



September 2023 Bulletin

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 12 September 2023

St. Johns Church Meopham

2.00pm

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION – *Mike Chantry*

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer and are looking forward to another great Meopham u3a year.

Several of our members will be enjoying some of the residential courses in Chichester in early September. I must admit I was too late to book this year, so will try to get in early next year. Full details are always published in the u3a magazine.

As we start a new year the committee would welcome some feedback on how we could make your membership an even better experience. Please email me any ideas or comments on chairmu3a@gmail.com.

I would like to think we can increase our membership to 450 or even 500 by the end of the year. I'm sure all of us have got at least 4 or 5 friends, relatives or neighbours who would enjoy becoming a member. Please take every opportunity to tell them about Meopham u3a and what you get out of it. Even better, invite them along to a monthly meeting, only £3 and fully refundable if they join.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the September meeting on the 12th.

INTRODUCTION TO OUR SPEAKER – *from Beryl Connelly*

Our speaker in September is Richard Winston – a Wildlife Photographer. Although he has travelled extensively, he is going to talk to us about what we can see much closer to home. His own introduction follows below:

My Big Garden Safari: Over the past couple of decades, I have travelled to many countries around the world in search of the amazing variety of wildlife that our planet has to offer. However, you don't always have visit far off places to find suitable - and occasionally amazing - subjects for the camera. This talk illustrates the birds, butterflies, insects and other creatures that I have photographed in the world outside my back doorstep.

A few of Richard's photographs are shown below and some will be available for sale at the meeting.





ART APPRECIATION 2 – *from Janet Willis*

Our group had two visits over the summer. Our first visit was to London to see the “After Impressionism” Exhibition at the National Gallery. Some of the group then went on to visit the newly opened Portrait Gallery next door. The second visit was to Restoration House in Rochester a few weeks ago. We travelled by train to both locations and of course our trips included much needed stop for coffees and cakes!

Restoration House was particularly stunning. The weather was kind to us and the house and contents were a complete revelation. The volunteer guides were knowledgeable and most helpful. We would definitely recommend a visit and it’s only on our doorstep.

DOCKLANDS MUSEUM – *from Ann MacEwan*

London Visits 1 had a visit in August to the London Docklands Museum.

It was a gorgeous day with an easy, well reconnoitred journey by Janet Willis and Pam Nye to the Museum that sits in splendour among the brilliant architecture of Canary Wharf. The history of London and the lives of its people is well-presented and made memorable with artefacts and documents.

We were warmly welcomed by the staff and enjoyed a brilliant, factually detailed talk on the SS Princess Alice disaster 1875 leading to the deaths of more than eight hundred people. Our speaker added additional historical facts that linked the past to the present and made the whole event meaningful to us all.

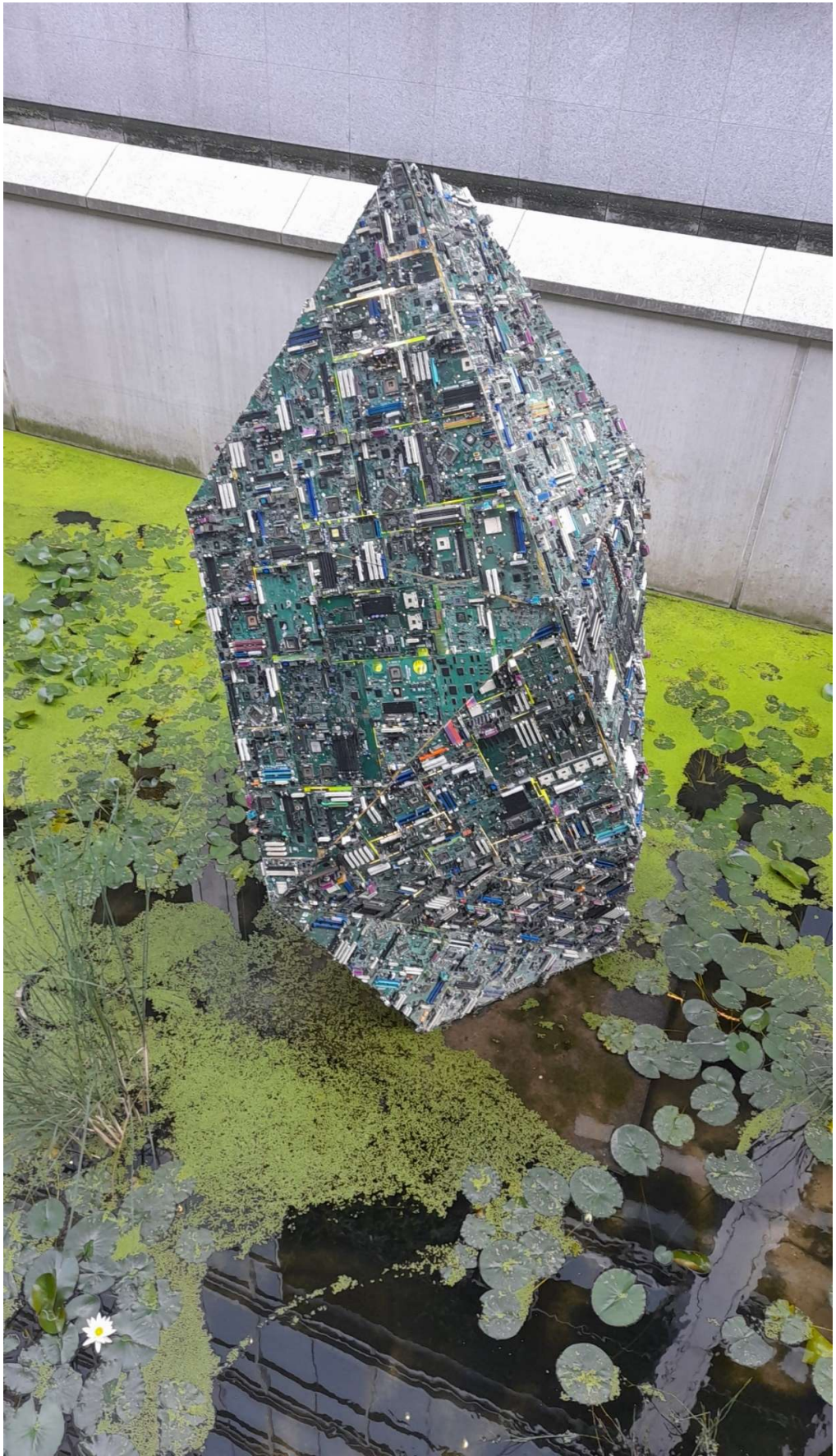
We enjoyed the surroundings as we strolled back on the return to Canary Wharf.

The brilliant pictures are courtesy of the Docklands Museum.









and finally.....

Monthly Meetings Tea/Refreshments Rota – *Carole Dickenson*

September meeting refreshments: Cycling for All

October meeting refreshments: Fitness for Fun

Please meet in the St. Johns Centre at about 1.30 to set up.

END OF THE BULLETIN