

THE KITEFLIER

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NEWSLETTER
OF
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT
BRITAIN



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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers

With this issue members will receive a copy of the 1997 Kite Society Handbook. The handbook is compiled as a result of questionnaires being sent to all kite shops and groups on our records and the returned forms used to compile the lists. We hope you find it useful and, if you require further copies then these are available from us.

The convention in Weymouth has a very good cross section of talks for both single line fliers and sports kite fliers - in fact the only main activity missing is aerial photography! We hope that you will support the event - remember it is free.

From some of the comments made to us recently we feel it is worth reminding people that the Kite Society, and the magazine, are run by just the two of us - in our "spare" time. It is not our full time job and we really do rely on our readers to supply articles for the magazine. Remember this can be letters, kite reviews, kite plans, festival reports - in fact anything kite related.

So we look forward to hearing from you.

Good flying for 1997

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Front Cover Photo

**The front cover shows one of Peter Dolphins Arches flying at Weymouth. Peter will be talking at the convention on Arches - see page 11 for details.
 Photo: Tony Bates**

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct The Kite Society cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions that occur. Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors or the Kite Society.

Letters

From Donna Finch

I am 13 years old and I live in Torquay. I have been flying two line kites for a year and I am looking for some companions, around my age, boys or girls to come flying with me. Is there anyone out there? [Write to Donna - 48 Bampfylde Road, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5AY].

From N Repper

Following the article in January's copy of the newsletter of the Society by the editor/publisher of KITES magazine regarding its eventual demise and the launch of Kites International in '97, I endeavoured to contact (by both phone and letter) the editorial office of the magazine to enquire after the position of subscribers to the publication for the copies to be published in '97. To date I have yet to see a copy of the '97 publications or to receive any communications of any description to explain the situation.

I am, to say the least, a little aggrieved by this cavalier attitude as £12 to the likes of an O.A.P. like myself has to be found and to feel that it has been paid out for nothing leaves a nasty feeling of being conned.

Has anyone out there had any more joy than me in making contact and if they have can they let me know how they managed it so I can follow suit.

[Mr Repper's letter is just one of the many letters we have had on this subject. Our current understanding, via the grapevine, is that an issue of Kites Magazine (the last) should have been published shortly after Easter. We will have to wait and see.]

From Nicky Cruden

I am writing to express my agreement with Jerry Swift's letter published in the January 1997 issue of 'The Kiteflier' where Jerry suggested that 'Kites Magazine' did not get sufficient support from the Kite Society.

'Kites Magazine' is an excellent, professional publication, well produced with interesting features. Very importantly, it is as Jerry says, a home-grown publication every bit as good (I say better) than 'American Kite'. Kite Passion on the other hand is not such a good beast. It does not report on 'small', 'local' kite festivals and is clumsily prepared. The only

recommendation I can give 'Kite Passion' is for an 'Oscar' reward for the most typographical errors I have ever encountered in a magazine - indeed issue 2 of this magazine contains an article on 'The Platinum' all of which I don't understand!

It is to be regretted that 'Kites Magazine' has run into financial difficulty, due in part we are told (by Barry Pitman) by 'late payments' and subsequent court action to recover debts. I would be interested in knowing what organisations were to blame - indeed, I for one would be willing to boycott purchasing goods from these organisations. Dare Barry tell us, dare 'The Kiteflier' publish the names and suggest 'blacklisting' them? *[If the Kiteflier was to publish any such list we would publish the names of those who owe The Kite Society money - Barry is not the only one with non-payment problems!]*.

May I congratulate Barry Pitman for the fine job he did in producing such a good magazine and wish him every success with 'Kites International'.

[From The Kite Society's point of view we also feel it is a shame that Kites Magazine did not fight it out - after all it may have won. The main point is that not producing a magazine for 6 months, missing out on the winter months when there are no festivals to sell at and keep telling people "it will be out at" and then not coming out is nothing to be proud of. Despite not being glossy and full of photographs The Kiteflier, and previously KON has always been out in the month of publication or the last 18 years!].

From Michael Martin

I must disagree with Mr Phillips who obviously is not familiar with launching Flexis. Whilst in ideal conditions pulling the kite into the wind works quite often we do not always (if ever) have "ideal" flying conditions. I would certainly not recommend "staking" handles when launching Flexis. How many of us have experienced self launches before we actually get back to the handles?

Mr Phillips must also have the luxury of a well kept flying site. I would suggest trying to launch on not so ideal surfaces. Having seen Mr Stephenson's system in operation it is surprising how/why it has not been thought of before! It is simple and 100% successful.

You've flown the rest. Now fly the best !.



FORCE NINE KITES are pleased to announce that we are now UK distributors for the RARE AIR KITE CO. The RARE AIR KITE CO formerly of St Ives Cornwall, and now based in Cape Town, South Africa, has over the past decade been at the forefront of sports kite development. Kite designer Zbys Kaczmarek is known throughout the World for his range of high performance, quality kites.

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Kite Review & Ramblings

SPICE

Manufactured by Kited: SPIRIT OF AIR

Designed by: Dave Maddocks

WEIGHT: 30 grams approx WIND RANGE: 0-15 [+ Indoors]

WIDTH: 108 cm SKILL LEVEL: Novice +

HEIGHT: 54 cm

Barry Pitman and I both missed a great opportunity to fly this kite in Malaysia, me by not stealing Paul Hankins, and Barry because he just didn't take it. I had flown the kite at Pauls' shop {Kosmic Kites, in Surbiton} the day before I flew to Malaysia for the World Sport Kite Grand Prix. I was very impressed, the first impression was of a kite that performed well in very enclosed space and on very short lines. But, still felt like a quality kite with good performance. Axles, 540 etc on 3 foot lines - with some luck.

My next encounter was at the Euro cup, Le Touquet. Saturday night and I had to impress the crowd of flyers. Firstly show John Mitchell [Quad Euro champ], how to fly a Rev in a room 10 foot high. We were at the Aqualube, but, flying on the dance floor. Then as Paul was flying the spice, and was a little the worse for...

I flew the spice, I was very impressed my first impressions were right. I had thought this was one of the best small kites I had flown. I was right, it out performed all but the French small kite that was being flown by Axle Provost. I [the kite] must have impressed Axles' dad because in broken English he called me the King of Indoors flyers. I was having a good evening and the flying was captured on TV, dry ice and kites should look really good.

Next test flight came just after Xmas, on Jan 5th, a cold clear almost windless day up on Epsom Downs. I had taken my son, Blackhole - 540 [too many Axles already] actually he is Luca, KSGB member since

birth.

Anyway he has been watching the likes of Gary Pullinger, Lee Lindstrom, Andy Wardley and Graham Piggott flying since he was born. He now pesters them all to let him fly. So on this day I put the spice together and gave him the lines [included with my version, check your supplier or Dave for availability - at long last a technical bit !!] and he flew the kite, that's it. He likes the way it doesn't pull too much in light wind, and it isn't too fast either, but it does have a nice turning circle. For him its about a wing tip, older flyers can pull it into a tight spin inside its wing tip.

Within a week he could roll it over on the ground when it crashes and he's done at least one witnessed Axle. [For the records I think this is the youngest Two line flyer and youngest person to do an Axle. Unless you know better ?

Since then a couple of Spices have be seen up on the downs [Ginger and Sporty !!] and we had an mini competition to see who could get it to 540 on a slightly windy day. The sail is very efficient and the kite is light so that getting it to 540 or Axle in windy conditions is a bit of a test. Andy Wardley did it first time, no surprise there. Turtles and recovery, flic flacs and Axle variations were also accomplished.

What do you get for your money, Icarex sail, ripstop leading edge. General performance; The kite will spin well within its wing tip. This kite is aimed I would think at an experienced flyer looking for a kite that can perform as no wind trick kite. It can do, Axles, cascades and

Kite Review & Ramblings

Coin tosses are no problem, 540 flat spins are a bit harder. The kite flies well indoors, equal to the best from France.

Overall,
+Good price, well made
- lack of graphics.

If you see me, come and have a go.

If Luca will let you.....

Simon

I have now had a quick go on the Shuriken Omega, again from SPIRIT OF AIR. This will be the most popular kite for competition flyers in 1997, at least 4 pairs and 1 Team will be flying it in the UK. In addition from first appearance it feels like a good individual Trick kite so good fun if you just want a well made high quality 8 foot kite. Also I have just had a go with Flexifoils new "Team" kite the Matrix as used by Aircraft. Tricks OK the 540 was a bit of a struggle [I did it on the second attempt !!] You will no doubt see both of these in the coming months.

Apology to Worlds Apart.

I was intending to have a mini report on the range of Worlds Apart kites unfortunately due to circumstances beyond my control [see next item] I hope to have this ready for the next issue.

First impressions, kids kites.

1. Plastics rips very easily
2. Some kites have a composite spar, a bit like a plastic ? this bends easily and has no memory [it doesn't return to it original shape]
3. If a kite is purchased the bridle should be attached.
4. You get what you pay for.
5. The ripstop kites all fly very well and with stand high winds and high abuse
6. The plastic kites fly well but don't last as long.

So no surprise so far I will update.

LEE LINDSTROM

AKA Rinford Ree Rinstrom.
Sumo Champion
World Cup 1997.
Ishikari.

Lee passed away on the 5th January 1997.

He left behind a bloody great big bag of kites, a golf trolley and a Red and Yellow thermal suit.

He also left a big space in the sky and a little space on Epsom Downs.

He had been a kite flyer for only a short while. In that time he had travelled extensively to all the major World, European and British Sport Kite festivals.

Tessa, Luca and I will all miss him.

Simon

In the next thrilling instalment, I hope to have news of the NEW REVOLUTION colours and designs.

There will be 4 competitions for quad line flyers this year so hopefully 1997 may be the year quad flying gets "respect".

I will be at the Convention at Weymouth, if you haven't been to a convention before come along and join in with the fun. You can also come and ask me some questions as I will be giving a talk. If time allows I will also talk about any thing else so come along.

See you soon, Simon.

S F Cody Gathering

Almost exactly one year after acquiring a large portion of the S F Cody archive, The Drachen Foundation brought together active historical kite enthusiasts in Holland to study copies of the source material and kites from the Cody family.

We wanted to know how kite enthusiasts would want to work with our material and what material they felt was significant; almost as important, was a desire to see how the Foundations material fits into the spectrum of Cody materials held elsewhere (both privately and publicly). The informal gathering was the first serious attempt to display the desired accessibility of the Cody collection.

The Foundation felt it important to personally invite the members of this unique meeting because limited access to the printed materials would have resulted, had the group grown too large. Members were also invited because of their specific knowledge; from personal experience with man-lifting systems, specific interest in S. F. Cody, and construction / conservation expertise with antique kites. Additionally, attendees represented five countries and they were encouraged to take the information learned here to their local and national kite groups. In addition to the print photographic material brought by The Drachen Foundation, three kites obtained personally by Scott Skinner were loaned to the meeting for hands on study. Paul Chapman of Great Britain and Jan DeSimpelaere of Belgium also brought information on their progress in rebuilding a Brogden kite - bits of which were obtained by Paul at the Sothebys auction.

This meeting was the first step in gathering interested circles of historical-kite and Cody enthusiasts. Nick Morse and Martin Lester, who both flew in a working Cody-style man lifting system, shared remembrances of the late 1970's, when working with very little historical data they built a system that worked! Many of the elements of that system exist today in the hands of the Dutch team of enthusiasts. Paul Chapman, also from England, shared his extensive knowledge of the life and kites of Cody. Paul is one of the most knowledgeable people in creating a time-line of Cody data that gives a better picture of Cody the character and Cody the kite builder. Jan DeSimpelaere and Thierry Nenot, from Belgium and France respectively, are serious replica builders and, in Thierry's case, a professional in restoration techniques. Their advice about preservation of materials and their placement of

Cody in the worldwide context of manlifting was fascinating and most informative.

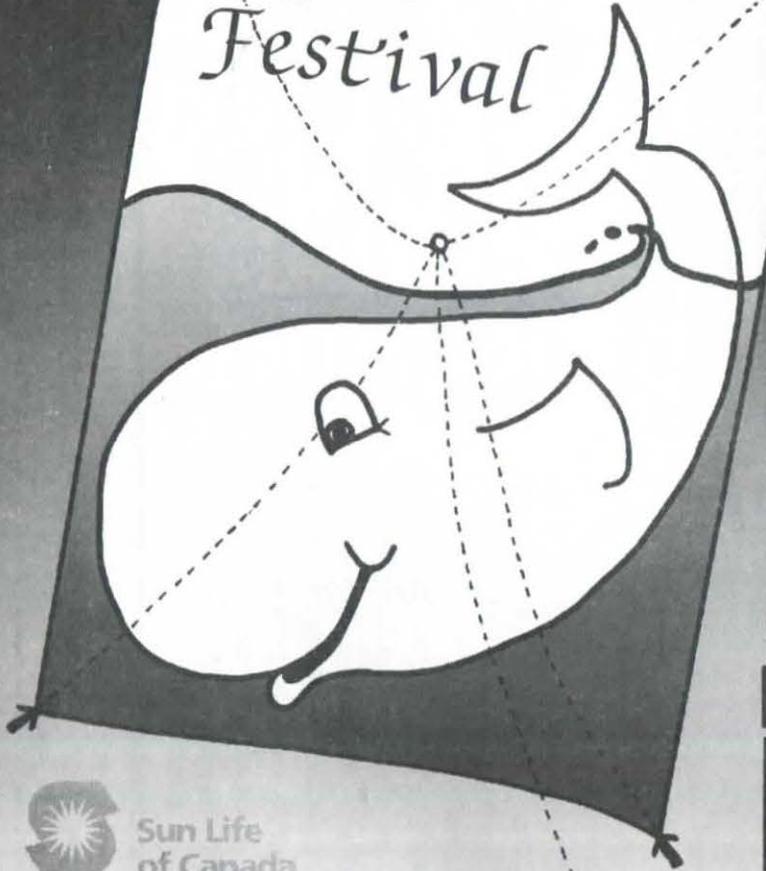
German Achim Kinter brought his full size Cody replica that displays kite making techniques and materials of the day. He also shared a small Cody built by countryman Gert Blattert - straight-forward and functional in every way. Finally, a strong group of Dutch kite builders attended. Nico van der Berg, known for his detailed Cody kite drawings and Jan Kitts, a creative kite builder who uses traditional methods in creating his own designs, both shared their interests and expertise. Toon Hannick and Frits Suave both brought examples of their historical model work. On Sunday Wim Voogd brought a Dutch television crew to observe and film the proceedings. Their overriding question was "why would a group of kite fliers meet in the middle of Winter?". I think their question was answered as they spoke to many of the people present - this proved to be an unique opportunity to share knowledge that each participant could then take and use in his unique way. Finally, Jan and Wilma Fisher acted as the groups hosts to ensure that people were fed, housed and transported to the meeting. Their co-ordination and work ensured that everyone present could concentrate on the excitement at hand.

There was very little formal structure for the gathering, but the Drachen Foundation solicited input from everyone in the group to submit project ideas that would help make sense of the Cody materials. Because the role of the Foundation must be educational, advice on potential educational uses of the material was also solicited. Members of the group will submit possible projects and the Foundation will decide which it can support. The call goes out worldwide for suggestions on how this material would be most useful to enthusiasts and the public alike.

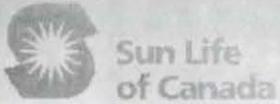
It is clear that this first international meeting to use our Cody material was an experiment. Attendance was limited to ensure accessibility and only a small circle of experts was contacted, but the exciting aspect of the exchange was that this type of meeting could be done anywhere. It could be tailored to fit the needs of groups of kite enthusiasts, scholars or conservation professionals. This was an experiment in travelling an archive and making it accessible to people who will spread the knowledge.

Saturday 31 May • Sunday 1 June
Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke
10.00am - 5.30pm

Basingstoke Kite Festival



Loddon Valley
KITE FLIERS

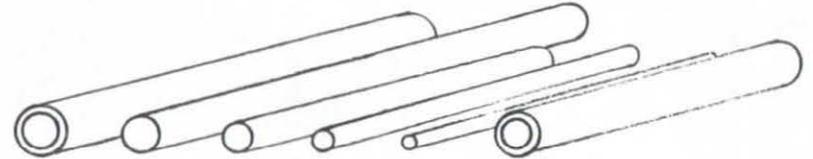


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Lincoln Kite & Buggy Do

Lincoln Kite & Buggy "CRACKIN" Sunday February 9th 1997

Bob Cruikshanks, The Vulcan Kite and Buggy Club and the Midlands Kite Fliers organised a great event at Scampton Airfield Lincoln. Mel's Mondeo Motors did transportation for our group and I attended to the Mega Breakfast. Ian managed to get it all on two slices of bread and eat it by dislocating his jaw. Anyway, as an option I'd taken my big single liners and buggy gear but seeing the site, bugging it was going to be. There was ultra smooth tarmac strips and acres of short grass on which to buggy over. We couldn't assemble the equipment quick enough.

After checking with the local pilots of any restrictions or access limitations we were away. In fact, the only request was that we didn't go beyond the earth mound towards the end of the runway but you needed a pair of binoculars to see it from where we were anyway so it wasn't going to be a problem. Recently I've been trying to master these complicated four line whatsit kites and this seemed like the perfect opportunity, so out of its bag comes my only quad, the Hi-60 Sky Tiger and I venture, and I remember thinking, hey this seems OK, it's cool, then, hey, this is really good, really cool, then hey this has really fast pick up, and hey, it's pretty fast too, wait a minute, it's pretty hairy. Oh yes, a little faster, yes, oh yes. Hey. Isn't this the earth mound they told me about? and what's more, How do you turn around at this speed? That earth mound stops overrunning aircraft - No way, I've tried ramp jumping before. I did make the turn, it just took an awful long time to get back to base. Lesson learnt, smaller kite.

By the time I had returned it seemed everyone was bugging. A selection of unused kites being pegged out ready for any possible changing conditions. The best of this was the choice and a sharing and trusting attitude prevailed, everyone had the opportunity to try different types of kites. Mike Shaw armed with his Hi-40 Sky Tiger was ripping up and down the runway as was Ian Meredith with his 3 metre Peel. Mick from Coventry had loaned me a sensibly sized 2 metre plus Sky Tiger which was OK until Mike and Ian kept blasting past me. Even more annoying was Ian's noisy bearing whining up to siren level as he accelerated away. Into the fray came Steve Webb with a Vector and Gary and others with Sky Tigers. I'm going too slow (fat git). It was said while I was there that I was starting to look thin, however, I eventually admitted that it was the wet suit (two sizes too small) and that it had taken three people to squeeze me into it. Lesson learnt, bigger kite, lose weight.

