

# THE KITEFLIER

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U.K. Rokkaku Challenge 1993 - Bristol Open. A record number of kites - 40. Photo by John Barker

NEWSLETTER  
OF  
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

# FIZZ SPORT KITES

new for 93

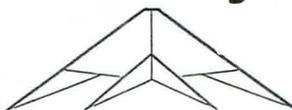
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fly the rhythm...

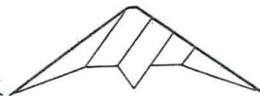
*benson*  
Design

FIZZ SPORT KITES

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



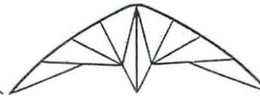
Swallowtail



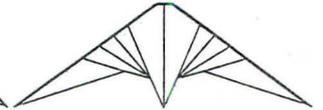
Tempo



Bantam



High Profile



Phantom

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# EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

We would like to thank all of the kitefliers who have attended the festivals over the past year and have helped to make them all a success.

As was discussed at the Convention in Bristol, Dave Robinson volunteered to look into the possibility of holding a winter kite rendezvous. This would consist of a weekend of informal workshops and talks. Dave thinks he has found a suitable location - Porte Regis School, Shaftesbury, Dorset. This would be dormitory style accommodation which can be partitioned off for added privacy. We are looking to hold this rendezvous over the weekend of February 18th, 19th and 20th 1994. The school has a sewing room, complete with sewing machines and Martin Lester has already agreed to do a workshop and we hope to have other well known personalities doing workshops - including stunt workshops. Approximate cost for Evening meal, bed and breakfast (Friday evening to Sunday morning) £50 - £60. Before we go much further we need to know the interest so write and tell us as soon as possible. Spaces will be limited to 60 people.

Finally - we would like to apologise if your membership or renewal is late. The post office should deliver all of the post from the post box - but if the normal postman is on holiday we have found that it just stays at the post office until collection!!!

Gill and Jon Bloom

**The Kite Society, P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.**

# LETTERS

## From Bill Cochrane

It was with incredulity and disbelief that I heard that the 1994 Convention was to be held in Portsmouth. It is not that I have anything against Portsmouth, but I do feel that it is unreasonable and unfair on kitefliers from the North of England to have to make two successive long trips to the south coast. When the convention is held on the south coast most members from the north of England and Scotland are unable to attend what is probably the most important kiting occasion of the year. Only once, to my knowledge, has the convention left the south of England, and that was to the East Midlands, when it was held at Scunthorpe. (*Ed Note: In actual fact the very first convention was held at York in conjunction with the York Kite Festival in 1988. Note that York is NOT in the East Midlands!!!*).

I found it most disagreeable to hear the excuses as to why the convention should continue to be held in the south of England. Amongst these are the myth that because the event at Scunthorpe was not the most popular and best attended in the world it should never again be held in the north of England. Scunthorpe is not in the north of England, it is geographically in the East Midlands. For those whose geography needs refreshing Scunthorpe is approximately 120 mile from Newcastle, 139 miles from Birmingham, 99 miles from Manchester, 230 miles from Bristol and 163 miles from Essex (*Ed Note: the point of Essex referred to here is not clear but we assume that, judging by the tone of the comment Bill means Colchester*). ie it is not significantly closer to Newcastle than either Birmingham or Essex. It is also fallacious to accuse kitefliers from the north of England of not attending this event; looking at my record of the event, over 60% of the members of North East Kitefliers attended (*Ed Note: How many is that in numbers?*) and there was also a strong contingent from the Northern Kite Group. It is a self-evident truth that if you have more

members in the south of England, there will be more of them present wherever the event is held.

Furthermore the process is self-perpetuating; if the convention along with the publicity and recruitment opportunities is held predominance in the south of England, there will continue to be preponderance of members in the south. If the vote for the next convention is held at a convention in the south, staked out with southern members, they will continue to vote for a southern convention.

This may sound like the paranoid rantings of a Northerner, but it really is time that people in the south of England realised that there is more to the British Isles than Essex (*Ed Note: Why Essex again?*) and that civilisation does not end at Watford Gap: in the past some of our ancestors may have been coloured blue, but we are certainly not green - especially behind the ears. It is also important for members in the south to realise that the north of England is a huge area and there are significant distances between some of our principle cities e.g. from Liverpool to Newcastle the distance is about 170 miles. (*Ed Note: Bill may like to look at his atlas as in the south the distance between Bristol and 'Essex' is well over 200 miles*) Is it not time that the growth of the Scottish kiteflying fraternity was recognised too by locating some of the English festivals within travelling distance and to hold a convention north of the border. (*Ed Note: Sorry to keep interrupting but has Bill considered the fact that moving the Bristol Kite Festival from Bristol may change the nature of the event*) To the best of my knowledge the Act of Union has not yet been repealed and Scotland deserves equal treatment. (*and what about Wales, Northern Ireland, the far South West - or don't they count as they are not part of this north/south argument*).

The principle of tagging the kite convention to a kite festival seems unsatisfactory too. First it mean that the convention is held on a Friday,

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which prevents many members from attending, and secondly it ties the convention to existing festivals - which are mainly in the south of England. I suggest that the convention should have its own flying festival with it to give us the freedom to have it where and when we like. The financing needs to be put on a proper footing, and I would suggest that a notional sum should be included in the membership of The Kite Society, just as in the present membership there is an element for the magazine, and presumably for associated administrative costs. *(Ed Note: True there is an element for admin - but everyone benefits, however adding a fee for the convention penalises everyone who cannot go - including all those in the north).* At this point I cannot really comment further since that would lead to a discussion of exactly what The Kite Society of Great Britain is, and how the membership fee is divided and used. Since no accounts are published this cannot be pursued here, but it would make an interesting discussion in the future. *(Me again: If Bill cares to read the January magazine he will see just how the membership fee is used - it is simple enough).*

To conclude, I would like to suggest that the criteria for the convention should be: accessibility to all members, rotating around England, Scotland and Wales in a planned manner, proper financing from the subscription and/or a charge on members attending, and that preferably, separate from existing kite festivals.

*(Final Ed Notes: What Bill seems to have forgotten is that a discussion was held at the Bristol festival where this subject was discussed. We have never objected to holding a convention in the north - Washington was our choice for next year but the uncertainty of the date made it impossible - and therefore Bill agreed to find a suitable location and to organise the convention for 1995. If you have any comments on this subject please write to us).*

## From Norman King

During the past five years I have been rather too busy to enjoy any kiting activities, having moved home for the first time in thirty years and been fully occupied both physically and mentally with this and alterations to the new property. I have, however been following developments to the kiting scene from the sidelines, mainly through the pages of The Kiteflier and more recently attended a two day festival. This festival went some way to confirm thoughts I have been having Whither Kiting?

First of all; Sports Kiting. Who on earth dreamt up this pretentious title? As a rather ancient and long time kiter who has seen many comings and goings, I have always regarded all kiting activities as a hobby and a very pleasant pastime. I went through a twin line phase of course with a Peter Powell replica from Pelhams' "Bible", but like most enthusiasts of that period returned to single lines. Having seen some of the so called High Performance Deltas, but by no means all of the variations available, and read the advertisements and publicity splurges etc I am amazed at the audacity of some of the makers claims. Some years ago I was very impressed by the speed and rapid manoeuvrability of the first Hawaiian I saw. Then I remembered that a long time before I had flown a small delta by Don Dunford. Instructions were given for single and two line flying. On a single line it would cope with a wide wind range due to the flexibility of the glass-fibre frame; but as a twin line it was an entirely different kite. Flying was quite fast but as it became faster the delta form became much sharper. Today's "posers" would probably be making claims of variable geometry! Since the advent of the afore-said Hawaiian we have seen innumerable similar high speed dingbats by so many, many makers who have made minor modifications and some improvements which they have smothered with copyrights and trademark signs, then claim to have "invented" a new kite. I wonder if all of these copyrights and

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trade-marks have been registered as so many of them are of a very similar nature I doubt if they would be accepted and if they are anyone really cares.

I could go on about this phenomenon called Power-Kiting. Having seen some Jumping and Buggy I must say it doesn't attract me in the slightest degree. I witnessed a line breaking at Gwithian Sept-Oct '92. The jumper was very lucky not to have been killed. This is not being over dramatic as the height required to achieve a record 32 metres would have been sufficient to have landed head first and the sands on Hayle beach would have proved too solid to have provided a happy landing! Buggy on grass is relatively gentle, but on tide washed sands it is anything but gentle. With limited control and no brakes singly they can be dangerous but very much more so in a tight group.

I would ask the "Power Kiting" fraternity to take care; if not for the sakes of their own necks, which they do not appear to value highly then for all other kites, as none of us want to see kiting banned as being too dangerous. For the notice of youngsters -- All kite flying was totally banned during the 1939-45 war on the grounds of National Security. The "Ban Everything" brigade could possibly have a safety ban imposed, don't underestimate the power of such people.

Perhaps someone will know why it is necessary to spoil the peace and tranquillity of kite meetings by playing recordings of what loosely passes for music nowadays over P.A. systems at maximum volume. I found the Gwithian Meet on the Sunday by ear as there was not enough wind for kites.

To another deplorable subject; "copycatting" as a business. This surely is illegal but I suspect that apart from appealing to the decency of the perpetrators involved there is little to be done as "taking to the law" would only swallow money

to be gained by litigation. I believe that making copies for oneself and not for profit has always been acceptable, even to the point where one manufacturer published plans, complete with all dimensions and advice to make his latest at that time, in the K.O.N. (If you are such a newcomer to kiting as not to know about K.O.N., more later). To the present victims of copy-catting I will say this; Most of the trouble appears with undercutting of price and thereby stealing trade. (I note they are invariably described as cheap copies). To them I can only say that the manufacturer who allowed his plans to be published worked on the principle of selling his kites so cheaply that it would not be financially possible for anyone to undercut him and still make a profit. Yes, he is still in business. Looking at some of the prices asked for present day kites I think that the makers hope to be able to retire very rich in a couple of years. Whilst not asking for charity I must ask what has happened to the great spirit which was one of the delights of kiting. Real kite innovators and inventors such as Alick Pearson of Roller fame and John Spendlove, to name only two out of so many who did so much for all kites and asked for little in return. Not forgetting the originators who not only saw the desperate need for a national kite magazine but dug so deeply into their pockets to produce K.O.N. The Kitefliers Occasional Newsletter for the uninitiated, after a long struggle we have seen it grow not only to this illustrious magazine you are now reading but has made the Kite Society of Great Britain come into being. This has become the focal point of all organised kiting activities so why have some people seen the need to factionalise again? It certainly doesn't help them nor anyone else as far as I can see, as Jon and Gill are so well known not only in this country but internationally.

Finally (at last) to any newcomers to kiting who like me are appalled at the price of commercial kites, I would advise them to make their own. Maybe your first attempts will not be to the high standard of some of the commercial kites as you

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had hoped for; but you will have the satisfaction of seeing your very own efforts flying. You will also have extended your hobby into the more time consuming phase and very much more satisfying kite-building. Even this is not without pitfalls. I must warn you that kite-building can in extreme cases become an end in itself to the exclusion of actual kite flying! Back to first attempts. You will be surprised just what will fly with careful adjustments to the bridle lines. Some years ago I attended an international meeting abroad, and like several others was absolutely flabbergasted to see one fellows' kites. They were made of thin plastic, not unlike bread wrappers by the look of the designs on them, loads of plastic adhesive tape and very rough garden canes. They gave the appearance of being made by a young child of very little ability, but how they flew was really magical. So as I say, don't be put off. Have a go, it is much more fun than buying them.

## From Wilf Proctor

On 30th June, the Queen and Prince Phillip came to Kirkcudbright, in order that Her Majesty should open a new Art & Craft centre in the recently refurbished Tolbooth, an historic building dating back to the 17th century, which, in its time has been variously used as a jail, a council chamber, a glove factory, a fire station and a coastguard base!

After the opening ceremony the royal couple, together with a group of V.I.P.s toured the building. In one of the workshops (lavishly outfitted for all manner of craft activities) I was working at my craft-hobby kite making and had a small exhibition of kites hanging from the walls, etc. I was thrilled when the group stopped by to examine my work; the Queen showed interest in the materials used, examining one kite very closely I made a mental note to up the price of that one .. "as touched by the Queen!"), while the Duke asked how long it had taken to make my Schimmelpfennig Snowflake, my biggest

ever kite.

I was delighted to point out to them something I had only thought of a few minutes before their arrival; the expanding interest in the sport and consequent growth of the kite making industry, including the retail side, despite the recession. Her Majesty asked if I was in the kite manufacturing business and I replied that I looked upon kite making as an art form - such sales as I make being through the local craft association.

Quite honestly, I felt as high as a kite myself and it was only after the departure of the Queen and the Duke that I came down to earth again, with a memory of a happy experience I'd never have had if it hadn't been for the joys of kite flying!

## From Stretch Tucker

I would like to take this moment to thank all of you who attended the Portsmouth and Bristol kite festivals for extending your friendship and generosity and making me feel welcome during my first visit to England in 30 years.

I was very happy to attend both festivals and find/discover that kiting in England has a much friendlier and Co-operative spirit than the one which seems to be prevalent at times here in U.S.A.

So to all of you, a great big thankyou, and you made me feel so welcome that I think I will have to return sometime in the near future. No seven hour lectures though, I promise!

## From Concerned Member

The Kite Society has always had an auction to raise money or the annual convention. This is one of the few ways that money can be raised for what must be quite a costly undertaking and along with many other people I have given something each year for this purpose. I was

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somewhat disturbed, therefore, to learn that the Bristol Festival is claiming at least 25% for itself. I thought the convention was run separately from the festival so why should the convention pay towards the festival.

How much does it cost to put on a large festival? It is rumoured that the average stall fee was £200.00 at Bristol which is at least double that of any other festival. This may be due to the lack of sponsorship but it would be interesting to see a breakdown of some of the large (and small) festivals to see the costs involved and how the money is raised. In the meantime I feel the convention should keep all the money.

## From Paul and Helene Morgan (Sky Bums)

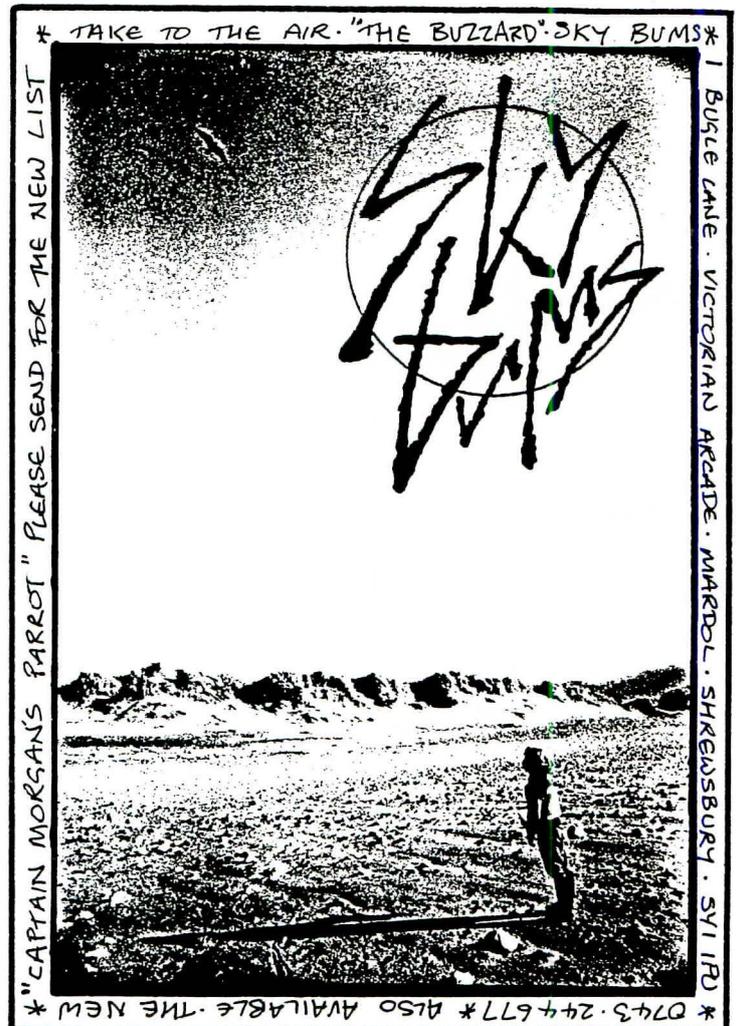
In response to the letter from Kevin Appleton. As a trader of some eight years we have gone to as many festivals as we can not only to try to make money but also to support the festivals. On many occasions we do a festival and when costs are taken out it does not leave as much as we would hope. Indeed on some occasions we are lucky to break even.

Last year there were three festivals on one day and because we were asked by all of the organisers if we would come we agreed. These festivals were Margam, Yarmouth and Tewkesbury. As it turned out the weather was sunny but with no wind. We were lucky enough to break even at all the events but that was all.

This year Margam, Yarmouth and Weston fell on the same day and we said we would try and cover them all again. Unfortunately due to staff illness just before the events we could only do one and so we had to make a decision as to which one to go to. On this occasion we had to go along with financial considerations so decided on Weston. We still did not make a lot of money but you never do at purely stunt events.

This year we have been to a festival nearly every

weekend from Easter to mid-September. The festivals are bound to double up as the only way to go is Winter and Autumn festivals. I think we are stuck with festivals clashing and unfortunately some will suffer more than others. We will still try to support as many as possible not only with a stall but also with participation and we are already looking forward to the new season. We apologise to those we couldn't support but hope to do so next year.



# GWITHIAN 1993

Last years event was the first of its kind in Britain - a week of kite flying with the emphasis on power and raising money for Downes Syndrome. Kite buggying was in its infancy. A small band of enthusiasts gathered and over 8 days enjoyed a range of conditions and winds. The results were 2 world records - that is registered with Kitelines in the States and accepted by the Guinness Book of Records. Neither were particularly staggering but they were the first in their categories.

At this years festival expectations were high. After all the sport had grown quickly over the last 12 months - many people had unofficially achieved speeds in excess of Keirons' 39 mph. But as competitors soon discovered what is possible on a familiar 'reach' is not so easily repeated under the scrutiny of the radar gun. At the end of the week, over which the wind varied from 45mph to 0, the highest recorded speed was 37mph by 'mad' John Eaton. Jonathan Harris, at 13 the youngest racer, was hot on his heels at 36.

Kite jumping or 'Skyting' was again on the agenda. But the wind directions made it dangerous for the most part of the week. The wind blew mainly from the shore and as a result was frequently very turbulent. However there was one brief opportunity with a cross-on (shore) wind. Andy Preston quickly arranged his 3 12ft Flexis and stylishly jumped into the record books with 34 metres - 2 metres more than Kieron.

While the weather and tide never gave the flyers the perfect combination of wind strength, direction, and firm surface they did all enjoy themselves. Buggy racing was organised. A triangular course was used (Fig 1). The first leg was basically across wind from a rolling start. Then a downwind section and return leg upwind. Each race consisted of 3 laps. There were 2 series, each of 3 races. To make things a little more interesting the third race was complicated by a slalom section and the direction reversed (Fig 2).

With on-coming buggys the 'starboard rule' was

employed to determine the right of way, with racers passing to the right. Other variations of the theme were explored - short slalom race and needle challenges with man on man. These all taxed the flyers until the wind hit 15mph - the minimum speed for time trials.

To concluded this years Gwithian Sport Kite Classic was attended by a larger group of racers - all more advanced than the previous year. Peel and Modulus kites predominated in contrast to Flexifoil the year before. The number of Quadrifoils was low - the winds being generally too low for the 2 or 3 metre kites for the best part of the week.

Perhaps next year may see a larger fleet armed with more diverse kites and buggys. Certainly many left the beach on the trail day determined to return again equipped with the ultimate weapon! As with the 92 festival a broadcast quality video of the activities was made (93's will be available by Christmas). See the madness in the comfort of your home. Then indulge in the power yourself at Gwithian 94. Contact Mick Parsons or Mike Johnston, Spider Kites. 0831 186493.

Mike Johnston



Fig 1.



Fig 2.

# ROKKAKU CHALLENGE 1993



The results of the 1993 U.K. Rokkaku Challenge are shown below. Each column represents one round of the challenge as follows: 1 - Blackheath; 2 - Basingstoke; 3 - Hackney; 4 - Washington; 5 - Monmouth; 6 - Portsmouth; 7 - Brighton; 8 - Stratford; 9 - Weymouth; 10 - Bristol.

