Robert Wyatt, Shipbuilding

Is it worth it?
A new winter coat and shoes for the wife
And a bicycle on the boy's birthday
It's just a rumour that was spread around town
By the women and children
Soon we'll be shipbuilding

Well I ask you

The boy said, "Dad they're going to take me to task But I'Il be back by Christmas" It's just a rumour that was spread around town Somebody said that someone got filled in For saying that people get killed in the result of this shipbuilding

With all the will in the world Diving for dear life When we could be diving for pearls

It's just a rumour that was spread around town A telegram or a picture-postcard Within weeks they'll be re-opening the shipyard And notifying the next of kin - once again

It's all we're skilled in We will be shipbuilding

With all the will in the world Diving for dear life When we could be diving for pearls