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

Run No. 1965
12th February 2022
Venue: The Brockley Barge
Beers: Wild Cat; GK Abbot; IPA; Portabello Porter, Brockley Brews
Location: Brockley
Hare/s: Mr X
Runners: 46
Virgins: 0
Visitors: London/FUK Full Moon H3's
Newies: 0
Après: 0
Hash Hounds: 1
Total:47
Membership: Paying our respects to our Founder!

With an almost two year hiatus we finally managed to come around to pay our respects to the man who is acknowledged to be the Founder of the Hash House Harriers, & this time around we had a completely different day weather-wise, last time we had driving wind & rain, which led to the Cemetery being closed due to the chance of falling branches. This time it was clear, bright skies if just a little chilly with the wind as we embarked upon marking the 80th anniversary of ASI Gispert's death

Not that we have such childish things on the Full Moon Hash any more, but, My Lil' & Mr X 'beat the Sock' to the Bar, while Mr X went off to set the Trail, My Lil' awaited the rest of the Pack to arrive, with Windsock, Tops & Panda the next of the Full Mooners to arrive, Katoyboy & BIKA were also there by the time Mr X arrived back for setting the Trail.

Omo & Tinkerbelle joined the FUK Full Mooners, then Runs to Eat & Kermit arrived, with Runs to Eat offering these early birds a CAMRA 50 pence off a real ale or cider voucher, which were much appreciated. More FUK Full Mooners arrived in the guise of Banana Bender & Shaggy Plug. Considering the situation with engineering works on the railways, it was looking like it was going to be a good turnout.

Soon it came around toward 12:30 & the Pack were called out the front of the Brockley Barge, which in Gispert's Time was known as the Breakspears Arms, but the Pub was closed until 2000 when 'spoons took it over. *The new name's derived from the fact that the nearby railway is built on top of what was the Croydon Canal, a section that connected the Grand Surrey Canal to the Surrey Commercial Docks on the Thames. It opened in 1809, but being only nine miles in length it had 26 Locks (in 3 miles) to climb Brockley Hill, this would not be commercially viable & eventually closed in 1836, then the land was sold to the London & Croydon Railway, which built upon the canal route.*

A photo-shoot outside of the rounded frontage of the Brockley Barge was called for, in the build up to the off there was time for an introduction to Lofty's new pooch! Then it was down to the Chalk-talk from the Hare. Mr X said that there would be two regroups, one outside the birth place of ASI Gispert & the other at the Family Memorial, there would be short cuts, a couple of drink stops, including the Brewery on the way back.

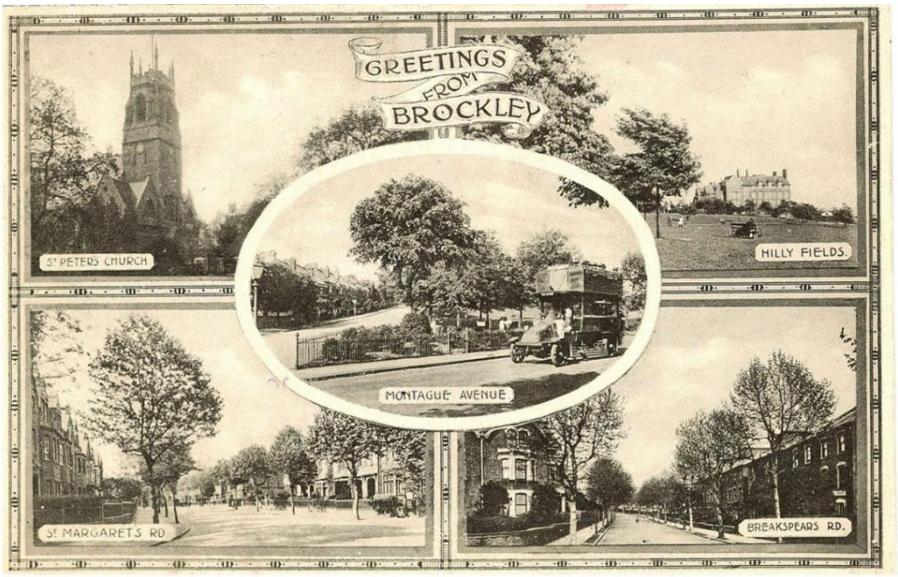
The Chalk-talk over & Windsock asked that question of "How Would?" After the singing & dancing around, it was finally time to start the Trail, & the Pack would split in to two groups, a smaller section of Fergus, Digger, Runs to Eat, Banana Bender, Bangers, Tops & Sock all headed off to the Brewery with My Lil', while the majority joined Mr X on the Trail.

