



CAPITAL WINGS



Now's the time that we start to anticipate events in the coming months. Events include holidays, motorcycle touring to Wing Dings and Treffens and celebrating significant anniversaries.

For 2025, we can look forward to National Chip & Dip Day (23rd March),

International Pillow Fight Day (5th April),

Dave (Myers) Days (21st and 22nd June),

International Joke Day (1st July) and International Chocolate Day (13th Sept). The GWOCGB will celebrate 45 years this year while more seriously, it's 80 years since the end of World War II in Europe (VE Day on 8th May).

Future thoughts also made me think about past events. For some reason, my mind took me back 30 years to 1995. Do you remember the start of the OJ Simpson murder trial or that the Number 1 single at the time was *On Bended Knee* by Boyz II Men?

Maybe you remember when Austria, Finland and Sweden acted to join the European Union. How about when Eric Cantona assaulted a spectator during the Manchester United vs Crystal Palace football game.

He was banned from playing for eight months by the FA and Cantona's attack was dubbed *The Kung Fu Kick*. He said later: *When the seagulls follow the trawler, it is because they think sardines will be thrown into*

the sea. Crikey! Well, all of these things happened in January 1995 and it made me wonder what was happening in the Gold Wing world at that time.

So I researched some archives viz. WingSpan magazines (real ones on paper) and I landed on the February 1995 issue. It made for some very interesting reading and here is an extract from it:

"Hi Gang - Thought I'd just jot a few lines down to let you know what happened at Capital's AGM which was held on 4th January.

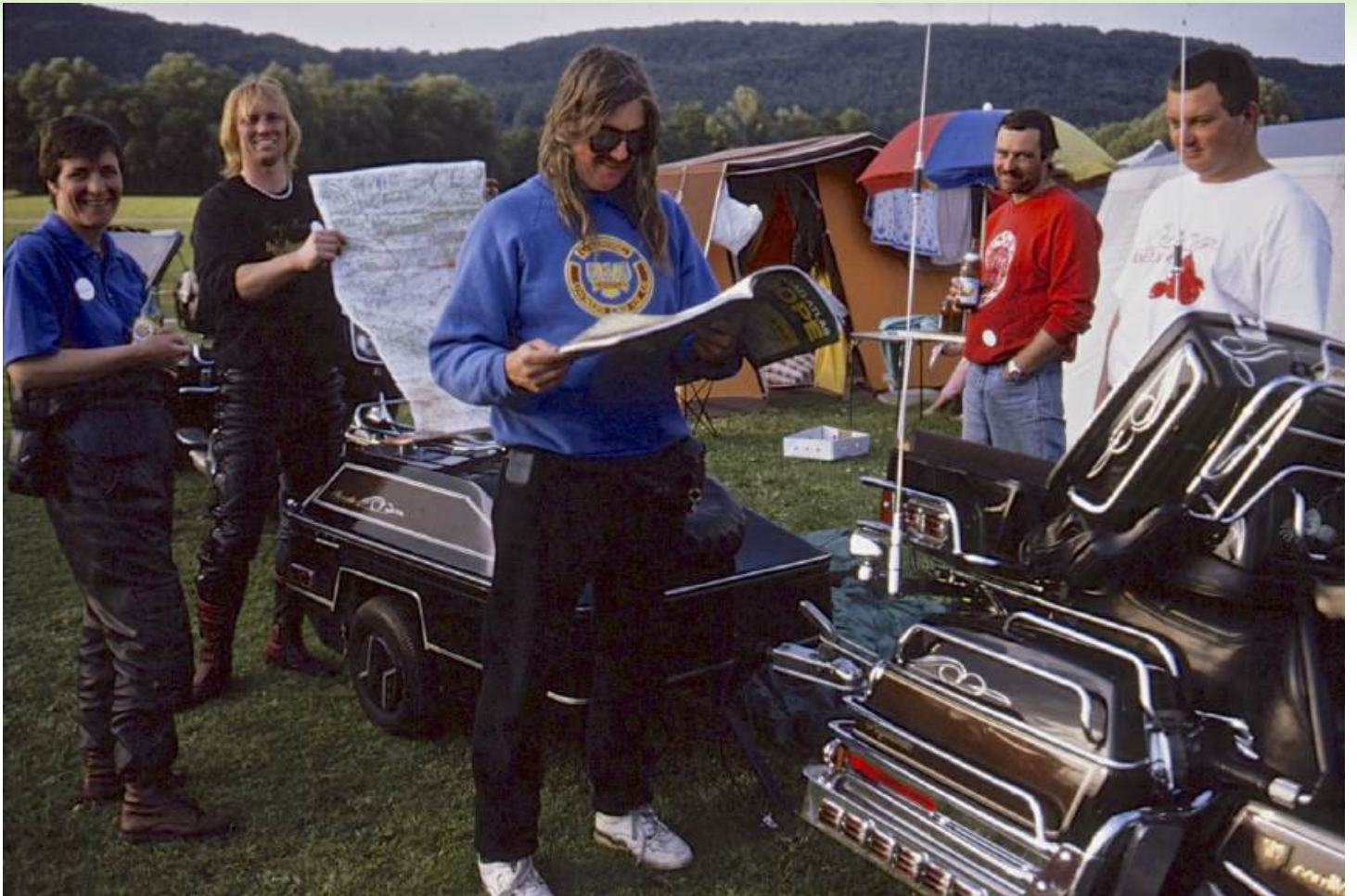
Firstly, there were a few changes that took place on the main committee. For the first time Capital has joint Reps, those being Ray Brooking (commonly own as Yetti) and Richard Monksfield (whose commonly known as several things!).

