

The Kiteflier

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Issue 79 - April 1999

20th Anniversary 1979 - 1999



Newsletter
of
The Kite Society of Great Britain



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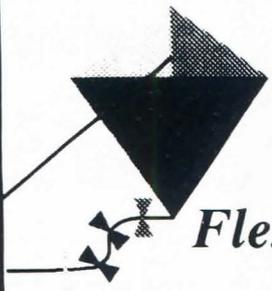
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Colchester
Essex CO6 4AY

Tel/Fax: 01206 271489
email: kite_society@compuserve.com
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite_society



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EDITORIAL

Dear Reader

Enclosed with this issue of the magazine is the 1999 Kite Society Handbook. We hope that you will support the kite trade who have entries this year. We sent out 170 questionnaires and approximately 80 returned. Some of the non-returns were probably due to closures but many of the others - well! you tell us!

When you consider that entries are free, it takes a few minutes to fill in and requires an envelope and 20p at the most it makes you wonder why we bother!

We would especially like to thank Woolmer Forest Composites, Kites & More and Carousel Kites for their support.

1999 Convention. The original intention was to hold the convention with the Brighton Kite Festival in July. However, due to a series of miscommunications, rooms being booked and slow responses we have decided that time is against us. Hopefully we will hold a convention in 2000.

Articles Please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Gill and Jon Bloom

Front Cover Photo

Peter Dolphin and his award winning Moon Kite. Design based on Andre Cassagne kites. Peter will once again be in Weymouth in May.
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.

Kiting in Hawaii

I'm still suffering from jet lag after a fortnight in Hawaii where I managed a couple of days flying kites. I thought that I'd pass on my reactions in case anyone else is interested in going.

First of all, getting there is not easy. Their time zone is 11 hours behind us and that represents a lot of sitting in airline seats. It takes 10 hours from New York and the return journey to the UK involved 2 overnight flights. I'm also finding that after 6 days, coming home has resulted in more jet lag than I've ever experienced before - although that could be Anno Domini.

Before travelling, I had read in a guide book about a Kite Festival held in Waikiki on the first weekend in March and I had trawled the Internet for more information. What a wonderful way to waste time the www is. Looking under Kites Hawaii produced a couple of references to the Festival in 1994, a manufacturer's site and a flier on another Island had listed his kites. Richard Marsh of Trade Winds in Reading gave me a couple of telephone numbers on Oahu who could not help either, so I had to go on hope only.

Oahu is the middle island of the group and is the best known because Pearl Harbour, Honolulu and Waikiki are all on that island. It is also surprisingly expensive (a single banana costs over 55c, an orange 80c and a box of Raisin Bran \$5!). Everything on the island including fuel is imported and prices are hiked up so be warned.

The free tourist magazine for Oahu gave a puff for the Festival in Kapiolani Park, Waikiki, so I was pleased that I had guessed right; and when I got to the site, the field was being set out. However, the festival had collapsed a couple of years earlier for lack of sponsorship. Robert Loera, who lives on Maui, another island, and runs Kite Fantasy in Honolulu was keeping the tradition alive and with the help of members of the local kite club was flying as many kites as he could muster. He also had several kites for visiting youngsters to fly.

The organisers had had a run of bad luck over previous successive years; first - high winds, second - no wind and third - rain: doesn't that sound familiar! Robert told me impressive statistics of foreign competitors and visitors and T shirt sales during the Festivals. They must have been fantastic shows and while there several people came up and asked him about the Festival. They had been in Honolulu in previous years and raved about the old days and the competitive international meet.

Meanwhile the club were putting on a very good show of their own. The weather was not too kind. Being in the middle of the Pacific the Hawaiian Islands generally receive steady North East trade winds which are ideal for kite flying, although they can vary. On Saturday - we had the Trades and showers and on Sunday, the wind changed to a Kona which is a westerly, but today it was very faint.

On both days, Bill Darroch from Canada was one of the first there to help set up and so was Darcy Kung. Ken Lynn demonstrated that it didn't matter whether there was wind or not, his Jester was the kite for the occasion. He said he had been a sales agent for the firm and he had lost none of his skill. To see him flip from tip stands to axels and back again all within the height of the kite took my breath away. Mike Sawyer and his friend Larry Chung were practicing pairs flying for the first time in 6 weeks they said, although their rapport suggested that they must have been practising for years and Kitemaster Al Chong passed among the crowd offering assistance where required.

The other Kite Shop in Oahu - High Performance Kites is in the largest shopping Mall, the Ala Moana, but although they had a very large stock, when I visited their only assistant was a juggler and could offer no advice which was disappointing because I had not brought a kite - intending to buy one. However, the Kite Club made me very welcome and I had several opportunities to fly the members' kites.

British members will be pleased to learn that on the Sunday morning in very light air, the most successful kite had been made by Dan Leigh and I was very impressed by the height achieved, especially as the line was about 150 lb.

I wish Robert Loera, Kite Fantasy and the flyers of Kapiolani Park every success and hope that they can soon find sponsors and restore what seemed to have been a wonderful world championship in past years.

D E Twivey

Bits & Pieces

Fighter News

Manja International Meeting. The 5th annual meeting is being held in Dusseldorf - 23rd - 25th April. As last years a crowd of us are going to this meeting. We are leaving on the Friday via Le Shuttle and then driving to the middle of Dusseldorf which should take 3 - 4 hours. Accommodation and meals are being arranged through the Manja Club at very reasonable prices, so if anybody is interested please contact Mac Fighters on 01705 591171.

Weymouth 1999 Fighter Kite Club News.

The time has arrived again - Weymouth Beach Kite Festival. The fighter kite club will be there and would like as many of you to come along and fly in the arena with us. Competitions are going to be organised to take place throughout the year so come and find out more. See you there - Mac.

Swindon International Kite Festival. We hope to see as many people at Swindon on May 8th & 9th as we hope to hold a series of fighting competitions over the weekend. Come along and test your skills.

Lynne Jackson

DrachenMagazin

The well known and prize winning German kite magazine 'Drachen Magazin' does not exist anymore. DrahenMagazin has merged with the other German kite magazine 'Sport and Design Drahen'. Sad to see that there is not enough room for both. In the past the Drachen Magazin was available by subscription from Kites & More. Anyone interested in the 'Sport and Design Drahen' magazine can contact Kites & More for details.

Kite & More, 18 Water Lane, Threekingham, Sleaford, Lins NG34 0BE. Tel/Fax: 01529 241080. Email kitesmore@purplenet.co.uk

Second Great Miniature Kite Contest.

Organised by the Drachen Foundation, USA this competition is to be held in conjunction with Seattle's International children's Festival in May. The focus of the competition is to crown a new winner in the World's Smallest kite category, but this year will also give awards for beauty, fly-ability and craftsmanship.

The rules are fairly obvious - the main ones being that the kites must have been made by the entrant and the kite must maintain a minimum 15-degree positive angle of flight. Flying instructions must be sent.

Entries should be sent to The Drachen Foundation, 1629 Queen Anne Ave North #104, Seattle WA 98109 USA. Deadline for receipt of entries is 1st May and entries must be packaged to survive both mailing and normal handling. All kite submissions become the property of The Drachen Foundation.

Chalkies

Kite clothing

Contact Keith White
 3 Frederick Court
 Highgate Rd, Walsall
 West Mids WS1 3JN
 Tel/Fax 01922 724796
 Mobile 0777 5643746

Range of clothing designed for kite flying and general outdoor pursuits:-
 Made from specially treated Ripstop nylon, Fully Reversible, Windproof, Showerproof, Available in sizes:- Child/Adult

Ripstop Nylon
 First and Second Quality
 Available a wide range of colours.
 Balloon Fabric, P.u Nylon in 2 & 4 ounce, Cordura Nylon (ideal for kite bags etc.), Bulk order discount available.

Bonded nylon thread in various strengths, Velcro, Nylon webbing 38mm to 50mm width, Bungee elastic 1mm to 6mm DIA , Braided cord 4-5mm DIA, Cord locks, And much more
 New Products Available Soon:- Kite Bags, Holdalls and Line Wallets
Full details of above products on request.

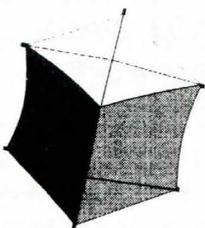
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Very easy to fly. With 60 mtr (200ft) of flying line.

£10.99 Wingspan approx. 145cm (57 inches)



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£17.50 (excluding line)

97 cm (38 inch) Wide



Ball Of Fire

Weight 175grms
 Wingspan 156cm
 4 Standoffs
 Speedy Tricks
 £35.00



Dancer

2 Standoffs
 Weight 225grms
 Wingspan 218cm
 Tricks
 £45.00



BOXER

4 Standoffs
 Weight 255grms
 Wingspan 221cm
 Tricks & tracks well
 Just needs the music to fly to. Plenty of feel to play with

£80.00



Mach2 Airfilled Foil Stunt Kite

Two colours and high speed
 Recommend 75lb X 75ft Line
 140cm span 65cm deep £20.00

SABREFOIL Airfilled Foil Stunt Kite

Well mannered, Self filling, totally soft kite with a wide wind range. Made in three or five colours
 Recommend 150lb X 100ft line
 190cm span 65cm deep £40.00

BBV Airfilled Foil Power Kite

Very wide wind range, easy to fly. High power in strong winds. BBV is a totally soft Kite with a simple bridle for less tangles.
 Available with 3 colours
 Recommend 300lb X 150ft line
 300cm span 95cm deep £70.00

All kites are hot cut and hand made in ripstop nylon.
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Gypsy Lane
Willenhall
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WV13 2HA
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Fax:-0121-609-7001
email:-fsk@enta.net

From Russia with ?

From Russia with ? Longing? Hope? Envy? Desperation? We all know how to complete the above title, but I have left it up to you, the reader to choose the appropriate ending after you have read this article.

My tale begins about three and a half years ago when I received a letter from a total stranger, written in English, it was from a man in central Russia, in the Urals, living in a small town called Polevskoy, a few miles from the city of Ekaterinburg, in Sverdlosk province. He was requesting any information at all about kites and kite making, he explained that he had always had a yearning to make and fly kites and in a characteristic Russian way expressed his affinity with the sky and the sense of freedom and uplifting of the spirit that might be associated with this hobby. Like many of you, this "spiritual" dimension of kiting resonated with me and I immediately felt drawn into helping this person achieve his ambitions.

To start at the beginning! It appears that until Perestroika, ordinary Russians had not been able to listen to the BBC World Service on the radio. Alexander, had managed to tune into the service and heard a programme about leisure activities and there was a section on kiting. He was so taken by the content of the programme that he decided to write to the BBC requesting more information. They sent him a copy of "Kiteflier" the magazine of the Kite Society of Great Britain, and in that issue there was a list of kite clubs in the UK with contact addresses etc. Alexander looked down the list and for some reason chose me to get in touch with. The BBC also sent him a small kite. I have to say to you, that this initial contact came as a complete surprise to me, for feel that I am a relatively low key person in the kiting fraternity who was then, secretary of North East Kite Fliers, UK. I also want to say, that as a result of this first letter, a privileged and fulfilling friendship has developed for my wife Eileen and myself, the friendship has moved out in increasing waves to include several other people inside and outside of kiting.

I replied to the first letter and sent 2 books on kite making also magazines such as Kitelines and Kiteflier and copies of various club Newsletters. When the reply to this first communication came it was written in Russian and naturally completely unintelligible to me, it transpired that Alexander's first letter had been written by a school teacher friend. I now had to find a translator if this correspondence was to continue. I visited our local library and went through their list of translators, from the list I picked a name at random and contacted her, she was fascinated by the reason for me needing a translator and agreed to undertake the task. This random choice has also led to a deep friendship, that has given the translator a new dimension in her life and re-kindled her love of all things Russian.

To move my story on quickly, I have been teaching Alexander (now known to me as Sasha) to make kites by correspondence, my usual method has been to make up a kite, cut out the pieces for a second identical kite, send all the materials and instructions and wait for feed-back. Sasha has now become a competent kite maker and flyer. The kites have all been "soft kites" because of the problems of sending spars etc, so several types of para-foils have been made including a 2 line stunting version, also a Martin Lester Top Half Man and a pair of legs. I have sent small children's stunt kites to them so they have some knowledge of steerable kites. I have sent videos of kite events such as Fano, Dieppe and Washington UK, that have made Sasha even more obsessed with the thoughts of becoming a skilled kite maker and flyer. In his home area there is not even the simplest of kite making materials such as plastic sheet, and adhesive tape, he cannot obtain bamboo or cane for spars, and dowel is unheard of let alone carbon fibre or kite fittings, and all the range of flying lines we all just take for granted. He has a deep longing to have a collection of kites that he can take around his area to display and fly in the hope that kiting will develop and grow in Russia. He has seen photographs of Malcolm Goodman's kite collection and video of the European Air Gallery kites in flight. He has become so desperate that in his most recent letter to us he has (in his opinion) had to resort to begging for help to set up a kite collection.

Eileen and I are bringing Sasha, his wife Nina and their two sons over to the UK this summer for a month as our guests, from June 28th to July 28th, we will be at Sunderland International Kite Festival with them at Washington UK in the hope that this unique experience will inspire them and give them hope for the future and help them to believe that in time, they will have a better life. If any of you reading this piece, feel an affinity or empathy with Sasha and would like to help him achieve his dream, perhaps you might feel moved to send him any kite related items, from kites, to materials, lines, fittings, books, magazines etc, then this very proud and independent man would be forever grateful to you.

I close this piece by giving you direct quotes from Sasha's last letter. They typify the dreams and aspirations of many kite flyers and should help you to understand a tiny fraction of how desperate the way life is in Russia at present. "if anyone is willing to help me with kites, I can promise them that their kites will fly in our sky and that many Russian people will hear of them. I ask forgiveness for begging in this way, but in the current situation, I can see no alternative,". He goes on to say "the hopelessness of our situation has brought about a deep depression, in my own humble way I would like to help my people to look heaven-wards and enjoy the bright colours of kites in the sky, and, if only for a moment to be taken away from the grim reality of our lives". If you want more information or would like to help in some way them simply contact me in whatever way you choose. Harry Peart, 92 Beaconsfield Street, Darlington, County Durham, DL3 6ER. UK:Telephone: 01325 284077; E-mail: harry@fellman.freeserve.co.uk

Harry Peart

Trade News

Kites & More have changed their email address. They can now be reached at: kitesmore@purplenet.co.uk.

Over the winter months they have been busy creating an internet kite site for you which can be viewed at: www.kitesmore.purplenet.co.uk. PC users not connected to the Internet can receive information and kite pictures by sending a 3.5" or ZIP disc and SAE.

Traditional price lists are also available. A variety of new and unusual kites (8ft Quad Bat etc), new wind toys (elephant, dog, witch etc), stylish anodised aluminium end caps and a few limited edition ZIPPO Kite lighters with kite motifs (Buggy, Rev. etc) are available for the 99 kite season.

More information is available on request. Please write, fax, email or call. Please see their ad in this issue for contact details.

For those who have never made it to the Fano International Kite Festival in Denmark, Kites & More have the solution. No need to pack your suitcase. Visit the 1998 event on CD-ROM. Also available again the Australian Kiting CD-ROM. Please contact Kites & More for details.

Inflight @ www.inflightkites.co.uk

The Inflight colour catalogue is now available to anyone and everyone in the world and at any time of the day or night. At our web site you will find our complete product range, sizes, colours, recommended winds speeds, lines and a list of stockists - with direct e-mail links for enquiries and orders.

The catalogue contains full details of the 1999 range of kites, including the new designs for the *Jive* and *Bebop* two line soft foils which have proved very popular over the past two years, plus the new member of the team - *Tango*.

We have added some new single line kites - *Oasis* based on the the yakko form of kite, and are now offering a small four-cell sled - named *Quartet*.

Evolving from the Vector parawings, which established a new concept in power kite design, we anticipate the new dual line power kites *Jet 2.0* and *Jet 2.8*, will become the market leaders.

