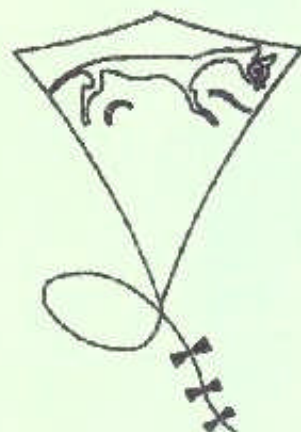


Cowpat Hill



WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS
SUMMER ISSUE 2007
JULY -- SEPTEMBER

INSURANCE

We have recently received our new insurance quotation and there are a few important changes. Firstly they have stated that members are only insured when flying at a "club event". What is a "club event"? This will have to be defined in the constitution and can only be done at the AGM. We are therefore proposing to define a "club event" as when two or more individual members (i.e. Not family members) are flying together and have informed the executive of this. A "club event" will also be any event organised by our club or any other body where the individual is representing WHKF. Other clubs will have had the same restrictions placed on them and to make it easier, at future events we will issue a formal invitation to the other clubs likely to attend, thereby making it a "club event" for them. If you wish to fly on your own this is usually covered in your own domestic policy.

You MUST remember that to be able to defend any claim you must be able to prove that any incident was not due to your negligence, so it is always a good idea to have another club member with you as a witness.

This has all been brought home to us by an incident at our festival where a large kite was left unattended and broke loose. It drifted down to Wroughton where the line got caught and went across the road damaging an oncoming car. This has cost the club £170 that we could not afford especially considering the losses incurred due to the weather. The flier was not a club member and had not registered. We have identified him and are pursuing for compensation. This money has had to come out of your club's funds so if you see any one acting this irresponsibly in the future please let them know and if they do not respond please inform a committee member who will get them removed from the event.

The second change is that we now have to have a statement on "Working with children and vulnerable adults" To avoid problems in this area please make sure that when working with these groups you have a CRB approved member with you at all times or that the responsible parent/guardian remains with them. Again this is not just our club, as most insurers now require the same controls.

A R Dibble
(Chairman)

White horse kite flyers
PO Box 585
SWINDON
SN3 4YR

Diary Dates 2007

W = Workshop, D = Display, T = Teddy Bears

JULY

7/8th Brighton Kite Festival
8th Barbury Castle
14/15th Leominster (previously know as Hereford)
27/ 28th North Hampshire Kitters Jolly -Up

AUGUST

12th Barbury Castle
12th Lackham College {W,D+T} (Contact Neil Harvey)
26/27th Uffington {W, D}
25/ 27th Portsmouth Kite Festival

SEPTEMBER

1/2nd Bristol Kite Festival
2nd Brinkworth {W, D}(contact Neil Harvey
Rockingham {W, D, T}(contact Neil Harvey)
9th Barbury Castle

OCTOBER

14th Barbury Castle One Sky One World
Autumn workshop with John Freeman.
21st AGM of the BKFA (see forum for details)

NOVEMBER

11th Barbury Castle
18th Club AGM at HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS (Swindon)
M4 J16 starting at 12:30

DECEMBER

9th Barbury Castle
Barbury Castle Christmas Pudding Fly tba

Please note that all events are liable to alteration or cancellation. For the latest information please check our web site. www.whkf.org.uk

Box Kite Exhibition, Swindon 2007

Lots of kites on display - in no particular order:

Hargrave, Saul's Barrage, Lamson (Part Finished), Bell Tetrahedral, Bell Triangular, Pomoseth, Cody Compound (2), Cody War Kite (6 including minute miniature, one-piece; extended wing), Dines Rhomboid Box (3), Potter (2), Gibson Girl, Cotton Winged Box, Lecornu (2), Peter Lynn Tri-D (4 including mini 3 celled) Tri-D Variant [Maserski], Six Point Star, Benson Honeycomb, Swept Wing Box, Single Flaix, Double Flaix, Rogallo Corner, Facet (2), Windy Box, Stub Wing Box [Dan Leigh], Window Box (2), Waldof Star, Waldof Box, Single Cell Square (3) Goodwind Asteroid, Brassington (2), Hollerman, Aurora [John Eaton] Delta Box, Aliola 8 Point, and a Octahedral Box.

Most interest was shown in: the two original Waldof Kites, the Swept Wing (by Karl Longbottom from a Mark Cottrell design).

My favourite: the Stub Wing Box, designed by Dan Leigh and exhibited by Ron Dell.

George Webster

PS. On behalf of the WHKF Committee I would like to thank George for suggesting this Exhibition of Box Kites, and putting it all together at the Museum along with Ernest Barton, also all of the people who brought kites along to add to the display, and for their help in assembling and dismantling the exhibition. This display was one of the highlights of the weekend, considering the weather put paid to most of the rest of the festival.

David Robinson
Secretary WHKF

When Pete Dawson of the White Horse Kite Fliers asked me to help out at the Benjamin Franklin tri-centenary at the American Museum in Bath, I wondered whether it would be possible to create, and then fly a genuine electricity-gathering kite.

