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WENDY RAKESTROW'S REPORT

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So the beginning of November and the news that we had to go back into lockdown. This brought a week of intense activity! Seeing friends, servicing bikes and bringing events forward etc.

As had been the case for most of the year the Tuesday Rendezvous was cancelled, it was to have been at the Welcome Stranger, Liverton which has lived up to its name in

the past but this time was not to be so Peter and I had a fish & chip supper with a beer at home instead.

The Monday breakfast was hastily brought forward to the last day of freedom which turned out to be lovely weather but only three could make it – thanks to Chris & Anne for organizing it, I'll let them do the write up on it.....

And the good news is that we have a new member living in our region – welcome to Mike & Rich, hopefully we'll get to meet them sometime soon.

November's meeting is normally our AGM followed by calendar planning for the forthcoming year. Of course this didn't actually happen so we did a committee election online which resulted in the same line up as before - what a surprise! Marian did her usual good job of sorting the accounts out – unsurprisingly more paid outs than ins this year but we are still well in the black so no problems.

Motorcycle sales must be on the up, the smaller shops have got adverts for 'we pay cash' in their windows and our local Honda dealer has been emailing customers offering to buy bikes – good news for the industry maybe.

The annual NEC Show moved into cyberspace – 'Live online' allowed you to register and watch events/products etc via the net – better than nothing but very much not the same as a day out. It's also sad to see that the National Motorcycle Museum is in financial trouble and that their bid to the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage has failed - see the link for info and how to support the raffle if you feel so inclined:-

<https://www.morebikes.co.uk/your-ride/retro/169340/national-motorcycle-museum-fail-in-bid-for-culture-recovery-fund/>

We attended Brian Keen's (Wessex) funeral via a webcast – what a strange experience but also quite moving. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this very difficult time.

Peter has built a new shed so that he can house the ever expanding Gold Wing archive! He has also been busy on writing projects, GWRRA had a 'classic' edition of their magazine, Cheryl our new PRO asked for some advertising blurb and he has been a sounding board and made some suggestions for possible revamp of the Wing Span.

In the hope of needing to use it next year Peter renewed his passport – online and back with us within 10 days, not bad going after hearing lots of horror stories - and it's a new dark blue one so we won't get his and mine muddled up for a few years then! We heard from Henning our Gold Wing friend in Denmark who said their experience of 2020 was just the same as ours hey ho. Let's just keep everything crossed that this year will prove a better one all round.

Dates for Jan 2021: Who knows?

Wendy Rakestrow