Inventory

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Eric Rayne Mackinnon

Eric Rayne Mackinnon spent much of his adult life in mental hospitals, including the Royal Edinburgh and Carstairs State Hospital. But his gift for poetry, his love of music and of nature, and his Christianity, enabled him to overcome the circumstances of his illness and produce a remarkable body of work. He counted several poets among his friends – Kathleen Raine was a particular admirer and champion. Mackinnon published a number of small collections, including *The Spark of Joy*, (1970), *The Hitch-Hiker and other Poems*, (1976), and *The Blasting of Billy P*, (1978) and *Northern Elegies*, (1986).

These papers come from the family of Lt-Col Robert Leslie Cockburn Hunter, with whom Mackinnon corresponded for some years.

*Presented, 2010.*

The collection is arranged as follows:

1. **Letters.**
2. **Poems.**
3. **Longer poems and prose.**


2. Poems, many of which are unpublished.

   - After Goethe’s ‘Surprised By Might’. Typescript.
   - After the Rain; The Sutherland Hills. Carbon typescript.
   - After the Snow. Manuscript.
   - Aftermath. Manuscript.
   - Aftermath; Flux. Typescript.
   - All the Year Round. Carbon typescript.
   - Ancient History. Manuscript.
   - April. Carbon typescript.
   - Arkengarthdale. Carbon typescript.
   - Autumn Elegy. Carbon typescript.
   - Autumn Morning; A Moment of Time. Carbon typescript.
   - The Awakening. Carbon typescript.
   - Backwards-Forwards. Carbon typescript.
   - Before the Night. Carbon typescript.
   - Big Deal. Carbon typescript.
   - Birdsong; Then and Now. Carbon typescript.
   - The Birth of Adolf. Typescript.
   - Black Isle. Typescript.
   - Borne Aloft. Carbon typescript.
The Bow of Odysseus. (2 poems, same title.) Carbon typescripts.
Brimful. Manuscript.
Bruckner. Manuscript.
Building In Progress. Typescript.
The Bullfinches’ Nest. Carbon typescript.

The Captive. Carbon typescript.
Carluke Moor. Typescript.
A Carol. Manuscript.
The Chill. Carbon typescript.
The Clairvoyant. Manuscript.
Clear Again; Evening Song. Carbon typescript.
Cold & Heat. Manuscript.
Cold Christmas. Carbon typescript.
The Comforters Come to Job. Carbon typescript.
Craftsmanship (for T.B.); As I See It. Carbon typescript.
Cyclone; Alive. Carbon typescript.

A Day. Typescript.
A Dead Leaf. Carbon typescript.
Dearth and Birth; Leisurely. Carbon typescript.
Drawing In. Carbon typescript.
Dreamlike. Carbon typescript.
Dusk. Typescript.

Easter. Typescript.
Elements. Carbon typescript.
Elijah. Carbon typescript.
The Elysian Fields. Carbon typescript.
Emerald. Carbon typescript.
End of a Heatwave. Typescript. 2 copies.
Epitaph for a Jake-Drinker. Manuscript.
Essence of Summer. Typescript.
Evening Hymn. Carbon typescript.
Evening in Earn; October Heat. Carbon typescript.
Evening Landscape. Carbon typescript.
Evening Sun (2). Carbon typescript.
Ever-Present; Two Types of Snow. Carbon typescript.

Farewell to Carstairs. Carbon typescript.
Fertility. Typescript.
From the Heart. Carbon typescript.

Gleanings From the Night. Carbon typescript.
Good Friday. Carbon typescript.
Gramophone Record. Carbon typescript.
Grey; Lanarkshire. Carbon typescript.
Grosse Fuge. Carbon typescript.
Growth. Typescript.
Guessing; The Core. Carbon typescript.

Hamish MacGunn. Carbon typescript.
A Hill I Know. Carbon typescript.
The Hitchiker. Typescript.
Housing Estate. Carbon typescript.
Hovering. Carbon typescript.

Impromptu. Typescript, with note to RLCH.
In the Printing Shop. Carbon typescript.
In the Printing Shop (2). Carbon typescript.
In the Printing Shop (3). Carbon typescript.
In Trust; Es Muss Sein; To Hugh MacDiarmid; Halloween. Manuscript.
An Incident. Typescript.
Indoors and Outdoors. Typescript.
Ironside. Carbon typescript.

Job. Manuscript.
Journey By Rail. Carbon typescript.
July. Manuscript.
June. Typescript.

Kylerhea. Typescript.

