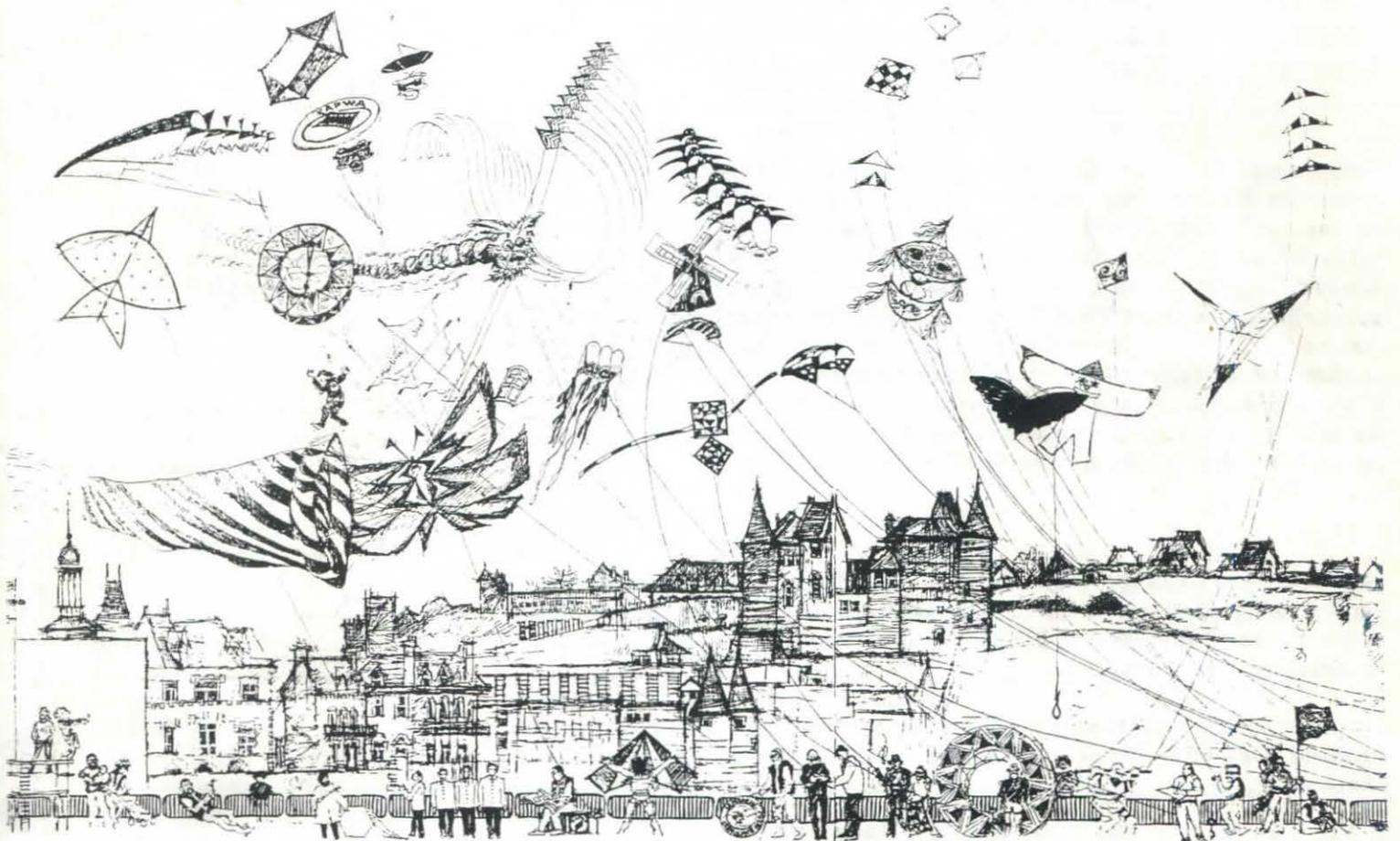


THE KITEFLIER

ISSUE 38 - JANUARY 1989 -

Price 85 Pence



NEWSLETTER
OF
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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The front cover is a pen and ink sketch drawn by Zamir MaTi. Zamir, from Albania, drew the sketch during the Dieppe kite festival held last September. (Can you spot your editors???)

Membership fee for the Kite Society of Great Britain is £6.00. This membership fee covers four issues of "The Kiteflier" and five issues of "Update" an interim newsheet produced during the summer months. Also available is a reduced subscription rate of £4.00 which covers the four issues of "The Kiteflier" only. In addition production of the membership card entitles the holder to a discount at kite shops around Britain as well as several in Europe. Finally members are permitted into selected festivals free of charge.

Supplementary membership is also available to people living at the same address. This cost £2.00 and entitles the holder to discount and free entry to selected festivals.

Samples of newsletters are available from the address overleaf. These cost £1.00 each including postage.

If you wish to join The Kite Society please fill in the form below and send it to address given. All cheques, Postal Orders or Money Orders should be made payable to The Kite Society.

I WISH TO JOIN THE KITE SOCIETY AND ENCLOSE A
CHEQUE/POSTAL ORDER/MONEY ORDER FOR _____
MADE PAYABLE TO THE KITE SOCIETY.
Type of membership required - FULL
REDUCED

NAME. _____
ADDRESS. _____

POST CODE. _____
TELEPHONE. _____

SUPPLEMENTARY MEMBERS.

Please tick this box if you have any objections to your name and address being held on our computer system. The information is used for the sole purpose of sending you your magazines and other mailings from The Kite Society.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY. RCVD:
PROC:
SENT:
NO:

EDITORIAL

Firstly we would like to wish all our members a happy new year and good flying in 1989.

We are afraid that this editorial will consist mainly of corrections and/or bad news.

Firstly, included in this newsletter are some pages from the S.T.A.C.K. organisation. They have asked us to point out that if you require a copy of the stunt kite competitions rules, you do not have to join S.T.A.C.K. They are available either from us, the Kite Store or S.T.A.C.K. as long as you include a stamped addressed envelope. On the same pages it states that if you join S.T.A.C.K. you will be covered by insurance, again we have been asked to state that at the present moment insurance is not included in the membership.

For those members who have been flying kites for a number of years the following will probably come as a bit of a shock. We have been informed that for this year (at least) both Old Warden festivals, in May and October, will not take place. This is due to new management at the site. However, it is hoped that they can be persuaded to hold the events in 1990.

We now have copies of Wolfgang Schimmelpfennig's book "Making and Flying Kites". Price £3.95 plus 50p postage and packing. Available from the editorial address.

Now for some good news. The Kite Store in London - 69 Neal Street and 3 Marlborough Court have now agreed to take the big step of offering our members 10% discount instead of 5% as in the past. This is a big commitment on their behalf and we would like to thank them for their generosity. Note that this discount is also available on mail order, all they ask is that you quote your membership number and expiry date when ordering.

In the last issue of the magazine we stated that the Bristol International Kite Festival and Kite Society Convention would take place on the 26th, 27th, 28th August. These were the wrong dates (although they were right at the time!). It will now take place on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd September. See convention page for full details. We are endeavouring to make this a large and international event but we need the help of all our members. Both ourselves and the Kite Store are putting a great deal of time, effort and, yes, even money into this event but we need your support. Ideally we need all our members to attend, but even if you can't be there perhaps you can help in other ways. Let us see if our apathetic membership can appreciate when someone tries to do something for them!

The 1989 Rokkaku Challenge is on! The same rules will apply as in the past with rounds being held at Blackheath, Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Wroughton and, the final, Bristol. Both team and individual challenges are being run. If you would like a copy of the rules please send a stamped addressed envelope to the editorial address.

Below is a correction to the banner kite design which appeared in the last issue of The Kiteflier.

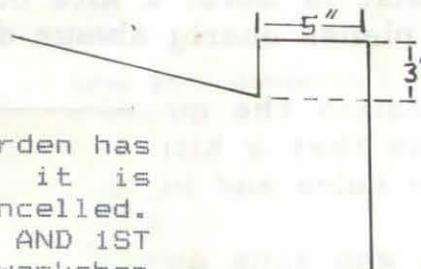
See you at Bristol or the mob will be round!

Gill and Jon Bloom

THE KITE SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN
31 Grange Road,
Ilford, Essex.
IG1 1EU

CORRECTION

It is stated above that Old Warden has been cancelled. In fact it is Wroughton which has been cancelled. Old Warden is ON 7TH MAY AND 1ST OCTOBER. STOP PRESS. Fighter workshop 11 & 12 March, Washington. Contact Adam Sutherland. (See Events page). Cost £17 (£15 for KSGB members).



LETTERS

From J Fennemore regarding the visit to the Cody House.

May I say how much I enjoyed the Visit on Sunday 16th October 1988 organised by Gill and Jon to meet the Cody family who kindly invited us to Farnborough to see original glass slides, old films and photos of Samuel Cody's achievements, and also to hear such interesting anecdotes told by his Grandson of his colourful life.

An invitation has been given to all the Cody family to come to the Bristol Kite Festival and convention next September. Lets hope they can make it as it will give many kitefliers the Opportunity to see a part of kiting history.

From Russ Erganbright asking for Kite penfriends.

My name is Russ Erganbright and I live in the U.S.A. in the state of Colorado. I have spent the last 15 years kite flying from mountain tops and the high valleys of the Rocky Mountains. I would very much like to correspond with the members of the Kite Society of Great Britain related to kite flying in your country. The sky of our planet is connected and has no borders to divide the many people and races that share our blue world. Kite flying is a sport of true brotherhood, so let us share in this fellowship no matter where we live. Please see that my address reaches all of your members. I will surely answer each and every letter that I receive. Address - Russ Erganbright, 2858 East Weaver Place, Littleton, Colorado 80121 U.S.A.

From M Sawyer asking about the law and flying kites

Peter lofting wrote so sweetly in July 86 that I have torn up my first written hot under the collar letter and will, reluctantly restrict myself to a few questions. Ron Moulton, Ted Fleming, and Fred Marsh (issues 32, 33, 35) seem to support the formation of more regulations of a restrictive nature including several which are not at all related even to safety.

However if I let Peter convince me of the righteousness of the CAA (safety) regulations, can someone please explain why our local Model Shop 'crew' laugh at me, a mere kiteflier, every time we chat, with crushingly enthusiastic remarks like " - why the devil do you stick at kiteflying when you're not allowed to get above the trees for goodness sake come and join us, and fly a model aeroplane where you can go as high as you like".

So why are planes (over 2kg, noisy and air polluting) allowed freedom which we are denied? They are surely more likely to damage something than is a kite? What is more, a kite doesn't often 'get away' but at model meets' one or two planes nearly always do!

Which raises the question of Radio Control (issue 24 Tom Pratt). Is it still the case that a kite flyer needs a licence and aero modellers don't, maybe the new rules and bands or pressure for c.b people have modified this.

Anyone who says aircraft (proper ones) should have right of way the kite

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was here first. Why is the kite not analogous with the horse which has the right of way on the road?.

From David Flint with regard to the Silver Zephyr design.

As you know I've recently joined the Kite Society and still learning a great deal about Kiting, but it has become quite apparent that like other organisations I'm in, the whole burden of running it rests on just a few shoulders, in this case yourselves. I see from previous magazine you've asked members for contributions I dare say to little avail, so here are mine for what they are worth.

A little about myself, I live in Newark, Notts in the East Midlands, where I work as a telephone engineer and would be interested in hearing from any other members in the area for flyins or just swopping ideas and information especially aerial photography which is another pastime of mine, my telephone number is 0636 72323.

Whilst working this year in the South West I went to several Fly-ins organised by the Devon Kitefliers and can thoroughly recommend anyone down there to go and see them at Porc Hill a few miles east of Tavistock, especially I'd like to thank Les Symons and Brian Geldart who made me feel at home and gave me much advice and useful tips a few of which I hope they don't mind me passing on. People there flying kites, were staking the lines down using dog leads stakes which look like a scaled up version on a cork screw about 18" long available from most pet shops for about £3.00 but a much cheaper solution would be to use devices called Twizel Pegs available from camping shops, these are made of very strong plastic in bright orange about 6" long with a "T" shaped handle to assist screwing into the ground and removal all for the princely sum of 20 - 30 pence. Once screwed into the grass etc they are very difficult to pull out directly so will handle quite large winds and kites.

Whilst in the South-West we visited the Bristol Kite festival and I can recommend anyone to go to it a great family day out.

At this years kite festival at Old Warden I was pleased to find my kite being one of the few able to fly in the lack of wind without resorting to the time honoured running start; the kite in question being the "Silver Zephyr". I met David Bloom, the designer, there with his original version of it and compared notes. I feel my version might be slightly easier to construct. Both sizes and materials are identical but the original was glued together using UHU type glue, mine I used double sided sticky tape, I cut off a reasonable length say 18" then halved it lengthways, and halve each again so that the original 3/4" width was reduced to approx 3/16"(5mm) these were then carefully laid onto the leading edges approx 1/2" back, the 1/8" dowel rod helping to line up, see diagram A, the extra flap on the leading edge is folded over the rod and carefully pressed down onto the tape once the protecting paper has been removed(see diagram B) by this method a quicker cleaner job is done and if damaged the rod can be removed from

LETTERS

the pocket formed (see C).