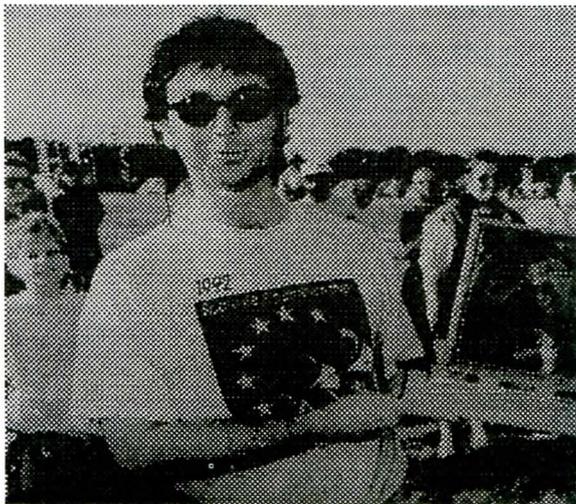
Note that teams and individuals who did not score in at least three rounds are not shown.

In the individual table no scores are shown for the Stratford event as none were recorded by the judges at that event.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
<b>BLAST</b>	2	-	15	-	2	-	-	-	6	-	23
<b>Team Vertigo</b>	10	15	8	-	4	18	-	-	12	4	45
<b>Martin Croxton</b>	11	5	-	11	2	5	9	6	6	-	31
<b>Organised Chaos</b>	6	-	-	6	-	-	7	6	6	-	19
<b>Tiggers Team</b>	3	5	-	7	-	6	-	-	-	8	21
<b>Top Marx</b>	1	3	-	-	-	8	1	7	1	4	19
<b>Sky Bums</b>	-	6	-	-	12	-	4	1	1	-	22
<b>Force 9</b>	-	4	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	8
<b>AKF Green</b>	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	6	8	10	24
<b>Team Poges</b>	-	-	-	7	10	-	-	3	8	3	25
<b>Doug Jones</b>	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	8	-	-	17

INDIVIDUAL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
<b>Martin Croxton</b>	4	9	-	-	3	1	18	-	6	-	33
<b>Simon Dann</b>	2	10	8	-	2	-	-	-	14	-	32
<b>Ray Oakhill</b>	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	15
<b>Paul Morgan</b>	3	9	-	10	-	-	-	-	2	-	22
<b>Stafford Wallace</b>	12	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	10	-	26
<b>Mik Jennison</b>	6	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	4	12	28
<b>Toody Oakhill</b>	6	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	3	3	16
<b>Nick Webb</b>	-	1	-	4	3	6	4	-	-	2	14
<b>Thing on a String</b>	-	-	13	-	16	-	-	-	3	-	32
<b>Ian Rawley</b>	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	3	6	19

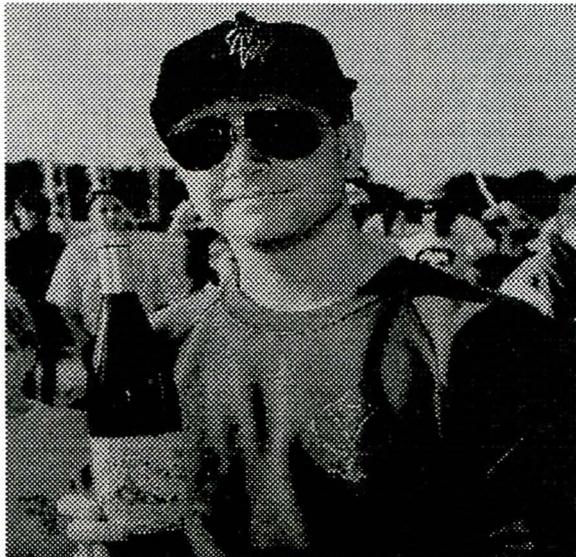
# ROKKAKU CHALLENGE 1993/4



**Richard Marsh (part of Team Vertigo)**



**Tiggers Team (Team Spirit)**



**Martin Croxton (Individual)**

The 1994 U.K. Rokkaku Challenge, both team and individual, will be held at the following festivals .

April 3rd & 4th	Blackheath Easter
May 1st & 2nd	Weymouth
May 14th & 15th	Brighton
May 29th & 30th	Bath
May 29th & 30th	Banham
June 4th & 5th	Basingstoke
July 2nd & 3rd	Washington
July 9th & 10th	Monmouth
August 27th & 28th	Portsmouth
September 3rd & 4th	Bristol

As some of you may know there was some discussion held at Bristol regarding the rules of the Rokkaku Challenge. Below you will find the current rules. We would like to receive your comments on these, together with other rules that you would like to see added, so that a complete new set can be published in the January issue.

One thing to remember - the Rokkaku Challenge started off as a fun event - minimum rules - and we would like to see it return to that. It has started to become serious.

#### **KITE:**

Rokkaku shape and style of kite. For Team competition the minimum sail height shall be 2 metres. For Individual event the maximum sail height shall be 1.5 metres.

#### **LINE:**

No steel cable, kevlar, abrasive coatings or cutting lines. If in doubt do not use.

#### **PROCEDURE:**

Competitors spread across the arena and long launch the kites on a given signal. On a second signal the fight commences.

As soon as a kite touches the ground, or is cut, it is out of the competition - no catching of the kite or the line is allowed. The last kite flying is the winner.

A 20 minute time limit will apply - in the event of a tie cutdowns will count over pulldowns.

Kites can only be pulled down by the line or bridle, no handling of the kite is allowed.

#### **WARNINGS:**

One public warning will be made to competitor who, in the opinion of the judges, is failing to fully participate in the competition. This includes lying over to one side, hanging back etc. and thus avoiding the fight. The issue of a second warning will result in the disqualification of the competitor from that heat of the Rokkaku Challenge.

# KITEABILITY

## HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS

You come to us for banter,  
and a friendly chat,  
At times to shelter from the rain,  
When you have forgotten your hat.

You come to us for books,  
and the latest magazine,  
To see what is occurring,  
On the current kiting scene.

You come to us for goodies,  
and parts to make your kites,  
To create another masterpiece,  
That will soon take flight.

Best second quality ripstop,  
cut as you require,  
For you to make the nice new kite,  
That is your heart's desire.

The Autumn is now upon us,  
and golden leaves must fall,  
It just remains for us to wish,  
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS to you all.

ALL THE BEST FOR 1994 FROM KITEABILITY  
\*\*\*\*\*

See you all in the New Year

Pat & Ron



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

Proprietor : Mrs. P. Dell

## CONVENTION 93

## PRIVATE ADS

Congratulations to everyone - we raised £2,705!

The auction this year consisted of a 'noisy' auction in the traditional manner, and a 'silent' auction where bids were made on paper. The silent auction opened at about 6 p.m. and attracted lively interest throughout the evening until it closed at 10 p.m. This type of auction seemed very successful and allowed many people to make a bid who would not normally show an interest in a conventional type of auction.

The noisy auction, as usual, generated much interest and, at times, some very competitive bidding. There were many desirable items - two of Stretch Tucker's parafoils, a magnificent applied rokkaku from Flight Fantastic, a 'surprise from Martin Lester, which the successful bidder found to be the pick of his collection ... the list seemed endless. Probably the most extraordinary item was a Bristol Kite Festival car pass which was by then a collector's piece!

Many thanks to all who spent so much time and effort producing the items for the auction. A big round of applause must go to the auctioneers - George Webster, Yogi Simpson and Paul Reynolds. The helpers and spotters were Tony and Barbara Cartwright, Tony Baker, John Barker and Derek Kuhn who did a marvellous job.

P.S. Diary Date - the next kite Society Auction will be held on Saturday 27th August 1994 in Portsmouth. Watch this space or further details.

We cannot publish the accounts yet as the bill from the hotel has yet to arrive. We will be publishing the accounts of the event in the January issue.

For Sale: Five 6ft Stacker Flexifoils. Willing to sell them individually or in any combination. All in excellent condition - #30.00 each. Please contact Chris Wilkes during the day on 0276 692269.

Revolution 1 complete with lines, video instructions. Flown 3 times and in excellent condition. Exchange for best looking and built 2m+ Rokkaku (including line and handles). Contact Peter Nornman. Ipswich (0473) 726675 evenings.

For Sale:- Stainless Steel Kite Buggy as new £200.00 - Three 6' Flexifoils £45.00 each or three for £120.00. Telephone 0603 31964 evenings.

Could Simon Bargery please contact James Madelin at 2 Lynwood Chase, Branell, Berks RG12 2JT with a view to flying in Sheffield.

Members in the West Lancs area, roughly bordered by the Irish Sea, The River Ribble, the A49 and the Mersey, who are interested in forming a group should contact Allan Boyd, 89 Ormskirk Road, Hall Green, Upholland, Lancs WN8 0AH.

## SINGLE LINERS

The winners of the Kite Society of Great Britain Single Line Championships held at the Bristol International Kite Festival were:

Soft Kite:	Morris Elsworth
Flat Kite:	Janneke Groen
Cellular Kite:	Andrew Rummings
Peoples Choice:	Nicholas Wadsworth

Congratulations to all of the above and many thanks to Martin Lester, Stretch Tucker, Gill Bloom and Paul Morgan for judging.



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# BITS AND PIECES

## KITE SITES

Steve Gibson writes: This summer has seen many kitefliers sending a lot more suitable kite sites. So I'm at it again! Kite Sites 2 - the saga continues! The next booklet looks like it will be bigger, better and well produced. If you have a site you would like to include, then send: Location, O.S. ref if possible, approx size, directions, parking, if its best to get permission, if used by a local kite group, but most importantly - the nearest pub. Plus any other comments to Steve Gibson, 91 Baysham Street, Hereford. To those of you who purchased the first, homemade booklet - many thanks and to those who kept promising to send sites in, but didn't, you now have another chance! And remember part of the proceeds go to the NSPCC.

## GETTING STUCK

A word of warning to all kitefliers out there. A member, whilst attending a show unfortunately lost his kite and it eventually landed over some power cables. Doing the correct thing he contacted the local power company and they eventually retrieved the kite. However, he has now received a letter from the company stating that as the kite was being flown on a line which, in their opinion was not strong enough for the wind condition, they would be charging him for the cost of recovery. This included the hire of a lift platform to retrieve the kite. Total cost is estimated at £3000.

## KITE TUITION

High as a Kite is the home of Britains/Europe's top stunt kite flying team Aircraft. Now the shop is planning to take Aircraft's expertise back out into the field (literally). Reflecting the massive popular up-take of stunt kite flying High as a Kite will soon be offering customers the chance of stunt kite classes. These will be held on Hackney Marshes on Sunday mornings during the off season and will cost around £5 for a 2 hour introduction to one of the fastest growing sports in Europe. And who better to give the class the European Champions?

Anyone buying a kite worth £75 or more at High as a Kite will qualify for the class free of charge.

## ONE SKY ONE WORLD

Martin Lester has agreed with Jane Parker-Ambrose to co-ordinate the returns from this years One Sky One World event. So if you are running an event send your details to Martin at 20a Backfield Lane, Stokes Croft, Bristol BS2 8QW. Telephone 0272 232084. Fax 0272 424723.

## KITE GROUP NEWS

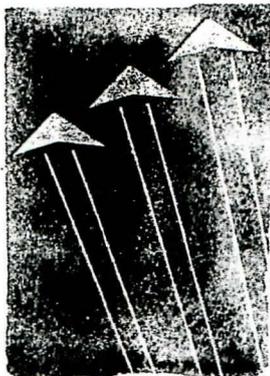
The Loddon Valley Kite Fliers still meet at the "Jolly Farmer", Cliddesden every Wednesday evening, club business is normally discussed on the last Wednesday of the month. Fly-ins are held at Down Grange, Basingstoke from 10.00 on the second Saturday of each month and at Whitehill (Watership Down) near Kingsclere on the last Sunday of each month. Fliers usually ballast in the "Swan Inn", Kingsclere from 12.00. Contact Peter Hillman on 0256 51836 or write to LVKF, 119 Porter Road, Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 4JT for details of club membership.

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Back in May of this year we formed a kite club covering the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury area. The club was given the provisional name of Gloucester Kite Fliers. At our first club meeting we decided to officially rename the club the Golden Valley Kite Fliers. We now meet every 4th Sunday of the month from 10.30am until 5.00pm at Beaufort Sports Centre, Windsor Drive, Tuffley, Gloucester.

Our first "fly in" was a great success made even more memorable by the very welcome help from members of the Alcester Kite Fliers, the Avon Kite Fliers and the White Horse Kite Fliers and we wish to express our thanks to these clubs.

We would also like to thank Martin Lesters legs which were certainly a great point of discussion.



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Unit 20, Wansdyke Business Centre, Oldfield Park,  
Bath BA2 3LY**

**Tel: 0225 46 66 61  
Fax: 0225 46 41 88**



# BITS AND PIECES

Our membership is growing and we now have over forty members, including babes in arms (well you can never start them off too early can you?).

Our club seems to have generated a lot of local interest which has resulted in us being asked to help support various functions in aid of charity and also taking part in the Gloucester Festival Fortnight (we never knew a kite workshop was so tiring).

Contact Peter Whitaker, 19 Lilac Drive, Tuffley, Gloucester. Telephone 0452 728521.

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The Duchy Kitefliers meet at St Austell Rugby Ground on Thursdays at 7.00pm (Floodlit in winter) and at Pentewan Beach on Sundays. Contact Ray Smith, 44 Rosevear Road, Bugle, PL26 8PJ. Telephone 0726 851491.

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The Shaftesbury Kite Club started in March 1993 and has over 100 keen members from as far as Australia and Indonesia. Based round the Shaftesbury School they meet regularly at Win Green, Ludwell, Shaftesbury as well as holding workshops during school holidays. The first fly-in attracted over 150 flyers. For more information contact Andrew Lear 0747 54348 or Piers Day, Kite Fantastic, London W6. Telephone 071 371 3342.

## BUGGY NEWS

The third issue of Buggy News has been published. This is the official publication of the Buggy Pilots of America and is produced by Corey Jensen at Windborne Kites, 585 Cannery Row #105, Monterey, California 93940. This publication is full of news and information regarding buggys, buggy events etc etc. Distributed throughout North America, Great Britain and the continent, also translated into French and German. Buggy News is widely shared by fax and now on INTERNET.

Corey doesn't know how much longer he can

continue to do it for free. He suggests that if you want to receive it, and can't find someone who has one to copy then you should send a donation of at least \$10.00 and receive a years worth of news (6 issues).

## ANOTHER NEW GROUP

The Flying Tykes. We are a new club just started up in the West of Yorkshire and are looking for fellow enthusiasts to join us.

Apart from general flying, we are planning to try our hand at team flying, building our own kites, attending kite festivals and just generally having a good time. So, whether you're into single line, stunting or building kites, we'd love to hear from you. It doesn't matter what age or gender you are, just pick up the 'phone and speak to me, Dave Lupton on 0924 374911. Or write to 11a Cleveland Avenue, Lupset Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF2 8LE.

## SHOP NEWS

Ground Control Kites have just started up and are situated just outside Gainsborough, Lincs. We stock a full range of kites and accessories and we will also be manufacturing kites and accessories - retail and trade.

We believe most of our business will be mail order but if anyone would like to call please ring first to arrange a time and for directions. We will be attending some of the festivals that are within our area. We can accept major credit cards as this is a very quick and easy way to order. In January we will be advertising our own brand of kites and a full list of accessories. Address: West View Sturgate, Gainsborough, Lincs, DN21 5PX. Telephone/Fax 0427 83414.

---

Sybar-Ware is a new mail order company operating in the south. They seem to specialise in sports kites only. Contact them at Holbrook Court, Cumberland Business Centre, Northumberland

# Quicks

# KITE LIST

QUICKS THE ARCHERY SPECIALISTS  
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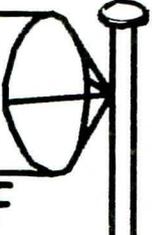
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# I.C.KITES

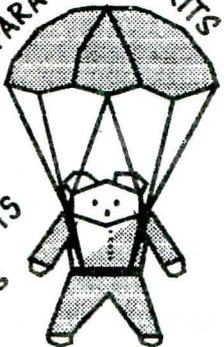


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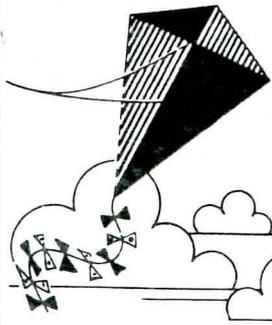
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# BITS AND PIECES

Road, Southsea, Hants PO5 1DS. Telephone 0705 877111. Fax 0705 877181.

Force Nine Kites have recently opened a new shop in Colchester, Essex, catering for the needs of all kitefliers. We are stocking a full range of Sport kites, single line kites, power kites and buggies, together with the best selection of accessories. Mail order is also available from the same address at Force Nine Kites, St Johns Street, Colchester, Essex CO2 7AN. Telephone 0206 560948.

Cannock Kites are expanding. In addition to opening a new Kite and Juggling shop in Spencers Shopping Mall, Telford, Shropshire they have increased the size of their Cannock shop by 50% giving them some much needed storage and workshop space. They now have possible the largest selection of stunt kites available anywhere in the country. In addition they have been appointed wholesalers of Carringtons second quality sports fabrics. Anyone interested in stocking this or a range of kite making materials should contact Richard on 0543 573177 for a trade price list.

Golden Valley Kites was formed in June/July 1993. We are a husband and wife team who are interested in kites. We have been kiting for several years visiting many of the kite festivals. Over the years we have bought many kites and want to become more involved. We feel Gloucester is a very good area for kites. We will be supplying all types o kites. Just ring us and we will quote you a very competitive price. We are predominately mail order but may trade at festivals next year. Address 13 South Cross, Longlevens, Gloucester GL2 9HZ. Telephone 0452 522074.

Greens Kites have opened a factory shop next to their kite factory in Burnley. Opening times are: Monday - Friday 8'00am - 4.30pm; Late night opening Thursday until 7.00pm; Saturday 10.00am - 2.00pm; Sunday 10.00am - 2.00pm every first Sunday of month.

They are planning many new special events, lectures, workshops etc. (*Greens of Burnley may even let the Kiteflier know directly when these are to happen*). The shop has videos running, a free reference section of books, newsletters etc, kite accessories and materials, free tea, coffee or beer, free notice board and, of course, kites.

Kosmic Kites is a new kite shop opening Late October. The address is 161 Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey. Opposite 'Liberty Bell' restaurant. The flyer states that they have kites from £3.00 to £300.00!!! and if you have a flyer then you can get a 10% discount until 28th November 1993.

## APPEAL FOR KITES

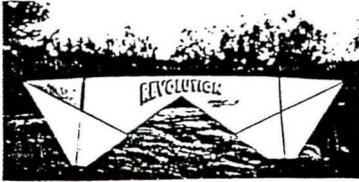
Dave Coathup writes. May I ask through the pages of your magazine if there are any kind hearted kiteflyers who may have an old or unused stunt kite (any size) that they could let me have either free or as cheap as possible. I have started a group to bring the joys of kiteflying to children between the ages of 6 and 16 and due to the growing membership and lack of funds I am having to disappoint some people. If anyone can help me on this project please contact me on 0942 877832 or at 60 Abbey Lane, Westleigh, Leigh, Lancashire. Thank you.

In the January issue of the magazine we are planning to publish the 1994 Trade and Group directories. If you know of a shop trader or a group which has not been mentioned within the pages of the Kiteflier then please get in touch.

Write to:

The Kite Society of Great Britain  
P.O. Box 2274  
Gt Horkeley  
Colchester  
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REV BASIC

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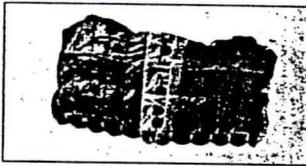
MODEL: REVOLUTION I  
 FABRIC WEIGHT: .75 oz. ripstop nylon  
 COLORS AVAILABLE: Varied  
 WIND RANGE: 5-20 mph.  
 CONFIGURATION: Linked Dual-sail, double spined.

