

'Coronavirus Times'



'Nursery Rhymes Revisited'

Little Miss Muffet sat on her Tuffet
Watching Humpty Dumpty
She thought to herself, I'll have some fun
Perhaps a bit of Rumpy Pumpy

But Jack and Jill were already at it
Even though they didn't oughta
They only wanted to go up the hill
To get some bleeding water

The cow got so excited
He jumped right over the moon
Why he did it, I don't know
We'll get to the answer soon....

These 3 verses were by Terry Bickell. Now he's set a challenge – can you make a poem of your own using as many Nursery Rhyme characters and their stories ...?

Please send your 'masterpieces' to Whitehousepoets@yahoo.com
Remember - if you want us to publish them in a future issue – they will have to be no more than 'cheeky' – you know what we mean!!!

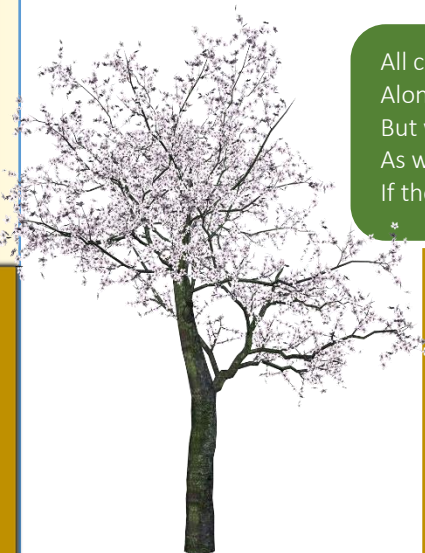
Happy Rhyming!!

AFTER A NICE RESPONSE TO OUR FIRST ISSUE OF 'CORONAVIRUS TIMES' IT SEEMS WE MAY HAVE WIDER APPEAL THAN OUR POETRY CIRCLE – SO LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO THIS TIME...

Shy poets please note...

Benjamin Franklin
'Hide not your talents. They for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade?

Jean-Paul Sartre.
"If you're lonely when you're alone,
You're in bad company."

Spring Cleaning

Oh no! – Is it that time again
When I have to deep clean all my house
Take down the curtains,
Clear out the cupboards,
Check I'm not subletting a mouse!

Turn over the mattresses,
Wash all the paintwork,
Clean the carpets and polish the brass,
Banish the cobwebs,
Change cushion covers,
Wash everything made of glass.

Step ladder, I'll have to scale
To remove dust from the picture rail.
Re-polish all the carpet less floors,
Leave smear less the windows,
Clean TV screen 'til it glows,
And remove all the grot from my drawers.

Spring cleaning's such a big task
Time consuming and boring,
To hell with it! It's not my thing!
This year I'll not do it,
I'll sit and write poems about Spring!
Violet Charlton

All closed are the restaurants and pubs,
Along with our working men's clubs,
But we'll see this thing through,
As we Brits always do,
If the nurses get their face masks and scrubs



Laurie Lee – 'April Rise'
If ever I saw blessing in the air
I see it now in this still early day
Where lemon-green the vaporous morning drips
Wet sunlight on the powder of my eye...
Look it up & find 4 more verses as lovely as this...

Shall we celebrate National Poetry Day?

Thursday 1st October 2020
This year's theme is 'Vision'
Start your poems now...



Ideas welcome for an event at the White House?

What is a Limerick?

What is a limerick, mother?
It's a form of verse, said brother
In which line one and two
Rhyme with five when it's through
And three and four rhyme with each other.

Here are two good examples:

There was a black cab driver named Fred
Who found it hard to get out of his bed
He dreamt of the day
When all day he could lay
And let his wife do the driving instead.

I've a neighbour a nice bloke named Clive
Who has a garden that's covered in chives
He also grows onions
That he rubs on his bunions
And has bees that he keeps in three hives.

***So as you see a Limerick is a 5 line 'nonsense'
poem - usually 'poking' fun at the subject...***

Try filling in these blanks:

I once knew a girl named _____
Who always _____
She would _____
One _____ like her _____
And _____

***Now you know the 5 line rhyming sequence - try
writing Limericks about your family.***

Please don't insult just be gentle and amusing!

Can't promises prizes but if you
would like to send in your Limericks
for sharing – I'm sure we will have a
space for a few in later newsletters.

Send with full name (and age if a
child) to:

whitehousepoets@yahoo.com

'Another Plea'

This Virus doesn't discriminate
As by now I'm sure you know
Prince Charles, now Boris Johnson
Have both been dealt an evil blow

We've seen rough sleepers die
Mum's and Dads, children too it seems
Are not immune from the Corona Virus
And our wonderful NHS teams

Tending for our loved ones
Without thinking of themselves
Some still having no protection
As PPE lies still on shelves

Top Doctors, Surgeons, Nurses
Have all succumbed to this dreadful thing
Now we hope and pray for our Prime Minister
And what the future will now bring

We've been warned and told to stay indoors
Exercise with care
But people are blatantly having picnics
Is this really fair?

These people they don't worry
It won't happen to them they think
But common sense should prevail at last
As many lives are on the brink

If a gunman went on the rampage
Those same people, would they stay?
Watching while he shot those near
Or would they run away?

Exactly, stop and think awhile
It's not just you and yours
It's everyone you meet and greet
So please, just stay indoors.

...
Terry Bickell



