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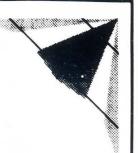
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EDITORIAL

We are now half way through the kite flying season and many events have had unpredictable weather - let's hope the remaining events have better weather.

Talking of festivals. We would like to explain about Weymouth. The main arena was moved as a new beach concession was granted for a giant inflatable slide - no not the Kelloggs one! In theory this slide is permanent - after all money is more important to the council.

We were told this and agreed to a small move of the arena to one side. When we arrived we were informed about the Kelloggs slide - that is why the arena was in the corner. As you can guess we were not happy with this but the council were adament - and they do have the final say!

The same is true of the constant (repetative) music. We asked several times and were assured each time that this would not be playing.

And on top of all this there was Channel 4 filming who originally requested 3 or 4 ten minutes of silence which extended quite substantially. This also interrupted the flow of the festival.

We have written to the council explaining our displeasure at these events and, hopefully, the 10th Weymouth Kite Festival in 2000 will not be troubled by these problems.

A PLEA. Yet again we are asking for articles, hints anything! (Kite related-ish). In fact you are lucky to have this issue. We are totally fed up scraping the bottom of the barrel, hunting for articles. Surely someone out there has something.

Do you want four magazines a year? It is up to you!

Gill and Jon

Possible date for next year. End of May 2000, Newark Showground. Big International Kite Festival. We will keep you posted.

Front Cover Photo

Clown Kite by Jos Valcke who is one of the guests at Portsmouth.

Photo by Gill Bloom

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct The Kite Society cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions that occur. Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors or the Kite Society.

Thailand Festival 1999

Our first introduction to the flying site was on Friday 19th March, which was press/media day. We wondered what was in store for us when teams of workers arrived with wire cutters worked their way across the arena, followed by a water tanker truck which sprayed the whole area to keep the dust down. We understand the site which was next to the Muang Thong Thani Sports Stadium was flattened a few days before.

Running down both sides of the arena there had been set up a long marquee where 50 fliers from 17 countries took shelter in allocated zones for the next three days. The British team Malcolm and Jeanette Goodman, plus Barbara & myself and backed up with visiting press Sue Wardle, Barry Pitman.

Utilising some of the steel debris as ground anchors we launched the Martin Lesters kites for the TV crews and pressmen. Straight from the flying site, we were taken for an evening dinner cruise down the Chow Phraya River which runs through Bangkok, (the river of Kings) excellent Thai Food.

Saturday, the first official festival day the winds were light. A system we devised was as follows, check the duration of the wind, put on sunfactor 25, drink some water, put on a hat, launch the kite. Return to shelter, take another drink of water, slap on a iced water wet flannel on your head and watch the kite slowly sink to ground. Repeat from check the wind -----

The festival was officially opened in the late afternoon by H.S.H. Princess Siriwanree Mahidol, as he was to be presented to her with other fliers, Malcolm had to change into long trousers and a long sleeved shirt. A top Thai male dancer lead a procession of child dancers and drummers and daytime fireworks were set off to produce parachuting flares with a flag attached of each participating country.

One end of the arena the Bay Area Sundowners flew a brilliant ballet to the music of Exodus and White Wilderness. The top end of the arena the Thai Kite Heritage Group flew their chula and pakpao kites. Some familiar faces in the teams we have seen at Dieppe and Washington, but to see these on home ground - great.

Just north of the international fliers arena the whole area was given over to the local fliers, they were holding fighting competitions and having a general fly in. Unlike the visitors these Thai kiters didn't start flying until mid afternoon when the wind became more constant.

Sunday flying conditions similar to Saturday with the international fliers working hard to keep a display going. The Flying Yetis from Nepal (fighters); Rolf Sturm, Cornelia and Thomas Roth from Germany, John Murray, Neil Taylor and Gail Wilmer from Australia, Jan Houtermans & Gabi Drunecky from Vienna, Frits Jansma (Netherlands) and many others from Malaysia, Korean, China, Taiwan and Japan. I was surprised to see a "Arrow head" kite being flown by the Taiwan group, this kite I designed many years ago and was at that time a popular workshop kite, they had improved it by scalloping the trailing edge.

After visiting the local kite makers stalls, we decided to give one last effort to get all the British kites in the sky, to entertain the crowds. Aided by Neil Taylor we managed to launch the large & small Scuba Divers, various legs and the head & arms. You can only run once in that heat. This started a chain reaction with the other international guests and we all finished with a great crowd pleasing show.

For me a sky filled with a multitude of light wind mainly paper local kites is one of the best memories of the trip. "Amazing Thailand" it was!!

Tony Cartwright

Fighter News

Epsom Downs - March 1999

About 25 people turned up for another of Ron Moody's meetings on the Downs. A small group of us met up at a local park in the morning for a fly, as you were not able to fly on the Downs until noon. After that we all met at the Beefeater for a meal.

After lunch the sun was shining and the flying began.

It was mentioned that next year the meal should be in the evening for those who want to, or weather permitting, people bring a picnic, because that way we could fly from noon until dusk.

Well done Ron and thank you.



Manja International Meeting - April 1999

This years meeting was held in Dusseldorf. The same crowd of us (Mac and Jackie Mcleod, Mike and Margaret Harrison, Ron Moody, Graham and I) made the journey for the meeting.

The accommodation was in a youth hostel overlooking the Rhine. The rooms slept four and were clean and comfortable. It was full board and reasonably priced. The food could have been better and if it were not for Margaret's emergency supplies we would have gone hungry!

The meeting itself was in a park opposite the youth hostel, which ran alongside the Rhine. In usual Manja Meeting fashion this event was not very well organised and the atmosphere and hospitality was not as good as last year in Epen. "Moustache" from Germany was our host and he did his best to look after everybody.

There were about 25 people there including Phillippe Gallot, Ludo Petit and his family and Herman and Marsha. Ma and Ron got throuh to the semi final which was to take place Sunday morning. Due to the laid back attitude of our European friends this did not get under way until Sunday lunch time and we had to leave to get the train home - a great shame.

Next years meeting venue has not been decided but I'll let you know details as soon as I get them.

Lynne Jackson

Bits & Pieces

From Kites & More: Beach shelters/cabanas are nothing new, but those of you who are still looking for one can relax - K&M can make them available for you.

If your lines (kite, washing etc.) need decorating, K&M has a large selection of motif windsocks, turbines and spinners. For all single line enthusiasts they have Dragonflies in 2 sizes (150cm/235cm) and for the enthusiastic sport kite flier they have added a selected few new kites from German kite designers to their range of kites: Icon + Utopia (both with patented Trick Tail technology), 2 jewels - Karat and Topaz and some special ZIPPO kites.

We are sure K&M will discover more unusual k-items during the season. They offer a new service for PC owners who want to enjoy their kite web site but are not connected to the internet. More details and their newsletter are available on request (to speed things up please send SAE). Or call 01529 240908 Note the new number. For other contact details see their ad in this issue or visit our kite site at http://www.kitesmore.purplenet.co.uk

Kites Aloft in Altrincham, Greater Manchester & Chester now have a Web site at http://www.kitesaloft.freeserve.co.uk/. You an also email them at jonathan@kitesaloft.freeserve.co.uk

Natural Heights. As of 29 July, Natural Heights will be moving to 15 Northbourne Road, London SW4 7DR. The new phone number will be 020 7 498 2266. Web and email have not changed - http://www.naturalheights.co.uk/km Email naturalheights@dial.pipex.com

Way on High. Changes to our contact details: Way on High, same address but 'net' details are different: Now http://www.wayonhigh.co.uk. Email: enquiries@wayonhigh.co.uk

Many Thanks. Dear Friends, I would like to say a big thankyou to everyone, for their very nice cards, flowers and messages while I was ill in hospital, they all helped me cope with my illness. It was a big shock to find out the real cause, which turned out to be cancer. Things were touch and go at one point, but I am now out and about again taking each day as it comes and hoping to see most of you around at some of the Meets for a bit longer yet. A special thankyou to all the members of the A W K F. for their very nice present given to both myself and Fred on our retirement from the Club, it was a unexpected surprise and a very pleasurable one. Once again a big thankyou to everyone.

Also an extra special thankyou to Rose Wyle for her help. Lilian Taplin

Alcester and Worcester Kite Fliers. This is to notify you that Fred and Lilian Taplin have resigned from their positions as Chairman and Treasurer of the Alchester and Worchester Kite Fliers due to Lillians ill health.

The new Chairman is Mr Fred Apperley, 9 The Meadows, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire B50 4AP. Tel 01789 778424. The new Treasurer/secretary is Mrs Rose Wyle, 34 Woodman Close, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3EH. Tel 0121 602 2493.

Scruffs is a new kite shop that has opened in Wales. Located at 77 Oxford Street, Pontycymer, Bridgend CF32 8DD. Tel: 01656 871871, Fax: 01656 870000. They can also be contacted via Email scruffs@goservices.co.uk. Open 9 - 5:30 Monday - Saturday (half day on Wednesday) and 10 - 4 on Bank Holidays. Stock held include both sports kites and single line kites. A 10% discount is given to Kite Society members for cash purchases.

The Daily Telegraph of 29th June reports on the activities that can and cannot be done in newly redone Tianamen Square in Beijing, China. Although kite flying is still allowed the ad-hoc groups of fliers now require a permit before they can fly their kites.

Event Report

Suffolk Kite Festival 99

May15/16th Rougham Airfield near Bury St. Edmunds

What a difference from '98 as this year we had the use of the whole site which meant we could have three display arenas, the main flying one being 300 feet square, with loads of space left over for public flying plus 800ft of grass runway for the buggies. Saturday was a free day with flyers and traders arriving and setting up their areas, the weather was great with lots of sun and quite a good wind.

Sunday dawned fine although there was not much sun and we had a brief shower in the afternoon, but not enough to deter anyone . there were some wonderful displays by the various teams, backed up by displays of Indian fighters, Korean fighters, Revolutions, Trick kites and others, all put on by members of visiting clubs, Suffolk Kite Flyers, some of the traders and individual flyers. There were sweet drops for the children, courtesy of Peter Linnell, Chairman of Brighton Kite Flyers and Force Nine Kites. Everybody seemed to be enjoying the show, and most members of the public we spoke to were amazed by the displays.

We would like to say a very big thank you to all who came and took part in this event, to the Rougham Tower Assocuation for the use of this wonderful site, to our sponsers Print Wright Ltd of Ipswich and Balfour Kirkpatrick of Rougham Ind. Estate, and finally to Paul and Kay Readhead for all their work operating the P.A System

Peter Phillips

Book Review

Kite Fight by Chris Wright Published by Middlesex University Press. Paperback, 71 pages with 23 illustrations. ISBN 1 898253234.

The book is available direct from Middlesex Press, Bounds Green Road, London N11 2NQ. Tel 0181 362 5734 Cost £9.95 plus postage and packing.

This small book applies aerodynamic theory to kite flight in a clear and concise manner, not too many long mathematical equations to get the brain round.

It is basically divided up into two sections. The first covering design criteria - the features that should be designed into a kite to have a reasonable chance of the thing flying. The second area is a step by step fault chart together with simple and practical methods for adjusting trim and hints on flying technique.

The book has no fancy photos or diagrams, and almost has the feel of a home produced DTP production, not that this distracts from the information which is presented in a clear and concise manner.

This is an excellent book for keen kite designers and enthusiast, with an especially good section on delta kites (we suspect a Dan Leigh influence here). However all the information is applied to single line kites so the sports kite people would probably find the book of limited use. Definitely one for the book shelf.





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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Kite Society of Great Britain was founded in 1979 and, since then, has grown to be recognised as the leading organisation for kite flying in Great Britain with over 3500 members worldwide.

The main vehicle of communication between members is the quarterly publication 'THE KITEFLIER'. 'THE KITEFLIER' is published in January, April, July and October of every year. 'THE KITEFLIER' contains news of forthcoming kite festivals, kite retailer news, kite plans, kite group news and a comprehensive events list.

In addition the Kite Society organises kite meetings where guest speakers are invited to talk about their specialist area of kite making and flying.

Other benefits of membership include free, or reduced, entry into selected kite festivals in the U.K., special parking arrangements where possible, discount - from 5% to 15% - on all kite purchases from the majority of kite retailers in the U.K.

A membership 'year' runs for four issues of 'THE KITEFLIER'. plus other occasional mailings. Each member receives a membership card entitling them to free entry and discount.

If you wish to join The Kite Society please fill in the form below and send it, with your payment, to the address shown. All cheques, postal orders and money orders should be made payable to 'The Kite Society' and, for overseas members, should be drawable in the U.K. and be in sterling.

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£10.00
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O.A.P.	£8.00
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Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail	£12.00
Overseas - Airmail	£16.00

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* This is a RENEWAL/NEW MEMBERSHIP. For renewals please give old membership number.

Pease send this form with payment to:

^{*} New members please state which issue your membership should start with - JANUARY/APRIL/JULY/OCTOBER.

Event News

Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Aug 7th & 8th, 1999.

Things are in full swing for this year's Festival, and the good weather has been booked too!! The hours are to be 10 to 5 on both days, and camping will be available on site. (This is free, but a small optional donation would be appreciated as we are being charged for the use of the site this year). Food and Kite traders will be there, to keep you fed, watered and airborne. For entertainment, we will have a Bucking Bronco and a "Gladiator" Dual game. There will also be a local charity stall.

