



**ERSEY THIRSTDAYS
HASH HOUSE HARRIERS**

Run Number 601

14th May 2026

The Black Toad, Hoylake

The Pack: Josh Oer (Hare), Victim, PJVindaloo, Snoozanne, fcuk, OTT, 10secs, ET, PA, Marcus

By 7.15 everyone had arrived except the Hare, including a new face in the form of Marcus, an old friend of fcuk from Vienna. Some frenzied phoning by Uncle Victim revealed that the Hare was in no hurry, under the impression that the runs started at 7.30. He was persuaded to drop everything and come along, and soon arrived, though looking a little under-dressed for a slightly chilly evening. Snoozanne started a debate on whether the pub was named after the Natterjack Toad, and if so whether an opportunity had been missed to call it the Yellow-striped Greenish Warty Toad.



The Hare told us that the trail was marked entirely in blue chalk; there would be a couple of check-backs (or back-checks for the benefit of WCH habitues such as OTT) and the trail would never cross the railway or end up on the beach or even the prom. The first check-back was found almost immediately, up a stretch of alley along the railway, which those locals present knew in their heart of hearts was a dead-end but couldn't resist following anyway. The trail then continued to follow the railway, indeed passing Manor Road Station.



“He’s still hanging around, and now he’s started taking pictures!”

Shortly after this there was the customary attempt by Victim to worry the residents of his former childhood abode into calling the police. This was followed by a cut-through which again surprised at least one local, ending up in what used to be the grounds of Kingsmead School.



The trail crossed the main road and headed towards the beach...



...but then turned along an alleyway. Here and elsewhere a certain amount of front-running was discernible on the part of the Hare...



A regroup was found by the graveyard on Trinity Street, but it was some time before the rest of the pack turned up.

The trail led back to the main road, then along a short way before turning right at Sainsbury's and heading back up towards the prom but cutting left along Marine Road just before reaching it. Somewhere around here the Hare managed to find time to nip home and shortly reappear wearing some warmer layers. At Kings Gap we headed back up towards the main road, with a little loop around the Green Lodge...



Quick march, you 'orrible lot!

...before heading up Valentia Road past the lighthouse.



This was followed by another shortcut down an alleyway...







...ending up on Cable Road, almost within sight of the Black Toad. The On Inn was found just across the main road from the pub, and soon we were back. Permission was obtained to have our Down Downs in the pub garden. The Hare deployed a tempting array of food, including novel Victoria Sponge Buns; plus some strawberries courtesy of fcuk. Then the RA called the circle and invited comments on the run, which was described as too sandy, having too little tarmac, too few markings etc. He was also commended for showing 10seconds some unfamiliar back passages. Down downs were awarded to:

The Hare: for nearly forgetting about the run

PA: for doing an illicit detour in the cause of art (taking a photo from the prom)

Snoozanne: nominated herself for fiscal irresponsibility in forgetting to bring the Hash Cash

Returnee: Victim

Virgin Hasher: Marcus - when asked who had made him come, he admitted a threesome with both his girl-friend and fcuk. At this point PA admitted that this was the first time he had ever understood the reason for asking this question. There was a discussion over the location of the next run and someone pointed out that a theme was developing with the Black Toad one week and the Black Cat a fortnight later.

Several of us then retired to the warmer interior of the Black Toad to sample more of the fine beer and cider.