Mr X pointed the way over the nearby pedestrian crossing to take the Hash over to the east side of the street where the Arrows pointed the way around on to Hare Road & just a few feet along this east bound urban side street a CHK was found by the start of Harefield Mews, here the likes of Sir Humpalot, Kotex, F3 Ways, Invisible Matt, Gingangoolie, Call Girl, Juices Flowing & Parson's Nose to name a few ventured beyond the beer barrels [A hard thing for Hashers to do, but they were empties! – Ed] up there & found Trail.

Heading northward along the Mews that back up to the parade of shops on Brockley Road, passing a small garage near the end to arrive out on to Cranfield Road, to find the double arrows that turned the FRBs to the east 280 Yards to the T junction where it joins Wickham Road, double arrows pointed the way the Trail over to the slightly offset continuation of Cranfield Road, the urban street had turned to run south-eastward.

A CHK was found beside the Indian Orthodox Church to take to Garsington Mews, only two options & the one along the street stopped at a T, those who searched the open alleyway, which runs for about 100 Yards back down toward Harefield Road were correct, but to get out of the end the FRBs had to partake in a bit of limbo to get under the single long white box metal bar to restrict access.

Another 90 Yards to the first Regroup & another photoshoot, this being outside of number 80 Breakspears Road, with its blue door to the birth place to ASI Gispert on 31st July 1903. Thunderthighs asked to borrow Mr X plasterboard to mark an eye symbol for a view point & 'Gispert's Birthhouse' outside of No.80, but by this point most were ready to move on & had edged their way to the opposite side of the street after photos were taken.



Things continued straight over the junction to take to the junction with Tressillian Way & over to Crescent Way as it arcs up from southeast & up to the east where a CHK was found at the wishbone of where it joins Tresillian Crescent, a Falsie to the east meant that the Trail would head up the northwest arm of the sweeping bend to emerge back out on to Tressillian Road.

Mr X now marked a Short Cut out to Tyrwhitt Road, where the north bound Short Cut was marked from the Queen Victoria Red Pillar Box on the corner, which led to the comments about the VR on it standing for Victoria Regina, or Vagina for Short! However, for the likes of Crystal Balls, Proxy, Daisy, & Eagermount they would follow the Hare on a Short Short Cut up to the edge of Hillyfields in the south, until the Hare peeled off to keep an eye on the FRBs & sweep any lost souls up. Action Man was happy to walk, since he had left his running shoes back at the union Jack Club, where he was staying overnight!

Back with the main Pack, it was 180 Yards along toward the railway bridge, a CHK was found by the corner of Darling Road & it was off down this side street that he Trail was picked up, before coming out on to Tyrwhitt Road & then things headed northward again. Passing the Talbot, which is currently closed for refurbishment, this time around it was not one of the beer Stops, as it was 5 years ago on the 75th Anniversary Trail.

A short way from the Pub & the Pack reached the A20, Loampit Hill, where the Trail moved south-eastward, away from the local Market, & head by the shops on the corner & down to a CHK by the start of Undercliff Road, three options here, south on this side street, or the adjacent Halesworth turning away to the southeast, or just continue along the A20?

Undercliff Road won out & it was a 180 Yards to the right hand bend in the Victorian backstreet to run a few more yards & join Sandrock Road, there a short trot to the south would lead on to the next CHK, two choices, eastward on Sandrock Road was a Falsie, the Trail was picked up a short way to the west from the CHK, where at the dead-end a footpath was found, this narrow tarmac back-passage was only 40 Yards or so, but it had a couple of arrows near the end & where it came out to the end of Overcliff Road another CHK was found.

