



Kennet Valley Hash House Harriers

Hash 120- The New Inn-Coate, near Devizes, 8th September'02

A good turn out of runners & walkers for this Hash, laid by Keith, who promised the runners "11 Kilometres" (c.7 miles).

This Hash pretty much had it all; sunshine & showers, ins (the stream) & outs (of breath), some ups and lots of 'Downs'.

We were soon striding out across fields in the sunshine and quickly upon a 'shallow' stream. Laura confidently launched herself into it and was immediately surprised at its' depth! (so were we-and pleased not to have got there ahead of her!) .After Laura had waded out, we had a go at jumping over but alas, we all got very wet feet and continued to squelch malodourously round the course, competing convincingly with the various country smells thereafter.

Several times we somehow managed to miss Keith's flour markers (I choose to think this was due to being mesmerised by the fine views rather than being too knackered to concentrate) and on one of these excursions found ourselves up a farm track convinced that the farmer had deliberately blocked our way! (turns out he was innocent...).

We ploughed on (hashed on?) thankful that the route did not take us up the steep hills nearby as by now 7 miles felt like an unattainable distance (for me at least).

The final challenge was to negotiate 'nettle alley' and this finally convinced me to ditch shorts & buy some jogging pants! With great relief Coate hove into view and we arrived back at the excellent New Inn, (which was rather like sitting in the landlord's living-room) with Waddies' beer from the wood, and the best value baguettes & chips seen in many a Hash. The walkers followed over the next 30 minutes or so, and the New Inn was then bursting at the seams. Well done, Keith & thanks for an interesting, challenging course.

Margaret thanked Keith for his efforts & reminded everyone of the changes in venue (see below). Paul promised to pass the horn on to Dave for next time..

Coming Up;

121-22nd Sept The 3 Tuns, Great Bedwyn-Mike

122-6th Oct The Blackbird Inn, Bagnor, nr Newbury-Jeremy

123-20th Oct The Trout, Lechlade-Dave & Margaret

124-3rd Nov The Vale of the White Horse, Minety-Paul

If you have any queries etc, contact GOM, Margaret, on 01793-703744 or e-mail her secretary on paulbtracey@hotmail.com

Keith