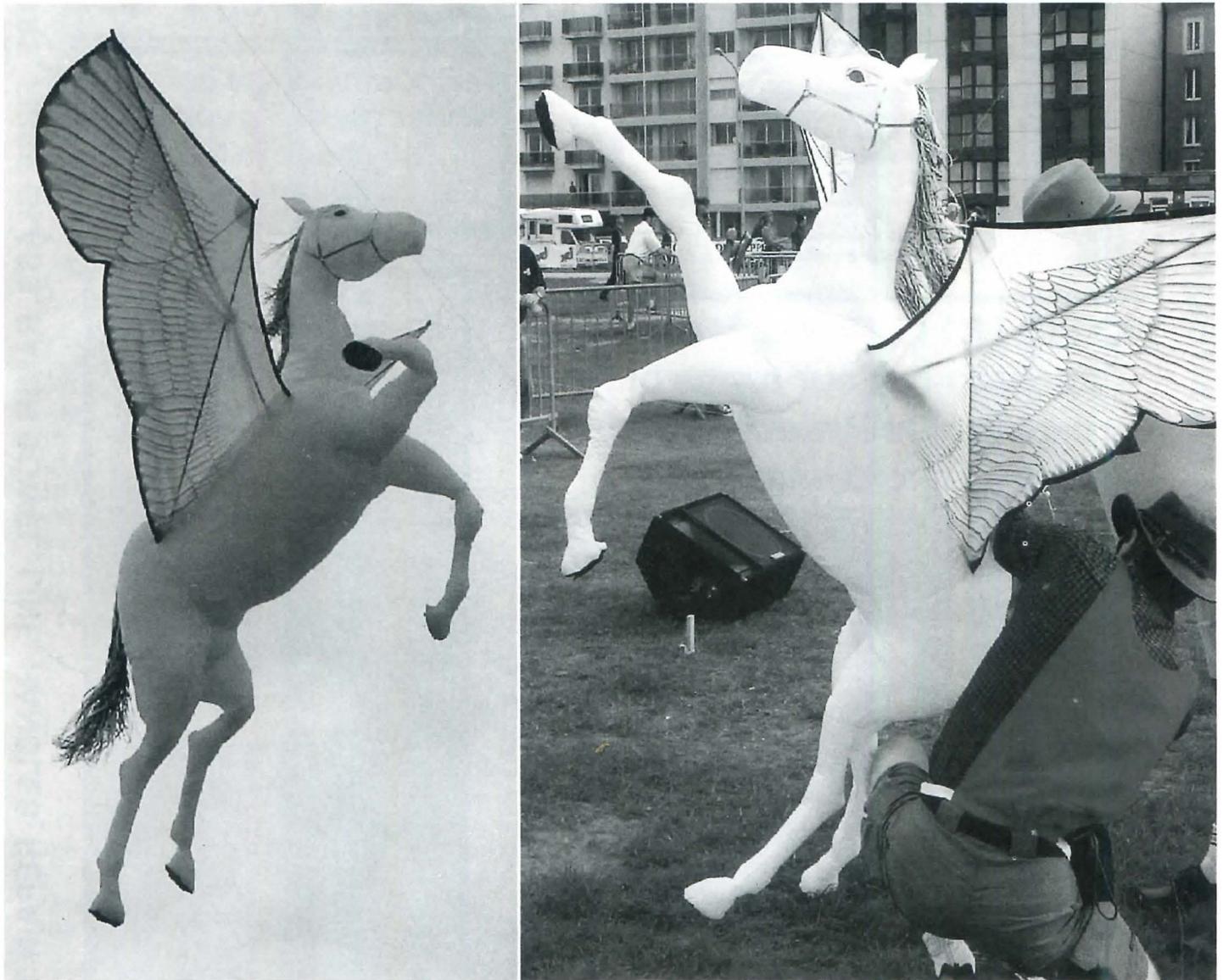


THE KITEFLIER

ISSUE 93

OCTOBER 2002

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The Kiteflier, Issue 93

October 2002

Letters	4
Trafalgar Square Kite Festival	5
Trade News	6
Event Reports	8
Festival Photos	9
Bird Kites—Corrections	10
Split Keel Kite	12
Paper Kites	15
Bits & Pieces	16
Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite	19
Aerodyne	24
M.K.F. Extra	30
Roman Candle	36
Events List	40



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Editorial

Dear Readers,

This magazine marks the end of the kiteflying year 2002.. Or does it? There are at least 2 more kite events which you could enjoy, there is One Sky, One World on the 13th of October, an ideal opportunity for kitefliers to share the air with others around the world, details of organised events can be found in the MKF Extra in this issue , although you can always fly solo !. The other event is Light Up the Sky on the 15th November, this is raising money for

Children in Need, again details can be found in the MKF Extra. Please support both events .

We are always looking for contributions, we can take them in almost any form , but if you have a computer than an email or disc helps us having to retype. We welcome articles on all aspects of kiteflying, but we are especially short of Sport and Power kite articles. Copy date for the next issue is December 15th.

Gill and Jon Bloom

Membership Information

The main vehicle of communication between members is the quarterly publication '**THE KITEFLIER**', 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.

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 send your name and address (plus the names of any supplementary members) and your payment for the appropriate membership type, to the address shown above. All cheques, made payable to '**The Kite Society**' and, for overseas members, should be

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

LATE BREAKING NEWS:

Winter workshop with Charlie Sotich

Whitehorse Kite Fliers have invited Charlie Sotich, from Chicago, to do a workshop, in February 2003, in Swindon. He has accepted our invitation! Charlie is a legend in American kiting circles, his miniature kites are rated to be some of the best in the world! This will be his first trip to the U.K . I haven't confirmed dates with Charlie yet, but it will be either the second or third weekend in February, the price will be announced in the next issue of the "Kiteflier" . If you are interested in seeing a great craftsman at work and of course joining him on his workshop, please contact me on, 01793 824208 or email me at :- Darjer2@aol.com

Regards,
Dave Robinson

Front cover photo -The winning entry to the Myths and Legends competition at Dieppe this year. Pegasus by Marc Duguay who comes from Paris. Photos by Gill Bloom.

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

From George Webster

Asked in July, my main feeling about 2002 was being wet—every festival seemed to be rained off on the Sunday. The final part of Weymouth was wet, by 3pm at Basingstoke it was lashing down and by 2pm at Fylde it was wet above and below as the tide came in.

But later on there were some good wind/sun days and all the time there were some great kites.

Memories (in no particular order):-

- Janneke Groen's lacy Sodes
- The Crocodile at Weymouth
- The sharks and remoras at Sunderland
- Carl Robertshaw's delta arch at Fylde
- Wigsley Wings big soft kite collection—and how much Doug Richardson enjoys flying bird kites (Martyn Lawrences' of course).
- Karl Longbottom's kites
- How good the Tom Vinken one-piece Cody has

From Allan P.

Just as I was beginning to get bored with some of the kite festivals you went and did Portsmouth!

Even though I was beaten in to second place by a Welshman flying an Indian fighter kite in the altitude sprint (I really think IFKs ought to have their own separate sprint races - otherwise it's a foregone conclusion), Marilyn and I had a really great day out.

Thanks for all the hard work you put in and searching out some new and exciting flyers and their kites. It was refreshing to see the old familiar faces doing some new things with some different kites - keep it coming please! - but I don't think we'll ever tire of Carl and James with their pairs Matrix routine so lets hope they keep that one in!

Everyone was talking about the Italians with their Space-ship and apparently there was more they could have shown us if the wind was better and will do if and when they come back next year.

On a different note to all you competitive flyers - keep your eye out on the club web sites or rec.kites for the Winter leagues.

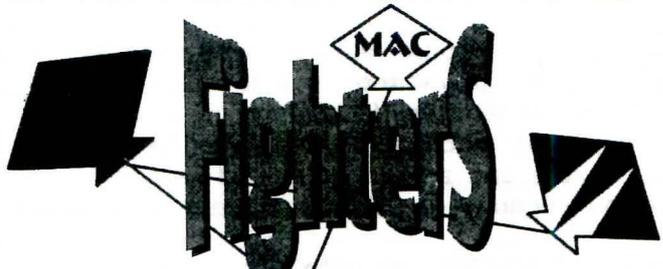
You will probably have missed Southampton's by this issue but there is still White Horse, Tewkesbury and maybe even Newbury? Any others? - let us know! Alanp@ntlworld.com. See you there.

turned out to be.

Sadly, I couldn't get to Brighton and Bristol. But I don't remember a better single day at a U.K. festival than Saturday at Portsmouth. In the background was Peter Lynn's finest and Wigsley Wings Zimmermanns etc. U.K. fliers putting up all that they had got. How to fly a kite and the sled sprint. Great demos from British and French teams. Best of all Team Vulundra, I remember their:

- Matched set of rollers
- 4 line clowns
- 'collar and tie' kites
- And of course the spaceship, spaceman, flying saucers etc.

P.S. About Dieppe. I am sure someone else will write about it. My 'magic memory' was late on Sunday night with TC and friends looking at a 3 tier, 10m plus boule rotating majestically in the dark—just lit by street lamps.



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Trafalgar Square Kite Festival—15th September

As part of the Mayor of London's "Summer in the Square" festivities, a Kite Festival was held in Trafalgar Square. The usual rules banning kite flying from the Square were lifted for the day, so that Nasser Omar and his colleagues could fly their beautiful kites for the crowds.

Nasser runs a kite museum in Dijon, France, and travels the world displaying his kites. He always takes different kites to each of the festivals, so that you never see the same display twice.

The flying conditions here were not ideal - the arena was quite small, and although it was a windy day, the turbulence from nearby buildings caused problems for some of the kites. However, Nasser's Afghan fighter kites quickly climbed in the sky and then flew fast and noisily, startling the pigeons. Perhaps Ken Livingstone should consider kite flying as a pigeon deterrent in the future...

A large delta kite was launched, and when it had reached a good height, a train of small diamond kites was fed out on the line, creating a colourful backdrop to Trafalgar Square. Disaster struck

when the line broke and the delta drifted away, the line getting caught around netting on the top of the Cabinet Office in Admiralty Arch! The kites stayed anchored to the building for about two hours, flying high above London, until the security guards brought them down to earth!



A kite making workshop was held, followed by a further demonstration of some of Nasser's beautiful animal and bird kites, to much applause from the large crowd which had now gathered.

The Mayor's 'Thames Festival' took place later that evening so we stayed in London to see the illuminated Aomori float lead a procession along the Embankment - an appropriate end to a fun day.



The local protest group



Nasser Omar and assistant launch a beautiful dragon kite



Nasser pictured here just seconds before his kite train broke free!



One of the many Bird kites



Security guards at the Cabinet Office retrieving the kites

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News from Inflight

Following in the pattern of previous years Inflight are offering pre-Christmas special editions of medium sized inflatable sculptures.

Le Frog—4 metres, popular amongst kite collectors, is available again in custom colours—Red, Green, Blue, Orange and Black with a Yellow or White belly. Made in a balloon quality ripstop nylon, this version is better able to cope with variations of wind speed and direction, flaying stable from the hand or pegged. Flying line required—200 lb. Price £150. Order direct from Inflight.

Clown: Seen more on the kite fields of Europe, this relatively new design is experiencing increased popularity in the UK with kite collectors wanting an inflatable kite to add to their kite bag at an affordable price. Flies high, preferring steady winds 10-20 mph. Colour options: Trou-

A New Type of Kite

We have just launched a completely new kind of kite on the Internet. You'll find it at <http://www.holland-brand.co.uk/kite.html>. For those without access here is some of the information.

This entirely unique kite breaks all the rules, both in shape, and in construction. Manufactured from extra lightweight fabric, you can literally roll it up and pop it in your pocket when you have flown it. The light weight of the kite also enables it to be flown dramatically in the gentlest breeze. A wide range of stunts have been designed specifically for this kite, such as 'dishrag turns' which involve collapsing the kite entirely, and spinning it on itself in mid air. This would be impossible were it not for the patented single cell sparless design. What other twin line kite can be put into reverse?

Each kite has its own unique I.D. number and registration certificate. The designers own number 1, we are the proud owners of number 2, the next to be sold will be number 3 etc. This is a one-off opportunity to be in on the ground floor of a ground-breaking innovation.

With 2 or 3 kites aloft, they can chase-and-bump. The loser tends to fall a few feet before

sers red/blue: Shirt: pink/orange/yellow: 3-colour ball drogue included. Balloon ripstop nylon, Flying line required 200 lb. Price £150. Order direct from Inflight.

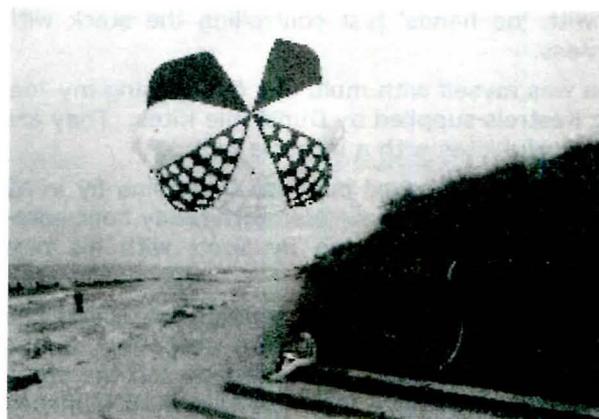
Both designs will continue to be available in the new year, though at a higher price. Our catalogue of inflatable kites is also being extended, with two new designs for 2003.

Check out our website www.inflightkites.co.uk in the spring.

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Scunthorpe
DN15 8QZ
Tel: 01724 280307

a gentle flick of the wrist refills the wing and it's off again. Several of these beauties in the sky, with the pilots side by side, soon begin to look like Snoopy vs the Red Baron, swooping and stalling, recovering and climbing. Couples, we noticed, are more inclined to 'kiss' gently and synchronise. The options are endless

Graham Holland
Wyverne, Sunset Walk
Bush Estate
Eccles-on-Sea
Norwich
Norfolk NR12 0SX
Telephone 01692 582 023



Southampton Kite Festival

What word would you associate with Southampton, The Titanic?, The Docks? Well up to the weekend of the 20th June I would have gone along the same lines. Now, however, the word is boredom. Mind numbing, limb paralysing boredom. Why you might ask. Well if you go to a kite festival you expect to see kites don't you? So do I but I believe that once you have seen one sport kite you have seen them all!

Maybe I should explain. Southampton was the site of the 2nd leg of the STACK competition. I challenge anyone, even the most hardened sport kite fanatic to sit for two days watching precision and ballet in all its many forms. Even for a kiteflier it is dull but for the general member of the public it is dire. Sunday was not so bad as there were not a lot of public. But Saturday has a lot of people watching a single kite float around the sky.

The site itself is large, mainly flat and close to the main roads. The signposting was good and the festival had great potential. However, as hours passed and little had occurred I began to wonder if I had come to a kite festival. Then the voice of the commentator come on to the surprisingly good PA like

The weather was warm and sunny all day with a good breeze, just perfect for the sixth Hunstanton and District Rotary Kite Festival at the Smithden School.

The event was opened by the Mayor of Hunstanton followed by displays of Brian and Carl of Team Spectrum flying their multi-coloured kites with huge tails. John Arnott flew his revolution to music with a further demonstration of some precision manoeuvres. Stuart Fletcher from the Great Ouse Kite Fliers followed with a stack of ten Flexifoils with a nice flowing display to music with 'no hands' just controlling the stack with his harness.

Next on was myself with multi kite flying using my Joel Scholtz Kestrels supplied by Dunstable Kites. They are huge colourful kites with a massive pull.

Just before lunch we had our first single line fly in by the Great Ouse Kite Flyers. Also with teddy bear parachuting and sweet dropping by Scott with his new electric powered rig.

The classic cars were judged and driven round the arena while Team Adrenalize were preparing on the sideline for the manlifter. As the last car left the arena the huge stack of twelve foot Flexifoils were launched

an oasis in the desert, the only salvation in an expanse of sport kite boredom was counting how many time the commentator went 'err'!

One idea to make the kite festival better would be to rename it Southampton Music Festival dotted with a few kites. Not snappy but the truth. Hardly any kites flew in the mainly sunny sky but the PA and the brass band played. None of this was really the fault of the organiser but rather the result of the decision to let STACK take over the event and use most of the site for two, extremely large arenas (of which one was hardly used at all) which took most of the room! Surely the STACK competition could be confined to a corner field somewhere and the more traditional events let into the main arena.

All the festival needs is an appreciation of the public. Instead of concentrating on the STACK competition the focus should be on entertaining the public. All the ingredients of a great festival are there, they just need to be used correctly.

Jamie Adey

Sixth Hunstanton Kite Festival

into the air.

Firstly they positioned the stack across the arena and connected the two stabilizing lines to their man in the harness.

It doesn't matter how many times you see this stunt, to see their man rise vertically into the air to around 50 feet suspended by just two lines is just magical.

The afternoons' events followed with the mornings events repeated. With a final display by Team Spectrum and Stuart with his stack.

We were lucky this year to have Paul and Kay Redhead to run the arena events and do the commentary—they did a great job.

I am indebted for all the support from all the kite fliers; including Indian Fighter kite displays, Team Spectrum, the Thorpe Kite Fliers, Team Adrenalize and the Great Ouse Kite Fliers.