XCV. *A Letter of Benjamin Franklin, Esq; to Mr. Peter Collinson, F. R. S. concerning an electrical Kite.*

Philadelphia, Oct. 1, 1752.
Read Dec. 21 1752. A frequent mention is made in the public papers from Europe of the success of the Philadelphia experiment for drawing the electric fire from clouds by means of pointed rods of iron erected on high buildings, &c. it may be agreeable to the curious to be informed, that the same experiment has succeeded in Philadelphia, tho' made in a different and more easy manner, which any one may try, as follows:

Make a small cross, of two light strips of cedar; the arms so long, as to reach to the four corners of a large thin silk handkerchief, when extended: tie the corners of the handkerchief to the extremities of the cross; so you have the body of a kite; which being

[566]

being properly accommodated with a tail, loop, and string, will rise in the air like those made of paper; but this, being of silk, is fitter to bear the wet and wind of a thunder-gust without tearing.

To the top of the upright stick of the cross is to be fixed a very sharp-pointed wire, rising a foot or more above the wood.

To the end of the twine, next the hand, is to be tied a silk riband; and where the twine and silk join, a key may be fasten'd.

The kite is to be rais'd, when a thunder-gust appears to be coming on, (which is very frequent in this country) and the person, who holds the string, must stand within a door, or window, or under some cover, so that the silk riband may not be wet; and care must be taken, that the twine does not touch the frame of the door or window.

As soon as any of the thunder-clouds come over the kite, the pointed wire will draw the electric fire from them; and the kite, with all the twine, will be electrified; and the loose filaments of the twine will stand out every way, and be attracted by an approaching finger.

When the rain has wet the kite and twine, so that it can conduct the electric fire freely, you will find it stream out plentifully from the key on the approach of your knuckle.

I already had a light silk handkerchief of the right size. It had been given to me at the Weifang Kite Festival in China many years ago and so seemed appropriate. The silk was 30 pouces square (French inches are measures in thumbs or

Benjamin Franklin is celebrated in America as the first, in 1752, to collect an electric charge from the atmosphere by using a kite. However, like any claim there are challengers. The French support De Romas¹ while there may be some evidence that the concept, at least, was supposed possible by Scotsman Alexander Wilson in 1749².

Franklin's account of his electrical kite has been frequently reprinted and is worth reading. The Royal Society recently opened up its archive on the Internet so I was able to download a couple of cuttings^{3,4}. Benjamin Franklin's letter to Peter Collinson was written on October 1st 1752 from Philadelphia and contains detailed, but simplified, instructions on how to make the kite. According to Franklin "it is necessary to make a small cross of two light strips of cedar; the arms so long as to reach the four corners of a large thin silk handkerchief, when extended: tie the corners of the handkerchief to the extremities of the cross, so you have the body of a kite; which being properly accommodated with a tail, loop and string, will rise into the air like those made of paper: but this, being of silk, is fitter to bear the wet and wind of a thunder-gust without tearing." He goes on to say that "to the end of the upright stick of the cross is to be fixed a very sharp pointed wire, rising to a foot or more above the wood....." And then referring to a letter from John Lining, a similar kite was made using silk called 'alamode' (à la mode) and was flown on a common three-strand hemp line. There is, of course, more detail in the references but this was sufficient for me to build my replica.

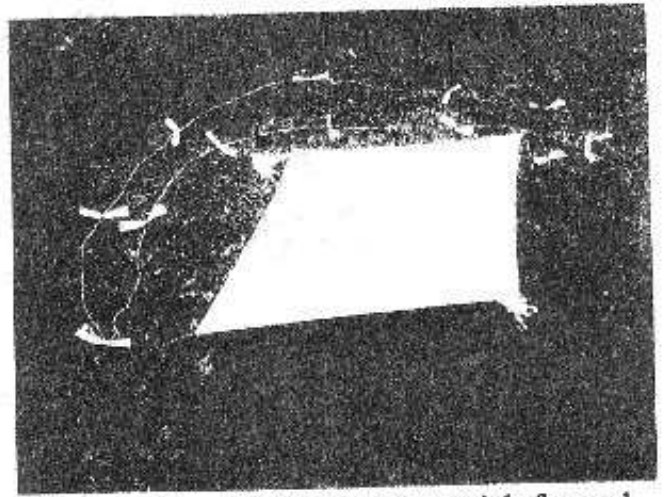
¹ M Guyot. *Nouvelles Recreations Physiques et Mathematiques*. Two volumes, 1799. See Trezieme Recreation - Cerf-Volant Electrique. De Romas is attributed as the inventor while Franklin is given as inventor of other Recreations (e.g. the Vingtieme). My book is based on an earlier book by Jaques Ozanam (1694/96) which I have not seen, but which may contain electrical kite experiments.

² Clive Hart. *Kites; an Historical Survey*. 1967, reprinted 1982 by Appel. See chapter 5.

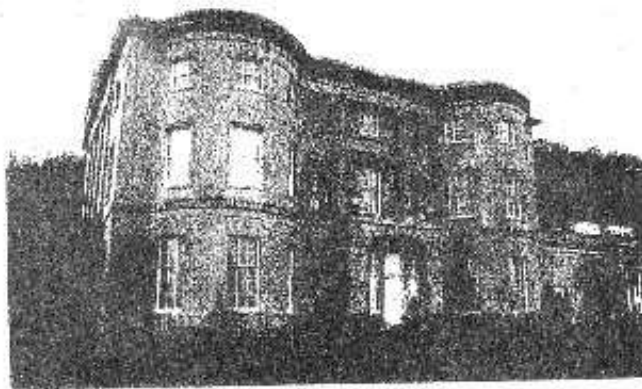
³ Royal Society Philosophical Transactions 1683 - 1775. Page 565. A letter of Benjamin Franklin Esq. to Mr Peter Collinson F.R.S. concerning an electrical Kite. 1752.

