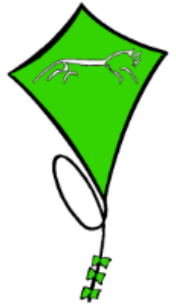


COWPAT HILL



Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers
Spring 2022 April - June

The Patang Proposition



Life is like flying a kite. Sometimes you have to leave it loose, sometimes you have to hold on tight, sometimes your kite will fly effortlessly, sometimes you will not be able to control it and even when you are struggling to keep it afloat and the string is cutting into your hand, don't let go.

The wind will change in your favour once again, just don't let go.

Mrs Funnibones

www.whkf.org.uk

Diary Dates

April 2022

10th Barbury Castle club fly-in

23/24th Jolly Up 30

30th Broad Haven

May 2022

1/2nd Broad Haven

8th Barbury Castle club fly-in

21/22nd Bridlington

June 2022

2/5th Margam

12th Barbury Castle club fly-in

16/19th Fano

25/26th Cardigan Bay

July 2022

2/3rd Barmouth

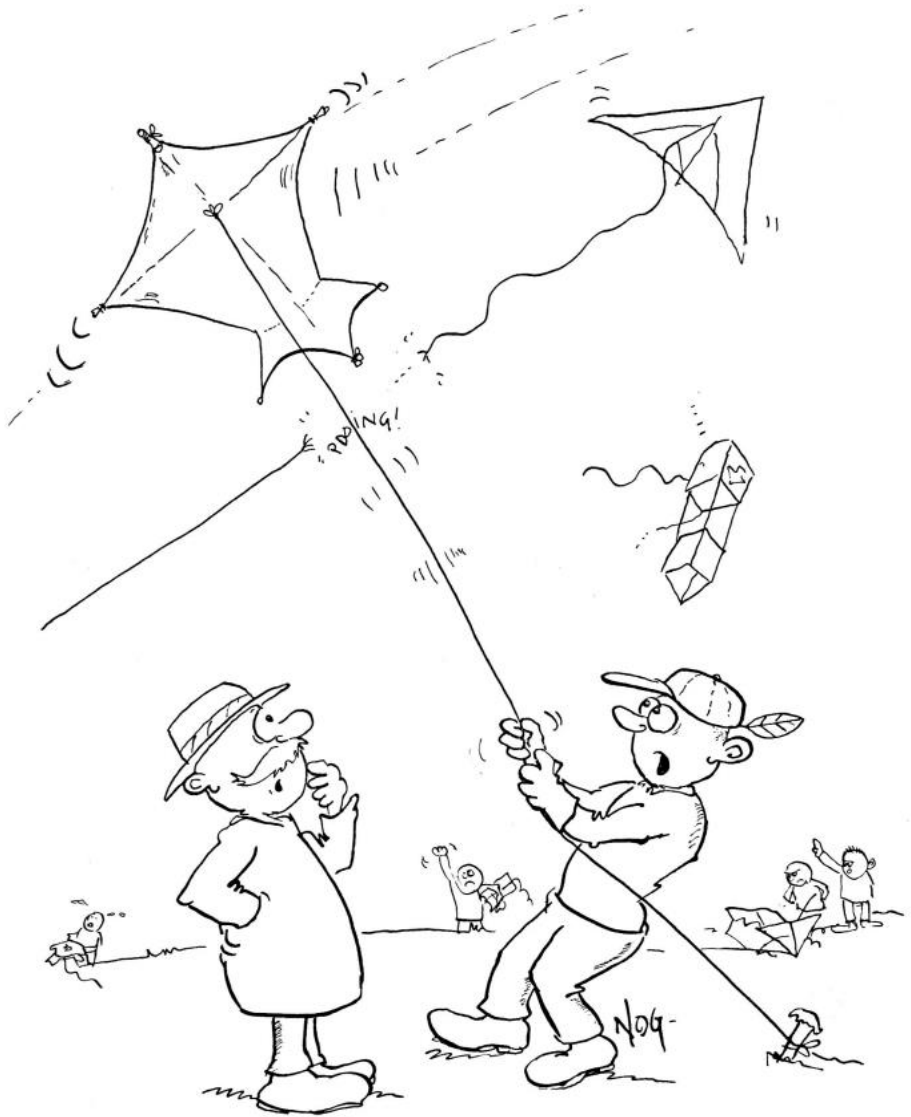
10th Barbury Castle club fly-in (next issue of Cowpat Hill)

