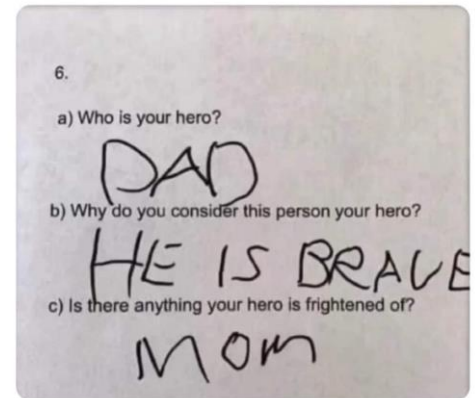




Herts  
Hash  
House  
Harriers  
Herts official Website: [hertsHash.co.uk](http://hertsHash.co.uk)

This kid knows what's up

Run No. 2095  
Date: 28th April 2025  
Venue: The Essex Arms  
Location: Watford  
Beers/Cider: Bay Oranutang; London Pride; Old Rosie, Westons Vintage  
Hare/s: Moss Key Toe  
Runners: 12  
Virgins: 0  
Visitors: 0  
Newies: 0  
Après: 1  
Hash Hounds: 0  
Total: 13  
Membership: In & out the Dusty Bluebells



There was a better than expected turn-out this morning, considering that some were 'signed off sick' [Though no sick-note had been received by the RA! – Ed] others were away, the location being quite away for most of the usual suspects & then there was the weather.

The overnight deluge meant that the Hare had to go out several times setting his Trail, then a further time trying to touch it up on the damp & cold morning. It was another week of a cold northerly wind, belayed the fact that according to the weather forecasters this is the warmest April, by one degree above the average. [You could have fooled me! – Ed]

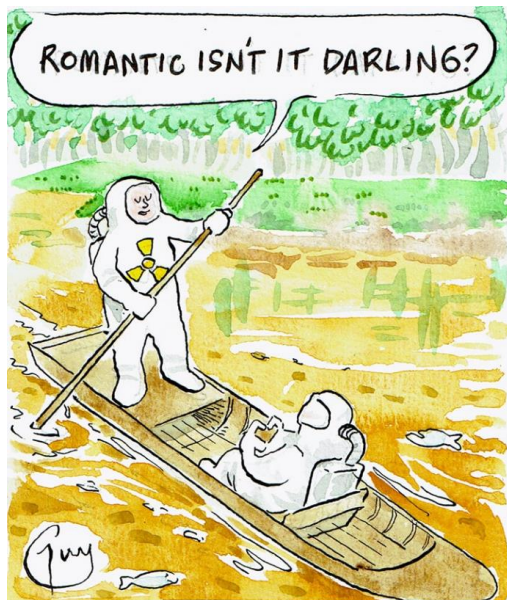
The rain ceased by the time the Hash gathered at the Essex Arms, which is named after the Duke of Essex who used to live in the Tudor House, which he had rebuilt in the late 1770's, when he inherited the House & Grounds through marriage.

Fortunately the Pub opens at 11:00Hrs, which allowed those parking in the car park to enter their vehicle registration details, while some had other more urgent, pressing reasons to go into the Pub early. This was most needed by one who had been out on the Ketchup's F.U.K Full Moon Hash Beer Trail in Walthamstow, where several different styles of Beers were drunk, including a Beetroot Beer. Yes! You heard right, Beetroot & the side effects were now building up!

Amongst the many who did use the facilities, those 'dawdlers in life' who were slow at washing their hands would soon regret not making an effort to vacate the Gents in good time, as the Pack regrouped for a second time outside of the Pub, where Paxo would carry out the welcome & got the numer correct after suing Technology on the Hash! It was also good to see Hot 'N' Spicee who had come along, she's still nursing a bad leg.

As Hare, Moss Key Toe took the circle & explained that he had used no less than 'six bags of flour' on his several trips around the Trail. So, with this in mind, the Pack were confident that they would not stray from the Hash Path at any point, then they were directed away to the southwest, across the roundabout on Langley Way.

So, the Trail began on a nice downhill trot through the smart suburban street of somewhat desirable detached houses for 350 Yards to reach Parkside Drive, directly across this Dust could be seen on the start of the footpath between the wooden fence panels to enter the northern end of Cassiobury Park. Here the Trail would continue south-westerly on a path over to the River Gade, already the Pack could see the start of the Bluebells in amongst the trees.



There were plenty of dog-walkers out & about as Mr X led the way over to the River Gade, crossing over one of the 'Three Rivers' that give this area of Herts its 'Three Rivers' District name. The Trail would change tack as it moved on north-westerly near to the Cassiobury Weir & then over the bridge spanning the Grand Union Canal.

It was here, many years ago [Approximately three decades back! – Ed], at the 'Iron Bridge Lock' (Lock 77) on the Grand Union Canal that Rhino was grappled by General, who hoisted him up & unceremoniously threw Rhino in to the canal, on the positive side this was in the days before we had mobile phones, better still we had clean waterways, untainted by the current ridiculous amount of crap from Water Companies sewage outfalls.

Mr X stopped to take some pictures of the bridge & on-coming Hashers, as Diamond Geezer, Tent Packer & No Eye Deer all caught up with him, then the all four of FRBs set off through on the woodland to the north of Jacotts Hill, before the path turned north by northwest to

run on the 'Lime Tree Avenue' through the centre of the West Herts Golf Club. Unsurprisingly there were no golfers out on the water-logged course, which appears to be carved out of the east side of the woodland. Play must have been suspended to save the fairways & greens from being damaged.

It would be all of 840 Yards until Diamond Geezer led the FRBs up to the first chance to turn off at a junction with three options. By the time Tent Packer & Mr X arrived at this point, Diamond Geezer had already returned from searching further to the northwest on the main Whippendell Wood path, & had picked up the Dust on the nor-nor-westerly choice in amongst the trees toward the Lees Wood section. Derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'Wippa denu' which means Wippa's valley.

It was probably at this point that the Knitting Circle of Paxo, My Lil', Doeswhatshesays, Milf & Kylie, along with the Hare, could use the south by south-westerly option as an ideal Short Cut. Meanwhile, after Mr X had stopped to read a sign about the 'Ash Die-back' work being carried out in the woodland, a branch fell off one of the trees in the section running along beside the golf course fairway.

The other noticeable signs were on the left, these stated that there should be no horse riding, or cycling, in the main woodland, since it is now a site of SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) It is home to the Greater Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker & the Green Woodpecker, one of which could be heard hammering away at a tree, yet couldn't be seen, not even by the RA! In 1995 a discovery joined the already rare species of fungus there, the new inclusion is *Crepidotus cinnabarinus*, which has only been recorded on three other occasions in the whole of Europe. Samples are now kept at Kew Gardens.

Mr X began to start off after the FRBs & another 540 Yard on a dead straight path would lead up to the Whippendell Wood car park, off of Grove Mill Lane, where more dog walkers were parked up & leading their mutts for a constitutional now that the day had cheered up, also being in the dense woodland the wind-chill factor had now diminished & it was warming up quite nicely.

It was in this large section of the plantation that the bluebells became denser, the distinctive perfume from the bluebells wafted through the air as the FRBs searched for a CHK, but none was to be found. Fortunately the Trail was quickly picked up on a footpath that turned off from the car park to head south-westward, & here the floor of the wood was now carpeted in blue blooms. Thankfully the sight of these cheered up the FRBs on the footpath running some 1,100 Yards south of the Leeswood Scout & Guide Activity Centre, then the Leeswood cottages.

The bluebells on the northern side of the fence were noticeably denser, with public access being restricted the plants obviously flourish. Another plus on this section was the fact that the last few hundred yards were downhill. On the sad side, in this point of the wood were the stacks of the trunks & branches of felled Ash Trees as the forestry workers make their way through removing the infected Ash trees.

Mr X came down to the junction where the path either continued out to Rousebarn Lane, or off on the hairpin bend in the track to the southeast, no CHK could be seen & nothing was found out toward the lane & Harrocks Wood beyond. This low point was more waterlogged, with a few elongated puddles on the woodland track.

The south-easterly option was the correct one, as Diamond Geezer & Tent Packer called "On!" up the wide track that would begin a climb on the steep wooded ridge, about halfway up there were large steps are cut into the way to ease the clamber up to the wooded plateau.

Upon the level & the Trail would now seem a bit sporadic, probably because the CHKS had been washed out, but at least the Trail could be seen on the side of the trees along the almost 1200 Yard stretch, again there was a descent to come down to a small cleared area with plenty of Shiggy.

Diamond Geezer & Tent Packer had continued on the main footpath as it headed southward, they would come back when no further Dust was found, nothing was picked up on the westerly path that runs across the crop field over Rousebarn Lane, the lane was also not an option for it was completely flooded & resembled a river.

This left the Keenies with just the easterly option on a short but steep climb back up to the edge of the Golf Course. With No Eye Deer still a little way behind the other Keenies, Mr X began to mark the way with some chalk he had, on tree stumps & footpath posts, to save her for going awry.

A guy out with his dog was doing some kind of Army Fitness Training by repetitively running up & down this steep stony path. The FRBs continued to leave the wood & cross a couple of the empty golf course fairways, passing through another large wooded island between the different holes.

Some 600 Yards on & just beyond one raised gold tee a lot of very fresh flour was found, here Diamond Geezer stopped to have the Sweets Stop, since the Hare had given him a bag of sweets for the Keenies if the Knitting Circle had moved on, which they must have. Mr X would now take the sweets & wait for No Eye Der to catch up, while Tent Packer headed off after not enjoying the 'Rubbery Sweets', Diamond Geezer followed on.