I hope you can all support us again next year for the seventh festival.

Bryan Cattle

Here are a few photos from the festivals in 2002, Photos by Gill Bloom.



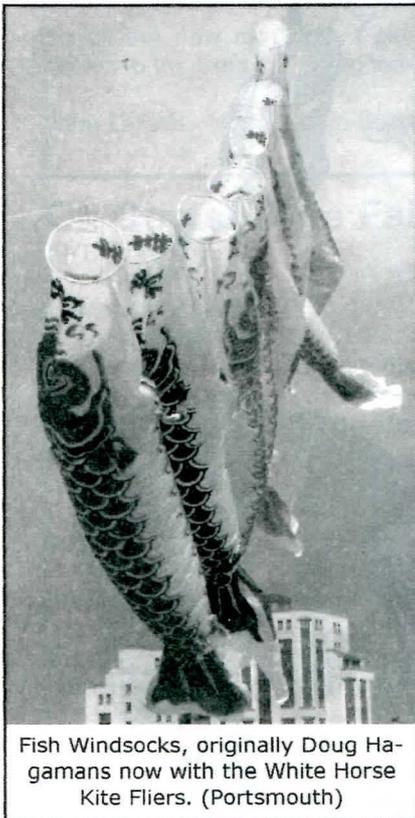
Gruppo Vulundra Aquilonisti UFO kite. (Portsmouth)



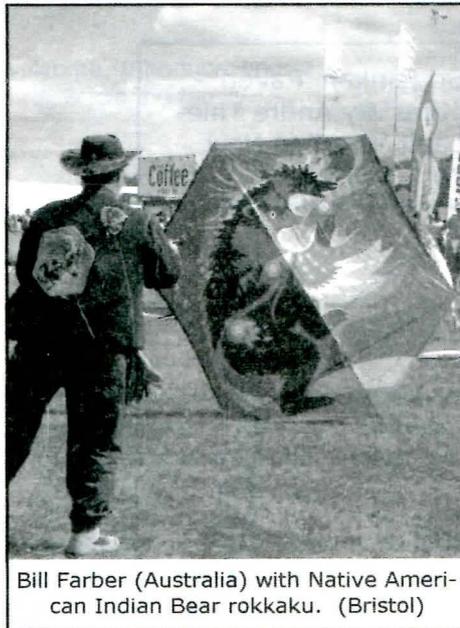
Marco Cassadio—Mermaid and Pinocchio. (Portsmouth)



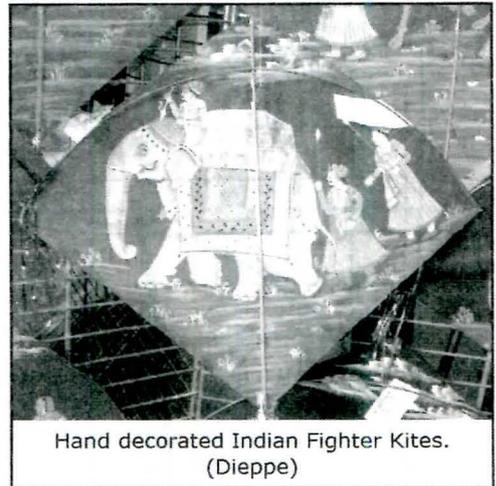
Some of the many Peter Lynn kites. (Portsmouth).



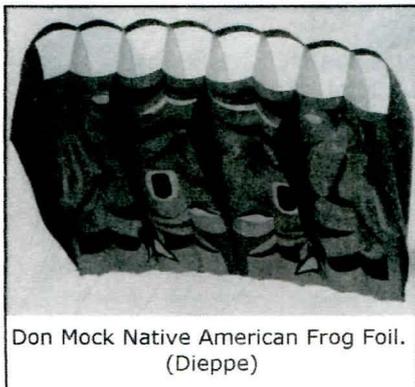
Fish Windsocks, originally Doug Haggamans now with the White Horse Kite Fliers. (Portsmouth)



Bill Farber (Australia) with Native American Indian Bear rokkaku. (Bristol)



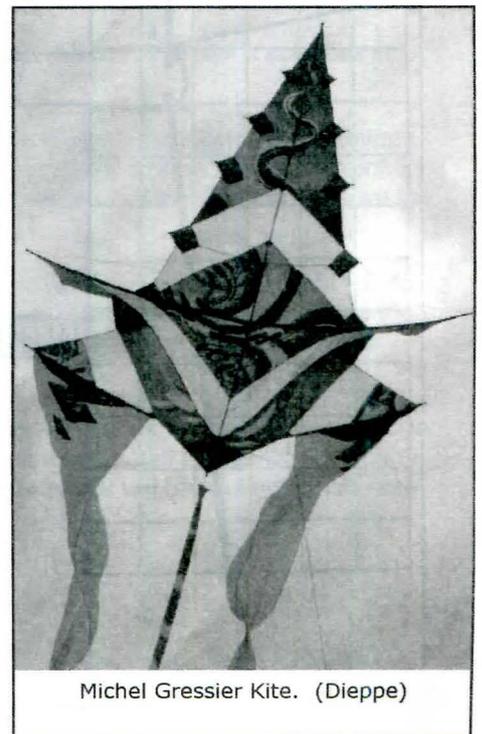
Hand decorated Indian Fighter Kites. (Dieppe)



Don Mock Native American Frog Foil. (Dieppe)



Michel Gressier—Myths and Legends entry. (Dieppe)



Michel Gressier Kite. (Dieppe)

Bird Kites—Amendments to the Article

The final version was less clear sometimes than I intended it to be. I hope that the following will help.

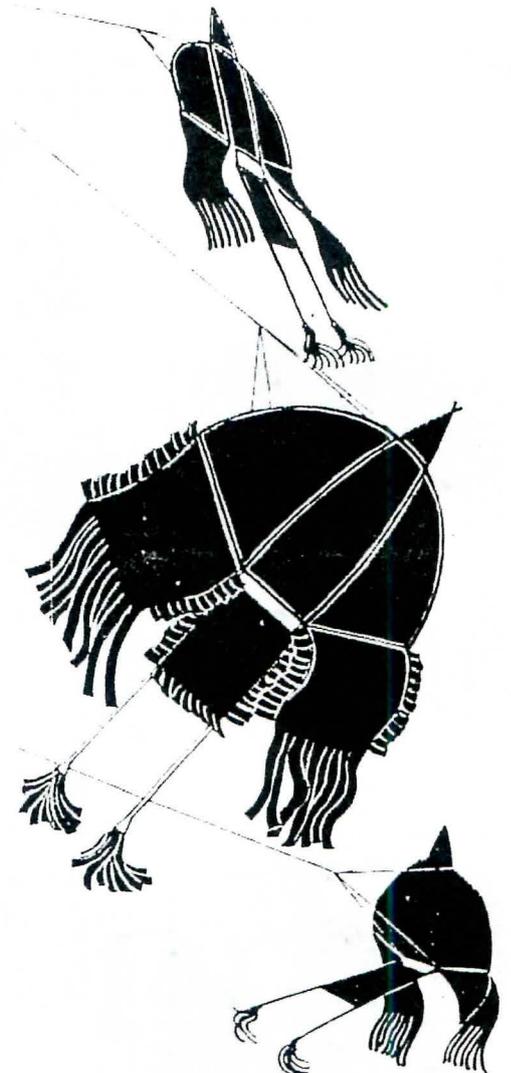
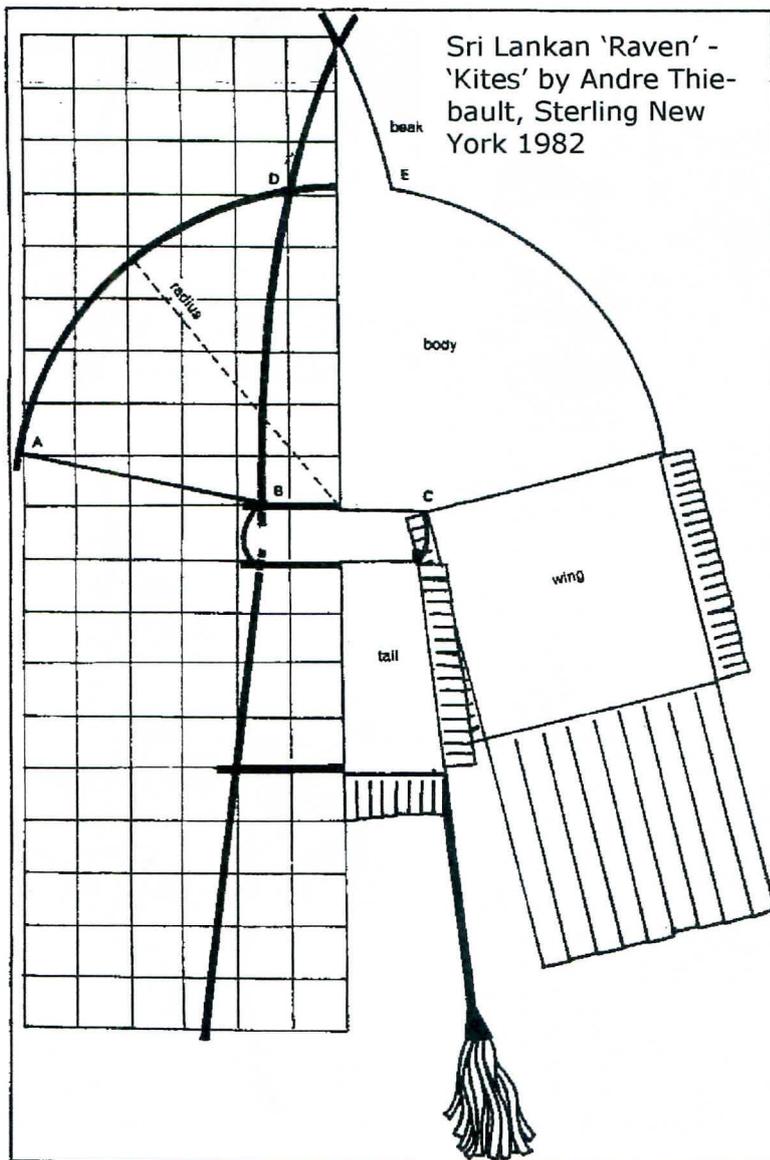
Raven Bird Kite (Photo 1). Here is a diagram and a drawing which should make it clear. A friend (sorry, forgot the name at the moment!) gave me a largely green mylar version which I hope to photo in flight.

The Sode & Yakko Wing (diagram 2). I have amended the drawing to make it clearer how the rectangular fabric of a Yakko wing is attached to the curved spar leaving an opening.

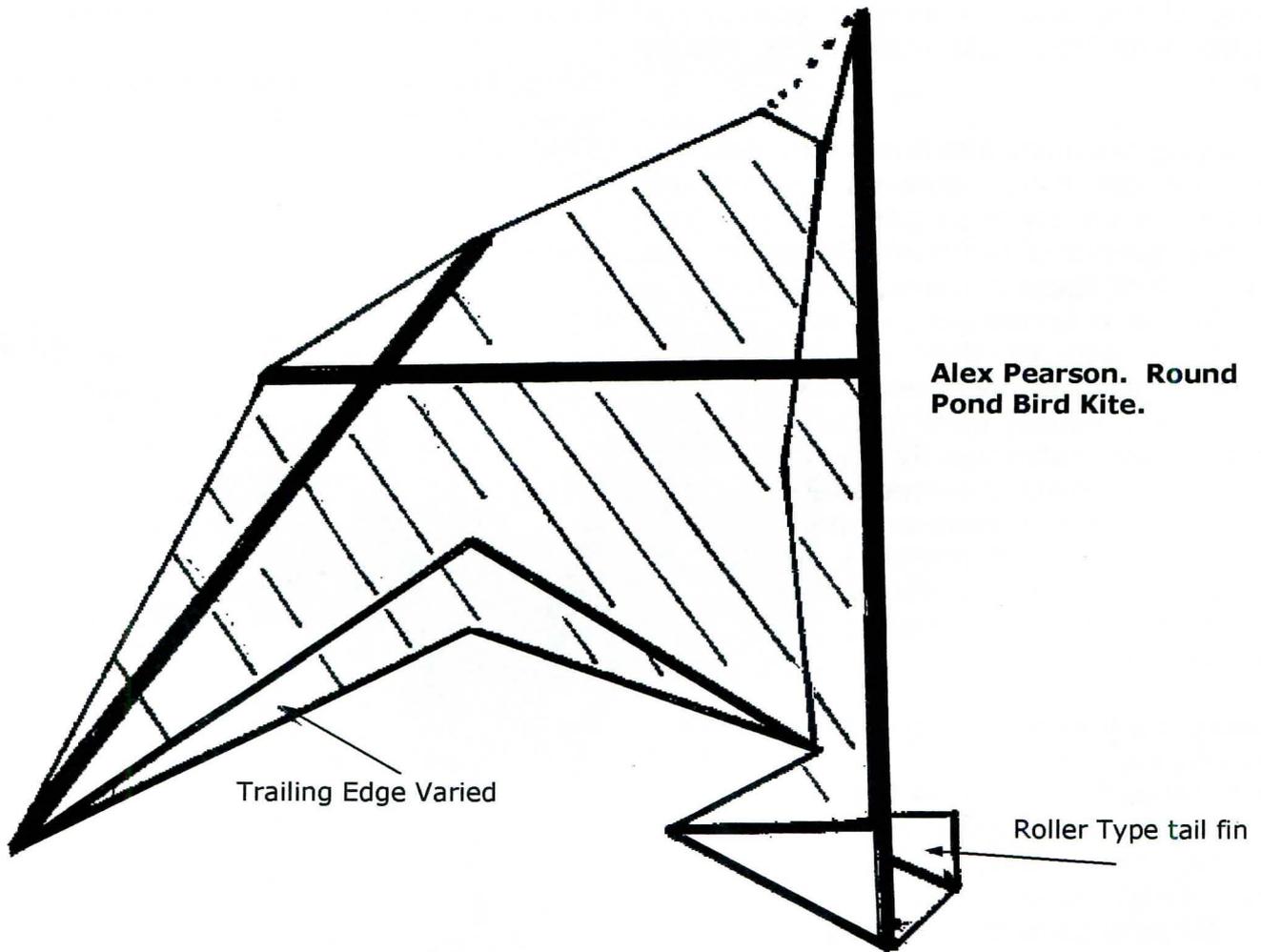
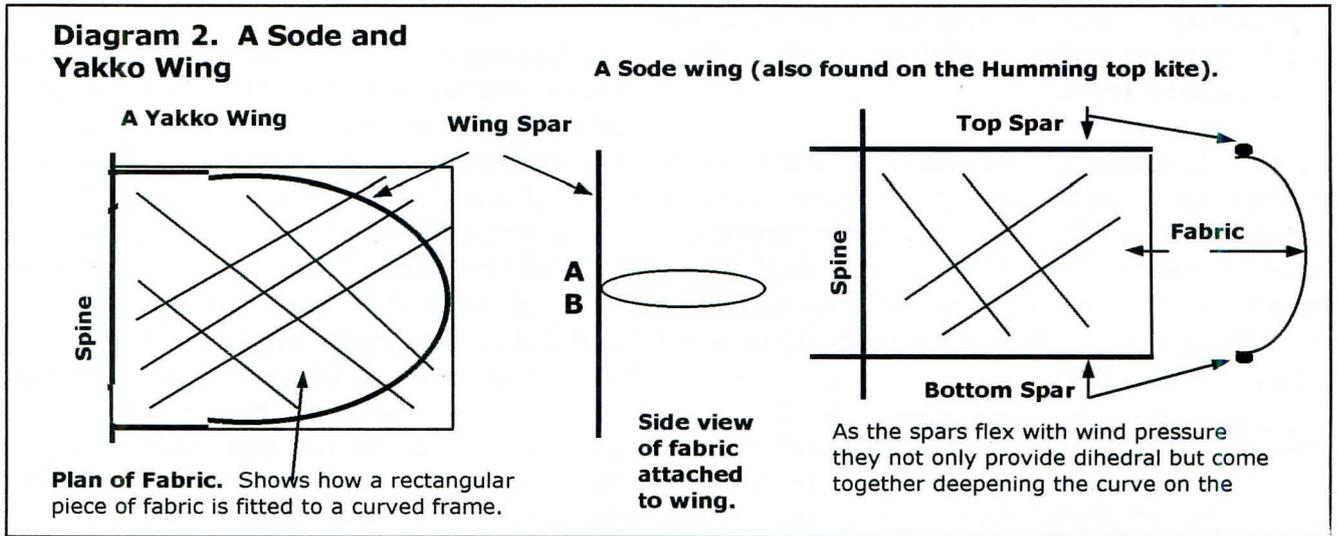
Will Yolen's Papagaio (X6). I had intended to print his building instructions with the diagram.

Alick Pearson Bird (Picture 13). The shape of the Pearson Bird evolved over time and there was undoubtedly interaction between Alick (or Alex) and other Round Pond Fliers who made bird kites. I hope the drawing of a later model helps.

An Omission. I readily agree that Martyn Lawrence has made great bird kites for years and should have been mentioned.



Bird Kites—Amendments to the Article



Split Keel by Harm van Veen

"The ability of our devices to 'work' and get results depend much less on their shape than we are apt to think" ¹.