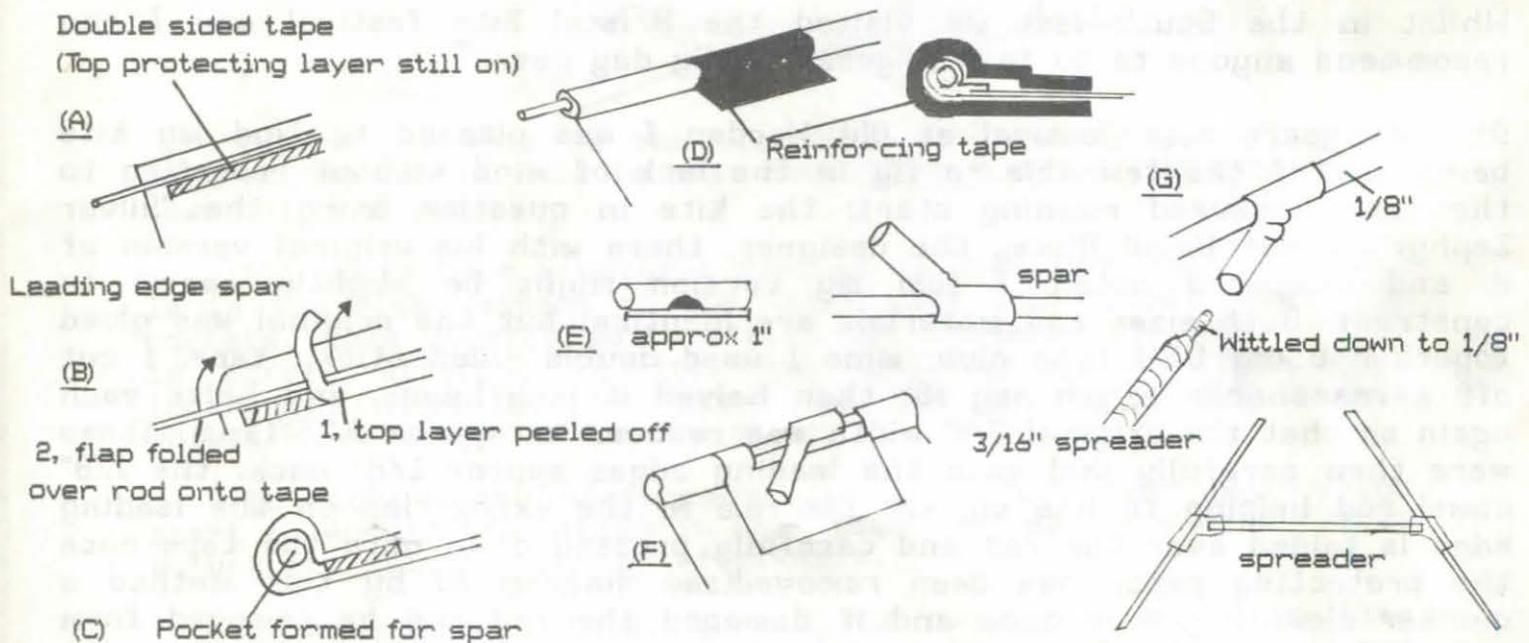
Similarly all other parts can be joined, the tape keel and keel spar etc using this tape.

The double sided tape in question was purchased from DIY Plastics, Lynton Road, Swindon, Wiltshire (tel 0793 615315), item code 86-01 and cost 2.35 for a roll of 100 feet. I've found this also useful for holding ripstop in position prior to sewing though be careful as it is incredibly sticky.

All edges requiring strengthening were reinforced using Sellotapes 2" wide waterproof tape available from WH Smiths etc and also reinforced the leading edge where the spreader bar joins the leading edge spar(see D), then an inch or so of material is cut away exposing the spar and a PVC sleeve slipped onto it, this cannot be done unless spar can be slipped back along its pocket the pvc is cut as in E.

The PVC sleeve is carefully moved along the spar as it is slid back into its correct position (F). Then the spreader can be measured to length and shaped to fit the PVC sleeve projecting end (G). This I find looks better and is easier to erect the kite. The PVC sleeve in question was the outer sheath of an electrical cable, as a telephone engineer I throw away yards of these scrap pieces so if anyone wants some send me a sample of the spars in question and I'll endeavour to find the best fit from 2mm up to 30mm, matches to broomsticks or ring me on 0636 72323.

Incidentally the silver material was brought as a survival blanket from a camping shop for 1.99 but even better a colleague finishing his half marathon scooped up dozens for nothing as they are given to participants upon finishing. So go and hang around at the finish, and "mug" some off their owners. Speaking from experience I don't think they will be able to chase you after running 13 miles!.



DROGUES & TAILS & MOMENTS

Maurice Sawyer's letter in Issue 37 of "The Kiteflier" October 1988 raises an interesting point but I am not sure his explanation is correct. His conclusion (about shorter drogue lines) might well be true but for different reasons.

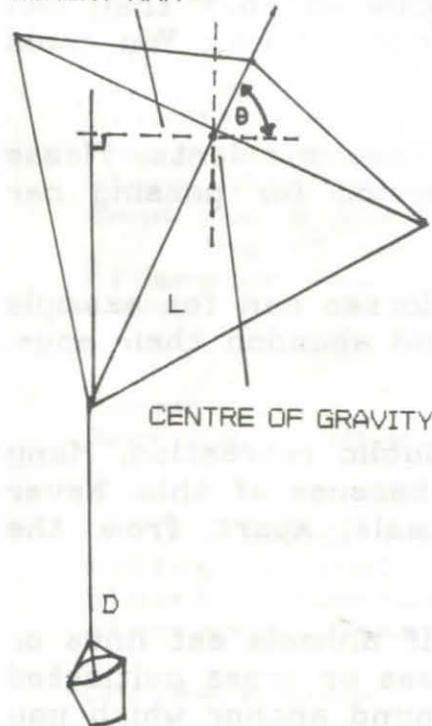
In the drawing below an Eddy kite is "disturbed" through an angle theta (θ) at the centre of gravity as shown. The drogue on its line hangs vertically (as would a ribbon tail) in this view. From the side, of course, the drogue line or tail would incline downwind at an appropriate angle depending on windspeed. For both drogues and ribbon tails the aerodynamic drag force (D) acts along the length of line. The moment applied to the kite about its centre of gravity by the tail is easily calculated. Let L be the distance between the centre of gravity and the attachment point of the drogue line or tail.

The length of the drogue line does not appear in the expression for the correcting moment and is therefore irrelevant. Incidentally, it is relatively easy to show that attaching the drogue to the kite by two short lines has exactly the same effect as a single line attachment. In the case of a ribbon tail the length of tail is very important because of its effect on the magnitude of drag produced. Larger or smaller drogues similarly produce more or less drag.

What is important is that, at launch, a tailed or drogued kite will tend to be unstable until either all the tail is in the air or until the drogue is inflated and stabilising drag is being produced. The Wroughton problem thus seems to be caused by the drogue being attached to the end of too long a line and not contributing stabilising drag soon enough after launch, i.e. it probably was not even off the ground. Shortening the drogue line would then help but only if it meant that the drogue was in the air sooner.

You may also have seen some Japanese kites in which the tails are attached to an extension of the spine - the effect of this is to increase the correcting moment from the tail because of the increase in dimension L ; the tail drag itself however is unchanged.

MOMENT ARM



Finally, what happens if the drogue and/or its line are tilted from the vertical? In this case resolve the drag force into two components; one along the line and one at right angles to the line. The latter force will move the drogue sideways whilst the component along the line will produce a correcting moment although the actual instantaneous moment arm will not be the same as the earlier example. There are other factors to be considered in the discussion of short versus long drogue lines; for example short lines tend to be jerky whilst longer lines tend to smooth out any unsteadiness... but that is another story.

The important thing is to get tails and drogues and kites into the air as soon as possible.

David Lockley

SAFETY RULES

These come from the Drachen Club Deutschland (German Kite Fliers Association). They are one of the best set of rules we have seen so far. British kite fliers take note!

Dear Kiting Enthusiast, as you will also probably have noticed kiting is enjoying an upturn at the moment. The growing numbers of kites and of enthusiasts flying them has, however, recently led to complaints from people who feel that loud and fast steerable kites have caused an annoyance to them.

To make sure our sport does not get a bad name and is not perhaps subject to certain restrictions each one of us should observe a few basic safety rules.

When a kite is being flown steps must be taken to ensure that it poses no source of danger or nuisance to either people, animals or the environment.

1) Only fly your kite at wind strengths at which you are able to keep it fully under control. Check before the flight whether the kite has been correctly assembled and whether any parts are damaged and could possibly cause the kite to crash. Exercise special care in the case of untried kites.

2) Very taut kite lines can cut and wound. This is especially true of lines which do not stretch made of Kevlar or similar fibres. Gloves should definitely be worn and you should keep your distance from spectators and others flying kites.

3) Do not fly kites near electricity cables. Maintain 500 metres distance. Otherwise you could be killed. If a line does, however, despite all precautions come into contact with an electricity cable never touch the line. In addition prevent others from doing so and call the Fire Brigade so that they can dispense with the danger. Never fly kites during thunder storms. You could be killed!

4) Keep away from roads. Falling kites can easily cause accidents. Please remember that kites represent a considerable distraction for passing car drivers. Maintain a 5 km distance from airfields.

5) Please remember that kites can frighten animals. Horses can for example bolt or sheep panic. Brooding birds can be disturbed and abandon their eggs. Avoid nature reserves!

6) Do not disturb the peace of areas set aside for public recreation. Many steerable kites are pretty loud and cause a nuisance because of this. Never fly steerable kites low over people's heads or animals; apart from the danger of injury they could be frightened.

7) Do not leave rubbish on the area used for flying. If animals eat lines or plastic parts they can die. Do not enter nature reserves or cross cultivated fields. Do not use trees to tie your kite on. Use a ground anchor which you can buy or make yourself.

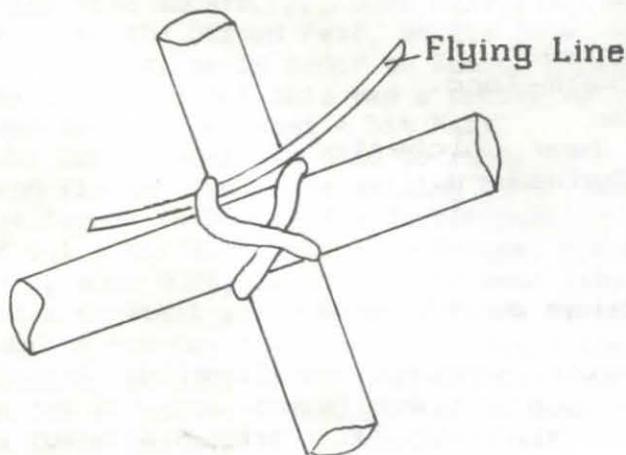
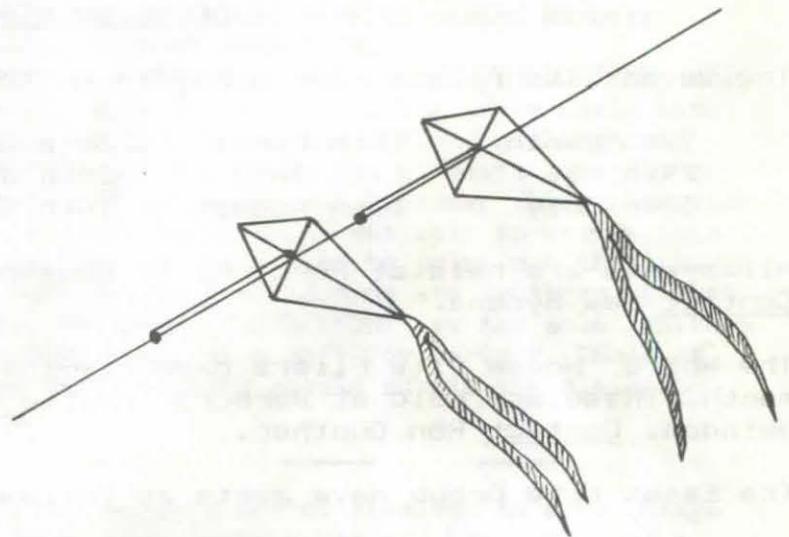
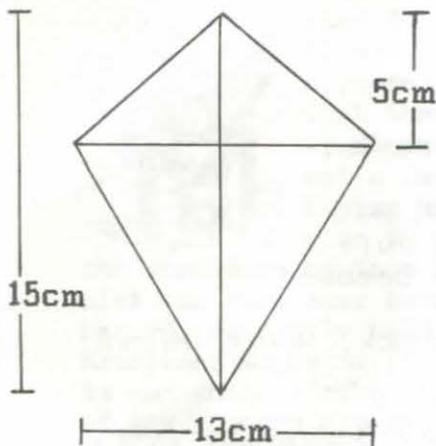
EDDY TRAIN

Yet another kite train this time by Paul Chapman, these eddy kites were produced from scraps that he had over after running a sled workshop.

