

WE SO NEED NO MORE NEWS TODAY

The world is so disturbed
we all now feel so perturbed
by these headlines in our way
We so need no more news today.

All the presses and feeds can stop
and every media mogul drop
dead or shut up and hideaway.
We so need no more news today.

All the horrors overexposed
about all who have decomposed
during 24/7 satellite relay.
We so need no more news today.

Humanity's crisis-to-crisis
on every issue, such as ISIS,
Ebola, Palestine, or power play.
We so need no more news today.

None of this is really for us.
It's all become a cruel circus
where brutes waterboard their way.
We so need no more news today.

Everybody reels from all the shocks
except the paparazzi and the jocks
who hack on tragedy for their pay.
We so need no more news today.

Cancel all your media subscriptions.
Delete all the online proscriptions.
Disconnect the lot and throw it away.
We so need no more news today.

Wars will continue, as will accidents,
crimes, rich and powerful flatulence,
terror and corruption all on display.
We so need no more news today.

We so need no more news today
Our news is our love, even in dismay.

*HAMISH DANKS BROWN,
NOOSA HEADS, QLD*

Parochial

The city can be whatever you want it to be 24/7
Full-moon, animated faces brimful of what-is-to-come
shoulder through the maddening crowd
Three piece suits clash
against body piercing in extremis
- homeless per block ratio high

Canyons of buildings whistle the wind
dwarf or soar spirits to the scraped-sky
there's no need for sunglasses here in the midday shadows
where it is so dirty
There's flaky paint for every spanking new façade
Outside the store with four floors of shoes
a man in a baseball cap is grabbing life by the balls
in a red Mazda MX-5

*There's choice on every corner
Starbucks or Gloria Jeans or McDonalds
Options jump off the sandwich boards:
it's all you can want it to be*

And all you want is for it to let you go home

*JANE DOWNING,
ALBURY, NSW*