

LIMEHOUSE BASIN and DOCKLANDS

THURSDAY 22 September 2011

This meeting has been organised by George Freeman

Limehouse Basin is the main dock for the Grand Union and Regents canals in London where they join the Thames in the East of London. It was extremely busy dealing with transfer of goods from ocean going ships to longboats, etc. Today it is mostly pleasure crafts that use it. Jeremy Batch, a lock-keeper for British Waterways, will tell us of the history, take us around the area and open the Accumulator Tower for us. www.britishwaterways.co.uk

All of the London trade came into a series of docks in what is now called **Docklands**. These were secure areas where the trading companies unloaded their ships without pilfering. The West India and East India docks dealt with those two parts of the World, the East India Dock belonging to the East India Company. There were also the Victoria dock and others. Martin Olutniks, a blue badge guide, will be our guide.

Meet in the “Departure” coffee bar, bookshop and art centre, opposite the Branch Road exit of the DLR station. Toilets and refreshments. Leave the Limehouse station (DLR) by the Branch Road exit and cross the main road (no name visible but actually Commercial Road) at the traffic lights (not Branch Road which the railway crosses). The coffee bar has a street number 649/651 but this is not visible.

Lunch can be taken in the Prospect of Whitby, a Taylor-Walker pub.

10.30 — 10.55	Meet in the coffee bar
11.00 — 12.30	Tour of Limehouse Basin
12.30	Walk to the Prospect of Whitby
12.45 — 14.30	Lunch
14.30 — 16.30	Docklands

TRAVEL

The nearest station is Limehouse on the DLR, one branch of which starts at the Bank (two stops).

LATE ARRIVALS. Phone George to find out where we are.

CONTACTS

Before 24 August - John Belling john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com 07986 379935. After 24 August John will be away so contact me on 020 - 8979 1271, georgefreeman@georgefreeman.force9.uk
;On the morning only - George Freeman 07941 916 944.

COSTS

£16 each with a maximum of 30.
Refreshments at cost.