David Pye, exposing the many facets that go to making a good design, argues that to achieve results there are always different solutions in many shapes. The decision about the shape of a thing is mainly an aesthetic one and arbitrary. Modern kite designers are happy to know that.

From David Pye on design to David Pelham on kites seems not to be too far .. In his Penguin Book of Kites one of the last pages shows a small keel kite, to be made by folding an A4 writing paper. The striking simplicity of the design combines economy of folding with the aesthetics of a regular shape.

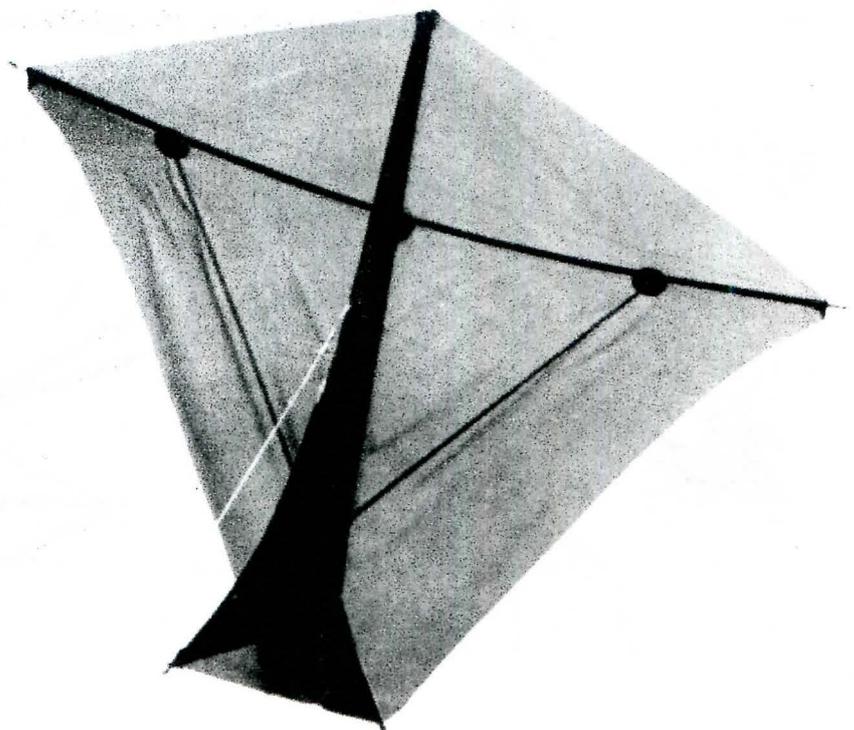
Surveying the many kite forms from East and West we can hardly take for granted that such a rich variety of shapes is derived from a small number of functional demands. The frequency of these patterns, recognisable as a picture or a symbol, or just acting as a sign by their regular shape, make an indication that kite makers initially have a shape in mind and subsequently try to make it fly. Analysis comes afterwards. The fine shapes and proportions of kites did not arise on account of good flying results but just reflect our appreciation of such design.

Making my own kite designs I repeatedly catch myself first looking for a shape I like and then count the rational arguments about construction and stability, and moreover, being inclined to mention only these arguments. Folding is an attractive and simple way of making kites.

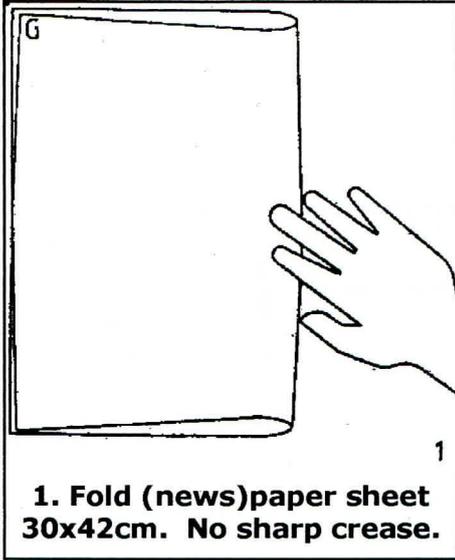
The Splitkeel is a further elaboration of the above mentioned kite of David Pelham. I considered the keel too big. Making some more creases I got a split keel, smaller and turning out to produce a good stability. I made this kite at different sizes; the smaller the size the thinner the paper. The spar is a piece of split bamboo, put in non-sticking tape pockets to keep the kite collapsible. For the bigger sizes (e.g. a=1m) a more complicated dowel frame is required. A bowed spar, a central spine and two cross sticks make it fully rigid. Polythene connections for the cross sticks are useful. Polythene film, tyvek or ripstop for the sail.

Harm van Veen

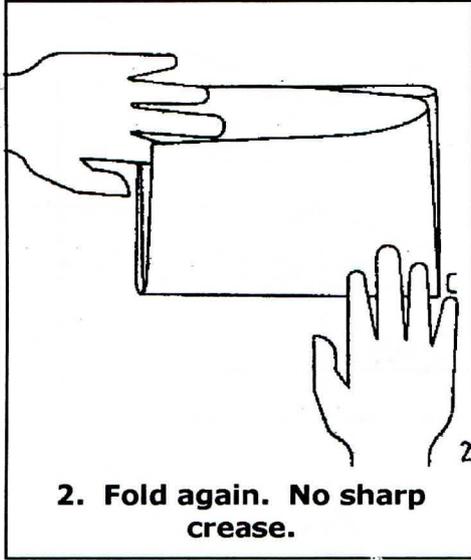
¹ David Pye, *The Nature and Aesthetics of Design*. (London: Barrie & Jenkins Ltd. 1978, p14).



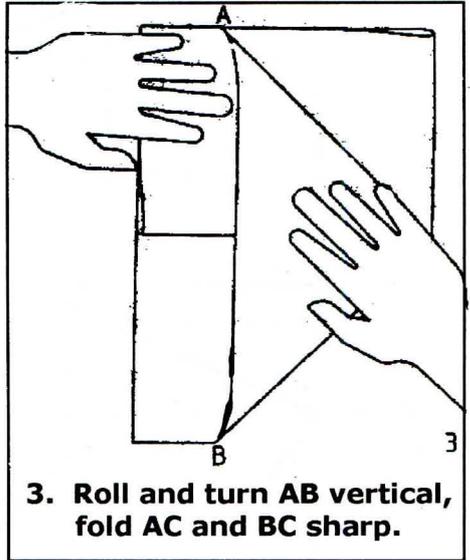
Split Keel by Harm van Veen



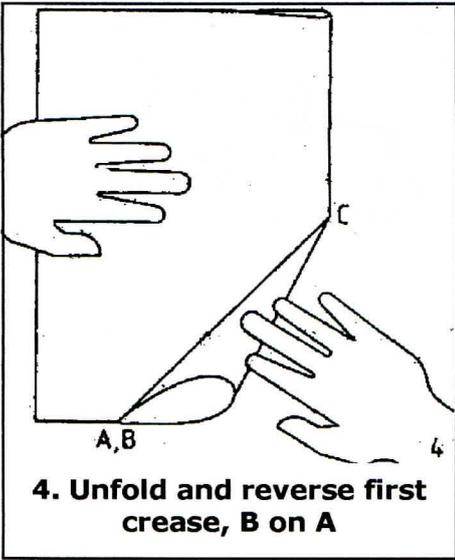
1. Fold (news)paper sheet 30x42cm. No sharp crease.



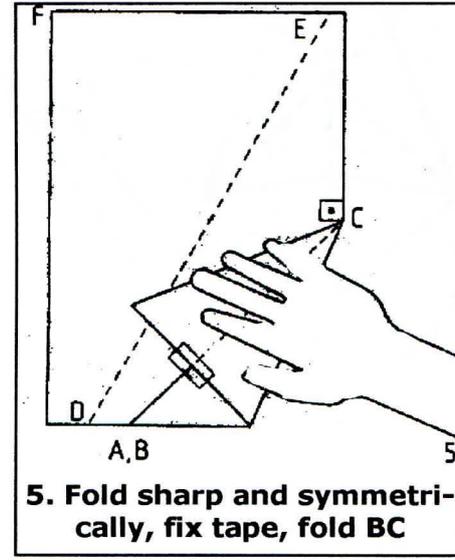
2. Fold again. No sharp crease.



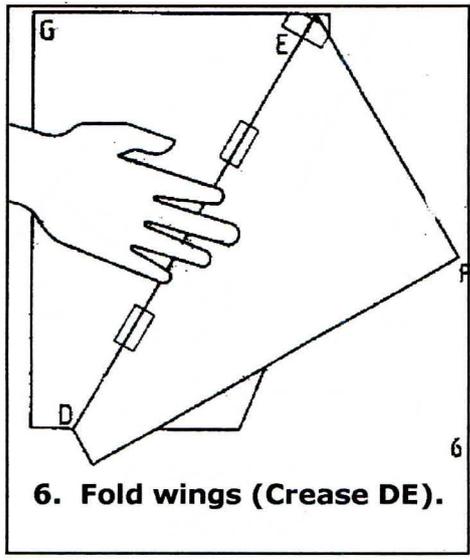
3. Roll and turn AB vertical, fold AC and BC sharp.



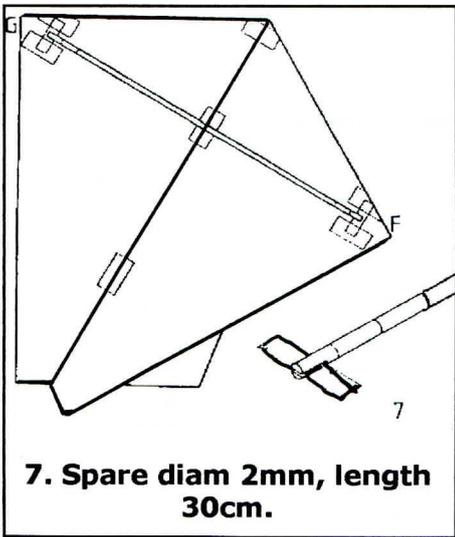
4. Unfold and reverse first crease, B on A



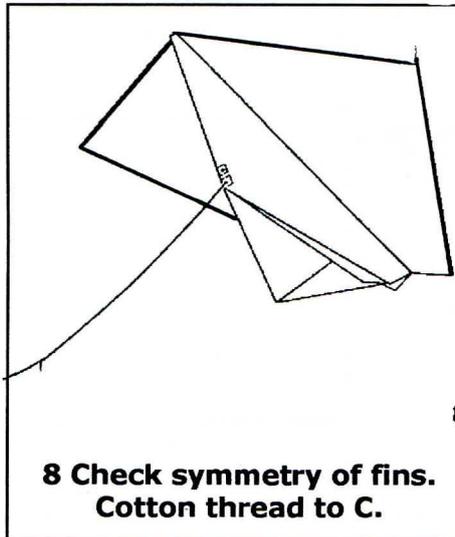
5. Fold sharp and symmetrically, fix tape, fold BC



6. Fold wings (Crease DE).



7. Spare diam 2mm, length 30cm.



8 Check symmetry of fins. Cotton thread to C.

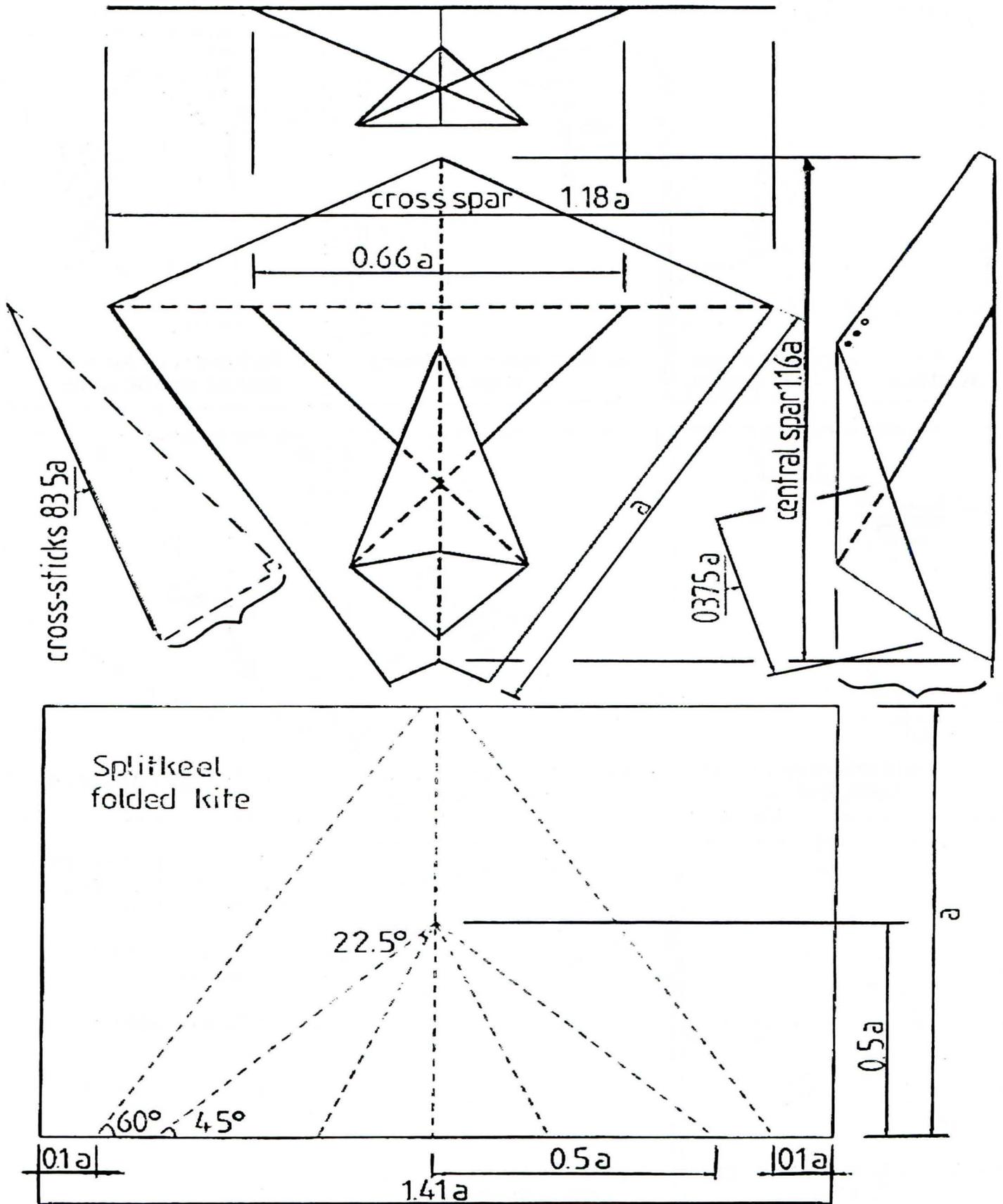
When adding the spar note that taping the spars will stop the spar splitting further.

Double the tape in the slits to prevent sticking.

Tape to the wind tips as shown in 7.

In a light wind no tail will be required.

Split Keel by Harm van Veen



Paper Kite Competitions

The Drachen Foundation have, over the past year, been running a series of workshops, exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures in both the U.S.A. and Europe as part of their Paper Kite Project.

The utility of paper as a primary kite-making material has been demonstrated by all and its availability and familiarity have proven to be invaluable to artists and craftsmen wanting to grow into kites.

In addition to the culmination of the Paper Kite Project, the Foundation will celebrate this two-year effort with an invitational artist-in-residence program in

The Paper Kites Project—Contest 1

Original kite creations from paper (paper is defined as is anything made from pulped fibre) are due **March 1st, 2003. Slide entries should be sent to The Drachen Foundation.**

All entries must be agreeable to a two and a half year travelling exhibition tour, curated and travelled by the Drachen Foundation.

The Drachen Foundation invites any entry of Asian traditional kites, miniature kites, kites using innovative framing materials, and creative efforts by experienced and first-time kite makers.

\$3000 in prize money will be offered for the best kites in several categories, including creative, traditional, and miniature. A distinguished panel of judges will be selected to present their own work as well as to judge contest winners.

Prizes:

3 \$1000 Aesthetic Achievement Awards

The Paper Kites Project—Contest 2

We are looking for the 3 most original kites made from the contents of our PAPER WINGS KITE MATERIALS KIT!

Our deadline for entries has been extended! Post us your creation by **MARCH 1st, 2003.**

What You Need:

- A kit: kits are free (provided by the Drachen Foundation), but mailing cost must be charged.
- Contact us at info@drachen.org for purchase.
- Imagination, Vision, NO Limitations!

What We've Supplied:

- 10 bamboo spars
- 1 sheet of handmade Paper from India (any media for colouring is applicable, waterbase/acrylic, pastel or ?)

Rules:

1. Make an original flyable kite, using as little or as much of

which five select kite makers will work together for one week. Paper kite exhibits will be developed by the Foundation and will include kites from both the contest and the residence program.

As a finale they are running two competitions, details of which are below. For both of these there is an entry form which is available from the Drachen Foundations web site (www.drachen.org) in their August 2002 newsletter. Alternatively you can contact them at the address shown.

Digital images in jpg/tif format or slides of entries are to be sent to:

The Drachen Foundation
1905 Queen Anne Avenue North/200
Seattle, Washington 98109-2500

Winners will be announced and presented their awards by April 1st, 2003.

Rules:

Kite sail must be of paper, although spars (kite framing) can be any other material.

Kite must exhibit stable flight.

Each entry form must be submitted with 5 (slides) or digital image views illustrating:

- 1) Full size front of kite
- 2) Full size back of kite
- 3) Kite in flight
- 4) and 5) close ups of your kite

The entry form, 5 images (digital images in jpg/tif format or slides) are due March 1st, 2003.

Up to 5 entries per individual. Kites must have been created after the year 2000.

the materials in the kit!

2. Tails can be any type of paper (additional paper is fine).

3. Kites can be decorated in any manner (but remember, this could add weight!)

4. Kites must demonstrate stable flight.

Each kite entry must be submitted with this form and posted to The Drachen Foundation by March 1st 2003.

Judging of the kites will be performed by a distinguished panel of judges, who will chose three winners.

No more than 5 entries per individual. Kites must be created after the year 2000.

Helpful Hints:

- Start with framework! Lay out your sticks on a table.
- Sticks can be tied/glued and/or bent!
- All wood connections (where wood crosses wood) should be tied with light weight thread and set with glue (like fast drying white glue).
- Paper can be cut or shaped, and can have open areas. Kite does not have to use the entire sheet of paper.
- Kites can be asymmetrical, although a horizontal configuration has more stability than vertical!

Book News

Soaring Stones: How a Backyard Scientist and Her Kite-powered Pyramid Theory Took on the World of Egyptology

List Price: £18.99

Hardcover: 320 pages (1 November, 2002)

Publisher: National Geographic Books; ISBN: 0792269179

Synopsis

Dr. Maureen Clemmons' theory is that Egyptians built the pyramids using kite power instead of brute strength, as is commonly accepted. Dan Cray, science writer for Time magazine, initially thinks she is a crazy, but agrees to listen to her ideas. After all, this is a woman with no scientific credentials whatsoever, claiming she has solved the mystery of how the pyramids were constructed - with kites, no less.

As part of her research, Clemmons discovers a wing pattern, resembling no living bird, in bas-relief on a frieze, with several men below holding what look like ropes. Many of the birds are holding an ankh, the Egyptian hieroglyph generally thought to symbolize life. Clemmons discovers after purchasing a large ankh, that it is the perfect tool for controlling rope, the ancient equivalent of a rock-climber's safety karabiner. Upon consultation with construction experts, Clemmons discovers that the sceptres depicted in Egyptian art can also double as levers for lifting stones. But this

Newish Kite Book From Finland

Softcover, 128 pp., 5-1/4" x 8", approx: £17.00. ISBN 951-98450-0-3

In his self-published book *Better Kites*, Marten Bondestam explains the entire world of kiting in the most charming way. Starting with simple kites and the family's role in the sport, he covers the whole field—kites for beginners, for youth groups, for light winds, giant kites, fantasies, mighty machines, stunters, dancing kites, poetic kites, miniatures, art kites, sky circus marionettes, easily made but huge kites. More than 90 of them all told. History, inventions, high-altitude flying, night shows, mental therapy, ecology, clear explanations of flight principles, festivals, aerial theatre—not much is missed.

There are hundreds of high quality photographs and drawings, and the pages of the little 128-page volume seem to turn by themselves.

The writing is intelligent, brief, amusing. Although in English, the book includes short sections in Finnish, partly to show to the world,

is all circumstantial evidence.

The real test is to try it out in the field. On December 10, 2000, Clemmons successfully moves a 400-pound obelisk in front of Fox cameras. Cray begins his investigation of the merits of her theories and discovers historians, Egyptologists, and aeronautics engineers not only think Clemmons' concept is preposterous, they don't even want to be quoted talking about it for fear their peers and research sponsors will associate them with the theory (thus threatening research grants).

It's the hint of back-door politics and procedures within scientific circles that keeps Cray interested. They seem unable to articulate exactly why the kite theory is incorrect, other than to say that kites have never been found at Egyptian archaeological sites - a dubious argument since the linen and other light-weight materials are unlikely to have survived 5,000 years.

The last chapter will cover the ultimate field test, summer 2002 in Egypt, to move a 40-ton obelisk using materials the ancient Egyptians had access to such as papyrus, hemp, and linen. The success of this test will prove that the Egyptians could have used the wind instead of brute strength to build the pyramids, and that you don't need a degree in science to be a damn good scientist

probably, what a beautiful language this tongue must be. The *Better Kites* of the title, as an example, is *Parempia leijoja* in Finnish. Rolls off the tongue!

Photos, drawings, text, layout, constructions, and translation were all done by Bondestam himself, clearly a latter day Renaissance man.

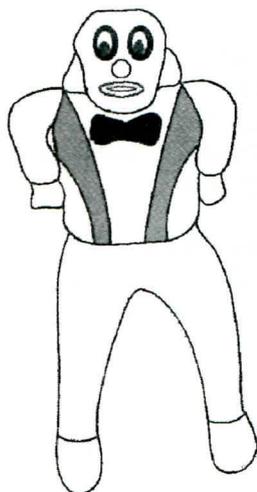
Issued in 2000 in Helsinki, *Better Kites* is available from the author at mabon@dlc.fi. The author's home web page is www.dlc.fi/~mabon.

This is one of the recommended books from George Webster in his various articles for the magazine.

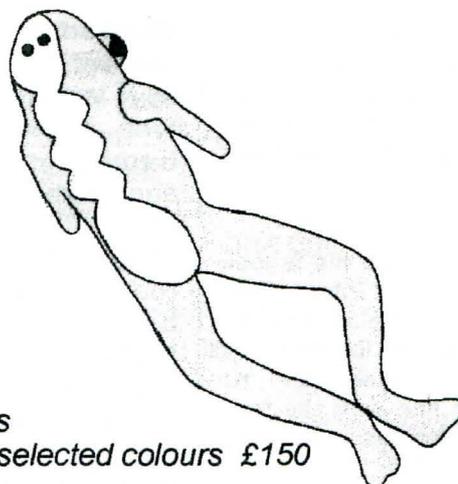


Essentials for your 2003 Kitebag

Inflatable kite sculptures from Jim Rowlands



Clown 3.5 metres
£150



Midi frog 4 metres
Custom made in selected colours £150

Inflight Kites and Windsocks Normanby Park Workshops Normanby Road Scunthorpe DN 15 8QZ
Tel 01724 280307 e-mail sales@inflightkites.co.uk

More information about Inflight products may be found at www.inflightkites.co.uk and www.skynasoars.co.uk



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Look No Further

Penguin 2D Banners

For more information and dozens more of inspired and unusual designs of kites, banners and windsocks, visit www.skyblooms.co.uk

Three Sizes

Large (1m) - £10.50

Medium - (60cm) £8.00

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Please make cheques payable to Gill Bloom.
Gill Bloom co/The Kite Society
Po Box 2274
Gt Horkesley, Colchester
CO6 4AY
01206271489
Email gill@skyblooms.co.uk

NEW!

Three species, Emperor, Jackass and Rock hopper. Please specify your choice when ordering. All Banners come complete with pole.

Unique

Bedford Kite Festival—28th & 29th June 2003

Andy Pidgen has written to inform us that he has moved from Cleethorpes to take up a new post as Events and Marketing Manager of Bedford Borough Council.

As part of this role his is looking to stage an International kite festival on the above dates at Russell Park in Bedford. His intention is to stage and run the event in line with the festival in Cleethorpes. Camping will be available within a 10 minute walk of the site and there is plenty of accommodation available in the area.

If you want more information—or to be added to the mailing list contact Andy at:

Events and Marketing Section,
Bedford Corn Exchange, St Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SL.

Tel: 01234 344813

river.festival@bedford.btinternet.com

Wanted: I am a boomerang thrower and trying to track down any last remaining stocks of a type of boomerang that is extremely useful to sport boomerang enthusiasts. I had thought that Kite sellers might have bought some and kept them in their garage. Good prices can be had for these: Eric Darnell NightGlow Trifly boomerangs. They are off-white in colour. The normal Trifly's are ten-a-penny but the original Nightglows are a bit more special in the right per-

It's that time again! So, where were all the UK OSOW events this year then? I'd love to include yours at www.osow.org.uk (both event and results) so if you are involved in an osow event please ensure that I know about it pronto.

It's totally free advertising for your event (and you don't get

sons hands. If you have any please contact me. Mark Holman-Lisney.

Email: Mark_and_annie@yahoo.co.uk

For Sale: WINBAG kit - possibly the last unused Winbag in the country (world?). Never assembled. £100 plus P&P.

Contact: Paul Carline on 01968-661-448 or paul.carline@ntlworld.com.

Private Ads

One Sky One World

much of that nowadays!).

Please send info to jim@osow.org.uk as soon as pos - time is short!

(If "OSOW" means little / nothing to you - have a look at the above site!)

Jim Cronin

First Radio?

The first person who succeeded in transmitting through air was apparently Dr. Mahlon Loomis, a dentist from Idaho.

At the close of the American Civil War in 1865, he flew two kites, carrying wires, from mountain tops 14-miles (23-km) apart. Many of his experiments took place in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. The wire from one kite was attached to ground through a telegraph key; the other kite-wire was grounded through a galvanometer that could measure very small currents. When he operated the key, detectable changes of current occurred in the other kite wire.

He was granted a patent on his system in 1872, but no known attempt was made to make use of the phenomenon commercially. Interestingly, the experiment was duplicated 44 years later in London where, during a hailstorm, experimenters successfully com-

municated over a distance of 3-miles (5-km).

The apparatus used by Mahlon Loomis was very simple, and could be duplicated by any high school physics class.

He established two stations on separate mountains 18 to 20 miles apart. At each station was a galvanometer, a kite, a 5-inch square grid of fine copper wire gauze, and 600' of copper wire to fly the kite with.

The people conducting the experiment with Loomis had their watches set, and at predetermined intervals they grounded the wire which ran through the galvanometer to the kite, causing the other instrument on the opposite mountain to register. The experiment was repeated several times, causing the needles on the galvanometers to deflect every time the circuit was completed.

The Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite

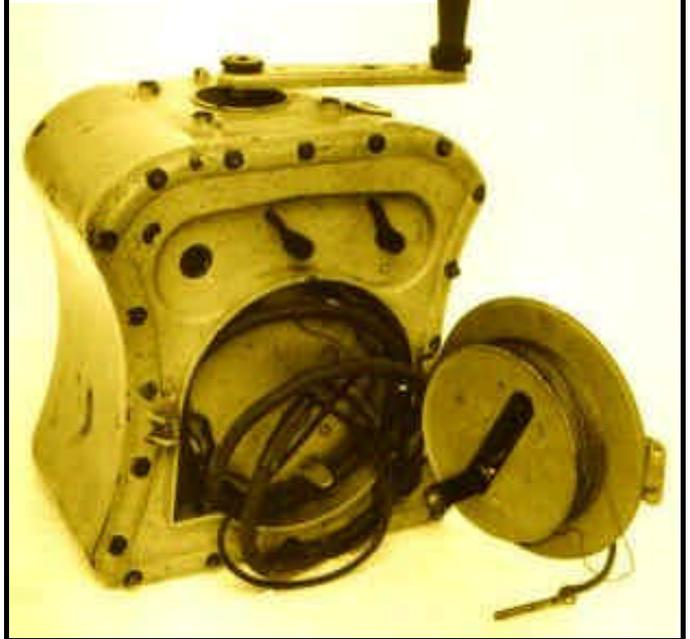
The following extracts are reproduced with permission of the author Louis Meulstee from his article Saved by Radio, Evolution in Air-Sea Rescue radio communications. Additional research by G & J Bloom.

Introduction.

Some time ago I received a reprint from a war time article 'German Dinghy Transmitters' which was a welcome addition to a manuscript on Air-Sea Rescue for which I had started collecting material quite a while ago. During my time in service I had been fascinated by the peculiar shape of the US manufactured AN/CRT 3, affectionately named 'Gibson Girl'. I later learned that its primary design came from war time Germany.

Emergency transmitters enabled ditched air crews to communicate their whereabouts operating on a frequency of 500 kHz (and in some models also in the short wave band), used by international radio alarm signals. By using direction finding equipment, a rescue

German NS2 Developed in 1940.
Collection Arthur Bauer, Diemen, Holland.



party could take bearings of the distress signals and determine their location or just 'home' on the signal by the rescue aircraft radio compass.

Air-Sea Rescue.

In the early days of long distance and overseas flying, a crude form of emergency radio was sometimes provided. Such aircraft carried emergency transmitters operating on long wave or short wave (depending on the flight) which were powered by dry batteries. It was not until 1941 that the German 'Luftwaffe' introduced an ingenious emergency transmitter, designed by the German firm Fieseke & Höpfner. It was completely self contained, buoyant, practically waterproof, small and powered by an internal hand driven generator.

Notsender NS2

The complete set, known as NSG2, for Not Sende Gerät 2, (Emergency Transmitter equipment, type 2) consisted of two parts:



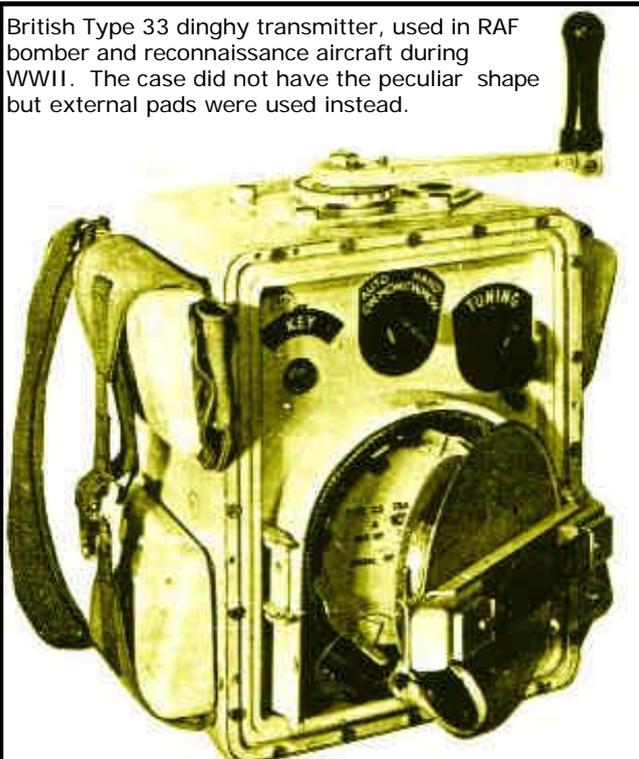
German version of the rescue kite recovered from a crashed JU88 and still flight worthy—the spars have been replaced.

the NS2 transmitter container and the accessories container, usually stowed loose in the aircraft and attached to a rubber dingy. Both containers were made of a light alloy. The accessories container held a kite, two balloons with filling tubes, two hydrogen generators and an instruction handbook, together weighing 29 lb. The range over sea was given as approximately 200 miles. Power was derived from a hand generator, with the handle fitted on top of the transmitter case. The transmitter had a quite unique ergonomic shape. When used it was held between the operator's legs, giving the impression of grinding coffee in an old fashioned hand grinder.

Kite and Balloon Aerial

The set operated on the international distress frequency of 500 kHz (600 metres). To obtain a good range it needed a long-wire aerial of reasonable length. This was normally provided by attaching the aerial, 260 feet of stainless steel wire, to a box kite. It was reeled out by a unit mounted on the front panel of the set.

British Type 33 dinghy transmitter, used in RAF bomber and reconnaissance aircraft during WWII. The case did not have the peculiar shape but external pads were used instead.



The Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite

The earth, consisting of 10 feet of stainless steel wire terminated to a sinker, was lowered over the side of the dinghy into the sea. When lack of wind (less than 13 mph) did not permit the use of a kite, a 3ft balloon was inflated by a hydrogen generator, a tin can with a separate inflation tube. When opened, hydrogen was generated by chemical solid (lithium hydride or calcium hydride) coming into contact with water. An insulated grip on the inflation tube provided protection to the hand as considerable heat was generated during this process.

