

Cowpat Hill



White Horse Kite Flyers Winter Issue 1998 January - March

Didn't they look lovely?

Thanks to Uevy and Janet for a great party, here's to another 25 years!



White Horse Kite Flyers
PO Box 585
SILTON
SN3 4YR

Minutes of WHKF AGM

9 November 1997

Welcome

In the absence of the President due to ill health, the Chairman welcomed all the members to the AGM.

Apologies

Joy & Paul Methuen, Ray Oakhill, Jerry & Carolyn Swift, Simon Hennessey, Toody Oakhill, Mik Jennison, Ron Gunter, Phillippa Todd, the Longbottom family, Alan Gilbert, Philip Roberts, Martin Dibble, Doug Irvine.

Chairman's Report

The full text of the Chairman's Report is published in this edition of Cowpat Hill.

Treasurer's Report

The losses on the festival were not as large as had been expected. The Accountant considers that the club is still making too much profit. The Chairman proposed that an honorarium of £100 be paid to the Treasurer, Arthur Dibble seconded the proposal which was carried. The acceptance of the 1996/97 Accounts was proposed by Phil Scarfe, seconded by Doug Jones and carried. It was suggested that Honorariums of £50 each be given to Neil Harvey (Chairman) and Dave and Jane Jones (Editors Cowpat Hill). The motion was proposed by Barry Poulter, seconded by John Barker and carried.

Secretary's Report

The club's aim is to promote kite flying to the public, and the workshops help achieve this aim. The Secretary thanked Barry Poulter for helping him when not enough people signed up for Kathy Goodwind's workshop and he agreed to take on extra people. The Secretary also thanked the helpers who put together the lunches on the two days. The committee want to put together a residential workshop although this is a long term plan, likely to come to fruition in 1999. If this does come about, and in fact for any non-residential workshop, members are welcome to come along and see what is going on. In view of the comments made by the accountant, the Secretary proposed that £200 be donated to The Daisy Appeal, this was seconded by Barry Poulter and carried.

U.S.A. Representative's Report

The U.S.A. representative said that he felt he was not meant to give a formal report as the first draft had been left at home, and a second left at Neil's. He reported that three new members had been recruited in the year. Maria Miller spoke about Kathy Goodwind's kites and her workshops, she said that they were excellent and would prove a valuable learning experience if the club could arrange one in the future.

Election of Officers

Life President Ron Gunter

Chairman Neil Harvey

Proposed: Arthur Dibble

Seconded: Barry Poulter

Carried

Vice Chairman Arthur Dibble

Proposed: David Robinson

Seconded: Barry Poulter

Carried

Honorary Secretary David Robinson
Proposed: Arthur Dibble
Seconded: Barry Poulter
Carried

Honorary Treasurer Janet Robinson
Proposed: Arthur Dibble
Seconded: Barry Poulter
Carried

Editor Cowpat Hill Dave & Jane Jones
Proposed: David Robinson
Seconded: John Barker
Carried

Committee Members

Janet Poulter, Doug Jones, Martin Croxton, Brenda Parnell, Dave Tomlinson, Ron Miller, Pete Dawson, Caroline Bruce.

Dave Tomlinson is standing down. The Chairman thanked Dave and Lorraine, on behalf of the club, for all their hard work since the club had started and wished them every success with Kennett Kite Flyers, the new club they have started based in Newbury.

Nominations to replace Dave were invited. Phil Scarfe was proposed by David Robinson, seconded by John Barker and carried. The remainder of the committee are prepared to stand.

One committee meeting was held in the year, other decisions were made by contacting the committee members by phone to discuss. A member asked why meetings were not held at the fly-ins at Barbury. He was advised that it had been tried but was found not to be feasible.

1998 Festival

The festival is going ahead. The Science Museum have suggested that they include an Antiques and Collectors Fair in the hanger. David and Neil were not averse to this since it should increase the number of visitors to the festival, however the final decision is outside the control of the committee.

The issue of KSGB holding the convention in conjunction with the WHKF festival was raised by a member. The Secretary advised that this had been raised in the past but the Science Museum were only really interested in how much KSGB would pay for the use of their facilities. It has not been decided which international guests will be invited. The committee are working with KSGB (Weymouth festival is the weekend before).

