

Hash 242 - The White Hart, Oare - 18th March 2007

As we parked the Škoda Carrera outside the White Hart, we could see Squire Jeremy striding around in the car park - tweed cap, green wellies, waistcoat, spaniel, shotgun - barking out orders and gesticulating furiously - every inch the country gent. Upon daring to query whether he had changed after running round to lay the Trail, he coolly informed me that he *never* ran round; he always walks. Huh - all these years he's let me believe that he's run round *twice* when he's accompanied the Hash on the Trail. It's like finding out there's no Father Christmas...

Anyway, he informed his adoring fans that the Trail was flat as a pancake - in some places, a pancake standing on edge, and that nobody would be able to run up the steepest bits. Sunday's Nobody was Mabel, who almost died in the attempt to prove GOM wrong. Bloody scrum-halves - such show-offs! Anyway, once we had ascended K2 (no, not Keith Pinder) and the red mist had cleared from our eyes, we were rewarded by a magnificent view of the surrounding countryside. Leaving the Walkers to turn left along Huish Hill, the Runners fought their way through a gale to West Woods, where we got lost several times. We then fought our way through a southerly gale back down the hill to Huish, and proceeded to trample all all over the magnificent landscaped gardens of the home of Candida Lycett Green, daughter of the late Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman.

The last leg was through the maternity wing of Oare House, where several sheep were giving birth to July's Sunday dinners.



Did anyone spot this?

This being a folly in the grounds, designed by the Chinese chappie who did that stupid pyramid at the Louvre. Clearly a one-trick pony....

Back at the pub, the three locals in the public bar died of shock when MMF whistled for a bit of Hash Hush. GOM paid his usual modest tribute to himself for an excellent trail, and Bernadette was awarded to young Tom for walking so far! It was good to see Laura, on a short break from her Middle-East peace mission. Laure rang in with her apologies - and I think you should all know that whenever she appears in future, she will be giving up a day's paid work - now that's what I call dedication!

Many thanks to Squire Jeremy for contriving a new Trail from an old haunt.

Katrina's Hash on the 15^{th} April is from the Bell in Faringdon, slap-bang in the market square (triangle, actually); please abandon your banger in the public car-park behind the pub.

I'm sure you will want to congratulate Becky, who ran the Reading Half-Marathon in 1 hr 44 mins - a speed of just under 8-minute miles, which bodes well for the Ridgeway Relay!



Second Coming Hash Runs

243 - 1st April - The Rose & Crown, Lea, Malmesbury - Brian the Bold

244 - 15th Apr - The Bell, Market Place Faringdon - Katrina

245 - 29th April - The French Horn, Pewsey - Lady Margaret & Steve

246 - 13th May - The Buggers Arms - Mad Mike Fisher

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@griffins.co.uk - website kvhash.mysite.orange.co.uk