

# Whacker Humphries

Christy Moore

One day as I was walking past the bridge in Dolphin's  
Barn  
By the old canal I saw some children round a car  
In the back they were shooting up smack  
I had a bird's eye view  
When I called for help  
Told me there's nothing we can do.  
Both sides of the river clearly to be seen  
Down along O'Connell Street and up to Stephen's Green  
Heroin sold openly there was no need to hide  
The drug squad were outnumbered  
It seemed like their hands were tied.  
John Whacker Humphries is a family man  
Him and his wife, they give their children everything  
they can  
Faced with the scourge of heroin, they'd not accept  
defeat  
They joined concerned parents  
To put the dealers off the street.  
They called on dealers houses and ordered them to quit  
Time and time again they warned, we've had enough of it  
Dirty needles in our doorways  
Junkies hanging all about  
Keep on dealing heroin and you're going to be moved  
out.  
From St. Theresa's gardens to the flats in Ballymun  
Concerned parents action had the dealers on the run  
They swore they'd stand together until the drugs were  
stopped  
And I will never understand why they got their knuckles  
rapped.  
They were rounded up and charged  
With crimes against the state  
Brought before the Green Street court to decide their  
fate  
Denied a trial by jury and there was no bail  
The concerned parents were taken off to jail.  
Sitting in the gallery among family, friends and wives  
I strained to hear who told the truth and who was  
telling lies  
Dealers, junkies and police on the prosecution side  
I swear to God that's what I saw before my very eyes.  
Whacker Humphries took the dealers on  
And he fought them tooth and nail  
A squad of well armed soldiers brought him to the  
portlaoise jail  
He tried to protect his children, found guilty of a  
crime  
One man gets a pension, another man gets time.  
This morning I went walking out by Dolphin's Barn  
I heard a small bird whisper; mind you don't come to  
any harm.