The Stowe Gardens festival was such a success last year that the National Trust have decided that it should be held over two days next year - 25 & 26 April. Full details will appear in Cowpat Hill.

There were no comments from the floor about the festival, although it was felt that the presence of an Antiques Fair could increase the numbers attending the festival.

Club Projects and Expenditure on Equipment

Suggestions for the winter 1997 projects were a 340 square foot flowform and two 50 foot windsocks. The Secretary would like to get the club a small (10 foot square) 'EasiUp' tent. The PA system needs music speakers as opposed to horns for demonstrations.

Suggestions from the floor included a play sail made of 18" squares appliqued by club members - although this is being done by MKF this year. A windbow was also suggested, a good one would require 41 panels.

It was agreed that the purchase of the tent and speakers would be investigated by the committee. The company who sold the tent bought last year will be contacted to see if they have any ex-hire tents available for sale. In anticipation that a good value second hand tent might be located the meeting were

asked to confirm that it could be purchased.

This was proposed by David Robinson, seconded by John Barker and carried.

Any Other Business

Letter from Doug Manners. He would like to see a workshop run on enlarging an image and how to produce a template which can then be used for appliqué. He also suggested that all those who attend a workshop should be encouraged to take their new kites to festivals to fly. The meeting agreed with this suggestion. The Secretary sought guidance from the meeting as to the appropriate time for the workshops, that is October or February. After considerable discussion it was agreed that February was the best time, although a few members indicated that they would like to see them being run in both October and February. Details of the 1998 workshop, which will be non-residential, will be announced in Cowpat Hill. The Secretary informed the meeting that the workshops are self-financing and do not cost the club anything, in fact they made a profit on Barry Poulter's.

There was considerable discussion about the cost of the workshop when the tutor was not resident in mainland UK. This was a particular problem where more than one member of a family would like to attend. It was pointed out that two workshops on one weekend could address this problem, particularly if one required considerable experience and the other was aimed at beginners.

It was agreed that a questionnaire would be included in the next edition of Cowpat Hill seeking tutors for future workshops. Members would also be asked to indicate the subject matter they would like to see covered in future workshops.

Letter from Doug Irvine. Doug suggested that committee members should be given responsibility for specific areas of kite flying. For example, Arthur - bears, Neil - big soft kites, Doug - buggies, Pete - roks. It was felt that this could lead to a fragmentation of the club, although Pete Dawson (who has spoken to Doug about his letter) advised that this was not Doug's intention. Doug feels that the committee do not meet often enough and that members with specific responsibility could bring matters with their area to the attention of the committee. The comments were taken on board however and will be discussed by the committee. A suggestion was made by one member that advisors may be a way forward. The suggestion was that a list of subjects, and a contact, would be listed in Cowpat Hill to enable anyone with a problem or query to get assistance. It was agreed that the willingness to act as advisor, and for what area/subject/kites, would be included in the questionnaire to go out in the next edition of Cowpat Hill.

Pete Dawson thanked the club for its help with the Rok Challenge. The re-run went ahead in October when 27 kites took part.

The Secretary extended the club's thanks to Lynn and Brian at Barbury for their continued support of the club, particularly the café which made the fly-ins bearable. The Chairman presented Lynn with two aerial photographs of Barbury Castle by way of thanks for all their help in the past year.

The raffle raised £184.00

The picture donated by Noel Hardy, a water-colour of an Alien being flown at Barbury Castle, raised £80 in auction for the Daisy Appeal.

Close

The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Chairman's Report 1997

Dear Members

Once again the Club has had a busy year, after Dave R. was worried that bookings were a bit thin on the ground this time last year. Well, we ended up doing an event most weekends and some weekends we had more than one event. Some were more successful than others with the usual band of helpers getting stuck in. But the Club would like to more members helping.

Club projects last year had mixed blessings. The yakko stack flew in small numbers but defied Arthur when he tried in larger numbers, but he has not thrown the towel in yet. There are plenty of winter weekends to play with. The big success was the frogman's legs. One or two problems with them ripping plus turning into Long John Silver at Barbury one Sunday. There were centrefold in Kite Passion and they stunned the Americans at Ocean Shores and Seattle in June. This winter we will probably modify them slightly in the hope that they will look more realistic. They were well worth the effort in making them (and I said I was not going to do any of the sewing - some hope). This year's project, well it's up to you, and I do not want to do any sewing PLEASE.

