

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

Run No. 2093  
 Date: 14th April 2024  
 Venue: the Countryman Tea Rooms  
 Location: Chipping  
 Beers/Cider/Tea: Spitfire, Earl Grey, Lappedatsu'sthong  
 Hare/s: TBT OBE  
 Runners: 12  
 Virgins: 0  
 Visitors: 1  
 Newies: 0  
 Après: 0  
 Hash Hounds: 1  
 Total: 14  
 Membership: Sticking out a pinkie!



The Tea Rooms car park is the only place to park in Chipping according to the staff. Locals park their cars there if not roped off. We were asked to park tightly allowing other customers room to park. My Lil' Lil' arrived in his motorised chariot, as Mr X was away in Devon having his cream (scone) with Able Seaman! [Actually, Mr X was in Devon, with Able Seamen, but also Adonis & Buzby, where he ended up luckily partaking in an official Cider Tasting & Judging session, before going to the Tom Cobley, a Pub with 27 Real Ciders! – Ed]

A posh Range Rover pulled up and out popped a Hasher with a hair mop like Boris Johnson's (not the usual hair style for Herts male Hashers!). Mr Titanic introduced himself stating his Cambridge Hash were running at Bury St Edmunds which was a longer drive than to our venue.

The Countryman Tea Rooms (Inn) (formerly "The Red Lion Inn "until 1975) is a 17th-century coaching inn, built in 1663, it has operated as a public house since 1760. Situated in the centre of the village, The Countryman has hosted the yearly 'World Sausage Tossing Championship' every August since 2014 but sadly the Pandemic brought all this to an end [H<sup>4</sup> had no less than two Champion Tossers over the years, in the guise of Ewok & Max Factor! – Ed]. Now repurposed as a Tea Rooms, still run by the publican we all knew from out AGPU runs held there.

At 11.00 AM. TBT OBE, the Hare, called "circle up" and welcomed the gathering, giving the correct run number and describing the usual markings. Kylie took the usual group photos.

On the pavement was a circle with "H4" inside which was the first check. Diamond Geezer and Moss Key Toe shot off northwards along the road towards the bridge where the River Rib runs under, but My Lil' went straight across the road to the start of the footpath between a house and farm buildings.

"On back!" was called and eventually the pack climbed the slope upwards in a westward direction. At the next CHK where the edge of farmer's field started, Diamond Geezer went off to the north only to find a tee and came back. The trail led up the hill with a hedge on the right-hand side. It was a lovely day and TBT OBE was heard "I like the sound of Skylarks hovering over the fields at this time of year" (in his own little world!).

Mr Titanic and Diamond Geezer were the first to reach Throcking Lane, [SteAdy Pebbledash! – ED] which leads eventually at Sandon, where they headed off to the south following chalked arrows only to find a tee and headed

it's quite far up — its beyond reach — yes it's definitely there, unless you can think of any other reason why my liver's vibrating right now...

back, chatting as they ran. The two FRBs then headed north along the tarmac in the opposite direction. TBT OBE was the next to arrive and marked a line from the CHK in a northerly direction on a path parallel to the road beside a field. Then FWB with her 2 ski poles quickly followed the FRBs.

The Hare shouted to those on the road that the CHK was not on the road but on the path by the field. Mr Titanic and TBT OBE waited while the slower pack arrived and told them the walkers should turn right up the hill with a dried-up stream to the left with trees and hedges lining the route. They were told this would lead to the Held CHK where the runners would intersect the trail. The walkers, Paxo, Flanders, MILF, My Lil' and DWSS set off along the marked shortcut.

The runners' trail led off along the edge of the field through a gap in the hedge parallel to the road, but the FRBs just stayed on the road. After about 400 yards a circle CHK was found at a right-hand bend in the road, Diamond Geezer set off to the left into farm track to a new large farm barn with 5 brand-new, identical shipping containers sitting opposite. With so much theft of farm equipment these days, the farmer



seems to have taken every precaution to safeguard his equipment.

The Hare stayed at the CHK and allowed Diamond Geezer to disappear behind the new farm barn then marking the CHK towards the right-hand bend in the road. Mr Titanic was the first to CHK this out, followed by FWB then the Hare. A hundred yards at a bend to the left there was a sign board stating something about gun dog training and clay pigeon shooting ground and private, no entry. TBT OBE had to put ear buds with radio 2 in to block out the sound of shotguns going off the previous day.

A CHK was found just to the left of the bend where Mr Titanic set off. The Hare went straight on to a parallel path between the road and the farmer's field with a ditch between. This path led on a windy way to find the next CHK, where a line of trees started perpendicular to the road with a deep ditch on the far side. Mr Titanic was the first to find the dust and raced off, followed by the Hare then Diamond Geezer.

To the right of the path was a field of bright yellow oil seed rape. The Hare tried to catch up with Mr Titanic who was spotted running in a gap in the oilseed rape up the hill to the right. This had not been marked by dust as the Hare, the previous day, had missed the footpath sign pointing at 90 degrees to the line of the footpath leading up to Hyde Hall Farm.

The Hare decided to change the direction of the markings by putting down dust leading up the gap in the oilseed rape. The pack followed up through the gap being careful not to trip over the cut stalks of the crop. At the end of the field there was a tee junction with a footpath sign aiming though a gap in the opposite hedge. The Hare marked a new circle but suggested that a short cut would lead to the trail not far away from the held check. Unfortunately, this path led along a line next to a newly planted line of hedges and so was unsuitable to run along.

The Hare then told the pack to head left along a track to a farmer's gravel road which led up into the farm buildings. By this time Diamond Geezer, Mr Titanic, Moss Key Toe and Sludge had shot ahead whilst the Hare discussed what physiotherapy was with Moss Key Toe. The Hare decided to mark a new short cut towards the trail about 150 yards before the Held CHK. By this time Diamond Geezer, Mr Titanic and Sludge arrived at the marked trail next to a house, through a steel gate into a field leading to another gate where a CHK was found.

Mr Titanic said he would check along a path to the right of the gate, but the Hare hinted that the trail actually headed though the gate. Mr Titanic tried to open a wide metal gate by unbolting it but the Hare just pushed open the timber gate leading on to a small field with rough ground and a series of animal feeding stations. This led to another gate then on to the Held CHK where there was a footpath sign aiming down the hill across a newly ploughed crop field.

However, there was no sign of the walkers who should have been there waiting there. The Hare produced bags of Liquorice Allsorts, Wine gums, jellies and Jelly Sprogs. The Hare

decided to phone Paxo to find out where they were. After some discussion about lack of dust the Hare was told the walkers had lost sight of dust and headed around Burhill Wood and down through a field / private road.

Milf then spoke on the phone stating they were lost. The Hare suggested turning their back to the sun then head due east down to the footpath where the dust should be. The moral is, no dust, stop talking, go back to last dust then slowly hunt for next dust even if it crossed over a ditch, which it did instead of blindly walking on.

The runners munching through the sweeties were told to head down the hill, across the newly planted crop field which was shown on his OS map as a footpath. Ploughing across a public footpath annoyed the Hare, but told the pack to head towards a white pole which had a footpath arrow showing the directions to follow. By this time the Hare and Kylie were well behind the pack, as Kylie was on the phone to Milf asking for her What3words location was. [As used by the Emergency Services, including the Coast Guard & Air-ambulance! – Ed] It was not anywhere near the trail but Kylie explained where to head to on the phone.

The Hare ran on trying to catch up with Mr Titanic, Diamond Geezer, Sludge, FWB and Moss Key Toe but decided to head off diagonally across the ploughed field at a footpath sign showing two path directions. The line the Hare took followed the line as shown on his OS map which eventually intersected the marked trail running in a southerly direction parallel to a line of trees bordering a deep ditch.

The Hare reached a gap in the line of trees and could hear sludge shouting off along a line the other side of the deep ditch with Moss Key Toe. The Hare continued along the marked trail adding more dust. The path led on to a gap in the hedge leading off to the right up the hill. FWB was found hanging about at his junction.

