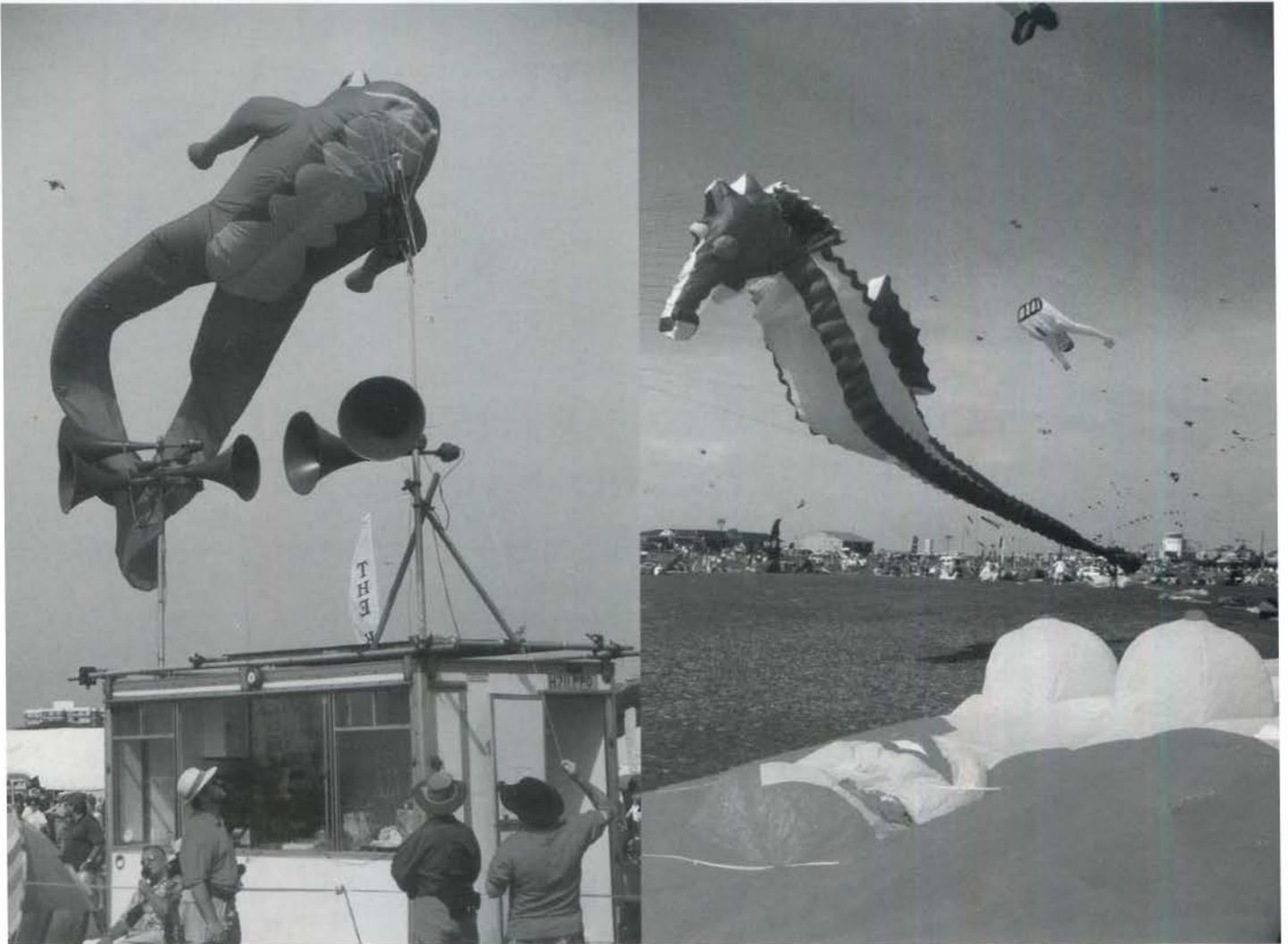


# THE KITEFLIER

ISSUE 84

JULY 2000

PRICE £1.90



**NEWSLETTER  
OF  
THE KITE SOCIETY OF GREAT  
BRITAIN**

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

POWER KITES

BUGGIES

TRICK KITES

SPORTS KITES

DIAMOND KITES

# THE ONE STOP KITE SHOP. WE HAVE THE LOT.

RIPTOP

CARBON

G-FORCE

FIBRE GLASS

RAMIN DOWEL

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

[www.Dunstable-Kites.co.uk](http://www.Dunstable-Kites.co.uk)

[Sales@Dunstable-Kites.co.uk](mailto:Sales@Dunstable-Kites.co.uk)



+ 44 (0) 1582 662 779



+ 44 (0) 1582 666 374

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000

THE ONLY INFORMATION YOU ARE  
EVER LIKELY TO NEED OR WANT.

DUNSTABLE KITES  
2000



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

Tel/Fax: 01206 271489  
email: kite\_society@compuserve.com  
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite\_society



# EDITORIAL

Dear Reader

Those of you who have access to the Internet may have seen some of the comments made, albeit by few people, concerning the way in which The Kite Society represents kitefliers in the U. K. Although, as normal, none of these were addressed to us directly some of the points raised are being considered. More information on this will be in the October issue

You will see some information about Old Warden. This event has been declining steadily over the years - primarily because of more and more events being available to the kite flier and secondly due to the cost of entry - both for the kite flier and the public. The owners of the site have said that they do not wish to host the Spring event in the future and have indicated that the Autumn event will also cease. So September 24th will almost certainly see the last Old Warden kite event. So come along and send the event off with a bang - rather than a whimper!

Finally - two departures from the kite world. Art of Air have disbanded as a team but will still be around flying kites. The other departure, who may be remembered by many of you, is Ron Macey who passed away 20th June - well remembered as the infamous Dropnik Ron.

Gill and Jon

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letters	4
Old Warden	6
Ken Knight Appeal	8
Two Pints of Lager and a Bottle of Wine	9
Cleethorpes Reports	10
BBC Event Reports	11
Kite Directory Updates	14
Private Ads	14
Membership Form	15
Scottish Parakart Association	16
Spring Buggy Blast	18
Poole Kite Picnic	21
In the North of Scotland	22
Event News	23
Portsmouth 2000	26
Dieppe	28
Events List	31
M.K.F. Extra	32
Aerodyne	38
Roman Candle	44

### Front Cover Photo

Several of the kites at Portsmouth 1999. Will the frog eat the speaker again this time? Kite - Jim Rowlands, Flyer The Beccles Bunch. Seahorse by Rolf Zimmermann and The Mermaid Upper half - Marco Cassadio. All appearing at Portsmouth 2000.

Photos: Gill Bloom

**THE U.K.'S NO 1 FIGHTER KITES**

**8 Exclusive Designs available in 3 Controllable Sizes**

**New for 2000**

<b>MYLAR MAC</b>	Prices from just £6.50
<b>MINI-MAC</b>	12 inch Spine £8.00
<b>MIDI-MAC</b>	16 inch Spine £12.00
<b>MEGA-MAC</b>	24 inch Spine £23.00

**\*EACH KITE TESTED & FLOWN - READY TO FLY\***

Also available:  
Indian Cotton (100m rolls)  
Flying reels  
Expert Tuition & Advise

Ripstop Nylon or Mylar Kites to suit Novice to Expert Flyers

TRADE ENQUIRES WELCOME

**THE ORIGINAL NO-SEW FIGHTER**

Visit our website to order or for a FREE colour brochure call  
Malcolm Mcleod (Mac) 3 Pump Lane, Waterloo, PO8 9TS  
Telephone: 0239 2591171  
[www.macfighterkites.co.uk](http://www.macfighterkites.co.uk)

# Letters

## **From Martin Harris**

It was with surprise that I read the very emotional letter posted in the April edition of "Kiteflier" by John Thornton - as a member of what Mr Thornton calls "the inexperienced multi-liners who are a danger to everyone", I thought it appropriate to comment.

I (and my family) attend as many festivals as possible, and we are always delighted to see the likes of the "Peter Lynn monsters" alongside the single line and multi line fliers (dare I mention to Mr T that many of the people I see fly a mixture of 1 line, 2 line and "monsters"), and have not noticed the bias, which Mr Thornton obviously feels threatened by, toward any particular discipline. With reference to the boredom factor of a multi-line demonstration, I'm not sure how Mr Thornton can believe that watching a demonstration of single line flying is less boring than a multi-line display (Ray Bethell, Sky Symphony, Bi Dance or whoever) - but am always open to changing my opinion - perhaps he could explain his thoughts.

In my view, the attendance at "mixed" kite festivals will continue to rise (there was a fantastic non-flier attendance at Hardwick Hall last weekend), but if he so desires, perhaps Mr Thornton should organise a dedicated single line festival - I would be delighted to attend.

## **From Julie White**

The amazing Zammo kite. I have some very basic product literature for a kite called "the amazing Zammo kite" - and I am curious to learn more or even see the kite.

Manufactured and designed by Airsay of Ladbroke Grove, London (Reg design No 969645) it has many claims:

Won the British Standards Institutions 'Kite Flyer of the Year' award in 1974.

In Windsor in August '74, staked to the ground, flew untended for eight days.

Sussex Downs in September '74 flew on seven miles of line (with permission from the Air Ministry.)

Won a height flying championship in Northamptonshire in March '75.

If anyone has information on this kite then please contact me on 01332 669203 or email: [julie@kitefliers.co.uk](mailto:julie@kitefliers.co.uk)

## **From Gill Heron**

Calling all North London based Teddy Squads. Can you help? I think that para-teddies are a great idea. We would love to be able to put on an event at my children's school in Potters Bar. Our summer fair next year will be on June 23rd so we may aim for then. If anyone would like to help and see if we have enough room please get in touch - 63 Frampton Road, Potters Bar EN6 1JF or email: [siheron@geocities.com](mailto:siheron@geocities.com).

## **From David Webster**

Some facts and questions. The Kite Group directory is now published annually. The Wessex Kite Group was founded by four members in January 1981. The first Wessex Kite Festival was at Royal Victoria Country Park, Hampshire in 1982. The first Bournemouth Kite Festival was held at Hengistbury Head in August 1984. One of the founder members, Ted Ladd, won the best decorated kite trophy at Dieppe in the early 1980's.

Can readers answer the following questions?

1. What Kite Club is the oldest in Britain?
2. When did they promote their first events and where?
3. Any outstanding achievements by the above club members?

Members of the Kite Society should have a list of British Kite records, e.g. altitude, speed, duration and flying kite trains, also indoor duration - or have they been too busy for the last twenty years to attempt any records?

# Letters

Incidentally the Guinness Book of Records have now dropped kite records from their last editions.

*Review of The Kiteflier Magazine to the Millenium.*

- October 1979                    The first issue of KON - the Kiteliars Occasional Newsletter
- July 1982 (issue 12)        First larger paper size. Accepted trade advertisements.
- October 1982 (issue 13)    Appeal for contributions - cartoons, plans and jokes.
- July 1985 (issue 24)        New title - The Kite Society Newsletter
- October 1988 (issue 37)    First issue to have 32 pages. "British kitefliers are just discovering synchronised team stunt flying and created STACK". STACK news first issue September 1988.
- October 1989                The Kiteflier - bumper edition anniversary issue. Special newsletter 19 kite designs from the last 10 years.
- January 1992 (issue 50)    50th issue of The Kiteliear - 60 pages!
- July 1995 (issue 64)        Reply to the Editorial "Yes we did spot the colour photographs. Three issues with colour then next one missed and a brief return.
- August 1999                Saw the pageant of kites from the last 20 years at Portsmouth Kite Festival.
- The Kite Society was 20 years old on 22nd September 1999
- January 2000 (Issue 82)    Gill and Jon Bloom have been struggling since the start of the magazine(20 years) for articles and plans from readers!

## From John Wood

Having subscribed to the Kiteflier for many years and had the pleasure of seeing two practical articles published - "The Cheapo Spool" and "A Flapping 3 metre Span Blackbird Kite" the editors request for more letters has prompted me to write again.

I became interested in designing and constructing single line kites about 20 years ago - being a very active glider pilot/instructor and power pilot. I have spent many hours at each end of glider launching cables and aerotow ropes, so when I go on holiday being on the end of a kite line is a natural.

I am particularly interested in load carrying kites (my largest being a 3 metre Cody) and have succeeded in lifting Radio Antennas and cameras. To trigger the camera shutter I have used a thin fishing line but wish to improve on this without resorting to expensive radio control equipment.

I have recently purchased a "wireless" door chime which was made in China and appears to be soundly constructed. It has a range of 500ft in the clear and costs about £10. I am now working on a method of operating the camera shutter using the "ding dong" of the receiver and possibly extending the range by fitting a small antenna on the bell push transmitter.

Can we have some letters on kite camera operation please!

*Can anybody help with articles on Aerial Photography!*

# Old Warden

We received the following via email - our replies are in italics:

My family and I have been members of your society for nearly nine years and I am sending you this in the hope that you could answer a few questions about Old Warden spring 2000.

My first question is to ask why you were not at a festival that you are supposed to have organised? *The reason we were not present was that we had committed to another event in France for that weekend. The arrangements of which were made last November.*

How were those who attended to know what clearance height they were allowed to fly to? *The Shuttleworth Collection had a copy of the clearance granted from the CAA and this was displayed by the Gate Team.*

Surely this in turn compromises the safety of all that attended? *Not if they fly safely*

Does not this worry you? *Again if kite fliers fly safely this is not an issue*

As to the date change I wonder when you knew that the date was going to be changed? I heard that you knew in January. If this is so then why were members not told of this and left to find out from nonmembers? *We do not know who told you of this but the first we knew of this was when it was included on a flier from the Shuttleworth collection together with a letter concerning the change in arrangements which was received on the 1st March. As soon as we knew we sent an email to all groups for which we had an email address, all shops for which we had an email address and posted this information to rec.kites newsgroup.*

Do you really just want Old Warden to stop happening? Have you not got the bottle to stand up and say or do you hope that it will just die a death if left alone? *We are currently negotiating with the Great Ouse Kite Fliers for them to take on the running of this event (but see their answer below). Since the introduction of an entry fee for kitefliers (which was outside of our control) plus the latest increase in entry fee to £5 means that less and less kitefliers are attending and the public simply cannot afford to attend if they have a family.*

For people that are suppose to promote kite flying you did a poor job again. I for one feel that you have let your members down and have been doing so over Old Warden for the last two years. I feel that an explanation should be published in the next issue of the Kite Society magazine. As to whether or not this will happen, only you can say? There are many like me, who sometimes feel you can not and will not publish any form of criticism of yourself's. *It is not that we do not publish criticism it is that no-one - and this seems to include*

*yourself - has the bottle to send us the criticism for publication - they are more than happy to talk behind our backs and say things to each other but NOONE has said it to us*

I hope that at least you will reply to this e-mail so I can in turn put it in our club magazine. Mr. K Heasman  
¥

As mentioned above we have been in contact with the Great Ouse Kite Fliers since November 99. The following is their eventual decision received from Peter West in May:

I have to advise that the offer cannot be taken up. There are several reasons, the main ones being: the admittance charge which is propose by Shuttleworth seems to be putting people off the visit. I know that the charge includes admission to "The Collection", but that is very small and once seen is rarely revisited.

The event needs a "boost" by providing attractions. The GOKF is committed this year, and probably in future years, to arranging at least two main attractions of their own. Although not a small club, there appears only to be a few of us who find the time to organise things (what's new about that?). The "few" are pushed enough and cannot realistically take on any further work for the club. As such we don't have the facilities to provide the said "boost".

Attendances are down anyway. The April event saw only one row of visitors cars against the viewing fence.  
¥

It seems to us that there is very much a feeling of the good old days in all this correspondance. The last time we can recall there being several rows of cars at Old Warden, and many traders as well was before they started charging kitefliers entry - quite a number of years ago.

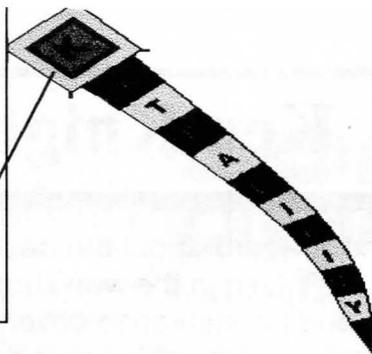
The other curious thing is the way, suddenly, our absence from the event causes so much grief. This is the third or fourth Old Warden we have not been to - what is so different about this one?

Old Warden served its purpose when kite festivals were few and far between. However, we were prepared to continue with the event, even after the GOKF's negative reply, but we received the following from The Shuttleworth Collection.

"After many years of holding the 'Spring Kite Festival' at Shuttleworth (Old Warden) Aerodrome, we are confirming to you in writing one year's notice of termination of this event. Therefore **no** Spring Kite Festival will take place in 2001".

# KITEABILITY

**KITES & MATERIALS**  
**2 GARFIELD ROAD**  
**ENFIELD MIDDLESEX**  
**EN3 4RP U.K.**



"You should take it up full time"  
Old Harry said to Mabel  
"With your kite making skills  
You really are most able"

All those widgey things you need  
Plus ripstop string and spars  
Into beautifully crafted kites  
On a long string of to mars

"As a single line kite maker  
You can really do your bit  
For unfortunately as things stand  
They're as rare as rocking horse !!!!"

You know who'll have the bits we need  
Our friends they'll always be  
For a service you can rely on  
That's **KITEABILITY**



**PHONE / FAX: 44 (0)20 8804 9080**  
**EMAIL [patnron@compuserve.com](mailto:patnron@compuserve.com)**  
**WEBSITE**  
**[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/  
homepages/patnron](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/patnron)**  
**Proprietor: Mrs P Dell**

Don't forget, we have workshop line @ £14.00 per 1kilo kop

**Free Spirit**  
Kites

## FREE SPIRIT KITES

FULL SHOPPING BASKET SYSTEM

ONLINE KITE SHOP:- <http://www.freespiritkites.com>

Stunt, Sport, Soft Foil, and Single Line Kites

Polyester, Dacron, Dyneema and PROTEC lines

Ripstop Nylon in .6oz .75oz and Balloon

Glass Fibre and Carbon Fibre Spar in Rod and Tube

Lot's of Sport kite and Single Line Kite Bits

Many Different Payment Options Including:-

Credit Card Via Secure Server or Phone,

Cheque, and even free quotations.

**Free Spirit**  
Kites



**YOU CAN MAKE QUANTITY CHANGES AT ANY TIME ON OUR  
REVIEW PAGE**



**EVEN AFTER YOU HAVE VISITED THE CASHIER TO SEE HOW MUCH  
THE POSTAGE WILL COST!!**



**ALL ITEMS ON THE SITE ARE IN STOCK  
OUT OF STOCK ITEMS ARE REMOVED DAILY**

Hot cut and Handmade Kite Information Pages still at :- <http://www.fsk.enta.net/>  
email :- [fsk@enta.net](mailto:fsk@enta.net)



Mail Order to:- **FREE SPIRIT KITES**  
West Midlands House, Gipsy Lane, Willenhall, WEST MIDLANDS WV13 2HA  
Tel:-01902-782490 Fax:-0121-609-7001



# Ken Knight Fire Appeal

Many of you will have heard about the destruction of Ken's workshop at Dimmer, near Castle Cary in Somerset. Ken lived in the workshop - so most of his household effects are gone along with all his tools - and no insurance cover. It was definitely arson, but there seems to be no evidence as to who did it. One of his cats died, another lost all its whiskers and at least 2 of its 9 lives.

So - now is the time for all good kites to come to the aid of "our Ken", "A true Knight" - as Ron Dell put it!

Ken got back from South Africa at the end of May, where he was teaching underprivileged kids how to make and fly kites. He learned about the fire while out there, and some fund-raising occurred, so he had some clothes suitable for UK weather, on his return. Harry & I saw him on Sunday 11th June, and he is still unsure as to what his future holds. The main workshop building is gutted, with holes in the roof, but he has no plans to put it back into order. He is converting a large lorry trailer into living quarters, and has most of the basics of life, gypsy caravan style. He has a good stock of balloon fabric and various other fabrics, but all his flying line, sewing thread, spars and fittings are gone, along with ALL his tools & machines.

Contributions of kite materials are invited, along with any items suitable for auction at the Portsmouth Kite Festival, on Saturday 26th August. (See Portsmouth page).

There is also a "wish list" of replacements for items destroyed in the fire. Some of the items are not cheap, but if you have any suitable items that you are not using, then we urge you to think seriously about passing them on - any hand tools (woodwork especially), power tools, especially a bandsaw, hot knife, multi-meter, PC sound card (he has been given a small Pentium) - just look in your shed, and if anything has not been used within a year, think of "Sir Kenny" please?

Kenny does so much good work, and the total cost of what he lost in the fire is estimated at £25,000 and 15 years of his life - we can guarantee any usable items would be gratefully received and put to good use.

Call us if you have ANYTHING to offer - we can collect. Ron Dell at Kiteability of Enfield is Treasurer for the appeal. A special account has been opened at Barclays Bank Enfield, sort Code 20-29-77, Acc No. 00569658. Contributions can be made by Bank Giro Credit or Credit Card, from your local bank. Cheques should be made payable to Ken Knight Fund.

**Richard Nourse**

**01929 554690**

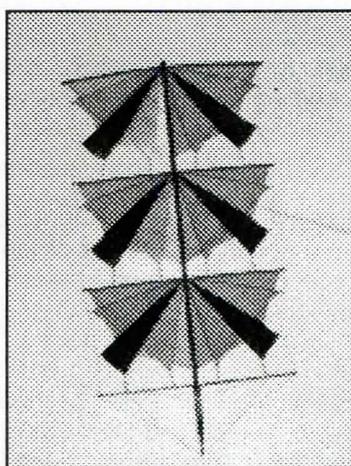
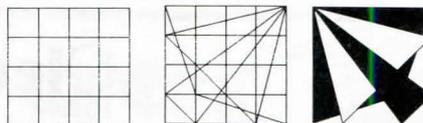
**richard.nourse@virgin.net**



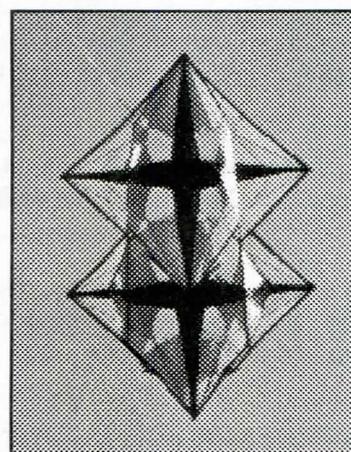
Ken Knight discusses the finer points with Harry Peart.

**Two Pints of good lager and a bottle of wine  
At the risk of being Uncool make a Single Liner**

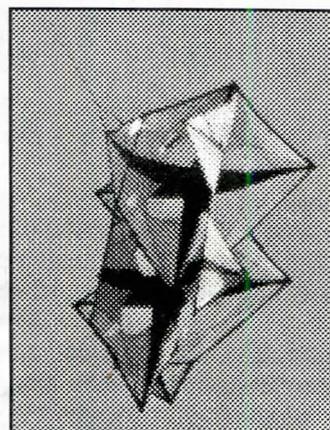
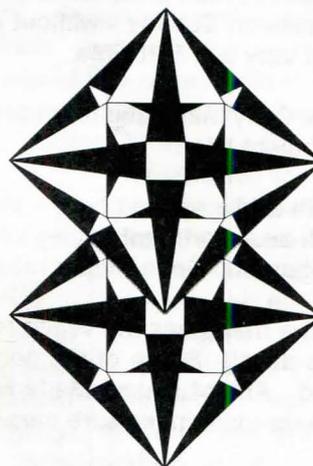
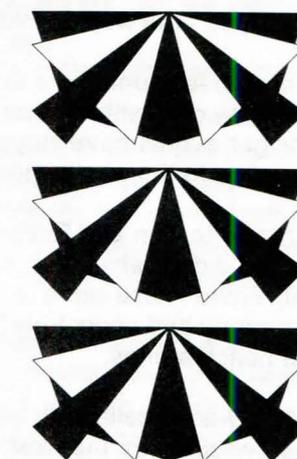
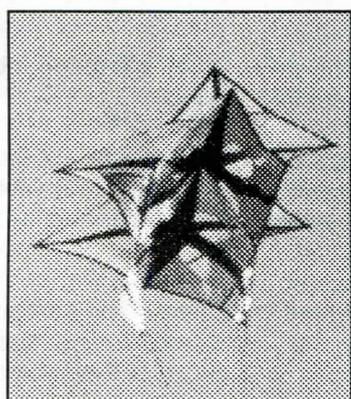
A different route to Kite Making (Second Session)



Over analysis creates paralysis, better to blunder through your design stages and at least create something, warts and all, than never getting started on a project that could turn out to be a cracker! Check out the back issue for the no-plan idea, what follows is a review of what I've learnt so far. Using the arrow icon at the time of writing I have completed two kites that fly well (they stay in the air). Under construction is the third, I don't know how it's going to look yet but I'm working on part of it actually rotating.



The 6 arrow kite (think of name someone) is flat and the sparring is rigid - the link cords from sail to the next cross-spar are elastic. As the wind inflates the sail it creates dihedrals and stabilises. It's proven so far to be a light wind kite. In strong winds when at a low elevation it pulls too much but it can also fly above and overhead too far to a point where ultimately it flies into a negative angle of attack. The cross-spars are bridle supported. All the bridle lines come together at a point at around 25-30% of the average chord length of the kite. The only glitch with the kite was swaying from side to side and was sorted by fitting a fin to the front keel face at the bottom of the kite. Stability is 100% improved. The lines to the lower keel tension the upper sections though it would have been better, with hindsight, to have put this system at the top where the majority of the lift is, however, for me, it's a cracking kite and only needs one spar insertion to assemble. Just needs a name!



#2 Kite - 'Treekite' has 14 Arrow panels. Much bigger but easier to make and bridle. The maiden flight of this kite had it caught in a tree at Sutton Park for two weeks, I thought I could live without it but nah, it had to come home. After a full day's expedition, 4 hours in trees, extension ladders, ropes, string, saws, cuts, slashes, bondage, wardens and even more eventually it was retrieved.

Two assembled panels (see middle right) lay on top of one another and are tensioned by two horizontal cross spars on the back panel and two vertical spars on the front 3d section. The single central keel is tensioning both panels except for the trailing tip on the back panel which projects out backwards. This apart from looking different was some small attempt to reduce the flying overhead experienced with the 6 arrow kite. Any ideas/feedback appreciated.

mJohn

email:kinetic@skysculpture.fsnet.co.uk

# Cleethorpes Report

Cleethorpes - the way festivals ought to be

Call me old fashioned, but the way I look at it festivals should be laid back. Kite flying is supposed to be relaxing, lots of easy chat with kindred spirits, the odd beer or three, a little gentle chilling - nothing too strenuous. Some of the bigger events have stopped being fun in my view, so much so that Carolyn and I no longer go. Cleethorpes returned us to the way it should be - well run, fun and above all seriously chilled out.

Top marks to Ann and Eddie McGrath who with Andrew Pigeon of North East Lincolnshire Council organised the bash and did an absolutely top class job. Malcolm Goodman rustled up a goodly splattering of top international talent, White Horse ran a seriously overworked workshop, George Webster gave his usual flawless (well almost) commentary and yours truly just mooched around, gently prodding the occasional kite flyer to do their stuff in one of the beach arenas.

Weather was excellent on Saturday with a pleasant breeze along the beach. Crowds were reasonable and were well entertained by the likes of Sjef von Zeeland with his complex Rotor box kites and Rolf Sturm with his well known French postman and Snoopy, the Red Baron. Rolf also did some gentle bear dropping and bunged a few sweets on Sunday - without major loss of life. Rolf was joined by Juergen Ebbinghaus with some beautiful soft, and very big, fish kites.

The Cody Manlifting team set up for a try on Saturday but the wind was never right - too gentle early on and a little turbulent later.

With Eddie and led by Guido van Hove, some truly wondrous drumming was to be heard throughout the weekend with an assortment of players drifting in and out of the group including Tony 'TC' Cartwright, Alex de Beleyer, Chris Mabon and Sean Turpin (does this boy do everything??).

In the marquees the White Horse Kite Flyers were kept under pressure running a kite workshop. Nearly 1,000 in two days!! Some of the poor longsuffering Starving Horse team looked as if they never wanted to see another sled. And of course Marla Miller, with Ron, was there to keep spirits up and pockets empty - those b\*\*\*\*\* raffle tickets - just make sure ours win this time Marla.

Also in the marquees (one was kept as a rest area for flyers and a drummers performing space), Ton and Maria Vinken from Holland demonstrated the art of miniature kites whilst the Malaysian team, led by Ismail Mat Taib had some of the locals producing the sails for small wau balans.

The Malaysians managed to fly both days, but the weather did not suit the wau's - they still made a beautiful sight and two were presented to the Mayor and Tourism Director of North East Lincs Council.

Other highlights included a reception hosted by the Council on Saturday night, a couple of excellent rok fights, some fighter kite demos and off course Art of Air who coped admirably with some slightly tricky winds and one of their number on a business trip! Gerald (sorry, misplaced surname) did a sterling job and one routine was perfect, including their very tricky rainbow manoeuvre.

Sunday dawned with persistent drizzle. The crowds stayed away. It did not look good. Then around midday, as a people started to walk along the prom, the clouds lifted and another days excellent flying ensued. Again the European Air Gallery who put on an excellent show on Saturday, were able to show 10 of their stunning edo's.

Talking to the traders, they were happy with the festival although there we did have George's one slight gaff. Many of you will know George is good at promoting both sponsors and traders and usually points out that the traders include kite specialists who carry a 'wider range of more sophisticated kites than you will find in your toy shop'. True, but the local toy shop owner was remonstrating with George in a flash! Well at the least Cleethorpes dentists weren't out to get him.

Thanks Anne, Eddie, Andrew, Malcolm and George - and of course all our friends from the kiting world - I was seriously chilled - here's to next year.

**Jerry Swift**

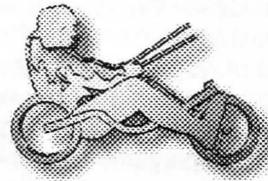
# BBC Event Reports

---

## British Buggy Club Report - Weymouth 2000



Many thanks to the buggiers that came to Weymouth and showed their support! Even though we couldn't buggy very much in the middle of the day, those that attended managed to survive the scorching heat and get in some runs in the morning. There were also many people doing the odd moon hop with their kites and managed to try out some water-foil kites for some extreme surfing in the late afternoon. We would also like to thank the people who did some kite surfing and showed the mass crowds what power kiting is all about.

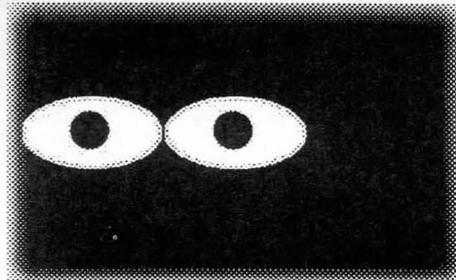


## British Buggy Club Report - Wroughton 2000



Thanks everyone for joining in this worthwhile event. The fog gave us all a worrying thought and although there was an apparent lack of wind for the Saturday, the beer tent was happily propped up by the likely lads that attend every event where there is the odd beverage! Those that stayed late into the night also got the chance to join in with the 'micro-scooter derby' and watch Mad John Eaton pulling off some tricks with his buggy in the dark!

Sunday proved to us all that the very best always happens when there is the odd mad buggier about with several of them getting the odd smash and burn. We would like to thank Ian Meredith for his astounding performance of bugging instruction in a radio interview also when there wasn't a breath of wind and everyone who joined in with the 'get towed behind a van with a skateboard event, you all showed us what a good time means! Many thanks from the British Buggy Club to those that attended...see you all next year!



Mad John Eaton gives us a smile while bugging in the dark!

## Future Events

### British Buggy Club goes for the northern lights! - Sunderland 2000

The British Buggy Club will be joining together their northern members this July for the Sunderland Spectacular at the Sunderland International Kite Festival. At the start of the summer season the buggiers will be out in force at the epic festival that it always is! They also hope that many buggiers from the southern regions will make the effort to join them in Britain's biggest kite festival. Their usual antics of running over the photographers will again

# BBC Event Reports

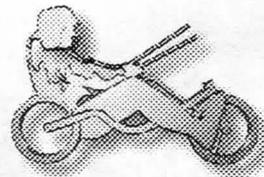
---



be in play as well as joining in cabaret night and having a jam session with the big bass drummers in the evening's entertainment. This is one extreme kite festival no-one can afford to miss!

## **British Buggy Club putting on a show! - Portsmouth 2000**

The British Buggy Club will be putting on an awesome display of kite buggying and mountain-boarding at this year's Portsmouth Kite Festival at the end of August. Due to the increase of popularity at this event and guaranteed sunshine and excellent facilities, the British Buggy Club aims to put on a huge display of tricks, spins and acrobatic stunts that aims to wow the crowd and increase the boom of buggying that has been happening throughout the year 2000! Be there!



# Kite's-eye-view



**BY JANE MATTHEWS**

IT SOUNDS almost Heath Robinson: take one kite, attach to a winch and add a camera with auto focus. Mix with a clear windy day and await the results.

Yet already Edhen Vean – Cornish for ‘little bird’ – is proving itself able to boldly go where no aerial camera has gone before. And at around £400 to build, its creators, OU graduates John and Sandy Colby, claim it puts aerial photography well within the reach of schools and universities who could not contemplate the expense of chartering a plane.

Says John: “This is probably the lowest cost form of aerial photography and certainly the most transportable, as it packs into one very large or two normal-sized rucksacks.

“It was also entirely made using hand tools and materials from a local do-it-yourself store, because we reasoned that what could be easily acquired and built by hand, on our kitchen table could also be repaired in the field in a tent.”

Active members of the OU Geological

Society’s East Midlands branch, John and Sandy won a bursary from the University’s Ian Gass Fund to develop a means of taking aerial pictures to illustrate their forthcoming book on the geology and mining history of Cornwall. Proudly bearing the OU’s blue and gold colours, Edhen Vean is particularly useful in photographing sites which are inaccessible or environmentally sensitive. Neither criteria applies when the kite gets one of its first outings of the season at the OU’s Open Day on June 24 (see p18).

For those unable to get to the Walton Hall campus, and in the spirit of open access, details of how to build Edhen Vean, together with a short history of its evolution, are available – with no strings attached – to anyone interested in building their own version via the Colby’s website: <http://www.colby-bos.demon.co.uk>.

---

This article first appeared in *Open Eye*, in October, 1999.

## UK One Sky One World Events on the Web - From Jim Cronin

The UK OSOW event pages are now up and running, either go via my site at [www.jims-place.org.uk](http://www.jims-place.org.uk) or directly to the OSOW pages at [www.jims-place.net](http://www.jims-place.net).

1999 results and 2000 event venues are slowly being submitted - with the emphasis on “slowly”! I cannot provide the service without the information – that part is up to you.....

When I started planning this, people told me: “It will be an uphill battle”. Prove them wrong! Send general comments to [jim@myhouse.ezesurf.co.uk](mailto:jim@myhouse.ezesurf.co.uk) or [jim@jims-place.org.uk](mailto:jim@jims-place.org.uk)

Send OSOW event info to [osow@jims-place.org.uk](mailto:osow@jims-place.org.uk)

Have a look at the site – see what I’m trying to achieve. To those who have contacted me – thanks for taking the trouble. To those who haven’t – why not? Come on people, if you want this to work I need some assistance!

## Pelham Book of Kites From Vic Winton

I notice that Amazon.com are listing the Pelham book again.

It appears that it has been re issued by Overlook Press in the USA but is listed by Amazon on their UK web site as available at £9.13. Issue date is June 2000 and delivery is quoted as 1 - 2 weeks. ISBN 1585670170. I understand that this is basically a reprint of the original volume - same cover and size .

A golden opportunity for new kite enthusiasts to obtain a copy of this wonderful book.

## From the Telegraph Magazine

Object of Desire. The new obsession with creating rooms that smell as good as they look has spawned yet another innovation: the scented kite. They come filled with a choice of two scents - lapsang souchong tea or gingerbread - and cost £25 from

# Kite Directory Changes

Below are some additions or changes to entries in the Directory published with the last issue.

## Classification

**S** Shop  
**W** Wholesaler  
**R** Retailer  
**F** Festival Trader  
**M** Manufacturer  
**O** Mail Order  
**C** Catalogue Available

## Stock

**SK** Sports Kites  
**SL** Single Line Kites  
**BK** Books and Magazines  
**KM** Kite Making Material  
**BG** Buggies and Equipment  
**JG** Juggling Equipment  
**PK** Power Kites and Equipment

### **Middlesex**

#### **Inter Active Kites**

[ / / / / M / O / C ]  
36 Lawrence Drive  
Ickenham  
Uxbridge  
UB10 8RW  
Tel: 01895 633661  
Fax: 01895 633661  
theskydancer@compuserve.com  
[SK / / / / / / / / ]  
Quad line only

#### **Wessex Kite Group**

David Webster  
16 Brackley Way  
Hammonds Green  
Totton  
Southampton  
SO40 3HN  
Tel: 023 8086 0255

Free membership. Regular Sunday afternoons flying sessions on the 2nd Sunday of month at various venues and at Stoney Cross Common in the New Forest on the 4th Sunday of the month. Meetings jointly arranged with Solent Kite Flyers.

#### **Essex Kite Group**

Mrs M Brewer  
Secretary  
Brook Fields  
Crais Lane  
Mount Bures  
Suffolk  
Cu O8 5AW.

