



AWAKEN ONLINE

***The Online Newsletter of Anlaby, Willerby and Kirk Ella
U3A PRODUCED IN A TIME OF NATIONAL CRISIS!***

Number 7: July 2020

A Word from the Chair



Greetings to you all,

I hope that you and your families are all keeping fit and well. It has been a long time since we were all doing our normal routines. Will we ever get back to "normal"?

Have you all rushed out to book next year's holiday before they put the prices up or are you thinking about the end of the year and starting to do your shopping early? (I'm not allowed to mention Christmas). Mind you at the moment there is nothing else to look forward to. Once again there was not a lot of response to our story competition, which is a shame as I am sure there must be a lot of stories out there waiting to be told.

Trying to keep in touch with everyone is quite hard, so I hope that the ones of you that read the newsletters will pass the message on to other members new and old and let them know what we are trying to do.

I have been asked if there are any of you that would be willing to give a phone call to a stranger who cannot get out and are feeling lonely. If you think this is something you could do, please let me know.

Till next time take care and keep safe.

Sue

Note from the Editor

THANK YOU for all of your contributions for Issue 1,2,3 & 4, 5, 6 & 7 Please keep them coming for Issue 8!

Also Don't forget to keep checking the rest of the U3A website! For group updates etc.

Latest News/Events

Short Story competition

Again, not many entries but here is the winner, a tearjerker from Dave Bodecott

Danny's Story

The first time I saw Danny he was standing outside the building Site with his face pressed up against the chain link fence.

As I passed by he shouted "Mister can I have a job?" I walked over to him and saw he was Downs Syndrome.

I guessed his age to be around 30 but with the face of a child. I said "come on round to the front gate" We entered our compound and I showed him our Dining Hut, "can you mash tea for 12 men and run errands to the shop AND keep the cabin tidy" He said he could, so I said "right you have got the job but we can't pay you much"

"It doesn't matter about the money" he said "I just want to feel useful"

The very next morning we picked him up at the corner of his street in our mini bus and took him on site. After showing him where everything was, we kitted him out with safety boots, Hi-Viz jacket and hard hat with his name on and he set to work cleaning the cabin.

All went well for about a month, then I entered the cabin one lunch time and Danny was looking sad. I asked "what's the matter Danny" he replied "I wish I had a proper job like you lads" I said "Whoa, just a minute Danny" I turned to the men and said "If Danny hadn't made you drinks and gone to the shops for your sarnies and papers, would you go back to work this afternoon" No, chorused the men loudly "there you are then Danny, right now you are the most important person in this cabin, you are

keeping the site working" With a big smile on his face he stood up grabbed the teapot and said "who wants more tea?" We never heard him complain again.

Two months after the incident on the Monday morning we arrived at Danny's street corner as usual but there was no sign of Danny. Instead his mother stood there, I got out of the minibus and asked where Danny was.

She looked at me tearfully and said "Danny won't be coming anymore, on Saturday night he gave me a big hug and told me the last three months had been the happiest of his life, then he went to bed and died in his sleep"

We went to work but there wasn't much work done that day.

Two weeks later we all went to Danny's funeral, on his coffin was his safety boots, jacket and the hard hat with his name on it which he had been so proud to wear.

We hadn't known him long but we would never forget Danny.

Record Breakers

A new idea from Dave Bodecott, what records (Discs) would YOU like to smash, never to be seen again?

Any more to add please email Steve Roberts for entry in the next newsletter

Following Dave's list of records to break in issue 6, here are some more recommendations

Agadoo

Hey Macarana

Superman

Birdie Song

And any others with a stupid dance!

Interest Group News

Craft Group

Hope our group members are able to get out a little.

If anyone is wanting a mask, please contact me as I have some spares.

Perhaps we will need a "sale of works" by the end of lockdown.

Contact me if you are running out of supplies.

Brenda Stapleton

Another lap quilt completed out of my scrap drawer





Blankets produced by Jan Thomas for the Cats protection League

More craft output from Jan



Digital Photography

Both Stewart & Peter have looked into starting the group again with a local trip out involving two groups of only 6 people however the Risk Assessment form provided by U3A is not in a suitable format for emailing this coupled with finding a suitable location has put commencement on hold for the time being.



The garden now Summer is supposedly here!