The usual kite flying, Buggying, Kite Workshop, Teddy bear dropping and Tandem Buggy rides will be taking place, as well as a Buggy School. Parascending and Dual flights will be going on, plus Canopy dual flights, good for that aerial view! The helicopter rides are joining us again, so come along and join in the fun.

There will be a Bar on site, with reasonable prices. All we need is the wind, and for you to bring yourselves and your kites along! For more info, please contact Roy (Kites Up) 01256 812487, or Mike Shaw (BBC) 0468 765887.

2nd Cleethorpes Beach Kite Festival - 21st & 22nd August.

Free Camping is available but the number is restricted so contact quickly. There will be a Civic Reception during Saturday evening at the Winter Gardens with reasonably priced basket meals available. On site free car parking, Kite stalls, workshops, craft stalls and other entertainments.

For further details phone 01472 323004 or fax 01472 323005.

The Hunstanton Kite Festival - 12th September

To be held at Smithdon School Field. The Hunstanton Rotary is hosting its third festival on Sunday 12th September. The displays have grown each year and this year promises to be the best yet.

Arena attractions will include Sky Diver kite display team, Dark Star multi kite flying plus Team Spectrum - a special display of kite flying with 100' tails and many other routines sponsored by Force Nine Kites. And the famous Cambridge Kite Shop Nightmare Display Team will be displaying gravity defying stunts of power kiting, buggying and kite jumping. As one of Europe's best power kiting teams they will be on hand to advise and display power kiting at its best and its safety aspects. They will also have a full range of power kites and buggies on sale.

Other attractions will include kite flying for all visitors, Teddy Bear parachuting (so bring your teddies), sweet drops, small fairground rides, model aircraft plus altitude sprints with prizes, a large craft fair in the school hall, hot food and drink available on site plus many kite stalls for kites and spares.

A really good day out for all the family especially for children with a childrens entertainer on hand for most of the day with games, magic & tricks & many other attractions.

For more information contact B. Cantle 01223 243825. For camping 1/2 mile from festival ring Searls Holiday Camp Site 01485 533815. Festival site on the A149 Kings Lynn & Hunstanton Road.

Castle Cary Kite Festival, 12th September

This years event will again be held on Ansford School Playing Fields just past the station on the A371. The event is free. There will be a kite workshop, displays by the White Horse team and a car boot. For those wishing to camp there is a local site with good facilities and B&B in the town. Details on request. For more information contact Ken Knight, Dimmer, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NR. Tel: 01963 351482

Beaulieu Kite Festival, Sept 19th 1999.

This will be the first Festival here, organised by the Hampshire County Federation Women's Institute. The times of opening are 10 to 4.30. Steve Brocket will be attending to do a "workshop" (a pay as you go). It is aimed to be a relaxed event, so show your support, and bring yourselves and your Kites along. For more details, contact Roy (Kites Up) on 01256 812487 or Sue Atrill (W.I) on 01962 852721.

Poole Kite Picnic

What a BEAUTIFUL day we had! It was cool and rather cloudy, but the wind blew gently (sometimes a bit TOO gently) from the South, over Poole Harbour with a fleet of sailing dinghies, and over such a host of kites on Baiter Park, that it was sometimes difficult to find a space to fly!

The sun must have been there too, despite the thick blanket of cloud, because all my white bits have now gone pink!

An ENORMOUS and heartfelt THANK YOU to ALL who turned up and made the day completely perfect.

Avon Kite Fliers turned up in such numbers and brought so many of their big kites that mere words cannot express the gratitude they deserve.

They must have brought a whole school of whales, because the sky was filled with them at one time - 3 babies and a black and white mother of all whales! A very special thank you to Tony Baker and all those AKF members whose names escape me.

I only joined Avon Kite Fliers two weeks ago at Weymouth, and if this is the way they support their members then I am very sure that I have made the best possible choice.

I am pretty sure the gratifyingly large turnout had little to do with my appeals over the last few weeks. It must be more to do with the affection held by all for our Chairman, Harry Douglas, who had a marvellous day with the usual non-stop banter and "crack" for which any gathering of kite-fliers is infamous!

One kite brought along by Harry attracted a lot of attention. It is one of those eye-catching "flying ships", a square-rigger made of bamboo with eight brightly striped nylon sails. He was sent three of these Unlikely Flying Objects by a gent who had imported a load "on spec" and had approached Harry for advice. He brought one of the largest ones along today, and so long as the breeze held at 10mph it flew beautifully. I took some pictures, which should be on my website in a few days. One of our many visitors flew a lovely arch of eddy kites, and I managed to fly the ship right up below the top of the arch, which was just perfect to behold.

Enough ramblings, but never enough heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who came along. It was one of those special days, which I shall always be proud to be part of.

Thank you all again, this is a day to cherish forever.

To put the icing on the cake, the "Russian Appeal" gained five more kites (four from Harry) and a whole bag of ripstop from our friends at Kiteability. The tally now stands at twelve kites and a back-pack full of material and assorted goodies. I will leave Harry's moving story of how this appeal came about on my website until further notice.

Enough ramblings, but never enough heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who came along. It was one of those special days, which I shall always be proud to be part of. Thank you all again, this is a day to cherish forever.

Tight lines & enormous smiles - Dicky

Richard Nourse

YOYO Strings!

Make your own Yo-Yo strings.

With the resurgence of the craze, I thought it about time I shared my knowledge of how to make your own, very superior, replacement Yo-Yo string. The technique I describe gives you a string of low stretch, adds snap to those tricks and lengthens sleep times.

The cord I use is Dyneema of 18kg breaking strain. Take a piece two and a half times the distance from your tummy button to your big toe, and thoroughly wax it first with candle wax by running it under your thumb on the surface of a candle. The length is not arbitrary, but gives a string of the correct length. (Unless, of course, you're Adam, in which case make it the same length as the nearest serpent). Find the middle and then attach a clothes peg to that middle point as a weight.

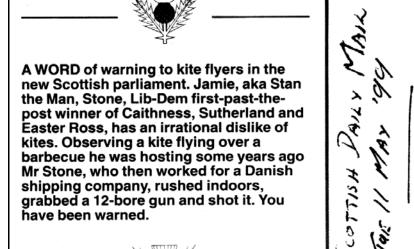
The next bit is much harder to describe than to do.

At a distance of three inches from either side of the clothes peg, take the cord between finger and thumb and gently rotate it in opposite directions. Then bring your fingers and thumbs together, the peg will spin, and Voila!, a Yo-Yo string starts to form before your very eyes. Allow another three inches of cord to slide from between your fingers and repeat the process.

It is important to keep the rotations approximately equal, and this is easiest to do if you spin the cord first before bringing your fingers together - the twists then become very apparent and can be kept equal.

When you get to the ends of the cord, tie an overhand knot and your Yo-Yo string is complete. The clothes peg will even have left a handy loop to slip over the spindle. And don't worry. The string <u>cannot</u> unravel. And the first time you use it you will see how much better Dyneema is than the cotton string supplied with most Yo-Yos

What in fact you have just done is to recreate the most fundamental part of rope making, which is to put twist and therefore tension into thin cord, and then relieve the tension by allowing it to make a stable twist in the opposite direction. If you go to a traditional rope-walk you will see the



process mechanised and using three or four cords rather than two, but essentially the same. It is also possible to mechanise Yo-Yo string making, but that is outside the scope of this letter. Suffice it to say, Meccano is involved.

Martin Powell





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Damon Hazell 01256 328716.

Wanted: I am looking for a large traction kite for items in very good order. Tel: 01603-431964 or jumping but mainly to get into Surfing. I know 0778 8821993 about the C-Quad but it is a little bulky when packed up. I'm thinking may be a large sky tiger (Hi-60 / 80) and/or a hyper-12 Flexi. I may go to a really large peel 7.5/10M but I guess I'm quite open. I just want some serious power to surf with. Steve Pugh 0370 745168.

For sale/swap/P.X. - HQ Maestrale, one hours use, as new £70.00. Or swap/P.X for: Box of Tricks, Zenith, Omega XS (UL) May consider others! Tel: 01371 830669 Evenings

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David McMillan, 3 Manor Court, Black Dike Lane, Upper Poppleton, YORK YO26 6QP

Stratoscoop 3 Airfoil, 6 cells with For Sale: Rainbow coloured for serious lifting power. Excellent condition. To use on 250 - 300 lb line. Wind range 8 - 25 mph. Hertfordshire 01707 895159

For Sale: Sky Dancer, Green & White plus 2 x Green/White Tube Tails & Handles with lines -£60. Hawaiian Team, 3/4 size. Red & Yellow -£55. Lite Cat. Orange and Yellow £50. Prism White/Orange - £50. Swallow Tail, Pink/Blue -£80. Mega Delta 'American' multi-coloured - £55. Synergetic 'American' Purple + Line/Handle £65. Drogue Blue/Red/Orange + White, used once. £45. All prices include postage. Only selling because recently became unemployed. Tel 01256 38716.

For Sale: Spirit of Air Enigma - Deep Blue - Flown once only - Only £45. Phone Nigel on 0117 961 6343.

Form a Team? Anybody around the Basingstoke For Sale: Martin Lesters Team Legs with approx area - up to 40 miles - interested in forming a 2/3 1000 feet flying line on winder £100, Martin Lester man team each flying 2/3 kites? Phone me please. Top half with line on winder £50. Dragons head enamel bolo £20. 3 metre x 3 metre playsail £30. 4.5 x 4.5 metre playsail £55. Postage extra. All



Pike's Pieces

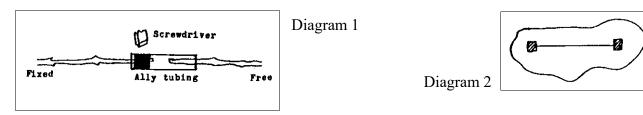
We were sad to hear of the death of Roger Pike recently. Roger had been a staunch member of the Essex Kite Group for many years and was known for his innovative three dimensional kite designs. During the early years of this magazine Roger was active in contributing his simple, but elegant ideas for publication. We have reproduced some of these below as a tribute to a unique kiteflier.

Odd Diameters (Diagram 1)

To join odd diameters of cane or dowel etc, using aluminium tube, bind the end of the fixed cane or dowel with P. V.C. tape. Push into tubing and dent diagonally to hold in position.

Slots in ripstop (Diagram 2)

Slots or slits are often required in kite making and sewing to stop the material fraying does not always seem to work. Evostick two half inch squares of binding tape each end of slit - one each side of the material.

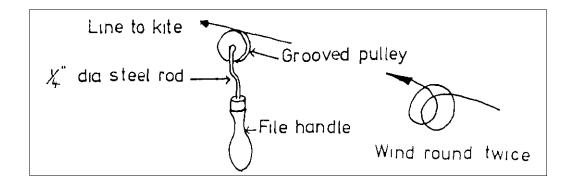


Nylon cord knotting

I know the usual method of fixing nylon cord knots is by heat application but these can not be undone again. I find a smear of clear Evo-stick does the job and can still be picked open if required

Pulley

In my aerial photography experiments a lot of running down the kite line is required. I made this pulley and handle and found it worked well. Wrap the cord round the pulley twice to stop it bouncing off the line.



Kite Tails

Kite tails made from kids plastic windmills create tremendous drag for very little. Separate each propeller by a two foot length of nylon cord and put fishing swivels between each one (essential).

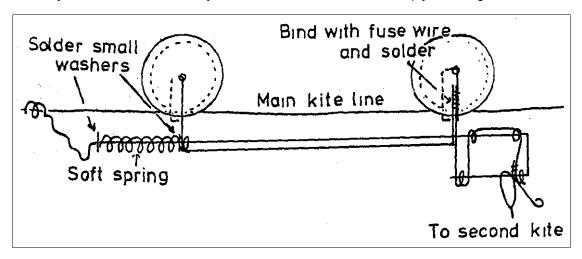
Line marking

Mark kite line with black felt pen one dash for every 100feet, single red dashes for 50 feet intervals.

Pike's Pieces

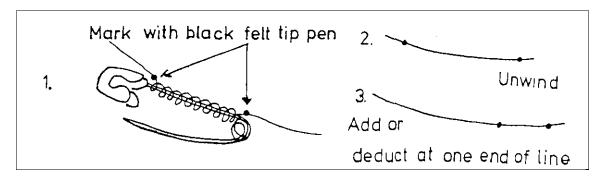
Wire ferry

Most light objects - kites, parachutes, balloons etc will travel up a kite line on their own. Using this principle this simple wire ferry will travel up the line with it's load and release it when it comes in contact with a stop. I have often used a kite on a separate line to fly off when contact is made with the stop. Always stand on the side of the main line where the wind is blowing the load. Bend up as diagram using 1/16th of an inch wire or similar. I turned the wheels from nylon but these could easily be fabricated from sheets of thin ply or strong card.



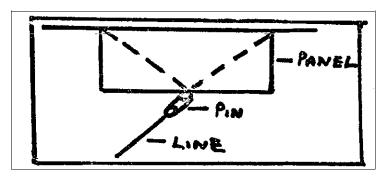
Bridle Adjustment during testing

On complicated bridling systems when the length of a particular line is not certain, I insert a locking safety pin in the line winding it round several times. This gives a few inches latitude. When the correct flying position has been found mark the line each end of the line. This saves an awful lot of trail and error.

