



Hash 314 - The New Calley Arms, Wanborough - 22 November 2009

On arrival at the New Calley Arms Mike reminded everyone that today was the anniversary of the Late Keith's death, and that he was still sorely missed by all who knew him.

As Maurice gave the introductory talk to the group, we felt sure that this would be the fourth (it never rains on a Hash) wet Hash in as many weeks, especially after the heavy downpour of rain earlier on when the trail was being laid by the Hare. But we were wrong, and after the initial few spots at the start and near the end of the run, I think we can record this as a dry run. There was even sunshine outside, during our recovery time in the pub.

It was certainly very wet underfoot though, with sodden fields and lots of puddles to splash through. Some of us were quite jealous of Colin's daughter, Emily, who came along for her first Hash run equipped with running spikes. Kevin went A over T on one tricky section trying to avoid the worst of the mud, and Maurice looked as if he'd fallen several times judging by the amount of mud on him by the end of the morning!

Nevertheless the run was great fun, and quite a challenge as the rain had washed away many of the flour marks. Apparently Maurice used extra strong bread flour, which still didn't survive the rain (or was it just that he hadn't managed to get out of bed early enough to lay a complete route - we shall never know!) It was also quite precarious in the number of wet slippery stiles and wooden bridges we crossed. We lost count of the number of gates and stiles after 25, either that, or the will to carry on.

From the Calley we crossed the recreation ground, startling a deer from cover, then down through a field of very fractious white bullocks. Mike was concerned about Annie crossing the field at this stage, but not however sufficiently concerned to go back and warn her! This was left to the more caring members of the group (Ollie, Fiona & Viv) who retraced their steps to re-route the walkers away from the bullocks. We then all headed down to the Marsh, where David was tempted to drop into his home for a quick cuppa, across the Wanborough Road and then down to Horpit. From Horpit we took the lower fields to make a big circuit back to Wanborough, through the Beanlands and return to the pub. Congratulations to Navy Mike back to fitness and enjoying running again.

Back at the Calley Arms, Malcolm presented the hunting horn to Maurice in recognition of his perseverance in laying the trail under such difficult conditions. He responded with a quiet phutt on the horn, but then David Birley demonstrated his blowing technique with two ear piercing toots.

Jeremy reminded everyone that the Boxing Day run was to be fancy dress with the wearing

of wigs. Someone said they would also be wearing a mask, but whether this was for fancy dress or disguising the effects of the Christmas over-indulgence was not quite clear.

Many thanks to Maurice for a splendid run, made in such difficult circumstances, but which I'm sure was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Up Becoming Hash Runs

316	26 Dec	Keepers Arms, Quennington	GOM
317	3 Jan	White Hart, Wroughton	Margaret & Val
318	17 Jan	Cross Keys, Great Bedwyn	Mike
319	31 Jan	Star, Sparsholt	Jacky & Ray
320	14 Feb		Maurice
321	28 Feb	Goddard Arms, Clyffe Pypard	Des & Paul
322	14 Mar		Kevin & Anne
323	28 Mar		
324	11 Apr		Viv & John
325	25 Apr		GOM
326	9 May		Maurice

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@cannelle.plus.com
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