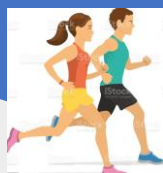


Berkshire Hash House Harriers Gobsheet

Hash Number:	2345 03Jul23
Hash Location:	St John's Hall, Mortimer Common
Hares:	C5, Legova (overseen remotely by holidaying Mr Blobby)

Racing Certainties



Desperate Shitfor RandyMandy BlindPew Donut Hashgate Agatha Dr Pooh Twanky BlowJob Motox Iceman Swallow SlowSucker Fiddler WetWipe PennyPitstop Ms Whiplash Mark Kathy Pimp Foxy Floater BGB Spot Dumb Dunny Rampant HappyFeet CabinBuoy Linda Hamlet Aga FlashBangWallop LemonySnicket Wimpey NoSole Slapper SkinnyDipper Spex Lonely TinOpener Florence Zebedee AWOL and later... LoudonTasteless

The BH³ 2023 Fun Run

This Gobsheet is going to be like the Fun Run: a swift canter through the event. For two reasons. 1) I started off in the very first group so saw little of anyone else, and 2) I'm writing the West Bay Diary more or less at the same time. Due to reason 1) I shall have to focus almost exclusively on my experience. Ego-massaging for me but if you're not interested I suggest you skip to the Down Downs. 😊

Before the off, Hashers buzzed like eager flies around the table upon which the paper with everyone's handicap lay. Unusually, there seemed to be less snorting and "You CANNOT be serious!!" exhortations. Generally, there was a fairly calm air. Ms Whiplash and PennyPitstop sat at a table outside the front of the hall at what appeared to be a Very Important Table. Start time and handicap information littered its surface, along with two highly technical stopwatches. The first start time of 19:04 was rapidly approaching (curiously it had already passed on my phone time – an O2 glitch, no doubt) and Ms Whiplash rose to call out the names of the first Hashers to leave. "HASHGATE!!!" she screeched, though I was standing right next to her. "TinOpener! Spex!... GO!"

Now you'd expect we'd be off like greyhounds out of the traps. It wasn't quite like that. I was starting with a Couch to 5k run which began with a 5 minute brisk walk. Steve Cram (my coach on the phone app) and I strode purposefully across the road. TinOpener sauntered up behind me before breaking into a loping trot and uttering the hugely amusing phrase, "Oh dear." We continued across the recreation ground, TinOpener moving further ahead of me with every stride until he was out of sight. To this day I have no idea whether Spex actually started at the same time we did.

On the road on the far side of the rec. I found that Aga, FlashBangWallop's friend was right behind me. She caught up. We started to chat, run a bit, then walk a bit, which set the template for the rest of the Trail. Unfortunately, we missed the turn off the road that was marked with three invisible (because we were talking) blobs. So we did a bit extra before coming back and finding the Trail. This also set a precedent since we did exactly the same thing another two times on this loop of the course and once on the second loop. Perhaps that's why we ended up doing 7.25 miles...

Some of this beautiful countryside was known to me and some wasn't. Trying to stitch it together in my head to figure out where the Trail would go didn't work so I concentrated on enjoying the experience – a run and walk through lush fields under a blue sky, multi-colour clouds folded on to it.

Aga and I caught up with walker Hamlet, then CabinBuoy and Linda, striding up a hill covered in long grass. HappyFeet slipped effortlessly past us and we gave her some vocal encouragement for running so well. And then it all went a bit Pete Tong. We reached the top of the hill and turned towards the farm that we have been through previously, catching up with NoSole and her walking friend on the way. There seemed to be no flour and HappyFeet was wandering forlornly around the farmyard, looking for the Trail. Runners appeared, among them Desperate, Florence, LemonySnicket and Wimpey. They (and we) had missed the blobs further back that led a different way. Doh! Back we went, me explaining to Aga that, actually this is



how a normal Hash works, with a Pack reversal that means the leaders become the followers. She didn't seem too phased by this revelation and we carried on, going past Hamlet, CabinBuoy and Linda once again.

Up another steep hill we stood aside to let SlowSucker canter past, just before AWOL appeared behind and then in front of us. A series of gates by some paddocks where horses grazed, curious at this weird human activity, was where we met and were passed by Zebedee, running easily and at pace. Then Pimp did the same just before we saw the most enormous sheep in the field next to us. Wouldn't have wanted to meet that in a dark alley.

We suddenly found ourselves on the other side of the fairground and trotted over to St John's Hall, where we chatted briefly with C5 and Donut. Not sure why but I was all for doing the second loop of the Trail which was allegedly just under 2 miles. Poor Aga, who hasn't run much recently, was persuaded by the spectators to join me so we set off again. We managed to lose the flour just one more time but were enjoying ourselves so much that it really didn't matter. The loop went over towards The Turner's Arms, across the football field and over into the woodland. There were some interesting bits in the forest. Not the least two deep ditches, one of which Dunny earlier had found it very difficult to get out of.



I'm the one on the right...

Having left the forest, there was a final meander through some urban back roads before we popped out a couple of hundred Yards from St John's Hall. We figured we should run in for the benefit of any spectators who might be still around and were cheered in by Donut and FlashBangWallop.

Here we are, celebrating our finish.

This was certainly a most enjoyable course through lovely countryside and our thanks go to Mr Blobby, C5 and Legova for conceiving/laying it.

Afterwards, we were treated to food and coffee, relaxing at tables in the hall. Our thanks go to HashMash FalseTart for organising the food, SkinnyDipper for driving to Tadley to pick it up and all those who helped to set it out and clear away. Thanks also to everyone who cleared the tables and chairs later and ensure the hall was clean and tidy.

On On Hashgate

Down Downs

Before the Downs RA Motox presented awards for the first, second and third Hashers in each of the four categories. See below for photos. The awards were:-

Lady Walkers: Swallow ("I've never won anything before"), Donut, NoSole

Gent Walkers: BGB, Motox, Hamlet

Lady Runners: Florence, HappyFeet, Desperate

Gent Runners: Fiddler, WetWipe, Rampant ("I should have given myself a better handicap...")



NoSole, Donut and Swallow.



Hamlet, BGB and Motox.



Desperate, Florence and HappyFeet.



Fiddler, WetWipe and Rampant.

Motox asked if anyone had noticed that this BH³ Hash number was 2345. Given that most Hashers can't read without a finger on the paper the answer was "Duh. No". He then asked what the number would be and how many years it would be before the next contiguous arithmetic sequence (though he didn't ask this using quite those terms). Rusty cerebral cogs ground noisily. There were blank stares from many. Dunny and Slapper essayed answers. Our collective brains (for want of a better word) finally figured out that the number would be 3456 and it would be 21 years before that Hash would be run.

WetWipe then p*ssed off most of BH³ by stating loudly, "I'll be the only one left to do it!" However, he's probably right... 😊

Motox then presented the following.

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Dr Pooh	Writing medical sicknotes for Hashers who requested them.
BlindPew	RandyMandy borrowed some shoes that were two sizes to big. He said at least they would finish before her chest. Rude boy!
Pimp	Saying a very naughty thing in front of spectators BlindPew, Donut and Swallow when they told him he still had another loop to do on the run.
Dunny	Got stuck in a ditch.
Iceman	Today's Hash Crasher.
Donut	Her birthday. Happy one to her! Motox gave her a little sausage... one of which he had meant to give to all other Down Down recipients, but forgot.
Aga, Linda	Motox originally called them up as virgins but they'd been once before. He gave them a Down anyway.
Ms Whiplash, PennyPitstop	Our Fun Run timekeepers. Well done to them!
C5, Legova	Today's attending Hares. Well done to them too! Legova received the 'L' plate because it was the first Trail she's laid.

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>
2346	10Jul23	The Royal Oak 69 Westwood Glen Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5NW What3words: damp.neat.bring	Motox Foghorn
2347	17Jul23	The Red Lion Aldworth Rd, Upper Basildon, Reading RG8 8NG What3words: exchanges.loom.suffix	Florence Zebedee

