

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

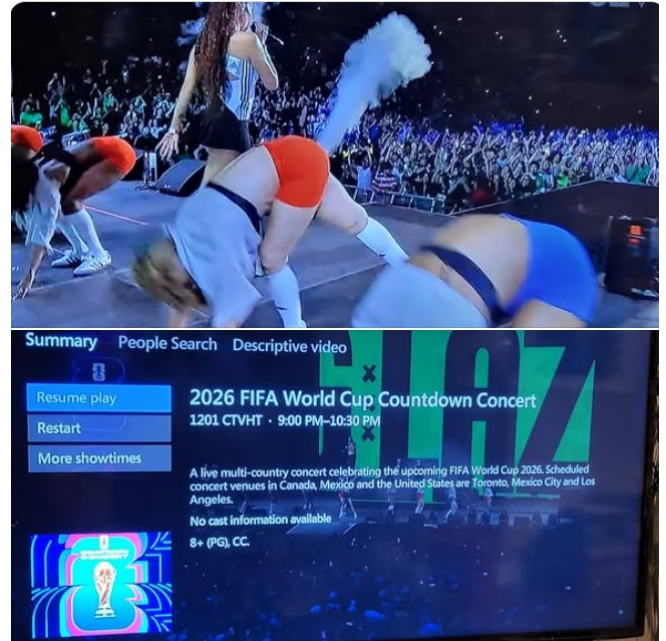
Run No. 2218
 Date: Monday 15th June 2026
 Venue: The White Hart
 Location: Puckeridge
 Beers/Cider: MucMullens/ TT Landlord
 Hare/s: Kylie & Milf
 Runners: 12
 Virgins: 0
 Visitors: 0
 Newies: 0
 Après: 0
 Hash Hounds: 1
 Total: 13
 Membership: Witnessing a broken RA!



Exclusive:

Local Topsoil Company remain positive after recent thefts!

Manager says "We are hoping to recover lost ground!"



This week saw the return of our Ewok, arriving in her Smrt car [No, it's not a spelling mistake, the letter A had dropped off after a wash, silly rse! – Ed] Ewok had taken some time off of nearby House-sitting for Mumblehead, after the obligatory hugs, she would hear from one of the Hares, who made sure that the gathering Pack know that she had to go around setting the Trail not once, not twice but thrice! Nearly all of the arrivals were oblivious to the thunder storm that had passed over Puckeridge & obliterated the previously laid markings.

The time came around to the hour, then things seemed to stop as it was noticed that Secret Squirrel had a hole in one of the cheeks of her leggings, which led to lots of puerile school boy, but mainly school girl comments!

The laughing subsided & finally, Paxo came around to doing the honours with the welcoming speech, then the Hares were introduced, with Milf stepping up as the senior Hare, having been around the Trail now less than three times [In case you hadn't heard? – Ed]

Mentions of Short Cuts & Sweet Stops cheered the Pack, Mr X was especially happy to hear about short cuts as he was suffering a bit after completing the Gurkha's Doko Challenge South on Sunday, even after a refreshing & revitalising pint in 'Spoon in Hertford he was seizing up.

Off the Hash went, out of the Pub's Patio Garden & on to the old dead-end of the now unused narrow lane that was once the way to Braughing before the new road was constructed at the end of Puckeridge village. No direct turning toward Braughing as the Trail was picked up on the corner of the field to the southeast of the lane, where a move to nor-nor-east would find the Dust heading up beside the hedgerow to the right of the old lane.

In the northwest corner of the crop field the Trail turned to the sou-sou-east along the next Hedgerow for a few yards, Milf & Kylie's home was pointed out over in the distance to Secret Squirrel, before the Trail disappeared through a gap to the next field & carrying on along the hedgerow on the opposite side leading the Keenies of Ewok, My Lil', Ketchup, Where's Wally? & No Eye Deer to turn to the north, no doubt lured away in the prospect of heading toward the Braughing Road again, this would be a Falsie as Milf marked the CHK in the opposite direction.

A climb up out of the wooded strip below the elongated embankment would lead up to a wheatfield, with the Dust running around the edge by the hedged-off School Grounds, on the way Mr X found a small toy cat from the Hertford Zoo sitting on the path, he warned those passing him by to "Watch out for the fierce Cat!" as everyone passed by a couple out walking their pooch.

The Trail turned eastward to lead over to the spindle wood on the top of the plateau, 'Spindle trees' are unusual & have many uses, as the name implies, knitting needles, vivid dyes, soap & herbal medicine. Here there was a split in the trail once inside the scrubby start of the woodland, with the Keenies of Ewok, My Lil' & Ketchup heading off on a loop through to the south, meanwhile the Knitting Circle all took the steep, dead straight path that drops down within the east end of the wood.