15%  
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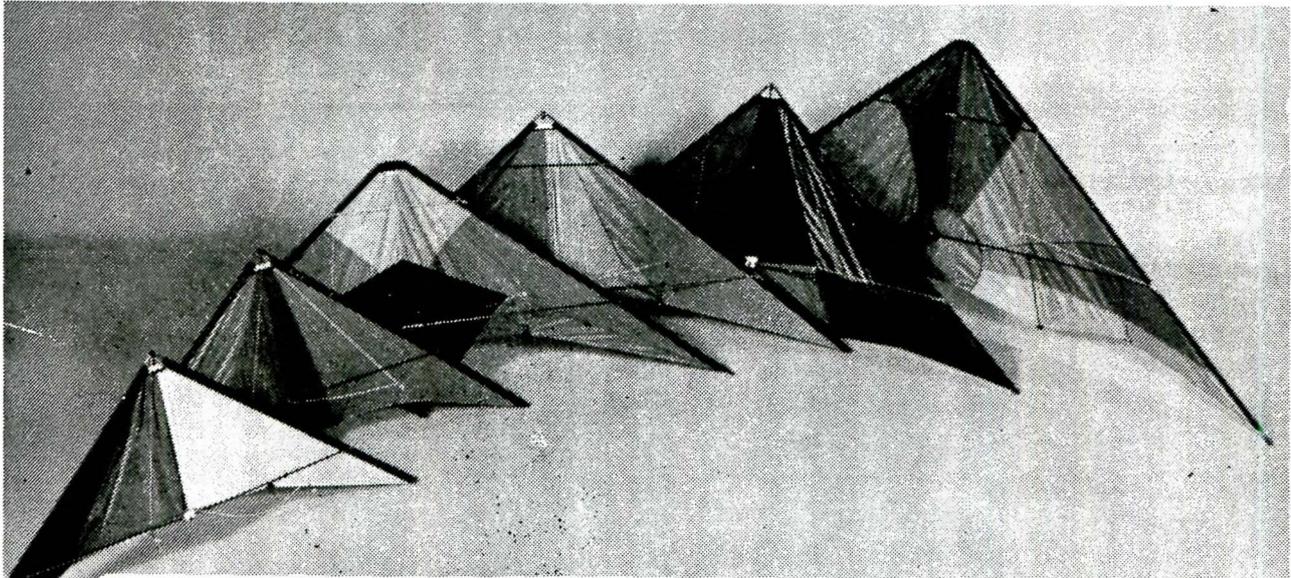
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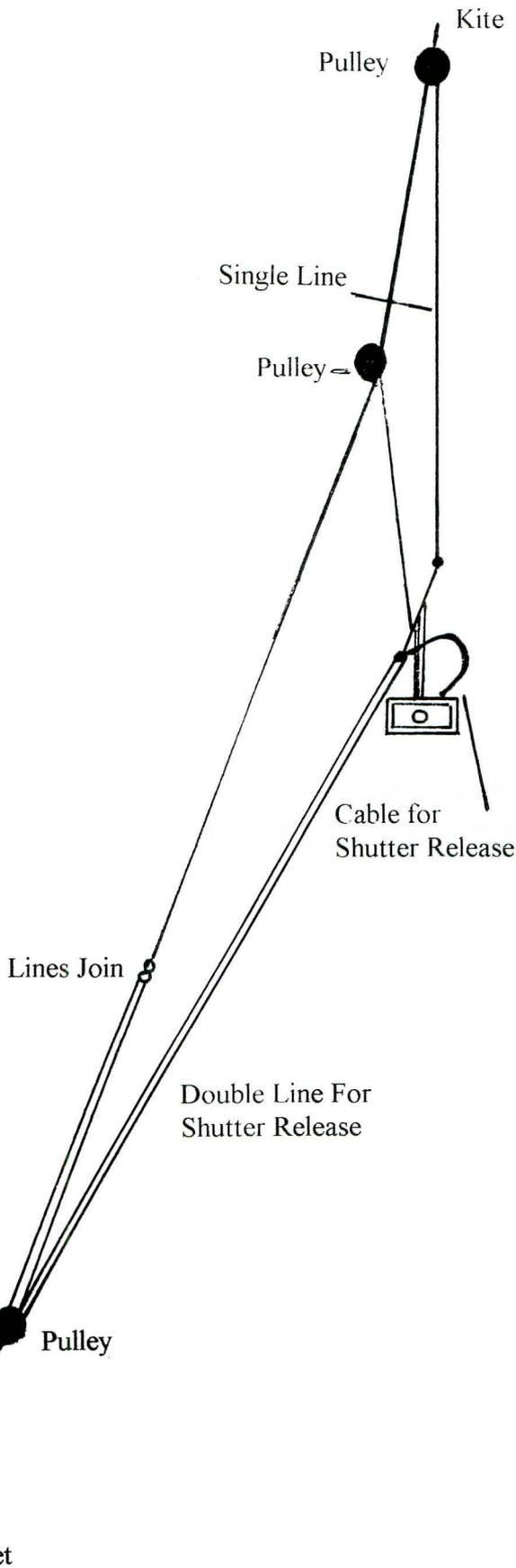


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# LOOP LINE CAMERA LIFTER



The loop is a new way of making the most of the height to which a kite may be flown for photography. The camera can be lifted right up to the kite from ground level easily and allowed to run down again.

The lines are in the form of a loop, having a pulley at the low end to hold it down, and one at the top for the kite, the third pulley runs on the main line and carries the camera rig from above as it is pulled up towards the kite or allowed to run down to the low end. The camera rig is attached to the join in the two halves of the loop.

The second line is doubled and is used to work the shutter at the right instant. Nothing new in that it was used on my first outfits. It means that there is no radio to complicate matters.

**Tom Pratt**

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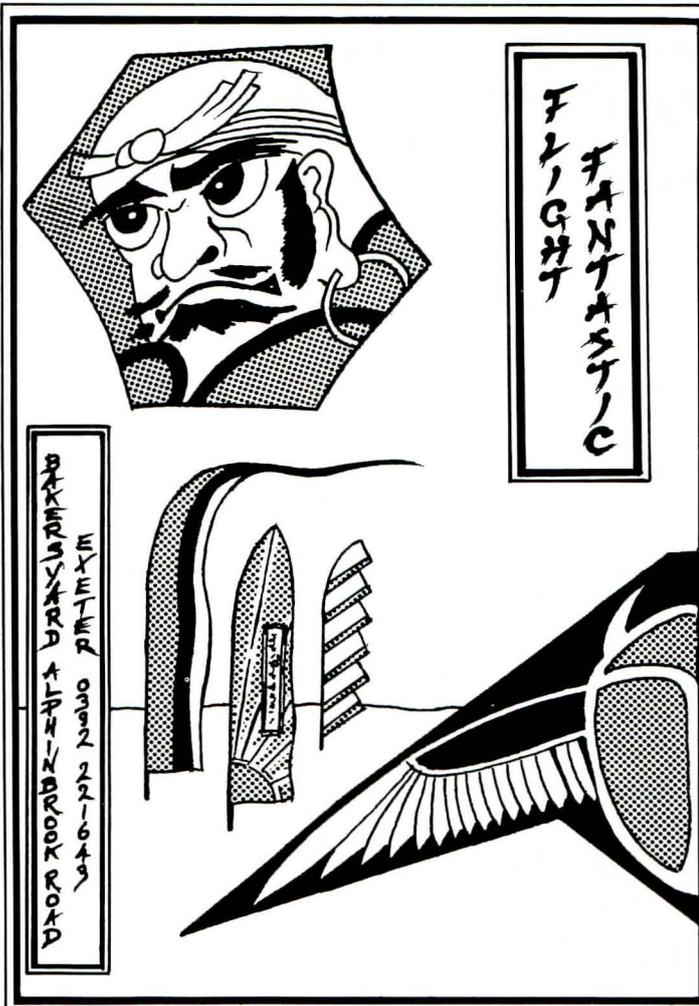
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## THE WADSWORTH SPINNER

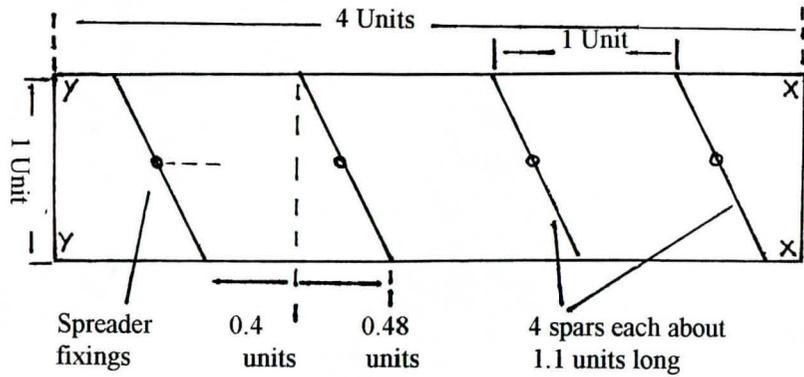
This kite is almost as simple to make as a normal box kite but it spins rapidly in the wind. It works well made of plastic sheet, green garden canes and sticky tape or of ripstop and ramin dowel. No doubt you could use carbon fibre.

The two sails are each 1 unit by 4 units. A 30-40cm unit is quite suitable. Four spars are fixed at an angle as shown. The spreaders are attached to the spars 0.4 of the way back from the leading edge of the box. In the rear box the two spreaders run right across the diagonals of the box. In the front box there are four half length spreaders which fit into a enthrall boss. I made the boss from a short length of wooden broom handle.

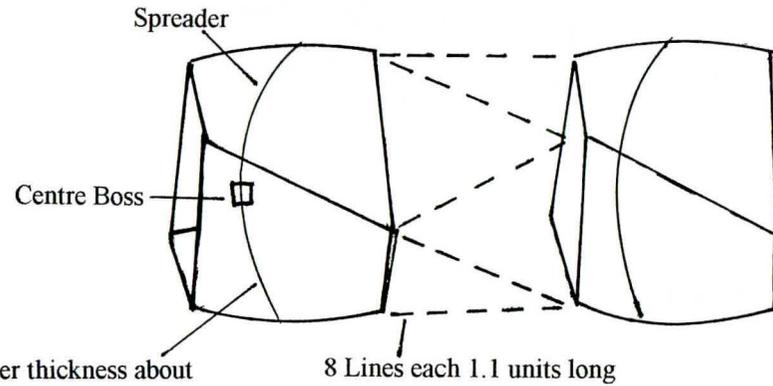
In each case as the last spreader is sprung in the box springs into shape with the spars bent and the box faces curved. (There are also some wrinkles.) The length of the spreaders should be adjusted so that when in place they are slightly bowed, keeping the sail taut. Start with the spreaders 1.45 units long and shorten carefully. In the front box the spreaders should bow forward so the bridle point is not more than 0.3 units behind the leading edge.

When complete join the two boxes by 6 lines in a zig-zag from corner to corner. The kite is flown from a pivot on the central boss in the front cell. To prevent the line twisting it is tied to a stiff wire looped behind the head of the pivot.

**SAIL** (2 Needed - add seam and hem allowance)

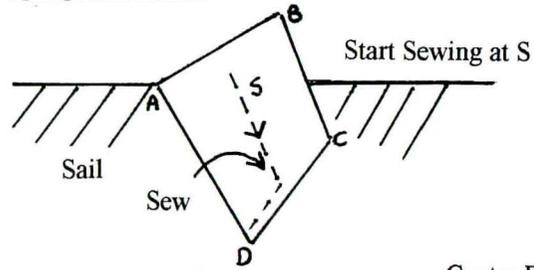


Join XX to YY to make box

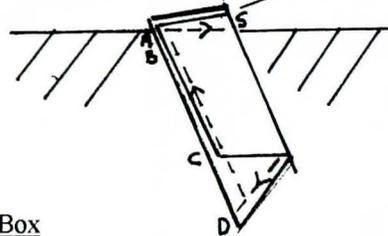


Spar and spreader thickness about  
1/90 Unit for wood  
1/150 Unit for carbon

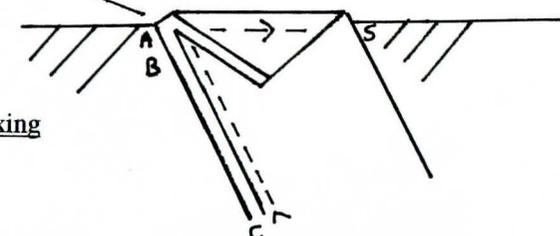
Spar pocket detail



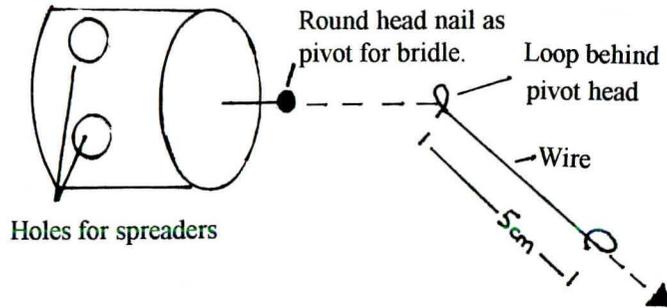
Fold BC over and continue sewing back to S.



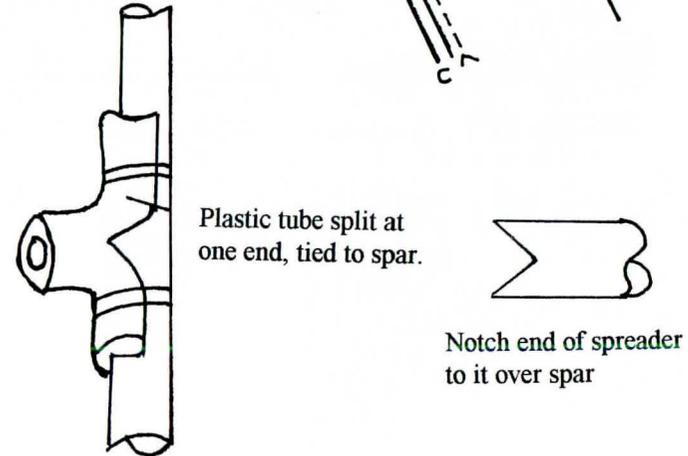
Cut off or fold forward before sewing C-B-S



Centre Boss in Front Box



Spreader Fixing



Nicholas  
Wadsworth

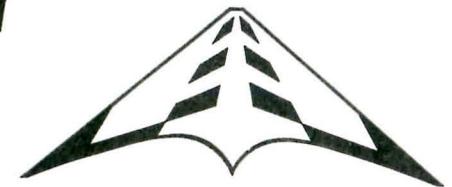
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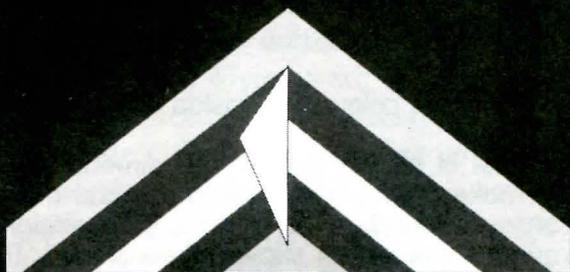
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We are pleased to announce that our *new* shop is now open seven days a week at



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---

Following our last advertisement in *The Kiteflier*, we have been inundated with requests for our catalogue. Our new catalogue is now in preparation, and anyone who has already written to us will be sent one as soon as possible. If you would like a copy, please write with details of your address together with a 24 pence stamp please, to:



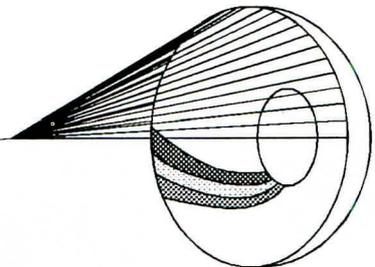
The Sovereign Centre  
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***The Kite Specialist for the South***

# THE DONUT

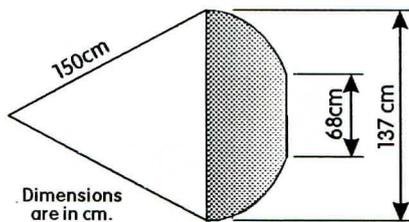
Designed by Eddie Megrath, interpreted and drawn by Derek Kuhn

At last! The secret of the Donut is revealed! It's quite simple really, when you know how. In principle, it works like a wind turbine, with vents to turn it round. In a good breeze, it rolls sideways along the ground, then takes off, rising into the air and drifting back to where it came from, then rolls along the ground again. I hope someone can explain the aerodynamics..... It can pull very hard, even at this size, so gloves and sturdy ground anchors are a must.



Some bristles and gores are omitted for clarity

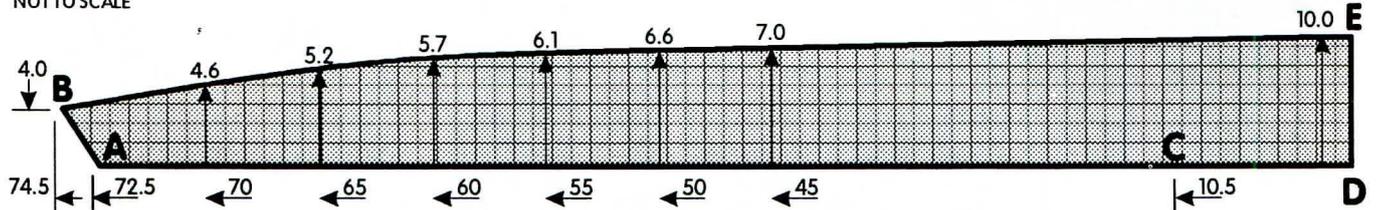
Materials:  
77cm x 5.75m Ripstop nylon  
36m 100lb bridle line  
Heavy duty swivel or bearing  
Approx. 6.75 m reinforcing tape (eg. dacron)  
About 20 m 100lb (min) flying line



You will need at least two colours of Ripstop Nylon for best effect - more if possible.

One individual panel is shown below. The dimensions given are without a hem - make a template for accuracy and add your own favourite allowance all round. AD is straight, BE is straight at the E end, then a smooth curve where shown dimensioned. This design calls for 48 identical panels.

Start sewing point A on the first panel to point B on the second. Stop sewing at point C on the first panel and make a few back stitches for extra strength. Then sew A on the second panel to B on the third and so on for all 48 panels. The last panel is sewn to the first in a ring.

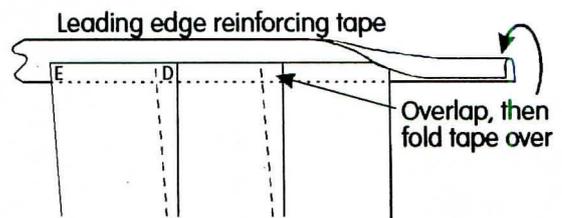


The inside of the hole should be reinforced with some heavy duty tape, or a double hem.

The leading edge is supported by a band of heavy duty tape. The panels are sewn onto the tape from point D to point E, overlapping point D on the next panel by about 10mm. The vents (which make it spin) are left open.

Next the bridles: make 2 bridles from 1 line about 3m long. Use a hot needle or fine hole punch to make a hole through the leading edge tape where 2 panels overlap. Fasten one end of the line through this hole, miss one panel, then do the same to the panel after with the other end of the line. Tie a small overhand loop in the centre of the bridle line. You will need to do this 12 times (= 24 bridles), after which all the centre knots can be threaded together with some heavy line or a serious split ring.

The latter is then attached to a heavy duty swivel and about 20m flying line.



This plan can be scaled up or down within reason. The number of panels can be halved if the width is doubled. Remember - any inaccuracy in the template is magnified 48 times in the finished Donut.

Good rolling!

© Derek Kuhn - September, 1993.

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# RULES FOR BUGGY RACING

As the sport of Buggyng has developed in this country over the last year the thoughts of racing and how this can be achieved have crossed a number of minds. At the festival of kites (19th - 20th June) Ian Meredith bravely attempted to organise the buggy riders into some semblance of a race - the UK's first "National" buggy race. The lessons learnt are ultimately more important than the actual victor. There is, quite clearly, a need for a practical framework of "rules" to permit fast and skilful races to be held.

We organised the "Pembrey Series" throughout July with a view of drawing up 10 guidelines to form the basis for a discussion on rules necessary for exciting and safe races. The series was held over 4 Saturdays at Pembrey Country Park. Everything was done to invite as many riders as possible, it was (and remains) an open event. There were 3 heats at each meeting. The results from these meets were: 1st Dominic Bowns, 2nd Steve Horley, 3rd Mick Parsons.

The real result, however, is what are referred to as the 10 golden rules.

1. The starboard rule - always pass to the right (opposing buggys) - See Picture.
2. Upwind buggys must keep clear when overtaking.
3. Always look before you gybe.
4. When passing or crossing the upwind kite must be lowered.
5. Buggys 'on the run' have right of way over 'reaching' buggys.
6. Never underfly the lines of opposing buggys.
7. "Air" at the mark. When two or more buggys are competing at the mark, the first must down turn his kite when gybing. The following buggy has the option of either top or bottom turning unless being closely followed. Top turn only if there is "air".
8. Never touch the marks.
9. Never relaunch kites in such a way as to cause an obstruction to other buggyists.

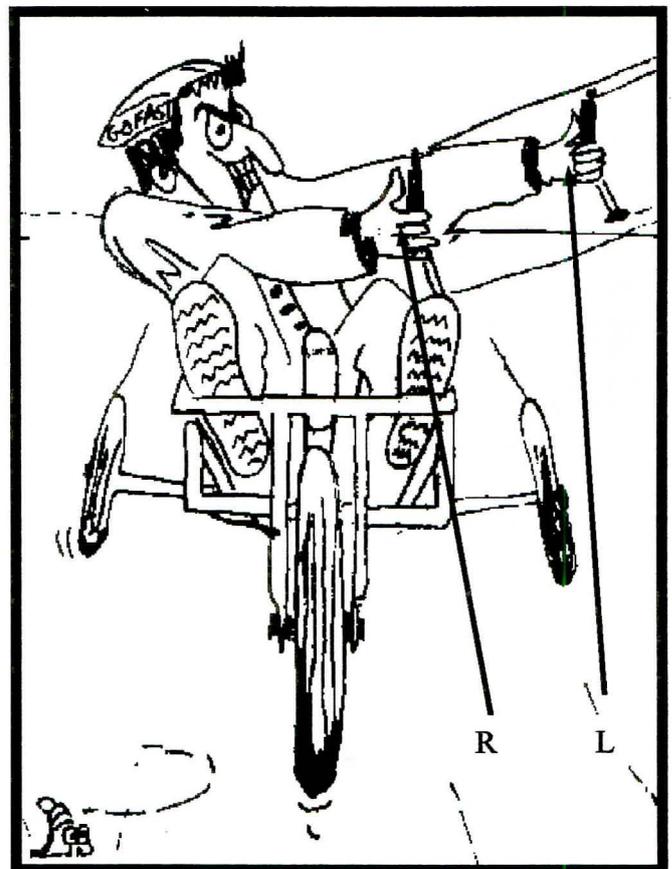
10. Avoid contact with other buggys and kites at all times.

