

THE KITEFLIER

www.thekitesociety.org.uk



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**Newsletter of the Kite Society of
Great Britain**

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The Kiteflier, Issue 107

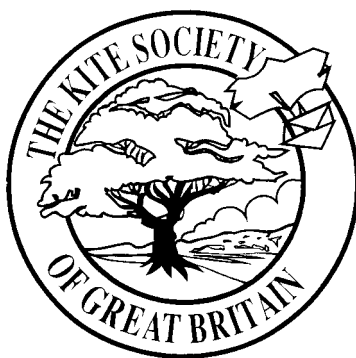
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Front Cover

Khambhat Sunset, Indian Fighters at Sunset taken during his visit to the Indian Kite Festival 2006

Photo: Paul Chapman



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Editorial

Dear Readers

This issue marks the start of the kite festival season and as usual there is an event nearly every weekend for you to enjoy. We are sure we will see many of you during the year.

Weymouth Kite Festival details and the timetable can be found on our web pages. There are a number of interesting guests this year so we hope you can make it.

Normally this is the issue that contains the Kite Directory of traders and clubs. We have decided not to publish this in the magazine as we feel it takes up unnecessary space and, to be honest, is almost out of date as it hits the pages! Up to date information is on the web site but for those who either prefer the printed version or do not have access to the web then a printed handbook can be obtained free of charge for members from us. Either at one of the festivals we are attending or by sending an A5 SAE.

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 you can join online and pay using Paypal (credit or debit card payment) at www.thekitesociety.org.uk or 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 drawable in the U.K. and be in sterling.

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£11.00
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Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail	£13.00
Overseas - Airmail	£16.00

One item of sad news. By the time you read this The Kite Store in Neal Street, London—one of the worlds oldest kite shops, will have closed after 30 years of trading. We wish Andy, Mark and Brigid all the best for the future. We have been dealing with them all of this time and in the early days they were very supportive of The Kite Society.

Jon and Gill

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.

How Kites Fly—A Different View—P D Cleave

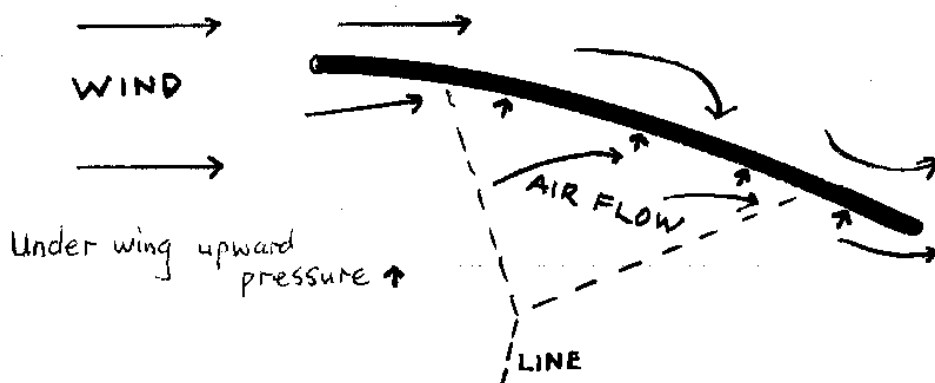
I want to emphasise that I have gained a great deal of pleasure and understanding from the articles by George Webster and in no way want to denigrate his work. However, I have a different point of view in the explanation of how kites actually fly, I am not a scientist at all, but look at things from a practical kite making and flying standpoint.

When one reads and learns about how aeronautics is based on the aerofoil wing shape, one is struck by the simple elegance of the theory: lift, drag and thrust; and it appears obvious that because kites also fly through the air, the same forces must surely apply. However, it appears to me that the theory of aeronautical flight depends upon a rigid shaped wing section, and with kites (perhaps with a few exceptions) we do not have solid aerofoil wings, we have instead a flimsy strutted structure spreading an area of very flexible material. Therefore how does the theory apply?

I suggest that the concept of "lift" is the key misconception when applied to kites. Lacking that solid aerofoil section there is not a defined shape to divert the air into separate over wing and under wing flows as to generate lift in the traditional sense. Therefore, I think the whole concept of lift as applied to kites is erroneous. I just do not think it works in this way and propose a different view.

Unfortunately, aeronautical sources are wedded to the concept of *lift* as applied to the aerofoil wing section; a force which occurs above the wing and which is the magic ingredient lifting the wing up from above. When aeronautics attempts to explain kites it is done from the standpoint that, of course, it is a form of *lift* which makes a kite fly.

However, if one takes as a starting point, that instead of looking for over wing lift, we take the contrary view that the effective force is in fact under wing upward pressure, i.e. Think of the kite as being pushed up from below rather than being lifted from above. This is a much more straightforward concept – using the principle that airflow across an inclined surface generates upward pressure against that surface, and therefore makes the kite fly. In this respect it is misleading to use aeronautical *lift* concepts as being the explanation of what makes kites fly.



So what about the upper surface? What happens there if it is not generating *lift*? The airflow across the underside produces the essential upward pressure to billow out the shape and make the kite fly, and so react against its bridle and flying line. In choosing a shape for our kite, and in its manufacture, we primarily have care for the under wing shape and its "cleanliness" which presents itself to the wind (i.e. Making seams free of ridges on this side) and since it is usually just a piece of ripstop nylon we hope the airflow over the top surface is nevertheless sufficiently smooth so as not to disturb the underlying pressure shape. However, the over wing performance is almost certainly a rather disturbed flow of air and I doubt very much whether it can in any sense produce lift.

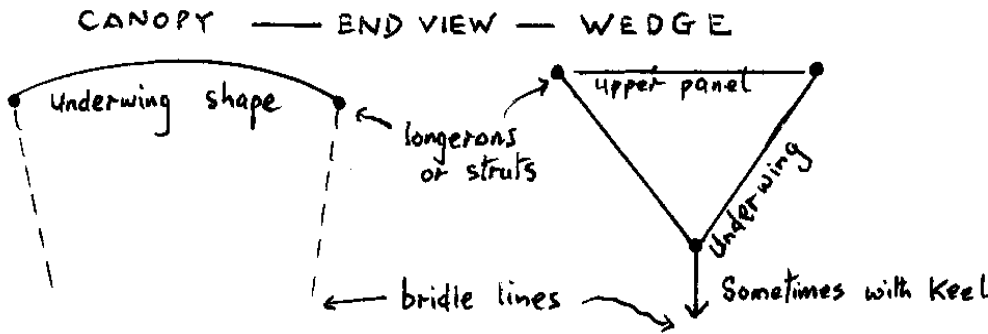
In designing a shape for a kite we have to determine not only a suitable plan form but also give regard to allowing flexibility in its actual flying shape by also providing vertical or inclined surfaces so as to give horizontal stability.

In designing a shape for a kite we have to determine not only a suitable plan form but also give regard to allowing flexibility in its actual flying shape by also providing vertical or inclined surfaces so as to give horizontal stability.

If we set aside the aeronautical concept of *lift* as it might be applied to kites, this frees us from having to study the supposed aerofoil-like wing cross section. Instead our attention can focus on

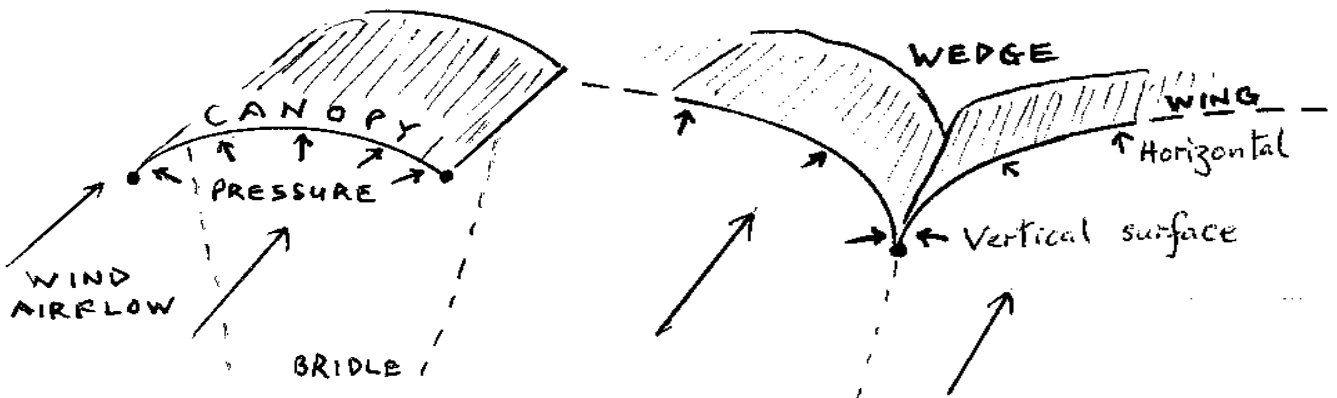
How Kites Fly—A Different View—P D Cleave

the important frontal attack shapes. It is here that the wind hits the kite and where the shape drives the airflow over the rest of the kite body. In this regard there is a simplicity because all designs can be categorised by two basic shape/flow/pressure concepts. The shapes are the Canopy and the Wedge; and the airflow across and around them determines how the wind strikes them in their inclined or attack attitude, so that the pressure directions are upwards or vertical and sideways or lateral. These are illustrated below.

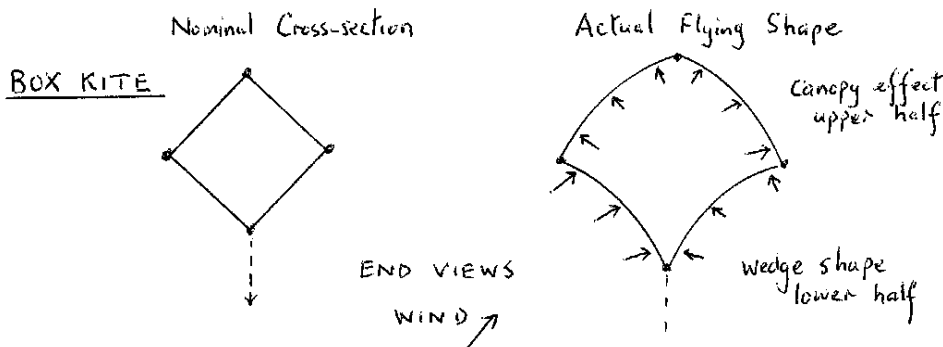


In the following explanation and drawings I refer to these shapes as being the Wedge and the Canopy. When actually flying pressure is exerted primarily in a vertical direction, but there are important side pressures on the more vertical slopes

which give sideways stability.



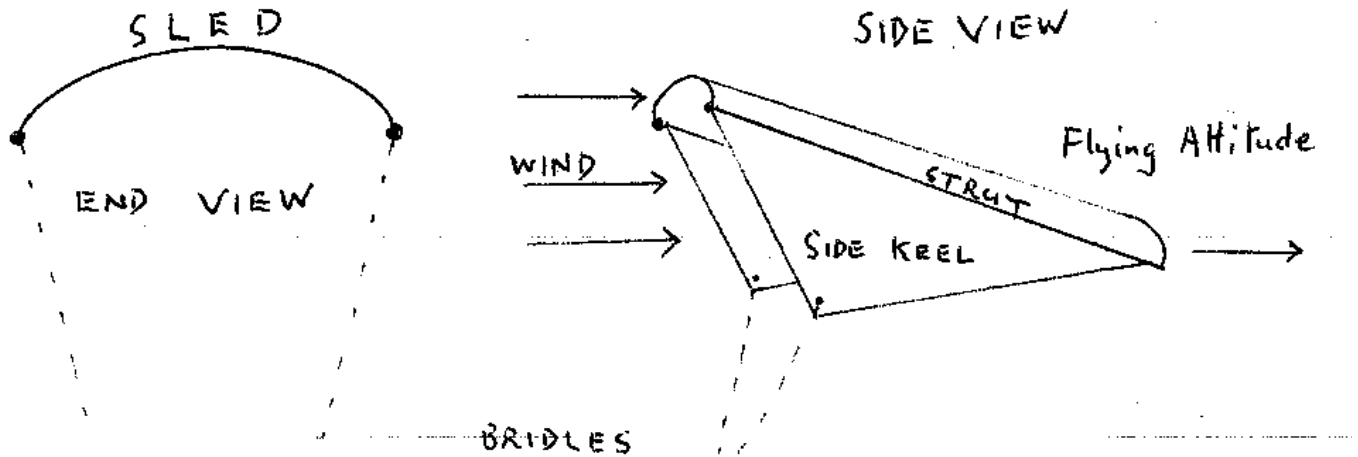
Of course there are many kite designs other than relatively simple single sheet wings like the delta. For example there are rigid constructions like the traditional Box Kite, which has its shape maintained by internal struts. With the kite bridled from one of the longitudinal supports this presents the box shape to the wind not as a rigid square, but with the surfaces flexed into another shape by the wind pressures. Under actual flying conditions the box transforms into a Wedge shape for its lower half, and forming into a Canopy on the upper half. Each gives the other about 50/50 vertical and lateral pressures, with the lower producing inward lateral pressures (from the outside surfaces) while the upper gives outward lateral pressures (from the inside surfaces). I believe that these countervailing pressures add up to make the box a very stable flier.



The Box Kite has a relatively inefficient wing shape (i.e. It is a combination of different shapes) but is in fact a very stable flier, because its flying surfaces are effectively 50% upward pressure and 50% sideways pressure for stability. In practice the nominally square shape is distorted under wind pressure into the effective wedge and canopy shapes.

How Kites Fly—A Different View—P D Cleave

The canopy shape, in general, may well be rounded or comparatively flat, depending on design and the tension applied by the struts. In the typical sled design the main flying wing is in fact an unobstructed canopy which forms a horizontal surface in its middle section, giving the principle area of upward pressure, whilst towards the sides where the surfaces become gradually more vertical, they generate the outward pressure which impart stability.



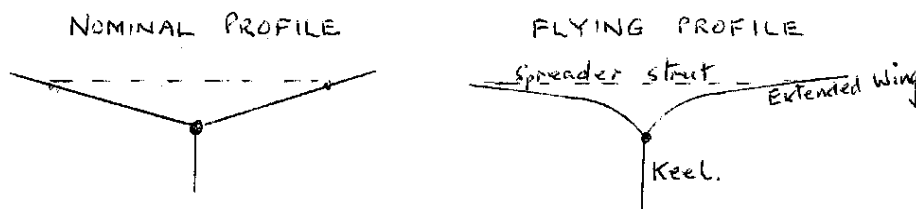
Therefore the sled design gives a comparatively flat profile front to rear (usually supported by sleeved straight spars the length of the kite), exactly contrary to the notion of an aerofoil cross section, but because of the unimpeded airflow from front to rear, the design imparts good upward pressures, which makes this simple kite a very efficient flier. There is no lift, just good airflow and upward pressure.

I go further and suggest that the Parafoil double layer soft kite also works on similar principles. The cellular structure which becomes inflated with forced air at the front, is used to give lateral shape to the whole, particularly the underside (supported by a number of bridles to help maintain the overall shape), so that it presents itself to the wind as a large rectangular under wing to derive upward pressure, with the upper shape aiding airflow, not giving lift. I believe it is very doubtful whether slow flying parafoils (or aerofoils in general) produce lift, but their large unimpeded under surfaces do produce large amounts of upward pressure, hence, in appropriate wind conditions they become very good fliers.