The continuation of the Whitepost Lane footpath was where the Trail was picked up, 193 Yards on a ridge between the back gardens of the Victorian homes on either side to come down out to Hilly Fields Crescent. Those with Keen eyes spotted the Hare's Orange Short emerging from a Corner Shop down on the end of Vicarage Hill, for with the Pack being larger than the previous running he needed to add to the alcohol for later on, & if you've run with Brussels Manneke Piss you know "We never Run out of Beer!" [Have you ever noticed the deliberate gap in the BMPH^3 motto? – Ed]

Double Arrows pointed the way over by the Francis Drake Bowls Club, situated in the top north-eastern corner of Hilly Fields Park. This green space is famous for it was saved by Octavia Hill, who was one of the three founders of the National Trust.

Octavia had a passionate interest in the housing conditions of the London working classes & was responsible for 133 homes in Deptford, one day, in one of these poorly furnished rooms she noticed a vase of freshly picked wild flowers. Once told they had been picked on Hilly Fields, it prompted her to visit the area.

Octavia also campaigned strongly against the loss of open spaces for poor Londoners, so when plans were announced to build over Hilly Fields, she was instrumental in helping local people set up a campaign to raise funds to save the land as a public park.

As a direct result, Hilly Fields was purchased by the London County Council with substantial donations from a number of sympathetic charities & City companies. Part of the site had been used for brickmaking, this area was levelled & the swampy sections were drained. On 16th May 1896, Hilly Fields was dedicated to the public.

A long loop around the bottom of the hill, with F 3 Ways, Invisible Matt, Parsons Nose, Sir Humpalot, leading the way, even Sparerib, Pope, Big in Japan, K4 & Alice followed on as they too took to this track out westward & then turning with the south by southeaster track heading up the hill as it winds anti-clockwise up towards the tennis courts & to a CHK near to the kiosk a Short Cut was on offer to cut southward down by the Prendegast Six Form College. Lego Las passed by the Hare saying "I like the way you keep popping up!" [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] as she commented on the Hare's ability to appear like the Shop Keeper in Mr Benn "As if out of nowhere!" to keep an eye on the Pack.

The Keenies had the Trail taking them eastward from behind the Kiosks, home to Pistachios, on a curving path down the opposite eastern side of the prominent green space to reach a CHK on Vicars Hill Road, where they were turned down away in a south by southeast direction for 160 Yards to reach the next CHK.

Meanwhile Testiculator & his offspring [Sorry can't recall his Horror's name! – Ed] were happy to take the Short Cut down by the 6th Form School, though getting by the playground equipment would be a struggle for one of them! However Mr X was going to keep an eye on the FRBs, leaving the SCBs to pick up the arrows down the hill to the south.

The Hare had already informed Pope & Sparerib of the cut back on the Long Trail from the CHK down Vicars Hill, while others had no luck down the street, these two fared better on the path back in to the Park & then off-track to head westward along between the trees on the perimeter to come out below the Hilly Fields Millennium Stone Circle to make their way down through a wooded dell & then out on to Eastern Road, which puzzlingly runs from north to south out of the Park?

Mr X stopped to hand a Hash Card to a local guy who was interested in the Hash & what it was about, just as F 3 Ways emerged through the gate from the dell & out through a gap in the hedgerow opposite. The Trail briefly headed up back toward the Prendergast 6th Form building, before changing tact to come down the grassy hillside to Adelaide Avenue to the crossing before the main Prendergast School. Safely over the road & the Trail headed a few yards to the southeast & down an alleyway beside the school grounds & down on to a CHK where it emerges on to Ivy Road.

A Falsie lay to the west on this old narrow lane with the walled cemetery to the south, so it was a turn back for some as the Trail was picked up around the end of Ivy Road to the south & arrows pointed the way into ornate entrance with a gatehouse at the Ladywell section of the Ladywell & Brockley Cemetery.

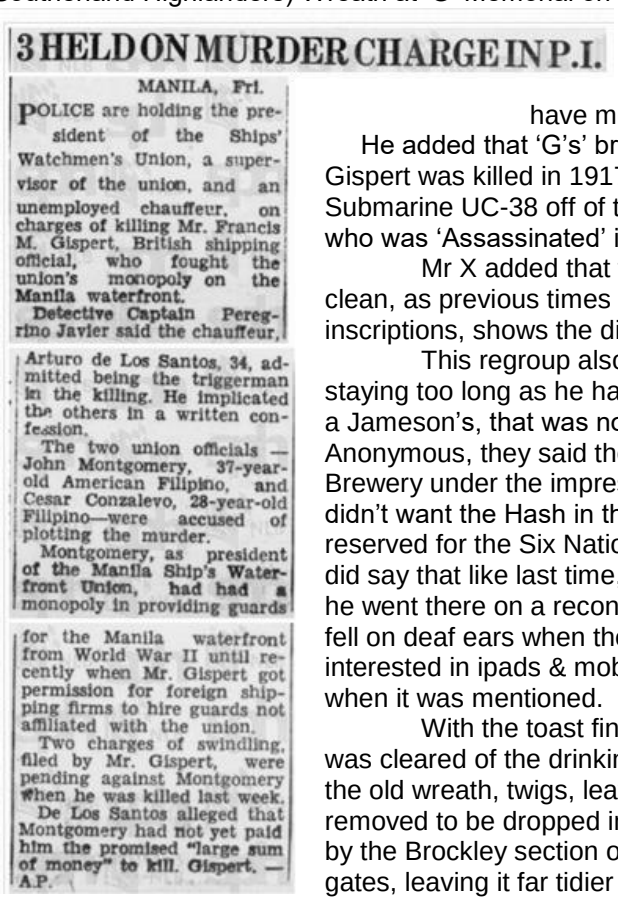
The Trail would lead on along the bottom end of the Cemetery for 700 Yards, set along the south side of the Cemetery, taking the Pack by the War Graves of the service personnel who had succumbed to their wounds after 1918 & up to 1920, Strange Fact time *the Treaty of Versailles was signed on 28th of June 1919, however the final German Reparation repayment of US$94 Million was made on the 3rd of October 2010 officially ending World War I.*

The Pack moved on by one of the chained up entrances no longer in use & around through a small area of woodland to the southwestern corner, Mr X explained to Lego Las & those around him that last time we tried to set the Trail through the graveyard it was closed due to the weather blowing a Hoolie, an expression Lego Las liked, & something others recalled a bit later.

A few more Yards by the trees to turn the corner to the Gispert Family Memorial, which allowed the Omo, Tinkerbelle, Freeloader, Qualified Seaman, Freshly Spewed, Double Entry, Double-O, Crystal Balls, Hannahballs & Thunderhtighs to regroup.

My Lil' had set up the Drink Stop at the Family memorial, while Mr X explained that 'G' isn't buried there, his remains are most probably in a mass grave in Kranji Cemetery, Singapore. The Single Malt Scotch was from Argyll, Scotland, as G was seconded in to the Argyll & Southerland Highlands, the Cava was because the Gispert family had emigrated from Catalonia in Spain to England, & Cava comes from that region in Spain, & the Jamesons was because wherever he's Hashed in the world there's always an Irish Bar.

Juices Flowing & Parson's Nose had brought along some cookies, as well as City Of London Hash reusable Cups, which was hand as this would save a few disposable ones being used. They would be put to good use as the Pack would raise a toast to Gispert, as Shaggy Plug was given the job of laying the new Royal British Legion (Argyll & Southerland Highlanders) Wreath at 'G' Memorial on the Family plot. Shaggy Plug said that he was honoured & humbled to do so.



3 HELD ON MURDER CHARGE IN P.I.

MANILA, Fri.

POLICE are holding the president of the Ships' Watchmen's Union, a supervisor of the union, and an unemployed chauffeur, on charges of killing Mr. Francis M. Gispert, British shipping official, who fought the union's monopoly on the Manila waterfront.

Detective Captain Peregrino Javier said the chauffeur, Arturo de Los Santos, 34, admitted being the triggerman in the killing. He implicated the others in a written confession.

The two union officials — John Montgomery, 37-year-old American Filipino, and Cesar Conzalevo, 28-year-old Filipino—were accused of plotting the murder.

Montgomery, as president of the Manila Ship's Waterfront Union, had had a monopoly in providing guards for the Manila waterfront from World War II until recently when Mr. Gispert got permission for foreign shipping firms to hire guards not affiliated with the union.

Two charges of swindling, filed by Mr. Gispert, were pending against Montgomery when he was killed last week.

De Los Santos alleged that Montgomery had not yet paid him the promised "large sum of money" to kill. Gispert. — A.P.

Mr X explained that if it wasn't for this 'Immigrant Family' from Catalonia resettling in the UK, none of us would have met as we have, that the camaraderie we have would not exist.

He added that 'G's' brothers had also died in service of the UK, one Brother, Modesto Gispert was killed in 1917 when HMS M15 (Monitor Class) was sunk by German Submarine UC-38 off of the coast of Palestine in the First World War & Francis Gispert who was 'Assassinated' in Manila in 1951.

Mr X added that this was the first time that he hadn't had to give the memorial a clean, as previous times the pollution from the nearby road has left it hard to read the inscriptions, shows the difference that lock-down & the change to local buses has made.

This regroup also had a chance for the likes of Trigamist to catch up, he wasn't staying too long as he had other things to do that day. Fergus & Digger arrived in time for a Jameson's, that was now in the care of Anonymous, they said they had the left the Brewery under the impression the they didn't want the Hash in there, it was reserved for the Six Nations Rugby. Mr X did say that like last time, his words, when he went there on a reconnoitre probably fell on deaf ears when the staff were more interested in ipads & mobiles than service when it was mentioned.

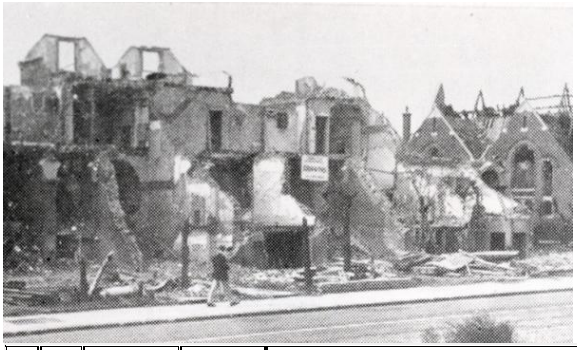
With the toast finished, the area was cleared of the drinking paraphernalia, the old wreath, twigs, leaves etc. all removed to be dropped in a dumpster out by the Brockley section of the cemetery gates, leaving it far tidier than when we arrived & in a much better state then it was over 5 years ago.

Its shame that we didn't have a picture of the memorial after we left it, as someone on the London Hash Farcebook page was very quick in posted a criticising comment (as people do on Farcebook without researching)

about this regroup being held here, without knowing any of the History or the work that has been done in restoring the once broken cross & dilapidated family memorial.

On the way along the western edge of the cemetery, Runs to Eat was found heading toward the Hash to visit the memorial & have her own toast to 'G'. Another brief stop was where there was a question mark, for by this was a family memorial, that included an inscription for 'Claude our son' who died in 1915 & was a member of the Kent Bicycle Battalion (A Company being based at Bromley), after this quick look it was on out to the gates, by which was probably the saddest grave, that of a 'One day old'

The Trail headed back up the Brockley Road, some carried on back to the Barge, while others broke off for a quick one in the Brockley Brewery & things seemed to be pleasant enough when the Hare arrived, some even had Pizza from the van outside.



En Route Mr X explained why this area had an eclectic mix of Victorian Terraced homes & 1950's & 60's builds dotted in between, for Sloppy Seconds (late of Herts Hash) was brought up around here & he explained that during World War II with the successful misinformation being fed to the Germans, the V1 & V2 Rockets had their targets moved from central London & a few now fell short, to hit Brockley SE4 area was hit by 17 V1 & 5 V2

To the left is the damage to Brockley Rise, below just to sections of the report for Breakspears Road & how lucky No. 80 survived.

