Dear Sir

Enclosed are some items which I hope you might consider for "Overland" - three poems, an essay on Joyce and a short "Guide to Semiotic Clarity." You may be interested to know that this last piece was written by a computer. I have a computer programme which randomly shuffles words around to turn out endless reams of Semiotic jargon - of which this is a small sample. (It also turns out pseudo-Shakespearean blank verse, obscure Japanese haikus and various other literary "products").

Would you be interested in a short article on this? A lot of your readers must have computers, and those who don't might be interested to see how computers can now mime human thought by turning out poetry and prose - of a kind. If you wanted, I could put together an article on this, describing (in English, not computer jargon) how the programme operates, and giving a few examples of what it turns out.

Let me know if you think this is worthwhile.
Yours sincerely

Peter McConnell

(Peter McConnell).

P.S. A stamped, addressed envelope is included.

John, This bloke sounds v. bright, and the type who too easily invites facile dismissal. There may be something here. This a quick reading of the poems shows an uncritical fondness for habitual phrases: 'glittering eye', 'scarce joy', 'incredulous galleas', 'patronised beard' - as if you of reading pulp novels had succeeded a native wit & intelligence. Haven't read other than the poems. Do you think he deserves a letter?

Barrie

Tell him we've accepted his poem (At the Mic)