Francis Webb
Collected Poems
Edited by Toby Davidson

‘For many of us, readers and poets alike, Frank Webb's verse has been the gold standard by which complex poetic language has been judged. . .a master of last lines, of last stanzas and final phrases.’

Les Murray

UWA Publishing welcomes the return of Australia’s most gifted and prodigious poet, Francis Webb, whose work has been out of print for thirty years in collected form.

This collection of Francis Webb’s poems is the first edition to incorporate Webb’s final changes - previously ignored by editors - to several of his poems written in 1969.

Webb wrote on varied subjects: the sea, postwar Australian cities, mental illness, colonial histories as well as religious and political figures, including St Francis and Hitler.

His poems are written in a range of styles, from humorous short verse to epics and radio plays.

The book is introduced by award-winning poet Toby Davidson and accompanied by 100 pages of notes drawing on the latest scholarship and commentaries.

This splendid collection celebrates Webb’s thirty-three-year writing career and is essential reading for everyone who believes in the importance of Australian literature.


ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Toby Davidson is a university lecturer and Australian poetry researcher at the Department of English, Macquarie University, Sydney. His PhD thesis Born of Fire, Possessed by Darkness: Mysticism and Australian Poetry will be published by Cambria Press (New York) in 2012. He is also an award-winning poet.