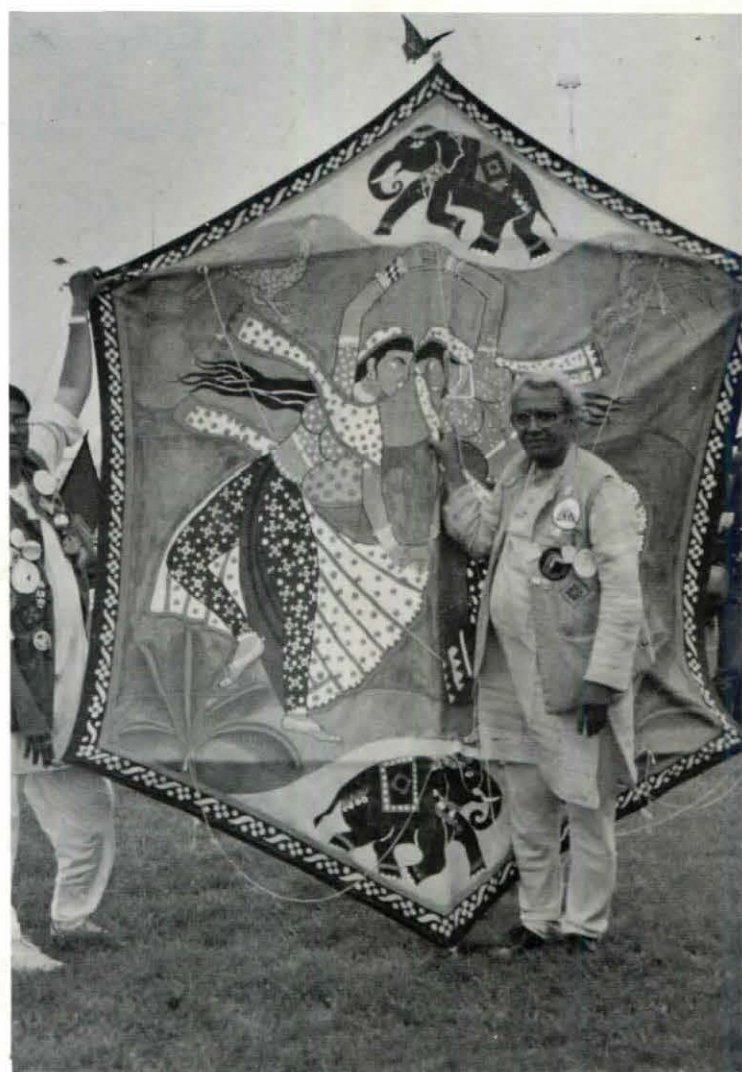


THE KITEFLIER

ISSUE 53

- OCTOBER 1992 -

PRICE £1.25



NEWSLETTER
OF
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

The advertisement is framed by stylized 3D geometric patterns. The top corners feature zigzag and chevron shapes. The bottom corners feature a repeating pattern of stylized human figures in a dynamic pose. On the left side, there is a graphic of a kite with a black and white striped sail and a grey shadow.

the bantom is back!

£79.95

FIZZ SPORT KITES

baildon craft centre, browgate
baildon, shipley, west yorkshire
bd17 6bp. tel/fax 0274-532899

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Front Cover Photo - India and Canada delegates displaying their kites at Dieppe.

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

Once again the season is drawing to a close and we would like to thank not only the people who organise the kite festivals, and put up with a lot of moaning, but also those people who attended the events and showed the public what kiteflying in the United Kingdom is all about.

Thanks must also go to the traders who support the events throughout the year - without them the festivals will be so much the poorer.

The calendar for 1993 is starting to fill up. We would ask any organiser to notify us of their event - be it a major kite festival or a local fly in. The copy dates for the magazine are the 15th of the month prior to publication - so the next copy date is 15th December for the January issue. Please bear these dates in mind to allow us to publicise your event.

The other thing to remember is that we always welcome your articles for inclusion. As you can see we will publish your kite designs, kite reviews, views and comments on any subject related to kite flying. So send those articles in.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Breeze filled New Year.

Gill and Jon

The Kite Society, 31 Grange Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1EU.

LETTERS

From Pat and Ron Dell

Gosh, it's not already the end of another fun packed Festival Season. Some new Festivals this year! plus lots of our old favourites.

Lots of visitors from foreign lands, thank you for coming to show us your ripstop marvels and for your company, not forgetting of course, our own homegrown master makers with their distinctive creations, thank you all very much. The legs are getting sillier and sillier(Good isn't it).

Special mention for Derek Kuhn for his megadrive for the International Spinal Research Trust. Perhaps a world hop next year Derek.

A big thank you to all the Festival organisers for all their hard work setting up and running the events for us all to enjoy. Special thanks to Avril Baker and Skybump for the end of term party at Bristol.

The Webfoot trophy this year goes to Swindon, though only one foot, for it only rained on one day, perhaps a new trophy this year, The Fly a Housebrick, to Southsea for we are told it was a mite draughtly.

Thanks to Gill and Jon for their work on the Magazine and the Festival co-ordination.

Finally a big thank you all for your support in '92' we look forward to serving you well in '93'.

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a very very Happy New Year.

From John Baker

Regarding the extract in the July issue concerning the number of traders at festivals, as a kitemaker and trader I would like to add my comments.

In my opinion traders enhance festivals and I believe the onus is on the trader to assess the viability of attending each event. I also feel it is up to each trader to add their own individuality, which in turn gives the public and the festival variety. If the allocation of space was restricted even further some traders could well find themselves unable to attend certain festivals, this would lead to even stronger grumbling.

After attending a number of enjoyable festivals in various parts of the country again this year Barbara and I have met many new friends and we would not have liked to have missed this opportunity.

Now on a lighter note our only grumbles have been about the weather and a funny fella dressed in a windsock asking for discount - can anyone solve these problems?

From Roger Brown

As I am a disabled flyer (loss of right leg) I would be interested to hear any views of others in the same situation - legless, not drunk legless! (even if we appear so) and which kites they fly.

As the amount of pull developed by the kite is a big factor, I have started with a classis 60 and moved to a Liteflite for the low wind days, but have just purchased a Tim Benson Swallowtail which is that more

LETTERS

quicker but, I am balancing on my toes a bit with extra performances!

Tony Gilbey of Essex Kite Group loaned a jester to me on a breezy day at Galleywood Common only to find on kite take off - I ran half a dozen paces after 22 years of walking everywhere!, so maybe you can understand the sort of problem I have. Thanks to Tony he caught hold of me and suggested a stake into the ground and a harness might be a good set up in my case.

From David Hughes

Festival Organisation. At a recent festival there was two areas marked out, both were for demonstrations, ie one stunters and the other single lines. So we all had to take pot luck on the field boundaries and in the car parks with several hundred Malays, sleds, dogs and pushchairs, whilst the two demo areas were (comparatively) empty. I gave up after the third youngster had walked into my line with a Malay and my only real flying took place in the early morning and evening before and after the public attended.

What is needed is a demo area, a members' area and a small novices' area where basic instruction could be given. We could easily show them how to get the bridles right, the kites in the air and explain about not walking their kites under other people's lines. A family has to pay a considerable amount to get in to a festival and this way we could give them a flying start in return. Or am I the only one to notice those parents and grandparents fighting stunters?

Ref Trade Stands. I can understand the traders grumbling at the prices charged for a trade stand but any comments about rationing the trade stands should be ignored. No one wants to create an elite group of traders, especially if the privileged can force out the people just starting up and other traders (perhaps for selling cheaper kites). The next step would be a ban on the public bringing in their own kites and so on. Selling kites and bits and pieces for kite makers and fliers should be the sole criteria for a trade stand, and no charge should be made to members wishing to sell a few bits and pieces because they've bought rip stop or hot-knives in bulk.

As for charges, a free pitch in return for demonstrations of their kites, or £5.00 a day or £10 a weekend seems about right. They've got to sell several thousands 6p end caps to cover a £75 traders' charge, their petrol etc and make it worthwhile to turn up, and if the traders get priced out, then the festival will be that much poorer for their going. I always look forward to seeing traders' stands at festivals to see the latest kites, chat and get some essential part that I need. The alternative, relying on local non-kite shops for bits and pieces, is too awful to think about.

Subscription. I wouldn't mind paying more if it meant six issues of the Kiteflier - three months is too long to wait for my next fix from the BOF! and how about an A5 year book with the traders' directory, a group list, parachute and kite plans and a year planner with spaces for the festivals, local meets etc to be shown?

From Les Symons

I read Lesley Gilberts letter in July's issue, and I agree as to single line kites having to take pot luck with the general public.

It would be a good idea to have an area for single line club or society members only as although stunt kites do put on a good show they are not in the sky all day as are the single line kites (weather providing). Also

LETTERS

it is the single line kites that are seen from far off and draw in the public who might not be aware of a kite festival taking place, but see single line kites and make for the area.

I also have had a star kite cut down at Ashton park and it ended up in the big trees on the right of the arenas. Luckily for me there was enough line left on it for me to pull it down although damaging it in the process.

I've also noticed that over the last 3-4 years we have to park further and further away from the arenas at Ashton. This means a great deal of walking too and fro and also prevents us from flying more than one kite at a time, and means locking up everything you leave your car.

From A Harding

In reply to Lesley Gilberts letter I should like to agree with the comments made.

I have attended many festivals over a number of years flying large single line kites and trains, and in general they have been enjoyable events.

However, recently I have had a number of incidents involving inexperienced or "brought on the day" fliers, some of whom do not appreciate how potentially dangerous a large kite can be, or how easily a highly tensioned heavy line can be cut by a small kite on light line.

As the kite festivals popularity increases, and more people attend, this slight irritation is bound to get worse unless, space permitting separate provisions are made for the general public. Perhaps, as most serious kite fliers are members of the Kite Society, entry to the flying arena proper (as is the case at Middle Wallop), could be by Membership Card.

I know that everyone involved in the organisation of a festival works hard to see that all runs smoothly, and I hope that the comments above have been constructive. If nothing is done about this situation, it may be that many of the more established fliers will think twice about attending festivals, which would be a great pity for the sport.

From Steve Gibson

My work takes me around the country quite a bit, and this prompted my curiosity about where other kiteflyers go, in a particular area. So I'm prepared to let my curiosity get the better of me and try to collate some form of directory.

If people would like to write to me, at the address below giving the following details;

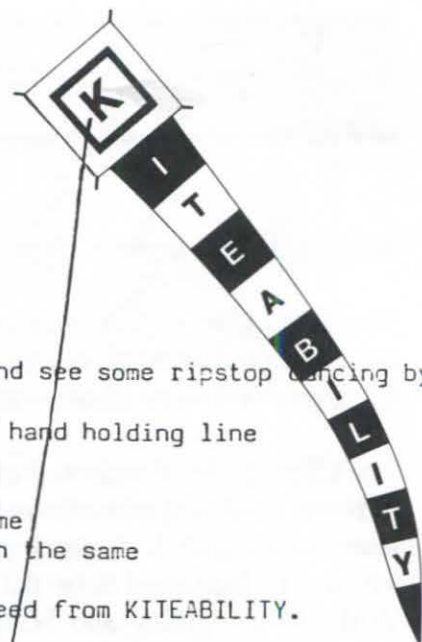
Location, Ordnance Survey Reference, Size - acres approx, Directions, Parking, Permission needed and if so who to contact? If the area is used by a local group, meeting details and contact, any other comments.

Once collated, a small charge to cover photocopying and postage may be required but this would really depend on the response.

Steve Gibson, 91 Baysham Street, Hereford, HR4 0ET.

KITEABILITY

HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS



The entries for our comp,
Simply came flooding in,
We had a hard job to decide,
Which should eventually win.

After long deliberations,
a decision from within,
To these three marvelous poets,
A KITEABILITY pin.

Look up! Look up! unto the sky and see some ripstop dancing by
With all that colour in my eye
I follow the line down to gloved hand holding line
And just wish that it was mine.

If only I knew from whence it came
I to could be standing there with the same
To hold that kite in my mitty
I am told you will get all you need from KITEABILITY.

To Pat and Ron I send my rymne
And hope that little gift was mine
Pat and Ron now have a pin
And this is what I want to win.

Harry Douglas,
Poole Kitefliers.

KITEABILITY KITES

Kites for sport, kites for fun,
Kites with 4 strings, 2 strings, one.
Kites for novice, kites for master,
Kites fly slow, but some go faster.

Kites of paper, kites of plastic,
Held together with glue and 'lastic.
Kites of silk and ripstop nylon,
Cotton, string and cord to fly on.

Kites well made, for you to buy,
Or make your own (why don't you try).
We have all that you'll require
To make your kite go so much higher.

We'll supply your every need,
So get your order here with speed.
For all your kites, and so much more,
Come to the KITEABILITY store.

Brian Robinson,
Alcester Kite Flyers.

Some think we are a fixture,
Upon the field of Fest.
But we just get there early,
To have the pitch thats best.

With awning flaps akimbo,
Our easily spotted stall
is loaded to the gun'ales (Gunwhales)
With kite goodies for you all.

It's possible you'll need shades Pal,
Against our ripstops hues,
And half an hour to check through,
All the bits and bobs we do.

From carbon, glass and ramin,
To nylon line we test,
And various ali fittings,
Plus plastic thats the best.

Deep Sky Reels, hand made kites,
They're all from Dingley (Din-ge-ley),
Yes, thats a laugh, but we prefer,
GOOD OLD 'KITEABILITY'.

John Barker.
B.O.F.



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

Proprietor : Mrs. P. Dell

Kite Fighting in the U.S.A.

The Trip to the U.S.A. was to be a family visit as Hilary's sister and her husband live in Chicago. They are kitefliers too so it was hardly surprising that two kite festivals were fitted into our 16 day visit. The Chicago Air Circus and the Macinac (pronounced Mackinaw) city kite festival.

The Chicago Air Circus was on the 13th June and we went American style, with tent, chairs, an abundance of food, drink and lots of toys for the Children. The festival was smaller than I'd expected, but I understand many of the U.S.A. festivals are smaller because of the distance involved and there was only one kite stall which also happened to be the sponsor. I entered three competitions which I was eligible for, Fighter Kite Skills, Kite Fighting and Wind Sprint, none of which were as done in U.K. They have an active fighter group in Chicago but they only use nylon or plastic kites. My paper kites were quite new to them.

I flew my kite and 'accidentally' buzzed a few kites and people and 'accidentally' manoeuvred between the trees. I was bombarded with questions and everyone wanted to see the kite close-to and expressed amazement at the simplicity of structure and I realised they hadn't seen a paper kite before. I was called to my first competition.

Fighter Kite Skills; Each competitor is asked to perform fixed manoeuvres by the judge and points are scored.

1. Launch your kite from hand. 2. Do some clockwise spins. 3. Do some anti-clockwise spins. 4. Do a left horizontal pass. 5. Do a right horizontal pass. 6. Do a downward dive without hitting the ground. 7. Knock three lager cans off sticks within one minute. 8. Land your kite on a white sheet about 25 yards away.

I found out later that I had won with 94 points and the second scored 72 points. Most competitors were unsuccessful in knocking all three cans, several got only one.

Kite Fighting; They do not use manja, in fact they do not cut lines. Competitors are drawn against each other in a knock-out system. The objective is, while standing still, to manoeuvre your kite and line under your opponent's and touch line. Opponents stand about 4/5 yards apart, launch their kites to about 30/40 yards and inform the judge when they are ready. The judge says to start fighting and each competitor uses all their skills to win the best of three fights, while also taking any evasive action necessary. Guess who won. I found this a bit more skilful than plain cutting and I would recommend this to any fliers as a good way of developing their skills. Why not come and see me at some festival and have a go at this type of fighting.

Wind Sprint; An interesting variation on our altitude sprint and certainly easier to judge. All competitors stand in a line and the judge stand about 100/150 yards away. The objective is to be the first kite past the judges. Some skill is involved in not just letting your kite out but also in keeping a low flight-path. Perhaps we could try this in U.K. in addition to the altitude sprint. A warning to future competitors, clever-clogs here won this as well.

Well needless to say I thoroughly enjoyed myself and the people in Chicago were genuinely friendly despite me being a visitor who beat their locals. We then drove north through the State of Michigan to Macinac City about 300/400 miles.

The Macinac kite festival is sponsored by the Macinac kite shop which is run by Bob Hagen who was commentating at Bristol last year. There was only one kite stall which was the sponsor of the festival and there were no competitions. The flying site was a long wide stretch where there seemed to be a kite festival taking place in one quarter and stunts in three quarters of the site. Once again the Indian Fighter attracted lots of attention and I was asked to do a demonstration while Hilary commented. We spent a lot of our time answering questions and letting people have a go. The food on site was half a barbecued chicken, corn on the cob and as much watermelon as you could eat, all for five dollars which was excellent value. Once again everyone was incredibly friendly and we knew people meant it when they asked us to come back next year.

Stafford Wallace

Memories of "Basant" Festival in Lahore.

It was early in the morning. The sun was out and it was already very hot with the temperature hovering in the 30 C range and rising. There was a slight breeze. The air felt hot and dry. I could hear loud shouts "Wake Up! Wake Up! Today is the Day".

Some people were using loud hailer and conch shells to welcome the day. I gulped down my breakfast and dashed up the stairs to the roof with my mother trying unsuccessfully to restrain me. I could hear my father saying "He is going to break his leg one of these days". But no-one could stop me because this was the day - "Basant!".

"Basant is a spring festival when kiteflying reaches its climax and the sky is adorned with thousands of brightly coloured flying kites of all shapes and sizes and flown by all manner of people from little boys like me aged about 8 years right up to elderly people who have "flown" all their lives and to whom flying kites is a serious business full of rules and codes of behaviour.

