

THE KITEFLIER

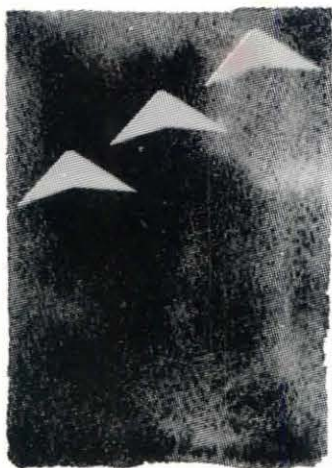
ISSUE 47

- APRIL 1991 -

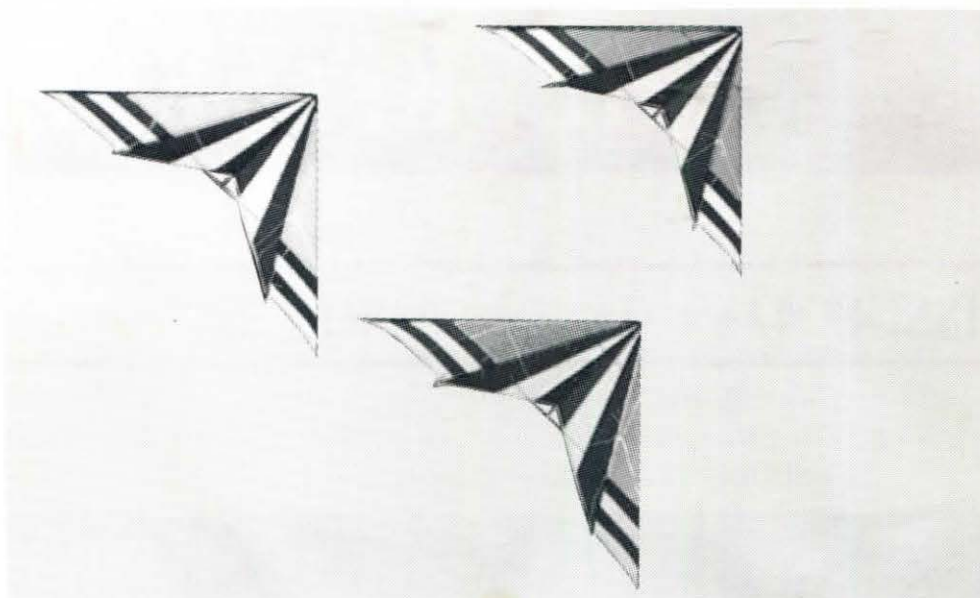
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OF
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The front cover shows some of Malcolm Goodmans Japanese Kites on display at the Brewers Quay, Weymouth in the run up to the International Kite Festival being held there.

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EDITORIAL

THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, 31 GRANGE ROAD, ILFORD, ESSEX, IG1 1EU

Dear Reader,

We hope to see you at as many festivals as possible. It is at the events that the Kite Society promotes itself - in the same way you can encourage people to join The Kite Society. The last issue contained a membership form - feel free to copy it and distribute it to people who are interested.

You can also acquire a range of Kite Society products - we have now got for sale Enamel Badges - at £2.25 each and Self-cling car stickers at 50p. If you cannot see us at the festivals then add 20p (or enclose an S.A.E.) to your order. Both of these items are in FULL colour and, if we say so ourselves, look very good.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Weymouth Convention and Kite Festival - it should be good.

All the best and fair winds

Gill and Jon Bloom



A NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Since the publication of Adam Sutherland's letter regarding the formation of a National Committee we have had very little feedback. We thank the six people who felt that the subject was important enough to comment upon and publish extracts from their letters below.

We still feel that the idea of a committee, in some size or shape, is a good one BUT it needs the support of Kite Society members as well as the groups and their members. It is interesting to note that we did not receive a single comment from any group regarding this matter - would it be right for us to assume that you are all happy. Unless there is going to be more feedback from the local groups, and a commitment from these groups as well as individuals, there seems little point in continuing with this idea. However we will give you more time to show that YOU want this.

James Mannall:- For over twenty years I was actively involved in the model aircraft scene, a very similar activity to kiting. The spread of any such activity will eventually require a body to focus, act as information exchange, coordinate the event diary and generally be the authorised "mouthpiece" for kiting. My experience is that any such body requires one or two really dedicated people to hold the organisation together. Usually such people are appointed as Chairman, secretary by vote of the membership. Also if they do the job successfully there are some who accuse them of becoming dictatorial!

In the kite world we have been brought into one umbrella organisation by the efforts of dedicated people. I would hope that any proposals for the formation of a representative body would not interfere with the running of the Kite Society as we know it.

I would welcome the idea of a committee formed by representatives of local groups. Whether the Kite Society would be bound to act on the recommendations of that committee is one of the questions to be resolved.

Derek Kuhn:- Following the suggestions published in the last issue of The Kiteflier, I would like to identify myself with the ideas put forward. I believe, however, that there is a need for more discussion before there is enough support to get the whole thing off the ground. I also believe that the Convention is not the right place for a meeting to take place. Firstly, it should be central to the country. Secondly, it should take place towards the end of the year. Thirdly, Jon and Gill Bloom are a vital part of this process, and I feel it is unreasonable to expect them to organise a Convention, a major International Kite Festival and give their whole attention to the subject.

I am prepared to organise a meeting point in the Midlands area, to provide accommodation and space to allow this "Committee" (hate the word - give it another name) space to function. I would do this as a Kite Friend, not secretary of the Midland Kite Fliers. I feel that this is worth doing, but it must be done properly and sensitively. It is difficult to keep an initiative of this sort alive if the time is not right for it. It must have

A NATIONAL COMMITTEE

clearly stated Aims and Objectives else we will all have different expectations, and will be disappointed when they are not met.

We must be realistic about the outcome, even to the point of admitting that the only conclusion from the first committee meeting is that the committee has no place in British kiting today.

Peter Metcalf:- At present we have a national kite society, a number of local organised groups and a large number of people not connected with one or the other. What do we need?

- 1) to recognise the Kite Society of Great Britain as the Kite Society of Great Britain.
- 2) to have all the local groups affiliated to the K.S.G.B. with them encouraging their members to join the K.S.G.B. with possibly a discount on their membership fees if they do.
- 3) a commitment by the local groups, and all members to keep the K.S.G.B. informed of all activities taking place for inclusion in The Kiteflier.

I do not feel that we need to form a National Federation as we already have the K.S.G.B., nor do we, at present, need a National Committee made up of local representatives.

What we do need is to look to the future.

The local groups will take care of themselves as most have their own organisers/committees. But what of the Kite Society of Great Britain?

This has been run most successfully by Gill and Jon for over ten years. They have spent much time, effort and money in keeping the club going, but how long can they keep this up 'single handed'? What would happen if they could not continue to do this? Who would take it over? How would continuity be provided?

I suggest that a committee be formed of 6 - 8 members, to include Gill and Jon, with a brief to produce a report 'Kiting in the 90's and Beyond.' to be presented to the members for acceptance/amendment. The committee should assess the future of the club, taking into account the views expressed following Adam's letter in the last Kiteflier. A national club of the size of the K.S.G.B. should have a declared set of aims, a constitution, a governing body, audited accounts and an A.G.M. The latter could be held in conjunction with the convention.

Rena Souten:- I agree that a meeting should be held to debate the whole idea of organising ourselves. Such a meeting should be held in the middle of the country or in conjunction with a large festival.

Not all committed kitefliers will be able to be at Weymouth, many have

A NATIONAL COMMITTEE

other commitments. Many kitefliers have other hobbies in which they take an active part so, although they might like to attend most festivals they have to limit themselves because of time and/or funds. I think a date and a venue should be announced soon so that those interested can get on with the job.

Graham Holdstock:- I think you are right about a National Committee. There will inevitably be differences of opinion which will lead to splinter groups or even outright rivalry. All of which flies in the face of all that kiteflying is.

Paul Chapman:- I believe in the statement 'if it works ok then leave it running'. This has worked up to now for the Kite Society. However, there are concerns about the way it works and some of these are being raised via the Society's newsletter. While I support the work being done it is worth looking at the pro's and con's.

The positive attributes of the Kite Society:- Long established and well respected. It has contact, if sometimes tenuous, with all the National groups. It can act as a focal group for that movement. Membership is cheap and provides an efficient means of regular communication. Members are offered discount at the kite shops. The kite shops are encouraged by the Society to support us. It provides a focus for our activities through the convention, festivals and other events. It is run by people committed to our activity and who have a proven track record. It has succeeded in the face of the past failure of both the European Kite Association and the British Kite Fliers Association.

On the other side the visible issues and other unspoken views:- It acts a benign dictatorship. There is no National Committee and there should be one. This is, I suspect, the big question. We should bear in mind that every member has the freedom to make themselves heard. I suggest that a session be set up at each convention for an AGM.

A National Committee is fine in principle but subject to fragmentation. Do we have people with the time, money and commitment to hold regular meetings.

Is there scope for a British version of American Kite/ Drachen Magazin/ Kitelines as a glossy magazine. They certainly exist and are not published just for Society membership but on the basis of commercial profit.

The Kiteflier is the newsletter of the Kite Society. This makes it different from the other glossy magazines although it does appear for sale in the shops. The newsletter depends upon on the membership to provide the material.

To summarise. We need the Kite Society as a means of communication. We might support a UK glossy magazine. We will support and attend festivals on the basis of mutual interest. We need a forum for letting off steam.



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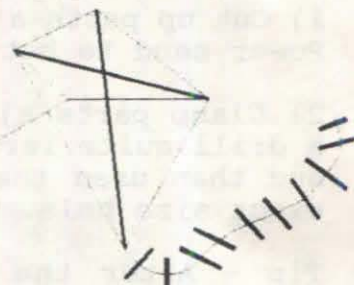
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TWO LINE REEL by PAUL CHAPMAN

This is the list of materials:-

- a) 3 x 25.0cm of 4.3 x 1.3cm (1.75 x 0.5 inch) whitewood
 - b) 2 x 11.5cm of 9mm (3/8 inch) dowel
 - c) 1 x 11.5cm of 9mm alloy tube with 8mm internal diameter
 - d) 2 x 6.5cm of 10mm fibreglass tube
 - e) 2 x 13.5cm of 8mm fibreglass tube
 - f) 1 x 27.5cm of 6mm fibreglass tube
 - g) 2 x black end caps for 8mm tube
- Plus PVA glue and varnish

All of these are easy to come by. Improvise if necessary and improve where it suites you. Use old broken spars if available.

1) Cut up parts a). Clamp together and roughly plane end corners to shape. Power sand to better shape and then carefully finish by hand sanding.

2) Clamp parts a) in drill stand and drill out 9mm holes. I did not have a drill quite large enough so I used a rat tail file to open up the holes and then used the 9mm alloy tube c) mounted in the vice to ream out the exact size hole. This way is easy and results in a very neat job.

Tip - After the first hole is drilled, you can jig up the pieces by inserting a pencil into the just drilled hole.

3) Rough cut dowel to length.

4) Slightly crimp the alloy tube in the middle. This will make the 8mm rods a tight push fit later on.

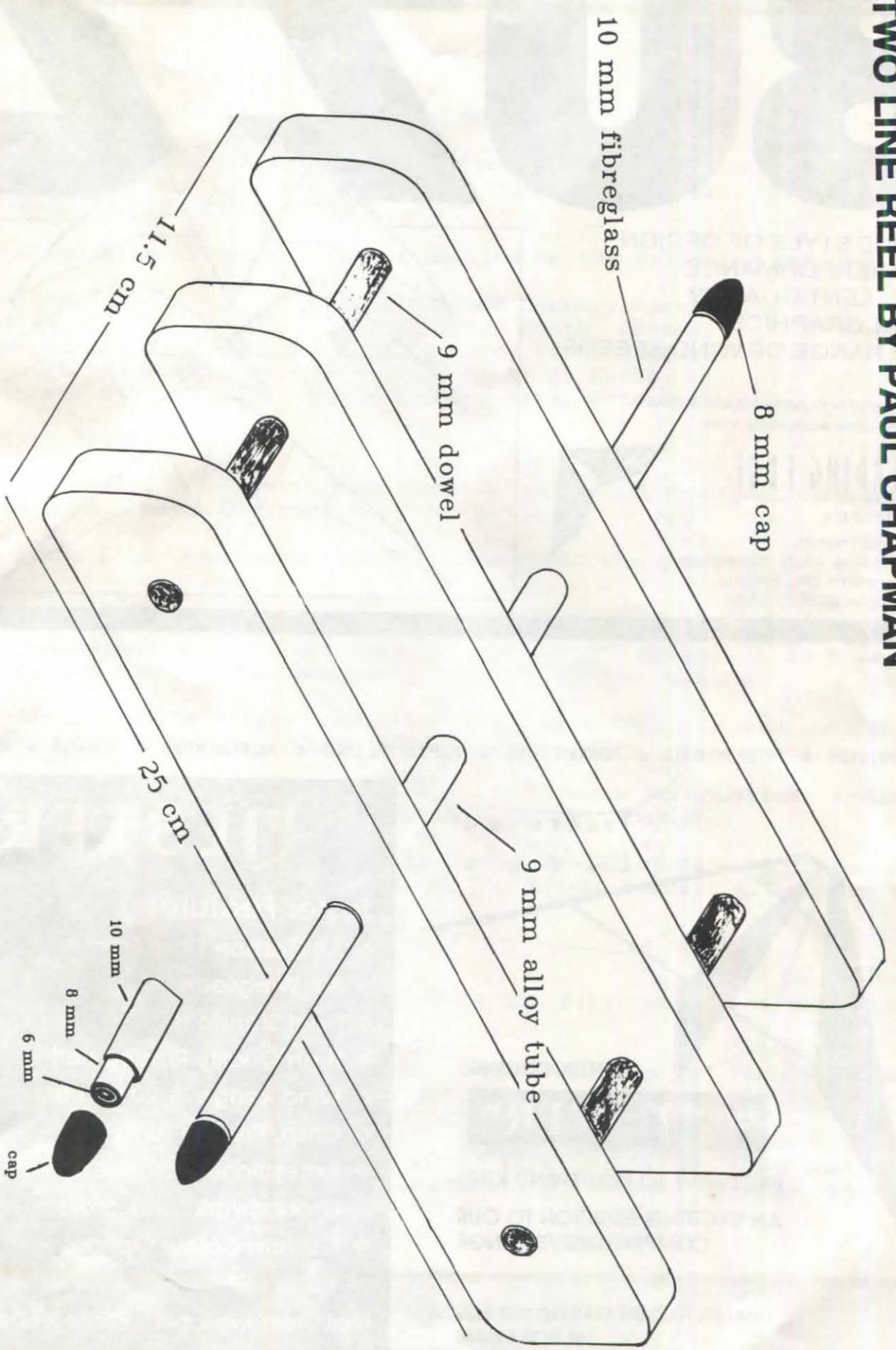
5) Fit and glue dowels and alloy tube in place. When dry, plane off the ends of the dowel flush with the reel sides and file down the tube to be flush also. Finish sanding.

6) Varnish and paint as desired.

7) Slip 6mm rod into alloy tube. Slip the 8mm tubes over this on each side of the reel and secure (jam) into the alloy tube. The 10mm tubes slip over the 8mm and act as freely rotating handles. The 8/6mm tube assembly should extend beyond the 10mm handles to allow for fitting of the end cap which acts to secure the handles in place. Allow about 1mm movement.

The connectors that I use for connecting the flying line to the kite are oval screw karribeners. These neatly slip over the alloy tube of the reel and then act to slightly tension the line when winding up. They came from my local outdoors shop in Taunton. They are stamped up Mallion Rapide, swl 250KG, No.7, Zioral, France. These 250 Kg capacity (550lb) connectors cost about £1.90 each and weigh almost nothing.

TWO LINE REEL BY PAUL CHAPMAN



BUZZ

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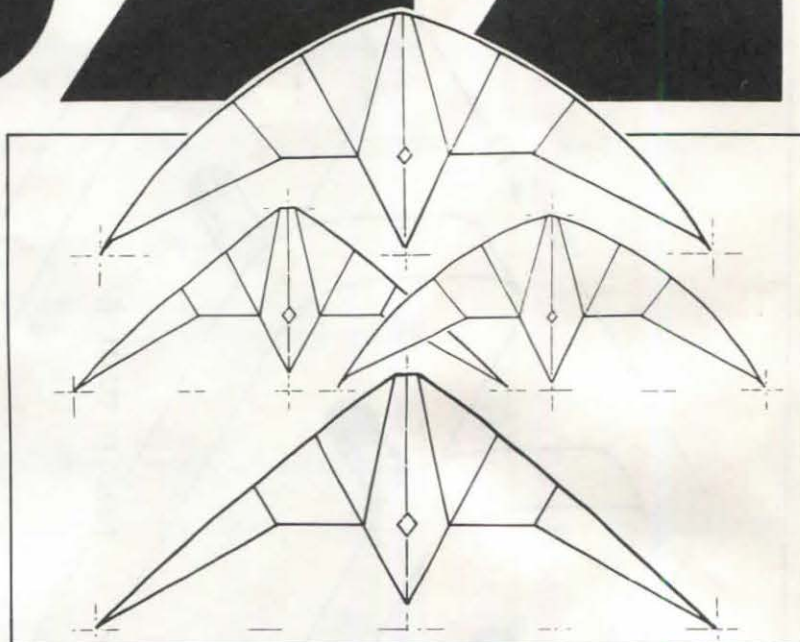
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THE WEYMOUTH EVENT

The Kite Society of Great Britain 1991 Convention will be taking place in Weymouth, Dorset on Saturday May 4th prior to the Weymouth International Kite Festival which takes place on Sunday May 5th and Monday May 6th. There will be many International kitefliers at Weymouth attending from Europe, U.S.A. and the U.K. Prior to the festival an exhibition of kites is being held at the Brewers Quay, Weymouth.

SATURDAY 4TH MAY - CONVENTION

The convention will be held in The Pavilion Complex which is located at one end of the beach at Weymouth. We will be using a number of the rooms available for both workshops and talks.

The day will start at 10.00am and be split into a number of workshops and talks as follows. (The timetable is on the next page).

Doug Hagaman - (USA). Probably one of the best, if not the best, Parafoil builder in the world. This is an ideal opportunity to discover how to really bridle those parafoils. Doug's talk will be on "Bridling and Fine Tuning Parafoils", also safe launching and retrieval techniques.

Stan Swanson - (USA). A world renowned kite maker famous for his bird kites, especially his Condor Kite, also flying elephants!

Stan will give a talk on designing and constructing figure kites and we have been promised a brainstorming session with our own Martin Lester where the two experts will swop insults. (ideas?)

Jim Rowlands - one of our most loyal lecturers. Jim will once again be running Kite Workshops with two sessions planned for the day making simple plastic kites. If last years workshops are anything to go by participants will be able to produce a variety of kites including dragonflies, birds and elephants. Please note that there will be a small charge for materials.

Martyn Lawrence - One of The U.K.'s most talented kite makers. Especially known for his fighter kites. Martyn will be doing a kite workshop featuring how to make fighter and/or bird kites. Again there will be a small charge for materials.

Martin Lester - really needs no introduction. He is the U.K.'s most internationally renowned kite designer and maker and is famous for his flying legs, birds, space shuttles etc. Martin will be doing a talk on the basic design techniques for soft kites using, as an example, his Jumbo Jet Kite. He will run through design, construction details bridling etc etc. Martin will also be doing a double act with Stan Swanson where the two will host a question and answer session.

The Stack Workshop - lead by Andy King and anybody else he can rope in. This is for anything anybody wanted to ask about team stunt flying but where afraid to ask.

Peter Waldron - Peter, designer of The Waldorf Box and other cellular kites will talk on various aspects of Cellular kites including designing, construction techniques etc using, as examples, the Multicelled Tetrahedral and the Waldorf Box.

Running concurrently with these activities we will also have part of the Ocean Ballroom (within the Pavilion Complex) for use as a kite market. Various kite traders will be selling a wide range of goods. At the same time we are going to have a "swop shop" section for kitefliers to bring along kite related articles for selling or exchanging. There will be no charge for this "swop shop".

Attendees registering in advance will have the benefit of reserved car parking adjacent to The Pavilion Complex.1

The convention will end around 5.00pm in time for the evening events.

SATURDAY 4TH MAY - EVENING EVENTS

THE WEYMOUTH EVENT

The evening will start 8.30pm with the Convention Dinner and be followed by the Auction. The dinner will be a civic reception (the mayor is already booked) with other local dignitaries in attendance. The meal itself is a buffet style and will cost £7.00 per head. For children under 12 the cost is £3.50. There will be a paying bar available during the evening.

If required a vegetarian alternative to some of the items will be available.

The auction, to which all are invited free of charge, will take place after the dinner, at around 10.00pm. We have taken a close look at last years events and have decided that the format will change so that we do achieve some time for socialising rather than spend the whole evening on the auction.

Which of course naturally leads to the request for auction items to be sent, or notified, to us as soon as possible.

INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL

The festival is being held on the beach at Weymouth, the two days of the festival have the lowest tides of the year so we have the maximum amount of beach available. Free car parking for registered kite fliers will be available in the Pavilion car park or there is limited car parking available along the Esplanade.

There are two main arenas, one has been set aside for single line kites and the second for stunt kites. In addition, of course, we have the rest of the beach. We will be setting aside areas of the beach for single and multi line kites.

Along the promenade will be the kite stalls offering kites and related items to both kite fliers and the general public. One other area will be set aside for the childrens workshop and flying area.

This event promises to be one of the premier events in the U.K. this year and has attracted a number of both American and European kitefliers including Doug Hagaman, Peter Malinski, Michel Gressier, Pierre Fabre, Stan Swanson, and, of course, there will be a good display of our own home grown talent including stunt teams, parachuting teddy bears etc, etc.

We also hope to run a number of competitions - the exact number has not yet been decided but will definitely include The Weymouth Rokkaku Challenge, A heat of the U.K. Rokkaku Challenge, both individual and team, and a beer lifting competition.

For the Sunday evening there are free tickets available for the kite fliers to hear the Yetties in concert in the Pavilion Theatre. This will be followed by illuminated night flying and fireworks.

ACCOMMODATION

There are a number of hotels and camping sites in the area. For details of these contact the Weymouth Tourist Information Centre, The Pavilion Complex, The Esplanade, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8ED, Tel. 0305 785747.

We have also arranged with the Weymouth Hotels & Catering Association for a number of hotels to offer a special package for the festival, all of the following list have a special rate of £15.00 B&B per person per night with facilities. You should contact them directly quoting the kite festival. The area code is 0305.

