



Run Number 577

22nd May 2025

The Grapes, Eccleston Park

The Pack: Now and Then (Hare), Wigan Pier (Hare), Noah (Hare), fcuk, OTT, 10secs, Cleo, Overdrive, Mad Hatter, David



It was a lovely sunny evening as we gathered outside the Grapes. We were joined unexpectedly by Mad Hatter who had had an injection in his knee and therefore wasn't

running, but planned to visit his daughter who lives locally. We were also joined by David, a friend of fcuk's. The trail had been laid by Now and Then...



...with assistance from grandson Noah, who had closed off many of the false trails. Now and Then explained that two blobs were on, and also promised plenty of woodland, on an abandoned golf course once the site of the Rainhill County Asylum.



Then we were off, with David losing no time in establishing his position as FRB.







fcuk's counting didn't seem to go beyond "one", resulting in the pack several times sailing happily off in the wrong direction and returning not so happily a few minutes later.



Eventually we were in the woods in the grounds of the old asylum and golf course. They were full of strange portents...faces in tree trunks,...



...suitcases hanging in the foliage...



...and what looked for a moment like a couple of dentist's chairs in a clearing. What unspeakable things had these woods witnessed in their earlier days? Is this what they

mean by crazy golf?







Now and Then offered the possibility of a shortcut back to the On Inn by following the line of pylons, but no-one took up the offer.



We were now on the edge of the old golf course itself, and the abandoned tees and greens could be seen dotted around.







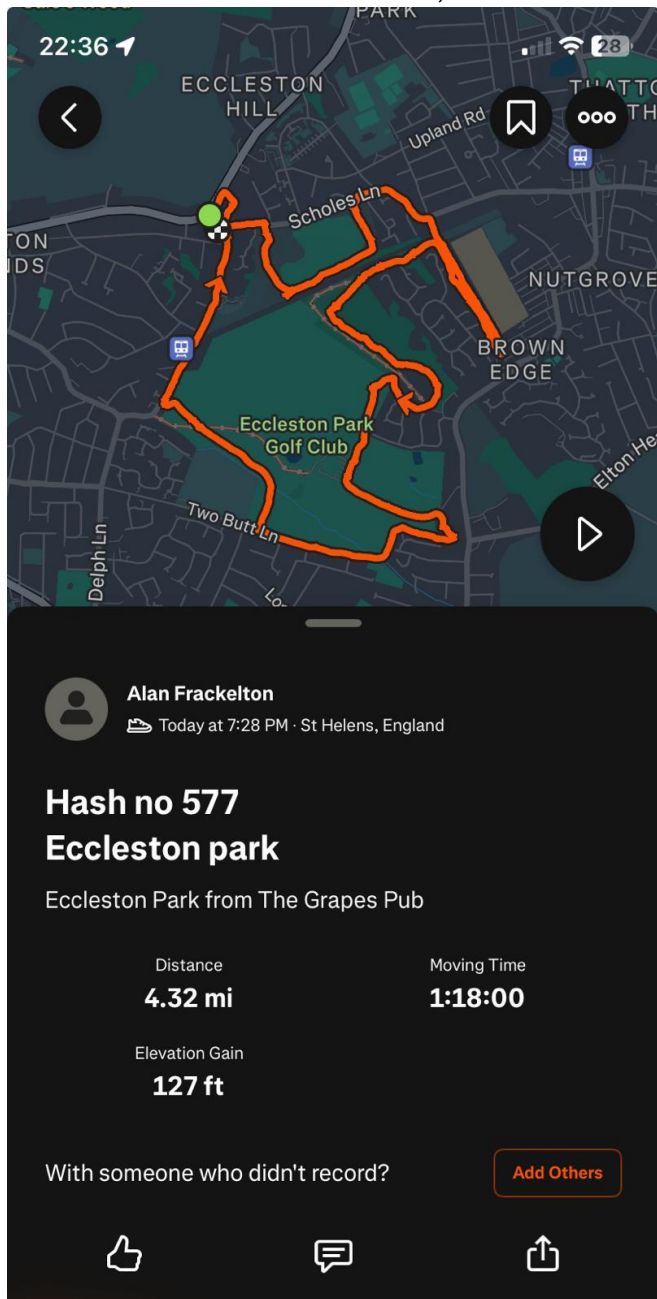


Finally we popped out of a hole in the hedge onto the road and realised that we were quite close to the station where most of us had arrived earlier, and it was only a short distance back to the On Inn.



We set up the refreshments in a church car park over the road. There was plenty of food including a quiche and some very spicy cheese; and Cleo had brought an excellent home-made apple cake.

The RA then opened the circle by inviting comments on the run. It was described in the usual ironic fashion as too wet, with too much tarmac, too many hills...



The trail was described as shaped like an emu.

Down downs were then awarded to:



The Hares

OTT: "How are the mighty fallen" award for complaining about her demotion from GM to Deputy deputy deputy parking (or something...)



fcuk: Inability to count beyond 2

David: FFRB award (Fast, front-running...) (though even he had apparently been heard towards the end asking plaintively "How much further do we have to go?...") He was subjected to the usual inquisition on where he had come from (London) and who had made him come (fcuk)

Mad Hatter: for arranging to have three children living in the vicinity.

We then attempted to go for a final drink in the On Inn, but found it had closed early, which was particularly unfortunate as the next train was not for 45 minutes. Mad Hatter came to the rescue by giving Cleo, Overdrive and 10secs a lift, but fcuk and his bike were not so fortunate and had an epic journey home involving a train cancellation and a ride in an Uber.

13:36



  **Eccleston Park.**
Ian Booth · 1h ·  



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Nicola Wright

[Ian Booth](#) There was a local hashers running club round there last night, they mark the route with flour so it's most likely remnants of that & harmless (not me btw but I know it was there 😊)

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Finally in a postscript we once again spread panic amongst the local dog-owners.