



(photo taken by author)

By The Canal

The towpath is busy today –

A crowd has gathered
To hear the writer tell stories
From the deck of the book barge,
As buyers search for bargains below,
Where the air is close.

And along the towpath,
Runners running, cyclists cycling,
Walkers walking, couples strolling,
And families, bedecked with buggies and scooters,
And reluctant toddlers.

But on the canal, in a quiet corner,
Where the waters barely lap the canal bank,
A moorhen, unconcerned,
Perches on an abandoned log,
Dipping its head, searching for food
In the still, verdant waters,
Unaware of the surrounding busyness
Early on this sunny August evening