

Churn Valley Hash House Harriers

Run No. 162⁴

Bentham Country Club, Bentham

Hares : **Mr. Sheep and Fireraiser**

This was a first for me, never realised that Bentham Country Club existed! Apparently, founded in 1990, it has become a popular sports and leisure facility in Gloucestershire, well known for it's two 'domes' (ref. to Dolly Parton was heard mention!)

A hub of activity on arrival with a full car park and much to-ing and fro-ing of sporty folk and traffic. A good turn-out, I reckoned on 35 + a pack of 7 dogs. - a majority of usual suspects - but sadly no GOM and GOMESS –

Weather was positively 'barmy' for an autumn morning, the sun was out with blue skies – a beautiful morning!

Fireraiser stood in for GOM to 'rally the masses' and Mr Sheep gave the brief; 5, 4 and 2 3/4 miles were the distances offered up (?) although Mr Sheep had layed the trail the previous (extremely rainy day!) he did announce; "I doubt there'll be much flour!"

I do admire his honesty!! We were also offered the use of the showers on our return (...shower?....beer?....shower...be..e.....needless to say not everyone showered!)

We were off! – Corndolly refused the first fence, (nettles were too high?)-

A very early hat candidate!

Over field and field and into a field of lofty old corn where we all got lost! –

A maze in the maize (amazing....sorry!)

We crossed over the motorway still crossing field and country, still with the sun and blue sky for good measure, even though the flour was a bit sparse we managed to stay on trail – at this point I was running just behind 'Bellend' when I heard him say how brilliant our run was from the Village Inn (please note for next year's honours!)

We passed 'The Twelve Bells' - crossed over and continued passed signs for the Roman Villa. Most people remained well-behaved (although there was the odd bit of 'lip' concerning my Rasta-man and French beret-style wearing of sheep's hat!.....'Lone Arranger'!)

On and on....we arrived at Witcombe Reservoirs, where a Regroup was marked.....but was...missed! A regroup then 'happened' shortly after with the usual suspects (one...French.....one not!) deciding to 'explore'

Cross-cutting, crap calling were all the order of the day....to another regroup (where the French remained but the tall English person didn't!)

So far the run had remained fairly stable and flat.....BUT.....Oh no!.....a hill.

We were on and up and up – off trail....with the hare (always a worry!)

We'd run out of flour...fortunately we didn't go too far 'off piste' and were heading back down and down.....an..d ...etc and were heading back for home.

We did pass a woman walking(?) about thirty dogs which was mildly entertaining, especially to see how long her arms were!!

On Inn and!.....Oh.....dear....me!not only does he refuse the first fence!....he falls (a*** over ***) at the last!.....Corndolly!.....made my job of shifting the sheep's hat quite easy!

A lovely run on a lovely autumn morn with some lovely people.....how.....lovely! Well deserved and appreciated Apres – Mr Sheep had organized some real ale so all were happy. Sheeps Hat to Corndolly! (see above!) And 'bags presented to 'Bellend forsitting next to Corndolly??

Boo'd Off

Forthcoming Trails:

Run	Date	Venue	Hares
1625	27-October-2013	Chez Fish & Kips, Bowling Green Rd, Cirencester,	Fishfingers
1626	03-November-2013	The Merry Fellow, School Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL53 8AU	Carloss
1627	10-November-2013	The Tunnel House, Tarlton Road, Near Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6PW	Mike St John & Claude
1628	17-November-2013	TBC, ,	Once a Knight & Sharon
1629	24-November-2013	TBC, ,	Anorak & Pole Pussy
1630	01-December-2013	TBC, ,	Dogger
1631	08-December-2013	The White Hart, High Road, Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire, SN6 6NX	Knackered & Clipboard
1632	15-December-2013	The Vaults, 5 Beeches Rd, Cirencester, Glos, GL7 1BN	Fish & Kips
1633	22-December-2013	The Carpenters Arms, Westrip, Stroud, Glos, GL6 6EY	Gerald & Martin

Lone Arranger asked me to note that he is organising a p** up...drinks... for us to celebrate getting rid-to say a fond farewell as he embarks on his winterbreak. Please see Marcus for details.