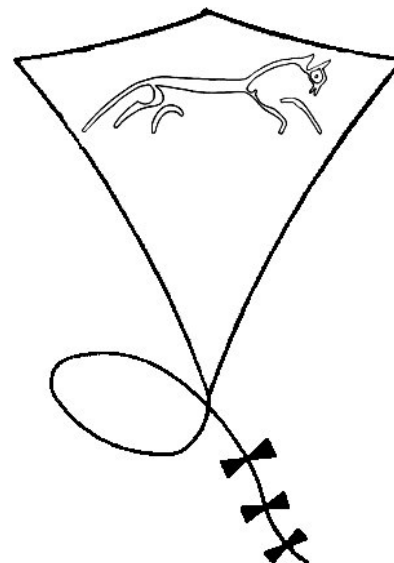


Cowpat Hill

Journal of
The White Horse Kite Flyers
Issue: Autumn 2013
October ----- December



GOOD BYE

As I said in the previous issue there has been very little input for this one so I have decided with sadness that this will be the last one I shall edit. So if you want any more you are going to have to stand up at the AGM and volunteer to take over.

I have loved editing the famous Cowpat Hill but recently it has become even more difficult to squeeze articles out of people. It was great to receive the piece about Cody and the ones from TOM with out any coercion.

I must thank those who have contributed regularly; Dave Cross for his cartoons, John Browning for Puzzle Corner and various random articles, Neil Harvey for "Sky Chat" and Dave Robinson for "Robinson's Ramble" and also those of you who have contributed at various times.

I should love to continue as editor but there are only so many arms I can twist a limited number of times so hopefully a new face will have a few new sources. This would be a good time to stamp a new personality on the magazine as postage has gone up so much that we are now thinking of changing the format to A5 so new front and back cover layouts will be required. So this is the time for change. Please step forward at the AGM, you don't even have to be on the committee.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS

PO BOX 585

SWINDON

SN3 4YR

www.whkf.org.uk

info@whkf.org.uk

DIARY DATES

W = Workshop, D = Display, T = Teddy bears

Month

October

5/6th Workshop
13th Barbury Castle OSOW

November

10th Barbury Castle
24th AGM

December

8th Barbury Castle OSOW
27th Barbury Castle Christmas Pudding Fly

January

12th Barbury Castle

February

9th Barbury Castle

March

9th Barbury Castle

IF YOU HAVE ANY DATES PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT THEY CAN BE ADDED TO THIS LIST
For other dates please go to <http://www.kitecalendar.co.uk/>

DEAD-LINE FOR NEXT ISSUE 6PM 29th December 2013

Just a note regarding the Cody statue unveiling at Farnborough Air Services Trust (FAST) on 7th August. I decided to 'buy a brick' because of his passion for the kite and the influence he had and still has on kiting.

Samuel Cody died as a result of a crash in one of his planes on 7th August 1913.

One hundred years later the team at FAST, following a lot of teamwork and donations from the public, commissioned and had created a wonderful statue of the man in a classic pose. Near to the statue is a bed of bricks with messages from those who wanted to make a donation to the initiative. There are still bricks available to buy, but even so, the display in Farnborough is excellent.

If you haven't been to FAST already (and for many of us that is a silly question) then it is definitely worth a visit.

Neil Lover



Puzzle Corner (29)



1. Use all the digits 1-6 once each to fit:
 $? \times ? = ?$

2.

	/		x		12
x		+		/	
	-		+		-2
+		+		+	
	x		-		4
41		20		6	

 Use all the digits 1-9 once each

3. Here $1, 11, 21, 1211, 111221, \dots$ is a nice sequence,
 what is the next number

4. Two pots: Pot A is labelled "This pot is empty", pot B is labelled "Only one label is correct".
 Which pot has the treasure in it?

Did you know that the Moon looks as big as a tennis ball when it is about 24 feet away from you?
Did you know that tree branches waving about make it windy ?

Answers to john@johnbrowning.net.

Answers to Puzzle Corner (28)

1. A Limerick:

$$\begin{aligned} &x-b \\ &+y-c \\ &(\text{where } b=7 \\ &c=11) \\ &173 \qquad \text{find } x \text{ and } y \\ &x = 112 \quad y = 79 \end{aligned}$$

2. If I join the police as a constable, how many promotions would get me to Chief Superintendent?
 Constable-Sergeant -Inspector-Chief Inspector-Superintendent -Chief Super. Hence 5

3. Break a 40kg stone into 4 bits with which you can weigh every whole number weight from 1 to 40kg
 1, 3, 9 and 27kg

4. What is the smallest weight of £1.33 in grams ?

Pound coin	9.5g, ,
twenty pence	5.0g
ten pence	6.5g
and three pennies (3 X 3.56g) *	10.68g
(or one 2p and one 1p)	
Total	31.68g

Robinson's Ramble

Here we go again! As I write this it's two weeks away from the Fun Fly a week after that it's the club's workshop, then it won't be long until the AGM , I realise how generous you all are when we ask for raffle prizes for these events but by the time these events are done we will all be raffled out! However the raffles are an essential part of the events that we organise, they are all part of the funding of the event, none more so than the Clubs AGM, the raffle usually covers the cost of the room and the food. So please dig deep and find at least one more gift for the AGM raffle, and don't forget we except anything, however, a kite related item always gets more tickets in the bag!