V1	SE4	Lewisham	Brockley	Junction Breakspeare Road/Harefield Road NE quadrant	06/07/1944	14:34	It is reported that "1-77 & 79 Breakspere Road Severely damage 88-130/81-91/60-86/61-79/93-147 Breakspeare Road Damaged 29-59/42-58 Breakspeare Road slight damaged St Peter Church Hall 87-97Cranfield Road slight damaged 37-63/63-82 Wickham Road slightly damaged 40-110 25-79 Tressillian Road Slightly damaged 2-16-1-13 Tressillian Crescent Slightly damaged 1-11 /2-16 Drake Road Slightly damaged	8

V2	SE4	Deptford	Brockley	Wickham Road by S side Wickham Gardens	11/03/1945	20:04	8 houses demolished and 70 severely damaged in Wickham Road,and Brockley Road.4 houses demolished 20 severe damaged in Wickham gardens 100 houses slight damage in Breakspear and Harefield rds 60 houses slight damage in Cranfield Road 3 shops and 4 houses slight damage in Caulgate st 6 shops 80 houses slight damage in Foxberry Road 40 houses slight damage in Harecort rd 6 shops and 100 houses slight damage in Brockley rd. The are bounded by Wickham Gardens,Brockley Road and Wickham Road has been completely re-developed as a housing estate. The effect of the V2 is starkly illustrated in Wickham gardens where the original Victorian houses remain on the North Side but on the damaged south side they have been totally replaced by 1960's flats.	9

It was pointed out to Sir Humpalot that the Brewery does a 'Hump Day' pint of the day for £3.50 all day on a Wednesday, of course this will come back to bite him in the guise of a Down-Down. The Six Nations had started & some like K4 settled in to watch this first half here.

Back to the Brockley Barge & here the Ketchup was found, boosting the Herts membership total! The Pack slowly made their way back, the staff were hoping that they would be out a bit longer as there was only a couple on until 16:00Hrs, it was mayhem for the two guys.

When Windsock went up to order 40 Pints for the Down-Downs, that the Full Moon Hash stumped up for on their own & no other contributions came forward for this joint run other than from the few Herts present. The pressure on the bar staff showed briefly with a miscalculation of the Down-Downs but this was resolved.

When it came to the Circle, this would be out in the patio garden, which is thankfully walled-in. There were several RA's & of course it was going to be a hoot, so here are just a few of the Down-Downs handed out, some of you may not be mentioned but it was a long day for this scribe!

The Hare was out first for setting this Trail, which the Crowd seemed to appreciate: Then (in no particular Order) we had: Kotex, who firstly had to remove his pants from under his kilt, who was joined by Invisible Matt & these two had to have their Down-Downs while crouching backside to backside & holding each other's opposite arm between their legs, from behind [Yes it sounds a gross in real life as it does in this description! – Ed] for what I dread to think!

Shaggy Plug was out for laying the wreath at the memorial, Action Man for not wanting to lay the wreath while he's still in the Mob, they were joined by Big in Japan, who was to apologise for late Emperor Hirohito & the Japanese invasion of Singapore! [No doubt some snowflake will say that this is non PC in this day & age? Look it happened, let's get over it together with Beer! - Ed]

Shaggy was held in the Circle as Mr X read out the name on a Hash necklace that was 'Lost Property' belonging to 'Glup Yggahs', until he turned the necklace around so it read Shaggy Plug.

Digger spotted that there was some eating going on at the back of the Circle & those stuffing their faces were brought forward with their food that Digger took a liking to! Nearly as much of a liking as that of which he took to My

Lil's EWSH3 Hi-Vis which he had been wearing, obviously My Lil' would get a Down-Down for this bit of ~~thievery~~ 'lost property' as would Invisible Matt as there was talk about being an ex-copper & not spotting, or preventing the thefts!