Going through the year, it started with Stowe Gardens, a new event. Lovely site but the winds could have been kinder. Same old story, followed by Weymouth, again winds could have been better, especially if they removed the buildings along the front. Then into our event. Well, we had the winds and the rain and hailstones but it was lovely on Monday when you all had gone home. Still, we did have Record Breakers there for Vic. Walker's attempt at the parachuting teddy bear record. Sadly, the wind put pay to that on the weekend, but Vic. did get a big hug from Cheryl Baker (the lucky swine). Then, on the following Sunday at Barbury, we succeeded with 99 bears dropped plus 1 Roman Candle and 1 who did not jump (we forgot to take his safety pin out).

I'm sorry that not all of the Club was told of the attempt, but it was carried out at short notice and some were missed being telephoned. Still, we can always go for it again. What about 200 bears from 1000 feet - some sight!

I then left these shores for a great time in the States and Canada. The Starving Horse International Team main body arrived a fortnight later and we all had a whale of a time. Shame I missed Basingstoke!!! and the other workshop!

Later on, in July, we had another new event at Thatcham, run by Dave Tomlinson. Good weekend but shame about the rain on Saturday. Dave, Janet, Angela and others did sterling work in the workshop, beyond the call of duty, and Arthur was busy bombing us with teddies. Next was Middle Wallop. Brilliant site but the winds let us down most of the weekend and then the rains came. But every cloud has a silver lining and it came in the display that the Buggiers put on in front of the crowd on the peri-track. (I always thought they were mad - now I know). Our usual trip to Hengistbury Head followed with a shortage of wind most of the day. So, mainly small kites plus the legs from the Club. Arthur, Doug Manners and Doug Irvine did

manage to drop teddies most of the day, a very valiant effort. The next Sunday was Aldershot. Again, no wind but that is par for the course for Aldershot. Workshop did well and we were treated to Barker's Fry-up. The next weekend was Portsmouth. By all accounts quite a good weekend. Sorry I missed it. A fortnight later was Bristol. I only made it on the Sunday and again, with the wind coming over the trees along Beggars Lane, the big stuff did not fly well. One day Bristol is going to be fantastic. One day!

The Club then went to Castle Cary to put on a display for Kenny. A very relaxing time I believe. Finally, we ended up with One Sky One World up at Barbury with a lovely day and a good turn out of both Club members and the general public.

Now other bits and pieces. The Club ran two workshops in the year. Firstly, we had Don Mock's Mockform class. It was very well attended and everybody finished their kite, even if some finished off at home. I hope that Arthur has learnt to wear gloves when test-flying! Secondly, we have just had Barry Poulter's Hexagon with Celtic Knot appliqué. This also was very well attended and again most finished their kite by Sunday afternoon. We must thank both Don and Barry for all their hard work in preparation for the workshops and the excellent way they carried out the tuition.

Last year you, the Club, sanctioned getting some more Club sled kites. Well, we should have them by now. Dave R. has spent many telephone calls trying to sort out getting the plastic. The firm that supplied the first batch would not supply so small a quantity, only enough for 50-55,000 kites. Dave and I thought that, at the moment, it was just a few too many for the Club. Anyway, Dave found another supplier and the plastic is now with the printers. So we should be ready for next season.

Another first for the Club is that our USofA rep. is here in person this year to report on things over the pond. It is very pleasing for me to welcome Ron and Marla Miller to the A.G.M.

Now, I have been rabbiting long enough but, before I shut up, on behalf of the family I would like to thank you all for your thoughts, acts and gifts since Amie's accident. Your concern for Amie has been a great comfort to us. Amie is progressing well but still has a long way to go but, the way she is coping, it will be shortened by her determination. This also means that like this last season, I may not be available as much as I would like for events etc. but my heart will be there with you.

So, let's hope '98 will be great and the winds blow fair and your lines are tight.

Finally, if I have missed anything or person out, it has not been intentional as the Club has pulled well together this year.

Thank you.

Neil.