The previous day my older brother, then an elderly ten year old, had managed to get some money from our father and had also broken into the terracotta money box to get all his yearly savings. He had then asked casually if I would like to accompany him to buy some kites and string for the big day. I had nearly jumped out of my shoes from sheer joy. So there we were going through the narrow streets of Lahore being jostled and pushed by others on similar errands. There was just one thought in our minds "How to get the best kites and string and pay the least price."

We nearly made ourselves hoarse shouting our orders but at last we had our precious possessions and we returned home with my brother and I holding the brightly coloured paper kites aloft and with the string carefully protected in our pockets.

So today was the day.

I tried to wake my brother but it was too early for him. Instead I borrowed one of the kites and along with a bowl of string ran up the stairs to the roof and was soon flying my kite.

Unfortunately in my hurry I had forgotten to put the "manjha" with my plain string.

Manjha is the cutting part of the string and is coated with powdered glass in a flour like base to give it a

sharp knife like edge.

The art of fighter kite flying lies in the ability of the flier in engaging the string of another kite from above or below and then pulling very sharply or with a slow calculated release of the string to eventually cut the other fliers string.

When successful this results in triumphant shouts of "Vo Kaata" which means we have cut the string.

So there I was with my kite high in the sky oblivious of the fact that I had no Manjha. Before I knew it another kite swooped down and engaged my string and with a sharp pull cut it. My poor kite was adrift in the sky. But instead of coming down it gradually flew higher and higher aided by the hot air currents till it was invisible.

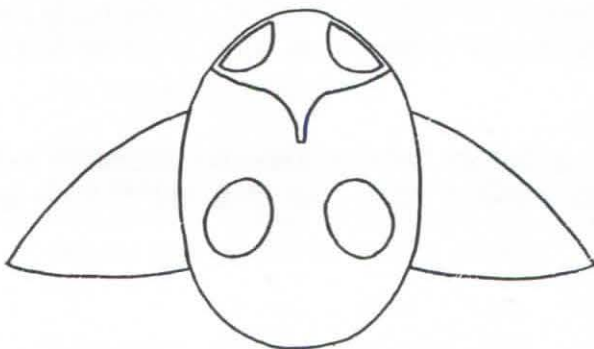
I could hear my brother coming up the stairs and felt panicky. Somehow I managed to pacify him and soon he was flying his kite. Of course compared to me he was an expert. You only had to look at the cuts on his fingers from the manjha. He engaged many other kitefliers in matches and cut many strings. We were nearly hoarse with screaming "Vo Kaata". Of course we lost as well and soon our stock of kites was exhausted.

There is one other activity which signals the end of the day and this is the flying of "Kandeels". These are hand made large balloons of paper which are sent soaring into the sky by burning a kerosene soaked rag at the base filling the inside of the balloon with hot air. As they fly higher they twinkle in the dark sky and are a magnificent spectacle. Thus ends a memorable day.

Virendra Kumar

LADYBIRD

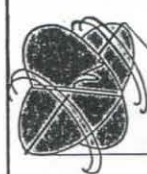
by
Colin Barefoot



£25 INCLUDING P & P

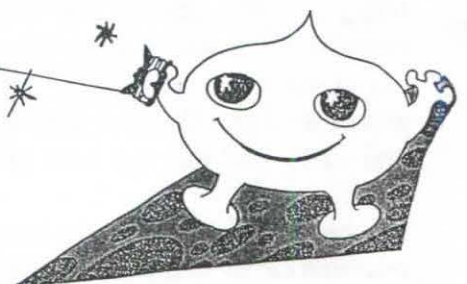
PINS AVAILABLE SOON, INCLUDING A
LIMITED EDITION FOR THOSE WHO
PURCHASE A KITE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION TEL. 0934 511951



SILVER
SPINNING
KITE

UFO SAM



AS MANUFACTURED BY FORD HALCYON
AVAILABLE FROM

FLIGHTLINE
WATTON
NORFOLK
ENGLAND
IP25 6EL

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME
PHONE/FAX 0953 883900

From The Chief Pin Pratt

The evil addiction is spreading - "Pin Addicts" are now being spotted at every kite festival, especially when a "feeding frenzy" occurs. When groups of pin fans can be seen huddled around, you can be sure that somewhere in the middle there is someone with pins!

Pin addicts seem to be capable of nearly anything to obtain that elusive pins - for example in Dieppe the official pin (of which 5000 was made) were all sold out by the end of the first weekend, so those pin addicts who arrived on the 2nd weekend had to resort to some pretty shifty means to obtain that PIN. Some took to hanging out in bars (well it is a good excuse) and hotels accosting people who where displaying that PIN, and one person take to accosting small children in attempt to swop. Paul Morgan even gave up one of his precious Black Bum Badges to get one!.

Please keep sending bits and bobs for the page and remember your adverts and request are welcome.

P.S. The Cloisonne King has now produced a Pin Magazine called The Kite Pin Hotline definitely worth joining if you are an Addict.

P.P.S. Perhaps we will be needing a P.A.A. (Pin Addicts Anonymous) soon!

New Pins

News of a new pin from Colin Barefoot - Two **Ladybird pins** (to go with Colin's new kite) will be available as soon as everything can be arranged. There will be a limited edition of fifty (for those who have purchased a kite) with the bug against a green background. A larger number, with the bug against a yellow background, will be offered to those who are interested. The colour choices at this stage are dependant on the quality available, a change is not envisaged however. The price is expected to be in the region of £3.50.

Thorpe Kite Flyers from Norwich have a pin available. Shaped as a pale blue Rokkaku it features a red and blue Phantom with the clubs name. Copies will be available from late October - cost £3.50. To purchase or swop send S.A.E. to Kevin Appleton, 37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ.

The Kite Store in London have two - **The Kite Store Invitational etc.** produced for the Event at Bristol and only given to participants (just 104 of these produced) and a new **Liteflite** pin this time in Yellow (again only 104). Available from the Kite Store 071 836 1666. The **Alcester Kite Fliers** pin is black with gold lettering available from Fred Taplin 0789 762350. The **Great Ouse Kite Flyers** Pin is also available - see below for more details. The **Bristol Kite festival** pin is available (300 of these produced) try the Bristol Kite Store for these.

Skybums have their **Blue Sky Bums** pin in stock and Stack UK have produced the **STACK 1992 UK Challenge** pin in two different colours, red and blue, to support the U.K. world cup entrants. Also produce were 50 Black pins, of which only a few were not given to the teams. The Cloisonne King (David Gomberg), during the World Cup Auction, paid £90 for one but one went for £20 at the Bristol Auction so obviously its not just the pound that has been devalued!

One of the quickest selling badges was the **Kite Society yellow Pin**. Due to manufacturers mistake only 100 of these were produced and these were all sold out during the two days of the Bristol Kite Festival. We also have 100 red pins which, for those purists, has a slightly different colour blue sky than the original pin - only 100 of these too.

The Midland Kitefliers are running a competition to find a design for their pin which should be available in the new year.

Ron and Pat of Kiteability now have pin backs (light weight plastic earring backs) at £2.00 for 40. Ron also has a message for Tony - "Watch out Tony, I've been topping up on pins.....!"

John Slater is prepared to trade one of the new Great Ouse Kite Flyers pins for any other club, group, event or other pin. Telephone initially 0780 52503 with details.

Words from the King!

Kite Pin Newsletter Now Available.

Attention Metalheads! The Kite Pin Hotline, formerly published in AKA's Kiting and featuring Professor Pinhead is now available as a quarterly newsletter. Features include free classified ads, pin trivia, pin of the month, and an update on dozens of the newest kite pins available. Subscriptions are \$6 a year plus an additional \$4 for overseas mail. Credit cards are welcome. For a free sample issue, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

KITE PIN HOTLINE

Box 13363 Salem Oregon 97309 USA

Phone (503) 996-3083 Fax (503) 994-9692



Letters

Dear Pin Pratt,

Nice to see Dingley Dell attired in a Pin Maniacs latter day version of Medieval Chain Mail, all highly commendable I'm sure, even if displaying your treasures carries with it the ever present threat of overbalancing due to the weight of pins displayed on one person, falling flat on your face, and being unable, to regain your feet without assistance. However, there is, among the Pin Fraternity, another distinct group who do not attain enlightenment from displaying their treasures for the world to see.

I refer of course to the GLOATERS, not for us the glare of public scrutiny, NO, our rocks are got off usually round about Midnight, when after carefully checking that the minefields and machine Gun Towers

guarding Des Res, are all O.K., the windows and doors are barred and bolted, curtains securely drawn, the secure box containing our treasures is brought forth for some heavy duty gloating, oh what ecstasy, as each piece is brought forth, what transports of delight as thoughts such as "I bet that sod ain't got this one" flit through your mind. Whilst gloved hands carefully caress each piece which is destined never again to see the light of day. To a GLOATERS mind, this is what pin acquiring is all about.

Are GLOATERS easy to spot? with practise its quite easy, for anyone who is a GLOATER is usually observed buying or trading lots of badges whilst all the time appearing to Badge "Challenged" I.E. Never having any.

Yours Furtively

Jacob Marley A Gloater

From Manfred Kluge - I am making the pins opposite available to collectors. The pins priced at £2.80 I will order depending on actual demand. The pins at £4.50 are immediately available. Please note that pin Rok 3 and fighter 3 are sold out. At the time I don't know whether I can get them again. S.A.E.s are welcome. Otherwise I ask 40p for P&P. Manfred Kluge, 15 Woodlands Drive, Colsterworth, Lincs, NG33 5NH. Tel 0476 860101.

From John Slater - Unlike other groups who simply occupy space in The Kiteflieger talking about their intentions to, possibly, produce a pin, the Great Ouse Kite Flyers have gone ahead and done it. 200 have been produced and may be purchased by sending £3.00 and a stamped, self addressed, small jiffy bag to either Ted Fleming, G.O.K.F. Treasurer, 4 Church View, St Neots, Cambs. PE19 2BB or Colin Jackson, 2 Drake Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots, Cambs PE19 3HS. For overseas costs apply to Ted Fleming.

KITE PINS £2.80 EACH



Comic
(B-G-O-R-)



Edo
(BL-W-O-B-Y)



Rok
(W-R-BL)



Thai
(W-BL-P-B-Y-G)



Chevron
(Y-G-P-R-BL)



Silent Dart
(P-B-G-Y-O-R-BL)



Run Dart
(GO-BL)



Whisper
(P-Y-G)



Electron
(BL-Y-R-P)



3-Stack
(P-BL/Y-BL/O-BL)

Colour Code:

B - Blue	G - Green
BL - Black	O - Orange
R - Red	P - Purple
Y - Yellow	GO - Gold

KITE PINS £4.50 EACH

Rok 1



(Y-G-R)

Rok 2



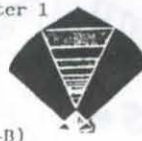
(G-B-Y-W)

Rok 3



(BL-R-B)

Fighter 1



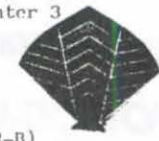
(BL-Y-B)

Fighter 2



(B-BL-DB-Y)

Fighter 3



(BL-R-B)

Bird 1



(B-BL-R)

Bird 2



(BL-R)

Bird 3



(W-BL)

C.A.A. AND KITES

A proposal to amend Article 75 of the Air Navigation Order will remove the restriction on flight within 5km of an aerodrome provided the kite line is 30m (98ft 5ins) or less.

In explanation of this relaxation, the C.A.A. has taken note of the fact that most "children's" kites are flown at 10m, and also that there have been only two reported kite-related incidents in the last 15 years.

The change will open up considerable areas for stunt kite flying at the line length of 30m but it must be remembered that there are catch 22 regulations which deal with flight that endangers life, property, or aircraft.

Obviously, the approach and departure paths adjacent to the airfields must remain clear of kites, even at 30m but there are many parks and open spaces in the dead sides of the circuits that could be used if the amendment is approved and passed.

This is one of many changes affecting Balloons, Airships, Gliders and parascending parachutes as well as model aircraft and kites.

The existing restraint on flight height to 60m above ground level, and weight of 2kg will still apply unless permission is granted by the C.A.A. for exclusion. (During 1992 many such exclusions have been granted, typically for flight on the airfields at Old Warden and Middle Wallop to 700ft).

Kite Groups wishing to comment or offer views on the proposals may do so directly to:-

Mr R.J. Commander, Civil Aviation Authority, PLS GAD, Aviation House, Gatwick, Sussex, RH6 0YR.

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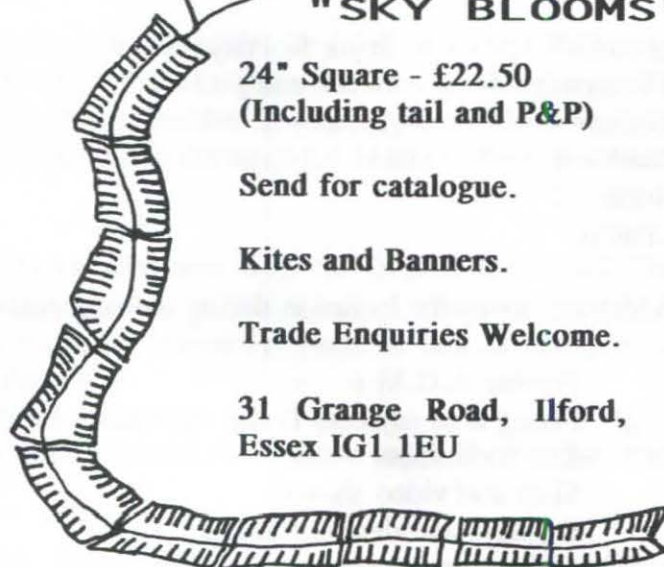
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CONVENTION MATTERS

In the last issue of The Kiteflier we asked you what you wanted from the Kite Society Annual Convention. We had a grand total of 24 replies which are summarised below. When deciding upon the 1993 convention we have taken into account these replies as well as conversations we have had with members when attending kite festivals. In addition the thoughts of the "committee" have been considered.

First of all the summary.

Location	Weekend/Bank Holiday	Registration Fee	Meal
Bristol - 9	Bank Holiday - 9	No Fee - 5	Will not attend - 5
Weymouth - 4	Week end - 13	£5.00 & under - 14	£10.00 & under - 12
Rotat - 4	Either - 2	Over £5.00 - 5	Over £10.00 - 7
South - 4			
North - 2			
Central - 1			

Additional items for inclusion during the convention:

- Further A.G.M.s
- Flying area adjacent to the convention location
- Kite Exhibition
- Slide and video shows
- Displays and demonstrations
- Discussion Groups
- Photo Exhibition

We also received the following letter which puts forward a number of suggestions.

From Andy Smith and Mike Sherwood

We attended the Scunthorpe convention this year, noted the plea to the members to respond with offers of help to the Society, in particular the event organising, and have also thought about the matter raised in correspondence in The Kiteflier.

As relative newcomers onto the U.K. kiting scene we have hitherto hesitated to comment on matters of which we clearly have little or no direct experience. However, maybe the experienced members may care to note what impression they give to us and may also be prepared to consider a suggestion or two. We hope so.

Let us make it clear that we enjoy our hobby enormously and we are grateful for the opportunity to meet the more experienced at the major gatherings. We think that the annual convention is a great opportunity for us all to meet, to learn and discuss lots of things.

In particular we value greatly the 'expert' talks, discussions or demonstrations which have been a regular feature of convention gatherings. We would support the proposal to combine the convention with a major festival so that there is a much greater opportunity to attract the experts we all like to meet. It is also a good

CONVENTION MATTERS

idea to hold the convention in different parts of the country in rotation, year by year, as proposed at the Scunthorpe AGM.

Whilst we would be prepared to pay a modest sum for the privilege of attending these workshops that does not automatically mean that we support payment of an attendance fee. Would it not be better to raise the appropriate contribution spread over the whole membership via the annual charge so that the convention events would be favouring those who took the trouble to attend. This way the society could be seen to be encouraging all members to attend and participate, in particular the general members who have no vested interest in our sport. (We need not worry that all members would actually turn up and cause a crisis!).

Please do not take this to be a comment against our members in the trade - we owe them a great deal for the effort they put in. We simply think you have to go out of your way to encourage new members to come forward with ideas and offers of help which is being sought by our committee. An AGM does not sound like an exciting event and this is another reason why there should be no charge for attending. New members would tend to be put off.

At the AGM there was a plea for help from the 'floor'. Now our idea of an AGM is a meeting which is run to a declared agenda. There had obviously been some correspondence and discussion between the regular 'club' members who seemed to know what the issues were.

Those of us who were not privy to these innermost secrets found ourselves to be more spectators than participants because of this. We know perfectly well that the response will be that all members were welcome to make their views known at the AGM and we accept that. Please be aware that it is somewhat intimidating as a newcomer to stand up and comment on an issue just raised in front of ones experienced colleagues who have had time to think about it in advance! Why not circulate an agenda via The Kiteflier so that one has the option of either responding by letter if attendance is not possible or if public speaking is too intimidating. The committee might well obtain more members' views this way.

Let us see more opinions in The Kiteflier. Meanwhile we shall enjoy our flying and look forward to a livelier, more open AGM next year!

Bearing in mind all that has been said it has been decided that the 1993 Kite Society of Great Britain annual convention will be held in conjunction with the Bristol International Kite Festival. The convention will be held on Friday 3rd September and the festival on Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th September.

The Convention centre will be the Redwood Lodge Country Hotel which is near to the Ashton Court festival site.

The Kite Society dinner and auction will take place during the evening of Friday 3rd September at the Redwood Lodge.