The travels of a slug on Ann Burt's bathroom window!



Local History

Local History Group – Monthly Meeting, 16th July is on!

I am pleased to say that the monthly meeting of our group scheduled for 16th of July is going ahead, albeit on Zoom. Paul Schofield has agreed to give his talk about the 'History of Beverley' at 2 p.m. on the above date. Full details of how to join the meeting can be obtained by contacting me at francisvdavies.live.co.uk from Saturday 11th July onwards. The meeting is restricted to AWAKE U3A members and *bona fide* guests.

If you don't have Zoom then it can be downloaded by typing Zoom into your web browser and following the various links and instructions.

In the meantime, please do take a look at the Local History page on the AWAKE U3A website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/awake/page/22001> where you will find all the latest information and a growing number of articles on the local history of our area.

Francis

NatureWatch

Nature group still suspended until further notice.

Mark & Celia



Big Bash II

On the 1st July a second Ukulele Big Bash brought together our three U3A Ukulele groups – Barely Awake, Sunshine Strummers and the Beginners on the Zoom Platform. As this was International Joke Day the theme of the event was 'Songs That Make You Smile,' as well as giving Steve the opportunity to bring out jokes old and new.

Thirty musicians strummed their stuff and played songs including Oba Di Oba da, I'm the King of the Swingers, You Are My Sunshine, Oh Boy, Bring Me Sunshine, Running Bear, Waltzing Matilda and Messing About on the River.

The afternoon certainly gave us plenty of laughs and a great sing-along. We even managed a Mexican Wave on Zoom.

'Rock and Roll' is the theme for our next Big Bash in early August, so look out for ukulele players in Blue Suede Shoes!!



Garry & Hazel Hughes

The Sunshine Strummers

The sunshine Strummers Ukulele Group continue to strum enthusiastically on a weekly basis via the Zoom platform. Every Monday session has a different theme and members chose songs both old and new to play. Recent themes have included – Flowers, Transport (Trains and Boats and Planes), Music from the Movies and even Rivers, Seas and Oceans.

Finger picking has also been another new skill explored during lockdown with pieces played including Fre Jaques, Twinkle Little Star, Row, Row, Row Your Boat, I'm a Little teapot and You are My Sunshine.

Despite its limitations, Zoom has been a real asset in enabling the group to keep playing together and also to meet socially on a weekly basis. We have now completed 15 weekly sessions and members are keen to continue until we can come together as a group in person once again.



Quiz Time, Folks, First of all, the answers from Issue 6

A Rare, Rollicking Quiz from David Newman

R is the Answer

We all know that it is crucial to stay safe and look after the 'R'. Here, R=1, as the first letter of every answer is R!

1. What word represents the letter R in the NATO Phonetic Alphabet?
2. Who was the 40th President of the USA?
3. Which pop/rock music TV programme was broadcast by ITV on Friday evenings from 1963 to 1966?
4. What is the capital of Latvia?
5. Which singing cowboy was born Leonard Franklin Slye?
6. Where would you have seen Zippy, George and Bungle from 1972 to 1992?
7. Which 2019 musical film told the story of Elton John's breakthrough years?
8. Who painted 'The Night Watch'?
9. Who co-starred with Paul Newman in 'The Sting' and 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid'?
10. What was the title of Del Shannon's only UK number one single?
11. In which famous novel of 1719 did the title character say, "Had I the sense to return to Hull. I had been happy."?
12. Which fictional sportsman first appeared in The Tiger in 1954 before starring in his own comic?
13. In films, what were Robby, Gort and Marvin?
14. Who presented 'Points of View', 'Ask the Family' and 'Call my Bluff'?
15. In which group was Bryan Ferry the lead singer?

16. Who manufactured the two Eagle engines which powered Alcock and Brown's first flight across the Atlantic?
17. Who or what was rescued from a World War I battlefield and went on to appear in 27 Hollywood films?
18. Where did King John sign the Magna Carta?
19. Which Mutant Ninja Turtle wears a red eye mask?
20. In what story, filmed twice thirty years apart, did Jenny Agutter play a child then a mother?
21. Which fictional creature (Rangifer Tarandus species) was created in 1939 and gave Gene Autry a number one hit in the US?
22. In Norse mythology, what is the name for the cataclysmic destruction of the cosmos and everything in it?
23. Which American girl group had hits with 'Be my Baby', 'Baby I Love You' and 'Walking in the Rain'?
24. What is the former name of Yangon, the largest city in Myanmar, formerly Burma?
25. In English football (the top four divisions) what are the three teams in the 2019-2020 season whose names start with R?