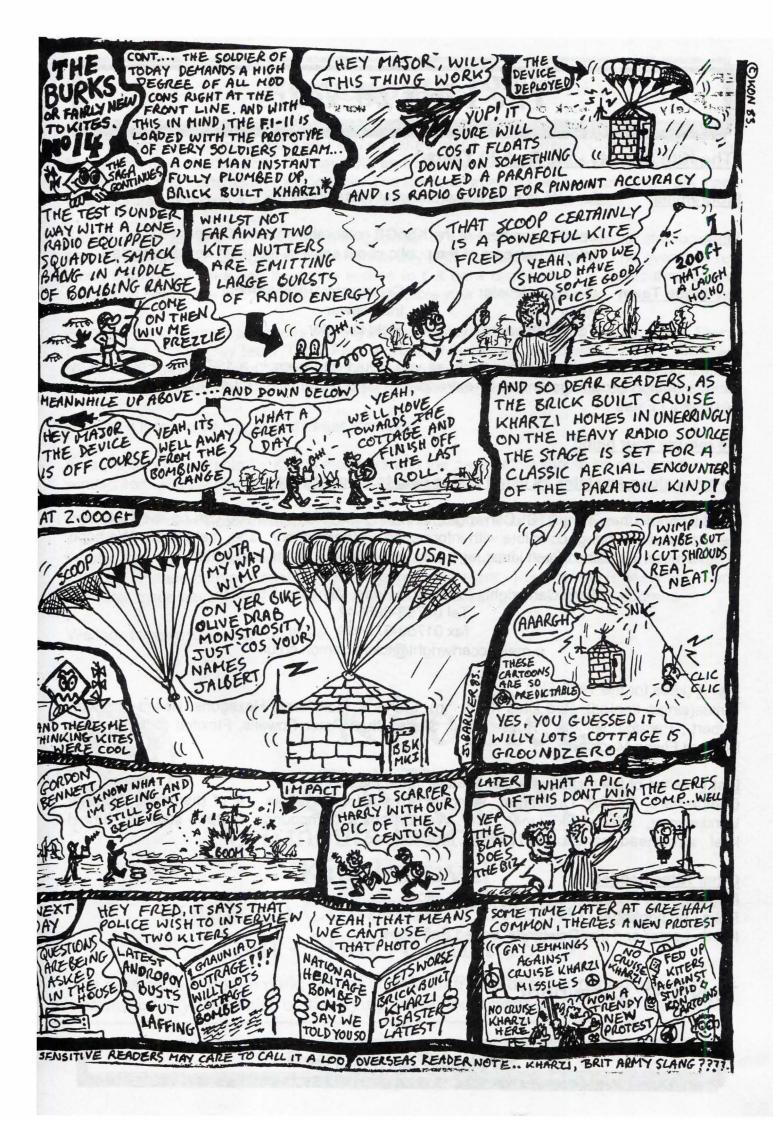


Keels

When making keels for deltas etc, and bridling points are unknown let in an oversized square of material and join line with a babies safety pin (locking type). Experiment with line position then cut panel to final shape. I have used this safety pin idea a lot - sometimes moving as many as ten bridling points. Tapes can be sewn on , after correct positions have been found.



The Kiteflier - July 1999 - Page 16



The First 20 Years

"The Kite Society - the first 20 Years"

Programme for a 45 minute presentation at Portsmouth "99".

Aims- Let the members of the KSoGB celebrate the last 20 years.

Inform members of the public about some of the main developments.

<u>Sky Stage Team</u> George Webster - Commentator/Researcher

Andy King - Interviewer
Tony Cartwright - Field Director

We will be reconstructing a kite display as you would had seen in a 1979 sky. Followed by various design groupings linked to extracts of "The Kiteflier". Plus interviews with Kite Designers / Fliers.

We require your help!!

To bring along any kites as listed and to help to fly on the day

Please contact me, Tony "TC" Cartwright, informing me what days you can be available and the kites you can bring; complete with information on their history, age, makers etc. We hope to have mass launches of soft kites; legs; roks (no fighting), facets and deltas.

Tony Cartwright, 70 Pierson Road, Windsor, SL4 5RF.

Tel 01753-866642
fax 01753-675469
e-mail tccartwright@tckite.demon.co.uk

List A (kites for the 1979 Sky)

Deltas(single keeled), Bird kites (Pearson), Flares & Multiflares, Hexagons, Hewitt Flexikite, Jalbert, Parafoil, Rollers, Russell Hall, Sleds, Stunt Peter Powells, Flexifoil (pole handle), Dunford Flying Machine

<u>List B</u> (kites of the last 20 years as feature in the magazine)

Camberflare, RAISA, Cricketbat, Winged Boxes/Cloud seekers, 4 of diamonds, Mirage, Windjammer, Huloop Sky Liner, Prof. Waldorf box & Compounds, Deltas - stacked, tunnel keel, arrowhead, ramjet, twin keeled, keelless etc.

Other Kites needed

Mega Deltas, Facets, Flairs, snowflakes, etc Roks (no fighting) Martin Lester and Jim Rowlands based Soft Kites.

Tony "TC" Cartwright

Portsmouth 1999

The Portsmouth International Kite Festival takes place on Southsea Common, Southsea, Hampshire on Saturday 28th, Sunday 29th and Monday 30th August and is jointly run by the Kite Society and Portsmouth City Council. The site is a large grassed area and there are many local facilities including a leisure centre - so plenty to keep the non-flier happy.

Saturday and Sunday will have a full programme of arena displays and demonstrations with Monday, once again being a relaxed informal day with no planned events. The event will run along the normal lines and if anyone wishes to put on a display for the public then please contact us before the event so that we can timetable your demonstration in.

Amongst the confirmed attendees are Skydance Display Team, BiDance, the Avon Kite Fliers, French four-line display team 'Team Flic', a group of fliers from Israel with their graphic kites, Generation Kite Club from France, Robert Valkenburgh from Holland with his Wind Gallery (musical wind objects and kites), Jos Valcke from Belgium and others yet to be confirmed.

All in all it looks to be bigger and better than ever!

Free parking is available for KSGB members and the pass below should be displayed in your windscreen. Please photocopy the pass as required.

For details of other accommodation contact the Portsmouth Tourist Centre on 01705 826722.

Finally, kite traders are welcome to attend the event and the cost for two or three days is £180.00. Please note payment is required **before** the event. Pre-booking is essential. Send cheques, made payable to The Kite Society with your booking to the editorial address.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Kitefliers CAR PASS

Portsmouth International Kite Festival Southsea Common, Portsmouth 28th - 30th August 1999

This pass entitles you to park, free of charge, in the festival car park. Parking is not permitted anywhere else on the flying site without permission of the organisers.

Bristol International Kite Festival

11.00am - 5.00pm on both 4th & 5th September

For anyone who hasn't been to Bristol before we aim to provide both a showcase for invited flyers from home and abroad, featuring <u>all</u> shapes, sizes and types of kites, together with a friendly event where enthusiasts and the general public can come along, find out more about kite flying and watch the fun or better still join in flying their own. The Festival is held in the attractive grounds of Ashton Court Estate to the north west of Bristol.

The goods news is that Demon Internet have at last confirmed their sponsorship again (the bad news is that last year's ice cream people went bust owing us over £4,000! Demon will have an on site presence again and will also be hosting the Festival web site and running various promotions and competitions in the run up to the event.

We're planning a really good line up of guests, particularly from Europe, this year. The overall theme is "The sea" giving plenty of scope for an exciting array of kites, windsocks inflatables, banners etc. Invitations have gone out to many overseas flyers. So far we have had acceptances from Italian, Marco Casadio (with the larger than life Mermaid) - Marta and Joan Montcada from Barcelona, the Holland Kite Team and we're still waiting to hear from Jørgen Møller Hansen (designer of the Decorators' Revs amongst others!) French team of Alain Signé, Joël Thézé and Martine Chatel and hopefully a number of German flyers.

Avon Kite Flyers will again be the 'host' club on the day providing welcome help and support. They will also be giving their impressive arena displays (enter Roly the Whale) and organising an Indian Kite fighting challenge. There will also be the usual rokakku battles and displays of big softees with Peter Lynn's sea creatures jostling with various Martin Lester's body parts!

On Saturday morning the Festival will be hosting the deciding round of the British Nationals Pairs Sport Kite Championships which looks to be a particularly exciting competition this year.

Children's World

This year the Festival is supporting the charity 'Children's World'. The Charity, run by Arabella Churchill which raises funds to provide play, drama and integrated projects for special needs children throughout the South West. Anne Harris is closely involved with Children's World and her inflatables will be part of a special new children's activity area the Charity is providing at the festival with its own programme of quality entertainers and acts.

At the festival Anne will also be promoting her latest ambitious scheme which is to build a giant 3D coral reef during the year 2000.

She is aiming to get sponsorship from individuals, companies, groups etc. to sponsor either sections of the reef or a range of sea creatures, which will be appliquéd on, and to raise significant sums of money for Children's World and various other Children's Charities overseas. She is also using the project to raise awareness of the environmental dangers facing the world's coral reefs not to mention hoping to sew herself into the Guinness Book of Records.

Bristol International Kite Festival

Saturday Night Frolics

By popular demand we will be holding the usual on site party on Saturday evening. There will be the usual excellent meal + bar, auction and entertainment. Depending on budgets this may well include fireworks but there will certainly be a night flying display. Tickets for the meal are available in advance from the Festival Office, price £10 per adult £5 for a child (under 14). Those not eating are still welcome to come along and join in later.

Accommodation

We have the usual block booking at Redwood Lodge Hotel (this backs onto Ashton Court Estate) We have been allocated a limited number of rooms priced £70 per double B&B, £50 per single. To book call reservations (Tel: 01275 393 901) and explain you want to be part of the Kite Festival allocation. Two new budget hotels have also opened this year in the City centre, near Temple Meads Station. We hope to have a block booking at City Inns (tel: 0117 904 1111 which will cost £39.95 B&B per room (i.e. double or single) there is also the Holiday Inn Express (tel: 0117 930 4800) which is about £49 per room.

Camping

Although there is an absolute ban on general camping in Ashton Court Estate the City Council have again given permission for us to have a small crew area on site for pre booked kite flyers and are also trying to find us a nearby farmer's field (without cows!) for more general camping. Either way we will try to sort something out this year as we realise that many flyers like to camp if possible. Send a SAE to the festival Office and we will keep you updated.

Parking

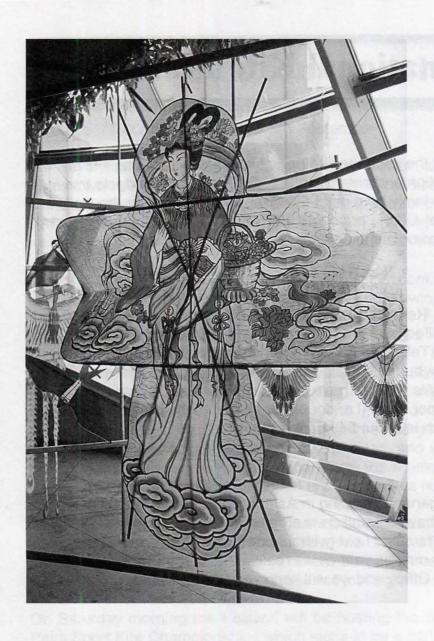
Due to our finances this year we have reluctantly decided to ask flyers to make a contribution for car parking this year. Flyers with festival passes will be asked to pay £2 per day, on arrival, (instead of £4 for general public) you will also be able to park in the flyers area which is closer to the flying field than the general parking. To apply for a pass please send SAE (but no money) to the Festival office and we will issue passes on a first come first served basis up to our usual maximum of 500. We are also keen to sort out a 'dropping off' pass for those of you with a lot of kites and kit, again mention this when you apply for your pass.

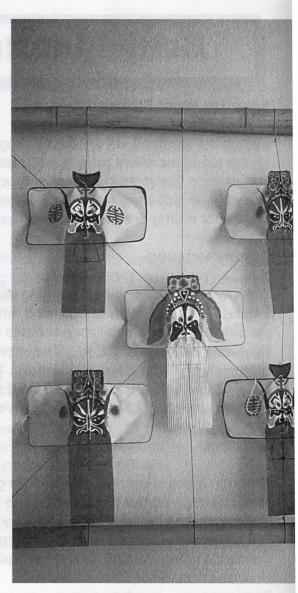
We are looking forward to seeing many of you again this year

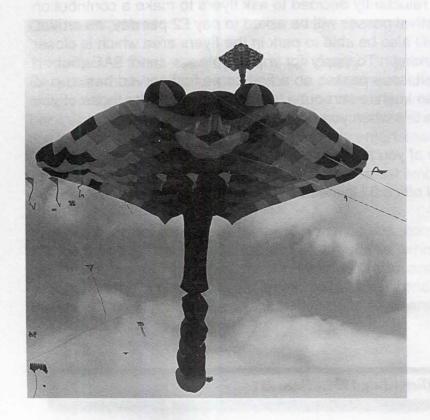
Any queries please contact the Festival office 5 Lilymead Avenue, Bristol BS4 2BY.

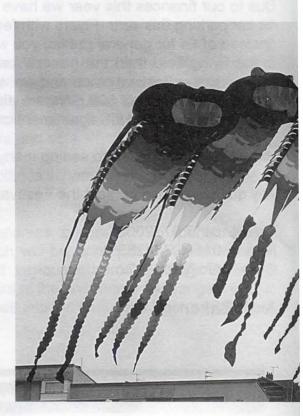
Tel: 0117 9772002 Fax: 0117 9774255 E-mail: info@abc-pr.co.uk

Avril Baker











Top Row

A selection of some of the Chinese Kites on exhibition at Berck.

