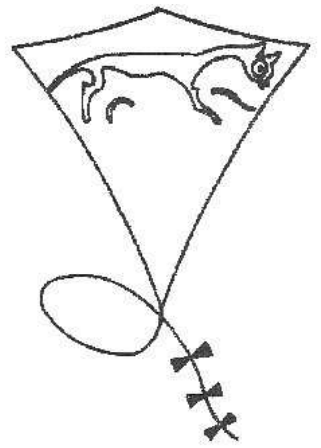


cowpat hill



WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS
SUMMER ISSUE 2003
JULY - OCTOBER

Hagaman Fly-in

For any of you in the club who aren't aware, and I'm sure there are quite a few This December will be the 10th anniversary of Doug Hagamans death.

Doug, in my opinion was one of the best parafoil makers in the world and given The right conditions his parafoils fly like a dream (nailed to the sky as he used to Say). To mark this date, and after talking to other club members we've decided to have a mass Hagaman fly which will take place up at Barbury sometime in December, probably our usual second Sunday of the month.

Between us I think we own nine Hagamans, but I'm sure Doug J will put me right if I've got this wrong. Anyway it would be nice if we could get them all flying (Weather permitting of course). There's always the pub 'EH MR SCARFE! if the weather is bad. This is also open to other clubs who might own a Hagaman there are certainly more out there.

Martin Croxton

White horse kite flyers
PO Box 585
SWINDON
SN3 4YR

Diary Dates 2003

July

13th Club meet Barbury
12/13th Brighton Kite Festival
19/20th Thatcham Kite Festival W & TD
26/27th Tewkesbury Kite Festival
26/27th Science Museum, Wroughton W & D

August

9/10th Middle Wallop Kite Festival W & D
23/24/25th Portsmouth Kite Festival
24/25th Uffington Show W & D
25th Hengistbury Head (Canford Magna Arena, Poole) W & poss TD

September

1st Brinkworth Show W & D
14th Club meet Barbury

October

12th One Sky One World Barbury

November

9th Club meet Barbury
16th A.G.M Bibury Football Club. You need to be there this year!
Fly-in at Meadowlands before AGM

December

14th Club meet Barbury
27th Mince-pie Fly-in Bibury

Please note all events are liable to alteration or cancellation
For up to date information please check our web site

www.whkf.org.uk

or

www.white-horse-kite-flyers.org.uk

Berck World Championships 2003

Matrix Management received an invitation from Gerard Clement, the organiser of the World Championship in Berck on 14th January 2003. I checked the availability of all the team members and it soon became apparent that Doug (Doug) Manners would not be able to go. We had to act fast and did an impromptu 'audition' at Tewkesbury Winter League of Tony Shiggins. Tony is a new flyer with the WHKF and had just finished the STACK U.K. Boot camp where his pair had finished a respectable third. A few emails later and Tony was signed up to the idea.

Matrix Management had worked with Carl Robertshaw in November 2002 to prepare for the U.K. competition season and so both precision and ballet routines were written. It was just a question of practice. In our discussions with Carl we had talked about new team kites. Carl had done some colour schemes for us and we chose a new lay out featuring blue, black, grey and white. We received our new kites with only two week's preparation before Berck and due to an error (on my part) we had to get the Super Ultra Lightweights re-framed.

We did more practice for the World Championships than ever before, usually all of Sunday plus a stick practice evening at Tony's house. On the final weekend before leaving we practiced on both the Saturday and Sunday at White Horse hill. Support from the local crowds was amazing.

We left for Berck on Friday night, trying to ensure we were ready for the demonstrations taking place over the first weekend. Tony was already in Belgium on business and had managed to find our lodgings well in advance of our 12:00 arrival. Our accommodation turned out to be a chalet on a holiday park about a mile from the competition site. This greatly interrupted my consumption of French alcohol, as I had to drive!

The Saturday demonstrations were an easy way to get to know the competition site. Berck beach is a mixture of very hard sand, which the buggiers use, and very fine drifting sand. The competition arena is filled with this drifting sand. It is very difficult to get a grip with your footwear and moving at speed can be quite difficult. The weather was totally unpredictable. Sometimes there was no wind, sometimes there was too much. It rained, it hailed, it snowed and the sun shone brightly! By Sunday we had managed to break a number of spars and were wondering what we had let ourselves in for. We took part in the parade around the town and were heartened by the cheers from the public for the British and American teams.

Monday was a practice day but we managed to do a demonstration for the crowd so by Tuesday we were ready to 'go for it'.

Tuesday started Sunny and windless. We were drawn to fly fourth. We went into the arena with Super Ultra Lights and 80lb line. All was well for the figures but Tony's line broke during the freestyle and I was force to call 'out' just after minimum time. For the ballet, in the afternoon, the wind rose and we were flying vents with breaks. With the flying finished we went in search of a restaurant to recuperate in. Berck is ready to welcome everyone into the town. Most of the restaurants were set to take the kite flyers special meal tickets. The food was really great, despite David Gumberg going down with a tummy bug. After dining we went back to the VIP tent where evening entertainment had been arranged. Tuesday was Karaoke (all French tunes) not many takers on this one! Wednesday was Line Dancing (even fewer for this) but Thursday was a Bavarian evening. Some of the German single line flyers had brought beer and made some 'nibbles' a really great time!

Back at the competition on Wednesday we had a good start in precision with our best score. In the afternoon the wind was good for the ballet and we started fine. We went into our full sky radar and I fell over in the soft sand. I spun round on my back and couldn't believe my eyes when I stood up and my kite was flying in exactly the correct position! We finished with our best ballet score of the competition. Thursday came round too soon and it was the final day. Each day's scores had been published and we were lying sixth but the scores were so close that an outstanding performance from any of the teams would have significantly changed the results. We went on and had a good final day. Unfortunately the wind died in the middle of our precision routine and again I had to call out just after minimum time but we didn't crash, fall over or break anything. The scores were kept from the competitors until the banquet on Friday evening. We flew demonstrations of Friday but were constantly thinking about the results.

Friday's banquet was a wonderful experience. All the teams were there and most of the town too! The buffet was terrific and the beer and wine was all free. Finally Gerard Clement took the microphone and announced the scores. We finished sixth .65% behind Scratch Bunnies in fifth place. Flame, the other U.K. team, finished in seventh place. The evening then became very blurred and I didn't really come too until the demonstration on Saturday afternoon.

The demonstration days mega teams all seemed to work fine until more than thirty kites were in formation at which point there is very little free air for any further kites to join in. The ensuing wraps and crashes were almost universal. Carl and James Robertshaw gave an amazing demonstration of two line flying and then went on to fly with Overdrive. This routine included a six-kite refuel and landing - just stunning!

All in all a truly magic week. I ate too much, drank too much, spent much money and had too much fun!

Doug Irvine

INSURANCE

This article replaces one I wrote earlier as things have been moving along quite fast. Some kite clubs have recently been advised that because their insurance policy states that members are insured whilst flying for pleasure, they are not covered at displays and we have not been covered for parachuting teddies. This is why I have been reluctant to bring The Ted Berets out of hibernation this year.

Thanks to many 'phone calls from Dave and a useful contact from Mike Shaw via Roy Broadley we hope to have a policy that covers all our activities as soon as the previous one runs out in June. I am sure that as soon as this is in place Dave will circulate those interested with copies of the new policy.

This means that I shall be happy to start parachuting soft cuddlies again from then on. However as we have been advised that we are required to take all possible care to avoid accidents I will not be dropping any of the more solid items such as Action Man or dolls with ceramic heads.

I hope that those of you who assist in this particular part of our past time will try and help enforce these requirements so that we can look forward to many more happy hours of bear bunging.

Arthur

AKA

Tracy:

When I was over for the Swindon festival, so many people asked about the AKA convention that I thought I should send you something for "Cowpat Hill."

I hope some British kites will be coming across the pond this fall for the 26th American Kite fliers Association convention. The AKA convention is always one of the world's largest and best kite festivals, but it's very special this year. To celebrate the Centennial of the Wright Brothers first powered flight, the AKA will meet in their hometown -- Dayton, Ohio -- on the grounds of the US Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Base, from September 29 - October 4.

The trip will be worth it for the kite flying alone. Besides a full week of kite flying on large grassy fields, sport kite and kite making competitions, buggying, indoor flying, fighter and rok battles, and more, there are incredible workshops. Learn to build kites under the watchful eye of masters like Charlie Sotich, Tanna Haynes, Jon Burkhardt,

Kevin Shannon, and Ron Gibian. And you'll probably go home with some new treasures from the auction and raffle.

But if that's not enough... how would you like to fly a kite under the wing of a B-2 bomber? The Air Force Museum houses an amazing collection of military aircraft, and many convention activities will be in the museum galleries. Airplane buffs simply won't be able to pass this up.

The AKA convention typically costs about \$200, and with an exchange rate very favorable to British visitors, it's quite affordable. The nearby Hope Hotel – America's only hotel actually on the grounds of a military base, so it has Air Police guarding it – will also be used for many activities. Full information about the AKA convention will soon be available at www.aka.kite.org, including online registration.

