



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 081 - Sunday 25th March 2001 - Woodlands Edge Peatmoor

The foot and mouth epidemic continues and the countryside remains out of bounds and so Paul Tracy's first trail ever had to be set in the suburbs of West Swindon. Even if that were not disadvantage enough his run also clashed with the clocks going forward, mothers day and miserable weather. We nonetheless had a loyal core of runners and walkers and a whole ten of us gathered outside the Woodlands edge - one of those vast estate type pubs. We would have had more but Jeremy forgot to put his clock forward and Margaret put her clock back and so they did not arrive until the apres - but they still came.

Paul (henceforth to be known and referred to as "Thunderbird"- I am not entirely sure why but young Tom gave him the name and everybody else seemed to think it entirely appropriate - I think it is something to do with puppets on the tele) gave us a very professional briefing and the huge mob of three runners and seven walkers set off in high spirits. It is amazing how much green and open space there is in urban Britain particularly in West Swindon. We looped through parks and small woods and a few housing estates with Ian and Dave in the lead and your scribe running very cautiously at the back. The trail was clear and there were lots of circles and false trails and the sun came out and we really enjoyed it. It took a little longer to run with only three of us finding the trail even though Paul and Martine (who laid the trail with Paul) were waiting with helpful advice at every key point - but we were back at the pub in an hour and a quarter. The walkers however took a bit longer. Thunderbird had not taken into account the fact that our walkers do not stride purposefully forward but rather they look at the view and gossip and so they took about two hours. We were eventually all back together in a quiet corner of the pub which was heaving with thousands of mothers and children. A very pleasant apres though after an excellent trail. Thank you Paul (sorry ! - Thunderbird) and Martine for an excellent first trail.

ON ONs

083 22nd April

NEW The Sun Marlborough

Ian

084 6th May

NEW The Bear Devizes

Keith

085 20th May

Red Lion Baydon ++

Val and

Jockey Dave

++ To be changed if restrictions on access to the countryside continue

If you would like to lay a trail (or find out where the hash is) please give me - Grand Old Master (GOM) - a call on 01672 871374 (Home) or 01793 481220 (Office) or

Email at mjf@mfisher.co.uk