



Run No 541

The Derby Arms. Woolton, Liverpool

The Pack: ET (Hare), Grutel, Snoozeanne, Wigan Pier, Madhatter, Piss Artist.



At the start - With clean shoes.

The first run of the year did not attract the usual numbers as a result of folk being away or logistical issues with trains.

Grutel was taking no chances and was installed within the warmth of the Derby Arms by 18.30. Wigan Pier managed to locate the venue without the usual complications. Victim gave up the unequal struggle with Merseyrail at Rock Ferry and returned to Chester.

Sturdy footwear was suggested, and required, as well as the requested torches. Such prerequisites left ominous expectations of what was to follow.

The RA had ensured that the rain was withheld for the evening but unfortunately the rain of the past few weeks had remained on the trail making heavy going – It was commented that this was the most 'Shiggy' ever encountered on a hash.



More intimate group photo

A prompt start – well, only 10 min late. Ventured along Vale Road until crossing Menlove Avenue into the darkness of Allerton Golf Course. The hare whilst setting the run had spotted a fox earlier in the day without the associated chasing hunt. Abundant grey squirrels could also be found. Was too dark to view such wildlife after sunset. Hashers were more concerned with maintaining themselves upright than admiring any wild life. Major landscaping is underway on the golf course which made negotiating the route tricky.

The next park was Allerton Towers which included the outbuildings of the now demolished mansion House. The gatehouse provided an indication of the grandiose of the main hall no longer standing – Demolished in 1937.

Across Woolton Rd into the particularly muddy stretch – Claire Gardens. The trail followed a stream in a place known as ‘Dead Man’s Valley’. In the gloom the white spots of flour clearly marked the route into the distance. It was important to look up as well as down whilst negotiating obstacles. Crossing the stream caused much anxiety/humour. The more successful hashers managed in one jump whereas the more tentative ended up with wet feet.

The evening was still. A frost could be noted on the crunchy glistening grass.

Skirted the smart football complex of Simpson Sports Ground before crossing Hillfoot Road into Camp Hill. Hashers were observed swishing their boots in various puddle to dislodge the bulk of the mud recently accumulated.



Contribution by PA. Captures the mood of the run.

Final jaunt was through Woolton Woods to the On Inn. The additional loop was not undertaken today as all selected for the shortened route – saved for another hash.





started	4 Jan 2024 at 19:12
route	New Route
activity	Walk
walk time	1:27:15
stopped time	0:00
distance	3.56 miles
average pace	24:29 /mile
fastest pace	12:07 /mile
ascent	120 feet
descent	113 feet
calories	342
notes	

A boot after the run.

Provisions were provided by ET and a chocolate cake donated by Snoozanne.



Back in the Derby Arms the pack gathered for an informal circle – this was more of a review, with the distraction of Everton FC being on the telly. Even though the weather was kind it was pleasant being inside for a short while prior to venturing home in our various directions.

