

Hash	Pub	Village	Date	Hare/s	Scribe
345	Patriot Arms	Chiseldon	30/01/11	Colin (and Alex) versus North Wilts	Jeremy

From time to time we meet up with those ruffians from North Wilts, sometimes purposefully, sometimes accidentally. Given that this time it was accidental, then I can only imagine Colin's shock when he collided with another hare also laying flour. There you are out in the early morning, loaded up with bags of the stuff, carefully placing blobs to mark the trail – the last thing you expect is to meet some other cheerful soul doing exactly the same on your chosen footpath.

The North Wilts Hash is of a traditional nature in that they pursue Down Downs, Rude Songs, Beer Shampoos and delight in wading through canals / rivers and eating babies. They are also like the French Foreign Legion in that members are all given new names – enabling no doubt for the culprit of any past or future misdemeanour to remain untraceable. In addition, whilst we have just a GOM who arranges everything splendidly, they go to town with a whole variety of roles: Grand Mattress, Grand Master (who looks uncannily like one of our past GOMs), Religious Adviser, Hash Cash, Hash Flash, ... to name but a few.

Now, with this large organising committee, one would have thought that they could have managed to avoid this **Hash Clash** at Chiseldon, but no, of course not, so it seems quite appropriate that they refer to themselves as the North Wilts Mismanagement Committee. What a ramshackle lot - they probably couldn't even organise a piss up in a brewery - although come to think of it, they did, and they invited us, and it was excellent (ignoring the Kennet river crossing which a few of our more delicate members still remember with horror).

Their hare was illogically called Goose, which seems mild compared to some names we come across - many of us no doubt remembering the excellent joint hash we had with the IOW group to celebrate the marriage of Baldrick and Slack Bladder. We can but imagine what caused them to get those names.

Anyway, given we had 2 overlapping hash trails, this meant we could expect ON ONs that were false, and false trails that were ON ONs; this did, as expected, cause confusion all round. One device we employed was to check flour quality – Kennet Valley were using Waitrose best as we'd run out of our normal Fortnum and Mason supply, whilst North Wilts had to fall back on Asda. In addition ours was wholemeal to their basic cheap white stuff, and we thus were able to diligently and forensically analyse the blobs as we ran the trail to ensure we were on a proper Kennet Valley one.

Compared to North Wilts' route, our trail was of course more scenic, better planned and more thoroughly enjoyed. Just one point of note was that we normally expect false trails to be marked with a couple of single blobs followed by a 'T'. Unexpectedly, this time we had an endless succession of single blobs. It was as though Colin had acquired a sudden bad attack of the stutters and was actually saying f..f..f..f..false trail. Concentrate man, pull yourself together and get it out!!

Back at the pub we all had a long comfortable chin wag whilst we waited for GOM to give his post-hash speech – he, however, was having a Senior Moment and had to be reminded of his duties, but once in action he thanked Colin (and Alex) for a marvellous trail and updated us on preparations for our Dublin Trip in June.

Finally, Kevin presented the horn to Olly, for being nimble – his fitness has been noted for the Ridgeway Relay team selection.

### ON ONs

347	27 Feb	The Blowing Stone @ Kingston Lisle	Kevin Pietersen
348	13 Mar	Downgate @ Hungerford	Jeremy Clarkson
349	27 Mar	Inn with the Well @ Ogbourne St George	David Beckham

If you want to have a bash at a Hash, or find out where The Bigger's Arms is please ring GOM Maurice on 07887 608109 or email him as [jmspillane@appligenics.com](mailto:jmspillane@appligenics.com) or visit our website <http://www.kvhash.co.uk/>