

# ***COWPAT HILL***

**Journal of the White Horse Kite Fliers**

**winter 2016 January - March**



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

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# Diary Dates

## February

- 14th Barbury Castle

## March

- 13th Barbury Castle

For other dates please go to [www.kitecalendar.co.uk](http://www.kitecalendar.co.uk)

Front cover picture a Phil Scarfe Flames foil taken by Neil Lover

**Deadline for next issue of Cowpat Hill**

**31th March 2016**



# Robinson's Ramble

Wow! Chairman, who'd thought it, not me anyway! I have an awful lot to live up to, following Arthur, who has done a great job for the past 12 years and Neil who had the same length of tenure before him. I feel extremely proud to be at the head of this great club! Of course I couldn't do this job without Janet, who now has the dual role of Treasurer & Secretary, and the Committee, who I know I can depend on. Please bear with me as I slip into my new position. If there is anything in the future that you want to bring to my attention, do not hesitate to call me, I want your call whether it is good or bad, don't let anything fester, talking is good! I can't promise that I will always resolve any problem but I will always try.

For those of you who couldn't get to the AGM, Arthur said he will continue to run the Club's website and will also look after Facebook & Twitter, he will keep those of us not on those forums up to date with any information.

Also at the AGM, Andrew the Cowpat Editor put out an appeal for articles for the magazine. Please send whatever you can, compiling the Cowpat is very difficult without any articles, it's our magazine and it can only be us who contribute! It has been going for 30 years and it would be very sad to lose it through lack of interest. If you have a recipe, a kite plan or somewhere you can recommend to go and fly kites, anything that will help Andrew with the task of producing the magazine. I have sent my ramble in since the very first issue, and I can tell you it's not easy thinking of something to send in every 3 months and I apologize now for boring you all to death with some of the stuff I have submitted.

At the AGM Arthur expressed his sadness at the demise of the club members coming together to do a club project, we haven't done one for several years. If there is an idea you have that is feasible and affordable as a project please let me know and I will take it to the committee. The club's workshop kite is also a very important club tool to get Children interested in this great hobby of ours, if you know any organization, be it a School, cub or brownie group etc. who would like a workshop, please feed the information back to us, there is a charge for these workshops to cover expenses, or if you just want to go and do a workshop close to you, the charge for the kite kits is £2 + postage.

You may or may not be aware that we will not be holding our workshops at St. Joseph's Catholic College, we have been extremely lucky in the past few years, this was due to the fact that club members Charlie & Helen

Peace have allowed us to use the School, this is not possible in the future. On behalf of the club I would like to thank them very much. We have found an alternative, which is the Hook Village hall, Hook is a small village about a half mile from Royal Wootton Bassett. There is a bonus for those of you who come to the workshop by camper van, the committee who run the hall have no objection to you sleeping overnight in your vans, we are unsure if this will be allowed on Friday night. We will get more information and prices to you in the next issue.

Since writing above (written before this paragraph) that Andrew needs articles for the Cowpat, he will also need colour photos in the future; at recent committee meeting it was decided to buy a colour laser printer to improve the print quality. So start sending Andrew stories with added colour photos, there is no promise that your story or photo will be used, that's up to Andrew.

I'm writing this ramble 1 week before Christmas so when you receive the Cowpat we will be a few weeks into the new year, so a belated New Year to you and yours, from Janet & me.

Regards

David Robinson

## *Sky Chat*

*Happy and prosperous New Year to you all. Well we have had the AGM and Dave Robbo has taken over the Helm from Arthur I wish him all the best in this new position in the Club. I also thank Arthur for all his hard work over the years he has been Chairman, we are not losing him as we have made him our first Vice President. We also have to thank Jerry Swift for all his work in sorting out insurance for the Club and for Members especially during this trying time for him and Carolyn. Let us hope that 2016 is a better year for them. This last year we remember the loss of a good member and friend of the Club Phil the Flames Scarfe. He was a person of many talents and views which you may not have agreed with all the time, but it was never dull in his company and always willing to pass on his thoughts on kite making to everyone.*

*This year the Club enters into a new era with the purchase of a laser printer. We hope that "Cowpat Hill" can now produce better pictures but please bear with me at the start to get my head around double sided and automatic booklet printing. Should be fun! Still here's a wonderful 2016 with bright days and clean winds.*

*Neil.*

## Christmas Pudding Fly

So much for thinking resigning would mean I would have to be less actively involved in Club activities! The first event after the AGM apart from the monthly meeting is the Christmas Pudding Fly.

