

Poetry Series

**Pauline Clifford**  
**- poems -**

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## Pauline Clifford(1953 - 2008)

Born in Bromley, Kent, England in 1953 moved to Crawley in Sussex and finally moved and settled in Derby in 1962. Married with 2 children, sadly passed away on the 22nd November 2008.

# Bang

Just when you think,  
That you are in control,  
Life throws you a banana skin,  
And chucks you in a hole,

I thought that things were sorted,  
That things were on the mend,  
Then BANG! ha ha, fooled you,  
And here we go again.

But I won't be defeated,  
I will rise above it all,  
And this time I'll remember,  
That pride comes before a fall

And as for my poor motor,  
Is it really the end?  
I hope it is, 'cause recently,  
It's driven me round the bend.

Pauline Clifford

# Carsington Warter

I have seen your waters rising from a brook to a vast lake,  
I have watched your dam constructed including the mistakes.

I have mourned the several workers, who died along the way,  
I have wondered at your tunnel bringing water day by day.

Now this stretch of water nestles between the hills,  
A huge liquid playground, a place of sport, relaxation and thrills.  
Wind surfing, sailing, fishing and canoeing,  
Cycling, a play area and seats for when there's nothing doing.

Wildlife and conservation are quite my favourite part,  
Birds began to visit right from the start.

Animals, fish and insects, plants, trees and flowers, Great sources of interest,  
hour after hour.

Bridle paths for riding horses,  
Students going round on courses.

Walking, rambling just sitting still, People doing whatever they will.

A Visitors Centre with shops and restaurant,  
A place for conference and education, the facilities go on and on.

A modern 'Stonehenge' sculpture has an island of its own; along the banks  
everywhere new trees are being grown.

The beauty of the vista changes by the hour,  
At times really scenic, at others really dour.

On still calm days the sun hangs in a clear blue sky,  
The water is a mirror; the grass is baked and dry.

Cold and wintry weather changes the view again,  
Grey clouds, grey water, white crested waves, snow, ice wind and rain.

And so this man-made beauty spot is the source of endless pleasure,  
Let's hope we got it right for once and appreciate this treasure.

Pauline Clifford

# Poppies

Across fields and gardens  
Poppies spread  
Blood red petals  
Bow their heads  
In sorrowful memory  
Of battle dead  
From countless wars  
Of hatred bred

Millions of petals,  
Millions of tears  
Millions of men,  
Thousands of years  
Oceans of blood,  
Hearts full of fear  
Legions of Poppies  
Where the lost  
disappeared

Once a year  
Wear your Poppy with  
pride  
Remember forever  
Those who have died  
Remember too  
The Statesmen who lied  
But mostly remember  
The women who cried

So when brilliant red  
petals  
Cover the floor  
Let them remind us  
Of the horror of war  
Let there be hope  
And an end to the gore  
Let's pray for peace  
And hostility no more



# Sunset

As the morning sky turns blue  
My first thoughts are all of you  
How I'll love you for the rest of my days

As I lay here by your side  
You are both my joy and pride  
As so comfortably, together we laze

And as the day passes quickly by  
I feel that I could cry  
And I know that you are happy too

For we two are as one  
Full of love and of fun  
We still share everything we think and do

Now the blueness starts to fade  
The Sunset is on it's way  
And the colours of the eve invade the sky

Even when we're old and grey  
I will love you night and day  
Ever more so as the years swiftly fly

For I know that you are here  
And you will dry my silly tears  
And always keep me safe from fear and from harm

I reach out and touch your face  
You're full of gentleness and grace  
I cannot wait to have you in my arms

As the sky now turns to fire  
` We are burning with desire  
And our emotions steal away all sense

Now the sky is flaming red  
Anticipation fills my head  
And our feelings are incredibly intense



As the sky changes hue  
I give heart and soul to you  
I give thanks to the good Lord up above

At the end of the day  
I will kneel and I'll pray  
That the sun never sets on our love  
May there be no sunset on our love  
May there be no sunset on our love

Pauline Clifford

# Sweet Object Of My Desire

Sweet object of my desire  
Only you can set my heart on fire  
Anything for you  
Is the least that I would do  
Please help me from this mess  
Let me feel your warm caress  
The feel of your warm touch  
Is what I crave so much  
The sight of your dear face  
Makes my pulse race  
When we commit that sin  
I taste the sweat upon your skin  
The sound of your gentle voice  
Makes you my only choice  
I smell the maleness of you  
Sweet and sensuous, intoxicating too  
The touch, the feel, the look, the sound, the taste and the smell  
Are all the things I know so very well  
So  
Sweet object of my desire  
Let me set your heart on fire

Pauline Clifford