

Come Tour With Us!

Bookings Now Open

August 13 to August 19, 2020

\$2400 per couple/twin share or \$1600 single

Comfy, luxury coach transport, 6 nights in 4 star accommodation, most meals, all tour/event costs.

Secure your place with a \$300 per person deposit*. Final payment for the tour will be due by July 1, 2020.



Celebrating Australia and Remembering Adam Lindsay Gordon

This is a once off, unusual, and engaging adventure retracing our inspirational Australian countryside and character, visiting special places, attending unique events and learning about how Australia inspired Adam Lindsay Gordon and his poetry. Come on this adventure and meet the characters, relive the events, and see the scenery that initiated and inspired his uniquely Australian poetry.

(Gordon is the only Australian poet acknowledged at Westminster Abbey, America's Theodore Roosevelt admired him, and public statues and monuments are scattered throughout Australia in his honour. He died 150 years ago this year and he leaves a strong legacy— as you'll discover on this journey!)

Highlights:

- Historic mansion tour at Yallum Park
- World heritage Naracoorte Caves
- Penola, Portland, Coleraine, Port MacDonnell, Nelson, Mount Gambier, Robe
- Adventuring back in time to the world of Adam Lindsay Gordon's day as a mounted policeman, member of Parliament, horse trainer, champion rider, and poet.
- Point Danger gannet colony
- Coleraine Race Day and wool fashions (in comfort at trackside heated marquee)
- Glenelg River Cruise
- Memorable gourmet dinners
- Time outs to explore and shop and tour according to your own pace and individual interest

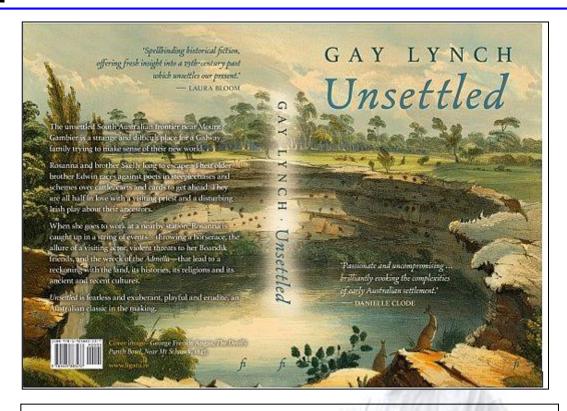
Tour includes one night Penola, three nights Portland, one night Mt Gambier and one night Robe.

More detailed itinerary on request. We hope you can join us! Cheers, Jan and Graham Smith.

It is advisable for all tour participants to arrange private travel insurance.

your completed form to myliteraryadvent per the boxes below.					llow; or email a copy illine deposit payment
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Gay Lynch's frontier epic *Unsettled* Set in the remote frontier of southeastern South Australia and unfolding over the second half of the nineteenth century, the novel follows the struggles of a family of Irish migrants: the headstrong Rosanna, entrepreneurial Edwin and tender Skelly, and the squatters and settlers, poets and priests that surround them.

It's a captivating story of love and loyalty, tragedy and betrayal, shipwrecks and lost playscripts, a glimpse into our Australian past that continues to echo into our present. It's available as a paperback and DRM-free e-book from Ligature. https://www.ligatu.re/gav-lynchs-frontier-epic-unsettled/

The book is now available at most Melbourne and Adelaide bookshops, including Avenue Books, Dymocks, Eltham, Hill of Grace, Readings, Amazon and Book Depository.



THE LATEST INFORMATION RECEIVED ABOUT THE RE-OPENING OF DINGLEY DELL COTTAGE AND MUSEUM

Controlled by the South Australian Department of Environment and Water.

Received by a committee member, 5th March 2020.

"I have just received a phone call from The Dept of Environment in the south-east. They indicated that they are looking at interim measures to keep the cottage open for group bookings, etc. until a suitable new lessee can be found, and that their Adelaide Head Office person would be in contact with us shortly."





