

The Legendary Family Hash Weekends

Back in the early eighties, before health and safety notices and noise complaints ruined all the fun, the Brighton Hash staged an annual Family Hash Weekend.

Some of the original hashers were Robbo Salter, Pete 'Whose Shout' Beard, Nick Cheyney and Peter "Local Knowledge" Eastwood, who clocked up around 1,800 hashes to his name.

At the start of the run there was the usual close attention paid to the announcements. Pete Eastwood sticks out his tongue. And Cooperman brought his running umbrella.

The venue alternated between the estates of Pete Eastwood and Bob Luck – though "estates" might be stretching it. Think more along the lines of a grass area, a shed, and a plentiful beer supply.

Beer was of course available on tap throughout.

Saturday kicked off with a combined hash run for adults and kids. The evening brought games and sports, which usually descended into organised chaos and suspicious refereeing.

Evenings were the highlight: a barbecue (smoke optional, charcoal compulsory), a roaring camp fire, and songs that got progressively louder and less tuneful as the empties piled up.



Those hardy enough to pitch a tent – were rewarded the next morning with a greasy fry-up, the traditional cure for sore heads, stiff legs, and vague regrets.



Here's the Horn and Ray Noakes, at the start of a run. Eddie Griffiths with child on shoulder and Pete Eastwood with child on back.

Pete had a water tank in his garden in those days which the kids (and adults) loved to dunk in.



Here's the barbeque team at work.

From left to right:
The head of Grahame Cooper, then
Eddie Griffiths, Max Maxwell, Ray
Noakes, Keith Pomfret and Phil
(Chopper) Mutton.



The games included sack and wheelbarrow races etc. Not much Health & Safety in those days.



Rosemary Noakes showing off.