Lawnmower; Summer. Carbon typescript.
Light & Dark. Manuscript.
Light Everywhere. Carbon typescript.
Looking Forward. Carbon typescript.

March Winds. Carbon typescript.
Midsummer Rain. Carbon typescript.
Morning Song. Carbon typescript.

Night in Arkengarthdale. Carbon typescript, dated 16.2.68.
North Wind. Carbon typescript.

Odysseus. Carbon typescript.
Old Russia. Carbon typescript.
On Being Published. Typescript.
One Side of the Question. Carbon typescript, dated 28.2.68.
Out of Season. Typescript and carbon typescript.

Pariah; Caveman; The Wind’s Cradle-Song. Carbon typescript.
A Passing Rainstorm. Manuscript.
Perseus – A Legend. Carbon typescript.
A Personal View. Carbon typescript.
A Piece of Advice. Carbon typescript with note to RLCH.
The Prisoner’s Liberty. 2 versions, manuscript.

R.L. Carbon typescript.
Raw. Carbon typescript.
Reading History. Carbon typescript.
Reading Tacitus. Manuscript.
Relaxed. Typescript.
Repertory. Carbon typescript
The Ridge; Sunday Afternoon; Starlings and Larks. Carbon typescript.
Ripeness Is All. Typescript.

Saith the Preacher. Carbon typescript.
Sapling. Carbon typescript.
The Sense of Life. Carbon typescript.
Set Fair. Carbon typescript.
The Singing Silence. Carbon typescript.
Sleep Approaching. Manuscript, dated 23.3.68.
Snowstorm. Carbon typescript, dated 1.2.68.
Solo Violin. Typescript and carbon typescript.
Song for a Friday Night. Manuscript.
A Song of Scrap, Requiem for the Great Industrial Age. Typescript.
Song; Poem Without a Title. Carbon typescript.
Songsters. Carbon typescript.
A Sonnet of Sorts (2). Carbon typescript.
Sonnet – to C.P. Manuscript.
The Soul’s Request. Manuscript.
The Spark. Manuscript, 2 versions.
Static. Carbon typescript.
Stillness. Carbon typescript, 2 versions, earliest dated 9.1.68.
Stirrings. Manuscript.
Storm-Tossed. Manuscript.
Stour. Carbon typescript.
Sturmisch Bewegt. Carbon typescript.
Sunday Evening. Typescript.
Sunday Evening (2). Typescript.
Sutherland. Typescript.
Tae Bide Awa. Typescript.
Take Two. Typescript.
Tenacity. Carbon typescript.
The Thaw. Typescript.
Three Nights. Carbon typescript.
Thunderstorm. Carbon typescript.
Time Fulfilled. Carbon typescript, dated 30.1.68.
Time-Gathering (sections 2 and 3). Carbon typescript.
To a Fellow Poet. Carbon typescript.
To an Old Love. Carbon typescript.
To B.L. Carbon typescript.
To D.M. Carbon typescript.
To J.A.; Out-Patients. Carbon typescript.
To Tam Macnair; A Mood. Carbon typescript.
To Wilfred. Manuscript.
The Toy Shop. Manuscript.
Transistor. Carbon typescript.
Tumult. Carbon typescript.
Two Styles of Snooker; Song. Manuscript.

An Unremarkable Day. Typescript.
Unsettled. Typescript.

The Venture. Typescript, dated 6th June 1968.
The Void. Typescript.

The Walls. Typescript.
Washed in Water. Typescript.
Water and Wind. Carbon typescript.
Weathered. Manuscript.
West Coast. Carbon typescript.
West Lothian. Typescript and carbon typescript.
A Wet Night. Carbon typescript.
When the Wind Comes. (Two versions.) Carbon typescript.
Windswept. Carbon typescript.
Winter Words. Manuscript.
Words; Grey (2). Carbon typescript.
Working in the Open; Cold Comfort. Carbon typescript.

The Year Awakening. Carbon typescript.
Year’s End. Carbon typescript with note to RLCH, dated October 1967.
3. Longer poems, prose and published items.

The Dance. Prose, typescript.
In the Prison: a poem in the form of a drama. Photocopy.
The Tale of Joseph. Long poem, photocopy.
Orpheus, Prologue. Long poem, photocopy.
*Scotia 18* (June 1971), containing article by Eric Rayne Mackinnon, 'The Achievement of Edwin Muir'.
Press-cutting from unidentified newspaper of 'Sargeant-Major' by Eric Rayne Mackinnon.