



CAPITAL WINGS



Capital's 'Gang of Ten' have holidayed together again this summer and chief organiser Yetti has sent in this report with some of the highlights of the tour. Many thanks to him.

Ten Moles on four bikes hired a gîte for a week in a town called Houffalize near Bastogne, Belgium. Yes, 10 on four bikes. Well, two of them had side cars: Al, Kerrie and Chloe, and Wayne, Ingrid and Dani, and then Chris and Jo and me (Yetti) and Ginny.

The gîte was great for us - just a short ride into town for supplies and a restaurant or two and just a few steps away from a farm vending machine that delivered fresh eggs, Ardennes sausage, fresh milk and home-made ice cream.

We know that Wayne likes his meat and BBQs and here he is eyeing up some delicacies in a shop window with his friend.



Wayne's New Best Friend

Over the week we visited four countries: France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany. We stopped in Laon, France on the way down to the gîte. Our ride outs included Luxembourg and on almost empty roads, we visited Esch-sur-Sûre, Vianden and Luxembourg City. We also travelled to a place called Winterspelt in Germany. Not sure what Wayne saw on the internet about it but as the temperature was about 38 degrees, the cold drink was worth the ride.



What a Shower

In Belgium, we visited the Bastogne War Museum, Chateau de Modave (which for a change was not empty but full of stuff), Durbuy (the smallest city in the world, so I was told), La Roche de Ardenne, Grand Coo (plus the waterfalls) and not forgetting the Chouffe Brewery, which even had a gnome hat on the fermentation vessels.



Our last pilgrimage stop was in Ypres - the service at the Menin Gate is always special. So many memories made and thankfully no breakdowns this year on the 1,200 plus miles trip.

Where to next year Yetti wonders?

It's wonderful that we have seen more people than we expected at our last two Mole Nights. Friends old and new, those who live far away from London and those recovering their health after accidents, it has been great to talk to Raymondo, Welsh Andy and Lucy, Roy, Charles and Buzz and meet a local couple - Gregory and Drue - who have recently acquired an 1800. They brought along Ron, the ULEZ tester, so our gathering became rather musical - Rob, Ray, Ray, Ron, Roy and (R)Andy. We've also seen Carl and Tara, Dave and Lorraine with Buddy their sociable dog, Taz and Trudy and Richard.



▲ Are You Listening

◀ Buzz In a Tube

One raffle was quite unusual as Drue pulled the first two tickets out of the bag. Buzz chose to take the mystery prize which was very different this time. Earlier, Johnny had offered Yetti an unwanted inner tyre tube in case it might be useful in the future but the tube became the prize and Buzz was delighted. He said he would be floating in the sea with it the following weekend.

Buzz then won the next prize so took the money. Lucy pulled the third ticket out of the bag and it seems that every time a new member turns up, they win a prize. So well done to Gregory and Drue. We hope to see them again and, apparently, they have a home in Crete so they should fit in well with the Moles. After so much hilarity, some Moles needed to get out of the pub for some air and a chat about 1200s.



It's a short one this month as all spare time in August went in one way or another towards helping with the Treffen.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash