



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 173- Sunday 22nd August - Eight Bells at Fairford

The forecast was for torrential rain and gales this Sunday but Fairford and its immediate surroundings must be exempt from that sort of weather as it was as fine and balmy a summer's day as you could wish for at our Hash from the Eight Bells Public House. 7 runners and 10 walkers gathered outside the pub chatting amiably and looking forward to the trail. We waited for our lady GOM but she still had failed to arrive by 1110 and so our hare Keith 2 gave us a quick brief and we were off. A short distance in the town and then across fields and down muddy lanes to the water of the Cotswold Water Park; Ian very much in the lead with the rest of us strung out behind although Dave was pretty close behind running like an olympic athlete. We assumed he'd been training secretly but he denied it. Must be the beer he drinks. It was Marion's (friend of Brian) first run today and she kept up extraordinarily well despite a pulled muscle towards the end. She said she really enjoyed it so we have another enthusiastic runner in KVH3.

The trail was long and flat and it did a series of loops around the lakes in the park and then back along the same lane that we had set out on. The lakes looked beautiful in the sunshine and the run was full of interest and variety. One minute you'd be running through woodland, then you would be out on the open grassy bank of a lake or running through a caravan site where everyone there was having a boozy party; wonderful stuff - there is nothing in the world quite like it. Keith said he thought the trail was about 5 miles but that seemed a little conservative to me. I was running for an hour and 25 minutes, and as you know I run at about 5 minute/mile pace, which makes it 17 miles. It can't have been that far though - could it?

And so back to the pub to see our lady GOM running in from an unexpected direction looking embarrassed. She had arrived late and had galloped round the trail without seeing a soul and then, feeling lonely, had taken the direct route back to the pub.

The apres was pleasant as usual. We sat outside in the sun, a small close knit group chatting and enjoying the company. GOMargaret thanked Keith for a splendid trail and then wished Mike and Annie every happiness for their wedding. Very moving.

ON ONs

174	5 Sep 04	The Crown Ampney Crucis	GOM/ Dave
175	19 Sep 04	The Horseshoe at Mildenhall	Jeremy
172	3 Oct 04	The Saracens Head Highworth	Mike
173	17 Oct 04	The Buggers Arms	A Volunteer

Any enquiries please ring - Grand Old Mistress (GOMargaret) on 01793 703744 or the late Keith Mitchell on 01672 511530 -
or you could visit our web site at <http://kvhash.mysite.wannado-members.co.uk>