

I started writing this month's Report in a novel location for me - not Wapping but Luxembourg. Like many others, after the British Treffen, Johnny and I ventured into Europe for what used to be the last-of-the-season Treffen, Luxembourg.

We arrived at the Treffen site on Thursday afternoon in fine but windy conditions and inscribed. I even admired the various cloud formations as we sat out in the sun eating a mettwurst and drinking a beer. We have given up camping now and booked a glamping spot at a nearby campsite to Diekirch. Thankfully, we managed to 'pitch our glamp' in sunshine and then the rain started and it didn't stop for 24 hours. So, what shall we do next, apart from admiring the lush, green grass of our surroundings from a warm 'Leaf pod'? Well, let's write the next Wing-span.



Leafy GoldWing



Author at Work

A few Moles joined the Saturday guided tour around the Luxembourg countryside and what a brilliant ride out it was. One of the best we've been on. So many curves over nearly one hundred miles in hot, sunny weather. We all thought the next crossroads would take us back to Diekirch but no, another turning, another curve, until eventually we returned to the site at 6pm.

The Awards ceremony on Saturday evening saw GB achieve 3rd place with 21 bikes. Bob collected the award and admired the donkey.



Third-placed Donkey

If you are wondering, the town's mascot is the donkey and there is a donkey fountain in the centre of Diekirch.

The British Treffen in Uttoxeter was another success and Capital send their thanks and 'well dones' to Tony and the whole Treffen team for all their hard work. Quite a few Capital members made it to the event and we had a gathering over drinks and nibbles on the Sunday afternoon for those who had remained on the campsite and weren't either out gallivanting on rides through the Derbyshire countryside or had gone home early.



The Sunday evening Awards ceremony recognised many achievements including Carl winning for his 1800 in the 'Best Bike Competition'. But the evening went to Peter and Wendy Rakestrow who between them scooped up most of the awards, notably the completion of the GWEF Photo Challenge and the latest GB Chairman's Challenge, 'Best Bike 1500', Runner-up in the 'Skilled Rider Competition' and 'European Wing-ers of the Year'. Our congratulations to them and here's a photo of Peter who is usually the one taking the pictures.



I think the couple probably needed a pantechnicon to get all the awards home but Chris Easter was very happy to help out on that front.

DocBike was chosen again as this year's charity and a magnificent total of just over £1,500 was raised for it. The charity has made huge progress since last August but our Treffen date will always be tinged with sadness as it is the anniversary of Luke's death and his mother, Carol, who collected the cheque, was understandably very emotional.

► DocBike receives GWOCGB Donation



◄ Peter Skilled GoldWing Rider

The Moles enjoyed Uttoxeter because they were not tied to the Real Ale Bar this year. Instead, they visited most of the hostelries in town to check out the beers and sample the foods on offer. So a satisfying weekend.

Finally, our congratulations to Chris Wood who became an official old man or pensioner at the end of August. Good to hear that he had a brilliant day that ended with a surprise by being driven in a classic Bentley to a fine dining restaurant. Yum, yum.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash