



## REPORT ON RUN 392 IN NOVEMBER 2019

On a bleak autumnal morning, with rain clouds threatening another downpour, we fought our way into an already oversubscribed carpark just outside Grayshott and Ludshott Common. Nineteen keen Hashers gathered, which included two new runners, and two dogs (Sky & Scrappy) who eagerly awaited the Hare's (Isneersbuggered) introduction. We were advised no sawdust had been used but flour instead (thank goodness it stayed dry) and that there were no false trails but 'bars' across tracks indicating 'go no further/turn back'. On that note the 'ON ON' was called.

We headed out at a steady pace to find very promptly our first check, one of many it soon turned out ! For my lack of checks on the last Hash this Hare certainly made up for it!! We found ourselves running back and forth across two valleys and getting quite spread out. The Hare kept aloof and popped up here and there was clearly taking short cuts enabling him to watch our confusion.

From the Hare's earlier Hash brief and the comment of no false trails, there were certainly a lot of 'bars' with us front runners often taking wrong paths to run straight into a bar. I wonder if these bar things are the new false trail symbols, they certainly had us baffled?

Who'd have thought Hashing could be educational, upon conversation with a very tired Forgetmeknot, who apparently expelled his energy too early on (ask no questions), I had a somewhat brief history lesson. Unbeknown to me, Ludshott common was once the home of a Superior Military Camp during both World Wars. The camp not only served as accommodation, training space and social centre for the Canadian soldiers but later became an independent thriving civilian community during the mid-twentieth century.

To say the trail was undulating would be an understatement, we crossed back and forth through the valleys endless times with often the feeling of Déjà vu. One particular path, on the far side of the common, was exceptionally soggy under foot where we found ourselves squelching through the mud in the opposite direction to where we should have been heading. The Hare at this point had to shout 'on back' in fear of losing the pack into the depths of beyond.

We then retraced our steps and recovered the trail which led us to a stile which we clambered over through a farmer's field to drop down over another stile into Waggoners Wells. Once again a cleverly placed check had us spread wide trying to locate the correct path. Back and forth over a bridge we trudged only to find the trail in the opposite direction to what the flour blobs implied. We followed a winding path beside the lakes and past the famous Waggoners Wells Wishing Well. This is where in 1863 Alfred Lord Tennyson composed the below poem and was written on a plaque which I fear was missed by the Hashers in their eagerness to get back to the pub :-

*Flower in the Crannied Wall,  
I Pluck You Out of the Crannies  
I hold you here, root and all, in my hand,  
Little Flower-but if I could understand  
What you are, root and all, and all in all,  
I should know what God and man is*

We passed all four Waggoners' lakes with plenty of dog walkers asking what we had lost from all the calling cries being made, I can only presume they thought we had lost our marbles (we had). Our 'On On'



cries clearly startled the many quacking ducks having their morning swim or was that you 'Errattick' releasing the toxins of the curry from the night before .... Fortunately I was not downwind?

The trail had us climbing a very long steep path back onto Ludshott Common and on what we thought was the home leg, but nope, we trudged off in the opposite direction where a few cheeky hashers (myself included) veered off the trail somewhat. Fortunately we could hear the cries from the rest of the pack and were reunited soon enough but to jibes of 'cheat, shortcut – bla bla bla'.

Finally we limped back into the carpark exhausted but exhilarated from what was a very enjoyable, longer than usual, Hash run. Thank you Hare.

**Treena (Nutbush) Haigh**