Children in Need

Or in our case Adults in need

OK, it's confession time. I listen to radio 2 and even worse I listen to Terry Wogan. It will soon be the TOG's sticker in the car rear screen. How much lower can one go? Who suggested kite flying? If anyone else listens (and I now know some one who does) they will know that every year in October Tel launches the Children in Need appeal.

As we do our bit for charities I decided that I would like to do something for this good cause. I had just got a modem and with Martin's help had got onto the internet and wanted to try it out. Having heard the E Mail address for Mr Wogan we sent him a message to say we would be parachuting Teddies to Raise funds.

Unfortunately I was not listening to the radio the following morning but when speaking to another club member that evening he informed me that as he was driving along the announcement was put out on the radio and he nearly wrecked his Vectra with the shock of hearing WHKF mentioned.

During October and November I raised just over sixty pounds. In the mean time we had been contacted by the local BBC who wanted us to appear on the night to hand over the cheque and they actually came to Barbury where they filmed some bear drops. This was shown as part of a compilation around midnight and was videoed by Amy and I am really looking forward to seeing it. As for the TV interview Janet, Dave, Neil, and I went to a lot of trouble to attend and suffice it to say we won't do it again.

However to end on a brighter note I was astounded some weeks later to receive a small salver as a prize for one of the top twenty fund raising ideas. So once again WHKF are showing the way. Many thanks to all of you who contributed with donations or assistance.

Arthur

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Airdynamics, Powerhouse,
Aircraft, Prism, Aerie,
Revolution, Quadrafoil, etc etc

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Website: www.argonet.co.uk/kreativ.kites

e.mail: kreativ.kites@argonet.co.uk

Just to say thanks

As a new member of the Club, I would just like to say thanks to everyone for making my family and I very welcome.

I enjoy reading Cowpat and have had a go at making a parafoil from plans in the July/September issue which, to my great delight, flew very well so much so that I have now made a bigger one by making the panels wider. This too flies well.

This summer we have had a lot of fun going to some of the festivals which included Wroughton, Thatcham, Middle Wallop, Bristol, Castle Cary and Dave's night fly at Thatcham, where the kids got a picture in the local paper with one of Arthur's kites, and as many times as time allowed at Barbury and always made very welcome by other Club members especially Dave, Janet and Arthur.

Over the year I have watched Arthur and his bears, which I took great interest in, so much so that, after talking about it on different occasions, I have made a teddy-dropping rig too and have had a lot of fun doing so.

So, a big thank you to Arthur for all your help. It's been appreciated.

So, to the end of the season and the A.G.M., my first one of many I hope. Just to say thanks for all the hard work the Committee and helpers put in. It makes the Club a great club. Well, I seemed to have been here hours and my finger hurts. Hope you all had a good Christmas and an even better New Year. Anyway, all the best and keep up the good work.

Thanks.

Pete, Tracy and girls

Committee Wordsearch

Find these committee members.

ARTHUR
BRENDA
CAROLINE
DAVE
DAVID
DOUG
JANE
JANET
MARTIN
NEIL
PETE
PHIL
RON



Barry's Workshop

Dear Barry,

Thank-you very much, what else can I say? It was a great weekend. I think I can speak for everyone by saying that it was Brilliant with a capital "B". I would also like to say thanks to Janet and all the team from W.H.K.F.

When I returned home and made the kite up for everyone to see and then hung it in the front room on full display, I'm not sure if I want to fly it or just sit and look at it all the time. I really looked forward to the workshop before the weekend and now, looking back, it was far better than I ever expected.

Once again Barry thanks very much indeed. If, or when, you do another you can count me in.

Donald

P.S. I hope you enjoyed the bottle of French plonk.

Kite Retreat

Natural Heights
The Independent Holiday Shop
10 Blandfield Road
LONDON
SW12 8BG
Fax: 0181 673 7466

14th October 1997

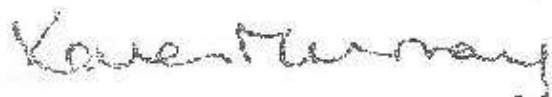
Dear White Horse Kite Flyers

I was wondering if it would be at all possible for you to make some kind of mention of the Kite Retreat with Chris Matheson in March 1998? We are arranging this and the course cost is £75.00. The flights, car hire and accommodation can be supplied through Natural Heights.

People need to call me on 0181 682 8990 for a free colour brochure and more information.

