



12th November 2015

Run Number 305

Hulme Hall Beer Festival, Port Sunlight

The Pack: Compo (Hare), Overdrive, Cleo, Carthief, 10secs, Snoozanne, Mad Hatter, fcuk, VR

This was a shortish run to build up a thirst for the Beer Festival. The pack gathered in the vestibule of Hulme Hall since the predicted rain was just starting—though as it happened, it didn't amount to very much. After the usual photos



we set off round the corner of Bolton Road into Jubilee Crescent following a broad hint from Compo. Approaching the Lady Lever Art Gallery via the Hillsborough Memorial Garden and War Memorial



a regroup soon followed where we were invited to admire the analemmatic sundial. The helpful instructions failed at Step 1 where sunlight was required

but we consoled ourselves by trying various ribald pronunciations of the contraption's name. It took some time to pick up the trail past the Art Gallery but further hints from the hare eventually helped. On we went, the trail taking advantage of the many little alleyways and entries which cut through the houses in Port Sunlight. Eventually we ducked under the A41 and there was some speculation that we were heading towards the new country park on the old tip; but a clever feint led us back up towards the A41 where there was a second regroup by some wasteland around the Dibbinsdale Brook. Compo's explanation of the building plans for this site involved pointing out the two towers by the brook. This elicited a remark from VR as to whether it was going to be a Shire Hotel (I think). We must hope that she doesn't make a hobbit of this kind of joke... but by this time the pack's thoughts were too focussed on beer to appreciate subtle humour, so we continued over the main road and back into Port Sunlight, where we met Overdrive who had been delayed in Chester and been given the instructions for following the trail backwards. This was a promising sign and indeed we soon encountered the On Inn, from where Hulme Hall was just round the corner. The pack immediately dispersed in search of liquid and other refreshments but we were able to find a table in a rather cheerless annex to function as a gathering point.



Once we had all had some food and a couple of beers, however, we migrated back into the main hall to take some photos and enjoy the rather intrusive live music.