The Hare continued off with Kylie some way back. FWB was seen going up the side of the hedge apparently to have a pee. However, Kylie came up and spotted her doing a moony. Sludge and Moss Key Toe were nowhere to be seen but Mr Titanic and Diamond Geezer had continued on to the distance south. This path reached a new fenced off enclosure which the pack had passed by at the start of the trail from the Tea Rooms.

The On Inn was found marked in chalk on a wooden fence post. The Hare emerged from the path opposite the car park. Mr Titanic and Diamond Geezer were waiting there having a discussion. Sludge and Moss Key Toe were then seen walking along the road from a northerly direction. Cars were opened and the Hare went into the tea rooms to tell the ladies the Hashers were arriving back.

Don't obstruct a farmer's gateway  
would be my advice!

@nfum





The Hare put his rucksack, dust milk bottle and map case on an outside table. Eventually all the pack arrived back and settled down on chairs in the lovely sunshine. Paxo and DWSS decided to sit inside one of the Wendy houses with comfortable chairs.

A selection of beers were bought by all (a bottle of beer cost the Hare £6.40). Paxo brought out a tray of teacups and a pot of tea followed by DWSS who had a tray with a similar tea pot, teacup and a large slice of Victoria sponge cake.

DWSS and Paxo sat in their Wendy house chatting away while the rest sat outside, also chatting. The Hare collected £2.00 subs and £5.00 for the food which was due to arrive at 1.00pm.

My Lil' with his companion, Nellie, said he was not eating any food and was leaving early so only paid £2.00. A large table was positioned by the landlord of the pub as it used to be, followed by a vast quantity of food.

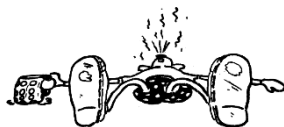
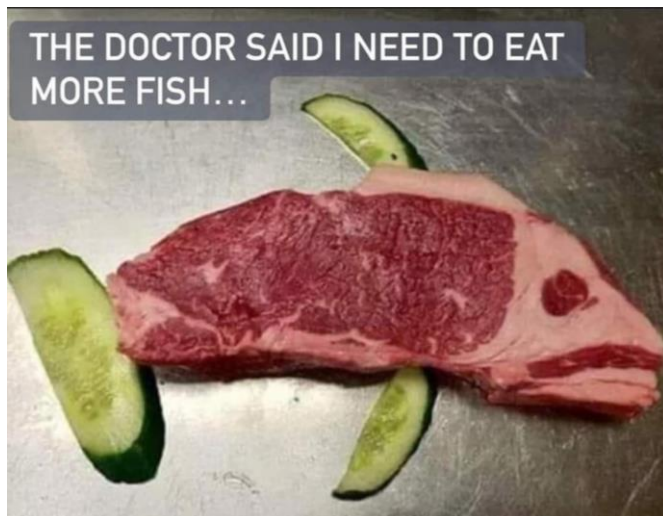
There were, rolls filled with newly cooked gammon, sausages and onions, two sausage and black pudding plaits, chips, bread and various sandwiches, etc.

To be fair to TBT OBE there isn't much meat in Black Pudding [Judging by the Herts Facebook Photos that were posted, TBT OBE must have had a turn & gone all "Pigs not Twigs"! As our resident Veratarian did at a 'Sausage Tossing Day' many moons ago! – Ed]

The Hare had requested Gluten-free food for Flanders, and this was brought out by the lady chef. We all tucked in to the food but more chips and sausage in pastry roll came out.

The afternoon was delightfully warm and sunny, so the Hare took off his top revealing a white hairy chest. Others compared this to Kyli's shag pile hairy chest and back. Unbelievably no one was put off of Cakes, more tea and coffee were consumed. As the beer was so expensive, compared to cheaper pub draft ale, the circle was put off till next week. The Hare had reached 555 runs, so was due maybe two down downs.

Mr Titanic chatted to Diamond Geezer then to MILF who later stated we should welcome newbies so they might return. All in all, everyone enjoyed the day taking left over food home in plastic bags and boxes provided by the ladies in the kitchen.



You can tell this is fake. An 1862 Strat would be a maple fretboard and a single ply pick guard.

