



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

Run No. 2216
 Date: Monday 30th May 2026
 Venue: The Old Oak
 Location: Arlesey
 Beers/Cider: GK IPA
 Hare/s: No Eye Deer (With assistance from her little helper DWSS)
 Runners: 12
 Virgins: 0
 Visitors: 0
 Newbies: 0
 Après: 0
 Hash Hounds: 3
 Total: 15
 Membership: Pooches back!



The cool breeze of normality was in the air this morning, a relief from the unseasonal heatwave that slowed even the hardest over the last week.

Two who caught the Train up witnessed a tide of Red & White on the opposite platforms, heading down toward the Smoke, as hordes of melancholy Gooners made their way down to Finsbury Park to celebrate their Premiership Title, which may have been slightly tainted by their losing the European Cup Final the night before.

The parade in London may have explained why the Pack was reduced in numbers this week? Hopefully none of our missing Gooners were amongst the ones who had to be rescued from several flat roofs in the Highbury Area? Perhaps they were up there trying to get Gabriel's Penalty ball down?

The drivers amongst the Pack would have a game of car shuffling as they attempted to create more space in the Pub's car park, the advertised 'plenty of street parking' didn't ring true this morning, cars were parked up all the way along Old Oak Close to Arseley Station, yes, Gooners can even be found this far north! In fact, Dog Biscuit from Elgin H³ is a Gooner & that's about as far north as you can get in the UK.

There was no hold up to the circle being called, no faffing about with a picture of the Hash outside of the Old Oak. Then, once Paxo had finished the welcome, No Eye Deer would explain what the Pack could expect out there on Trail. No Eye Deer mentioned two Held CHKs, Sweets Stop, Short Cuts & that DWSS was responsible for the 'Long Sections' which was followed by there were some interesting loops. DWSS now attempted to distance himself from all of No Eye Deer's Chalk-talk, not that any of the Pack were buying his excuses. The one thing the Hare failed to mention, as Mr X described it, was the 'Bastard Start'!

The Pack were ushered away down Old Oak Close, with My Lil' leading the way, for walking up from Arseley Station he had already seen Trail Arrows down to the end of the road & then into the station, crossing over the high 'Bastard' concrete footbridge to Platform 2. Down for the platform to a CHK in the corner of the smaller of the two car parks to the west of the Station.

Pepper Pig Porker chose to search under the bridge carrying the A507, he called "On!" as he began on the cycle/footpath that runs around by Henlow Lakes, his calling of "On!" brought My Lil' back from searching in the Arlesey Old Moat & Glebe Meadows Nature Reserve. Suddenly Pepper Pig Porker stopped & turned back after finding a T, so it was back to the Meadows for Mr X, My Lil' & now Pepper Pig Porker.

A sign on the fence requested that 'Dogs be kept on a short lead!', due to grass cutting being carried out by the Nature Reserve teams. Of the two remaining options, the left-hand footpath near to the railway that My Lil' chose proved to be the correct one, while Mr X had to come back from the right-hand option as a wooden fence prevented any chance of Sludging it cutting cross the meadow.

A nice fairly shaded 200 Yard trot down the tree-line dividing sections of the meadow, & as the Pack would now become stretched out as My Lil', Pepper Pig Porter, Mr X pulled away. 3D was keeping up with them pretty well as she put in a good effort, with Slug & Sally a little further back,

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She claims he just vanished into Finnair!



Dozens require rescuing from height and 16 arrests made after Arsenal parade



as the two Hares kept an eye on The Jack-all, Paxo, Secret Squirrel, Mark E Mark & Lobby Lobster with their two hounds.

Entering the wooded section of Trail, via a Kissing-Gate which the absent Milf would have enjoyed, to Hash along beside the railway that would have excited the also absent Kylie, but he would have had even more stimulation at the sight of the large pile of cut tree trunks, which Mr X stopped to photograph, something that puzzled Pepper Pig Porker! [It was due to the Hash-flashes being away! – Ed]

The sound of a motor & the distinctive smell of two-stroke filled the air, for it was here that small group of volunteers were strimming & mowing the footpaths, generally tidying things up. At the southern end of the wood, some 360 Yards later, just beyond a brand spanking new wooden Kissing-Gate & footbridge, a CHK was found with just two options, stick by the railway or head westward toward the River Purwell.

The Trail continued along by the Train line, where the regular sound of passing engines rumbling by could be heard, it would a further 340 Yard before another CHK was located, this being outside of the orchard area & on the edge of more meadows.

Similar options of continuing beside the railway, or head westward were the choices, & this time the Trail would head away to the west before following the in & out serpentine course of the water, turning southward again in the grassland beside the River Purwell.

After 480 Yards Sally found the silty shallow bow in the river & was soon paddling about in the water. The first Held CHK was found a few yards away, by a small wooden footbridge over reed beds. No Eye Deer was the first Hare there, she had spotted that My Lil' had gone off to inspect the High metal footbridge over the railway lines to the east. Mr X said that he had jokingly said My Lil' should check it out while the Keenies awaited the rest of the Hash to arrive, not expecting him to actually go over for a sneak-peak.

Karlo the Jack-all followed on behind 3D & Slug, then DWSS arrived with the sweets with Secret Squirrel & Paxo, Lobby Lobster & Mark E Mark completing the Pack. Marshmallows, Wine Gums & then Liquorice Allsorts were handed out, with My Lil' grabbing the Allsorts & fishing out the one & only Aniseed Button in the packet, something that disappointed Mr X!

After a confectionary respite, the choices were now down to two for the three after My Lil's earlier search of the Railway bridge, the final option now was over the Weir in what is now the River Hiz. Pepper Pig Porker started searching further southward, but was soon called back as My Lil' called "On! On" over the weir & into the fields to the west leading the Keenies out on a long Falsie toward the Middle Water Woods!

