



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



Run No. 2125
 Date: Sunday 10th November
 Venue: The Star
 Location: Hoddesdon
 Beers/Cider: GK Abbot & IPA; Goose Purity; Ruddles
 Hare/s: Kylie
 Runners: 16
 Virgins: 0
 Visitors: 0
 Newies: 0
 Après: 1
 Hash Hounds: 2
 Total: 19
 Membership: Respectful Remembrance! [While Scaring the living bejasus out of the locals!]



Amazingly the day's Pack had heeded the Hareline warnings to arrive early for the Remembrance Day Service, no last minute efforts or late arrivals for a change. Earlier on two of the Pack were spotted sitting in the Star, sheltering for the earlier mizzle, they were looking out on the gathering at the War Memorial, until half past the hour when they ventured outside. Or, was their leaving the warm Pub down to Doeswhatshesays surprised comment on these two have not imbibed as yet, as they normally would? Truth be told they knew who the day's Hare was & they may be out on Trail for some time, preferably without a full bladder.

Time came around to the Remembrance Service, with our very own Fliptop smartly dressed in blazer & polished shoes to carry, lower & raise the Royal British Legion's Standard. The two minutes silence was impeccably observed by the public, after this the wreath laying continued & the Hash Circed up behind the town's distinctive Clock-tower.

Out of earshot of the continuing ceremonies, Paxo went through the welcoming speech, then it was over to the Hare who was derived as he had already made the local Farcebook page, much to the amusement of the Hash, the posts cast him as a 'Suspect Person', a ne'er-do-well casing out local homes, when in reality he was just setting the harmless fun run paper-chase Trail.

The Hare claimed that this Trail was short compared to his usual Standard. To try & woo over the Knitting Circle he added that there would be Short Cuts & a regroup, before sending the Pack off amongst the ranks of Cadets & Civilians making their way around by St Catherine's & St Paul's Parish Church, where the more religious proceedings of the day would take place.

At least the weather had improved, as DWSS was first on to the Trail, when arrows were picked up down Pauls Lane, the RA wondered if he was lured that way with a connection with his real name? Anyhow, TBT OBE & Mr X were soon running down the footpath from Barclay Hall, where a music session was underway, something more soothing to TBT OBE's delicate ears than what the absent Tent Packers would be creating Skirls away in St Evenage, for he was playing the Pipes at a Remembrance Day Service there.

At the end of the footpath a CHK was found just over the footbridge spanning the brook, from here Mr X & TBT OBE were lucky as their choice on the elbow in Brookside was correct, the likes of Where's Wally?, Kathy, No Eye Deer, Sex Tourist, Naughty Ways, Slug, 3D, Milf, My Lil', Paxo & Pebbledash all had to come back from the northern, rising section of Brookside. However, Mr X's luck would run out as he & TBT OBE found the next CHK point at the T-Junction with Langton Road, as the northbound search up Langton Road would end with him finding a T, just before the bridge spanning the Dinant Link Road.

Back down to Lord Street & the Pack were pretty much together as they searched both west & east, with those who chose the easterly option to be correct, with Trail crossing over to the south bound Rose Vale. Naughty Ways & No Eye Deer led the way along toward the next CHK by the north-eastern corner of Barclay Park, No Eye Deer would go wrong by carrying straight on & it was Naughty Ways who picked up the Trail on Beech Walk to the west.

Passing the old Victorian cottages, with an alcove between the two abodes that have a bust of Queen Victoria sat in there, the Trail would lead on by the Hoddesdon Lawn Tennis Club, here the 'bip-bop' of the player's balls could be heard behind the screened-off fencing. [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed]

Naughty Ways would put some distance between herself & Mr X, with the rest all further behind, as she picked up Trail further westward along the northern edge of Barclay Park. Originally the grounds for a house called High Wyches in 1403, it was renamed High Grounds by



Members post

Anyone recognise this man? He has... See more



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2 comments 2 shares

1677, then with its acquisition by Robert Buchannan Barclay it became High Leigh, it is now a Conference Centre. In 1937 just over 18 acres of the estate was gifted to the People of Hoddesdon in celebration of the Silver Jubilee of George V.

The Next CHK was found just beyond the Tennis Courts, with Naughty Ways making the 175 Yards to the opposite corner & a CHK there, again she sailed through this & was heard calling "On! On!" from the end of the path that runs southward down by the western treeline. She was soon out of sight as the rest followed on.

Mr X would now go wrong for the second time this morning, as he chose to search on the south-eastern tarmac footpath leading to the end of the ornamental Lake, but nothing was spotted until he turned back, for on the backside of one tree it looked like the remains of flour but was it? He turned around again, heading toward the lake once more, then calls of "On back!" could be heard, so he obeyed the calls. On his return he went to take a closer inspection at the white material on the tree, it turned out that it was actually some kind of white fungi.

