

Quorn H3 Run 756 / Ashbourne H3 Run 31

The Bulls Head, Belper Lane End, Saturday 7th April 2012.

As far as my records go, apart from weekend events, this is the first time QH3 have hashed on a Saturday, but that didn't stop a good dozen making their way to Belper Lane End to join another dozen from Ashbourne (plus a couple from Birmingham & a stray from Eastbourne – more later) for the 2nd Joint trail. An availability of public transport allowed *Too Tuf*, *Chicki*, *Freya* & *Barritone*, all to be at the pub before 11am, although it had meant a very early start for some.

Horse's Arse got the circle underway being the AH3 RA, as the AH3 GM (*Durex*) was the busy being the hare (along with *Malteaser*), he then requested if QH3 could supply their own RA & yours truly was nominated, as I have a Minor Position.

As the circle was being formed, *Wriggle* felt a bit moist (she said it was rain) & duly got a coat out of the car & put it on – that's confidence in the RA! The pack turned left out of the car park to an immediate check, *IWB* showed his hand early – in his ability to not only go the wrong way, but to go a long way the wrong way, the antenna (bunny ears) that he was wearing was obviously not tuned into the Hare's (& dad's) frequency.

The trail went up, along an ancient footpath, then a bit of road before turning off into the fields, lots of tricky stiles to negotiate, especially if you have a normal sized Labrador, luckily I had managed to offload mine onto *Totem Pole* & *Enema*, who 'persuaded' her through the tightest ones. Down the hill, through the gorse bushes to the first of 3 river crossings – this one had easy stones to use, back up the hill, through the herd of noisy cows, more nasty stiles before a descent back down to the river and this time a bridge. Assistant hare *Too Tuf* tried to set a bar (the hare had somehow forgot to set one?) to catch out the hashers behind him, but he was caught in the act and so the bar was ignored.

Another hill to climb (I can see why *Malteaser* elected to do the beer stop, as there def. more up than down), the FRB's completely losing the trail at this point due to the lack of use that these cracking paths get. Once back on trail & the check sorted, we went down into the valley for the third & final river crossing, this time the bridge was well barred, I took the true hashers approach – jumping in upstream of the bridge & wading down stream under the bridge, whilst the rest of the pack fanned about trying to find away to jump across, Sir Walter Riley (*Too Tuf*), luckily found a good stick to hold, to assist not only *Lady Chicki* but *Lady Wriggle* as well, across the 2ft wide chasm.

Up the Bluebell covered bank & out onto the tops, with the banks of snow still evident in the distance, the hare insisting that yesterday it was waist deep???? Only a few more evil stiles, and then half mile of road (where we found Teeny with horn & hound) & we were at the beer stop and Easter Egg Hunt – Yes, Malteaser had not eaten it all, but taken the time to hide chocolate eggs around the disused quarry – one of first to arrive was truffle hound Bess (the aforementioned Lab) who showed a talent for finding & eating the eggs, foil & all. Also here, climbing the quarry walls were Stretchy (BH3) & Mrs Ox (Eastbourne), having not found any eggs, Stretchy then built a fireless fire for us all to stand round – no I don't know why either. Having been replenished with 'French Lager from Tesco' we set off on the 1.5 miles to the pub, and after Wriggle was caught front running ("what does 'on three' mean?") there was the mother of all hills before a descent (in the rain) to the pub. A cracking trail was followed by a cracking circle – Horse's Arse then decided that as I had 'volunteered' I could do all the circle, which the AH3 GM requested be held in the bar.

DD's were awarded to: Durex, Malteaser & Too tuf for laying the flour; Chicki & Horse's Arse, for him showing her how use her rim, the SCB's; Wriggle, Wallington & Wheelchair; Stretchy & Mrs Ox for playing knickers' top trumps, Barritone for only being able to count to 1; IWB for going astray; Totem Pole for calling my dog the wrong name; Too Tuf & Chicki for help on river crossing and to both Scrooge & Die Rear for wearing new shoes.

Well that's how I remember it, Bugger, Minor Position, Quorn H3.