

## Capital Region

One advantage of the lockdown and Zoom Mole meetings is that lots more people can come together to share their news and jokes and talk about topics that maybe wouldn't be raised face-to-face. The golden oldie Moles and not so old ones are able to share the skills they have practiced and the knowledge they have gained over the years, while at the other end of the scale, our young Wingnuts are learning new life skills.

Take Dani and Chloe for example. Dani is a young Charlie Dimmock in the making, having planted a potato or two. Here she is to prove it.



*Potato Top*

Wayne has started to grow hot chilli peppers called Satan's Kiss too, so let's hope they both have success as gardeners.

Chloe, meanwhile, has learnt to ride a bicycle and has just been introduced into the ways of posting a letter. She was very brave at our last Mole Night to admit that she had posted a friendship necklace to Dani. The problem was that Chloe dropped the envelope into the post box without a stamp on it. Something got lost in translation between Kerrie and her and Chloe hadn't realised that you actually had to pay for the privilege to send cards and presents to friends. There was some sympathy amongst the Zoomers saying: "It's the thought that counts" and "Can I ask Chloe to post my Christmas cards this year?". Maybe she should have had a lesson from Postman Pat on how to post a letter. Anyway, we all know what to buy Chloe for her next birthday now.

Chloe has also started a new hobby and was able to demonstrate it recently during a walk with a few Moles in Epping Forest.



*Chloe the Powerlifter*

There was an early morning meet up at the Tea Hut and being a nice day, a walk followed breakfast. It must have been a rambling stroll because the majority didn't leave until 3.30pm. Great to see some long distance driving from Nigel and Hilary and Al and Kerrie to join the group.



### *Epping Forest Walk*

It's good news to see that more people are now able to venture out on their GoldWings and other motorcycles, either individually or in small groups.

The north Kent coast, Brighton, Canvey Island and Finchingfield have been popular. The latter was an excuse for the threesome of Colin, Buzz and Barry to have a great ride out to celebrate Barry's birthday.



*Finchingfield Meet*

Further south in Spain, Richard and Carol sampled the delights of Belgium with a few cherry beers.



*Four Krieks*

Postman Pat's new hobby is gardening and also watching the bird and wild life in his plot from the luxury of his hammock. He's learning new skills too and asked for advice on a particular plant growing in his garden and also why the seed in his bird feeder should be going down at such a rate of knots. We didn't need to refer to Alan Titchmarsh or David Attenborough to answer those two queries. The plant was clearly a weed and the feeder problem was an animal and not a bird.



*Nutty Squirrel*



Postman Pat continues with his daily bingo sessions and the Mole Sunday session. After Annie won in the first week of playing bingo, things are going downhill for her, winning the booby prize of three bingo dabbers in a later session. As someone commented: “Dave keeps pulling it every week”. Congratulations also go to him because after five grand-daughters, in the middle of June, Dave became the proud grandfather of a grandson. He was very chuffed.

Whilst we haven’t checked what people are wearing below their waists yet in our Zoom meetings, we’re glad that we do not have smelly vision. Mo and Yetti admitted recently to smelling a little dodgy - Yetti had that delightful fragrance of silica sealant - but Phil, thankfully, had showered before the meeting.

As usual, there are a few Zoom jokes so here are three before some more congratulations:

One discussion centred around cats and dogs and Yetti piped up to say that there are a lot of cats living near him called Al. They all say “Me, Al”.

Another one from him was that he had seen a sign in the window of Shoezone that said ‘Buy 1, get 1 free’. Apparently there were lots of pirates queuing up outside for the start of the sale.

Wayne has been banned from waxing (don’t ask!) but will be discussing nipple piercing at our next Mole Night. “You’ll never lose your bike keys again”, he promises.

Finally, our congratulations go to Carl who celebrated his sexy 60th birthday in July.



*Surprise for Carl*

Also, a big collective hug to Taz and Trudy who celebrated ten years of marriage, also in July. Taz let everyone know on WhatsApp that: “My next wife will be normal”.

And just to say.....our thoughts are with Kerrie and Sarah. Their Mums are poorly at the moment so we send our best wishes for speedy recoveries.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash