



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

Run No. 1979
9th May 2022
Venue: The Green Man
Beers: GK Abbot, Tring Side Pocket &
Location: Sandridge
Hare/s: My Lil'
Runners: 11
Virgins: 0
Visitors: 0
Newies: 0
Après: 0
Hash Hounds: 0
Total: 9
Membership: The Guernsey Potato Peel Pie Hash

BETTER POT-LUCK



with
Churchill
today

THAN HUMBLE PIE



under
Hitler
tomorrow

DON'T WASTE FOOD!

With the Day being the 9th of May, it seemed fitting that the Hash should wear Red, White & Blue to celebrate the Liberation of the Channel Islands in 1945. On show were Union Flags as well as a Guernsey St George's Cross, to pay respect to those who suffered the deprivation during the Nazi Occupation of the Channel Islands.

The Islands became cut off from Allied & German Supplies as resources were diverted after the D-Day Landings & the push of allied forces through Europe, not forgetting the Jews who were deported & died in concentration camps, or the Slave Labour that was brought in & perished on the islands building Hitler's 'Atlantic Wall'.

The inhabitants of the only part of the Britain to be occupied & the invaders both were cut off from any supplies, Allied or Axis, they found they were quickly running out of food, hence the name of the excellent Film the Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society, where meals were made from any scraps that could be had.

One war time dish Pebbledash may like is 'Mock Sausage'! The war time ration recipe: *Guernsey Potato Peel Pie was made of 3 ingredients, potatoes, beetroot & milk. With little flour or butter available to the islanders during German occupation, the potato peelings were used to create an open pie crust of sorts instead, into which mashed potato & chopped beetroot was added, then baked in the oven.*

After the obligatory photos outside of the Pub, a local outside who was having a smoke asked "What's all this about?" & he received a reply from Mr X "It's Liberation Day!" which left the confused local asking "Liberating from what?" So, he was put straight on the Liberation of Guernsey, Jersey & Sark from Nazi oppression.

The Pack were updated on what they could expect out there, normal Herts Hash Markings, there would be short cuts & a Sweet Stop. Then without further ado the Pack were shown the way across to House Lane, which runs south from the T junction on the High Street by the Rose & Crown.

Someone called out "Checking!" but there was no CHK outside of the Green Man since everyone knows this Hare's Distain for having these outside of the On Inn. My Lil' pointed out the arrows! These pointed the way in a southeast direction away from the Rose & Crown, where a few old stalwarts recalled the last time we Hashed in Sandridge it was from there.

It wasn't too far until the first CHK was reached on House Lane, here the options were to carry on to the footpath off of House Lane, then on to the Jersey Farm crop fields, this area was chosen as you have Jersey Farm woodland, park & of course a St Helier Road in honour of that particular Channel Island.

However, Mr X had walked down that way & realised that there was no Trail there, then the most unexpected of things was heard, Where's Wally? was calling "On!" as he had found the Trail leading north-eastward up into St Leonards Court, a small estates of fairly modern homes, this would lead out through into the grounds of St Leonards Church Ground, there the next CHK was found.

While Ewok went wrong by searching the Churchyard, the Pack were again in Shock as Where's Wally? found the Trail once more [Was this some kind of record? – Ed] as he picked arrows up down to Church End where it passed through a gap that leads out on to the north-western tip of a triangular green space of St Leonard's Park, there the next CHK was located.

While Milf, Tent Packer & Ewok kept to the upper northern tarmac path along the park's edge, Where's Wally? had scuttled off to the southern tip of the scalene Triangular space. Milf, Ewok & Tent Packer were called back from their first choice & they cut across the grass toward the small play area to follow on behind Where's Wally? who had definitely set his personal best for finding the Trail! As well Mr X & Fliptop as they came out of the Park to emerge out on to St Leonards Crescent.

Fliptop now had to remove his rugby top as he was feeling the sultry heat of the evening, while he & the other FRBs began a loop around to the back street, Paxo, Pebbledash & Kylie all continued along the top of St Leonard's Park on one of the older established path that now has a modern surface. As the Keenies were taken by a rectangular piece of lawn before the setback homes on the Crescent, Mr X stood in for Pebbledash as he told the

other FRBs that “the Hare was now going to take them up the back-passage” to the north & out on to the old footpath where the SCBs had stuck to..

