

## The Starling Opera by Sarah Connors (from a tale told by Babs)

Thing about a garden is, you'll never be lonely. There's always lots of company, even during lockdown. My dog and I spend a lot of time in the back garden and our favourite time is about 4pm. I call it the Soap Opera Hour.

First to enter the stage - the starlings. They peck around the lawn, hoovering up the stray seeds that have fallen from the bird feeders. Watching them from the roof of the garden shed, are the seagulls. They leave the little starlings some time to gather up the feast and then they swoop down and the starlings fly away. Watching higher up from the roof top of my house are the blackbirds. They wait until they outnumber the seagulls and launch themselves into the feast. The seagulls fly back to the shed roof and wait.

A few minutes later the blackbirds fly away and the starlings reappear from nowhere and continue with their supper. This goes on and on. Just like a Soap Opera.

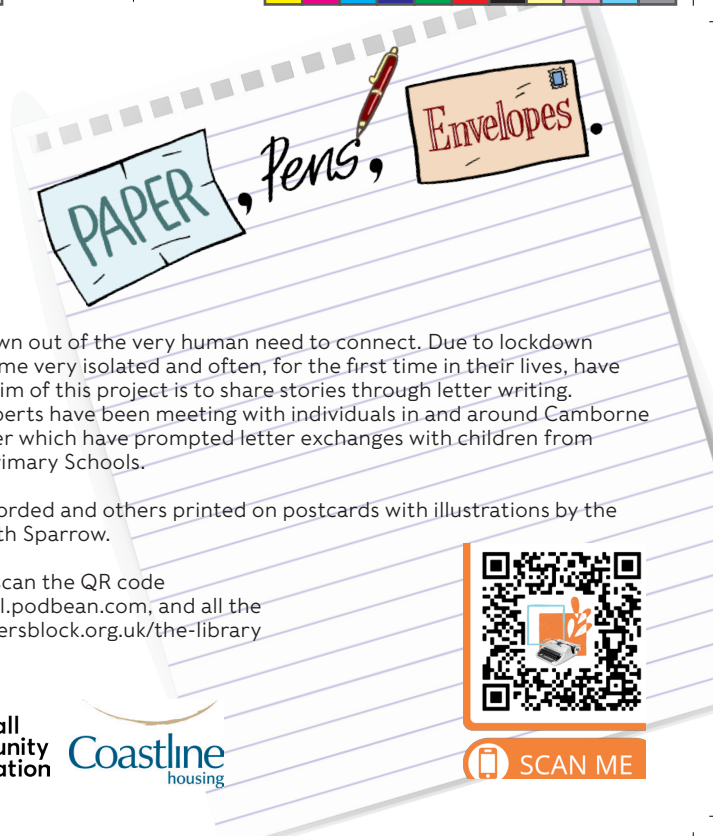
You're never lonely in a garden.

*Drawings by pupils at Trewirgie School*





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Paper Pen Envelopes or PPE has grown out of the very human need to connect. Due to lockdown restrictions, many people have become very isolated and often, for the first time in their lives, have experienced loneliness. The simple aim of this project is to share stories through letter writing. Writers Sarah Connors and Polly Roberts have been meeting with individuals in and around Camborne and Redruth, sharing tales and banter which have prompted letter exchanges with children from Trewirgie, Penponds and St John's Primary Schools.

Some of these stories have been recorded and others printed on postcards with illustrations by the children supported by illustrator Keith Sparrow.

To listen to the audio stories please scan the QR code or visit [www.thewritersblockcornwall.podbean.com](http://www.thewritersblockcornwall.podbean.com), and all the stories can be found at [www.thewritersblock.org.uk/the-library](http://www.thewritersblock.org.uk/the-library)

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