

# THE KITEFLIER

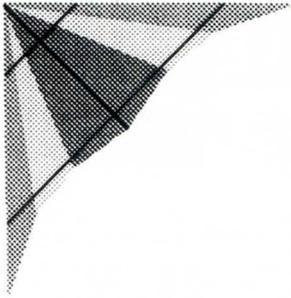
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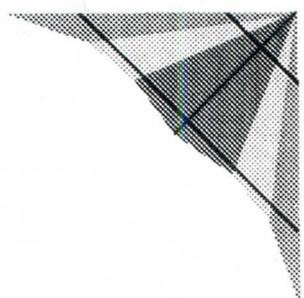
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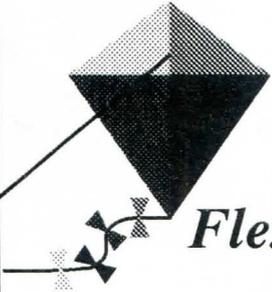
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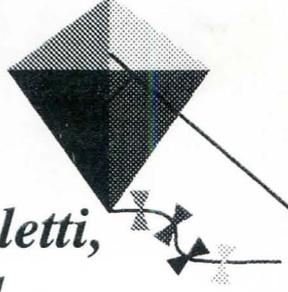
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# EDITORIAL

Dear Reader

Once again we have come to the end of the kite season which has had its ups and downs. Let us hope that next years events will all be blessed with better wind and weather.

Talking of next year a large number of people have already started to ask about the Dieppe festival (the 10th). The current information we have is that Dieppe will be held from the 5th September to the 13th September 1998. We have spoken to the organiser and they intend to have a web site as well as on-line registration. No further details as yet but we will keep you informed.

You may notice, as you look through the magazine, that there is little, if any, sports kite information - this is because we have not been sent any! (Mind you we are being sent very little about any kite flying). We really do need members input, what appears in the magazine YOU send us. So please send us something!

May we wish you all a merry Christmas and a kite filled New

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## Brits the best in the World (Again!)

Here are the results of the World Cup held at Long Beach, USA.

		Precision	Ballet	Total
1st	Skydance	75.74	80.54	79.1
2nd	AirKraft	75.01	79.29	78.0
3rd	Aftershock(J)	71.35	78.66	76.47
4th	Lungta(F)	73.17	77.57	76.25

(Thanks to David Gomberg for supplying the results).

**Front Cover Photo**  
**Shows the Worlds Largest Kite being flown**  
**at Bristol with a range of Martin Lester's**  
**legs in the foreground.**  
**Photo: Gill Bloom**

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

Can anyone help me with information on the French kite illustrated on page 70 of Pelham's Book of kites, with the caption "A very good-looking kite being launched at Chateau de Rouzat, 1905" Based on this photograph I have built two of these kites and although the second of these flies very well I suspect it could be improved if I knew more about the originals. At Dieppe last year M. Nenot, an expert on historic French kites, told me the kite was designed by a Monsieur Gomes (Gomez?) in three sizes. It was apparently especially used for aerial photography.

I have found it difficult to tension the middle (Transverse) sail which I believe was originally designed to be removable when flying in strong winds. Perhaps there were also bracing lines, not visible in the photograph, which would improve the rigidity of the frame? I would be especially interested to learn whether any of the original kites remain in museum collections in Britain or on the continent.

**Graham Phillips Newark 20 Urie Crescent, Stonehaven AB39 2JB**

*This first appeared in the Magazine of the Julian Meeting. It is reproduced with permission.*

Go with the wind.

My former experience had been nothing but frustration. The delicate constructions of bamboo and cloth or paper refused to leave the ground for more than a few unsatisfactory seconds - a sorry tale of soaring hopes and heavy disappointment. Kiteflying stayed with me as a small ambition; a bit of life's unfinished business. So eventually I decided to try again; to erase the bad memories; to learn about wind and design and to join the successful flyers of beautiful, colourful kites. Call it second childhood if you like but what about a certain reference to 'little children'?

So I ignored the cheap plastic kites on sale in the beach shop with their pictures of Batman and Snoopy and bought a well made, well designed kite in brilliantly coloured modern fabric. (I have since learnt that the beach shop has several cheap, comely and successful models - but I know what to look for now).

It has not all been joy and high-flying achievement and there is always an element of challenge. On plenty of days the wind seems to take no interest in my kite and on a few it is riskily strong. But picking the right day and the right place and the right wind are part of the sense of achievement that a soaring kite can bring, especially if you are within reach of the sound of the sea or a glimpse of mountain or if purple clouds form a back-drop to its flight.

Once you have a good kite, all you need is a strong desire to let it fly and the right place open to the sky and free from hindrances. Then, with feet firmly on the ground, (there is no need to run) you can trust the wind to take your kite from your hand and as you pay out the line you will feel that you are fishing with angels.

**Pamela Fawcett**

Dear John Barker (Welfare Officer to Bears)

I tried Marge Proops, but she wouldn't listen. Can you help me before I bust me sitches? My name is Tony Bear, and I have just been created by the most heavy-handed person. He has stuck needles in me from all angles, and left me overnight on a cold table with my insides hanging out. Morning comes and again he sets about me by putting a zip down my middle and proceeds to put this walky talky thing inside me. In zipping me up, the zip breaks - well - the language, and me bearly able to talk yet. Withdrawing this walky talky thing he finishes me off with a ladder stitch (tec. talk for teddy makers).

I have now been given a kite bag with the walky talky thing inside, and I find I have to talk to children sitting in my deck chair and my language has to improve, and I know it is difficult for you to improve my language as I have read your drivell. Can help be at hand? Strapped to me is a pack with a parachute in, and he keeps shouting "jump for it!". Do all bears go through this? If so what advice can you give me? Please help! I can only hope one day I will catch him with the sun in his eyes and I shall bear down on him from a great height.

**Tony Bear.**

Typed badly by He who made me (Harry Douglas) Poole Kitefliers. P.S. I could be dropped at the Poole Kite Festival on the 21st Sept, at Baiter Park, Poole - please send help soon!

# Book Review

## **Kites:Paper Wings over Japan**

This delightful 95 page softback book has been prepared by the cognoscenti of Japanese kites: Tal Streeter, Scott Skinner, Masaaki Modegi and Tsutomu Hiroi. The group has come together under the auspices of Scott Skinner's Drachen Foundation to provide an in-depth catalogue of the Drachen Foundation travelling exhibition of Japanese kites. The result is a well co-ordinated series of chapters that cover all aspects of Japanese kites.

I particularly appreciated the explanation of the characters that feature on the kite skins - poor old Daruma who was so absorbed in his meditation that his legs rotted away from under him and leaving him egg shaped. True or false? Fascinating mythology. The history - both ancient and modern is adequately described as are notable kite makers. Kites by the master kite maker, Teizo Hashimoto, form a significant part of the large number of excellent colour illustrations. It is worth buying the book just for the illustrations of these inspiring kites; Teizo and Kiyoko Hashimoto devoted their lives to kites in a way that is impossible today and it is no wonder that probably only one master Edo kitemaker survives. Of course there are many other kitemakers and illustrations of a wide diversity of their kites is given. I was particularly taken by the gently erotic kites of Kazuo Inoue.

Probably, because of the exhibition catalogue nature of the book, it has not been possible to be truly comprehensive in showing the full diversity of Japanese kite forms - for this you need to start with Saito's 'Colourful Kites from Japan'.

It is a pity that the chapter on the Anatomy of the Kite is only a short two pages as the details of making these exquisite kites is intriguing. The chapter on aerodynamics could easily have been made over to the construction section.

The latter part of the book is given to describing individual well known kitemakers. Again it is a pity that this section could not have been longer because all the kite makers described would warrant a double page spread; some are rather meanly relegated to four kitemakers to a page. The book closes with a catalogue of festivals, kite museums and kite clubs - all essential if you are to make the visit to Japan. The book has a useful glossary, but it has no index. The bibliography is extremely basic which, for a kite book collector, is disappointing.

While I have no hesitation in recommending the book there is one enigmatic exception. Nowhere in the book is the Japanese character for kite - Tako. This is rather odd as all Tako-Kichi love the symbology of the wind blown octopus character that forms the centre of their universe.

Kites:Paper Wings over Japan is published by Thames and Hudson. It cost £12.95 and is available (ordered) from booksellers or directly from Kiteability.

**Paul Chapman**

# KITEABILITY

## HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS

Another season over,  
Old Harry's had such fun,  
now Mable has joined the madness,  
it's like squadrons into the sun.

A team they've formed with Barry,  
It's called The Zimmer Three,  
new stunt tricks and manouvres  
next year, just wait and see!

Triple toe loops, Salkoe's  
like you've never seen before,  
They'll have the Judges wondering,  
"Just how do we give a score?"

Harry says "We need support"  
You all know who it will be,  
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when in need of line or stick,  
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We'll help to fix them quick.

Whisker, spar and fixit things  
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FOR CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL.

SEE YOU ALL IN THE  
NEW YEAR.

Pat & Ron.



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# Kite Tangles

In the last issue we had a letter from Mr Repper asking about line tangles, here are the thoughts of some of our readers:-

**From Frank Ogden.** I have been investigating stability problems with delta and parafoil kites used for aerial photography. One area examined was the braided kite line sold to me by a kite trader. A huge cop of cheap nylon loose braid which stretched, twisted and created huge snarls and knots. The English Braids Ltd, Spring Lane, Malvern Link, Worcs, WR14 1AL (01684 892222) gave some invaluable assistance and sent me sample cards of polyester, smooth braid, 16 plait cords. From these I selected type R20, breaking strain, 201 lbs, which has proved most satisfactory.

If kite line is unloaded from a simple spool a twist is inserted into the braid each time the line is gathered in by hand and slid over the edge of the spool. A twist test on a short length of line will indicate the torque being executed on the kite when the line is severely twisted. Heavy duty swivels do not take out the twist when under load and probably "bind" due to lack of angular movement. Tests with a ball bearing race produced much better results. A lightweight front hub assembly from a bicycle makes a good universal swivel.

If a proper line reel is not available then it is advisable to lay out the whole line on the dry ground and stake one end. Attach the other end to the ball bearing swivel and starting at the ground anchor insert a very large screwdriver shank with two turns of the line around it. Walk the screwdriver along the whole length of the line maintaining pressure on the two turns. This will squeeze the braid out tightly and untangle the twist. The swivel will rotate merrily removing all snarls. Please do not use monofilament line, that is an accident waiting to happen.

**From Nicolas Wadsworth.** If you normally pay out line over the side of a stationary spool and wind it in by rotating the spool you will put twists in the line. (Try it with a length of tape which makes the twist obvious). Always pay out the line the way you mean to take it in - or take it in in the way you mean to pay it out.

I suppose you could try reversing the spool on the handle each time it is full, so you pay out over alternate sides, but that is a palliative rather than a cure.

Another good way of accidentally twisting the line is to use twisted string and run your finger and thumb along it, so chasing the twist up to one end - it's easily done! I think avoiding this is the main advantage of braid over twist.

Having a swivel on the line is of limited help. When there is a good pull on them they do not prevent the line twisting - try twisting one end of a short length of braid or twist on a swivel while maintaining a good tension on the line and see what happens.

Of course it helps if you can keep the line straight when it is not on the spool, ie if you must lay the line out or launching, or after a crash, keep it straight and avoid loops, but the important thing is to avoid twisting the line in the first place.

# If only they could talk!

I feel it appropriate to mention that a miracle happened on 30th August 1997 at Canterbury SEKS Festival . I was flying a single line three dimensional gyroscopic looking kite approximately 700 feet up in the sky, in about 12-15 miles an hour wind. The wind direction was from an awkward angle and the kite was biased towards the right causing the line to resonate making it difficult to bring in. A single kite line crossed with mine and the friction caused a fracture within seconds, my kite floated in a SouthEast direction. I was with a friend who kindly volunteered to help me search through apple orchard fields within a half a mile distance from where I stood in a south east direction. After an hour he returned to my shelter without success. A lady who was doing some tapestry next to my shelter suggested I should report the loss to SEKS organiser, my beloved wife did this on my behalf as I was packing up to leave the site. She returned with my kite with all of the line lost, as a passerby two miles away walking his dog retrieved it and kindly brought it in. "Thank you" to this honest kind local person. Who would have believed I would have ever seen this kite again.

**Raymond Bramzel**

## A COMBINE HARVESTER ATE MY KITE

While flying a Stafford Mylar Indian Fighter at 'highish' altitude in my local park, I clumsily broke the cotton line. Although the wind was light, the altitude of the kite caused it to drift some way down the flying area, over a high hedge and into a farmers field. I pursued the kite and climbed over a stile to enter the field only to find that the farmer was harvesting his crop and the combine had gobbled-up the kite! What an ignominious end!

**Nicky Cruden, Oxford.**

## Private Ads

**FOR SALE:** TOP OF THE LINE "SIZZLE" swept wing delta sportkite from America. Beautiful rainbow multi-coloured 8 panel sail, 2.4m (8ft) wing, with deep-V lofting graphite frame ideal for low wind and tricks. Flown only a handful of times - reluctant sale of a gift that has proved too demanding for beginner owner! Sizzle package includes line, straps, winder, kite bag & manual. £120 new, will accept £65 ono. Tel: Dale 0171 559 9320 (day).

**Wanted.** Green/Blue 'Thornbird' kite by Kited. Nicky Cruden, (01865) 206203 (office hours only) and Nicky. Cruden@blacksci.co.uk

**For Sale:** North Shore Radical Custom, Jester Arclight (Icarex), Icarex Stranger and Benson Swallow Tail (collectors item). Offers invited. 0181 958 8108 Raymond.

**For Sale:** Jester II Good Condition £40.00, Jester II Arc-light Good Condition £50.00, Jester II arc-light with Skyshard 2 wrap throughout condition brand new £60.00. Flexifoil Psycho good condition £40.00. Tel Jason 0118 933 2319.

**For Sale:** Flexifoil 16ft plus 500lb lines and fly-bar (aluminium). Bit of a beast. Must sell hence £200.00 only (Yes - sixteen feet!). Carl 01494 785306, Chesham Bucks.

**Free:** Thanks to the generosity of Harm van Veen (Netherlands) and of Malcolm Goodman I have some optic fibre (0.25mm overall diameter). This is the most convenient material for spars for kites around 50 - 150mm overall. If you would like some send me an SAE - Nicolas Wadsworth, 31 Merriefield Avenue, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8DA.

**For Sale:** 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. £40.00 or with Cody topsail £50.00, 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 January issue the copy date is 15th December.**



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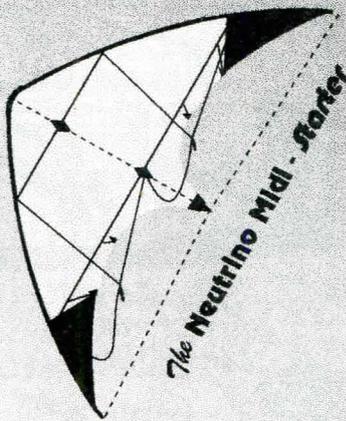
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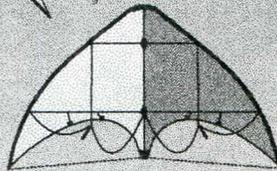
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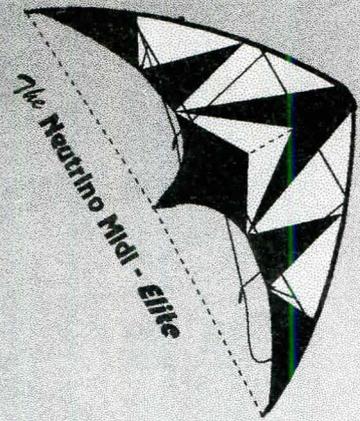
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- 2mm Carbon rod
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**Price: £35.00**



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**Kited** are at: 36 Stanway Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex. EN9 3HU.

# Bits & Pieces

## The Fighter Kite Club News U.K from MAC

### Portsmouth 6th International Kite Festival

I would like to thank Jon and Gill Bloom for inviting myself and the Fighter Kite Club to Portsmouth and for the time given to us to demonstrate to the public about fighter kites from around the world. We feel it was something of a first to be included in the events and it looks like we may be out of the car park and into the arena at last. Also many thanks to Ludo Petit for the kites he donated for the fighting and for his support.

Last but not least we must congratulate the maestro himself, my dear friend Ron Moody for being the overall winner and for all his help, support and enthusiasm.

### Canterbury Kite Festival

Again we were made more than welcome by David Rose and Alan Sage at Canterbury and given hours in the arena to display our kites and hold the first fighter kite Championship. Things were somewhat confused at times but I think we can only learn from this experience but I hope it was enjoyed by all who took part. Guess who the winner was - Ron, of course, who was presented with a fighter kite sweatshirt. Second was William Dunn, and if he would like to contact me I will make him a fighter of his choice.

### ALL Fighter Kite Members

I would like to compile a list of all our members so I can send everyone a list to enable you to contact each other to arrange meetings through the winter and also so I can send you any information on fighter kite meetings abroad. Please write, fax or telephone me, Mac at 3 Pump Lane, Waterlooville PO8 9TS tel/fax 01705 591171 or Harry Douglas of the Poole Kitefliers at 249 Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset. BH15 2EG tel 01202 660457.