Full details of the convention will appear in issues of the Kiteflier starting in January 1993. In the meantime book the date in your diary and start preparing those auction items.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

WEIFANG 1993

This trip is being organised by FTS Ltd who specialise in educational trips. The 12 day tour cost, at 24th June 1992, £1,150 for a minimum of 15 people. The itinerary suggested is:

- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| March | 28 | Depart from Gatwick on Air China jumbo to Beijing. |
| | 29 | Arrive Beijing and transfer to Mandarin Hotel. |
| | 30 | Visit the Forbidden City and Tian Anmen Square before flying to Jinan (capital of Shandong province) where you will stay overnight at the Oilu Hotel. |
| | 31 | Travel to Weifang by train arriving at 10.41. Visit the Weifang Kite museum. |
| April | 01 | Attend the opening ceremony and take part in the activities and competitions. |
| | 02 | At leisure to enjoy the festival. |
| | 03 | At leisure to enjoy the festival. |
| | 04 | At leisure to enjoy the festival. |
| | 05 | Travel to Qingdao by train. Have a city tour and a visit to the brewery. |
| | 06 | Fly back to Beijing. City tour including the Temple of Heaven and Summer Palace. |
| | 07 | Climb the Great Wall and visit the Ming Tombs. A farewell dinner of Peking Duck before transferring to the airport for the flight home. |
| | 08 | Arrive Gatwick in the morning. |

All of the above is just a suggestion. The company is quite willing to modify the tour to sort the requirements of the group. If you are interested then you should write to us before 1st December with your requirements - if we get enough people then we will see what we can organise.

INDIA - BARODA, GUJARAT 1993

Whilst in Dieppe we picked up an information sheet regarding a trip being organised to the above kite festival in India. The cost, from Paris, is FF9,200 and departs on January 8th takes in 3 days in Bombay and 17 - 18 days at Baroda. Return date is 29th January. If you are interested then let us know and we will send you a copy of the information sheet - note that this is in French. Bookings must be made by 10th December.

BALI - June 1993

Again whilst in Dieppe we spoke to the entertainments manager of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Bali. He is very interested in having a group of kitefliers from various parts of the world go to Bali for an International kite festival. Details are very sparse at the moment but if anyone is interested then let us know. We will then chase it up a bit more and see what results. Let us know as soon as possible.

Thailand - March 1994 / New Zealand - March 1994

Both of these festivals are taking place in March 1994 and the organisers intend to arrange it so that New Zealand follows Thailand.

We would like to try and organise a party of British kitefliers to attend these festivals. Currently we have no idea on the format of the trip so let us know what you would like. Basically if anyone is interested in one or both of these events then get in touch, fairly soon, and we will see what we can arrange.

COMPETITION RESULTS

ROKKAKU CHALLENGE 1992

The results of this years U.K. Rokkaku Challenge were as follows:

<u>Team</u>	1st	Martin Croxton	30 points
	2nd	Organised Chaos	25 points
	3rd	Team Vertigo	20 points

Team Spirit Top Marx

<u>Individual</u>	1st	Stafford Wallace	28 points
	2nd	Martin Croxton	27 points
	3rd	Carole Peacock	25 points

KITE SOCIETY SINGLE LINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

<u>Flat</u>	Janake Groen - Kimono Kite
<u>Soft</u>	D Campbell - Pair of Legs
<u>Cellular</u>	Daryl Wilkinson - Prehistoric Bird
<u>Peoples Choice</u>	Colin Barefoot - Ladybirds


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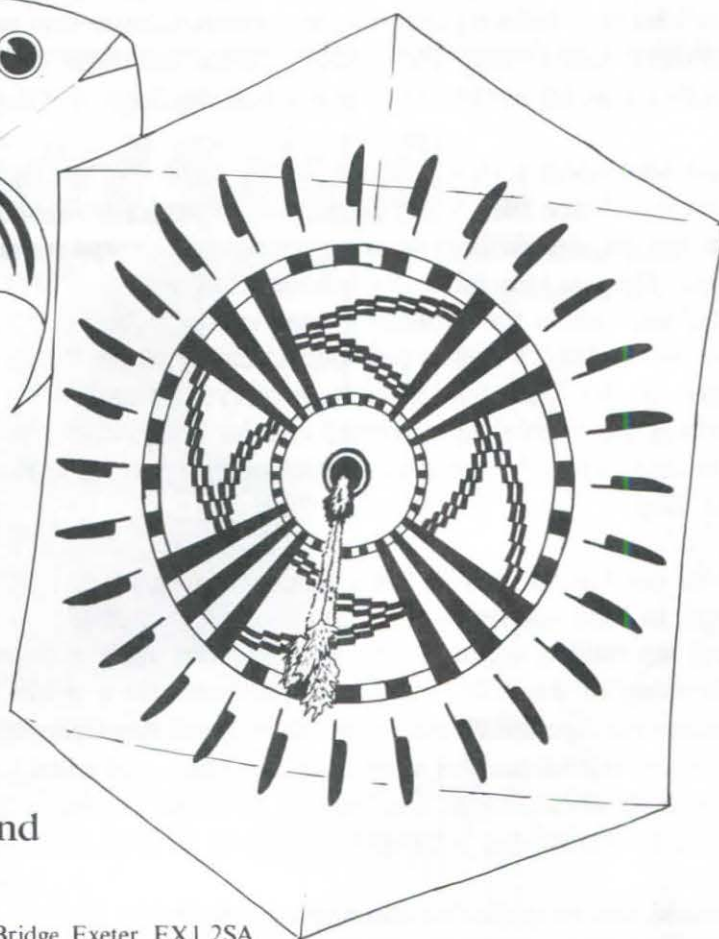
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THE SPENDLOVE PAGES

To many of us John Spendlove was something of a myth. Until a few years ago his name cropped up frequently in kite magazines, particularly in the letters section. Many of us will remember the inimitable style of the 'Spendlove Page' that sometimes appeared, first in K.O.N., and then later in The Kiteflier to satisfy the output of this prolific writer.

But sadly John is with us no more. He died at home on April 21st 1992. John had suffered from the effects of diabetes for a long time and finally he succumbed to a massive heart attack. He was in his early forties. His illness had caused him to drop out of University and had frustrated his promising career ambitions. As a result he held various jobs that would tolerate his ill health until the time came when he was unable to continue paid employment. Fortunately he had caring parents who continued to look after his needs, through his first heart attack in 1990, until his death.

John's disability had an influence on his kiting activities. Because he was unable to drive he developed a remarkable ability to travel using other means. For a long time he worked with the Preston Bus company and used this as a kiting resource. He would arrive at a kiting event, unexpectedly and unannounced, with sufficient kites, tobacco and his rucksack stuffed with Old Peculiar. He would then get on with the job of flying. On the field he was a quiet person, but with a deep sense of humour and a very dry wit. He could ham-up his Lancashire accent something rotten.

John's notoriety was most pronounced off the field. He seemed to have correspondence with almost every known kiteflying country. I think he tried to communicate in whatever language was most appropriate, but probably with a Lancashire dialect. What "There's nowt so strange as folk" translates to in Serbo-Croat I don't know. John's platform for correspondence was ostensibly that of the international Secretary of the Northern Kite Group. He certainly raised the status of that little group, and probably did a lot to cement kiteflying as an international activity at the time of its rebirth in the late 1970's.

John was never a maker of big flashy kites - he did not have enough available money for that AND his correspondence file. What he seemed to prefer was the odd and the unusual. His kites were a medium to test his graphic skills in drawing out the design, and his mental skills in determining the correct taxonomic name. Do you remember the famous Kitelines 'ultimate question' arguments about taxonomy? Indeed these arguments about the number of generic types, their classification and a normalised description methodology resulted in John's classic pull-out Kitelines article of Spring/Summer 1978 describing the whole family of kites. So his kites tended to be prototypes and suitable for his local flying field - the Preston Rec. Or perhaps the 'stable static framed cellular compound kite of the form dia hexagonal, 1 vertically radial in 1 post ditto, radially vaned as a series of split lozenges; flown from a split two leg bridle'; ie Prof Waldorf's Box Kite.

I was introduced to John via a letter to Kitelines in 1979 after we moved to the North-West of England. I wrote to John and received his typical reply - full of deep thought sketches and schemes. For several years, until we moved again, I was able to offer John a ride to NKG kite events. Later on he took over the editorship of the NKG Kite newsletter and for a while it consumed him. The trouble was the magazine became the Spendlove magazine; there must have been some friction and John dropped out. He seemed to have lost enthusiasm for kites in recent years and when I saw him last November he seemed worn down by the effects of his illness. Fortunately he found respite in the Baptist Church and put whatever energy he had into its fund raising activities in support of Rumania.

I would like to think that the best of John's kite designs and schemes should be preserved and would like

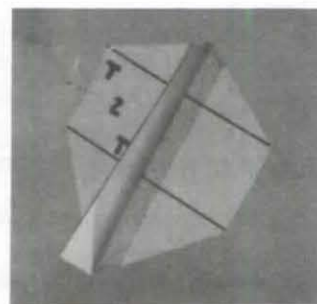
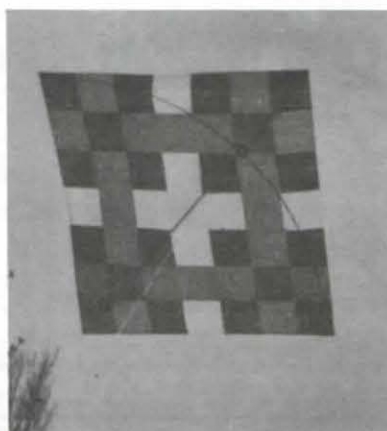
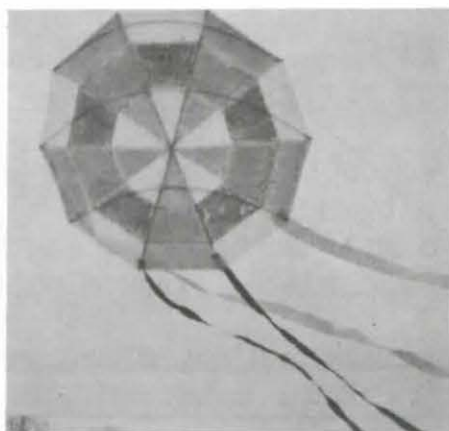
THE SPENDLOVE PAGES

to put together a little booklet. If any of you have some original John Spendlove drawings, particularly those with his charismatic lettering descriptions, then please send them, or a good copy to me for inclusion. I will return the originals. Any proceeds from this little book will then go to the Baptist Church relief fund.

Paul Chapman

The address is Paul Chapman, The Old Post Office, Wadeford, Chard, Somerset TA20 3AP.

John Spendlove was, over the years a very loyal contributor to both The Kitefliers Occasional Newsletter and latterly the Kiteflier. John could always be relied upon to introduce lively and intelligent controversy to the pages, as well as producing a steady range of kite designs produced with low technology materials in mind. We could not think of a better tribute to John than to reproduce some of his kite designs which have appeared during the last 12 years.



Top left Clockwise:

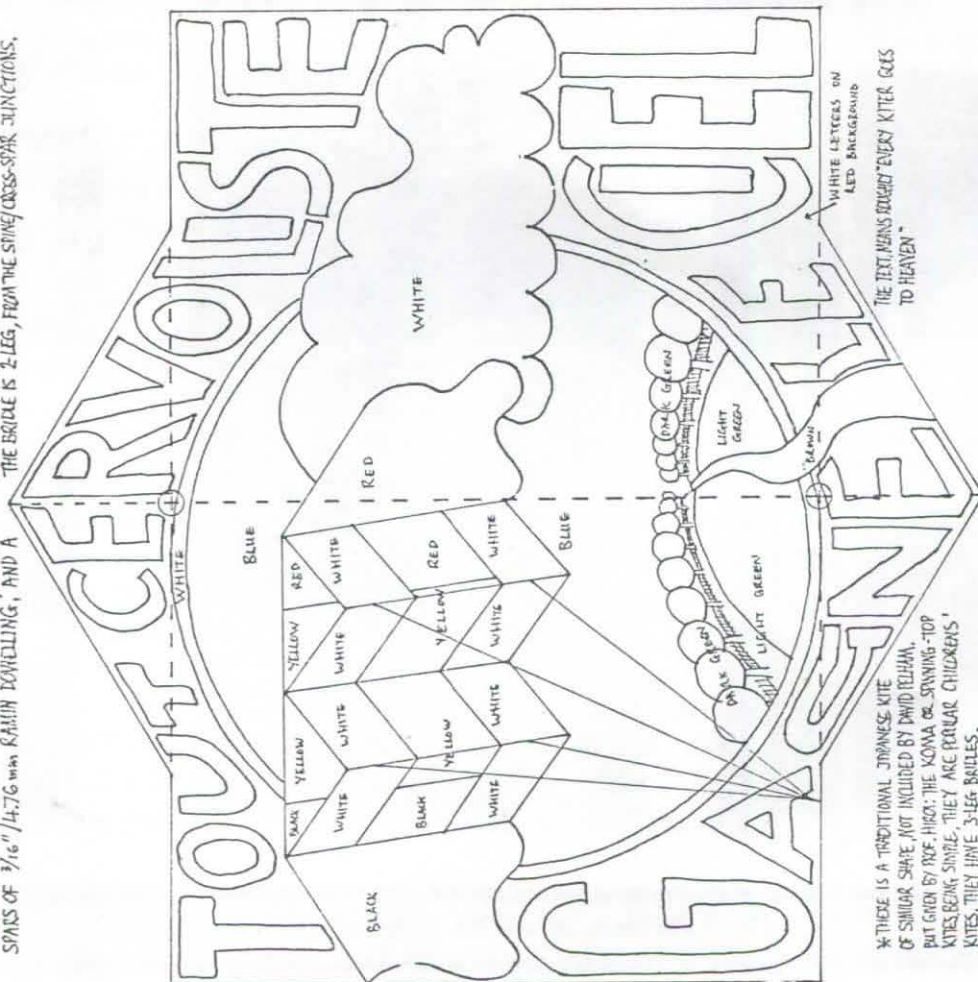
Decagon
Fighter Kite
TST - Tribute to Twining
John Spendlove
Swan Octagon
L'Enghien



T2T

THIS RITE WAS MADE FOR A FESTIVAL OF THE NOUNEUX GENOISTE BRIDGE, AND IS NAMED AFTER THE TOWN WHICH ASKED THEM TO STAGE THE EVENT. THE SHAVE, BETWEEN THAT OF THE DISTINGUISHED PABEN-POWELL LEVITIC & THAT OF THE ROCK-A-LU, WAS CHOSEN AS BEING SUITABLE TO DISPLAY THE BRIDGE OF THE NOUNEUX GENOISTE BRIDGE.

THE FULL-SIZE VERSION OF THIS RITE HAS 90cm/35.43" SPACES OF $\frac{3}{16}$ " = .75mm KAHIN DOWELLING AND A

SPACES OF $\frac{3}{16}$ " / 4.76 mm RAILIN DOVELLING, AND A

AKA THERE IS A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE KITE OF SAMURAI SHAPE, NOT INCLUDED BY DAVID PELLHAM, BUT GIVEN BY ROSE, HIGH: THE KOMA OR SPINNING-TOP KITES, BEING SINGLE, THEY ARE POPULAR CHILDREN'S KITES. THEY HAVE 3-LEG BRIDLES.

\$ del. a.d. xij Kal. Mai. MCM LXXVI.

"T2" IS NOT A NEW INSPIRING NAME. "TRIUMPH TO TWINING," WHICH IT STANDS FOR, MEANS A LITTLE EXPLANATION: "I'M TWINNING THIS." THE AUTHOR OF AN ARTICLE IN ENVELOPES, "REGULAR MECHANICS OF A SCOUT KITE," GIVING DETAILS OF A "HIGH-FLYING KITE," AND THIS KITE WAS INSPIRED BY IT.

THE SCALE OF THIS PLAN IS AGAIN 1:1. THE SPARS ARE SUSPENDED BAMBOO, AND THE SAIL IS A STRONG TISSUE-LIKE PAPER. THE CONSTRUCTION DIFFERS IN TWO SIGNIFICANT DETAILS FROM THAT OF THE ORIGINAL. THERE IS A LONGitudINAL SPAR ONLY ALONG THE LOWER EDGE OF THE KEEL, WITHOUT THERE BEING A SPINE AS WELL; & THE KEEL IS FREE, WHEREAS ON TWINNINGS KITE THERE ARE LINES BETWEEN THE CROSS-SPARS AND THE KEEL SPAR, TO KEEP THE KEEL NORMAL TO THE SAIL.

ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO BOWING, A TAIL IS NOT NEEDED, EITHER ON THIS OR ON THE ORIGINAL. IF THIS KITE IS ENLARGED, THE USE OF A SPINE AS WELL AS A KEEL SPAR MAY BE NECESSARY.

KEEL UNDERNEATH
KEEL IS DOUBLED FOR STRENGTH.

TWO-HG BRIDLE

BRIDLING-
-POINT

WITH THANKS TO JACK CATCH OF BOLTON FOR THE PLAY OF THE ORIGINAL.

John Spendlove

² delin. Kol. Age. MCMLXXXVI.

MORE SIDES TO THE QUESTION

In the April 1987 issue of The Kiteflyer there appeared a plan of mine for a plastic quickie: an octagonal variant of the dodecagonal "Star of India" fighter. More recently I had another attack of the polygons, and I decided to try out a few more. The idea was to make regular polygons capable of tailless flight if possible, but I'm not too proud to add a tail if necessary!

The drawing supplied shows the basic shapes of eight such polygons, starting with an equilateral triangle. The triangle does fly, even tailless, but it has a short flare at the nose (a bit like that on some Rollers) and it also has a flap on the trailing edge like that on Ed Grual's Flapper delta. These features make it somewhat unlike the other kites shown. I haven't given full details of them because I don't think the design is worth it - I strongly suspect that if you want a triangular kite, a delta is your best bet. Various fliers (Nishi is one) have shown that it is perfectly possible to fly keelless deltas.

Different ways of fitting spars and bridling the various kites are possible. For example, the hexagon shown must have a bridle of at least three legs, whereas if the spars were differently placed so that the kite would fly point-forward instead of side forward, a two leg bridle might do.

