

Hopefully, the antics of Capital's Wing Ding over a red-hot weekend in June will linger long in the memory of those who participated. As promised, and for those of us who could not attend, here is a re-cap kindly sent in by our Joint Rep Yetti and Ginny.

Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls and Wingers of all ages. Welcome to the Greatest ShowMole. Was it really eight years since the last Wing Ding we put on? When the idea of a Wing Ding came up, I put out a request for people willing to help. With the Moles spread everywhere in the country and abroad, I soon had a list of 39-plus people. No problem there then. We have used Bancroft Rugby Football Club in Buckhurst Hill on and off since 1988 and they were more than willing to put up with us again.

The Thursday set up went smoothly and although a tad hot, many hands made light work. Friday morning came and it was getting hotter. The inscription tent under the weeping willow tree was a very popular place. Then the wingers started to arrive.

Rocky and Alan Russell were in charge of the motor homes and teas, coffee and biscuits were flowing for the arrivals. After a very hot day, and with most people sitting outside the Club House, the legendary evening Capital Spoof was about to happen.... we got everyone out to witness the Wild Animal Extravaganza. You had to be there to see the bear in his tutu Grrrrrrrrr!!!!



The local wildlife even came out to watch the fun.

There were no organised runs out on Saturday but with plenty of suggestions some caught the train into London, some wandered out on the bikes, a lot just chilled and stayed cool – for example, feet in a bucket of ice for birthday girl aged 80 years old Peggy, with a laid back day on the campsite. Silly games were available and many participated.

Then it came to Saturday evening and the awards. People dressed up to enter into the spirit of a circus environment so we had clowns, ringmasters (one with a borrowed whip), strongmen and women with their dumbbells, fortune tellers and mime artists. There were a few stray animals around too to scare everyone and spray the unwitting with snow foam.

We had a total of 78 inscriptions and the Awards went to:

Youngest Rider - Katie Mordicai

Youngest Wing Nut Boy - Logan

Youngest Wing Nut Girl - Lilly

Furthest Travelled Male - Peter Seldon. He rode 265 miles from Devon & Cornwall.

Furthest Travelled Female - Katie Mordicai. She rode 100 miles from Trent.

Best Fancy Dress Male - Chris Wood

Best Fancy Dress Lady - Annie Easter

Clown of the Weekend was Bill Bailey from Kent. He unpacked the tent and poles, discovered he had the wrong poles so went off home again to get them! A Special Award was given to Gary and Barbara Ford - fancy leaving your air beds at home! Best Regional Turnout went to Kent Wings with six bikes. We also awarded Rocky a special Mole as he is standing down as Joint Rep and we wanted to let him and everyone else know how much he has been appreciated over the years.





Peter



Katie



Kent Wings



Logan



Lilly



Bill



Rocky!



Ray & Ginny



Chris, Annie & Barbara!

Then it was party time with the live band The Fabulous Feedback Band. It was still so hot that most people were outside but we hope you all had a good weekend.

The Wing Ding Charities supported this year were Macmillan Nurses and The Royal Free Amyloidosis Charity UK in memory of Joe Sene. Contributions came from many directions – we had Margaret's Cake Stall (very yummy), silly games such as Hooking the Ducks, Shooting the Tins, Mystic Peg, the Human Fruit Machine and Shuffle Board, then there was the Raffle, and if you were still hungry, Pickled Eggs. Donations also came from Top Box sales as well as from many individuals.

Our thanks go to those who organised the above activities and to everyone for joining in and spending their money. The final figure raised looks like it's going to be £800 - just awaiting a last payment. The monies will be split equally between the two very deserving charities. Well Done Everyone!

We would now like to do our own thank you: to all the Moles who turned up on the Thursday to set up and then helped with the breakdown on Sunday; to Rocky for putting a large donation towards the cost of the band; to Roy for doing the Disco on both nights even though he was not too well with a blocked saliva gland; to the Taylor Family for hand making all the awards and to Ingrid for all the art work she did for the pamphlet and T-shirts; to Mark at the Document Centre for the free printing of the pamphlets; to the people who gave donations to help run the event; to Ron and his van for getting loads of Wing Ding equipment to the site and also for helping the Winger who had bent his tow bar to get it straight again; and to all those who helped with other stuff as and when needed.

This is getting like an Oscars speech but without all these people and all the help, the Wing Ding would not have happened. Once again, a very big, big, thank you to you all - from Yetti & Ginny.



Tell me your Fortune, Ringmaster!  
September 23 Page 47

If you want to re-live some of the madness, see YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNe-wU8-Z2I>

Now here's a 'behind the scenes' story. You see the end result but probably don't appreciate the time and effort involved.

The Taylors seem to have picked up a reputation as Mole Award makers and with the recent *Greatest ShowMole Wing Ding*, their skills were put to use. It all started with a 25kg bag of plaster of paris, delivered by Amazon, whose driver moaned about the weight of the package when offloading. A new latex mould was made off an existing Mole. This took two weeks to cure. Then the mixing began. Each Mole was cast individually and had to be held for anything up to one hour until set. Once all 32 Moles were cast, they were left outside to dry out before priming with PVA. Once primed, the tedious job of painting them all, each with their own clown-related colours and patterns, took some time. They all received numerous layers of paint, before a clear coat of gloss. Then the final touches were added including gluing on of hats (with added bling) and bow ties.

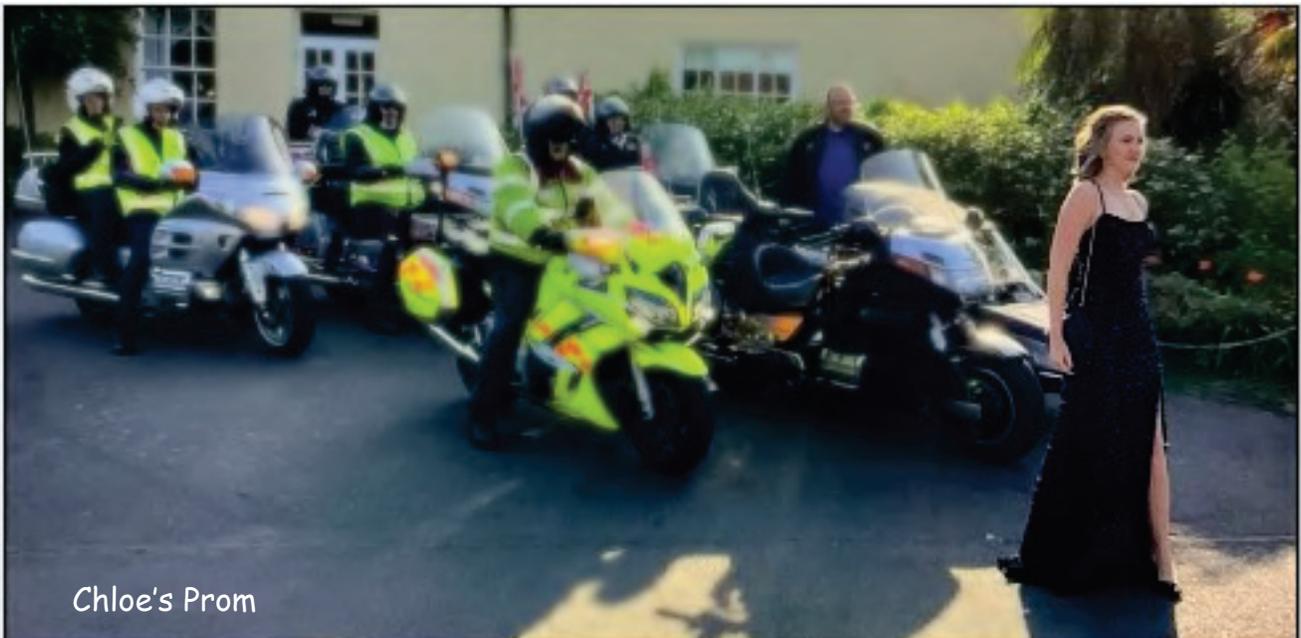
A true labour of love, which only took a couple of months to complete. Our thanks to Wayne, Ingrid and Dani.



Capital ShowMole Awards

I think the 'only took a couple of months' comment is a little understated. The family must have lived and breathed Moles, even dreamed about them, for a lot longer than that.

And finally, our congratulations to Chloe who looked absolutely fabulous, gorgeous, fantastic and any other superlative you can think of when she attended her school prom on 12<sup>th</sup> July. She was escorted to the event by Dad and a few Sussex Wings.



Chloe's Prom

It was a night to remember — for Chloe, the partying with her friends and for Mum and Dad, the washing and tidying up afterwards. To be fair, Chloe did lend a hand with some of the more unsavoury elements resulting from the evening.

Some of us are looking forward to what used to be the last Treffen of the year - Luxembourg, so hope to see you there. If not, enjoy the rest of the touring season.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash



# WINGSPAN



**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE GOLD WING OWNERS CLUB  
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Vol.44 No.9 Issue 511

**September 2023**



## FRONT COVER

Chloe Peskett gets a GoldWing escort to the Prom!

Chloe has been a Wingnut since she was born in 2007, firstly and foremost a Capital Winger. She has been involved in the Real Ale bar at the Treffen selling the snacks along with Dani and Amber. She has also helped out at various Capital Wingdings and Christmas parties.



*Top right, photo taken on a trip to Brighton 6 years ago, And above all partied out with Dad to lean on.*

This July was Chloe's Prom, celebrating the end of exams and secondary school..... she was adamant that she would arrive in the sidecar ... and was escorted by Granny and Grandad Peskett on the trike, Sussex Wingers and a very nice man on a Blood response Bike. He very kindly used his blue lights to stop traffic all the way so she could have maximum impact on arrival ..... it certainly did, far more than any of the limo's and posh cars, anyone can do that!!

**Get yourself on the cover by sending in images of your travels and adventures with your Gold Wing, portrait is best so get out and about and get snapping!**

**Send your images to:**

**[wingspan@gwocgb.co.uk](mailto:wingspan@gwocgb.co.uk)**