Meeting up with the Hare again, Mr X was shown the sign at the end of the low railings around small lake, it was a contact for The Samaritans, Mr X wondered how they knew who the Hare was, to put up such a sign?

By now the rest had set off along to the southwest, in the field that the Spital Brook runs through by the hedgerow. This end was pretty boggy, with one section being on enclosed wooden duckboards, with wooden gates on either end, the Pack would be grateful to be raised above the deep Shiggy, even if some of the boards were a bit creaky & moved under the weight. Back down on the not so terra firma, Sally decided that the dirty looking stream was worth jumping into, now 3D & Slug had one dirty wet pooch.

A further 450 Yard in the low end of the sloping field before the next CHK was found, by a footpath leading into the enclosed fields to the south, the other option was to continue to continue along toward the A10. The Hare would now send the Knitting Circle off on a short cut, this would be the last time on the Trail that TBT OBE, Pebbledash, Paxo, Milf, Sis with Teddy, & My Lil' would be seen by the FRBs, the Keenies were allowed to continue over to the A10.

Entering the wood where the footpath changed direction, right by a larger section of the Spital Brook the babbling water was too tempting for Sally, she was soon in & playing with another dog splashing around below the footbridge.

Any thought of running would now have to stop as the footpath runs below the A10 & the wider brook, the Trail led the Pack in to the gloom & darkness beside the water. Emerging out in to the daylight, Mr X was happy to see that No Eye Deer, Naughty Ways, Where's Wally?, Kathy & Sex Tourist had not managed to get too far ahead of him, for an inconclusive arrow pointed into the fields to the west of Hoddesdon Park Wood & it took them a while to realise that there was Trail heading diagonally up the grassy hillside.

Now, the Keenies would fall foul of the Hare's planning. For they would undertake a Falsie, up to the tree-line & then over to Hoddesdon Lodge, passing through the small stable area & up along the edge of Broxbourne Woods Nature Reserve, where after a quarter of a mile they would find a Bar CHK, with the words of "This is a Bar!" written above it on the fence, just in case the FRBs didn't realise what it was supposed to be!

The Hares plans would now go slightly awry, the FRBs would now fall behind the Knitting Circle as they all went off into the Woods to the west, searching the two signposted footpath thought the russet carpet of fallen leaves. With no Dust being found up toward Goose Green, nor further westward, there was some questioning of what Where's Wally? & Kathy had actually seen up the drive? It was, as previously stated, a Bar CHK!

So, the FRBs all began to work their way back for over the quarter of a mile, back down by the A10 where Mr X found that the previous arrow directing them up to Hoddesdon Wood had been crossed out & replaced with a fresh flour one, pointing up on the parallel footpath below the bottom of the A10 embankment.

Here the Trail headed in to an over grown Shiggy old briar patch of a footpath, those with more sense took to the drier route on the eastern side, which had been marked as a Short Cut as it rose up the embankment to avoid the Shiggy, all before descending back to the original footpath.

Around this point Mr X passed & educated a dog walker about the flour, as the Pack normally do to alleviate any worries, he said that "A guy in the car park has already informed him!" which meant that the now string of Keenies were on their way up to Cock Lane. Sure enough, up & out of the wood to find Kylie was waiting before the bridge Cock Lane takes back over the A10 to Hoddesdon.

The Hare walked over to the car park at Lucern Warren, to the south of the old lane & here the Held CHK was found for a regroup & a Sweet Stop, except there were none of the Knitting Circle waiting as they had been sent on after waiting so long with Keenies being caught out after the long route out to the Bar CHK!

At the regroup sweets were enjoyed, though no one wanted to sit on the damp & cold metal table seat. Watches were looked at for a time check, now the RA said that he would take a guess that the Keenies would not be back at the Pub until a quarter to ONE! Where's Wally? & Kathy were hurried away on a short cut straight down Cock Lane, for they only had a couple of hours in the supermarket car park & didn't want to get a fine!

The rest of the Pack were now keen to move on as well, & had to head south-eastward over the reclaimed land of old gravel extraction & landfill, but the Dust was now getting sparse as Mr X & Sex Tourist both went wrong, running on by the gate in the hedgerow to the north, they were called back by Naughty Ways. Out though the gate & onto the southern end of Lanthorn Way, once they had made their way across a small green section & another gate, they would heading back to the southeast, running through a wooded strip.

Now the fun & games would begin, as like the Knitting Circle before them, the Trail now seemed to disappear as they arrived at a Path running from sou-sou-west to nor-nor-east. Mr X went wrong as he searched out on to Long Grove Close, he was called back & surprised that Naughty Ways & Sex Tourist were now back with No Eye Deer, 3D, Slug & Sally for they too were all flummoxed as to where the Trail went.

