

THE KITEFLIER

40 Years 1979 - 2019



Issue 159 April 2019 £2.50
Newsletter of the Kite Society of
Great Britain

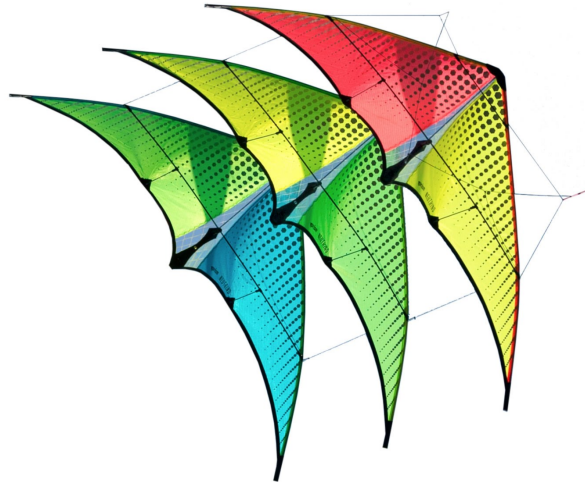
KITEWORLD

All The Fun Of The Air!



*Sky Burner
Fulcrum*

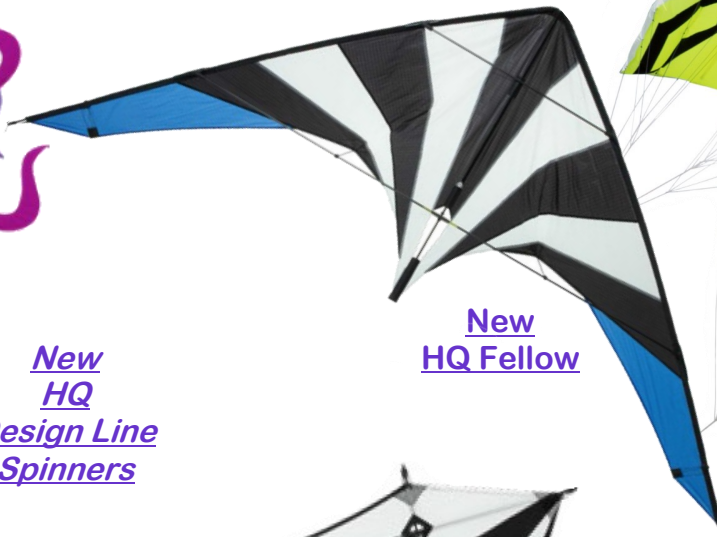
*Kite
Accessories*



*New
Prism
Neutrino
Stackable
Stunt Kite*



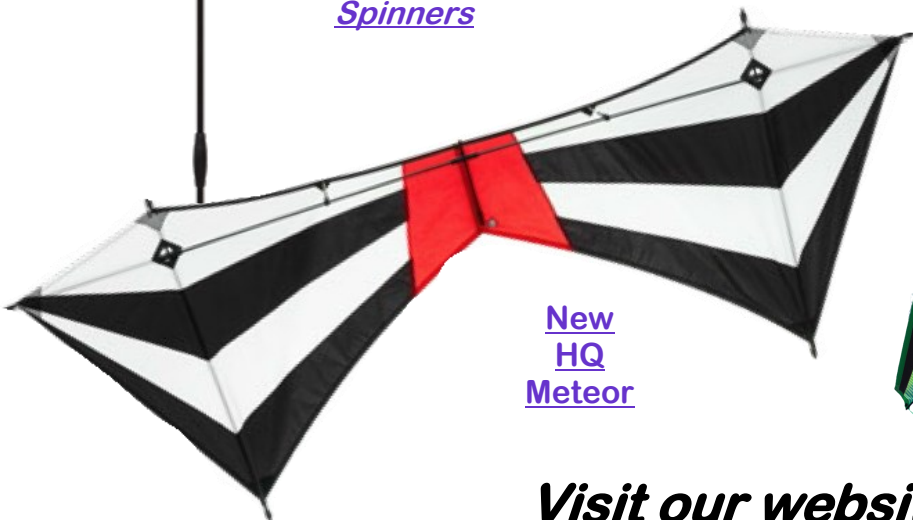
*New
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*New
Prism
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Power Kite*



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Meteor*

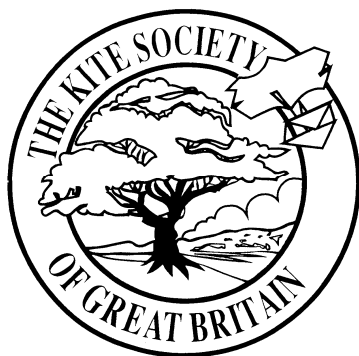


*New
Prism
Zenith 7
Delta*

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Pothecary Corner	4
Events News	9
Rosa Kite Festival	11
Single Skin Kite	13
Aspire Kite Festival	16
Portsmouth	19
Hearts in Dieppe	20
Sleds in Antarctica	21
Bits & Pieces	22
Japan House Exhibition	28
Friends of the Sky	29
Events List	31

Front Cover

New Falcon Kite from the Peter Lynn stable—
designed by Simon Chisnall, flying at the Aspire Kite Festival, Doha

Photo: Jon Bloom

Dear Reader

Welcome to the start of the season in the U.K. Let us hope for good winds and great weather.



European Air Gallery – Kite Missing, from Jerry Swift

During a recent check of 'The Gallery' we noted that one of the kites is missing – 'Yellow Thing with Feet'. Has anyone seen it? Does anyone know of its whereabouts. If you have any information please contact Jerry Swift, Chairman of the North East Kite Fliers at jerry56.swift@btopenworld.com or on 07956 295489.

Dunstable Kite Festival

As it currently stands there will be no Kite Festival this year - However! The Trust will be holding more Kite related events

and fun days throughout the year instead so please keep an eye on the official Dunstable Downs page for upcoming event news. We understand that the festival was very overwhelming for the small team of staff and volunteers up on the Dunstable Downs, especially after it became a two day event a few years back. So we would like to thank all those that made it possible and who knows what the future holds. Perhaps in time it could return but that will be a decision for the National Trust.

Sad news proud Scotsman & kite maker extraordinaire, Harry Douglas, died recently. He was a founder member of the Poole Kite Flyers as well as an active member on the kite scene. Condolences to his friends and family.

See you on the field somewhere.

Gill and Jon

Membership Type	Fee
Electronic Subscription (Individual or Family)	£5.00
Household (Individual, Family, Senior)	£15.00
Overseas (Europe)	£25.00
Overseas (Rest of World Airmail)	£30.00

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.

Pothecary Corner—Allan Pothecary

Low-wind Launch

I sometimes get that feeling we all get when you just *have* to go over and help.

But then there are the times when I see guys who are experienced flyers struggling through, just not doing it right - and I think I might get invited to take my sexual pleasures elsewhere if I tried to correct them.

I have had guys come over to help me at events. I enjoy the camaraderie and appreciate the offer but all too often it ends out in a heap on the ground whilst those around flying their £6.50 purchases watch in bemusement.

I am talking about when there is not enough wind to do a standing launch and, maybe, only a very long launch with a lighter than usual line will work.

The types of kite I mean are soft celled inflatables - usually, but not always, those of the three cell construction such as the Trilobite, Tadpole, Frog or Ladybird but it can also be true of other kites that rely on the wind to take their shape - like Flowforms or even, power sleds.

Eyes popped out

Let's say we are trying to get a trilobite up on a longish launch of about 40 metres.

We need to make it as light as possible so, if you really want to help then make sure everything is pulled out at the back - tails, body etc, and then help hold out the cells until everything is inflated, especially the shoulders and the eyes.

If it's a hot day the air inside will heat up and, guess what?, hot air rises.

On a really hot excursion to a beach in Spain one day the gentle breeze allowed us to launch our pink Tadpole to about 100ft where it sat, quite happily, fairly motionless.



Our other kites all 'un-launched' themselves as, even the low wind we did have, eventually dissipated in the heat of the day.

Except; the three celled Tadpole which defied the odds by staying aloft and continued to do so for at least another 20 minutes or so.

By the way, the trick with these kites is to make the eyes bulge - full inflation really helps - and you can do this, forcing the air forward by squeezing the back and making sure the shoulders are full too.

Balloons

I was telling this story to my friend Mick who, with his brother, is a keen hot air balloonist and he reasoned that 1) The kite was filled with hot air and 2) that the air was rising from the hot sand (too hot to walk on bare-foot) in it's own, thermal current - yep, could be?

I digress - back to the narrative.

We are attempting a long launch to gain the maximum advantage so what we don't need now is someone 10metres or even halfway down the line pulling on it - that rather defeats the object of a long launch doesn't it?, and even more so when they let go as soon as the kite starts to rise and the whole thing collapses.

Kinetic energy

What is needed once the kite is inflated is forward (in this case, upward) movement.

I find the kite can often be obliged to move upward by gentle pushing on the underside and once it starts to move the wind can get underneath and help still further.

The kite needs this 'forward' movement to take it to the sweet spot where the angle of attack is more on the front of the kite than underneath and it will slow and settle.

The shorter the line the quicker the angle of the kite will alter and the only way you will gain height then is to release more line - and if you had enough wind to do that without the kite collapsing, you wouldn't need to do a long launch would you?

In the case of a wind shift and you are no longer in what you thought was the centre of the window, then standing so that the kite is between you and the middle of the window, holding the outside edge and 'flicking' it up often works well too.

Pothecary Corner—Allan Pothecary

If I am at the anchor end and the lift starts to fail then I will try to coax the kite back up but I wouldn't run toward it and start pulling on the line halfway along. In a low wind the kite needs be cajoled as high as possible where the wind is likely to be stronger and the angle of attack is at optimum.