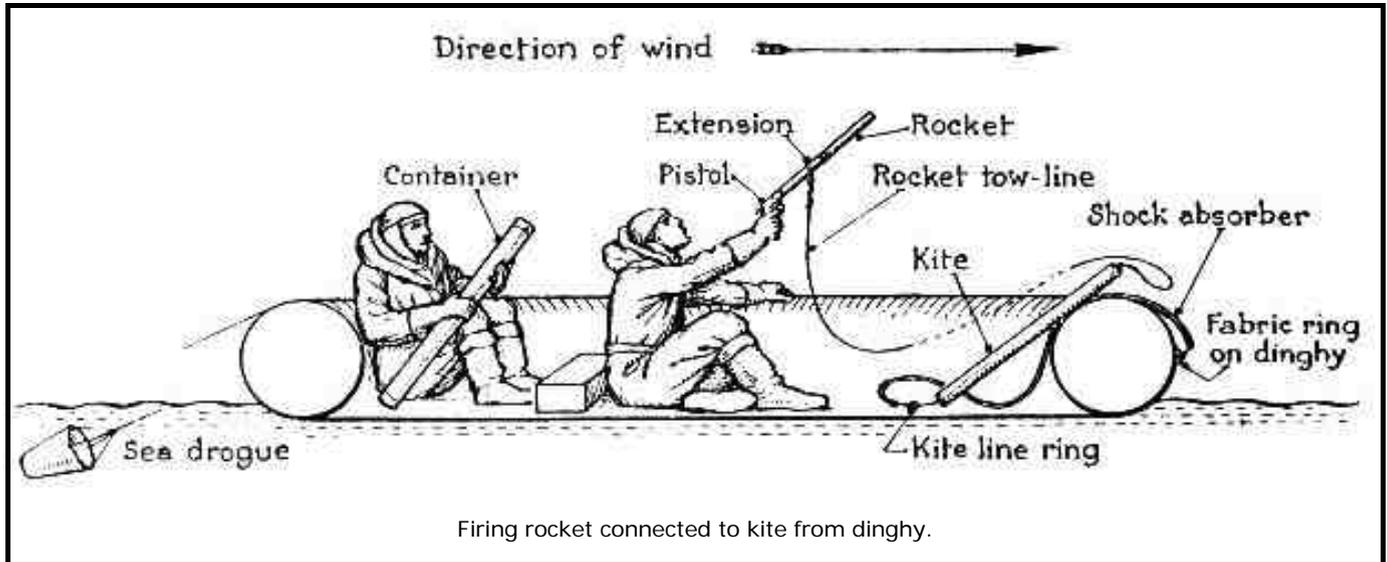
Notsender NS1

The NS2 were not the first Luftwaffe dinghy transmitters, as prior World War 2 (and recorded to be used also during the war) emergency transmitter set type NSG1 had been developed. The transmitter part of this set, Not Sender NS1 was originally part of a Lufthansa 'Kleinstation' developed in the mid 1930s as an aircraft station, but later exclusively used for emergency communications. The NSG1 was really a makeshift solution for long range aircraft, to be replaced ultimately by NSG2. It operated on a frequency of 500 kHz and was powered by dry HT batteries and an LT accumulator. Transmission (CW only) was automatic SOS, followed by a long dash, operated by a small motor, or alternatively hand keyed Morse.

Bulky and Awkward

The NS1 transmitter was mounted in a bulky weatherproof case painted bright yellow and weighed 50 lb. The aerial consisted of five sections of aluminium tube to give a 17ft vertical rod, provided with a capacitive 'umbrella' top. This awkward and rather unstable construction was mounted on top of the transmitter box and supported with four guys. An alternative aerial, 165 feet of stainless steel wire wound on a reel in the transmitter, could be flown on a box kite.

The Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite



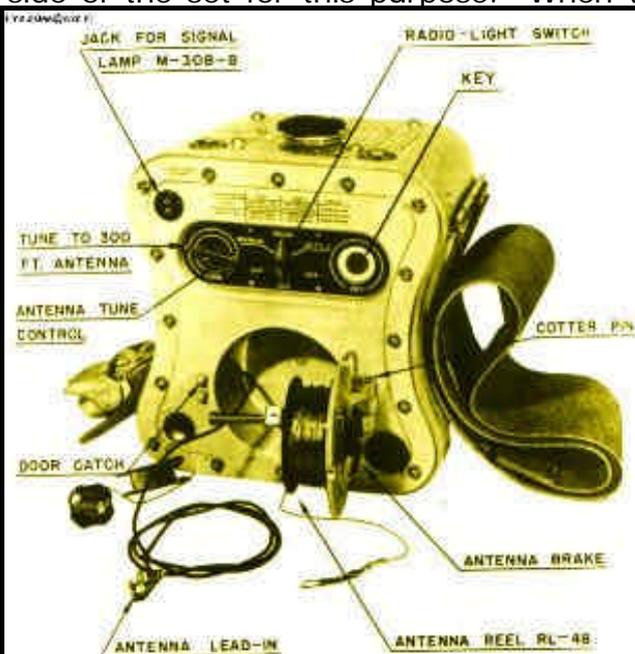
Captured

In 1941 the British captured an NSG2 in the English Channel which formed the basis for a similar set. Very little redesign led to 'Dinghy Transmitter T-1333', carried in RAF aircraft of Bomber and Coastal Command. Strangely, the British did not copy the special shaped container but used pads, mounted on the side of the set for this purpose. When the

circuit diagrams are compared with the original German NS2 it is apparent that the circuit was copied by the British without many changes. Even the interrupter and the selector system was copied, the main difference being the use of another type of oscillating circuit.

Rocket Launched Kite

An interesting feature of the British dinghy transmitter was the aerial was supported by a box kite which was launched into the air by means of a rocket fired from a Verey pistol. The kite, folded up and contained in a case, is drawn up by the rocket, and when it reaches its height determined by the length of attached line (200 feet) it is stripped of its case and opens automatically. In a wind of 6 mph or over it will remain aloft. The aerial wire was then attached to the line and the kite allowed to rise, carrying the aerial to the requisite height of 208



USA manufactured dinghy transmitter BC-778 (part of SCR-578) was a copy of the NS2, though internally it differed considerably. On top of the set a generator speed indicator light and aerial tuning indicator were mounted within sight of the operator.



Grasping the transmitter between the knees!

The Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite



A kite from the Air-Sea rescue kit. Known to most kite fliers as the Gibson Girl it was, in fact the transmitter that the name belonged to. This is probably an American version.



Close up of the cross spars 'umbrella' fitting. The entire kit fits in a yellow bag containing: a metal-frame box kite that folds up like an umbrella; a radio, with wire antenna to be attached to the kite; two spools of spare wire; a balloon, for use without wind; a can containing some sort of hydrogen generator for filling it; the two metal tubes may be used in the inflation process; some sort of wrench; a strobe light .



Youth in bloom was personified by the 'Gibson Girl', created by Charles Dana Gibson, most famous artist and cartoonist of the late 1880's and early 1890's. Every young girl tried to look as much like his drawings as Nature would permit.

feet. Both rocket and case fell away. The aerial wire is then connected to the kite line and paid out by unreeling the winch handle.

USA

In mid-1941 another captured NSG2 set, together with development specifications, was taken with a military mission visiting the USA. One of their assignments was to seek a North American manufacturer for this set as the British did not had the capacity to produce such a set in very great numbers. Bendix Aviation Limited was approached and after the US Army and Navy became interested it was suggested that a joint Allied dinghy set be developed. When the US became directly involved in the war, the demand was speeded-up and an initial order for 11,600 sets was placed to be delivered '...as soon as humanly possible...' The first sets were delivered in the last week of May 1942, initially by Bendix but later also assembled by a number of other contractors.

Superior

The mechanical construction of the US version known as SCR-578, not much later affectionately called 'Gibson Girl', a name taken from the narrow-waisted female drawings of 1890s fashion artist Charles Gibson, was superior to both German and British predecessors. It was manufactured in far greater numbers and remained in use and production long after World War 2.

The set consisted of BC-778 transmitter unit and a number of accessories, (such as kite aerial, balloons with hydrogen generators) weighing 34 lb. Painted the usual bright yellow, it was completely packed in a single padded yellow canvas bag. The initial versions used two bags, the set proper and an accessories bag). When required for use, it was normally thrown from the ditched aircraft into the sea, along with the dinghy. It could also be dropped by a parachute, which was part of the set.

The Gibson Girl Transmitter and Kite

More on the 'Gibson Girl'.

'Radio Age' ran a story on the 'Gibson Girl' in 1984 which reprinted a wartime advertising picture showing airmen in a life raft using the set. Its' caption was 'From our laboratories come weapons that will spell disaster to [the] Axis'. Note there's an ironic statement, considering where the original design came from!

The following report is from the 39th Bomber



This depicts the launching of the kite from the dinghy—it is NOT a photo of the above story!

Group veterans Association web page.

Report by S/Sgt James Schwoegler, Radio Operator 39th Bomb Group (VH) Crew 30.

The plane made it out over the ocean, but then the third engine's propeller broke off, slicing the plane's fuselage from the middle to the top and cutting the control the plane's fourth engine. They had only one working engine left.

The pilot made the decision for the crew to bail out, and it was Schwoegler's job to radio in their location. They planned to ditch near a location code named "Lot's Wife," which was actually named Sofugan, described by Schwoegler as "a rock sticking out of the ocean."

The crew began to jump out of the airplane through a hatch leading to the landing wheel

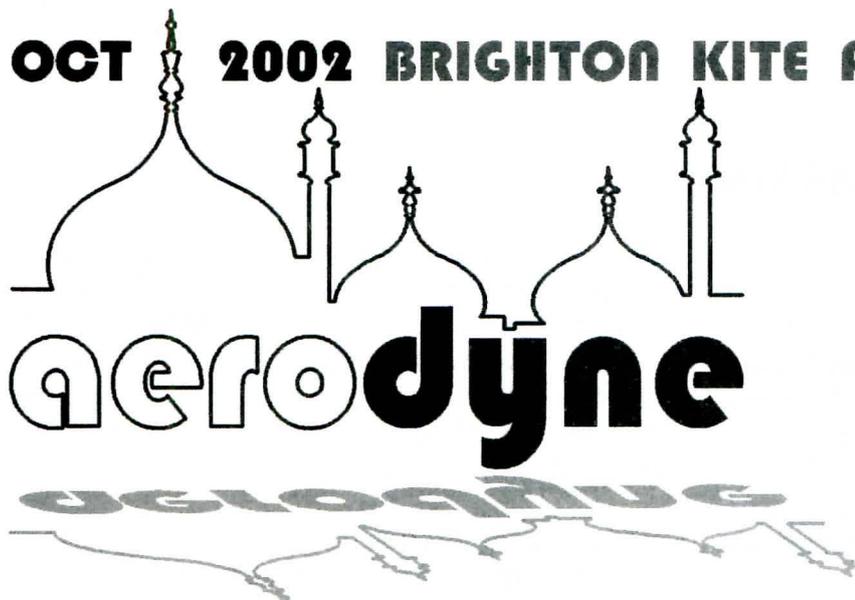
well in the nose. The problem for Schwoegler was that lifting the door to the wheel well blocked him in the radio area. After the rest of the crew had jumped out, Schwoegler closed the hatch door so he could get through, much to the pilot's surprise. "The pilot said 'Jim, get the hell out!'"

Schwoegler managed to swim to the surface where he attempted to inflate a lifeboat that was part of his gear. "I pulled it open and nothing," he said. Fortunately he was able to manipulate the CO2 cartridge that inflated his raft and get it to work. The plane's crew was spread over a broad area, but thanks to Schwoegler's signal a B-17 rescue plane was able to locate the crew and drop them a Higgins lifeboat with food and medical supplies.

Safe in the lifeboat, the ordeal of the 10 survivors was not over. "The morning brought so much fog, you couldn't see from here to the next house," Schwoegler explained. This hampered rescue efforts and forced the crew to use a "Gibson Girl," a shapely radio designed to be held between the legs and operated with a crank. When cranked, the radio sent out a constant S.O.S. To send the signal, an antenna was raised on a kite. As the radioman, the job of cranking fell to Schwoegler. "I don't know how long I cranked," he said. "I was real disappointed no one volunteered to take it except the navigator." His efforts bore fruit in the form of a submarine. "Is it Japanese or American?" Schwoegler wondered. "Then I saw a guy with a flaming red beard and I knew it was an American. It was the best sight I ever saw."

He still has the kite antenna that led the rescuers to them, but he accidentally left the "Gibson Girl" on the first sub when they transferred. "The (sub crew) loved having us," Schwoegler recalled. "They gave up their bunks and everything. The first night (aboard) we ate chicken and steak. We hadn't eaten like that in a while."

OCT 2002 BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS OCT 2002



Dave (you want how much) McArthur

THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE & FLYING

It always happens 2 events one day, but for once this was possible. Both were only for a couple of hours each, and a few miles from each other in the same direction. The 1st was for West Sussex County Council putting on a display of Kite flying to help launch a seminar following the council getting the Kite Mark for Childcare in the area. I phoned and checked out the site and was told that there was an area of 2 football pitches where we could fly, sounded fine. I made a few phone calls and yes the normal crew could do it, so it was on. Letters / e-mails were sent out to all members letting them know the time and place of the event and we were hoping for a good turn out, but I heard from no-one extra about coming along, could that be because England got through to the second round of the world cup or just apathy. On the day, I met up in a lay-by with Peter Linnel, Paul Hill and his clan and headed off towards Binsbury College, Pulborough. On arrival we found Dave McArthur already there and Alan Outram and Danny Steer soon followed. Sure enough there were 2 football pitches at the college where we could have flown, but these were the other side of a golf course and no where near where the council wanted us to fly. We were asked to fly in a small gravel car park about 100' x 100' with trees to 2 sides and a building on one other, The golf course was down wind with barbed wire fencing stopping you getting on to it

on the last side. Not a problem we can fly anywhere after all. 1st up was my serpent delta with line junk including my small Teddy Bear (Ray Oakhill would have been proud, he says I never have enough line junk on my lines). Peter put up his roller next followed by Dave's serpent delta, Alan's Jimmy Pentagon, Corinne's Magician and Paul's Diamond kite, even Charlotte flew a small swift bird kite. The Magician kite landed on the roof but was soon retrieved from the other side of the building where it finally fell. The council were very pleased and may well ask us to do other events, but at least they have more of an idea to the area we need now. The second event, I knew the site well, this was a small playing field with trees all around, but as I knew the organisers and one of the sponsors (a local mushroom farm) , who we have had some sponsorship from in the past. So I said yes. We arrived at about 1.30pm and found ourselves an area where we could fly again, very small. Up went the teddy and a loud cheer came from the beer tent, however it was not for the teddy it was for England who had just scored it's 1st goal against Denmark. As we waited more and more stalls turned up and as normal the wind was up and down. We eventually had to take the Teddy bear down after a few hours as it kept coming down on a man doing wood sculptures with a chain saw, not good for safety really. Other kites were put up, we even tried

an arena display, with no wind and not enough room to fly, it was next to impossible. Well we were there to put on a display, so not only did we fly kites Brighton Kite Flyers now include a Tug-of-war team. We did not win so more practice with kite lines and the teddy bear is needed.

At the end of the day off we went mushrooms in hand. All in all a good day was had by everyone who turned up. If we can fly at these two venues there must be no where we can't fly.

Simon Hennessey

NEVILLE & HIS PIES

I would like to say a big thank you to all those who took part in the Mince Pie event at Brighton Kite Festival. We are proud to send a cheque off for £52.70 in aid of Cancer research.



Ocklynge School.

On 8th of May 2002, I received this email :-

Dear Pete,

We are considering running a design technology 'kite making' workshop for our Yr 4 (9 year old) children at school (Eastbourne). Would somebody who knows about kites be able to come and talk to the children about simple kite making (or kite flying, anything to get them really motivated)? We will be running the activity during the week 27-31 May; so early that week would be terrific

*I look forward to hearing from you.
Laurie Overnell.*

I immediately responded and on the morning of Friday 24th of May duly set off for the school, I could not help wondering just what I had let myself in for, talking to over two hundred 9 year old children.

I eventually arrived at the school and was given a warm reception by Laurie Overnell, who had instigated the visit, and the head of year Barbara Robertson. I was led into a large hall, and promptly set about the task of assembling a variety of kites all around the perimeter of the hall, a task I was still performing when I heard the first Oo's and Ah's as the children filed into the hall, and observed the kites.

Once the children were all in, and quietly sitting on the floor, I was duly introduced to them. I must say any fears or doubts I had were totally unfounded, the children behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school and the staff.

After giving a brief history of the kite and its origins, there followed a brisk discussion with the children, I was quite surprised by the children's knowledge of kites, as I'm sure, were some of the teachers.

I was quite sorry to leave, it was all over so quickly and the children were so enthusiastic.

I said my farewell and returned to Brighton, with a great sense of satisfaction that it had all gone so well.

During the week I thought it would be nice to return to the school and see the results of the children's efforts at kite making, I made a few calls and arranged to return with a surprise for the children.

On Friday morning 31st May, I met up with Simon Hennessey, Ray Oakhill and my friend Elsie Barnard and off we went to Ocklynge School, we arrived at approximately 10.45 am and duly signed in. We were directed to the playing field at the rear of the school where several activities were in full swing. We made our way around the edge of the field, and having established wind direction took up position at the far end.

Having secured a line to the rear of Simon's Espace, we duly launched the club's 40ft. Teddy. and Simon's large doughnut, I think at that point all other school activities came to a halt! Within a short time the edge of the field was filled with children all eager to fly their creations, so Teddy and doughnut were put away, and the children were soon all running up and down, it was an impressive sight and I'm sure with a little further guidance they will all be up and flying high in no time at all.

Well Done to all who participated in making it a week to remember, and thanks again for inviting the B.K.F. to get involved Pete.

Peter J. Linnell

MINE IS A P I N T

Just to say a huge 'thank you' to the BKF for the superb pewter tankard, that was presented to me at this year's Brighton Kite Fest. It was a complete, and very touching, surprise and no more perfect a gift could have been chosen - so a special thanks must go to whoever came up with the idea. It's beautifully engraved with the BKF logo and the words 'For Keeping Aerodyne Flying', and I can assure you that it will be very well used - in fact it's brimming with Fuller's 'Organic Honey Dew Ale' at this very moment, but not for long... cheers!

