

Lockdown News 22d May

Hello again. More Lockdown News - when I started these I thought it might be for 4-6 weeks, and here I am on edition 9. Hopefully you are enjoying them and those members who have contributed and I really appreciate it when we receive feedback from you, all of which has been positive. Thank you.

I've mentioned before that your Committee is continuing to work behind the scenes, looking forward to when we can walk and socialise together again. But your Officers are also busy and I thought I would mention briefly some of what is going on.

The Surrey Area Walk Leader training course in April had to be cancelled and it is uncertain whether the one due in August will be able to take place. So the trainers, including 3 ESW members (John N, Tony P and Brian S) are planning to run a virtual course using Zoom on map reading and navigation skills. Initially this will be offered to those who had booked on the 2 Area courses but, if successful, it is hoped to roll out the course to other Ramblers members in July.

Barbara B who organises our workparty Ken's Krew, continues to liaise closely with the Surrey County Council Highways team so that when lockdown is lifted, the Krew will have tasks ready for them and they can jump quickly back in to the harness, improving our paths for the benefit of all of us as well as the wider members of the public.

Enough of that, on to the enjoyable talents of our members and some people they know. All three poems are worth reading, two to make you think and one to make you laugh.

We are including photos of our contributors this week so that you all know who is involved. Below is a photo of Barbara B



You have previously enjoyed a poem submitted by Sarah D, and you may or may not know that she is involved with the Limpsfield Community Orchard which two of our members set up several years ago and quite a few of us belong to. In honour of the Orchard, she has written the attached poem 'Great Expectations'. This is best viewed in the Word version created by Sarah, as this includes some lovely illustrations, but as not everyone can access this I have included the original version as a pdf.

https://mcusercontent.com/00a92096854c948310c30388d/files/610ce345-0433-46d4-bae6-5b615cc5bfce/Great_Expectation_poem_in_pdf_2_.pdf

Great Expectations

In 1860, Charles Dickens wrote about 'Pip',
Not just an apple seed, but the subject of 'Great Expectations'

Back in 1666, there was a plague pandemic,
Isaac Newton, then an unknown academic,
Watched apples fall from a tree.
With understanding and thought, he named it 'gravity.'
This was a principle with 'Great Expectations'.

In 1620 the Pilgrim fathers left Britain, for Boston they were bound.
They took apple pips and grain, to sew into the ground.
Johnny Chapman grew apple orchards for display,
In his memory they created 'Appleseed Day'.
He was a man with a vision and 'Great Expectations'.

In 1920 John J Fitzgerald wrote about the city of New York.
His commentaries of sport became popular talk.
Apartment blocks reach tall for the sky,
Residents take coffee, doughnuts and rich apple pie!
'The Big Apple' city nurtures 'Great Expectations'!

In 1984 Steve Jobs released the first Apple Mac
A portable computer to keep business on track!
No more faded type writer letters or forms,
Personally printed documents became the norm.
This technology created 'Great Aspirations'.

2007 brought the first Apple iPhone
Yet another gadget to buy and take home!
Phone, diary camera and so much more
This device was for sale in every store.
An all purpose phone with 'Great Applications'.

In 2007 Tim Cook invented 'Applepay'
No more coins or notes in our pockets to weigh!
Just set it up! Touch your phone on the pad!
It is quick, more secure...that can't be so bad?
This is a concept with 'Great Expectations.'

Be it fruit, crumble, cider, scrumpy or pies
Be it physics, cities, techies, devices or smiles!
So many Great Expectations by apples were inspired.

By Sarah Darby
May 2020



Next up we have a poem written by Rob, the son of our member Rosie B:

Covid-19, never previously seen
Has changed our world order; in the extreme.
Lock-down, stand down, everyone dismiss.
This killer's contagious, too deadly to miss.

Self-isolate, stay at home, resist and obey.
Recharge and reflect, have faith and pray.
For nature has a way of healing each day
With help from mankind, restore it we may.

It's time to heal and renew; no compromise.
Embrace the opportunity and open our eyes.
Take a look at our world and prioritise.
Protect our planet and also save lives.

We must all act together to rid this disease.
Stop polluting our oceans and far away seas.
Reverse global warming, save rainforest trees
Go carbon neutral; allow the ice cap to freeze.

Eat what we need, don't promote waste.
Bulk buying is greed and extremely poor taste.
Think of others instead who are worse off.
Take the chance to help or sit back and scoff.

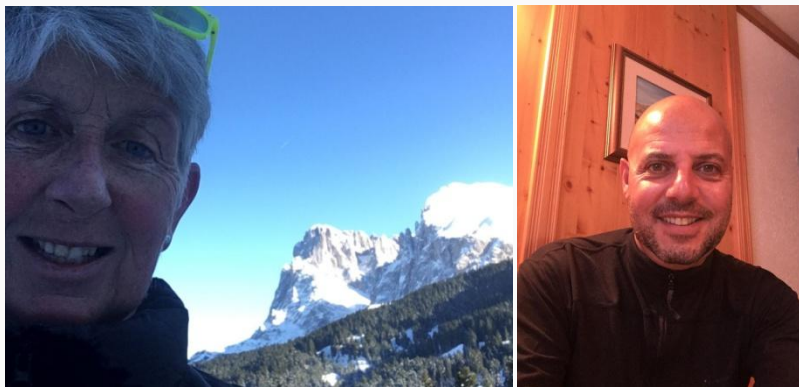
Don't litter the street, the ditch or the verge.
Stop fly-tipping. It's foul. Banish this scourge.
It soils our landscape and blights our terrain.
Take responsibility instead, be more humane.

The disease, it is said, goes straight for the heart.
It's what we must show to make a fresh start.
So much to change but survival comes first.
Once it's achieved and we're no longer cursed....

We can look forward with hope and embrace life once more
Making up for the time we felt so unsure.
Not forgetting sacrifices made by many a medic
Who risked so much in defying this pandemic.

Nature is healing and so must we.
As we seek balance, improved harmony.
Changes will come but what will they be?
Conservation I hope with a capital C!

Consideration too as well as Compassion
Let's not forget Care that should be in fashion.
The moment has arrived like never before
For Mother Nature and humans to completely restore.



photos of Rosie and son Rob above.

And finally, be prepared to recognise yourself or your husband in the following offering, coming courtesy of (but not by) our Membership Secretary, Pauline Guy:

I wandered lonely as a cloud
Two metres from the madding crowd
When all at once my name was called
To enter Waitrose hallowed hall.

This was the pensioners' special hour
I'd gone to get a bag of flour
But I forgot, when through the door
What I had gone to Waitrose for.

The Waitrose staff are extra kind
I told them it had slipped my mind.
They asked what else I had forgot
They clearly thought I'd lost the plot

I phoned my wife again to ask
She reminded me of this key task
"I need some flour to bake a cake
With all those eggs you made me take"

"Yes I recall" I had to lie.
I dared not ask what flower to buy
But then I saw them next the tills
A bunch of golden daffodils!

Anon.

Keep safe
Judy Brua - Chair



