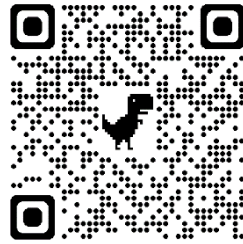


Hash
House
Harriers
Herts official Website: hertshash.co.uk

Run No.1999
20th Sept 2022
Venue: Six Ashes Templars
Location: Hertford
Beer: Brains SA; Old Peculier; Abbot
Hare/s: Ketchup
Runners: 10
Virgins: 0
Visitors: 0
Newies: 0
Après: 0
Hash Hounds: 0
Total: 10
Membership: Pigin' out!



Well it's been a week & half for us all, with the passing of the Late Queen Elizabeth II, the last regular Monday Trail of 2022 was put off by a day out of respect due to her State Funeral. If this wasn't enough, for some travelling by Public Transport, there was an incident with overhead power lines at Stevenage, which led to Train cancellations & a change to getting a bus to Hertford.

My Lil' & Mr X were found imbibing in the Six Templars by No Eye Deer, Pepé le Pew, Pebbledash & Paxo, then where's Wally? as they came along. Where's Wally? then received a phone call from the Hare to advise the Pack to start the Hash from the St Andrew's Street Car Park.

So, off went a procession of Hashers by the hoardings behind which the semi-demolished Theatre sits, its being rebuilt to allow more seating, as well as a 'Three Bespoke Cinema screens' improved integration with the 12th Century Motte via a new board walk into the Castle Grounds, but more importantly a '1st floor Bar'!

The Pack made their over the River Lea & the statue of Samuel Stone, which had a couple mimicking his pointing of his left index finger to the sky. Samuel Stone was a 17th Century Puritan, famed for leaving England to America & establishing Hartford Connecticut, he was baptised at All Saints Church in our Hertford & attended the Hale Grammar School in 1617 as one of its first pupils when it was created. The Statue of the 'non-conformist' minister was erected to celebrate the Millennium.

On the way to the car park, the Pack would meet Sludge & Skip, who were making their way around to the Six Templars, an about-turn & the Pack circled up near to the gate in to the walled grounds of Hertford Castle, from where Pepé le Pew had to be called back from prematurely searching for the start of the Trail.

Introductions were completed by Mr X, then after Pepé le Pew found out that Herts Hash Run 2,000th was on the coming Friday, he jokingly claimed he no longer had to be Hare for the 2,00th Weekend! No one was buying this! Pepé le Pew could now cross the small wooden footbridge through the gate in the wall & start searching once more.

The first CHK was discovered by the bridge spanning the river Lea within the Castle Gardens. There is no exit available on the east at the moment due to the renovation of the Theatre. Mr X & Where's Wally headed westward, out toward the back-passage running from St Andrews Street, & the Church its named after, running over the River Lea & by the A414 to Castle Street, but they were called back as "On!" was called back by the Motte & around the Old Castle Walls in a clockwise direction.

With the rest making their way around this way, Where's Wally? & Mr X cut across the pebbled yard in front of the Castle to tag along behind Pepé le Pew & Paxo as Trail led on to another CHK by the old stone & flint wall lining Water Lane inside the Castle Grounds.

Mr X & Where's Wally? now went to search the small sunken gardens outside to the south of the Castle Gardens, where they knew there was an underpass near to the White Horse, but no Dust was found there & instead they began to head back as the rest had made their way down Water Lane, to exit the grounds by a small gate to a space on the bend on the A414. Here Sludge was found waiting patiently at the crossing, it was also at this point that the Hare caught up. Mr X asked if Ketchup was late leaving the Crafty Duck? The Hare categorically denied this slanderous statement.

The Pack made their way over the staggered crossing to the opposite side of the dual carriageways, near to where the Ford Garage used to be, this has now been replaced by a Chelsea Furniture Store, with signage & colour scheme that didn't really shout about what the building is now home to.

The Trail now led down West Street, which ironically heads away to the southwest, passing by the Black Horse, there Mr X peered through the windows to see what Ales were on offer, as he began to try & catch up with My Lil', Pepé le Pew, No Eye Deer, Pebbledash & Sludge but then up ahead he could see them come to a halt as they ran on to a Bar-CHK by Westfield.

So, it was back to the old 'Wallfield Alley' footpath that rises to the southeast beside the Black Horse, then after a few yards turns by 90 degrees to head away to the southwest, there was still enough remaining light for the Pack not to worry about having to rely on their torches, as they moved along on this stony rough uncapped path

running behind gardens of the West Street cottages below & then the line of cottages at the edge of the old Wallfield House & Leahoe grounds, these old buildings would later be replaced by Hertford County Hall that was opened in 1939. The Local Defence Volunteers (Later The Home Guard) were formed here. [What did Paxo do in the Army? – Ed!]

The Trail would stick with this higher path for the whole of its 290 Yards, at the end dropping down through the wooded escarpment of the old Leahoe grounds to come out on to Horns Road, near to where there was an old siding from the Great Northern line Hertford Branch, that originally ran from Hertford East through to the Welwyn Junction before the Garden City itself was under construction some 36 years later.

This small spur line was for access to the large area of the Horns Mill, which on the 1884 Ordinance Survey Map is marked as 'Horns Mill (Oilcake)' which mean the mill was used for cold pressing various seeds like flax & linseed & once the process was finished they were left with the 'oilcake' & that was used to feed animals.

A CHK was found at the junction with Bullocks Lane & Hornsmill Road. Some now wondered if there was going to be a Beer Stop at Mark E Mark's? At one point it seemed like it, as Pebbledash led the way down toward Horns Mill area of Hertford but the progress towards this was soon curtailed at another CHK.

From here Mr X crossed over to where Pearson Avenue leads away to the east, as he knew that 2-1-2's Parents used to live somewhere up on this steep hillside, he found Dust on the long climb up the snaking road with several side roads to the north.

Where's Wally? now caught up & passed the RA as the Trail turned with the road to its straight north bound run out on the plateau & on to Bullocks Lane, which the Hare had sent Sludge & Paxo up as a Short Cut. The Trail led across from the front of County Hall to the bend in the road where Bullocks lane becomes Peggs Lane. A CHK was found here, while Mr X went wrong searching along Pegs Lane, Where's Wally? headed off down Morgan's Road, both were wrong, but on his way back Where's Wally? then made up for his mistake as when returning he diverted to peel off onto Highfield Road & he picked up the Trail.

After a 220 Yard trot, the Pack would find Sludge & Paxo waiting at the Held CHK near to a footpath descending away to the northeast. The Pack regrouped & as the Hare approached there were a couple of calls of "Where are the sweets?" however, those enquiring would be disappointed as the Hare let them down with a "I meant to pop in to Sainsbury's to get some, but they'd only spoil your meal tonight!"

When the Trail resumed, Pepé le Pew was straight down the old steep & dark path, Pepé le Pew's powerful head-torch illuminated his progress as he penetrated further into this gloomy back-passage [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] for Mr X & My Lil', they were far enough back to hear "On!" being called by Where's Wally? as he, Sludge, Paxo, Pebbledash, No Eye Deer & the Hare had progressed further long Queens Road to the north, back in the late 1800's this road was known as Baylehall Road.

If you're wondering why HM Queen was conveyed in this aircraft wonder no more. The last bit got me.



Pete Morgan
5h · 🌐

I never met HM The Queen, but when I was a staff officer in 2009 I was tasked with reviewing and rewriting the Operation OVERSTUDY plans, which detail how we would repatriate her body if she died overseas.

The existing plan was for her to be transported back in a BAe 146, a smart business jet operated by 32 The Royal Squadron. However, the repatriation of Princess Diana in 1997 had not gone smoothly due to difficulties in loading the coffin into the freight bay. Subsequent modifications to the aircraft had made access to the freight bay almost impossible.

With a requirement for the aircraft to be able to land at RAF Northolt, the only 2 options were to use a C130 or C17. The C130 was noisy and would impact the ceremonial aspects of her arrival at RAF Northolt, whereas the C17 was quieter and was, sadly, very familiar with the repatriation role from undertaking the repatriation of Service personnel who had died in Afghanistan.

A dress rehearsal at RAF Northolt proved that it would work, but the impact of changing from a smart-looking business jet to a more utilitarian C17 was fairly significant and so approval from the Palace for the change to our plans was sought.

The response that came back from HM The Queen was: 'If it's good enough for my boys, then it's good enough for me.'

An incredible person who I am proud to have served. RIP Ma'am.



211 Yards further on & the Trail would now take to Hagsdell Road from a CHK there, this urban road began to drop down before crossing over to the pass through the south-western corner entrance into the graveyard of All Saints Church. It was a steady trot through the dark of the wooded graveyard & torches were needed, firstly moving to the south-eastern corner kissing gate, there it would turn northward & a run for 230 yards to find a CHK by the end of the transept of All Saints Church.

The RA had to stop off amongst the Pines & the Yews, he was not the only one, as two pints of Old Peculier earlier had worked their way through the system. By the time he had made up lost ground & caught up with Sludge & Paxo, he was unaware they were being offered a Short Cut by the Hare. My Lil' would join them as they made their way around the front of the rose stone building, stopping to take a Hash Photo of their feet on the large white painted tyre that looked like a large CHK, then on to the main, ornate gates near to an underpass.

While these four made their way to the western under pass, the rest were heading away from the Church that dominates this main centre of Hertford, especially noticeable with the windows illuminated & shining out against the night that was now drawing in.

Pepé le Pew, No Eye Deer, Pebbledash were now following Where's Wally? who had hit a rich vein of form & appeared to be better at finding the Trail in the

dark than he can in broad daylight! Following on behind them was Des Res, who had a late start, but had bumped into Skip, who claimed to have put Des Res "On the right track!"

The SCBs were now taking to the steps to the underpass beneath Gascoyne Way, here in the subway, Paxo said to Mr X "I've £160 to give you!" to which Mr X replied "Save it for the Pub as it'll look dodgy handing over money in a subway where suspect white powder could be found on the floor!" they moved on up Church Street on the north side of the A414. Here they stopped by the shop selling walking aids, for another photo.

Out on to Fore Street, by the currently closed Salisbury Arms Hotel, Mr X realised that he was on a Short Cut & wasn't completing the rest of the Trail, which had the FRBs passing by the other, eastern, Underpass at the north-eastern end of Gascoyne Way. The RA now presumed that he wouldn't catch up as the FRBs would make their way around from the opposite end of Fore Street from the SCB's.

Where's Wally? No Eye Deer, Pebbledash, Pepé le Pew & the late coming Des Res were led over London Road & then on around on by the huge frontage of Stag House, still complete with 'Offices For Let' banner draped across what has been mostly a vacant site since the Warehouse Pub was demolished in the 1990's to make way for these, it'll probably be only a matter of time before these empty offices become Luxury Apartments?

The Trail took the Keenies over the staggered crossing on the Ware Road, then to run 350 Yards down by Tesco's on Mill road, also passing by one of Paxo's old haunts in the shape of the former & very distinctive Dolphin Pub, which was designed to match the architecture of the Hertford East Station opposite. They were taken down to the footbridges at the end of Mill Lane, these span the weirs in a part of the Lea that regulate the level between the Navigation & the old river's course.

Phil and Holly on their way to Alton Towers



Dust was found out on to the edge of Hartham Common. Thankfully the path leading westward back along the bank of the River Lea Navigation is lit as FRBs embarked on the last leg of the Trail, completing the last 730 Yards back by Sainsbury's & the McMullen's Brewery to emerge out to the 'On Inn' on Old Cross.

Bags fetched & the Pack settled into the 'spoons, where the RA went through the final Circle before food orders were placed. The Hare was rewarded for an excellent Trail, that got the Hash back just after 20:00Hrs; the other Down-Downs went to Where's Wally? for actually finding the Trail better in the dark than he can in day-light! Paxo for offering Mr X £160 notes in an underpass where suspicious looking white powder could have been nearby!

Thankfully for the RA & Beermaster, Des Res had driven over, so they could stay & eat as the other option of a lift with No Eye Deer was leaving early after a hard days working.



They hired a new valet guy at my dad's office park. He seems to be a little O.C.D.