Atlanta Hotel	134 The Esplanade	776215	Concorde Hotel	131 The Esplanade	776900
Cumberland Hotel	95 The Esplanade	785644	Dughill Hotel	55 Dorchester Road	784282
Kimberley Hotel	6 Abbotsbury Road	782881	Kings Acre Hotel	140 The Esplanade	782534
Langham Hotel	130 The Esplanade	782530	New Salusas Hotel	22 Lenox Street	771903
Russell Hotel	135/138 The Esplanade	786059	Southbrook Hotel	13 Preston Road	832208
Sunningdale Hotel	52 Preston Road	832179	Westwey Hotel	62 Abbotsbury Road	784564

PLEASE USE THIS FORM TO REGISTER FOR BOTH THE CONVENTION AND THE KITE FESTIVAL.

Name. _____
Address. _____

Post Code. _____

DINNER/AUCTION

PLEASE GIVE THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE ATTENDING THE AUCTION DINNER. TICKETS COST £7.00 FOR ADULTS AND £3.50 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12.

Name. _____

IF YOU WISH TO DONATE ANY ITEMS TO THE AUCTION THEN PLEASE GIVE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEMS BELOW (OR ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER). PLEASE ALSO INDICATE IF THE ITEMS WILL BE SENT IN ADVANCE OR DELIVERED ON THE DAY.

GENERAL

PLEASE INDICATE THE NUMBER OF FREE TICKETS YOU REQUIRE FOR THE YETTIES CONCERT BEING HELD ON THE SUNDAY EVENING. _____

PLEASE INDICATE BELOW THE DAYS FOR WHICH A CAR PASS WILL BE REQUIRED.

4TH

5TH

6TH

Please return this form together with any payment to

THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
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ESSEX
IG1 1EU

Before the 30th April 1991. All cheques should be made payable to "The Kite Society Convention".

TIMETABLE

The Convention starts at 10.00am. There are two rooms in use and events in each of the rooms is as follows.

THE OCEAN ROOM:	10.00	S.T.A.C.K. Workshop.
	11.00	Pete Waldron
	12.00	Martin Lester
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.00	Stan Swanson
	15.00	Doug Hagaman
	16.00	Brainstorming Session

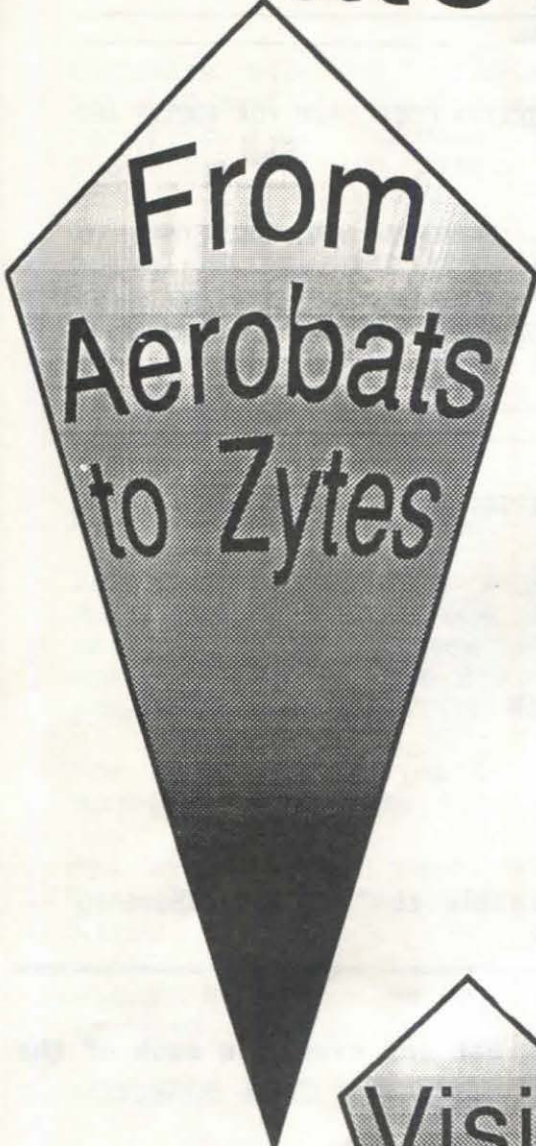
THEATRE STAGE:	10.00	Jim Rowlands Workshop
	11.30	Martyn Lawrence Workshop
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.00	Martyn Lawrence - Workshop session two
	15.30	Jim Rowlands - Workshop session two

Note that the afternoon workshop sessions will only take place if there is enough demand.

Videos of kite festivals, kite programmes etc. will be running throughout the day in the T.V. lounge.

The Convention closes in the Ocean Room at 5.00pm. Other rooms will be available to continue with general discussions.

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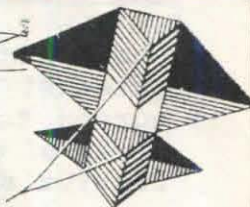
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Sat 13 July '91 Kite & Carnival Day Petworth Park West Sussex

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You are needed at Petworth for our 11th Kite Day. Please note it's on a Saturday not Sunday this year, to tie in with a Carnival (raising money for a new Petworth swimming pool.) There will be decorated floats & an arena with motorcycle & Karate displays & sports. Don't be put off by all this. Kites are still the big attraction, so please come as you always do & amaze, amuse & impress the Petworthians.

Free entry for everyone before 10am. If you want a pass for later, or if you want to sell kites please contact me.

Joanna Mersey · 1 Rosmead Rd. London W11 2JG.

ROKKAKU CHALLENGE - 1991

Many of our newer members have asked us for more details regarding the Rokkaku Challenge which takes place each year. So we have outlined some brief details below, and have included a Rokkaku Plan in the hope that more people will be encouraged to take part in this fun event.

Brief History

The rokkaku kite is indigenous to the Shirone City in Japan. Local Kite makers produce big rokkaku kites specifically for the battles but smaller kites, which are much more elaborate with traditional paintings on them, are also produced within the region. The fighting kites can trace their history back 300 years but the 8 foot high rokkaku kites are only 100 years old and are referred to as Sanjo Rokkaku. The Japanese Rokkaku is flown with a team consisting of 4-5 men and during the fighting there can be between 30 and 50 kites in the sky at any one time.

The Challenge

The Rokkaku Challenge was proposed by Martin Lester to raise the level of interest in this form of kite flying and The Kite Society of Great Britain agreed to co-ordinate the challenge. The idea was to have a Grand Prix style of contest with seven or eight challenges being held at selected kite festivals around Britain.

Every entrant must attend a minimum of two festivals. Each festival will have three fights and the highest aggregate score will be the winner. The best score from any two festivals will be used to determine the British winner.

The idea of the fight is to make the opposing kites touch the ground either by cutting the flying line or bridles or by knocking them out of the sky.

The Rules

The procedure for each round is as follows:-

The teams spread across the arena and upon a signal launch the kites. There will be a pause after which a signal will be given to fight. As soon as any kite touches the ground it is out of the competition. No catching of the kites is allowed and no intentional physical contact between teams is permitted. There is a 20 minutes time limit on each round. In the event of a tie the number of cut downs count over knockdowns.

Points will be awarded for each round as follows:-

- 1st place - 6 points
- 2nd place - 4 points
- 3rd place - 3 points
- 4th place - 2 points
- 5th place - 1 point

ROKKAKU CHALLENGE - 1991

There are two competitions running concurrently. One for teams and one for individuals. The main difference between these fights is the size of the kites. For the individual competition the kites must not exceed 1.5 metres in height whereas for the team event the minimum height is 2 metres.

The main trophy will be awarded to the team or individual with the highest points total resulting from the various rounds of the competitions. There is a second trophy which will be awarded to the team or individual that impresses the judges most with their appearance, artistry, team spirit, entertainment value etc.

Also thanks to the generosity of Pat and Ron Dell of Kiteability each team heat winner will receive a trophy.

Locations

Rokkaku Challenges remain to be held at the following major kite festivals in 1991.

Weymouth International Kite Festival, 5th and 6th May.

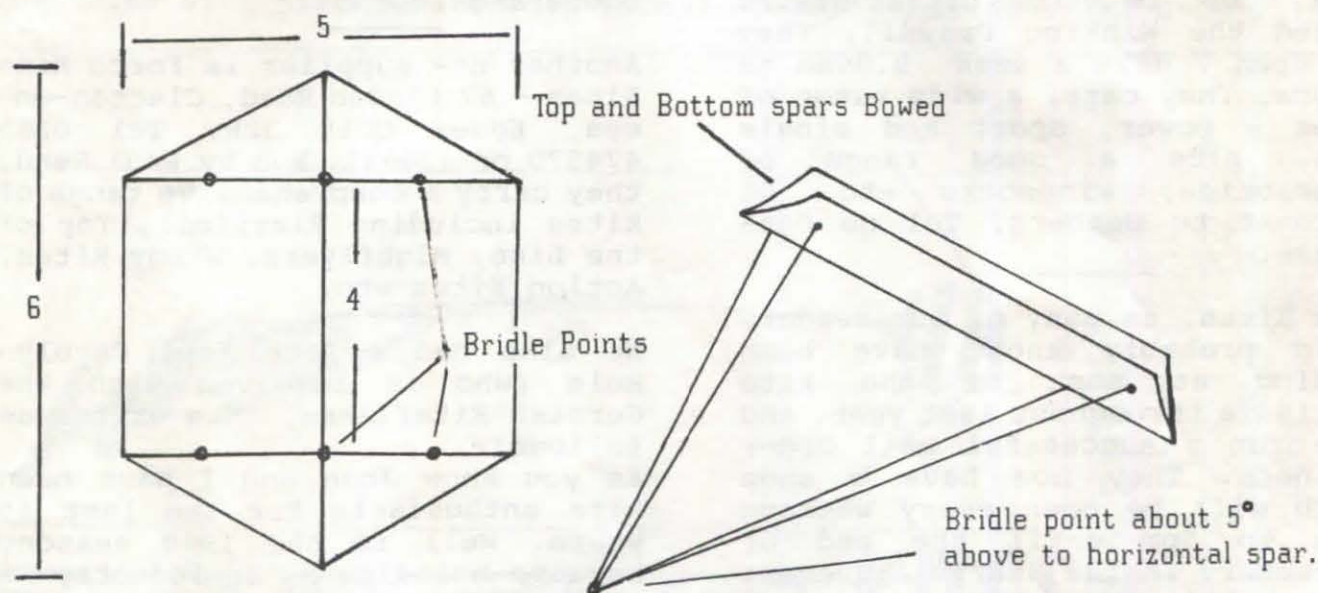
Birmingham International Kite Festival, 1st and 2nd June.

Blackheath Summer Rally, 30th June.

Washington Festival of the Air, 6th and 7th July.

Shrewsbury Kite Festival, 6th and 7th July.

Bristol International Kite Festival, 7th and 8th September.



Unit Measurements

GENERAL INTEREST

Some new kite retailers have appeared since the last issue.

First is a shop called Hifliers Kites (no connection with the Polzeath kite shop) run by John Hardwick - 6 The Wynd Arcade, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3BL. Tel 0462 684207. Opening times 9.00 to 5.30 Monday to Saturday. They carry a good range of sports and single line kites. Discount available to Kite Society members.

In the same area Chris Woods is in the process of setting up a Dunstable Kite shop (they trade from a market stall at present). No details of Shop address as yet but Chris can be contacted on 0582 666222 for any enquiries.

