



## **REPORT ON RUN 429 ON 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2023 – THE ‘ON BACK’ RUN!**

At 10.50 there was a convivial meeting of 11 hashers outside Haslemere’s White Horse Pub. The welcoming Hare ‘Lost Fart’ proudly displayed his expensive half bottle of sawdust which he carried with him throughout the run, generally at the rear where all good hares should be.

On time, we sped along Petworth Road and up the very testing steep unending narrow pathway to Hill Road and on past the Recreation ground – not the easiest way to start a run! A sneaky, not particularly well marked turn into the Rec was missed by the leading group which prompted the first frantic calls of ON BACK from the Hare. Across Scotland Lane and down the track to Stedlands Farm at the end of Bell Vale Lane was certainly easier. Sawdust indicated a turn along the lane to Alder Wood but a check point was missed by the leading group prompting another bellowing of ON BACK by the Hare. A concerned off road biker enquired whether the Hare was looking for his dog!

A retraction by some into North Side Copse presented very soggy and muddy conditions. I guess the Hare had changed his shoes after setting the run!! Leading group members familiar with the terrain didn’t obey the ON BACK call and met up with the laggards further on and into the open field of Valewood Park. The uphill slog across the field (with the Hare hanging well back) stopped at a check point requiring us to retrace our steps. Two more intrepid hashers climbing up towards Fernden Lane resulted in the ON BACK shouts yet again. A stiff climb into Chase Wood had to be aborted - ON BACK again ! And across an open field past moo cows chewing their cud. Down to another valley and then another climb up towards Black Dog Copse rewarded then by a steady but long descent to Chase Lane and then back up to Tennysons Lane.

Familiar territory now led us down to Petworth Road with our Leader (not our Hare) indicating that there would be a tab behind the bar at The White Horse to celebrate the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first ever H4 hash.

Lost Fart gave us 1 hour 50 minutes of intense end to end activity and enjoyment – (not just the usual 1hour 25) and demonstrated that interesting and variable Hashing is possible so close to our town centre and without getting lost. A similar route in 2008 took us 2 Hours!! Using up the half bottle of sawdust before we started might just have reduced the ON BACK calls.

**John “Douche” Greer**