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





We give acknowledgement to the National Library of Australia-Trove Newspapers for these articles.

Membership forms are available on our website, listed below.

New memberships \$20 Membership renewals \$15

ISSN 1834-4070 ISSN 1834-4089

THE ADAM LINDSAY
GORDON
COMMEMORATIVE
COMMITTEE INC.
(A0049425F)

PATRON SINCE 2010 Janice Bate

> PO Box 809 Torquay Vic 3228 AUSTRALIA

Phone: (+61 3) 5261 2899

adamlindsaygordon@gmail.com www.adamlindsaygordon.org





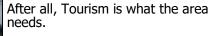
The Dingley Dell Cottage and Museum near Port MacDonnell South Australia and just south of Mount Gambier was closed at the end of December when our President, Allan Childs and his wife Jennifer retired after building the Museum up from scratch. The contents of the Museum have been placed in storage by The South Australian Department for Environment and Water, the owners of the Dingley Dell Conservation Park upon which the cottage and museum sits.

Great astonishment has been expressed by all concerned that the "Expressions of Interest" documents, looking for new caretakers, were ready to be sent out by the Department in November, but for reasons unknown have not yet been sent out.

The contents of the museum were catalogued in January and placed in storage in Mount Gambier. It is understood that very valuable item/s are being kept at the Department's Mount Gambier Office. The cottage has been placed under security and the surrounding vegetation is being cared for.

Meanwhile the matter has been discussed by the Grant District Council and other individuals and groups and it is to be hoped that this world renowned cottage and

museum will be re-opened soon.



LINK TO THE HISTORY OF DINGLEY DELL

In More Happier Times.

Some members of our committee on a visit in 2014. L/R John Adams; Alllan Childs; Helen Dehn; Virginia Barnett and Julie Ross.



WHERE THE ADAM LINDSAYGORDON PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS BEGAN THE GREEN ROOM CLUB, MELBOURNE



Looking down Bourke Street Melbourne from Parliament House steps. The Green Room Club Est 1908 will be in buildings shown. (SLV Ascension No. H141989 Pic. Circ 1890)

In the course of a recent address at the poet Gordon's grave, Brighton Cemetery, Melbourne, Mr. Edmund Duggan, the actor, said that he had been asked to explain how the movement originated. Five years ago, in the Green

Room Club, Melbourne (where actors assemble), in a conversation on Australia's poets, it, was agreed by Messrs Julius Grant, Bert Bailey, Edmund Duggan (of the Bert Bailey Company), D. W. McCay and Albert E. A. Cherry (journalists), to make a pilgrimage to the grave of Adam Lindsay Gordon annually on the first Sunday of September. The day was chosen because Gordon sang so much of the wattle bloom, and the waft of the wattle bloom, and the waft of the wattle bloom, and the waft of the wattle bloom. pilgrimage took place on Sunday, September 11, 1910. As an outcome of that movement the Gordon Memorial Committee, which had its headquarters in the Green Room Club, was formed with the object of raising money to-erect a staduquarters of Gordon on the St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. (1910 The West Australian Perth, WA Tuesday 21 September 1915 Page 8)

A Green-room Club 48-50 Bourke Street has been formed in Melbourne on lines similar to those of the Green-room club of New York, the nomenclature in respect of the office-holders being to a large extent identical.

The president is to be known as the "Prompter," the secretary as "Call Boy," and so on.
Rooms have been secured in a suitable building in Bourke Street, between Exhibition Street and Spring Street. (48-50 Bourke Street), and about £300 worth of furniture has been purchased, including a billiard table and a piano. Membership will cost one guinea, and persons who are not

in the profession of stage artists may join as "associate members!"

Among those who have joined as "associates" are the proprietors, directors, and managers of the Melbourne theatres, also prominent gentlemen who are not connected with the stage.

The club rooms will be open from 10am till 12 midnight daily, except Sundays; on Sundays they will be open from 11am till 11pm.

There will be a reading room and all the leading papers and periodicals will be on the tables. Officers appointed are:
"Prompter," Mr. Bert Bailey.
"Stag Mags" Stage Managers or Vice Presidents, Messrs Jas, Craydon and J.B. Connolly.

"Call Boy" Mr. Geo. Cross

"The Ghost" or Treasurer, Mr. E. Duggan.
"Chair-warmers" or Committee Men. Messrs. J Staverdale; J Grant; S.A. Fitzgerald; Jas Marion; Fred Hluett;
Jas. Nunn; E.J. Tait; Geo. Dean; H. Overton; F.J. Hawiree. Messrs. Dean, Hailey, and Staverdale may be
denominated as the "principal villains," for it is to their efforts the club owes its existence. They "plotted" the
whole thing, arranged the "calls" and "rehearsals." Fixed up the preliminaries, and the "first performance," or
official opening which will take place in the rooms on Monday 12 October1908. This function will afford certain politician's and others an opportunity to speak their lines and pose under the white light for a few moments. And then the curtain will go up on the new club. (Sunday Times Sydney 11 October 1908 p2).

The Premier, Thomas Bent, today was the central figure in a pleasant little function, when he opened the new Green Room Club recently established by a number of actors in Bourke Street, He was attended by Mr. W. Pitt M.L.C., ex-honorary Minister, and son of the old-time scenic artist.

Sir Thomas Bent made a neat little speech in which he referred to Mr. Pitt as "call-boy," and of course, referred to his life-long acquaintance with Melbourne Theatres and actors.

He touched also on the greatly improved social status of actors and actresses, and had a few laudatory remarks about Melba, Crossley, etc. (Geelong Advertiser Tuesday 13 October 1908 pg 3.)



DINGLEY DELL COTTAGE MEMORIAL GATES



SLSA B-24084

An ornate gateway on the eastern side of the Dingley Dell reserve was officially opened by Mr. John Fletcher M.P., during the ninth annual pilgrimage to the old home of Adam Lindsay Gordon yesterday. Made possible by the generous gift of Mrs. E.C.E. Phillips of North Richmond, the new gateway is a handsome and fitting addition to the environs of the historic cottage. From the new entrance a gravelled road sweeps around past the old home, and out through the original gates to the road on the southern side. Introduced by the President of the local branch of the Australian Natives' Association (Mr. W.E. Seebohm), Mr. Fletcher M.P. expressed appreciation of the honour conferred upon him by Mrs. Phillips in asking him to open the fine gateway. The reason which prompted this generous gift was that Mrs. Phillip's father, the late Mr. Krull, was a very old friend of Gordon's and they frequently rode together. It was a gift which showed that Mrs. Phillips had a very deep regard for the welfare of this hallowed old spot and her sentiment was to be admired. He hoped that the gateway would be a means of stimulating an interest in Dingley Dell, and in this wonderful district. The Mount Gambier district had practically every advantage that nature could provide and its pioneers had left it a wonderful heritage. He hoped that Mrs. Phillips's gift would prove a gateway to better times, to clearer times, and a brighter future for Australia. (Applause)

