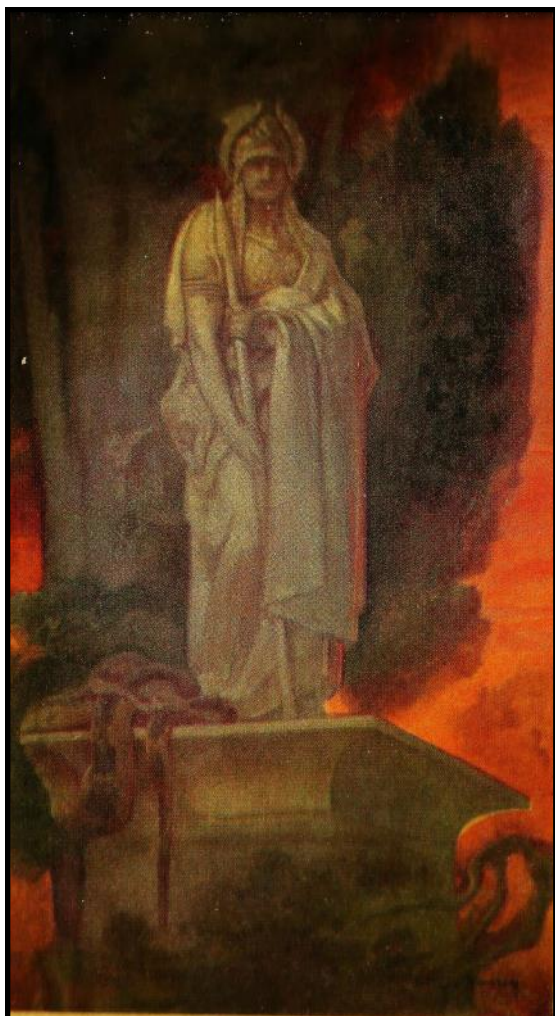


**"Old horse! let us take a spell  
In the shade from the glare of the noonday sun."**  
—By Wood and Wold Painted by GUSTAVE A BARNES



**"When I hunted the butterfly,  
With one who has long been sleeping"**  
—Wormwood and Nightshade  
Painted by C. ELIZABETH JAMES





**"BELLONA"**  
*Painted by* GEO. H. DANCEY



**"Thus the measur'd stroke, on elastic sward,  
Of the steed three parts extended" - Ye Wearie Wayfarer**  
*Painted by* A. COLQUHOUN

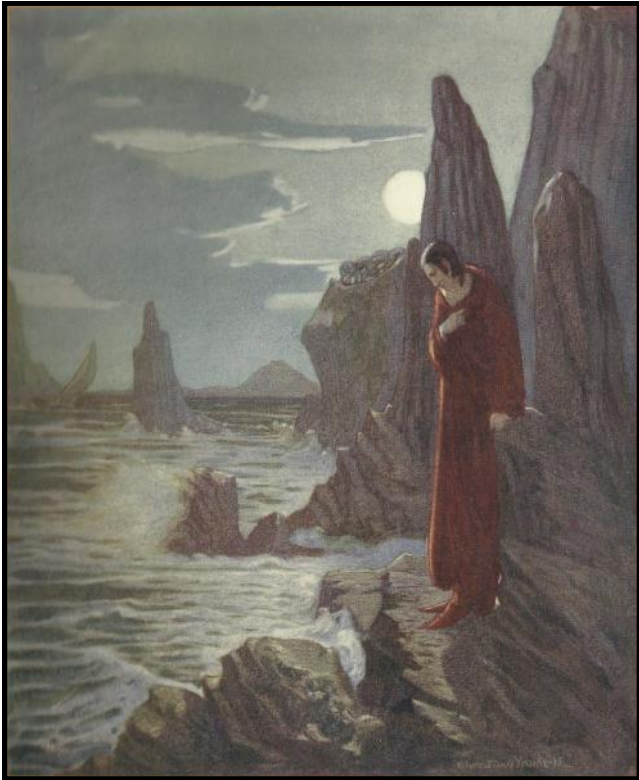


**"Gathering, growing, and swelling and surging...."**  
*—The Song of the Surf*  
*Painted by* ROBERT CARMEN



**"SUNLIGHT ON THE SEA"**  
*Painted by* FRANK LATIMER





"... the shuddering wave strikes, linking  
With the waves subsiding and sinking"  
—*Quare Fatigasti*  
Painted by CHRISTIAN YANDELL



"...the wattle-boughs are stirr'd  
And rustled by the scented breath of spring"  
—*Whisperings in Wattle-Boughs*  
Painted by PENLEIGH BOYD



"Neck and neck! head and head!" —*Hippodromania*  
Painted by W.S. WEMYSS

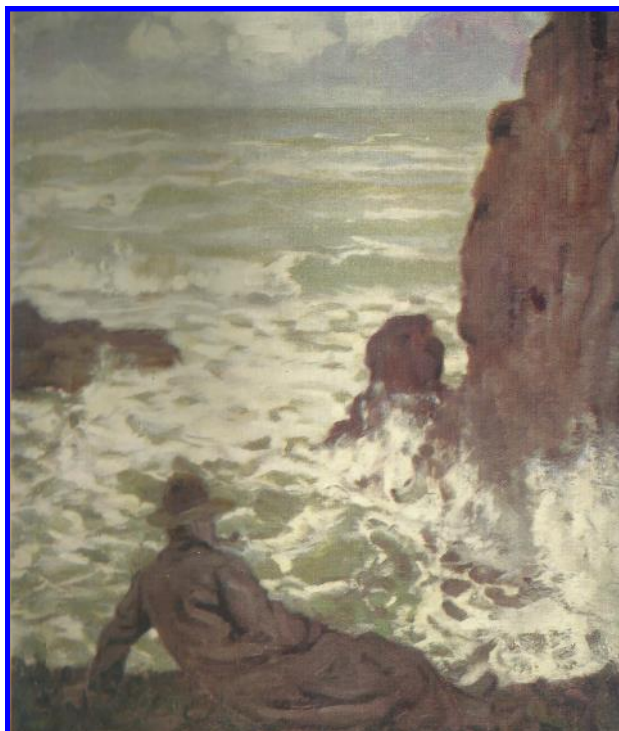


"A VALENTINE" — *To a Proud Beauty*  
Painted by FLORENCE RODWAY





"The skies were fairer and shores were firmer—  
The blue sea over the bright sand roll'd"  
—*The Swimmer*  
Painted by J. S. WATKINS



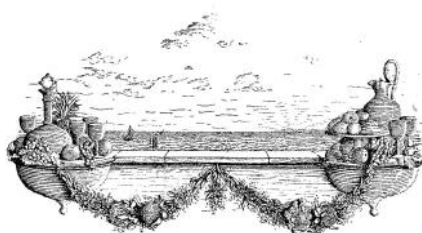
"Outstretched, I gaze on the eddying wreath  
That gathers and flits away"  
—*Visions in the Smoke*  
Painted by FREDK. G. REYNOLDS



"Though they fought like fiends, we were four to one,  
And we captured those that refused to run"  
—*The Romance of Britomarte*  
Painted by M. NAPIER WALLER



"I steadied her then — I had need"  
—*From the Wreck*  
Painted by M. NAPIER WALLER





Our committee member Dr. Helen Dehn gave an illustrated talk on Adam Lindsay Gordon at the weekly Twilight Talks given in the Humffray Room of the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute to a full house on Friday 6th October 2017, and was very well received. Peter Freund from The Art Gallery of Ballarat read the poems that were illustrated on the screen.

## Freestyle Publications



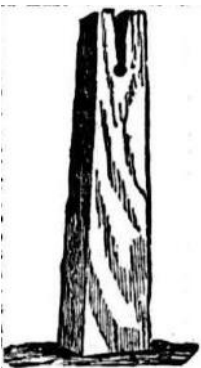
... stories of Australia and its people

An interesting upgraded website by our committee member Lorraine Day [Click to View](#)



Golden Fairytale Rose -(Korquelda)  
Planted on Gordon's grave  
in the Brighton (Vic.) General Cemetery  
Now in bloom  
Orange Rose (Remember Me)

### Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney NSW) Sat 23 October 1886 Pg 23



Often the rider or driver finds that he has forgotten a hitching strap, and must unbuckle the bridle-rein to hitch to the ordinary post. The post shown in our engraving saves him the trouble.

