Calendar Activities

National Poetry Day



This year's National Poetry Day will take place on Thursday 1st October 2020. National Poetry Day is a UK-wide celebration of poetry taking place every October. Each year there's a different theme and this year's theme is vision. Use these resources around poetry and vision to stimulate discussion and activity with your residents.

"Poetry is emotion put into measure. The emotion must come by nature, but the measure can be acquired by art."
— Thomas Hardy

Activity Ideas

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

William's Wordsworth's famous 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' poem is one of the UK's most beloved poems. Do a reading of this poem, and ask your residents to do a reading too. You can ask them what their favourite poems are, then look them up.

Haiku

Haikus typically have three lines that follow a five-/seven-/five-syllable format. Have residents think of words about themselves and then write a haiku. Traditional haiku's contain a kigo, or a word that hints at the season. Challenge your participants to come up with words that provide clues to the season in which a poem takes place.

Discuss with your residents how your care home can mark National Poetry Day.

Memorial, Healing and Hope

Enjoy our pamphlet of poetry created by care home residents as part of our Memorial, Healing and Hope project.

Useful Links

https://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/

"The official website for National Poetry Day. This contains information on events, poems, and resources. There is a poetry toolkit for people who want to get involved and set up an event to mark the occasion.

https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/45521/i-wandered-lonely-as-a-cloud

This resource contains the text for William Wordsworth's famous poem 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud', and an audio button so it can be listened to.

https://www.poem-generator.org.uk/haiku/

Stuck on what to put in a haiku? Try out this haiku generator and see what weird and wonderful haiku's you can create.

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I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

By William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



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FAVOURITES

BY PENDLE BROOK

Foreword

Thank you to Pat, John, and Zena at Pendlebrook for taking part in our sessions. Thank you for Claire for facilitating, and a super thanks to Lytisha Tunbridge for teaching us all poetry.

This is part of our Arts Council funded project: Memorial, Healing, and Hope, recording this unique moment in time of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has provided opportunities for outside engagement, creativity, and improved wellbeing, when it has been needed most.

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ADVICE ON BLOWING UP TYRES

By Pat and John

Don’t use all your puff
to blow a tyre
Use a proper pump

If you do it yourself
as the tyre inflates
you’ll go as flat as a pancake

3.8.20

FAVOURITES

BY ZENA & PAT

There is a man cutting the grass outside
It smells like summer
You can feel it as soon as you go out

Fingers tipped with bright pink and pale blue
Pink to make the boys wink
Blue to reflect the sky too

We put on our make-up
And best dresses too
It was top to bottom
Before a big do

We like blues and yellows, reds and pinks
Bright, dusky, happy and navy hues

17.7.20





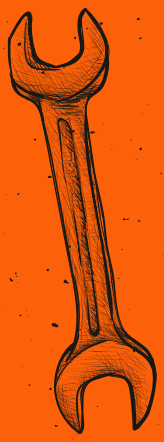


MAINTENANCE

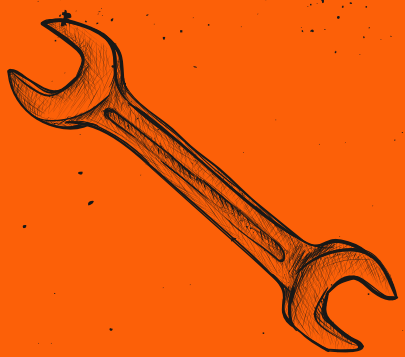
BY JOHN



If you've a vehicle
take it somewhere dry
Pull it all to bits
to grease and maintain it
Reassemble the parts
You'll have a vehicle
better than ever
and it will last and last



3.8.20





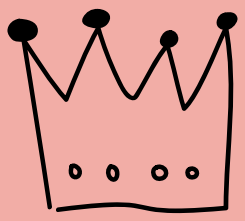


POETRY IN COMMOTION

/ BY PAT & JOHN /

In my great coat
down to my toes
from the top of my nose
up the Coppice we go

The sun is shining
all is well with the world
and in our pockets
Viennese swirls



Postcard to HM Queen Elizabeth

BY PAT & JOHN

Dear Queenie,

We hope you are keeping well.