9/10th Berrington Hall

16/17th Shropshire

30/31st Portsmouth

Dead line for next issue 26th June



"I'VE DECIDED TO CALL IT THE PUTIN... IT'S UNBALANCED, HARD TO BRING DOWN AND EVERYONE WANTS IT TO ~~STAR~~!! OFF!!"

St Joseph's College Indoor Fly-in

After a period of a few years absence the indoor fly-in's, previously sponsored and organised by Karl Longbottom, returned to the calendar. The 30th January saw the first session attended by 23 eager stringpullers of varying age, ability and looks but all keen to cast off the closet nature of Covid restrictions. As I mentioned before the event, you didn't have to be an egg-spurt to attend just bring your enthusiasm, which is exactly what we got on the day.

Indoor/zero wind flying requires a slightly different approach to flying with wind and if you have never experienced low/no wind flying then the indoor fly-in is just the place to find out more from things like; how do you do it, what type of kites do you use, do I need to be fit for running around etc? First thing to appreciate is principally there is no running involved and the only fans are those flying the kites. It can even be achieved seated so physical ability ie, wheelchair users or less mobile people can also do it.

It goes without saying that the kites in general should be lightweight but this does not necessarily mean expensive. There are plans available for kites using lightweight ripstop and carbon etc plus much cheaper materials namely wood and paper/plastic etc, see the plan for a Trash bag Kite.

Two and four-line kites are generally flown in a similar fashion to that in wind but on much reduced lengths of line. Because of the lack of wind and shorter lines you are able to fly in smaller spaces and move the kites all around your central position ie, overhead and 360 degrees.

Single-line kites come in all shapes and sizes but they generally have a gliding characteristic ie, they tend to fly/glide horizontally. As with multi-line kites you can fly the single-line kites in any direction around you and with practise achieve spins and tricks. The main difference with single-line flying is allowing the line to run through your hand when the kite glides away and then gently pull the line to recover or make the kite climb, not rapid pulls as you would in wind conditions. Flying should be relaxing, watching the kite to see what it wants to do and then reacting or influencing its next move. There are no rights or wrongs to flying in

no/low wind but there are a few tips and ways to make it easier. Don't have a light/suitable kite, not a problem as there are generally kites available at the sessions and the fliers are usually happy to let you try theirs. As with kite flying there are no professionals but there may be people to offer assistance and show you their different techniques. If you didn't make it to one of the indoor sessions there will hopefully be more in the future or failing that speak to myself or anyone at a kite festival that looks like they are a lightweight..... flier. ;-)

Make your own Trash bag kite see the plans. See a short video of the kite in action at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2S5IK70s5Nw>

Bob C.



Trash Bag Delta Kite Instructions

This kite originally appeared in Margaret Greger's book *More Kites for Everyone* (1990), available from the Drachen Foundation, www.drachen.org. Several years ago Sam Huston modified the measurements and added to the construction instructions when he presented the kite at the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, www.kitemakers.org. When the Pierce County Kitefliers Association was looking for an easy and reliable workshop kite for the first Milton Indoor Kite Fest, we tried this kite and discovered it is a fabulous indoor flyer with the addition of a little bit of weight on the nose. We believe it is a great way to begin your adventures flying kites indoors. A few more instructions and hints have been added along the way.

Materials:

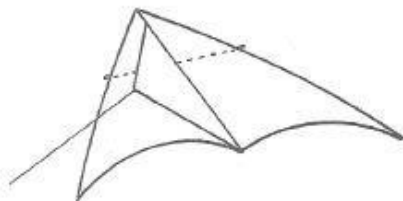
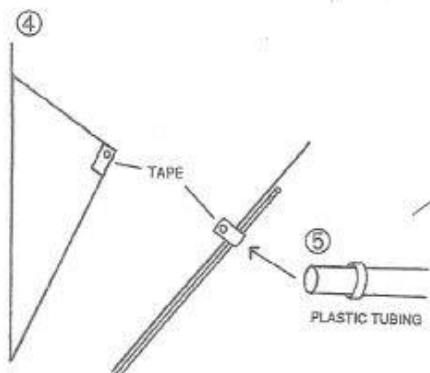
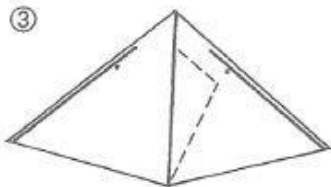
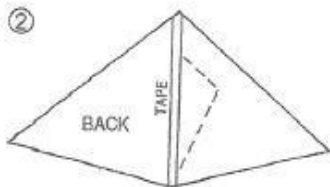
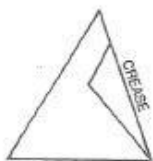
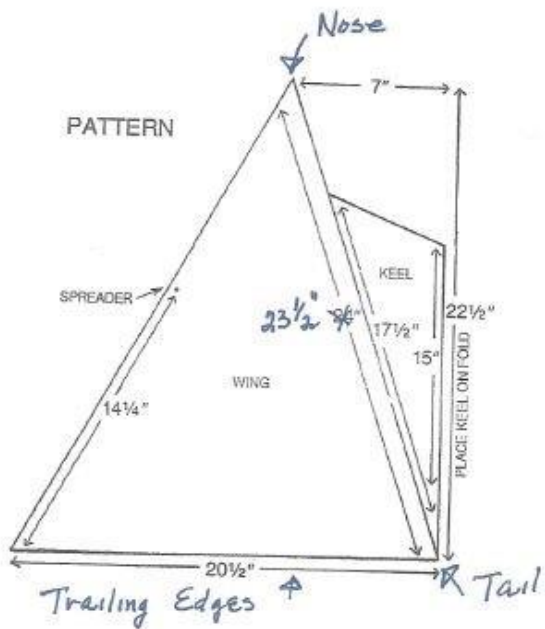
- A tall kitchen trash bag (workshop kites are made from Costco kitchen bags)
- Two 1/8" x 48" wood dowels, cut: 1 spine 23-1/2"; 3 @ 19" (2 side spars, 1 spreader)
- 3/4" Scotch Magic Tape, 3/4" or 1" strapping tape (3M Shipping Strapping Tape Extreme is ideal. Cut the 2" wide tape in half if necessary.)
- Two 1/4" long pieces of 1/8" inside diameter vinyl tubing
- Three round toothpicks, cut to same size as the width of your strapping tape (use middle)
- Poster board for pattern 22" x 28"

Procedures:

1. Lay the pattern on the bottom fold of the bag with the long side of the keel on the fold (not an edge that has been heat sealed). Draw around the pattern and continue the center line between the wing and the keel sections. Mark the spreader spot and cut out. Mark the spreader spot on the other wing before unfolding the sail.
2. Carefully open one wing to the center line, making sure to butt the cut section of the center line together. The keel will now be under one of the wings. Tape the entire center line, centering the magic tape over the line. This is easiest if you place a small piece of tape at the nose, tail and middle to secure the seam, then fill in with two or three pieces of tape.
3. Lay the spine on the center line and tape it to the kite the same way you secured the center line. Lay side spars close to the wing edges, placing the bottoms of the spars at the trailing edge. Tape the spars to the wings with the Magic tape in the same manner.
4. Cut three 2-1/2" pieces of strapping tape for keel tip and spreader attachments. Lay the toothpick pieces in the middle of the strapping tape before folding them over and attaching to kite at spreader points on wings and tip of keel. Punch 1/8" holes as shown.
5. Put plastic tubing pieces on each end of spreader. Place spreader into the kite sail. For flying indoors, the sail should be nearly flat, and you'll want to add a nickel sized piece of poster tack on top of the nose tip to add a little weight. To fly it outdoors try removing the poster tack and moving the spreader tubes closer to the center of the kite 1/4 to 1/2" on each end, shortening the spreader. This gives the kite more dihedral and better stability.
6. Attach the pigtail to the keel tow point, and your line to the pigtail. Go fly.

