

Berkshire Hash House Harriers Gobsheet

Hash Number:	2344 26Jun23
Hash Location:	Village Club, Nettlebed
Hares:	Pyro, Valhalla

Nettlebed Clubbers

Rampant Dunny NappyRash Donut Hashgate Gannet Pimp Kathy Messengerboy DoorMatt HappyFeet Spot WetWipe SkinnyDipper Ms Whiplash PennyPitstop Plod Mark FlashBangWallop Swallow SlowSucker HashTray Iceman Foxy Floater Dumb Dumber Motox LemonySnicket Wimpey Gnasher CanalBobb Twanky SweetPee Agatha Fran (now Legova – see Down Downs) C5 TC Mrs Blobby Mr Blobby Posh Bomber Utopia Florence Zebedee NoSole Slapper Lonely Lucy Dorothy Dipstick Michelle Kipper GloryHole... and later WaveRider Daphne Colin

The Ups and Downs of Hashing

Arriving early turned out to be a good idea. The only other Hashers around were Dunny and Rampant, who had opted to bag pole parking position in this rather tight little car park. We bagged second and watched as Gannet's car, followed closely by Pimp's, wandered vaguely into the cul-de-sac opposite before executing 3-point turns, crossing the road and finally coming into the car park. But had they finished yet? Oh no. There was a plethora of to'ing and fro'ing in order to back into their spaces. And after they had stopped, Gannet rolled down his window next to me and said, "I'll just get a bit closer." before easing forward and back and p*ssing off Pimp, who now had a space as wide as the M4 between his and Gannet's car. Great fun! First DoorMatt, then MessengerBoy arrived on huge motor bikes, dressed (very sensibly) in dark, protective clothing and boots. The impression was that they were looking to start a Hell's Angels BH³ chapter. Hopefully not.



I didn't have an accompanying picture for this section so thought you might like to see one from West Bay, last week. The theme was Kings and Queens. Can you spot Donut, Dunny and WaveRider?

Just before the Circle, Pyro lifted her lovely dog, Whisper, out of her car and brought her over for a little walk round. She's getting to be a bit of an old lady now (Whisper, **not** Pyro you naughty people!) and is a little unsteady on her feet. However, she has recently had her summer haircut and looks as young as a puppy. Ah, if only a haircut would do that for some of our members...

The Circle welcomed virgin Michelle (“Don’t introduce me.” She exhorted GM Rampant. Fat chance! 😊) and visitors from the Glasgow H³: Kipper and the oddly-named GloryHole (I thought it best not to ask why). Nice to have them all join us.

Hare Pyro introduced the Hares’ Trail to us. “There are” she said, “what you might call a couple of Field Checks. There is at least one Regroup; I can’t remember if we laid another. Oh, and it’s a bit hilly.” She added, to loud applause, “I’ll be following up on your rear.” We On Outed.

Now the surrounding Nettlebed area is perfectly beautiful but is blighted with very steep hills. Which is why our concern grew, after 10 minutes of running, when we hurtled headlong downhill for what seemed like a mile or so. All very pleasant at the time but you have to pay for your pleasure and we knew that what goes down always goes back up again. Newby Michelle seemed to be thoroughly enjoying herself, albeit she was a tad confused by the various BH³ shouts. “Petrol!” being, for her, the most confusing until I explained it. Our Hares obviously had a lightness of mood while laying the Trail since one of the Checks was on the side of a steep earth bank, below some tree roots. I jokingly asked Rampant if he’d kick it out and he decided to ignore my request. Rather sensibly in my view.

We eventually reached the foot of our long career downhill where there was a perfect 5-way Check. Two of the possible ways led up steep, grassy hills. A small group of ~~nutters~~ runners went up one and our new friend Kipper shot off up the other. The rest of the Pack cleverly stayed put until Pyro marked the route and called all the checkers back from their wasted efforts. Now the real work began. A run up a lengthy, sloping track led us to another 5-way Check where various people investigated out the possibles while a flock of scruffy sheep in the wide, green valley on our right baa’d, meh’d and indulged in ovine hawking and coughing while trampling around.

