

## *The Antique Restorer*

(Written for Gary, by Cathryn Ivin  
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Morning is breaking. The workshop comes open.  
The young fella starts with the chairs which are broken.  
He scratches his head and then looks with more care  
And then starts the machines up. The noise fills the air.

The boss arrives later and straight away comes  
To see work progressing and what isn't done.  
He barks, and discusses, and hands out the orders.  
That's the typical start for this antique restorer.

The antique restorer who belongs from the past  
With respect for tradition and standards that last  
And a preference for old things, some wagons and steeds  
And his character trademark - the long flowing beard.

He always is moving, applying his trade  
With accurate certainty reproductions are made.  
With care and precision, he restores for each caller  
Such is the way of the antique restorer.

The antique restorer has creative flair  
And will attend to the mouldings and joinery with care.  
And should there be something which requires some more thought  
Why he'll think it right through from the basics as taught

But teaching alone just cannot explain  
The magnificent works which come out off his plane.  
He's an intuitive bloke, oh there's nothing surer,  
And challenge is fun for this antique restorer!

The antique restorer is there for all types  
For the dealers and clients and friends smoking pipes.  
He always makes time to hear, or just chat  
And the people are drawn to him - they appreciate that.

A pleasure it is to see him tooling on leather  
Applying the gold by working together  
The hide and the mineral for desks of top order.  
Oh an artist he is - this antique restorer!

The antique restorer, at close of the day  
Will go in his ute to do quotes or to play.  
Then finally he's home for that much needed rest.  
Its comforts of hearth and heart he loves best

And what is the future for one of this trade?  
Are prospects quite good? Or will memory fade?  
Whilst so many people love things which are older  
There's a pleasurable living for an antique restorer.