



Founded 14 April 1975

The Runday Shag

Issue. 2464

Date: 9 April 2023

Venue: The Cock Inn at Headley

Hare: Dr. Death

On On: The Cock Inn at Headley

SPRING SUNSHINE FOR SURREY'S EASTER SUNDAY

(or: Has FRB been on the Easter sherry?)

You may have noticed that over the last two weeks hares and scribes swapped roles, also that all those involved were in their eighties, which might once have occasioned comment, but is now normal for our elderly hash (doomed to early extinction unless you can persuade younger family members and their friends to join!) Today's hare, **Dr Death**, is another of us, and as effective as ever. The weather was delightful, and the spring scenery superb. Some 5 miles, the distance we expect these days, and finished in 1.6 hours, ideal timing.

But? Yes, well, a trail is a sequence of checks, and today these were uncommonly few and far between. I reached the third after 30 minutes. And the reason for this spacing was that we were almost always enclosed by fences or hedges for tremendous distances, with no prospect of choice as a check requires. The only open territory was on Epsom Downs, but even then the trail just followed one direction.

All this had a curious effect on the front runners. I have no idea where **Simple** or **Popeye** got to; I did not see them at the beer. Had they finished long before us and just gone home? **Atalanta** obviously gave the checks credit for more ingenuity than they needed; she would constantly re-appear in our wake. So who were "we"?

RHUM, **Speedy Humper**, **Master Bates** and I were the first in; when we recognised Headley (and its church) we could not even find a check circle, so we headed home, only to find flour after all, some implausible distance from the previous blob. Earlier we had been with **Dormouse**, and also **Moonwalker**, once again it seems a Surrey regular. And **One In The Eye**, always a good runner. **RHUM's** approach to checks was more constructive than **Moonwalker's**; the latter would just say "We must go left soon!", whereas **RHUM** would carry on till he found flour.

Where there was any. **Dr Death** apparently decided there should be none in the churchyard; we had to guess we should cross it. An interesting echo of the empty tomb for an Easter Sunday trail. We were not numerous; clearly, many families had said "No, no, we need you today!" So it was good to find **Ratty and Red Eye**, **Teddy Bear** and **Lord Raleigh**.

Boris Johnson is intelligent; what did he mean by saying "You can't rewrite history, or edit it!", which is obviously false? (Historians have done just that since time began). Anyway, the facts are not questioned; slavery was real. He meant, People don't want their opinions challenged, their attitudes questioned, and of course he had a point; this is true, of some people. The current use of "woke" as an insult is on their behalf.



Well, how much does classical music mean to those whose idea of the Proms is the second half of the last night? Populists have a similar aversion to any form of history – such as social, or economic history – which is not confined to kings, battles, and dates. And by battles (other than in our Civil War) I mean victories; how many English defeats can you list? Mostly – as before Dunkirk - we don't even name them. Well, Tobruk, but only because of El Alamein.

Gentle reader, when did your social opinions last change? Political: that is more likely: people can and do become disillusioned with the leaders of their usual party. And cultural: all our lives we can and should acquire new tastes. But how do you now feel about our past as slave-owners?

On-on, FRB



MISMANAGEMENT

Grand Mistress
Bonn Bugle

Joint Mistress
Ms Bean

Joint Master
RHUM

Religious Advisor
Popeye

Hash Cash
J Arthur

Clutcher's Mistress
Atalanta

Trail Mistress
Birthing Blanket

On-Sec
Speedy Humper

Hash Scribe
FRB

RS Editor
Petal

HONORARY SPECIAL HELPERS

Beer Fetchers
Uncle Gerry
J Arthur

Hash Cam
MasterBates

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Trails Line/
Difficulties
07484 134 245





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REMEMBER, HHHEARTIES, when you turn up for a trail, it's heroes like Dr Death, who stepped up this week, who make it possible.

Book your trail dates with Birthing Blanket now!