#### **Coastguard Kites**

[S / / R / / / O / C]  
Coastguard Lane  
Fairlight  
Hastings

East Sussex  
TN35 4AB  
Tel: 01424 813812  
info@coastguard-kites.co.uk  
http://www.coastguard-kites.co.uk  
10AM - 6PM 7 days a week  
[SK/SL/BK/ /BG/ /PK]  
Cash - 10% CC - 5%

#### **Cardiff Games**

{S / / R / / / O / / }  
8 Duke Street Arcade  
Cardiff  
CF10 2AZ  
Tel: 029 20343818  
Fax: 029 20343818  
shop@cardiffgames.co.uk  
http://www.cardiffgames.co.uk/  
Monday-Saturday, 10am-5:30pm  
[SK/SL / / / / / ]  
Games (boardgames, roleplaying, etc)  
Cash - 10%

## Private Ads

### **For Sale:**

HQ Mistral (Yellow Wing Tips) £50.00  
HQ Jam Session (Rainbow) £30.00  
HQ Jam Session Vented (Rainbow) £60.00  
Flexifoil Level 7 Stranger (Retro, Blue and Black) £60.00  
Area 51 (Mullins Kites) £50.00  
Spirit of the Air Omega XS (Grey with Black/White central section) £60.00  
Nasa Wing 210 (Purple/Black) £50.00

All kites in good to excellent condition

Contact Roger Hazelgrove Tele/Fax 01895 253184 Evenings/weekends or Email roger.judy@britishlibrary.net

**For Sale:** Peter Lynn Kitesurf Board. Hardly used. £350. Telephone Dan 01903 700410.

**Have you seen these kites?.** Stolen, with several other kites, just before Bristol Kite Festival 1999.

Play Sail  
Beach Balls  
Pahntom  
Highflyers Team Spirit  
World's Apart 6ft Parafoil  
World's Apart Blazer  
World's Apart Delta  
Rainbow Delta  
Pokite  
Cabana  
Cockerel Spinner

**For Sale:** Kitesurf Board. Converted custom windsurfer. 7.5ft long. Excellent for light winds. £120. Telephone Dan 01903 700410. Please contact Lesley/Bob on -1726 61632 or 07971 746559 if you can help.

# 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.

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.

More information about The Kite Society, U.K. based kite groups, kite traders and kite events is available via the internet at [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite\\_society](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kite_society).

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.

<b>Membership Type</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<b>Individual</b>	£10.00
<b>Family - all members in the same household.</b>	£11.00
<b>O.A.P.</b>	£8.00
<b>O.A.P. - Family (Husband &amp; Wife)</b>	£9.00
<b>Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail</b>	£12.00
<b>Overseas - Airmail</b>	£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**

# Scottish Parakart Association

Once upon a time in the frozen North (Aberdeen to be exact) some errant kite fanatics found it fun to be hauled around a field by big kites.

Being poor and having spent all their pocket money on these big kites, one of them had the idea of making three wheeled steeds to sit in – thus was born the series of “Rapid Rabbit” buggies seen careering round the field in all states of carefree abandon.

All manner of power was used, from the ubiquitous stack of flexifoils to larger and larger Peels, and stacked Bombass's. As the sport developed in the South, so the technology slowly crept Northward, seeing the appearance of four liners, and manufactured buggies.

At this time there were two organisations in the South for like-minded individuals to join [and apparently argue) about – the British Buggy Club and the Parakart Association. In the North there was no favouritism, and some joined the BBC, whilst others joined the PKA. Later some of us decided to test the waters (or airs) South of the Border, taking in various events, and the PKA National series.

This entailed travelling 8,800 miles during the season, and involved days off to travel down and travel back from events – most unpopular with partners who preferred that holidays be spent doing other things than watching their beloved chase up and down a beach on a kite-powered tricycle!

For example St Annes is the nearest event at 331 miles each way, whilst Brean is 528 miles each way, Weston s-Mare 519, Pembrey 523 etc. This was the very same situation which was instrumental in the demise of the first (and only) Scottish Kite Team – the Vapour Trails.

Two seasons was enough to cause a minor mutiny – remembering that there was Washington and Bristol to go to ON TOP of the mileages already spent on bugging trips!

By this time there was quite a large number of existing and potential buggiers all looking for an organisation to help them and provide a central focus of activities, so we had discussions with as many as possible from all over the North of Scotland with a view to starting a Scottish Organisation - after all, we have the Kite Club of Scotland, through which we have access to this august journal, (and now we have our own Parliament - but that's another story!)

We examined the pros and cons of each organisation carefully, and eventually settled on the PKA from sheer practical (read economic!) reasoning. What we need is the ability to raise money on our own recognisance through the Sports Council or other official bodies (Sponsorship? In Scotland? You must be joking? – it ain't golf and it ain't tartan!).

The PKA, through the affiliation to the International Federation of Sand and Land Yachts has this recognition – there are also PKAs in France, Germany, Belgium, and Holland, enabling us to apply for grants to take part in International events in our own right.

Talks were started with the PKA who were extremely helpful in providing all the information we needed, and so on the 12th of April the Scottish Parakart Association came into being. We were aided by Kite n Stuff of Aberdeen ( <http://www.kitesnstuff.com> ) who have donated the start-up and running costs of our web site for the first two years ( <http://www.spka.co.uk> ).

# Scottish Parakart Association

The membership (potentially 65 at this time) will enable us to run our own social events, Club Events and a National Series that will allow us (thanks to the recognition by the Sports Council) to send our best Competitors to the Internationals.

There are some really good up and coming youngsters who seem to thrive on competition flying larger and ever more powerful (and expensive) kites, while others simply enjoy meeting and buggying (and drinking a few lemonades!)

With the appointment of the National Trainer (ME!) we have already started a training scheme to bring members up to the standards required to be safe in a fleet of buggies, and the basics of racing for those that are interested.

We have made four (regional) TV appearances since November last year, including a full day teaching the presenter to buggy, which has given the sport a good boost. We have started a demonstration team that already has bookings at various shows, fetes, games, and other events to raise the profile of the sport and let potential members "have a go".

The largest of these will be the Aberdeen Kite and Hot air Balloon Festival on the 29th and 30th of July. (phone me or go to <http://www.breezefestivals.co.uk> for details – we need all the kite flyer and buggiers we can get)

Application is being made, (again thanks to our standing with the Sports Council) for a lottery grant to enable us to buy six buggies and sets of kites for training, and have-a-go days instead of relying on the goodwill of Kites n Stuff who currently let us use their demo equipment.

This will also give some youngsters who cannot afford their own equipment the chance to learn to buggy and perhaps even compete if they are interested enough.

So if you are visiting Scotland and would like to come and buggy with us, or if you live in Scotland and would like to join, please give me a call on 07968 062082, or <mailto:info@spka.co.uk>.

Hopefully I will be able to put you in touch with someone who already buggies in the area you are visiting or living in, and advise on the best sites.

We will be delighted to see you.

The hospitality is great – I came up for two days in 1974 and .....

**Gordon R Blakemore.**  
Scottish Parakart Association.

# Spring Buggy Blast

## Five go to Spring Break Buggy Blast Ivanpah, March 2000

It's cold, as I slide out of bed, and fling open the curtains of our hotel room to be greeted by a sunny vista. (It was raining as we departed from Manchester). The mountaintops are covered in snow, and I fumble with the controls to get the heater working, ahhhh, WARMTH!

Matt looks up and squints, "Mornin' Steve".  
"Want a coffee?" I enquire.  
"Yea", replies Matt, wrapping himself in the sparse bedclothing.  
I turn on the TV to find the local weather report.

Slowly, the group, Garry Box, Sam Eaton, Matt Hurrell, Neil Wallis-Tennant, & I, begin to assemble in room 6101, ready to amble down for breakfast. As the lift doors open, we are greeted with Ting,Ting,Ting,-- Bong, Bong, Bong,-- Ker-chunk, Ker-chunk, Ker-chunk! Oh ! I forgot to mention that we are staying at the Primadonna Casino Resort and the 'Bandits' clang away non-stop. Our hotel's called ' Buffalo Bill's ', well this is America!

So here we all are, having breakfast in the Wagon Master coffee shop, in a Wild West setting, with folks stuffing coins into bandits, and it's only 8.30am !!! Bizarre !!! I look to my left and see Dean Jordan, Freeman, and friends already tucking in. We manage a quick round of hello's, and introductions, and Dean manages to tells us about Jeff Howard's bust wrist, and the story to go with it, before the food arrives. We spot a few other faces, during breakfast and I get the directions to the Lakebed entrance and the Lotto Mini-Mart, so we can pick up provisions on the way. So it's back to our rooms to pick-up the kit, chuck it in the back of our Chevy Astrovan 4WD, (Vroom, Vroom) and of to Ivanpah Dry Lake.

Not much of an entrance really, more a break in the barbed wire fencing. We bump across a few dry streams, and then follow the route to the parking site. (Of course being Brits we stuck to the posted 30mph limit).

Whooha this is fun ! We just took off over one of the humps! Why is everyone asking me to slow down ?? (I can't see a damn thing through the dust the vehicle ahead is throwing up. I don't let on, though I have a sneaky suspicion they've guessed, by the look of terror on their faces!!!) We reach the parking area. (Big sigh of relief, from around me ) We pull up, jump out and take in the view.



It's BIG ! Well of course it's big, that's why we're here. That and the weather. The light is just so intense in the desert, even though the temperature is only 15°C / 60°F. It's time for the first event ! The buggy building scramble. "Oh Shit ! I've dropped a nut". "Who's got the tyre pump?" "Has anyone seen my..." " I'm sure I packed it ?" Then it begins to rain ! I know what you're thinking. Every kite event always seems to have a lousy weather bit in it !

Luckily the Marquee (Translation for US residents = Big Tent) was half set up, so we sought refuge, and took the time to get acquainted with Fran Gramkowski, the organiser, along with his son Fritz. Another face I recognised loomed into view, the one and only Eric Brackenbury, from Canada. Fran informed us that this was in for the day, so we decided to cruise into Las Vegas, (Known locally as 'Lost Wages').

On the way back, around 3.00pm, the weather improved dramatically as we approached the hotel. So we shot off back to the Lake, to find everyone out in their buggies. Kites out, buggies retrieved from the Marquee, and we're awayyy! We manage about ½ Hr bugging, as the sun sets around 5.00pm'ish and it goes dark quickly. "OK, where did I park the Van ?"

We had dinner, and set about discovering our Wild West casino environment. Obviously, it's packed with 'Bandits', Keno, is a back to front version of Bingo, Blackjack tables, Roulette, and the dice game Craps. (Who in their right mind calls a game 'Craps' ?)

As well as the coffee shop there is Miss Ashley's Boarding House Buffet, Baja Bar & Grill, plus a McDonalds, Pizza place, Chinese, Deli sandwich shop, and a couple more we never got too, in the Ghost Town. Going

# Spring Buggy Blast

hungry is never a worry in the U.S, which was a comfort to Garry, as it always seemed to prey on his mind ("But Garry, we've just had breakfast !") Bigger the casino, we've just found the best bit, except for the bars. The Arcade area. "Drive that rally car Neil! " " Look out for the zombie on the right Matt !" "You're running out of time Sam, snipe the bastard !" Many more meaningful expressions, and cultural pursuits, ensued, but I don't want to overexcite our younger readers !

A large U.S. flag, on top of the fake concrete mountain, of the Adventure Canyon ride became the focus of our attention every morning. It was our trusty wind speed indicator, and could instil glee or gloom at a glance. Even the pace of breakfast was influenced by the Flag !

Thursday, they were going to run the 50m Enduro race, but the poor winds defeated that. By 3.00pm though the wind picked up. 4m Predator and I'm out cruising. We travel over to the far side of the lake, near the Interstate 15 Highway, and race back towards camp. Now this is more like it !

Ivanpah's surface is quite varied; not the snooker table smooth of El Mirage, but with rutted car tracks, rough areas, hard metal posts, and bits of metal scrap strewn around. This is supposed to be a protected wilderness area ??

I'm following a couple of guys, who are moving a bit, and as they gybe, I decide to race them back. Downturn the kite, feel the power, kick up some dust, and blast away ! They're both on smaller kites, and I'm having such a good time, that I haven't noticed the wind picking up. I'm cruising right on their axles, when I feel a lift, and yea, I'm standing on my footpegs!!! "Now if I work this right, I can still steer the buggy, and drop back into the seat." This was what I was thinking, as I lay in a crumpled heap, kite released, and buggy overturned! My left buttock ached, my right one, fine. But my left buttock!! I clambered to my feet, did I tell you my left buttock ached, and saw that someone had caught my Pred. (Thanks Bob). I walked over to retrieve my kite, looking like John Wayne with chronic jock itch! (Translation for Non-U.S residents = Athlete's foot of the scrotum).

When I got back to our Van I noticed that my T-shirt was ripped and sticking to my left shoulder. Did I mention that my left buttock ached and I had a colourful left shoulder road rash! So I had a rest and a drink !

Friday was a quiet day for me, "I've got a hell of a bruise on my left buttock, by the way!"

But the 50m Enduro was run with changing wind speeds and directions. 50m = 20 laps and Garry managed 16 laps, in the time, coming 16th, out of 68.

**Results** : 1. **Johan Versluit**- No 51. Netherlands. **Kit** – Modified P. Lynn Buggy / 4.2 C-Quad. (20 laps completed in 2Hrs 40min)

2. **Eddy Petranek**- No 110. Idaho. **Kit** – P.Lynn Desert Racer / Quad XL.

3. **John Beun**- No 52. Netherlands. **Kit** – Libra V-Max / Libra Bora 5.0m.



place to really meet

By now we had noticed, back at the hotel, a lot of people wearing Wild West clothing. At first we thought they worked for the casino but there were dozens of them now. Sheriffs', U.S. Marshall's', U.S Cavalry officers', & women folk in 'Little House on the Prairie' get ups.

Oh! I see, they're here for a Shooting competition! Using antique Western firearms, Colts, Winchesters, Sharps

# Spring Buggy Blast

and Remingtons. Now I can sort of see the fun in dressing up to shoot at the competition, but these folks walked around, dressed up, day and night. It's a little weird having dinner next to Gen. Custer, Wyatt Earp & Doc Holliday!

So we decided to get into the spirit with them, and dressed for dinner in our Knee pads, Elbow Pads, and Helmets. No! we wore trousers and T-shirts. This was no time for a naked buggy ! What do you think we are stupid ? Only Joking !!! Had you going there for a minute ! (But we thought about it !!!)

Saturday was warmer, 68°F/20°C no wind, sit around and chat, with Fran, Fritz, Corey, Dean, Freeman, Jason Robbins, Kurt & Linda Anderson, a couple of the Dutch guys & of course Eric, kind of a day. We met up with Peter Hugger and his son, that evening, to fill our faces at Miss Ashley's Buffet.



Sunday's mornings Flag check, raised our spirits, quick breakfast, and in the Van. We left Neil, Sam & Matt to their own devices, as Garry & I felt like a safari. We set off, across the racing area, & headed for the distant heat haze. Garry had made sure that we could not get lost, as he had a GPS system, which are amazing, but the display looks like a demented mouse on an Etch-a-Sketch? As I said before, there's even more junk lying around here, as we work our way past the mining evaporation ponds, with the surface looking and sounding like bran flakes! We are out of sight of the camp, and negotiating more brush. The surface is also soft in places, but it's really quite and peaceful. The wind seems to be less reliable in this area, and we decide to stop for a rest, before heading back. Garry's GPS informs us that we're 4½ m away from camp. Time for a pee ! It's times like this that you keep an eagle eye for snakes, and scorpions !!!

It's 360° blue sky, the mountains are sun bleached, we're wearing sunglasses, and Garry's got a flat tyre !! So the plan is, I buggy back as fast as I can, rob a wheel from Neil's Libra buggy, hop in the Van, and go back for Garry. Right!

Reality is, it's a long hard slog, upwind back to camp. In the meantime, Garry has been walking (unbeknown to me) nearly as fast as me, so by the time I get the wheel and set off in the Van, Garry has reached the edge of camp, and is chatting to Corey Jensen. I'm now speeding to save my buddy from the perils of dehydration, snakes, scorpions or being molested by weirdo desert people, but he's nowhere to be seen. Oh ! no ! he's collapsed ! I'm thinking. To cut the story short, I find Garry back at camp. I'm feeling guilty, he's just feeling thirsty, and a little miffed. Sorted !

Now while our little drama had been unfolding, Fran has decided to run a series of 5 races. The 3 best scores to count. Neil and Matt had entered the fray. Neil was unfortunately scuppered in the first race, when he came into the pits to change kites. Someone had borrowed it ! ( We'll say no more about it Sam). Meanwhile, Matt had been putting up rather a good show !

By the time I reached the Marquee, all interested parties were awaiting the results. Dean Jorden, Steve Bateman, and Matt to name a few. Matt had managed a storming set of races, and came in 2nd overall. This was later amended, due to a disqualification, to Matt being awarded 1st.

Results: 1. **Matt Hurrell** -No 8. U.K.

2. **Steve Bateman** -No 84. California.

3. **Dean Jordan** -No 13. Florida.

(We still need to really celebrate Matt!!)

Later that afternoon we had a laugh when we tagged on to Matt, for a chaotic 'follow the leader' session. Followed by a night in Vegas!!!! Monday the wind was so-so. Many folks had set of home. We sat around and chatted and helped to finish off the Tequila. Time to start packing. Ho ! Hum !

This is a great event, and we've all had a good time. Eh! fellers what do you think about this, for an idea.....?

**Steve Walt Webb.**

# Poole Kite Picnic

Sunday 7th May, Baiter Park, Poole.

Quite Amazing - the less effort we make to organize anything, the better it all goes, and the more fun everybody has! It could not have been more laid-back, went very smoothly, and even the weather smiled on us.

The day dawned grey, damp and windless, but by 10.30 we had blue skies, bright sunshine and a steady Southerly breeze about 10 - 15 mph.

This year, we shared Baiter Park with an event organised by Poole Youth Services. There were several bike interest groups represented, with lots of tight Lycra, and the mountain bike boys doing their stuff, riding over two wrecked cars and mountains of pallets.

As usual, we had no trade stalls, or formal timetable, and the Poole Council PA system spent most of the day comentating on the bike events, with occasional asides about the kites when I went and twisted his arm.

Car parking had been free, but typically the covers came off the ticket machines on 1st May, so most people parked in the road, which remains free so far!

I managed to trap quite a few non-flyers into having a go with a Flexifoil Stacker, and they all seemed to enjoy it, so we hope for a few new members out of that. We managed to get just two Flying Galleons in the air together, so the idea of a "Flying Fleet" came to nought, but they stirred up a lot of interest as usual.

We actually had no need of the arena ropes, in spite of the amazing number of people who strolled by for a better look at the kites and bikes - just "a flag at each corner" seemed to work fine, with no casualties, and very few "near misses". Baiter is a great site for flying and relaxation, with clean air and plenty of room for all types of kite.

We saw a grand turnout of "old friends" from near and far, Pat & Ron Dell made the trek from darkest Enfield, Joe & Flo Barnes from Ormskirk, John & Jean Higgins from Sunbury on Thames, Mac Macleod & Ron Moody from Southampton way, and many more. Our old friends from Airstream Kites found time to come - nice to see you all! We were very glad to see many of the "old-timers" (Roy & Daisy Stevens + many others whose names I missed) from the early days of PKF, who put on a show with some pairs flying, thanks again.

Finally, to all the PKF regulars who played their part, a sincere and humble "Thank You" to you all - Roy Menage for parachuting teddy bears tirelessly and letting some brave souls have a go with one of his enormous 4-liners - Nicolas Wadsworth with his wonderful creations, Mike Barker with his trick flying, Eddie Palmer with his beautiful single-liners, Harry Douglas and his fighter kites. Did I forget anyone? Probably! Seeing the effort you all made, that makes me very sure we made the right decision to fight to keep the club alive, when it could so easily have disappeared without trace.

