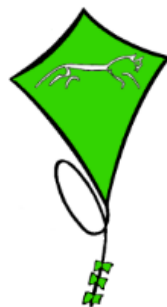
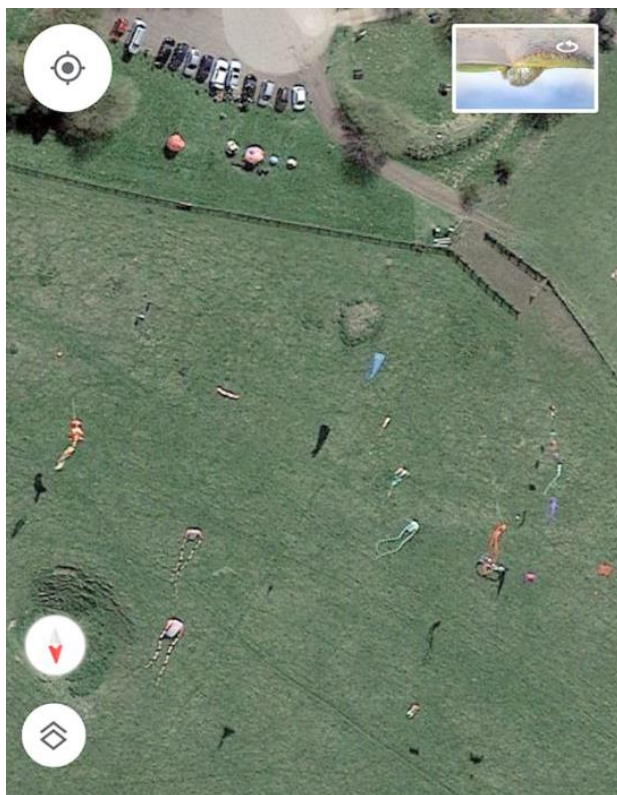


COWPAT HILL

*Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers
Issue Summer 2019 July - September*



Fame at last.



From Google Maps

www.whkf.org.uk

Diary Dates

July 2019

14th Barbury Castle club fly-in (new magazine)

13/14th Leominster

20/21st Ducklington (confirmed)

28th Dinas Powys

August 2019

3/4th Jolly Up 25

11th Barbury Castle club fly-in

10/11th Portsmouth

24-26th Bognor

September 2019

8th Barbury Castle club fly-in

October 2019

13th Barbury Castle club fly-in; OSOW; (new magazine)

November 2019

10th Barbury Castle club fly-in

Dead line for next issue 29th September 2019

From neoskosmos

Why do we fly kites on Clean Monday?



Clean Monday – named after the cleansing of the soul and new beginnings – fell on March 11 in 2019.

The day takes its name from the cleansing of the soul and the new beginning that the day symbolises, as

it is placed 40 days before the resurrection of Christ. This is also the starting point for the fasting period of the Orthodox religion.

However, another symbolic tradition takes place on this day that finds its roots deep in ancient times and is still practised in Greece today – kite flying!

According to historians, the first person documented to attempt such a thing was Archytas, a mathematician who lived in the fourth century BC. Archytas was a citizen of South Italy and a good friend of Plato and one of the final faithful followers of Pythagoras and his methods.

He created the kite in order to use it within his aerodynamic experiments.

Kite flying has a deeper meaning for those of the Christian faith, as it symbolises the elevation of the soul towards the heavens. The first kites that were spotted in Greece in the post-modern era came from the eastern areas and more specifically the Eptanisa, Chios, Samos, until they eventually made their way to the city of Patra and became common all around the country.

Other civilisations also took part in kite-flying festivals. In China, kites were made out of silk and bamboo in the shape of a dragon, a creature of worship within the nation. In Northern India there is a celebration every spring with kites parading in the sky to welcome the new season, with parades that find their roots in Hindu mythology. Additionally, it is said that the well-known explorer Marco Polo brought the kite to Europe during his journeys in the Middle Ages, remarking that it was known for its “dangerous flights.”

Nowadays of course the creation of a kite is quite simple, as it demands a little bit of wood, paper, some string and a large amount of imagination. And if you do decide to follow the spirit of the day and try to fly one of your own, just be wary of any electricity poles!

Kiter's Dictionary

This is a shameless rip-off of Douglas Adams & John Lloyd's classic 1983 dictionary "The Meaning of Liff" which states "In life, there are hundreds of familiar experiences, feelings and objects for which no words exist, yet hundreds of strange words are idly loafing around on signposts, pointing at places. The Meaning of Liff connects the two." I thought it was about time we had a kiter's version. Can anyone think of some more? All place names can be found in the AA road atlas if you don't believe me.

Grimshadder (n)

Gradual creeping depression building up over five days as you watch the long-range forecast for a kite festival change from sunny with 10mph wind to wet with 40mph wind.