Our sculptured inflatables continue to achieve world-wide success. *Le frog* is now available in two additional colours - red and blue plus the standard green and the *Gadfly* has won new popularity following glowing reviews in the German Drachenmagazin and Kitelines.

Additionally we now offer a range of sports kites manufactured by Wolkenstürmer, of Hamburg, Germany, a company well known throughout Europe for high quality and keen pricing.

Whether you are a kite enthusiast wanting more information or a retailer wishing stock our new exciting range of products contact Jim Rowlands on 01724 280307 or e-mail jim@inflightkites.co.uk

KiteShop expands! Kite flying means endless hours of pleasure and excitement, even danger... It's an asylum of fun and KiteShop welcomes you!

KiteShop, based in Cambridge and with over 15 years experience, has established itself as the premier shop for kites and kite accessories in East Anglia and one of the best in the UK. The store has doubled in size in response to the growing popularity of the sport, stocking an even wider range of kite gear from all around the world.

Several new products have made their UK debut at KiteShop, including the Peter Lynn C-QUAD,

Trade News



Speedwings, and the NPW5 from HQ Kites.

Kite surf boards, wakeboards and marine buggies for use with four line traction and power kites bring even more excitement to the water. Surfers, windsurfers and skiers can combine both sports for even more enjoyment. Even with just a kite, body surfing is fun!

KiteShop will be stocking all these in the near future as well as wetsuits for added protection against the elements.

For more power and traction fun on land, KiteShop have a mountain board and a selection of buggies from Flexifoil and Peter Lynn. If you like rollerblading or skateboarding, kites can be for you too!

As an alternative to purchasing, KiteShop offer a hire service. Currently the range includes an original Flexifoil buggy, Skytiger Hi-40, and a mountain board.

Power kiting in all its forms - like any active sport - can be hazardous. KiteShop is aware of this and encourages all pilots to take adequate safety precautions for themselves as well as everyone else nearby. After researching the alternatives available for durability, weight and freedom of movement, KiteShop can supply ice hockey protection gear from Bauer.

If you're looking for something less physically demanding, you could try the mental challenge of a trick or sport kite. KiteShop are increasing their range from across Europe and the USA, to suit all ranges of age and ability.

In co-operation and with the full support of Flexifoil International, KiteShop are offering an exclusive money-back guarantee. Buy a Flexifoil kite at KiteShop between 07/01/99 and 31/03/99, and fly it for 14 days at no risk to you. If you are not completely satisfied, bring it back undamaged, together with the original receipt, for a complete refund. This offer applies to all Flexifoil kites except the Xtro, Stranger Level 7 and Skytiger range.

Trade News

For those wishing to build their own kites, KiteShop is increasing its stock of ripstop nylon. This lightweight and extremely tough material is used in the vast majority of the kites and is available in a wide range of colours. It can be cut and stitched in the same way as any other fabric for both the construction and repair of kites.

If you wish to build a kite that can also be hung for decoration in the home, KiteShop offers the range of Squadron Kites. These are surprisingly robust wood and silkspan models of early aircraft, complete with detailed instructions, ideal for anyone with any model-building experience.

As well as kites and kite accessories, KiteShop also stock real flying model rockets. Within seconds they can climb over a kilometre before gently drifting back down to Earth by parachute. KiteShop can provide kits and 'ready-to-launch' packages, as well as the engines and other items essential for many successful launches.

The KiteShop will also give members of The Kite Society a discount of 5% for kites and 10% on lines, spares and building materials.

Wolfgang Dahmer & Ian Richardson, KiteShop (Cambridge) Limited, 1C/D Arbury Road, Cambridge CB1 2GB. Telephone: 01223 502211 (shop) / 07977 411606 (Wolfgang) / 0976 626367 (Ian)

Opening Hours Monday - Friday: 9am - 8pm Saturday: 9am - 6pm

Natural Heights Kite retreats. The kite retreats in Portugal are on June 24th, August 5th, September 20th and October 7th. Enquirers should phone Karen Murray on 0181 682 8990 for a brochure and information. There is a 10% discount for Kite Society members off the course fee.

You can also have a look at the web site www.naturalheights.co.uk/km/

Kites "N" Stuff: Just starting Kites N Stuff are to supply kites and kite accessories to the North of Scotland. They intend to sell kites, material, spars, books, lines, windsocks etc etc. For more information contact Becky and Ross, Kites "N" Stuff, Backhill of Overhill, Belhelvie, Aberdeen AB23 8UH.

EMKAY. The climax line system for kites, which is probably the most complete line system for kites has been extended. Climax HIGHLIGHT, is a new flying line for zero, low wind and indoor sport kites as well as single line thermal hunters.

Available in 40lbs breaking strength this line is extremely light (and not expensive). PROTEC, the successful sport line (extreme slippery, extreme tough, extreme control) is now available in a variety of breaking strength. We have been told that this line even allows teams to perform an axle immediately after a wrap.

Due to popular demand the Multi-Winder with built in tools (introduced last year) is now available in an additional larger size. NASA Wing power kites are available in '99 with new appliquéd graphic designs. More information and line samples are available from EMKAY at: EMKAY - 18 Water Lane - Threekingham - Lincs. NG34 0BE - Tel+Fax 01529 241080 - eMail: emkayint@aol.com. Trade enquiries welcome.

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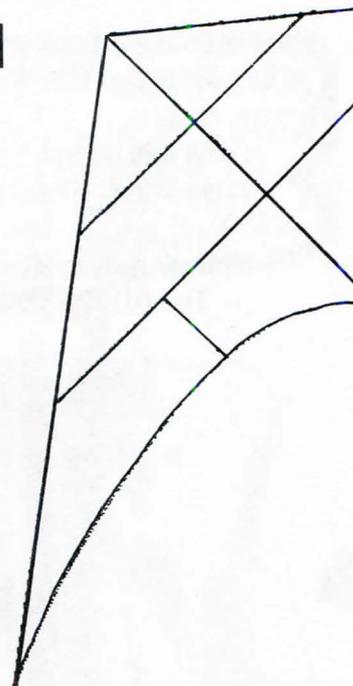
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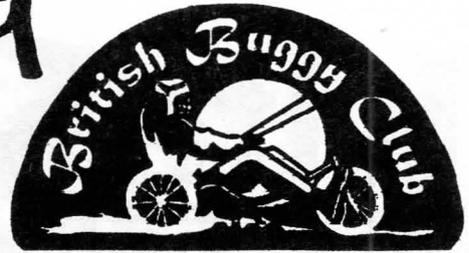
kites

dot

DESIGNS



BERROW '99



18th - 25th September 1999

The International Kite and Buggy Week held at Berrow Sands, England during September proved yet again during '98 the need for this premier Kite Buggy event. Over 220 registered buggiers braved the elements during Berrow '98, how many this year ???

Be part of it!!!!

Ramp Jumping, Speed Trials, Two and Four line racing, Extreme buggy trick and antics, No wind competitions, Evening entertainment, Safari's, Mountainboarding, Heated marquee with food and licensed bar, Off-site entertainment, Trophy Awards, Slow-bo Award and live Bands.

Sponsors Flexifoil, Sky Kites, Kites Up, Sandz Quads and of course the brilliant Chris Croft Commentary, Miles of space, New Kites, and probably the largest collection of buggy variants you are likely to see. Great people all in a relaxed atmosphere make Berrow '99 an event not to miss... With the speed record broken during berrow '98, speed trails are expected to be a major part of 'Power Break' this year.

Can anyone beat it this year.?

Berrow'99 organisers are keen to hear about any Kite, Buggy or water events that could be included for this year's event. If your idea sounds extreme,unusual or unreal it is probably just what everyone is looking for!

Dates to book are:

Saturday 18th Sept to Saturday 25th Sept 1999 inclusive.

As with all previous years the event will be totally **FREE of any entry / race fees** to all BBC insured members. The only cost is food, drink, accomodation and more drink.

Book early to stay close to the action. Booking enquires start at: Embelle Holiday Park.
Tel : 01278 751346

British Buggy Club
PO Box 4015 Smethwick West Midlands B67 7HJ
Email Mell@buggy.demon.co.uk.

Mike Shaw 0468 765887 or 01256 461960 Embelle Holiday Park 01278 751346 (please mention kite week)

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 3500 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 | £10.00 |
| Family - all members in the same household. | £11.00 |
| O.A.P. | £8.00 |
| O.A.P. - Family (Husband & Wife) | £9.00 |
| Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail | £12.00 |
| Overseas - Airmail | £16.00 |

Name _____ Family Members _____
Address _____

Post Code _____ Telephone _____

* This is a RENEWAL/NEW MEMBERSHIP. For renewals please give old membership number.
* New members please state which issue your membership should start with - JANUARY/APRIL/JULY/OCTOBER.

Please send this form with payment to:
The Kite Society, P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY

DISCOVER THE MAGIC *of the* EAST RIDING *Garden & Kite* FESTIVAL

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10am - 6pm
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Follow Signs 1/4 Mile
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SUNDAY 2 & MONDAY 3 MAY

1998
FESTIVAL HOTLINE: 01423 867144

Kite Flyers and Families

Caravan & Camping available - small overnight charge.

Free to Festival

Apply for fliers Info Pack

Malcolm 01423 867144

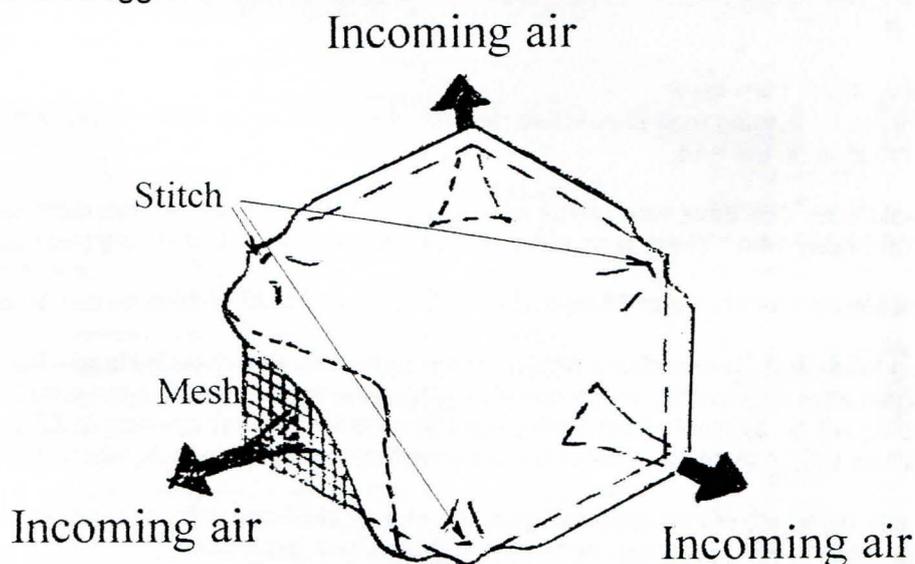
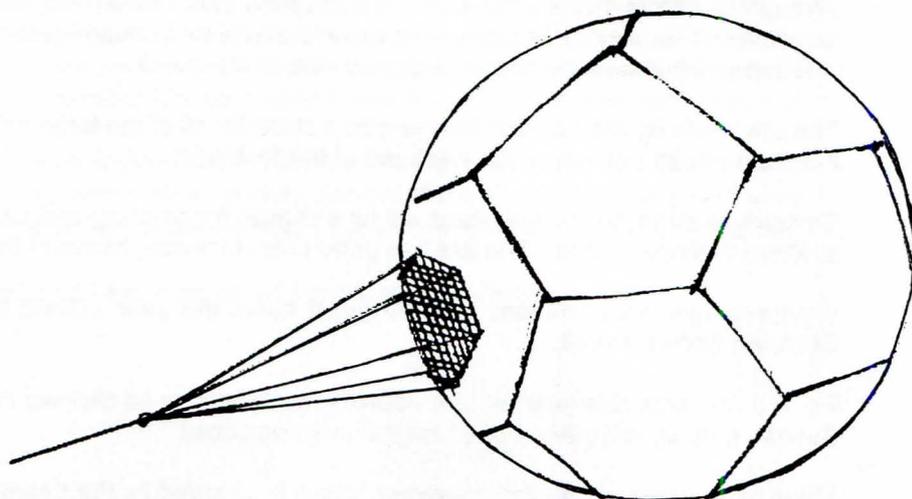
Organised by Jean Welch, Knaresborough, N Yorks. 01423 867114

Balls !!

As an option to the traditional giant football design comprising 20 hexagons and 12 pentagons we have found that 12 equal pentagons are all that is needed to create a sphere allowing not only simplified construction but greater option for colour ways.

Ours comprises a pentagon with 844mm sides (54" across the points being our available balloon ripstop width).

A very efficient flap valve can be made by stitching down alternate points of an oversize hexagon (1" bigger all round) to the back of a hexagon mesh (obtainable from caravan accessory suppliers) about 18" across for a large ball is sufficient, which is incorporated into one of the pentagons. This not only allows good inflation without the need for a tunnel, but effectively seals the air during lulls in the wind - the only disadvantage is deflation which despite incorporating a full length zip in one of the pentagon sides is still quite a struggle.



Sketch of valve viewed from inside.

150lb polyflite is stitched around the perimeter of the hexagon to provide sound anchorage for the primary bridles approximately 1m long - a secondary larger "rope" with a large swivel ensures security when staked.

Any questions ring **Ron and Sue Martin** on 01283 545060

Event News

Kite Festival and Funday, Gosfield Airfield, Halstead, Essex - 18th April

Located off the A1017 Haverhill to Braintree Road. Runs from 10:00am until 5:30pm. Entrance is £1 per adult and children free. Side shows, go-carts and refreshments on site. Teddy bear dropping, kite workshops and kite displays. Contact Dave Meadows at Kites at Jems for more information. Tel: 01245 267765.

Swindon Kite Festival - 8th & 9th May

This will be the ninth year of the festival and the fifth year for Wroughton! For those of you who haven't been to Wroughton before this is a massive disused World War Two airfield with acres of space for all aspects of kite flying plus miles of runway for buggying - however if you want to buggy you must be a member of the British Buggy Club who cover the insurance for the buggying side of the event.

The site is run by the Science Museum as a store for all of the large exhibits that cannot be shown in London. The museum will be open over the weekend of the festival!

Camping is available on site, there will be a charge for camping and caravans, you do not need to book in advance as there is ample space. The site has good toilet facilities, however there are no showers.

We have sent out invitations to three guest flyers this year. Geoff Crumplin, Tim Wilcox and, from Germany, Christian Baden Powell.

For the first time this year we are applying for a licence so that we can have a bar on site during Saturday and Sunday plus we will have it open for the evening social.

There is an entrance fee for this event, which is charged by the Science Museum. The entire fee goes to them!, however on production of a valid kite club membership card the price is halved for kite fliers and free to members of the White Horse Kite Fliers.

For further information contact David Robinson on 01793 824208 or email darjer@mcm.com or write to PO Box 585, Swindon SN3 4YR.

Suffolk Kite Festival - 15th & 16th May

The Suffolk Kite Flyers will be holding their annual kite festival - same venue as 1998 - Rougham Airfield, situated just east of Bury St Edmunds on the A14.

The festival will be held over two days with plenty of space to fly. There will be overnight camping facilities available from 16:00 on Friday 14th. There is no entry fee and we look forward to seeing you there.

For further information please contact Peter Phillips, Events Organiser 01473 464095.

Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend, Tewkesbury School Playing Fields, Ashchurch Road - May 29th - 31st

This is going ahead again after a successful event last year. This year the event will be run over Saturday, Sunday and Monday but camping will be available from Friday night through to Tuesday morning at £2.50 per night.

Shower and toilet facilities will be available. Saturday campers/fliers will be able to fly where and when they like.

Sunday and Monday kite flying etc will be open to the public and all kitefliers. Kite and various other trade stalls will be onsite including catering etc. Hopefully, again, there should be a bar-b-cue.

High Jinx will again run the Indian Fighter competition over two days and maybe Tony can help us again! Please!

There will also be indoor kite flying and we hope that some indoor kite flying records can be broken. All kitefliers are welcome, as many as possible please. This event is for you. This event is being backed by High Jinx of Gloucester.