Back to base and the "Hanging Ten Skateboarders" and "In-Line Kite-Line Skater Dudes" were making use of the smooth surface powered by Vectors. There was even someone pedalling so fast on a bicycle that I was embarrassed to buggy in the same direction. Out on the course "Eggs" Shutterman Dan recorded until his power-packs ran out. A guy with a Modulus was enjoying himself and someone else was using a large speedwing to buggy, and also a girlady piloted a stack of Flexifoils who I never got to meet except to say "Sorry" every time I ventured too near.

Anyway, sortie number 3 and Mike has loaned me one of the Buggy Schools standard 40 Sky Tigers. I absolutely blast down the runway, no one is going to catch me. Er, that is until we are all travelling upwind. I couldn't do it, it was too strong again, I had to put the kite down to ground while other buggiers past by with comments like "Yer Whussy".- Accepted. I didn't realise you used muscles this low down in your body to fly a kite. I'm gonna ache tomorrow.

One of the best flies of the day I had was a two liner, 3 metre Peel - Now here I know what I'm doing - Wrong - I flicked the buggy into a 180 and something didn't work - I remember while rolling looking up and seeing what I thought was a cow-pat falling towards me - Wrong again - It turned out to be a 6" diameter fragment of my wet suit. Good news was the kite was still flying, so after turning over the buggy I was bugging again and also now well ventilated. Good job it was on the grass. Back to the quads - this time with a harness - I know now why they wear these harnesses, because if you yank on them it feels good, doesn't it? This time Gary loans me his Hi-40 Sky Tiger the "Crimson Chaser". Meanwhile, he goes and finds a buggy to loan. (he managed to break the axle on his). This is it. After two and a half hours of trying to buggy I'm starting to warm up, things are falling into

Lincoln Kite & Buggy Do

place. Yes I'm Buggyng. Gary knew how much I was enjoying it and swore he would sell me that kite for £50 plus £2 for the line! Unfortunately we never made the deal because he wouldn't throw the peg in for nothing. (He's a tough guy).

After 3 hours Ian Meredith finally stops buggying and you realise that he's raced about buggying, socialised, he's negotiated future venues and events for the British Buggy Club with other flyers and even helped others launch without landing or stopping buggying. He's either too damn clever or just hates walking. It seems the daftest of accidents are at much lower speeds. While carrying out manoeuvres on the tarmac I ended upside down with the buggy on top of me, which isn't altogether unusual for me except this time I was entangled in the buggy. Spread out on the tarmac doing frog swimming type motions unable to free myself. I felt a right plonker. (Dont say it). Gary to the rescue, Ta mate. The inevitable had to happen, the day was closing in. I'd now lost count on how many times I'd said "Hi" to Bob Cruikshanks kite! If you've seen it you know what I mean. I was the last buggying, (I'd got lost in the space). I hadn't done half of what I'd wanted to do, there was just too much to do and try. There must have been more single line fliers than buggiers present at the event but I never managed to get to them though we all saw their kites. Amongst many more single liner fliers Jim Rowlands had a number of his frog kites in the air and also his new Be-Bop soft foil which is probably only about 1.5 metre wing span, really colourful and was turning really tight . - Perhaps try that one another day. As I've said, this event was for all types of kitefliers but today, for me, it was a buggy day and a crackin' one at that, and as long as there's adventure in it and it's fun I'll be flying kites.

JOHN EATON

BUGGYING AGAIN Vulcan Kite and Buggy Club - Meet 2nd Sunday / Month - Bob Cruikshanks Home 01522 726324 Work 01522 723674

British Buggy Club - Contacts/Info/Insurance - BBC, PO Box 4015, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B67 6HJ

Fighter Kite Fly-in

8am, 2nd March, Portsmouth, Hampshire. Mike Hyland and I set off for the first national fly-in at Leicester. The weather was foul, very windy and the rain was pouring down. We both looked at one another and wondered what the hell we were doing, but being true fighter kites there was no stopping us. As the journey progressed the weather began to improve all the time and by the time we arrived, although windy, the sun was shining. The first person I ran into was Julie White building her kite which looked terrific.

We both chose the fighters we were going to fly and were soon joined by Ashley, the leader of the Midland Group, and Dave. The wind was strong and really too much for fighters but we struggled on. The TV and press were there and a great deal of interest was shown. I think we spent as much time talking as we did flying, and the time soon passed and it was time to go.

Both Mike and I had a great time and would like to thank Ashley and Dave for making us welcome, and also our founder Tony Everard for his kind invitation to lunch which, unfortunately we did not have time to attend.

We would like to hear from anyone in Scotland who would like to organise a local fighter kite club there and, of course, anyone else in other regions.

Tony has kindly organised sweatshirts with the Fighter Club badge on and also caps, so if anyone is interested in purchasing one you can phone Ashley on 0116 267 4308 or myself, Malcolm Mcleod on 01705 591171.

Kite Society Convention

Weymouth - 3rd May

This year the Kite Society will once again be holding a convention - this time at Weymouth in conjunction with the International Beach Kite Festival. and will take place on Saturday 3rd of May with the Kite festival taking place on 4th and 5th of May.

The international kitefliers will include: Pete Dolphin, Stretch Tucker, Wolfgang Grimsel, Rolf Sturm and team.

Saturday 3rd May - Convention

The convention will be held at the Pavilion complex which is located at one end of the beach at Weymouth. We will be using the Ocean Room and theatre itself for both workshops and talks. The convention itself is free and open to anyone who wants to attend.

The day will start at 10:00am and be split into a number of workshops and talks as at previous conventions. The timetable will be available on the day. Speakers and topics are:

Simon Dann - Indoor Kiteflying and General Rantings.

Helen Howes (Raindrop) - "No You Don't Need Seventeen Layers" - Applique questions and answers.

Chris Sands - Traction Kites as they Stand at Present and Making your own traction kites and buggies.

Pete Dolphin - Arches and Sources of inspiration.

Wolfgang Grimsel - Multiple Kite System

Ian Meredith - Buggying

Chris Matheson - "Modern sport kite building techniques".

Stafford Wallace - Indian Kiteflying

Stretch Tucker - Sizing graphics for visibility, colour choice and general techniques.

There will be a break in the timetable for lunch at 12:30.

Space is available for any individual who wishes to display kite related articles for sale. This is

available to members only NOT registered traders. There is no charge for this, however, an item for the auction would be appreciated. No booking is necessary for this - just turn up. Space is also available to any clubs and groups who wish to display information about themselves. Again this is free of charge.

Nicolas Wadsworth has written: "Do you make or fly Small Kites? Many of us make kites which are too small or delicate to fly outdoors at Festivals, so we have little chance to see each other's kites or discuss techniques. I hope to bring some small kites to the convention. If you have any please bring them along. If you are interested in small kites please contact me whether or not you will be at the convention."

N. Wadsworth, 31 Merriefield Avenue,
Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8DA
01202 692783

The talks and workshops will end at around 5:00pm in time for the evening events.

Saturday 3rd May - Evening events.

The evening will start with a civic reception with the Mayor of Weymouth and Portland followed by the Convention Dinner. A pay bar will be available all evening open to everyone not just meal attendees.

Following the meal the Auction will take place. Everyone is invited to attend - you don't have to register or attend the meal just come along around 9:00pm. Of course we can't have an auction without items to sell - so this is the point where we ask for donations. All monies raised will be used for this and future conventions. The auctioneers this year will be both Andy King and George Webster.

We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at Weymouth.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

In addition the Kite Society organises kite meetings where guest speakers are invited to talk about their specialist area of kite making and flying.

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

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

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

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£9.00
Family - all members in the same household.	£10.00
O.A.P.	£7.00
O.A.P. - Family (Husband & Wife)	£8.00
Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail	£11.00
Overseas - Airmail	£16.00
Overseas upgrade to standard airmail.	£6.00

Name _____ Family Members _____
Address _____

Post Code _____ Telephone _____

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

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

Please send this form with payment to:

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

Event News

Swidon Kite Festival - May 10th & 11th

The festival goes from strength to strength since its move from central Swindon to its present site at the Science Museum, Wroughton, near Swindon, two years ago. This years festival will have kitefliers from the USA, Europe and all over the UK.

You can expect to see kites of all shapes and sizes, from small Indian Fighter Kites to massive kites of 600sqft that have to be tethered to the ground, there will also be stunt kite demonstrations by some of the best fliers in the UK plus Kite Buggy, these buggies are towed along by the same kites that modern Polar Expeditions use to tow themselves over the Polar Icecap at speeds not possible before the development of the modern Parawing kites.

The Kite Club is also organising a World Record! A Rokkaku challenge. This combat kite has an ancient history in Japan and we are attempting to set a record for the largest number in battle! Scouts and Guides throughout the country will be attending to compete in this event.

Vic Walker, from Oxford, will be performing a mass Teddy Bear parachute drop, each bear will be fitted with their own parachute back-pack and they will be parachuted in sequence from one of the clubs very large kites, much the same as skydivers who jump from a plane.

Admission to the festival is £3 per adult, £1 for children up to 14, and free to under 5's. This charge also includes entrance to the Science Museums Land Transport & Aeronautical display, the festival begins at 10am and finishes at 5pm both days. Entry is half price for valid Kite club members. Camping and Caravanning is available for details contact the organisers.

For any further information, do not hesitate to call Dave Robinson on 01793 824208 or Neil Harvey on 01285 740295 or Dave Tomlinson at Kreative Kites on 01635 528400.

Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend - 25th & 26th May

As mentioned in the previous issue of The Kiteflier this is being held on the Tewkesbury Playing fields, Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury.

The event is to be run as a friendly fun kite weekend. All kitefliers are welcome. Although officially the event will be run over the Sunday and Monday, camping will be available from Friday night through to Tuesday morning at £2 per night. Shower and toilet facilities will be available. Saturday campers/fliers will be able to fly when and where they like.

Sunday and Monday kite flying etc will be open to the public and all kitefliers. Kite and various other trade stalls will be on site including catering etc. If we have enough response and weather permitting a bar-b-cue will be arranged ad-hoc.

There will be several fun competitions throughout the days, such as altitude sprints, Indian fighter kite comps, Indian fighter kite skills comps, dual line comps etc. - some surprises on the day comps and maybe a couple of displays, but mainly tuned to fun flying. We want people to enjoy themselves.

The event is being backed by High Jinx in Gloucester.

Site map and any further information please contact Neville Wing, 9 Howard Road, Tewkesbury, Glos GL20 8QX. Tel: 01684 295132

Basingstoke - May 31st & June 1st

Well here we go again. It's that time of year, what can I say about Basingstoke that has not already been said. It may not be windy, it may get a little wet, but we do have a good time, "No" (quiet that man), yes we jolly well do.

On the P.A. we have the man himself George Webster withy guests from all over the country and some from abroad, Aircraft to name but a few. Don't forget all you kite designers, there is a kite making competition with a theme of the sea, anyone can enter and anything goes as long as it flies.

Also for the Saturday our evening party is going to be a fancy dress with a theme of pirates, seafarers etc. Prizes will be awarded to the best Costume, (people not dressing up will have to do a forfeit) so come out of the closet and have a good time, tickets are £8.

Camping will be £5 either paid in advance or collected on the day. We have arranged with a local hotel for a special rate for the weekend, rooms are £50 a night for a double and £35 for a single. The hotel is the Hilton National tel 01256 460460, ref LOD300597, please contact them direct.

To get your tickets for the party or camping please write to Alan Cosgrove, 18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 3PH.

Maldon Kite Festival - 1st June.

Force Nine Kites write:

We are once again helping to organise the Maldon Kite Festival, which was a great success last year. It will be held on Sunday 1st June from 11am at Promenade Park. There

Event News

will be lots of arena displays and games, teddy+sweet drops, kite workshop, plus lots more. A great day out for all the family.

For further information contact Force Nine Kites on 01255 221059.

Bath Kite Festival - 7th & 8th June

Lansdown Playing Fields (South) with parking at the Lansdown Park-and-Ride just down the road from the Bath Race Course.

Events include STACK pairs and individual competitions, Informal Rokkaku battle - team and individual, Kite making workshops for kids, kite traders. There will be food stalls with everything from bangers and burgers to vegetarian delights. Beautiful views over Bath as you fly.

Free parking with a valid kite club membership card. Camping available on site (£6 for the whole weekend).

For more information contact Zoe Hancock, Flat 2, 24 Green Park, Bath BA1 1HZ. Tel: 01225 462944.

Fairbourne Railway Kite Event - 14th & 15th June

Following last year's low key, but successful, event, the Fairbourne Railway is staging another one. Being held at the Railway's Porth Penrhyn terminus on the Mawddach Estuary, opposite Barmouth Harbour. This offers a spectacular location with views from the mouth of the river up what is said to be one of the World's most beautiful estuaries with the Cader Idris mountain range forming a backdrop. The Fairbourne Railway's steam engines maintain a frequent service and there are sand dunes and sandy beaches to enjoy as well.

This is a free event; there is no charge for car parking or admission, and anyone who registers with the railway a month or more beforehand will receive complimentary tickets for their party. All fliers are welcome to come and join in and enjoy what we hope will be a friendly and relaxed event. Commercial exhibitors are welcome to attend, also free of charge.

There will be an evening barbecue at the licenced Porth Penrhyn Restaurant on the Saturday to round off the first day. This will be served by a special train on the railway, and steam engines will be on hand to give cab rides until dusk. Please book as early as possible, price £8 per head for adults £4 for children under 16.

There are extensive tidal sandflats adjacent, to which access will be organised covering several square mile, which are normally completely devoid of people and other obstacles

and should be ideally suited to buggying, and these should be uncovered at around mid-day on both days.

Fairbourne is located in mid-Wales, about 10 miles from Dolgellau. There are a number of camping and caravanning sites, and the railway can assist with finding accommodation for those who require it.

Please contact the railway at: Fairbourne & Barmouth Railway, Beach Road, Fairbourne, Dolgellau, Gwynned LL38 2PZ. Tel 01341 250362. Fax: 01341 250240.

Wales International Kite Festival, Monmouth - 28th & 29th June

With displays and demos from Skydance, Aircraft, Mark 'team' Coventry, The Sky Squad, Steve Brockett, Flexifoil International and Rolf Sturm and D.C.D friends.

Location Vauxhall Playing Fields, admission costs - Adult £3.50, Child £2.50. Entry and car parking waived for Kite Society members on production of their membership cards. Camping £10.00 maximum of 3 nights, passes from Nicola Hughes, Planning and Economic Development Monmouthshire County Council, 6th Floor, County Hall, Cwm Bran, NP44 2XH. Tel 01633 644842.

Other information from Andy King - The Kite Store 0171 836 1666.

You can also take a look at the web site at <http://www.globalnet.co.uk/~linz/>

Northern Electric International Festival of the Air, WASHINGTON, Tyne & Wear - July 5th & 6th

This years international kite festival celebrates its 12th year and we expect to break last years attendance of 80,000 spectators.

Firmly established on the professional and amateur kite calendar we will host some of the worlds best kite makers from Japan, USA, Germany, Italy, France, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden and Great Britain. Last year there were 56 foreign kitefliers.

Fantastic displays and challenges of single, two and four line kites. The European Air Gallery, the latest creations in soft kites flown by their makers. We hope to have a display from Mr Sakuraba from Japan decorating and making Tsugaru kites.

As usual we will have a fabulous entertainment programme, also various marquees - Arts & Crafts, Visual Arts, International Food and Drink, Music & Entertainment, Childrens Village, International Street Theatre - plus Kite

Event News

trade stands and lots more!

Once again we aim to set a new record for the largest number of box kites flown at the same time.

You are invited to an informal, free buffet on site at 7:30pm to 10:00pm on Saturday evening - no liquor licence - bring your own!

We hope to provide some entertainment but should you wish to contribute to the evenings activities - the stage is yours!

We have limited accommodation at the Sunderland Polytechnic Forge. Single rooms at only £6 per person (bed and breakfast). 100 free on-site camping/parking places will be issued on a first come first served basis. For maps, car/camping passes, accommodation at the poly etc please send S.A.E. Please supply car details - make and registration. Camping and car passes will be issued 2 - 3 weeks before the festival.

Don't forget to bring your Rokkaku, Cody, Hargreaves, Professor Waldorf or any other kites with more than three sides.

For more details contact: Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Road, Billingham TS22 5EX. Tel/Fax (01642) 550827.

14th Shrewsbury Kite and Boomerang Festival - 5th & 6th July

Located 2 miles east of Shrewsbury on the B5062 at Sundorne Recreation Fields.

We will have the usual events, i.e. Can Clobbering, Junior Rok Fight, Kiteability Rok Challenge, altitude sprints and, new for this year, a meeting of the British Fighter Kite Club with appropriate happenings.

As before we have three large fields for our use, one for single liners, one for sports kites and one for boomerangs.

Camping is around the edges of the main flying field. Charges are £2 per unit per night payable on the field. Camping is available from mid-day Friday to mid-day Monday.

Permanent toilets and showers in the Pavilion are for our own use. English breakfasts and hot snacks will be available from 7:30am onwards both mornings from a new outside caterer.

Traders are charged £10 for the weekend and there are a couple of places left - if interested please get in touch.

As always we aim to give all our friends and visitors a

relaxed and informal weekend's flying and throwing.

If you need any maps, B&B lists, information etc please send a large S.A.E. or phone for a natter. Tony Slater, 128 Meadow Farm Drive, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY. Tel: 01743 235068.

NB Car and camping passes are NOT required - just turn up.

Please come and fill the sky with colour. We need your kites and of course your good selves.

Baddesley Clinton, Knowle - 19th July

The Alcester and Worcester Kite Fliers are holding a kite flying day and childrens workshop at the above event. Parachute drop for Teddy Bears. Passes for kite fliers and their families for free access to grounds and the house for the day are available. Flying starts at 11am, workshop from 1pm to 4:30pm. This is a National Trust Childrens Day.

Send S.A.E. for passes to Fred Taplin, 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warks B49 5QY.

Newbury and Thatcham Kite Festival - 26th & 27th July

This new event is taking place on Henwick Worthy Sports Ground alongside the A4 between Thatcham and Newbury. On site camping should be available on Saturday night. For further details please contact Dave Tomlinson of Kreative Kites on 01635 528 400.

Scotland Kite Festival, Ayton Castle - August 9th & 10th

Just off the A1 between Berwick and Edinburgh, nestling in the beauty of the Scottish borders, lies one of Scotlands most interesting family homes - Ayton Castle.

The local surroundings of Ayton Castle are an ideal setting to hold a kite festival.

There will be a full programme of displays and events, with the UKs best kitefliers invited to make it a really special and spectacular kite festival.

The admission fee will be waived for Kite Society / kite club members on production of their membership card or a pass which can be obtained from me.

Camping on site is available at £2 per night. Please contact Mike Firth to book your site on (01450) 375991. For local accommodation please telephone the Scottish Tourist Board on (01835) 863435.

