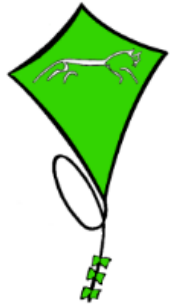


# COWPAT HILL



*Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers  
Autumn 2022 October - December*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.

Following on from the announcement in the summer issue of this magazine, renewal of WHKF membership is due at the AGM in November. This is for Club membership only and not personal insurance. When we know what is happening about the BKFA insurance we will circulate the information. The current policy is valid until 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

It will be understood that anyone not renewing their membership by 31<sup>st</sup> December does not wish to continue as a member and all their information will be removed from the Club data base.

FEES for 2022 to 2023

Adult member £16.00

Additional person residing at the same address £5.00

Overseas member £10.00

To pay on-line please use:-

Lloyds Business account

White Horse Kite Flyers

Sort code: 30-99-66 Account 65069768

It helps us locate your payment on line if you can include a reference to identify it.

[www.whkf.org.uk](http://www.whkf.org.uk)

# Diary Dates

## October 2022

*2<sup>nd</sup> Watch for announcement from John Elvin*

*9<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in OSOW*

*(This issue of Cowpat Hill)*

## November 2022

*13<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in*

*20<sup>th</sup> AGM (Please note article about new location)*

## December 2022

*11<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in*

## January 2022

*8<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in*

*(Next issue of Cowpat Hill)*

Dead line for next issue 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022



"I THINK IT'S TIME WE FLEW SOUTH AGAIN - I'M STARTING TO HAVE HALLUCINATIONS!"

## Fun Fly 12

In the run up to this year's event we were concerned as to how it would go. A number of us are starting to feel our age (the editor included) and our head chef, Kevin had been seriously ill. The menus were simplified to reduce the amount of work involved and a "Plan B" was prepared. The field was booked, the marque, toilets, cooker and fridge had been ordered and CAA height clearance applied for. So all we could do now was to wait.

A beautiful Friday morning arrived and David and Janet were on site waiting the scheduled arrival of the marque. They received a call saying they were going to be an hour late! In the mean time I had gone to collect our trailer to find a huge farm trailer parked across the front of it. Fortunately the owner saw my predicament and very soon got it moved and then helped check out the trailer lights etc. for which I was extremely grateful.

The good news was that Kevin was sufficiently recovered to attend although he was instructed no to lift anything following his surgery. So he and David could go and do the shopping.

By the time the marque had arrived and was erected some other, fit club members had also got there and made short work of unloading the trailer and setting up the cooking tent, lights, generator and tables. Toilets, cooker and fridge all arrived in due course and we could take a break for lunch followed by a peaceful afternoon welcoming other arrivals.

Saturday dawned on a glorious morning of bright sunshine but very little wind. Fortunately this soon picked up and kites started appearing in the sky. A number of people had expressed an interest in parachuting teddies and with a little persuasion from Keith we got a rig airborne.



Teddies of various sizes continued to fall all day, some safely under a parachute but a few novices failing to deploy and ending up with the notorious “Roman Candle” and sickening crunch. Meanwhile various other kites came and went keeping up an interesting display.

Sunday again started with good promise but unfortunately the wind failed to materialise and only a few kites with energetic string pullers made it in to the sky.

On both days the hard working kitchen crew supplied us with ample breakfasts and lunches and crowned it all with a Saturday evening beef ragout followed by fruit crumble and custard. This tended to make you want to sit still for the auction which proved to be very profitable with the proceeds being split between the event costs and an Alzheimer’s charity.

Overall such a good event we may have to do another one next year.







## Robinson's Ramble

I am writing this on a very sad occasion, the Death of the Queen. My early recollection was being taken to London on the day of her Coronation, in London. By my Parents, it was a very memorable day, with thousands of people. Luckily for my Sister and Brother, my Mum & Dad had managed to get some of those telescopes, (periscopes ???) those that are made from cardboard, with a mirror at the top, yes they have been around for over 70 years!

David Robinson

They have been about for a bit longer than that. Even older than you and me. (ed.)

