

## The Life of Si (in 60 lines)

This silver fox is six-foot-two – and now he’s hit 6 – 0  
Simon Warren’s come of age and he has had to blow  
Out the candles of his cake using a hairdryer...  
Speed dial set to 999 - in case he starts a fire -  
Like he did - age six: his bedroom burning in a blaze  
This fantasist, turned arsonist, was acting out the ways  
Of Wild West native Indians – smoke-signalling Apaches...  
Simon’s simple message was – “you shouldda hid the matches!”

An Anglo-Spanish cocktail, he’s got one stiff upper hip  
If he tried to dance Flamenco, it’s likely that he’d trip  
He don’t speak no Espanol or wear a big sombr’aro’  
His proper English accent, though - *Esta muy, muy claro!*  
So grand and clipped, you’d think he was a true aristocrat  
But Simon’s just a luvvie, darling – and his habitat  
Is Downtown Shabby – not Downton Abbey  
East Seventeen – not York

(Though he tells me he’s off to sea -  
To Folkstone’s cliffs of chalk:  
He’s told me not to say a word –  
And *I’m* not one to talk)).

Simon fancies pretty birds  
Admits that he’s a Twitcher –  
Loves a sparrow or a swift:  
Is known to take a picture.  
His prowess in photography, admired by one and all  
At Dhaka’s great Tandoori – along the left-side wall –  
Is now a curried collage which the punters scratch and sniff  
To get a taste of Walthamstow (or maybe just a whiff).

His exhibition plaudits are too many to regale  
He’s shot a lot of cyclists – and they lived to tell the tale!  
With ‘London Wheels’ at Excel (turned hospital, this year) –  
His love of two-wheeled transport was depicted loud and clear:  
An awesome exhibition – a joy for all to see...  
But *why* did Simon *not* include that *stunning* pic of *me*?

He's cast aside the follies of his petrol-headed youth:  
Two Saabs – one blue, one yellow; an imported Ford, forsooth.  
And now he pedals everywhere; all lycra-clad and proud –  
Proving that some outfits simply shouldn't be allowed!  
To Brighton fifteen times he rode – he's done the 'Dun Run' too  
Of course, this Leo *never* brags – he simply thinks you *knew!*

His middle name is Douglas – he's sometimes nicknamed 'Bunny'  
*Simon Doug Warren...* Were his parents being funny?  
Others think he's quirky (a weasel word for weird) –  
And most of us on Facebook say he doesn't suit a beard.  
Some would say he's 'extra' – and he's certainly been cast  
In many a production – and his repertoire is vast!

To say he is "a character" would be to understate:  
He's played so many parts, he hasn't been himself, of late.  
It started at age seven, with his first foray in fame  
As Joseph, Jesus' 'stepdad' – to critical acclaim...  
And since, he's gone to father many children on TV:  
In '*Call the Midwife*' he affirms he's sired more than three.

What else could someone say about this quite eccentric fella?  
Very clever grown-up kids – Martha and Isabella;  
Likes to get attention in his sequinned sparkly jacket;  
Has doubled as John McEnroe – but cannot use a racquet;  
A silver-tongued voice over – he could sell the Arabs sand  
Was born in 1960, is 60 years old, and  
Is now, officially, a sex-'gen-arian...  
Last line: applause for Anna - Yin to Simon's Yang!