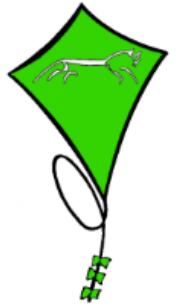


# COWPAT HILL



Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers  
Spring 2023 April - June

Please note that due to the quantity and quality of SPAM emails being sent to the @whkf.org addresses, all of these have now been disabled. If you need to contact us please use PMs via Facebook and if you can enclose your email address we will forward your message to the person/department you are looking for. The web address has not been changed.



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

# Diary Dates

## April 2023

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

(This issue of the magazine)

22/23<sup>rd</sup> Jolly Up 32

29/30<sup>th</sup> Broad Haven. (Note tides are wrong but we are still going)

## May 2023

6-8<sup>th</sup> Broad Haven 2

14<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in

14<sup>th</sup> Streatham

26-30<sup>th</sup> Margam (Invitation only)

## June 2023

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

17-18<sup>th</sup> Seal Bay **CANCELLED**

24-25<sup>th</sup> Cardigan Bay (please contact Sky Bums)

## July 2023

9<sup>th</sup> Barbury Castle club fly-in (Next issue of the magazine)

15-16<sup>th</sup> Brighton

29-30<sup>th</sup> Portsmouth

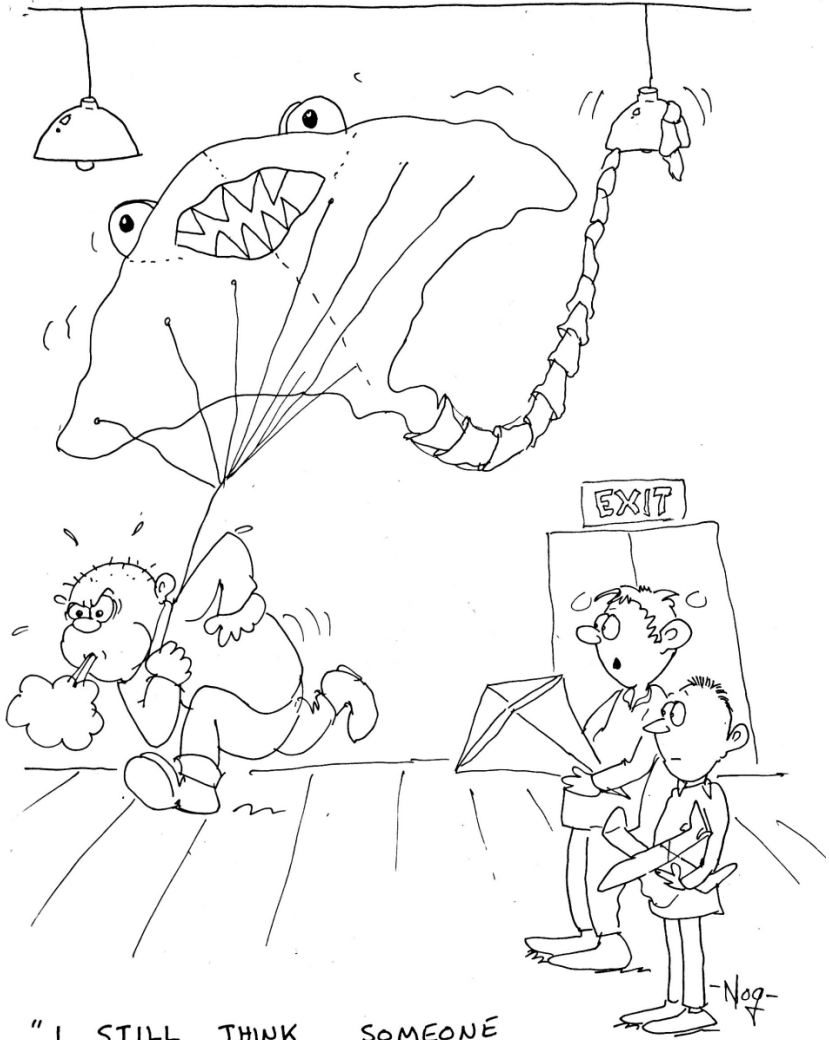
## August 2023

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

Jolly Up 33

26-28<sup>th</sup> Bognor

Dead line for next issue 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
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"I STILL THINK SOMEONE SHOULD TELL HIM THAT ONE'S NOT MEANT FOR INDOOR FLYING."

