



CAPITAL WINGS

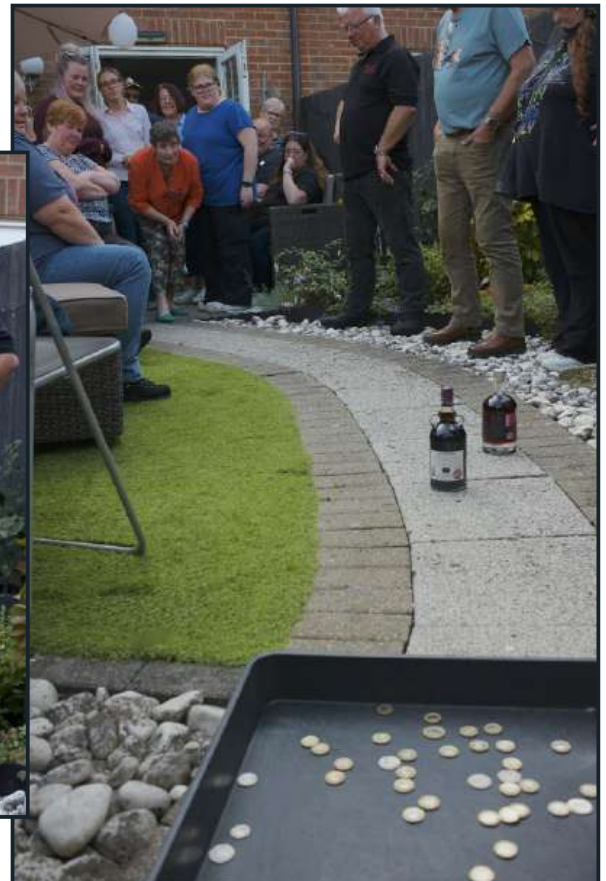


Once again, Margaret delighted us with a dizzying array of sandwiches, cakes, cookies and scones at her annual Tea Party in September - all in aid of Macmillan. Around 35 Wingers came from far and wide and with Margaret's family and friends and also absent Wingers, they together raised over £1,200 for the very deserving charity.

The weather is always kind to us on this special weekend so on a warm and very sunny Saturday, almost everyone gathered in the garden to chat, eat and drink gallons of tea. Then the 'coin' or 'bottle toss' game started. Chloe, as reigning champion, was one of the first to jump up with a handful of one pound coins and try to repeat last year's success. Others then chanced their luck, or showed some skill at least, by throwing their money closest to the two bottles placed on Margaret's garden path.



Chloe Aiming High



Entrance Crowded

The whole point of the game was to get your coin as near to the bottle as possible but pounds were flying all over the place - into the lawn, into the pebbles beside the path, even into planters at the end of the garden. No-one could beat the eventual winner of the Kraken as his coin landed in the paving crack right beside the bottle. (Maybe a note for next year not to place the bottle so close to a crack). Yeti donated the bottle of Kraken and the Taylor family, the second bottle of booze, a raspberry vodka. The winning coin for the latter was tossed by Dani so that bottle added to the food and drink miles calculation by returning home. Meanwhile, Mick said he would save his bottle to be consumed during the Skegness Light Parade weekend.



Kraken Winner



Nearest the Bottle

Yetti gave a vote of thanks on our behalf to Margaret for her hard work in buying and mixing all the ingredients and baking them to perfection. Apparently, many of her neighbours helped to store the delicious baked goods in their freezers. I only hope that Margaret kept a good track of them all.



Thank You Margaret

The following weekend was a celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Skegness Light Parade or SKLP. Many Capital members, together with their extended families, enjoyed the caravans and evening entertainment at the Golden Palm Resort just north of Skegness.

There was an informal arrangement to meet for lunch at the Spirit of Endeavour pub in Boston on Friday. This was about 20 miles from Skegness. A few of us made the meal on our Gold Wings while others were delayed by the wet and windy conditions and some long-distance drivers decided to swap their bikes for cars because of the bad weather. Nevertheless, everyone arrived safely, ready to see an evening static bike display outside the Golden Palm.

