



# CRAPAUD H3 REPORT

<b>Run No.:</b>	1787
<b>Date:</b>	14/4/24
<b>Hare(s):</b>	ET

A beautiful day for a gentle amble in the countryside . . . well that's what the runners were hoping for but alas their route was to be slightly more onerous than that enjoyed by the walkers. This morning's mild weather saw a good turn out and the welcome return of both Skywalker and Ballcock who both normally add a bit of lightheartedness to the proceedings.

After quite a bit of chatter the group was called to order, there followed a short briefing by ET after which the On On was called. The trail, led by Wendolene, initially took the runners and walkers through Richard Le Boutillier's farm which sits above Fern Valley. Unfortunately it was here that we, that is to say the walkers, lost sight of the runners as they disappeared into the distance and sadly not to be seen again until we were back at the pub. I'm reliably informed that we were the lucky ones as the trail was fairly hazardous from then on and at least one hasher took a tumble. Naming no names of course but the culprit can easily be identified in the attached photographic evidence.

Not daunted by the steepness of the hills today Molehills, Cliffhanger and the rest of us climbed swiftly out of the valley to head north along Mont Cochon and then east along La Ruelle Pinel towards Surville cemetery and ultimately the pub.. Although beautiful the walk was fairly uneventful apart from that is, of a sighting by Cliffhanger of a rare Jersey orchid normally not seen until the middle of May. Perhaps another sign of global warming?

We arrived back at the pub only moments before the runners but in time to get our drinks sorted before the queues overwhelmed the bar staff. The usual feast of sausages and bread and chips followed as did the Down Downs awarded this week to our hare ET and our faller at the first hurdle, Jacko.

On on!

Twin Peaks.

Our undercover reporter had this to add:

It was a jolly fine affair – lovely weather and a really good trail.

Today's hash almost reached double figures with eight runners taking part plus one of the two hares. They were thrilled to see so many spectators at the start – most of them being Jersey cows. Having run through the farmyard they emerged into a lush green meadow before having to negotiate a barbed wire fence into a wooded valley where the fun and games really began, negotiating fallen timber all over the place. The trail somehow took us into Fern Valley where the devastation wreaked by Storm Ciaran was still very much in evidence. In truth it was less of a run, more of a mountaineering expedition. And the trouble with mountains-climbing is that accidents can happen. Jacko proved the point and suffered a bloody knee for his trouble. The rest of us emerged unscathed but there were a few dodgy moments. We left the mayhem behind us and climbed up towards Mont Cochon where the hare offered us a choice: 'More mayhem or a nice bit of road-running?' Ballcock jumped in with both feet: 'More mayhem please.' That took us into Waterworks Valley where the devastation wasn't as great but was still tricky. We turned off the main road and went down a track that somehow got us into Bellozanne Valley. A steep climb followed before Wendolene had to call the pack back and we diverted into fields adjoining ET's humble abode. We passed the pool and Jacko stripped off for a swim but in truth the water was a bit cold. At this point the pack got separated with half a dozen runners following the main drive out of the property while the hare plus two others found another field to exit into, but we all joined up again on the main road and headed for home.

On on!

P\*\*v\*\*y

#### Alternative Version:

One of the great events in the sporting calendar took place this weekend – the Grand Hashional. A record field turned out for the event with nine runners and riders. Jacko was one of the bookies' favourites, but there was doubt whether he would get the full distance having fallen in some of his previous outings. Bagsofit was another thought to be in contention with a first-class record in the saddle, though with handlebars rather than reins. And Microsoftware was the dark horse, carrying considerably less weight than the rest of the field. In the parade ring the two greys, Frisco and Software (the sire of Microsoftware), were sweating up a bit while the only mare in the race, Wendolene, looked a model of composure and seemed to know her way around the fences. Pervey was at long odds having fallen badly in his previous race while Skywalker, on his first outing of the year, was also considered to be a long shot by the bookies. Ballcock, a well-regarded stayer, was badly handicapped. Under starters orders, the field got away first time. The going was pretty rough to begin with and the field stayed well bunched together until they crossed the Maupertuis Road. Jacko was the first faller and, although he was remounted, he failed at Becher's Brook before eventually refusing at the water jump. Half the field were then tailed off leaving Wendolene, Microsoftware and Skywalker to fight it out in the home stretch. As the trio passed the Elbow, Wendolene's challenge faded and in the final furlong, Microsoftware produced a grandstand finish to leave Skywalker trailing in his wake.

