

Run 164: Maryport Promenade - 25th January 2009

Hares- Half Dome and Misdemeanour

What a fine day to start the 250th anniversary of Rabbe Burns than to look across the Solway to Burnsland. It's a shame that the cloud and horizontal rain spoiled the view. The carefully drafted instructions to the start to avoid the road works were ignored by a few hashers who tried their own 'short cuts' and arrived fashionably late.

The weather and thought of Maryport on a Sunday after the night before had not put off the dozen hashers who sheltered in their own and other people's cars. When Misdemeanour announced that Half Dome was still out setting the route some of us wondered if this was to be a mega hash or if he had been mugged for his valuable flour and chalk. It was in fact to be a carefully planned tour of Maryport's best tourist attractions and ancient historical sites.

The route started across the Millenium Gardens and down the Promenade with a following gale. Some desperate runners affected by the wind did an on-in into the public toilets en route before continuing to Bank End. Meanwhile the walkers branched off uphill. Some runners ventured towards the golf course to see if Ever Ready was doing his other Sunday morning activity. After running back south again along a byeway an informal regroup took place outside Camp Farm once Half Dome appeared from the mud allowing the pack to gather. It was a relief to Clint and Dirty Digger that there was no fish hook on this stretch.

It is worth mentioning at this point that Clint and Happy Sac had entered into the spirit of Burns night with some tartan headwear with Happy Sac having added sunglasses to his Maryport disguise. The Hasher formerly known as Clint has now been christened Jock Strap.

The runners headed up Pigeonwell Lonning to Camp Road through the discarded cans of energy and caffeine drinks which fuels the local school kids. Spectacular views of the Roman Fort and the Solway gave way to Georgian splendour. After crossing Senhouse Street our route took us past industrial archaeology and pigeon lofts ending on the top of Mote Hill. This was followed by a sprint into the wind along the seafront of Glasson then back along by the Marina and docks.

The runners and walkers merged, split and rejoined in a feat of perfect hash timing by the hares. Arrows near the bridge showed the route back to the start. By this time the sun had come out and whilst photographing the foaming white waves Happy Sac was treated to an early Solway shower. For the hash anoraks among you the runners route

was 5.78 miles with 548 feet of ascent- or so says the digi map. (Where was Whingeing Thong? 548 feet qualifies as flat! Ed)

This was a classic route around the best bits of Maryport which had not seen flour since foot & mouth year. If you weren't there you missed a good un.

Rocky