Toody Oakhill

*OK, so it's really half a litre - but that doesn't have quite the same ring to it!

No Article too small

Brighton Kite Festival
"Great"

Andrew Beatie

WORD SEARCH

T	E	D	I	B	R	E	E	Z	E	Z	K	X	W	B
G	A	N	C	I	D	G	E	A	B	R	Y	W	R	V
Z	F	I	C	N	F	L	Y	E	R	S	H	I	J	T
E	G	W	L	L	F	D	L	T	U	I	D	A	V	R
Y	K	Z	Y	C	D	L	F	E	J	A	Y	D	R	O
Q	P	A	H	E	A	E	B	R	L	E	S	S	I	D
A	B	P	T	N	M	E	T	X	O	N	O	O	N	S
Z	B	D	O	S	T	R	I	N	G	W	K	C	I	S
A	M	C	K	L	H	H	K	S	L	M	P	K	W	D
C	I	T	S	A	L	E	X	P	G	S	E	T	I	K

- Flyers
- Kites
- Tail
- Bridal
- String
- Reel
- Stake
- Rods
- Windsock
- Breeze
- Elastic
- Wind
- Ring

F A N O O O O O A N D B A C K

This was my first trip to the Danish island of Fano (pronounced Fanoo). It was a visit that I had promised myself for several years, having heard of it's reputation a long time ago as the place that every kiteflyer should visit before they die - not that I have any intention of leaving this world just yet you understand! I must say that it lived up to it's well deserved reputation.

It is organised by the German Kitefliers and they certainly predominate on the beach with their kites. The beach - well that is something else - the single line area alone is 2.5 miles long and the buggy area is almost 2 miles long and it is about 1/3 mile wide from the dunes to the sea at high tide. The sand is almost like concrete, so vehicles are able to drive on it, in fact the local bus service uses it as a road! You could take sandbags for kite anchors, but angle iron stakes seem to be the norm.

I met up with Jackie and George Penney (one half of The Beccles Bunch) on the dock at Harwich and we travelled together to Esbjerg on the overnight ferry. From there it is a short drive around the corner to the

Fano ferry, which takes 12 mins to Nordby. Another 10 mins took me to Feldberg Strand Camping, where I was welcomed by Dennis and settled on a pitch only 500m from the beach. Impressive is not really the right word for what I saw on the beach that afternoon, kites as far as the eye could see in either direction - and it was not even the festival proper yet! In fact, it is not a festival at all, but an International Kitefliers Meeting. The sun shone and the wind

was onshore - every "lawnmowing" kite I had flew perfectly. There were two days of weather like that before it started to change. Wednesday was unsettled and it rained all day Thursday and I felt that "cabin fever" was imminent, but the sun shone again on Friday, although the wind was F5 and quite cold, with loose sand blowing into everything possible. Weather at the weekend was very similar and beach screens were the order of the day.

An auction was set up for Saturday night in a large barn nearby. There were a lot of impressive kites up for bidding and traders set up a boot fair in the yard outside - anything from pins to large expensive kites and

those angle iron stainless steel stakes mentioned earlier, of which I bought two. I also purchased some very well engineered sealed ball race swivels. We did not stay for the auction, which was all conducted in German, but understand that it finished about 2am. There was a 50 sq ft appliqué parafoil which was sold for 8,000€ - £5,000??? As someone pointed out later, we could have bought two Teddy Bears for that money!

I was fortunate to be travelling home with Doug, Linda, Mark and Brian of Wigsley Wings, so I had very pleasant company for the meal on the ferry. Was it all worth while? Of course it was, although the weather could have been kinder, but that is chancy wherever you go in the northern hemisphere. I would certainly go again and a week seems about right because there is not a great deal to see on an island only 10 by 3 miles. As a foot passenger, a visit to Esbjerg might be worthwhile next time or even take longer and venture into the Danish hinterland for a bit of additional camping.

Ray Oakhill

ANOTHER SEASON COMES TO AN END



So the season is coming to a close, only One Sky One World to go now until the nights draw in. Even that will be over by the time you receive this. It was a good year for Brighton Kite Flyers. We had lots of fun playing with our big Peter Lynn Teddy Bear. It was flown at many a festival and various other events which we were invited to. A very big thank you to all of you

who did your bit (It would be nice to see a few more of you next year!) The club also now has five very striking new banners which had their first outing at this years Festival. If you have not seen them, shame on you, they can be seen on our updated web page www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk The next big organized club event is the New Years Day Fly. Details are on

the last page. So during the months ahead try to make the monthly fly-ins at Telscombe Tye, and, if you can, please write an article for Aerodyne. It's your magazine, if you want it to continue, keep those articles coming. Whatever it is, all contributions are welcome!

Corinne Hennessey

OCT 2002 OCT 2002 OCT 2002 OCT 2002

24TH BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL

After months of ups and downs, excesses of alcohol, late evenings, sleepless nights and frayed nerves associated with planning; the day of the 24th Brighton Kite Flyers Festival finally arrived. The day began with a gentle breeze, bright skies and not a sign of a cumulus cloud in the sky. Stanmer Park excelled itself with its green rolling hills and large grassed areas. Traders began arriving and setting up their multi coloured stalls displaying their wares to tempt even the most determined of us! Yellow tape fluttered in the breeze dividing the areas to allow us safe flying and those areas allocated for vehicles and safe parking.

Having been recently voted onto the committee of the Brighton Kite Flyers it fell onto my shoulders to be the arena Manager this year. My stomach had huge Rokkaku and Genkies rather than the usual butterflies!!! I began to wonder if the job became mine by default rather than as a positive move.

In the blink of an eye 11:00 am arrived and the sounds of the "Rokkaku Disco" broke the silence of the morning, closely followed by the dulcet tones of Simon Dann who provided the outstanding commentary for the whole weekend.

Before long it became obvious, even to a novice kite flyer that the one vital piece of necessary nature was missing! The wind had dropped to almost nothing.

Under these very difficult conditions Carl and Bryan, or Team Spectrum as they are more commonly known, gave an outstanding display in the arena. After that Carl Robertshaw and the Avon Kite Flyers gave displays with their Windbow and Play Sail kites and Simon Dann won the two rounds of the Rokkaku fighting, (Obviously a man of hidden talents!) Soon the conditions began to improve and the rest of the weekend looked more promising. A monster stack of Flexi foils were flown by Paul

Thody and the crowds that had begun to arrive in droves showed their appreciation to all the efforts of these very professional kite flyers.

During these incredible displays I was approached by a group of flyers that called themselves Team Energise. I had no previous experience of the team but these energetic and talented people gave us a display with their Blade II - those with some knowledge will recognise the difficulties involved with this and discourage others from trying it at home!

The Rev. Helen Howes of Raindrop Kites provided more innovative and entertaining kite flying. She thrilled the crowds with a most unusual and family orientated play using her appliqué flukes kites as puppets. Both adults and children were enthralled by the performance.

During this display I had a frantic call over the radio to say that the BKF Teddy was down!! I turned to see the BKF Peter Lynn teddy prostrated, engulfing several panicking picnickers!!! I think that she was hungry and wanted to try the honey sandwiches they were eating. As we looked around there was no sign of the flying mattress (lifter kite). I set off toward the University (down wind) to try to retrieve this vital piece of equipment. Eventually it was located over a mile away on top of the student union building. History had repeated itself (see Kiteflyer 92) and it turned out we had forgotten that Kevlar line can, and will, cut itself if not sleeved!! Meanwhile back in the festival arena the children took over and flew the kites that they had made earlier in the FREE workshop run by Mick and Norma House and a host of volunteers. During the mass 'fly-in' the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Brighton and Hove City Council, Councillor David Watkins arrived to give out prizes to the children that had been donated by Worlds Apart.

After a long and enjoyable afternoon of flying Carl and Bryan, Team

Spectrum, gave another display to bring the days festivities to a close. However the day was not finished and during the evening more drink flowed, flyers were reunited, new friendships forged. Anne and Alan Outram provided us with a superb barbeque as they have done in the past. We were also treated to impromptu entertainment when a local marching band turned up at the park. They practiced their fascinating routine of formation marching and playing. How they march backwards at such speed without falling over is beyond me. As darkness engulfed the flying field we were treated to a firework display choreographed by Martin & Mike of Force Nine Kites with the addition of a huge Chinese firecracker donated by Paul from the Rokkaku Disco. When Sunday morning arrived it heralded some serious leg pulling directed at Mike & Martin. Apparently during the firework display one of them opened the rear door of Mikes brand new 4x4 just as

Harry & Mable

Harry and Mable are on the loose
Since to Brighton they made the
move,

Clubbing, pubbing, on the beach,
Everything within their reach.

Up the Tye... Stanmore Park,
Everything has become a lark,
Going out on very dark nights
Flying kites covered in lights.

This is the couple's latest craze,
Busy nights and lazy days,
Local newspaper headline goes,
"Sighting of amorous U.F.O's"

Residents of Brighton look to the sky
Everynight... towards the Tye,
Written in lights up above,
"Harry to Mable... with lots of love".



Brighton Kite festival Continued

a firework tipped over and damaged the back seat!!!

The Sunday Arena programme was nominally a repeat of the Saturday, although with the arrival of Andrew Beatie during the Avon Kite Flyers display this changed. It led to the spectacle of their green PL Octopus fighting with his Anuj (PL Gecko) whilst Veronica (Pink PL Octopus) and Ben (PL Multicoloured Manta Ray) flew loftily above the mêlée below.

The weekend's activities culminated in raffle prize awarding and awards being presented at a ceremony that began at five o'clock. The awards were presented as follows:-

- BKF Shield - Simon Hennessey
- Sid Horton Memorial Trophy - Mike Stuart
- Neville Wing Memorial Trophy - Pete Linnell
- Best Kite - Jointly to the BKF Teddy Bear and Manta Ray (Peter Lynn)
- Best of the Fest - Team Energise

During the many committee meetings we had before the festival it was decided to make and sell mince pies in memory of Neville Wing, inviting all those who had known or met him to make and or buy. As those who knew him well will know Neville always had a ready supply of his wonderful mince pies and at the last count we had made £52.07. All the money raised from the donations will go to the charity chosen by Neville's family. On behalf of the Club members and all who attended the festival I would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation for all the hard work put in by the festival committee and especially to Simon Hennessey and Alan Outram as the joint festival Organisers.

Paul Hill 23 July 2002

P.S. I have written this on the Tuesday following the festival and Simon has already rung twice with suggestions and ideas for next year. Our 25th anniversary festival... Oh well here we go again.....

THE TYE - FLYS

I sat, leaning against a mound of earth, lit my pipe, and surveyed the scene before me. The English Channel, as far as the eye could see. The sky was cloudless, one solid mass of blue. The sea was like a mill pond. The blue of the sea and the blue of the sky met somewhere very far away, so far that I could not see the join. Little yachts were gliding back and forth before me, and far off to my left I could see the Newhaven ferry, on its way back from Dieppe. In the distance too, I could see 2 giant tankers, slowly making their way through the Channel. What a glorious day, what a breathtaking scene.

Suddenly, a voice nearby said "hang on to this" and I was handed a reel with a line shooting up into the sky high above me. I looked up, but saw nothing. I looked higher and saw this black cat with an enormous tail. The cat was bobbing gently from side to side as if saying "come on, come and play with me". I did and was immediately hooked on kite flying.

Down before me were a couple of dozen people flying their own kites and further down to the left the Scouts were cooking hot dogs. Down to my right there was a teddy bear, parachuting gently to the ground. This was Brighton Kite Flyer's annual Telscombe Cliffs Festival. A small local do, but all the better for that. My wife and I spoke to some of the members and found nothing but friendly voices everywhere. We

joined the club there and then. Later, we delved into the history of "The Tye" and discovered that the mound of earth I was leaning against on that first day was actually a burial place from pre history, empty now, of course, having been looted many years ago. There are actually 2 burial places on "The Tye", and also a defensive dyke, also dating from pre history. Plus, from a much later date, there is an almost concealed dew pond. There are no trees on "The Tye" which is a ribbon of land squashed between Saltdean and Telscombe Cliffs, stretching from the cliffs above the sea to Telscombe Village and beyond - 168 acres in all. Most of "The Tye" is common land and is now owned by Telscombe Town Council.

Alas, in recent years there have been a number of problems with the use of "The Tye". Motor bikes, horse racers, and travellers. The result is that the Council now want to fence the whole of "The Tye". Most of the access points are planned as "kiss-gates" which will severely restrict the use of "The Tye". So much so that I fear the use of "The Tye" for kite flying is in jeopardy. That would be a great shame.

So, come on members, make your feelings known to Telscombe Town Council.

Need we say more?

Pat & Chris Bowman

I must say that having been up the Tye the other day to fly kites and come back with shoes covered in dogs muck, but at least more by luck than judgment not the kites. I would put up with motor bikes, cars and even travelers, just to make the dog walkers pick up the bits left behind but thats another story.

For some time the club has been asked to help at a festival on Telscombe Tye and this year is no exception we will be flying on the 29th September 2002. This could be the last year, as in the same breath as asking us to do them a favour and

help, we were told we could no longer have selected cars on the Tye, which was one of the things that was given to the club as a thank you for the help in organizing the fun days and using the Tye to stop it being built on. I have since spoken to the Downsman Trust who are organizing the fencing and hope to get a key and permission to put cars on the Tye, we will have to wait and see.

Please come along on the 29th and show we want to use the Tye. Your suport could keep it open to the club.
Simon Hennessey

Useful Contacts:

Coordinator/Chairperson:

Simon Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ simon@BKF.org.uk

Events coordinators:

Ray Oakhill
 ☎ 01273 306842
 ✉ ray@BKF.org.uk
 Simon Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ simon@BKF.org.uk

Aerodyne:

Simon & Corinne Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ Aerodyne@BKF.org.uk

Club library:

(BKF members only):
 Paul Hill
 ☎ 01273 421286
 ✉ paul@BKF.org.uk

Club Kites:

(BKF members only):
 Simon Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ kites@BKF.org.uk

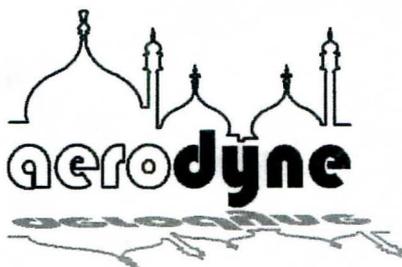
Membership Secretary:

Corinne Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ Membership@BKF.org.uk

Thank you

I would like to say thank you to all those who made this issue of Aerodyne possible, Ray Oakhill, Pat & Christine Bowman Toody Oakhill, Andrew Beatie for articles, Paul & Beth Hill for articles and the wordsearch, Harry and Mable Kiteability for the ditty and Simon Hennessey for articles and design.

Corinne Hennessey



Merchandise

T-Shirts/Sweatshirts:

Alan Outram
 ☎ 01737 771196
 ✉ alan@BKF.org.uk

Pins/Badges/Pens:

Simon Hennessey
 ☎ 01273 582309
 ✉ simon@BKF.org.uk

New Years Day Fly-in

The new years day fly-in will be held on the 1st January 2003 at Devils Dyke. One thing to remember about flying at the dyke is that the car park get full by about 11.00am so if you want to park near to the flying area the earlier you turn up the better.

Please contribute to your club newsletter - even the smallest of items is welcome. Anything sent to the 'Editor' will be considered for print unless marked otherwise.

Contributions should be sent to:

Aerodyne
 c/o Corinne Hennessey
 11 The Sheepfold
 Peacehaven
 East Sussex. BN10 8EG
 aerodyne@BKF.org.uk

Deadlines dates:
 January issue - 1 December
 April issue - 1 March
 July issue - 1 June
 October issue - 1 September

Child Lifting

Just got back from a fly on the Tye we had both the Teddy and Octopus up on one line tied to the back of the car. Those there have discovered a new sport of child lifting come and see it next time we meet, or even have a go if you are small enough.

fly-in reminders

Our Monthly fly-in is where we try and get as many of the club members to fly together. This is held on the 1st Sunday of the month on Telscombe Tye, East Sussex from 11.00am. Next to the A259 coast road between Saltdean and Peacehaven.

This is an all year round event and as the winter approaches it is a good time to meet up with club members that you normally only see at festival

See you there

Brighton Kite Festival 2003

As some of you might be aware next years festival will be the 25th run by the Brighton Kite Flyers. Our aim for next year is to make it one of the best ever. The dates have been set for the 12th and 13th July 2003 again in Stamner Park, Brighton.

If you would like to help leading up to the festival please let me know on simon@BKF.org.uk or 01273 582309 I will then be able to keep you informed of the times we meet and plan the event. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see at the festival or what could be changed for a better festival, please let me know in good time and we will see what we can do.

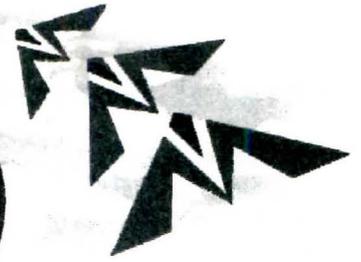
Simon Hennessey

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 Editors or of the Brighton Kite Flyers.