We recently had a very interesting article in our local newspaper, the reporter wrote about the disappointment that the general public can't visit the Science Museum at Wroughton anymore, it's only for organised groups or researchers now. He came up with some interesting stats. one that surprised me was that the Science Museum moved their first items there for storage way back in 1979, he mentioned all of the events that used to take place there before it was virtually closed down, and yes , the kite festivals were mentioned. He poses the question why the public can't visit this wonderful collection of items anymore? He also writes about the Science Museum & Swindon council who are applying to install 160,000 Solar Panels on the site, if successful this will become the biggest Solar Farm in the UK. There are loads of objections to this, due to the fact that the site is sat in the Wessex Downs in an area of "Outstanding Beauty". One MP from a neighbouring Town said "Swindon hasn't got a lot going for it scenery wise and then the bit that has got natural beauty is going to be covered in these ugly panels". I can only agree, we are lucky as a club having Barbury Castle, (which overlooks the site) to fly from, on a clear day you can see the Dunstable Downs, some 50 miles away as the Crow flies. The writer of this article about the Science Museum was Barry Leighton who can be contacted on leightonbarry@gmail.com.

Elsewhere in this magazine you will have read that Arthur has tendered his resignation as the Cowpat Editor, so we are looking for a new editor, if we don't get one I don't know what will happen with the magazine, so this might be my last Ramble (don't all cheer at once!) I would like to personally thank Arthur for the years that he has edited the magazine and of course for keeping the club website running, which he is continuing, thankfully!

It seems amazing but this is the last Cowpat of 2013 (Maybe the last one ever!) so I will finish by wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! It seems very strange writing those salutations in mid September.

David

Life's a Beach

A Location Report from WOOLACOMBE BAY

I'm writing this little report from our holiday flat overlooking the wonderful sandy bay of Woolacombe. At least it would be a great view if I could actually see it through the mist and fog of our typical British Summer Weather. I've been flying kites here since the early seventies and it's a fabulous blue flag beach of golden sand and must be about two miles long. The tide goes out a fair way (though nowhere near as daft as Weston!) which makes for a spacious arena for flying without getting in anybody's way. There's also a ready supply of toddlers to admire your flying skills and help fill the sand anchors.

The beach itself is kept clean and tidy using the profits from the car parks (a little steep at £6 per day but at least you know where some of the money is going). The cafe and facilities are really good with nice clean loos that are only a little bit sandy. The local shops will sell you all manner of beach paraphernalia you never new you didn't need and the local chippy takes some beating.

Location: For those of you without access to Google Maps, Woolacombe is in north Devon about 10 miles from Barnstaple and west facing. Slightly further on is the old resort town of Ilfracombe - sadly a shadow of its former self.

Other activities: OK although I regard Woolacombe as primarily a beach for kites, apparently it is more famous for surf boarding and bodyboarding. OK so the surf isn't quite Hawaii but the beach is protected and policed by the excellent RNLI run 'Baywatch' lifeguards who keep the surfboarders out of the way of everybody else. Having tried bodyboarding I can vouch that this is pretty much the second most fun you can have on your own. It also gives the place a surfing dude kind of vibe which at least means the place is rather less run down than many other beach resorts.

Wildlife: on the positive side, a gentle family walk around to the next bay included sightings of Kestrels, Goldfinches, Stonechats, Wheatears and Oystercatchers plus, to the joy of my daughter, two sitings of Seals. On the negative side, the Seagulls are everywhere and belligerent so don't take your eyes off the fish and chips.

Local landmarks: Damien Hurst's "Verity" statue is certainly a talking point at 66' tall on the edge of Ilfracombe's harbour. However, it's easier to admire than actually like though it's great fun listening to the locals mutter! Lynton and Lynmouth are well worth a visit along with Watersmeet (NT).

Weather: north Devon is a law unto itself when it comes to the local micro-climate! The BBC forecast is totally unreliable much to the consternation of local hoteliers ...the last time we stayed for a week, the weather forecast was rain every day and instead we had wall to wall sunshine. More importantly the wind can be relied upon to come from offshore leaving inept flyers like myself completely out of excuses!

Culinary: Clotted cream is made locally ...end of discussion!

