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4th September 1980.

Dear Bryn,

I have at long last finished the Early History of Ladies Hashing. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to write.

I also enclose a copy of 'Guidelines to Hash', this may be of interest, unfortunately it is not dated, but it was written when the fees were £30, so that should give you some idea. Incidentally it was compiled by myself, and also I wrote some rules on 'laying' and 'running' a trail, which should be on your files.

As mentioned in my previous letter I had promised to write an article on Hashing for the British European, no sorry that's what it used to be called, British Association of Singapore. So a completed copy of the History would be most appreciated.

As regards the registration of the Hash, no doubt you have read various notices referring to it, My own fear was that the Register of Societies would turn us down, which incidentally had happened to another organisation that I had been involved in. It took the R. of S. a year to decide NO, during which time we had to cease operation. Luckily we were able to link up with the British Association and it is now part of their Ladies Group. As far as the Hash was concerned if we had applied for registration and then had to cease operation, whilst awaiting their decision, it really would have been a gamble as to whether or not one could get it going again if the answer was Yes. If it was No, then all hope was lost. My attitude was to let sleeping dogs lie, at least that way, R. of S. didn't know anything about us.

Regarding the section in the history on Problems, I leave it up to you whether you include it when you are compiling the complete history. I have included it because it is relevant to the history, and also it might help you to understand some of the rather confusing notices at times. Anyway I enclose copies of the relevant notices, which should make things clearer. If in this respect you wish to have more information, or aren't clear on a point, please do not hesitate to write to me.

In answer to your penultimate paragraph, the first notice I have on file is Run 55 and then the notices fluctuate until Run 190, so I don't really think I can be of help in that vein.

I was so pleased to be able to run with Singapore Harriets again when out there for Inter-Hash and also thrilled to see it firmly established now that it is registered. In actual fact I would be most interested to know how it was eventually achieved and by whom.

Many thanks for writing the History of Hashing and I look forward to reading about events after my departure in July 1977.

Regards and ON ON,

Caryl

HISTORY OF LADIES HASHING IN SINGAPORE.

My main reasons for starting the Ladies Hash are as set out in the 'First 100' which is enclosed. It must be realised that there was tremendous opposition from some of the men on the Mens' Hash. They seemed to think that we wanted to take over their Hash and therefore ruin their 'boys night out'. I was however lucky in that Ian Trumble, John Sheridan and Ratnam, were not agin us.

The first run was in October 1973 and was organised, at my request, by the then Joint Masters of Singapore Mens Hash, they being Ian Trumble, Ratnam and John Sheridan who may have been Secretary at that time, but I am not sure. The run was at Dover Road and possibly went over Kent Ridge. The men agreed to lay a run as a one off, "to see what the reaction would be". Approximately 12 runners gathered for the 1st run, the majority seemed to be from Changi, Annabelle Tame and myself being the only ones to continue as the rest were never seen again. Obviously it was a success and was followed by Run 2 which was held at Upper Thompson Road, so my husband informs me. The turn out was small, being myself husband, the hare and a few other ladies. We did however do the run.

John Sheridan laid the 3rd run out on the Jurong Road assisted by Annabelle Tame and myself, who were students of the honourable art on laying runs.

Officials.

First officials were myself as Secretary and Annabelle Tame as Hash Cash. I remained Secretary on and off for a long time and was finally made Grand Hash Mistress around about 100 runs by the then Joint Mistresses. Oct 1978

Zabi Burt and Jane Bodner were long time Hash Cashes, interspersed with having babies. Zabi was the first Hash Cash to introduce proper records for Hash subscriptions. Initially subs were collected each week, the sub being about 50 cents, but as numbers grew this task became too erroneous and a monthly sub was introduced, and we finally progressed to a 3 monthly sub. The monthly sub was \$5 and this covered the cost of beer, paper and postage. Initially the Hare always brought the beer and was reimbursed by Hash Cash, but again as numbers increased this became a problem, and so at around 100 runs we arranged for Fraser and Neave to follow us as they did for the Mens' Hash.

Objectives.

