



Berkshire Hash House Harriers

Running with the Pack

This year BH³ is pleased to be supporting [Daisy's Dream](#).

Hash Number and Date: 2480 01Feb26

Location: The Ferryboat, Whitchurch

Hares: Florence assisted by Posh, Foxy and Twanky

HASHERS

Swallow SlowSucker Donut Hashgate Legova C5 Mrs Blobby Mr Blobby Iceman Rampant Foxy Floater Gnasher CanalBobb Cuddles SexSlave Rob Emma and dog Sidney Lonely Twanky AWOL MessengerBoy and dog Willow HairyVirgin Lilo and dog Flora TinOpener NoSole Slapper TT2 HappyFeet DoorMatt Sonic Lungs Dipstick Motox PennyPitstop Ms Whiplash Cloggs Number2 Linda SlackBladder LittleStiffy and dogs Ava and Milo Crawler EverReady and dog Bella

A DASH AND SPLASH HASH

“No Dunny today?” I asked Rampant, who was sitting in his car in the tiny pub car park. “She’s got a bad cold and a swollen leg from whacking it with her ski.” He replied. It seems that she’d caught an edge during the recent Hash skiing trip. I found out from him also that Dumber, another skier, had caught some kind of cold/virus that



made his eyes stream and, worse, his wife Dumb was even now languishing in an Austrian hospital with a bout of pneumonia! We all wish the three of you a swift recovery. You wouldn’t think that skiing amongst beautiful scenery and in clean, crisp air would be so unhealthy. Maybe just stick with the line-dancing at Butlins next year?

Now the day had begun pretty damply and it had rained the day before. Some raindrops still spattered on us as we Circed up. Full marks to Florence and Posh for laying the Trail in such soggy and cold conditions and I understand Foxy and Twanky helped to lay some of the walking Trail. It was

great to welcome back, after a long time, TT2, who I dismally failed to recognise, confusing him with his identical twin brother, Zebedee. No excuse really – I did apologise to him later. 😊

We on Outed, uphill. Whitchurch is, of course, by the river Thames so there are only two ways to go – up or across the bridge. In fact, Hare Florence gave us the pleasure of going in both directions by laying a loop that started off uphill, then across, then down, then back by the river, past our pub (Slapper thought we were in for the shortest Trail



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ever 😊)... and across the bridge. The above picture shows the art installation(?) that SlowSucker found on the across bit. The bollards have a silent, menacing quality. I understand he didn't stand there for too long.

Having led us into Pangbourne, our Hares treated us to another uphill yomp to the railway station, underneath it via stairs and passages, then back down the road the other side of it. We realised that we could have saved ourselves loads of effort by initially standing by the pub to cut out the first loop and by inspecting the Aston Martin cars in the showroom by the bottom of the hill that led up and down to/from the station. But, of course, we are Hashers and since the Hares had been good enough to lay the Trail the least we could do was follow it. Now I have to report that the walking group was not so particular about following their Trail. Floater and MessengerBoy stopped off in Pangbourne to get coffees, Sonic went into a shop and bought herself a cushion, while Donut and Swallow sallied into the Co-op and bought, respectively, a 2-pint container of milk and a jar of mango chutney. 😊 In their defence (if they need any – there are no rules on the Hash – do what you like) they did then follow the looping Trail that led out on to the water meadows, carrying their booty with them. What they hadn't thought about was that the Trail must necessarily come back through Pangbourne in order to go back over Whitchurch bridge on the way to the pub. Thus, they didn't need to carry their purchases with them; they could have bought them on the way back... 😊

The running group also hurtled out on to the (aptly named) water meadows, splashing ankle-deep in shiggly and running water. CanalBobb tried to keep relatively dry by crossing one of the gushing streams via a slippery log. He made it without falling in but did he keep his feet dry? Nope. TT2, Gnasher, Rob and Emma just waded through and Sidney their lovely dog enjoyed himself thoroughly, prancing about excitedly in the water.

Crossing a huge, soggy field behind the Pack Dipstick decided to go way off the Trail and splash about on the far side of it. I was following TT2 who suddenly stopped by a small bridge and began to, um, contribute to the wetland environment. Apologies for not taking a photograph, but this is a family journal. Just beyond this point and before we went up a damn great hill was a Regroup. Here is the intrepid and damp Pack, looking a lot happier and more



carefree than five minutes later when we were trudging breathlessly uphill towards the forest. It was a fine, if leafless forest and we made the most of it, going up and along it before dropping steeply and slippily (think I've just invented this word) back down, enjoying the sight of EverReady being pulled downwards helplessly by her super strong dog, Bella. 😊

We were back in the water(y) meadows, just by the 'BS' (Beaver Stop) that had been hand-crafted by Foxy and Twanky. Our furry friend had been hidden in a small, blue plastic bag and no-one had found her! Or perhaps looked. Florence plucked her from her hiding place. She reckoned that a) the walking group hadn't come this way, despite clear 'W' signs, b) the runners probably couldn't be a*sed to seek out our beaver friend. Gnasher added c) people might not have been too taken with the idea of picking up a small blue plastic bag on what was obviously a dog-walking area. Flo bent and took up our furry mascot and we trotted/splashed across the wide meadow towards Pangbourne. A few narrow and lengthy alleys and a trot

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across Whitchurch bridge with Posh and Lonely saw us back at the welcoming pub, warmth, drinks and Hash chips.

Many thanks to our Hares for an enjoyable Trail that was a mix of urban tarmac, freshets¹, excellent Hash shiggy and Old Father Thames in spate.

On On Hashgate

DOWN DOWNS

RA Gnasher presented the awards in the wood-framed room the pub had built specially for us. Nice of them. Nice also were the freshly cooked chips Florence had arranged to be available to us. Thanks Flo!

Beneficiary	Awarded For
Florence	Presented with a chocolate bar for 'finding' Foxy's Beaver.
Sonic, Donut, Floater, MessengerBoy, Swallow	Today's shopping crew. One drink and five straws for them.
DoorMatt	Hash Crasher who dropped his car key which was luckily found by Twanky.
Motox	Also a Hash Crasher.
EverReady	Dog-skiing with Bella. 🐾 See above.
Lungs, Motox	Appearing out of bushes, covered in mud. Making up for last week?
Florence, Posh	Our Hares.

Future Hashes – starting at 11:00 Sunday mornings unless stated otherwise.

Hash #	Date	Location	Hares
2481	08Feb26	The Royal Oak 69 Westwood Glen, Tilehurst RG31 5NW What3Words: ///What3words: /// marked.slick.path	Plod Motox
2482	15Feb26	* The Red Dress Run * raising money for Daisy's Dream The Moderation ("The Mod") 213 Caversham Road, Reading RG1 8BB https://www.themodreading.com/ What3words: /// beans.herb.transmitted Parking: Limited free parking across the road at: - Thameside Promenade RG1 8EQ (NOT the Village Hotel car park & NOT Toby Carvery car park) What3words: /// deputy.vocal.cycles or Rivermead Leisure Centre RG1 8EQ (Ringo 15511) What3words: /// froze.oiled.method 3 hours Free/ 5 hours for £2.50 Wear your best red frock!	Slapper WetWipe

¹ A sudden overflow of a stream resulting from a heavy rain or a thaw.



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DAISY'S DREAM RAFFLE

You, and anyone you know is welcome to enter the BH³ raffle to win a free place in this year's Reading ½ Marathon. Tickets only £5 at <https://www.givewheel.com/fundraising/12380/berkshire-hash-house-harriers-charity-raffle-win-a/> 100% of the money raised will go to the charity. For more details, see the email sent to you on January 22nd entitled '**BH3 Daisy's Dream Raffle Opportunity**'.

You don't have to run if you win... 😊