

If this is a movie, then there is a view of the grounds of the research centre for a while, showing that it is morning, perhaps featuring a sundial.

Edith is in her office. She looks puzzled. She has just completed a telephone call from Jane.

A knock at the door.

“Come in.” calls out Edith.

John enters.

“Good morning.” says John.

“Good morning.”

John continues. “I’ve just received an email from Caroline. She wrote it yesterday evening. It is about how she gave a talk in a café. She claims that you said that while she was over on the European mainland she could go on holiday after the conference and that she is now off to the Valley of the Loire to look at châteaux.”

“Yes, that’s right, about having a holiday she had not made up her mind where to go at the time. But regarding the talk, does it make sense, giving a talk in a café what is going on? The reason I ask is because I have had Jane call me just a few minutes before you arrived and she was telling me about how Caroline’s talk in a café is featured in the New York newspaper this morning. A glowing review indeed but I wondered what is going on.”

“It seems that there was not an opportunity to give another Quick Talk at the conference but that Caroline had prepared one just in case. The day after the conference some of the conference attendees went on a guided tour of wall poems in the local area and the tour ended at a café for lunch and there was a function room and Caroline was asked if she would present her talk in the function room after lunch and she agreed. She was able to use a big screen in the function room and the café owner lent her use of a computer. Most of the attendees were people who had been at the conference, though there were a few other people who happened to be in the café at the time as well.”

“Ah, that explains it.” says Edith.