

Happenings at 'Thai Temple After Ostrich Farm Semenyih' 'To Batangsi And Back'

Run Nr.: 3696
Date: 6th October 2014
Hare: 'Slipper' Lin Kam Cheong
Co-Hares: Mystery co-Hares
Runners: 70
Distance: ~ 10km.
Checks: 5
FROPs: No one noticed – On Sec on the run
Time: 7.13pm.
Guests: Bart, Charlie, Brian and Bandaraya
Returnees: Slipper Lin, Ken Wong, Billy NoHair, Matthew Lee, Jin,
Thomas Chin

A good crowd arrived at the runsite. This included our oldest member Bill Panton, driven in by JM John and accompanied by Drainoil. Bill was welcomed by the older members who knew him and who chatted him up. Bill will be leaving for the States very soon to probably finally settle there with his 3 unmentionable children and family.

On Sec led the pack at 6pm and it was a short trek to the first check. Today the On Sec was determined to do the full trail. Along the way, he told JM John to start the circle if he was not back by 8.30pm. But On Sec was back by 8pm though after a good quick walk on a really good trail. On Sec noted all the parts of the run for the run report. Billy NoHair was just back from a hiatus so will not be writing this run report. But Opera, who was to write a report some weeks ago has decided to fulfil his obligations this week after being pulled up on the box for dereliction of duty.

So over to you Opera:

This run site by the Thai temple off the ostrich farm in Semenyih has been a hares' favourite in recent years, with ample parking and a good mix of jungle, plantations, orchards, runnable tracks, and also rivers and waterfalls. The area is known well by members, as on the other side of the watershed lies Sungei Batangsi, another favourite haunt. The challenge for the hare of the day is to craft a nifty trail amongst these determinants, and we are often rewarded by diligent hares that went the distance to ensure a decent and enjoyable run within Motherhash's parameters.

Today's hare, Slipper Lin (how the hell he earned this name?) is not known to be a crafty hare, but he has engaged the services of Ah Meng and company, a bunch who have just 2 weeks ago set a Ball-Breaker run for the Sunday Hash, in this same area, which was very well attended (almost 200 participants!). True to tradition, at that BB run, our members did us proud by claiming almost 50% of the top finishing positions, a tradition that dates back to the earliest days of the Ball Breaker runs first inaugurated as part of the run program for Interhash 1998. This brings to mind a very unique – obviously vested - approval passed by the Motherhash Council back in 1999 (just post-Interhash) that allows Motherhash members to don the Kuala Lumpur Full Moon Hash's Ball Breaker finisher t-shirts on any of our run nights. Quite a few of us actually put on the ubiquitous black Full Moon shirts nonchalantly on Monday nights for some years. This probably sounds preposterous and sacrilegious today, but then, when the decision was made at the Council Meeting, a large proportion of the serving Council members also held important positions in the KLFM, including the late Patrick Coyle and Charlie Chandran, Ted Quirk, Uncle Freddie, and myself. Thence, the 'vested' part of the decision-making. Over time, this practice of Motherhash members donning the KLFM's BB finisher shirts has slowly but surely faded away into oblivion, and few would remember this interesting episode in our hashtory. Okay, enough of a hashtorical digression.

Lots of us must be wondering if the hares will throw a ball-breaking gauntlet at us for today's run. The initial paper trail headed off toward a very unconventional direction, leading north on to the foot of a nearby hill for the ceremonial On Sec check. As the FROPs went helter-skelter in search of papers, someone actually ventured up the nearly vertical rubber- and fern-clad hill, and found papers. In all the runs we had here, I don't ever remember making an entry up this steep hill. It was a slow but long slog up, and must be 10 minutes later when we got to the top, where the 2nd check was encountered. This was very quickly breached, and we enjoyed some easy-going downhill and meandering run, but the trail was momentarily lost when papers disappeared. We learned later from the hares that someone must have picked up the papers. Upon recovering the trail again, we ran on amongst the banana plantations until the 3rd check, which proved very effective. A cleverly laid falsie up a hill caught most of the FROPs and, by the time the actual trail was found, the pack was already mostly bunched up together.

A long stretch of nice running ensued, bringing us to the far end of the Sungei Batangsi run area, onto the familiar crusher-run track, heading out. It now dawned on us that the hares are not attempting any ball-breaking endeavor on us today. Phew!!!

The 4th check which was laid along this track was quite a dud, and the back check was quickly broken, heading north up an oft-used slope. This trail was probably the nicest part of today's run, for it was a matured trail and nicely canopied and in secondary jungle, unlike the earlier trails

which were mostly recently opened tracks unkind to overused knees and ankles.

This trail continued on till we again reached the rubbers and the 5th check, which was also easily broken. With the direction of home well established, the FROPs could already catch a whiff of Ramli's truck, or the faint aroma of stale beer emanating thereof, and went storming home, getting back to the run site in just 73 minutes, well before darkness set in, having covered a run-length of 10km.

The circle started off at 8.30pm with a call to the Hare and his co-Hares. There were many but only the hare and one co-hare came up. Everyone though it was a good run and they got their drinks.

On Cash came up and made his usual plea. We then had 4 guests up on the box. Bart from Holland, but here for some years, Charlie and Brian from Korea, who said that our run made them feel like real men and Bandaraya, a too regular guest, threatened to being banned if he did not become a member.

At his stage, On Sec invited Bill Panton to the box. On Sec announced that Bill was leaving us and this was his last run and farewell run with Mother Hash. Not that he runs. Bill has been a member for 57 years!! He was JM in 1963 and 1970.

He has also done a lot of work on the genealogy and the preservation of hash documentation which members around the world send to him. Opera led with 'For He's Jolly Good Fellow' and then followed with the usual hash farewell song. When asked for a few words, Bill said, "Thank you very much".

Next week's hare, Henry Chia told the On Sec on the run that he was going to be the bomoh. But when called up he was dumbstruck! He got a drink and promised to put a carton in the tub next week.

Charges were opened to the floor and Steven Leong took up 2 charges. Young Yap had told him that he delayed paying fees to make himself famous. Worse still, he was wearing an unmentionable hash shirt. Eddie Khor was on hand to do the needful.

Returnees with, needless to say, weak excuses, were Billy NoHair, Mathew Lee, Thomas Chin, Ken Wong, Lee and Slipper Lin.

Thomas then made a few calls. He got the hare who apparently did nothing, leaving everything to the co-hares. He did not even know where the On On was to be.

Thomas pulled up those without a Mother hash shirt. Andy Lau was wearing the Singapore HHH 50th anniversary shirt. On Sec tried to help him out but was on the box instead.

Ah Chai who always sells chickens from his farm, was seen trying to do a deal with the ostrich farm people.

The co-hare announced the restaurant as being opposite the usual Zuan Kee. It was a subsidised at RM 10 per head.

Thanks to the hare for the good run and On On.

PIX OF THE RUN







