



Run Number 403

20th June 2019

Hilbre Island Midsummer Run

The Pack: Mad Hatter (Hare), ET, 10secs, VR, OTT, Hansel, Chunder, Bumslide, Cleo, Overdrive, fcuk, Sticky Rice, Wigan Pier, Carthief, Roy, Annette, Droptem, Liam, Eugene, Ruth, Esther

As usual there was a large turnout for this midsummer run (actually for once very close to midsummer);



but one member of the pack was conspicuous by her absence, namely one of the co-hares. Despite fixing the date of this hash months if not years in advance, the immutable march of the planetary machinery had nevertheless taken her by surprise and she was called elsewhere.



After gathering on the sands,...



...we set off. Despite having to set the trail on his own, the other co-hare had arranged for the trail out to Little Eye to be marked by large yellow balls.



We had a regroup at Little Eye...



...and a longer one at Middle Eye, which as usual was enlivened by G&T kindly provided by OTT and Hansel.

Both components came in identical plastic bottles;...



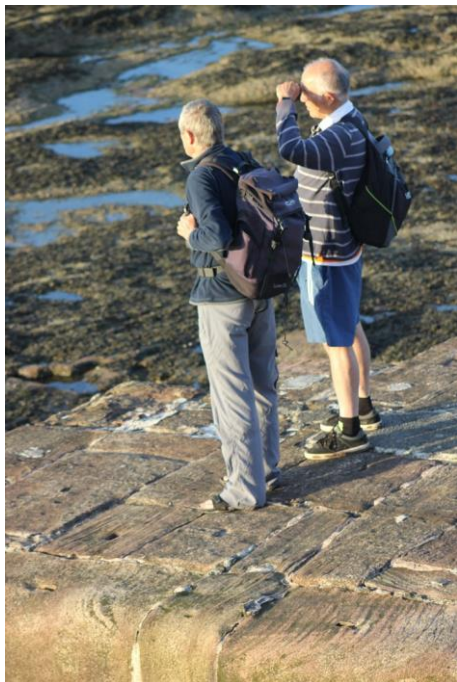
...luckily they had felt-tip labels to prevent confusion—getting the proportions the wrong way round could have been interesting.



Then we were on the way to Hilbre itself.



The usual seal colony could be seen in the distance on its sandbank, but the tide seemed lower than usual and apart from a brief sighting by Overdrive, no seals were spotted in the immediate vicinity...





...despite lots of gazing out to sea. We rambled over the island; it seemed that a bird hide had made an appearance in the old lifeboat station, and as usual the old metal ladder up the cliff was irresistible especially to the younger members of the pack.



We then straggled back to the shore at a wide variety of speeds.



Looking back there were some lovely vistas as the sun set.



Mad Hatter and Carthief had silently melted away at some point, and were rediscovered back on the shoreline coaxing several barbecues into life, aided by a large windbreak which kept needing repositioning as the wind veered round. Surprisingly soon the coals were hot enough for cooking, not to say charring, at least on the outside; though the extra-thick burgers stayed pink

inside for ages. As usual the halloumi cheese was a great favourite even with the carnivores, especially Cleo's home-made version.

It appeared that no-one who had been given a new duty at the AGM had turned up on this occasion; so fcuk poured the beer, Overdrive deputised as RA and from force of habit 10secs took some money from everyone.

Down downs were awarded to

Chunder and Bumslide: Returnees



Roy, Annette and Droptem: Virgins; Annette and Droptem claimed that the Internet had made them come (the same old story...)



and Roy pointed the finger of blame at Mad Hatter.

The hare: there was a complaint of too much shiggy .



Carthief, Roy and Wigan Pier: afflicted by the dropsy, involving a BBQ in

Carthief's case and some of VR's cakes in the case of Wigan Pier. Apparently the latter had ricocheted off Roy's bum in the course of their descent.

Overdrive: in the course of pouring peanuts into a bowl had also managed to decant half his cup of G&T.

10secs: for continuing to try to cadge money off the pack.

Fcuk, ET: for their early bedtimes