



Hash 191 - The Roebuck, Marlborough - 1st May 2005

Well this was it - the day of the Kennet Grand Prix, the first as such in our long and distinguished history. As the contestants anxiously made final adjustments in the pits, the owner of the Hashing F1 industry - Jeremy 'Bernie' Rees - strode around imperiously, a bevy of Page 3 pit babes clinging to his arm. Teams had flown in from all over the world: the French Renault of Catherine, the BMW of 'Rewie' from Volverhamtsburg, the Mazda of Katrina from Fallingdon - and of course the private entries from wealthy amateurs: the dashing, debonair Lord Brian Lovell in his Bentley, the Hispano-Suiza of Cômte Maurice Marulli de Barletta, the 12-litre Jagular of Cdr Mad Mike Fisher, and the Austin A30 of the late Keith Mitchell (though not so late - yet again - as Mr Fisher).

Bernie had devised a complex handicapping system, and armed with his Palm Pilot, Blackberry, Mickey Mouse alarm clock and state-of-the-art pencil, sent us off at staggered intervals. In my case, the staggering was all-too-evident, as I had thoughtlessly allowed myself a mere two hours in which to set the six-mile trail from Marlborough to Ramsbury, including a lightning detour back to Axford to set the walkers off on their half of the course. It was therefore no surprise that almost everyone had overtaken me by the time I got to Mildenhall - Jeremy almost forcing me off the road. As I coughed and spluttered my way down Elcot Lane in second (gear, not place) - holding off a fierce challenge from Keith2, who had started 10 minutes after me - young Max popped his head over the fence of the Roebuck, and gleefully shouted "My grannie beat you!" - to which I could only riposte "I think *my* grannie could have beaten me..."

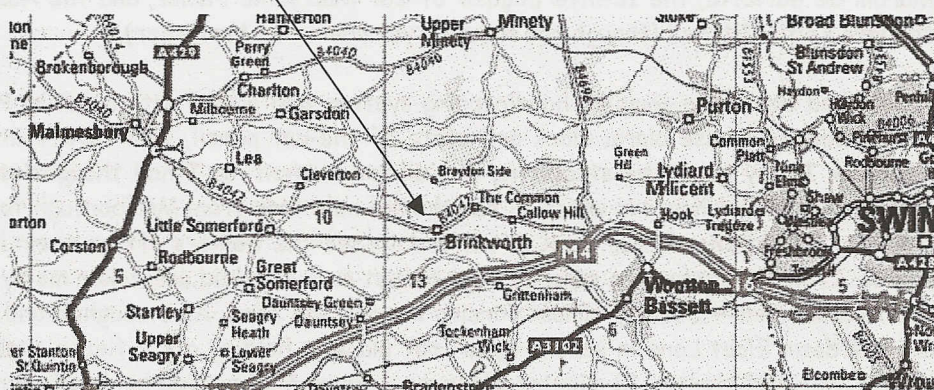
The results - as verified by the international timekeepers (i.e. Jeremy)

Jeremy	0:41
Maurice	0:44
Rew, Steve	0:50
Iain	1:01
Brian	1:02
Laura	1:04
Dave, Keith P, Marion, Becky	1:05
Margaret	1:06
Mike, James	1:08
Keith	1:14
Catherine, Katrina	1:15

To do myself justice, I ran the course again the following Sunday in 1:06, so there....

Special mention must go to James, who travelled halfway across Southern England for a quiet weekend at Mike & Annie's only to find himself press-ganged into running across the other half of Southern England at a time when normal people are deeply into coffee and the Sunday Sport; to my Little Gril Becky, who had never run so far before, and never run a race, and was so much in front she had to wait for someone to catch up and show her the way home - she obviously gets her running skills from her father - the milkman was a renowned sprinter; to Mike and myself, who walked 21 miles of the Test Way the following day (yes, completely bonkers)...and thanks to Jeremy for doing the stats. I hope the walkers enjoyed it - it is a beautiful route. What did it prove? Mostly, that we are all getting old, I suspect! But I am absolutely confident that it will bear fruit in a few weeks' time, when we breeze through the opposition to take first place in the Ridgeway Relay....

Now, a few words on behalf of our new GOM: Jeremy would like to start a database of KVHHH members, so he can contact us all with important news and stuff - so please let him know your 'phone number and/or email address - which he guarantees will comply with the terms of the 2001 Data Protection Act. Secondly, he would like to canvas you for your favourite Hashes - those trails and pubs of which you have especially fond memories, so we can do them again. If you visit the website (details below) you will find a complete list of every Hash we have ever done, so if any of them stick in your mind as specially special, let him know and he will try to arrange a rerun.



Fifth Coming Hash Runs

- 192 - 15th May - Royal Oak, Pewsey - Katrina & Keith
- 193 - 29th May - The Suffolk Arms, Brinkworth - Dave
- 194 - 12th June - The Red Lion, Baydon - GOM (Jeremy!)
- 195 - 19th June - Ridgeway Trannie Grannies Canter
- 196 - 26th June - The Buggers Arms - Brian
- 197 - 10th July - The Buggers Arms - Mike

If you want to have a bash at a Hash, or find out where The Bugger's Arms is please ring GOM Jeremy on 01672 521064; email jer@xyz.port995.com or the late Keith Mitchell on 01672 511530 email keith@pallettfs.co.uk - website <http://kvhash.mysite.freereserve.com>