



Basherama!

No. 62
April 2000

The Official Newsletter of the Kuala Lumpur Mountain Bike Hash

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE FOR Why Two Kay:

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Ed.itorial

- Correction! Kindly note that Pat Brunsdon's e-mail address should have read peeb@pc.jaring.my. I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused.
- French freelance journalists Chantal and Jean joined us at the last Bash in Bukit Cahaya to do a write-up on the KLMBH for the French MTB magazine Velo Tout Terrain (rough translated to mean Cycling on All Sorts of Terrain, I think). Besides VTT, they also contribute articles to 7 other French magazines (sports, travel, architecture and women's). They'll send us a copy of the magazine if our article gets in which I will faithfully reproduce in the Basherama upon receipt (break out the French-English Dictionary first though, sil vous plait).
- NEWS FLASH!** Speedy the Webmaster has recently updated the KLMBH website with an FAQ page. Comments on the page range from "It's much better than the old intro page" to "It's Grrreat!". Check it out and see for yourself!
- I hate to be the bearer of bad news but it looks like the Davetoon web page is off-line. This puts a damper on Eye Candy for a while, but don't worry, I'll find something new to fill the space soon enough.
- Someone asked me the other day "Why do you ride?" Hmm! Good question! My reasons for riding are simple and listed below:
 - Scenery. It's good to get out and experience the joys of communing with nature every now and then to remind us of what life is all about and how fragile the environment really is. I have a friend who bought a USD400 book on plants of the rainforest to enhance his knowledge on the subject. Thanks to him, I now know what a "Lolian" tree looks like!
 - Exercise. Gotta burn off all that rich food!
 - The Challenge. Nothing beats cleaning that climb without dabbing or riding that super steep drop-off. 'Nuff said.
 - To Forget. I have a friend who rides to forget the troubles of the world. When he rides, he clears his mind of all problems and just has fun without the weight of the world on his shoulders. Beats chemical stimulants anytime.

So why do you ride?

(continued on page 4)

DIRECTIONS TO THE APRIL BASH (# 66) @ LADANG ELMINA – 9.30 a.m. May 7, 2000

Proceed along Jalan Damansara towards Taman Tun Dr. Ismail, where Jalan Damansara becomes the Damansara-Puchong Highway (a.k.a. "LDP"). Proceed along the Highway towards **Kepong**, passing Bandar Utama and the tollgates (RM1) until the traffic lights at Sri Damansara. Turn left at the traffic lights towards Sungai Buloh. Continue straight past the first traffic lights and past the entrance to the North-South (PLUS) Highway until the next traffic lights. Set your tripmeter to zero at the lights, before continuing straight on toward Kuala Selangor (Route B54). At 10.1km turn left (there is a large sign here for **Saujana Utama**). Continue on for just over 1km (keep an eye out for camouflaged **speed bumps**!), crossing the bridge at 10.9km, until you come to a junction at 11.2km, where there is a sign indicating **Sungai Buloh Country Resort** to the right. However, **continue straight on** at this point for 100 meters or so until you see a football field on your left. Park at the side of the field, **but do not obstruct the field itself, for obvious reasons**. Haremobil is a green Proton Iswara sedan.

Hares: King Richard "Ye Crafty Bastarde" of Aubrey and Faire Lady Janie of Ravenhurst

www.bikehash.freesevers.com

March Bash @ Bukit Cahaya, April 2, 2000 – The Long Run

Hares: Larry Chan & Pat “Pigpen” Brunson

The trouble with volunteering to write a report and then waiting a week to get around to do it is that a lot of the finer details have been forgotten, but here goes!

We arrived at Bukit Cahaya with plenty of time to spare. The hares, Larry and Pigpen, had parked at the top of the hill, mainly because the golf course people don't like us parking all around their entrance, but I think there was a little sadism involved as well! Larry announced that the whole trail was 'rideable', but that depends on how crazy you are and if you like risking your knees and elbows after going over the handlebars! Short trail - 10km, Long trail - 18km. Hey that doesn't sound so bad considering the last marathon efforts of both hares!