⁴ Royal Society Philosophical Transactions 1683 - 1775. Page 757. Extract of a letter from John Lining, M.D. of Charles Town in South Carolina, to Charles Pinkney Esq. in London: with his answers to several queries sent to him concerning his experiment of Electricity with a Kite. 1754.

"pouces"), which tallies with handkerchiefs of the period⁵. Unfortunately there were no cedar laths to hand so I had to make do with the bamboo equivalent cut to 1/2" by 3/16" from a six-inch diameter pole. I made the bamboos overlong with the intention of cutting them down, but when playing with the fabric and sticks I soon realised that the silk would stretch tight on overlong sticks. Because of that I made the upright slightly longer than the cross stick. The silk was then bound to the upright stick using linen boot thread and the cross-stick attached similarly, but making a slight bow. When the cross-stick was pulled down to the upright, both the upright and cross-stick formed



concave bows and the silk pulled drum tight. The cross-stick was then bound to the upright just forward of the middle of the upright. The result being a somewhat concave looking diamond. The kite was bridled with hemp lines attached to each of the four corners. This tallies with contemporary drawings that 'look-wrong' in respect of modern kite bridling practice but actually allows a bridling without damaging the expensive silk handkerchief. I am sure Benjamin Franklin would have not wanted to sacrifice his handkerchief on a kite

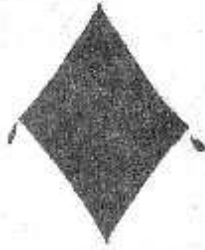


experiment. The actual bridle point was later found by experiment to be well forward. I then made a tassel tail using folded paper and an old piece of parcel string. I used piano wire for the long metal spike, and, just for fun, attached tissue-paper tassels to the wing tips. The flying line was to be 900 yards of three-strand linen cord, as used for sewing mattresses, attached to an old wooden fishing winder that I had rescued from the flea market in Basel, Switzerland. The first flights were made on the Bristol Downs and, with the exception of a slowly disintegrating tail, all seemed to be going well. In fact very well as the kite soared to a high angle on what was a pretty quiet day.

The American Museum can be found high up on the hills just to the south of Bath. The road through the museum grounds winds between the trees, and eventually emerges at a magnificent Georgian mansion overlooking a deep south-east facing valley. Pete Dawson was already setting up the White Horse kite workshop tent when I arrived and, although the situation looked wonderful, I opted for the chance of an indoor exhibition because of the fragility of my old materials. Laura Brown is the Education Officer at *The American Museum In Britain* at Claverton Manor, Bath⁶. She very kindly offered me a corner of the Lecture Hall, which overlooks the museum lawns. The rest of the room was the museum café; that meant that I was well provided for!

⁵ Muscu de l'Impression sur Etoffes de Mulhouse. A fine handkerchief approx 30" square. "The Ascension of the Montgolfiere" Mulhouse 1783.

⁶ www.amricanmuseum.org



residence at the Weifang Kite Museum. Mr Qian's kites are copies of the French kites at Epinal⁷ in the 1830s and are not unlike a kite dated 1773 currently under restoration by Drachen Foundation in Seattle. These are also similar to the De Romas kite in Guyot's book. Other kites included an Indonesian diamond fishing-kite made from breadfruit leaves and an American Eddy Meteorological kite of the 1890s. These represented, in many ways, the initial and ultimate development of the classic diamond kite. Supporting these kites were the various documents referenced here, together with my copy of 'The History of the Kite Carriage', 1852, to show something of local kite bugging in the Bristol-Bath region, and a photo album and miniature kite to show Samuel Franklin Cody's man-lifting kites of the early 1900s when the American was kiteing instructor to the British Army.

We were honoured by the presence of Benjamin Franklin himself. He appeared very distinctive in period costume and sixteenth century style of speech. Not surprisingly he took a great interest in my replication of his famous kite but declined my offer of yellow rubber gloves to protect himself from the ravages of the atmospheric electricity when the time came for the grand electrostatic experiment. We had a brief discussion on De Romas but he could not recollect meeting him for coffee at Le Procope⁸ in Paris so claimed independence; whether he met him on the flying field is not recorded either.

The exhibition went well enough. I was able to illustrate De Romas's experiments using a picture in Clive Hart's book where the 'electric fluid' can be seen doing dastardly things to a pigeon, while a chained dog looks on nervously. And I was able to explain the technicalities of the Franklin experiment using the account in the American Meteorological Journal⁹. The journal article explains the purpose of the experiment in terms of measuring the atmospheric charge rather than attracting lightning. While the experiment seemed dangerous enough I am sure the experimenters did not want to draw a lightning strike and suffer the consequences as happened to Dr Richman of St. Petersburg in 1753. While it is not clear that a lightning strike on his kite killed Richman, there is a photograph¹⁰ of a later kite line in the process of being vaporised by a strike. Whether the effect of the lightning can reach the ground faster than the line can vaporise it is also uncertain!

