

Dear HWH3.

Here we are again. 8 months on and we are back where we started.

You will, no doubt, have read, or listened to, the Government's new measures, that are designed to slow down this second wave of Coronavirus.

In particular: "Everyone is urged to stay at home, with some limited exceptions, and pubs will be shut".

"Non essential travel is strongly discouraged and you can only meet with one other person outdoors (who is not in your household)"

"Grassroots sports activities are not allowed".

In light of this, I cannot see how we can reasonably continue organising our hashes as a group activity, even as a 1+1 variant.

I think it would push the definition of, travel for exercise, beyond what is acceptable and runs the risk of groups meeting up, albeit unintentionally.

For me, hashing is as much a social activity as it is a good excuse for exercise, and 1+1 doesn't quite hit the spot.

I propose that we put our group hashing on hold for now. Hopefully we will be able to restart the "new normal" format in 4 weeks time.

Having said that, I would actively encourage you to arrange your own exercise, possibly as 1+1, but near to where you live, so that you are match fit for the restart.

One option is to re-run some of the recent hashes for which we have maps, and report back on your experience.

I leave you with the words (imagine the music) of Simon and Garfunkel, which I have appropriated inappropriately.

Hello darkness, my old friend
I've come to talk with you again
Because a virus softly creeping
Left its seeds while I was hashing
And ...