Event News

Come and support the 2nd kite festival held in the borders. Why not make a holiday of it - discover the beauty of Northumberland and Scotland.

For further details, maps, entry passes etc please send an S.A.E. to: Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Road, Billingham TS22 5EX. Tel/Fax (01642) 550827.

East London International Kite Festival - August 16th & 17th

The 5th annual East London event will take place at the festival's long standing home, Hackney Marshes. This is now established as London's premier kite festival and features some of Britain's outstanding current crop of fliers and designers.

It is also beginning to justify its INTERNATIONAL tag as increasing numbers of our European friends make it over to attend.

Highlights for 1997 will include: the concluding round of the team championship (potentially a vital World Cup qualifier); host the national individual championships main competition event (the aim is to conclude all competition on the first day leaving the second day of arena time free for entertainment and demonstrations by some of Saturdays winners and other invited guests).

Spectacular single line displays by Bristol based designers Martin Lester and Nick James; Saturday night Pyrokitenics ambient techno kite and firework performance; Britain's only urban Kite Buggy racing competition;

Kite and refreshment trade village; subsidised kite making workshops; continuous programme of arena entertainments; huge area for public flying; fantastic and unique atmosphere.

If you have never been to a kite festival or you think you can only get to one then get to this one. Set on the most magnificent urban green space in London and organised by some of Britain's most radically minded fliers, this event will show you why kiting is among Britain's fastest growing leisure interests.

For further information contact 0171 275 8799.

Blackwater Valley Kite and Juggling Festival - 17th August.

The Festival will again take place in Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot. (Guildford Road is off the A324 and can easily be found by following the signs for Aldershot Lido).

Entry to the park and event is free.

For further information about the event, directions or the Blackwater Valley contact Alan Williams, Blackwater Valley Team, Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot, Hampshire. Tel: 01252 334225.

Fourth Valleys Kite Festival - 31st August

This event is just a week before the Bristol International Kite Festival. In a new departure from previous Valleys Festivals this year the Festival is to be a joint venture between Parc Bryn Bach and the Red Dragon Kite Fliers.

It is hoped to extend a range of activities to include a Kite Buggy challenge, a Rokkaku fight, at least two display teams, a kite making workshop and a bear drop. Plans are still in the development stage but should be finalised within a month.

Anyone wanting to contact the organisers should contact either Colin Cheesman on 01495 711816 or Steve Lane of Red Dragon Kite Fliers on 01495 271230.

Preliminary Announcement: Kite Festival, Tasmania, Australia - 1998

"The Roaring Forties International Kite Festival", Launceston, Tasmania, Australia. 6 - 9 March 1998.

This is a first notice to advise that Launceston, Tasmania is to host another international kite festival in 1998. Like the last highly successful and acclaimed festival in 1988 we shall be putting together another unique programme combining the best of kiting from around the world, blended with Australia's own brand of welcome and hospitality.

The organising committee has nearly everyone from the last festival in 1988 and we already have considerable interest from kite fliers. If you would like to be on our direct mailing list for information updates send an e-mail to the address below.

A web page will be available soon with more details about the festival. Hoping to meet you all in '98

Jeremy Carson (Chairman, Organising Committee). E-mail: carson@vision.net.au

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Blue Sky Appeal

Fly a Kite for the Blue Sky Appeal

As reported in the last issue of *The Kiteflier*, The Kite Society has adopted the charity Mencap as its charity of the year until the end of 1998.

Geof Webb from Mencap tells us more...

To mark its 50th Anniversary in 1996, Mencap launched the Blue Sky Appeal (with a red Malay kite as its logo). The aim? To raise £3 million to establish the Family Adviser Service - a network of health professionals and trained volunteers who will befriend and provide ongoing support to many of the 400,000 families affected by learning disabilities in the UK.

A recent Mencap report showed that of the 1,000 families questioned, many felt that they were literally 'Left in the Dark' when it came to navigating the maze of benefits, services and help available to them, when their child was diagnosed with learning disability, and indeed through the child's life. Above all, parents said what they would most appreciate is a friendly face, a listening ear and someone they could just talk to about their situation.

About 1.2 million people in the UK have a learning disability. Approximately 400,000 of these are children. Each week, nearly 200 babies are born with learning disability in the UK, and contrary to common opinion, the numbers are rising. Enhanced medication for those living with learning disabilities and improved life expectancy for babies born prematurely both contribute to this, as does the ever changing 'definition' of what constitutes a learning disability.

Learning disability (formerly often referred to as mental handicap) is sometimes confused with mental illness, or mental health problems. Mencap works for people who, because of brain damage or genetic factors, do not develop as other children do. The range of disability is enormous - some people live relatively independent lives, others need round the clock care. But everyone is an individual and can achieve great things with the right support.

Mencap's services include providing homes, employment, campaigning, education and training, family advice and help - in other words, helping those with learning disabilities, their parents and carers, make the most of life. Mencap currently reaches over 100,000 people in Britain. The new Family Adviser Service aims to double that number by the year 2000.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

To support the Blue Sky Appeal, donations can be made at any branch of Barclays Bank (Account number 90709212, Sort Code 20-36-47).

But there are many fundraising activities to get involved in, for example the Blue Sky Challenge - to do whatever you enjoy and raise money at the same time. Why not get sponsored to fly your kite by the hour (a marathon), or per metre of height? Get your club to organise a massive 'fly-in' and raise sponsorship for the number of kites simultaneously in flight. In June, Mencap is organising Britain's Biggest Tea Party in association with Brooke Bond. Why not attempt a kite fliers tea party in your area? For more information about the Blue Sky fundraising opportunities, call 0645 777 779 (all calls charged at local rate). You can also use this number to make credit card donations.

Very soon, Mencap will be contacting kite clubs asking if there are particular ways they feel able to help for example by selling the popular kite pin badge, or by organising local kite events.

Mencap is also planning to have a stand at many of the major kite festivals throughout the summer, so you can come along and find how Mencap helps people in your area.

Please use your enthusiasm for kiting to help Mencap reach more families this year, and to help them make the most of their lives.

KITE EVENT CALENDAR

	U.K. Kite Events	
3rd May	The Kite Society Convention, Weymouth, Dorset.	The Kite Society
4th & 5th May	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth, Dorset.	The Kite Society
10th & 11th May	Swindon International Kite Festival, Wroughton Aerodrome, Near Swindon, Wilts.	White Horse Kite Fliers
17th & 18th May	Capstone Park, Maidstone, Kent.	Kiteability
24th - 26th May	Festival of Flight, Kelburn Castle & Country Centre, Ayrshire.	Irene Paterson
24th & 25th May	Cannock Kite Event, Cardinal Griffin School, Cannock	Air Adventures
25th & 26th May	Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend, Tewkesbury Playing Fields, Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury.	Neville Wing
31st May & 1st June	Basingstoke Kite Festival.	Al Cosgrove
June 1st	Maldon Kite Festival, Promenade Park, Maldon	01255 221059
7th & 8th June	Margam Park Kite Festival, South Wales.	Steve Gibson
8th June	All Saints Kite Festival, Ashdon, Saffron Waldron, Essex	Andrew Eyles
7th & 8th June	Bath Kite Festival, Lansdown Playing Fields.	Zoe Hancock
14th & 15th June	Teston Bridge, Kent.	Kiteability
14th & 15th June	Fairbourne Railway Kite Event, Gwynned	01341 250362
15th June	Peterborough Kite Festival.	Great Ouse Kite Fliers
21st & 22nd June	Southampton Kite Festival.	Solent Kite Fliers
28th & 29th June	Wales International Kite Festival, Monmouth.	The Kite Store
5th & 6th July	Washington Festival of the Air, Tyne & Wear.	Malcolm Goodman
5th & 6th July	Petworth Kite Festival, Petworth Park, West Sussex	Kiteability
5th & 6th July	Shrewsbury Kite Festival.	Tony Slater
12th & 13th July	Brighton Kite Festival	Air Born Kites
19th & 20th July	Golden Valley Kite Festival, Tewkesbury.	Neville Wing
19th & 20th July	Weston Super Mare Beach Kite Festival.	Avril Baker
19th July	Baddesley Clinton, Knowle Kite event.	Fred Taplin
20th July	Blackheath Summer Kite Festival, Blackheath, London.	Kent Kite Klub

KITE EVENT CALENDAR

U.K. Kite Events		
26th & 27th July	Fylde Kite Festival, Lytham St Anne's Beach, Blackpool.	01772 717722
26th & 27th July	Newbury & Thatcham Kite Festival.	01635 528400
27th July	Camelot Fliers Giant Fly-in, Honeydown Farm, Crewkerne.	R Teague
2nd & 3rd August	Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Hampshire.	Roy Broadley
9th & 10th August	Teston Bridge, Kent.	Kiteability
9th & 10th August	Scotland Kite Festival, Ayton Castle, Borders.	Malcolm Goodman
16th & 17th August	East London Kite Festival, Hackney, London.	High As a Kite
17th August	Coventry Kite Festival, Memorial Park, Coventry.	MKF
17th August	Blackwater Valley Kite Festival, Aldershot Park.	01252 334225
23rd - 25th August	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hampshire.	The Kite Society
30th & 31st August	Canterbury Kite Festival, Kent.	SEKS
31st August	Fourth Valleys Kite Festival Wales	01495 711816
6th & 7th September	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol.	Avril Baker
14th September	Hunstanton Rotary Club Kite Festival, Smithdon School Play Field.	Ron King, 01485 572032
13th - 21st September	Brean Kite and Buggy Week, Brean Sands, Somerset.	
21st September	Poole Kite Festival, Baiter Park, Poole.	01202 660457
28th September	Old Warden Autumn Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.	The Kite Society

Major Overseas Kite Events

19th - 22nd June	Fano Kitefliers Meeting, Denmark. Contact -Rainer Kregouski - 040 213848
21st & 22nd June	Scheveningen International Kite Festival, Holland. Contact - Vlieger Op! 31 70 3858586
22nd - 28th September	World Cup, Long Beach, Washington State, U.S.A. Contact Terry Yuncker 00 1 360 642 2229

KITE EVENT CALENDAR

	STACK Events	
31st May - 1 June	Basingstoke Festival.	Pairs round 1 and Individual Masters Dual Line round 1
7th & 8th June	Bath Kite Festival	Pairs round 2 and Individual Quad Line round 1
19th & 20th July	Weston Super Mare	Team Round 1, Individual Quad Line round 2 and Pairs round 3.
26th & 27th July	Fylde Kite Festival.	Team Round 2, Individual Quad Line round 3 and Individual Masters Dual Line round 2
16th & 17th August	East London Kite Festival, Hackney	Team round 3, Individual Dual Line (novice & experienced) plus round 3 Masters
6th & 7th September	Bristol Kite Festival	Pairs round 4 and Individual Quad Line round 4 (TBC)

Contact List	
The Kite Society	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.
Air Born Kites	42 Gardner Street, Brighton, East Sussex 01273 676740
Al Cosgrove	18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke RG21 3PH. 01256 818922
Andrew Eyles	01799 584339
Roy Broadley	01256 812487
Great Ouse Kite Fliers	01733 700718
Malcolm Goodman	134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. 01642 5508287
Steve Gibson	Way on High, P.O. Box 180, Hereford HR1 0XS. 01432 359999
High As a Kite	153 Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16 0UH. 0171 275 8799
MKF	4 Hermitage Court, Oakwood, Derby, DE21 2LG. 01332 669203
Zoe Hancock	Flat 2, 24 Green Park, Bath BA1 1HZ. 01225 462944
Air Adventures	Peel Court, Market Hall Street, Cannock WS11 1EB. 01543 571400
Tony Slater	128 Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 4JY. 01743 235068.
Kent Kite Klub	P.O. Box 557, Sidcup, Kent DA14 6UB.
Kiteability	2 Garfield Road, Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP. 0181 804 9080
The Kite Store	48 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PA. 0171 836 1666
Avril Baker	5 Lilymead Avenue, Bristol BS4 2BY. 0117 977 2002
Irene Paterson	01475 568685
SEKS	22 Cherry Drive, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8HF. 01227 462786
Solent Kite Fliers	32 Ashleigh Close, Hythe, Southampton SO45 3QP. 01703 847046
Fred Taplin	01789 762350
R Teague	01460 75445
White Horse Kite Fliers	P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4YR. 01793 824208
Neville Wing	01684 295132

Trade News

Team Airheads, have recruited a new member. Craig Fraser, manager of Air Circus in Cheltenham, has joined the team. They have also secured sponsorship deals with TKC Sales and Marketing, Laser Pro Line, Way on High Kites and Airdynamics. They will be flying Airdynamics new kite, the T2 in the UK Championships this year.

⌘

Way on High Kites have closed their shop in Hereford. The lease was up for renewal, and the landlord decided to get a bit greedy! They will operate as a mail order business and through a website on the Internet. The range will include sport kites from Airdynamics, and other U.K. manufacturers. They also hope to continue the link with the U.S. mail order firm, Into the Wind. Full details will be available in the next few weeks. Way on High can be contacted on 01432 359999 or email wayhigh@globalnet.co.uk or at Way on High, P.O. Box 180, Hereford, HR4 OX5.

⌘

Margam Park Kite Festival, South Wales. Date June 7th and 8th. Details from Way on High, tel 01432 3259999. Postal applications for passes, to Way on High, P.O. Box 180, Hereford, HR4 OX5.

⌘

Kiteability now have in stock a heavy line storage 12" Cordreel, a plastic reel with a hand grabby thing in the centre, and a winding handle, at £10.95. Also we are pleased to announce that we now have a selection of Drachen Foundation merchandise, books, pins etc. Give them a shout for more details. Kiteability, 2

Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP. Tel: 0181 804 9080.

A New Kite Shop has open in the Bradford area - Hi flyers, run by Mr P Ackroyd, is based at Baildon Craft Centre, Browgate, Baildon, Bradford BD17 6BP tel 01274 594946, they have only been selling kites for 7 months, but have had a substantial increase in sales during this time.

⌘

One of our members runs a kite business called **Alphaplane** in Switzerland, he has a comprehensive range of kite rubber stamps and a large selection of enamel kite pins and windscreen kites things on plastic suction caps. For further details contact Alphaplane kites Bannier - Altrheinweg 98, 4057 Basel Switlerland tel 0041 61631 05 29.

⌘

Airways Ltd based in Hope Derbyshire have for the last year been importing Rare Air kites from South Africa, They are now looking for dealers and inquires from all over the U.K for this make of very well respected sports kite. The current range has 15 different models, prices start from £39 through to the largest kite in the range the Expression with a wing span of 2.6 metres priced at £173. Enquiries to Airways Ltd, Hope, Derbyshire, Nr Sheffield S30 2RH Tel 01433 621 821. fax 01433621 930,

E-Mail 101707@Compuserve.com, web <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/airways-school/>

Private Ads

Kite buggy cost £339 new, immaculate condition, one hour use on grass only - £245 ono, condition reflected in price. Tel 01483 828424 anytime.

For Sale: 5 metre Peel - Pale Blue and Black - £200 ono. 3 x 10' Flexifoil, 1 Flo-Yellow (slight fade, 2 Black (as new) - £200 ono for all three - or will split. Ring Simon - 0181 889 1800

Miniature Extended Wing Cody Kites for sale. 33" wingspan, wide range of ripstop colours. Carbon frame, all rigging fully adjustable. An excellent light wind kite. £40 or with Cody topsail £50, inclusive of UK postage. For more information phone Andrew on 01793 853608.

Private ads are free to all Kite Society members. Just send us your copy as you would like it to appear and it will be published in the next available issue. For the July issue the copy date is 15th June.

* * * * *

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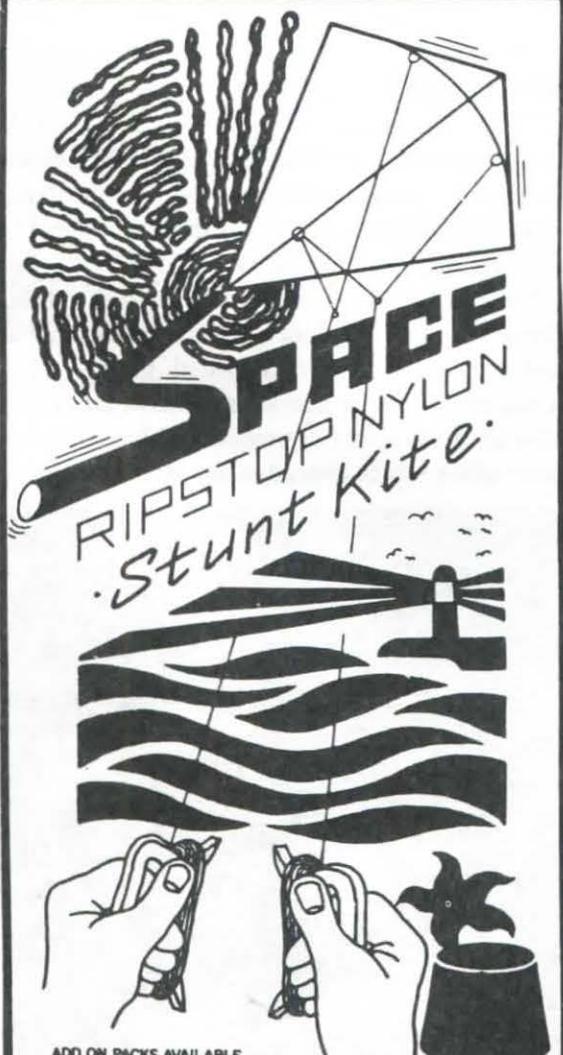
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25, Main Street, Empingham, Rutland, LE15 8PR.

E Mail - Stafford@Lucknow.demon.co.uk

Bits & Pieces

Kites Banned

Jerry Swift sends the following:

SUPER kites and sophisticated giant model aircraft have been banned from a local beauty spot as a danger to walkers.

Walton and Epsom Downs Conservators had changed their bylaws covering the area to make it that kite flying can only take place on the hill and that any model exceeding an eight-foot span, including parafoils (several kites linked together) kite "buggies" and lengths of control line more than 150 ft are banned.

There are also warnings about leaving models unattended on the ground.

Mrs Ruth Ledwich of Tattenham Residents Association says: "the consensus was in the danger for walkers on the downs by the rapid growth of more sophisticated kites, many of which have also lengths of rigid wire attached".

"The clause covering permitted boundaries for the flight and landing of kites is strongly supported. It is important that up to date bylaws be drawn up and enforced before the sport becomes out of hand to the detriment of other downs users. It is also essential for the protection of residents whose homes abut the downs".

Jerry writes that to describe this article as confused might be an understatement. I am not entirely sure what it means, apart from a) nanny state strikes again b) the po-faced have got their cum-upance and c) there is a need for lessons in the way what English is writ in the newspaper trade!

