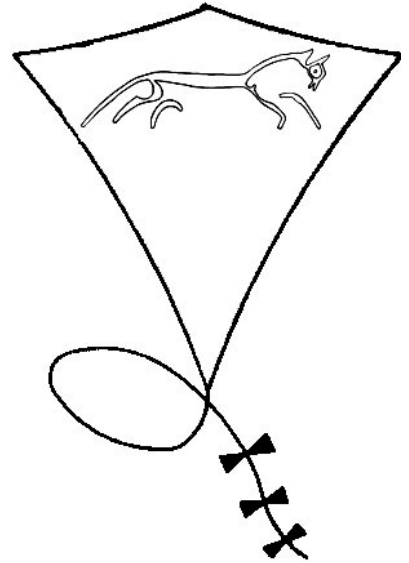


Cowpat Hill

Journal of
The White Horse Kite Flyers
Issue: Summer 2009
July---September



NEWS FLASHES

At a committee meeting on 14th June it was decided to return to Brinkworth for our 20th festival in 2010. The dates for this will be 8/9th May. Moves are currently under way to secure the site and contact interested traders.

The long awaited fence replacement at Barbury has at last been done and includes the "Kissing Gate" so that we can get in and the sheep cannot get out. Unfortunately they have not yet mowed any of the field and have failed to train the sheep to eat meter high thistles.

After missing the spring workshop we have a new venue arranged and a tutor booked. Details can be found on page 12 and those of you who have attended previous workshops should have received a booking form. Any one else who is interested should contact us as any remaining places will be issued on a first come first served basis and we are limited to a maximum of 20.

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS

PO BOX 585

SWINDON

SN3 4YR

www.whkf.org.uk

info@whkf.org.uk

DIARY DATES

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

July

4/5th Sunderland
12th Barbury Castle
11/12th Brighton Festival
18/19th Berrington Hall
19th Dunstable Downs
26/27th Golden Valley

August

1st Sheffield
9th Barbury Castle
29th/31st Portsmouth

September

12/13th Bristol
12/13th Wroughton
13th Barbury Castle

October

11th Barbury Castle (One Sky One World)
24/25th Workshop

November

8th Barbury Castle
15th A.G.M.

December

13th Barbury Castle
27th Barbury Castle (Christmas Pudding Fly)

IF YOU HAVE ANY DATES PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT THEY CAN BE ADDED TO THIS LIST

DEAD-LINE FOR NEXT ISSUE 27th September 2009



No.1 . Mrs Pocock giving George a right earful for spending a fortune developing his *char-volant* in order to avoid the penny toll at the local bridge.

INSTEAD OF SKY CHAT

I would never have the audacity to try and replace Sky Chat but on the evening of the dead line for this issue I got a call from Neil's son-in-law, Patrick, to say that Neil's hip had come out again and he had been taken back to hospital. This a day earlier than he had anticipated and he is due out about Monday 29th. Just in case anything else goes wrong I am putting this note in and we will once again have it printed elsewhere. I am sure all the club members join me in wishing Neil a full and speedy recovery.

As I have this extra space I should like to thank every one who has contributed to this issue of Cowpat Hill. Perhaps some one else out there has done some thing they could share in the next issue. Starting then I am hoping to be able to include answers to the puzzle page from previous issues. It has been very rewarding having a number of people asking for this as it means they must be trying it them selves and getting as frustrated as I do when proof reading them.

It was interesting to see the responses (both of them) that I got to the suggestion of a poem or nursery rhyme so how about a limerick this time starting: - "There was a young man with a kite". Note only clean ones will be published in the magazine but we may find a corner on the web site for the others.

I am sorry I will miss Barbury in July as I am away on holiday but I will make sure this issue is available then and those of you who have asked to receive it in E format should still do so on the same day. I shall be sending it out in the morning before I leave for summer holiday. Any problems please E-mail me at the usual address as I shall take the laptop with me and will log in any where I can find Wi-Fi. (just don't tell Ann)

KAPital Snippets

By Doug Jones

There are many systems to get a camera in the air with a kite to take photographs, its up to you to decide which one to use.

Most of us use a digital camera. More pixels give better definition, provided the lens is of good quality. With film the fineness of the grain is similar, but faster film has a coarser grain. Pixels and grain have similar properties, except that digital cameras have an algorithm in the circuitry to make allowances for the lack of definition, a bit like painting by numbers. The algorithm only gives an impression of definition. For aerial photography you need high definition unless you are into using lack of definition as an art form.