After 190 Yards on the fenced-in footpath, the Pack came out on to ‘Woodcock Hill’, something that would be later pointed out to Pebbledash. The Trail ran down to the south & back out on to House Lane where the Hash would cross over the lane to the side-path for a few yards before taking to the footpath up on the edge of a raised crop field of Jersey Farm. After 170 Yards the FRBs found a CHK.

Ewok, Milf & Tent Packer all followed Where’s Wally? Further to the south along the field’s edge, but Where’s Wally?’s personal best was staying at a mighty Three consecutive correct Trail finds! The forward FRBs stopped just as Mr X & Fliptop were about to follow on, the other two options from the CHK were a few degrees of westward over the crop field toward Jersey Lane, or in the opposite, near due eastward, direction down over the lane to a tree-lined path up around a series of equine Paddocks.

Mr X & Pebbledash now lead the way between the trees as the course of the path rose up & then turned around to a south by southeast for 280 Yards to go through a gap in the large hedgerow. The Hash now soon discovered it was that time of year where the bugs were out in the brambles & hedgerow flowers, Pebbledash was concerned about swallowing some meat (As in flies!). Where’s Wally? now discovered that lime green wasn’t the colour to wear as the bugs descended upon him.

Up a step in the ridge & out on to a by-way of a track. No CHK here on the only two options, which made it easy as Where’s Wally? caught up on this path on the edge of the top fields & he was soon away to the south. He began to pull away from the others until reaching the next CHK at the crossroads of paths by Sherriff & Sons Farm.

Where’s Wally? carried on south by south-eastward & he was soon joined by Ewok & Milf, while Mr X was keen to head off north-eastward up toward Woodcock Hill’s Defence Science & Technology Laboratory, but after a call of “We know what you’re doing!” from Ewok, the RA was then called back by the other FRBs’ calls of “On!” to the southeast.

The RA wasn’t stopping for a pee, but he did admit that if he did then he could pull his Guernsey Flag around like a curtain to cover up any predicament on show. Disappointingly for Mr X, the other four were now on their way back from finding a T, which meant Pebbledash, Fliptop, Paxo, Kylie & the Hare weren’t too far behind as he retraced his steps back toward Woodcock Hill. On his turn back, Mr X was asked by Pebbledash what the building with the larger Aerial was? He said it’s a Home Office building.

In 1939 the secret Wireless Intercept Station was constructed by the GPO at the top of Woodcock Hill, first of a group of stations dedicated to Diplomatic Interception with rows of radio operators listening to the wireless traffic between the Germany, Italy & Tokyo embassies around the world.

Intercepted messages were sent to Bletchley Park for decryption. After the Second World War it became part of the Diplomatic Wireless Service under GCHQ & in 1973 the site was taken over by the Home Office for police research.

The Trail led on through the crop fields for 380 Yards to reach the end of the bone-dry, dusty footpath where it joins another running along the fencing of the Defence Science Labs, this runs from nor-northwest to south east. From the CHK there Mr X fancied the south-westward option around the crop & he picked up the Trail as it headed on to the drive to the solitary Home & then down to Nashes Farm Lane. On the edge of the lane the next CHK was found.

Mr X’s luck now changed as he headed further south in another crop field on the southern side of the lane, he would realise that there was no Dust on this route all the way down to Copper’s Green Lane, so turned back, all while indicating for the other FRBs to search the north-eastern option along the lane, but for reasons only known unto themselves, the other Keenies went away to search to the Southwest, but not for too long as the Hare arrived & marked the Trail to the north east.

Where’s Wally?, Milf & Ewok were soon on their way up to Woodcock Hill Road, with Tent Packer & Mr X following on for 440 Yards to the T-junction with Woodcock Hill Road, here Where’s Wally? went wrong to the northwest, while Ewok & Milf fared better away to the east, for a short 130 Yards trot by the Fruit & Veg suppliers to a wooden gate & from here the Trail would head northward out into fields across from Fairfold’s Farm.

While Where’s Wally? & Ewok easily passed through the two metal poles to restrict access beside the farm gate, Milf found it a bit of a squeeze to get her top half through the narrow gap. Free from the posts, Milf had another 100 Yards of Trail through the tip of the enclosed triangular field to where a CHK was found, in the opposing field there would be two options, along the edge of the field or over on a diagonal path across the bare ground of remaining stalks of the harvested greens.

Where’s Wally? cut over the crops remains, but it was Ewok, who was rolling her top up in the now humid air, who found the Dust along the eastern edge. Where’s Wally? was spotted Short-cutting across to where Ewok, Milf, Tent Packer & Mr X were heading to the corner of Hammonds Wood.

