BASHERAMA!



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE KUALA LUMPUR MOUNTAIN BIKE HASH WWW.BIKEHASH.FREESERVERS.COM

Congratulations Peter McQuade, the Ozzie Express Bus and Shi Fun!!!

Pete is now the unofficial Bash Photographer for 2003 and Shi Fun will be the Basherama Editor from March onwards. bash photos to upload, please send Sob sob sob ... I have been assigned to an overseas project that starts on the 1 of March and will be away for 9 months, thus I will be too far away from KL to hear and print the local gossips. I will have to leave it to Shi Fun, my very capable successor.

What a great turnout we had for the last Rawang Bash. 10 new members, 45 current members, 22 Adult Guests, 6 Junior Guests. Total = 83 bashers. A big thanks to all who helped out and thanks to those who contribute the write ups. Good News for future scribes. Goodies for scribes will be introduced soon for all those who contribute to Basherama.

To all the faster riders out there, please remember to break the checks when you have discovered the correct trail. If you are new to the Bash rides, and do not know what checks are please turn to the last page (p. 10) to read more about CHECKS.

:-) Mary

P.S. A note for Mitch's dad/mom — Please make sure that your son's bike is in good working order. The poor kid had to ride with his brake blocks rubbing the rim for most of the ride until he discovered it (when we were about to head out of the trail and on to the road home). He was terrific... just pushed his bike silently – he never whing ed about the bike or how tired he was pedaling extra hard because of the faulty brakes. Psst—buy the kid a new bike If you are serious about it do ask us about it. We can get a good discount for you. (FYI—we receive no commissions from bike shops. No ulterior motives here :P)

On on to Kolam Air Panas (Hot Springs) Kerling

Venue:Kolam Air Panas (Hot Springs) Kerling, Hulu Selangor. **Please leave early because it takes at least 45 minutes to drive from KL/PJ to the Lembah Beringin exit.**

Hares: Colin and Tony Colin Hercus & Tony Harvey

Directions: The bash site will be at Kolam Air Panas Kerling (Hot Springs). To get there, the hashers should drive to North NKVE. Stay on this Highway for a while and make an exit at Lembah Beringin, exit Nr. 120. Proceed to the toll plaza and zero trip. Turn left at 0.8 km. You will se a golf course at your right, stay on this road. At 2.2 km turn right to the sign Beringin Golf Course. Now stay on this road for a while passing some abandoned housing estates and a guard house. At 8.6 km at T-junction turn left, then go straight passing Kerling Kampung. At 12 km at T-junction turn left towards direction Ipoh. Drive slowly because at 12.3 km you need to turn right, follow the sign to Kolam Air Panas Kerling. At 15.8 km park your car in the grassy field.—Colin

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Rawang Bash — What a Bash it was!

Written by KL Loh

"...Thank
you, Loh
for
volunteeri
ng"
I knew
then that I
have been
had!

Things didn't turn out as smoothly as I hoped it would be on bash morning. I woke up late and had to rush to pick Ronnie up in Shah Alam. We met Zul and son at the Rawang toll and proceeded to follow them since they have the directions. Despite that we overshot the junction to turn right and had to back track. We finally arrived at the meeting point at about 9.10 am which would have been fine except that my stomach wasn't feeling so good. While Ronnie helped set up my bike, I ran almost one round around the shophouses (would have been very short if I had taken the other way) before I found a decent toilet in a decent coffee shop. By the time I got back to the starting point, Mel and Pat were already in the midst of their briefing. I was still trying to catch my breath and wasn't really paying much attention to them. However, I did hear Mel asking for volunteers to write for this bash. I was scanning the crowd to see who would be nice enough to oblige, when I saw Adele flashed a nice captivating smile at me (or maybe it was someone else behind me) and waved. Obviously I returned the smile and raised my hand just a little to acknowledge, and the next thing I hear was Mel saying through the hailer "Thank you, Loh for volunteering" and I knew then that I have been had! My feeble protests fell on deaf ears.