Given that four of the possible routes were fairly flat and the fifth (which some of us knew led up to Maidensgrove) had an approximately 1 in 5 slope on it, it was pretty damn obvious to us which one it would be. Let’s just say that there was no running and a whole lot of gasping as we dragged our flaming quadriceps up that damn great hill. It seemed to go on for ever. In my less hallucinatory moments I rather envied more muscular-thighed people like WetWipe and Mark. Since I’m built along the lines of a starving stick insect the never-ending climb was, um, challenging.

However, we all got up on to the road at the top in the end and Hare Pyro (slim-thighed but obviously very fit, having been up that hill 3 times in 2 days) kindly offered me a short, short-cut along the road. Here’s a picture of everyone else storming off across the common.



Didn’t do me much good, mind you. The Pack almost caught up as I reached the third blob from a Check and SlowSucker, Rampant, NappyRash and Plod reached me just as I found the ‘F’. Doh!

It seemed a long way back to the Check and an even longer run downhill on a narrow, flinty track. Though I was pleased to at least overtake Bomber. But then he had cycled over 180 miles on the weekend! Surprised he was still able to stand, let alone walk the Runner's route.

A wander (slight irony here since, like the rest of the Trail, everyone ran as if their bottoms were on fire) through a Part of the Warburg Nature Reserve got us to the start of another extended yomp/stomp up a very rutted, flint-strewn track. We then crossed a rather beautiful, rolling field, which relaxed peacefully in the evening light, before Pyro gave us a selection of wriggling Trails and Checks that caught out Kipper, HashTray and WetWipe on occasions and caused NappyRash to wonder vocally if he, "really should have stopped running about a mile ago". Luckily, for him and the rest of us we suddenly popped out on the Nettlebed road and a short lope in got us back to the clubhouse and a restorative drink.

Many thanks to our Hares for a canter (or walk 😊) around this superb countryside. Laying the Trail must have been fun in the heat. And thank you and the Village Club for arranging/agreeing to open specially for us on Monday night.

On On Hashgate

Down Downs

RA Motox awarded the following, under moonlight, in the grassy area in front of the club.

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Dorothy	Turning up late and giving the excuse that he was being early for next week (... though, of course it will be at a different venue).
Mark	Whipping Slapper with a 'Scandinavian birch twig', according to Slapper. It was generally agreed that Mark should be named 'Twiggy'. 😊
FlashBangWallop	Despite holding a PHD, he was terribly confused about how to open a gate.
Florence	She was equally as confused as Flash, at the same gate.
Kipper, GloryHole	Our Glaswegian visitors. Excellent Downs by both!
MessengerBoy	Today's Hash Crasher.
Spot	Attempted a short cut which sent him through swathes of undergrowth and nettles. He then got stuck on a fence and did a lot of grumbling.
Fran	She's been desperate to be known as a Hasher for some time. Motox put forward several options for names and the one that gained the most votes was 'Legova' since she had struggled to get her leg over a fallen tree during a recent Trail. See photo below. WetWipe assisted with the baptism and the lass did a great job of finishing off the Down.
Pyro, Valhalla	Our Hares today.

Future Hashes (Starting at 19:00 on Monday evenings unless stated otherwise.)

<u>Hash Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hares</u>
2345	03Jul23	THE 'FUN' RUN St. John's Hall, West End Rd, Mortimer Common, RG7 3TF What3words: drops.risen.served Please bring your own mug and drink/booze, plate, fork etc. Food & coffee available.	Mr Blobby C5
2346	10Jul23	The Royal Oak 69 Westwood Glen, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5NW What3words: damp.neat.bring	Motox Foghorn





Legova enjoys her baptism, performed by our Religious Advisor, Motox, and assistant curate, WetWipe.