

KENNELLEY HASSE HARRIERS



184 - The Hatchet, Lower Chute - 23rd January 2005

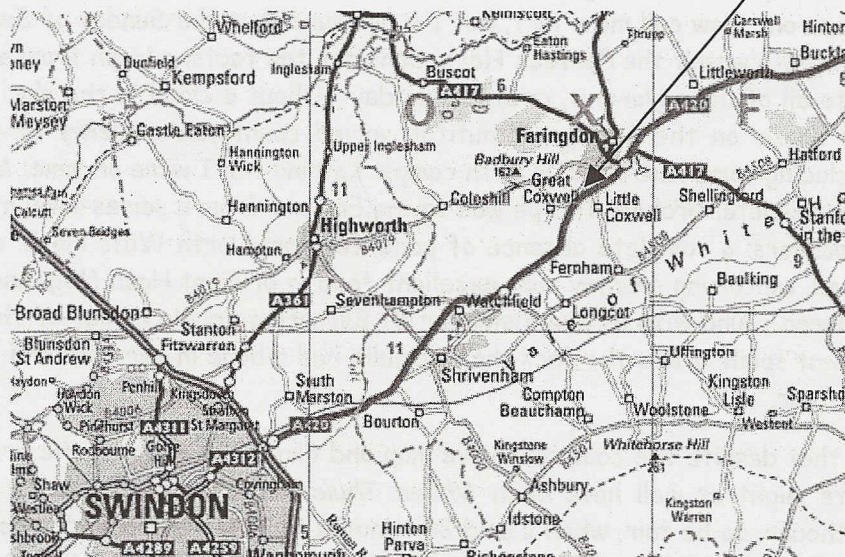
It was only a couple of weeks ago that I was describing the Boxing Day Hash as the best I had ever been on. Now call me a tart, but I'm not sure that the Sunday of Jeremy's Hash from Lower Chute wasn't the **Perfect Hash**. Consider the facts: a Hash from a part of the world new to all of us; a glorious, crisp, sunny day without a cloud in the sky; firm underfoot whilst snowy on the hilltops; beautiful, varied countryside; plenty of runners and walkers, including some new faces in both camps; Katrina and I were on time; Mike & Annie were 13 minutes late; Graham Thorpe was saving England from a series-levelling defeat by the Kaffirbashers; a complete absence of pondlife from North Wilts Hash; a wonderful, old-fashioned, welcoming country pub; excellent food; a brilliant Hash Mag; and an obliging Hare who hared round with us like a slender St Bernard to guide us out of the snow. The only thing that spoilt it was the fact that me julie had a bone in her foot and had to sit it all out in the car.

It seemed that despite the comprehensive map and directions given in the previous mags, Lower Chute might as well have been *Ultima Thule* for many of the noble company of KVHHH; although, to be fair, when I said 20 minutes from Marlborough, I probably meant 20 minutes the way I drive - and also, for Mike's benefit, this did not include a nostalgic tour of the Bedwyns and the Brail *en route*. But having waited - and waited - for him, with icicles forming on our noses and Dave's knees a fetching shade of blue, we eventually set off at 11.16 precisely. Having been forewarned by our Hare that the runners would encounter snow on the peaks, it came as no surprise that our route took us gradually upwards - although it came as a great surprise to everyone, not least the rear gunner, that our plane seemed to be flying backwards; either that, or I was in the lead far too often during the early stages. A few fortunate choices at checks, coupled with some meaningful glances from our Hare, meant that myself and Marion were out of sight of everyone else after 20 minutes, and I had to feign exhaustion to allow the proud and haughty GOM, Dave, Keith2 and Mad Mike Fisher to sweep past me without losing face.

A long ~~walk~~ run for all up to the towering Chute Causeway, deep in ice and snow, where we skidded our way along, pausing occasionally to admire the endless views to the Marlborough and Berkshire Downs, and Salisbury plain to the south. Had it not been for the tireless Jeremy, we should surely have got lost, since I at any rate failed to spot either plain or self-raising until we arrived at a road junction. There, an oasis of green had been swept in the snow, with a helpful arrow pointing us in the right direction. We ploughed through a snow-covered meadow, complete with a somewhat deformed snowman whose carrot nose was in a *most* unusual place. Our very own *Verbier* all too soon gave way to lush grass, and Brian *glisséed* past me as we caught up with the walkers on the way back into the village.

Seated in a snug, warm, beamed bar near a loudly roaring log fire, a pint of Timothy Taylor's Landlord in one hand and a roll-up in the other, life seemed very good. And as our lissom and fragrant lady GOM praised our Hare with scented breath, it came as somewhat of a shock to hear that she had called a spring election - and Thatcher-like, had been knifed in the back by her cabinet so-called colleagues, and had been persuaded not to stand again herself. There was scarcely a dry eye in the house as she made her resignation speech; however, it seems that under the arcane rules of the 1922 Committee, the outgoing GOM is able to anoint her successor in what seems a most undemocratic manner, and the result of her deliberations will be vouchsafed to us when three puffs of white smoke appear from the chimney of (probably) the Check Inn on 17th April.

Many thanks to Jeremy and Catherine for a simply splendid Hash.



Second Coming Hash Runs

- 185 - 6th Feb - The Downgate, Hungerford - Maurice & Andrea
- 186 - 20th Feb - The Plough, Little Coxwell (A420) - Katrina
- 187 - 6th Mar - The Bugger's Arms - Brian
- 188 - 20th Mar - The Bugger's Arms - Steve
- 189 - 3rd Apr - The Bugger's Arms - Keith2
- 190 - 17th Apr - (prob) the Check Inn - GOM & Mike

If you want to have a bash at a Hash, or find out where The Bugger's Arms is please ring GOM Margaret on 01793 703744, or the late Keith Mitchell on 01672 511530 - email keith@pallettfs.co.uk - website <http://kvhash.mysite.freemove.com>