Answers

1. Romeo
2. Ronald Reagan
3. Ready, Steady, Go!
4. Riga
5. Roy Rogers
6. Rainbow
7. Rocketman
8. Rembrandt
9. Robert Redford
10. Runaway
11. Robinson Crusoe

12. Roy Race (Roy of the Rovers)
13. Robots
14. Robert Robinson
15. Roxy Music
16. Rolls-Royce
17. Ron Tin Tin
18. Runnymede
19. Raphael
20. The Railway Children
21. Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer
22. Ragnarok
23. The Ronettes
24. Rangoon
25. Reading, Rotherham United and Rochdale

Holmes & Watson Poser No. 6

Hello Everybody again. Hope you're all keeping well. We realised the last 'poser' was a bit too easy so this one may need more use of your 'little grey cells' (sorry, that was Poirot!).

A Day at the Races

Their menfolk may all be banged up inside, but it doesn't stop the Willerby WAGS enjoying a day out. It's a trip to Beverley Races and the ladies are there decked out in their new finery. Barbara Black, Betty Brown, Gill Green and Wendy White have, keeping social-distancing, gone as a group of four friends. An Inspector from Humberside Police has kept a close eye on this group. She knows that each lady buys a new hat, new dress and new shoes for this outing and that the colours of the items are black, brown, green or white in colour. Each lady wears three different coloured items. No lady wears a colour that matches their surname. The Inspector has heard that Betty

bought a black hat and Gill had purchased white shoes for the racing trip.

A valuable cup vanishes on race day. Reports say that a lady in a green dress was seen leaving the tent where the trophies were stored. The Inspector was not on duty on the day of the races but she knew who she was going to bring in for questioning. Who was the lady in the green dress?

Answer

Hope you enjoyed your day at the races and spotted that the lady who wore a green dress and was suspected of the theft was Barbara Black.

A picture quiz for you around the Willerby area provided by Les McPhee



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20

Answers to the Willerby Picture Quiz

1. Willerby & Kirk Ella Institute – Main Street
2. Waitrose Supermarket – Willerby Shopping Park
3. Old Methodist Chapel School Hall, B1900 – Willerby Square
4. Willerby Heritage Sculpture – North Ella Roundabout
5. Willerby Manor Hotel – Well Lane
6. Memorial Plaque – Old TSB Wall, Main Street
7. Summit (Business) Centre Mercure Hotel – Grange Park Lane
8. Zachary's Ice Cream Parlour – Main Street
9. The Star Inn – Main Street
10. Willersley House Care Home – Main Street
11. Millennium Clock – Willerby Square Roundabout
12. Wolfreton School & Sixth Form College – Well Lane
13. Willerby Hall Mews – Main Street
14. Mercure Grange Park Hotel - Grange Park Lane
15. Willerby Methodist Church – Carr Lane
16. Binnington's Gardens & Old Residence – Main Street
17. Willerby War Memorial – Institute, Main Street
18. The Beeches Retirement Home – Main Street
19. The Hop Pole Inn – North Ella Roundabout
20. Old Methodist Chapel, B1850 & replaced 1897 – Willerby Square

Now for the new stuff

Each morning during 'lockdown' I have been going out for a walk, never straying more than about 2km from home. These are some of the places I have walked past. Can you identify each one? Answers in the next Newsletter. **Francis Davies**



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10

Roadmap Quiz (From David Newman)

The government is currently implementing a roadmap to ease us out of the lockdown. How many of the following questions about roads and maps (but mostly roads!) can you answer?

