



Hash 258 - The Roebuck, Marlborough - 14th October 2007

I have to say that when the Girlfie picked on the Roebuck for her Hash, my heart did not exactly fill with glee, for two reasons - onethly, I bluddy live next door, and have run everywhere from home about a thousand times in the ten years I have graced Marlborough with my presence; and twotly, it almost certainly meant that I would be dragged out of bed in the middle of the night to help lay the trail.

As it happened, I need not have worried on either count. Of the run itself, more anon - and apart from getting up to kick Winston into making a cup of Earl Grey for our Hare, my Sunday morning snooze proceeded untroubled. And for once, I wasn't late!

The day itself was fine, mid-autumn chill, somewhat sunny, but it was only a smallish Hash which grouped in front of the pub, with again a modest flock of Runners outnumbering the Walkers (but not the 3-0 walkover of the Hash before). PaulineandJackie only managed 50%, what with Jackie suffering from a bone in the leg. But P did bring her other half - a celebrity chef - and we also welcomed the austerey-clad Alan aka Clepto (Klepto, surely?) from the R2D2 Hash who have joined in whenever we have Hashed round Chute Causeway.

Off, then, down Elcot Lane, before swinging (literally) up onto the old railway track and into the forest. It wasn't long before Jenny and others were professing pleasure at being in parts of the forest they had never visited before, and quite soon after I was saying the same thing, despite having dragged complaining kids and uncomplaining dogs round there for a good ten years or so. We lost the trail briefly in the wild caravan enclosure, but soon picked it up again before heading off to pastures new and the A4. Crossing this, we descended towards Mildenhall via Cock-a-Troop Lane - having, alas, missed going through Red Vein Bottom, thus depriving me of the opportunity to crack a single entendre or two; wotthell, here's one: lagging behind (geddit?) as usual, I took a bum turn straight down the hill, and found myself unexpectedly not sagging in the rear, but sticking out in front due to my unwonted short cut. Over the bridge, spotting a few trout, then along the boundary of the cricket pitch (the scene of several of my more notable failures) and back along the river - where Pauline also confessed to not knowing her whereabouts.

Not a perfect Hash on the MMF scale, since it took 25 minutes more than the statutory hour, and we did not finish at the same time as the Walkers. But everyone - including the great MMF himself - seemed to appreciate it, and it even added to my local knowledge. So no sucking up to the Girlfie when I say - a Jolly Good Hash, a view echoed by our noble GOM as we sat outside for almost certainly the last time until spring, enjoying the beer, the chilly sunshine and the gentle roar of traffic along one of Britain's main arterial roads.

So, well done Katrina for an excellent Hash, and for showing even me unknown parts of the immediate surroundings. Let's see whether Mad Mike Fisher thinks the same of today's Hash from Bedwyn!



Unforthcoming Hash Runs

- 259 - 28th Oct - The Three Tuns, Great Bedwyn - The Late Keith
- 260 - 11th Nov - The Rose & Crown, Highworth - Mad Mike Fisher
- 261 - 25th Nov - The Buggers Arms - Lady Margaret
- 262 - 9th Dec - The Eliot Arms, South Cerney - Keith2
- 263 - 26th Dec (Boxing Day, NOT Sunday) - The Keepers Arms,
Quenington - GOM - PJ Party!

If you want to have a bash at a Hash, or find out where The Bigger's Arms is please ring GOM Jeremy on 01672 521064; email jer@xyz.port995.com or The Late Keith Mitchell on 01672 511530 email keithskip9@hotmail.com - website kvhask.mysite.orange.co.uk