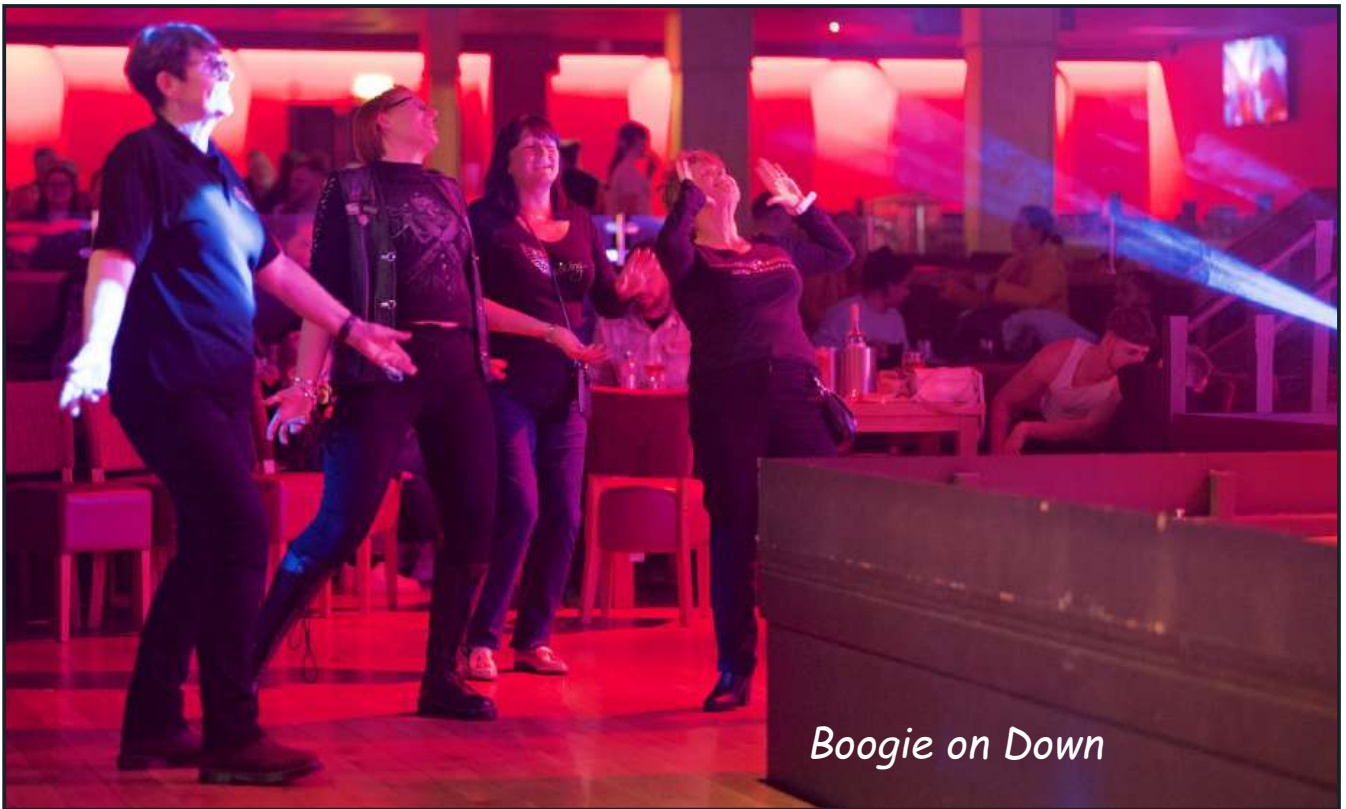


Evening Display

Tribute bands were the evening entertainment on Friday and Saturday after the bingo sessions. It was a good mix of music - Bein' Adams as Bryan Adams, Big Men in Town as a tribute to The Four Seasons, a Take That look-alike band and then a couple singing 80s hits.



Capital's ladies love to dance and boogie wherever they are and Dawn, Sarah, Tara and Hilary did not disappoint.



On Saturday, there was a static display of Gold Wings on Lumley Road in Skeggy. The road was closed for us so there was a relaxed and happy atmosphere as fellow Wingers and the public mingled to chat and sit on the bikes for photos in the sun. Live music played near the Clock Tower as the Mayor and other dignitaries walked around to admire the machines and people supported Macmillan with their donations as well as buying cakes and studying the Gold Wing made from blue balloons.



Balloon Bike

Skegness Static Display

The event that everyone came for was the evening Light Parade along the Grand and North Parades. Johnny and I had never been to Skegness before and the crowd with their cameras and videos was huge. We thought we would ride two laps along the sea front and around the Clock Tower but we think it was four times at least. After the fireworks, Wingers returned to the Golden Palm on their trusty steeds or by bus and car, ready for the evening's entertainment and awards presentation by Sandy.

Surprise, surprise - Capital pipped Norfolk Wings by one inscription to win The Best Attended Region 2024 Award. And another surprise - Bev won The Best Trike Award as voted for by the staff at the Golden Palm. Well done to us and to Bev who also took the Mayor as her passenger on the Light Parade.



Capital Number One

Capital sends a huge vote of thanks to Sandy, Jayne and the team who organised this significant anniversary of the Skegness Light Parade. We enjoyed ourselves enormously and many of us have booked already for next October.



Skegness Awards

And finally, congratulations go to Big Al who celebrated reaching a sexy 60 at the end of October. Watching football was on the agenda and a surprise Chinese meal with family and friends too. Perhaps finished off with a trifle? I'm sure Yetti and others thought of some pranks to play on the chap so we hope that he survived it all.



Don't forget Bonfire Night. More fireworks.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash