On On

The History Magazine of the Hash House Harriers

Number 2

February 2020
Published towards the end of the month

News

China

The following was posted on the Beijing H3 website:

Dear Hashers and friends,

Unfortunately, the Beijing authorities announced that outdoor fitness activities, sports groups, and other social gatherings are forbidden due to the outbreak of coronavirus, it means the hash also needs to be on hold during the coronapocalypse.

We will follow the situation closely and keep you updated for future runs.

We are proud to hash in any weather, but we must sympathize with the Chinese Government's efforts to prevent the virus from spreading. Thank you in advance for understanding!

On On

The Beijing H3 Mis-management

Tunisia

Former US Ambassador to Tunisia, Gordon Gray, recently talked with the Arab Weekly about his time in Tunis. While this was largely a political interview, Ambassador Gray also mentioned his running with **Carthage H3**, a group I believe is now dormant.

'Our runs took us all over the breathtaking capital city and its suburbs. Sometimes we passed the Carthaginian ruins that survived Roman destruction. Often times we endured Tunis's gruelling hills, which, legend says, reminded the ancient Romans of their own terrain. Other times we ran past the presidential palace, inhabited by strongman Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali and surrounded by his foreboding security guards.'

Can readers suggest other ambassadors who were regular hashers?

UK

A Portsmouth newspaper, The News, gave a report on the first Lakeside Run of the 2019-20 season. There were 241 finishers, with Seb Belton (**Bicester H3**) a creditable 4th. *November 2019*

Turkey

Ölüdeniz H3 recently celebrated their 250th walk/run with an outing to Şovalye Island. *January 26th 2020*

Wisconsin

Eau Claire's H3 met at the Fox Run Tavern for their fifth annual Snowshoe Beer Mile. This is a mile run through snow, with a beer ever 400 yards. Sounds fun. *February 1st 2020*

Cayman lslands

Cayman H3 organized their 46th Cross Island Relay with 89 teams of 6 runners entering. *February 2nd 2020*

Uganda

Kampala H3 entered a team for the two-day, 330 kilometre, Kampala to Gulu Relay. Organized by Ugandan Breweries and the Ministry of Water and Environment, it was part of the 'Running out of trees' campaign. *February 7th 2020*

New Zealand

New Zealand has a position called the NZ Grand Master/Mistress, which is a 2 year term running from one Nash Hash to the next. The election is decided at a special meeting on the Sunday morning of Nash Hash. The NZGM's duties include travelling throughout NZ to visit kennels and generally promote hashing in NZ. (Adapted from the New Zealand Hash Website)

The new GM is *Shunter*, a relatively new arrival to the **Pania Plodders Hash** (Napier) although he has a long association with **Mount Hash**.

Thailand

Paul *Lord Lucan* Eldred, a well known figure on the Thailand hash scene, passed away on 16 February 2020. On on Lord Lucan! Paul clocked up 283 runs with Pattaya H3 and his 12 Dirt Road Runs included 5 as hares. *February 17th 2020*

UAE

As their 2000th Run approaches the men-only **Creek H3** continue to struggle for numbers with the pack hovering around 10. The mixed **Desert H3** is doing better and can get 30 plus to a run. *John-Boy* (*Lady Boy* on the Creek) recently passed the 300 mark with Desert H3. *February 2nd 2020*

Great Hashers

Front Running Bastards

FRB stands for *Front Running Bastard*, those much cursed (but just possibly secretly admired) members of the pack who are forever disappearing into the distance, leaving the fat boys at the back choking on their dust. Front running must be done with a certain panache.

Harriette front-runners are generally more accepted. Dogs and children under ten also tend to get away with it, and might even be thought cute.

The **first acknowledged FRB** was John Wyatt-Smith, who ran with Mother Hash either side of the war. John had run cross country for Oxford University.

The most **distinguished FRB** of all time was probably **Tim Johnstone,** who had placed 8th in the 1968 Olympic Games marathon. However, there was a long gap between Tim's international running career and his running with Angeles City H3. **Ron Hill** (European and Commonwealth marathon champion) is also believed to have hashed, but the author was unable to confirm this.

