



CRAPAUD H3 REPORT

Run No.:	1726
Date:	12/2/23
Hare(s):	Shifty, Vital Statistics and Wendolene

This week's run finds us in the laid-back green lanes of St Mary (not as the JEP would have us believe – a slight blip there!)

Very quickly the pack assembles and what a fantastic turn out – 8 runners and 10 walkers. Perhaps word got out that Shifty was giving out chocolate lovehearts to everyone at the start, or perhaps it was the beautiful sunny weather but great to see a good turnout.

GM Richard started by taxing our grey matter with his usual Sunday morning quiz, and then hands over to the hares.

After we have tested our brains sufficiently, the hares tell us the trail is laid in various shades of sawdust and white chalk. Keep to the edge of the field. Mind the electric fences. Walk near any horses and hold the checks.

Lastly, Wendolene our impromptu running hare, gets the pack on track and its on on.

Eager to get going they head off along the newish pathway adjacent to the 20mph zone, then cross over the road into the 15mph lane by Three Oaks. Guess you could call this somewhat of a slow start!

Next the pack soon finds itself entering a field of virgin territory. Nevertheless, we follow with excitement and anticipation only to end up the large and beautiful garden of Meadow Court – and oh what a stunning garden, complete with masses of snowdrops and a statue of a frightening Terracotta Soldier keeping guard. (We didn't get too close!).

We then cross a small bridge which leads to a lake, then keep on going through the shrubbery and find a well-hidden kayak on the water. No lifejacket, so we give it a miss!

Through the wooded area next, where Jacko finds a huge pile of freshly cut sawdust - remnants of one of the many recently storm felled trees in the garden. Shifty's partner John has been doing a sterling job of maintaining a good supply of logs for the fire. Maybe an opportunity here to acquire some sawdust for the next hash.

It's through a stunning tree arbour we are led, which in turn takes us through the back of the property and through a rather muddy field entrance (but luckily no lost trainers today). This leads us into La Rue des Marais where we meet up with the walkers. We all follow the trail and are swiftly directed into another property, Les Marais Farm (John's property) where we walk/run into the paddock, past horses and under wire fences. All safely negotiated, the walkers take to the road and the runners are led off through more of John's fields. Shifty tells us they have planted hundreds and hundreds of saplings over the last couple of years. We'll take their word for it as we are too busy looking at the amazing view of our neighbouring islands to stop to count them all.

28 deg below informed the hares he used to rally drive on one of the fields and on one particular occasion he was in a builder's pick up truck which had a bag of cement in the back. Unfortunately, the field was so bumpy that they hit a stone, the cement bag burst and he got plastered yet again. Next the trail takes the runners along the bridal path and we join up with the walkers soon after along Rue des Touettes, past Bramble Farm and another 15 mph lane. They certainly like the slow life in St Mary.

At the junction we take a right which leads us passed a beautiful thatched cottage, Le Ronvillais. We follow the lane which leads the pack back to the parish hall and the pub.

Enjoying the real ale along with sausage and chips and Twin Peaks' banana cake, the

down downs were dutifully given to the hares and Wendolene for not leading us astray. And Muff Diver was also punished for JEP error.







