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

Run No. 2171
Date: 17th August 2025
Venue: Chez My Lil'
Location: Welwyn Garden City
Beers/Cider: Hobgoblin Stout; The Nun's delight (Bishops Finger) & Many More
Hare/s: My Lil'
Runners: 25
Virgins: 0
Visitors: 0
Newies: 0
Après: 2
Hash Hounds: 2
Total: 29
Membership: Fabulously feasting…..

What a difference Six Days make, going from eight Hashers on a Monday evening to twenty seven gannets on a Sunday morning, it couldn't have been the prospect of the famous My Lil' après Trail barbeque that was luring so many out on a hot day, & during the Holidays? Having such a good turnout meant the opening Circle would take some time, with later arrivals having to drive a fair way to bag a side-street parking spot.

Having only just arrived, Mr X was approached by DWSS, who said that he had to talk to No Eye Deer about Tanks, he still has his birthday Tank Driving to do, trouble is he has been too busy for the last four months & had zero time to himself. Even on Monday he spent his lunchtime & evening booking Trains, Accommodation & paying Registration Fees for the Five Herts Hashers going to this year's Peaky Blinders, just so we could all get in. [It's a limited numbers event! – Ed]

Eventually the HGM called everyone from out of the rear garden to Circle up outside of the front garden. After the correct Run Number was announced, it was over to the Hare. The Chalk-talk mentioned that there were Short Cuts available, it was an hour's run, with a regroup & food afterwards, there were words of warning about two-sided arrows that would be encountered on one section, but these weren't part of the Hash Trail & should be ignored.

The Trail set off north-westward to the roundabout at the end of Howlands, where it joins Chequers. Mother had to take Buster at the start, running along with Mr X, while Lemming dropped back to a walk. Hash Test Dummy & Moss Key Toe soon passed them by, following the arrows down through one of the underpasses to the open sunken centre of the roundabout, here a CHK was found.

With Lemming out of sight & mind, Buster was now happy to run on & as he did as Mother told him to slow down, Mr X pointed out that Buster had four-paw drive, which made Mother Laugh. Hash Test Dummy & Moss Key Toe now led the FRBs away, emerging onto the western footpath leading in to the small housing estate on Chequersfield, standing on what was the former Squash Club site, a place that was a Night Club for the locals desperate for an extra couple of drinks, including Mr X & Junior. Hash Test Dummy would lead the others up a Falsie here.

Having turned back, Mr X changed the directions of the arrows, for the Hare had given him some plasterboard to mark the Long Trail, something he didn't look too pleased to have at the time! The FRBs could now see the middle order of DWSS, Sludge, 3D, Slug, Waragi, Milf, Supertrouper, Fliptop, TBT OBE, Lemming, Juices Flowing, Canny Cant, Hot 'N' Spicee & the Hare, as My Lil' led them off on the path to the south, along by Chequers for a short way before cutting on to an enclosed footpath to the west of the road to Hatfield.

The footpath moved away from the road, heading off in the eastern edge of the Creswick Plantation, after 170 Yards the Trail came out to the corner of one of the crop fields, here a CHK was found. The Hare offered up a Short Cut down the tree-line, which splits two fields as it runs away sou-sou-west, the longer Trail would head along the bottom of the Plantation, crossing a long stretch of newish wooden Duckboards.

The next CHK was found by the southwest corner of the wood, where a path leads up into Eddington Crescent at the back of the small estate. Mr X marked the way on the end of the tarmac

TBT OBE was only there for the Barbequed fish!

path from the housing estate as Hash Test Dummy & Moss Key Toe picked up the Dust on the stony footpath running along the top of the fields at the below the Housing Estate.

A hesitant TBT OBE would eventually follow on, as Mr X & Mother joined the others in running the 235 Yards to the edge of the Kings Cross Main line route. A 90° turn to take the Keenies along by the Railway embankment, where the level of the 'now harvested' crop field drops further below that of the embankment.