These details can be found from a link on our web pages at:-
<http://www.whkf.org.uk/Archnew.html>

ONE-PIECE DELTA KITE



Letter from America

Hi David,

So nice to hear from you, hope you and Janet feel like spring chickens, ☺ I'm fine and safe.

I still look forward to Cowpat's every issue, and yes the covid thing put a hurt on everybody here on this side the pond too.

Kite flying in 2021 was not a very strong year as many if not all major events were cancelled, but, fortunately that's behind us now. . As you know I produce children's kite kits and market them, in 2021 sales were off considerably, most sales were small orders going to youth groups and schools, no major kite events.

The really good news is 2022 is starting with a bang, events are being planned, orders are coming in from many past customers and the children's camps that I visit are planning summer sessions, how wonderful !

For several years I have coordinated a small kite day with a local Museum, in 2021 they wanted to have the event but with restrictions, a limited number of tickets were issued and time slots were established so not too many gathered at one time. We made about 100 children's diamond kites from kits I donated. It's a fund raiser for the museum. This year they have planned the event with reduced restrictions, it was sold out before it was officially advertised, imagine that! In April I'm doing kite making at in children's hospital, first time since this covid crap started, I'm thrilled.

On a personal note I just returned from a two week holiday in Germany, yes I brought a kite along and flew it on a couple occasions. Nothing fancy, just wanted to say I flew in Germany. ☺

The trip was a Christmas gift from my daughter and husband. He works for a German Company near Marburg just north of Frankfurt and he took me along on his business trip.

Oh my gosh it was a fantastic experience, I just love history and this town was incredible. Over in the states we think 200 year old buildings are old, shucks, we don't know what old is. I visited a Roman Fortress in Salzburg that was established in the year AD 90, I wanted to fly my kite there but was discouraged by a security person. In Marburg there is a castle dating back to the 13th century. I did fly on the grounds. HA! People were extremely friendly, food and beer were super, sad thing was the Monday we arrived a covid mask mandate went into effect. N95 type, masks had to be worn in all public buildings, proof of vax's had to be shown in all restaurants. Crazy thing was as soon as you sat down you took your mask off. Oh well.

Enough for MY rambling, bottom line is kite flying in 2022 will be a huge success.

As a closing note, I'm trying to locate an organization who are supplying aid to the Ukraine people, I want to donate kite kits for those troubled children and put some cheerfulness in their lives.

Big hugs to all

CLIFF

THEY'VE CUT THE GRASS!!!!

Yes at last they have cut the grass on the sloping field at Barbury. As we reported a few months ago some sheep had been brought on to the field to start tackling the problem so it was with great joy that at our March fly-in we found that a band about 10m wide had actually been cut. Let us hope that this continues in the future. The day had a blustery wind but we did manage to get something in the air until a torrential storm put a stop to things except for the hardy Mr. Cross. By the time I got to the bottom of the hill the roads were still dry and were the same all the way home. I wish I had stayed and didn't just end up with some soggy kites.

Robinsons Ramble.

I must thank Paul & Pam Parsons for collecting the kite kit that was donated to the Club by Vic Walker's Widow. The club will decide what to do with it, I would say that unless you want to do a lot of Teddy Parachuting it would not interest you. However if you are interested give the club a call.

The weather is not much like Spring, it feels more like winter, whilst writing this it is lovely sunny day, but when you go outside it's freezing cold.

I must mention that Ron Miller recently won an award at the annual AKA awards, the award was Volunteer of the Year. He has been volunteering for many years.

How I lost my kite and learned the futility of holding on to things

BY [FRANK SHYONG](#) COLUMNIST DEC. 31, 2021 6 AM PT

A few months and approximately three variants ago, I was flying a kite at Venice Beach when a powerful gust of wind ripped the handle from my hands.

