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Sue Clennell

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## Salt on my lips by Sue Clennell

Salt on my lips from the land and I think of farmers trying to spin straw into gold. "That's the risk they take," said one young blood, talking of the unseasonal rains decapitating the crops.

Salt on my teeth, the sheep as grey as the paddocks huddle around the dams. "We've been brought down to our knees," she said as we looked over a CWA stall and licked jam and cream off fingers.

Salt on my cheeks. The butcher proved his skill with throwing knives at balloons, the MC fiddled to piano accompaniment and youngsters livened the country folk up by singing impromptu rap, all aimed at forgetting salt in their blood.

**Sue Clennell** has recently released the poetry CD 'The Van Gogh Café.' Her poems have appeared in *Poetry NZ*, *Westerly, Studio* and *The Weekend Australian*.

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