## Helping people in Wiltshire live well with Dementia

This certificate is awarded to:

### White Horse Kite Flyers

in recognition of valuable contributions to

### Alzheimer's Support



**Thank you for your donation of £460.50**



Community Fundraising *Laura Crouch*

Date: 22.12.22



Dear Arthur and the White Horse Kite Flyers,

Thank you so very much for the incredibly kind donation in memory of Noel. What a lovely tribute in his memory that will make such a difference to so many people across Wiltshire who are affected by dementia and their loved ones. Your group sounds like such a lovely community, who do a lot for people. Please let me know if you need any more information.

Best wishes,

Laura Crouch

Community Fundraiser

*Amrit Dhillon, Delhi))*

## **Six dead after throats slashed by glass-coated kite strings.**

Six people bled to death after their throats were slit by glass-coated kite strings used in competitions.

The victims, including children aged two, three and seven, died at the Uttarayan kite festival in the Western Indian state of Gujarat.

The strings are razor-sharp because they are coated with powdered glass, and because they are made of plastic they do not break easily. All victims bled to death after being cut.

In separate incidents at the festival, where 200 people were injured, two children died after scooters on which they were riding with their parents hit strings that had been cut during the competition and were left dangling from trees and buildings. The third child was walking home with her mother when she walked into a string.

The glass-coated strings have been banned since 2016; however, critics say there has been little enforcement. It is a tradition in India and other parts of south Asia for kite-flying enthusiasts to have duels in the skies using sharp strings to cut a rival's kite.

"You shut one street seller down and another two replace him. Bans don't work. It is up to Indians themselves to realise they are killing people," Arun Sarao, a policeman who works in Delhi said.

When people feel the string caught around their necks they panic and pull at it to try and remove it, often cutting themselves further. Last August three people died after becoming entangled in kite stings in the space of 20 days.

Narendra Kumar, a young delivery agent, was on his scooter when the string wrapped around his wind pipe. In his panic he fell off his scooter and was run over by a car. Some scooter riders have become so worried about being caught in dangling kite strings that they have resorted to wearing an improvised foam belt around their necks.

*(Thanks to David and Janet for spotting this article and submitting it)*

## ROBINSON'S RAMBLE

The time has reared its head for the Ramble, this event seems to come around about every ten minutes! It is always difficult to come up with something to write, however it is a bit easier when the Fun fly is not too far away.

As you will know from our Website & Facebook that our Fun Fly will be 23rd / 24th September at Lechlade, Arthur has published details so please take note & join us if you can, it is always a great event. And we always appreciate anyone who comes along to help set up the site.

This year we have had a Guides Troop contact us for Kite kits, they have had some in the past, however this is the first time since the beginning of the Pandemic, so maybe we may be getting more in the near future. It's great that Guides are showing youngsters about Kites. This is the first kits we have sent out since before the Pandemic.

I expect you are aware of a great magazine, published by American Kite Association, it comes out quarterly if you are a member at £42. So if any of you are interested to join, let us know & we can give you contact details.

David Robinson

As usual our Secretary has been keeping up the good work keeping in touch with the council about conditions at Barbury. This is the reply to her latest enquiry:-

*Thank you for your email / enquiry about the toilets at Barbury Castle. Unfortunately the only news that I have is that the property team are still looking for a solution to underlying water quality issues at Barbury Castle. As per my last email, just as soon as I have some favourable news, I will update you accordingly.*

*Regards*

*Parks & Open Spaces Monitoring Officer  
Operations  
Swindon Borough Council*

## Skychat

During the last few weeks I have been a rather lame duck with regards to The Club but it should improve now. I have Sue home from rather a long stay in hospital now and her health and mobility is improving daily. It should mean I can get back to doing what I was able to do before. Anyway many thanks for your many good wishes we received during this period.

It looks as if different people and groups are awakening into doing things they did before Covid with requests to do workshop and displays again. I do hope that as many of you can help at these, usually smaller events and get The Club out there in the public eye again. I always found the reward was greater than the effort needed to do the event. Where possible I will be doing my bit but I am afraid my advancing years are beginning to take their toll and I cannot do as much as I would like to do. This means there is a chance for some of the younger members to step forward and experience the thrills of helping out with workshops or displays. One big advantage of doing these events is it helps swell The Club coffers and after the last few years we need some!

