

THE KITEFLIER

www.thekitesociety.org.uk



Issue 115

April 2008

£2.00

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

The 2008 Collection

- When the wind blows - think of us -



Tribal
Shield



4m Open Keel Delta



Phoenix
Rising



Phoenix Tail



HQ Xelon 1



HQ Hybrid - Zero Wind



Mega Turbine
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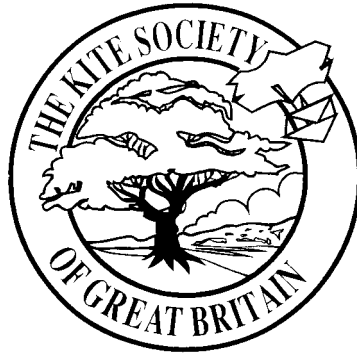
Rev Training Clinic
By US Team iQuad



Kiteworld

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Front Cover
Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Revolution Kite
Lots of Revolution activities at Portsmouth and Bristol.
Photo by Carl Wright
Taken at Margate 2007

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.

Dear Reader

See you at the first major event of the year—Weymouth. Details of timetable and the final guest list will be on the web site. As mentioned in the last edition the Blackheath Kite Festival is on—June 14th & 15th—see page 24 for more details.

Also see the details of the Revolution Clinic taking place just after Portsmouth (page 27 for details). This is an ideal opportunity to take tuition from some of the best Revolution fliers in the world.

For those who do not already know the theme for this years Dieppe kite festival will centre on the theme of music and sound. Theme: "On air to a kite string". More details www.dieppe-cerf-volant.org/dccv/2008/uk2008.htm.

Gill and Jon

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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 kitefestivals, 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 payable in the U.K. and be in sterling.

Membership Type	Fee
Individual	£11.00
Family - all members in the same household.	£12.00
O.A.P.	£9.00
O.A.P. - Family (Husband & Wife)	£10.00
Overseas - Europe and Surface Mail	£13.00
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Pothecary Corner

Kite Lines

I was talking to Michael from sponsors, Kite-world.co.uk about the range of sport kites there is available and the variance in quality. One thing seems to remain constant and that is they all fly. I've said this before about there being no point in manufacturing loads of kites which are just going to be returned because they are faulty.

That's not to say that most of the traders don't get their complaints but that's usually because its tough flying upwind, in no wind at all, when the kite has been wrongly assembled or some clever Dicky who doesn't know whether it's Tuesday or Norway, has taken the bridle to bits because it didn't look right. Newbie's will usually manage to find a combination of at least two of these and something else besides.

The most common fault of all though, for why a kite misbehaves, is because the lines are not the same length. This is what grinds Michael's gears the most. I have heard him telling his customers to let out all of the line and I have watched them come back because they didn't listen. This always going to occur as long as kite lines come on hoops. I used to try and explain about line length if we had time during one of our spots in the arena but it's more of a close up thing really.

We try to remember to check the line lengths frequently. We still wind up the old fashioned way which means that when we pay out the line we have a peg (screwdriver) holding the lines at the handles and can then check for "equalness " before we tie on to the kite. I used to have a special winder which helped to show which line was longer (or shorter) but it's just as quick for me to do it without.



3 knots on this adjuster.

So what happens if the lines are wrong? You hear me repeating something like "red needs to be longer – one inch, red needs to be longer – one inch" all the way back to the handles where I'm hoping I have remembered to put on an adjuster. An 'adjuster' is just a separate length of old bridle-line with a series of knots, one of

The cut down lines were attached to this casualty.

which I shall larch loop the offending line behind.

I've mentioned the Flexifoil lines before given to us by Kite-

world.co.uk (40metres - one red/one blue) and we love 'em. These lines are sewn in to the sleeving on the ends which is OK until you break one and flying in a team which occasionally has differences of opinion about which is the TRUE left - break one, we did! Fortunately, if you can say that about a break, it was only about ten inches from the end. Even if it was ordinary sleeving I wasn't about to get out the sleeving kit when I could barely feel my fingers in the cold wind anyway. At the risk of sending sleeving kit makers and sellers to the poor-house, I can tell you there is a way to tie on without the need to pass the line through the sleeve. Firstly we had to cut the other line (I hate doing that) so that they were both the same length and then made a loop on the end of both buy means of a simple, overhand knot. Next a knot was tied at the end of the old sleeve and viola, the world is your lobster – larch loop the line on and you are back in the air!



Most breaks occur in team flying due to kites passing too close and clipping the line and that is usually close to the kite. Bolting firmly the stable door, what we have done now is to add a four foot length of bridle line 'extender' on the end of our lines as this will be far cheaper and easier to replace (more spares to carry!). If you are going to fly with us in team or pairs coaching (or just for fun) we might ask you to do the same with your lines.

Allan and Marilyn Pothecary

Line Extender



Pothecary Corner

New Printer at Kites Up

I called in at Kites Up the other day to pick up some material and was introduced to the new printing machine.

“It’s a wide format digital sublimation printer” owner Roy Broadley proudly exclaimed “It’s miles better and nine times faster than the old one!”

Apparently, and I stand to be corrected on this, what this type of printer does is to change the specialised ink to gas and impregnate the material rather than to just print on the surface. This gives a much better quality of finish and when using Icarex it is very difficult to see which side is which when you using a pattern.



Roy Produces another masterpiece.

Pets

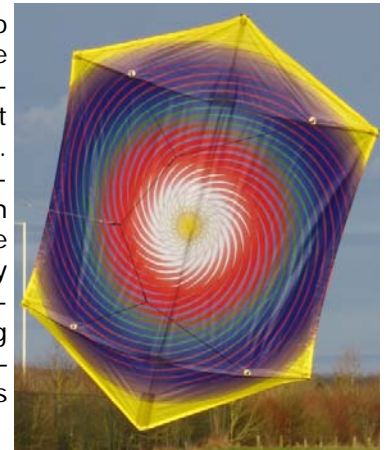
Roy told me that a lot of people have done what Close Encounters’ team member, Mags, had done which was to have a photo of their pet put on to a Rokkaku kite but the possibilities are endless and can print any computer generated image in as long a length as you can get the material. A colourful stage back-drop was appearing from the machine whilst I was there.



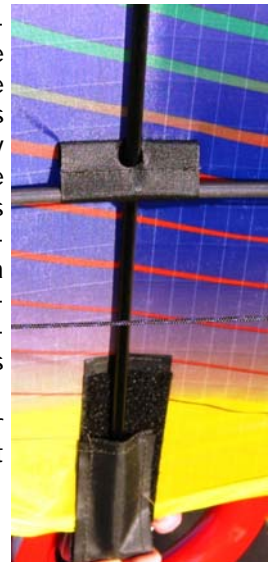
Busy days

Work is coming in from all over the world – it’s quicker for the Americans to have Kites up do it than they can get it done over there. The investment of around £20,000 was a good one – but you have to have the skill and experience too! To test out the machine Roy had rolled out some lovely patterns on to Icarex from which he made some

kites. Never one to miss a story for the ‘Kiteflyer’ I commandeered one for a test fly and some photos. The unusual but effective spiral pattern was also used for the bag – very handy when you are scrabbling around looking for a particular kite – I hope that has started a trend!



I was expecting to have a tying job to do where the spine crosses the spreaders on the back of the kite but there was a commercial touch here by way of a tag with a hole made in it for the rod to pass through – and at the base, instead of having to loop a chord or bungee over an arrow knock, the spine is retained by Velcro. All of this was quite pleasing to me – I don’t know if you remember my saying this before - I don’t do fiddley.



Setting up

Roy hadn’t had time to trim the bridle settings on the kite before I took it but he’s put a few together in the past so it was pretty much OK straight off. Now not everyone reading this can proclaim to be an expert (I’m certainly not either) so a little tip when adjusting the amount of ‘bow’ on the kite is to have the bottom a little bit tighter than the top if you want it to remain stable in the sky. What can I say about the performance? – It flew like it was supposed to! You’d have to spend around £80.00 pounds or so for something like this but you can have it tailor made and if there’s anything you don’t like about it after – Roy can’t run very fast!

As I said, they are quite busy manufacturing these days so it’s always best to check out their web site www.kitesup.co.uk for opening times before paying a visit, The kite business has taken more of a back seat these days and you don’t see the Kites up tent at quite so many festivals as you used to but Roy and Hayley are still there taking the opportunity to join in with the fun with as much enthusiasm as ever.

Pothecary Corner

Close Encounters?

Not just Close Encounters, this year it will be "The Close Encounters Kite Display Team" as well. Other members will join in on some of the arena demonstrations, all important ground crewing, helping out with coaching and the 'Try Before You Buy' of kites we carry on behalf of our various sponsors, in between times.

Marilyn and I will not only be flying some of our precision moves, colourful tails ballets and mixing some nostalgia of kites from years gone by wherever conditions allow but also there will be some team flying with even more tails, colour, and spectacle. This year we will be trying very hard to have some sort of kite demo flying for you even when there's no wind...!!

Win a Kite!

There's going to be a new twist on me trying to break a kite session this year when I will be inviting members of the public in for a special competition and, talking of competitions – don't forget to get out that camera to enter Close Encounters "Win a Kite". The format is different this year as me and Marilyn don't really have to be in the photo at all. The prize, a Fury 85, worth around £175.00, in your own colour scheme and a set of quality lines is sponsored by multi time world beater Carl Robertshaw and Kiteworld.co.uk - and all you have to do is

enter a kite related photo, taken this year, with *COLOUR* as the theme to the web site. The one judged to be the best at the end of the season will win. This is a really easy peasey competition and a good excuse to go to as many kite festivals as you can throughout 2008. If you can't get your photo on line, you can send or give a print to a team member or Kiteworld.co.uk and they will get it scanned in for you.

New stuff

As well as the sport kite demonstrations, Close Encounters are always keen to show off their single line collection and hope to have many of the new range from co-sponsors HQ Invento ready for you to try.

If you have something new or different we'd like to see that too or even if you just want to say hello come on over and have a chat.

Marilyn has been hard at it at the sewing machine during the winter – she just loves spending three and a half hours cutting out 300feet of tails then a day and half sewing them all together twice! – NOT! – and I've been hard at them on the practice field - so you had just better get on down to see us – new tails, new kites, new music, new routines as well as some of the old stuff revamped – see you there!

Kitelines and SKQ Archives



Unfortunately, the wonderful Kitelines magazine stopped production several years ago. Kitelines was one of the best kite magazines available. It covered a huge array of topics from detailed kite plans to festival reports and from kite builder profiles to kite reviews. Although Kitelines magazine is no longer produced, the full archive of all printed editions of this great magazine are now available online for you to download on the internet. It is well worth browsing through the back catalogue to reminisce about festivals and read a variety of articles that are, in many cases still extremely relevant and topical for today's kite enthusiast.



Stunt Kite Quarterly (SKQ) was another great magazine targeting (as its name suggests) sport kite flyers with kite reviews, competition results and a variety of other useful articles. You can access the full back catalogue of Kitelines Magazine and SKQ via the following websites www.kitelife.com/kitelines/index.htm and www.kitelife.com/skq/index.htm

Nigel Bence

Kitelines

SKQ
STUNT KITE QUARTERLY



Bits & Pieces

**Browsing the Internet
Helicopters and Kites**

We came across the following forum on PPRuNe (www.pprune.org) discussing Helicopters and Kites. Some of the stories posted are, to be honest, quite frightening and the possibility of a serious accident not beyond imagination. Just look at the picture here:



Kitefreestyle.com is an online TV show with a magazine style format. It covers all areas of land based kiting but focuses mostly on the freestyle aspect of the sport. KFS is filmed, edited and produced by kilters who are involved in the sport on many different levels and are aiming to inform and entertain a variety of viewers ranging from beginners to top riders to those who work in the industry.

Coverage features: Interviews with riders and people involved in the industry; Events and competitions both in the UK and abroad; Tutorials on everything from trick tips to gear maintenance; Travel features both in the UK and abroad; The latest freestyle action from a wide variety of riders and locations

First episode - EP1. This is the first of six episodes in 2008. The episode features a variety of riders and spots, including the Flexifoil Team Riders who are on top form at Goring and Frinton. Watch the team riders go massive on their new Atom08's!

Flexifoil is proud to be a main sponsor and will work closely with the team at KiteFreeStyle.com throughout the next year. Keep your eye on the site to see the Flexifoil team doing what they do best on all the latest gear.

From the Times of India

What draws this New York-based award winning film maker to Ahmedabad? The city's unmatched Uttarayan spirit of course.

Prashant Bhargava is in the city to capture the exotic

kite festival, the spectacularly colourful skies and the pride Amdavadis take in their community lives.

It's a drastic shift for a man who has spent nine years making promos for Hollywood blockbusters and HBO drama series. He has won an award at the Sundance film festival for his film 'Sangam'. Prashant spent many months during the last three years in the busy pols of Ahmedabad studying its kite-makers, the lifestyle, women gossiping and even the stray dogs. More than half of his cast and crew belong to the pols of Ahmedabad.

"If you are making a film about a place you should respect it first. Here in the pols there's a lot of eye contact, the trust that you build with its dwellers and the transparency with which you approach the community is what matters. This was important for my film. You observe people in pols for few minutes and you realise there is a story in each one of them. You don't require a narrative here. I cannot create a set of an Amdavad pol in New York and cast professional actors. I had to be here," says Bhargava.

But why Uttarayan? "It's a festival that's central to this film. Regardless of who you are — boy or girl, Hindu or Muslim — you can create such purity and happiness with one string of thread and a piece of paper. You are in the moment of the festival and it becomes important for everybody. Who would believe that the city was once struck by an earthquake and a religious strife. Truly it's a day when the wind changes direction," he adds.

The challenge for Bhargava happens to be directing non-actors in his film. "They are not at all difficult to deal with. My film anchors on the pride that people take in their lives as a community and these so-called non-actors convey it very naturally."

Kites and the Olympics.

Jilin resident makes huge kite for Beijing Olympics. A kite-flying fan in northeast China city Jilin made a kite 3,000 meters long, after five years' efforts, and named it "Olympic Swallow" as a gift to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

He told Xinhua through telephone on Friday that he wished to fly the kite at the Games in the Chinese capital. The giant kite is made up of 2008 diamond-shaped mini kites, each with a picture of swallow.

Li Jingyang said the news of Beijing's successful Olympic bid in 2001 prompted him the idea of making a giant kite for the historic event.

The kite was made with over 60 pieces of 3-meter-long bamboo, 100 meters long nonwoven fabrics and four kilograms of glue. The 43-year-old Li often flies some of his "swallows" in a local square as a practice. It needs however the concerted efforts of seven skilled fliers to make the whole of the super-sized

Bits & Pieces

kite airborne, he said. Kite flying, which combines sports, art and culture, is a traditional sport popular among the Chinese people.

Kite Powered Electricity

Another wind and kite powered system has been proposed at kitegen.com. The introduction to the web pages says:

How to quickly invert the current percentage split between renewable and non-renewable energy sources is rapidly topping the agenda of global leaders, nations and companies.

Kite Gen vision is to implement and market an entirely new concept of power plant, suitable to almost any territory, for the production from renewable source of electrical energy cheaper than from fossil fuels (petroleum, coal, gas), directly competing with present day conventional GigaWatt installations.

The energy source, currently untapped and available anywhere, is the powerful altitude wind of the troposphere, channelled through arrays of large tethered power kites cruising at an altitude of 800 / 1 000 m, whose movements are electronically controlled by highly sophisticated sensors and proprietary software.

The power kites are anchored to a revolving structure on a vertical axis at ground level, which conveys the energy thus generated.

Kite Powered Boats

In previous issues we have mentioned the Sky Sails company of Germany with their proposed kite towed propulsion of cargo ships.

A report in Nature News says (in part):

That sounds great – is it new? Yes, on Tuesday the cargo ship MS Beluga SkySails sailed into the port of Guanta, Venezuela, completing its 2-week long maiden voyage from Germany, and the successful testing of the giant kite system. It is the first commercial vessel to use the SkySails kite system.

The maiden voyage of the MS Beluga SkySails used a 160 square metre sail to help pull the 132-metre-long, 10,000 tonne vessel from Bremen, Germany, to Guanta. The development of super light, strong materials for sport kites, surf kites and paragliders has driven the development of these huge ocean-going kites.

What happened on the maiden voyage? Half way through the trip, as the ship reached the trade winds near the Azores, the computer-controlled kite was unfurled. SkySails hasn't finished doing all the calculations yet, but estimates fuel savings of 10–15% during the time the kite was flying, as the ship cruised at top speed using less engine power. That is

a saving of about US\$1,000 to \$1,500 in fuel costs per day. The company hasn't yet revealed how many hours the kite stayed aloft during the two-week voyage.

The company claims that savings of up to 50% can be made for short time periods, with an average saving of 10-35%. A kite with an 'effective tractive force' (which depends on the ship, its load and speed, and wind conditions) of 8 tonnes can pull the equivalent of 1,000 kilowatts of engine power, compared to the MS Beluga SkySail's main engine's 3,840 kilowatts of power. The kite needs winds of at least 3 Beaufort (8–12 miles an hour or 7–10 knots — a gentle breeze) and can be used at up to 8 Beaufort (39-46 miles per hour, or 34–40 knots – a gale).

How does the kite compare to sails? A 3-masted clipper ship might have a sail area of 2,000 square metres, 10 times the size of the kite, and move at top speeds of perhaps 17 knots on wind alone. But for massive cargo ships aiming to cruise at 10 knots or so, adding masts and sails isn't a very practical idea. A kite is much easier to install and comes with a bonus: the higher the kite, the greater and smoother the wind speed. Closer to the sea's surface, the friction, or drag, between air and sea slows things down and can cause turbulence, which decreases efficiency.

his kite can fly up to 300 metres above sea level. SkySails says that at 200 metres above sea level, the kite has twice the amount of energy available to it than on a 10-metre line.

Are there any other uses of kites, apart from pulling ships, and loop-the-loops? Yes, kites are also being developed to produce electricity. A kite attached to a ground-based dynamo and whizzing around overhead can generate electricity. Again, the development of materials for sport kites in recent years has seen this burgeoning technology begin to get commercial interest — Makani Power, a Hawaii-based wind power company, has recently attracted investment interest from Google to develop kites for electricity generation. Of course this is very different, and somewhat safer, than Benjamin Franklin's alleged attempts to use kites to harness electricity directly from lightning.

The Kite Museum, Canada

Some news from thekitemuseum.com. Around early October, we shall be hosting a historical paper kite symposium/workshop in Hamilton, Ontario of interest to kite flyers, teachers and crafts persons.

We shall review the evolution of paper kites, but the main focus will be on the North American paper kites which are increasingly deteriorating and are no longer made here in North America like they used to be. Our intent is to bring together as much knowl-

Bits & Pieces

edge as we can about the NA paper kites and use this as the launch of one of the The Kite Museum's special mission projects. Of course, in addition to satisfying what I call "kite geeks", we will also have fun with one or more public kite making sessions, a kite fly and other related fun to help share the knowledge and stimulate interest with teachers and craftspeople of the "joy" of paper kites.

More details in June. If you would like to be put on the contact list, please send note with your interests and ideas to: george@thekitemuseum.com

The "Pele Island Kite Society" has informally come together to help with the opening and maintenance of the museum. Being a small island of about 280 permanent residents, it was felt "society" had an appropriate ring to it, given the cultural contribution and enlightenment we are making to those poor deprived souls we sadly refer to as "mainlanders" with their traffic jams, concrete jungles and blurred lives.

Drachen Foundation News 2008 Historical Kite Conference

Yearly, a group of historical kite enthusiasts throughout Europe hold a weekend conference and workshop. For those interested in the historical use and construction of kites, this conference is not one to miss. This year's conference boasts a trip to the Zeppelin Museum in Friedrichshafen, Germany.

The 2008 Historical Kite Workshop will be held the weekend of April 25-27 2008 at the Zeppelin Museum in Friedrichshafen, Germany. To commemorate the 1908 opening of a meteorological kite station in the port town of Friedrichshafen, the workshop will include construction of the Kusnetzov meteorological kite. The weekend will include a tour of the Zeppelin museum and lecture on Count Zeppelin and his work by museum curator, a lecture about the kite station at Friedrichshafen, and a lecture on the Kusnetzov kite.

In conjunction with the workshop, the Drachen Foundation will once again sponsor a 500 dollar historical kite research grant. A proposal for European historical kite research will be awarded by a group of judges during this time. Information@drachen.org

Art Kite Curriculum

The Drachen Foundation web site has a large range of educational resources related to kites. One of the newest ones is the Art Kite Curriculum. Developed and tested in conjunction with a local school and a visual arts consultant, these lesson plans were designed to integrate Washington State visual arts learning standards with a kite making activity. With specific targets, criteria and instructions, these lessons creatively teach art learning standards.

The kites are distinguished by learning grade from kindergarden through to 6th grade and include kites

like a Sode through to a Bell Tetrahedral.

Although having a USA bias (understandably) it would be relatively simple to use the learning guides provided for UK schools and children's groups. This applies to the other educational resources as well.

Go to Drachen.org for more information.

Mexican Kiting History. Drachen seems to always be writing about the past, but here is a perfect opportunity for us to talk about the history of kites and kiting which we are documenting in the present.

"This fall, we invite all who are interested, to join us in witnessing and preserving a part of cultural kiting history in the area of Oaxaca, Mexico. Current Drachen research has unveiled several cultural kiting traditions in Oaxaca, from decade old children's kites to that of an indigenous Indian village that uses kites to bring up large quantities of fish for their livelihood, as well as the tenth anniversary of hand papermaking for kites, by the internationally renown artist Francisco Toledo. These amazing events will be presented during the Day of the Dead celebrations in Oaxaca, on October 27-November 3rd.

Francisco Toledo: A native of the Oaxacan area, this Mexican artist came to prominence when he was 19. Combining his talent as an artist, his rich heritage stemming from growing up in a Zapotec family, he exhibits his talent of artisan and art traditions, evocative indigenous languages, and now, kites. Creating a livelihood of paper making for a local village, he uses the quality of paper to make "childhood" style kites for sale to interested collectors. These kites are special in many ways, constructed by hand, using the materials of the area, (their bamboo and the handmade papers of St. Agustin) and the original designs of Toledo himself. (He has trained the paper coop to take his designs and reproduce them in quantity, using a stenciling and airbrush system.)

We will be hosted by Toledo and his staff in Oaxaca, visiting the paper/kite making facility outside of the city of Oaxaca, tour Toledo's works and his cultural facilities.

Kite Fishing of Juchican, Oaxaca: Through the research of Yale graduate and Drachen grant winner, Christopher Ornales, we will see first time film of the small fishing village, where people still make kites both for the Day of the Dead and uniquely, for fishing. This area is extremely marginalized, even among indigenous communities, and peoples speak a language completely unconnected to Zapotec, or Mayan, known as "Ombeayuits" (our language) and the people call themselves Icots.

The Barrillettes Gigantes of Sumpango, Guatemala: The heritage of kite making is more than one area of

Bits & Pieces

Central American and we will bring two accomplished kite makers of Sumpango, Guatemala and their kites to Oaxaca for lecture and exhibition. These barrileteros represent only one of the many kite groups who for decades have continued the tradition of making up to 18 meter circular kites out of tissue paper during the Day of the Dead celebration in Guatemala.

Join with Drachen as we take these tradition to contemporary times, conducting workshops in kitemaking with the handmade papers of St. Agustin. Join paper expert, Hiromi Katayama connect the importance of these papers in kitemaking the world over.

Flying your kites on the historical Indian ruins of Monte Alban: Special permission from the government of Oaxaca/Mexico, will grant us a visit and kite flying at one of the most famous Zapotec Indian sites of Pre-Columbian times. Did the Zapotecs have kite flying as part of their culture? Speculate with us.

Contact jessica@drachen.org.

Seen on Ebay.

Here are some of the interesting kite items spotted on Ebay.

Antique Bird Lithographed on Muslin—c 1900

Measures: 45" across wings x 33.5" tall. The talons span 22" across. On the left wing there is a 2" split in the fabric. There is tape on the back to stabilize. There is also a small tear in the shape of an L and measures .5" by .5".



The colours are very vibrant—no fade. An impressive kite

ready to fly once again. Sold for \$96.00

Folk Art Antique Double Kite String Dispenser Winder

I purchased this item at a sale in rural Virginia. The sale was full of items from a folk art collector who had all kinds of Americana and tramp art. This is a double string dispenser for flying kites. It is 14 inches long, 12 inches wide counting the handle, and 4 inches tall. My pictures do not do it justice, there is a really neat locking ratchet also made of wood and both spools are wood on a wooden dowel. The separate piece is for winding string. If you collect eclectic folk art for display this has to be an item that fits that category. I imagine it will work just as well today as it did many years ago if you wanted to use

it to fly a kite or two. Sold for \$55.00



EoloDelta Spy Kite with Digital Camera and USB cable. Being sold by Sky High Kites for a BIN price of £24.99 the description reads: From Eolo, one of the worlds leading kite manufacturers, comes the new Delta Spy Kite! This amazing kite is the first to include a real digital camera!

Simply activate the camera with the remote controller which is built into the flying handle and take excellent photos from up to 25 metres high in the sky! The Eolo Spy Kite comes ready to fly with lines & handles and the camera fits directly to the kite! Once you get home, simply attach the USB cable which is provided into your PC and download your photos!

This is a 'Must Have' for any keen Aerial Photographer who doesn't need to worry about rigging up an expensive camera to their kite. Or it's ideal for the family who want to have memories of their kite flying day at the beach or park this summer!

Virgin Flying Club Pro.

The below has been sent to a number of members of the Virgin Atlantic Flying Club.



Bits & Pieces

USA Today

To coincide with the American National Kite Month USA Today published an item on the 10 best places to fly kites.

Little wonder that April, with its spring breezes, is National Kite Month — a favourite time of year for Scott Skinner, master kite maker and executive director of the Drachen Foundation (drachen.org), a Seattle-based non-profit group devoted to advancing the pastime of kite flying worldwide. He talks with Tim Smight for USA TODAY about special places where devotees of this whimsical sport can take their kites to the skies.

Mission Bay, San Diego

"Picturesque Mission Bay is one of the country's best kite-flying venues," Skinner says. "The very active San Diego Kite Club gathers here. It's a great place to watch skilled four-line kite fliers practice individual and team maneuvers." The club also holds a major event each New Year's Day, when some of the country's finest kite makers turn out to test their newest creations.

Wildwood, N.J.

"Wildwood is a kitschy sort of beach town with great seafood and plenty to see and do," Skinner says. "The wide, long beach and brisk winds here make it a wonderful place to fly kites." Each year on Memorial Day weekend, Wildwood hosts one of the premier American kite festivals, drawing participants from around the world. One of the highlights is a "night flight" during which the kite-filled skies are lit up by strobe lights.

Fano Beach, Fano Island, Denmark

This small island off the west coast of Denmark is home to Europe's largest informal kite conclave, held each year during the third weekend in June. Started as an impromptu gathering of kite-flying friends, it now draws more than 8,000 enthusiasts from around the world. "Many come to camp, others to enjoy the 10-mile-long white sand beach, but all come to fly kites," Skinner says. "At its peak, the kites form a solid wall of colour dancing above the beach."

Jaipur, India

Kite flying is a hugely popular pastime in this ancient north-eastern Indian city, according to Skinner. "Families and friends often gather on rooftops to eat, drink and fly kites," he says. "During festival times, the skies are filled with kites as far as you can see." Some fly patangs— single-line, manoeuvrable "fighting kites" that employ glass-coated lines. "These kites (depicted in the best-selling novel and film *The Kite Runner*) are flown to engage one another and 'fight' until one line is cut," Skinner explains.

Cervia, Italy

Located on the east coast of Italy near the city of Ra-

venna, Cervia may be the ideal kite-flying location. "The 8- to 10-mph breeze typical of Cervia makes kite flying here a true pleasure," Skinner says. The town's "formal" kite festival is held at the end of April, before the big crowds and hot weather set in. But kite enthusiasts gather here all year long. "You'll see the most creative kites imaginable here," Skinner says.

Ivanpah Dry Lake Bed, Primm, Nev.

"Ivanpah is not a spot for traditional kite flying, but a marvelous gathering place for kite buggying," Skinner says. In this unusual sport, participants race around in high-tech, three-wheeled go-carts powered by kites. "Ivanpah is the perfect spot to learn this skill," Skinner says. "There are miles of smooth, hard lake bed, with fickle and sometimes frustrating winds." Tuesday through April 7, Ivanpah hosts the annual North American Buggy Expo. "This is a great opportunity to try new equipment and see the country's best riders in action."

Long Beach, Washington, USA.

Home to the World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame, Long Beach is one of the finest kite-flying venues along the Northwest Coast. "All summer long there are kite festivals here," Skinner says. "The largest is the Washington State International Kite Festival, held annually during the third week of August. This is a great spectacle as well as a wonderful flying site."

Brenton Point State Park, Newport, R.I. USA

"This is just a fine place to fly kites," Skinner says. "The sprawling park is on the water, but trees and bushes make natural breaks in the terrain. It's easy to find a secluded space to picnic, fly and enjoy nature. The seascape is always changing, with a variety of sailboats and motor boats out on the water. There are pleasant walks and bike paths, and the breeze is perfect for kites."

Dieppe, France, and Dieppe, Canada

Sister cities, the two Dieppes are both excellent kite-flying venues that stage biennial, world-class kite festivals. Dieppe, France, holds forth in September on even-numbered years, while the Canadians stage theirs every odd-numbered year, usually in August. "The small beach town of Dieppe, France, on the country's north coast, is charming and caters to tourists with a variety of restaurants and bars," Skinner says. "Dieppe, Canada, is in the heart of Acadian Canada. It's like a slice of Cajun Louisiana in eastern Canada, with great music, dancing and food. Both towns are great places to see kites and to fly them."

Google Maps Places to Fly.

A custom map has been built on Google Maps for UK places to fly. Mainly centred around places to traction and power kite it also lists a number of shops. <http://tinyurl.com/354jww>

Far East Revisited

Far East Revisited – or how to be reminded that the years march on!

By Carolyn & Jerry Swift

This was to be our first Far Eastern kite festival and Jerry's first trip to the Far East for 33 years so we were really looking forward to it. There was some dark muttering about whether he was still welcomed after his last visit, courtesy of the Royal Navy!

We were flying out with George and June Webster and were meeting Malcolm and Jeanette Goodman at the festival.

The Malaysian Kite Festival at Pasir Gudang is in its 13th year and is an important event on the international calendar. We were privileged to be invited.

The trip started with a bit of non-kite flying as the four of us flew to the Malaysian province of Sabah on the island of Borneo. The 5 days we enjoyed there, exploring the rain forest and getting up close and personal with orang-utans and the makaks were truly memorable. Add pygmy elephants, hornbills and all manner of other exotic creatures and it is something we shall want to repeat.

The people wherever we went were so warm, friendly and welcoming. It is a country largely at peace with itself but full of surprises. We shall never forget walking along the boardwalk to our lodges in the rain forest in an area inaccessible by road. Just behind the trees another lodge was under construction and the builders clearly had a very western taste in music. It really was rather odd to hear Guns 'n Roses full blast echoing through the trees.

But this is a report on a kite festival so if you want to hear more about pygmy elephants, hornbills, turtles and eagles you will have to ask us.

We were collected from Johor Bahru Airport and driven to our very comfortable hotel in Pasir Gudang. This region of Malaysia is immediately across the causeway from Singapore and is a thriving industrial area whose economy is dependant on palm oil processing and modern hi-tech industries

Malaysia aims to join the league of developed nations by 2020 and we were left with the impression that they would succeed. That's not to say there isn't poverty and that some of the more rural areas aren't what would be associated with jungles in South East Asia but the contrast with modern Malaysia is striking.

The festival had already been running for a few days when we got there on the Wednesday. From Monday to Friday the locals hold a number of competitions for several of the local 'Wau' type kites, particularly Wau Bulan, Wau Kucing, Wau Merak and Wau JalaBudi.

Competition includes flying angle, grace in the sky as well as quality of build and design. George and Malcolm are both experts in this area and I hope may be persuaded to write more on these beautiful kites and the nature of the competitions.

Alongside the competitions for traditional kites, there were a number of schools competitions going on which saw some wonderful creations including a pink chequerboard helicopter and a spaceship. There seemed to be a fondness for



box kite derivatives and the creativity was most impressive.

The site is a large field in the middle of a public park. On three sides the organisers erect tents for competitors and international flyers whilst on the fourth can be found Pasir Gudang's international kite museum fronted by the Royal dais, alongside which are the tents and buildings for the sound system, organisers and the night time stage for local entertainers. Behind these are market stalls and food stalls selling a

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range of cheap kites, nick knacks and local foodstuffs. We enjoyed tea tarik there most days, a local tea concoction made with condensed milk and very sweet.

The museum has a superb collection of Malaysia's Wau's along with much detail on their construction and design. On the first floor it has a collection of international kites with representatives from most corners of the world.

For the first two days none of us flew a thing. The wind was so gusty, even Peter Lynn was struggling with his lifters which were going in all directions except up. We can't remember how many got away and he ended up doing a lot of sewing in the evenings. One ended up run over and ripped beyond repair. We didn't want trashed kites before the weekend when we knew there would be a lot of people coming to see us all.

Talking of Peter, the organisation for the event was pretty impressive and to enable him to fly they had laid on not one but four JCB type excavators as ground anchors. At a more windless time during the weekend, the rear bucket of one of these even acted as a mast from which to fly the Sponsors' windsock.

By Friday the wind had calmed a little, in fact it ended up flat calm. With temperatures in the low 30's and very high humidity the only sensible thing to do was to sit in the shade of the many tents provided by the organisers and drink gallons of water.

That was the only sensible thing to do, so alongside some gallant New Zealanders and the odd American we ended up running kites up the field in front of the audience whilst Peter Lynn used one of his 4 line traction kites to fly 360's. The crowd appreciated it, we lost several pounds. This is not recommended in lieu of a good diet!

For us one of the stars of the show had to be one of the most bizarre. Indonesia is not noted for its Alpine conditions so a downhill skier with a clear Indonesian face and with the elements of box kite and fantastic bamboo construction was truly remarkable – it was a real pleasure to see something that was both innovative and humorous.



The Balinese Princess Helmi Ginanti (better known as Elly) had a small dragon with the most fantastically detailed face. I believe Malcolm is hoping she will be able to come to Bedford and Wirral this year (Bali, Wirral, hummmmm).

Another highlight for us was the collection of aircraft being flown by some of the Chinese. Seems odd to fly a model of a Mig or Sukoi fighter as a kite, but there again given that early kites were frequently representations of birds, are these modern "war birds" not a suitable subject for a kite? The quality of design and manufacture of bamboo and silk was excellent and if this is what keeps the craft alive that's fine by us.

11 years seems like a long time. It seems even longer when a Chinese friend who we last saw in a hotel lobby in Beijing all those years ago says he remembers "Wel 'Ard" the bear not us and then produces a photograph himself and his wife, a rather slimmer Jerry, a rather less blonde Carolyn alongside Mick House and Stafford Wallace. Ooh 'eck, life is hard!

Talking of Wel 'Ard the reason for our invitation

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was to parachute some bears. This we did alongside Michael Alvarez who was doing several sweet drops. In Malaysia concerns about the safety and welfare of young people are slightly less well developed than in the UK and the 'States. We didn't spot any serious injuries this year but the police seem to regard their job as picking up some of those trampled under foot in the ensuing chaos rather than preventing injury.

Our show was enhanced by commentary in two languages. It was a real joy to have our usual commentator George Webster introducing the bears and having his words translated by the local DJ: George is now regarded as an honorary DJ, the local term for commentator.

Many of you will be familiar with Charlie, the radio controlled kite flying clown now looked after by Malcolm Goodman. Charlie put on an excellent display (when the wind was right) and when it wasn't Malcolm and Jeanette helped him meet the crowd and waved to the children. Everyone wanted to be photographed with Charlie, and that was just the kitefliers.

That brings us to Saturday. Remember the festival started 5 days earlier so what logically would you do on a Saturday? Any guesses? Bet you didn't imagine we would have the



Opening Ceremony, less than 24 hours before we close it!

Something to do with his Royal Highness, the Sultan of Johor who with full motor cycle escorts, bullet proof limos and military band (who had a couple of very good female singers doing local pop classics!) carried out the ceremony and was introduced to the kite fliers from 27 countries. Small gifts were given to each delegation following prayers and speeches. We were told this was significantly shorter than previous years when sunstroke and dehydration had been real problems.

Flying on Saturday was hampered by a lack of wind with flat calm during his visit. Once he had gone the wind picked up and there was a huge display of kites from around the world.

Sunday saw a mixed day of flying with all of us being exhorted to finish early in order to be at the Awards dinner on time. This was in contrast to the whole of the rest of the week when we had been exhorted to stay late as that was when the crowds came. Michael Alvarez and the British contingent were last on the field, dropping bears and sweets.

The evening dinner was a grand affair but as previous attendees noted, why there was such a rush to get us there only to sit around for an hour we do not know. Food and service were excellent and much of the prize giving conducted in English. Carolyn and Jerry got a cash prize for their 6th place out of a field of 30 plus for the international rok fight. Amongst others, Robert Brassington won a prize for best in show with his stained glass windows.

This was a fantastic event and a huge thank you to Malcolm and George for arranging for us to join them. We very much hope we can do so again in a few years time.

Malaysia has left a lasting impression on us: its people are incredible, much of the country is quite beautiful and it is a country which in terms of its harmony could teach the UK a great deal: we were privileged to be there.

Jerry and Carolyn Swift

History Of Experiments On Atmospheric Electricity

Being A Report Presented By A Committee* Of The "Franklin Kite Club," At The Request Of The Club
(From the Journal of the Franklin Institute.)

**John C. Cresson, Esq., Chairman.*

The Committee appointed to enquire into the history of experiments, upon the electricity of the atmosphere, having given such attention to the subject as their other engagements would allow, beg leave to submit the following report:-

The fact that amber and some gems, when excited by friction, possessed the curious property of attracting light bodies, was known to philosophers several centuries before the Christian era. Nothing further, however, than this simple fact, seems to have been ascertained for the space of two thousand years.

The first modern experiments upon record were those of Dr. Gilbert of Colchester, an account of which he published about the year 1600, in a Treatise de Magnete. Although several philosophers repeated the experiments of Gilbert, and somewhat augmented the list of electric substances, no discovery of importance was effected until about the year 1670, at which period Otto Guericke, celebrated as the inventor of the air-pump, constructed the first electrical machine of which we have any account, and acquired an additional title to renown, by discovering the light and sound by which the electric fluid is accompanied.

The existence of electric light was observed shortly afterwards in England, by Dr. Wall, to whom also is due the honour of first suggesting the idea of a resemblance between electricity and lightning.

This resemblance was afterwards noticed by Mr. Stephen Gray, who flourished about the year 1730; and still later by the Abbé Nollet; but neither of them appears to have attempted any investigation of the subject. The complete solution of this interesting problem in electrical science was reserved for our venerated countryman, Franklin; who, at an early period in his investigations, became strongly impressed with the idea that lightning and electricity were identical. He accordingly drew up a statement of the principal points of resemblance between them, and suggested a plan for proving the truth of his theory, by elevating pointed conductors upon a lofty tower or spire. This paper, together with several others upon the same subject, he transmitted to his friend Mr. Collinson, of London, by whom they were communicated to the Royal Society.

The reception which these essays met with in that learned body was by no means flattering, as will be perceived from the following extract from Franklin's Memoirs: - "Obliged, as we were to Mr. Collinson, for the present of the tube, &c., I thought it right he should be informed of our success in using it, and wrote him several letters containing accounts of our experiments. He got them read in the Royal Society,

where they were not at first thought worthy of so much notice as to be printed among their transactions. One paper which I wrote for Mr. Kinnersly, on the sameness of lightning and electricity, was read, but was laughed at by the connoisseurs." The papers being afterwards shown to Dr. Fothergill, he thought them of too much importance to be stifled, and advised the printing of them. They were accordingly published in a pamphlet form by Cave, a bookseller in London, with a preface by Dr. Fothergill. A copy of this pamphlet happening to fall in the hands of Buffon the naturalist, this eminent philosopher was so well satisfied of the justness of Franklin's views, that he determined on making the attempt to draw down lightning from the clouds. Accordingly, he raised an insulated rod of iron upon the tower of Montbar, and prevailed upon M. D'Alibard to prepare an apparatus for the same purpose at Marly La Ville, about six miles from Paris. This apparatus consisted of a pointed rod, about forty feet long and an inch in diameter, the lower extremity of which was brought into a sentry box, and insulated upon a table with glass feet. M. D'Alibard entrusted the charge of his apparatus to a man called Coiffier, who, having served fourteen years in the dragoons, was supposed to have sufficient courage for such an undertaking.

We have been thus particular in our description of this machine, because it was the first to receive a visit from the ethereal fire; and shall now proceed to give a narrative of that important event, extracted from a paper laid before the Royal Academy of Science, at Paris, three days after the occurrence. " On Wednesday, the 10th day of May 1752, between two and three o'clock in the afternoon, M. Coiffier, an old dragoon, whom I had entrusted to make observations in my absence, hearing a pretty loud clap of thunder, immediately flies to the machine, taking with him a vial in which was fixed a brass wire; on presenting the point of the wire to the rod, he sees a small brilliant spark issue from it, and hears a crackling noise; he takes a second spark stronger than the first, and with a louder noise! He calls his neighbours, and sends for M. Roulet, the Prior of Marly. The Prior runs with all his might, and the parishioners seeing his haste, imagine that poor Coiffier had been killed by the thunder; the alarm spread throughout the village, and the hail which succeeded did not prevent them from following their pastor.

"The honest ecclesiastic arrived at the machine, and seeing there was no danger tries the experiment himself, and takes some strong sparks. The hail storm was not more than a quarter of an hour in passing the zenith of our machine, and there was no more thunder after the first clap." As soon as the cloud had passed, and they could get no more sparks from the rod, the Prior despatched M. Coiffier with the following hasty letter: -

"I announce to you, sir, the fulfilment of your expectations; the experiment is complete. This day at twenty minutes after two in the afternoon, it thundered directly over Marly, the clap was pretty

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loud. The desire to please you, and curiosity, induced me at once to quit my arm chair, in which I was engaged reading. I was hastening to M. Coiffier, and met on the road a child whom he had despatched to call me, I redoubled my speed through a torrent of hail. Arriving at the spot where the rod was placed, I took a brass wire, and advancing it towards the rod, when within about an inch and a half, a small column of blueish flame with a smell like sulphur, sprung with wonderful quickness to the point of the wire, and occasioned a noise as if the rod had been struck with a key. I repeated the experiment at least six times in about five minutes, each experiment requiring about the time of a Pater and an Ave. I wished to continue them, but the action of the fire gradually abated, and at length ceased altogether. The stroke of thunder which had occasioned this event was not followed by any other, and the whole was terminated by a copious shower of hail.

"I was so engaged during the experiment that receiving a blow upon my arm above the elbow, I could not tell whether it proceeded from the brass wire or the rod. I did not complain at the moment, but the pain continuing on returning home, I uncovered my arm in the presence of Coiffier, and we perceived a contusion around it, such as would be caused by a blow from the wire upon the bare skin. When returning with Coiffier, I met the curate, M. de Milley, and the schoolmaster, to whom I reported what had happened. They all three perceived a smell of sulphur, which increased as they approached me: this odour was also perceived by the servants before I said any thing to them about it.

"You have here, sir, a hasty recital, but it is correct and true, and I assure you that I am ready to testify to these facts on all occasions. Coiffier was the first to make the experiment, and he repeated it several times before he sent for me. If any other testimony besides his and mine is necessary, you can obtain it. Coiffier is in haste to depart. I am yours with respectful consideration,

"RAULET, Prior of Marly.

"May 10, 1753."

Immediately upon the announcement of M. D'Alibard's success, M. Delor, demonstrator of physic, at Paris, erected a bar of iron upon his dwelling for the purpose of repeating the experiment, and succeeded in procuring several sparks during a thunderstorm on the 18th of May. On the 19th of the same month, Buffon obtained a similar result at Montbar.

Thus was Franklin's hypothesis verified in Europe, while its illustrious author was waiting for the erection of a spire at Philadelphia, by which he should be enabled to reach what he supposed to be the proper region for experiment. At length he devised the simple expedient of using a common kite for the attainment of his object, and in June, 1752, about a month after the French discoveries but before any report of them had reached America, he performed his celebrated experiment.

Although it may seem unnecessary to repeat in this place a narrative with which every school-boy is familiar, we shall, nevertheless, annex an account of this famous experiment, believing the omission would leave our report defective in a very essential point. The kite used by Franklin on this occasion, was made by extending a silk handkerchief upon two crossed sticks. To the upright stick was affixed an iron point.

The string was of hemp, except for a small portion of the lower end, which was of silk: where the hempen string terminated a key was fastened. With this apparatus, on the approach of a thunder-storm, he repaired to an open field, accompanied by his son, to whom alone he had communicated his intentions.

Having raised his kite, he placed himself under a shed, to avoid the rain and preserve the insulation of his silk cord. A thunder cloud passed over the kite, and no signs of electricity appeared. When, almost despairing of success, he observed the loose fibres of the string become erect, as if they were repelled. He now presented his knuckle to the key and received a strong spark; others succeeded even before the string was wet; but when the string was thoroughly wetted by the rain, he collected the electric fire in great abundance.

Franklin afterwards erected an insulated rod upon his house, by means of which he continued to investigate the subject for several years, in conjunction with his friend Mr. Kinnerly. The new field of discovery thus opened to the votaries of science, was speedily entered by a host of experimenters. Of these, it will be necessary to name only a few of the more prominent, whose experiments and discoveries embrace all that is interesting to know.

In England, the first attempts to repeat these experiments, were made by Mr. Canton and Dr. Bevis; but owing to the unfavourable nature of the climate, or some defect in their apparatus, it was not until after numerous disappointments that they succeeded in obtaining some feeble indications of electricity. The most splendid experiments that have come under the notice of the Committee, were those made in France by M. De Romas, assessor of the presidial of Nerac.¹ This gentleman made use of a kite which was seven feet five inches in height, and three feet in its greatest width, having above eighteen square feet of surface. The string was wrapped with copper wire somewhat after the manner of the base string of a violin.

On the 7th of June, 1753, at one o'clock, it thundered in the west; at half-past two M. De Romas had raised his kite with a cord 780 feet long, inclined at an angle of 45°; so that the elevation of the kite was about 550 feet. To the lower end of the cord he tied a ribbon of silk about three and a half feet long; this was brought under the cover of a pent-house, and was there fastened to a heavy stone. Near the junction of the cord and ribbon was suspended a tube of tin one foot long and an inch in diameter, from which the sparks were to be drawn.

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He had prepared a discharging-rod with a glass handle twelve inches long, and provided with a brass chain of sufficient length to touch the ground when sparks were drawn from the tube. By means of the discharging-rod he at first obtained sparks as large as those produced by a good globe, and several of his assistants drew sparks with keys and with the naked finger. This performance continued about twenty-two minutes, when the electricity disappeared; the little black clouds from which it was procured having passed from the zenith of the kite. In about seven minutes the electricity reappeared, but was at first very feeble; it gradually increased, and the sparks were drawn by the fingers, canes, and swords, of the spectators. M. De Romas now touched the tube with his knuckle, and received a terrible shock, such as he had never experienced from the Leyden vial charged by the best globes. Seven or eight of the bystanders having joined hands, received sparks which struck the feet of the fifth person. The storm now approached and increased in violence, not a drop of rain had fallen; but in the zenith of the kite, and about 600 around it, there were black clouds, which indicated a great increase of electricity.

M. De Romas, therefore, thought proper to receive sparks only by the discharge, and in this manner drew several sparks more than two inches long and of proportionate thickness. After this the electricity became so strong, that instead of sparks sheets of fire three inches long and three lines in diameter, flashed to the distance of more than a foot from the tube. At this time, when about three feet from the cord, he felt a sensation as if a spider's web was upon his face. He advised his assistants to keep at a greater distance, and himself retired about two feet; and when five feet from the cord, he again perceived the same sensation, and retired still further. M. De Romas now paused to observe what took place in the clouds above the kite; there was no lightning, almost no thunder, and not any rain, the wind was west, and so strong that the kite rose about 100 feet higher than at first. Having cast his eyes upon the tin tube which was about three feet from the ground; he observed three straws about a foot long, and others four and five inches in length, standing erect upon the ground and dancing in a ring beneath the tube-like puppets. This little spectacle lasted about fifteen minutes, after which some drops of rain fell, and he again felt the spider web sensation, and hearing a rustling sound of a small forge bellows. This was considered a warning of a new increase of electricity, and he cautioned his assistants to retire to a greater distance. Now came the last act of this magnificent drama, which M. De Romas says made him tremble. The longest straw was attracted by the tube, and then followed an explosion which some compared to the noise of a petard, and others to the sound of a large earthen jar dashed upon a pavement. The fire, which accompanied this explosion, had the form of a spindle eight inches long, and four or five lines in diameter. The straw which had caused the explosion, followed the string of the kite, and was seen at the distance of forty or fifty toises going with great

rapidity, alternately attracted and repelled, every attraction being accompanied by sheets of fire and continual explosions. During this part of the exhibition there was a strong smell of sulphur, and around the string there appeared a cylinder of permanent light three or four inches in diameter; which, it was supposed, would have appeared to be four or five feet in diameter if the experiment had been made at night. Shortly after this, the wind shifted to the east and the rain fell abundantly, followed by some hail, so that they were unable to keep the kite up any longer; as it fell, the string came in contact with a roof, the kite was made to rise again, and as soon as it was released from the roof, the person who held the string received such a violent blow in his hands that he was compelled to relinquish it. The string now became slack, and falling upon the feet of one of the assistants, he felt a concussion almost insupportable. On the 16th of August, 1757, M. De Romas, having again raised his kite with accord more than 1000 feet in length, obtained results even more astonishing than those just narrated.

In a letter to the Abbé Nollet, giving an account of this experiment, he says, "Imagine to yourself sheets of fire nine or ten inches in length, and one inch in diameter, with the noise like the report of a pistol: in less than an hour I had certainly thirty flashes of these dimensions without counting a thousand others of seven feet and under."

The dangerous nature of these experiments was fearfully illustrated about this time, by an accident which created a deep sensation throughout the scientific world. Professor Richman, of St Petersburg, being engaged in a treatise upon electricity, had erected upon his house an apparatus for observing the electrical conditions of the atmosphere, during thunderstorms. On the 6th of August, 1753, while attending the usual meeting of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, a little before noon he heard the sound of distant thunder, he hastened home, accompanied by Mr. Sokolow, engraver to the academy. Upon examining the electrometer which was attached to his apparatus, Richman remarked that the thread pointed to four degrees on the quadrant; and described to Mr. Sokolow, the dangerous consequences that might ensue if the electricity should increase to 45 or more. At this moment, while Mr. Richman was in a stooping posture, with his head about a foot distant from the rod, a globe of white and blue fire, about the size of a man's fist, appeared between the machine and Mr. Richman's head.

At the same time, a sort of steam or vapour arose which stupefied the engraver, and made him sink down, so that he could not remember to have heard the thunder, which was very loud.

As soon as Mrs. Richman heard the loud clap of thunder, she hastened to her husband's chamber, fearful of some bad consequences, and found him entirely lifeless, sitting upon a chest which happened to be placed behind him, and leaning against the wall.

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After this unfortunate occurrence, electricians became more circumspect in experimenting upon an agent so dangerous and intractable. The phenomenon of thunderstorms having been investigated to a considerable extent, philosophers next directed their attention to observations upon the ordinary electrical condition of the atmosphere, and the changes to which it is subject. Experiments were prosecuted in America, by Mr. Kinnersly, the friend and associate of Franklin; in France, by M. Le Monnier, and the Abbé Mazcas; in Switzerland, by M. De Saussure; and in England, by Mr. Cavallo, Mr. Read, and several others. But the labours of these philosophers, although of great value and interest, fall far short of those achieved by Signor Beccaria, of Turin, who continued a series of experiments through a period of twenty years.

The observations of this eminent philosopher were made in all kinds of weather, and every season of the year. He made use of a great variety of instruments, and employed numerous assistants, sometimes causing simultaneous observations to be made at several distant places. As the limits of this report will not allow a detailed account of the phenomena observed by all these philosophers, it is deemed advisable to furnish a condensed statement of the general results, upon which most of the observers agree in a very satisfactory manner.

In calm, clear, dry weather, the electricity was always perceptible and invariably positive. It was more abundant in winter than in summer. During a rain it was generally negative, but it sometimes became positive while the rain was falling; and on some occasions these changes occurred several times in the course of a single storm.

In cloudy, damp, or windy weather, it was mostly positive but feeble. The quantity always increased with the length and elevation of the conductor; insulated strings extended horizontally, sometimes gave strong indications of electricity; a cord, 1,500 Paris feet in length, extended across the river Po, was found to be as strongly electrified during a shower unattended by thunder, as a rod of metal had been during a thunderstorm.

The latest of these experiments were made about the year 1791; since which period, the interesting phenomena brought to light by the discovery of galvanism, have so much engrossed the attention of philosophers, that the other branches of electrical science have been comparatively neglected.

As far as the committee have been able to extend their researches, it appears that the observers of atmospheric electricity, have confined their experiments to a region of comparatively very small elevation, none of them having attained a greater distance from the surface of the earth, than one thousand feet; and even the few who reached this height, made use of such imperfect conductors, as were not calculated to furnish accurate results. It

therefore seems probable, that a course of experiments made with good conductors elevated to the height of ten or fifteen thousand feet, would furnish such an addition to our knowledge of this interesting subject, as would fully compensate the labour and expense necessary for their prosecution.

Notes by Paul Chapman: above text has been copied unchanged from *Mechanics Magazine No 697, Saturday December 17th 1836*. It should be noted that there are differences in the text describing De Romas's experiment with his August 1757 letter to the Abbé Nollet published in *The Gentleman's Magazine, March 1764*. For details of De Romas's work in his own words see his *Moyens De Se Garantir De La Foudre Dans les Maisons, 1776*; the collected work of De Romas edited by J Bergonie in 1911 as *Oeuvres Inédites de J. De Romas sur L'Electricite* the detailed technical description of his *Cerf-Volant Electrique Chariott Electrique* M J Brisson's 1781 *Dictionnaire Raisonne De Physique*. of Cavallo's electrical kite apparatus and his experiments conducted principally at Islington are described in his 1782 edition of *A Complete Treatise on Electricity*.

It goes without saying that these experiments to demonstrate atmospheric electricity were extremely dangerous and could result in significant injury, or death, if repeated.

Paul Chapman Aeronautical Archive, January 2008

¹A small account of these experiments may be found in the *Memoirs de Savans Etrangers*, published by the French Academy



An illustration from Abbé Jacquet de Malzet's book of 1775. It depicts something very close to Franklin's experiment complete with a pre-Eddy kite. The flier is depicted with his kite line angled correctly for reaching as high as possible. Note that if a roof covered this as Franklin specified—to keep the silk dry but also never to touch the twine—the roof height adequate to the task would rival a contemporary airplane banger. This illustrator sacrifices Franklin's directions to good sense and simply does away with the shed.

Dunton Taylor Delta Box Kite

Seen on Kitebuilders forum (www.kitebuilder.com). Some insights to the history of the Dunton Taylor Delta Box.

First, the spar sizes in the plans are optimal for the 31inch size (height), PROVIDED you use Graphite rods. Actually, you could use fiberglass for the box as they serve about the same purpose as spars in a sled. There is very little bending as the fabric distributes the load from the bridle.

Even FG in the leading edge is probably ok as there isn't a lot of bending there either but it will be heavier, which is a consideration when flying indoors (more about that later). But the spreader is a different matter. Graphite, or some other solution like loops, is crucial here. Even a very kite-friendly breeze of 10-12mph will cause significant bowing in a FG spar of this size. With Graphite the kite is just getting it's first wind at that speed. Laughing With the plan spars I've flown this kite in 0 to 25mph winds. Granted, it is REALLY ugly at 25. Even Graphite bows a lot at that speed. But the bowing is important as it acts as both a shock absorber and a wind pressure relief valve which helps greatly with stability.

It would be worth an experiment to buy a 125 Graphite rod and try it, but don't run it through the loops. Compare that setup with the FG and loops. I believe you will find that the kite flies more steadily in strong, gusty winds with unrestrained Graphite than it does with FG and loops. In really high winds, the FG is going to bottom out on the loops and will no longer be dumping wind pressure as well. I expect this will result in a squirrelier flight. I might be wrong, but it's certainly easy to test now that you already have the loops.

As far as scaling, this kite scales very well, as do all deltas. A bit of history on the DT Box. Originally, my Dad found plans in a magazine for a kite called a Hod Taylor Box Delta (which was really just a Delta Coyne). Hod Taylor lived in Ohio (he died in the late '80's I believe) and discovered kiting after he retired. By this time his eyesight was failing so he build these box deltas large (12-20 foot trailing edge) so they certainly do scale.

My Dad, on the other hand, was a tyvek, tape, and hardwood dowel kind of guy. So he scaled Hod's plans down so that a 1/4x36 inch dowel would serve as the spreader. This is where the 31 inch height came from. He also made a few other modifications to the Taylor plans. He cut off the wing tips to give it a different look, and because building a box section with a hole in it was harder than building a solid box, he tried solid first. He found that a solid box with equal length spars did not promote very good air flow through the box, so he shortened the front spar which helped quite a bit.

The trailing edge was initially left straight across and he flew this kite, made of type 14 tyvek, for 50 or more hours. This resulted in a rather tattered trailing edge, particularly near the middle. So, one day he took his scissors and applied the TLAR curve to the trailing edge (That-Looks-About-Right). This removed the frayed tyvek and gave the kite it's ultimate look. This trailing edge mod also had the beneficial side effect of moving the stabilizing flutter from the middle of the kite out to the tips where it is a bit more effective.

My Dad built smaller versions of this kite, but never larger as that would have required larger, longer dowels. He once built a version using 1 mil mylar with a 1/8 inch dowel for the spreader. This was his ultra-light. He won the altitude sprint at the Wright Kite Festival in 1982 or 83 with this rig. The winds were about 2-3mph and everyone else's kites refused to climb even a little. He had a homemade winder with 3 lb mono line and as he would wind backwards, the kite would dance up into the sky. After about 20 seconds of watching this we (the other competitors) gladly conceded him the victory.

As Harold mentioned, I did build a slightly larger DT once. It was 40 inches tall based on the width of the nylon we could get back then. I used FG tubing but don't remember the size off-hand. It flew fine outdoors, but indoors was like flying a truck as opposed to a sports car, and flying these kites indoors is where the real fun begins. I really think the 31 inch size with Graphite spars and polyester sail is just about perfect for indoor flying. It is quick, nimble, climbs briskly and sails nicely. If you haven't tried it, find a basketball court and give it a go.

Here's my technique for indoor flying. Spool off about 50-75 feet of line and leave it lying on the floor. Your left hand (I'm a rightie) is mostly for keeping the line out of your way while the right hand controls the kite. To launch, I typically have the kite beside me lying on the floor on it's back with the nose facing behind me. My right hand holds the line at about waist height. As I step forward, I pull the kite up behind me and with a circular motion, throw it out in front of me. As it loses momentum I put gentle pressure on the line with my right index finger to spin the kite around. Pulling in line quickly then causes the kite to climb up 15-20 feet and sail behind me. Basically, you control the kite with quick pulls, light line pressure, and arm motions (for axels and figure 8s).

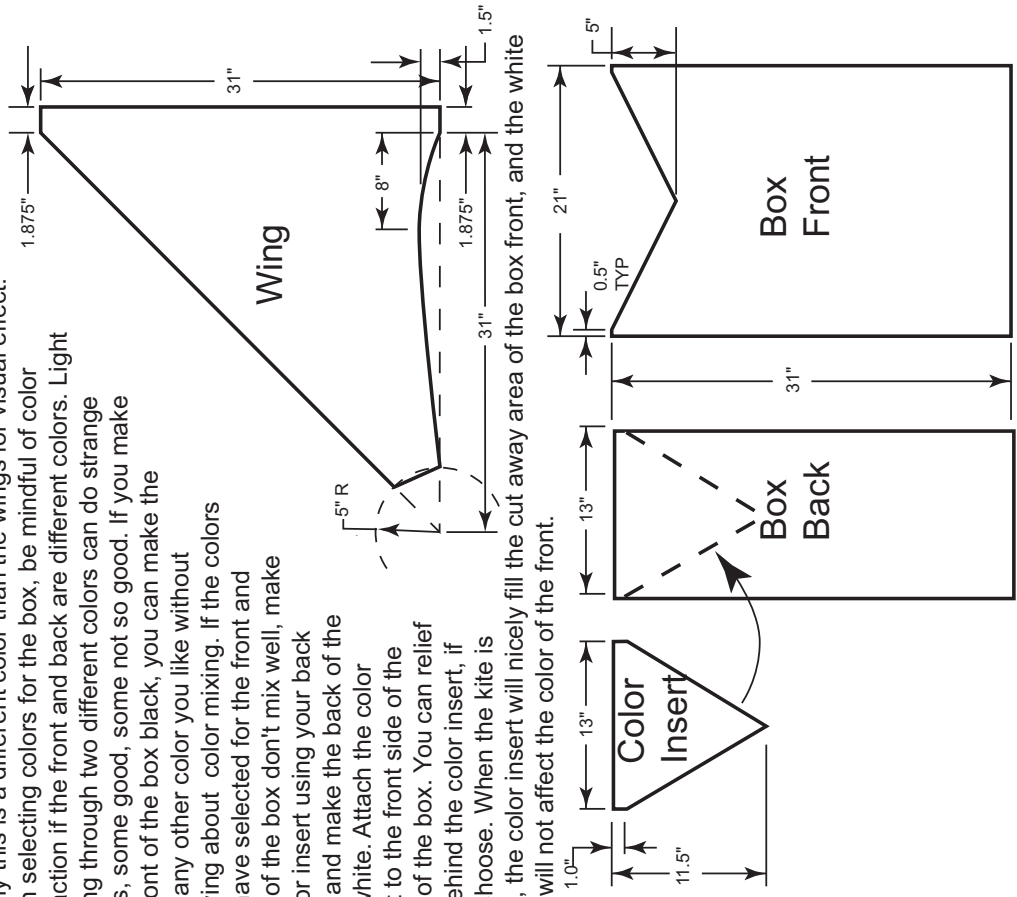
If you haven't built one, you really should. If you have questions I'll be glad to answer them. You can email me at cvdunton@visi.net.

Sorry about the length of this post. I hope it was of some interest.

Charlie Dunton

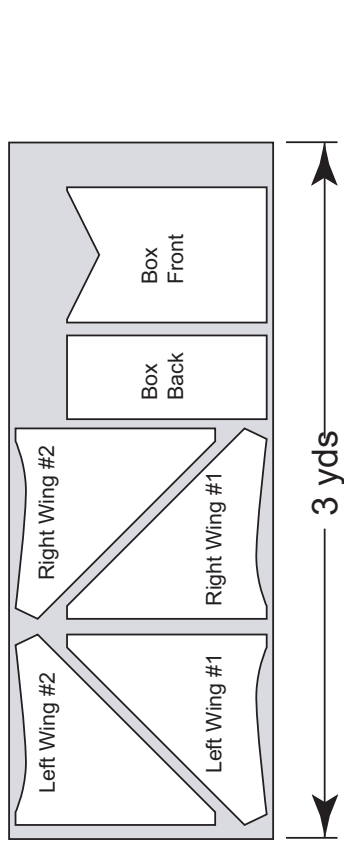
Dunton-Taylor Box Delta Pattern

All dimensions shown are finished dimensions. These plans call for edge binding and a separately attached leading edge. If both sides of your fabric have the same finish (most don't, North Cloth's impregnated finish fabric being one exception), you can get a set of wings from a yard of 41" fabric. Otherwise, you will need two yards, but you can get two sets of wings from 2 yards of fabric. The front and back of the box section will require an additional yard of fabric, but usually this is a different color than the wings for visual effect. When selecting colors for the box, be mindful of color interaction if the front and back are different colors. Light shining through two different colors can do strange things, some good, some not so good. If you make the front of the box black, you can make the back any other color you like without worrying about color mixing. If the colors you have selected for the front and back of the box don't mix well, make a color insert using your back color and make the back of the box white. Attach the color insert to the front side of the back of the box. You can relief cut behind the color insert, if you choose. When the kite is flying, the color insert will nicely fill the cut away area of the box front, and the white back will not affect the color of the front.



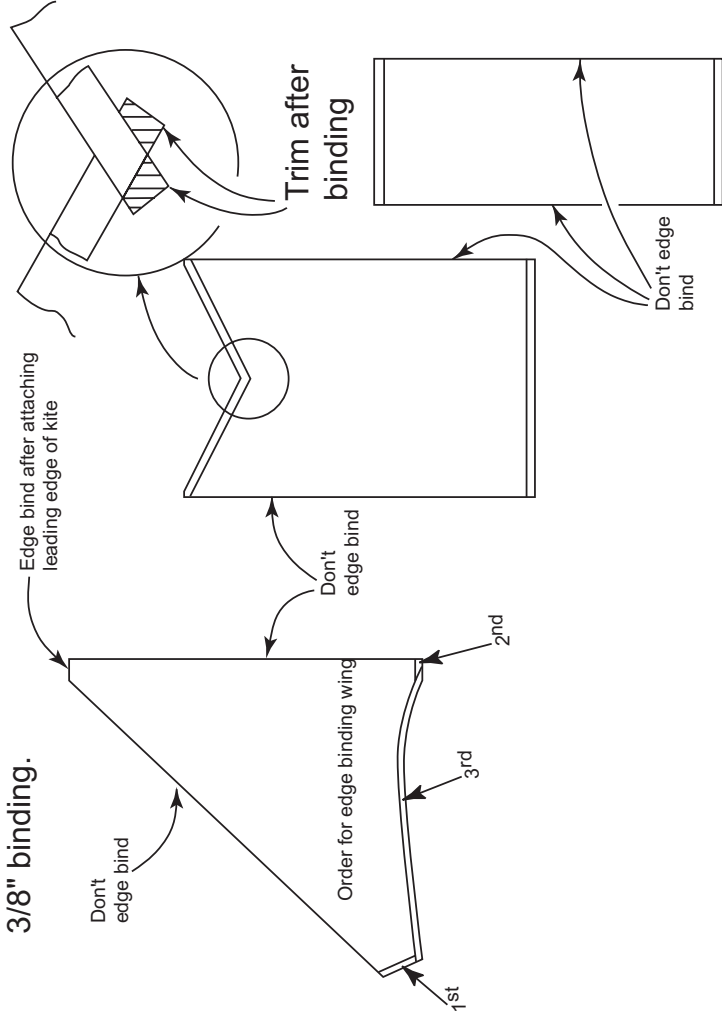
Dunton-Taylor Box Delta Layout

Layout where front and back of fabric are different.

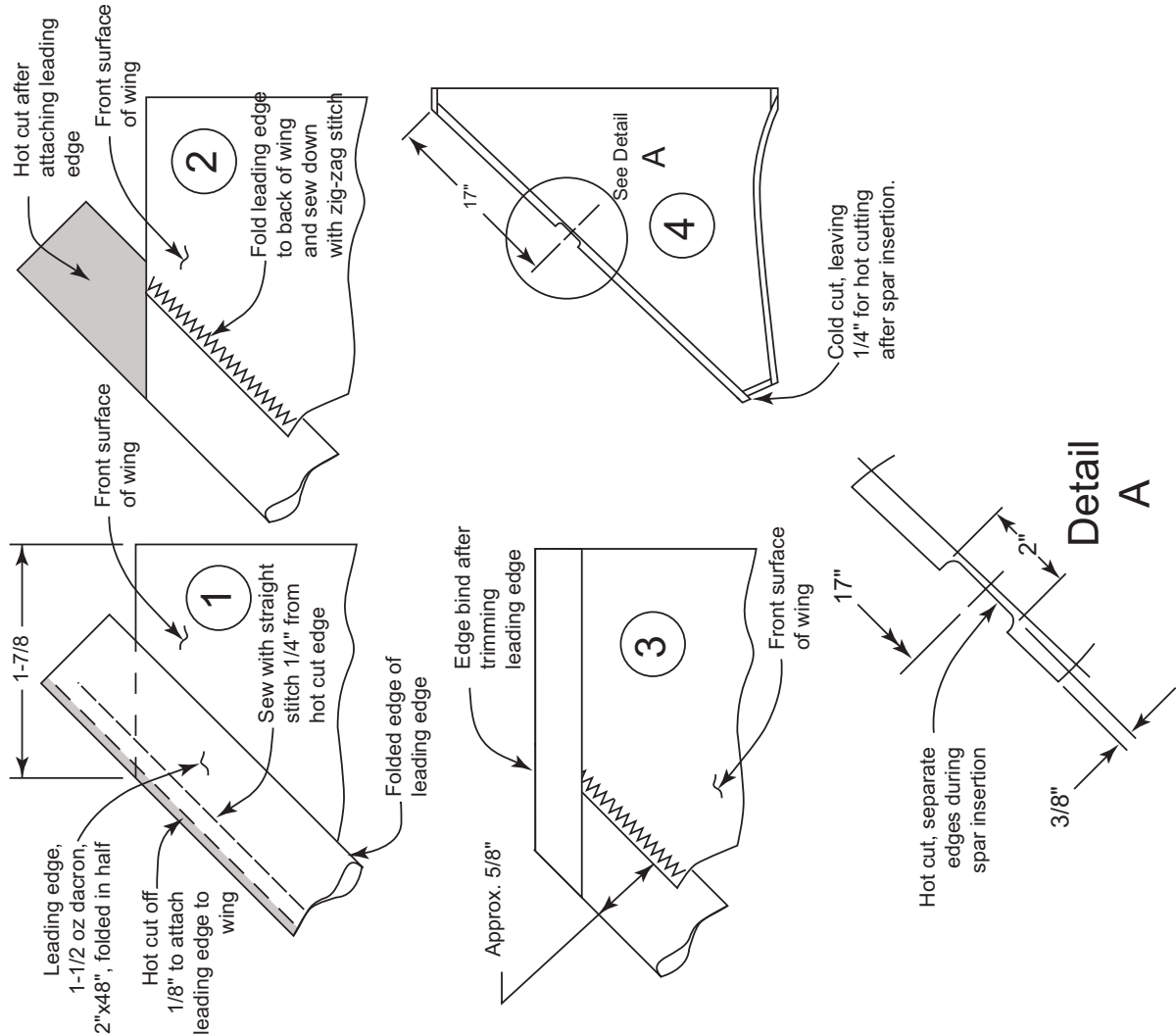


Edge Binding

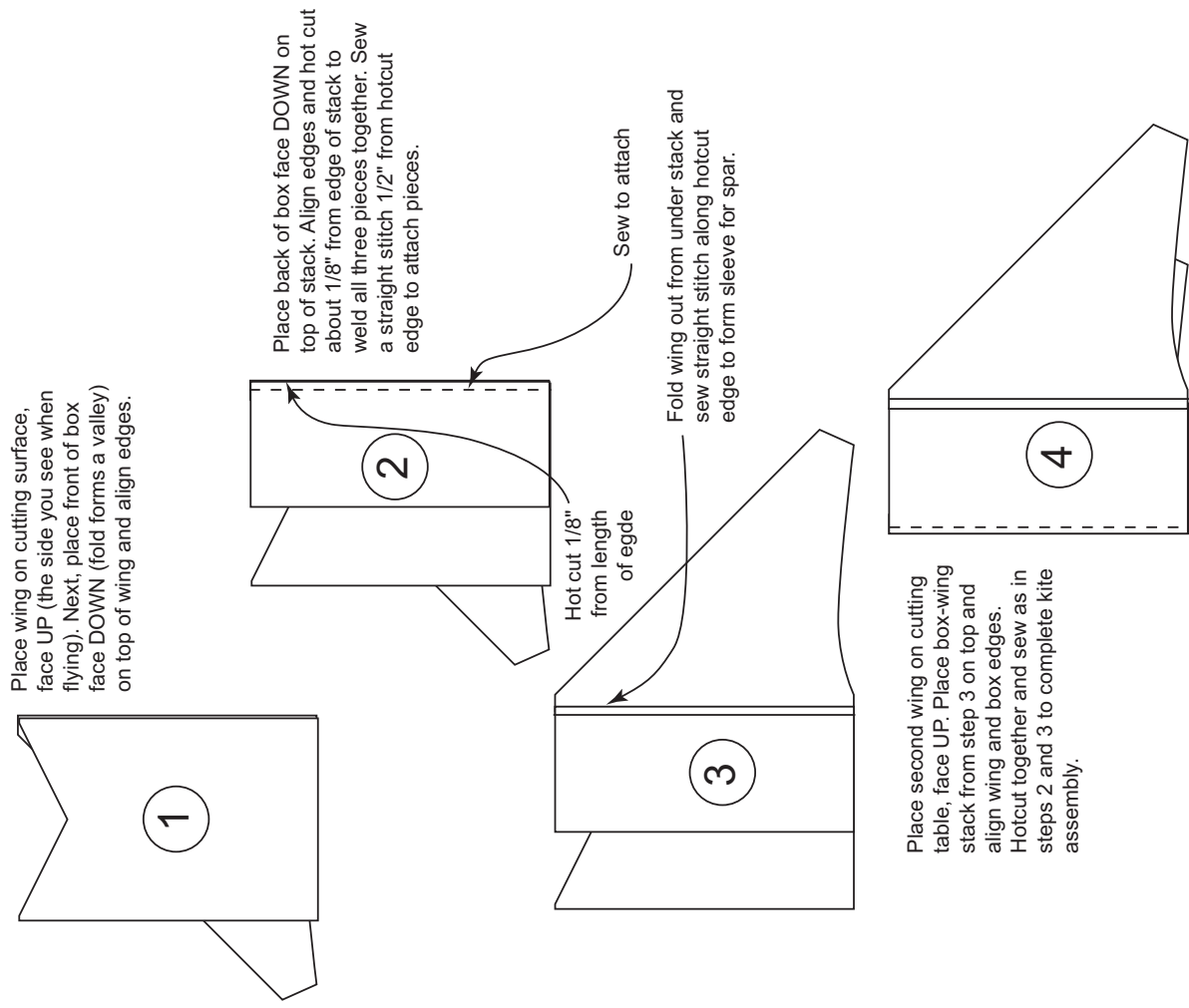
From 41", 3/4 oz nylon, cut 5 strips 3/4"x41" - Fold in half for 3/8" binding.



Dunton-Taylor Box Delta Leading Edge Attachment:



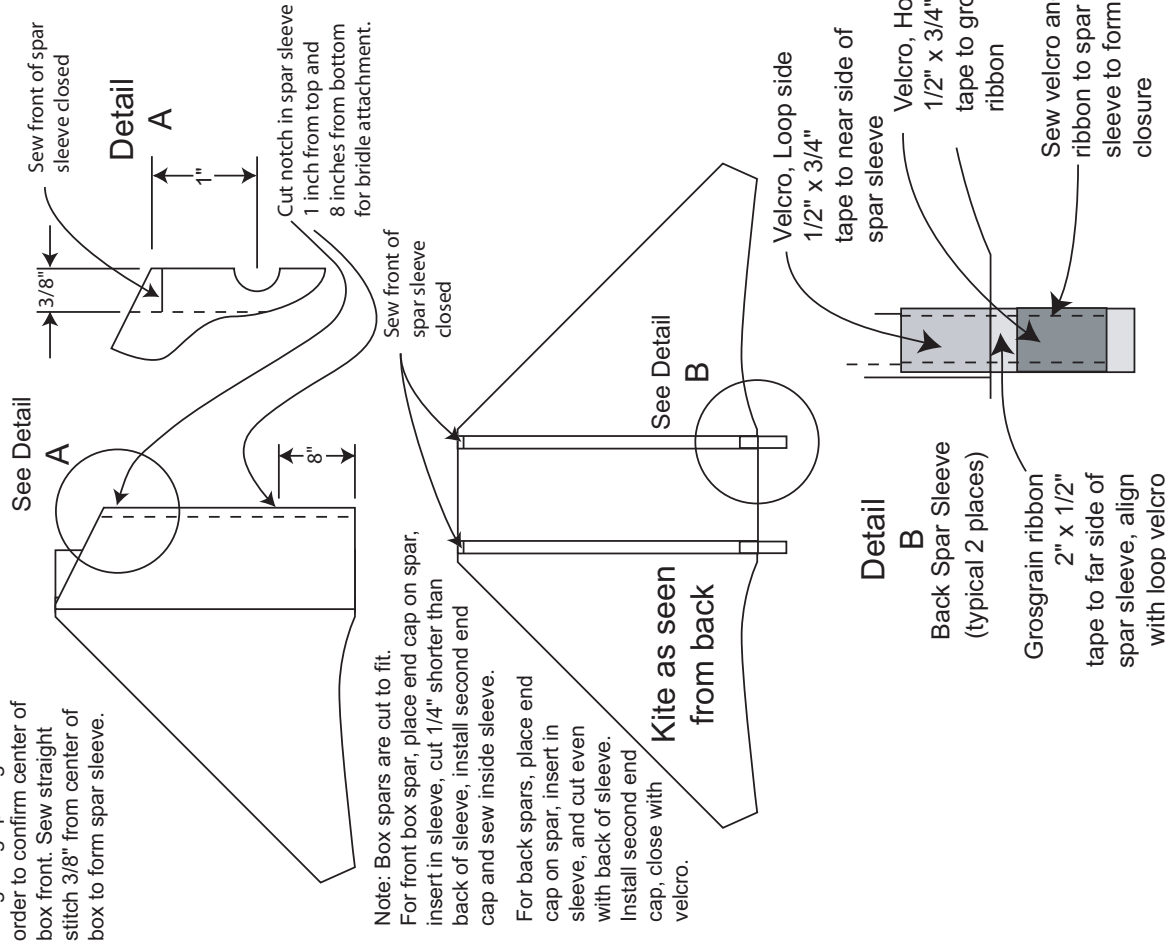
Dunton-Taylor Box Delta Sewing Together



Dunton-Taylor Box Delta

Spar sleeve details:

Bring wing tips together in order to confirm center of box front. Sew straight stitch 3/8" from center of box to form spar sleeve.



Note: Box spars are cut to fit.

For front box spar, place end cap on spar, insert in sleeve, cut 1/4" shorter than back of sleeve, install second end cap and sew inside sleeve.

For back spars, place end cap on spar, insert in sleeve, and cut even with back of sleeve. Install second end cap, close with velcro.

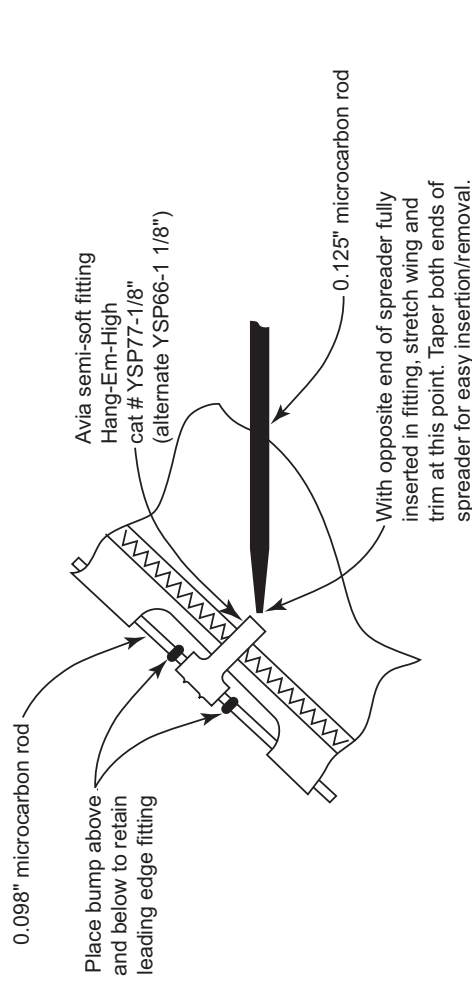
Dunton-Taylor Box Delta

Framing:

Wing Spars — 0.098" graphite rod, 2 @ 31"

Box Spars — 0.098" graphite rod, 2 @ ~31", 1 @ ~26"

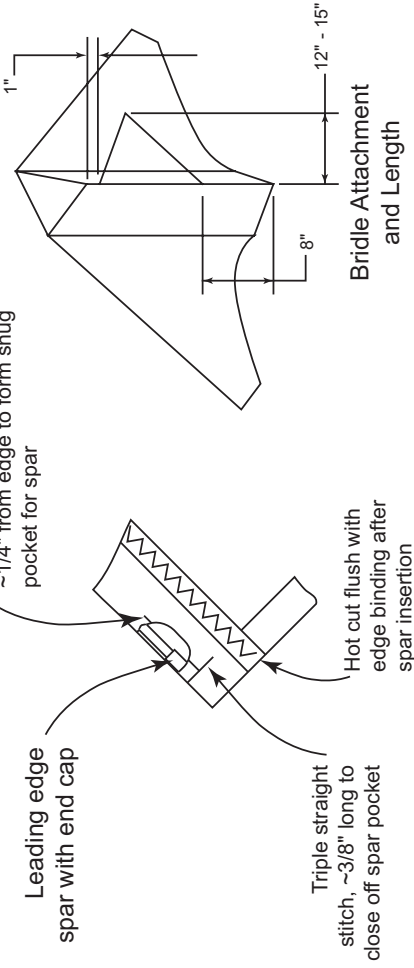
Spreader — 0.125" graphite rod, 1 @ ~36", trim to fit



Leading Edge Details

Leading edge spar with end cap

Triple straight stitch ~1" long, ~1/4" from edge to form snug pocket for spar



Suffolk Kite Festival—17th & 18th May

For the first time in 10 years we have a new site layout. We now have **6 arenas**, a single line kite display arena, our main display arena, a large inflatable arena, the STACK competition arena, a practice arena for STACK and clubs and a much larger arena for power kiting than last year. The vast area at Rougham together with more grass being cut than ever before has allowed us to increase the festival area.

SAMUEL FRANKLIN CODY MAN-LIFTING KITES

Do you own a Cody kite or do you know who does?

In one of the many books written about S.F.Cody it mentions that in 1904/5 he undertook some experiments in an Army Barracks in Bury St. Edmunds. Rougham Airfield is only 2 miles from Bury and to celebrate his great kiting achievements we would like to have as many Cody Kites as possible at our 11th festival this year. We already have 5/6 Cody kites coming and includes Paul Chapman from Bristol, Kelvin Woods and at least two from members of the Great Ouse Kite Club and own Suffolk Kite Flyer's member Norman Cotterell who has made a massive 13ft.reproduction. Any size of Cody kite is fine, perhaps you have a stack of Cody kites?

Saturday evening meal, Auction and Entertainment

Before the kite auction a meal will be available. There will be a choice of main meal and dessert and tickets will be available in the Suffolk Kite Flyers marquee until 4pm on the Saturday. The beer tent will be open serving real ales plus most of the popular drinks. This year we aim to hold the first ever SFK Kite Auction on the Saturday evening. Proceeds from the auction will go towards funding the 12th Suffolk Kite Festival and to our chosen charity which is the "East Anglian Air Ambulance". For this auction to work, we need to have as many new/used kites and kite related stuff as possible. Anything and everything will be willingly taken in for the auction. Please feel free to email me at with any suggestions or donation offers. This can only work if we all try hard enough – please ask around. After the auction music will be provided by The Ozone crew. Ozone are breaking barriers and boundaries with entertainment at various kite festivals across the globe, being joined by Lx with live visuals, video, lighting and atmospheric things are definitely gonna go with a bang!

Schools Kite Making and Flying Competition

Once again we have invited schools around the Suffolk area to take part in a mass kite making and flying competition to take place on Saturday. They have all received a basic rule fact sheet which includes the max. size and that the kite must be made of recyclable materials. Flexifoil are helping the kite sports in schools project in a number of ways as reported in the last magazine. They are not only supplying equipment at reduced prices, but also helping with the cost of setting up a web site which gives full details of kite clubs in schools sport partnership. Flexifoil have kindly supplied some great prizes for the above competition at this year's festival.

Display Teams and Flyers

Single line flyers includes Kelvin Woods, Paul Brooks, Rob Brixton (Skunk), Dave Mitchell and Peter Smith. Other teams include The Beccle's Bunch; Brighton Kite Fliers; Dark Star; Team Spectrum. There will also be

displays from the best of the UK STACK teams and individuals.

The top power kites have also be invited and include flyers from Team Flexifoil, Team Ozone plus Lee Paling – 2006 Buggy Freestyle Champion and Lewis Wilby – the European Land Board Champion.

Carl and James Robertshaw " Evolver" World Championship Display Team will be displaying for the 5th time at this year's festival. Chris Goff will also be part of the team. 'The Flying Squad' will be displaying at our festival this year they are the un-defeated European Team Champions since 2000.

STACK UK will be opening the UK Championships series for 2008 at our festival. Teams and flyers from around the UK will be gathering to show off their skills.

Camping is available from 2pm on Friday 16th (**NO ear-lier 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 12 midday Monday 19th if required. (water, toilets on site). If you anticipate arriving late please let us know to ensure arrangements are made for the gates to be unlocked.

Free Entry to the Kite Festival will be only be allowed with a Pre-booked Traders pass or vehicle/camp pass issued prior to the event otherwise you will have to pay the full entrance fee shown below. (General public will not be allowed on site until 10am on Saturday and Sunday) - Kite Society members who show a valid membership card will get a 25% reduction on the gate price only (this does not apply to the camping fee or advance tickets). (*Please note that the entrance gate will manned this year on Friday as well.*)

Gate Prices :-

Adult day ticket - £6; Concession day ticket - £4 Kids aged 12 or under go free. Adult Weekend ticket - £10, Concession weekend ticket - £8. Adult weekend ticket + camping - £15, Concession weekend + camping - £12

Advance discounts are available through the Theatre Royal – Bury St. Edmunds; Telephone 01284 - 769505.

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.

Finally we are grateful to all our sponsors and supporters. The Suffolk International Kite Festival is part of famous BURY FESTIVAL 2008.

Martin Corrie

Vice Chairman of the Suffolk Kite Flyers and Festival Organizer.

Contact: 01206 299560 or Mobile 07775 744377

E-Mail: - martin@skfc.co.uk

Blackheath Kite and Bike Festival, 14th & 15th June

Kitefliers who have been around a while will probably have fond memories of the Blackheath kite events that were held at Easter and late June every year from the late 70's until 2000. Together with Lewisham Council we are once again organising an event at Blackheath.

The official press release from the council is below but there are some additional details that kitefliers would be interested in.

The bike bit is because it is national bike week and the Mayor of London is putting some money into the event on the basis of bikes being part of the event. Team MAD (the bike display team) have their own, smallish arena away from the kite arenas, so there should not be any interference.

For people interested in staying nearby we have arranged a discount rate at The Clarendon Hotel, Montpelier Row, Blackheath, London SE3 ORW. Tel: 020 8318 4321 or email: relax@clarendonhotel.com. Rates are £70 for a single and £80 for a double/twin both inclusive of breakfast. Just quote 'Kite and Bike Festival' when making your booking.

The main thing you should be aware of is that there is **NO** parking on the heath. Some parking is available in Greenwich Park and in Blackheath Village (or local roads). The council preference is to use your bike or public transport.

We hope you will support this event so that it can become an annual event once again.

Press Release.

The skies of Blackheath in south east London, will come alive with kites of all shapes, sizes and colours when the Blackheath Bike and Kite Festival gets underway.

The Bike and Kite Festival will take place from 11am each day. The event has been organised by the Kite Society of Great Britain and Festival Special Events on behalf of Lewisham Council. Sponsored by Transport for London, it is being held during National Bike Week.

The weekend-long festival will have something for everyone. With specialist commentators for each of the display arenas, entertainment over the weekend includes:

- o Holland kite team and Belgium's 'Atomic' kite team, who will bring a variety of inflatable kites and kite trains, from 'champagne bottles' to 'air guitars'.

- o A unique seven man stunt team, The Air Heads, will display their expert air dynamic kites in an impressive routine of precision ballet.

- o Team Spectrum: a father and son duo, Carl and Bryan with Carl flying his 'three kites, one man' display. Carl is one of only three people in the UK

able to perform this feat.

- o 'The Flying Squad', who will give an exciting visual display flying revolution kites in a synchronised ballet, quite different from any other type of kite ballet.

- o Former UK Experienced Pair Champions: Husband and wife Allan and Marilyn Potheary, also known as Close Encounters, will be demonstrating various exhibition displays.

- o Specialist kite traders will be on site so that everyone will have the chance to buy and fly their very own kite.

- o UK mountain bike stunt display team, Team MAD, will demonstrate death defying leaps, jumps, hops and balancing skills, using only their custom made stunt bikes. Children can get in on the act with special interactive in-between show 'skill sessions', where they can learn tips and tricks to help them perform their own bike stunts.

For bike enthusiasts, Dr Bike will be on hand to offer advice and help on how to keep your bike in top condition.

As well as kites and bikes, there will be entertainment for young people with a special children's fair, provided by Glendale Grounds Management and Botton's Family Funfairs. Aimed at children under 12, the fair will be open from 11.00am to 7.00pm each day.

For all the latest information go to the Lewisham Council website, www.lewisham.gov.uk and follow the links to Bike and Kite Festival.

For information about places to stay, go to www.lewisham.gov.uk and search on 'where to stay'. Follow the links to Visit London or the Lewisham Tourist Information Centre. 020 8297 8317 or email tic@lewisham.gov.uk

There are no parking facilities on Blackheath. Visitors should plan their journey using the Transport for London journey planner at www.tfl.gov.uk .



Events News

Suffolk International Kite Festival. 17th & 18th May.

One of the first events of the season is the Suffolk International Kite Festival held at Rougham Airfield on Saturday and Sunday 17-18 May. The organizers are hoping to recreate a flight of Cody Kites during the two day event. If you have a Cody style kite and would like to fly or exhibit it or take part in this event could you please contact Martin Corrie in the events list.

Ashdon Kite Festival, 2nd June.

The Ashdon Kite Festival follows in early June, it is a village event with all the proceeds going to the Church and its village hall. It is well supported by kite flyers and clubs and is in a lovely location in the grounds of the Vestey Estates just north of Saffron Walden (directions from all main roads). There is a flying field adjacent to the arena for those who just want to come and fly their own kites.

Contact: Andrew Eyles 01799 584339

Royston Festival, 3rd August

At Therfield Heath, the Royston Festival is run by the local Rotary Club, it is a free event but a donation is always welcome. The flying arena is on a steep slope but there are some great views over the Cambridgeshire countryside from the top end of the heath and large areas to fly kites. Flying displays start at 11 am and finishes around 4 pm.

Contact Peter Mitton 01223 262073

Hunstanton Festival, 17th August

The Hunstanton Festival is on Sunday 17 August this year; hopefully we will have better luck with the weather this year. We have a full days arena events starting at 10 am with a display at 1pm of Classic cars and Harley Davidson Bikes from HD club of GB. We are supported by the Suffolk Kite Flyers, Great Ouse and the Thorpe Kites and many individual flyers. This is our twelfth festival here at the Smithdon School fields. Camping is available on the flying field from 1 pm Saturday before the festival by permission.

Contact Bryan 01223 243825

For further information on any of the above events please contact the display organizer or email darkstar.org.uk.

Flight in the Park Sunday 20th April 2008, Berrington Hall, Leominster, HR6 ODW. (previously in September)

Kite Fliers Access 11:00am – 5:00pm. House Open 1:00pm – 4:30pm

There will be a workshop for the public to make kites; fliers are invited to join in flying their own

kites. Kite fliers cars are allowed onto the field if the conditions are good, please apply to for a car pass otherwise you will have to pay to enter the grounds.

Passes will be sent out via email in early April, **they are numbered, please do not forward them to others.**

As this is National Trust property and there is live-stock about please note dogs are not allowed.

Contact Karl Longbottom, School House, Dorstone, Hereford HR3 6AN, Karl@longbottom.org.uk.

NORTH HAMPSHIRE KITER'S JOLLY UP2-April 26th & 27th

Come and join us again for a FUN Weekend of Kite Flying for Kite Fliers! The site is located in the village of Cliddesden, just south of Basingstoke (not far from J6 of the M3). On site camping is available from Friday evening onwards (£5 per tent/camper for the weekend).

The Saturday evening BBQ worked well on the first event, so we will doing the same format this time. (£6, and bring your plate and cutlery please!). An Auction will be held on the Saturday evening, so please be generous again (any donations gratefully received on the week-end)

Roy's Refreshment Tent will be open for Business, normal rules apply..

For further info, please either contact Roy on 07778 352825 or Colin on 07770 338419 Or e-mail

Dates for this same event taking place later this year again are August 2nd & 3rd 2008. Please Note: this is NOT a Buggy/Boarding weekend, thank-you.

Hastings Kite Day, June 14th

Esther Appleyard is project managing a new kite festival, in collaboration with Radiator Arts and Hastings Castle Ward Forum.

This event will be for one day on 14th June in Hastings, East Sussex. Our main aims are to engage fully with the community - encouraging involvement from the multi-cultural groups in Hastings looking at the cultural significance of a Kite.

Radiator Arts will lead workshops in Schools and in the Town Centre to encourage people and children to make their own Kites that they can then fly at the event on 14th.

I would like to invite some Kite Flyers or "Pilots" to our event - to give the day a focal "performance".
www.appleyardcreative.com

Events News

Butser Hill Festival of Flight Sunday June 15th

This has now been held at Butser Hill for several years, always a bit of fun. The site is off the A3, not far from Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Follow the signs for BUTSER HILL.

Kites, Hand gliders, Para gliders and Model gliders are welcome. Parachute your Teddy Bear for fun! Plenty of space for flying. There is an on-site cafe for basic refreshments. (but Please contact the Park before the event to confirm the Cafe will be open and what will be on sale, as this is out of our control).

Sorry, but buggying is not permitted. This is just a relaxing, fun day, with room to fly your kites, or purchase one while you are there. Come along and have some fun!

Contact: Roy Broadley of Kites Up on 01256 812487 or Queen Elizabeth Country Park on 02392 595040

13th Southampton Kite Festival, 21st. & 22nd June.

This year sees the 13th. Southampton Kite Festival organised and run by Solent Kite Flyers in conjunction with Southampton City Council and C.Coles Fun Fair. It is to be held over the weekend of 21st. & 22nd. June 2008. from 10.00am. to 5.30pm. each day with night flying on Saturday evening. The venue is Lordshill Sports Ground ,5 Acre Field, Lordshill, Southampton. Hampshire. Access is via Junction 2. M271 off Junction 3 M27. and the site entrance is off Redbridge Lane. All major access routes will be AA. signposted for the event.

This year's Kite Festival will be a great show of many different types of kites, flying displays and kite competitions, as well as varied and interesting activities happening around the Festival Site.

Each day will see Kite Flying Displays from the UK's best Individuals, Pairs and Teams in National Sport Kite Competitions as well as general entertainment and display flying to music. There will also be a few very special arena displays from local groups, including displays of Power Kiting with buggies and boards. We have invited International Guests to give both flying and static kite displays around the Festival site and there will be plenty of open space available for public flying, so make sure you bring your own kites to fly. C. Coles Fun Fair will be on-site and open all weekend for those thrilling rides and side stalls. There will be a Kite Making Workshop, in which everyone will be able to make their own simple kite, A Sport Kite Flying School for help in getting started in two and four line kites, as well as large and small Kite Traders selling a range of Kites and Accessories to all levels of experience and price. Craft stalls, general interest and activity traders, hot and cold refreshments, live music, street theatre, face painting and Punch & Judy will also be there to keep all ages entertained throughout the day.

Former UK Experienced Pairs Champions "Close Encounters" will be offering you the chance to fly with them as a Team in the main arena (Don't worry – they will supply the kite but you have to be able to fly straight(ish) lines and corners already). There's also another chance to enter their "WIN A KITE" competition so bring your camera. Check out their web-site for further details of the 'Colour' competition.

There will also be 'Parachuting Teddy Bears!' so bring along your own 'Cuddly Toys' so they can join in the fun; each one receiving a certificate for their bravery.

Weather and wind permitting, there will be a 'Night Fly' on Saturday evening from dusk. This is open for all fliers to join in, with the kites having lights attached or using reflective tapes etc. Some of the food traders will stay open as long as there are customers to serve!

If you don't feel like flying a kite, then why not just come and watch one of the most colourful and exciting events to happen in Southampton this year. Entry is free, parking is free and the sky is free for all to use and enjoy.

Camping will be available with prior consent – Please contact Mike Lowe of Solent Kite Flyers on 02380 770788 or email for any further details.

Bungay Kite Day, 13th July

10.00am - 4.00pm, Outney Common, Bungay (next to the Bungay and Waveney Valley Golf Club on the A143). Free parking. Free entry. Contact: Andy King 01986 895604 or 07761 680905

Will be doing children's workshops and so far Hugh and Lyn Blowers, Kellers of Norwich and (to be confirmed) George and June have said they are going to come. Perhaps I can get Joost to come and I'll let Martin Corrie know so hopefully some of the Suffolk kitefliers might turn up.

Many thanks for your support.

Leominster, Herefordshire Kite Festival 19th & 20th July

Kite Fliers Access 5:00pm Friday – 10:00am Monday
House Open 1:00pm – 4:30pm

This kite festival has the usual laid back approach with an arena if required, PA if absolutely necessary and fliers enjoying the unhurried ambience.

We plan to organise an Indian Take Away for the Saturday evening, please could you give an indication of numbers of takers when you apply for the car/camping pass. There will also be an auction on the Saturday evening and the usual arrangement for

Events News

sampling the local liquid produce. Please be aware our only source of income is from the auction and camping fees so be generous.

Kite fliers cars, tents, caravans, vans etc are allowed onto the field but beware if the conditions are not good, please apply to for a car/camping pass otherwise you will have to pay to enter the grounds.

Passes will be sent out via email in early July, **they are numbered, please do not forward them to others.**

If camping

- no open fires or barbeques allowed
- camping fee £5 for 1 night, £10 for 2 or more nights

Contact Karl Longbottom, School House, Dorstone, Hereford HR3 6AN, Karl@longbottom.org.uk.

NORTH HAMPSHIRE KITER'S JOLLY UP3-August 2nd & 3rd

Come and join us for a 3rd FUN Weekend of Kite Flying for Kite Fliers! Same format as before, so relaxed and fun. The site is located in the village of Cliddesden, just south of Basingstoke (not far from J6 of the M3). On site camping is available from Friday evening onwards (£5 per tent/camper for the weekend).

The Saturday evening BBQ worked well on the first event, so we will doing the same format this time. (£6, and bring your plate and cutlery please!). An Auction will be held on the Saturday evening, so please be generous again (any donations gratefully received on the week-end).

Roy's Refreshment Tent will be open for Business, normal rules apply.

For further info, please either contact Roy on 07778 352825 or Colin on 07770 338419 Or e-mail

Please Note: this is NOT a Buggy/Boarding weekend, thank-you.

Portsmouth Kite Festival 23rd—25th August

This year looks to be bigger and better than ever and includes part of the 20th Anniversary celebrations of the Revolution kite. We are hoping to have over 45 revolution fliers in a Mega Team display and will be including the top fliers from both Europe and the USA. More details of the festival in the next magazine.

As part of the celebrations and to raise funds for their trip a UK Rev Clinic by iQuad will be taking place after the main festival days, August 25-26, 2008.

Sponsored by Portsmouth Kite Festival and Kiteworld UK.

Formed in May of 2006, iQuad is made up of nearly a dozen pilots from all over the USA who travel the world year round, performing, teaching and promoting Revolution kite flying as an exciting, family-oriented sport that is accessible to people of all ages and physical abilities in a wide variety of wind conditions... iQuad's team captain John Barresi is a nine-time US/AKA National Multiline Champion who, with the other accomplished pilots from the team, will be providing instruction for pilots of all skill levels in a safe and friendly environment.

This will be a 2 day clinic at the same location as and following the Portsmouth Kite Festival, addressing individual, pairs and team Rev (quad) techniques for NOVICE through MASTER level pilots, led by six members of the professional sport kite performance team iQuad... While the team obviously focuses on and recommends Revolutions for their superior flight characteristics and durability, iQuad members will happily provide instruction to anyone with a kite that has the essential quad line flight characteristics such as hovering, reverse, forward and sideways flight.

With a more structured clinic on Monday while the Portsmouth fields are still set up, we will focus on specific tips and tools that will take all the frustration out of setting up and flying your Revolution kite(s)... Tuesday will be more casual, with a great deal more time for relaxation, free flying and one on one time with iQuad team members for personal instruction.

The very nature of Rev team flying is fun, relaxed and very forgiving, so if you're the least bit curious, this is a premier opportunity to learn from some of the best in the world... iQuad specializes in and greatly enjoys working with newer pilots.

Registration Fees:

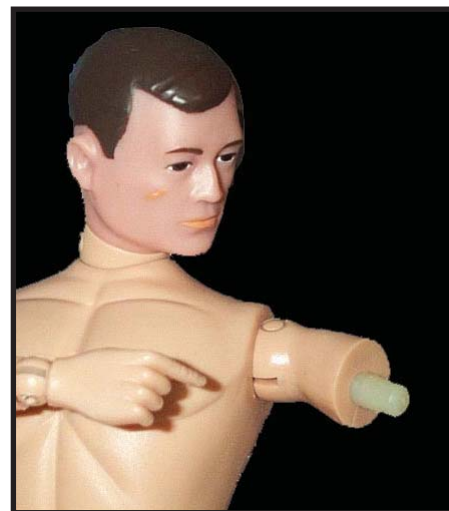
The registrations below cover full participation in the Rev clinic. Go to uk.revclinic.com to sign up.

£15 youth registration (15 and under)
£20 individual registration (age 16 and over)
£35 family registration (same household & family name – up to 5)

£25 on-site (late) registration, per person – sign up early!

100% of the clinic proceeds will go directly towards the substantial travel expenses incurred by iQuad to attend the Portsmouth/Bristol events.

For more information, contact Kiteworld UK by phone at 01243 381252. Or check in with us by email...
- dave@kiteworld.co.uk
- info@teamiquad.com



Well most of you might have heard about a well known kite flyer and his little mishap if you guess who it is send email to andrew@tug.com and wish him all the best.

THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

ANOTHER ANOTHER GREAT GREAT YEAR DAY

After a busy Christmas visiting all those relatives and a fun new year there is nothing better than getting out in the fresh air. So we got up early and headed up to a windy Devil's dyke for the annual gathering. We were not the first to arrive by any means as there were several people already parked up in our usual muddy corner. Once we had parked we got out and joined in with the fun.

It was good to see friends again who we tend to see almost every weekend in the summer but not so regularly at this time of year. So soon we were all catching up on each others news and making plans for the year ahead. At the same time we were dusting off kites that had been in hibernation and flying them high above the Sussex Downs on a cold but dry day. Some were old favorites and the lucky ones amongst us had new toys delivered by Santa to play with. We amused the public who were also out & about on a windy New Year's day and even got some of them to join in. A few new recruits I hope & maybe we will see some of them at the Festival later this year. It always cheers me up that whenever you talk to a group of people around Brighton there is always someone who has heard of or attended our Festival. They have only good things to say about it and that in itself makes the hard work that

goes in to the festival worthwhile. Anyway back to New Year.

Marion was there with her tin of cakes, always appreciated, always yummy. Thanks Marion! Les "bloke from the smoke" brought along a bag of Chestnuts which he proceeded to cook on his mini cadac, which he had set up by his van, and then share them with all the kite flyers. Kevin & Linda had brought along some soup which they cooked up so no one went hungry, somebody even bought a tin of Chocolates! It just goes to show what a generous and friendly bunch the Brighton Kite Flyers are.

I think the team spirit award that was won at Portsmouth last year shows that other people also see that in the Brighton Kite Flyers, and the award was one of the best memories of 2007 for me, and sums up what it is

all be about as well as kite flying.

After a good day's flying it was finally time to pack away for another day and look forward to the long days of summer, hoping that they will be just as good as the day we had just had.

Corinne Hennessey



A QUICK GUIDE FOR 2008 AND WHAT COULD BE IN STORE FOR THE BKF

With all the old favorites and quite a few new events and the resurrection on a couple of long lost ones as well, 2008 looks like a busy year. The first festival of the year would have been and gone by the time this goes to press and hopefully be written up in the next issue of Aerodyne. That is the Brenzett Aeronautical Museum Kite event over the Easter weekend. This is followed shortly after by Streatham Common Kite Festival on the 13th April 2008. A one day event where lots of public come along and not only marvel at the kites flown by clubs and teams, but fill the common up with kites of all shapes and sizes themselves.

Then we have a bit of the gap before the season starts in earnest, with Weymouth and Horton Farm Vintage Weekend over the bank holiday 3rd – 5th May. Weymouth is a long standing festival Horton one of the new ones, for kite flying, it is a steam rally that wants to add kite flying to the spectacle.

Then the following weekend its Swindon, for those that made last year hope it will be a little dryer, but just as much fun. (Note that this year it is at Lydiard Park not the science museum). I guess Marler may well be there so your will need plenty of cash for the raffle.

Suffolk follows on with a great event and lots of room to fly and camp. There is lots of space for all types of kite both large and small, buggies and boarders.

Next could be a weekend off to cut the lawns, trim the hedge and do all the things that you need to do around the house before the June onslaught comes, or you could head down to

Tewkesbury Kite Fun Weekend of you fancy some more kite flying.

Then comes Bedford or Exmouth both events have had great write ups in the past and could be fun. The 7th -8th June then bring along Basingstoke Kite Festival. Last year the winds were a little light but we had good fun and put on some fantastic impromptu arena displays of both club and personally owned kites.

The 1st Teston on the 14th - 15th June give you a chance to chill out a bit as you only seem able to do a Teston or you could head up to Blackheath for the re-launched Kite



Festival on the common if you fancy a more formal kite festival and more space to fly.

Southampton 21st – 22nd June seems ages away as I write this but after last year it is one I will try and do again although this year I may opt for staying over for both days. It's a little tight for space for big kites so one to

enjoy without the club kites maybe, but great for company a good festival to fly at.

Another week end to trim the Jungle as I am sure the grass will be very long by now and the weeds taking over the flowerbeds, and a bit of a relax before Brighton Kite Festival on the 12th – 13th July. It's hard to believe it's the 30th year of the club running a festival in Brighton. We hope to make it one of the best ever and have a few Interesting arena displays planned for the weekend. So please come along and have fun.

We then move on to Hereford or Eastbourne Extreme on the 19th – 20th July or Dunstable Downs on the 20th all great events all quite relaxing compared to the work of the previous weekend. Not sure if there will be any camping a Dunstable if you wanted to arrive on the Saturday rather than drive up early on Sunday morning. I do know that with Hereford there is camping as with most festivals and with Eastbourne the arrangements will be the same arraignment as last year with camping from Friday night through to Monday for BKF club members only.

On the 26th - 27th there is another new Festival in Dover (not on the cliffs) not too far to travel I know there is camping available but very little else about the event.

More information on all these and other festivals will be available on the BKF website and through other kite related websites.

A few usefull links to help find events near you:-

<http://www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk>

<http://www.thekitesociety.org.uk>

<http://www.kitecalendar.co.uk>

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL 2008

JULY 12TH & 13TH 2008

Stanmer Park, Brighton

Celebrating 30 Years of the Brighton Kite Festival

SWANNING AROUND ON A COLD FEBRUARY WEEKEND

Well back in October last year I put a call in to one of the UK leading kite makers to ask if he would be interested in doing a workshop for Brighton Kite Flyers. He mentioned to me that he had been asked the same question from White Horse Kite Flyers and had come up with a swan



designed specially for the workshop. Soon after my telephone conversation an e-mail arrived with a photo of Karl Longbottom holding a 2m swan. I took one look at it and phoned him back saying that it was wonderful and if White Horse Kite Flyers did not do the workshop I am sure we could arrange it for Brighton. The White Horse Kite Flyers October workshop was two weeks away but I had other things on that weekend so had opted not to do it but I knew Karl was heading down to show them the swan.

Two weeks passed and I got a phone call from Karl saying that the White Horse Kite Flyers had said yes to the workshop. I made a call to Dave Robinson that night booking my place on the workshop. (As so many of the Brighton Kite Flyers do the White Horse Kite Flyers workshops it did not seem a good idea to have both clubs run the same workshop, but if after people see the kite we get enough interest in doing the swan in the autumn I could book Karl up for it still.)

The day soon came round where we headed off to Swindon for the workshop, every time I book a workshop I wonder "what have I let myself in for". Karl had on this

occasion promised me that this would not be a hard workshop and as I sat down all I could see were roles of fabric and some templates. There were three colours to choose from white, grey and black; I opted for black as it fits well with most of my other kites. This was the first workshop where the kits had not been cut out. So that was daunting to start with, but I had no need to worry as the cutting out was much simpler than I feared and was soon done. It was then that Karl said that black was the hardest colour as you can not see through it and would need to mark very clearly the points shown. This was duly done which meant the sewing came next. Corinne had allowed me to use her Phaff as I had given away my old machine, what a treat it was. The machine runs so smoothly and has a slow start up speed and a very smooth action. I was soon hemming the wings and body with for me quite neat hems. Once these were all done and the two extra hems I had put in were unpicked lunch was served.

Next on the agenda, the wings tips needed to be joined to the lower wing sections. Although I have done quite a few workshops this is something that I have never done, panel joins,



but under the guidance of Karl I was soon joining the second wing tip and lower together and getting ready to join both wings to the body. This done and most people seeing the end in sight we called it a day and headed back to our digs for a fun evening with friends.

Sunday soon came and an early start saw Corinne and I heading back to the workshop, after we had cleared of a lot of ice from the car. Arriving at the school just before the gates opened and then heading in and picking up

where we left off the previous day. I was soon adding the beak to the head and the head to the body. The swan was at last beginning to look like a swan and not just lots of bits of fabric sewn together. It amazes me as to how these designers come up with the designs and build the first kites.

All that was left by lunchtime on the Sunday was the sparring and bridling. So I was felling a lot better and enjoyed a really great Shepherds Pie and a bit of a relax before



heading back in for the last half hour to spar and bridle the kite. Another great weekend, great company a great workshop and a fantastic kite to boot.

I must say a big thank you Karl Longbottom, the White Horse Kite Flyers and our friends who so kindly put us up for the weekend and looked after the girls while Corinne and I were off playing.

Simon Hennessey

Pictures taken from the White Horse Kite Flyers website.



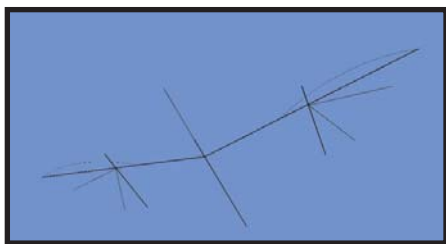
NO IT IS NOT A DRAGON

The story of my Wyvern kite is one of happenstance and the discovery of a (relatively) straight forward way of creating patterns for inflatable and semi-rigid kites and line laundry.