I had Zul, Zaharin and Ronnie for company when we started. Mel told me that this bash should be easier than the 100th bash, but I somehow found it more difficult. Maybe I was physically more tired than I was at Tekala, as I had run and bike the day before with Raziff, the Malakoff duathlon resident champion, and I was trying to keep up to his pace! If I am not mistaken (I was getting delirious by the 3rd hill or so), it was hill after hill after hill right from the start. I managed to climb the first two hills, after that it was basically push and walk for the rest of the hills. Also, I had problem changing to the smallest chain ring, and so had to make the climbs with the middle ring. I must remember to send it to Boon Foo for adjustment before the next bash.

"I had some adrenalin rush going down the first couple of hills..."

I had some adrenalin rush going down the first couple of hills before I eventually fell on one of the less severe downhills. The poor guy at the back crashed into me. Luckily he escaped with no bruises at all. I apologized to him because I don't think he expected me to fall with that kind of slope. The fall made it a hattrick for me as I also fell in my previous two bashes. I was rather tense and I think I might have braked too hard. I really need to brush up on my skills to control the bike...or maybe I should just stick to my road bike.

Quite early in the ride, we came across one young chap who was puking water. Poor guy! Pat really did a great job in taking care of him, getting him to lie down and splashing water on his face to cool him down. That's what I like about the bash, the camaraderie among the riders, and the experienced looking after the not so. The same guy later recovered and was seen trying to attack the last steep hill on the short run.

What a Bash it was! continued...

By this time, Zaharin and Ronnie had already deserted us and I was lucky to have Zul who was nice enough to ride with me. As we moved along, we were debating whether to go for the long or short. While our bodies tell us to go for the short, being 'macho' as we were, and having always done long in the previous bashes, we thought that the short rides are only for the 'wimpish', not including the beginners and kids of course. Besides, Zul said that as a writer, I should go for the long ride, but I said that someone need to write on the short too. In the end, with very little resistance from each other, we decided to go for the short run when we bumped into Pat who suggested that there is in fact another option, which is in between the long and short, the semi-long or semi-short, and so we agreed and followed Pat. When we reached the intersection, there were a few riders there already and in fact two of the lady riders were already turning back for the short run. Pat pointed to us the semi-long route (loop) but what we saw were like a lot of climbs. There we met Sany and Chew who looked like pros and they have decided to go for the short ride. Chew said that he was just recovering from flu while Sany was sort of "feeling in the dumps too" or something like that. Zul and I decided then there is no shame in riding short. Even the pros do it! 'Live to fight another day' is the motto for me at that instant and so we set off together with Sany and Chew. Shortly after that, we reached the last hill in the short run that is very steep and basically gravel. Obviously Zul and myself pushed our bikes while Sany and Chew decided to have to attack the last hill for the day.

We were relieved when we reached the tarred roads and soon after we were going down an inclined road near some apartments and Zul was ahead of me. I was about 20 meters behind Zul when he reached a T-junction when he sort of looked back to me to maybe say something. The next thing I saw was Zul falling down head first onto the road. When I reached him to help him up, he was bleeding quite profusely from the nose and mouth and for a moment he couldn't get up. He lied there for a while before I managed to get him to sit by the pavement to assess the injuries. He had injuries on his face and hands and appeared to have knocked his head as the helmet was scratched and he had a slight bruise on his forehead. I suspect he fell when he tried to brake and there was a patch of sand where he fell. The helmet probably saved him from a more serious injury to his head. Luckily for us, a good Samaritan offered to take Zul to the nearby clinic in his car while I pushed his bike and mine to the clinic. The doctor cleaned and dressed up his wounds and he had to have 3 stitches on his left elbow. However, the doctor recommended that he be sent to a hospital for further check up and observation in view of a possible concussion on his head.

I cycled back, took my car and went back to fetch Zul back to the starting point where we waited for Zul's son and Ronnie to come back from the long ride before we headed straight to SJMC where he had a CT scan and x-ray done and his wounds were cleaned and redressed. Fortunately the results of the CT scan were good. By the time we were done at the hospital it was already almost 5 pm. We finished off the day at Taj Curry House with teh tarik and soup ayam with sliced bread since Zul couldn't really take solid food. By the time I got back home after washing my bike at Ronnie's place it was already time for dinner. What a day it had been for me. All in all, I enjoyed myself despite the unfortunate incident that happened to Zul. - Lohh Kian Lai

"Bashing away" — Short Ride Write-up by Yuen Hwa

I'm sitting here in a van which is as old as I am, or maybe even older.

