

Capital Wings

Firstly, a Happy New Year to one and all. May you keep healthy, wealthy and wise and may all your dreams come true in 2022.

The first of Capital's get-togethers in December was Mole Night on the 2nd at which Joe revived the tradition of cryptic clues to identify the winning numbers on the raffle tickets, thus adding to the suspense of our 50/50 draw.



It adds up to 24

The next Capital gathering was our pre-Christmas meal on the evening of Saturday the 4th. Twenty three Moles assembled at The Woodbine in Epping Forest for food and drink. How unusual for our lot I hear you say!

It was the largest gathering of Capital wingers for a long time. Christmas hats and festive clothing were worn and after the crackers had been pulled, it was like we had never been apart for almost two years.



Smile Please

Rocky could not make the meal as a horrid cold kept him away. Steve O. turned up on his Wing after visiting his Dad in Norfolk, and Charles and Natalie enjoyed a rare break from their important paramedic jobs. Even the Southern Moles - Al, Kerrie and Chloe - travelled a few miles and came for the evening. Buzz was the only other person on a Wing. He was off to a Toy Run the next day with his sleigh trailer.

Everyone enjoyed their three-course meal and apart from Phil having a little accident with a drink - he seemed to live up to the message on his T-shirt anyway - according to Yetti, all attendees were very well behaved. Wayne, meanwhile, had had some recent ear surgery and was showing off his new colour-coordinated appendage.



Dr Wayne Spock



Red Wine Spill

There was no Santa this year because he was still very busy gathering up and wrapping his presents but he sent Ginny, his little helper, to hand out a little gift to all the excited Moles. The saying of the night went to the young staff girl serving the food. At dessert time, she brought out two bowls, looked down and was not sure what it was, so she called out "domed chocolate cake". Never heard Christmas pudding called that before. This could be a new expression for Richard who loves his pudding and custard.

It was a great night with wonderful people and here's to many more meet ups soon in the New Year.

The icing on the cake at the end of the evening was the announcement that £900 had been collected in donations for the Toy Run to Meldreth Manor in Royston on Sunday 12th December. Margaret and Ginny have been tireless in their efforts to spend everyone's money on Christmas presents for the children, young people and staff at Meldreth. The ladies have been out hunting the bargains over many days and then wrapping all the gifts up with the assistance of Joe and Yetti. It was agreed at the Christmas meal that because cash donations had been so generous, part of it would be handed over to Meldreth to purchase something special for the home. It should be noted that this sum was on top of personal purchases of gifts by Wingers who delivered them on

the Toy Run. What a magnificent result and more will be reported on the day in the next issue of WingSpan.

And finally, this little story has nothing to do with the above but I thought the photo from our intrepid photographer might amuse you in a curious way. It is both beautiful and scary at the same time and you might even have spotted it on the Chairman's Challenge. The bridal shop was opposite the Iron Horse Ranch House in Market Deeping where Johnny and I enjoyed lunch before travelling onto Squires Cafe Bar near Leeds. We recognised that place from an earlier Treffen run-out.



Halloween Bride

Enjoy January.
Miss (Helen) Whiplash