The wedge shape is very common and used in many kite types, and for good practical reasons, i.e. It produces both upward and sideways pressures. It is used in construction to anchor the bridles and lead into flatter but canopy like main wings – as will be seen in the example of the Delta, Conyne and Genki designs below.

The diagrams show the end attach profiles of three common kite forms and how their essential shapes behave when flying, so as to produce upwards pressure derived from the Wedge and Canopy shapes (their plan forms can be seen in most kite books).

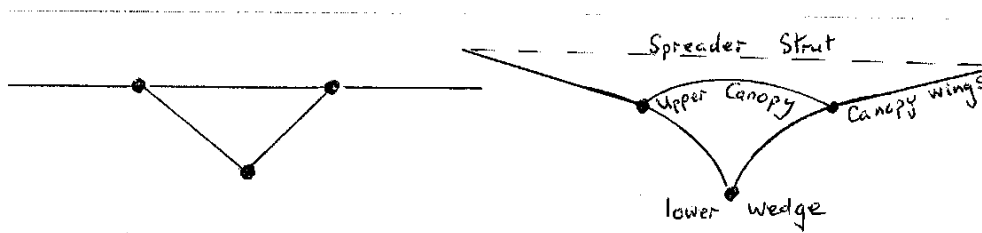
Delta Kites



The delta is mostly a wedge shape but has canopy like outer wings. It comes in a range of plan forms of varying aspect ratios, and can therefore be adapted to various wind speeds. The spreader strut is used to determine wither a tight shallow wedge and wing or to allow a more generous deeper wedge and canopy wings.

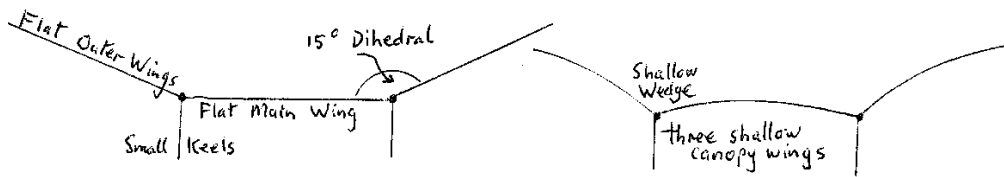
How Kites Fly—A Different View—P D Cleave

Conyne Kites



The Conyne has a distinct main wedge centre section supporting shallow or flat canopy wings. Therefore it has good flying characteristics in moderate winds. The Conyne concept is used as a main component of many other derivative designs.

Genki Kites



This model comprises three large square wings and although it does not have any Wedges as such, it does have generous dihedral which effectively imparts a very shallow wedge-like shape to each wing, giving the kite stability; especially a good flier in light winds.

Below is an extract from a letter to George expanding on some of the reasoning.

I have re-read your first article and your very interesting letter, and to be sure, you explain your views very clearly. There are parts, where of course I accept your explanations. However, I still find a sticking point with the whole concept of 'lift' as applied to kites.

In a paper by a Cranfield aeronautics engineer Professor Schaefer, I find this statement:

"Fundamentally, aerodynamic forces are due to pressure difference, and so to support a kite against gravity and tension in the line, the pressure against a kite's underside must be greater than that against the top surface..."

and similarly you yourself:

"..This downward flow, by Newton's laws has an upward reaction which pushes up the wing..."

My principle argument arises right at this point. Both sources recognise the primacy of a pressure pushing upward, this I understand and completely agree with. But the next step of calling this pressure "lift" is, I think, misleading for kitefliers. Lift, in aeronautics is essentially a force which operates above the wing, and is induced by reduced air pressure above the wing. Because of kites' low speed, flexible materials and varying wing shape, I do not believe that lift in the guise of the overwing low pressure is the effective force; indeed as you suggest yourself the behaviour of the airflow above the wing is probably best described as chaotic, not a flow to produce an effective lift.

On the contrary it is the under wing upward pressure which produces the flying force; and I do not think this should be confused with lift, however conventional this terminology may be in aeronautics; I am not really bothered that, for the moment, everyone else calls it *lift!*

It seems to me to be beneficial to the design, construction and practical flying in *Kite-onautics* to study primarily the under wing flows and pressure, not the ethereal over wing lift characteristics of aircraft wings.

Following this standpoint it become very logical to move into studying actual kite shapes which best allow flow and develop pressure; and this is where I put my proposals for analysing shapes in terms of wedges and canopies because kites are very much more complicated than their plan forms suggest, and rarely have a constant wing cross-section, let alone an aerofoil profile. I think we should study kites as a separate species rather than as some aberration of aeronautics.

A Review and Some Thoughts—Allan Pothecary

The Over – by Eolo Sports

There's been a lot of conversations going about another of Eolo's new releases – "The Over".

The most obvious comment is the similarity in graphic design to the Nirvana by R-Sky, but I found it very different in flight – I thought that it was slower and easier to hold in a snapped stall. I liked the precision on long lines but on short lines and, after flying the Benson Deep space, it felt somehow, not quite as solid, or balanced.

One of our top boys agreed when he tested it saying that it didn't always do exactly the same thing from the same set up – but hey! – us middle of the road guys would be pleased to be able to do some of his stuff just once!



There is a great video on the Eolo web-site, with a Spanish guy showing just what the kite can do and he doesn't seem to have a problem.

I always ask for comments when I pass kites around – no one really disliked it and nearly all of the novice to intermediate flyers commented – "I could really get used to that kite"

I pointed out to Eolo sales manager Alex where the union of the top spreaders and the leading edge had no glides or covers to stop the line from catching when putting the kite in to a wrap to perform Jo Jo's but he quite rightly pointed out this was not necessary.

The bridle mysteriously splits in to two at the top spreader in the same fashion as does the L'Atelier Transfer (on the bottom spreaders). This comes into action without spoiling the general dynamics of the bridle when the Over is on its back, giving contact point further away from the spine and further down the leading edge giving a better 'pull' to begin a spin or "Lazy Susan" manoeuvre (A trick where the kite spins all the way around on its back – as does a lazy Susan in the middle of a 'Dim Sum' table setting in a good class Chinese restaurant).

The Over will retail at around £115.00 and, if your budget or your conscience doesn't stretch to the higher end kites, I really don't think that you will be disappointed with this one.

One major tip though, make sure that your friendly trader can get spares for you. Both the Tango 2 and the Over are framed in "Dynamic" – it's not the same as Skyshark (and I wouldn't say as strong) and I am

not sure how available it is.

Once again you are welcome to come and try one before you look in your wallet but please try not to break it – Marilyn likes it too!

One to Tango 2

About 18 months ago I reviewed the Tango from Eolo Gayla. A quick recap was that it loved the centre of the window, was very quick through the tricks and controllable too, especially with the trick it did best which was the nose to nose axle cascade. Why bother to mention this now? Well we now have the "Tango 2". I asked Alex Prieto, the sales manager of Eola why they kept the same name when the "2" is a completely different animal, not, perhaps, in size – but certainly in appearance and quality of build.

Alex said that they wanted to grow the identity of the kite rather than bringing out what would just seem like another – "any old kite" with another – "any old name".

With the acquisition of the American half of their business, opening an office in Hong Kong and having bought the prestigious French rival company, Paimpol Voiles the Spanish manufacturers, now trading under the name of Eolo Sport Industrias, SA, are now a force to be reckoned with.

Making a comparison to car manufacturers – "We don't want to be the Rolls Royce of our industry" Alex continued "We see our selves becoming more perhaps the BMW of the kite world. Eola Gayla will make good quality products that perform as well as the high end kites, look great and will be coming off the shelves at an affordable price."

The Tango 2 is certainly an upgrade on the Tango. This time an increase to two standoffs and a deep sail helps slow the kite down a little with greater stability and the modern style, angular, shape and graphics give it a similar appearance to some of the better British kites we see so many of these days.

Criticism was heard about the bottom spreaders being bowed and under some tension but a straighter line would have meant lowering the centre "T" and changing the aspect or meeting the leading edges higher up thus making the lower part more "whippy". Kite building is all about compromise – what you gain one way you lose in another (see my article in the previous edition of this magazine).

The Tango 2 was passed around at the Southampton Winter league back in November and some of the top flyers there commented that it was a little too quick for the way they liked to fly – but that is probably because it was a step down for them and not what the intermediate flyers (who liked it) were used to. True it is the sort of kite that you would buy on your way up – you would have a lot of fun with it and learn a great deal.

A Review and Some Thoughts—Allan Pothecary

Or if all you had was big kites in your bag and you wanted something small, classy and more affordable – this would be a good choice at around £90.00

It needs about four miles an hour to get going well (unless you are pretty good already) and has a good, wide window. Pull is light, trick style precision is good and all the tricks that you would want to do are there – you just have to give the right input and the kite will do it!

The Tango 2 is comparable in flight to the similarly priced Nighthawk which has been doing well for Premier Kites in the states - but don't be surprised if this one does better.



Learning to fly

Over the winter Marilyn and I have enjoyed doing a fair bit of teaching with various people of differing levels. Although we have had some great successes none equalled my triumph at teaching a young Danish lad on holiday with his family who were watching us on a beach in Fuerteventura. They had a small delta with them which he could keep in the air fairly comfortably but they had never seen four lines and a Revolution before.

I had one given to us by Kiteworld to use for teaching as it seems to fly in lower winds than ours and, believe it or not, we were actually becalmed out there on a couple of occasions!

Neither could speak a word of the other's language but a Swiss lady (who also got involved in the kiting) could speak some German and bits of English and so could one of their party, so at least we all found out where the other was from!

That was three nations brought together by a fourth language – perhaps we ought to take some kites to the troubled regions of the middle-east and give them to their leaders? Youngsters always pick up flying either very quickly or not at all in my experience and I love to see the determination to get it right in their faces. This young lad – I couldn't pronounce his name let alone spell it! – was holding the kite still on its side and starting to get the hang of

flying it backwards in about twenty minutes and all done with sign language – amazing! I am always trying to think of simple ways to explain how to do different things in kiting and recently came up with one to help with many moves.

If you have ever played golf or even if you haven't you probably know how the good golfer is standing at the end of his swing, with his club in the air, his weight on the front foot and his back foot up with the heel raised and pointing away from the direction the ball went. The bad golfer usually ends up leaning back with all his weight on his back foot.

So, when I have been teaching I often ask my pupil to aim to have their hands and feet in a certain position AFTER the maneuver is finished. This is demonstrated in the hand position after a simple stall with a two line delta.

Fly the kite across the window. If the kite going from left to right then your leading hand will be your right hand. It's best to start to learn this move near the edge of the wind window so as the pull begins to decrease (don't go right to the edge or you'll lose it) quickly push your lead hand forward followed immediately by the other to finish by the side by side. You will probably have to lean or step forward at the same time to decrease the effect of the wind still further. Now that's what I will be looking for at the end – both hands together and arms out nearly straight – it doesn't matter if the kite has not stalled yet - you can work on the timing next!

I often get my pupils to practice this movement first without a kite. True is does look a bit silly (like you see golfers always thinking about and practicing their swing without a club) but it's all about muscle memory here – if you can't do it without a kite then how do you expect to do it with one? I look around the web sites sometimes for help and advice to pass on and thought I had struck lucky when I found a tips and tricks section from Jon Trennepohl on the Skyburner site, but Hey – come on Jon - people have to know how to do a "pop" or a "turtle" before they can do whatever it is you are trying to tell them.

Answers on a post card please if you know the trick talked about below but my guess is if you have worked it out, then you can do it anyway!

"The ????? starts with a half axle leaving the kite stalled on it's belly. After that do the standard pop turtle movements to flip the kite on its back, nose towards you. Another way is to pancake the kite from a dive and pop both lines".

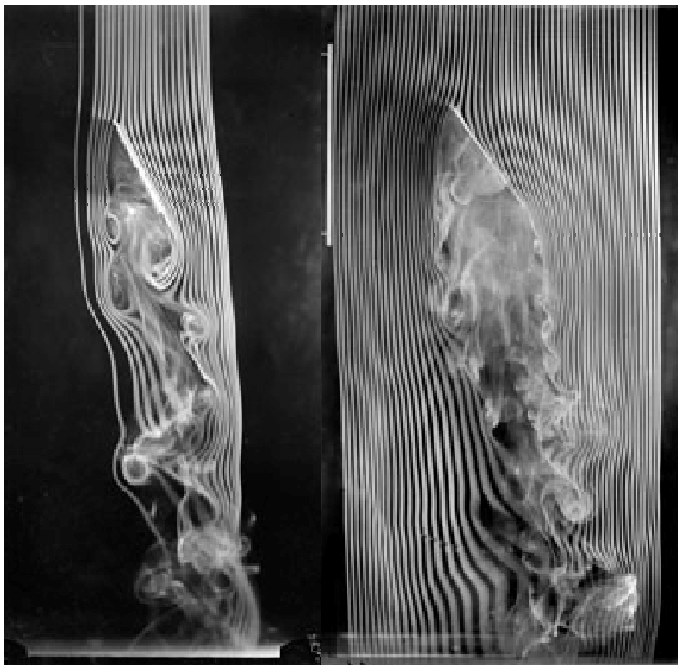
What's that about turtle pancakes? Do they come with sour cream and chives? Sounds pretty awful to me!

Allan Pothecary - Close Encounters – sponsored by www.kiteworld.co.uk and TKC of Bristol

Musings—George Webster

1 After reading my article on 'How Kites Fly' there are some changes which I'd like to make but it seems a good idea to leave it until I've had a chance to take on board any comments.

Two 'smoke box photos' were mentioned in the article. They are by E-J Marey (1830—1904) who was a physiologist, a professor of medicine, a biomedical engineer and an important figure in the development of cinematography. In 1890 he had studied the movement of birds which led to American funding via J P Langley (whose attempts to build the first manned aeroplane failed just before the Wrights succeeded).

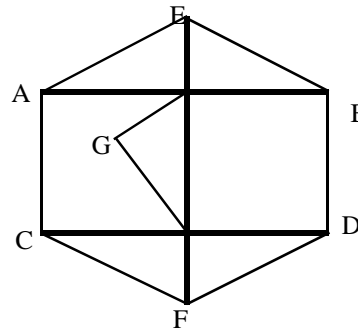


He did a series of photos of flat surfaces at various angles to airflow in a wind tunnel, the flow being shown by smoke patterns. A trembler unit shook the box at a 10 per second rate, these little stops enable the speed to be counted against a scale. The left photo is a 21 channel box and the right is a 57 channel box.

Done in 1901 they both show plates at 30° to the flow which is not unusual for a kite. As can be seen the airflow beneath the plate is chaotic and doesn't follow the predictions of Bernoulli's explanation.

2 I'd forgotten about the kite which could not be identified at Portsmouth. Below is my plan of the kite—the most interesting feature is that the central fin is simply sewn to the cover and not to the centre line spar. When it was

erected, and this had baffled the owner, and held by the bridle point it looked as though it would fly with considerable dihedral plus stability from the Sode-like wing.

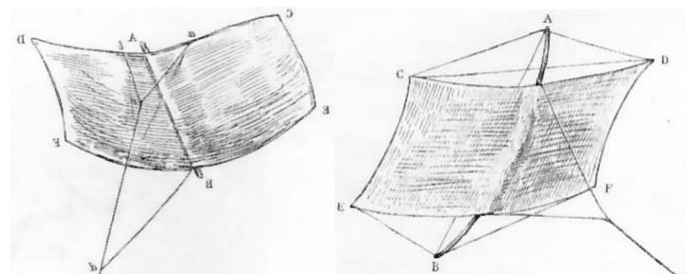


AB & CD are spars attached to top/bottom edge of sail. EF is the 'spine' which is unattached and runs behind the sail, when inserted at E and F it braces the whole thing. AE, EB, CF and FD

are bracing lines. There is a keel, sewn only to the surfaces of ABCD bridled at G. A tail is attached at F. The kite is made from Brookite type cotton.



Below are two illustrations from Le-Cornu's 1902 book. One is an Asian kite, copied in many other books. The other is a development of a Malaysian kite by an American Millet(?). They look very similar to me.



3 I recently came across a mention of kites being used until very recently as bird scarers in the U.K. I think this was in East Anglia, an area I don't know. Does anyone know of this and what sort of kites were/are being used?

Bits & Pieces

Seen On Ebay

Kite festival, Margam Park. This auction describes the festival and the commercial opportunities available. "You are paying for the rights to run the festival. Your postage covers the costs of us forwarding you the paperwork and writing to Margam Park Management to hand the rights on to the successful bidder. We will give advice where needed to help you for 2006, the more you pay the more we'll help."

"There are loads of possibilities for expanding the event as for the past few years it has purposefully been kept to about 2000 attendees over the weekend. The park charges around £210 for the event. You charge campers a minimum of £15 per unit for the weekend and with kite sales profits of around £4000 were made."

The auction had an opening price of £25, a Buy It Now of £2500 but ended with no bids.

Pakistan province kite-flying ban

From the BBC 10th March.

The Pakistani province of Punjab has banned the flying of kites ahead of a traditional festival marking the advent of spring. The ban follows a number of deaths in recent days, mostly in the provincial capital Lahore, caused by glass-coated or metal kite-strings. Families of the victims protested last week, demanding that a Supreme Court ban on the sport be re-enforced. The spring festival known as Basant is hugely popular across Punjab.

"We cannot allow people to play with the lives of ordinary citizens in the name of sport," a statement issued from the Punjab chief minister's office said.

Pakistan's Supreme Court had banned the activity last year following public outcry at the deaths caused by kite strings. Strings made of thin metal wire or coated with glass were outlawed last year but the ban was never enforced in view of their popularity with kite flying enthusiasts. Metal or glass coated strings help cut the strings of rival kites - the main objective of the sport. But they can catch unsuspecting bikers across the throat, at times with fatal consequences. Metal kites can also cause short-circuits in overhead power cables, leading to heavy losses for electricity utilities.

The Supreme Court ban was lifted for 15 days starting 15 February on popular demand. The relaxation was later extended to 15 March to allow the people to observe Basant. The festival, praised by President Pervez Musharraf who often flies down to Lahore to participate, is traditionally held in the second week of February. It was delayed this year because of the Supreme Court ban.

Besides enthusiasts, thousands involved in the kite trade rallied for a temporary lifting of the ban to allow the festival. The court relented in February this year but on the condition that the ban would automatically be reinforced in the event of any more deaths.

Several people were reported killed over the past two weeks but the court did not intervene in view of the festival's popularity. The country's religious parties, traditionally against the festival for its supposedly Hindu origin, then started demanding that the ban be brought back. They accused the Punjab government of allowing the sport on the orders of President Musharraf.

A new twist was added to their protest this year when some members of the hardline Muslim Jamaat-e-Islami party declared that the festival was initiated in the memory of a Hindu who was hanged for blaspheming against the Muslim prophet Muhammad. Fearing that the protests could lead to a breakdown in law and order, the Punjab government reimposed the ban.

"They have banned it just before the festival weekend," says Karam Illahi, a kite manufacturer in Lahore. "I have already invested all my money in making kites and strings but now I cannot sell them. Why couldn't the government have made up its mind earlier," he says.

Over the years, the Basant festival has drawn thousands of revellers to Lahore from all over the world. Even Indian movie stars had started participating in the festival which peaks with an all-night flood-lit kite flying marathon on the eve of the festival.

With NGO help, kite-makers all set to become high-flyers

From The Indian Express. Sahiyar Stree Sangathan helps women get organised, earn profits

Bits & Pieces

and root for women empowerment.

Vadodara, January 8: THE issue of women empowerment will soar on the wings of a kite this year. With women traditionally involved in kite-making, city-based organisation Sahiyar Stree Sangathan has made a foray into kite trade. Through organised trade, the NGO plans to help women kite-makers earn a better living. And, through their kites, it hopes to spread the message of women's rights.

Taking a cue from entrepreneurs who advertise their goods on kites, Sahiyar, too, decided to cash in on this method. However, its main intention is to mobilise and organise the women-folk engaged in kite-making — a household industry in Muslim-dominated areas like Bawamanpura.

The NGO has started off the venture with 35,000 kites prepared by half-a-dozen women. The kites are up for sale at the traditional kite markets in the city, and also at the organic dhaba on Race Course Road. "It is a modest beginning. We are trying to set up an organised system so that the role of middlemen can be eliminated. This will help the women get their proper share of money," says Trupti Shah of Sahiyar.

These kites also have another purpose. It will serve as a display for three themes: communal harmony, save the girl child and stop domestic violence against women. These messages have been printed on around 5,000-odd kites. "Institutions will be interested in kites printed with such social messages," says Reshma, a Sahiyar activist.

Taking another step forward, Sahiyar plans to form a women kite-makers' co-operative. "Now that we know the business, we can get organised. But, everything depends on the response we get this year," says Trupti.

For Salma, a divorcee who makes kites for a living, the NGO's intervention is a morale-booster.

"This step also encourages a sense of solidarity with other women," says Salma.

"The growth in seasonal income eases the burden of daily expenditure," says another kite-maker, whose husband sells fruits for a living.

Another Worlds Largest Kite

From the Daily Yomiuri Online.

Massive kite to blot out sun over Tokyo

The Japan Kite Association will attempt to fly one of the world's largest kites in the sky above Tokyo in January. The kite, measuring 25 by 40 meters for a total surface area of 1,000 square meters, is the same size as kites flown in Kuwait in March and in the United States in September.

"Japan has long tradition of kite-flying, which has been passed down for 1,000 years. We can't look wistfully at [the other nations'] successful attempts [to fly giant kites]," said Masaki Modegi, the 66-year-old head of the association based in Nihonbashi, Tokyo.

The kite the association plans to fly is of a kind called "futon-dako" for its structural resemblance to Japanese bedding. When fully inflated with wind, this type of kite, which does not have a bony framework, spreads out like a soft quilt.

Although the monster futon-dako kite is made of nylon, it weighs about 250 kilograms.

The kite, which literally looks like a quilt, is puffed up and supported by air artificially blown inside.

The kite-flying event will take place on Jan. 8 and 9 from 1:30 p.m. at the Harumi Pier in Chuo Ward. To fly the behemoth, a rope attached to the kite will be fixed to a truck. About 80 members of the association will take part in the event under Modegi's command.

According to Modegi, who participates in kite-flying events around the world more than 10 times a year, competition over the size of kites has been a recent trend.

Until a kite of 1,000 square meters was flown early this year in Kuwait, the largest kite ever to get aloft had measured 630 square meters. A kite of the same size was flown in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture, in October 2004.

On hearing that Kuwaitis had broken the world

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record, Modegi got fired up to challenge the record. He immediately ordered a kite from Peter Lynn of New Zealand, who designed and built the Kuwaiti kite. Modegi asked Lynn to make an even bigger kite than the Kuwaiti or American ones. But while Lynn accepted the order to make another kite, he refused to make it any bigger, explaining that such requests might go on forever otherwise, according to Modegi.

The kite, dubbed Mega Moon, features a traditional design of a rabbit and the moon, alluding to the Japanese folk belief that rabbits live on the moon.

Mega Moon cost 6 million yen, including the cost of transporting it from Lynn's atelier to Japan. Modegi, who runs a restaurant in Nihonbashi, covered the expense.

"The most fascinating thing about a kite is its struggle with the wind. If there's a good wind, I am sure we'll successfully fly the kite," Modegi said.

(Dec. 24, 2005)

The kite successfully flew in early January. There are now three kites all of the same design and all made by Peter Lynn. The original Kuwait Flag kite, first flown in public at the 2004 Portsmouth International Kite Festival, the USA Flag owned and managed by David Gomberg at Gomberg Kites and finally the Japanese Kite above. The official record is held by the Kuwait Flag kite, flown in February 2005 in Kuwait.

Crackdown on deadly kite fliers of the Punjab

Daily Telegraph, 10th March 2006.

Pakistan is using anti-terrorist laws to clean up the popular sport of kite-flying. This week alone, 1,000 people have been arrested and 10 killed by illegally reinforced strings or electrocuted when kites hit power cables.

Anyone held responsible for a kite related death will be charged with murder, said the chief minister of the Punjab, Pervaiz Elahi. He announced the measure ahead of Busant, the annual kite flying festival, on Saturday.

"The government will not allow turning kite flying into a major source killing people," he said.

The national pastime involves kite fliers in aerial warfare from the rooftops with competitors trying to cut each other's strings and capture severed kites. It has its own leagues and rules.

Last year during Busant 10 people died and more than 200 were injured. Kite strings are often reinforced with ground glass or metal.

International Historical Kite Workshop 2006

The sixth international kite workshop will take place in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands November 10th—12th 2006. The field research centre Woldhuis is the place where Collectors, Historians, curious Kite friends and colleagues will come together. The 2006 workshop has the same Program as in 2004: presentations by three specialists and building a replica historical kite from early 1900's. This time we will build a small children's kite as found in the catalogue of Roach kites. The Workshop will be organized in close co-operation with The Drachen Foundation Seattle USA.

All participants are invited to bring their historic materials: Original kites, Pictures, Books, Drawings and kite replicas. The building has some limited spacing to exhibit this material and we have learned from past experience that this material is subject of much discussions.

The workshop starts on Friday afternoon and ends on Sunday afternoon. In the past years we had participants from Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, UK and the USA. The presentations are given in English.

Presentations:

- Jan Desimpelaere from Belgium about Russian meteorological and military kites
- Hans-Ullrich Draheim from Germany is the biggest collector of WW2 kites and other interesting items.
- Paul Chapman from the UK has much experience in collecting and administrating kite material.

Cost: Each participant pays €145, including meals, bed and unlimited coffee/tea. Kite material for the workshop is included and other drinks will be charged separately.

Bits & Pieces

Registration: Register by email
d.j.joustra@chello.nl

Registration will be confirmed upon deposit of €55; the balance to be paid latest September 1st 2006.

Direct deposit payment can also be made to the workshop's bank account. Attention: D.J. Joustra, Zutphen NL Keyword: "Workshop Apeldoorn".

IBAN NL11ABNA0434776769 BIC ABNANL2A

Frits Sauv , Jan Westerink, Douwe Jan Joustra

New Kite Videos Online

Alex de Saint-Jouan writes: Just a little message about the new videos i have uploaded - 23 videos - 106 minutes with: The Flic, The Flying Squad, Overdrive, Evolver, The Decorators and much more...

asaintjouan.free.fr/videos/videos.html

So, enjoy with windows Media Player or VLC on Mac, Unix or Linux... and have a great time flying, Please feel free to download them on your computer, and link the page.

Safety Kite Book

I self-publish a series of children's picture books, called Dangerspot Books, helping to prevent children's accidents within the home and elsewhere. If you can spare a little time please visit my website at www.dangerspot.co.uk. The site includes various games for children to promote the safety issue.

Each story includes at least 4 major incidents, which teach children about dangers. The last page is a more serious advice sheet for parents with six DangerSpot stickers, which the parents and children are invited to place around the home to identify dangers.

My first title, "The Hair-Raising Kite Flight", describes the characters flying a kite near an electricity pylon.

Hedley Griffin.

DangerSpot Books, Old Bank House, High Street, Laxfield, Suffolk. IP13 8DX.

Karl Longbottom Delta Sled

Over the years, at various Festivals, I have flown in many Altitude Sprint competitions and even won a few. However, I'd never won any until I bought a Karl Longbottom version of the classic Dunton Delta.

Most Altitude Sprints over the last few years seem to have been won by one of Karl's Dunton Deltas, even when not being flown by him. Let's face it, if we ran a 'Constructors Championship' like they do in Formula 1, then Karl would be the Ferrari of the Altitude Sprint racers!

So, when he mentioned that he had a new kite designed and built specifically to win Altitude Sprint competitions, I knew I had to have one!

This is how I found myself in a damp field on a cold, grey February morning in a three-way fight between the special (according to George Webster) pink-tipped Dunton Delta with which Karl had won the Altitude Sprint at Portsmouth last year, and two versions of the new Delta Sled.

So, three fliers and three kites. Three rounds where, each round, every flier flew a different kite. Seem a reasonable test? We thought so ... and launch! Ok, so they were short (30 second) sprints as the wind was all over the place, lumpy with holes hiding like you wouldn't believe! But, hey, same conditions for everyone.

The result? The Dunton Delta didn't stand a chance. Maybe in cleaner winds, but on a blustery day? Nowhere! And the difference between the two Delta Sleds? The thickness of the cross-spar! I believe you'll get both sticks in the production model.

What can I say? The Delta Sled had better drift and was more easily recoverable if things started to go wrong. It possibly doesn't have as fast a rate of ascent as the Dunton Delta but was more stable and had a bigger wind range.

So it should be an interesting season for Altitude Sprints, if nothing else.

I'll be flying my KL Delta Sled at Weymouth. What's in your kite bag?

David Johnson

Bits & Pieces

A plea to fellow kiteflyers.

Can the kiteflying community help please? It is now 8 years since the death of John Daleman. John was from Great Yarmouth and spent huge amounts of time and money encouraging young and old alike to take up kite flying. At the time of his death he had built up an incredible collection of kites, many of which were sold at that time. Because of the relative disparity between the original cost and resale value of sports kites, many of these remained unsold. This is where I am asking for help.

John's partner is in poor health and wants to realise some cash on the remaining kites. There are over 60 sports kites from all the well-known manufacturers of the period. Most of them are as new and there are several multiple lots as John was keen on helping young teams.

All the kites are under £50 and if you feel you could help the cause by adding a piece of nostalgia to your kite bag, then please contact me for a list, [H. blowers@btopenworld.com](mailto:H.blowers@btopenworld.com) or phone Jim Ball 01493 781146.

Maori kite culture headed for international festival

08 February 2006. Stuff.co.nz

Three Kerikeri teachers will give the world its first glimpse of an ancient Maori art form at an international festival in France later this year. Harko Brown, Verbina Kopa and Kate Crawford will represent New Zealand at the Dieppe Kite International, the world's largest kite festival, in September.

As He Manu o Aotearoa, the three will:

- Demonstrate the flying of nine traditional Maori kites.
- Compete in kite competitions.
- Teach children in kite-making.
- Perform kite-related kapahaka, waiata and karakia with the support of a kapa haka group from Turangi.

"This will be the first exhibition of Maori kite culture and technology on this scale anywhere in the world," Mr Brown said. "Kite flying in Europe is huge and such events as this are very popular. About half a million spectators are anticipated."

As guests of honour at the eight-day festival, the group will lead the opening ceremony parade through the streets of Dieppe and perform haka and waiata at the official mayoral welcome and closing ceremony. Mr Brown, who has been interested in kites all his life, said kite arts (manu tukutuku) had spiritual importance, as well as practical use, among Maori during pre-European times.

So-called 'cloud-piercing' kites were flown on mile-long ropes and provided Maori with a symbolic connection to the gods.

A kite, known as manu tangata, was capable of transporting people, allowing warring tribes to gain access to enemy pas.

Another, known as manu kopua, was designed to carry a payload of hot coals, allowing tribes to set fire to the whare of their enemies.

Private Ads

Three heartbreakers for sale

Benson Gemini (standard) Black/Orange/Grey Immaculate condition. £90 plus P&P

Level One - Amazing (indoor/UL) Blue/Black/Clear. Good as new. Fantastic indoor flyer, incredible balance and power in zero wind conditions. £100 plus P&P

Wind Dance 2 (foil) Purple with green tips. The original WD - very fast, athletic foil, turns on a dime. £100 plus P&P

Very reluctant sale. All three for £250

e-mail w.macduff@dundee.ac.uk

Private Ads are free to members. All we require is the copy to be inserted by the 15th of the month preceding publication, so for July we need the copy by 15th June.

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Benjamin Franklin, Kites and Electricity—George Webster

All kite books with an historical section include something about Benjamin Franklin and his 'electric kite'. This article reviews what is known about it and ends with an attempt to recreate part of it.

American books are particularly fulsome as Franklin was an important figure in their 18th century history. There is a book (Isaac Asimov 'The Kite that won the Revolution' 1963) which claims that the kite experiment, by giving Franklin great prestige in England and France, meant that he was uniquely able in 1776 to get the French aristocracy sympathetic to the American Revolution so that they gave support to Washington through to his later victory.

'The experiment' was to stand inside a dry building (and therefore to be insulated) and to fly a kite topped with a metal spike up close to thunderstorm clouds. At the lower end of the line was a silk ribbon with a metal key and offering a knuckle to the key would produce a spark. Franklin could then store such charges in a Leyden jar and by experiment show that the force was the same as the electricity which was usually, at that time, generated by a friction device. He also advised that you would get a better charge if the kite and kite line were wet. Clearly there were dangers, not emphasised by Franklin, for someone outside the hut if the charge went to earth that way.

The experiment appears to many to be well documented as we have an account by J. Priestly and Franklin's own words regarding the construction of the kite etc.

Priestly wrote 14 years after the event how Franklin took his kite to a shed in the fields but 'dreading the ridicule which too commonly attends unsuccessful attempts in science' had only his 21 year old son as a witness.

Franklin's own description of the kite is famously 'make a small cross, of two light strips of cedar; the arms so long as to reach to the four corners of a large thin handkerchief, when extended; tie the corners of the handkerchief to the extremities of the cross, so you have the body of a kite; which being properly accommodated with a tail, loop, and string, will rise in the air like those made of paper; but this, being of silk, is fitter to bear the wet and wind of a thunder-gust without tearing. To the top of the upright stick of the cross is to be fixed a very

sharp-pointed wire, rising a foot or more above the wood'. (Philosophical Transactions).

The general view is that de Romas and others in France did do it and that Franklin did it himself in June 1752 before he could have known about the French experiments. Further development in France by Le Monnier and Mazeas showed that in a blue sky you can get a charge (we can confirm this) and Cavallo showed that it was the line, not the kite, which collected the charge. This was already known from Wilson's experiments in England in the 1740's, who collected large charges from insulated twine quite close to the ground.

However, the American Tom Tucker has written a book arguing that Franklin never actually did the experiment (see The Kiteflier Issue 96 for a review).

His reasons include:

- In his description he never actually said that he did it and there is no detail – unlike Franklin's usual scientific approach
- The only description of it being done was written 14 years later and suddenly introduces his son
- It is impossible (see below)
- He seemed not to know of the dangers in the experiment, to be unaware that a wet line wasn't needed etc.

But would Benjamin Franklin have made a false claim? Remember he was one of the foremost scientists in one of the 'cutting edge' areas of his age and he had earned great respect for his earlier work. It is Franklin who first used the terms 'positive' and 'negative' which we still use. The experiment was linked to the development of the lightning conductor, which undoubtedly was Franklin's invention and which has been extremely important. It was very important in his own time; east coast America has many electrical storms and lightning damage was a real and important problem, particularly with wooden buildings.

Remarkably it does seem possible that he made it up. He carried out many hoaxes in his long life of which the most famous was the story of Polly Baker defending herself against a charge

Benjamin Franklin, Kites and Electricity—George Webster

of fornication having just given birth to her 5th illegitimate child. This was a well-known case which was debated in America and Europe – and it wasn't until 1778 that a laughing Franklin admitted that he had made it all up. Franklin did feel that some of his work had been 'stolen' in England and possibly felt that to describe a plausible – but risky – experiment might have interesting results.

Was it possible for a kite as described to fly and support 4oz (the weight of the key described)? Tucker claims to have tried and failed to lift such a weight. The kite made from a 30" ladies silk handkerchief (much larger than a man's) would have been 24" x 24". Tucker does describe using a modern kite with plastic cover and spars but gives no description and fliers know that much depends on the design of the kite. Even without the metal spike and using fishing line he couldn't lift the key. The French used 5' – 7' tall archtops. If you try to reduce the weight problem by having the key at the lowest point (i.e. also being raised by the fliers hand) you are still short of lift but more particularly how do you fly this out of a window, up to the kite but back far enough to allow you to keep dry.

So Franklin never categorically claimed to have flown a kite which anyway wouldn't have done the job. But what a gift to illustrators. There are some good ones in Tucker (and also Yolen). Do look at some. The son is the youngest 21 year old I have ever seen. The kite is an archtop or a diamond, **never** square. The hut is often omitted and the wind incredible.

But it is a good story.

Two hundred and fifty years later, Malcolm Goodman asked me to assist him as he had been retained by a T.V. film company to provide the kite flying expertise in an attempt to recreate the results of Franklin's experiment. So early one morning in November 2004 we presented ourselves at Warcop Barracks, about 20 miles west of our village. We were then given permission to drive through the firing ranges to a location on the outskirts of Murton – actual flying was up Murton Fell at about 450 metres – top of fell about 650m.

We were met by two set builders from Leeds whose main problem was that the girl needed a loo and was not prepared, given her one-piece

outfit, to use the local public facilities – or stone walls. They left in search of succour to be replaced by a farmer and tractor hired to help move the kit up the mountain. He was followed by a firm 'Borderloos' whose aim was to help but were a little late on site. At this point it



seemed to me that we were on a cheapo job as there was only 1 unisex loo. To my knowledge this was only used by the Director who was driven down for a visit during the lunch break.

Then dramatic action; four white painted Landrovers arrived and nosed in convoy out of the village and up to our field. They looked like the U.N. in Kosovo and I think helped to reassure the nearby farmer's wife that we were not terrorists.

It took 14 people to do the shoot up on the hill, including for example three specialist Landrover drivers and the young guy who produced soup and coffee with the sarnies. The only person who ranked below Malcolm in the pecking order was me – but we did both manage to get a lift for a 15 min drive to a relatively flat shoulder on the hill.

We were required to launch a kite (fortunately



none was supplied) which would be flown off wire attached in such a way that we might produce static shocks and get 'Franklin Bells' ringing. The wind was 3 knots, tops. Fortunately Malcolm had a 3m Carl Robertshaw genki-type.

Benjamin Franklin, Kites and Electricity—George Webster

We gave it a 60m long launch and Malcolm pulled it up – muttering that he was vulnerable to any electric discharge as he was standing on a wet bog. Not many could have got a kite up in those conditions so our mood wasn't helped when the Director required the launch to be re-shot as the cameraman hadn't got it. So we had a close-up of Malcolm and his special knot and we had a cameraman problem as they clearly thought that kites always launched at a low angle going back rather than a steep angle and forwards. All this is on a mossy bog **but** not only in little wind but under a clear blue sky with a few clouds for most of the time several thousand feet up. We also had to bring the kite down for lunch.



After that it really got interesting. The kite continued to fly well at about 130m. The line (wire) came from a powered drum fixed on a thick polystyrene base

with a beautifully built Perspex cover (not shown) with a slot showing that the Leeds duo believed that kites flew at 89 degrees.

There were two experiments. In one an actor sat in a Faraday cage which means that even in a lightning strike he is safe as the current flows around him. He had an electric control to the pneumatically driven winch – where the controls were in-stop-out all at full speed. In fact he very quickly became good at flying the kite in the sense of fairly small up and down movement.



Secondly a pair of Franklin bells were rigged up. One to the kite line, one to earth, with a nut (replaced by a kite swivel for superior per-

formance) hanging between the two. I was very impressed that even on such a calm day with the kite well below the cloud level, there was enough positive/negative difference for the swivel to be attracted/repelled between the two bells producing a faint but real tinkling. You could also put your knuckle to the line above the launch pad and get a noticeable 'spark'.



Who did this? A company making a series of programmes recreating well-known scientific experiments. They had some subsidy from the Canadian Government but were hoping to sell the programme to Discovery or National Geographic. Did they? I don't know.

All this finished just before dark and we got a lift down in the last light. The presenters knew their science and were chatty; the Director might have waved goodbye. They seemed pleased with the days work.

Moral: unless you know what you are doing be prepared for shocks even when there is no storm cloud.

Sources

Pelham has a fair account plus one of the more realistic illustrations, although the kite seems to have two side-by-side bridles.

Hart a good account.

Yolen has most detail and three illustrations.

Eden gives us the kite/revolution story.

T Tucker "Bolt of Fate' Benjamin Franklin and his Electric Kite Hoax' *pub. Public Affairs 2003*

The Kiteflier Issue 96

Holm Struck Eddy Workshop—Paul Chapman

Holm Struck Eddy Workshop

This year the White Horse Kite Flyers workshop was held over the weekend of 11th/12th February. Kite historian, Holm Struck, came from Germany to instruct in Eddy Kite making. It was a chance to work in wood and cotton; unfamiliar materials for some. Holm had done a considerable amount of preparation that eased the process and ensured that by Sunday lunch-time all 18 participants had a 2-meter Eddy Kite to be proud of.

The kite is sparred in ash and the metal fittings were as per the Eddy Patent. The skin was good cotton cambric and the rope work was hemp (otherwise known as cannabis line).

I have been to several WHKF workshops and continue to be amazed by their success. The choice of kite/workshop leader has always been excellent and so has the organisation. It is all serious hard work, but great fun with a relaxed (?) atmosphere, good (and plentiful) food and wonderful company.



India 2006—Paul Chapman

This year I travelled independently to Gujarat for the January 14th festival of Makar Sankranti, otherwise known as Utarayan. I managed to survive the landing gear brake fire when my geriatric flying machine pancaked heavily into Ahmedabad. I was examining my damaged bags when the kite festival organisers knobbed me with an invitation to the International Kite Festival. It had been my intention only to take part in the local festivals but I found myself sucked into the event anyway. Gujarat Tourism had done a wonderful job by ensuring the very best of India's musicians and dancers were there to entertain the attending politicians and foreign kiteists. Armed soldiers equipped with 1914/18 vintage firearms were everywhere. This 'organised' festival took place on the river-side. This ensured that any cut kites fell into the slow moving green fetid river. Luckily there was virtually no wind so very few international kites actually took to the air – with the exception of Karl Longbottom's excellent bird kite. One that did was instantly cut by the rooftop kite mercenaries and was caught by someone on the nearby bridge. The catcher must have seen the guns of the advancing soldiers as it was let loose to fall into the green river! (you will understand when you realise that the river had been dammed to make it look full but, at the same time functioned for washing, dhobi-bashing, excreting, the floating off of the partially burnt ashes of the dear departed as well as home for water buffalo and generally for refuse). For myself, I stayed only until the police started beating back the crowds with their staves. But I walked off with a bizarre exhibition filki (Manjha reel) made by the filki maker to the Golden Kite Club of Mumbai.



I lived for several days in a house on the banks

of the slowly moving great green fetid river. Every day you could climb to the rooftops and fight with your neighbours. Kites and manjha lay everywhere. On the first evening we went to the kite market at Delhi Gate. It was packed with kite shops and manjha makers. In fact



there were manjha makers everywhere. Later we went to buy kites at Raipur. We left our motor-cycles (I travelled everywhere in a bullet shaped sidecar, always with one arm raised to protect my neck from throat slitting manjha) amongst a herd of Holy Cows and entered the kite market. The crowds at midnight were so packed that everyone had to hold on to the next person and shuffle. If you bought kites they had to be held overhead as otherwise they would be crushed. I think (?) I bought about 70 kites plus several spools of manjha plus several more spools of white cotton all for about £12.



The serious flying took place on the rooftops. We flew from the old city and also in the city suburbs. It was all very relaxed with thick chai tea and festival sweets being provided in between the kite cutting. Launching was always a

India 2006—Paul Chapman



bit tricky. Sometimes you would have to dangle the kite down the side of the building and give it a good tug. Then manoeuvre through the innumerable phone wires and up into the fray. If you (and the reel handler) were good you would make four cuts but invariably you would be cut within five minutes. There was a never-ending supply of kites. Cut kites would be grabbed as they floated by. We flew tukkal in the evenings. These were big paper kites that were flown with paper lanterns. As it became dark you could see the little strings of bobbing yellow lights slowly emerging above the rooftops. They would stay in the air for a few minutes until the sky erupted with cheering as a tukkal was cut. But my friends were experts and we sneakily flew dark kites on double 12 ply manjha line. We also flew with our own Combat Air Patrol on either side. The snake of candle-lit lanterns sneaked into the air and drew the bandits like moths to a flame. There would be a flurry of fighters all attacking at the same time but somehow we managed to fight them all off until finally, well after midnight, we left the rooftop with the tukkal still flying defiantly over the shanty township.

After several adventures - including spending some time in a remote village and escaping bandits in the Rajasthan/Gujarat border mountains - I went to the local beach kite fly at



Khambhat. I have never seen so many kites in the air at one time. There must have been 500,000 people on the dusty beach. It was absolute mayhem. Evil, and very sharp, Manjha line draped everywhere so it was essential that you had neck protection. Success was counted in seconds of airborne time. You would launch, cut and then be cut. The rate of attrition was about one kite every two minutes. My friends were local jewellers (they made the precious stone encrusted gold and silver clothes for the temple gods) and their kitemaker had delivered them a 5-foot high wad of kites just for that day alone! One particular feature of this festival was the sight of kite catchers with their long reed poles. Another was the peculiar Khambhat filki - they were heavy, enormous and could hold several kilometres of ground glass cutting line. I made enquiries and was told that they could be bought at the kite market. But the market was shut for the flying day. Eventually, and at great expense (£5), I extracted one of these hefty reels from a small child and was instantly berated by my friends for the extravagance of it all!



While on my travels I met Bhanu Shah. Bhanu was the instigator of the International Festival but has since been bypassed by the politicians. He is wonderful artist and talker. He told me where to find the finest Finlay Fleet cotton cambric that is still made on early 1900s machines imported from Manchester. The rolls were stamped with gold medals from King George and with the imprint of an ironclad

India 2006—Paul Chapman

cruiser! A small part of Bhanu's kite collection forms the basis of the Ahmedabad Kite Museum. We met on several occasions and I was privileged to receive gifts of precious kites and a rare copy of his kite book. He describes the festival of Makar Sankrant thus:

The Kite Flying Day.