1. Which song begins "Trailers for sale or rent, rooms to let 50 cents"?
2. What is the UK speed limit when towing a caravan on a motorway?
3. Which iconic diagram was designed by Harry Beck in 1931?
4. Between 1940 and 1962, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour made seven "Road To" films. The 4th was "Road to Utopia", but the others had actual exotic destinations. How many can you name?
5. Where did Chris Rea's road go to in his 1989 song?
6. Where did Talking Heads' road go to in their 1985 song?
7. Where did George Orwell's road go to in his 1937 book?
8. What name is given to any mediaeval European map of the World?
9. Most of Manchester is encompassed by which motorway?
10. In which English county is Street, home to a Clark's Village shopping outlet?
11. Which one of the following countries drive on the left-hand side of the road - Cuba, Israel, Japan or Saudi Arabia?
12. Which series of novels by EF Benson were broadcast on BBC1 at Christmas 2014, and starred Miranda Richardson and Anna Chancellor as the two title characters?
13. Which two adjectives describe the road taken by The Beatles in their 1970 song?
14. Which Roman Road linked Exeter with Lincoln?
15. The Gravelly Hill Interchange is better known by what nickname?
16. Between which two cities does the Historic US Route 66 run?
17. Who illustrated the routes in his popular walking guides of Lake District Fells between 1955 and 1966?
18. What name was given to the ancient network of trade routes that connected the Eastern World and the West?
19. What is the longest motorway in the UK?
20. Which road on the boundary of Willerby and Anlaby links two English Civil War adversaries?

A Bird Quiz from Mike Noddings

'British Birds' Puzzle : one point for each

No.	Clue	No. of letters	Answer
1	Found on a chess board	4	
2	Invoice for an item of cutlery	9	
3	When a cat gets up	9	
4	Could mean a death sentence	8	
5	Small move left or right	6,4	
6	Brightly coloured tool	6,6	
7	Eating action	7	
8	Black and white dog shows pleasure	4,7	
9	Call 15 21 26 05 12	4,5	
10	Royal angler	10	
11	Shell seizer	13	
12	Difficult to undo	4	
13	Crimson bird with surprisingly no strings	3,4	
14	Watch out, low-flying mollusc	8	
15	Greedy person	6	
16	Shave William	9	
17	Hidden gunman does this	5	
18	Extra fowl	7	
19	A bit of fun in the air	7	
20	Street decorations for bookworms	4,7	
21	Angry Clinton or Gates	9	
22	Egg-born cashew	8	
23	Timber rooster	8	
24	Act of theft	5	
25	Polish part of a car	7	

Holmes & Watson Poser No. 7

Where To?

The hunt for criminal masterminds had always been a global mission. Look at the message below. How many countries have been investigated in this particular case, and what are they?

A person may linger many a time without arousing suspicion. Carrying out what seems like a normal task may not be normal at all. For example, a church I left yesterday has been a focus of suspicion for a long time. An institution such as a church in a strange way should be above suspicion.

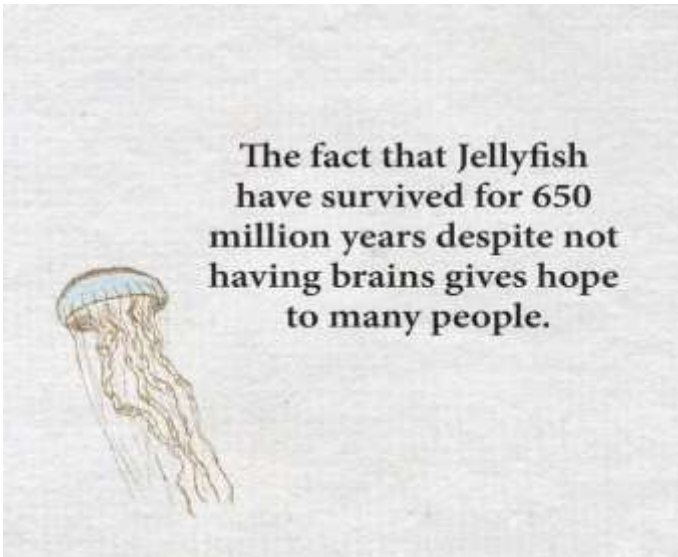
Looking at the trade in guns, a rifle ban on the other hand would be understandable. I can't believe I ran into a rifle dealer purely by accident. One similar gent in another part of the city wouldn't look suspicious. Perhaps it's all in the mind, I anticipate an arrest soon.


Your funny Articles & photos

Some contributions from Eric Brown



Trikini 2020.





IF you HAD
TO CHOOSE
BETWEEN DRINKING
WINE EVERYDAY
OR BEING SKINNY,
WOULD you CHOOSE
RED OR WHITE?