As you will see there are a number of sailing terms used - but then that's exactly what a buggy rider is doing. The starboard rule, once understood, makes the beach (or where else) a safer place even when racing. You automatically know what to do when faced with an oncoming buggy - and so do they!

These are guidelines for discussion. They don't exclude flyers, or kites, only avoidable dangers. They are designed to help promote buggy racing. We have experimented with short slalom courses and rolling starts. The invite is open - Saturdays and Pembrey Country Park is Buggy Day.

Mike Johnston

(Welsh Sports Kite Centre 0792 456060)



STARBOARD - Right Hand Forward

# GROUP FLY-INS

Group	Flying Location	When	Contact
<b>Aberdeen Kiteflyers</b>	Bridge of Don, East of the Queens Links.	Second Sunday	Gary Clarke, 3 Eastside Avenue, Westhill, Aberdeen, AB32 6QQ.
<b>Alcester Kite Fliers</b>	Alcester Rugby Ground.	Third Sunday	Fred Taplin, 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warwickshire.
<b>Avon Kite Flyers</b>	Ashton Court, Bristol.	First Sunday	Martin Baker, The Bristol Kitestore, 1b Pitville Place, Cotham Hill, Bristol BS6 6JY. 0272 745010.
<b>Blackheath Kite Association</b>	Blackheath, London.	Second Sunday	Len Patten, 303 Lincoln Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1SY. 081 804 2089.
<b>Brighton Kite Fliers.</b>	Hollingbury Telscombe Tye	First Sunday Third Sunday	Ray Oakhill, Spindrif, 6 Hartfield Road, Saltdean, Sussex BN2 8RE. 0273 306842.
<b>Chiltern Kite Group.</b>	Various	Various	Roger Lawton, Karensa, 3 The Dell, Stockenchurch, Buks HP14 3SD. 0494 482743.
<b>Devon Kite Friends</b>	Pork Hill April to September	Second Sunday Fourth Sunday	John Skinner, 12 Oak Road, Bishopsmead, Tavistock, Devon PL19 9EZ. 0822 616196.
<b>Eastbourne Kite Solety</b>	Various	Second Sunday	Tom Gunter, 40 Peppercorn Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN20 8JN. 0323 725064.
<b>Essex Kite Group</b>	Various	Various	Kathleen Pike, 34 Mortimer Road, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 9NX. 0268 780516.
<b>Golden Valley Kite Fliers</b>	Beaufort Sports Centre, Tuffley, Gloucester.	Fourth Sunday	Peter Whitaker, 19 Lilac Drive, Tuffley, Gloucester. 0452 728521.
<b>Great Ouse Kite Flyers</b>	Various	Various	Diane Butler, 511 Fulbridge Road, Warrington, Peterborough, Cambs PE4 6SB. 0733 571958.
<b>Hereford Kite Group</b>	Hereord Leisure Centre.	Second Sunday	Steve Gibson, 91 Baysham Street, Hereord HR4 0ET. 0432 359999.
<b>Kent Kite Klub</b>	Various	Third Sunday	Fiona Elsworth, 95 Seagull Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 2QJ. 0634 727238.
<b>Kite Club of Scotland</b>	Strathclyde Park Battery Park	Alternate every fortnight.	Patrick Prosser, 12 Daleview Avenue, Glasgow G12 0HE. 041 357 0555.
<b>Kites North</b>	Various	First Sunday	Adam Sutherland, 20 Durham Place, Barley Mow, Chester-le-street, Co Durham DH3 2AY. 091 410 4723.
<b>Loddon Valley Kite Fliers</b>	White Hill (Watership Down), Kingsclere.	Second Sunday Last Sunday	Peter Hillman, 119 Porter Road, Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 4JT. 0256 51836.
<b>Midland Kite Fliers</b>	Sutton Park	First Sunday	Alan Gilbert, 26 Evesham Road, Leicester LE3 2BD. 0533 891074.
<b>Nomansland Kite Fliers</b>	Nomansland Common, Wheathampstead.	Fourth Sunday	Geoff Adams, 6 Pembroke Close, Bovington, Herts HP3 0QH. 0442 833736.
<b>Northampton Kite Fliers</b>	The Race Course, St Georges Avenue.	First Sunday	Ian Brett, 12 Willow Close, Spratton, Northampton NN6 8JH. 0604 843374.
<b>Northern Kite Group</b>	Various	Third Sunday	Ron Ogden, 41 Ashfield Drive, Clayton Bridge, Manchester M10 6WJ. 061 682 9308.
<b>North East Kite Fliers</b>	Various	Second Sunday	Harry Peart, 92 Beaconsfield Street, Darlington, Co Durham DL3 6ER. 0325 284077.
<b>Red Dragon Flyers</b>	Cowbridge Common	Various	Greg Eynon, Cardiff Kitestore, 15 High Street Arcade, Cardiff CF1 2BB. 0222 666485.
<b>South Hams Kite Club</b>	Blackdown Goat Farm, Rings Lane, Loddiswell, Kingsbridge.	First Sunday Third Sunday	N E Parker, 43 Coombe MEadows, Chillington, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 2JL.
<b>Suffok Kite Flyers</b>	The Grove, Felixstowe, Suffolk.	Second Sunday Fourth Sunday	Ken Higgs, 24 Melford Way, Felixstowe IP11 8UF. 0394 272394.
<b>Thorpe Kite Flyers</b>	Thorpe Recreation Ground, Laundry Lane, Thorpe	Every Sunday	Nigel Goodswen, 68 Lark Rise, Mulbarton, Norfolk NR14 8EG.
<b>Vectis Flyers</b>	Yaverland, Sandown, Isle of Wight	Most Sundays	Vivien Ellis, Charisma, 14 Sandown Road, Lake, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9JP. 0983 402871.
<b>Wessex Kite Group</b>	Various	Various	David Webster, 16 Brackley Way, Hammonds Green, Totton, Southampton SO4 3HN. 0703 860255.
<b>White Horse Kite Fliers</b>	Barbury Castle Country Park, Wroughton.	Second Sunday	David Robinson, 61 Bridge End Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4PD. 0793 824208.
<b>York Kite Flyers</b>	York Racecourse (Knavesmire)	First Sunday	

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Kite Society of Great Britain was founded in 1979 and, since then, has grown to be recognised as the leading organisation for kite flying in Great Britain with over 2500 members worldwide.

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

In addition the Kite Society organises an annual convention where guest speakers are invited to talk about their specialist area of kite making and flying. At the same time the Annual Dinner and Kite Auction is held giving members the opportunity to obtain rare and unusual kites.

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

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

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

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£8.00
Family - all members in the same household.	£9.00
O.A.P.	£6.00
O.A.P. - Family (Husband & Wife)	£7.00
Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail	£9.00
Overseas - Airmail	£12.50
Overseas upgrade to standard airmail.	£5.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Family Members \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Please send this form with payment to:

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# PIN PRATT PAGE

The 1993 pin season is coming to an end and we have had quite a good crop of badges and lots more in the pipeline for 1994.

There are very few pins from the U.K. since the last Pin Pratt Page, the ones we have heard of are as follows.

From The Leading Edge - Phantom Pins are available in two colours (White and Royal), 150 of each made. Cost £3.95. Tel 0274 532899.

From Pat and Ron Dell at Kiteability two nice pins depicting Viv Comma's Kiskeedee and Space Traveller kites. Each are a limited edition of 150. Check them out at the Kiteability stall.

The Bristol International Kite Festival pin this year, due to the manufacturer's cock up comes in two colours Gold, of which hundreds were produced and Magenta, of which there are only 100. Contact the Bristol Kite Store for details tel 0272 745010.

Coming soon from Kevin Appleton - Team Cascade pin, cost £3.95 each plus padded Jiffy bag. From 37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ. Tel 0603 31964.

Also coming soon The Loddon Valley Kite Fliers pin. Available in two limited editions. 100 in gold coloured and 150 in silver coloured base metal. The expected price should be £3.50 and £2.50 respectively. Write or phone Peter Hillman, 119 Porter Road, Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 4JT. Tel 0256 51836.

The best pin we have left to last, discovered by Steve Billings who passed it on to Tony Slater who found out all the relevant information. This is a charity pin, Kidscape, who aim to keep kids safe from strangers. The logo of this charity is a nice Malay kite. The Kidscape badge costs £1.50 and is being sold over the checkouts at the Co-operative Wholesale Society. For every badge sold £1 goes to the charity. Unfortunately this division of the coop seems to be only in the north, but more

details of the badge can be obtained from Helen Postill, Communications Manager, P.O. Box 53, New Century House, Manchester M60 4ES.

I've had a short note from the Poole Kitefliers pointing out that there were 200 of their badges produced not 100 as stated in the last Pin Pratt.

Manfred Kluge still has a good variety of German pins (new ones are arriving all the time) available. For a complete list send S.A.E. to Manfred Kluge, 15 Woodlands Drive, Colsterworth, Lincs NG33 5NH. Tel 0476 860101.

Wants - If anyone has information on enamel pins i.e manufacturers, prices etc. would they please contact Deb Powlesland, 5 Pondhu Crescent, St Austell, Cornwall.

Well the Pin Pratt Challenge produced far more entrants than last year, and some rather large collections. Whilst the largest collection - Manfred Kluge - was easy to judge (tastefully displayed on a "pin" afore) it was much harder to judge the most artistic display. In the end the judges had to split the prize between David Clements and Janneke Groen.

David has put a great deal of thought into his display - which depicted a Kite Festival with all the traders lined up at the bottom of the display with lines connecting them to the British Kite pins. Janneke had displayed her pins on a small quilted kimono. Our friend from Germany Berthold Guth tried to enter with a coloured photo copy of his collection but somehow we didn't think that was fair. As he said unless you have the memory of David Gomberg its the best way to know whether you have a pin or not when you are swapping. George Peters was a surprise late entry with one pin but it was the Bristol Kite Pin. We can be happy to know that our "God" David Gomberg was represented in some small way by the fact that Janet Robinson displayed her collection in one of David's pin bags which she purchased off him in America. Janet deserves a special mention here as although her collection is only around the two

# PIN PRATT PAGE

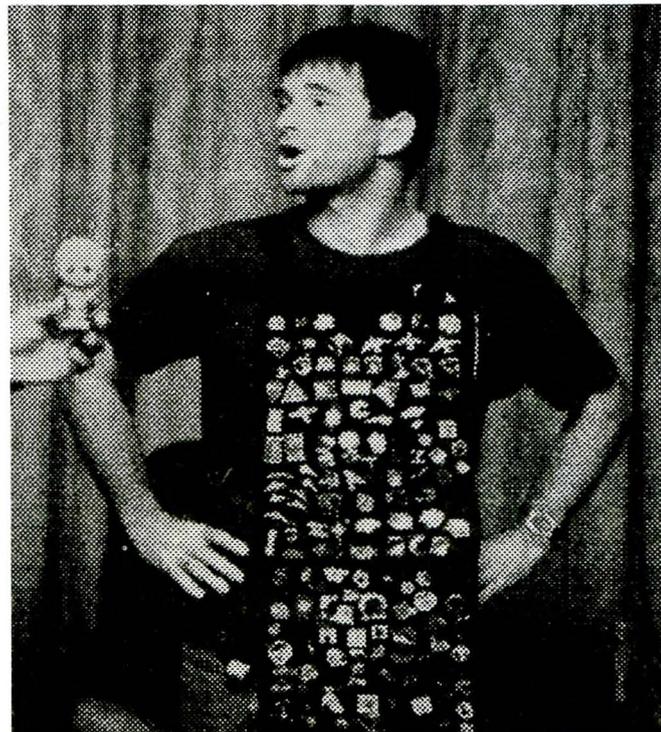
hundred mark she has no stunt pins so that is quite an achievement!

The Kite Society Convention pins went very quickly - we have no sets left and only a few odd colours. There were originally 100 sets so allowing for the odd colours left there can only be 75 complete sets in the world!

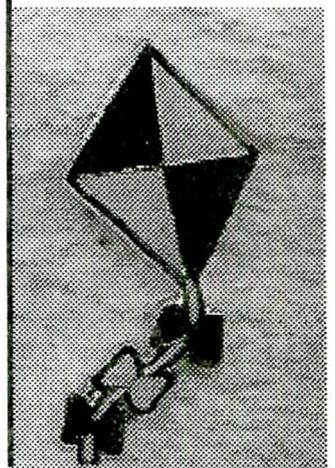
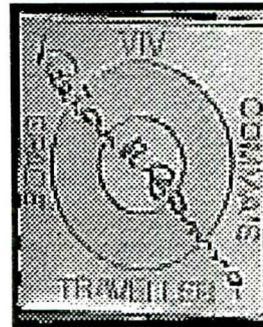
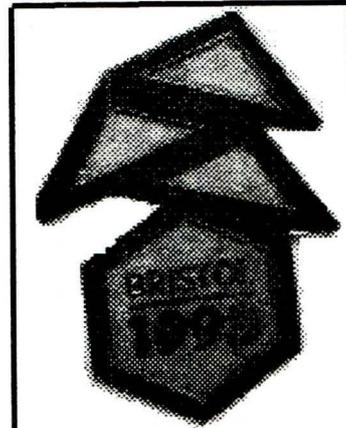
From the Kite Pin Hotline, Box 113 Neostu, Oregon 97364, U.S.A. (\$10 subscription or free if you order \$25 of pins). A new German company Flic-Flac are distributing a catalogue with 50 new German pins. Pin Mail Order can be reached at Strichweg 14, 2190 Cuxhaven Germany. Tel/Fax 4721 5143.

Rumours have it that David and Susan will be pinning the U.K. again in 1994 and who knows we might even convince him to come to Portsmouth to judge the next Pin Challenge.

Finally, next year the Kite Society will be celebrating its 15th Anniversary and we will be producing at least two pins. One of which you will not be able to buy, only be given. So start getting in the Pin Pratts' good books now!



Manfred Kluge - Pin Head Champion 1993  
Photograph - Dave Robinson



# BALLOON KITE FLYING

The idea of attempting to fly a kite from a hot air balloon was discussed briefly with Martin Thomas and his balloonist friends Phil and Bev Tarrant who are also keen kitefliers. In the July '92 Kiteflier a short paragraph informed readers of this attempt. During my kite travels I had met many balloonists who had said that it was impossible to fly a kite from a balloon because there was no wind whilst the balloon was moving in it's pocket of air. I felt that as my Indian kites were made of paper and could maintain altitude in very light winds that it just could be possible.

I attended the Northampton Balloon festival as part of the Midland Kite Fliers demonstration team from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th August. On Saturday at 4.00pm Phil Tarrant came to see me with Phil Griffiths the pilot of a balloon to suggest it was the right conditions to make an attempt at 6.00pm when all the balloons took off. I was quite unprepared, but nevertheless agreed. I hastily selected a kite and made all the adjustments to ensure it flew well. My wife, Hilary and our friends Dick and Shirley Turpin began teasing me about taking a plastic bag with me and maybe a parachute. They knew what a coward I was and were enjoying seeing me squirm. I was beginning to feel a little uneasy and made several nervous trips to the loo.

At 6.00pm I walked across to the balloon with my kite. There were about 80 balloons taking off all around us. I decided to make the attempt with the kite launched to about 150 yards and then climb into the basket. I was somewhat alarmed to find there was no toilet or braking system but I did have my plastic bag. Phil Griffiths and his brother Chris were going to be with me in the basket. We took off and another balloon came across our way and Phil had to hastily gain altitude and I found myself flying my kite about 25 yards below me. This wasn't new to me as I had flown from cliff tops and balconies of holiday hotels. I suddenly felt the decrease in the wind speed as the balloon began to move in it's pocket of wind. Hot air balloons can only take off in very light winds, so coupled with moving with the wind I experienced difficulty with maintaining altitude. It's rather like trying to fly a kite whilst walking forward towards your kite. However I kept the kite flying about 75 yards ahead of the balloon and all the witnesses on

the ground said the kite was clearly visible until it went out of range.

I kept flying the kite while Phil explained the practice of knee bending when landing. I'd never been in a balloon before and experienced conflicting feelings trying to keep the kite flying and enjoy the absolutely heavenly experience of floating silently through the sky with only the occasional noise of the gas burners. As we floated silently over Northampton, people came rushing out of their houses to see the spectacle of so many hot air balloons in the sky and there was also a small purple kite preceding one of the balloons. Suddenly disaster struck when the bridle of the kite broke. I brought the kite back into the basket, hastily re-tied the bridle and re-launched the kite to my surprise. Unfortunately the kite went upwards and over the top of the balloon and I couldn't see it from the basket for a minute or two. I was struggling to keep it flying when Phil pointed out that all the following balloons had gone in a different direction. In kiting we know it's bad news when the wind direction keeps changing so I knew that as the following balloons were no longer following but had gone off in the opposite direction I would suffer with the kiteflying.

When it came to landing Phil reduced altitude and we floated just over the rooftops and I could say 'hello' to the people in their gardens below as everyone waved to us. Lots of children shouted for us to land near them and we eventually landed in a field near a farm and a short distance from a housing complex. All the children who had chased the balloon on their cycles tried to enter the field but Phil and Chris asked them not to enter the field as they would be trespassing as, of course, we were too. The landing crew arrived shortly and the balloon was kept inflated till the farmer had given permission. Phil told me that some farmers could be hostile, particularly if their cattle had been frightened or crops damaged. It was very interesting to see this side of ballooning. The landing was surprisingly gentle, without even a bump. Well done Phil and Chris.

So a kite had been flown from a hot air balloon and amongst the witnesses were Tony and Barbara Cartwright and the Aircraft stunt team who were demonstrating there as well as several members of the

# BALLOON KITE FLYING

Midland Kite Fliers. I want to thank Phil Griffiths and his brother Chris, Phil and Bev Tarrant as well as the retrieval crew who allowed me to make this possible. When the crew met us they asked if I'd heard the insulting to Phil and his team who privately own their own balloon and pay all the costs themselves, a commentator saying that someone was going to try and fly a kite from a balloon which of course was impossible. Evidently the commentator also said that all the best balloons were the commercial ones, which is quite true. I explained that we had similar commentators in kiting. Does anyone know if this has been done before with any other kite. I believe that it was the lightness of the Indian Fun Kite and its versatility in responding to lots of tugs that enabled this to be a success. So don't let anyone tell you it is impossible to fly a kite from a hot air balloon.

P.S. Since issuing my invitation to kitefliers to join me on my trip to India, three fliers of Indian kites

have confirmed they want to come along and join in the fun and mayhem of roof-top kiteflying in Lucknow, India. Stephen Hyde, Mike Murphy and Jane Evans will come with me for the first three weeks in November. Several others have expressed an interest and are still making up their minds, including a Frenchman who I met at the Bristol Kite Festival.

## Stafford Wallace



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# EVENT NEWS

**Shrewsbury Kite Festival** On behalf of the Shropshire Kite Group I would like to thank all of you who attended the 10th Shrewsbury Kite and Boomerang Festival 3rd/4th July. I reckon that the number of flyers was up by about 25% and boomerangers by 50%. The separate field for the stunt kites seemed to work o.k. with your cooperation - Ta!

The Kiteability Rok Challenge was won deservedly by Carol and Alan Peacock. The Can Clobbering 1st place went to Richard Marsh (11 in 1 min. 30secs). The Altitude Sprint went to David Shakespeare. (Thanks go to Carol Peacock for organising this one and supplying the prize).

Thanks to all the traders for coming along and supplying prizes for the competitions and adding colour to the flying field. (Hope you showed a profit?). Thanks to "Sky Bums" who paid for the posters, ticket printing, and pins (there are still a few left!).

A big thankyou to Doreen, Ken and family for supplying over 70 breakfasts and refreshments from dawn till dusk on both days. Thanks to the Borough Council and Mike Cox especially for use of the ground.

Thanks to Janet and David Robinson for judging the Rok Challenge, and to Dorothy and Ken for judging the Can Clobbering. Also thanks to John and my wife, Christine, who looked after the kite workshop (they even got the Mayor and Mayoress to make a kite).

Once again my thanks to all kite flyers, families and friends who make kite festivals like ours possible by coming along and creating a friendly and enjoyable atmosphere.

Please come to Shrewsbury again 2nd/3rd July 1994 and "Share the Air".

