



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

Exclusive:

Local thief arrested for his
addiction to stealing chess
boards

Thief blames his chequered
past!

Run No. 2228

Date: Monday 10th August 2026

Venue: The Harpsfield Hall

Location: Hatfield

Beers/Cider: Old Perculier; Hanlon's Port Stout; Jaipur; many more

Hare/s: My Lil'

Runners: 12

Virgins: 1

Visitors: 0

Newies: 0

Après: 0

Hash Hounds: 0

Total: 13

Membership: Taxingly taxiing around the Airfield!



Remember not to look
at The Sun this week
as it's a very crappy
newspaper

Heading into Heatwave number five, this Monday wasn't too bad as there was a cool breeze to make things feel a bit milder, however it was still too hot for pooches, plus the venue being 'Spoons have a no pooch policy! The early birds of the Hare & Mr X were found sitting in the Harpsfield Hall, having already sampled the Hanlon's Port Stout, *AND*, the Old Perculier*! (*The Old Perculier, spelt this way, was an old English Council)

Talking of old & peculiar, the Hash were called outside by TBT OBE for the opening Circle. The Pack were welcomed, Me Lee (This Scribe is not sure if this is her correct name?) was introduced. It was over to the Hare for the 'Chalk-talk' & the Hash held their breath as My Lil' began with "It's a long Trail, around six miles!" lots of coughing & spluttering was heard as he continued with "There are short cuts & a sweet stop!" before ending on a subtle "You may want to do a couple of Check points & then turn back if you aren't up to it!"

Off the Hash were sent, many still with the thought of *Six Miles* rattling around in their minds, with TBT OBE & Mr X leading the way around by the local Aldi to turn left & cut through by the local shops, then to run on a northwestern footpath between Tennis courts & swimming pool to the right, that were once a section of the Old BAE Systems workshops, & to the left, the drab grey-white Prisoner Cell Block H buildings that are apartments, that incidentally look like they are from the set form the original Aussie TV Series.

400 Yards on & some of the Hash jogged on by the David Lloyd centre, this occupies the former 'Flight Test Hanger', which as Mr X pointed out to No Eye Deer & Angelai, the corner structure is the flight Control Tower that still retains the glass observation dome of on its roof.

A CHK was found on the stylised gardens, which its believed are supposed to represent a propeller, here TBT OBE picked up the Trail across the lights & the rest of the Hash followed on over Mosquito Way, something that Moss Key Toe was totally oblivious too!

The Trail moved on through a gap between two more blocks of apartments, then into a rectangular green space above Dragon Road, all of the roads on the estate have connection to either de Havilland Aircraft or Test Pilots associated with the former the Aircraft Factory, which over the years was de Havilland, Hawker Sidney & lastly BAE.

The Pack would pass by the kids playing football on one of the quarters of dry, brown remains of the grass, to cross Cunningham Road, which is named after John 'Cats-eyes' Cunningham CBE DSO (Two Bars) DFC (& Bar) Air Efficiency Award, Silver Star (USA) Order of the Patriotic War 1st Class (USSR), who started as a de Havilland Apprentice to become the Chief Test Pilot, also with a distinguished War Record as the 'gongs' above relate too.

From the CHK the Trail would continue north-westward by the Barlow Playground & out through the hedgerow & into the top eastern edge of Ellenbrook Fields. Once entering the Nature Reserve, the Pack were exposed to the distinct odour of 'whacky-backy' drifting on the breeze, eninating from a group of locals 'erberts out drinking & generally fooling about.

A CHK was found near to a stone monument 'In Memory of Hatfield Airfield' opened 1930 closed 08/04/1994 on behalf of the Airfields of Britain. From Here Moss Key Toe went wrong, as did Mr X heading off in different directions by two separate corpses, it was down to No Eye Deer to pick up the correct option of searching beyond the local 'erberts & away from their mock fighting enthused by their lager drinking & pot smoking.

The northbound bone-dry earthen path headed northward, toward Astwick Manor for around 260 Yards to reach a more solid tarmac one, where

02-UK 4G 17:03 58%

On a more topical note....

When the streets flood and the people with university degrees say it's global warming . Don't be so gullible to believe it . It's just there are too many people with degrees and not enough with draining rods .