Bottom row left to right.

The Dutch Kite Team flying the Peter Lynn constructed MEGA RAY

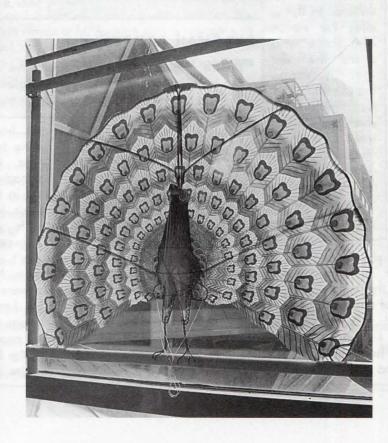
A collection of Peter Lynn Trilobites flown by the Dutch and American teams.

A Chinese Peacock Kite in the exhibition.

All photographs by Gill Bloom.

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ADVENTURE ON ICE 1999

was sponsored to Madison Wisconsin for their first 'Kites on Ice Festival' on beautiful Lake Monona. This had been a big dream of Craig Wilson for many years - and it was just about to come true...

Organising the festival was in the very capable hands of Linda Underwood and her staff, who had spent over a year putting it together. This was no mean feat, I mean for someone who at the very start didn't know one end of a kite

from the other - it presented a huge task! And this was not your run of the mill 'Sundayafternoon-watching-childrenrunning-around-with-a-brownpaper-bag-on-a-piece-of-string' type of kite festival either, I mean

this was big time... some of the best kite flyers from around the world had been invited to show off their kites and skills. All and this a other million things to organise, and re-organise over and over again as various new problems arose. Each day was a challenge throughout the year, but that very beautiful lady and her crew did it, and with flying colours! The festival was a huge success

from start to finish, the weather and winds were in God's hands but the festival was in theirs.

I had been kind of sceptical at first when I had accepted their invitation. I mean I don't skate... how was I going to stand up and do



multiple kite flying on ice? And then there's the cold. Between you and I, I hate the cold, 60°f and I am freezing. I am sure Linda Underwood and Angie Tyler thought I was kind of weird asking all these questions as they came to my mind throughout the year, but I need not have worried as it was a breeze and they did a super job of baby-sitting Big Daddy!

The day came when I was off to Madison, with one stop in Chicago, then a 30 minute flight to Madison. A piece of cake - "Right"?... "Wrong"! The flight to Chicago went without a problem. I had a 30 minute wait before my connecting flight. I caught sight of Scott Skinner and we chatted for a

> while before boarding the plane to Madison. Thirty minutes later we should have been in Madison where people were waiting for us to take us to our hotel - "Right"?... "Wrong"! We were told to leave the plane as the pilot had phoned in sick. We boarded two more planes in the next four hours and all had the same excuse: the pilot was sick. We ended up stranded in Chicago O'Hare airport for 18 hours just to travel 30 minutes! But fortunately I

was in very good company with

Scott Skinner and the Montreal STAFF Team. We talked a lot,

address: brightonkiteflyers@bigfoot.com This can be used for all general enquiries. laughed a lot and also cried a lot. Someone opened a bottle of

wine to celebrate our misfortune! The highlight of the whole misadventure for me was waking up in the morning on the airport floor snuggled up close to, and with my arms around... Scott Skinner. If you have never

BKF ONE SKY ONE WORLD DAY 1999

- ◆ Date: Sunday 10 October 1999
- ◆ Site: Devil's Dyke/East Sussex
- ◆ Time: 10.00 to 17.00
- ◆ Map Ref: 198 TQ 258 112
- ◆ CAA Height Clearance: 1000ft (applied for)
- ◆ Contact: Ray Oakhill Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/

email: rao@mistral.co.uk

ur third One Sky One World day at which we hope other clubs and individual fliers will join us. The event is worldwide and

BKF EMAIL ADDRESS

devoted to flying kites for peace with those who share the sky with us across the planet.

previous As years we will be

totalling the number of kites flown throughout the day which will then be registered with Jane Parker-Ambrose who co-ordinates the world count from OSOW headquarters in Denver, Colorado, USA. Hope to see you there ...

Toody Oakhill (BKF/Editor)

experienced that then "you have yet to live"!

We finally left the Chicago airport at 9am. Needless to say we were 24 hours late getting to Madison, but we were welcomed with open arms and from that minute on it was pure joy. I put on my snowsuit, went out on the ice and flew away all my frustrations of the day before, which did not take long. Especially when I looked around to see all the beautiful kites in the air - belonging to some of the best kite builders in the world: George Peters, Robert Trepanier, Ron Sandy

he Brighton Kite Flyers now have an email

Gibian, Ann & Chris Harris, Peter Dolphin, Yves LaForrest, Ann Clement and Dave & Susan Gomberg just to name a few. Once again it was pure pleasure for me to share the Sport Kites area of the ice with the Decorators from the UK, Team STAFF from Montreal, the infamous Chicago Fire and Roger & Janice Maddy from the USA. We all worked together to excite and thrill the 15,000 plus spectators each day that came to watch the kiting magic.

For the Saturday night-fly the winds were very light but we just had to put on a show for the thousands of spectators that braved the cold. People had paid \$15 for window seats inside the Monona Terrace - where the Madison Symphony Orchestra was set up to play live music, giving that extra magic touch to the night-fly. I had set up my 3 Black Knight Pro-Dancers - Team Chicago Fire and Team STAFF were already in the air. It was awesome to fly multiple kites in the pitch dark and then watch them come alive as they danced through the light rays and were caught by the laser and spotlights – all to the live music of the Madison Symphony Orchestra.

It was tough going with less than two miles an hour of wind. But I had a mission and that was to dedicate a few minutes of night flying among the

stars over Madison to a very good friend of mine that collapsed had and died just a few weeks before. "This one is for you Pip", and knowing him he would have said "Good on Ya Ray!" and in the words he so often used "I am chuffed monkeys!" meaning over the moon!'.

All our kites were packed away by 7pm as there was the \$100/plate

ARDINGLY AUTUMN SHOW 1999

◆ Date: Sunday 3 October 1999

◆ Site: The South of England Showground/ Ardingly/West Sussex

◆ Time: 09.00 to 17.00

◆ Map Ref: 187 TQ 341 303

◆ CAA Height Clearance: 1000ft (applied for)

◆ Contact: Ray Oakhill Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/ email: rao@mistral.co.uk

he club has been invited to demonstrate at this event once again. Anyone interested in free entrance to the show to demonstrate their kites and kiteflying should contact Ray (contact details above) as soon as possible.

Apologies - but available free entrance to this event is limited and therefore open to members of the Brighton Kite Flyers only. Anyone else is welcome to attend - but I'm afraid you'll have to pay to get in. Please bear in mind that the arena space available to us is unfortunately fairly small!

Toody Oakhill (BKF/Editor)

fundraising dinner to attend – and what a posh do that was. All the high-society, including the Governor's wife, were there and all dressed in their beautiful gowns and tux. There was no problem seeing who the kite flyers were! We came specially dressed up in our tee shirts and jeans, although Roger Chewning let our side down by wearing a suit and Scott Skinner wore a beautiful Japanese silk Kimono.

The dinner and evening were great, I don't think anyone noticed that we were dressed any differently. People came around after dinner shaking our hands and asking a lot of questions about kiting - telling us how exciting the festival was and thanking us for coming to their city.

On Sunday the winds were 20mph plus, Angie gave me a pair of arctic spurs to wear - they were great and gave me the same confidence I would have had flying on grass. I had Jody McCann acting as anchorman to keep me from falling while doing multiple kite ballets. I didn't want to end up breaking anything since this was just the first of my 20 plus



sponsored trips around the world this year, but all went well and I was able to do my thing.

After landing I took a short break. That is when the infamous Lee Sedgewick skied over my 3 sets of lines cutting them neatly. I spent the next hour splicing them together. It was very cold out there sitting on the ice, but I kept warm by thinking of so many different ways of killing Lee... the one I liked the best was choking him with my bare hands! That evening we all got together for a farewell dinner in a German restaurant. It was great food, great company and we all had a turn at drinking from 'The Boot' (not to be confused with 'Das Boot' - which is a submarine!). This is a glass shaped like a riding boot which holds about 3 pints of beer. There is now a new rumour going around the kiting world that I drank the Decorators under the table... and if you believe that you will believe anything - "I mean these guy are pros"! The Decorators, Linda, Angie, Robert Trepanier plus a couple of others and myself ended up in a pub next door for a final night-cap and to say our farewells. It was indeed a great... no, the word is AWESOME, kite festival and I would like to congratulate Linda Underwood, Angie Tyler and their staff for a super organised event. At the same time I take my hat off to all those wonderful volunteers, for without them it would not have been the success

The flight home was no problem... it was time for me to hang up my arctic spurs and prepare for my next trip which was a fully sponsored three and a half weeks in Australia.

Thank you for listening.

that it indeed was.

Ray Bethell (BKF/Canada & Worldwide)



AN AFTERNOON IN GOSPORT

rom home, which is Partridge Green for the family and I, the journey to Gosport took 75 minutes. Not much to say about that apart from the crafty policeman who was hidden in the hedge near Goodwood with his radar gun. No I wasn't, just in case you wondered!

The site was quite easy to find really. I think it had something to do with the twenty or so kites that were flying at the time that gave it away. Ten minutes later I would have missed the site entrance as the wind was very fickle. Although the Lifeboat Station was mentioned as being a landmark I don't think it was sign-posted.

Along the seafront road we approached from we could see a team were practising. They looked good. Their spacing was good, their timing was good and complexity of routine, although to some extent governed by the wind, appeared good. Sometimes to have a slack day is fine, as I am sure it allows a little bit of finesse to be perfected.

Two gentlemen spotted the BKF top as we walked

from the car and introduced ourselves to each other. Now if I was that good at remembering names I would be saying John from ?? and Peter from ?? but... I can't! They were both keen flyers more later. Again, you can see how good I am with names, I asked who could speak to

KITEMAIL?...

Office recently I picked up a copy of The Easy Way To Mail Abroad' leaflet. What should I find inside but lots of piccies of kites being flown on a lush golden beach - a dream flying site! Amongst them is Chris Matheson who can be found flying a Midi on pages 2 & 8... "Yep that's me. I went over to Portugal last Oct' with the guys from the Royal Mail to do the shoot. Went up to my local Post Office when they came out, the guys up there know me well and gave me a hard time while I was queuing up!"

Toody Oakhill (BKF/Editor/With thanks to Chris)

and say hello from the BKF. They said Ron with the hat. Just as well we were not at Brighton. To be fair they did say 'red' hat. He turned out to be Roy. At this point I felt a little bit better about my inability to remember names for any longer than it takes me to turn around. We were given a warm welcome and Roy pointed out some other Brighton Kite Flyers who were from Reading. We do not know many other members (it's that name thing again!) but we said hello. They were flying a kite called a 'Toody'. I know that name! Who? Well they would have done if the wind had been a little kinder to them.

It was time to find the loos and café etc. I looked around and counted about twenty kites flying. It was a very nice mixture of people. The team was still flying, a teddy bear dropper was trying to honour his duty, there were three or four families having a good go and several singletons enjoying the wind. By the time we got out of the loo there wasn't a single kite in the

sky!
The site is
exposed from
the south
(seaside - no
surprises there)
but has hedges



and small trees along the north (roadside). It's a good site and has a reasonable seafront café. Take some loose change and make a donation at the Lifeboat Station. They use canoes, which need replacing (and bigger things). Having been a volunteer in a lifeboat demonstration in Brighton I have nothing but admiration for the men (I would think women also) and the organisation. If I am correct they survive on donations. A sorry state when you consider we are an island, but that's another story.

We returned to have a fly - which was only mildly successful, but enjoyable all the same. Being inquiring by nature (some might say nosy!) I had a good look at a chap's kite on the ground while he was flying another. It was a Korean Fighting kite. Now, it's name time. I remembered, it's John. It was his

first time at this club, but he knew another chap so he had been talking for quite a time. His kite was very well made and as he explained - only really needed a little trimming to be certain of a good flight. He did that a little later and proved himself correct. We continued in conversation and I found that another person had also found finding information about bending bamboo cane during the application of heat difficult. If fact like me, he had not managed to find anything at all. The use of the useful

(but over-rated, my personal opinion before you say it Ed!) http://www.etc had only found other people who were happy with straight bamboo cane. If anyone can point me in the right direction we/I would appreciate it as I would like to make a dragon-head kite. I have not got past making flat kites up to now but I will in due course do it.

By now the wind had come and gone several times, so it was home time. We all mentioned the festivals that we thought we would like go to this year. I was pleased that our Brighton festival was mentioned. So home it was. Although a long journey for a couple of hours the warmth of greeting and the openness of the people I had met made it worthwhile. Thanks.

PS: If you see me at a festival and recognise me please say hello, but excuse me if I have forgotten your name!

Ken Boddy (BKF/Partridge Green)



GOOD WINDS AND GOOD WILL

he winds were good, the weather was hot, making it a perfect day to go fly a kite. Thailand's 6th International Kite Festival, held at Bangkok's Muang Thong Thani Sports Complex, March 20 and 21, attracted enthusiasts from 24 countries and every region in Thailand.

aftracted enthusiasts from 24 countries and every region in Thailand.