I salute you all and look forward to the next gathering - see our on-line Events Calendar. Look out for photos of PKF club activities on the website.

Kite Picnic 2000 = <http://www.poolekites.freeserve.co.uk/picnic.htm>

**Richard Nourse**

# In the North of Scotland

It's all happening in the North of Scotland !

For some time, several of the kite flyers in the North of Scotland have thought of organising a small kite festival – the problem is that there are not many fliers in the area, and it would be of limited appeal – at least initially.

This all began to change when some of us did a day buggying with Grampian TV for their “Outside Now” program. The presenter’s wife works for the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, and she wanted to do something with kites, but did not know how, so she asked us to help – thus was born the first ever Aberdeen Kite Festival.

Later, a call was received from a Hot Air Balloon event organiser we met last year saying there is no major balloon festival in Scotland, so how about organising one – and so the festival became the Aberdeen Kite and Hot Air Balloon Festival !

Another main charity has been included, the Aberdeen Safer Community Trust, and when North Sound Radio came on board it was decided that the money raised from a teddy bear ‘drop will go to their charity which is Cash for Kids.

We are now planning for between 15 and 20 balloons, and as many kite flyers as we can get. Major sponsors include Ordnance Survey, Virgin, BAA, BJ Services, and Thistle Hotels,

One of our smaller sponsorship angles is a Rokaku contest between local firms. Each company will sponsor a Rok’ and we will teach some of their staff to fly, or (for extra cash) we will provide flyers for them.

The event is the 29th and 30th of July at Loch Inch Farm, Loriston, near Cove, Aberdeen.

There is camping space for visiting flyers, and rooms are available at the nearby Altens Skean Dhu Hotel for £19 per night B&B (reduced from £75!) alternatively Dinner/B&B can be had for £25.

There will be a reception and press briefing in the Balmoral Room of the Skean Dhu on the evening of the 28th of July, when (weather permitting) the Lord Provost will start the festivities with an inaugural hot air balloon flight.

We would like to invite all as many flyers as possible to come and join us to make this a memorable weekend.

Please call us so we can organise visitor and vehicle passes.

If you require a hotel room, please call the hotel direct, and tell them you are coming to the Festival

The whole event has now become so big, it was decided between the charities and the organisers that a separate non-profit company should be set up to provide a cost centre for all accounts.

Breeze Festivals can be found at [www.breezefestival.co.uk](http://www.breezefestival.co.uk). Email: [info@breezefestivals.co.uk](mailto:info@breezefestivals.co.uk)

Otherwise please contact - Ross Lelslie, Festival Organiser on 01358 742926 or 07977 058690  
Gordon Blakemore, Festival Co-ordinator on 07968 062082

**Gordon Blakemore**

# Event News

## **Middle Wallop Kite Festival - August 5th & 6th**

The Festival is to be held on August 5th & 6th, at Middle Wallop Airfield (as it was in previous years). This is on the A343 Andover to Salisbury road, Hampshire. The hours will be a 10am start, finishing time on the Saturday is to be confirmed, and finishing time on the Sunday will be 5pm. There will be food and kite traders, a licensed bar, Tandem Buggy rides, Kite Workshop, Kite and Buggy Competitions, and Teddy Bear Dropping.

Last year proved to be very successful, being blessed with better weather!

The Paragliders will be around to offer Parascending dual flights, and round canopy dual flights, so give it a go! Once again, we hope to have a helicopter giving rides around the site.

The Museum of Army Flying will be open, and camping is available on the edge of the airfield this time. There is a small fee this year (going to the MOD), with extra toilet facilities, and a water bowser will be available.

With 800 Acres of space, there is plenty of room for everyone. There will be a small admission fee, due to it being a live Military base (this money also goes to the Museum). 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!!

## **Bristol International Kite Festival 11.00am - 5.00pm - 2nd & 3rd September**

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone this year for our 15th festival!! As September is a hectic month on the kite circuit Bristol is trying to work together with both Portsmouth and Dieppe to help share costs of long distance kite guests. This is particularly important for us at Bristol because as we go to press the Festival is still looking for sponsorship and budgets are tight. But the good news is that following last year's wonderful sunny weekend and thanks to fantastic support all round we managed to clear our old debts.

This year the Festival theme will be 'Myths & Legends'. So, if anyone out there has any kites, windsocks, inflatables or ground displays which could add to this theme do bring them with you to fly in our special arena spots and add to the Festival atmosphere.

If your kites are really spectacular or interesting do please let us know in advance and send in pictures so that we can build them into the publicity. Our previous sea theme worked really well and was extremely popular with flyers and the public alike.

Due to our sponsorship headaches we are a bit behind on invitations but we are awaiting replies from an excellent line up of overseas guests. One or two confirmed attendees are Marco Casadio - with his wonderful mermaid; the American display team the Bay Area Sundowners and the Decorators. We are awaiting response from several others including Jose Saintz, Frank Schwiemann and Thorsten Schaft.

Stalwarts from Avon Kite Flyers will again be the host club. We do appreciate their hard work! As well as generally helping out they will be providing their impressive arena displays with the growing collection of club kites. (We could possibly rename Roly the whale Moby Dick to fit the Myths & legends theme.)

# Event News

The format for the weekend will be along similar lines with two arenas, one for single lines and the other for a rolling programme of displays and demonstrations. (Don't forget your roks!)

For those interested in sport kiting early on both Saturday and Sunday the Festival will again be hosting rounds of the STACK British National Sport Kite Championships.

Hot foot from Glastonbury Anne Harris will also be displaying her 'Starfish Pool' one of the first big elements in her ambitious Millennium project to build a giant inflatable coral reef in aid of children's charities around the world.

She is aiming to get support from individuals, companies and organisations to 'sponsor' sections of the reef or individual sea creatures which will be appliquéd on as part of the fundraising. As well as raising funds and promoting environmental awareness of coral reefs, Anne is also hoping to sew herself in to the Guinness Book of Records!

One new element that may appeal to families is that we have been selected to host the Nickelodeon TV channel's 'Red Hot Lobster Show'. This is a roadshow with action packed fun and entertainment (and probably chaos!!) for children.

**Saturday night party** There will be an on site party with a large marquee where the usual excellent meal will be served followed by the Festival auction. By popular demand the on site full Bar will also be returning with an even better selection of real ale and beers. Tickets for the meal which will be a choice of hot dishes (vegetarians catered for) and a pudding will be pegged at last year's price of £10 per adult and £5 for a child (under 14 please!!).

Please apply for these in advance to be sure of a ticket as we have to confirm catering numbers beforehand. Those not eating are more than welcome to come along and drink at the bar and join in afterwards, especially for the Festival Auction.

We are not sure yet about fireworks etc but there will definitely be some night flying.

**Accommodation** We have negotiated a rate as usual at Redwood Lodge Hotel, which is the nearest hotel to the site. Rooms this year are priced at £80 per twin or double per night for bed and full English breakfast and £65 for a single. As this is expensive we are working on other city hotels and will have negotiated some further deals.

Call the Festival office for an update or call the Tourist Information Centre for accommodation details generally in Bristol on 0117 926 0767.

**Camping** As many regulars will know this is always a real problem for us as the Council have a ban on all camping in Ashton Court which is so frustrating as there is so much space, it is a wonderful site. Also we appreciate that many of you want to stay closeby and hotels aren't an option! Every year some people abuse the system and just camp anywhere on site which is unfair on those of you who have paid to book in elsewhere and jeopardises our future use of the site.

The Council do however let us have what they call a 'Crew Area' where we can have known, pre-booked flyers camping! If you would like to book in there and it will be pretty basic please write in with an SAE and we will try to fit you in! We are also continuing our quest for a friendly farmer with a field we can use (without cows or cowpats) but as we are the last major event of the year it sometimes depends on whether they have had problems with the Balloon Fiesta or the Community Festival as to

# Event News

whether they will still let us on their land!

**Parking** Due to our uncertain finances we are reluctantly asking flyers for a contribution to car parking again this year. Flyers with passes will be asked to pay £2 per day, on arrival (instead of £5 for general public) .

Please apply in writing to the Festival Office enclosing an SAE but NO MONEY and we will issue these on a first come first served basis up to a maximum of 500. We are also trying again to organise dropping off passes for those with particularly heavy loads of kites and kit so again mention this in your car parking request.

On behalf of the festival team we are looking forward to seeing many of you again this year and hopefully some new faces too.

Any queries please contact us at - Festival Office, 5 Lilymead Avenue, Bristol BS4 2BY. Tel: 0117 977 2002 Fax: 0117 977 4255 e-mail: info@abc-pr.co.uk.

## **12th Caernarvon Kite Festival and Retreat - 9th & 10th September**

This is the second visit this year to this popular kite flying location at The Coach Inn, Clynnog Fawr on the A499, ten miles south of Caernavon. The usual things will be happening on the flying field and in the large function room. The April meeting went very well with several new faces from the Northern Kite Group, White Horse Kite Fliers and I think the furthest travelled must have been Harry Douglas and Richard Norse from Poole.

Heartfelt thanks to Harry for what he did Saturday evening i.e. gave away 35 - 40 of his wonderful miniature indoor kites to **anyone who could fly one.**

Please come and join us for this weekend. As you know you will always receive a warm welcome from the staff at the inn, which has excellent bed and breakfast facilities. Camping and caravanning in the grounds of Coach Inn is free, or you can use the Bunkhouse, which is £3.00 per head per night.

To contact the Coach Inn, please telephone 01286 660212 or for kite information telephone me, Tony Slater, on 01743 235068.

## **4th Hunstanton Kite & Country Fair - September 10th**

To be held at Smithdon School Field Arena. Attractions include Team Spectrum sponsored by Force 9 Kites, Sky Divers display team, Nigel and his Flexi stack, Team Adrenalise with the manlifter event now synonymous with Hunstanton. With special guest Stafford Wallace demonstrating Indian fighter kites.

Other attractions will include Rocket displays by ERA Rockets, sweet drops, Teddy Bear parachuting and, most important, kite flying all day for visitors. Justo James for magic and games for the children plus a Vintage car display and a large craft market in the school hall. Kite stalls, food and drinks sidestalls around the flying field.

The festival site is in Hunstanton on the main road (from Kings Lynn to Hunstanton A149). For more information contact Bryan Cattle on 01223 243825 or (mobile) 07980 489171 festival week only. Camping available at Searles Holiday Camp tel 01485 533815.

# Portsmouth 2000

The Portsmouth International Kite Festival takes place on Southsea Common, Southsea, Hampshire on Saturday 26th, Sunday 27th and Monday 28th August and is jointly run by the Kite Society and Portsmouth City Council. The site is a large grassed area and there are many local facilities including a leisure centre - so plenty to keep the non-flier happy.

Saturday and Sunday will have a full programme of arena displays and demonstrations with Monday, once again being a relaxed informal day with no planned events. The event will run along the normal lines and if anyone wishes to put on a display for the public then please contact us before the event so that we can timetable your demonstration in.

Some of the confirmed attendees are The Flying Squad Kite Team with their spectacular Sports and quad line displays, the Avon Kite Fliers, Eli and Shula Shavit from Israel with their graphic kites, Generation Kite Club from France, Janneke Groen, Marco Cassadio with his mermaids, Rolf Zimmermann with his inflatable kites, Ann Harris with her ground display plus a number of kite fliers from Germany including Karl Hussmann and Reinhold Scheidt with their replica historic kites.

Amongst the kites that Karl and Reinhold are bringing to Portsmouth is L' Aero Photo No.3. Inventor : Auguste C. Gomes (France). His firm " Auguste C. Gomes & Co." was one of the first manufacturers of kites with serious production. It appears in a catalogue from the year 1911, where this kite is offered especially for aerial photography and meteorological observations. "Modele No. 3 , le Modele d' Armees". It measures 2m x 2.85 metres .

They are also bringing a number of kites which played an important part in the development of the German weather research which took place at the beginning of the 20th century in the Observatory Berlin - Lindenberg. These kites flew during more than 40 years twice every day. Those Kites carried different instruments for weather research .

As well as the Sky Stage Animal Kingdom display (see below) and following on from the success of last years Mega-Delta fly, this year Paul Morgan will be organising a Mega-Delta "Line Dance" - so bring along your Mega-Deltas (look alike also accepted) and join in!

As you may have seen elsewhere in this issue an auction is being held to raise funds for Ken Knight. This will be held ONSITE in the workshop marquee at 9:00pm Saturday evening. All are welcome to attend (the bar will be open!) and any items for auction can be either sent to Richard Nourse, Ron Dell or delivered on the day.

Free parking is available for KSGB members and the pass below should be displayed in your windscreen. Please photocopy the pass as required.

For details of local accommodation please contact the Portsmouth Tourist Centre on 01705 826722.

Finally, kite traders are welcome to attend the event and the cost for two or three days is £195. Please note payment is required **before** the event. Pre-booking is essential. Send cheques, made payable to The Kite Society with your booking to the editorial address.

**SKY STAGE PRESENTS AT PORTSMOUTH**

# Portsmouth 2000

THE ANIMAL KINGDOM  
CREATURES REAL OR MYTHICAL OF  
THE SEA  
THE LAND  
And THE SKY

Please bring for this display:-

Chinese insects/ birds, Peter Lynn Octopus's, Martin Lester Snow Goose, Stan Swanson  
Elephants, Sky Delight kites, Tim Benson's Bees, the list is endless.

If you have more than you can fly at once, still bring them!! We will find volunteers to  
help you, lets fill the sky.

Remember our motto "*Give your collection a chance to fly*"

If you get a chance please drop a line, fax, e-mail or a telephone message, with details of  
your kites, it will help us prepare.

Otherwise see you at Portsmouth.

Thanks Tony "TC" Cartwright, 70 Pierson Rd Windsor SL4 5RF 01753-866642, Fax  
01753-675469 e-mail [tc@rokmaster.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:tc@rokmaster.freeserve.co.uk)



# Kitefliers

# CAR PASS

## Portsmouth International

## Kite Festival

## Southsea Common, Portsmouth

## 26th - 28th August 2000

This pass entitles you to park, free of charge, in the festival car park. Parking is  
not permitted anywhere else on the flying site without permission of the organisers.

# Dieppe 2000

We have received quite a bit of information about Dieppe - in French! We have translated the bits that seem relevant to anyone planning to go and on the next two pages is the registration form. This MUST be completed and returned DIRECTLY to the organisers in France NOT to us. Remember you must have public liability insurance to be allowed onto the flying fields - either through your local kite club or through the Dieppe insurance scheme - see form for details.

The dates of the festival Saturday 9th September to Sunday 17th September.

9 September	9 a.m. to 12 a.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 6 p.m. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Free kite flying Kite-flying by the delegations with commentary Artistic kite-flying Kite flying by the various delegation.
		Demonstrations of stunt kites by teams from around the world (freestyle, four lines, power-kiting). Kite flying by the mega team.
10 September	9 a.m. to 12 a.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Free kite flying Kite-flying by the delegations with commentary
16 September	9 a.m. to 12 a.m. 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Free kite flying Creative kite competition on the theme of Metamorphosis
		Special Local Creative Talent competition  around 10 p.m. Night flight
17 September	9 a.m. to 12 a.m. 2 p.m.  6 p.m. 6 p.m.	Free kite flying The winner of the French Kite Club Coup de Coeur competition will be flown All the delegations will fly their kites for the last time Announcement of winners of the creative competition - winning kites will be flown, closing ceremony.
		Demonstrations of stunt kites by teams from around the world (freestyle, four lines, power-kiting). Kite flying by the mega team.

From 9 to 17th September Dieppe will welcome kite-flyers from 32 nations. There are many possibilities to participate and get involved in the festival. More information is on the web site <http://www.dieppe-cerf-volant.org/indexGB.htm>. Other things happening:

## **The Arch of the Children.**

Over a length of more than 2 kilometres, with 2 500 kites connected in a train, this will be the largest flying arch in existence. Every primary school child of Dieppe had the opportunity decorate one of the kites. The arch will form a long ribbon which will carry high in the sky of Dieppe the texts and the drawings of the children. At the end of the demonstration each child will be able to keep their kite.

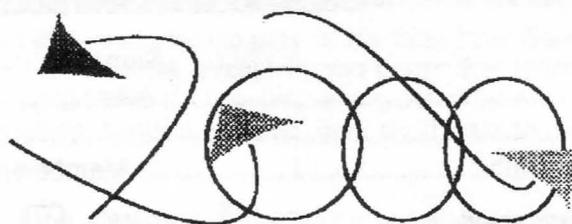
## **Creative Kite Competition - theme: "Metamorphosis".**

If you want to take part in the competition please take special note of the information on the registration form.

## **Accommodation:**

The organisers are once again offering hostel places - see the form for details and cost. For those who have not been before be aware that the hostel is some distance outside of Dieppe - although a bus shuttle is normally provided. If you wish to camp then we suggest that you contact the organisers directly as we have not been provided with any information about camping.

# 11<sup>th</sup> Dieppe International Kite Festival



9 th - 17th september 2000

The Festival team would like you to join them in celebrating the new millenium

## Workshops

With 32 countries present, Dieppe Capitale du cerf-Volant (Kite flying capital) offers you the possibility of meeting the manufacturers from all over the world and of learning how to make a chinese dragon, patang or Rokkaku.

14 & 15

Will participate

## Rokkaku Fights

Kite flyers will be able to take part in Rokkaku fights alongside the international delegations.

Week-ends

Will participate

## Night Flight

All Kite Flyers are invited to take part.

16 th - around 10 p.m.

Will participate

## When Art takes to the skies

*Reserved for winners of previous creative competitions*

This demonstration is reserved for winners of previous creative competitions at the Dieppe Festival. They will fly their winning creations in a permanent aerial exhibition throughout the Festival in a specially designated flying area.

9 th - 17 th

Will participate

## Creative competition on the theme of "Metamorphosis"

16

To make the judges' task easier after they have seen all the kite entries, please provide a photo of your entry by 9th September. The jury will not be able to judge any entries that are not accompanied by a photograph.

Category : First entry <sup>(1)</sup>  Experienced <sup>(2)</sup>  Junior <sup>(3)</sup>

(1) This is your first or your second entry to the competition

(2) You have enrolled twice in the past

(3) Enrollees under 16.

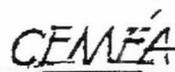
Competition will start on Sunday 16 at 15 p.M., Meet at Kite Village. Remember to state your name and the name of your kite on the back of your photo.

NB : Presence of any trade mark on Festival premises is subject to organiser's authorisation.

For all information about Dieppe you could call the tourism office :

Tél : 33 (0)2 32 14 40 60 - Fax : 33 (0)2 32 14 40 61

or Dieppe Web Site : <http://www.mairie-dieppe.fr>



# Enrolment Form

In order to host you the best way and to prepare your participation in the kite area , we remind you it's essential to complete every part of the form  
Enrolment is to be done before August 14 th. No registration during the festival.

Name : ..... Surname : .....

Address : .....

Phone: ..... Fax : ..... E-mail : .....

Name of the club : ..... Membership number: .....

I'll be accompanied YES  NO

If so, How many persons will be present in the kite flying area ?

Number : .....

Their name and surname (+ N° Membership) .....

ATTENTION ! If you do not belong to a kite association we can take out an insurance policy for you ( 100 F / pers.)

I'm insured with my club  I need an insurance policy (number of people to be insured)

I need a space for my camper YES  NO

I require Festival Accomodation \* YES  NO

If So please tick required nights

F8	S9	S10	M11	T12	W13	T14	F15	S16	S17
<input type="checkbox"/>									

\* Dormitory - Dorm beds being in limited number, bookings will be taking into consideration according to date of reception.

Number of people X Number of nights X 120 Frs Bedroom with Shower, or 90 Frs Bedroom with Washbasin, or 60 Frs in dormitory.  
 (breakfast included)

TOTAL = ..... X ..... X ..... Frs =

IMPORTANT ! Please specify people in couple. (for beds bookings)

During the festival, I'll have a car to go to the accomodation place : YES  NO

I will have meal at the festival cafeteria

If so, please tick required meals

	S9	S10	M11	T12	W13	T14	F15	S16	S17
Lunch :	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	F8	S9	S10	M11	T12	W13	T14	F15	S17
Dinner :	<input type="checkbox"/>								

Number of people X Number of meals X 60 Frs (drink included)

TOTAL = ..... X ..... X 60 Frs =

I will join the Saturday evening meal (16/09) YES  NO

Number of people ..... X 80 Frs =  (Before the night fly)

TOTAL : Total accomodation + Total Meals + Saturday evening meal 16 + Insurance(s)  
 ..... Frs + ..... Frs + ..... Frs + ..... Frs =

Payment by traveller's cheque in french francs before the august 15 : on the spot.

Cancellation conditions: 21 days before : 90% refund  
 7 jours before : 70% refund  
 No refund past this period

Please enrol before august 15.

# Events List

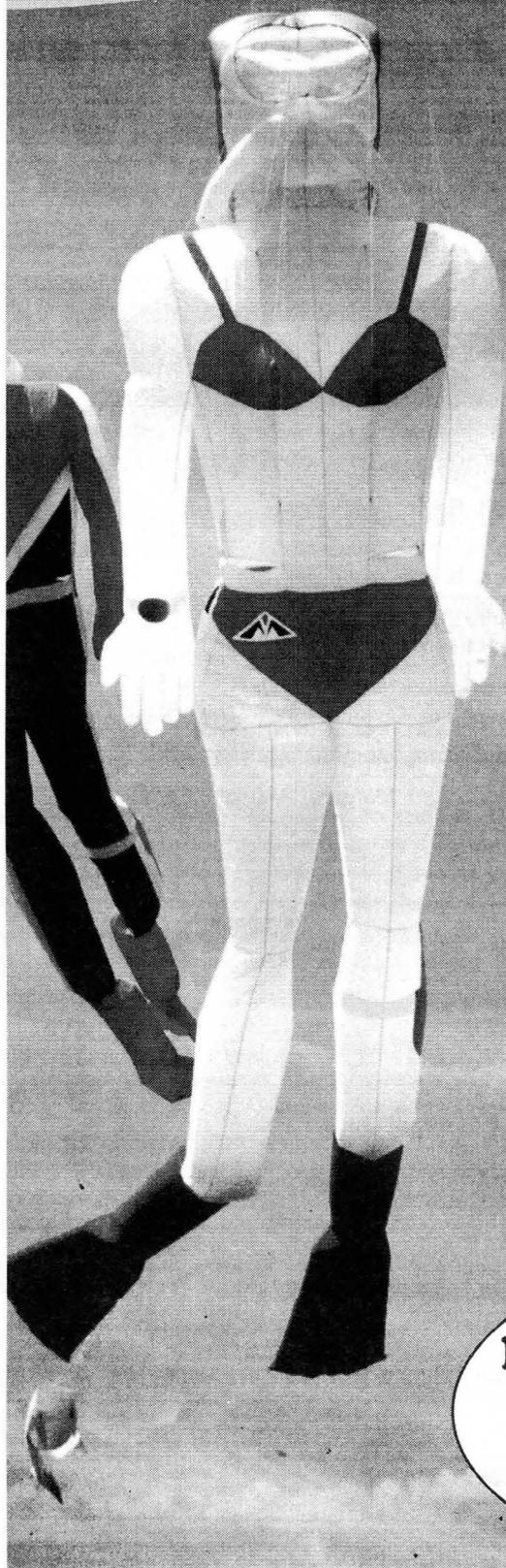
July	
22	Guernsey Kite Fly. <a href="#">Doug Irvine</a>
29	Aberdeen Kite Festival, Loch Inch Farm Loriston, Aberdeen. <a href="#">Gordon Blakemore 07968 062082</a>
30	Aberdeen Kite Festival, Loch Inch Farm Loriston, Aberdeen. <a href="#">Gordon Blakemore 07968 062082</a>
August	
5	Attingham Park, Atcham, Shrewsbury. <a href="#">Tony Slater 01743 235203</a> Middle Wallop Kite Festival, Andover, Hampshire. <a href="#">Kitees Up or BBC</a>
6	Royston Kite Festival. <a href="#">Tony Bradford</a> . Attingham Park, Atcham, Shrewsbury. <a href="#">Tony Slater 01743 235203</a>
12	Teston Bridge Kite Festival, Maidstone, Kent. <a href="#">Kiteability</a>
13	Teston Bridge Kite Festival, Maidstone, Kent. <a href="#">Kiteability</a>
19	Coventry Kite Festival, Memorial Park, Coventry. <a href="#">M.K.F.</a>
20	Coventry Kite Festival, Memorial Park, Coventry. <a href="#">M.K.F.</a>
26	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. <a href="#">The Kite Society</a> .
27	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. <a href="#">The Kite Society</a> .
28	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hants. <a href="#">The Kite Society</a> .
September	
2	International Kite Contest, Detmold, Germany.
3	International Kite Contest, Detmold, Germany.
9	Dieppe International Kite Festival, France. Until the 17th.
10	Hunstanton Kite Festival, Smithdon High School, Hunstanton. <a href="#">Bryan Cattle</a>
15	East Kent Kite Festival, Palm Bay Recreation Ground, Margate. <a href="#">Malcolm Ford</a>
16	East Kent Kite Festival, Palm Bay Recreation Ground, Margate. <a href="#">Malcolm Ford</a>
23	Berrow Buggy Week. Until 30th <a href="#">BBC</a>
24	Old Warden Kite Day, Old Warden, Biggleswade.

Contact	Address	Telephone	Email
<b>Kites Up</b>		01256 812487	kites@kitesup.co.uk
<b>The Kite Society</b>	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY	01206 271489	kite_society@compuserve.com
<b>Avril Baker</b>	5 Lilymead Avenue, Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BY	0117 977 2002	
<b>Bryan Cattle</b>	21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP	01223 243825	
<b>BBC</b>	British Buggy Club, Mike Shaw	0468 765887	
<b>Doug Irvine</b>		01296 770422 (after 7:00pm)	irvined@capitagroup.co.uk
<b>Kiteability</b>	2 Garfield Road, Ponders ENd, Enfield, Middlesex EN3 4RP	020 8804 9080	PatnRon@compuserve.com
<b>Alan Williams</b>		01252 334225 or 0976 533749 (mobile)	alanwilliams@lycosmail.com
<b>Malcolm Ford</b>		01843 224593	karekites@eastkentkitefestival.co.uk fordcoastguard@talk21.com
<b>M K F</b>	Alan Bill, 90 Weybourne Road, Gt Barr, Birmingham		www.mkf.org.uk

# MKF EXTRA

The Extra Newsletter of The Midlands Kite Fliers

THE MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



## ALL CHANGE FOR MKF E-MAIL AND WEB PAGE ADDRESSES

The MKF website address has become much more simple and easier to remember. WWW.MKF.ORG.UK is the address - a proper Internet domain name bought and owned by MKF for The next two years (when we have the first option to continue to own it).

The MKF e-mail address has also changed and is now: [mkf@mkf.org.uk](mailto:mkf@mkf.org.uk)

## CONTACT THE CLUB'S OFFICERS BY E-MAIL

Individual club officers also have e-mail addresses:

Karl & Sara Longbottom: [karl@longbottom.org.uk](mailto:karl@longbottom.org.uk)

Doug & Linda Richardson: [doug@mkf.org.uk](mailto:doug@mkf.org.uk)

John Larson: [john@mkf.org.uk](mailto:john@mkf.org.uk)

Alan Poxon: [alan@mkf.org.uk](mailto:alan@mkf.org.uk)

Jim & Julie White: [jj@kitefliers.co.uk](mailto:jj@kitefliers.co.uk)

## BUY YOUR BOOKS FROM THE MKF WEBSITE WITH AMAZON BOOKS

For the past 18 months anyone visiting the MKF website has been able to buy books from the Amazon bookshop, at the same time earning 5 per cent commission for club funds. Thank you to any member or visitor who has contributed to this amount.

## ON-LINE CAPTION COMPETITION

Following the success of last years on-line caption competition (when Graham Binney looked as though he had finally gone totally mad) we have a new on-line competition. An MKF member is pictured behind three crystal kites - what could he be up to?

**Lady Godiver,  
latest addition to the  
MKF display, seen  
swimming at  
Swindon**

Calke Abbey 10th April 2000

My first major event as co-ordinator was very nearly a non-starter, as my C.A.A. clearance had been revoked by Air Traffic Control the Friday prior. This was due to late communication of the clearance order by the new C.A.A. administrator.

Things got a lot better however, when Ian Newham sprang into action with reassurances to Air Traffic Control at East Midlands Airport (where he works). Many phone calls and faxes later, the event was allowed to proceed with strict stipulations, including a limit of 200 feet.

We had a good turnout by kite fliers and public alike to enjoy rather high winds and what started as a cold morning. Shame hot drinks were not available by the café till 11.00am. Still, Alan Poxon and I found Shirley Turpin and kettle in their caravan behind the store. Thanks Shirley!

It was great to see Club kites out again following their winter rest. Many thanks to all members who flew them in what were difficult conditions.

We do have several new venues for you to enjoy this year and information will be given on other places. We have bookings for 2001, which proves that our talents are required by event organizers. Here comes the plea for help at events this year, if you have planned to visit an event, would you consider offering your support in advance as a steward (Alan Poxon can provide a very attractive badge). It is a very good feeling to have the support before you arrive on site and MKF do have commitments which mean two events the same weekend.

I look forward to flying with you all soon.  
Have Fun!!!

Alan Bill.

## One Sky One World Events at [www.jims-place.org.uk](http://www.jims-place.org.uk)

Want information on UK One Sky One World venues?  
Running an OSOW event and need to publicise it?  
A free service, but one which can only work with your support.

I need event information before I can publish it!

Please send event info. To:

Email: [osow@jims-place.org.uk](mailto:osow@jims-place.org.uk)

Fax: (024) 7633 8979

### Snowy - the Shipley Park Shredder

It was a fine breezy Saturday afternoon when I decided to take the family to Shipley Park – me for some quality flying time, Sandra and Kathryn for a duck feeding frenzy.

We duly arrived at the (slightly soggy) park and got ourselves sorted out into the variety of walking boots, coats gloves and scarves that are part of the dressing up procedure for this time of year. Sandra and Kathryn headed off hand in hand towards Osborne Pond to feed the mass of ducks and geese that eagerly await such visitations.

I set myself up ready and launched the Nitro into the steady breeze. I was just getting used to the wind window when a ballistic white blur approached from the direction of the pond. Within seconds, I had met Snowy – the Shipley Park shredder. Snowy (a now filthy terrier crossed with mongrel type beast) appeared to have a particular liking for kites - wherever the kite went, Snowy was sure to follow. After

a few minutes, the Snowy support team in the guise of two children, their mother and a couple of friends appeared from the general direction of the duck pond. Apparently, Snowy had seen the kite in the air and had taken off on a mission to catch and destroy – things did not bode well.

So now we were into disaster recovery mode – how to get the dog away and calmed down and let me fly in peace ??? The first plan was to try to tire the dog out by flying from one edge of the wind window to the other back and forth as fast as possible – I employed this tactic for about 10 minutes, but still the animal gave chase! Plan two involved capture – I held the kite steady at stall point on the top of the window while the support team tried to catch the creature; Snowy was NOT interested in being caught. Many failed attempts with children and friends diving on the dog were followed by eventual success! The lead was fixed, and the creature was walked away in a shower of admonishment. Right, back to the business in hand, lots of flying to do and less time to do it in now. But oh no! - Snowy had slipped the collar off from over his neck (which the owner told me was impossible - obviously not), and the whole saga started again; this time, Snowy was wiser and even more evasive. Eventually, after about 45 minutes of trying all methods to take the creature away, the owner and children walked away home leaving Snowy on his own still chasing my kite!! Shortly after, Sandra and Kathryn returned from their exertions also ready to return home. Snowy was not interested in giving up (even though his family had long since gone!) so I passed the straps to Sandra and (wearing gloves) ran down the lines to bring the kite down. Snowy and I met face to face at the kite in a challenge of ownership – a battle Snowy was destined to lose and a victory at last to me.

(Continued on MKFPage 5)

### New Members

We have had 63 new members join, since the list for the October MKF newsletter was issued. This is partly due to the number of notice boards on display at events and partly due to the web pages, and of course the enthusiasm of the existing members. [Some 18 applications were via the web pages.] However your introduction; and wherever you came by the application form, it is my pleasure as Membership Secretary to welcome you via these pages into the club and hope that you will have a successful year of fellowship with us....

...If you have any questions about your membership please do not hesitate to get in contact by phone, by letter, or by Email. I fetch Emails down every day when I am at home and it is quicker and cheaper than snail- mail, and I usually answer within the 24 hours of receipt. Happy flying!!

**John Larson, Membership Secretary;**

Email:- [john@jonnelfreeserve.co.uk](mailto:john@jonnelfreeserve.co.uk) ;

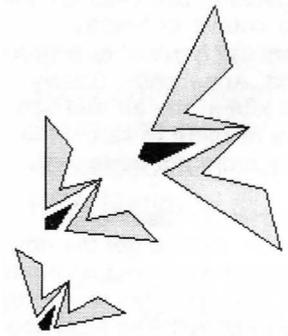
Tel:- 0114 255 3410

# 7th Coventry Kite Festival

## 18th - 20th August 2000

War Memorial Park, Kenilworth Road, Coventry

The program For Coventry has had to be slightly amended due to new attractions



### Friday 13<sup>th</sup>

2.00pm  
Evening

Free flying in the arena  
Night flying with kite lights

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

10.00am

Stafford Wallace' kites will be hovering over you during the weekend

11.00am

Flying Club Kites

12.00noon

Free flying single line kites

1.00pm

Display of Multiple flying by Ian Vesty

3.00pm

Indian fighter kite tangle

4.00pm

Kite Buggy demonstration - Dave Lewis

5.00pm

Vortex Kite display team

6.00pm

Free flying

7.00pm

Fliers barbecue

9.00pm

Night flying with kite lights

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>

10.00am

More Stafford Wallace

10.30pm

Vortex Kite display team

11.00pm

Flying Club kites

12.00noon

Altitude sprint - all types of kites

1.00pm

Coventry Cup Open Sport Kite Pairs Competition

2.00pm

Vortex Kite Display Team

2.30pm

Display of Sky Dancers by Dave Davies

3.00pm

Display of Large Inflatables

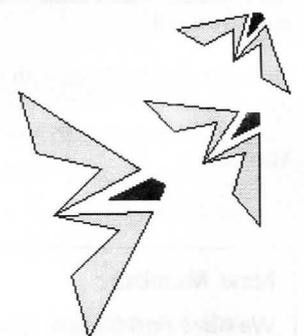
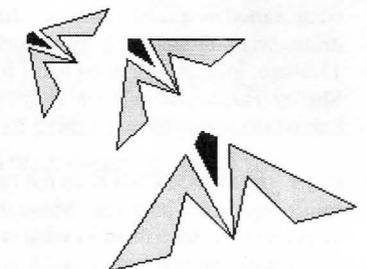
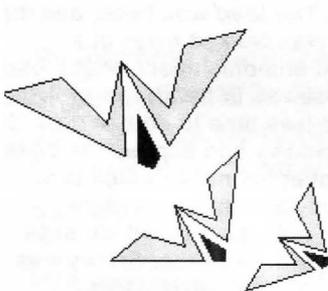
3.30pm

Mass Ascension of Single Line Kites

4.00 - 4.45pm

Kite Buggy demonstration - Dave Lewis

Vortex Kite Display Team



### Other Attractions:

Kite Traders  
Flying all weekend in designated areas.  
Sky Symphony Display Team  
Wind Garden  
PA (both days)  
Food  
Camping (Steward: John Larson)

### Children:

Parachuting Teddy Bears, kids bring your bears.  
Active Zone  
Punch & Judy  
Circus Skills Workshop  
Kid Active

For up-to-the-minute details contact Doug Richardson on 01522 884744 or e-mail: [doug@mkf.org.uk](mailto:doug@mkf.org.uk) or call one of the other Committee Members.

**Menithwood Millennium Green  
Celebration  
24<sup>th</sup> June 2000**

Midway between Tenbury Wells, Bromyard, and Worcester. This is a paid event, during the afternoon & evening, and has the following benefits:

- Ten-acre site
- Parking on field
- Bar and local pub
- Evening fireworks

Contact Karl Longbottom for more information and directions.  
Tel: 01981 550326  
karl@longbottom.org.uk

**Charity Farm, Baxterley  
25<sup>th</sup> June 2000 2.00pm**

Baxterley, 2 miles from Atherstone, Warks. On A42

Kite Workshop, The Highwaymen will be trading, and we hope to have clearance to 500'. Tethered Hot Air Balloon, Parachute jump, Model Aircraft, refreshments. Paid event for MKF.

For more information, contact Alan Bill after 6.00pm on 0121 360 1955.

**Burley Gate Fun Weekend  
15<sup>th</sup> July 2000**

Burley Gate, Hereford.

This is a Primary School Fun Day, where we have been invited to fly kites. The school are making a playsail to fly on the day. The site is not very large, and may have to be shared with archers and birds of prey. For more information, contact Karl Longbottom.

**Rotary Club of Warwick,  
Aylesford School, Warwick  
16<sup>th</sup> July 2000**

On the A429 Stratford Road, A-to-Z Page 146, 5C

This MKF paid event will be a sampler for bigger and better things next year. There is on-site parking for kitefliers, a Kite Trader, and a kite Workshop (a new face).

MKF members will be asked to judge kites made by children from two local schools, and maybe help to fly them. The mayor has been asked to present a prize.

Warwick Rotary have organised an interesting programme for the day, starting at 11.00am. We have been asked to fly MKF and members' kites and provide a generally fun day.

For more information, contact Alan Bill.

**First Shipley Kite Festival -  
Shipley Country Park, Heanor,  
Derbys.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> July 2000**

The Rangers at Shipley have arranged the first kite festival with traders, arenas, PA and music, and hopefully sunshine and wind.