Daglingworth (n)

Bit of grass or thistle caught in the flying line which hangs there annoyingly 100ft up.

Quarff (n)

Piece of rip stop nylon too small to be any use but which you can't bring yourself to throw away.

Scrooby (n)

Meteorological system causing fair weather and 10 -12 mph winds on the days either side of a kite festival and rain with 0 -1 mph on the day itself.

Skeffling (v)

Attempting to bridle a large and complicated kite in the living room using items of furniture or parts of spouse as tethering points.

Skirmett (n)

Kite which takes so long to assemble that it's not worth the faff.

Pittenweem (n)

Wind not strong enough to lift your kite but still blows the bag away.

Evenjobb (n)

The process of sawing a short section from a spar which is slightly too long on one side of a kite in order to balance it, then finding the spar on the opposite side is now too long by an identical amount.

Nedging Tye (n)

That really useful knot you learned at last year's workshop but can no longer remember.

Scarning (v)

Sewing whilst unaware there is no cotton in the bobbin.

Hyssington (n)

Shower that wets all your kites five minutes before it's time to pack up.

Nazeing (v)

Flying a large wet kite in order to dry it out rather than draping it all round your house. Often carried out following a hyssington (see above).

Peplow (n)

Kite which flies perfectly but at 90 degrees to everyone else's.

Mennoek (n)

Kite flyer full of unwanted advice, never been observed to fly anything at all within living memory.

Pott Shrigley (n)

Evil smelling concoction of assorted alcoholic drinks and fruit/spice/veg offered around on the Saturday evening of a festival with the words "you must try this!" One of the reasons flying often starts later on the Sunday.

Miles Platting (v)

Trying unsuccessfully to untangle the lines of a dual line kite by swopping the handles over and over while someone at the other end assists by turning the kite the same way.

Cleuch-Head (n)

What the person at the handles end of a Miles Platting session (see above) eventually calls the person at the kite end.

Hammoon (n)

Handy object to which a kite can be tethered; e.g. a bench, fence, tree or grandparent.

Ospringe (n)

Wind which blows steadily just long enough to get your entire display in the air, then drops to nothing for just long enough for it to all fall down again before picking up once more. This can be repeated for an entire day.

Percyhorner (n)

A measure of quantity of sand retained in an inflatable kite following a beach-fly. One Percyhorner is roughly equal to half the volume of a mini octopus tentacle.

Note from the ed:- This article has been a long time coming. In the Winter 2003 issue of this magazine the suggestion was put forward that a dictionary of kite flying terms was developed. This is the first submission. Well done Nog. A dictionary of Bear Bunting can be found in the same issue. (Available on our web pages)

Skychat

This is the hardest Skychat that I have had to do: since I was very seriously ill it has been very hard for me to get back into daily life. I did not realize I had been so ill and it was when I asked my body to do things and I found that I could not do them and on top of that being told that it could take twelve months to recover fully, it really hit home that I had to do what I was told and for me that was something I was not used to. Still I am improving bit by bit and things are gradually being done. I am driving again which gives me a bit more freedom to get out and about. I have managed to do some gardening (no more Allotment at the moment) although about 4 weeks behind schedule. Got two kite projects under way, handy if we have some really wet weather, it means that I am trying to keep the BRAIN working and that comes hard when you have sat down after a good meal and tried to stay awake. My sense of humour has not deserted me but it may not be as quick as before so I can keep on smiling. The biggest problem is having no energy and therefore having to keep stopping for breath.

One thing that has kept me going have been all the cards, telephone calls and good wishes that you have sent me, it meant a lot to me especially when I was laid up in hospital. I do hope to get around to some meets this year and thank you in person but this may be difficult as later in the year I have to have an operation which will put me out of action again for a while.

Many thanks to Arthur for taking on the printing of "COW-PAT". I hope it all goes well for him. It is a big change for me not to be involved in it, there again I could not keep doing things forever.

Hoping for clean winds and tight lines.

Neil.

Ready for takeoff with kites



Let's go fly some kites, a sport every Scout can enjoy even though there are always strings attached.

Kites can be the focus of STEM activities featuring the science of weather, technology of flight, engineering of aeronautical design, and math for figuring angles and lengths. There are Scouting skills, too, including knot-tying, pocketknife use and making a strong square lashing. Flying kites can build teamwork and fulfill requirements for Cub Scouts pursuing the Air of the Wolf adventure.

Or maybe it's enough to sit back on a breezy spring day and watch kites hoisted into the sky.

You won't be the first. Kites floated above Egypt and China 2,000 years ago. Benjamin Franklin tested his theory that lightning is a form of electricity by launching a kite into a thunderstorm and drawing a high-voltage current down the wet string. He was delighted to be proven right and fortunate not to blow himself up.

