

KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS Mag No 219 - Sunday 14th May 2006 - The Fox & Hounds Wroughton

There are times when all the things that I enjoy about the Kennet Valley Hash House Harriers come together to create something special. And so it was today. Katrina had set a superb trail up and down the hills above Wroughton .with stunning views, and the weather was right, the pub was right and the company was right – perfick!

Pretty well all of our regular runners were there before the start quietly chatting in the sunshine and getting ready in the pub's large car park (no problems here with horrid landlords telling us to park 10 miles up the road) – when some lunatic roared into the car park in a grubby mondeo scattering runners and walkers alike and disturbing the peace. It could only be..... yes.... lain and Laura were back! – and everybody was really pleased to see them. We had two new hashers, Johnno and Katherine, who had looked at our web site and thought we sounded a good lot. They were cheerful, friendly and enthusiastic – so they can come again.

We had a very short briefing from Katrina (as her car had broken down and the AA were about to arrive) and then we were off – uphill for about half a mile and then, puffing and blowing, through the kissing gate at the summit and down across a sunlit field to some woods filled with bluebells. Swindon is probably not the most attractive place in the world but in my view the countryside around it is. We ran on in a loop through the woods and then across fields back up to the main road where there was the most wonderful view across half of Wiltshire. No time to stop and stare however as I was at the back of the field by this stage and pushing my aging frame to greater effort strove to catch up. The trail was very clearly marked and everything looked green and fresh in the sunshine so I was going well and after about three miles of not seeing a soul saw Dave and Keith 2 up ahead. Anxious for human company I put on a burst of speed - accelerating to a breathtaking 3.5 miles an hour – and promptly fell in a bog. I mean, you don't expect that sort of thing round here; the Fens or Dartmoor perhaps but not Wiltshire. Deleting expletives I ran on and finally caught up – and from then on it was a relaxed trot home in pleasant company through Elcombe and up past the church to the pub - noting with pleasure that I was back in just over the hour

We all sat in the garden afterwards in the early summer sunshine and Phil told us all about the Honeymoon Hash he and MBA Mike have organised for 25th June. Apparently all the ladies have to wear top hats and all the gents have to wear veils. And lain and Laura were telling us all about their travels in the Pacific Islands, Australia, New Zealand and India. GOM thanked Katrina for a really excellent trail and she awarded the bags to someone (my memory 's not what it was). What a very successful hash – thank you for that Katrina.

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220	28th May 06	The Goddard Arms Clyffe Pypard	Keith 2
221	11th June 06	The White Horse Winterbourne Bassett	Brian & Linda
222	18th June 06	Ridgeway Relay	GOM
223	25th June 06	Honeymoon Hash The Woodman Fernham	MBA Mike & Phil
224	9th July 06	Royal Oak Wootton Rivers	lain
225	23rd July 06	Summer Hash Studland	Margaret & Dave

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