

An Ode To Reality (?)

In the Summertime of '22,
To the great delight of me and you,
The Network Forum came back out swinging
To set the Investment Bank world singing!
At last – up close and in-the-flesh,
We got together to discuss afresh
How we keep our banking world turning,
Our kids in shoes and ourselves earning.

The past two years were just not cricket,
This return to form is just the ticket...
As we take our guard before the sticks;
The ball is bowled – it's hit for six!

Look - I know this cricket theme is boring.
Setting the uninitiated snoring,
We were at the Oval – so please allow
This wannabe Warne to take a bow.

But back to business, you'll be relieved
The show - too good to be believed -
Brought us together in person this time
Forced separation's been such a crime;
The summer sunshine set the mood
And another highlight – decent food!

Due Diligence, Big Data, API's,
Hit us right between the eyes,
The Future of Custody, Digital Assets,
There was no end to the multiple facets
That formed an agenda crammed with stuff
To challenge every financial buff.

The brilliance of the assembled exponents
Of banking ops and its many components,
Shone from panels and huddles alike -
As Mr Barman did when he took the mike.

Rachel, Anismah and Mr Jones
All worked their fingers to the bones,
In a textbook display of Disaster Recovery
At an inspired venue - what a discovery!

The party's over but there's fun,
Ahead of us – the year's not done -
Gird your loins and spur your brain
America's show is coming around again
In New York City, and wait, there's more...
We then go East to Singapore!

TNF is on it, see?
Delivering value – you will agree...
And let's be honest, since we're all mates
(As well as conference delegates)
We must be back...to work and frolic;
To miss it would be diabolic!

Right, I'm done – in fact quite knackered:
Hungover, unshaven, looking haggard...
Like many...but the show remains
Forever planted in our brains.
So enough for now and au revoir
Team TNF – you've been a star!

Rupert Booth