Site map and information can be obtained from Neville Wing, 9 Howard Road, Tewkesbury, Glos GL20 8QX. Tel: 01684 295132.

Event News

Margam Park, Port Talbot, South Wales. - 12th & 13th June

The festival will be run as in previous years. Just as easy going but hopefully with less rain this year. Passes for kite fliers are strictly limited. These allow free entry into the park and flying area. There will be a small charge for camping. The park entrance is approximately 300 metres from junction 38 of the M4 between Bridgend and Port Talbot.

For further details and pass applications please send a stamped addressed envelope to Fred Apperley, 9 The Meadows, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire B50 4AP. Tel 01789 778424.

Third Peterborough Kite Festival, Ferry Meadows, Nene Park - 13th June

This year's Peterborough Kite Festival is once again being organised by the Great Ouse Kite Flyers. It is intended to follow the same format as in previous years. There will be an informal fly-in from midday on Saturday 12th June and a full programme of arena events on Sunday 13th June from 10am to 5pm.

The festival is being held on the large spaces of the Ferry Meadows Country Park, part of the Nene Park complex to the west of Peterborough. There will be four arenas, for single line, stunt kites, and children as well as the main exhibition arena. There is also plenty more free flying space.

The programme is being finalised but it is intended to continue with some of the events which have previously proved popular. There will be another mass fly of red deltas, fun fighting with rokkakus and pocket sleds and a mass fly of kites with a "Nature" theme, as well as displays of stunt kites and indian fighter kites. Brian Cattle has promised to demonstrate multiple kite flying. The Beccles Bunch will show off some of their collection of kites made by internationally famous kite makers. Come along and add your kites to the sky.

There is a camp site adjacent to the park and hotels reasonably close, which will offer discounts to festival visitors. Admission to the festival is free but the usual £2 car parking charge will apply.

For further information contact Peter West, 27 Milton Way, Peterborough PE3 9AP. Tel 01733 269687, Email: peter.w@orton/wistow.peterb.sch.uk. Or visit the web site at www.alec43.freemove.co.uk.

Teston Bridge, Maidstone, Kent - June 19th & 20th (also August 7th & 8th)

Update. In the last issue we reported that there may be a problem with the August event with the toilet facilities due to be part of a rebuilding project. We are glad to report that we have had a call from Steve Hull, the site ranger, and the works have been postponed until September. So it will be business as usual for the August event. See you there - **Pat and Ron Dell**

Capstone Park, Chatham Kent.

As things stand at the moment there will be no Capstone Park festival this year as the park is no longer funding the event - after 10 years. The parks finance committee has decided to divert the funds elsewhere in the park's event calendar therefore dropping the kite event. **Pat & Ron Dell**

Fairbourne Kite Festival - 19th & 20th June

As the only friendly festival with built in trains, we invite you to join us and enjoy: free travel on the trains, our superb scenery, our fantastic Buffet on Saturday evening, Tony Slater on PA and, new for this year, some occasional displays performed by over modest Midlands, traders. Witness the start of "The Three Peaks Race" hopefully without the waterspout and exploding trade tent that enlivened the '98 event.

Write ring or fax Big Dave @ 9 James Road, Kidderminster, Worcs DY10 2TR. Tel/fax: 01562 66102 soon to be included on the list for your goodies pack.

Shrewsbury Kite Festival - June 26th & 27th

We would first of all like to thank everyone who turned up at the 15th festival in 1998. We were blessed with a wide range of winds and sunshine over the weekend. There were many kitefliers and boomerang enthusiasts with camping all round the edge of the flying site and the pavilion was open all weekend for light meals and drinks. The only problem was that Paul lost his voice the day before and had to croak his way through any competitions and commentary (not really a problem I hear you cry).

Event News

This years Festival will take place at the same site and on the same weekend as last year. The dates are 26th and 27th of June. We are trying to arrange a gathering at a local hostelry on the Saturday evening. We look forward to seeing everyone that was there last year and invite all flyers who haven't been before to come and enjoy a very relaxed festival. Camping is again available on site at a charge of £3.00 per tent per night. For more information contact Paul or Helene at Sky Bums on 01743 244 677.

Barmouth Festival News

Unfortunately the Barmouth festival will not take place this year. Last years festival took place as always on the beach by the entrance to the harbour. It was well attended and the weather was very sunny if the wind was a little light. The only thing that soured the event was the attendance of a certain trader supposedly from Switzerland. He had contacted us to see if he could attend. We said no and told him the festival would not sustain two traders. We were later told by the Regatta organiser that he had been approached and that he too had turned him down. When we arrived at the festival we found that he had gone behind everyone's backs and had obtained permission from the council who have nothing to do with the festival.

Over the weekend we continued to run the festival knowing that we were losing money to someone who was putting nothing in to the festival whatsoever. Due to differences between those involved the council have now forfeited the privilege of the Regatta and also the kite festival. We would like to thank all kitefliers for their support over the years and to warn other festival organisers about the underhanded tactics used by the trader in question. On a lighter note John Southerton is arranging a flyin on Barmouth beach for those who wish to join him.

Sunderland International Kite Festival - 3rd & 4th July

Northern Area playing fields, District 12, Washington, Tyne & Wear.

The Festival is now recognised as one of the major Kite Events in Europe attracting specialist kitemakers from throughout the World. The Festival also features a variety of music, dance, visual arts etc and is well known for its hospitality and friendliness. The event attracts over 70,000 spectators each year!

We will host some of the worlds best Kite Makers from Great Britain, China, Japan, USA, Germany, Italy, France, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden and Russia.

The Festival is a wonderful opportunity to see kites you have only seen and read about in magazines and to meet their makers - plus great displays and challenges of single, two and multi line kites, the European Air Gallery, the latest creations in soft kites, many having been made specially for the Festival.

Besides seeing beautiful kites from all over the world we will have as usual a fabulous entertainment programme throughout the two days including - International street theatre and music – huge marquees with arts and crafts, visual arts, International cuisine, kite trade stands, a children's village and lots more.

We are promoting "The Year of Reading" this year so if you have any kites that may be appropriate please bring them.

On Saturday evening you are invited to a buffet with entertainment (on site) 7:00pm to 10:30pm — no liquor license - so bring your own!

We have limited free accommodation bed and breakfast at the Sunderland Polytechnic Forge, (student residence) single rooms only and 100 free on site camping / parking places that will be issued on first come first served basis. Public car parking is £1 per car.

For maps, car/camping passes, accommodation at the Poly and other enquiries, please send a large S.A.E. with your car details - make and registration number to :-

Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Rd, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. Telephone / fax - (01642 550827) please not after 10:00pm.

email - Malcolm.Goodman@virgin.net. Festival web site – www.newsnorth.com/kitefest

Event News

Wroughton Airfield, Swindon. - July 3rd & 4th

This is an Action-packed Week-end, a "must" to go to!! There is Paragliding, Hangliding, With dual flights for that aerial view. Parascending, Para-motoring, and motorized Hangliding. Buggy racing will be taking place, and a kite flying area will be available.

Kite stands, Para and Handgliding stands, a Kite Workshop, Teddy Bear Dropping for the kids. The Science Museum will be open. Entrance is £6, with free camping. A Bar, food and evening entertainment is laid on.

This was a very successful event last year, and one to add to your calendar. For more details, please contact: Roy Broadley, of KITES UP on Tel 01256 812487 e-mail; roy.broadley@virgin.net

3rd Kennet Kite Festival, Henwick Sports Field, Thatcham, Berks - 17th & 18th July.

Contact Dave Tomlinson at Kreative Kites on 01635 528400 for more details. There is on-site camping with excellent facilities including hot showers and a full range of arena events planned for the whole weekend.

Bali Kite Festival, Sanur Beach, Bali - July 24,25,26

If anyone is interested in travelling to this beautiful Island and taking part in the annual kite festival call or send S.A. E to Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Rd, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. Telephone/Fax - (01642 550827) please not after 10:00pm. email - Malcolm.Goodman@virgin.net.

Herstmonceux Castle Kite Festival - July 31st & August 1st.

Battle and Villages Lions Club are holding their first kite festival at the above venue. Saturday is solely dedicated to kite flyers. Sunday to kite flyers and members of the public.

An invitation to attend is extended to all clubs and members of the Kite Society. They also hope to invite traders. This is intended to be a major part of a 'Family Fun Day' which will include kite workshops for children, a craft fair, junior fun fair, pony rides, youth orchestra etc. One aim of the event is to raise money for local, national and international charities.

A barbecue and beer tent will be there for Saturday evening. Camping facilities will be available for kite fliers and their families who wish to spend the night on site.

For more details contact Lion Keith Rikard, 13 Riders Bolt, Bexhill On Sea, East Sussex TN39 4JY.

Middle Wallop Airfield - 7th & 8th August

The festival site is on the A343 Andover to Salisbury road, Hampshire. The hours will be a 10 AM start, finishing time on the Saturday is to be confirmed, and finishing time on the Sunday will be 5 PM. There will be food and kite traders, a licensed bar, Tandem Buggy rides, Kite Workshop, Kite and Buggy Competitions, and Teddy Bear Dropping.

The Museum of Army Flying will be open, and camping will be available. With 800 Acres of space, there is plenty of room for every-one.

The finer details are now being thrashed out, so any queries, please contact Roy (Kites Up) 01256 812487 or Mike Shaw(BBC) 0468 765887.

Come along and have some fun!!

Ilkley International Kite Festival, Ilkley Moor Baht't, West Yorkshire - 14th & 15th August (PROVISIONAL)

For more details call or send S.A.E to Malcolm Goodman, 134 Thames Rd, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX. Telephone/Fax - (01642 550827) please not after 10:00pm. email - Malcolm.Goodman@virgin.net

Kruzy Kite Festival, Westward Ho! 6th - 12th September.

This event will run for the week on Westward Ho! beach. The Monday to Friday will be informal kite flying and socializing, including a kite buggy school (we have 2.5 miles of beach at our disposal so don't worry about space). Also included will be a kite surf jamboree organised in conjunction with Flexifoil Kites and Jason Furness. The high spot of which we hope will be a race to Lundy Island 15 miles offshore and back again (Jasons' idea!!). There is a pub on the island if needed.

Event News

On Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th there will be a more regular kite festival covering all aspects of kiting including buggy racing.

It is hoped that maybe people will combine a visit to the Bristol Kite Festival with a visit to Westward Ho! making the long distance travelled more worthwhile and maybe a few more friends from Europe to visit. Accommodation is cheap - starting at £5 per person last year. We are hoping to negotiate cheap ferry fares from Europe.

Finally we are looking for serious commercial sponsorship. If you can help please contact Will or Jason. For more information about the event contact Will at Kruzy Kites 01271 346033 or Jason Furness at Flexifoil 01353 723131.

Hunstanton Kite Festival - 12th September.

Held at the Smithdon High School playing fields. More details in a later issue but for further information contact Bryan Cattle, 21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 9HP or for trade stands etc contact Ron King 01485 572032.

Guernsey Kitefly 11th & 12th September

Is the Guernsey Kitefly festival the best kept kiting secret in the U.K?

Kitefly started back in 1992 when the International Spinal Research Trust were looking for a new way to raise funds to achieve their goal of finding a cure to spinal paralysis. Mini festivals were organised all over the country and a considerable amount of cash raised for the charity. Whilst the other Kitefly festivals (to my knowledge) have all ceased, the Guernsey festival has carried on and gone from strength to strength.

I was asked to help with the 1994 festival, together with my wife Rosie and son David, I'm still not sure why as at the time we had only been flying kites for a short while. The festival is always held on the Saturday after Bristol and the first year we attended the weather was appalling. It rained, the wind blew at nuclear speeds, and visitors just drove into the car park and left again without getting out of the car! I think that year we made about £100 for ISRT.

We have been fortunate in being asked to organise the festival each year from then on. There is a small team of helpers on the island led by Julia Gallienne who fund raise all year round with jumble sales and the like, their idea of a kite festival is not the same as the ones you normally see on the mainland. Julia arranges the side stalls and events whilst local kite shop, Air Exodus, run by Pete Griffin organises the display flyers.

Pete and his predecessors have done a superb job of enticing some of our best flyers of all disciplines to the festival. We have seen WHKF, Team Cascade, Dom Early, Greg Eynon, Anne Harris, Anne & Mike Heynes, Stafford Wallace, Team Punchlines and last year Sky Dance and Chris Matheson (sorry if I missed anyone else out).

The result of this standard of display is that the takings for ISRT have risen steadily, with 1997 giving £4000 and last year £6000. Part of the success has been due to the sponsorship given by local firms on the Island, in particular Creaseys, the department store, and Generalli an insurance company. One of the highlights of the festival is the novice Rokkaku battle. We have had a number of 1.2 metre Rokkakus built and hold a three round battle for local companies and flyers, most of which have never flown a kite before. Additionally there are kite games and an Individual Precision Cup for the local flyers to compete for.

The festival has been a great success and is still going strong. We are planning for this year's festival and are trying to attract some new faces for the display arena.

If you are looking for somewhere different to spend the weekend after Bristol this year, then why not try a visit to L'Eree airfield on Guernsey for Kitefly 1999. The Guernsey Tourist board have information and one day excursions from Weymouth or Portsmouth are very reasonably priced.

Doug Irvine

| Contact | Address | Telephone |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Alan Williams | Blackwater Valley Service, Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2PS | 01252 334225 Or 0976 533749 |
| Kites Up | | 01256 812487 |
| NKG | Ron Ogden, 41 Ashfield Drive, Clayton Bridge, Manchester M40 1WJ | 0161 682 9308 |
| Kruzy Kites | | 01271 346033 |
| Fred Taplin | 20 Henley Street, Alcester, Warks B49 5QY. | 01789 762350 |
| Ron Moody | | 0181 661 9652 |
| Sky Kites | 17 The Oval, Sidcup, Kent DA15 9ER | 0181 302 8203 |
| The Kite Society | P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY | 01206 271489 |
| Carole Adams | | 01280 822850 |
| White Horse Kite Fliers | P.O. Box 585, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4YR | 01793 824208 |
| Suffolk Kite Fliers | Peter Phillips | 01473 464095 |
| Kiteability | 2 Garfield Road, Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP | 0181 804 9080 |
| Al Cosgrove | 18 Loggon Road, Basingstoke RG21 3PH | 01256 421800 |
| Midlands Kite Fliers | Doug Richardson, 19 Wigsley Close, Doddington Park, Lincoln LN6 3LD | 01522 884744 |
| Peter West | 27 Milton Way, Peterborough, Cambs PE3 9AP | 01733 269687 |
| Sky Bums | 7 Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5EW | 01743 244677 |
| Michael Lowe | 44 Bellemoor Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hants SO15 7QU | 01703 770788 |
| David Ellison | | 0181 449 8609 |
| Malcolm Goodman | 134 Thames Road, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5EX | |
| Joanna Mersey | Bignor Park, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1HG | 01798 869214 |
| Ray Oakhill | 'Spindrift', 6 Hartfield Road, Saltdean, Sussex BN2 8RE | 01273 306842 |
| Neville Wing | 9 Howard Road, Tewkesbury Glos GL20 8QX | 01684 295132 |
| Joe McGarry | | 01697 366400 |
| Whaam Kites | | 01708 864074 |
| Terry Dabinett | 13 Cowen Close, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8JF | 01460 74655 |
| Tony Bradford | | 01462 459395 |
| Lawrence Rainment | 8 Hartley Way, Taunton TA1 2LJ | |
| Chris Saunders | | 01202 451195 |
| Andrew Pidgen | | 01472 323004 |
| Avril Baker | 5 Lilymead Avenue, Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BY | 0117 977 2002 |
| Bryan Cattle | 21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP | 01223 243825 |
| Kreative Kites | | 01635 528400 |
| Bath Kite Soc. | Barry Savell (barry@savell.demon.co.uk) Zoe Hancock exxzh@bath.ac.uk | |
| Neville Wing | | 01684 295132 |
| Fred Apperley | 9 The Meadows, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire B50 4AP. | 01789 778424 |