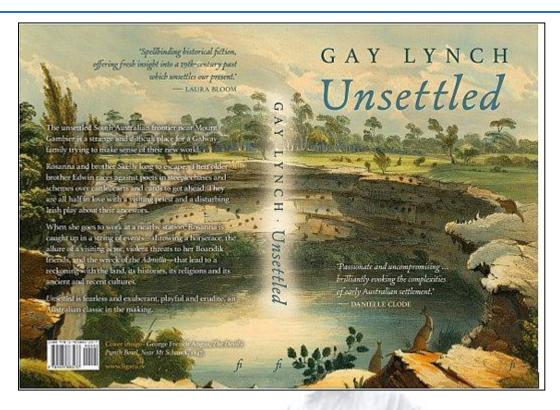
Mr Fletcher then cut a ribbon across the entrance, and declared the gateway opened. The secretary of the A.N.A. (Mr. C.J.N. Jones) read a letter from Mrs. Phillips apologising for her inability to be present, and requesting Mr. Fletcher to perform the ceremony. Mrs. Phillips wrote that she was sure her father would have been a very proud man had he been here to see the memorial associated with his old friend Adam Lindsay Gordon. On a marble slab in the gateway is the following inscription:- This gate was generously presented by Mrs. E.C.E. Phillips, a keen admirer of Gordon, and whose father (Mr. Krull) was a close friend of the poet. 28th December 1938 (Border Watch Thursday 29th December 1938 Page 1)



When the Dingley Dell Restoration Committee commenced its task some years ago there were several posts of the old stockyard remaining, according to Mr. Krummel who was a prime mover in the restoration of the poet's old home. It was decided to preserve the posts, but now it has been found that only one remains. The "last post" is morticed with five holes in one corner and four in another bearing testimony to the strength of Gordon's stockyard. This silent witness of departed days was, on Monday, dug out of its original position about 100 yards on the hill slightly to the west of where the windmill now stands and was rolled down to the cottage. When re-erected at the kiosk, the post will bear a plaque giving the details of its long history. (From the J.K.Moir Collection SLV. Photo by J.K. Moir)

For the commencement of work on Dingley Dell:

Border Watch (Mount Gambier, SA: 1861 - 1954), Friday 16 December 1921, page 2
Border Watch (Mount Gambier, SA: 1861 - 1954), Tuesday 31 January 1922, page 2



Gay Lynch works adjunct to Flinders University.

https://australianshortstoryfestival.com/gay-lynch/

As part of a PhD and to inform her historical novel *Unsettled* (Balmain, Sydney: Ligature, 2019; RRP: \$34.99), she has written extensively about Adam Lindsay Gordon.

From 2005, she spent time researching at the Brighton Historical Society room in the Old Town Hall, and in situ at various Gordon historical sites, in Brighton and in the Mount Gambier district. Recently she moved to Melbourne and has enjoyed meeting members of the Adam Lindsay Gordon Commemorative Committee, who early supported her work on Gordon.

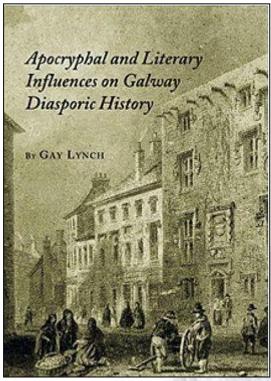
Hannah Kent launched the novel *Unsettled*—in which Gordon is an historical character—on 11December at the 2019 ISSANZ conference in Adelaide. It has since been reviewed by Assoc. Professor Frances Devlin-Glass in *Tintean*: https://tintean.org.au/2020/01/07/women-on-the-frontier/

The novel can be purchased at Thesaurus Books, Church Street, Brighton, Benn's Books, Bentleigh and other Melbourne bookshops. It is also available on Amazon, Book Depository and from the Ligature site: https://www.ligatu.re/gay-lynchs-frontier-epic-unsettled/

In keeping with historical fiction conventions, Gordon is a minor character in this novel about the frontier Lynch family who rode with him in steeplechases, were employed stock riding and breaking as he was at various pastoral stations, worked with him on the inaugural Mount Gambier Hunt Club Committee, and bought land and lived on it near Dingley Dell. His fictional character appears or is mentioned in many scenes throughout the book from p.17. He is the subject of fifteen chapters:

Unsettled is predominantly a Mount Gambier story wherein literary Australian Settler tropes – cattle-duffing, horse-trading, illicit stills and church abuse, lost children, pregnancy, and shipwrecks – can be found, often overturned. It plays out in stables on Church St, Brighton, Melbourne in 1870. Adam Lindsay Gordon's suicide provides a second climax for the plot. On the basis of this tragedy, the protagonist makes a decision to relinquish her child. Scenes are set in the city in Collins Street, the theatres, Flinders Railway Station and beside the river.