Previous days and nights.

Hectic preparations.

Buying spree.

Judging.

Choosing.

4 a.m.

Darkness and Movement.

Activity.

Anticipation. Excitement. Action.

6 a.m.

The first kite takes off

A king for brief moments.

It is challenged and the sky takes on a wide range of shapes sizes and colours.

11 a.m.

The battle is on.

The score is kept and champions are quickly replaced.

Voices and gestures.

Panic and elation.

The first break-for food.

6 p.m.

The setting sun

Torn kites.

Wounded hands.

Tales of exploits and adventures.

9 p.m.

Low stars?

Kites with lamps attached.

Huge big kites.

One, two, three, four lights.

A day ends.

An event closes.

But

The tradition continues.

It lives

because

kites fly and

children love them.

Living with the local people has it's advan-

tages – and otherwise. The experiences were unforgettable. Everyone you met would welcome you with open arms and insist on feeding you with local delicacies. We had a sweet maker whose kitchen was located partially under my earthquake-damaged bedroom (you could see daylight through the crack in the wall) and who made real silver-coated cashew nut marzipan sweets – wonderful. When we slept outside in the village they thoughtfully made a wood brush fire alongside my bed to frighten off the snakes and monkeys. It took two weeks to recover from Ahmeda – BAD belli when I got home!



Event Information

Swindon International Kite Festival—6th & 7th May

Here we are again another Kite Festival only weeks away, is it because I've had another Birthday, or do the years go much quicker nowadays? At the Festival, **The British Buggy Club will be running the Buggy, if you want to Buggy you will need to be a member, to be covered by their insurance.**

In the Hangar we are staging a display of Alick Pearson Kites, the Roller and his bird kites, Alick's kites have a place in British Kite History, I think he and many other innovative flyers that met in Kensington Gardens, in the early fifties, who became known as the "Round Pond Flyers" should be recognised; and we hope to do this in a small way at Swindon this year. To do this, we have invited Dan Leigh And Robert Weir two experts on Alick's kites, Robert knew Alick up until his death in the eighties, he will be giving a talk in Hangar D4 on Saturday 6th. The idea for this exhibition came about from a suggestion by George Webster. After the success of the Gibson Girl exhibition over the last two years and the German Historic Kite Group's Arno Haft exhibition last year, George thought it would be a good idea to celebrate kite makers/flyers from England, although Alick was Irish, other "Round Pond Flyers" were English. Also in the Hangar D4 we'll have Charlie Sotich from Chicago USA, Charlie is the World famous miniature kite maker who makes kites as small as postage stamps! If you want to make a "Charlie Kite", He will be doing a workshop, for which there'll be, a small charge.

On the flying field, this year's invited guest is Kelvin Woods from the North East Kite Flyers, Kelvin makes a wonderful range of colourful Butterfly Kites, if it's raining he can entertain us all with his paper cut miniature kites. Coming from Germany we have Ralf Maserski & his son Lucas, from the USA Kay Buesing, Museum Director of the World Kite Museum at Long Beach Washington State. Also from the States we have club member, Kay Woodring, who is a fantastic kite & banner maker. And of course Marla Miller will be there to run the raffle, which every year takes on more importance in raising funds for the event, especially this year, as we have **no** sponsor! Please be as generous as you can with donations for the raffle and come along with very deep pockets full of money that Marla can extract from you.

Holm Struck exceeded in his generosity and donated the Eddy that he had used at recent WHKF workshop, this was his demonstration kite, he also donated one of his wonderful ripstop kites to the workshop raffle, Janet won this and immediately donated it to the Festival raffle, so we already have two Holm Struck kites for the Festival raffle, these kites are really worth winning! Plus we recently travelled to Fort Worden, and came back with two raffle items donated by American members of our club, a hand

made kite from Phil Broder and a wonderful kite photograph; taken by Rob Pratt

Due to the new licensing laws there will not be a public bar at this year's festival, however, there will be a marquee for registered flyers where we will have a couple of barrels of beer, and some draught cider, these will be available to you on a donation basis. There will also be the normal kite traders and food stalls. Registration will take place over the weekend, no need to apply in advance. To register you need to be a member of a Kite Club, with liability insurance. Please bring your club card with you.

Camping is available onsite at the following prices: Caravans £5, Large Tents £3, Small Tents £2 all prices are **per night**.

If you have any further questions please go to the club website: www.whkf.org.uk

Suffolk International Kite Festival 20th & 21st May

Carl and James Roberstshaw " **Evolver**" **World Championship Display Team** will be displaying for the third time at this year's festival. Known throughout the world for their dazzling displays to music, this is sure to attract a large crowd at our 9th Suffolk International Kite Festival on 20/21st May 2006.

"**The Flying Squad**" will be at Rougham for the first time this year. European Champions since 2000. The team will be undertaking fantastic 'Rev' displays and flying an array of single line kites as well.

Also for the first time we give a warm welcome to Andrew and Kathleen Beattie which will add a further colourful backdrop to the main arena with their display of mega inflatable kites

After the huge success at last year's festival we are delighted to once again be hosting an International Fighter Kite Competition. Last year flyers from the UK, France, Germany, Holland, and Belgium took part in a weekend of competitions. These fantastic small kites are unbelievable to watch, see them dance in the sky and perform to your command.

This year STACK UK will be opening the UK Championships series for 2006 at our festival. Teams and flyers from around the UK will be gathering to show off their skills. Competitions for dual-line and multi-line kites will be held in the Individual, Pair and Team categories. Pre-defined and compulsory figures, a freestyle routine and a ballet routine set to music of their choice. STACK (Sports Team And Competitive Kiting) involves some of the best teams and individuals from around the UK. Judges will decide a winner in various competitions and they in turn can eventual qualify for the UK, European and World Championships.

Event Information

The following superb Display teams have also been booked and include Team Adrenalize (Power kiting display) including their famous 'Man Lift'; The Beccle's Bunch (Large Inflatable kites some over 100ft in length); Brighton Kite Club (Large Inflatables and decorative kites); Dark Star (Bryan Cantle – One-man three kites); Eastern Rocket Association (Model Rocket display); Team Spectrum (Colourful kite display team to music); Long Stratton and BarkinFlyerz (Power kiting)

There will also be displays from the best of the UK STACK teams and individuals and the finals of the International Fighter competition in the main arena.

Many of the kite clubs from the UK will also be attending, some of which are kite professionals, showing off their kiting skills. They are always willing to pass on their vast knowledge and give help to the general public in flying that "never flown kite" you purchased a few years ago. The main arena will be filled with non- stop action for the two days of the festival.

This is the biggest kiting event held in East Anglia and takes place on what must be one the largest flying sites in the UK. Rougham Airfield is "West Suffolk's Premier Open Air Venue"

This is 9th Suffolk Kite Festival and is staged jointly by the Suffolk Kite Flyers Club, Friends of Rougham Airfield and Rougham Estate at the beautiful and large flying site of Rougham Airfield near Bury St Edmunds.

This is a festival for all kiter's and a great family day out and includes a full range of children's entertainment, fairground, kite workshops, sweetdrops, and competitions Adults will enjoy a visit to the Rougham Tower Museum where they will be able to witness the history of this famous WW - 94th USAAF Bomb Group with Blenheim Bombers, B-26 and B-17s aircraft.

A full range of catering facilities, beer and tea tent will be on the festival site. Craft Show and kite traders will be there for all your kiting needs, talk to the experts and pick up a bargain from the kite professionals.

Don't miss this fantastic FUN FAMILY DAY OUT in Suffolk. Event will be fully sign posted off the A14 – Ipswich to Cambridge road. This will be an action packed event with one or two surprises; a sky full of color and the best flyers in the UK and Europe will be there to entertain you with their fantastic skills.

Camping is available from 2pm on Friday 19th (NO earlier please, we need Friday morning to set up the site etc, thanks – unless you would like to help?) and you can stop on site until the Monday if required.

Due to ever increasing costs to stage the festival, a small camp fee of £5.00/night will be charged this year. Visit for camp booking form.

Important: - For safety reasons - NO vehicles will be allowed on or off the main Festival site between 10am – 5pm on Saturday and Sunday except in an Emergency.

For up to date information including camping arrangements, site layout, map location etc. please visit our detailed web site or e-mail .

The festival will be fully sign posted on the A14 - 2 miles east of Bury St. Edmunds. Follow the signs to Rougham Industrial Estate and NOT Rougham village which is on the opposite side of the A14.

A new junction is at long last been completed on the A14 and you will now have direct access to the festival in either direction. Again follow signs to the Festival and Rougham Industrial Estate.

Finally we are grateful to all our sponsors and supporters including East Anglian Daily Times. The Suffolk International Kite Festival is part of famous BURY FESTIVAL 2006.

Martin Corrie
Chairman of the Suffolk Kite Flyers.
Contact: - Telephone no. 01206 –299560 or Mobile 07775-744377

Basingstoke Kite Festival—3rd & 4th June 2006

At Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke. 10 am to 5 pm both days.

Come along to our 14th Festival and join in the fun! The theme for the weekend is to be MODERN ART. There will be a prize will be awarded for the best themed kite, so soon you can let your imagination get carried away!.

Guests will be from Home and abroad and as well as things going on in the display arena, there will be the usual array of activities, along with various Kite & Food traders.

A raffle is held over the weekend with lots of donated kite related prizes, Kite traders please take note!

On Saturday evening we will be having a social get together in the marquee, and everyone is welcome.

Camping is available on the Friday and Saturday evenings @ £5 for the weekend (payable on the weekend), showers and toilet facilities are on site.

So come along and have a laugh and we look forward to seeing you there!!!

Event Information

Alan Cosgrove 01256 421800
Roy Broadley (Kites Up) 01256 812487

Teston Bridge Kite Weekends Maidstone Kent 2006 June 10th & 11th, August 12th & 13th Weekend

The best little kitefly in Kent Since 1987

So that makes it that this will be the 19th year for our little Teston, and still going strong thanks to you for supporting us. So do come along, business as usual, nice relaxing weekend, it is not compulsory to fly, sit around, fly a kite, what ever, in the lovely Kent countryside.

Campers welcome from Friday, for a donation to the site. I will collect on Sunday A.M. Sorry but not enough room for buggies, as by standards it is only a small site, but a nice place to be.

On site all weekend **Kiteworld** traders, Michael & Linda. Catering...teas, food, etc.
What more could you want....

For those "Sat Nav" fans the full address of the site is Teston Bridge Picnic Site, Teston Lane, Teston, Maidstone, Kent ME18 5BX

See you there. Ron Dell Kiteability

Butser Hill Festival of Flight Sunday June 11th 2006

This is to be held at Queen Elizabeth Country Park, off the A3 (follow the signs for Butser Hill). Kites, Hand gliders, Para gliders and Model gliders are welcome.

Plenty of space for flying, with an on-site cafe for refreshments. (Please contact the Park before the event to confirm it will open)

Sorry, but buggying is not permitted.

Come along and have some fun!

Roy Broadley (Kites Up) 01256 812487
Queen Elizabeth Country Park 02392 595040

Sunderland International Kite Festival July 1st & 2nd

Northern Area Playing Fields, District 12, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE37 3HR

The Sunderland International Kite Festival is recognised as one of the major Kite Events in Europe attracting specialist kitemakers from throughout the World. The Festival also features a variety of music, dance, visual arts etc and is well known for its hospitality and friendliness and attracts over 60,000 spec-

tators each year!

We will host some of the Worlds best kite makers from Japan, China, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Holland, France, Ghana, USA and others who have yet to confirm – plus of course the best of British!

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

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

Following the success of previous years spectacular 'Chinese Dragon Kite Display' (we managed 10 in the sky at once in 2005) we will be repeating the event on both days - so if you have a Dragon please bring it along.

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

Once again due to the rising cost of accommodation, marquees, site fees, catering and reduced a budget we plan to hold an auction on the Saturday evening to help boost our funds. I want to thank all those who contributed and to the generosity of everyone who made last years auction such a success – this has enabled us to invite some 'long distance' kitefliers to this years event.

Free on site camping/parking places are limited and will be issued on 'first come first served basis'. Public car parking is £3 per car.

For those camping – please arrive no earlier than Friday morning on July 1st.

For maps, car/camping passes, and other enquiries, please send a **LARGE S.A.E. WITH YOUR CAR DETAILS** - make, registration and telephone number to (no email requests for car passes please): -

Malcolm Goodman, Tel: 01833 640584 (please not after 8:00pm). Bluebell House Middleton-in-Teesdale, Co. Durham DL12 0QG. Email: malcolm.goodman@virgin.net. www.kiteman.co.uk
Festival web site – www.sunderland.gov.uk/kitefestival

Event Information

Hunstanton Kite Festival August 20th

The Hunstanton and District Rotary Club are hosting their 10th Anniversary kite festival at the Smithdon School in August.

All the usual attractions. Kite displays, children's entertainer, refreshments, crafts, kite stalls and much more.

Concessions for all kite flyers. More details in July.

We are pleased this year to be supported by Dunstable Kites and Team Adrenalize and our main display pairs Team Spectrum the Great Ouse Kite flyers , Thorpe Kite Flyers.

For more information please ring 01223243825 or for a flyer with full details please send a SAE to B Cattle, 21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 9HP.

Kites over Capstone 20th August.

Capstone Farm Country Park
Capstone Road, Gillingham, Kent. ME7 3JG.
10.30am - 5pm

At Capstone Farm Country Park
A fun day out for all the family with professional kite display teams, giant inflatables, children's activities, food, refreshments and beer tent. Bring your own kite along and join in the fun - if you don't own a kite already there is plenty of opportunity to make or buy one during the day. Entry £1. Please call for further information.

Rachele Mansfield.
rachele.mansfield@medway.gov.uk
01634 812196

Great Barugh 9th & 10th September.

Great Barugh, North Yorkshire. Carolyn & Jerry Swift will be delighted to welcome kitefliers for an informal fly-in in this beautiful part of the country. The Golden Lion is just over the road, the back garden is available for camping and we will have a meal on the Saturday night in the pub. The Golden Lion is planning to hold a village fete the same weekend. Any types of kite welcomed - we managed a fair few Cody's and other pre 1945 flying machines last year.