Tony Slater

**Basingstoke Kite Festival** Many thanks to everyone who attended the 1st Basingstoke Kite Festival. Despite the lack of wind we still managed to complete the Rok Challenge, how does Simon Dann do it, I mean win so often? Special thanks to Toody Oakhill for her enlightened commentary and also to the very hard working Bill Souten, the kids were lining up at the kite workshop before he had even set up. Great stuff Bill. Our sponsors were delighted with the success of our first festival and we can confirm that for '94 we are extending it to two days. The dates being 4th and 5th June. The festival will again be held at Down Grange Playing Fields, camping will be available on site and can be booked to include the Friday night. We are also aiming to arrange a party on the Saturday evening in the Hockey Club. For further details of the above event please call Neil Robinson on 0256 51426. Neil has taken on the duty of festival organiser for 1994.

Al Cosgrove

**Margam Park Kite Festival** Poor weather reports, at the time, put some of you off from venturing into Wales, shame - as we had a great time. Our star attraction, Ray Bethell, amazed with his 3 stunt kites, and early risers on the Sunday morning, witnessed some artistry as he danced his kites, on, in, and around the lake! By the way, we were very lucky to get Ray over from Canada as our kind sponsor who put up the airfare sent it by seamount to Vancouver. It's a long story, suffice it to say that Ray came to our rescue. For those of you that have asked, Ray was flying Peregrine kites during his visit - U.K. manufacturers were approached but didn't have the courtesy to reply and so missed out on a good marketing exercise, at all the kite festivals he attended! Thanks must also go to Yarro Dunnetts, Rob McWha and Darren Baker for some excellent stunt flying. Single liners were equally impressive, notably the Campbells, Tony Slater, The Avon Kitefliers, we even had a low profile visit from Dan Leigh. The list can go on, but we will just say, many thanks to all of you that turned up. So, to next year - make a note, the

# EVENT NEWS

11th and 12th of June, again in association with Save the Children.

**10th Hengistbury Head Festival** Right from the start we knew that the day would be an unmitigated disaster. Hopes were dashed at the outset. The horrible truth became apparent when the Top Official arrived from Southampton. He was, in his own words, "gutted". On this day, the 10th anniversary of the first Hengistbury Head Kite Festival, on this day of all days. All was lost. All was ruined. It was the end of the kite festival as we knew it.

Until about 9.45am the hopelessness of the situation was known only to a few. But then the public address system crackled into life and immediately the ghastly truth was out. The first words we heard came from a broken man. The Top Official choked back the tears, summoned up all his courage and announced that despite his most careful arrangements things had gone horribly wrong. Arrangements had been made to have the grass cut. But, the grass had not been cut. It had been allowed to flourish. It had grown well. It had conspired (along with the Negligent Authorities) to ruin the festival. It was a travesty. We all felt deep resentment, burning anger, against the Negligent Authorities. There were no extenuating circumstances from which to draw comfort. It was our awful destiny to become members of the Hellawi tribe. Did we hear this? Could we believe what we heard coming from the loudspeakers? Was it a nasty dream? Could we comprehend the enormity of the situation?

The Top Official was unable to offer us any consolation. His bleak words rang out, "All I can ask you to do is to try and make the best of it". How could we? How could we spend the rest of the day trying to fly our kites under these conditions? Universal gloom hung over the flying field.

Gradually more people arrived - lots and lots of people. As they arrived, and at regular intervals of

about four minutes, they were told the same gloomy message. "The grass has not been cut. It is a horrible disaster. All I can ask is that you try to make the best of it".

Whilst I was drinking a cup of coffee and considering whether I could face the rest of the day, a couple stopped and asked me why, if kites went into the sky, it should be such a shame that the grass wasn't cut. I could not answer this. The philosophical implications were too complicated. I said something about the seriousness of it all and hoped they would understand that, like all the gloom-ridden kites, I was probably not in a fit state to offer rational answers. They moved on.

More people arrived. They all learned about the grass. The Top Official had a very strong sense of responsibility. He had to tell them. It was no use trying to pretend that this festival was going to be a success. The grass had not been cut and that was that.

When faced with impossible circumstances, the human creature can behave in a totally irrational way. So it was with the people at Hengistbury Head that day.

They were told. They knew the grass had not been cut. But despite this, they persisted in trying to enjoy themselves. The wind cooperated with them and supported their delusions. It was a perfect wind - straight off the sea and as clean as clean. The sun came out. There was mass delusion; probably never seen on such a scale before. Any observer who was deaf or could not understand English would have gained the very strong impression that all was wonderfully well. Hundreds of kites were flying. There were all the signs of enjoyment. Whole families were intent on ignoring reality. It was really a most strange phenomenon. Eerie.

No matter how many times these people were told about the grass, they continued to fly kites. They seemed to have a collective insensitivity. The

# EVENT NEWS

whole day had an unreal quality. The atmosphere was superficially festive but the message had been driven home time and time and time again. The grass had not been cut. It was not possible to enjoy the day.

My pick of the festival was the happy man who had invested a fiver in materials the day before. He had bought large quantities of black plastic, garden canes, heavy duty PVC tape and parcel string. He arrived with a diamond and a box. They were really nasty specimens. The diamond flew well once a (purchased) rotating multi-coloured windsock had been added to the horrible black plastic tail. The box was tricky because the happy man did not have any idea where to put the bridle. Once he had been shown where the parcel string had to go it was flying. The happy man was even happier. He had won his pint. The box only came down long enough for the dreadful True Malay to be constructed. It too flew perfectly. Then the box, with all its ghastly bits of falling black plastic was in the air again and stayed there - for hours. The happy man and his happy family were having a truly happy day out.

Lunchtime came and picnics came out. Hundreds of kites were in the sky. The sun shone and the wind was perfect. Teddies dropped. Strings tangled. Clowns mingled. Children were lost and found. Little boys dragged plastic stunts over the grass (that had not been cut). Holiday folk were amazed at how many different kites there were these days. Grannies patiently held up kites for little ones. Their kites flew well like the others. The afternoon passed and the final announcements were made. I think (but maybe I imagined it) that there was an apology about the grass.

Now we cannot thank the Top Official for the perfect weather conditions. Nor can we thank him for the incessant reminders about the grass. But we can thank him for arranging a wonderful festival - this year and all the other years.

The Hengistbury Head Kite Festival has been a

delight and a joy to thousands of kite fliers and we are sincerely grateful to the Top Official for making this festival a happy and successful one.

Anon de Plume

**December 27th 1993** The 3rd Mince-pie Fly-in on 27th December 1993. To be held at Bibury, Cirencester Glos. Details from Neil Harvey, 2 Meadowlands Cottages, Bibury, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 5NA. Telephone 0285 740295. A fun day out to blow the Christmas cobwebs away.

**May 1st & 2nd 1994** The Weymouth International Kite Festival will be taking place in 1994. To be held over the first weekend in May. So put it in your diaries now.

**May 7th & 8th 1994** The Swindon Kite festival is on again with all the usual things that you'll recognise. Bad weather, kite fliers party on Saturday evening - oh yeah and kites. Don't forget if the weather is bad it's perhaps the best "kite" social in the kite calendar. We have had lots of practice with all the bad weather over the past 3 years!

There will be camping on site for which there will be a charge (We will let you know the cost later).

**May 29th & 30th 1994** Banham Kite Festival. Being held adjacent to Banham Zoo, Norfolk. 20 acres of flat grass land. Caravan and camping facilities available. Full arena programme including team flying altitude sprint, indian and rokkaku fighting. Trade stalls etc. Full details to follow. Enquiries to Kevin Appleton, 37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ. Telephone 0603 31964.

**June 19th 1994** This date has been provisionally booked for a kite festival at Milton Keynes. Further details will be printed when available.

**August 6th & 7th 1994** Summer Festival at Middle Wallop. Each of the three fly-for-fun

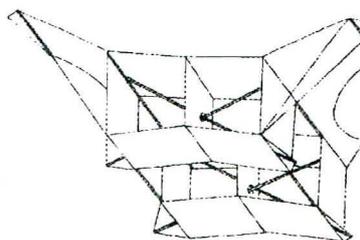
## EVENT NEWS

meetings on the largest lawn in Europe at the Army School of Flying, Middle Wallop, Hampshire have been so progressively popular that a two-day event is now planned for 1994.

This year's festival saw a record attendance with cars stretching over half a mile along the perimeter track from the entrance to a parasailing centre. Buggies had a fine time, cruising over the vast airfield at up to 30mph, many vintage kites were flown by Dutch visitors and the full gamut of kites of every conceivable type dotted the bright sky. The Museum of Army Flying were so impressed that many previous restraints were relaxed. There was however one difficulty in rounding up those who liked the place so much they didn't want to leave! As many have already discovered through the Andover Tourist Office, Middle Wallop is surrounded by caravan and camping sites plus some of the best B&B's in the country, so it was natural to explore the possibility of a full week-end festival.

Negotiation with the museum (who arrange the use of the airfield and collect the individual charges which are no more than normal admission fees for the fine museum) resulted in reservation of the 6th 7th August 1994. Camping will be possible in the field opposite at only £2.00 (no water or loo), the visiting public will have full access to the trade stands. As before, we have the facilities of the restaurant, the museum and the vast airfield - all for £3.00 per day or £4.00 per 2-day pass, paid to museum staff on admission.

Views on this proposal will be welcomed by Ron Moulton, 2 Avenue Rise, Bushey, Herts WD2 3AS. More details on field planning for separation of mono and multi liners (including buggies) to come later.



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# KITE EVENT CALENDAR

## U.K. KITE EVENTS 1994

Date	Event	Contact
February 18th & 19th	Kite Society of Great Britain Winter Rendezvous. (P)	The Kite Society
April 3rd & 4th	Blackheath Easter Kite Festival, Blackheath, London.	Andy King
April 17th	Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.	Ron Moulton
May 1st & 2nd	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth, Dorset.	The Kite Society
May 7th & 8th	Swindon Kite Festival, Lydiard Country Park, Swindon, Wiltshire.	David Robinson
May 14th & 15th	Brighton Kite Festival, Waterhall Playing Fields, Patcham, Brighton.	Ray Oakhill
May 29th & 30th	Bath International Kite Festival, Lansdown Playing Fields, Bath. Including round 1 of the British National Sport Kite Championships.	Olly Cromwell
May 29th & 30th	Banham Kite Festival, Banham Zoo, Norfolk.	Kevin Appleton
June 4th & 5th	Basingstoke Kite Festival, Down Grange, Basingstoke.	Neil Robinson
June 11th & 12th	Margam Park Festival, Bridgend, South Wales.	Steve Gibson
June 11th & 12th	British National Sport Kite Championship, Round 2, Weston-Super-Mare.	Andy King
June 18th & 19th	East London Kite Festival, Hackney Marshes, London. Including Round 3 of the British National Sport Kite Championship.	Jeremy Boyce
June 19th	Milton Keynes Kite Festival, Bedfordshire. (P)	David Robinson
July 2nd & 3rd	11th Shrewsbury Kite & Boomerang Festival, Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury.	Tony Slater
July 2nd & 3rd	Washington Festival of the Air, Northern Area Playing Fields, Washington, Tyne & Wear. (P)	Malcolm Goodman
July 9th & 10th	3rd Wales International Kite Festival, Monmouth.	Andy King
July 16th & 17th	British National Individual Championships, Stanmer Park, Lewes Road, Falmer, Brighton.	Estelle Barton
July 31st	Blackheath Summer Festival, Blackheath, London.	Andy King
August 6th & 7th	Museum of Army Flying Kite Festival, Middle Wallop, Andover, Hampshire.	Ron Moulton
August 26th	Kite Society of Great Britain Annual Convention, Portsmouth, Hampshire.	The Kite Society
August 27th & 28th	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Portsmouth, Hampshire.	The Kite Society
September 3rd & 4th	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol.	Avril Baker
October 2nd	Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. (P)	Ron Moulton

# KITE EVENT CALENDAR

## OVERSEAS KITE EVENTS 1994

Date	Event	Contact
June 18th & 19th	Fano International Kitefliers Meeting, Denmark.	010 49 40 213848
June 25th & 26th	Scheveningen International Kite Festival, Holland	010 31 70 385 8586
September 9th, 10th & 11th	World Cup, Le Touquet, France.	010 33 21405040
September 10th - 18th	Dieppe International Kite Festival, France.	
September 24th & 25th	Berlin International Kite Festival, Germany.	010 49 30 788 1992/3

## CONTACTS

<b>The Kite Society</b>	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.
<b>Andy King</b>	The Kite Store, 48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA. 071 836 1666
<b>Ron Moulton</b>	2 Avenue Rise, Bushey, Watford, Herts WD2 3AS.
<b>David Robinson</b>	61 Bridge End Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon SN3 4PD.
<b>Ray Oakhill</b>	6 Hartfield Road, Saltdean, Sussex BN2 8RE. 0273 306842.
<b>Olly Cromwell</b>	74 Marshfield Way, Fairfield Park, Bath BA1 6HQ. 0225 313504.
<b>Kevin Appleton</b>	37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich NR7 0UQ.
<b>Neil Robinson</b>	0256 51426.
<b>Steve Gibson</b>	91 Baysham Street, Hereford HA4 0EJ. 0432 359999
<b>Jeremy Boyce</b>	153 Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16 0UH. 071 275 8799.
<b>Tony Slater</b>	128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY. 0743 235068.
<b>Malcolm Goodman</b>	134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. 0642 550827.
<b>Estelle Barton</b>	Airborn Kites, 97 Trafalgar Stret, Brighton, Sussex BN1 4ER. 0273 676740.
<b>Avril Baker</b>	Saville Court, Saville Place, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4EJ. 0272 466852.

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Not everyone has been happy about the price of our ripstop  
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2" .....	75p mtr
3" .....	95p mtr
Nose webbing .....	22p ft
Reinforced sellotape small roll .....	75p
large roll .....	£3.49
Ally rings 1/2" or 3/4" .....	6p
'D' rings 1/2" or 3/4" .....	6p
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End caps 2mm, 2.5mm, 3mm, 4mm, 5.5mm, 6.35mm	6p
Grommets 3mm, 4mm, 5.5mm, 6.35mm .....	6p
Arrow nocks 5.5mm or 8mm .....	20p
PVC tube 5.5mm .....	40p ft
6.35mm .....	45p ft
8mm .....	45p ft
Shock cord (black 3mm) .....	60p mtr
Rubber bands .....	75p ten
T pieces 3mm across & 4mm down .....	20p
Ferrules 5.5mm, 5.9mm & 6.35mm .....	80p
Dihedrals 3mm, 4mm & 4.75mm .....	18p
5mm, 6mm & 6.35mm .....	28p
Flexifoil brass 8mm ferrule .....	£1.60
Swivels 651b .....	45p
1501b .....	50p
2501b .....	55p
3501b .....	65p
Clips medium .....	13p
large .....	15p
Ball bearing swivel (pack of 3).....	£2.80
(ten stainless bearings per swivel)	
Tubular plastic tail .....	6p mtr
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STAKE TAILS (multi coloured) .....	99p
( no more lost stakes )	
Leather palmed flying gloves .....	£2.20
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Handle small .....	25p
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Flourescent rainbow flying straps .....	£4.99
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Halo winder 6" .....	£1.75
Line equalizer .....	£5.95
Moran winder .....	£3.49
Skinny winder .....	£2.48
Quad winder .....	£5.99
Bridle line black .....	20p mtr
Stacking lines short .....	£1.99
medium & long .....	£2.50
( please specify leading edge length )	
Superglue .....	99p
Kite sleeve bags ripstop .....	£1.50
1 1/2 oz nylon .....	£2.50
Line bags to take line & winder .....	99p
keeps your lines neat & tidy, request a different colour for each breaking strain	

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Spar sleeve bags ripstop.....	£1.25
(narrow sleeve bag to fit inside kite bag helps prevent lost whiskers & reduces risk of damage to sail)	
Flexifoil video .....	£12.95
" T-shirt M/L/XL .....	£9.50
" Sweatshirt XL .....	£17.50
" Water proof fully lined jacket .....	£89.90
Carrington nylon for jackets etc,yellow .....	£1.50 mtr
Osmiroid windspeed & direction indicator .....	£24.99
Greens line ferry .....	£13.95
Teddy bear 10" + harness & 25" chute .....	£16.50
35mm camera mount (attachs to line).....	£29.98
Hot knife inc tip .....	£29.95
these use lighter fuel. They're portable and easy to use.	

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250ft x 551b ....	£3.95	250ft x 751b ....	£4.99
250ft x 1101b ..	£5.45	250ft x 1651b ...	£6.99
250ft x 2201b ..	£7.45	1000ft x 2201b ..	£18.99
1000ft x 5001b .	£22.95		

Carded 8kg x 30mtr line .....	35p
1 kg (approx 4100 mtr) 8kg twisted line ....	£18.99
1 kg (approx 2700 mtr) 15kg " .....	£22.99

Dyneema

300ft x 501b unsleeved .....	£11.95
300ft x 801b .....	£12.95
300ft x 1501b " .....	£13.50
300ft x 2001b " .....	£17.25
300ft x 3001b " .....	£18.75
300ft x 5001b " .....	£32.00
150ft x 501b sleeved .....	£7.25
150ft x 801b " .....	£8.25
150ft x 1501b " .....	£8.25
150ft x 2001b " .....	£11.50
150ft x 3001b " .....	£12.50
150ft x 5001b " .....	£19.50

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lines supplied on winder with flight straps, peg,  
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501b ...	£22.51	801b ...	£23.51	1501b ...	£24.06
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(300 & 500 lb lines are supplied with padded straps)

Add 99p to above prices if you want a ripstop line bag

++ SPARS ++ SPARS ++ SPARS ++

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1/8th x 36" .....	25p
3/16th x 36" .....	30p
1/4 x 36" .....	35p
AFC shaft .22" x 80cm	£2.66

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6 ft spar complete	£10.45
Half spar .....	£5.70
Ferrule .....	£1.60

BEMAN Ultralight 5.5mm £2.29, 5.9mm £2.52, 6.3mm £2.75  
Nocks for AFC and Beman shafts 60p each.

NOTE A typical 8ft span delta stunt kite will use 8  
Beman shafts & 3 ferrules OR 3 Budget spars  
Total cost:- BEMAN SPARS £20.72 BUDGET £16.50  
Taking into account the cost of our ripstop &  
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it makes sense to make a quality kite using  
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6.35mm x 2.5 mtr ..	£7.96	2mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£2.75
8mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£9.50	3mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£4.30
		4mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£5.50
		8mm x 1mtr .....	£8.70

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<u>SOLID</u>		<u>TUBE</u>	
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2mm x 2.5 mtr .....	85p	8mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£2.50
3mm x 2.5 mtr.....	£1.30	9.5mm x 2.5 mtr ...	£2.70
4mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£1.50	12.5 mm x 2.5 mtr .	£3.50
5mm x 2.5 mtr .....	£1.80		
6.35mm x 2.5 mtr ..	£2.50		

NOTE

1.5 & 2 mm can be coiled and posted in one piece. The  
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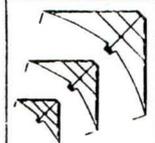
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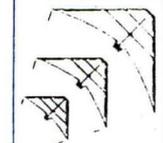
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# WORLD CUP 1993

World Cup IV proved to be the most exciting competition ever to be seen in the history of team flying. Earlier on in the year it was in the balance as to whether the event would take place at all due to financial constraints. However with a lot of help from our friends in the kite industry the budget was found and the green light went on!

Viv 'Captain Biff' Walters (World Cup Head Judge) and I flew out to Berkeley on the Wednesday and were met late that night by Robbie 'Juan' Sugarman who drove us to the Marriott Hotel World Cup headquarters. Thursday was a blur of activity with meeting after meeting with the team which Daniel Prentice of American Kite magazine, and chair of the World Cup committee has put together to stage the event. And what a great team! When you're working with people like Danny Joy, Janet Cohen, Dan 'Butthead' Buxton, Scott 'Skinny' Skinner, Ron Gibiun, Tom 'Atomic' McAlister, Craig Wong, Viv Walters, Robbie Sugarman, Corey Jensen and Chuck Segal you just know its going to happen.

And happen it did on the Friday when the Precision competition started at 1 o'clock. The judging panel headed up by Captain Biff comprised of Robbie Sugarman (U.S.A.), Helmut Georgi (Austria), Dan Buxton (U.S.A.), Hideo Wakuzawa (Japan), Yumi Fujimoni (Japan), Guillemette Chavent (France) and Eric Wolff (U.S.A.). They'd spent hours discussing the finer points of judging criteria and were in the right frame of mind to do the job they had come to do. Over the next four hours we all witnessed some outstanding performances by the twelve assembled teams. Tension was maintained throughout, this being helped by the fact that, thanks to Chuck Segal the scorekeeper, we were posting the scores of each team five minutes after they had flown.