On balance, I think the most successful of the kites I've made myself - of the selection shown, that is - are the octagon I wrote about before, and the hendecagon. This one is a bit of a nuisance to draw out, if only because eleven doesn't go into 360 very neatly! Rather to my surprise, however, it flies very well without a tail on just a two leg bridle. For that reason I supply fuller details of this particular kite.

Although (typically) I haven't done it in practice, in theory I had the idea of trying to make a polygon thematic train. I'd better explain what I mean. Kite trains, as pretty well all readers will know, have become increasingly popular over the past few years. There are sound practice reasons for using reliable simple designs, for long trains in particular: diamonds and deltas are two obvious examples. Especially for shorter trains, though, I think there may be another way of looking at the matter: that of having a common theme. If you have a train of kites of identical shape and size, the theme would be one of decoration: this is already often used, of course - a train is made up of a series of kites of colour a, then colour b, then colour c and so on. Other treatments are possible, though - a train of Japanese style kites might feature different figures from Japanese legend, for example. It would also be possible, at least in theory, to have mixed thematic trains, and a train of a number of different polygons would be an example. I commend the idea, at least, to your imagination.

If trains of mixed kites are to be considered, I guess that one practical difficulty to be faced is the differing flight characteristics of various designs. In the case of the polygons described above, it seemed to me that the best bet was to make the kites of equal surface area. My mentioning of the area of the hendecagon described above is linked to this. I started with an area and then worked out, where I could, the associated values of the

MORE SIDES TO THE QUESTION

radius of the circumcircle and the side of the polygon. Working all this out can be a bit fiddly if you are bad at mathematics, as I am, but it is possible with a calculator (preferably a "scientific" one) and an encyclopaedia of maths or the like. Mind you, in some cases I needed several attempts! I list the formulae I used below, just in case anyone's interested. In each case, A=area, r=radius of circumcircle, s=side of polygon and a=central angle of polygon.

$$\text{Triangle: } A = \frac{3}{4} r^2 \sqrt{3} \\ s = r \sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{Square: } A = 2r^2 \\ s = r \sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{Pentagon: } A = \frac{5}{8} r^2 \sqrt{10 + 2\sqrt{5}} \\ s = r \sqrt{2(5 - \sqrt{5})}$$

$$\text{Enneagon: } A = 4.5r^2 \sin a \\ s = 2r \sin a/2$$

$$\text{Decagon: } A = \frac{5}{4} r^2 \sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}} \\ s = r \sqrt{2(5 - 1)}$$

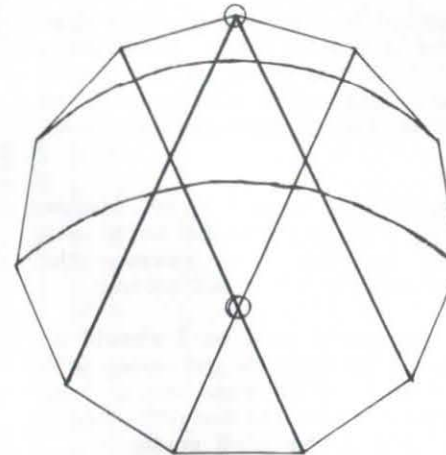
$$\text{Hexagon: } A = \frac{3}{2} r^2 \sqrt{3} \\ s = r$$

$$\text{Heptagon: } A = 3.5r^2 \sin a \\ s = 2r \sin a/2$$

$$\text{Octagon: } A = 2r^2 \sqrt{2} \\ s = r \sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{Hendecagon: } A = 5.5r^2 \sin a \\ s = 2r \sin a/2$$

$$\text{Dodecagon: } A = 6r^2 \sin a \\ s = 2r \sin a/2$$



Sail: High-density polythene - a large garden refuse sack.

Frame: Low quality bamboo from a blind, ca 3mm diameter, sanded but not carefully balanced.

Bridle: Two-leg, from points circled.

Spar lengths: 2 x ca 86cm and 2 x ca 78 cm for the straight spars, and ca 85.5 cm and ca 92 cm for curved ones.

The radius of the circumcircle is about 43.5 cm, and the sides are about 25 cm long. Area is ca 5,625 square cms, or about 6 square ft.

I made the kite collapsible for ease of transport. The spar ends fit into pieces of plastic straw about 1.5cm long, taped to the sail. One end of each is sealed by heating it over a flame while it is held flat by tweezers. Such fittings are quick to make; but please note that they are not very durable and are therefore only suitable for quickies which don't need to last very long!

JOHN SPENDLOVE

THREE STICK SHIELD KITE - FRESH WIND

Three-Stick Shield Kite: Fresh Wind Version

John Spendlove

Details accompanying the main sketch:

1. Corner of sail at leading edge.
2. End of leading-edge spar, with small hole bored through.
3. Loop of garden wire through hole, to which lines are tied.
4. Bridle - front leg.
5. Bracing-line to front end of spine.
6. Bowing-line for leading-edge spar (depth of bow should be 60-80mm).
7. Short length of rubber tubing has hole punched through it and is attached to loop in perimeter line: it takes end of arched cross-spar.
8. Alloy ring is attached to loop of perimeter-line at pointed end of sail.
9. Loop is to fit into notch at end of spine.
10. Both sides of the doubled rear leg of the bridle are looped round the spine, and also round the alloy ring at 8. The spine passes through the ring to fit into the loop at 9.
11. A ring for the spine to pass through is lashed to the leading-edge spar also. (This is best done before the spar is glued in place). I have attached a piece of line to be fitted into the forward notch of the spine as the loop 9 is into the rear one. This may not be necessary, given that the bracing-line from the l/e spar ends serves a similar function, but it does prevent some distortion of the sail.

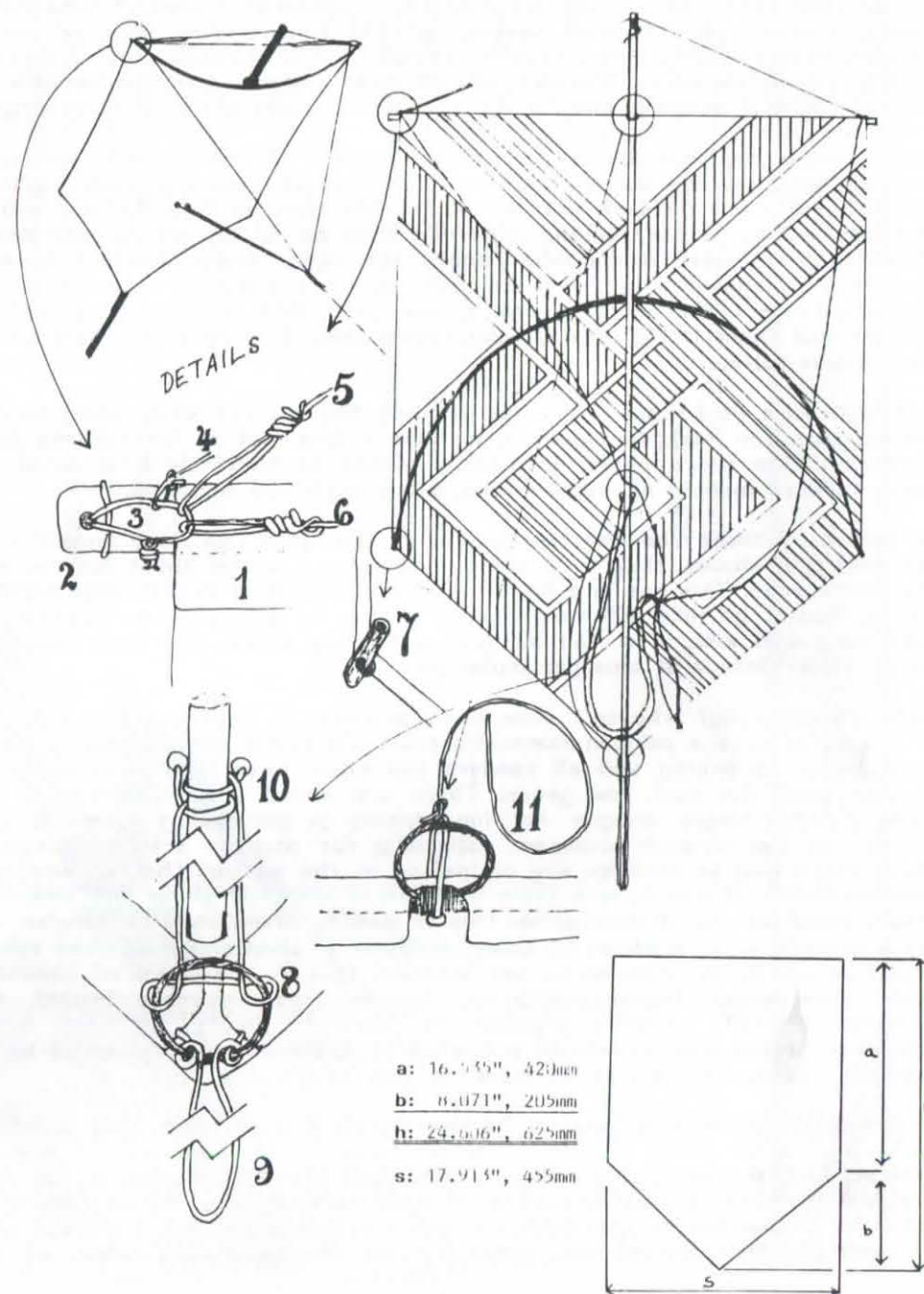
Bridle-leg lengths are approximately as follows: forward legs - $21\frac{1}{4}$ "/540mm; rear leg(s) - $18\frac{1}{2}$ "/470mm. Note, however, that the leg lengths vary with the size of the wire loop at each l/e spar tip. For that reason, the dimensions given for the forward legs are measured from the sail corner.

This kite was first tried with a 2-leg bridle. I supposed that as I should be using a long tail as a matter of course, I might be able to get away with such a simplification of the original light-wind kite, which also has a 3-leg bridle. I was mistaken. I varied the bridle-setting and tail-length without success. I could only get the kite to fly when I fitted the 3-leg bridle.

No loop or ring is shown for locating the centre of the arched spar because there ain't no such folderol. On this kite, I find it suffices merely to place the arched spar between sail and spine. Probably there isn't really very much pressure on it; the parchment is, after all, fairly stiff, and it is further stiffened by the glued fold containing the perimeter.

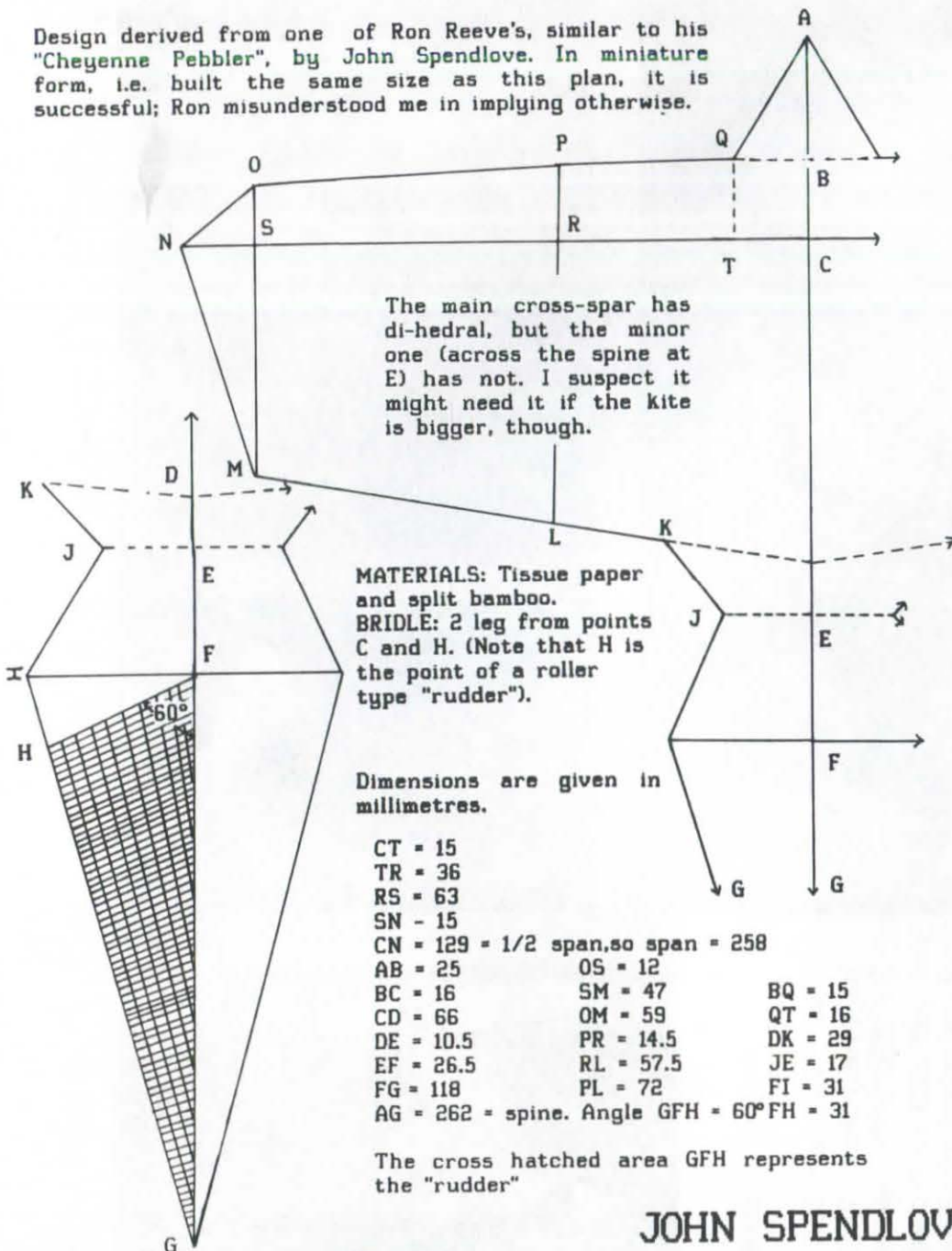
Erratum In Kiteflier no 32, July 87, p19 is my windhover plan. A note on the wing states that the minor cross spars (across the spine at E) has got no dihedral. True. There is no cross-spar at E. That should be at "F". Please accept my apologies.

John Spendlove



THE WINDHOVER.

Design derived from one of Ron Reeve's, similar to his "Cheyenne Pebbler", by John Spendlove. In miniature form, i.e. built the same size as this plan, it is successful; Ron misunderstood me in implying otherwise.



JOHN SPENDLOVE

SNUB NOSED DELTA

PAGE 14

On Model "A" this angle is +/- 150 degrees.
On Model "B" it is +/- 140 degrees.

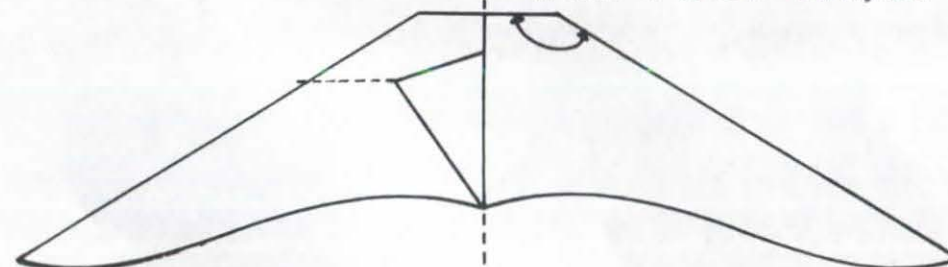


Diagram is to scale (1:10) for Model "A" only.

	Model "A"		Model "B"	
Spine:	37.5cm	15"	45cm	18"
Span:	180cm	72"	125cm	50"
Snubnose:	25cm	10"	20cm	8"
Keel Length:	30cm	12"	36.25cm	14.5"
Keel Depth:	17.5cm	7"	13.75cm	5.5"
Spreader bar down L.E.:	24cm	9.6"	20cm	8"
L.E.:	90cm	36"	75cm	30"

As shown in the diagram, the point of the keel is directly below the spreader bar. Sail: Tissue paper. Spars: On model "A", all ramin dowelling, diam 3mm 1/8". On model "B", ramin spreader bar, other spars of plastic drinking straws.

* Model "B" is the original one, Made in 1980 and flown very successfully many times. Model "A" is a prototype and less reliable: modification could be beneficial.