Often thought of in the West as something for children to enjoy on a hot

summer day, kite flying, is taken seriously in Thailand and around Asia. The Korean and Japanese, two of the largest foreign groups, impressed the crowds with huge trains of kites drifting as high as 500 meters into the air. The British amused the, mostly Thai, crowd with a huge pink flying pig, a huge scuba diver and can-can dancing legs.

Kites of all sizes, shapes and types filled the air throughout the day. Walking around, it was clear everyone was enjoying themselves as they showed off their latest creations or sat in the shade sipping ice-cold water and applying a fresh layer of sun-block before heading back onto the main field.

It was a hot day as one British member said, "everything in Thailand has been great so far, just turn down the heat." However, one gentleman, Andres Ågren, from Sweden, seemed to be enjoying the good winds not bothered by the heat. Although originally from Vasteras, he is now based in Dubai, and told us that, "as I was already half way here, I decided to come."

Easily recognised by his distinctive yellow and blue arrow kites, Andres began flying kites with the Sala Kite and Tango Party, which, of course, means they tango in winter and fly kites in summer. Andres began flying kites in 1992, when he joined a group going to a Kite Flying Festival in Cervia, Italy. "I thought I was just going along to fill a seat on the bus and said okay. Then I saw what it was like and I was hooked." Like many, he added, "I had a Charlie Brown Complex," but now, "ironically, I'm known at festivals because of my Charlie Brown kite." Unfortunately, as he was on his own, he hadn't brought Charlie along with him.

The Sala Kite and Tango Party are now famous in kite flying circles as the originators of the famous long-boat kites. "When it's up, we know the Swedes are around," commented Barry Pitman, our informal guide for the afternoon. "The Japanese have their trains and the Thais have their fighting kites, but it took a while for the Swedes to come up with an original idea," adding it was too bad we couldn't see one as they are really impressive.

Off to Bali in July, Andres is looking forward to meeting with many of his friends in the kite flying world. "In the Emirates, I usually only fly once a week, and feel quite alone. Not many people are interested except for the odd Pakistani who might drop by for a minutes to test the tension on the line.

Tim Cornwall (Journalist/Bangkok/With thanks to Barry Pitman/BKF)

Tim Cornwall is the Managing Editor of Guide Of Bangkok, Thailand's leading trend and entertainment magazine. He is also a partner with Communica Co Ltd - a Thai based company providing 'Communication Answers'.



BORDE HILL GARDENS

Sunday... a glorious day off! However, on this particular Sunday, 9 May, my day was to start before I was quite ready for it - with an early morning alarm call from Oakie 1.

A quick peek through the curtains confirmed my fears - despite the sunny forecast I was greeted by a grey and overcast sky. Groan! Having packed a brief selection of kites suitable for the promised 15-20mph winds, we piled into the Oakie-mobile and (at an hour I don't care to remember) sped north.

Buried deep in the West Sussex countryside, somewhere between the concrete jungles of Crawley and Haywards Heath, is a

place... Borde Hill magical Gardens. These vast grounds to the house are open for the public to roam its bluebell banked woods, lush green fields and to fish in the river that flows through its valley. The Brighton Kite Flyers had been invited here to demonstrate and to parachute bears for charity at the annual Children and Animal Day. As is often the case, a kite spotted some way off in the sky guided us towards the site. As we got closer the tiny indistinguishable dot transformed into a Mega Delta, and we arrived to find Alan Outram busy setting up at the end of the line. His 'Arthur Dibble' style rig was ready for testing and Mik and I set about volunteering some likely fauna for the job.

Simon and Corinne Hennessey

arrived with Charlotte, Diana-May and Barry Pitman - and the site was duly checked out. Amongst the animal menagerie were various stalls, a craft tent and fun fair - all of which enclosed a small arena (not quite the 80m x 80m that Ray had been promised). John Christmas's kite stall was a mass of colour - predominantly provided by his exquisite Balinese boat kites.

Alan had set up in the only available spare space which, as it happened, was in the perfect position to make the arena the drop zone. A number of successful test drops ensued - with bears clearing the stalls and fun fair in between - and landing as targeted (and fortunately not in the ferret fanciers' tent or the llama pen!).

Ken and Denise Boddy

WW

arrived, shortly followed by Gill Pitman - bringing with them the promised sunshine. However, just as things appeared to be set up and successfully tried and tested... the wind decided to change moods and became distinctly irritable - chopping, changing and disappearing completely at a whim - downing kites like stones. This was not to be a good day for

Simon on the fauna front! As the wind toyed with US... his newly acquired Guernsey cow 'Daisy' was somewhat unceremoniously christened with a first jump that took it neatly in to land smack on of the top children's carousel - where it dizzily remained for the entire day! Due to the constantly switching wind, the higher land behind us and the now consequent unpredictability of targeting a drop zone - it was decided to up sticks and move the entire kit further up the hill to the west of the fair. Alan trained a second Mega Delta to the first and Simon bravely(?!) volunteered some subjects for further test drops.

Both sadly spent the day lazily decorating a large conifer!

Layout and wind direction not being in our favour - if any dropping was to be achieved today it would have to be with small chutes and lead knickers (on the bears, of course!). Despite the score since repositioning now having reached Trees: 3 Dropnicks: 0, Alan (as ever) was determined not to be discouraged. He spent the day welcoming an

assortment of soft cuddly fluffy things and, with Ken and Denise on retrieval, whizzing them off up the line - without a single loss.

During the course of the day all kites had to be downed several



also unloaded a couple of boxes of French beers from him that morning - which we could now only dream of as the afternoon sun started to gently cook us in its heat... oh well!

The BKF filled two slots in the arena during the day. The first a display of as many different kites as we could muster to fly, with Ray on the PA. This was followed by an impromptu demo Solo Rok fight and a further pairs flying demo by Barry and Simon later in the afternoon. Sadly the team flying with stacks of Hyperkites was unable to take place in the arena,

due to considerably smaller than promised size. However, not t o b e deterred, Ray, Simon & Barry flew them on the other side of the river where the wind was marginally kinder them.

HURSTMONCEUX KITE FESTIVAL 1999

- ◆ Date: Sat 31 July & Sun 1 August 1999
- ◆ Site: Hurstmonceux Castle/East Sussex
- ◆ Time: Saturday: pm only/Sunday: all day
- ◆ Contact: Ray Oakhill Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/ email: rao@mistral.co.uk

his is a new festival organised by the Battle and Villages Lions Club to raise money for local, national and international charities. Saturday afternoon is for kiteflyers only, and

BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS

1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH (THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)

- ◆ Venue: Ladies Mile Rd/Patcham ◆ Site: Top/North end of road
- ◆ Map Ref: 198 TQ 317 092 ◆ Time: From 11.00 onwards
- ◆ Height Clearance: 1500ft ◆ Parking: On site (with key only)
- ◆ By Bus: 26/5/5A from Brighton

General fly-in day.

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER INCLUSIVE)

- ◆ Venue: Stanmer Park/Lewes Rd ◆ Site: Next to Sussex University

Flying evening with social bash after at the Swan pub at Falmer.

Sunday is for the public and kite traders. The Brighton Kite Flyers have been invited to attend and display our talents (kites, that is)! Camping is available on Saturday night for a fee of £5.00 per vehicle and a barbecue and beer tent will also be provided for Saturday evening.

At the time of writing, this does not clash with any other festival in the calendar, only the BKF fly-in!

Ray Oakhill (BKF/Events Co-ordinator)

times while the falconry displays took place - being one of several events happening in the arena. This would have conveniently provided a well-timed beer break had Oakie's 'stubbies' not been still sitting (lovingly chilled!) in a

prepared cool bag on the hall floor at home! We had A more than pleasant day spent in the sun and idyllic surroundings was perfectly concluded with a couple of eagerly consumed beers on the way home.

NB: Simon's 'Scratching' the pig eventually completed his fall by parachute after being 'knocked' out of the tree and Daisy was safely retrieved from the dizzy heights of the carousel. Sadly, as far as we know, Alan's faithful and intrepid test pilot Spotty Dog (or should that be Chuck Yeager?!) managed to evade all rescue attempts and is likely now still sitting on top of that giant fir tree. As Alan says... ah well - that's the way it goes!

Toody Oakhill (BKF/Editor)



TELSCOMBE TYE FAMILY KITE DAY 1999

◆ Date: Sunday 12 September 1999 ◆ Time: 10.00 to 17.00

◆ Site: Telscombe Tye/East Sussex ◆ Map Ref: 198 TQ 392 017

◆ CAA Height Clearance: 1000ft (applied for)

◆ Contact: Ray Oakhill Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/email: rao@mistral.co.uk



his year sees the third Family Kite Flying Day to take place Telscombe Tye another invite from Telscombe Town Council to the BKF and BMISS for its support. The invite is, of course, also open to any other individual fliers

CURRENT COMMITTEE

◆ Chairperson: Pete Linnell

♦ Committee Members:

Secretary:

Alan Outram, Toody Oakhill and Norma House

Gill Pitman Treasurer:

Simon Hennessey

and other clubs who may wish to come along - we'd more than welcome your support, whatever your flying persuasions!

Arrangements are generally as previous years. The event is an open flying day with no arena or organised events - and consequently it is left up to the individual's common sense as to what they fly where. Having said that, however - Telscombe Tye is a vast area of common downland and there's more than enough space for everyone to do their thing.

The site is located between Saltdean and Telscombe Cliffs on the coast road (A259) running east from Brighton. It is a favourite local flying site where the winds are clean from all directions. It was also the site of the

first ever Brighton Kite Festival in August 1979.

The 42nd Brighton Scout Group will once again be running a food stall and if you fancy a beer to wash it down with, the Badger's Rest pub is just across the main road directly opposite... and it's open all day (hoorah!). As previous years - no car passes are required and there is strictly no camping on site. All vehicles are prohibited from Telscombe Tye, so cars should be parked in roads along the eastern side the site. Alternatively there is limited parking space in the lay-by on the A259 coast road which runs along the south end of the site. There has not been a problem with available space in past years - but if the weather looks good, I should get there fairly early!

Hope to see you there...

Toody Oakhill (BKF/Editor)

FURTHER BKF INFO...

♦ Email Address:

brightonkiteflyers@bigfoot.com

Web Page Address:

http://www3.mistral.co.uk/prchitty

Co-ordinator/Chairperson: Pete Linnell:

Tel: 01273 683082/email: petelinnell@connectfree.co.uk

Membership Secretary: Corinne Hennessey:

Tel: 01273 582309/email: simon@hennesseys.freeserve.co.uk

Events Co-ordinator: Ray Oakhill:

Tel/Fax: 01273 306842 email: rao@mistral.co.uk

Club Library: Pete Linnell:

Tel: 01273 683082/email: petelinnell@connectfree.co.uk

Merchandise: Pins/Patches:

Ray Oakhill:

Tel/Fax: 01273 306842 email: rao@mistral.co.uk

T Shirts & Sweatshirts:

Simon Hennessey:

Tel: 01273 582309/email: simon@hennesseys.freeserve.co.uk

♦ 1999 Brighton Kite Festival: Ray Oakhill:

Tel/Fax: 01273 306842 email: rao@mistral.co.uk

BKF MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION FLY-IN

◆ Date: Saturday 1 January 2000 ◆ Time: 11.00 until dark

◆ Site: Telscombe Tye/East Sussex ◆ Map Ref: 198 TQ 392 017

◆ CAA Height Clearance: 1000ft (applied for)

◆ Contact: Ray Oakhill Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/email: rao@mistral.co.uk

n open invite to all fliers and clubs to join us in flying in the Millennium year. Details of the site location can be found in the listing featured above (Telscombe Tye Family Kite Day).

Ray Oakhill (BKF/Events Co-ordinator)

USE THIS SPACE...

hanks to all of this issue's contributors. Anything sent the Editor will to considered for print unless marked atherwise. Please send something for the October 1999 issue - by 1 September 1999 to...

Toody Oakhill BKF Editor Lower Ground Floor Flat 43 Grand Parade Brighton **East Sussex** BN2 20A Tel/Fax: 01273 243528 email: toody@bigfoot.com

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct in 'Aerodyne', the BKF cannot accept responsibility

for any errors or omissions that may occur. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Brighton Kite Flyers.





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Cambridge CB4 2JB
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AT REAR BUT HILLY

The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad, The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Mindless Drivel content exceeds 100%. Politically incorrect, but do we give a Toss, no we dont......

SHOCK!, HORROR!, ITS DISGRACEFUL, IT OUGHT NOT TO BE ALLOWED. Mr Growser (1929)

Bear on the bone served up in oldest cook book

By Sally Pook

ONE of the world's oldest known printed cookery books, with 300 recipes in Latin, including ones for bear and left-over hog, is to be auctioned today. It is expected to fetch up to £6,000.

The book, De Honesta Voluptate, was written in the late 15th century. It was a best seller among the upper classes and scholars.

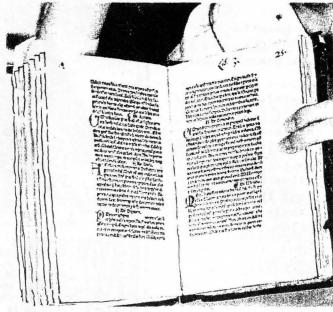
Its 93 leaves are bound in calf leather over wooden boards and capital letters drawn in manuscript head each section of gothic lettering. There are the remains of two brass clasps.