He can bring the bridle-rein over the horse's head, and slip it down the slot into the auger hole. The horse cannot get the rein out. Such a post is very convenient about watering troughs, &c., on the farm, where it is often desired to hitch the work horses; the halters usually being left off them when they are taken afield, and a simple bridle-rein being used. The slot also proves convenient when your fingers are numb, and you find it very difficult to get a wide strap through an ordinary post.

In the old days, when you wanted a horse to stand still you tied him to a hitching post. Nowadays you place a bet on him.



# **Weston Arthur BATE OAM**

BATE Weston Arthur OAM 24 September 1924 - 31 October 2017 Son of Ernest and Molly (both deceased). Beloved husband of Janice for 62 years. Cherished father of James. Lyndon, Nicholas, Christopher, Tristan and Rosemary.

Much loved father-in-law of Jan, Jacqueline, Jackie, Jane, Jackie and Malcolm.

Adored grandfather of Eliza, Andrew and Sarah, Charles and Archie, James and William, Matthew, Sam, Maddy and Charlotte.

Great-grandfather to Grace and Mac.

Brother of Bill (deceased), Betty (deceased), John (deceased) and Helen.

" In my beginning is my end " T.S.Eliot

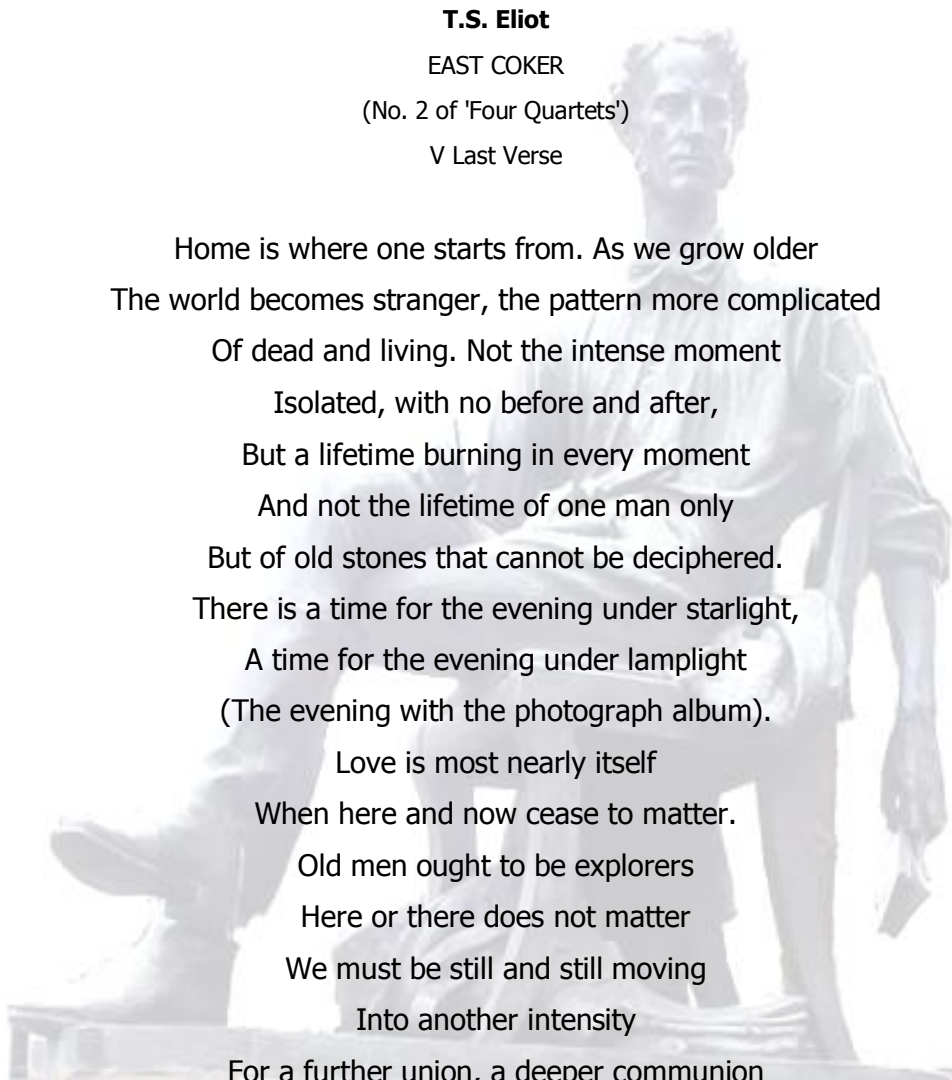
## **FOUR QUARTETS**

**T.S. Eliot**

EAST COKER

(No. 2 of 'Four Quartets')

