



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 0015 - Sunday 30th August 1998 - The Red Lion at Axford

Your Scribe this week - Navy Mike

This hash will for ever be remembered as "the one with the stinging nettles" - but more of that later. Another first trail laid by Pilot Pete on one of the few gloriously sunny and warm days we have had this summer and what a good run it was too. Not a bad turnout either - we must have had a dozen or so walkers and runners.

There was a slight delay at the beginning as Pete had forgotten to ask the landlord of the Red Lion if it was alright to run from his pub. A few grovelling apologies and promises to buy lots of beer later however and all was well fortunately.

A quick brief in which it was mentioned that the undergrowth may be a bit thick at one point - and we were off down the road running hard. We missed the first circle as it was on the wrong side of the road but we found the trail alright and set off across the fields. It all became a bit of a blur from that point - all beautiful countryside and crystal clear rivers - and Jeremy must have seen more of it than anyone. You would think he was miles up ahead of you but then he would come thundering up behind you having taken his 15th wrong choice at the circle.

And then we came to the stinging nettles. The path disappeared into dense impenetrable jungle rich in the most virulent stingers you have ever seen. Undeterred we grasped large sticks and began hacking a way through. Margaret sensibly remained at the back and offered encouragement. After an hour of hacking we had only progressed a few yards and Martin suggested that we retreated to find a way round the jungle. There was no way round and so back to hacking. We finally emerged heavily stung but triumphant and it was a relief to gallop along in the open. I next remember running up and over a hill leading to the pub which was grassy and pleasant to run on - lovely running downhill on springy turf with the pub almost in sight.

The apres was pleasant. We sat in the garden and fed the donkey and drank beer and Richard presented the Hash Horn to Jeremy for running so far ahead of everyone else. Not to be outdone Jeremy then presented a huge stick (for hacking through stinging nettles) to Pete. All good fun - and an excellent run thank you Pete.

ON - ONs

015	13th September 98	The Horseshoe at Mildenhall	Navy Mike
016	27th September 98	Marlborough 10K (meet afterwards at the pub next to the start - The Swan ?)	
017	11th October 98	The Who'd of Thought It at Lockeridge	Jeremy

