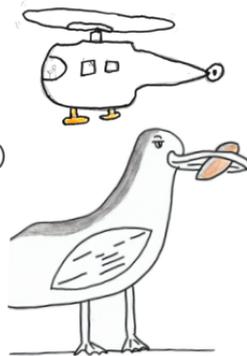
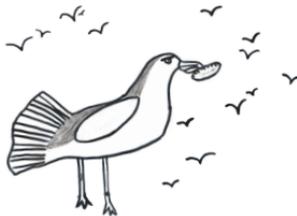


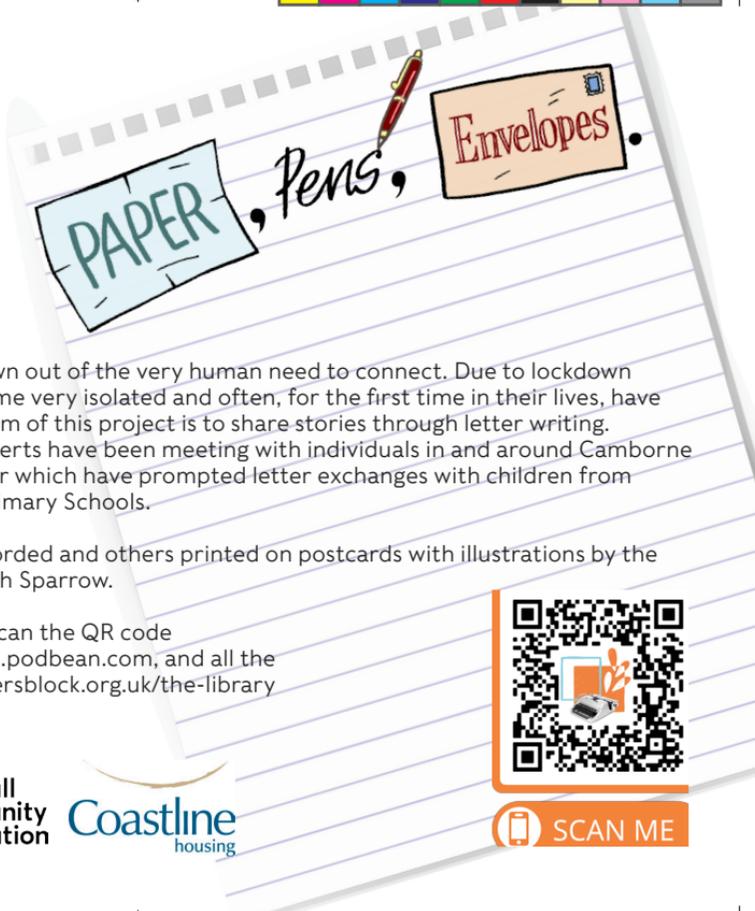
## Always Trust A Badge by Sarah Connors (from a tale told by John)

When I was fifteen, I left the Isles of Scilly to undertake an engineering apprenticeship. Back in the day, the council of the Islands used to produce a pamphlet for lads who were leaving the Scillies for the first time. I suppose today you might call it 'The Idiots Guide of How to Survive Penzance'. Anyways, the guide had a picture of a porter's badge, so you would know who to ask for help on the ship. Sure enough, the porter looked after me and handed me over to the railway guard at Penzance. He put me on a train to Redruth where I was to find my way to Tuckingmill.

When I arrived at Redruth, another guard asked to see my ticket. 'What ticket?' says I. He thought I was being funny so he called the police. When the policeman arrived, I showed him the pamphlet and nowhere did it mention that I had to pay for the train. He knew I was an innocent from the Islands who'd never seen a train, let alone been on one. He arranged for one of his officers to drive me to Tuckingmill. And that's how my journey in Cornwall began.

*Drawings by pupils at Penponds School*





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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