Today we've been roaring like lions
whistling like birds
and wagging our tails behind us

Some of us were singing far, far away
In the next street
'cos our singing's so bad

We had a bop to Telegram Sam
And hope you like our card
that it's not returned to sender

Love from John and Pat

14.8.20

Tips for nervous guests

By John

If you are dreading going to a wedding
wear a top hat full of flour
Tip your hat at passing guests
and cover them in a shower

7.8.20



IF WE COULD FLY ANYWHERE

BY PAT & ZENA

If we could fly anywhere
we'd fly to the seaside
where we would sing songs
dance, and paddle in the sea

We'd swim if we had our costume on
and talk to different people
Share chocolates and fudge
have ice-creams -
strawberry or vanilla - for tea

We'd watach children play
on the sand, making castles
inventing games
Then have fish and chips
that taste the best by the sea

24.7.20



NATIONAL POETRY DAY 2020

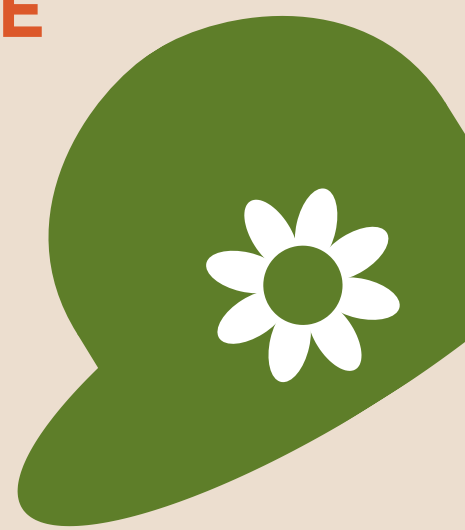
See It Like a Poet

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Get Ahead, Wear a Hat

BY FALCON HOUSE













Foreword

Thank you to Joan & Barbara at Falcon House Care Home for taking part in our sessions. Thank you for Sue for facilitating, and a super thanks to Lytisha Tunbridge for teaching us all poetry.

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I'd like to be ...

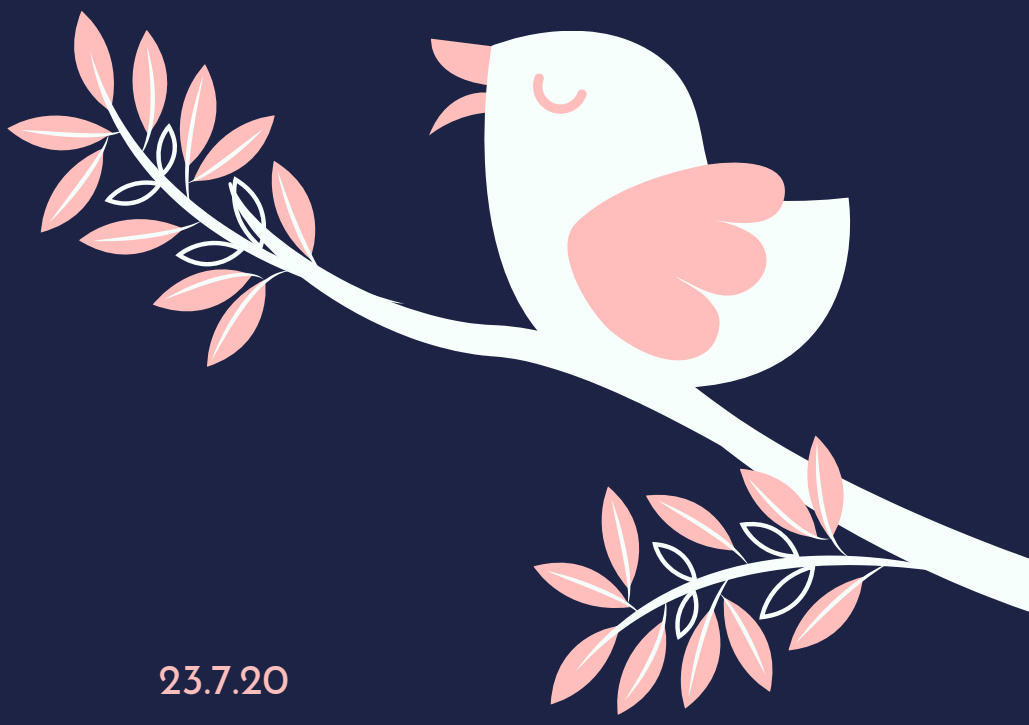
BY JOAN AND BARBARA

I'd like to be a swallow
Gliding high in the sky

I'd like to be a swan
Elegant, unruffled

I wouldn't be a chicken
Someone would have you for tea

And it's just hard luck if you're a pig!



