

Jane has arrived at the research centre and is talking to Edith in Edith's office.

Jane hands over the two Locomotive devices.

"I managed to get a yellow one and a pink one as you requested. Fortunately they had them in both those colours and I was early in the queue. They were selling at quite a brisk rate, and when I turned round after buying these two quite a queue had formed."

Edith opens a desk drawer and takes out a loosely-tied translucent food freezer bag that contains eight twenty pound notes and hands it to Jane, saying "Thank you, here is the money for them."

Jane looks at the freezer bag and smiles.

"Did you by any chance wear gloves to handle the notes and then wash your hands and tie the bag with bare hands?" says Jane and smiles.

"Possibly." says Edith, and smiles.

The two ladies burst out laughing.

"Anyway," says Jane, "as I was saying LocSARA got mentioned by a young man. It could have caused quite a stir but in the event nobody seemed to want to know, at least obviously, but people clearly heard so who knows what anyone might try to follow up."

"Ah."

"I don't know who he was, he would have needed accreditation documents to get in and maybe there was security footage, but anyway someone would have checked him in. I was checked twice, once at the entrance to Spectacular Hotel by hotel security and once at the entrance to the Palm Court as they had put tables along so as to form a barrier so that people could only get into the Palm Court by going through the Gigantic Business checking procedure, which was done by a couple of people from Gigantic Business, though with a couple of people, one male, one female, from hotel security stood nearby, presumably ready to help if needed. So maybe they can trace him."

"Actually," adds Edith "a young man came here yesterday, he rang up just after you had rang and said he worked for Trade Magazine as a journalist and it is his first job after getting his degree and he had been asked to go to the press conference, and I agreed for him to visit and John showed him the research equipment. .... I must admit I never asked him for identification, so, who knows, maybe he works there, maybe he doesn't. I expect it will all become clear in due course .... hopefully. I wonder if he might be the young man to whom you refer. Possibly but not necessarily."

"Well," says Jane "I hope he is because if he is new there the Editor will be watching him and will probably have asked him to hand in his article early. Whether he will be sacked or get helped to write a revised version that is all marvellously enthusiastic is anybody's guess. The Editor won't want to print anything that might upset Gigantic Business - he saves the put downs for small start-ups."

"Indeed." says Edith.

“Though of course there were other journalists there and so who knows, if the story does not appear then maybe someone else may try to follow up on his .... outburst.”

“Yes, I shall need to be very wary in case anyone here gets a telephone call asking about the Locomotive, no matter how innocent the question might seem.”

“Yes, and of course there is not much you can do if someone writes that they tried to contact you but were unable to get a response before press time.” adds Jane.

“Yes .... it could give the impression that we were being evasive and then there could be an innuendo that we put the journalist up to it. .... It is all very difficult. .... In fact, John tells me that when Simon was here he neither asked nor said anything about Gigantic Business and their product launch at all.”

A pause.

Edith asks “Would you like to go to La Flava Floro, my treat as a thank you for bringing the devices. I rang Julia earlier and asked if she could do afternoon tea, complete with some food.”

“Oh, yes please. .... We had best each take our own car.”

“I’ll be ready in ten minutes, I just need to have a quick word with John so as to inform him of what has happened so that he can advise everyone about not saying anything about .... well anything at all really until all this gets settled down.”

“Fine, I’ll wait in my car.”

Edith goes to the car park. Jane has clearly seen her arrive. Edith gets in her car and leads the way to La Flava Floro.

Julia shows them to the Incunabula Room where they enjoy afternoon tea.

Afterwards, as they are leaving, Julia mentions the young man who had arrived yesterday and said he had had afternoon tea and was very complimentary about it.

“I kept topping up the supply of cake - he ate quite a lot, I never cease to be amazed at how much young men of that age can eat.”

“Ah,” says Edith “did you by any chance know who he was?”

“Well, he did say his name when he arrived, but I forget, but I do remember that when the man from your place approached him and showed his identity card, he quickly produced his own in response .... so maybe you could ask .... Edward, that’s him, Edward - the young man who brought that delightful young lady to the poetry event and they stayed for the country music evening.”

“Ah, yes, thank you.” says Edith, somewhat relieved that Edward would have checked his identity, and deciding that she must herself be somewhat more cautious about knowing that such things are done in future.