

COFFEE CORNER: FESTIVAL TIME

Following my conversion to coffee, reported in a previous newsletter, I have taken a keen interest in coffee events. The biggest UK coffee event is the London Coffee Festival, held at the beginning of April at the Old Truman Brewery in Shoreditch. My daughter Cleo and I went last year and this year's festival, 7th to 10th April, was bigger still. After last year, when a half-day ticket did not give enough time to do the festival justice, we went for a whole day and even then, left without visiting all the stands that we would have liked to. The festival includes a Coffee Masters competition modelled on the World Barista Championships, lots of talks (we went to an interesting one on using Instagram), a pop-up roastery, and many, many stands – lots of roasters offering samples of espresso, filtered, pour-over or cold brew, coffee making equipment and shiny, shiny machines.

The rise and rise of cold brew coffee was more noticeable this year as was the attention now being paid to the water that we use to make coffee (50% Volvic and n8h14.0(d)-df uns-5.0(i)-1.0((t)5.0(e)-