### Chinese Kite Festivals

Several kitefliers have expressed interest in accompanying me to China in April 1998 to attend some kite festivals. Currently, I am asked to attend festivals in Kunming, Weifang, Qingdao and Xian. I am also getting enquiries from Nanjing and others and the itinerary is far from finalised. It may not be possible to attend all the venues but Weifang will definitely be one of them. We have to pay our own flights to the first kite festival and the return flights from the last one. The Chinese are offering free hospitality, which includes hotel rooms, three meals a day, some tours and internal transportation between the festival cities as well as to opening and closing ceremonies. Last year, Qingdao insisted on a payment towards the cost of the stay and I will soon know exactly what payments are expected of us. It is not essential to attend all the festivals and I will organise any early departures.

Last year there were about 600 kitefliers representing over 20 countries. I know David Gomberg is organising a group from the States and along with our group, hopefully Weifang 1998 will have similar International representation. It is such an unusual experience, which is why I am considering another visit.

If anyone is interested in joining the group or would just like some more information, please telephone me on 01780 460389. I could always refer you to some of the last group who travelled to China for some unbiased opinions about the trip. You can also email me on [stafford@lucknow.demon.co.uk](mailto:stafford@lucknow.demon.co.uk).

### Stafford Wallace

Jeremy Carson writes:

# Bits & Pieces

## **ROARING FORTIES INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL**

Date: Friday February 27 - Monday March 2, 1998. Where: Churchill Park, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

### **AUGUST 1997 NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to Newsletter 2 of the Roaring Forties International Kite Festival. For those of you who have not checked an atlas recently, most of Tasmania lies in the latitudes between 40 and 44 South although offshore islands means that the State extends from near 39 S to the sub-Antarctic.

The Roaring Forties were the winds that brought white settlers to Australia after the East Coast of the Australian mainland was sighted by Captain James Cook in 1770. Tasmania was first sighted by the Dutch explorer/merchantman Abel Janzoon Tasman in 1642. His sighting of Tasmania's rugged west coast, and trip around the south of the island meant that Bass Strait, the strip of notoriously rough water between Tasmania and the Australian mainland, was not discovered until 20 years after the first white settlement in Sydney in 1788. Until that discovery, the Roaring Forties drove sailing ships provisioning the Australian settlements around Tasmania's southern coast before a long hard slog up the East coast to Sydney. The Roaring Forties are still blowing and will hopefully provide the right breezes for the International Kite Festival next March.

### **THE THEME:**

The multi-cultural aspect of the festival will be enhanced with the a Kite Spirit Night Fire, a night performance of kite dance where the emblems of fire and kites become prominent. The festival ground will be decorated with cultural feather banners, streamers and lanterns from the nationalities represented.

Ethnic performances are being developed to broaden the multi-cultural theme of the Roaring Forties International Kite Festival. The ethnic food stalls will also aim to bring the best of multi-cultural flavours to enhance the kite flying. And, of course there will be the best of traditional and

high technology kites to show where culture old and modern meet.

### **THE CITY OF LAUNCESTON EDO:**

At the last international kite festival in Launceston in 1988, the contingent of Fliers from Japan, led by Nosaaki Modegi, left a huge Edo kite as a gift to the city. Over the years, there has been a bit of wear and tear on the kite which is approximately 10m square and made of washi paper and bamboo. The local kite fliers are starting restoration of the kite in the last week of August. It will make a spectacular sight at the Roaring Forties International Kite Festival in 1998.

### **THE VISITORS:**

The City of Launceston has three sister cities: Napa in the US, Ikeda in Japan and Taiyuan in China. Each of the sister cities will be represented at the festival, either with kiting teams or kites.

Already international fliers Shakib Gunn of Singapore, Peter Lynn of New Zealand, Michael Alvares of Western Australia and Ludo Petit of France have agreed to come to the festival.

Ludo Petit has 30 Edo kites, each 2m x 1.8m, made of bamboo and paper. He has flown them in Paris at a bridge opening and is flying them in Indonesia now. He has decided to send the kites to NSW for storage so that they will be ready for the Roaring Forties International Kite Festival.

Peter Stauffer, who will store the kites has decided to make an extra 20 Edos of the same size to add to the spectacle in Launceston.

### **THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME:**

The first of the education events has already taken place. The Science Teachers Association of Tasmania, through a member of the Festival organising committee, Marj Colvill, has started the kite building seminars for teachers. Marj and other committee members, are building the skills of a group of teachers who will conduct seminars in other regions of Tasmania so that schools will have a series of kites ready to fly on the Schools Day in the festival. Although 11 teachers booked into the first seminar, Marj prepared materials for 20 and 50 turned up.

The seminar made three paper folds, a box, a

# Bits & Pieces

sled and an Ohashi Wave kite during a three hour session. Flying conditions outside weren't good but all kites flew indoors.

## WWW:

Kite fliers may keep up to date with the festival on the Internet through the World Wide Web on <http://www.vision.net.au/~carson>

## Internet News

just a quick note to let you know that the West Coast Kite Club has moved its email account and can now be contacted at [wckc@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:wckc@globalnet.co.uk) The website will be updated and transferred in the next few weeks and can then be found at :

<http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~wckc>

Martin Attwater Sec. WCKC.  
[wckc@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:wckc@globalnet.co.uk)

Just to inform you that Avon Kite Fliers now has a web site. It can be found at:  
[WWW.ARGONET.CO.UK/USERS/PARSONS](http://WWW.ARGONET.CO.UK/USERS/PARSONS)  
Martin Parsons AKF.

## World AIDS Day.

Come fly a kite for Worlds AIDS Day, Sunday 30th November 12noon - 4pm at Blackheath, London. Kite ballets. Childrens music ensemble. Childrens Kite making workshop. Rope Ballet. Information. Food.

The theme of this years World AIDS Day is "Children living in a world with AIDS". As a drop in centre for people living with HIV in South East London, the Positive Place is very aware of the increasing number of children affected by HIV either directly or because of family experience. We have recently had a purpose built creche added to our existing premises and any money raised on World AIDS Day will be used for work with children.

If you would like to offer something special for this event, such as a display or demonstration please call Charlie on 0181 692 4318.

## Trade News

Nevil Tillman writes:

I have recently started a mail order Kite Company called Krazy Kites. We specialise in Children's Kites, Windsocks and other novelty kites. We also supply a full range of other Speed & Stunt Kites. Our prices are very competitive since our overheads are kept to a minimum.

Contact Krazy Kites at 8 Clement Avenue, Holmer Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6TN.

Tel: 01494 718542, Fax: 01285 760202.

## Fly A Kite On Christmas Day

The following poem, *Fly a Kite on Christmas Day*, was written in memory of Ted Butler, an old family friend who lived at Old Wives Lees near Chilham, Kent and who gave me a kite in my childhood.

Fly a kite on Christmas Day:  
Let your feelings send it to  
Everywhere along its way  
Flying over the earth in view;  
*Everyone in heart and mind:*  
*Fly a kite to all mankind.*

Fly a Christmas card today:  
Set your kite to entering  
Every heart along its way  
As the world is carolling;  
*Everyone in heart and mind:*  
*Fly a kite to all mankind.*

Fly the kites across the warm  
Morning air on Christmas day,  
Fly them as our greetings swarm  
Round the world along their way;  
*Everyone in heart and mind:*  
*Fly a kite to all mankind.*

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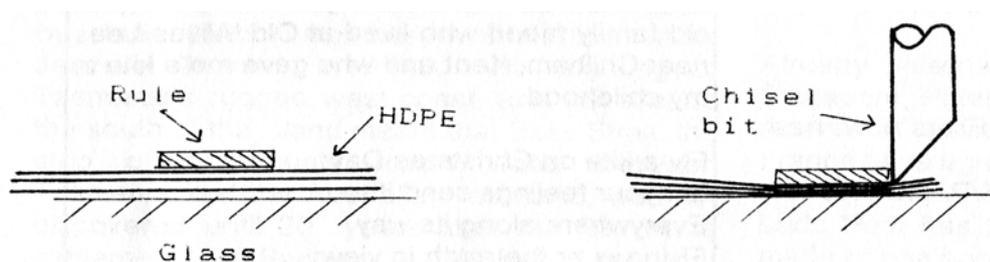
# Joining HDPE

## Joining High Density Poly-Ethylene (HDPE)

HDPE is a good material for making light-weight kites when ripstop would be too heavy - for flying on windless days or on a calm evenings or for indoor flying. HDPE is the slightly less shiny, slightly crisper, plastic often used for plastic bags as it is strong for its weight. Supermarket plastic bags often weigh around 18 grams per square metre(gsm), the same or less than normal tissue paper. Local shops often have coloured bags which weigh about 9gsm, or clear ones at 8gsm. The thinnest black bin liners and white swing-bin liners are larger and also weigh about 9gsm. [for comparison K42 ripstop is nominally 42gsm and the lightest Icarex I know of is about 32 gsm].

For a box kite there is no need to join the HDPE: if you cut the handles off one end of the bag and the bottom off the other you have a ready-made box which only needs thin spars fixing on with sticky tape. For other kites you may need to join the plastic sheet. It is possible to use sticky tape, but that adds weight and is difficult on the thinnest plastic. Hot joining is often better.

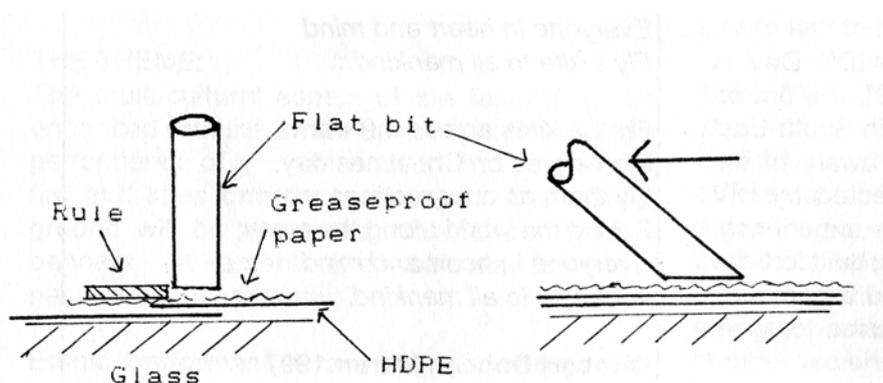
Joining by hot cutting is simple and works well for HDPE when the highest strength is not needed, giving a zero weight joint for tails of full -sized kites, or for small kites. To make the joint, lay all the pieces to be joined on top of each other on a piece of glass. Use a drop of water (or spit) to hold the lower layers in place while you position the upper ones. Place a metal rule on top, press down , and run a chisel-edge bit in a normal soldering iron along the edge of the rule to cut all the layers. The melted bead which forms at the cut makes a good joint.



For a stronger joint, or for adding extra reinforcement strips or spar pockets to a large kite, a heat sealing technique for overlap joints is needed. For this you need a flat (or slightly domed) bit, say

6mm across, and a reduced temperature iron. Run the soldering iron from a dimmer switch or put a diode in series to halve the power if you know how to do that sort of thing. If not, get a temperature controlled soldering iron or try the tip of a domestic (clothes) iron.

To make the overlap joint, place the pieces to be joined over each other on a glass surface. Put a sheet of grease-proof paper or baking parchment on top and press down with a metal rule. Then slide



the flat bit over the sandwich taking care not to let the edges of the bit press in and cut the plastic. A few trials on scraps will show you how fast to move the iron.

If you have no glass, other shiny surfaces such as formica or hardboard will work, but glass is best.

**Nicolas Wadsworth**

# Junction in Texas - A Kite Retreat

The organisers, Betty Street and Bill Lockhart were at the Bristol festival and they asked me if I would accept an invitation to do a presentation at the Retreat in Junction. I said I was flattered but surely Retreats were for kite makers and I, as primarily a kiteflier, would be a bit of a Phyllistone amongst the many kitemakers. I explained that I come from India where there is a tradition of kiteflying, but not necessarily of kitemaking. Betty said she was aware of this and wanted me to do presentations which included a talk on how kites were flown in India but would consist of kiteflying lessons for beginners with some tips for experienced kitefliers for improving their competitive skills. She said Martin Lester had recommended me because he couldn't make it to Junction this year. Four weeks before the event, I faxed Betty to say that if enough kitefliers hadn't shown interest in my presentations, she could save herself the airfares as I offered to withdraw. She said that my classes were already nearly fully booked and so now Junction was on.

The flight was from Gatwick to St. Louis (10 hrs), where I waited (2 hrs) for the connecting flight to San Antonio (2 hrs), where I was met and told we had to wait (2 hrs) for another flight which had Martyn Lawrence from UK. I was tired and dozed off on a chair to be woken up by some Japanese friends, Morihiro Takeda and Morio Toki, whose flight had arrived early. When Martyn arrived we were driven the last 120 miles to Junction (2 hrs) and the Texas Technical University Centre Campus arriving at about 11.00 PM local time. Some International workshop-presenters had already arrived and we talked till about 1.00 AM when I sleepwalked to my room and collapsed for the night. It was 7.00 AM the following morning according to British time, and 25 hours had elapsed since I woke up for the start of the day in Rutland in England. Fortunately, I have now developed the skill of sleeping on flights.

It was Thursday and the retreat didn't start till the Friday so a day was spent relaxing, exploring the rural surroundings, wildlife and meeting old friends. The 416 acre campus on the South Llano River has workshop facilities, cafeteria self service food service with lots of ice and iced water always available, and dorms adjacent to a 40 acre flying field. The ladies serving the food were amused by my insistence on smaller portions, and at my confusion about which, of the many, salad dressings to use or my reluctance to pour syrup over my bacon at breakfast, or to put peanut butter over my icecream. The campus is totally private and solely for the use of the registrants at the retreat and the staff. This was heaven for me. I saw armadillos, humming birds, a snake, some deer, a bat cave, fireflies and many other interesting creatures. It was quite hot and I was advised by others to drink lots of iced water. Most Americans walked about carrying large jugs filled with iced water.

Friday was the day for registration & check-in. Registrants for the retreat are not allowed onto the campus until 12.00 noon, I think for public liability & insurance purposes. I looked towards the entrance gate and saw several cars waiting and as soon as it was 12.00 noon, there was a rush for the admin building and within a few minutes there were dozens now on the campus and kites were flying on the field. Lunch was sheer excitement as I met many dear friends and made even more new ones. I felt as though a sort of reunion was happening and I wanted to be part of it. It seems that Junction is an annual pilgrimage for many American kitefliers. At the Weymouth festival, Stretch Tucker told me he couldn't really describe Junction for me but that he guaranteed I would enjoy it. He was right. I rather hate cities and this was heaven, just being out in the country with kitefliers. At the evening meal, announcements were made for the various workshops and classes and at 7.30 PM, the whole place went kinda quiet as approximately 150 registrants attended workshops of their choice, which were due to finish at 10.30 PM, but I saw lots of them still working at their sewing machines till 1.00 AM. Many British kitefliers will envy me access to the variety of workshops. So what sort of workshops were there?

**TRI-CONE SPINNER** Jose Sainz. San Diego California Jose was at Bristol and Dieppe last year. Participants would build a three cone spinner that can be used on the kite line or on a flag pole.

**SEWING A SIMPLE PARAFOIL** Stretch Tucker. Ocala. Florida Stretch is a frequent visitor to British kite festivals, doing Weymouth & Swindon this year. He is one hell of a tall guy and I don't like him to stand near me as he makes me feel short. So guess what he does? Participants would cut and assemble a 6 sq. ft. parafoil, which is the infamous 'whack-chop' foil.

**CRAZY QUILT & STRIP WORK IDEA-FEST.** Scott Skinner. Monument Colorado & Bill Lockhart. Lubbock. Texas. Scott has attended many British festivals and Bill was at Bristol & Dieppe last year. Both presenters would discuss and demonstrate the creative and expressive uses of these two simple patchwork techniques. Participants may complete the sail for a 4 ft. rokaku (or a kite of their choice)

**BACK TO PAPER** George Peters. Boulder. Colorado. George is well known to British kitefliers through his attendance at many British festivals with his beautiful kites and banners. He would explore the processes and joys of making paper kites, also some bamboo classics, a little 'arrowdynamics' and some night time firefly kites.

**BUILDING A TRADITIONAL TSUGARU KITE.** Mrs. Tokuko Sato. Aomori. Japan. Participants would have

# Junction in Texas - A Kite Retreat

the opportunity to work on various sizes of traditional kites from the northern area of Japan which are constructed of cypress wood and washi.

**MAKING YOUR OWN KITE FITTINGS.** Ed Lindsay. Chula Vista. California. Demonstrations of how to make several types of fittings with common tools.

**CERAMICS - RAKU FIRING.** Cakky Brawley. San Antonio. Texas. An opportunity to experiment on the potter's wheel or in hand building, to decorate/glaze bisque ware and to raku fire.

**HOW TO BUILD A TETRAHEDRAL KITE.** Spencer Chun. Mililani. Hawaii. Participants would build a nylon, four cell, tetrahedral kite.

**SELF PORTRAIT KITES** Robert Trepanier. Montreal. Canada. Robert was at Bristol and Dieppe. Working with tyvek to create life-size portrait kites.

**TECHNIQUES FOR BUILDING HISTORICAL KITES.** Achim Kinter. Gelsenkirchen. Germany. Techniques for sewing, framing and finishing a variety of historical kites. Achim will show wooden frames and their connections and will discuss sewing techniques for cotton or silk sails.

**BUILDING THE YAKKO DAKO.** Morihiro Takeda & Norio Toki. Tokyo. Japan. They were at Dieppe. They would work with participants to build the traditional Yakko Dako.

**SPRAY PAINTING TECHNIQUES.** Spencer Chun. Hawaii. Introduction to techniques of spray painting and using templates and other items to create patterns by 'brushing' or 'sputtering'.

**EXPERIMENT AROUND A RECTANGULAR KITE.** Robert Trepanier. Participants design their own paper & bamboo kite starting with the structure of a rectangular Japanese kite.

**PHOTO-COLLAGE KITES.** Stuart Allen. Davis. California. Creating bamboo & paper 'Collage Kites' using instructor provided 'alternative process' photographs of sky, earth & water.

**KITES AS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL** Michael Alvares. West Leederville. Western Australia. Michael attends Dieppe every time and can always be seen entertaining the children with his kites. Kites from Asia, the history & mythology to teach multiculturalism. I enjoyed attending his sessions.

**A SURVEY OF HISTORICAL KITES** Walter Diem. Hamburg. Germany.

**PAINTING CHINESE KITES** Kite maker from Beijing, China.

**BUILDING FIGHTER KITES.** Martyn Lawrence. Bethesda. Wales. Opportunities to experiment with paper, mylar, tyvek, wood & fibreglass to construct a variety of fighter kites.

**INDIAN FIGHTER KITES.** Stafford Wallace. Rutland England & India. Primarily the thrust of this presentation was to be the flying for beginners and developing of competitive skills for the more experienced fliers. I had planned to show the video of Indian kites being made but the translation into American format was unsuccessful. During my talk I found myself explaining British Colonial policy because I had to explain the matches, we had in India, between the Hindus, Muslims and Christians. They expressed amazement when I said over 95% of kitefliers in India have never seen a kite being made. Several dozen beginners took up flying my kites and more experienced fliers informed me that my kites were excellent for beginners as well as for competition. Everyone seemed to enjoy both my presentations. Some friends joined me in my room to make a some mylar kites. Yes, I can make kites but 'time spent making is time lost flying'. (Indian kiteflier's quotation)

All presenters had to do two presentations which were on either Friday evening, Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning and Monday morning, with 7 or 8 workshops on each occasion. I attended Michael Alvares workshop and enjoyed his presentation I made a sled, box kite and a small butterfly kite. On Saturday evening there was a Texas Barbecue with a country & western band and I had to play a Texas nose-flute as part of an orchestra of International Presenters who all played nose flutes. A silent auction followed a loud auction and raised enough funds to cover the overall costs for the organisers. A demonstration of kiteflying for the public on Sunday afternoon brought in several dozen local ranchers, but only registrants were allowed to fly kites. Non-registrants were escorted off the flying field. Canoe trips and tubing (going down the river in a large tube) were available to those staying after conclusion on Monday afternoon. Junction was an absolutely enjoyable experience and I totally understand why it is such a popular venue.

I know that White Horse Kitefliers have organised retreats in UK on a smaller scale, and I wonder that with the correct venue and quality presenters, a quite successful retreat is very possible. When I have described the many workshops/presentations to kitefliers at some festivals, all of them said they would love to attend something similar in UK. The Junction Retreat was funded by registrations and auction proceeds. Had the auction not been successful, both the organisers would have had to put their hands in their pockets.

## Stafford Wallace

# Event Reports

## **Kelburn Festival of Flight 1997 - 24th - 26th May**

The festival was held once again over the Spring Bank Holiday at the Earl of Glasgow Country Park just outside Largs It presents all aspects of flight including Hot Air Balloons, Microlights, Model Rockets, Radio Controlled Aeroplanes and even a Model Airship.

The festival site is in the most beautiful location of any I have attended, there are views across the Firth of Clyde to the Isles of Bute and Cumbrae with the mountains of Arran forming a backdrop to the scene. Kelburn Country Park itself has many attractions for visitors apart from the festival activities.

This year the kites section of the field provided a kaleidoscope of bright colours with our banners and kites displayed round the tents and various wind-socks flying from the kitelines.

Members from The Kite Club of Scotland provided their excellently organized teddy dropping stint with certificates for the children and adults! But their sweetie dropping was restricted to the children!! Their large blue and white club shelter was easily spotted having walls made from St. Andrew's crosses. The Northern Kite Group were well represented together with members from North East Kite Flyers and Midland Kite Fliers all sporting beautiful banners. The Aberdeen Parakart teams showed their skills in a separate arena.

Over the weekend we were able to show the public a fascinating variety of kites and kite activities with a wide range of box kites, various examples of soft kites with jogging legs, a giant octopus and many parafoils, there were Indian fighter kites, stunt deltas and one of our members was practise flying with two (or is it three deltas yet) a la Mark Coventry. Several kite trains and arches were to be seen and KCOS were test flying their brand new club kite, a Millestelle train by Maurizio Angeletti

The hot air balloonists shared the field and launched several balloons over the weekend including Bertie Basset's which I thought to be the biggest balloon seen at a festival, then they brought out the Highlander which dwarfed it (the balloon must cost a fortune to inflate).

We were all invited to a Ceildah and barbecue in the evening and the balloonists performed the evening glow at dusk.

The weather and the scenery contributed to a memorable weekend, and combined to provide us with two evenings of quite spectacular sunsets.

Kelburn will also be remembered for two very different methods of retrieving kites from trees.

The Country Park's tree surgeon retrieved a kite train of parrots by an inspired and courageous example of tree climbing, the last kite was reached by "swimming" out across the top canopy of the last tree.

The second kite was retrieved by a completely different method and one that may never be repeated. It was caught on the top branches of one of a line of tall trees.

Our Balloonist colleagues were having an evening launch when one of their crew members spotted the kite from his basket and was able to adjust his height so that he could lean out over the tree and pick it out. It was my favourite Dan Leigh delta but I did not see him do it!

Plans are already being made to repeat this festival at Spring Bank Holiday next year and we have all been invited back.

If you have a new or extra special kite, banner or windsock this is the place to give it a first public display

The weekend at Kelburn makes a tremendous start to a holiday in Scotland as many of the kitefliers can tell you. They set off to places as near as the Isle of Arran and as far away as John O'Groats. So make a note in your diary now.

## **John Welborn Basingstoke - 31st May & 1st June**

# Event Reports

Well was it ever windy with no rain!! Saturday saw loads of single line stuff in the air, even when they started to get cut! Senor Brockett had a fine old time chasing his kites down on the nearby housing estate. A splashing time was had by all at the evening do with most people entering in the spirit of things (ha ha).

Sunday it was just a bit too strong, someone was holding a Team Rok by the bridle and snapped a spar, er thank you for displaying it! Mike Shaw & friends had fun being lifted out of their buggies. (highlight of this was Andy Preston bugging with a vented Rev). All in all it was a Great weekend, even with the sunburn,(ouch).

Thanks to Aircraft, Sky Dance and The Decorators for their Brilliant displays, (even if we forgot to stop the Decs tape, and they carried on for 20 odd minutes). Thanks also to Theo & Thea Beerends, Adam Sutherland, Kay Henderson & Ellen, Steve Brockett, Martin Harris, Stafford Wallace, Crosslines, Jerry & Carolyn Swift for the Teddy Bear Dropping, Derek & Jill Kuhn for their stirring work making 1250 sled kites over the weekend and last but not least George Webster on the PA.

We are so organised down here we even have the dates for next year which are the 6th & 7th of June. So if we don't see you before we'll see you then.

## **Al Cosgrove**

### **Petworth Kite Festival 97 - 5th & 6th July**

Two days this year. Thank you to everyone who came. The wind was fickle but you still managed to create Magic in the Sky. John Turner's spikey donut made stately Petworth House look like a cottage! He deservedly won ' The Best of the Fest' glass tankard (kindly donated by Kiteability).

The only drama was a dog stuck in the boat house on the lake. He was rescued by the Red Cross. Do we win the prize for the festival with the most dogs? I saw a lady with a kite in one hand leading 3 dogs with the other.

Special thanks to Ron and Pat Dell, Dave Mitchell, Kev and the Punchlines team, Chris Croft for the commentary, and the Brighton Kitefliers, teddies included. (The Oakhill family, Ken Knight, Vivien and Gordon Ellis were sadly missed). Just under £5,000 was raised for Angels International and the Red Cross.

If you have comments or suggestions for improvements Please Let Me Know. Did any one take Photos? I would love to see them. Joanna Mersey, Bignor Park, Pulborough, Sussex RH20 1HG .

In your diary please 4th and 5th July 1998 Petworth Kite Festival.

### **Northern Electric International Kite Festival 5th and 6th July.**

Due to the totally unprecedented weather conditions for the two weeks before the kite festival, the flying, camping, and public parking sites at Washington were in a very swampy condition and a safety risk to all visitors and those who take part in the event. The weather conditions had been so severe (the worst for 150 years and the forecast was for more rain). It was impossible to erect the marquees and prepare the site for the weekend. (It takes a week)

Due to the safety risk and after careful consideration of all factors, the Council and Northern Electric (the sponsors) took the decision to cancel the Kite Festival on the Washington site. I checked the site on Monday 7th July and it was still damp which confirmed that the right decision had been taken. It would have been a mud bath and any vehicles allowed on the site would have had to be towed off leaving the sponsors with an enormous bill for damage to the site etc.

We did however make arrangements to re-schedule the Kite festival at Seaburn, a local beach resort which is about 8 miles east of Washington. It was a very good site with all the facilities we needed but the Council and myself were informed by the local police that we could not go ahead with the kite festival due to problems with traffic control, car parking, crowd control etc...

We spent the next 2 days trying to contact hundreds of kitefliers from all over England and abroad to inform them

# Event Reports

of the cancellation. I would like to say a big thank you to all those who helped and took on the mammoth task of contacting all those who intended coming to the festival (to my knowledge only 2 slipped through the net). As it is very difficult to get a refund on airfares etc., and because accommodation was booked for our foreign guests we gave them the option of still coming to Washington. Most of them decided to come, others were already here and some were en-route.

At very short notice I managed to hire a 50 seater coach and on Saturday 40 foreign guests and 8 British kite fliers (who had booked hotel accommodation and still wanted to come despite everything) went on a sight seeing tour of Northumberland and found a beautiful kiteflying site next to Bamburgh Castle.

On Sunday morning we decided to go to Holy Island and look for a suitable site for flying but we could not find a big enough area so we returned to the lovely beach and winds at Bamburgh Castle. The weather over the weekend was beautiful and we had our own mini kite festival which was enjoyed by a handful of people instead of the record crowds we would have had at Washington, the conditions over the weekend being perfect.

I know you will have been disappointed not coming to Washington but there is no one more disappointed than me. The festival took 6 months to organise and would have been the best yet with lots of new kite makers and their latest creations attending but I am afraid we cannot do anything about the English weather. I hope everything will be OK for next year and look forward to seeing you there if not before.

## **Malcolm Goodman** **Kennet Valley Kite Festival - 26th & 27th July**

This is the first time I've written to a Kite Mag. I am the non-kiteflying wife of a kiter and to prevent myself



## **Blackheath Summer Kite Festival - 20th July**

A day of sun and light winds. The highlight of the day was the Red Delta Challenge (as mentioned in the last issue of The Kiteflier. One o'clock was the designated time and when the whistle blew everyone invaded the arena with their Red Deltas, all shapes and sizes, fringed, small, large and extra large!! The record was set at 43 kites in the air at the same time and it made quite an impressive sight.

Well done the Kent Kite Klub for introducing this idea.

becoming a "Kite Widow" I go to a few festivals a year with Peter, helping him get it up, sorting out his accoutrements and protecting his paraphernalia, also videoing his efforts for later analysis. I enjoy a day in the fresh air watching, listening and doing some knitting. In the main, the festivals are okay - the people are always friendly, there is food and drink, and usually loos somewhere - and of mostly mediocre quality. The sites are mainly recently vacated cow fields, though some are on playing fields or in parks.

I feel I must write to say how I thoroughly enjoyed the Kennet Valley Kite Festival supported by Kreative Kites on 27th July 1997. The Saturday had been a washout but the Sunday was lovely. The ground was large and flat - plenty of room for everyone - specially if they stayed in their designated areas, which mostly worked. Mind you when the "Big socks" were launched many fliers had to temporarily vacate their bit of field.

The selection of food was more adventurous, the stalls were good, permanent "Facilities" were to hand. The kite workshop did a lot to get kites flying - which, in my view is an essential part of a festival. No beer tent did not seem to detract from the enjoyment of the day either. The demonstrations and events were varied and well commented on - not too technical, which tends to put newcomers off. There were no "heavy" competitions which makes a change and made for a light-hearted, friendly day.

# Event Reports

A fair few colleagues from work pitched up, either having seen the adverts or the event happening and turned in to see what it was all about. They all enjoyed it and went home with kites "For the kids".

The festival is one I will go to again, maybe in preference to one of the others. My knitting stayed in its bag all day so I'll leave it at home next year - need I say more?? I may be able to help steward to keep single, dual and four-liners in their proper areas, if required.

**Lucie Twivey.**

## **Giant Fly-In Crewkerne - 27th July 1997**

Look out for the kites, I was told - it was more a case of "Now you see them - now you don't" - I can only say that this was due to the winding countryside, not my navigation! We finally found Honeydown Farm (country odours - cor), showed our passes and were warmly welcomed by the Camelot Kitefliers, and a good number of our friends who already had kites aloft. Our own Nicolas Wadsworth had a Cody up, and later on some more of his creations, which are always wonderful to see.

There was a large single-line delta flown by one of the Camelot mob, who shall remain nameless, as I had a tangle with it and brought it down later (oops). Our old chums "Last of the Summer Wine" (Roy & Reg) each flew a stack of three Phantoms, while the third member was either sleeping off a drink, or on his hols elsewhere.

Out of the bush came Richard (Dicky) Nourse - not quite out of the bush - it was the hat and the shorts made me think of that - wot no corks Richard? Looking around, I spied a black sled kite, made from a bin liner, belonging to Ken of "Kenny's Kites" - how did you get it that high? Must be an altitude record for a bin liner: Yarro, we were all glad to see you back in action, at Margam Park as well as Crewkerne - the arches of kites are very good - try for another hundred next year!!!

Alan Woodier & Martin Parson arrived, and I knew it would not be long before some of the Avon kites got up. I wasn't disappointed - there was a big butterfly, a dragonfly, a whale and a massive green "thing" but the Play-Sail gets my top vote. At a fly-in, it's always good to walk around and meet everyone and pick up the latest tips and ideas - that really makes it for me.

It was also great to see a children's workshop there, they were kept at it most of the day, and I am sure the children would have expressed their thanks more vocally, if they had not been puffed out from running up and down with their creations, in the fitful winds. Airstream Kites and Cristalair are a joint venture from Poole, and had a very impressive stall, complete with snow-white camo netting, which made a wonderful backdrop for all their kites.

Crewkerne Giant Fly-In is always worth waiting for, and I can only say a big thank-you to Frank (Tea's Up) Wright and the Camelot members, on behalf of the Poole mob. I hope you got all your cups back?

It is the people who greet you at a festival, that make you welcome and glad to have explored the lanes of darkest Somerset to seek out your fellow kite-nuts, gathered in a field "somewhere in England". Next time you go to a kite "do", be it large or small, remember the folk who work hard to make it happen, don't just say "thanks" - take their place for a while, so they can have some fun too!

That reminds me - what did happen to Dennis the Menace?

**Harry Douglas - Poole Kite Fliers.**

# Kite Event Calendar

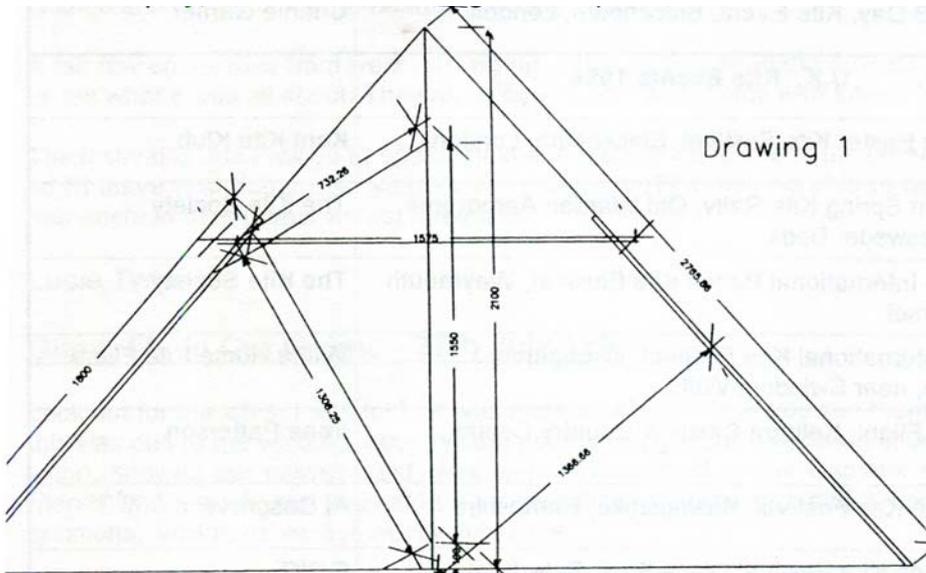
U.K. Kite Events 1997		
30th November	World AIDS Day, Kite Event, Blackheath, London.	Charlie Garner
U.K. Kite Events 1998		
12th & 13th April	Blackheath Easter Kite Festival, Blackheath, London.	Kent Kite Klub
26th April	Old Warden Spring Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds.	The Kite Society
3rd & 4th May	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset.	The Kite Society
9th & 10th May	Swindon International Kite Festival, Wroughton Aerodrome, near Swindon, Wilts.	White Horse Kite Fliers.
23rd - 25th May	Festival of Flight, Kelburn Castle & Country Centre, Ayrshire.	Irene Patterson
6th & 7th June	Basingstoke Kite Festival, Basingstoke, Hampshire.	Al Cosgrove
13th & 14th June	Peterborough Kite Festival, Nene Park, Peterborough.	GOKF
4th & 5th July	Petworth Kite Festival, Petworth Park, West Sussex	Kiteability
5th - 13th September	Dieppe International Kite Festival, Dieppe, France.	
11th October	Old Warden Spring Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds.	The Kite Society

## Contact List

<b>The Kite Society</b>	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY.
<b>Al Cosgrove</b>	18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3PH. ☎01256 818922
<b>Charlie Garner</b>	☎0181 692 4138
<b>GOKF</b>	Alec Daniels, 51 South View Road, Walton, Peterborough, Cambs PE4 6AG. ☎01733 700718
<b>Irene Patterson</b>	☎01475 568685
<b>Kent Kite Klub</b>	Yvonne Davies, P.O. Box 557, Sidcup, Kent DA14 6UB. ☎0181 309 1497
<b>Kiteability</b>	2 Garfield Road, Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP. ☎0181 804 9080
<b>White Horse Kite Fliers</b>	P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4YR. ☎01793 824208

# Flying Falling Fauna on Fluctuating Finances

I wanted to get "a paw in the door" so to speak, in the bear and other fauna dropping. I did make an enquiry via *The Kiteflier*, which has appeared in the July Issue, as I write this, but since I made the initial enquiry, I have since managed to capture, measure and construct a large delta suitable for a "Jumping Platform". It is a lovely stable kite and in a reasonable wind easily capable of doing the job (see drawing 1).



Drawing 1

I decided to adopt a continuous line system via 3 small pulleys. One attached to the keel on the kite and the other 2 attached to dog spikes some 2-3 metres apart. This way I can deploy falling fauna at a greater rate, with one dropper at ground level on one part of the line, and the other dropper at kite level, so when dropper 1 is lifted, dropper 2 is descending

ready for rapid reloading and a more efficient delivery. (See drawing 2). It is important to note that strong leather or suede gloves are a must when launching and rope pulling as rope burns or even loss of a finger can be the result of a lack of concentration.

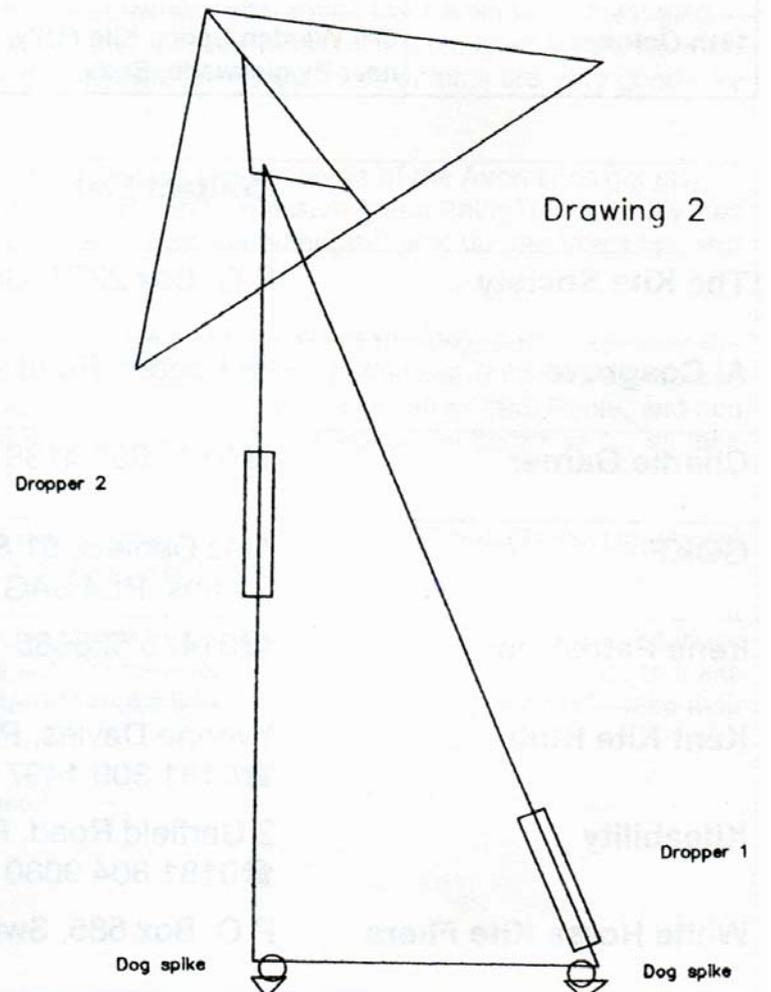
The droppers themselves had to be inexpensive and preferably made from materials in my garage. I have achieved it too, with nothing bought specifically for the droppers. Here is the recipe:-

## Ingredients for each dropper

- 300mm approximate length of white plastic waste pipe cut square both ends.
- Wire coat hanger.
- Spring.
- 2 empty 35mm film canisters without lids.
- 1 Large electrical screw block connectors (2 for double dropper).
- Split pin long enough to go through pipe and bend ends over.
- Small split ring.

## **Method**

Square off end of waste pipe. Cut the hook from the wire coat hanger and cut a straight piece long enough to pass down full length

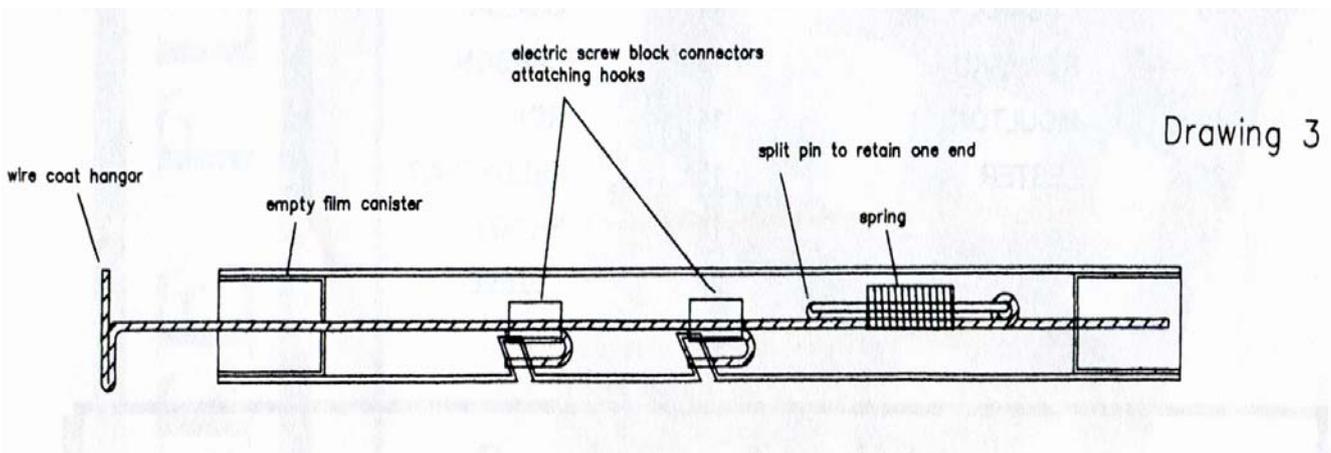


Drawing 2

# Flying Falling Fauna on Fluctuating Finances

of pipe, plus about 75mm. I marked the pipe for the positions of the connection point and made two parallel cuts at an angle of some 45 degrees (when the dropper is attached to the kite line the slots then become vertical and the ring does not get caught on the lip). Using a sharp implement. I used a Stanley knife open out the saw cuts to form a slot. I then carefully judged the position of the curl in the wire to retain one end of the spring, the other end was held in by the split pin. It is important not to get the split pin too close to the connecting block as it may prevent the unit operating when the block hits the pin! The hook is attached to the main rod with the connecting block so that when in the normal position, the end of the hook is in front of the slot. When the projecting wire at the front is pushed back against the spring, the hook moves past the slot allowing anything attached to drop.

I fitted a small split (key) ring to the end of the split pin to attach the parachute release to, just as a static line on a full size parachute would work. At this point in the proceedings I fixed the bearing to centrally locate the wire. this is where the film cannisters come in. Discard the lid and drill a small hole in the centre of the bottom of the cannister, then push fit the cannisters into either end of the pipe as



shown on drawing 3, if they are not a tight enough fit then they can be glued in.

The projecting wire at the front can now be bent as shown on the drawing so that when the dropper reaches the pulley, the wire and hook are pushed back releasing the load. A double dropper can be made by cutting a second slot, with a longer hook, so that a gentle nudge of the plunger will release one bear, and a harder tug will release the second, without the tangles that may occur if both were sent off together. The dropper was attached to the line with "Gaffer" tape. (see drawing 3).

As far as the parachutes, harnesses and accessories are concerned, the Big Book of Parachuting Teddy Bears information sheet from Kiteability or the new edition Kites book by Ron Moulton and Pat Lloyd covers this part in great detail.

*Addition added to article after experimentation.* A modification is needed on the dropper to make it work properly. The plunger is not large enough to guarantee to hit the target to make it operate (the target being the pulley).

It will need the addition of a metal or hard plastic disc attached to the pulley or just thread on the line above the dropper. It will need to be a tight fit if it is on the line to prevent it twisting when the plunger presses against it, or it could be fixed to the plunger itself, you may need to experiment with it for optimum operation.

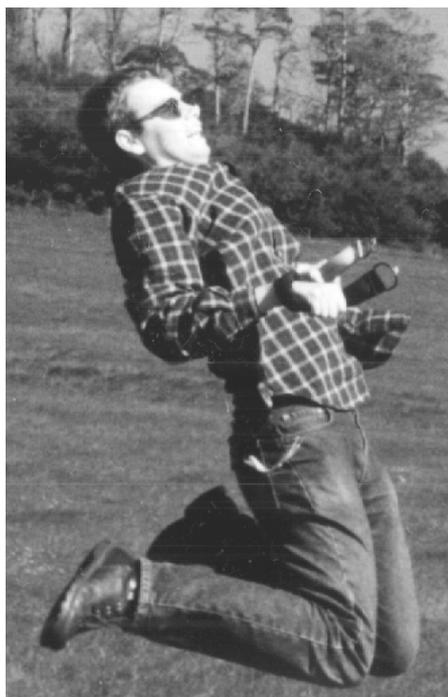
**Paul Webb, Weymouth**

# Crossword Answers

Below are the answers to the crossword published in the July issue of The Kiteflier. Once again out thanks to Manni Kluge for supplying the crossword.

Across		Down	
1	BRISTOL	1	BLUE
3	REICH	2	STAFFORD
7	PARAFOIL	4	CODY
9	OLDWARDEN	5	KITELINES
10	POWERLINES	6	HAWAII
12	JANE	8	FANO
13	CERFVOLANTE	9	OSOW
16	CABANA	11	OMEGA
17	ROKKAKU	13	CARBON
19	MOULTON	14	ROK
21	LESTER	15	TEDDYBEAR
22	TRAIN	18	BUGGY
		20	SLEEVE
		23	AKA

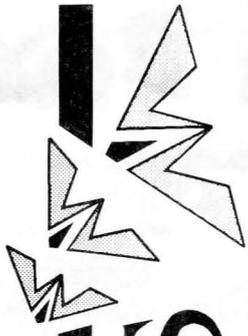
## Kite Jumping?



Just thought kite fliers anon would like to share these amusing photographs of one Tim Butcher flying his Adrenaline at Danebury Hill Fort in Hampshire. It was quite a fantastic day for kite flying and an excellent choice of venue for practising new kiting manoeuvres.

**Amelia Williams.**

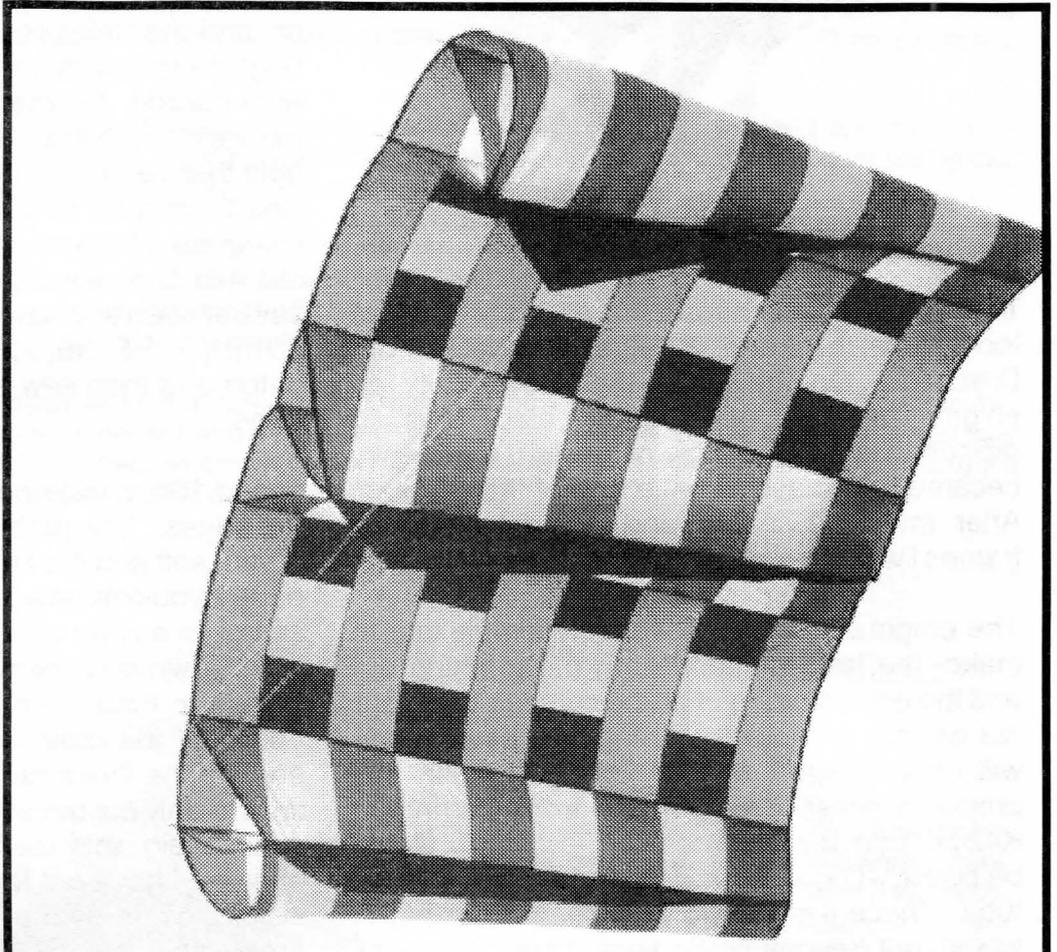




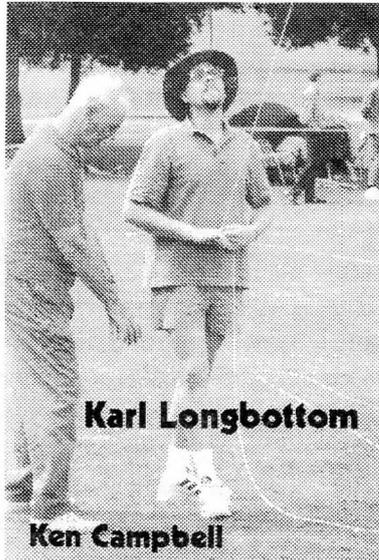
# MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS

# MKF Extra

The Extra Newsletter of The Midlands Kite Fliers



Who's flying this kite



Karl Longbottom

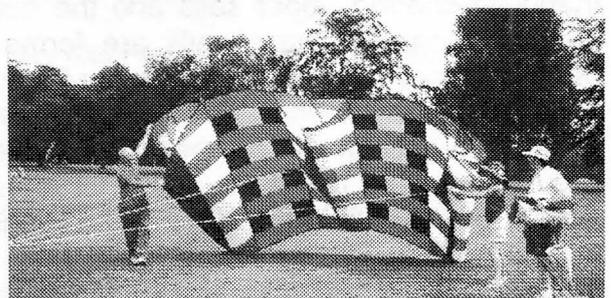
Ken Campbell



Dorothy Campbell



Sarah Longbottom



# The Enigma Box



by Phil Womack

The Enigma box stems from 7 seconds of footage on the Fano '93 video, available from Drachen. On the video the kite is truly an enigma because being totally black it is so difficult to define its form or design. It instantly became an "I have to have one of those" kites. After much rewinding and numerous freeze frames I worked out the following design.