MKF News

www.mkf.org.uk



The Midlands Kite Fliers News Extra

THE MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



Lauren Kirton & Melanie Senior standing inside "Philipa"
the large ball made by David & Sarah Senior



Welcome to our new members

Once again it is my privilege to express in this newsletter our welcome to our new members.

New members are friends with whom we have yet to cement our friendship, so make them welcome. If you fail to get a newsletter please look on the back of your card and see if your membership is overdue.

If I do not receive your subscription by the end of the month of expiry; in fairness to those who do, I have to indicate on the computer that your membership has lapsed. This also means that if you are late in renewing, I have to remember to remove that indicator, or, when I ask for the list of those who require the newsletter, your name will not be on THAT list. My fault I know, but with 384 membership addresses to deal with, I have had to get into a strict routine and at my age breaking a habit is not as easy as forming it.

My wife and I have just enjoyed one of the best summers that we can remember, most of it roaming from one event to another, and only calling home for the post and to update the membership records. This has meant some careful planning and some concentrated effort whilst at home. It has also meant that ALL the work that can be done away from home has had to be taken with us.

To all the new members I say welcome, introduce yourselves to the fliers in the red tee-shirts, & join the family.....

John Larson - Membership Secretary

Mr. John Arran & Family. OSWESTRY
Mr. D. M. Attwater. PRESTON
Mr. David Barnby. WOTTEN-UNDER-EDGE
Mr. Nick Benson & Family. MATLOCK
Mr. Alan Boad & Family. LEAMINGTON SPA
Mrs. J. A. Bretherton. WIGAN
Mrs Esther Cumisky & Family. LICHFIELD
Mr. Gordon Hall. SOLIHULL
Mr. Jon Hallam & Family. HOPE VALLEY
Mr. Eric Hinchliffe. KINGS LYNN
Mrs. Helen Howes. RAVENINGHAM
Mr. Stephen J. Jones. HALESOWEN
Mr. John Jordan. SHREWSBURY
Mr. Mike McFarlane. CROPWELL BISHOP
Mr. Robert Moore. NOTTINGHAM
Mr. Derek Nelson. BUTLERS MARSTON
Mr. Dave Nicholl. EDINBURGH
Mr. Keith Odling & Family. NAVENBY
Mr. Daniel Overton. LINCOLN
Mr. M.J. Peacock. ST. ALBANS
Mr. Gordon Robertson. ROSSENDALE
Mr. Jaswant Sahota & Family. OLDBURY
Mr. Paul Scrivener. LEEDS
Mr. Geoff Smeeton & Family. NOTTINGHAM
Mr. J. Gareth Stewart & Family. SOUTHAM
Mr. Andy Vaughan. BROSELEY WOOD
Mr. Keith Walker. CANNOCK
Mr. Jeffrey Watson. BUXTON
Mr. Gary Weir. WIXFORD

Oh Come All ye Faithful

An Exhortation

1 Samuel ch3. v11.

A date and time for your diaries, November 24th 2002 at 10.30am. What is this joy you promise? I hear you cry. Not so much a joy more a jolly, yes it's the MKF's AGM. and because the Drum is being refurbished it's moved on to the A45 by Eldon (the original bit of B'ham International) Airport. You will find full details are elsewhere in this Newsletter.

This is really the only time each year when we get the chance to meet and talk over the year's activities in comfortable warm surrounding with refreshments on tap.

This year we are even more central, being within yards of the M6/M42 junction, B'ham International train station and the Airport. So please, the silent majority, change the habit of a lifetime and come. It really isn't at all painful, the raffle prizes are worth winning, there're no long speeches and most important you get to influence what we the committee do to your club and the national kite scene in your names.

OK the early part of the agenda contains some reports but this information will help you decide what we do about the important items towards the end. For example who will be "Kite Flier of the Year "(2002), and even more crucial; do we acquire some new club kites and if so, how many, what types, and at what cost. After all it's your money that we are intending to spend. So come along and have your say.

I know that it is far easier to come and bend my ear when we are out both flying kites; but with the best will in the world I can't do a fat lot about it there and then and I could have forgotten the fine detail by evening or when I get home. So bite the bullet, walk the walk and come and talk the talk on the 24th. We will be waiting to welcome you.

David Montague-Smith
Chairman
Midlands Kite Fliers



To: The Members

The Midlands Kite Fliers Annual General Meeting

Sunday, 24th November 2002

**The Clock
Coventry Rd (A45)
Bickenhill
Solihull**

**West Midlands B92 0EA
Tel: 0121 782 3434**

Commencing 10.30am prompt



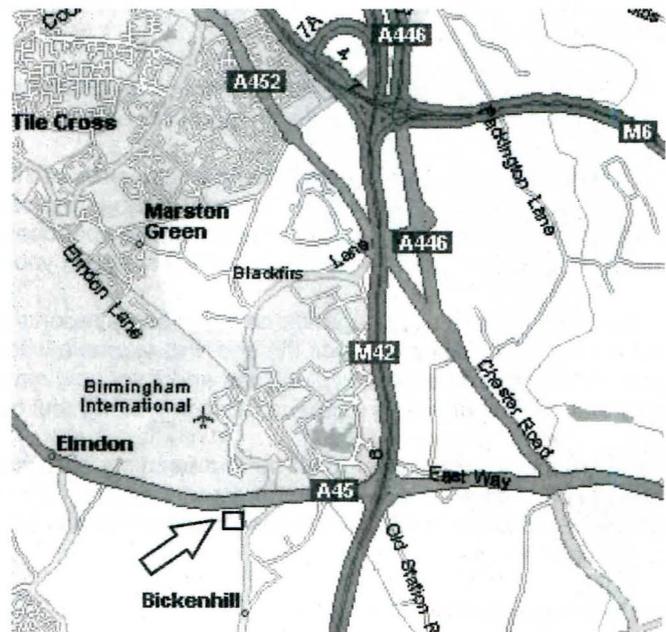
This years AGM will take place at *The Clock, Coventry Road (A45), Bickenhill, Birmingham*. This new venue situated close to major motorway and rail networks is in easy reach from most parts of the country.

The AGM gives all members the chance to structure the club for the year ahead. Please come along and show your support and air your views.

Refreshments are available and you will receive upon arrival a complimentary drink of either tea or coffee. Sunday dinner can be purchased from the restaurant, and an excellent two meals for the price of one offer is available (2 meals for £8.95). The Sunday Roast of either lamb, chicken or beef comes highly recommended. Other food and beverages are available from the menu. Please note that only food purchased in the restaurant is to be consumed on site.

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of previous AGM
4. Chairman's report
5. Secretary's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Membership Secretary's report
8. Event Co-ordinators report
9. Editors report
10. Website Managers report
11. Coffee break
12. Election of Officers
13. 'Kite Flier of the Year'
14. New club kites
15. AOB



We look forward to seeing you



Sad News

Hi All,

I have the unpleasant task of reporting that one of our older members has passed away.

Frank Johnson passed away this summer.

He came back to kiting late in life but had always maintained an interest in all things that flew. In fact, he was unbeatable at trimming and flying paper aeroplanes. He was able to make quite a range of kites from Thai Serpents to Deltas to dirigibles. He loved to fly anywhere, but amongst other kite fliers he was in his element, he loved to talk kites and learn about new designs, materials or building techniques.

A quiet and unassuming guy he was always ready to help anyone, whether it was a newcomer to kites or someone involved in his other passionate hobby, model railways - the layout he left behind had to be seen to be believed, the detail and complexity were astounding.

Frank was also a whizz at looking after machinery whether it was cars, bicycles, motor mowers, or whatever. Where he lived he was Mr Fix it, everybody went to him with their problems and he never turned anyone away.

He will be sadly missed by friends and family.

Don Eccleston

Email Address Change

Just a Short note to inform everyone that our email address has changed. Should you wish to contact Wigsley Wings by email please use the new address below -

wigsley.wings@ntlworld.com

bye for now
Linda

New Kite Shop

Insight
Hornsea Freeport Outlet Village
Rolston Road
Hornsea
East Yorkshire
HU18 1UT

Tel: 01964 534284

We are a new shop called Insight that has opened at Hornsea Freeport and we stock a wide range of kites and accessories. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Regards
Claire Eldred



Estels Costa Daurada
Ctra. del Pla, 122 8-3
43800 Valls (Tarragona)
(Spain)

Dear friends,

we contact you for the first time to let you know something that makes us very proud, the creation of our club called **Estels Costa Daurada**. After several months of intensive work, finally we have done it and with this letter we want you to be infected also by our cheerfulness.

We are a group of kite fliers from Catalonia. We fly all kind of kites; stunt kites, power kites and single line kites. We used to fly together along our geography and now we have decided to create a club to exchange experiences, promote kite flying and make it more popular in our country.

With this message we want to inform you about our existence. For this reason, we are at your disposal for what ever you may need. Our director board is Alex Martínez (president), Josep Ferrero (secretary), Judit Margalef (tresurer), Ramon de la Fuente, Jesús Burzurí, Angels Buxó, Eduard Muñoz i Carles Nicolás (other director staff).

We hope to meet you very soon at the kite festivals which are organized all over the world.
If you would like to contact us:

E-mail: estelscostadaurada@telefonica.net
Web site: www.estels.cjb.net

President - Alex Martínez
Telephone: 977614635 / 650571825
e-mail: vives73@telefonica.net

Secretary - Josep Ferrero
Telephone: 696409611
e-mail: jferrero@arrakis.es

Tresurer - Judit Margalef
Telephone: 977614635 / 639773306
e-mail: juditm71@telefonica.net

Yours faithfully,
Director members
Estels Costa Daurada



One Sky One World 2002

"The purpose of One Sky One World, is simply to promote the concept of global harmony and understanding between all peoples of the world through an expression of the universality of kites and the wind. Through sharing the wind, our world wide connection with other flyers and all of nature is symbolically realized.

The great air ocean favours no dividing boundaries, ideologies, and human conflict. It is much more the prerequisite for our existence, a catalyst in the chemistry of life, supplying our every breath. The International Kite Fly is an attempt to let the wind lift our kites and our awareness so as to more fully understand the necessity for peace."

If you have details of a planned OSOW event in the UK, please send me details - send the event totals too. Please include a contact name and e-mail add, and/or phone number. All submissions will be included on my OSOW pages for the benefit of all. Events don't have to be elaborate affairs (though many are) all it takes is a few kitefliers gathering on the second Sunday of October to fly for peace...

Decide on the flying site, send me details for the webpage (hopefully meaning that more people will turn up at your event). All I ask is that you then send in the number of fliers attending and the total number of kites flown.

"JimC"

Events being held 13th October 2002

(About 10am till 5pm, unless stated otherwise - everyone welcome!)

Flying Site	Town/City	Organised By	Contact
Hardwick Hall	Chesterfield, Derbyshire	Midlands Kite Fliers	Jim Cronin
Blythe Hill Fields	Catford, London, SE6	Polly Jurksaitis	pjurksaitis@yahoo.co.uk
Kent College Playing Fields (start 11 am)	Canterbury	South Eastern Kite Society	Gareth Williams 01622 763059 or secretary@seks.org.uk
Sundorne Playing Fields	Shrewsbury	Fred Broadhead	Fred Broadhead 01952 581106
Evesham Country Park	Evesham	"Scyro Kites"	Philip Roberts 01789 415824 or 07989 840559 (mob)
The Mead's	Hertford	Stuart Hursey	Stuart Hursey 07970113232 (mob)
Ferry Meadows	Peterborough	Great Ouse Kite Fliers	Peter West 01733 269 687
Devils Dyke (1500ft clearance) Ref 198 TQ 258 112 (arrive before 11am to be sure of parking!)	North of Brighton	Brighton Kite Fliers	Ray Oakhill 01273 306842
Barbury Castle Country Park (on the Ridgeway, 2ml from Wroughton) Teddy Dropping, Childrens Workshop	Swindon	White Horse Kite Flyers	David Robinson darjer2@aol.com
Rougham Airfield (2 miles east of Bury St Edmunds) 11 am - 5 pm (count at 3 pm)	Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk	Suffolk Kite Flyers & Thorpe Kite Flyers	Martin Corrie 01206 299560
Ashton Court (1pm start)	Bristol	Avon Kite Flyers	David Johnson djjh@jjonson.freemove.co.uk
Baiter Park	Poole, Dorset	Poole Kite Fliers	Richard Nourse or Harry Douglas - 01202 732055

Please check the OSOW website for the latest updates "www.osow.org.uk"



Light Up The Sky 2002

It's that time of year again and it's been almost twelve months since we last did Light Up The Sky. Doesn't it come around quick? During this time I hope you have been thinking of new ways to add lights to your kites.

For those that took part last year you will remember just what fun Light Up The Sky was. The amount raised (£1124.02) for "BBC Children in Need" was a great result from all involved with this fun event.

Light Up The Sky simply means that kites be fitted with some form of lighting, and with Halloween and Bonfire night just around the corner, flashing headbands, wands and light-sticks make perfect items to adapt for this event. Some fliers will already have some form of small torch or flashing bicycle light, or maybe even have proper kite's lights to use.

This year Children In Need day will be staged on Friday 15th November, so there is plenty of time to inform all about your event. The evening would take the form of kite groups up and down the UK staging an evening of fun, either in the weeks leading up to Friday 15th November or on the night. The plan is to have local flyin's at as many sites as possible to "Light Up The Sky" by flying any kite and any arrangement of lights, be it just a small pen torch, to elaborate strobes and multiple LED's to a **maximum flying height of two hundred feet**.

For anyone that can't travel to the arranged events, please feel free to organise a mini "Light up The Sky" event of your own.

You get to choose how the event runs, all I ask is that there be a set registration fee per flier of £2.50 in the form of a cheque, postal order or CAF voucher, made payable to –

"BBC Children In Need appeal"

The club will then forward all monies from the event to –

BBC Children in Need Appeal, PO Box 76, London W3 6FS

The total number of fliers and money raised will be recorded and emailed/posted back to me. These figures will then be added to the other clubs totals to give us a combined group donation. Details will then appear in The Kiteflier and MKF News and also at www.lightupthesky.co.uk

"illuminate your kite, raise a smile and Light Up The Sky"

Lloyd Kirton
email: l.kirton@ntlworld.com
Tel: 02476 732083

Light Up The Sky 2002

For

BBC Children in Need appeal

This is to be the second coordinated event by as many, if not all kite clubs from across the UK. The aim is to raise as much money as possible for the "BBC Children In Need Appeal" We want you to organize an evening event during the month of November and fly kites with some form of lighting on them. You get to choose how the event will run, all we ask is that there be a set flying donation of £2.50 in the form of a cheque or postal order made payable to – *BBC children In Need Appeal*. Then hand this to the event organizer or nominated person before you fly.

***Join together and make this a fun filled night to remember.
Help to raise money and Light Up The Sky for
The BBC children In Need Appeal***

Further details available from
Lloyd Kirton
email: l.kirton@ntlworld.com
Tel: 02476 732083



42 ROMAN CANDLE 66.

SOMETIMES THE LANDING GOES COMPLETELY WRONG



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. A 101% Politically Incorrectload of Mindless Drivel, but then you already knew that, and lets face it, Do we give a Toss, like as 'eck.

Percy and wee Percy...

Wartime secrets of Percy the parachuting pig

A rather scruffy looking stuffed toy pig, posted by a soldier to his wife whenever he was sent on a dangerous mission, was the sole survivor of an auction of the couples toy collection held recently.

Percy a pig with a parachute, was mailed to Jean Metcalf whenever her husband Bernard, who was in the Parachute Regiment during the Second World War, was sent overseas.



Capt Bernard Metcalf

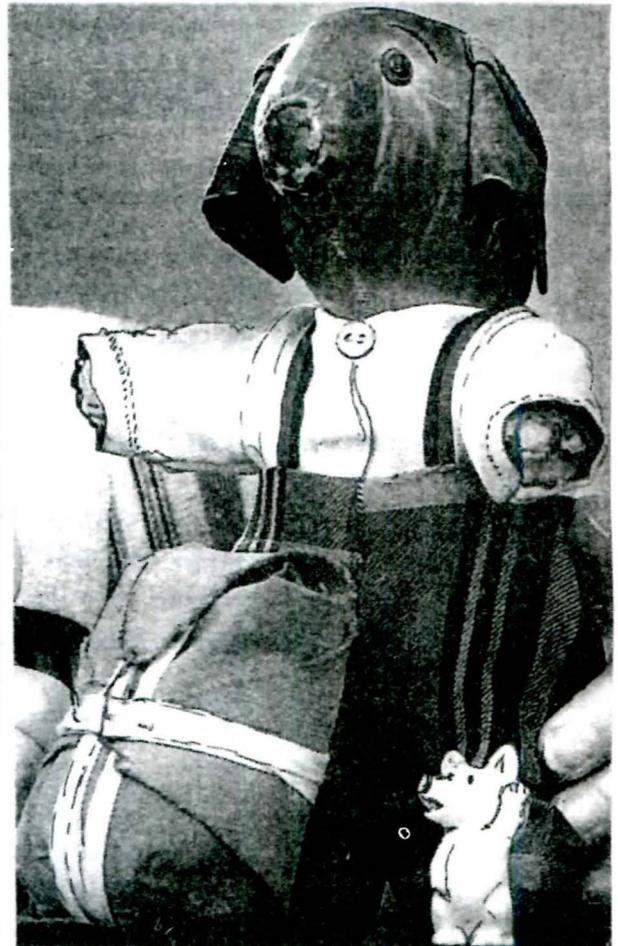
Percy the pig was used as a signal because Capt. Metcalfs whereabouts were of course classified, so he could not tell his wife where he was being posted to.