If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to call me.

Yours sincerely



Karen Murray

PORTUGAL KITE RETREAT

**12TH MARCH - 19TH MARCH & 19TH - 26TH
MARCH 1998**

Get ready for the season! Come and hang around with one of England's premier kite flyers and designers: **Chris Matheson**.

Chris will give you some helpful hints and tips on both flying and designing. He will be with you each afternoon on the beach giving you advice on:-

PRECISION

FREESTYLE

TRICK

FOUR LINE

POWER KITING

Chris is well known to be one of the best of his kind, so can you afford to miss out on a unique opportunity?

Flying takes place on the glorious Meia Praia beach in Lagos each afternoon from 2.00 - 6.00 p.m. Afterwards, there is ample time to get together and meet new friends and exchange ideas.

There will be an introduction at the beginning of the retreat at the Burgau Sports Centre which is a 5 minute walk from the majority of the accommodation offered.

The cost of this week is a £75.00 supplement which needs to be added to the cost of your accommodation price and flight. These usually add up to between £260.00 and £300.00 per person per week. Please see the brochure on all our self-catering accommodation and ask for flight details.

We look forward to meeting and flying with you.

**CALL NATURAL HEIGHTS TEL. 0181 682 8990 OR FAX 0181 673
7466 for a brochure or reservations.**

(All flying is weather conditions permitting).

Are You Getting Old?

A 'Senior Citizen' is one that was here before the pill, television, frozen foods, credit cards and ball point pens. For us 'Time Sharing' meant togetherness, not computers and a 'Chip' meant a piece of wood. 'Hardware' meant hard wear and soft wear was not even a word. Teenagers never wore slacks or jeans. We were before panty-hose, drip-dry clothes, dishwashers, clothes dryers and electric blankets. We got married first, then lived together and thought was something butchers did. We were before a batman, disposable diapers, jeeps, pizzas, instant coffee and 'Kentucky Fried' wasn't even thought of. In our day cigarette smoking was fashionable. 'Grass' was for mowing, 'Pot' was something you cooked in, a 'Gay' person was the life and soul of the party, whilst 'Aids' meant beauty lotions or help for someone in trouble. We are today's senior citizens, a handy bunch when you think of how the world has changed and adjustments we have had to make.

How to know when you are getting old

Everything hurts - what doesn't hurt doesn't work

The gleam-in-your eye is the sun shining on your bifocals.

You feel like the morning after but you haven't been anywhere

Your black book contains only names ending in M.I.

You get winded playing cards.

Your children begin to look middle aged.

You join a health club but don't go.

A dripping tap becomes an uncontrollable urge.

You have all the answers but no-one asks the questions.

You look forward to a dull evening.

You need glasses to find your glasses.

You turn out the light economy instead of romance.

You sit in a rocking chair but can't make it go.

Your knees buckle but your belt won't.

Your back goes out more than you do.

You put your bra on back to front and it fits better.

Your house is too big and your medicine cabinet is not big enough.

You sink your teeth into steak and they stay there.

Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.

Supplied by Anne McGrath

Donald's Rotating Parachute

I thought I would tell you all about my Donut or, as Andy King and George Webster say, 'The Rotating Parachute'.

I had the inspiration from Eddie Magrath's design that was in the Kiteflier 1993. My design has 69 segments, 23 of each colour: pink, blue and yellow. Each line is about 18m long. I sewed all the loops at each end instead of putting in knots, it gave less chance of getting it in one big knot.

I used 37m of 2" Dacron on the outer edge, with 3/8 eyelets to tie the lines on and 17m on the inner hole.

Like John Turner and his spiky Donut, I did not know if it would fly or if it was just a waste of time and money.

I had 1242 metres of 220lb line to put on and, as you can imagine, it's not the sort of thing you can do in the front room. So, one Saturday afternoon in March (Yes, March), Sarah and I and the kids, Ashley aged 5 and Harriett just 2, went to thread the lines onto the eyelets, without tangling them up. It was getting cold and dark and late so we had to go and finish off the next day and it was very blowy. After cutting out for about 20 hours, sewing for 60 hours plus putting the Dacron and lines etc. on, I had no intention of putting it back in the bag and going home. I knew I had to make it very strong from the advice I had from Dave Robinson and I knew I had to make sure the hole was very big.

