**Some Answers:** These are not the only answers. There are many more ideas too. I hope the older members of your family will share their ideas and stories with you.

**Breakfast:** I do hope you had something to eat before going to school or work all that long time ago so that you could concentrate better.

If you were lucky, wholemeal porridge with black treacle may have been served or a cheaper, less interesting gruel! The wholemeal porridge may have been made with milk and the gruel would most likely have been a more liquid version made with oatmeal and water. Bread in hot milk was also a common breakfast in those days so long ago.

**What are these items made of?**

Some were made of tin and others were bone china

**What are the main differences between the two?**

Those made of tin would not break even if they were dropped onto a stone floor. They would dent and eventually the damaged area would go rusty. The china ware would smash if dropped and chip or crack if not handled carefully.

**Why did it matter in those days?**

The china pieces were more costly to buy and the poor people would not be able to afford them.Also, the china items would not last as long as the tin because of breakages and so were not suitable for poor families; they would not be able to keep replacing them. Breakages would be more likely in the homes of the poor, where large families were living in cramped conditions. Rich families would not be concerned about the cost of breakages, they would just tell the servants to order some replacements.

**What would you have used?**

This depends on your status. Were you working class and poor or middle class or even high class with more money to spend? If your family were poor, and most of us would have been then, you would have used the tin mugs, plates and dishes. If you had been better off or even rich then you would have enjoyed using china crockery (another word for cups, saucer, plates and dishes), Most poor people had hardly enough money to pay the rent and buy enough food for the week.

**Can you tell the difference between the genuine old and the more modern replacements or reproduction ones?**

The genuine old tin ones have rusty patches, where they have been damaged a long time ago.

The more modern ones are not rusty and the blue colour is much brighter. The china ware is somewhat old fashioned in design and the bowl has a tiny chip or crack on the rim.

**Where do you think these would have been used?**

They would have been used at special events at church. Perhaps tea parties. These ones in the photograph are china and most churches would have had pot ones for general use. They would have been less likely to have been cracked or chipped.