



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 296 – The Jolly Tar Hannington. Scribe – Brian

The Jolly Tar, was formerly a farmhouse, it became a public house and opened in 1855. The jolly tar (or sailor) in question is Captain Willes Johnson who married the widow of Colonel Freke. Arkell's acquired the pub in 1922 after the break-up of the Freke Estate. In those days the right-hand side of the building - now the lounge - was a bicycle shop.

In 2007 a local paranormal research group investigated sightings of a ghost that frequents the pub.

It was the fifteenth of March (The Ides of March, in the Roman calendar, was a festive Day dedicated to the god Mars) as we gathered round to hear Kevin and Anne give the traditional pre hash address. The day was bright sunny and warm and much good humoured chattering was in the air. The good weather had brought out many walkers. Kevin warned us it might be a little muddy.

Off we set. Left out of the pub car park and left again along a track I'd never even noticed before. I recall the start of the trail to uphill. One of the wonders of hashing is running around places you believe you know well only to find tracks and views you never you not seen before. Such was the case on this day. Hannington is surrounded by unspoilt countryside. We ran along bridlepaths and had some wonderful views.

Briefly a road and buildings but straight across and into open country again. The long and short divide (only with a medium as well this time) . Downwards now into open country and feeling the warmth. The last part was up Nell Hill. I walked.

Back at the car park. Most of the walkers did the medium trail but some had a go at the long trail.

Everybody sat outside. Enjoying a drink, the sun and the company. A lovely trail.

ON Ons

298 12th April The Fox and Hounds at Uffington Pauline and Clive

299 26th April The Rose and Crown Ashbury John and Vivien

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