Hash 661
Jet Ranch
Sun 8 Dec 2013

Hares Mireille and Etienne (pictured right)

Hashers only 38 registered but 75 attended

Beer Maiden Isabelle

Hash Flash Jackie, Kay and Steve

Hash Trash Kay





First word

Before commencing the proceedings in the circle after the Hash, Hashers observed a 1 minute silence in memory of Nelson Mandela who died the previous Thursday, 5 December.

Trail

A big thank you to Ravin for getting permission for the Hash to take place at Jet Ranch, a private chasse on the edge of Black River Gorges National Park. It was a privilege to be allowed to run in such beautiful surroundings. The chasse is populated with deer, wild boar and monkeys. Although nobody reported seeing any of these locals on the Hash, they had been spotted by the Hares on their recces.



We gathered at a crossroads of grassy tracks in a clearing opposite mirador 7 and our Hares, Etienne and Mireille, dubbed by acting GM Steve, the King and Queen of the Belgians, gave a short briefing. They explained that there was a runners' trail of 7.8km and a walkers' trail of 5.7km and we were advised to look out for barbed wire strung along the ground at ankle height. The runners were warned that there would also be 8 river crossings!

We all set off together in the same direction uphill, crossed the track leading to the hunting lodge and then followed a level grassy path which was perfect for runners. Forgetting that the FRBs were old enough to be his grandchildren, Alan set off at a rapid pace to keep up with them but unfortunately pulled a muscle within 200 yards of the on-on. The Scribe stopped to help and advised him to go back to the on-on so as not to exacerbate the problem.

After a few hundred yards we left the chasse and followed the track that leads to Mare Longue. This was familiar territory as the Hash Bash run followed this track. However when we arrived at the lake this time we turned left, skirted the water and entered the forest. It was a tranquil trail with only the sound of the birds singing and the breeze rustling the leaves in the trees to disturb the silence.




On the runners' trail some of the river crossings consisted of concrete walls with a gap in the middle. We had to leap across the gap to continue on our way – not for the faint hearted! At another crossing we either waded through the water or leapt from rock to rock passing a family who had gathered to do their weekly wash in the river.




We returned to the chasse via the gate that we had passed through earlier and then headed deep into the forest again emerging after a while into a clearing and passing a number of miradors where hunters hide out while awaiting the appearance of their prey. All too soon the lodge buildings were in sight and then the grassy track that led to the on-on. The tranquillity was broken by the sound of happy Hashers enjoying a beer and each other's company in the sunshine. What a perfect way to spend a Sunday morning!

Hash circle



Acting GM, Steve, officiated in the absence of GM Mark who was recharging his batteries in preparation for the Red Dress Run. He introduced the Hares again and they were praised for a Hash par excellence in a beautiful area with a well marked trail.
Here's to the Hares!



First timers

Beatrice and Patricia – from Clapham, London, found the Hash on the Internet
The acting GM noted that it is thanks to the dedicated work of our webmaster, Lord Bob Russell, that information on our Hash is readily available, allowing newcomers to join our happy band of Hashers.
John – from Perth, Western Australia, friend of Henriette
Stephanie – from Belgium and Mauritius, friend of Olga
Various children – Zaëlle, Inez, Hamish
All promised to come back again.



First timers



Second timers

Second timers

As GM, Steve had had a dearth of second timers and was reduced to importing family and friends from the UK to save himself from the ignominy of a fortnightly down-down. He had made sure that the Boston Cowbells would return by arranging a lift for them from Flic en Flac with David. The full line up of second timers was:

- **Carly and Kyle**, aka the Boston Cowbells
- **Emma**
- **Stefan**
- **David**

Here's to the second timers!

RAs

The acting GM introduced the Dynamic Duo, the Gruesome Twosome, the Religious and Sexual Advisors……..



RA Kees (pronounced case as in nut case) admitted that the RAs had picked on Alysu a lot recently when awarding down-downs but promised that in the interests of equal opportunities they would now be moving on to other sinful Hashers to spread the punishment awards more fairly.

Banglestein award

On asking Ha$h Ca$h who had been the last person to pay, RA Kees was very surprised to learn that it was ……Alysu!

Here's to Mrs Banglestein

Despite the RAs and Scribe singing this song at every Hash since 18 August, few Hashers have learned the words. Here they are in the Hash Trash for the third time, so commit them to memory and sing up next time!