Further details from Jerry & Carolyn on 01653 668157 or jerry56.swift@btopenworld.com

← KW ←

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www.kiteworks.co.uk (chalkies) e.mail keith@kiteworks.co.uk
Address: The Studio, 22 Cranfield Place, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PL
Tel/fax: +44 (0)1922 624739 Mobile: 07775643746





Please note: visitors are most welcome, call first to ensure we are available

Events List

	August 2006	Contact
5	Kites over Kintyre Two, Kinloch Green, Campbeltown, Argyll and Bute, Scotland	David Montague-Smith 01562 66102
6	Royston Kite Festival, Herts.	Peter Milton peteramilton@btinternet.com
12-13	Teston Kite Weekend, Teston Park, Maidstone, Kent	Ron Dell
12-13	Whitley Bay Kite Festival, The Links, Whitey Bay, Northumberland	Malcolm Goodman
12-13	Coventry Kite Festival, Memorial Park, Kenilworth Road, Coventry, Warwickshire	MKF
12	Pembrokeshire Sky Festival, Carew Airfield, nr Tenby	Stave Walton 01834 860789
19-20	High Force Kite Festival, High Force Waterfall, near Middleton-in-Teesdale, Co Durham	Malcolm Goodman
20	Hunstanton Kite Festival, Smithdon School, Hunstanton, Norfolk	Bryan Cantle
20	Kites over Capstone, Capstone Farm Country Park, Capstone Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 3JG	Rachele Mansfield. 01634 812196 rachele.mansfield@medway.gov.uk
26-28	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hampshire	The Kite Society
	September 2006	
2-3	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol.	Avril Baker
2-3	Summer Kite Festival, Beverley Race Course, Beverley, East Yorkshire.	www.kite-festival.co.uk 01430 860070
9-10	Swift Fly-in, Great Barugh, North Yorkshire.	Jerry & Carolyn Swift. 01653 668157 jerry56.swift@btopenworld.com
10	Castle Kite Day, Rockingham, nr Corby	Neil Harvey, 01285 740295
9-17	Dieppe International Kite Festival, Dieppe, France.	
24	Wakefield Kite Festival, Heath Common, Wakefield	The Faceless Company 01924 215790 www.facelessco.com

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
Martin Corrie	3 White Horse Road, East Bergholt, Colchester, Essex CO7 6TU	01206 299560	martin@skfc.co.uk
Brighton Kite Fliers	11 The Sheepfold, Peacehaven, East Sussex BN10 8EG	01273 582309	info@bkf.org.uk
Ron Dell		01438 712168	rdell@electroweb.co.uk
Richard Nourse	85 Bells Orchard Lane, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 4HP	01929 554690	richard.nourse @ virgin.net
GVKF	12 Littlefield, Quedgeley, Glos G12 6GZ	01452 728521	Paul@gvkf.org.uk
Great Ouse Kite Fliers	Jill Ferrer, 80 Welland Road, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire PE1 3SG	01733 563958	Gokf@btinternet.com
Skybums	7 Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5EW	01743 244677	skybums@kites4.co.uk
Michael Lowe	44 Bellemoor Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hants SO15 7QU	023 8077 0788	
Bryan Cantle	21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP.		
M.K.F.	David Buckland, 98 Thanet Street, Clay Cross, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S45 9HS	07971 177085	david.buckland@mkf.org.uk
Dunstable Kites		01525 229773	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
NKG	Northern Kite Group		welbornkcc@aol.com
Andrew Pidgen	Events and Marketing Section, Bedford Corn Exchange, St Paul's Square, Bedford, MK40 1SL	01234 344813	river.festival@bedford.btinternet.com
Avril Baker	5 Lilymead Avenue, Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BY	0117 977 2002	info@abc-pr.co.uk
Malcolm Goodman	Bluebell House, Market Place, Middleton in Teesdale, Co Durham, DL12 0QG	01833 640584	malcolm.goodman@virgin.net
IMT! Promotions	Des Poeling-Oer, Suite 363, 89 Commercial Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5RR	07966 676991	imtkitefestival@hotmail.com

Events List

	2006	Contact
	April 2006	
2	Wellington Country Park Kite Day, Basingstoke	Kites Up
8-9	23rd Aquilonata sul Mare - La Ricerca Vola, Rimini, Italy	info@settimocieloaquilonisti.it www.settimocieloaquilonisti.it
8-17	Berck International Kite Festival, France	Gerard Clement +33 144 680 075
9	Streatham Common Kite Day, London SW16	bobcolover@easynet.co.uk www.streathamkiteday.org.uk
22-1st May	Cervia International Kite Festival, Cervia, Italy.	info@artevento.com
23	St George's Kite Day, Belvoir Castle, nr Grantham.	Neil Harvey 01285 740295
30	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth, Dorset.	The Kite Society
30	Beverley Kite Festival, Racecourse, Beverley, East Yorkshire	www.kite-festival.co.uk 01430 860070
	May 2006	
1	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth, Dorset	The Kite Society
1	Beverley Kite Festival, Racecourse, Beverley, East Yorkshire	www.kite-festival.co.uk 01430 860070
6-7	Swindon Kite Festival, Science Museum, Wroughton, Wiltshire	White Horse Kite Fliers
7	Stourport Kite Event Two, The Riverside Park, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire	David Montague-Smith 01562 66102
13-14	Cleethorpes Kite Festival	Lee Beckett 01472 323352
20-21	Suffolk International Kite Festival, Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.	Martin Corrie
27-29	Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend, Tewkesbury School	GVKF
27	until 2nd June, Hebridean Tribal Sky Jam II, Uig, Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides.	David Hepworth 01851 672771
27-29	FlexiWallopTwo 2006, Middle Wallop Airfield, nr Andover, Hampshire	Flexifoil
	June 2006	
3-4	Basingstoke Kite Festival, Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke	Kites Up
4	Ashdon Kite Festival, Waltons Park, Ashdon, Saffron Walden, Essex	
10-11	Margam Park Kite Festival, Margam Park, Bridgend, South Wales	info@thekitingexperience.com
10-11	Teston Kite Weekend, Teston Park, Maidstone, Kent	Ron Dell
11	Festival of Flight, Queen Elizabeth Park Country Park, A3, near Portsmouth.	Kites Up
17-18	Southampton Kite Festival, Lordshill Recreation Grounds, Southampton, Hampshire	Michael Lowe
17-18	Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Shrewsbury College of Art and Technology, Shrewsbury	Skybums
24-25	Wirral Kite Festival, the "Dips", next to New Brighton promenade, The Wirral, Cheshire	dholt281@btinternet.com
25	Peterborough Kite Festival, Neane Park, Peterborough	GOKF
	July 2006	
1-2	Sunderland International Kite Festival, Northern Area Playing Fields, Washington, Tyne & Wear.	Malcolm Goodman
8-9	Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton	Brighton Kite Fliers
8-9	Barmouth Beach Kite Festival, Opposite RNLI Boathouse, The Promenade, Barmouth, Gwynedd, Wales	David Montague-Smith 01562 66102
15-16	Hereford Kite Festival, Kingstone High School, Hereford HR2 9HJ	Karl Longbottom 01981 550326 www.longbottom.org.uk
16	Catch The Wind, Morecambe's 3rd Annual Kite Festival, The Promenade, Morecambe	01524 413064
22-23	Tewkesbury Kite Festival, Tewkesbury School	GVKF
22-23	Richmond Kite Festival, Old Race Course, Richmond, Yorkshire	Malcolm Goodman

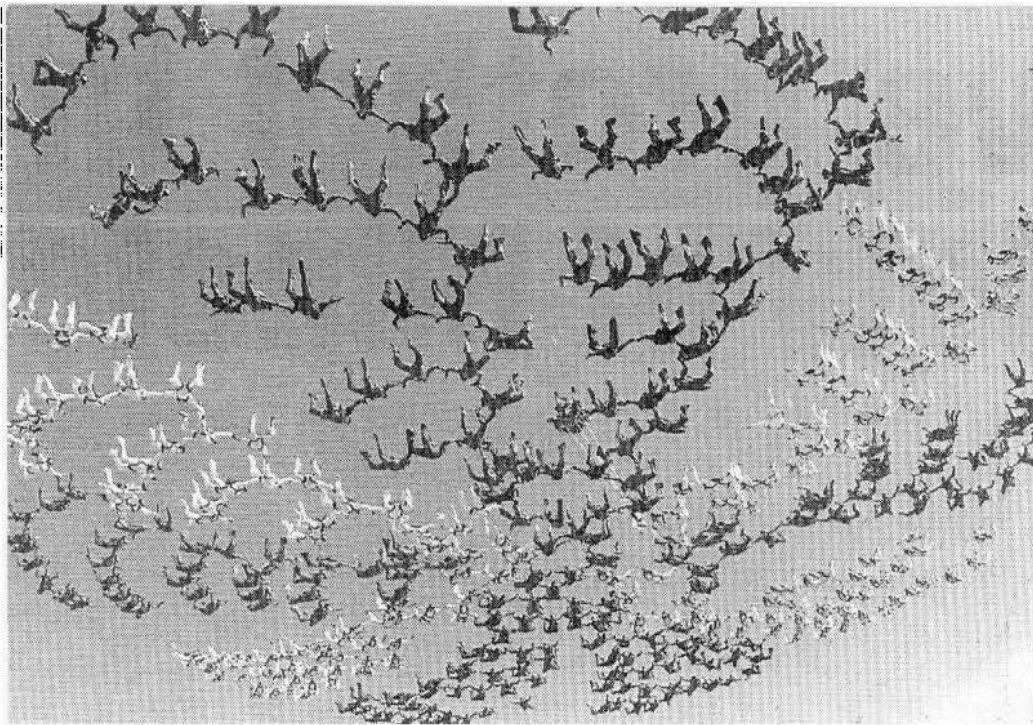
42 ROMAN CANDLE 80.



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Arguably the biggest load of mindless drivel in Kiteflying today, but do we give a toss? Maybe yours is the hooter we're bound to get up, we'll probably melt'ya brain.

Once bitten...

Four hundred times shy as the saying goes. Sue Storey sent us this pic of a recent blatant attempt by at least 400 humes to mass gatecrash the BMISS membership list.



Ostensibly a celebration in honour of the King of Thailand's 60th year on the throne. King Bhumipol Adulyadej is the world's longest reigning monarch, by the way, the do was held in Thailand's Udan Thani province.

Be that as it may, what we had here was yet another madcap stunt in an increasingly bizarre series whereby crazy humes, who of course must

have it all at almost any price, the fit in this case being membership of the very exclusive BMISS. As all our bone fide members know we don't easily confer full membership on every crazy two bob who thinks it's a snap. Nope, there's criteria to be met.

You know the score. humes have to survive a 10,000ft fall, sans a chute, and Sue says that she has given the pic a real good clocking, and she can't actually see one, but we're not so sure. Knowing these tricky humes, we suspect that one at least had a chute, stuffed where the monkey hid the nuts, all casual like, ready for the other 399 to grab onto when they thought the photographer wasn't looking, 'cos let's face it them yumes is a right dodgy lot and we wouldn't put anything past them.

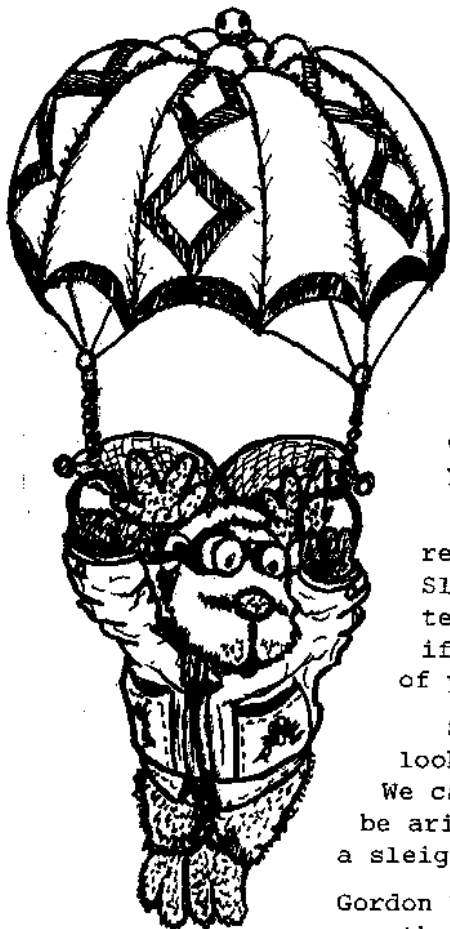
So there you have it dear members, please keep your eyes peeled and yer lugholes akimbo, for any sight or sound of yet another put up job, cos as we've said before, up with this we are not putting.

In the past we have had a few members who were no doubt going soft in the head, saying that maybe the official criteria for humes wishing to join the BMISS was a little too harsh. Too harsh? are they raving mad. how many times has each individual member been stiffed, through some half baked hume not stuffing the jolly old rag properly, or cocking it up in many other ways. Some of us are well brassed off with yet another gobfull of dropzone. Sorry and all that but, however harsh the 10,000ft sans a chute criteria may seem, we have standards to keep up, so there.

To keep the metricated merchants happy, 10,000ft..@ 3,000 metres.



CAN'T GET IT OUT OF MY HEAD



Yes Ron, we guess that cant get it out of my head would be the oprative phrase, along with cant get it out of sundry other partsof your anatomy.....

This is Ron the Reindeer, an unlikely recruit to Dr-opnik Slaters bunch of furry wotsits. Ron, you could is a bit outspoken on the subject of winter kip. He reckons that all parachuting bears are nothing but a load of wimps, strictly fair weather parachutists. That of course is debateble, but there again we have been there, seen it, done it, worn the old hat and the T-shirt, so's you could say that we are no mugs.

Thing is Ronnie boy, ave you actually done a drop? the reason we ask is that after giving the photo' that dropnik Slater sent us a good clocking, the HQ mob reckon that chute you are sporting is actually solid, cannot be folded so if you do do a drop, you really wont be able to get it out of your head and probably a lot of other bits of your body.

So whats dis chute of Rons made of? lord knows, but it looks well capable of giving him a right bash on the bonce. We cant wait to see gobby Ron doing his first drop, probably be aright giggle, and no Ron we aint never seen a bear pulling a sleigh, we just leave that to mugs like you.

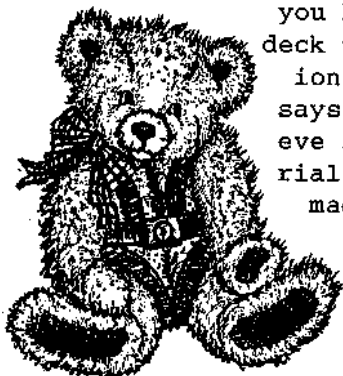
Gordon Bennett, first orf its Elks, nah its bleedin Reindeer, spose the next thing will be a soddin Parachuting Moose, yoo wot?

US cares for bears

Holy cow, it seems as if the loonys really have taken over the asylum stateside, so, wots new you may ask.....

It appears that U.S. wildlife chiefs may declare Polar Bears an endangered species because of global warming and pressure from heavy artillery toting Jimbo's has been responsible for a marked decrease in polar bear numbers, and a fear that their habitat may literally melt away. Hang on, are these wildlife chiefs the same ones who recently decided on total annihilation, who-ops, "A CULL" of the renowned Grizzly Bear. Have we lost the plot somewhere? probably. So now all them good 'ole jimbo's wont have to risk getting cold feet up thar in the Arctic, nope they can do their nefarious work further south 'cos mountains do not melt.

Even further south in Schwartzeneggar country, where if you cannot afford six hummers, a couple of mansions and an expensive cuban cigar habit, you dont deserve to live a certain member of the grizzly tribe really did lose the plot. Grizzly Mishap you know, a member of the Aerial Circus who aint playing with a full deck went abso flipping lutely bonkers, for he read Total obliteration of Grizzlies in RC 79, and this is where poor Ernie Fosselius says it really got weird as there appears to be some nutty long sleeve shirt cult on the go, and they appear to have upset half the aerial circus whilst the other half at the behest of Mishap were gorn mad indefence of grizzly bears, Poor Ernie was caught in the mid- of the ensuing riot(as always) and had to call in the local animal control team who were nonplussed as to why some furry wotsits who have always been regarded as mostly armless, should now be mostly mad,



**PROTECT THE RIGHT
TO-BEAR-ARMS
TO ARM BEARS!**

GET THEE HENCE!



