

# THE KITEFLIER

ISSUE 62

JANUARY 1995

PRICE £1.50



NEWSLETTER  
OF  
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT  
BRITAIN

The Kite Society  
P.O. Box 2274  
Gt Horkeley  
Colchester  
Essex CO6 4AY

Tel/Fax: 0206 271489  
email: 100255.116@compuserve.com



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# EDITORIAL

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a prosperous new year and look forward to a good year of kite flying.

With this issue you will find enclosed the Kite Society Handbook for 1995. This lists all of the Kite Traders in the U.K. (who have responded to our questionnaire) as well as the Kite Groups. If you require extra copies of this handbook individually they will cost 25p per copy (plus P&P at cost). For bulk purchases please contact us.

In the October issue we had a questionnaire regarding the location of the 1995 Kite Society Convention. This followed on from the questionnaire used during the convention at Portsmouth. We would like to thank those people who took the time and trouble to respond.

Of the 41 forms returned it was a close run thing between returning to Bristol and joining up with Coventry. However Coventry won out and moves are in progress to sort out the details and these will appear in the April issue.

Another question was one of charging a fee for attending the convention. Answers ranged from £5.00 to £35.00 with an average of £10.00. (Interestingly enough only three people thought the costs ought to be hidden in the KSGB subscription). As a result of this we have decided that a registration fee will be charged (unless the cost of the rooms etc is low enough) and this will be no more than £5.00 per person. A final decision will be made when the cost of the convention location is known.

One knock on effect of making a charge is to reduce the dependency on the money raised by the auction thus guaranteeing the future of the convention.

The Kite Society Single Line Championships will this year be held in conjunction with the Convention and the Coventry Kite Festival. The categories are - Flat Kite, Cellular Kite, Soft Kite and peoples Choice. Start making them now in-time for this event.

**Gill and Jon Bloom**

#### Front Cover Photo

**This is one of Theo Van Beek's kites "The Red Baron". Photo taken at the 1994 International Kite Festival at Dieppe. Photo by Gill Bloom.**

# Letters

## From John Daleman

During last summer we enjoyed many happy hours with several of you who chose to visit Great Yarmouth for a break. This proved highly beneficial to all concerned, sometimes learning, sometimes teaching, but always enjoying the moment.

Anyone visiting Gt Yarmouth at anytime is most welcome among us. Even weekday visits can be catered for, though it is most advisable to telephone me before your visit, to enquire of our presence, as often we are engaged at displays or kite workshops.

Finally our kind regards to our new friends and our thanks to **The Kiteflier** for spreading the word. (John can be contacted on 0493 331062).

## From Peter Dawson

Unfortunately Index 3, the B.B.S. that carried E.M.Kites has closed down. But the area has been transferred to another B.B.S. called 'The Crypt' on 0115 944 5307. All this fiasco came about very recently. All the usual data and news will continue of the new B.B.S.

## From Neil Little

A couple of months ago I was flying a fighter kite on one of the lesser used beaches in West Wales and my 14 year old daughter (who incidentally was interviewed in Welsh for the S4C programme covering the Margam Festival) tried to get me to buzz a couple who were sunbathing nearby. However I kept well clear of them, but to my amazement the man got up and got out a fighter kite and joined in the fun. I have never seen anyone else outside a fighter festival fly a fighter kite before. I sent him details of the kite construction and he showed it to his friend, who happened to be a colleague who works in our Swansea office and I didn't know he was interested in kites! A nice double coincidence.

One of my other interests is bird watching and no prizes for guessing that my favourite bird is the red kite, which up until quite recently was restricted to a small area of Mid Wales. However they are spreading and at one location, where my daughter goes riding, there are a few red kites around. Everytime we go there I look for red kites and I also take my kites along to fly on the mountain. The other day there were no red kites around, so I walked up the side of the hill and flew my roller. Imagine my surprise when a red kite came and investigated my kite and myself and then disappeared again over the hill! What a quandry. Should I report it to the KSGB or the RSPB?

The last story is a snippet from a report that I read about automation in the Electricity Supply Industry.

"Shikoku Kite Removing Robot". The Japanese electricity utility Shikoku Electric Power Co. have developed a robot which moves automatically along overhead distribution lines to retrieve kites that have become entangled on the lines. The task has to be performed periodically in certain districts of Japan. The robot is hoisted up to the line, mid-span, using a cord attached to a pulley hooked onto the line with the aid of an insulating pole. The robot engages the line and moved automatically along it rotating some kind of cutting device that severs the kite string. Apparently the whole operation can be accomplished in just 15 minutes by one operator from the ground."

# "CONQUER THE WIND"

## SKY EXTRAVAGANZA

Banham Zoo Show Ground, Norfolk · 27th, 28th & 29th May 1995

\* Large open site with separate areas for stunt kites and single line flyers.

\* Continuous arena displays on Sunday and Monday, including:

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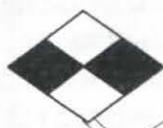
Enquiries to Kite Events Co-ordinator Kevin Appleton, 37 Eastern Avenue,  
Thorpe St. Andrew, Norwich. **Tel: (01603) 31964** evenings.

Please enclose S.A.E with all enquiries.

Traders and Camping enquiries to: David Barber, Banham Zoo Ltd, The Grove,  
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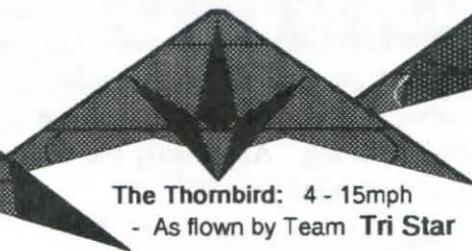
*Trainer: 6 - 25mph / Sport: 4 - 25mph*



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# Introduction to Sport Kites - 2

In the last item I covered some of the basics, in this issue I will first recap what we covered and go onto some of the other practice moves that I hope will help you to become a better flyer.

I hope you have all been watching how the wind affects the trees and bushes where you fly, tie this in with the wind speed given by the weather forecast.

Launching - if the wind is right for the kite you should be having no problem with launching the kite.

Speed control, Square turns and ground gaining manoeuvres, these are more complex and all Novice to Experienced flyers should spend time to practice these each time you fly.

## Circles

One of the hardest figures to fly is a circle, because of the change in wind pressure as you fly the manoeuvre. To practice this and to make your circles more like circles, fly circles about 20 feet wide in the centre of the wind, as the kite flies up pull with both hands to counteract the effect of flying away from the centre of the wind, then as you fly down push forward with both hands. If you practice this you should be able to fly circles without losing altitude.

We will now cover some of the more difficult manoeuvres

## Pull-Push and Push-Pull Turns

Previously you learnt how to move your hands forward to perform a "push" turn. Now we will cover the "Pull-Push" or "Push-Pull" turn. This type of manoeuvre is used to add control and power to turns.

The Pull-Push turn will start with either hand pulling, you will make the kite turn in the direction that is the same as the hand that you are pulling. By pulling you increase the pressure on the kite so it will increase its speed through the turn, you then snap the opposite hand forward "the Push" this reduces the pressure on the kite and helps to slow the kite as it comes out of the turn.

The Push-Pull turn is the opposite so you start by pushing so the kite slows into the turn and regains speed as you finish the turn.

The 1st type can be used for dramatic effect as in light winds the kite will lose much of its speed and may even stall at the Push section. The 2nd is used most often to fly snap 90 turns, the kite slowing into the turn and then returning to normal speed as it exits the turn.

You should practice these turns. As you practice pay attention to your hands, feeling how they move and how far they move for different sizes of turns, and how the kite reacts when you Pull harder or Push harder.

If you want to see how the pro's fly using Pull & Pushing watch the video of The TOTL Flight Squadron at Great Lakes, flying to the Battle Hymn of the Republic - watch the hands!

Now you have the launch and turns under your belt we will move onto Landings, Leading Edge launches and Stalls. To help you may find it useful to practice these moves on short grass or hard sand with the bridle up towards the nose ie. The kite set for tight turns and slow forward flight.

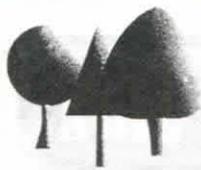
## Landings

First the easy way, if you fly a ground pass from the centre of the wind to the edge of the wind your kite will gradually slow down and descend until its leading edge hits the ground.

If the kite refuses to land like this, the wind is probably blowing between a gentle to moderate breeze. If this is the case you can still make the kite gently land by pushing with your "upper hand". If you fly from right to left your upper hand is your right hand, from left to right your upper hand is your left. As the kite reaches the far edge of the wind, push with your upper hand, this takes power out of the kite and it should land.

If the wind is still too strong try walking forward at the same time, if it still won't land maybe the winds too strong.

Practice landing this way several times, at this point don't try any fancy launches from the leading edge. The idea at this point is to get the hang of landing safely, by landing on the whole leading edge you are spreading the load of the kite.



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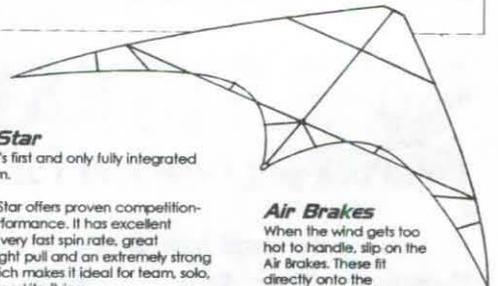
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# Introduction to Sport Kites - 2

## Leading Edge Launches

This must be one of the hardest manoeuvres to describe in words, if you can, get someone to show you. Anyway here goes!

Firstly having practised your leading edge landings you will have the kite in the right position [for this explanation I will describe it for a landing and relaunch on the left edge of the wind]. To keep the kite in position while you think about what you have to do next. Push your upper hand forward, this will lean the kite over in the nose down position and make it more stable on the ground.

The trick to relaunching from here is feel and practice.

First practice pulling gradually and gently with your upper hand this will bring the kite more upright in relation to the wind, but still nose down. While you are pulling with your upper hand walk backwards, the kite should start sliding across the ground on it's leading edge.

Practice this until you are able to make it slide across the ground at will.

The next part of the manoeuvres is to make the kite turn up. What we have achieved so far is the kite flying along the ground, so the launch is really only an upward turn.

With the kite sliding across the ground, give a sharp pull with your upper hand the kite should turn upwards, as it starts to fly up, pull with both hands to give the kite power [you are flying at the edge of the wind so the wind will not be providing much lift to the kite].

With this manoeuvre practice makes perfect, I suggest watching James and Carl Robertshaw of Aircraft both spend many hours practising snap turns and Nosedown relaunches. [Hope you don't mind the name check guys].

## Stalls

I will go back over the Pull-Push turn. The Pull-Push turn will start with either hand pulling, you will make the kite turn in the direction that is the same as the hand that you are pulling. By pulling you increasing the pressure on the kite so it will increase its speed through

the turn, you then snap the opposite hand forward "the Push" this reduces the pressure on the kite and helps to slow the kite as it comes out of the turn. This is half way to stalling your kite, as I said the Pull-Push turn slowed the kite out of the turn and takes power out of the kite.

To stall the kite you extend the Pull-push to Pull-Push-Push. So the sequence is Pull, left; Push, Right; Push, Left. this will stall the kite in winds up to approx. 10mph. In stronger winds you may need to step forward at the same time to take more power out of the kite.

You will need to spend many hours practising this stall, practice stalling in different areas of the sky and see how long you can hold the stall before the kite flies.

## Landing two

The stall can be used to perform a "nose up" or "tips down" landing, this is a natural progression from the stall.

To do this landing you start with a ground pass close to the ground [5-10 feet from the ground at most] however the Push-Push section is done with more power to force the kite not only to stop flying forward but into reverse, it's not as hard as it sounds. The basic movement is the same as the stall but with a more powerful ending.

Practice this for a while starting at or near the edge of the wind will make it easier as you start with less power in the kite. If you still have trouble getting it down, for example the kite bobbles about or goes onto one tip then relaunches you may need to walk forward at the Push-push stage, or wait for less wind.

I hope this and my previous article have been of use to you, if you would like any other areas of flying covered please ask [how to win at Rok fights ?] I hope to have something on low wind, indoor and 3D flying by the next issue.

**Simon Dann.**

# Spirit of Air Kites

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Wind range	3mph - 22mph

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## AXLE

Need a high precision free style kite, Axle lives up to its name.

Wingspan	86 inches
Weight	8 oz's
Frame	5.5mm linear carbon fibre tube
Sail	Carrington Novare K42
Wind range	4mph - 25mph

## JAVELIN

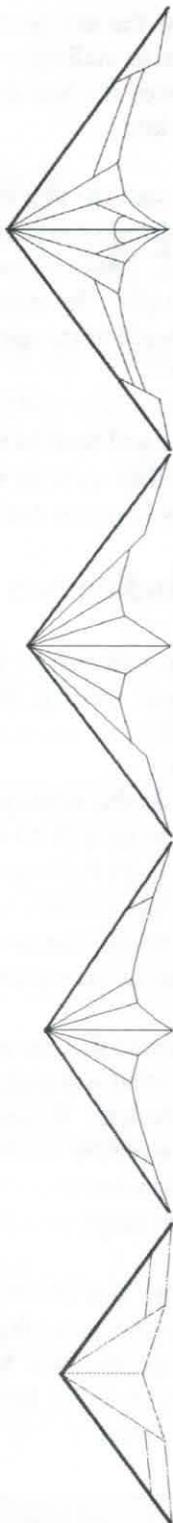
3/4 size package, full size high power performance.

Wingspan	75 inches
Weight	7 oz's
Frame	5.5mm linear carbon fibre tube
Sail	Carrington Novare K42
Wind range	4mph - 25mph

## ZIPPER

Fast furious fun, great on its own, mind blowing as a stack.

Wingspan	58 inches
Weight	4 oz's
Frame	5.5mm linear carbon fibre tube
Sail	Carrington Novare K42
Wind range	5mph - 30mph



## Kite Review

Joining the popular Shuriken and Javelin II (not to mention the Rapier and Zipper) come the AXLE.

Firstly let me say this, I hate three quarter size (or thereabouts) sport kites. If it's not at least 8 feet from one wing tip to the other I do not want to know. I do however love the Axle, so it may come as some surprise to find that the Axle measures in at 86 by 36 inches.

As usual the construction of the kite is excellent, all seams are neat and double folded so that there are no raw edges of fabric showing. Frame furniture is again of the purpose-made moulded type, and this gives the kite a "finished" look. The kite is well proportioned and has the now familiar wing tip "kicks" supported by battens to the rear of the sail. The purpose of these kicks is to increase the sail area at the wing tips which helps to give an increased feeling of security when the kite is engaged in tight turning manoeuvres. The kite's sail is made of seven panels radiating from the nose and is supported by four stand-offs.

Flying the Axle. The Axle is an interesting kite to fly, quick certainly yet not blindingly fast. It responds snappily to your control inputs, but not fast enough to be called unruly. The Axle is a kite of finesse, it demands a light touch initially but seduces you into wilder and wilder hand movements as you begin to understand it. Then it bites back, not viciously, more of a playful nip to remind you of your place. This probably sounds a little melodramatic but it's that sort of kite. Anyway the nature of the beast is such that any trouble it gets you into, it can get you out of again. We are talking recoverability.

On the ground the Axle is as agile as any other kite I have flown and then some. Nose to wing tip roll overs are a cinch with the Axle and coin tosses and axle take offs are bread and butter moves. Tip drags can be a nervous affair however, and I put this down to the reduced sail area (compared to a full size kite) married to a stiff Epsilon carbon frame.

In the air the Axle fulfils the promise of it's great ground work. Once in tune with the Axle it is time to go crazy, the Axle just loves to axle, and it will, any time any place anywhere. But axleing is not the only trick up it's sleeve, it is just as happy floating, stalling and turtleing. It's most endearing feature, for me, however is not the fact that it can do these things (easily), but that it can cope with them one after another in quick succession without dumping on you, and if things do get a little gnarly the kite's innate recoverability allows for resumption of the festivities without too much loss of dignity.

To sum up, the Axle is one of those kites that won't let you put it down, one of those kites that can turn mistakes on your behalf into a new manoeuvre, it is the kite I reach for first on the flying field and I can't think of a better recommendation than that.

Greg Eynon

Free the Spirit  
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Gwent, NP9 0SB  
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Trade enquiries welcome

# B.K.F.A. and The Kite Society

Twenty years after its inauguration, the British Kite Flying Association is closing down and its remaining services are to be taken over by The Kite Society of Great Britain. In fact, the BKFA ceased taking individual memberships as of 1981, having set out in the first instance to coordinate establishment of regional groups and to represent kiteflying in general in cases of dispute with local authorities. As founder, Ron Moulton had applied experience in the aeromodelling association to ensure that the boom in popularity was stimulated with a regular kite festival. Old Warden became the annual "Mecca" for social exchanges, and so it remains each Spring and Autumn.

Since '81, BKFA has in its limited way co-ordinated these, and added the summer festival to the annual calendar at Middle Wallop. Kite groups have mushroomed all over the nation and the Kite Society has maintained a direct contact with all individual enthusiasts through its membership and the quarterly "Kiteflier" magazine as well as running the successful international festivals at Weymouth and Portsmouth.

Now the two Old Warden meetings will also be run by The Kite Society with the first on April 9th.

The character of these meetings will not alter; but unfortunately some changes are being imposed on us. As one might expect, the old "Blue Card" of BKFA will no longer qualify for admission. It was in any case becoming something of an ancient, though treasured, relic of early days. Instead, a privilege rate of £2.00 has been negotiated for members presenting their Kite Society card. This is not an unexpected development, as mooted in the last Kiteflier. Old Warden's struggle to keep the veteran Cars, Motorcycles and Aircraft going has been in the news often enough for everyone to appreciate how difficult it is to keep such worthy establishment running.

Now more than ever before, it is kiteflying's opportunity to keep Old Warden going as the longest established and regular social event(s).

## Ron Moulton

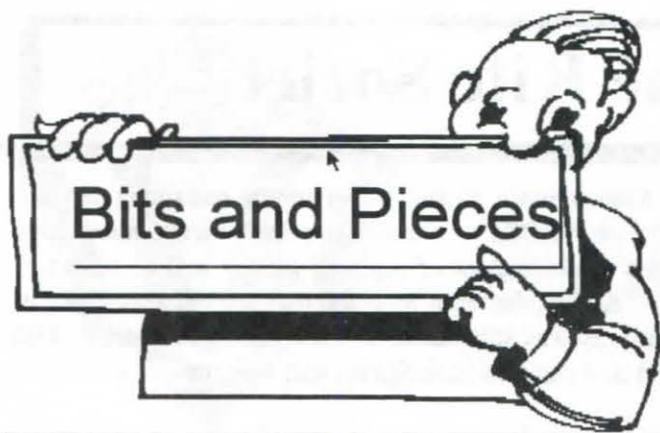
*This seems, with the semiretirement of Ron Moulton from the kite scene, an ideal time to acknowledge the debt that kiteflying in the UK has to him. It was Ron, back in 1977, who organised the first Kite meeting and thus starting the whole ball rolling. In fact the second event at Old Warden was the first kite event that The Kite Society founders attended! So you could say that if it hadn't been for the BKFA there would have been no Kite Society. Ron has also been a keen ambassador for kiteflying on his many trips around the world, and as author of two excellent kite books which have probably been the introduction to kiteflying for many people.*

*In recognition of this contribution to kiteflying we would like to make Ron a honorary Life Member of the Kite Society. And we are sure that our members would like to thank Ron for his efforts in organising the Old Warden, and other, events over the past years.*



**SPACE**  
RIPSTOP NYLON  
Stunt Kite

ADD ON PACKS AVAILABLE  
Manufactured and distributed by RSM Leisure Company  
35 Burley Grove, Downend, Bristol BS16 5QB, Great Britain.  
© RSM Leisure Co. 1991.



## Kite Aerial Photography Competition

Kite aerial photographers around the world - you are invited to enter the photo contest commemorating the 100th anniversary of the first U.S.A. photo from a kite by Wm A. Eddy. The competition is open to amateur and professional photographers. The grand prize will be \$300 and honourable mention will be awarded at the judges discretion. All entries with information about the photographer will be on display through August as part of an exhibit on Wm A. Eddy, his kite development and his aerial photography.

