

Hua Hin H3 Run #295 - 13th December 2014

Location: North Cha-Am - Arlek Resort Restaurant

Google Map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/GAxLp>

GPS Coordinates: N 12.823417, E 99.976400 (N 12 49.405 E 99 58.584)

Hares: Dragon Tail & Mingster

Hash Snacks: Dragon Tail

Hash Notes: Cathusalem

Hash Photos: Ballbanger & Hugmanannygoat (<http://www.h2h3-cah3.com/hash-trash1>)

Number of Hashers: 40 + 2 Absent Hares

Pre-Hash

There was quite a good turn-out in spite of several hashers apparently preferring to arrive at the Hin Lek Fai concert in better shape than if they'd been hashing beforehand and, to be fair, some needed to be there early anyway. Even the hares, as Ballbanger wrote in an email, would not be there because attending the concert was a "girly thing" not to be missed.

We did benefit from the attendance of about a dozen visiting or returning hashers, mostly from the UK with a special welcome back for Adams Apple, Rubberduck, Stitch in Time and Snail Trail.

We all knew who would step into the circle to tell us about the run/walk and who to blame. Ballbanger it was and he told us there would be red tape in the trees close to the checks just in case the checks had disappeared due to the time lapse since laying them. Well, I suppose there was some logic in that and I was pleased to see that his demonstration check sticks were not tied together but able to be easily turned into an arrow, as he demonstrated.

I mention this because a few weeks ago, as a slowcoach on the runners trail, I came to a check with parallel sticks tied together. I wasn't sure which way to go because paper had been dropped in both directions. What will happen today, I wondered.

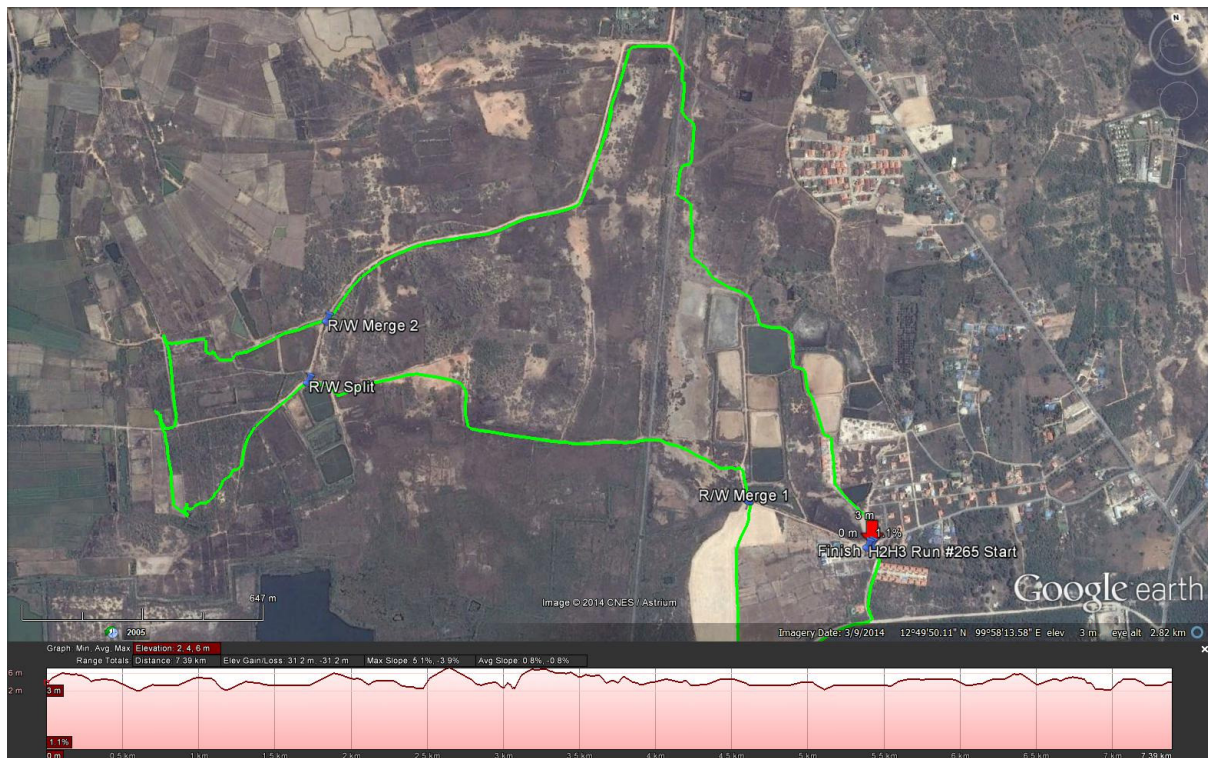
The Runners Trail

"Runners that way, walkers this way!" shouted Ballbanger so you had to make a quick decision whether you were a runner or a walker because the two trails went off in opposite directions. At first the countryside wasn't as interesting as usually, I have to say, with the runners trail first on a track and then on mud flats for about 2km. After the split, the trail became more interesting and challenging, which is why I try to do the runners trail when I feel just about up to it. I had dropped behind Tinks and Old Macdonald but could still hear Tinks shouting ahead.

I came to an unbroken check with, sure enough, red tape on a tree nearby. I reckoned it could be a back check, a rarity on the Hua Hin hash and unlikely to be a "girly thing". I could hear Tinks shouting and the trail could have gone onwards from the check to where it seemed he was shouting. I didn't check very far ahead though before turning back and then found paper not far along.

I reckon several front runners must have reached the back check and, of course, to solve it you have to go back and those following closely will see or hear which way to go when you've solved it. So here's my advice, to you front running bastards. Always pick up some paper from a check, even if it could be a back check, but don't pick up all the paper in case

your idea of where the trail goes is wrong. In the case of a back check it seems that paper from the check can be laid to stop the slower ones from even going that way at all, just the same as is good practice for a false trail.



Unfortunately, soon after one unbroken check, I came across another. It is possible that nobody saw this check because it was a little bit tucked away. I only spotted it after going back because the paper ran out. I then checked deeper and found paper. I started running but then no more paper. Nevertheless, I carried on expecting to find a track that would lead me to paper, which I did by joining the walkers trail quite near the split so I had almost come back to where I started.

I jogged along a wide track with nobody in sight. However, I could hear shouting in the distance to my right. This was a bit off-putting because the paper was scanty along this track. I had to go back a couple of times to check that I hadn't missed a turn to the right. I hadn't and the trail made a big U-turn passing a Wat on the left.

Then, for goodness sake, it went on to the railway track! I think the reason was to use the railway track bridge to cross a sizable stream. However, while I was still following paper laid close to the railway track I heard a train approaching from behind. I had to find a wider spot to be clear of the train and when I came to a small tree to cling to I decided that was the spot. I was really glad of that tree as umpteen carriages passed creating quite a force of wind.

Off again, as soon as the last carriage had passed with the trail diverting away from the track and then back close to it on the opposite side. However, soon after this I just couldn't find any paper. I tried going in what I thought was the right direction, following a farmer's track but I was soon ankle-deep in dirty water. I thought about previous occasions when Ballbanger had lead us through such paths but, since I was off trail anyway, decided to go back to the railway line and walk along it until I came to where we'd crossed it on the way out and then I could follow paper back. It was about a kilometre along the track but I was lucky that another train didn't delay me further. The circle had already started when I got back and these were the down downs, as reported by Tinks.

Post Trail and Circle

Hares: Ballbanger and Lumbering Jack in absentia for Dragon Tail and Mingster

Hitching a Ride on Trail: Old Macdonald

Visiting Hashers: Cripplecock & Magpie

Virgin Hashers: Ian & Liz

Returners: Adams Apple, Stitch in Time & Snail Trail, Rubberduck, Carol & Richard, Slime & Lucky Me

Last Man In: Cathusalem

Next week's Hares: Hugmanannygoat & Davey Delayed

To my knowledge, nobody went to the nearby resort restaurant (Ed: Stich and party of six went) because people had other plans including late attendance at the Hin Lek Fai concert. However, thanks to Ballbanger for setting up the restaurant possibility and for his and Lumbering Jack's involvement in laying the trail. Thanks also to Dragon Tail and Mingster for their efforts. I trust they will be suitably dealt with in the circle next time for their "girly thing".

On On,

Cathusalem