

Hashing in Sweden

The **Stockholm Absolute H3** was founded by Bertil 'Nosslo' Olsson, Gosta 'Two Pricks' Karlsson and Jan 'Stamps' Ferguson-Karlsson in August 1986.

In fact the *Termite family* had probably organized a couple of runs at an early date, but they left Sweden before the kennel could get established.

Today the Absolute Hash runs every other Saturday, with packs of around 20-30.

Runs tend to be from

people's homes, which often pushes the hash into the suburbs. In the summer of 1994 some of the Harriettes thought that the Absolute Hash was getting a bit too 'family Orientated' and founded the **Underground Hash**. They run every Wednesday, from a pub close to a subway station. Numbers on this hash can vary, a wet cold winters evening can see the pack down to 3 or 4.

The **Full Moon Berserkers H3** was founded by hash legend John 'Malibog' Denny.

Although claiming independence status, it is not unknown for a Berserkers Hash to be combined with a Wednesday or Saturday run. There is a close overlap between all three hashes, most Wednesday hashers also run on Saturdays, although the reverse is not true. The most 'typical' Stockholm hasher is a Swedish ex-pat returning home with hash experience, the second largest identifiable group being British residents. Relatively few Stockholm hashers came along as hash virgins.

It is quite a close group, with a core membership - including *Clever Dick*, *The Termite family*, *Standing Ovation*, *Mad Swede* and *Casaplunker* - who have been hashing together from 'the early days'. There is a fair bit of after-hour's socializing with hash teams entering many of the city's running events, including the Stockholm Marathon. The hash has also put together a korfbal team, and are groupies of the local bagpipe group. A hard core can be found at the Ox on Friday evenings. **Inverness H3** meets very occasionally. Inverness in this case is an outer suburb of Stockholm,



possibly named Inverness because Scottish soldiers were stationed here several centuries ago. The Stockholm lads who formed the kennel just wanted an excuse to make an Inverness t-shirt!

Elsewhere hashes tend to come and go.

Kalmar H3 was the invention of *VD Viking* and dependant on visitors from Stockholm for a good turnout. It seems to be dormant at the moment. Vasteras, a town about 100 kilometres west of Stockholm, was the venue for the occasional Stockholm

hash, the pack enjoying the hospitality and cooking of Jan 'Mad Swede' Andersson and then staying



over for the night. Since Mad Swede moved here permanently these occasional runs have developed into the **Westra Aros Gurka H3** and runs now take place monthly. Numbers are dependent on getting a continent coming up from Stockholm. **Blentraps** is a completely independent kennel and was founded by Karin 'Hotlips' Hoffmann after she returned from Malaysia.

Ludvika H3, in the wilderness of Dalarna was founded in June 2000 by Jan 'Super Swede' Karlström who gathered together a small group of returning ex-pats. Ludvika are now on 80 runs with an average pack of around 24. *Super Swede*, Bjarne 'Half-Pint' Carlqvist, Decima 'Tsunami' Frisk, Sten 'Iceman' Bohlin and Göran Frisk all completed over 60 of the first 80 runs

The most significant hash event in recent times has been the re-established of a kennel in the second city of Gothenburg.

Gothenburg H3 (descended from Mölndal H3) now seem firmly established. The founding father and GM is *Penisboy* who learnt hashing in his native Ethiopia. Gothenburg hosted the first **Swedish Nash Hash** in May 2007.