## New Kite Print

The latest print from Scott Hampton from the U.S.A. depicting kites at the Long Beach Festival 92/93, with lots of fine

kites from notables such as Steve Brocket, Don Mock, Rolf Sturm, Randy Tom, Ron Gibian, George Peters, etc, etc, a total of 62 kites in full colour.

This print run is larger than previous prints, being 22" (56cm) x 16" (41cm) a run of 1,000 numbered prints at £14.95p + £2.00 postage and packing. Available from **KITEABILITY**, 2 Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP. Tel/Fax: 0181 804 9080.

To follow on from the above Scott is now working on his next print, which is to depict kites that look like real animals, birds, fish, insects etc.

If you make such kites and would like to see your work included **NOW IS YOUR BIG CHANCE ...** don't be shy, send to us at **KITEABILITY** your picture(s) with your details and details of your kite, so we can send them on to Scott to show that European makers are as good as those in the U.S.A.... So come on make a name for yourself.

## Call for Mathematicians

Prof C C Wright, Head of School, Maths and Statistics, Middlesex University, Bounds Green Road, London N11 2NQ has written asking if anyone is interested in the mathematical / aerodynamic analysis of kites. If so please get in touch with him. He also enclosed a paper written by him for the Universities Transport Study Group Annual Conference titled "Kites and Transport: Coming down to Earth?".

The contest is governed by the following rules:

1. Photographs must be taken from a kite.
2. Each entrant may submit up to 5 8x10 colour prints.
3. Prints must be mounted on 11x4 mounting board.
4. Entries must be postmarked or presented in person by April 21 1995.
5. A short biography, (50 words or less), with information about the photographer's kite aerial photography beginnings, experiences and/or aspirations must accompany the entry.

Judging will be held on May 12 & 13 and awards will be presented at a ceremony to be announced.

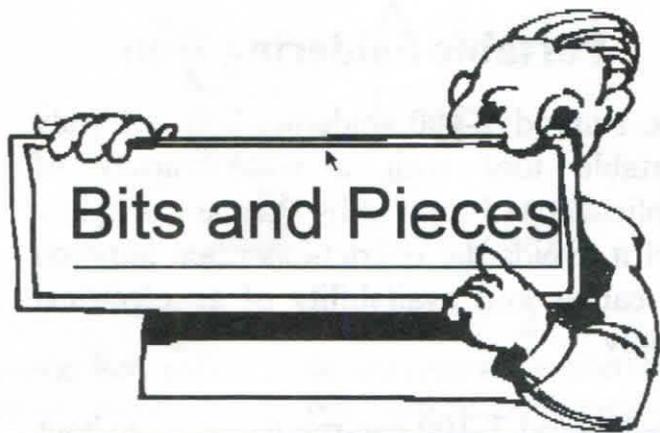
For more information and an entry blank contact World Kite Museum, P.O. Box 964, Long Beach, WA 98631, U.S.A. Phone + 1 206 642 4020; Fax + 1 206 642 2318.

## Newsletter Exchange

Avon Kite Flyers currently exchange newsletters with a few kite clubs across the country and would like to extend this to any other kite clubs who are interested.

AKF usually produce an 8 page newsletter every two months, so if you are interested, please send your newsletters to:

David Johnson  
AKF Secretary  
21 Somerton Road  
Clevedon  
Avon BS21 6JR.



## New Kite Clubs

The **South Eastern Kite Society** has been formed at the request of kitefliers in the eastern part of the county. Meetings have been arranged to avoid clashes with the Kent Kite Klub and any other local meetings. Flying meetings are held every Thursday at the Montgomery Grant Maintained School, Sturry. Monthly meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month at Nackington Farm, Stone Street, Canterbury.

## New Shop Golden Valley

Kites would like you to know that they have now opened a shop in Gloucester. It is called "High Jinx" and trades from a small shop unit in Merchant Quay, The Docks, Gloucester. They are open seven days a week (including Sundays from 11.00 to 5.00).

They stock all kinds of kites, sports, stunt, one liners, two liners, four liners, ripstop and all bits and pieces relevant to kites, including videos and books. Golden Valley Kites are going to carry on at the festivals and Mail Order on nos 0452 522074 and 0452 503412 (the shop).

Well over 60 members have enrolled and meetings are well attended. Anyone interested in kites is very welcome, if they are new to kiteflying we will try and help, if they are very experienced we will learn from them and appreciate their help. The Society is non-competitive and for fun only. Several families belong and it is nice to see whole families enjoying their kites. Ages vary from about 5 to well over 75.

Membership is £6.00 individual and £10.00 for family members, this includes Third Party Insurance. Anyone wishing further details should contact A Sage, 22 Cherry Drive, Canterbury, Kent CT1 3PP. Tel 01227 462786.

The **Solent Kite Flyers** is a new group based around the Southampton area. They are to provide a focus for those in the area interested in all types of kites and will supplement the activities of the long standing association - the Wessex Kite Group. They intend to meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month and have a social evening one Thursday each month. Anyone interested should write to Tony Bates, 32 Ashleigh Close, Butts Ash, Hythe, Southampton SO45 3QP.

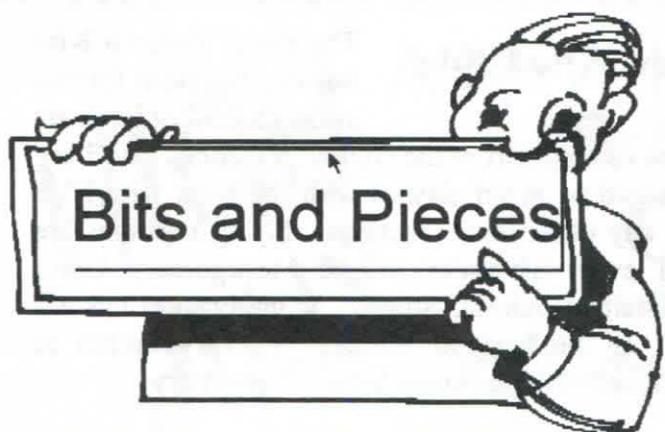
## Kite Jumping

The following is a copy of a letter that has been circulated via rec.kites and has been written by Andrew Beattie.

"As an enthusiastic kiteflier, I enjoy sharing my hobby with everyone I meet. With the fun, also comes responsibility of guidance, to help ensure that they appreciate the various ways that they can damage themselves, other people or their equipment. There is, of course, one particular hurdle, which is that of Kite Jumping. The act of straining against a solid object in order to be catapulted through the sky at high speed with no control over the way that you land makes activities traditionally regarded as dangerous such as skydiving look safe in comparison. "Safety Equipment" is of little use - helmets and knee pads offer no protection against the injuries most likely to the ankles, legs, knees, pelvis and back.

"Although I have been sickened to watch people continue to jump until a paramedic is called, I have no right to try and stop people from hurting themselves in any way they choose, but I am distressed to find Kite Jumping being actively PROMOTED in the kite press and even on prime-time TV by people who should know better than to push it at the general public. This has brought worldwide condemnation from all sectors of the kite community as you can see from the people who have put their name to the statement overleaf".

The statement reads "We, the undersigned request that kite manufacturers and the kite press do not promote Kite Jumping". It has been signed by 100+ people.



## New Kite Venture

The Keen Kite Flyers are a group of people who have got together and decided that Christopher Kites from Germany offer a solution to the problem of making kites more popular. The idea is to make kites cheaper. The German made kites are above average quality and very competitive in price. People who join the association can get a 20% discount on the list prices of these kites. If you want more information write to "An Anglo-German Association of Keen Kite Flyers, 17 Preston Road, Poole BH15 3EQ" or phone 01202 660457.

## In The Press

A number of articles have appeared over the past few months. One, in the Daily Mail of October 22nd, has Michael Bentine talking about how to Fly a Kite. Some interesting concepts - one being to unravel three-quarters of the flying line before throwing the kite into the air!! The other is attaching pram wheels to a sugar box and being pulled along - sounds familiar. However, "Kite-flying is as bad as any addiction. But when the kite is up, it is beautiful, exciting. It's like a bird dancing in the sky".

Another article concerns kite flying on Parliament Hill, in London. Not sure what the newspaper is but the article looks like something the Guardian might do. Basically an awful article.

## Portable Soldering Iron

The Nimrod T-100 soldering iron is a truly portable tool with a wide variety of applications. Powered by Butane gas lighter fuel it avoids the restrictions often imposed by cables and availability of an electrical supply.

The Nimrod T-100 can run for up to an hour on one refill. It has power at full setting equivalent to a 60 watt electric iron. The kit, which can be obtained from Woolmer Forest Composites, 44 Hilland Rise, Headley, Bordon, Hants GU35 8LZ, costs £34.95 (including VAT and P&P) consists of Nimrod T-100, soldering tip, blow torch tip, hot knife tip, hot air tip, solder, cleaning pad and stand in strong ABS case.

## Sandpiper Prize Draw 1/12/94.

Thanks to Toody Oakhill who turned up at the shop a bit piddled already celebrating the cheers and beers of the Merry Season to pick the winner of the Sandpiper Draw. Congratulations to Paul Jones of Croydon, Surrey who is the lucky winner of a rainbow Sandpiper.

Thanks also to Paul for coming to collect it so promptly. **Estelle Barton and Paul Thody - Air Born Kites, Brighton.**

## New Kite

**Kited** have added the last variant to the 'family' of Thornbird sport kites. The Strongblow is a part vented high wind version of the popular standard Thornbird. Specifically designed for wind speeds of between 15mph - 35mph it generates roughly the same pull as a conventional kite would in half the wind.

Watch out also in mid-January for a small BBC1 TV feature on Kited. It is to be included in the Sunday morning programme called "The Eleventh

# Weymouth 1995

The Fifth Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival will this year be held on Saturday April 29th and Sunday April 30th. Once again this event promises to be a good one with a number of overseas visitors.

The festival will run along the normal lines with displays and competitions including a round of the U.K. Rokkaku Challenge, an altitude sprint and a blind fold stunt competition. There will also be kite workshops on the beach.

The festival activities continue on the Saturday evening when kitefliers have the use of The Ocean Room in the Weymouth Pavilion where there is a social evening proposed at which kitefliers can gather to chat and talk about kites. Hopefully there will also be slide shows and/or videos during the evening. Basket meals will be available from the bar which will remain open until late. Saturday will also see the night flying and the firework display.

## Accommodation

This year accommodation in Weymouth will be available from the tourist information on 0305 785747. Reservations can be made on this number and includes all classes of accommodation, caravan, camping, hotels and B&B's etc.

## Car Parking

Again there is a kiteflyers car park but places are limited. So book early once the tickets have gone we cannot get any more. PLEASE ALSO NOTE - one car pass will cover both days of the kite Festival so please don't ask for two unless you have more than one car going!

## Traders

Kite traders will once again be welcome. The charge will be £90.00 for both days and £60.00 for one day. Payment for this MUST be made with your booking which should be sent to the address below. Please make cheques payable to The Kite Society.

**Please return this form to The Kite Society, P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY Before 7th April.**

Name

Address

Post Code

Car Passes

(One required per vehicle for two days).

Please enclose a stamped self addressed envelope.

# Fighter Kite Design

Martyn Lawrence Fighter Kite - Bristol 1989

This kite was designed by Martyn Lawrence of Merlin Kites and was built in his workshop during the K.S.G.B. Convention at Bristol in 1989.

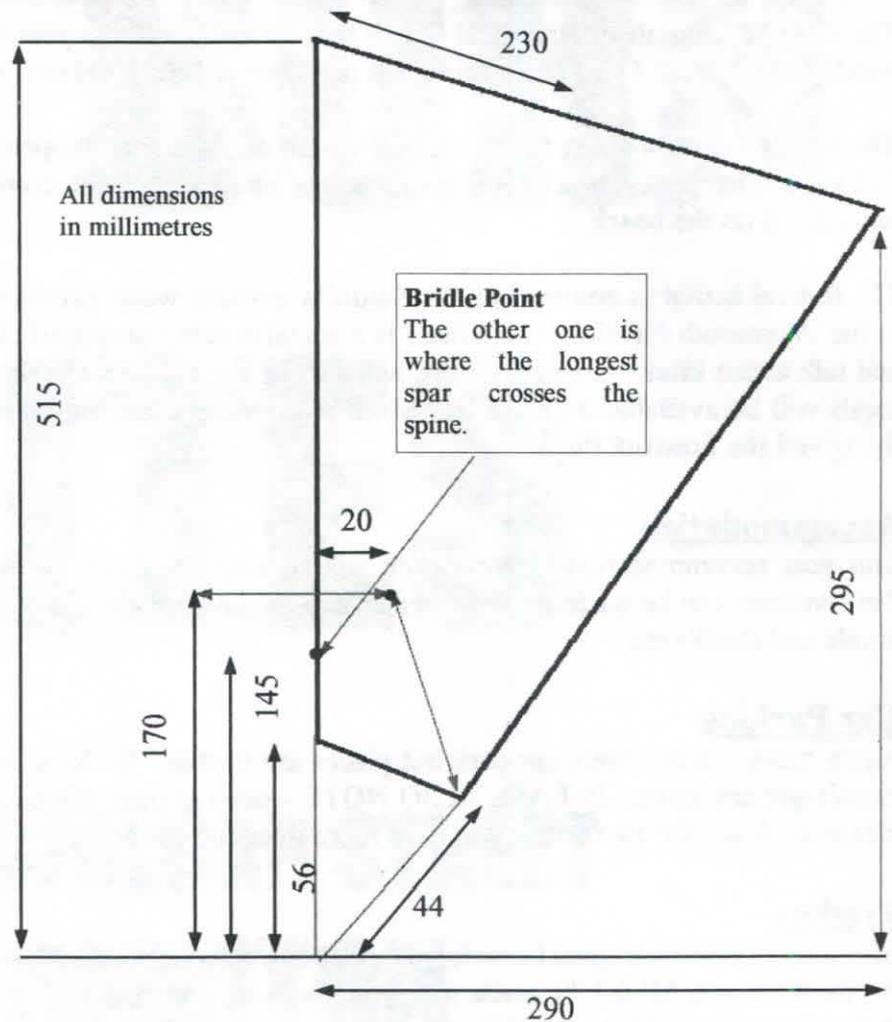
As a complete novice kite maker I made these notes to enable me to rebuild the original or build another one. As it happened I did not start flying fighter kites until this year but I now have a collection of them which I enjoy flying. This particular design is the best one I have used, especially in a reasonable wind, and a few friends have made them from these instructions and flown them successfully.

## Materials required

1. The spine is made from bamboo. The green coloured 18" (457mm) plant or 24" supports found at garden centres are suitable. 453mm required.
2. The spars are made of 2mm glass fibre. One 400mm and one 645mm. Bamboo can be used as an alternative.
3. The 'paper' sail is made from mylar, metallic wrapping paper or from a survival blanket.
4. Stiffeners are made of thin (say 1x2mm) bamboo cut in strips 147mm long.
5. Sellotape. Narrow 127mm (1/2"), wide 19mm (3/4") or 254 (1") and double sided.

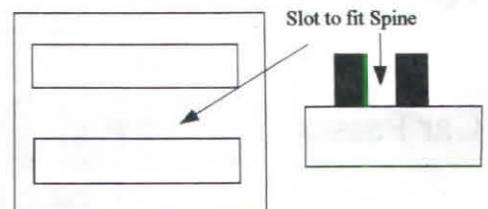
## Building instructions

1. Fold the 'paper' sail materials in half and use the half template as shown in the diagram.
2. Mark through key points and cut out. If you use plain 'paper' now is the time to colour it with your own



3. Tape round the edges using narrow Sellotape. Both sides for metallic wrapping paper as it tends to curl. Lay a straight edge on the sail near the edge to keep the material flat. Don't stretch the tape. Lay edge to edge with no overlap.
4. The spine is made from bamboo and shaved to about 3mm flat with a plane. The bottom should be heavier for a fighter kite - other kites are opposite for stability. Bend the front end of the spine up slightly by rubbing it over a cloth on your knee.
5. Tape reinforcement at bridle points.
6. The spine is stuck down

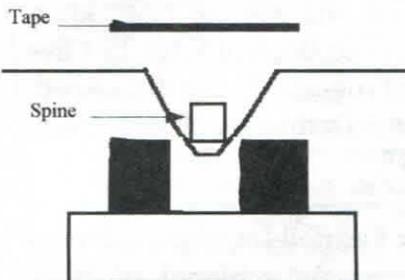
7. using double sided sellotape. The spine must be placed exactly on the centre line of the sail - put marks a couple of mm either side of middle fold to act as a guide.
7. Place the spine down about 6mm from front edge of kite and push down the free end working to the 'tail' end to complete the positioning of the spine.
8. Squeeze down on front side then turn over.
9. Give an extra squeeze for leading and trailing ends of



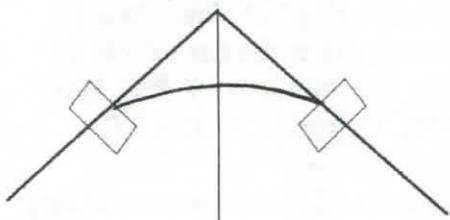
# Fighter Kite Design

the spine using a device as shown on previous page.

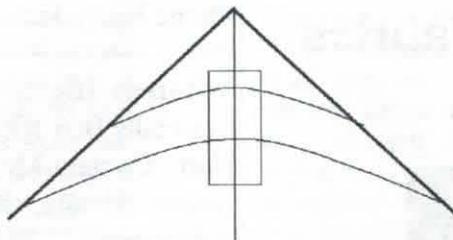
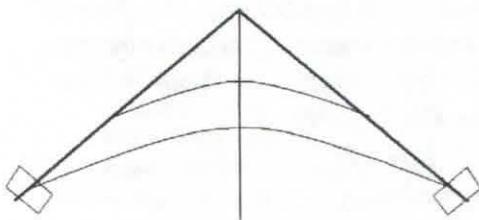
10. Sellotape the first and last third of the spine as shown:-



11. The spars are made of 2mm glass fibre. Note that if bamboo is used instead of glass fibre the ends should be tapered to allow the ends to bend but the centre to remain stiff.
12. Cut a 40mm length of glass fibre and stick the ends to the marked points using wide sellotape. This acts as a stiffener for the main spar.



13. Cut a 645 mm length of glass fibre for the main spar and stick the ends to the corners of the sail using wide sellotape.

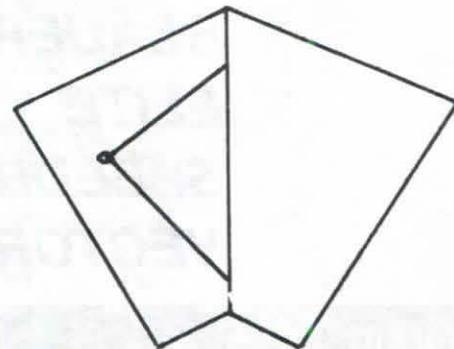


14. Tape spar and reinforcement at the spine.
15. Tape the leading edge with thin sellotape, taping over the glass fibre, creasing in from the front side.
16. Pinch the nose in and sellotape the back.
17. Put another piece on the front for reinforcement.
18. Lay the stiffeners on thin sellotape and put down on kite from rear corner to the marked point. Crease in

from the front edge.

19. The bridle should hang about 400mm above the flattened kite. With the towing point positioned about half-way down the spine.

Neil Little





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*All kites are custom made for the stronger winds of Western Europe. They have been "Staffordised" by the addition of bridles and reinforcement of vulnerable points. Sales and after sales service by Stafford at most major Kite Festivals in the UK.*

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**Inflight main stockists:**

Kite Store, London	0171 8361666
Kite Store, Bristol	01272 745010
Tradewind Kites, Reading	01734 568848
Kite Loft, Belfast	01232 471369
Leading Edge Kites, Leeds	01532 433223
Air Born Kites, Brighton	01273 676740

Fast mail order service available from these stores or direct from **Inflight**, Normanby Park Workshops, Normanby Road, Scunthorpe DN15 8QZ. Tel 01724 280307: Fax 01724 865329

**Write or Telephone for 1995 Catalogue.**

## Private Ads

**FOR SALE** - Highly Strung 311 Sport, purple and green sail, in perfect condition - has had light use only. Complete with bag and handbook. £120. Phone Harry Jenkins on 0929 471100 (Dorset).