Another new kite shop has been opened by Kane Clarke in North Sands, Salcombe, Devon. Called Kites International Salcombe, (the kite shop is half of a Bistro called the Winking Prawn!). They are open 7 days a week 9.00am to 6.00pm. They carry a wide range of kites - power, sport and single line, plus a good range of accessories, windsocks etc. 5% discount to members. Tel no 0548 842326.

Apex Kites, as many of our readers would probably know, have been trading at most of the kite festivals throughout last year, and have run a successful mail order business. They now have a shop which will be open every weekend 11am to 5pm until the end of September. Inside Smarts Amusement Park, Littlehampton, Sussex.

Mail order is still available from Apex Kites at PO Box 188, Crawley, Sussex RH10 1GF. Tel 0293 532137.

High Fliers, The Kite Site now have a new shop. A 13th century Barn with resident ghost! The new shop is open seven days a week during the summer from 9.30 to 6.00pm. The address - The Kite Site, The Mowhay, Trebetherick, near Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6SE. Tel no 0208 862567.

They also now have another shop in The Armada Shopping Centre, Plymouth. Telephone number for that shop is 0752 250028.

Enclosed with the magazine is an insert from Flightline, suppliers of boomerangs and other flying objects. They have kindly said that they will give a 5% discount to Kite Society members.

They would also like to hear from any suppliers of kites, or other flying objects in order to complement their range of boomerangs.

Another new supplier is Force Nine Kites - 67 London Road, Clacton-on-sea, Essex CO15 3SR. Tel 0255 474370 or 420043. Run by Paul Read, they carry a comprehensive range of kites including Flexifoil, Top of the Line, Highflyers, Windy Kites, Action Kites etc.

We also had a note from Carolyn Rule (who is involved with the Cornish Kitefliers). She writes as follows:-

As you know John and I have been kite enthusiasts for the last 15 years. Well in the 1990 season because building as an industry is suffering a recession we opened up a kite workshop in our builders yard. You may know that we have been selling kites for about 10 years as 'Cornish Kites' but mainly

GENERAL INTEREST

through mail order, so the shop was a new venture, which went really well. We make our own range of traditional kite designs, as before, and also stock kites from other people as well. If any kite flying friends get to Cornwall on their holidays we would love to see them, and will, along with most shops, allow 5% discount on items to Kite Society members. The shop address is Tremain, Meaver, Mullion, Cornwall.

Also Paul Morgan of Morgan Kites will shortly be setting up a shop in Shrewsbury. Rumoured to be going to be called SkyBums! When we spoke to Paul at Easter the shop opening was said to be imminent. So contact Paul on 0743 368516 for further details.

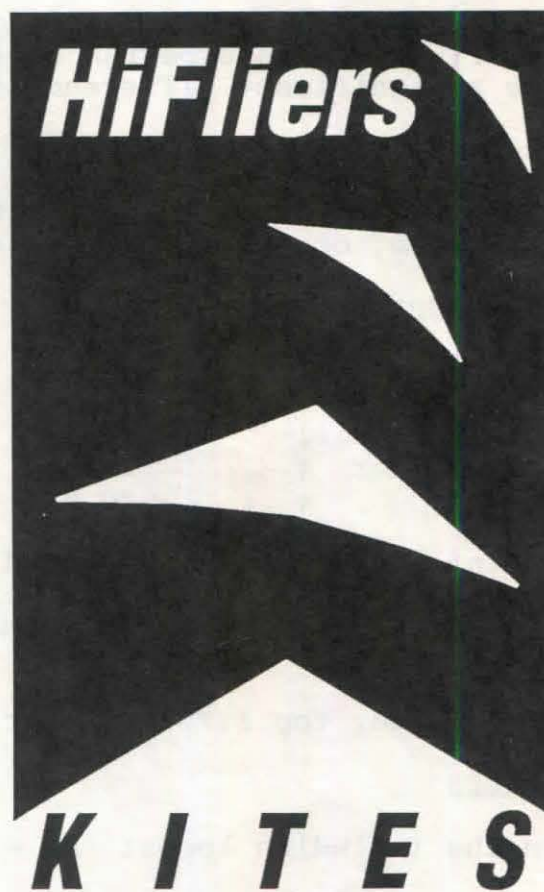
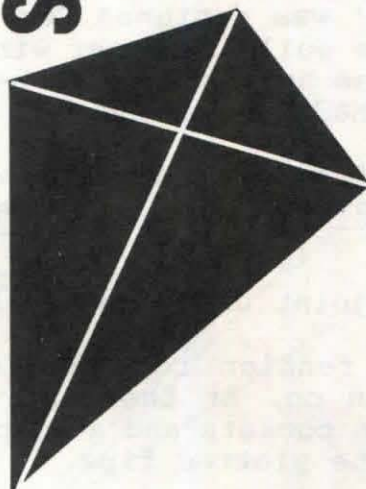
OTHER BITS AND BOBS

Paul and Helen Morgan are also in the process of writing a kite book, which they say will have a great deal of colour pictures and a few (6 ?) kite designs, due out in the autumn it will cost around £11.00.

Ron Moulton is also writing another kite book, this time reflecting present trends it will be a comprehensive survey of Stunt kites.

Talking of Stunt kites, Mark Cottrell of the Kite Store has produced another fine book, this time on swept wing stunt kites. The book details most of the design and aerodynamic features needed to make your own stunt kite, as well as containing plans for such kites as the Liteflite, and Mabel, definitely this book is a must for DIY Stunt flyers, available from the Kite Store - 071 836 1666.

STUNT KITES FUN KITES



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NOW OPEN

HORNET by CHRIS PODBURY

The 'Hornet' was designed for 'fun flying' in winds of force 3-6 without the enormous pull of larger wings. It makes best use of 5/16" or 8mm Ramin Dowels. These have proved to be suitable for a stunter of this size and we have never had a breakage in flight (yet!).

The only fibreglass used is the spine from 6mm white tubing. The leading edges and spine are in full length pockets. The nose has seat belt webbing sewn on.

Tubing for joint units should be thick wall or reinforced.

To provide tension for the leading edge and spine we use 5/16" black elastic sewn on. At the wing tips the elastic can be hidden inside the leading edge pockets and a loop of braided nylon line connects the elastic loop with the slotted tips.

The bridle marks are a starting point as each kite will vary slightly and test flying by an experience flyer is desirable. Just 1/8" adjustment can make a significant difference to the handling of the kite.

120lb breaking strain nylon or Spectra is quite adequate for these kites.

I have flown three 'Hornets' stacked very successfully using 5 x 4ft foot link lines, one at each joint unit, and 200 lb breaking strain line.

HORNET SPECIFICATION

SPREADERS

Lower Spreader:	45.75"
Top Spreader :	14"
Spine :	20.5"

Leading Edges: 45.75" slotted at tips to accept wing tip tension loops

5/16" Elastic tension loops cut 2 x 4" for centre section and 2 x 3" for tips.

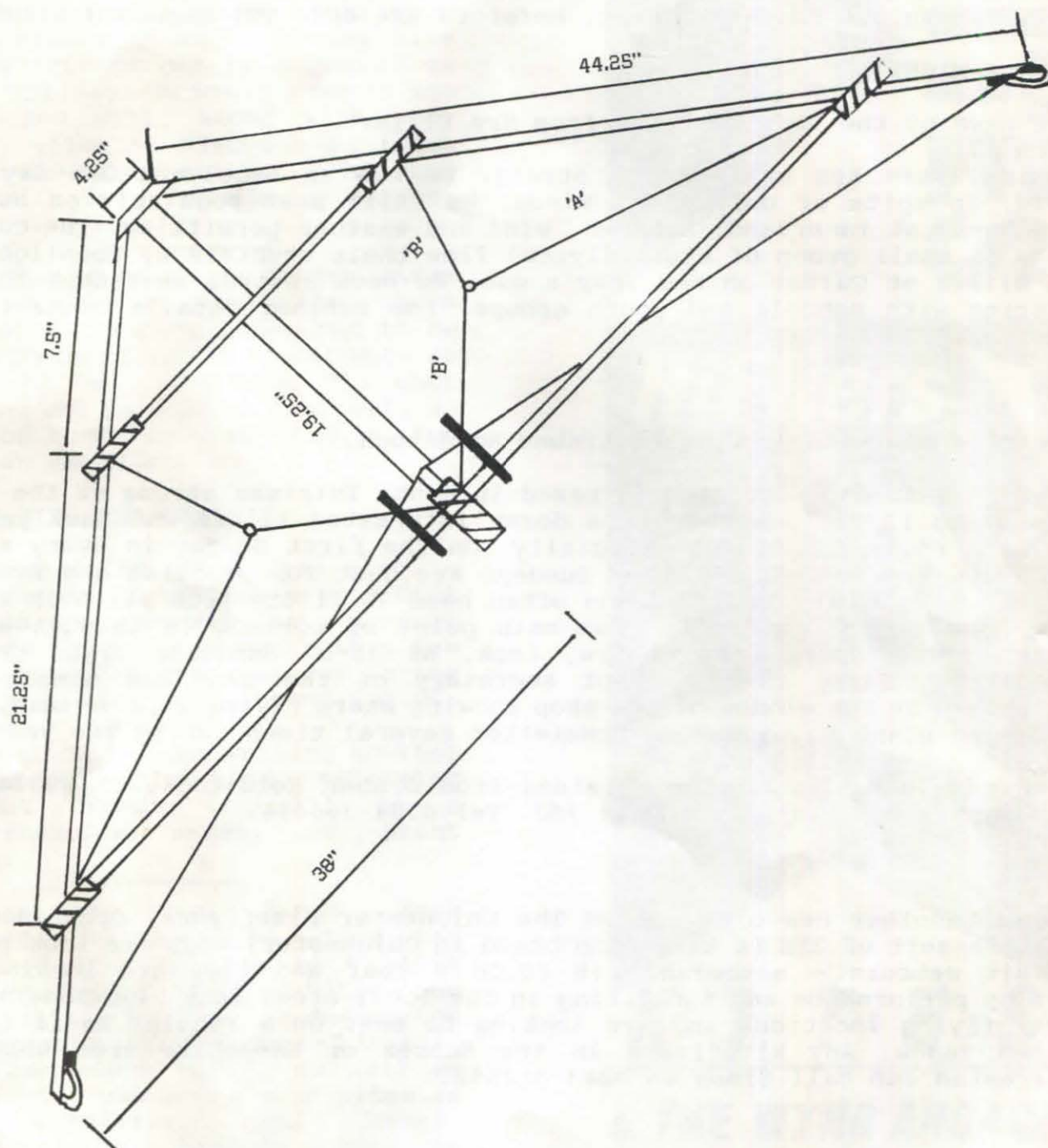
Joint Units: Top 1.75" Lower 2.25" Centre 1.5"

BRIDLES

Lengths including loops: 'A' = 18.5"; B = 33"

Mark 'B' at 15.25" from top with indelible pen as starting point for flight adjustments. This mark should just appear above the swivel when the kite is assembled for flight.

The bridles are made from 120 BS braided nylon.



GROUP NEWS

HEREFORD

Anybody interested in forming a kite group in and around the Hereford area - perhaps even with a view to forming a stunt kite team? If so contact Steve Gibson, 91 Baysham Street, Hereford HR4 0EJ. Tel Hereford 59999.

ISLE OF WIGHT

More news of the Vectis Flyers from Mrs Ellis.

Vectis Flyers are still going strong. We had an excellent One Sky One World, in spite of only light winds. We still meet regularly on Sunday afternoons at Yanerland, Sandown, wind and weather permitting. The Culver Clots (a small group of stunt flyers) flew their stunts by moonlight on the cliffs at Culver on New Year's eve. We have several workshops in the offering with schools and youth groups. For further details contact Mrs Ellis on 402871.