When the dust settles Team Ninja (Japan) took first place. To add to the pressure the top six

teams were very tightly clustered (check out the scores). That being the case you could feel the excitement when the ballet competition started at high noon on Saturday. The Big Picture (the combined Bay Area Sandowners and Team Paragon) started the day with a great demo flying stacks of Hyper Kites with tails. It looked wonderful! The Sandowners warmed up the judges with their ballet routine and then the competition began. Sadly Tsumuni (U.S.A.) crashed and DQ'd early in their performance whereas Aircraft (G.B.), despite difficult winds, flew a masterful routine which the crowd loved. I have to say I had a lump in my throat! National pride is not dead! Slipstream (G.B.) also flew the best I'd ever seen them fly as did Kiteland (Japan) and Flashback (France). By the time defending champions High Performance (U.S.A.) took to the field to finish the competition you could feel the anticipation. Could they win the cup three years in a row? Or would Aircraft take it for the Brits? When they landed, having flown a great ballet which was appreciated by everyone, I personally just didn't know.

We brought all the teams to the P.A. stage, with a lot of the crowd following, and I picked up the overall scores from Chuck and read them out from twelve to one. High Performance won by just over two points with Aircraft a very close second, Ninja third, Slipstream fourth and Kiteland fifth. I have to say I did think to myself how the world has changed since the first World Cup in Seaside, Oregon, where the U.S.A. took first, second and third with no problem!

So High Performance got the hat trick, were given the cup by Daniel Prentice of American Kite Magazine and Captain Biff and proceeded to drench each other (and a few innocent bystanders) with champagne. A fine ending to the competition.

Sunday was fun day with many outstanding demos in the main arena. Highlights were David

# WORLD CUP 1993

Brittain flying amazing revolution stuff, Slipkraft Airstream (Aircraft and Slipstream joining forces) flying 8 person ballet and High Performance and Tsunami teaming up to fly another mega ballet. The rokkaku battle was won by Kiteland with Aircraft's rok ending up sinking into the bay! As I said to them it was a great place to leave it!

Throughout the three days single line kites by Scott Skinner, George Ham, Randy Tom, Jon Burkhardt, Ron Gibian and Jose Sainz, to name but a few, flew on the upper field and helped to generate an even greater sense of wonder. By the way the rumours are true - Corey and I really did dance traditional German Folk dances on the P.A. stage on Sunday - it just seemed the right thing to do at the time.

Sunday evening saw the banquet, the speeches and the auction. It was a fun evening and we managed to raise just under \$7,000 to help teams pay for their trips, which left a nice warm glow to the end of the proceedings.

On the flight back I said to myself what a great event, what great people and I can't wait until World Cup V in Le Touquet next year (10th & 11th September 1994). But I'll have to and so will you!!!

Andy King



**WORLD CUP IV  
BERKELEY  
U.S.A.**

## World Cup Precision

1	Team Ninja	79.614
2	Team High Performance	78.707
3	Team Air Art	77.836
4	Team Tsunami	76.857
5	Team Aircraft	75.393
6	Team Slipstream	72.236
7	Team Nisseki Kiteland	69.843
8	Team High Flyers	61.036
9	Team Flashback	60.321
10	Team A66	51.471
11	Team Kite-O-Holix	50.550
12	Team Heaven Sent	48.207

## World Cup Ballet

1	Team High Performance	83.457
2	Team Aircraft	81.914
3	Team Slipstream	74.714
4	Team Nisseki Kiteland	72.343
5	Team Flashback	72.229
6	Team Ninja	71.943
7	Team Air Art	68.829
8	Team High Flyers	67.229
9	Team Kite-O-Holix	59.486
10	Team Heaven Sent	59.057
11	Team A66	58.000
12	Team Tsunami	DQ

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## TOODYTORIAL

With membership figures and \*temperatures both soaring into the seventies (not to mention the \*\*current awesome revival of 'loons' and platform shoes!), the BKF seems to be on a roll. Many new members are discovering the addictive delights of the \*buzzing festival circuit and the infectious summer enthusiasm for fly-in attendance and building new creations to flaunt in the \*sunshine is swelling to realms never yet dreamt of... (\*not by the time this goes to print! \*\*hopefully not by the time this goes to print!)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON KITE FESTIVAL 19&20/06/93 (EXTRACT FROM 'THE CONFESSIONS OF A KITE JUNKIE')

The 'Brighton Brew Crew' arrived at Stratford Race Course late on Friday evening after the most horrendous traffic bound trip from the south coast. Still, the sight of a large expanse of flat grass for flying and a decent camp sight with good facilities held promise of a good weekend...

□8.30pm Pitch temporary residence and head for town to find Pizza Hut (thanks to 'Parker' for weekend chauffeur duties by the way).

□10.30pm Stop on return to sample quality of ale in nearest hostelry to camp site ('Salmon Tail' - serves a good pint of Wadworths 6X).

□11.45pm Landlord seems reluctant to continue serving - most strange - so back to camp site.

□12.15am Bump into Michael & Linda of 'Force Nine' while stumbling around in dark; seeking activity. Discover traders have been quarantined well away from rest of us poor mortals; quite right too!

□12.30am Find 'Himmel Vagabonds' (translation of 'Sky Bums' for German issue of the 'The Book of Kites') ensconced with Flight Fantastic supremo Alan 'The 'At' in Kennys Kites wagon. Crack first of Heineken Export.

□3.00am Heineken finished. Brain also finished. Leave Paul & Helene to pitch tent (Ho ho!). Go to bed.

□9.00am Wake up. Brain still finished. 'Parker' has been up since some ungodly hour flying Indian Fighters - obviously immune to alcohol poisoning. Third member of Brew Crew appears to have died in night.



□10.00am Baked beans and garlic bread for breakfast. Taste buds join brain in mortuary. Read programme. Kitefliers briefing at 10.30am Ignore programme.

□10.30am 'M'Lady' mounts resurrection bid and emerges from pit. Reserve pile of Heineken given 'curl up and die' look.

□11.30am Join other hopefuls in Altitude sprint challenge. Blow it completely when judge doesn't make promised 30 second warning. Kite is quarter of a mile away downwind, 20 feet off deck with 15 seconds to go. Consider making scathing comment to judge. Brain still dead. Give up trying to think of scathing comment. Line breaks on way down.

□12.00pm 'M'Lady' retrieves kite from bushes at far end of field. Discover Altitude sprint won by BKF member John Thornton; feel better.

□12.30pm Buggy Race starts (says programme). Wind ignores programme. Buggy racers ignore programme. Crowd watches buggy racers ignoring programme etc etc.

□1.00pm Buggy Race starts. Wind still unimpressed. Buggy racers don't start. Paul Morgan finally launches Peel and sits on buggy. Crowd highly appreciative of this display of skill.

□1.15pm Paul Morgan gets off buggy and crashes Peel. Wind finally co-operates. Buggy race starts.

□1.30pm Paul Morgan starts.

□1.45pm Kieron Chatterjea wins buggy race. Ian Meredith wins traffic cone flattening competition. Crowd awards him bonus points for doing it in reverse. Other contestants unsportingly refuse to join in and cross finish line instead.

□2.00pm Last competitors cross finish line. Paul Morgan gives up trying to

TOODYTORIAL

launch Peel, sit on buggy etc. and limps off to join solo Rok' contestants.

□2.30pm Enter solo Rok'. Greatly surprised to find myself one of last two in first round. Give up trying to cut John 'Tigger' Ogden and wait for judge to get bored and call a draw.

□3.00pm Score another equal first in second round. Drink Heineken to disperse fantasy. Doesn't work. Ignore death threats from Martin Croxton & Paul Morgan. Change tactics in third round - run as fast and as far away from them as possible. Tactics work well enough to secure overall win.

□4.30pm Assemble 'Groucho' for team Rok'. Euphoria (and Heineken) over solo Rok' win wearing off.

□5.30pm Turn in pathetic performance in team Rok'. Other team members (notably 'Parker') decidedly better. Put it down to absence of both 'Top Marx Horn' (expired from rubber fatigue at Brighton) and 'Top Marx Support Team'.

□7.00pm Pack in flying. Convince myself I'll come back after something to eat and do some night flying later on.

□8.00pm Walk to 'Salmon Tail' with rest of 'Brew Crew', Paul & Helene Morgan, Martin Croxton and Alan 'The 'At' Wenham to indulge in some food and (naturally) a beer or two. Paul complains bitterly of pain in right buttock from extended buggy racing. Rest of company fall about laughing.

□9.00pm Buttock jokes (half a Sky Bum?) getting out of hand. Alan 'The 'At' decides on a pud. Others join in. Next order consists of six pints of 6X and six treacle pud chasers with custard. Helene opts for ice cream. Barman decides 6 out of every 7 kite flyers are insane.

□9.30pm Barman's suspicions are confirmed during long and loud discussion about a collective noun for buggy racers (suggestions in a plain brown wrapper to Paul Morgan please). Buttock jokes still going strong. Company ranks swelled by arrival of Pat & Ron Dell, Don Eccleston, Force Nine, NWD (Not Woody's Dad) and others. Memory becomes unreliable.

□10.00pm ish Rest of customers leave for other bar. Memory takes a holiday.

□11.30pm Barman has wised up from previous evening and asks us to leave earlier. Company departs for camp site.

□12.30am Genghis Khan and the Golden Horde arrive back at camp site (apologies to those trampled underfoot). 'M'Lady' collects kite bag. Yours truly

collects last of Heineken. Wobble off to Sky Bums stand to re-join rest of party.

□3.00pm ish Memory returns (briefly) from holiday. Stumble back to tent. So much for night-flying.

□9.30am Wake up to smell of 'Parker's' bacon butties. Read programme. Decide Kitefliers briefing at 10.00am to be in very poor taste. Ignore programme.

□11.00am Wake up again. Commit further atrocities with baked beans and garlic bread. Force feed 'M'Lady' two black coffees and take leisurely shower. Stagger into town to buy large bottle of fizzy drink. Consider taking the pledge.

□1.00pm Reunited with 'Top Marx Support Team' - Rachel and Kathryn

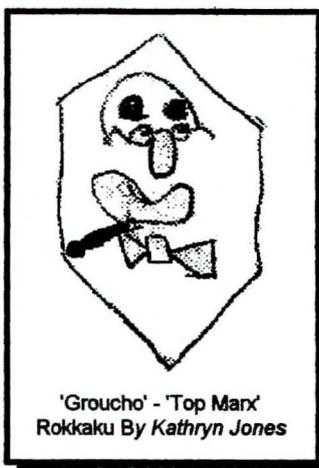
Jones of the WHKF. Refuse to join in egg catching organised by the BOF - watching appears to be a much safer (and less messy) occupation.

□2.00pm Tool up for team Rok'. Decide to

bottle out and leave action to rest of 'Brew Crew' - play my part by doing launching and retrieval duties. Later wished I hadn't as I copped an extremely nasty dose of nettle rash in the process, but got to wear natty T-shirt all the same! Workers turn in much better performance than previous day (winning third round over 'Dragon Family'). Perhaps I'll just stay out of it altogether in future.

□3.30pm Joined in with a bunch of kites to help Adam Sutherland set up and launch his genuine Japanese Edo. Lots of bridle lines to untangle! Wind gone AWOL again; so getting it into the air involves 'all hands' approach on hemp flying line (or rope to be accurate) and charging across whole width of race-course. I hope someone got some decent photos after all that effort!

□4.00pm Watched the BOF do a bit more bear bunging. He's then persuaded to preside over 'marriage' ceremony between 'Suzy' (one of BMISS founding fauna) and 'Biggles' with proud BKF owner Ray Oakhill and Ian Meredith as



DRAGON FAMILIES

'Witnesses' and Rachel Jones as 'Best Person'. A few of Reverend Barkers words were a bit un-churchly but what can you expect at a shotgun wedding? Shame that 'Biggles' blew the honeymoon drop by doing a 'Roman Candle' all the way into the deck.

□4.30pm Sudden death to decide team Rok' trophy between 'Dragon Family' and the 'White Horse Jones's'. 'Support Crew's' loyalty proves a little embarrassing when they refuse to cheer on Mum & Dad; even when they turned out to be the winners!

□5.00pm Participate in award ceremony. Give thanks to Ian Meredith and his fellow organisers for a super festival. Say farewell to other BKF attendants (Barry & Janet Poulter, Mick & Norma House) who made the trek.

□7.00pm Strike camp, pack car and set off home. Time to start thinking about next festival. . . .

*'Virgil' The Kite Junkie*

#### THE CULTURAL BIT ☐

Trying to find a reasonable quote after a visit to the Bards home turf caused no small amount of head scratching (we've done all the 'Bottom' jokes thankyou!) but here's a bit of culture for all those that indulged in the Rok' fights over the weekend.

*'Over hill, over dale,  
Thorough bush, thorough briar,  
Over park, over pale,  
Thorough flood, thorough fire,  
I do wander every where. . . '*

(A Midsummer-Night's Dream Act 2 Sc 1)  
For the rescue crews, 'Thorough nettles, thorough barbed wire' would have made a more appropriate second couplet, but you can't blame Willy for that!

#### BLACKHEATH SUMMER RALLY 27/06/93

Having set BKF HQ at one corner of the arena surprisingly early in the day - we started the now familiar (and highly infectious) 'pink cabana rash' which, in usual festival style, spread fast and furiously in every direction.

The days competitions kicked off with an Individual Rokkaku Challenge (Open) which concluded in yet another win by Simon Dann after a spectacular

simultaneous triple pull down in the second round; which unfortunately included my Rok'! After some dispute concerning the judge's adding up skills - second place went to BKF member Mik Jennison - who seems to be getting a bit good at this Rok' fighting lark!

Having initiated the unsuspecting Tom Gunter into 'Top Marx' at the Brighton festival and *winning* (of course it wasn't fixed!) - team tactics have now taken on a new approach. That is; rope in any poor soul that isn't strong enough to resist the forced adomment of a team shirt - in the hope that they might prove to be a natural! So having coerced BKF members Barry and Janet Poulter into a couple of pre battle beers (under complete duress of course), I probably don't have to explain what happened next!! Needless to say they put in a first class performance, Janet being let off with launching and retrieval duties due to a broken rib - is there no mercy?!

A chapter of BKF history was unearthed thanks to Ron Macey - who brought along one of his early albums containing a fascinating past pictorial record of the clubs founder members and early events. Thanks to the BOF for his thoughtfulness in delicately placing his thumb over what may have offended the 'Locke-sensitive' among us!

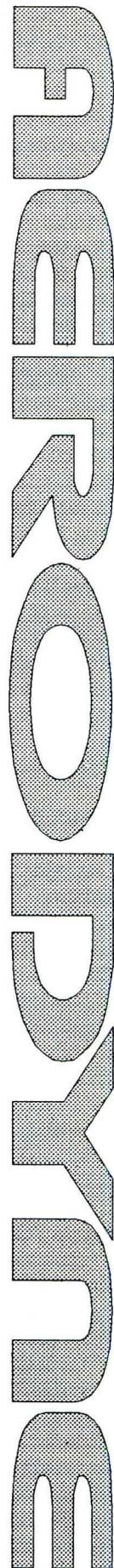
All in all yet another spot on do thanks to TC and the gang - who organised sunshine and light summer breezes to boot.

*Toody Oakhill*

#### FAUNA OVER SHOREHAM 03/07/93

Can it really be a year since our poor beloved battle-scarred 'Bandit' was torched at the Shoreham School Fete in the gruesome 'green smoke flare incident'?! In the line of duty the brave little hero donned his 'chute pack and declared himself ready for action once again, together with a motley and dubious selection of well cuddled local fauna.

With very light wind conditions it took nearly an hour to get anything into the sky that would be capable of lifting a ferry. Peter Jones dazzling new megatastic sled had its first public showing, but the job went to Oakie's 'Lawnmower' in the end - after much physical exertion to get it airborne courtesy of Ray Oakhill and Richard



Hart. Our trusty light wind 'Groucho' was noticeable by his absence, having come to blows with 'Hello Jim' in the thick of the third round fray of the Blackheath Rokkaku battle. Having undergone emergency surgery you will be pleased to hear that he is now recuperating; luckily the conveniently placed wound enabled a wisp of cigar smoke to cover the scar! (Nice idea Tom!)

With Mik Jennison, Ray and Richard as Launch Crew, Pat and Peter Jones as DZ Crew (Drop Zone to the uninformed!) and yours truly as Packer (guess who got the short straw?!) - a grand total of thirty assorted fauna were dropped. There were only three 'roman candles' (nothing at all to do with my 'chute packing of course?!)... not bad considering we were using some of the very first 'chutes and packs probably ever created (courtesy of BMISS) - which have certainly done good service; long may they continue!

Thanks to Naomi Jones for her first class static line untangling - that almighty birds nest has been in the box since we inherited it from you know who!

*Toody Oakhill (Lunatic Fringe)*

#### TOTL COIFFURES CATCH ON ☺

I wonder if any fellow kities were watching the film 'Steel Magnolias' recently and, like me, creased up when Dolly Parton (the ladies hairdresser) offered one of her customers a 'top of the line hairdo!' I couldn't help wondering quite which 'Top of The Line' barret was on offer and visualising the said woman with a 'Ron Reich Special'!

*Kite Head*

#### PETWORTH KITE FESTIVAL 11/07/93

Garden Party Time is back again! After its conspicuous absence from last years Kities Calendar, Petworth House opened its gardens to us once more (courtesy of Lady Joanna Mersey). This festival seems to be a bit of an 'insiders' secret - those that have been once wouldn't miss it for the world. Small, friendly and with a wonderful relaxed atmosphere - where else do you get to fly on the back lawn of a stately home? The only thing that wasn't wholly co-operative on the day was the fickle wind, being a bit hit and miss at times. This did, however,

provide one or two amusing moments; chief among them being the bear drop where the rather bemused onlookers watched the launch kite race the parachuting bear to the ground. The kite won by a whisker!

Pete Swan walked off with a very nice engraved pewter tankard for his mega large 'Catherine Wheel' (see the last issue of 'Aerodyne'). A word of warning though - if you want to make one twice the size; either double the number of gores or double the dimensions - do both (as Pete inadvertently and Toody nearly did) and you will end up with a monster *four* times as big! Now all he's got to do is build something to lift it!

So make a note in your diaries for next year and pay Petworth a visit - you won't be disappointed.

*Mik Jennison*

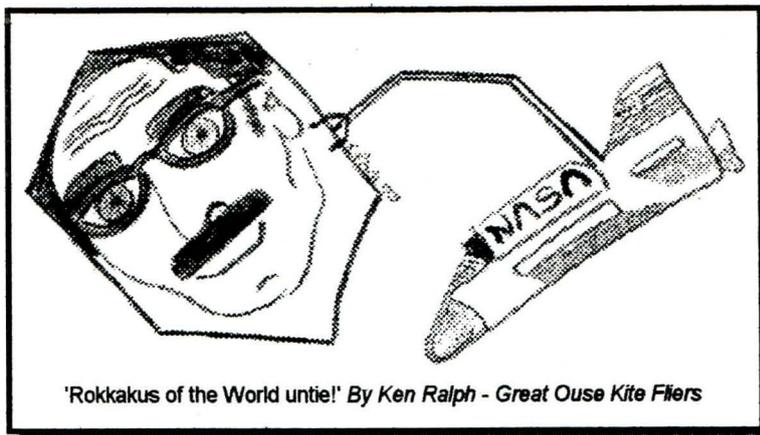
#### HANGLETON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL BMISS DROP 24/07/93 (OR 'MISTER... WHERE'D MY BEAR GO?!')

Having recently completed my very first 'chute and pack for a newly 'liberated' bear - fauna bombing seems to have become this season's 'buzz'.

As usual this was not to be an incident free day... now there's a surprise! The site (St Helens Park, Hangleton) had a good clean wind despite being surrounded by houses, however - it was not tree free. Things were going pretty well until I niftily deposited a 'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle' in one of these (*of course* it was an accident)! Fortunately an expert recovery of the said green furry object was made by BKF member Mike Lainchbury despite the surrounding cries of 'best place for it!' It seems we have a master tree scaler in our midst - whose skills have been unrecognised up until now (*note*: must remember to invite Mike to future BMISS events)!

Having taken turns during the lull for a lunch break in the conveniently situated local hostelry, Oakie and I were somewhat dismayed on our return to find that we couldn't see Mik Jennison (left on guard) for the crowd. After fighting our way through a mass of children and adults impatiently clutching assorted pieces of fauna alike, we found him looking just a touch stressed out and trying to placate a small girl whose bear had just sailed off into the horizon - presumably never to be seen again!

BEAR  
DROPS  
DURING  
THE  
FESTIVAL



After a well earned lunch in the Hangleton Manor we retired to the Hollingbury fly-in and spent the afternoon bombing the field with giant mice, cross-eyed cats, orang utans: 'HB' (Hairy Illegitimate offspring!), 'Stenna-Noknicks' (don't ask!!) and basically

Having completed one successful drop she was so impressed that she returned with bear for another go... a fatal mistake!