**Wanted:** Highland Reel and any old cloth kites, especially Box Kites + 'Your Book of Kites' by Clive Hart. Contact Mr M F Froggatt, 33 Bentfield Road, Nether Heage, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 2AX. Telephone 0773 856395.

**For Sale.** Stack of six Flexifoil Impulses, colours - Pink, Red, Yellow, Green, Aqua Blue, Dark Blue. Complete with sleeved kevlar stacking lines and bridle. Original bridles and bags supplied. All kites in good condition. £325.00. Telephone R Wallington 01202 512010 (after 6pm).

**For Sale:** 3:11 Sport same colours as the Kite Company's brochure by Paul Jobin in very good condition. Flown only 6 times, £95.00 & Rev II in hot fluorescent pink also in very good condition, £65.00. Telephone R Brumzel 081 958 9187.

**For Sale:** Pins!! Pins!! Pins!! Extensive collection of Kite Pins, from the late 80's to today. Send an S.A.E. for a price list. Prices range from £3.00 to £30.00 plus. Write to The Kite Society, P.O. Box 2274, Great Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.

**Mylar for Sale:** R Harbron has written to us saying that he has two roll of 'Melinex' (mylar) for sale. The are both close to 100yds long and 60" wide. One is .005" and the other is .0025" thick. I wish to sell both @ £25.00 each + P&P. Contact him at 26 Station Road, Stokesly, Middlesbrough TS9 5AJ for more information.

*If you want to advertise in this column, it is free and we just need to have your copy with us by the 15th March for the April issue. Send your Private Adverts to -*

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

# Event Reports

## S.T.A.C.K. U.K. Individual Stunt Kite Championships - 16th & 17th July 1994 - Stanmer Park, Brighton.

Thanks to everyone, including the Brighton Kite Flyers and Eastbourne Kite Club who participated and helped out with the event. Despite the wind recesses, the event was completed in all of the masters, experienced and novice categories. Well done to the judges for their hard work. Thanks to Martin Baker, Head judge from the Bristol kite Store and the rest of the judging team, Greg Eynon from the Cardiff kite Store, Chris Matheson of the Decorators and Nic Boothby of team Aircraft.

For the Masters Ballet we had eight judges who included Jeremy Boyce from High as A Kite and Team Aircraft, Simon Dann and James Madelin who are sponsored by Revolution Kites and Richard Marsh from Tradewind Kites. Thanks also to Keith Beaken and Phil Tolley from B.K.F. who stood as field directors and Avril Baker, U.K. national STACK director, and Sarah Kent who both did a great job on the PA. Thanks a lot to Seamus and co for the outstanding sound system.

Well done to all the competitors. We are proud to announce that 3 of the top 10 competitors are from Brighton, Andy Preston no 2, Estelle Barton no 5 and Mike Lainchbury no 8.

After all the hard work over the last two years we are declining from holding the individuals for 1995 as both of us can't compete in and organise the event. A plea for anyone else out there who wants to host the individuals to contact Avril Baker please.

**Paul Thody & Estelle Barton**

## London Docklands Indoor Kite Festival - 17th December 1994

I would like to thank everybody who had a hand in making the London Docklands Indoor Kite Festival held at the London Arena on Saturday 17 December such a success. I hope all who participated in and visited the event enjoyed the day as much as I did. At least this is one festival that the weather could not spoil. For the first ever event of its type we were all very impressed with the day especially given that it fell on the Saturday before Christmas, due to contractual commitments. May I also say a personal thank you to Chris and Nic for all their efforts in making it happen, to Simon for the work in the beginning and the management of the London Arena for their cooperation.

Over two hundred and fifty of us were privileged to watch Chris Matheson establish a new world record of 2 hours and 2 minutes for flying his new ultralight Sandpiper two line kite without wind assistance. Team Aircraft were also on hand to show the way forward for indoor team flying. Some of the unexpected delights on the day were a single line flight of over a minute and jumping with a stack of Flexifoil Pro 6+'s without wind! Flexifoil were also in attendance with their battle bus and the video wall. The raffle and workshop sessions raised £160 for the Isle of Dogs Community Trust for which I pass their thanks.

On the competition side the Robertshaw brothers took the honours, with James and Carl joint winners of the 360 competition (14 rotations per minute each) with Carl taking the Individual Ballet with a very special routine.

We are looking to produce a video of the event should there be enough interest and I would be grateful if those who are interested in purchasing such a video could contact me at the Events Team London Docklands Development Corporation, Thames Quay, 191 Marsh Wall, London E14 9TJ. Could anybody interested in hearing about next years event also drop me a line and I will keep your name on our database.

Once again many thanks to everybody involved and I look forward to next year.

Stuart Neil

# Rokkaku Fighting Rules

Over the past season most of the competitors in the Rokkaku challenges have recognised the need to bring the fun back into the sport. This is also true from an onlookers point of view as well with rounds taking longer and with longer gaps between the rounds themselves. To help address this a meeting was held at the KSGB convention in Portsmouth in August and various new rules and changes to the rules were agreed. The complete set of rules, i.e. the previous rules as printed in KSGB newsletter of October '93 with the new rules and changes incorporated is shown below.

## New Rules

### Kite

The kite must be a Rokkaku type kite with a maximum height of 1.5 Metres for the individual competitions and a minimum height of 2 Metres for the Team.

The kite may be repaired in between rounds of the competition as long as this is done within the specified time limits and does not require the replacement of the skin of the kite. If the skin is not repairable or the kite is lost then that team is out of the competition. There is of course nothing to stop them entering a new kite in subsequent rounds of the competition except that any points accrued before the replacement cannot be added to those earned with the new kite and only one set of points will count.

### Line

The line used must be "commercially available" nylon or polyester with no abrasive coatings. There is no restriction on breaking strain of the line. This rule is a little vague as to whether a particular line is acceptable or not, but it is entirely up to the judges on the day to decide whether line is usable or not.

The only other restriction on the line regards the length of line allowed for a competition. The maximum line length which is allowed for each competition is 200 feet. This line may not be replaced between the rounds of a competition and if cut the competitor has the option either to discard the cut line or to tie it back onto the remaining line. This could be achieved by tying a length of ripstop into the line at the 200 feet point before the competition begins. This will require the organisers/judges to have a measured 200 foot laid out for the competitors to mark their line against.

### "Team" Size

The individual competition is for one person only. For team then a minimum of two competitors must be in contact with the line once fight has been called. Launchers have the choice either to join the flyers or to leave the arena. No non-competing flyers are allowed in the arena.

### Pulldowns

Flyers may not touch any part of an opponents kite including the flying line at any point during the competition.

### Time Limit

There will be a strict time limit of 15 minutes per round from fight to finish, and this should be rigidly enforced by the judges. The time allowed for repairs etc. between rounds is to be decided by the judges/ event organisers and should be made known to the competitors before the competition begins. The recommendation is that this break should be no more than 5 minutes. There should be no other events between rounds of the National Rokkaku Challenge.

### Scoring

Position	Points
1st	6
2nd	4
3rd	3
4th	2
5th	1

Under normal circumstances the scoring will remain unchanged as shown on left.

In the event of a tie being announced each remaining kite will be awarded with the points associated with the number of kites left as shown on the right.

These points are for each round, giving a maximum score of 18 points for each competition.

### Judges

The event organisers will ensure that three judges are available, at least one of whom should be from a pool of experienced judges.

Remaining Kites	Points awarded to each kite
2	4
3	3
4	2
5	1
6 or more	none

### Thanks

I know that not all of the rules will be easy to comply with for both festival organisers and competitors but they are probably beneficial for the sport. If any problems are encountered with these rules over the coming season then we can review them at the next convention sometime next year. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the meeting to help discuss the problems surrounding Rok' fighting and helped come up with the possible solutions to them. I would especially like to thank John Ogden who chaired the meeting along with Mik Jennison and Janet Poulter for taking the minutes.

**Mark Bennett (The Boop Troop).** (Onslow Cottage, 19 Aberdeen Road, St Denys, Southampton SO2 1LL)

*(Errors and omissions from the above rules should be addressed to Mark. Any changes will be published in the April issue of the Kiteflier. Note these rules will apply at all U.K. Rokkaku events in 1995 - Blackheath Easter, Basingstoke, Weymouth, Portsmouth, Monmouth, Washington, Convention Festival, Blackheath Summer).*

# Future Events

## Calke Abbey Kite Flying Day - 9th April

Calke Abbey, Ticknall, Derbyshire is 'the house that time forgot'. To coincide with The National Trust Centenary Year there will be a kite day at Calke and the admission fee to the grounds will be waived if you are carrying a kite (or two!!).

So come along, bring a kite and fly it in the park. Restaurant, toilets, walks and of course the house to view (for which an admission fee still applies).

For more information contact Julie White 01332 669203.

## The Curacao International Kite Festival April 17th to 23rd.

Carol Jansen has written to us to give us the outline details of this festival. They have currently planned the following competitions; April 21st - **Large Kite Competition**, April 22nd - **First Day International Kite Competition and Miniature Kite Competitions**, April 23rd - **Last Day International Kite Competition**. From the 17th through the 19th there will be workshops, night flying and lots of other festivities. For further information, and to register your interest, write to her at: Sloep 37, 9732 CB Groningen, The Netherlands. Telephone: (31) 50 420903.

## 'Sculpting the Sky', Birmingham - 23rd April

The Midlands Kite Flies and Birmingham City Council invite all kitefliers to this event which, although modern kites are invited to fly, the theme will be on kites with an artistic side.

This will be the first major public outing of the MKF four display kites. Three flying men and a wasp made by George Peters.

An exhibition of artistic kites is planned by the newly formed Artistic Kite group, headed by Charlie Charlton of Merseyside, and a prize will be given for the best artistic, home-made kite which flies at the event.

Groups of children in the city will be taught by a top kite maker to design and make their own kites and bring them along to the event to fly.

We hope this will be a fun and friendly day for all the family with lots of things to do and see. Kite traders, music and entertainment, food and drink, teddys dropped and certificates for brave bears.

For more information contact Julie White 01332 669203.

## Swindon Kite Festival - May 13th & 14th

After four successful festivals at Lydiard Park the Swindon Kite Festival is moving to Wroughton Aerodrome, which is just on the outskirts of Swindon. The aerodrome is run by the Science Museum as storage for large pieces that cannot be exhibited in London. Because of this the 1995 festival will coincide with an open weekend at the museum, consequently there will be an entrance fee of £3.00 for adults,

# Future Events

children free, however we have negotiated a 50% reduction for adults on production of your KSGB card (the charges are daily). Remember for this fee you will be able to visit the exhibits, camping and caravanning will be available on site. Fees are: Caravans £4.00 per night; Large Tents £3.00 per night; Small Tents £1.50 per night. One of the moans from campers about Lydiard was the lack of proper toilet facilities, incidentally this was the main reason for us leaving Lydiard, I can assure you there are proper facilities at Wroughton.

Of course we haven't moved to Wroughton just for the better toilet facilities, we've moved there because there are 42 acres of space for single line kites and 22 acres for sport kites without a tree in sight! Also with it being an airfield there are runways, so for the first time at a Swindon Kite Festival we can officially invite buggys. There is a proviso for this, you must be a member of the BBC to be able to buggy - this is purely for insurance purposes. You must join the BBC before the event and be able to produce your insurance certificate - it will be checked. We are coordinating the buggying with Ian Meredith who can supply you with membership details of the BBC.

The festival in general will take its usual format, that is a laid back festival with the accent of kite fliers of all persuasions enjoying themselves! We will of course be holding the Swindon Open Rokkaku championships in both team and single. For further details contact David Robinson, P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4YR with a SAE please.

## **Conquer The Wind Sky Extravaganza, Banham Zoo - May 27th - 29th**

Join kite flyers from around the country on this popular open flying site. Other attractions on adjacent fields will include hang-gliders, hot air balloons, auto-gyros, parachutes and radio controlled aircraft.

Separate areas on the kite field will ensure single and multi-line fliers are kept apart. 2000' CAA height clearance has been applied for. Two arenas will provide continuous displays including team flying, Rokkaku fights, Altitude sprints and childrens participation events. Saturday will be available for informal flying and kite buggying.

Further enquiries to Kevin Appleton, Tel: 01603 31964 (evenings). Trade and camping enquiries to David Barber, Visitor Services Manager, Banham Zoo, The Grove, Banham, Norfolk, Tel 01953 387771 office hours. Free admission to the festival for KSGB card holders.

## **Margam Park Kite Festival - 10th & 11th June**

The dates can now be confirmed to be those above. The format will be the same as last year with some added items. Full details in the April issue.

## **Suffolk Wildlife Trust - "Kite Flying Spectacular" - September 10th**

The third Spectacular will be held on September 10th at Parham Airfield, near Framlington, Suffolk between 10am and 4pm. Anyone interested in participating, either with a demonstration, promoting the event or selling at the event should contact Liz Hammond, Shingle Bungalow, Benhall Low Street, Sweffling, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

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DRACHENmagazin has just celebrated its fifth year of publication. For the last two years DRACHENmagazin has won the Cris Batdorf award for Outstanding Publication at KTA. Now we offer you this award winning magazine in English.

# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

We had seen Martin Lester at the Bristol Kite Festival in 1992, messing around in a buggy, with a Peel. But we did not really give it a second thought. Then in the summer of 93, Sam a kite friend, had seen a buggy in a kite shop in Brighton and wanted one, but couldn't afford to buy one. Six buggies later, and a few bent bits, we feel we are now getting it right.

All the professionals we have been involved with have been very helpful. We turned up on the last Saturday of Gwithian in 93, and it went from there. Those of you who know Andrew could I am sure confirm, from his results at Gwithian this year, that we are beginning to get it sorted.

Peels, Spider Modulus and Flexifoils are good, but too expensive for us, so we went the Quadrafoil route. These are super kites for fun bugging, but one can't go windward well enough with them to race competitively. So on with our thinking caps. If we could afford it, and was only purchasing one kite, the Modulus seems the best route, one sq.m to six plus, in many different size configurations (and more in the pipeline we gather) (and they are British).

Having made the two line Sputnik 1 and 2 from Servas van der Horst and Nop Velthuizen's Stunt Kites to Make and Fly. And here's a commercial for both them and their new book 'Stunt kites 2'. The best available published books on two line kites and buggies. OK, as you probably realise we like the Spider Modulus, but felt one couldn't or shouldn't copy an idea someone has spent so many months perfecting. If you want one, buy one. So we evolved our own design.

We wanted four lines for control, and as we were going to make individual kites, for different wind strengths, we worked on the aspect ratio of 3.5 (the comparison of the width of the kite to its depth) (Horst and Velthuizen seem to think this is a pretty good figure to work around as well!). After discussion with other kite makers, we decided on a profile similar to the Sputnik profile, but with a max depth of the rib (17.5%) 18% back from the front of the rib. So worked around that.

So far we have built 2, 3, 4 and 5 sq.m. Sands Quads and with the results Andrew has had, racing in the parakart series this year they seem OK. So the following information is aimed at getting YOU bugging without all the trial and error work we have done. I trust when you come up with some better ideas or developments you will let us know.

## KITES

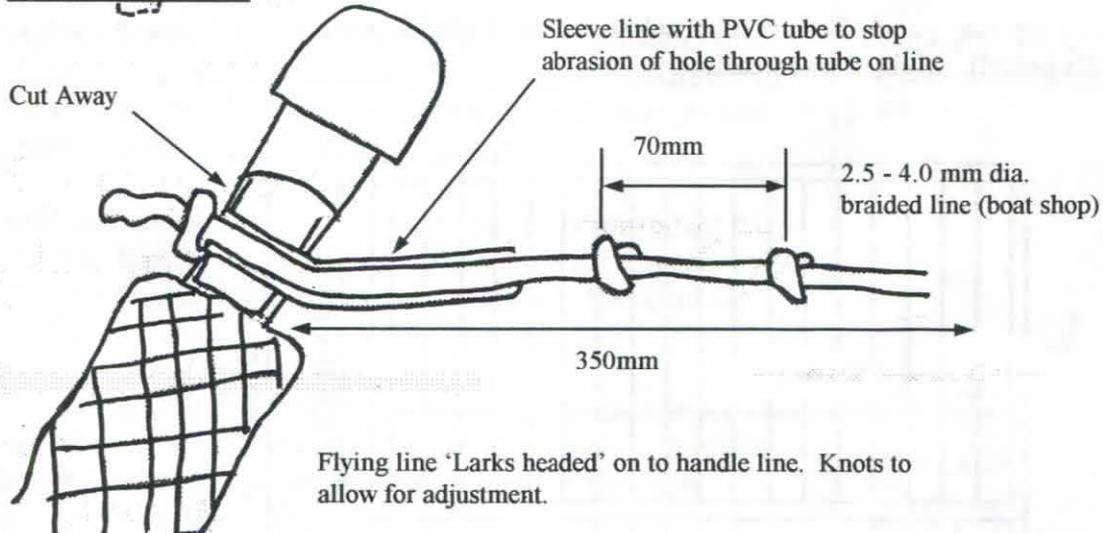
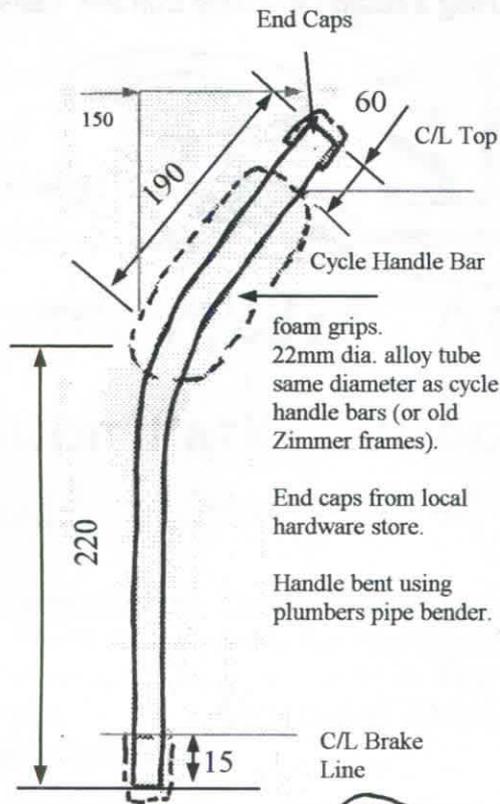
We make all our kites in ripstop nylon, either from Cannock Kites or a local manufacturer Richard Haywards and used to use a cheapish overlock polyester sewing thread. This cheap thread has let us down so we now use a bonded polyester yarn 60 available from Maderia Threads. We bridle using Kiteability 50lb and 100lb braided line. It is easier to make your first kite in light colours, using white ribs. Make your rib profile templates in 3mm MDF or hardboard to real size and then use a washer as detailed, mark out the rib profile with a 2B pencil and cut out with a 7mm seam allowance.

The following details should allow you to make a 3sq.m. kite that is a good general purpose bugging kite. If you want rib templates and bridling details for our 2, 4 and 5 sq.m. send us £5.00 and we will send you the details, or do as we did and do it for yourself.

Kites for bugging are a bit like sails for windsurfing, you have to choose the right size for your experience, your weight and the wind strength. We suggest 75ft lines in moderate winds, 110ft in light winds and 40ft in strong winds with 300lb top lines and 150lb brakes, all in sleeved Dyneema on handles as detailed.