| April | |
|-------|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | Alcester & Worcester Fly-in, Worcester Countryside Park. Runs to 5th April. Fred Taplin . |
| 3 | |
| 4 | Blackheath Easter Kite Festival, London. Sky Kites . |
| 5 | Blackheath Easter Kite Festival, London. Sky Kites . |
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| 10 | |
| 11 | Old Warden Spring Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. The Kite Society . |
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| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
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| 18 | Kite Festival and Funday, Gosfield Airfield, Halstead. Kites at Jems 01245 267765 |
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| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | Stowe Gardens Kite Festival, Stowe, Bucks. Carole Adams . |
| 25 | Stowe Gardens Kite Festival, Stowe, Bucks. Carole Adams . |
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| May | |
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| 1 | |
| 2 | Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset. The Kite Society |
| 3 | Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset. The Kite Society |
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| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | Swindon International Kite Festival, Wroughton Aerodrome, Swindon. The White Horse Kite Fliers . |
| 9 | Swindon International Kite Festival, Wroughton Aerodrome, Swindon. The White Horse Kite Fliers . |
| 10 | |
| 11 | |
| 12 | |
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| 15 | 2nd Suffolk Kite Festival, Rougham Aerodrome, Suffolk. Suffolk Kite Fliers . |
| 16 | 2nd Suffolk Kite Festival, Rougham Aerodrome, Suffolk. Suffolk Kite Fliers . |
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| 29 | Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend. Neville Wing Bath Kite Festival. Bath Kite Soc. Kelburn Castel Festival of Flight, Kelburn Castle & Country Park, Ayshire. Alison Stalker 01475 568685 |
| 30 | Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend. Neville Wing Bath Kite Festival. Bath Kite Soc. Kelburn Castel Festival of Flight, Kelburn Castle & Country Park, Ayshire. Alison Stalker 01475 568685 |
| 31 | Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend. Neville Wing Bath Kite Festival. Bath Kite Soc. Kelburn Castel Festival of Flight, Kelburn Castle & Country Park, Ayshire. Alison Stalker 01475 568685 |

| June | |
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| 1 | |
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| 5 | Basingstoke Kite Festival. Al Cosgrove |
| 6 | Basingstoke Kite Festival. Al Cosgrove Ashdon Kite Festival. 01799 584339 |
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| 10 | |
| 11 | |
| 12 | Margam Park Kite Festival, Neath, Wales. Fred Apperley |
| 13 | Margam Park Kite Festival, Neath, Wales. Fred Apperley Peterborough Kite Festival, Ferry Meadows, Nene Park, Peterborough. Peter West . |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
| 17 | |
| 18 | |
| 19 | 4th Fairbourne Kite Festival, Fairbourne and Barmouth Steam Railway, Gwynedd, Wales. Big Dave 01562 66102 . Teston Bridge, Maidstone, Kent. Kiteability |
| 20 | Teston Bridge, Maidstone, Kent. Kiteability 4th Fairbourne Kite Festival, Fairbourne and Barmouth Steam Railway, Gwynedd, Wales. Big Dave 01562 66102 . |
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| 26 | Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury. Skybums Southampton Kite Festival, Lordhill Sports Ground, Southampton. Michael Lowe . East London Kite Festival, Hackney. David Ellison |
| 27 | Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury. Skybums Southampton Kite Festival, Lordhill Sports Ground, Southampton. Michael Lowe . East London Kite Festival, Hackney. David Ellison |
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| July | |
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| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | Sunderland Festival of the Air, Washington. Malcolm Goodman Wroughton Airfield Action Day, Swindon. Kites Up |
| 4 | Sunderland Festival of the Air, Washington. Malcolm Goodman Petworth Kite Festival, West Sussex. Joanna Mersey or Kiteability Wroughton Airfield Action Day, Swindon. Kites Up |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
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| 9 | |
| 10 | Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton. Ray Oakhill |
| 11 | Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton. Ray Oakhill |
| 12 | |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
| 17 | Golden Valley Kite Festival, Tewkesbury School Fields, Glos. Neville Wing . 2nd Silloth Kite Festival, Cumbria. Joe McGarry 3rd Kennett Valley Kite Festival, Henwick Sports Field, Thatcham, Berks. Kreative Kites |
| 18 | Golden Valley Kite Festival, Tewkesbury School Fields, Glos. Neville Wing . Camelot Giant Fly-in, Honeydown Farm, Crewkerne. Terry Dabinet 3rd Kennett Valley Kite Festival, Henwick Sports Field, Thatcham, Berks. Kreative Kites Dunstable Downs Kite Festival, Dunstable Downs, Beds. Dunstable Kites 01582 662779 |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | Fenland Kite Festival, March, Cambs. Whaam! Kites |
| 26 | |
| 27 | |
| 28 | |
| 29 | |
| 30 | |
| 31 | |

| August | |
|--------|--|
| 1 | 9th Royston Kite Festival, Royston Heath. Tony Bradford |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | Teston Bridge, Maidstone. Kiteability Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Andover, Hampshire. Kites Up |
| 8 | Teston Bridge, Maidstone. Kiteability Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Andover, Hampshire. Kites Up Milton Keynes Kite Festival, Campbell Park, Milton Keynes. Gwilym Gibbins 01908 233600 Email: events@mkparks.co.uk |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | |
| 12 | |
| 13 | Coventry Kite Festival, Coventry. Midlands Kite Fliers |
| 14 | Coventry Kite Festival, Coventry. Midlands Kite Fliers Taunton Kite Festival, The Racecourse, Taunton. Lawrence Rainment |
| 15 | Coventry Kite Festival, Coventry. Midlands Kite Fliers Taunton Kite Festival, The Racecourse, Taunton. Lawrence Rainment 16th Annual Hengistbury Head Kite Festival. Chris Saunders Blackwater Valley Kite and Juggling Festival. Alan Williams |
| 16 | |
| 17 | |
| 18 | |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | 2nd Cleethorpes Kite Festival, Cleethorpes Beach. Andrew Pidgen Oldham Kite Festival, Oldham Edge, Oldham. NKG |
| 22 | 2nd Cleethorpes Kite Festival, Cleethorpes Beach. Andrew Pidgen |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |
| 26 | |
| 27 | |
| 28 | Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society . |
| 29 | Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society . |
| 30 | Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. The Kite Society . |
| 31 | |

| September | |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. Avril Baker |
| 5 | Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol. Avril Baker |
| 6 | Kruzy Kite Festival, Westward Ho!. Runs until 12th September. Kruzy Kites . |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | Guernsey Kite Fly. |
| 12 | Hunstanton Kite Festival, Norfolk. Brian Cattle Guernsey Kite Fly. |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
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| 16 | |
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| 18 | |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |
| 26 | Old Warden Autumn Kite Rally, Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Beds. The Kite Society |
| 27 | |
| 28 | |
| 29 | |
| 30 | |



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- One Standard Mylar Fighter Kite
- Four paper fighter kites

Normal Price £44.00
Special Price £35.00

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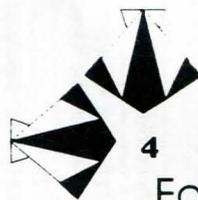
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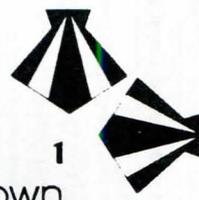
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4

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1

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2



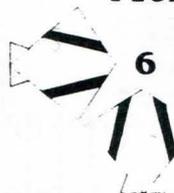
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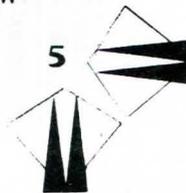
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Fast but controllable
Tracks Straight - Turns Quickly
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AVAILABLE



6

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5

Event Report

Petworth Kites 4th & 5th July 1998

We had good weather and wind over the weekend, and a wonderful turnout. Thankyou to everyone who came and participated. The variety of kites and flying objects were amazing. New and old fliers were inspired. Great teamwork too.

A special thanks to Ron and Pat Dell, Ray Oakhill and Dave Mitchell who kept me 'on the rails' through the year.

We made £4,985 for charity (Angels £3,910, National Trust £575, Petworth Festival £500). Please come again - One actioned packed day Sunday 4th July 1999.

Joanna Mersey

Private Ads

For Sale: Fizz Reflex sail [new] £10. Fizz Box of Tricks [new] £55. Fizz Fusion [new] £55. Twenty one Bird Kite Train £125. Fifteen different kite pins £30. Two rainbow 6 feet Flexifoils with heavy duty and ultralight spars £50 each. Two rainbow 6 feet Flexifoils with ultralight spars £45 each. Pair of spectra lines with stacking loops and wrist straps £15.

Postage and packing by arrangement. Telephone 01603-431964 or 07788 821993

Wanted: Does your club have kite pins. If so are you interested in trading. I have lots of pins to trade. I am in the USA. Old and New pins O.K. Email jjudd@emry.net. Happy Flying.

For Sale: STACKS of KITES!

7-stack (rainbow colours) of nylon Peter Powells £60;

Fantastic 25-stack of U.S. Rainbow kites (aluminium tube frames) with tails and spare spars £250;

5-stack of Top of The Line 3/4 Rainbow Hawaiians signed by the famous TOTL team (Ron Reich, Don Tabor etc) £250.

PLUS: BIG DADDY Stunter. Team High Fly Giant - possibly the biggest swept wing stunter produced commercially. Massive 17' wing span, 7 panel (red, orange, yellow, black, green, blue, purple). 11mm wrapped carbon spars. Dual & quad bridles, £250.

Contact Paul Carline, Tel/Fax 01968 661448. Email paul.carline@virgin.net.

For Sale: Bill Lancashire Kite - multi coloured - £60. Raindrop Kites Japanese Lady - Small black and red Rokkaku £20. Black & White 80cm Eddy £5. Medium Delta Face - Light Winds £10. Small Rokkaku, frog on an orange background £20. Black Cat Green Eyes £5. Small Prism, green and black £20. Small box kite - pink and black £5.

All these kites are in good condition. Phone 01754 765989 between 1 - 4 afternoons or anytime at the weekend.

BKF AGM 1999

WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 7.30PM

Present:

Ray Oakhill (Chairperson)
Gill Pitman (Treasurer)
Toody Oakhill (Editor & Committee Member)
Alan Outram (Committee Member)
Pete Linnell (Club Librarian)
Mik Jennison
Barry Pitman
John Turner
Keith Boxall

aero dyne

april 1999

the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

1 Welcome:

Ray opened the meeting at 8.00pm by welcoming everyone to the AGM – held, once again, at the Downs Hotel in Woodingdean.

2 Apologies:

These were received from Danny Steer, Simon & Corinne Hennessey, Jerry & Carolyn Swift and Phil & Pat Chitty.

3 Minutes of 1998 AGM:

These were read by Barry and agreed. There were no matters arising.

4 Membership Report:

As Membership Secretary, Ray informed us that the current membership total stands at 108 (consisting of 65 Family memberships). This compares to 113 total members at the same time last year – so it's down marginally. Membership fees are to remain the same.

5 Financial Report:

As Treasurer, Gill distributed a balance sheet for the last year's accounting period (1998) – detailing income and expenditure and profit and loss comparisons re the previous year's accounts.

Overall the club's accounts look exceptionally healthy and Gill explained some of the finer details as follows. There has been a small increase in profit over last year, with a good rate of interest on the new club account and dividends received for our Building Society shares. Income from club merchandise has shown a

down turn – which is likely due to having reached saturation point for members plus lack of sales at last year's washed out festival. Gill explained that this is mostly responsible for the slight drop in income compared to the previous year. There were no matters arising.

6.1 1999 Festival Progress:

Ray reported that everything is on track and agreed with Brighton & Hove Council for the Brighton Kite Festival at Stanmer Park over the weekend of 10 & 11 July. A plea by Ray for additional financial support in respect of this being our 21st Birthday fest was rejected by the Council. However, they were eager to point out that the BKF is one of just 5 local groups that receives such a high level (or 'maximum'... their words) of support. A total of 14 traders (12 kite related & 2 caterers) have been invited to date. Both caterers have confirmed, together with 8 of the kite traders. Barry agreed to double check the booking of the sound system which was confirmed at last year's festival.

6.2 1999 KSGB Convention Progress:

After some discussion with various parties at the Dieppe festival last September we had hoped to be able to host this year's KSGB Convention on the Friday before our festival. This was somewhat reliant on the Drachen Foundation bringing their archives over from Europe. However, Ray explained that further to correspondence between Scott Skinner and Jerry Swift, sadly this could not take place this year - but Scott has promised to keep us on the list for next year's fest 2000. As the KSGB are unable to commit themselves until confirmation has been received from the Drachen Foundation - it seems likely that plans for holding the Convention at Brighton this year will be scrapped, but hopefully considered for next year.

Ray had made some early enquiries about accommodation and availability of suitable rooms etc - but the response from Sussex and Brighton Universities has been very slow and Ray suspected that it would now be too late for the KSGB to be able to organise things in time. So all in all it looks extremely unlikely that the Convention will be held at Brighton this year - although Ray is still awaiting the final word.

7 Beer Break:

This must be a first for the BKF... it was decided to scrap the beer break in favour of ending the meeting more quickly. A bit worrying really!!

8 Election of the Committee Officers & Members:

Ray announced that he wished to stand down as Club Co-ordinator/Chairperson of the Committee and Membership Secretary. He is happy to continue as Events Co-ordinator (involving keeping an events diary and applying to the CAA for the relevant height clearances etc) unless anyone else particularly wanted to take this over. There were no

volunteers. Toody proposed a vote of thanks to Ray for all the years of hard work that both these posts have demanded, this was seconded by Alan and agreed unanimously!

Club Co-ordinator/Chairperson: Pete Linnell had decided that he would like to stand for the position and this was proposed by Barry and seconded by Alan. The vote was carried unanimously and Ray welcomed Pete to his new post.

Membership Secretary: Although not present Corinne Hennessey had volunteered for the post prior to the meeting, and as no one else wished to stand, this was proposed by Alan and seconded by Barry. The vote was unanimous bar one abstention and therefore carried.

Secretary: Ray informed us that Simon Hennessey wished to stand down, but in the event of no one else wishing to stand for the position, was willing to continue for another year. No one stood for the Secretary's post so Simon is to continue until next year's AGM.

Treasurer: Gill was willing to remain as Treasurer - there were no objections.

Committee Members: Alan and Toody were happy to continue as members of the Committee and it was decided that Ray should contact Norma House and Paul Thody re their continuation.

9 Fly-In Venues:

Ladies Mile Road: It was decided to continue using the site for fly-ins on the first Sunday of each month. Ray agreed to get further keys cut re car access for Pete and Alan. Unfortunately the site has been little used by the club so far and it was unanimously agreed to make a concerted effort to attend. However, it was pointed out that this clashes regularly with major festival dates throughout the country over the coming season, which will prevent regular attendance by the majority of those present.

Ray proposed a Fly-In at the site on May Bank Holiday Monday (31/05/99). This was welcomed and he agreed to check for other festival clashes with this date before confirmation.

Stanmer Park Evening Fly-In: It was agreed to continue with this Fly-In from 6.00pm on the second Thursday of each month from April to September inclusive. Also to continue to meet up at The Swan pub at Falmer afterwards. Toody agreed to put a note in the next issue of Aerodyne to encourage members to attend.

10 Merchandise:

Pins & Patches: The current stock was noted from Ray as: 6 Cloth Patches, 79 Enamel Pins (blue) & 11 Limited Edition Pin Sets.

T Shirts & Hooded Sweatshirts: It was noted that there are still plenty in stock. Gill pointed out that sales may also have dwindled due to the price increase, although this was some time ago.

11 Pre Festival Meeting:

Ray proposed a meeting on Wednesday 14 April from 7.30pm at The Downs Hotel, Woodingdean. This was agreed by those present and Ray confirmed that the following would be invited to attend:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Ray Oakhill | Barry Poulter |
| Simon Hennessey | Norma & Mick House |
| Gill Pitman | Pete Linnell |
| Toody Oakhill | Barry Pitman |
| Mik Jennison | John Turner |
| Alan Outram | Ken Boddy |

12 STACK Proposal:

Ray had received a request from STACK re affiliated membership with the BKF. This would be offered to members at £5.00 per year entitling them

to STACK event notifications etc. The vote against this was unanimous owing to the feeling that offering members affiliated KSGB membership already makes things complicated enough.

13 AOB:

Building Society Shares: Gill gave an approximation of the value of the club's shares. Selling them was discussed and it was agreed to keep hold of them for the moment. Gill agreed to investigate putting them into trust for the club, although this would require the services of a solicitor which may well cost quite a lot. At the time of issue they could only be allocated to the first named member on the account - which, as Treasurer, was Toody. It was agreed that Toody should retain them for the time being and that they should only be sold if the value started to drop severely.

Further Festival Traders: Ray had been approached by a marketing company regarding an iced coffee promotion stand at this year's festival. It was agreed that their financial contribution would be a welcome addition to the festival funds. Ray had approached the caterers who didn't have a problem with it so long as the coffee was sold and not given away. Pete Linnell proposed that the revenue from this could be donated to The Rockinghorse Appeal - which was welcomed. Ray agreed to pass the details on to Jerry Swift to finalise.

Festival Marquees: Barry had approached the marquee hire firm re booking the same size for the PA and Kite Workshop tents as last year (30ft x 10ft) but using a larger marquee (30ft x 30ft) for this year's BKF Information tent. The additional fee would include the hire price of extra tables and chairs. Ray proposed using the marquee for an evening event

and this was agreed with the possibility of also having a raffle or auction on Saturday evening, as well as Sundays raffle. It was agreed that Barry should go ahead with booking the larger marquee and details of the Saturday evening event should be discussed at the Pre-Festival meeting.

New Festival Site: Pete proposed using the site at the top of Wilsons Avenue (near Brighton Racecourse) for next years festival. It is larger than Stanmer Park, tree free and there is always plenty of wind there. It was agreed the Pete and Ray should make further enquiries with the Council and, pending this, it should be checked out and considered by the Committee.

14 Close:

Ray handed over to Pete who, as the new Chairperson, thanked everyone for voting for him. The meeting was closed by Pete at 9.15pm and everyone retired to the bar for a well earned beer!

Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)



REMEMBERING A FRIEND

Alan Piper known to his many friends as 'Pip' was very new to kiting. Even more so to the kiting world, but he was very enthusiastic and as keen as a bunny. To use his own words he was "chuffed to monkeys" with all the aspects of kiting. Pip had written an article about our meeting at Vanier Park in Vancouver while he was vacationing with his wife in Canada. It only happens a few times in a

lifetime that you meet someone... and BANG it's like we had known each other all our lives... we were in like flint... friends for life. I will not go into what happened that day as Pip has written all about that in his article, his last words to me on leaving the Park were "See ya in Dieppe Ray... and hopefully on the net real soon".

(If you haven't seen his letter you can read it in The Kiteflier magazine, Issue 77 October 1998, titled 'My visit with Ray Bethell')

I had the opportunity to be sponsored to Dieppe for the World Cup and the Dieppe International Kite Festival 98 to give multiple kiteflying demonstrations. The real highlight of this festival was being babysat by my friends the renowned French Sport Kite team, Team Keops. They did nothing but spoil me rotten... but then that's another story! One day while I was setting up my kites, I turned around and there, as large as life with an ear to ear grin on his face, was Pip together with his wife Ronnie. Because of the frequent heavy rain storms, I spent many happy times in Pip's caravan having a few cold ones, plus a very delightful glass or 3 of very special

malt whiskey for, as Pip put it, medicinal purposes to ward off the cold!

When they had heard that I was going to be stranded for 18 hours at London Stansted airport (due to Air Canada being on strike and of course all other flights being booked solid) Pip and Ronnie said: "You're more than welcome to travel home with us and stay at our home. Ronnie will take you to the airport in time to catch your plane as it's on her way to work... no problem, and we will be real chuffed to have you stay!"

This indeed was an offer I could not refuse. I mean how lucky can a guy get being sponsored to a World renowned International Kite Festival, being looked after and pampered by Team Keops and now a bonus of spending time with Pip and his family, instead of sitting at some lonely airport for 18 hours, I mean... wow!!

On our ferry trip across the English Channel to Portsmouth Pip kept pointing out and telling me all about the history of the points of interest we passed. The sea was very calm compared to what it had been for the past few days and it was another first for me to see the majestic and famous HMS Victory. It looked so impressive and beautiful as we passed it going to the ferry terminal. I was very pleased to have had this opportunity to see with my own eyes what I have only read about.

It was a very pleasant drive to Pip and Ronnie's home where I was met by their two sons David and Jon. I had a great time and they were indeed perfect hosts. Pip, along with David, took me to Clacton-On-Sea to visit my friends Steve, Michael

and Linda Howard who own the Force 9 kite store. We have been friends for many years and it was great to see them and their shop - then Pip took me to meet his mother who is a very charming lady, we had a nice lunch, and then it was off to fly kites which Pip and Dave had been longing to do since early morning. I coached Pip and David in pairs, which they had never attempted to do before - they now had a good idea of what the score was and promised that the next time I visited they would have it down pat. They were also interested in flying team with Ronnie as



BKF SOCIAL EVENING FLY-IN

These will continue to take place at Stanmer Park from 6pm every second Thursday of the month from April to September inclusive. These will run on the following evenings this year:

8 April/13 May/10 June/8 July/12 August/9 September

Please make an effort to attend as it is the ideal opportunity to meet new members. The Fly-In is followed by a beer or two at The Swan Pub at Falmer - just a stone's throw from Stanmer Park.

Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)



the third flyer - what a great way for a family to have fun together! We finished up having a great day, it was now time for me once again to pack my bags and prepare for my journey back to Canada. Well, we finally had to say our goodbyes and Ronnie and David took me to the airport. My plane was on time - for a change - and the 12 hour flight home to Vancouver went by without a notice, as my mind was still living the last 10 days filled with many very happy memories.

Pip did get on the net and our e-mails were passing each other across the big pond frequently. Then one day Pip had told me he somehow had broken his toe and had to have his foot in plaster. He could just about hop around and he was not keen on that at all. This being Christmas and New Years season did not help one bit either. On the 3rd of January he e-mailed me and said that he had always wondered what it would be like to stay home throughout the festive season and get 'plastered'... but not this way - meaning his foot being in plaster! The very next day, January 4th, I received the very sad news from Ronnie that just a few hours ago Pip had collapsed and died. I feel very proud and honoured to have known him and so very pleased to have spent the time with him and his family. I will always remember him as a dear friend who loved life and had a heart of gold.

I have just returned from the 'Kites On Ice' festival in Madison, Wisconsin. At the laser night fly I flew multiple kites in the pitch dark. While watching the kites come alive as they danced through the light rays and were caught in the different light systems, to the live music of the Madison Symphony Orchestra, I said to my self: "This is for you Pip".

I know he would have said: "Good on ya, Ray" and I know he would have been "chuffed to monkeys". Thank you for listening.

Ray Bethell (BKF/Canada)



FOR THE FUTURE OF A CHILD

YARIPA/COLOMBIA

Because of the earthquake in the coffee region, where we have very good friends, kiteflyers, who have lost everything (250,000 homeless, 4,000 injured, 2,000 dead) YARIPA, the Ecological Kite Association, is making a campaign in order to collect resources to adopt a child and give him/her an appropriate life.

YARIPA is in charge of the affective recuperation of a group of children and youngsters. This job will be specially through kites and will begin next Sunday when a big group from Medellín will travel to develop a recreational day that will help to remedy all the loss and distress because of the terrible earthquake.

This day's journey will be periodical with specialised people who will travel to the region.

With the help of all we are asking you to give US \$20 every month for as long as you can, or any amount of money that you can. This money will be deposited in a bank in order to obtain the necessary resources for a child for many years. This child will be elected among the kiteflyers we all known since The International Kite Festival has been in the region flying in Filandia, Quimbaya and Armenia, all of them belonging to the coffee region.

The city of Filandia was 50% destroyed and the resources received by the country are not enough for the affected population. Today, more than ever, our kiteflyers and friends need from all of us and they need to realise what we have say: "The wind belongs to everybody, the universe is one, let's fly together!!!!

Gracias

Ines Elvira Uribe (Presidenta/YARIPA)

CONTACTING YARIPA

Post: YARIPA
Calle 57 No. 49-95
Medellín
Colombia
South America

Tel: (57-4) 5119651
Fax: (57-4) 512 3839
email: yaripa@epm.net.co

LETTERS...

Dear Ray... Thank you so much for your generous donation of £85.00 which you recently sent us. Please thank all the members of the Brighton Kite Flyers who forfeited their travelling expenses to the Autumn Show at Ardingly and who valiantly dropped Teddy Bears by parachute at the Telscombe Tye Family Kite Day.

We so appreciate your support and according to our records your donations total over £300 to date.

This sum is made up as follows:

| | |
|----------|---------|
| 08/02/99 | £85.00 |
| 07/09/98 | £30.00 |
| 30/07/96 | £78.50 |
| 31/10/95 | £23.50 |
| 10/07/95 | £35.00 |
| 30/06/94 | £57.00 |
| 27/05/94 | £15.17 |
| Total: | £324.17 |

Good luck with the 21st Brighton Kite Festival at Stanmer Park on 10 & 11 July where I understand you will be dropping more Teddies than ever!

Happy Kite Flying!

Yours sincerely

**Thérèse Wilson (Chief Executive
The Rockinghorse Appeal)**



BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS

1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH (THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)

- ◆ **Venue:** Ladies Mile Rd/Patcham
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 317 092
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 1500ft
- ◆ **By Bus:** 26/5/5A from Brighton
- ◆ **Site:** Top/North end of road
- ◆ **Time:** From 11.00 onwards
- ◆ **Parking:** On site (with key only)

General fly-in day.

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER INCLUSIVE)

- ◆ **Venue:** Stanmer Park/Lewes Rd
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 342 088
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 200ft
- ◆ **By Bus:** 25/25A from Brighton
- ◆ **Site:** Next to Sussex University
- ◆ **Time:** From 18.00 onwards
- ◆ **Parking:** On road through site
- ◆ **By Train:** Falmer Station

Flying evening with social bash afterwards at the Swan pub at

CURRENT COMMITTEE

- ◆ **Chairperson:** Pete Linnell
- ◆ **Secretary:** Simon Hennessey
- ◆ **Treasurer:** Gill Pitman
- ◆ **Committee Members:**
Alan Outram, Toody Oakhill,
Paul Thody & Norma House

SHOT FOR KITE FLYING!

POSTED AT REC.KITES: 21/01/99

Quoted from an article in Gulf News today:

MANILA. A Philippine court sentenced a traffic policeman to death yesterday for killing an 11 year old child who was making noise while flying a kite on a roof and annoyed the lawman.

The policeman, Ferdinand Fallorina, shot Vincent Joro-joro after the child refused his order to come down from the roof of a restaurant owned by the policeman's family in Manila's suburban Quezon City last September.

Regional Trial Court Judge Diosdado Peralta said. Fallorina claimed that his gun went off accidentally, killing the child.

With thanks to Andreas for the posting (Ed).

MYSTERY MAN...

POSTED AT REC.KITES: 10/03/99

I was at Kits beach (Vancouver) and met a man flying a kite. My friend would like to write an article on him. He's about 70 years old, flies the kites professionally (at least on tours). He is completely deaf (he reads lips). He says he holds 7 world records and is from Vancouver. I know this is a long shot but would someone know his name so that I could try to contact him?

Well guess who? Needless to say replies started flooding in the very same day - all naming our very own BKF Honorary Life Member and regular contributor to Aerodyne... multiple kite flying star - Ray Bethell. Ray had 33 sponsored trips last kite season, travelling a total of 157000 miles and performing to over 4 million people! (Ed).

FURTHER BKF INFO...

- ◆ **Web Page Address:**
<http://www3.mistral.co.uk/prchitty>
- ◆ **Co-ordinator/Chairperson:**
Pete Linnell:
Tel: 01273 683082/email:
petelinnell@connectfree.co.uk
- ◆ **Membership Secretary:**
Corinne Hennessey:
Tel: 01273 582309/email:
simon@hennesseys.freemove.co.uk
- ◆ **Events Co-ordinator:**
Ray Oakhill:
Tel/Fax: 01273 306842
email: rao@mistral.co.uk
- ◆ **Club Library:**
Pete Linnell:
Tel: 01273 683082/email:
petelinnell@connectfree.co.uk
- ◆ **Merchandise:**
Pins/Patches:
Ray Oakhill:
Tel/Fax: 01273 306842
email: rao@mistral.co.uk
T Shirts & Sweatshirts:
Simon Hennessey:
Tel: 01273 582309/email:
simon@hennesseys.freemove.co.uk
- ◆ **1999 Brighton Kite Festival:**
Ray Oakhill:
Tel/Fax: 01273 306842
email: rao@mistral.co.uk

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.



**brighton
Kite
flyers**

USE THIS SPACE...

Thanks to all of this issue's contributors. Anything sent to the Editor will be considered for print unless marked otherwise. Please send something for the July 1999 issue - by 1 June 1999 to...

Toody Oakhill
BKF Editor
Lower Ground Floor Flat
43 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 2QA
Tel/Fax: 01273 243528
email: toody@bigfoot.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- ◆ **Clifford, Benjamin & Daniel White:** Crawley/West Sussex

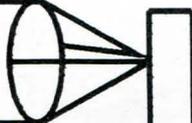
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1999

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42 ROMAN CANDLE 52.



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad, The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils.

100% Politically Incorrect, but then you knew that, and we dont give a Toss.....

EU SEND US ALL CRAZY

which, when you think about it, is no mean feat considering that we are pretty barmy in the first place. however when you see some of the eurobollocks that these loonies have, and are trying to foist on us. I ask you is the E.U. the biggest nut house on the planet?

O.K. no doubt you've all heard of the barmy size regs for fruit, including the bit about £5,000 fines for Bananas that bend too much, and the reg about emergency exit signs being changed to show the figure of a running man, when everyone know you should not run in an emergency.

But how does this daft reg grab you, especially the Ladies, All Cosmetic and Toiletry labels are to be printed in LATIN, get out of here, whats wrong with labels written in good old ENGLISH. Sounds a bit Rascist to me. Of course we know that these EURO Tossers dont like our Feet and Inches and Pounds and Ounces, but did you know that we have had to lengthen our Cricket Pitches from 22 good English Yards or 20.1168 metres, which these EU dopes cant get their heads round, up to 20.2 metres. That is barmy really when you try to work out just how many Games have the Euro Tossers given to the world, DOH! Hang on, there is one, thats being Nailed to their Nags by Arrows fired from English and Welsh Longbows, alright, alright, I know Henry the Fith was a Will Kipper or a Paddy wot couldnt swim.

And did you know that under regs introduced in 92, any copyright name registered in Brussels can be used right across Europe, which means that the Cornish could lose the rights to their world famous Clotted Cream, cos now the collaborators, whoops sorry, the Frogs now wnt to make it. Gordon Bennett can you imagine the stink they would raise if you said you wanted to brew Champagne in Heckmondwike.

We are under no illusions as to wether or not the E.U. Mob of Bureaucrats like us or not, but they are trying to put the Boot in on the good old British Chrimbo, cos they dont like our Brandy Butter, they say the name is misleading under their spreadable fats legislation. BAH HUMBUG! or should that be Strikey Mint Flavoured Confectionery?

By now you maybe thinking that this is just another Anti Europe Rant, it is, it is, so now we get to the really peachy bit, the bit where you all go completely Ballistic, No, No, not those Bayonets, They dont like it up 'em Mr Mainwaring..... and get your hands off their throats people, unless that is you are wearing gloves....DID YOU KNOW THAT FROM NOW ON ITS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE IF YOU MAKE AND SELL A HOME MADE TEDDY BEAR OR OTHER SOFT CUDDLEY, EVEN FOR CHARITY, UNLESS ITS UNDERGONE SAFETY TESTING AT £200 A POP. Yeah, so now a good many of you are now official EUROCRIMS, I ask you where will it all end, in Tears I guess and they wont be ours, Holy shit watch out Prof Dallmer is waving his 30-06 Sniper Rifle about, and you?



'ELECTRIC' ARTHURS 16 GORE CUTTING EDGE "LoDep" DESIGN.....

Back last year, you may remember, the Military were experimenting with a new design Chute which would deploy safely at an extremely low altitude. From photos taken at the time, this Chute appeared to have a Triple Canopy and a Gauze Skirt.

No doubt a workable scale model of this chute could be constructed, but it would be a pig to make. Not to worry however, for after an inspired "Back of a Fag Packet" design session, (thats back of a cigarette pack) for you overseas Dropniks, the one and only, Electric Arthur has designed a simplified version, Fauna, Parachuting for the use of.

As you can see from the sketch, this chute is a double canopy type with a gauze skirt and when made up from the plan shown, results in a chute of about one metre diameter. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this particular canopy is that it is internally braced via the shrouds, which enables the chute to adopt and maintain the double chute shape.

At the risk of boring the pants off all you seasoned chute cobbler uppers out there, quick resume of how to make gore patterns, surely wont come amiss. First off a full size paper pattern is easily made and if you have'nt got a large enough piece of paper, then tape together bits of A4 until you have it big enough. Fold the paper lengthwise and draw just a half a gore using the fold as the centre line. Cut around the double outline, open out and Bobs yer flipping, 'OLE, bung the resultant onto a suitable piece of cardboard, hardboard, cut and sand and Hey Presto, you can Hot cut Ripstop till the Cows come home.

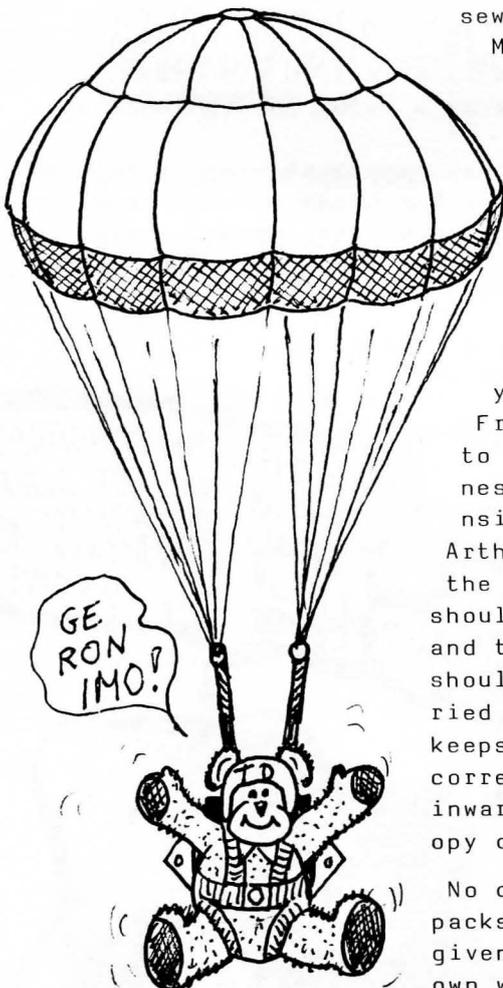
The Gauze for the skirts on Arthurs prototypes for this chute came from a dressmaking supply emporium and is actually quite stiff, which makes for easier sewing, and similar gauze should be easy to find in your neck of the woods.

The construction of this chute is pretty straightforward, except when you come to fit the shrouds. These are first sewn to the canopy at hem/seam A.A.

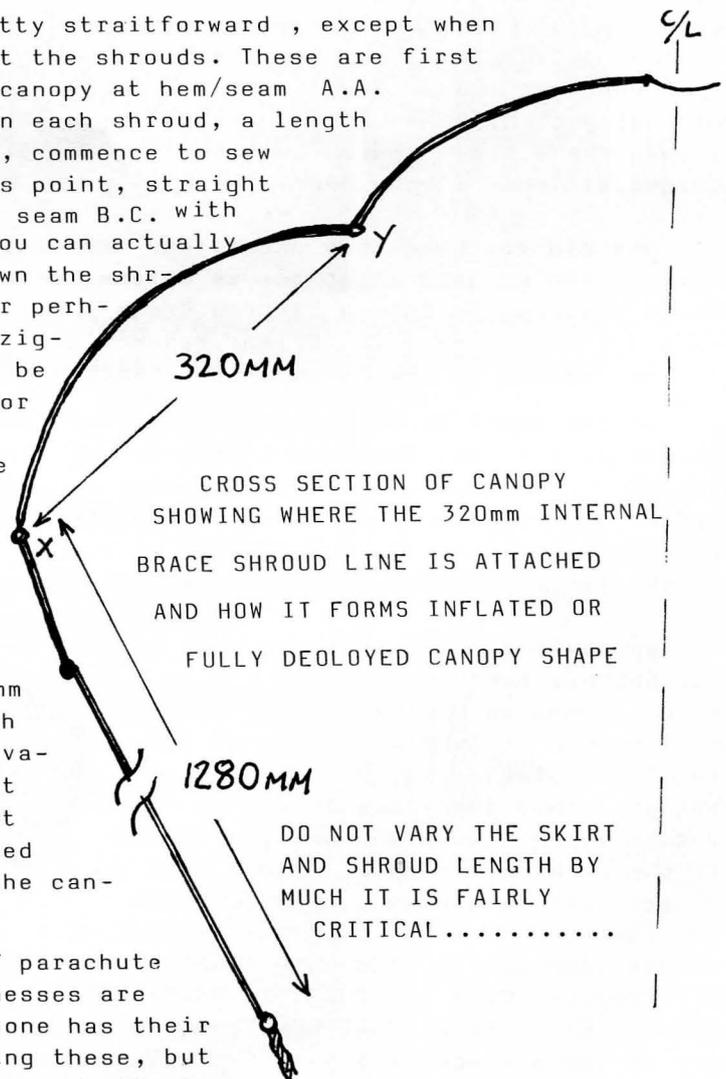
Mark off on each shroud, a length of 320mm, commence to sew from this point, straight down the seam B.C. with care you can actually sew down the shroud, or perhaps a zig-zag will be better for you, its your choice

From hem BB to the harness suspension strap, Arthur says the shroud should be 1280mm and this length should not be varied much as it keeps the skirt correctly angled inwards when the canopy deploys.

No details of parachute packs and harnesses are given as everyone has their own way of doing these, but suffice it to say that the chute should be made first not the other way round

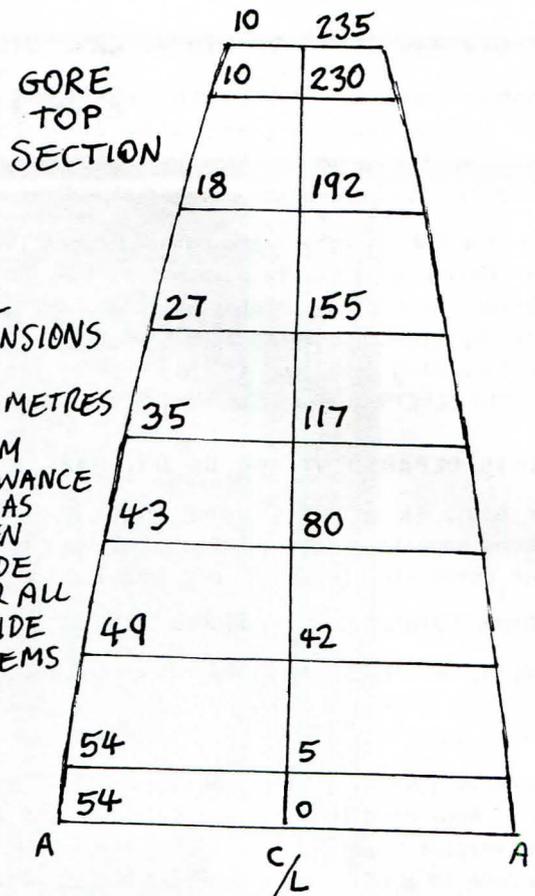
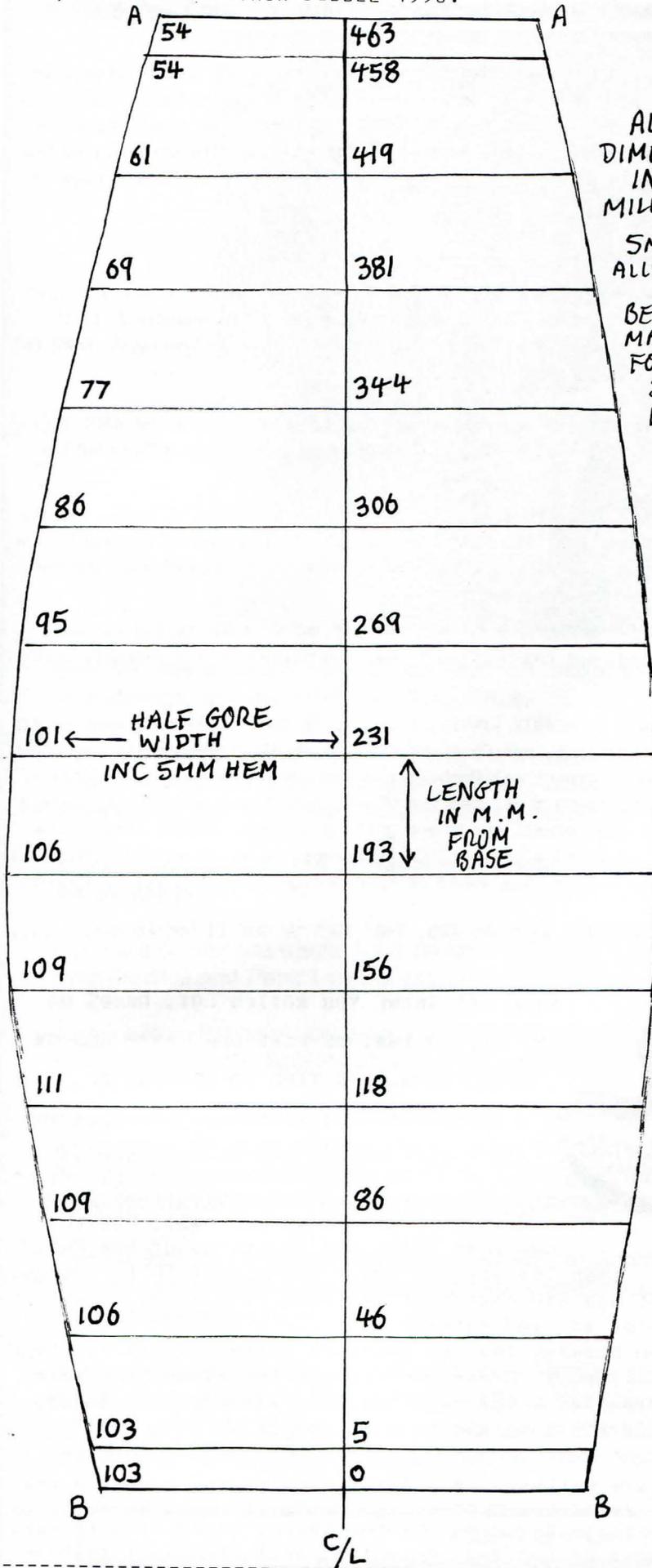


suffice it to say that the chute should be made first not the other way round



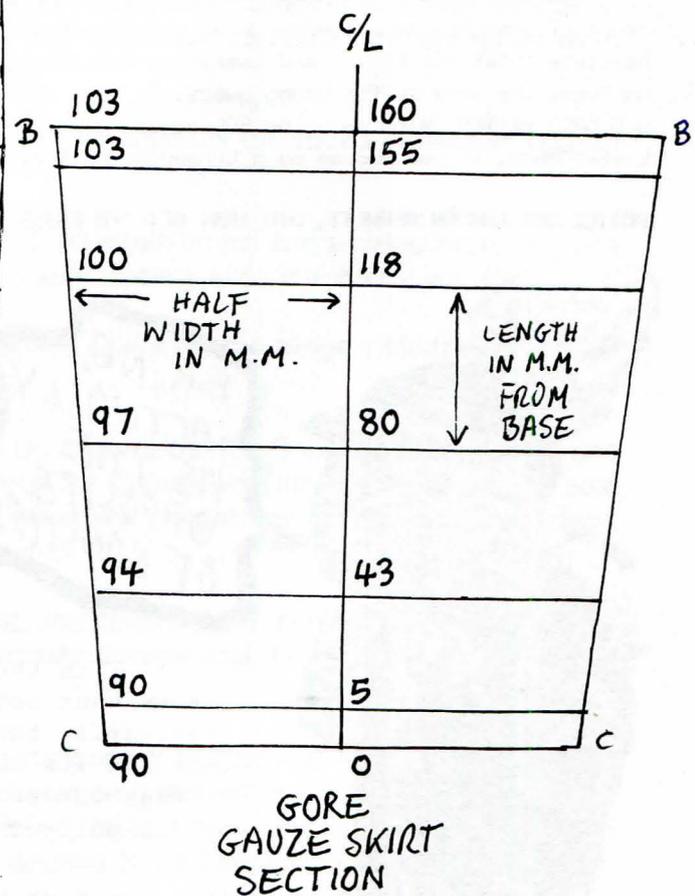
"GO FOR IT"

Original design, development and prototyping of this particular LoDep Chute was entirely by "ELECTRIC" ARTHUR DIBBLE 1998.



ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES
SMM ALLOWANCE HAS BEEN MADE FOR ALL SIDE HEMS

← GORE CENTRE SECTION
16 off of each piece required



GORE GAUZE SKIRT SECTION

ARE WE MUTT AND JEFF, OR DID WE HAVE DIRT IN OUR LUGHOLES?.....

Probably both if the truth be known, for in conversation with Electric Arthur, concerning his LoDep Chute, we actually lost the plot somewhat, which is not unusual. Arthur obtained the Gauze for the skirt of this chute from a Camping shop, where it is sold as Insect Mesh. You could probably find something similar at a Dressmaking Emporium, its up to you.

Neither the BOF or Arthur are Parachute Boffins, and are open to correction from anyone who is, In regard to the latest design of military parachutes, they are not too sure as to why these chute are of multiple crown or canopy design, or for that matter why they have gauze skirts, but they both believe that it is something to do with rapid deployment, coupled with some form of anti shock system, however as Arthur says, the chute looks the Biz when its coming down, and if this type of Canopy is good enough for the RED DEVILS, then as sure as eggs is eggs, the TED BERETS wont be far behind them.

COMPLAINTS DEPARTMENT, OR GO ON, HAVE A WHINGE.....

Dear Sir, As a one legged Bear who has never won an Arse kicking contest, even though I've entered many in my time, I feel that your constant referral to me as a loser is entirely unwarranted. If you do not cease and desist in your uncalled for behaviour , I will have to put the matter in the hands **CONT P96**

FROM ROMAN CANDLE FIFTY YEARS AGO.....

T. BEAR, ST KILDA BOTTLE JOB ? From the Daily Telegraph via Tony Cartwright (a good guy, cos he dont inflict Parachuting Pain on Fauna) comes news of possibly the Worlds biggest BOTTLE JOB, or perhaps a Parachuting Bear with arguably more Front than Harrods.

The story goes like this. Way out in the Atlantic lies the tiny group of islands known as St Kilda. On one these is an Army Missile Range and Britains most Weterly Pub, The Puff Inn (GEDDIT?) Displayed in the pub is the Coffin of Warrant Officer Class II, T. Bear. The occupant of this coffin was regularly Parachuted onto the Range Dropping Zone to check wind velocities and directions etc.

All of these Descents, it seems, went well until the one on May 15th 1973, T.Bears Chute failed to open. After a formal inquest, a Death Certificate was issued, and the Stiffed T.Bear was placed into a suitably inscribed coffin and put on display in the Pub.

Yes, we know what you are thinking, A BOTTLE JOB ?, hardly likely, no, I think that T. Bear is what we are not, namely, a CRAFTY BLEEDER. After all, how many times have our Chutes failed to open?, I personally have lost count of just how many times I have been Stiffed, and I expect all Members are the same, yet T. Bear has one horrible 'HOWS YER FARVA' and instantly Bottles. It could be that when the Brains were being dished out, unlike us Mugs, who were in the wrong queue, T. Bear was in the correct queue and getting a DUBBLE BUBBLE load of the OLD GREY MATTER. Mind you, the BOF always says that if I had a Brain I'dbe dangerous, to which my stock reply is Listen Mush, if you had as much Gunpowder up there as Brains, you would'nt have enough to scorch yer hair Roots.