For many years the 27<sup>th</sup> December it has been traditional for Club members to meet up for a bit of fresh air after the Christmas excesses, have a social bite to eat and perhaps fly a few kites. Originally this was held at Neil's home and field and was known as "The Mince Pie Fly". When this became too much for him and his family it was scaled down, moved to Barbury and renamed "The Christmas Pudding Fly"

So who is going to load up the wok, supply the gaz and purchase puddings, butter, brandy, custard, bowls and spoons. Well there are some pretty lame excuses; "We will be in America", "I have to help my son with his house" and so it goes on. Not wanting to break the tradition, guess who "volunteers"? But I could do with some help and put out a plea on Facebook. Thankfully Tony replies with an offer, "not much good at cooking but willing to help"

Morning of 27<sup>th</sup> starts wet and very windy but not wanting to disappoint any one I arrive on site by 10AM and sit in the car watching the rain. After half an hour I am just about to give up and go home when a familiar figure appears in the rear view mirror, we chatted for a while and are thinking it is hardly worth firing up the wok for just 2, when another car turns up so decide, let's give it a go.

Eventually we get 10 adults, 3 children and loads of pies, biscuits and quiches, pudding fried in butter and flamed in brandy with HOT custard, even a few minutes sun shine before the rain starts again and we pack up at 1PM. A few kites were flown including one Christmas present.

Thanks to everyone who came, contributed and partook. It was great to see you all and hope we can do it again in 2016.

Any suggestions as to what I can do with 2 large pudding and 2 pints of now, cold custard. Polite answers only please on a post card to our PO Box.

*Arthur*

## **The 2015 Fun Fly - by Chris Mabon**

Having been held in Lechlade for some years now, as a resident of the town I feel we could claim The Fun Fly to be the 'Lechlade Kite Festival'. If that was the case, the 2015 edition could rightly be claimed the 'The Lechlade International Kite Festival', this being justified by the attendance of Keters from both Australia and Germany.

However we know it is not intended to be a 'Festival'. Personally I tend to consider it a 'gathering' somewhat akin to The Jolly Up, itself a gathering of keters looking to enjoy a social weekend of eating and drinking and maybe flying the odd kite or two. Whilst the first two activities are necessary, the later is not strictly so, though it does help of course.

This year's gathering was blessed with superb late summer/early autumn sunshine throughout. But whilst very pleasant it unfortunately offered a general lack of air movement. On the few occasions when the air did move, needless to say there were many nice kites aloft. There were also the brave souls able/willing to place kites very high over Lechlade!

Things started early on the Friday with a few of us setting up marquees, positioning conveniences, clearing the ground of 'presents' left by the usual residents (relocated for the weekend) and posting relevant signage. Unfortunately, we received very late notice that the adjacent Cricket Club's generator had allegedly gone 'walk-about' some weeks previous! Mr Robinson proceeded to do a fine job in sourcing an alternative unit, albeit at some cost.

Since last year, the Park land had been reduced in size by a line of trees and fencing dividing the area into two. Whilst initially this seemed to be somewhat restrictive to kite flying (when such could be achieved that is) it proved to be of little consequence to us.

As regards attendance, besides the aforementioned overseas keters, there were many keters from various corners of the UK. Whilst difficult to assess the number of day visitors, it was certainly significant as the car parking area was full on both days. I recall there being eleven camping units gracing the field, and overnight the campers had plenty of local wildlife to spot, including Roe Deer, and of course the lunar eclipse.

Catering was to its usual high standard, Kevin once again in full control. He was ably (???) assisted again by Mrs. Peace, his sous-chef, who augmented her culinary skills with endless entertainment. Suggestion - could Kevin provide some egg-cooking tips for next year please?

Friday evening saw around a dozen of us eating, and drinking, in The Riverside in Lechlade. This certainly moved Lechlade out of its usual sleepy slumber. Sunday evening also saw around fifteen of us eating, and drinking, in the excellent Khushi



Indian restaurant in town. This was even noisier than Friday evening, in a nice way that is!

Two interesting episodes over the weekend included some of us literally flying kites with two 'inquisitive' raptors, a Common Buzzard and a Red Kite. We were also 'buzzed' by a rather low flying RAF C130 'Hercules' – checking our adherence to the height limit maybe?

