



## ERSEY THIRSTDAYS HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Run Number 540

21<sup>st</sup> December 2023

**The Head of Steam, Hanover Street, and Afasya, Bold Street, Liverpool**

**The Pack:** Rambono (Hare), Victim, PJVindaloo, Snoozanne, Mad Hatter, BS, fcuk, OTT, 10secs, ET, PA, SMS, Grasshopper, Cleo, Overdrive, Sticky Rice

This Christmas run had been set by Rambono with some input from Snoozanne, especially regarding choice of On Inn and beer stop. As the earlier-than-usual start time of 6.30 approached, the pack was gathering in the Head of Steam on Hanover Street and enjoying a pre-run drink



with the exception of 10secs who was gathering on his own in the Wetherspoons on Lime Street Station (once also known as The Head of Steam), and Sticky Rice who was still on her way with an ETA of 6.50. The total absence of other hashers finally prompted 10 secs to take a more careful look at the instructions and he was shortly elbowing drinkers and travellers aside on his way to the correct venue, while Sticky Rice was told to join the pack en route. Meanwhile Snoozanne had admitted that when she suggested the Head of Steam as On Inn, she had actually meant the Wetherspoons on Lime Street. So arguably (at least according to 10secs) he was the only one to be meeting in the right place...The award of the Hash Shit clearly hung in the balance between the pair of them but Snoozanne settled matters by a well-timed trip to the loo which meant the mantle literally fell on 10secs' shoulders.





By this time it was raining so we gathered in the foyer of the pub for our instructions from the Hare. He told us that he had originally set the trail in glitter and sequins (and he showed us some to prove it), but these had all blown away so we were back to chalk; and he would have to guide us through Liverpool One since the security guards had stopped him leaving any markings there.





"I was literally this close to being lumbered with the Hash shit..."



Then outside for the usual photo, and soon we were heading down Hanover Street...



...where Sticky Rice very soon joined us.



Shortly we did indeed turn down School Lane towards Liverpool One.





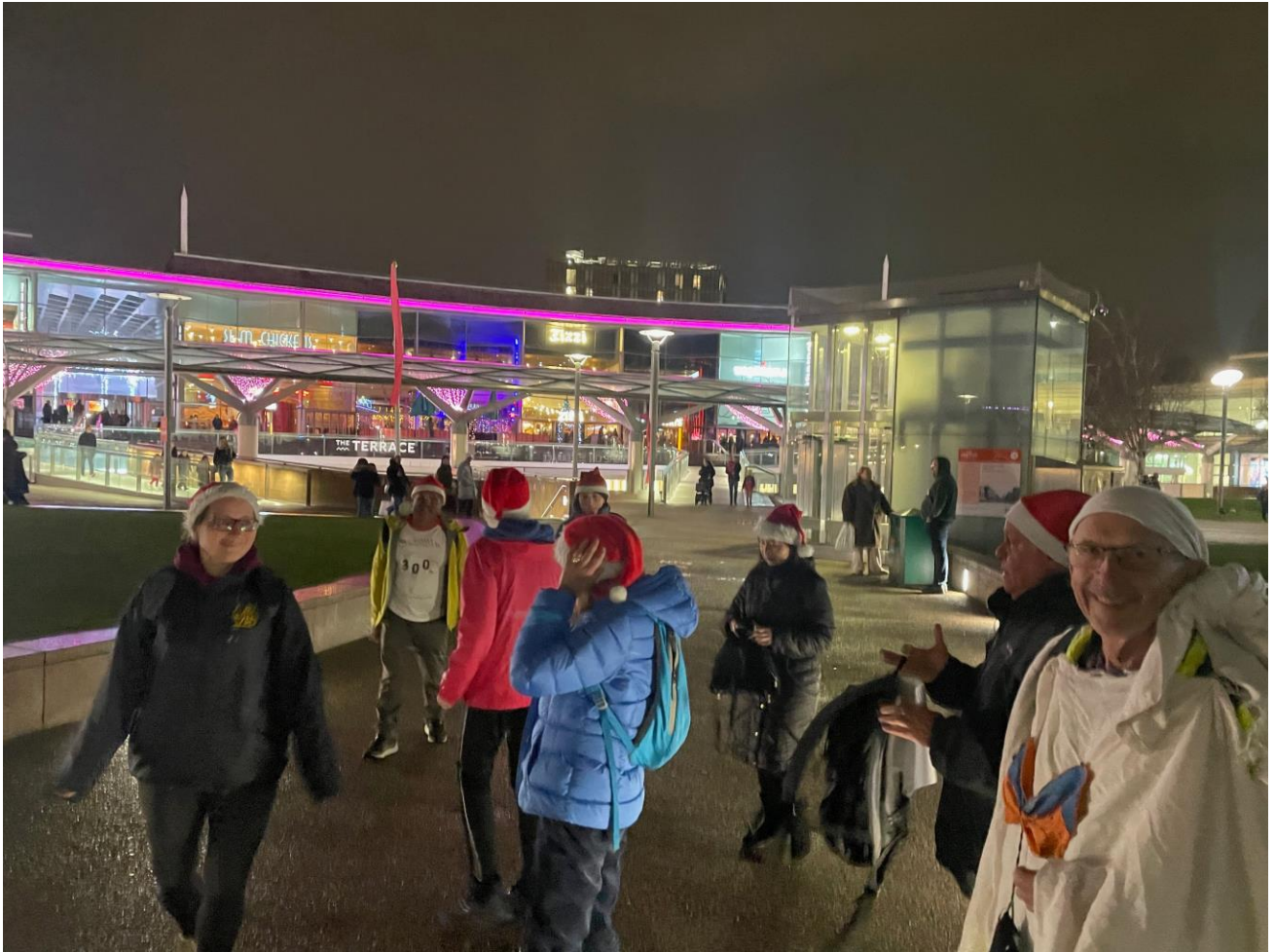
Past the Cosmo restaurant, scene of last year's Christmas meal...



