

Twenga #9

The Inner Ring Road

20 March – 26 May 2019

#twenga is an annual renga
of 100 Verses on Twitter

Sabaki (Host Poet) – Paul Conneally
Sabaki (Host Poet) – Gavin Wade

Alison Raybould @jamray
Cathy Wade @cathy_wade
Paul Conneally @LittleOnion
Gavin Wade @eprjcts
Patrick Goodall @artpickdarkpot
Sid Sidowski @sidowski
Tina Francis @tinafrancis15
Russ Ralph @russralph1
Paula Turner @random_fate
Chloe Jones @cloeslothjones
Adrian Moule @adrianmoule
Zara Worth @zaraworth

#1

bright coloured kites
we open the windows
and breathe in deeply

#2

sheets and birdsong
fresh from the line

#3

folding back sepals
the cherry plum reveals
it's not blackthorn

#4

we fashion boats
on the kitchen step

#5

the hands that do
dishes are as soft
as his face

#6

matching gloves and scarf
but he won't wear the hat

#7

on the stop over
in Tokyo we share
barbecued shell fish

#8

sweet bitter and salty
always leaving to remain

#9

just the sound
of my night sweats
and the air conditioning

#10

we spend our days
watching the world cup

#11

it's his job
body posture protection
always urgent

#12

yearning in the library
for Dewey decimal

#13

enumerating
the one to ten
of all the ways we love

#14

they binge watch rom coms
in their pyjamas

#15

the déjà vu of not
turning back the clock
and missing my train

#16

far from the madding crowd
ewes are dipped

#17

the red moon rises
behind the iron arches
of the footbridge

#18

gazing at Ruskin's
silica's, quartzs and flints

#19

she carefully
unwraps and eats
her sister's rabbit

#20

the pitch side lined
with daffodils

#21

we open the static
for the season
tartan thermos tea

#22

an antipasti lunch
followed by French fancies

#23

dry chew of chalk
stomach tablets can't fix
my acid jealousy

#24

Brunei's death penalties
spread around the world

#25

a long discussion
on how to pronounce
margerine

#26

sixteen percent fat
and eighty percent water

#27

ice crystals form
a frail lace veil
around my leather trilby

#28

we tie the knot
on the Winter solstice

#29

a chance to reunite
with family
rarely seen

#30

the male kakapo vomits
into the female's mouth

#31

I root out
my leg warmers
for an eighties revival

#32

the Cure poster
outside a Bangkok chemist

#33

J.G.'s bloodstreams
of the great sea
of it's total memory

#34

forced to write
about technology

#35

he does three sessions
on a sun bed before
flying down to Rio

#36

the curiosity of moths
pollinating by moonlight

#37

sitting at the table
we wait for mom's
Sunday roast dinner

#38

butter no parsnips
I love you in deed

#39

I'd recognize your cock
in a heartbeat
but never your mind

#40

the difficulty
of sexing chicks

#41

homes for all
strike for climate
the wake by the river

#42

at the Amsterdam frost fair
skaters dance their waltz

#43

searching winter haiku
for burning wood
and pine needles

#44

Tutsi, Hutu and Twa
have to stick together

#45

always unique
totally intelligent
sometimes mysterious

#46

Logan is six and knows
all the flags of the world

#47

they travel to Paris
to pay their respects
to Our Lady

#48

bossing the locks
with my old friend Michael

#49

I become
intoxicated by
the smell of her hairspray

#50

pass me the UHU
so we'll never be apart

#51

her battle jacket
covered with Sabbath
crosses, patches and pins

#52

skipping the rope
on a high or a low

#53

we're all fucked!
now is the time
to unfuck ourselves

#54

a saucer moon
over the relish factory

#55

pumpkins are easier
to carve into lanterns
than swedes

#56

coming home from the pub
I meet a hedgehog

#57

twisting and winding
up Los Caracoles
into Argentina

#58

he throws his heart
into Northern Soul

#59

all over the world
we join hands
and start a love train

#60

the inner ring road
covered in blossom

#61

they assemble
on Druid's Heath
to celebrate Beltane

#62

a life cycle lesson
with buckets of frogspawn

#63

so this is what it's like
to be stretched
i n t o s p a g h e t t i

#64

our disconnection
irritates me

#65

a waning moon
I yawn and consider
yet another new year

#66

their walk of shame
hidden by freezing fog

#67

we will not be satisfied
until justice rolls
down like water

#68

stones falling
off the cliff edge

#69

no review
of the Battle of Orgreave
our fight continues

#70

morning peacocks screech
across terrace gardens

#71

brown eyed susan
reaches up
to stare into my bathroom

#72

cooling in the burn
before the airless summit

#73

befuddled parents
ask Mumsnet what
the “dank vibes” are

#74

grandad’s in the trap
ready to trot and roll

#75

skimming stones
from Dawlish to Paignton
a week long crawl

#76

B&Bs have their quirks
we ask for a sink plug

#77

our pants and socks
entangled together
in an endless spin cycle

#78

twelve inches of I Feel Love
at the Heaven and Hell

#79

still remember
every number of you
and me on the phone

#80

leaving the tent he says
I may be some time

#81

blue tits twitter
as I focus my lens
on the supermoon

#82

a frog freed from
the sound of water

#83

weather warm enough
to dry towels strung
along the balcony

#84

the slow train to cleethorpes
disrupted by cable theft

#85

who knows
the mysterious lives
of our grandparents

#86

I too feel lonely
late in Autumn

#87

baskets of fruit
for the old people
in the neighbourhood

#88

inventing a fiction
of the cries of worms

#89

pre schoolers
learning how to share
with stickers

#90

a thirteen year old girl
attends to Gauguin's needs

#91

red thumbprints for robins
on the family
Christmas card

#92

wrapped in tight little
blankets of bacon

#93

we travel together
the sandman and I
to sanctuary

#94

the holodeck
is just fabric and tape

#95

primroses beam
through tangled ivy
in the grounds of the kirk

#96

fresh spring air
won't turn the tide

#97

this is a church
that was not
built by human hands

#98

a seam of silver
shared by all citizens

#99

children sort beads
on the matting
making gifts for sisters

#100

weaving a new
straw coat and hat