



Herts
Hash
House
Harriers
Herts official Website:
hertshash.co.uk



Run No. 1957
19th December 2021
Venue: The Garden City Brewery
Beers: Star of Wonder; Christmas Porter
Location: Letchworth Garden City
Hare/s: No Eye Deer (with her little helper)
Runners: 16
Virgins: 0
Visitors: 0
Newies: 0
Après: 3
Hash Hounds: 1
Total: 20
Membership: Joined by Jolly World's End Survivors

It was a slightly damp in the air morning to greet the Pack, but it wouldn't be a No Eye Deer Trail without some kind of precipitation in the air, even if it was a light mist.

Two of the Pack had just made their way around from the nearby 'Spoons, one needed some sustenance after the day before. Today saw the usual suspects joined by Testiculator & Action Man, two of the four survivors present from the previous day's World's End Pub Crawl, but more of that later on.

The Circle was called & the Pack welcomed by Fliptop, who got the run number correct, but before No Eye Deer could get to her Chalk-talk she was handed a bag of sweets by Supertrouper for the Held CHK. No Eye Deer add that there were also going to be some festive Mince Pies available there. Then without further ado the Pack were ushered away by the Passageway of the Wynd (Remember the fact the Wynd is not a road or by-way but is a passage way [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] between the original former light industry units)

The early Keenies of Testiculator, Action Man, TBT OBE & Mr X were soon out of the back-passage [Whoa there Pebbledash! – Ed] on to Station Road where a CHK was found, the favourite option from here was to head south-westward up toward the Station, this paid off for them but there was something that did slow them up as outside of the local PremierInn were the words "Mr X" written outside of it. The Hare thought that Mr X was staying there overnight, but in the end it was fully booked so he actually made it home for overnight!

Soon the FRBs were out onto the top end of the Broadway, there a CHK was located. Action Man & Testiculator chose the wrong option of searching down the Broadway, but TBT OBE & Mr X use the crossings where they decided to look beyond Barclays Bank & on to Station Way, where arrows were found away to the southwest, with homes to the left & a tree-lined path to the right & beyond that the Train. This CHK was as far as the Hobbling My Lil' would get, he then turned back to Leys Avenue & limped off to 'spoons for a bit of breakfast.

The rest of the Pack caught up when the two up ahead reached the next CHK by a passageway up beside the drive into the local Morrisons, by this time Milf, Action Man, Testiculator, the Ushanka wearing Tent Packer, Hash Test Dummy & Supertrouper had all crossed the driveway & were away down Station Way for a further 440 Yards to reach the next CHK, the Hare suddenly seemed confused when she arrived there as No Eye Deer thought she had set a CHK there but had not noticed that it was on the opposite side of the Start of Spring Road.

Tent Packer & Fliptop seemed keen on searching over from the T-junction & under the railway bridge but calls of "On!" came from Milf & those who had continued up along what is now Burnell Rise as Station Way had become, they were soon on their way back after finding it was a Falsie. There was no going back to the railway bridge either as the Trail had been now picked up along the south by southeast Spring Road.

Not too far down this suburban street & the Trail led on by 'Down Memory Lane' a small antiques & oddities emporium, or as Mr X said to Hash Test Dummy a shop of 'Tatt', Tent Packer was not the only one who looked on in puzzlement at the 'Online only viewing' of the shops contents.

It wasn't too much further down the road where the Pack would turn off, right by the corner shop that was advertising really cheap booze, something that caught a few eyes. A trot down Campers Road would lead on to a CHK where it joined High Avenue, it was around here that Milf spotted a van that Kylie would have been proud of as it was chock full of Junk!

Milf then called for those near her to do a 'Catalogue Pose' to which Mr X said "What, like Lemming in his Y-fronts from a 1970's Kays Catalogue!" Mother reckons Lemming still has 1970's Y-fronts! [Whoa too much info! – Ed]



Anyhow, the stationary posing was over & there was more mobile posing, to some the sight of Action Man, Testiculator & Mr X being up at the front & leading the way was astonishing considering what they had partaken in the day before, as mentioned in the opening Circle some Hashers do have some stamina.