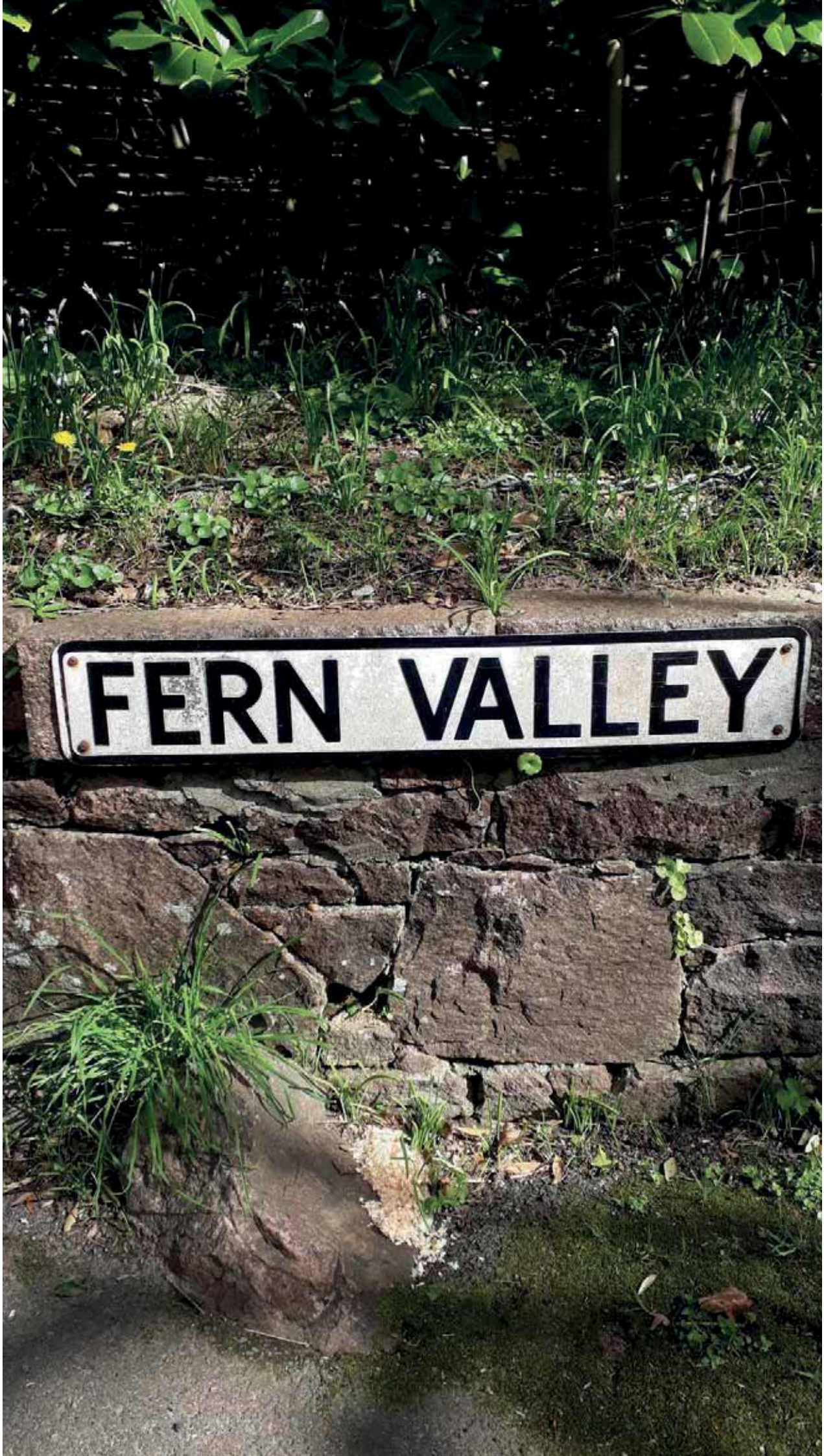
On On, Pervey











**FERN VALLEY**