The **fastest FRB** of all time is **Dan Schlesinger**. Dan had been a very good runner on the US college scene and then moved to Korea, where he hashed as part of his marathon training. Seoul H3 gave him the hash name *Dancing Dan*. In 1982 he entered the New York Marathon, finishing third in a world-class time of 2 hour 11 minute 36 seconds. This is the finest time ever recorded by an active Hasher.

During the late 1970's **Peter Moore** represented Canada at several World International Cross Country Championships, for which he was inducted into the Edmonton Sports Hall of Fame. After his serious running career was over Peter discovered hashing, becoming *Pecker Checker* on the Edmonton Hash.

There have been several international orienteers who were regular hashers, including *Go-Kart* of Ankara H3 and *Blind Pew* of Stockholm H3. When injured just prior to the 2003 Stockholm Marathon, hash veteran John *Malibog* Denny gave his race number to *Blind Pew*. Although he had not trained for a marathon, *Blind Pew* was fit young man and he tucked in with one of the front groups, finishing in a very respectable 2 hours 33minutes. As *Blind Pew* was running under Mailbog's name, this appeared to have broken the Swedish veteran's national record! The boys of course confessed.

Below: Tim Johnstone, Olympic marathon runner and hasher

Hash Song

Sydney Harriettes always come
Long tall legs and lots of bum
We're gifted, uplifted pissed all the time
We're floozies but choosy
Give us more wine…..

sydney harriettes

Hash Joke

A Harriette takes her husband to a shopping mall. She wants to go into a shoe shop and he isn't interested, so she sits him on a bench and says 'don't move!'

When she comes out he is gone! She tries all the bars but there is no sign of him, so she goes to security

'Excuse me, but I've lost my husband'
'Okay madam, what's he like?
'What's he like? He likes whiskey and women with big breasts, but that's not going to help find him

Old hash joke recently told in Desert H3 circle

Hash Publications

I looked at the Creek Hash 500th Run programme thinking I would give a review of hashing in Dubai in 1992. **Instead I found the magazine offered two fascinating pages reporting on hashing in neighbouring Kuwait** either side of the Iraqi invasion. Here is a summary:

Creek 500th Run Programme, 1992

Three documents were reproduced in the programme

● A hash-trash dated 4th August, 1990, giving an account of a hash that took place two days *after* the Iraqi invasion.

● An epilogue that was probably written around May 1991, up dating readers on where the hashers mentioned in the August hash-trash had now settled.

● A short Gulf News article dated May 10th, 1991.

The hash-trash poses some problems, for although it has the date of the run, there is no indication when it was actually written or distributed. My suspicion is that it was written immediate after the run but unlikely, in these pre-internet days, to have been circulated until *after* hashers had started to return to Kuwait the following year.

If that is the case then the epilogue might well have been added to the news-sheet when it was first released, but that is uncertain and the typeface is different.

Put together the three documents give a fascinating account of an epic moment in hashing.

● The last hash after the invasion took place from the home of Ted '*Pension Book*' Foreman and Joyce Foreman. Unfortunately there is no information offered as to where they lived. Getting to the run was probably dependent on living in the same neighbourhood as the hares, and co-hare Alan *'Dubai'* Cooke did not turn up.

● Despite the fact that the Iraqi army was cruising around in large numbers, five hashers made it to the start.

● Peter *Biggles* Goodwin, Dave Reeve and Derek Boak arrived on time and Johnny *Condom* Johnson arrived late, complaining of the 'heavy traffic.' (He presumably meant military trucks and tanks).

● The Hare, host and 5th runner present was Ted *'Pension Book'* Foreman. Interestingly Joyce Foreman does not seem to have been counted, although she was there. Was the old Kuwait hash a men-only group?

● The boys joked about the large number of virgin hashers 'about 100,000' of them' (i.e. the Iraqi army of occupation) but they apparently *'only had Iraqi dinar'* so were not allowed to run.

● The pack initially stayed indoors and started drinking beers.

● However, after a few drinks Derek Boak, who had jogged to the hash, suggested they go for a run.

● *'The run was without incident'* but *'somewhat shorter than normal'*.

● Johnny Johnson later gave another account to the Gulf News – *'we spent most of the time trying to evade Iraqi troops'*

● After the run Dave Reeve, the hash cash, stood in for the absent RA.

- Peter *Biggles* Goodwin celebrated his 150th run.

It is worth remembering that at this stage Iraq was NOT at war with America or the western nations – indeed the western embassies were still open. However, most Europeans were anxious to keep a low profile as nobody quite knew what would happen next, or how the occupying troops were going to behave.

The epilogue is of particular interest.
- In September Joyce Foreman joined the flight that had been negotiated by the embassies to take foreign women and children out of the country. This went smoothly, but was a very tense affair. Only Iraq Air was flying into Kuwait and the plane had to stop in Baghdad. There were real fears that they would be off-loaded and held as hostage, but the journey to London continued uneventfully.

- On August 10th *Condom* and Alan Cooke drove across the desert to Saudi, a path taken later in the month by Dave Reeve.

- Ted Foreman and *Biggles* were later taken hostage and put on a bus to Baghdad. Here they spent time in an Iraqi 'installation' before a negotiated release took place in December.

The Gulf News report (May 10th, 1991) gives an account of a four km run by the **Free Kuwait Hash House Harriers.**

- Things were far from normal and the run took place in *'smog-ladened evening air'* from the still burning oilfields

- 15 Brits and 2 Americans turned up. It was noted that this was Kuwait's 313th run, so although they used the new 'Free Kuwait' title, they clearly saw themselves as a continuation of the old kennel.

Returning to the epilogue we learn that:
- Of the six present at the Foreman's house that evening, only *Biggles* and *Condom* had returned to Kuwait.

- The hosts had moved on to Korea and there is a note that the absent hare, Alan Cooke, was now in Dubai.

- There was 'no news' of Dave Reeve or Derek Boak, which is not necessarily sinister, but does suggests they had not returned to Kuwait.

Great DownDowns

Kuwait H3
August 4th 1990

The five runners and (presumably) hostess Joyce Foreman gave the *Wanker of the Week Award* to Saddam Hassan.

It appears there was not a lot of competition, *'with mutual agreements and by-lateral undertaking, the award went to a certain person in Bagdad, as it was felt that he was the one most likely to be at next week's hash'*.

Timeline

August 2nd, 1990
100,000 Iraqi troops invade Kuwait

August 4th, 1990
The last hash takes place

September 1st, 1990
700 hostages, mainly women and children, are flown out of Kuwait and safely reach London.

December 6th, 1990
3000 foreign hostages are released from Kuwait and Iraq.

January 17th, 1991
Operation Desert Storm starts with air raids.

January 22nd, 1991
Kuwait oilfields are deliberately set on fire by the Iraqi army.

February 24th, 1991
Coalition troops enter Kuwait.

February 26th, 1991
Iraqi troops leave Kuwait City.