Someone said to me recently that in time people will ask 'what was a kite festival?' This scared me, but unfortunately the writing does seem to be on the proverbial wall. As with The Jolly Up, it seems that The Fun Fly is what the core kiting fraternity increasingly wants. It is a great little event, holding no illusions of grandeur as with the large and very impersonal (unless one is part of the 'in crowd' that is) festivals, instead concentrating on providing a friendly and sociable atmosphere in which to fly. I guess The Fun Fly can be considered a mini-Jolly Up, and that in itself is fine credit indeed. So many thanks to the organizers for their efforts - the formula is a good one.



## **Peter Powell**

It was sad to hear that Peter Powell passed away aged 84 on the 3rd January 2016. I'm sure most of us owned one of his kites at one point. I bought an orange fibreglass and ripstop one from Kiteability in 1991 at the first Swindon Festival and it was used until it wore out.

If you want to hear an absolutely fantastic obituary to him listen again to the BBC radio 4 program Last Word (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06zvbvw>) What are particularly good are the archive interviews with him where his showman persona really comes through (along with his great Gloucester accent). Ed.

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## **A Cumbrian fell and a Hampshire field**

As both a fell-walker and a kiter, I would like to share these thoughts.

Haystacks is a relatively small fell in Western Lakeland, Cumbria. It is popular with fell-walkers and was a particular favourite of Alfred Wainwright, affectionately known as 'AW'. AW was well known for his series of definitive guide books to the Cumbrian fells and, before he died in 1991, expressed a wish for his ashes to be spread at the top of Haystacks saying "... should (you) get a bit of grit in your boot as you are crossing Haystacks in the years to come, please treat it with respect. It might be me."

A field in the small Hampshire village of Cliddesden hosts the twice-yearly 'Jolly Up', a popular gathering for our kiting fraternity. A regular visitor to the gathering was always Phil Scarfe, affectionately known as 'Scarfy'. Back in October, and with the consent of his family, Scarfy's ashes were spread over this field.

So, as with being on Haystacks, there will forever be pleasant memories and thoughts when on that field. And to fly a Scarfy kite with it's trademark flames will be particularly poignant!

I trust that the theme of this article is obvious, but I will say just one more thing. A popular traverse of Haystacks is from east to west, descending via a pass known as Scarth Gap. Ironically, at one time the more popular name for this pass was Scarf Gap.....

**Chris Mabon**

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL KITEDAY STREATHAM COMMON

SW 16 3EN  
SUNDAY 15 MAY 2016

11 AM - 5 PM

**SINGLE / MULTI LINE KITE DEMONSTRATIONS**  
**KITE BUYING / KITE FLYING / TUITION**  
**FOOD & DRINKS STALLS / DR. BIKE**  
**LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION: RICHARD PAYNE**  
**EMAIL: STREATHAMKITEDAY@GMAIL.COM**  
**WWW.STREATHAMKITEDAY.ORG.UK**

**Friends of Streatham Common**

**Lambeth**

## 12 years of vice, 12 in the chair and back to vice.

When White Horse Kite Flyers was formed who could have imagined how it would survive and develop. Back in 1990 there was a small group of keen flyers who used to meet up at Barbury once a month. Neil and Ron had been meeting for many years before this and as time went by more people started to join them. I first met up with them a couple of years before this as I had recently bought a kite and was having a bit of trouble flying it and was fortunate enough to meet Ron and he suggested I go to one of their meetings. I duly turned up at one and then another and am still going 27 years later.

Kite flying was becoming popular and a few festivals were being run and we decided that our group should try and put one on. For this we needed some organisation and funding so we set up an interim committee and a few of us contributed to the kitty. With Ron as president, Neil in the chair, Dave and Janet as secretary and treasurer, I took on the role of vice-chair. This was the team that set up our first Festival at Lydiard Park in 1991 with the help of various other members.

The event was a success and so it was decided that we would continue and to put things on an official basis the first AGM was called in 1991 and held it the poly-tunnel at the farm at Barbury.

With Neil at the helm the club grew and went from strength to strength. In 1992 the first club project of the NP wind sock was done and Dave Jones took over as the editor of the magazine. We also ran the event on Greenham Common the day after the airbase closed down. With various other projects being done there was evidently enough interest so in 1996 we ran our first “Master class workshop” with Sam Houston guiding us through the stuck together Genki. This was so popular that for the next 12 years we ran 2 a year. This has more recently been cut back to 1 a year as other clubs have started doing the same thing and people can’t afford the time or money to do all the ones on offer. On a more personal front I designed the first electric Teddy bear winch and The BOF christened me Electric Arthur.

1996 also saw the purchase of a newer trailer to transport all our gear to the various events to which we were being invited. 97 was a momentous year as we were able to assist Vic Walker with his record BMISS class 1 record for

parachuting teddy bears and we made the big divers legs. In 99 we bought the teddy tower to launch para-bears on windless days.

Over these years we had continued to run an annual festival at Lydiard Park or Wroughton until 2001 when foot-and-mouth meant we could not use public parks but we managed to have a small event in Penhill School. Tracy Willis took over as magazine editor and there was the sad death of our founder Ron.

In 2003 I gave up vice to take over the chair when Neil stood down and I continued with the successful format that he had established. All went well to start with and in 2007 we were awarded the AKA club of the Year. Unfortunately in 2008 Wroughton decided to be silly putting their fees up by 1400%, so we went back to Lydiard for a year but in 2009 they gave our booking date to the BBC for a pop concert and we moved to Brinkworth for a couple of years. By now we were on a bit of a downward spiral and I even took over as magazine editor. In 2011 we tried Lydiard again and this year saw the purchase of a NEW trailer that is much easier to handle than the last one. Sadly this proved to be the last year we could put on a full festival due not only to the site fees but also the added requirements of Health and Safety.

Fortunately one of our members had a contact at Lechlade Manor where we have been able to put on a friendly get together known as The Fun Fly. Long may this continue. In 2014 I handed the editorship of Cowpat Hill to Andrew Rumming in the hope that a new name at the helm might have some new contacts for more articles and even more of a boost with a new colour printer to be seen, hopefully in this issue.

Over the years we have tried to keep a web site/forum running originally produced by Pete Dawson, then for a short while a semi-professional one until my son taught me to write HTML and I produced the current version. I should love to be able to hand this over so that it can be kept going in to the future but we do need someone who can write HTML. The site is hosted by my son and I intend to sign over the addresses to him.

In 2012 I thought about things seriously and decided to give The Club a warning that in 2015 I would be standing down from the Chair in hope that we might get some new blood in to the committee. I had not have foreseen the huge fall in membership, due I hope not to my leadership but to the general situation in the country when people have had to cut back on expenditure.



"Come on Arthur...at least try to look like you're enjoying it!"

Nor the massive changes in insurance and H&S requirements. All this made the last 3 years one long battle.

So duly at the AGM I stood down thinking I was getting away, but NO, someone had to go and make me a Vice President for life. Now there is only one way out and I hope that will not be for some time yet.

I have enjoyed my 25 years on the committee, 12 in the Chair and am looking forward to some more years of vice. I would like to finish as always with my thanks to all of you for your support and friendship over the years. It has been a privilege to represent you and I look forward to assisting The Club for many years to come, meeting you all on some wet, windy field or sitting around chatting on warm balmy days.

*Arthur*

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I'm probably one of Phil's more recent acquaintances, having joining WHKF only 7 or so years ago, but right from the off I found Phil a really nice chatty character and one who was always willing to provide good advice on kiting. At one point I asked him why he had DILLIGAF on his baseball cap. He enjoyed giving me the answer!

A few years before I met Phil, he had made Martin a really impressive black and red flowform with two 100 foot tails. Within a few minutes of talking about it to Phil, he agreed to make me a blue and red one and then a couple of years later he made a green one. Martin and I flew all three at Cliddesden a couple of years ago and wow, one was a great sight, but three!

Anyway, since then I've managed to purchase one of Phil's flaming deltas that was looking for a new home from one of Phil's kite admirers and I was touched when out of the blue Phil gave me a 3D laser engraved Cody bubblegram he had.

I'll miss Phil for his friendly chatter and regular advice and thought the Phil Scarfe fly at Bristol was a wonderful thing to do.