The riddle of lack of flour would soon be answered, for as the RA explored the alleyway up in a nor-nor-east direction, he passed by a couple, who were spending their Sunday Lunchtime with a watering can & a stiff brush [Steady Pebbledash it wasn't for that! – Ed] they were washing & scrubbing out the Trail on the back of the rear garden fences, no doubt panicked at the Key-board Warriors, who were misinforming the good folk of Hoddesdon that the Trail markings were there, set by Burglars as an indication as to whether the homes were worth breaking into, or not!

As he ran by the couple, up to what really did look a little bit suspicious, the RA said "Afternoon!" & chuckled to himself as he knew that behind him the Hare was resetting the washed out Trail, plus to an experienced Hasher, a large wet ring [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] is the as good as a CHK to them!

Mr X called "On!" as more damp patches encouraged him to run the way up to the top dead-end arm of Woodstock Road, where the Trail was found untouched as it turned off to the east, then a few yards further turned again, this time to the north & around on to Park Lane.

Advancing up to Cock Lane [Easy Pebbledash! – Ed] the FRBs now found DWSS, who seemed rather bamboozled by everything & seemed to be wandering around aimlessly. He was swept up by the likes of Mr X, Naughty Ways & Sex Tourist as they crossed Cock lane & took to the marked gate into Barclay Park once again.

Any chance of Running was delayed again, as when the Trail dropped down a level from the road, the FRBs got stuck behind a girl out walking a mahoosive hound that was wide enough to make it hard to get beyond, arrows were spotted marked on the methane pipes for the landfill below. The Pack could move on at more of a pace once the girl & Hooch's big brother stopped by a dodgy stile to the northeast.

Care was needed in getting a leg over [Pebbledash! – Ed] as the wooden plank step was missing & all that was left was a short wet stump of a post, thankfully Mr X has long enough legs he didn't need to risk squashing the old Crown Jewels.

Able to trot along again, the Tail was picked up to the east, & faint, slightly rain damaged CHK was found by a gap in the tree-line. From here Mr X & Sex Tourist took to the southwest option, searching in the smaller southern field, the RA knew that this footpath would lead on through to the next smaller field enclosed by trees & out to the small Barclay Park car park off of Cock Lane.

No Dust was found, then on the northern side of the tree line he could hear the others calling "On!" but since he had given up on retracing these steps, he carried on to find arrows coming out into the car path from over the old brick bridge. The Trail turned to run through the eastern side of the park, along by Park View, where the Trail crossed over to the east side, which would keep it out of sight from the Out Trail.

A couple of twists & turns through the area of flats, via some back routes for garages access, the Hash would reach Park Streets & then up Lowfields to Brocket Road, situated behind Aldi. A quick turn to the east & to much relief the On Inn was found before a turn onto the High Street.

Back to the Star & the place was heaving, so much so that the Down-Downs were put off for a week as seats were at a premium. Here some of the Knitting Circle were found & there was a definite atmosphere of being bewildered as to where the Trail actually went.

Mr X explained that the FRBs were late back due to the long Bar CHK, then the fact some of the panicked locals were washing out the Trail, in fear of being robbed. Admittedly the picture of Kylie posted on Farcebook the night before has the 'Suspicious bloke' appearing more than dodgy looking, a scruffy individual who could have done with a shave, proper haircut & some decent clothes.

It was soon discovered that TBT OBE was absent, he may have gone straight home on his return to the 'spoons, or was he still out there? If he was, he should have picked up the fresh Trail re-laid by the Hare. The Pack were informed about Where's Wally?'s upcoming Drum & Bass Birthday, somehow DWSS wasn't tempted in going along.

Anyhow, after a couple of pints, the Pack began to make their way home, or for some to the Six Asbos (Templars) in Hertford, where they had two dark Ales on, Hanlon's Devon Darkness & Theakston's Old Perculiar.

It was in the Hertford 'Spoons' that Mr X received a txt message from Ewok, it was a link to the 'Spotted in Hertford' Farcebook page & the reports of our Hare's exploits & some libellous, unfounded [But amusing to the Hash! – Ed] accusations. Things became even better when Kylie & Milf joined Mr X & My Lil' for a beer, here Kylie was shown the link which opened up more comments, the best one being that Kylie looked like the 'Guy from Shameless'.

The customers in 'Spoons' must have thought they had a right bunch in there with all of the raucous laughing going on from these four, & all at Kylie's expense, for the more sub-comments came in & got better/funnier, with Kylie being cast in the same bracket as one of the "Lots of Unhinged people out there!" Even one of Pebbledash & Pepé le Pew's commented

on what a Hash Trail was, as did Mr X to alleviate any panicked locals from amassing a mob, with flaming torches & pitchforks to run the Hare out of town.

All in all, the Trail was a good one, without the handicaps of that long Bar CHK & the washed out Trail, but it was really worth turning out as it got better après with the keyboard Warriors' Facebook comments!