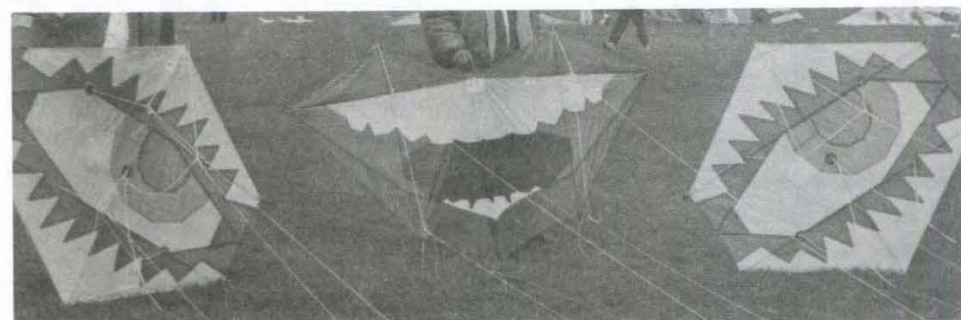
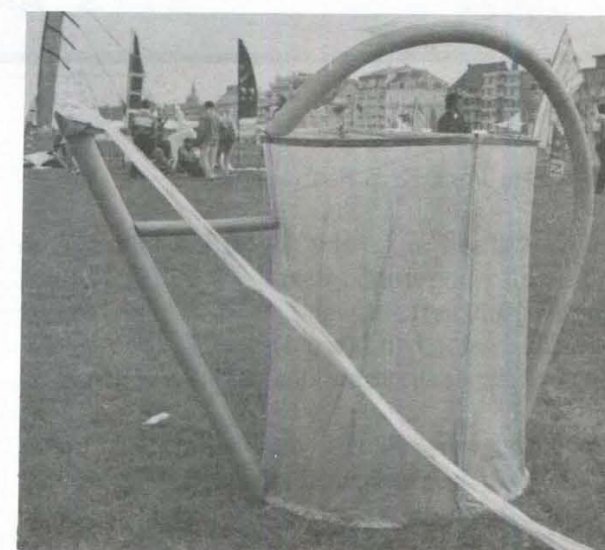
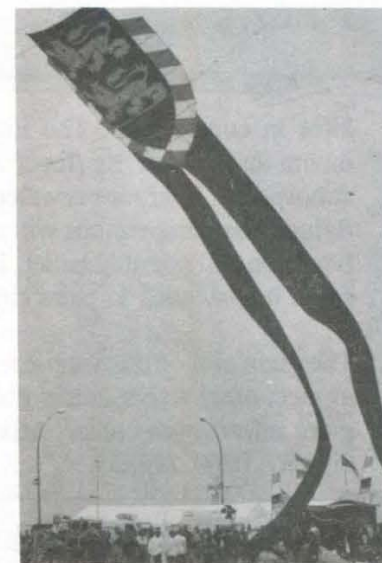
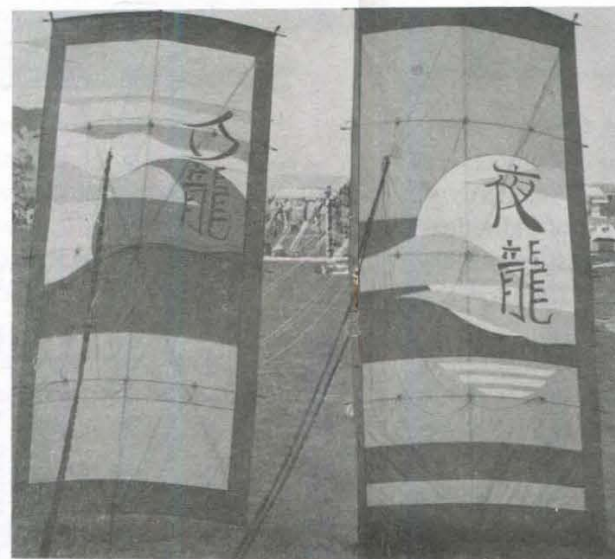
* I cut tissue with a scapel, which is sharper than a craft knife. No prizes for guessing that I'm always cutting my fingers too. Be careful.

I would like to add a few more notes about the delta. The Otterspool Prom. N.K.G. meet this afternoon was afflicted with very light winds, so it turned out to be suitable for more prolonged testing of the kite.

Given it's high aspect ratio and flimsy construction, the kite is obviously for light wind. I suspect, however, that any light wind won't do - it needs to be steady. Whereas most deltas tend to drift backwards when the wind drops, this one can tip forward into a dive and the dive cannot always be corrected. If recovery is not possible there's a chance that the flying-line will get caught round the sail. This may tear the sail, which is eventually happened this afternoon.

Seeing that the kite isn't altogether unflyable, I assume the fault mentioned can be corrected, but I'm not sure how this can be achieved. If the tipping-forward is a stall, the presumably adding a drogue or tail to hold the kite back might make matters worse. It might be better to shift the point of the keel, and therefore the towing point, a little aft. Another possibility that occurs to me is the addition of some sort of spoiler at the back. I don't like the notion, as it seems a bit tricky for what should be a kite which is easy to make.

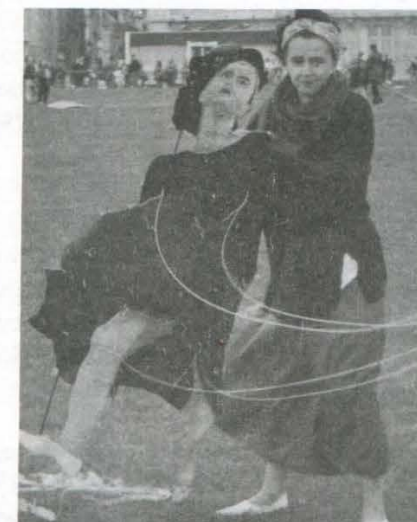
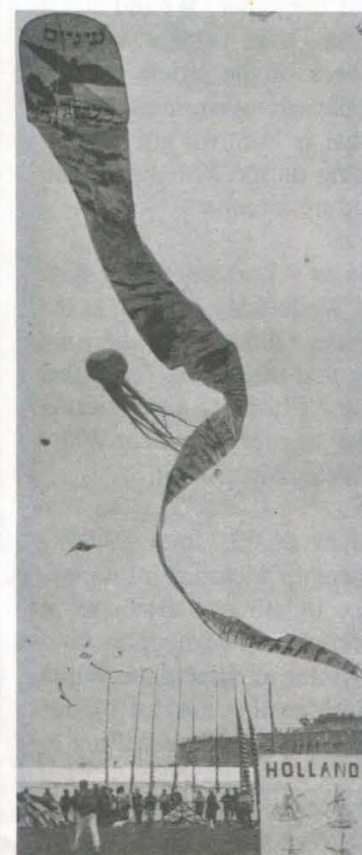
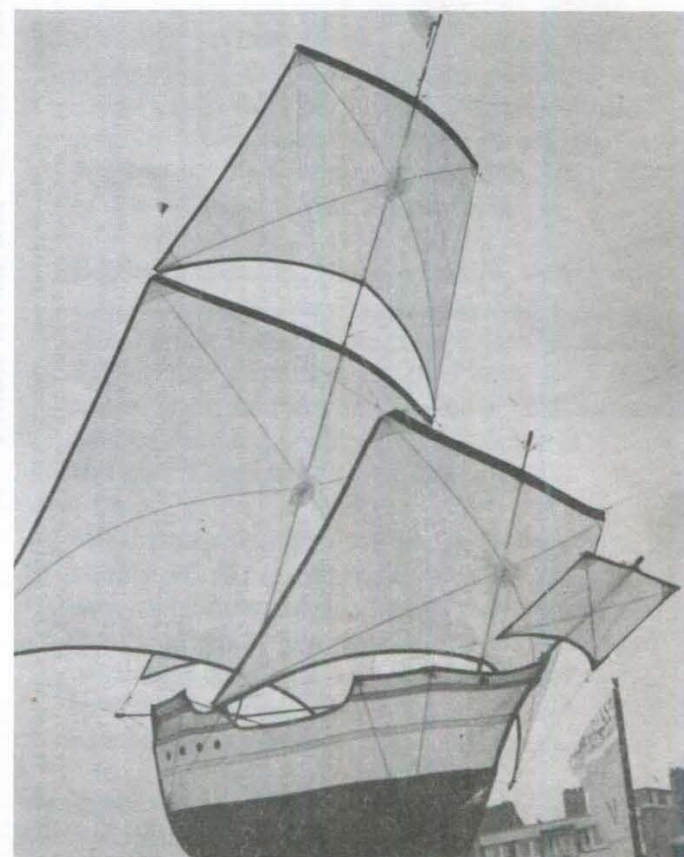
John Spendlove



From topleft corner - clockwise.

DIEPPE 1992

Owl Kite; Edo Kite; Normandy Shield Kite; Watering Can Kite; Flower Kites; Balinese Kite; Winner of the Sight and Seeing competition; Israeli Peace Kite; Ship Kite; Pin-up Kite!; One of the entries into the Sight and Seeing competition.



EVENT NEWS

Margam Park Kite Festival

Steve Gibson and Peter Metcalf would like to thank all who turned out to the first Kite Festival at Margam Park, in June. In particular, special thanks must go to Yaro Dunnetts, for his pre-festival stunt demonstrations and auction donation.

As is, of course typical, the wind decided not to blow over the weekend! However all agreed that the site is worth a visit irrespective of what the wind decides to do and should it fail to blow again next year, we will organise a 'Get out of the Maze' competition! The efforts made by Steve Brockett and the Avon Kiteflyers to get some kites aloft were appreciated and thanks to Chris Murray for the workshops.

So, undaunted and having learnt a lot from the first one, we are already working on next years. Full details will follow and we have a couple of things up our sleeve, but the dates to note are June 12th and 13th.

Hargrave Anniversary

Plans are in hand to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the invention of the box kite, by Hargraves. Though it is often thought that he was an Australian he was in fact born in Greenwich, London.

The suggestion, put forward by Doug Jones, is celebrate the event at the Blackheath Kite festivals, both the Easter event and the Summer Rally. We are also looking to try and home in a bit on the actual date of his birth and maybe have a fly on Blackheath on the appropriate day. We will keep you informed of events.

GROUP NEWS

West Cornwall Stunt Kite League

Starting soon for anyone interested in flying stunt

kites in competition. The idea is to meet every month or so and fly for fun in a competitive atmosphere. Everyone is welcome, all standards of flying. The competitions will consist of individual precision and possibly ballet. If interest grows this could be extended to pairs and team flying.

The main aim of this league is for enjoyment, and to meet other flyers in this growing sport. So for more information contact Mike - 0209 710386 or Simon - 0209 719635.

Loddon Valley Kite Fliers

Peter Hillman writes of a new group:-

My wife and I have been members of the Kite Society for about 18 months. We first got the bug back in 1990 when we came across the Bristol Kite Festival while on a holiday in the West Country. Early this year we decided to test the air and find out if anyone else in Basingstoke would be interested in forming a club. We wrote to the local paper and the editor replied and suggested that we do an article for the paper. We did and it appeared on the front page along with a photograph. Within a week of the article we had over 15 calls from people who were interested in forming a club, and that is how we got started. We held our first meeting on the 29th April, and to date we have 52 paid up members.

Details of the club. Name - Loddon Valley Kite Fliers. Meetings every Wednesday evening at the Jolly Farmer Public House, Cliddesden, where we fly, weather permitting and then retire for a chat and a drink in the bar. Fly-ins - held second Saturday and last Sunday of every month at White Hill near Kingsclere (Watership Down).

Membership - Individual £6.00, Joint £9.00, Family £12.00 (membership includes insurance, newsletter almost every month and discounts at local kite shops). Workshops - we hope to hold workshops during the winter months at the White Hart Public House, Basingstoke. A lot of our members make their own kites and are willing to

help others. If anyone is interested in coming to a meeting or joining please contact Peter Hillman (secretary) on 0256 51836 or Neil Robinson (events secretary) on 0256 51426.

Hereford Kite Group- The Wyeflyers

Herefordshire Kite Group (The Wyeflyers), are pleased to report that, thanks to a lot of local publicity - and most of it good! - we now have a membership into double figures, and rising! so Ron Dell cannot refer to us as the Hereford kite couple anymore and the rumours can stop!

Our base is at the Hereford leisure centre, where we meet on the second Sunday of every month. We now have a small membership fee - who knows even a pin next! For further details about the group, contact Steve Gibson on 0432 359999 or Peter Metcalf on 0432 263737.

Start a Group??

John Thornton would like to meet any fellow single line kitefliers in the Woking/Guildford area of Surrey that would like to get together for an occasional meeting. If interested contact John on 0483 760 925 (evenings only).

Blackheath Kite Association

We wish to thank the Kent Kite Klub for their support and enthusiasm at both the Easter and Summer festivals, plus of course for the revenue generated from the Bouncy Castle.

However we would like to correct one item reported in the Kite Group News (July 1992), that the car race is "The Kiteability Kiskeedee Car Race" although probably 75% of those taking part were members of the K.K.K.

We look forward to K.K.K. support next year and welcome all kiteflyers at our "93" dates:

S.T.A.C.K. Event 10th April 1993 (Saturday).
Blackheath Easter Festival 11th and 12th April

1993.

Blackheath Summer Festival Sunday 27th June 1993.

OFF CUTS AND THREAD ENDS - Reports from our undercover agent, A Nonymouse - these are the things that the rest of you can't be bothered to tell us.

Kite Traders Association

The Kite Traders Association International, is a worldwide organisation catering for the needs of the (surprise, surprise!) kite trade and its associated suppliers of goods and services. It provides many benefits including trade news updates, a world trade show, safety stickers and a whole lot more.

Interested parties should contact K.T.A. President, Andy King at The Kite Store Ltd, on 071 836 1666 for information.

Forthcoming Videos

Two new videos capturing the recent World Sportkite Championships in Japan and the European Cup in Holland will soon be available. More news as we receive it.

New Books

A flurry of new releases for Xmas, (yes it is almost that time again). **Kites and Windsocks** by Jim Rowlands and **Kites - A practical handbook** by Ron Moulton and Pat LLoyd are reviewed elsewhere.

Stunt Kites by Nop Velthuisen has now been translated into English from the original Dutch version and **Fighter Kites** by David Gomberg is also available. Call your kite store now!

Those pins again

A recent conversation with a manufacturer of hot air balloon pins revealed that there are collections

in the U.K. which exceed 5000 different pins and one or two in the USA which contain over 15000. Bet they have bigger hats to put them on too.

The Air Circus

Robbi and Christine Sugarman of The Air Circus in New York, U.S.A., have asked us to point out there is no connection direct or indirect, with the retail shop bearing the same name in Bath, England.

Hair Bear Bunch

Those well known habitual funsters of the stunt kite world added another new unusual-place-to-fly-your-kite-from to their list. A Flexifoil Impulse was flown on 40 foot, 300lb lines from the top deck of the Sheerness to Vlissingen ferry, (which itself was travelling at 20 knots!).

Other targets to date include well known bridges, tower blocks and a rumour that an attempt is to be made from the Eiffel Tower has been heard. Anyone else done it in unusual places? Answers in a plain brown envelope to the usual address please.

Airborn Fighter

Not exactly a hair bear but certainly a dare bear, Indian Fighter supremo, Stafford Wallace, has suggested another feat which has certainly raised recent debate. Is it possible to fly a fighter kite from a hot air balloon? Negotiations are currently underway with a balloon owner with the hope of making an attempt in the not too distant future.

Competition Winner

The winner of the competition organised by Anima Mundi Designs distributed with the July issue of The Kiteflier was Kevin Elsworth of Kent. Congratulations to Keven on winning the Rokkaku with "Zeus" design.



ADD ON PACKS AVAILABLE

Manufactured and distributed by RSM Leisure Company
35 Burley Grove, Downend, Bristol BS16 5QB, Great Britain.
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BOOK REVIEWS

Kites and Windsocks by Jim Rowlands - published by Batsford. Hardback Price £13.99. ISBN 0-7134-6705-3. Available from most kite shops.

This is the third book by Jim and it deals exclusively with soft kites plus some plans for drogues and windsocks. The book follows a similar pattern to Jim's other two books, with a basic introduction to materials and construction techniques and some details of applique techniques before going into kite design chapters which cover Sleds, Parafoils, Flowforms, and Inflatable kites. The designs vary in complexity with a Whale and Frog perhaps being the most unusual designs in the book. Most of the designs are illustrated by varying quality colour photos.

A book more for the enthusiasts than the rank amateur as some degree of experience is needed to decipher some of the more cryptic diagrams. The chapters on windsocks and drogues contain a few novelties including a soldier windsock.

Kites - A Practical Handbook for the Modern Kite Flyer by Ron Moulton and Pat Lloyd. Published by Argus Books. Price £12.95. ISBN 1-85486-050-X.

This second book by Ron Moulton has many similarities to his first. The main one being the excellent technical drawings by Pat Lloyd. It is these that make this book good. The text and photographs show that the book was a long time in the creation and the slightly uneven layout of the chapters suggest that the authors or editors seemed to be unsure what type of kite book to produce.

There are some good (and welcome) chapters on making basic kites aimed at workshops - something missing in the British market, a slightly narrow view of kite artists and chapter on aerial photography. This is excellent as is the chapter on parachuting teddybears - a section of kiteflying that has never been so comprehensively covered before. A Rokkaku fighting kite chapter is also there.

The main core of the book seems to be the sport kite section which contains good information and nine steerable kite designs including a generic spinoff and Benson Scorchers.

There is also a chapter for single line kite designs which, for us old timers, is a bit of a disappointment as it contains some revisited designs from 12 years ago. Of course for most kitemakers these designs are all new.

The Book contains extensive appendices with lists of kite groups, shops and magazines (destined, as usual to be out of date on the day of publication!).

All in all it is one of the best new books to appear on the British kite scene for a long time - with superb diagrams. A must for the kite book shelf.

The book should be available from most kiteshops but can be ordered directly from Argus Books, Bailey Distribution, Units 1a/1b, Learoyd Road, Mountfield Road Industrial Estate, New Romney, Kent TN28 8XU tel 0679 66905. Price is £12.95 plus 10% P&P (cheques made payable to Bailey Distribution).

S.F.Cody's War Kites by Hugh Andrew. This private publication is a must for Cody enthusiasts. A beautiful booklet full of Hugh's excellent diagrams. Price £7.50. Kiteability stock it or contact Hugh Andrew, Glendower Mews, Clifton Park Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BP.

KITE SHOP UPDATE

Details of a new shop run by Mike Pickering. **Skyline Kites**, 18 Fore Street, Copperhouse, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 4DY. Open Monday -Saturday 9.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00. Sunday sales and demonstrations by arrangement.

An ever increasing stock provides Quality Kites and Accessories for all levels of fliers at affordable prices with discounts for Kite Society members. Situated close to Hayle's 3 miles of flat sandy beach and sand dunes for the Flexifoil nuts!

Cannock Kites were launched with a bang recently when within a week of opening their new double shop unit someone kindly threw a coping stone through the display window.

