

WHILST CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Doreen vowed that she and Jack
would beat the Christmas rush.
This year, they'd get their shopping done
much earlier to avoid the crush.

The trouble was, many other brains
decided to do the same.
To the shopping centre, already blitzed,
a thousand extra shoppers came.

Then Doreen, finding Jack was gone,
no longer by her side,
worriedly called him on her phone,
'Where *are* you, Jack?' She cried.

'I was bored,' said Jack. 'About twenty years ago,
remember the jeweller's shop, James and Clay?
Where you fell in love with a diamond ring?
Couldn't afford it. Though, I assured you – *one* day...?'

'I remember the shop and the promise you made.'
Doreen felt her hopes really soar!
'Well, we still can't afford it,' Jack replied.
'I'm in the pub next door.'

She called him on her mobile phone.

Jack answered, in a voice quite soft,
'Remember the Jeweller's shop, Leonard and Clay,
where you fell in love with the diamond ring
which we couldn't afford? And I said, one day

I'd buy it for you?' Doreen's eyes grew moist.

'I remember the shop.' Jack's voice faltered...

'Yes, well, I'm in the pub next door.

It's called The Case Is Altered.'