My initial objective was to have the Hash for ladies only but found that this was not possible. Not many of those early pioneers relished the thought of running through a Kampong full of snarling dogs without a male body guard. I was always determined to keep men out as they did already have their own Hash and this had been started specifically for the ladies. This situation was not helped by the fact that the Mens' Hash closed and started a waiting list, and thought they could run with us whilst awaiting entry. In fact they were a nuisance, crashing past us, splashing mud, doing the checks and apart from that I was concerned they might take over. I was also determined that all the officials would be women. Eventually we made it a rule that approx. 6 men could be made official members of our hash and each lady member was only allowed to bring 1 male guest, whether he be, boyfriend, lover, husband etc.

On Ons.

As far as I can remember the first On On was at Ian Trumble's abode and may have been after the 3rd run, his wife Pauline was not amused to see a crowd of sweaty, muddy and thirsty ladies, but eventually joined in the fun. When asked "why don't you Hash", she said, "my tennis is enough", but she eventually caught the bug and joined us becoming Hash Secretary for a time. Thereafter On Ons became a regular feature. I can remember many at Changi in Annabelle Tame's house and also Marion Swindon's. As numbers were still fairly small it was quite easy to cater for and for several years Harriets' homes were the venue for On Ons. Audrey and Des Holloway held some super On Ons, bill of fare nearly always being Curry. Another great curry maker was Kamela Chellam, who is still running today, and hopefully making those delicious curries.

Attire.

The attire in the beginning was much the same as today, shorts, tee shirts, running shoes etc. the only difference probably being that we didn't have Hash tee shirts until Run No. 50, this was not sponsored. Our first sponsored tee shirt was Run 100 by Soon Douglas. A company owned by Mary Jane Soon and Graham Douglas, who are still Hashing.

Records.

There are no records before Run 12. I rang everybody up each week, which was quite a task especially as the numbers grew. Eventually the Mens' Secretary agreed to put our run details onto their notice. This did in fact enlarge the membership as the mens' wives now became aware of our existence and wanted to join in the fun. We gradually established a nucleus who never failed to turn up. New members came and went but although somewhat small in numbers we survived without too much trouble.

Newsletter.

3rd April No. 24

The reason for having our own notice is that once the mens' Hash had a new Secretary, Derek Morris, his first action was to oust us from the notice. He had in fact told me that he would do this when he became secretary, but I had taken it with 'a pinch of salt', so I was staggered when it did occur. I also had a lot of problems with John O'Rourke who is still their Grand Hash Master, we argued for hours over the reasons for Ladies running, I believe that they just wanted running, or rather Hashing, to be a men only event. This made me all the more determined to get and keep Harriets running. Once we were firmly established and the men could see that it was not affecting their running, in fact some even admitted that our On Ons were better than theirs ! things did quieten down somewhat. In fact John O'Rourke did run with us and even laid some horrible runs, expect he was testing us out.

Anyway having had our Hash news ousted I was in a real quandry as to how to get the notice duplicated. The problem was solved by one of the Harriet's husbands arranging to duplicate it on a machine at the office. I had to type the stencil, take it down to be run off, collect it later, type the envelopes, fold the notice, place in envelope, stamp it and then mail it. This used to take me all day Thursday. Previously the notice had been duplicated and mailed by the Flying Club who have always processed the Mens' notice.

This procedure continued until I managed to find 2 Hash Mistresses to take over. Jennifer Fraser was a school teacher and had access to a Banda machine, she with Mary Ann Riddell made an excellent team, with one writing and typing the notice and the other duplicating and mailing out. This was a welcome relief for me. It was these 2 girls who decided that I should be made Grand Hash Mistress and it was unanimously accepted by all Harriets.

Of course it wasn't always possible to find new Secretaries with access to duplicating facilities, so it was eventually decided to purchase a portable duplicating machine. This I did through Gestetner, the machine was second hand and cost around \$100, or it may have been less.

Fortunately things didn't always run smoothly. We had several clashes of personalities. At Run 101 the first clash occurred. Several Harriets were complaining as to the standard and contents of the notice and the question of registration of the Hash came to the fore. I have explained my reasons for not informing the Registrar of Societies of our existence in my separate letter. The question of registration could so easily been solved by the men making us a branch of their Hash and then, of course, we would have been a legal organisation.

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