*I cannot
tell a lie.*

- George Washington



*I cannot
tell the
truth.*

- Richard Nixon



*I cannot
tell the
difference.*

- Donald Trump



"Here's looking at you, babe." As seen in a Kirk Ella garden!

My father died 12 years ago and when I cleared his bungalow in Settle I just shoved everything in the car and dumped it week by week in the shed and garden.

In lockdown, doing lots of gardening I came across these rusting away behind some bushes and tarted them up for you to pop in your U3A magazine.

Ian Jones

**Two articles one funny and one thought
provoking provided by Robert Keld**
**** FROM ROLLS-ROYCE
STAFF MAGAZINE ****

Sometimes it DOES take a Rocket Scientist!!

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners and military jets all travelling at maximum velocity.

The idea was to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains.

Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurtled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin like an arrow shot from a bow.

The horrified Yanks sent Rolls Royce the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

You're going to love this ...

Rolls Royce responded with a one-line memo:

"Defrost the chicken."

KEEPING THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

It's a mess out there now. Hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria. For a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I starts, and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war.

Smallpox was epidemic until you were in your 40's, as it killed 300 million people during your lifetime.

At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. From your birth, until you are 55 you dealt with the fear of Polio epidemics each summer. You experience friends and family contracting polio and being paralyzed and/or die.

At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. During the Cold War, you lived each day with the fear of nuclear annihilation. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, almost ended. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they endure all of that? When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85 year old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in

your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art. Refined and enlightening as time goes on. Let's try and keep things in perspective. Your parents and/or grandparents were called to endure all of the above – you are called to stay home and sit on your couch.

The Plague of 1666

Nothing new under the sun. Social distancing, quarantine & no touching. Many members will know the story of Eyam. This is a recent piece of work I did for my zooming drama class and am happy to share. The lad is of the Hancock family. Mother buried the entire family. The place is marked and known as The Riley Graves.

Regards, Roger Coates

Appendix . **Eyam**(pron. eem) is the Derbyshire village setting .**Stony** is Stony Middleton a nearby village. **Lode** is the ground location of a mineral to be mined. **Hope** is a nearby village. **Dirty Rake** is a real location I take for the mine and the track to it. **Galena** is the raw lead ore . **Gash** describes the narrow excavation that follows the seam from ground level till it becomes impossibly deep and dangerous or is mined out. Such locations are easy to see as you go by. The land is fenced as the waste rock is poisonous for ever.

Spoken by an unschooled young man in a N.Derbyshire/S. Yorkshire accent

NEAR HOPE 1665-66

Its still dark outside. My turn to mek fire. We have to be walking by five. I get a brew and mi fatha, he gets away. I tek a brew to mother and catch him up. The other two will catch up or lose money. We have an hour to walk to the lode at Dirty Rake. We've been working here a year now and its getting near limits. One of the old'ns were killed last week wi falling rocks. Fatha takes the track up through the woods. I go down into Stoney .Its longer but I can pass Ann's cottage and leave a little keep sake on't sill. I can't do me letters right so today its a little bunch of cow parsley and buttercups. Me and her are a sort of secret. She's 14 and very pretty. She has no mother and her fatha 's a carter so sometimes there' s a little sign on the sill to tell me he's away. I run up the steep hill by half moon and get there for time to meet

up with the lads and fatha , fill water bottles at t' stream, pick up tools and scramble down into the deep gash to knock out more galena and haul it up. We got to share a sheep last week before farmer saw .It had fell in.

It's goin dark as we the walk back. Fatha reminds me to pick up his best trousers being med right for me by mester Vicars. He's the journeyman tailor who's staying in the Syddal family cottage by the church as usual. He's come on here after Edale, Hope and Grindleford before he goes on to Carver then Bakewell. He gets round about every two years. I hear tell a roll of cloth came on the carrier last week from London. Fatha goes on into Riley wood for the path home, I go on to get the trousers.

Widow Syddal answers. The trousers are not ready ..There's cloth and clothes all over the parlour and a big fire up chimney back. Mester Vicars lad is trying to cut and stitch but he is all a tremble with the needle. I can hear Mester Vicars coughing up stairs . You think he's never going to find his next breath ever again. "Took to his room sweating and coughing an hour ago she said." I get off home and tell what I have seen. Fatha and mother look together and say nowt. I am teld not to go near again.

