

Run #2141 Monday 11th May, The Half Crown, Benfleet

Hares:- Zipper & Frogman

This evening around 20 hashers gathered in Benfleet, where a chilly wind was blowing through the car park, as the GM called us to the circle. Zipper & Frogman briefed us on the trail ahead, and we set off, with Liq Allsorts & Arse Over Tits immediately jumping into the oncoming traffic, screaming loudly and then jumping back again! Once we had all composed ourselves, and safely crossed the road, we headed off behind the church and into the parkland.

Fourplay led the pack along a pathway – following the lovely pink arrows. The Count was trapped on the other side of the river and couldn't get across without getting wet feet. Finally at the end of the path, the Count had rejoined the fray, and the runners decided that the trail had run cold. On returning along the path, a false trail mark had mysteriously appeared!

We then reached the station, and crossed the road and up the hill, coming out on the downs, with great views across the estuary, to Canvey and beyond that Kent. Just a short way along, and we found the beer stop, all of the knitting circle were already there – and we all drank beer, ate jellies & liq allsorts. By now, we had all warmed up a bit – the sun was shining and it was actually a lovely evening! While drinking, we admired the view a bit more, including the oil refineries, the gas holders, the ships moving in the channel and the planes arriving into Southend airport (from Amsterdam, as checked by Fag After!).

The pack then headed further along the downs, taking a big loop around. Getting a bit side tracked by the marks from 4 weeks ago, left by Tiny Tears which were still visible in some areas (we all thought about Tiny Tears, who is currently trekking across Scotland with his back-pack and his tent, rather him than us!).

Finally we popped out at the end of the trail – by the houses right near the car park. We couldn't see the On-Inn – but we just ran back to the cars anyway!

Back at the pub and there was a great spread of food, whilst we watched the football (!).

Then onto the down-downs, and Heapo got one for moaning to anyone who would listen about West Ham and the football at the weekend, the hares (and their parrots) also got down downs for setting an excellent trail, Liq & Arse for surviving the trail, and Fourplay & Fag After for a bit of plane spotting!

The raffle then was held outside, and Corpse luckily won his walking stick back, and Liq Allsorts won a small parrot with food! Everyone else who won a prize pretended to be delighted, but I'm sure we'll see these all back in a few weeks time!

On! On! Fourplay