



WINTER WARMERS

Pubs. Poems. Positivity.

Down the Local

By Charley Genever

Your East Anglia poet


She texts: *wanna go out?*
and before I know it I'm down the local
where pints are beacons:
liquid flames flickering from hand to hand
like the passing of an Olympic torch.

Here, we're all chasing something:
lulled lights, a spot on the open mic, a night soaked
in hope. She asks what I'm having and I laugh
babe, I'm a Genever, my surname is literally Dutch for gin.

Here, we're slices of the same lemon:
where little monkeys hang from mum's glass of pop,
where *let's get a round in* means one for the gent
sat at the bar, his black dog sleeping at his feet.

Here, the walls don't talk because they're listening.
We get to the pith of a person so easily,
all segment smiles and pip-like teeth
spilling stories into brickwork seams.

We spend our weekend here, sitting cosy 'til closing time.
Safe, warm, watching a stag do dance with the WI
while we squeeze in another round.





To read all the poems and find out more...

www.inncrowd.org.uk @PubistheHub_uk

#winterwarmers21

Winter Warmers is a collection of heart-warming poems written by seven outstanding poets. The campaign aims to spread cheer and hope to pubs, publicans and their communities. Connecting people for a positive start to 2021.

The campaign is a collaboration between INN CROWD and Pub is The Hub

