



ICeni Newsletter December 2022

Coronavirus Impact Covid-19.

Although we are no longer in lockdown there are still uncertainties. So for the present we are continuing to hold our meetings online.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well and will be able to join us online.

Contact Gareth (or to iceni@woolridge.org.uk) if you don't think you are on our meeting list of participants for online meetings if you are interested in joining in; since he is sending out the links prior to each meeting. Just follow the link and follow on-screen instructions.

There is nothing to download or install. We still meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. via Jitsi.org Video conferencing. If using a Mac IOS the Safari Browser works correctly for screen sharing your own screen, but this doesn't work for Firefox.

Our Next Meeting Wednesday 21st December 2022

Gadgets and Party Evening – All

This our regular pre Christmas meeting and is usually one of the most entertaining and interesting. Our Definition of Gadget is rather wide. It can be anything from a piece of software or hardware to potato peelers, tools, cameras, cars. All that is required is some object you delight in which you would like to demonstrate or talk about. As we are not meeting in person unfortunately we don't get to sample Gareth's Dad's mince pies or savoury crisps or fruit cake, but you can always eat your own. I must admit most of you are pretty abstemious and don't indulge very much. Perhaps in the future we shall have munchevision and can taste objects at a distance, or even teleport them! I bet Microsoft and Apple aren't working on that yet!

We please join us for a fun evening.

Our Last Meeting Wednesday 16th November 2022

Stills and Video Evening – All

Gareth started the evening as he needed to get away early to get Aidan to bed.

He began with some nice pictures in January 2022 of Sophie with Aidan wearing a coat which he usually resists.

Aidan is quite taken with Gareth's Mazda Wankel engined car as it makes a lot of BrumBrum noises, unfortunately with very poor fuel consumption figures, (<26mpg) strangely this does not put Aidan off. Gareth had a holiday near Beaulieu and visited a campsite there. Aidan's lawnmower had to be there too! Also a picture in his dad's Office in Birmingham. Also at the annual demountable camper group meet in Somerset. They also visited the Cotswold Motor Museum at Bourton-on-the-water to see the car called BRUM (TV series for Children in 90s). They also visited the 2CV race days at Snetterton where Gareth showed pictures of an Austin A40 toy car which he has obtained for Aidan with the number plate A1DAN which he is learning to drive around the garden. It has in fact also got a mobility electrical system and is painted in Aidan's favourite colour blue. It has a loud horn and lights which Gareth has disconnected. He also had some shots from Prague on a business trip. One old clock tower was very interesting with an ornate clock.

They also visited north Norfolk Railway and Holt, Cromer and Sheringham. He also had trips to the East Anglian Railway Museum with a good model railway layout. Unfortunately their Cotswold holiday was cut short when Sophie's Mum died. We were very sorry to hear that.

Michael was the next to present. He and his fiancée had been in April to an AIRbnb with an Alpaca farm near Newmarket and had stayed at CentreParcs in May with his nephew. They had a trip to Majorca in June and it was very hot but with interesting sand sculptures on the beach. They also visited Donnington Castle at Cold Ash between Newbury and Reading and went to see barges on the Kennet and Avon Canal in Hungerford in September.

Duncan then took over and began by saying he had not been away much this year but had taken photos locally. He had some nice shots of Goldfinches in February and had visited Warley Place near Brentwood owned by Miss Wilmott, a plant breeder in the past and now a nature reserve. The Stratford St. Mary Institute had been celebrating the horses that had died in the Great War which interested him.

Later in the year visiting the Broads with his brother. Duncan visited Hunters yard which was famous for having no powered vessels only sail. In late 70s or early 80s Alan Titchmarsh had presented a TV series on Arthur Ransom stories based there.

He went to the Royal Hospital school and still with a boating theme he had been on a barge trip down the Orwell from Ipswich docks to Walton backwater, and also visited on another day the Nene Valley Railway. He had a photo of the cranes at Felixstowe Docks but no ships! Since this was during the strike.

His photo under the Orwell bridge had prompted a discussion of the internal tunnels of the two carriageways and this prompted Peter to mention Sid Cooper who years ago had persuaded the builders to allow him close access to the building site and to take photos and subsequently he went all around Suffolk giving slide shows of the bridge construction.