Maybe someone can shed some light.

Kite Record Attempts

This is an appeal to all kitefliers, at many kite festivals during the last couple of years, organisers have had mass kite launches - Bristol and Weymouth for example were rokkakus. These have been done more for fun than records, so the Kent Kite Klub at the summer Blackheath Kite Festival on the 20th July intend to set an official record. We would like to have a mass launch of RED delta kites. The idea would be to try and get this record recognised by the Guinness Book of Records and each year at either

Blackheath or another Festival increase the record, but we need your help. We need Flyers to come along and take part by flying their own kites. We will not supply kites. You will receive an official certificate to say you have taken part, each will be numbered, this will help with the official count. So if you don't own a red delta kite, get to your local dealer and buy some ripstop and get sewing. If you don't make your own kites why not commission a kite from one of the great kite makers we have.

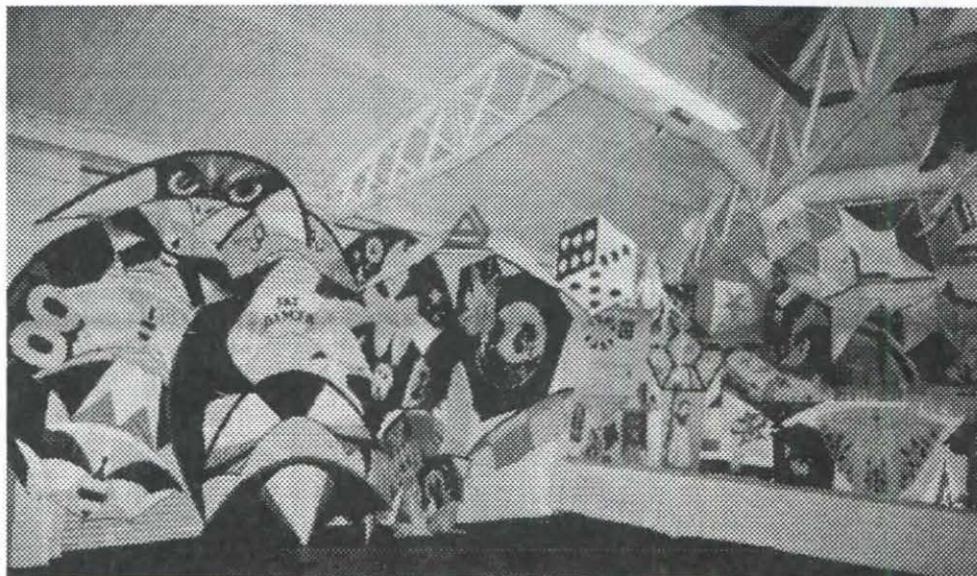
If you want to know more about this attempt or if you want to know of traders in your area who can help with a kite and it would help if we knew how many kitefliers are interested please write or phone Mr John Crouch, 29 Silverdale Drive, Rainham, Kent ME8 9HN. Tel 01634 374313.

There will be a few simple rules as listed below:

Any size or shape of single line delta may be used.
The delta must be Red (the keel may be of a different colour).
All kites must be flown on their own line - no kite trains.
The kites can be made of any material and sparred with any material.

Kites at Olympia

A 15 metre stand at the International Model Exhibition was taken up by volunteers from the Nomansland, Chiltern and White Horse groups for the 7 day show at the turn of the new year. Ron Dell, Len Patten, Ian Lydford, Paul Scaife, Alan & Carole Peacock, Arthur Dibble, Doug Irvine, Doug Jones, Maurice Sawyer, Pat Lloyd and Ron Moulton collaborated to put on a colourful display of single line kites. David Davies of Inter Active kites set up a full range of all his quad line Sky Dancer series which extended the stand to almost



Bits & Pieces

double the space offered.

Many compliments were passed on the show of originality and design and from the number of leaflets and lists distributed, many new recruits should have been brought into kiteflying.

Web Ring

Tim Butcher writes to let us know that a new kiting web site has been launched on the internet. The site is stuffed full of interesting information. It is also very interactive with people encouraged to vote for their favourite kites in The Ultimate Kite Bag.

Readers are also able to submit views/reviews on their kites and other kite related information, such as festivals, which are then added to the web site for everyone to read. The address for the web site is:

<http://users.essex.ac.uk/users/butctp/kites.htm>

Special offer to Kite Society Members.

Kite Passion the kite magazine are offering our members the chance to subscribe at a special rate saving 20% of the normal subscription rate.

One year subscription (6 issues) - £11.80, rather than £14.75 normal subscription and £17.70 in the shops.

Two year subscription (12 issues) £23.50

Send a letter to:

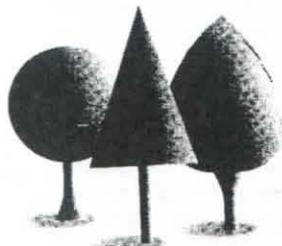
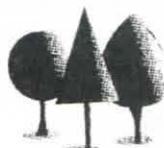
**Kite Passion
P O Box 152
Woking
GU21 1FS**

quoting the special sort code "Kite Club" mentioning the Kite Society.

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Kitemaking

The Art and the Science

by
Stormy Weathers

Stormy is an avid kiteflyer and maker. Look for him on the beaches of the Northwest.

The Star Victory

Introduction

At the Kitemakers Conference in March of 1995, I taught a class on how to build a 2-foot Star Victory, then sold kits to build a 4-foot version. At the conclusion of the class, one of my students gloated, "Never again will you be the only one flying a kite at a festival when the wind is too light for anything but a Star". My response was, "maybe".

But having let the cat out of the bag, it is time to let everyone in on the secrets of construction; besides, I promised the AKA two years ago that I would provide this article for publication. [Thanks Stormy!] I have delayed publication because I wanted to thoroughly wring out the design to make sure that I hadn't overlooked any possible major improvements, but I have found none; the plans given here can be used to build a great kite.

General Considerations

You may build the Star Victory kites from fabric, Tyvek, Orcon, or plastic trash bags. Some trash bags have creases in them. See to it that the creases run from the leading edge of the canopy towards the trailing edge rather than crosswise. Make sure that the number and positions of the creases on either side of the spine match those on the other side of the spine. Whatever the material used, try to smooth the material out and tape it to the work surface before laying out the pattern.

If you plan to use wooden dowels for the stiffeners, match stick bamboo (from roll-up window shades) or 1/8 in. dowels are fine for the spine, longerons, and wing leading edge stiffeners in kites 2-1/2 ft. and smaller. However, a 1/8 in. dowel should be used for the spar. For kites between 2-1/2 ft. and 4 ft in size, use 3/16 in. dowels for the spine and spar, but match stick bamboo or 1/8 in. dowels are satisfactory for everything else.

If taped-down wooden dowels are used for stiffeners, it is a good idea to encase them in soda straws that have one end belled (with a hot nail) so that they can be fitted together to make a continuous tube. Bar straws have a 1/8 in. ID which will fit over 1/8 in. dowels. Most regular soda straws will make a reasonable fit over 3/16 in. dowels; save the soda straws from fast food places, bell one end so that you can insert about 1/8 in. of another straw into the bell, and make a covering for the dowels. When you cover the dowel and tape it to the canopy, make sure the belled ends of the straws point towards the trailing edge. If you break a spine or longeron, you can slip the broken dowel out from the leading edge end by forcing a new dowel into the trailing edge end. Plastic canopies that have sleeves for the sticks heat welded or sewed kites with sleeves sewn in don't need to have the sticks enclosed in straws.

The following assembly instructions assume that you are taping together a Star Victory kite from plastic sheeting. If sewable material is used instead, the cutting and sewing procedures should be obvious.

Procedure

1. Lay the canopy material on the work surface, smooth out the wrinkles, and tape it down.
2. Draw the kite pattern onto the material with a marking pen (see the dimension drawing).
3. If your canopy material is plastic, reinforce the leading edges of the nose and keels with 1/4 in. strapping tape.
4. Tape down the spine with 1 in. wide masking tape if your spine is 3/16 in. diameter, use 3/4 in. wide tape for 1/8 in. dowels. *Now, cut out the wings only.*
5. Place the wings on the canopy with the tip ends towards the center of the canopy. Using 3/4 in. masking tape, tape the wing root edges down along the lines marking the positions of the longerons. Fix the wings in position with bits of masking tape about every 6 in., then cover the wing root/canopy junction with 3/4 in. masking tape for the entire length of the junction. Rub the tape down firmly on both the wing root edges and the canopy, then fold the wings outwards, creasing the tape right at the junction of the wing roots and the canopy. Rub or roll down the crease until it lies as flat as possible.
6. Lay the longerons down along the longeron position lines, fix them in position with bits of masking tape about every 6 in., then cover the longerons end to end with masking tape.
7. Now cut out the canopy. When you have it cut out, take 1 in. lengths of 1/4 in. wide strapping tape, center the tape over the ends of the spine and longerons, and tape over the ends so that they can't come out of the soda-straw covering or pull the masking tape loose from the canopy.
8. Make a leading edge stiffener that is 3/4 in. shorter than the wing leading edge. Cut a piece of 3/4 in. masking tape 3 in. longer than the stiffener. Lay this piece of masking tape sticky side up on the work surface. Stick the ends of this tape down with short bits of masking tape, sticky side down. Lay the stiffener on the sticky side-up tape so that it is about 5/16 in. from one edge; rub the stick down so that it will stay in position.

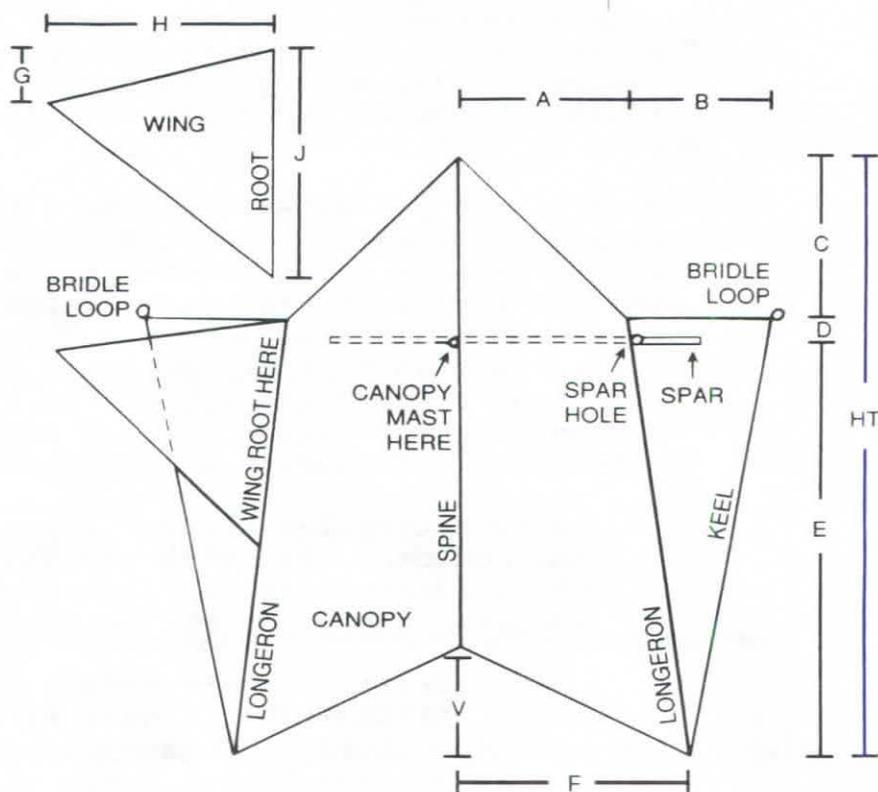
Now carefully stretch the leading edge of the wing so that it is wrinkle-free, position it carefully so that it just touches the stiffener along its length. The inboard end of the stiffener should be about 1/8 in. from the wing canopy junction. Carefully lower the wing leading edge into position on the tape. Now rub the wing leading edge down onto the tape. Fold the other edge of the tape up over the dowel and rub it down onto the wing.

Continued on next page.

Kitemaking (continued)

9. Poke holes through the keels $1/24$ the height of the kite back from the leading edge of the keels and right next to the longerons. These holes are to permit the spar to pass through the keels. It is probably a good idea to reinforce the canopy at this spot with a $3/4$ in. square piece of masking tape or duct tape before piercing the keel.
10. Spread the kite out so that the wings are approximately in flight position. Push the spar through the holes in the keels. Slip spar sockets (made from 1 in. lengths of soda straw with one end plugged with a bit of dowel and sealed in by $1/4$ in. strapping tape over the end) onto the ends of the spar and lay the spar on the kite so that the ends of the spar sockets just touch the outer ends of the wings and the inner ends of the sockets lie next to the leading edge stiffeners. Tape the spar sockets into the position with duct tape or 1 in. wide masking tape.
11. Tape a $1/4$ in. length of soda straw right at the bottom corner of the keel leading edges. Use a continuous run of $1/4$ in. wide strapping tape down one side of the leading edge, around that soda straw section, then back up the other side. The soda straw sections makes it easy to fasten the ends of the bridle line.
12. Insert the spar through the holes in the keels, then insert the ends of the spar into the spar sockets. The kite can be flown at this point, but it won't self-launch from the ground and the spar ends will keep slipping from the spar sockets, so...
13. For kites $3-1/2$ ft. or smaller, take a standard 8 in. (longer for larger kites) soda straw, lay it on the work surface, cover about half its length with wax paper, then flatten about 1 in. of one end with the heated bowl of a teaspoon (use a potholder; dummy!). Tape the flattened end to the spine at a point directly in line with the spar holes in the keels. Now, with the ends of the spar in the sockets and the kite on its back on the work surface, lift up on the spar right at its center while forcing the canopy down with the soda straw (see front end view) on the dimension drawing). Pull up on the spar hard enough to put just a hint of curve in the spar. With the soda straw held against the midpoint of the spar, mark the position of the spar on the straw and put a hole crosswise through the straw at this point so that the spar can be pushed through this hole. Cut the straw off about $1/4$ in. below the spar.

The soda-straw canopy mast serves some important functions. First, it locks the spar into the spar sockets; second it permits the kite to self-launch from the ground, and third, it takes a great deal of strain off the spar in strong winds. This permits using a much lighter spar, which in turn means the kite takes less wind to fly. If you want to get real fancy, use soda straws with a piece of string up the inside to make a canopy mast that will telescope for about 2 inches. This will permit the wind to form the canopy to a



more wind-compatible shape, but if the spar is under a heavy strain, the soda straw comes to the rescue after the spar has deflected about 2 inches.

14. Finally, the bridle. Take a piece of your flying line twice the height of the kite plus six inches. Tie the ends of this line into the bridle loops on the keel leading edges; tie either bowlines or other non-slip knots and pull them tight. Take another piece of flying line about a foot long and tie overhand knots in 3 in. bights of line in each end so that you have loops about $3/4$ in. in diameter. Slip one end of this short line around the bridle and slip the other loop through the first loop and pull the line tight. You have just tied a lark's head knot. Slide the lark's head to the exact center of the bridle line so that the two bridle legs are the same length.

Now lock the lark's head in place by grasping the two sides of the loop and pull them in opposite directions. You should feel a "click" as the lark's head locks up and can no longer be slid along the bridle. Mark the position of the lark's head on the bridle line in case you want to try changing the relative lengths of the bridle legs to compensate for construction errors that cause the kite to pull to one side or other. To unlock the lark's head, merely grasp the bridle legs on each side of the lark's head and pull the line tight. Again you will feel a "click" when the lark's head unlocks. You can now slide the lark's head left or right as desired and again lock it.

That's all folks. Go get familiar with your kite.

KITEABILITY

HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS

The sun was shining yesterday,
so Harry thought he'd go and play.
Out came the kites the reels and line,
Spring is here and Harry's fine.

He'd packed his sandwiches and a flask,
When a voice said "I won't bother to ask,
I suppose your going to fly your kite,
and won't be back till late tonight."

Mable sat down in the chair,
ran her fingers through her hair,
thought she'd take a cursory look
at Harry's favourite kiting book.

Quite enthralled she sat there reading,
not noticing that time was speeding.
She suddenly rose and with a shrug,
realised she'd caught the kiting bug.

Surreptitiously she made a call,
Dear **KITEABILITY**, "I want it all,
enough stuff for me to make a kite,
I've got the bug, I dream of flight.

Ripstop, spars and balls of string,
swivels, nocks, just everything,
some spray adhesive to help with sewing,
I'll do it without Harry knowing.

I'll make a kite that will enthrall,
They'll gape in wonder, one and all,
Harry will wonder at my agility,
I'll simply reply **THANKS KITEABILITY**.

Now I will no longer dally,
I'll be out flying with old Harry,
as fine a pair as you will see
with the designer lable **KITEABILITY**."

Best wishes and happy flying,

'97' list now available.
S.A.E. please.

Patsy Ron.



2, Garfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP Tel: 0181-804 9080
+ FAX

Proprietor: Mrs. P. Dell

Internet Kite Clubs

O.K. sorry this has taken a little longer than I had hoped, but you know what life is.... here's the list that I know of kite clubs on the internet and their contacts and web pages, I received a mailing of someone else listing kite web sites in the U.K. that I'll post on after this.

The list is longer than expected, and I do apologise to you if you didn't expect to be included! But I was hoping that you all would be interested. All info is up to date as pos. if I've missed any please let me know and I'll add them on.

If there is interest, this list could be passed to the Traders so that we all hear the news from them, but that can be a double-edged sword... but this is only with your consent.

Peter Dawson

The list is not in any order, just as it comes!

<http://netcomuk.co.uk/~mattd/kkkhome.html>

Kite Society of Great Britain
Jon Bloom
100255.116@Compuserve.com
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite_society/

West Coast Kite Club
Martin Attwater
101361.60@Compuserve.com

Kite Club of Scotland
Colin
cb006@post.almac.co.uk
<http://www.almac.co.uk/personal/blwww/kindex.htm>

York Kite Fliers
Paul Chandler
paul@freewind.demon.co.uk

British Buggy Club
Ian Meridith
mell@buggy.demon.co.uk
<http://www.buggy.demon.co.uk/>

Swansea University Kite Society
Chris Dearden
mm1a5dcd@swan.ac.uk

Artistic Kite Group
Charlie Charlton
charlie@akg.u-net.com
<http://www.u-net.com/~akg>

Avon Kite Fliers
David Johnson
akf@aol.com

White Horse Kite Flyers
Peter Dawson
101602.3723@Compuserve.com
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/whkf>

Bath Kite Society
Zoe Hancock
feb@maths.bath.ac.uk

Midland Kite Fliers
Julie White
mkf@canleo.demon.co.uk
<http://www.canleo.demon.co.uk/mkf.htm>

Loddon Valley Kite Fliers
Alan Cosgrove
kf4ida@aol.com

Solent Kite Fliers
John Travell
travell@comics.enet.dec.com
<http://www.woodcock-bates.demon.co.uk/skf.htm>

For changes/updates contact Peter Dawson at the White Horse Kite Fliers.

