

Pirate Patrol 648
Sun 9 June 2013
Carlton Nest



Hares	Cap'ns Fancypants Frédéric and Pegleg Pierre-André
Hashers	a big and boisterous brigade of bloodthirsty brigands
Grog wenches	Edwige the Rum Swiller and Poop Deck Philida
Hash Flash	Pirate Priscille the Paleskin, Cap'n Swashbucklin' Steve, Arrrr Jim Ladd Pirate Gilbert the Ale Swigger
Hash Trash	Pirate Keel Haulin' Kay

First word



"Ahoy there, me 'earties!" was the welcome call from the band of brigands at the on-on, the pirate's lair, Carlton Nest. Les Frères de la Côte, Cap'ns Fancypants Frédéric and Pegleg Pierre-André, stood by the Jolly Roger flag flanked by an old adversary, Cap'n Black Beard, who was suspended from a tree. The Press Gangs had done a good job and a full crew assembled, ready to set sail on the high seas in search of Cap'n Jack Sparrow's treasure.



Trail






We were promised a flat and dry trail but never trust a pirate! We set off across the derelict salines where any attempt to dodge the stones resulted in sinking into a murky morass of mud. The children and those with shorter legs struggled where the gaps between the stones were wide. They were forced to squelch through the clarts.





We reached a lagoon, a perfect smugglers' cove, and spent 20 minutes clambering over coral and rocks whilst trying to avoid the sharp thorns on the bushes and trees that overhung the trail. Here the children and those with shorter legs had a distinct advantage as they did not need to stoop and crouch to get through unscathed.




Everyone was relieved to emerge from the spiky shrubbery onto a pier which jutted out into the Indian Ocean and offered spectacular views of Le Morne. The sea was very calm and fishermen could be seen standing in the shallow waters within the reef, their conversation drifting towards us in the still morning air.





The trail led across an inlet and onto a beach where there was evidence of previous pirate activity – empty rum bottles! It was a very hot morning and there was no respite from the sun as we trudged across the sand. We were relieved to move inland where there was some shade and encouraged by the shouts of "Pieces of eight, pieces of eight!" which signalled that the FRB advance boarding party had found the treasure. We emerged into a clearing in the middle of which stood a majestic Martello tower. Sitting in the shade at the top of the steps was a sumptuous sack of treasure – chilled cans of Ti la bière. "Ahoy, there, splice the mainbrace!" we yelled as we slaked our thirst. The braver pirates ignored the numerous wasps nests inside the tower and scaled the ladders to the top where they were rewarded with magnificent views of the sea on one side and the mountains on the other.





We set off on the trail again feeling refreshed and stopped briefly to inspect the canon which was cunningly camouflaged by the trees only a short distance from the tower. We thought that we would return quite soon to the on-on but there was more bending under branches, strolling across derelict salines, trekking along tracks and braving the hot sun along the unshaded beach.







When we finally got back to the on-on we had completed a multi-terrain figure of 8 trail. Congratulations to Capn's Fancypants Frédéric and Pegleg Pierre-André on a memorable Hash, one of the best!
Thanks to all the photographers who sent in almost 400 photos!

Hash circle



Everyone agreed that it was a great Hash and there were even suggestions that it wasn't long enough. Cap'n Jack Sparrow was always one step ahead of us but we managed to outwit him and beat him to the treasure!
Here's to the hares!



Maiden voyage

There was a record number of first timers this week:

1. Katrin – from Albion, invited by Mario
2. Joëlle – from Curepipe, invited by Gilbert
3. Ed – from Flic en Flac, invited by Alysu
4. Sharon – from Curepipe, invited by Gilbert
5. Hector – from Scotland, found us on the internet
6. Liz – with Hector, from London

7. Georgie – Hector and Liz's daughter, from London
8. Jérôme – from Curepipe, invited by Pierre-André
9. Tina – from Finland and Curepipe, invited by Pierre-André
10. Alexi – age 5 from Curepipe
11. Ella – Alexi's sister



All responded very enthusiastically with a resounding "Yes!!!!" when asked whether they would come back to the Hash.

Second timers



Mario, Amélie and Dave all stepped forward to be initiated into the Hash. As Dave was the last to take his place in the circle he was given a large down-down in the green urinary vessel. He seemed unsure as to whether he should drink the contents or fill it up. **Here's to the second timers!**

Scribe

The Scribe announced that the Hash Trash for each of the last 3 Hashes could be viewed in the archive on the Hash website and thanked Priscille and Gilbert for submitting photos.

Competition 646



Priscille took the photograph on the left at Hash 646 in La Cambuse and Hashers were asked to identify the vegetable. The Scribe expected a simple, one word answer – aubergine – but nobody submitted this response.



She walked round the circle holding up a fine specimen of the vegetable and asked Hashers of various nationalities to say what they call it. The response was varied - egg-plant, brinjal and at last aubergine!

The winning entries were:

- Harry – egg-plant
- Kees – a plant of the species solanum melongena with 2 of its fruits in development
- Pierre-André – a snapshot of the first vegetarian gay marriage – between 2 egg-plants!

Pierre-André's entry was the most popular but prizes were awarded to all who wanted one.

Competition 648



What is the plant in the photo on the left?
Send your answers to kay.farrow1@gmail.com
by 09.00 on Sunday 23 June.

Prizes will be distributed on Sunday 21 July when the Scribe returns from a voyage to Europe.

RA

Rev Pirate Mark the Malevolent was in a generous mood and instead of being flogged and keel hauled, miscreant crew members were punished with a tankard of ale.

Down-downs

- Cap'ns Fancypants Frédéric and Pegleg Pierre-André – as revenge for the RA tearing his shirt on their Hash
  Here's to the sinners!
- Hector, Joëlle, Marie-Claude and Kevin – new shoes
  Here's to the flashers!
- Trailmaster Pirate Didier the Deck Swabber – for being late – again
- Pirate Alysu the Fashionably Late – for arriving late, as usual, and for having a dirty bum
  Here's to the latecomers!



- Pirate Keith Scurvy Gums Leadbetter for having a much mispronounced surname – Leadhead, Leadbeater, Headbeater
- Pirate Romeo Ravin for his ridiculous head gear – a parasol worn on the head
  Here's to the surrogate father and son!
- Cap'n Jailbait John – despite his muscley macho physique he ran out of the tower because he was frightened of a wasp. He claimed that he was running from Pirate Tusha the Terrible.
  Here's to the cissy!



Jeux sans frontières – Pirates walk the plank

All Mauritians were invited to raise their hand and 4 were selected to represent their country. This process was repeated for the rest of the world and 2 teams then lined up to compete at walking the plank.

Mauritius	**Rest of the world**
Henriette	Arrrrr Jim Ladd (USA)
Véronique	Amélie (France)
Jérôme	Dave (GB)
Gilbert	Tina (Finland)

Competitors took it in turns to drink a bowl of ale then run along the plank, a round tree trunk. It was very close and there were fine performances from Henriette and Gilbert for Mauritius but despite this the rest of the world won.





Hash hostage



Pirate Nadine the Bonniest found it easy to select her successor as Hash Hostage and chose Keith Scurvy Gums Leadbetter because he had laughed at her several times for running with the cowbell.
Here's to the sinner!



Announcements

1. **Empty bottles**
   After 4 years of bringing ale to the Hash, Gilbert reported that not all bottles are being returned and that he now has 1½ empty beer crates and 1 empty soft drinks crate. He reminded Hashers to return empty bottles to the crates as there is a deposit on them and the Hash loses money if they are not all returned to the brewery. He also suggested that Hashers with empty bottles at home could donate them to the Hash.

2. **Registration**
   Hashers had been reminded at the previous Hash of why it is important to register in advance:
   a) It helps those organising the drinks to supply enough for everyone.

b) If the Hash has to be cancelled at short notice, those registered can be informed by email.

NB Hash cancelled + no registration = no email = wasted journey

Pirate Alysu the Fashionably Late asked if there was a deadline for registration. As the ale is collected on Saturdays it is best if Hashers register by Saturday morning.

3. **Grandmaster**
   The GM, Cap'n Swashbucklin' Steve, announced that he would not be at the next 2 Hashes as he was setting off on a long voyage of pillage and plunder on his other vessel, the Emblem of the Emirates, and that Cap'ns Jailbait John and Alan the Dodo Smuggler have kindly agreed to take the helm of the Jolly Roger in his absence.

4. **Hash signs**
   Hash signs should be returned to MUG after each Hash.

Oranges

Oranges were available for pirates wanting to reduce their chance of suffering from scurvy after such a long treasure hunt.



Next Hash

The Trailmaster, Cap'n Didier the Deck Swabber, announced that the next Hash will be set by Pirate Nadine the Bonniest in FUEL.

Happy Birthday!

Before we left the pirates' lair we spliced the mainbrace again to celebrate the birthday of Pirate Poop Deck Philida who provided a delicious cake to sustain us all on our journey home.







One final memorable photo for those who may have left too early to see it:



Here's to the Hash! On-On…….