

We hope that all our bowling practice will come to fruition as the provisional date for the Inter Regional Bowling Competition is set for 7th April. It is in the diary as is the date for our next meeting in Diss on 3rd March. Then at long last we were free to retire to the bar and order lunch which was, as usual, most convivial.

No more for the present. Ride safely - it's a busy world out there. Sent from the depths of East Anglia by an aging Rebel rider.

Diane XXX

Capital Region

The big event of 2019, so far, has been the post-Christmas bash at the Windsor Hotel in Worthing from 18th -20th January.



Robin and Marion



King 'Grumpy'

The call went out to verily come join the Moles of the Round Table for a weekend of debauchery, well the alcohol bit of it, and gluttony. With a fancy dress theme of Medieval Characters and Mythical Beasts, it was a case of guessing who would likely turn up as a knight, dragon, jester, unicorn, king or queen. As it happened, we were graced by the presence of King Henry VIII and his wife, Queen Anne Boleyn (Daz and Sarah), and other lesser royals and ladies in waiting, alongside many Knights of the Round Table, musketeers, monks, Robin Hood and Maid Marion and the Grim Reaper. Elvis even made an appearance and when asked why Elvis?, Top Banana said that he'd missed the vital medieval word and only read king!!



Sir FitzNigel



*Sir Christopher &
Lady Anne Easter*



Brother Steve

The weekend started with a gathering of the early arrivals at the local pub, The Alexandra. In fact it was a huge get-together at lunchtime with 42 people taking over the place. The four-course evening carvery was both delicious and plentiful. This was followed by a snatch raffle and the induction of Top Banana as the latest member into the GWDC. It was nappies all round.



Top Banana joins the Dummy Club

Saturday saw the usual shopping, sightseeing, pub crawling and chilling activities before the big event in the evening. Chief organisers Kerrie, Al, Ginny and Yetti, together with their band of merry helpers, had decorated the room beautifully and laid out the party poppers, pea shooters and other games and treats on the tables in order to create as much mayhem as possible during the meal.



Bill, the hotel manager, and his very capable staff joined in all the fun too. Every time I saw Bill he was crawling on the floor collecting balls for his shooter. He got his comeuppance though when the knights and other heavies turned him upside down to shake all the balls out of his pockets. "How many balls in his pockets?" went out the cry. Apparently Bill needed two days off to recover from his antics.

There were a huge number of raffle prizes donated by the party goers - for which many thanks. Bill also donated a one night stay at the Windsor and after the auction, the prize was gifted to Yetti and Ginny, who will enjoy the honeymoon suite sometime during the year. The evening continued with a disco and drinking and chatting into the early hours. Something for everyone on Saturday night I think.

Monies collected from Rocky's raffle, his own donation and those from others too during the weekend totalled £650. Kerrie will hand over the amount to our chosen charity, the Chestnut Tree House, the children's hospice for Sussex. A very worthy cause.

We celebrated a special birthday on Saturday. Brian Lovell would be a stupendous seventy later in the week so it was an early birthday cake and candles for him and lots of cards and pressies too.

Our thanks go to the Gang of Four organisers for all their hard work towards making Worthing a successful event again.

Some sadness now.

Sue Ing, Adrian's wife, died suddenly in early January. A huge shock for him after forty years of marriage and for his sons, and for us too. Adrian wanted to give Sue a memorable send off and asked for Goldwings to accompany the hearse on her final journey.

Ten Wings - Joe, Big John, Andy, Wayne, Tony, Jim, Barry, Colin, Yetti and Adrian - escorted the procession to the crematorium in Stevenage. On arrival at the crematorium, everyone made as much noise as they

could with horns and sirens. Adrian wanted this and had permission to do it as it was the first service of the day.

Adrian and his sons did a fantastic job of putting words together for Sue's eulogy. It was very moving and funny. It was the first time that Yetti had heard Benny Hill's song "Just stick your finger in your ear and going-a-ling-a-loo" at a service, a piece of music picked by his son, who said his Mum would have loved it.

Adrian and his family would like to thank everyone for the kind words, cards and phone calls. Adrian will not be a stranger and has already booked for the Belgium Treffen and the Swiss trip in July. As he said: "Life's too short, you have got to do it while you can."

Those of you living outside London will not have seen a recent story in the Evening Standard in which Yetti appears to be moonlighting as a bodyguard for the actor Bruce Willis. What do you think?



Yetti as Bruce's Bodyguard

Finally, there is a longer than usual list of significant birthdays to report. In January, Wingnuts Chloe and Alex were 12 and 17 respectively, and Amber was sweet sixteen in February. Ingrid and Wayne celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in January, followed by Wayne's fantastic 50 in February. Congratulations to you all.

Diary date: Sunday 7th April 2019 - Capital host the Inter Regional Bowling Competition in Lowestoft.

Don't forget your pancakes on 5th March.

Here's signing off for another year as your Capital WingSpan Reporting Team.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash & Johnny



Witch Whiplash



Johnny Wan Kenobi