The enigma box is a reasonably simple kite to make, the hardest part being the marking out and the edge binding of all the curves. If you are not already proficient at using bias binding you will be an expert by the time you finish this project! I constructed the sail from Carrington K42 but from a weight point of view Icarex would be better. The spars are 6mm OD Carbon fibre tube. Since the spar to sail area ratio is high I would not recommend glass fibre tube and, although light, dowel would not be sufficiently rigid.

To begin, mark out all the sail patterns as shown in the diagram. Accuracy is important since the sail is designed so that the tension is spread across the whole kite and each section is dependant on the next. Do not forget to mark lines between points A - B and C - D; they are almost impossible to accurately mark after cutting out. Also, mark the centre points of all the holes in the sails. The curves for the triangular-shaped upper sails and the double-diamond shaped centre sails are formed by bending a piece of 1 - 3 mm diameter fibreglass rod until the desired shape is achieved. The next stage is to cut out the sail parts but leave the circular holes in the main sail until after the edges have been binded as this makes handling the sail much easier.

Before binding the edges it is necessary to reinforce all the points where tabs will be sewn on and the holes for the spars. You could use 60gsm+ ripstop but my preferred material is 4cm wide dacron. My method is to sandwich the sail between two pieces using a dab of superglue to hold them and then sew across the inside edge (the binding will take care of the rest) and trim to the shape of the sail. For the spar holes hot cut out 4 or 5cm squares of dacron, sandwich the sail between and sew on. Mark out and hot cut a 2cm(h) x 1.5 cm(w) hole in the centre of the patch and then sew around 1-2mm in from the edge.

I used 10mm wide polyester bias binding on all the edges. The problem with polyester is that it is very soft and it is impossible to achieve a crisp edge if you only sew it on in the normal way. The secret to a crisp edge is very simple: once you have sewn on a section start again and sew 1-1.5mm in from the outside edge. Once all the edges of the main sail have been binded, do each of the three circles in turn. Another good tip is to only cut out and bind a quarter at time as, once again, this makes the material easier to handle. I have not found a source for polyester edge binding in the UK. If you have similar problems it is available by the roll from Vlieger Op in Holland.

The next step is to prepare and sew on the tabs. Cut 3cm wide strips of ripstop, you will need about 1.5m in all. Fold the edges into the centre of the strip and fold in half then sew the open edge. Hot cut into 4cm lengths and sew to the sails. It is only necessary to have enough of the tab protruding past the sail to allow a piece of bridle line to be threaded through.

Next sew on the four upper sails to the main sail at points A - B and C -D. To avoid any creep in the material I pre-fixed these with a few very small dots of superglue along the seam line before sewing. For obvious reasons the sails need to be placed so that the hem allowance is towards the centre of the main sail. After turning under and sewing the hem, sew tabs to the main sail at points A, B, C and D.



As shown in the illustrations all the tabs require small loops of bridle line which locate in the arrow nocks on the spars. After a few hours flying the sails will stretch slightly so the loops want to be relatively large to begin with. It is far better to be able to adjust the loops later than have to re-spar the whole kite.

The forward and aft upper sails share a common loop as shown. The loops on the centre sails need to be just long enough to larks-head around the main sail spreaders.

Since there are always variations in size when a kite sail is sewn up I will not give the dimensions of the spars, just the order in which they should be fitted. As a general guide, use the sail dimensions off the plan plus tabs and loops, then add a couple of centimetres which can later be trimmed. Remember, the kite needs to be dynamically balanced so cut matching spars to the same length and make any adjustments of sail tension via the loops.

First fit all the longerons to the main sail including the spars between A - B and C - D between the main sail and the rear upper sail. The two spreaders on the main sail are in two pieces. You can either fit these in one piece and cut then later or in two pieces and connect with the spreader joint. Once the main sail spars are fitted you will notice that points A, B, C and D are being pulled into the centre of the kite by the sail tension. This is cured by a length of line fastened between the tabs at A and B and passed through the arrow nock at the end of the spreader. The line length is determined by pythagoras' theorem. Repeat the process at C - D.

Next fit the spreader between the forward and rear pairs of upper sails. Fit an arrow nock to an oversized spar, locate the nock in the loop in the rear sails, stretch the forward sails and mark the spar for trimming. Slide the spar through the spreader joint and fit the arrow nock.

The longerons are now fitted to the centre sails. To fit the centre sails first remove the upper and lower spreaders and slide a 5mm length of 6mm id poly tube onto each spar. Re-fit the spars and position the tube to the outside edge of the longerons. Check symmetry and fix each with a dab of superglue. Release each spreader in turn and larks-head on the front and rear centre sail tips as illustrated. Prepare four pieces of line

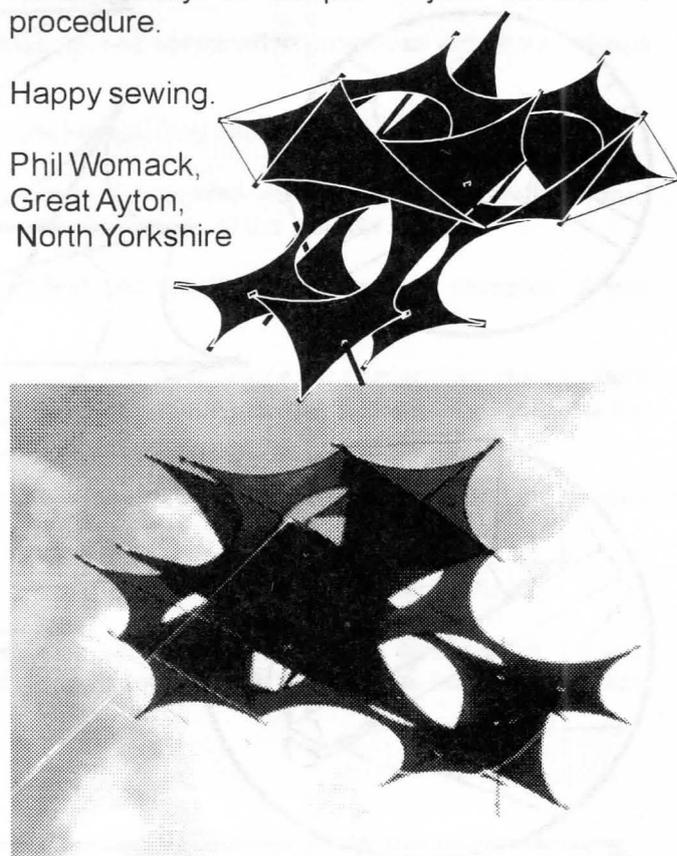
with a loop in each end (good old trial and error) and tension centre sails as illustrated. To assist with the rigidity of the frame, remove the main sail longerons and pass through the upper and lower loops on the rear centre sail between the tab and the larks-head.

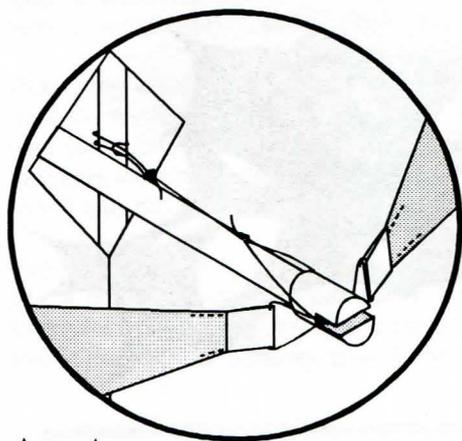
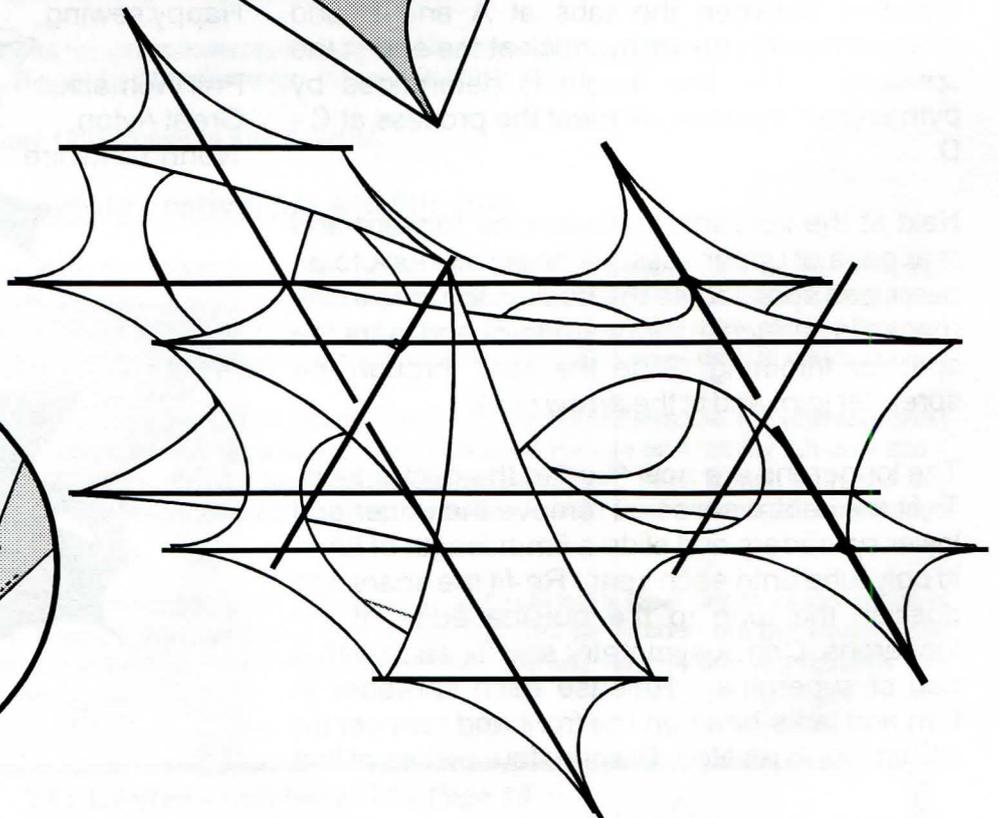
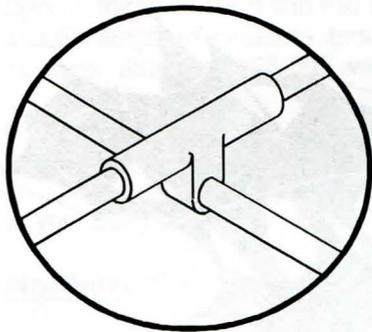
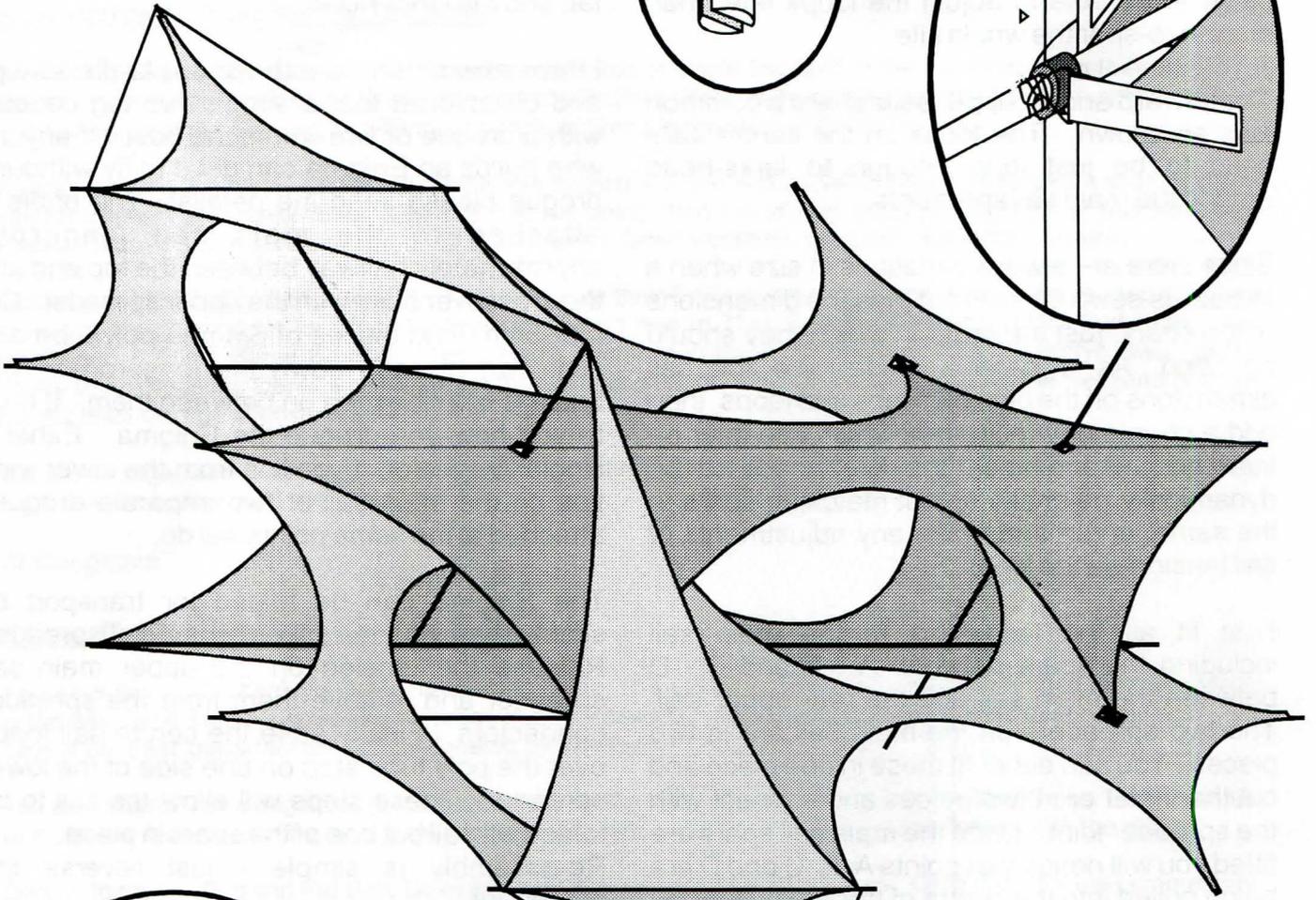
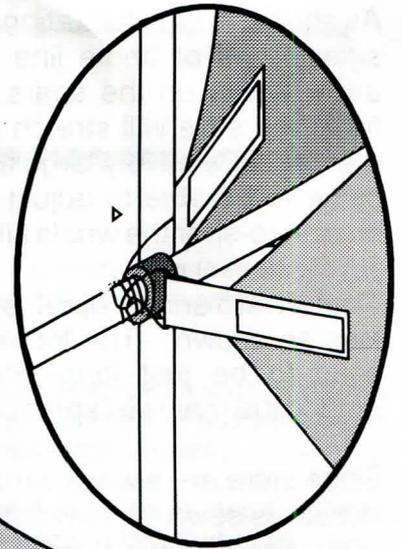
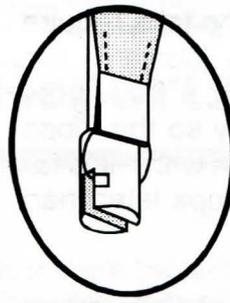
I have experimented with various bridle set-ups and discovered that a simple two leg coupled with a drogue or two works the best. If anyone who builds an Enigma can get it to fly without a drogue please send me details! The bridle is attached to the main sail longerons approximately halfway between the top end and the crossover point with the upper spreader. Cut four 5mm long pieces of 6mm id poly tube and slide two of each down the longerons. The bridle is larks headed on between them. It is up to you how you drogue the Enigma. Either a single Drogue on a vee line from the lower wing tips on the main sail or two separate drogues attached at the same points will do.

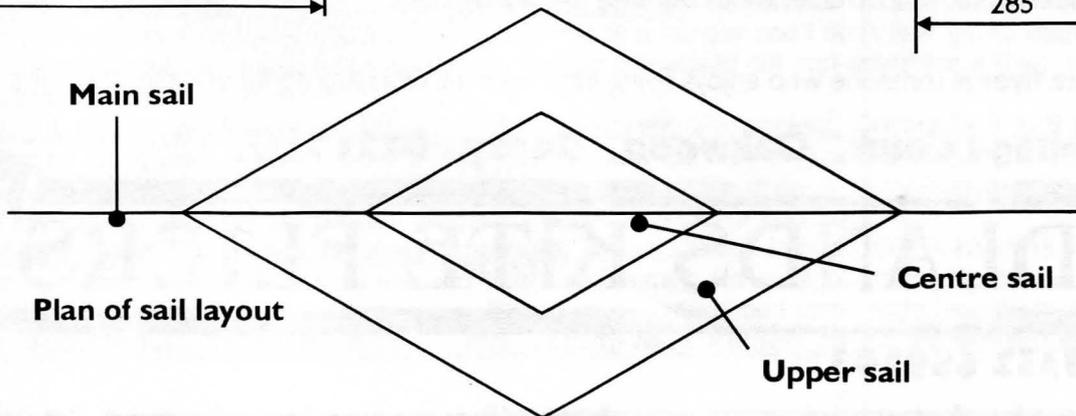
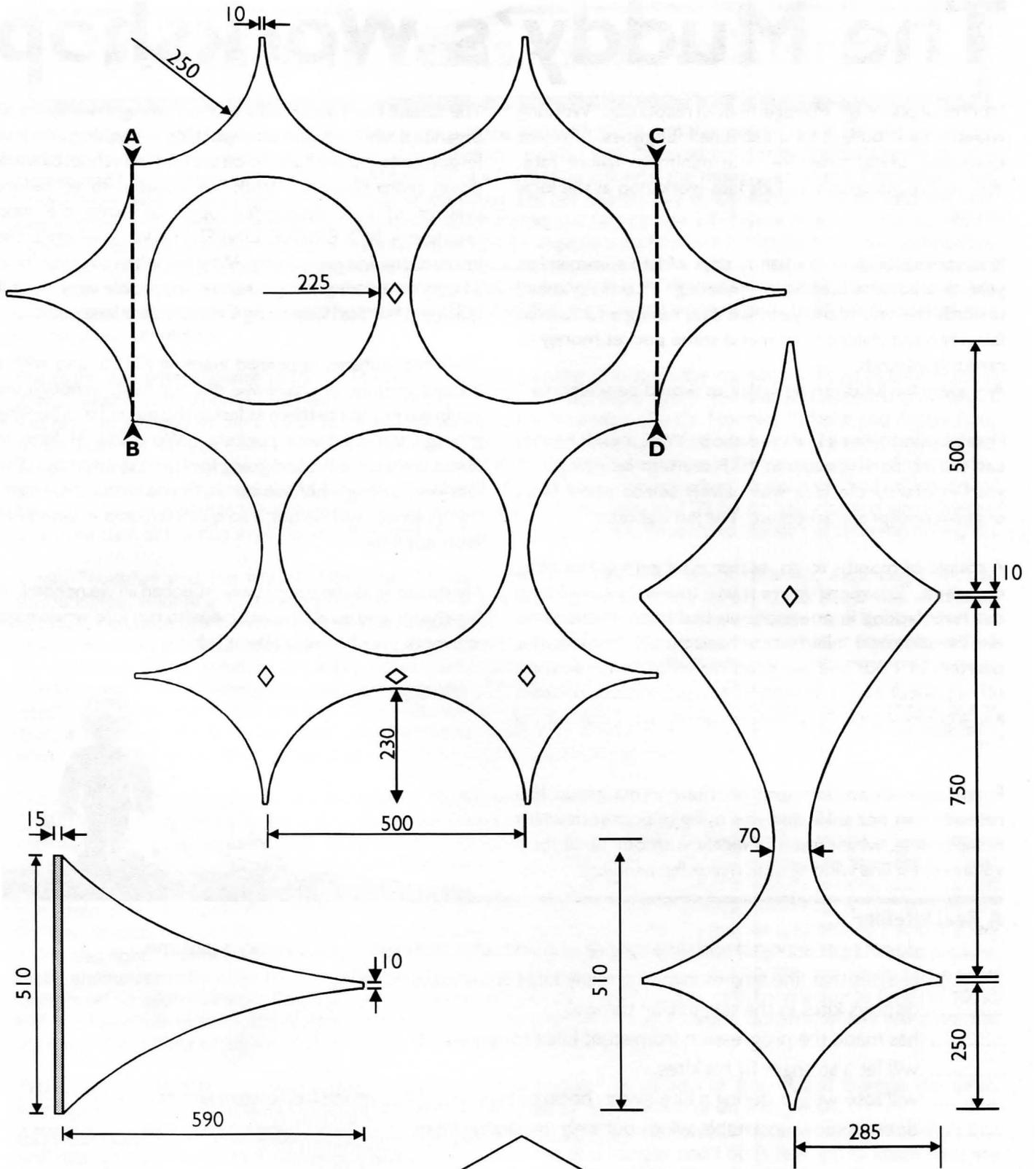
The Enigma can be folded for transport by simply removing the lower centre sail spreader. Release the tension on the upper main sail spreader and remove them from the spreader connectors. Finally ease the centre sail loops over the poly tube stop on one side of the lower spreader. These steps will allow the sail to be folded with all but one of the spars in place. Re-assembly is simple - just reverse the procedure.

Happy sewing.

Phil Womack,  
Great Ayton,  
North Yorkshire







# The Muddy's Workshop

Months of planning. Management of resources. Working within a tight budget to a deadline. Logistics. Project execution, under pressure with minimum failure rate. Yep, you've guessed it - a kids kite workshop at the local school.

It all started back in the balmy days of late summer last year, at a parents association meeting. "Looking ahead towards the end of the year, we'll be having a Christmas fair when the children can spend some pocket money to raise school funds.

Any ideas for fund-raising activities would be welcome."

I had a brainstorm - a kite workshop. Well, it can't be that bad can it? Some people in MKF seem to be doing it all year! Instantly the idea was naively seized upon as an original concept and accepted. The job was ours.

A couple of months to go, better start getting this thing organised. Er, where do we start? It was then we found out how lacking in attention we had been at everyone else's workshops! Help was at hand though from various quarters of MKF and we soon managed to accumulate some pre-cut sails, a quantity of barbecue sticks for spars and a copious (pun, 'cop'ious, oh never mind) quantity of line.

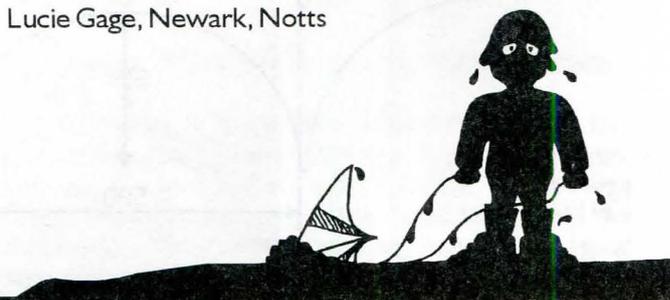
Fortunately an acquaintance on the parents group had recently hurt her ankle and was dying of boredom whilst recuperating, which fitted in nicely with our need for a volunteer for line winding onto makeshift handles.

The fateful day had arrived and we thought we were all organised, until we started unpacking everything. We had forgotten to cut the tails, so off around the school to track down sharp scissors. With five minutes to go before swarms of kids descended upon us came the next problem - NO BRIDLE LINES! Quick - where's the instructions and get cutting. Why is it when ever you're in a hurry to do something it seems impossible to achieve it quickly. I felt like I was doing Cats Cradle at one point.

Then the vultures appeared wanting KITES, and with a limited amount of space we did our best, although we could not complete them as fast as the money was burning through the children's pockets. We made 24 kites in about an hour. Not bad going for the first attempt. The kids keep asking when we can do the next one. However, I don't think I will be quite so quick to jump in with both feet next time.

My thanks to all the people who supplied all we needed. A big **thank you** to all the people who run kite workshops at events: you do an **excellent job**.

Lucie Gage, Newark, Notts



## A Real kiteflier .....

- ..... doesn't get annoyed with line tangles - he finds that sorting them is a relaxing pastime.
- ..... realises that line tangles involving many kites are a social occasion.
- ..... displays kites in the sky, not on the wall.
- ..... has made the progression from stunt kites to single line.
- ..... will let a stranger fly his kites.
- ..... will lose weight during a kite event, because he's having too much fun to stop and eat.
- ..... doesn't know unsuitable winds but only unsuitable kites.

**A Real kite flyer** is someone who enjoys flying kites without worrying about whether they're a real kite flyer...

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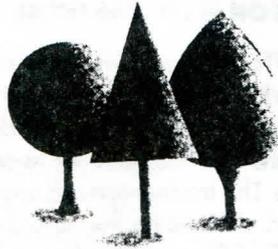
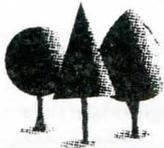




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THE SEWING IN FUTURE.



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## DEAR BKF...

**W**ell! what a year for me and what a festival, it is hard to put into words what receiving the BKF Shield means to me and I'm still totally gobsmacked. I hope the look on my face of utter surprise while I was trying to figure it out made your day Ray, because when I saw the grin on your face and other BKF members it certainly made my day and now I know what it is like to receive a 'Gotcha Oscar' and that image won't ever fade.

As you know I've been a BKF member since the early 80's and remember flying with the late David White at the Red Hill in 1977 before the Club was formed. In early days I was keen and enthusiastic like many members now, but as my kites, ripstop, rods, books and magazines grew - unfortunately my house did not and soon 'Kites' became an unwelcome guest.

Over the following years I did less and less making and planned more for the 'Kites' I hoped I would make 'Someday'. When I move to Devon I'll be in a position to finally make them. I hope people will not look upon me as an ex BKF member as I will be and always have been proud to be one, but rather as a BKF member living in Devon (who doesn't have so far to travel to the Weymouth and Bristol Festivals). Thanks Ray for taking over as Co-ordinator and building the Club to the strength it is today.

Best Wishes

### DANNY STEER

*Danny... Wishing you all the very best for your move to Devon - we'll miss having you around so often - so keep in touch or else! Ed*

# aperdyne

October 1997

the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

## BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL 12 & 13 JULY 1997 STANMER PARK

**T**he festival, as always, starts on the Friday evening for those who set up the layout of the field. The stakes await positioning and knocking into the ground. Dues to Danny, Sid & Mick for being on the case with the plotting and hammering. The tents were erected one by one and the layout was then complete. The traders arrived sporadically and the festival started to happen. The sound evolved on the Saturday morning and we were proud to announce that we had Ray Lowton Sound back as the best sound system at any kite festival. Brendan and Ray kept the pulses of alternative music emitted throughout and the atmosphere was created.

### BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS SHIELD WINNERS

**T**he Shield is awarded annually to someone that we feel has made a significant and unrewarded contribution to kite flying throughout the years. For those who didn't see it at this year's Festival - the Shield engraving reads:

*'In honour of and with thanks for that excellence in all aspects of the sport that you have displayed.'*

1987 Ron & Keith Macey  
1988 Greg Locke  
1989 Felix Mottram  
1990 Ron Moody  
1991 The Moresbys  
1992 Stafford Wallace  
1993 John Barker  
1994 Martin Croxton  
1995 Ray Oakhill  
1996 Pat & Ron Dell  
1997 Danny Steer

### 1997 FESTIVAL TROPHIES

- ◆ **BKF Shield:** Danny Steer (BKF)
- ◆ **Best At The Fest:**  
Pauline Taylor's 'Doric Delta'
- ◆ **Best Kite:** Dave Conway's 'Manta Ray'
- ◆ **Young Kiteflyer:** Sophie Horton (BKF)
- ◆ **Solo Rokkaku Kite Fighting:**  
Jerry Swift (BKF)
- ◆ **Team Rokkaku Kite Fighting:**  
Wayne Radcliffe
- ◆ **Indian Kite Fighting:**  
Mac Mcleod (BKF)

ten. These are some of Europe's famous artists who paint on kites. From them, Claudio Capelli from Italy attended with many of his beautiful edos. Claudio paints the edos looking in to mirrors angled in various positions. This results in his art being stupendous when viewed from close up, to far away. Martine Chatel and Joel Theze came from France following the Washington Festival. Some English artists attended as well, so it was very European. Alongside, Pauline achieved the Best Kite award with her first self made kite.

Claudio also bought a Peter Lynn Trilobite with him. This was the biggest kite we had at the Festival and it watched us when it was released to fly. John Turner's efforts proved entertaining with the children in the windsock. Of course the donut was flying on another anniversary of where it was first publicly displayed at a festival.

At the other end of the scale, the manic Indian fighting kites fought relentlessly, invigorating in their efforts of survival. Stafford attended to show his expertise, as he has done for so many

We had a full weekend of kite demonstrations and programme events. The demonstrations all seemed to happen but not necessarily in the order of the programme; which is largely wind dependent. Thanks to Mik for all his legwork in co-ordinating the arena events. The European Air Gallery arrived to a total of about

years. Mac and Ron also put on good displays. A lot of the home made kites were Indian fighters this year. Joel ran details of the Manja Club from the BKF information tent. The Rokkaku fights came from teams and solos. These were European as well this year.

On the stunt kite scene, Chris Matheson and Team Flair travelled down from Hackney. They flew their Sandpipers to Rhubarb and Custard, as well as flying pairs and individual displays. Tim Benson and other flyers displayed their latest kites and their abilities. Paul did some power kite displays and demonstrated the use of a mountainboard under kite power. We had the best four line displays from the Decorators, all but two of them attended. Andy Preston returned to fly in Brighton. We congratulate Tom Greenfield from Horsham who has been flying locally for years. He is now officially flying with the Decorators following this year's Brighton Kite Festival.

Andy of Skybound Boomerangs turned some heads with his skilled display of very colourful boomerangs. Meanwhile, Simon Dann kept the public informed of the Festival's happenings and did a good job on the PA as usual.

This may have looked even more

visual after having visited Dram O' Apples Cider House beer tent. I witnessed the after effects of some of the kitefliers who spent a lot of time sampling some of the produce of Sussex. Any subsequent munchies were sufficed at the Lushous Mobile Catering stalls. We had there, as ever; tasty meaty and veggie menus. If that wasn't enough to stimulate an appetite, perhaps working in the Nationwide sponsored children's workshop was. Around 350 children built kites in that tent over the lunchtimes of the weekend. Mick and Norma operated it with as much organisation as anyone could be expected to do. Ken ran the BKF information tent for the first time with various members of the Brighton Kite Flyers plus other helpers and did a very good job too.

We have to say that we had another very successful Brighton Kite Festival and all present seemed pleased with the results. Congratulations to the BKF trophy winners.

Thanks to: our sponsors who donated money or kites for the raffle; without who the event would not have been possible: Brighton & Hove Council, Nationwide Building Society, Flexifoil International, Faulwood & Herbert Limited, Air Born Kites, Worlds Apart, Spirit of Air Kites,

Highflyers, Air-Crafts & Nynex. Thanks to Kiteability for donating a Rok Trophy and to Danny Steer for engraving and providing the trophies. Thanks also to all the relevant members and non members of the club for their help:

Ian Taylor, MBI Sound & Light, Ken Boddy, Ray Oakhill, Toody Oakhill, Mik Jennison, Paul Thody, Mick & Norma House, Peter Jones, Phil & Pat Chitty, Phil Tolley, Simon & Corinne Hennessey, John Turner, Paul & Louise Holden, Derek Lloyd, Pete Swan, John Barker, Gill Pitman, Peter Jackson, Paul Fellingham, Denise, Dean & Wayne Boddy, John Dimmock, Sid, Sophie & Kit Horton, Gillan Meek, Tom Gunter, Giles Smith, Nathan Clements, Gavin, Chiara Farneti, Owen Thompson, Tom Greenfield, Jerry & Carolyn Swift, Danny Steer, Adrian, Andrew Barton, Danny Rice, Pete Linnell, Ray Lowton, Brendan Britain, Seamus Fenton and anybody I have forgotten to mention.

**ESTELLE BARTON (EVENT ORGANISER)**

## BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL

**F**riday 5th September saw Oakie 1 and wife motoring down to Bristol for one of the highlights of our year. Yes... a stay at Redwood Lodge to have our annual dose of luxury. Good food, good wine, huge breakfasts and a king size bed! Was there anything else happening? Oh yes, The Bristol International Kite Festival!

Saturday morning was quiet, emotional and sombre due to the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, which was relayed over the PA system to all kiteflyers and traders present. As a mark of respect a black kite was flying.

Kite flying and trading resumed in the afternoon. The weather was reasonable and gradually people left their TV sets and came along to Ashton Court to see the displays and fly kites.

It was good to see Peter Powell again and we hope that the famous kite bearing his name will have a successful revival, especially as so many of us older two line addicts were inspired by this kite. The displays in the arena encouraged me to revive my stack of six!

In the cool of the evening we joined Bazzar and friends for a barbecue to celebrate his birthday... 'The Big 30' and only just out of nappies! Bazzar was in fine form having shared a large bottle of Sake (contributed by Masaki Modegi from Japan) with Oggy during the day. He was able to light his birthday candles without the aid of matches! Avril Baker even arranged a display of fireworks in honour of this momentous occasion.

On Sunday crowds of people turned out to have fun flying their own kites and to gasp with delight at the variety of colourful kites and windsocks filling the sky. Peter Lynn abolished forever the theory that size is not important as he launched his biggest one ever... the Megabyte. At 52 metres long and 22 metres wide it is certainly impressive, but when it fills with air it has the dimensions of a dance hall when viewed through the opening. There was a small charge to enter the kite and the proceeds went to Mencap, who sponsored the kite's transportation to Bristol.

Many thanks to Avril Baker and the Avon Kite Flyers for making the weekend another memorable event.

**DOREEN & RAY OAKHILL**



## RAY BETHELL... STILL SETTING NEW WORLD RECORDS!

**W**e were sworn to secrecy. No one was to let Ray Bethell know what was planned for him at the Air Affaire Fun Fly & Competition on May 31st - June 1st at Belmont Shores, Long Beach, California. John Shara of Tight Lines Kite Company, with frames provided by Skyshark, designed twelve of his Aerobatic kites for Ray to attempt a world record. Bowdy Aggres did the bridling and train lines with assistance from the one and only "Fuzzy Bear" - Brian Champie. Of course, Ray would have to put his touch on the tuning of the stacks to make sure they were ready for his world record attempt. The three stacks of 4 kites looked beautiful in the morning light. Each kite was one colour; black, purple, gold, and green; all posed like a squadron of aircraft ready to take off at a minute's notice.

Looking at these kites I think to myself - "Man, there's a lot of pull in each of those stacks. Yesterday I flew a stack and it pulled me right off the ground.

And Ray is supposed to attempt a world record flying all three stacks simultaneously? No Way!"

Ray arrived with his sponsor and festival organiser Neil Tuthill. Ray still was not aware of what was in store for him. He knew that there was some talk of a new record attempt, but he was not sure exactly what was planned. Neil showed Ray the stacks and explained what was planned. John Shara and I were wondering -

What was Ray thinking? What would he say? Would he attempt a new world record? Could he do it? Ray took a long look at the three stacks. He then smiled that classic Ray Bethell smile and in his English/Aussie accent said "Roight! Let's give it a go, mates!"

Bethell tested each stack individually and made adjustments to the bridles and train lines. He let us know that he was satisfied with his settings saying "All roight! Let's see what these beauties can do!"

The focus was now on the ballet field where the three stacks were placed. Ray placed each stack where he wanted it to be. A very large crowd had gathered around the field. The flyers had stopped flying. No one wanted to miss his attempt at a world record. I checked the wind. A smooth consistent 8mph.

Ray hooked a stack to his waist, took one step backwards and the first stack was in the air. As he is flying this stack he bends down and picks up the handles to the left and right stacks, takes a small step back and both jump into the air, joining the first stack. Ray is flying like a three man team - passes, dives, right and left turns, loops, wraps; even a refuel and a world famous Canadian Burst out of a refuel.

After seven minutes of fantastic flying Ray does a perfect 1-2-3

landing. The crowd cheers in amazement! Tight Lines Kite Company's John Shara and Air Affairs' Neil Tuthill both have smiles. This was a great way to start the Air Affaire Fun Fly and Competition.

Ray Bethell had achieved the record that was planned. But as we soon found out, it wasn't even close to a world record by Ray's standards.

The next morning, June 1st at 10.30am Ray decides to go for a longer flight. He wants to fly the 3 stacks simultaneously and continuously for as long as he can. I check the wind speed. Again, it's a pleasant 8 mph.

At 10.40am the stacks are in the air. The kites seemed wobbly at first but Ray quickly had them under control. Ray's skill is amazing. He just doesn't keep the kites in the air - he puts on a show that is easily as good as some teams that I have watched. As usual, Ray had his shirt off and I could see the muscles in his back working against the pull of the three stacks. It is

hard to believe that he is in his seventies.

At 11.30am I checked the wind. It had increased to 12mph. I

wondered - How much longer can Ray keep this up?

Finally, at 12.33pm, Ray

does a perfect 1-2-3 landing. He had flown the three stacks of four kites for one hour and forty-three minutes.

There were hand-shakes and hugs from those watching. Ray was then brought to the ballet field in front of the announcer's tent where Air Affairs Kite Productions' Neil Tuthill presented Ray with a collector's pin to celebrate the occasion and stationery with his new logo on it. "We are proud of this achievement!" exclaimed Neil Tuthill; "But we are more proud of Ray Bethell!"

On both days of the Air Affaire Fun Fly and Competition Ray did multiple kite demonstrations for 10 hours. This was Ray's second trip to Belmont Shores, Long Beach, California; and he is already scheduled to return in 1998. It will be interesting to see what Air Affairs Kite Productions can dream up for Ray next year!

LARRY BUSH

Ray would like to thank the following for their sponsorship: Air Affairs Kite Productions, Health Sports Technology Group Inc, Skyshark Airframes & Tight Lines Kite Co, California.

**aero  
dyne**  
the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

### THE CULTURAL BIT! No 17

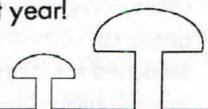
*"I don't want to belong to any club that would have me as a member."*

GIORGIO MARX

### "HELLO UNCLE RAY!"

**E**stelle & Paul, of Air Born Kites in Brighton, have known sisters Kathy & Claire, from Crawley, for about 12 years. They've never had reason to attach significance to their surname of 'Bethell'. Until recently, that is, when they mentioned a relative in Canada who's well into kite flying. Yes, you guessed it - they turn out to be the nieces of 'Uncle Ray Bethell' - big sky... small world?!

TOODY OAKHILL (THANKS: ESTELLE BARTON & PAUL THODY)



## CHAIN WITH NO NAME

# BRIGHTON STUNT KITE LEAGUES 1997

STANMER PARK / FALMER / BRIGHTON / SUSSEX

OS MAP REF: 198 TQ 342 088 / BY CAR: A27 / BY TRAIN: FALMER STATION

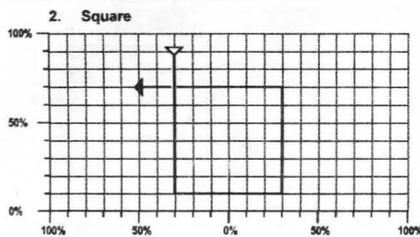
PRIZES DONATED BY FLEXIFOIL INTERNATIONAL, SPIRIT OF AIR KITES & AIR-CRAFTS



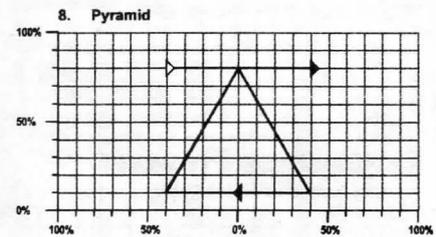
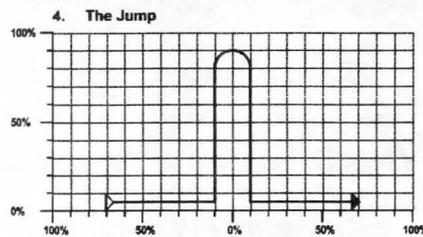
**A** second Brighton Stunt Kite Leagues will take place this year at Stanmer Park on Sunday afternoons from the first Sunday in November. Kitefliers meet at 1.45pm (near the park entrance) for a quick briefing on the basic STACK rules. This is intended to be informal and not highly competitive, so it's a good way to learn how to compete. Kitefliers in each class are required to fly 4 figures: the 3 published here plus a surprise figure given on the day. The surprise figure is generally easier or of a similar standard to the other 3. Anybody can compete at any level. For a certificate you must be placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd over all in any class - for which you have to complete 2 of the 3 rounds. The figures are set according to ability - so place yourself in the class you see fit. Most novices don't fly square cuts, so if you can - it's usually time for the experienced class. It's important that the experienced class is more widely used to give beginners the chance to do well. Please call us if you need any advice. Thanks to Flexifoil International, Spirit of Air Kites and Air-Crafts for donating the event prizes. Hope to see you there.

**ESTELLE BARTON (EVENT ORGANISER)**

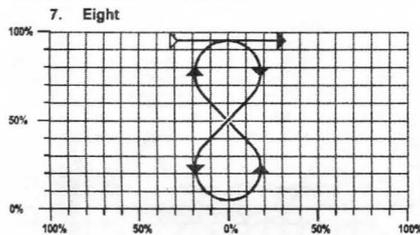
### NOVICE FIGURES:



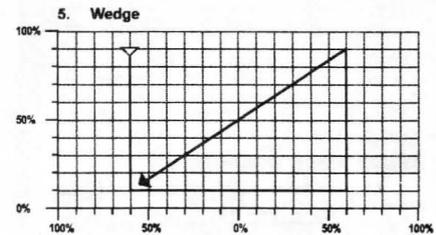
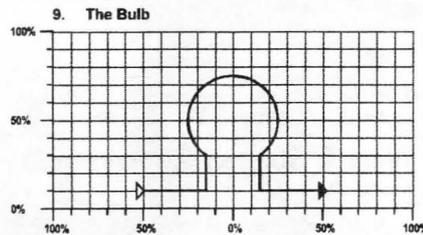
### WEEK 1: SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER



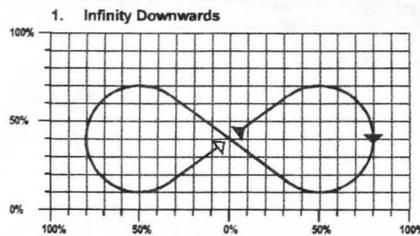
### NOVICE FIGURES:



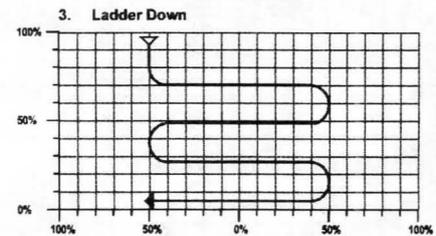
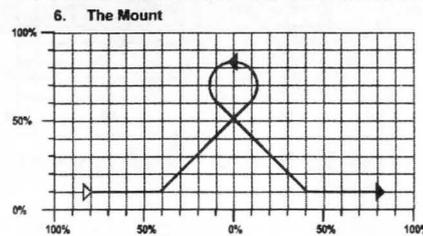
### WEEK 2: SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER



### NOVICE FIGURES:



### WEEK 3: SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER



**ENTRY FORM: CHAIN WITH NO NAME BRIGHTON STUNT KITE LEAGUES**

**Nov 1997**

- ◆ **Class:** Novice/Experienced/Masters *(Please delete as applicable)*
- ◆ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ **Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ **Entry Fee:** £2.00 Total for all 3 Rounds *(Please bring your entry fee to the competition - thank you)*
- ◆ **Please return completed to:** Estelle Barton & Paul Thody/Air Born Kites/42 Gardner Street/Brighton/Sussex/BN1 1UN  
(Tel: 01273 676740/Fax: 01273 676752)



**CHAIN WITH NO NAME**

**BRIGHTON STUNT KITE LEAGUES 1997**

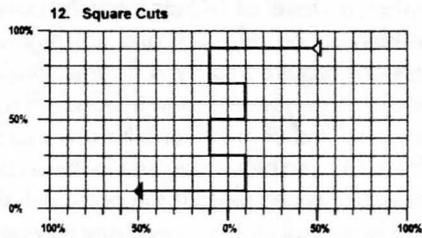
STANMER PARK/FALMER/BRIGHTON/SUSSEX

OS MAP REF: 198 TQ 342 088/BY CAR: A27/BY TRAIN: FALMER STATION

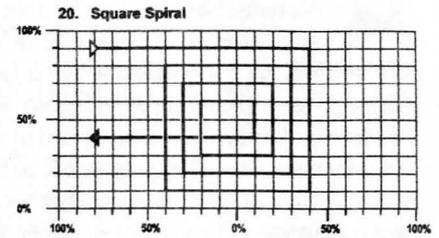
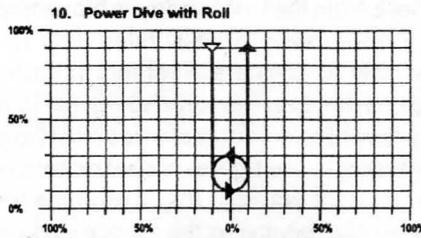
PRIZES DONATED BY FLEXIFOIL INTERNATIONAL, SPIRIT OF AIR KITES & AIR-CRAFTS



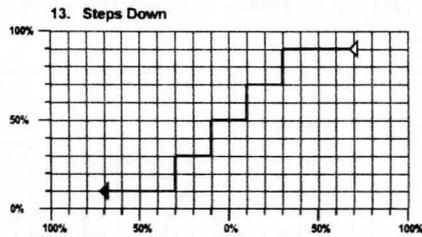
**EXPERIENCED FIGURES:**



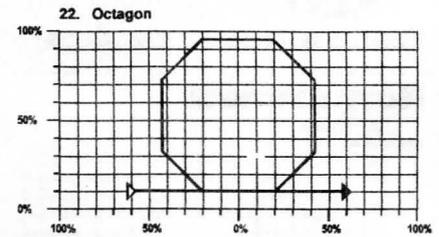
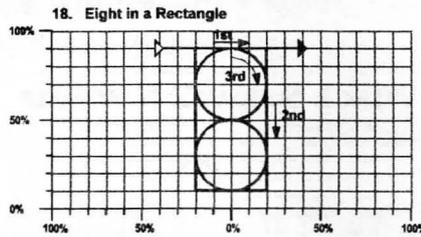
**WEEK 1: SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER**



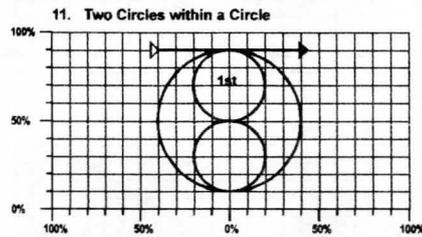
**EXPERIENCED FIGURES:**



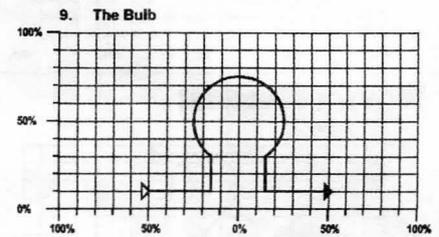
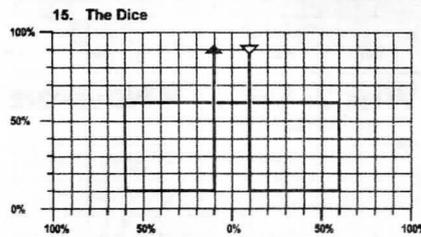
**WEEK 2: SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER**



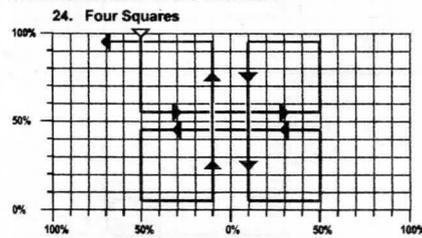
**EXPERIENCED FIGURES:**



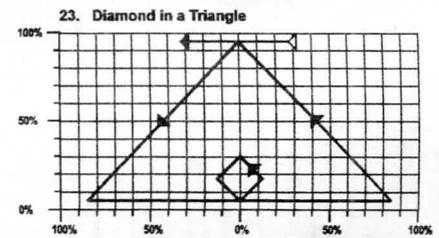
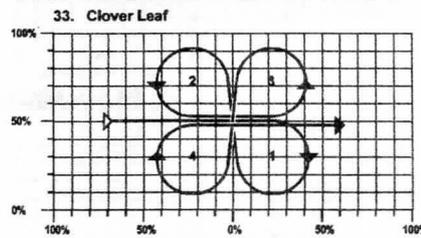
**WEEK 3: SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER**



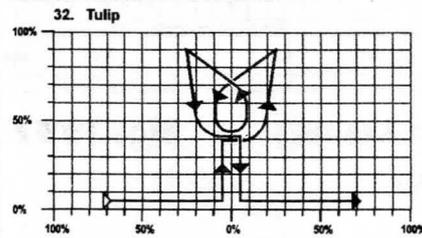
**MASTERS FIGURES:**



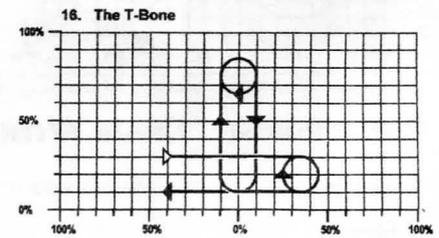
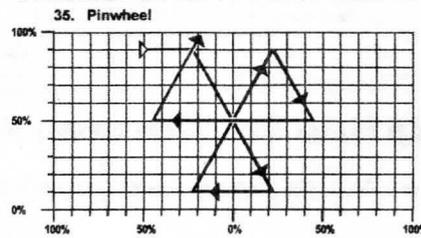
**WEEK 1: SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER**



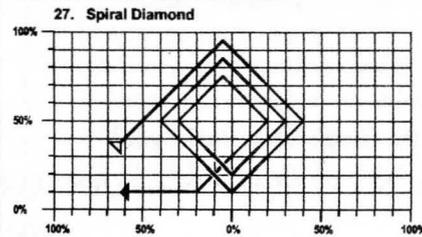
**MASTERS FIGURES:**



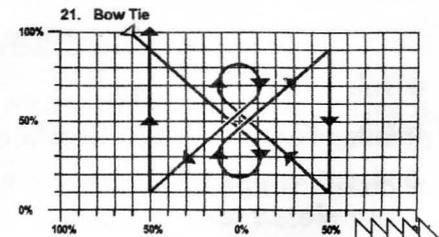
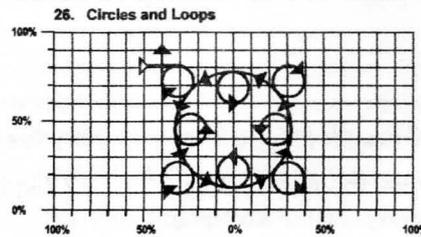
**WEEK 2: SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER**



**MASTERS FIGURES:**



**WEEK 3: SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER**



## HAIR OF THE DOG FLY-IN

**S**ore head on New Year's Day? Come to the BKF 'Hangover Clinic' at Devil's Dyke and join us to fly in 1998.

- ◆ **Date:** 1 January 1998 from 11am
- ◆ **Site:** Devil's Dyke Inn
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 258 112
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 200ft

TOODY OAKHILL

## BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS

1ST SUNDAY MONTHLY FROM 11AM

- ◆ **Site:** Ladies Mile Rd/Patcham
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 317 092
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 1500ft

2ND THURSDAY EACH MONTH (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER INCLUSIVE) FROM 6PM

- ◆ **Site:** Stanmer Park/Lewes Rd
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 342 088
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 200ft
- ◆ **After:** The Swan pub at Falmer.