This left the Secretary's post vacant of which has now been adequately filled by Linda Wood and the

Treasurer's post which was undisputed (even by M Mouse) has been filled by Ginny Jerome yet again

Oh, and by the way, watch out for those Moles. I understand they are on the lookout for Wingers who do silly things to publish their misfortunes in Mole Street Circular. Signed off by Yeti and Dick."

Congratulations to Yetti on this terrific achievement and long may it continue. Here's a blast from the past.



Those Were The Days

Capital are grateful for all the time, effort and fun times you have given the Region over the years.

It is very much appreciated and two 'thank you' notes are published below.

In no order, firstly, from Al, Kerrie and Chloe and secondly, from Ingrid, Wayne and Dani.

"Al met Ray first on the day he picked up his beloved 1200 from the bike shop.

We then properly met Ray and Ginny - as Capital members - in 1988 at Little Oakley (Essex Wing Ding).

We also met Daz and Sarah the same weekend. In those days the girls all dressed up in skirts and high heels with puffed hair and make-up the boys had variations of face masks and joke items! We had purchased just three strips of raffle tickets The Capital lot had a table full we won the first three prizes one of which was a case of beer Graham (Smith, the fire eater) said we couldn't go to bed until they had helped us drink it all!!!

The rest, as they say, is history. Ray and Ginny have both been amazing friends - we've had holidays together and attended no end of Wing Dings and Treffens together. Ray was our Best man and is Chloe's Godfather. They have both been a constant in so many people's lives throughout the last 30 years as area Rep and 32 years for Ginny as Treasurer. They both are what this Club stands for and if it was not for their enthusiasm, there would be no Capital Wings.

Thank you for all that you have done over the years and all that you do and will continue to do."



Left: Workshop Yetti



Right: Yetti As Regional Rep

"Ray and Ginny are the epitome of Capital Wings, always there, keeping a group together even with so many Moles spread far and wide, the glue that seems to hold the Region together.

Our first encounter (many moons ago) was at The Victoria Pub in the City. We had bought our first Wing (1200) from a bike shop near Camden and found a slip of paper in the top box with a phone number on it. No name but just GWOCGB.

Out of curiosity, Wayne called and lo and behold, the Yetmeister invited us to the weekly meet.

It was a meet up to be remembered and the start of many friendships. Ray asked who was attending Centre Wings Wing Ding that weekend, which we said yes to and went to. Since we weren't in the hall when the Awards were being handed out,

Ray needed to collect Wayne's award for youngest rider. So, his "Dad" AKA Yetti accepted on Wayne's behalf. Wayne then got the nickname of Baby. That's when our friendship started.

Ray's knowledge of bikes is second to none. That with Ginny not far away, often just doing lots of admin behind the scenes keeps Capital running as a well-oiled machine.

Ray's whole ethos is just to ride his bike, no politics, no issues, just hop on the bike, ride and enjoy! An ethos of a great Rep and friend to us all."

Two brilliant contributions and my thanks to Kerrie and Ingrid. Johnny and I also send our thanks for the long-standing friendship with Yetti, grateful for his extensive knowledge of motorcycles and how they work to service and mend our 1200.



Sun Goes Down on Old Garage Workshop

Don't forget

St Valentine's Day on Friday 14th.

Love everywhere.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash