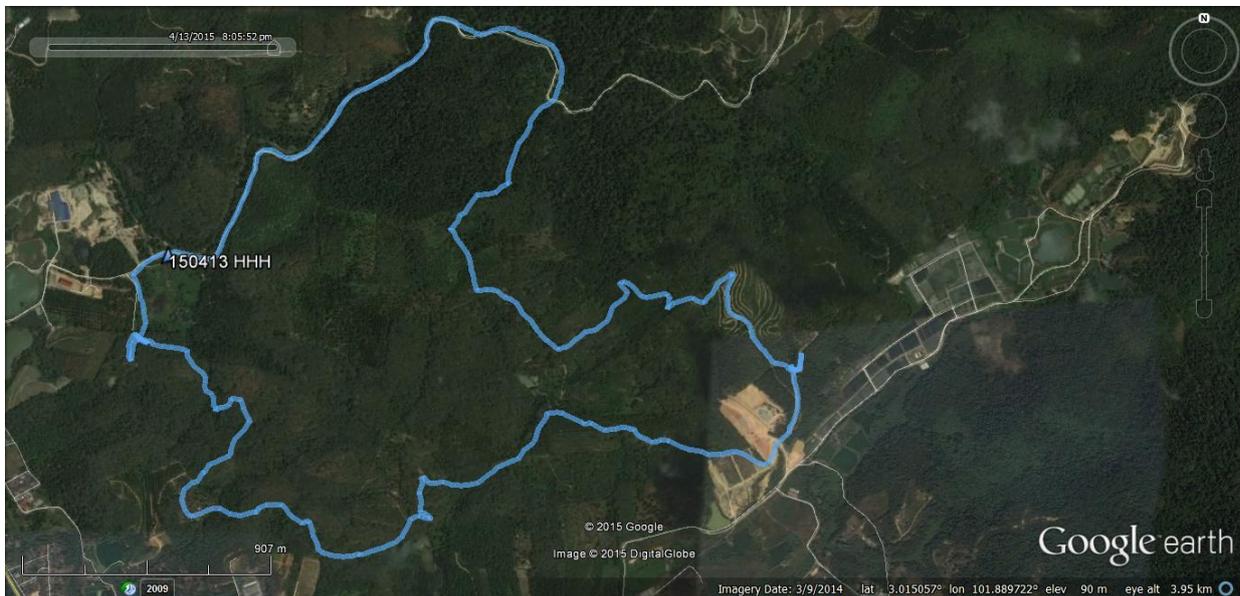


Happenings at 'Sungai Batangsi'

Run Nr.: 3724 – Sungai Batangsi
Date: 13 April 2015
Hare: Erik Kee
Co-Hares: Edwin, Frankie, Michael Lee, Peter Cushion, Fico
Runners: About 40
Distance: The hare said 9km, the pack said 11 – 14.5km
Checks: 6
FROPs: Wong Chee Kong, Lim Kin Sea Dragon
Time: 7.54 pm
Guests:



Run Scribe 3724 Billy No-Hair for B.J. Kang

13/4/15: Hash House Harriers; Sungai Batangsi ~14.5km

No rush, easy driving from where we started towards run site. Nevertheless, there were these two A-Sions ended up in ostrich farm and realized that there was not one hash sign to be seen to make them turn back. Shortly after they arrived, Barry parked and out popped Knut! An intentional vulgar greeting with an old friend seemed appropriate and were all up with handshakes and hugs! Though a bit beaten up with a left palm slashed opened and stitched up to correct the finger that did not perform, he is fine. And there was a big group enjoying their trip in Mother Hash Runs Jeju Island in South Korea.

So, the pack of nearly forty guys was on the run at six-ooH-two towards the first check on a broken tarmac just before the run site. A right turn just before the high fence got us to see the first check. A falsie was called on the left into the rubber estate and everyone was everywhere again to break the check. Knut was heard saying where the check would be broken before a

falsie call for a falsie that he went searching forward on the check. Soon enough, the OnCall was from where the falsie was called and the pack was cursing on the initial call.

The second check was just a loop back to near where we were after a hill climb and was broken with another hill climb up the cleared hills. Another hill conquered, the third check was just on top of another hill after we crossed an OP hill and a rubber estate. The check was broken with a forward search and a cool hill to hill ridge run brought us out to an often ran trail downhill. The fourth check was called when we reached the low lands between two smaller hills. It took a while before it was cracked with back checking towards the foreign workers' quarters.

The pack was on the run for about another two clicks before reaching the road towards the Thai Temple, the cleared hill slopes let us see what the front pack was doing – running. Some went off trail after some windblown papers to the left, were wondering where the paper should lead. We got everyone back on paper trail towards Barry's favourite areas to get stuck on the fifth check with two falsies – one of it was a steep climb that had ninety percent of the pack up there! Wong Chee Keong and A-Hong were standing on the true trail waiting for the front pack to call falsie on the opposite hill! Nice work to get the pack tight.

