

Berkshire Hash House Harriers

Run Number: 2201 26Jan20
Venue: The Bear At Home
North Moreton, Didcot
Hares: Ms Whiplash, PennyPitstop

Visit the website - <http://www.berkshirehash.co.uk>
Website Email - iceman@berkshirehash.co.uk

Mudlarks

Lilo and dog Minx TinOpener Donut Hashgate TC Whinge Florence Zebedee Dunny Rampant Iceman Motox Slapper CrownJewels Slips Snowy WaveRider NappyRash Desperate Shitfer Dipstick Lonely AWOL Mrs Blobby Mr Blobby C5 Cloggs NonStick CouchPotato Foghorn Pyro and dog Whisper Dumb Dumber Caboose... and our friends from Didcot H³.

The Australia Day Hash

This Sunday, 26th January was our "On-On for Oz" Hash on Australia Day. It's part of a worldwide H³ community effort to raise funds for those affected by the bush fires.

If you use Facebook further details can be found [here](#). The Total raised to date is AUD 3,000. So far over 60 kennels from 17 countries have pledged to support us. Yet more are planning an event but have yet to finalise the details.

Our Australian correspondent Pearl Hasher recommendation is to support the least funded charities.

- www.wires.org.au

This is the fund for injured animals that have somehow survived.

- Rural Fire Services Belowra in New South Wales.

This was 'Rover's' local Rural Fire Service volunteer unit. A well-known Hasher, he unfortunately lost his life fighting the fires.

- Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victoria, Australia.



We joined with Didcot H³ on Sunday and I am pleased to report that £646.50 was raised, with a single, generous donation of £200 coming from Phil and Julia, Desperate and Shitfer's friends, who run with us when they are in the country. They have been in Australia for the previous month and a half.

We wish all our Australian friends who have suffered and are suffering the very best.

In the cold and damp grey morning several of us parked on PennyPitstop's drive, which is but a step away from the pub. Good of her to have her house so close to the watering hole. In the pub car park several of our group wore Oz Hash T-shirts. Particularly Dumber, who flashed her chest at all who wished to see the Melbourne Hash ladies' low-cut T-shirt she was wearing. It was to be

auctioned later and Lonely ended up with it. I have to say that Dumber looked much more attractive in it than he... but that's just my opinion. Snowy sported a 'typical' Australian green bush hat with corks hanging from the brim. How he didn't have his eye out when he moved about, I don't know.

Iceman, stand-in GM while SkinnyDipper is in Oz, called us to order and advised us it was Australia Day. 11 British ships, bearing 700 transported prisoners out of the 1,500 people landed in Sydney Cove on January 26th 1788. He handed over to our Hares who told us that the Trail was about 5½ miles long, though it would feel more like 6 since wading through the fields covered in shiggy would be somewhat arduous. We On Outed, glad to be on the move in this chilly morning.

The first part of the Trail wound through several paddocks and allotments that had some curious stiles. Each had a small gate on the top which we had to open and squeeze through and the slow progress strung out the Pack rapidly. I think that Lilo and Pyro were lucky to be on the different route of the Walkers' Trail; getting their dogs over this obstacle course would have been quite interesting.

We finally caught up with the Walkers and headed out into the wide-open fields. There were long, sticky tracks around the edges of these which spread out the Pack yet again. As Mr Blobby said, it's difficult to lay a Trail in this area due to the large, open fields, lack of woodland and places to lay Checks. By this time, he had hold of Minx's lead, having been given her by the walking Lilo who was being dragged along by the mad hound. Probably quite useful for Mr B since Minx helped to drag **him** along through all the slippery shiggy we were 'enjoying'.

And then we came to a complete halt. Ahead of us was a cinder road to farm buildings with no flour on it. To the left was a False. To the right was a huge field, the far side of which was being used by people with shotguns who were sending unknow creatures to animal heaven... albeit with a lot of holes in them.

