

CHAPTER SEVEN

Tony

The lost youth campaign

1986 - 1987

Peter Davis

Frank Noble

Hares look for their lost youth

1. The Captain General and your servant met recently when it was decided by an overwhelming majority of one who would be the Assistant (Acting) Orderly Room Sergeant for the forthcoming campaign. Some of you will say it was time he (AAORS) stopped shirking anyway. At least one among us will however believe that he (AAORS) had previously done nothing because of his innocent belief that our Secretary General would always supply us with announcements, plans, logistics, arrangements, points of geographical/architectural interest etc.

2. Down to baser metal now. Even the printer is cheaper.

3. A pilgrimage has been decided in which the Hares will seek their lost youth (in an allegorical sense only), wandering from place to place where legend states it to be found - otherwise known as AJL. Those who will believe themselves not to be in this case, may still join in. The rule is though that we can't all "join in"; there must be at least one old pilgrim, so long as it is not the AAORS.

4. Assembly for the first pilgrimage will be at the central station at 08.00 4th October, proceeding first to AJL 1 at Pfaffenthal, where the AAORS thinks we could well stop for the day. The CG insists however that we continue on to AJL 2 at Hollenfels, a walk of four and a half to five hours plus stops, for which CG promises compensation

by a treat at Bridel.

5. Cars will have to be available at Hollenfels to bring the weary home; those for whom youth is no problem can walk back the few kilometres to town. Please inform the AAORS of car availability when he returns from mission 1st October.

6. Sinners Corner. Sinners repent! Turn away from the wickedness of fast living (i.e. about one kilometre per hour faster than the rest) and stop turning back on the other Hares (as they see you disappearing into the foreground). Peregrinate nicely with the other Hares and make CG proud. Penance of coming in last next time would atone for past sins.

Frank. A pilgrimage has been decided in which the Hares will seek their lost youth (in an aliterological sense only), wandering from place to place where legend states it to be found - otherwise known as A.L.L. Those who will believe themselves not to be in this case, may still join in. The rule is though that we can't all "join in"; there must be at least one old pilgrim, so long as it is not the AAORS.

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March Hares

22nd November

1. The pilgrimage in search of youth began on the 4th October, in Indian Summer weather, when 20 Hares strolled (and sometimes sweated) their way from Pfaffenthal (via Bridel Tea Shoppe) to Hollenfels. There, youth was regained after beer had been taken, and all were home and in the bath by 4.30 pm.

2. Ten assembled in the rain at Hollenfels on the 25th October for the second stage. Slightly sterner stuff this, but, happily, there was no shortage of navigators, and the way was found (via the Mersch Tea Shoppe) to Bourglinster, where again, youth was regained in the usual "Bar at the end of the Trail".

3. Part 3 of this exciting saga begins at Pfaffenthal Youth Hostel on the 22nd November at 07.45. A prompt start is required, and pilgrims will have to step lively, if they are to reach Grevenmacher in time for the 17.05 bus/train back to town. (The next is at 20.00 - i.e. hour of the day, not anno domini, although it will seem so if we miss the earlier train). Those pilgrims who declare themselves to feel younger after this march will be "mentioned in despatches", if not defrocked for false doctrine.

4. 22nd November 07.45 Pfaffenthal Youth Hostel. Be there! On time!!

5. Those wanting a shorter walk can join the cavalcade at Munsbach, through which the 07.45 starters should straggle from noon onwards, heading towards Uebersyren.

AAORS.

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3. Part 3 of this exciting saga begins at Pfaffenbach Youth Hostel on the 12th November at 07.45. A prompt start is required, and pilgrims will have to step lively, if they are to reach Grevenmacher in time for the 17.05 bus/train back to town. (The next is at 20.00 - i.e. hour of the day, not anno domini, although it will seem so if we miss the earlier train). Those pilgrims who declare themselves to feel younger after this march will be "mentioned in dispatches", if not delisted for false doctrine.

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March Hares

17th January 1987 at 09.00

Lultzhausen to Ettelbruck

1. The last note being terse, this Christmas message from the management has news of the last two walks as well as of the next.

2. From underneath the arches at Pfaffenthal, in the dark and rain, 10 Hares set off promptly at 07.45 (well really 07.50) on the 22nd. November for Grevenmacher. It would have been 11 Hares but Chris Knowles missed the "off", when the starting gate went up, and was classed as a non-starter. The early pace was hot, testing old and new (two Dutch girls from the EP who had previously not walked for more than an hour at a time). As a result the 10 swept thro' Munsbach (short coffee stop) well ahead of schedule, thus confounding Chris again, since he had hoped to pick up the trail there. Lunch was taken amid a pile of discarded granite doorsteps, which regrettably not even the strongest Hare could carry away. The Dutch girls struggled on gamely to finish the day, despite some doubts at the series of steps approaching Grevenmacher, and the bus/train connection back to town was caught with about 10 minutes to spare at 16.35. A long classic Hares march.