It is a guide to what 15th century man and woman should eat to remain healthy and prevent illness, suggesting that readers should "eat well, perhaps frugally".

Dominic Winter, a specialist book auctioneer, who is handling the sale, in Swindon, Wilts, said: "The book is of enormous historical significance for the fascinating information about diet.

"It discusses at length the quality of a large variety of meat, fish, fruit and vegetables and outlines the manner in which they ought to be prepared and served.

"It is the first cookery book to be printed and it is



about maintaining a healthy diet rather than just recipes."

The first half of the book discusses the nature and cultivation of food, while the second half reads like a cookbook, with recipes for dishes based on their medicinal properties.

A recipe for bear advises that it is "not like any other quadrapede" but the head is "incredibly good to eat".

Another section is under-

stood to suggest that cannabis be taken if the reader is stricken by plague.

The book was compiled by Bartholomaeus Platina, an Italian physician influenced on the principles of health by classicists, ancient poets and Arabic ideas.

His book ran to three editions at Cividale, Italy, in 1474, 1475 and 1480. None of the first two is known to have survived. Only 20 copies are known of the third.

One supposes that the late 15th century was a pretty wild time when almost anything was permitted, including it would seem severe cruelty towards Bears.

Were there so many
Bears around at that
time that the Humes
could put them on the
Menu, or was it that
times were so tough
that you had to eatwhat you could whenever
you could get it?

When you stop to think it out, then as now, humes were so crel to each other, that its not surprising that poor Bears did not rate very high in the scheme of things.

Apart from the horrible bit about the bears its nice to see that theres nothing new uner the Sun. 15th century potheads, and like today they were playing on its supposed medical benefits.

Mind you, if you were a mess of suppurating Buboes, getting stoned was the least of your

E.U. DO SEND US ALL CRAZY, DONTCHA KNOW...

That piece in the last ish about the crazy Euro rule that makes a lot of us official Eurocrims, certainly made some waves. dropnik Jerry Swift certainly lived up to his name, by Siftly bending the Lugholes of his local Trading Standards Officer, who, natch, denied all knowledge. But wait, is'nt that how all this Eurobollock legislation slid upon us?

Yep, hotly deny everything, Ha, we know its true. Bureacrats of the Euro ilk only look good down the Barrel of a Gun, A Plague on all their Houses.....



FROM ROMAN CANDLE SIXTYFIVE YEARS AGO, (THEY LIED)......

DOES ROMAN CANDLE GIVE YOU ACH ING MINCES?

One of our younger members recently enquired as to how your august journal came by its venerable name.

This less than with it Member also asked how the Romans were able to read by the light of the Roman Candles. (We digress here to apply large quantitys OF Rolled Up Newspaer to his Head, 'AVE SOME OF THAT) Only a right DIVVO could ask such a question, cos everyone other than you Brother Sid (we always knew Shopstewards and Conveners were Thicko's) knows the question off by heart.

The Roman were only able to read by the light of their Candles with great difficulty, especially when trying to read a Porno Tablet.

They were tryers them Romans, Imagine this. you go down to the local Newsagent to purchase a copy of your favourite Porno Tablet, on reaching for it from the Top Shelf, you drop it on your Paw. hobbling back to your Villa, by now its dark, not to worry as you have your Roman Candles and on lighting the Blue Touchpaper, you commence to read with difficulty, 'cos the shooting stars have set light to your ceiling, which is a great help to your by now acheing Minces,'cos its easier to read by the light of a burning ceiling than it ever was by the light of a Roman Candle.

The Archeo's would have you believe that the Romans had underfloor heating. Don't you believe it, no, the Roman empire fell from a surfeit of Smashed Paws, done in Minces and Villa's catching Fire and burning from the Top to the Bottom and them Romans took up Flying Kites and Parachuting Teddy Bears, its safer, and thats why your august journal is called Roman Candle, and if you believe that, you'll believe anything.

RETURN FIRE...Readers Letters.....

Dear Fred, Of late I hav noticed a distinct down turn in the Journalistic standards of the one and only R.C. especially now you have taken to regugitating some crap from at least One Hundred and Eightyfive years ago. Are you so short of material that you have to resort to trawling up old rubbish



YOU BET.....

Bear necessity . . . buyers wanted Steiff ted

£10,000 for bear

A TEDDY sold for £10,350 yesterday — twice the expected £4,500 price — as two buyers battled for him.

The 1908 bear, made by German firm Steiff, went to an unnamed man bidding by phone at Christie's in London.

that should really be left buried. If you do not desist in this practise, I for one will be forced to cancel my subscription to Fetish Fortnightly, whoops, soddit, I actually meant Roman Candle..... Yours, The Yiewsley Yobbo.

dEEr FRID, why duz yous kip carsting NazturshUms dat I'm a FIGKO. Yus arm a Fikky I eVer sinze me mUvvEr DriPped me on ME noggiN wen I woza SproggO. No niD tu kip ruBbin it in as arr canT elP it boy, side if Yous kiP takiN der PeE, yu may git a sMack hin deR GoB, nUFf sed p.s.. DoAN forgit der bRanch nexT week, Brither Sod.

Sir, From every issues Masthead you proudly Trumpet that your publication is Poltically incorrect and proud of it. Its high time that you dis-avowed yourselves of this highly questionable stance, as I for one am distressed at your constant partaking of the Michael or extraction of the Urine from every poor challanged soft cuddley who presents an easy target for your cheap shots. Surely those who live in glass edifices should refrain from being the first to throw stones.

yours, Name and Address supplied.

EDITORS REPLY.... Gordon Bennett dont the above make yer wanna buke. What a Po Faced

teddies taken to war by CATHERINE MILNER and JOHN SHAW WHEN twins David and Guy Campbell vere both awarded the Military Cross in he Second World War the first thing hey did was to make copies for their avourite teddy bears. Major David Campbell, of the Black Vatch, and Col. 2012. Fortune favours the

favourite teddy bears.

Watch, and Col Sir Guy Campbell, of the King's Royal Rifles, were devoted to their bears for more than 50 years.

Now, "Grubby MC", David's bear, which has one eye and no ears, and "Young MC", his brother's mascot, will bear their "honours" at the head of the Campbells' army of 400 teddies which are expected to make £35,000 at Sotheby's on May 25.

The bears, measuring 3in-41/2in, were given to the twins as children by their grandmother, Rosabell Rawlins, instead of pocket money. When war broke out in 1959, the brothers, from Newport, South Wales, each took their favourite bear into the Army.

Major Campbell served in the Black Watch and won the MC in a patrol action in northern France in 1940. He was captured by Rommel's troops at St Valéry and the bear was found in his pocket by German soldiers. The major and Grubby spent the next three years in a PoW camp. Col Campbell was awarded the MC in North Africa and later wounded in action.

Meanwhile, the other bears were kept at home in a suitcase propped open so they could "breathe". When the brothers went travelling after the war, the case went with them. Later, a mahogany cabinet was made to display the collection at the family home

Major Campbell died in 1991 and Col Sir Guy in 1993.

The bears, with sketches and battle





Devoted: Major Campbell and Col Sir Guy

plans of their nursery games, have now been sent for sale. Among several collections, they feature a bear in blue and white pyjamas given to the boys by their uncle just before he left for France in the First World War. He was killed in action in 1915 but the bear still has his uncle's family nickname, Smiler, and is now expected to fetch up to £700.

Other bears in the sale include one wearing a miniature straw boater from Harrow school.

Kerry Taylor, in charge of the sale, said: "Grubby and Young have their own military sashes and are quite wonderful. The twins were very close to each other and remained so all their lives. We have photographs which show they were quite handsome and dashing as young officers.

There is something quite wonderful and eccentric in taking your favourite teddy bear off to war.



VEGITATE, NO LEVITATE.

The Seventysecond annual Levitate the Teddy Bears Ceremony held recently up in wonderful downtown Swindon was deemed only to have been partially successful.

This years Neophyte Levitator, one Professor Rod Whizzo tried his utmost to perform this ancient and some would say intriguing ceremony, but according to



the Invigilators from the All EnglandTeddy Bear Levitating Club, he missed by a country mile. Prof Whizzo, surprisingly up-beat in spite of being denied this years Trophy Maintains that he did actually raise a Tremour, but on unkind soul suggested that the Teds had been at the Baked Beans and Lager again. Not to worry said the Prof, I'll be back.

Picture above, the Prof with the invigilators, from left, Chubby ffinch-Gore, Shorty Carruthers, Smiling TOOTS MacGonagle, Grandmaster of Ceremonies Electric Arthur, the

DEAR DISGUSTED OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS, JUST WHEN YOU THOUHT THAT THIS RAG COULD NOT POSSIBLY SINK ANY LOWER, WE'D LIKE TO PROVE YOU WRONG WITH THIS BELOW.....

If this does not raise at least the ghost of a Titter, then theres no hope for you. At first glance you would think that this has nothing whatsoever to do with Soft you know whats of a Parachuting persuasion, but look for it. The rest is pretty good too, and we must confess that we cracked up when we read it. What tragedy lies behind that little advert. Soddit, who cares, its a bloody good one, and all the other bits are to We are indebted to Dropnik Hughes for sending us the piece, but we know full well

that like us, he has no sense of humour either.... For gawds sake stop giggling you

silly sod, or you'll blo it bigtime.

One question I often get asked is why do I do this particular job? The answer is very simple; as a Christian I am continually amazed at the love God has shown to the world through his con Jesus Christ and I simply want to tell others about this life-changing good news. All that we do at Holy Cross is designed either to help us

▲ A vicar appears to lose his faith in the West Hove News, February 1999

R.S.P.C.A.

SPAYING/NEUTERING VACCINATION For people on benefit only **Tel:**

for details

SJ00318

▲ It must be part of that Labour crackdown on benefit claimants.

From the Sheffield Journal. March 11

BEDROOMS BATHROOMS & KITCHENS

FULL bathroom suite including taps and waste, good quality, dark brown, £40.

▲ That sounds most attractive. From the Long Eaton Trader (Nottingham), March 11

THE LONG GOODBYE

Sir, — To the Nottingham woman I met in the Zanzibar pub last week, the one who managed to relieve my wallet of 70 quid: I hope you enjoyed your visit to Dublin and that you had a safe journey home. I also hope that when you get home your thieving fingers will be seized with chilblains, arthritis, lupus, leprosy, frostbite and gangrene so that you may never be able to dip another wallet again. Oh, and by the way, I was being sarcastic when I said you were a great dancer — you flat footed hoofer! — Yours, etc.,

JOHN DEVLIN,

Erne Terrace, Baile Atha Cliath 2.

▲ Our letter of the week, from the *Irish*Times on March 18

PARACHUTE FOR sale, once used, never opened, small stain.

▲ For sale in West Sussex's Friday Ad,

Forensic evidence links man with gnome throwing incident at house

▲ A headline from the West Briton, March 11, for which film rights are available...

PARACHUTING FATHER CHRISTMAS IS ON THE MEND, BOUT TIME TOO

Remember that piece las backend about the Parac huting Father Christmas who cocked it up bigtim by crashing into a foot Stadium Grandstand then falling a considerable distance to the ground?

He was well banged up suffering multiple inju ries. We are pleased to report that he is well on the road to recovery but he says that maybe he'll think twice befor he has another go.

Not surprising reall as the RAF inquiry into his accident concluded that it was his fault.

We've always said th these Humes dont bounce and shrug it off like w do, but then thats just stating the obvious.

+++__+++__+++__++++__

We have been told rec ntly, that if you want get your own back on th se Faceless Eurobureacr who are attempting to d a Jobby on us all by st lth. Then when you are xt on the phone, just s two words "MENWITH HILL

We dont know what it ans, but who knows, it may work in print..UP '

So its the usual to to usual c/o The Boring Ol Fart. 48. Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx UB7 7TY. in what will alway be ENGLAND no matter who the TRAITORS have plann

Transsexual's benefits cut off

▲ ...and another fine headline, leading page one of the Highbury & Islington Express, March 12

► A rather daring house speciality advertised in a leaflet for Wah's Chinese Take-away, in south-east London

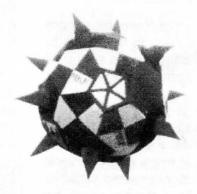
Crispy Aromatic Dick (Served with Pancake, cucumber, spring 4......£5.0 onions and Hoi Sin sauce) 4......£9.50



MKF EXTRA

The Extra Newsletter Of The Midlands Kite Fliers

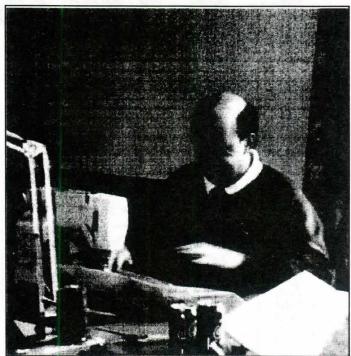






The Two Giant Footballs and A Club Delta At Dorstone Photo by Linda Richardson

Dorstone Giant Inflatable Football Weekend



After Last years event at which everyone got togther at Karl and Sara's Longbottoms to sew the Playsail I was really looking forward to this weekend. I arrived on the Saturday and sat in the car for a while I have to acclimatise to the silence which can make you feel like you have gone deaf (it's very very Quiet).

