

Hash 197 - The Fox & Hounds, Uffington - 10th July 2005

Whose damfool idea was it to organise a Hash on the day after the Marlborough Jazz Festival? Me with a house full of party animals and a skinfull of beer! Expecting your scribe to turn up at all, complete with grade A hangover, after rustling up an alfresco breakfast (Katrina also helped) and running a taxi service for the walking wounded, was more than a little optimistic.

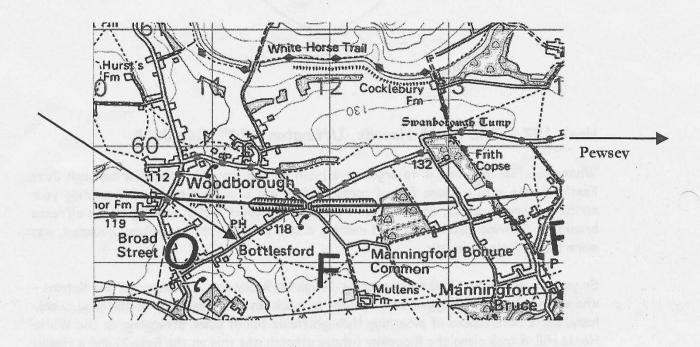
So yes, we were late. 11.30 to be precise. Daughter Becky ran, I floundered, and Katrina – who set out to walk – plugged away to beat us back easily. My memory of the trail is only hazy, but I have visions of ploughing through fields full of cows, struggling up the White Horse Hill, a trek along the Ridgeway (whose stretch was this on the Relay?) and a thankfully long slow descent back to Effington in delightfully warm Hashing weather.

An ironic cheer greeted me as I staggered past the assembled Hashers sunning themselves in the garden. Taking no part in the post-Hash chat, I was relieved to be fined only three weeks' wages by our valiant GOM for failing to wear the green kecks, and applauded like a demented monkey as the Hare was complimented on a simply spiffing trail.

Those of you who feel short-changed by the brevity of this Hash Mag can apply for a refund. The publishers apologise profusely for the low standard of editorial content, and have suspended the journalist responsible for six weeks without pay.

Now PAY ATTENTION! The 200th Hash will be in Marlborough - from my pad, in fact. I will be laying the trail, then laying on a barbie and booze (and hot water for Margaret) afterwards. There will be beer and lager, red and white wine, and soft drinks. There will be meat and fish for the barbie, and bread and salad and baked spuds. You do not need to bring anything although some glasses, folding chairs and tables might be handy - just let me know in advance if you are coming - especially if you are a cannibal or vegetable - as there is only so much I can do with seven loaves, a few little fishes and a couple of urns of water. There will be a modest charge of three quid - not bad for all you can eat or drink. The more perspicacious amongst you will notice that I am laster than usual today - in fact I am not here at all (I'm at Lourdes, praying for the survival of the English cricket team). I shall not be at Hash 199 either, since I will be in Munich attempting to make the score Krauts O England 3 as I skipper my team in World War III on the battle cricket fields of Munich. So please email me or ring and leave a message on my answerphone, to let me know you are coming. Third and worst alternative - tell Jeremy.

If you don't move in the upper echelons of Wiltshire society, you will need to know my address - Elcot House, London Road. Take the A4 towards Hungerford, and my place is just after TH White's and just before the Roebuck. You will recognise it by the scantily-clad starlets posing on the low white wall outside the house with two red front doors. Or by the sweat-stained old git panting on the pavement. There should be plenty of parking.



Third Coming Hash Runs

198 - 24th July - The Sun Inn, Coate Water - Steve

199 - 7th Aug - The Seven Stars, Bottlesford - Iain

200 - 21st Aug - Chez Keith, The Kennet Valley, Marlborough - Keith

201 - 4th Sept - The Buggers Arms - Margaret & Dave

202 - 18th Sept - The Royal Oak, Bishopstone - GOM

203 - 2nd Oct - The Masons Arms, Meysey Hampton - Brian

If you want to have a bash at a Hash, or find out where The Bugger's Arms is please ring GOM Jeremy on 01672 521064; email jer@xyz.port995.com or the late Keith Mitchell on 01672 511530 email keith@pallettfs.co.uk - website kvhash.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk