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MISSIVE FROM THE ON PRES'

Looking back the 12th June 2011 seems quite a while ago now. That, of course, was the day when I was awarded the title of 'On Pres of Episkopi Hash House Harriers.

Before that, I had been approached by various people wondering if I would be prepared to stand as 'On Pres. Obviously other Hashers received similar approaches. Initially, I had said 'NO' but for whatever reason I eventually gave in and agreed that my name could go forward for consideration. We all know the outcome because after a secret ballot, I was chosen – and, to be honest, I felt very honoured indeed. Then of course the panic set in!

I was given a free hand as far as the week to week Hash was concerned. My first task was to choose a small team to assist me.Tony Flower had been a good supporter of the Hash since he joined and, in my opinion, was a strong enough character to handle the job of Run Master – well able to withstand any undue influence by those Hashers seeking favours in the allocation of Hares' duties. I believe Tony has done a very good job despite a few rumbles of discontent. Please bear in mind that we have a reduced number of runners nowadays from which to choose able Hares. Also, one Hare each week is drawn from our non running brigade. Those two factors alone result in Hashers who run being called upon more frequently. Add to that there are a number of members who are reluctant to do a Hare, spells off-island by individuals and general fitting in of dates, all go together to make Tony's job more difficult. If any Hasher feels hard done by, then speak with Tony and don't grumble in the background.

Brian Liddell as Hash Cash was a fairly obvious choice. I was surprised that Brian had not 'held office' before, given his years of dedication to this Hash. Perhaps work involvement and time off island for holiday and family visits had previously influenced his thinking.

Hash Words had been doing an excellent job, so the choice of Peter Hogg to continue in that role was easily made. Nogsie has brought his organisational skills to bear as ongoing Hash Bash and uses his contacts to good effect in organising various events.

Bob Bensley graciously agreed to continue in the post of Hash Haberdash until someone else could be found. No one else of course has been found, so my thanks to Bob for doing this thankless task. It's not easy pleasing everybody! Nev Rushton has proved to be fired with enthusiasm and as Hash Ash has emerged in a blaze of glory!

My earlier involvement with the Epi Hash had been somewhat limited – having become a member in October 2003. At that time, I 'sneaked' in despite not being a runner, and indeed having no prior knowledge of Hashing. Thank you, Jimmy Carroll! During the years since then, I have experienced various 'On Presidents. <u>Most</u> were good, but, in my view, a few were excellent.

No names can be mentioned of course! I think that most Hashers appreciate that not everyone is a natural joke teller or raconteur, and consequently are quite tolerant when it comes to a presidential performance each Tuesday. At least, I hope that to be the case! Whilst assessing our recent ' leaders', it was obvious to me that the format of the crit was reasonably common in each case. What, in my opinion, made them vary in performance was the individual style adopted by each one. Most assumed the approach of a one man show, while a few others utilised the strengths and skills of others whilst delivering a crit. No matter what, they all carried out their duties well and those individual styles have ensured variety year on year.

How would I approach the situation?

I chose to adopt a relaxed approach and I hope I have managed to convey that approach, whilst concealing the nerves that were inevitably lurking behind the facade – certainly in my early weeks of my term of office. Hopefully, no one thinks that I treat task of 'On Pres with any lack of respect. I chose a style which afforded fairly brief crits, padded out as necessary by a joke or two.

Obviously, I could not undertake the run crits so I have tried to introduce a few new faces from time to undertake that task. I think most have enjoyed doing so but I really should provide a bit more advance notice to my chosen victims. Obviously, the standard of jokes varies and it is quite difficult to get new material. Any sources members have for that would be much appreciated. My main 'supplier'

Obviously, the standard of jokes varies and it is quite difficult to get new material. Any sources members have for that would be much appreciated. My main 'supplier' – Peter Viney – is out of commission for a short time, and I look forward to his continued input in time. Of course, it is not just for his jokes that Peter is missed and we all look forward to his return on Tuesdays.

No doubt, my success or otherwise as an 'On Pres will be made known in due course.

Looking back - the usual round of social events/open runs proved to be as popular as ever. We must now get our heads together to organise the diary of events for 2012. Featuring largely in that will be our celebration of Run 2500 – scheduled for February. I asked a small sub-committee comprising Bollo, Hash Cash and Ray T to look into various ways of celebrating that and they have come up with a great package which should prove enjoyable. Further details of the weekend's programme will be released soon. Personally, I am somewhat disappointed with the uptake for this event and I hope we can drum up more support before then.

As regards the Hash in general, I believe it to be in good heart. Obviously, our membership is aging (in most cases gracefully!) and more Hashers are turning to the walk each Tuesday for a variety of reasons. We have taken in a few new members recently but of that number only a couple can be called runners. It is disappointing that some who have sought membership of late do not now seem to want our company on a Tuesday – that's their loss!

Finally, I will endeavour to carry out my 'On Pres' duties to the best of my ability during the next six months. Please feel free to submit your name to me if you fancy the job next time.

