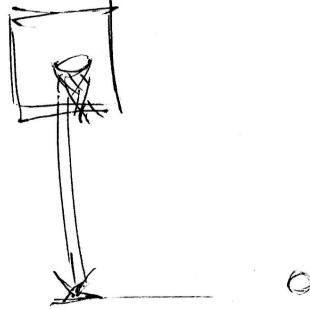
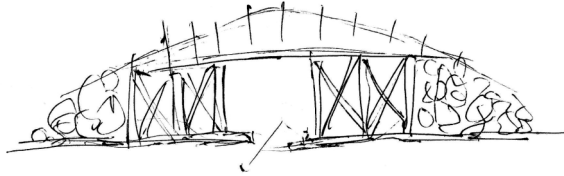


THE BLACK DOG STORY .



It began with a Black Dog who,
much like the little black duck—was different.



Unaccepted for his difference,
he sought refuge in dark places.

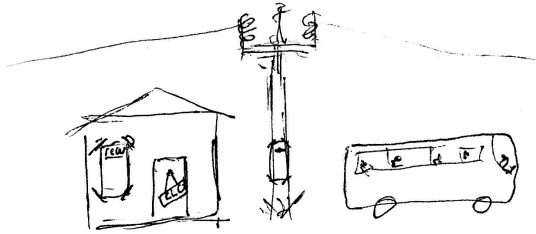


In time, the darkness revealed others
Sheltering in the shadows
That drew reflections of himself.





In the belonging, he gained the strength
to raise a hand above the nodding and question
why suffering souls too often go unheard.

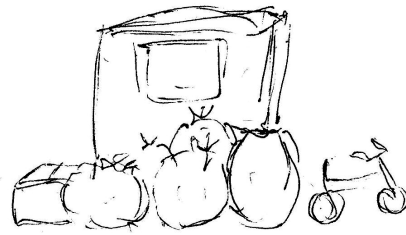


Burdened by the silence and neglect,
he began to bark loudly despite those
troubled by the noise.

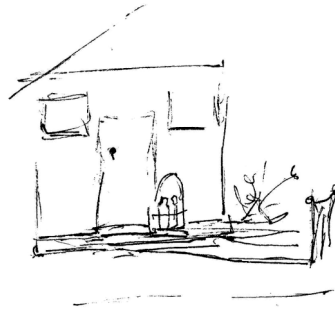


And when backs were turn to bury
All that had been found,
Black Dog continued digging for all
That had been lost.

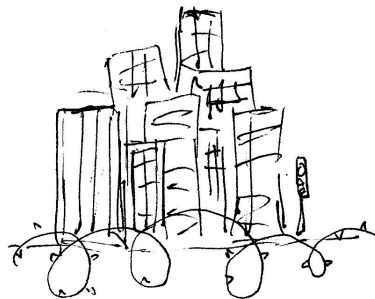




Hope grew from every and that gave
Purely for the giving. And so,
Despite colour and size and the absence of wealth,
and with the friends that followed....



Black Dog claimed a space
for those who may never fit,
in a world too big for most.
Those who seek to move beyond minds too small...



Those who seek freedom
from the relentless pace of a world
spinning way too fast to catch.





Now, as the world continues to turn away
from the darkness in favour of 'have a nice days'
and all that's shiny and new ...



Black Dog continues to hold a place
For all that's lost and found.

Footnote: The Black Dog Project is reflected most
accurately in this poem.

Posted: 4 November, 2014 / Written & Illustrated 2008, J Browne

