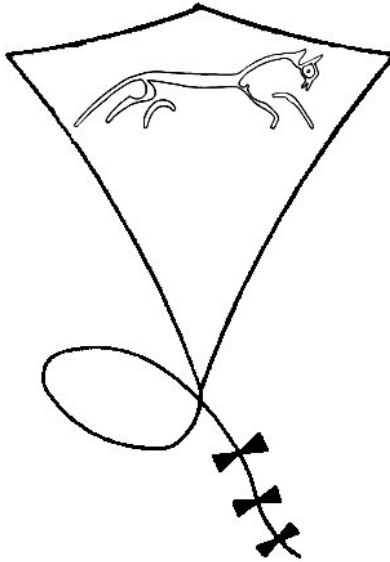


# **COWPAT HILL**

**Journal of the White Horse Kite Fliers**

**Spring 2015 April - June**



The weather is improving, spring is here! Let me know what you are flying and where - all contributions very welcome, email them across at [andrewrumming@me.com](mailto:andrewrumming@me.com). Also do keep an eye on the progress of Solar Impulse, the solar powered plane circumnavigating the planet. Whilst not a kite, this aircraft is amazing and whether it succeeds or fails will be a milestone in aviation history up there with Wright Brother, Amy Johnson ect. Exciting times.

Andy

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# Diary Dates

## April

- 12th Barbury Castle
- 25th/26th North Hants Kites Jolly-Up

## May

- 2nd-4th MKFGB Broad Haven
- 2nd-4th Weymouth
- 10th Barbury Castle
- Harrow (Display)
- 24th Minchinhampton Common
- 22nd-25th Margam Park
- Bedford (**Workshop**)
- Barmouth Spring Festival
- 29th -31st Exmouth

## June

- 6th-7th Basingstoke
- Weston
- 14th Barbury Castle
- 14th Polish Saturday School Funday (**Workshop**)
- 20th -21st Sumners Pond

**Deadline for next issue of Cowpat Hill**

**30th June 2015**

## What is a Chairman?

Two and a bit years ago I gave notice at the AGM that I was only prepared to continue as chairman of WHKF until the 2015 AGM. This is still the case and we have had no volunteers as yet, so this is a sort of reminder.

If you are wondering what I have been doing for the past 12 years this is it. The good bit is if things are going well you can receive all the plaudits but conversely if things go wrong, the buck stops here. In committee meetings you have to “run” things and try and keep topics going without wandering too far off subject or spending too long on any item. I have been fortunate with the rest of the team in that we all seem to get along fairly amicably and no real punch-ups have taken place during my tenure or that of my predecessor.

You are also the front line for questions about The Club and kites in general, so what knowledge do you need? Firstly you need to know about The Club and its members and where all their strengths lie, then when you get a question from outside you know where to direct it. You don't need to be a specialist in any particular branch of the hobby but it is helpful to have a broad outlook on as many aspects of kiting as possible.

Those are the easy bits, the more difficult parts are things like insurance, the constitution, health and safety issues, vulnerable people policy, accident reporting, risk assessments, club fees and so it goes on. For all these you have to be the final link in The Club before escalating problems to higher levels, usually the BKFA.

I have been very fortunate in these areas in having a good team behind me and in most cases have been able to discuss problems with our secretary and get an understanding of the problem before putting forward ideas to the committee.

So that is about it. Please if you are interested let us know so that we have some names ready for the AGM.

Arthur

# Robinson's Ramble

Luck shone on me earlier this year, I bought some raffle tickets on the American Kite Association's website, and won a fantastic applied kite that was made by Olivier Reymond from Switzerland. Wow what a kite and what workmanship! It must have taken hours and hours of sewing, much more sewing than I would ever contemplate. If you look at the "Cowpat" on-line you should be able to see a picture of it, I'm sorry if the bloke holding it scares you, I can't help it!