No Eye Deer commented on how different the under-foot the conditions were compared to the last time we Hashed through here, when it was treacherous, slippery Shiggy all the way down to the former 'Bunt' Railway, the branch line from St Margeret's to Buntingford. On his way down, Kylie pondered on what the earthen ridge within the wood was for, was it something to do with the former branch-line? It is probably the remains of the ancient earthworks, Puckeridge is dotted with stone age through to Roman workings.

A few degrees west of due north, along the railway's former route, no trace of any tracks, just a green way along beside the River Rib, along the way the Keenies of My Lil', Ketchup & Ewok all passed by Soggy Butt, Where's Wally? Paxo, Secret Squirrel, No Eye Deer, Slug & Sally, as well as the stiff old RA who was still taking it easy.

The Trail headed up to the working sluices, complete with iron ratchets, gears & wheels that regulate the flow of water between the river Rib & the Mill Stream to the old Mill at Gatesbury, here there was a CHK with three options, head northwest up to Wickham Hall, straight on to the Braughing Road or east by south east on the two cobbled tracks between a strip of grass that made up the old drive to the Mill house.

My Lil' chose the correct option straight off, passing by the ancient Mill & various out-buildings to cross the Mill Stream & pass through a wooden gate & out to the fields to the southeast, it was within the grounds of Gatesbury that the Hash would pass by a lump of Pudding Stone, which Mr X stopped to point out to those passing by it.

Hertfordshire Puddingstone: One of the most famous, found mainly in southeast England (particularly Hertfordshire). It consists of rounded flint pebbles cemented tightly together by a pale, silica-rich sand or sarsen. It is considered one of the hardest sedimentary rocks formed under immense pressure of a glacier slowly moving through the valley, historically it used by ancient peoples for tools, primitive millstones & is believed to have mystic properties.

Also at Gatesbury, the Pack would see a lot of goats up in a field above the courtyard, before the Hash moved on out along 220 Yards along the bottom of the sloped field, leading up to a longer strip off woodland that rises up to the east. My Lil' was miles ahead of the rest, after his break away, it was some 570 Yards until he was finally caught up with at the only Held CHK of the Trail, he said that he spotted a Deer on the way there, of course it had moved away by the time that No Eye Deer arrived at a very large Held CHK.

Mr X said that the held CHK could easily be mistaken for a Helicopter Pad! Disappointment soon set in with some at the Held CHK, for as Milf passed the packet of Allsorts out, like a portent of doom, My Lil' declared "Oh, cheap Asda's, they won't have any Aniseed buttons in!" & guess what? He was correct! Ketchup interjected "But there's a picture of one on the packet!" & that was a close to anybody having one that there was! Kylie arrived with the consolatory Jelly Babies, as Milf explained to Ewok that Supertrouper believes that liquorice aren't sweets!

Before setting off from the large H within a wider circle, which may have gained the attention of the pilots of the huge grey beast that was circling the skies above the Pack, not one of the Royal chAir Force, but one of the nine USAF Boeing C17 Globemasters was circling around Stanstead Airport to deliver part of the US Presidential vehicles before departing for Ramstein, Milf claimed her uncle was flying the beast!

Back to the Trail, another Split as the Keenies ran a 780 Yard Loop over to Ash Plantation & then to turn south bound, down the Harcamlow Way by the western edge of the woodland, with an eastern turn to reach the footpath the Knitting Circle had taken, a further 450 Yards on & the combined Pack would be turned sou-sou-east to cross a field & then take to a set of wooden steps, that the RA winced at as the Trail crossed over the Braughing Warren Bourne below.

The Trail now rose up again, heading up to a long, wooded strip upon the ridge, but at the very tip of the wood [Steady Pebbledash! – Ed] arrows pointed the way down below it, on a footpath that runs down toward the River Rib, this would be the longest stretch of the Trail, with the Dust leading out through the mown lawn like paddocks to the north of Mill Farm, before passing through the farmyard & associated units & homes to finish 970 Yards to reach the main road in Standon.

A simple turn to the west & then nor-nor-west on Station Road, opposite the Heron Chinese Restaurant &

Free House, here Ketchup told Mr X that he took part in the 'CAMRA 331 Bus Pub Crawl', distributing leaflets about this & the Pubs involved to those Hostelries along the Bus Route, Mr X said that he had already picked one up at the White Hart.

My Lil' & Ewok led the way up Station Road, finding double arrows to direct the Keenies off to the right on to Meadow Walk, at the end of which was a choice of footpaths, with the Trail taking the one that runs by the grounds of Roger de Clare School, re-emerging out on to Station Road, but after continuing up Station Road they seemed lost?

