

When We Boiled Our Tea Leaves Twice

artist:Tracy Coster , writer:Tracy Coster

Thanks to Martin Bunny

In the days of bread and dripping and that good old cocky's joy,
When home-made dolls and shanghais were the battlers kiddie's toys
We used to dream of luxury but couldn't raise the price,
So we had to save our bumpers and boil the tea leaves twice.

In the days of darning needles, patching clothes and making do,
Dear Mother at the wash-tub, bar of soap and bubbles blue,
She had so little comfort but she kept the old place nice,
In those days of saving bumpers n' boiling tea leaves twice. |
In those days of saving bumpers n' boiling tea leaves twice.

In the days of horse and sulky and mail-order catalogues,
Of cross cut saw and broad axe to work and sleeper logs,
When the day was done we dined on rabbit stew and rice,
And then we smoked our bumpers `n boiled the tea leaves twice.

In the days of Vicks, camphor, Epsom salts and castor oil,
When we used the good old Clydesdale and plough to work the soil,
We could use the forge `n anvil, twist the green hide rope and splice,
Back when we saved our bumpers `n boil the tea leaves twice.
Back when we saved our bumpers `n boil the tea leaves twice

In the days of old bark humpies and wind-up gramophones,
When we used to sharpen axes on that big old grinding stone,
We had grandma pie for smoko and ravaged every slice,
Back when we saved our bumpers `n boiled our tea leaves twice.
Back when we saved our bumpers `n boiled our tea leaves twice

In the days of storytellers and men who could recite,
When arguments were settled with a clean bare knuckle fight,
And I think in spite of progress with each work-saving device,
We were happier saving bumpers `n boiling tea leaves twice,
Yes, we were happier saving bumpers `n boiling tea leaves twice.

/

Cocky's Joy – Golden Syrup or Treacle

Bumper – butt end of a cigarette

bubbles blue - refers to famous Reckitt's Blue Bags put in with the wash to 'whiten' it.

Grandma pie – a pie made from baked 'squash' - a recipe of the 1850s from northern NSW