23.7.20

HOLD AN APPLE IN YOUR HAND

By Joan and Barbara

It wants to be eaten
It sits firmly in your hand
Not squishy

You wouldn't want a garden
Without an apple tree

Wrap them in pastry
Or slice them up
Versatile fruit and tasty

And lovely apple blossoms

16.7.20

Get Ahead, Wear a Hat

BY BARBARA AND JOAN

A man in a hat gets the respect
that a man in a cap
doesn't

Whether he's wearing a camel hair coat
a reefer or a macintosh
so long as it's not too long
and not too short
and he doesn't look like
he's squashed into something
that isn't really him
He needs a thing to top it off

You get more respect with a hat



6.8.20

SONG BIRDS

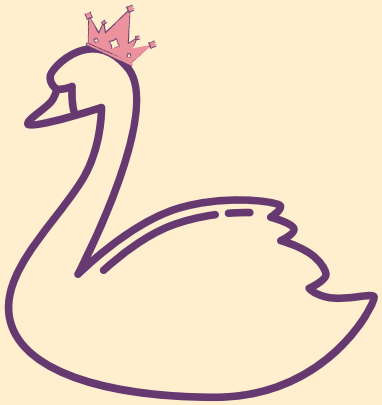
BY BARBARA AND JOAN

They sing so beautifully
That people stop and listen

I wonder if they know more tunes
If they remember what they heard

Or if they know them naturally
They sing so beautifully

23.7.20



Swans

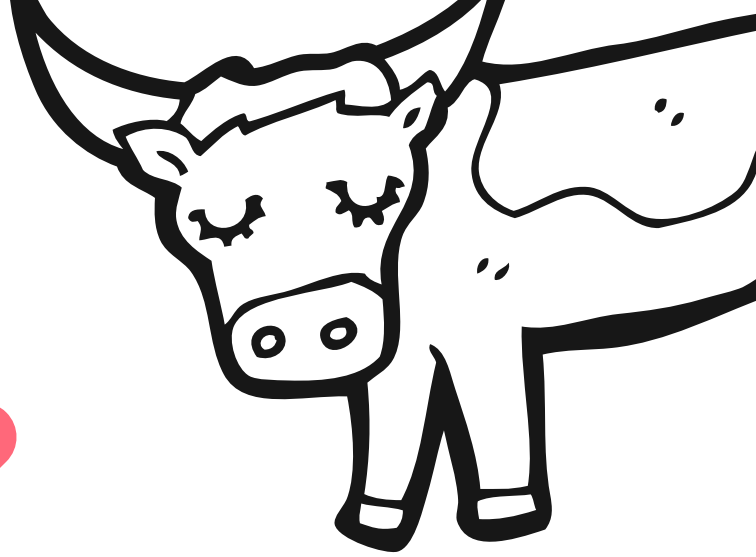
BY JOAN AND BARBARA

They glide elegantly
no trouble to anybody
making no sound
Then land
Flutter, flutter, flutter
Tidily, looking pristine

I see them down by the river
Getting hold of each plume
And making it nice
It didn't matter how flustered they got
They always came out looking wonderful

3.8.20





TALKING OF ANIMALS

By Joan and Barbara

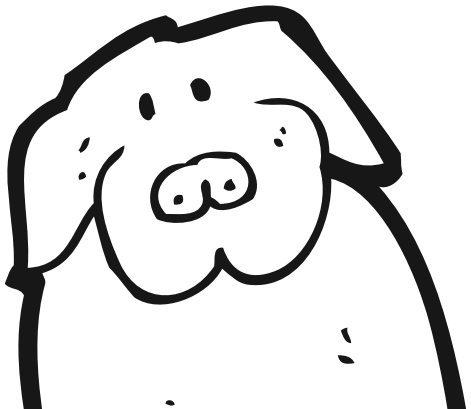
The mother had been naughty
She had a lot of pups
Messing with the farm dog
Who really was quite tough

The little cat went meowing
And met me at the door
followed me up the street
a bundle of whiskers and fur

The dolphins were all playing
Swimming as a school
Clicking like they were chewing sweets
Holes blowing like billy-o

13.8.20







TRAVELLING IN STYLE

By Barbara & Joan

They battled along quite quickly
Sitting in the side-car
With all the fumes low down
We got cold and wet right through

The boyfriend with the car
Made us feel quite posh
It looked great with the top down
We felt like Lady Muck!

30.7.20

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