



29th October 2015

Run Number 304

Kash Bar, Chester

The Pack: Overdrive and Cleo (Hares), Carthief, 10secs, ET, Compo, Snoozanne, Mad Hatter, Hansel, Anticyclone

"Cloudy and bitter". Luckily for the rest of us, this was not the weather forecast for this Halloween evening but Hansel's opinion of our first beer. After taking it back to the bar and being assured that it was an American beer and therefore meant to taste a bit weird, we glumly finished quaffing it while awaiting the rest of the pack. The weather was actually, ahem, mild not bitter, and dark (of course). The trail had been set with more than usual self-sacrifice and heroism, Overdrive having dashed back from London only an hour or so before the hash was due to start; and had run out of flour half way round into the bargain. The pack gathered outside the Kash Bar for the usual photo. Some hash members had made concessions to the Halloween spirit; the evil gleam in various eyes looked particularly convincing.



The trail led out along Bridge Street to Frodsham Street where the FRBs were with difficulty restrained from following the canal where they had accidentally stumbled on a later section of trail. In fact the trail led sneakily onto the City Wall and a spontaneous regroup took place on the Eastgate, recently reopened with (we were informed by Overdrive) a new clock.



There were allusions to some exploits involving Anticyclone climbing the structure on a previous hash though these have not been substantiated.



The trail then followed the Wall to the gate on Bridge Street where we crossed the river and then followed it for a short section before a well-concealed deviation over some parkland to Westminster Terrace and Browns Lane. At this point we made a seasonally appropriate detour through a cemetery and then crossed Overleigh Road and onto the Old Wrexham Road and eventually down to the big roundabout on Grosvenor Road where Overdrive materialised as if by magic. At this point it was no surprise that the trail took us down for a stumble through the dark undergrowth below the road for a while, before bringing us onto Curzon Park North and then down again to cross the river on the railway bridge—a first for this hash.

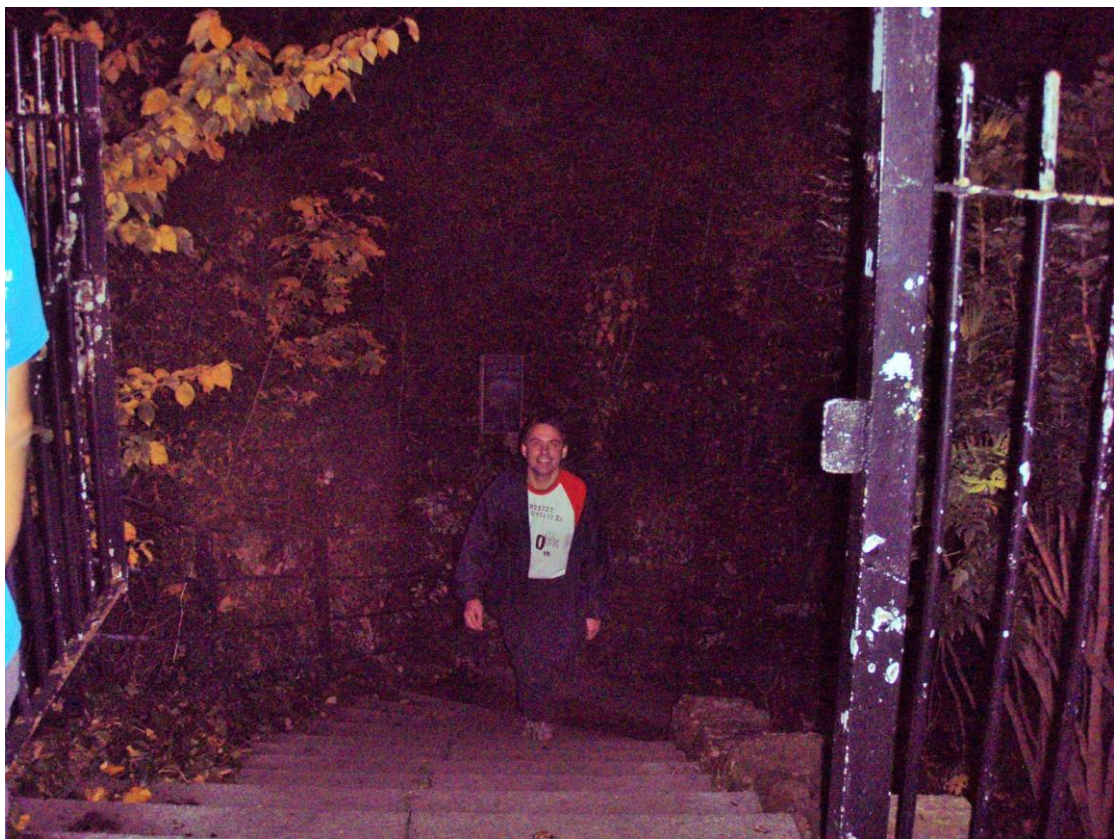


Past some hashers' bedtimes...

We then followed the river bank to the block of flats famous in hash lore for the show flat with a (somewhat open-plan, if memory serves) toilet in the kitchen. We peered through the windows trying to descry this aberration until realising that the flat was now actually occupied by real people, so we beat a hasty retreat. The trail then took us up Tower Road to the gardens by the Water Tower where we were flummoxed for some time before gentle hints from Cleo led us to a tunnel under the Wall



and then up onto the walkway.



Overdrive delighting in leading us astray yet again...

At the ring road an unobtrusive path led down to the canal and along the gloomy cutting at the foot of the Wall, eventually up onto Egerton Street where the On Inn was awaiting. We assembled in the car park behind the bike shop for the food and down-downs. Cleo had done us proud with a Halloween-themed cake



and in the absence of VR several hashfood deputies had taken the initiative to provide food so it was a veritable embarras de richesses, so much so that a

double-decker approach to food service had to be adopted.



Down-downs were awarded to:

The Hares: with special mention for going beyond the call of duty

The web-master: ie Cleo for the excellent seasonal cake

Returnees: Anticyclone

10 secs: for a joke too scurrilous to repeat here

Hansel: for sporting an outlandishly coloured (cyan?) pair of trainers

The deputy hash food staff: for their (welcome) lack of co-ordination

We then retired to the Kash Bar where we crammed round a table and found some more congenial beers to sample; also being impressed by the facility for piping beer direct to the table.