Traffickers say new sponsorship deal has opened their eyes to what passengers will put up with.

taxiing section of the former airfield, the main northwest/southeast runway now removed to create the Ellenbrook Fields. The Trail now moved over to the edge of the dried-up Ellen Brook, to reach a CHK near to the bend in Albatross Way on the opposite side of the dry-grassy ditch for the north-south flowing brook.

It was here that Milf, Paxo, Hot 'N' Spicee, KP, Lobby Lobster & our virgin were coming back from a False Trail down by the sports pitches to St Albans Road West.

"On!" was called south-westerly on the concrete taxi route, the Pack would now embark on the longest, unbroken stretch of Trail, it would be 589 Yards before another CHK was found. At the start of this leg of the Hash, TBT OBE told Mr X that the specialist units in Hospital are pretty empty on a Sunday, after his last visit there, something that spurred Mr X on to start running again.

Straight through the CHK & another 240 Yards before reaching the next CHK point. Now out ahead with the Hare, Mr X picked up Trail after leaving the concrete of the taxi-way as it runs away turn to the north. The Trail advanced over the more parched brown grass in the land above Popefield Farm, this was the area used for the mock French Village & other scenes shot for Steven Spielberg's Saving Private Ryan, [No Paxo, not 'Shaving Ryan's Privates' that's a totally different film! – Ed] then later reused in the TV Series 'Band of Brothers', all of which has long since been cleared away.



Another CHK was found at the outside eastern corner of a square of woodland, Mr X went wrong once more & was called back as the Trail was found over to the southwest, inside the treeline that run on down beside Notcutt's Garden Centre. However, Dust carried on through the tree-line as Mr X was the only one to fall for the long Falsie out to a Bar CHK found deep into Jove Gardens on the small housing estate to the west.

Retracing his steps, Mr X found the Trail now remarked with arrows down through the treeline, passing by the Garden Centre to pass through a kissing-gate & on to the Hatfield Road, care was needed here as the traffic can come flying around the bend. Once safely across the Trail took to the footpath running southward, passing beside the back beer garden & car park for the Three Horseshoes through the hedgerow on the right.

After 300 Yards by the tree-line & ditch, the footpath now passed through a back-passage between the properties on the L-Shaped block of housing to emerge out on to Wilkin's Green Lane at Smallford. Mr X caught up with Moss Key Toe, TBT OBE, Angelai & the Hare as the Trail turned toward Smallford Road to the west.

After a very short trot the Trail was picked up on the footpath that bends away from the Smallford Lane to descend a few feet to the old St Albans Hatfield Branch Line. This was the furthest point out of the Trail.

An option was now found on the now tarmac bed of the former Railway line, the Short Cut offered along the railway line was preferred to the full Trail which continued southward to reach a diagonal footpath down through the crop-fields to the Plough at Sleepshyde, before cutting back on an opposite diagonal footpath returning to the Alban Way.

Mr X had to reassure Angelai that they were now heading back as they chose the 390 Yards, passing under the 'Millenium arch' before the Short Trail would reach a CHK where the Long Trail rejoined the Alban Way, as the footpath to Wilkins Green intersects the former track. Here the consensus was correct in continuing north-eastward as the railway line gently arcs around a further 240 Yards to the next CHK, & crossing point of another footpath to Wilkins Green divided by the line, this being 'Deadman's Crossing'.

arrows directed the Keenies to the west. Under the clear skies the Trail continued for around 300 Yards until Mr X & Moss Key Toe found the Bar CHK, hidden just off around a turn to the southwest. Turning back, they soon alerted No Eye Deer to the fact that the Hare was now trotting away down to the southeast, some 75 Yards back behind them.

TBT OBE & No Eye Deer were overheard discussing Channel Migrant Crossings & lack of NHS Staff, probably an experience from TBT OBE's last Hospital visit? Though the subject was quickly dropped as the RA trotted by them & he caught a quick "We shouldn't talk about politics on the Hash!" [Dems da Rules & the subject matter was almost verging on calling the Police out over low-income Kids being given free food from a take-away! – Ed]

The Trail now made its way over the worn track in the course dry grass, running along the outside of the wire fenced-off area of the conservation area, where at times they have had cattle grazing to encourage certain wild flowers to grow. Mr X now realized that he was getting closer to the area by the stone monument he searched from earlier, but then the Trail veered off to stay away from this, just far enough for this section of Trail Dust not to have been picked up before.