BOTTLE JOB, GORDON BENNETT, DID THAT GET 'EM GOING STATESIDE 50 YEARS AGO, THO' THEY'VE GOT IT SUSED NOW.....



ER, NO, ACTUALLY ITS THE OPPOSITE OF CONSTIPATION

RISE AND SHINE YOU ROTTEN LOT, HANDS OR OR SHOULD THAT BE PAWS OFF *** AND ON WITH SOCKS, ITS TIME TO GET OUT OF THOSE PITS.....**

Yes, once again the official Winter Kip is over and we must answer the age old call of nature well, not actually that call, but the one that tells all Parafauna of the World that its time to sally forth or fith to engage

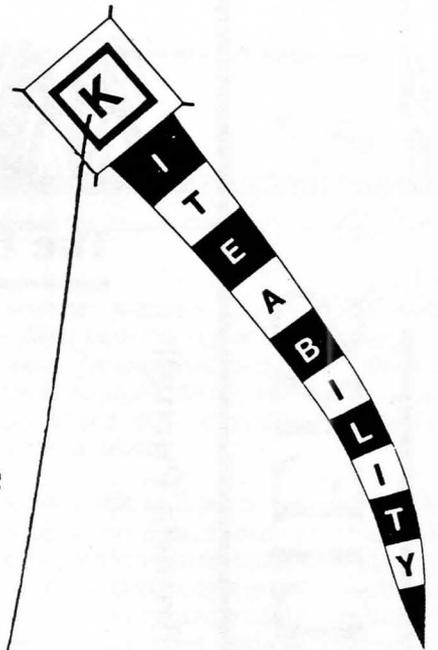
in that age old custom of kicking five kinds of you know what out of all and sundry.

Yea, verily thou knowest thy own personal Eastern Front awaits thee, as its still a bit Brass Monkeys out there. Not too worry Ye Olde Current Bun aint far away and good winds are on their way, so get yer 'arris into gear and go for it.

Once again we have huffest and puffest, so its the usual to the unmentinable, c/o YE Boring OLDE Fart, 48 Laurel Lane, West Drayton in Ye county of Middlesex, Ursus Brutus Seven, Seven Tango Yankee. In what will always be England, no matter what the Traitors have planned. a Plaque on all their Houses. Amen.....

KITEABILITY

HANDMADE KITES AND KITE MATERIALS



Tricky Dicky, you know the lad
He's from Poole by the sea
Said "What you want is a web site
Just leave it up to me"

"Just give me all your details
With what you want to say"
Now poor old Harry's so confused
Got lost along the way

Talk about being baffled
HTM's - GIF's and **E-I-E-I-O**
Not a language for the elderly
He don't know which way to go

"Never mind" says Dicky
"It's all a piece of cake
I'll do my best to help you out
You'll not make a mistake"

He is a bit of a Billy whiz
That able Dickey Nourse
After many hours of slaving
With not a hint of remorse

To bring you to our website
Where all we will reveal

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/PatnRon>

Phew, It has certainly been up hill

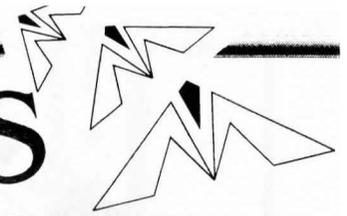
Cheers Dicky – you are a superstar
<http://freespace.virgin.net/richard.nourse/links.htm>



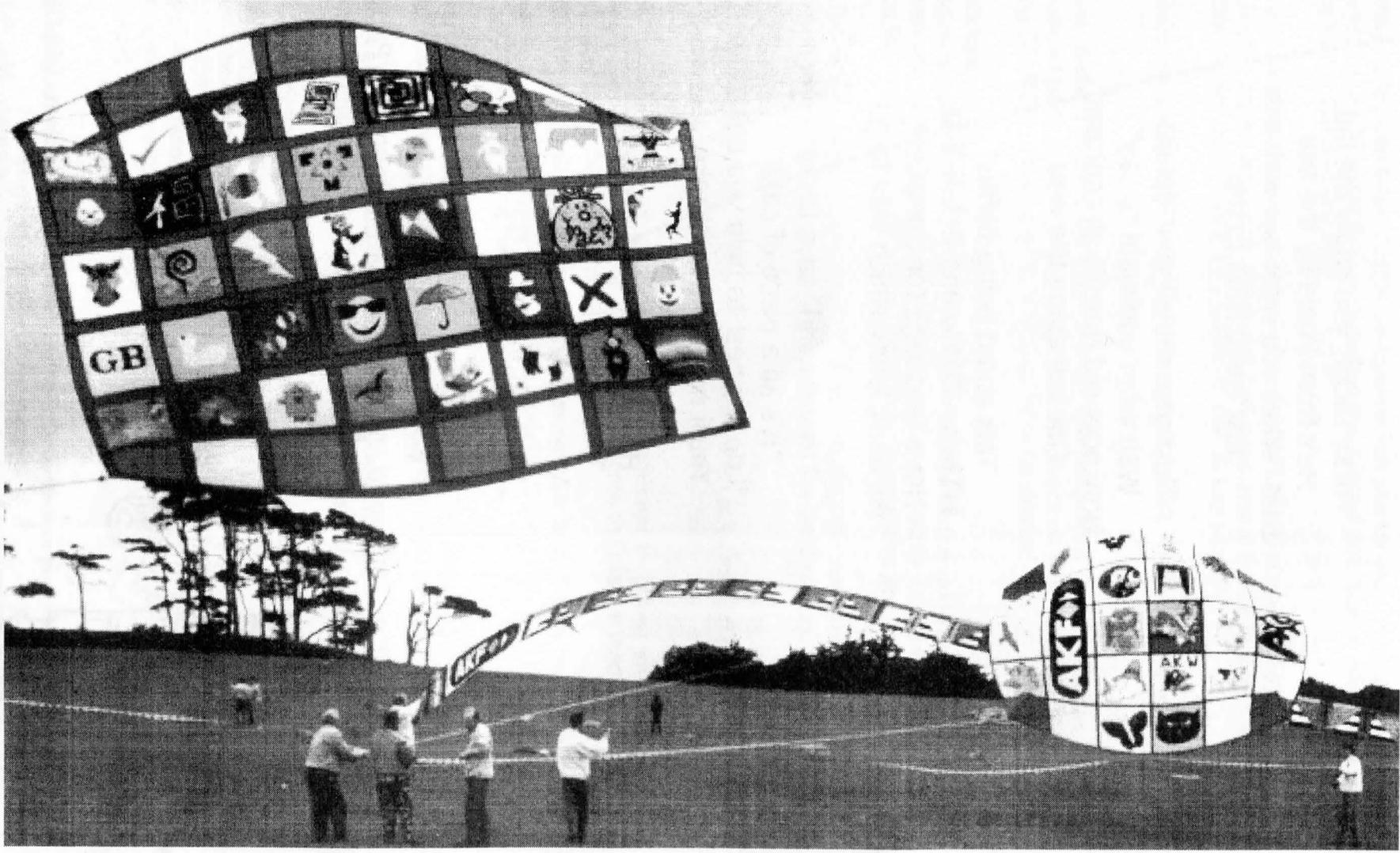
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THE MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



The MKF and AKF playsails flying together at Margam Park Photo by Brenda Purnell



The Extra Newsletter Of The Midlands Kite Fliers

MKFE EXTRA

Event Reports



First Kite-Maker Workshop Kingstone Herefordshire

13th & 14th February



After a very muddy drive we arrived at Kingstone Junior School, on Saturday morning, to find the first kite workshop in full swing. The workshop took place in the school hall/gymnasium, a good size room with carpeted floor and plenty of chairs and long tables, ideal for kite making.

Just inside the door Allan had set up his Computer and was available to offer technical information, and a music centre provided music throughout both days. The floor was covered with Ripstop fabric both in rolls and a very large soft kite which Doug spent bridling throughout Saturday. At the far corner a new look Dave Salmon was working with his industrial machine, he provided his hot cutter if anyone wished to use it, patterns for the M.K.F. football were available, together with cardboard if you wished to make your own. As the morning progressed there were six other sewing machines in action, with others using the floor to mark out and cut large panels.

At lunch time an excellent buffet was set out, food provided by all attending and a pleasant break was enjoyed by all.

The afternoon continued with much work and plenty of discussion, and one or two kites were completed.

Sunday brought some new faces, Alan Bill was making a small triangular kite, helped by Dennis, while Vicky tried her hand at applique work on a small kite for the arch. The day ran on the same lines as the previous day, but with different types of kites being marked out, the floor being very popular, at one time seven of us were on our knees. In the afternoon various kites that had been made were flown successfully.

We found the week-end very interesting, watching more experienced kite makers at work, the opportunity to use other sewing machines, and to learn new ways of dealing with old problems.

At the close of the week-end a group photograph was taken, the background being Karls very, very large Rokkaku kite. Following the photograph Karl was demonstrating the bowing of the kite, when unfortunately there was an ominous crunching sound, and it's back to the drawing board.

Many thanks to Karl and Sara for arranging an interesting and successful week-end. We hope there will be other similar week-ends in the future.

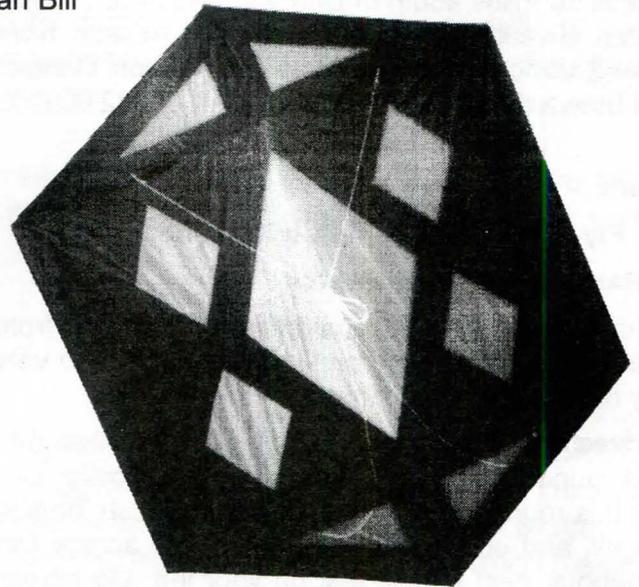
Fred Apperley

Kite Workshop at Dorstone

Vicki and I set off for Hereford on Sunday morning with sewing machine and various kite making materials. The school hall was all you would wish for, large, light area, good back ground music food and drink. Our first project was to be one of Dennis Roberts Triad Kites, which was built and flown the same day.

Next was to be part of the friendship arch made and designed by Vicki. The day came to a close far too soon and we left for home with plans, templates, materials, lots of ideas and happy.

Thanks to Sara and Karl for arranging the venue. I am looking forward to the next date in April.
Alan Bill



Rok Made by Fred Apperley

Fly-in Coombe Abbey Country Park 7th March

After a week of rain, snow and howling unflyable winds. We headed for Coventry. Very kindly Surger Pascal came to fly with us on his way back to Paris breaking an eight hour journey despite the rain (what a nice guy).

I was surprised to see a few kites on the field as it was raining quite heavily when we arrived. I headed for the cafe for a hot drink before flying said hi to Philip on Scyro Kites stall Keith White, Roy Ashton, Alan Bill, Bill Gardener, Linda and Doug Richardson were sheltering a while before their next foray onto the field.

After a coffee with Alain and Surger we waded onto the field. The first bit of the field was a bit of an water adventure but the rest was not bad at all and the rain lighted up. We flew Surgers kites for about 2½ hours in highly changeable winds (well I had a lot of fun) Chris Head came over to me and had a try as did Roy Ashton who had been cutting a swath through the air (and grass) with an 8ft precision kite. Well that moved the footballers to the end of the field, (nice one Roy).

Thanks to Bill Gardener and Pete Mather for the return visit sometimes shelter is a vital part of a fly-in.
Dave Salmon

Events News

16th May

5th Calke Abbey Kite Flying Day, Ticknall, Derbyshire.

A popular event with both public and fliers in the past, this is a nice opportunity to fly a kite in the grounds of 'the house that time forgot' which now belongs to the National Trust. Anyone who brings a kite (kite club members and public) are excused from paying the £2 car park charge.

Calke is 10 miles south of Derby, on A514 at Ticknall between Swadlincote and Melbourne. Access from M42/A42 Junction 13 For more information Contact Event Stewards Jim and Julie White Tel: 01332 669203

6th June

Joint Fly-in with Northampton Kite Fliers

The Racecourse Northampton

We have received an invitation to a joint fly-in from Steve Billings of the Northampton Kite Fliers who very kindly has sent the directions.

The directions are as follows- from M1 J16 follow A45 until a roundabout with a Virgin cinema opposite, turn left at this roundabout, follow road past British Timken down hill and up to next roundabout. Go across this roundabout, past fitness first on your left. Go across next roundabout, follow road past the Carlsberg-Tetley depot on your right, over river Nene and up to junction with Cock Hotel on left. STAY IN 'AHEAD' LANE. Cross junction following road to right, go down hill at bottom 'Y' junction take lane to right so pub is on your left, go up hill to traffic lights and turn right.

For more information contact

Steve Billings Tel 01933 665590

12TH & 13TH June

Margam Park Kite Festival

The Margam Park Kite Festival will be run on the same lines as in previous years, very easy going, and hopefully we shall have better weather this year.

Camping on the field opposite the main flying area, there will be a small charge.

As usual passes will be strictly limited, applications to Fred Apperley, 9 The Meadows, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire, B50 4AP, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope please.

Margam Park is well worth visiting, not just for the kite flying.

For further information contact

Fred Apperley Tel 01789 778424

19TH & 20TH June

4th Fairbourne Kite Festival

Enjoy free train travel, our superb scenery, our fantastic buffet and Tony Slater on PA. Witness the start of "The Three Peaks Race" hopefully without the waterspout and exploding trade tent, that enlivened the '98 event. (The only kite festival with built in trains.)

For more information contact, Big Dave, at 9 James Road, Kidderminster, Worcs, DY10 2TR.

to be included on my list for your goodies pack.

Please Tel & Fax: 01562 66102,

26th & 27th June

Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury

This festival has an atmosphere all of its own on the large expanse of well mown grass surrounded by camping and caravanning space available at a modest rent. There will be kite traders and refreshments on site as usual.

For more information contact

Skybums Paul and Helen Morgan

Tel 01743 244677

25th July Family Fun Day Shipley Country Park near Heanor Derbyshire

Shipley is a great place to fly in the summer with its visitor centre cafe and parking so close to the field. As usual on fun days there is always something different going on. For more information Contact Event Steward Alan Poxon Tel: 01773 716047

31st July - 1st August

Eastnor Castle Balloon Festival. Eastnor Castle Herefordshire MKF Event

We have been asked to fly and display at this new Balloon Festival. There will be a trader and Kite making workshop. We are currently negotiating for free entry for MKF members on production of their Membership Card. For more information

Contact Karl & Sara Longbottom on 01981 550326.

