



HUA HIN HASH HOUSE HARRIERS (H2H3)

Hashing is a running club for drinkers or a drinking club for runners. The Hua Hin Hash House Harriers (H2H3) are a group of people of all ages and physical fitness who meet every second Saturday of the month for a social fun run, jog or walk, through the beautiful countryside that surrounds our town. Runs follow a trail of flour or shredded paper that has been set by a Hare an hour or so before the main run starts. To make sure that fast and slow runners stay together, there are numerous false trails. While the fast front runners check to see which is the correct trail, the slower runners, or walkers, have time to catch up and everyone arrives back at the starting point within a few minutes of each other.

Runs last about forty-five minutes then we have a social gathering with a few drinks beside the trail before going out for a meal together. It's a great way to meet people whether you are a visitor or resident. For details of the next run, contact May at 032-513855 or e-mail <may1may@aol.com>

Hash Run No 11 - Saturday 9th June 2001

The group gathered beside a lotus pond in the grounds of a temple, nestling beneath the hills a few kilometres north west of Hua Hin. Three cars and only six runners in spite of an overcast sky bringing the temperature down to make it a perfect evening for a run.

At five o'clock sharp Doug pointed out the start of the run, saving the Hash Sniff from ferreting around looking for the first handfuls of shredded paper which marked the trail. Six runners set off along the sandy cart track convinced the trail would take us up and over the heavily forested hills. But at the first check, the track leading towards the hills turned out to be a false trail.

As we ran along a series of cart tracks and cattle trails, the same set of motorcycle tire tracks kept appearing in the sand, too often to be a coincidence. When a sharp minded runner asked the Hare if he'd set the run from his motorbike, Doug protested that a lot of villagers in the area rode their motorbikes on these tracks then sheepishly admitted he had. The front runners thought this was going to make following the trail easy, but after a few more checks, the trail turned into a grassy field.

By now the pack was spread out and Doug went back to see if Jaew and Pimpa (the walkers) were okay. Tom, May and Keith followed the trail through the grass then into head high scrub where the Hare had cunningly hidden the handfuls of shredded paper behind clumps of bush to make seeing them that much more difficult. After a few sightings, we lost the trail.

Thirty-five minutes into the run and the temple, from where we had started, was now in view over the top of the bush. Faced with the choice of going back to the last paper we had seen and fanning out to try and pick up the trail again, we opted for making an On Home run, straight through the bush.

The three front runners arrived back at the cars in 45 minutes and got the drinks table set up by the cars before realising mosquitoes were coming up from the lotus pond and joining us. We moved a few yards away and had just set up under a tree as Doug, Jaew and Pimpa arrived, having followed the trail correctly.

After relaxing for half an hour with a few cold drinks the group was called into a circle by the Grand Master who awarded a few down-downs (drink a glass of beer down in one go). First down-down went to the Hare for organising a good run. Next were Jaew and Pimpa for missing the last run then Keith for whinging all the way to the run that the instructions for getting to the start were wrong. They weren't.

The evening ended with all six runners having a meal at Luciano's Restaurant where the band 'No Fixed Abode' entertained us with some wonderful Irish music.

<p>Next Hash Run will be our first anniversary run on July 14. Come join us to celebrate our first birthday. The mystery hares are planning something special and a surprise party! On On!! Scribe: Keith T.</p>
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