V Last Verse



Home is where one starts from. As we grow older  
 The world becomes stranger, the pattern more complicated  
 Of dead and living. Not the intense moment  
 Isolated, with no before and after,  
 But a lifetime burning in every moment  
 And not the lifetime of one man only  
 But of old stones that cannot be deciphered.  
 There is a time for the evening under starlight,  
 A time for the evening under lamplight  
 (The evening with the photograph album).  
 Love is most nearly itself  
 When here and now cease to matter.  
 Old men ought to be explorers  
 Here or there does not matter  
 We must be still and still moving  
 Into another intensity  
 For a further union, a deeper communion  
 Through the dark cold and the empty desolation,  
 The wave cry, the wind cry, the vast waters  
 Of the petrel and the porpoise. In my end is my beginning.



### WHEN BUBBLES BLOW

When bubbles blow around him now,  
Our thoughts will build a bridge  
Across the years. Strong it will stand.  
Or Google take us on a merry ride  
To find him at full gallop, or repose,  
At venues now, like this, enshrined within our hearts.  
They challenge us to give him voice;  
Hear once again his stories and his songs  
Of action and delight. What he did,  
And saw, and wrote, enlivened many minds.  
No one but he could ride a steeplechase  
Across a page and, even losing, win.

With life's great sorrows, Gordon was assailed;  
Arrows of fortune pierced and pierced again  
The man of action. But his verses flower  
Like wattle, which we bring to show  
How greatly loved he was, and will remain.  
He will surprise us with expressive lines  
That float and shine like bubbles blowing here.  
The wind will take them to their journey's end.  
Bursting, they challenge more and more to come.

**Weston Bate. Presented at the statue of  
Adam Lindsay Gordon 17 June 2017**

### Vale Weston Arthur Bate OAM FRHSV (1924-2017)

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) and the community History movement in Victoria is saddened by the passing of one its greatest sons, Professor Weston Bate on 31 October.

Weston Bate was born in Surrey Hills Melbourne, son of Mary Olive Akers, a Californian and Ernest Bate an English-born engineer. He attended Surrey Hills primary for three years before moving to Scotch College. He then served in the RAAF and flew Lancaster bomber missions from England.

After the war he enrolled at the University of Melbourne under a serviceman's tertiary scholarship and was captivated by History under the tutelage of Max Crawford and his few staff. Weston began teaching at Brighton Grammar in 1949, under the headship of Philip Wilson his future father-in-law, taking teacher training classes each afternoon. He began a part time MA in 1950, while teaching. His marriage to life-long partner Janice Wilson in 1955, and their four of six children being born before 1962, delayed the MA. It then became the ground breaking A History of Brighton (1962, 1983).

After fifteen years of teaching at Brighton Grammar and Melbourne Grammar, Weston was appointed to the History Department at the University of Melbourne, where he became a passionate and captivating lecturer. He became Professor of Australian Studies at Deakin University in 1978 before retiring in 1989.

If his History of Brighton set new standards in local history, Lucky City (1978) and his second volume of Ballarat's history, Life After Gold (1993) set new heights in goldfields community history. This writing assisted the creation of Sovereign Hill, which honours him with the Weston Bate annual lecture. In retirement he wrote histories of Geelong and Melbourne Grammar, of the Metropolitan and Barwon Heads golf clubs (for he was a skilled player into his nine-ties), a wonderful book on Melbourne laneways and other publications. He also published a chat book of love poems to the Mornington Peninsula, Haphazard Quilt (2006).

Weston Bate served on the Museum Advisory Board in the 1980s. He was a long-serving member of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria and was awarded a fellowship of the Society in 1991. Weston served on the RHSV Council for fifteen years from 1990 and as President of the RHSV from 1991-97 and 2002-05. His greatest gift was to energise all those he met and to inspire historical societies across the state to pursue history with more skill, passion and tenacity.

The RHSV sends its deepest sympathy to his wife Janice Bate, their children James, Rosemary, Tristan, Nicholas, Linden and Christopher, their partners and their families. His last days were spent peacefully at Cabrini Prahnan with close friends and his much loved and loving family by his side. A passionate life-force finally quelled.