...and up the steps to Chavasse Park.



Here there was a regroup...





...and when we were all gathered, the Hare produced some song sheets and made us sing a carol, the first one being Jingle Bells...



...and the next one Feliz Navidad.



Then we were on our way again, along The Strand...





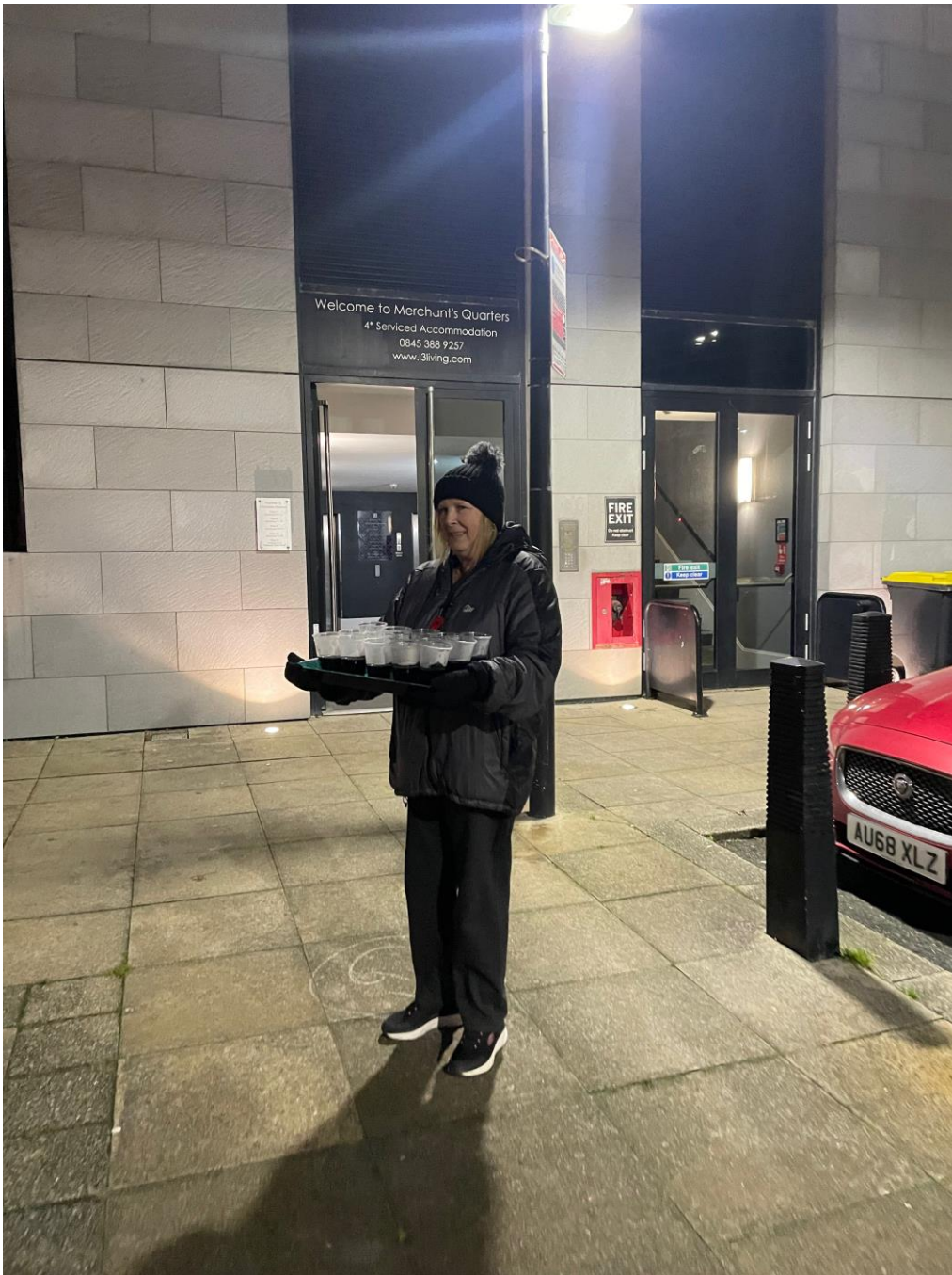


...past chalk markings which were still very clear...



...to another regroup – this time the accompanying carol was Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Continuing along The Strand, those in the know started to guess where we were heading.



And indeed, outside an apartment block there was a familiar figure bearing gifts, viz it was Wendy with a tray of gluhwein.



There was more than enough for everyone, and we went on our way with our cockles well and truly warmed.







Again, as we headed up Tithe Barn Street and past Exchange Flags to emerge on Dale Street, some hashers had an idea of where we might be headed.







Indeed a sign saying “PA stop” brought us outside the gallery where some of PA’s work is on display, notably the large painting in the window which is very dramatic.



Continuing up Dale Street, past this building where BS apparently used to work, brought us to the Beer Stop, a craft beer pub called The Dead Crafty Beer Company, more or less opposite the Ship and Mitre. Here we found SMS and Grasshopper, also Victim and PJVindaloo, who had all been prevented by work and/or travel issues from joining us at the start.



The beers were mostly strong and, probably sensibly, available in a maximum size of 2/3 pint.









Cleo made the mistake of ordering a Bishop's Finger.





















