



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 036 - Sunday 20th June 1999 - The Goddard Arms at Clyffe Pypard

Even though still in agony from a pulled muscle, your hare this week - Ian - braved the storms and sheer cliffs around Clyffe Pypard and set a superb trail for us. And the weather cheered up at precisely the right moment too. As I have said before and will no doubt say again - the sun always shines on the Kennet Valley Hash.

Keith M arrived late with son Barney. Late because Barney had been up all night (he did not say why) and he probably thought it was still Saturday. Not that it made any difference to his running as he galloped along happily as usual. Ian gave us terrifying warnings about impenetrable stinging nettles seven feet high and reminded us of the Bolivian or North Wilts system of Hash marking (should we have standard Kennet Valley markings do you think or should we revel in the diversity of trail marking systems from around the world. Some hashes for example lay trails by hanging pieces of toilet paper on bushes and branches of trees and others only have marks on the trail - ie no false trails. Interesting.)

And then we were off. The trail led away from the escarpment initially to our great relief. Relief was shortlived however as we curved inexorably round and began climbing. But what wonderful views from the top. Delightful countryside again and the stingers were not as bad as we imagined and people kept together and chatted and laughed as they went - there's nothing quite like it really. We came to one bit, running down from the top of a cliff into some woods, where the trail disappeared completely - washed away by the rain overnight or eaten by lions - and there was a great deal of circling and discussion and peering at the ground for a while. And then Ray said he knew where the pub was and so we all followed him across open fields for a mile or two and then as if by a miracle the trail appeared again and we ran confidently back over footpaths past the church and home. A lovely run.

Back at the pub we all sat in the garden in the sunshine and drank an excellent pint or two in excellent company. Barney presented the hash-horn to a thoroughly deserving person for a thoroughly sound reason (the details of which escape me for the moment) and finally we filtered away to watch the cricket. Thank you Ian.

Here is a thought. All hashes have traditional posts/titles. For example there is always a Grand Master or Grand Old Master who is a sort of wise figurehead or chief. Then there is the Religious Adviser who is responsible for protocol and ceremonial matters and usually a Trail Master who is responsible for the programme and ensuring there the trails are properly organised and promulgated. Do you think we should have some or all of these in our hash. I should be interested in your views.

ON ONs

037	18th July 99	The Plough at Shalbourne	Navy Mike
038	1st August 99	Ray's Place at East Kennet (BBQ - see below)	Ray
039	15th August 99	Savernake Forest (Picnic - see below)	Margaret
040	29th August 99	The Science Museum Wroughton (see below)	Ian
041	12th September 99	The White Horse Winterbourne Bassett	Navy Mike

Rays Place BBQ

The run on Sunday 1st August is from Ray's house in East Kennet (it is only a small village and there will be signs up showing you the way to the house) and after the run there will be a BBQ in his back garden. Ray will provide the fire some salad bits and soft drinks - please bring your own things to cook and your own booze. If it rains we will all go down to the village pub which is about 40 yards away.

Savernake Forest Picnic

Two treats in a row. The run on Sunday 15th August will be from the Savernake Forest picnic area. Meet at the normal time at the car park next to the picnic area (as indicated on the map below) and after the run there will be a picnic and lots of fun and games of rounders organised by Margaret. Please bring your own picnic (the rounders bat and ball will be provided). If it rains we will all go down to the Roebuck pub in Marlborough.

Science Museum Wroughton

This is Ian's idea of a different and interesting hash run. Meet at the car park next to the museum at the normal time and Ian will explain everything.

If you would like to lay a trail (or find out where the next hash is) please give me - Navy Mike - a call on 01672 871374 (Home) or 01793 481220 (Office)