*Johannes Hevelius described an early periscope (which he called a "polemoscope") with lenses in 1647 in his work Selenographia, sive Lunar descriptio [Selenography, or an account of the Moon]. Hevelius saw military applications for his invention. In 1854, Hippolyte Marié-Davy invented the first naval periscope, consisting of a vertical tube with two small mirrors fixed at each end at 45°. Simon Lake used periscopes in his submarines in 1902. Sir Howard Grubb perfected the device in World War I. Morgan Robertson (1861–1915) claimed to have tried to patent the periscope: he described a submarine using a periscope in his fictional works.*

My memories of the coronation are that I was just getting over chicken pox and we went round to a neighbour's house and gathered round their 12" B&W television. I have been pleased to watch the recent replays in glorious colour on a large flat screen. Oh the wonders of technology!

Arthur



Ron & Marla

Marla & I were greatly saddened by the news of Queen Elizabeth II passing. With many friends in England and so many visits to your country, not to mention many visits from friends and fellow kite flyers, we have always felt a deep connection to the UK. We have spent the past days in a sad mood that we could not be there to better support all of you.

On the day of the Queen's passing we attached the British flag to our flag pole and lowered it to half-mast. It stayed in that position until the funeral was over. Many of our neighbors are keenly aware of our connection to the UK and have delivered floral arrangements to our home to cheer us up.

All of you have been in our hearts and wish nothing but the best for you in future.



## JOLLY UP 31

Once again, back in the long distant past, well the beginning of August, many gathered in Cliddesden for the summer Jolly Up. As usual the organisers had worked hard and had the tents all set up with all the usual facilities of the bar, kitchen and tables and chairs.

The grass, if you could grace the brown stubble with that name was nice and short but you needed heavy foot ware or the thistles penetrated.

Judging by the number of camper vans and tents it was a good turn out and flyers tried their best to put on a show. However the wind was not being kind and occasionally got us so excited that we dashed out on to the field and got some kites in the air. Then it would change through 180° and drop back to zero. Kites all over the field and flyers heading back to the shade of the bar.

As usual Friday pie & mash, breakfast rolls, lunch time jackets and the fantastic evening hog roast were available and well supported.

Thanks to those who work so hard to put on this event. Long may it continue.



## A Different Dieppe Cerf Volants

This, the 21st edition, ran from the 10th to 18th September. Having lost the 2020 edition due to the wretched Coronavirus epidemic, it was so good to return to the delightful Dieppe after a long four year absence. And, of course, to catch up with friends of all nationalities not seen for four years - especially Robert Brassington from Tasmania. The week started, and indeed ended, in customary fashion with a good lunch (plus a little local liquid of course) with Robert!

The event was blessed with, basically, two types of weather - initially sunny, hot and virtually windless, latterly also sunny but colder and with stronger winds. There was some rain, but fortunately mainly at night.

Initially there were few '*Participant*' Brits, as opposed to '*Delegate*' Brits. Just two families resided in the Camping Area, of which we were one, plus a small number in the *Windsor Hotel*. However, more Brits did arrive later in the week for the second weekend. Unusually, the official camping area was never full as in previous years.

The significantly reduced number of British Participants was, I guess, due to a number of factors. Some had sadly passed, some now aged or unwell, but the others - was it the waning of interest, or economic considerations or maybe nervousness due to the still evident COVID? There were also notable absences by a number of kiting 'celebrities'. That said, despite all, there was never a shortage of kites in the sky when the wind permitted.

There were a number of significant differences to previous editions of the event forced, no doubt, by inevitable budget restrictions. Apparently the Organising Team had just five months to arrange the event from receiving the official 'go'. Fortunately there were many familiar faces amongst the Organisers, not the least of which was Sandrine, so there was a considerable degree of experience and continuity.

For 2022 there was a reduced number of tents for the Official Delegates' displays. All tents stood individually and were not connected as previously by a covered walkway, some were shared - there being no apparent logic as to who shared with who! For instance Tasmania

(Robert Brassington) + USA (Scott Hampton); Israel + Japan + Philippines; Ecosse + Pays Bas (Holland) + Royaume Uni (England)???. There we're no individual tents for the likes of the AKA or Italy, though a well-known Lady Italian kite flyer did arrive and joined the UK group.

