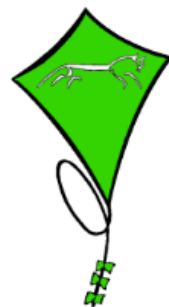


COWPAT HILL



Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers

Issue Spring 2019 April - June

Three large spaces in the sky.



www.whkf.org.uk

Diary Dates

April 2019

14th Barbury Castle club fly-in

27/28th Jolly Up 24

May 2019

4/5th Broad Haven

6th Hilton Court Gardens

12th Barbury Castle club fly-in

June 2019

1/2nd Basingstoke

9th Barbury Castle club fly-in

29/30th Morecombe

29/30th Cardigan Bay

July 2019

6/7th Brighton

6/7th Barmouth

14th Barbury Castle club fly-in (new magazine)

13/14th Leominster

20/21st Ducklington (not confirmed)

August 2019

3/4th Jolly Up 25

11th Barbury Castle club fly-in

10/11th Portsmouth

24-26th Bognor

Remembering the March Fly In at Barbury



Granny

Through every nook and every cranny
The wind blew on poor old Granny;
Around her knees, into each ear
(And up her nose as well, I fear)

All through the night the wind grew worse
It nearly made the vicar curse.
The top half had fallen off the steeple
Just missing him *(and other people)

It blew on man, it blew on beast.
It blew on nun, it blew on priest.
It blew the wig off Auntie Fanny -
But most of all, it blew on Granny!!

(Thanks to Spike Milligan)

Dead line for next issue 30th June 2019

From The Vancouver Sun

Obituary: Ray Bethell, wind romancer extraordinaire, charmed people around the world with his amazing kite-flying

One of seven children (born in Salisbury, Wiltshire, England on March 1, 1928), he was a corporal in the British army, serving in France and the Middle East in the late 1940s. Bethell, his wife Leslie and their two eldest children arrived in Canada in 1956 aboard the T.S.S. Neptunia.

Ray Bethell, the self-taught kite flying maestro, who was a fixture at Vanier Park and an international star, died on Dec. 18, 2018, aged 90. People around the world (Including WHKF) donated toward a bench in Bethell's name in Vanier Park and a fund has been set up to benefit the B.C. Children's Hospital in honour of his love for kids.

Bethell lost his hearing in his 60s due to a virus, a one-in-a-million occurrence doctors at the Vancouver Hearing Centre told him. It left him angry and depressed, until he came across a group of children in a park who had been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Having accepted his deafness, he embraced it.

"The rest of the world is in silence," he said in 2010, "so I put my whole heart and soul into my kite-flying ... completely at peace with myself and the whole world."

Ray Bethell, world-champion kite-flyer and record-holder many times over, didn't recall even seeing a kite, let alone handling one, until he was in his 50s and on vacation with his wife Leslie.

"I never flew as a boy, I never held a kite in my hand, I never knew what it was like to have a kite," he'd say. "In fact, I thought (kite-flying) was for sissies."

From those first sport kites he watched in Hawaii in 1980, Bethell went on to revolutionize the world of multi-kite-flying, eventually simultaneously flying a kite in each hand with another strapped around his waist, gracefully making the kites look like airborne ballet or ice dancers.

He once did that for 12 hours and 12 minutes straight at Long Beach, Washington. smashing the world record for endurance kite-flying. It was the record he was most proud of.

"I do what I love to do because I love to do it," Bethell said in Good Stuff. "It's not kites, it's me out there. But people who watch and see the kites and the movement, people are transfixed. They're not seeing me, they're seeing the kites."

Old kite-flyers never die, it's said, they simply fly away.

NEWS

We have been saddened to hear the news that Betty Gunter has died. Betty was the wife of Ron Gunter the co-founder of WHKF. Whilst not a kite flyer herself she was often seen sitting in their Reliant Robin watching what was going on particularly the parachuting teddies that were Ron's speciality. Our sympathy goes to her family.

CAA have once again given us approval for our monthly meeting at Barbury Castle on the second Sunday of each month in 2019. The limit is 500feet from 09:00 to 17:00.

The intelligencia have been at it again at Barbury and the Princess Diana beech tree has been pulled down and the branches used to try and make a fire. This has not been done by any member of WHKF who have on several occasions tried to replace the supporting stakes when they were removed.

It was noticed at our March meeting that the toilets although open were in poor condition and there was no water in the hand-washes. Also the site bins had not been emptied and in the very strong winds rubbish was being blown about the site. We picked up what we could catch.

Remember we are Co-hosts of this year's Broad Haven event and we will be glad of any support we can get. Bring your banners and erect them along the promenade. 1000ft height clearance has been applied for.