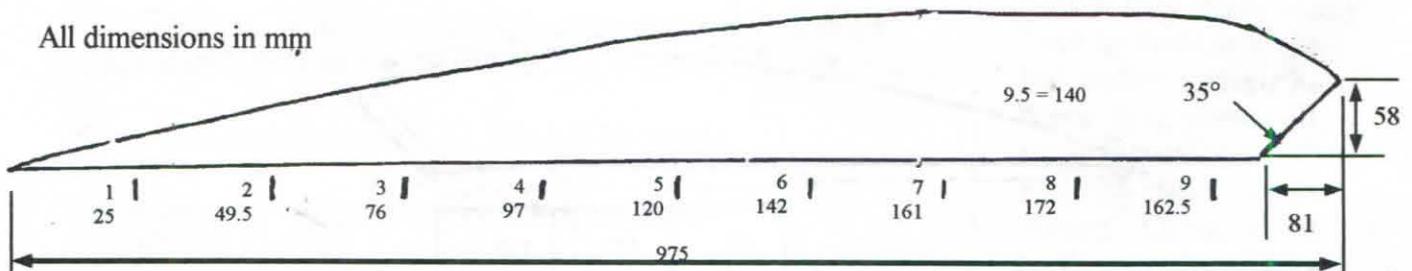
# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

## 4 Line Kite 'Handles'



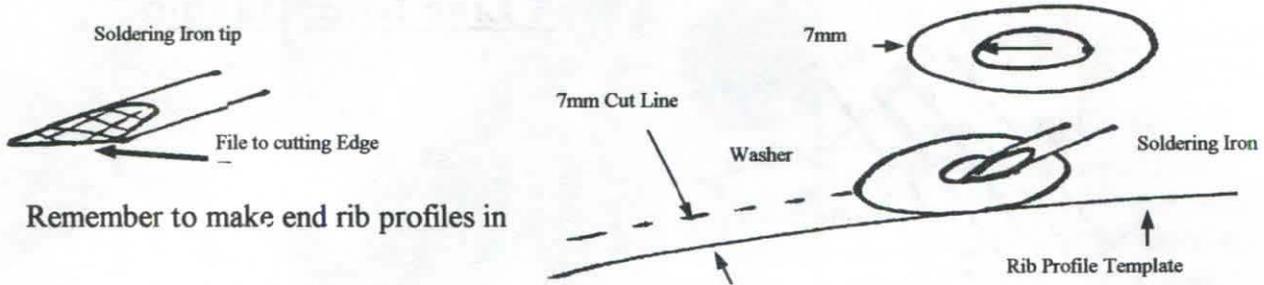
**Sands 3 Sq.M. 4 Liner Traction kite** - Make a rib template in MDF (3mm) or hardboard.

All dimensions in mm

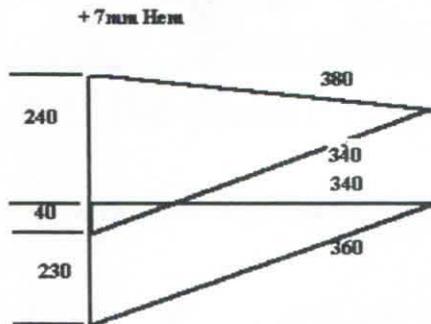


# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

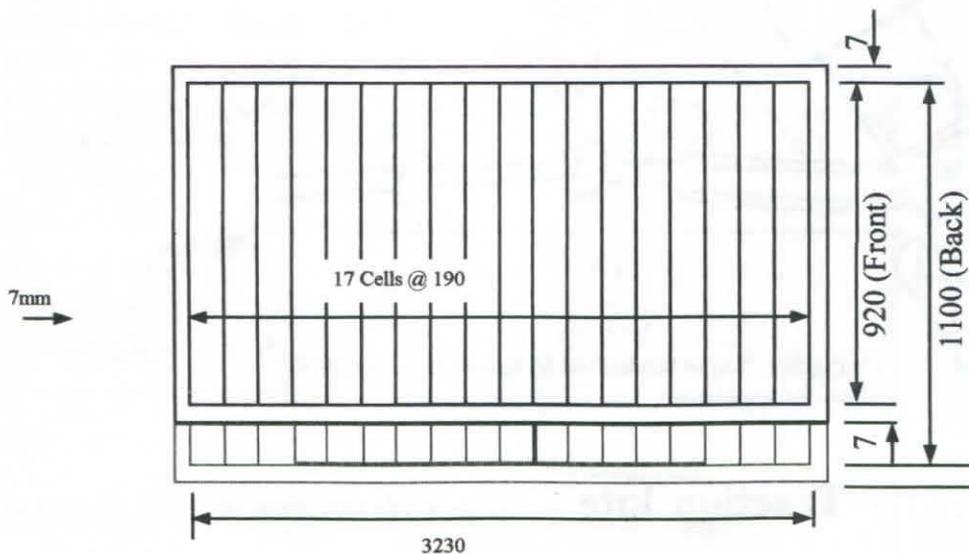
- i) Mark ribs on white ripstop with 2B pencil and cut out using a cutting soldering iron and washer (16).



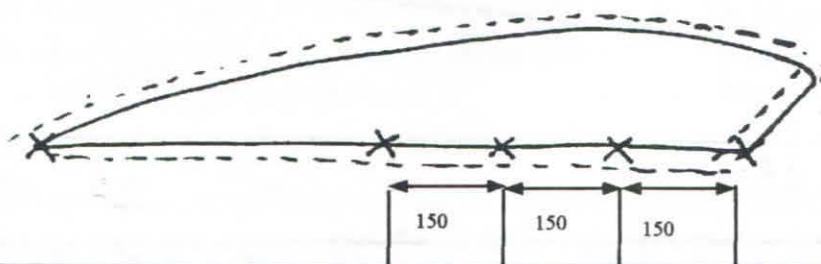
- ii) Cut keels for end profile only as pattern.



- iii) Cut front and rear panels from ripstop nylon and mark profile positions as below, + 7mm seam all round (in 2B pencil). Light colours easiest.

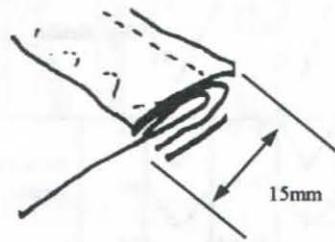


- iv) Mark Bridling points on profiles.



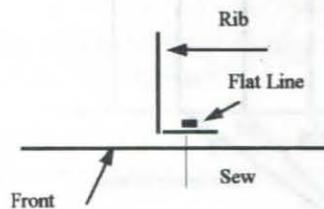
# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

v) Sew hem on profile of open cell edge and reinforce with 60mm ripstop tape folded in two and doubled over cell edge.

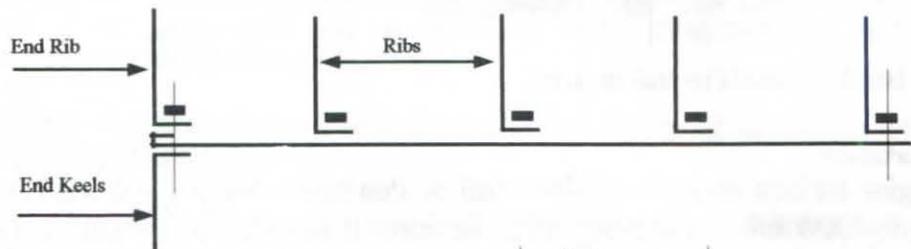


vi) Sew 7mm hem on front panel and reinforce tape front leading edge as rib profiles.

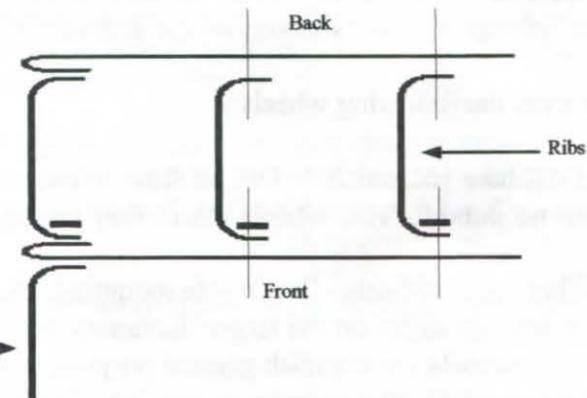
vii) Sew flat side of rib profiles to front of kite. Sew in flat line as below 550 long from top.



viii) Sew on end keels.



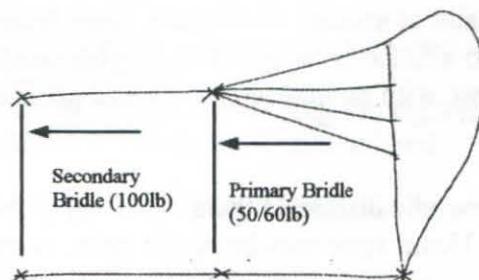
ix) Sew back to rear of ribs (profiles). Try to work leaving bulk of kite away from sewing machine.



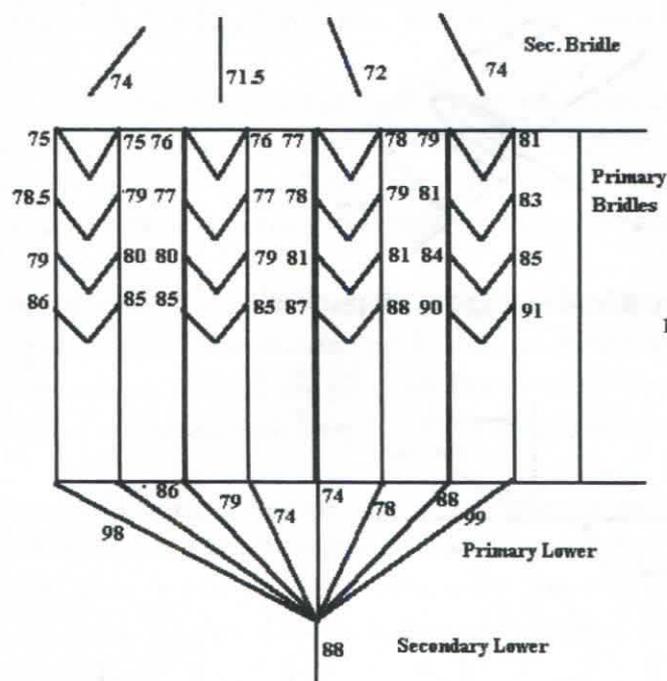
Cut bottom of kite clean and sew with double fold.

x) Bridle up as shown below and the next page and fly.

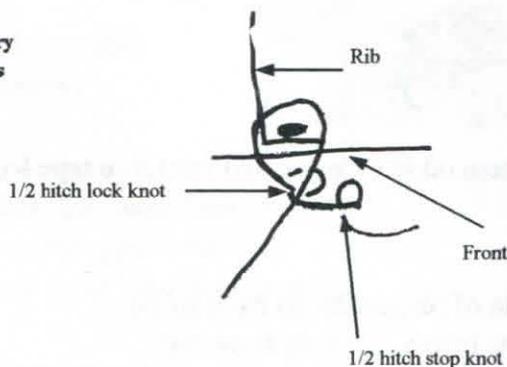
xi) Fix bridles to kite by piercing bridle through using thick needle (We find we burn a small hole through first).



# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites



xia) Use tabs for bottom bridles.



We find this an easy to adjust system.

xii) Bridle to keels to suit on trial.

## BUGGIES

Buggies are best made in stainless steel or aluminium, but you will need special welding equipment. But we use ERW mild steel tube. YES we know it rusts but it is cheap! It can be mig or arc welded. We purchased enough tube for six buggies for around £30.00.

We have tried the following wheels:

BMX bike 16" and 20". OK for front wheels where the central spindle can be supported both sides but no good for rear wheels where they are supported only on one side.

Wheel chair Wheels. Single side mounting wheels, in various sizes, suitable for rear wheels but the spokes can suffer on the larger diameters, when doing a lot of sideways work, good for grass. All terrain wheels are cheapish general purpose wheels, good for grass, tarmac and sand. We get them for around £5.00 a pair.

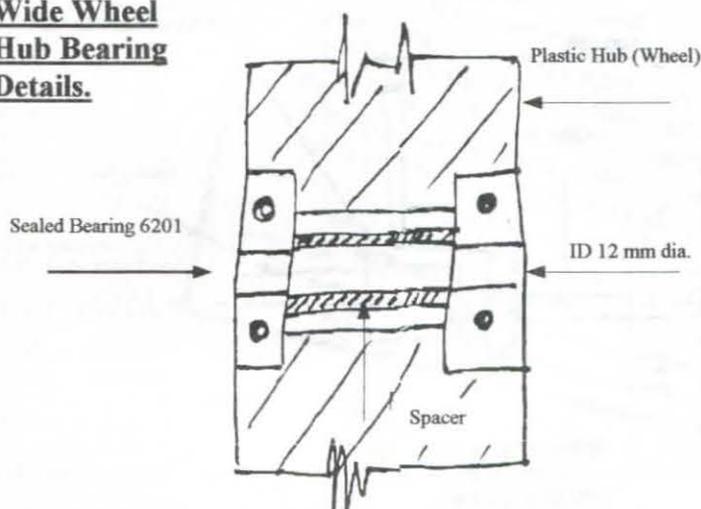
16x4 (400x100) wheel barrow wheels fitted with sealed bearings + spacer. Really good for beach use and a pretty good all round wheel, but they do tend to scrub out if used only on tarmac. If you have access to a decent workshop with lathe you can produce the wheels yourself. You will need plastic wheelbarrow / launching trolley wheels, with a suitable centre, that will take some turning, to fit the sealed bearings (no 6201 aim at around £2.50 each, some bearing companies will quote up to £12.00 each). Wheel price to aim for is around £13.00 plus bearings. Turn the hubs each side, to take a 32mm dia OD bearing, with an interference fit and press into place, with a suitable spacer fitted between.

We weld and bolt our buggies and don't generally dismantle them. (We carry them on a bike rack, two is comfortable but three is possible). The 25mm tube can be easily bent, using a conduit pipe bender

# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

(electrical contracting type). We could not find a suitable plumbing pipe bender, but I will stand corrected! If you use a BMX front wheel, it is worth using modified BMX front forks, but if you are going for fat wheels all round, make up your own forks. Good details in the Stunt Kites 2 book or see our details. We have experimented with various fork angles and think that around 14 degrees from vertical, going forward is a pretty good place to start at. Foot peg height and size is very much dependant upon what you want to do with your buggy. For tricks one tends to favour a higher foot peg position. For comfort I prefer pegs just higher than the front wheel spindle, about 250/300mm wide each peg with end plate.

## Wide Wheel Hub Bearing Details.



Our aim is to place the rider in the best place to put the power down, to load the wheels as evenly as possible. Initially we used to place the seating position just in front of the rear axle but found that the back broke away long before the front ever did. Pushing the rider 200mm forward, off the rear axle, produces a better balance, giving approx 10% more power to the rear. But the power can be fine tuned, with ones seating stance. High side rails help to hold the rider in place and if you use a bolted centre joint you can adjust it to suit different riders (however we make our buggies to suit ourselves and weld the centre joint).

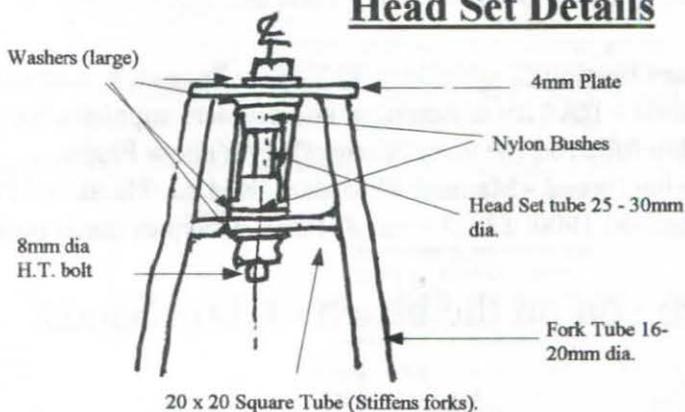
Keep the unsupported rear axle length down, to prevent turning into a land yacht (as I did when I hit a beach gully rather fast and bent the 30mm tube right up!). Have a good look at a Peter Lynn buggy, he has got most things right. Buy one if you can afford it. If however you are like us poor I hope the following details help.

These plans and sketches are to give you ideas, so don't make the same mistakes we made, so you can make a good buggy that will work but feel free to modify and improve depending upon your abilities and workshop facilities.

Remember all the safety rules that have already been published in this magazine and many other kite mags.

Wear a safety helmet etc. and think of others! It only takes a few fools to spoil it for everyone. Learn how to fly your kite FIRST it is a powerful traction kite. Start sitting down and progress sensibly. Only then try it with your buggy. Start on flat hard sand, in moderate winds, if you can (it is so much softer than grass or tarmac). Remember you have no brakes.

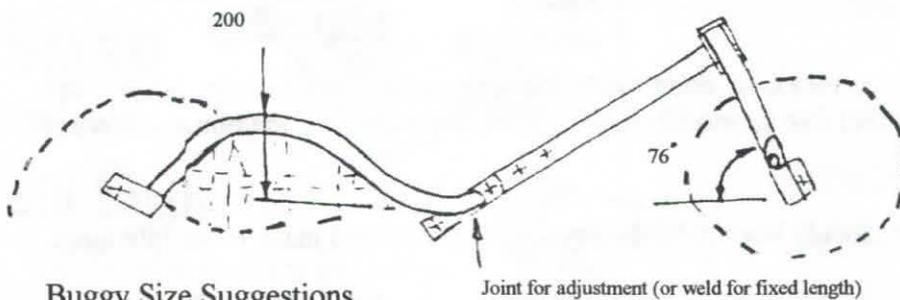
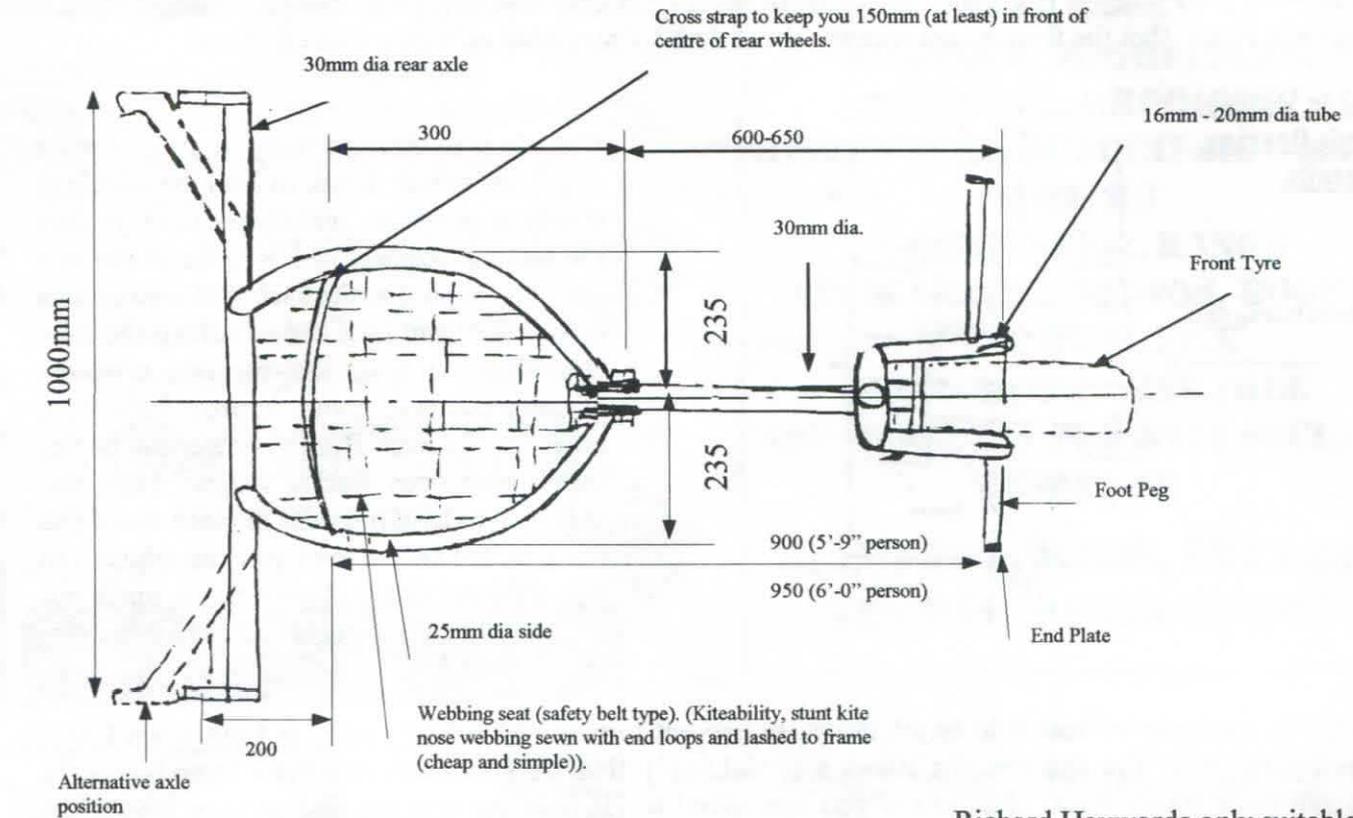
## Head Set Details



# D.I.Y. Buggies and Kites

## BITS AND PIECES

See adverts for Cannock Kites and Kiteability.