A happy, healthy and prosperous year to you all.

On on.

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Drew Muir









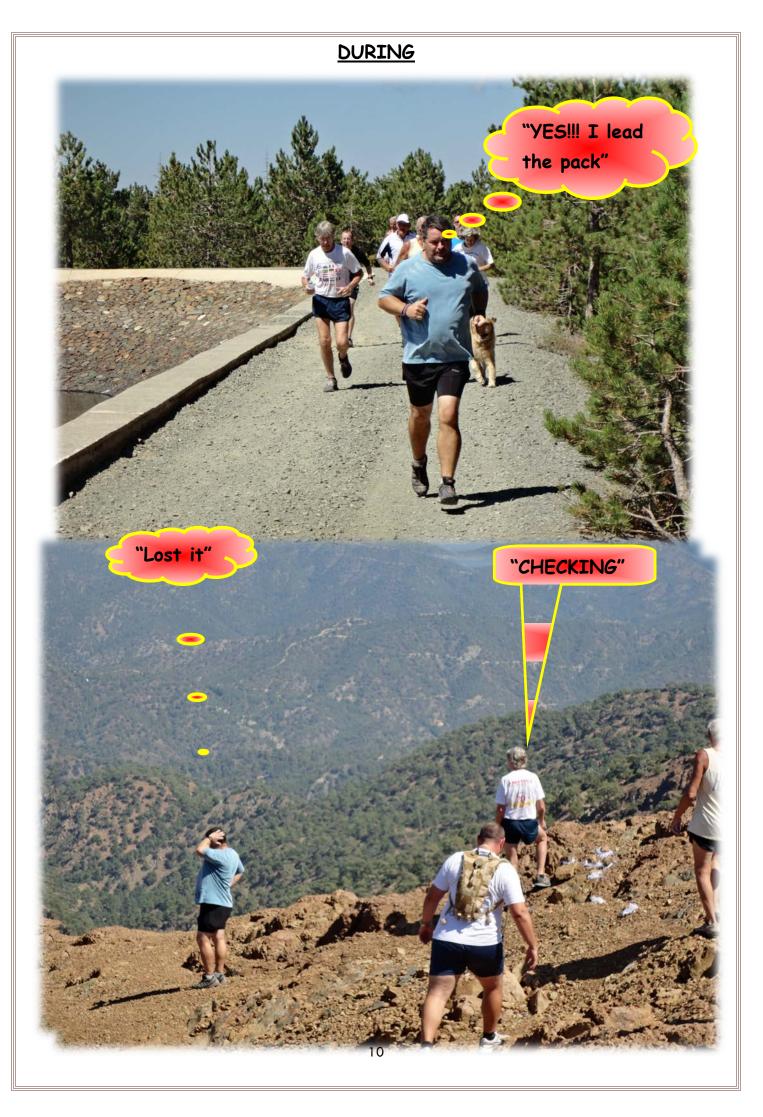
RUNS 2462 & 2468 3RD JULY & 13TH AUGUST "ON PARAMALI BEACH"