So great was interest among early Scouts that the BSA published *Kites and Kite Flying* by Paul Garber in 1931. Garber would go on to design a highly maneuverable kite that was flown during World War II from the decks of naval vessels and used for target practice by ship gunners.

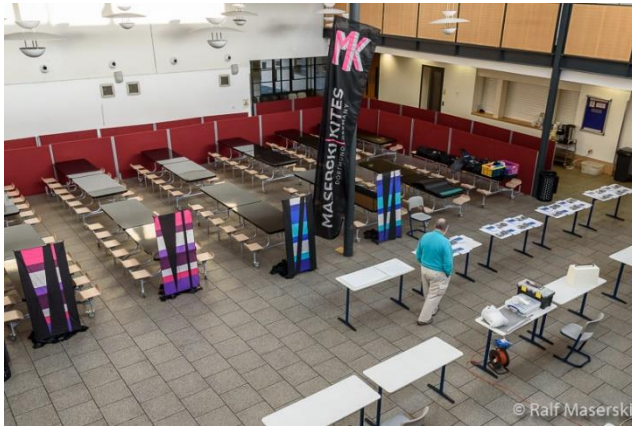
An early director of the National Air and Space Museum, Garber helped establish what is now the Blossom Kite Festival held each spring in Washington, D.C. It is one of many colorful events across the country celebrating kites.

But your Scouts don't have to wait for a festival. Hobby stores carry inexpensive kite kits and spools of string. Some also offer acrobatic kites that can climb, dive, swoop and soar.

For the greatest satisfaction and most learning, though, guide Scouts in building kites from scratch. There's a reliable diamond-shaped model featured at go.boyslife.org/kites

February 2019 workshop.

The weekend of 22nd and 23rd of February this year saw the welcome return of Ralf Maserski to WHKF for their annual workshop. The workshop was organised and co-ordinated by Don Baggett. Ralf is renowned for his organisation and precision in running kite making workshops around the world and this, the club's latest workshop certainly proved why he has such a reputation. The workshop centred around making a pair of kites known as "positive negative". It was with eager anticipation that some 14 participants gathered at St Joseph's Catholic College Swindon for a 09.30 am start on Saturday 22nd.



Ralf's meticulous organisation and preparation was clearly evident as participants collected their individual "kits" instruction manuals.



Most participants were seasoned kite makers but there was one, Nigel Goodswen, who was new to the whole workshop experience and it is safe to say that he was amazed at the preparation and precision and effort that Ralf puts into his workshops. During the morning one participant was heard to ask

if one of the coloured strips could be halved to add an additional stripe to the pattern, to which came the reply “of course you can but your finished kite will be 5 mm short” German precision or what! Lunch on the Saturday was provided by the renowned WHKF catering team of Kevin, David and Janet. As the day progressed sails began to take shape and peoples’ choice of colours became evident.



Following a day’s hard work participants retired to their chosen accommodation before gathering at the local Chinese restaurant for an evening buffet. This was followed by some visiting an ice cream parlour, whilst others returned to their various hotels for some small libations.

An early start on the Sunday saw many participants seeing their kits start to resemble a pair of kites.

Going on in the background to all this sewing, cutting, taping, framing and knot tying was the the requisite WHKF raffle. Thanks to Marilyn for taking on the role of “ticket Queen” cajoling all participants to part with moneys for tickets. Lunch on the Sunday saw the catering crew yet again step up to the mark and provide sustenance for all in the form of baked potatoes with a selection of fillings. The afternoon saw kites being completed and the raffle being drawn.

Thanks must go to Don Baggett for organising and co-ordinating the event, to the catering team for providing sustenance and not least to Ralf for leading yet another meticulously devised professional workshop.



Report From David Thompson WHKF Chair.

Workshop Funding

This was the last workshop that will be subsidised by The Club as following its organisation, it was decided at the AGM that this benefitted only a small number of members so unfair on others to help fund it. This means that future events will have to be self-funding. This will have to be done by increasing the price, reducing overheads such as food or finding a cheaper location or combination of these. Whichever we hope to continue running these workshops.

Card payments

The Club now has a card reader that accepts all forms of card payment including things such as “Apple Pay”, “Google Pay” and can also be used for telephone payments. Therefore you will be able to pay membership fees, workshop charges, Fun-Fly camping, auction etc. by card. Please note that Club membership and insurance will not be accepted at the Fun-Fly but should be paid at the AGM, when the fee for the following year will be decided, or online shortly thereafter. As last year insurance fees will probably have to be paid by 1st January 2020.