For male Hashers

Balls to Mr Banglestein, Banglestein, Banglestein.
Balls to Mr Banglestein, dirty old man.
For he kept us waiting
And our time he's wasting
Balls to Mr Banglestein, dirty old man.

For female Hashers

Balls to Mrs Banglestein, Banglestein, Banglestein.
Balls to Mrs Banglestein, dirty old woman.
For she kept us waiting
And our time she's wasting
Balls to Mrs Banglestein, dirty old woman.

Down-downs





Alan – for faking injury and going back to the on-on to sneak an early beer. He limped into the spotlight reluctantly, helped by RA Jim. However a down-down of Phoenix had a miraculous effect and he returned to the circle with a spring in his step. Phoenix, the beer that reaches the parts that other beers can't reach!

Here's to the shameful!



Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Isabelle Joseph – for not stopping to help an injured animal (Alan).

Here's to the graduate!



Dodocop and RA Kees – for leading Hashers astray. They encouraged others to ignore the number of people needed to proceed from the box and set off when only 5 Hashers had arrived rather than 15. Their excuse: with all the mosquitoes around there were many more than 15 pairs of legs in the box!

Here's to the sinners!






3 children – their mums told them not to run off alone but they disobeyed.
Here's to the 3 musketeers!

Hash hostage



Gilbert had suggested that Carly and Kyle could carry the cowbell together but as the chain was not long enough to go round both their necks at the same time, they had taken it in turns to wear it on the Hash. They did not explain their choice of recipient for this week's award but there must be so many reasons why Kees deserved it.
Here's to the sinner!



Dodo award

Erwan was not present to pass on the dodo so we await his return for a future award. Is this a deliberate ploy to keep the cute cuddly dodo?

Announcements

Lost property



RA Jim held up a bag containing 4 hats and a bottle of dubious white powder which Claude had collected after the camping Hash. Nobody claimed them but perhaps the hats could be kept and lent to people who arrive at the Hash without a hat?

Red Dress Run tickets



Leslie wanted to put the record straight about the tickets for the Red Dress Run. He stressed that he had neither designed nor printed these tickets. Alysu thought that it was Leslie's red family tartan that adorns the back of the tickets and that he had indeed produced them. He denied this categorically and here is the proof – a charming photo showing Leslie in his dark blue kilt at a function at the High Commissioner's residence. He also advised Hashers to buy their tickets for the Red Dress Run as soon as possible.

And back in the circle by popular demand ……. The Scribe



The Scribe announced that her husband, Steve, will have finished his work in Mauritius at the end of January and that they will be leaving the island then for pastures new. Hashers responded with a big "Ahhhhhhhh!" Sympathy? Sorrow? Joy? Relief? Whatever the feeling 2 vacancies arise because of this:

1. **Scribe**

   This is the last Hash Trash to be written by Kay. A new Scribe is needed to take over at the Red Dress Run. As noted in the last edition of the Trash, the Hash Trash is whatever the Scribe makes it – look at the archive to see the format in previous years and how Scribes have commented in the past. It's an opportunity to use your imagination, to be creative and to give something back to the Hash. Requirements of the job are the ability to write whilst drinking beer, singing Hash songs and laughing at the proceedings in the circle. The Trash should be submitted for publication on the website before the next Hash. In some Hashes a different person takes on the role of Scribe for each Hash. This should be considered if nobody wants to commit themselves to writing the Trash for every Hash. Those interested in the role should speak to the Grand Master.
   NB The position comes with the dubious distinction of membership of that bizarre band of misfits – the Mismanagement.



2. **First aider**

The Hash will be losing 2 qualified first aiders, Kay and Steve, and 1 more is needed, preferably a female – first aiders and female casualties may prefer this and we already have a male first aider, GM Mark. The Scribe suggested that if there was no suitably qualified/trained Hasher then perhaps the Hash could pay for the training. Ex-nurse and regular Hasher, Tusha, volunteered immediately, saving the Hash from any extra expense.