TBT OBE thought that now was a good time to inform Mr X that he had started some wordz for the Little Gaddesden Trail, to which Mr X said that he had already been over there on Saturday, ran the Trail & even knocked up & printed the Trash! [He would amend it slightly later that day! – Ed]

TBT OBE went on to mention Moss Key Toe's hair at Little Gaddesen, how he wore a hat in the 26 degree temperature, even in the Pub after the Trail & eventually he had to remove it after admitting he had his hair dyed for his Daughter's Wedding.

Parsons Nose was not so sure, he doubted that the RA would go all the way over to do the Trail, but then how would Mr X know of a CHK around an old dry cowpat & other highlights of the Trail? TBT OBE now stopped to sample some of the ripe blackberries, while No Eye Deer, Parsons Nose & Lemming all following on.

My Lil' led the likes of Sludge, Fliptop, 3D, Slug, Gen 'N' Tonic, Milf, Supertopuper & Juices Flowing on the Short Cut. Meanwhile back with the Keenies, after 400 yards they had reached the wide Farm Track to the point it passes under 'Tramps Bridge' giving access to Stanborough Park, & the Lakes to the west of the Railway.

There would be no visit to Stanborough Park today, for the Trail would turn to the southeast, as the gritty & dry old Farm track runs along by Woodhall Farm, on the way some could hear a loud noise of farm machinery rumbling from behind the high & dense hedgerow.

As Moss Key Toe & Mr X arrived near the junction for entering the farm, a large Combine came out, thankfully it arms & appendages were all stowed away as it headed over the fields billowing clouds of Dust in its wake toward the footpath the Knitting Circle coming on.

The Keenies would complete over 1,000 Yards as they followed the Farm Track from the Railway to its other end back by Chequers. On the way the Hash would cross a small pack bridge, before coming out by Woodhall Lodge & the short, narrow bow-like lane on & off of Chequers.

Mr X told Mother that the house they would now pass by, on the western side of the southern end of the lane, was once mistakenly thought to have been bought by the Late Dale Winton, it was an early example of Social Media Misinformation as the owners had to put out a statement to say Dale Winton didn't live there & for Fans not to gather outside. [It is shame that Dale didn't live there, for nearby Hatfield is home to lots of Supermarket Trollies, they have herds of wild Trollies roaming free, he would have liked that! – Ed]

Care would now be need to cross the busy junction with Mill Green, for it is situated long blind bend. Kylie, who already crossed over, stood to warn the now arriving FRBs of any oncoming Traffic, for there is far more visibility on the southern side. Once safely over the busy road, there Trail would spit, with a Short Cut heading into Mill Green, while the Longer Option headed up along Chequers to the Junction above the A414.

This was the Keenies would encounter the full arrows, which Mr X made sure those behind knew to run against these by putting Hash ones beside them. Crossing the sedate river Lea flowing on its course under the hectic bustling of the traffic on the way up by the Junction by the currently still under renovation Bush Hall.

The Keenies turned left by the edge of the A414 below. The Trail would now head south by south-westward to descend a rough old concrete path between a fenced-off a fallow enclosure & former equine paddock to the left & the A414 to the right.

The Path came down to the level, & though the Dual Carriageway was now behind the homes in Mill Green, the traffic noise could still be heard. The Trail would pass by the working Mill & Museum at Mill Green, then by the still to reopen Green Man Pub, it's all been refurbished after the new & Salisbury Estate homes were built, they are of a design which fits in with the original style from the 19th century. Lord Salisbury probably wants far too much rent for the Pub.

Mr X now began catching up with Canny Can't as he took to the tarmac footpath leading away for the road restrictors on the almost blind exit to the A414. Into the bottom of a small wooded copse the Keenies went, by the end of the isolated turn in two of the Mill Green Golf Courses' fairways as they come around the perimeter of the local Sewage works & then the 'Ground Works' depot.