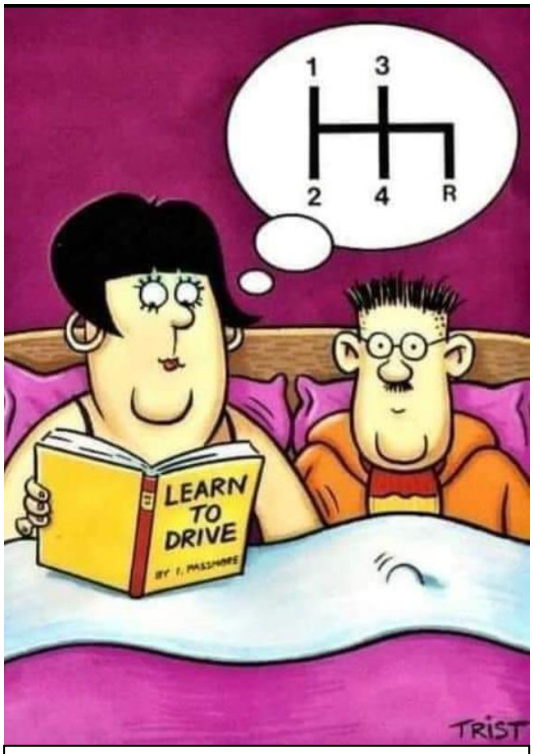
All RAs were called out, followed by Pope who is supposed to be another Holy representative on Earth? This was also followed by the Irish Contingent & anyone with Irish roots, so Anonymous, Fergie, Digger, Mr X plus a token Irish-American or two!

Titanic was out for having New Shoes, there's always one! [But its best to get them out of the way when you know it's going to be a street run without a lot of Shiggy! – Ed] Of course there were relative GM's & RA's to receive their Down-Downs as representatives of the various Hashes present on this multi Hash Trail.

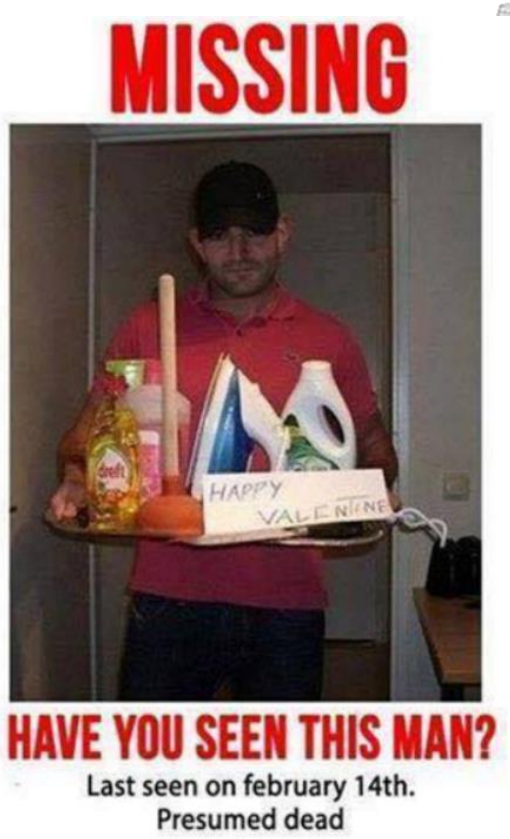
There were plenty more but too many to recall this quickly, especially as this by this point this scribe had dispatched several Down-Downs on top of the regular Ales! Its seems like most received a deserved Down-Down, if you didn't, then please see one of the RA's later & they put this wrong right!

After the Circle & another Ale, there was a plan to head up to the Wickham Arms, for Gispert would have known this Pub but last time around it wasn't worth visiting as it didn't do real Ales, but since then it has had a real turn around to make it a nice place that sells Brockley Brewery Ales cheaper than they do in their Tap-room!

Some made it the few hundred yards up the road to this Pub, then the idea was to head back down toward Crofton Park Station & do a couple of bars down there. A lot of the FMH3 started to move homeward, due to the situation with the engineering works. Panda left the earliest, even missing the Down-Downs to go & watch Chelski go on to win the World Cup [Some Club Football World Cup – Ed] as all other bars were showing the Six Nations.



Shaggy Plug was in no hurry for her to pass her driving test!

"The Best laid plans of mice & Hares!" as Mr X made the Wickham with My Lil, Ketchup & Hannahballs amongst the FUK Full Mooners, while Crystal Balls headed home. My Lil' & Ketchup headed down to the bars around Crofton Park, & Hannahballs got a lift home from Jack, but Mr X failed to make it back down to Crofton Park, he had a slight diversion in escorting Bangers to the nearest station for her to get back down to Kent, but from all accounts he didn't miss much down at the Brockley Jack! [Used to be a good pub, but things change! – Ed]

Mr X also forget to ask London H3 if they were going to contribute the cost of the Down-Downs, since they had two RA's in the Circle handing them out, that'll have to wait for another day as the day just flew by.