Thurs tea time. Mother tells me mester vicars is dead and his lad as near as. Its September1665 and the mornings are nitherin. The men are at work. No shouting and swearing and we all work on us own if we can. The Hadfield boys are not here today. I am very yitten cos Im thinkin they may be dead. That night I go back by Ann's house . Her fatha waves a stick at me and shouts to go away.

I don't usually go to church. Sundays I have to tend our bit of land.

Mr Monpesson the new vicar has telt we are to meet at Cuclet Delf on the edge of the village. To stand only with our own people in our own place. He stands up and calls to us all. He says we have the plague amongst us like London. That we must only meet our own families he says. Do not touch others. He has made arrangements with the gaffer at Chatsworth to have some food left at the edge of the village. If we have money we leave it in vinegar .This way with our bit from the holding we get by through the Winter. Mother writes down a letter for me to leave for Ann to say about it all with us. We are now half the gang but we have to get the same rock out. Spring clomes. Feels a bit better. Them as left keep working. We know there's been a lot dead. Our cottage is a bit out the village on Rileys land. We haven't spoke

to a soul for months. The dead are to be buried on their own land by their own hand. The vicar does his service in Cuclett delf every Sunday. He'll soon have more to remember than to talk to. I don't go. Fatha gives up working .He's 48 and getting too weak and worn out. In the summer I got to be with Ann twice with nobody knowing. Im dead yitten that somebody will find out . Aug 1st . Our Alice is tecken badly. Mother does what she can . Aug 3rd. She does not wake up. All covered in the sores she was. Mother gets her buried across the field before breakfast. Aug 7th Lizzie is taken, screamed herself to death. Me fatha same day. Just shuffled away and dropped outside. I keep looking for sores . Me and John do cooking as best we can while mother digs the graves. We have a life before us she says so she should do this job . John and me get sores, the cough and the sweats. He tecks to the bed .I can still do a bit. Aug 9th We hear as John coughs and screams to death. Late that night I can't breathe right. Mother comes in. She sooths me and talks about our family gone before all this who died of age. I want to hear more of what had gone before. She has never talked like this. I try to talk. "Mother,did your mother and fatha look after you and your brothers like you are doing for "

Mrs Hancock buried all her family near the cottage. Marked as The Riley Graves on O.S. map.

POETS CORNER

In the last edition we printed the winner of the Poem competition, here are the other entries

Locked down and locked out! (Chris Gibbs)

I looked in the mirror and thought what a sight!

It's time to start walking and loosing some weight!

Up the next morning, showered and dressed

Went out for a walk- not looking my best

Phone in my pocket, along with house key

Striding along, my heart full of glee.

Straight down the lane and then up the hill

Breathing fresh air and taking my fill

I arrived back home needing a wee

Put my hand in pocket to feel for my key

I remembered quite suddenly what I had done

I'd posted the key though the door of my home

Suddenly I thought I know what to do

My neighbours have my spare key, they'll get me through

I texted to see if they were awake

Told them my problem, admitted my mistake

They produced my key, then what did I do,

I let myself in and went to the loo!

Here is Dave Bodecott's entry

Here's a little ditty

I hope you find it witty

If it's not as good as I think

I have wasted paper & ink

This is the tale of my friend Jack

Had an affair behind his wife's back

He thought that she would never discover

That he had a secret lover

But she DID find out and was she vexed

You'll never guess what she did next

When he went to bed and fell asleep

Into the bedroom she did creep

She took a knife with a very sharp edge

And with it she cut off his meat & two veg

But I'm glad to say Jacks much improved

Since he had his manhood removed

Although bereft of all desire

He now sings top 'C' in a male voice Choir!

Groundhog Daze (David Newman)

I did the same things yesterday,
As I had the day before.
I've done them all again today
And now I can be sure,
That if this lockdown lasts and lasts
And the virus can't be beat,
Then the days and weeks and months will pass
Like a dream stuck on repeat.

