

Treasure Hunt, 2011

The joint-winners of the 2010 Treasure Hunt, that is Neil Richardson, Malcolm Ede and about 17 members of the Ross family supplemented by assorted friends, children and hangers on are now responsible for setting the trail for the 2011 event.

Oddly, Miss Willison, Zena Ross's sister, decided generously to allow Neil the chance to do the preparation work for 2011, but I suppose just having had a baby is some sort of excuse?

The venue for the 2011 event is, of course, a closely guarded secret and will not be revealed until the start of the Hunt on **Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May**, when we will gather at the Church at **11.30am** to hear the details of how to get started.

However, here are 11 things we can tell you now:

1. You will need transport or a lift;
2. You will need a packed lunch;
3. You will be able to buy drinks;
4. You will need a pencil or pen;
5. Bring clothing suited to the weather conditions on the day;
6. All the family is welcome and your friends, if you have any;
7. No cheating is allowed (this year);
8. We will gather after the Hunt at Holy Cross Church for a cuppa and then the final result will be announced;
9. The winners will automatically be in charge of the 2012 event;
10. Bad behaviour will mean points deducted for the offending team;
11. The decision of the organisers is final, even if they are wrong.



Here is a photograph of the world-famous and much-coveted trophy as it sits proudly on the rectory mantle-piece, lending a special aura to the whole house. It will be a wrench for Neil to part with it, but hopefully, he will be able to compete successfully for it again in 2012!

Five things you can do to prepare:

1. Go on as many orienteering courses as you can in the remaining time available;
2. Practice writing notes in the rain;
3. Get your children into their walking boots and train them up to do the running for you on the great day;
4. Find that old hip-flask and get it ready just in case you feel desperate on the day;
5. Buy in some sun-tan lotion just in case.

Jill Marsh has added the following comments to Neil's original article-

"Are you trying to put people off?? It is not compulsory for the winners to prepare the next treasure hunt! You might like to mention that they could just go and lie in the sunshine/rain all afternoon? Also they could get there on the bus! So transport is not essential although it will take a longer than by car."

Er, this was supposed to be a funny piece of writing, Jill!

Neil Richardson