Next, I tied it to the back of the car and was just about to launch when I had a thought! (What happens when it's in the air and I can't get it down?) So, I put a 3 inch ring, which I happened to have in the car, on the lines.

Right, back to the launch. It wasn't like John's where he filled the Donut gently with air and it grew and grew. Oh No! I opened it up and WHOOSH - IT WENT STRAIGHT UP!! I was so excited but very concerned when it pulled the car sideways about 6 feet as the car was not in line with the wind (but soon it was).

"IT FLIES, IT FLIES", but now I have to get it down. I pulled the ring from the tow bar towards the donut and all 69 lines came together.

If you see me at any of the festivals, I will be more than happy to have a chat and you can have a go!

Donald CAPEWELL

Kite Stores

Dear Dave,

You asked for comments about kite shops, here are mine! Unhappy shoppers?

No, the kite shop described in the last issue is not a one-off. For some time I've despaired over one in Bournemouth. My visits there were always for odds and ends and, as I never felt welcome, I made them as few as possible. Stock control, if any, was hopeless:-

"Twelve of 3 mm end caps please." "Only got eight" was typical.

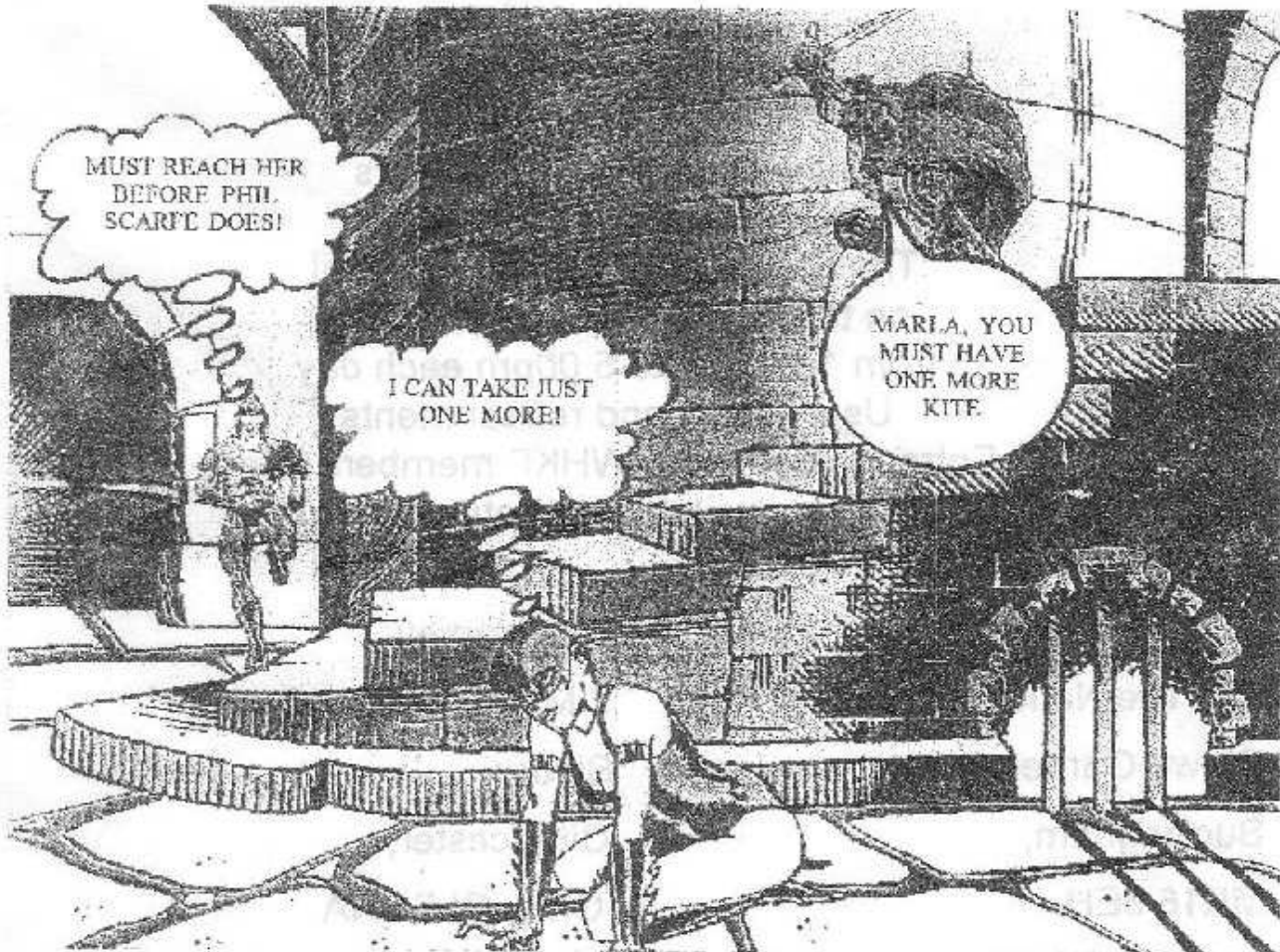
Finding, after I'd cut it to length, that their 6mm carbon fibre tube was only 5.5 mm didn't inspire trust; and the sandwich on the counter and drink can in hand approach to customers didn't suggest competence.

