



### Hash 319 -The Star at Sparsholt 31 January 2010

Disappointingly Sunday started grey, cloudy and very cold after the brilliantly sunny but cold day on Saturday. Many of us arrived at the Star too early for some reason, but were so cold while waiting for some action that we had to retreat to various cars. Mike even resorted to sitting on Kevin's knee in the back of a car in a desperate attempt to keep warm. Ray and Jackie had set the trail, and Jackie looked as if she needed defrosting after having been out in the cold since 8 am.

Whilst waiting for the start we were approached by Jorge (a local resident) who had seen the flour marks in the village, asking what the meeting was about. On hearing that we were just about ready to start a run he asked if he could join us, and quickly went and changed into running gear.

Today's hash was well supported, with a strong contingency from Chiseldon and a welcome return of Kathy who is recovering from the debilitating effects of pleurisy (rather than a cold as originally thought). She had spent her recuperation time well though, by polishing the horn to a spectacular sheen with an old pair of knickers.

The run took off over the flat fields north of the village down to Broadleaze Farm along the disused canal and round in a 6 mile circuit back to Sparsholt. I seem to remember crossing numerous wooden bridges, gates and stiles, there always being the impression of being surrounded by waterways and streams. I don't recall seeing any wildlife during the run (obviously had more sense than to be out in weather like this), but on the journey home just after leaving Sparsholt we noticed a herd of deer numbering 20 to 30 strong in the fields to the left of us.

If there was a lack of wildlife on the circuit, we were at least rewarded with the first (for me) sightings of spring with several clumps of snowdrops.

During our recovery period in the pub, Kathy presented the highly polished horn to Malcolm for his forbearance ?? and John presented the tooting horn to Bruno, for no other reason than that he mentioned injuring his leg.

Jeremy called us to order and thanked Jackie and Ray for an excellent well organised walk/run and also pointed out that the "lack of flour issue" which has dominated several of the last hashes, has obviously been resolved. He also welcomed Jorge and hoped he would join us on future hashes. Congratulations

were then extended to Mike who has now sold his business and moved one more step nearer to the holy grail of a long and fulfilling retirement.

Many thanks again to Jackie and Ray for a thoroughly enjoyable event.

#### ON ONs

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|-----|--------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 321 | 28 Feb | White Hart @ Lyneham      | Des /Paul & Colin |
| 322 | 14 Mar | TBA                       | Kevin & Ann       |
| 323 | 28 Mar | Railway Tavern@Hungerford | Jeremy            |
| 324 | 11 Apr | Blue Boar @ Aldbourne     | John @ Vivien     |
| 325 | 25 Apr | Horseshoe @ Mildenhall    | Mike @ Margaret   |

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

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