The kite tore off across the beach, the handle bouncing in its wake. I ran after it as hard as I could, throwing up sprays of sand with my feet, but I never even got close. The kite was free.

And having outrun me, the kite suddenly seemed to be in no hurry. It dipped, swirled and pinwheeled and began to perform tricks it never could in my hands. It hovered, as if enjoying the view, tracing a few languid loops left, then right.

Pretty soon I decided to stop running (full disclosure: I was out of breath). I just watched the kite sign its taunting purple signature in the flinty blue sky.

I don't normally fly kites at the beach, but it's one of the more whimsical ways I've tried to beat back the bleakness of the pandemic. A lot of us are doing that these days, clinging to the familiar and the quotidian. We are watching TV shows we have already seen, taking up childhood hobbies, playing old video games with old friends. Each of us mounts our own small rebellion of normalcy — at least, what we can remember of it, nearly two years into the pandemic.

I glared at the shrinking purple speck and shook my head, disgusted that the wind had stolen even this tiny protest against the gloom.

Then the kite jerked to a halt. The handle had become entangled in the fronds of a palm tree overlooking the Venice Boardwalk. A few yards back, sweaty and defeated, hands on my knees, I started to laugh uncontrollably. My kite and I started to draw a crowd.

Some people laughed with me, and others at me. A couple of guys started making fun of me, and others offered to help me get it down. Kids pointed with wide, wondrous eyes. A couple of people just stared. People walking by saw the stares and followed them to the kite, and the crowd grew.

I'm not sure why I found it so funny. I guess in that moment, I saw the futility of both my chase and the kite's fleeing. The kite freed itself from me only to be trapped by a tree. I ran myself ragged when I could have strolled leisurely.

My anger was forgotten. I joined the crowd, still laughing weakly. Venice was quiet that day, no drum circles or street performers or boom bap rap music from hoisted boomboxes. It was so silent you could hear the kite's wings flapping, all the way up at the full extension of its line. I tried to film it and so did a few other people, but it was one of those precious few things our eyes can experience better than our smartphones.

We were a small semicircle around the tree, cautiously spaced, reverently silent, phones down, eyes up.

It was one of those rare moments that wiped away everything but the present. I forgot about the pandemic, about loss and heartbreak and pain. I let slip all the things I was holding so tightly to. I felt light enough to join the kite up in the sky.

I've been thinking about that day a lot, especially during this second holiday season interrupted by lockdowns, cancellations and rising case counts. It now seems unwise to expect an end to the pandemic. And even if this virus is eradicated, we can expect another virus or equivalent crisis close behind. As a member of the generation that came of age in the disordered aftermath of 9/11, I've come to see life as a series of linked crises with no true end.

I have no advice on how to navigate this state of permanent emergency. I can only tell you that I am as battered and bruised by it as the rest of you. I have no sage lessons to share in this last column of the year. I can only share with you the futility of chasing something that wants to be free. I can't tell you how we will all make it through this, or if we will. I can only relate to you the folly of trying to run away from your problems.

In the end, you can hold as tightly as you want to things, but they won't last. Whether it's time, a powerful gust of wind or a society transformed by pandemic, there will always be a factor you cannot control. When the future is clouded and the past cannot be regained, what's left to us are the moments and what meaning we can find in them.

I decided not to embarrass myself further by trying to get the kite down. The crowd broke up after a few minutes, and eventually I headed for the parking lot too.

When I got to my car, I looked back.

The kite was still flying.

Skychat

I never thought when I started the Club up that I would be talking about economics of being able to afford kites and going around to Kite Events. Due to (Ras)Putin actions, it has upset the World's equilibrium. Where ever you look the prices have risen, some a lot more than others and it is effecting all our pockets. Now I am not moaning but being realistic that now my money in my pocket is not worth as much as it was pre-pandemic. I have to think "is that car journey necessary, or can I combine it with another one." I cannot ask for a pay rise, I have to wait for the Government to give me one and that may be some time coming with all the extra cost we have to pay for. Still it gives me ammo to make some more kites, rather than buying any. Happy times in the loft.

Now the Pandemic has died down Kiting Events are now beginning to restart and let us hope that it continues. I think many organisers will be treading gingerly this year and not going over the top with lavish events and we must respect this and help them get these events back on the map. Your Committee are busy trying to get a varied programme together for this year and I hope that as many of you that can will back them up in joining these events.

On a lighter note I hope in the near future that The WHKF Washing Machine Mk2 will be turning to give our white marquee a spring clean, it will be good to see it gleaming again. I hope the Kitchen Staff will appreciate it.

Till the next time Clean winds, Tight lines and Good Health.

Neil.

"Kite" trivia files reveal man-made flying objects make interesting stories.

In 1895, the Anaconda Standard published a report that the National Weather Bureau planned to send up 10 giant kites, all on one string, to the height of two miles. The object was to conduct systematic studies of the upper atmosphere in order to make a map for the use of balloonists. Another proposed use for this project was to harness lightning. They probably should have checked with Benjamin Franklin.

There were a couple of other gems in that file.

In 1897, Professor Libbey from Princeton University planned to explore a mesa in New Mexico that was rumoured to have been inhabited centuries before. It was inaccessible by climbing. His initial plan was to send up kites to take a line to the top and bring up heavier lines. I can't picture how that would have worked, however he ended up using a cannon to fire a rope over the end of the butte and then using a pulley to pull himself up in a marine life-saving chair. How the rope was secured was not reported.

In any event, he claimed he had found no ruins, rudely stating "Romantic Indian legend can never stand the acid test of scientific investigation." Later that year, another archaeologist explored the mesa and found arrow points, stone tools, beads and pottery fragments – and hopefully Libbey's shattered ego.

George Dewey was admiral of the Navy, best known for his victory at the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American war, but as a boy he was known for flying his kites higher than the other boys.

The most successful and best documented story in my "Kite" file tells of an 1847 contest with a \$5 prize to the first person who could fly a kite across the Niagara Gorge, near the falls. A young American boy, Homan Walsh, won on the second day, flying his kite from the Canadian side.

The string was fastened to a tree and a light cord was pulled across by it, then a heavier cord and finally a wire cable. The ultimate purpose was to enable a bridge to be built across the 800-foot gap and 225-foot cliffs. The kite was named the Union. For a moment I wondered why an American boy flew his kite from the Canadian side, but the obvious answer is that you can't fly a kite against the wind.

There's probably a moral there.

21 February 2022



Dorothy House Hospice Care
Wesley, B before, on Ave, SA19 2LZ

White Horse Kite Flyers
c/o 42 Bonners Close
MALMESBURY
SN16 2UF

Dear White Horse Kite Flyers

Thank you so much for choosing to support Dorothy House your subsequent kind and generous donation of £T90.00.

Each donation we receive makes a difference to people's lives. Your gift means a great deal to the patients and families we look after every year who benefit from our nursing, counselling, complementary therapies, group activities and much more.

Every day Dorothy House provides palliative and end of life care to anyone who needs it, when they need it most. When someone in our community reaches the end of life, we have one chance to come together to support them with the best care we can provide. This critical work has become even more vital during the unfolding COVID-19 crisis. There are more patients to look after and we must make sure each one receives the highest quality care and compassionate support.

Thank you so much for your kind words in your letter and we will continue our work and supporting our community with the help of your donation.

Yours sincerely

Vunity Clark
Community and Events Fundraiser

Your support is vital to Dorothy House and we'd love to share our news, campaigns and events with you, as well as ways you could get involved and provide support. If you wish to check, or change your mailing preferences at any time, please let us know by phoning 01225 721480 or by emailing preferences@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk. Please rest assured that we do not sell personal data to any third parties.



Tel: 01225 727 880
Clinical Coordinator: Centre: 0345 0132 555
dorothyhouse.org.uk

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Rayn Mester HRH: The Princess Royal
Patron: The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg

Making a difference across our hospitals

Oxford
Hospitals
Charity

White Horse Kite Flyers
C/O 42 Bonners Close
Malmesbury
SN16 9UF
000078181

11/03/2022

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for making a difference to the Churchill Hospital.

