**Living in Denial**

Embraced by my garden, unease prevails.

Species are dying, corals and whales.

Digging and planting, I try to pretend

the world as we know it, is not going to end.

How did we get here? the anxious mind asks.

The answers were known by ancestors past.

Respect Mother Nature, just take your share,

re-use, recycle, create and repair.

Exploiting carbon was money’s great aim.

Easing our lifestyle, we all joined the game.

Ignoring the warnings in ‘Silent Spring’,

considering ‘Gaia’ wasn’t our thing.

Hurricanes and cyclones, the earth makes moan.

Sheltered by distance, heads shake and we groan.

Torrents, landslips and floods, the earth makes tears.

Gut, brain and conscience express buried fears.

Confronted by warnings, now centre stage,

money, the markets and governments rage.

Species and habitats become extinct,

just like our human survival instinct.

The Earth is our mother, what will we do?

Could grassroots action make her anew?

Global engagement is a far-off dream

but local starts are a chance to redeem.

Reject the ads and refuse to consume!

Embrace change and with politics fume!

Cut the plastic, ride the bus and the train!

Invent and invest, and re-green your brain.

The moment is here to act with free will

as tipping points are just over the hill.

Now is the time for a Green Transition

before the cyborgs steal our position.

Somewhere there must be joy to be found

as we work together, feet on the ground,

taking some actions designed to forestall

a global tragedy affecting us all.

 **Roslyn Swaney 23/11/2022**