KENT

News of a new kite group from Graham Holdstock.

The Highly Strung Kite Club is based in Kent. Thirteen strong at the time of writing (2/2/91) with over a dozen interested fliers who have yet to cough up £5.00 to join us officially. On the first Sunday in every month we hold a special meet - other Sundays are just for practise and fun. We try to stage a mini festival and often have 30 fliers from all over Kent, some from London and Essex. Our main point of contact is through Barry James at his Sport Kite Centre, Look, at 35-37 Sandgate High Street, Folkestone. Barry is the event secretary of the club and displays a chalkboard in the window of the shop showing where flying will be held. The club also plans to produce a newsletter several times during the year.

Further information can be obtained from Graham Holdstock, 17 Wellesley Avenue, Walmer, Deal, Kent CT14 7SJ. Tel 0304 366404.

SUSSEX

News of another new club called The Chichester Kiteflyers. Organised by Simon Bassett of 2XS (a kite shop based in Chichester) they are looking to recruit members - membership is £5.00 a year and they are looking to develop performance and fun kiting in the local area. They have some great local flying locations and are looking to meet on a regular basis at an agreed venue. Any kiteflyers in the Sussex or Hampshire area who are interested can call Simon on 0243 512552.

DEVON

The Devon Kitefliers have undergone some restructuring and John Skinner has now been appointed as contact. The name of the Group has been changed to

GROUP NEWS

the Devon Kite Friends and the meeting dates have been rearranged from those published in the January Kiteflier. Flyins will be on the second Sunday of every month and from April to September inclusive they also fly on the fourth Sunday of the month.

The flying site remains the same 4 miles east of Tavistock on the B3357 Princetown Road. They look forward to seeing kiting friends old and new in the future. Contact John Skinner, 12 Oak Road, Bishopsmead, Tavistock, Devon PL19 9EZ. Tel 0822 616196.

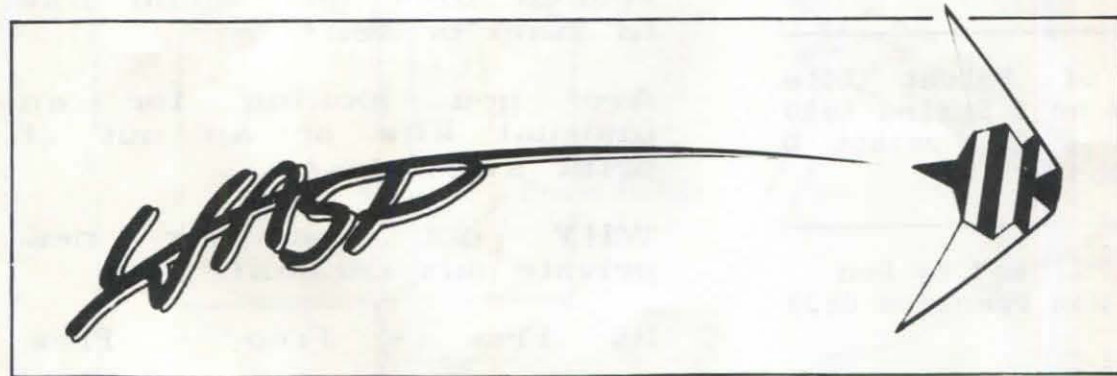
ABERDEEN

More news of the Aberdeen Kite Flyers from the secretary, Garry Clarke.

The Aberdeen Kite Flyers now meet on a regular basis, the second Sunday of the month on the Bridge of Dee of the Queens links or, if the tide is out, across the road on the beach. As I have mentioned before there is no membership fee etc as we a small group (at the moment) and get together once a month to have some fun. We welcome single and dual line kites with the emphasis on people being responsible for the kite they're flying not interfering with any one else.

CUMBRIA

Ms Jenny Harris, based in Kendal, Cumbria, is looking for any other kindred spirits in the area to get together to fly kites together. She can be contacted at 2 Birchwood Close, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5BJ. Tel 0539 731977.



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PRIVATE ADS

Wilf Proctor, who singlehandedly organises the annual mini-fest, "Kites, Kids, Kirkcudbright" now has the use of a town-centre property for two days during August, for kite sales. Can any dealer(s) supply him with a few kites on a sale or return basis, please? M.R.P. will be adhered to and unsold goods returned by end of August.

He also needs to purchase 20m x 1m (or equivalent) of white or brightly coloured Tyvek for childrens' workshop session.

Please contact Wilf at Grange Farm House, Kirkcudbright, DG 4XG or phone 0557 30552.

For sale: 12 ft Cody War Kite, complete with radio controlled motor drive Ricoh Camera. Price £100. Contact M. Clack 02357 67950.

For sale: 10ft (black) flexifoil, as new condition. Price £60.00. Contact D. Webster 0703 860255.

Wanted: copies of "Stunt Kite Quarterly", Vol.2 no 2 Spring 1990 and Vol. 1 No 1 & 2. Contact D. Webster 0703 860255.

Wanted: The book "Kites" by Ron Moulton. Contact Ron Prentice 0823 432734.

For sale: Morgan Kites Multisled 7, Pink, Yellow, Blue - excellent condition - £28.00 inc P&P.

Windy Kites Paddle Steamer Spinning

Box - Pink, Yellow, Blue - excellent condition - £25.00 inc P&P.

Windy Kites Cody - Pink - excellent condition - £28.00 inc P&P.

250lb Pink Spectra line (2 x 150 foot) - unused - requires sleeving - £12.50 inc P&P.

Contact N. Bence 0272 616343 Mon - Thurs after 6pm.



NEW

PRIVATE ADS

Have you a kite or kite related item you would like to swop or sell?

Are you looking for an unusual kite or an out of print kite book?

WHY not use our new private ads column?

It's Free - Free - Free.

Just send your copy to the editorial address. Deadline for the July issue 15th June.

EVENT NEWS

AERIAL EXTRAVAGANZA - A FAMILY KITE FLYING DAY - JULY 7TH 1991.

This summer Sheffield will be hosting a four week Cultural Festival. As part of the programme an Aerial Extravaganza is taking place in Concord Park, Sheffield from 12.00 noon on July 7th. A kite making workshop for children will be running on the day and the organisers are hoping to encourage as many kite enthusiasts as possible to attend. Within the days activities they are hoping to include an aerobatic display and a hot air balloon.

If you are interested in providing a display or just require further information contact: Pauline Eveleigh, Festival Office, 4th floor, Heriot House, Sheffield S1 1WB. Telephone 0742 533491.

KITE FLYING IN THE ANDES?

Well not quite - but something that promises to be slightly different is an Andean Festival being held at Badsell Park Farm, Matfield, Kent on Saturday 15th June. Along with a host of Andean activities there will be kite workshops and flying displays. For further information contact Janice Gurst Wine on 0892 832232.

SHREWSBURY KITE, BOOMERANG AND MODEL FESTIVAL - JULY 6TH AND 7TH

Tony Slater has sent us the following.

The format will be very much the same as before with the emphasis on informality. The only organised (ha! ha!) events will be three fights in the individual and team rokkaku challenge and the highly successful can clobbering contest.

This year we are making both days public, so we hope there will be more of the general public coming to see us on the Saturday than in previous years. This is our eighth year and again the local council is making the field and pavilion facilities available to us. To those of you who haven't been to Shrewsbury before, the area is 42 acres of flat field with camping and caravan areas, with permanent flush toilets and hot and cold showers in the pavilion. For those who don't wish to be adventurous there are plenty of B&B places nearby.

The area is divided up into three sections so that the model aircraft and buggy racing people don't encroach on our flying area. Following last years very popular international boomerang event in the other field we are doing a repeat performance and there will be a lot of foreign throwers and some world champions attending. So it will be a good opportunity to perhaps mix interests. Last year a couple of the boomerang throwers had a go at the can clobbering contest and did surprisingly well.

As always trade stands are most welcome; please check with me beforehand. The charges are the same as last years for stands £5.00 per day or £10.00

EVENT NEWS

for the weekend. Camping is £2.00 per unit per night. Fees will be collected on the field. The field will be open from Friday midday to Monday midday for those with long journeys.

One added attraction this year is that a full English breakfast will be served in the pavilion on Sunday morning 7.00am to 9.00am. This has been laid on by the groundsman's wife Doreen. The charge is £2.50 per head and please book in advance. Teas, coffees and light snacks will be available throughout the weekend from the same source.

For breakfast tickets, please make cheques payable to me, Tony Slater, a SAE would be appreciated. Any other information that you need - maps, B&B lists etc. - contact Tony Slater, 128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 4JY. Telephone 0743 235068.

HUDDERSFIELD FAMILY KITE DAY.

Huddersfield is once again holding a Family Kite Day. The event takes place at Salendine Nook School playing fields on July 21st. Anyone wanting directions should contact John Baker 0532 789727.

POOLE KITE FESTIVAL.

The recently formed Poole Kitefliers Club are organising a two day kite festival with the support of Poole Arts Centre. The dates are June 22nd and 23rd 1991 at Baiter Park on the North Side of Poole Harbour. There are quite a few camp sites in the vicinity and there is ample car parking on site. The usual kite stalls and refreshments will be available. Height clearance has been granted for 2000ft, and there will be a number of fun competitions. For more details contact Bob Clinch 2 Dales Drive, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 2JS tel wimborne 888828.

THAMESDOWN KITE FESTIVAL, 11TH, 12TH MAY, LYDIARD COUNTRY PARK, SWINDON.

This event is being organised by The White Horse Kiteflyers. David Robinson (one of the organisers) writes:-

The park has excellent camping facilities (camping 75p per person per night, caravans £3.00 per night). There are flush toilets and running water on site - it is advisable to book camping in advance (contact David). The park is very easy to reach being just 1 1/2 miles from junction 16 of the M4. If anybody would prefer B&B again contact David.

The Weekend will have several attractions for kiteflyers of all persuasions, including Martin Lester and Doug Hagaman. There will be childrens workshops, and a Rokkaku competition. There will be a barbecue/social on the Saturday evening for the campers and friends or anybody who would like to attend (there will be a charge for the barbecue, bring your own drink).

EVENT NEWS

A little bit about Lydiard Country Park - it has several attractions including a mansion house to visit, country walks and a great recreation area for children. Car parking for visitors to the festival is organised but another car park is marked out for the kiteflyers who can apply for a free car pass available in advance with a SAE from David (or see him at Old Warden or Weymouth).

Contact David Robinson, 61 Bridge End Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4PD.

EAST DURHAM INTERNATIONAL SPORT KITE COMPETITION.

The competition is for a two person Ballet, with the prize being two free flights and accommodation to visit a Malaysian kite festival. Also running at the same time will be a competition for team ballet and precision (experienced and open).

This event is being held at the Seaham Leisure Centre on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May. For further details and enrolment forms contact Adam Sutherland, Arts Development Officer, Council Offices, Seaside Lane, Easington, Peterlee, Co. Durham, SR8 3TN. Tel 091 527 0501 ext 2343. Fax 091 527 0076.

SEATON KITE FESTIVAL.

In the same area there will be a kite festival at Seaton on Sunday 9th June at Seaton Carew, nr Hartlepool, Cleveland. For further information contact Kay Henderson on 091 410 4723.

TWO EVENTS BEING ORGANISED BY RENE KUNG OF THE SWISS KITE SHOP.

The first is being held from the 12th to 19th of May at Sant Feliu de Guixols, Costa Brava, Spain.