**aerodyne**  
the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

October 1997

## USE THIS SPACE...

**T**hanks 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 January 1998 issue by **1 December 1997** to...

**Toody Oakhill/BKF Editor**  
Top Flat / 6 Bath Street  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 3TB

(Tel/Fax: 01273 321397)

## TELSCOMBE TYE FAMILY KITE DAY

**W**ith a watchful eye on the weather forecast for three days before the event, on Sunday 14th September we woke to a cloudless, but windless day. This was to be the first kite event on the Tye since the original Brighton Kite Festival in 1979. However, by the time the BKF tent, Air Born Kites stall and the 42nd Brighton Scouts food stalls were erected, the wind had picked up to a comfortable westerly force 3 - 4.

It remained so for the day, enabling a brisk trade in parachuting teddies. Thanks are due to Alan Outram who, ably assisted by Danny Steer, did sterling work dropping them from his motorised pulley rig - much to the amusement and cheers from the watching public. Only one Roman Candle and none lost to trees, roofs or over the cliff! A 100 fauna were dropped, raising £50 for the Rockinghorse Appeal, which buys equipment for the local children's hospital. Thanks also to John Barker, who hoisted his fluted sled kite high enough to lift the White Horse Kite Flyers' Castrol windsock safely out of the clutches of the "teenage 'erberts" - who were waiting to pounce as soon as his back was turned. It flew faultlessly all day at about 50ft off the ground. Our thanks to the WHKF for the loan of the windsock. It's time we had one of our own!

My wife, Doreen, volunteered to 'man' the BKF information tent for most of the day, and with no thoughts of going back to work on Monday now that she is retired, she could enjoy the occasion.

With an estimated 1500 people there during the day, there was plenty of space for everyone to fly. A great time was had by all, except perhaps by the man with seven children who wanted to know where the free kites were! When questioned further, he said that it was advertised as a "Free Kite Festival" - so where were the "free kites"!

Thanks to all the Brighton Kite Flyers who attended and helped to make the event such a success.

RAY OAKHILL

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- ◆ **Gillian Buckling**  
Brighton/East Sussex
- ◆ **Chris & Nicola Leslie**  
Bognor Regis/West Sussex
- ◆ **Alex Burt**  
Worthing/West Sussex
- ◆ **Adrian Johnson**  
Burgess Hill/West Sussex
- ◆ **Matthew Curzon**  
Brighton/East Sussex
- ◆ **Sam Eaton**  
Brighton/East Sussex

- ◆ **Steve Ransom**  
Neasden/London
- ◆ **Roger & Patricia Mills**  
Aldershot/Hampshire
- ◆ **Neil Bauermeister**  
Patcham/Brighton/East Sussex
- ◆ **Mike & Ann Heanes**  
Woodley/Berkshire
- ◆ **Derek, James & Graham Hanks**  
Cophthorne/West Sussex
- ◆ **Pat Chitty**  
Saltdean/Brighton/East Sussex
- ◆ **Peter Weedon**  
Newhaven/East Sussex

## FURTHER BKF INFO...

- ◆ **Web Page Address:**  
<http://www.netlink.co.uk/users/webman/bkf/bkf.html>
- ◆ **Membership Secretary:**  
Ray Oakhill: Tel/Fax: 01273 306842 E-mail: rao@mistral.co.uk
- ◆ **Merchandise:**  
Pins/Patches: Ray Oakhill (above)  
Tee/Sweatshirts:  
Simon Hennessey: 01273 415763
- ◆ **Library:**  
John Turner: 01323 500191
- ◆ **Brighton Kite Festival:**  
Estelle Barton & Paul Thody (c/o Air Born Kites): Tel: 01273 676740 Fax: 01273 676752

## CURRENT CLUB COMMITTEE

- ◆ **Chairperson:** Ray Oakhill
- ◆ **Secretary:** Jerry Swift
- ◆ **Treasurer:** Gill Pitman
- ◆ **Committee Members:**  
Alan Outram, Toody Oakhill,  
Paul Thody & Paul Fellingham.

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.

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# ROMAN SANDLE 46.



THE JOURNAL OF THE BEARLY MADE IT SKYDIVE SQUAD. THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHER AND SISTER HOOD OF PARACHUTING FAUNA AND THE U.K. TED DEVILS. ARGUABLY THE MOST PHOTOCOPIED BIT OF 100% MINDLESS DRIVEL IN KITING TODAY. POLITICALLY INCORRECT AND WE DONT GIVE A TOSS

## AIR ZOO INVASION OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC, OR FIVE GO MAD IN TIANAMIN SQUARE.....

Ever in search of new Horizons, Well, Ard the Brighton Air Zoo Bootie, who suffers an excess of Cool and rather less sense, along with Stena and Rockey Alexander, two other members of the Air Zoo Hard Core, recently took a trip to the Peoples Republic.

Along for the Trip were Dropniks Carolyn and Jerry Swift, probably just to make up the numbers. From the start Well, Ard drew many puzzled looks, as he mainly travelled strapped horizontally strapped to Jerrys backpack.

Funnily enough, although most of the worlds mass produced Fauna of a soft cuddley Toy persuasion comes from China, it seems that Chinese Children are strangers to Teddy Bears. They have the odd soft cuddley Panda, but thata about it.

Well 'Ard first jumped in Nanjing, using the old Pipe Cleaner method. Then at Weifang, where he was nearly captured by the Red Army, then nearly Kidnapped by a charming Gentleman Prof. Zhu Ke Jun, whose card read like a Chinese Who's Who, to be honest the Prof. wanted to swap a Kite for Well'Ard.

Needless to say Jerry could not let the Lad go, but later, at Weifang, a deal was done for a MKII Well'Ard, in exchange for a beautiful Praying Mantis Kite. (Getting this back without a Box was a Hoot.) Later, our intrepid expedition headed of to Quingdoa on the coast, where lots more succsessful jumps were accomplished, including jumping into the midst of several Weddings which were being conducted on the Beach. Now theres a First.

Finally, the Mob appeared at Tianamin Square in Beijing (Pekin as was) Six succssful jumps were done from a Handheld Two Metre Rok via a Pipe cleaner, in front of Chairman Mao(The Statue, we assume) and before a Gobsnacked audience.

Amongst the applause could be heard excited cries which Jerry was assured, Translated as "OI, MISTER, DO IT AGAIN" and, when he was able to clear enough space in the Crowd to Re Stuff the the Jolly old Rag, Jerry did so, but he says that he has never had so many people watching him pack a Parachute.



left. Carolyn Swift and the Lad, last outpost of Empire? above. The Lad doing the Bizzo in Tianamin Square, and keeping a careful lookout in case he

## IN THE ARMS OF THE PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY & THE CHINESE RAILWAY SYSTEM, YOO WOT!



More Pics from the Ai Zoo's China Expeditio far left. Happy smiling Railway Attendant with the Lad his self no, she did'nt want t give him back. OO'ER Missus.

near left. Attenshun, yoo 'orrible lot, or whatever the Chinese equivilent is. Again the Lad his self, and Stena and Rocky Alexander, in the clutche of the Peoples Liberation Army.

Thats Carolyn Swift in the Middle, has st joined up ? Who knows Hey Carolyn, you can se from this pic, why your trousers cost a lot more. theres def: nitely more of 'em

## NO IFS, NO BUTS, AS YOU KNOW, WHATEVER WE TELL YOU IS MINDLESS DRIVEL & CODSWALLOP.

How many times have we told you that we are Computer Illiterate (AY LAD, GIVE BLOODY SPINNING JENNY A RIGHT CRACK WITH T'SLEDGEHAMMER) pretty well more times than you've Hot Dinners. Oh boy, have we dropped a Clanger, we may have even upset the Soup Dragons

Kind Mr Daniel Weinreb has offered to fill us in (no, not that kind of fillin) as regards the correct way of providing the address of a Resource, that is what they are called. He writes, 'Just to fill you in on the official computer Jargon, what Esben has put together is called a page, technically a Resource, on the World Wide Web.

Every page has a location, which is basically its address. This is called a URL, or a Universal Resource Locator (eyes glassing over) The idea is that a URL can locate any resource in the Universe (brain into China Syndrome) well, on the Global Internet's World Wide Web anyway, So what you lot out ther may want to know, is Esbens full URL its, wait for it <http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Field/5861/parafauna.html> and Esbens e-mail address is [ecoll@geocities.com](mailto:ecoll@geocities.com) (meltdown complete, dont sneeze)

Wow, after all that we still think that being com illit is the way to be, low, low phone bills and no interminable trawling through loadsa dross about sodding spurtkites.

Still for all that, cheers Dan, many thanks, Dans e-mail by the way is as follows [ecoll@geocities.com](mailto:ecoll@geocities.com).

## TWO HUNDRED FEET ? HOLY COW, JUST HOW LOW CAN YOU "crash, bang, splat, tinkle, boing, AARGH.

Dropnik Slater sends News of how Daredevil Paratroops are to test a revolutionary new Parachute from heights of less than 200ft (66M) If successful, it will transform the whole concept of Paratroop operations.

Army sources said it would give a major boost boost to behind-the -lines operations by soldiers from the SAS. Men from the Airbourne Forces Parachute Trials Team will test the new design next month over water near Toulouse, South West France.

So far the Parachute has only been tested with Dummies in Wiltshire, but as the chut appears to work, the time has come to see if it will be O.K. for Humes. Somebody has to do it. but you must admit that dropping from 200ft leaves very little room for error.

# TOT'S SOS AS TED FLIES OFF

**TEARFUL** tot Arthur Brooker yesterday pleaded for his teddy to come home - after sending him aloft tied to six balloons.

Arthur, five, was celebrating his brother Oscar's second birthday at a teddy bear's picnic near Bristol. But he decided to experiment with his teddy Brickstone after watching hot air balloons at a nearby display. He tied six helium-filled party balloons to his favourite toy - and burst into tears as it floated into the distance.

His quick-thinking mum Lucy scribbled a note, attached it to balloons and sent it off in hot pursuit.

Architect Lucy, 36, said: "Arthur was distraught. He stood there stunned as his teddy flew high into the air."

"I rushed into the house, wrote a little note explaining the situation and sent it after Brickstone tied to four

By CHRIS PHARO

balloons. Yesterday we received a call from a man in Wales who found the note but there was no sign of the teddy.

"I've told Arthur that Brickstone is having an adventure in Wales.

"But if anyone does find him we would dearly love to have him back. We just hope someone kind has him." Arthur's bed-time pal is yellow with brown paws.



## MR DIBBLES ELECTRIC FAUNA HOIST..REVISITED...

Its now a Year or more since we first reported on Arthur Dibbles amazing Electric Fauna Hoist. It proved so popular that to our knowledge there are at least four if not more of these systems in use by different Dropniks, and although they all differ in minor detail, they closely follow the design of the original.

So how do these systems perform in the long term? Very well actually apart from one or two problems, due more to conditions than equipment

For instance there needs to be a fair amount of pull on the Kite, not too much though, otherwise there is loss of grip at the pulley.

Another thing is that the system seems to prefer cored line to uncored or flat line. why this is so is not clear other than the fact that flat line occasionally rides over itself, causing a large amount of friction.

The pulley also seems quite happy to eat knots in the line, very impressive. By happy co-incident Arthurs Pulley dimensions seem to be just right, increasing the diameter seems to increase the speed of the hoist to verging on the side of hard to handle. If you fancy having a go at an Electric hoist, contact Arthur via the Starving Horse. P.O. Box 585 SWINDON WILTS SN3 4YR (UK)

## BALLOON TED SAGA....A VERY HAPPY ENDING !

Further to the Report, left, we have since heard that young Arthur was celebrating the return of his Teddy, Brickstone, after its amazing Balloon adventure.

Actually the Ted never did get to Wales, unlike the message balloons that were sent after him. However, he did manage a flight of some Twenty miles from young Arthurs home.

Some five days after the initial launch of the Ted a Farmer, out walking his Dogs, found the soaking wet Ted, and having read of Arthurs plight, got in contact with Arthurs Family to arrange the return of the Bear.

Five year old Arthur was so pleased to get his Brickstone back, that he gave the Farmer a "thank you" packet of Maltesers.

Arthurs Mum said that they had given up all hope of ever finding the lost Ted and that as he had landed a Bear ? Mile from the coast, they were very lucky he was'nt washed out to Sea. Maybe, the next time Arthur sends his Bear on a balloon flight, he should equip him with a life preserver.

# Don't look down!



**BRAVE:** Ted Bear prepares for the plunge, assisted by Keith Burnett and Nicky Tolworthy

**WHAT goes down must come up, as this bungee jumping Teddy demonstrated as he helped to raise funds for Chailey Heritage at the Country Living Show at the South of England Showground at Ardingly last weekend.**

poor little sod is blindfolded, we do not like that, no way pedro. blindfold says, hot travel tip avoid black eye, be polite to crew.....



CHICAGO, Aug. 2 — Few people at Children's Memorial Hospital knew her name. She was simply "The Teddy Bear Lady," the sweet old woman who brought stuffed animals to sick children and vowed to leave a "special gift" to the hospital someday.

The woman, Gladys Holm, who died last year at age 86, was a retired secretary who never earned more than \$15,000 a year, never married and lived alone in a tiny apartment in suburban Evanston.

But she was more than just sweet. A tall woman with a wickedly delicious sense of style, she favored vivid red suits and wore big rings, drank scotch at the dinner table, weaved outrageous tales and skewered corrupt politicians.

And in her will, she left \$18 million to Children's Memorial Hospital, the largest single donation in the institution's 115-year history, surpassing the \$10 million gift from Ray Kroc, who built the McDonald's chain.

Miss Holm had been buying stocks for a long, long time.

"When her attorney called to tell me the amount," said Jan Jennings, the president of the hospital, "I asked him to repeat it, since I was certain I had misheard."

Nearly a half-century ago, Children's Hospital had saved the life of a little girl in a family very dear to Miss Holm. She had watched the little girl's parents go through the agony of a sick child, Mr. Jennings said, and had witnessed the triumph of new medical technologies.

Her lawyer, Dale Park, sometimes accompanied her on her teddy bear trips to the hospital, and they saw some almost unbearably sad situations. Miss Holm was always profoundly shaken.

"We would leave the hospital," he said, "and neither one of us could talk."

Seven years ago, friends got a hint that Miss Holm might have a little money socked away when she decided to throw herself a lavish party for her 80th birthday and had distant relatives flown in from Norway.

She had been weakened by osteoarthritis for many years. And at the end of her party, she fell and broke her leg. She was bedridden for the rest of her life.

While Miss Holm lived in a modest apartment on Central Avenue in Evanston, she owned a king-size red Cadillac.

In her will, she left the car to a woman who had cared for her in recent years, on three conditions. First, the car must be perfectly restored, at Miss Holm's expense. Second, the Cadillac must follow the hearse during her funeral. Third, the big red car must make one final trip around the block where she lived in Evanston, as a farewell.

Because Miss Holm had no immediate family and had outlived most of her friends, her funeral was sparsely attended. Only 25 or 30 people came to pay respects. There were not enough men to carry the casket, so a graveyard worker was asked to help.

After the burial, the church pastor told those in attendance that Miss Holm had made arrangements with a restaurant across from the cemetery. She had picked out a menu and left money to pay for lunch for everybody.

The pastor delivered her final request: "She asks that you talk about the good times."

The hospital held a memorial service on Wednesday to honor Miss Holm. A teddy bear was placed on every seat.

**TO STUFF OR NOT TO STUFF, YOO WOT?**

Once again the perennial question has arise, do we stuff, or not stuff those Jolly old Rags?

There really is no argument, a stuffed rag is everything, in terms of not only looks, but the sheer excitement of will the Bloody Thing Open or not. So you know where we stand on the subject.

However, Bombing Parafauna from Kites is all about freedom. Freedom to do what you like, how you like.

Besides if Dropniks are doing a drop for Kids at a fest, with a view to raising a couple of bob for charity, then its nigh on impossible for them to operate with stuffed Rag.

Anybody who has ever watched or been involved in one of these drops knows that the sheer diversity of the Fauna proffered for a descent totally precludes the use of a jolly old stuffed rag.

So there in a nutshell, you have it do what you like as regards Parachuting Fauna from Kites, you know it makes sense.



THANKYOU's Carolyn & Jerry Swift..... Tony Slater, Dan Weinreb, Janet Poulter Ann & Mick Heanes, and all you other crazy sods out there, cheers.....

**WE WERE SINGING IN THE RAIN, JUST SINGING IN THE RAIN.....**

As the liquid sunshine gurgles down the drains once again we come to the end of another season of Parachuting Maymen.

Not too sure if any member is suffering with damp rot of the fur, but this season sure has been weird in terms of weather. Have there been so many fests where the weather has had such a large influence an the proceedings?

O.K, Swindon was extreme, but what about all those windless days, most peculiar. Still, not to worry, the coming official Winter Kip will soon be over, and we cando it all over again. Till then, as usual. All contributions to THE TEDDYTORIAL, C/O

THE B.O.F. 48 LAUREL LANE, WEST DRAYTON MIDDX UB7.7TY. UNITED KINGDOM.....



# 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:  
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