



Chuck Valley HHH



Run - 1588

Royal William, Cranham

24th February

Hares – Fireraiser, Bell End, Pickles, Gerald + quango

It was grey, grim and bloody cold ! A raw wind swept the carpark. Yet again I was early and sitting in my lovely warm car when Fireraiser and Bell End staggered in after a bout of early morning trail laying. Their gait suggested severe penile hypothermia (known to experienced male, winter runners as “blue acorn syndrome”). Being the hospitable man I am, I invited them to partake of the comforting warmth of my car. Bell End – no sooner seated, promptly handed me the sheep’s hat on the grounds that he couldn’t be a hare in a sheep’s hat (biological inconsistency).

Soon 37 bold hashers were listening to a very unbrief brief. “Any questions ?” “Yeah – is there a run or is it just a briefing ?”

We were informed that the trail had been laid by a “committee” – different sections by different people. Would the sections join up I wondered ? I remembered that a camel is a horse designed by a committee !

A few hundred yards of lane led us onto Painswick Beacon Common and golf course. 2 whole weeks without rain had left firm, dry ground (no doubt a hosepipe ban will follow shortly). Inspired, the pack surged on and up as the temperatures climbed to -1C. A few brazenly macho types even ran in short sleeves and no gloves – on a day when even Mark wore a woolly hat. How do penguins mate at -20C I mused as the frost gripped my groin ? We passed below the Beacon (thanks hares). After an early regroup we descended to cross the A46 and down to the valley bottom. For the next half hour we followed the delightful streamside path with waterfalls, old mills and ponds. At one point Bell End was even offering guided tours of a nicely preserved range oven in a wrecked quarry cottage ! I struggled to contain my apathy. Even in the depths of this dingle the mud was hard – rock hard – a pleasant contrast to recent weeks.

An enjoyable and varied hash – and not over long.

Bags were handed to Dylan for - ? - er - being tall enough to wear them stylishly ?

The sheep’s hat went, appropriately, back to Bell End for unfair disposal of the hat 2 hours earlier.

ON & ON & ON & ON :

March 10th - Rose and Crown, Nympsfield GL10 3TU – DC and Barry the Spit (It is Mothers’ Day and will be very busy – anyone wishing to eat should book in advance – 01453 860240)

March 17th - Seven Tuns, Chedworth, GL54 4AE - Carlross

March 24th - Uncle Les - TBC

April 1st - Cheltenham Motor Club, Cheltenham, GL52 6SA - Carlross

- Saturday 4th May - Annual Dinner Dance – Cirencester Golf Club

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