

OUR PLACE

Poems by Pauline

OLD STOCK

**NEW
STOCK**

OUR PLACE

Empty damp shiny pavements

An old man walking with a newspaper in
his hands

Clouds darken the skies above

Raindrops pitter-patter

Sliding down the dusty window panes.

It's much cooler without the sun shining

The heating is back on now

Beans on toast for tea

Comfort food and cardies are back

With a shiver in the air.

Hailstones on May 1

Like plump grains of rice

Will the sun come again?

Ahh yes...a rainbow shines

A symbol of hope.

Weeks of lockdown now
For many in Our Place
A shrunken world
Made smaller and more intense
By an airborne foe we cannot see.

Hope is there and also fear
If you are old like me
You know the real heroes in Our Place
Ordinary folk like us
Who keep us safe and fed.

One day...maybe soon, this will pass
We don't know when or how
It's tough being inside and alone
Like so many of us are
Hark...the birds sing, bees buzz.

And the sun comes out
Postie hands you a parcel
You can go out...at last!
Face masks now to be worn
And life is still good...
In Our Place.

Lucky to be here
A bit fatter, no wiser
Happy to be in Our Place
Lucky indeed are We,
All of us in the ten boroughs
In Our Place.

THREE STEPS TO HEAVEN – IN OUR PLACE

There are only three steps to heaven
sang Eddie Cochran long ago
when we were young

We are now only
a few steps away
to having contact and touch

What are your 3 steps
to living again
in our post Covid world

A year since lockdown began
I have my own three
wishes and hopes

None of these on Zoom
or the phone
all face to face

Seeing my family
smiling with joy
and hugging them

Meeting my friends
for a coffee or a brew
dinner with a glass of wine

Chattering and smiling
no masks
seeing the smiles

Family and friends
are the threads running
seamlessly through our lives

Won't it be wonderful
to have back
those threads

Be with those we love
and our dearest friends
Again

As the crocuses sprout
and new life begins
hope springs
In Our Place

FREEDOM DAY - IN OUR PLACE

Monday 19th July
will you feel free
will you be frightened
to use the bus or tram
or visit the supermarket
on Freedom Day in Our Place?

Are you vulnerable
many of us are many of us have struggled
to stay safe during
the last 18 months with
3 waves of Covid in Our Place

Will you still wear a mask on
Freedom Day or Freedumb Day
what if you are pinged?
unlike those in Downing Street
who ignore the rule of 3 and do U turns
unlike ordinary folk in Our Place

Is freedom an illusion
Covid doesn't care does it
Me - I will be cautious
on July 19th and after
staying safe
In our Place