May, 1991
Hashing resumes

Hash Terms

more about shiggy
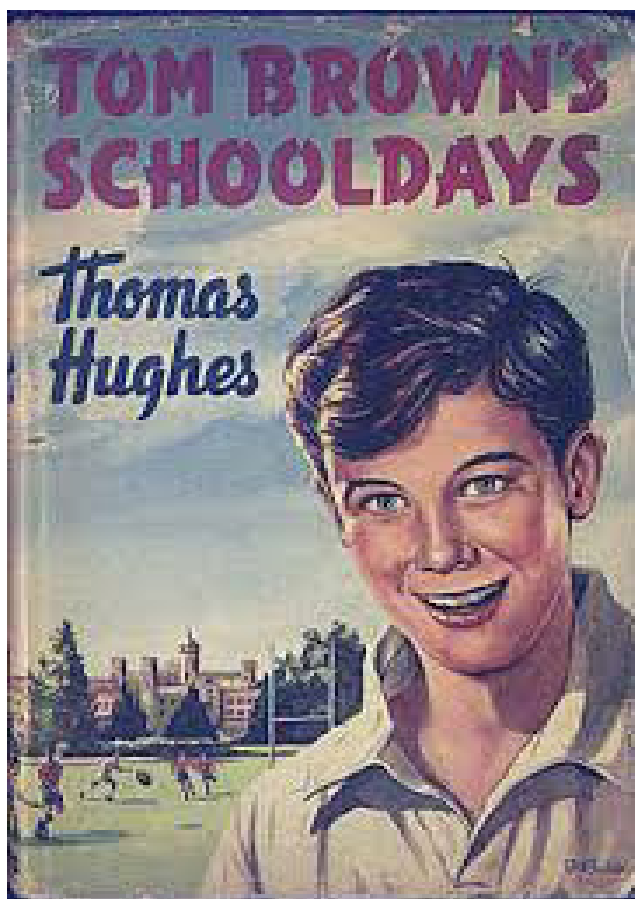
Trevor Ancell passed this on from David *Dad Dad* Robb.

"From the EGH3 history I can add the following. The oldest hash in UK is the Westcombe Park H3 - part of the rugby club. Only ran once a month, so never in the highest number of runs. Started by a member of the rugby team who returned from Hong Kong where he discovered hashing. Returned to Sevenoaks and started a hash for ex members of the rugby 1st team to keep a level of fitness. (1) Shiggy was on every run and there was always a shower to be provided at the end. Tim Walker (KL) and I (Cyprus) started EGH3 after running with them [Westcombe] for 4 months but wanted more runs. (2) Westcombe Park came on our first run and the shiggy idea remained with us thereafter. We had exchange hashes where we travelled to Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow then the Cambridge Nash Hash - the rest is history. One of our best events was a weekend event after the South of England Agricultural Show at their show ground. We told them not to clear the shit away. You can guess the rest. (3) We always had showers available. We were a clean hash."

> *Editors notes:*
> (1) While the link between Westcombe Hash and the rugby club was already documented, the fact that the hash was originally made up *only* of rugby players is not widely known.
> (2) This gives further background information to the link between Westcombe and East Grinstead.
> (3) Would love to hear from somebody who was there