Billy 2 honked and connected paper on the other edge of the hill while Won Tian Haur picked up paper towards the check. Well, at the back of the pack again with Jeffrey Yong and Red Dragon where the former was making fun of the latter's running style. We crossed the hilly OP estate and into the rubber again to hitched on the sixth check. Some got confused and were calling check with hundreds of meters to run to! Obvious were the hill climb back up, crossing the shiggies and in the dark. It was a forward check and we were on our home trail through a long gradient climb through the rubber, the jungle part of the descent before we finally got onto the crusher run road for the last two kilometers.

A nice run despite the absences of the usual front runners, leaving the chances for others to do the checks

Thanks Billy

The Circle:

The circle started a little later than usual as the last runners came in around 8.20pm. With two new members joining on the same day (Tan Xiao Chien aka 'Orange', and C.W. Chang aka Goloh), the club was spoilt for choice regarding butlers. As Orange was the first person to put the money in my hand he was officially the first member, and so the next member Butler duties fell to Goloh. However, I'm sure they will take turns until the next new member arrives.

Knut, an ex-On Cash and long-term member, donated a case of Guinness, and to ensure all members had a chance for the black stuff, they became available just as the circle started.

As many members were in Korea our usual Hash Flashes, Kana and Michael Moi were missing, so Jega stepped forward with the OnSec's smart phone to take a few pics. Unfortunately, the phone proved temperamental so many of the photos he thought he was taking didn't quite turn out. We did several good ones of his thumb though

The Hare was up next. Most members thought it was a good run even though the first runners were in well past 7:30. Unfortunately, too much time was spent breaking the 1st check and the multiple false trails at the 4th check. The front runner was in at 7:54. OnSec considered the packs opinion and noting the first runner at 7:54 judged it a fine run.

This came as quite a surprise to many members and there was much discussion about this at the circle (see below).

On Cash was in Korea, but Ah Chai (long-time member) still insisted on paying his subs for Q1 to the OnSec., When asked about the fact we are now in Q2 he replied something about 'Later', so he was rewarded and encouraged with a beer and a song. Knut was called up to receive his Twenty Five year member patch and receive his congratulatory beer. He also talked of the changes he's seen over the years including the increased length of the runs and that it seems there are more mosquitoes now than ever.

Interhash Sec was also absent, but On Sec mentioned that the Pan-Africa hash has now been moved from Sierra Leone to Malindi in Kenya on the first weekend of August.

When Jega and On Sec returned to the run site they immediately noticed a blazing bush fire around a tree and surrounding scrub. As Fico's car was the closest to where the fire started, he was called up on the box.

Monkey, next week's hare, was missing for his bomoh duties so the club looks forward to his case of beer contribution next week. Taking his place was Billy No-Hair, who did an excellent job of calling up the Butler for attempting to usurp the bomoh; Mathew, Barry and Frank for talking and holding a private circle; Also Ah Siong and Kin Seong for the same offence. Bon was up next for hugging trees or crashing into them. Then Bull came up for imitating Tumblin' Bill, by tumbling over at the run site; and Lai Gung Chon for a charge I can't recall. There were a few charges from the floor. Notably, the Hare charged JM Bon for giving him misleading advice on the run length and him receiving a fine run as a result. With that the Hare sent us on our way to the restaurant towards Kajang where the overly-large unmentionable works. Excellent food and cold beers all at a heavily subsidised price: Thank you Hare.

On Sec's Column

There seems to be some confusion on the run length and the On Sec's verdict of a fine run when many of the Members thought it was a good run. This has had the unintended consequence of creating disunity within Mother by upsetting a number of Members. I wish to address this as it concerns me that Members were upset.

I have since had discussions with some Council Members and two things became evident:

- It seems that the OnSec's view on fine runs was unclear; and
- The Members were surprised.

Mother is about a run with enough exercise but not too much that the Members do not have enough time or are too exhausted to enjoy a beer at the circle and a good chat with friends. No Hare can set a run that makes everyone happy but every Member should get a

fair opportunity for his beer, and there should still be beer for the circle. This is why fine runs came about.

So please let me clarify how I think. Any future run, if the front runner on-paper is:-

- shorter than 45 minutes (first runner before 6.45 pm) does not provide enough exercise. It has always been and remains a fine run.
- longer than 105 minutes (first runner after 7.45 pm) can be overly taxing on many of the Members and they may not get their fair drinking time. It will be a fine run.
- I would prefer the first runner to be in by 7:30 so there is sufficient beer for the circle and all members get their fair share. This should be every Hare's goal for the best balance of exercise and beer.

As always On Sec has discretion. For example if the front runner arrives between 7:30 to 7:45 pm and the majority of the pack think it was a crap run then it could be a fine run.

I understand now that many Members do not read the newsletter.

I will announce this on the box next week so all Members are aware and there should be no more surprises on run length. Also, it seems as though the message at the Brewery and in subsequent newsletters did not get through that the On Sec's short check requirement was abolished. I will also announce that on the box next week. Before then, I will contact the next week's Hare to make sure he is aware of both items.

Lastly, I now see that Erik's run was caught by the confusion and surprise. I feel it is unfair to Erik to deem his run a fine run. He does not have to set a run in ten weeks. For all future runs, however, I will use the above guidelines.