

THE HASHLESS TIMES

It's a cold, blustery day today (5th) with rain forecast and grey clouds scudding overhead. So, Donut and I decide on a walk around Kingwood Common to add to our End to End (we're doing the Land's End to John o'Groats virtual race) mileage total. To date, I've reached virtual Tiverton and Donut has stepped into Taunton Dean virtual services on the M5 for a coffee and (you guessed it) a doughnut. She's ahead of me because she cheated by training for and running the Limassol Virtual ½ Marathon. Since we are currently walking (though I hope to be back running soon, he said plaintively and pathetically) we've worked out that we need to get 2.5 miles per day in the can in order to have the entire route completed by the end date of 21st November this year. Luckily, so far, we are ahead of schedule. I never realised quite how long Cornwall is!

We decided to park in the car park at Peppard Stoke Row Cricket Club (location is parrot.broached.card in [What3Words](#) 😊), which CouchPotato supports in various ways. As we drew up, we could see a



CouchPotato in winter groundsman mode.

careworn figure, dressed in ancient garb, wearing ear muffs and bent over behind some kind of machine that was rolling noisily along, spiking holes in the wicket area of the cricket pitch. Some kind of mole deterrent system, we wondered? Perhaps his mobility scooter? A hot chestnut oven? The figure looked up, saw us and waved. It was CouchPotato! We strode over for a chat.

It turned out that he'd borrowed the machine from another cricket club to give the grass in the wicket area a bit of an airing. Our chat with him revealed that he'd had a pretty active Christmas, running 7 times in 10 days and doing the Goring and Streatley Fell Race twice, the second time because AWOL asked if he'd like to run with him. Couch thought he'd be able to take it easy but, unfortunately for him, AWOL was in full-on mode. Apparently, he also saw Lonely there.

Our walk through the lovely scenery of the forested Kingwood Common was most enjoyable, if a trifle shiggified. And we

managed to untangle a mare from the barbed wire fence she had inadvertently put her head under, her friendly foal at her side. Having got the wire off her I stroked the soft nose of the foal, who decided to nibble at my fingers. A horse nibble can be quite interesting, in an amputation kind of way, so I whipped my hand away fairly quickly, assuming that the toothy gesture was an equine way of saying, "Thanks for freeing my mum from the barbed wire and have you got any carrots?"

By the time we got back to the car it was just starting to rain and be even colder than when we had started. This was when I took the picture of CouchPotato, who I expect, was as pleased as us to have finished what he was doing just as the rain started.

A 'NOT HASHING' TRAIL

On Sunday, SlowSucker laid a Trail for anyone who might want to run or walk it. This isn't, of course, a BH³ Trail, but an independently laid one that people can go round at any time during the day in a safe way within current Government rules. I know that WaveRider and NappyRash



ran it. And Twanky also. Both NappyRash and Twanky kindly sent a copy of the route for publication in the Gobsheet and their brief reports of the Trail matched, using the term 'muddy'.

OTHER STUFF

Now the Gobsheet is politically and religiously un-biased. However, every now and then an item of news appears and your editor has to restrain his writing hand from wielding a corrosive pen. Yesterday's announcement regarding the opening prayer in the U.S. at the 117th Congress could not be ignored. Congressman (note the 'man' in this official description) Emanuel Cleaver (an ordained minister) delivered the prayer and finished by saying, "Amen and Awomen". Oh dear. 'Stupid' is the word that's generally being ascribed to this crass mistake. You would have thought that an ordained minister would have known that 'Amen' has nothing to do with gender but is a Latin/Hebrew term for 'So be it', 'Truly' or 'It is so'. Hmm. And then you learn that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has changed the Congressional rules to replace the following gendered terms: father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, grandson, or granddaughter
With: parent, child, sibling, parent's sibling, first cousin, sibling's child, spouse, parent-in-law, child-in-law, sibling-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, half-sibling, or grandchild.

We live in interesting times. I'll get off my soapbox.

Take good care of yourselves.

On On. [Hashgate](#).



If anyone has something they would like to see in the Gobsheet, either send it to your reporter/editor/tea boy/floor mopper at hashgate@hotmail.com or to Iceman at the address above.