However, it runs fairly well, which is more than I can say for myself. I'm traveling towards some unknown forest, where I will hurl my bike and myself across its harsh terrain and unforgiving passageways. It is probable that I might break a bone, loose a tooth or accidentally ride of a cliff and meet up with my maker, but honestly I'm not giving it much thought. Its none too soon when I finally get to my destination. After registering and going through the other Pooh-Bahs, the real action begins. There was a slight briefing but the only thing that I understood was that I was supposed to follow the square white papers. Wait or was it the rectangular ones?

For first kilometer or two, I'm riding on the roads with the other new riders. There are arrows marked in white and I follow them. My mind starts wandering and image of sheep being herded to the slaughterhouse forms. I smile wryly at my morbid but apt imagination but it is short-lived when the arrows suddenly come to an end. No need to panic, I silently tell myself, still unaware off just how inexperienced I was. One or two riders have already started to look for the continuing trail and I follow their example.

About 2 frustrating minutes pass on before we find the trail and continue our journey. We reach an area which looks like an abandoned quarry. The path has a 70-degree incline and is made out of loose stones, which offers me no firm grip. I struggle on with wobbly knees and shaking hands while trying to haul myself and my bike down the slippery pathway without tumbling ever after. My fear of heights certainly does not help the situation. Once I reach the bottom almost spent with fear, I hear my tour guide (Bash Hare) Melody happily proclaims that this is also the way to go back. The thought of having to go through that ravine again is unbearable. With any luck, I'll die before I get a chance to go back.

For the first time in my life, I am on a mountain bike that is on a mountain. Well, it's actually on a hilly palm oil estate but its close enough. The first few minutes are tedious. There are plants everywhere, which is annoying because most of them have tiny thorns and one has already embedded itself into my finger. Minutes pass on as though they were hours and slowly I feel myself straining and labouring for breath. The dreaded plants continue to reach out gleefully and tear at my flesh while the steep path wears heavily on my ebbing strength. I plod on faithfully until I finally reach a path that goes downhill. Understanding that if I looked at it too long, I would crumble and walk down instead, I lean back and launch myself straight down at breakneck speed. I can feel the sudden rush of adrenaline flooding through my veins as I hurl dangerously downward. Yes this was definitely something I could get used to. Primed and pumped up I furiously attack the path and turn out as the victor. The labourous routine of slogging through jungle and crawling up inclines felt much easier after that as there would always be down hills at some point where I could have some fun.

I carry on and we reach something, which looked like a barn or warehouse. The trail ended there. I hated it when the trail ended; it annoyed me to no end. Automatically I search around and much to my surprised, actually found the path. I had gotten so used of other people finding it for me. I called the others and without wasting any time sped off into the brush. For once I was leader, and I wasn't about to let anyone else spoil it for me. It was exhilarating be-

"Bashing away" continued...

ing leader, I was alone and ahead. The scenery was untouched and I didn't have to see some rider in front off me obstructing my view. The knowledge that some other riders were behind me sparked my competitive spirit to remain first. Although I was pushing and making myself to work harder, it was peaceful and I'm glad I managed to maintain my lead until the paper trail ended once more.—Chai Yuen Hwa

Bash Pictures can be viewed at

http://www.ofoto.com/ SendPhotos.jsp?UV=34839945633_48993254205&c=share_online

Be a 1st time Hare

Time to step up and take the challenge trail-riders. It's a new year, people make all kinds of resolutions to make changes in their lives. Well, here's two to add to the list:

- Be a FIRST TIME HARE—Get out and find some trails
- Prove to us (especially Matt) that you can set a better trail than the ones you've ridden so far .

REWARDS for 1st time HARES ...