If you're checking into air travel, Dayton has a small airport that might be expensive to fly into. Instead, try flying to larger airports like Chicago, Indianapolis, Columbus, or Cincinnati. (I'll try to arrange ground transport from airports to Dayton if anyone is interested; please contact me at twelvewinds@hotmail.com). Hope to see some of you in Dayton, so I can return the hospitality the White Horse Flyers showed me in Swindon.

Phil Broder Veni Vedi Voiavi ... I came, I saw, I flew kites.

ROBINSON'S RAMBLE

As I write this we are only seven days away from the longest day! Can that be correct? Where is the year going? I thought the Festival was a success this year, I hope you all felt the same! I know some people weren't happy with the horse-shoe shopping area, especially some of the traders, who, complained that they couldn't see anything going on, rest assured the committee will endeavour to sort out these problems, when we meet, to discuss this years event and next years Festival, which will be on 8/9th of May. If you have any suggestions for changes at the festival please let us know. I have to thank our guests Bary Crites and Phil Broder, they both worked hard in keeping things in the air, in some very difficult winds, and for their raffle donations, thanks also to Kay Goodring for her donations, especially for the excellent banner that she made for our raffle, this was the first trip to the UK, for all three of them, and I know that they really enjoyed themselves. I have thanked our guests, now I would like to send a personal thank-you to every kite flyer that came to the festival, I know that the winds were very difficult, thanks for your perseverance, it was greatly appreciated. Of course, a great BIG, thank-you, to everyone who donated to the raffle and bought tickets, your generosity is fantastic! After the money that we get from the traders, the raffle is the biggest money- spinner: *it makes the festival*

viable! If you were there you have now seen the Ticket Chick (AKA Marla Miller) in action, I warned you before the festival that she was serious about collecting money, now you know *how* serious she is, £700 this year and she is forecasting more next year! So, please keep bringing full wallets and donations for the raffle, it just makes it possible for us to run a better event year after year. **THANKYOU MARLA!** (*And all of her helpers*). The workshop did better than ever at this years event, thanks to Diane Baggett, Sarah Capewell, Don Baggett & Dave Thompson, **THANKYOU!** And of course to Neil Harvey for his site organisation and commentary, and his squad of helpers who put the site together on the Friday and stripped it down Sunday evening, **THANKYOU!** Thanks must also go to Pete Dawson, for organising the campsite and Tracy Willis, for organising the excellent and hardworking car-park attendants. **THANKYOU!** I can only hope I haven't forgotten anyone, if I have here is a **THANKYOU!** To you, whoever you are.

We have recently had to re-new our club liability insurance and as our present insurers (AXA) didn't want to insure us for parachuting teddy bears, I thought I would try and find a company who would. After contacting several companies and brokers, I was extremely concerned that the club would not be able to get *any* insurance. Insurance companies are not dealing in liability insurance, due to the growth of, no win no fee, companies that appear to be prepared to sue for any case, however minor! I have to thank Arthur Dibble here, Arthur had been talking to Roy Broadley from Kites Up, about the difficulty I was having in finding a company who were prepared to insure us for parachuting teddies, so Roy suggested to Arthur that we try a company called Perkins Slade, who specialise in sports insurance, it was great fun explaining to an insurance broker about the delights of parachuting teddy bears! After he stopped laughing we got down to business, and he recovered his composure enough to give me a quote, which, surprisingly was lower than our present insurers, by almost 50%! There is a caveat to this, our previous insurers covered our festival in our premium, Perkins Slade want time to think about that, but assured me that if it was a separate policy for our festival it would be about £100, which still makes them about 25% cheaper than AXA.

Elsewhere in this magazine you will find the booking form for the Martin Lester workshop, which will be on the weekend of 25/26th October, at Headlands School, Swindon. If you were at the Charlie Sotich workshop in March, and included your name on the list for the Sam Huston workshop, which will be on the weekend, 6/7th March 2004, again at Headlands School, you should have received a booking form by post. If not please contact me ASAP. If all 22 who were on the initial list for Sam's workshop, confirm their booking, there will be

8 places left, at £55 including buffet lunch, if you are interested contact me ASAP. Sam is making a non-sew TRI-D Box kite.

Dave Robinson

The Ted Berets

Since the last issue of Cowpat a few things have changed at The Ted Berets. Firstly we have become an official club so that any member can drop soft cuddly things from any high point, not just kites, and have some financial back up from insurance in case anything goes wrong.

