

Dinner with Jack and Edna Brewster

By Gus Arthur

On one memorable occasion, Ma Brewster invited Reg to dinner. Old Jack was ordered out in his old buckboard to procure a couple of bush turkeys which, when roasted, were delicious. Reg entered the Brewster abode "tin roof, dirt floor, mice everywhere, the table was a telephone cable drum and the chairs were boxes." All was not lost, however, because from some unknown nook or cranny Mrs Brewster produced her mother's antique dinner service and solid silver cutlery. "The Lord of the Manor could not have done any better." To give even more class to the occasion, for the previous week Ma had been training one of the local Aboriginal girls to act as maid! When the soup was served Reg knew it was not going to be too hot to manage: it arrived with the "maid's" thumb stuck deep into the bowl.

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