CLAIMS:

1. A boiling water heater system for providing near-boiling drinking water at a dispensing outlet, the heater system including:

a first water heater arranged in fluid communication with a water supply for heating water from the water supply to a first elevated temperature; and

a second water heater arranged in fluid communication with the first water heater for heating the water from the first elevated temperature to a dispensing temperature, that is higher than the first elevated temperature, wherein:

the first water heater is an instantaneous water heater configured to heat the water instantly as the water flows through it; and

the second water heater includes a storage tank arranged in fluid communication with the dispensing outlet for storing the water heated to the dispensing temperature,

wherein the water dispensing temperature is about 98°C or 99°C.

2. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second water heaters are powered independently of one another.

3. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the instantaneous water heater includes a fixed element power rating and has a fixed volume.

4. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fixed volume of the instantaneous water heater is about 0.12 litres.

5. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the storage tank is a boiling water storage tank.

6. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the boiling water storage tank includes a fixed rated immersed heating element therein.

7. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the boiling water storage tank has a volume of about 3 litres.

8. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the boiling water storage tank includes a controller for managing the water temperature inside the tank at just below boiling point.

9. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller manages the water temperature inside the tank to one to two degrees below boiling point.

10. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller manages the water temperature inside the tank to a temperature defined by a user.

11. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the system further comprises a water conduit providing the fluid communication between the water supply and the first water heater and the first water heater and the second water heater.

12. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 11, wherein a flow rate of the water that flows from the water supply in the water conduit is about 0.8 litre per minute or about 1.0 litre per minute.

13. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 11 or 12, wherein the system further comprises a control valve arranged in the water conduit upstream of the first water heater, the control valve being configured for controlling admission of water from the water supply through the first water heater and into the second water heater.

14. The boiling water heater system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the control valve is configured to admit water from the water supply through the first water heater and the second water heater in response to user actuation of a dispenser at the dispensing outlet.

15. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 14, wherein a flow rate of the water through the first water heater is about 0.8 litre per minute or about 1.0 litre per minute.

16. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the water that is supplied from the water supply is at ambient temperature.

17. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first elevated temperature is about 53°C or 57°C.

18. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the water supply is a mains water supply.

19. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 15 or claims 16 to 18 when dependent on claims 11 to 15, wherein the system includes a water softening device disposed in the water conduit upstream of the first water heater.

20. The boiling water heater system as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 15 or claims 16 to 19 when dependent on claims 11 to 15, wherein the system includes a water filter disposed in the water conduit upstream of the first water heater.

21. A method of heating water in a boiling water heater system, the water heater system including:

a first instantaneous water heater; a second water heater; and a user actuatable dispenser,

the method including the steps of:

heating water from a water supply to a first elevated temperature in the first instantaneous water heater as water flows through the first instantaneous water heater;

providing the water at the first elevated temperature to the second water heater;

heating the water to a second dispensing temperature, that is higher than the first elevated temperature;

storing the heated water in the second water heater; and

dispensing the heated water from the dispenser upon user actuation thereof, wherein the water is dispensed at a temperature of about 98°C or 99°C.

22. The method of boiling water as claimed in claim 21, wherein the water at the water supply is supplied at an ambient temperature.

23. The method of boiling water as claimed in claim 21 or 22, wherein the system further comprises a controller and the method comprises controlling admission of water from the water supply through the first water heater and into the second water heater in response to user actuation of the dispenser.