Dual Line

Anyone who has flown two line pairs or team in virtually no wind quickly gets the feel for keeping a failing single line airborne where other do not succeed - it's all about tight lines after all isn't it?

When getting our deltas moving across the sky in demo's we are so careful in making sure that after the 'pull' or 'walk-back', the lines are kept taught or we simply lose control it's just a knack you learn and it becomes a muscle memory thing that you don't have to think about after a while. It's not a thing you can teach, you just have to point out what to look for and then it comes with practice, some time LOTS of practice.

Just Chilling

Any line that is pulled in has to be let back out again if you want that kite back up high,



oh so gently, interspersed with the gentlest of smooth increases in tension, no more than squeezing a tube of toothpaste, so that the kite does not start a downward moment that has to be arrested and converted to upwards.

Many a time I have enjoyed standing on a beach just about keeping my kite in the air for the enjoyment of others to watch and sometimes even drawing a round of applause when I win the battle.

Unfortunately there are the occasional premature ends when children can't help but to pull on the dangling tails.

Oh well, fun for them too I suppose.

The tell tale sign with kids on a kite field is that if you see them smiling, they are thinking about what they are about to do and when you see them laughing - they've already done it!

Malapropisms

For those of you more eloquent in the use of our wonderful English language that have cringed at my grammar and lack of vocabulary over the years of writing in this magazine, I apologise.

I freely admit that sometimes I use big words I may not understand but I do this to make myself more photosynthesis.

Kite Quiz

Andrew Beatty recently posted the following on Face Book.

I thought that it was pretty good and asked him if he minded if I added it here - of course he didn't!

See what your score is - Over eighty and you should really make the effort to speak to the wife more often!

The Kite Purity Test.

Originally written in 1996. Updated lightly for 2017. Count one point for each item that applies to you:

1. Can recognise the difference in the sound of your sewing machine as the lower bobbin is running out of thread
2. Can say "kite" in 5 different languages
3. Can spell Wolfgang and Nop's last names
4. Have a kite web page
5. Have a sleeving needle, fid or bridle tool about your person. Right now
6. Have already flown a kite today
7. Have an internet account or machine name which includes "kite" or similar
8. Have attended a Buggy Boogie Thang, NABX, No Barriers, No Event or Beach Vibes
9. Have attended a casualty department because of a kite flying injury
10. Have attended a kite workshop
11. Have attended an AKA convention
12. Have attended kite festivals in 3 or more continents
13. Have been DQ'd from a kite competition (fight/stunt/construction/buggy race)
14. Have been accused of having "Festival Head"

Pothecary Corner—Allan Pothecary

15. Have been arrested for or questioned by the police about kite flying
16. Have been buzzed by Stafford Wallace
17. Have been inside a Mega Kite (500m² or larger)
18. Have been insulted by Frank Kenisky
19. Have been on clearly identified as a kiteflier on broadcast Television
20. Have been to the Fano festival
21. Have bought kite line or fabric in bulk
22. Have bought or sold a kite by email/Facebook etc with someone you have never met
23. Have broken a world record recognised by Kitelines or the AKA record committee
24. Have broken line rated at more than 300lb
25. Have broken or lost someone else's kite
26. Have buggied Nekkid and got the pin to prove it
27. Have built a historic kite (Cody, French war, Eddy) from authentic materials
28. Have built a kite from trash
29. Have built a kite to your own, original design
30. Have built an appliqued kite
31. Have called out professionals (crane, electricity, fire) to retrieve a kite
32. Have caught a Revolution you were flying
33. Have deliberately flown a kite to the end of the line, then let it go
34. Have destroyed a kite beyond repair
35. Have dyed ripstop
36. Have dropped your Fauna by chute from a kite
37. Have exchanged pins with Dave Gomborg
38. Have experienced AoxomoxoA
39. Have flown Natalie's Legs
40. Have flown a Bob Ingraham delta
41. Have flown a Gyro Kite
42. Have flown a Chinese dragon train
43. Have flown a cow windsock
44. Have flown a fighter from a flat roof
45. Have flown a kite >100' long (tail included)
46. Have flown a kite before the age of 5 years
47. Have flown a kite smaller than 1 square inch
48. Have flown a kite whilst wearing fancy dress
49. Have flown a rotor kite (eg: UFO Sam)
50. Have flown an arch
51. Have flown at night
52. Have flown during a solar or lunar eclipse
53. Have flown indoors
54. Have flown through a dogstake
55. Have forgone your scheduled competition slot in order to help marshal etc.
56. Have given a kite away to a stranger (eg: someone who's name you don't know)
57. Have got a kite stuck up a tree
58. Have had an article published in a kite magazine
59. Have ice buggied
60. Have kite sailed
61. Have kite stickers on your car
62. Have kite-fished
63. Have lost a kite
64. Have maintained a kite FAQ for a forum or discussion group
65. Have marshalled or judged in a competition or race
66. Have met Corey Jensen inside Windbourne Kites, Andy King inside the Kite Store or Gerard inside La Maison do Cerf Voulant
67. Have organised a kite festival
68. Have packed away a maxi kite for someone else
69. Have paid excess baggage for your kites
70. Have participated in a kite fight (Indian, Rokkaku or other)
71. Have participated in #kites on irc
72. Have participated in a Lee Toy Memorial project or contributed towards the Ray Bethel bench
73. Have participated in a sweet or egg drop
74. Have performed "groundwork" over and in water
75. Have performed a 360 outside
76. Have performed a Full Andrew
77. Have performed an Axel
78. Have played with one of George Peter's non-kite toys (blowdarts, lizards)
79. Have published a kite book
80. Have retrieved files from the original Hawaii FTP archive
81. Have seen Peter Lynn naked
82. Have started a kite organisation which now has more than 10 members
83. Have taken a Kite Aerial Photograph
84. Have taken dirty kites into the shower with you
85. Have taken sick-leave to go kite flying
86. Have tandem buggied
87. Have used a kite for lifting a radio aerial
88. Have watched a Dodd Gross Kite video
89. Have participated in a beer-lifting competition
90. Have won in a kite competition (fight/stunt/construction/buggy race)
91. Have worked on a kite building project today
92. Have worn a Peter Lynn hat
93. Have worn out a sewing machine
94. Have worshiped Tim Benson

95. Own 5 or more kite T-shirts
96. Own a kite built by someone who's now dead
97. Own a kite with some pink in the sail
98. Own a unique kite. (built unique, not broken or modified uniquely)
99. Own more kites than fit in your kite bag
100. Subscribe to a kite magazine that's not printed in your native language

Zenith 7



I have unwrapped a few cheap purchases from China in my time so to get this bundle from Kiteworld was quite a pleasant change. Outer packaging excitedly removed, the sheer pleasure of unzipping the bag to reveal the quality inside had the same magic I felt in our early days of kiting.

Everything just looked and felt better than some of the cheap imports I had been receiving previously on line from the far eastern countries with their almost uncontactable 'customer service' depts.

The bright colours of the kite revealed themselves as the Zenith unfolded before me with tissue paper between the folds for protection.

What was that? Oh, the instructions, I don't need them I'm a man. Marilyn picked them up just in case - she knows me too well!.

Self Assembly

We were quite amused. The rods have a bungee cord through them and fit together like one of those wind shelters.

As I was assembling the leading edge on one side, the other slotted itself in all by itself.

My tip for assembling most kites is to always get the spine done first - there is a bungee cord that stretches over the end where you'll find a loop to accommodate an extra tail if desired.

On the video we did you can see part of the self assembly which is great for people like

Pothecary Corner—Allan Pothecary

me that don't do fiddly and so much less likely to lose but the cord that holds the cross spreader together has to have a knot either end so that it doesn't pull through and that means it can be a little difficult to insert to the rubber connector and even more difficult to remove.

My novice friend, Simon went at it like an elephant in a hurry making me fearful for the end result so heed this when letting someone else help.



Bag it up

A line is included with your purchase and can be easily retained by utilising the elastic on the opening; there's even a carabiner to clip to the end of the line to stop it slipping off and entailing itself around anything it chooses.

I am not a fan of using clips to attach a line to any kite.

There's the weight issue besides the worry of will it be strong enough especially in the suggested, manufacturers wind range of 5mph to 25mph.

I am not sure that I would keep the kite on the supplied, 80lb line at the top end suggested wind speed (25mph) either as this baby can pull a bit.

One of the USP's with this kite is that it folds down quite small so that it can be taken practically anywhere.

Pothecary Corner—Allan Pothecary

However for those that prefer not to go through the rigours of a complete disassembly the bottom of the carry case pulls out so that you may pack away fully extended.

Constructed

The re-designed wings afford an awesome new look and add extra stability in gusty conditions.



The wing span is 7foot, that's 84 inches or 213 cm if we are still being forced to use foreign measurements.

It has an extra large keel and 80% more sail area than the Zenith 5 so it's quite a presence in the sky.

The clear panels are Mylar and, despite the use of fibre-glass rods I thought it to be well put together and sturdy (just make sure those cross spreaders are pushed right in).

As said, there's a hook on the end of the supplied line for attachment and tails, neatly folded and held with rubber bands at each wing tip. .

I say "neatly folded" as you will only get them back the same if you detach them from the kite, which, is simple to do because they are popped on and easily removable for flying in light-

er winds or different configurations utilising the sewn in loop on the spine.

Another 'bonus' to the pop on tails is that they will break free should the kite ever become at one with a tree at some point?

In flight

The "popped on" tails definitely make a difference to the stability of the Zenith 7 having tried it with and without in a very changeable 18mph(ish) inland wind. We have a separate video showing an amazing recovery on one occasion when the wind stopped, suddenly, as though someone had just closed a door.

I deliberately let my inexperienced friend Simon have pilot's responsibility for the inaugural flight so as to get a true view of how forgiving this one would be.