ON WITH THE SHOW

Once again that about it for official winter kip, and like it or lump it, time is, to seriously think about another season of parachuting mayhem and that includes those of our members who do not seem to hibernate anymore as it seriously interferes with their boozing time. We'll believe them tho' fahsands would'nt.

Just how high was that climbing wall at Milton Keynes?

In the last issue you may remember we told of dropnik Billings chucking one of our members, oh, all right, launching then, said member from the top of an indoor climbing wall at Xscape in wonderful downtown Milton Keynes. All the griff in fact with one exception. How high was the wall. Steve reckons about 55-60ft. Not bad considering the chute actually deployed before said member got a face full of floor.

Did we upset the British Veterinary Association ???

We're not sure actually, but we did get an annonymouse complaint about how much liquid lunch it took to anaesthetise the average member down at the Gun and Ferret. It appears that we are in contravention of the latest yuropean directive on alcohol consumption by furrries of a tender age. The limit appears to be one pint or whatever metricated b/s the hequivilent is. From a furrries point of view this is a disaster, whilst of course from a turd skinning Dropniks point of view, its great, as they are always screaming about the cost of a shout when they are in the chair. So fundamentals to Yurop, if five pints of John Smiths or similar is what it takes to get the average member legless, then so be it, and dont forget the packet of crisps.

Titanic Bear on the Antiques Roadshow, a real rarity.....

All the HQ mob are fans of the Antiques Roadshow as quite often some of our ancestors feature therein, but not a lot have parachutes. However a rare bear was featured recently, a Titanic Bear. Why Titanic you may ask, well this was one of a limited edition Steiff Bear commemerating that awful disaster. The Bear was made with Black mohair and this one was in absolutely mint condition with no wear at all on the pads. The Australian owner said she had paid 17,000 Aus dollars for it and looked well chuffed when she was told that recently another Titanic Bear in not such good condition had sold for about 200,000 Aus dollars or @ 70, odd thousand quid. Gordon Bennett.

That certainly took the wind out of the sails of the HQ mob (cue muted violins playing hearts and flowers) 70 farsand nicker wailed a plaintive voice, there aint one of us worth 70pence, said another sotto voce, yeah well Rastachat is black, but I aint made of mohair said the hiself, and I aint got a hole in me lughole for a button, Yeah, barked a loud voice, I'll do yer one wiv a 12bore shotgun, Holy cow the maudlin little swine had awakened old supersmote herself, great Aunty Wintergreen and suddenly all the twee discussion as to how much the collective worthof the HQ mob dissappeared in a whirling blur as the old bag let rip with the dreaded gin bottle. Shoot, the BOF is hiding in the cupboard again, with tin hat firmly clamped to his head, whilst mumbling bin

'ere, seen it, dun it, dont want no more. Even the fan, well before any thing had hit it said sod this for a game of tin soldiers, I'm off, and as the Sun sinks slowly in the west we leave these distressing scenes. you know how the rest goes.....

Dear Bear,

We are greatly concerned with your constant obsession with over indulgence in alccoholic beverages and the underlying violence that is (cont p94

As ever, its the usual to the whatnot at the Teddy-torial... c/c The Boring Old Fart, 48. Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY. in what forever will be the one and only ENGLAND no matter what the Traitors have planned, roll on the day when they get their comeuppance.



Up with Kites, down with Bears, preferably by chute.

Not so grim up north

I'ts true, they even fly Kites and bomb fauna in Sweden..

Dear Fred,

What, may you ask is a proper British Ted doing in the land of 'kin cold winters that last 6 months? Well, me and about 15 other pilot bears live 'ere, cos the boss yume shacks up 'ere, and 'im being a pilot, like all pilots 'e collects us. funny enough not all of our merry band are pilot bears, one is a weird looking flying chicken from Austrian Airlines an one is a snooty looking geezer togged up in a wax jacket an flat 'at,oo calls imself Land Rover bear. 'ees a bit posh but alright.

There are are also two pilot Elks, one is called Brit Elklund, who 'aint bad lookin for an Elk that is. She and one of me mates calle Amelia Bearheart 'ave bin chosun by our dropnik to jump from 'is Kites. Soddin 'ell, when he was flying, 'e thought you'd 'ave to be bleedin mad to hop out of a perfectly good aircraft, now the cheeky sod cant wait to send them up. I was dead worried that 'is nibs would choose me for the long drop, but he took pity on me cos Ive got dodgy minces. Yerse, a slight Astigmatism, 'is nibs calls it a bleedin squint, so I got grounded at the same time as he was when his minces went chronic, sumfin called'er, bests macular degenerashun, poor barsteward, so nah we both wear bins, but is are like beer bottle bottoms.

Anyway he maybe not be able to see too good, but he did 'ave the sense to call me 'is favourite and I8m proud to be one of the chosen few 'oo are allowed to kip in his bed between 'im and the missus hume. She, being of the Swedish persuasion is the why we all have to put up wiv the bleedin weather here. Still, I must'nt complain as she did buy me my own Ted last Chrimbo. He's a pedigree Bukowski bear and I calls 'im Emil. He helps me kip when 'is nibs and the missus hume are driving their pigs to market, there I told 'im I'd grass dem up for snoring. All the other bears have to make do with a shelf above the bed, poor sods.

Fred, I know thatsome of yor readers are of a nervous disposihun, so you'd better warn tham that the next bit of this letter gets a bit hows yer farva, catch my drift?

His nibs other 'arf has her own bear called Lisa, not a pilot bear, but a classy Swedish bear, 'oo wont give us lot the time of day. Snooty she may be, but I think her morals are a bit lax, Lisa's I mean, not the missus yume, and I'll tell you why. As well as Lisa, Emil an me kipping wiv the yumes, theres a dodgy character 'oo does too. He is of all things a bleedin 'edgeog called Siggy. The mascot apparently of the Scandic Hotels group. Wait for it, 'es togged up with coeruroy strides held up with braces and a red sweater.. Nah, heres the mularky bit, when we all goes to bed them strides are always well pulled up, yet every morning they are arond his ankles, and theres 'm with a stupid grin on his boatrace, and as for that snooty Lisa, well she always looks well knackered. The Yumes swear blind that they dont thrash around in their kip and knock Siggy's strides down, so's I arsk yer, wot'choo fink? We reckon that bleeding 'edgeog is at every night with that Lisa. Jumping wivout a parachute is gonna get all us fauna a bad name.

Still, talking of jumping, the boss hume is smart enuff to give Brit Elklund and Amelia Bearheart some nice clobber to fall from the Kite with. Hes got them nice Helmets and Jackets, also natty strides which he reckons are essenshul to stop the girls whistling on the way down
Hmm, dont really understand that, why dont they just shout Geronimo and have done with it?

Anyway Fred, thats enough of this drivel, I have things to do so I cant prattle on all night. Oh, by the way, R.C. is O.K. but the print is a bit small for us hoptickly challenged.

Sincerely yours, Edward B Chambers, Sollentuna, Sweden.....
The norf wind duff blow, we shall have snow, yea, 6ft of the bleedin stuff, a right bummer when yor only 1ft3inches tall.....

GORDON BENNETT





THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

WHAT WE ALL COULD HAVE BEEN DOING

While most of us have been looking out of the window over the winter months and wishing the wind would drop, or it would dry up, or when the wind had dropped it had been to more than nothing, should take inspiration from Alan Reynolds. He has not only built the Brighton Kite Flyers a lovely new pilot kite but has made himself two counter spinning doughnuts as well. One of these saw its first outing at the January fly-in when it came out of the bag, straight into the air and flew. After the first one proved itself and Alan was sure it flew ok he set to work on another and can you believe it had the second one was ready to the fly by the club February fly-in. Although the wind was strong the second one flew straight out of the bag again. These were great to see in the air and now Alan has semi retired we

look forward to seeing lots more of his creations on the kite field. If you fancy making doughnuts



similar to Alan's. While Paul Hill and I were looking through back issues of Aerodyne the other day we found that 13 years ago Eddie Megrath sent in great instructions on a Catherine Wheel, and along with brilliant drawings by Mik Jennison these were published in the April 2003 Aerodyne. Just in case you don't have a copy that old we will be republishing them for you in the next issue if Mik Jennison and Eddie Magrath don't mind.

Simon Hennessey

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL
Organised by Brighton Kite Flyers
8TH & 9TH JULY 2006
11.00am - 5.00pm

Brighton Kite Flyers are pleased offer support to ChildLine in the 20th year

Stammer Park
www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk
Sponsored by Brighton & Hove City Council and Tates Cars

Free Public Festival - Free Childrens Kite Making Workshop - Traders & Food Stalls - 3000 Foot Height Clearance

FESTIVAL DATES CONFIRMED

Brighton Kite Festival 2006 has had its dates confirmed and will be held on 8th and 9th July. Please come along and support the event, this year the club will be promoting ChildLine who are celebrating their 20th birthday. As in pasted years the event will follow the relaxed and family orientated arrangement with an arena for flying displays both single and multiline. There is also plenty of public flying areas where all types of kites can be flown. We will also be running a children's workshop. We will be hosting a trick out competition with many renowned flyers from around the UK so please come along and pit your skills against some of the UK's best flyers.



ANOTHER GREAT DAY FROM WHKF

Going back to October last year, while at the great Lunen Kite & Ice Cream Festival I was introduced to a German Kite maker call Holm Stuck. He makes



amongst other things a William Eddy replica as near to the original as is possible, with one exception, that he hand makes all the fittings from stainless steel rather than plain steel. He was soon signed up to run a Workshop by David Robinson to make his eddy at the White Horse Kiteflyer's winter workshop. Almost as quickly Alan Outram and I signed up and awaited the dates for the workshop. About a fortnight before the event I had a phone call saying that there were still spaces left and did I know any one who wanted to fill them from Brighton Kite Flyers. A few phone calls later and Matt Jones was signed up.

Well, as some of you know, Matt has a big one and it could sleep not only Andrew (his son) and Matt, but easily have room for me as well, so not only was I not going to drive but I had somewhere to stay as well, I must say it's a great campervan. The day soon came around and I was picked up by Matt at 5.30am and off we headed for Swindon, we made good time and arrived just before 9.00. It was great to be able to snooze on the way down (sorry Matt). As we arrived the gates were still locked, so we

waited, soon Keith Boxall, Alan Outram and Keith's friend Alan turned up. Not a bad turn out from Brighton, (Maybe we should look at doing a small workshop locally - let me know if you are interested).

As I have done a few of these workshops before I knew the drill and was soon set up on a table with my sewing machine and bits and bobs needed for the off. The kits were handed out and what kits these were! Each set was sewn up in the same fabric as the kite in little pockets with compartments for each type of fixture and fitting. Such attention to detail makes the workshop a dream to do. We were then asked what number between 1 and 20 we wanted and instruction booklets were handed out with these numbers on, none of us knew why and when we asked we were told to wait and see. At first we were going to have to do all the spar shaping, planing and sanding, but Holm thought that it would take too long and had made all the spars to the shape and size and all we needed to do was finish them off with sanding and adding oils. This still took time and we were all too pleased not to have had to do all the work in shaping, etc. The workshop split into two groups - 10 sanding, 10 ironing and sewing (there was a lot of



ironing) on the Saturday morning and then swapped round after a lunch break of pizza and salad. By the end of the day most of us had got to a stage where we felt we could finish the kite in the weekend which was a great feeling.

It was off in the evening for a carvery dinner and as we had the big camper Don Bagget kindly picked us up and took us to the restaurant (thank you Don). To say it is a good carvery is not enough and Andrew who is under 10 could have a three course meal for less than £5.00, while the grown ups paid £12.00 for a two course meal. Well those who know Andrew will be aware that



when he eats he eats and after two starters a second helping of main and 2 sweets he finally said he was full. We headed back to the School where we had kindly been allowed to park the campervan (Thank you Peter Willis). When we arrived Peter and his family invited us in for a quick night cap as Peter lives on site. Peter is in to home brewing

ANOTHER GREAT DAY FROM WHKF CONTINUED

(Schnapps) and has a father-in-law that works for a local brewery! What more could you want! Well both Matt and I had a taste of the Schnapps and the beer. We can't wait until Teston to see if we can do just as well with the Schnapps. A quick night cap ended in a great evening telling stories about our past escapades, these stories were great to listen to and had me in stitches (just a piece of advice if you are getting married, don't invite Peter on the stag night). Midnight soon came and went and as we had a lot of sewing still to do we headed off to the campervan for some sleep. For any of you interested we are told you can get Schnapps kits from lots of places but the best one is the Peach flavour.

Sunday soon arrived and we headed off for breakfast - pasty from the corner shop. Then back into the school hall for the workshop for the final push to finish off the kites. I must say that sewing the cotton fabric is much

easier than ripstop but you do need to keep ironing it. By lunch time most of us had finished or could see the end very nearly. At around 11.00 people started asking about fabric for a bag and Holm then pulled out 20 bags he had made with pictures and information about the kite workshop printed on. Each bag was numbered with the number of the instruction book you were given so your kit was now complete and numbered. It will be fun to see if we can get all 20 flying in one place soon. We stopped for lunch at around 12.30 for homemade Shepherd's pie and crumble. Half an hour later we started to pack up, the raffle drawn, group photos taken, goodbyes were said and we headed off home. Another great workshop and what a way Holm had put the kits together. I have never seen anything like it. Thank you to Holm and thank you White Horse.

We are looking forward to the October workshop.

**C O U L D
T H I S B E
T R U E O R
O R J U S T
M A K E
B E L I E V E**

Egyptians may have used kites to help build the Pyramids. Scientists think the ancient Egyptians may have used kites to help build the Pyramids. The technique for moving their huge stones large distances has baffled archaeologists. Scientists have now found they can use sails and wind power to raise huge objects. A Californian software engineer who saw a hieroglyphic showing men holding ropes apparently connected to a 'bird' wondered if it was actually a huge, man-made kite capable of providing the lift to raise a heavy block off the ground. After raising a 180kg cement block off the ground with kites bought in a shop, Maureen Clemmons took the idea to Morteza Gharib, a professor at the Californian Institute of Technology. He then lifted a 3.5 ton obelisk by using a large sail.

"The instant the sail opened into the wind, a huge force was generated and the obelisk was raised to the vertical in a mere 40 seconds," Professor Gharib told New Scientist magazine. "We were absolutely stunned."

The discovery offers a possible theory as to how the Egyptians, and perhaps early Stone Age dwellers in Britain, constructed their huge monuments.



NEW YEARS DAY FLY-IN

Well, like a lot of New Years Day's flies, the weather was against us. This year this was no exception. It was cold and very windy. A few of the more certifiable amongst us did try and fly a kite or two (I now have 2 with minor repairs needed). Corinne did however manage to fly her kite I brought her back in October for her birthday for the first time. Sue Scott (Paul Hill's young lady) had brought some home made mince pies up, still warm from the oven, but even with these the cold soon got into us and we headed off to the Pub for a hot drink and a bite to eat.



The only problem with this idea was the pub had run out of gas so there was limited, to no hot food. After a hot drink we abandoned the fly-in and headed off to Saltdean for a hot meal in the "Saltdean Tavern". Not put off by this we are planning for the same time same place next year.