Richard Haywards only suitable if you live in the West as they will only deal with you through their factory shop - no mail order.

Mild steel tube - see your local Yellow Pages in Steel Stock Holder section.

Wheel bearings - again look in Yellow Pages but remember the guide prices.

Wheels - 16x4 try agricultural and builders suppliers but they will not have them with the bearings fitted.

Nylon tube/rod (headset bearings) try Yellow Pages.

Sewing thread - Madeira Threads (UK) Ltd, Thirsk Ind Park, York Road, Thirsk, N Yorkshire YO7 3BX. Serafil 60 1800, £3.00 + vat & P&P. Cheques made payable to AMANN 7 SOHNE GMBH.

See you on the beach - Chris Sands.

# The British Buggy Club

## Welcome

By the time you read this the first issue of the News From The British Buggy Club will have been published. It is a free newsletter and is issued to all of the people who show an interest in the BBC.

The BBC started at the end of the season and is growing very fast. I have had to get 200 copies of the newsletter for the first run and now need in excess of this as people keep joining every week (phew).

Since the club started we have managed to find an insurance policy that we can offer our members, covering them for a civil liability of upto £2,000,000 anywhere in the World (except North America). The price for this insurance is an incredibly low £13 and is available for those who apply.

If you are a non-UK resident then the insurance will only cover you when you buggy in the UK.

If you are interested in joining the fastest growing club in the UK then please send an SAE to:-

British Buggy Club  
PO Box 4015  
Warley  
West Midlands B67 6HJ  
England

## Best Display Award

I am pleased to announce that the club won 1st place for the Best Display at the Portsmouth festival. This was due to the hard work (we now all look like orange utans (hhmmmm spelling?)) of the members that attended the event and the brilliant displays that they put on. The weekend finished with a mass tandem buggy whereby members of the public (and visiting guests) were taken for a ride. This all sounds like fun but the queue never seemed to end. It was exhausting but thoroughly worth it.....

## Whitehorse Kitefliers Take The BBC Option

The Whitehorse kitefliers are making the main runway at Wroughton airfield available for the exclusive use of insured members from the British Buggy Club. After studying the insurance certificates they were so impressed that they have invited us to their event. Insurance at festivals and other organised events can be a nightmare and has in the past caused some organisers to BAN buggies from their events. After this lead set by the Whitehorse kitefliers why should organizers ever have to worry again? If you are organising an event and want to have the confidence of a sound insurance scheme then invite the British Buggy Club....you know it makes sense!

Ian Meredith

The original idea for the club was to 'share information amongst like minded people' as many buggiers were cut off by the little groups that were beginning to form. This simple philosophy still exists but it seems to have spread a little. In the UK we have buggiers from the tip of Scotland down to Southampton and also across to Cornwall and over in Kent. We also have an Internet address and now there has been a lot of International interest shown. This has meant that I have been receiving applications from countries around the world including France, Germany, Italy, America, Australia, New Zealand and also Japan.

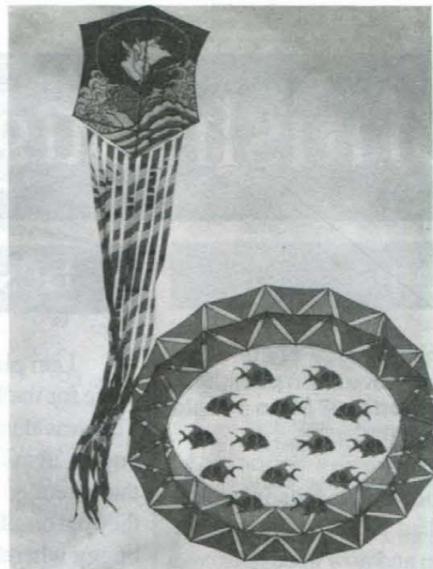
I do not have any problems dealing in these areas as it helps everybody share information about a sport that we care about. Instead of SAE's the Internationals send International Mail Coupons and this means that we can still offer information for FREE.

If you wish to EMail the club then the address is :-

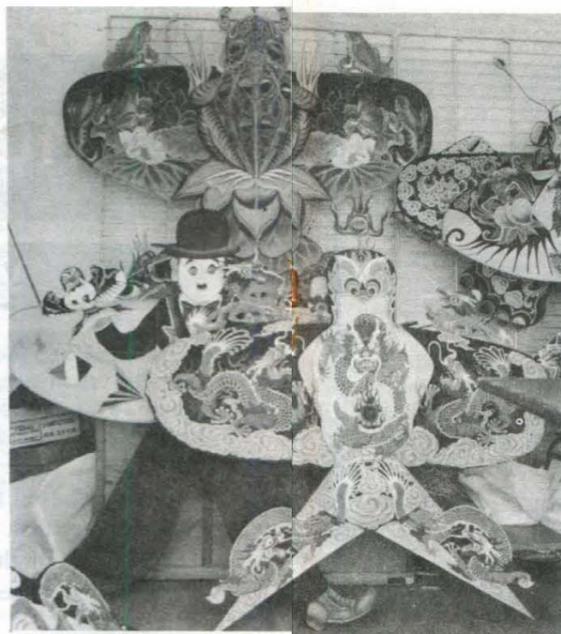
Mell@Buggy.demon.co.uk



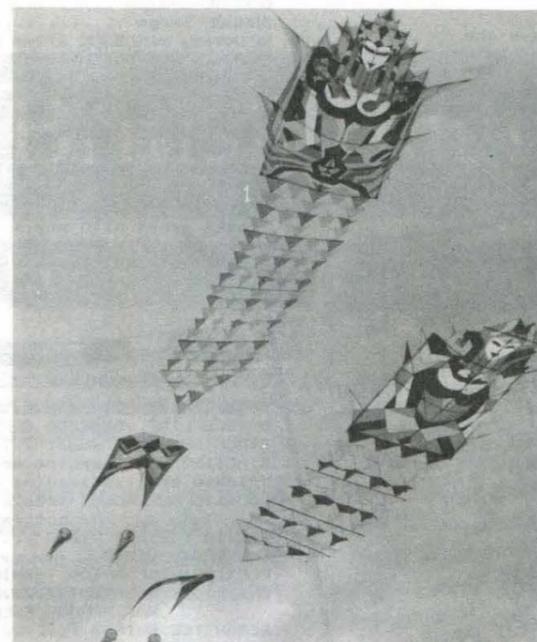
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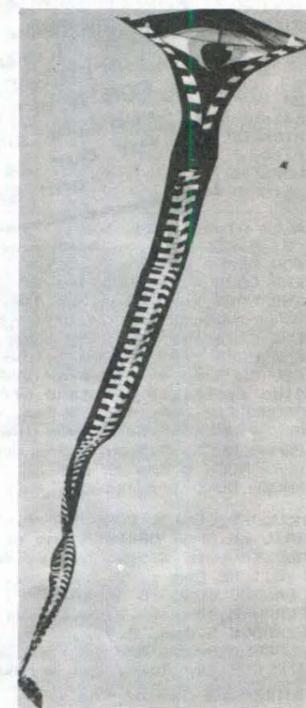


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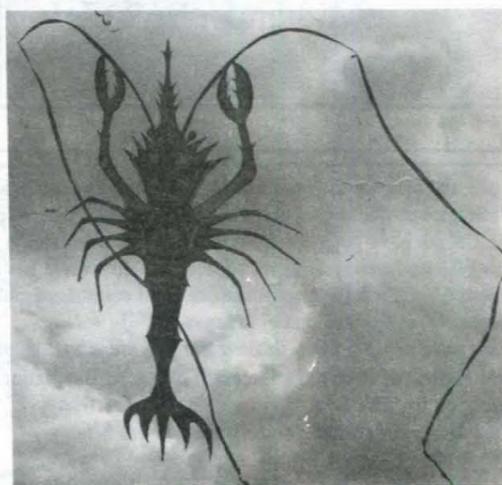
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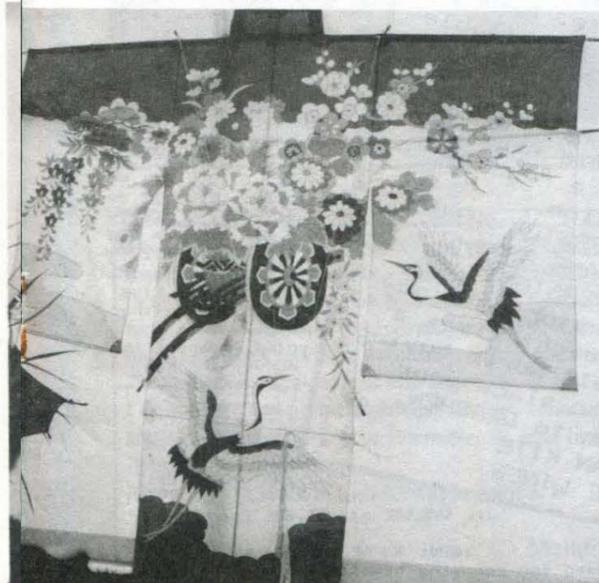
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12



### Dieppe 1994

1. Pierre Fabre "Fish Kite" - Winner of Award.
2. George Peters - Spider Kite
3. Jan Fischer - Charlie Chaplin
4. Pierre Marzin - "The Crayfish" - Winner of Award
5. Bird Kite from Vietnam.
6. In foreground - Andre Casagnes - Fishnet.  
In Background - Masaaki Modegi - Traditional Rokkaku.
7. Selection of Kites from the Chinese Delegation
8. Alain Bouchet - "Mermaids"
9. George Peters - "Kiteroach"
10. Tom Wolfenden - "Zip Kite"
11. Articulated Kite Lorry - owned by Uwwe and Ulla Gryzbeck
12. Wilma Fischer- Kimono Kite.

All photographs by Gill Bloom.



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 1kg (approx 4100mts) B  
 1kg (approx 2700mts) 1

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**\* STOP PRESS \***  
**Kite Lights**

**BAD NEWS:** Our supplier has informed us that these popular red flashing lights are no longer made.

**GOOD NEWS:** We have bought up all the remaining stocks and for a limited time can continue to offer them at only £3.65 each including two replaceable hearing aid batteries.

Each light has a clip on the back for sliding over the sail and a hole for securely tying them to a spar. They are visible for 1000 feet.

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typical 8 ft delta stunt kite will  
 use 3 budget spars TOTAL COST £16.50  
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 strength of Beman spars AND the low cost  
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 by Cannock Kites. (prices based on 5.5mm)

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**Solid**

1.5mm x 2.5mtr £5.50 1.5mm x 2.5mtr £2.05  
 2mm x 2.5mtr £6.50 2mm x 2.5mtr £2.75  
 3mm x 2.5mtr £7.96 3mm x 2.5mtr £4.30  
 4mm x 2.5mtr £9.50 4mm x 2.5mtr £5.50  
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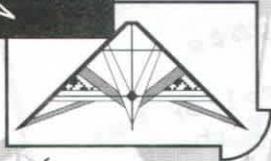
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# MKFF Extra

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## it's enough to drive you Batty

We were invited by Leicester City Council in May to attend their family fun day event. They said that they would like a kite workshop and also a kite stall. We agreed!

The day was great, with hundreds of kids swarming around the kite workshop eager to make their designer sleds. The most popular kite that was for sale proved to be the baby bat.

A group of young children ran to us and said they each would like a kite. Their Dad said it was okay and paid for them (Good old Dad!). So, off they dashed, eager to try out their new kites. After only a few minutes they were back. "Our mum wants one as well" they said. "She feels left out". So, clutching yet another bat kite they trundled off happily.

Time passed. The kite workshop was drained dry - nothing was left but scraps of tape and a few bits of string, but the kite making kids just kept on coming.

Soon all the kites on the stall were sold. There was not a single one left at all. Just then, back came 'the family' again - Dad laden down with inflatable bananas and big balloons. "We need another kite" they said "we have got the other one stuck up a tree". "Sorry, none left" we said, "but we will try and get the other one down from the tree for you if you like".

So with six metre roach pole in hand we went off in our quest to save the bat kite. This proved, however, to be in vain. (Alas! Alas! it was not to be.) The pole just was not long enough. Next, we tried the wife standing on her husband's shoulders, but still without success. Finally, we admitted defeat and agreed to leave it there.

So, away they went, staring back as the stranded bat looked down. "I'll be back!" the Dad vowed, as they walked off into the distance.

Still, not to be beaten we decided to have one last and final rescue attempt. An extension to the roach pole was needed. Luckily a chap with a mono-pod on his camcorder was close by. He agreed to loaning it to us (the mono-pod that is, not the camcorder). We joined the roach pole to the mono-pod with the rubber bands and hey-presto - a six metre pole.

So, this time, armed with our six metre plus, and us on tip-toes it was success - HOORAY - down fluttered the bat, none the worse for its ordeal.

Time passed by when suddenly a fire engine appeared. "It's me" said one of the firemen. "I've brought the rig to get my kite down".

"Job done" we said, "so you will not be needing the rig after all". So, he thanked us for all our efforts, climbed on the engine and away they went - bat in hand.

A couple of days later a letter came to us through the post with this great piece of poetic verse written on it.

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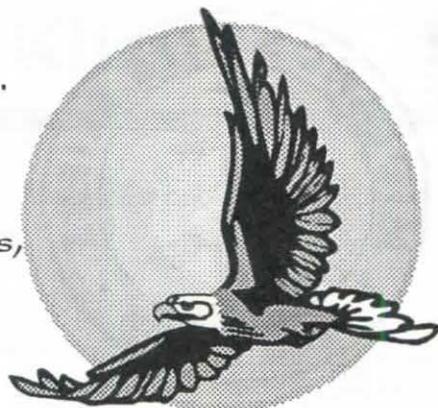
# MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS

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A beautiful day on the ground, yet up there  
the sunshine was masked by the kites everywhere.  
My children decided - as kids often do,  
if that bloke had a kite, then they wanted one too.

As J signed the cheque they all ran off - the tykes,  
happy to own their unbreakable kites.  
No tails or assembly, they're really a breeze,  
the only thing likely to affect them is trees.



"As if we'd be that daft". J said with a snort,  
to get near the trees with these kites we've just bought.  
A woman dived deftly as the bat-kite was grounded,  
and J moved the boys on to where less folk abounded.

Danny's kite it went up in a matter of seconds.  
"J'll let all the string out and run now" he reckons.  
"No, don't run, Dan, you silly young pup."  
Too late. The damn kites stranded thirty feet up.

"Well, bless me" J say, tugging hard at the string,  
"Quick, Danny, go get a stick J can fling."  
Five minutes later J ask through my blushes  
"Where's Daniel?" Says Ben "Hiding out in the bushes".

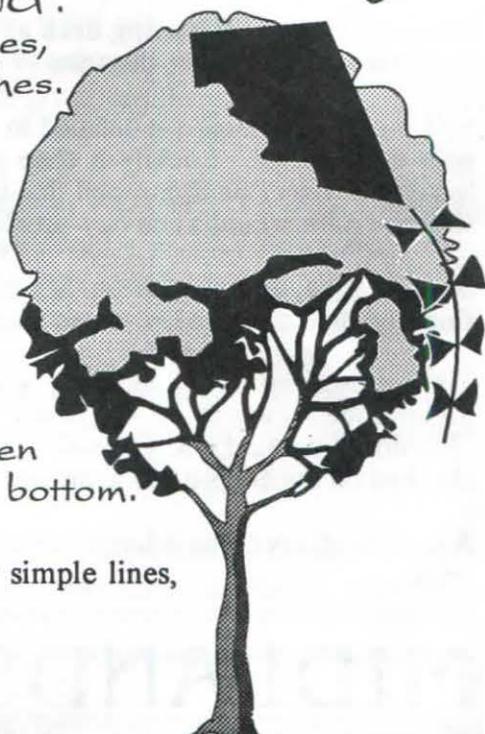
Coaxing him out from his leafy hide-hole,  
we trot off to ask could we borrow a pole.  
The leather clad kiteflyer trolls back with me,  
his considered opinion? "That kite's stuck up a tree".



"Perhaps you should try tugging hard at the string".  
"Like this you mean?" The kite line went 'PJNG'.  
A new bat was needed, so back to your benches,  
But nothing was left, save a pole to catch tenches.

You not only furnished this bloody great rod,  
but a handler, so J didn't feel on my tod.  
Yet try as we might, dearie me, lack-a-day  
Even two people up we were three feet away.

J had to give in then and go off to work,  
3 children, 2 kites, 1 father (a berk).  
But, coming back later J found that you'd gotten  
it down, and J thank you, from the heart of my bottom.



We all agreed, if ever you wanted to sum a great day in a few simple lines,  
this certainly does it.

Wayne and Jennie Bickerton - Leicester

# Sculpting the sky

Sunday 23rd April 1995

Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield  
Near Birmingham

Birmingham City Council have asked The Midlands Kite Fliers to help with the organisation of a kite flying day to coincide with an event in The Gas Hall museum in Central Birmingham called 'China - Sea of Knowledge'.

Although modern kites are invited to fly, the theme will be on kites with an artistic side and groups of children in the city will be taught by a top kite maker to design and make their own kites prior to the event.

This will co-incide with the first major public outing of the four Midlands Kite Fliers Display Kites. Three Flying Men and a Wasp made specially for the club by George Peters.

An exhibition of artistic kites is planned by the newly formed Artistic Kite Group, headed by Charlie Charlton of Merseyside and a prize will be given for the best artistic, home-made kite.

We hope this will be a fun and friendly day for all the family with lots of things to do and see. Sutton Park itself is a very large park with loads of space to explore.

Kite Traders, Music and entertainment, food and drink, teddy's dropped and certificates for the brave bears.

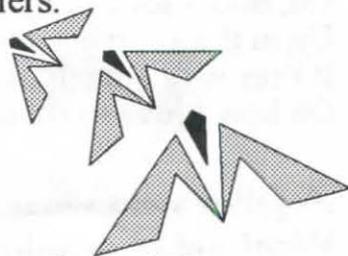
A car parking charge of £1.00 will be made.

For more information contact Julie White -  
Tel: 01332 669203

## MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS OF THE YEAR

**Congratulations  
to  
Dorothy & Ken  
Campbell**

of Stoke-on-Trent who are this year's winners of the Midlands Kite Fliers of the Year Award presented to them at the Annual General Meeting of The Midlands Kite Fliers.



Dorothy and Ken are very well known on the National Kite Scene. Their kites are seen up and down the country and their car and caravan travel hundreds of miles to meet up with all of their kite friends - of which they have many. Due to their unfailing helpfulness, their hard work and, above all, their friendliness, they heartily deserve the award. Congratulations to them both and long may they continue to drive and fly.



The **W**inner of the picture competition from October's Kiteflier

- who has received a club badge, a car sticker and a hot-off-the press edition of the club newsletter is:

Al Upton from Swansea Marina. Well done, Al.

His caption : 'Ah, so! Rokkakok-up! Too many Chiefs - not many Indians. Send them to Coventry - how you say?'

hit the right note with the judges.

## Poem Corner

'Inspiration' or Aberration'

Oh, how I love to fly my kite  
Up in the air, what a lovely site.  
It flies very quickly to a very great height,  
Oh how I love to fly my keight.