Brighton Kite Fliers
Ray Oakhill
roa@mistral.co.uk
<http://www.netlink.co.uk/users/webman/bkf/bkf.html>

Kite Aerial photography WWW site update. My kite aerial photography site is now one and a half years old, another milestone of sorts. During this time, notes on kite aerial photography has grown to over 100 web pages with over 600 images. I have now taken about 130 rolls of film from kite borne cameras. Recent additions include descriptions of two new camera rigs, a question and answer section, material from other kite aerial photographers and, of course, more KAP photos. My sincere thanks to all of you that have written, it has been the nicest part of developing this project.

Kent Kite Klub
Yvonne Davies
106215.250@compuserve.com

If you have yet to visit or it has been a while come on by and take a look.
<http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/~cris/kap/>

Cody Fact & Myth

Among the many people around the world passionately interested in the charismatic Samuel Franklin Cody, the aviation pioneer, possibly none tops Jean Roberts in enthusiasm.

Her interest, intriguingly, evolved by sheer accident. She, design engineer husband John Roberts and six children moved into a house named "Pinehurst" in Mychett, Surrey, England, in 1988.

Told by the estate agent that the structure had been occupied by Samuel Cody from 1906 to 1911 Mrs Roberts says: "Unlike many who confuse Samuel Cody with Buffalo Bill Cody, I thought he was referring to Wild Bill Hickock - yet a third American theatrical cowboy".

She soon got it all straight when a son, who worked at the air installation in nearby Farnborough, brought home research material on Samuel Franklin Cody. It was Cody who designed and flew the first airplane in England in 1908, while living in Pinehurst.

Beyond this personal historic association with her own house Roberts found Cody so interesting she decided to delve into his checkered history and presently found herself planning a biography of him. Work on it is approaching completion.

Having read books and articles on Cody and viewed a BBC documentary on him, Roberts was struck by the blatant factual discrepancies cited and determined to sort out truth from fiction. An expert on warships and a noted editor and writer on the subject, her husband encouraged her in the scholarly venture.

She decided to obtain official documents from the English Public Records Office and contemporary newspaper and magazine clippings were grist for her mill.

Her study soon extended itself from Britain to the United States. She obtained much fresh information there and is preparing to set the record straight on many aspects of his early life.

Among other documentation, she systematically collected photographs of Cody and now has some 800 of them, "Unfortunately all copies of originals because I don't have a lot of money to spend" she says. Her documentation exceeds 2,000 pages. At one point she

hired a professional historian to help do research in America. Because his journals seem to show radically different penmanship, she is attempting a handwriting analysis to determine if persons other than Cody contributed to them.

Why has Roberts pursued her study for so many years?

"Cody was a distinctly larger than life figure" she says. "He was a wonderful man. The more you find out about him the more you want to know. He had so many facets to his personality and he did so many things. People liked him. He struggled, he was on his own. He had a wonderful individuality and his accomplishments were enormous".

Roberts learned early on in her research that Samuel Franklin Cody was not Cody's real name and that he was not born in Birdsville, Texas as he claimed. Nor was he born in 1861 as previous biographical notes stated.

In fact he was born, Franklin Cowdery in Davenport, Iowa in 1867, one of a family of five children. His father was a union veteran from the American Civil War who deserted the family in 1875. Cowdery was known as "Frank" all his life (it was the name used on funeral wreaths) and adopted the given name Samuel, apparently in honour of his fathers' Christian name.

In 1889, Cowdery marries Maude Lee in Norristown, Pennsylvania, and the name Samuel Franklin Cody appears on the marriage certificate for the first time. Cowdery, by this time, is doing cowboy shows and the name Cody has been adopted, and apparently wife Maude, giving demonstrations of rifle and pistol sharpshooting and of horsemanship.

A wag in the publication "Era" comments on his show at Battersea: "What is the difference between Professor Charles Baldwin and Capt. Cody and his sister?" He answers himself: "Give up, eh? Well one is a parachutist and the other's a pair of shootists."

At about this time he begins serious kite experiments like those being conducted by the U.S. Government at the Blue Hill Observatory, Massachusetts.

At some point, in Europe, wife Maude jumps out of a balloon using a parachute, injures herself badly, and is sent home to the U.S. never to return to Europe.

Cody Fact & Myth

Cody then meets a Lela King, with four children, and she becomes his European common-law wife. Lela and children join Cody in staging the wild west show he has created and then collaborate in a lucrative Klondyke mining melodrama he write, produces and tours.

At some point, Buffalo Bill Cody, finding great fame and fortune touring Europe with his cowboys and Indians, shoot-em-up show, takes Samuel Cody to court to enjoin him from claiming he is Buffalo Bill's son. For good measure he halts Samuel Cody's commercial use of the phrase "wild west show" which Buffalo Bill has himself made famous.

Samuel Franklin Cody continues his highly popular show business career into the early part of the 20th century, using funds generated from it to finance aeronautical experiment.

In 1901 he patents the now famous Cody kite, a two-celled box kite after the design of Anglo-Australian Lawrence Hargrave, but with wings added for lift. This basic Cody "bat" kite, of which there are many variations, is considered to be one of the most beautiful kites ever designed. Cody's original aim is to provide a man-lifting system for observation purposes during the Boer War in South Africa. He eventually sells his services to the British military for kite development.

But by now, fired by the achievement of powered flight by the Wright brothers Cody is consumed by aeronautical ambition. In 1907 he helps create a dirigible named Neli Seundus (Second to None) which he flies over London to great acclaim.

(Roberts is able to show visitors to her Pinehurst home the third floor window Cody family members hung out to wave as he floated past the house in a huge airship).

Next comes a powered airplane, successfully flown for the first time on October 16, 1908 at nearby Farnborough.

Development of airplanes by Cody and many competitors is rapid and soon Cody has himself naturalised as a British citizen so he can compete, often successfully, in various British air competitions offering money prizes.

Cody dies after a mid-air plane mishap in 1913. His

funeral is attended by 50,000 people. Among the hundreds of letters of condolence to his widow is one from King George V. Cody is then buried in a military cemetery near the scene of his great flying triumph and eventually death, the first civilian to be so honoured. His grave at Aldershot with British wife Lela buried beside him can be viewed today.

In the literature, Cody has been described as an immensely strong six-footer. In fact, examination of his clothing show him to have been about five feet six inches tall. Since however he stood very straight and invariably wore high-heeled cowboy boots and a ten-gallon hat, he added inches to his appearance.

Of his great strength to fly his various ungainly but successful aircraft, there has never been any question raised.

American wife Maude resurfaces after Cody's death in 1913. Confined to an insane asylum in Norristown, Pennsylvania, she is bought to court by her family to establish her mental condition so the substantial fortune Cody left can be obtained by the American portion of the family. Maude is still alive as late as 1920 when the case is finally settled. Roberts' efforts to document her death have been to no avail.

Although Cody's clever use of publicity assured that his life in England was well documented, his doings from the time he was 13 until he became 22 are a blank to Roberts. Cody himself told tales of varied exploits in the raw west of America as a youth, but they remain undocumented and, based on Cody's subsequent show business romanticising, suspect as to accuracy. Roberts is working on the problem.

Unlike many scholars, Roberts is generous in sharing her unique information with other Cody fans. She has received much information in her turn and hopes that somewhere in the world there is someone who will help her with clues to that void in Cody's teenage history.

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The Drachen Foundation
Newsletter vol 2 issue 2
December 96.

Recent Kite Books

A Kite Journey through India **Tal Streeter**

A long, long time ago there was a book called *The Art of the Japanese Kite*. It falls into the must read category, even though it is now out of print. Tal Streeter, as a young artist / sculptor / kite enthusiast, toured the great kite makers of Japan. He introduced me to Hashimoto whose kites now hang on my wall. Unflown, but loved. He talked about the quiet reverence shown to Japanese kitemakers and the mayhem of the great kite battles. He even discussed the art of the subtle bamboo plant.

And now Streeter has been to India. His *Kite Journey* is a compilation of experiences in India over a period of several years, perhaps decades. This time the book teems with daily life, excitement and overpopulation. And all about a simple two stick covered kite? And all about a complex kite that has more life and liquidity of movement than any high tech stunter!

Streeter is interested in the kite people (kiteists?) rather more than the kites themselves. The industrious, but fun loving, Indian character comes through very clearly - as does the impossibility of life on the sub-continent. But this time kite traveller Streeter imposes himself (the now-famous kite author) into the book. Before he was the fly-on-the-wall observer. This juxtaposition of American versus Indian culture rather spoils the book for me but it would be unnoticed by kite tourists from the US.

And the illustrations? The photographs are wonderful. They show kiteists, kitesellers selling, makers making and everyone smiling and having fun. Unfortunately a few of the full plate photos have been taken under poor light and are a bit wobbly. And the kite illustrations? There are plenty of beautiful illustrations of a whole variety of simple two stick and tissue kites; and others too.

And kite technicalities? alas, nothing. Streeter

observes the process of manjha making. There is a little on spools, but there could be more. But the kite themselves? Not a lot. It would have been helpful, even essential, to have the key dimensions and bridling of the various sizes of kite. And more on the variations. The Tukkal and the Indian Star are barely mentioned. And flying technique? Very little. This is not a book for understanding the mechanics of the kite. It is all about the spirit of the Indian Kite.

The book? The price (about £25) is high for a paperback with 181 pages. There is no index and, sadly, no bibliography. But it is a beautiful book. If you are going to tour India then you must get it, but only after your visit so that you can compare your experiences with an open mind. If you want to go kiteflying in India, but cannot afford it - you should certainly get it. The book closes with a note that the author's proceeds from this book will be used to establish a bank loan programme for woman in India.

Published by Weatherhill ISBN 0-8348-0301-1.
Price £24.99.

Reviewed by **Paul Chapman**



Other Recent Books

The Creative Book of Kites : With chapters on the History of Kite Designs and Flying Techniques Plus 9 Kites to Make by Sarah Kent.

Hardcover, 128 pages. Published by Smithmark Pub. Publication date: December 1, 1996.
ISBN: 0765194937.

Kites - by Ron Moulton and Pat Lloyd. A second edition of this book is now out. A number of pages have been updated or changed, this 256 page book comes with a new colour section of the 1996 Dieppe Festival, a section on Hargrave and new kite designs including the Swedish Viking Longship and a Colombian Aeroplane kite.

KREATIVE KITES

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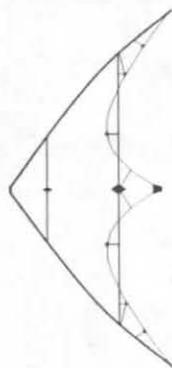
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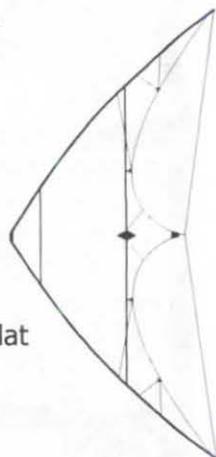


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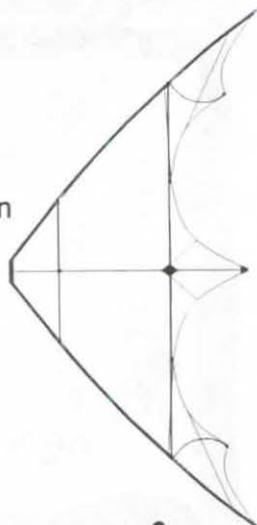
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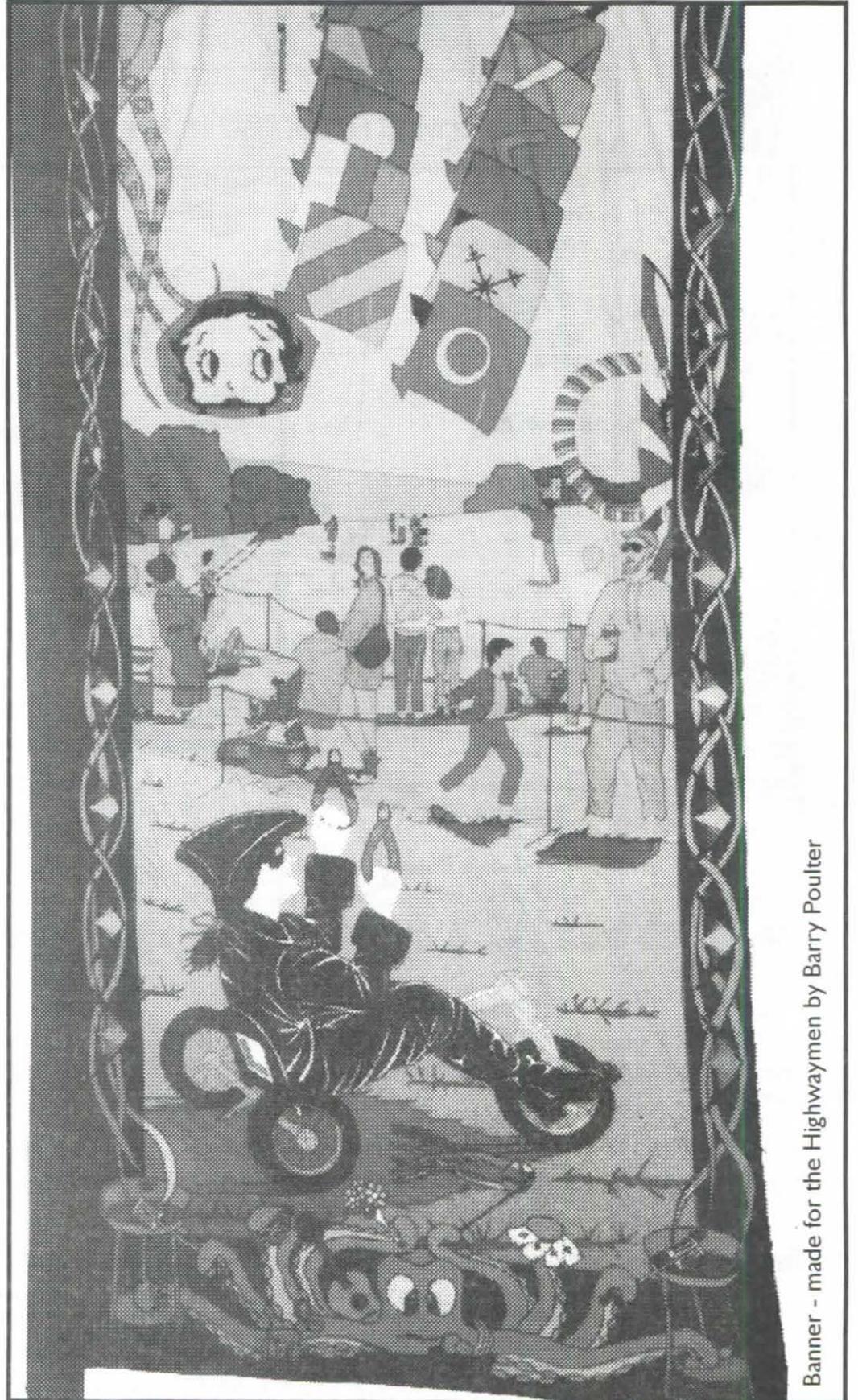
J. BARKER. 81.



MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS

MKF Extra

The Extra Newsletter of The Midlands Kite Fliers

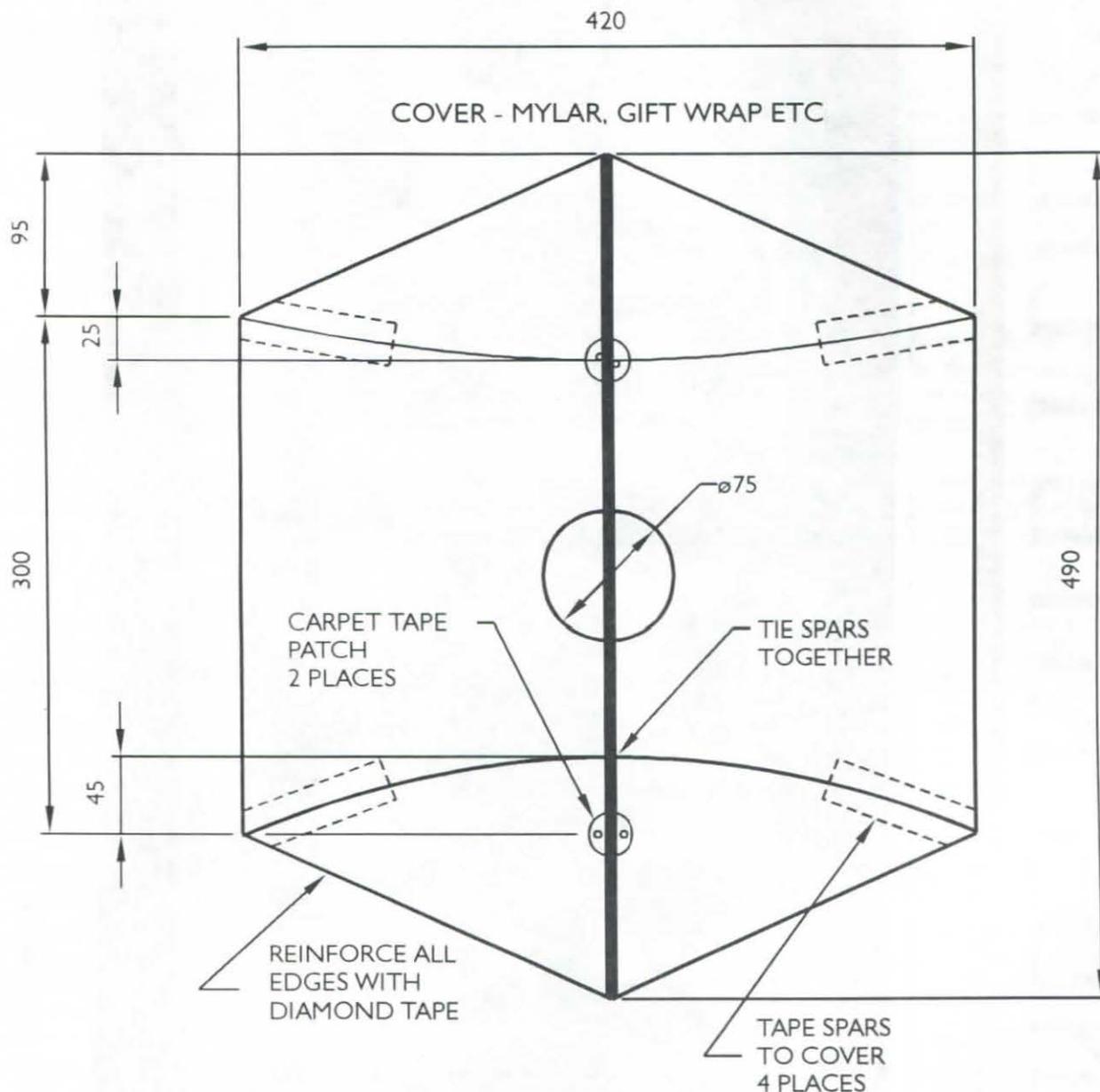


Banner - made for the Highwaymen by Barry Poulter

The 'Shropshire Rok'

(a fun fighter kite).