The couple from Yelverton, Devon. collected more than a thousand ornamental and toy pigs during their sixty year marriage. After her husbands death last December, Mrs Metcalf decided to sell them all except Percy.

The entire collection, minus Percy were auctioned at Plymouth Auction Rooms for an amazing £1,500. Percy the parachuting pig still remains in the glass cabinet that once housed the entire collection along with wee Percy a tiny china pig that Capt. Metcalf carried on him for the whole war. Mrs Metcalf believes that this little china pig actually guided her husband safely through the war, as his only injury throughout that dreadful time, wa having his top front teeth knocked out by a shell splinter, on the night before D_Day.

Getting Percy in the post was my only way of knowing that my husband was being posted somewhere secret, says Mrs Metcalf. I was sad to see the collection go, but it wa too much work for me, to keep them clean.

Percy the parachuting pig was originally borrowed from Capt. Metcalfs niece. He was given a Flare chute, hopefully minus the flare, and was regularly parachuted from the roof of the post office where Mrs Metcalf was stationed during the war. However we can be pretty certain that Percy was never parachuted from a Kite, or even from a Plane, for that matter, but netherthe less good old Percy and wee Percy, certainly did their respective bits.



GORDON BENNETT, WE'RE A WUNNER, A TON, NOT OUT.....

And funny enough most of us decrepit wrecks dont feel a day over Fifty, even if we all appear to be about Two Hundred.

In this vein, Alistair Cooke, who will be 94 in November, took an ancient piece of journalistic advice as regards the subject of his "LETTER FROM AMERICA" (Radio 4) The ancient advice ?, when stuck for a subject on which to write, never despair, just reach for an anniversary and the anniversary Mr Cooke reached for was the Centenary of, yes you guessed it, the Teddy Bear. Of course as you know the name Teddy came from the 26th President of the United States, one Theodore or Teddy Roosevelt.

In November 1902, President Roosevelt was out Bear hunting in Mississippi, and it was not a successful day. After the President had failed to shoot a Bear, his host captured a Bear and tethered it to a post and invited the President to have a pop at it. President Teddy declined, saying "spare the Beare, I will not shoot a sitting animal" A couple of Brooklyn shopkeepers named Morris and Rose Michtom, then decided to celebrate this act of Presedential compassion by making a soft toy Bear and putting it on sale as "TEDDY'S BEAR".

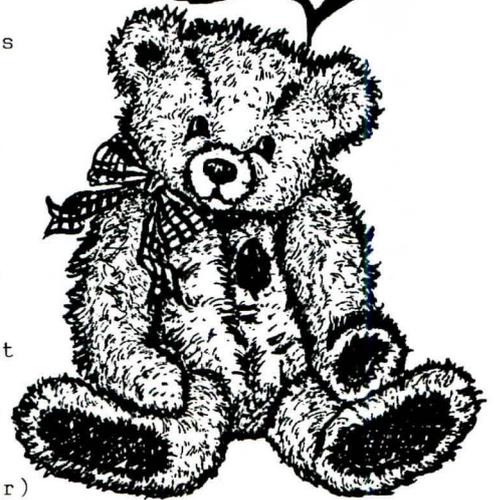
One hundred years later, the Teddy Bear has never been more poular, and in recent years it has acquired a poignant new role as an offering to the dead. Thre were many Teddy Bears amongst the offerings at Ground Zero in New York, as there were outside Kensington Palace after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

This may be because the Teddy Bear feels an especially intimate kind of pffering because of the strong ties of affection usually binding it to its owner. Possibly it may be that it is regarded as a symbol of innocence, an idea perhaps encouraged by the character of good old Winnie the Pooh.

Have any Parachuting Bears been offered ?, probably not in view of what happened at Ground Zero, Para Bears would probably be taken as some kind of sick joke. Not too worry our chuteless breteren fill the bill admirably.

So there you have it we, as a species are a oner(wunner) and are galloping into our second century at a fair old lick Suffuce it to say that a goodly proportion of us are not of the TWEE persuasion, all power to them if thats the way their Mothers put their hats on. But we are of the more down to earth persuasion, no more so when we're aloft under a Kite and contemplating the sudden drop. Be that as it may, we, at the 'enth degree know full well whata an amazing hold we have on those Humes.

YOO HOO
MR HUMPHRIES,
I'M TWEE



Killer bears put town under siege

The People of Ola a rundown town in the middle of a Russian wilderness, are being besieged by killer Bears.....

One Bear mauled a local teenager to death this summer and a recent helicopter survey logged seventeen Bears on the outskirts of the town. Raging forest fires to the west and a shortage of the Siberian humpback samon that are a staple of the Bears diet at this time of year have sent the Bears marauding into human territory.

Ola on ths Sea of Okhotsk shore in Russia's far east is situated right in the path of the Bears hunt for fish. One month ago AlexSeleznyov and Nikolai Fedosov were poaching on the river bank, when they heard a rustling in the bushes. They thought it was the fishing inspector but it was a bear. In their ensuing panic one lad climbed a tree, but the other lad ran, persued by the Bear and was later found mauled to death. Local Police have been trying to protect the town by setting ambushes for the Bears. So far four Bears have been shot, but it makes you wonder if it would be better to feed'em

THREE CHEERS FOR GOOD OLD PROFESSOR BALDWIN, AND THOSE HAPLESS DOLLS.....

THIS WANTS SOME BELEIVING...IT APPEARS THAT THE TORNADO TEDS,HAVING TIRED OF TERRORISING POOR OLD JOHN THORNTON,HAVE DECIDED TO GO FOR SOME KNOWLEDGE OF THE BOOK VARIETY, YOO WOT! THEY'VE EVEN PERUSED THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF E.H. SHEPARD WHO WAS THE ILLUSTRATOR OF THE ORIGINAL WINNIE THE POOH BOOKS.

The Tornado Teds came across the following episode from Shepards childhood, and what you must remember is this was round about 1886 or 1887, well before our Ted ancestors were even a gleam in the eyes of Mr and Mrs Michtom.

WE QUOTE... The hall of our house was paved with tiles and the staircase was of stone with iron banisters. It was wide enough for us to play our favourite game of Parachute descents. This pastime had been a craze with Cyril and me ever since we had been taken to the Crystal Palace and had seen a certain Professor Baldwin make the perilous descent by Parachute from the main transept.

Lit up by limelights and accompanied by the din of brass band and the thunder of drums, he had sailed majestically, to arrive in the arena in tights and spangles, and to bow his thanks to the delighted audience.

When we came home, we set about emulating him, but wisely decided to try the experiment first with Ethels dolls. Ethel was older than we were and her intrest in dolls was waning so she took the conscription of her dolls in good part.

This was fortunate for the casulty list was very high. Woe betide the victim if her head was made of china or wax! We soon found that an umbrella was of little use as a Parachute as it became unmanageable and stuck in the stairwell. Then we tried handkerchiefs of different types and sizes, one of which was decorated with a coloured picture of the Professor himself. But even these handkerchiefs were not entirely satisfactory.

Poised at the top of the stairs, leaning over the banisters and holding the contraption with the hapless doll attached, I would launch it whilst Cyril waited below to avert calamity. The only doll to survive these escapades was Minna,grubby,tough and made from leather.

As you can see from the above, fauna bombing, though not necessarily from kites as is our dropniks wont, predates furry wotsits of a Beary persuasion by at least 15 years, and who knows, probably by a whole lot more.

PARAS READY TO RESCUE 20,000 BRITS FROM MUGABE.....

Recent newspaper reports indicate that if it does go completely pearshaped inZimbabwe,it is planned to evacuate the Brits under the protection of a Paratroop security umbrella . It is reported that the SAS has already reconoitered the ground. Whatever the rights and wrongs of the present situation,it would be a spectacular event indeed.

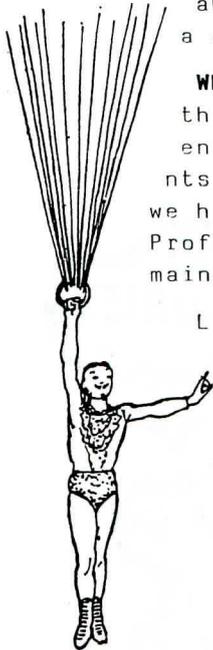
Be that as it may, already there has been a crop of the usual letters to the newspaper editors , yeaing or naying as THEIR FANCY TAKES THEM, and one in particular did catch our eye, so much so that its worth printing it here.

THE LETTER COULD BE ENTITLED "TITTER YE NOT"

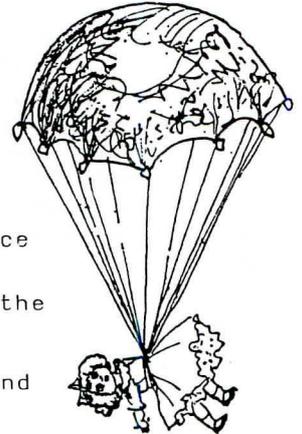
Sir- Talk of pennypinching armed forces dropping paratroopers in Africa reminds me of when I covered the Shaba province rebellion for UPI in May'78. When the Zairean government claimed it had dropped 100 paratroops behind the rebel lines, I checked with the Belgian Colonel who had been training them. He said, " If thats true, they've got 100 dead paratroops, as we have'nt supplied them with Parachutes yet. (Daily Telegraph)

Is'nt that typical of Gobby politicians shooting their mouths off before they are in full posession of the true facts.

One things for certaain, wherever they drop Humes, the buggers still dont bounce.....



'Sailed majestically down'



'With the hapless doll attached'



PONGY, POSING PENGUIN MENACE KICKS OFF STATESIDE.....YOO WOT...



DID WE OR DID WE NOT TELL YOU IN THE LAST ISSUE OF R.C. TO KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR ANY SIGNS THAT THE PONGY, PI-SHEAD PENGUINS POSING AS PARACHUTING POLARBears ON MERSEYSIDE WAS SP-READING? WELL IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE PROBLEM HAS NOW KICKED OFF STATESIDE.

Ernie Fosselius, erstwhile crew chief of Bear Devils Aerial Circus of California, informs us that the authorities Stateside are desperately trying to suppress reports that the aforesaid Pongy Penguins are still storming aircraft in their eternal quest to make all known sources of the Amber Neck Oil into replicas of the Sahara Desert.

Having pretty well worn out their welcome at every known watering hole on the west coast, the Pongy Ones are getting really desperate, so much so that having heard that you can get free beer on aircraft, these notorious party hanigmals are doing their utmost to get on board with out paying for a ticket.

These events are happening in spite of the increased security measures, now in place stateside, at a cost of Billions of Squids in Taxpayers Dollers. Ernie wonders just how deep is the bottomless pit into which all these tax bucks are being shovelled, as the security measures dont seem to be having much effect.

HOW COULD A THING LIKE THIS HAPPEN IN THE USA-WITH BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN HEIGHTENED AIR SECURITY?? WHERE DO OUR TAX DOLLARS GO?

The bottom line is be alert as Britain and the States need lerts to ensure that this very nasty menace is curtailed before it gets completely out of hand. Remember this you serious boozers, those seemingly nice Parapolarbears you are in a drinking school with in reality are nothing but Pongy Pirshead Penguins Posing as those awfully nice Parapolarbears, and when its their turn for a shout, they dissappear in a pong of fish, having drunk your pub dry by poncing pints from mugs like you... nuff said.

REFORMED DRUNK OF THE WEEK????? OOH'ER MISSUS

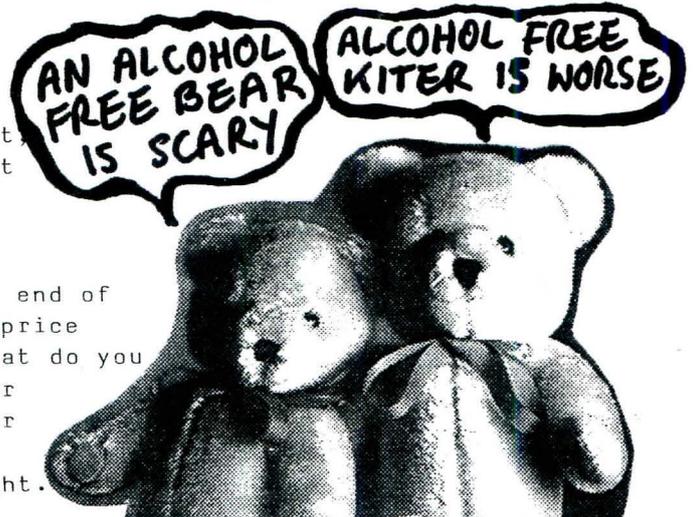
A beer loving Bear has been tricked into going on the wagon after villagers in a Bosnian village grew tired of his "Singing".

The two year old Bear, named Mrki by the villagers of Dobratic who had fed him with kitchen scraps since hunters killed his mother, got a taste for the Amber neckoil after finding half full cans leftover by the locals. Tadija Sugic, who owns a coffee shop in the village said "He was drinking up to 20 cans of beer a day, getting really plastered, then starting to get out of hand. So we decided to trick him with alcohol free beer, and its worked a treat. He loves it, and is so tame, you can sit down with him and enjoy a beer with him without fear."

SO AS EVER ITS THE USUAL TO "TO"THE WHATNOT

The Teddytorial, C/O The Boring Old Fart, who does'nt get any the less boring, at, wait for it 48. Laurel Lane, West Drayton, UB7.7TY, in what will forever be ENGLAND, no matter what the Traitors have planned, a plague on them.

Heres a little footnote thought. If at the end of the first century of Teddy Bears, the highest price ever paid for one was round about £100,000, what do you reckon that will translate to at the end of our second century. Its a fair bet that none of our humes will be there to see it, but who knows some of us may well be, and thats a scary thought.



Kite Event Calendar

November 2002		
15	Light Up the Sky 2002, various locations.	See MKF Extra for Details
May 2003		
4-5	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset	The Kite Society
4-5	East Yorkshire Garden & Kite Festival, Beverley Racecourse.	M.K.F.
10-11	Swindon Kite Festival, Lydiard Park, Swindon.	White Horse Kite Fliers
17-18	Suffolk Kite Festival, Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds	Martin Corrie
June 2003		
28-29	Bedford International Kite Festival, Bedford.	
28-29	Shrewsbury Kite & Boomerang Festival, Sundorne Playing Fields, Shrewsbury.	jj@kites-in-shrewsbury.co.uk
July 2003		
12-13	Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton.	Simon Hennessey
27	Petworth Kite Festival, Petworth Park, Sussex	Joanna Mersey
August 2003		
23-25	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hampshire	The Kite Society

Contact	Address	Telephone	Email
Kites Up	Roy Broadley	01256 812487	kites@kitesup.co.uk
The Kite Society	P.O. Box 2274, Gt Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4AY	01206 271489	Events@thekitesociety.org.uk
Scruffs	77 Oxford Street, Pontycymer, Bridgend CF32 8DD	01656 0871871	margam@kiteshops.com
Martin Corrie		01206 299560	
Neil Harvey		01285 740295	
Simon Hennessey		01273 582309	Simon@hennesseys.co.uk
Joanna Mersey	Bignor Park, Pulborough, Sussex RH20 1HG	01798 869214	
Richard Nourse	85 Bells Orchard Lane, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 4HP	01929 554690	richard.nourse@virgin.net
Frédéric Pouillaude	2 Place de la Mairie, 62170 Saint Aubin, France.	03 21 89 55 98	cerf.volant@wanadoo.fr
Peter Whitaker	12 Littlefield, Quedgeley, Glos GL2 6GZ	01452 728521	Paul@gvkvf.org.uk
Great Ouse Kite Fliers	Peter West	01733 269687	Gokf@btinternet.com
Michael Lowe	44 Bellemoor Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hants SO15 7QU	023 8077 0788	
Bryan Cattle	21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP.		
Kiteability	45 Windsor Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 9JY	01438 712168	Patnron@kiteability.co.uk
Joanna Mersey	Bignor Park, Pulborough, Sussex RH20 1HG	01798 869214	
M.K.F.	Alan Bill, 90 Weybourne Road, Great Barr, Birmingham B44 9DE	0121 360 1955	
Dunstable Kites		01582 662779	sales@dunstable-kites.co.uk
White Horse Kite Fliers	P O Box 585, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 4YR	01793 824208	Cowpat.ed@whkf.org.uk
Al Cosgrove			Alan.cosgrove@ntlworld.com
Phil Womack		07957 308734	Fylde@fly.to
Kreative Kites		01635 528400	kreativ.kites@argonet.co.uk
Avril Baker	5 Lilymead Avenue, Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BY	0117 977 2002	
Colin Jepson	Fairbourne and Barmouth Steam Railway, Beach Road, Fairbourne, Dolgellau, Gwynedd, LL38 2Z		
Richard Nourse	85 Bells Orchard Lane, Wareham, Dorset BH20 4HP	01929 554690	Richard.nourse@virgin.net
Malcolm Goodman	134 Thames Road, Billingham, TS22 5EX	01642 550827	Thekiteman@ntlworld.com