I should have known, all Prisms love to fly and this was to be no exception. I had Simon

keep it short for a while to get some decent photos to choose from and then a bit of video as it was one of those rare days when both the sun and the wind were at our backs.

When he let go, the kite rose quickly and with not too much pull that would warrant doubts but easily enough to have a line taught enough for lifting tubes and other laundry for which, unfortunately I do not have good photos ready for this article having been overconfident in looking for effect and taking them into the sun.

Summary

Looking no less than awesome, the Prism



Zenith 7 is a good and reliable performer, flying well through a big range of wind at low level or soaring high.

Simple to assemble it can be out of the bag and in the air in practically no time, it comes with an 80lb 300ft flying line with a choice of three sail colours and can be configured differently simply by adding or subtracting tails.

I'm betting on one of each colour flying together will make a great photo so I will take mine to the Jolly Up just in case there are others to join in with.

If you want to 'try before you buy' any of the kites you have seen in my articles or on our You Tube channel or websites - or if you just want to have a go, then please give me notice.

You can always send an email via the "Contacts" page on our website www.kitedisplays.co.uk

Hope you have a great summer see you in the next edition when I hope to be reviewing brand new team kites and the latest in quad lines.

Event News

Kent Kite Flyer Events

Kent Kite Flyers are celebrating 25 years since a group of like minded kiteflyers mainly based in and around Canterbury got together to form the South Eastern Kite Society, which changed later name to Kent Kite Flyers due to a group of kite surfers using the same initials as the founding fathers group (S.E.K.S.).

Unfortunately as with many events, we have found there is a lack of sponsorship from businesses outside the kiting world, so we are concentrating on mainly on one day events, which we hope at some time may become two day events with camping facilities.

8th June; Kites on the Beach, Walmer Nr Deal Kent CT14 7HJ, flying from 11am to 5pm, parking next to the beach flying zone for kite flyers

11/12th August; Teston Kite Festival, Teston Bridge Country Park Nr Maidstone Kent, ME18 5BX .

Two day event, with camping from Friday 10th until Monday 12 noon on 13th. Pitch fee £10 for up to 4 persons.

Informal event for kiteflyers to meet and mix with the general public to promote and encourage kite flying. This event has been in existence for over 25 years and has traditionally been held on the second weekend in August. In recent years KSGB as organisers have been forced to move the Portsmouth International Festival, to the same weekend and this year, the Lytham St. Annes Kite Festival has also had to change to the same weekend.

It is a great shame that kiteflyers are now having to choose which event to attend: as well as Kite traders having to choose between the larger two events, causing a reduction in their income. No doubt the move of dates to clash with Teston, has been due to influences on and from local government requirements.

Teston is in part a celebration of the lives of Ron and Pat Dell personally, and as Kiteability who set up the event at Teston, but also their contribution to the British Kiting scene, and Kent Kite Flyers are determined to carry on the traditional Teston August Weekend and look forward to the many friends and supporters of Teston event coming along again this year.

18th August; Annual Wind and Kites Festival Betteshanger Country Park nr Deal Kent CT14 0BF, parking will be adjacent to the flying area, and the event will be open from 11am- 5pm.

Both the Country Park and Kent Kite Flyers, are considering ways of making a weekend of kiting in the future with camping, which would mean a change of flying area: the Country Park is un-

dergoing massive development so we shall have to see what the future brings.

8th September; Milton Creek Country Park, Saffron Way, Nr Sittingbourne. ME10 2EX flying from 11am to 5pm.

This is the 3rd year Kent Kite Flyers have been invited to hold an event, to promote the recently opened Country Park. All kite flyers are welcomed although the flying area in size is limited, at this time. Vehicle parking adjacent to the flying area.

22rd September; The Capstone Festival, Capstone Country Park, Capstone Road, Gillingham ME7 3JG

For all our events we apply to the CAA for additional height clearance of 1000ft.
Contact: Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com

These dates are for your diaries, further updates will be available on our forum via www.kentkiteflyers.proboards.com. Also on our website www.kentkiteflyers.com and Facebook page

Basingstoke Kite Festival 1st and 2nd June
At Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke. From 10am to 5 pm (both days)

Come along and help us to celebrate our 27th Festival and join in the fun!!!!!! Guests from Home and Abroad will be joining in, and as well as things going on in the display arena, there will be the usual array of activities, along with various Kite & Food traders.

The theme for this year is "Scientific Inventions". A raffle is held over the weekend with lots of donated kite related prizes, donations gratefully received!

On Saturday evening we will have our usual Social Get Together in the marquee, and all are welcome. (It is £7.50 if you would like to join in with the Buffet, please pre-book and pay on the Saturday morning, from the Raffle Team as available numbers are very limited!)

Camping is available on the Friday and Saturday evenings only, for £10.00 (payable on the weekend) and you will be able to get onsite from 1pm onwards on the Friday, no earlier please! (Council stipulation) There are Showers and Toilet facilities on site.

Come along and join in, and we look forward to seeing you there!!!

Contact: Alan Cosgrove (Main festival Organiser) 01256 421800 or Roy Broadley (Kites Up) 01256 812487

Event News

Burnham On Sea Kite Festival 14th & 15th September

A popular kite festival is set to return to Burnham-On-Sea for the first time in two years this autumn.

The kite festival will be held on Burnham beach this September for the first time since 2017. The festival was switched to Berrow beach last year.

Talking to Burnham-On-Sea.com this week, organiser Gaynor Brown confirmed: "The Beach Kite Fest is returning to the main beach in Burnham-On-Sea."



"Over the weekend of 14th and 15th September kites from all over the country will be displaying their skills with huge inflatable, single line acrobatic kites, power and traction kites and the wonderful synchronised flying team shows we have been able to show for the past three years."

"We were keen to include the Kite Buggies and Land Yachts that did a demonstration in 2017 and 2018 but we will only be permitted to have them with a static display. At least it will provide a chance for the public to find out about this exciting and challenging sport."

"The last time the event was held in Burnham we had to struggle with 70mph winds. That drastically restricted what we could safely fly and many of the huge inflatables had to stay packed up."

"Last year we had the opposite challenge of no wind for the June event and perfect weather for September when the sky in Berrow was crowded with huge flying animals and strange under sea creatures."

"So this year we will be hoping for good wind and plenty of sun to be able to put up an incredible show like the one we mounted in 2016. There will be a specialist kite trader with us and our very popular 'Learn to Fly' lessons as usual."

Details of displays and timetables will be posted on Burnham-On-Sea.com.

Newbiggin Kite Festival 20th & 21st April

A community donation by Lynemouth Power Station has been warmly received by organisers of this year's Newbiggin Kite Festival taking place over the Easter bank holiday weekend.

This year marks the eighth consecutive year for the event which attracts hundreds of visitors to the town over a two day period. As a major employer in South East Northumberland, the £350 contribution is the latest community donation to be made by the power station to support local initiatives and charitable causes which benefit the community and their residents.

Those attending the kite festival will see professional demonstrations by many of the region's kite enthusiasts, with youngsters being able to participate in kite-making workshops, watch-synchronised and stunt kite-flying as well as other family-orientated activities. The event takes place from 11am-4pm over the bank holiday weekend.

Janet Mole of Lynemouth Power Station commented, "It's a fantastic event that brings the local community together therefore we are delighted to make the donation and support those who help to organise it. Many of our employees and their families live locally and as a main employer for the area, we fully support events like this which bring everyone together."

Sheila Harrison, one of the organisers of the Newbiggin Kite Festival added, "Lynemouth Power Station has been a great supporter of the festival over the years and we thank them once again for their generosity. The event attracts hundreds of visitors to Newbiggin-by-the-Sea therefore it's not only great for the community, but for local tourism in this part of Northumberland. Everyone is welcome and we hope that many families make the trip and come along."

St Annes International Kite Festival 10th & 11th August 11am to 5pm each day

The 2019 St Anne's Kite Festival will take place this August. Joined by kite teams from across the UK and overseas, the event will make the skies above St Anne's seafront awash with colour on Saturday and Sunday as fabulous display kites take to the air on the beach adjacent to the pier.

Weather permitting, the event promises a thrilling and thoroughly enjoyable day out for young and old alike. This year the weekend kite festival runs from 11.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday and Sunday. Time to gather friends and family together for All The Fun Of The Air! There is also an illuminated kite flying evening on the evening of Friday 9th August.

Rosa International Kite Festival, Italy



Balinese Dragon Head. The team from Bali were the special guests at the festival.



Poppies and Bees.



Multi-celled Tetrahedral. Henrique Correia. The leading edges are open, with each cell made of two pieces.



New kite from E3—more will be on show at Portsmouth this year.

Rosa International Kite Festival, Italy



Dick Toonen's Boxes—Waiting for the Wall



One of the many multi-celled kites at the festival.



Gill Bloom—Kites and Banners. Not a lot of wind during the weekend, but the occasional brief period of gusts.



More of the wind garden area.

The Rosa International Kite Festival took place in mid-March. Rosa is around an hour from Venice, so a combination trip is easily possible. For 2019 the event has moved to a new location—which for those people lucky enough to stay in the provided accommodation, meant a walk of some 25m from the gates of the lodging to the flying field.

The whole weekend was plagued by very little wind—generally 1-2 mph with gust reaching 5-7mph. Even the underlying wind did not maintain itself, so there was a lot of pulling up the kites, just to see them drift down again.

Nonetheless, a great festival with amazing atmosphere with the children running around with their kites.

More on Single Skin Kites—Peter Lynn

A LOST CAUSE?

In 2013 I began developing single skin single line kites: Kites that would be reliable enough in a range of winds to be useful as pilot and show kites at kite events but don't have sticks, inflated tubes or ram-air inflated spaces. It hadn't been done yet, was probably possible, and was a project I thought myself well suited to by resources and experience— somewhat hubristically as it's turned out.

I've now put some 1000s of hours into this and it's time for an accounting as to where things are at.

NOT MUCH PROGRESS!

Certainly not enough to justify the time and resources applied.

I've been a magnet for lost causes: Kite sailing, another developmental field I've put inordinate effort into, has sucked up a fair portion of many people's lives without achieving commercial success—though the spin-offs of kite buggying, kite surfing, foil boarding and snow kiting have been pay backs.

And yet another field I've been involved with; Stirling cycle engines (named after the Reverend Robert Stirling, who's first patent in the field dates to 1817) is similarly afflicted. Stirling engines have had billions of dollars (yes, really) spent on them by thousands of deluded engineers, but have so far only found minor niches such as desk top toys and as a marginally effective alternative to nuclear power for submarines.

Oh, and in my spare time I've become a sawmiller, operating the ex Hoberg family (Volker Hoberg is one of the infamous No-Limits kite team from Germany) vintage reciprocating sawmill which I brought to NZ 10 years ago and have now rebuilt. It cuts wonderful big slabs of exotic and special timbers for artisan furniture makers and wood turners, but takes as long as 45 minutes to make a cut that a modern bandmill can do in 15 to 20 seconds.

But back to the single skin (lack of) progress report; Last week I had a reality check:

At this year's Nelson Kite Festival (number 29) the wind was so strong and turbulent that no maxi kites were flown until very late in the day, by which time I'd left to come back to Ashburton. I tried flying some single skin pilot kites. Most of these were of the 1Skin style, which has been intensively developed through 50 or more prototypes and can be very useful in low to mid-range winds because of their excellent lift, high flying angle, and low cost. 'Out of the bag', none would stay up. In the strong gusty winds, they sooner or later dived off unrecoverably to one side or the other. This was neither a surprise nor a new problem, but I had thought it would have yielded to accurate construction, and relentless iterative development by now. It hasn't. But then again, as the ditty says; "any problem worth attack will prove its worth by fighting back" and this is exactly what I signed on for.

Taking a step back, 'diving over' almost certainly has as its fundamental cause that the 'structure' of single skin kites (fabric), is unable to resist compression loads—any compressive load anywhere and they buckle.

This can be seen when conventional parachutes are towed behind boats as parasails. To gain height, the bridles on the side nearest the boat (called the leading edge) are pulled in a bit. This enables the parachute (and person) to rise to not much more than 30 degrees before the leading edge gets pushed in. When the pressure of air pushing on the outside is greater than the pressure 'captured' inside the parachute, the fabric buckles—because it has no capacity to resist compressive loads.

But to be useful, single skin kites need to fly at a line angle higher than 30 degrees—and this is the single skin kite challenge.

1Skins are shaped like an aircraft wing, except their lower skin extends only a short distance back from the leading edge; typically 5% to 10% of chord. This is aerodynamically efficient (that is, enables the kite to fly at a high line angle) and is the form used for high performance single skin traction kites. But at high flying line angles, wind pressure buckles this type of leading edge inwards—which single skin traction kites typically counter with stiffening rods (weedwhacker cord or flexible carbon fibre rod).

For single line versions I'm restricting myself to what can be achieved without stiffening of any kind—with some thoughts that this might then feed back to single skin traction kites and kite sailing.



60 m Serpent and 4 sq.m keel less SS Pilot at Kuwait 2019

For 1Skins, when the leading-edge buckles in asymmetrically, which it always does sooner or later as wind speed increases, the kite dives off to one side. A second effect is that the wind pressure pushing on the leading-edge can buckle the fabric further back along the kite's skin—which has the same result.

But there is a form of leading edge that is more resistant to crumpling—and better able to pop out again when it does. This is the bridle-supported leading edge used on the Octopus and Serpent style single skin show kites I've also been developing. The Octopus (not to be confused with the ram-air Octopus from 1990) was my (the?) first successful single skin show kite design: Successful as in flying reliably in a (very) wide wind range. They fly at a high line angle and don't suffer from the 1Skin's 'diving over', but have a problem which at first didn't seem serious: To fly satisfactorily their tentacles must be

More on Single Skin Kites—Peter Lynn

crosslinked with multiple cords. These provide necessary extra drag and stop the tentacles from tangling into big balls that take hours to untangle. I've not found any other way to stop this tangling, but these cross-links snag on things, damaging the kite and posing a danger to everything in the vicinity. An alternative form that doesn't have this problem is the Serpent, but these have a slightly narrower wind range because their single tail is heavier and doesn't have as much drag. They're improving at every iteration though (taking lessons from the Balinese Janggans), and at < 10km/hr to >50km/hr are adequate for general kite festival flying. It's especially satisfying that the 60m version flies at least as well as the 20m it was scaled from, while being 4 times as big by area. Fabric stiffness is not therefore a factor; a goal achieved.

Supporting this design are two developments which have general applications for single skin kites and indeed, for many ram-air inflated show kites: The first is a bungy and pulley mechanism that automatically lets out some or all of the leading-edge bridles as wind speed increases to prevent leading-edge collapse and extend the kite's wind range without having to change bridle settings.

The other is 'aeolian' bridling. This is the use of braids rather than cords for a kite's rear bridles. When flying at high line angles, braids of suitable length, width and weight, flutter harmonically, which causes their drag to increase rapidly. By doing this they pull down on the rear of the kite when the wind is stronger, offsetting extra nose-down bridling that enables lighter wind flying. The result is a kite with wider wind range. A worthwhile feature is that when the flying line is horizontal, braid bridles lie in the wind direction so don't apply much if any extra pull to the rear of the kite. This reduces stalling and makes launching easier. But when the kite is flying high in strong winds, they hang transverse to the air



Bridle supported leading edge SS Pilot kite in Kuwait 2019

flow in full vibratory mode—applying 10 to 20kg extra pull to the rear bridle points (in the case of a 60m Serpent), which prevents overflying and reduces leading-edge collapse.

So, single skin single line pilot kites are limited to

light wind use at present, but there is now a single skin single line show kite that can hold its own at any kite event.

Will single skin pilots ever seriously challenge ram-air inflated styles for general use?

Two reasons to think they may: Bridle supported leading edges from the Octopus/Serpent style can be grafted onto 1Skin style kites, which will address one of its problems (though there may be a few others lurking there too). And, quite a few other kitefliers are engaged in this development now— their fresh thinking can only be helpful.

Making an all winds, tailless, single skin single line kite remains a formidable challenge.

But it is far from being a lost cause.

From 2014 to 2017 I ran a 'stream of consciousness' account of this development at <http://www.peterlynnhimself.com/>, which I stopped when some coherent theories began to form, intending to write up a retrospective analysis once I had a few more things nailed. I still intend to do this, only held back by concern that numerical modelling may soon get sophisticated enough to make my ramblings irrelevant. The topography of kite development (as for most new things) is a scattering of peaks of unknown form, number, and height, rising out of a mist enshrouded swamp.

Blundering around in this swamp, when a patch of dry and rising ground is encountered, the highest point of that particular hill can be reached—provided impenetrable bush and precipitous sections can be worked around.

What can't be known without going back down into the swamp, is whether there's a higher peak out there somewhere.

From about a year ago, the **1Skin** design (a single line single skin pilot kite) had run out of hill—having come up against leading-edge collapse, skin compression and excess lateral (keel) area (necessary to support bridles) all of which make these kites unreliable above about 40km/hr.

Which was obvious at the '**19 Nelson Kite Festival**, when no single skin kites would stay up in the strong gusty winds. After this debacle I pulled out some archived single skin pilot kite prototypes and flew them against more recent examples to confirm what I strongly suspected; that there has been little if any gain in strong wind reliability since 2015, notwithstanding all my clever dick 'improvements'.

So, I've been back down stumbling around in the swamp for nearly a year now looking for another hill to climb. About the only compensation is that during this phase of development, prototypes don't have to be pulled down for changes to be made—just wait a few seconds for them to crash—if they get up at all.

But sooner than expected, I've emerged onto dry land and am climbing strongly again. Occasionally the mist even clears a bit and there are glimpses of beckoning heights—or maybe I'm hallucinating—but

More on Single Skin Kites—Peter Lynn

whichever, I'm having a lot more fun than when I was slogging around in the bog.

The breakthrough—if it really is—has come from using bridles rather than flares (keels) to support the leading edge and skin. The downside is more bridles; **1Skins** have 20, the latest designs currently have 58, though a version that's flying OK has just 37. The upside is that they don't buckle in strong winds though they zoom around a lot—which can be damped by adding tails and may yield to shoulder shaping and careful disposition of lateral area. The lead-in was a 2/3rds size Serpent head made to test various shapes, sizes and attachment of tails, which surprised me a lot by flying **without any tail at all**. Actually, it was more stable in this form than some earlier Serpents were with tails. I also found that with rear outer flares, it was subject to terminal 'diving over', and wouldn't fly at all, which has led to an understanding of a lot of kite misbehaviour that's puzzled me since forever. It's a really simple cause and effect when you see what's happening, but not easy to explain in words or diagrams, so will have to wait until I get suitable graphics organised.

And adding to this, the Octopus/Serpent series of single skin show kites has also taken a step forward, with a 60m Serpent now rock solid from 12km/hr to more than 40km/hr on just one bridle setting. It still has the signature Serpent tendency of hanging a bit left or right in very light conditions—and traverses fully to one side when it stalls—but if better angle of attack control can be devised (see below) these remaining annoyances will be cured.

When I tested this 60m Serpent in strong winds at a local industrial park, (after Nelson and before Kuwait), I had a bit of a whoopsie: It has a take-down line by which a light pull collapses the head no matter the wind strength, and after I'd finished testing I used this to drop the kite for packing away. As I detached this line, the wind came up even more and the kite self-launched, dragging the back of my 1.5tonne anchor vehicle sideways a bit. The kite then looped a few times before settling down at a decent angle weaving from side to side rather ominously. Being by myself, I then faced having to wait for the wind to become strong enough to break the line or crash the kite—or drop enough for me to pull it down. Instead I drove, with some loss of traction, to the upwind end of the field (aren't 4wd's wonderful), turned towards the kite and drove downwind at 60km/hr + until I ran out of field (about 500m). At which point the kite was (just) on the ground. I then leapt out and ran to the head, getting there just as it re-launched.

Eventually some passers-by called in help and the husband of one of our Ashburton staff arrived with his 4wd. We then pulled it down with a carabiner. At the **Kuwait Kite Festival** (just finished) this kite was almost civilised enough to pass the good neighbour test – a huge gain from the indulgences single skin kites have required to date, and a definite sign that they are finally growing up.

By the way, **Kuwait '19**, ranks amongst the very best kite events I have ever attended: 5 days of consistent winds ranging from light-useable through to upper mid-range, impeccable hospitality, excellent organisation, and an almost big enough kite field

with plentiful anchors. The world's 3 largest kites flew at various times (all together on the 3rd day) and at one point there were 89 maxi kites in the air—not bad for just over 30 invited fliers.

If I get to Berck this year (probable) I'll retrofit the 60m Serpent's bridling to a 30m version, and possibly to an Octopus, to check whether the 60m's improvements are scalable (I think they are).

And I'll prepare bridle supported leading edge single skin pilot kites of various styles so as to have plenty of testing to do there (like Kuwait, Berck is an excellent place for kite development, especially when there's access to sewing machines).

But if single skin single line kites are ever to be more than just curiosities and an intriguing technical challenge, their leading edges need to extend further below the main surface when the kite is flying at a low line angle, but shorten up when flying high. Deeper leading edges make launching easier and enable light wind flying, but get pushed in, causing leading edge collapse, in stronger winds and when the kite climbs to a high flying line angle. Finding ways to have the leading edge depth change automatically with line angle and wind strength is therefore the key to single skin kite success.

Currently I have 2 ways to do this:

One is aeolian bridles that pull the kite's trailing edge down at high flying line angles—which pushes more pressure forward to support the leading edge as well as applying drag to limit the maximum flying line angle.

The other is a pulley and bungy system that changes the leading edge depth in response to line pull. Neither of these is ideal, and aeolian bridling is really only useable for kites with significant tails (like Serpents) because it pulls the kite's centre of pressure rearward, which upsets the stability relationship for tailless kites.

I have a few other ideas that are worth trying; none of which look to be easy however.

Climbing this hill is going to be formidably difficult therefore, but hopefully worth the effort if successful. And there's nothing else I'd rather be doing.



1 skin 6sq.m with bungy and pulley bridle mechanism

3rd Aspire International Kite Festival



Phot Opportunity spot.
Miss Kite (Mr Kite was also there—but without the bow and all blue).

The winner of the schools kite competition—prize QAR50,000.

A Quad tangle.

Some of the illuminations around the site for the night flying.

The motley crew. Kitefliers came from 19 countries—including the local Qatar Group. Furthest travel distance was some of the Americans who ended up coming via Japan rather than the more direct route over Europe due to snow at their departure point.



3rd Aspire International Kite Festival



Scott Hampton's banners
Gill Bloom's prize winning Arabian themed banners
Stephen Versteegh—Gold Octopi
The three wise Monkeys.
Dusk at Aspire Park.



BOGNOR Regis Kite Festival

KING GEORGE V
Playing Fields - Felpham

24th - 25th - 26th
August 2019

Plus **-Live Music-**

Children's Entertainment
Saturday - Sunday - Monday shows by Nick Clark

Bar and Street Food
Giant Inflatables and Rides
Kite Making Workshop
Variety of Stalls



See website for full details and updates

ABBA STARS
IN A LIVE SHOW
Saturday Evening



Saturday 10:30am - 10:00pm
Sunday 10:30am - 7.00pm
Monday 10:30am - 5:00pm

Bank Holiday Family Fun

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facebook

07854 854787 - 07841 456494
www.brkf.org

Portsmouth International Kite Festival

Portsmouth International Kite Festival 10th & 11th August

Portsmouth City Council continues to support the kite festival.

This year celebrates the 28th Portsmouth International Kite Festival and we are bringing many new kite fliers and their kites to the festival.

As normal we will have several displays where you can bring your kite into the arena and join in. See the Portsmouth web site for details when the timetable is published.

Even if you do not have a suitable kite for the displays—there are often more kites than people to fly them, so why not come along and help—just ask.

As well as the kite artists we have a range of large inflatable kites from new and regular guest fliers.

If all goes to plan one of the feature displays will be 10 of Rolf Zimmermann's Dragon Kites, including two belonging to Tony Jetland from America.

We currently have confirmed:

Coming to the event are Bernard Dingwerth, Martcus Munstermann, Lara Munstermann, Hans Schneider, Jurgen Jansen, Ralf Bielau, Rolf Zimmermann, Marcus and Katja Flenders (Germany), EX3 Team (Italy), Herman and Ina Plattje, Ruud Kugel (Holland), Karin and Roger Stevens (Belgium), Mateusz Chojnowski (Poland), Tony Jetland (USA), Bhavna Mehta (India) and Henrique Correia (Portugal).

From the UK we have Team Spectrum, Paul and Natalie Reynolds, Brighton Kite Fliers, Tony Cartwright, The Beccles Bunch, The Avon Kite Fliers, The Decorators, Dave Ellison, Guy Reynolds, Flying Fish, Martin Lester, Nick James, Frances Anderson and Amalgamation. Plus of course George Webster on commentary.

The timetable will be published on the web site www.portsmouthkitefestival.org.uk when we create it!

There will be a selection of kite traders and caterers on site as well as a selection of non-kite stalls and a craft tent.

Festival Auction: There will be a short (hopefully) auction taking place Saturday evening around 8:30pm to raise funds for the festival. This will take place in one of the marquees on site.

Items for the auction gratefully received before or on the day. Everyone is welcome to attend the evening events.

Free parking is available for KSGB members on request from us IN ADVANCE as we cannot issue passes on the day. Requests must be with us by 31st July. No passes will be available at the site.

Send SAE or email us with your name and car registration number. Please note that each pass will be specific to you and NOT transferable. Your name and registration number will be printed on the pass. Also note that if you do not supply the registration number you will not get a pass.

Finally a CAR pass does not equal a CAMPING pass—a separate pass is required for CAMPING.

Camping is not officially permitted on site by the council. This year the festival is again being run in conjunction with Portsmouth City Council and they are being pressured by local residents and councillors to keep the number of campers static.

Some passes will be available to other non guest kitefliers. The process and rules are:

Camping is only open to Kite Society members or affiliated club members.

A ballot will be used to allocate any spare passes. Therefore anyone who wishes to enter the ballot **MUST** request a pass from us together with the vehicle registration number.

All requests for camping must be with us by **31st May**. We will notify both successful and unsuccessful people by the **8th June**.

It is important to note that this concession is only between **Friday 9th August 10am until Monday 12th August noon**. You will be moved if you arrive earlier or stay later. Please do not abuse this concession.

For details of local accommodation please contact the Portsmouth Tourist Centre on 023 9283 6722, www.visitportsmouth.co.uk. The University Halls of Residence, where the invited kitefliers stay, can be booked online at www.port.ac.uk/holidays or call 023 9284 4884.

We hope to see as many of you as possible to come and fly your kites. There will be a number of arena spots where anyone can show off their kites.

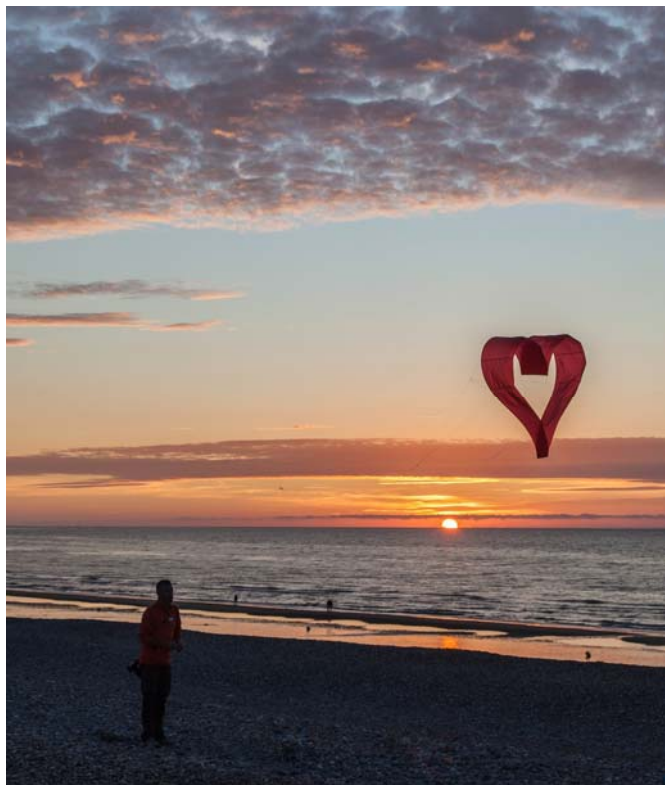
A memorable evening in Dieppe—Chris Mabon

Further to Hugh and Lynn's excellent, and indeed extensive, report on the 2018 Dieppe Cerf-Volant, may I share one of my experiences from the Festival.

Whilst every one of those September days in Dieppe was superb, as reported, so too were most of the evenings. Days generally ended with a colourful sunset across the town's seascape and cliffs. Some sunsets could only be described as stunning.

On one such evening, René Maier from Switzerland was displaying, and photographing, a selection of his Heart Kites on the beach. With camera in hand, as usual, I felt compelled to join in. Here is a small selection of the images I captured during that most memorable hour or so ...