The Arrows remained by the A414 as the TBT OBE commented on the amount of discarded litter that became more & more like a fly-tipped house-hold waste as it left the 300 yard of shade from the trees. The detritus continued as the Trail stuck with the A414 Dual Carriageway, moving closer to the roadside.

Eventually, after 610 Yards, the tarmac footpath arrived at the end of Gypsy Lane, which used to join the A414, even crossing both carriageways years ago, but now it's all blocked off with concrete blocks to prevent any potential accidents, allowing only cycles & pedestrians access.

Having followed the Arrows to the left, the Trail would make its way northward up Gypsy Lane, this narrow hedge-rowed lane is now used for access to the Golf Club's Club-House, with sections of the course on either side. The Club House end was left behind, moving on up & along the way there were gaps in the hedge to allow crossing of golfers to different holes & Tees, though Mr X was surprised to see that the board at one Tee declared that Winter Course Conditions applied! [Weather wise was this a sign of things to come? – Ed]

It would take 680 Yards to reach the opposite end of the lane, there was a CHK point almost at the end of the Lane, teasing some to look out on the footpath over the top of one fairway, but the Trail carried on along the lane, thankfully there was hardly any traffic in or out of the Golf club.

The Hash reached the small roundabout where Gypsy Lane joins Ascots Lane, this is far busier with traffic, for its used as a 'rat run' to cut off having to drive the whole length of Howlands, with almost 600 Homes, it's the longest road in Welwyn Garden City, so you can see why its busy.

A Held CHK was found just beyond the metal barrier to keep pedestrians from straying into the traffic by the roundabout. Buster was happy to see Mother, as Lemming had been on the Short Cut up through the Golf Course, away from the Longer FRBs Trail. Buster decided that he'd rather drink out of the bottle than the pop-out dog bowl, Mr X said that Lemming had offered him a drink out of the same bottle

Also there were 3D & Slug with Sally, they were better off on the Shorter Trail as the cooling wind had dropped & the day was warming up quite quickly especially as the time was approaching noon. 3D would later touch the tarmac path to test how hot it was for pooch paws, it wasn't too bad.

While Supertrouper went around offering up Jelly Babies, a packet of Henry Hippos also did the rounds once they were prised from Mother's grasp. It was now, that those gathered had to guess what Hash Test Dummy has as a Tattoo! The clue was it was 1970's Cartoon based, a little later it was whittled down to a Hanna-Barbara production, with nearly all of the Whacky Races characters being mentioned before it was realised that it wasn't that Cartoon. Eventually Mr X got it correct, being Hong Kong Phooey, only 16 episodes were made back in 1974, with Penrod 'Penry' Pooch the star. [Or the star of Hash Test Dummy's Butt! – Ed]

No Eye Deer & DWSS were the last to the regroup, they came wandering up to Ascots lane just as the rest were about to set off, with the Hare having marked a Short Cut straight up the back passage [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] to the north a few yards to Bennett Close. While the Knitting Circle cut through the back roads & a footpath out of Kingsly Court to Howlands, the Keenies were led around the end of Ascots Lane.

On the 620 Yard anti-clockwise loop, Mother & Mr X were surprised to see across the road in the garden of Oakfield Lodge Care & Nursing home was a rather large, carved wooden Giraffe, Giraffes are not a common sight in Hertfordshire.

The Trail led on by the local Ambulance Station, opposite from the New QEII Hospital, then a turn to the west, would have the Keenies pass by a small green space with a large establish Willow Tree in its heart, one the RA knew well as Family Friends used to live opposite this spot when he was a kid.

The Trail would now head along Howlands, with the Knitting Circle not leaving this west bound way & carrying on straight to the Hare's Home, for the FRBs there would be a series of little loops, with Mother following on behind Moss Key Toe & Parsons Nose.

The first loop would head southward down Golden Dell, then less than 100 Yards arrows would lead on to footpath that runs across a green space enclosed by terraced homes, with a few bungalows on it, before reaching Boundary Lane, turning northward a few yards back to Howlands.