At the appointed hour I decamped to the lawns with the silk kite to find Benjamin Franklin and arrange the electric kite experiment. White Horse had been doing a good job since there were children's kites rushing about everywhere. The children must have heard the stories of atmospheric electrics since a suitable gap appeared as soon as Benjamin Franklin (without rubber gloves) was ready to take to the air. The silk kite rose, the metal spike gleamed invitingly to all those

⁷ Phillippe Cottenceau. *Les cerfs-volants d'imagerie populaire en France au XIX^e siècle*. Cahiers 2 au fils des vents, 2003. This is a small, but beautifully produced, monograph on the printed-paper kites of Epinal.

⁸ Le Procope, founded 1686 is claimed to be the most ancient café in the world. It can be found at 13, Rue de l'Ancienne Comédie -75006 Paris and boasts a clientele that includes both Benjamin Franklin and myself!

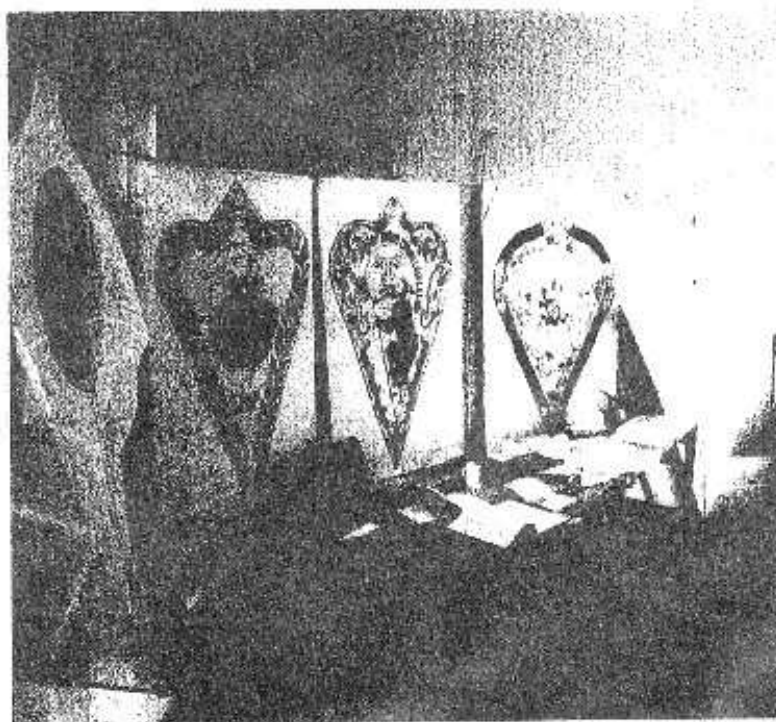
⁹ Alexander MacAdie. *Franklin's Kite Experiment*. American Meteorological Journal, July 1891. MacAdie at the Blue Hill Observatory measured 3000 volts in a recreation of the Franklin kite experiment!

¹⁰ This photograph was taken at the meteorological observatory at Lindenberg, about 100 km south of Berlin.

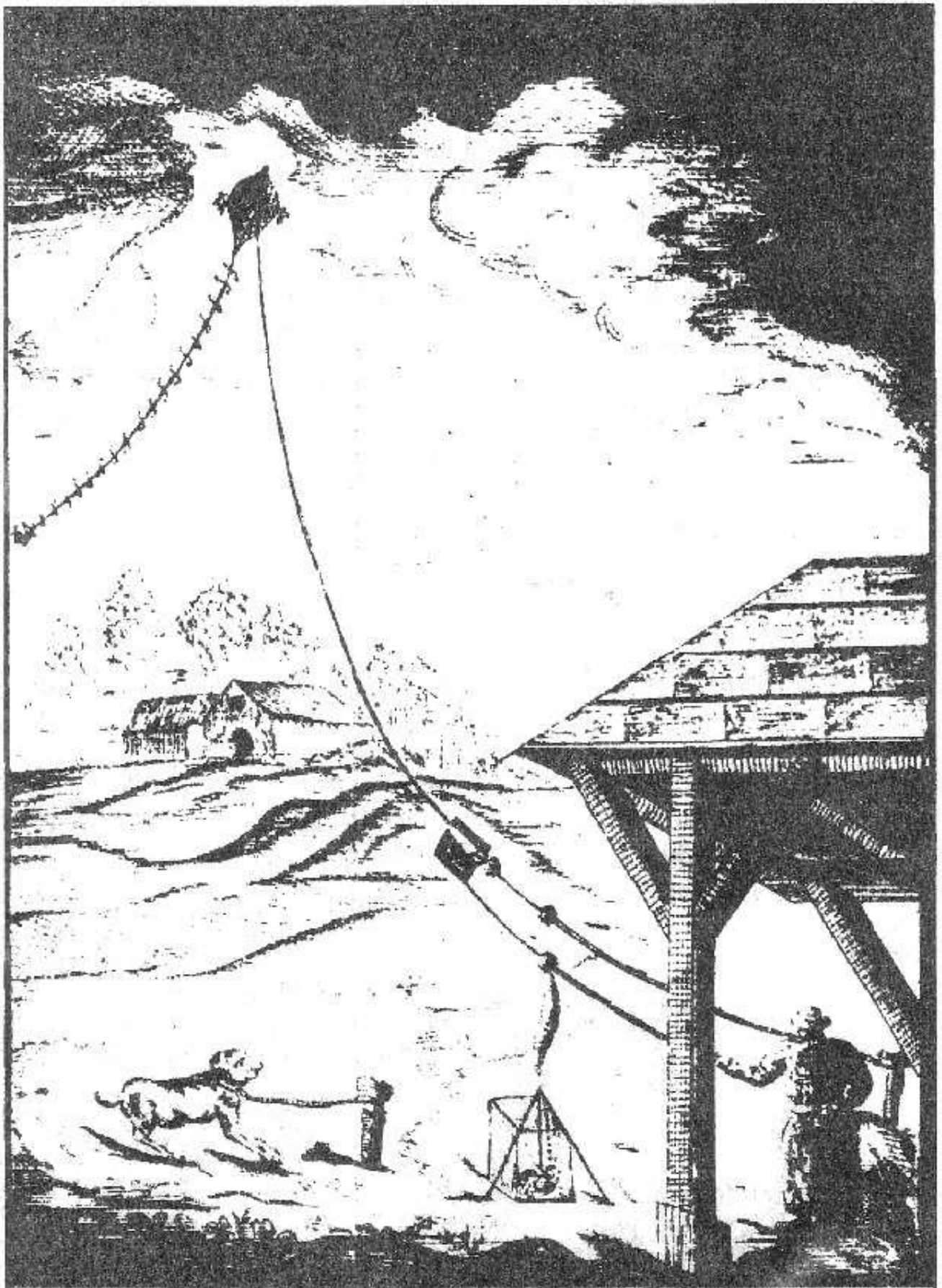
electric kite experiment. White Horse had been doing a good job since there were children's kites rushing about everywhere. The children must have heard the stories of atmospheric electrics since a suitable gap appeared as soon as Benjamin Franklin (without rubber gloves) was ready to take to the air. The silk kite rose, the metal spike gleamed invitingly to all those charged atmospheric particles. The kite rose higher and higher, well over Claverton Manor but as yet below the 250 ft suggested by John Lining. It was already well above the children's kites. Our hopes rose and I felt I could see a sparkle in the eyes of Professor Franklin. But.....shock! A few tassels fluttered away from the kite's rotting string tail. No matter, the kite climbed higher, and higher as the upper wind grew stronger and steadier. A few more tassels dropped away and the previously steady kite started to sway. More line, more sway, more line and more dropped tassels. And then.... total disaster as the sway turned into a swoop and the swoop turned into a death dive straight into the open arms of a tall tree. And there it stopped. And is still there now. Poor Benjamin Franklin¹¹! He was in a state of disarray, his brave experiment ruined.

Back at the exhibition there was a gap where the experimental kite had once been. But we continued flying anyway. The little Cody kite nearly reached the ceiling of the Lecture Hall and every now and again a tiny paper hummingbird kite flew above the heads of the diners from a single strand of silk.

I am not sure that the Benjamin Franklin kite reconstruction proved anything other than the fun of messing about with kites. We had fun, the children had fun and it is likely that even Ben Franklin himself smiled a wry kite smile from somewhere above the thunderclouds.



¹¹ Benjamin Franklin aka Steve Purbrick. Actor - Interpreter. sp1@ntlworld.com. Excellent likeness and patter. Good sport too - especially given the evidence of the dangerous nature of the experiment.



27. De Romis's experiments with a pigeon and a dog.

Fano 2007

Fano kitefliers meeting 2007 was a great event. White Horse made a great display on the beach. We had the legs, arches, banners, spikes and stickmen all on the go, unfortunately the stickmen only numbered 15 due to amount of people wanting to fly around us.

Weird, you get to the beach which is 12 kilometres long and a kilometre wide, park your car, put up some kites and they all want to fly around you. The team on the beach were; Di, Janet, Arthur, Don, Ceri, Holm, Ralf, and Werner. All worked hard to put on the display. The weather was mixed, very nasty squall one day but that passed over, then no wind so out with the condors and red kites.

The party was as normal, lots to eat and drink. There was Turtle sausage for breakfast and I won the green frog award for seeing so many while driving back to our cottage, they were real, honest!

The kite flying was awesome, a lot of new stuff on the beach this year. Our spikes looked great and we were pleased with them also Dons Condors flew really well, I'm making one now.

Fano is a very special place, not just for kite flying but it is a great place to come and unwind. 2009 is the 25th anniversary so please if you are interested speak to me or Arthur or Don.

Check out the photographs on the web, thanks Arthur for getting them on to our club site so quickly.

I spoke to a few people on the beach who were interested in Swindon, so will be giving them all the details soon. It will be nice to see the classic kite lads back at our club festival.

Back to Fano for 2008 I reckon, anyone coming.

Ceri

BOX KITES

The White Horse Kite Flyers have organised this exhibition to show the range and development of BOX KITES. The term BOX KITE or CELLULAR KITE is used to cover all kites with rigid three-dimensional structures.

Most of the kites are recent versions using modern materials – they great majority are individually made.