Early last summer I found myself with a 7m remnant of lightweight green ripstop due to a slight miscalculation when ordering the fabric for a 7m inflatable Octopus. With no idea what to make, I had a scan through

the Kite Plan

Base where I was inspired by Geert Donker Duyvis' Dragon Kite, not to build another dragon but a more evolutionarily feasible Wyvern. Within a couple of hours, using the wings an torso of a giant fruit bat, and the head, neck, rear legs and tail of a lizard, I had a series of 2D and 3D designs including a spar layout based on a modified Genki. Unfortunately and mainly because of the complexity of



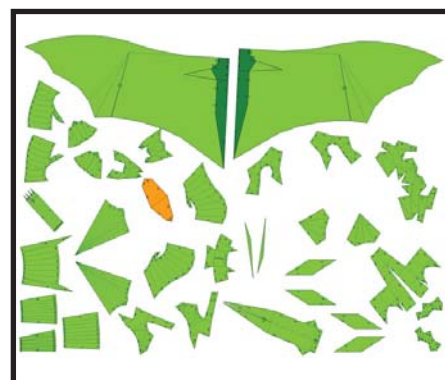
converting the designs into patterns that's were the project stalled.

A couple of months later whilst searching for a folded paper mask for a fancy dress costume I stumbled upon PePaKuRa Designer2 . This polished shareware package takes 3D digital models and converts them into 2D designs that can be printed, cut out and folded into 3D models. Not only that but it is capable of reading native output from the freeware MetasequoiaLE 3D modelling package. So I had the tools to convert the designs patterns, and the project was on the go again.

Using Metasquia's layer functionality, first the spars were input using the tube primitive, these are 10mm Carbon Fibre Tubes for the spine, wings spars and main longerons, 6mm Carbon Fibre Tubes for the supplemental wing

spars and the neck spare and 4mm Carbon Fibre Rod for the leading edges. Next the 4m span wing sails were input using a series of triangles and quadrilateral faces to give the flat surfaces and curved edges. Finally the body was input using standard primitives (spheres, cones, rods and cubes) stretching, modifying and joining them to suit.

With the 3D model complete the design file was imported into PePaKuRa Designer where it was promptly converted into several hundred individual triangular and quadrilateral pieces; not the ideal situation if you are going to sew the kite. With a little bit of time, a few modifications to the original model and manipulation in PePaKuRa Designer the individual faces were connected together to form about thirty large pieces and the edges automatically identified with their join

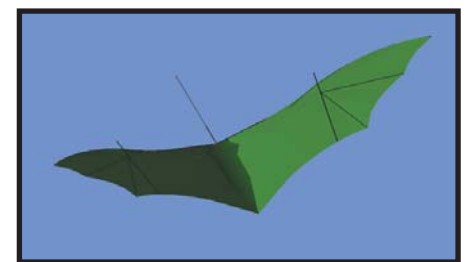


number. Once satisfied with the design it was saved in DXF format for portability.

The final stage of the production of the patterns was to import the DXF file into Microsoft Visio and enlarge to

actual size, add seam and hem allowances and then print it out. I used MS Visio mainly because I have it on my PC, but you could use any 2D drafting package that has the capability of printing large sheets across a series of smaller ones.

Having transferred the edge numbers from the pattern to the seam allowances of the cut pieces of fabric assembly was surprising straight forward with all the edges fitting exactly



together, however flying has been a different matter. The kite was originally bridled in a similar manner to a Wolf-Genki, but has proven to need a wholly different angle of attack. Four neck spars later and with a change from Carbon Fibre Tube to GRP Rod (it tends to bend rather than shatter on impact), a nose job (Carbon Fibre Tube can be an effective hole punch) and a reconfigured bridle, it flies well, and is regularly in receipt of positive comments such: "Wow, I like your Dragon", "Where did you get your dragon from."

Batchoy.



Kite Plan Base:
<http://www.vientocero.com/kpb/en.html>
PePaKuRa Designer2:
<http://www.tamasoft.co.jp/pepakura-en/>
MetasequoiaLE:
<http://www.metaseq.net/english/index.html>

GO ON FREE THE FIELDS

While looking on the web I was interested in finding a website with a petition to help kite buggying and boarding.

(<http://freethefields.blogspot.com>)

Although the clubs main interest is not power kiting some members do fly power kites and board. I am sure that even those that don't can see the benefits for helping as the rule if followed to the letter applies to all kites not just power kites

technical detail:-

Currently under the regulations Farmers are entitled (we believe rightly so) to classify fields as "Permanent Pasture". Under the Cross Compliance Regulations Guidelines certain activities are permitted either "Without Restriction" or "Permitted with Restrictions".

In a letter that their received from

DEFRA, kitesports are classified as a "Motorsport" or Class B activity permitted with restrictions. The activity is therefore permitted for a maximum of 28 days which fall within the farmers stipulated 2 month period.

The interesting part is that Paragliders and Hang gliders are classified in Class A which means those sports can use the fields without restriction all year round. What's so confusing is that kites are essentially small Paragliders, ie people with cloth wings above their heads.

The Aim:-

To get kitesports classed the same as Paragliders which will allow farmers to permit flying on their field all year round.

The Benefits:-

To have Kitesports expressly listed in the Single Payment Scheme, Cross Compliance Guidance list for Permitted Activities as a Group A (Permitted Without Restriction.) activity.

Reduce the pressure on Popular Kiting Beaches, Parks and Sporting fields, thereby improving public relations and the sports reputation.

Broaden the geographical spread and the sports visibility and thereby attract more participants.

Provide an ethical, environmentally sound and healthy utilisation of under utilised rural space.

It seems that if you sign you can do nothing but help our sport and hobby so please look and if you feel it is correct help by signing up.

PROFILE CORNER PROFILE CORNER PROFILE CORNER

Over the coming issues of Aerodyne we will adding a short profile of all the club kites and hopefully some of the interesting kites or kite related products you have seen, used or flown on your travels.

THE CAT IN THE HAT



This kite is not a production line kite and took New Zealander Robert Van Weers about two months to complete including the design and production. It all started when Robert purchased a small stuffed toy version of this cat, he was intrigued so pulled it apart and scaled it up. To achieve the result he also had to make some changes which enable it to fly but you would never notice the slight differences. The "Cat in the Hat" is 18 meters long from the tip of his ears to his pointed toes and used over 120 meters of fabric.

Although it is just about possible to fly "The Cat in the Hat" you would need a very strong wind and even so he has problem keeping his shape, so he is best flown as a large windsock. As with all large windsocks "The Cat in the Hat" generates a lot of drag, and needs a pilot kite to give it some extra lift and the club has, also by Robert, a colour coordinated lifter specially designed for him.

Robert only flew the kite once in New Zealand before bringing it over to Europe for the festival season, where he was flown in Holland and France before being brought over to the UK. Brighton Kite Flyers first saw "The Cat in the Hat" when it was flown at Portsmouth Kite Festival in 2004 The winds were very strong and he broke loose ending up in some trees. Having helped Robert retrieve it from the tree with quite a lot of damage it was with great joy we saw it flying again at Bristol the following weekend. It was at Bristol that we asked if it was for sale, but were no way too much love and hard work went into him which you can understand. It was next seen at

Dieppe the following weekend, the final weekend of Robert's trip to Europe, we got chatting about kites, his designs, and what is the best beer you can get in France (we tested a few). We were flying with Robert on the Sunday when he looked at us and said he had no idea how he was going to get all his kites home, the rest is history and we became the proud owners of "The Cat in the Hat" Although we almost had to give him back when the Dr Suess copyright people found out we now owned him as they had only given permission for it to be flown by Robert. After many phone calls, letter and e-mails it was agreed that we could continue to fly him as we were not doing it for profit, they even allowed us to use the image on our 2005 Brighton Kite Festival poster.

Robert will not be making any more kites of like "The Cat in the Hat" yhis is to comply with copyright laws that have been laid down for the product. So this I a fantastic additions to the club kite collection and a unique display kite loved by both young and old alike.

DIRECTORATE OF AIRSPACE POLICY AIRSPACE UTILISATION SECTION

I remember some years ago at a BKF AGM that Danny Steer mentioned Perspicuity Markers on kites flying above the legal limit of 60 metres.

There were a lot of blank looks at the time from the assembled kite flyers, so I thought an article in Aerodyne would be appropriate and it's taken about three years to get round to it!

I celebrate 20 years of membership of BKF and kite flying this year and in all that time I have never seen perspicuity markers flown on kite lines anywhere - not even at festivals. Yet you are breaking the law if you fly above 60 metres without them. So this is what it's all about:-

Ray Oakhill

Below extract on the subject

KITE FLYING LEGISLATION

Currently, Civil Aviation legislation applicable to kite flying is contained in the Air Navigation Order 2000 (Statutory Instrument No 2000/1562) and the Rules of the Air Regulations 1996 (Statutory Instrument No 1996/1393).

The constraints contained in the Air Navigation Order 2000 and the Rules of the Air Regulations 1996 with regard to the flying of kites (kites are classified as "aircraft" in Schedule 1 of the Order) are as follows:-

Article 86(1)

The provisions of this Article shall apply only to or in relation to aircraft within the United Kingdom.

Article 86(2) (b) (iv)

A kite shall not be flown at a height of more than 30 metres above ground level within the aerodrome traffic zone of a notified aerodrome during the notified operating hours of that aerodrome.

Article 86(2) (b) (v)

A kite shall not be flown at a height of more than 60 metres above ground level.

The foregoing provisions may not take place without the permission in writing of the Authority and in accordance with any conditions subject to which that permission may have been granted. The application to be made NOT LESS than 28 days prior to the event

Article 63

Of the Order requires that a person shall not recklessly or negligently act in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft, or any person therein.

Article 64

Of the Order requires that a person shall not recklessly or negligently cause or permit an aircraft to endanger any person or property.

Article 129 (1)

In this Order, unless the context otherwise requires:

'Aerodrome traffic zone' means the airspace specified below, being airspace in the vicinity of an aerodrome which is notified for the purposes of Rule 39 of the Rules of the Air 1996:

(a) in relation to such an aerodrome other than one which is an offshore installation:

(i) at which the length of the longest runway is notified as 1850 metres or less:

(aa) subject to sub-paragraph (bb), the airspace extending from the surface to a height of 2000ft above the level of the aerodrome within the area bounded by a circle centred on the notified mid-point of the longest runway and having a radius of two nautical miles;

(bb) where such an aerodrome traffic zone would extend less than one and a half nautical miles beyond the end of any runway at the aerodrome and this sub-paragraph is notified as being applicable, sub-paragraph (ii) shall apply as though the length of the longest runway is notified as greater than

1850 metres;

(ii) at which the length of the longest runway is notified as greater than 1850 metres, the airspace extending from the surface to a height of 2000ft above the level of the aerodrome within the area bounded by a circle centred on the notified mid-point of the longest runway and having a radius of two and a half nautical miles;

(b) in relation to such an aerodrome which is on an offshore installation, the airspace extending from mean sea level to 2000ft above mean sea level and within one and a half nautical miles of the offshore installation;

except any part of that airspace which is within the aerodrome traffic zone of another aerodrome which is notified for the for the purposes of this Order as being the controlling aerodrome;

'Controlled airspace' means airspace which has been notified as Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D or Class E airspace;

'Control area' means controlled airspace which has been further notified as a control area and which extends upwards from a notified altitude or flight level;

'Control zone' means controlled airspace which has been further notified as a control zone and which extends upwards from the surface;

'Notified' means set forth in document published by the Authority and entitled 'United Kingdom Notam' or 'United Kingdom Air Pilot' and for the time being in force;

Rule 14 The Rules of the Air

A kite while flying at night at a height exceeding 60 metres above the surface shall display lights as follows:

(a) a group of two steady lights consisting of a white light placed 4 metres above a red light, both being of at least five candela and showing in all directions, the white light being

placed not less than 5 metres or more than 10 metres below the lowest part of the kite;

(b) on the mooring cable, at intervals of not more than 300 metres measured from the group of lights referred to in sub-paragraph (a), groups of two lights of the colour and power and in the relative positions specified in that sub-paragraph, and, if the lowest group of lights is obscured by cloud, an additional group below the cloudbase; and

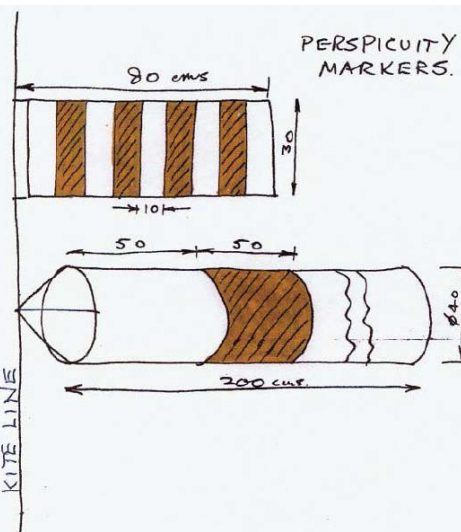
(c) on the surface, a group of three flashing lights arranged in a horizontal plane at the apexes of a triangle, approximately equilateral, each side of which measures at least 25 metres; one side of the triangle shall be approximately at right angles to the horizontal projection of the cable and shall be delimited by two red lights; the third light shall be a green light so placed that the triangle encloses the object on the surface to which the kite is moored.

A kite while flying by day at a height exceeding 60 metres above the surface shall have attached to its mooring cable at intervals of not more than 200 metres measured from the lowest part of the kite, tubular streamers not less than 40 centimetres in diameter and 2 metres in length, and marked with alternate bands of red and white 50 centimetres wide, or at intervals of not more than 100 metres measured from the lowest part of the kite, streamers not less than 80 centimetres long and 30 centimetres wide at their widest point and marked with alternate bands of red and white 10 centimetres wide

Extract From Rule 39 Rules of the Air

Notified aerodromes and notified hours of operation

(a)	A Government aerodrome	at such times as are notified
(b)	An aerodrome having an air traffic control unit or an aerodrome flight information unit	during the notified hours of watch of the air traffic control unit or the aerodrome flight information unit
(c)	A licensed aerodrome having a means of two-way radio communication with aircraft	during the notified hours of watch of the air/ground radio station



Permissions for flight are normally only granted for three month periods, to ensure that any airspace changes can be incorporated. Normally, a telephone request for renewal will be accepted; please give sufficient notice for renewal, especially during the spring / summer period.

There is no charge for issue of a Permission.

Please note that these rules may be out of date as I started the article several years ago. You should always check with the CAA and other governing for the latest update, amendments and changes.

Ray Oakhill

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL 2008

JULY 12TH & 13TH 2008

This year we will be having some arena displays by some of the UK's top display flyers and clubs, we are also planning some themed arena displays giving all kite flyers the opportunity to fly and display their kites in the arena a few ideas for this are, the spectacular Martin Lester Spirit fly, bird kites, lizard / geckoes and finally aeroplane kites.

If you have any other ideas or things you would like to see just let the club know and you never know it might happen

APRIL 2008 BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS AERODYNE

Useful Contacts: Merchandise

Coordinator/Chairperson:

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

Treasurer:

Dave McArthur
T 01273 582309
E dave@bkf.org.uk

Aerodyne/Website:

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

Club library:

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

Club Kites:

(BKF members only):
If you want to use any of the clubs kites please just ask any member of the committee.

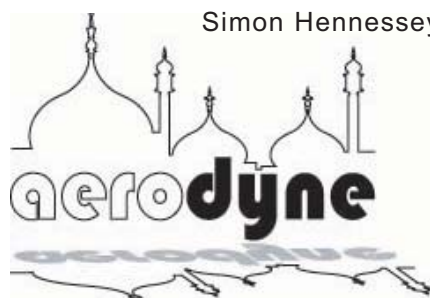
Membership Secretary:

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

Thank you to all that made this issue possible

I would like to say thank you to all those who made this issue of Aerodyne possible, Batchoy, Corinne Hennessey, Paul Hill & Ray Oakhill for some of the photo's. who have helped to make this edition possible. I must also say a very big thank you to those who have edited parts of Aerodyne this month in one form or another.

Simon Hennessey



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B K F A G M 2 0 0 8

The Brighton Kite Flyers 2008 AGM will be taking place on the 6th April 2008 at Telscombe Civic Centre, South Coast Road, Telscombe Cliffs. All members are welcome. We will hold the monthly fly-in on Telscombe Tye before the AGM at 3.30pm. The normal fantastic cakes and nibbles will be supplied by the clubs amazing cooks. We will be holding a raffle to help with the costs of the food and hall hire so if you would like to bring along some prizes all will be appreciated.

The final agenda will be added to the BKF website, where members can find it.

The committee would like to thank all of you for your support last year in keeping the club going and hope the it will continue this year.

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:

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

L I F E B O A T R E S C U E S A F O R M E R C R E W M E M B E R

Have you ever had an embarrassing experience involving a kite and if so was it as bad as poor Robin Deakin's adventures.

A FORMER volunteer crew member of the Newhaven lifeboat had to be rescued by his old colleagues when he got into trouble in Seaford Bay on Sunday. Robin Deakin, of Brighton Road, Newhaven, was kite surfing when he became separated from his board. He said: 'I was signaling to my fellow kite surfers when the Newhaven Lifeboat was called out. 'There was a fair bit of ribbing and it was a very jocular mood when they pulled me on to the boat. 'They managed to save my board which I was very grateful for as those things are quite expensive.' Newhaven lifeboat had been in attendance at the Brighton Lifeboat open day when it was called at 2.30pm. Despite his experience Mr Deakin who was not injured and said it would not put him off the sport. He said: 'I'll be out there again as soon as the wind is right.'

The full article appears in Sussex Express Series newspaper.

Dated: 07 September 2007 10:21 AM



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
flyers**

ROMAN CANDLE 88.



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad, The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Pawns and the U.K. Ted Devils. Politically incorrect and proud of it, more than capable of dealing up a few noses, but do we give a Foss? Let the mindless drivel roll.....