The Midlands Kite Fliers

19 Wigsley Close

Doddington park

Lincoln LN6 3LD

Tel: 01522 884744

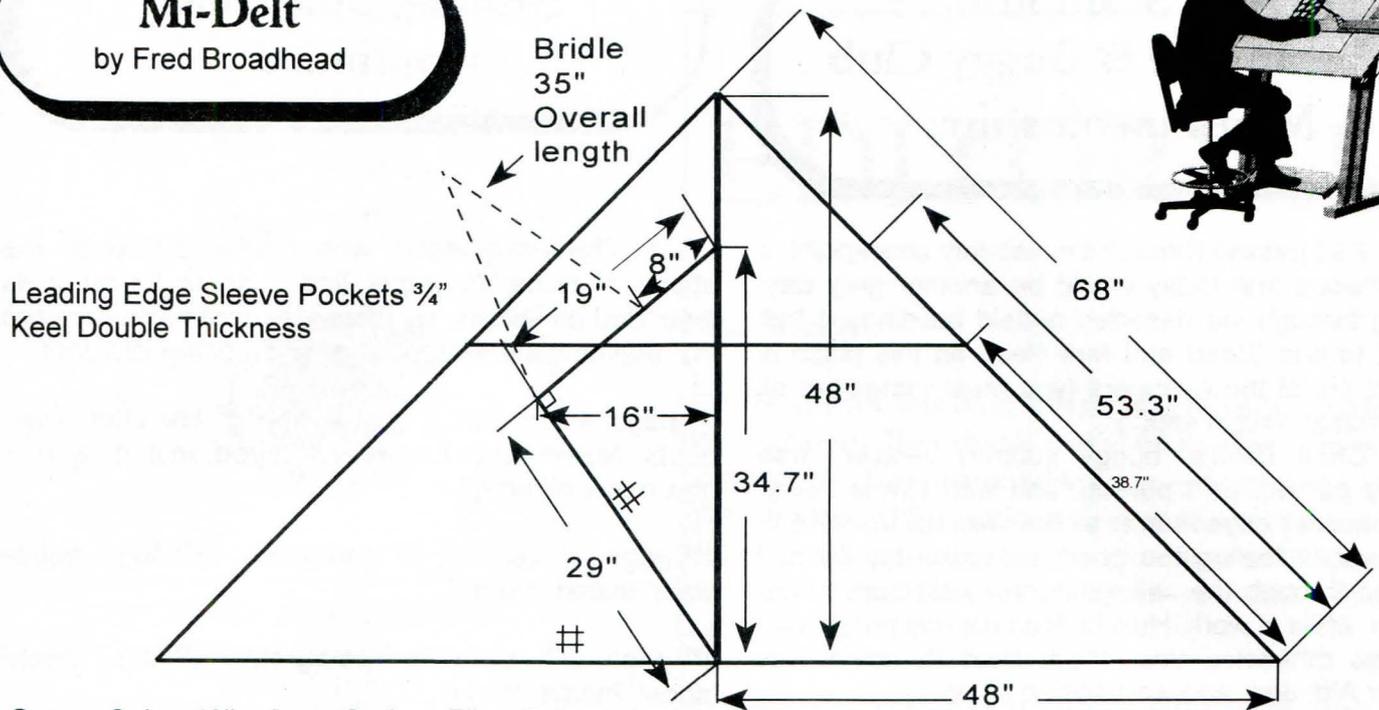
Email mkf@kites.org.uk

Mkf pages :<http://www.canleo.demon.co.uk/mkf.htm>

MIDLANDS
KITE
FLIERS

Mi-Delt

by Fred Broadhead



Spars. Spine 48" x 6mm Carbon Fibre Tube
Cross Spar 6mm Carbon Fibre Tube
Leading Edge Spars - 53" x 6mm Carbon Fibre Tube or 6mm Dowel Rod
Keel Leading Edge - 19" x 6mm Dowel Rod

My idea behind this kite is for a delta that will fly in very light winds and also be adjustable to cope with stiffer breezes and act as a sky anchor for line banners and washing.

First adjustment comes from the keel which has a spar in its leading edge, and has two tow points positioned at 37% and 50% of its spine length back from kite nose, these being about the maximum settings a delta will fly on, 37% being nose down and 50% nose up. Obviously fitting on a bridle, as shown from these points will allow the kite's attitude to be adjusted anywhere between the two tow points, or flown direct from either.

Second adjustment comes from the cross spar where length or adjustment can make a large difference as to how well a delta flies. Put simply the more the cross spar stretches the kite between its attachment points the flatter the kite will be and therefore give greater lift at the slight expense of stability. Conversely the slacker the kite between the cross spar attachment points the less is its lift but the better its stability, just like any kite. For the cross spar adjustment I have used a beaded line attachment between the cross spar and the leading edges, although other methods can be used such as having several loops of line of different sizes attached to the leading edges. There is a ratio that's useful in working out cross spar lengths and it goes 10% to 15%. If you hang a delta upside down by its keel point and measure the distance the cross spar at its centre hangs below the spine, and then divide that measurement by how far the leading edge cross spar attachment is from the nose of the kite and multiply by 100 you have the percentage. For example if the cross spar is 10cm from the spine and the leading edge attachment points are 100cms from the nose then the ratio is 10%. 10% is pretty tight, in fact on any delta if you have to flex the cross spar a bit to fit it into its fixing points that's about 10%, 15% is very slack although adjustment between the two is only a fairly small variation of the cross spar's effective length.

So why bother. Well, with the towing line on the keel point (50%) and the sail stretched tight (10%) my kite is in the same light wind bracket as my Ripstop Desperato and that's not bad for any delta and this is a 90Deg nose delta. In a stiff breeze by slackening the sail on the cross spar and moving the tow point forward, it copes just as well and this kite for its size is very lightly sparred, at the moment I've only got 1/4" dowel in the leading edges. What this means also is that it can be trimmed to pull well in light winds and carry banners, and then trimmed to get rid of too much pull and save the kite and its spars in strong winds. It is also interesting just playing around with the settings and watch the difference to how the kite flies.

*** MKF members might like to make the kite as per the club logo shown in the Dec' 97 issue of MKF News. I have and with a white background, red tip and deep blue 'M' it looks as sharp as a razor. ***

The macho minded might prefer to increase all sizes by 50% and have a good club kite, but that's another story. In that case I would suggest all spars are 8mm Carbon Fibre or 9mm or 10mm Dowel Rod.

Finally before the eagle-eyed rush into stating that the cross spars on Delta's should be the next size up from the other spars, sorry chaps it's not always true. I do have a restraint loop between the spine and the cross spar to give it support. Still doubtful, have a word with my mate Dan Leigh and remind him of my little green Classic Delta, it surprised him. To me kiting is the ultimate in suck it and see.

Good luck. Fred Broadhead

RAF Scampton, Vulcan Kite & Buggy Club Meet Lincolnshire,

As I passed through the security checkpoint, it was obvious that today would be another grey day! Driving through the deserted airfield buildings, I half expect to see Steed and Mrs Peel, as this place is straight out of the Avengers (you must remember all the desolate airfield sets?)

Chris Croft's 'buggy support vehicle', was already parked, as I pull up, and with him is Barry, buggy builder extrodinare, all the way up from Kent! Chris wasn't feeling too good, as yesterday he had crashed through the ceiling, from a bathroom to the kitchen, while at work. He'd bruised his ribs pretty bad, but was otherwise unscathed! Next to arrive was Rodger Aldridge, and we begin to kit up.

The wind was fair, but pretty nippy, so out come the fleece hat, Goretex jacket, and gloves. I set up my Mirage 2m and Predator 3m, and decide to get the feel of the wind, with my Mirage. The wind was blowing straight down the main runway, which is a bit of a problem, as it takes a hell of a lot of tacking to get up to the wind sock, but who's complaining!

More folks are arriving by the minute, so I pull up for a hot coffee, and a chat. Its raining and it's only 10.30. People are out bugging, but I decide to see if the rain's going to stop, and stay in the car. 45min later and the rain's passed. Gary Neal and Garry Box have arrived, and a bit later Matt Hurrell and Dave Roberts also turn up. Garry Box wants to go round the perimeter, anti-clockwise. I team up with him, and we set off. We never normally go anti-clockwise, because it's a tough trip to make, but this first half is going OK. Ready! Turn across the wind at the bottom of the runway, and feel the power kickin!! What's wrong with Garry??? I pull up along side. "The right footpeg's bust, and the front wheel bearing just seized," said Garry. Terminal stuff! so I leave him, to take the "long walk", and I set off into the wind. Hell bells, I'm just about managing to keep up a 'brisk walking pace'. This was going to take some time! Garry had already made it back to camp, when I rolled in. "I think I'll stick to going clockwise" I muttered, as I had another coffee. By now a group of us were ready for a clockwise trip. I decided to change to the Predator, as the wind had dropped a little. I cheat, and set off early, to gain a head start. I'm nearly halfway round before they catch me up. The up wind leg is far less work than earlier. At 3.00pm, drizzle sets in. Gary Neal had invited me home for Tea, along with Chris, Barry, Matt and Dave. So we packed up and set off at 4.00pm. Not only does Diane make "Cakes". We were presented with Lasagne, Curry, and a Chilli to chose from. I admit I had some of everything, well too much really! Thanks Diane. You made a cold hungry man, very happy!
Steve Walt Webb.

Bridling Simplified continued

The brave souls who ploughed through the above in issue 78 might find it scans better if its amended as follows, as there was some loss between my original hand written script and it going into print.

1st page, 1st column, 2nd paragraph, 6th line after 'if you doubt' **insert** 'what I have just stated, look around at how many different'

1st page, 1st column, 4th paragraph, 17th line - delete 'near' **insert** 'nearer',

1st page, 2nd column, 1st paragraph 12th line - delete 'about' **insert** 'above'

1st page, 2nd column. 2nd paragraph, 13th line - delete 'far' **insert** 'flat'

2nd page, 1st column, 1st paragraph - **add on** - with most single line kites if you angle the kite from the bridle ring and adjust so the kite hangs nose up at an angle of 15 to 20 Degrees to the horizontal, you've got a starting point.

2nd page, 1st column, 4th paragraph, 8th line - delete 'it' **insert** 'As'

9th line delete - 'thinner' **insert** 'thinnest'

10th line delete - 'parameters' **insert** 'perimeter'

3rd page 1st column, 2nd paragraph 1st line - delete 'stunt' **insert** 'short'

3rd page, 2nd column, 2nd paragraph, 6th line - after 'bridle legs' - **insert** 'even though they'

Since publication I am indebted to Tony Slater for his explanation regarding kites rocking around their vertical axis and not gaining much height. The term is "Dutch Roll" his explanation was something to do with model aircraft flying wing down, I'm still trying to work it out. He was speaking so slowly I thought he was groping and said so, but he assured me he was only talking slowly for my benefit and comprehension. I've always said it the blokes a "Real Gent".

I also pass on why he prefers thicker bridle lines on some kites and this is where we come to the cutting edge of space age technology - the knots are easier to undo - and why not I say, simple soul that I am, I use knots that are easy to untie, but who cares!

Good luck with your bridles.

Fred Broadhead

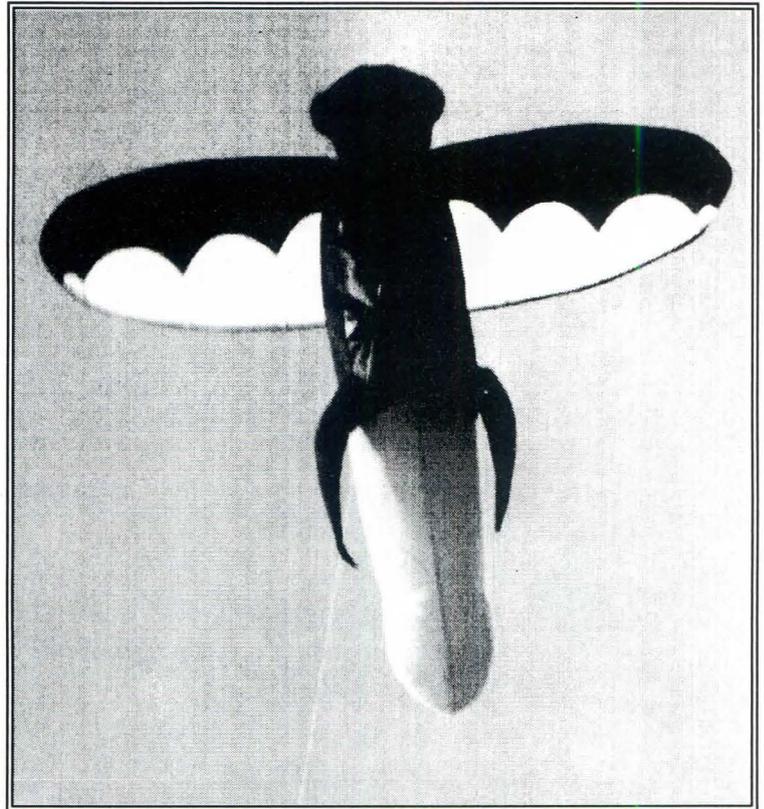
Gadfly

Manufacturer Inflight
Dimensions 160 x150 cm
Type Semi-Framed Inflatable
List Price £88

KITE REVIEW

The what-fly? Well apart from being a single-line (Yes! only one string, for those used to reading reviews for multi-liners) kite, I believe that the Gadfly is an American bug (not the Watergate type) that bites (like Watergate). Designed by Jim Rowlands of Inflight and Frog fame amongst other things, Jim's inspiration for the Gadfly was a film score written by Schosshakovitch and, for those of you old enough to remember, it also used to be the theme music for ITV's "Riley - Ace of Spies" back in the 70s. History lesson over.

Prototyped in 97, it took another 12 months to get to production status. General sale really started in May 98 but I was fortunate to get mine before then during a snooping session in Jim's workshop. I say fortunate because it is quite different from the average single-liner, that I have flown, and certainly it attracted attention whilst flying at Weymouth. So much was the interest that Phil Hewitt, Kite Magic, sold out during that weekend.



The Gadfly is a semi-framed inflatable, the kite has an inflatable body with sparrred wings. The black head has two big bright bulbous eyes, set aside the small meshed vents. The long body built as two colours, features small fins which not only serve to stabilise the kite but act as line attachment points and realistically represent the legs. The wings are flat, basically elliptical in form with a three colour graphic design which are stiffened with 2mm stretchers, the wings are then held in place by 5mm spars. The wing spars connect to a central vertical spar which forms the Gadfly's spine and is positioned to leave the head and lower body supported by wind pressure. The original Gadfly, a lá mine, were offered with a single flat centre moulding but now an additional dihedral moulding is also supplied, each determining the style of flight i.e, manoeuvrable or a sky-anchor.

Out of the bag, assembly is straight forward. However, saying that, the first time out for my Gadfly there was a problem that (symmetry being the secret of kite flying) on investigation proved to be a difference in the bridling to the attachment points. This was very quickly remedied and has never needed re-adjusting. Flying with the flat moulding, which is all I've ever known, the kite launches relatively easy from the hand and after a few pumps the body is inflated and the full beast can be viewed. I fly on 150lb line because although small the Gadfly generates a sizeable tug. It needs constant attention/handling to keep it airborne as it ducks 'n dives and loops but this is what, for me, gives it its attraction. If, or more like when, the Gadfly is drawn to terra-firma, if your really lucky you may be able to re-launch but be prepared for the 'long walk'. The secret, keep it high to give you more time to recover that manic/unexpected dive. Like an Indian Fighter, this is a kite that wants to be flown to be enjoyed. That said, if the wind is constant it will stay put but keep your eye on it. If your looking to put up the Gadfly as a sky-anchor, now that you have the option of using the dihedral moulding this will, I'm told, make the kite more stable, and boring (did I say that?).

Packaging, standard bag but sadly no instructions/tips on flying technique for the uninitiated (remember this kite wants to fly). Price, with your club discount, value for money. Currently available from Kite Magic, Lincoln and the Highwayman. Finally, yes like most kity types, if you see me and say the password "Hi Bob" I will gladly let you have a fly of my Gadfly. Notice I say fly because I don't have/want a dihedral.

Regards, Bob "Hi!" Cruikshanks - social/ble flier!



Caroline Astley ©

▶ PETWORTH KITES ◀ Sunday 4th JULY '99

Please come to our 19th Kite Festival. We need you and your kites for inspiration. Although we won't have a marked out arena this time, there is room for everyone - somewhere! (except sadly - the display teams.) You will find the usual favourites. Petworth Town Band, boats on the lake, Nosebag food all day, delicious homemade teas and icecreams, kite stalls, workshops and competitions for children, and of course the Teddy Picnic, with welcome guests - the Bearly Made It Sky Dive Squad.

For more information and posters contact: Ron or Pat Dell 0181 804 9080
or Joanna Mersey 01798 869214



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