

LOCKDOWN POEM/PROSE

At first there was fear,
fear for ourselves,
fear for our families and friends
Then came the sense of loss,
We could not see our friends
We could not see our families
We could not go to our clubs and groups
We could not go to our churches
Then came isolation
The lonely dreary days spent between bedroom and living rooms
The only change was taking the rubbish down!
Then came the realisation of using the web
The downloading of 'Zoom'
Using Facebook messenger to see our families
And zoom meetings to contact our groups and church
The WhatsApp groups we set up where we live and My Choir
The You Tube services and watching the weekly musicals
The online quizzes and talks
The innovations that we are now using to keep in touch
The planning of each day to fill the hours
The carrying on of contact in groups outside of home by emails and letters
Trying to find delivery slots for shopping
Then being granted a priority pass as I am disabled and vulnerable!
The support from community groups
Getting a 'vulnerable' box of foodstuffs!
Being offered a free roast dinner!
Every day I pray that God will help me through that day
and I pray for all that I know who are ill or suffering
The sadness of all that have lost their lives
Every day we hear of someone well known that has died
Every day we hear of someone we know
or know their families that has succumbed to this terrible disease
Sad days when it feels like you cannot go forward
Then the realisation that you are doing just that!
That you have so much to live for
That you WILL go back to doing what you did before

It may change in the way we do it
But we will start living again as we did
We WILL go back to our groups and our social life
To organising the resident's admin and the social committee
To enjoying our games nights, film nights, social events
To going away with friends,
to looking forward to the residents Turkey and Tinsel break
I write down what I want to do each day
I keep doing the Craft and Art on those days I would have done them, and others!
I do the 'Move it or lose it' online exercise instead of the weekly DVD class.
I look forward to sharing a quiz with my daughter on a Saturday night
I look forward to my church services and zoom chats and services on a Sunday morning.
I set myself 'projects', from sewing a tapestry to watching a set of DVDs or series on Netflix or Amazon
To looking forward to watching Outlander on a Monday on Amazon Prime!
To setting a weekly goal of listening to a musical soundtrack with my daughter
I videocall my youngest daughter and her baby son every day
I miss them terribly and want nothing more than to hug them and hold them tight
We put bunting out and sand @we'll meet again' on V.E Day
The pride we felt on that day for all that had lost their lives
For all that had come through and our memories of our relations
We all had our own 'Cream Teas with a drink and shared our photos WhatsApp
To sitting here and writing a poem of all that has happened
I know that it will still be a while before we are 'free' again
But each day is one day closer to that day
And with Gods help I will get through
WE will get through this.
Moving into this community was the best thing I ever did for myself
I WILL go back to all of that
I WILL go back to my Church and my friends
I WILL live my life again

by Mrs Patricia Dobson