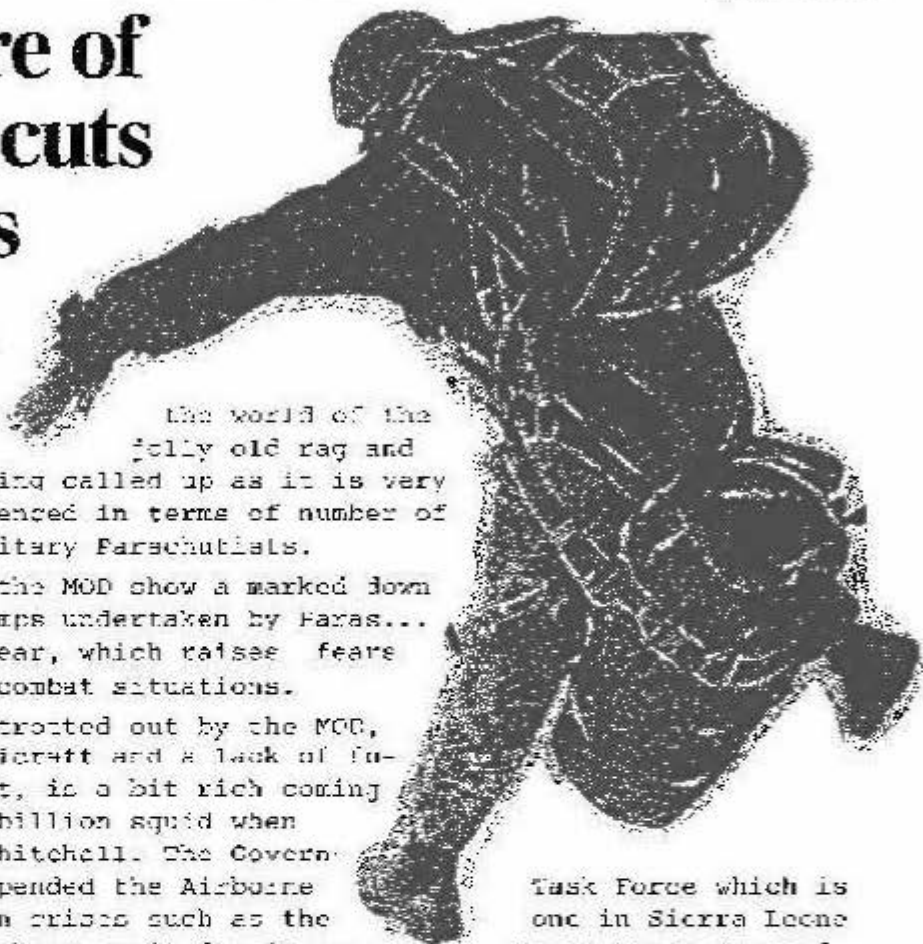
Fears for future of Paras as MoD cuts training jumps

AAHTENSHUN, GIT FELL IN YEW 'ORRIBLE LOT, NUFFINK BUT A SHOWER

Dont laugh you furry wotsits but the way things are going in ArmyParas, ee of the stuff the give it large are in danger of being called up as it is very clear that we are now more experienced in terms of number of Parachute jumps than the Home Military Parashutists.

Figures recently released by the MoD show a marked down turn in the number of training jumps undertaken by Paras... down from 27,000 to 10,000 last year, which raises fears about the Paras rediness for any combat situations.

The usual excuses are quickly trotted out by the MoD, We have a desperate shortage of aircraft and a lack of funds, which when you think about it, is a bit rich coming from a nob who cheerfully blew 2 billion squid when they tarted up thier offices in Whitehall. The Governemnt has admitted that it has suspended the Airborne dedicated to reacting to unforeseen crises such as the in 2001. The ATF will be replaced by a, well, for it..... Intervention battlegroup. Yoo bleeding well wet! thats a euphemism for us Furry Wotsits if we ever heard of one. Right, lets have a cur up. The Mod admits it aint got the wherewithall to parachute a 500 strong Battalion because of a lack of aircraft. But the swine could probably stuff 600 hung over and enelly furry wotsits into something like a Piper Cherokee. Gordon Bennett, it looks like the sods are gonna call us up, so dont say we didn't warn ya.

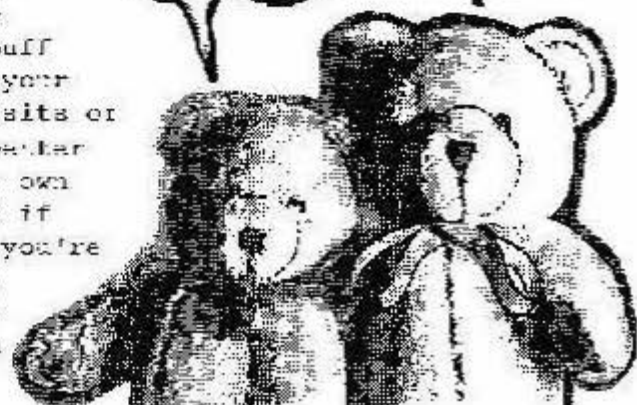


Task Force which is one in Sierra Leone Small Scale Focused

REASONS TO BE FEARFUL

Emm, Small Scale focused Intervention Battlegroup. does'nt that sound right on, very P.C. and incredibly touchy feely. Would'nt mind betting that they will even have outreach counsellors just in case anyone loses their i-pod, or has it stolen. So if in the next few weeks a buff envelope comes through your door, it could be your marching orders and every one of you Furry Wotsits or a soft cuddly Parachuting toy persuasion had better watch out , otherwise you could be off on your own personal version of "When Harry met Tali" and if that aint a reason to be fearful, wotcha mean you're a parafatna wiv a wooden leg, so that lets you off the hook. dont you believeit, even if your wooden leg had woodworm, they'd still want you like it or lump it.

NO PROBLEMO MILITARY SERVICE RUNS IN MY FAMILY.
OH! WAS YOUR DAD A DESERTER TOO?



So it appears that Arctic ice isn't vanishing after all

FOR THOSE WHO DID NOT NECCISARILY BUY INTO THE EMOTIVE "GLOBAL WARMING, AND WE ARE RIGHT UP THE CREEK" VIEW OF THE WORLD COULD BE FORGIVEN FOR RAISING A TITTER.

according to the doom and gloom merchants it was only a matter of time before we would be flying Kites and bombing fauna in a home counties version of the Gobi desert, complete with camels, dust devils and maybe even some tumbleweed thrown in for good measure. Why? did'nt we realise that G.W. was so advanced that poor Polar Bears were having to be equipped with life jackets because the Artic Ice Sheet was melting so fast, that pretty soon there would be no ice at all.



There was even a photo to back up the claims that it was all going pearshaped. And yes the ice sheet was down to 3m sq km in January 2007 from 13m sq km the previous october. however according to NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the ice sheet did that every year and had been observed to do so every year since sattelite observation began in 1979. By October 2007 the ice sheet was back up to 13m sq km and in the Antartic the ice sheet is well above its 30 year mean. And as regards the emotive photo, the Marine Biologist who took has always been nonplussed as she aserts that those Polar Bears were never in any danger as they were only a few yards from solid ice, and the photo was only taken because the wind and wave sculpted ice was so unusual.

Global Warming? who knows, Cimate change? yes, but of course it has been in constant change since day one. Priming the mugs up so we can whack them with more tax, undoubtedly why, we could even be taxed on Ripstop and carbon spars, with special attention being given to Mohair, cheaper furry plush and how many ounces or grams of Kapok you have stuffed up yer fundamental, watch out watch out theres another feeving politiction about.

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120,000ft skydive

BRIT STEVE IN RECORD LEAP



HAS THE 2008 SILLY SEASON ARRIVED SIX MONTHS EARLY OR WOT? Reason we ask is that hot on the heels of the crazy Tourist Rocket Ship baleout from an altitude of 57 miles comes another slightly less weirder proposal that will have some Hume Loon desperately trying to outdo the legions of the Furry Wotsits by parachuting from a hot air balloon at the more modest altitude of 24 miles or 120,000 ft.

Movie stuntman Steve Truglia plans to break the worlds freefall record which would entail him falling for at least seven minutes and breaking the sound barrier as he hurtles towards the ground. It is said that he will need a spacesuit to combat low pressure and temperatures as low as -100c which when you think about it, is a statement of the bleeding obvious, and as regards breaking the sound barrier, do us a favour, he'd only do that if his chute failed. Surely to survive a deployment at approx 770 mph, it would have to be a remarkable Parachute, therefore, surely some form of stabilising chute to slow him down would be needed. One of the Tabloids even said that Steve could risk going into a wait for it, an 800 revolutions per second spin, but of course that could be journalistic load of cobblers. 48,000 rpm, WOW.

Steve, a veteran of 1,200 jumps in the military, plans to do a jump from 52,000 ft in May to break the Euro record and is currently seeking a seven figure sponsor ship deal. Best of British luck pal, you're gonna need it.

Where the wild things are

MAYBE THE WILD THINGS ARE AT THE MOMENT MILD THINGS, BUT ITS A POUND TO A PENNY THAT PRETTY SOON THEY WILL BE WILD WHEN THEY TWIG, YET AGAIN ITS TIME TO BANISH OFFICIAL WINTER KIP.

You can almost feel thier blood running cold as they contemplate the season ahead. As the weather gets warmer (not guaranteed) and the rain rises from the horizontal to more or less vertical, its almost time once again for the hordes of parachuting furry whatnots to unleash yet another Armageddon of the Soft Cuddly Toy Persuasion on pretty much whatever passes for a Kite Flying Site.

Even Dropniks have been lulled into a false sense of security by having a few months of peace and quiet, so much so that a few of the more adventurous ones have even had a little go at dipping a toe into the murky waters of the followers of Kites with more than one line. However, as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end, even though the good part is a bit debateable.

Therefore verily Bretheren and Sisteren of Stuff the jolly old and watch the sucker fly, I say unto thee, git thee hence down to the Gun and Ferret, thats where your Dropnik will be hiding, that is if he aint taken advantage of the cheap amber neck oil down at the Supermarket and is busy being Ratfaced in charge of a sewing machine, to get your Rags packed toot sweet, 'cos its time we stuck it to the Po Faced big time.

Of course those old hands amongst you know full well what our primary and secondary objectives are, as its always been the same since time immemorial, but its possible that new recruits to the Soft Cuddly Toy Jolly Old Rag stuffing malarkey may not be fully up to speed as to what is required from every member. Objective No. One. Every member must endeavor to put as much egg on the face of thier Dropnik as possible, lets show the sods up something rotten in public. Objective No. Two. When you are getting a bit bored with this, remember those Po Faced hows yer Farv'as, those miserable sods are always game for a laugh, have you ever met a bunch whose collective Boat Races could do with some more cracking, no?, did'nt think so, so go for it.



ON WITH THE SHOW



BUT BEFORE YOU DO HERES SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT IN THE WEE SMALL HOURS.....

Published descent speed figures for Parafauna usually quote a figure of around 21 to 24 feet per second, say about 7 to 8 metres per sec. Some knowledgable Humes including the Civil Aviation Authority (sodding hell, just goes to show who reads this) have pointed out that this is somewhat on the high side and suggest a figure more along the lines of 12 to 15 feet per second, about 4 to 5 metres per sec, saying that these speeds would be more beneficial (to who?) Well thanks very much for the suggestions, but as every BMISS member knows that it does'nt matter what speed you descend with whilst toting an unopened, you still bleeding well bounce. You do actually, that is unless you do a faceplant into super squelchy one up on Cow Pat Hill. This does have a downside, as you normally have to travel home tied to the roofrack as the other swine wont have you inside the car.

Lets face it after an hour of listening to those swine in the car singing "It aint Chunder or B.O. Its Essence De Cow Pat so out you go" It really gets just a little bit annoying at times, but as they say its all part of lifes rich tapestry, my arse.

"Potential New Recruits ?"



Once bitten...



Beware, bear!

INFAMY, INFAMY, THEY'VE ALL GOT IT IN FOR ME...
YES, AS WELL THEY MIGHT IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE

DESPICABLE (ACCORDING TO DARLING DARLING) BEARS WHO LIKES MONDEOS, AND IF ITS HUMMERS THAT RING YOUR BELL, YOU'RE A DEAD'UN. Kerumbs its enough to make you into a spy bear, you know the ones who have a camera in one eye, so you can keep an eye on the childminder or even to run away to Russia where you can hibernate inside a hollow tree, like the Brown Bears do, until that is some swine who thinks hes a hunter decides to set fire to you in your tree so you have to come out, whereupon said swine shoots you dead at a range of about 10 feet, oh! well sporting we dont think, even if they have paid farsands to do so.

Of course if you dont fancy any of that, and lets face it, who does, you can always take up Parachuting from Kites, join the BMISS and inflict some pain on some unsuspecting Hume, in the most humane way. They're out to tax us to death and Russia, you aint sporting, you make us wanna puke pukin.

Days like these

FROM R.C. 50 YEARS AGO (he lied)

PROFESSOR TOMLINS CELEBRATED FLEA CIRCUS-
Allegedly minus the Fleas, it is said.

Was recently sold at auction for the not inconsiderable sum of £4.500. A six inch Teddy said to have been rescued from the Titanic also sold at the sme auction for £9,000 wow.

WATCH OUT, A PRICEY FLEA THIEF IS ABOUT.... Hmm, so the celebrated Flea Circus was minus the Fleas when it was knocked down for 4½k, oh yeah. HEE HAW, HEE HAW, BLUE LIGHT, BLUE LIGHT...ORLIGHT HANDS ON HEADS, WE KNOW HOW TO DEAL WIV YOO FEEVIN TEDS...ALL CARS, ALL CARS. Last seen heading in a southerly direction at a fair rate of knots and scratching his jacksie, attention is called to that well known Teddy Bear Tea Leaf 9k, believed to be in possession of a complete flea Circus..... holy Cow, whatever next? we've had to put up with the furry little barstewards stinking of stale beer or being infested with a variety of livestock not dissimilar to the dreaded Moth, now we must expect the little swine to be alive with Fleas.... Hells Bells, all of a sudden, i'm starting to itch....

give world a mauling

WHY, YOU MAY ASK DOES
THE WORLD NEED ANOTHER IN
AN ONGOING AND EVERLASTING
SERIES OF MAULINGS ?..

Well, of course we aint having yet another pop at Mother Earth, we are far above that mularky, its just the feeling that as the old current bun is getting further above the yardarm, the spring is sprung, the grass is ris, we wonder where the Po Faced is, Yippee, Kai Ay, there they is, Two points off the Larboard Bow in a manner of speaking. Holy Cow as usual its all gonna go Pearshaped or should that be Bearshaped, as the annual infestation of the Hordes of Parafauna of the Soft Cuddley Toy Persasion, all intent on world domination, dont'cha know, get ready to completely nause up any half decent Po Faced display. When all is said and done, its surely time that the Govt did something about under age Binge Boozing as it is apparent that some of the little sods dont even bother to deploy their chutes anymore, they seem to enjoy the bounce.

DREAMS ARE MADE OF STUFFING

WEIRD OR WHAT? IT HAS BEEN

SUGGESTED THAT MOST OF THE PROBLEMS WITH PARAFUNA RESULT FROM THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF STUFFING USED WELL, TO STUFF'em. Sounds a bit new age traveller to us, but there you go, If we get anymore details about this we'll let yoo know.

SO AS EVER ITS THE USUAL TO THE WHATNOT, C/O THE BORING OLD FART. At the Teddytorial, 48. Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY. In what forever will be ENGLAND, No matter what the Traitors have planned. Hmm, Is it now 13 years since the Yurop accounts have been signed off? dont that give you confidence in the dodgy bleeders.

They all have their snouts in the trough, snouts in the trough, and dont yer heart bleed for them as its a hard life living on so little.....



Events List

April 2008		
13	Streatham Common Kite Day, Streatham Common, London	bobcolover@easynet.co.uk
20	Flight in the Park, National Trust, Berrington Hall, Leominster, Hereford HR6 0DW	karl@longbottom.org.uk
25-27	Atmosphere 08, Westward Ho!, Bideford, Devon	www.atmosphere08.co.uk
26-27	North Hampshire Kites Jolly-Up 2, Cliddesden, Basingstoke	Kites Up—01256 812487
May 2008		
4-5	Weymouth International Beach Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset	The Kite Society
4-5	Beverley Kite Festival, Longcroft School, Beverley, East Yorkshire	Blooms A1 Events 01430 860070
4-5	Layer Marney Tower Kite Festival, Colchester, Essex	www.layermarneytower.co.uk
10-11	Swindon Kite Festival, Lydiard Country Park, Swindon	White Horse Kite Fliers—01793 824208
17-18	Suffolk International Kite Festival, Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds.	Martin Corrie—01206 299560
17-18	Harewood House Kite Festival, Leeds	info@skyartists.co.uk
30-31	Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival, Imperial Recreation Ground, Exmouth	Malcolm Pressey msp@dsl.pipex.com www.exmouthrotarykitefestival.co.uk
31 - 1/06	Bedford International Kite Festival	
June 2008		
1	Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival, Imperial Recreation Ground, Exmouth	Malcolm Pressey msp@dsl.pipex.com
1	Ashdon Kite Festival, North Essex	Andrew Eyles 01799 584339
6-8	Margam Kite Festival, Margam Park, Port Talbot, South Wales.	margampark@npt.gov.uk
7-8	Basingstoke Kite Festival, Down Grange Sports Complex.	Kites Up—01256 812487
7-8	Wirral International Kite Festival, The Dips, New Brighton, Wirral.	dhkites@hotmail.com
7-8	Beacon Country Park Kite Festival, near Up Holland, Skelmersdale	Northern Kite Group—welbornkcc@aol.com
8	Peterborough Kite Festival, Ferry Meadows Country Park Peterborough	GOKF—01733 563958
14-15	Teston Bridge Kite Weekend, Maidstone, Kent ME18 5BX	Ron Dell—01438 712168
14-15	Blackheath Kite and Bike Festival, Blackheath Common, London	The Kite Society
15	Butser Hill Festival of Flight, Queen Elizabeth Country Park.	Kites Up—01256 812487
21-22	Southampton Kite Festival, Lordshill Playing Fields, Southampton	Solent Kite Fliers—023 8077 0788
21-22	25th Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Sundorne Sports Village, Shrewsbury.	SkyBums kites@skybums.net
July 2008		
5-6	Sunderland International Friendship Festival, Tyne & Wear.	Pauline Taylor info@infinitearts.co.uk
12-13	Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton (Provisional)	Brighton Kite Fliers—01273 582309
13	Bungay Kite Day, Outney Common, Bungay, Suffolk.	Andy King, 01986 895604
19-20	Hereford Kite Festival, National Trust, Berrington Hall, Leominster HR6 0DW	karl@longbottom.org.uk
20	Dunstable Kite Festival, Dunstable Downs.	Martin Corrie—01206 299560
26-27	Dover 2008 - Kite Festival, Tower Hamlets, Dover.	Gerty - 07941 519413
26-27	Silloth Kite Festival, Solway, Cumbria	peter.gilmour2@btinternet.com
August 2008		
3	Royston Kite Festival, Therfield Heath, Royston	rotary@roystonkitefestival.org.uk
2-3	North Hampshire Kites Jolly-Up 3, Cliddesden, Basingstoke	Kites Up—01256 812487
9-10	Teston Bridge Kite Weekend, Maidstone, Kent ME18 5BX	Ron Dell—01438 712168
17	Hunstanton Kite Day, Norfolk.	Bryan Cattle—21 Shepherds Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4HP.
23-25	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hampshire	The Kite Society
24-25	Beverley Kite Festival, Longcroft School, Beverley, East Yorkshire	Blooms A1 Events 01430 860070
30-31	Bristol International Kite Festival, Ashton Court, Bristol	Avril Baker—0117 977 2002
September 2008		
6-14	Dieppe International Kite Festival, France.	
14	Wakefield kite Festival, Heath Common, Wakefield, West Yorkshire	www.facelessco.com/
20-21	Big Sky International Kite Festival, Margate, Kent	The Kite Society