With peeps and bears everywhere it was suddenly a crisis situation with a desperate plea for all 'hands on deck'- I would have preferred 'man the lifeboats' personally... but there was no getting out of this one!! Being seriously underpersonned we were well relieved that some other BKfies had shown up despite Peter Jones being the only one to have done this before. Needless to say they were swiftly rounded up and initiated into the art of 'chute packing post haste - so a well deserved thanks to Peri and Mike Lainchbury and Keith Beaken for saving the day! And just in case anyone out there finds a small teddy with a 'wrinkles' 'chute attached... you know where to send it!

*Toody Oakhill*

#### HANGLETON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL WORKSHOP 01/08/93

Fearing we would be severely outnumbered - Professor Kite (alias Barry Poulter) and his ever faithful assistants (Janet Poulter, Jerry Swift, Mik Jennison and yours truly) arrived at some unearthly hour for a Sunday to find only three of the twenty five young hopefuls we thought had booked in for this manic sled making session.

However - not to be disappointed - others arrived fast and furiously throughout the morning and we just managed to squeeze the last kite out of the remaining tyvek... phew! Having been informed by one 'student' that all the kites he had ever made before were "crap" - we were rather relieved when all the creations successfully took to the air!

anything else we could get our hands on - including the odd bear or two of course!

*Toody Oakhill (Prof Kite's chief line winding assistant)*

#### EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL OF THE AIR 07 & 08/08/93

A first time for this event, held just behind the Sovereign Centre, which included anything and everything to do with the air including kite flying organised by the Eastbourne Kite Club. An excellent turnout by the Eastbourne mob of course, supported by a few BKfies - good to see Maurice and Betty Sawyer again, who came all the way from Buckinghamshire. A wide variety of skills were displayed including some wicked buggying from Andy Preston, Paul Thody and the infamous John Turner with his ever growing stack of black and red 'foils.

Some mandatory bear bunging was undertaken (causing much amusement to the visiting German tourists) and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Tom Gunter - we look forward to this becoming an established event in the Kities Calendar.

*Toody Oakhill*

#### LETTERS 21

Dear Pete Stubberfield

Re your letter contained in the July issue of 'The Kiteflier' there are a number of points that I feel compelled to make on the current hot topic of Festival Safety.

This is, of course, a very important subject with many schools of thought. We are always eager to get feedback from kitefliers and the general public

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alike in order that safety can be improved at the Brighton Kite Festival. However, we believe that we are one of the *more* safety conscious of festivals, and although you stated that no criticism was levelled at our organisation, I cannot help feeling that some of your comments were perhaps a little unfair.

The main question seems to be 'do we hold the festival for the kites or for the general public?' Obviously it would not succeed without either and there is a very fine line between keeping both happy.

We provide an arena for competitions, demonstrations and also for any kiteflier who feels that they have something of specific interest to display on request. However, the main part of our festival site at Brighton is devoted to a free flying area which is meant for *both* the kites *and* the general public.

I'm sure that most kitefliers, like myself, understand that festivals are not always the best places to fly if you require a large uninterrupted amount of clear sky. It is up to the individual to a large extent to decide what he or she feels is both appropriate and safe to fly in such a restricted space, to accept that there is an increased risk to both your kites and equipment and consequently to take extra caution. Festivals are obviously not the places to fly for those of us who don't want to have to bother worrying about the general public in any way.

Unlike larger festivals (Portsmouth, Washington and Bristol for example) we don't have enough space for an area specifically devoted to experienced kitefliers only. Consequently, like most other festivals of similar size, we divide the general flying area up into 'multi' and 'single line' and post signs accordingly. These areas are then strictly marshalled throughout the festival.

There is no doubt that we have become victims of our own success - attendance has increased to the point where Waterhall is becoming too small for our needs. The discussion of alternative sites has monopolized our festival committee meetings for the last three years. The conclusions are always the same; other locations are no larger, lack facilities, are in use by hang gliders or model aircraft or are too far out of Brighton (we are funded by the council as part of the annual Brighton International Arts Festival).

Whilst every effort is made to make the

general public aware of the dangers of kiteflying in a festival situation it is impossible to have complete control over their movements, despite rigorous marshalling, unless you exclude them entirely from the general flying area. **This would result in a 'come and watch the kites' situation as opposed to 'come and join in the fun of flying kites' which is what we try to encourage.**

This year we were specifically complemented on our Club's approach to festival safety by Jim Rowlands for whom the subject has been an ongoing crusade for many years. I can only conclude, therefore, that we are at least part of the way to getting it right and sadly you can't please *all* of the people *all* of the time!

Toody Oakhill

#### HAPPY COUPLE UPDATE NO 1 ♥

Suzy and Biggles received their first wedding present at the Petworth festival - a tiny cabana from BKF members Barry and Janet Poulter. Constructed in miniature right down to the last detail (including sand bags!) - needless to say, this has been attracting much deserved attention (yoo wot!!) especially when parked next to the full size jobs!

#### BKF HANDY HINTS NO 6 🐞

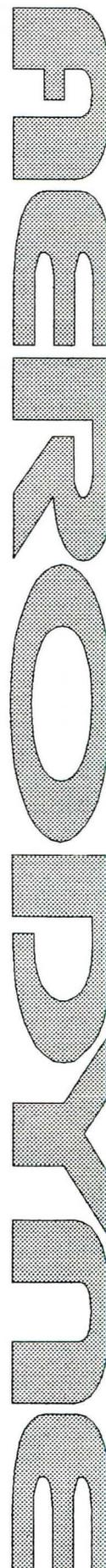
Never give the impression that you're at a bit of a loose end just prior to the start of the Team Rokkaku Fighting Competition at a festival. If you *are* unfortunate enough to make this fatal mistake and spot someone making a beeline for you with a spare 'Top Marx' tee shirt... run for your life!!

#### USE THIS SPACE ☞☞

Send contributions for inclusion to...

**Toody Oakhill (Editor)**  
**The Brighton Kite Flyers**  
**Flat 29**  
**Astra House**  
**Kings Road**  
**Brighton**  
**East Sussex**  
**BN1 2HJ**  
**☎ 0273 321395**

(Sorry Chris and Chris... the answer re Bristol is 'no' for the time being!! Phew - lucky escape huh?!! But I may change my mind... watch this space!)



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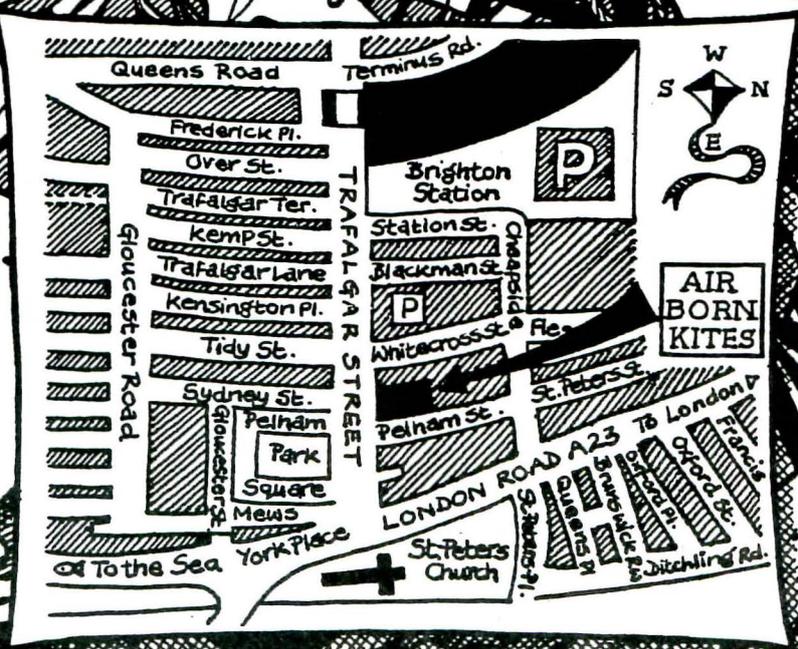
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# MKF Extra



## Stratford Upon Avon Festival Of Kites

Well, the festival came and went and due to the Kiteflier being issued the week before it seems but a dim and distant memory to most (too poetic by half, get on with it).

Only three days before the festival the racecourse managers wanted to cancel the event!! Those that have arranged festivals can appreciate the dilemma that faced us. Fortunately a quick reorganisation of the site plan meant that we could go ahead however with a somewhat compressed layout.

Stratford bucked the trend as far as the weather went. Festival after festival had been blown about by less than forgiving winds, we needed the wind but as odds law goes, it was nice, warm and sunny....ugh! So much for the buggy race (more later).

Our time table went a bit askew, as they do and due to our loss of space our programme went on a little longer. The rock fight proved as entertaining as ever and whilst I didn't take part, I did the commentary. It illustrated how much the regulars (Andy and George) knew of this event and also how many of the contestants they were familiar with.

I was going to publish a list of the winners of the various events but I seem to have er...erm...put them into a safe place. Still, those of you that won will know who you are, you'll just have to tell everyone else. You can always write to me if you wish and I'll publish it next issue (1994!, a bit late I think).

All in all, everyone who went had a good time (I think) and I know the organisers certainly did....eventually.

Oh well, thanks to all of you that came and I hope to see you next year.

## Changes At The Top

The Midlands Kite Fliers AGM is due to take place in November. This is where we decide who does what and the game plan for the following year.

Our Treasurer and Secretary will be standing down after two years and this leaves these two positions vacant. If you would like to be nominated for either of these then please notify us at the address on the contacts page.

Oh, you must be a fully paid up member to qualify for nomination so if this is not the case then please send £12.50 for individual membership or £15 for family membership to the same address.

## Badges Badges Badges Badges

Due to problems beyond our control, the long awaited MKF pins are going to be even more long awaited.

We sent of the money and waited....and waited....wrote....threatened (legally) and ....NOTHING.

So, all I can say is make sure that the people you intend to use are **RECOMMENDED** by someone who has actually had badges made by them.

**YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED**

# UK's First National Buggy Race

(or How To Spend A Lot Of Time Getting Nowhere)

## The Waffle

After much advertising and publicity the first national race in the UK was about to begin. Fifteen buggiers turned up from around the country and it was brilliant that they made the effort. The buggies were mainly of the Lynn variety and also a number of G-Force ones were attending, there was even one home made buggy. Peels, Quadrafoils and Spiders (no, not from Mars from Wales) ensured that there was a lot of rip stop in the air.

The Buggy race was one of the main selling points for the festival and everything had been carefully worked out as to ensure the smooth running of the event (ha, ha). We had a buggiers meeting prior to racing to explain the simple yet necessary rules, mainly concerned with safety, and the scoring system. Names were entered onto the judges sheets and a judge was assigned to each marker to ensure that everyone passed the correct number of times. A black and white chequered flag was handed out and after a few questions we were all set to go.

Only a few of the buggiers had ever raced before and so it was expected to be quite an interesting race, it was, believe me.

The markers were laid out at the top part of the main arena and the buggiers launched their kites and positioned their buggies. Now, when there is so much rip stop in the air there is a small possibility that a pseudo Rok fight may ensue, and yep...it did. Each time we were ready to go, somebody got tangled up with somebody else.....This meant that it took nearly 30 minutes to actually get the race under way.

## The Race?...maybe

Ken Knight did the commentary and shouted out the command "GO!" (ha, bl\*\*dy, ha). The wind dropped, the kites fluttered, the crowd roared and we..... well.. we just sat there! Ken shouted again "GO!". Nope, it didn't do any good we still sat there. The crowd roared again (I think it's best to tell you that they were actually roaring with laughter). Eventually somebody started to move....wow.

## The Yawns

Have you ever seen one of those slow bike races? This is what it was like. Very very slowly people actually started to move. At one point I got off my buggy and waited till most had at least reached the first marker (I

went for a cup of tea and forty winks). I started off and within seconds a kite landed on my head, I thought I'd gone blind but no, it was one of our four lined friends (sounds like a horse again (I said four lined not four legged!)) and it was quickly followed by a "SORRY". Ah well, it's all good fun.

The first lap was taking so long that it was decided to make it a one lap race. Mad John won this and it took a good 25 minutes later before everyone finished. When I came in to the last marker I was slightly out of line with it and could not get round it. I pulled so hard and strained at the kite that when I nearly got to the marker I was yanked out of the buggy and dragged across the field, Mick Parsons laughed so much that I thought that he was going to have a fit, still, it was hilarious. End of race one and what a farce!

We had a debriefing and decided to move our course further down the arena where the ground was a little better and also because of the time we took in the main events area. A new rule which was an excellent idea was adopted. This was that from the time of announcing that the race was due to start, the buggiers had only five minutes to get ready, the race would be started whether they were ready or not and it worked quite well.

## The Second Race

The wind picked up a little and we all prepared for the second race. The five minute warning was given and then we were off. I got off to a brilliant start (even if I say so myself) and I was closely followed by Dominic Bowns. I was belting along until... well until the second marker. I was going a little fast and spun out of control and watched Dominic overtake. Not wanting to crash the kite or leave the buggy I hung on, did a series of pirouettes, reverse turns etc etc and eventually regained control to the cheers of the second marker judge. This faux pas meant that I had dropped behind. Off I went again, attempting to catch up the others. I overtook a few and went careering for the third marker, the people at the end cheered (they would wouldn't they, it was mostly friends). Off I went again heading for the first marker, there were only a couple in front of me...and I soon caught one up. But, just as I was about to finish a kite dropped onto me. Oh no! I got off the buggy and helpers managed to untangle the other persons kite from my lines. Eventually I crossed the finishing line, hot and

knackered.

## The Pratt

"Why did you do four laps?" I was asked.

Yep, I blew it. It was a three lap race and the last two that I passed were the tail enders. This meant that I had been in the way of somebody who hadn't yet finished (sorry Johnathon). Dominic won the race by a good few lengths and it was a much better race by far. Still, we had a debriefing. Everybody felt as though that race was more like it and we were all raring to go for the third and final leg. If we couldn't race on the Sunday, these results would stand.

## The Third Race

We prepared for the third race. Five minutes were called and we were soon off. The wind had picked up again and there was everything to go for. We reached right over to the fence to try and cut out the number of tacks needed to get round the markers and this did indeed have a slight time advantage. This race took a lot more effort as the wind was now starting to drag you sideways a little. On more than one occasion people were plucked from their buggies. Mad John was in the lead up until the last 50 yards or so. Somebody got tangled up with his line and caused him to be overtaken. Andy Hall took the honours this time and I was close behind. When the race was finished the judges handed over their sheets and I refused to announce the winner until Sunday!

## And On The Sabbath They Rested

Well, Sunday arrived but the wind didn't. We waited postponed attempted...stopped...and eventually we decided that Sundays racing was not to be. This meant that Saturdays results would stand

## The Winner!

At the presentations the results were announced in reverse order (I would list them if I hadn't lost...er I mean put them somewhere safe). The winner was announced to much clapping and adulation.....it was.....Kieron Chattergea (sorry if its spelt wrong)! Now as some of you may have noticed he hadn't won any of the races but he was placed high in all of them. This meant that overall he came first!

So there you have it, Kieron is the first national champion and gets to keep a trophy, engraved no less, for a year .....until next time. And the 'UK's First National Race' was over.

**A**fter the fun that I had last year at Portsmouths first festival I thought that it would be a good idea to go to this years. Last year Mad John and I, organised a stunt kite demo with the help of Double Trouble and Vapour Trails. This year however, we were going to demonstrate Buggyng. The flying site at Portsmouth is a big grassy bit over the road from the sea and it is an ideal site with short grass and hard ground. Unlike last year the trip down was quite smooth as we were not trying to fight through torrential rain, thunderstorms and the usual flurry of accidents. Arriving at twelve thirty and looking forward to a drink (as you do) we made off to the bar! It was shut!!! Fortunately, as Wendy and I was staying at the hotel we managed to get the bar opened...Yippee. A couple of White Horses were in the lounge (don't see many horses in bars these days) so after buying a round we sat and rested after the drive. After a few yawns we trotted off to bed (still on a horsey theme).

## **Saturday**

The weather was brill, the wind was brill albeit from the wrong direction (blowing out to sea) and the breakfast as usual was great. Breakfast is a great opportunity to meet up with some of the overseas fliers and it wasn't soon before we were joined by Peter and Kirri Lynn. After a good old chinwag we decided to head for the site.

The site is about a 500 yard walk and took only a few minutes to arrive and setup. We were scheduled for a dem sometime during the afternoon and in the meantime we had a wander around. There was a nice crop of overseas fliers displaying their wares (can you have a crop of fliers, or is it a gaggle?) and most European countries were represented along with the USA and New Zealand.

The wind started to change direction and as a result started to drop off, yep! it was our turn to fly.! The routine that has taken many hours to sort out was once again going to be confined to a play it by wind effort, most frustrating. One our new novelty bits consisted of a tandem buggy, this is a buggy attached to another buggy, which means that two people can ride at the same time. This proved a useful asset and I'll explain a little later. Meanwhile we filled in with a little gentle Buggyng and a demonstration of formation Peels.

Peter had bought over with him a new 10m Peel, this is only really used for light wind conditions and did it come in useful. With this kite it meant that somebody at least could actually buggy. We even managed to get the tandem buggy going. Andy and George were doing the commentary and when lunchtime approached it was suggested that we could take children for a ride on the tandem and within no time a long queue had formed.....adults as well as children. We made sure that the passengers wore a crash helmet and took them off for a ride.

The wind had started to drop and so we were limited to children only and boy was it hard work trying to keep the thing going. Lunchtime lasted an hour and we were still working and sweating. When we did stop we were exhausted!

We didn't have long before we were being asked to fill in whilst they prepared for the Rok fight so we introduced the unique 'Push Me Pull You' buggy. Unlike the tandem buggy the two riders are back to back and you have a steering wheel at each end, everyone was sceptical but it did actually work!

Andy King did a commentary from the back of the Tandem buggy and then we enticed him onto the PMPY. The Rok fight was ready to go and

so we had another few minutes to ourselves. By now other buggiers had turned up and set up camp by us, it started to look a little like a steel yard with the amount of buggies that were around. As a sort of finale to the afternoon we went back on, Joost and myself attempted to demonstrate a simple pursuit reaching race but as the wind was still a little light it was a bit difficult. Eventually tired, sweaty and burnt (due to the sun) we buggied off back to the accommodation.

## **Sunday**

This followed much the same pattern as the previous day but with a little better wind. A special guest arrived and they too were given a ride on the back of the buggy. Unfortunately they rolled backwards a little and their head banged up and down on the floor all the way across the field. Due to our self imposed safety Clifford was wearing a crash hat and came to no harm, even when he came off the back at quite a speed, it was hilarious! (Now for those of you that are a little concerned, Clifford is a green stuffed Welsh Dragon, found abandoned on the BOF's doorstep...I think).

The Mayor arrived and the wind picked up (no connection). Peter took him for a whiz on the back of the buggy and also the Mayoress, fortunately they didn't suffer the same fate as Clifford. George Webster had a go and I have never seen him look so apprehensive but he enjoyed it ... I think.

As the formal proceedings were over the wind picked up even more and in no time the rest of the buggiers were in the arena racing backwards and forwards, now this was more like it!

Another tiring day but it was well worthwhile, we enjoyed it and so did everyone else and if you haven't yet been to Portsmouth then I suggest you mark it in next years calendar.

# Top Kite Flyers Give Demo for Manx Disabled



*Members of the Manx Foundation for the Physically Disabled enjoyed the display — and Sunday's brilliant weather*

The disabled group really enjoyed themselves and had to be dragged back into their buses at the end of the afternoon! We are now being asked if we can tell them how to make kites for themselves and dream up some projects for them to do during the winter months. We saw a lot of other people also interested and there is now a definite prospect of a kite club on the Island being formed.

We went over on Wednesday 11th August. On Thursday we gave a slide show at the Disabled Centre to illustrate the great variety of kites these days, followed by a 'show and tell' session with the kites they were to see flying during the weekend. On Friday we gave a talk on Nature Photography to a local naturalist group and they raised £19 to donate to the disabled centre - unsolicited by us. While we were giving the talk we were asked if we could put in an appearance at a local school fete on Saturday afternoon to support their fund-raising in aid of the school playing field. In the circumstances it was hard to refuse, wasn't it! Odd we went on Saturday only to find zero wind for the first time this year on the Island! We nevertheless showed off a few kites and generated some interest in the Sunday afternoon event planned for the disabled group.

Sunday was perfect kite flying day - brilliant sun and a ten-mile-per-hour wind. We also had a good slice of Jurby airfield all to ourselves. Who could ask for better? The local press showed interest and I enclose the article they published. No, we did not dictate this to them. The text is their interpretation of a telephone interview.

We had to return on Tuesday and we haven't made our minds up whether we were working or on holiday. Needless to say we enjoyed it all and would like to draw attention to the potential for other MKF members to enjoy themselves in similar ways, at the same time helping others not nearly so fortunate.

We made use of some Teddy para-drop certificates we produced - in this case as rewards to the children who went quite a long way to fetch our bear back for another go.

Mike Sherwood and Margaret Fisher

**TWO** top kite flyers from the West Midlands have been teaching members of the Manx Foundation for the Physically Disabled how to enjoy the leisure activity.