The spars were from a window blind that I had shortened. Straw reeds. Each kite has several strips of polythene drape 1m x .5cm tail. The bridle is from the spar crossover, bridle length about 30 - 40 cm. The Train comprises three groups 30, 30, 20 on three different strength lines. Because the reeds would crush if they were joined at the cross over I pass the flying line through the centre knot and join the bridle to the flying line just above the preceding kite (see diagram).

This allows each kite to pivot about the flying line. It can "fly" up or down the line to the extent of the bridle line. The train flew straight from the boxes perfectly. The pull is about 20 pounds. I found it much easier to handle small groups of 20 - 30 kites rather than put all the kites on one line.

Paul Chapman



EVENTS LIST

MAJOR KITE FESTIVALS

March 26th, 27th	Blackheath Easter Kite Festival, Blackheath, London. <u>Contact</u> Tony Dartwright.
May 20th, 21st	Brighton Kite Festival, Waterhall Playing Fields, Patcham, Brighton. <u>Contact</u> Greg Locke.
June 3rd, 4th	Cofton Park, Birmingham Centenary Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> M.K.F.
July 2nd	Petworth Park Kite Day, Petworth, West Sussex. <u>Contact</u> Joanna Mersey.
July 1st, 2nd	Shrewsbury Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Tony Slater.
July 8th, 9th	Blackheath Summer Rally, Blackheath, London. <u>Contact</u> Tony Dartwright.
July 15th, 16th	Washington Festival of The Air, Washington, Tyne & Wear. <u>Contact</u> Adam Sutherland.
August 20th	Bournemouth Kite Day, Hengistbury Head. <u>Contact</u> W.K.G.
September 1st	Kite Society Convention, Bristol. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society
September 2nd, 3rd	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. <u>Contact</u> Martin Lester.

LOCAL EVENTS

The Devon Kite Fliers have a Fly-in on the following dates:-

27th March	16th April	30th April	14th May
29th May	11th June	25th June	9th July
30th July	13th August	10th September	1st October

All events are held at Porc Hill, Godsworthy, Tavistock, North Devon. Contact Les Symons.

The White House Kite Fliers have fly-ins on the second Sunday of every month. These are held at Barbury Castle Country Park, Near Wroughton, Swindon. Contact Ron Gunther.

The Essex Kite Group have meets as follows:-

5th February	Southweald Park, Brentwood.
19th February	Galleywood Common, Chelmsford.
5th March	Harlow Common, Harlow.
9th April	Great Bentley Green, Near Colchester.
23rd April	Galleywood Common, Chelmsford.

Contact Kathleen Pike.

The Great Duse Kitefliers have meetings as follows:-

12th February	Grafham Water South side. <u>Contact</u> Ted Fleming.
12th March	Priory Park, Bedford. <u>Contact</u> Bob Piron.
9th April	Ferry Meadows, Peterborough. <u>Contact</u> Mike Millen.
14th May	Riverside Park, St Neots. <u>Contact</u> Colin Jackson.
11th June	Priory Park, Bedford. <u>Contact</u> Bob Piron.

EVENTS LIST

9th July Grafham Water South side. Contact Ted Fleming.
13th August Riverside Park, St Neots. Contact Colin Jackson.
10th September Ferry Meadows, Peterborough. Contact Mike Millen.
8th October Riverside Park, St Neots. Contact Ted Fleming.
10th December Priory Park, Bedford. Contact Bob Piron.

All Great Duse events start at 11.00am.

Brighton Kite Flyers meet on the following dates:-

12th February The Red Hill, Brighton.
12th March The Red Hill, Brighton.
9th April High Down Hill, Worthing, West Sussex.

Contact Greg Locke.

19th March Ilfield School, Gravesend. Contact Simon Harrison.
13th, 14th May Capstone Country Park, Rochester, Kent. Contact
Julian Smith.
12th, 13th August Teston Bridge Picnic Park, Maidstone, Kent. Contact
Nick Brown.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

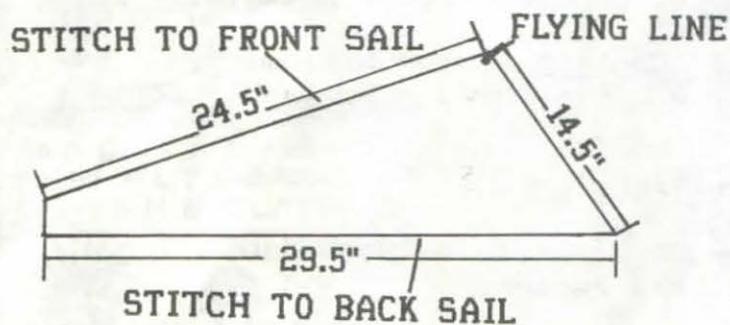
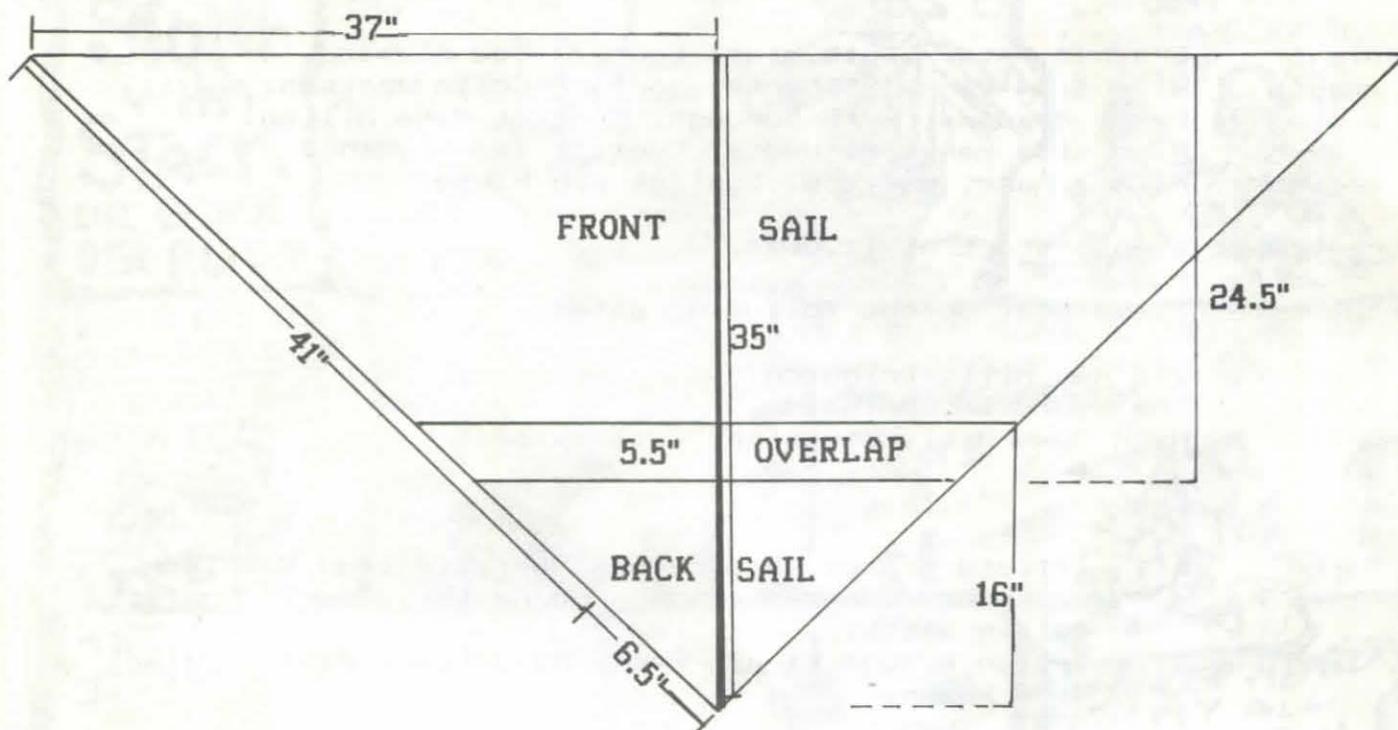
29th, 30th April Berck Plage, France. Contact Michel Dusariez.
& 1st May
10th, 11th June Dunkerque, France. Contact Didier Willem.
23rd, 24th, 25th Scheveningen Kite Festival, Holland. Contact
June Vlieger Op.

CONTACT DETAILS

Tony Cartwright, 78 Dongola Road, London N17 6EE. 01 808 1280.
Greg Locke, 53 New Road, Shoreham By Sea, Sussex.
Midland Kite Fliers, 021 706 1302.
Joanna Mersey, 1 Rosmead Road, London, W11 2JG.
Tony Slater, 128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY.
Adam Sutherland, 20 Durham Place, Birtley, Tyne & Wear.
Wessex Kite Group, 16 Brackley Way, Hammonds Green, Totton, Hants.
Martin Lester, 40 City Road, Bristol BS2 8TX.
Les Symons, 'Ju Les Gla', East Waytown, Goodleigh Road, Snapper,
Barstaple, North Devon.
Ron Gunther, 0793 770784
Kathleen Pike, 34 Mortimer Road, Rayleigh, Essex.
Ted Fleming, 10 Laxton Close, Eaton Ford, St Neots, PE19 3AR.
Bob Piron, 0234 61835.
Mike Millen, 7 Elm Way, Sawtry, Cambs PE17 5QQ. 0487 832154.
Colin Jackson, 2 Drake Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots PE19 3HS.
Simon Harrison, 0474 363485.
Julian Smith, 1 Forest Drive, Walderslade, Kent ME5 9NY.
Nick Brown, 0622 671411 x 2967.
Michel Dusariez, 14 Avenue Capitaine Piret, 1150 Bruxelles, Belgium.
Didier Willem, 600 Boulevard Diderot, 59240 Dunkerque, France.
Vlieger Op, Weteringkade 5a, 2515 AK Den Haag, Holland.

J.C STRONG WIND DELTA - JACK CROUCH

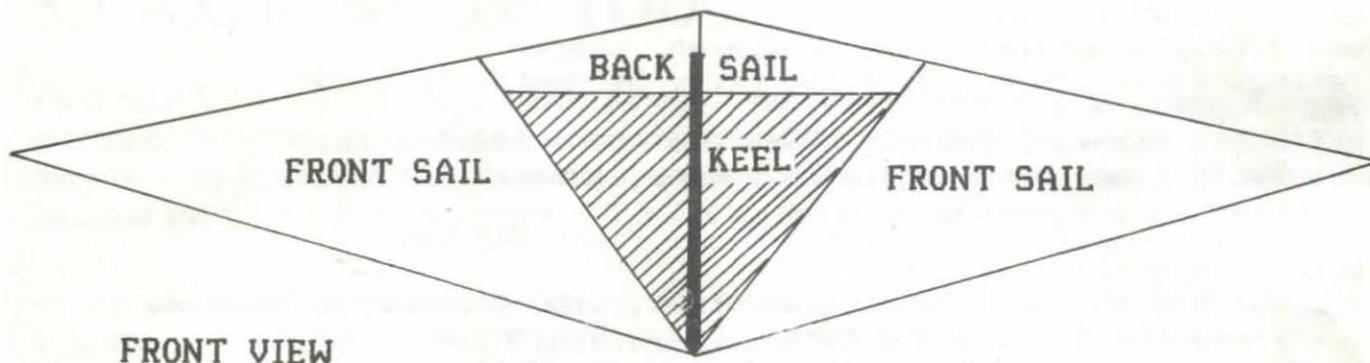
A very good flyer in high winds when other deltas won't fly. A bit noisy with the luffing of sails. Fly on 100 pound line.



SPREADER DOWEL 31.5" X 3/8"

LEADING EDGE DOWEL 2 OF 41" X 5/16"

KEEL DOWEL 35" X 3/8"



FRONT VIEW

GENERAL INTEREST

WORLD KITE MUSEUM

As mentioned in the last newsletter there was a proposal to set up a World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame. We have just received the first newsletter relating to this project. Interest in the project appears to be limited but there are now several committees filled with very well qualified persons, so hopefully the project will now get underway. The newsletter lists various activities that the committees hope to achieve and details how the Hall of Fame will work. The Hall of Fame nominating committee will consist of twenty members, selected from the world kiting community, who have participated actively in kiting for at least ten years and who are recognised for their contributions and/or knowledge of kiting.

The nominating committee will create a slate of Hall of Fame candidates, including biographies and descriptions of the noteworthy contributions to world kiting made by each candidate. The committee then votes on the slate of candidates selecting one to five individuals for induction to the Hall of Fame. The committee will submit the inductees to the Board of Trustees for ratification. Inductees to the World Kite Hall of Fame will be announced annually. It is the intention of the World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame board of trustees that the Hall of Fame be simple in structure with the members of the nominating committee truly reflecting the international scope of the organisation.

They ask if any one has suggestions for a nominating committee that they write to Jerry Sinotte, nominating committee chairman at the Kite Museum address, this address can also be used to obtain further information regarding membership and donation. World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 964, Long Beach, WA 98631.

NEW (AND OLD) BOOKS

Old Tom (Mark Cottrell) has taken the plunge and entered into the cut throat world of book publishing. Yes Mark has written a book called the Kite Store Book of Kites and I think that the introduction sums it up quite well.

"If you were looking for a kite book that was about diamond kites, deltas, simple sleds, standard box kites and the other usual stuff such as "why it flies" or "where/how to fly" found in kite books then this book is not for you. If you were looking for kites that are easy to make then this book is probably not for you.

"However, if you feel like making a few of my stranger kites (some are quick to build, others can take weeks) most of which quite well and reading about my thoughts on certain types of kite design this book may be of interest to you...."

This book comes with the added benefit of a computer disk with various kite programs on it. (It is also available without) This book has been long overdue. It contains many of Marks' renowned kite designs such as the

GENERAL INTEREST

multi-jib, his own brand of ramfoils, flaix kite etc. This book is a must for all kitefliers who have progressed beyond the Pelham Book of kites and are looking for some new designs to attempt, only one criticism is that some of the hand written bits are difficult to read.

The book is loose bound 48 pages long price £3.50 for non disk price, £4.50 with disk.

Mark has also updated his aerial photography book still priced at £3.50. All books are available from The Kite Store on 01 836 1666.

Rumour also has it that Martin Lester has been approached to write a book.

We have also found out that The Penguin Book of Kites is now discontinued. So if you haven't got your copy yet you had better hurry up.

SPARES

Whilst we are mentioning the Kite Store they now have in stock, complete replacement spar sets for Hawaiians, Spinoffs etc. Basically anything with a delta shape. Contact them for details. Also coming soon one of the designs that appears in Marks book a swept wing box will be put into production by Martin Lester.

ETHNIC KITES OF NEW ZEALAND

An item sent by Rik Reid, ex of New Zealand, a newspaper article from the Northern Times (New Zealand) It comments on art teacher Rudi Whitehead who is continuing an ancient tradition of kite making. He has built a Mana tukutuku kite modelled on a birdlike early Maori kite in the Auckland Museum. Named Nga Hea, meaning "Friends" the big raupo and toe kite resembles its museum model by having a head which resembles a mans.

There is evidence of kitemaking in the Ohaeawai - Waimate North area dating back to early last century. A kite made in the bay of Islands, obtained by a Mr Nielsen is probably the only original upokotangata (toe toe) kite in existence. There are few specimens of this ancient craft left, mainly because they were not deemed worthy of collection in the past.

Kites flying over maori villages or pa were a sign of peace in the past. They were also used by tohunga before a battle to determine whether or not a war party would be successful. If the kite flew in a lopsided manner it was taken as a predication of defeat, and if it flew upright it was accepted as an omen of success.

Traditionally a great deal of importance was placed on the success of the flight of a kite, so it must have been a relief for Nga Hea's creator when it became airborne without difficulty during a campaign for nuclear disarmament kite day.

GENERAL INTEREST

In the past a chant was recited when flying kites so they flew well, and another chant was said as they would descend gently to earth without damage. So there was also a special ceremony after Nga Hea's first flight. After the kite landed Mr Whitehead Lopez and his friends involved in making it had a minute's silence to remember all the people who died at Hiroshima

SOME GENERAL BITS

Spotted by our eagle eyed reporter, John Barker, Kite cheese spreads, made by Eden Vale, these little triangular cheeses are tastefully wrapped in a kite design wrapper.!

Spotted in Chat Magazine in an article regarding phobias. It states that many people suffer from bizarre phobias and a specialist at a leading London hospital has made a special study of these. Amongst the unusual phobias the doctor has come across is a fear of kites!. Apparently this fear affected one victim so badly, with panic and breathlessness whenever she saw a child flying a kite that she could no longer visit parks or open spaces. The doctor goes on to say that specific phobias like this one often start with some terrible childhood experience, although many victims cannot remember it. In this case the victim could remember a kite tail wrapping itself around her neck and almost strangling her when she was just 5 years old.

Kiteflier and maker Julian Wolfe-Patrick who specialises in applied designs derived from Alaskan and North West Canadian Indian recently had a exhibition at the Churtzee Studio Gallery, Wandsworth South London, and the Guardian had a good picture of some of his stunter designs.

CAN YOU HELP?

One of our members, Mr Lee Ward, writes with a request for his fellow kitefliers.

I am presently serving at RAF Swanton Morley and on June 11th 1989 the station is holding its annual open day, approximately 8000 people will attend the event and I have arranged for a Kite Society stand, unfortunately no flying display due to some people called the Red Arrows having priority. I would like to request for people either to loan kites etc for the display or to help man (or woman) the stand on the day. They would, of course, get free entry. I am especially interested in anybody who has large kites for display. Contact Lee Ward, 12 East Crescent, Swanton Morley, Dereham, Norfolk NR20 4LE. Tel Swanton Morley 8483.

FLYING EVENTS FROM HERE AND THERE

WROUGHTON

A note from Ron Gunter Secretary of the White Horse Kite Fliers. Following the One Sky One World Festival it was decided to hold a fly in on the second

GENERAL INTEREST

Sunday each month. The first one held last Sunday was quite successful and we would be pleased to see any one interested.

The flying site is at Barbury Castle Country Park and can be found signposted in Wroughton and on the B4005 Wroughton to Chiseldon road. There is a large car park and toilets. Flying is from the field by the car park. For further information contact Ron Gunther, 12 Glevum Close, Purton, Swindon, Tel 0793 778784 or Neil Harvey, 2 Meadowslands Cottages, Bibury, Circencester, Tel 9574 295.

YORK

News of a challenge from The York Kite Flyers - a single handed Rokkaku competition.

"At last - the competition you have all been waiting for - the York Kite Flyers annual winter frozen finger fly in. A series of six monthly contests to take place on the first sunday in each month, October to March inclusive, on the Knavesmire Racecourse York. The contest will take place regardless of weather conditions and if only one person turns up they may award themselves the prize. Standard rules will apply plus no thermals before November. This is a single handed Rokkaku competition for kites of at least one metre high but no greater than two metres. There are no restrictions on kite making materials and unusual construction techniques will win a round of applause from all taking part. For further information contact Ann Hoskins on 0904 31566 or David Drury on 0937 833326.

DUNKERQUE

We have had a letter from the organisers of the "Fete du Vent" which is held in Dunkerque, France.

"The organisers of the Fete Du Vent in Dunkerque thank all participants to the 1988 edition and are glad to announce that the next edition will take place on June 10th and 11th. The event is centred on the kite festival but its general aim is to "celebrate the element Air through the various means to materialise its existence or use its energy". It is organised by the local group of "Les Amis de la Terre" (Friends of the Earth) and the "Maison de l'Environnement" of the city.

We offer free accommodation and free meals on Saturday evening and Sunday lunch time to kiteflyers who have registered their entry by May 20th. English speaking contact - Didier Willem, 600 Boulevard Diderot, 59240 Dunkerque Tel 28 63 86 41.

WEIFANG

We have had some travel details sent to us from Weifang China, The 6th Weifang International Kite festival is being held from March 31 to April 3. The information contains a special Weifang Kitefliers tour, which reads -

GENERAL INTEREST

"Ever since 1984 the yearly held Weifang International Kite Festival has added new life to kites, the ancient traditional art. It has attracted hundreds of thousands of kite fans and tourists both at home and abroad and become a great gathering for promoting friendship and solidarity of the peoples all over the world. Weifang was recommended as the "Capital of kites in the world" by a lot of foreign kitefliers Organisations. We warmly welcome friends and tourists from various countries to come to Weifang to participate in the Grand occasion and experience the interest of kiteflying and sincere feelings of Weifang people". If you are interested contact the editorial address for itineraries, prices etc.

AROUND KENT

News of a kite event in Kent arranged by Julian Smith who informs us - "on Saturday and Sunday 13th and 14th of May 1989 in Capstone Country Park, Rochester upon Medway, Kent. Last year was the first one held arranged by the city council who were very pleased with the response from the kiteflyers who were able to attend. It is not a large site but has modern toilet facilities with a tea room. Parking for kite flyers only on the site although there is a large public car park nearby. Julian has asked us to point out that the site would not be suitable for stunt kites. Further details contact Julian Smith 0634 660396.

More news of events in Kent. On the 19th March there will be a family Kite Day at Ilfield School, Cedar Avenue, Gravesend. There will be a S.T.A.C.K. display and light hearted competitions with a possible fighter kite workshop. There will be a 50p admission fee. For more details contact Simon Harrison on 0474 365485.

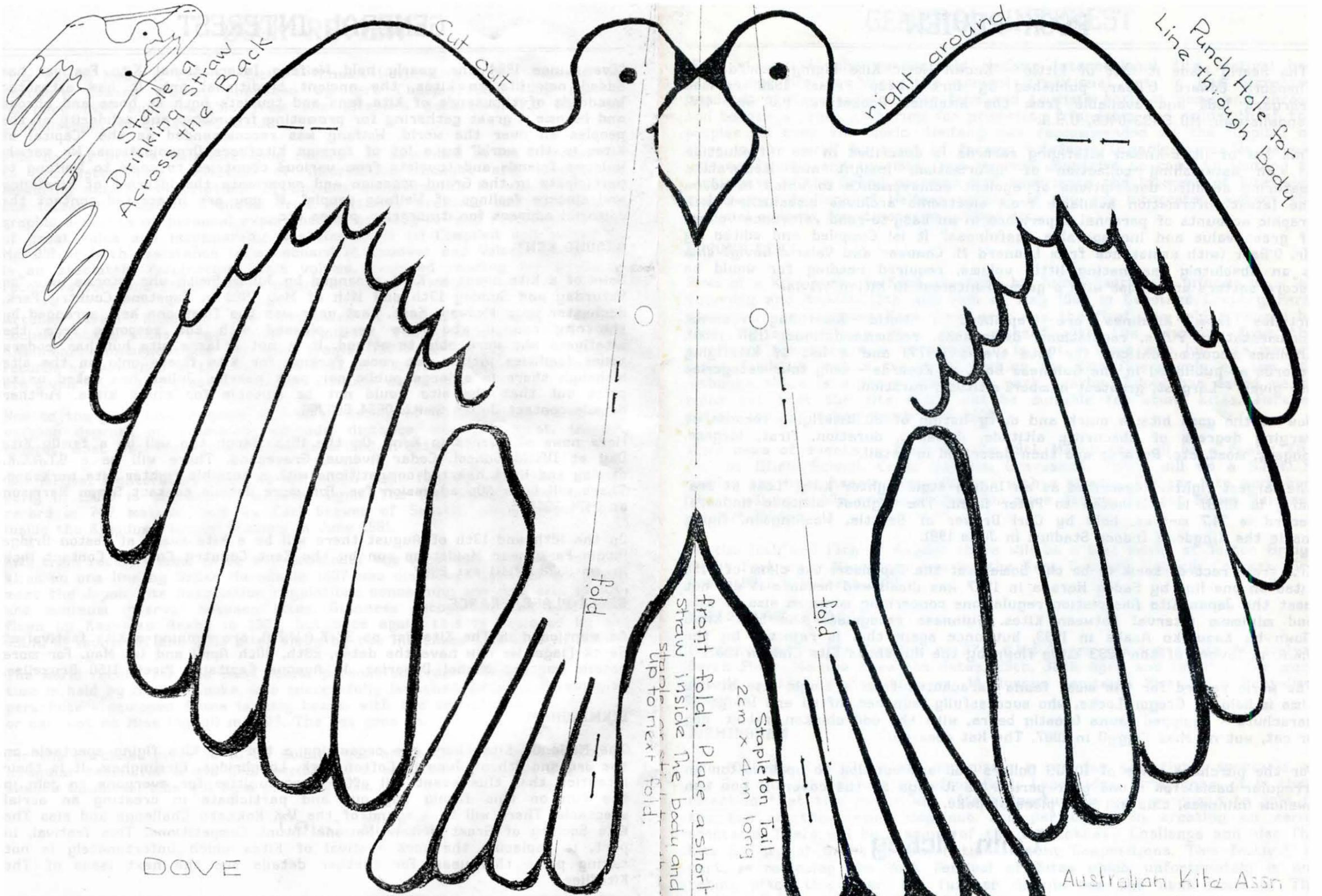
On the 12th and 13th of August there will be a kite event at Teston Bridge Picnic Park near Maidstone run by the Kent Country Council. Contact Nick Brown 0622 671411 ext 2967.

BERCK PLAG, FRANCE

As mentioned in The Kiteflier no 37 K.A.W.P.A. are running a kite festival at Berck Plage. We now have the dates, 29th, 30th April and 1st May. For more details contact Michel Dusariez, 14 Avenue Capitaine Piret, 1150 Bruxelles, Belgique.

BIRMINGHAM

The Midlands Kite Fliers are organising a two day kite flying spectacle on the 3rd and 4th of June in Cofton Park, Longbridge, Birmingham. It is their intention that this event will offer opportunities for everyone to join in the fun on this family day out, and participate in creating an aerial spectacle. There will be a round of the U.K Rokkaku Challenge and also The Kite Society of Great Britain National Stunt Competitions. This festival, in part, is replacing the York Festival of Kites which unfortunately is not taking place this year. For further details see the next issue of The Kiteflier.



BOOK REVIEW

"The Bearly Made it List of Little - Known World Kite Flying Records" by Theodore Edward O'Bear, published by Dirt Cheap Press, 1986 revised February 1988 and available from the Kitelines Bookstore, P.O. Box 466, Randallstown, MD 21133-0466, U.S.A.

This list of little-known kiteflying records is described in its introduction as "an astonishing collection of information, insight and memorabilia featuring detailed descriptions of ancient achievements to which is added the latest information available from electronic archives embellished with graphic accounts of personal experience in an easy-to-read reference volume of great value and incomparable usefulness." It is! Compiled and edited by Mr. O'Bear (with assistance from Leonard M. Conover and Valerie Govig) this is an absolutely fascinating little volume, required reading for would be record setters and those with a general interest in kiting trivia.

Articles from Kitelines are reprinted : World Kiteflying records, documentation, rules, regulations, definitions, recommendations, (Fall 1980), Kitelines recommendations for kite trains (1977) and a list of kiteflying records as published in the Guinness Book of Records - only four categories are given - Largest, greatest number, altitude, duration.

Now to the good bits: a quick and dirty listing of 30 kiteflying records of varying degrees of obscurity: altitude, distance, duration, first, largest, longest, most, etc. Records are then described in detail.

The largest fighter (described as an Indian style fighter kite, "Lost at sea" early in 1988) is attributed to Peter Lynn. The highest altitude (indoors) record is 74.7 metres, held by Carl Brewer of Seattle, Washington, flying inside the Kingdome Indoor Stadium in June 1981.

Kite train records seem to be the domain of the Japanese: the claim of 7150 kites on one line by Sadao Harada in 1987 was disallowed because it did not meet the Japan Kite Association regulations concerning minimum size of kite and minimum interval between kites. Guinness recognises the 5581 kites flown by Kazuhiko Asaba in 1983, but once again this is rejected by the J.K.A. in favour of the 2233 kites flown by the Hiroshima Kite Club in 1987.

The world record for the most fauna parachuted from a single kite at one time is held by Gregor Locke, who successfully launched, lifted and let go 37 parachute - equipped fauna (mostly bears, with the odd chicken, rabbit, dog or cat, wot no Miss Piggy!) in 1987. The list goes on.

For the purchase price of 10 US Dollars you are entitled to updates (on an irregular basis) for a one year period. As it says on the cover, if you can swallow Guinness, this will be a piece of cake.

Colin McKay



Kite Society Convention

Bristol Kite Festival

1st, 2nd, 3rd September 1989

Perhaps the most important point to note is that the date stated in the last issue of *The Kiteflier* for this event was incorrect. It was the intention to hold the event during the August bank holiday but due to several other events happening in Bristol at the same time the support from the council would have been reduced and therefore it was decided to change the dates. The new dates are Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd of September.

We aim to make it the biggest event of its kind in the U.K. this year but to achieve that we need the help of all our members and the kite retailers and wholesalers.

The basic plan is as follows:-

Friday 1st September has been set aside as the convention day. We have hired rooms in the Hawthorns Hotel, a four star hotel close to the Ashton Court flying site. One room will house the kite market and exhibition area where we hope to have a large number of kitemakers and retailers displaying and selling their wares. This is totally free to all traders, so if you wish to sell please let us know as soon as possible as room is limited. This room will also house (if available) both an ethnic kite display and an exhibition of Cody memorabilia.

The second room will be used for a number of talks, lectures and workshops being presented by internationally known kitefliers. S F Codys grandson has been invited to show original glass slides and other memorabilia. We anticipate that many European and American kitefliers will be attending, some of whom will present workshops or talks. We do know that at least one American stunt team has promised to appear! (This will be the first time in the U.K.).

We are looking for people to give lectures, workshops or talks during the Friday. The more people we have the better the day will be. Maybe you can help?

The third room has been set aside for films, videos and general chat, and once again we are looking for help with slides, videos etc. If you would be willing to show your collection then please get in touch.

These activities will run from 11.00am till late and will be open to both the public and to members.

The Saturday will be the start of the International Kite Festival, with all the usual

CONVENTION

ingredients, including the final round of the Rokkaku Challenge, stunt competitions and some displays from the visiting overseas kitefliers.

Saturday evening will be part two of the convention with a Banquet and auction held at the Hawthorns Hotel. We hope to have at least two hundred people attending the meal. Pre-registration for the meal will mean a substantial discount on the price compared to on the day booking, so it will pay you to register now. The pre-registration cost of the meal will be £8.00, on the day it will cost £10.00. You may, of course, only attend the auction which will start directly after the meal.

The auction will be under the control of Andy King and all funds raised from the auction will be used to support this and all future conventions. So even if you cannot attend the convention, perhaps you would like to donate some items for the auction.

Sunday will see the culmination of the kite festival with the final rounds of the competitions and prize giving.

We have details available regarding accommodation, both in the convention hotel and for other hotels and B&Bs in the area. If interested indicate on the form below. The convention hotel prices range from £30 to £45 for a single and £45 to £65 for a double, but special weekend rates are available, and hopefully if we have enough people booking we should be able to obtain a group discount.

So, if you can offer any help, wish to give a talk or slide show, can supply a video for showing or want to donate something to the auction please let us know as soon as possible. The aim is to have a confirmed programme before the middle of March to enable a leaflet to be issued during the main kiting season.

Remember, book the dates in your diary now! 1st, 2nd and 3rd September, Bristol.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Number of people attending the
Address _____ meal on Saturday _____

Telephone No. _____ I enclose a cheque for _____
payable to "The Kite Society
Convention" (£8.00 per person).

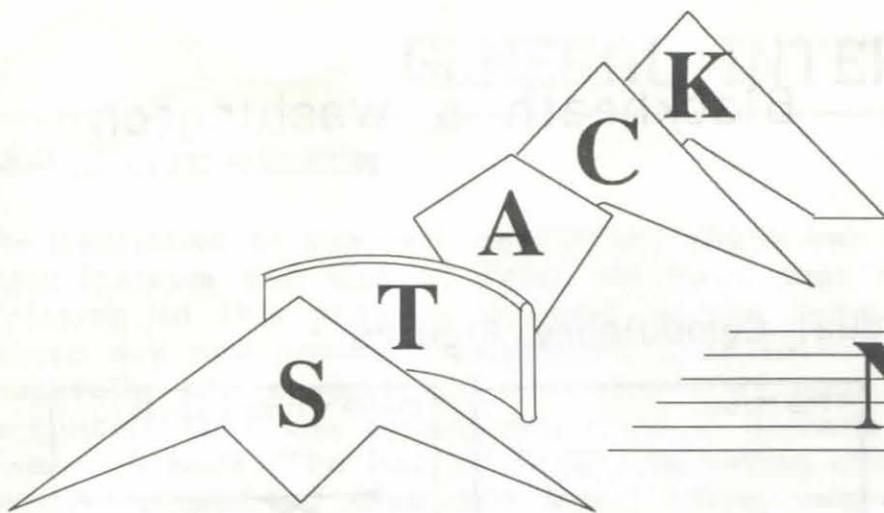
I/We will be attending the event

I/We will donate the following items to the Auction and will Bring them
Post them

I/We can give a Talk/Workshop/Slide show on the following topics:-

Please send accommodation details - Convention Hotel
Other Hotels

Please return this form with any payment to:-
The Kite Society, 31 Grange Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1EU by 31st March 1989.



News

Issue 2, January 1989

S.T.A.C.K. will be organising Stunt Kite competitions in 1989 at the following major festivals:

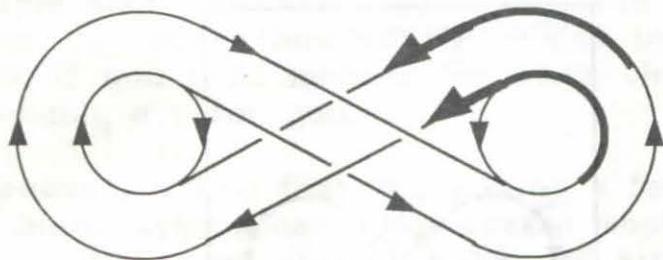
- o Birmingham, The Kite Society's National Stunt Kite Championships 3rd & 4th June.
- o Blackheath, South-East All-comers Stunt Kite Championships. 8th & 9th July.
- o Washington, Tyne & Wear, North-East All-comers Stunt Kite Championships 15th & 16th July.
- o Bristol, The Kite Store International Open Stunt Kite Championships 2nd & 3rd September.

Competitions will be held for Individual Precision, Team Precision, Individual Ballet and Team Ballet. There will be both Junior (16 and under) and Open competitions. The Precision events will consist of two elements; firstly, Compulsory figures and secondly, a 2 to 3 minute free flight section without music. Ballet events will consist of a 3 to 5 minute free style routine to music. Competitions will start on the Saturday of all the festivals.

The Compulsory figures for the four festivals are shown on the next two pages. One set will be used at Birmingham and Bristol, the other set at Blackheath and Washington. For Individuals, you must fly all three figures shown and a surprise figure, which will be distributed on the day of the competition. For Teams, you will be required to fly 2 out of the 4 figures shown. The Individuals surprise figure and the two Team figures will be selected by the judges on the day of the event. Full competition rules are available inside the S.T.A.C.K manual, so join now.

Please use a competition form and register early. This will give you priority over those who register on the day. Also on the form there is a request for your help, since there are many field positions to fill if we are to have smooth and safe competitions. Remember, you can still help and compete. Good luck and steady winds.

The S.T.A.C.K. Challenge



CRAZY EIGHTS (R.Loera)

This month, a deceptive team figure, which looks great when you get the timing right. The Top of the Line Team used a slightly modified version of this in the recent American Nationals.

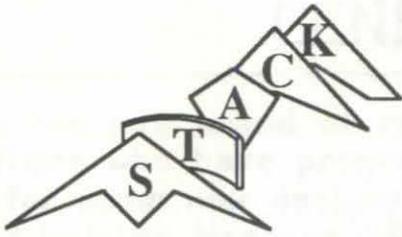
Flying Advice

One of the criteria of Precision flying is the ability to maintain a constant speed throughout a compulsory figure. That means a constant speed whilst climbing, diving, rolling and sweeping across the ground.

To slow the kite down, you move forward towards the kite, hence slowing the relative wind speed over the kite. The stronger the wind the quicker you have to move forward. Alternatively, to increase speed you move backwards away from the kite.

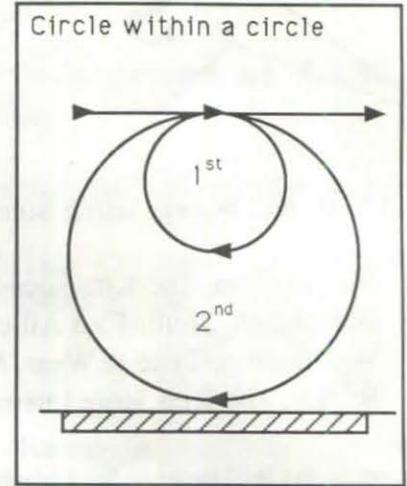
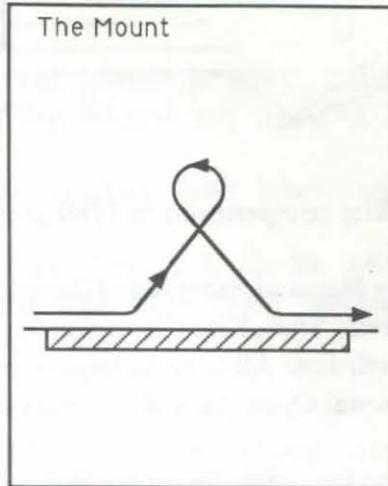
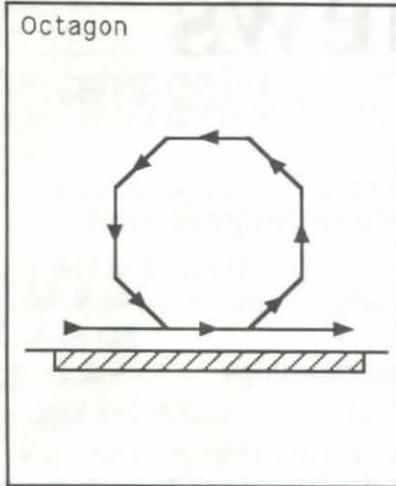
As an example, when diving towards the ground the kite will naturally pick-up speed.