Richard Sutton (Chippy)

ROY'S KITE FLYING FIELD

If you have been into "power" for any amount of time then you will know Roy Broadley, Hayley Gillingham and Kites Up.

Roy has been there since (even before) the early days at Brean and was the driving force behind what has become a mega event at Wallop. Kites Up have recently moved to new premises - still in the village of Cliddesden, just outside Basingstoke, but now, conveniently, just opposite the pub! Behind the pub, accessed by a controlled gate down the road, is a dream of a 20 acre field for Kiting activities. After a huge amount of work by the pioneers of this project in removing the stones and filling the holes, the grass has now grown and is purposely kept to a reasonable length with golf course style "rough" around the edges giving a good guide and keeping you back from where the road or hedges are. The field is in Cliddesden, just off the A339

Alton Road. (Not far from J6 of the M3).

There is a membership fee to pay of £115, which works out to just over £2.00 per week (payable annually in advance) for those who wish to use buggies and boards on the field. A fee has also been set of £52 for those who are looking for space and clean wind for precision, trick and



single line flying - there is room enough for all.

You can stay as long as you like and go when you want - seven days a week - the only requirement is the obligatory insurance which most people have when they join a club

(Brighton Kite Flyers offer £5m cover for all forms of kite flying except traction) and, of course, if you are going to buggy, you must be a member of the BBC. The membership fee goes to pay for the upkeep of the field and the rent.

The only thing that seems to be missing, surprisingly enough with this hugely popular sport of ours, is the number of people wanting to take advantage. The weekends are obviously more popular and some low key events are sometimes spontaneously or otherwise organised for those who want to take part but during the week you can often have the whole place to yourself!

Are you on shift work reading this - what are you doing this afternoon? - Get down there!

For more details contact Hayley or Roy at Kites Up on 01256 812487.

Allan Pothecary

K I N G S F O L D K I T E A N D S T E A M R A L L Y



The 8th Annual Kingsfold Kite and Steam Rally will be held on 23rd and 24th of September 2006 at Wattlehurst Farm and we have again been invited to attend to demonstrate our kites. Would you like to join us this year?

The location will be the same as last year but we may be allowed to extend the camping allocation if we get enough flyers. The procedure is similar to previous years. If you want to spend the

weekend having a bit of a laugh, flying a few kites and knocking back the odd Mississippi Red Eye then e-mail John Dimmock your vehicle registration number and he will send you the ticket.

admin@media-services.co.uk If any of you do not have email facilities, please ask any of the Brighton Kite Flyers if they will apply on your behalf.

We are told that John Browning would have finished the mowing by the time of the festival.



WHAT WOULD YOU WEAR WITH THE CLUB LOGO ON

As you know over the last few years the club has been producing t-shirts, hooded tops and last year some new club pins. We are continuing with the t-shirts, hoodies and pins. Some of you may already know we have added to these items some sew on patches about 70mm square with the club logo on. These are black with yellow sun, magenta kite and white lettering. These sell for £5.00 and can be obtained, while stocks last, from Paul Hill.

If anyone has any other ideas of what they would like to see the logo used on, clothing or such, please let the committee know and we will look in the viability of producing it. If it is embroidered we have a supplier that will do one offs if you are interested

ANOTHER THING TO DO IN THE WINTER

What have we been doing over the winter you asked, well we went to India for three months and had the most fantastic time, met many interesting people and saw so many memorable places and things, really did see Indian life.



We went to the Ahmadabad International Kite Festival which was FANTASTIC. When we arrived in Ahmadabad for the festival the first people we recognised were Carl Longbottom and Darryl (Dazz) Smith then later met up with Nick James and Bob Cruickshanks. They were to be our companions for the duration of the festival and what an enjoyable group they were. The opening ceremony was electric with atmosphere and emotion, what an experience!!! We met lots of people from around the world who we already knew which added to the buzz. We had only set eyes on, at the outside, a dozen Europeans in the two months we had been out there up to that point.

A couple of weeks before the festival, all over the state, there were kites by the thousand being made and sold in all the shops as is manja which we had made in front of us, whatever strength of cotton and whichever colour we wanted. The actual festival in Ahmadaba lasted for three days which included the opening ceremony, kite flying by the river, numerous interviews, rooftop flying, heritage walk, wonderful hotel and fed and watered regularly throughout the time. The hospitality was second to none. The fourth day we were

bused to Anand for the day which was in a huge park, very hot and very light wind, if any. Enough light kites were able to get off the ground to make it extremely enjoyable, but sad when the festival came to an end and we all had to say our goodbyes as we were staying on for another month. The following weekend we had been invited to the kite festival in Kambhat by the local kite maker whose place we had visited beforehand and what a wonderful day that was, all the local villagers came up on the roof with us, we took loads of photos of them all, which we took back the following week in albums for them to keep, much to their delight.

Before we went to the festival in Ahmadabad we had been up to Rajasthan and all over Gujarat, to the mountains, sea, saw the wooden ships at Mandvi being



such a wonderfully colourful country and the people are so resourceful, came across no aggravation, life just happens. Just as well I kept a diary as we went to so many places and experienced so much, could write a book. This experience was made possible because we had a wonderful driver who was with us the whole time and took us into his family which we were made to feel part of and welcome, although we did have our own apartment as a base. Would love to go back, so many new friends



made all by hand tools, 100 tons of cargo, 250 foot long!!! some amazing workmanship. We saw over different parts of hospitals, factories, weddings, which we were invited to- magic, funeral pyres, copper pots being made, lions - the list is endless and before we came home did one more trip to the hill station at Saputara, which was idyllic. It is

and wonderful people, but if it doesn't happen have enough memories to last a lifetime.

The summer to come? Well we intend to go to the festivals as usual and to Dieppe in September. Would be lovely to have some Indian summer, keep our fingers crossed.

Happy times to everyone,
Paddy and Dan Rice.

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Club library:

(BKF members only):
 Paul Hill
 T 01273 421286
 E paul@BKF.org.uk

Club Kites:

(BKF members only):
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 E kites@BKF.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Peter Jackson
 T 01444 451076
 E Membership@BKF.org.uk

SORRY THERE IS NO PETWORTH

There have been some changes in the running of Petworth Kite Festival over the last few years and what with one thing and another the new organisers feel that this year they will not be running a dedicated kite festival in Petworth Park. We are in discussions with them to get it re-instated in 2007 so keep your fingers crossed and hope we can get the festival back online next year.



Merchandise

T-Shirts/Sweatshirts:

Alan Outram
 T 01737 771196
 E alan@BKF.org.uk

Pins/Cloth Badges:

Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E simon@BKF.org.uk

fly-in reminders

Our Monthly fly-in are where we try to get as many club members as possible to fly together. These are held on the 1st Sunday of the month on Telscombe Tye, East Sussex, and the 2nd Thursday at 6pm in Stanmer Park (Summer only). If you are intending to turn up it is worth remembering that during the summer, members may well be attending kites festivals, but the fly-ins are still on, so see you there soon. The venues for these fly-ins will be discussed at the AGM and may well change. The Tye seems to have cows on it more and more of the year, making it harder to fly there. Keep an eye on Aerodyne and the website for updated information.

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 Simon 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

remember

Can you remember those times in 2005 when every time you think about them you have a little chuckle and realise just how lucky you are to be a member of Brighton Kite Flyers as they all pull together to make light of the situation and help out. Well our resident cartoonist (Lisa Sullivan) does.



Thank you

I would like to say thank you to all those who made this issue of Aerodyne possible Richard Sutton (Chippy), Allan Potheary, Lisa Sullivan, Paddy & Dan Rice and Paul Hill. who have helped to make this edition possible. I must also say a very big thank you to those who have edited Aerodyne this month in one shape or form.

Simon Hennessey

**PLEASE DO
 KEEP THE
 ARTICLES
 COMING IN
 AERODYNE IS ONLY
 POSSIBLE WITH
 YOUR HELP AND
 SUPPORT.**

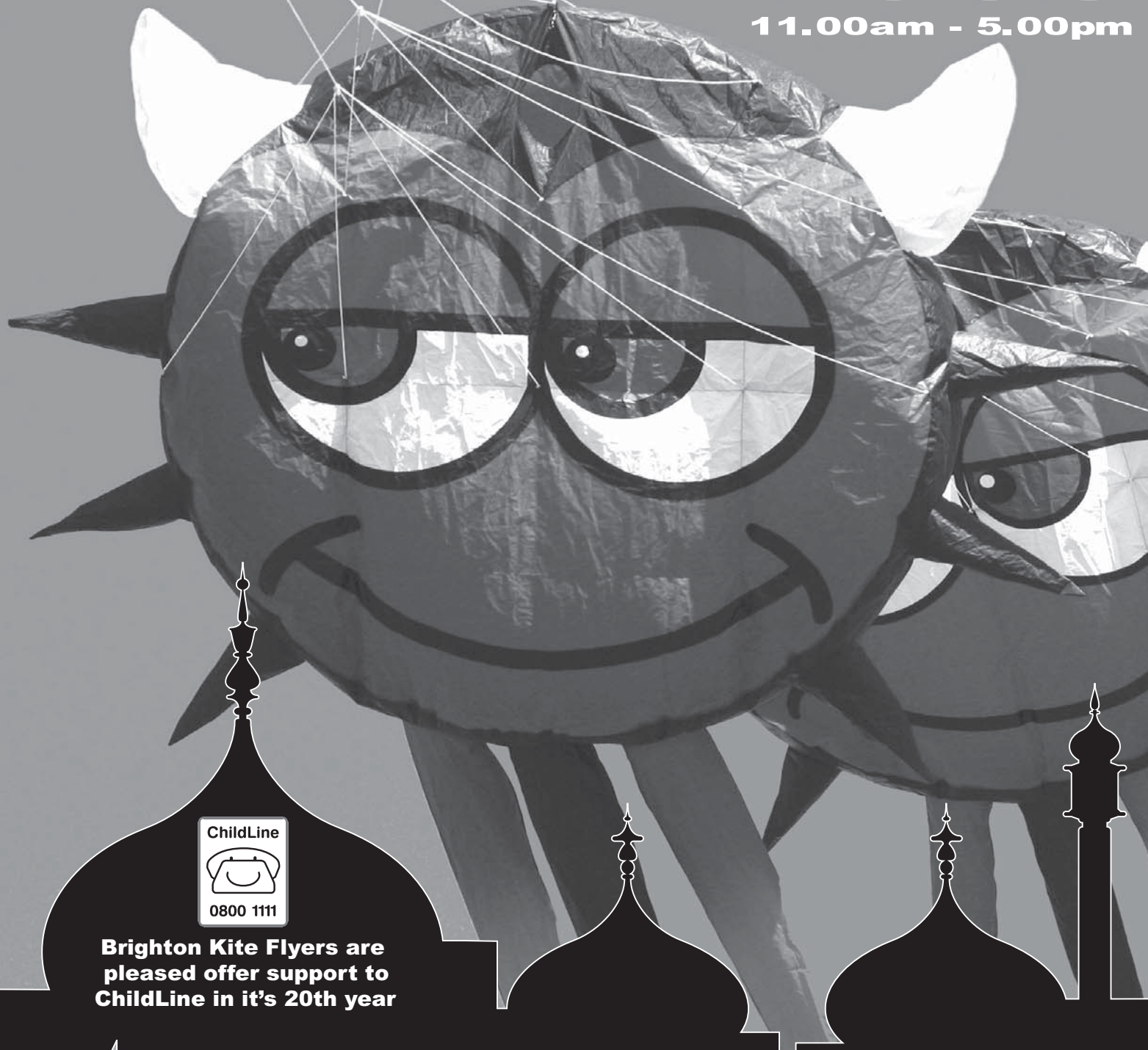
Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct in 'Aerodyne' the Brighton Kite Flyers cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions that may occur. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editors or of the Brighton Kite Flyers.



BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL

Organised by Brighton Kite Flyers

8TH & 9TH
JULY
2006
11.00am - 5.00pm



ChildLine



0800 1111

Brighton Kite Flyers are
pleased offer support to
ChildLine in it's 20th year

brighton
Kite
flyers

Free Public Festival - Free Childrens Kite Making Workshop - Traders & Food Stalls - 3000 Foot Height Clearance

Stanmer Park

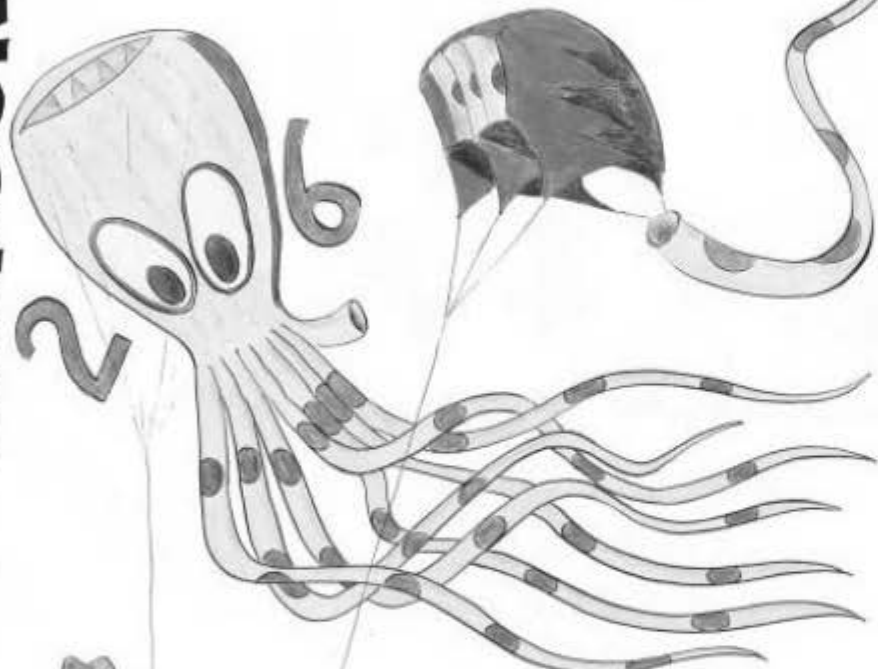
www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk

Sponsored by Brighton & Hove City Council and Tates Cars

ChildLine registered charity number 1003758

KITE FESTIVAL

SWINDON



FREE ENTRY
6/7th May 10AM to 5PM
SCIENCE MUSEUM, WROUGHTON

- CHILDREN'S KITE WORKSHOP
- KITE DISPLAYS
- TRADE STANDS
- SCIENCE MUSEUM EXHIBITS
- INTERNATIONAL FLYERS
- MODEL ROCKETS
- HISTORIC KITES
- CATERERS

GO TO WWW.WHKF.ORG.UK

ALL DISPLAYS ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE
DUE TO WEATHER.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

9th Suffolk International KITE FESTIVAL

20/21st MAY 2006

- Kite Workshop
- Kite Traders
- UK Kite Clubs/Camping
- Refreshments
- Children's Entertainment
- Museum - Craft Fair

10am to 5pm

TOP TEAMS & FLYERS
FROM THE UK & EUROPE INCLUDING
"EVOLVER" - "THE FLYING SQUAD"

"STACK UK" & INTERNATIONAL FIGHTER KITE COMPETITION

For All Enquiries Ring
01206 - 299360 or
E-Mail - martin@skif.co.uk
Web - www.skif.co.uk



Rougham Airfield
West Suffolk's Open Air Venue