

How The Original, Often Imitated, Never Equaled Full Moon Hash House Harriers Was Born



Our first out of country hashing was at Pattaya Beach during InterHash in March 1986. About 20 San Diego hashers went and were we green. Some had never even hashed out of San Diego.

We went with mostly hashers from San Diego, but some from Los Angeles and Long Beach as well. **Coach** planned the trip and took us to Hong Kong, Singapore, China and probably other places. It was a long time ago.

Asia was interesting. The hashing was great. We were very welcome. At the individual hashes we attended, the runners were like us in San Diego but more diverse. They schmoosed, ran, and then had an On On with cold lager beer. And they sang. A million songs. Many of the songs we knew with other words but we also learned new hash songs too. We joined in as we could and really enjoyed the whole bit. We also heard that some Hash had had a run on the Full Moon.

Reveling in the fun on the way back, **VanGo** suggested we expand our Hashing - 360 degree checks, rough territory, hidden or disguised marks, and other diabolical tricks. And singing. The whole banana.

So we started planning the initial run. The format was switched to cheap and ending in a bar to increase participation and reduce work for the hares. I was stationed in DC at the time, so progress was slow, even for the hash. Eventually I came home on a Full Moon and we were off as the *Original Full Moon Hash House Harriers*. It was October 25, 1986. The locals thought it was cold. We gathered in north parking lot of County Administration Building. **VanGo** and I laid the trail in downtown to Little Italy. The Santa Fe Station check was the major feature which allowed the live trail but making it impossible to catch the Hares. The end was in the back room of Princess of Wales in Little Italy. English beer glasses. Good beer. Down Downs were satisfactory. Then we sang till we could no longer talk. The whole thing pleased the bar operators and amused their regular clientele. It was fun, however, it was close to the last time we sang more than Down Down songs.

And that was the way it was.

Mr Spock

