



The Valley Park Surgery, Croydon

Reading on 15th February 2002

The surgery is a small porto-cabin in the middle of the Valley Park Housing Estate, Croydon, Surrey. The local children look on it as something much more than a medical treatment centre. For them it's a kind of social resource, a reliable play-space - with its calm and kindly "play-leader", the Receptionist Janet. And for one or two, it acts as a kind of quiet room, or retreat.

The readers (sort of) were Miriam Obrey and Rogan Wolf.

The writers clearly were the children.

The photographer was Pierre Bascle, the effect of whose camera was finally devastating.



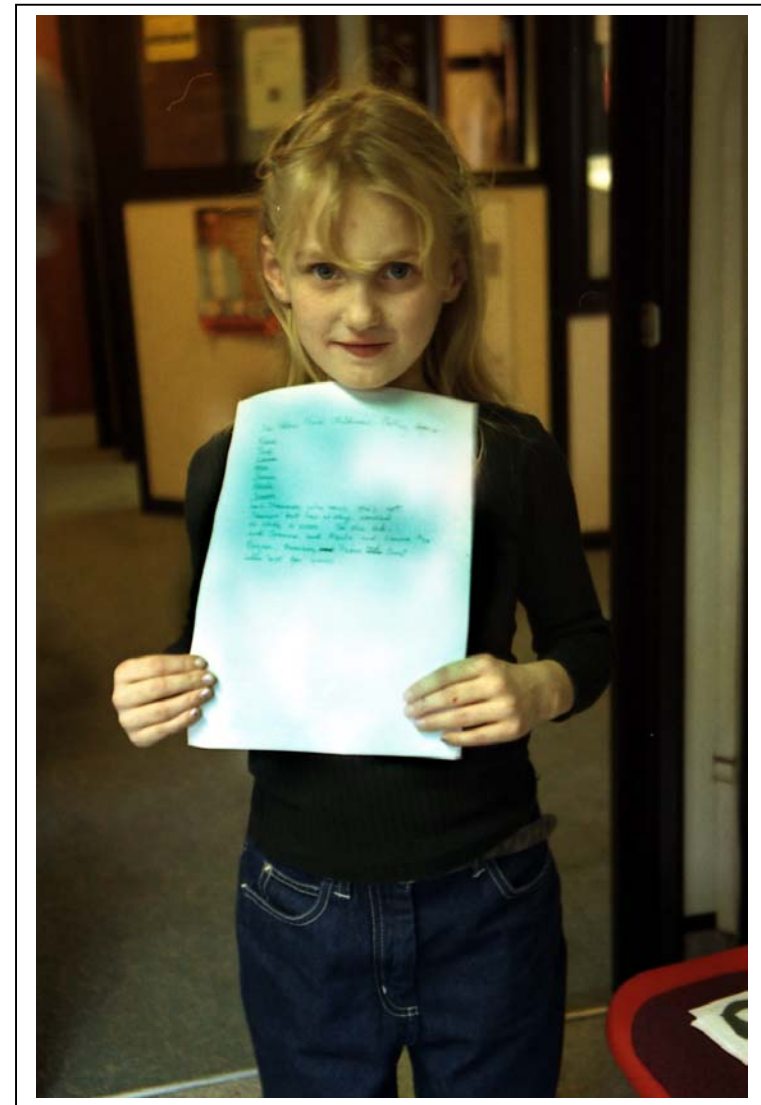
The Cast :

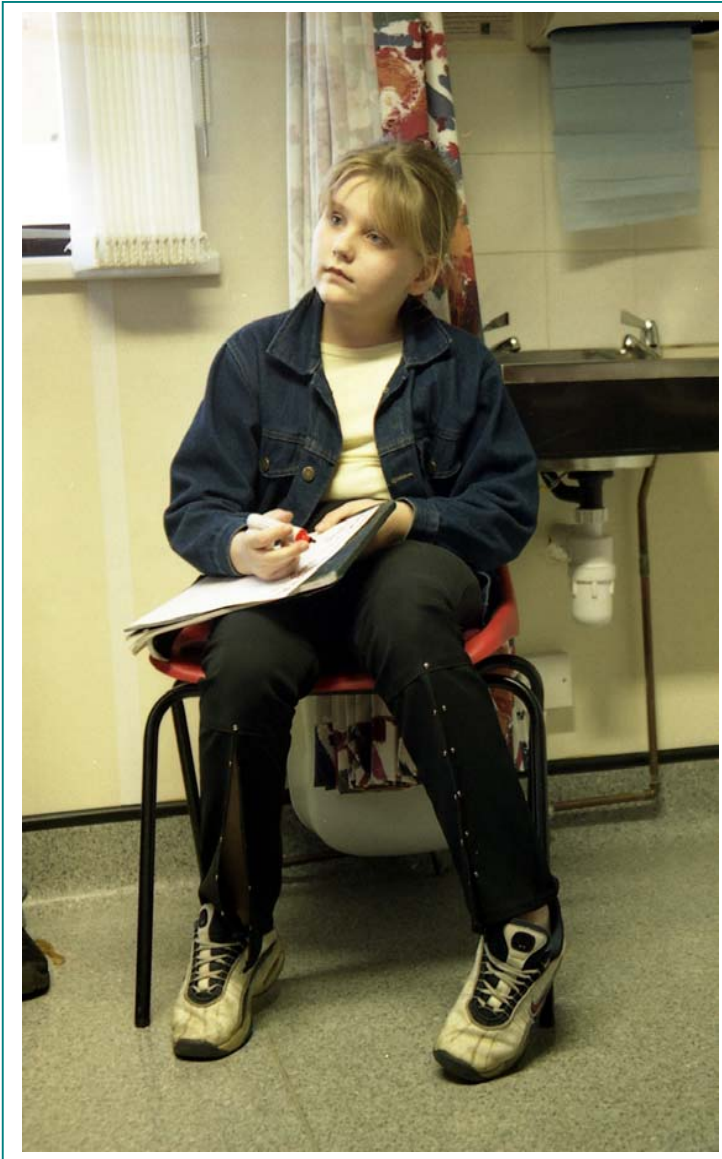
“The Valley Park Children’s Group :

Nana
Paul
Laura
Alex
Jamie
Abala
Joanna

and Shannon who says she’s not Shannon
but has always wanted to write a poem.
So she did ; and Joanna and Abala and
Laura too. Rogan, Miriam, Pierre and Janet
were lost for words.”

Miriam Obrey.





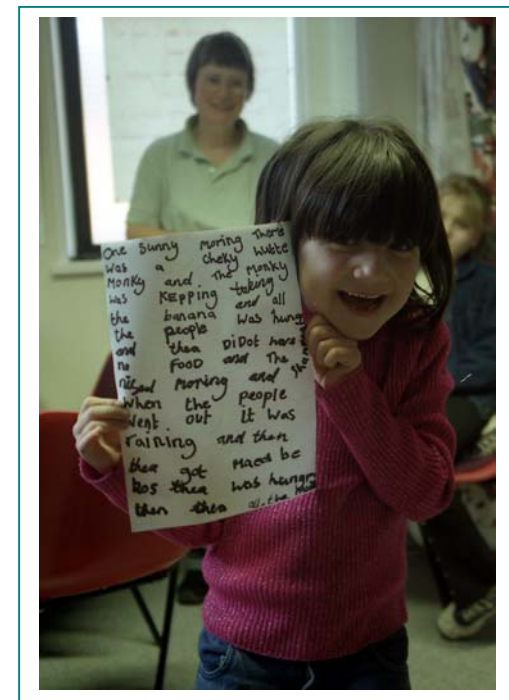
“One sunny morning there
was a cheky lutte
monky and the monky
was kepping taking
the banana and all



the people was hungry
 and thea didot have
 no food and the
 nised moring and
 when the people
 went out it was
 raining and then

thea got maed be
 kos thea was hungry
 then thea all....”

Sharron



One sunny morning more
 was a cheky white
 monkey and the monkey
 was keeping and taking
 the banana was hung
 out thea didot have
 no food and the
 nised morning and
 when the people
 went out it was
 raining and then
 thea got maed be
 kos thea was hungry
 then thea all....”



One Sunny morning
waiting at the Dentist.
Reading books.
Playing with the toys.

Just listening to the doors slamming.
People chatting.
Books banging.
People tapping.
Words clapping.

by Laura





Waiting....

is a rusting yellow digger in a quarry ;
 a blade of grass covered in frost ;
 a flower ready to grow ;
 the sun to shine ;
 and at the dentist I don't like
 waiting, so hurry up !
 and waiting for the pictures to come out ;
 and waiting for the words
 of this poem, which don't have to rhyme !

The Valley Park Children's Poetry Group