(Continued)

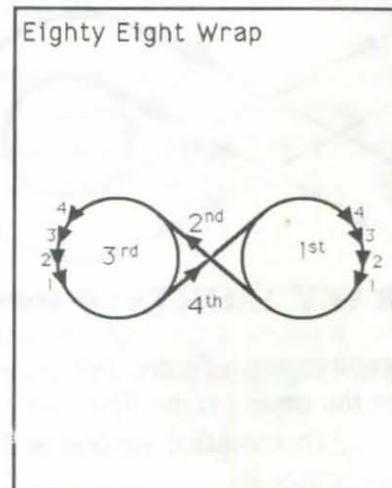
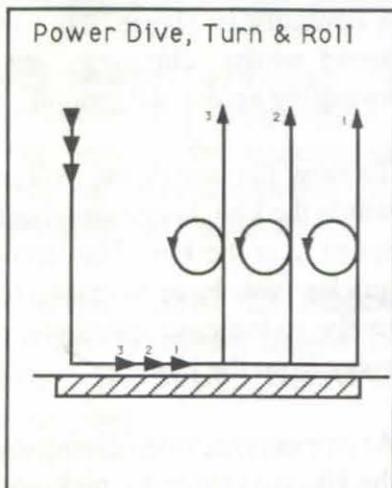
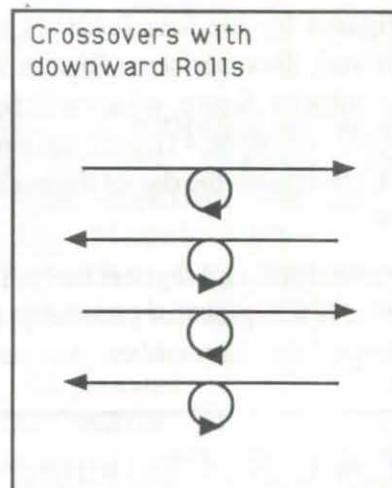
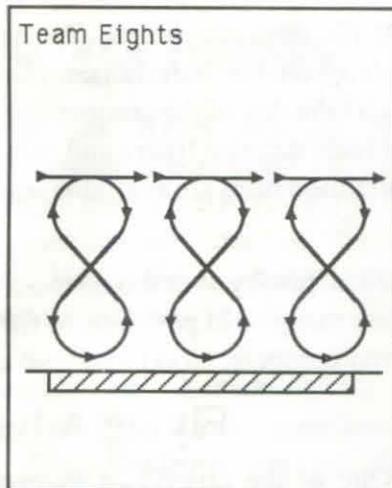


Blackheath & Washington

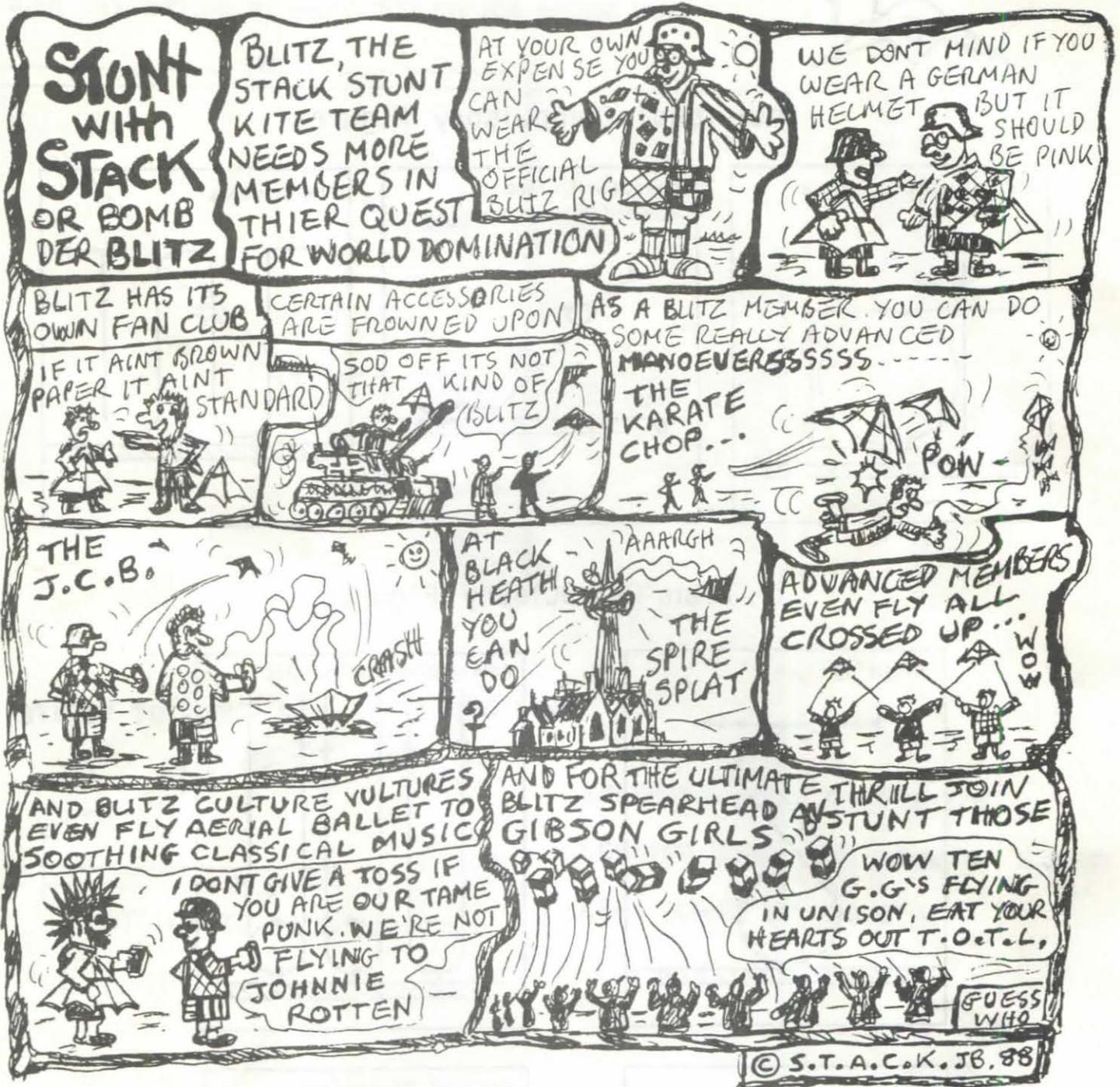
Individual Compulsory Figures



Team Compulsory Figures



To maintain complete control and a constant speed of dive you move forwards at a progressively faster rate (almost running forward when diving through the wind centre). This technique becomes crucial when team flying to maintain the spacing between kites. The Top of the Line team are constantly on the move when they fly and the control they achieve is exemplary.



S.T.A.C.K. NEEDS YOU

The Official S.T.A.C.K. Manual '89 is ready. It contains over 60 pages of stunt kite descriptions, flying advice and figures for individuals and teams, full competition rules plus much more. The manual is just a part of the comprehensive joining pack which also includes: 10% discount at participating stores, third party liability insurance and S.T.A.C.K. News updates. S.T.A.C.K. is a non-profit making organisation.

So do not delay and send your cheque or Postal order for £5 payable to S.T.A.C.K. to: Mike Ward, 132 Westbury Avenue, Wood Green, London N22 6RT. Allow 21 days for delivery.

ROMAN GANDLE IS BACK



THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF THE BEARLY MADE IT SKYDIVE SQUAD, AND THE U.K. TED DEVILS. THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF PARACHUTING FAUNA.

Hello Everybody, we're back. Yes, the Official voice of the Lunatic Fringe of Worldwide Kiting, is here again, hopefully never to be silenced again.

As before there will be no change in what we present to you dear reader.

You will have already noticed that R.C. is a Miniscule part of Kiteflier, the Premier British Kite Journal. O.K., we know what you are thinking, Yeah, the Loonies have sold out and have joined the Establishment. Think what you like, cos it just aint so.

We wish to state here and now that whilst we are grateful to The Kite Society for letting us have a platform in Kiteflier, they have placed no restrictions on us other than what the Law and Common Sense would allow.

So there you have it. All you R.C. Junkies have nothing to fear, your Fix is assured, for what you will receive is a continuance of the previous Ten issues.

For those of you new to R.C., continuance means the same mind numbing drivel that went before, in fact your Diet of Crackpot Ramblings, Abysmal Drawings, Plans that dont make sense and News that would Bore a Cabbage to Death starts right here.

YOUR CHAIRBEARS WAFFLE....At last, after nearly Three Years without a voice, I'm glad to see that BMISS can once again hold its head up high.



Without wishing to go into all the details as to why R.C. disappeared for such a long period, I would like to remind Members that there can be no output without your input.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find mention of TEMIOLKWKR, cor, wot a Jawbuster. The Bearly Made It List of Little Known World Kite Flying Records is actually nothing to do with BMISS, although we give it full BMISS approval, no, the blame for it rests squarely on the shoulders of Theo Bear and his erstwhile alter ego Len Conover. This publication lists one Para Bear Record, namely The Biggest Drop. BMISS was able to verify this Record, currently held by Dropnik Locke, but we would like to point out that though Kitelines Magazine (U.S.A.) and The Guinness Book of Records are Arbiters of what is and what is'nt a Kite World Record, BMISS/IBPF/UKTD/KNDST are the sole Arbiters of any Records appertaining to Parachuting Fauna of a Soft Toy Variety. Those of you whose Dropniks have claims for any FFSTV activity should submit the claims to the Editorial address for verification.

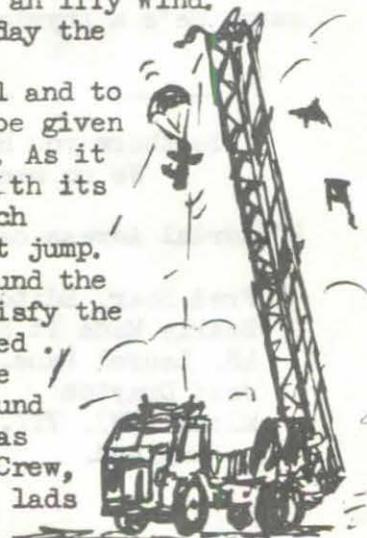
THE GREAT FIRE ESCAPE.....DONT PANIC, our Members wer'nt involved in a Fur Singe situation at the Oxford Fest, no its juust that Dropnik Vic and his Crew used a Vintage Fire Engine in order to launch Members, in the event of an iffy Wind.

As it turned out this was a pretty shrewd move, as on the day the Wind was to say the least a bit Naff.

The Oxford Fest was used to raise Fund for a local Hospital and to this end Vic and Crew were selling FSTV, each of which were to be given a first Parachute Jump and a Certificate to commerate the event. As it turned out, the Fire Engine or Escape, whichever you prefer, with its Ladder up some 80ft, together with some line, pulleys and a Winch enabled a constant succession of Fauna to experience thier first jump.

During the Day there was a constant flurry of activity around the Fire Engine as Dropnik Vic and his crew worked flat out to satisfy the demand for Parachute Jumps. A total of over 600 Fauna were dropped.

A funny postscript to the Event was that as the Fire Engine was about to leave the site, the Driver, drove it onto soft ground into which it promptly sank up to the Diff. Wot a Laff, Ha,Ha, as it nearly an Hour and the combined efforts of Dropnik Vic, his Crew, The Firemen and a couple of 4 X 4's to extricate it. Never mind lads it was all in a good cause and you did do well.





As we said earlier, the Bearly Made It List Of Little Known World Kiteflying Records, is mainly the work of Theodore Edward O'Bear and his erstwhile assistant Len Conover. Published by That well known Mega Conglomerate Dirt Cheap Press, in New Jersey, its available For around 10 Bucks. You can check this via the current issue of Kitelines. Quite a useful publication and as it says on the cover " If you can swallow GUINNESS, this should be a piece of Cake " what sort of cake they dont say.

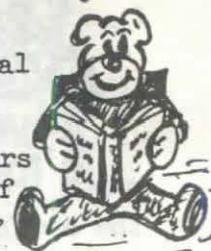
We are still unsure of exactly how many members BMISS has, not that we really care, after all, You Fauna know who you are. You exist therefore you am.