- ⇒ You will learn the art of become a world class hare. An experienced cohare will be your mentor - help, guide & advise
- ⇒ You will receive a free T-shirt
- ⇒ Your will receive RM10 discount on your next year's membership
- ⇒ You will be able to do more Mountain Biking with a real purpose the pleasure of seeing your fellow colleagues enjoy (being tortured by) the fruits of your labour!!!

If you would like to Help set a Bash (become a Hare), please cotact Melody the Tank Girl for more info.

LOOPY Rawang Bash— by Denise Moir

"On On the crew kept bunched together on the single trail until we came to the start of THE LOOP.
Yep, THE LOOP."

There was a large turnout for the short ride this month, about 25 riders in all. Some new Christmas bikes in the group as well as a bunch of new enthusiastic bikers.

We set off on the bitumen with great spirits but that only lasted until the flour ran out and we were lost. Well we couldn't find anymore paper anyway. Once the Hare turned up and pointed us in the right direction there was not stopping us.

The next section was great with a lot of closed, tight trail. Something I hadn't ridden in a long time. The grass was a bit long but that is OK. On On the crew kept bunched together on the single trail until we came to the start of THE LOOP. Yep, THE LOOP.

Starting to spread out a little, we stay on the grassy single trail stuff now with a few vines with spikes in them and a bit of mud to keep it interesting. False trails were only few which is good because no-one in the short riders wants to check for false trails and then they don't want to go back and get the paper to close the check. Bit of a problem with us. One wonderful man who needs the Hash Name of "007" because he is the only one who would "investigate and then eliminate" the false trails for us to keep us save from the evils of mountain bike hashing. We need a christening.

"...At this stage a few choice words did slip past my lips..." So on on some more and "Oh, guess what" more tight, closed trail with long grass and prickly vine. We are really spread out now and just when Susan Moore (aka) the new Mrs Slodki, Brenton and myself tackle more ____ long grass we come across the long riders. At this stage a few choice words did slip past my lips but they gave us the scoop to which why to ride and if I looked around a bit more I would have discovered this was the start of THE LOOP again. We turned off and on on home pleasantly surprised that is only 9km not 11km as briefed. But it looks like only 5 of us were lucky enough to get that good advise, because the next short rider was 45 minutes behind us. That LOOP had really got them as they went round again and then found some new trails to follow and a few bike repairs. Their total ride was 17km. It has taken time but they will ride again.

Good ride after it was over. Hares could have put the long riders through the long grass before the short riders to flatten a little. Trail well marked with paper EXCEPT the turn off THE LOOP to go home. ON ON Gang, see you next month.

—Denise Moir

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 or exclusive Jerseys) with the intention of presenting them to the deserving hares as soon as possible (whenever that is!).

The score as it stands as updated by Speedy the Dog on our very own webbe. As mentioned before, if you feel that you've set more Bashes than listed below, kindly contact Ed. or Speedy the Dog to set the record straight.

Joe Adnan	17	Simon Kenney	3	Angus Knowles	1	Jonathan Startin	1
Richard Aubry	12	Bill Steven	3	Annett Frohlich	1	Jor Han	1
Ngah Fuji Bakri	11	Mohamed Sany	3	Ashley Bates	1	Karen Brunsdon	1
Eric Teo	10	Kelvin Wong	3	Charl Bester	1	Kenny Stewart	1
Pat Brunsdon	8	Alistair Swanson	2	Chris Williams	1	Liz Roberts	1
Paul Sweeney	6	Conrad Fawcett	2	Clara Chin	1	Low Min Chee	1
Gordon Fraser	6	David Todd	2	Colin Jackson	1	Marie Benedix	1
Shaharin Hashim	6	Dick Shelly	2	Dave Baker	1	Mark Clark	1
Matt Schneller	6	Grant Lee	2	David Foo	1	Mike Smit	1
Raymond Keys	5	John Hagedorn	2	Emma Booth	1	Mike Wright	1
Barry Hills	5	John Mugford	2	Geoff Stecyk	1	Paul Booth	1
Peter Bloomer	5	John Spenær	2	Gostarnjoe	1	Peter Pickernell	1
Mike Elliot	5	Nick Smith	2	Graham	1	Phaedra	1
Alison Keeler	4	Nigel Blott	2	Ian Miller	1	Pinhead	1
Denis French	4	Noel Brennan	2	Ingrid Burke	1	Robbie Knowles	1
Jake Slodki	4	Paul Moir	2	James Aubry	1	Shaiful Othman	1
Shaharudin Darnis	4	Shariman Alwani	2	James Lim	1	Simon Ng	1
Toh Hoon Chew	4	Speedy the Dog	2	Jamie Knowles	1	Steve Ellison	1
Melody Tan	4	Tan Boon Foo	2	Janie Ravenhurst	1	S.Y. Chong	1
Andrew Elford	3	Thomas Fong	2	Jason Wong	1	Richard Cropp	1
Peter Heston	3	Larry Chan	2	Jeff Dean	1		
Scott Roberts	3	Amy Tan	1	Jo Williams	1		
Mark Chatterton	3	Andy Blake	1	Jonathan Chong	1		
		Andy Knellar	1				