Mr X then decided he ought to do a bit more of the longer Trail, as he'd never hear the end of it if he didn't, even DWSS would join him as they tagged along with Mother, Moss Key Toe & Parsons Nose. Heading southward again by way of the footpath at the end of dead-end Harebell. Arrows led on to Lady Grove [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] where the Trail advanced north-westward to then cross Linkfield with its path on a green cut-through toturn right & move all way up Middlefield to where it joins Howlands.

Slug, 3D & Sally came walking down to DWSS, who commented on the fact that they were heading the wrong way, but their car was parked down this road. The Pack made their way back to Chez My Lil', with everyone being back in around an hour & 15 minutes, which wasn't bad considering the late start.

Paxo has to keep his leg up while watching Daytime TV, where they ask all the important questions?

In the back garden the Pack settled in, trying their best to nab the shady spots, two of which had been taken up by Paxo & Pebbledash, who had brought poorly Paxo in compression stockings, along after he had his hip operation & how his leg had become swollen. Pebbledash said it was probably swollen in the wrong place.

Plenty of snacks were awaiting the Hash's return, more snacks came out as Fliptop waited for the barbeque coals to be ready. Fliptop cooked plenty of sausages & burgers, the veggie options were first, then the meat. There were plenty of cooked meats, it was like an Argentinian 'Asado' with Kylie taking a go on the barbeque, as well as the host to try & get through it all. There were some spicy sausages, but there was an even hotter sauce that Hot 'N' Spicee had made, Mr X seemed to consume most of this, tough he did offer it around to thers.

The RA decided that the Circle should take place after the Barbie, unfortunately Fliptop had to leave with Sis, before he could receive his Lost Property back from the EHMR weekend.

The RA raised a Toast to Supermini, Birdtable's Father, as well as Ewok's Father, Tony, who have both Late of this Parish who have sadly passed away.

Then it was on to the Hare, who rightly was awarded his Down-down for an excellent Trail. Supertouper was awarded a Chocolate Hare for having completed more Hash Trails than either Waragi & Hash Test Dummy!

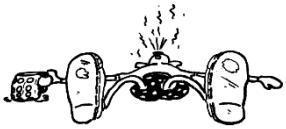
Parsons Nose was out for not believing Mr X had gone over to run his Trail at Little Gaddesden, then Moss Key Toe was called out for his Hit, revealing to all his now ginger Hair, so if one Ginger drinks, all gingers drink! Meaning Waragi & Port both joined him. Moss Key Toes ginger Barnet doesn't actually look that bad, it also knocked a few years off of him.

TBT OBE was using a hand-held fan Menopausal women have, while Mr X had his hit for reaching 1600 Herts Runs! Just as the Circle was winding up, Starboard arrived, having passed his A levels he is off to university of Sussex, which prompted the RA to mention the Waterworks Micro Pub in Rye is worth a visit. This was the last Down-Down of the day.

After the Circle it was time for the Puddings & Sweets, with Flanders' Pavlova being so popular it went in no time, there was also bread pudding, apple turnovers & Ice Cream. If that wasn't enough, the afternoon was finished off with Gin & Tonics, as well a few drams of Jamesons. While Mr X, Lemming & others enjoyed the remaining afternoon, Kylie had to go off & lie down in the conservatory.

It must have bene a good time as Four Chairs were left behind! These can be picked in the next Circle

It Spider mating season here in the UK, thank your lucky stars you're not in Australia here's a guide to Spiders down-under!



An elderly woman was walking her dog when a young man grabbed her purse and ran away. I asked if she was OK and she smiled and said that its really no big deal because she carries her old purse to put her dog's poop in it until she gets home to dispose of it.

Preparation for the Next Braughing Wheelbarrow Race are under way, can you guess the theme, there is prize for the First Correct Answer!!!

My wife forgot to leave for me the carseat to take our son to the babysitter's house. This is the picture I sent when she asked how I was going to get him there. I then turned off my phone for the next 4 hours.