The BMISS H.Q. Mob does have a couple or three new recruits. One who has a touch of the Ducks Disease copped the name SHORTARSE. The second says hes a bit Skint and can't afford a proper Safety Helmet, wears, would you believe it, a Cotton Bud Container on his head. Naturally, hes known as COTTON BUD, and the third new recruit, for reasons best known to himself, goes by the name of Waylon Jennings. These three members are Bears, though the Cardboard Cutout thinks they are pests

Via Gamley Bear we obtained a copy of a Booklet entitled, Some Observations On The Diseases Of Brunus Edwardii (species nova) This is a Reprint, in booklet form of an article in the Veterinary Record by D.K. BLACKMORE, BSc, PhD, FRCVS, D.G. OWEN, MSc and C.M. YOUNG, MA, VetMB, FRCVS.

These eminent Gentlemen conducted a study into afflictions of Teddy Bears, which inhabit an amazing 63.8 % of U.K. homes. They examined a total of 1,598 Bears and they describe in some detail, the worst of the specimens. It seems that the average Ted suffers quite a variety of physical and mental disorders, ranging from very common outbreaks of ALOPECIA, to SQUINTS, EYE and LIMB LOSS, INFESTATIONS (The Cardboard Cutout) and some chronic EMOTIONAL HYPERTENSION. The Veterinarians also noted that all Bears seem to be Genetically the same as Limb re-grafting with whatever origin of new Limb, seemed to show no signs of Tissue Rejection whatsoever.

ITS CALLED
PARACHUTING
FOR
HYPO-
CHON-
DRIACS



Whatever the outcome of this study is regarding care of your Bear, we can see quite a Glaring omission in that the Vets were probably unable to make a study of Parachuting Bears, which would have opened up a totally new can of Worms.

Most Dropniks are aware of the alarming Emotional Conditions displayed by thier Fauna, not to mention the Physical ones. For instance, how would the Vets have described Brother 'Oraces Head Coming off on one notable TOTAL, or for that matter, In what Latin Terminology would they have described poor old Gamley's condition when Dropnik Locke Blew his Bum off with that Smoke Flare.

Perhaps we can persuade these Vets to undertake a study into the Physical and Mental Condition of a selection of Dropniks. (The Cardboard Cutout would be dead easy, he's a Physical Wreck and a Raving Nutter. Ed)

So there you have it, for better or for worse Roman Candle is Back...

We do need your News, Views, anything BMISS and Parachute.

Editorial Adress(cant spell)

Fred Bear, Editor.
Bearly Made It Skydive Squad,
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West Drayton
Middx. UB7. 7TY.
England.

Address for Happenings, Appearances, Fests,
Fetes, Public Lunacy and
Anything BMISS and over the Top
Gamley Bear (BMISS ChairBear)
BMISS Events.
53. New Road. Shoreham by Sea.
West Sussex. BN4. 6RB.
England.

 fred



MFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS

29 BRADBURY ROAD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS, B92 8AE.



SUTTON PARK FLY-IN 1st JAN 1989.

The Midlands Kite Fliers met for an informal fly-in at their new regular venue at Sutton Park on New Year's Day. Although conditions were not particularly good, (too little wind and too much cold!) there was a very good turnout of Kite Fliers and interested public. The weather had turned colder after a surprisingly mild Christmas, but a lot of enthusiastic running about took place which helped to keep us warm.

A very noteworthy display was given by Bill Hanks who managed to fly a stack of 10 home-made Peter Powell-type stunters for virtually the entire day, whilst the rest of us wrestled with single deltas and the like. At the end of the day, Bill honoured us by joining the Midlands Kite Fliers!

A great deal of interest was shown by people passing by who were obviously blowing the old year's cobwebs away. It looks as though we shall get a lot of publicity by flying at Sutton Park.

For those who are not yet members of the Midlands Kite Fliers, and wish to join us at one of our fly-ins, Sutton Park lies about 7 miles north of Birmingham.

Take the A452 from junction 5 of the M6 if you are travelling from the south, or take the A34 & A4041 from junction 7 if travelling from the north. Enter by the Streetley Gate on the B4138, and keep straight on to the Top Arena Field which is by the Jubilee Memorial Stone which resides in the centre of the park. (I can send you a detailed map if you need one.)

The flying site is available specifically to Kite Fliers on the first Sunday of every month throughout 1989.

Derek Kuhn
Secretary, Midlands Kite Fliers

January 1989.

I think I had the best idea - I lay on the sofa eating chocolates while Granny, Grandpa and Uncle Stuart entertained 20 month old Clara for the afternoon. Very civilised!

Chrissie Kuhn



MKFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS

29 BRADBURY ROAD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS, B92 8AE.



HOW I GOT STARTED - HARRY SHUKER

My early days of Kite Flying go back to the 1920's on the hills with box and bow kites made from paper.

Once, when flying on the Cleveland Hills, the line broke, and I had to retrieve it from a sheep dip!

I became interested in the M.K.F. in 1978 after visiting a Kite Festival at Stamford Hall, Lutterworth. Since then I have flown Kites in all types of weather, but best of all I have met some grand people who are called Kite Fliers.

Now near to 69 (don't feel my age of course!) I still enjoy Kite Flying, along with swimming most mornings at 8 am, and long walks with my dog - a Border Terrier called "Brandy".

Before retiring, I was employed by the CO-OP, and believe it or not, this Kite Flier was Chairman of the Dudley CO-OP Shop Workers Union up to when I retired!

Harry Shuker
Midlands Kite Fliers.

December 1988.

Editor's Note :

Harry Shuker was voted Midlands Kite Flier of the Year in 1988. He is to be found at all the events local to the Midlands and some even further afield, such as York, Shrewsbury and Old Warden. As a true Kite veteran, his energy and enthusiasm invariably puts us younger members to shame. He is the one who encourages the bystanders to join in, and tells the kids off who try to interfere with the line and kites lying on the ground.

Congratulations on being Kite Flier of the Year in 1988, Harry, and we all look forward to seeing you at our new regular venue in Sutton Park in 1989.

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTERS

Many thanks to members and non-members alike who have put pen to paper for "The Kiteflier" and for the MKF circulation only. Keep them coming - it's the only original material we get!

Especial thanks go to Mr. Bill Johnson of Selectus Ltd. for his advice and assistance in the preparation of the article on VELCRO.

If you have any further queries, Selectus Ltd. may be contacted at Biddulph, Stoke-on-Trent (0782-522316).



MFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS
29 BRADBURY ROAD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS, B92 8AE.



VELCRO -- "THE HOOK AND LOOP FASTENER"

A man was out riding in Switzerland one day when he noticed some Burdock burrs sticking to his coat. He then went home and invented VELCRO, which has since become a household name throughout the world. This is totally unlike the kiteflier who invented skyhooks after flying his kite one day: these have not been a success.

TECHNICAL DATA :

VELCRO consists of two nylon tapes, one covered with tiny hooks (the hard rough one) and the other covered with tiny loops (the soft hairy one). When the two are pressed together, they form a very strong closure which resists attempts to pull them apart laterally, but can be very easily peeled apart :

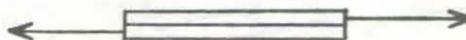


VELCRO comes in 19 different colours ranging from black to white and includes red, yellow, orange, and a rather appropriate pale blue called "sky".

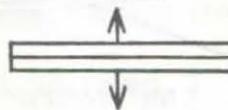
Standard widths are 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 50, and 100 mm.

The United Kingdom manufacturer, SELECTUS LTD., claim that VELCRO can withstand 5,000 openings and closings without deterioration in reliability.

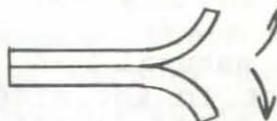
SHEAR STRENGTH : 420 gm/cm² (6 lb/in²)



TENSILE STRENGTH : 280 gm/cm² (4 lb/in²)



PEEL STRENGTH : 70 gm/cm² (0.4 lb/in width)



The nylon tapes can be cut very easily with scissors, and it does not fray. Sewing is the recommended method of attachment to a backing medium, but gluing or stapling is suggested as a better method for wood or other solid objects.

SUGGESTED SEWING PATTERNS :



Note edges clipped to eliminate sharp points and improve appearance.



MFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS
29 BRADBURY ROAD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS, B92 8AE.

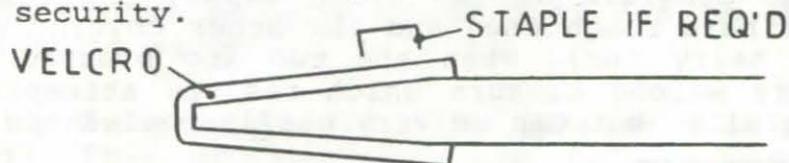


DESIGN NOTES - SPAR ATTACHMENTS :

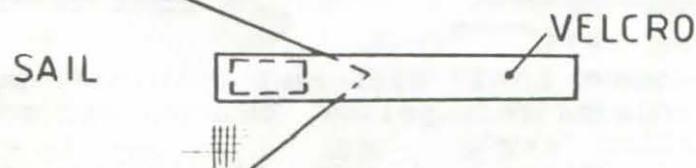
a) Whittle the end of a piece of dowel as shown, and smooth off sharp edges.



b) Glue a piece of hook VELCRO over the end, hooks outermost. If the spar is large enough, use a gun stapler to provide extra security.

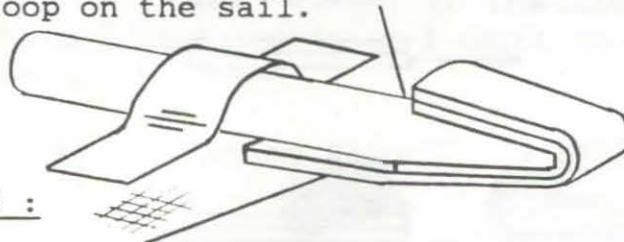


c) Sew a length of loop VELCRO to the corner of the sail of the kite.



d) To attach the spar to the sail, lay the end of the spar about half way along the tab on the sail. Fold the tab up and over, and press it firmly into place.

e) To give extra location stability, it may be necessary to include a loop on the sail.



f) TIPS :

Ensure the spar is the correct length before you glue the hook VELCRO to it: this is best done after the loop VELCRO tab is sewn onto the sail.

All spars have a natural bow: it is important that this bow is in the right aspect to the kite. With traditional spars and pockets, this usually sorts itself out. Because the hook VELCRO is firmly attached to the spar and also gives rotational location, it is important that the bow is established before whittling a) above before you start.

It might prove advantageous to do a "dry run" before you start to ensure the VELCRO is the right way up. It can be tricky to get the stitches out of afterwards.

Once used on a kite, it will be noticed that VELCRO also provides an excellent method of picking up dry grass or wet mud from a flying field. It is also very effective at clinging to pullovers, so relieving the weary kiteflier of the burden of carrying his kite home.

A E R O D Y N E

The Newsletter of the BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

EDITORIAL.

Firstly may I wish everyone a Happy, Prosperous and Healthy New Year; and hope that you all had a Merry Christmas.

It was disappointing that accidents marred and effectively put paid to a lot of good work during 1988; but then proper organisation costs a lot of money and it would seem that the organisations; if that is the term; are more concerned with what can be got out rather than what can be put into the sport. There seem to be very few groups or individuals who are prepared to go out front and finance, from their own coffers, the future of the sport in this country. Individual clubs and members may well spend thousands on design and creation of kites but does the future lie in merely consuming to be airborne ?

There are many worthies in the sport of kiteflying - but all too often their attempts to bring together that which is needed for the sport to expand and gain stability and recognition are thwarted by petty power politics and small minded egocentrics.

Is now not the time to have a strong national body with the guts and stamina to knit together the necessary regional clubs, aid festival funding from their reserves and ensure that those few, that are prepared to get down and do the dirty work to make it all feasible, are given at least the initial funding with which they can get going ?

ON THE SUBJECT OF or THE WRITE TO REPLY SECTION.

.... Stunt competitions :-

from David White; In response to those comments on pages 6 and 7 of Issue 36 of Kon I rest my case on the back page of the 88 Dieppe Festival program.

.... Past magazines :-

from Peter Ferdon.; before I apply for membership to the Brighton Kite Fliers, or any other club, can you convince me that kiteflying in Britain is not as bad as the letters and comments in your national magazine would suggest. I admit that I have only read three of them, but each contained rather petty and often ill mannered criticism obviously written by some rather bitter people. At the kite meeting that I attended this year there were many superb kites and no doubt knowledgeable people, but the organiser(s)? seemed too preoccupied with an intent debate about someones demerits to do more than mutter an 'they are (or there) over there' when asked where one could get some advice on a kite that did not fly too well. I do hope that there is a friendly club in the Surrey area and enclose a SAE for your reply and membership form.

DIEPPE FESTIVAL 17/18th September.