As the Trail progressed through into the western edge of the larger Symondshyde Wood, Ketchup caught up. This woodland was carpeted in places with Bluebells, the distinctive perfume drifted through the air, which is far more pleasant than the issue the area had a few years ago when there were a spate of suicides took place in this wood.

On a cheerier note, Mr X mentioned to Ketchup about paying a visit in the future to the ‘Potato Shed’ where the Three Brewers are based & have a Bar open to the Public, but that’s for another day.

The FRBs were kept on the long trot of a mile as the tree root covered way turned with the perimeter of the woodland, passing through the next section of broadleaf woodland, this being Chalkdell Wood, where it peeled off to head out beside a series of equine paddocks & out on to the Driveway out to Hammonds Lane. A left run would take the FRBs down the narrow rustic Lane with high bramble hedges to reach the Held CHK by the entrance to Hammonds Farm.

The SCBs had taken a different route, the diagonal one Where's Wally? was on earlier on the Trail, this meant that the FRBs weren't held up too long before the SCBs & the Hare, with the sweets, arrived. To while-away the short wait, Milf took pictures of an innocent Tent Packer sitting by a sign Warning Criminals were being watched!



When the Trail resumed there would be a split for the FRBs & the SCBs, with the latter heading away down Hammonds Lane to the west, while the Keenies set off through the walled farmyard, though Ewok had to stop as she had a fit of the giggles when "On!" was called & it made Where's Wally? Jump & make a shriek! Then she had to have a photo stop by a small hole in the brick wall. Meanwhile Mr X was having difficulties with his Guernsey Flag, as it had been blown around the front, he said he felt as if Superman's Cape had gone wrong.

Finally Ewok could move on as the Trail headed north by northeast out through the farm open crop fields behind the red brick walled farmyard, the footpath changed side of the edge of several adjoining fields to run by a line of large established Oaks, then after 680 Yards they arrived at Coleman Green Lane. The Keenies were on the edge of Nomansland, it was here that Tent Packer carried on over the road, when Mr X pointed out the arrow pointing the way south-westward on the tarmac, Tent Packer said he had to go that way & would catch up.

It was a long 800 Yards down the rustic Lane as it was noticed that there is a new footpath all the way along on a parallel route in the southern edge of that section of the new Heartwood Forest against the Lane. Tent Packer would catch up with Milf & Mr X. Tent Packer claimed he is "Getting too old for this!" So to cheer him up it was mentioned that you're only as old as the woman you feel!

Meanwhile Ewok, Ketchup & Where's Wally? all pulled away. At the triangle in the road with Hammond's Lane, the front three of the FRBs were briefly glimpsed up the hill by the others, higher away to the east in a direction back to Hammonds Farm, but before reaching this a footpath was found marked with Trail off to the south.

While advancing along the Hertfordshire Way, the last three stopped to peer through to the new plantations of the Heartwood Forest to the west of the old established woodland, here there are a myriad of new options that can be Hashed in the future. But part of the new Forest paths are currently closed so the Bluebells do not get trampled underfoot by walkers & rambler.

It was a long run Inn of a mile to reach the outskirts of Sandridge, Mr X was astonished to see that what was once farm land at the end of the established woodland is now all new plantations. Mr X was also pleasantly surprised when entering the northern end of Sandridge, having crossed Langley Grove on the old path that is now a gravel one, the old dilapidated garages have all now gone & been replaced with some nice looking modern flats & houses that are far more pleasing on the eye. This path would lead by the Salvation Army Base in the old large building red brick building to the east of St Leonard's Church.

The Last three in would run Inn through the Church Yard, as Mr X explained he once attended a Wedding there when a Shout of "Don't you dare!" echoed out after the Vicar had asked "f anyone had any reason why..." it was aimed at a co-worker of the groom who was mad about him!

Out of the old lychgate, which was built as a World War I memorial & on by the 17t Century Black & White timbered Queens Head, another of the three good Pubs in Sundridge.

Back at the Pub & the place was busy, with a Quiz underway in the main Bar, that explained the lots of reserved tables, while under the large marquee was a meeting of the SRAA (Sandridge Road Allotment Association), so the Pack sat outside to enjoy a couple of pints on the warm evening. As it was long Trail for the Runners, a busy Monday Night & a queue at the Bar, the Down-Downs were put off until the following week's Hash.

As for the Potato Peel Pie, well several bags of crisps had to suffice.....

