

RUN 2278 – Snappy Tom’s Birthday Run – Norman Park

A lot of Hashmen left it to the last minute to turn up for this run to celebrate Snappy’s 71st birthday, and he and his co-opted hare Tinkerbell were concerned that they had over-catered. Tinkerbell had gone to the trouble of setting up a montage of Snappy photos from when he was a chubby bubby, much to the amusement of everyone!

We knew that this might be a farkup - Tinkerbell started making excuses about running into a Bayside run and that some of the locals had rubbed out or cleaned up his markings – and so it turned out to be!

It all began OK, meandering through streets near the park where we started and then traversing part of the Bulimba Cemetery. But that’s when the fark started - to quote a well-known saying.

A 360 from the cemetery took us over Jack Flynn Memorial drive and onto the Morningside Railway Station, where the trail disappeared. Poor old XXXX the Trail Master was so frustrated that he started putting down arrows where he thought the run might go only to rub them out again, confusing the shit out of everyone.

Catgut and Turbo took the early initiative and went through the station, turned left looking for arrows and continued down Richmond Rd towards Canon Hill. We didn’t see them again until near the end of the run. Turns out the railway staff had “cleaned up” the graffiti/trail markings and it was only a chance spotting by JC or Optus that got us back onto the trail going south and up Horsington St.

After a while the trail went into a rather large drain, via a well-constructed ladder. Some of the more cerebrally advanced Hashmen – JC, Grewsome, Scruffy, Push Up and me – figured out that it would be better to go around the drain and catch up to the pack on the other side. We never saw them again!

I can only comment on the experiences of the fab 5 from this stage onwards. At that point the Bayside HHH effect kicked in and we ended up going around in circles through a high density housing complex. At one stage Scruffy pulled the pin and took off early for home as he recognised what was happening, he’s pretty quick is Scruffy! After going backwards and forwards for ages we came across Catgut and Optus going the other way so we formed another little group to try and nut out the trail. Push Up also decided at this stage to head for home and the rest of us decided to head back over a FT and shoot downhill to Richmond Road, at least we knew where we were at this stage.

After running along Waminda St we hit the roundabout at Bennetts Road and made our way back to the start through the Norman Park streets, nowhere near the trail, and one hour eleven minutes after the start! What a bloody workout after having 5 weeks off!

To illustrate the extent of the farkup here is a map of where the trail was supposed to go:

Quite a different pattern....

Run: 8/10 – despite the farkup

OnOn: 7/10 – Anchovy standing in for Divot

Food: 9/10 – free piss and food thanks to Tinkerbell and Snappy.

OnOn

Craft