By Roving Reporter David White.

Remembering the weather during the 1986 Festival, I decided to have an extra day, hoping that drier weather would prevail. With plenty of space and a Force 4 wind, flying was super on the Friday; which as it turned out was the best of the three days for me. As so often happens when flying, interested spectators come across and chat and at an International Festival this means a chance to brush up on the lingua fraterna and often introduce someone to the sport. Such it was at Dieppe: the first being a student who was quite adept, when given the control handles, and then a former pilot of Sunderland and Catalina flying boats and Lancasters. Saturday saw the sky really crowded with lots of beautiful kites - a sky filled with hours of loving labour and many thousands of pounds pocket money. It was impossible to say which were the best.

Trains of miniature kites were more evident on the Sunday and I could not help but marvel at the delicacy and art of the far eastern kites in contrast to the stalwart creations from Europe. The separation of single and dual line kites was a good idea and all in all the event, with its village, restaurant, exhibition and PA was well organised and enjoyable. Looking to 1990 we may well see the beach utilised for the additional space that must surely be needed as this Festival grows even larger.

MATERIAL:- Newsletter for the writing of!

Once again the plea goes out to the membership - do let us have your comments and criticisms, reports and hints.

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL 1988

COMPETITION RULES.

ALTITUDE CHALLENGE.

SATURDAY 20th MAY.

- 1) The competition will be held between 10.30hrs & 11.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 10.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a GREEN flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the launch position, which shall be a line marked by a GREEN flag at either end.
- 2) Competitors may select their station along the line, which will then be marked by the judges, whereupon competitors may not move more than one metre in any direction, (including down), from the mark, during the competition.
- 3) Only one person may handle the flying line/cable and the kite. There is no restriction on trainers/managers/cheerleaders/et al.
- 4) The winner shall be the first kite to reach 3000 feet above ground level or the highest after a period of ten minutes from the start command.

ROKKAKU SOLO CHALLENGE.

SATURDAY 20th MAY.

- 1) The competition will be held between 11.30hrs & 12.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 11.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a RED flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the launch position which shall be marked by a line with a RED flag at either end.
- 2) A period of 10 minutes will then be allowed within which all competitors must launch their kites and maintain them in flight but not threatening or impinging upon other competitors' kites.
- 3) At the end of the 10 minute period (Para 2) the start of competition will be signalled by the lowering of the RED flag together with a shouted exclamation of "GO TO IT!"
- 4) Only one person may handle the flying line/cable and be within the area of sublimated competition. There is no restriction on trainers/managers/cheerleaders/et al outside the fighting arena.
- 5) The kite shall have a sail height of at least 1.0 metre and not greater than 1.5 metres when ready for flying. The kite shall be a six sided Sanjo Rokkaku.
- 6) The line or cable from which the kite is flown shall not be constructed from Kevlar nor shall it be coated with any abrasive or adhesive material nor shall it have any object capable of inflicting a wound upon a person attached to it. At no time during the competition shall the length of line from the kite to the flyer holding the line/cable be greater than 50 metres. Judges may mark such points during the competition and should the length from such a mark to the bridle point be in excess of 50 metres the kite/flier may be disqualified.
- 7) The winner shall be the person whose kite remains flying when all other competing kites are down; and whose kite has not made contact with the ground, a tree, a person or vehicle during the competition.
- 8) Entrants shall wear, at all times, distinctive emblems upon the nether regions. Removal may lead to disqualification.

LIFTER CHALLENGE.

SATURDAY 20th MAY.

- 1) The competition will take place between 14.30hrs & 15.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 14.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by raising a GREEN flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must advise the Judge of their tether point location.
- 2) Open to individuals and teams. The winner shall be the person or team whose kite lifts the heaviest payload.
- 3) Contestants shall have a period of 10 minutes from the arrival of the judge at the tethering point of the kite line, within which to achieve the requisite lift.
- 4) A satisfactorily lift will be deemed to be one where the payload remains at a height in excess of 1.5 metres for a period in excess of 2 minutes.
- 5) It shall be the responsibility of the competitor or team leader to advise the judge of readiness to proceed with the attempt.
- 6) In the event of a clash of readiness then the priority for judging shall be the same as that in which registration was made.
- 7) In the event of a tie whereby two or more kites lift the same weight of payload then the winner shall be the kite with the smallest wing area.
- 8) The payload, payload carrier and monitoring equipment shall be considered as the 'payload' and shall be provided by the B.K.F.
- 9) The kite shall have a wingspan not exceeding 2.0 metres and no other dimension shall exceed 1 metre. The kite must rely on a rigid spar to maintain its wingspan.

LONGEST TRAIN OF KITES

SATURDAY 20th MAY.

- 1) The judging will take place between 15.30hrs & 16.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 15.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by raising a BLUE flag upon the club flagpole.
- 2) Open to individuals and teams. The winner shall be the person or team whose train has the greatest number of individual kites on up to 3 flying cables.
- 3) The train shall NOT rely on a single kite to remain airborne.
- 4) All kites in the train shall fly for a period of time not less than 15 minutes.
- 5) Kites may be attached either directly or indirectly to the flying cables.
- 6) All kites in the train must rely on wind to maintain their altitude and attitude.
- 7) In the event of a tie whereby two or more trains are the same length then the winner shall be the one with the greater total sail area.
- 8) No kite in the train shall have a wingspan less than 40 centimetres.

The Winner shall receive £20 plus a trophy plus a prize. The Runner Up shall receive £5 plus a prize. All honourable entrants will receive mementoes of the this inaugural challenge.

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL 1988

COMPETITION RULES.

SINGLE LINE FIGHTING KITE CHALLENGE

SUNDAY 21st MAY.

- 1) The competition will be held between 10.30hrs & 11.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 10.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a RED flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the fighting arena, which shall be marked by RED flags.
- 2) Open to individuals. Only one person may handle the flying line/cable and the kite. There is no restriction on trainers/managers/cheerleaders/et al.
- 3) The Kite shall be of oriental fighting kite design concept but may be constructed of occidental materials.
- 4) A period of 5 minutes will be allowed within which all competitors must launch their kites and maintain them in flight but not threatening or impinging upon other competitors' kites.
- 6) At the end of the 5 minute period (Para 5) the start of competition will be signalled by the lowering of the RED flag together with a shouted exclamation of "GO TO IT!"
- 7) The winner shall be the person whose kite is the last to remain flying and has not touched the ground or any object, other than a competing aerodyne, affixed to the ground or sprouting from the ground during the competition.

SPECIAL SURPRISE SUPREME CHALLENGE

SUNDAY 21st MAY.

- 1) The competition will be held between 11.30hrs & 12.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 11.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a BLUE flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the flying arena, which shall be marked by BLUE flags.
- 2) Open to individuals. Only the competitor may handle the kite. There is no restriction on trainers/managers/cheerleaders/et al.
- 3) Further information will be issued to all clubs at Old Warden. Remaining rules will be on view at the BKF stand during the Brighton Festival.

ROKKAKU TEAM CHALLENGE.

SUNDAY 21st MAY.

- 1) The competition will be held between 14.30hrs & 15.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 14.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a GREEN flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the launch position which shall be a line marked by GREEN flags at either end.
- 2) Open to teams of three persons or more. Teams shall wear distinctive and appropriate apparel. Team leaders /captains /chiefs /bosses /managers /loudest shouters shall wear distinctive and unappropriate apparel.
- 3) The kite shall have a minimum sail height of 2.5 metres when ready for flying. The kite shall be a six sided Sanjo Rokkaku.
- 4) The line or cable from which the kite is flown shall not be constructed from Kevlar nor shall it be coated with any abrasive or adhesive material or have any object capable of inflicting a wound upon a person attached to it. At no time during the competition shall the length of line/cable from kite to the team person holding the line/cable nearest the kite be greater than 50 metres. Judges may mark such points during the competition and should the length from such a mark to the bridle point be in excess of 50 metres the team may be disqualified.
- 5) A period of 10 minutes will then be allowed within which all competing teams must launch their kites and maintain them in flight but not threatening or impinging upon other competitors' kites.
- 6) At the end of the 10 minute period (Para 5) the start of competition will be signalled by the lowering of the GREEN flag together with a shouted exclamation of "GO TO IT!"
- 7) The winner shall be the team whose kite remains flying when all other competing kites are down; and whose kite has not made contact with the ground, a tree, a person or vehicle during the competition.

BEST KITE MADE FROM MATERIALS SUPPLIED.

SUNDAY 21st MAY.

- 1) The competition will be judged between 15.30hrs & 16.30hrs wind permitting. Confirmation of this time, or change of times, will be made at 15.00hrs at the BKF Stand and competition readiness will be signalled by the raising of a BLUE flag upon the club flagpole. Competitors shall then have a period of 10 minutes within which they must arrive at the launch position which shall be marked by a line with a RED flag at either end.
- 2) Open to individuals. The winner shall be the person whose kite accrues most points by complexity of design, number of surfaces, stability of flight and pleasing looks both in the air and on the ground.
- 3) The kite shall fly for a minimum period of 5 minutes in windspeeds not less than 4 knots and not greater than 18 knots.
- 4) The kite shall fly at an angle of at least 40 degrees to the plane of the earth. The greater the angle the more points will be accrued.
- 5) Materials supplied will consist of 2 lengths of dowel, one sheet of polythere, a length of line and 50 cms of PVC tape. Competitors must supply flying line.

All enquiries to The Co-ordinator; Brighton Kite Flyers; 53 New Road; SHOREHAM BY SEA; West Sussex; England; BN43 6RB.

The Kite Store

69 Neal Street 3 Marlborough Court
 London London
 WC2H 9PJ WIV 1PJ
 01 836 1666 01 734 4320

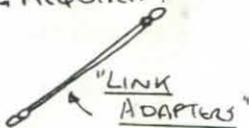
Hawaiian Team Kite Accessories For Better Flight.

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NOT SHOWN ABOVE:

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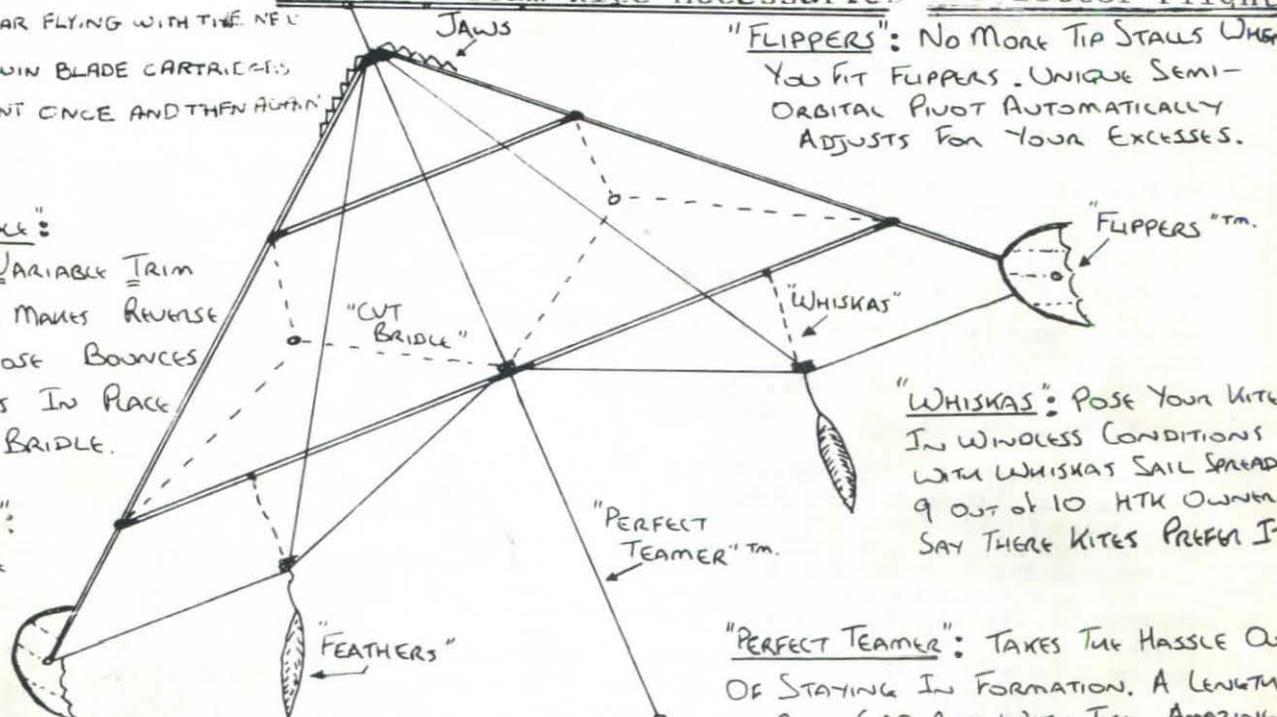
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