

H2 H3 Run Number Eight

10 February 2001

Run Site: Pranburi

Hares: Bill, Colin and Keith
No. of Runners: 15

Guests: Pinky & Noong, Jon Jenkins
Margaret Karnes

Everyone agreed that this was the toughest local Hash Run yet. Definitely NOT for the faint-hearted, it featured a lung-searing climb on a narrow twisting trail around a spectacular wat (temple), and then a treacherous descent back to ground level before a winding sandy path back home. And the course was bristling with barking temple dogs and thorny bushes which tore clothing and pierced the skin. Several H2 Hashers marked the trail with their blood.

The sadistic hares who set this one were Colin Wood, Bill Evans and Keith Trevallion. The A site was just off the road to Pranburi, on the grounds of the Toyota 4-wheel drive centre.

On a humid afternoon, a local record of 15 (yes fifteen, count 'em) hashers set off dead on 4.30 pm, though we were missing regulars Mike Anderson, Elliott Cumming and Jak. Front runners Doug East plus Tom and May Crowley set about thrashing out the false trails, but the field was hopelessly extended after 12 minutes of progress – some running, others walking. A few turned back at the start of the ascent – 100 steep steps cut into the rock face, rising past shady shelters where monks sat meditating peacefully over a great view of the town of Hua Hin by the sea. Then it was along an uphill jungle trail, where progress slowed to a walk, and the wise sipped from their water bottles. Ash from recent burning of the hillside meant that we all had black legs – except hare Bill Evans, who somehow twinkled along on his immaculate pipe-cleaner legs as usual.

The descent was hair-raising. Some were able to stay on their feet, others scrambled on all fours, backsides against the rocky surface as they slid down, careful to avoid flinty and loose rocks. Yeah, real Rambo stuff. The three front runners were back after 58 minutes, chased gamely by Virgin Hasher Jon Jenkins from Kent, South East England. JJ amazed everyone, including himself, by getting around in 59 minutes: not bad for a 30-year-old chain-smoking Chiang drinker whose only daily exercise used to be kick-starting his motorcycle (Jon is a founder member of the 1999 Hua Hin Streppies Club). The rest of us struggled home in varying degrees of distress to fall gratefully onto ice cold bottles of water supplied by May back at the shag wagon.

Grand Master Tom Crowley led the chorus in declaring this a truly wonderful and excellent run at the Hash Circle. Well, the views were spectacular, anyway. We welcomed Bangkok Hashers Terry and Noong, and virgins, Margaret (boss of Ship Inn) and of course, Jon Jenks. Inventive Hash Sniff Keith T showed off his amazing moon boots, designed to defeat the grass seed. (Personally, I found the prickly thorn bushes more of a problem). Good to see Jaew of Little Big Horn Bar bravely completing the course considering she was in hospital in Petchburi just two weeks earlier. Note: My apologies to Winfried Lauenstein for miss-spelling his name in the February issue.

The Hash Meal was again at Luciano's Pizza House where eight intrepid Hashers sat down to some fine food and more Hash nonsense.

Next H2 Hash Run is on 10 March at 5:00 pm (please note change in timing). Hares: Doug East and Pimpa. Details from Hon Secretary May Crowley on (032) 536797 or e-mail: may1may@aol.com. ON ON!

Hash Scribe: David Cocksedge