Designed by Tony Slater
Shropshire Kite Group. January 1997



SPINE - 5 x 2 BAMBOO (SHINY SIDE DOWN)

TOP SPAR - ø2 FIBRE GLASS

BOTTOM SPAR - ø1.5 FIBRE GLASS

BRIDLE - TOP LEG 420 BOTTOM LEG 445

Drawn by Jim White
on AutoCAD LT v.2

This kite is good for beginners, as it will roll around its edges and take off again after a bad landing. Diamond Tape is easily available from major stationers, WH Smith etc.

Please note the different spar sizes.



Where to meet up with The Midlands Kite Fliers

Spring Kite Flying Day, Stafford Castle, Newport Road, Stafford

Sunday 13 April 1997 11am - 5pm Map 127 SJ 902 223

Come and join us at our regular venue at this historic site overlooking Staffordshire. Not a lot of room, but is very well attended by the public. Kite retailer - Skybums of Shrewsbury, visitor centre, kite making workshop, see those flying legs! No parking at the top of the hill, car parking charges waived for kitefliers. 1,000 foot height clearance applied for. Stafford Castle is situated to the west of Stafford, on the Newport Road. Easily reached, and easy to locate, as it can be seen for miles around.

Coach Inn Free Kite Festival, Clynnog-Fawr, North Wales

Friday 18 - Sunday 20 April 1997

Steven Williams, proprietor of the Coach Inn, invites you to the third year of kite weekend, organised with the help of 'Mr Kite' Tony Slater. All proceeds of raffles etc will be going to local charities. The weekend starts on the Friday evening, with Tony showing videos of all types of kites. On the Saturday there is a kite workshop run by Martin Lawrence, a kite shop - Kiteability of Middlesex (come and stock up on your kite making bits and bobs), competitions, raffles, music, and informal flying on the field, which is only 200 yards from the beach. In the evening there is a BBQ, disco and prizes, Tony Slater, and videos from around the world. Sunday is an informal flying day. Evening meals are available at the Inn, free caravan and camping site with wash/shower facilities, bunk house accom only £3 pppn, which sleeps up to 18.

The Coach Inn is situated 10 miles south of Caernarfon, 12 miles North of Pwllheli, North Wales. behind the village church, off the A499, opp petrol station. Contact Steven Williams for special B&B rates on 01286 660212. Contact Tony Slater for more info on the kiteflying on 01743 235068.



Dorstone Kite Weekend, Dorstone, near Hay on Wye, Herefordshire

Friday 25 - Monday 28 April 1997

MKF members Karl and Sara Longbottom invite members to come along and fly a kite at various sites around their home village of Dorstone, near Hay on Wye. If you wish to make a weekend of it you can join in at Sara's School's Quiz Night on the Friday night (Kitefliers against the rest!) On the Saturday MKF can join in with the Hereford Kite Group at a local flying site.

Accommodation is provided free of charge in the Dorstone village hall. Bring your own sleeping bag, floor mats etc, and camp out on the floor - plenty of space. The hall is available from Friday 5pm until Monday 8.45am. Bring some change for the electricity meter. Kitchen with sink, stove, kettle, some pans, cutlery, toilet and washbasin included. There is space (outside) for two tents and one caravan. Pub next to Village Hall for food. For more details on the flying sites and accommodation ring Sara on 01981 550326.

Shipleigh Country Park, nr Heanor, Derbyshire

Sunday 4 May - Map 129 SK 432 452

Bearing in mind that a lot of fliers will be at the Weymouth Convention and festival there is bound to be some fliers/members going to Shipleigh Country Park. There is a nice flying site, mown flat grass, next to the (free) car park, with cafe, shop and toilets a short walk away. Shipleigh Country Park can be found by initially following the signs for the American Adventure World signs, then following the Park's own signs.



Harewood House Air Spectacular, Yorkshire

Friday 2 - Monday 5 May 1997

Harewood House is 7 miles north of Leeds and 7 miles south of Harrogate on the A61. If you are interested in Hot Air Balloons and wish to fly a kite between the early morning and evening take-offs of 60 balloons, contact David Farrar for details and a registration form. Free camping is offered in return for you flying a kite or three. There is a prize for the best kite displays. Also present will be the York Kite Fliers. Contact Bob Pickford for kite information on 01904 762660.

Other attractions include parachute and microlight displays, helicopter displays, lake cruises, refreshments, night glow and fireworks spectacular in front of the house, fun day activities and kite workshop. For event and camping details, and a registration form, send a stamped SAE to David Farrar, Farrars Hot Air, Harewood House event, Fay Cottage, 28 The Green, Seacroft, Leeds LS14 6JW. For details of local accommodation ring 0800 808050.

Calke Abbey Kite flying day, Calke Abbey, Ticknall, Derbyshire

Sunday 18 May 10am - 5pm

Our third year at Calke - bigger and better, and in the month of May when, hopefully, the weather will be warmer. Just bring a kite and the car parking fee of £2 is waived (this applies to the public also). Special on-site car parking for kite club members (depending on ground conditions). Large open area in splendid scenery. House to tour (NT), kitchen gardens to view, Cafe (not cheap), lake, ducks, sheep, walks farmyard. Kite workshop this year to add to the fun. The park is easy to find - follow the tourist info signs to the park.

ShIPLEY Country Park, 21st Anniversary Celebrations, nr Heanor, Derbyshire

Monday 26 May 1997 Map 129 SK 432 452

Come along to one of our fly-in sites and join in with the celebrations to mark 21 years of Shipley Country Park - see previous report about the park. Other attractions are being organised for the day, such as wood turning, dog agility, etc. There will be a time when friends and members will be able to 'Fly a kite for Sue Poxon' who died earlier this year. For those wishing to take part we suggest that you bring along a sled kite, or make one on the day.

Sutton Park, (Streetley Gate Entrance), Sutton Coldfield, near Birmingham

Sunday 1 June 10.30am - 5pm Map 139 SP 097 972

Very large open site next to car parking. Well drained (step over very narrow water channel, then its well drained!). Toilets at entrance gate, (or local bushes) or a car journey away, depending on availability. No other facilities. 1,000 feet height clearance applied for. Final round of MKF Sport Kite League takes place at 2pm. We use the Streetley Gate Entrance which is on the North Eastern side of this very large park.

For more information on any of the above events send a stamped SAE to the address below.

Where to meet up with MKF on the Internet - <http://www.canleo.demon.co.uk/mkf.htm>

The MKF web pages have moved, and have been improved. They include information on the club, the club fees, a kites gallery, Midlands kite retailers, a UK events calendar and the UK Rules of the Air. Visit us soon, and don't forget to fill in the guest book.

4 Hermitage Court. Oakwood. Derby. DE21 2LG.

MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



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MKF on the Internet - <http://www.canleo.demon.co.uk/mkf.htm>

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BKF AGM: 05/02/97

THE DOWNS HOTEL/WOODINGDEAN

◆**Welcome:** Ray Oakhill welcomed 16 BKF members to the AGM. The meeting started at 19.45 and Ray indicated that he would try to wrap things up by 22.00 with any outstanding business going to the first meeting of the proposed Committee.

◆**Apologies:** were received from Pat & Ron Dell, Danny Steer, Mike & Peri Lainchbury, Jan & Barry Poulter, Peter Jackson, Ken Boddy and Derek Lloyd.

◆**Minutes:** of last meeting and matters arising. Nothing raised.

◆**Membership:** Ray reported that the membership currently stands at 110 including 40 family members, the largest ever.

◆**Financial Report:** Toody Oakhill resigned as Treasurer. Ray offered the thanks of the Club for all

the work she had done over the previous 6 years.

This was supported by everyone present.

Toody then passed round copies of the 1996 accounts summary.

It was noted that the Brighton Kite Festival accounts presented earlier in the year and the figures indicated on the accounts which she had submitted for the Festival must be

read together. She also reported that we have a lot of tee-shirts and sweatshirts available but only 3 or 4 pins. The Festival recorded a loss for 1996 which has eroded previous balances carried forward.

◆**Festival Progress:** Paul Thody and Estelle Barton outlined the current situation. There will be no confirmation of the availability of funds until April when the new Brighton & Hove Council comes in. Estelle has looked at Sussex

University accommodation; they want £22.80 plus VAT and

agrodynne

APRIL 1997

the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

are fully booked. Brighton University will only accept a block booking for the Coldean Road site at £17.50 per night; Estelle suggests 10 to 20 with the money up front is their likely demand. Work on posters is in hand and non-kite sponsors have been approached. Jerry Swift passed round a copy of the letter sent along with the list of companies approached. The list also contains 40 plus media contacts which have been passed on to Paul for press releases etc. Estelle reported that Kite Passion magazine are offering a full page colour ad in the June issue in exchange for a stand at the Festival. They are also offering commission of £1 per copy if BKF members sell the magazine for them in the event that they cannot get their own staff there. Estelle reported some support from the kite trade and Paul said that Nynex will give some publicity.

◆**Proposal for Constitution:** Ray invited Jerry to outline the proposal for the Club to adopt a constitution. Mik Jennison pointed out that amendments should be considered before the proposal could be accepted. Ray then said that the original proposal had been made by Mik and others many years previously and that the proposed document had then been written by Jerry drawing on information taken (with thanks) from the White Horse Kite Flyers, which was then worked on by Ray and a friend and subsequently discussed over many hours by Jerry and Ray.

Five people had made suggestions for amendments. There was then a discussion about the need for audits, the first amendment. It was proposed

NEW BKF FLY-IN SITE

With effect from 4th April the Club will be having just one monthly Fly-in on the 1st Sunday of each month at a playing field at the top of Ladies Mile Road (Map Ref: 198 TQ 317 092). This site has been accepted by your new Committee as being much cleaner than Hollingbury (dog mess, that is), and it is open to winds in all directions. The grass appears to be mowed regularly and hopefully the Council will supply a key to the gate to allow us to drive cars closer to the flying site. The idea of reducing the number of fly-ins is to encourage greater attendance. By having only one per month we hope to make the event more concentrated, so please make the effort to be there if you are not at a festival elsewhere.

RAY OAKHILL

by Jerry and seconded by Gill Pitman, that the following words were added as para (e) to Article 6: "Subject to facilities being available, the Club will appoint honorary auditors at the AGM to audit the following year's accounts." 14 voted in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention. Carried.

In order to clarify voting rights Mik proposed that Article 4 para (g) should read: "A fully paid up Individual Membership will carry one vote and a fully paid up Family Membership will carry two votes. Each member eligible to vote may only cast one vote, irrespective of the number of family members." This was seconded by Jerry and after discussion carried unanimously.

Mik proposed that the wording of Article 3 para (e) have added: "... and shall have full voting rights." Jerry seconded and it was carried unanimously.

There was some discussion about Article 8 paras (b) and (c) and it was proposed by Mik seconded by Paul that the two be amalgamated and that they should read: "After any debts have been redeemed, any remaining assets shall be distributed amongst the membership or will be offered

at the Committee's discretion to clubs and organisations with similar interests to the Club." Carried unanimously.

A proposal to amend Article 4 para (a) to the effect that notification of the AGM be sent to members direct was not seconded. No further discussion. The quorum was discussed and it was proposed by Alan Outram and seconded by Simon Hennessey, that Article 4 para (b) be amended to read: "A quorum at the AGM shall be 10% or 25 fully paid up voting members, whichever is the less. In the event...". This was carried unanimously.

It was pointed out that Article 4 para (d) conflicts with Article 4 para (a). Ray proposed that Article 4 para (d) be amended to 14 days. This was seconded by Jerry and carried unanimously.

There was a proposal to amend Article 5 para (a) to include the words: "each year". There was no seconder and no further discussion.

An amendment to Article 5 para (d) was proposed with reference to Charities. There was no seconder and no further discussion.

Toody proposed that the word 'Chairperson' be used throughout. Estelle Barton seconded. 7 in favour, 2 against and 5 abstentions. Carried. It was proposed by Ray and seconded by Jerry, that Article 5 para (f) be amended to: "... Club activities.". This was carried unanimously.

Simon expressed concern about the impact of Article 5 para (a) in the event of resignation, death or incapacity. After some discussion it was decided that the intention of the draft constitution should be carried through, viz. that the Committee be elected at the AGM and serve for the year. If for any reason numbers are reduced over the year they should not be replaced until the following AGM.

Jerry then proposed that the constitution as amended be accepted. This was seconded by Gill. 13 in favour and 1 abstention. The Constitution is adopted.

◆Committee:

Ray then outlined his proposal for the Committee and there was some discussion about the need for a postal ballot or otherwise in the event that there were more than 7 nominees. Mik

suggested that if members wanted a say then it would be appropriate for them to come to the meeting. The proposals for the Committee were:

Ray Oakhill: Chairperson - Proposed by: Simon/Seconded by: Alan

Gill Pitman: Treasurer - Proposed by: Carolyn Swift/Seconded by: Mik

Jerry Swift: Secretary - Proposed by: Barry Pitman/Seconded by: Paul Thody

Also standing for the Committee: Alan Outram, Paul Thody, Paul Fellingham and Toody Oakhill. The Committee were elected unanimously.

There was no need for a Returning Officer.

◆**Fly-in Venues:** There was some discussion over frequency and location for fly-ins and it was proposed by Ray and seconded by Simon, that these be reduced to one per month. 14 in favour 1 abstention. Carried. Ray will approach Dorothy Stringer School about the use of their playing field at the top of Ladies Mile Road in Patcham. Simon suggested carrying out a workshop annually as payment. Peter Jones proposed that for the time being the site be at Hollingbury on the first Sunday of the month. This was seconded by Estelle. 10

MOBILE LIBRARY...

Thanks to John Turner for taking over running the BKF Library from me. He can be contacted on 01323 500191.

Returns of books and magazines outstanding for 6 months or more would be greatly appreciated!

TOODY OAKHILL

BKF MERCHANDISE MOVE

Simon Hennessey has taken over organising the Club's tee-shirts and sweatshirts. He can be contacted on 01273 415763.

Embroidered cloth patches and (a few) enamel pins are still available from Ray Oakhill on Tel/Fax: 01273 306842/E-mail: rao@mistral.co.uk

TOODY OAKHILL

in favour, 4 abstentions.

◆Library & Merchandise:

Toody asked someone to take on both through lack of storage space. Help was not forthcoming on the merchandise but John Turner agreed to take on the Library.

◆**AOB:** Barry said that he had had a call from the National Trust to discuss the Devil's Dyke Management Plan. He outlined the discussions of the two meetings he and Simon had attended and said that they had suggested possible kite awareness days and membership promotion including information boards and info on the safe and responsible use of kites. They are carrying on the discussions following the issue of a draft plan. Ray thanked Barry and Simon for their efforts in attending.

Estelle raised the matter of the Festival Account and said that she wished to carry on running it. Simon expressed concern about where the money for the BKF is coming from as BKF Members are putting effort into the Festival and no money is coming back. Ray stressed that it is a Brighton Kite Festival run by Brighton Kite Flyers. Paul and Estelle are the organisers and contact point but this had been misinterpreted in the press. There was discussion about the way the Festival is funded and accounted for. Mik pointed out that there is now an ad-hoc Festival Committee including Paul & Estelle, Ray, Carolyn & Jerry, Simon, himself and Toody. He suggested that most of the effort is put in by Estelle. Gill and Estelle will be joint signatories on the Festival Account. This led to discussion on how the accounts were handled and Estelle agreed that Gill should consolidate the two accounts. Barry discussed the need for a budget for the Festival in order to ensure everyone is aware of targets and Jerry discussed the need for a time plan for the Festival.

◆The meeting closed at 22.15.

JERRY SWIFT (SECRETARY)

BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS' CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of the organisation shall be "Brighton Kite Flyers" (BKF).

ARTICLE 2: OBJECTS

The Objects of the Club shall be:-

- (a) To encourage and foster the art of kite making and flying, together with all aspects of tethered aerial activity.
- (b) To further the knowledge on all aspects of kite making and flying.
- (c) To give exhibitions, displays and talks on making and flying kites to the general public as well as to members.
- (d) To purchase and hold kites, books and related materials for the benefit of the members.
- (e) To provide Third Party Insurance protection for members.
- (f) The Club may affiliate to any other clubs or societies with similar interests provided always that this is ratified at the AGM.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Membership is available to all above the age of 14 years or younger, if recruited as family members, or by invitation of the Committee, irrespective of place of residence or their interests in the sport.
- (b) All members of the Club shall at all times act in the best interests of the Club, shall do nothing to bring the Club into disrepute and shall seek to promote a positive impression of kiteflyers. Any member who the Committee feels brings the Club into disrepute will be liable to removal from membership at the sole discretion of a majority of the main Committee.
- (c) Subscriptions will run for one year from the date first paid and annually thereafter.
- (d) Committee members shall declare any interests they have, whether pecuniary or otherwise, which could relate to the activities of the Club or the Committee. The main Committee may direct that such interests require the member to withdraw from the meeting or preclude the member from voting on related issues.
- (e) The Committee may award up to five Honorary Memberships in any one year. These shall run for a term of one year and shall have full voting rights.
- (f) The Committee may nominate an individual for Honorary Life Membership in recognition of exceptional services to the Club or kite flying. Such nomination shall require a 2/3rds majority at the AGM to be approved.

ARTICLE 4: MEETINGS

- (a) The Annual General Meeting shall be notified to the membership annually. It will be held in March or as near thereto as possible. Notification of the date, time and

place of the meeting, shall be given, not less than one month in advance, whether posted direct to the member or as part of another publication, shall be deemed sufficient.

- (b) A quorum at the AGM shall be 10% or 25 fully paid up voting members, whichever is the less. In the event that a quorum is not achieved, no business will be transacted and the meeting will be reconvened, by letter to the full membership, to a date and time not more than four weeks later.
- (c) Approval of main, Festival and other project accounts in the Club's name for the year to the preceding 31st December shall be sought at the AGM.
- (d) Notice of agenda items to be put to the AGM shall be submitted to the Chairperson or Secretary, in writing, 14 days prior to that meeting.
- (e) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called if there is a written request signed by not less than 15% of the recorded voting members. The EGM must be held within 60 days of the request with 30 days written notice being given to the membership. The EGM will be properly minuted.
- (f) Voting at an AGM or an EGM shall be by a show of hands of the members present and voting. A simple majority will be required. Any person standing for election may request a ballot amongst those present voting members.
- (g) A fully paid up Individual Membership will carry one vote and a fully paid up Family Membership will carry two votes. Each member eligible to vote may only cast one vote, irrespective of the number of family members.
- (h) Additional meetings may be called only with the Committee's approval.

ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS AND THE COMMITTEE

- (a) The Committee shall consist of: The Chairperson, The Secretary, The Treasurer, (who shall jointly be called "the officers" of the Club), plus four Individual or Family fully paid up members elected at the preceding AGM.
- (b) Nominations for officers and other Committee members shall only be by consent of the nominee concerned and shall be notified to the membership with the invitation to the AGM.
- (c) All members of the main Committee and any sub Committees will stand down at the AGM but may offer themselves for re-election.
- (d) The Committee may approve any activity in support of a recognised charity unless there is an objection in which case the matter should be put to a vote at an AGM or EGM.
- (e) The Committee will meet on at least two occasions each year, with a minimum of seven days notice given by the Chairperson.
- (f) As well as the notifications required by the constitution, the Committee will keep the membership informed of all Club activities.



ARTICLE 6: FINANCES

- (a) The control of the Club's finances shall be delegated to the elected Treasurer who shall be answerable to the Committee at all times.
- (b) All cheques or other instruments will require the signature of the Treasurer and one other officer of the main Committee. Other accounts may be set up for specific purposes provided always that this is with the specific agreement of the main Committee and that at least two signatures, one of which must be the Chairperson of the sub Committee, are required for any cheque or other instrument.
- (c) A Statement of Accounts plus accounts or investments in the Club's name shall be made available by the Treasurer at the AGM or on reasonable demand to any paid up member, in a period of not longer than 30 days.
- (d) Annual subscriptions shall be at the rates established at the AGM held in the previous year.
- (e) Subject to facilities being available, the Club will appoint honorary auditors at the AGM to audit the following year's accounts.

ARTICLE 7: SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) The Committee shall be free to nominate such sub Committees as it shall deem necessary for the time being to carry out specific tasks such as organisation of a festival or other project. The authority of such sub Committees will be agreed by not less than 2/3rds of the main Committee. Sub Committees shall elect their own Chairperson who will have a casting vote. In the event that they cannot reach a decision it will be returned to the main Committee. Such sub Committees will be indemnified by the Club provided always that they have acted lawfully and within the agreed authority.

ARTICLE 8: CESSATION OF ACTIVITIES

- (a) The Club can only be terminated by:
 - (1) A declaration of insolvency.
 - (2) A decision of 75% of fully paid up members by postal ballot.
- (b) After any debts have been redeemed, any remaining assets shall be distributed amongst the membership or will be offered at the Committee's discretion to clubs and organisations with similar interests to the Club.

ARTICLE 9: CLUB CONSTITUTION

This constitution having been adopted at the 1997 AGM, can only be amended by a properly put resolution which is properly carried by a 2/3rds majority at an AGM or an EGM.



KITE PASSION OFFER

Kite Passion magazine is offering all kite club members a special discount of 20% off subscriptions to the magazine.

A one year, 6 issues subscription for £11.80 instead of £14.75.

A two years, 12 issues subscription for £23.50 instead of £29.50.

All you have to do is send a subscription form or a letter to:

Kite Passion
P.O. Box 152
Woking
Surrey
GU21 1FS

Or ring: 01 483 733849 and quote the special sort code: 'KITE CLUB' plus the name of your club.

Any kiting news is welcome at the following address:

FAO Jean-Philippe Bequet
Kite Passion
Custom Publishing France
18, rue Horace Vernet
92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux
France.

RAY OAKHILL

SOCIAL EVENING CHANGE

At the Committee's first meeting it was decided that Devil's Dyke is too far from the town for social gatherings. So, although we have yet to find the perfect flying site with pub attached, we've decided to move the venue to Stanmer Park for early evening flying on the 2nd Thursday of the month (April to September). We'll be using The Swan pub at Falmer for post flying refreshments - which is just 1/4 of a mile from Stanmer Park. Hope to see you there.

RAY OAKHILL

BKF WEB UPDATE

News for Netheads - as the Demon site has closed the BKF web page is now at:-

<http://www.netlink.co.uk/users/webman/bkf/bkf.html>

RAY OAKHILL

aerodyne april 1997
the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

MORE FLYING DATES...

SUNDAY 20 APRIL 1997: FROM 11.00

Flying on the beach between the piers (opp. Brighton Centre) to help launch Brighton & Hove Health Authority's 'Active for Life' initiative - promoting healthier interests and activities for the over 50's. All ages are welcome.

SUNDAY 1 JUNE 1997: FROM 10.00

We've been asked to put on a demo at Stanmer Park to support 'Friends of the Earth'. They are organising a 'Downs Day Walk' to draw local authorities' attention to making the South Downs a National Park.

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC/HOVE PARK

Sadly there's no event this year (we've supported it for the last 3)... I'm afraid I don't have a reason why!

RAY OAKHILL

DON MOCK'S SWINDON KITE WORKSHOP

I arrived at Swindon at 09.00, after a very early start from Brighton, to find Don laying out materials in a classroom at Headlands School. The kite we were to make was a variation of the Sutton Flowform, called a Mock Form inflatable kite. The difference being that there were no dentelles extended at the trailing edge, which was totally straight.

Don had all the material pre-cut, which must have taken ages, but it certainly saved us some valuable time. After a brief introduction about the do's and don'ts, we set about sewing and sewing and sewing and sewing and... it seemed to go on forever. For me the first day was devoted to just hemming panels, but it was good sewing machine practice!

Saturday evening was "let your hair down" time at the White Hart, as it was Dave Robinson's birthday (well that was his excuse). I, of course, did not need one after six hours of sewing. We all had a very enjoyable time and lots of lubrication was consumed to oil the sewing machines for the next day. Yours truly was BOFed again with that long lens of his! How is it that I always get compromised with the young ladies at these sessions? (no comments thanks Ed.)

On Sunday the heat was turned on in the classroom, but not before John Barker was supplied with his own personal convector heater! Today, for me, was assembly day and the fight with yards of ripstop began. As on Saturday, there were constant supplies of coffee, tea and Grolsch, and a hearty lunchtime menu with more food than could be consumed. Many thanks to Janet, Jane, Madge and Kathryn for waiting upon us so unstintingly.

The ripstop fight continued to get worse, until about 4.30 when I sewed the final seam and could turn the kite inside out. How is it that two people had completed and flown their kites by midday? But then as John Barker said "It's not a race Ray". Don insisted that my kite should be bridled before finishing for the day. Now I know why he makes these kites - it took less than ten minutes to set and fix the five bridle lines!

All that was left to do was to cut and machine the back edge of the kite and make the bag, which I could do at home. Well, the circular base of the bag took four attempts to get right. Eventually it was calculator time to get the diameter exactly correct before I had any success. It was more trouble than any part of the kite!

What a great week-end! My thanks to Dave and Neil for all their organisation, and of course to Don for all his help and encouragement.

As you would expect, the kite flies like a "homesick angel".

RAY OAKHILL



BRIGHTON STUNT KITE LEAGUES 97

STANMER PARK/FALMER/BRIGHTON/EAST SUSSEX

SUNDAY 26 JANUARY, 09 & 16 FEBRUARY 1997



Thanks to all who came to Stanmer Park and competed in the Brighton Stunt Kite Leagues this January and February. Competitors came from various areas of Sussex, Surrey and as far as Bognor and Southampton.

We had a variety of weather conditions as could be expected at the time of year. This accounted for a variety of kites being used. The final Sunday was the worst weather I had ever competed in. It was not only extremely windy, but it rained really hard, so we all had a thorough soaking. I competed with an 4ft Xtro on that day as it was as much as I could hold on to. Some of the flyers who competed with 8ft kites were completing slides of several meters in the wet mud as the kites powered across the wind. As usual the competitions go ahead, whatever the weather. Before that day however, the weather had been dry. One Sunday was beautifully sunny and the other a little chilly.

The kite flyers flew 3 set figures given beforehand and a surprise figure given on the day. They were judged on accuracy of the figures in proportion to the wind window, speed control, the landing and continuity.

COMPETITION CLASS	FINAL PLACE	COMPETITOR'S NAME	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3
NOVICE:	1	Kevin Richards	36.50	27.17	29.34
	2	Wayne Ratcliff	32.00	29.73	29.96
	3	Owen Thompson	34.25	-	26.20
	4	Richard Pellew	32.25	28.00	27.73
	5	Simon Dendall	31.00	28.87	25.38
	6	Dave Mitchell	18.00	28.03	31.00
	7	Julie Shrubsall	21.00	-	14.49
	8	Trevor Fraser	13.25	-	-
EXPERIENCED:	1	Ray Oakhill	32.50	27.47	-
	2	Gerald Sizer	30.50	27.17	29.00
	3	Nathan Clements	29.50	27.00	-
MASTERS:	1	Graham Piggot	36.25	31.23	32.26
	2	Luke Brown	34.25	27.93	29.13
	3	Giles Smith	34.00	29.10	23.13
	4	Andrew Lomas	30.50	30.23	23.55
	5	Estelle Barton	34.75	-	25.03
	6	Gareth Jones	27.75	25.67	20.03

Thanks to Simon Dann (STACK UK's Head Judge) for attending on the last Sunday and totalling the final scores. Also to Flexifoil International for donating a 10ft and an 8ft Flexifoil and to Spirit of Air for donating a Kaos kite for prizes. They went to the Novice, Experienced and Masters winners.

Thank you to all the judges who helped and everybody who totalled the scores: Head Judge: Tom Gunter
Judges: Ray Oakhill, Giles Smith, Estelle Barton, Graham Piggot, Andrew Lomas & Gary Pullinger.

The leagues were organised by Air Born Kites and held on behalf of STACK as part of the South East Leagues.

ESTELLE BARTON (AIR BORN KITES)

RAY'S FIRST TIMERS...

THINGS THAT HAVE NEVER OFFICIALLY BEEN DONE BEFORE!

◆15/06/1996: The Aire Affair Fun Fly Festival & Competition/Belmont Shores/Long Beach/CA/USA
I flew 3 stacks of 3 full size sport kites called Big Dippers (furnished by Ride The Wind) simultaneously. This was videoed and witnessed by the Organiser, Sponsors and hundreds of spectators. Verification: Neil Tuthill Ancal (13107 East Whittier Boulevard/Whittier/CA/USA/Tel: 310 696 5266), Jim Campbell (E-mail: jcampbell3@msmail3.hac.con), Hughes Aircraft Company and Larry Bust (E-mail: 14668@aol.com).

◆28/07/1996: The West Coast Kite Championships & The Berkeley 10th Anniversary Kite Festival/Berkeley/CA/USA

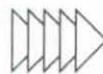
I flew 3 stacks of 12 Hyper Kites (36 in total) with 40ft tails simultaneously in 18 - 20mph winds. The kites were furnished by the Bay Area Sundowners Team and designed and built by Randy Tom. This was photographed and recorded by American

Sports Illustrated magazine and also witnessed by 5 members of the Bay Area Sundowners Team, Tom McAlister, Brian Champie, Miguel Rodrigues and many more of California's top flyers, plus thousands of spectators.

◆21/08/1996: Main Street/Long Beach/WA/USA
At 11am the street was cleared of all traffic with permission of the Mayor and Chief of Police. I flew 3 Kestrels (furnished by the designer and builder Joel Scholz) from the back seat of a red Convertible - down and through the main street, lead by two police cars with their sirens blaring. This was witnessed by the Mayor, the Chief and other members of the Police force, hundreds of spectators that lined the sidewalks and rooftops, and filmed and videoed by top video companies.

◆01/09/1996: The Salisbury Sky Hoolie Kite Festival/Salisbury/UK

I flew multiple kites simultaneously from the back seat (facing backwards) of a 1200cc motorbike. This was witnessed by over 3000 spectators, the Sponsors, members of Salisbury District Council, the



Organisers (Cunning Stunts Kite Shop/Salisbury), Peter Taylor: designer and builder of Dark Star Kites (Airdynamics/PO Box 22/Hereford/HR4 8UW/UK) and filmed by Barry Pitman (Editor: Kites magazine).

On the same day Mark Coventry (the UK Multiple Kite Flying Champion) and I each flew multiple kites simultaneously from the back of the same motorbike. Mark sat on the rear seat and I stood on the foot-rests between him and the driver - both facing backwards. This was very successful and we repeated it many times, to the delight of the 4000 (by then) spectators who witnessed it together with those mentioned above. Danger always adds to the excitement! *I would like to make a point... none of these stunts should be tried by anyone but the very skilled and, even then, great thought should go in to it before hand. The skill alone needed to be able to master the art of flying 3 kites simultaneously takes years of practice - and I mean 'synchronised' flying as in team flying, not just keeping the kites in the air! When things go wrong you must know what to do in a split second - your mind has to be in 3 places at once. When you have achieved this then, only maybe, are you ready to attempt stunts.*

◆08/09/1996: Bristol International Kite Festival/Bristol/UK

Mark Coventry and I flew 2 kites each, one from each hand simultaneously, in a pairs team demonstration (4 kites/2 flyers). This was indeed a First Timer using the Bethell method and was witnessed by the Organiser: Avril Baker, the other officials, the Sponsors and thousands of spectators. Also by Team Sky Dance - the esteemed winners of the UK Team Championships, the European Cup, the World Cup and the World Grand Prix Cup - from whom we received hugs, hand-shakes and wholehearted congratulations!

◆05/10/1996: The Family Kite Festival/Viersen/Germany

Halm Gottschling (the European Freestyle and Multiple Kite Flying Champion) and I flew 3 kites each simultaneously - using the Bethell method (one from each hand and one from the waist) - in a pairs team demonstration (6 kites/2 flyers). This was witnessed by the festival officials, the Sponsor, Paul Kappel (Editor: the Sport Kite section of Drachen Magazine) and hundreds of spectators. It also had good coverage in the newspaper.

◆19/10/1996: 7th Family Kite Festival/Lünen/Germany

Halm Gottschling, Andreas Zimmermann and myself flew 3 kites each using the Bethell method (9 kites/3 flyers). We simultaneously demonstrated the skill needed for such a feat. There were no shortage of witnesses - including the Organiser: Christian Treppner Schultheis, the Sponsor (the Bank of Lünen) and over 40,000 spectators. It also had good TV and newspaper coverage.

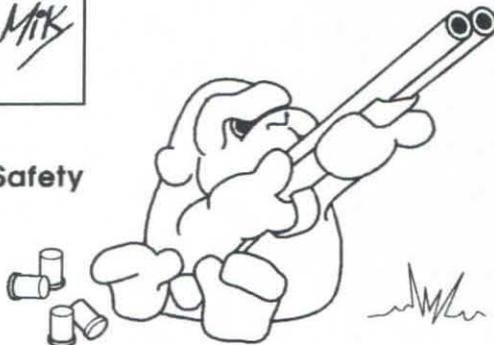
RAY BETHELL (VANCOUVER/CANADA)

Ray is 77 years old (I think that's right?... he would say "ask my Sponsors!") and is an Honorary Life Member of the Brighton Kite Flyers. His ever increasing list of achievements never ceases to amaze us and, as anyone who has had the good fortune to meet him will tell you, his boundless enthusiasm for kite flying is very infectious. He has also been our most regular contributor to Aerodyne for a number of years... keep them coming Ray! - Ed.

BOZO by MK

Bozos Guide to Kite Safety

1. Never fly over horses, dogs or other animals...



THE CULTURAL BIT: No 16

‘The appeal of kite flying has always centred on that relaxing therapy which discharges the cares and worries into the elements. With the wind on one’s back, and a taut line drawing the eye to a soaring, dancing frame, all else melts away.’

RON MOULTON ('KITES A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK FOR THE MODERN KITE FLYER')

PLEASE USE THIS SPACE...

Thanks to all of this issue's contributors. Anything sent to the Editor will be considered for print unless marked otherwise. Please send material for the July issue by 1 June 1997 to...

**Toody Oakhill/BKF Editor
Top Flat/6 Bath Street
Brighton/East Sussex
BN1 3TB/England
(Tel/Fax: 01273 321397)**

Please note that I will have a new address (unknown at time of going to print) from 1 May 1997 - it will be available from Ray Oakhill whose contact details are listed below.

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct in 'Aerodyne', the BKF cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions that may occur. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Brighton Kite Flyers.



FURTHER BKF INFO...

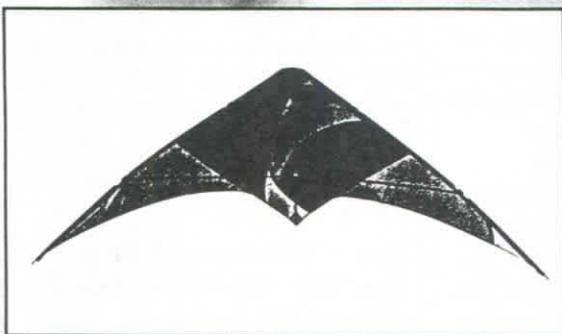
Co-ordinator & Membership:
Ray Oakhill: Tel/Fax: 01273 306842
E-mail: rao@mistral.co.uk
Festival: Estelle Barton & Paul Thody (Air Born Kites): Tel: 01273 676740/Fax: 01273 676752

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2/5, 16/5, 6/6, 20/6,

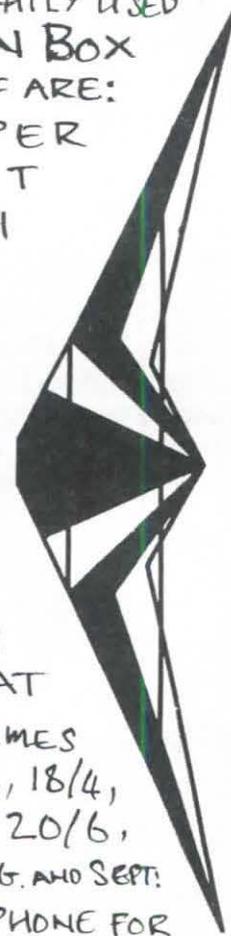
18/7, 25/7, AUG. AND SEPT.

ALL FRIDAYS. 'PHONE FOR

WEATHER + TIDE UPDATE. MAP

ON THE SHOP DOOR.

ALL WELCOME



ROMAN SANDLETT.



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 EXCEEDS MANY LOCAL STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TREATIES, POLITICALLY INCORRECT, AND WE DONT GIVE A TOSS. THIS ISSUES SECRET CODE PHRASE...."SORE FUNDAMENTAL DRIFICE"

The future is upon

us

As will be a load of Parabears if Vic Walker has his way. As you know, its Ten Years since the current Category 1 (Classic) Record for Parafauna was set by Greg Locke and Team, on the 31st of May 1987, at the York Festival of Kites.