The shop at 6 - 6a Church Street, Bridgtown, Cannock, Staffordshire WS12 5YR Telephone 05643 271563, is conveniently situated just off the A5 and approximately 3 miles from junction 11 of the M6. It offers over 500 square feet of display area with an extensive range of kites, accessories, boomerangs and juggling equipment as well as juggling workshops. Opening hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am - 5.30pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm the telephone number is 0543 573177 but the proprietors Richard and Judith Potter can be contacted at other times on 0543 271563.

They are offering a minimum 5% discount across the board to all Kite Society members with larger discounts available on most kites and special mail order deals. Please phone for a quotation on specific items.

The **Mail Order Kite Company** are in the process of negotiations for their own shop which they hope to open in early 93, but for the moment they have a new address and telephone number - The Mail Order Kite Company, 8 Macaulay Avenue, Portsmouth PO6 4NZ. Tel 0705 642891. An updated catalogue is now available.

Force Nine Kites have opened a shop in Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Force Nine also produce a very comprehensive mail order catalogue and offer a range of kites from hand painted silk Chinese kites, single line and sports kites. Friendly advice is always available. Force nine will again be present at the major kite festivals next season and wish to thank all members for their support so far at this years events and festivals. Please contact them for details of their kite flying group. The shop is open 6 days a week at 257 Old Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 3LU. Tel 0255 420779.

Another new shop (part of The Kite Company of Bristol) is called "**The Air Circus**". The address is 18 Northumberland Place, Bath BA1 5AR. Tel 0225 444512. Open 10am - 6pm Monday to Saturday. Carries all the usual range of single line and sports kites - they claim to have one of the largest sportkite selections in the country. They also carry kite spares - spars, ripstop etc. In addition they also organise balloon rides, gliding and bungee jumping in fact anything to do with the air. The shop acts as the contact for The Bath Kite Group (whoever they are?). 10% discount given to Kite Society members.

Plymouth Kite Company, Q.A.B. Marina, Coxside, Plymouth, Devon PL4 0LP. Tel 0752 670156 / 254574 (sales). Fax 0752 670156. Opening times Mon - Sat 10.00am - 6.00pm.

They stock a general mixture of kites, books and kitemaking materials - catalogue and mail order available. They design and manufacture powerhouse kites and are involved with exporting, U.K. dealers and retailing

from P.K. Co. premises. Latest design for 1993 is the "Jazz" - carbon fibre delta kite retailing at £29.99.

NEW KITES

Jim Rowlands writes about new items from Inflight. Inflight have introduced an improved version of the Bladerunner. The standard six foot span remains, but the section has been redesigned, making it more powerful and much faster. It will cope with lower wind speeds, 3-5 mph much better; it is also much easier to flip over, making launching very easy. At higher wind speeds 10-15mph it really comes into its own with a strong pull and is extremely fast. Reports on prototypes by retailers suggest that this new version compares very favourably, in terms of power, speed and ease of launching, with the equivalent sized Flexifoil.

An additional eight foot version should be available in the new year, although plans for the ten foot version have been abandoned.

News from Colin Barefoot:- I am going into production of my ladybird kite (winner of the people's choice at Bristol). The kite is in three colours (red body, white eyes and wings, with black head and spots) and measures 420mm x 730mm. It is made of ripstop nylon supported on a fibreglass frame, with yakko wings, and flies in both medium and strong winds. The price will be £25 which includes postage and packing.

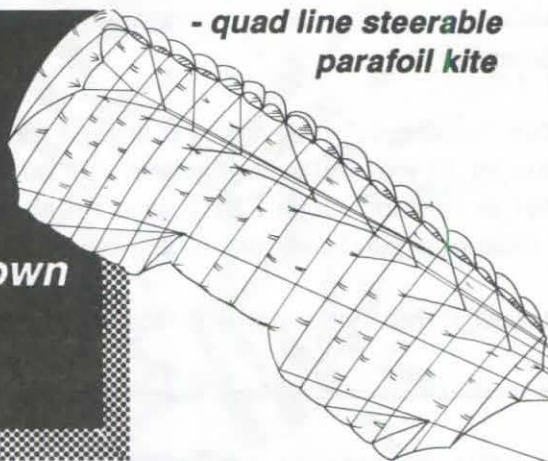
Tim Benson of Fizz Sport Kites has informed us of the latest addition to their sport kite range. The Bantam (3/4 Phantom) has been re-introduced due to customer demand and is available at an introductory price of £79.95 + p&p. Fizz Sport Kites can be contacted on 0274 532899.

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PRIVATE ADS

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1 Powerhouse Edge kite £65.
All in excellent condition.

Tel 0736 330382.

Wanted in good condition, "Your book of Kites" and "Kites: an Historical Survey" both by Clive Hart. Contact D R Hughes, 28 Mill Road, Bozeat, Via Wellingborough, Northants NN9 7JA or phone 0933 663602.

For Sale, due to advancing years, Stratoscoop 3.5, 48 sq/ft parafoil. Made as a special order from Greens in Multi-colour Rainbow. This kite has never been flown, and is bright and new, needing only small final adjustments that I never seem to find time to do. A real bargain at £50.00. Ring Bob on 0895 234126 (Uxbridge).

Kite Aerial Photography. Following 8 years of development and many hundreds of photographs the 'FREYA' pattern camera rigs have reached the stage where I feel they might be of interest to other kitefliers. As I lack the time to produce them myself I wonder if there is a manufacturer who would be prepared to carry out any further development work and produce a batch for sale? Also available is a prototype 'ergonomic winch' which has proved very useful and which might well find a ready market in this country and abroad. Any company wishing to produce these items must be prepared to take out any necessary patents and have a lot of fun test flying.

For more details contact T H Deary, 6 Inman Road, Sprowston, Norwich, Norfolk, England NR7 8JT. Tel 0603 411727.

Kitemakers!

With "economic" recovery just around the corner, why not take on an apprentice?
I am an 18 year old school leaver with no true direction, but a keen interest in designing - making - flying kites in ripstop, which I have used for about four years. I have many ideas for new kite designs and have (I reckon) a good eye for colour, but nothing truly original yet.

Contact Robin Foley on 0258 861 341 any evening - Any (polite) advice gratefully received.

IF YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THIS COLUMN IT IS FREE AND WE JUST NEED TO HAVE YOUR COPY WITH US BY THE 15TH DECEMBER FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE.

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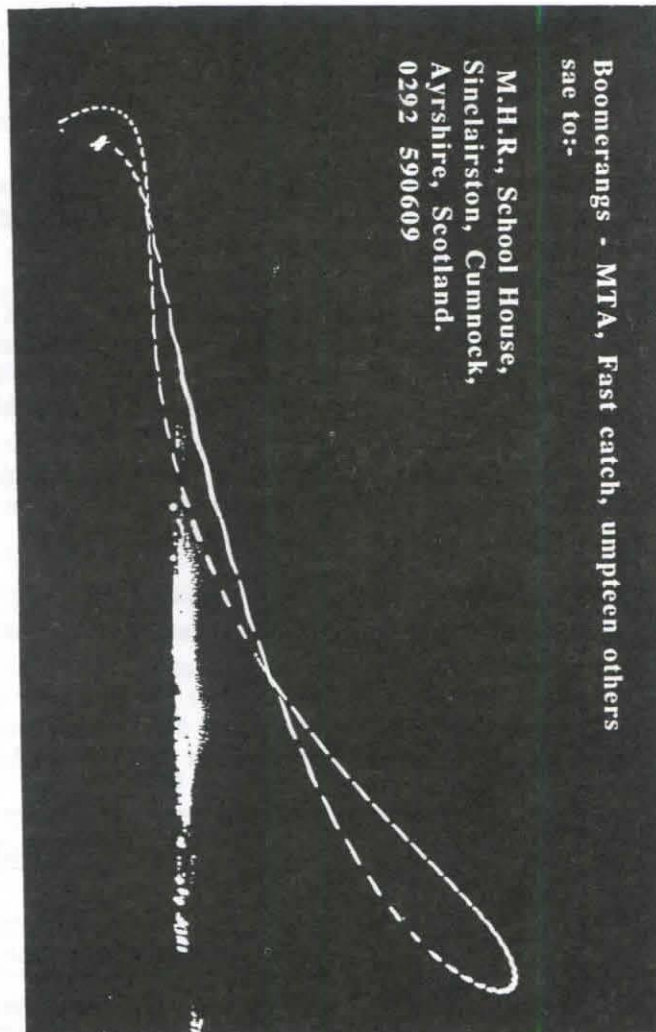
PARA BEAR KITS



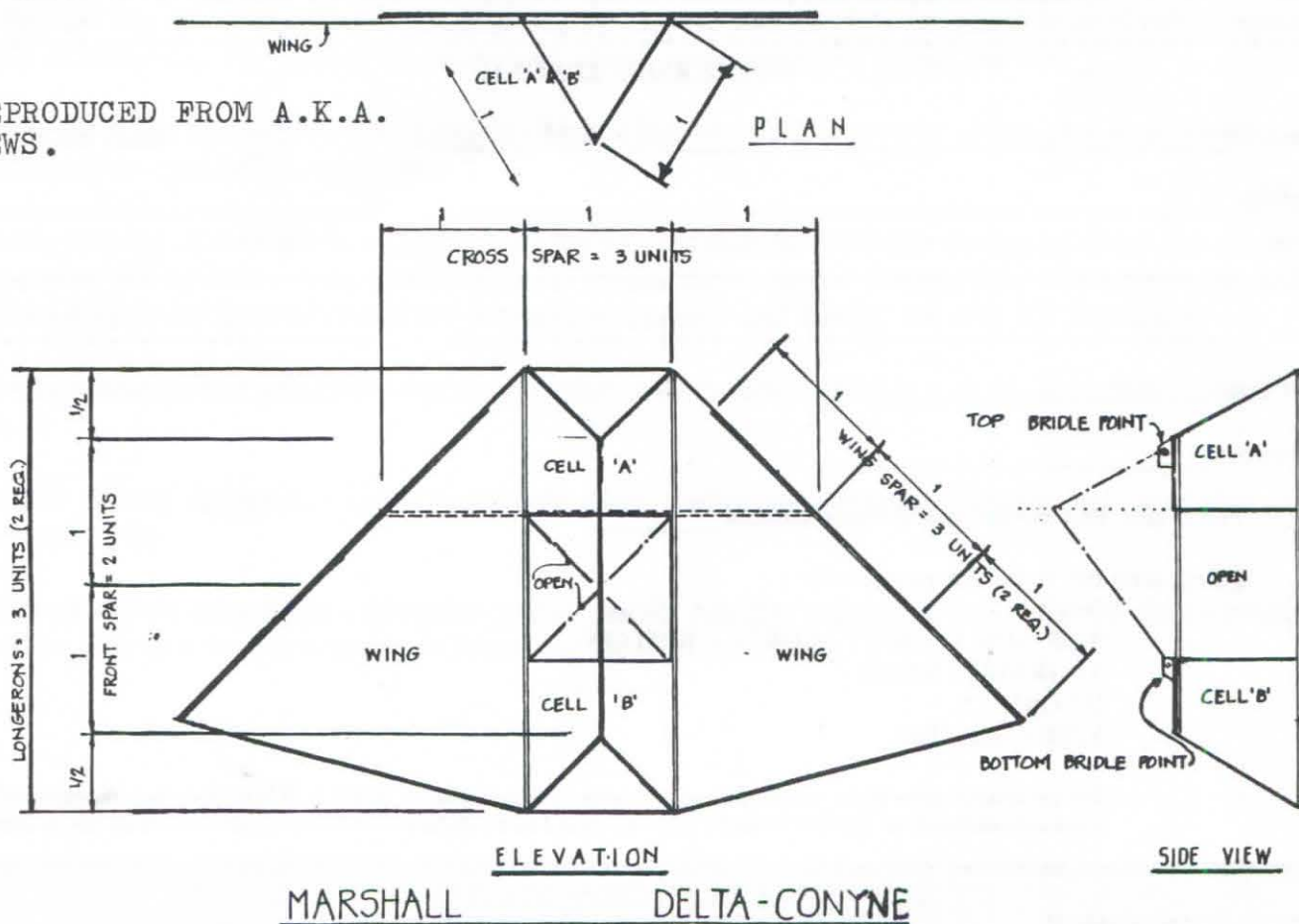
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NEWS.



THE KITE SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

Dear Member,

The enclosed issue of "The Kiteflier" is the last of your current subscription to The Kite Society. If you wish to continue with your subscription you should complete the form below and return it as soon as possible to the address below. To keep costs to a minimum no reminder will be sent.

As you know the main vehicle of communication between members is the quarterly publication "THE KITEFLIER", which is published in January, April, July and October every year. THE KITEFLIER relies on information and articles that you, the members send to us. Items published include news of forthcoming kite festivals, kite retailer news, kite plans, kite group news, kite plans and any general information relating to kite flying. Help us to fill in the pages of THE KITEFLIER.

Benefits of membership include free, or reduced, entry into selected kite festivals in the U.K. - specifically the twice annual meet at Old Warden, Bedfordshire - special parking arrangements where possible, discount - from 5% to 15% - on all kite purchases from the majority of kite retailers in the U.K.

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

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

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£5.00
Family - all members in the same household.	£7.00
Overseas - Europe and Surface mail.	£7.00
Overseas - Airmail	£10.00

=====

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name _____

Family Members _____

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Please give your current membership number _____

Please send this form with payment to:

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

The information given above will be held on computer. The sole purpose of this is to send you your magazines and other occasional mailings from The Kite Society. (*) I have / do not have objections to the above information being held on computer.

(*) Delete those not applicable.

1992 European SportKite Championship

Breeze and Beach near Middleburg in Holland was the recent venue for the 1992 European Cup SportKite Championship. The competition was well attended on each of the three days which saw the French capture three of the five Masters class awards.

The standard once again surpassed expectations and there were some superb contributions from European fliers. Best placed UK fliers were Bristol based Slipstream who finished 2nd behind French team, Flashback. The ever popular Blast finished in 4th position.

Dominic Early finished 4th in the individual competition but was credited with 3rd in Europe following Mike Simmonds (USA) being judged ineligible for ranking by the organisers. This situation was also repeated in the pairs competition where Mike and his wife Dawn, finished in second place behind Bristol's young superstars, Skyrunners. Alistair Hammond and Patrick Lane captured the hearts of the crowd with their stunning routine flown to music by Queen.

Individual Innovative was won by Pierre Marzin of France who also won the Overall Individual. His innovative routine involved the painting of a canvas using a Revolution 1 with a paint brush on the tip. His pots of paints were set in the sand and he even cleaned his brush between colours! A lack of steady wind prevented him from having the canvas hoisted from a static kite.

Team Innovation was awarded to Slipstream who flew a multi-kite and flier routine but sadly there were no other competitors in this category.

Following a novel routine from the Belgian team, Highlife, a new sport kite anthem was born. Part of their music selection featured the hilarious Monty Python song "Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life". This was to be heard coming from Hotel rooms, bars, ferry and the convoy of vehicles returning from the competition. Vlissingen ferry terminal will never be the same again.

Returning to the thorny subject of eligibility for competitions it was generally felt that the contribution from Mike and Dawn Simmonds could have been better acknowledged by the organisers. Without doubt, there were many fliers who left the competition with new inspiration and through this page we would like to offer our gratitude from all their friends in Europe.

World SportKite Championship

Following the success of the fund raising by STACK UK to assist teams, the Blast and Fight FX attend the third annual World SportKite Championships held in Japan. The final results proved once more that the financially backed American and Japanese teams continue to have a considerable advantage. Custom made cloths and ultralight single warp carbon spars which can be cruised by finger pressure were all used to take advantage of the very light wind conditions in Odawara, Japan. Overall winners were Team High Performance from Hawaii for the second year running.

The UK teams wish to express their gratitude to all those who supported the challenge with the purchase of merchandising and raffle tickets for the Ultimate Kite Bag, (a £2000 collection of kites which was won by a very happy Mr M Davies). A big thanks also to the contributors of the raffle prizes.

EVENTS LIST

MAJOR KITE EVENTS - U.K.

April 10th - 12th	Blackheath Easter Festival. <u>Contact</u> Tony Cartwright.
April 18th	Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade. <u>Contact</u> Ron Moulton.
May 2nd, 3rd	Weymouth, Dorset. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society. (<u>Provisional</u>).
May 8th, 9th	Swindon Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> David Robinson.
May 15th, 16th	Brighton Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Ray Oakhill.
June 12th, 13th	Margam Park, Wales. <u>Contact</u> Steve Gibson.
June 27th	Blackheath Summer Rally. <u>Contact</u> Tony Cartwright.
July 3rd, 4th	Washington Festival of the Air, Tyne & Wear. <u>Contact</u> Malcolm Goodman. (<u>Provisional</u>).
July 3rd, 4th	Shrewsbury Kite and Boomerang Festival. <u>Contact</u> Tony Slater.
July 10th, 11th	Monmouth Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Store. (<u>Provisional</u>).
August 1st	Middle Wallop, Hampshire. <u>Contact</u> Ron Moulton.
August 28th, 29th	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Hampshire. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society.
Sept 3rd	Kite Society Annual Convention, Bristol. <u>Contact</u> The Kite Society.
Sept 4th, 5th	Bristol International Kite Festival. <u>Contact</u> Bristol Kite Store.
October 10th	Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade. <u>Contact</u> Ron Moulton.

MAJOR KITE EVENTS - EUROPE

April 17th	Vienna Kite Festival, Austria.
April 24th, 25th	Le Touquet, France.
June 17th - 20th	Fano International Kite Fliers Meeting, Denmark.
June 26th, 27th	Scheveningen International Kite Festival, Holland.

LOCAL EVENTS

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

The **Great Ouse Kitefliers** have regular meetings throughout the year.

November 1st	GOKF AGM Lunch, Riverside Park, St Neots.
December 13th	Priory Country Park, Bedford. <u>Contact</u> 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

EVENTS LIST

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 Alan Gilbert.

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.