Plans can be found <https://www.windhau.ch/herz-drachen>



Kite in the Antarctic

From Live Science

Kite-Blown Sled Climbs Antarctic Ice Dome, One of the Coldest Places on Earth

For the first time, an expedition climbed one of the coldest places on Earth — Fuji Dome in the interior of East Antarctica — using a windblown vehicle.

During the 52-day voyage, undertaken by Spain's Asociación Polar Trineo de Viento, a four-person team used the "WindSled" to ascend the icy 12,500-foot-tall (3,810 meters) dome. Tents, cargo, scientific experiments and solar panels were mounted on the truck-size, modular sled and pulled by a 1,600-square-foot (150 square meters) kite.

"It has been difficult, but we consider this crossing a great scientific, technical and geographical success," WindSled inventor Ramón Larramendi said in a statement. "We have proved that it is possible to travel thousands of kilometres, with two tons of cargo, without polluting, and performing cutting-edge science, in a complex and inaccessible territory such as Antarctica."

The team left from the Russian Novolazarevskaya Base in Antarctica on Dec. 12 and travelled 1,577 miles during their round trip, enduring temperatures as low as minus 42 degrees Celsius.

The highest elevation the expedition recorded was 12,362 feet, just short of Fuji Dome's highest point, which is apparently difficult to identify as the landscape is more like a plain than a peak.

The WindSled didn't make it through the journey entirely intact. The team reported that the

kite suffered a rip after it was under pressure from soft snow and low winds during part of the voyage.

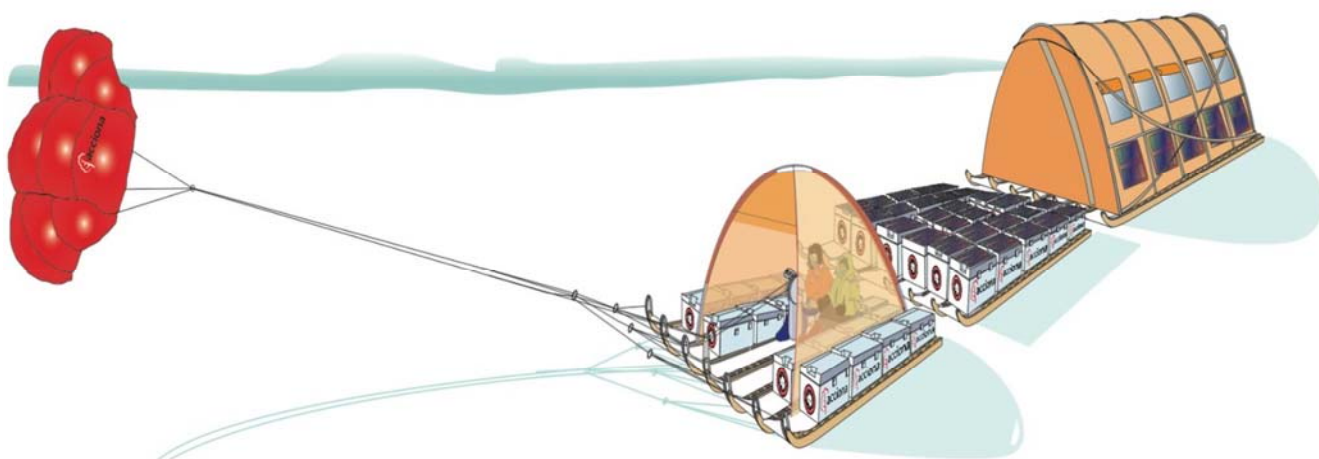
In addition to demonstrating possible uses for the vehicle, the team also conducted several scientific experiments.

Amongst the scientific projects on board the WindSled included a special drill for sampling snow and ice for researchers at the University of Maine to study the history of climate change. The team also tested the sensors for the Mars Environmental Dynamics Analyzer (MEDA), an instrument that will be on NASA's Mars 2020 Rover to measure wind, temperature, dust and other weather factors.

The European Space Agency (ESA) contracted the expedition to test the performance of Europe's new, nearly complete global navigation satellite system, Galileo, which is a rival to systems like the United States' GPS, in an experiment dubbed GESTA.

"We are very pleased with this pilot scientific experience, having been able to collect Galileo measurements all over the expedition trip as planned," Javier Ventura-Traveset, head of ESA's Galileo Navigation Science Office, said in a statement from ESA. "The expedition reached latitudes near 80 degrees south, to our knowledge the most southerly latitude measurements ever-performed in-situ with Galileo in its current near-complete constellation status."

The GESTA measurements should also give researchers insights about how geomagnetic storms caused by solar activity can degrade satellite navigation performance.



The WindSled is a multi-part sledge, complete with mounted tents and solar panels, pulled through the ice using an enormous kite. Credit: ESA

Bits & Pieces

At Christies.

Being sold at Christies as part of the George Michael Collection Evening Auction.

Andy Warhol—Child with Kite.



Estimated at £40,000 to £60,000

For Sale at the Japanese Gallery

Artist: Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1815-1842)
 Signed as Ichiyusai Kuniyoshi
 Title: A Portrait of a Beauty
 Publisher: Izutsuya Shokichi
 Date: 1815-1842
 Price: £1800

A portrait of a beauty completed entirely in Prussian blue. Entering Japan from the West, the then expensive and exotic pigment sparked a wealth of inspiration for artists during the Edo period (c. 1603-1868).

The demand for this colour is clear from the fact entire works were composed in it almost monochromatically, with perhaps the most famous example being Katsuchika Hokusai's (1760-1849) The Great Wave off Kanagawa (1829-1832).

Kuniyoshi presents a lady with her back turned to the viewer, revealing the sash of her kimono decorated with flying kites. The motif of her dress has associations with the Japanese festival of Children's Day traditionally celebrated in Spring.

Sparsely placed, the upper half of her robe is adorned with two paulownia flowers.



South Korea Olympic Proof Set



£640.

Part of the set issued between 1986 and 1988 was one with kites.

The rest of the set is not interesting (as far as kites go) but the whole collection is estimated at \$6-8000

Has been seen individually for

Seen on Ebay

Roo & Kite Disney Store Exclusive Mug Winnie the Pooh Peach Cup.

£3.50 plus P&P



Kite Flying Thimble



Boxed and with certificate. £3.75 plus P&P

Photograph

This an original creation depicting kites against a cloudy blue sky. The kites are original photographs taken at a kite festival in Lytham St Annes in Lancashire, and superimposed onto a cloudy blue sky.



£4.99 plus postage.

Kite – An adventure as wild as the wind

On 29th March at the Robert Bolt Theatre, Manchester.

Stuck in her Grandma’s obsessively tidy flat, a recently orphaned girl discovers a kite which comes to life and takes her on a wild adventure. Little does she know that Grandma has her own brand of magic and the wind will bring them together in ways they never would have imagined.

A play without words, Kite is inspired by the world of indoor-kite flying and stories such as The Snowman and The Red Balloon. For everyone aged seven and over, it features The Wrong Crowd’s imaginative storytelling, exquis-



ite puppetry and design, dance, originally composed music and – of course- kites.

The Wrong Crowd first produced Kite to acclaim at Soho Theatre as part of London International Mime Festival and on tour in 2016. This new production for 2019 features a brand new cast and development to the play’s central story, capturing the magic and poignancy of the original whilst creating a strong new narrative about how to find strength and love in the face of loss.

The production is created and co-directed by designer/director Rachael Canning (Artistic Director of The Wrong Crowd) and playwright/director Hannah Mulder (Creative Associate of The Wrong Crowd) and. The creative team also features composer Isobel Waller-Bridge and lighting designer Joe Price.

A trailer for the show (which is touring) is available <https://vimeo.com/311472484>.

Why do we fly kites on Clean Monday?

Clean Monday – named after the cleansing of the soul and new beginnings – fell on March 11 this year.

Bits & Pieces

The day takes its name from the cleansing of the soul and the new beginning that the day symbolises, as it is placed 40 days before the resurrection of Christ. This is also the starting point for the fasting period of the Orthodox religion. However, another symbolic tradition takes place on this day that finds its roots deep in ancient times and is still practised in Greece today – kite flying!

According to historians, the first person documented to attempt such a thing was Archytas, a mathematician who lived in the fourth century BC. Archytas was a citizen of South Italy and a good friend of Plato and one of the final faithful followers of Pythagoras and his methods. He created the kite in order to use it within his aerodynamic experiments.

Kite flying has a deeper meaning for those of the Christian faith, as it symbolises the elevation of the soul towards the heavens. The first kites that were spotted in Greece in the post-modern era came from the eastern areas and more specifically the Eptanisa, Chios, Samos, until they eventually made their way to the city of Patra and became common all around the country.

Other civilisations also took part in kite-flying festivals. In China, kites were made out of silk and bamboo in the shape of a dragon, a creature of worship within the nation. In Northern India there is a celebration every spring with kites parading in the sky to welcome the new season, with parades that find their roots in Hindu mythology. Additionally, it is said that the well-known explorer Marco Polo brought the kite to Europe during his journeys in the Middle Ages, remarking that it was known for its "dangerous flights."

Nowadays of course the creation of a kite is quite simple, as it demands a little bit of wood, paper, some string and a large amount of imagination. And if you do decide to follow the spirit of the day and try to fly one of your own, just be wary of any electricity poles!

Kite Smuggling

Bid to smuggle thousands of kites, deadly string to UAE foiled.

Police have foiled a fresh attempt to smuggle thousands of kites and deadly string to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) through postal services. Two suspects were arrested by Civil Lines police on Wednesday for sending the banned items through postal services from Peshawar to Rawalpindi. Half of the kites and string reels were to be smuggled for the Basant festival in Dubai, SHO Civil Lines police station Mian Imran Abbas told The Express Tribune.