Hash Classic

An account of an early paper chase

In 1857 Tom Hughes published his novel Tom Brown's School Days, written as fiction but firmly based on the author's own experiences at Rugby School. This was an age of British military power, imperial ambition and industrial wealth. A time when education was becoming more valued, with the upper classes sending their sons to be flogged and bullied at one of the great public schools, of which Repton, Harrow, Eton and Rugby were ranked amongst the finest.
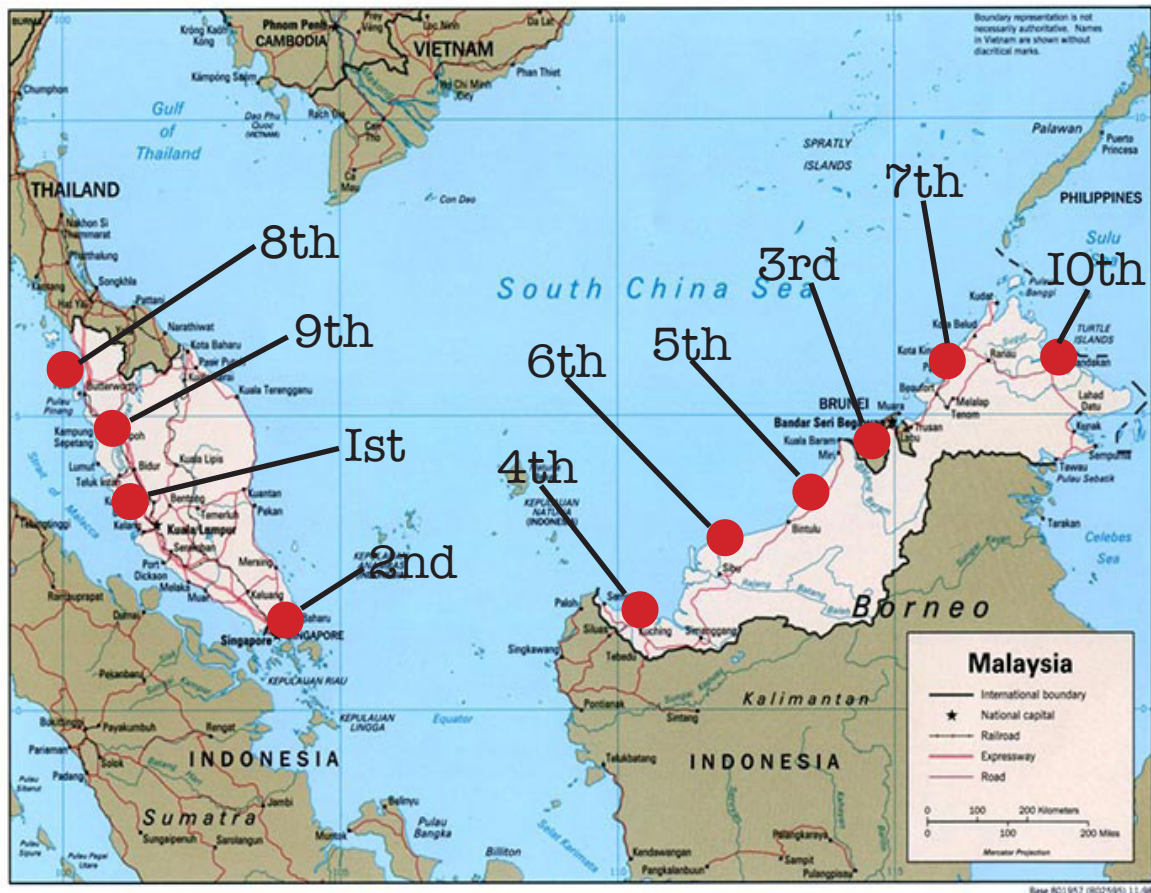
Many of these young boys had been brought up on country estates, where hunting with horses and hounds was a popular pastime. There was no opportunity to ride at school, so the boys channelled their energy into sport, playing rough-and-tumble football games and replicating the fun of the hunt by organizing paper chases. Two boys, known as the hares, would set off with sacks of paper to lay a cross country trail and after they had been given a sporting head start – six minutes was the tradition at Rugby – the pack would set off in pursuit.

The annual 'Big Side Hare and Hounds' is beautifully described in **Tom Brown's School Days**. This was a nine-mile romp through the local countryside, with the hares winning praise for setting a trail that was easy to follow. There were checks (although those finding the new trail would call *'Forward'* rather than *'On On')*. There was even beer at the end, with any boy finishing the run within fifteen minutes of the hares being treated to bread, cheese and ale at the local inn!

Tom Brown and his buddy, Harry East, were the youngest boys running that afternoon and as the light faded they wandered off the trail and became lost in the dark. (And haven't we all been there!). Not at all put off by the experience, they declared that *'Hare and Hounds is the most delightful of games.'* Hear, Hear and On On!

Hash Map
The first hash kennels in the world

1. **Hash House Harriers (Mother Hash)**
Date: 30 November 1938
Founder: Albert Gispert and others

2. **Hash House Harriers Singapore**
Date: 19 February 1962
Founder: Ian Cumming

3. **Brunei Hash House Harriers**
Date: 18 February 1963
Founder: Colin Berwick

4. **Kuching Hash House Harriers**
Date: 21 May 1963
Founder: Harry *God Knows* Howell

5. **Miri Hash House Harriers**
Date: 31 December 1963
(Resumed 27 May 1973)
Founder: Ian Ansh

6. **Sibu Hash House Harriers**
Date: 1 June 1964
(Resumed 8 October 1995)
Founder: ?