A paper given at a Melbourne conference explains the reasons why Gordon and, in particular his death, became pivotal to the novel: http://www.aawp.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Lynch.pdf



Images of Gordon's lonely, loveless death flooded Rosanna's thoughts. She pictures him trudging across the sand to sit in gloom, rifle tucked beneath his arm, collar turned up against the biting wind, fingering a few paltry coins in his pocket, barely enough to buy a drink or a newspaper. What had crossed his mind as he sat hunched over in the inadequate shelter of a belt of she oaks? Had hungry gulls shrieked overhead? Had he recited a few last lines of verse, his own or Lord Tennyson's perhaps. Had he knelt to face his beloved sea and placed the rifle between his knees, resting the tip of the barrel on his forehead? Had a gull alighted beside him and cocked a pink eye in curiosity, before it'd been flung skywards in an explosion of skin, feather, shell grit, brain muck and fabricated cloth? What if the publican had been awake? (394)

Lynch discusses Gordon in her book *Apocryphal and Literary Influences on Galway History* (2010): https://www.amazon.com.au/Apocryphal-Literary-Influences-Diasporic-History/dp/1443825603

SOME PHOTOS OF THE LOW FAMILY KINDLY SENT TO US
BY DIANNE TRUSSELL
A DESCENDANT OF MARGARET LOW
WHOSE FIRST HUSBAND WAS ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

His wife Maggie Park was my great-great-grandmother, a fact which I did not discover until I was an adult. However when I was a child, I encountered a popular tradition among my elders to keep 'autograph books' where they collected signatures and sayings in person from anyone they admired. My mum had one, and her favourite entry, probably from her mother (Gertrude Olive nee Low), grandfather (David Alexander Low) or great grandmother Maggie Park, which went:





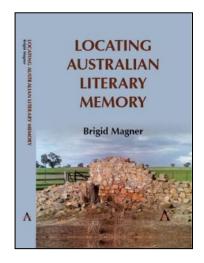
"Life is mostly froth and bubble, Two things stand like stone. Kindness in another's trouble, Courage in your own."

> 1844 Feb 25 Peter Low Born at Dundee 1845 Mar 22 Maggie Park Born In Glasgow 1873 Mar 19 Maggie Gordon Married Peter Low





HOMAGE & TWO HENRYS AT BRIGIT MAGNER'S BOOK LAUNCH





Officially launched by John Arnold.

Book historian and former editor of the Latrobe Journal.

'Brigid Magner's fascinating study sets out the ways in which a nation can build an identity by actively constructing a literary memory, and then using those memories to paper over the deep history of our First Nations and their stories. In doing so she helps us understand both how fragile Australian culture is and also the ways in which literature is a powerful force.'

Sóphie Cunningham

On 12 December 2019, The Royal Historical Society of Victoria played host to the launch of non/fictionLab member Brigid Magner's new work, Locating Australian Literary Memory. The book, launched by John Arnold (pictured), book historian and former editor of the La Trobe Journal, explores sites explicitly connected with Australian authors through material forms of commemoration such as writers' houses, graves, statues and trails via focus on a selected group of notable 'heritage' authors including Adam Lindsay Gordon, A. B. 'Banjo' Paterson, Katharine Susannah Pritchard, Eleanor Dark, P. L Travers (of Mary Poppins fame), and at least two Henrys, each of whom made an appearance on the night. Henry Lawson appeared as himself to give a stellar recitation of *The Loaded Dog*, while a second Henry arrived in the form of a reading from Henry Handel-Richardson's memoir by Janey Runci, Vice-President of the HHR Society.