Abbas said that an informant told police that kite makers were using postal services to dodge police, adding that kites and string reels worth of millions of rupees were being smuggled from Peshawar to Rawalpindi. Taking action on informant's tip, two suspects, Yasir Nawaz and Fahim Ahmed, were caught red-handed while receiving parcels of kites from district court post office, he said.

SHO Abbas said the suspects, during investigation, revealed that they wanted to mislead the police department and law enforcement agencies by using postal services for their business. Suspects told the police that the confiscated material was to be smuggled to Dubai by air from Islamabad. As per Section 4 of Dangerous Kite Flying Act 2001, a case was registered at the Civil Line police station and the suspects were locked up, who will be produced before a local court on Thursday. Police officials further said that a physical remand of the suspects will be demanded so that other suspects involved in this unique crime can be brought to book.

On Etsy

Mary Poppins Banks Children Kite - Votes for Women - Laser Cut Acrylic Brooch

This brooch is perfect for any lover of Mary Poppins. It has been lovingly illustrated and designed to be made into a Hungry Designs brooch. It has been drawn and coloured by Hungry Designs' very own Amanda Whitelaw and cannot be found anywhere else. \$46 plus delivery.

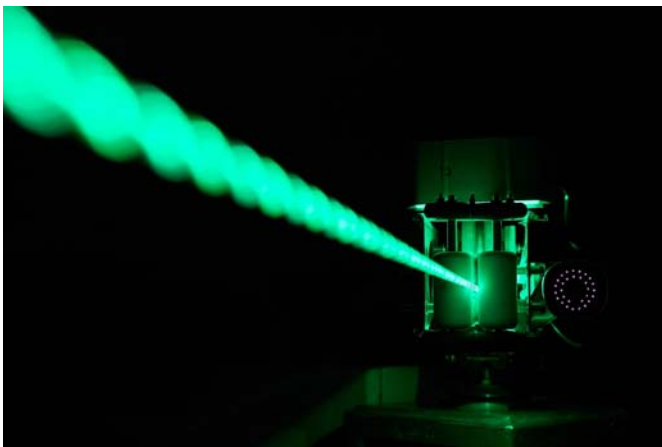


Light Emitting Kites

Windvogel shows potential of "drawing energy from the sky" says Dezeen Awards jury chair

The Dezeen Awards jury named Windvogel by Studio Roosegaarde as Design Project of the Year for the way the light-emitting kites draw attention to a new renewable energy source, says jury chair Paul Priestman in this movie.

Windvogel by Studio Roosegaarde is a lighting installation comprised of a pair of energy-generating kites tethered to a dynamo by glowing cables.



The project won the award for Lighting Design of the Year at the Dezeen Awards ceremony in London last week, as well as receiving one of the top honours of the night by being crowned Design Project of the Year 2018.

British designer Paul Priestman, who was the chair of the Dezeen Awards design master jury, says the project won because of the simple way it showcases how kites could be used to generate renewable energy.

"The jury really liked the idea that Windvogel demonstrates the possibility of how we can draw energy from the skies," he explains in the movie, which Dezeen filmed at the judging day in London earlier this year.

"This is an installation, but it's showing what is possible."

Studio Roosegaarde, which is led by Dutch designer Daan Roosegaarde, first presented the Windvogel installation in 2017 as part of an exhibition called Icoon Afsluitdijk, which was commissioned by the Dutch government.

The kites are attached by cables to a generator on the ground, which converts the kites' movement as they are pushed and pulled by the wind into electricity.

Studio Roosegaarde developed the technology by building on the work of late Dutch astronaut Wubbo Ockels, who had begun the design for an electricity-generating kite before his death in 2014

According to Studio Roosegaarde, the kites can generate up to 100 kilowatts of energy, which is enough to supply up to 200 households.

But Priestman says the key to the success of project lies in the way the cables glow bright green, which gives the visual impression of electricity travelling from the sky down to the ground.

"The cables that attach the kites to the ground are illuminated, so at night you get that visual reference of power coming from the sky and pulling it down into the earth where we can use it," he says.

"The people that see the installation make that visual reference that the energy is up there, and we can utilise it and draw it down to the planet."

Go Fly Your Kite Website

We are a County Down family business that delivers kite design workshops all over the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. We are a passionate business with a wealth of experience working with children, young people and adults. Our ethos is to encourage and facilitate learning, confidence building and artistic skills through FUN!

Go Fly Your Kite was born from an idea from our four year old son when exploring around a kite shop inspirationally he commented "wouldn't it be a great idea if we could draw on a kite dad?" So here we are.

Our aim is great service, great delivery and creating fantastic memories for all who use our kites. It's something new for kids to do!



Bits & Pieces

Working with primary schools through Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) content it enables fun through learning, art, science, social interaction and exercise. Children can create, design, construct and fly their own kites at the end of each workshop!

We work with a variety of organisations, agencies, youth groups, science festivals, corporate and individual birthday parties delivering our unique workshops across the UK and ROI.

<https://goflyyourkite.com/>

From YouTube

Kite Making Gujarat <https://youtu.be/qwpNdJ5Vhco>

This video shows some of the techniques to making the traditional Indian kite and the spools of line. Only 10 minutes long but very interesting.

Kite making is one of the most popular craft in India. Kite flying festival in India is most well-known sport in India which is celebrated with great fun and enthusiasm. Now artisans come with different designs patterns and with different sizes to attract customer. Vibrant colours are used to give more fascinating look to the product.

The product usually has high demand during the kite festival, which is celebrated in Gujarat at the month of January on the festival of "Uttarrayan". Kite flying festivals enhances the culture and tradition of India. In the present days new patterns and styles of kites are also available in the market.

Some of the colours for the kite sail.



There is also a link to www.dsource.in. Amongst the list of traditional Indian crafts to make, kites is listed.

This goes into some detail about how the kites are made, the materials and tools used, together with some of the produces produced.

Kite Festivals

If you are planning a trip somewhere this site may be worth keeping an eye on, if you want to take kites with you or simply attend an event.

<http://kitefestivals.vliegiersport.info/index.php>

You can search by date or country to see what is happening.

Popular Mechanics—May 1968

Men Fly Kites! What's so surprising? Willian the Conqueror is said to have lofted observers over enemy lies so that they might signal the decisive moment for an attack.

A legendary Japanese bandit of the 16th century had himself suspended from a kite so he might filch two fabulous gold fishes from a castle tower.

And in the United States wasn't it Ben Franklin who used a kite to prove a point about lightning and electricity?

Today men are still flying what most consider a boy's toy, but the toy has changed and the flying is done for serious purposes. Most of the men are members of the American Kite Association, a non-profit organisation with headquarters in Silver City, N.M. and chapters throughout the country. One is the Gold Coast chapter of South Florida. Its members fly such exotic creations as the "Para-Foil", an unframed fabric wing that resembles a mattress in flight but can fly untethered, even in rain or snow, and the "Paraglider" which, among other things, has floated a Gemini capsule to Earth safely.

Among the serious projects which the fliers hope to design kites for are:

- Pulling a life raft or boat to shore
- Using kites as rain catchers
- Kites as shields from the sun for occupants of a life raft
- Kites to suspend radio antennas
- Kites with instruments to collect samples of gasses and solid particles causing air pollution
- Kites to seed clouds to release rain
- Kites to make pollen counts
- Kites to trap disease causing insects
- Kites to mark pathways for hunters

- Kites as distress signals
- Kites for taking aerial pictures
- Kites to develop and test wind resistant sail materials.

The Floridians haven't forgotten the youngsters, however. They've developed an inexpensive one, more exotic than the drugstore variety and less complicated than kites they fly.

Oh how times have changed!

Oil and gas contractor exploring kite wind potential

Oil and gas company Saipem has signed an agreement with KiteGen Venture to develop and commercialise technology capable of producing electricity from high-altitude wind.

The Italian partners plan to use kites flying at heights of over 1km that are connected to a generator on the ground capable of producing up to 3MW of electricity. They hope to commercialise the technology within two years.



Saipem, a 60-plus-year veteran of the oil and gas industry, claimed harnessing wind power at high altitude has advantages over conventional ground-based generation including greater availability and more consistent speeds.

It also suggested the light weight of kites could help cut fabrication costs and generators could be positioned at shorter distances from each other than turbines at a conventional wind farm, taking up less space.

The partners will first aim to develop and deploy a kite power system on land, but Saipem added it is also working on offshore deployment of the system. It stated the kite could be used in deeper waters where turbines on fixed-bottom foundations cannot be used.

The kite would be tethered to a 50-tonne floating platform capable of rotating with the wind, KiteGen said.

KiteGen was formed in the early 2000s and has solutions protected by 40 patents in more than 70 countries. It uses an arched-shaped wing with large-scale tenso-structural properties to resist the load, while utilising light materials such as Kevlar. It uses two cables to manoeuvre the kite by changing the length of the cables.

Following ten years of development, KiteGen needs best engineering practices to commence batch production and deployment, she added. KiteGen has successfully tested prototypes at altitudes between 1km and 2km. Data from the Global Forecast System suggested at those altitudes there is enough wind to achieve a capacity factor of up to 60% anywhere in the world, the Saipem spokeswoman said.

Saipem, meanwhile, has traditionally provided services to the oil and gas industry but is taking steps into offshore renewables. It installed the world's first commercial floating offshore wind farm, and intends to increase its footprint in the industry.

Saipem is not the only oil and gas company to explore the potential of kite-based wind power.

Last month, Royal Dutch Shell invested in Makani, a kite developer spun off from X — part of Google's Alphabet — and in UK-based Kite Power Systems in May 2017.

More established wind power players are also examining kite power.

In June 2018, developer-utility EnBW launched a research project to develop high-altitude kite power systems with EWE Offshore, the Leibniz University of Hanover and SkySails Power.

Lets go fly a kite, not armed drones

Local residents gathered on Hastings beach to join in solidarity with those around the world living under threat from armed drones, for the Fly Kites Not Drones event on Sunday, March 17.

Member of the group, John Enefer says Fly Kites Not Drones was launched in 2014 by Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers based in Kabul. "They had become aware of children being afraid to fly kites - a much-loved pastime in their country," he said.

Japan House Exhibition—Photos: Tara Bloom

As part of the Japan-UK Season of Culture and to celebrate the beginning of 2019 Japan House London had a display of objects to signify good fortune for the year ahead. One was about kites and the other *Kumade* Bamboo Rakes.

The web site said:

In Japan, kites are most commonly associated with festivals and especially the New Year celebrations. They are often decorated with heroes from Japanese legends or auspicious symbols and words such as those for the animal from the 12-year zodiacal cycle representing the new year to come.

The images on these kites are first printed onto paper and hand painted before being fixed to a bamboo frame. Found in a variety of shapes and sizes, some of the most popular are the *yakko*, in the shape of a samurai attendant, and cranes to signify good fortune and longevity.



Friends of the Sky—David Wagner



For many years, I have been extremely impressed by Tal Streeter's reach of vision and scale. We worked together on a number of sculptural projects, and I fabricated his kites for a decade. More than anyone else, he taught me that 'anything goes'. A teacher as well as an artist, Tal had taught sculpture at SUNY Purchase for many years, and he understood the importance of passing on perspectives and skills to others. He particularly felt that kites could be a legitimate form of artistic expression and always urged others to view the sky as a 3 dimensional medium that touched every part of us and our world.

Tal and I had talked extensively about a special place to house and make available to others his collection of artefacts. After many discussions, we felt the vast New Mexico sky would best serve as the location for this unique museum and facility. A place at the far end of the sky. In 2011, I started the Friends of the Sky Foundation, a non profit artist foundation to preserve Tal's work and vision. The Foundation compound, in Santa Fe, holds all of his writings, sculptures, maquettes and considerable international collection of kites and Asian artefacts, as well as an eclectic array of kite paraphernalia. His extensive book collection and development drawings are all preserved here, along with a huge number of photographs and films. Perhaps the most impressive are the spectacular painted kites by Japanese masters he acquired in the 70's. Many of them are featured in his books. They are in excellent shape and now on display.

The Foundation was created by myself and my wife Fiona, and Tal's family. Initial funding was raised by the sale of some artworks ac-

quired by Tal and Romig from their artist friends in the New York art world in the 60's. The rest of the funding came from my wife and I. Working as time and funding allowed, it took over 5 years to create this unique museum and library.

We worked with the Argentine architect Andrea Caraballo to create a structure that emphasized ascent into the desert sky. The main elements and movements are inspired by some of Tal's monolithic pieces, well placed to take advantage of the high desert sun and the mountain backdrop. The buildings emerge from the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range, with a Japanese inspired courtyard, complete with shaped gravel and stone fountain.

The main structure is built around a twenty four foot wall that houses 4000 books from Tal's collection. Moving through this library and passing through the large bookcase wall, you enter a fully equipped studio and workshop with a twenty foot display and drawing wall that also serves as a projection screen for films and slides. Two eight foot glass doors open onto a similar sized exterior work area that is shaded and protected from wind by a forest wall of pines and cypress trees.

The twenty foot high bookcase is accessed by a steel and glass stairway that leads to a large mezzanine floor, with a separate work station, reading and lounging chairs. The second floor mezzanine offers the most exceptional view over the trees - the Sangre de Cristo mountain range, featuring Sun Mountain, only a mile away. Walking along the upper wall of books, a door leads you to an exterior stairway that passes and winds through the library wall

Friends of the Sky—David Wagner

and ends on a large deck with a glass balustrade, where you are firmly placed in the faultless Santa Fe sky at 7000 feet. Here you are well situated for sunsets, sky and star gazing, and kite flying.

All of the building was done by myself and Gerardo Vargas, a superb craftsman who works with me on all my projects. We occasionally needed the help of his nephew, Raudel, who is an expert rider and rope thrower. He carries his lariat on the worksite and often uses it to haul up materials and tools as well as wall frames. Personally, I don't know how anyone constructs buildings without a lariat.

My wife, Fiona, was a tireless supporter of the project, and she handled most of the interior design and furnishings, as well as the landscaping. Her taste tends toward the minimalist and Japanese, and the result is an exceptional blending of Tal's powerful minimalist designs and quiet Asian settings. Our son, Tiger, was on the site every day after school and added several touches of his own. He has almost completed the cataloging and shelving of the book collection, which will also be available online.

The Foundation buildings are situated on our land on the east side of Santa Fe, right at the base of the mountain range. It is a completely separate compound with parking for up to 15 cars, and an attached solar array that provides all the power needs. The cladding is mostly glass and steel with stucco on two sides to acknowledge the southwest backdrop. It is a LEED certified building, with careful attention to passive solar practices, and arranged to protect the Collection from the high altitude sun.

We have created a very quiet, restrained atmosphere in the library, attached residence, and courtyard for artists, writers, and visitors. People reading and working in the library have a complete view of the courtyard through a thirty five foot glass curtain wall, surrounded by a shallow arroyo filled with pinon and juniper.

Several of Tal's large minimalist sculptures are located in the courtyard and in the surrounding forest. The library wall is accented along the south edge with a twenty four foot red strip that leads the eye upward to fulfil Tal's most frequent motif - simple objects against an ever changing sky.

The Foundation features a modest residency program offering two to three weeks of retreat in a calm, well stocked studio, library and fully equipped residence. The Foundation can supply help with travel and a small stipend for supplies. Applicants are artists, kite makers, writers, and academics with an interest in Tal's

work or his fields of art, architecture, aviation, Asian art and literature, kites, wind, sky, and large scale conceptual projects. The space allows people to read, rest, explore, and create in a uniquely designed and beautiful facility and environment. We are also planning workshops and gatherings of kite makers and thinkers to be exposed to Tal's views and inspiration.



You can find out more by visiting friendsofthesky.org/index.html Some links do not work—particularly the Artwork and Kites collections—but the library does.

Tal Streeter was probably the most famous artist who used his talent in the world of kites. He worked closely with a number of major artists in the field of Sky Art including Otto Piene, Jackie Matisse, Curt Asker and others. Uniquely among kite makers, Tal's greatest contribution to the art of kites was his writings. The 'Art of the Japanese Kite', opened Western eyes to the qualities of Japanese kites - published before Pelham. 'Art that Flies' marked a set of collaborations with other artists that culminated in the Kite Art Volante Manifesto in the 90's that outlined the intentions and spirit of several serious artists.

His books and essays feature a remarkable style of personal reflection, delivered with a combination of childlike wonder, wry humour, and the perspective of vast experience in the international art world. A

number of other books, published and some unfinished, examined kites and their effect on our lives, in India, Korea, Europe, and the US. He had just completed a biography of Domina Jalbert when he passed away in 2012. He was survived by his wife, the potter Romig, and his daughter Lissa, a food stylist in Paris.

Events List

April		
6-14	Berck-sur-Mer Kite Festival, Berck-Sur-Mer, Nord-Pas-De-Calais, France	www.cerf-volant-berck.com
20- 1/05	Cervia International Kite Festival, Cervia, Italy	www.festivalinternazionaleaquilone.com/giornaliero
27-28	North Hants Kiter's Jolly Up 24, Cliddesden, Basingstoke	roy@kitesup.co.uk
May		
11-12	Houlgate Plein Vent, Promenade Roland Garros, 14510 Houlgate, Normandy, France	www.houlgatepleinvent.fr
12	Streatham Common Kite Day, Streatham Common, London SW16 3BZ	www.streathamkiteday.org.uk/
24-27	Margam Park Kite Festival, Port Talbot	margampark@npt.gov.uk
June		
1-2	Basingstoke Kite Festival, Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke	Alan Cosgrove (Main festival Organiser) 01256 421800 or Roy Broadley (Kites Up) 01256 812487
8	Kites on the Beach, Walmer Beach nr Deal Kent	Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com
22-23	Cardigan Island Coastal Farm Park SA43 1PR	Kites@skybums.com
July		
6-7	Barmouth Kite Festival, on the beach opposite the Lifeboat Station, Barmouth, Mid Wales	www.facebook.com/events/543541636147147
14-15	Leominster and Hereford Kite Festival, The National Trust's Berrington Hall, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 ODW	www.kitefestival.org.uk/
20-21	Mayo International Kite Festival Achill Island, Ireland	Facebook Page
20-21	The Shropshire Kite Festival , held at Cleobury Mortimer Sports Centre, Love Lane DY14 8PE	kites@skybums.com
August		
3-4	Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival, Imperial Recreation Ground, Exmouth, Devon EX8 1DG	exmouthrotaryclub.co.uk/index.php/kite-festival/
3-4	North Hants Kiter's Jolly Up 25, Cliddesden, Basingstoke	roy@kitesup.co.uk
10-11	Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Hampshire	www.portsmouthkitefestival.org.uk
10-11	Teston Bridge Country Park Kite Weekend,	Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com
18	3rd Annual Wind and Kites Festival Betteshanger Country Park nr Deal Kent CT14 0BF	Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com
24 – 26	Bognor Regis Kite Festival, King George V Playing Fields, Felpham, Bognor Regis, West Sussex	www.brkf.org
September		
8	Milton Creek Country Park, Saffron Way, Nr Sittingbourne. ME10 2EX	Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com
14-15	Burnham-On-Sea Kite Festival, Burnham Beach.	www.burnham-on-sea.com/whats-on
22	The Capstone Festival, Capstone Country Park, Capstone Road, Gillingham ME7 3JG	Malcolmf@kentkiteflyers.com



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