

A POEM FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 1999

Always look in, before you look out
Try a whisper before you shout
Learn from the elders, teach the young
Hear the message, no matter what tongue

Offer your hand, don't stamp your feet
Present a smile to people you meet
Hear the wind, feel the rain
Touch the trees, it soothes the pain

Watch nature, our beautiful guide
Feel the spirit that's by our side
The spirit by our side, is the spirit within
The pureness, the oneness, the barrier from sin

A different name, a different face
A different language, a different place
There seems a great difference, but we're all the same
We breathe the same air, we feel the same pain

Always look in, before you look out
Try a prayer, before you shout

By Richard Walley