A feller who wasn't so bright  
Went out in a gale with a Kite  
He spun round and round  
Then he shot off the ground  
and into sub-orbital flight.



Inspiration From Bristol Kite Festival 1994

Although keenly anticipated  
The Condom shaped balloon they all hated.  
It wasn't the size That they came to despise  
But the wait whilst he got it inflated

## What to do on a winters evening

The 'Writing letters to The Kiteflier proposing the National Exhibition Centre Halls (all of them) for next years Kite Society Convention' was, again, sent in by a Mr Al Upton of Swansea Marina and wins a special prize.

NB - Pity this cannot be put into practise - the NEC is too close to Birmingham Airport, unless indoor kiteflying really takes off!!

# MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



# KITE EVENT CALENDAR

U.K. Kite Events		
March 22nd & 23rd	Capstone Park, Chatham	Kiteability
April 9th	Old Warden Summer Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Herts.	The Kite Society
April 16th & 17th	Easter Kite Festival, Blackheath Common, Blackheath, London.	Kent Kite Klub
April 23rd	Sculpting The Sky, Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield.	Midlands Kite Fliers
April 29th & 30th	Weymouth International Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset.	The Kite Society
May 13th & 14th	Swindon Kite Festival. Wroughton Air Field, Swindon.	White Horse Kite Fliers
May 20th & 21st	Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton.	Airborn Kites
May 27th, 28th & 29th	Banham Zoo Kite Festival, Norfolk.	Kevin Appleton
June 3rd & 4th	Basingstoke Kite Festival.	Loddon Valley Kite Fliers
June 10th & 11th	Margam Park Kite Festival, Wales	Steve Gibson
June 10th & 11th	Isle of Wight International Kite Festival. <b>(Provisional)</b>	The Kite Store
June 17th & 18th	Testone Bridge, Maidstone.	Kiteability
June 17th & 18th	East London Kite Festival, Hackney Marshes.	Jeremy Boyce
July 1st & 2nd	Shrewsbury Kite Festival.	Tony Slater
July 8th & 9th	Wales International Kite Festival, Monmouth	The Kite Store
July 9th	Petworth Park Kite Day.	Joanna Mersey
July 15th & 16th	U.K. Team Sports Kite Championships, Weston-Super-Mare	Avril Baker
July 23rd	Golden Valley Kite Festival.	Golden Valley Kite Fliers
August 5th & 6th	Middle Wallop Kite Event, Hampshire.	Ron Moulton
August 19th	Kite Society Convention, Coventry. <b>(Provisional)</b>	The Kite Society
August 20th	Coventry Kite Festival.	Midlands Kite Fliers
August 20th	London Docklands Sport Kite Festival, Beckton District Park South.	Stuart Neil
August 26th & 27th	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Portsmouth, Hampshire.	The Kite Society
September 2nd & 3rd	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol.	Avril Baker
September 10th	Shorne Country Park, Gravesend.	Kiteability
September 10th	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Parham Airfield, Framlington, Suffolk.	Liz Hammond
September 17th	Salisbury Kite and Sky Hoolie.	Cunning Stunts
September 24th	Old Warden Autumn Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Herts.	The Kite Society

# KITE EVENT CALENDAR

<b>The Kite Society</b>	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.
<b>Ron Moulton</b>	2 Avenue Rise, Bushey, Watford, Herts WD2 3AS.
<b>Loddon Valley Kite Fliers</b>	Alan Cosgrove, 18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 3PH
<b>Tony Slater</b>	128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY. 0743 235068.
<b>Airborn Kites</b>	97 Trafalgar Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 4ER. 0273 676740.
<b>Avril Baker</b>	Saville Court, Saville Place, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4EJ. 0272 466852.
<b>Midlands Kite Fliers</b>	Julie White, 4 Hermitage Court, Oakwood, Derby, DE2 2LG.
<b>Joanna Mersey</b>	Bignor Park, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1HG.
<b>Golden Valley Kite Fliers</b>	Peter Whitaker, 19 Lilac Way, Quedgeley, Gloucester, GL2 6WH.
<b>Kevin Appleton</b>	37 Eastern Avenue, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich, Norfolk NR7 0UQ
<b>White Horse Kite Fliers</b>	P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4YR.
<b>Kent Kite Klub</b>	Yvonne Davies, 4 Gillies Court, Stafford Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 6PP.
<b>The Kite Store</b>	48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA. 0171 836 1666
<b>Stuart Neil</b>	LDDC, Thames Quay, 191 Marsh Wall, London E14 9TL. 0171 512 3000
<b>Cunning Stunts</b>	11 Cross Keys Chequer, Salisbury SP1 1EL. 01722 410588
<b>Steve Gibson</b>	Way on High Kites, Capuchin Yard, Church Street, Hereford HR1 2LR.
<b>Kiteability</b>	2 Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP.
<b>Jeremy Boyce</b>	High as A Kite, 153 Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16 0UC.
<b>Liz Hammond</b>	Shingle Bungalow, Benhall Low Street, Sweffling, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

<b>Overseas Kite Events</b>		
March 1st & 2nd	Thailand International Kite Festival, Pattaya, Bangkok.	Ron Spaulding.
March 9th - 12th	World kite Festival, Napier, New Zealand	James White 64 6 835 7368
May 20th & 21st	10th International Kite Festival. Oost Duinkerke, Belgium	Nest Lernout 03 449 1221
June 15th - 18th	11th International Kitefliers Meeting, Fano, Denmark.	Rainer Kregovski 40 21 3848
July 1st & 2nd	18th Kite Festival, Scheveningen, Holland	Vlieger-Op! 070 3858586
September 23rd & 24th	11th Kite Festival, Berlin, Germany	Michael Stelzer 030 7847769
November 10th - 20th	World Cup '95, Lake Entance, Australia.	Dan Prentice (U.S.A.) 916 273 3855

## TOODYTORIAL

It's that time again - and during the Christmas and New Year's celebrations most of last season's festivals that didn't get written up; have now merged into a blur that was 1994.

Apologies to those of you who sent copy for this issue that hasn't made it to print. As I include material on a first received basis - six pages were filled well before the copy deadline. However, I do promise to include it in the April issue - never in the history of Aerodyne has there been such a healthy input from club members... please don't stop writing!

See you at the AGM evening at the Devil's Dyke Inn on Thursday 9 February 1995 (8.00pm).

### BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL 03 & 04/09/94

Well, lack of space prevents me from doing the usual mindless drivel festival write up job, so thanks to - the Boop Troop for putting us up (up with us?!) - the Highwaymen for the Friday night stick party (I'm sure you probably had to re-do most of them in the cold light of a sober Saturday morning?!) - and the Toody Fan Club for the Saturday night presentation of the Peanut Trophy!!

The BKF had an almost clean sweep on the Festival awards -

☐KSGB Single Line Championship - Flat Kite winner: Baz Poulter with his 3m 'Osprey' Edo

☐UK Individual Rokkaku Challenge - Ray (Oakie I of the infamous parcel string) Oakhill

☐UK Team Rokkaku Challenge - Team Spirit - Team Brick Wall

☐UK Team Rokkaku Challenge - 2nd place: The Menaces: pipped to the post by those damned Vertigo mineral water boys yet again!!

☐Bristol Open Team Rokkaku Challenge - The Menaces

### DIEPPE 8TH INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL 16-18/09/94

The sun sank slowly over the horizon as France slipped gently but firmly into view... the languid moon shone on the silvery sea and the ship rolled in the lazy, long swell... oh enough of the purple prose - we came, we ate, we drank and we flew kites.



Tudy (take a look at your Fan Club T shirt Gerrie!! Ed) and Steve (friend of Mik), Simon and Corinne, Janet & Barry, the BOF and Carolyn and I all met for the morning ferry from Newhaven. The same boat also saw other kites including the infamous Paul Morgan and the long suffering Helene and the Dells. The White Horse mob were also much in evidence - particularly around the bar! Barry and Gill Pitman and Ray and Doreen Oakhill caught the evening ferry over. Somebody had to keep UK plc running!

Dieppe was without doubt the 'badgers whatsits' of festivals - rumour has it that the Dieppoise (that's someone from Dieppe for those who are not familiar with the lingo) coughed up £1/4 million to fund it. OK so they had the backing of anyone who is somebody in Norman commerce - but this is still a lot of dosh on a fest! - pity a few Brit. councils can't see the benefits of stumping up some serious cash; the French believe they get it back and then some.

The Brighton mob mostly arrived on Friday. Some die-hards went to the World Cup first and then drove down - I am sure you will have read in the last issue of this august journal a treatise on that subject. Needless to say much beer flowed on the boat - Sealink must love kites! We got in late afternoon, surveyed the scene and stuck a kite up. As this was the first run for our 2.5m rok we thought we better get it set up. Thanks to experience gleaned from Mik Jennison it of course flew first time!

Saturday saw Carolyn and I breakfasting with Ray and Doreen Oakhill in the restaurant of the Windsor hotel - I thought that boat had problems getting up the river! - watching sister and BIL

BRISTOL  
INTERNATIONAL  
KITE  
FESTIVAL

(brother-in-law Barry Poulter) setting up his Edos. Many of our European and North American friends from the English summer circuit were also in evidence. The day was spent with my rok staked out. The main problem was a brain - no not mine which was slowly pickling in Bier D'Alsace - but a large black thing which defied description, except to describe it as a sort of square, brain design with a stick across the diagonal and a line at the two other corners. It sat there for 15 minutes at a time and then would suddenly come to life trashing everything in sight. It did get a little irritating!

Needless to say there were some remarkable confections - although I was disappointed that many had been seen two years earlier - I was left feeling that several of the world's more well known kite makers have maybe spent too much time flying recently! The new rok caused some comment - "hey mister there's a kite jammed in yours" etc. - see it next year and you will see what he meant!

Both days saw young Miss Oakhill doing a roaring trade in feathers - trouble was she was not always there to sell them, something about a beer bottle and a peanut? *(No comment! Ed)*

Saturday night's alright for... having a really great party time and drinking far too much and singing Belgian drinking songs and eating and doing some night flying and watching fireworks and... breathless? We were! Our hosts had laid out a small meal thingy for the delegations - 1,000 heads of them! Venue: sports hall. Fleets of bendi-buses to take us there. Great grub and lots of wine. Did some serious celeb' spotting whilst they proved that they don't behave like celebs! Carolyn nicked Peter Lynn's hat, Peter's oppo' nicked it back. We got some Belgian kids to go off in search of more wine in exchange for a small bribe - much pin trading done. And then the bread arrived. Huge cheer went up and the crowd went wild.

Back on the buses, down to town, fireworks, massed team ballet and the whole bit. And after it all died down Carolyn and I, somewhat the worse for some lemon squash, set up to fly a bit of (please BOF forgive me - I was weak and misguided) two line flying. This French chap and his misses came up and we started flying together, me his German kite and he my English one. Carolyn stood by the fence. The wind

was reasonably strong - our French friend put my kite into a steep dive - and didn't pull out in time. The kite coming to an abrupt halt - one hundred and t.w.e.n.t.y - Carolyn's head! This is a hat (sic) trick. First Jennison side swiped her with a parascending sand bag weighted bear at Weymouth, then the BOF impaled her at the Brighton Fest during the "Trash The Wild Thang" Comp and now this. At next years fest's Carolyn can be identified sporting a very fetching blue hard hat!

Sunday was slow - hangovers have that effect. A very pleasing lunch, a little flying and the team rok contest so late that Les Anglais couldn't enter due to heading for the ferry - I was not a happy bunny as I was determined to uphold the honour of England! C'est la vie!

On to ferry, Indian fighters flown off the stern whilst we waited to depart, and then multiple kites flown across the channel - well mostly in it actually. BOF had a bag of cr\*p as he subtly described it and much ended in the drink. On the way over a 20 knot tailwind plus 20 knot speed of ship = 0, on the way back a 20 knot headwind plus 20 knot speed equals a kite trashing gale! We still arrived in Newhaven with something flying - even if it was a highly vented carrier bag!

Overall conclusion, a truly great festival. And ask Toody about Mik Jennison's absence and his passport - but don't do it when he's in earshot...

*Jerry Swift*

## **DIEPPE - SOME PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS**

My wife Doreen and I travelled on the 7.15pm Friday ferry with Barry and Gill Pitman as fellow travellers in one car, making a late entrance to the Windsor Hotel in Dieppe.

We were to take Toody and Mik as passengers in the car, but Mik appeared to have become an illegal immigrant overnight as he no longer had a birth certificate, and could not apply for a British passport!! Is he ever going to be allowed to forget this? However, his place in the "Hennesseymobile" was taken by his friend Steve, who was not a kiteflyer, just a lover of the "Amberneckoil", and often seen in one of the 365 Brighton pubs on most evenings, or should that read "in most of the 365 Brighton pubs in one evening"?

Saturday was an excellent flying day with onshore winds creating a great spectacle of kites and associated wind garbage flying over the Dieppe lawns. Of course I had to try out the infamous BKF Stratoscoop 3, nicknamed "Lawnmower 2", because of its tendency to go into involuntary groundpasses and cut everything else out of the sky! But salvation was at hand. "Why not adjust the bridle"? I thought. It had not been touched for about two years, and I had learned a lot about kites in that time. Some twenty minutes later, the BKF mob stood open mouthed as "Lawnmower 2" became one of the most stable kites in the air! The end of an era? Not quite, there is still the Strat 4, "Lawnmower 1", to fix - some other time! In the evening my wife and I decided to have a quiet "tête-à-tête" meal at the hotel restaurant, which overlooks the lawns. Towards the end of the meal, several BKF rowdies appeared at our table bearing half empty (they would say half full) bottles of wine from the kiteflyers "do". These were duly consumed and deposited under the table before we all retired to our room for a nightcap.

At some time during the impromptu party and before going to bed I had to go down to the car for something, only to be accosted by the hotel receptionist asking if I had brought in all the wine bottles that were left under our table! At that point I had to tell him that they had been brought in by my "friends". Thank you folks!

At last people dispersed towards their own rooms and I got into bed and was just drifting into the land of nod when I was rudely awoken by a very rhythmic snoring and intermittent farting. It appeared that Steve was totally unconscious on the floor of our bedroom and there was no way he was going to wake up, (*once this guy goes - there ain't no waking him up no how - you could jump on his head - we know... we tried it!* Ed) so he had to go! Toody, Doreen and Carolyn dragged him along the floor into the hotel corridor and left him to sleep it off, so I could now go to sleep at last, despite the resounding snores coming through two doors!

Early in the morning I went to the bathroom and nearly fell over the body lying on the floor. How on earth did Steve manage to bet back into the room? It appears that at about 3am he

was wandering around the lobby looking for a toilet, when he was accosted by the hotel porter, who wanted to know what he was doing. When Steve explained what he was looking for, the porter let him back into our room with a pass key. I wonder just how secure these French hotels are?

Sunday was another excellent flying day with winds in the same direction, but we had to leave just after 4pm to get the ferry home. Of course there were the usual tako kichi antics on the poop deck before leaving port and most of the way home.

So ended another brilliant Dieppe International Kite Festival. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the next one, but please find your passport Mik, I cannot stand another night with Steve!

**Ray Oakhill**

#### **THE CULTURAL BIT NO 7** ☞

##### **'Thought From Dieppe'**

Love is...

...Throwing up down the same toilette!

*The contributors, having had a serious bash at consuming the EEC's wine lake in one evening - wish to remain anonymous... I can't think why?!*

#### **BKF HANDY (GASTRONOMIC) HINTS NO 11** ⚡

As you late night Aguado revellers will doubtless know - French gladioli bulbs are not at their best eaten raw. They are, however, reputed to be delicious lightly sautéed in butter, with a little garlic, a dash of red wine and a sprinkling of fresh dill. Raw internal pickling in red wine is not recommended - see 'The Cultural Bit'!

#### **ONE SKY ONE WORLD 09/10/94**

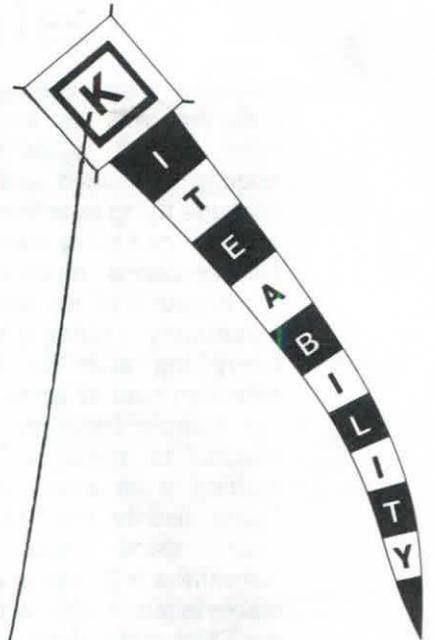
On 'One Sky One World' day... (or 'One World One Kite' day as my little sis insists on calling it!) it has become a BKF tradition to join the White Horse Kite Flyers at their fly-in site, Barbury Castle near Swindon.

Despite October's fast decreasing temperatures Barry Poulter, Mik and I decided to make a weekend of it at Cowpat Hill. So on Saturday we crammed tents, thermals, vast quantities of home made pizza, a few beer vouchers and not to mention... the odd

GERRODOR

# KITEABILITY

## HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS



Christmas is now over,  
So here is New Year,  
You've opened all your presents,  
and drunk all the beer.

You've polished off the pudding,  
the spuds and the roast,  
pulled all the crackers,  
and toasted friends and host.

With thoughts now straying  
to the outdoor scene,  
with multi colours of ripstop,  
Red, Yellow, Blue and Green.

Friends from previous years,  
to joyfully greet once more,  
see what they've been making,  
and have a bit of a jaw.

It will be good to get out again,  
in T.Shirt, shorts and sandals,  
forget about the winter wyles,  
set up them kites and grab them handles.

So don't forget to come and see us,  
you know where we'll be,  
GOOD FLYING IN '95'  
from **KITEABILITY**

Now out our '95' list.

....S.A.E. please.....



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

+ FAX.

Proprietor: Mrs. P. Dell

kite or two of course - into Barry's wagon and headed off to the Land of the Starving Horse (to use a Barkerism or is that Boferism?)!

Having wound our way up to the summit of Cowpat Hill we struck camp at Brian & Lynne Simpson's very conveniently situated and friendly cafe with small adjoining campsite. Only then did it occur to us that it was strange no one else had arrived yet - but then expected we'd see them later in the pub as we'd arranged with the Robinsons. "Hang on... but what if everyone else has wimped out of the camping... so what was the name of the pub Dave mentioned?" "Sorry - no idea - but he did say it was only 5 minutes walk down the hill from here."

However, we had noticed - a little worryingly I hasten to add, that the last pub we had passed on our way out of known civilisation was about 5 miles and not minutes away!

Just as we were debating the long trudge in search of beer - salvation appeared in the form of a rather whizzie Flowform (made by Don Mock we later discovered) just over the brow of the hill, shortly to be followed by the owner - Martin Croxton with the offer of a more than welcome lift. I suppose we should have put his tent up for him really... we owe you one Martin! As it turns out Dave's legendary '5 minutes' must have meant the time taken to get from your car (in the pub car park) to the bar! Strangely reminiscent of some very similar duff info we got at the Scunthorpe festival a few years ago I seem to remember - but then you'll have to backtrack a few issues for that story!

Sunday morning and no one had thought to mention that 'Foghorn Leghorn' was roosting a mere few feet away from where we were camping - so come 5.30am he decided to tell us himself! And again at 6.00am... and again at...! We therefore had an excruciatingly early start to what turned out to be an idyllic blue sky, sunshine and light wind day.

Dave, Janet, Neil and Arthur were already busy erecting the new and extremely whizzie (green and white, no less) WHKF Hostility Suite for a kite workshop, and it wasn't long before the grazing cows in the surrounding flying areas were out numbered by kites and fliers.

Mik and I decided to indulge in a spot of team flying before the stunt area

became too crowded and had just performed the most spectacular and much practiced 'Birds Nest & Splat' manoeuvre when Oakie 1 appeared, having set off from Brighton at some unearthly hour of the morning.

We arrived back at the Hostility Suite to find Barry staggering around with armfuls of jelly (in packets that is)! It turns out that whilst under the influence in Dieppe he had informed everyone that he has a licence to handle jelly... the exploding raspberry flavoured variety it seems! Meanwhile Joan was presenting Neil Harvey with an awesomely huge adjustable spanner, resulting in the 'Neil's Nuts' scoop shortly to be appearing on page 3 of the WHKF newsletter (it's a long story - ask him)!

The wind stayed light and the sun stayed out, so we spent the afternoon bear bombing with the BOF and Don Newing. My ever faithful and trusty bear 'Fiver' disgraced himself, much to the delight of the onlookers (not to mention the BOF: "got eggonyerface now girl!") by doing his first ever RC straight into the deck. I suppose this really serves me right for having bragged about his 100% perfect jump record to date, although I blame the unfortunate incident entirely on Mik who dissuaded me from taking the usual precautionary measure of blowing out his 'chute (when it's been packed up for a while) prior to ascent. In the event it bore more than a passing resemblance to a crinkle-cut chip all the way down to terra firma! However, the BOF's Brother Sid was soon to join the Cowpat Hill Brown nose Society...

*Attempt 1:* Sid detaches himself from ferry just 10ft up line - 'chute deploys and Sid hits deck... BOF curses mightily and repacks 'chute

*Attempt 2:* Sid drops 100ft... pilot 'chute deploys as Sid hits deck... BOF curses mightily and repacks 'chute

*Attempt 3:* Sid drops 100ft... hits deck... no sign even of pilot 'chute

*Attempt 4:* Perfect success... BOF stops cursing Sid

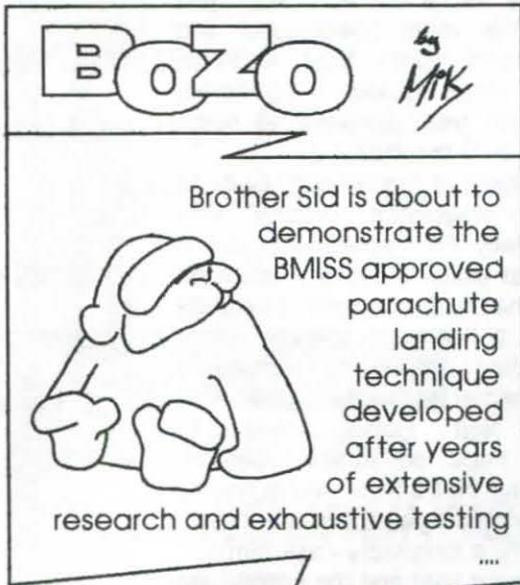
*Attempt 5:* Sid refuses to let go at top until shaken down by BOF who recommences cursing Sid

Final score: Brother Sid: 3/BOF: 1/Drawn: 1. So it happens to us all!

Thanks to the WHKF (or 'WHIFF' as my PC spellchecker insists on suggesting!) for a brilliant weekend - an excellent end to last years season.

**Toody Oakhill**

FLOWFORM



**GERONIMO**

Traditional parachutists cry indicating release. In this case it means the little blue bunny has reached terminal velocity and is about to fill his underpants.

Orang-outang free zone - Absolutely no follically overendowed simians of unknown parentage closer than Roman Candle

BMISS R&D budget = one catering size can of condensed milk & a packet of Fishermens Friends

**SPLAT!**



**POOLE (OF WATER?) 30/10/94**

It rained.  
It tipped it down.  
I wish I could say something else about this small meeting but the memory of horizontal minuscule missiles of water permeating everything from waist down (at least I had a waterproof coat) still sends my important little places in to a state of damp shock. So all I can say is... it rained hard!  
Carolyn and I met Gill and Barry Pitman in Poole. The event was a small exhibition of kites by various makers (very small as it turned out) with a fly in and workshop. The latter did not happen. So we had a cup of tea, got soaked - and I mean soaked, and came home.

It rained very hard!  
**Jerry Swift**

**250 SLED KITES LATER...**

- ☘ = Toody Oakhill/Mik Jennison
- ☘ = Ray 'Oakie 1' Oakhill
- ☘ = Baz Poulter
- ☺ = 13 year old student

☘ "Yeah, you could handle it... it would be a doddle, school activity week... loadsa fun"  
☘ "Err... just how many kids are we talking here?"  
☘ "Oh... not so many per session, you've done it before..."  
☘ "Yes, but not like for a whole week... day in... day out..."  
☘ "It's paid"  
☘ "We'll do it! So how many kids are we talking here?"  
☘ "... well... 250... but spread over a whole week of course"  
☘ "250... you're kidding... what age?"  
☘ "13"  
☘ "... 13... isn't that the obnoxious age? (I seem to remember!)"  
☘ "It'll be a breeze... you'll see"  
☘ "So how many sessions... how many *gruesome* 13 year olds per workshop?"  
☘ "Oh just 20 or 25"  
☘ "WHAT!! So what kite are we making?"  
☘ "Well time pressure dictates it's got to be sled kites which should be pretty simple... except for teaching them the bowline knots"  
☘ "Bowlines... oh good grief... isn't that the rabbit comes up the rabbit-hole, runs round the tree and goes back down the

GERONIMO

rabbit-hole... or is that the rabbit climbs the tree, can't find the rabbit-hole, despairs, finds a piece of line that's meant to be a bowline and hangs itself?"

☛"And by the way... you don't mind being called 'Miss' and 'Sir' do you?"

☛"Uggghhh..."

☛☛"Hi Baz, I don't suppose you'd happen to be free on the week of 27 June by any chance?"

☛☛"Erm, maybe... why?"

☛☛"Well we've sort of landed ourselves a workshop... there's just one thing..."

☛☛"Yeah... workshops are wacky fun... tell me where, tell me when... I'll be there!"

☛☛"Phew!"

*Notable comments of the week -*

☛"If you try to make a hole in the bench with my hole punch again... I'll make one in your head!"

☺"Miss - fly mine for me will you - I'd rather be sunbathing!"

☛"No, I don't think the word 'SEX' in purple and green is a very creative design for your sled kite! And yes, Man Utd and East 17 have been done already this week."

☺"Sir, are all the Brighton Kite Flyers called Barry?"

☛"Well only half... the other half are called John, and it's not so weird - all the White Horse Kite Flyers are called Dave!"

☺"Here Sir, look after our kites... we're going for a \*fag in the bushes" (\*USA readers read cigarette!)

☛"Surely *she's* not only 13 years old?"

☛"Oh s\*\*t... isn't it group A next - the ones who only walked half a mile of their downland activity and staged a sit in for the rest of the day?!"

Well we got to the end of the week, eventually, and now fully appreciate why teachers drink and smoke so much! Seriously though, to end on a positive note - it certainly was an experience, it was fun, we learnt a lot (probably more than the students!) and did enjoy it... they really weren't all that bad! The majority of students produced some brilliant kites and seemed to get a lot out of it. Thanks to Beth the Art teacher and to Barrys Poulter and Pitman for their brave and invaluable assistance above and beyond the call of duty!

A couple of weeks later...

☛"Yeah, you could handle it... it would be a doddle, university summer activity day... loadsa fun"

☛"Err... just how many students are we

talking here?"

☛"Oh... not so many per session, but there's just one problem..."

☛"Oh yes, and what is it this time?"

☛"They're Japanese language students..."

☛"So they're learning Japanese - what's the problem there?"

☛"No - they're Japanese and they haven't learnt any English yet."

☛"WHAT?! You mean not only will we be teaching the Japanese about kites (isn't that a bit like teaching your Grandmother to suck eggs?!) but they speak no English!... well if we got through the last one I suppose we can get through anything!"

☛☛"Hi Baz, I don't suppose you'd happen to be free on the 15 August by any chance?..."

*Toody 'don't call me teach' Oakhill*

### **BKF AGM REMINDER**

**Devil's Dyke Inn/Thursday 9 February 1995/8.00pm onwards:** This year we have decided to combine the Club Monthly Social Evening with the AGM - so that's one less extra free evening and a few less beer vouchers to find!

All Club members are invited to come along to the AGM to air their views, suggestions and ideas. If you can't attend, then your ideas are still very welcome and will be put forward if posted to me at the Editor's address.

### **BKF FLY-IN REMINDER DATES**

**1st Sunday/Month: Hollingbury**

Grid Ref: 198TQ 324 083 from 11.00am

**3rd Sunday/Month: Telscombe Tye**

Grid Ref: 198TQ 392 017 from 11.00 am

**2nd Thursday/Month: The Devil's Dyke Inn/Devil's Dyke** from 8.00pm

Grid Ref: 198TQ 258 112 Social bash

and flying evening

### **USE THIS SPACE**

Thanks to all this issue's contributors. Please send anything for inclusion in the April issue by 10 March 1995 to...

**Toody Oakhill/Editor**

**The Brighton Kite Flyers**

**Flat 29/Astra House**

**Kings Road**

**Brighton**

**East Sussex**

**BN1 2HJ**

**☎ 0273 321395**

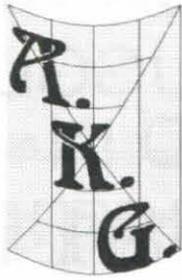
BEER DRINK

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**THE SPECIALIST KITE SHOP**



# Artistic Kite Group

# NEWS

## Volume 1 Issue 2

You may have noticed in the last issue of the kiteflier a column mentioning the possibility of the formation of a new group, which would be dedicated to the more artistic side of kiting. I think I should make it clear from the start that when I use the word Art I use it very loosely and I do hope people don't think that this group is only for people who are fine artists in any classical or academic sense, although these people will of course be welcome as well.

No this group is for that not so small in numbers group of people who really enjoy decorating their kites, and basically making them look more attractive by what ever means they like.

This group is not just an idea anymore the response has been really good and I am pleased to say that the Artistic Kite Group has arrived.

### The Aims of the A.K.G.

(what's it all about)

The idea behind the AKG is that out there is a whole wealth of talented artistic people who make and fly some beautiful kites. and yet at the various kite festivals up and down the country ( with the notable exception of Bristol ) very little time or space is given over to these kites. Obviously the Internationally famous visitors do get to show their kites but little opportunity is given to the ordinary kite maker to display his or her work.

The primary aim of the AKG is to try to help to put this unfortunate oversight right. In order to do this we need to convince the people who put on kite festivals that there is sufficient interest in artistic kites to justify them giving us space at their events.

Secondly I would like to see far more kite exhibitions within the community as a whole. These exhibitions of artistic kites do take place but are poorly advertised / publicised and in the past have rarely even made the pages of The Kiteflier Only through increasing the profile of Artistic Kiting can kites become recognised as a valid platform for artistic expression.

Thirdly In order that people understand and are aware of the great diversity of methods and techniques available to the budding kite artist the AKG will try to promote and publish ideas and techniques so that skills can be shared through these pages.

Fourthly I have already begun a file of photographs of the work of members to show at kite festivals and elsewhere in order to promote the work of members of the AKG to as wide an audience as possible.

Finally I would like to see the AKG have its own kite festival which could truly put artistic kiting firmly on the map. This however is dependant totally on whether adequate support can be found.

This list is not exhaustive and anyone with any positive constructive suggestions is welcome to contribute.

Costs :-

Membership of the AKG is **FREE** to anyone who is interested in artistic kites and kiting.

I have already produced a small first newsletter which has been sent out to those who have contacted me and hope to continue with this so long as I can afford to.

(my apologies to those who received the first newsletter for the considerable repetition here but it is necessary)

Any contributions e.g. postage stamps would be most welcome but are not essential I accept that we all have different means to live within.

**HIGH  
JINX**

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**TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME.**

## Events News

### Shrewsbury 1995

Shrewsbury Kite festival is planned as ever for the first weekend in July and Tony Slater Who organises the event has kindly offered us space to put on a small display of Artistic Kites during the festival:

To be honest I normally go to Washington for the inevitably conflicting Festival of the Air but if there is sufficient interest in Shrewsbury I would be willing to forgo my annual trek up north to Washington and organise a display at Shrewsbury.

### Swindon 1995

Swindon Kite festival is planned for the 13th and 14th of May and Peter Dawson has contacted me and asked if the AKG would put on a display at the festival, so anyone interested please contact me and I'll include your work in the exhibition. which should be on the walls of the marquee

### Birmingham Kite festival / Sculpting the sky 1995

The Midland Kite fliers in conjunction with Birmingham city council are arranging a kite festival in Birmingham sometime in April ( the date is not fixed yet ) and again the AKG has been asked to put on an exhibition, this may also take the form of a friendly competition with perhaps a best kite in show award. All of this is not yet finalised but I hope we will find out in the near future and I'll let anyone who is interested know as soon as I do.

### Other festivals

If any other festival organisers would like to include an artistic kite display or competition at their festival then I would be only too happy to co-ordinate / help with it. anyone else who wishes to be involved in helping to set up exhibitions would be warmly welcomed

please contact me at the address given.

## Materials News

Harry Douglas has some cheap first quality ripstop made by a manufacturer called Hood it is 1 m wide and is available in jade, purple, light blue, red, orange, yellow, green and black, and it costs £1.50 / m

if your interested phone Harry on 0202-660457

## Contributions

If the AKG section of the magazine is to be successful then it will need your contributions, please send your photos, anecdotes, articles, plans, reports, reviews, techniques, tips, or anything else you think may be of interest .

To start you all off I have included below one of my own designs.

### Thank you

I would like to thank all those people who have responded to the idea of an artistic kite group, by writing letters, making phone calls and even sending E-mail. especially Gill and Jon for allowing us this space without which we would have to charge people.

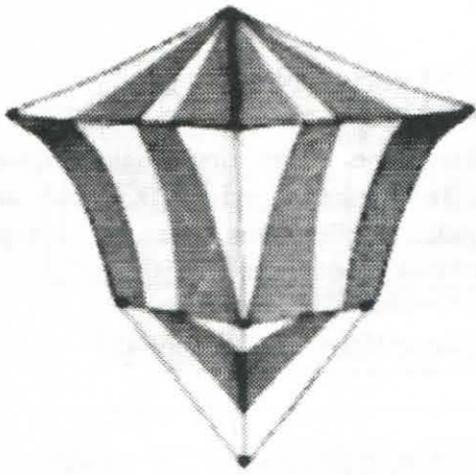
## Contacts

If you wish to send anything to the AKG then send it to

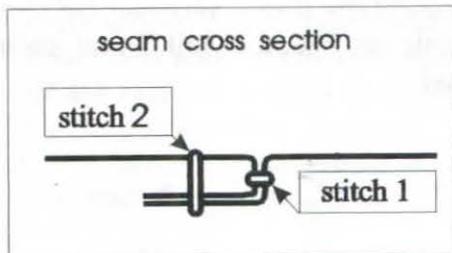
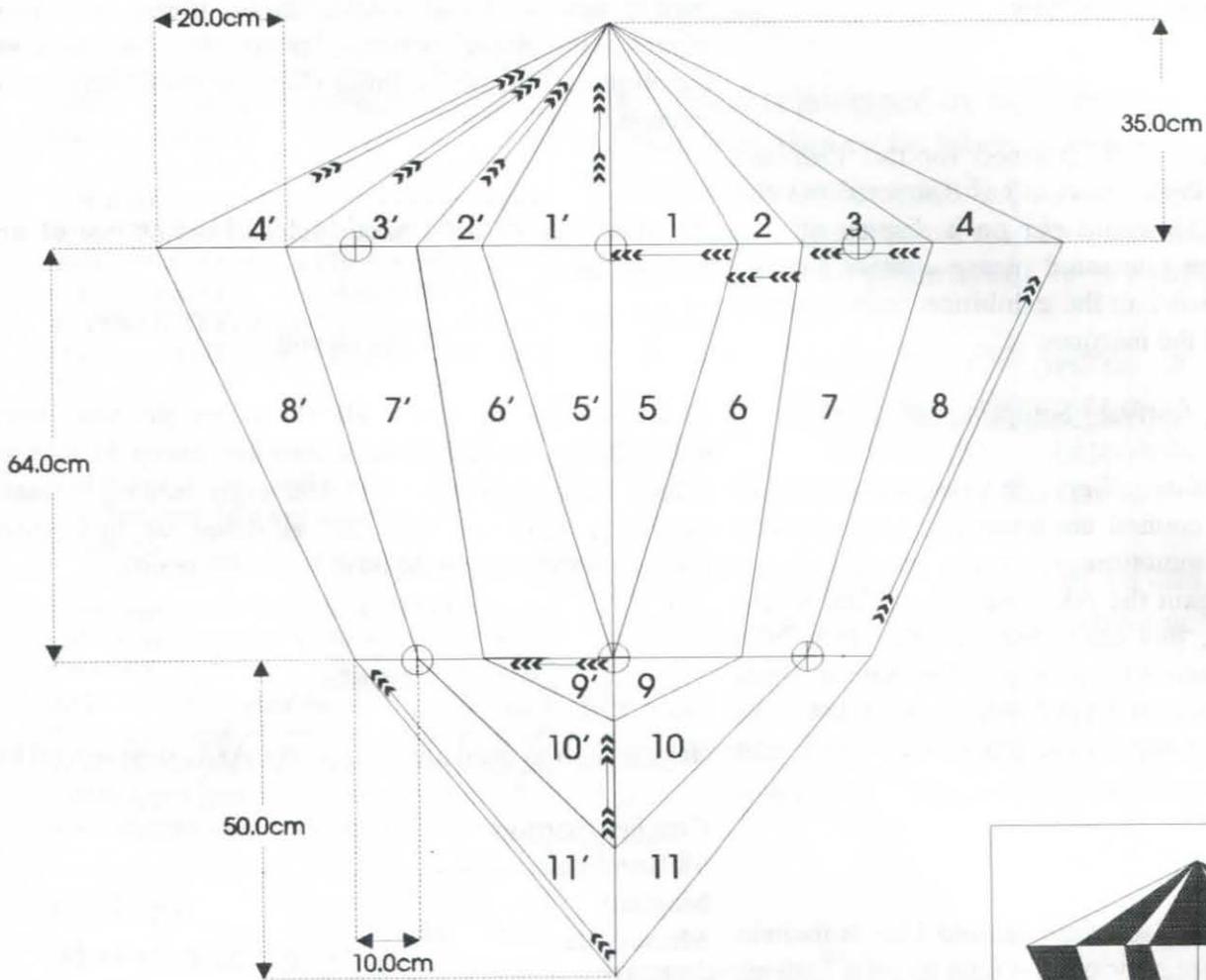
Charlie Charlton  
38 Beechway  
Maghull  
Merseyside  
L31 1HP

Tel. 051 526 9913

Unfortunately at present my E-mail provider has closed so I am not available on internet until I find another cheap source of feed.



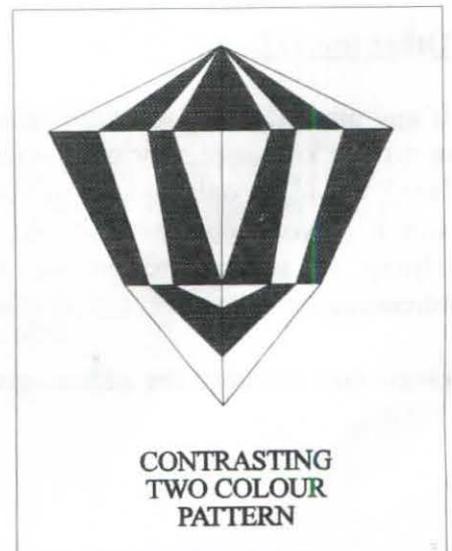
# JEWEL KITE



»»» ————— »»»  
**GRAIN OF  
 FABRIC**

⊕  
**BRIDLE POINT**

COPYRIGHT : J. (CHARLIE) CHARLTON 1993



## Competition

The AKG logo at the beginning of this section which I have designed is a rather makeshift affair so I thought a competition to design a new one would be a good idea. as a prize I am putting up one of the below jewel kites which I have made.

Please send your entries to me by March 1st . Remember the design should not be too complicated as hopefully we should be able to get some pins made up with the design on.