The **Northern Kite Group** have meetings as below:-

October 18th	Baildon Moor, Shipley, near Bradford.
November 15th	Littleton Road Playing Fields, Salford.
December 20th	Norland Moor, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire. <u>Contact</u> Ron Ogden

The **Brighton Kitefliers** have meetings throughout the year. Contact Ray Oakhill.

The **Chiltern Kite Group** have meetings as follows:-

Maidens Grove - 15 November. Pinkneys Green - 18 October, 20 December Contact Roger Lawton.

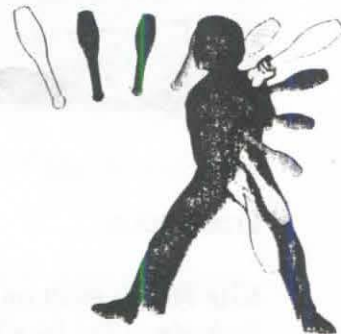
CONTACT DETAILS

Tony Cartwright, 78 Dongola Road, London N17 6EE. 081 808 1280.
The Bristol Kite Store, 39 Cotham Hill, Bristol, BS6 6JY. 0272 745010.
John Skinner, 12 Oak Road, Bishopscote, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 9EZ.
Kathleen Pike, 34 Mortimer Road, Rayleigh, Essex.
Fred Taplin, 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warwickshire.
Alan Gilbert, 26 Evesham Road, Leicester, LE3 2BD.
Carole Peacock, 61 Windmill Avenue, St Albans, Herts AL4 9SJ.
Bob Piron, 8 Bowhill, Bedford, MK41 8EF. 0234 261835.
Kevin Appleton, 37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ.
Ron Moulton, 2 Avenue Rise, Bushey, Watford, Herts, WD2 3AS.
I.C. Kites, 12 Willow Close, Spratton, Northampton, NN6 8JH. 0604 843374.
Adam Sutherland, 20 Durham Place, Birtley, Tyne & Wear, DH3 2AY.
Dave Robinson, 61 Bridge End Road, Stutton St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4PD. 0793 824208.
Ray Oakhill, 6 Hartfield Road, Saltdan, Sumex, BN2 8RE. 0273 306842.
Ron Ogden, 41 Ashfield Drive, Clayton Bridge, Manchester, M10 0WJ.
Steve Gibson, 91 Baynham Street, Hereford HA4 0EJ. 0432 359999.
Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. 0642 550827.
Tony Slater, 128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY. 0743 235068.
The Kite Store, 48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PQ. 071 836 1666.
Roger Lawton, Karenna, 3 The Dell, Stockenchurch, Bucks HP14 3SD. 0494 482743.





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Rev 1 Rainbow	" " " " "	£175.00
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New Tech Stunt Kites - a range of five carbon-framed stunters at very competitive prices:

Tempest: 2 colour sail; 160cm span	Usual price: £45	Autumn Special	£38.50
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Cyclone: 3 colour sail; 169cm span	" " £55	" "	£45.00
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All prices include handles and line and drawstring bag.

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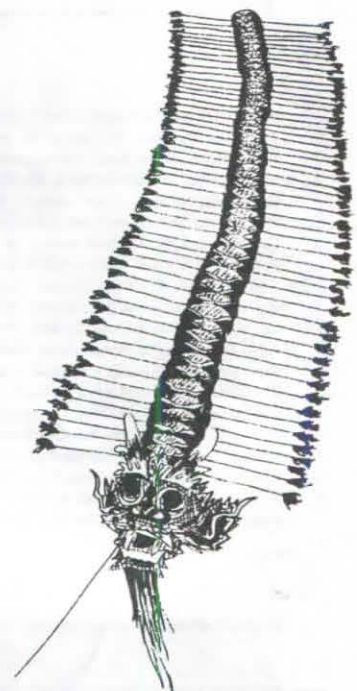
WIND THINGS is the sole U.K. distributor for New Tech and Paimpol kites.
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WELL WHAT ISN'T NEW????

Firstly a bit of a shuffle in the BKF committee and at long last all vacancies have been filled.

Peter Jones has stood down after a long and valuable term as Club Membership Secretary - thanks Peter - to be replaced by Estelle Barton.

Welcome also to Andy Dagleish (Club Secretary) and Paul Thody (PR Officer).

The membership now stands in excess of 50 and still growing - yeahhhhhhhh!

SO WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO????

Apologies for not seeing many of you at our local fly-ins over the season so far - life in the fast lane continues with over a thousand miles on the festival trail - well someone has to represent the club nationally!

GREENHAM COMMON / NEWBURY

Strange being on the other side of the fence - what a weird feeling - surrounded by cruise missile bunkers and not even a glimpse of Millie Tant (pun for all you VIZ readers out there). Perfect weather, a spacious site and excellent organisation by the WHKF - not to mention the U.S. soldier boys who had things well sussed with a cartload of screaming HOT chilli-dogs and enough ice cold Bud to float a battleship - thus enabling the gang (Ray, Andy, Mik, Estelle, Paul and yours truly) to chill out and psyche ourselves up for the ensuing Rok battle. Well it nearly worked - Groucho was robbed of the trophy by just one point - next time Vertigo - we will have to spike that mineral water of yours.

Good to see to BOF and fellow lunatic fringe bear bunging - and was that Janick I saw being booked for Peel-buggy speeding down the runaway?!

BMISS DROP - SHOREHAM SCHOOL

This was a first for us on such a scale - zilch wind conditions on arrival meant having to test drop from a hot

Brighton Kite flyers

air balloon (tethered I hasten to add) until the wind picked up enough to launch the trusty Groucho. Sadly this meant having to disregard Rays specially constructed multi-drop rig and bunging was effected singly with much leg work (that was 3 miles or so, wasn't it Mik?).

A grand total of 40 bears and assorted Dropniks were launched - and recovered I hasten to add - two from the school roof and one from the arms of a very bemused looking gentleman passer-by on the main road; all he could manage to utter were the immortal words "Would you like your bear back?" - well it happens every day, doesn't it???

BLACKHEATH

Our first organised BKF coach trip proved very worth while - arriving en-mass in considerable style - and converting the coach driver into a kite in the process. Good to see some of our neighbouring Eastbourne Kite Club at the said venue - trendy pony-tails and all!

Top Marx Harpo Horn was put to good use giving severe 'ear 'ole damage to any of the opposition who were careless enough to wander within honking distance - all to no avail - yah boo sucks.

The day was ended untangling a giant spectra birds nest - the only achievement of a number of abortive attempts at a mega-team fly - it's all down to that damn piece of music - end of case for the Defense.

G
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WASHINGTON FESTIVAL OF THE AIR

Questioning my state of sanity (as most kites do regularly I'm sure?) with the rain piercing my waterproofs whilst erecting tents at 3 a.m. - is a scene that comes to mind. Having braved a long journey, survived an extremely wet night and a few cans for solace - Ray, Andy and myself awoke to a bleary start and well hairy wind conditions on Saturday!!!!

The German and Dutch contingent strutted their stuff with an excellent display of soft kites including giant inflatable pianos, frogs, dragonflies - well you name it. By the way, did anyone else happen to notice that Dracula dresses to the right? - what these guys can't make inflatable just isn't worth doing!

Meanwhile a wealth of cultural events and entertainments were happening all around us - music, food, crafts, origami, Japanese calligraphy and kimono dressing - not to mention kite workshops, a mega display of Cody kites and the obligatory vast quantities of beer.

Sadly the excess wind conditions blew the 'most Codys in the sky' attempt - but we lofted the BKF monster Cody as a token gesture.

Having hitched a lift (courtesy of TC) to the local hostelry on Saturday evening much quaffing and gassing was undertaken in true festival style.....

A sunnier but still very windy Sunday saw our efforts rewarded in the UK Team Rokkaku and Hangover Competition - wiping 'oddsocks' Lester and last but by no means least the infamous Peacocks (Honk, Honk!!) - enabled us to win the third round in an exhausting battle in which we ran out off both energy and line but never out of style!

By the way, thanks to Peter from Germany for gratefully informing us that the Team Rok was about to start whilst we were ensconced in the food tent and to Ray 'Rip Van Winkle' Oakhill for providing the impromptu (but rapidly becoming obligatory) 'I can fall asleep anywhere' demo.

DANNY PARK

A 'hands-on' demo for the scouts at their local camp (or 'hands-off' more like it).

Ray, Mik, Dick (an excellent organiser with the patience of a saint), Mo, Danny, yours truly and one new member (sorry but the name's been forgotten - but thanks anyway) braved appalling conditions and succeeded in hooking scores of enthusiastic young lads during a long and very wet day.

A special mention must go to Pat and Peter Jones for their sterling work - continuing to soldier on even through an absolutely horrendous downpour whilst others who shall remain nameless beat a hasty retreat to the local - just to dry out of course (or maybe to get just as wet inside as out?!)

MONMOUTH

I really don't know what to say about this except that a great deal of time was spent discussing Rok tactics in the beer tent with the opposition so moving rapidly on.....

HOLLINGBURY FLY-IN

Yeah we finally made it to one - shock horror - just to find it was more like a mini-festival than the usual half-dozen nutters standing in a field all day (and not even a purveyor of alcohol within shouting distance - just to prove that kites really are the main attraction).

Radio Five turned up mid-afternoon to do a spot on power kiting (essential radio listening!) and a generally whacky time was had by all.

SANDWICH

A last minute trip to the land of the KKK (that's Kent Kite Klub when I can get it past the spell-checker) to fly at the Link Birthday Party was turned into a truly memorable occasion thanks to the hospitality of Ian and Cathy Gardiner and good company.

P.S. Can we borrow you if we're ever short of a BKF member or two???

GERROCK

HOVE TRY OUT

Bit of an organisational cock-up this one - not of the BKF's making I hasten to add - but rather Hove Social Services: the kites were there but what happened to all those 12 - 16 year olds who wanted hands on experience???

PORTSMOUTH INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL (or where the rot set in)

Strange to see things from the other side at this particular festival - yes, I have to confess to being the source of the mindless burbling on this one (not you Jon!) - meaning official PA duties. Portsmouth (a new festival) turns out to be a superb site - a good chunk of unobstructed flying space and next to the town centre too (and the local hostilities ain't half bad either)!!!!

Saturday morning dawned bright and shiny and with light winds too boot. As the weekend progressed the winds got stronger and the periods of sunshine got fewer and further between. By Sunday morning about the only entertainment to be found was either watching Peter Lynn trying to commit suicide, join the Flexifoil wrecking crew or stand and watch a damned great marquee demolish itself piece by piece - it was just a tiny bit on the windy side!!!

Still all things considered a fair old amount of whizzo demos managed to entertain the public - The Decs (nice Thai restaurant Felix!), Vapour Trails (so what happened to you Gary?), Flight FX, Doug 'Douie' Hagaman, the aforementioned Peter Lynn (seriously bad case of disregard for personal safety!) to name but a few - shame about the non-appearance of the Malaysian team: probably still trying to find their way out of Heathrow!

High point of the weekend - finally getting squished by Peter Lynns giant 'Puffer Fish' kite/toy/blimp/thingy - anyway, a hell of a lot of good fun for children from 6 to 60 (and no alcohol this time either).

Shame of it - 'Groucho' & company

bottled out of the team Rok - a bad case of the builder getting fed up with making repairs - what happened to those nice balmy summer days the damned thing was built for. Mind you it did give me a chance to do some serious grievance of the 'ear 'ole to those crazy enough to risk their necks - not to mention the Roks themselves.

The BKF tradition of night-flying was upheld this time by our esteemed leader launching the BKF Strat (aka 'Oakies Lawnmower') into a rising gale while all the (relatively) sane congregated in the marquee to partake of sustenance (naturally including beer!) and heckle the long suffering entertainment.

A special mention in dispatches must go to Mr Paul 'Sky Bums' Morgan for Sunday mornings valiant efforts - the first of the BKF's 'Flog anything to anybody out of the back of a van in a thunderstorm' award. Nice one Paul!

PS. Eastbourne Kite Club made it again - thanks for the company Tom.

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL

So our camp-site was a little further removed from the flying field than for the rest of you - but then we only had to share it with a tap and a pretty spectacular view!

Saturdays highlight for me was the Sky Runners display - wicked choice of sounds guys - 'Trip To Trumpton' definitely has to take tune of the weekend award!

And yet another record gained perchance in Saturday evenings cram as many kites as possible into a marquee attempt?! Still - I think we all made a few new friends whilst observing the now familiar sight of Andy In full swing King doing his utmost in true auctioneer style to get the rabble to part with their spondoolies - and a first class job too! Sundays events kicked off with a truly momentous display in the UK Single Rok Challenge from Stafford Wallace who won all three rounds to take this years title. Of particular interest was an astounding new tactic revealed by



Stafford - namely engaging his last opponent in the subtle art of conversation whilst said distracted flyers Rok hits the deck with a resounding thwaaaaakkk!!! Smart manoeuvre Stafford!

The UK Team Rok proved to be another all time endurance record (yes it's the end of the line for us all!) In a severely drowned state Top Marx were eventually wiped from the sky by the dastardly Organised Chaos` (yah boo sucks!) - at the end of a mere 25 minute first round....z z z z z z !!! I have to confess that the other two rounds became a bit of a blur after that long suffered first burst of energy - but (by the work of Glitch perhaps?!) we managed to win not only the Bristol heat but also the UK Rokkaku Team Spirit Award - yeeeeaaaaah!!!! (That was the Team'type of spirit wasn't it Gill and Jon?!) Well the only accounting for it all in my opinion has to be the Mad Eddie Magic Touch!!

A minor detour on the homeward journey found us watching gobsmacked as Noel and Rob (part of the Bridge and Roof Flyers` whacky helium crew) flew their Sandpipers from the Clifton Suspension Bridge. It seems that things work as well below where you're standing as above - and I'm pretty sure that Brunel would have truly appreciated you guys getting your 2p's worth (not if you trash the kite on the more than tricky landing though!) Well that was Bristol.

ALL THE OTHER GOSSIP.....

Brighton has gained a different type of kite shop - namely Colourbox Kites who produce a range of traditional kite designs made from silkscreened cotton and wood.

An additional date for the BKF calendar - Sunday 11 October 1.00 - 5.00pm at Waterhall Playing Fields, Patcham (yes you know.... the Festival site) - a demonstration for the `Woodcraft Folk` (don't ask me?!)

We have a height clearance of 1500

feet for this event and would dearly love to see you all again!

ALL THE SENSIBLE RUBBISH....

Fly-in reminder dates (who me Ed?)

1st Sunday of the month - Hollingbury
Grid ref - 198TQ 324 083

3rd Sunday of the month - Telscombe
Tye - Grid ref - 198TQ 392 017

BKF CURRENT COMMITTEE

Club Co-ordinator - Ray Oakhill
Membership Secretary - Estelle Barton
Secretary - Andy Dalglish
PR Officer - Paul Thody
Festival Safety Officer - Danny Steer
Treasurer - Toody Oakhill
Competitions Manager - Mik Jennison
Editor - Toody Oakhill

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted - BKF Social Member (non flyer) for assorted duties including general cabana attendance, beer fetching, on the spot kite repairing, line untangling etc.... References required together with cv and details of experience to date - previous applicants need not apply.

BKF HELPFUL KITING TIPS - NO 2

Don't forget to take your kites to a kite festival - yes it's happened more than once this season!!

ANY OTHER RUBBISH....

Please send any articles/letters.... well any old rubbish really.... which will be gratefully accepted by and at the following....

Toody Oakhill (Editor)
The Brighton Kite Flyers
Flat 29
Astra House
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2HL

(PS Thanks to the trusty Fan Club - Rachel and Kathryn!)

BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS



Flight FX would like to thank Martin Thomas, National Director of STACK, for all the effort, time and sheer hard work he has put in to raise funds towards the cost of the team and Blast competing in the World Cup Competition in Odawara, Japan, and all the people who made this trip possible.

We were disappointed with our performance, doubly so because we had so much support from kite flyers throughout the U.K.

The visit to Japan was an unbelievable experience. The hospitality of the Japanese was un-ending. The journey to the hotel at Atsugi took approximately 20 hours. We went by coach to Heathrow airport, plane to Moscow and had a 2 hour stop over. We then spent 10 hours on the next plane to Tokyo. We then travelled for 1 1/2 hrs by bus to Shinjuku station and a further hour by train to Atsugi! We were still over one hour by train away from the flying site.

Practice was difficult as the Japan Challenge was taking place at the flying site during the three days prior to the W.C.C. However, we travelled to the site. The wind was very light, the atmosphere very humid and we tested the kites. Several adjustments had to be made in view of the weather conditions and also lines were shortened by approx. 25ft as the competition arena outer boundary seemed small.

The standard of kite flying was extremely high and we were pleased to see outstanding performances by the other teams competing. It was interesting and useful to talk to other team flyers.

The final day was spent demonstration flying and Rokaku fighting, strangely the organisers did not want lines to be cut but wanted plenty of fighting.

A banquet was provided during the evening and followed by an auction conducted by Andy King and Blast team members.

The whole trip was an experience not to be missed and, once again, thank you to all who made it possible.

V. Ansell

The Story of My Visit To Weifang and Kaifeng

We arrived in Weifang by train at 11 o'clock. A few people of the Foreign Affairs Office of Weifang met us at the station, and we were taken to a big hotel where we had lunch. After a few hours sleep we had a small tour of Weifang City and after dinner there was a lantern festival - very impressive. Next day we went to the kite museum where we could see what the Chinese Kite is all about.

At five o'clock we went to the Stadium for the opening ceremony (with police escort!). That was just like the olympics, 2000,000 people in the stadium and 5,000 boys and girls dancing and making music, and us walking behind the lady with the sign of our country, all the people cheering and clapping, you wouldn't believe it. After a long ceremony and lots of fireworks, we went back to the hotel (with police escort) at about 9 o'clock. The next day was the day we all travelled so long a distance for. Again with police escort to the flying field - very far away - where it was very crowded and very, very dusty. Just when we thought we were having a good time, and we wanted to wander around a bit, we were told to pack our things as soon as possible, and at 12 o'clock it was all finished!