After all being interviewed by a French journalist doing an article on Mountain Biking in Malaysia and having the photographs taken, we took off down the hill at a great rate of knots. I clocked up 50km/ph - I can hardly go that fast on my motor bike! From there it was into the oil palm, meandering around the roads and terraces, a few tricky downhill and a few tedious treks back up. Larry managed to trick us into going down the same single track to the lake that he has used before, only last time the lake was lower and we could get around the edge. This time he used the same trick as Denis and I had - get the pack to the bottom of the track and tell them it's a false trail. Never mind, it's a lovely little track to ride down - pity about the millions of leeches! At this stage there only appeared to be about 10 of us doing the long trail so I don't know if any one else would have got to the lake.

Bukit Cahaya - The Short Run

The mountain bike hash started on a warm day with the hares telling which way to go and telling us that the short hash was easy... but they lied it started with a 4 km uphill slog followed by ½ km down hill and another 4 km up! After getting a group photo by a French journalist who is trying to make mountain biking as popular in France as it is in Malaysia, the long riders set out first. The scenic bashers followed down a massive steep hill which was a pain as we knew we would probably have to climb it coming back.

When we got into the jungle it was a good track which went round in curves and kept on going up and up and up. Every time we got to the top of the hill there was always another to go up and it seemed to defy the laws of physics that “ What goes up must come down”.

Joe made a valiant effort to prove that the whole trail was indeed 'rideable' but we did catch him carrying his bike up the odd step or two. I was very impressed with the daredevils that rode across the concrete bridges which are about four inches wide! All in all, I don't think there were any major accidents or breakdowns, just a couple of flat tyres. Fuji came in late, though we hadn't seen him for the whole time so we don't know if he got lost or was just having a slow day. A rather subdued effort from these usually gung ho hares, but a very enjoyable ride - there should be more of them. I heard a couple of ladies telling Larry that they thought we should have rides once a fortnight instead of once a month. Larry, did you ask them if they have any idea how much work goes into reccies and preparation? Did they volunteer to be hares? I'm sure we'd all love to do it more often but unfortunately the pool of active hares is a bit thin to make twice a month a practical thing.

No lunch this month as the Bash Nosh is busy making a living in Singapore! Pigpen has been seen lately raging around town because he is too lonely at home by himself!

ON ON

Ali

The only problem was that somebody had taken my brothers advice in the previous scribe and taken a chain saw to all the trees and cut them all down. This prevented us from getting any shade at all and with the scorching Malaysian sun glaring down on us it was so hot. When we reached the top..... finally. There was a really nice view ... of all the palm trees.

The track winded on through the trees on and on until we eventually got to some cover. After some exciting steep downhill we finally got to the end point and ended up having to climb the massive big hill again.

Overall this was a good hash which made you work hard under the sun and I think all of the riders have all got twice the leg muscles that they had at the start.

Jamie Knowles (Junior Member)

Race News

Rubber Research Institute, Sungai Buloh. 30 April 2000.

The anticipation was heavy in the air as the Senior (19-34 years) and Veteran (35 years and above) Men staged for their 4 lap race.

Representing the KLMBH were Senior Joe "Durianhead" Adnan and Veteran's Tan Boon Foo, Cheah Choon Nam, Kenny Stewart, Tengku Saifudin Yusof and Ngah Fuji "Rainman" Bakri (Okay, I'm a long ways from being a "Vet", but more on that later).

At the drop of the flag (I think, 'coz I was at the back of the pack), the assembled mob took off down the wide doubletrack towards Mosquito Hill. Just a couple of hundred meters out, Durianhead had a flat that cruelly knocked him out of the race.

I started off slow, as per my standard race Modus Operandi and began picking off the riders who had shot off the line too fast one by one (Only managed to pass four of them. The rest of the pack left me eating their dust).

Each lap got progressively better and faster but by the time the last lap was about to end, my legs were screaming. I crossed the line to finish second last among the finishers and thus won myself a pair of Fox full finger MTB gloves.