When the club insurance is due we will be renewing it with the BKFA policy rather than Zurich. Jerry Swift has done a tremendous job in negotiating a policy that encompasses the club and personal insurance in one policy. (However we will need to know if you still require personal insurance, personal insurance is optional, it is not included in the Club's policy!) He has done this with a broker who specialises in sport insurance; there will be some differences. The first is that it commences in May; the club insurance runs out at the end of June so we will start with the BKFA in May and then claim a refund from Zurich. The Club insurance is included with your membership and the price remains at £16 per year + £5 per extra family members who need cover from November. Details of this cover can be found at:- <http://www.whkf.org.uk/docs/psko.doc>

If you require Personal liability cover this is now to be known as "Club Affiliated Independent Flyers" (CAIF) insurance and you must inform us if you require it The cost will be £11 and will run from 1<sup>st</sup> May for 12 months.

There is currently a proposal to change WHKF membership to run from 1<sup>st</sup> of April to fall in line with the BKFA and possibly the AGM date also changed. This could be done, by extending the current year's membership; details will be announced after the AGM.

I thought rather than bore you all with my ramblings I would give you a recipe of my own, it's for Pear & Parsnip Soup.

Ingredients: 2, Parsnips; 4, Ripe Pears; 1Leek; Vegetable Stock;(I use a Knorr Capsule) Salt & Pepper to taste.

Method: Thinly slice Leek, peel and core pears then chop them up, peel parsnips, chop into cubes, put all ingredients into a large saucepan with the stock, then add 750 mls. of water; bring to the boil and then simmer for about 35 minutes or until all the veg is soft. Then whizz all of the ingredients with a stick blender or food processor. You can add some salt & pepper at this point; if you like your food slightly spicy you can add 2 Cardamom pods at the beginning of the veg boiling process, take them out at the end and squeeze out the tiny black seeds from the pods and put them back into the soup to be whizzed with rest of the veg. I prefer it this way!

The next club workshop will be the last at St. Josephs College, this doesn't mean that the club workshops will end; it just means we will be looking for a new venue for the future.

David Robinson



## Mini Puzzle Corner (34)

A driver with a cargo of birds approaches a bridge with a limit of 5,000kg. His lorry weighs 4,800kg and his load 400kg. The driver then has an idea; he strikes the side of the lorry, frightening the birds into flight, and airborne. Does the ploy work?      **See page 9 for the full answer.....**

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### **After 21 years, the kite collection of the Drachen Foundation ([www.drachen.org](http://www.drachen.org)) has found a new home in South Korea.**

The Foundation was introduced to Mr. Cho Byong of the Wind Center Kite Museum of Korea with the assistance of Peter Lynn. Thus began a relationship of kindred spirits in the world of kiting. In September, Mr. Cho visited the Drachen Foundation in Seattle and viewed the collection at the warehouse facility in Tieton, WA. He was pleased with the quality and scope of kiting history represented. The following week, at the invitation of the Wind Center Kite Museum, Board President Scott Skinner travelled to Korea for further discussion and an agreement was reached to place the entire collection with the Wind Center Kite Museum in anticipation of their opening in 2016.

The DF kite collection includes a complete survey of cultural, world contemporary kites, contemporary paper art kites, as well as the famed Samuel Franklin Cody archive. The collection represents over 3000 items including kites, accessories, memorabilia, photos, videos, CDs, documents, and historical kite related artifacts. Transferring the DF collection to Korea is only the first step for the museum which plans to continue to collect and add to the collection. An international kite advisory board is being formed by the museum to provide advice on future acquisitions.

The Wind Center Kite Museum will be located on the resort island of Cheju, Korea and is scheduled to open to the public with exhibitions by 2016. It will have a study center for those who wish to access the history of kiting as well as a museum with interactive exhibits. An extensive outdoor program of kite festivals, flying exhibitions and public kiting will be maintained throughout the year. Mr. Cho Byong is the Executive Director and can be reached at [www.windnkite.co.kr](http://www.windnkite.co.kr).

