

December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018 - Hash: 101 – Denbury – Hare: No2 - Hashers: 15

Following a momentous Exeter Chiefs win over rivals Saracens (31-13), **Night Screecher** and **Buzby** departed for Denbury, satnav tuned in ... and telling us our ETA was 19:40! Pedal to the metal and some frantic 'avoiding', we finally pulled up at the Union Inn at 19:30 but with nowhere obvious to park. Traffic coming in all directions, but a quick change of drivers and a spot was located.

A merry pre-Christmas gaggle of hashers circled, all poised for a fun evening. **Hairy Mollusc** brought along his son, **Spanner** and his son '**Luke**' and new face **Bee Flicker**, whilst the rest were pretty regular to our little hash.

**No.2** stepped forward with chalk-talk and declared it was 5½ ... kilometres! Just long enough a pause to allow panic to spread around the circle! OD was to be at **No2's** new abode in the village where chips, quiches, and sundry nibbles would be made available along with mulled wine and mince pies. And **Buzby** had brought along some home brew beers too. That kept us going.

Shorts and Longs were sent off west, whilst the Walkers headed north for the re-group. It was good to see **Endo** back on trail, albeit only walking until his new bits are fully functioning! **HT2** kept him company on the Short, so **Buzby** headed on eventually catching up with **Bigfoot** who was striding out and still of the opinion it was a 5½ mile trail. Clearly just the thought was enough to put the wind up him!

The very diverse pack did get a little strung out – to be expected – and soon **Woof-Woof** and **Bee Flicker** passed by as we followed the trail north at Denbury Down Cross towards Peartree Cross and the muddy green lane that took the pack to Start Cross, near the prison.

At Start Cross was a Long / Short split, and given **No2's** insistence that the short was "very short", most headed off north again to West Ogwell, then east to West Ogwell Cross, before turning right again back towards Start cross – a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile loop ... then immediately to the sweetie stop on the footpath south of the prison – with loads of lovely chocolates! Rumour has it **Drop Off** took the Short option – but I could be wrong on that!

**Night Screecher, Mad Max** and **Shortie** were already there and quickly joined by the rest of the Longs and the sweeties were eagerly consumed.

On-on passed the prison main entrance where **SatNav** was seen heading and despite **Bigfoot's** advice that they were neither open for visitors, nor taking guests at this time, he continued on his way ... with his dog ... and a little bag which he duly deposited in the bin near the door!

The trail was lost as we headed towards the main road, but **Bigfoot** guided **Buzby** and **SatNav** on the right route back to the cars where we changed and headed to Chez **No2** for a festive On-Inn.

With so many drivers, it was decided there would be no circle, but our visitors were thanked and encouraged to join us again sometime, **No2** was congratulated on a successful trail and great hospitality, and those who had sinned on trail were reminded their sins would catch them out again sometime soon.

Happy Christmas and On-On to 2019, Buzby