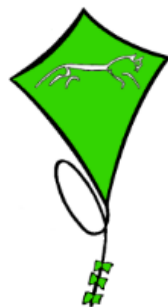


COWPAT HILL



Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers

Issue Spring 2020 April – June

This has to be one of the most difficult issues to edit that I have ever had. Everything was going fine but then things started changing with events being cancelled and even this page is on issue 4. With nothing happening over the next 3 months the next issue could be a bit thin so please try and send in something.

Note that as our next 3 Barbury Fly Ins have been cancelled they are no longer covered by Club insurance or height clearance.

Arrangements for the Fun Fly are progressing as usual and there is a very limited edition feather to celebrate the 10th one and 30 years of WHKF. (see the editor for one of these).

Please check our web and Facebook pages for updates on cancellations due to the coronavirus before attending any events.

www.whkf.org.uk

Diary Dates

April 2020

~~12th Barbury Castle club fly in.~~ CANCELLED

Spring 2020 issue of Cowpat Hill

~~25-26th Jolly Up 26.~~ CANCELLED

May 2020

~~8-10th Broad haven~~ CANCELLED

~~10th Barbury Castle club fly in.~~ CANCELLED

~~10th Streatham~~ CANCELLED

June 2020

~~6-7th Basingstoke~~ CANCELLED

6-7th Houlgate

~~14th Barbury Castle club fly in.~~ CANCELLED

July 2020

11-12th Brighton & Berrington

~~12th Barbury Castle club fly in.~~ CANCELLED

Summer 2020 issue of Cowpat Hill

~~25-26th Tewksbury~~ CANCELLED

Dead line for next issue 28 th June 2020

J. BROWNING

BESPOKE HANDMADE TOILET PAPER



WHKF 2020 Workshop

The wind it doth blow and kites need to be made and flown. The weekend of the 7th & 8th of February 2020 may be remembered for many things but, as far as 17 avid kiteflyers and makers are concerned it will be remembered as yet another excellent WHKF kite workshop. The weekend brought to our shores Alicja Szalska for her first workshop with adults. The standard of preparation and the kits that were provided proved beyond all doubt that we were in the presence of a truly talented and professional Kite Maker. The Saturday morning commenced with the usual frenetic activity of setting up 18 “workstations” and the ever present supply of coffee, tea, and biscuits for the participants. Once most had arrived the “personalised” kits were handed out, Alicja offered some words of guidance, (not least of which was read the book!) the work began! There were circles of every hue and size being positioned and sewn accompanied by the usual GOG banter and words of encouragement from Alicja. Before long it was time for our esteemed in house chef to be banished to the kitchen to prepare lunch for the ravenous hoards. It was good to welcome “NEWBIES” to the throng and despite their reservations and some mechanical issues with machinery by others, kites started to take shape around the room. Lunch was served and then it was back to the serious business of sewing, asking, then reading the book, asking again. All this was accompanied by the ever present cry of “RAFFLE TICKETS”. Before long it was time to call a halt to proceedings and prepare for the evening activities. To call the evening eventful would be an understatement but it is covered elsewhere in the magazine so I will not dwell on it here. Sunday dawned and it was soon time to discover how 84 strips of ripstop nylon, 13 pieces of dacron and countless pieces of double sided tape can come together to form the Kite’s signature tail. It is amazing how 84 pieces of inanimate fabric can conspire together to end up everywhere you don’t what them to be relative to the sewing foot of the machine. Patience is a virtue! Catering duties for the Sunday Lunch were “out-sourced” to friends of Janet and David and we feasted on Chicken pie, roasted new potatoes, broccoli and shredded cabbage. Soon after lunch it became apparent

that a number of kites and tails were appearing around the room, even from those who had opted for the more complex circle configurations. The completeness of the kits provided by Alicja was evidenced by the inclusion even a paperclip to assist with the assembly of the kite. Material for making bags for both the kite and tail were also part of the kit. Then it was time for the raffle, proceeds of which were added to the monies raised from the sale of David Johnson's "HAPPI COAT" and donated to the "Head & Neck" department fund that have been supporting Dave through his fight with Cancer. The picture with this article only goes some way to showing the outcomes of the weekend. I am sure all participants will agree with me in offering our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Alicja on enabling such a successful workshop. Thanks must also go to Janet and Dave Robinson for organising the event, Kevin for his culinary Skills, Helen and Charlie Peace for the venue, and not least of all yourselves for participating and making the event successful.

Thanks again to all involved.

David.

WHKF Chair.



