



KENNET VALLEY HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Mag No 263- 26th December 2007 - The Keepers Arms at Quennington. Scribe - MMF

I always look forward to the Boxing Day Hash. There is always an air of jollity left over from Christmas and after all that fine wine and Christmas pud most people are ready for a bit of exercise. Have you noticed that the weather is always just right too. This year it was glorious - not a cloud in the sky, temperature just right for running and the Gloucestershire countryside bathed in bright sunshine. We all had to come dressed as for a pyjama party this year and you would be surprised at what some people wear in bed. I always sleep in my birthday suit but it was a bit cold for that so came as Wee Willie Winkie instead accompanied by Annie in her night attire - complete with curlers, headscarf and battered fag (which she scrounged off the new landlord). Kathy came in her pyjama top as promised but you couldn't actually see it as, in view of the temperature, she was wearing a warm woolly overcoat as well. Jackie, unconcerned with the temperature, was there in her shortie nightie and Pauline and Clive came in startlingly bright matching pyjamas you could see for miles and Kevin was there looking incredibly suave in his Noel Coward dressing gown. I am not sure what Steve was wearing but it looked as if he had slept in it so that was alright.

A good turnout with 10 runners and a dozen walkers. We would have had more runners but the Late Keith had been struck down with some foul virus over Christmas. Keith however has gone from a man who doesn't come hashing if there is rain in the air to a man who would not be deterred by an arctic blizzard. So he battled his way round the short with Toby and Fay and Becky and Kathrina in support. Well done that man. I was very proud of my family as well. Nina ran on the hash for the first time today - she ran the long - running well throughout and keeping up with the pack; Rew was way out in front as usual and finding all the false trails and Sam ran with me to keep his grandad company. Jeremy had prepared a well crafted trail which was full of interest and variety all set in one of the most beautiful parts of England. We set off down the hill from the pub and then left and across a huge field full of puddles - over the bridge by a mill and then up a short stretch of road to the entrance of a country estate where we turned off down a green valley. Everybody was still together at this point but as we streamed on past Coln St Aldwyn we began to spread out a bit. The trail led up a hill along the west side of the Coln valley and I remember running across the muddiest field in Gloucestershire where we gradually got taller as the mud built up under our feet - and then down a hill through a wood and back along the valley floor to home. What a great run! - and I am delighted to report that the runners and the walkers all arrived back, together, in an hour. The après was relaxed and pleasant. GOM made a good speech and Annie won the fancy dress competition (wot no prize?) and the horn and Mathew or Matilda was duly presented. Thank you Jeremy for an excellent trail. And a Happy New Year to all of us in the Kennet Valley Hash.

ON ONs

264	6 th Jan 08	The Kingsdown at Upper Stratton	Pauline and Clive
265	20 th Jan 08	The Trotting Horse at Bushton	Jackie and Ray
266	3 rd Feb 08	The New Inn at Lechlade	MMF
267	17 th Feb 08	TBA	The Late Keith
268	2 nd Mar 08	The Radnor Arms	Coleshill

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