Ewok & My Lil' came back as Mr X & Ketchup realised the two ahead had missed the arrows off to Britannia, where they were led on a merry dance around the back streets to reach Bachelors, which would eventually head northeast beside the Health Centre & a return to Station Road.

If the Keenies thought there were no more side-stepping loops off of Station Road, well, then they would be totally wrong, there was one last one almost at the end, My Lil' didn't take this,

ITV put Soccer Pundit Emma Hayes in the Kitchen...



George Washington is bestowed with Scotland's Highest Honour



nor did those behind him, Mr X was now struggling, staggering along with a gait resembling a Thunderbird's puppet!

The On Inn was found just around the corner of the Crown & Falcon, saving the Hash popping in there, it was a simple wander, or a stiff old stagger for one, down to the White Hart.

Down-downs were brief, as Kylie's attention span was practically zero now his Pizzas had now been served at the table! The Hares receiving their just rewards for an excellent Trail, while Secret Squirrel had the other hit for being so 'Cheeky on Trail!'

Mr X then went on to thank those who generously donated to the Gurka Welfare Trust after his completion of the Doko Challenge South, some had issues with the online donation, instead paying cash which will be banked with the Gurkha Trust the following Sunday.



Ewok said that she preferred to pay cash for her donation, as the website wanted to know so much information about the donor, "Down to your bra size!" she said. Which left some wondering if the amount donated was dependent on cup size, if so, Milf would be very much out of pocket & single handedly could double the donation pot!

Mr X briefly explained he ended up carrying some 33 Lbs (15 Kilos) in a wicker basket (The Doko) for 5 Kilometres, a worthy cause, as he explained that until not so long ago, the Gurkhas' pension was not the same as other regular British Army Regiments, it was rectified, with Joanna Lumley being a leading campaigner, but it wasn't back-dated far enough for older generations who move back to Nepal, the trust supports widows & the older generation.

Some have had issues with the donation link, here it is again if you wish to donate, I am also taking Cash which will be sent in next weekend if it is easier for you?

<https://gwt.enthuse.com/pf/steven-beeching>

A Secret Squirrel has been up to no good.....



Southsea Model Village

8h · 🌐

POLICE INCIDENT REPORT

(Oh and we are open today from 10.30)

The escaped squirrel managed to avoid the extensive surveillance operation overnight and has once again embarrassed local law enforcement.

Despite officers monitoring known squirrel hotspots, conducting regular patrols and staring vaguely at trees for several hours, the suspect somehow slipped through the net and carried out a brazen act of vandalism at Southsea Model Village Police Station.

We also believe he must have special forces training to pull off a stunt like this undetected.

Probably the SASS (Super 'Ard Squirrel Service)

The graffiti, signed "SQRL", appeared sometime during the early hours and is believed to be a direct message to the authorities following his dramatic escape earlier this week.

The investigation remains ongoing, although sources suggest several officers have already given up and gone for a coffee.

In unrelated news, Southsea Model Village is open today and all weekend from 10:30am

Any help in finding the perpetrator when you visit will be highly appreciated. See less



Unlike my 50 odd minutes, a couple of things to admit to, some of us went slightly astray on the course (Shouldn't have followed the bunch of girls at the tail of Start group A) & I did stop for a couple of photos, nearly fell over a stray, dropped dog stick, but I had no intention to ever keep up with the guy who finished the 5K in 29 minutes! Also, stick with Plan A! If anyone says "Go large or go home!" to me ever again, I am going home! Load of macho bollox! [Serves him right! – Ed]

The record for this is 19 Minutes, though to become a Gurka, recruits have to carry 25 Kilos in a Doko up the side of a Nepalese Mountain.

Gurkhas Facts! The Gurkhas fought with such ferocity during the Anglo-Nepal war of 1814-16 that the British East India Company decided to recruit them, forming the first Gurkha brigade. Better to have them with you than in front of you!

The Load: Recruits run with a traditional hand-woven Nepalese bamboo basket (*doko*) weighing 25 kg (approx. 55 lbs), held on the back with shoulder straps and a head strap (*namlo*).

The Course: The 5 km (approx. 3.4 mile) route is highly demanding and entirely uphill, winding through steep, rugged Himalayan trails.

The Time Limit: Recruits must complete the gruelling climb in under **43 to 46 minutes** to progress in their selection.

Attrition: Due to the fierce competition and intense physical toll, only a fraction of the thousands of applicants make the final cut.

Between them, Gurkha regiments have received 26 Victoria Crosses, the highest military decoration awarded for "valour in the face of the enemy". Their motto is "Better to die than be a coward".

If you want to see real potential Gurkha recruits taking on the gruelling challenge to join up, thing then click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NP0Q14j5WEA>