So in summary: sun, sand, surf, wind and clotted cream what else could a kite flier need (....did I mention the local Scrumpy?)

T.O.M.

Postcards from the Hedge(3) Tails of the Unexpected from a White Horse Virgin

What I need is Stability

OK so having procured a couple of sleds, some line and an anchor now all I needed was to keep the sled in the air in reasonably strong winds. Early experiences were of the sled hitting the ground with a worrying thump. Particularly worrying if you were stood underneath it or within its immediate arc.....even more worrying if it was someone else. (How is it that, confronted with an empty beach and one kite, the ~~great unwashed~~ general public will conspire to stand in the single most dangerous spot – I guess it's just a talent!)

I dutifully consulted the "Oracle" (i.e. Google) to find a tail and duly got what I deserved: a list of about 30 different types, size and colour of tail all readily available in America. At this point I made my usual mistake in assuming there was a correct answer to the question "what size tail do I need for a 3.0M Sled?" as I canvassed opinion at Barbury one fine Sunday morning. The consensus I got back can be broadly summarised as

(a) "whatever size works"

Or

(b) "you see that tail on that kite over there?: well you don't want one of those"

Now I know, technically, that both of these answers are correct, however, they were about as much use as the typical advice the government gets from management consultants.

Success.....(?)

My solution was to buy a range of sizes so I ended up with a shortish tube tail plus 48' and 96' transition tails (well heck – they looked really attractive in the photos). Several trial runs later proved that the 48' tails were about right as long as you didn't mind a slightly shallow angle of attack. What's more I seemed to have finally achieved the nirvana of a kite that would happily sit in the sky all day. The only downside seemed to be that I could now get tangled in trees an extra 48' away

Still I had a stable platform so the wonderful world of inflatables was now open to me if I could only finish a days flying with the same number of carabineers as I started (they must be disappearing to the same place as my pens).

This just left me with a pair of rather attractive 96' tails with nothing to which I could attach them. I considered my options but there was only one feasible solution – what I needed was a bigger kite!

T.O.M.

...next time: something larger Sir?

Basingstoke Kite Festival
7th & 8th June 2014

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

Come along and help us to celebrate our 22nd 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.

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 (There is a small fee if you would like to join in with the Buffet, please let us know-in the Raffle area- on the Saturday in the morning)

Camping is available on the Friday and Saturday evenings for £10.00 (payable on the weekend) and 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

Roy Broadley (Kites Up)

01256 812487

NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 14-April 26th and 27th 2014

Gate open from 12noon on the Friday...

It's nearly that time again to come and join us for another **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** midday onwards (£8 per tent/camper for Fri and Sat night).

The Saturday evening food will be the BBQ, tickets available on the weekend-(£7.00 and please try to bring a plate and cutlery!)

Once again we will be doing Jacket Potatoes for those interested at lunchtimes over the weekend, and Bacon rolls will be available on both mornings.

The Auction will once again be held on the Saturday evening, and any donations gratefully received before or on the week-end (*before 4pm please* if poss to give us time to set it all up)

We will run the Beer Lift competition, wind permitting, same rules as before.

Roy Martin's Sled competition will take place (to contact him directly please)

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

For further info, please either contact:

Roy on 07778 352825

Colin on 07770 338419

Or e-mail roy@kitesup.co.uk

You can pre-order your tee-shirt / poloshirt, etc just **email** if interested in doing so.

(The dates for this same event taking place later this year again are Aug 2nd and 3rd 2014)

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

Skychat

Well another summer season gone and for a change we have had a pretty good one, as opposed to 2012. By the time you read this we will have done Linda's Banner workshop and I hope everybody that has done the workshop are well pleased with their results. We must thank Linda for not only travelling halfway around the world to do the workshop but to the amount of preparation that has gone into them. I thought Linda was coming to us before going on to the AKA convention making a real around the world trip, but no that may have been the dream but in reality it was a dream to far. So we are more indebted to Linda in doing this workshop, thank you Linda. While still on about the workshop we must also thank Arthur and Dave for their efforts in organising this end.

This year's Fun Fly was well attended and we also had Linda getting to know us between dashing off to Lechlade for more ice-cream and Ralf who popped over from Germany, we also had a couple from Denmark drop in on Sunday after picking it up on the internet, while touring Britain, plus all the other Kite Flyers from Other Clubs. It managed to stay dry for the week-end and we did have wind; it may have been a bit bumpy but we had the wind. Again thank you to all those who helped to getting the Show on the road. Thanks must go to Kevin for the cooking, Helen for all she did and keeping us amused and last but not least Dave for all his work in getting all the needs sorted out, but Dave there is no need to worry so much! Sit back and enjoy the time in future.