Finally it was time to head to the restaurant. The hare came back from a bit of reconnaissance to announce that not only had he been unable to set the trail through the Christmas Market, the Christmas Market itself was closed due to the high winds. Given the option to do a circuit of the market anyway, we opted to head directly to the restaurant. So we headed up to Lime Street and along to Renshaw Sreet. Heading down Newington, we passed the Newington Temple pub, which apparently comes highly recommended and had been marked down by the Hare as a possible Beer Stop. But time was now definitely running out and we turned the corner into Bold Street where the Afasya restaurant was just over the road.



Soon we were all seated and awaiting our food and drinks, which all arrived with impressive speed given the numbers.











Grasshopper then announced that she had been waiting some time to give a special gift to ET – his own personalised sweat-shirt.



It was then suggested that Grasshopper should make it her mission to find a similarly appropriate garment for every hasher; though it was clear that Piss Artist and Squeeze My Sack might be waiting some time.





The circle (or oblong) was then called.







Even the bell was festively attired...



Down-downs were awarded to:

The hare: for an ingenious trail

Snoozanne and 10 secs: for getting everyone thoroughly confused about the On Inn

Thanks were also expressed to Snoozanne for booking the restaurant and organising the finances, and to Wendy for providing the Gluhwein Stop.

A small group then returned to the Head of Steam for a final drink before getting the train/heading home. ET by this time was wearing his ET T-shirt and was very gratified when a woman at the bar asked if she could take him home.