What! **He finished Second Last and won a pair of gloves!??** Well it all started with a couple of innocent e-mails and then the gauntlet was thrown **"If Fuji comes to the race I will give him a Fox full glove Foc provided he beat CK"**.

With a prize like that, I was prepared to lie about my age and join the Veterans race. It turned out that all I had to do was write my name down on the list and cough up 20 bucks.

In any event, CK DNF'd the race (honest he did and it was only coincidental that we parked next to each other!) and I shall soon be the proud owner of a pair of gloves. This "Victory" is pretty cool because I've never ever won anything for my race results (Post-race raffles are a different story – 2 Onza kevlar tires, a pair of shorts, Bike Tights, Onza Bar Ends, Onza Grips, Kore seatpost, Endura...).

In any event, the moral of the story is that if you wave stuff in front of me, I'll give my best shot to get it.

Thanks Boon Foo!

Rainman

- Durianhead did the Downhill as well and although he didn't win, he sure did us proud by riding his hardtail where most would only dare to use a DH Full Suspension bike.
- Spectating at the DH race is fun 'coz of the thrills, skills and especially the spills (like the guy who shoulder checked the tree with his body armor and the guy who did the one handed jump and promptly crashed). Two thumbs up to the guys and gals who race DH!

SwapMeet (Everyone's stuff welcome!)

Easton Monkey Riser Bar - 2.5 inch Rise - 8 degree sweep - 27 inches wide - weighs 250 grams (2nd lightest riser bar after Easton Carbon Monkey Lite!) - silver - RM160 o.n.o. - Contact Fuji @ 012 307 6815 or ngahfuji@tm.net.my

Specialized Suspension Skewers - Steel Front; Ti Rear Rods - Red Anodized - Good Working Condition - RM80 o.n.o. - Contact Fuji @ 012 307 6815 or ngahfuji@tm.net.my

HARELINE	BASHES don't set themselves, they need YOU! So don't delay, sign up as a hare and be all that you can be! We'll pair you with an experienced Hare should the need arise.
#66, May 7, 2000, Labour Day Bash	King Richard "Ye Crafty Bastarde" of Aubreye and Faire Lady Janie of Ravenhurst
#67, May 28, 2000	Volunteers kindly contact Pigpen (remember the Hare Tonic!)
#68, June 25, 2000	Volunteers kindly contact Pigpen (remember the Hare Tonic!)
#69, July 30, 2000,	Volunteers kindly contact Pigpen (remember the Hare Tonic!)
#70, August 27, 2000, Merdeka Bash	Knowles Family (Tentative)
#71, September 24, 2000	
<p>BITS & BOBS – 1) KLMBH Mugs (RM15), polo t-shirts (RM15), Int'l Bash t-shirts (RM5) and water packs (RM90) are still available and make great gifts! Kindly inquire with Committee members at the next Hash if interested. 2) Coming Next Month – E-Commerce sites reviewed (Finally)! More stuff for sale (Really)! 3) Thumbnail Thrash Test. Easton handlebars are cool. Easton Carbon handlebars are even cooler. I've been using an Easton CT2 Carbon handlebar since the dawn of the new millenium. The bars are light (not that you'll really feel it), strong (crash tested!) and look supercool to boot! The only problem I've encountered so far is that the carbon surface is slick, resulting in rotating Grip Shifters until I tightened the clamp bolts down a little tighter than with my previous Easton EA70 Monkey riser bar. 4) An assortment of riding Jerseys are available from "Pigpen" Pat for RM100 each. Enquire with Pigpen at the next Hash but be quick before they're all snapped up! Last I saw, he didn't have many left! 6) That's all for Bits & Bobs for now...</p>	

HARE TONIC

In Basherama! 48, Hare Tonic was introduced in an effort to encourage more members to step forward as hares. The idea was to reward hares who had set 5 or more Bashes with Pewter Mugs. The Committee is currently sourcing the rewards (which may or may not be in the form of Pewter Mugs) with the intention of presenting them to the deserving hares at the 2001 Annual Dinner to be held in... 2001.