A quick turn to the right, then a left took the Pack out onto Hillbrow, halfway down this back street another CHK was found, since there was the allure of the option to the north, where a footbridge crosses the Railway at the spur end of Chiltern View, Mr X on the other hand was tempted carry on around the elbow in the west of Hillbrow, as he knew that a section of the Letchworth Greenway passes through a back passage [Calm Down Pebbledash! – Ed] to the fields to the west of Letchworth.

Around the elbow of the road & on the way to the footpath a Mum & her little girl came out from the footpath, the little girl was all excited as she said to her mum that she could see two Santas running toward her, then there were more Santas, for the Pack were wearing the traditional Santa Hats & Christmas Jumpers. It was good the Hash cheered up one little sole this morning.

Moving on below the local Garages & the Hillbrow allotments, the Pack were soon out on to the CHK on the start of the yellow pathways that cut across the barren enclosed field to a gap in the hedgerow. On the other side of the hawthorns a CHK was found.

While Action Man & Tent Packer choose the wrong option to search over by the clump of trees on the solitary Tumulus in the top northern tip of the fields. It was down to Testiculator, Where's Wally? & Mr X to pick up the Trail away along the hedgerow to the south, the Dust would led the Pack along the route of the footpath as it steps out slightly three times as it hugs the edge of the crop fields against the wooded section of the old Urban District Boundary, the same as marked on the 1884 OS Map.

Almost 900 Yards later the FRBs found themselves at the Held CHK, by a 'You Are Here' Info Board, on his approach to this TBT OBE did a Morecambe & Wise 'Bring me sunshine' dance, but his joy was soon curtailed as at the map & Held CHK there were no signs of any mince pies, or sweets. Those around were now getting restless. Calls of "We want sweets" echoed through the mist, since all the goodies were stashed in the backpack that Whatevershesays was wearing & he was lagging away at the tail of the Pack.

After a bit more Catalogue posing, in Why?-fronts & holding pipes by some, was called for by Milf. The Hash looked back out into the mist to see Whatevershesays was now running, with some encouragement from the gathered Pack that were described as 'The Peasants are revolting!' by Mr X to spur on the Hare with the food.

It was worth the wait as the various styles of mince pies, which No Eye Deer claimed she had baked & now encased in Cellophane, were offered around. The Pack were gathered around the carved tree stump, with a nearby bench, they were waved at by a family out cycling.

When time came to move on, the Trail crossed the road & then proceeded north-eastward, which was away from the former 'Isolation Hospital' down toward Hitchin to the southwest. The Pack passed by the end of the Letchworth golf course, no doubt getting attention from the Hackers of TBT OBE & Fliptop, as well as a possible late arriving Sludge [If Sludge went that way? – Ed]

Anyhow, the Trail came back into Letchworth on this Hitchin Road, passing by the former old Post Office & local store, time came for the first of the marked Short Cuts along the Baldock Road, while the rest of the Keenies of Where's Wally? Action Man, Testiculator, Milf, Fliptop, TBT OBE, Tent Packer, Hash Test Dummy & Supertrooper turned off south-eastward on Pasture Avenue which is a long loop, that arcs around by the Letchworth Golf Club & on to Letchworth Lane, where a north by northeast turn would lead back up to the A505 Baldock Road.

Further to the northeast & the Trail passed by the old Muddy Lane to the south, which is now ironically nearly all covered by tarmac! So no loop down there, but one was fast approaching a bit further along the Baldock road as the Keenies reached Barrington Road.

There would be no loop for Mr X, who took the opportunity of following on behind TBT OBE on the short cut, Mr X was now reduced to a walk since he no longer up to multi-tasking after the day before, & now he had to contend with having Sparky bending his ear via his mobile phone.



As Mr X walked along the busy arterial road through south of Letchworth it was like Groundhog Day, as information relayed to Sparky was met with a reply of "I can't hear you!" Seems he's still not using his electric Hearing Trumpet! Mr X then confirmed to Sparky that it was the "Usual Venue!" but Sparky was confused when he asked if the Brewery did food & he got the reply back of "They do good Sausage Rolls!" to which Sparky responded with a question of "Sausage Rolls?" as if he had never had a sausage roll before.

Meanwhile in a saner world, the rest were passing through the St Christopher's School en route on the loop, then they were soon on to William Way, where the Trail turned northward from a CHK on the T-Junction. This last loop allowed TBT OBE, then eventually Mr X get far enough ahead of them to cross the pedestrian crossing & take to Rushby Mead as it leads by the Pixmore School & up into Howard Gardens to its north.

