

# FLOUR POWER

In 'Sixty-two a girl called Sue  
Lived with her mum and dad  
And sisters three -Jade, Tiff and Bree  
That's all the folks she had.

They lived up north in Poles-worth  
Where all the folk are hardy  
A town close to Twycross Zoo  
And twenty miles from Derby.

But Sue was sad: she loved a lad  
She was forbad to see  
And in her heart was a place quite dark  
And sometimes misery.

His name was Don and he came from Brum -  
Had a pa he never knew.  
He rode on a scooter, sat at his computer  
And thought how best Sue he could woo.

His hair was long, he was big and strong  
His jeans were frayed and torn  
And in his ear, shining clear,  
A gold earring was worn.

Said mum "you're mad if you love this lad  
He's not got a sou to his name  
There's far more my lass who this boy outclass  
Your Don will never have fame."

Her father said "if Don you wed  
One day you'll come to rue it  
You just should not have smoked that pot  
Your mind, it must have blew it.

"Now come, my pet, I'm sure you could get  
A man with background and lolly  
Dignity, station, investments, location  
To miss them would be a folly.

"So, cut those locks, remove those socks  
And that kaftan makes you look thick  
Get some new clothes – maybe not Zandra  
Rhodes –  
But something with some chic."

Cried Sue "You're mean, you know I'm keen  
On Don – he's the one for me  
I've loved him for years and shed buckets of tears

That time when he went to sea".  
Scoffed Mum "Oh come, don't be so dumb  
You shouldn't be so clingy  
'Twas only Torbay, and just for the day,  
And he only went out in a dinghy.

"Now I know Bill, who owns a flour mill  
He said he needs a helper  
I've told him, Sue, that you will do  
It's over yon in Belper.

"So off you go, you never know  
Just what might be your fate  
In him you might find a real kindred mind  
You might even end up his mate."

Don demurred: "I overheard  
Just what your Mum has planned.  
I'll come back later to see your pater  
And ask him for your hand."

Cried Sue in fear: "Why are you here?  
My parents will go barmy."  
Don cried aloud, I'll make them proud  
I'm off to join the army.

"Your parents, Sue, think I won't do  
They think I am a shirker  
I'll prove I'm not: I'll get a job  
I'll show them I'm a worker.

"I'll write each day when I'm away  
But first I'm off to Wembley  
The Derby Rams are playing West Ham  
I'll join in that assembly."

Don went away and so Sue stayed  
At the mill in a room in the loft  
And hour after hour she'd help grind the flour  
With hands no longer soft.

One day she said 'Bill, why are you still  
Milling the flour yourself?  
You're nice and kind, quite a 'find'  
You can't be on the shelf."

Bill replied: "My wife has died;  
We had a little son  
One day she left: I was bereft

Since then I've lived alone.

"But my dear Sue, I love you true  
Could you be my new wife?"  
Sue said quite low: "It's just no go;  
I'm true to Don for life."

Bill blustered hot: "He just should not  
Have left you all forlorn  
He's shown himself willing  
To take the Queen's shilling  
And now he's upped and gorn."

"But if you reject, I must accept  
What's that I hear - a hooter?  
What can it be? This I must see:  
Damn! It's Donald on his scooter!"

Don came in sight: "It's all all right,  
Now I'm not dim but sager.  
I did my best: I passed the test  
And soon I'll be a major."

Bill looked black: "Now you get back.  
You can't just barge in here."  
And with élan Don said: "I can  
There's nought that I can fear."

Bill got quite hot: "I'll tell you what  
We'll fight in yonder clearing.  
Stay! What's this here, in your pierced ear  
My God! A golden earring."

Don said: "It's ma's, to me she passed  
It on as she lay dying  
Of the fever in Micheldever  
And both of us were crying.

"She said to me 'This earring you see  
It is one of a pair  
So go back home, where we came from  
You'll find your father there'".

Bill was grave: "But I too have  
An earring that's the same  
To give my heir I split the pair ....  
Do you see what I'm saying?"

"You know what this means don't you lad?  
For that is why I bought it  
It means, young Don, you are .....My son!

I never would have thought it.

"One day this mill you see will be  
Entirely your possession  
And in a while, if there's a child  
'Twill come down in succession.

"I now you bless, I must confess,  
With wishes true and hearty  
I'll go and meet Sue's family:  
We'll have a little party."

Then Mum and Dad, Jade, Tiff and Bree  
All gathered at the mill  
To say "So Long" to Sue and Don  
And wish them very well.

So off they'll go, through sun and snow,  
And every sort of weather  
Their loved stayed true, for Don and Sue  
And now they are together.