Although there are long standing Chinese three-dimensional bird and lantern kites, it is generally accepted that the first kites designed with three-dimensions for aerodynamic reasons, rather than to imitate a natural object, were those of the Australian Lawrence Hargrave in 1893. Hargrave's kites didn't need a tail, were stable in strong winds and suited the bamboo, wood, cotton and silk materials of the time. They were soon used to lift meteorological equipment at the Blue Hill Observatory in the USA. There they influenced many designers including Lamson and Alexander Graham Bell.

Kites were developed for lifting cameras and man lifting for wartime observation. They influenced aircraft design, the Wright brothers in 1903 and more particularly early European attempts.

In 1899 Hargrave's kites became available in Europe and started S.F. Cody designing his first Compound Kite and later his Man-lifting train of War-Kites. Other countries using Box Kites for the same purpose were Belgium (the Georges), France (The Sacconney) and Russia (The Pomoseth). They were soon mad obsolete by the development of aircraft in 1914. Hargrave started the rapid development of Box Kites. Dines in 1902 used Rhomboidal box kites for meteorological work off the west coast of Scotland.

Bell developed several kite designs, the most famous of which the Tetrahedral Box in 1909 grew to the man lifting Cygnet comprising 3393x10" cells.

The alternative approach came from Lecornu, a great French designer; who from 1898 produced a series of single cell kites; which fly upright at a very high angle. In 1900 Flaix produced a 4 bladed single cell kite resembling another Hargrave design. This was independently re-invented and patented in 1957, as the Rogallo Corner Kite< designed as a radar reflector.

Hargrave boxes were developed in the 1920's & 30's for advertising and during the Second World War for anti-aircraft purposes (Saul's Barrage Kite) and also the famous "Gibson Girl" Kite, flown an copper wire and used in combination with a hand-cranked transmitter. To transmit a distress signal by air crews who had been shot down and ended up in the sea, in a dingy.

TOY KITES: for 100 years box kites have been made as toys, rivalling "traditional" flat kites with tails. A great range of shapes & sizes have been made, usually involving extra surfaces for greater light wind buoyancy or novel visual effect – many have been mad by Brookite – the World's oldest kite makers.

Some other well-known designs are: Peter Waldron's beautifully designed Waldof Box of the late 70's.

Stephen Robinson in 1979 produced his Facet Kite also known as the Snowflake. His kites have spars around the circumference not across the width (compare the Waldof Box) – a system first used in the Rogallo Corner Kite. Now Flaix's could have the odd number of sides & infill in Facets, they could become very complicated.

Kathy Goodwind's (and Skybums) Starflake was designed to tumble. Peter Lynn developed the Tri-D Box in 1979.

George Webster 2007

Useful web sites

Other articles by George Webster

<http://www.thekitesociety.org.uk/Golden%20Years.PDF>

Lawrence Hargrave

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawrence_Hargrave

Lecornu and Sacconey (In French)

<http://cerfvolantancien.free.fr/>

Rogallo

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Rogallo

Saul's Barrage Kite

<http://robroy.dyndns.info/targetkites/Sauls/barrage.html>

Waldof box plans

http://www.geocities.com/p_leriche/wald/

Kathy Goodwinds

http://www.newtechkites.com/NTK_GOODWINDS.htm

Skybums

<http://www.skybums.freemove.co.uk/>

Dines

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Dines

A.G. Bell

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Graham_Bell

Brookite

<http://www.brookite.com/>

OLD ISSUES OF COWPAT

For those of you interested in the clubs history all previous issues of the magazine that I can locate are now available on the web site. Some of the older issues are in jpg format whilst most are available as pdfs, any that we have electronic copies available are zipped word documents. Some of the early single sheets make very interesting reading. If you have any of the early ones that I have not got please could I borrow them to complete the set. I have no record of how many there were.

Arthur

Thanks

I would like to take this chance to thank every one for their consideration following my recent heart attack especially those who would not let me do anything at the festival. I felt redundant on the Friday setting up and then guilty seeing every one else getting wet clearing up on the Sunday.

I am making good progress and when you read this I should be back at work and up to full and improved capacity for next year. So the only way you are going to get rid of me is to stand against me at the AGM.

I have been instructed to take life a bit easier and reduce stress so in future you may find your chairman sitting down with the president. It does mean that I will be able to keep writing articles for this magazine and keeping the web site up to date. However it would be nice to see some articles from people other than the regulars. This month Di has contributed some recipes and jokes but no one seems to have done anything for the workshop or festival. Were they that bad? Write an article and tell us or we can't put it right. The same goes for the web site, we have a few regulars who post to the forum but what about the rest of you? Do you find it informative or are we wasting our time. Please let us know.

Thanks again

Arthur

A WARNING

The following two items should act as a warning to all of us flyers. It doesn't matter how experienced you are or who is watching ACCIDENTS HAPPEN. In the first instance even some one with Spanner's experience misjudged the distance of the power lines People who witnessed the incident assure me that it was very deceptive. We are all glad that the outcome was only a wrecked kite that we will probably see again fixed with gaffer tape and bailer twine. It could have been so much worse if the line had been damp!

The second incident gives us a much starker warning to watch where you are flying. As this man found out it is very dangerous to fly near cliffs and no matter who is watching it is better to let the kite crash than the flyer.

Let us all take this as a timely reminder and fly safely within the guidelines of our code of conduct.

.....

Flash Spanners

You may have heard that Bill Bryson is the "The Thunderbolt Kid". Well an attempt was made for the title by Flash Spanners.

There he was innocently flying his bright red Genke kite at the Kingsfold Traction Engine, Old farming implement, Cowboy & Indian and Kite Flying get together, when it went out of control. As Flash struggled for 2 or 3 minutes to recover the kite, it decided to hover a few seconds over a group from the Brighton Kite-flyers before diving into high voltage electricity wires. With a flash, a very loud bang and a heck of a lot of smoke the kite was no more.

After some complaining by a stunt flyer that his wife had been electrocuted, somehow she was still standing without injury that you would expect under such circumstances, we then all went to inspect the damage.

Doug

(Pictures of this can be found on the club web pages)

.....

Flyer falls to death.

Reported in September was the tragic accident at Noss Mayo in Devon. A man out flying a kite on the cliffs, stepped too far back and fell to his death with members of his family looking on. The wind was gusty and witnesses had seen him "buffeted" shortly before his fall. This probably meant that he was having to concentrate on the kite to keep it airborne and not watching where he was stepping.

.....

The World's Biggest Kite

The debate still goes on, what is the world's largest kite? There have been various claims for this record.

In 1981 at Scheveningen one was flown and claimed to be 5,952 ft². Then in 1983 at Long Beach a parafoil was flown at a massive 14,260 ft². Unfortunately this one was not officially recorded.

As recently as 2005 a PL pillow in the design of the Kuwaiti flag was flown in Kuwait City at an incredible 11,300ft² then in 2006 in Tokyo one was flown at 10,968ft². This one was also claiming the record and had been seen by Martin and Doug at the previous year's festival in Niagra, New York in freezing weather.

Those are the records I have come across, there must be others, and the discussion is evidently going to continue for some time. Various questions will be asked about how you measure the area and how long the kite has to stay air borne and other criteria.

You can make your own decision but I know they all make our 1000ft² flow form sound very small.

Robinson's Ramble

Well were you there? The SWINDON KITE FESTIVAL, I guess this was the worst weather we have ever had at our festival; we have had one day really bad in the past, but never two days with such miserable weather. I'm not joking about renaming the festival; the marquee was so flooded; you could have almost gone for a swim! After all of that; we attracted 2.500 people on Saturday, I will not bother to mention the crowd size for Sunday because it was so low, however Matt Moore from the Science Museum was still very pleased from their perspective, and negotiations have started for next year. I have to thank all of those hardy soles who stuck it out, and of course thank all of those who helped to put the site together on the Friday and break it down on Sunday, I will not mention all of their names but you know who you are. Again *THANKYOU!* The event would not be possible without your help.

If you were there I hope you enjoyed the Box Kite Displays in the hangar, this came from an idea by George Webster; who co-ordinated the display in conjunction with Ernest Barton, I'm very pleased that so many of you took the time to bring your kites, that made the display such a success. The Science Museum were very pleased with the show, so much so that they have even offered a cherry picker next year; so that we can hang kites from the ceiling! Thanks also to those members who entertained the Children of all ages with the paper planes; they were fantastic!

Thanks again to Marla and all of her helpers, and of course thanks to all of you who made donations to the raffle, and dug deep into your pockets, the raffle raised £1000. I have said it before but here goes again; the event wouldn't take place without the funds from the raffle. If you can find time to build a kite to donate to the raffle please do so, you'll notice that all of the bags by the kites have most of the tickets in, and its so rewarding to see all of those tickets in a bag by the kite that *you* have made.

The club's next workshop, in October, is being taken by John & Marzlie Freeman, from Canada, they are doing a Bargello Patchwork, Della Porta, measuring 5ft X 3ft, the workshop will be at Penhill School, Swindon, we have a few places left @ £70 including buffet lunch each day, if you are interested please give me a call.

Here I am writing this in Mid-June and the best weather we have had so far was in April. It didn't make it any better, however it was quite pleasing to see that the weather in the following weekends after our Festival was just as bad as the weather we had, in fact one of the weekends, I think it was two weeks after our event, I got up at 7am on Sunday and the rain was torrential and it was still the

same at 7pm! We had about 2 inches of rain that day, which was even worse than fell at our Festival!

Regards
David Robinson

Transcript of an article in Wiltshire Kiting Life. (An occasional publication for kiting gentle folk).

By Mr Douglas Jones.

Without the pictures.

Cleethorpes kite festival another outstanding event.

Cleethorpes was another memorable occasion for its excellent flying conditions despite the fog and the news that the hotel where Mr Don Baggett was staying in Croydon had been wrecked by a crane coming down on his room.

There was a discussion as to whether the WHKF insurance would cover this. It was generally agreed though, that because he had not told Arthur to inform us using MIME format document that the hotel would have seek recompense elsewhere. Maybe he could use his household contents insurance.

Mr Phil Scarfe seemed to think that the North East Lincolnshire Fire Brigade had a good idea painting flames on their fire engines, but commented that "They were not good flames" He generally indicated that he could have done a better job.

Unfortunately we do not have a photograph of this vehicle.

The Winter Gardens is being demolished. This is a windfall to developers and follows the end of the cold war.

Unknown to a lot of people the Winter Gardens was a top secret early warning radar station, despite the rather clumsy sign on the side of the public toilets pointing to it. The radar domes can be still seen on top of the building.

Night flying had an interesting innovation, it took place in daylight. Mr Neil Harvey was heard to mutter something about either Tony Blair, the EEC or some Health and Safety idiots had been at work again. Despite these mutterings thousands of people lined the sea front to watch. Mr George Webster had to leave his dinner to assure the baying mob that kites would be flown in 15 minutes time. During the event a plaque to Eddie Megrath was unveiled by the Mayor of North East Lincolnshire.

Di's Bakewell Tart

Ingredients

4oz Short crust pastry

1 tbsp raspberry jam

3oz soft margarine

3oz caster sugar

4oz ground rice

1/2 tsp almond essence

1 egg

This is what you do:

Line a flan dish with the pastry. Cream together the margarine and sugar, add ground rice, egg and almond essence. Spread the jam on the pastry and cover with the mixture. Bake for 30-40 min at Gas mark 5

Banana cake

Ingredients

4oz brown sugar

4oz soft margarine

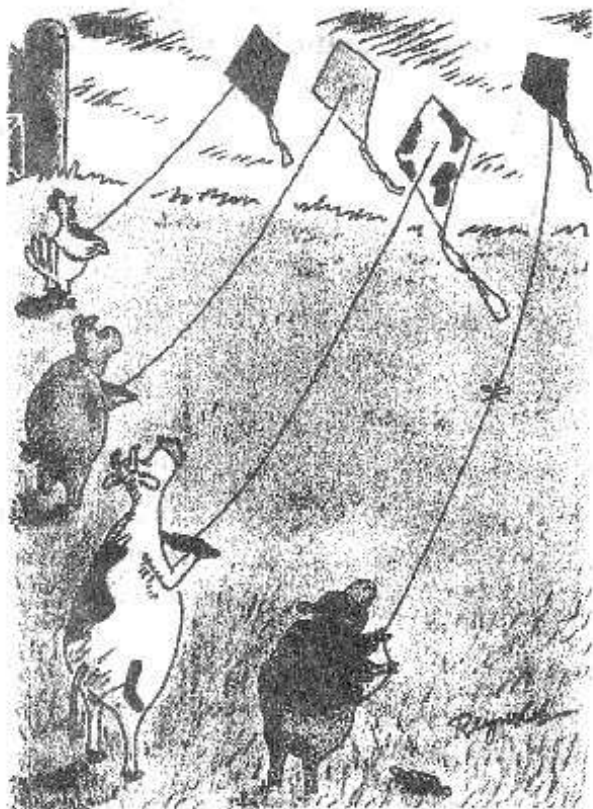
2 eggs

6oz self raising flour

1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

2 bananas (mashed)

Cream together the sugar and margarine. Add the eggs, flour, cinnamon and mashed bananas. Put in to a lightly greased 1lb loaf tin and sprinkle with a little sugar. Bake at Gas mark 5 for about 1 hour checking occasionally.



Have you ever wondered what you have taught the animals to do at Barbury Castle?

Write these 1500 Figures

ON BEHALF OF THE
FORT WORDEN RAFFLE
COMMITTEE
WE WISH TO
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROUS DONATIONS.

Marla and Ron Miller
Janet and David Robinson
Don and Di Baggett
Ken Tumminia



*A special thank you to the
Club for helping support
Fort Worden kite making expenses
with your donations.*

*Thanks
The Ticket Club*

Puzzle Corner (5)



1. Get hold of a huge piece of paper.
2. Tear exactly in half
3. Put one half over the other
4. Repeat 2 and 3

Question: how many times do you have to do this before your pile of paper is high enough to reach to the moon?

A box contains 4 boxes, each of which contains 3 boxes, each of which contains 2 boxes, each of which contains a single box. How many boxes in all?

Two walkers: one goes a steady 5mph, the other a steady 3mph. They start together along a straight and flat route. When the faster one had done 28 miles, he turned around and walked back to the slower one who was still plodding along. When they met up, they stopped. How far had they each walked and for how long ?

What is the time when both hands on the clock are on exact minute divisions and the big hand is exactly 3-minute divisions ahead of the little hand?

Answers in a plain brown e-mail and I'll post them on cambodianbeauties.com
My e-mail address is john@johnbrowning.net. Please let me have your answers and any comments you may have about Puzzle Corner.

Quack Quack

Club Merchandise Now Available

New club patch £1.50	The New club jacket £35.00	Cap £7.50
Legionaries cap £8.50	Cap with ear flaps £10.00	
Tee shirts	Polo tee shirts	
s-xl £9.00	xs-xl £14.00	
2xl-3xl £9.50	2xl £14.50	
	3-4xl £15.00	
Sweatshirts	Festival sweatshirt	
Xs-xl £16.60	xs-xl £25.00	
2xl £17.90		
3-4xl £18.40		

All items can be viewed on our web site

www.whkf.co.uk

All above price's **do not** include post and packing if you like it posted to you please mail or ring us first for a price .To order please send your order with cheque to
W.H.K.F, P.O.Box 585, Swindon, SN2 4YR

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 lonely 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 Robinson on: (01793) 824208

COWPAT HILL

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