During my period of inactivity I must thank all the committee for the hard work they have been putting in and let us hope that this year we can see some growth in The Club and recover some ground to what we were before we had all the problems with Covid and lock-downs. I always seem to have to write about things that are on the morbid and gloomy side, so let's hope that now Spring is here we can really look forward to a long sunny and breezy Summer in front of us. Here is to a Glorious twenty twenty-three. Lest we forget "Three Cheers for King Charles the Third" on his Coronation.

**Neil.**

# **WHKF AGM 20/11/22 12.00PM**

## **Welcome**

The President thanked everyone for their attendance. It's great to see everyone here.

## **Apologies and Attendance**

15 apologies were received.

22 people were in attendance.

## **Minutes of 2021 AGM**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

Proposed by Charlie Peace

Seconded by Alan Holden

Unanimous

## **Matters Arising from Minutes**

No matters arising

## **Chairman's Report**

The past year has seen the return of many of the events that have become an accepted part of the Kite flyer's calendar and not least of these has been the monthly club flying sessions at Barbury Castle. The state of the field improving as the year progressed. The club again was a partner in the return of the "BroadHaven Kiting weekend", no arenas no time table other than the tide and open to all. This event continues to be well received by both the residents and businesses in the area. Members of the club have participated in numerous other events around the country. Unfortunately plans to run a club workshop failed to recruit enough participants to make the event viable, we will need to look at the responses to try to identify the reasons. The lessening of Covid restrictions has seen another successful "Fun Fly" or as some people have renamed it the "food Fest with flying". The event was well supported and enabled a significant donation to the nominated charity.

The club continues to rely on a small number of dedicated, but ageing, band of people and it is down to their boundless enthusiasm and creativity that the Club continues to exist. I will be eternally grateful for their hard work and support over the past year.



The continued existence of the club is totally in the hands of you, the membership, The times ahead are going to be challenging and the ability to participate in recreational pastimes in an economically challenging climate may well impact on the future of the club. But remember the wind is free and kites do not have to be huge inflatables costing thousands of pounds, think of the pleasure we have all seen on the faces of youngsters, making and flying the club's "Green Tadpoles".

Once again, I must express my sincere thanks to my fellow members of the committee and to you the members for supporting the club.

### **Hon. Secretary's Report**

The reason that we are at this new venue is that as Helen, our contact for the hire of the School, has moved from the School, we are unable to use it anymore.

For the "Fun Fly" at Lechlade, the weather was good over the two days, which was enjoyed by all the attendees.

I must thank the Catering team for all their hard work, producing the meals. They were up to their excellent standards, and a big thank you to all those who helped to erect the Clubs tent's, and to take them down.

A very BIG thank you goes to David Thompson for his great efforts on running the Auction, raising money for helping to fund next year's event & the other half to a charity.

It was a shame we hadn't had enough people to run a Club Workshop this year but maybe we can organise one for another year.

Our Club workshop at Didcot was a good success & thanks to Arthur for his work in getting it together.

I was very pleased with the local Council after sending them a letter about keeping the grass cut for our monthly meetings at Barbury. Amazingly they are still keeping it cut.

### **Cowpat Editors Report**

Another year passes and I have managed to cobble together another 4 issues of Cowpat Hill. I have been very grateful to those of you who have submitted articles. It was good to see some new names along with the regulars. It becomes ever more difficult to fill the pages with anything kite related and it is only possible with the help of internet search engines.

As far as our web pages are concerned most information seems to be available via FB but there are a few people who don't use this facility so I do try to keep this up to date. Our registration still is paid up until 2028 so the web site should be available at least until then. For a long while it has been hosted, free of charge, by my son but as his circumstances have changed he is looking at a new location and this may involve a small charge.

I am prepared to continue with the magazine and web site for ONE more year but as from the next AGM I will be handing over the responsibility of editing and printing it so please have a think about it.

### **Insurance**

The Chair explained that the situation with personal insurance going forward is unclear. Jerry Swift has stepped down from BKFA and, therefore, the future of BKFA is uncertain.

BKFA sort the insurance as, if it folds, it impacts WHKF.

In addition to this, there are less and less insurers who wants to insure kite flying but our current insurer has not yet expressed a desire to stop.

Personal Insurance is set this year at £11.50 per person.

For clarification, if you are flying at an event, which is not designated a club event, you are not covered by the club insurance, you would only be covered by personal insurance.

### **Election of Officers**

David Thompson stood down at this point and handed over to the President.