This is always a great place to fly, but for this event there will be separate arenas for club fliers, demonstrations, and public flying, with events taking place throughout the day from 10.30am – 5.00pm. Sky Symphony will be displaying, and the Club Kites have been booked. Bring your own wonderful creations and add to the spectacle. There will also be other attractions including face painting, hair braiding, bouncy castle, and possibly some conservation/countryside activities (as well as the usual amenities at Shipley, lovely restaurant, shop, cycle hire, ducks etc.).

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Visitor Centre, Alan Poxon and the Park Rangers will be running a series of kitemaking workshops in preparation for the festival day. If you would like to help, or just come and fly, please make contact.

There is also the possibility of camping/caravanning over the weekend, but you must contact the Park or Alan in advance, due to Council requirements. Standard charge is £3.40 per unit per night.

Contact: the Park Rangers on 01773 719961 or  
Alan Poxon on 01773 716047  
alan@mkf.org.uk

**7<sup>th</sup> Coventry Kite Festival,  
War Memorial Park, Kenilworth  
Road, Coventry. - 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>  
August**

Saturday will be a free flying day at Coventry this year to enhance the relaxed atmosphere. There will be Kite Traders and food vendors on site all weekend. This year we have also arranged a professional public address system to be available for both days so there will be music. We will be putting

together another windgarden so if you have any little wind powered noise makers please bring them along they will be in their own little taped area.

Sunday will have a planned entertainment schedule which will include:- altitude sprints, fighter kite displays quadline displays, the Coventry Cup open pairs competition and getting all the club kites flying (extra pairs of hands are always needed for this). The MKF's own Sky Symphony sport kite display team will be flying as will Team Vortex. There are no fliers cars allowed on the site but there is a very large car park right next door to the main arena. Camping will be available onsite from Friday.

Entrants for the Coventry Cup Pairs Competition just need to Contact Dave Salmon on site on Sunday.

For camping information contact John Larson. Tel 0114 255 3410.

For Festival Information contact Doug Richardson Tel 01522 884744

**Autumn Kite Flying Day, Stafford  
Castle, Newport road, Stafford  
3<sup>rd</sup> September 2000**

The second of our yearly visits to the top of the world on the Castle hill at Stafford. Flying room is a little limited but the atmosphere is great and the banners look at home on the hillside beneath the castle walls. There will be a children's kite workshop and competition and Skybums Paul and Helen Morgan will be selling their kites. Access to the top of the hill is for fliers to unload and load their kites only. Please park your cars at the bottom of the hill. For more information contact event stewards

Ken and Dorothy Campbell. Tel:  
01782 535186 Or Fred Broadhead.  
Tel 01952581106

**Filey Kite Festival 2001 (yes,  
2001)  
Provisional Date 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
September 2001**

To be held at Filey Secondary School, Filey, North Yorkshire.

For further details please contact  
A De Sadeleer on 01723 892625

## BEER & SKITTLES SOCIAL EVENING

The fourth Beer & Skittles event took place, once again at 'Schofields' Birmingham on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2000.

This year it was noticeable that a far greater percentage of 'the gathering' were 'kitefliers'. Unlike our fly-ins, everyone was punctual and at 7.30 pm (as planned) I welcomed everyone and programmed the format of the evening.

### Programme of Events

- 1 First round matches to be played
- 2 Basket Meal
- 3 Semi-finals
- 4 Whisky Roll
- 5 Final
- 6 Charity Raffle

Everyone was placed into teams of 4, these teams were as follows:-

TEAM OBSESSION	Dave Salmon, Sue Salmon, Chalkie White, Lyn Cressell
TEAM FIREBIRD	Zena Bill, Zena Beard, Vicky Bill, Jane Davies
TEAM REVOLUTION	Judith Troy, David Troy, Ethan Troy (twice)
TEAM PULSE	Linda Binney, Graham Binney, Stacey & Andy Stephenson
TEAM OMEGA	Lesley, Bryn, Donna & Gail Baggaley
TEAM BLADE	Iris & John Summerfield, & the Two Alans (Bill & Poxon)
TEAM ZENITH	Sara & Dave Clifford, Carol & John Page
TEAM SHOCKWAVE	David Troy, Ethan Troy, Chalkie & Lyn (the team was made up of 1 <sup>st</sup> round losers.)

### First Round Matches were played.

With TEAM FIREBIRD beating TEAM OBSESSION by 47 to 42  
TEAM PULSE beating TEAM REVOLUTION 57 to 46  
TEAM BLADE beating TEAM OMEGA by 55 to 45  
TEAM SHOCKWAVE beating TEAM ZENITH by 49 to 45

### Semi-Finals

PULSE v FIREBIRD & BLADE v SHOCKWAVE

By this time everyone was 'mingling' and having time to chat (unlike our previous event!). At about 8.45 pm our basket meal was served by the 'Schofields' staff. *It went very quiet!*

As the food was cleared away - (N.B. Kitefliers are very helpful you know!), I prepared the 'alley' for our whisky roll. On the No. 5 pin a bottle of Bells whisky was placed (donated by yours truly) also a small wrapped package that was positioned on the No. 9 spot.

A 15 minute period was set aside for this event, upon which, players attempted to roll, skim, flick (nobody tried to blow) their 20p pieces down to get as close as they could to the prizes. Many ooh's and aah's occurred during this period. Finally the winner of the whisky was Dave Salmon and the mystery prize-winner was Lesley Baggaley.

As Lesley unwrapped the parcel (in front of us all) she was only too delighted to reveal a camera. "Now I can take pictures of all the club's Magical' kites" she said.

The skittles tournament continued, with the semi-finals:-

TEAM PULSE beating TEAM FIREBIRD by 55 pins to 44  
TEAM BLADE beating TEAM SHOCKWAVE by 55 pins to 44

### The Final!

TEAM PULSE v TEAM BLADE

The final started with Team Pulse scoring a consistent 55 pins. Team Blade commenced with Iris & John cheering on the two Alan's. I was not aware of the tenseness of the last ball. Alan Poxon had knock down 9

pins for Team Blade to win. Linda (my good lady) could hardly bear to watch as Alan despatched his final wooden ball down the lane and yes it happened, Alan (the true professional) got all nine! Much celebration took place.

**Final scores:** TEAM BLADE 56 won by 1 Pin (TEAM PULSE 55)

Throughout the evening both Donna and Gail Baggaley were selling Raffle Tickets at quite a furious rate – thanks for your help girls.

The Whisky Roll generated £25 to support the Windbow making Weekend.

**The Winning Team** BLADE – Iris, John and the two Alan's. Were each presented with a bottle of wine.

At the commencement of the evening all eight team captains were asked to select a charity of their team's choice. Eight cards were placed in a hat a young Iris Summerfield picked out Team OMEGA and their chosen charity was 'The Derbyshire Children's Hospital'. All funds raised by the Raffle to go to this worthy cause.

The long awaited raffle took place at approximately 10.15 and the many prizes (over 20) were won by very jovial people. Everyone won something !!

### My Thanks

- 1 To all who attended
- 2 To all who donated prizes, made prizes etc., including, Flexifoil International, The Highwayman, Spirit of the Air, TKC Marketing, Scyro Kites, Free Spirit Kites, Angela Trueman (Remember dear Martin Evans), and our own Doug Richardson and Chairman Karl.
- 3 The Staff of Schofields for the excellent food and service.
- 4 Final thanks to my good lady (Linda) who helped me enormously with the organisation and preparation for what has become our Annual event.

If you enjoyed it – tell your friends. If you didn't - tell me.

Graham Binney

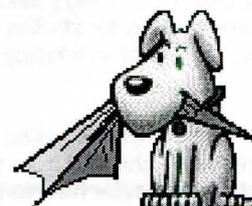
*(Continued from MKF Page 2)*

Having packed up, we spent some time trying to catch the beast to give to the park rangers to look after until the owners (hopefully) returned to lay claim, but Snowy continued to evade capture so we left him to his own devices.

I have not been back to the park since last weekend so he may still be roaming, or may have found his way home to his owners, either way all fliers should be aware that there is a clear and present threat to peaceful flying at Shipley who answers to the name of Snowy!

We may fly our kites safely and responsibly, but there is little we can do when the owners are not able to train the dog to respond to command – what would happen if the dog had managed to catch the kite, if the wind had dropped or I crashed it – I doubt very much if the owners would put their hands in their pockets to repair or replace it – but if I had hit the dog and the shoe had been on the other foot, what is the betting I would be expected to foot any vet bills?

- Martin J Harris



**You can tell the windspeed at a kite festival by observing your surroundings:**

Beaufort Scale	Kite Festival Scale:
0	Beer sales increase
1	Banners start to rustle annoyingly.
2	Carbon kites fly, poorly
3	Fibreglass kites fly, poorly
4	Ultralight kites break
5	Novice buggies get injured
6	Big flowforms break free destroying property
7	Cabanas collapse
8	Swivel on spinsock seizes
9	Sleeved Spectra snaps in the middle
10	Gyrokite flies, poorly
11	Beer sales increase

**Vulcan Buggy Challenge Cup, RAF Scampton, Lincoln, April 9<sup>th</sup> 2000**

As I pulled up at the security barrier at 9.30am, the rain had stopped. I opened my window, to show my Vulcan Club card, and a sharp breeze smacked me in the face! I drove through the site to the parking area, and found I was alone!

Air bases have always fascinated me, especially derelict or deactivated bases, with their dark buildings wrapped in eerie silence. What was that? The ghostly engines of 617 Squadron, the 'Dam Busters', who were formed here, or the ear shattering, ground trebling roar of a Vulcan Bomber, from 27 Squadron.

As I indulged my imagination, I was blissfully unaware of Scampton's new role! Bob 'Hi' Cruickshanks, was checking everyone on the old clipboard. "Hello Matey", his usual quip, was followed a friendly handshake, as we hadn't seen each other for over 6 months.

At the Crew meeting, we heard the news that Scampton had become an 'active' base, yet again! This time it's the RAF Red Arrows display team who are to set up shop. This has resulted in the loss of half of the perimeter road, leaving us with the western end! Well it could be worse, at least we're still allowed on the base! (Time will tell)

Crumpled faces, many not seen since 'BERROW' / 'LAST GASP' 99, listened to Bob, as he informed us of the new 'NO-GO' areas. Dave Stratton, Garry Box, Mike "Flexi" Shaw, John & Dan 'Shutterman' Eaton, Gary Neal, Roger Aldridge, Dave Roberts, to name a few, and last but not least Matt Hurrell, the Pro Trophy holder from '99'.

The wind direction was unusual, blowing along the main runway, East I think? This turned the top perimeter road section, from the windsock to the first buildings, which usually has a couple of wind shadow spots, into a wickedly fast racetrack! So with the Taxiway, by the parking, we had two exciting 'reaches' and the wind maintained 15mph+ all day. Oh yes! and it stayed dry and sunny, not bad for April!

The morning became a 'practice and play' session, with the gusty winds providing many with the surprise experience of being on two wheels!!!! Garry Box and I set off to the top perimeter road and a couple of gybes were needed to get to the buildings on the edge of the new no-go zone. From here we knew the return trip would be a blast!! Garry set off on 2.5m Predator power, with me in hot pursuit on 2.2 C-Quad force! The first 100yds were a bit tame, more down wind, but at the left bend the power kicked in and we catapulted off up the tarmac!!!! (Whiplash)

We were the first folks to try out this section, and this gave us a 'no traffic' first run. "Ace". I was trying like stink to catch Garry, but I couldn't make any ground even though my 2.2 C-Q had more power than I could use. A quick glance at the Speedo = 40mph. My P/ L standard comp buggy, was starting to be yanked sideward's if I went for more power, were as Garry was easy on in his Libre, changing up to a 3m Predator later in the day!

It didn't take long before there was a procession of buggies, heading for the turn-round point, ready to be launched back along the drag strip!!!! Needless to say this reduced the speeds a smidge, (Bandits at 1.00, 2.00 & 3.00 o'clock!!!!!!) Buggy Bostin'tastic!!!!!! If only I had a rear gunner!!!!!!

The afternoon started with the Novice Race, and they had to negotiate two circuits by the windsock before heading for home. Thirteen hardy souls set off like rockets down the reach and into the right hand bend, a downwind section. It brought back memories, as buggies, kites & crew shot off in all directions!

- 1<sup>st</sup>- Dave Pearson, 2m Predator, avoided the rumpus and wiped the board to take the trophy.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Tom Gibson, 2m Jo-Jo.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- Dave Peck, 2.2 C-Quad.

The Pro Racers, had to complete four top circuits, and not use the grass at all. ( Oh Yea! ) Matt Hurrell is a sly fox! The average buggy crew, make a lot of noise to psych-out the competition. "Why's everyone lookin' at me?" "I'm coming to get ya Matt!" "Yea, I'm really scared Steve" (Admittedly this sometimes

doesn't always work?) Matt on the other hand is a thinker! (NO THINKER) He's like a downhill skier preparing, mentally running the course with his eyes closed. (And I thought he was just humming the latest tunes!)

Dave Pearson, Novice race winner, was giving Matt a run for his money, until Matt began his sneaky upwind turns.

- 1<sup>st</sup>- Matt Hurrell, 2m Predator, romped home a minute clear of Dave
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Dave Pearson, 2m Predator. (One to watch this season folks!)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- James Welch, Homebuilt. (How much do you want for that Kite?..)

Just time for a couple more blasts along the back straight before I have to go. "GARRY!....."

See you all at the next BBC Challenge, Wroughton Airfield, Swindon, in May!

Steve Walt Webb.

**MKF Committee Members and Important People**

**Chairman**

**Karl Longbottom**

Tel: 01981 550326

[karl@longbottom.org.uk](mailto:karl@longbottom.org.uk)

**General Secretary**

**Doug Richardson**

Tel: 01522 884744

[doug@mkf.org.uk](mailto:doug@mkf.org.uk)

**Treasurer**

**Linda Richardson**

Tel: 01522 884744

[linda@mkf.org.uk](mailto:linda@mkf.org.uk)

**Membership Secretary**

**John Larson**

Tel: 0114 255 3410

[john@mkf.org.uk](mailto:john@mkf.org.uk)

**Events Co-ordinator**

**Alan Bill**

Tel: 0121 360 1955

**Newsletter Editor**

**Alan Poxon**

Tel: 01773 716047

[alan@mkf.org.uk](mailto:alan@mkf.org.uk)

**Website Manager**

**Julie White**

Tel: 01332 669203

[julie@kitefliers.co.uk](mailto:julie@kitefliers.co.uk)

## A REWARDING EXPERIENCE!

I was invited by the local primary school to talk to the children about kites, as kite making and flying was on the curriculum for a Maths and Science Week. Little did I know what I was letting myself in for!

At an initial meeting with two of the organising teachers, I realised that they were not really au fait with kites that would be guaranteed to fly, so I volunteered to print out two sled designs, one in plastic and the other made from A3 cartridge paper. Then I was persuaded to talk to the staff and show them how to make both kites, which went down a storm and ended up with adults running around the school field towing their own kites. Did I say adults?!

★ The next event was an exhibition of kites in the entrance hall. "But who will put up the kites for display"? I asked in all innocence. "Oh, the caretaker of course" was the reply. Well, there was no possibility of letting him do it, so I landed myself with another job, and I had yet to talk to 300 children aged from 4½ to 11 years!

When the day finally dawned, I was off with a car full of kites and they were eventually set up in the hall after fighting off the helpers, who wanted to poke into every bag and touch every kite! At last, the first group

of sixty or so youngsters filed in and sat down expectantly and I went through the first half hour chat, with time for a few questions at the end. They were fascinated and I had no behaviour problems at all. Wonderful!

Three more similar groups followed and I now realised that not only did I have a very sore throat, but that there were also another

# aerodyne

July 2000

the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers

three more groups to get through after lunch! How did I ever manage to teach all day before I retired? The most difficult group was the 4 to 5 year olds, most of whom had a concentration span of about 2 minutes, but fortunately their time was cut down to 20 minutes.

Finally, I packed up and went home for a large G & T and an afternoon nap, which I felt was well deserved!

At the end of the week the whole school went to the local park to fly their kites and guess who else was there? Well I must say that the whole week was a very rewarding experience for me and I know that 90% of the

children enjoyed it too. Maybe there will be a few new members of Brighton Kite Flyers in the years to come. Let's hope so!

Ray Oakhill  
(BKF/Brighton)

### ALTERNATIVE BKF WEBSITE ADDRESS

The Brighton Kite Flyers website can now also be found at: <http://www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk> - thanks to John Dimmock for obtaining the domain name and for hosting the site for free. Thanks also to Phil Chitty who continues as Webmaster (see page 6). The site can still also be found at its original address: <http://www3.mistral.co.uk/prchitty>

Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)

### BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL WEBSITE

If you're reading this in The Kiteflier mag, then the Brighton Kite Festival (8 & 9 July 2000) will probably have been and gone by now. However, the festival website was updated prior to our 22nd event - and is still at: <http://www.whizzieworld.free-online.co.uk> if you want to take a peek at the new info. The site has undergone a complete redesign and now also includes additional material.

Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)

### MY 2<sup>ND</sup> ADVENTURE ON ICE

I was invited once again to attend the second Kites On Ice Festival in Madison, Wisconsin (USA), but at that time I had to turn their offer down as it clashed with my sponsored trip to Malaysia. However, as many of you know, the Malaysia festival was cancelled due to the change in government just a month or so ago ☹, so I was able to participate after all.

I was so very glad I did, because that beautiful lady Linda Underwood and her side-kick Kristi did it again. It's very hard to believe that it was even better than last year - that's saying a lot as last year was great(!), but this year was even better and I will bet my last dollar that next year it will be better still! Again the festival was a huge success from start to finish, I am sure you are going to read a lot about it in many kite magazines, but I just want to put my own two cents worth in... as I am still on a high from the sport kite end of it.

This year there was no problem getting to Madison with Chicago Air like there was last year, when I spent 18 hours (along with other flyers that were also stranded due to pilots on a slowdown) before getting to

Madison - which is just a half hour flight from Chicago airport! I was looking forward to spending some more prime time with Scott Skinner again ☺, but I heard through the kite grapevine that he had made sure that I had flown out of the Chicago airport before he arrived! ☺ I arrived late on Thursday evening in Madison along with Torrey Lindemann and was driven to our hotel by my last year's anchorman Jody Mc Cann. Jody was the sport kite flyers' 'Ice Boss' again, and once again I might add - he did a super job of babysitting us all! I arrived at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center at 9am on Friday and things were already well underway, so I headed for the ice to set up ready to meet the day. This year I was given some real ice-climbing spurs and they worked great - giving me full confidence to fly safely on the ice.

On Friday and Saturday the wind was a little bit up and down - but still flyable, that's for sure. As always it was a great pleasure for me to share the sport kite arena with Chicago Fire, Team STAFF and the infamous Rev 6 Man Team - the Decorators from the UK. Together we had the thousands of spectators shouting for more and we did just that from early morning until dark each day. There were no shortage of spectators - 20,000 plus, it is

really heart warming to see so many local people showing up to patronise this event. The night fly was another huge success again with thousands of spectators braving the cold. The firework display was short but very spectacular, then it was a case of packing up and making a quick change for the banquet. This was way less formal than last year, which I thought made it more of a big party with plenty of socialising. This is always a great way to get to know the flyers from all over, which included: Holland, France, Germany, Australia, Canada and from all over the US. The rest of the time we are all too busy doing what we have been sponsored to do, which is to entertain the thousands of spectators and help make this festival the best ever - and we can all get ten out of ten for doing just that! The banquet food was, I think, one of the very best of any banquets that I have ever attended.

