Introduction to the Book of Stuff

[everything](Radiation.doc) is stuff

a world of stuff

energy is stuff, intangibles are stuff

and every kind of stuff has its own stuff

in fact, some of it carries so much stuff

that it is iconic, more than stuff

let me give you an example:

when we use the word ‘woman’

it comes with a load of stuff

girl

female

person

lady

mother

daughter

sister

bubby

auntie

and this is just the beginning.

breast

vagina

baby

are all words that are part of the stuff of ‘woman’

you may argue (rightly) that a woman should not be thought a thing

and therefore you can argue (wrongly) that a woman is not stuff

a woman is stuff because humans are objects, objects are things,

things are stuff

people and stuff, you know.

why did i choose the word ‘woman’ for my exploration of stuff?

because i know that it’s controversial

i could have used ‘man’

boy

male

guy

father

brother

son

zaidy

uncle

testicle

penis

baby?

for some reason, me being a man

this choice of word as illustration

is not controversial

but conversations about women

when indulged in by men

are reckoned full of stuff

and that stuff,

sexism

chauvinism

domination

violence

victimization

has stuff of its own

why should my use of these words

carry so much stuff?

because our brains are made of interesting stuff

we have a lot of neurons

axons

synapses

glials

blood vessels

in our cortexes, each with many

connections

linkages

neighbours

allies

we can put a lot of stuff together

with our collections of stuff

what does all this have to do with me?

i have my stuff

problems

issues

demands

that all require my attention

in my poems, i deal with various

ideas

concepts

philosophies

issues

as well as

personal stuff

humourous stuff

love stuff

sexual stuff

therefore, in my poems

you will also be dealing with stuff

i hope my stuff has some correlation with your stuff

if it doesn’t, my stuff will be boring

many apologies

the following poems

all deal with stuff –

an incredible collection of stuff.

one item will lead to another item

i will call it wikipoetica

you may add your own stuff

to my stuff

there are three ways (that i can think of)

to start this chain

me

mind

universe

why these three?

because each is one half of an essential dichotomy

that we all know and understand

me and mind are different facets

of the same thing

and each can be used as the opposite of universe

the elimination round:

do i carry the universe in my mind?

does the universe contain my mind?

am i part of the universe?

is the universe part of me?

is my mind greater than me?

or do I contain my mind?

it’s a tie!

the judges are unanimous

in not being able to decide

solipsism notwithstanding

i will start my examination of stuff

in three places

the stuff of me

the stuff of mind

the stuff of the universe

i hope this is acceptable

now please move along

there’s lots of stuff to do