CHAIR David Thompson

Nominated by Charlie Peace

Seconded by Bob Cruickshanks

Unanimous

VICE CHAIR Arthur Dibble

Nominated by Helen Peace

Seconded by David Thompson

Unanimous

SECRETARY Janet Robinson

Nominated by David Thompson

Seconded by Allen Coates

Unanimous

TREASURER Helen Peace  
Nominated by David Thompson  
Seconded by Arthur Dibble  
Unanimous

#### NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE GENERALLY

Standing for re-election are:

Martin Crowther

Dave Cross

David Robinson

Kevin Griffiths

No other nominations so existing committee stands unchanged.

Unanimous

#### **Membership Fees**

Free membership, for existing members, continues to November 2022.

New membership fees are frozen at £16.00, plus £5.00 for a second family member at the same address.

#### **Dates**

We will have a fun fly in 2023 on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September

Barbury will continue monthly.

Christmas Pudding fly in 11<sup>th</sup> December, NPT 27<sup>th</sup> December as in previous years.

#### **AOB**

The meeting closed at 12.50pm.

## KITES on the BEACH 2023

The Early Spring Bank Holiday in 2023 falls on 29/30<sup>th</sup> April & 1<sup>st</sup> May. Unfortunately the high tides are around midday so not the best for kite flying displays. However we are so fond of the venue that a number of kite flyers have already booked accommodation for that weekend and will be on the beach when the sea permits. So the program could look something like this.

		
FRIDAY 28 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023		H/L TIDES
ALL DAY	Travelling down to Broad Haven. Finding your accommodation. Checking out the beach!	
EVENING	Gathering in local bar – ‘The Ocean’ Cafe, Bar Restaurant Arrangements for the ‘Rendezvous’	
SATURDAY 29 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023		
AM	Beach Flying at Broad Haven <b>until lunch time.</b>	<b>01:38 BST</b>
PM	‘The Ocean’, “The Sunshine”, or “The Galleon”	08:25 BST
EVENING	Night fly at Broad Haven with lights	<b>14:39 BST</b>
SUNDAY 30 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023		
AM	Beach Flying at Broad Haven <b>until lunch time.</b>	<b>03:12 BST</b>
PM	‘The Ocean’, “The Sunshine”, or “The Galleon”	09:45 BST
EVENING	Night fly at Broad Haven with lights	<b>15:52 BST</b>
MONDAY 1 <sup>st</sup> MAY 2023 - ‘MAY DAY’ HOLIDAY		
AM	Beach Flying at Broad Haven <b>until lunch time.</b>	<b>04:13 BST</b>
PM	Pack up	10:49 BST
EVENING	Travel home.	<b>16:42 BST</b>

Now for the good news.

The following weekend is also a bank holiday for the Coronation of King Charles. That weekend the tides are perfect and a group of kite flyers have decided to travel down for that weekend instead. Therefore Broad Haven will have two consecutive weekends of kite displays. We are looking forward to our usual warm welcome from all the local residents and hope they will come along and see us and perhaps join us on the sand.

## **NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 32**

**on April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023**

**Gate opens 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)

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

There will be a Hog Roast on the Saturday evening (£10.00 and please bring a plate and cutlery where possible to keep our 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* 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

Chris on 07456 342970

Or e-mail [roy@kitesup.co.uk](mailto:roy@kitesup.co.uk)

For orders: [hayley@kitesup.co.uk](mailto:hayley@kitesup.co.uk)

Your tee-shirt/polo etc, can be pre-ordered. Please email Hayley if interested in doing so.


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

## FUN FLY 12. (23-24 September)

Not a lot changes. It is the same location as previously with much the same facilities. Marquee a bit smaller than last year and only the one portaloos plus elsan disposal point. Food will be the usual routine and menus will be advertised once they have been finalised. As last year it should be pre-ordered and there will be a discount for anyone ordering all meals. Camping is available from Friday to midday Monday for £8 with water available from the cricket club pavilion. On Saturday evening there will be the usual KITE RELATED auction with proceeds going half to charity and the remainder to help fund the event. We were grateful last year that we were not left with too much rubbish and ask that you show the same consideration this year.

Details can be found on our web site at:-

[http://www.whkf.org.uk/FESTindex\\_new.html](http://www.whkf.org.uk/FESTindex_new.html)



Who are we?




Kite fliers!!!



What do we want??



More kites!!



Where will we  
put them?



We don't know!!!!

## 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,*

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 £12.50 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.