### JEWEL KITE

This kite which I have published previously in a couple regional kite magazines has been very successful. It will fly in extremely light airs on about a 25lb line or in stronger conditions on about 70lb line.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

This kite is made up of 22 panels to make it you will need to make cardboard templates for all the pieces fortunately this only needs the making of 10 different templates since the left and right are simply mirror images of each other and panels 6 and 7 are identical .

The reason that the central panels are 64 cms high and not 65 cms is that A2 card is 64 cms wide and is widely available for making templates .only piece , number 4 requires two pieces of card to be joined

Once you have made the ten templates mark around them onto the fabric using a fine line I use children's coloured pencils varying the colour dependant on the fabric colour to produce a clear contrast.

Leave a little space around each piece to add the seam allowance. The seam allowance I recommend is a quarter inch, make this allowance as accurate as you can and the pieces will match up when sewn together much more easily.

When the pieces are all marked out cut them out exactly along the seam allowance line, I use a surgeons scalpel and a metal rule but a rotary cutter or even scissors could be used with care.

If you look at the plan you will see that although the kite is made of 22 panels it can be broken down into six areas top left, centre right, and bottom left etc. When assembling the kite these areas should all be constructed first before any of these six are joined together.

Firstly sew the seams between pieces 1 and 2 ,then 2 and 3 etc. and continue until pieces 1 to 4 are all joined repeat this for 1' to 4' and then for 5 to 8 and 5' to 8' finally join the pieces 9 to 11 and 9' to 11' you should now have six panels. Always work out from the centreline.

The best method of joining each panel is to use a patchwork method, Lay the front faces of each piece of fabric facing each other and carefully align the edges. sew down the line leaving two small flaps of fabric sticking out at the back and a clean join on the front of the kite .

Once all six sections are constructed return to the first piece to flatten it and strengthen the seams lay the flaps of fabric on the back towards the outside edges and sew another line down their centres

Join the remaining 6 panels into 3 by combining the top pair, middle pair and bottom pair.

flatten all the seams the same way to either the left or right. Using the same method as before join the top, middle and bottom into one piece and flatten both seams downwards.

The outside edged can now be edge bound over the quarter inch seam allowances, I use a half inch polyester tape but if you can't find this then a folded piece of ripstop cut with the grain would suffice.

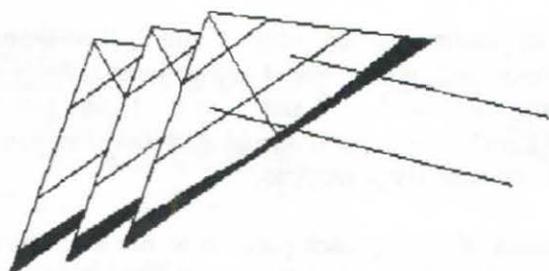
Add small pockets at the six points and frame using 6 mm dowel for the horizontal spars and a 6.35 mm glassfibre tube for the spine the cross spars should be set at a dihedral using the widely available plastic moulded variety .If you intend to fly in strong winds then use or at least have a spare set of glassfibre spars all of 6.35 mm

I recommend a six legged bridle along the lines of rokkaku type bridling attached via small loops these should be on the lines connecting top to middle and middle to bottom, at the top they should be 40 cm either side and in the middle whereas at the bottom they should be 30 cm either side and again in the middle.

At the back of the kite it is also advisable to attach small ties at the bridle points to hold the frame to the sail.

The bridle length is not critical but about 2m for the central line, top and bottom and the outer lines adjusted to pull evenly when the dihedrals are in place. Connect the top three lines to the bottom three with a central piece of about 50 cm and add a small aluminium ring to adjust the towing point.

If you have any problems feel free to contact me and I'll help if I can.



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## The Sale

Start of season or end of season sale (depends on your view point)

The following kites are in the sale first come first served ring for colours and availability

Kite	price	sale price	discount
Lightflite .....	86.00	57.33	33% off
LightfliteS .....	90.00	60.00	33% off
Lightflite Heavy .....	63.00	42.00	33% off
Lightflite Radial .....	116.00	77.33	33% off
Revolution Backtracker .....	79.99	59.99	25% off
Power House Lapwing .....	59.95	44.96	25% off
Highflyers Sprite .....	39.99	29.99	25% off
Highflyers Speedthang .....	29.99	22.49	25% off
Flexifoil Impulse (94 colours) ...	69.50	55.60	20% off

Sale prices do not include post and packing or any other previous offer

Just in Flexifoils new full size free style kite the Stranger  
All the usual kites / spares / D.I.Y. stuff available at  
**GREAT PRICES with GREAT SERVICE**  
**HAPPY FLYING NEW YEAR**

Dynema line and straps still available at £5.00 with most kites (not in the sale).

Mail order at no extra cost. Free post and packing on all kites and parts / spares over £15.

All major credit cards accepted on telephone orders for same day dispatch.

For a full price list of kites and spares / diy parts just ring or write to the above address.

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**open till 8pm**

# ROMAN CANDLE 35



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Mindless Drivel content far exceeds 100%. Guaranteed Politically Incorrect and proud of it.

# Absolutely horrendous.



Yes, Absolutely Horrendous does describe the ghastly happening which occurred at Old Warden II, last year. Believe it or not, the one and only South Coast Slapper was Bearnapped, by of all people, the BOF. What, you may ask was the reason for this dreadful Deed? Why was the leading light of the 'FROTH off the BEER'saga, forcibly taken, without so much as a by your leave, and subjected to what some would regard as Water Torture.

Actually, this 'Bearnapping' was because the BOF had decided that as it was all of Twelve Years since Suzy Bear, the Grotty little Moo, had seen a Bath Tub, it was high time that 'Auld Reekie' the Scrubber had a bloody good Scrub, Yoo Wot!

A while back, we related the story of how Clifford the Will Kipper Parachuting Dragon had blocked up the plumbing at BOF towers. Clifford was as clean as a new Pin compared to Suzy Bear. I kid you not. The Bof was gobsmacked at the colour of the water, let alone the Pong. Holy cow, talk about an enviromental hazard, he almost felt guilty about letting the filthy brew go down the plughole.

What of Suzy Bear herself?, well, I suppose I could relate a load of old Cobblers, about how she was forced kicking and screaming into the Bath Tub, but suffice it to say, we think she rather enjoyed it, after all, with that amount of crud attached to her, it must have been a relief to rid herself of all that weight. Lets face it, any Slapper worth her salt would be pleased to be a bit cleaner, as well as ponging somewhat sweeter. Oakyey One was well impressed, Biggles, (the cuckolded spouse) said it was high time his Old Woman cleaned up her act, and gave her a Sloppy Wet One, but Drunken Dave was aghast at the change in his paramour. "Holy Cow, ow will I find me Bird in a Fog" and promptly keeled over.

## "MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE"

Not exactly a message in a bottle, but something even more peculiar came through our Letterbox the other Day. Even the BOF was a bit Gobsmacked when he opened the Box and laid a Jaundiced Eye on, wait for it, a Bear in a Bottle.

Yep, I kid you not, a poor little Bear had been Jammed into a Bottle. Thinking at first that this must be some kind of a PO-Faced Joke, it was only after reading the enclosed note that the BOF realised that far from being a PO-Faced Joke, it was in fact a Stateside type Joke, saying that as we always reckon that Bears have Bottle, it was about time that a Bottle had a Bear.

Ho! Ho!, very droll. as it happens said Bear does'nt seem to be phased by being in said Bottle, and I think its only fair that we preserve the anonimity of the kind person who sent it, as the BMISS H Q mob as yet, have'nt seen him (WINTER KIP), they may think its yet another form of Fauna Torture, devised by those rottèn HUMES.

# EMIL THE CROSS-EYED TREASURE

HE'S old. A bit cross-eyed. Entirely the wrong colour. And he was picked up for £1.50 in a flea market.

But Emil the blue mohair Teddy bear will make a fortune at auction this month.

So will a black bear called Kristopher, who sports the uniform of a Russian Imperial Hussar. Both were made by the renowned German

Teddy-bear firm of Steiff. And each, in his way, is unique.

Emil, 12 inches high, was made in 1908. But the makers found that children didn't want bears in dark colours. So few others, if any, were produced.

In 10 days' time at Sotheby's in London, he could beat the world record price of £55,000. His woman

owner, who bought Emil in Germany, says: "Steiff say he is possibly the only one of his type in the world."

Kristopher, aged 82, may have been made for the Russian royal family, murdered in 1917.

Sotheby's bear expert Bunny Campione says: "We hope Emil and Kristopher will become the two most valuable Teddies in the world."

## RARE BEARS FAIL TO SELL

TWO teddy bears expected to sell for more than £55,000 each were left on the shelf at Sotheby's yesterday after bids failed to top £7,500.



Say what you will, it does seem as if the Auction Price attained by various Bears that come up for sale, is definitely in, Inverse Ratio to the amount of Hype that accompanies each and every one.

The Ten Days referred to in the above piece have come and long gone, and as you can see, they both failed abysmally to anywhere their considerable reserve Price to get near.

Meanwhile with seemingly very little advance Hype, Teddy Girl, a Steiff Bear with an exciting past, calmly accepts the fact that she broke the previous world record price, by a whopping margin.

You can suppose that there is method in the seeming Madness displayed by her buyer, But, and its a big BUT, £100,000+ does appear to be completely out of the real World.

## DEAR OLD BEAR

A TEDDY bear taken to the D-Day landings sold for an amazing £110,000 yesterday.

Ninety-year old Teddy Girl fetched double the previous record despite a reserve price of just £8,000. The buyer at Christie's in London was a Japanese collector.

The mohair toy, made by German firm Steiff, went to war with collector Colonel Bob Henderson. It was sold by his grand-daughter Deirdre, 30, of Thame, Oxfordshire. She said: "I can't believe it - £110,000!"

### Blessed F.H.B., May his Tribe Increase.....And How, Yoo Wot.

Gordon Bennett, you can say that again. Is it something they put in the Water down his way? Talk about getting swamped or even over run with reasonable facimiles of F.H.B. First off, of course, there was his Nibs, then out of the blue came F.H.B. Junior, an erstwhile younger version of himself. Then if you please, theres Great Uncle Flatulence, a rather elderly reprobate, known to be an enviromental hazard.

Now, of all things a somewhat crotchety old girl, who calls herself, Great Aunty Wintergreen has taken up residence at the BMISS HQ. We wer'nt aware, but it seems as if theres a populatin explosion among Parachuting Orang-Utangs. Not to worry, all are welcome.

Stop Press! Oh brother, we think we now know wny she's called Wintergreen. Mama Mia, talk about make yer eyes water. Hey, always look oOn the bright side of life. Great Aunty Wintergreen wont need to bugger up the average PO-Faced display by crashing into their midst, she can just do a low level Drift Past and Gas 'em, Yeah!

# Do not adjust your set



Of Parabear World Records. After hearing, what those Chipper Chappies from Down Under got up to at Festival of the Wind 94.

Peter Coleman and Duncan McEvoy fairly demolished the existing Category II (Dump) Record when they successfully Bombed 289 Bears using a very novel method. A Traveller equipped with an Arrow Head containing a Pin, sailed up the Kiteline to where a large Bag of Bears was attached at a pre-determined height. On the line near the Bag was a Balloon, the bursting of which, by the Pin in the Arrow Head, released a Locking Bar controlling the 'Trap Door' in the Bear Bag. Any complicated system such as this is always prone to GO- Wrongs, but not this one as it worked perfectly.

BMISS is pleased to rectify 289 Bears as the New Cat II Record, and there also was a very nice Bonus as Peter, Duncan and Crew also raised nearly 1,000 Dollars for the Childrens Hospital in Sydney, and that cant be bad.



**AARRRGHHHHH!!!** He's at it again. Not content with bombing 1147 assorted fauna from a Pole, and even Bungee Bombing the odd few, whilst causing general Mayhem about the place.

Don Newing erstwhile loony in Chief of the Mini Skydivers, has come up with another crazy variation in his eternal quest to Launch

Fauna in ever more Barmy ways. Don calls this The Catapult (was he in the Fleet Air Arm?) It consists of Two Poles, several Yards of Knicker Elastic and a sort of Sling arrangement, into which the unsuspecting Fauna is placed. Apply some Muscle and Yabba, Dabba Doo, loads of merriment for the assembled onlookers, plus symptoms of a High Fibre Diet for the Fauna.

Don reckons that when he has taught the Fauna how to deploy their chutes, or for that matter, sussed out himself, how to get the little swine to Deploy automatically, every time, a great deal more entertainment will be forthcoming, but until then we'll have to accept a large percentage of Totals, Ce la Vie.

" Hey, Don, see this surplus Rocket Motor Advert?.....

## Dont try this at Home Kids...

A Toddler in Kuwait escaped serious Injury, when she threw her Ted out of her Third Floor Bedroom Window and promptly leapt out trying to catch it. Two Year old Horaa, whose Ted is her most treasured possession, was lucky to survive the 30ft plunge, and so was the Ted. Next time wear a Chute!.....

THE

# IF YOU CAN'T BEAT THEM, BORE THEM..



PAGE

As every Newsletter Reader and Editor knows there comes a time in said Journals existence, when it becomes a bit of a game and a half trying to fill up the Pages. There you sit, twiddling your Paws, gazing into the distance and wishing you had your Nose buried in a large Jar of Honey.

The last thing on your mind is Parachuting. Even thoughts of Winding up the Po-Faced begin to Pall, when suddenly, Eureka, heres something Newsworthy, seeing as how we rarely give the poor Sod a mention.

Theodore Edward O'Hows Yer Farva Bear, erst-while El Presidente of "DIRT CHEAP PRESS" has got his moniker on of all things, what is termed a Utility Set. Amazing, for \$9 you can have a Jar full of culinary weapons, with which you can wre-  
eak havoc on your Collation, secure in the know-  
ledge that every one of your actions will be over-



rseen by  
the Lad  
hisself.

Gordon  
Bennett,  
aint you  
lucky, Ho,  
Ho, Ho.

**"Theodore Bear" Utility Set**  
Set includes "Theodore Bear" holder filled with a variety of kitchen tools.



Thurston Gruntfuttock (RT) receiving the German Roller Clubs Knobbly Knees Contest Trophy, from Aloysious Halitosis(LT) At Pompey 94. (only Kite Fest Knobbly Knee contest in the World?)

## And finally someone's dyed the milk black

(THAT GOT YOR ATTENSHUN)

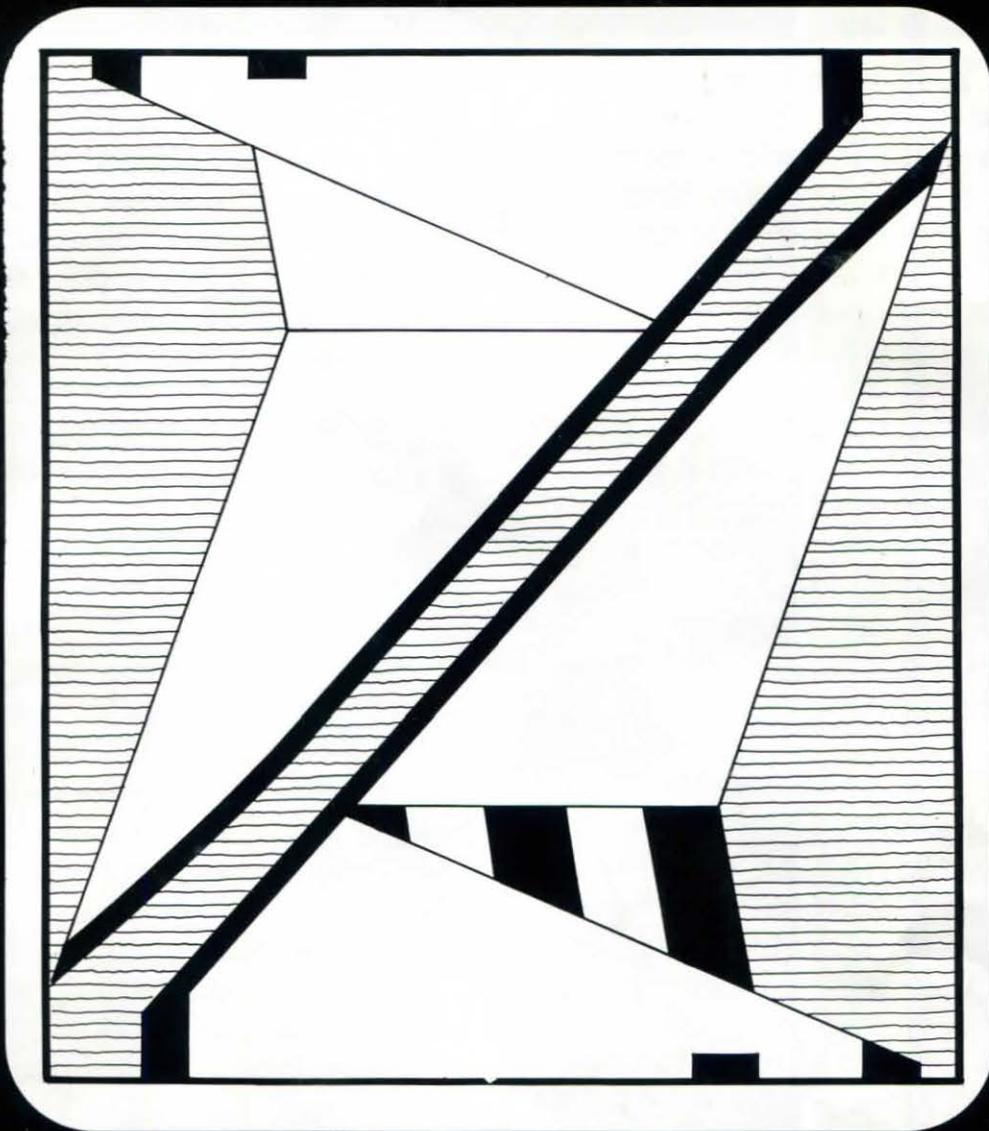
No they have'nt, its normally that colour, if not Dark Green after being in our Fridge.

Your News, Voos and any old  
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# The Kite Buyer

Newsletter of the Kite Store of London, England

Happy New Year to all and sundry. 1994 was one of those Years when the Kite business was a little depressed (!). Towards the end of the Year we started to see the demise of a number of businesses around the World due to recession/local competition etc. Anyway enough gloom & disaster, what's to report.

Hmmm. Worlds Apart have revamped their range of stunt kites making them a. cheaper & b. better looking (they finally killed off the graffiti Rebel!). We sell rather a lot of this range as starter stunts and they come thoroughly recommended.

Flexifoil have a new catalogue showing their expanded range (includes the Andy Preston designed Stranger kite) & they have an updated/redesigned buggy. Improvements to the buggy include clip-in footpegs & main tubes (the buggy no longer flies apart if the seat webbing fails!) and a single bolt adjusting tube detail. Flexifoil are also distributing Peter Lynn quick release power kite handles. These handles are designed primarily for Peter Lynn kites where the kite continues to generate considerable power if you release just one line and so these handles drop both lines if you let go. While this is fine for Peels it is not ideal for Flexifoils where all kite power is lost if you drop just one line and so we

suggest that if you use these handles with Flexifoils you modify them so only one line is dropped (easily). Not only does this stop you losing the kites it prevents the released kite from making a downwind nuisance of themselves (viz. By dragging across powerlines or roads).

We now stock the Sandpiper in its standard form (not the ultralite form flow indoors at the Docklands Area indoor kite festival to a British record by Chris Matheson- !! two and a bit hours walking circles etc)- choice of colours in stock- fairly standard shaped kite with calm handling characteristics.

The Health & Safety Executive finally caught up with one of my more favorite light wind toys- Estes Rockets. They have decided (after nearly five years) that the engines are an explosive device that belongs in the same category as fireworks. Consequently we have had to obtain a fireworks license and can no longer despatch engines through the post to our customers although we can still send the kits through the post (also no igniters through the post).

Not much this time, but Winter is a quiet time for things new- Trade shows & Spring coming up so hopefully more next time.

The Kite Store Ltd, 48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA

Tel; 0171 836 1666

Fax; 0171 836 2510