

## Capital Region

In the lockdown, almost everyone is Zooming now and Capital is no exception. Yetti initiated the first such meeting for the wider Mole community and for our mid-month May Mole gathering it attracted 35 people. A great opportunity to see and talk to those, who in normal times, would not usually travel to The Woodbine because of the huge distance involved. Great also for families with children who would have to be doing homework or even tucked up in bed. Brilliant too to catch up with old but not forgotten Capital members - we've welcomed Dave, Postman Pat, back into the fold.

Our June Mole night had 21 signed in and 43 people chatting but in a more disciplined way now. That's one advantage of Zoom. Good to see Lee and Hazel this time. The meeting was the usual pattern of singing for birthdays that month, eating virtual cake, then an update from and a suggestion on how to spend our money from Charity Co-ordinator Joe, followed by an update from Events Organiser, Kerrie. For 2021, the hotel for the post-Christmas party in Worthing is already fully booked with Moles, the Normandy Easter visit is back on, and Capital will celebrate its 40th anniversary chez Peskett on a date yet to be announced. Did you notice, by the way, that Carol was multi-tasking during the meeting? Nothing like getting the washing done and sorting out Richard's smalls while listening in to your friends' banter. We have continued with our raffles too and while John and Julie won 'Open the Box', Dani won the mystery prize that was later posted onto her.



*Dani models Prize T-shirt*



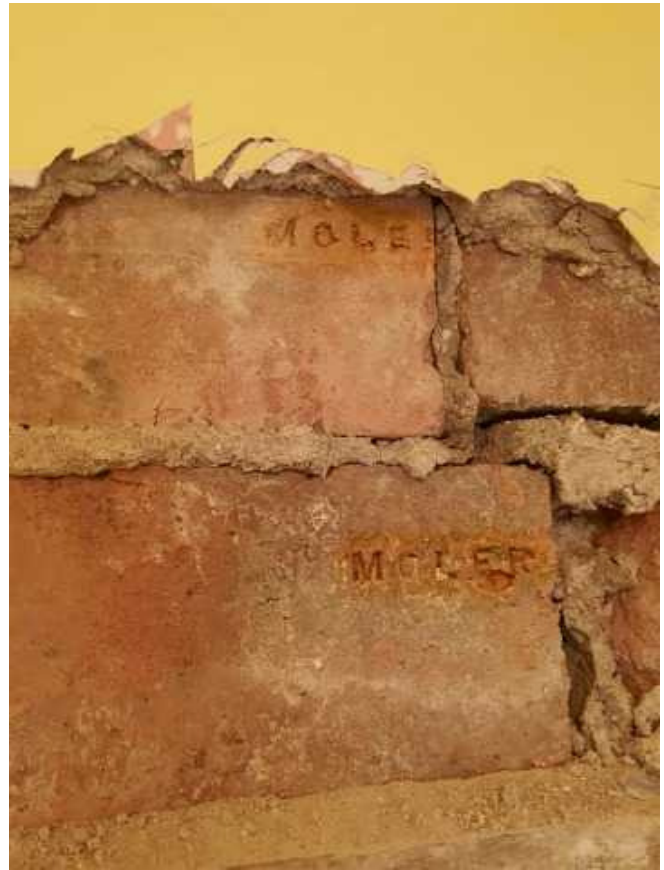
### *Zoom Mole Night*

So, what has everyone been doing during the lockdown apart from walking, reading, baking cakes, sunbathing (a different sort of baking), gardening, decorating and Zoom exercise classes? Well, schooling has been very important as has making masks for Tavistock care workers. Even sorting out the septic tank has excited someone. There has also been lots of bike renovations and re-builds and a few run outs to close neighbours and ‘drive pasts’ with family and more recently, ride outs with friends to Maldon and Mersea Island. We’re waiting for the tea hut at High Beech in Epping to open now.

We mustn’t forget the workers though because many Moles have continued to work from home or work fearlessly on through these dangerous times. We have joked that Kerrie continues to be busy pushing suppositories in her pharmacy but here’s Joe in his gear. Well done to him.



*Just Another Day at Work*



*Mole Bricks*

Yetti has started back at work and a demolition job has uncovered something interesting.

Hair has certainly been a topic for discussion as the lockdown continues and whilst for some that is not a problem because it disappeared long ago, or you wouldn't notice the difference (Yetti), others have been taking action to beautify or control it. Chloe dyed her hair purple but it turned ginger instead. Welcome to this exclusive club! Dani, meanwhile, fancied her chances as a hairdresser and offered to cut or was she cajoled into cutting, Wayne's hair. At least he can get his helmet and hard hat on now. Some male Moles are also sporting magnificent beards, in particular Phil, Barry and Chris. Is there a competition going on here?

Fun and games continue outside the usual Mole meetings and with a bit of "Eyes down!", Postman Pat is a bingo aficionado. He started to host Zoom bingo games in May and 20-odd Moles now play regularly on



Sunday evenings. The winners also get their prizes via the Royal Mail (does Dave have a special deal with them?) and what a lot of mugs they are. We seem to be forming a Lockdown Winners Club.



*Full House Annie*



*Full House Joe*

Is it beer o'clock yet?

Stay well everyone and 'Stay Alert' as Boris tells us to do. One wisecracker has changed this slogan into 'Be Alert, Britain needs Lerts'. So now you know.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash