Derek Dixon

I am sorry to report of the demise of Derek (Dribble Dick) Dixon who passed away on 15th October last year after a long and brave fight with cancer.

Many of you will remember Derek as he was a stalwart hasher for a good portion of his life and during his stint in Baghdad he became one of the beer raisers and together with his Daughter Lorraine clocked up more than 50 runs apiece.

After leaving Baghdad, Derek continued hashing on the Wanchai Hash being a founder member of WH3 and during his time in Hong Kong completing the grand total of 842 runs setting some 36 of them, which is no mean feat.

Derek lived on the outskirts of Baghdad out by the airport and was probably best known for his daring driving. The story goes that on his way home from the Hash one night by way of the Airport Road he had the audacity to attempt to overtake one of Saddam’s vehicle convoys.

It should be remembered that Saddam’s vehicle convoys usually consisted of 3 or 4 large armour plated GMC people carriers with blacked out windows which were very distinctive. They normally carried members of the RCC (Revolutionary Command Council i.e. Saddam’s inner circle) to and from the Airport and everyone gave them a very wide berth.

This particular night Derek in his wisdom (or the John Haiste Down Downs) decided he would overtake in his Super Saloon only as he rapidly approached the trailing convoy vehicle the back doors opened and a machine gun appeared riddling the front of Derek’s car with bullets which, as you can imagine, stopped the overtaking manoeuvre instantly. With no front tyres, headlights and steam coming from the radiator the Super Saloon was reduced to an ordinary Saloon.

Derek survived to tell the story and I seem to remember that JH awarded him with the yellow siren suit so the Iraqis would have an easier target next time!! (a typical JH Down Down) Some also say it was shortly after this episode Derek was given the hash tag Dribble Dick due to his dilemma following the shooting.

Our condolences go to Derek’s family; he was one hell of a guy.

On behalf of all his friends on the Baghdad Hash we wish him a fond farewell.

Waffler.