The Keenies headed back, spotting a grinning DWSS on the footbridge & he was looking pretty smug with himself in catching them out with a long Falsie, this Falsie was meant to allow the Knitting Circle to get ahead of the FRBs on the southbound footpath. Ah, the best laid plans of mice & men resulted in the pooches still having fun in the river at the weir & the Tail of the Hash were more engaged with the canines than advancing along the Trail.

The Keenies now passed back by Knitting Circle to turn south. Pepper Pig Porker eventually found Dust, just beyond where he was called back from, but he was again stopped in his tracks as his wife was out walking their pooches, neither of which would allow him to pass by without receiving some attention from him.

After around 200 yards to the south & the footpath now ran between the bank of the River Hiz to the west & the large area of the abandoned garden Nurseries to the east, it would be 300 Yards before the Nurseries were left behind, then the Trail led on through a shady wooded section by the River to compete 600 yards to reach a CHK on the northern tip of Arlesey Common.

Pepper Pig Porker, Mr X & My Lil' all instinctively chose the southeastern option, away from the River & Buttercup Meadow for 210 Yards to reaching Mill Lane, where Pepper Pig Porter went wrong by searching northward up the lane, he would soon be back as My Lil' picked up the Trail over the third high metal footbridge over the railway lines in the village, to descend on to the end of Hospital Road.

This was the site of the original Three Counties Railway Station in Arlesey, opened in 1866 as Arlesey Sidings, it became Three Counties Station as it served the Three Counties Asylum, it was closed to passengers in 1959 & freight in 1960. The present Station, some one & half miles up the line at Church End Arlesey, was opened in 1988!

A short way up the road & the second, final Held CHK of the day was found, but there were 20 minutes to go for a chance of a Beer Stop of the True Britton, that DWSS mentioned as a potential Beer Stop? After peering through the windows, it was soon established that this Pub doesn't sell Real Ales, so the enthusiasm to pop in was soon quelled.

Another round of sweets was had as the Pack regrouped for the second time, here No Eye Deer said that Trail was now turning back, as the Hash were at the southern end of the Village [The village is just a shade over two miles in length! – Ed] as some now knew how far back they had to go. The Pack were given an option carry on straight up the Hight Street, but the Pack were recommended to take to some of the side loops as they were quite nice & interesting!

So, off the Hash went along Station Road to reach the junction to the High Street, crossing to the eastern side of the main road though the elongated Village, nearly 500 yards on the pavement, heading northward until the next CHK was reached.

The Keenies headed eastward briefly, to pick up a footpath by Arlesey Town Youth Football Club's grounds, turning north to head up behind the Community Centre & on by a fenced in Kids



Play area, where Mr X asked Slug to take a photo of the him in the Arlesey Express Train, for he knew the absent Kylie would have been jealous.



No Eye Deer was impressed that Mr X had spelt out some four-letter animals on the alphabet frame before he followed on behind her & Karlo the Jack-all. At the end of the footpath was CHK, which No Eye Deer marked this way from the High Street & eastward to reach a narrow footpath up the back of the eastern side of the houses in Arlesey. Mr X now wondered what was so interesting about squeezing up a narrow back-passage [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] between back-to-back rear gardens of the Homes?

The Long Trail option would now lead out on to Gothic Way, Mr X wondered if the Hash had to dress all in Black & act all mopey? Anyhow, as the Trail weaved its way through the estate, 3D & Sally had over run the arrows pointing the way up through Cox's Way, Slug called them back. Out on to Lymans Road, where a turn to the west would lead all the way back to the High Street

Once on the High Street, Mr X decided that he would stop off at the White Horse for a nice refreshing Pint. Emerging to sup outside as the Knitting Circle passed by to the north. Sadly, the Tennent's of the White Horse are waiting to see what Greedy King are going to do, & let them stay on, for they are redeveloping the large area around the back of the Pub for Housing. [We wish them luck in extending their tenancy in a time when the Hospitality Industry is suffering so much! – Ed]

Secret Squirrel & Paxo both passed by Mr X, before he continued with the Trail. After 120 Yards the Hash crossed the junction with Goodwin Drive & the new Bowskill Way road to the A507, already built with a couple of roundabouts & junctions for prospective housing development, lets home the hundreds of homes that go up don't use up all of the water supply?

Anyhow, just a few yards further north, the Trail would split, straight on for the Short Cut, while the longer option peeled off to the west, on a hard-capped path that runs through the trees behind the homes, the shady wooded route led back toward the Railway, to turn northward & then finally coming out to the east & on to Bury Mead, the loop would be a full 700 Yards to come back on to the High Street.

A final 500 Yards up Church Lane, that the High Street had become, passing by a house boarded up with Steel Shuttering & covered with warning signs not to enter, then by the walled grounds of St Peter's Church, to cut around the western bend to see the contrasting ancient wattle & daub timbered home to boarded up home earlier! The On Inn was passed with just a few yards back to the Royal Oak.

The Pack settled in, but not for long as Secret Squirrel had found the rear garden of the Pub, asking the RA if he was "coming out?", which puzzled him as to quote Al Murray's the Pub Landlord he's "Never had an issue with his sexuality!" but it was a nice enough day to sit outside before the final Circle.

The Circle was called & the Hares suitably rewarded for a great Trail. Amongst the other Down-Downs were: Slug for blinding the RA with sun reflecting off of his Lilly-white legs, he was joined by Karlo the Jack-all who in contrast had the best tan on the Hash that day! Pepper Pig Porker for being held up on Trail by his wife & pooches; Mark E Mark received the last one, after No Eye Deer interjected about the witty 'Driverless car' comment as to why Milf bothered to get married?

