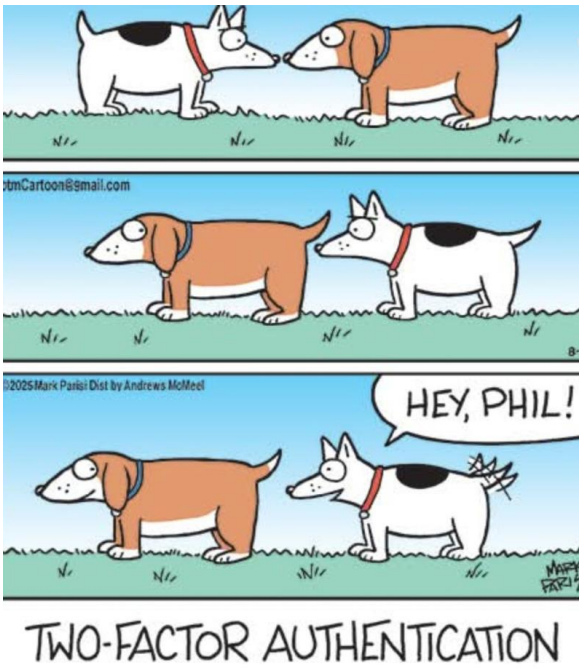
Herts
Hash
House
Harriers
Herts official Website: hertsHash.co.uk



Run No. 2172
Date: 25th August 2025
Venue: Chez 3D et Slug
Location: Melbourn, Cambs
Beers/Cider: Banks' Mild; GK Abbot, Abbot Reserve: Ghost Ship:
Hare/s: 3D et Slug
Runners: 25
Virgins: 1
Visitors: 0
Newies: 0
Après: 3
Hash Hounds: 2
Total: 31
Membership: Another Fabulous day of feasting!

The RA had a very early start as he left UK Nash Hash that morning & trained it up to Melbourn, this meant he arrived at Chez 3D & Slug a good hour ahead. Having tried their back gate, finding it bolted, he went to the front door & rang, he wasn't expecting to be greeted by 3D dressed only in a bath towel, nor Sally woofing at him for quite a while.

The kitchen was soon a hive of activity with Slug &, a now dressed, 3D who were constructing all sorts of fancy canopies. It was like an episode of Master Chef with a bald sweary bloke, some partial nudity, unwanted comments & a touch of competition as 3D admitted that they were so impressed with My Lil's Hors d'Oevres the week before that they felt they needed to put in the extra effort this week. [Competition on the Hash! Well this foodie stuff should be encouraged, even if its against all things Hash!!– Ed]

Sally didn't woof at the next few to arrive, but she had a change of heart as Moss Key Toe went about doing some exercises & it sounded like she disapproved of his 'Downward Dog' like pose [Steady Pebbledash – Ed] as she barked at this strange sight up against the outside wall.

Skip put in an appearance this week, as Premature & Little Hole had brought him along, later we would discover the last time he was at the Hash was the same venue last time. It was good to see him & conversations started, including to see how Paxo was getting on after his hip operation, all of which led to many not realising the start time was almost upon us.

My Lil' was soon a tapping away at his watch as the time approached Eleven, which the minute hand went by as the Circle was finally organised for Fliptop to announce the welcoming speech, followed by the introduction of Angeli who Moss Key Toe & Hot 'N' Spicee had brought along with them. Finally we reached the introduction of the Hares, they would mention a Short Trail option, then 3D went on to a Shorter…. Before Slug stopped her going any further, he also said there would be two Held CHKs (Regroups) & Sweets were also in hand.

Paxo would remain to make sure the Chicken cooking in the oven was ready for the Hash return. Out the Hash went, taking to New Road in the direction of the heart of Melbourn, the road was busier than usual as it reached the junction, for there was a diversion in place due to the roadworks on New Road. At the First CHK on the junction where Orchard Road crosses New Road, My Lil' & Mr X both knew it could not be straight on as they had seen the many T's up there they had seen on their way from the Station, so My Lil' searched to the left, while Mr X looked on the right.