The Trail led through the Gardens, being over 100 Years old these are now a Grade II listed Park. Planned as an integral part of the World's First 'Garden City' the Gardens had work



underdone in 2011 thanks to the Lottery Funding for new features to be added, which include new pathways, a terrace area, fencing around the bowling green, seating, a bridge linking the Gardens with Rushby Mead. New planting now includes a wetland habitat, wild flower area hedges, as well as tree & flower borders, with the statue of Sappho being placed at the southern end.

Sappho (c. 630 – c. 570 BC) was an Archaic Greek poet from Eresos or Mytilene on the island of Lesbos. Sappho is known for her lyric poetry, written to be sung while accompanied by music. In ancient times, Sappho was widely regarded as one of the greatest lyric poets and was given names such as the "Tenth Muse" & "The Poetess".

Most of Sappho's poetry is now lost, only the "Ode to Aphrodite" is certainly complete. She is a well-known symbol for the love between women, giving us the words Lesbian & Sapphic in the English language, however according to legend, she killed herself by leaping from the Leucadian cliffs due to her love for the ferryman Phaon.

From one ancient thing to another as TBT OBE was caught by Mr X, for it was now Teebs turn to get a phone call, this being from Mrs TBT OBE. As the Trail moved on through the small park, Mr X recalled the time many years ago when there were Paddling Pools there & the Hash Trail which ran straight through these, with the Herts Hashers linked by rope on the wrists in groups of threes! Now the pools have been replaced with fountains, that do not need that much maintenance or supervising.

Out on to the end of Norton Way South & to cross Leys Avenue & On Inn to the Brewery, where My Lil' was just starting his imbibing, as Mr X entered the Brewery My Lil' said "I'd have got you a pint but I thought that you'd be out longer!" Anyhow as they sat at the table, a bewildered Sparky looked on in through the end window, he came in saying to Mr X "It says it doesn't open until two pm!" which was the old opening times during Lockdown & they may as well leave it up as it looks like we are heading that way again!

Tops & Windsock joined Mr X & My Lil' as the latter was now trying to solve a mystery, of how when he got back from the World's End Pub Crawl that he had a Peroni Glass stowed in his bag, since he doesn't drink it? Mr X questioned whether it was due to Digger, Action Man then mentioned the 'Spirit of Digger Past' to keep thing festive. Mr X was now convinced that Digger had sent an undercover agent to conduct his dirty work, & on checking his bag he found that he had no Herts Hash RA's Regalia.

On the subject of outfits, Where's Wally? took the Christmas Jumper theme a little bit further by wearing a Santa Outfit that just lacked the fake beard! Supertrooper wanted to know when the Circle was going to take place? Soon was the answer, especially with many not staying due to them wanting to spend Christmas with their families & catch covid from the kids, as well as most of the Pack not wanting to sit outside in the cold damp weather, not that it was warm in the brewery as people kept leaving the door open wide open & with the windows already ajar for the 'elf & safety' conscious covid fresh advice made the place seem like a wind-tunnel at times

The few Down-Downs were sourced & with only a couple of civilians in the Bar, the Circle was going to be held inside. The lack of Hash ecumenical stole was mentioned, but it wasn't in the Hash bag he had this morning! But before proceedings could get under way, Supertrooper gave the Hash a few renditions of Christmas Carols, which the RA didn't know had so many verses. Mr X said that he could see someone vying for Milf's Song-mistress position on the Hash? Mr X then thanked Supertrooper for the Carols & especially for bringing back memories for Sparky & the Christmas Truce in the Trenches!

With no Hares to toast, the Visitors to Herts Hash received their Down-Downs, the last ones went to Lemming & Mr X, for the photos posted of a previous World's End Pub Crawl which showed the RA in an apparent compromising position with a Blue inflatable Blue inflatable Alien!

TBT OBE went out to try & assist Sparky with his Satnavs, since neither couldn't find 'The Wynd' [This is due to the fact that the Wynd is a passageway & not a driveable road! – Ed] the reason for this is all because several years ago Sparky requested that the Hareline had the "Full Address of the

venue", the Full Address of this venue is 22 The Wynd, Letchworth Garden City SG6 3EN, incidentally the Post Code leads into the adjacent car park, but it seems that this is not enough!



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