

Capital Wings

Capital, together with family and other friends, said a fond farewell to Peter Russell at his funeral on Monday 19th April 2021. We provided an escort of seven motorcycles to ride from Peter's home in Kidderminster to the Wyre Forest crematorium. With Yetti, Barry and Michelle's help Big Ted was strapped into the empty seat behind Joe on his trike.



Big Ted's Adjustment

We set off from the house in warm sunny weather with Joe behind the hearse and Barry upfront doing a grand job of marshalling the traffic.

We rendezvoused with Peter's old fire engine a short ride away down the road. Here, Peter's coffin was transferred from the hearse onto 240FLM for his last journey.



Last Journey



Helmet on Coffin

The cortège arrived at the crematorium and with many people watching the service online, we were all able to go into the building for the service. Peter's ex-colleagues gave him a final salute. A lovely gracious touch for a hard working fireman.



Funeral Cortège



Salute

In these Covid times, it was strange to be seated well apart in either single or double chairs, and with no hearty singing allowed of the hymn - *Abide with Me*. People lingered a while to chat around the flowers - an anchor to reflect Peter's time in the navy and an affectionate 'Grumpy' from his great grandchildren.



Thanks go to bikers Joe, Barry, Colin McGee, Taz and Trudy, Tony Perkins, Yetti and Johnny and myself and also to car drivers Ted and Madeline and Ray and Rose for giving a good send off to a good friend. Thanks also to Lady Julia for her hospitality afterwards. Please keep in touch with Capital.

We have welcomed new member Steve O. to our Zoom meetings recently and now he has had his first run out with the mad Moles. Many of us have started the Chairman's Challenge 2021 and the cafes are being hunted out right, left and centre. Steve joined a few from Capital when they visited the Ace Cafe and Tea Hut in April. This was his initiation ride.

You'll have to ask him what he thought of it.

Us Moles have turned up in yet another TV advert - this time it features a family of four who are all visually challenged. Seems apt, therefore, that the ad should be for Vision Express. Marvin Mole is married to Molly. She's the love of my life. He's also a Dad to two little rascals - Marley and Milly.

Just like any other family, they always have their eyes on a bargain. Now with his new glasses, Marvin can carry on playing footie in the park with the rest of the dads while Mum can show off her designer specs.

The voice for Marvin is Mathew Horne from the popular TV series Gavin and Stacey. The music is 'Soulful Strut' by Young-Holt Unlimited. The beat is supposed to match Marvin's new found confidence as he struts out of the Vision Express store happy with his new glasses. I wonder if we can apply for a discount?

That's all from us this month. We're off to join the boat people for a short holiday so getting this report in early to meet the deadline.

Stay safe and look forward to meeting you at a cafe somewhere.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash

Devon & Cornwall Wings

It was a lovely sunny start to the month with a long Easter weekend to boot so we started off with a 100 mile round trip from Exeter out towards Crediton, stopped at a favourite watering hole in Great Torrington which was heaving with people having the same idea! Several groups of bikes, half a dozen three wheel Morgans and sundry other individuals all out having fun, the burger van was doing a roaring trade but everyone was well behaved and patient, the ice cream vendor wasn't so popular but it was early. We set off again heading for Holsworthy and Launceston then circled back via Okehampton, all the while keeping to the old back roads so hardly any traffic to worry about then home again for a cuppa.

Easter Sunday found Mark and Steve up for a day out so we followed the A379 from Exeter all the way round the coast, stopped above Labrador Bay to look at the ships anchored up (QM2 was there again), then Kingswear for the view up the estuary and caught the ferry to Dartmouth. Luckily Slapton pit stop facilities were open and a walk along the front was spectacular, busy with groups of people and vehicles (including the Harley Club) but not too crowded. Then cut up to Dartington, across the dual carriageway and towards the moor, spotted an ice cream van at Dartmeet which we made our last stop before heading for home via Dartmoor (just managing to avoid the