



Hash	Pub	Village	Date	Hare/s	Scribe
358	The Crown	Lechlade	3 July 2011	Brian	Annie

We all gathered in the ginnel between The Crown and Colley's Supper Rooms to listen to our brief from Brian. Prior to setting off, Viv made a presentation to Maurice, our GOM, for organising our first Nash Hash (short for International Hash). It was something which will ensure he will never, ever, ever get us lost or lay a trail which God (and Mad Mike Fisher) forbid, will last no longer than an hour. Fiona wasn't with us but there was an orchid for her and our thanks too.

I have called this Hash "The Homes and Gardens Hash". It started down the delightful, leafy Shelleys's walk to the side of St Lawrence Church. As well as this being a beautiful area in its own right, we, the walkers that is, were immediately aware of the stunning houses that backed onto the churchyard. Now there's nothing we like more than to peer into gardens, look through hedges and fences and, at times, openly leer at the houses and gardens we pass on our walks. Kathy, our expert, will appraise the houses, some of us critique the gardens and we all give our opinion on the variety we see. We had a feast on this Hash. Due to a fluke of flour (don't say that in a hurry) we found ourselves passing several more glorious Cotswold homes that were straight out of the pages of a glossy mag. And the roses.....I could go on for hours.

We then struck out alongside the Thames and marvelled at the huge number of swans near Halfpenny Bridge. Incidentally, I know a lady who's Mum was born in the tiny Toll House on the bridge..... fancy that!

We skirted past some cows which gave us no trouble at all. I must confess that my heart beat a little faster as I was wearing "The Hat" I wore on the day Mike and I were chased by a herd (at least 500) of totally demented, blood thirsty and huge bullocks. But these were calm, maybe they liked my hat, and Brian nobly placed himself between me and the cows. We crossed over the Thames and walked through lush countryside (cows again) till we came to the tiny church at Inglesham. We went inside and marvelled at the simplicity of the pews, and the paintings and tiles still visible on the walls of this amazing place.

We ambled along, chatting as is our wont, mostly about the Dublin Hash. Then we caught up with the Thames again by St John's Lock and walked across the open fields towards the Halfpenny Bridge again. I was distracted from yet more cows by the lovely view of the church spire which always makes me think of John Constable's painting of Salisbury Cathedral.

On On to The Crown and its garden in the sunshine, more roses and Real Ale, brewed in their own micro brewery. GOM observed the formalities, thanking Brian for his excellent trail and welcoming Delia's son (whose lovely name escapes me), who I gather is like lightning, and a new walker Pam. The horn was presented by Mike to Jeremy for God knows what. I gather the beer was good.

So runners, nothing about you this week, I hear it was a good trail though. Hares take note.....I for one will rate this Hash very highly in the Best Hash of the Year Competition. Thank you Brian, the walking was great and the Homes and Gardens were fantastic.