Sunday evening's farewell dinner, as last year, was held at a German restaurant called the Essen Haus. Again it was great food with all kinds of different beers to choose from, and the 'boot drinking' that was so popular last year was a smash hit again, especially with the ladies! ☺ This year,

**PETWORTH KITE FESTIVAL WEBSITE**

If you haven't done so already, then it's well worth checking out the new Petworth Kite Festival website at: <http://www.petworthkites.org.uk> which contains info about this year's event, celebrating its 20th year on Sunday 16 July 2000. With thanks to Ron and Pat Dell for passing on the site address.

**Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)**

**FAB NEW KITE WEBSITE ALERT!**

Malcolm Goodman has recently set up a website which has got to be seen to be believed! It's packed full of interesting stuff for the info hungry kitie (including some excellent pics) and covers kite history, all types of kite flying, fliers, makers, festivals, plans, fascinating \*kite facts, Malcolm's extensive kite collection (of over 30 years) and loads more. There's heaps there plus additional material to be added yet as some bits of the site are still under construction.

This one is definitely well worth the download time for an offline browse at your leisure! It's by far the most comprehensive kite site that I've seen out there yet - check out The Kiteman's website at: <http://www.kiteman.co.uk>

\*My fave fact discovered: 'Kite flying was banned in Japan in 1760 because too many people preferred to fly kites than work.'

**Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)**

unbeknown to the Decorators, the word was out to drink them under the table, man what an impossibility(!), but I must admit that none of us were feeling any pain by the time we headed for the hotel!

I had a super time and I was once again honoured to have been sponsored to such a great festival and to have shared prime time with some of the best kite designers and flyers from around the world. I would like once again to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of Kites On Ice - the City of Madison for making us feel so welcome. Many thanks also to all the thousands of spectators that turned up every day to show us their appreciation. Thank you Jody Mc Cann - for without your help I would be hard put, I mean who else is big enough to pick Big Daddy up off the ice every time I fall down?! ☺

And last, but by no means least, my thanks to the organiser Linda Underwood and her side-kick Kristy, together with all those great volunteers. Congratulations for another super organised festival, you did it again with flying colours! Thank you for listening.

**Ray Bethell (BKF/Vancouver/Canada)**

## CHISELHURST SCOUTS KITE WORKSHOP

**A**t the invitation of Chiselhurst District Scouts, the BKF were invited to run a kite workshop for up to 320 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts at Downe in Kent, on Saturday 20 May this year.

Although I have kite templates for various types, I decided to do sled kites for the younger members and delta kites for the Venture Scouts. After three days of winding lines and cutting out sails in preparation, I decided that I would never do this again!

On the appointed day I was ably assisted by Pat & Ron Dell and Simon Hennessey at the kite face together with Alan Outram - who kept us supplied with bridles, sails and tape. The initial assault started at 11am with a ticket system to avoid bottlenecks, but the sight of successfully flying kites soon initiated a disorganised rush and we had to fight off the hordes with promises that there would still be time later in the day.

At 4pm the activity abated to a trickle and a few Venture Scouts arrived. I had time to give them a step by step demonstration of making delta kites, which is how I really like to do a workshop. After a very successful flying session, they returned to thank us on behalf of all those who made kites on the day. What a nice reward!

I am quite willing to do another Scout kite workshop next year if they ask us to... honest!!

**Ray Oakhill (BKF/Brighton)**

**aerodyne**  
the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers  
July 2000

### BKF ONE SKY ONE WORLD 2000

- ◆ **Date:** Sunday 8 October 2000
- ◆ **Time:** 11am onwards
- ◆ **Venue:** Devil's Dyke/East Sussex
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 258 112
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 1000ft
- ◆ **Contact:** Ray Oakhill (see page 6)

**C**ome and join us flying kites for peace across the planet. As every year, the number of fliers and kites flown on the day will be registered and sent to Jane Parker-Ambrose at One Sky One World HQ in Denver, Colorado, USA. There they will be added to the figures collated from other events worldwide. Check out the OSOW website at: <http://www.oneskyoneworld.com> for further info about the event, its origins and history. Details of other UK events can be found on Jim Cronin's website at: <http://www.jims-place.org.uk>

**Toody Oakhill (BKF Editor)**

### 5<sup>TH</sup> SOUTH PADRE ISLAND KITE FESTIVAL

**I** can not believe that just two weeks ago I was flying kites on the beautiful frozen Monona lake in Madison, Wisconsin at the very successful 2<sup>nd</sup> Kites On Ice Festival. I was all dolled up in long-johns, a snowsuit, lambswool boots and with arctic ice-spurs on my feet - as it was as cold as a frog in an ice bound pool! And just a few days ago I was flying kites in the tropical tip of Texas at the South Padre Island 5<sup>th</sup> Kite Festival and sport kite competitions - man, what a temperature contrast!

This indeed has to be the Palm Springs of Texas and also the best kept secret - I was sworn to secrecy not to tell a soul, but no way can I even begin to write this article without mentioning this very special island of paradise! Easily accessible from the mainland across the 2.5 mile long Queen Isabella Causeway, the island is blessed with beautiful beaches, nature trails, 5 miles of seashore, water-sports, plenty of shops to browse through, great restaurants and for the golfer - a new 18 hole championship golf course. For the kiter it's one of the best places to fly kites, with acres of

open space on the sand flats, an awesome place for buggying, great winds, and with average temperatures in the 70's and 80's. To top this off they have one of the biggest kite stores (well over 4,000 square feet of floor space) I have ever been in, stocked to over-flowing with kites of every description and kite related merchandise. It's owned and operated by 'Mr Nice Guy' himself - Jim Geyerman together with his lovely wife Cathy.

I was thinking on my journey home, what a great place to hold the AKA Convention. It has a perfect climate (in October the temperature is 75 - 80), good winds, no rain, a 45,000 sq ft convention centre just minutes off the flying arenas, hotels etc plus hundreds of spectators (for sure!) - as this is a vacation spot throughout the year. In fact it is a two-nation vacation spot as Mexico is only 30 miles away - so you have Mexican, national and international travellers that find this the perfect place to ward off the coming winter blues.

The festival was a huge success from start to finish. Not the biggest in the world but none the less it was well supported by kite flyers from all over. Troy Gunn and his side-kick partner Collete Ratajski did a super job in organising the sport kite competitions - which took up most of both days, with Individual, Pairs, and Team flying. The judging was in good hands with one of the selected judges for the up and coming World Sport Kite Championships in Malaysia - Troy Gunn, who also has many years of experience as a sport kiter and competitor under his belt, plus Keith Anderson and Shane Snowden - the 1998 Grand National Champion.

The competitors had their hands full on the first day as the winds were 18 - 20mph which made it a little tough for their ballet routines, but that's the name of the game! The

single line flyers put on a great show in the sky attracting hundreds of spectators from afar, the fishermen that were fishing in the Gulf of Mexico told me later that they could see the kites from over 6 miles away! Just to name a few - there were Gene & Dorothy Lewandowski from Cleveland with their Scuba Diver and Lester's Legs, Sam Pedregon of Pueblo Co with his beautiful Trilobite, giant Octopus and Flowforms, Rob & Margaret Robinson from the Pacific Beach (WA) with their large deltas, Olympic Rings and dozens of flags, plus many more who added to the perfect competition back-drop. There was no shortage of spectators and a great job was done by all the demonstrators that entertained and thrilled them all day. They must have really been

turned on as on Sunday they were all back again bringing their family and friends with them! The winds were great - a steady 10mph but at around 2pm the wind jumped to 22mph. However, by that time the competitions had been completed and now it was the judges time to play... and play they sure did - much to the delight of the spectators! Troy Gunn showed them what bugging is all about, I think he was in his glory with this kind of wind - he is also built for it. ☺ The crowd was amazed at the speed one could travel at! But all good things have to come to an end and we all congratulated ourselves on a great festival.

I must not forget to mention what a great job the announcer Tom Chaffee did - keeping a running commentary on what was going on and who was who etc throughout the day, plus the sound system man Jeff Clifton - who was right on cue with everyone's music.

The Saturday night award banquet and auction held at the Padre Island Brewing Co was a huge success.

The food was delicious and there was plenty of it - some guys I noticed even went for seconds and thirds... hard to believe I know, but I do know this for a fact as some of them tried to push their way in front of me a few times! ☺ Also hats off to the brewmaster Mark Haggemiller who's handcrafted ales and lagers are the best that I have tasted in a long, long time.

I stayed over for a couple of more days at the request of Jim Geyerman who was my sponsor and I was so very glad I did. I was on the beach at 8am and flew 'til dusk, the wind and weather could not have been more perfect - for me this was the grand finale of another great sponsorship. Thank you Jim - the festival and the island were all that you said they would be and so much more. Thanks for your and Cathy's hospitality and friendship... you betcha I have marked the date in my calendar for next year!

I would like to add one more thing - one of the highlights for me was spending some prime time on and off the flying arena with Troy Gunn. It has been 7 years since Troy moved from Oregon to Texas and it brought back so many happy memories of time that we spent together flying and competing in the early 80's in Oregon and Washington. "Good Stuff!"

Thank you for listening

**Ray Bethell (BKF/Vancouver/Canada)**

**aerodyne**  
the newsletter of the brighton kite flyers  
July 2000

## SLACK ALICE GOES WALKABOUT!

**W**eymouth 2000 was yet another excellent beach festival organised, of course, by The Kite Society. As in other years a Rokkaku kite fight took place with an onshore wind and, much against my better judgement, I decided to enter. In the first 30 seconds I was involved in the sky knitting and ended up being cut, with my painted Japanese Rokkaku disappearing over the roof of M & S in the town.

I should point out that this was only the second kite that I made after an attempt at an appliqué model based on the same design, and that it was built from one piece of white ripstop and painted with fabric paints - hence the name 'Slack Alice'. The word is that I have been trying to lose this kite for some years, but in fact, I am quite fond of it as it won me the National Solo Rokkaku title in 1994, albeit with natural string line in place of nylon, but then what about tradition?!

I went for a walk through the streets of Weymouth with little hope of success. However, a passer-by told me that he had found a kite close to the harbour and had tied it to the railings. Sure enough there was a kite at that spot, but it was not mine and it was about to be removed by a cyclist! I thanked him for 'looking after' my kite and he rode off with a few unrepeatable words! Having rolled up the kite, I walked back towards the seafront only to be approached by a man with my kite under his arm. I said to him, "You've found my kite". To which he replied, "You've found my kite"!

What a novel way to make friends with international kite fliers! His name is Alain Senior and he was part of the team of French kite fliers invited to the Weymouth International Kite Festival. He will be at Dieppe this year, so I am hoping that we will meet again, maybe in the Rokkaku fight!

**Ray Oakhill (BKF/Brighton)**

## THIS ISSUE'S BACON SAVERS...

**T**hanks to all of this issue's contributors - without whose efforts you wouldn't have a newsletter...

☆ **Ray Bethell** ☆ **Ray Oakhill**



## SWINDON KITE FESTIVAL 2000

It is always a pleasure to visit Wroughton Airfield for the White Horse Kite Flyers International Festival, even if it is only to have the mickey taken out of me by 'The Swindon Lot! Is it something to do with lawnmowers or The White Hart pub or what?

Anyway, who cares - the weather was beautiful and the wind blew very nicely thank you. I even managed to persuade my Mockform to stay aloft all night - and how many of you can still say that I wonder?!

There was yet another truly excellent raffle on Saturday night. Thanks to all the WHKF who donated the prizes and for all the camaraderie bandied about during

the evening - that's what makes it such a good fun event! How generous of Phil Scarfe to win a bottle of scotch and donate the contents to his newly made friends. Thanks Phil - I promise I won't forget your name in future!

Sunday dawned early for me with thoughts of grandchildren arriving later in the day. They were both mesmerised by the colours and shapes in the sky, but Hannah refused to fly her Winnie The Pooh kite - has she heard about the infamous lawnmower maybe?

Later on Team Hyperactive (Simon Hennessey and myself) had a short slot in the arena with our stacks of Hyperkites. We had almost completed the routine that we've



practised so far, when Simon's kites hit some 'dead air' and collapsed in a tangled heap! Never mind, it was still a good experience.

What a great festival. If you have never been, you don't know what you're missing! Many thanks to the WHKF for all the effort put in - I know just what it's like. And hey, I even paid my camping fee this year - but don't tell anyone as I might get a good reputation!

**Ray Oakhill (BKF/Brighton)**

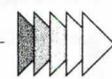


## BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS FLY-INS & EVENTS 2000

For queries re BKF fly-ins and events please contact the Events Co-ordinator: Ray Oakhill (see page 6) - unless an alternative contact is given. For a full list of UK and most European kite festivals - please see the Kite Society of Great Britain's 'The Kiteflier' magazine events list or their website at: [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepageskite\\_society](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepageskite_society) Please note: Events marked \* are not organised by the BKF.

Date:	Day:	From:	Event:	Venue:	Map Ref:	H/C:
02 Jul	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Ladies Mile Road/Brighton	198 TQ 317 092	1500ft
08/09 Jul	Sat/Sun	11am	Brighton Kite Festival	Stanmer Park/Brighton	198 TQ 342 088	3000ft
13 Jul	Thurs	6pm	Social Eve Fly-in	Stanmer Park/Brighton	198 TQ 342 088	200ft
*16 Jul	Sun	11am	Petworth Kite Festival	Petworth Park/West Sussex (Joanna Mersey Tel: 01798 869214)		
06 Aug	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
17 Aug	Thurs	6pm	Social Eve Fly-in	Stanmer Park/Brighton	198 TQ 342 088	200ft
01 Sep	Fri	N/A	Deadline for items re: Aerodyne Issue October 2000 To: Toody Oakhill (Editor)			
03 Sep	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
*09/17 Sep	9 Days	10am	Dieppe Kite Festival	Dieppe Seafront/France (Derek Kuhn Tel: 0121 706 1302)		
14 Sep	Thurs	6pm	Social Eve Fly-in	Stanmer Park/Brighton	198 TQ 342 088	200ft
01 Oct	Sun	9am	Show: Demo/BMISS	Ardingly/West Sussex	187 TQ 341 303	1000ft
(Above: Contact Ray Oakhill before 31 Aug for car passes Tel/Fax: 01273 306842 Email: rao@mistral.co.uk)						
01 Oct	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
08 Oct	Sun	11am	One Sky One World	Devil's Dyke/East Sussex	198 TQ 258 112	1000ft
05 Nov	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
01 Dec	Fri	N/A	Deadline for items re: Aerodyne Issue January 2001 To: Toody Oakhill (Editor)			
03 Dec	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
01 Jan	Mon	11am	New Year Fly-in	Devil's Dyke/East Sussex	198 TQ 258 112	1000ft
07 Jan	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft
04 Feb	Sun	11am	Monthly Fly-in	Telscombe Tye/Brighton	198 TQ 392 017	1500ft

Key: H/C = Height Clearance



## BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS (UNTIL AUGUST 2000)

1ST SUNDAY MONTHLY  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

General fly-in day:

- ◆ **Venue:** Ladies Mile Road/Patcham/Brighton
- ◆ **Site:** Top/North end of road
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 317 092
- ◆ **Time:** From 11.00am
- ◆ **Parking:** On roads next to the site or on the site (with key from Ray Oakhill only)
- ◆ **By Bus:** Nos 26/5/5A from Brighton
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 1500ft

## BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS (FROM AUGUST 2000)

1ST SUNDAY MONTHLY  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

General fly-in day:

- ◆ **Venue:** Telscombe Tye/Brighton
- ◆ **Site:** Next to the A259 coast road between Saltdean and Peacehaven
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 392 017
- ◆ **Time:** From 11.00am
- ◆ **Parking:** On roads next to the site or in A259 lay-by
- ◆ **By Bus:** Nos 14/711/712/713 from Brighton
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 1500ft

## BKF FLY-IN REMINDERS

2ND THURSDAY MONTHLY  
APRIL - SEPTEMBER INCLUSIVE

Flying evening with a social bash afterwards at the Swan pub (Falmer):

- ◆ **Venue:** Stanmer Park/Lewes Road/Brighton
- ◆ **Site:** Next to Sussex University
- ◆ **Map Ref:** 198 TQ 342 088
- ◆ **Time:** From 6.00pm
- ◆ **Parking:** On road through the site
- ◆ **By Bus:** No 25 from Brighton
- ◆ **By Train:** Falmer Station
- ◆ **Height Clearance:** 200ft

## FURTHER BKF INFO...

- ◆ **Co-ordinator/Chairperson:**  
Pete Linnell:  
Tel: 01273 683082/email:  
brightonkiteflyers@bigfoot.com
- ◆ **Membership Secretary:**  
Corinne Hennessey:  
Tel: 01273 582309/email:  
corinne@hennesseys.freereserve.co.uk
- ◆ **Events Co-ordinator:**  
Ray Oakhill:  
Tel/Fax: 01273 306842  
email: rao@mistral.co.uk
- ◆ **Editor:**  
Toody Oakhill:  
Tel/Fax: 01273 243528  
email: toody@bigfoot.com
- ◆ **Club Library:**  
Pete Linnell:  
Tel: 01273 683082/email:  
brightonkiteflyers@bigfoot.com
- ◆ **Merchandise:**  
**Enamel Pins/Cloth Patches:**  
Ray Oakhill:  
Tel/Fax: 01273 306842  
email: rao@mistral.co.uk  
**T Shirts & Sweatshirts:**  
Alan Outram:  
Tel: 01737 771196/email:  
alanoutram@connectfree.co.uk
- ◆ **BKF Website Addresses:**  
<http://www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk>  
<http://www3.mistral.co.uk/prchitty>  
Webmaster: Phil Chitty:  
Tel: 01273 305831  
email: prchitty@mistral.co.uk
- ◆ **Brighton Kite Festival 2000:**  
**Date:** Sat 8 & Sun 9 July 2000  
**Venue:** Stanmer Park/Lewes Road/Brighton/East Sussex  
**Organised by the Brighton Kite Festival Team**  
**Joint Festival Co-ordinators:**  
Simon Hennessey/Alan Outram
- ◆ **Festival Information Line:**  
Tel: 01273 582309  
email: s\_hennessey@bigfoot.com
- ◆ **Brighton Kite Festival Website Address:**  
<http://www.whizzieworld.free-online.co.uk>  
**Webmaster: Mik Jennison:**  
Tel: 01273 243528  
email: mikjennison@bigfoot.com

## CURRENT COMMITTEE

- ◆ **Chairperson (Officer):**  
Pete Linnell
- ◆ **Secretary (Officer):**  
Simon Hennessey
- ◆ **Treasurer (Officer):**  
Gill Pitman
- ◆ **Committee Members:**  
Norma House  
Alan Outram  
Toody Oakhill

## USE THIS SPACE...

**P**lease contribute to your newsletter - even the smallest of items is appreciated. Anything sent to the 'Editor' will be considered for print unless marked otherwise. Please include a stamped sae for return.