3. It was dark and cold at Dommeldange Station on the 13th December at 07.35, and the judge (the walking not the hanging one) decided to nip home for warmer underwear, which he did in time to join up with the other 14 Hares (including

the canine member) who set off at 07.45 for Ettelbruck. David missed the start, despite being early (by his watch) but caught up nicely at the Novotel just before the pilgrimage plunged into the woods, emerging at Eisenborn and on to Bourglinster where coffee was taken. Here the Chambers remained, while the other 14 headed for Mysembourg where lunch was taken under the gaze of the chateau. This was good timing indeed and inspired a worthy effort in the afternoon, mainly by road to Schrondweiler (where Margaret, Liz and Jacques "escaped" to Chruchten and an earlier train), thence to Schieren (where the temptation to stop was heartily resisted) and the last two kilometres to Ettelbruck station where there was time for beer before the 16.15 train home. Another stout Hares effort - no! - another stout effort by the Hares of about 30 kilometres.

4. 17th January 1987. The new year will begin with a shorter pipe-opener (for party-goers over the hols) from Lultzhausen to Ettelbruck, beginning at 09.00 at Lultzhausen Youth Hostel. The transport arrangements may well stretch the renowned Hares' initiative, but you are all trusted to be there by 09.00 and a bit, for the stroll to Ettelbruck and a train back to Luxembourg. (If taking the train fits in with your transportation plan!).

5. Happy Christmas.

AAORS.

March Hares

Next time

21st March 1987

Vianden to Clervaux

Last time

1. Sharp-eyed train watchers had already spotted that no train ran from Ettelbruck to Diekirch at 08.35 on Saturday 14th February, but they, among some eight Hares, nevertheless walked from Ettelbruck railway platform to the 08.35 bus parked outside the station, and arrived at Diekirch to be joined by 14 others for the second part of the walk to Echternach.

2. All was joy until Gilsdorf when the mettle of six first-timers was tested by the ascent to Bicheboesch. The mood was pensive thereafter, until Eppeldorf (joining the GR5, marked on the map "Méditerranée-Hollande") where it became sober, as a result of the next ascent to the Schmuelebiert. Smiles returned after hot drinks and the toy train photograph at Beaufort, although discipline wavered shortly afterwards over the choice of lunch stop.

3. Discipline was tested further by the high road into Echternach, but all Hares arrived more or less in one piece around 16.40.

Next time

4. The next walk is from Vianden to Clervaux on 21st March 1987. The 07.49 train from Luxembourg to Ettelbruck, and the 08.35 bus from there, will bring public transportees to Vianden at 09.05, when therefore the walk will begin from Vianden bus stop. After the walk, trains from Clervaux to Luxembourg leave at 16.30, 17.12 and 18.46.

5. Thus the next walk begins at 09.05 from Vianden bus stop, on 21st March 1987.

6. For high-powered Hares, too busy to read anything but the last para. (Word abbreviated for speed reading) or too conditioned to understand papers without a EEC Directive number, the usual last-minute telephone call to your servant will elicit the information at paras 4 and 5.

AAORS.

29th April 1987

Dear Hares,

March Hares

9th May 1987

Lultzhausen to Clervaux

Last time

1. It was clear that the walk from Vianden to Kautenbach on the 21st March, had quite worn out most of the 15 Hares taking part, since only a few were among the 21 unworn Hares who set out from Clervaux to Kautenbach on the 4th April.

2. Norbert was in good form from the start and left his knapsack on the train from Luxembourg, an event for which we were all companionably sorry (since Rita's lunch was lost) but which we also admired for its unaffected and model consistency. The rest of the day was practically incidental, and passed in good company with a sprint finish for an early train.

Next time

3. The next walk is from Lultzhausen to Clervaux on the 9th May, commencing at 09.00 at the Youth Hostel. Transport arrangements will stretch the Hare brains, but a good turn

out is expected. The route passes through Wiltz (17 kilometres) and Wilwerwiltz (25 kilometres) where trains can be caught back to town if wanted. The zealous may continue to Clervaux (35 kilometres) where trains leave at 17.12, 18.46 and 19.53.

Hares Annual Dinner

4. Now that March is well passed, Hares should have room in their thoughts for other things such as the annual dinner on the 5th June at the Brideler Stuff. Please make bookings soon so that the restaurant can be informed in good time.

AAORS.