This is billed as an International Kite Week. During the week there will be a series of kite workshops - mainly consisting of a stunt kite workshop and aerial photography workshops. The main kite festival will be held on May 18th and 19th. There is a set price for participants which includes entrance to the workshops, all accommodation and meals cost SWF610. Contact Marysol Reiseburo AG, Alpenstrasse, CH-6000 Luzern 6, Switzerland. Tel 0041 41 51 3831.

Also planned is the Swiss Kite Party from August 9th to 19th. This is part of the seven hundred years celebrations of Switzerland. The main flying location is at Lenzerheide - Valbella. Kiteflying on the top of the Alps during the week there are a series of workshops and sightseeing tours culminating in the International Kite Festival on Rigi Kulm where participants in the kite festival will have to travel by Europe's oldest cable car to reach the flying site!. There is an package on offer which

EVENT NEWS

includes B&B and various meals and banquets. The first class price is SWF1680 and standard arrangement is SWF980. Contact address is Swiss Kite Party, c/o der Spieler, Postfach 4104, Oberwil, Switzerland. Tel 061 401 5350. Fax 061 401 5352.

In conjunction with this event a kite building competition is being organised in which it is hoped the winners will be able to attend the Swiss Kite Party free of charge. They are asking entrants to send a sketch, drawing etc of their kite design to the above address by 30th April. The idea of the competition is to either reflect some aspects of the entrants tradition in kite making or something reflecting on Switzerland's 700 year birthday celebration.

BRISTOL KITE FESTIVAL.

For the Bristol Kite Festival a special deal has been arranged with the Moat House Hotel. The cost is £25.00 per person per night (including breakfast). If you are interested in booking a room then you should contact Martin Baker at The Bristol Kite Store by 30th May. This also applies if you want accommodation for the World Cup being held a week later.

For an accommodation list you should also contact The Bristol Kite Store. Address: 30 Cotham Hill Bristol, BS6 6JY. Telephone: 0272 745010.

The Bristol Kite Festival has all of the usual things; The Kite Store Open Team Competition; Rokkaku Challenge; Indian Fighters; and single line kites.

PLEASE NOTE. Due to changing circumstances with the Parks department of the Council camping is no longer allowed on site.

OOSTENDE KITE FESTIVAL - JULY 13TH AND 14TH.

This is the fifth year of this festival and will feature many things including the final part of the Belgian Championship "Stunt Kites" and attempt to break several kite records such as largest kite, longest kite etc. They expect around 250 kitefliers from across Europe to take part in the event. If you are interested write to DIDAKITES, L J Everaerd, Gistelsesteenweg 586, B-8400 Oostende, Belgium. Telephone 32 (0)59 50 27 45.

TEWKESBURY KITE FESTIVAL.

The Alcester Kite Fliers are holding a festival at the Tewkesbury School Sports Centre on Sunday June 16th starting at 10.30am. There is ample car parking, refreshments available and toilets on site. There will also be a number of trade stands. If you are interested contact the Alcester Kite Fliers, 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 5QY. Telephone 0789 762350.

LOOK

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EVENTS LIST

MAJOR KITE EVENTS - U.K.

May 4th	Kite Society of Great Britain Annual Convention Weymouth. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society.
May 5th, 6th	Weymouth International Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society.
May 11th, 12th	Swindon Kite Festival, Liddiard Country Park. <u>Contact</u> Dave Robinson.
May 11th, 12th	East Durham Sport Kite Competition. (See Event News).
May 18th, 19th	Brighton Kite Festival, Waterhall Playing Fields Patcham. <u>Contact</u> Roy Oakhill.
June 1st, 2nd	Birmingham International Kite Festival, Cofton Park, Birmingham. <u>Contact</u> Derek Kuhn.
June 9th	Seaham Kite Festival. (See Event News).
June 15th	Andean Festival, Kent. (See Event News).
June 16th	Tewkesbury Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Fred Taplin.
June 22nd, 23rd	Poole Kite Festival, Poole, Dorset. <u>Contact</u> Andy Nunn.
June 28th, 29th	The Kite Society National Stunt Kite Championships, Blackheath, London. <u>Contact</u> Tony Cartwright.
June 30th	Blackheath Summer Festival, Blackheath, London. <u>Contact</u> Tony Cartwright.
July 6th, 7th	Washington Festival of the Air, Tyne & Wear. <u>Contact</u> Malcolm Goodman.
July 6th, 7th	Shrewsbury Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Tony Slater.
July 7th	Aerial Extravaganza, Sheffield. (See Event News).
July 13th	Petworth Kite Day, Petworth. <u>Contact</u> Joanna Mersey.
July 21st	Huddersfield Family Kite Day. (See Event News).
August 4th	Middle Wallop Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Ron Moulton.
August 18th	Hengistbury Head, Bournemouth. <u>Contact</u> David Webster.
August 24th - 26th	Chelmsford Spectacular Kite Festival. (To be confirmed).
September 7th, 8th	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. <u>Contact</u> Avril Baker.
September 14th, 15th	World Cup Sport Kite Championships, Ashton Court, Bristol. <u>Contact</u> Tony Cartwright.
October 13th	Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade. <u>Contact</u> Ron Moulton.

MAJOR KITE EVENTS - EUROPE

May 4th, 5th	Ouest Dunkerke Kite Festival, Belgium.
May 12th - 19th	International Kite Week, Spain. (See Event News).
June 15th, 16th	Scheveningen International Kite Festival, Holland.
July 13th, 14th	Ostend Kite Festival, Belgium.
August 9th - 11th	Stolln, near Rhinow, Germany.
August 9th - 19th	Swiss Kite Festival. (See Event News).
August 31st/ September 1st	Montpellier Kite Festival. With the European Stunt Cup.
September 21st, 22nd	Berlin Kite Festival, Germany.
October 11th - 13th	Silvaplana Kite Festival, Switzerland.

EVENTS LIST

LOCAL EVENTS

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 Great Ouse Kitefliers have a meeting on the following dates:-

June 9th	Hinchbrook Country Park.
July 14th	Grafham Water South, Cambs.
December 8th	Priory Country Park, Bedford.
May 12th & August 11th	Riverside Park, St Neots.
September 8th	Nene Country Park, Peterborough.

Contact Bob Piron.

The Blackheath Kite Association meet on the second Sunday of each month at Blackheath, London. Contact Tony Cartwright.

The Essex Kite Group have meetings throughout the year.

Contact Kathleen Pike.

The Nomansland Kite Fliers meet on the fourth Sunday of each month at Nomansland Common, Wheathampstead. Contact Carole Peacock.

The Alcester Kite Fliers meet at the Alcester Rugby Ground on the third Sunday of each month. Contact Fred Taplin.

Kite North meet on the 1st Sunday of each month at locations around the North of England. Contact Adam Sutherland for location.

The Devon Kite Friends meet on the second Sunday of each month and during April to September they also meet on the fourth Sunday. All events are at Pork Hill, Mid Devon.

Contact John Skinner.

The Midland Kitefliers have fly-ins on the first Sunday of each month at Sutton Park. Contact Derek Kuhn.

The Thorpe Kite Flyers meet every Sunday morning on Thorpe Recreation Ground, Laundry Lane, Thorpe, Norwich between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Contact Kevin Appleton.

The Northampton Kite Fliers meet on the first Sunday of every month at The Race Course, St Georges Avenue, Northampton. Between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Contact I.C. Kites.

EVENTS LIST

The Aberdeen Kite Flyers meet on the second Sunday of each month at the Bridge of Dee . Contact Garry Clarke.

The Vectis Flyers meet every Sunday, weather permitting, at Yarland, Sandown, Isle of Wight. Contact Mrs Ellis.

The Highly Strung Kite Club meets on the first Sunday of each month. Contact Graham Holdstock.

There are a couple of events being held in Kent:-

August 10th, 11th - Teston Bridge, Maidstone.

August 31st, September 1st - Shorne Park, Gravesend.

Contact Ron Dell.

1991 Rokkaku Challenge Events

The 1991 Rokkaku challenge are still to take place at the following festivals:

Summer Blackheath
Birmingham

Shrewsbury
Weymouth

Washington
Bristol

CONTACT DETAILS

Tony Cartwright, 78 Dongola Road, London N17 6EE. 081 808 1280.
Avril Baker, 39 Cotham Hill, Bristol, BS6 6JY. 0272 745010.
Graham Holdstock, 17 Wellesby Avenue, Deal, Kent CT14 7SJ.
John Skinner, 12 Oak Road, Bishopsmead, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 9EZ.
Ron Gunther, 12 Glevum Close, Purton, Swindon SN5 9HA. 0793 770784
Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX.
Kathleen Pike, 34 Mortimer Road, Rayleigh, Essex.
Fred Taplin, 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warwickshire.
Tony Slater, 128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury. SY1 4JY.
The Kite Store, 48 Neal Street, London. 071 836 1666.
Derek Kuhn, 29 Bradbury Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8AE.
Ron Dell, 2 Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex 081 804 9080.
Carole Peacock, 61 Windmill Avenue, St Albans, Herts AL4 9SJ.
Bob Piron, 8 Bowhill, Bedford, MK41 8EF. 0234 261835.
Dave Robinson, 61 Bridge End Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon SN3 4PD.
Kevin Appleton, 37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ.
Ron Moulton, 2 Avenue Rise, Bushey, Watford, Herts, WD2 3AS.
Greg Locke, 53 New Road, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex BN4 6RB.
Andy Nunn, 30 Kinson Ave, Poole, Dorset, BH15 3PH. 0202 721150.
Joanna Mersey, 1 Rosmead Road, London W11 2JG.
David Webster, 16 Brackley Way, Hammonds Green, Totton SO4 3HN.
I.C. Kites, 12 Willow Close, Spratton, Northampton, NN6 8JH. 0604 843374.
Adam Sutherland, 20 Durham Place, Birtley, Tyne & Wear, DH3 2AY.

KITEABILITY

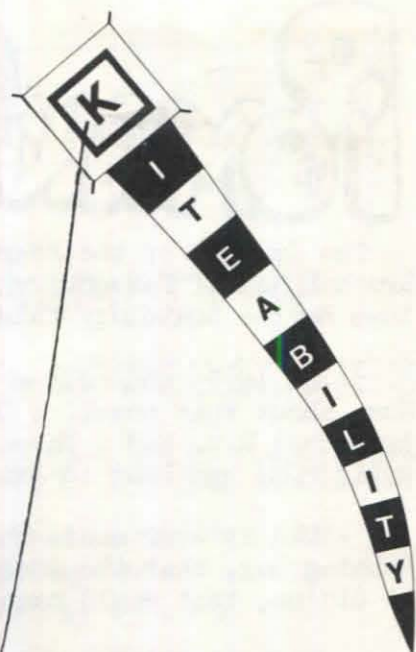
HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS

The spring has sprung,
The grass has ris,
The snow has gone away,
time to get your kites out
and all come out to play.

What's that I hear, a broken spar,
A sail you forgot to mend,
So a call to KITEABILITY
our list to you we'll send.

Lots of sticks and sticking bits
to fix your ailing kites,
We have the bits and pieces
to put your kite to rights.

Plus lots of colours of Ripstop,
and some flying line,
We will get you flying
in DOUBLE QUICK TIME.



2, Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP Tel: 081-804 9080

Proprietor : Mrs. P. Dell

ROMAN CANDLE 20.



THINKS,
NOW
Q8 IS 3
I WISH I'D
HAD 42
BMISS
DIVISIONS

The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brotherhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Guaranteed to have much less Bovine Scatology than a well known Big Time Loser, whose name escapes us just now.