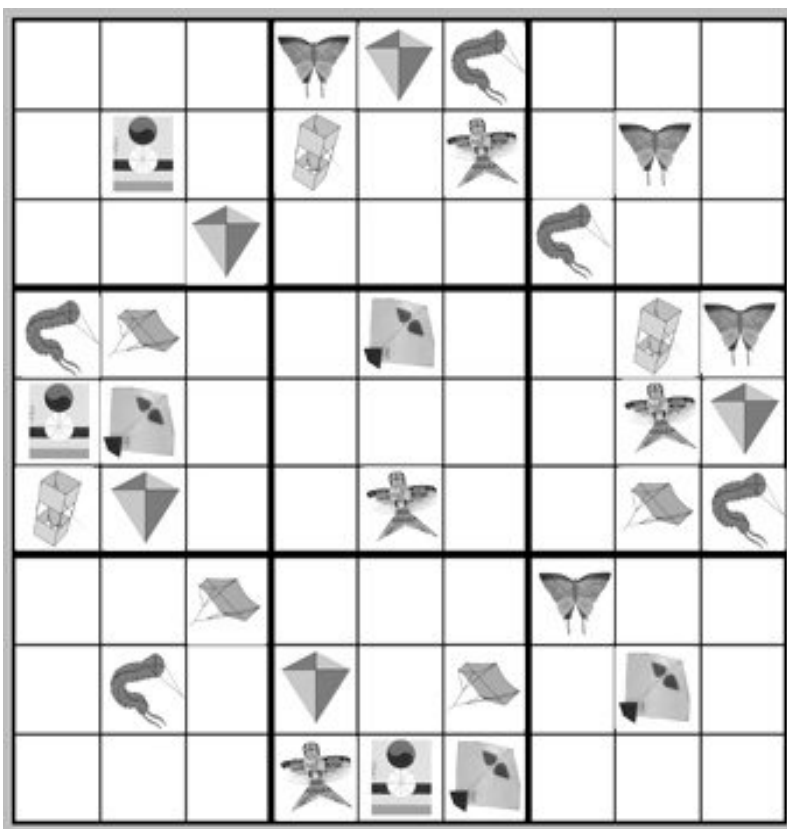
We've definitely lost a great bloke.

Thanks Phil.

Neil Lover.

(sorry for missing this out of the last issue, Ed.)

# KITE SU DOKU



Where are the Deltas ?



**NORTH HANTS KITER'S JOLLY UP 18 on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and  
24<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Gate open from 12noon on the Friday...**

It's nearly that time again to come and join us for 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 (£8 per tent/camper for Fri and Sat night)

Fish and chips available on the Friday evening (via the zipwire!) from 6am to 9pm.

The Saturday evening food will be the BBQ, tickets available on the weekend- (£7.00 and please try to bring a plate and cutlery!)

Once again we will be doing Jacket Potatoes for those interested at lunchtimes over the weekend, and Bacon rolls will be available on both mornings.

The Auction will once again be held on the Saturday evening, and any donations gratefully received before or on the week-end (*before 4pm please* if poss to give us time to set it all up)

We will run the Beer Lift competition, wind permitting, same rules as before. Roy Martin's Sled competition will take place (to contact him directly please) 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](mailto:roy@kitesup.co.uk)

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

You can pre-order your tee-shirt / poloshirt, etc. Please email Hayley if interested in doing so.

(The dates for this same event taking place later this year again are Aug 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>)

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

# **WHKF AGM 22/11/15**

## **Welcome**

Neil Harvey welcomed everyone to the meeting and handed over to Arthur.

## **Apologies**

Jerry Swift  
Carolyn Swift  
Paul Mellows  
Doug Manners  
Donald Capewell  
Sarah Capewell  
Phil Baggett  
Di Baggett  
Brian Smith  
Jill Ferrer  
Jacqui Mountjoy  
Peter Hulcoop  
Ralf Maserski  
Linda Saunders  
Karl Longbottom  
Sara Longbottom

## **Minutes of 2014 AGM**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate reflection of the meeting.  
Proposed by Paul Chapman  
Seconded by Alan Holden

## **Matters Arising from Minutes**

None

## **Chairman's Report**

Mr President, ladies, gentlemen; thank you for coming to this, the 25th AGM of the White Horse Kite Flyers.

The good news is that this is the last time you will have to listen to me make this address so this year I will change the order a bit and start where I normally finish. First a very big thank you to all the members who have turned up at this event year after year and returned me to the chair. I like to think that maybe I have been doing something right or is it just that was

regarded as the only sucker who would take on the position. I was going to stand down some years ago but there was an American “lady” present and she took me aside and did some major arm twisting, so you can blame her for the last few years.

Now to Neil a very big thank you for starting this club that it has been such a pleasure to be a member of and to serve on this committee. To Dave and Janet who put in so much time and effort to help make The Club what it is today. Without their support I could not have kept going.

Don goes on supplying all the sled kits that are a major source of income and there are only a few who really understand how much work goes in to this. My thanks to him and Polly who did so much work in the workshops and catering over the years.