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March Hares

Next time

6th June 1987

Ettelbruck to Hares End (Bridel)

Dear Hares,

Last time

1. Fourteen good Hares set off on time from Lultzhausen in the direction of Clervaux on the 9th May 1987, to be joined after a bit by five naughty, late Hares with trumped up excuses about the difficulty of removing the oats feedbag from Norbert. Mellowed by the glorious weather, all was soon forgiven and joy was unconfined in and around Raymond's country retreat where refreshments were served. This delightful diversion meant a tardy arrival and rendezvous with Malcolm at Wiltz. Joy was again restored however by Stephen's creation of an oasis of cool spritzers (Elbling & Rosport) offered on the occasion of an event which your servant previously forgot to mention!! The continuous hot sun meant that a fairly frazzled bunch of Hares straggled into Wilerwiltz, where the majority were glad for various pressing reasons which required their early conveyance back to town by the 16.40 train. Only three gallant Hares marched on (Anthony, Pino and Andrew) with a borrowed map, finally to succumb to the delights of a cool café at Drauffelt where the day's walk ended. A stout effort.

4.1 The first is the departure of Semus, whose last walk was on the 4th April from Clervaux to Kautenbach. It was thought that he could not attend the dinner on the

Next time

2. The next walk is from Ettelbruck to Hares End (sometimes known as Val des Romains, Bridel) on the 6th June, the day after another event known to the virtuous. Those arriving by the 07.49 from Luxembourg will march as a group from Ettelbruck station on the first part of the walk to the car park by the Ettelbruck Monopol supermarket (left as one enters Ettelbruck) where those arriving by car will have already assembled for the next part of the walk to Hares End (a Youth Hostel??). Scouts report this to be a six hour march.

The dinner

3. Now for a serious subject! The response by way of bookings for the dinner has been only middling, as the deadline approaches. So buck us (or doe up) Hares and let me have your reservations for this annual gathering where one expects to meet the Hares at full strength, including the dining only members.

Special events

4. Two events have occurred which deserve a special mention.

4.1 The first is the departure of Seamus, whose last walk was on the 4th April from Clervaux to Kautenbach. It was thought then that he could not attend the dinner on the

5th of June and, had that been the case, Seamus would have left in his own inimitably unassuming and amiable way. Happily, instead, he can come to the dinner where we can all make a suitable fuss over him before he goes. Another good reason to come to the dinner !!

4.2 The other event was of course a double Hares' wedding, when two of the Hares got married - to each other. Christine and Stephen. A true Hare Transplant - which is the best we could come up with drinking Stephen's spritzers in the sun at Wiltz. Another two good reasons to come to the dinner !!!

AAORS.

For those who wish to join us, we propose to walk from Grevenmacher to Remerschen on the 25th July, commencing at 09.00 at the foot of the steps leading up to the Kreis Kapell, on a bend of the E4 as it enters Grevenmacher. Those of you who look part in the walk from Luxembourg to Grevenmacher, early in the campaign just ended, will remember finishing the walk by coming down these steps to enter Grevenmacher.

28th June 1987

Dear Hares,

I did not keep a record of those who walked the day following the dinner, but those who were present will remember that it was a long day (with a happy ending over strawberry cake and tea at Hares End, Bridel) and that I promised to announce the date of any summer walk which John and I had in mind to arrange.

We had our eye on the walk between the Youth Hostel at Grevenmacher and Petange (believed closed), following the old GR 5 most of the way. This is a two or three day walk, but we have only been able to find one free Saturday between us, during the next few weeks. We shall therefore have to content ourselves with doing the first leg, leaving the rest to another time.

For those who wish to join us, we propose to walk from Grevenmacher to Remerschen on the 25th July, commencing at 09.00 at the foot of the steps leading up to the Kreiz Kapell, on a bend of the E44 as it enters Grevenmacher. Those of you who took part in the walk from Luxembourg to Grevenmacher, early in the campaign just ended, will remember finishing the walk by coming down these steps to enter Grevenmacher.

The distance is about 30 kilometres along what should be easy going. For lack of suitable public transport, cars at both ends will be needed.

Details again:

25th July

09.00 start

Foot of the steps leading to Kreuz Kapell, Grevenmacher.

Finish Remerschen about 17.00.

AAORS.

1. October 4th. Pfaffenhaas - Hollenfels. A beautiful day, an easy walk.
2. October 25th. Hollenfels - Bourginster. 09.00 start
3. November 2nd. Pfaffenhaas - Grevenmacher. Quite pleasant. I did it twice, discovering unknown parts, seeing a few lapwings.
4. December 13th. Dommeldange - Ettelbruck. Undiscovered country.
5. January 17th. Lutzhassen - Ettelbruck. Very cold. Sandy, Frank and I walked it twice. Luxembourg can be beautiful in the winter.
6. February 14th. Gleskirch - Echternach. A good turnout. A pleasant walk.
7. March 21st. Vinsgen - Kautenbach.
8. May 9th. Lutzhassen - Clervaux.
9. June 6th. Ettelbruck - Hare's End. Sandy and I walked it twice, discovering parts of Luxembourg Hare had so far never reached.

Hare Notes

1986 - 1987

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10. Grevenmacher - Remerschen. C H A P T E R

Kolienz - Luxembourg

1987 - 1988

Anthony Cunningham

Thomas Oursin