The Trail resumed southward, through the wooded stretch above the Grand Union Canal for some 880 Yards on the desire line that weaved its way through slippery Shiggy tracts, & over lots of roots before coming down to the level of the canal side, but here there was a lot of confusion as Diamond Geezer & Tent Packer went the wrong way. Confusion still reigned for when No Eye Deer & Mr X arrived on the tow path, as they could see the other two were



coming back, things were compounded as they spotted the words 'UP THE HILL' spelt out in sawdust by one of the many narrow boats on the waterway.

Eventually the FRBs ignored this & discovered some Dust heading southward on the towpath, this 500 Yard stretch took the FRBs under the Rousbarn Lane bridge, then opposite the fisheries to pass under the Underground Line bridge, the 'Second Bridge' the hare had mentioned, to come out opposite the Marina & out on the edge of the A412 Rickmansworth Road, which was the four mile mark in the Trail.

The Trail was now more visible, since it was marked in one-sided arrows. It turned toward the roundabout on the A412 on the eastern side of the Grand Union Canal. As he looked over to the south, Mr X joked that it's going to be a long Trail as there's a PremierInn close to the Trail.

Thankfully the Trail would not lead to 'Lenny Henry's' as the arrows turned down to the small green space the was flooded, it was funny to see a solitary wooden bench right in the centre of the small lake. A slight detour to keep Hash feet a bit drier, to make the way around to the opposite side of the green & then follow the Trail on the Gade Avenue as the road narrows to pass under the underground line once more.

Here it as noticeable that the adjacent Gade had burst its banks to flood around the brick stanchions of the long, viaduct like bridge, here the lane narrows to a point where there is a set of traffic lights manage the single passable track of traffic.

The Trail was still easy to see as it led through the back street of Gade Avenue, not far from Watford Tube Station to come back into Cassiobury Park, it was still very prominent as it headed up through the car park, turning from north to eastward on the L-shaped tarmac parking area, Mr X did glance back at the distinctive white & lime green Beryl Bikes, & seriously thought of getting on one to cycle back to the On Inn.

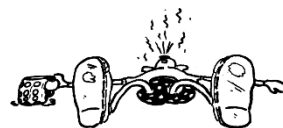
Fresh flour then headed out over the football pitches to the east but then abruptly it seemed to disappear near to the goal posts. Diamond Geezer was now well out of sight of Mr X, No Eye Deer & Tent Packer as they unsuccessfully failed to locate any further Hash markings, but the fell back on having a rough idea of which direction to head away on, which No Eye Deer confirmed this with a Map app on her mobile [Yes technology on the Hash! – Ed] & they made their way over toward the Park Bandstand.

So, a traipse across the green to cross the Central Avenue Path in the park, to head northward to a shuttered-in footpath to come back out on to Parkside Drive, by this point Mr X had run out of steam, a combination of Ketchup's Full Moon Beer Crawl, & the large, heavy sitting but aptly named 'Hangover Breakfast' he had at the Junction Café earlier that morning contributing to slowing him up.

The Trio all walked up Stratford Way, then left to take to Cassiobury Drive, walking to the roundabout & then On Inn to find most were back at base, the exception being Paxo & DWSS, which seemed odd as Milf, Hot 'N' Spicce [Who had nip back & to pop over to her friends to pick up some Chilli Sauce! – Ed], My Lil' & Kylie were all there. No Eye Deer had to use Technology again, as she tried to guide DWSS & Paxo along the Trail & they were well back by the football pitches.

Now, while the rest of the weary Hash had got around the Trail in the dry, some just under the 2 hour mark! Paxo & DWSS were still out, & the others back in the dry, the heavens must have opened, for there was a rousing & ironic cheers as the two came in looking like drowned rats. As Milf mentioned, when Diamond Geezer arrived back he had beads of sweat on his forehead, while DWSS arrived with a torrent of rain flowing down his forehead.

By the time the laughter subsided, which was a fair old while, DWSS said that he is now going to give up Hashing, having been out for over Two Hours, but not until after next week? Anyhow, the Circle was called & the Hare was rewarded for both the Trails. He was followed by the RA himself, for he neglected My Lil's completion of 1600 Run the week before, so he too had a Down-Down. Paxo & Kylie were the other two to receive a hit, the latter for he turned out on the Hash even though he was feeling Sick [No it wasn't the Gents, which by now smelt as fragrant as the Bluebells! – Ed], being signed off work with a temperature.



Dani Grier Mulvenna **NOOD.**  
@DanielleKGrier

Ok but how does our daughter look like Woody Harreslon



woodyharrelson **👍** Ode to Cora-  
You're an adorable child  
Flattered to be compared  
You have a wonderful smile  
I just wish I had your hair  
@danigriermulvenna

danigriermulvenna You've made our day **❤️** can't wait to show her this when she's older, you have another fan for life xxx

**THESE BIG CHEERIOS ARE WAY BETTER THAN THE SMALL ONES. AND YOU DON'T EVEN NEED MILK.**

