

## 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*