## Sky Chat

*Firstly I must wish for a speedy recovery for two of our stalwart members, Di and Phil. I know that the older we get we are more likely to suffer more illnesses but it is always a shock when we hear of someone close suffers from one. To you both and your families are in my and Sue thoughts.*

*We also lost one of our older member's recently, Maurice Sawyer; Maurice was one of the old school of kite flyers and was always prepared to stop and chat and to pass on his wisdom especially to younger members. Maurice has not been to many kite festivals in recent years due to his and his wife's old age. May we long remember them and all the other departed characters of the kiting fraternity.*

*Now let us get on about 2015 season, the Club has been invited to do several kite workshops and displays, as can be seen in the diary. I do hope that as many of you will come along and help where help is required. As the gnat said "every little helps" as it pee'd into the sea. I know that I cannot do what I did in the past; the big kites of the Club are now too big for me to fly like I did in the past. But that is no reason that they should not be flown, it just needs a bit more help to get them back into the air to show people the range and the beauty and grace of kites.*

*Looking forward to seeing you all this season with all of your new creations flying in the air. Here's to clean winds and tight lines.*

*Neil.*

## Collectors items or worn out rubbish?

Many years ago I set up a saved search on Ebay for “Hagaman Parafoil”. Nothing ever came up until a month ago when an email from Ebay dropped into my inbox telling me someone was selling a pair of used Hagaman parafoils for \$2,400. They didn't sell, and are now relisted at \$1800 (£1200) but open to offers. I wonder what that will sell for? Heres the description, makes interesting reading!

### **Two Hagaman 120 Parafoils**

This offering is for two Hagaman 120 Parafoils. These are large Hagaman foils, approximately 10 feet tall by 12 feet wide.

The first is a red, orange, yellow and black color scheme. The integrity of both skins is very good with no visible rips, tears or repairs. There is very little sun bleaching to the top skin (see photos). The bridle appears to be the original and is in good condition.

The second is signed and dated by 'Doug Hagaman 3/86' and is a red, black and yellow color scheme. The integrity of both skins is very good with no visible rips, tears or repairs. The top skin is somewhat sun bleached as can be seen in the photos. The bridle appears to be the original and is in good condition.

Hagaman is known as the most respected cottage industry parafoil kite maker of the 1980's. Hagaman's highly refined parafoil design and meticulous craftsmanship have earned the time-honored recognition as the Rolls Royce of foils. They fly rock steady, pull hard and may be seen at kite festivals pulling-up large pieces of line laundry.

Hagaman Parafoils are no longer readily available to the general public as they are being produced almost exclusively for scientific research in the Artic and South Pacific. A new Hagaman is typically priced at \$20+ per square foot. I am offering these two used Hagaman 120 Parafoils for a the Buy-It-Now price of \$2100 as well as taking offers. Free shipping within the continental US.

NOTE: Hagaman Parafoils should be only be flown by highly experienced kite fliers.



# Flight details

A new tool in the quest to understand—and co-opt—nature’s secrets of flying

**H**ERE’S a brainteaser: a driver with a cargo of birds approaches a bridge with a limit of 5,000kg. His lorry weighs 4,800kg and his load 400kg. The driver then has an idea: he strikes the side of the lorry, frightening the birds into flight, and quickly drives across while they are airborne. Does the ploy work?

This question is the stuff of late-night bar discussions among physics students. The answer is that physics is not fooled. A bird’s flapping produces a downdraft that pushes on the lorry’s floor with a force, on average, the same as the bird’s weight.

That simple explanation, though, did not satisfy David Lentink, an engineer at Stanford University. Dr Lentink applies insights from flying animals to the design of drones. Yet the methods used until now to unpick the particulars of powered flight are either crude (measuring the tug on a tether tied to a flying animal) or unduly complex (feeding supercomputers with data gained from dissections on the masses and densities of bird parts).

Dr Lentink’s paper, just published in the *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, shows how to measure the quickly changing forces of flight without even touching an animal. This is not easy. The scales used must measure forces with great precision but also bounce back rapidly, to track fast changes. This requires them to be both light and stiff. Dr Lentink’s team therefore built a box whose floor and ceiling (each hooked to a precise sensor) were made of balsa

wood. They then taught Gaga and Ray, two small parrots, to fly across it.

The musculature of many birds suggests that their wings create more lift on the downstroke than the up, but what the team measured was extreme. Gaga and Ray created lift equivalent to twice their body weight on the downstroke and virtually none on the up. Were they to flap in synchrony, then, the apparent weight of the birds in a lorry could briefly double. That finding complicates matters for physics undergrads, but the approach makes studying real birds—and drones—far easier.



## Wind Power

I have previously reported on kites being used to generate electricity. I was interested to see that one of the leading contenders, Makani Power has now been taken over by Google. They have also seem to have changed the emphasis on the method they are using.

Previously they were using kites to drive ground-based turbines but are now trialing generators carried up on a large solid wing kite with the power being brought down via the flying line.

I shall watch these developments with interest; perhaps we shall soon be powering our night-lights with a generator mounted on the kite.

In Italy the company KiteGen are using the spin generated in kites at high level to produce power on a ground based installation whilst KiWiGen (wonder where they are from?) are developing the ground based carousel system and both are aiming for the gigaWatt levels of out put.

A seeming less ambitious system is being developed in the States by Worcester Polytechnic Institute using a 10sqm windsurfing kite and using the lift to turn a generator. They already have a working unit that is portable and would be useful in remote areas where power is not available.

In Germany EnerKite are developing using steerable kites to harness the lift power and then take them off-wind for recovery using much less energy.

There are also various under water kites already being tested in Scotland and Ireland. This is a very exiting time for kite flyers when you realise that all these developments have come off the back of the hobby we love.

References:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-22636565>

<http://ecoble.com/2008/08/26/wind-power-generated-from-kites/>

<http://www.enerkite.de/en/>

Arthur

## From the AKA sent to WHKF

We are very excited to announce a new AKA digital magazine titled "Kites and Kitters".

This new publication is being published in addition to the print version of "Kiting", and is FREE to download and share regardless of membership in the AKA.

Simply provide your name and email address, and you will instantly gain access to our newest digital publication!

Visit : <http://kite.org/go/get-kites-and-kitters/>

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### Purple Lady Workshop

This ongoing saga has now been decided. We needed 15 people to make this workshop viable and by the deadline we only had 9. I was about to send out the cancellation emails when at the last minute I got a call saying an anonymous donor had offered to cover the deficit. Who ever you are, you are due many thanks from the 9.

If we can get some more participants we will not need to take up this generous offer. So please if you are interested you can find details on our web site at:- <http://www.whkf.org.uk/WLS15/Linda15.html>

or contact us directly. You can use Facebook PMs, personal or club emails, sorry we don't publish these as we keep getting hit by spam or there is even a PM facility on our forum. There are plenty of places available but the absolute dead line is 1<sup>st</sup> May so that Linda has time to sort artwork etc. Please don't come and ask on the 2<sup>nd</sup> as the answer will be NO!!! and anyway I am at Broadhaven so won't be receiving emails on the beach.

Keep up to date at:- [https://www.facebook.com/events/1397753130507985/?ref=2&ref\\_dashboard\\_filter=upcoming](https://www.facebook.com/events/1397753130507985/?ref=2&ref_dashboard_filter=upcoming)

In 2013 this workshop was great fun and every one completed their banner, some even managing two. Linda has now done more workshops in USA and is happy for you to go with your own graphics and even the larger size, so we should end up with a fantastic display. I enjoyed the last one so much that I shall be attending this one even though I am not making a banner. If you want to see what is happening feel free to drop in but don't expect to get out free. A small donation will help with the deficit and there is always the raffle, donations or tickets. If you want lunch please let us know in advance as we only cater for those who have booked. Non-workshop visitors are asked for £5 and that has always been good value.

If you were at the last one don't forget to wear your T-shirt. What colour was it? **PURPLE.**

## 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.

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This issue edited by Andy Rumming, contributors this issue: Arthur Dibble, Neil Harvey, Dave Robinson,

Subscription AGM to AGM £16 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kiteflying insurance at club approved events) £5 for each additional family member. Personal Liability Insurance £11 per person.

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