Alan Poxon and several others helped me unload my sewing kit. I was stunned by the quality of the applique hexagons and pentagons in the hall once again this project was going to be an honour to be involved in.

Soon it became apparent that there were more than enough pentagons but not enough hexagons to sew two footballs so sewing machines were set up all around the hall and some fantastic panels went together during the day.

At the same time the first pieces of ball were being sewn together. Karl and Sara's method of organising this was very effective. Each piece of ball had a number on sticky tape and there where several groups of people sewing together numbered sections from diagrams on the board. As a double check an ordinary plastic football was labelled with numbers according to the diagrams. This must have taken a while to work out but it paid off. As far as I remember only one segment was sewn in the wrong place during the whole weekend and this was spotted immediately and unpicked.

Saturday lunch was a great buffet provided by food brought along by everyone.

The afternoon was spent sewing more segments together and Karl started working on the non return valve and the bridle points for the first ball.

I cannot remember what time it was we stopped for dinner but the dinner it self was utterly fantastic. I do not remember ever eating a better meal cooked for and by so many people.

The first ball was finished appropriately by Karl

himself and after being trimmed Graham Binney tried it on for size. It didn't fit but it looked good. Even as the first ball was being finished extra hexagons where being cut and sewn up for the second one.

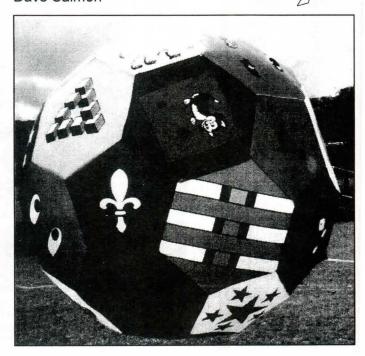
After a totally restful nights sleep (very Quiet) we gathered together in the hall and despite the lack of wind the first ball was inflated on the village green (after a lot of running up and down) everyone agreed it looked wonderful (cos it does).

Assembly began on the second ball and it seemed to go together quite quickly with Sara's careful direction extra pieces from Alan Gilbert and Dennis Roberts work on the valve. Doug Richardson had done an applique fish in a Mylar tank I must admit to being the person who bottled out and suggested we put a ripstop background in it I could imagine seeing the inside of the ball and I had recently had a splitting experience with Mylar. Lunch came and more excellent food appeared and was eaten I think I got a little fatter over the weekend

When we had the second ball finished we headed for the flying field and inflated it alongside the first one both of them looked great. They both inflated very quickly indeed although the second ball was a little softer probably because of the spikes extra surface area. We walked around them both and looked at different people's segments and the way they lined up flew for a while said good bye and went home.

For myself the experience of being involved in Dorstone grows as the year goes on When you see the public reaction to the Playsail and the Balls and realise that to have something like them commercially built would be impossible as no one maker combines so many styles of work in one piece. Thank you Karl & Sara for allowing me to share a little bit of the peace and tranquillity of Dorstone and to all the people who got together to Create a great weekend.

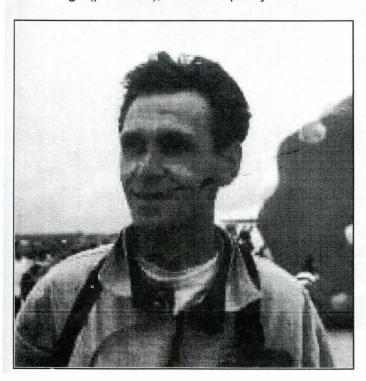
Dave Salmon





IJmuiden, a bit of a tricky one this, but it sounds like "Ee moo dun" the site, for this year's Amsterdam Festival, could not have been better, in fact you could be forgiven for thinking that it had been purpose built! OK, it's hasn't got acres of mowed lawn, and the beach is medium/soft in places, but any organiser would give there right arm for a festival site that can show off single line kites, have a demonstration site for stunt kites and teams, with a buggy beach only 300 metres away, and a shallow lake, perfect for Kitesurfing, right on the site, just a stone's throw from each other! Well that's IJmuiden! Camping on site, with large parking areas alongside. Good toilets, a café/bar, and if that's not enough, there's a supermarket to! (Is this heaven or what ???) Wind? Oh yes! Blowing at 15-20 mph for 3 solid days & nights!.

I arrived at 3.00pm Saturday, and soon located Wim Voogd (pic below), who was pretty laid back for



16th Amsterdam Kite festival, limuiden

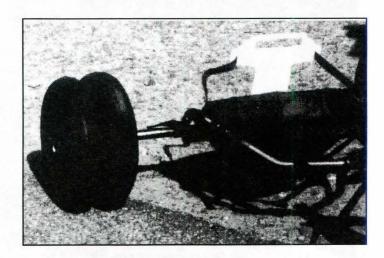
22-24th May 1999

an organiser on a new site. (I later realised that Wim, is just a laid back kind of a bloke) He gave me an outline of the 'loose' programme for the weekend, and then I set off to have a wonder round, and a beer! I wasn't staying on site, so I can't give you the low down on the evening's shenanigans. All I can say is; no one was popping their heads out of the old canvas, until well after 10.00 am! And the Festival opened at 10.30am!

The Buggy racing was planned for Sunday & Monday, with race officials arriving to cordon off an area of the beach from the public, and set the course. All racers were required to pay 25 Guilders (£7.50) to cover the race organisers costs.

The pilots meeting took place around 12.00 noon, but before that I had managed to mess up my 2m Mirage. In these winds a slight line imbalance, turned it into a propeller! My 3m Predator just bust a line on launch Oh! S!!!!! This left me with a tricky choice. The next kite out the bag was a Skytiger Hi-40 (Winds 15-20mph remember) or a wiped-out day? Yahooooo! This is funnn! Well I was the only Brit, so someone had to kick sand in the Euro contingents buggy bags! I was well overpowered !!!

The course, a figure of eight along the beach, with the wind about 15° off a perfect reach was interesting as I smoked along on the away leg, but man it was a fight getting back, and keeping out of the sand traps! I had read "Sandzs" report on the 98 Euro's, so I was sort of prepared for weird beaches, and was this a beauty! All the local guys turned up with Big Foots, I was carrying 2 wheels / axle, and this stopped me sinking in! (Pic below) It was like racing



over a rubbish tip!!!! Flotsam & jetsam, piles of seaweed, (I hope it was seaweed), and sand strewn with Razor shells. (Death of a thousand cuts!)

Amsterdam Kite festival Continued

Now I understand the saying "they do things differently abroad" !!!!! Oh Yes !!!!The Races lasted for ½ an hour, with most laps winning etc. 6 races were run, and by 3.15, everyone had packed up and gone back to the site? What happened to the FUN Buggyers ??????? So I teamed up with a couple of folks I'd got to know and did like the Crazy Dutch! Grabbed some beers!!!!

The individual / Team flyers were doing amazing stuff considering the conditions, and there were big, I mean Big crowds. (Wim posted a message on Rec.kites saying that 30,000 visitors had been recorded)

Ken Hartill, a NZ Kitesurfer, was wowing the crowds with his big-air jumps. Considering that he was only on a lake, with no waves, it was very impressive indeed!! He was part of the Peter Lynn demo crew, who not surprisingly, were unable to launch the Mega-Trilobite on the beach.

I'd like to thank all the folks I met, who let me tryout their kit. I'm definitely going back to next years Festival, and I'm taking my tent!!!!
Steve Walt Webb.

Weymouth KiteFestival 1999

Joyce and I both enjoy holidays at Swanage, it is handy for bird (feathered) and animal watching, an added bonus is that it is close to Wevmouth.

I was worried about the weather at the beginning of our holiday, 24th April, it rained during Saturday night but Sunday morning it had stopped, and for the next two weeks the weather was lovely.

The Tuesday night before the festival we went to the New Inn at Poole to meet Harry Douglas and other Poole kite flyers, Kate, Bill, son Michael Barker also Ann, they are also members of M.K.F.

If any MKF members visit Poole they can be assured of a great welcome from Harry and friends. Baiter is the place where everyone flies kites, it is near Poole harbour, there is plenty of space.

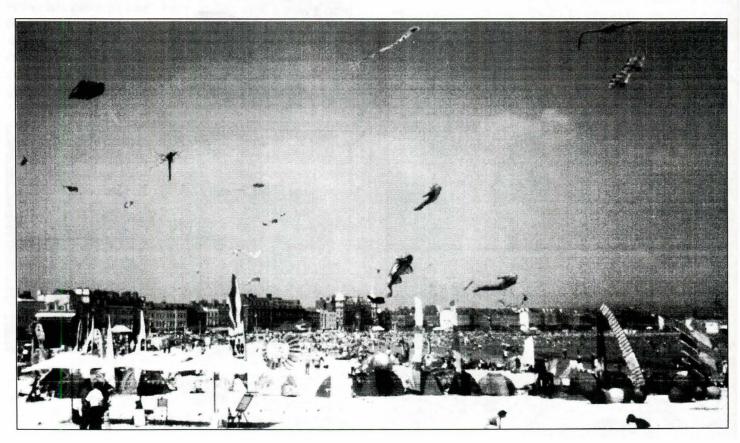
Sunday of the festival dawned with a good wind and beautiful sunshine, and Monday was the same. Only two banners for the MKF but at least the flag was flown. We met the 'Tamworth Four' also Ivy and Fred Apperley. It was nice to see Chalkie amongst the traders.

I now have a ripstop Mac Fighter which flies very well, but rather fast. The sky at Weymouth was full of kites on both days, it really was something to see, kites of all shapes and sizes and that was at 9.00am when we arrived in Weymouth. The car park soon filled after we arrived and thank goodness for a free pass.

Kellogs had a promotion going on and were giving away 'squares' which are made of Rice Crispies and chocolate, every time you passed one of the girls or boys they thrust one into your hand, we did enjoy them, we had so many that we brought some home.

It was a very enjoyable two days. I am looking forward to next year.

Cocky - Keith Cockbill



SINGLE LINE KITE REVIEW

By Tony Slater

Name of Kite: Flook

Manufacturer: Raindrop Kites - Helen Howes (formerly "Monday Lunch")

of 4 The Raveningham Centre, Beccles Road, Raveningham, Norfolk, NR14 6NU

Tel: 01508 548137



I was first introduced to this kite about four years ago when Helen started coming to the Shrewsbury Kite Festival with her very colourful stall and wonderful array of single line kites.

> The Flook character is based loosely on a cartoon character who used to appear in the Daily Mail in the Sixties. The illustrator was the well known Willie Rushton who went to school in Shrewsbury. The kite is a figure with a head, outstretched arms, a trailing body and tails. It comes in various sizes from 18" wingspan to 51/2 feet.

The figures are of various characters, i.e. penguin, bear, dragon, cat, dog, pig etc., and of course the original Flook design itself. The construction is from appliqued ripstop nylon and a fibreglass frame. They fly in a wide variety of wind speeds from 8 mph up tp 30 mph. They always seem to create interest whenever they are flown because they are just that bit different to a lot of ordinary kites. In their standard form the Flooks fly very satisfactorily, but being me I fiddled a bit with mine and increased the performance of them slightly by using wood in the spine and carbon fibre in the wing spars, but the is entirely a personal preference.

All the kites are extremely colourful as all of Helen's kites are. Prices range from £17.50 to £100.00 for the big ones.

Over the past three years I have collected a lot of Flooks and am now the proud possessor of at least eight of them. Don't ask me which is my favourite -I like them all!

Helen Howes has been making single line kites for 22 to 23 years. She has never made a stunt kite and all of her kites are eye-catching and different as they are never plain but are usually appliqued and very colourful. She does a wide variety of single line kites in traditional designs such as Eddys, Deltas and Boxes. She also makes some Japanese designs which no other kite manufacturer makes in this country (I wait to be corrected), i.e. a Sode and a Suruga, also a delightful Yakko. Her collection included Genkis and Flares. I am not going to list them all but I am sure that if you send off for her catalogue you will be delighted and entertained by the catalogue itself.

Anyway, back to where we started: If you do decide to get a Flook or are interested about them, please ask Helen or myself, or other Flook owners; or better still come and meet Helen and see her very colourful stall (which she made herself) at the Shrewsbury Kite Festival on 26th / 27th June.

Footnote: Interesting to note

that lots of kite dealers. traders they etc. say cannot exist unless they are selling 2-line or stunt kites. previously stated, Helen has never made or sold a stunt kite and she survives solely by making single line kites!

EVENTS NEWS

MKF Fly-in and Family Fun Day Shipley Country Park near Heanor Derbyshire 25th July Shipley is a great place to fly in the summer with its visitor centre cafe and parking so close to the field. As usual on fun days there is always something different going on.

For more information Contact
Alan Poxon Tel: 01773 716047

July 31st - 1st August MKF Display Eastnor Castle Balloon Festival. Eastnor Castle Herefordshire Eastnor Castle, this event is part of a Balloon festival, and takes place in the Deer park of Eastnor castle, about 5 miles off Junction 2 of the M50, and about 2 miles outside Ledbury. Like Northampton there will be other attractions, Model Aircraft, Falconry Display, Traction Engines and the like. Although mainly a balloon event we have been asked to fly and display at this new Festival. There will be a Kite trader and Kite making workshop. Free entry for MKF members on production of their Membership Card. On site camping is available

For more information and your camping pass Contact Karl & Sara Longbottom on 01981 550326.

