

Eucalypt eNews June 2020

Submissions to Issue 29 close 30 September 2020

Email up to 6 tanka to editor.eucalypt@gmail.com

Dear Poets and Friends,

I hope that by now *Eucalypt* issue 28 has now arrived safely in your letter box. The post office advises that there have been delays with overseas mail: thank you for your patience in these difficult days.

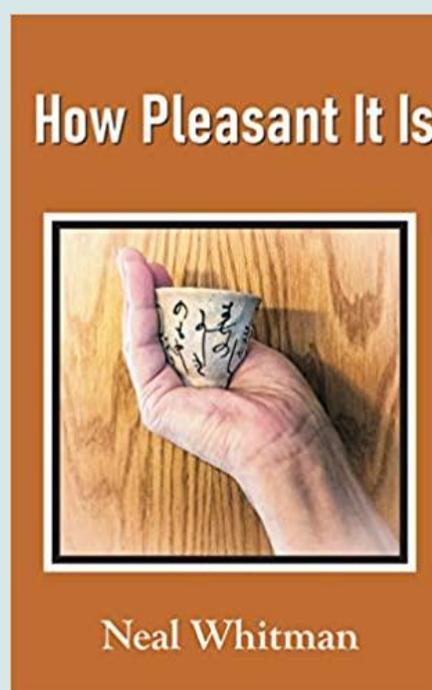
Tanka poetry has an amazing way of linking people together. We share our sorrows and our joy. Thanks to Katherine from New Zealand, who sent this message to our Australian poets, but not in time for issue 28:

our day darkens
with trans-Tasman smoke—
fire-storm season—
breathing in its harshness
my heart is sore for you

Katherine Raine

I'm pleased to publish it here with her permission. Thanks Katherine, for this thoughtful poem.

Another lovely surprise in the mail was Neal Whitman's book: *How Pleasant It Is*. Neal has been a long and valued contributor to *Eucalypt: a tanka journal*, and it was a lovely treat to read the title sequence in this book, as well as enjoying again other previously published poems in this collection.



I was pleased to open another envelope today and find a poem “written back” to my bookmark poem by Marina Colne:

eucalypt
such long and lovely
twisting leaves
this tanka journal
named to honour them

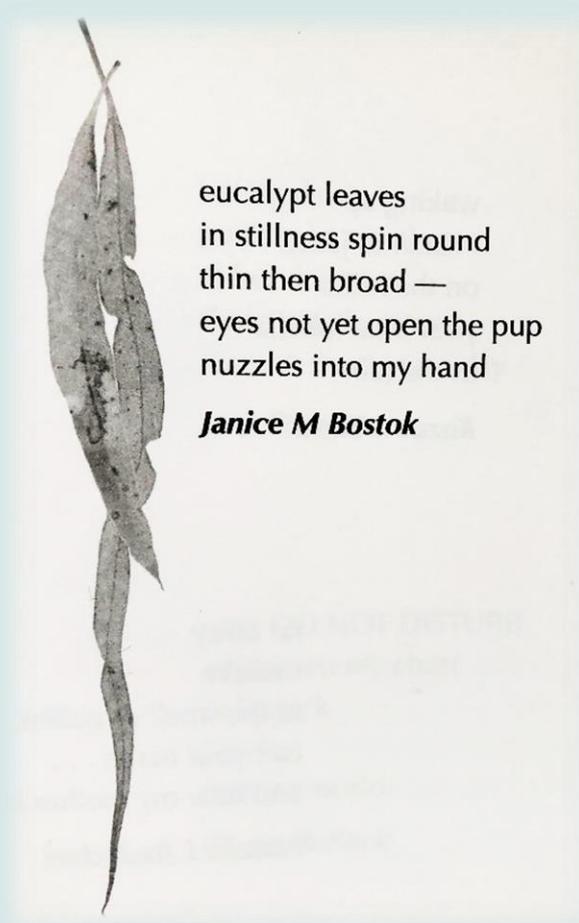
Marina Colne

This poem sent me scurrying for Issue 1 (2006) page three and the first ever poem in *Eucalypt: a tanka journal*—written by the legendary Janice M Bostok on the invitation of founding editor Beveley George—and I felt satisfied that the purpose and values of the journal have remained steady over the course of twenty-eight issues.

Thank you Marina, and all the Eucalypt poets, for enhancing our lives just a little, with each poem. It is these little surprises that make the role of editor for this unique tanka journal so worthwhile.

Warm wishes,

Julie



eucalypt leaves
in stillness spin round
thin then broad —
eyes not yet open the pup
nuzzles into my hand

Janice M Bostok

THE SCRIBBLE AWARDS

It is my pleasure to announce the SCRIBBLE AWARDS for issue 28.

The Distinctive Scribble Awards recognise two outstanding poems from each issue of Eucalypt, selected and appraised by winners of the Awards in the previous issue.

The winners from issue 28 are . . .

Sonja Arntzen

selected by Anne Benjamin

ninety-two
this eminent scholar
as bent from
study as though she had
planted rice her whole life

-- *Sonja Arntzen*

Christopher Pieterszoon Routheut

selected by Carolyn Eldridge-Alfonzetti

calm water—
over the old village,
fish leap
cloud to
cloud

-- *Christopher Pieterszoon Routheut*

The appraisals can be read on the Eucalypt website maintained by founding editor Beverley George <http://www.eucalypt.info/E-awards.html> Congratulations to Sonja and Christopher, who I now invite to be our award judges for issue 29!

SUBMISSIONS

I will accept submissions for issue 29 during September – please do not send yet, or I may lose them in the influx of other email. Also, please put the poems into the body of your email – not as an attachment. The spam filter tends to send email with attachments to the junk folder, and your poems may be missed.

in this world
we walk on the roof of hell,
gazing at flowers

~ Issa
Tr. Robert Haas

Classic Poem

SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2020

Online payment buttons have been added to my website for your convenience.

<https://juliethorndyke.com/eucalypt-a-tanka-journal/>

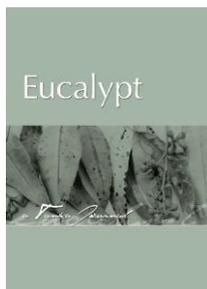
These are working well so far. Thanks to all the subscribers who have already made use of them. Cheques should be made out to Julie Thorndyke, please. Overseas cheques incur a deposit fee, so PayPal is preferable.

Thank you for your support!

Missed a Eucalypt newsletter?

Back issues are archived [HERE](#)

<https://juliethorndyke.com/eucalypt-a-tanka-journal/>



SUBMISSION DEADLINES

MARCH 31
SEPTEMBER 30

Please email poems to editor.eucalypt@gmail.com in the body of the email (no attachments).

Subject line:
Submission – [your surname here]

Australian subscriptions \$30 AUD.
\$50 AUD for international subscribers.
PayPal is available.

ABOUT EUCALYPT

Eucalypt is the first Australian journal devoted to this ancient Japanese poetry genre.

Japanese waka (now called tanka) are five-segmented poems. In English, they are usually written in five lines. Often they address profound human emotions, such as love or mourning, but can also be used to record everyday experience.

The genre is 1300 years old, but is surprisingly relevant to the way we think and feel today.

Eucalypt is a print magazine which showcases contemporary tanka poetry written in the English language, and publishes only those poems its editors consider to be of the highest standard.

Its objectives are to offer wider publication opportunities to tanka poets and to make more people aware of the delights of reading and writing tanka.

There are two issues per year, in May and in November

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