To keep score, presented below is the updated Hare League Table as at May 2, 2000. As mentioned before, if you feel that you've set more Bashes than listed below, kindly contact Ed.

Azizul Adnan	12	Animal Elford	2	S.Y. Chong	1	Mike Smit	1
Richard Aubry	10	Dick Shelly	2	Clara Chin	1	Mike Wright	1
Gordon Fraser	6	John Hagedorn	2	Colin Jackson	1	Noel Brennan	1
Eric Teo	6	John Mugford	2	Dave Baker	1	Paul Booth	1
Peter Bloomer	5	John Spencer	2	David Foo	1	Peter Pickernell	1
Barry Hills	5	Mark Chaterton	2	Emma Booth	1	Phaedra	1
Mike Elliot	5	Nigel Blott	2	Geoff Stecyk	1	Pinhead	1
Ngah Fuji Bakri	5	Shariman Alwani	2	Graham	1	Simon Ng	1
Pat Brunson	4	Tan Boon Foo	2	Ian Miller	1	Steve Ellison	1
Bill Steven	3	Grant Lee	2	James Aubry	1	Annett Frohlich	1
Peter Heston	3	Denis French	2	Jeff Dean	1	Kenny Stewart	1
Shaharudin Damis	3	Alison Keeler	2	Johnathan Startin	1	Karen Brunson	1
Simon Kenney	3	Larry Chan	2	Kelvin Wong	1	Your Name Here	?
Hulk	3	Andy Blake	1	Marie Benedix	1		
Alistair Swanson	2	Andy Knellar	1	Mark Clark	1		

www.Ed.com

For a really humorous website on Malaysia and the things that Malaysians hold dearest to themselves, www.geocities.com/tvsmith/roadside.html is a great site to visit.

I stumbled onto this after being clued in by a friend (Thanks FA!) and haven't stopped laughing since. Of course, if you're one of those who takes everything seriously (i.e. a prude), you might be better off not visiting this page as some of the ethnic jokes are definitely politically incorrect.

I don't have a clue as to who tvsmith is, but keep up the good work, Dude!

Ed.

Ed.itorial (Cont'd)

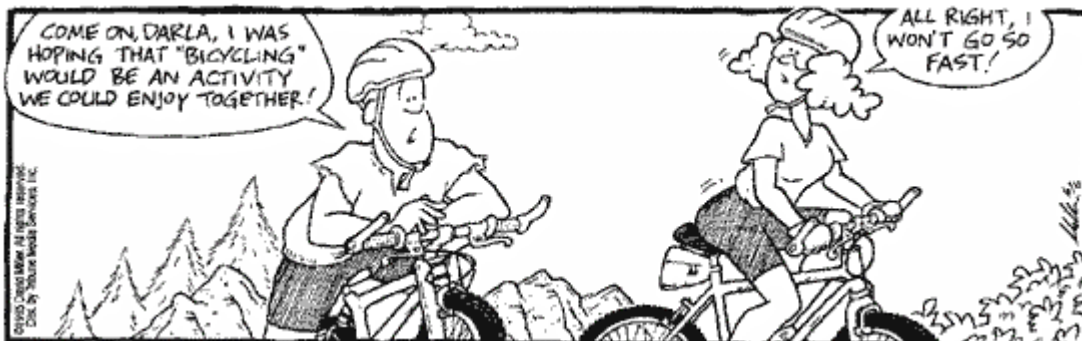
6. **The Basherama will be going out by electronic and snail mail for this and the next two issues** (although the snails moving pretty slowly this time around). **After that, you'll have to let me know via e-mail, mobitel or in person which of the methods you prefer.**

From Basherama 65, only one copy will be sent to each member according to their preference.

This is to cater for those who are wired into the new e-economy and also those who refuse to embrace technology and prefer treeware as opposed to netware. **Just don't forget to let me know of your preference!**

Ed.

EYE CANDY



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