Pleasing the likes of me was not a major concern, it's small wonder that the shop has just closed.

Alan Walker

Off the record, because it's hearsay, another shopper told me of an incident of the most incredible rudeness in that firm's Southampton shop!

Best wishes to all.



Recipe

Wiltshire Lardy Cake (Requested by David Robinson)

Stir together in a mixing bowl the following ingredients:

- 1lb Plain flour
- Pinch of salt
- Sachet of "Easybake Yeast"

Add the following to the mixture and mix well to make a thick dough.

- 1/4 pint water
- 1/4 pint warm milk

You will also need:

- 6oz brown sugar
- 6oz pure lard
- 6oz mixed fruit
- 1/2 teaspoon mixed spice

Mix spice and fruit together before use. Roll the dough into an oblong shape, approx 6" by 12". Dot the dough with 1/3 of the lard, then sprinkle 1/3 of the mixed

fruit and 1/3 of the sugar over. Roll up the dough trapping the fruit etc. Turn 1/4 of a turn and roll out again. Do this twice more until the fruit, sugar and lard are used up.

Roll out to the size of your baking tin (8" by 11"). Grease the tin and place the now heavy mix into the tin. Score the top with a sharp knife.

Leave in a warm place to rise for about 90 mins until it has doubled in size. Place in a hot oven (400°F or Gas mark 6) until brown (about 30 mins). Remove from the oven and leave in the tin so that the fat is soaked back into the cake (about 20 mins). When cool, glaze with a mixture of sugar and water (3 tablespoons of brown sugar & 2 tablespoons of water - heat to dissolve). Brush this over the top of the cake. When cool and set remove from the tin. Make sure you remove it before it sticks to the tin.

Date for the Dairy

The National Trust
in conjunction with
The White Horse Kite Flyers
are organising

The Stowe Gardens Kite Festival
on the 25th & 26th of April 1998
from 10.00am to 5.00pm each day

Usual stalls and refreshments
Entrance Fee 1.00, WHKF members free
Camping available on Saturday night

Further details from:-

Carole Adams,
C/o The National Trust,
Stowe Gardens,
Buckingham,
MK18 5EH
01280 822850

Neil Harvey,
2 Meadowlands Cotts,
Bibury,
Cirencester,
Glos. GL7 5NA
01285 740295

Sky Chat. (or Late as usual)

Well here we go again into a New Year, what holds for us this year. What new challenges, what new adventures, what new horizons. Well by the time of the next AGM we should know. Every year the Club embarks on doing something different and this year is no exception. In February we have a weekend workshop with three classes going on. Now I know that some of you want to do more than one of the classes, but it is not practical to really do justice to more than one class. The standard we have set in previous workshops has been 100% so we do not want to lower it by trying to do 2 at less than 100%. But all is not lost, if the demand is there we will repeat the classes at another workshop (tutors permuting) at a later date. So please keep us informed of your needs. You will also see from the booking form that there is a surcharge on non-members of the club for the workshops. This is because the workshops are for you firstly and other kite flyers secondly. This charge will help in covering the admin. costs.