Now three more from our Prolific Laureate, Sue McPhee

Am I Forgotten

Oh dear me when can I be free?
I do wonder if they have forgotten me.
I'm one of the vulnerable so I received a letter,
To stay in isolation until it was better.
Fourteen weeks I've been on my own,
The only person I've spoken to was on the phone.
My first thoughts were; Oh this will be fun!
I'm sure I'll be able to get my cleaning done.
Washed all the windows and the floor,
The dust won't dare settle there anymore.
Cleaned all the curtains and the rugs,
Surely I've now got rid of the bugs.
Thought this is the time I can have a good read,
But I've read the books now, no more to receive...
Three thousand piece jigsaw I have done,
So sorry, I haven't got another one.
Wake each morning same time, as you do,
Lay thinking what day is it? I haven't a clue!
I go through the ritual of a morning routine,
Doing the things where I've already been.
I switch on the kettle to make myself tea,
Too many of these makes you want to P.
I wonder what the excitement will be today?

A delivery man with my shopping will be on his way.
He gives me the shopping and asks if I'm OK,
Then gives me a wave and he's on his way...
The excitement is over unless there's a phone call,
From a friend who goes out, she'll tell me it all.
There's not much on telly the programmes are naff.
I think I will go and have a soak in the bath.
Well another day's over and nearer the time,
When it arrives, I'll celebrate with a vodka and lime.
So please Mr Johnson let me know soon,
It's a very long time to be stuck in the same room.

The Waiting Game

Waiting for the time to come,
When this horrible virus is over and done.
Group leaders are chomping at the bit,
To get things started not able to sit.
Steve manages the ukes from his own front room,
That's fine if you can get on zoom.
The singing group has plenty of folk,
By the time it begins it will be folk who croak.
Brenda is busy giving her group tasks,
At the moment the tasks are making face masks.
Jackie has games you can play at home,
But there's no fun playing on your own.
Denise loves to paint in her own little garret,
She likes her nice group it's not quite so quiet.
Joan's baking her puddings and cakes very nice,
But bakes too many and they end up in ice.
Alan and Pat's groups don't mind where they meet,
So long as they have a glass and a seat.
Adrienne when dancing is light on her feet,
She's practicing her cha-cha for when we next meet.
Steve will be playing the old ping pong,
His ping is weak but his pong is quite strong. (Sorry Steve I don't mean it)
Dave and David's bowling is never complete,
Without bacon and egg sandwiches, oh! what a treat.
The walking groups maybe the first to meet,

It's easier to distance on your feet,
Sorry, about the groups I have missed,
I sure you agree it is quite a long list.
Let's hope we will see one another, before too long,
And get back to meeting at the groups we belong.

What a strange world

It's a very strange world since last we met,
If asked to place one, you would have lost your bet.
Small children going back to the schools,
Nobody seems to know the right rules.
Open up all stores and shops they say,
To help the economy on it's way.
Let's hope it does not undo the good,
Of which the last ten weeks of lockdown should.
The shops are ready for the fray,
Lines and arrows will show the way.
You ladies would like to buy some clothes,
Sorry, there's nowhere to go for you to wear those!
Men can't wait to get down to the pub,
To have some pints and a bit of pub grub.
Now we can see our friends in their gardens,
Pay a visit with no excuse or pardons.
Keeping your distance and wearing a mask,
Don't forget to take biscuits and a flask.
Football games played in silence, no noise,
No one there shouting. "Come on you boys".
Snooker is played in the quiet, no queues,
Only the sound of the potting with cues.
Hairstyles have changed in these last few weeks,
Hoping we soon can have these tweaks.
Cutting and curling, let the stylist have fun,
Won't we be pleased to have these treats done!
More things will happen as the weeks go by,
We'll wait for the rules and give them a try.
Keep doing the things that you know you should,
Hopefully soon we'll be out of the wood.

Final Thoughts from the Editor

If 666 is considered evil, is 25,8069 the root of all evil

As if 2020 couldn't get any worse, A thief has removed all of the road signs in West Yorkshire, Police are currently looking for Leeds

A truckload of Vick's vapour rub overturned on the M62 recently, amazingly there was no congestion for 8 hours

My grandma used to say an apple a day keeps the doctor away
I wonder if it is true or yet another one of Grannies Myths

Did you know Yul Brynner was a lifelong Liverpool supporter and never wore after shave.
That's right Yul never wore Cologne

That's All for now Folks see you soon with No. 8!