The World Will Be Different

The world will be different  
when we have learned again  
to touch and feel and hold;

when what the shadows of   
anxiety and fear have taught us  
has been birthed in light;

when virtual is a place  
we choose not to go  
because real is truth;

when greed bends and gives  
to poverty, justice, need,  
being prepared and old age;

when patience does not need  
to be separated by hi-vis  
tape on a pavement;

when forgiveness flows easy  
and laughter does not need  
to be taught or practised;

when workers are valued for who   
they are and what they do as well   
as for how much we need them;

when neighbourliness, pulling  
together and love are forever  
and not just in a crisis;

when the grown-ups play in  
the park on a work day and  
it’s OK and we can stay;

when we are not so busy,  
when we can look and listen,  
when we know it’s for the living.

They say that when this is all over,  
when we are free to come and go,  
the world will be different.

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