Brigid's book is timely, with significant birthdays looming this year for Adam Lindsay Gordon and Henry Handel-Richardson. It draws attention to how inherited traditions have shaped local forms of literary memorialisation, while also reminding us of many additional, sometimes idiosyncratic rituals that have evolved here in Australia. The book, published by Anthem press, was launched in convivial company, with Brigid's family, friends and colleagues in attendance. A *waiata* (traditional Maori chant, song, poetry; to chant, to sing) performed by members of Brigid's family from Aotearoa (New Zealand) brought the event to a suitably ceremonial close. Words and Pictures by Peta Murray.

The event was held at the rooms of The Royal Historical Society of Victoria, with their kind cooperation. Lindsay Smelt from the Adam Lindsay Gordon Commemorative Committee arrived early to help with the setting up. The event was held on Thursday 12 December 2019 5.30pm to 7.30pm Free Event Drinks from 5:30pm for a 6pm launch.









Lindsay Smelt James Howard Janey Runci Brigid Magner
ALG Comm. Committee Inc Henry Lawson Memorial and Lit .Soc. Henry Handel Richardson Soc. The Non/fictionLab

Vale Brenton Manser

The untimely early death of Limestone Coast identity – singer/songwriter and tour guide Brenton Manser – in January 2020 came as a devastating shock to the community. Among the sixth generation of Mansers who first arrived in Australia in 1839, Brenton was born in the south-east of South Australia, where he lived for most of his short life.

During the 1990s he worked as a soloist doing cover shows and had some success in the country music genre, winning best male vocal in the state competitions at Barmera in 1995. That year he also recorded a song he had written called 'Ballad of the Bay' – the story of the cray fishing industry in Port MacDonnell as he saw it, growing up in and around the town in 1970s. 'Ballad of the Bay' was nominated for a SAMI (South Australian Music Industry) award in 1995. He also wrote and recorded (live in the ABC5MG radio studio) a song called 'Australia Remembers' which was featured on ABC during the 50 years commemoration of VP day.

However, Brenton realised his style of song writing did not fit comfortably in the local country music scene so decided to wander off in his own direction 'to see where my music would take me'. While playing and singing regularly in restaurants and hotels in Mount Gambier he always found time to chat with people and find out where they were from, sparking an interest in tourism.

In the year 2000 Brenton converted an old school bus into a motorhome and he and his wife Sandra and three sons – Bo'az, Jakin and Jeshua – travelled and worked around Australia, picking up gigs wherever he could, and this paid their way; the boys were home-schooled along the way. Wherever they set up camp they found there were many overseas tourists. Brenton enjoyed being an 'ambassador' for Australia in story and song so much that his future in music was cemented. After returning to the south-east, Brenton continued cover shows, performing a large variety of musical genres. Combined with a passionate interest in history, his song-writing themes centred on local and family interests and humour.

While working part-time with Blue Lake tour operator Aquifer Tours, and at Dingley Dell Cottage and Museum at Port MacDonnell, relieving manager Allan Childs from time to time, Brenton undertook a two-year Advanced Diploma in Tourism Management.

In 2002, when a permanent part-time job managing a group accommodation facility in Nelson came up, Brenton considered it a timely opportunity to spend more time with his family and continue writing and performing music with his backing group 'The Vanguard'.

From 1996 through to 2008, Brenton Manser hosted and performed at the official Australia Day Breakfast in Mount Gambier. In 1998 he was invited to perform at the inaugural 'Mayoral Gala Performance'. In 1999 he wrote a song about a local tragic shipwreck – the SS *Admella*. The song was recorded live and featured all week in August 2009 during the 150th anniversary events in the south-east.

Joining forces with renowned cameraman Robert Tremelling, Brenton turned to producing and directing docudramas, the first being a one-hour film 'The Wreck of the Admella' in 2008, featuring Brenton singing his own song and narrating, and launched in August 2009. This was followed in 2011 by 'Old Mary's Ride' (a reenactment of the retrieval in 1937 of John Dutton's racing Vauxhall from the Blue Lake after it crashed through a guard rail in 1936 and plummeted about 300 ft to the water, after the driver was luckily thrown out).