At 5 we went, again with police escort, to the stadium for the closing ceremony, once more with a big show and much more fireworks. We all were winners of the blue sky award and got a certificate.

The next day we had an excursion, had to pack our luggage and at half past five we were back at the station, ready for our trip to Kaifeng. of which we new nothing, except that they invited us all to make their festival an international one. We were 2 from Denmark, 2 from Italy, 3 from Holland, 1 from England, 2 from Hong Kong, and 2 from Taipei. After a trip of 12 hours we arrived in Kaifeng, just in time to drop our luggage in the hotel and jump in the mini-bus because the opening ceremony (yes, again!) was about to begin.

This was a smaller stadium, and not so many people, but still very impressive and it made me feel ashamed that again so much effort was made by so few people. The people I spoke to about it said that it was a big feast for a lot of people, and a way of showing their appreciation for our presence. In the evening we had dinner with the Governor of the Longting District.

Friday 24th April we had early start because we had to be ready at 7.30 to go to the flying field near the Yellow River. After 5 minutes all my kites were covered with dusty yellow sand. But this is what we came for: Kite Flying together with the Chinese people. There were lots of dragon kites, and I felt very small with my kites of ripstop nylon and fibreglass, but we all had a great time. At noon we were taken to our hotel again, but they promised we would be back the next morning.

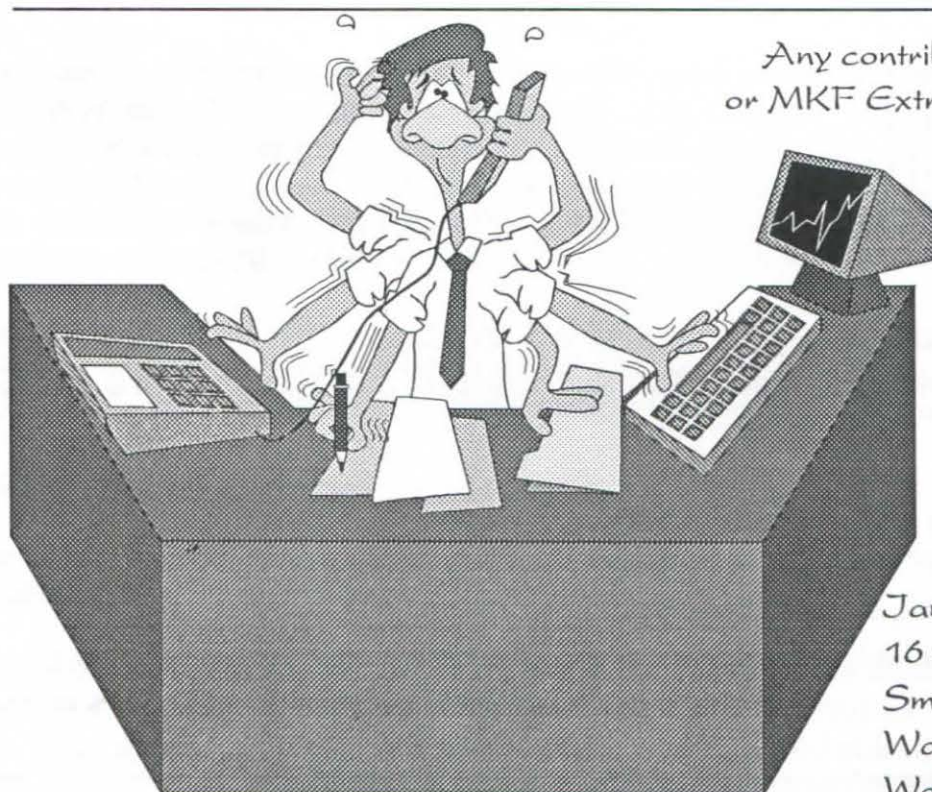
After a nice sight-seeing tour in the afternoon, we were very excited about the next morning. And that was an even better morning than Friday. Because of my poor Chinese (I don't speak, read or understand any of it) and because of the fact that most people don't understand one word of English, it is difficult to understand each other. With a bit of good will and a lot of drawings in the sand, I managed to "talk" about their kites and mine, and they soon found out that they could fly my kites if they wanted that. After one hour there were about 6 of my kites in the air, and I was staring, empty handed, at the most beautiful kites I ever saw: dragon kites, so beautiful and so very long that it was almost incredible.

There was a jury, because they wanted us to have a competition, but I said that that was not a thing I liked. The fact that we were there, with our kites, flying together, having a wonderful time together, with hands and legs, hardly words, but still so very close, that was a wonderful feeling I will never forget. And that is better than a competition. So, at the end of the morning we all got a prize, but the most important thing was the fact that we had made a lot of unknown friends, living on the other side of the world, and only for that it is worth travelling a week, just to experience that!

After this breathtaking week with 12 people we all went our separate ways and by the time we left the hotel at 10 o'clock in the evening of the 25th April, it was a strange feeling. Sad, because of leaving a place where we had a very good time, and curious because of the things to come.

Janneke Groen

Member, Midlands Kite Fliers



Any contributions for MKF News
or MKF Extra readily accepted!!

Write To:-

Jan Meredith
16 Edward Road
Smethwick
Warley
West Midlands B67 6EP

Review - Checkmate by Highly Strung Kites

Frustrating it may be, but it is a fact to most of us that we cannot afford all the kites that we desire. Personally, I have no resistance to a purchase I know I want but where to spend hard earned cash when it is not plentiful makes a kite purchase of £100+ a difficult decision.

A light wind or a high wind kite?	Individual or Team kite?
Power or Grace?	Level of precision?

It seems that with the release of every kite journal or a new supplier appearing, a new kite design is available "made especially for me".

With all the unanswered questions flying around my head one of the greatest pleasures I get is when someone just turns up with a new kite and says "try this, see what you think!".

Just this happened to me with the Checkmate made by Highly Strung Kites, Melbourne, Australia. The Checkmate is a smaller wing span kite but has a distinctive two sail design giving the following characteristics.

- ☺ Flies best in strong winds
- ☺ No distortion, allows smoother flight
- ☺ 5.5 Beman spars
- ☺ 6 ft span
- ☺ Rigid design
- ☺ Tight spins if desired with no loss of control
- ☺ Rock solid tracking
- ☺ Excellent off wind performance
- ☺ Easy to control stall
- ☺ Leading edge takeoffs
- ☺ Easy to land
- ☺ Good precision kite
- ☺ Speed is ultra steady across the window which makes me believe it would be a good team kite
- ☺ Minimal noise
- ☺ Wing tip takeoffs and groundwork - no problem
- ☹ Due to its size it loses some visual impact
- ☹ Bridling and assembly may seem complicated to an inexperienced flyer

Over all I really like this kite and in a strong wind it is really enjoyable to fly it.

M.J.E.

ROMAN CANDLE 26



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad, The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Flora and Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils, The Worlds Number One Repository for 100% Mindless Drivel, you have been warned.....

By the time you are reading this issue, we will be well on the way to the end of another Seasons worth of Kiting mayhem. The 92 season was memorable and at the same time rather sad for the BMISS as we lost one of our Friends. "Owd Lad", our correspondent from "Oop North" left this Vale of Tears at a very untimely age. John Spendlove to our knowledge never inflicted pain on Parachuting Fauna (a good Guy) but, he was a neverending fund of suggestions as to how Parafauna could inflict Pain on Dropniks and certain Kilters.

We like to think of John under a lamp post somewhere in the great hereafter, Flying his latest creation, whilst thinking up another Devilish Go Wrong, and saying out loud. "Eck as Lyke, This'll give Bloody Neighbors, Summet to Talk About". Farewell Owd Lad.

One of the Highlights of this Season was the Bomb Dump Bash, oh, alright, have it your own way, The Greenham Common Kite Festival. Abley organised by the White Horse Mob and Thatcham Rotary, this Fest was literally Lost on the amazing openness of Greenham. What was memorable Parafaunawise were a couple of incidents which occurred whilst Dave and his Sky Squad were doing the Bizzo on the Dosh raising Bear Drop. The first was where one poor Bear Drifted away only to end up Draped across the Razor Tape Triple Fence around the Tomahawk Bunkers. When Rocket Ron and the BOF went to try and extricate the Bear from

this dodgy spot, they found that the Bear was snagged on the middle fence, unretrievable in fact, whilst the shroud lines had been neatly cut by the Tape. The chute was recovered but not the Bear. The second incident was where a Bear was dropped from about 30ft/10 meters, the chute deployed, then drifted away rising all the while and was last seen about a Mile away at a Height of about 1,000 ft/300 Metres. Amazing.....

Last Post for the Sandhurst bear...

By ALISON GORDON

SENIOR Under Officer Edward Bear, Sandhurst's oldest, shortest and longest-serving cadet, is finally passing out.

Bear, who is just 2 ft tall, was enlisted as the official mascot of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Parachute Club in 1950.

His career has by no means been a picnic. Over the years he has been taken on more than 400 jumps and has even been on operations with the SAS and Royal Marines.

Stuffy

His service record has been meticulously updated by the RMA's Edward Bear Club, recently revived by Captain Harry Bucknall of the Coldstream Guards.

Entries include his first parachute jump when he displayed a 'complete indifference to instructions'.

Then he escaped all the Army bull by going AWOL in an officer's cupboard for four years.

But SUO Bear, described as a



GERONIMO: SUO Bear set to jump with Sandhurst's parachute club

'stuffy but brave' soldier who by tradition was always first out of the aircraft, is now opting for a quiet life in the RMA's museum.

Curator Dr Tony Heathcote said: 'He's had a long and distinguished career with a few black marks but he will be missed.'

Meanwhile a new Officer

Cadet bear has arrived at Sandhurst from Harrods kitted out in a uniform made by leading military tailors Gieves and Hawkes.

He is to be given his official club wings by RMA's commandant Major General Tim Toyne-Sewell when he joins cadets on their final exercise in France next week.

This piece about the Sandhurst Bear was supplied by Geoff Adams via the Mail on Sunday. Geoff reckons that judging by the expression on the Paratroopers Face, the Bear must have had Curry for Lunch, Ooh, very nasty. Yoo Wot.

Apologies, apologies to Dingley Dell, twas he who supplied the Maritime Bear Pic in our last issue.

Brain Dead BOF, wot are you like Boy?

PARAS FACE THE LOW JUMP TO SAVE LIVES

HIGH-flying Paras are aiming low to increase their chances of survival.

The crack Parachute Regiment is trying out a technique to cut jumps on military operations from 600 ft to 350 ft.

If successful it means they spend less time in the air, when they are most vulnerable to attack. The

advance is the result of a device which allows a parachute to open more quickly.

Initially the system was tested with weights but now individual soldiers are using it and there could be mass jumps soon. "The testers are all volunteers," a spokesman said.

Does anybody know who BEARJAMIN FRANKLIN is? Leroy swears blind that he is some Bear he used know a long time ago. He reckons that BEARJAMIN used to do thier Washing Up, but that he was fired for drinking the washing up water and then he went to America wher he flew Kites and invented Lightning. We're not really sure if this is true or not (it sounds so Barmy it probably is) anyway be that as it may, the reason we asked the question in the first place was because BEARJAMIN has sent the Bof a rather nifty Tee Shirt which features a nice print of BEARJAMIN flying a Kite in Bearsalem. Thanks B.F. for a very nice prezzie.

B.M.I.S.S. has had one Foreign trip this Year, when we went on Safari to Wild Welsh Will Kipper Land. Cor, that was a bit of alright, as its a Lovely Country and Monmouth is a nice Town. Wales also seems to have remarkable effects on Dropniks as we witnessed Wesh born Rocket Ron (who sounds more Cockney than most Cockneys) and Hackney Wick born Kuddely Keef (whose more Welsh than most Welshmen) transformed into full blown Patois spouting Taffys who were even trying to teach the BOF some of the more common Welsh Swear Words. This was a good Kite Fest and some good Fauna Bombing was done,

A River ran down one side of the Fest Site, and of course we decided to put the wind up the Dropniks by heading for the river on every drop. Ayteesecond did a near Wet One into a large Bush on the Bank witch required a nice paddle through an Icey River by Keef, then yours truly, who the BOF had finally twigged had'nt dropped for some time, decided to Liven up the proceedings by diving into a Tall Tree right on the riverbank.

Wot a Laugh, I kid you not. Picture the scene, Kuddely Keef and the BOF doing a paddle in a River whose bed consisted of Rocks, Broken Bottles and Dead Fish, all the while being Hotly pursued by 1500 Plastic Ducks, whom some other idiots had released further upstream for the Monmouth Duck Race, The two Dripniks won by a short head, but it was a close call.

Right, our two twits had braved the river and were now set to get yours truly out of the Tree. What went on next, was by any stretch of the imagination very weird. we had one half baked, half Welsh idiot trying to climb a tree whilst carrying a Nine Metre Fishing Rod, with which I might add he was trying to poke up my Khyber, Ooh nasty, whilst another Idiot was trying to impersonate a Bobsleigh on the 60 degree riverbank, atleast I think thats what he was doing as he kept climbing up the bank, falling base over apex and sliding to the bottom again. All this palava was accompanied by vast amounts of swearing in both English and Welsh which quite entertained the crowd on the opposite Bank, who had come to see what all the noise was about. After about 90 minutes of having GRP poked up my nethers and seeing as how the tree Idiot was all tuckered out and the bobs sleigh had finally slid into a large Nettlepatch I consented to being rescued. When Monmouth is mentioned in future no doubt two Dripniks minds if they have one, concentrated wonderfully, will be.

Although we sympathise with the poor battered sky diver in this cutting (right) once again its still not enough to enrol him as a BMISS member.

Bear faced thieves recently nicked the world famous Paddington Bear from his Glass case on Paddington Station wher he has been living for the past 15 years trying to make a Parachute from Marmalade Sandwiches. We're glad to say that the Drunken Tealeaves were quickley apprehended by the Boys in Blue and Paddington Bear is now back in his now repaired Display Case, hopefully stuck down with Marmalade.

News, Views and the usual complaints from smiling Phizog challenged Kitters to the TEDDYTORIAL, which seeing as we still aint dun a runner yet is C/O The BOF. 48 Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY. U.K.



THIS IS A
TEDDYBEAR
WATCH
AREA

Skydive peril at 7,000ft

SKYDIVER Terry Wakenshaw was seconds from death when he leaped from a plane and his parachute tangled in its wheels at 7,000ft.

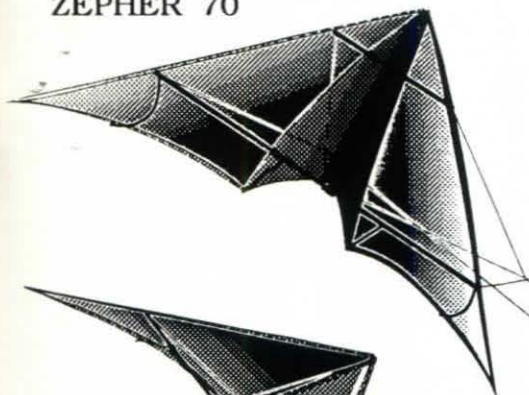
Terry, 34, was smashed into the side of the Cessna aircraft, breaking his arm, crushing his chest and injuring his head.

He used his emergency chute and was taken to hospital after landing at Brunton, Northumberland.

Air~Crafts

Kites For Sport

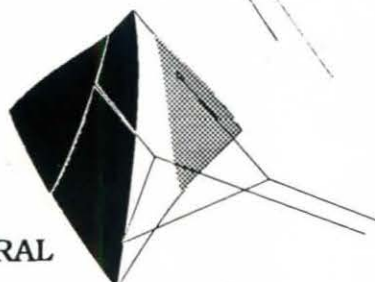
ZEPHER 70



ZONDA 54



MISTRAL



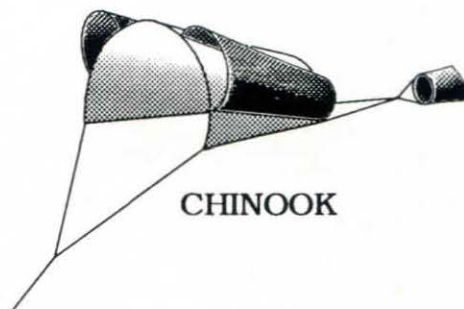
COMPOUND
BIRD



ZONDA 70



CHINOOK



NEW KITES FOR '92

Each kite is made from top quality rip-stop nylon with eyelets and dacron reinforcing, where needed, to ensure a long life.

To bring you kites that fly superbly and look great in the sky, every design has passed our rigorous test programme.

ZEPHER 70 790 x 1780mm
A large wing area medium-sized stunt kite. Ideal for team flying as it 'tracks' beautifully, allowing smooth ground passes, tip work and precision manoeuvres. Good for light winds.

ZONDA 54 600 x 1400mm
A great 'trainer' stunt kite (also ideal for stacking). Having less pull than its big brother makes it more manageable for the lighter person. Includes line & handles.

MISTRAL 770 x 745mm
A great dual line stunter for fun flying. Docile in light winds, sparkling in medium and frantic in strong. Complete with lines, handles and tail.

COMPOUND BIRD 1300 x 2300mm
A single line performance kite for the enthusiast. Capable of flight in the lightest breeze, easily soaring to great heights. A BIG colourful kite which looks spectacular.

ZONDA 70 790 x 1780mm
A competition stunt kite, ideal for 'open class' events. Sharp turns and crisp manoeuvres put this kite in the lead. Will withstand winds up to 35mph! However, you and your lines may not.

CHINOOK 485 x 775mm
A single line soft kite without spars. Completely packs away, including handle and line, into its own tail bag. Ideal for all ages. A firm favourite with children.

the Kite Store

The Kite Store

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