

The Rare Ould Times

Pete St John

G C G Em C
Raised on songs and stories heroes of reknown
G C G D
The passing tales and glories that once was Dublin town
G C G Em C
The hallowed halls and houses the haunting children's rhymes
G C G D G
That once was part of Dublin in the rare old times

[chorus]

G C G Em C
Ring a ring a rosie as the light declines
G C G D G
I remember Dublin City in the rare old times

G C G Em C
My name it is Sean Dempsey as Dublin as could be
G C G D
Born hard and late in Pimlico in a house that's ceased to be
G C G Em C
By trade I was a cooper, lost out to redundancy
G C G D G
Like my house that fell to progress, my trade's a memory

[repeat chorus]

G C G Em C
I courted Peggy Diagnam, as pretty as you please
G C G D
A gentle child of Mary from the rebel liberties
G C G Em C
I lost her to a student chap with skin as black as coal
G C G D G
When he took her off to Birmingham she took away my soul

[repeat chorus]

G C G Em C
 The years have made me bitter the gargle dims me brain
 G C G D
 'Cause Dublin keeps on changing and nothing stays the same
 G C G Em C
 The Pillar and the Met have gone, the Royal's been pulled down
 G C G D G
 As the great and unyielding concrete makes a city of my town

[repeat chorus]

G C G Em C
 Fare thee well sweet Anna Liffey, I can no longer stay
 G C G D
 And watch the new glass cages that spring up along the quay
 G C G Em C
 My mind's too full of memories too old to hear new chimes
 G C D G
 I'm a part of what was Dublin in the rare old times

[repeat chorus]