Secondly we have been playing with putting pictures on the web and now have the last two workshops covered. These and information on the insurance can be found at <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/arthur.dibble> These will be there until I fill the site so I hope you enjoy them. As usual clicking on a thumbnail will give an enlarged picture that can be printed and I want to put no restriction on the use of these unless it is for financial gain. Even then I am sure sufficient pressure could be brought to "bear" to permit this.

Keep watching these pages, as I will add more pics when they become available and will also start going through some of my archives to see if there is anything interesting there.

Happy surfing
Arthur

GETTING AWAY FROM IT.

The kite season was approaching fast with a very heavy program lined up so with very few weekends not booked we decided to take an early holiday this year, away from kites and go somewhere warm during the cold British spring and settled on Morocco.

We drive to Gatwick, 3½-hour flight to Marrakech, 4½-hour minibus drive to the coast and into the hotel. All fine so we go onto the balcony to see what we can see. There in front of us on the beach what do we see but kite surfers and buggiers.

HOW CAN YOU GET AWAY FROM THEM?

Whilst exploring the hotel's facilities, not listed in the brochure is the shop offering tuition, wet suit, kite and buggy hire. After a couple of days there we could understand why, 10km. of hard flat sand up to 200m wide when the tide was out and a constant wind of 10 to 15 kph every day. Sorry folks the French have got there first. To make life even worse BBC World Service said London was 2°C warmer than Marrakech!

Arthur

DOUG DOUG'S BITE.
BREAD & BUTTER PUDDING.
(LIKE MY MOTHER USED TO MAKE.)

6 OR SO SLICES OF BREAD
ABOUT 2oz OF BUTTER.
ABOUT 2oz OF CURRANTS OR SULTANAS (OR A MIXTURE OF YOUR CHOICE)
1½ OZ CASTER SUGAR,
2 LARGE EGGS.
1 PINT OF MILK.

- 1 SPREAD SLICES THICKLY WITH BUTTER. CUT TO SQUARES OR FINGERS OR HOW YOU FANCY THEM.
- 2 PUT HALF OF BREAD INTO 2 PINT BUTTERED HEATPROOF DISH.
- 3 SPRINKLE WITH ALL THE FRUIT AND HALF THE SUGAR.
- 4 TOP WITH REMAINING BREAD (.BUTTERED SIDE UP.) SPRINKLE WITH THE REST OF THE SUGAR.
- 5 BEAT EGGS AND MILK WELL TOGETHER. POUR INTO DISH OVER THE BREAD.
- 6 LEAVE TO STAND FOR ¼ HOUR .BAKE IN CENTRE OF OVEN .(160°C/325°F OR GAS MARK 3) FOR ¾ TO 1 HOUR.(OR UNTIL PUDDING IS SET WITH THE TOP CRISP AND GOLDEN.)

SERVES ABOUT 4.

LAST TIME WAS A 21st CENTURY BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING . SO THIS TIME I THOUGHT I WOULD DO A PROPER GOOD OLD FASHIONED ONE.
A LADY AT WORK WAS GOING TO TRY THE 21st CENTURY ONE. I DON'T KNOW IF SHE DID. BECAUSE I HAVE NOT SEEN HER SINCE .
SHE HAS BEEN OFF WORK SICK....

Kites For Sale

Set of 4 Floxi foil Matrix Kites, 2 years old, rainbow colour scheme. One of each of the following: - Ultra light, Standard, Vented, and Mega vented.

Generally good condition, all adjusted to the latest Carl Robertshaw team bridles, and the Vented has his recommended vent mod. £250 the set,

1 large rok blue with some appliqué on (hey sun's up) £40.00

1 wind sock large with chequered squares on it (25ft long by 7ft opening at front approx) £40.00

1 sports kite purple and black 3/12 mph nice to fly £45.00

Please contact Pete willis 01793 706516-0r e-mail me at
pdwillis@schoolbung.fsnet.co.uk

Chairmanship

Time is creeping on to the AGM in November and as this "Cowpat" is the last issue to get you, the members to think about standing as Chairman when Neil stands down at the AGM. It would be great if anybody willing to take this office would put forward their nomination in the October issue of "Cowpat" and what they think they could put into the Club. This gives time for members to make their minds up and not have to make on the spot decisions at the meeting. Basically this is the most important move the Club has had to make in its history. In doing this it should help a smooth running of the Club into the future. Here's to the **White Horse Kite Flyers** and the future.

Skychat

Well another issue of "Cowpat" my how the year goes. First I must apologise to Tracy & Pete for squeezing this issue into fewer pages. It saves Dave worrying about the weight for posting.

The Club has been rather busy on the workshop front with three weekends doing around 1,000 a time. I have been busy posting more kits out around the country. What next exports around the world? and turning the world green with tadpoles. Many thanks to all those who have sweated I the workshops and sorry for my little naps to get out of working all the time. The weather has been fairly kind to us so far, even our own Festival it stayed dry till late Sunday afternoon. The Beast flew well at Middle Wallop ad the other big kites and the Fish have been aired a few times. **We really must set to and make more Club Kites.** In the last few years we have tended to sit on our past achievements and allowed some other Clubs to catch us up. WHKF have started a few trends in the past, so we must move forward with new ideas. Let us all make an effort this coming winter. The talking stops here and the doing starts now.

The diary seems to get more crowded every year with more dates clashing and we are being asked to do two or more each weekend. So far we have been able to cope with them, but it would be great if a few more of our members could join us at these events and enjoy the fun. Not forgetting the fry ups and "Polly" with the kettle, isn't life great.

It has been good to see Ron Dell around some of the Festivals. It has so far been a good year in seeing new International kite flyers from all around the world. New Flyers - New Ideas, like the Swedish flyer at Cleethorpes with kites of goose feathers. I wonder if I could make spanners or may be an anvil fly. I will keep on dreaming of some weird and wonderful kite design and just some day, just some day it will become a reality. I will have to stop now as I have come to the end of my allotted space. **Neil.**

WHKF AUTUMN WORKSHOP

MARTIN LESTER

HEADLANDS SCHOOL 25/26TH OCTOBER

Martin Lester's workshop will be on the weekend of the 25/26th October, at Headlands School Swindon. Martin will be doing two workshops over the weekend. on Saturday a three foot "Stick-Man". He tells me they are simple to make, so I guess if you are a fast kite builder, you can make more than one. The cost for this workshop is £20, which will be for one "Stick-Man", including a buffet style lunch. If you want to make more than one we will charge you the cost of materials for each extra Man. On Sunday he will be taking you through the making of a simplified pair of legs, the cost is £30, including buffet lunch. If you wish to do both workshops there is a £5 discount, both kites require sewing, so you will need your machine. He assures me that the "Stick-Man" is very easy, so if you haven't done one of our workshops before; because you thought they would be too difficult, here is your chance to give it a try. Spaces will be limited, to 25 per class, and will be sold on first come first secured basis.

✂-----

BOOKING FORM

MARTIN LESTER WORKSHOP

SATURDAY; STICK-MAN CLASS £20 (please tick)

SUNDAY; SIMPLIFIED LEGS CLASS £30 (please tick)

BOTH CLASSES £45 (please tick)

NAME & ADDRESS -----

TELEPHONE & EMAIL -----

PLEASE SEND A CHEQUE FOR 50% OF YOUR CLASS COST AS A DEPOSIT, To White Horse Kite Flyers,

PO box 585, Swindon SN3 4YR (Cheques made payable, to WHKF)

Back page spot.

I can't believe we're half way through the year already where does the time go? Sorry I haven't been around much lately but other commitments have taken over like they sometimes do. Hope to see you all on a flying field soon. May I have any articles for the October issue by 29th September along with any nominations for Chairperson.

Thank you.

Tracy

Kite Flying Safety Tips

The NEVERS of Kite Flying

- Fly a kite in wet or stormy weather, try to keep your kite line dry.
- Fly a kite near power lines, transmission towers or aerials.
- Fly a kite with wire or anything metallic in the line.
- Fly a strong pulling kite without wearing GLOVES.
- Leave odd bits of flying line etc on the flying site.
- Fly a kite at over 200 feet*.

*Kite festivals may have C.A.A. clearance to fly higher....ASK!

The Things to AVOID

- Motorways, roads, car parks railway lines or buildings.
- Airfields and low flying air traffic patterns.
- Members of the public....stunt flyers please take care!
- Those kite eating trees.
- Animals, they can be frightened by kites.
Remember...your kites can get really quite fancy up high in the sky, just occasionally, look up and give them a little SMILE.

... AND PLEASE, MIND THOSE POWER LINES!

Where the WHKF go to fly their kites

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS fly at Barbury Castle Country Park, Wroughton, Swindon, Wilts on the SECOND Sunday of each month
Will YOU be there?

Local WHKF contacts are:

Neil Harvey on: (01285) 740295

Arthur Dibble on: (01635) 865976

Dave Robison on: (01793) 824208

and

Lynn & Brian Simpson on: (01793) 845346

COWPAT HILL

Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers

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