There was no official representation from the likes of Australia, China, Italy, Malaysia or NZ and only singular representation from the USA. That said, Scott Hampton's offerings were most impressive as one would expect. Interestingly, he remembered us from four years ago, as having one of his few 'out of captivity' kites (a 'Bug') bought from the late Ron Dell. Generally, Scott still doesn't sell his kites.

The large public viewing grandstand overlooking the main flying arena was also absent and, other than a lone Balanese dancer, we had lost the oft enjoyable Far Eastern ethnic music and dancing displays, primarily I assume, because there wasn't a nominated 'lead country' as in previous years.

The Sunday Parade was enjoyable but was somewhat short of Delegates and Participants. However, the size of the watching crowd was larger than ever. The parade was also not lacking in musical accompaniment (or decibels) with the Samba-inspired *O'Maracuja Troop* leading the Parade, ably supported by dancing South American delegates.

As ever, there appeared to be a strange allocation of 'benefits'. The extent of the contribution clearly not the parameter by which benefits are allocated. Having been to Dieppe for the last twelve editions, at least, one does get the impression that some who are now just a part of the furniture - maybe it's due time for change?

Fortunately, the always friendly German contingent arranged their usual morning 'party' as did the French contingent. Always enjoyable and friendly and certainly not a waste of flying time, especially as there was no wind! The Germans laid on platters of sausage, cheese, pate, rye bread etc. and stollen. There was also due accompaniment by the way of homemade wines and liquors - especially from Ralf Maserski and Sonja and Dirk Kruger, the latter made with their own secret recipe, any details of which they will still not divulge!

Whilst not a part of the event, but nevertheless an integral part of any visit to Dieppe, as mere '*Participants*' (and content to be such) we were

able to visit the town's Saturday street market which still holds a wow factor. One has, after all, to stock up with delightful '*fromage*' (even more expensive now) and other French goodies. Interestingly, many of the shops in the *Le Grand Rue* were as we would all remember them. Dieppe clearly has not suffered the High Street demise as suffered in the U.K.

Unlike the recent Cervia KF, where instances of COVID were abundant, there appeared to be 'only' two declared instances of such at Dieppe. One early in the Festival and one at the end. Whilst we had had no contact with those affected, it did mean that our *au revoirs* had to be of the prudent 'fist-punch' type - not good with the Ladies ....

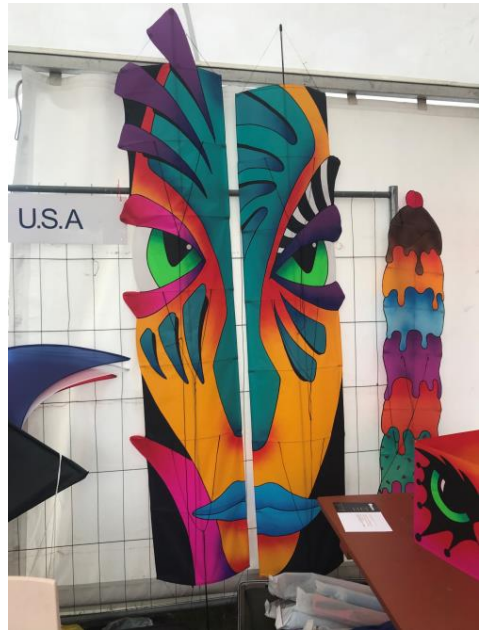
Overall, maybe not the best *Dieppe Cerf Volants* but, after the four year covid-enforced absence, it was so nice to return to Dieppe and to meet with so many kiting friends from around the globe - and to enjoy plenty of serious kite flying.

Chris and Pat Mabon

## Travel in France

PS This was our second visit to France this year, post-COVID and post-brexite (small 'b' intended, I'll avoid expressing my views on such). Whilst we experienced no particular issues either time, there were some significant changes that one had to be wary of. There are now severe restrictions on consumables one takes into the EU (but not out of the EU back into the UK interestingly!); it's prudent to arrive at the Port much earlier in busy times as your passport has now to be stamped and your vehicle possibly inspected (Dover gave a notional check, Calais employed an annoying jobs worth); one needs to carry proof of having had covid vaccinations; Messrs P&O certainly didn't have their act together in June so for our Dieppe visit, and for the first time ever, we used DFDS who were much more slick. Also one can no longer identify one's vehicle with a 'GB' sticker, it now has to be 'UK' - seemingly a directive from the Body who define such signage and of which GB, sorry, the UK are no longer a part!

Some pictures from Dieppe



## COMPETITION ENTRIES

In the previous issue Martin set the competition to come up with a collective name for a group of kite flyers. Suggestions came flooding in and these are seen below.

1. From Martin: A “Whimsy”
2. From Bob: A “Drip” As in dripping on about no wind in possibly damp conditions.
3. From the editor: A “Whindle” As in the wind’ll pick up later.

With such a large entry the judges had difficulty in picking a winner so have decided to award each with a prize. This will be a free copy of the next issue of this magazine.

-----  
Freddy’s 3.5m Dolphin kit produced by Peter Lynn, designed by Freddy Stapersma



After viewing the Peter Lynn website and a short conversation with Arthur regarding this kit we felt that it may be of interest to other members and so would like to gauge the level of interest for a winter project. Further details regarding the kit with colour options may be found at: [www.peterlynnkites.com/diy-show-kite-kit-freddys-dolphin/](http://www.peterlynnkites.com/diy-show-kite-kit-freddys-dolphin/)

There is a discount available for orders from kite clubs for four or more kits but we need determine the full cost including delivery and any import duties but my best guess is that it would be around £50 to £60 per kit depending upon the value of the Pound and delivery costs. We still need to sort out how the financial side would be set up to procure a bulk order but have contacted the factory to get a better idea. First, we need to establish the level of interest in this project, hence this article.

Reports on the level of difficulty seem to vary but some experience seems to be required to complete the project successfully, the kit comes with templates and all materials with a video available on the web. If you are interested then please respond to me at email address: [dolphinkit\\_whkf@btinternet.com](mailto:dolphinkit_whkf@btinternet.com) with your level of interest so that you can be updated with further information as to what will be required. Richard Stephens.

## WHKF AGM AGENDA

November 20th, 2022

At Grange Leisure Centre, Swindon, SN3 4JY

11:30 am membership renewals.

12:00 start

1). Welcome from the President.

2). Apologies

3). Minutes of last year's meeting (2019???)

4). Matters Arising

5). Chairman's Address

6). Reports from :-

Hon. Secretary

Hon. Treasurer

Cowpat Editor

7). Election of officers.

8). Close of AGM business by Chairman

Member's forum. (Chance to have your say)

Tickets available Raffle of **kite** related items

50% going towards AGM costs and remainder to an Alzheimer's Charity

13:00 Refreshments will be served.

15:00 Raffle drawn.

CLOSE OF MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT

## 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.

*Never* fly at a height of more than 60m above ground level, in the UK unless a CAA clearance is in force. (as at festivals) IF YOU DON'T KNOW.....ASK.

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

*Never* fly near power lines, transmission towers or aerals.

*Never* fly near airfields.

*Never* fly a kite with anything metallic in the line.

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

*Always* use a brake line when flying large kites.

*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 animals.

*Never* fly near 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.*

WHKF. meet at Barbury Castle country Park on the second Sunday of each month.

This issue edited by Arthur Dibble,

Please send articles to [cowpat.ed@whkf.org.uk](mailto:cowpat.ed@whkf.org.uk)

Subscriptions for new members for 12 months from December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 £16 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kiteflying insurance at events). £5 for each additional family member. Renewals will be reviewed annually. Personal Liability Insurance £13 per person.

COWPAT HILL is the journal of The White Horse Kite Flyers and whilst every care is taken when compiling it, The Club and its officers cannot accept responsibility for any omissions or errors that may occur. Any information printed are the views of the individual submitting them and not necessarily those of The White Horse Kite Flyers Club, its committee or members. Data provided by you will be stored on a Club data base for the purpose of circulating this magazine and other Club information.