 $\overline{\textbf{Found}}$ — Taxc bottle found at registration & Reebok sunnies on trail. Pls contact Melody .

SEE PICS OF Bash photos

http://www.ofoto.com/ SendPhotos.jsp?UV=34839945633_48993254205&c=share_online

BASHERAMA!

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Hareline

In order to facilitate the efficient planning of your 2003 cycling calendar, the following Bash dates have been fixed for next year. As in the past two years, your Committee has decided not to adopt a receding hareline, whereby all members are required to set hashes on a rota system, this year and therefore volunteer hares are needed to keep the Hareline going.

Setting a Bash is a rewarding experience as it involves planning, much adventure, camaraderie, some deviant thinking and a great sense of satisfaction when the pack charges off down your false trail and/or your fellow Bashers curse you out at the end of the Bash and then buy you a beer. In fact, setting a Hash is so much fun as evidenced by the Hare Tonic.

Anyone interested in setting a Bash can **contact Melody**, **the Hare-Raiser**, and for those who have no experience in setting a Bash, fear not for your Committee shall pair you up with an experienced Hare who shall pass on his/her wisdom free of charge. **Hares will also have the exclusive use of the KLMBH guillotine and the KLMBH directional signs to help prepare for their Bash (Ooh! Ahh!).**

Bash	Bash #	Date	Hares/Notes
December	100	15 December 2002	Joe Adnan & Pat Brunsdon
January	101	26 January 2003	Pigpen and Tank Girl
February	102	23 February 2003	Colin Hercus and Tony Harvey
March	103	30 March 2003	John Mugford and Co-Hares Needed!
April	104	27 April 2003	Jake Slodki and Paul Moir
May	105	25 May 2003	Hares Needed!
June	106	29 June 2003	Hares Needed!
July	107	27 July 2003	Hares Needed!
August	108	24 August 2003	Hares Needed!
September	109	28 September 2003	Hares Needed!
October	110	26 October 2003	Hares Needed!
November	111	30 November 2003	Hares Needed!
December	112	21 December 2003	Hares Needed!

Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Contact
23-Feb	KLMBH Bike Bash	KLMBH
22-23 Feb	HOB 1: Sg Pusu Sleepover ((M&D)). Fully self-supported ride-n-camp adventure!	PCC
1-2 Mar	HOB 2 – Fraser Hill Road Ride with T&G	PCC
09-Mar	Road ride—Kajang to Nirvana and back	PCC
15-16 Mar	Kuala Mu MTB Adventure by KOTRT	KOTRT
16-Mar	Kiara Monthly	PCC
16-Mar	Malacca MTB Hash	M2BH (Malacca MTB hash)
30-Mar	Mar KLMBH Bike Hash	KLMBH
30-Mar	Malakoff Malaysian Duathlon Series	Melody Tan

M2BH	http://malaccabikehash.tripod.com		
PCC	http://pcc-cycling.freeservers.com		
KOTRT	http://pwp.maxis.net.my/kotrt		

15-16 March 2003

KOTRT is going to Kuala Mu!