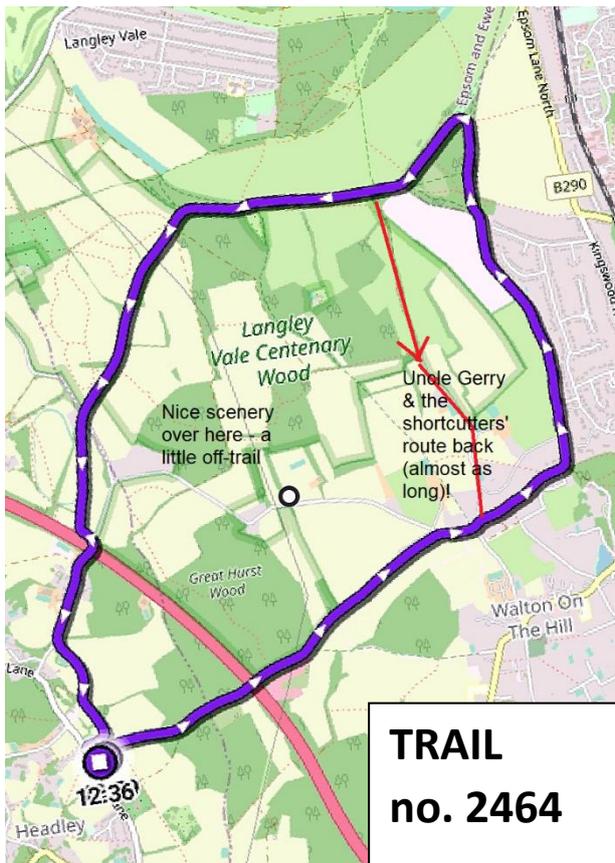
Next Week's Run

Run 2465
 Date 16 April 2023
 Hare Doug the Tub & Mrs. Robinson
 Venue Capel, RH5 5EL
 ///motion.making.petal
 On On The Crown, RH5 5JY

Receding Hareline

2466	23 April	Birthing Blanketl	Mayford
2467	30 April	Bonn Bugle & No Nookie	Horsell
2468	7 May	Bodyshop	Pirbright
2469	14 May	Master Bates	
2470	21 May	Poshie & Hornie	

Park on "The Street" near the pond and open area



What's the fascination with my groin?





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A nicely formed circle (& gut)!



The front-runners (or those who arrived on time)



At last! NI NO



The usual suspects



Easter bunnies

**MANY MORE PICTURES IN DROPBOX ([Dropbox link](#))
Together with the bits missed off the above!**





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More politics!

Is AI the Future?

For a moment the internet was fooled. An image of Pope Francis in a gleaming white, papal puffer jacket spread like wildfire across the web.

Yet the likeness of the unusually dapper 86-year-old head of the Vatican was a fake. The phoney picture had been created as a joke using artificial intelligence technology, but was realistic enough to trick the untrained eye.



Pope Francis in a papal puffer jacket fooled the internet | CREDIT: Pablo Xavier

ULEZ is coming to Surrey. And Ashtead will be surrounded by it!

Citizen Khan would like to introduce the charge into Greater London and the Home Counties in August through “constructive engagement” with the various councils, but if they don’t agree with him he will do it anyway, much like his approach to legitimate objections to penalties. He said recently: *“What I find unacceptable is those people with **legitimate objections**, joining hands with some of those outside, who are part of a far-Right. Let’s call a **spade a spade** (sic); some of those on the outside are part of the far-Right, some are Covid deniers, some are vaccine deniers, and some are Tories.”* Yes, he actually said that.

Let’s contrast that with a quotation from a relative giant of a politician, *“I always cheer up immensely if an attack is particularly wounding because I think, well, if they attack one personally, it means they have not a single political argument left.”* (Margaret Thatcher).

BUSTING A MYTH – The Ballad of Maidenhead Gaol.

*If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too* (Rudyard Kipling)

Yes, Petal did spend most of a day languishing in a cell with no belt and shoelaces. **Yes**, all roads around his house were sealed off and his neighbours told to be prepared to evacuate. **Yes**, there were 6 firearms officers and numerous attack dogs straining at their leads! And a nice chap like Craig from Coronation Street to have a soothing chat with after the drama had passed.

No, he hadn’t refused to pay the ULEZ charge - **he had paid his £12-50**, BUT he also raised a question about the compliance of his vehicle, which was unclear. Khan’s Stasi decided that it was not compliant and raised a penalty for its use DESPITE having accepted the £12-50 previously for that legitimate use! There was NO DEFENCE except to sign an affidavit that the penalty had not been received. This was not possible, of course, as it would have been dishonest, so Petal decided to see how far the goons would go. A few months later he found out!

Most people do not take a stand, they roll over and pay. **Over 55%** of TFL’s ULEZ revenue (£226 million in 2022) **comes from penalties**. TFL says that half of appeals are successful. THIS IS DISINGENUOUS as those penalties are not cancelled, they are merely “successful” in transferring the liability to someone else.

PLEASE – I will be genuinely interested to hear from anyone who believes that either of the following statements is arguable. 1) The point of Euro emission standards is to set the bar for the manufacture of new vehicles, and they are NOT intended as a tool to impose a tax retrospectively or to impose limits on the movement on one person, let alone thousands, who bought a vehicle that was the best available when manufactured and purchased. If you buy a beast, you will knowingly pay the price. 2) If TFL needs to raise funds it should increase the congestion charge or its applicable range thus “hitting” people indiscriminately: it is obscene to spend tens of millions on infrastructure designed to target and tax specifically those struggling the most and who work in essential services.

It is not about air quality – around midnight the M4 from junctions 3 to 5 (with fields on either side), with very light traffic now declares, “Speed limit reduced to 60 mph in the interest of air quality.” We have lost the plot totally!