Mr X & Moss Key Toe picked up the Trail, find a CHK near to Medcalfe Way but experience had taught Mr X that the Trail was likely to further on & after 380 Yards these two reached the next CHK opposite the start of Norgett's Lane, which Mr X then took to searching. Again he was correct on the north by northwest road, lined with bungalows to the east.

At the end & around by Norgett's Cottage it was on the High Street where the next CHK was found, luck was still with the RA as he carefully crossed over the slightly blind bend in the road to start searching up the Moor [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed]

The Trail came around the slight turn at the start of the Moor, then it was a dead straight continuation reaching the next CHK opposite a small recreation ground to the east.
Ignoring this easterly option, the RA fancied his chance on picking up Trail a little further on where he knew there was an entrance to the Sports Grounds to the west, sure enough he was right again.

The RA's luck would now run out, as from the CHK by the entrance to the Sports Complex he would head down the drive, picked up some Trail arrows on the driveway but these soon vanished by the time he had passed the Club House & was on the edge of the 'Field of Dreams', which is home to Melbourn FC.

Turning back Mr X finally saw another FRBs, as Diamond Geezer spotted him coming back & sussed it was a falsie, so he carried on up the Moor where Trail arrows were found. A further 310 Yards in the least shaded section of the old road, the Pack would pass by the local Allotments & on the outside corner of the large Hedge the first Held CHK was found.

Moss Key Toe did wander away up the Moor after its 90°Turn to the northeast, while Diamond Geezer, My Lil', Tent Packer, Sludge, TBT OBE, No Eye Deer, DWSS, Pepé le Pew & Kylie waited for the rest of the Pack to arrive at the Held CHK. Some thought that this was the 'Sweet Stop' but they were being a bit premature (Not the Harriette) as real Premature, Little Hole, Fliptop with Teddy, Pebbledash, Milf, Canny Cant & Hot 'N' Spicee, arrived with 3D. The Pack were now at the Short Cut spot, the Hare allowed the FRBs to continue on the north-eastward dirt track the Moor had now become.

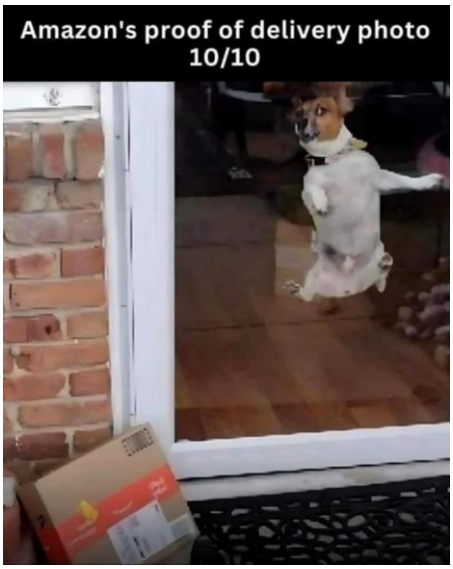
The dusty track would turn to a footpath after leaving the allotments & farm outbuilding behind, Moss Key Toe & Diamond Geezer were right out ahead of the rest & had made good progress into the crop field & gone well beyond the 330 Yards where a footpath breaks away to the north by northwest direction. My Lil' had slowed to look at this option but the two up ahead carried on, so he made his way on after them until they final stopped.

To Mr X it was obvious by their actions they were looking at the ground, they had found a Bar CHK! Mr X, being further back now had an advantage & picked up the Dust, but not until he had covered100 Yards away on to the wooden bridge spanning the Guilden Brook, there may have been Dust earlier on the way up, but the footpath was covered with the carpet of scattered remnants chaff after the harvesting.

Mr X now waited for a couple out walking their pooch to come toward & then pass by him, by the time he had crossed next 90 Yards over the smaller Triangular section of field, the rest were gaining ground & they had caught up when he reached the edge of the A10 bypass, it took a while before there was a significant break in the busy traffic to safely get over to the northern side.

Safely across & the Trail came out of the hedgerow to an elbow in the corner, Mr X went wrong as he saw the Knitting Circle way over to the southwest, ably led by 3D, for they had taken the option to the northwest way back at the Held CHK by the corner of the allotments, to get on a shorter option to cross the A10.

Mr X was called back by No Eye Deer as the Keenies began a long old 640 Yards on the wide, stony, dusty Track up to the Railway to Cambridge. A couple of fluorescent orange outfits could be seen way up by the Tracks, after the long trot under cloudless skies, the FRBs reached the Train Line were the Railway Workers were. When Kylie reached his point he was really tempted to ask one of the guys if he could take his picture, for the guy was sporting a huge fabulous Victorian moustache that put Tent Packers old 'tache to shame.



Crossing the line was fine, except the hole in the continuation of the Track right by the gate post, here the RA had a slight twist to his ankle, so he shouted back for the rest to mind the hole. A further 400 Yards along the edge of the next large fields, to the left some farm outbuildings with some bright & bold graffiti could be seen, then it was on to reach a small industrial area & here the second Held CHK was found, not far from Furry Friends & Gymbo's units.

Slug arrived with Angeli, who had elected to do the long Trail & not take the shorter Knitting Circle version. The Sweets were now handed out & Mr X managed to grab the Liquorice Allsorts before Tent Packer, who was slow on the uptake [If you snooze you lose! – Ed] but there was no need to rush & try to bag the odd one of two Aniseed Buttons, this packet of Bertie Bassets' had loads inside. Mr X also pointed out that it was lucky that Pebbledash wasn't there as she may have mentioned that the liquorice Bertie Bassets were slightly phallic in design!

After the Allsorts & Wine Gums, the Keenies were allowed to resume the search for Trail. Sludge, Moss Key Toe, Mr X & My Lil' were not for looking any other way except westward on North End, back toward the Centre of Meldreth, they would be proved correct as Trail was picked up, so Diamond Geezer called back from heading northward.

After 280 Yards the next CHK was discovered by the footpath into Holy Trinity Parish Church, again local knowledge kicked in as My Lil' & Mr X were straight over to search the drive to the Mill, on the opposite side from the Church. Trail picked up on the shingle drive, heading southward on the tree shaded drive to reach a footpath path running on the east side of the hedge & above the River Mel.

The Trail crossed the Mill Stream, here at the Mill the gap where the waterwheel once was attached to the huge Oak drive shaft, was seen still in situ above the fast gushing water, Mr X said he was surprised that there wasn't a modern generator fitted to make some electricity from the power of the water?

The Trail would cross the enclosed, elongated cattle field, though no bovines were residing within today, 300 Yards along the west edge & then the Trail reached a Kissing Gate before entering the first section of woodland with the Hash running along the eastern edge of the Mel, one of the 200 Chalk Stream Rivers in the UK, inf act we have nearly all of the Chalk Rivers in the whole World.

Now under the shade of the tree canopy it was cooler, so the FRBs pulled away from the middle order as they passed by the small piggery, where three large sows were having a dust bath, rolling in the dry earth & creating billowing clouds of dust as the Hashers passed through.

Diamond Geezer was nearly thrown off the Trail at a CHK by the bridge over by the recreation area, where a few were out playing a gentile game of Croquet. He was soon back on track as the Trail continued along by the crystal clear River Mel as it entered the Melwood Nature Reserve. There was one more CHK to try & throw the Keenies off of the scent, but experienced heads knew that the left hand split would come out to the Railway line once again.

Here there were two options to cross the tracks, there was the one footpath beside the Mel as it flows underneath & from previous Hashes we know that the other end of the bridge is very low, for TBT OBE did crack his head one before falling backwards into the River Mel, that was also the last time clear waters had any pollution when he fell in & disturbed the smelly silt from the farm land.

The option of the Level Crossing was the safer choice & so Diamond Geezer Moss Key Toe, Mr X & Pepé le Pew cross above ground. Back along by the Mel & the Trail ran for 270 Yards to reach the Guilden Brook once again, then 200 more Yards to reach the road bridge, where the river Mel flows under the A10 By-pass, which is decorated with some rather good locally themed murals, once on the southern side of the by-pass most knew that they were on the last leg of the Trail.