In 2014 the pair produced 'Rider and Writer', which premiered on 30 August in Mount Gambier's Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre – the first film documenting the life of Adam Lindsay Gordon since feature film 'Courage in your own' was proposed by Garden City Productions, Ballarat, in 1947.

In 2008, Brenton recorded the 'Forty Eight Two One Five', which was uploaded to the National ABC Radio sound bank in time for the 60th anniversary of the making of that car. The 48/215 played on ABC radio around the country.

Brenton will always be remembered as a loving family man, and a brilliant musician, with a sense of humour. There is no doubt he will still be writing songs ... and working on his next historic project ... from his studio in the sky.

BOOK "GORDON OF DINGLEY DELL" 2nd EDITION

BY LORRAINE DAY OF FREESTYLE PUBLICATIONS Contact Freestyle Publications - www.freestylepublications.com.au PO Box 272, Yankalilla SA 5203 email info@freestylepublications .com.au Phone (08) 8558 3002 / 0417 856 963

THE HENRY LAWSON MEMORIAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY meet monthly on the third Saturday of each month (Feb-Dec.) Monastery Hall rear St Francis Church 326 Lonsdale Street. Entry via church car park in Elizabeth Street Melbourne. 1.30. to 4:00pm. \$5 for afternoon tea.

Office bearers elected at our AGM:

2019-2020 President, Allan Childs; Vice President, Viv Sellers; Secretary, John Adams, Retired; Treasurer, Travis M Sellers; Ordinary Committee, Lorraine Day; Terry Maher; Elrae Adams; Joan Pretty; Lindsay Smelt; Virginia Barnett and a warm welcome to Jenny Odgers.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

will be commemorated on Saturday 20 June with events being planned by our committee.



THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

The Adam Lindsay Gordon Commemorative Committee Inc will soon be publishing an encyclopedia of Adam Lindsay Gordon to be launched as part of the 150th anniversary of the poet's death. While the final details are yet to be confirmed by the committee, we are aiming to produce a small print run of 30-50 copies for financial members only. We are hoping to cap the price at \$15. This is our way to thank all those members who have supported our group financially. Non-financial members will be able to purchase an electronic copy at considerably higher price. The encyclopedia has been compiled by John Adams and Travis M. Sellers and contains over 100,000 words comprising 300 entries, many with illustrations. Below is part of one entry on melancholy:"



MELANCHOLY was Gordon's tragic heritage. It led to the mental breakdown of his mother Harriet Gordon and ultimately to the poet's suicide. It fed into his reticent, shy and retiring nature. He could be melancholic and despairing as much as he was kind, generous and brave. The dark shadows of melancholy deepened into further the blackness of despair during Gordon's final days at Ballarat in 1868 as money troubles with his livery stables failing, the death of his daughter Annie, and injuries he sustained in riding falls all affected him. Melancholy pervades in many of Gordon's poems such as 'Cui Bono', 'Quare Fatigasti' and 'Wormwood and Nightshade';

The restless throbbings and burnings That hope unsatisfied brings, The weary longings and yearnings For the mystical better things.

And in 'The Sick Stockrider';

For good undone and gifts misspent and resolutions vain,

'Tis somewhat late to trouble. This I know -

I should live the same life over, if I had to live again;

And the chances are I go where most men go.

The Australasian 18 Sep 1909 p50; The Queenslander 15 Feb 1913 p8; Howlett-Ross, J., The Laureate of the Centaurs (1888) p16 & p62.



Teacher to Pupil: Why don't you wash your face? I can see what you had for breakfast. **Pupil to Teacher:** What did I have for breakfast?

Teacher: Egg.

Pupil: Wrong. That was yesterday.

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