Please make sure you have got 28/29th September in your diaries as the date for our Fun Fly. Planning is well underway with marquee, loos etc all booked and height clearance applied for. Remember as was agreed at the AGM, there will be no official catering on the Friday night. All members are welcome to use the cooker but it must be left clean for Saturday breakfast. Further details will be published in the next issue and in the meantime can be found on the web site at:- <http://www.whkf.org.uk/FESTindex%20new.html>

Robinson's Ramble

What a shock when I got the news about Neil. I was very glad that Arthur kept Janet and me updated on his progress. Ron & Marla came over to visit us, and to see Neil, luckily he had improved by the time they arrived, so I called Neil's wife Sue to see if we could take them to visit him. I asked Sue not to tell him that we were going to visit so that we could surprise him. When we got there he was out of bed and sat in a chair and was about to have his lunch. We went out to the corridor until he had finished, in true Neil style he finished his meal and then walked out to the corridor, with the help of a walking stick, saying to us that he felt like a fraud, I soon told him he was talking rubbish. It was great to see him up and about. We wish him well for the future.

(Since receiving this article from David, Neil has had to go back to hospital several times suffering from secondary infections. You can keep informed of his latest situation via our FaceBook pages. Ed.)

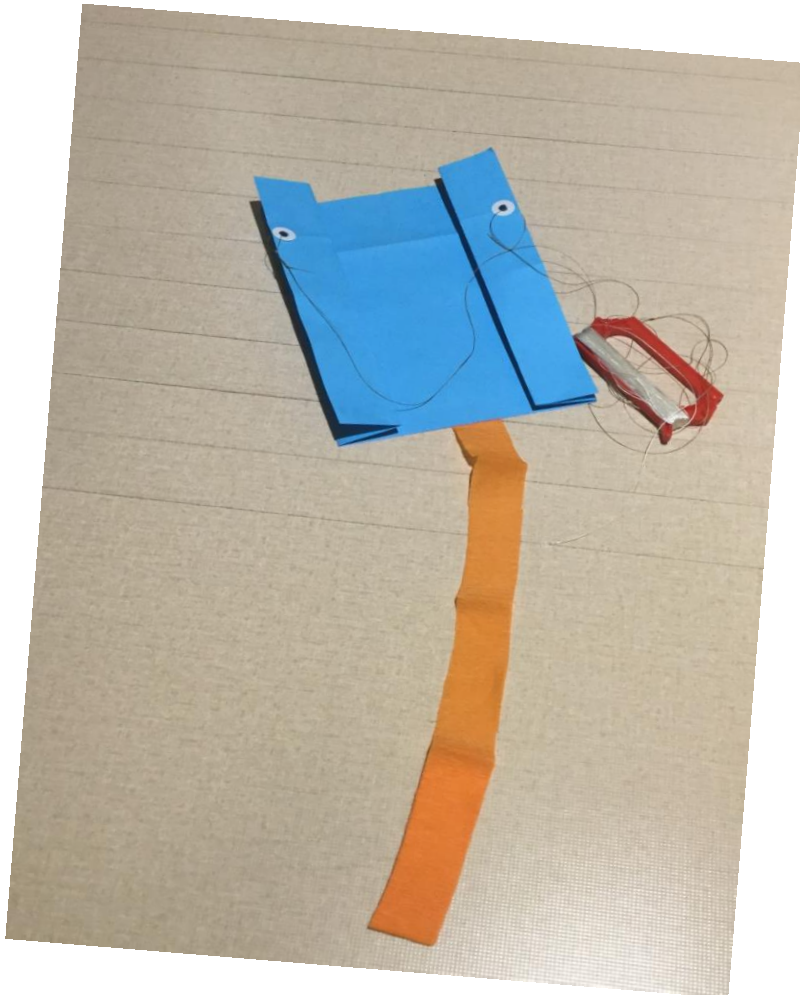
Just a few thanks for the workshop, first Ralf for another of his great designs & fantastic instructions. Secondly, Don for coordinating with Ralf to put the workshop together, Kevin for his work the kitchen & Janet for working the raffle, last but not least all of the participants for attending.

Arthur put out a message about articles for the Magazine, he gave different ideas and one of these was a paper fold kite. I learnt to make one when Janet & I went to A Kit Festival in Washington State back in 1991.

Paper kite instructions:

Take an A4 piece of paper. Start with it, landscape style. Find the centre of the paper and fold in so that both edges meet in the middle, then fold both those edges back out to the edge of the paper. Turn the paper over and gently bend it backwards, at the edges of the bend pinch the paper, do not crease it. When you have marked the paper with pinch marks, fold the top of the paper to these two pinch marks and crease it. Punch an hole through both creases, I always strengthen the holes with sellotape.