There are many others past and present who have spent time on the committee who I will not mention by name for fear of missing someone, you know who you are, please accept my sincerest thanks.

I hope that all of you will continue to support my replacement and I will take this opportunity to give him or her my best wishes and hope they can take The Club to new heights. I hope to remain an active member of The Club and will help out when and where I can.

During my tenure things have changed in many ways, early on we had membership of 150+, ran a major kite festival and were one of the few clubs in the UK running adult kite workshops. I like to think that the proliferation of these has been following on from our success.

Sadly we have not been able to maintain this status quo, hopefully not due so much to the committee as to the economic climate and the increase of “Health and Safety” requirements. Probably the pinnacle of my tenure was when we received the AKA Club of the year award and I am proud to be able to pass this on, along with the infamous “Red Cap” to my replacement.

I have enjoyed my time as Chairman and am very sad to relinquish the post but I feel it better to go while I am still relatively functional and continue to offer my support. There have been difficult decisions about things like insurance and loss of festival sites but we have got through them with the committee working together.

Possibly my one disappointment was the club projects such as the arches, the playsail and especially the stick men that I had hoped would see more members getting involved with flying them as part of the team. When was the last time you saw the club banners, pennants and bunting at an event? If you have any suggestions as to anything else we could do, please let the new committee know or come directly to me as I should have the time to organise it now.

Always during this address I like to remember those whose health has not been too good and this year especially as we sadly lost Phil Scarfe who had been a member of this committee from its inception in 1990. Phil was one of the real characters of the kite flying scene in the UK and was well known overseas. He had enormous knowledge of kites and was always prepared to share it. He will

be sadly missed. We have heard recently that Carolyn Swift is very ill and we send her all our best wishes.

OK so that's about it from me, I have tried to leave things in a reasonable condition and there is nothing left except to wish my successor and all the Club members and committee all the very best for the future and thank all of you for your friend ship and company. Long may it continue.

### **Hon. Sec's Report**

Would like to start by saying thank you to Arthur for all his years as Chairman and for the contribution he's made to the club.

It has been a good year overall. Both the fun fly and the workshop were well attended and very successful. As October 2015 will be the last workshop at St Joseph's, another venue has been sought and some of the committee went, this morning, to look at Hook Village Hall. It was agreed that it would be a good venue for the workshops in the future. There is also an added advantage that parking will be permitted on the Saturday night, although we have no confirmation on whether or nor parking is permitted on the Friday night. The postcode for the hall is SN4 8EA.

Next year's workshop id a Ralf Maserski and the club are taking names and deposits straight away.

### **Hon Treasurers Report**

## **WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS 2014/2015**

## **ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

### **INCOME**

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS ETC.**

The majority of the club income appears here, Festival Sales and Bank Interest being the exceptions. Overall there has been an increase on last year.

## **FUN FLY AND WORKSHOP**

The Fun Fly represents actual figures. The income is raised primarily from food sales, alcohol donations and auction. The Workshop figures are in year only and represent purely cash accounting.

## **BANK INTEREST**

Bank interest remains the same; however, the amount received is immaterial.

## **EXPENDITURE**

With the exception of depreciation, expenditure lines have fallen this year.

Fun Fly and Workshop are represented in the same way as the income above.

## **SUMMARY**

A successful year financially and financial reserves are looking very healthy.

**WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS****PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015**

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Subscriptions etc.		4123		3890
Fun Fly		1340		1252
Workshop		1037		0
Bank Interest Received		1		1
		6501		5143

**Expenses**

Fun Fly	1271		991	
General Club Purchases/Expenditure	341		672	
Workshop	689		1275	
Donations	25		141	
Insurance	792		1282	
Postage and Stationery	252		487	
Professional Fees	0		0	
Depreciation	865		865	
		4235		5713

**Surplus/Deficit**

2267 -570

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015****Fixed Assets**

Balance b/f	1395		1460	
Additions	0		800	
Sales	0		0	
Depreciation	865		865	
	530		1395	

**Net Value of Fixed Assets**

530 1395

**Other Assets**

Stock	1981		2083	
Bank	9384		6128	
Cash	82		104	
Prepayments	0		0	
		11447		8315

**Liabilities**

Loans (from Initial Members)	240		240	
Accruals	0		0	
		240		240

**Net Value of Assets**

11737 9470

**Represented By**

Retained Funds brought forward		9470		10040
Surplus/Deficit		2267		-570

11737 9470

Acceptance of the accounts was as follows:

Proposed by Roy Martin

Seconded by Dave Thompson

## **Web-Masters Report**

There have been questions asked about the web site that I have been running for some time; as my son Martin provides us with the server facilities I am transferring the domain name to him on the understanding that he will keep it “live” along with the shadow site at WHKF.co.uk. The problem is that the pages were originally written in HTML and to change anything requires someone who can use the language. I shall continue to keep the site up to date but will need to be given any new information that come up as I shall no longer be on the front line. In the fullness of time perhaps someone can use one of the modern wizzy techniques to produce a new site with links to the existing one. They would be welcome to use one of the existing domains so as not to change the name or just produce an entirely new one and I will link to it from the existing front page.

As the Club email comes through the same site I will continue to pick these up at the front end and pass them on to the appropriate person.

David has also asked me to keep on with our Facebook and Twitter pages as some people don't use these social networks but others rely on them for information. So that's it, you aren't getting rid of me totally. We'll still meet on the screens as well as cold, wet and windless fields.

## **Cowpat Hill Editors Report**

Andrew said that he produces 4 copies per year and, next year, he will endeavour to get them sent on time. He would like to apologise to Neil Lover for not including one of his submissions. This was an oversight.

Always happy to look at any plans, pictures, event reports, recipes, good venues anyone would like to submit and will consider all submissions.

Would like to extend thanks to all those who submit regularly but would also like to appeal for additional material

## **WHKF USA Representatives Report**

None submitted.

## **Proposal to Change Date of AGM**

As we pay our insurance later in the financial year, it was being considered whether there would be more benefit to move the AGM and year end to March/April. That was the reason for this item being added, however, subsequent conversations within the committee have led to a decision not to proceed. Consequently, this motion is removed. All at the AGM said that the current timing is their preferred option.

## **Election of Officers**

Neil Harvey thanked Arthur for all his commitment to the club and all his work over the years. A presentation was held, with a gift given to Arthur.

Neil then went on to talk about the proposal that the club make Arthur a Vice President of the club, without voting rights. Arthur has said that he would like to accept. This was voted for unanimously.

Neil asked if there were any nominations for Chairman. No one put forward. It was proposed that Dave take over as Chairman. It was further proposed that Janet take over as Secretary, as well as continuing as Treasurer. This was proposed by Stuart Lafferty and seconded by Paul Chapman. All voted in favour.

As Janet will remain as Treasurer, it was raised about signatories. Arthur will remain as a signatory on the bank account, to ensure there is a prudent approach.

Don Baggett as vice chair was proposed by Dave Johnson and seconded by Charlie Peace. Voted in favour unanimously.

Andrew was proposed as Web Master by Dave Robinson and seconded by Paul Chapman. Voted in favour unanimously.

All other committee members were voted in en bloc. Proposed by Marilyn Martin and seconded by Stuart Lafferty. All voted unanimously in favour.

## **WHKF Fun Fly 2016**

The years Fun Fly was another success. There was no wind so very little kite flying was done but the attendance was still good. The Fun Fly next year will be on the same site, in Lechlade. The cost of the event is just a £200 donation. There isn't a need for a large generator any more. Roy Martin has a generator which he is prepared to loan to the club.



The Fun Fly is on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

## **Other Events**

Dieppe is taking place in September 2016. If people are going, they can let Dave Robinson know so he can add their names and do one submission.

Minchinhampton is taking place again this year and the club have been invited again to Ducklington. Also we will be attending Bedford again on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

Christmas Pudding Fly is on the 27<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

BKFA AGM is on the 6<sup>th</sup> December at The Lamb, in London. Doug Jones will represent WHKF

## **Insurance**

Jerry was going to attend the meeting to explain the BKFA insurance. As BKFA now have the details for all and he does the negotiations.

A question was asked about whether or not Dieppe was covered. Arthur confirmed that, due to the club insurance being done by the BKFA, all are covered at an event held anywhere apart from USA or Canada. The personal insurance covers all those who are flying alone, although it is recommended that more than one person flies at a time,

## **Fees from June 2017**

Dave Robinson proposed that the fees for 2016/2017 remain the same.  
Seconded by Arthur Dibble

## **Projects for 2016**

No major projects.

## **AOB**

Paul Chapman. Bristol group have suggested doing a full length movie on Samuel Cody. The organising group want to set up a lot of workshops around the country to raise money to make the movie. Paul would like a message to

go back to BKFA to see if they have any ideas to feed into this group which might lead to funding.