Kuala Mu is ONLY 42km just off Sungai Siput, Perak. Estimated riding time ~3.5hrs (for strong) to 6.5hrs (for recreational rider). Overnight in Kuala Mu (camping). Please bring your own tent/sleeping bag, drinking water, snacks. You'll be provided with a simple Dinner and Breakfast. Next morning out, you'll enjoy the best Descend you'll ever have this year with speed exceeding 65km/h...yes, easily!

Participant(s) on 1st come 1st serve basis. Due to logistics, we regrettably have to limit this trip to $\bf 40$ pax only!

RM100.00 per pax will be collected. Any RM leftover will be refunded after the trip.

For info & registration, please contact KOTRT directly.

22-23 FEB 2003

HOB 1/2003: SG PUSU SLEEPOVER by James de PainMaster MELAWATI - SG. PUSU - MELAWATI, 48KM.

Day 1 - Sat 22 Feb 2003

Distance: Est. 27km (14 km on road)

Day 2 _Sun 23 Feb 2003

Distance: Est. 21km (5km road)

Terrain

Very **doable** for all fit cyclists, including newbies and ladies. Entire trail of 40 odd km can be ridden within 5 and a half hours by experienced riders, what more when we'll be doing the same distance over 2 days! Ride distance includes long stretches on the road. Be prepared for some serious climbs though offroad! But no worry lah! Worse comes to worse we all get off and push together lah. Challenge is more in how to pack and carry our stuff!

If you wish to join us, please call **James** @ 012 282 7182, **Danny** 013-330 3325 or **Peter** 012 227 4443 or simply show up with your gear at the meeting place on Saturday 22 Feb 2003!

Bash Tribe at your service

Basher-in-Chief— Mohamed Sany — 012 201 8855 mohdsany.zainudin@sscm.amanah.com.my

Hare-Raiser — Melody "Tank Girl" Tan — 012 238 1154 tan_melody@hotmail.com

Bash-Cash— Raymond 'Rocketboy' Keys—012 234 5187 rostrajo@hotmail.com

Bash-Piss — Matt "Melanoma" Schneller —012 302 0164 matthew.schneller@shell.com

Backup Bash Piss—Mazlim Husin.

www.Bash- Vimala Siva

News-Bash— Mary Yap — 012 6875616

Back-up News-Bash— Phoon Shi Fun

Honourary Committee Members - Ngah Fuji Bakri

We're on the Web! www.bikehash.freeservers.com

Breaking up checks...

Bash Checks (cheques) are not pieces of paper that you can cash in at the bank.

What is it then? It is where the paper trail ends and you find lots of paper piled together at one spot. It can usually be found at forks on the trail.

There are 3 types of checks that hares may set.

- 1. **Back Checks**—Where bashers will check the obvious routes leading from the check but then realise that they have to go back on their in-route to find the real trail. Alternatively hares may lay it up a dead end where they know they you will have to back track.
- 2. **Circular/ Loop Checks**—Leads you up a hill, round in a wide circle, then you'll meet other bashers coming round, needing a trip back down the hill to find the real trail. A solution to a loop check can be any trail that branches off from the loop. Unless, of course, it is a back-check loop-check, in which case you should grab the hare and hang him up on the nearest tree by his/her Lycra. In some instances, loop checks may not be marked with a large pile of paper, but the trail of paper brings you around to a previously-ridden section of trail.
- 3. **Normal Checks**—Leads you to a pile of paper at a junction of several tracks, then set "falsies" and the real trail as before.

What should I do at checks? Go and CHECK where the correct path is and break the check.

How do you know where the correct path is? It will be laid with a constant stream of paper again. Don't be a lazy slob. Check whether it is Left or Right or Up the Hill or Down the hill, etc.

How do I break a check? It's very simple. All you have to do is to go back to where the pile of paper is and pick it up and scatter it along the correct trail path. If it's a back check, please pick up paper leading to the back check/ false trail and scatter it along the correct trail. Then shout ON ON to let the others know that you have found the correct trail.

Purpose of a check - To enhance the camaraderie of bashes by regrouping the fast and slow riders. A bash is not a race therefore please do not ride off full speed again once you have found the trail. The person who discovers the trail should BREAK the check:-)