The Keenies of Mr X, Moss Key Toe, No Eye Deer, Tent Packer & Ketchup made their way down to the start of the remaining section of the

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The Pack now enjoyed a nice shaded 600 Yards under the tree canopy along this next section leading up to the Nast Hyde Halt Railway Station, which derives its name from the Nast Hyde river which just about still hangs on in certain places around here. Also noticed on the way were a few Barn Owl Boxes high up on the odd Oak Tree, then a sign dedicated to Mill Worker Ethel Violet Mason, who was killed by a passing Train on the railway in 1929.

A little further down the line toward Hatfield another sign was spotted & its warning was to 'Beware Ghost Train!' which puzzled a few, but apparently some believe a Ghost Train used to rattle along the tracks. Anyhow, the Trail arrived at Nast Hyde Halt.

A lot of work has been carried out in restoring this Halt, with Signals, benches, flowerbeds & lots of replica signage, there's even a short section of railway tracks. Smallford Station, back on the way toward St Albans also has had serious work carried out & has a lot more Railway Stock there, being a bit larger since it was a Station & not a Halt, which, a couple of Sundays ago has a Tea Party.

As the Held CHK had been washed away, Moss Key Toe had to be called back from crossing Ellenbrook Lane, to join Mr X, Angelai, TBT OBE & the Hare for the Sweet Stop, at the Halt below the Ellenbrook Recreation Ground & playground. My Lil' & Mr X were disappointed to find no aniseed buttons in the packet of Allsorts, when Tent Packer arrived he also shared in their pain!

Moss key Toe, TBT OBE, Mr X & Tent Packer, with the Hare waited for Hot 'N' Spicee, KP, Me Lee, Paxo, Kylie, Lobby Lobster & Milf to arrive, even No Eye Deer & Ketchup had dropped back a bit by now! In fact they weren't that far behind, but Kylie would be delayed at the Sweets Stop as he

would read & photo most of the signage at the Halt. He was probably jealous of the little kid playing there who was wearing a hi-vis 'Station Master' top.

Moss Key Toe & Mr X were keen to move on, not wanting to seize up, the Hare gave them permission to carry on over the former Level Crossing, complete with white barrier gates, to move by the former Railway house, & it would continue 330 Yards as the former line passes below the back of the Selwyn Estate to the north.

The penultimate CHK was found by the footpath that runs parallel to the A1001. Mr X was not going to be turned from passing under the A1001, where the Trail was picked up as the old-line changes direction to run between the A1001 Comet Way to the left & the A1(M) to the right.

275 Yards up the isolated green wedge, with lots of old trees, to come up a short ramp to Cavendish Way, where the Trail would split, with the Short Cut crossing around the Comet roundabout in an anti-clockwise direction, using four sets of lights!

The longer option passed through the Cavendish Way underpass, to be led on through the outside area of the Hugh White Elephant Galleria & through to the car park that was advertised as the free car parking spot.

Back in the 'Spoons & the Hash discovered a good selection of Real Ales, so, it came as a surprise that Ketchup was caught drinking a bottle of Corona with a wedge of lime in it, "Bloody cocktails!" declared the RA before coming out with "A fruit-based drink for the lady? – Ed]

Anyhow, this weeks' newbie was educated into the History of the de Havilland Mosquito, the famous World War II fighter/bomber (The RAF's most versatile aircraft of the day), how it was made of wood & the fastest aircraft before the jet-era. TBT OBE on the other hand was not impressed with his veggie burger, but he was doing his bit not animals that release methane, the RA said that when he eats lots of beans, he too bypasses the animals with the methane.

The Circle was called inside, as more food was now coming out from the Kitchen. The Hare was rewarded of a good Trail, which didn't have the Pack suffering in the heat, for there was a nice breeze to knock the edge off of the heatwave.

Moss Key Toe received his Down-Down, after our Virgin admitted she doesn't drink Alcohol & he volunteered to take her hit. But his Pint was also for being unaware he had crossed Mosquito Way, could have been a good picture opportunity there, but Kylie was way back at that point in the Trail.

On the subject of 'Alcohol Free' Ketchup was called out for his Corona & wedge of Lime! Kylie was called out for the stress he has been through for the last two weeks, having to sort out his loft for Solar Panels to be added & trying, but failing, to learn to "Let go of junk things!"