Well since the AGM Arthur the Vice has been in the news with his Teddy Bear dropping for Children in Need. Shown on BBC West, interviewed on Radio Wiltshire and last but not least on Radio 2 Terry Wogan Show in winning a salver for one of the most unusual ways of raising money for the appeal. Well done Arthur.

Do'nt forget that Stowe Kite Festival is on over TWO Days this year. the 18/19th of April. See general info in this issue. More details nearer the time. Date change due to Old Warden being a fortnight later this year.

Well the SUN shone on us this year for the Mince-pie Fly-in, the wind was pretty good and it wasn't cold. Number of kite flyers was down a little but number of kites flying were up. An enjoyable day was had and The Daisy Appeal is 170.00 better off. From me and the family thank you all who helped and brought raffle prizes to round off 1997 on a happier note.

I apologise to Dave The Ed for not getting my copy to him before the deadline. hence it is right at the back, maybe it's the best place for it.

Now it's time to wish you all A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Neil

And finally a note from the Editor.

Not much from me this issue, in fact not much from anyone. Usually this is the easiest magazine of the year because everyone is feeling guilty after the AGM. Not the case this year, so make it your new year resolution to pen an article to Cowpat, it would be gratefully appreciated.

Have you renewed? If you have forgotten then don't forget to send your money to Janet Robinson (address on front cover). **Don't forget!**

Just a few events to bring to your attention. The first is the workshop in February, see insert for details, the second is Weymouth festival on 3rd/4th May and finally **SWINDON** festival on 9th/10th May. Let's hope that the weather is kinder this time. Offers of help to Neil.

Articles for the next issue by mid March please, thanks to those who did contribute this time.

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 aeriels.
- 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

and

Lynn & Brian Simpson on: (01793) 845346

COWPAT HILL

Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers

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Tel: 01793 823493

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(including postage and kite flying insurance)

Whilst every care is taken when compiling this journal the WHKF cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions which may occur.

The views in this magazine are not necessarily the views of the Editor or WHKF.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS

WINTER WORKSHOP

Here we go again! As promised at the AGM, we are holding another workshop at Headlands School, Swindon, on 21st/22nd February 1998, the workshop will consist of three classes. They are as follows:

Barry Poulter

For those of you who took Barry's appliqué class in October you will know how good it was, in that class you made a kite, from a kit that Barry had prepared, then appliquéd it.

Barry will be continuing the theme of appliqué, but this time he will teach how to take your own artwork, a design or picture, scale it up, then make a paper template. You will need to bring, pencils, rubbers and long rulers. This will be a two-day class, with a fee of £15 the class size will be limited to 15 so book early to avoid disappointment!

Franchesca Caton

Franchesca, used to make wind inflated structures professionally, she will teach how to take a 3-D object and sew it in an enlarged form in Ripstop. At this class you will also make a 1 metre blow fish windsock, so you will need some sewing ability plus of course sewing machine. If you would like to do this class but do not have a machine, contact us because we may be able to lend you one.

This is a two-day class, the cost will be £25, and the class needs a minimum of 5 participants with a maximum of 15.

John Browning

John is predominately an Indian Fighter Kite flyer, who was spotted at Bristol this year, flying a swarm of Bee's, since that time I have been badgering him to do a class on making the "Swarm", he has given in at last!

These kites are small Yakko's, made from rattan and cigarette paper, they are made on a former. The making of the former will be part of the class, you will make five of these kites that all fly off of a central flying line, like the branches of a tree.

This is a two-day class, the cost will be £25, and the class needs a minimum of 5 participants with a maximum of 10, I must add that John was taught how to make these kites by Ernest Lernout, a Belgian kite flyer, who we need to thank! Also if you want to become a knot tier then this class is a must, because John is an expert!

Tea & Coffee will be available both days, and lunch for both days will be a potluck, i.e. you bring some food that you have made or bought and we put it in the "POT" and share it.

The classes start at 10am and finish about 5pm, both days. The fees are for W.H.K.F. members, if non-members wish to join us there will be a booking fee of £3.

Please fill in the booking form and return it with a deposit of 50% of the fee, (cheques made payable to W.H.K.F.) To PO Box 585 Swindon SN3 4YR. For any further information call me on 01793 824208.

Regards Dave Robinson

BOOKING FORM

Tick box of your preferred class.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
TEL NO.	

Barry Poulter

Franchesca Caton

John Browning