Next Hash

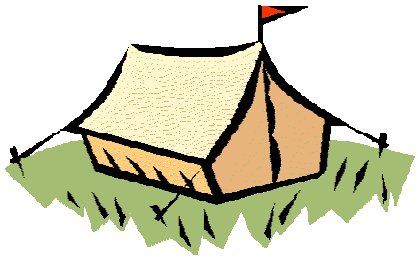


Assistant Trailmaster, Dodocop, reminded everyone that the next Hash, the Red Dress Run, takes place on Saturday 14 December at Quartier Militaire. Lots of poor children live in the area and Hashers can continue the tradition of the Mauritius Hash of distributing sweets to them on the run.

The GM went on to give further details of the day:

16.00 arrive at the on-on
16.30 set off for the Hash
afterwards taste the GM's special juice!?!?!? then join the convoy to the chasse for the party where shower and changing facilities are available for Hashers to glam up for the social event of the year
19.30 dinner
21.00 circle up
01.00 approx, finish? The party will continue until the last Hashers head for home.

Camping



Hashers were advised not to drink and drive and were reminded that camping is available at no extra charge. It is a safe site with shower and toilet facilities. No food will be supplied for campers but there is a BBQ that can be used for cooking breakfast. The Hash is contributing no money whatsoever for camping, not a sausage, bugger all.

Hashers asked various questions about the Red Dress Run and the GM did his best to answer them:

Question	**Answer**
What drinks will be provided?	Beer
Can we take our own drinks?	BYO is OK for wine
How much is it to attend the Hash but not the party afterwards?	Rs 150
How much is it to attend the party but not the Hash before?	Rs 550 for regular Hashers, Rs 800 for guests
Is glamping allowed	?!?!?!?
What is glamping?	Posh camping There's nobody posh at the Hash
What's the procedure at the Red Dress Run?	Everyone wears a red dress, carries a bag of sweets and treats and gives them out to children on the run
Some Hashers have an allergy to MSG. Will it be Chinese food?	The GM will clarify this before the event
Can you buy tickets on the day>	????? (Did somebody say yes?)



Thank you

As this is the Scribe's last Hash Trash, Alan thanked her for all her hard work on behalf of the Hash. Hashers showed their appreciation and the Scribe took a very welcome down-down – it's thirsty work!



The Indian Ocean Tiger

For those lamenting the imminent departure of the Indian Ocean Tiger, Immediate Past Grand Master and former RA, Steve, a fine specimen sporting the amber and black colours of his beloved football team can be visited at Casela. This Indian Ocean Tiger is fitter and faster and Hashers would complete the trail in record time if he was running behind them.

Last words

It has been a pleasure to be a Hasher in Mauritius but my time on this beautiful island is coming to an end and this is my last Hash Trash.



I remember my first Hash very clearly – Medine 29 August 2010. We were early and the first person we met was Philida. She welcomed us warmly and we were delighted to meet a Mauritian as we were not looking for an ex-pat club. Philida introduced us to John, the GM, but fortunately this did not deter us as the Hash seemed a good mixture of Mauritians and ex-pats.

Memorable things on my first Hash:

- being able to run the whole Hash – I was very fit when I arrived and it wasn't too hot
- the soles came off both Leslie's brand new Hash boots and he looked so funny arriving back at the on-on with the soles in his hands and cursing the boots loudly
- John conducted a wedding ceremony in the circle for Ryan and Delynda

Since that day 3½ years ago I have made lots of good friends, taken part in about 80 Hashes, had numerous down-downs for committing various misdemeanours, set several Hashes, written 39 Hash Trashes, organised a Red Dress event and a Hash Bash and Hashed all over Mauritius. The Hash has been the highlight of my time here and I was pleased that in being elected Scribe I could give something back to the Hash.

The role of Scribe has been a great opportunity to use my imagination and to be creative in reporting on the antics of Hashers. I introduced the inclusion of photos in the text and, to promote the Trash to Hashers, I also introduced a competition with winners announced in the circle. I've no idea what the Hash Trash is like in other countries but mine is my own individual interpretation. Whoever succeeds me as Scribe can create their own brand of Hash Trash.

The Trash has been a team effort and I thank all those who have made their photos of the Hash available to me. The photos have enhanced the Trash and serve as a visual record of our fortnightly forays around this beautiful island. I recently passed all the photos I have been sent to Rey who has uploaded them into the archive on the website. I always received many more photos than I could use in the Trash so take a look in the photo archive and enjoy!

Kay



Here's to the Mauritius Hash! On-on……