Q8 is 3, and we are 10, well almost, in fact as near enough as makes no difference. Hows about that then?. A Decade of Mindless Drivel, Cant be bad. Alright, Alright, we know that R.C. had a Three Year No Show Period, but for all that, the fact remains that B.M.I.S.S. has been in existence for Ten Years.

Did it ever cross what passes for the BOF's Mind, when he started what was just a Running Gag, that the whole thing would still be going Ten Years later?. No, of course it didn't, that would have been asking for a Miricle or should that be a Miracle.

What is evident though, is that over the Ten Years, more and more People Worldwide are discovering the delights in dropping their Soft Cuddley Alter Ego's by Parachute from a Kite, with the added bonus, that maybe they can Liven up the Average Kite Fest at little risk to themselves. After all what Kite Fest Organiser in their right mind would Punch a Soft Cuddley on the Hooter, after the said Soft Cuddley and his Mates have just applied some Mayhem of a Parachuting Persuasion to a Festivals Piece de Resistance.

In the Ten Years of B.M.I.S.S. existance we have observed a slow but sure takeover of the Planet by our Legions, a takeover which is welcomed by all but the most Po Faced of Kitters, yes there are some out there who do not like Soft Cuddleys of whatever species, BOO...HISS...you know them, probably all weaned on Prunes and Vinegar, miserable sods..... still, never mind eh, the rest of us who have a soft spot for Soft Cuddleys will still go Ga, Ga, over our latest Parachuting aquisition, cradled lovingly in our Arms, whilst at Ground level a Mob of the Furry little Bar Stewards have cut the Legs off our trousers with Rambo type Knives, presumably to sell them to Martin Lester, and are busily engaged in Glueing our Kneecaps together with Honey, its all part of Life's Rich Tapestry.

So where does B.M.I.S.S. go from here apart from onwards, upwards and downwards at one and the same time ? Can we ever do better than what we are doing at the present ? After Ten Years, its probably safe to say that we are somewhat more than just a Flash in the Pan, the Pretentious out there would claim that we are a Subculture, whilst in all honesty we are a part of the Lunatic Fringe of what is arguably the greatest Pastime in the World. and long may we continue to be so...

We were so impressed by the Performance of Coco the Clown in the Gulf Conflict that we would like to make him a Member, however seeing as how he's the so called Head of something in a bit of a State we think he should be dropped from 10'000 ft sans a Chute. Funny enough when we give him a Bell, it appears as if his Phone is cut off.



HEY COCO, BMISS WERE SO IMPRESSED WITH YOUR ROUTINE, THEY WANT YOU FOR A MEMBER, YOU'LL GO DOWN A BOMB FROM 10'000' WITHOUT A CHUTE

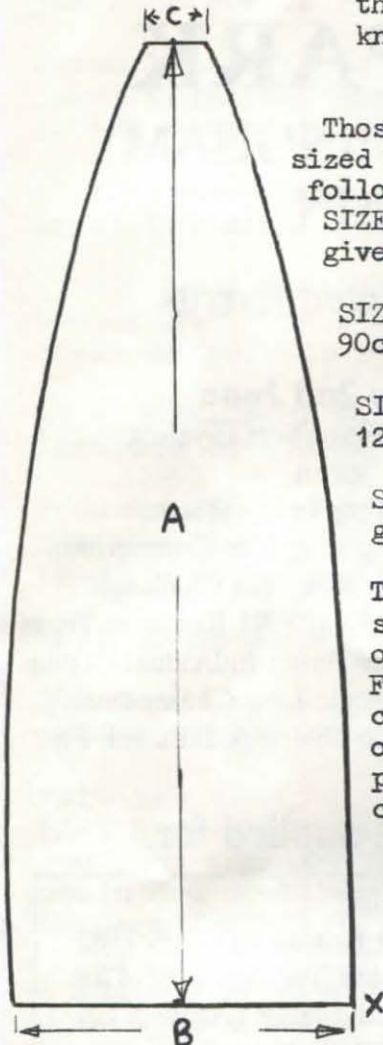
NOTA BOVINE SCATOLGIA FREE ZONE

BOVINE SCATOLGIA FREE ZONE



Dropnik Hampton sent some good information as to why some of our Members tend to drift a bit whilst descending. Its all to do with Chute Loading. Naturally enough different Members will drift differently on the same size Canopy, which does explain why Slangevar drifts further than Cottonbud though their Chutes are the same size.

For instance says Dropnik Hampton, Slangevar with a weight of 50oz and a Flat Dia of Chute of 51 sq in and a Chute area of 14.2 sq ft loads his Canopy at only 0.35 oz per sq ft of Canopy, whilst Flamethrower, our Welsh Dragon Member who has a weight of 88oz, a flat chute dia of 132 in and a flat chute area of 95 sq ft loads his chute at 0.92 oz per sq ft. In comparison to this a Hume weighing 200 lbs with a chute 30ft x 12ft with an area of 707 sq ft would load his chute at 4.5 oz per sq ft. Dropnik Hampton says that the calculations were worked out assuming a flat Chute whereas we know that they descend Brolly shaped, however as he says its a start.



Those of you dropniks outthere who are planning Chutes for different sized Fauna and are not too sure of the Gore Dimensions may find the following of use.

SIZE ONE: A= 43cm, B=13cm, C=2cm x 14 Gores with shroud lines of 50cm gives a Canopy of approx 40 cm, useful for really small Fauna.

SIZE TWO: A= 51cm, B= 16cm, C= 2cm. x 14 Gores with shroud lines of 90cm gives a Canopy of approx 60cm suitable for slightly larger Fauna.

SIZE THREE: A=75cm, B=28cm, C=3cm x 14 Gores with shroud lines of 120cm gives the Standard BMISS 1metre canopy for fauna up to 0,5kg.

SIZE FOUR: A=95cm, B=26cm, C= 3cm x 18 Gores with shrouds of 2metres, gives a nice looking canopy suitable for Fauna of approx 1kg.

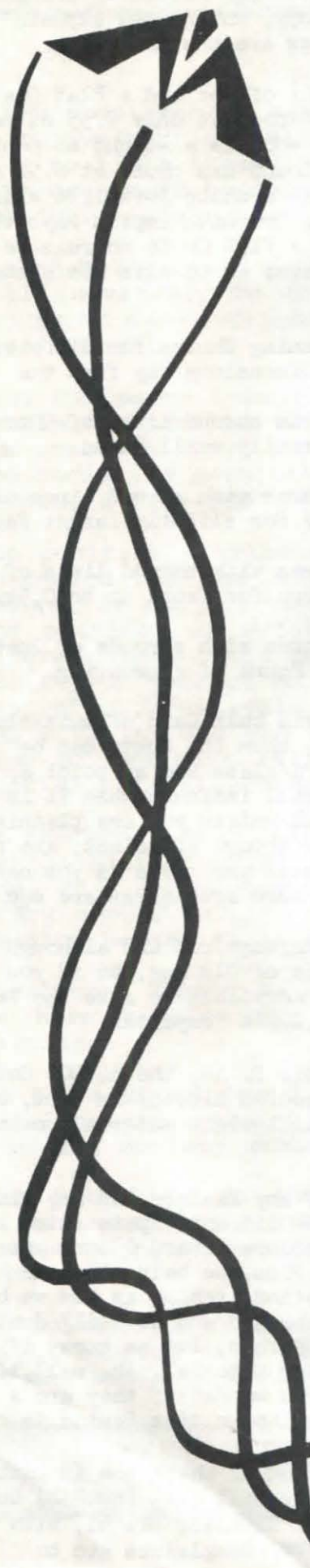
The best way to make a Gore Template is via thin Card of suitable size. If you mark the "B" Dimension first, then the Curve can be obtained by Taping a length of 1 or 2mm Fi/glass Rod at point X. Funnily enough, by Eye alone, the curve will indicate when it is correct. This curve of course is essential unless you are planning on making a G.Q. Aeroconical Canopy, which though efficient, are not pleasing to the Eye. You only need to obtain one curve as you can cut the Template down the middle to make sure both sides are equal.

Its best to Hot Cut the Gores via a Soldering Iron and although the Card Template works well, it wont Die of Old Age, so if you are planning to make lots of Chutes its advisable to make the Template from Hardboard as are all the B.O.F's Templates.

So, what do you use for making the Chute ?. Ah, the 64'000 dollar question. As we have said before, Unproofed Ripstop is best, or failing that, Proofed Ripstop is OK or for that matter any lightweight material, manmade for preference as they can be Hot Cut with a Soldering Iron.

You may remember a couple of Issues back we enquired if any Readers had any Pics of Vics Biggies in action. Up until now ZILCH, or sweet F.A. We did anticipate this, so going a bit Barmier than we usually do, we decided to send Theodore Edward O'Howser Farva one of the Biggies so that he could take his own action Pics, he being the one who originally asked for them. We sent them by the Cheapest method, seeing as how we had already thrown the Cat another Kipper. This was some Six months ago and we still dont know whether or not Theo has received or not. If you got it OK Theo, let us know, if not we reckon it must have been Hijacked by Big Norm as Strategic War Material. Ah, well, if Norm did Nick the Chute it was in a good cause, but it makes you wonder if they are a bit Boracic over there. Hopefully all will be revealed now the Hibernation Period is over.

Have you noticed that this Issue has'nt had a go at anybody ? thats due in part to the aforesaid Hibernation Period. As I write, the HQ Mob are still akip (HOORAY) but no doubt from the next issue we'll be back to the usual load of Mindless Drivel, with Fredbear as usual, Slagging off everyone, right, left and centre. Complaints etc to 48 . Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7. 7TY. U.K.....



Midlands Kite Fliers

International Festival of Kites

Saturday & Sunday, 1st/2nd June, 1991

COFTON PARK

LONGBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM
GREAT BRITAIN

Prestigious Prizes for Selected Events

Saturday 1st June

10am Kite Fliers Briefing
11am Opening by Lord Mayor
Altitude Sprint
Parachuting Teddy Bears
Indian Fighting Kite Competition
Stunt Kite Ballet Individual / Team
Individual Rokkaku
Sponsors Rokkaku Competition
Evening - On-site buffet meal,
followed by flying into the night....

Sunday 2nd June

9:30am Kite Fliers Briefing
Altitude Sprint
Parachuting Teddy Bears
Indian Fighting Kite Competition
Sponsor's Rokkaku Challenge
MKF Festival 1991 Rokkaku Team
Stunt Kite Ballet Individual / Team
British Single Line Championship
4pm Prize Giving & Farewell Fly

C.A.A. clearance to 2000ft. applied for.

General Information	Derek Kuhn
Publicity information	Tel. Great Britain 021 -706 1302
Accommodation list	Ian Meredith Tel. 021 - 565 4206
Map	Please send a large (A5) S.A.E.
Car Pass	to Vicki Ansell,
Free Camping Permit	187, Barnt Green Road,
Trading Permit application	Barnt Green, Birmingham,
	B45 8PR. Tel. 021-445 5738
Trading strictly by permit only	

Note: Events and timing will depend on local conditions on the day.

Midlands Kite Fliers, 29, Bradbury Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8AE.

MIDLANDS STUNT KITE LEAGUE

1st ROUND WRITE-UP

With the increasing interest in two-line flying and the growing number of people flying stunts, it was only a matter of time before the Midlands area would boast its own Stunt Kite League, and here it is! - the Midlands Stunt Kite League (M.S.K.L.)

On realising that no such beast existed, our "man on the spot", John Eaton, formed one, and on Sunday 3rd February 1991, the first of five heats was held of the very first winter league of the MSKL.

The event was a great success with 15 flyers braving the cold weather and very little wind to compete against each other. I think for everybody there this was a completely new experience, even for those of us who have put in hours of flying time. To fly a set manoeuvre, which looks so easy on paper, is a new experience. To know that your performance is being "judged" adds an extra tingle, and those judging look at the flying from a completely new perspective.

If you missed the first event and would like to take part, don't despair! There are five events: the dates have been set so that three of these correspond with MKF Fly-Ins (1st Sunday of the month) and to qualify you only have to fly at three of the five events. You can, of course, fly at all five in which case your best three results will be used in the final tally.

You don't have to be a member of STACK. You don't have to be a member of the MKF. You don't even have to own your own stunt kite - one can be provided for you. You do, of course, have to fly it yourself! and this is where the fun begins!

Don't come along expecting the World Championships. You may see the odd clipboard, but don't let that put you off. It was all great fun, not to be taken too seriously, and I look forward to many more.

Good flying!

Andy Hall.

RESULTS AFTER 4 ROUNDS

Name	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
John Eaton	83.0	83.5	80.5	86.0
Bob Ansell	82.5	80.5	76.0	75.5
Andy Hall	70.5	77.5	76.0	84.0
Andy Croft	70.5	67.0	72.0	-
Vicki Ansell	64.0	73.0	70.0	82.0
James Ansell	60.5	58.5	65.5	70.0
Julie Hall	50.0	60.5	71.5	71.0
Daniel Eaton	50.5	57.5	61.0	63.0
Jim Orreggio	57.5	54.0	56.0	62.5
Joanne Jackson	42.5	56.5	61.0	-
Ian Meredith	-	77.5	73.5	-
Lou Atherton	70.0	76.0	-	-
Derek Kuhn	59.5	-	68.0	70.0
Katie Ansell	24.0	49.0	49.5	-
John Hartshorne	-	45.5	52.5	38.0
Don Eccleston	67.0	-	-	70.0
Richard Corfield	-	-	64.5	-
Simon Nicholls	-	-	54.0	60.5
Keith Liscott	-	-	50.5	60.5

INTRODUCING FLIGHT FX

The first Midlands Stunt Kite Team, "FLIGHT FX", will shortly be introduced into the international competition circuit.

The team comprises: John Eaton, Bob Ansell, Andrew Hall and Ian Meredith.

They will be competing at Le Touquet, France, in April against 20 other teams from Britain, Belgium, France, Holland and Germany.

For further information, contact: John Eaton, 51, Longacres, Hednesford, Staffs, WS12 5HT. Tel. 0543-424921

Midlands Kite Fliers, 29, Bradbury Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8AE.



MFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS

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



Views From Above

Looking out of the window, gazing down on to familiar places I gasped in awe.

That was ten years ago, I had won a trip in a small light aircraft around the West Midlands and must confess ever since then I have been hooked on being "up there" looking down. Obviously, I could not afford to fly all of the time, so I did the next best thing.

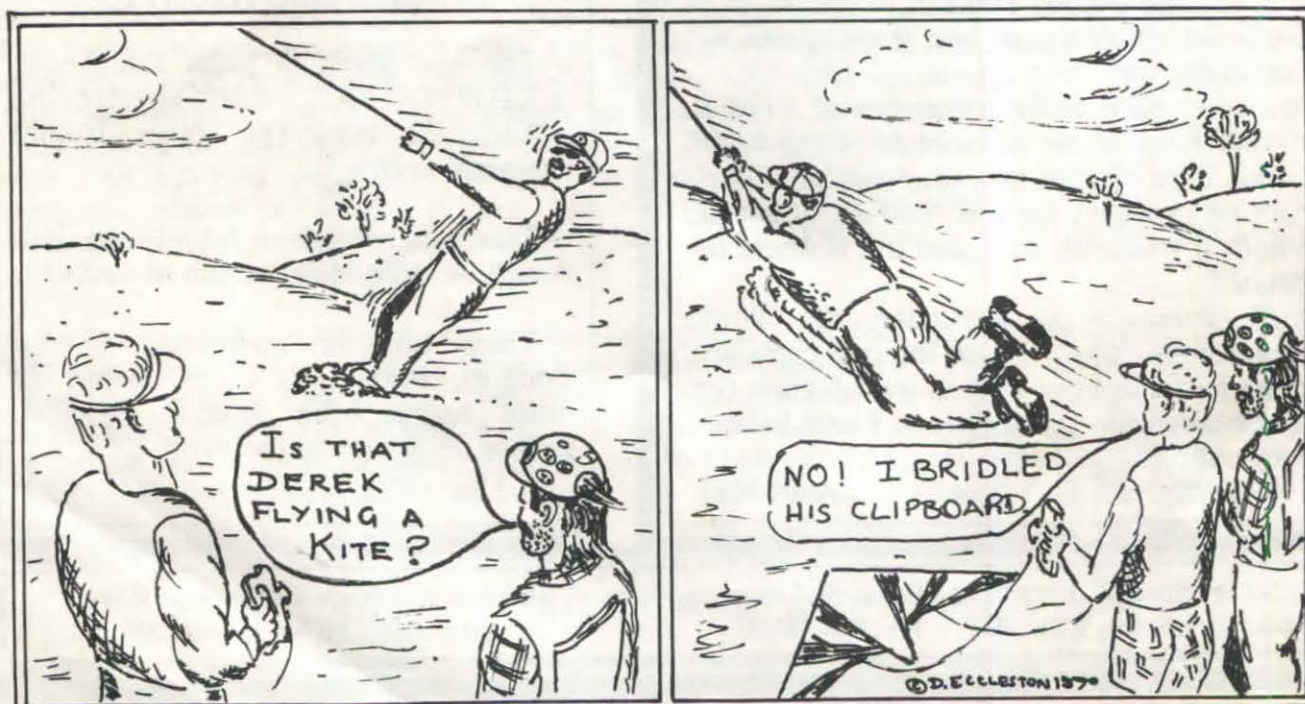
I had not flown a kite since I was a youngster (I'm now 83) but a friend of mine suggested that I should use a kite to take up a camera and photograph the views from above. He introduced me to a book on "Aerial Photography" by B. Postlethwaite and I have never looked back. I found that most cameras were too heavy to use, so I constructed my own based upon the basic pin-hole camera. I used a lens fitted in front of my "box" and a small picture frame as my back plate to hold the film flat. Unlike most systems I used a carrier to take the camera to the stop, a clockwork timer set off the simple mechanical shutter and also released the carrier system which soon returned to ground level. I haven't as yet made a wind-on system for the film, but if anyone has I would be interested.

I now have a large collection of aerial photographs and my favourites are of Sutton Coldfield, Droitwich and Manchester University. One thing that does annoy me is that whenever I mention aerial photography to anyone, they always reply, "Ha! One aerial looks the same as another doesn't it?"

If I had a fiver each time it was said I would be extremely rich by now. Although, with the advent of satellite T.V. I suppose they may be right.

P De La Ville
Solihull.

March, 1991.





MKFEXTRA

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS NEWS

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



If You Are Wondering.....

If you are wondering what happened to Charlie and Lorraine from Dunford Kites, they are now Charlie and Lorraine from "A Kiwi Kite", recently married and settled in New Zealand. They have finally started producing some kites of their own.

Back to me now, enough of the 3rd party talking. We arrived home safely with only a touch of Dehli Belly along the way. In India we experienced Kite Flying as we have never seen before. Not the fighting or combat side of it but the fact that they just do it. It is a part of the male's life. I suppose it's our equivalent to riding a bike - you just don't forget. It is something that is very cheap, and even if you have no money, sometimes the kites just float down into your life after being cut. About two minutes away from the airport on the bus into Bombay we saw children fighting kites in one of the poorest places we have been.

Bali was another place with great kites. There were lots of fancy tourist kites for sale but also traditional kites being flown all through the town where we were staying. I managed to buy a great big serpent type kite for £1.50. It is bamboo with a bin liner sail heat sealed with a joss stick or a cigarette.

Back in New Zealand we have found the scene to be hotting up and have been to a couple of Kite Days. You really notice the lack of population, with smaller crowds and less fliers.

So, if you're down for the weekend, pop in for a cuppa!

Charlie Watson, (I've changed me name!)
16, Smith Street, Raglan, New Zealand.

March, 1991,

A Short Note About the MKF

The Midlands Kite Fliers meet on the first Sunday each month at Sutton Park, to the north of Birmingham. Everyone is welcome to fly with us - you do not have to be a member to share the wind. Naturally, we do invite everyone who has an interest in Kites to join the Midlands Kite Fliers. We ask for a membership fee, for which members receive a membership card, four issues of "The Kiteflier", public liability insurance at organised club events, and numerous circulations of kite-related articles, plans and forthcoming events. Kite-making Workshops and Flying Displays feature prominently in the MKF calendar, and the recent Midlands Stunt Kite League attracted much interest from fliers and public alike. Members of the Midlands Kite Fliers represented the club at several international events last year, including Oostduinkerke, Scheveningen, Dieppe, Berlin, Damp and Dusseldorf. Members are also encouraged to join in the projects which the club initiates from time to time, such as the Festival of Kites in June.....

If you are interested in joining the Midlands Kite Fliers, and would like to receive an MKF information pack, please send a large (A5) S.A.E. to:

Derek Kuhn,
Secretary, Midlands Kite Fliers,
29, Bradbury Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8AE.

A Quick Guide to Videoing Kites

Or, alternatively, a quick list of all the mistakes I made videoing kites

Lens;

For single line kites the standard lens is fine. For stunt kites you need a very wide angle or anamorphic lens to capture the kite's antics without having to move the camera excessively.

Iris/Exposure Control;

Since the sky is such a bright place standard video exposure systems close down the iris drastically to compensate and completely lose detail and colour in the kite. If you have a manually adjustable exposure system on your camera- use it. Zoom in on the kite, set the exposure and lock it- the sky burns out slightly but the kites are preserved.

Operator Position;

Move Back! It is much easier to film kites in flight from a goodly distance, cos their relative movement is reduced and you are less likely to have them drop out of frame unexpectedly.

Format;

The new high resolution domestic formats (S-VHS & Hi8) give much better results than the older standard VHS and 8mm formats simply because the kite is usually a small object on your video and the higher resolution available still shows the kite as a kite and not a speck in the sky.

Filters;

The Sky is bright! You need at least a good polarising filter (not a circular type) and usually a ND2 (neutral density) filter to preserve colour in the kites and prevent excessive washout in clouds etc.

Tripod socket;

A good (heavy) tripod with a smooth pan/tilt head makes for steady videos. The kites are already moving and adding in a little operator shake just makes things worse.

Tele/Wide rocker;

Don't touch when filming! Nothing looks worse in kite videos than continual zooming in & out. Set your field of view once per kite/scene and video this.

Sound;

Where sound is important to the event (eg ballet in stunt kite competitions) position yourself right next to the PA speakers (I mean within about 10ft). Any further away and crowd/wind noise will spoil your recording no matter what sort of fancy microphone you are using.

1991 looks like being the year Kite Videos become popular. Currently we have;

1989 Great Lakes Stunt Kite Competition

1990 Great Lakes Stunt Kite Competition

And hopefully, soon, maybe just a plain Kite Festival Video (without stunts).

The Kite Store Ltd, 48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA.
Tel; 081 836 1666 Fax; 081 836 2510