LEFT BEHIND

I'd like to think that most of us and also most of them
Believe an obligation shared by women and by men
That each and every being of this our human race
Should try to make the world we own a slightly better place
Than when with cries of protest we arrived on planet earth
Inheriting what happened in the years before our birth

If we're not very careful the world we leave behind
Will be full of great disasters for all of humankind
There's warfare and pollution, there's climate change and drugs
And shocking inequalities and dangerous super-bugs
The list is long and sadly it's getting longer still
The deadly fact is obvious: our world is very ill

So what can you and I do before our bones grow cold
In countries where democracy still has a slender hold?
We can vote for a good leader if one is still around
We can use our social networks nay-sayers to confound
We can live our lives in various ways that minimise pollution
And keep an open mind and heart for any good solution

We can ask our lead economists to reconsider debt:
Is it better to be wealthy in the rain and mud and wet
Or be poorer in a climate that is somewhat more benign
By investing to stop climate change while there is still the time?
It's profits versus climate change, of that please be aware
Though rhetoric abounds to mislead those who might care

Except for oil the largest trades around the world you find
Is in guns and ammunition and in drugs of every kind
The United Nations holds the key to some of the solutions
But lacks the powers and the funds for useful contributions
There is no doubt that foreign aid will help in this regard
As well as wiser drug laws enforced in our back yard

So what's the point of writing a few verses such as these
Do they make the slightest difference to a world that's on its knees?
Will a single climate sceptic modify their crazy view
By reading my opinion of what she or he should do?
If the answer to those questions is perhaps they may take note
And help us to improve things – then it's worthwhile that I wrote.