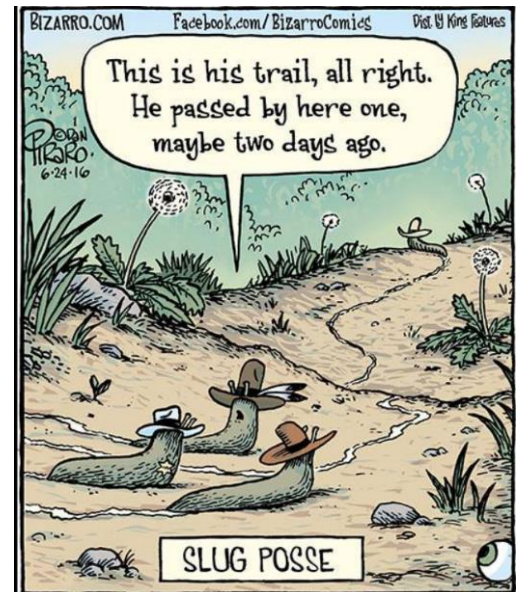


Herts  
Hash  
House  
Harriers  
**Herts official Website: [hertshash.co.uk](http://hertshash.co.uk)**

Run No.1996  
30th August 2022  
Venue: Horse & Groom  
Location: Hatfield  
Beer: Landlord; GK Abbott; Mad Squirrel; 3 Brewers  
Hare/s: My Lil'  
Runners: 12  
Virgins: 0  
Visitors: 0  
Newies: 0  
Après: 0  
Hash Hounds: 0  
Total: 12  
Membership: Bangers & Mash Trail



The Hare had set the Trail earlier in the day, gone home & was waiting for a bus to get him to the venue, but there was no sign of the 301 Bus, so My Lil' relied on a neighbour to give him a lift, which did get him to the Horse & Gloom in time to have a Beer with Mr X, who was already ensconced within the Bar.

Time came around to the allotted start time, which for those who pay attention to Hash 'Alerts' knew it was a 18:50 start! But, hey-ho, one wonders why one bothers to post on the on-line Hare-line, or send out weekly emails, or use the Herts Hash Facebook page to alert all the members of the Pack to the facts of the date, the venue or even the TIME of the next Trail? So, it came as no surprise later on, when the RA got back, that he found he had a missed call from Skip, who was with Sludge, to ask where the rest of the Hash were? Herding cats is far easier than organising our Pack!

The Hare was keen to get on with things & the Circle was called in the car park in Sword & Arm Alley behind the Pub, & once he had marked the start it was down to Paxo to do the welcoming honours to those gathered here this evening. The Hare stepped up after the Hash Hen, Short Cuts were mentioned, as well as the Longer of the options would take just over an hour.

Milf & Kylie were not impressed, for they had arrived wearing their EWSH3 Hi-vis waistcoats as there was talk of getting a Train out to point A & running back to B, seems that the Hare had a change of heart & this option was dropped, perhaps for a later date?

Once underway, No Eye Deer, Where's Wally? & Zing-a-long-a-max were soon away up toward the old Great North Road, passing by the Great Northern Pub to cross over to the bus stops outside of Hatfield Railway Station, this was done by the set of Pedestrian crossing Lights. While the rest of the Pack sensibly waited for the Green Man to light up, No Eye Deer made a mad dash out over the old thoroughfare, something that brought a few comments.

The First CHK was found next to the bottom of the steps to the set of steps leading up to a footbridge, high above the mainlines to Kings Cross, while some searched down toward what is still known as Grays Roundabout, even though the garage closed years ago, No Eye Deer was keen to head up the steep climb on the stairs. For Kylie there would be no chance to see any Trains passing underneath, for the green panelled side were high enough to prevent anyone leaping over.

After the short & very gentle decent to Beaconsfield Road, the Trail crossed straight over to the alleyway leading on westward to Endymion Road & there the next CHK was found, here Mr X would go wrong & he's the one supposedly with 'Local Knowledge' something that did not go amiss with Paxo & Kylie after he came back for the passage way to the south & French Horn Lane.

Mr X now had to make up lost ground as he now got back on track as the arrows pointed the way further westward on to Cranbourne Road, up ahead he could see Milf, Pebbledash & Pepé le Pew but No Eye Deer, Zing-a-long-a-max & Where's Wally? were now out of sight as the established old road turns slightly to joins Old French Horn Lane halfway along its length.

Now the Trail was back to the west, then for the Keenies the first of many loops on today's Trail, as arrows pointed the way north & into St Albans Road East Recreation Ground, a place that seemed popular with families with young kids. Mr X joined No Eye Deer, Where's Wally? & Zing-a-long-a-max on the loop, for after 170 Yards to the opposite entrance on St Albans Road East it would turn westward once again, passing by what was Dr Rathbone's House, opposite where Mr X's Grandmother used to live.

The Trail came around from the roundabout to come back to French Horn Lane on what was a 320 Yard S-shaped trot over to the pedestrian crossing on French Horn Lane, then taking to the separated end of the French Horn Lane as it runs behind Salisbury Memorial Hall & then on over the small green space by the tower block of Goldings House.

Up ahead Mr X could see Paxo & Kylie across the area where a skate park sits, & beside this they were heading toward the large white arcing footbridge over Link Drive, they were being followed by their groupie, an elderly

woman leaning heavily on her 'Sholley' as she tried to catch them. Mr X had visions of Harry Enfield & Kathy Burke's "Ooh, young man!" character. Once over the bridge, the Trail would head further south by southeast on an alleyway of 230 Yards to come out on to the end of Old Rectory Drive, here Mr X would be questioned on the History of this area by Kylie.

The Trail continued straight across the end of the drive, on the next section of the footpath, this part heading due south, then turning at an elbow to southwest, it was just after the elbow in the path that music could be heard & at a gap in the hedgerow a guy could be seen, sitting cross-legged & worshipping a the great shopping trolley alter, while having a bit of a puff & a drink at the ASDA trolley on its side.

On the way up to the end of the path the local Air Cadets of 2203 Hatfield & de Havilland Squadron were practising their drill, Pepé le Pew & cast a beady-eye to the lads & lasses on the parade ground. He couldn't hang around to bark out any orders, for he had to join Pebbledash, the Hare, No Eye Deer, Milf, Where's Wally? & Zing-a-long-a-max in heading down from the CHK on Woods Avenue & head toward the New Town Centre to the south, then once on the drop down to an underpass below the road for access to the local schools, the Trail would come back up to the north & then off on to a footpath between the Bishop's Hatfield Girls School & the Philip Howard Catholic Schools.

The old worn out tarmac footpath had a hedgerow on either side, with wire fencing behind that to prevent access to the school fields, though in places it seems that these had been breached by the school kids, it was along this section the Pack got to see the first real fly-tipped carp in this area of Hatfield, sadly there would be more of this for the rest of the Trail.

After 300 Yards the Trail came out on to Briars Lane, it was now that the RA caught up with Zing-a-long-a-max & Where's Wally? where the Trail had been marked by the Hare from a CHK on the bend on Briar's Lane to the south & away from the Roe Hill Hall, now the FRBs would find that they would be led around quite a few loops as the Trail entered the rabbit warren of interconnection cut-throughs, alleyways & back-passages of the 1950-60s South Hatfield Estates.

While Zing-a-long-a-max & Where's Wally? took to the left-hand option on Elm Drive, while Pebbledash & Pepé le Pew along with the Hare took to the right-hand choice, the FRBs would re-join the rest on the way down to Cedar Road, where the Trail headed down to Woods Avenue & then over this to Heron Way.

The Keenies of Zing-a-long-a-max & Where's Wally?, No Eye Deer, Milf & Mr X would now be lead a merry dance on a lot of loops, firstly through the area where the streets are named after avian species, every so often spotting the SCBs. Then as the Trail headed over to the very south-eastern corner of Hatfield the SCBs would last be spotted around Eagle Way but not be seen again until reaching the On Inn.

For Mr X the Trail was now getting painful as his second pint had worked its way through to his bladder, but there was nowhere to stop off at & scare the squirrels, firstly there was a girl out breast-feeding her baby, then the Trail led around through Cherry Way Park, where all the local kids were out playing.

More estate homes had to be passed by until crossing Traveller's Lane by the roundabout for the road that joins the Great North Road to Welham Green. Thankfully the Trail wasn't going that far, nor getting a Train back from there! Instead the FRBs were now taken over to & then through Millwards a short way to reach the Millwards Park. Mr X knew that this was the furthest point out & the Keenies were now heading back as Dust could clearly be seen leading diagonally 130 Yards through the tree-line & across the southern section of the playing fields.

Once beyond the tree-line, there would be another 280 yards to run along by the railway's edge, heading northward up into the south-eastern corner of a woodland of broadleaf trees Mr X & No Eye Deer managed to get through some 2,000th Weekend business, though she said that local Buses in Letchworth are not reliable!

Which left the Hares for the 2,00th weekend something to look at, but the update on the rest of the plans were a relief for Mr X, & there was even more relief for him as they entered the corner of the woodland, a spot to scare a squirrel or two! Now a lot lighter Mr X soon caught up with Milf & No Eye Deer, but the enthusiasm had now dwindled as the SCBs & other FRBs were now out of sight.

Making their way up between the Oaks & Hornbeams, No Eye Deer commented on how many green spaces there are in Hatfield as the Trail would pass by the Deerswood Avenue Allotments & out on to Deerswood Avenue, where the Trail would cross over & lead by the front of Hyena's Mum's old house on ~~Bodger~~ (sorry) Badger Way.

Mr X said that there wasn't far to go, this would be repeated several times & picked up upon by No Eye Deer & Milf as they made their way up through the green space between the homes & up to Oxlease Drive, crossing over this to continue for 200 Yards on more wide green space from Primrose close up to Howe Dell Woods, here the Held CHK had been marked on to the hard-core path that runs beside the bottom of the Oak View School.

A further 650 Yards the RA encouraged the two Harriettes with him by offering up "Not far to go now!" as the Trail moved on through the gloom under the canopy of more Oak trees, then emerging out by a small play area, where there were a pack of Jack Russels being walked. Milf was amazed that there was more fly-tipped stuff surrounding an overflowing bin & that someone would have had to carry that all the way to the end of this woodland, Mr X said that they probably used one of the many local abandoned shopping trolleys?

Mr X now mentioned that **TBT OBE** had emailed him about the next Herts Run, he had reconnoitred & that the Hash would miss the weekend outside 'Honesty Beerfestival' at the Queens Head, they would have to make do with the normal hand-pumps inside the Pub. Milf said why didn't they get **TBT OBE** to change the date? Mr X replied with "Herding Cats!" as half the Pack would miss if there was a sudden change of date, as we hardly advertise these things!

The Trail came out to a small 1970's estate, weaving through a couple of the interconnecting footpaths between the flats to come out on to the end of French Horn Lane, crossing over by a bus stop & then up a few steps to the underpass to the east of the railway line. A few photos were taken here, as some of the graffiti animals on the walk-through were pretty impressive, especially the Deer, of course No Eye Deer was pictured beside these.

A few feet along & on the next underpass where there were images of various people, Mr X reckoned that the old guy with a moustache look an awful lot like Tent Packer! A picture was taken of this as well. It was really now just a short way to go, as the trail passed by the Catholic Church & out into Salisbury Square & in to the car park.

Returning to the Pub & everyone else was back, having ordered their Bangers & Mash! The Pack had been boosted by the presence of Skip & Sludge, who did a bit of the Trail before turning back, if only they read the Hash information they could have taken the official Short Cuts!

The Bangers & Mash were excellent, even Where's Wally? had some, after No Eye Deer had also ordered for Mr X, who already had an order placed for him before he arrived back from the Trail, Where's Wally? devoured the spare plate of grub, there were also a veggie options for Pebbledash, or even our resident varitarian **TBT OBE** if he had been there

After a bit of sun-shade wrestling, when the wind picked up, it came to the Down-Downs there was just the one to be awarded, that was for the Hare after setting what everyone said was a good Trail, with decent Ales & superb grub.



"I don't know. Maybe rub spinach on it?"



*"It says to call tech-support after 3:00 PM.  
That's when the 3rd graders they hire get home  
from school."*

I bloody love Jamie Oliver's Keep Cooking and Carry On because he says you can substitute ingredients for ones you do have in the cupboard. I made his Aubergine Curry Dal with Herby Flatbreads tonight.