Your kind donation of £100.00 to benefit Cancer & Haematology Day Treatment Unit will make a real and lasting difference to our staff and the patients that they care for.

Our hospitals care for over one million patients every year and we know every single one is important. In the last year, donations like yours have helped to fund patient monitors in the Wytham Ward, improvements to both staff and patient areas, and a pioneering clinical psychology service providing support to haematology patients. You can read more about the Impact your support makes on our website www.hospitalcharity.co.uk, and on social media by searching 'Oxford Hospital Charity' on Facebook and Instagram and @OxHospCharity on Twitter.

Oxford Hospitals Charity is here to support the different departments and wards of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust including the Churchill, John Radcliffe, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, and the Horton General Hospital. Generous donations like yours help to provide the best medical equipment, research and facilities for our patients, their families, and our amazing staff.

Your contribution will help to transform the Churchill Hospital and for that we are very grateful. We'd love to keep you up to date by post / email with the difference your gift is making, if you'd prefer not to hear from us please do let us know by contacting us on charity@ouh.nhs.uk or 01865 743 444.

Your support is invaluable to us, thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

C Charlett

Cynthia Charlett

Supporter Care Manager



charity@ouh.nhs.uk



Oxford Hospitals Charity



01865 743444



@OxHospCharity

Oxford Hospitals Charity

Unipart House Business Centre, Oxford, OX4 2PG

www.hospitalcharity.co.uk

OXFORD HOSPITALS CHARITY (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1175803) - A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE (11092176)

With arrival of digital age, kite business is disappearing

Published On: October 9, 2021 10:50 AM NPT By: Republica | [@RepublicaNepal](#)




KATHMANDU, Oct 9: Once the main means of entertainment during Dashain, kites are rarely seen in the sky of Kathmandu. The sky above Tudikhel, which used to be full of kites during Dashain in the past, is now empty.


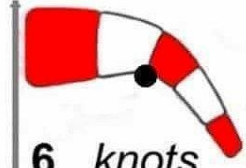
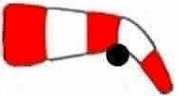
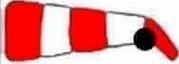
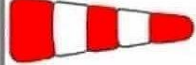
As Nepali youths are attached with the internet, video games and smartphones, the present state of the kite business doesn't look promising. People who are into kite business are worried that the tradition of flying the kites has been disappearing slowly in the last few years. Despite the children having kite rollers and kites in their hands; they simply are not into flying kites these days which has worried the kite sellers.

"Until a few years ago, the sky used to be full of colorful kites. People used to fly the kites after Indraajatra, but now the children and youth are more into smartphones," says Dipendra Chitrakar, a kite businessman from Asan. He said that despite the demand for kites for hotel, restaurant and showroom decoration has been high lately; the business has been affected since the beginning of the pandemic.

According to Chitrakar, the internet and mobile phones are the main culprits for the disappearance of kite flying culture. During Dashain, there would be transactions of millions of rupees a few years ago but now the kite business is in threat of disappearing slowly.

Do you know what the bands on a wind sock indicate?



 <p>3 Knots 5,5 Km 3,5 mph 1,5 m/s</p>	 <p>6 knots 11 Km 7 mph 3 m/s</p>
 <p>9 Knots 16 Km 10 mph 4,5 m/s</p>	 <p>12 Knots 22 Km 14 mph 6 m/s</p>
	 <p>15 Khots 28 Km 17 mph 7,8 m/s</p>



NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 30 on April 23rd & 24th 2022
NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 31 on Aug 6th and 7th 2022
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). *///wonderfully.orchestra.later*

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.

In April there will be a Hog Roast on the Saturday evening and in August there will be Hot food.

(£8.50 and *please* bring a plate and cutlery where possible to keep the outlay down!) Please let us know in advance if you require a vegetarian option.

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 possible 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.

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 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: -

Neil Harvey +44(0)1285 740295 Dave Robinson +44(0)1793 824208

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