

## **Run Number 418**

29<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## The Bow-Legged Beagle, Upton

**The Pack:** Snoozanne and Mad Hatter (Hares), Hansel, OTT, Grutel, Bumslide, Chunder, Red Ken, Wimp, Calamity, Eccles, Sticky Rice, Another Mother Trucker, Liz, Peter Pan, 10secs

Photographic evidence is sadly lacking for the first half of the run owing to the absence of any official Hash Flash and Eccles nobly stepping into the breach only half way round. Consequently your unreliable narrator is going to be even less subject to the constraints of historical accuracy than usual. Anyway, the pack was called to order and the hares explained the markings. F was false trail and X a checkback, just to confuse the interlopers from MTH3 for whom X was a falsie. But the fact that 3 was ON seemed to confuse most of the pack who blithely set off en masse after the first call of "On one". And if memory serves, this was not to be the last time... Anyway after their shamefaced return from the general direction of Upton, the trail was finally found heading in the other direction and into the housing estate over the road. We emerged near the roundabout at the edge of Upton Meadows and naturally headed into the meadows after briefly flirting with the road into Greasby. Here after crossing copious quantities of shiggy we followed the Arrowe Brook and crossed the road into Arrowe Park. The path continued to follow the stream with a couple of brief forays into open country, though there may have been some shortcutters who decided that they were above such pointless meanderings. After a regroup by the lake (at roughly which point Eccles was persuaded to start taking photographs, hence the forthcoming illustrations)...



...the path headed into the park proper,...



crossing the grass to a path by the side of Arrowe Park Hospital.



Here there was a slight deviation into a wood and then crossing a football field and back onto the path; once again some shortcutting in evidence, though it would be invidious to name names.



But here are some of the culprits.



An impromptu regroup was held where the footpath emerged onto Arrowe Park Road which provided an opportunity for a team photo. Naturally the onward trail didn't take the easy way along the road, but through some more woodland. It was here that Hansel was observed to fall backwards into a ditch.



The trail emerged back onto the football pitches for a while...



...before cutting through the woods again, to emerge on the corner of Arrowe Brooke Road. From here it really was straightforwardly down the road...



...to the big roundabout by Sainsburys, where the On Inn was found.



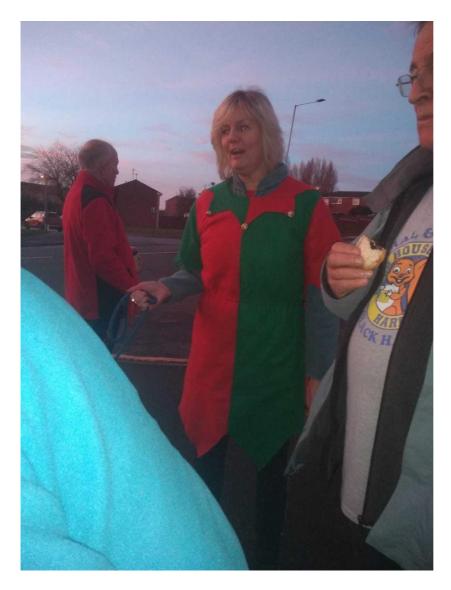
Here we gathered for snacks and the down downs...



...and admired a lovely pink sunset.



Some of the MTH3 beer was pressed into service.



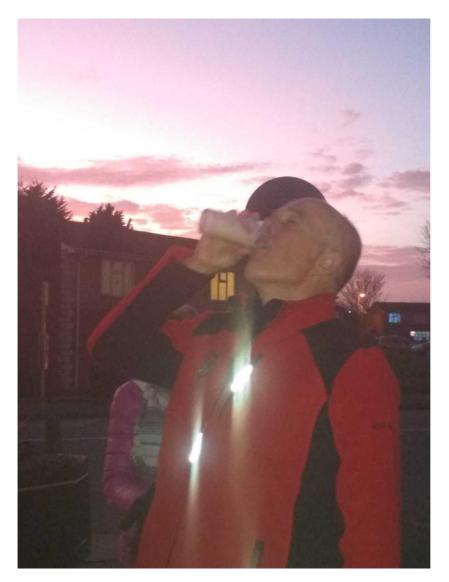
Calamity had dressed in festive style.



Hansel took on RA duties.



Down downs were awarded to:



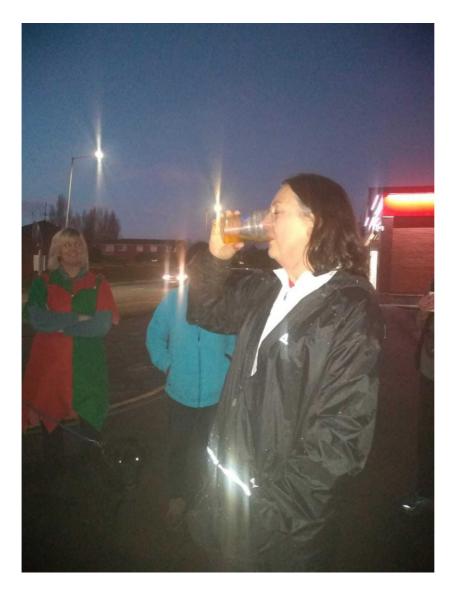
Hansel: ever the teacher, he had proffered some advice to the hares on the best way to mark the trail.



Two Dicks: the piss-up-in a brewery award for organisational abilities; apparently the WCH3 boys night out had involved last minute changes of time and venue.



Two Dicks and Wimp: they had disappeared to a secluded nook to take romantic photos together. Two Dicks has clearly not yet recovered from the fright.



Sticky Rice: Hash Virgin



Eccles: had nobly stepped forward to take over Hash Flash duties, but had taken them so seriously that when Hansel was lying in a ditch her first thought was to take a picture for the record.



Hansel: Had phoned his wife in a panic on the bus home from the Boys Night Out to say that he'd fallen asleep on the bus and had been discovered wandering round a housing estate. Apparently the other boys had been given to understand that he had a long cold dark walk ahead of him rather than a nice easy car-ride.



The Hares: usual complaints of not enough shiggy.



Returnees: Peter Pan and 10 secs

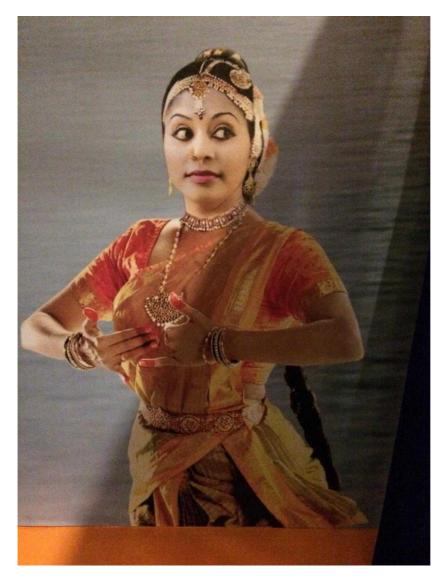
A large part of the pack (though not Hash Trash) then repaired to the pub and near-by Kerala Kitchen,...







...where a good time was apparently had by all...



...especially when the waitress described her planned cosmetic surgery.