7. **Kota Kinabalu Hash House Harriers**
(Originally Jesselton H3)
Date: 22 June 1964
Founder: George Will

8. **Penang Hash House Harriers**
Date: 10 May 1965
Founder: Robin Rawlings

9. **Ipoh Hash House Harriers**
Date: 9 October 1965
Founder: David *Mad Dog* Denning

10. **Sandakan Hash House Harriers**
Date: October, 1965
Founder: Jonathon Gray

OnOn

Now with Amazon!

Available in the next few days!

A History of the Hash House Harriers

Bob *Shakes* Pateman

I have just had the pleasure to review a new book on hashing, and it is brilliant. A well-crafted and detailed account of how "G" and the boys got started, how hashing spread out around the world, and some of the many differences that hashing has taken, along with how it has aged. Author and longtime hasher, "Shakesprick," has spent the past two years gathering historical facts and regional activities of the world of hashing. This soon to be released book may confuse you by the title, so keep an eye out for it . . . "ON ON - A History of the Hash House Harriers" . . . available on Amazon in the very near future. I highly recommend it.

Hazukashii – editor of GoToTheHash website

Please send comments, articles and questions to Shakes at
hawthornpublishing17@gmail.com
Facebook: A History of the Hash House Harriers

Hash Classic
Beijing 300th (early 1989?)

Beijing H3 was doing well at the time with packs of thirty plus. The 300th had an early morning start and probably attracted 50 runners. British Airways provided the t-shirts – still a rare gift in China at the time. It was a cold morning, with the run starting at the Holiday Inn on the airport road. In those days this was in the middle of countryside with plenty of water obstacles. There was also a stretch where ancient statues could be found – dumped here years before during the Cultural Revolution.

The run went well but there were problems at the finish. BA had not delivered the beers chilled (placing them in the snow solved that). The man delivering the pizzas had presumed the order was for 11.00pm and was still in bed when the worried hares called him! The Holiday Inn kitchen stepped in.

Pictures show Top, Helen, the first female GM of the kennel, with the extremely tasteful hashshite. The Harriette in the centre of the larger photo is Jacqueline *Goldilocks* Gouclh, later the founder of **Ho Chi Minh H3** To her left, is Mitch, who was part of a TV camera crew and former male model! Not sure who is on her left.

Hash Classic Mother Hash 1272

Run 1272 is famous for the entire Mother Hash pack getting lost and staying out all night. (That is out in the jungle, not out in the bar!) The best account is a video recording made by John Duncan who was on the run that day. *A summary of events is as follows:*

The venue for this legendary run was a jungle area between Uluklang Ridge and the reservoir. Towards the end of the run the hare got disoriented, and on reaching a new track took a right turn. This was a mistake for it only took him deeper into the forest.

The front-runners in the pack caught up with him around 7.20pm. Had they gone back to the last junction they might still have made it home, but instead they pushed on. After wading through two swamps the boys decided enough was enough and settled down for the night.

Meanwhile four hashers, understanding that the previous right turn would be a bad idea, had gone left, crossed the ridge and had reached the cars. They were now contacting worried (and in some cases not particularly worried) wives.

Two phone-calls were remembered by Duncan. His own wife, presuming he was ringing from a bar, refused to answer the phone. Peggy Edwards, whose husband Geoff was a mature 55, replied that, *'it serves the silly bastard right'* and went back to sleep.

With the return of daylight the pack retraced their steps to the last split. Here a small group continued over the ridge and reached the cars around 7.35am. The rest decided to stay on paper and walk the trail backwards. They reached the beers around 9.00am. The one runner who had insisted on continuing into the jungle finally arrived at 2.00pm, having emerged from the jungle miles away and hitching a ride on the back of a motorbike!

Country Profiles

Hashing across two continents – Turkey

Turkey is one of the largest (and in many places wildest) countries in Europe, which means there are some great opportunities for setting trails. In fact most of the country is in Asia, and the motto of the **Istanbul H3** is '*We do it on two continents'*. Attitudes vary greatly between the cities, which are extremely modern and forward looking, and conservative villages, but generally the country is relaxed and the local Efes Beer is well loved by hashers.