July 31st August 1st C.A.K.E.S. Barmouth Beach "Get Together". For the last few years we have been visiting the town for a Beach Festival at the end of the Regatta. Not the best-attended event but never the less, enjoyed by the regular flyers. This year Sky Bums, who normally run a stall, informed me that Barmouth Council would NOT be organising a Festival. It was decided to sort out dates and have a get together of like-minded people. Not a full blown festival just a pleasant weekend. The above date is at the beginning of Barmouth Regatta, so anyone interested in having a lazy flying weekend should book early. Anyone requiring information about the Town, Hotels, B&B, Caravans etc. should contact, "Barmouth Tourist Information Centre. Tel No. (01341) 280787, and ask for a free copy of the Barmouth and District Brochure. C.A.K.E.S. Brenda & John Southerton 01743 367421 Dorothy & Ken Campbell 01782 535186 Nellie & Alwyn Parker 01889 566118

13th - 15th Coventry Kite Festival.

August 20th & 22nd MKF Display Northampton Balloon Fiesta, The Racecourse Northampton. This is a large Balloon festival with many other attractions and side shows. The MKF used to display at this event, but over recent years it has clashed with our Coventry Festival. This all takes place at the Racecourse in Northampton, the same venue as the June Fly-in. Currently we are negotiating for Car passes and on site camping.

For more information Contact Karl & Sara Longbottom on 01981 550326.

September 12th MKF Fly-in Braunstone Park, Gooding Avenue, Leicester. Plenty of room to fly Toilets nearby and parking right next to the field. Generally good wind conditions in the open area further down the field.

For more information Contact Paul King Tel: 0116 299 7993



September 19th MKF Display 3rd Kite Flying And Making Day Rushcliffe Country Park Ruddington, Notts.

An excellent open field site generally with good winds low down due to the lack of obstructions upwind. This park always has something extra going on last year some stilt walkers put on a colourful show. Parking is available on the field the rangers Kindly open the Back gate. Usually a well mown site next door to the Nottingham Heritage Centre and the Steam Railway. A kite workshop will be running all day and hot drinks, Ice Creams and sandwiches are available from the kiosk nearby.

To get to the park Follow the Nottingham ring road south out of the centre for about three miles. Th A52/A614 is the Clifton Boulevard. At the Nottingham Night Roundabout (junc with A60) turn right along Loughborough road towards Ruddington. For the Asher Lane entrance (for fliers) turn right at the crossroads into the village, turn left onto high street and the road bears right (the Green) and then bears left onto Asher lane. The main park entrance is straight on at the crossroads and a right turn at the next small roundabout into a new business park.

For more information Contact Tim Curwood Tel: 0194 981712 or Alan Poxon Tel: 01773 716047

September 26th MKF Display 5th Ashfield Kite Festival The Lawn Park, Sutton In Ashfield Notts.

This event is very successful with lots of fliers and lots of local public participation in the event. Fun Fair, Brass Bands, Kite workshop, Kite Traders and lots more. There are toilets on site and a marquee to shelter in if the weather turns nasty. Parking is free and very close to the site. The field itself is quite big and beautifully mown but can become a little crowded early in the afternoon (try a lunch break) when the public interest is at a high point. A lot of new members have started flying at this event which is a testament to the helpfulness of many of the more experienced members.

To get there from Junction 28 of the M1, follow the A38 towards Mansfield. After approximately 5 miles turn left onto Station Road (Sutton town centre), drive past Wicks DIY on the left, and turn right into the Lawn Park. There should be local council signs for the festival close to the site.

For more information Contact Alan Poxon Tel: 01773 716047

EVENTS NEWS

October 3rd MKF Display Stafford Castle Autumn Kite flying Day, Newport Road, Stafford.

Our second visit of the year to the castle hill above the Staffordshire countryside. There will be a kite Workshop and Children's kite competition as usual. Skybums will sell their kites and the Kite Doctor will be there to get everybody flying. The PA will be there to point out interesting kites to the public. There is always plenty of public interest in the kites at Stafford. There is not really enough space to fly multiline kites safely so it is mostly a single line event. Please return any vehicles to the bottom of the hill after unloading your kites. Free parking for kitefliers (normally £2.00). 1000ft height clearance applied for.

For more information Contact Fred Broadhead Tel: 01952 581106 or Ken & Dorothy Campbell Tel: 01782 535186

October 10th One Sky One World was Founded by Jane Parker Ambrose in Denver Colorado. It is described as an "international kite fly for peace" it has gone on to become a day when kite fliers around the world get together and Fly. In the local



area there are three One Sky One World events In the MKF Area. At the end of the event a sheet will be produced and you put down on it total number of kites you have flown that day.

Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury 12.30 till 5pm Held on the site of the Shrewsbury Kite Festival after 12.30pm because the football matches continue until then. One of the first OSOW event sites, Shrewsbury has been held every year for the last 13 years and is very popular with MKF Members. For more information Contact Tony Slater Tel: 01743 235068

Sutton Park Streetly Gate Entrance Sutton Coldfield B'Ham 10am till Dusk The Warwick Wind Warriors Hold a meeting at the Sutton Park Fly-in Site This event runs all day and 1000 ft Height Clearance is applied for. For more information contact Terry Cresswell Tel: 0121 6240656

RAF Scampton North of Lincoln 10am till Dusk Vulcan Kite and Buggy Club Invite you to their OSOW Meeting at Scampton Situated on the A15 North of Lincoln Buggy Pilots need to be members of the BBC and non VKBC members need to contact Doug Richardson on 01522 884744 Before the day for security reasons.



October 17th MKF Display Apedale exKitement Festival Newcastle under Lyme Staffordshire. This event is now confirmed and is the culmination of projects in local schools over the preceding weeks. At the last event local schools produced a

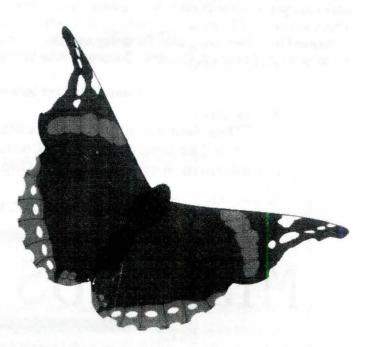
magnificent 2 metre Barraletta which was flown on the Sunday. Some of the local teenagers have also been taking Their Duke of Edinburgh award on the subject of kites so there is a lot of local interest.

For more information Contact

October 24th MKF Display Family Fun Day Birmingham Botanical Gardens Edgbaston B'Ham.

The Botanical Gardens has an atmosphere all of it's own. It's where we go to fly our kites in front of the green houses on the short cropped green lawn for an appreciative public. Mainly a Single line event due to the lack of space and wind at ground level. Free Entry on production of your MKF Membership card. Other attractions include a kite workshop, aviary, animals, cafeteria and arts & crafts shop and magic shows. The greenhouses and gardens are always beautiful try to avoid taking kite bags through the greenhouses as you may become snagged on a Triffid (plant) use the main entrance and then bear left through the picture gallery and Japanese garden this will bring you out in the garden next to the cafeteria.

For more information Contact Alan Bill Tel: 0121 360 1955



Dennis Roberts Red Admiral Kite

6th

Coventry Kite Festival Memorial Park

Kenilworth Road Coventry August 13th - 15th

The Clubs Very Own Magnificent Display Kites Skydancer Demonstration by Dave Davis Multiple Kite Flying by Ian Vesty Kite Buggy Demonstrations
The Wind Garden



Altitude Sprints The Friendship Arch Big Indian Fighter Tangle

Coventry Cup Sport Kite Pairs Competition

Saturday night Barbeque (Prior Booking is essential) and Night Flying Lots of loverly flying space with separate areas for Multi and Single line Fliers

The memorial Park is Two miles South of Coventry City Centre on the A429 Kenilworth Road. Follow either the AA Kite Festival signs or the Park and Ride signs. A large car park Adjoins the main arena. There are no car park charges and entrance to the Festival itself is free. Camping is available From Friday night to Monday morning. There will be Kite Traders and the Butty Man will be providing good food at a reasonable price during the weekend. Friday will be a free flying day. Saturday will have a programme of events. Sunday will have additional attractions a Fairground, Bouncing Castles, Children's Kite Workshop, Juggler, Live music and more.

All events subject to wind from our usual supplier

For Festival Information Contact Bill Gardener Tel: 01203 332751 For Camping information Contact John Larson Tel: 0114 255 3410 For information on the Coventry Cup Contact Dave Salmon Tel: 01902 782490

Organised by Coventry City Council Leisure Services and

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS

Contact	Address	Telephone
Alan Williams	Blackwater Valley Service, Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2PS	01252 334225 0r 0976 533749
Kites Up		01256 812487
NKG	Ron Ogden, 41 Ashfield Drive, Clayton Bridge, Manchester M40 1WJ	0161 682 9308
Kruzy Kites		01271 346033
Ron Moody		0181 661 9652
Sky Kites	17 The Oval, Sidcup, Kent DA15 9ER	0181 302 8203
The Kite Society	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY	01206 271489
Carole Adams		01280 822850
White Horse Kite Fliers	P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4YR	01793 824208
Suffolk Kite Fliers	Peter Phillips	01473 464095
Kiteability	2 Garfield Road, Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP	0181 804 9080
Al Cosgrove	18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke RG21 3PH	01256 421800
Midlands Kite Fliers	Doug Richardson, 19 Wigsley Close, Doddington Park, Lincoln LN6 3LD	01522 884744
Peter West	27 Milton Way, Peterborough, Cambs PE3 9AP	01733 269687
Sky Bums	7 Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5EW	01743 244677
Michael Lowe	44 Bellemoor Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hants SO15 7QU	01703 770788
David Ellison		0181 449 8609
Malcolm Goodman	134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX	
Joanna Mersey	Bignor Park, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1HG	01798 869214
Ray Oakhill	'Spindrift', 6 Hartfield Road, Saltdean, Sussex BN2 8RE	01273 306842
Neville Wing	9 Howard Road, Tewkesbury Glos GL20 8QX	01684 295132
Joe McGarry		01697 366400
Whaam Kites		01708 864074
Terry Dabinett	13 Cowen Close, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8JF	01460 74655
Tony Bradford		01462 459395
awrence Rainment	8 Hartley Way, Taunton TA1 2LJ	
Chris Saunders		01202 451195
Andrew Pidgen		01472 323004
Avril Baker	5 Lilymead Avenue, Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BY	0117 977 2002
Bryan Cantle	21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP	01223 243825
Creative Kites		01635 528400
Bath Kite Soc.	Barry Savell (barry@savell.demon.co.uk) Zoe Hancock exxzvh@bath.ac.uk	
Neville Wing		01684 295132
Fred Apperley	9 The Meadows, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire B50 4AP.	01789 778424
Ken Knight	Dimmer, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NR.	01963 351482
ВВС	British Buggy Club, Mike Shaw	0468 765887
Karen Murray	5 Northbourne Road, London SW4 7DR.	020 7 498 2266

	July
17	Golden Valley Kite Festival, Tewkesbury School Fields, Glos. Neville Wing.
	2nd Silloth Kite Festival, Cumbria. <u>Joe McGarry</u> 3rd Kennett Valley Kite Festival, Henwick Sports Field, Thatcham. Berks. <u>Kreative Kites</u>
18	Golden Valley Kite Festival, Tewkesbury School Fields, Glos. Neville Wing. Camelot Giant Fly-in, Honeydown Farm, Crewkerne. Terry
	Dabinet 3rd Kennett Valley Kite Festival, Henwick Sports Field, Thatcham. Berks. Kreative Kites Dunstable Downs Kite Festival, Dunstable Downs, Beds. Dunstable Kites 01582 662779
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25	Weston Super Mare Kite Festival, Somerset. <u>Avril Baker</u> Fenland Kite Festival, March, Cambs. <u>Whaam! Kites</u>
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31	Herstmonceux Castle Kite Festival, Battle, Sussex. Ray Oakhil
	August
1	9th Royston Kite Festival, Royston Heath. <u>Tony Bradford</u> Herstmonceux Castle Kite Festival, Battle, Sussex. <u>Ray Oakhil</u>
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5	Portugal Kite Retreat Starts. Karen Murray
6	
7	Teston Bridge, Maidstone. <u>Kiteability</u> Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Andover, Hampshire. <u>Kites Up</u> Fylde Kite Festival, Lytham St Annes, Blackpool
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	August (Cont'd)
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28	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society.
29	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society.
30	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society.
31	
	September
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4	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. <u>Avril Baker</u>
5	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. <u>Avril Baker</u>
6	Kruzy Kite Festival, Westward Ho!. Runs until 12th September Kruzy Kites.
7	
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11	Guernsey Kite Fly.
12	Hunstanton Kite Festival, Norfolk. <u>Brian Cantle</u> Guernsey Kite Fly. Telscombe Tye Family Kite Day, Sussex. <u>Ray Oakhill</u> Castle Cary Kite Festival, Somerset. <u>Ken Knight</u>
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18	Down Oards Down 5 1 1 1 1 5
	Berrow Sands Buggy Fest starts. Somerset. BBC
19	Beaulieu Kite Festival, Hampshire. <u>Kites Up</u> Eggardon International Kite Festival, Dorset. <u>B Turner 01308</u> 485474
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23 24 25	Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near
23 24 25 26	Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. <u>The Kite Society</u>
23 24 25 26	Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. <u>The Kite Society</u>
23 24 25 26 27 28	Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. The Kite Society
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. The Kite Society