RUN 2475 - 18TH SEPTEMBER TROODOS

BEFORE



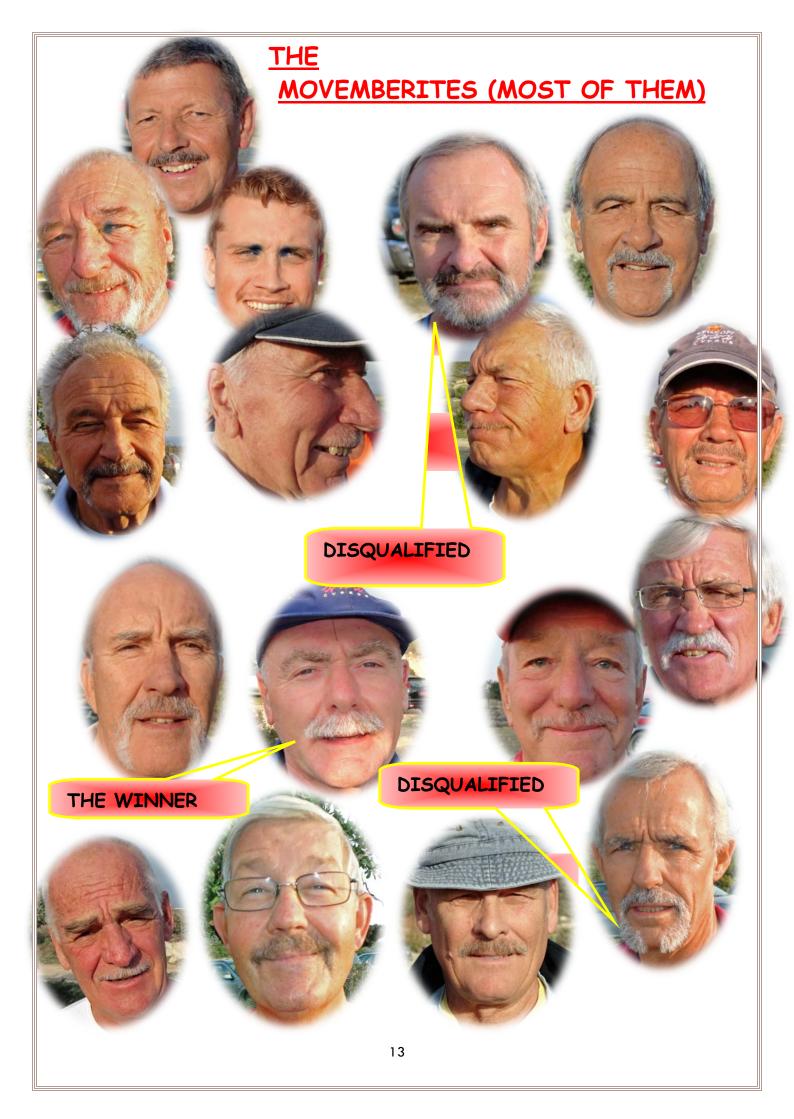


AND AFTER

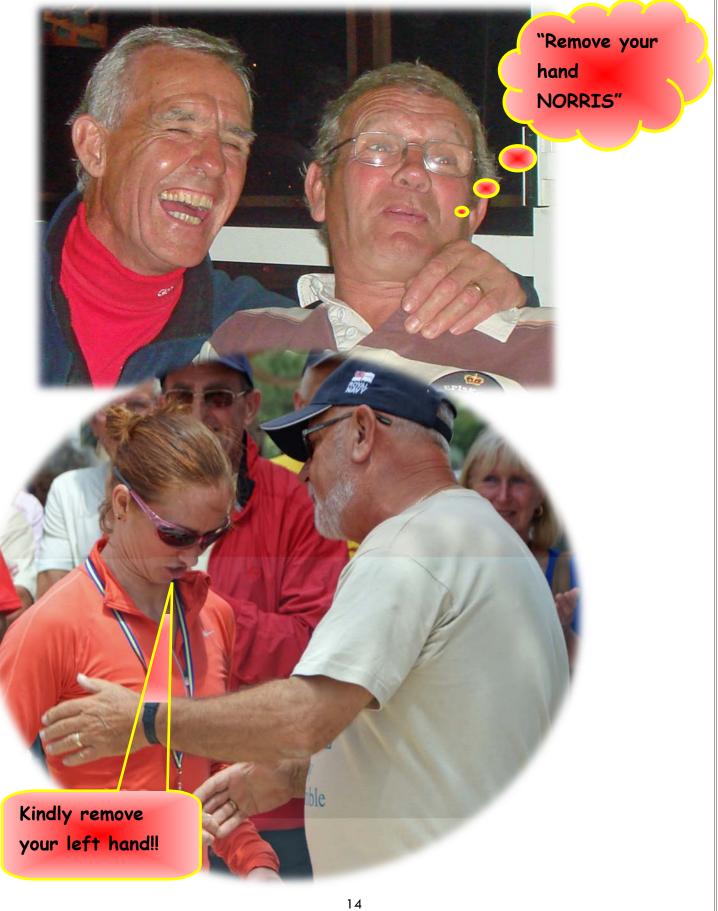


AND THERE'S MORE





SOME HISTORICAL GEMS of SENSITIVE DISCOMFITURE





VIC'S 85TH WITH THE SCHWARZANAGERS









EH3 HASH LIST MEMBERS ON THE ACTIVE LIST AS AT 01 DECEMBER 2011

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<u>THE BARD'S CORNER -</u> WITH A LOOK FORWARD TO THE BARD'S BIRTHDAY

<u>"TAE A FERT"</u>

Oh what a sleekit horrible beastie Lurks in yer belly efter the feastie Just as ye sit doon among yer kin

There sterts tae stir an enormous win' The neeps and tatties and mushy peas Stert workin' like a gentle breeze But soon the puddin' wi' the sauncie face Will have ye blawin' all ower the place

Nae matter whit the hell ye dae A'bodys gonnae have tae pay Even if ye try tae stifle It's like a bullet oot a rifle

Hawd yer bum tight tae the chair Tae try and stop the leakin' air Shift yersel fae cheek tae cheek Prae tae god it doesnae reek But aw yer efforts go asunder Oot it comes like a clap a thunder Ricochets aroon the room Michty me, a sonic boom

God almighty it fairly reeks Hope I huvnae shit ma breeks Tae the bog I better scurry Aw whit the hell, i'ts nae ma worry

A'body roon aboot me choking Abody roon about me boaking I'll feel better for a while Cannae help but raise a smile

Wis him I shout with accusin glower Alas too late, he's just keeled ower Ye dirty bugger they shout and stare A dinnae feel welcome any mair

Where e're ye go let yer wind gan free Sounds like just the job fer me Whit a fuss at rabbie's perty Ower the sake o' wan wee ferty

ON ON !!