Istanbul is the largest city by far (16 million to Ankara's 5 million) and Istanbul H3 has been hashing since January 1985. Their first run was in the Belgrade Forest and sixteen turned up. It was a promising start, but numbers dropped and the kennel came close to folding. From around Run 15 membership slowly started to climb and the hash survived.

Bill *Cueball* Corloss took over as GM on Run 100 and appointed Bill *Hans Fairy* Anderson as the first RA. After Run 50 *Cueball* and *Fairy* switched roles, and it was this two-year spell under their guidance that saw Istanbul adopt many hash traditions. This included longer circles, a wider use of hash names and tankards. *Toot Toot*, the first Istanbul hasher to reach a hundred runs, started to write a regular hash trash.

Dick Nicholls (ex-London) founded **Ankara H3** in March 1985, and this was the start of a golden age for Turkish hashing. Large construction projects, such as the Istanbul-Ankara Highway, brought in an influx of expatriates and numbers peaked in both Istanbul and Ankara. The road camps hosted some brilliant joint runs with Istanbul taking on the image of the 'barbarian hash' while Ankara was the 'family hash'. However, at the first joint run in the Bolu Mountains the honours were divided, *Roomboy* of Istanbul *'upsetting Ankara no end with his after dinner tasteless jokes'* and *Hashputin* of Ankara *'kicking a child while trying to complete a Down-down standing on his head'*.

There was once a hash in Diyarbakir, a town situated deep in Kurdish Turkey. **Diyarbakir H3** dates to 1988 and was started by workers in the oil industry. Their first run had to be postponed as Shell had organized a volleyball tournament for the same afternoon, but after that the kennel made rapid progress. Although they were never able to attract runners from the nearby NATO camp many Turks joined in. As one of the early newsletters pointed out, *'deep in the Turkish soul is a yearning to run, drink too much and behave like hooligans.'* Diyarbakir H3 last-

ed several years, but the winding down of the oil camp marked the end of the kennel.

Recent years

The turn of the new century was a good time for hashing in Ankara. They pack would gather at Segmenler Park and jump into a minibus for a short ride out, with the ORAN forest and Eymir Lake favourite venues. Winters were cold, but spring delightful, with some runs heading out to the surrounding hills. Here hashers might run through carpets of wild flowers and tortoises were often seen. Thursday night at Amarillos (a bar owned by the then GM *Rin Tin Tin*, became a tradition.

There was a **Turkish Nash Hash** and in 2009 Turkey hosted **Eurohash** for a second time, with five hundred and fifty hashers from 36 countries turning up to enjoy limitless beer throughout the weekend. Saturday's trails were of a high standard with the surrounding hills offering a great range of sites from canyons to pine forests.

Ankara H3 and **Istanbul H3** have declined in numbers in recent years, with both kennels now holding steady at around 15 runners each week. In contrast, hash veterans from the 1990s, returning to Turkey in their retirement, have created a boom in hashing along the coast where the list of kennels now consists of **Antalya H3, Bodrum, Ordu Karadeniz** and **Fethiye H3**. However, this is an aging community – Fethiye are affectionately known as *'The Coffin Dodgers'* - and the long-term future of these kennels is uncertain. Finally a mention of Alan *Wicked Willy* Prior, founder of Fethiye H3 who has completed 470 of their first 476 runs!

EuroHash 99 - Cappadocia Turkey

WILL WE COME AGAIN??

EURO HASH
Antalya 2009

Turkey

AH3
HASH HOUSE HARRIERS
TURKEY 1994
ANTALYA

Turkey

Turkey

Turkey

Smiley (with the beer) twice GM of Ankara H3

Go-Kart the first Turkish hasher to complete 1000 runs with a single kennel.

It's fun down south!

The Istanbul boys. When Fred Roissetter (centre) transferred from Ankara to Istanbul the Ankara RA said it would improve the average IQ on both kennels.