Later some of them met up at Peterborough at the Nene Valley Railway they were meant to go out pulled by a tank engine but it broke down and so they went out instead pulled by 34081; a Battle of Britain Class 92 Squadron in Southern Railway colours which was much more fun. They have an unusual wheel design.

He also showed a photo of the remains of the British Magnetic Levitation project RTV31 at Peterborough. As an aside Catherine of Aragon is buried in Peterborough Cathedral.

There was a shot of a car crushed by a fallen tree. Duncan continued with some photos of his flooring repairs and re-plastering required in his house.

Duncan had got back into scanning of his slides from 1992 – 1993. Shots including a Water pumping station and knowing his penchant for industrial archeology shots of Hull pumping station and a former Snuff Mill pestle and mortar which had originally been used for gunpowder, but was banned as too dangerous in 1830, but still in use for snuff until 1970s.

There were some other shots of a pylon from underneath, a factory fire and Aberystwyth Cliff Lift, a Water Wheel for a saw mill.

Paul then followed with shots of a Mid Suffolk Light Railway (MSLR) vehicle seen at Christchurch park vintage rally. Also his annual trip to the Isles of Scilly began with a photo of St Michael's Mount seen from Penzance Railway Station in early morning. He showed some aerial photos from the aircraft – Tresco Abbey, Tresco is leased but the Isles are part of the Duchy of Cornwall. A good shot of Hugh Town the main town which is built on a sand bar.

There were some pictures of the Valhalla collection of ships' figureheads and views in Tresco Abbey gardens including the statue of Neptune. The red squirrels are

plentiful there too with no competition from greys. The plane and ferry are run by the same company so when it is too rough to fly you can transfer to the ship. Hence Paul ended up in a Force 8 – rather unpleasant!

The St. Agnes Coal fired Lighthouse (now out of service) views of Penzance.

There were lots of wrecks in the waters around the Scillies.

Finally shots of Alexandra Palace in London. Right close to where Peter used to live before he moved to Ipswich. He had to do the finals of his Physics degree there too.

Peter is still having trouble screen sharing with Safari and since recording on Jitsi no longer seems to work he has had to resort to using his iPhone to record the sessions. He was asked to try Chromium but ended up with Chrome which did not seem to help. So I apologise for wasting people's time there. I'll have to have a practice outside of a session.

Peter had not been away this year or taken many photos except for Bowlers. He showed some more video of the Glider Towplane with which this daughter and her family had visited flying from Lasham near Basingstoke to Elmsett Airfield and back in a day.

There was also a lot of chat about the London Underground system particularly the Circle line not now being a Circle!

There was some discussion of laser printers and also the possible venues for a social evening. Venue suggestions are always welcome.

ICENI Future programme

We can be flexible and rearrange topics if the need arises, so if anyone would like to present a talk or suggest a topic to be covered please let us know. Now we are once more able to have social evenings we are always looking for suitable venues. We would like to hold these in a restaurant in the area between Ipswich and Colchester so that friends from Essex can join us without having to travel too far.

It has been suggested that we alternate our meetings between online and in-person meetings, although online meetings have been quite convenient for several of us to

avoid going out and also saving travelling time. Since now the cost of fuel has rocketed it may also be more prudent to stay online only. Gareth suggests this may need a decision at the AGM.

Peter

ICENI Future programme 2022/2023

2022

December 21st	Gadgets and Party Evening	All
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2023

January 18th	Winter Social Evening - Venue TBA or this may be a Jitsi meeting.	All
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February 15th	Audio Processing.	All
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March 15th	Raspberry Pi and Arduino, USB-C - single board computers and RISC OS.	All
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April 19th	Computer Surgery / Firewalls and Computer Security.	All
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May 17th	AGM + Extras	All
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MEETINGS WILL NOW BE HELD ONLINE BUT STILL ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED..

Special Notice - Insurance

"ICENI does not have any Insurance cover for computers or other equipment so please be advised that you bring machines to the club at your own risk."

However many household insurance policies will include cover away from home often with no increase in premium. (Ed.)

Our Website and Email

Our website URL is

<http://icenicomputerclub.org.uk>

Email to: iceni@woolridge.org.uk

I am open to suggestions on what people would like to have included in the website.