



# CAPITAL WINGS



No April Fool this year because we're reporting more on the two announcements we made last month.

Firstly, I'm pleased to give an update on Wayne's health.

For those of you who don't know, Wayne (aka Baby) had a heart attack on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January as he was going home from work. He collapsed as he was boarding the homeward-bound Thameslink train at Farringdon Station. Wayne's guardian angel must have been sitting on his shoulder as a comprehensive bout of CPR was started immediately by a passenger and someone else ensured the train doors stayed open, thus keeping the train on the station platform. Farringdon Station is literally minutes away from St Bartholomew's Hospital, known as Bart's, the renowned heart hospital, and Wayne was taken there and went straight into surgery where he had two stents fitted. In the meantime, Ingrid and Dani were wondering where Wayne was as they couldn't get hold of him by phone and he was late arriving home. Then there was a knock at the door



and a local police officer asked if they were next of kin and told them that Wayne had collapsed at the station and had been taken to Bart's. The girls were then blue lighted in a police car to Bart's hospital. In the following days, Wayne made good progress and then went on to have open heart surgery (double bypass and valve replacement). He was discharged and home for his February birthday - the best present in the world.

In the last few weeks Wayne has made excellent progress. It's going to be slow as he builds up his strength and a couple of months before he's able to return to work. Every day is another step towards better health and it was wonderful to see Wayne out and about at our March Mole Night. He even picked out the winning ticket in our raffle and it was his ticket. Luck is certainly on his side.

*Father Christmas Hug*

We have sadly announced the passing of a very dear friend and long-time Capital member Ted Temple on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026. He was always known as 'Tactless Ted' for his habit of saying what everyone was thinking but didn't say.

On top of this, he had a unique habit of being able to fall asleep at the drop of a hat. Once in a cathedral, with sunglasses on, fast asleep looking up, he woke up to find he was surrounded by tourists looking up at whatever he was looking at!



*Ted at Capital's 30th 2011*

Ted started his working life as a policeman, then he did his National Service in the Army before joining the London Fire Brigade.

Working with a team of like-minded brave chaps in Red Watch A24 in Soho, he saw his fair share of disasters and saved many people from terrible fires. He can be seen here in action tackling a fire at Mister Byrite, the men's clothing shop.



*Ted at Work  
(on the right)*

After retiring from LFB, Ted set up a business with Peter Russell to look after fire and safety issues in London theatres. This friendship continued when Ted was Best Man at Peter's marriage to Julia, an occasion many of us enjoyed at Eltham Palace.



*Wedding Party  
2012*



*Best Man and  
Groom*

Ted bought his first Wing back in 1994 after serving 26 years in the fire brigade.

Ted and Madeline joined *GWOCGB*, travelling to Treffens and Wing Dings in Europe and the UK.

There are many happy memories travelling with them all over England, Europe and America where they became International Reps for the *American Goldwing Owners Association (GWRRA)*.

Ted could also often be seen on the Wing filtering through London traffic en route to his post-retirement work.

He had a trick of guessing the weight of the ladies which became his party piece - those who were weighed will know who you are! But Ted was always first at the bar, always ready to support any charity and the first to offer help and assistance if the situation arose.

Ted and Madeline were active members of *Capital* for many years and it was only as health concerns developed that they stopped riding their Gold Wing and socialising.

Four Gold Wings with Yetti, Taz, Steve Hennigan, John and myself followed the family cars on Ted's last ride to Stevenage Crematorium on 9<sup>th</sup> March.



*Wings Line Up for Ted*

He was carried there on a trusty red 1964 AEC Merryweather 100 foot turntable ladder fire engine that he, Peter and others had bought and preserved and which is now kept at Romford Fire Station. There was a moving moment when his colleagues lined up at the Crematorium.



*London Fire Brigade Honour Ted*

The day had started as a foggy, murky morning but ended with warmth and sunshine - a fitting tribute to a special man who enjoyed life to the full. From his fire brigade colleagues and Goldwing chums we say: "Sleep well, our friend Ted."

We all send our love to Madeline, her three sons and their families.

Miss (Helen) Whiplash