Monday becomes Friday

The government has announced that in 2020 the early May bank holiday scheduled to be Monday 4th will be moved to Friday 8th to fall in line with the 75th anniversary celebrations of VE day. For those of us who attend Broad Haven Kite Rendezvous this is great news as the tides are now perfect. The beach flying will take place on the Friday and Saturday and move to Hilton Garden Centre on Sunday. Full details can be found linked from our front web page.

Robinson's Ramble

It's great to see Neil's health improving, after his recent problems with breaking his leg and getting over that, then to be struck down with pneumonia, he is back on his feet and back to one of his many hobbies of stationary engines, plus Kite Flying, I question what he sees in the stationary engines but I'm not an Engineer, (many would say I'm not a Kite Flyer either).

Another member, Bob Angel is not well, he is suffering with Rigors and weeping Ulcers on his legs, he is 91 and has a carer. He did ask me to say that he recently helped to fund a £500,000, new cancer ward at Bath Royal United Hospital, in memory of his late wife Dorothy May Angel and Lyn. The new cancer ward specialises in cancer of the head and neck, which is the cancer that Lyn and his late Wife died of. He sends his best wishes to all of the Club members

The Marquee has been ordered for the Fun Fly, so it's all systems go, all we need is some decent weather for another Fun weekend at Lechlade. Don't forget their will be our own tent to erect as well, this is the one that Kevin supplies all of his great food from. It would be appreciated if any of you could offer some help on the Friday, if we don't get enough helpers the cooking tent may not go up until Saturday morning. The height clearance, 1000ft has been applied for, at the time of writing this, we haven't had confirmation that we will get it.

We are on holiday at the moment, we had a big scare on our first day, Janet slipped in the bath whilst having a shower, she hit her nose and lip. There was blood everywhere, it looked like the scene from a horror film. We decided to go to a walk-in centre to get her checked out. There was nothing broken but it un-nerved her badly, she wouldn't get into the bath again, she just had a stripped down wash at the sink.

Our holiday is to Boston & New York, we will be travelling to New York by Train. Whilst in Boston we took a tour to Martha's Vineyard, it was quite a distance from Boston so our start time was 6.30 in the morning, we hardly slept the night before. Martha's Vineyard is a beautiful place and we had great tour of the island. Janet got to fly one of Club kites that we took whilst having a break.



Fun fly Breakfast Menu

Bacon Butty – Slices of sourdough bread topped with crispy bacon & your choice of sauce. £3.00

Bacon & Egg Butty – Slices of sourdough bread topped with crispy bacon & a fried Egg & your choice of sauce. £3.50

Egg & Veg Butty – Slices of sourdough Bread topped with sauté mushrooms, Onions & cherry tomatoes & a fried Egg. £3.50

Fun Fly Lunch Menu

The Burger – A prime burger, centred with a slice of fresh Mozzarella, pan fried & served in a bun Topped with sautéed onions. £4.00

The Bratwurst – A German Bratwurst sausage wrapped in bacon & baked, served in a Bun topped with German mustard. £4.00

Baked Goats Cheese – A slice of Goats cheese, covered in a pistachio bread crumb, baked until tender, served in a bun with fresh water cress, sautéed onions & sweet chilli sauce. £4.00

Fun Fly Dinner Menu

Rolled Belly Pork – Belly of Pork filled with a sage, Onion & Cranberry stuffing, rolled & baked until crisp & golden, thinly carved & served with a rich Cider pan gravy. £6.00

Vegetable Batons – Baton cut vegetables Including Carrots, courgettes, Peppers, French beans & Baby corn in a light & Creamy white wine sauce, topped with a herby breadcrumb topping. £6.00

All main course will be served with a selection of fresh vegetables and Potatoes of the day

Tea & coffee will be available all day from the urn in the catering tent
Feel free to help yourself, but please bring your own mug or cup as the club has very few.

NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 25 on Aug 3rd & 4th 2019

Gate open from 12noon on the Friday...

Come and join us for another Jolly Up, and another FUN Weekend of Kite Flying for Kite Fliers!

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)

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

There will be a BBQ on the Saturday evening (£8.00 and please bring a plate and cutlery where possible!)

As usual we will be doing Jacket Potatoes at lunchtimes over the weekend

The Auction will be held on the Saturday evening, and any donations gratefully received on the Saturday (*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.

We will also run the Competition for Garden Produce, which can cover fruit, veg, plants, anything really. Show us what you've been growing, it may win a prize. Rules are minimal and made up on the day! There is the category for Home Made Hooch again!!

We hope to run the Beer Lift competition, wind permitting !! same rules as before.

Roy's Refreshment Tent will be open for Business, normal rules apply...

For further info, please either contact:

Roy on 07778 352825

Colin on 07770 338419

Or e-mail roy@kitesup.co.uk

You can pre-order your tee-shirt / poloshirt, etc. Please email hayley@kitesup.co.uk 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 aerials.

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.

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

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

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