

Hi Everyone , Last week I was asked to help my 13 yr old Granddaughter with homework. I was horrified with the task as my Daughter in Law , a teacher was stumped. The task being to look at 3 posters from the time of recruitment for the 1st world war. Write a poem with rhythmic tone etc. Not only that but in the style of Jessie Pope, a poet at that time. Poetry has never been my thing & I moaned like hell to my partner Viv, who is a fan of poetry. So I set about the task & this is what I came up with.....

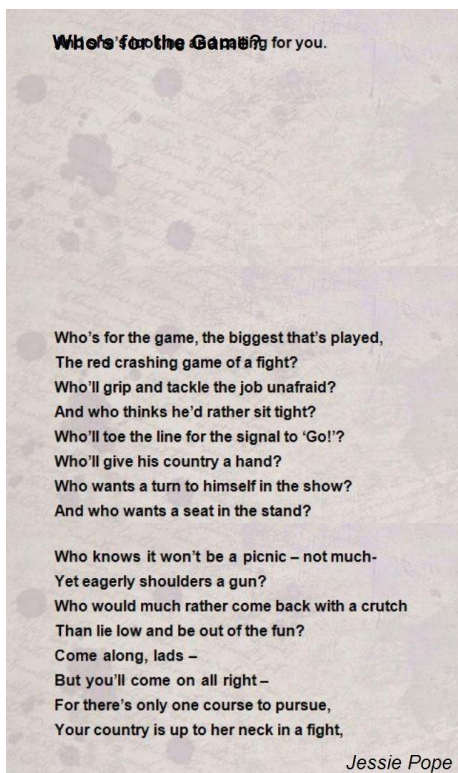
SONNY BOY
 Our Country needs Men
 Is that you Sonny Boy ?
 The Men to take up arms
 Is that you Sonny Boy ?
 Are you itching to go in
 To help save our skin ?
 Does that sound like you
 Sonny Boy ?
 Put on Your khaki cap
 And that will be that
 Sonny Boy
 So when you come back
 And take off your hat
 All we will say is that
 You are our hero
 Sonny Boy



Jessie Pope

by Jeff Branch (Took me 10 mins)
 Now I thought the end of this little story was amusing. I asked Viv the next day if she wanted to hear a poem by Jessie Pope & read her mine. Her reply 'Its no Chauser, but it has a certain resonance. So you can fool some of the people.

Well done Jeff, a great poet and you don't know it.



SOCKS

Shining pins that dart and click
 In the fireside's sheltered peace
 Check the thoughts that muster thick –
20 plain and then decrease.

He was brave – well, so was I –
 Keen and merry, but his lip
 Quivered when he said good-bye –
Purl the seam-stitch, purl and slip.

Never used to living rough,
 Lots of things he'd got to learn;
 Wonder if he's warm enough –
Knit 2, catch 2, knit 1, turn.

Hark! The paper-boys again!
 Wish that shout could be suppressed;
 Keeps one always on the strain –
Knit off 9, and slip the rest.

Wonder if he's fighting now,
 What he's done an' where he's been;
 He'll come out on top, somehow –
Slip 1, knit 2, purl 14.

Jessie Pope

From *Scars upon my heart* by Catherine Reilly (page 89)

JESSIE POPE (d. 1941). Born in Leicester. Educated at Craven House, Leicester, and North London Collegiate School. Contributed some 200 poems and articles to *Punch*. Wrote humorous fiction, verse and articles for leading popular magazines and newspapers. Married Edward Babington Lenton. Lived in Fritton near Great Yarmouth.