Paul to email Doug with details so that he can raise it with BKFA.

### **Close of Meeting by President**

The President thanked all for coming to the meeting. The raffle raised £270.00, which was £9.00 more than last year.

The meeting closed at 3.40pm.

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## **A highly restricted briefing paper on Syria:**

President Assad (who is bad) is a nasty guy who got so nasty his people rebelled and the Rebels (who are good) started winning (Hurrah!). But then some of the rebels turned a bit nasty and are now called Islamic State (who are definitely bad!) and some continued to support democracy (who are still good). So the Americans (who are good) started bombing Islamic State (who are bad) and giving arms to the Syrian Rebels (who are good) so they could fight Assad (who is still bad) which was good. By the way, there is a breakaway state in the north run by the Kurds who want to fight IS (which is a good thing ) but the Turkish authorities think they are bad, so we have to say they are bad whilst secretly thinking they're good and giving them guns to fight IS (which is good) but that is another matter.

Getting back to Syria. So President Putin (who is bad, 'cos he invaded Crimea and the Ukraine and killed lots of folks (including that nice Russian man in London with polonium poisoned sushi) has decided to back Assad (who is still bad) by attacking IS (who are also bad) which is sort of a good thing? But Putin (still bad) thinks the Syrian Rebels (who are good) are also bad, and so he bombs

them too, much to the annoyance of the Americans (who are good) who are busy backing and arming the rebels (who are also good). Now Iran (who used to be bad, but now they have agreed not to build any nuclear weapons and bomb Israel, are now good ) are going to provide ground troops to support Assad (still bad) as are the Russians (bad) who now have ground troops and aircraft in Syria. So a Coalition of Assad (still bad), Putin (extra bad) and the Iranians (good, but in a bad sort of way) are going to attack IS (who are bad) which is a good thing, but also the Syrian Rebels (who are good) which is bad. Now the British (obviously good, except that nice Mr Corbyn in the corduroy jacket, who is probably bad and the Americans (also good) cannot attack Assad (still bad) for fear of upsetting Putin (bad) and Iran (good/bad) and now they have to accept that Assad might not be that bad after all compared to IS (who are super bad). So Assad (bad) is now probably good, being better than IS (but let's face it, drinking your own wee is better than IS so no real choice there) and since Putin and Iran are also fighting IS that may now make them Good. America (still Good) will find it hard to arm a group of rebels being attacked by the Russians for fear of upsetting Mr Putin (now good) and that nice man Ayatollah in Iran (also Good) and so they may be forced to say that the Rebels are now Bad, or at the very least abandon them to their fate. This will lead most of them to flee to Turkey and on to Europe or join IS (still the only constantly bad group). To Sunni Muslims, an attack by Shia Muslims (Assad and Iran) backed by Russians will be seen as something of a Holy War, and the ranks of IS will now be seen by the Sunnis as the only Jihadis fighting in the Holy War and hence many Muslims will now see IS as Good (Doh!). Sunni Muslims will also see the lack of action by Britain and America in support of their Sunni rebel brothers as something of a betrayal (mmm...might have a point...) and hence we will be seen as Bad. So now we have America (now bad) and Britain (also bad) providing limited support to Sunni Rebels (bad) many of whom are looking to IS (Good/bad) for support against Assad (now good) who, along with Iran (also Good) and Putin (also, now, unbelievably, Good) are attempting to retake the country Assad used to run before all this started? I hope that clears things up for 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 and by-laws.

Never fly at a height of more than 60m above ground level, in the UK unless a CAA clearance is in force (as at kite festivals). If you don't know what the clearance is ASK!

Never fly a kite in wet or stormy weather. Always try and keep your line dry.

Never fly a kite near power lines, transmission towers or aerials.

Never fly near Motorways, roads, car parks or railways.

Never fly near airfields.

Never fly a kite with anything metallic in the line.

When tethering a kite ensure that the ground anchor is suitable (see BKFA report 6 June 06).

When flying large kites always use a brake line.

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 or wild animals. If you see dangerous rubbish left by others clear it up or report it.

Never fly near those 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.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS meet at Barbury Castle Country Park on the second Sunday of each month.

Your local contacts are: -

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Subscription AGM to AGM £16 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kiteflying insurance at club approved events) £5 for each additional family member. Personal Liability Insurance £11 per person.

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