Nick Kiffin

It is with deep sadness that I write to inform the members of the death of Nick Kiffin. Nick was new to the club having returned to kite flying after a 20 year break and joined us in the summer of 2019. Nick was participating in the workshop weekend when he suffered a heart attack and, despite the valiant efforts of both Nigel Goodswen and the attending paramedics, passed away on the Saturday evening. On behalf of the club I offer our heartfelt condolences and say that our thoughts are with Nick's wife and family at this time of sadness. His part made kite was taken by Alicja who completed it at home and returned it to the family.

David Thompson
WHKF Chair.

A note of thanks from David

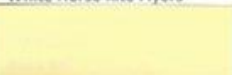
Thank you very much WHKF, and Arthur in particular, for organising the auction of my Happi Coat.

Thank you all again for donating the proceeds of this weekend's workshop raffle to the cause! I am very, very grateful.

I have to go to Oncology tomorrow morning so I will hand over the cheque to the Head and Neck team then. Thank you so much.

Posted on Facebook on 9th February by Dave Johnson.

White Horse Kite Flyers



10 February 2020

Our Ref: 43513

Thank you so much

Dear David

Thank you so much to you and the White Horse Kite Flyer for your generous donation of £275 raised from auctioning a 'Happi Coat' and holding a raffle.

Your gift will go towards the Head and Neck Cancer team and will make a real difference to thousands of patients from across Bristol and the South West.

Above & Beyond is the official charity for Bristol city centre hospitals, including Bristol Heart Institute, Bristol Royal Hospital for Children and St Michael's Hospital and Bristol Haematology and Oncology Centre. Amazing people like you help to make our hospitals more comfortable and welcoming for patients and their families, enable innovative research, support hospital staff with training and development, and fund world-class medical equipment.

Thank you once again for your wonderful gift.

With warmest wishes,



Natalie Millbank
Community Partnerships Officer

Natalie.Millbank@aboveandbeyond.org.uk | 0117 3700 842

Crop Protection Device Saves 95-100% of Grape Damage in Vineyards (By Supplier Spotlight - July 8, 2019. California)

Falcon Crop Protection (FCP) began the marketing of its FrightKites™ four years ago, demand for the highly effective product has reached the point where the number of falcon-shaped kites may outnumber those of the real raptors.

“We have about 1,500 kites in the field right now, all over the country,” confirms Falcon Crop Protection’s CEO. “Although there’s no accurate measure, people estimate there are around 1,000 real birds in the wild. That means our kites are exceeding the number of actual falcons – which is all right.”

What’s really all right is the way FrightKite devices offer between 95 and 100 percent protection against the costly damage done by finches and other small birds that flock into vineyards during veraison and beyond to eat at the wine grapes just as they ripen.

The kites, which simulate the shape and movement of real falcons, activate the instinctive fear mechanism of small birds that are natural prey for falcons and other raptors. Once the smaller birds see the kite flying above a designated vineyard, the entire flock will shift direction in order to avoid contact with their perceived enemy, providing near complete protection of the crop.

FrightKites™ are extremely cost-effective compared with netting or other labour-intensive vineyard protection measures, very simple to install and last for many years. In fact, the cost of just one FrightKite™ can be recovered many times over in just one season through the monetary savings in grapes.

FCP estimates that one FrightKite™ will protect a vineyard area of approximately 1.25 acres. Two FrightKites will safeguard three acres or more, creating a multiplier effect and a perception that the area between the two hunting falcons is a “kill zone.” “Put simply, birds don’t want to be looking in two different directions at hunting falcons while

they’re pecking at the grapes,” FCP points out. “So the circular area between the two falcons is a no fly zone, up to a point where there is no gap that’s seen as escapable. It’s a lot easier and safer for them to fly to an adjacent vineyard and eat where there are no falcons.”

FCP can state with confidence that any exclusion method, including netting, has its limitations in terms of coverage area. They say that determining the optimum number of FrightKites™ for complete vineyard protection is best approached on an individual step by step basis, depending on vineyard configuration and prevailing wind direction.

According to FCP Marketing Manager Justine Davies “the benefit of the FrightKite™ is that it gives you acres of real and proven protection for a fraction of the cost of anything else on the market.”

Winery and vineyard managers are recommended to act now as grapevines begin to form clusters, providing the perfect canopy for birds to make their nests within the vineyards themselves.

“Once they’ve done that, it’s really hard to get them out,” FCP warns. “A mother won’t leave her babies in that nest.”



THE THANKSGIVING AND MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CAROLYN SWIFT

This, as many will know, took place on the 24th January last in Kirby Misperton, North Yorkshire and near to where Carolyn had lived with Jerry.

As a family, we had known Carolyn for maybe twenty five years. Whilst a long way to travel and the kind of event one attends with a degree of trepidation, it was nevertheless something that we had to support. My wife Pat and I thus attended with son Tim and his wife Dorleta. Many other fellow kites from more southern parts also made the journey.

St Laurence's Church was absolutely full – possibly a rare occurrence. Besides the formal and necessary religious elements of the service, clearly kept to a minimum, spoken tributes were duly made by both Jerry and Pauline, Carolyn's sister. As we all remember, Carolyn was fun loving and often at the centre of 'jovial happenings'. Brief details of some were included in the tributes and were clearly a little surprising to the attending Reverend, manifested by a noticeable facial wince! It was somewhat amusing and certainly helped to lighten the general mood.

The serious and at times emotional part of the day completed, everyone was invited to take refreshments at the local Village Hall. With inimitable Northern hospitality, this was a most friendly and happy gathering, affording the opportunity to meet up again with many kiting friends, in particular some of the Northern kite flying fraternity. And it has to be said that the home-made cakes - fruit, lemon drizzle and Victoria sponge - were outstanding.

Later, some of us returned with Jerry to the house in Great Barugh. This was quite an intimate gathering in which many fond memories were shared by everyone – in particular relating to those 'jovial happenings'. Reflecting on the day, and it may sound strange, but this really was a most enjoyable day. Carolyn would certainly have enjoyed it – in fact it was almost as if she was with us throughout.

Maybe she was

Chris Mabon



THE **PESSIMIST** COMPLAINS ABOUT THE WIND
THE **OPTIMIST** EXPECTS IT TO CHANGE
THE **REALIST** ADJUSTS HIS **KITE**

Inspired by William Arthur Ward

Skychat

Well what a mess we are in as a country at the moment, is there anything we can do at the time. I have been told by Boris because of my age and all the problems I have I have to stay out of circulation for 12 weeks and not meet up with my family and friends. Now that goes very much against the grain, it also means I have to stay SANE? mission impossible. One good thing that I have found on the Telly with a gift from Amie is a NOW add-on that allows me to watch YouTube relaxed in the armchair instead of on the computer, so many things to watch and now more time to do it, and when I have tired of that there are many other avenues to explore.

It amazes me that people are panicking so much over goods, we never had it like this during the second world war and as for hoarding toilet paper is it because that they are so scared that it is playing havoc with their bowels. If it is not that why as loose bowels is not a symptom of Coronavirus, it's your chest that suffers. Let us hope that it blows over quickly and we can get back to normality.

One thing that we can get on with is that kite we wanted to make and could not find the time to do it. I await the results, should be interesting. I do hope that all these problems do not affect you too much and we and the world can on with normal living. As you will read in the rest of "The Cowpat" the committee have set out what they are trying to do and will be keeping members informed as much as possible. So here's to good winds and tight lines although you maybe on your own.

Neil.

Robinson's Ramble

A very sad occasion with the sudden Death of Nick Kiffin at the restaurant in the evening of the workshop, sincerest condolences to his Wife and family.

Alicja did a wonderful job, with her first workshop in the UK. I doubt it will be her last.

Those of you who have been to Barbury recently will know that it has been virtually impossible to get into the field due to all of the brambles and long grass.

Well, you will be pleased to know that the local Authority have finally got somebody to put some sheep back onto the field, it's not completely got the grass down, however it's a lot better than it was, at least you can walk through the field again without feeling that with every step you're not going to be tripped by the tangled grass.

Some more pleasing information, we have got permission to fly up-to 500 ft. at Barbury again this year on club days. It took a bit longer to get to this as they had personnel changes at the CAA, they had also moved offices.

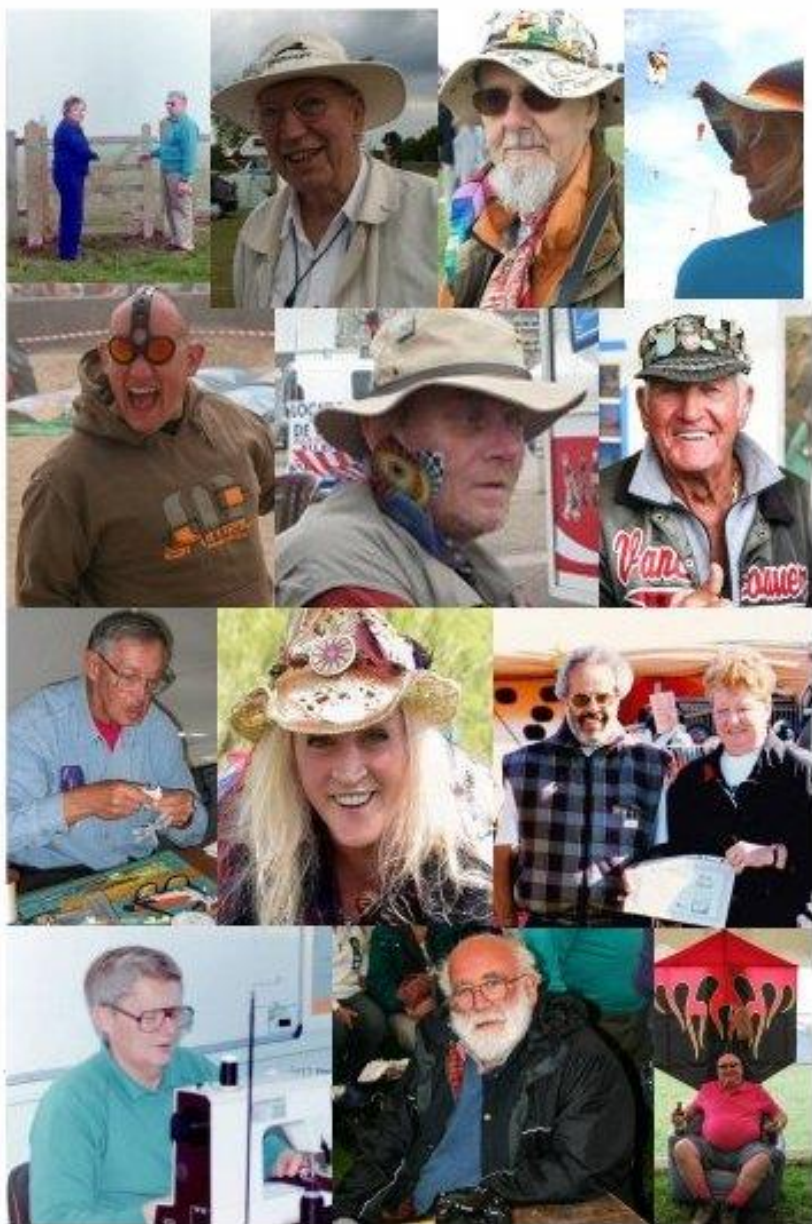
This height is only allowed on Club days, (that is the second Sunday of each month) please take care when flying at this height.

David

The undergrowth in the sloping field was certainly more manageable at the March meeting. We had quite a good display with Dave Cross's new tiger fish and my new spinners and it was nice to welcome some flyers from further afield. With four months cancellation of our Barbury Fly Ins at least the sheep will have a chance to have got the grass under control.

(Ed)

As we enter a new decade,
Remembering those we have loved and lost
(as collected by Chris Mabon and others)



Easy Kite DIY Headband Craft



This fun kite DIY headband is a great project for tweens and troops!

TOTAL TIME 30 minutes

DIFFICULTY Medium

ESTIMATED COST Less than £3

Materials

[ebay headband core](#)

Craft Felt in assorted colours

Embroidery Silk & Needle

[Half pearls](#)

Glue Gun and Glue Sticks

Glue

Straight Pins

Scissors

Kite Pattern

Instructions

Draw a kite plan the size you want on plain paper and cut out. Pin Kite pattern to craft felt and then cut out with scissors.

Draw and pin Bow patterns to two different but coordinating colours of craft felt and cut out with scissors.

Thread an embroidery needle with six strands of embroidery silk and sew a running stitch from top to bottom. Loop the silk through a centre stitch on the back and then stitch from side to side. Knot the silk on the back to finish. Leave a 3" to 4" length of silk at the bottom for the Kite Tail.

Attach the craft felt Kite and Bows to the headband with the glue gun. Attach half pearls to the centre of each bow with liquid glue.

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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.

Your local contacts are:-

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Arthur Dibble +44(0)1635 865976

This issue edited by Arthur Dibble, with contributions from; Dave Cross;

Dave Robinson; Neil Harvey; Dave Thompson, Chris Mabon

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

Subscriptions for new members for 12 months from December 1st 2019 £16 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kiteflying insurance at events) and is free for existing members. £5 for each additional family member. Renewals will be reviewed annually. Personal Liability Insurance £14 per person.

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