



Run Number 545

29th February 2024

The Black Toad, Hoylake

The Pack: 10secs (Hare), ET, BS, Victim, PJVindaloo, fcuk, Josh, Martijn



The pack was quite depleted by holidays and injuries but luckily we were joined by local (and Victim's nephew) Josh(ua) and BS's Dutch visitor Martijn.





Outside the pub 10secs explained that the markings were very simple and one was on. Also there was no need to cross either the railway, or the main road except at a pelican crossing or at the very end of the run. And then they were off; half the pack inevitably crossing the main road immediately. The onward trail was eventually located by Victim's simple but clever expedient of asking the Hare which way to go.

In fact the trail led down towards the railway and then along it for some while, despite local lad Josh saying that only the railway was down that way and confidently heading back towards the main road. BS was heard complaining that the checks were far too faint and hard to see despite (in the Hare's admittedly biased opinion) probably being visible from space. After passing Manor Road Station the trail headed up Sandringham Avenue...



...where we passed Victim's childhood home, by some oversight still not singled out with a blue plaque. The residents are probably still having nightmares about the bizarrely dressed stranger who loomed out of the darkness and took photos of them.

Then the trail led into Queens Park and into or around the various patches of woodland beyond. By this time Josh was revealed as a FRB par excellence and was passing the time before the rest of the pack turned up by investigating every possible bit of woodland.

Shortly afterwards the trail emerged on the promenade where there was the slightly surreal sight of a horse rider festooned in fairy lights.





Victim and PJV had taken a shortcut and fcuk had taken a cycle-friendly route round the undergrowth; but the pack reassembled at an impromptu regroup near the lifeboat station. Shortly after this the hare made the mistake of mentioning that the On Inn was only a short distance away as the crow flies, and the pack started melting away. fcuk and Victim were the first to feel the siren lure of real ales. Then BS, Martijn and PJV were recalled once to the correct trail by repeated bellowing by the hare, but made a beeline for the pub at the next check.

Anyway it was not long before we were all assembled round a large barrel in the beer garden behind the pub. The Hare had nipped home for the food and everyone was soon

tucking in. We were joined by a surprise visitor in the shape of Snoozanne, who was just back from a holiday in Athens.

The RA then called the circle and once again explained the meaning of irony before inviting comments on the run. Josh showed he had taken the lesson to heart by complaining that there had been too much beach-running. Down-downs were then awarded to:

The Hare

The Hash Virgins: Josh revealed that Victim had made him come, while in Martijn's case it was BS. The RA introduced Josh as Josh Oo Er, and it was unanimously decided that we had a new Hash Name in Oo Er. He complimented Josh on being an SFRB (Super Front Running Bastard) and asked him if he was married to a retard, which proved to be a reference to Alex's hash name of a Retarded Entry.

Returnee: PJVindaloo

BS: for complaining about the clarity of the markings

Victim: transgressing the spirit of hashing by asking the Hare which way to go

The Hare had brought along the Hash Shit and invented a spurious reason for bestowing it on PJ Vindaloo, namely his reluctance to turn up and give his father a lift at That Beer Place.



PJV was duly invested in the sacred garments. After at first appearing to think that the curious black object was some kind of split-crotch thong...



...he found the right place for it and indeed managed to drink through the flap.

The ceremonies being complete we headed into the pub. Oo Er disappeared saying he would shortly be replaced by Retarded Entry - once again earning her name. The rest of us commandeered a table at the front of the bar where we blocked one of the doors; but as someone said, there was an Alternative Entrance. We were all intrigued by Martijn's speciality in snake venom and now we know the difference between venomous and poisonous.