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The Coorong, South Australia

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Teatree then some kind of
salt tolerant samphire
and sedge stretch to the
rumple of sand dunes we once trudged
hoping to reach the sea.
A mountain range of sand
defeated us and trekking back
across that desolate stretch
was like crossing an airport’s
busy runway or a great
sea eagle would suddenly stoop
to whisk us away
we were so tiny.
Today the surf’s roar
beyond the dunes is constant
as Frankfurt airport yet
there’s not a soul in sight
nor a bird in flight.

Andrew Taylor is Emeritus and Honorary Professor in the School of Communication and Arts at Edith Cowan University. He has published more than fifteen books of poetry.