



CAPITAL WINGS



We have two tremendous events to report on this month - Capital's Wing Ding MoleWatch '25 and the Ace Cafe's gathering to celebrate 50 years of the Gold Wing.

Southend-on-Sea was the place to be at the end of June to experience MoleWatch '25.

The weather was very hot and sunny - just as it should be for a seaside visit. We got the theme right as it was hot and beach wear was the only suitable attire for the whole weekend.

It was our first time at the Ekco Social Club and the staff, grub and site were spot on.

For the data analysts, there was a total of 68 inscriptions - 58 full weekend inscriptions and 10 day visitor inscriptions.

Eleven Regions were represented, alongside two non-Regions. As for the motorcycles, there were two 50th Anniversary 1800s with less than 500 miles travelled between them.

On Friday evening Capital did it again with a first and last, never to be seen again, show at a Wing Ding..... Wing Walking!

After a big build up to this mind-boggling event, Yetti managed to get 99% of the hall content of people out into the car park to witness this extravaganza.

Looking at the sky and listening, everyone got very excited. Then, a bear (namely Wayne) came strolling around the corner, pulling on a long lead and 'walking a Wing' with Phil Peskett sitting on his trike.



*Capital Wing
Walking*

What else did they expect from Capital? Real Wing Walking?

There was lots of fun raising money for the Ekco Club's Charity 'Copes' (Cervical, Ovarian, Perineal, Endometrial Cancer Support in Essex). Starting with throwing £1 coins at two bottles of spirits, Shirley and Lester from Wales were the closest and won a bottle each. This raised £80 which was a good start and it triggered some good old-fashioned Regional rivalry. Then there was music, beer and chatting - it was deemed too hot for dancing.

Saturday dawned and it was another hot day. Dave and Bev led the run out on their brand new 50th Anniversary Wing. A total of 27 bikes rode to Battlesbridge Antique Centre and Museum, with Colin bringing up the rear. More about Colin later!

Phil and Peg's afternoon birthday gathering with drinks and nibbles supplied by them was most welcome and how Phil managed to get a fly past from a Lancaster Bomber we will never know.

Oh yes, then there was Colin. A Southend Council chap came on site to enquire about the Wing Ding direction signs that Colin had put up on Thursday. Yetti explained that they would be taken down on Sunday morning and he was OK with that. At that precise point, Colin walked in and Yetti said: "That's the man that put them up". Colin said: "What", and Yetti replied: "Man from the Council asking about the signs you put up". Colin's reaction was to give the chap the (Tony Perkins) finger. Then Yetti had to explain that he really was from the Council and he wasn't winding Colin up. Colin was very embarrassed while the Council man was laughing his head off. It all ended very amicably.

On Saturday night there were some great seaside fancy dress costumes.



Lifeguards Linda and Del



Jan and Taz

Yetti handed out the Awards as follows:

Fancy Dress female - Jan

Fancy dress male - Phil Peskett

Furthest travelled man - Ian Hall Edwards from West Wales managed 301 miles

Furthest travelled female - Myra from South Wales with 230 miles. It was not Katie as first announced.

Best lite bike/trike went to Bev

Special cock-up award given to Colin

Best Regional turn out was: 3rd Place - Tudor Rose 4 Bikes; 2nd - South Wales 5 Bikes; and 1st Place - Trent with 6 Bikes. Congratulations to them.

The Raffle was called with the first three winning ticket holders getting to pick their own prize, then tickets were put on the rest. With over 100 prizes (thanks to everyone who donated items), it was the only way to do it. Then it was back to the beer and disco.

Donations, proceeds from the top box sale and the raffle together raised the sum of £360 for the Copes Charity. Well done all and thank you.

Yetti and Ginny would like to thank all the Wingers who attended our Wing Ding. The hard work by all the helpers from set up to break down was fantastic - what a team. Shout outs for everyone involved would be impossible but they would like to say a special thanks to Roy for supplying the disco on Friday and Saturday, to Ron (not even a Winger) for the transportation of all our Wing Ding equipment from North London to Southend and to all the

Capital members who made donations towards the Goody Bags and other vital items for the event.



Chris as Mr Mop

Capital hope that you all enjoyed the weekend - there was a great atmosphere - but if you didn't, please send comments and complaints to our Public Relations man, Colin.

Until the next time, all the Moles wish you a fun-filled rest of the season and we hope to see you at the British Treffen.

"Oh I do like to be beside the sea side....."

Sunday 6 July was the date for a birthday gathering at the Ace Cafe in London to celebrate 50 years of the Gold Wing. After a hot and steamy few days weather wise, the forecast for the day was not brilliant but it was a great turn out of all kinds of models of the motorcycle we all love.



Birthday Poster



Oldest Bike on Display

With Ginny and her clip board checking off the age of the bikes as they arrived, 71 Wings eventually filled the car park. The oldest was a black 1978 GL1000 KZ. The chap lives in Hendon and is not a GWOCGB member but Yetti has his contact details so hopefully our membership number will increase soon.

The newest were two 2025 Anniversary bikes - one gold and one red. Most bikes were this century models - from 2002 to 2025. It was amazing the distance some owners had travelled to come to the Ace - from down South, West Wales, Yorkshire and from the Eastern counties also.

Mark, the Managing Director at the Ace, was impressed and commented that there were more trikes and sidecars in the car park and much more impressive too than the Trike and Sidecar Day they hold there.



1800s at Ace Cafe



Aerial View at the Ace

It was a great day meeting fellow Wingers and some we have not seen in a long while. It was also an opportunity for those who had returned from recent European Treffens to catch up on experiences and the various routes taken to get back home. Hopefully the Ace event will result in a couple of new members to the Club.

It did rain on our parade but not much. Many of us came across flooded roads on our return journeys but we trust everyone had a dry and safe journey home.

Thank you to everyone who participated on a unique day.

Finally, what were you doing in 1981? Well, 1st July was the 44 year anniversary of the first meeting of Capital Wings, so Happy Anniversary to us all. And on that note, happy riding until the next report.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash