



## KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

### Mag No 046 - Sunday 21st November 1999 - Crown & Anchor at Ham

Your scribe filled with remorse at having missed two hash runs in a row now assuages that remorse a little by setting this most richly fascinating trail from the pub at Ham (in place of Julia) and writing the mag. By the time you read this he will also have set the delightful trail you have just enjoyed (in place of Ian) - but will be looking round for a volunteer to write the mag.

The Kennet Valley Hash is growing. On this lovely Sunday morning 11 runners and 13 walkers turned up to enjoy the morning - which is probably the best turnout of all the 46 runs so far. You won't be able to move in the carpark for runners on the 50th run if this keeps up.

A quick theatrical briefing by your very own GOM and they were off up the hill like terriers - past the green and then across a muddy field watched by two startled horses and into somebody's back garden. Here the walkers got lost. There is a delightful tendency among our walkers to concentrate on chatting and admiring the views rather than on the business of finding and following the trail and so it was that after three circuits of the back garden they realised that the trail had disappeared. Luckily Terry was there to take charge to find the trail.

The runners and walkers streamed down into a sunlit valley with Margaret in the lead and then up a steep muddy field to the bridleway at the top of the ridge. Along the top of the world with views over the most wonderful countryside for a bit and then down into the next valley. It was at this point that your hare decided to take a detour. The original - more scenic and shorter - trail went past the most ferocious looking bull in Wiltshire (which even the farmer said was a "bit unpredictable") and so the trail took the safer - although more tedious route - round the road. From the road the trail crossed a patch of glutinous mud bounded by electric fences which was nice. Poor Val running bravely at the back fell into the mud and then on to the electric fence which gave her a belt which made her eyes water. All part of the fun of hashing though.

The pack were a bit spread out at this point and the front runners - Jeremy and Napoleon as usual - led the way up into the woods through dappled glades and out over open fields to the grounds of Prosperous House where the runners and the walkers met and exchanged pleasantries. Along a grove of trees in the grounds and down across the Ham valley and on home to the pub. A tiny bit long but otherwise not a bad trail really.

For the apres everyone except Napoleon and Diane sat sociably around a vast table at the back of the pub and gossiped. GOM thanked himself for another wonderful trail and presented the hash horn to Dave for arriving late. There seemed lots of enthusiasm too for the 50th run party and Val took lots of money from those who booked their place early to avoid disappointment (for details see over). Another relaxing and enjoyable Hash.



### 50th Run Celebrations

The 50th run is from the Horseshoe at Mildenhall and to mark the occasion there will be little celebratory extras - such as hot punch and mince pies served in the middle of nowhere and silly things to do on the way round. You are encouraged to wear something which is celebratory and fun but which of course does not impede your running style.

After the run the party begins. I have booked a separate part of the pub where an extensive and delicious buffet will be laid out and which we have to ourselves. The room is right next to the main bar for easy access for drinks and there will be champagne (if I can get any) served for the toast to the Kennet Valley Hash House Harriers.

The total cost of all this is £6 (amazing really how they do it) and as I have to pay the landlord and tell him how many people to cater for I would be grateful if you would tell Val that you are coming and let her have your £6 in advance.

I have ordered some 50th Run T shirts which will be available for sale (at cost price which also happens to be £6). They are the same basic T Shirt - ie blue with the white logo on the front but with the 50th run details emblazoned thereon. These will quickly become collectors items and so if you would like one please let me know - and let me have your money as I have to pay for the bulk order up front.

### ON ONs

047	5th December 99	The Harrow at Lower Wanborough	GOM
048	19th December 99	The Black Horse at Cherhill	Richard
049	2nd January 2000	The Carters Rest at Wroughton	Greg
050	16th January 2000	The Horseshoe at Mildenhall - 50th Run	GOM

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