Mike Sherwood and Margaret Fisher have been staying with friends Joan Wilson and Bill Jones of Maughold and decided to introduce the art of kite flying.

Said Mike: 'Two friends of ours on the Island told us about the disabled centre and how we could think of an activity which people can join in without any disadvantage.'

Both he and Margaret are members of the West Midlands kite flyers. 'Whilst we are here as individuals we are representing the club as well.'

'We have got a range of things to show what a tremendous variety there is.'

Kite flying has taken the two of them around the world. In April this year they went to China to take part in an event.

They actually met Bill and Joan at a kite flying festival in Bristol. 'It is amazing what a lot of friendly reactions kite flying produces. In the UK there are a number of very well known festival.'



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# R<sup>D<sub>42</sub></sup>OMAN L<sup>G</sup>ANDL<sup>E</sup> 30



The International Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Worldwide Kitings Number One Dollop of Mindless Drivel. Close of Play score on a Sticky Wicket, 30, Not Out.

Looking back over a period of 12 years and 30 issues, its hard to believe that we could keep this running gag going for so long. Its a tribute to all you Crazy Sods out there, for without your help, encouragement and contributions, R.C. would have long gone the way of the Cockoozalum Bird, you know, the one that hid its head under its wing and whistled out of its... wait for it, Earhole..... Cheers you Rotten Lot.

Perhaps the event of most note this Season was the Marriage of Suzy Bear and Biggles at Stratford Racecourse. This charming ceremony was only marred by the BOF, who as usual was smashed out of his head on Lemonade, and shocked the entire Wedding Party, by trying to conduct the Burial Service. This Wedding was a hastily arranged Shotgun affair, after Dropnik Oakhill discovered some severe Milarky going on in the back of his Car. It really was a case of "Dont bother knocking, if the Motors Rocking". Fine upstanding Dropnik that he is, Mr Oakhill insisted on instant regularising of the situation, which is how the BOF came to be conducting the Burial whoops Marriage Service at a Kite Fest.

A sad footnote to the above, rumors abound that the marriage is down the Pan already, due in part to the fact that Suzy Bear is knocking it off with the notorious Drunken Dave, pictured below with long suffering Ann.



Be that as it may, the latest is that Dave is at long last a Parafauna. He was Bearnapped by the Brighton Mob at the Pompey Fest, and after lots of Kicking and Vomiting Dave was launched on Dropnik Rays ferry with a BOF chute. Give Dave his due, he ruined the first jump with a perfect go wrong. However his second ascent was perfect. Dave has changed his mind on Parachuting since he discovered that he can Booze on the way down and with a judicious drift on the chute he can give a Po Faced Display, a Technicolour Yawn as he drifts by.

We, should perhaps spare a thought for poor Ann Heanes, Daves long suffering owner, who, when Dave, having his first jump, was cast in the role of the Shocked and Terrified Hume, and maybe we should Grass Up the Dodgy Duo who Bearnapped Dave, twas Dropniks Mik and Toody of the Top Marx Rok Team who are almost as fond of the Amber Neckoil as Dave, who contrary to popular belief, does'nt drink Carling Black Label, nope. he gets thoroughly S... Faced on Kestral Super and Tennants Extra Strength Lagers.

By the way, just for your information Drunken Dave Bear was named after the one and only El Supremo Posero, 3i/c of the White Horse Kitters Hostility Suite and chief bottle washer Dave, your friend and mine Robinson. Not sure if Dave is a Dropnik, who cares, its just that nobody can decide who's got the Bigger Belly, Dave or Dave, Hic, Hic.

Dave Bear, well known "p...s artist," has no time for 'chuting, as it cuts into his boozing time.

"Is Dave sober?" we cry.

"Nope, as usual, he's p.....d as a pudding," is the reply.

Ann Heanes has to cart home the wreckage.

# Smart David's a prize guy!



SCHOOLBOY David Cowan is helping rid Penarth of its reputation of being the accident blackspot of South Wales.

David, aged 10, has won a competition to name a six-foot bear which heads the Safe Child Penarth campaign.

This piece, left, came from our member, Red Baron of Cardiff, R.B. goes on to say that he does'nt think that the Penarth Safety Campaign is anything to do with Cycle Safety, its a new scheme to make Kids wear safety Helmets in case they are Biffed by a Totalling Parafauna. R.B. also says that they are so switched on in his locale that even the Kettles are Furring Up. We'll give him Ten out of Ten for coining a new word for an ascent of 1,000ft or more, Wowview !

R.B. say he also gets Wowviews indoors as he's shackd up with a Chic French Bear Chick named Carmen, and when she cuddles up and whispers "Cher Baron Rouge" in his lughole, his Short and Curlies go all Polar. Carmen also said something else, but as R.B's writing was bad, we could not decipher it. He finishes his letter to R.C. with a saying he says his Dropnik Henly is always using, and R.B. wonders what the item in question is. Its "Keep your Pecka Up!" R.B. whants to know, what is a Pecka ?.....

## "NAZI BOMBERS WRECK KITE WORKSHOP"

The good News about the above Headline is that the Kite Workshop was making Stunters and the Bad News is that it is Repairable. Ha,Ha, all Jokes aside, The Truth of the matter is that the Luftwaffe did destroy the Kite

Workshop involved in making the Kites for our Kite and Bomb Barrage Trials at Plymouth. This Air Raid occurred on the 23rd of April 1941 and was one of the reasons that the K&BB Trials were ended. Need we add that this Headline was extracted from the Historical Section of Old Toms Rustic Kitecraft. We did have a rather shirty letter from Old Tom himself, who was a bit Miffed at us quoting his real age of 94. It would seem that this rather put the cat amongst the Pidgeons with Old Toms current Lady Friend as he told her he was only 69.

## FRUITY KIWI NEARLY BREAKS DUCK.

The long awaited Debut of our only known Flora Member occurred at the Bristol Fest. We've waited a long time for this, but it was well worth it. Pete the Kiwi Fruit (or should that be Mr Lynn) certainly is a Trier and definitely aint a Bottle Job, and being equipped with a Cakehole that big, he can certainly do some Chomping on the Po Faced, when he gets his Jump Tecnique sorted. Mind you it was'nt Petes or the Sky Squads fault that he only had a lowish Jump. You know the score, typical Kite Fest, the Slot for Dropping the Kids Bears and the Sweet Drop amounts to about 45 seconds, the Wind Drops, the P.A.s attention span is Miniscule and theres a horde of Po Faced eager for the piece of Sky that the Bear Drop is occupying, bleeding typical aint it ? Its enough to make you take up Macrame.

When we first Clapped Eyes on Pete the Kiwi Fruit, we could see at once the problems that Dropnik Legs Lester is having in trying to equip Pete with a Chute and Harness, its a right bummer putting a harness on a Ball. Pete is in the Legs mould as his little feet really were Skydancing just like the big Legs when he was hoisted on the Kiteline.

### BEAU PEEP

By Roger Kettle and Andrew Christine



Due to the fact that Pete only had a very lowish Drop, with an already Deployed Parachute, we were not going to number him as a full BMISS member for life, but after some deliberation we decided that as Pete was a Tryer, as of now, he's in.

# THE MORE I SEE OF PEOPLE THE MORE I PREFER MY TEDDY!



This sticker left, was sent to us by Norman King who we dont see too much of these days since he now flies in the far Southwest. Norman says there are times for most Dropniks when this Sticker just about says it all and we agree, cheers Norman.

## Jet-setter missing in mid-air

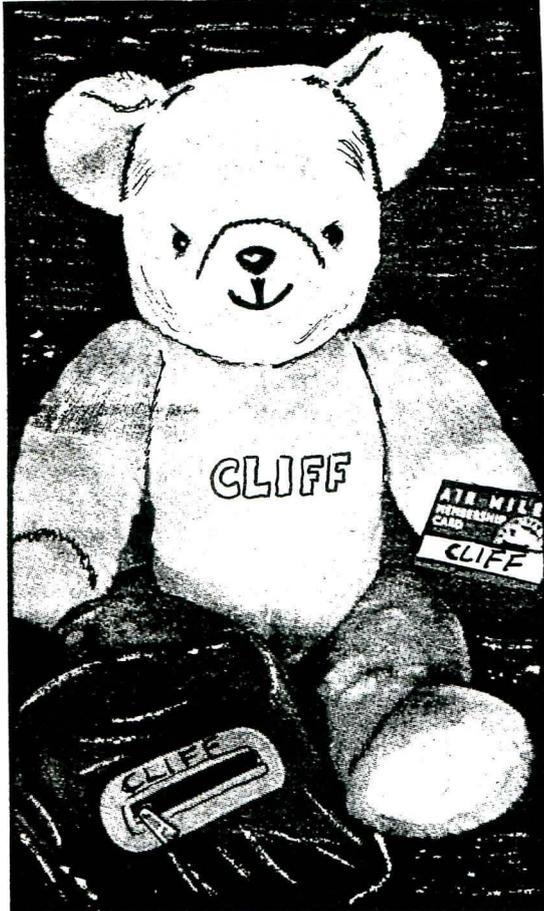
CLIFF, the flying bear, hitch-hiked his way around the world to raise money for a good cause.

The jet-setting teddy clocked up hundreds of thousands of air miles to help support Brighton's threatened Coppercliff Hospice.

But, sadly, the brave little bear never made it back to base.

Cliff was last spotted on a long-haul flight bound for Gatwick.

Organisers of his around-the-world voyage believe he was kidnapped by a fellow passenger.



## ALSO MISSING, A JOLLY OLD RAG

Little Cliff may have Air Hitched his way around the World for Umpteen Thousand Miles in aid of a good cause, but all he seems to have had is a small Travel Bag and an Airmiles Card, nary a chute in sight.

Its a bit much you know, sending a Bear out into the world without the means of support, after all even that Notorious Non Dropnik Stateside, err, wots 'is name, equips his non parachuting fauna with a chute by Weeks for Air Travel.

Certainly is a Rum old world when some 22 carat brass bound Tow Rag has the Bear faced affrontary to Bearnap a Brother before his good cause is done.

Thanks to Dropnik Oakhill for bringing this to our attention.

## "FOTY 93"

Thankfully the BOF got his act together this Year and the cock up we had last year with the BMISS Fauna of the Year Trophy92, not being awarded till

this year becomes a past faux pas. Tah Dahhh. Big Fanfare, after much consideration, (cos you're such a Good lot of Fauna ) The BMISS Fauna of the Year Trophy 1993 was awarded to GRIZZ Dallmer, of the Pennsylvania Bear Force. By the usual BMISS / Fauna Telepathy we are aware that Grizz is well Chuffed as is his Dropnik, Mike Dallmer. Mike, by the way does his Bear Bombing, the hard way, for not only does Mike Tog up his Bears with Chutes etc, first off, he actually makes his Bears from scratch.

## CLIFF THE DRAGON, ON THE SLIPPERY SLOPE?

It would seem that Poor Old Cliff the Dragon , he, of a Welsh Cuddley Toy persuasion is definitely on the slippery slope to oblivion. Andy King says that its got so bad now that Cliff insists on being known as Soak, he's never even seen Andys Des Res as he's leading a Nomadic existance, travelling from Po Faced Des Res to Po Faced Des Res, only moving on when the Booze runs out. Nobodys sure if this was triggered off by the BOF chucking Cliff in the bath then getting him frozen stiff, or maybe that Gobfull of D.Z. Cliff got via Rocket Ron and the BOF.

We saw Cliff at the Pompey Fest, it was'nt a pretty sight.



# RAINBEAR SKYDIVE CORPS

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Yet another Mob Bearing Up Stateside, its a warm welcome to The Rainbear Skydive Corps whose lineup includes such notables as Sir Bearard Asbearry, Madame DuBearry, Rasbearry, Bearon von Richthofen, Douglas Bearbanks Jr and Ethel Bearrymore. They even have thier own Legal Counsel called Bearry Mason, which if as Capt Dick says, he's Commanding, he may need a Counsel for Commanding a Mob of Para-Fauna, usually means that you end up carrying the Can. Capt Dick did'nt say if his Fauna shout GOTTLE of GEAR on the way down.

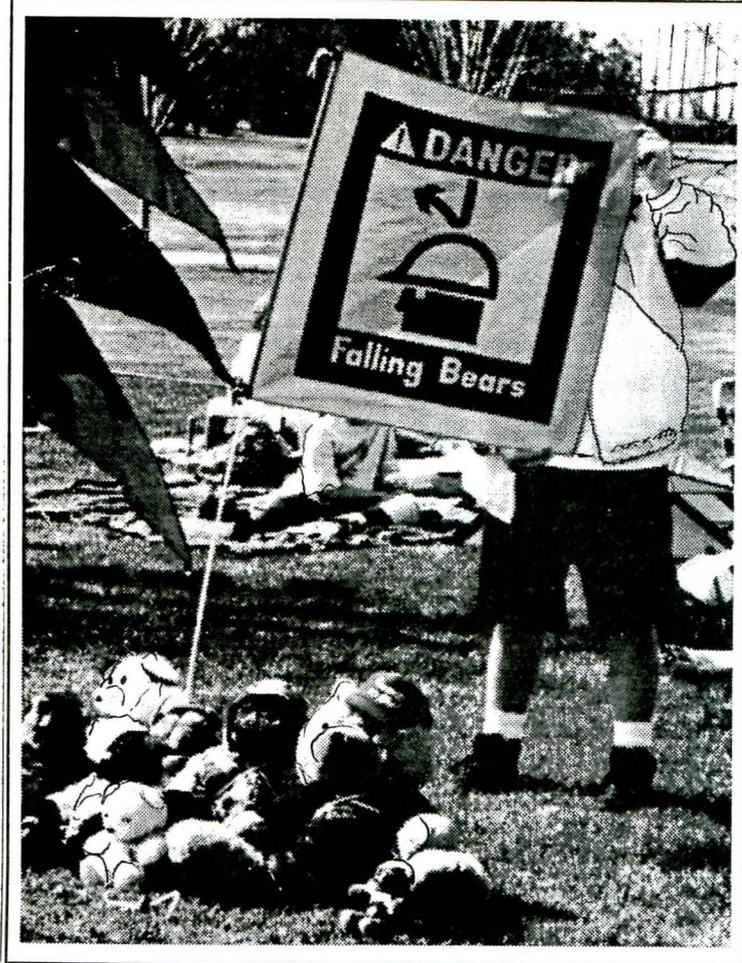
## BIRFDAY BEAR SCOFFS THE LOT NOT A CRUMB FOR US.



An intresting item arrived from Birfday Bear aka Dropnik Slater and the rotten sod never left a single Crumb inside. The item was the Box for a Birthday Cake from good old Marks and Sparks. The Soft Iced sponge Cake with Buttercream and Raspberry filling is tastefully Hand Decorated with a Parachuting Teddy. Birfday Bear did'nt say how much the Cake is, as he never bought it, he just scoffed it. Captain Bear, who owns Birfday Bear, says its rumoured that BB was 69 on his Birthday, though we're not too sure he looks more like 79 (stone that is)

Would the Rotachute Bear who had some ferry jumps at Middle Wallop tell us his name as the Braindead BOF has forgotten. We think you own one of that noisy Lodden Valley Mob.

The Skydiver who was saved by the Pond has not so far applied to BMISS for membership just as well as the Criteria is now 7,000.



Theodore Edward O'Bears Printed Page is transformed into Applique via the Red Hot sewing of Vi Weeks. Below the Banner are the Members of the Sky Trek Skydive Squad, and we're not sure if they are Vi's knees peeping from behind the Banner.

"LEO the Lion" who showed the BOF and Dropnik Billings how to do the Bizzo from steves Mega at Bristol. Please tell us you real name and your Dropniks also, we'd like to give you credit.

## POND SAVES SKYDIVER

ROOKIE skydiver Klint Freemantle plummeted 4,000ft when his two parachutes failed — but walked away unhurt after landing in a duck pond.

The daredevil, 22, then stood up in the pond, shouted "Yes!" and waded to the bank to tell

waiting ambulancemen he was fine.

Klint's dad and sister had watched in horror as his chute failed and a back-up one got tangled. But as he fell towards the 3ft deep pond at 70mph, Klint leaned back and undid the harness.

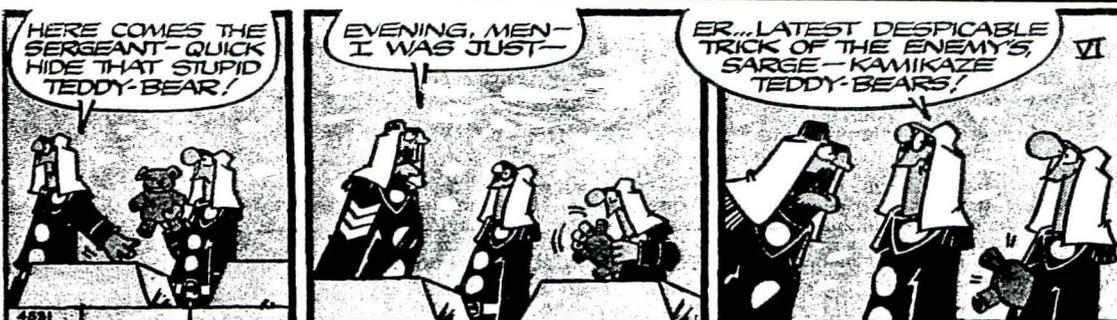
Experts said leaning

back saved his life by spreading the force of impact. Tim Russell, Klint's instructor in Napier, New Zealand, said: "It was a one-in-a-million accident and a one-in-a-billion escape.

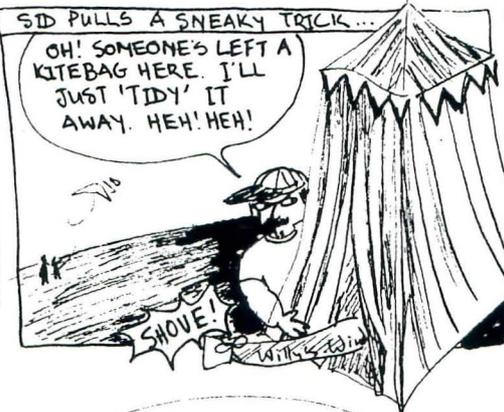
"I'm planning to dig a few duckponds at our base now."

### BEAU PEEP

By Roger Kettle and Andrew Christine



As always, its the usual to the usual, c/o the BOF, 48 Laurel Lane, W/Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY. U.K.



I'LL SHOW THAT SID! HE MIGHT HAVE MUSCLES, BUT I'VE GOT A P.P. PACK OF

© Piranhas





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**Of large kites in small bags, small kites in large bags, a Revolution at Christmas, buggies, power kiting and silly things people do with kites.**

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You used to be able to tell a "serious" kiter by the size of his kite bag. Anything under 48" long by 8" diameter and you were lightweight. If you are American then 72" by 10" seems to be the norm. Anyway, after you've lugged one of these (heavy) things from the car park to the flying field you may find yourself wondering, "Why?". Are you really going to fly all those kites in that bag? Or is one-upmanship at work?

Well, can we suggest a solution. Over the last couple of years soft kites have progressed enormously. Apart from the lightest of airs practically all wind speeds are now covered by both single and dual line kites. In single line we have the Ferrari Ram, the Super Tube, parafoils from 2 - 40 square feet and all Martin Lester's famous inflatable kites (Legs, large Legs and absolutely whopping great sky filling/hogging Legs available- assorted apparel eg shorts, stockings/suspenders). In dual line we have all the Inflight range- Vector (a wolf in sheep's clothing), Speedrunner & Bladerunner 2. We also have the Elliott Sigma. In four line we stock the Omnifoil (two sizes), the Inflight Twister and the Portugese made Quadrifoil (size 2 & 3 in stock). With all of these kites the great advantage is that they pack down small and weigh little- even the largest can be carried with ease in a small bag. We have a full soft & steerable list available- free!

Of course if you would like something heavy to carry can we suggest a buggy. In combination with one of the larger steerable softies a buggy can be truly exhilarating. The model we stock (and wholeheartedly recommend) is the Land Lizard from Highly Strung Kites of Australia. We have a little leaflet- Buggy Briefing- which expounds and expands- free!

Which brings us to power kiting and silly things people do with kites. Power kiting (that is flying kites that exert more force than you can safely control without external mechanical assistance) can be spectacular. It can also be fatal. Admittedly power kiting is fun, but could the PKers out there tone it down a little, please. We keep getting requests from absolute, utter beginners for large stacks/kites that are potentially very dangerous- money seems no object in most cases- they've seen power and want power- could the power fliers out there please tell prospective PKers the risks, not just the cost.

A Revolution for Christmas? Special offers Dec 1-24, 1993. Rev 1 Classic 129.95. Rev 2 Classic 84.95 (inc handles, video, ex line).

PS. Unlike some other kite businesses if we list a kite as stock, we have it in stock (or at worst re-ordered) and all our lists are free on request, so request them now!

**The Kite Store Ltd,**

**48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA.**

**Tel: 071 836 1666**

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PS. No one complained about the last ad so obviously we didn't forget anything!