No-one had a clue where we should go so we all just jogged along the cinder track until NappyRash found a blob of flour along a grass and mud track that ran at right-angles to it approximately ¼ of a mile along. We were running into a chilly headwind that insinuated itself knife-like into sleeves, T-shirt necks and shorts legs. We were both relieved and rather surprised when Foghorn boomed out, "Follow the hare!" Surprised because we knew that neither of the



Hares were anywhere near us. It was an actual hare, bounding away over the field, startled by the staggering procession of colourfully dressed Hashers... who then entered the muddiest, stickiest field ever. By the time we had crossed it we were two inches taller and were wearing running shoes the size of snowshoes. Luckily, there was a Regroup a few hundred yards away where Ms Whiplash pointed us in the right direction.

This was where it got a bit gnarly for Donut, Zebedee, TinOpener and me. Somehow, we lost the main Pack on the way towards South Moreton. At least Zeb could blame his leg injury for running slowly. We had no excuses. After a twisty sojourn around another sticky field we crossed the road and found flour blobs leading towards a long farm track that headed straight on for a mile or so. Of the other Hashers there was no sign. Hmm. We wandered along the track in the cold wind. No flour. Now a sensible Hasher would have figured that they had gone wrong at this point and retraced their steps to the last flour blob. Not us. At the end of the track was a footpath going off to the left, with a huge ploughed field to the left and the neat paddocks of a stud farm covering the country to the right. We took the footpath, still not on flour, and eventually ended up on the road just outside Aston Tirrold. Now if you look on Google maps for directions from here to North Moreton, where the pub is, you'll see that the distance is 2.6 miles. Thus, we had gone in entirely the wrong direction and not followed the Trail. Doh! We were a tad miffed. Zeb said he knew the area and decided to trot off along the road. We stopped a passing runner who pointed out that the quickest route would be to retrace our steps. We figured that too, going back a long way to that last blob and finding the, now clearly marked Trail, leading off right from the farm track. After a lengthy yomp we finally got back to the pub and, having changed, entered the establishment very late and to a ragged (and well deserved) cheer from the rest of the Hash. Oh well. At least we returned just before it started to rain and the pub was deliciously warm and welcoming.

In the pub, on describing our experience to Caboose, he summed it up nicely by saying, "It never ceases to amaze me how incompetent Hashers can be." Second that. 😊

Our thanks to Hares Ms Whiplash and PennyPitstop and my apologies if we worried you.

On On. **Hashgate.**

Down Downs

Due to my Hashing incompetence, I didn't get back to the pub until after the Down Downs so the only one I know about was the 1,000-run presentation of a badge and jacket to Iceman, a well-deserved reward.

BH³ Hash Blog

Donut and I have friends who live in Sydney. They have been telling us about the smoke that pervades the area, having to keep their doors and windows closed to keep it out and wearing masks when they venture outside. It's a frightening place to be at present.

Approximately 12.4 million acres have been devastated by wildfires, much of this in New South Wales. 19 people have been confirmed dead. 3 volunteer firefighters have died in New South Wales after the fire trucks they were in rolled over. 2,500 properties have been destroyed. Ecologists from the University of Sydney predict that approximately 480 million mammals, birds and reptiles have perished in the fires.

Despite these figures, heroic firefighters have managed to save many homes and business premises and have prevented many fires from continuing on their destructive paths.

We hope that our small contribution, along with all the other Hashes who have contributed during 'On-On for Oz' will help in some way. Our thoughts and best wishes go to all Australians.

Up and Coming

Run	Date	Grid Reference	Venue	Hares
2203	09Feb20	<u>SU640717</u>	Theale Golf Club North Street, Theale RG7 5EX Food and showers available - not concurrently	Pantaloon Slapper
2204	16Feb20	<u>SU808687</u>	The Hope & Anchor Station Rd, Wokingham RG40 2AD In aid of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice	BlowJob Slapper