### Please send contributions to:

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

### Deadlines:

January issue: 1 December  
April issue: 1 March  
July issue: 1 June  
October issue: 1 September

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct in 'Aerodyne', the Brighton Kite Flyers cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions that may occur.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Brighton Kite Flyers.

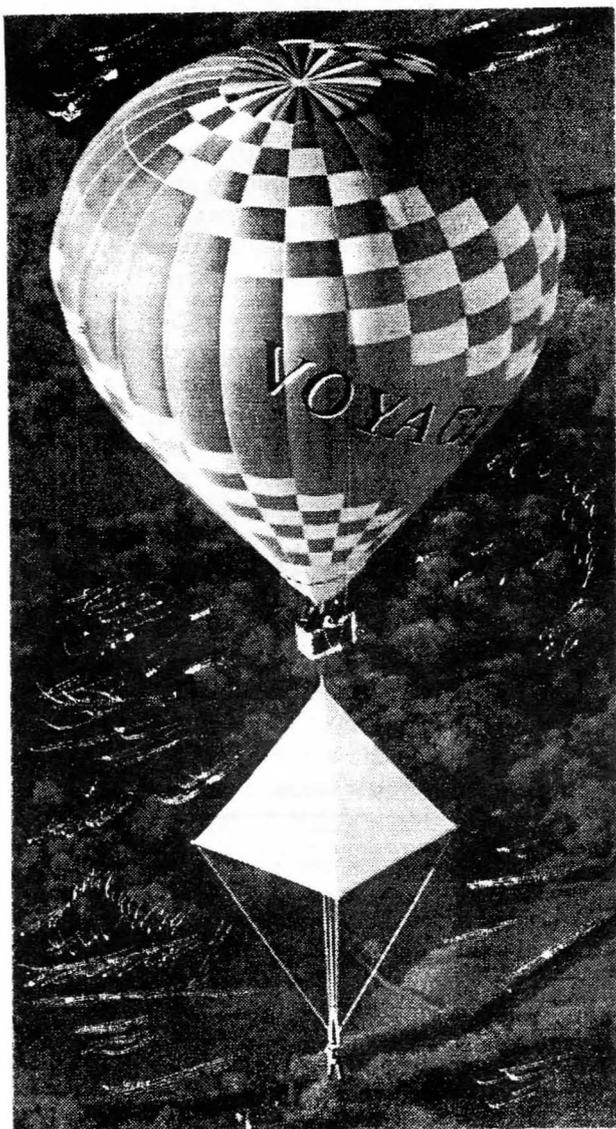
**brighton**  
**Kite**  
**flyers**

# ROMAN CANDLE 57.



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Gordon Bennet, Fifty Seven Varieties of the same old Mindless Drivel, can it get any worse?

## After 500 years, Leonardo's parachute is put to the test



Some Five Hundred odd years ago, Leonardo da Vinci knocked out a sketch for the first ever Parachute, and now someone has had a go at making a working version.

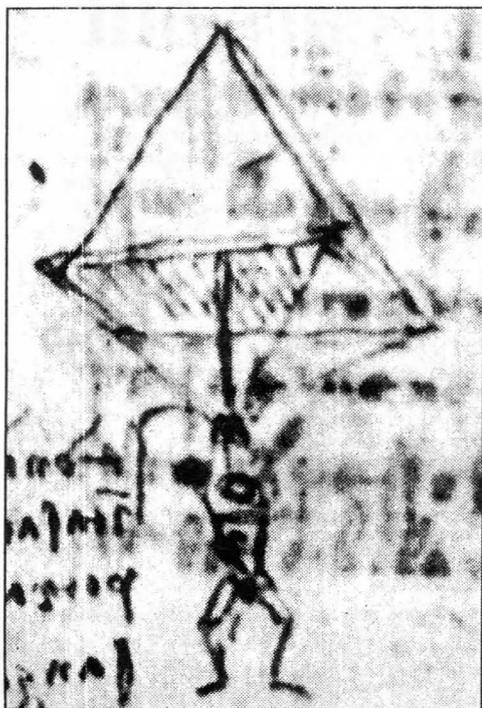
If all goes well it will prove once and for all, whether or not Leonardos design is a goer. Quite unlike modern Chutes, Leos design is pyramid shaped and the base of his canopy is formed from four 24'(8m) Pine poles. As originally sketched in 1485, Leos chute had another vertical pole to keep the canopy open as he supposed whereas we know that the air would perform that task.

The man responsible for recreating Leos chute, skydiver Aidrian Nicholas, has decided however to dispense with that vertical pole though in all other respects his version follows the original very closely.

You may have noticed that there is no crown vent in Leos design, which leads one to suspect that this Chute would be highly unstable, but in tests so far conducted with the weighted chute suspended below a tethered Hot Air Balloon, the chute descended without being unduly unstable.

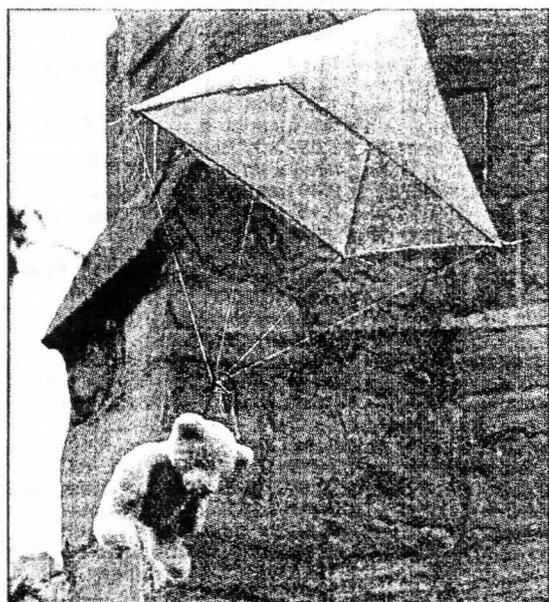
As the modern version of this amazing chute weighs in at a hefty 187lbs(85kg) it was decided that as discretion is the better part of valour, it would be a bit dodgy having that lot coming down on top of you on landing, so the plan is to ascend to 10,000'(3,000m) attached to the Balloon, cut loose for the "LEO" descent then cut lose again, dive clear and deploy a modern Parachute.

The first full attempt went down the Tubes due to High winds on Salisbury Plain. At ground



Leonardo's 1485 parachute sketch

## Who's the bear traffic controller?



He's off - Ted in full flight from the church  
COMPLETE WITH LEO CHUTE

Word has it that featured quite heavily in the celebrated illuminations of the well known Essex Resort are Teds engaged in a variety of thing including one on a Parachute whose presence announce that Para Teds can even stand 240 volts right up the Khyba.

All jokes aside, its amazing just where images of Teds doing what we do so well

cont rrom page one.....by the time the Balloon has re  
ached sufficient altitude for the chute drop, the  
whole shebang had drifted well away from the empty ex  
panse of Salisbury Plain and as there was no clear sp  
ace below them it was decided to abort the attempt.

All being well, within the next few weeks the Team  
involved will have another go in the wide open spaces  
of Arizona, we wish them well.

**Was LEONARDO da VINCI REALLY THE FIRST TO DESIGN A  
PARACHUTE?** History has it that some decades before Le  
sketched his famous Chute design, an unknown hand ha  
scribbled a drawing of a surprisingly modern looking  
round Parachute with a cross frame, however the detai  
ls and methodology behind the drawing do not exist..

### PARACHUTING BEARS ARE QUICK OFF THE MARK YOO WOT...

Holy Zarquon, those daring Teddy Bears of Overton  
on Dee, near Ellesmere in Shropshire, certainly do no  
let the grass grow under their feet. No sooner than w  
had word of what the Humes were up to with a replica  
of Leonardos chute, there the Teds were, up the Bell  
Tower of the local Parish Church, St Marys, flinging  
themselves of in order to raise a load of Dosh for th  
usual good causes

And the best bit of all, the Furry whatnots wer  
equipped with Bearsized versions of Leonardos jc  
lly old rag.

Could be we have another Worlds First here, but  
the Bummer Bit is we dont know the names of the  
poor beknighted Dropniks who were responsible for  
knocking up these natty canopies. Perhaps the eve  
expanding Mr Slater who sent us the details of th  
caper will do the bizzo and send us all the gory  
details, so we can give credit where credit is du

### K.N.D.S.T. NO MORE? or weird S\*\*T STILL HAPPENS.

A rather weird Postcard came through our door  
recently, it read "Thanks for all your Roman Canc  
les, Now a new life begins in Romania" It was frc  
good old Koose Verheij, one of our Dutch Parafaur  
friends from way back when and founder of the wai  
for it "KONINKLYK NEDERLANDS DIEREN SPRING TEAM" c  
the ROYAL DUTCH ANIMAL SKYDIVING SQUAD.

Gordon Bennett, wot gives, is Koose exporting  
Parachuting mayhem to South Eastern Europe? are  
all his KNDST mob going with him, will the E.U.  
allow such a thing to happen, do the poor Romani  
ans know what is about to hit them?

Maybe its none of our busines, but naturally  
being a right Nosey load of Furr Barstewards we w  
nt to know most of the ins and outs of the whole  
shebang.....

### ILLUMINATED BEARS AT SARFEND ON MUD, WHOOPS SOUTHEND ON SEA,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Word has it that featured quite heavily in the celebrated illuminations of the well known Essex Resort are Teds engaged in a variety of thing including one on a Parachute whose presence announce that Para Teds can even stand 240 volts right up the Khyba.

All jokes aside, its amazing just where images of Teds doing what we do so well

# Pyreneans want foreign bears out

FARMERS and politicians in the Pyrenees are demanding that Slovenian bears released into the mountains in an attempt to revive traditional fauna should be deported from France.

Inhabitants of the country's rugged south-western corner are unimpressed by the government's efforts to turn back the ecological clock.

To Pyrenean shepherds, the cuddly-looking creatures are a menace that kill their sheep, goats and foals and threaten

their livelihood. A Bill to capture and expel the newcomers was presented to parliament early yesterday, to the dismay of Green deputies who condemned the move as "contrary to nature".

"The bear was always part of the landscape of the Pyrenees before it was exterminated," said a Green spokesman, Denis Baupin. The stock of indigenous French bears in the mountains

By Patrick Bishop in Paris

dwindled to only six through systematic hunting until the late Fifties.

Most experts agree that the species cannot survive without an injection of foreign blood.

In 1996, the government introduced three bears from Slovenia, cousins of the Pyrenean variety. Despite their tiny number, their presence angers local sheep farmers and goat farmers,

and getting rid of the bears has been a vote-catching issue for local politicians.

Yesterday, Augustin Bonrepaux, Socialist deputy for the Ariège area, who is promoting the Bill, said they were responsible last year for killing 200 sheep, three goats and two foals.

The Bill's supporters claim that for the bears to survive the population will have to grow to 50, making the damage to livestock correspondingly greater.

Well now, we seem to have another variation on the much maligned Wolf story, you know the one where the Wolf, far from being the stuff of nightmares was in fact suffering from well dodgy "P.R."

It would seem that the poor old Pyrenean Bear is in the same boat, up the same creek without the proverbial. Is it impossible, even this near the 21st Century, to enable some free spirit creature to live as they should without the Humes getting, as usual all unnecessary?

Probably not, after all its about Money and votegrabbing, I know hes lying cos his lips are moving Politicians jumping on the Bandwagon, the poor Bears are just an excuse thats all. Wanna bet that if the locals could earn a sodding good wedge of Dosh from the presence of the Bears, they'd be falling over themselves to import even mor

## SEVENTEEN EXPLOSIONS HELP DEPLOY WORLDS LARGEST RAM AIR PARACHUTE, QUICKLY AND SAFELY

You had to see it to believe just what was happening as this amazing chute was being deployed, as it seemed to go on for ever.

There we were, glued to the box watching Discovery Channel, totally gobsmacked at the sequence of events that preceded the final deployment of this 5,000 sq ft monster Chute

First off was a large pilot chute, which proceeded to pull out and deploy an extremely large drogue chute, which in turn started to deploy the main canopy. This grew and incredible size, expanding a bit, then unfolding some more, then expanding further only to start unfolding and expanding even further, This went on until the canopy became the Big Momma of all Ram Air Chutes.

The Seventeen Explosions? The Packing and subsequent deployment of this Chute is so complicated that it requires Seventeen Explosive Bolts to unfold the various segments of the Canopy. You have to take your hat off to whoever thought up the packing sequence for this Chute.

And the Payload? This chute is going to be used to safely deliver the Lander from the proposed International Space Station which is to be constructed in the next Decade. Why the Lander from the proposed Space Station is to be landed via a very large Parachute is anybody's guess, but obviously the powers that be are convinced that this is the way to go. Wanna bet its another way of saving money, it surely could not be on the grounds of safety, or is it?

## PACKABLE PARAGLIDER ? NOW YOU CAN STUFF THE JOLLY OLD PARAGLIDER BAG.....

So your Paraglider flies like a dream, taking you pretty well anywhere you choose to go, but its not quite capable of doing what you really would like it to do, and this is being packed and deployed as a standard Parachute.

For clever Frenchman Jean Christophe Berland, that capability was his Holy Grail and after three years of development and testing, he has finally come up with a Paraglider which safely combines Parachuting and Paragliding. Funnily enough it was the actual packing method which really drove him to distraction as this sequence is fiendishly difficult, as he says there is much less room for errors than in packing a standard Ram Air Parachute.

**SHOCK ! HORROR ! DOCTOR BANS HIS TOXIC TEDDIES....YAH ! BOO ! HISSSS ! (ETC)**

Teddy Bears and other assorted toys of a Soft Cuddley Persuasion in Doctors waiting rooms are spreading potentially fatal germs from toddler to toddler.

Edinburgh G.P. Dr Ian McKay made the shock discovery that as many as one in three of the soft toys harbours potentially lethal bugs.

The problem is regarded as so serious that "DOCTOR" Magazine has declared an amnesty for GPs to send in their Toxic Teddies for incineration (The Barstewards).

Dr McKay explained how disease can be spread "I noticed a little child was literally eating the toys," he said. "The toy was thrown back into the toy box. It was rather disgusting."

Dr McKay has now removed all the toys from his surgery. "You either had to have no toys at all, or some system for cleaning them after each individual child had used them," he said "And we felt logistically this just wasn't practical.

So there you have it, just like that, INCINERATE them, altogether now BOO! Hiss! Still, its a fair bet that the quack is right about Toxic Teds, after all how many of our little horrors are harbouring essence of Stale Beer and Cow Pat Hills finest?

**YOU COULD'NT MAKE IT UP IF YOU TRIED.....No 587 in the series.....**

Desist, cries the Royal Jewellers, or its "Further Action" for you my lad.

Trader Solinder Singh who knocks out Teddy Bears from market stalls in Leicestershire has been ordered to change the name of his firm because it has upset the Royal Jewellers Asprey and Garrard.

They warned of further action against Solinder who trades under the name of Asprey Giftware Ltd, unless he changes his firms name. Crazy or what, hey Solinder hows about inserting another "S" in that name, that'll just about sum it up.

**SOMETIMES YOU GET THE FEELING THAT ITS A FUNNY OLD WORLD WE 'RE LIVING IN....THEY EVEN THINK WE 'RE RAVING BARMY 'COS WE PARACHUTE FROM KITES, BUT THEN MAYBE WE ARE, YOO WOT!**

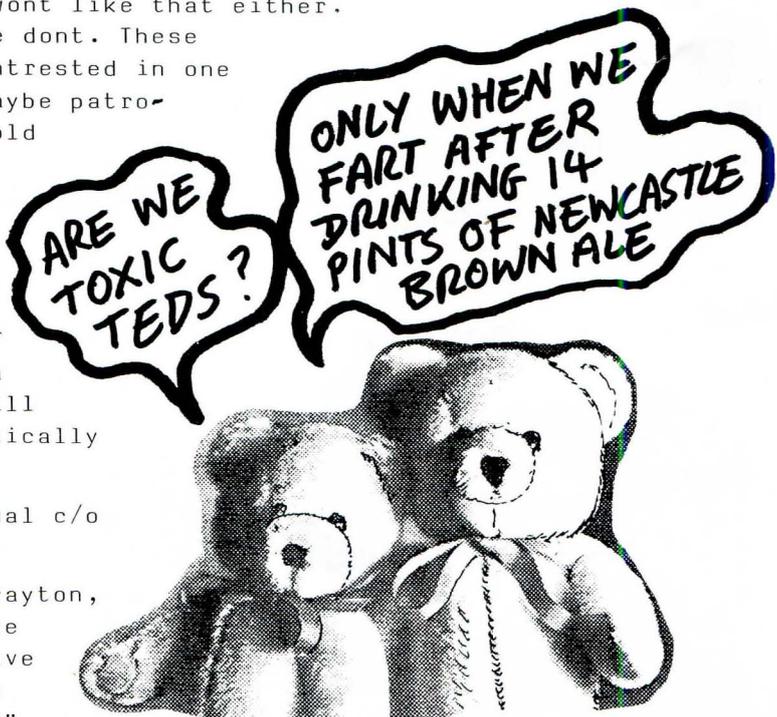
But then are we as barmy as those sad barstewards who reckon the word history is sexist, or the even sadder tossers who said that that an advert for a job must not include the word hardworking or even enthusiastic as that would upset the apathetic or lazy.

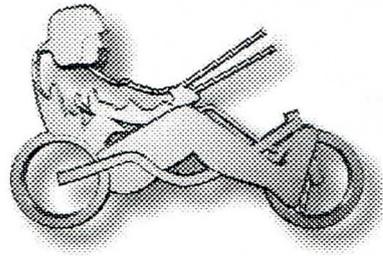
As we said elsewhere, you couldnt make it up, it as they say, beats cockfighting, and they probably wont like that either. but quite honestly who gives a toss, we dont. These patronising plonkers are really only interested in one thing, namely, trying to sanitise or maybe patronise, what is a rough tough and nasty old world, maybe some of that ilk will say and a good thing too, to which we can only say "Get a Life".

Still one things for sure, as long as you continue to get your quarterly dose of mindless drivel from the paw of a motheaten stinky Bear aka as the alta ego of a short fat ugly bastard, you will be spared any hint of patronising, politically correct load of cobblers.....

So as ever its the usual to the usual c/o The Boring Old Fart,

The Teddytorial, 48 Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7. 7TY, in what will forever be ENGLAND, no matter what the Traitors have planned, and of course as usual its the jolly old "A PLAGUE ON ALL THEIR HOUSES"





It is the merry enjoyment of a non-specific ongoing sequential annual event which relates specifically to that event hereafter known as 'the event' in which a specific time or instant of time shall be attributed to the event as previously determined in accordance with the regulations which refer to the event in question, being wholly or in part the event under discussion, to wit and pertaining to the non-specific event to which it has already certified that contains a time reference appropriate to the yearly period which it is desirous to refer to as the event as specified below in all its exactitude and finite detail apropos the intended date reference and celebrating time that is.....

**"BERROW 2000"**  
**September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**Y2K Millennium Bug**

Book your accommodation now at Embelle  
Holiday Park on 01278 751346

Check out the BBC Website at  
[www.buggy.demon.co.uk](http://www.buggy.demon.co.uk)