It is that time of the year again for the AGM when we decide what we want out of the Club, but also what we put into the Club. The older we become the less we are able to do, this definitely the case in myself. I would like to do much more than I am capable these days. This worries me in so much that we are not getting younger members coming along and prepared to help run the Club. This not just confined to our club, it seems to be the same in all the other clubs I am involved in, one club the revenue from membership has gone down but numbers are up. This is due to more members are OAP's and get cheaper memberships.

The other pressing appointment we have to fill is the editorship of the "Cowpat". Arthur gave his notice that this issue is his last and we need somebody to take over. Arthur has been our third editor since the start of "Cowpat" and I thank him for all his hard work in keeping the issues coming. I know that Arthur sometimes despairs with me for not getting copy to him on time, but there again it backfires on to me in giving me less time to print it. What we want is someone with a little editorial flair to put it in some order four times a year. So can you think about being Editor please?

See you all at the AGM with all your ideas and assistance for the coming year.

Neil.

And finally

Thanks to Dave and Neil for their thanks and the season's good wishes to all our readers when it comes. For years when Dave Jones was editor his ambition was to produce a "Dibble Free" issue. The only way he succeeded was to produce a special without telling me and then put my name in three times. Hopefully the new editor will have the same challenge as I hope now to have time to think up more rubbish to write about. It has been fun for me and I hope some things have been mildly amusing or informative for the rest of you out there.

THAT'S ALL FOLKS.

White Horse Kite Flyers
AGM Agenda 2013
At Express by Holiday Inn
Junction 16 M4
Sunday 24th November
12pm for 12.30pm start

1. Welcome to Members from the President.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of 2012 AGM.
4. Matters arising from Minutes.
5. Chairman's Report.
6. Hon. Sec's Report.
7. Hon. Treasurer's Report.
8. "Cowpat Hill" Editor's Report.
9. WHKF USA representative's Report.
10. Election of Officers.
11. WHKF Fun Fly 2014
12. Other Events.
13. Liability Insurance/Personal Insurance
14. Fees from November 2014/2015
15. Projects for 2014
16. Any other Business. Now is your chance to have "a say", or have we forgotten something.
17. Close of the Meeting by the President.

THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT A CONVENIENT TIME.
Please support it well as it pays for the Buffet.

Club Merchandise

All items can now be viewed on the club web site. Prices do not include post and packing. Please contact us for these costs. Cheques should be made payable to WHKF.

T SHIRT S-XL	£9	POLO XS-XL	£14.50	SWEATSHIRT XS-XL	£16.50
T SHIRT 2XL-3XL	£9.50	POLO 2XL-4XL	£16.00	SWEATSHIRT 2-4XL	£18.00
T SHIRT FESTIVAL	£9	NAME	£4.00	FESTIVAL XS-XL	£25
PATCHES	SEE WEB SITE	TEDDY LOGO	£6.00		
PINS					
MUGS					
COASTERS					
STICKERS					CAP STANDARD

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS CODE OF PRACTICE

Always fly safely.

Always be considerate to others using the same area be it noise or physical intrusion into their space.

Always fly legally taking in to account all national, local and CAA restrictions and by-laws.

Never fly at a height of more than 60m above ground level, in the UK unless a CAA clearance is in force (as at kite festivals). If you don't know what the clearance is ASK!

Never fly a kite in wet or stormy weather. Always try and keep your line dry.

Never fly a kite near power lines, transmission towers or aerials.

Never fly near Motorways, roads, car parks or railways.

Never fly near airfields.

Never fly a kite with anything metallic in the line.

When tethering a kite ensure that the ground anchor is suitable (see BKFA report 6 June 06).

When flying large kites always use a brake line.

Always wear good quality gloves when flying large powerful kites.

Always give priority to domestic animals particularly if they are showing signs of distress.

Always clear up after yourself, especially lines, tails and bits of plastic that could trap, choke or injure domestic or wild animals. If you see dangerous rubbish left by others clear it up or report it.

Never fly near those kite-eating trees.

NOTE: The use of traction kiting at Barbury Castle is forbidden by law.

Finally remember.....your kites can get really quite lonely up high in the sky; just occasionally, look up and give them a SMILE. It will make you feel better too.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS meet at Barbury Castle Country Park on the second Sunday of each month.

Your local contacts are: -

Neil Harvey +44(0)1285 740295

Arthur Dibble +44(0)1635 865976

Dave Robinson +44(0)1793 824208

This issue edited by Arthur Dibble

(Contributors this issue:-Neil Harvey, Dave Robinson, Neil Lover, Martin Crowther, John Browning)

Please send articles to cowpat.ed@whkf.org.uk

Subscription AGM to AGM: £15 (including 4 issues of COWPAT HILL and kite flying insurance at Club approved events) £5 extra for each additional family member. Personal Liability insurance £11.00 June-June.

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