

## Somebody else's problem

I'm just an ordinary houseperson  
Living in the suburbs,  
But I started to have a think.  
Thinking about these fires and floods and storms.  
Climate change, could it really be real, I wonder,  
And might we be heading towards the brink?

I used to see, on the TV,  
Those poor people in Africa, you know.  
They were always starving and looking real sick  
Due to their never-ending drought.  
And I used to see those poor Bangladeshi  
In another yet big damaging flood.  
So, I was starting to have a doubt.  
Then I thought, it's sad, but after all,  
It's really not my problem.

Yes, I turned off the TV and thought to myself,  
It's somebody else's problem.

Bushfires belong to Australia and western USA,  
Or so I always thought.  
But now Europe and Britain have been lighting up too.  
On the TV I saw the damage that the wildfires wrought.

And now thousand-year-old Redwoods in California  
Have been killed by catastrophic wild fire.  
Things have gotten much worse than they used to be.  
Things are starting to look rather dire.

And I thought that landslides and mudslides  
Only belong to those countries  
That cut too much of their green forests down.  
I can't help a little frown.  
But then I saw even Germany under flood  
with landslides cascading and full of mud.  
Those poor people. It's very sad.  
But I turned off the TV and said to myself,  
It's somebody else's problem.

I used to turn a deaf ear to Pacific Islanders complaining.  
You people live in paradise, I'd say to myself.  
But now I see, it really is pretty poor -  
They have just had yet another stormy cyclone  
And the sea coming through their front door.

But now the rains won't stop here, where I am,  
And I am actually starting to fear  
It's no longer somebody else's problem.

I'm really starting to think.  
Because my roof is leaking, ceilings sagging,  
Carpets soggy, garage flooding.  
I can't believe the mould and the stink.

Oh dear, it seems I can no longer say,  
It's somebody else's problem.

I'd better have a bit more of a think.

Now, what can I do to help to pull us all back,  
Back from this climate change brink?