Since then quite a few attempts on that record have been made, notably a couple by Dave Clements. However events have conspired to thwart these best laid Plans, as this seemingly simple Record has proved to be anything but.

One Man who has set his sights on the Record is Vic Walker. Vic, you could say has been almost obsessed of late, and he feels that with a modicum of luck and a vast amount of planning, that, later this year, at the White Horse Kite Fest at Wroughton, in fact, the New Record will be his.

When you consider that the Category 2 Record, stands at 487, you may wonder to yourself, why is it that the "Classic" Record is only 39. At the risk of Boring the pants off of you who drop Fauna regularly we'll endeavor to explain.

Category 1 (Classic) Rules state that all Fauna must be of substantial weight, in this case a minimum of eight ounces or 250 grams. Each Fauna must be equipped with a 'REAL' Parachute of a minimum of eight Gores. Each Parachute must be in a seperate pack attached individually to each Fauna. Each Fauna must be attached seperately to the dropping Mechanism(s) and finally no Bagging, Batching or Multi Packing is allowed.

So there you have it, this is why the 'Classic' is such a stinker of a Record to break. Of course a grand Dump is a spectacle and a lot of hard work. but we think you'll agree that a load of Fauna dropping in Classic Mode is even better.

Vic and his Team have been working flat out this Winter on his proposed attempt, and given favourable conditions at Wroughton, the record could go.

One thing is for sure, Vic is not short of 'HEAVY ORDNANCE' in his quest for the Record. He has access to various Stratoscoops and Parafoils, including the known to be lethal Albatross and the awesome Stratoscoop Nine, Holy Cow, so for a start the problem is not can we lift a large amount of Fauna? but more along the lines of, Can my Sewing Machine take the strain.....

Whatever..... Good Luck Vic.....



FAUNA BOMBING ON THE NET, YOO WOT!

Being Computer Illiterate has its advantages. For one thing, you're not forced to Trawl through loads of Dross about how fab and funky Spurts Kites are, another, is fairly low Phone Bills, however, be that as it may, we were reliably informed by our Tame Netheads that there was a dearth of Paarfauna related sites on the Net.

From now on the lack of such Sites, or whatever, should become a thing of the past In the last issue we invited intrested Net Nuts to send us their Logos, Callsigns or the like, and the response was quite encouaging, so, here goes

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepageswhkf/photos.htm> feed that bleeding horse!
kytebear@aol.com _____ for E-Mail to Theodore Edward O'Hows Yer Farva, the lad hisself
mdallmer@arserrc.gov _____ the hot line to the Oakley St Maternity Clinic.....
pirateking@kitestore.co.uk. _____ holy cow, The Flying Queerthing Emporium.....
rao@mistral.co.uk _____ for E-Mail to the South Coast Slapper and Oakey one.....
<http://www.interlog.com/mgraves/homehtm> _____ he talks Bear andloadsa Kites.....
captaindick@acmenet.com _____ aye,aye,skipper, _____ the Cap talks Bears, Kites,Quilts&more
vic@tosser.bear.drop.splat.soddit.uk _____ vic talks Bears, mobile scenery,windpws ?
bursars general accounting genaccounting@reading.ac.uk _____ funny name for a boozer Dave?
71703.553@compuserve.com _____ we got this from somewhere, dunno who or what it is.
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite-society> _____ some Bear,loadsa,loadsa Kites.
bof@bmiss.con.w/up.co.uk. _____ holy cow196 homepages all about Po-Faced Spurt Kites...

To the best of our knowledge all the aboves, Bona's are Fides(He Lied) who knows, maybe we'llend up printing loads more as and when we get them, must be the way to go, as even her MAJ is a Goer on the Internet"May Husband and Aye" Gordon Bennett.....
Whoops, oh, dear, fuux pas,71703.553@compuserve.com is of course E-Mail for Jerry Swift



OI, COBBERS, GISS'UM CREDIT

(WHERE ITS DUE BRUV)

Whilst we are extremely flattered to discover that the Autralian Kite Association Inc. saw fit to pinch and use a bit from Roman Candle for their newsletter The Australian Kite, we were to say the least a bit Miffed when we realised that they had'nt bothered to tell their Readers, where they had nicked the piece from.

As it happens we dont really give a Toss if any Kite publication wants to nick bits from Roman Candle,we've done that for years, nicking bits from here and there, thst is. All we ask for is credit where credit is due.

O.K. We've had a go at the Aussies, so to even things up we had better give their Newsletter a bit of a puff (who shouted crawlarse ?) Thing is they have a column which relates the adventures of a Parabear called Amelia.

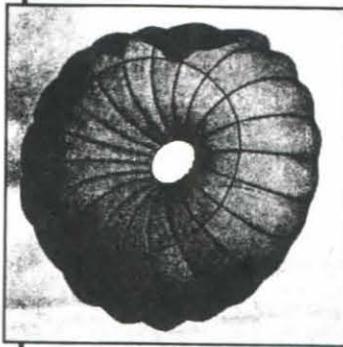
We know for a fact that this Amelia was a Wetback from the US of A, Ha! Phila PA. thats right, catch our drift? anyway Amelia has got all the local Parabruces in a bit of a lather. However be that as it may thethings that Amelia and the Parabruces get up dont seem to include much boozing. Crazy eh? in the land of the Lash. After all when Drunken Dave went out there, he thought he had died and gone to heaven.

Dave was awash with MuckyDuck and 4x kangaroo P.,,but apparently Amelia never is.

ELECTRIC ARTHUR GOES LARA (LOW ASPECT RATIO ANNULAR)

AIRTRAK

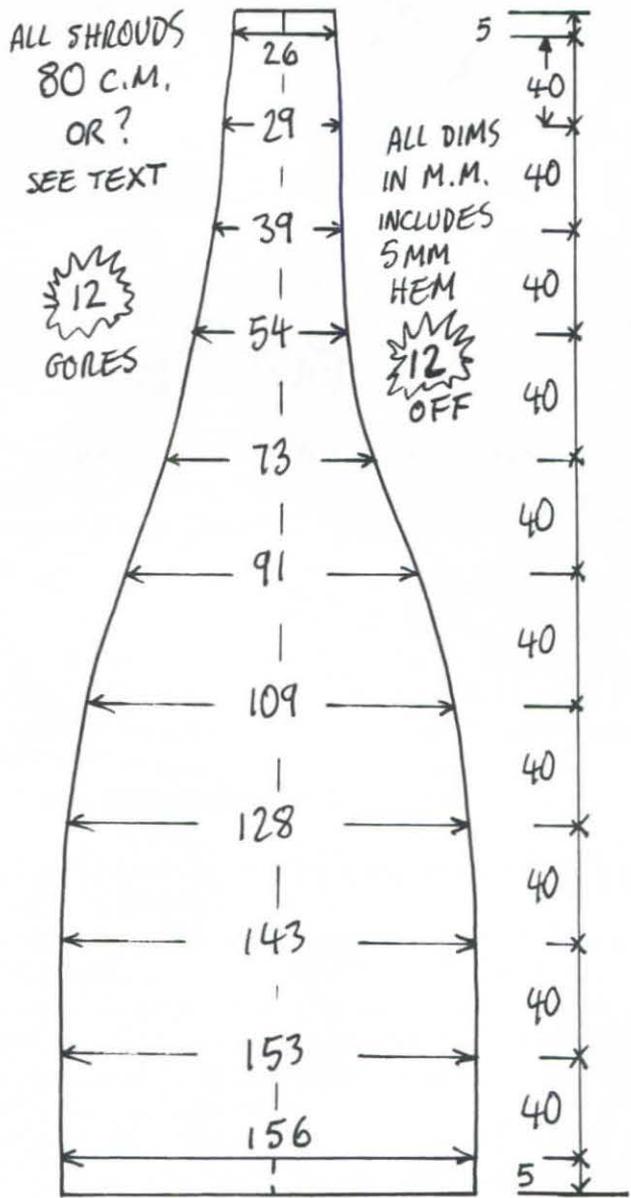
for T A COUPLE OF ISSUES BACK THERE WAS Mention of a New type of Parachute, called a LARA, Low Aspect Ratio Annular.



THE NEW LARA (LOW ASPECT RATIO ANNULAR) is the latest innovation in parachute design. It offers small size, quick deployment and high performance. Just the Job in its full size form for Hanggliders and possibly Microlights. The LARA (developed by the U.S. Military) offers small size, quick deployment and high performance. Just the Job in its full size form for Hanggliders and possibly Microlights. After extensive testing, a scaled down version of the LARA should do the trick for Parafauna, thought Electric Arthur, and with a little more work, a Parafauna scale version was up and dropping.....

A scaled down version of the LARA should do the trick for Parafauna, thought Electric Arthur, and with a little more work, a Parafauna scale version was up and dropping.....

Arthur writes....to say that he was intrigued with the LARA even though the photo showed precious little detail. However, Arthur is fond of a challenge and it was'nt long before he had worked out the shape of each Gore and the dimensions thereof.



The Gore Plan given here gives a canopy of approx 0.5 metre. but it can be easily scaled up to double so as to give a one metre canopy.

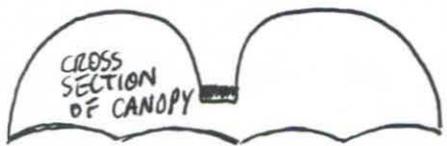
When you make the pattern, you will find that the narrow end should be the inverse curve of the wide end, which gives marvelous economy of ripstop when cutting out the gores.

As it is difficult to trim the vent if you sew the chute completely, its best to trim and hem the vent and also attach the vent shroud lines before you finally sew the first gore to the last.

This Chute is composed of 12 Gores, but unlike the Full sized version, there are only four vent shrouds, spaced at every third gore.

Arthur suggests that all the shrouds should be the same length, which would pull the vent down to the level of the outer rim of the canopy. However, after studying the photo of the LARA, it could be argued that the vent actually is only halfway down to the rim when viewed from the side. This is no problem, for if you leave an excess of line on the vent shrouds, then it is an easy matter to adjust the amount by which the vent is pulled down, to whatever takes your fancy, or whatever works best for you.

Arthur hopes that this pattern will provide a starting point for this type of chute and invites you comments and or advice.....



Phew....Puff... gasp, cut, cut saw, saw, sand, sand, ouch, splinters, Gordon Bennett, right thats a couple of BOF type awful Templates hacked out of 1/4" Plywood, wheres the Hot Cutter.

NANNY SAYS NO, SO THE BEAR HAD TO GO.....

Ron Moulton found out about this latest piece of NANNY STATE B/S in the Jetsam section of the Rayleigh and District Philatelic Societys Newsletter.

It would appear that recently, the Kiwi Post Office had designed and printed a New Stamp promoting Child Welfare. As you can see as originally printed, the Stamp featured a Baby with, what else ?, a Teddy Bear. At vast expense, the Stamps were printed but before they were released for sale, some interfering busybody took it upon themselves to say that the Child was seated contrary to Safety Guidelines, Yoo Wot?

Suffice it to say that the entire print run was scrapped and the design altered to what the "NANNY" considered was the Politically Correct version.

Take a good look. Notice anything? yep you're right, the "IN DANGER" Child is the same as before, whilst our Furry Friend is obviously what was unacceptable.

Does'nt it make you want to Puke. You'd honestly think that some people would have better things to do than demand the removal of a Ted from a Stamp. Never mind about the megabuck cost to the Kiwi Taxpayers, so long as its "RIGHT ON" in some Politically Correct "TWO BOB's" eye then all is well.

The really peachy bit about this whole thing is that by mistake Two Post Offices were issued with Sheets of this Stamp in its original form and it appears that a Thousand are in the hands of the Public. An instant collectors item? The Auckland Saving Bank found itself in possession of a part sheet of Ninety Teddy Stamps, which are to be Auctioned at the Stanley Gibbons N.Z. Company, all proceeds going to a Childrens Hospital.

May the Lifelong curse of the Small Furry Objects be visited on the "P.C.TWO BOB" who instigated the whole affair.



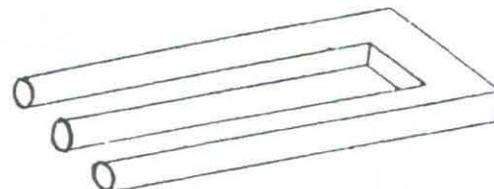
"TWO BOB"? Yep thats about what they're worth

LGM? + UFO'S NOT.....

If you hear of a sudden rash of "LIGHTS IN THE SKY" reports from the Northampton area, rest assured, its not Little Green Men in their Flying Saucers, its more likely than not to be Droptnik Billings, testing his illuminated Teddy Bears for Night Drops.

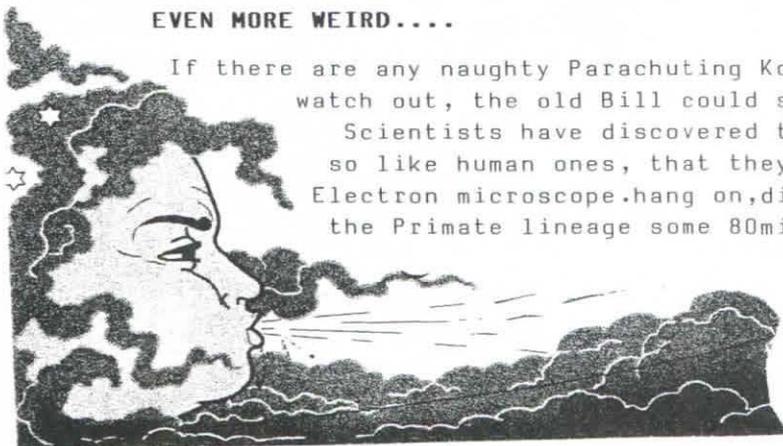
Just why anyone would want to drop Parafauna when its as Black as Newgates Knocker we cant say, except that maybe Steve is training his Mob to sort out the Po Faces at night, but there again theres not many who fly their Spurt Kites at night, or is there.

Well, as we've said before WEIRD S**T Happens and very much more than from time to time.....OO'ER MISSUS.....

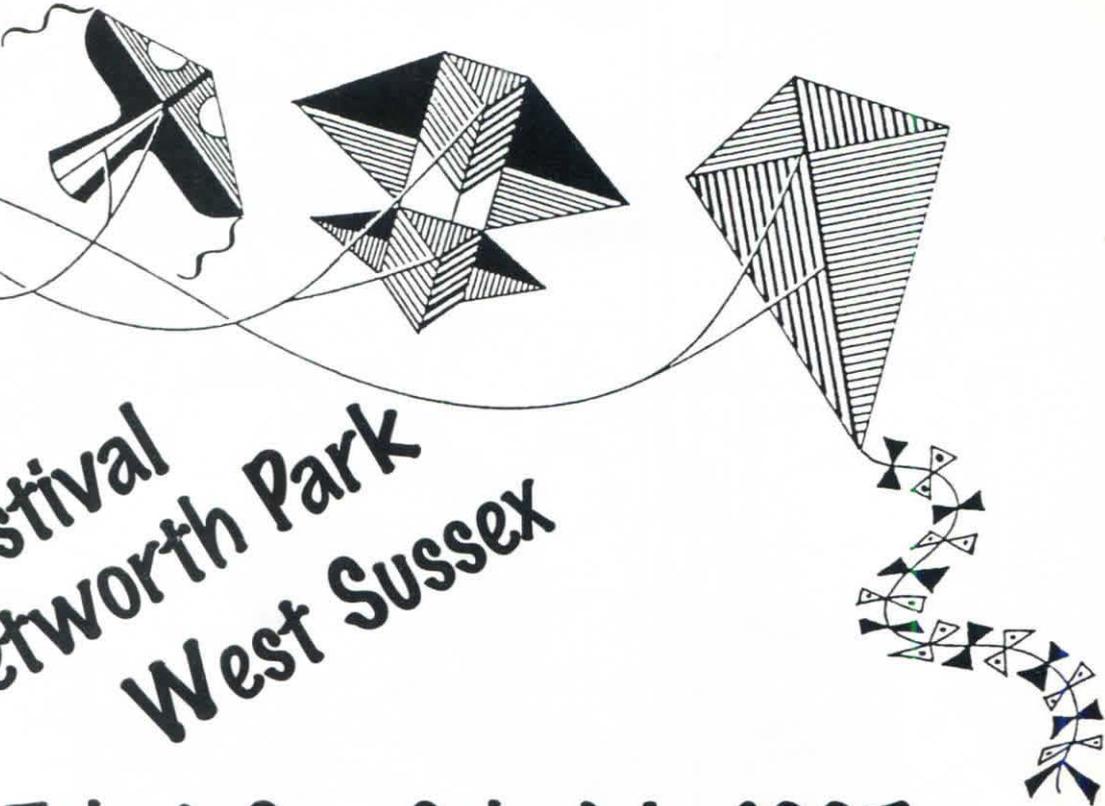


EVEN MORE WEIRD.....

If there are any naughty Parachuting Koalas out there who are up to no good, watch out, the old Bill could soon be taking their fingerprints, for Scientists have discovered that Koalas have finger and footprints so like human ones, that they cannot be distinguished even with an Electron microscope. hang on, didnt Phascolarctus cinereus split from the Primate lineage some 80million years ago? What is going on?



Yes we could do with some answers to the above, but until then, its the usual to the usual, The Teddy torial , c/o The BOF 48 Laurel Lne West Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY.UK



**16th
Kite Festival
Petworth Park
West Sussex**

Sat 5th & Sun 6th July 1997
11am to 5pm

We need you twice as much as usual, to make the weekend a success. Please bring kites suitable for all conditions. Saturday will be KITES - KITES - KITES with an arena for stunts and special events. Sunday as usual with the Petworth Town Band, model boats on the lake and teddy bears picnic at 3pm - with special guests The Bearly Made It Sky Dive Squad.

FREE CAR PASS below. More info. posters and passes contact
Joanna Mersey 01798 869214 or Ron & Pat Dell 0181 804 9080
Limited camping - contact Joanna B&B 01798 343523

Demonstrator's Weekend Car Pass

Kites

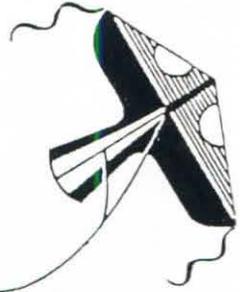
Sat 5th & Sun 6th July 1997

11am to 5pm

Petworth Park - West Sussex
A272 Midhurst Road entrance



In aid of Angels International & The National Trust



Petworth Festival 4 - 13 July '97

1, 2 & 4 line kites, buggies, carbon, fibre glass, books, videos, ripstop, tyvek, spares, line, boomerangs, frisbees, air toys... we have whatever you need to complete the picture - except jigsaws!

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