The Trail would head through the Jubilee Orchard & then over the western end of the Field of Dreams, through the corner of the tree-line & once through the trees Pepé le Pew & Diamond Geezer were spotted beyond the tennis courts & now heading over toward the back of Vicarage Close, where they changed direction from southward to westward, which Moss Key Toe & My Lil' had picked up on as they cut diagonally across to intercept them by the footpaths to the Church.

Diamond geezer was the only one of the other three to come back from the CHK on the corner, where another footpath heads southwest to Station Road. With My Li' knowing that a turn to the south would lead back to the High Street crossroads, eh would not return. Mr X followed on behind Diamond Geezer as the Trail lead up the southeast shuttered-in path that comes around to the bungalows on Vicarage Close, eventually the Trail would turn southward on another alleyway that leads in to the drive on the outer edge of the All Saints Church Grounds to reach the On Inn found just by the lights on the high Street crossing.

Back down Mortlake Street, which becomes New Road & then Chez 3D et Slug, where the Knitting Circle were all back. Time for an Ale, more of a chat with Skip & Paxo, a chance to hear snippets about the UK Nash Hash from the RA with a certain lack of sleep! All while enjoying a Beer & some Hors d'Oevres.

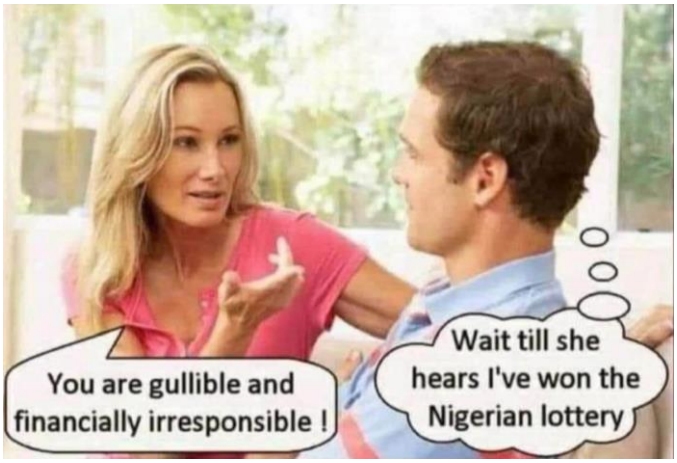
This time Paxo was not in charge of the Barbeque, Slug was doing his caveman job, while Moss Key Toe made some Humus as a pre-snack before the home-made burgers were ready, with sausages & complimented by Hot 'N' Spicee's excellent Noodles.

Of course it wouldn't be a Hash Barbie without a breakage, firstly Milf knocked over a beer, then TBT OBE did the same when he clipped Slug's homemade table, the latter came as no surprise to the regulars!

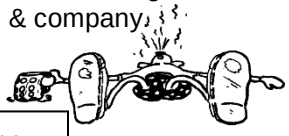
The food was excellent, & during the break between courses the RA started the Circle. The Pack were allowed to sit in the shade.

The Hares were rewarded their Down-Downs for what everyone agreed was an excellent Trail, not to mention the food & hospitality. Other Down-Downs & not in any particular order were: TBT OBE who reached 600 Herts Trail [Your award will be ready in a couple of weeks! – Ed] Lost property of Flander's 200 Run cap was accepted by, as was the Down-Down, by Sludge. There was also No Eye Deer & Canny Cant for leaving chairs at the last barbeque. Then we had our virgin of Angeli, who as Pepé le Pew said seemed to fit in very well with the Hash Pack. Also out as well were Moss key Toe & Hot'N' Spicee for the Humus, Noodles & the excellent Chilli Sauce!

The RA went on to mention that the next EuroHash in 2027 will be hosted by Bucharest in Romania, while UK Nash Hash is Devon in '27, at Tiverton.



The Pack were treated to another one of Flander's fabulous Pavlovas, with a cheese cake & brownies amongst the treats. Another excellent afternoon, food & company.



I thought my new girlfriend was the one, but after looking through her underwear draw and finding a Nurses outfit, a French Maids outfit & a Police Woman's uniform, but I finally decided that if she can't hold down a job, she's not for me!