Take about a metre of strong sewing thread and tie securely to both sides, hold the paper flat on a table, pull the line-up whilst still holding the paper flat to the bench, then tie a loop to fly from. I use crepe paper for a tail, make an inch cut across the width of the crepe paper and tape to the centre of the kite. Do not fly the kite in inclement weather! Or strong winds.



From the National Day Calendar (NOTE this is based in the USA so may not be relevant in this country)

NATIONAL KITE FLYING DAY – February 8



Observed annually on February 8th, National Kite Flying Day is marked by kite flying enthusiasts across the country.

Kites date back to China in 470 B.C. China is full of lore and histories of the origins of the kite. Many are related to the way wind affects the leaves on the trees, the shelters they lived in, blowing away the sails on their ships and the hats they wore upon their heads. The stories also tell of kites being invented to spy on their enemies or to send messages.

There is also evidence that the people of South Sea Islands were using kites for fishing around the same time as the people of China.

Early kites were constructed from bamboo or sturdy reeds for framing. Leaves, silk or paper made ideal sails. Vines or braided fibres completed the line or tether. While kites were initially used as tools, they were also ceremonial as well. Used to send messages into the heavens or to lift offerings up to the gods, kites had a symbolic place in the culture.

Today kites are popular both as hobbies and for outdoor fun. They range from a simple diamond kite to more complicated box kites and giant sled kites. Stunt kites, also known as sport kites, are designed so the operator can manoeuvre the kite into dips, twists, and dives with dramatic effect.

A Christmas Starter

This is a nice light tangy starter to have before your heavy Christmas lunch.

INGREDIENTS

4 large fresh lemons
2 Avocados
2 pots dressed crab (From most supermarkets)
4 large cooked prawns
Salt and tabasco sauce to taste

METHOD

Cut the tops off the lemons and scoop out all the flesh until you are down to the pith. Push the flesh through a fine sieve and keep the juice in a sealed jar in the fridge. Reserve the tops with the flesh in them. Using aluminium foil make 4 rings so that you can stand the lemons upright. Place on a tray and put them in the freezer until solid. This will take about 4 hours or overnight is even better.

Peel and de-stone the avocados and put them in a bowl. Mash them until they form a smooth paste. Add the crab and mix gently. Now we come to personal taste; add some of the reserved lemon juice, a little salt and tabasco sauce perhaps some cumin and chopped coriander. (Just whatever you fancy). Then chill but do not freeze

Shortly before you are ready to serve remove the lemons skins from the freezer and using the foil rings stand them on individual serving plates. Fill each lemon with the avocado mixture. You need to push this down with a teaspoon. Hang a prawn over the edge and place the cut off top back on at an angle.

Serve with some melba toast and a good dry white wine.

If you are not keen on crab try chopped smoked salmon, prawns or fresh salmon.

The remaining lemon juice is excellent for using in G&T, other mixed drinks or even lemon tea.

As this recipe does not use mayonnaise it is suitable for people with dairy or gluten intolerance. The avocados have “good cholesterol”, the lemons are full of vitamin C and the crab is a good source of omega-3. So you can all eat this without feeling guilty. Vegans could even replace the crab with baked and creamed aubergine.

From “Arthur’s kitchen”

Basingstoke Kite Festival

1st and 2nd June 2019

**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

Roy Broadley (Kites Up)

01256 812487

NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 24 on April 27th
& 28th 2019

Gate open from 12noon on the Friday...

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 (£15 per tent/camper for Fri and Sat night, there is a small extra charge for a Sunday night stop-over)

Food will be available in the Marquee on the Friday evening, please order and pay at the bar.

There will be Hot food on the Saturday evening (£8.00 and please bring a plate and cutlery where possible!)

As usual we will be doing Jacket Potatoes at lunchtimes over the weekend, and Bacon/Egg rolls will be available on both mornings.

The Auction will 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 and Hayley to sit down for a while (-:) There will be a silent Auction on the Sunday.

There will be games for entertainment in the Marquee over the weekend, come and play!!

Roy's Refreshment Tent will be open for Business, normal rules apply...For further info, please contact:

Roy on 07778 352825

Or e-mail roy@kitesup.co.uk For orders: hayley@kitesup.co.uk

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

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

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 into 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 aerials.

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.

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Dave Robinson;

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Subscriptions 12 months from December 1st 2018 new members £16, existing members £6 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kiteflying insurance at events). £5 for each additional family member. Personal Liability Insurance £14 per person. (Must be paid by January 1st)
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