A digital setting or film rated at ISO 100 or 200 is good for all round use. For digital you should use a camera of 7 million pixels or more. A wide-angle lens with a large aperture f 2.8 and a shutter speed 1/500 second or faster, this should give reasonable results.

A system of hoisting the camera in the air and to control it is needed. Radio control with 3 servos at about £40 to £50 is adequate. This will control: direction 360 degrees, camera angle from 180 degrees horizontal through vertical to horizontal and will also operate the shutter.

When aloft a cradle to hold the camera and radio is needed, it hangs on the kite line about 15 metres below the kite, via a pendulum or pivacet. Either a pendulum or a pivacet should hold the cradle about 2 metres from the kite line.

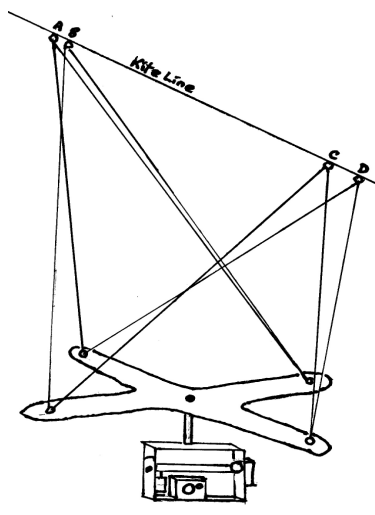
A pivacet is a loop of slippery string that runs through 4 rings attached to the cradle and another 2 rings attached to the kite line. This system gives remarkable steadiness and stows away in a small space.

The cradle can be made out of aluminum strip available from hardware shops. Kits and outfits are obtainable from Brooks Leffler in the USA. He does not sell directly outside USA, but I am sure this can be overcome. His website is:-

www.brooxes.com

To lift the camera rig you will require a fairly large kite, I recommend 2 metre Rokkaku or 3.65 metre (12 foot) Delta. Other kites may be used, even sport kites. Parafoils are good in strong very steady wind, but if it is unsteady there is a good chance of damaged equipment.

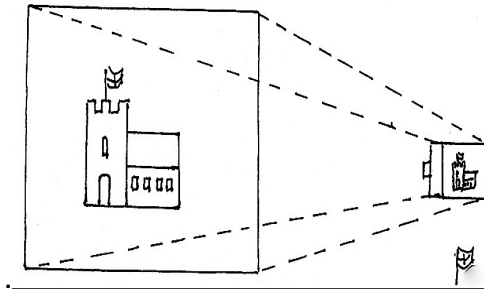
Pivacet.



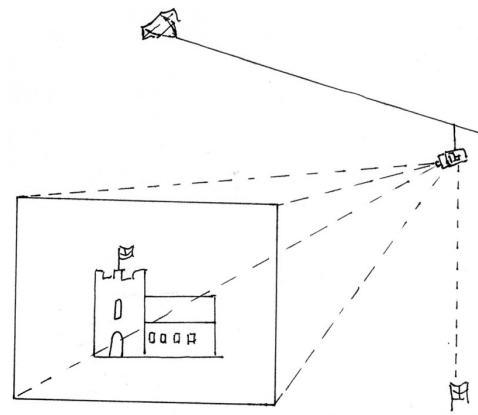
Rigging diagram not to scale. 4 rings on kite line for clarity, A & B are one ring as are C & D. 19 metres of slippery line is needed, remember to paint the knot that joins the ends.

T ips A nd T ricks

How To Get The Subject In The Photograph



Look through the viewfinder and when satisfied put a marker on the ground under the camera.



Fly the camera over the marker while pointing the camera at the subject.

How to tie off your kite to the ground anchor.

The favoured knot for this is probably the Highwayman's hitch that has been described in previous issues. Recently the Spanish knot has been promoted by Dave Gomberg. What follows is a very simple solution from our very own knot specialist.

Take a loop in the standing part and, using the doubled part, wrap it around your anchor using an ordinary slipped thumb knot.

Easy to tie and easy to undo. No carabiners. Less secure than the Highwayman but interesting n'est pas ?

Plans

A huge number of kite plans and related items can be found on the web at <http://www.kiteplans.org/>

Polly's Pantry

Timmy's Chocolate Bread Pudding.

Information.

I use the following measurement conversions 1 Cup = roughly 8.25 fluid ounces or 125 grams. Some measuring jugs have cups marked on them.

Ingredients.

6 cups crouton sized cubes of bread
½ pint double cream for the mixture plus some extra for serving
8oz chocolate (I think 4oz milk & 4oz plain is best)
½ cup of sugar
5 large eggs (Separated)
1/3 cup butter (preferably unsalted but not vital)
3 teaspoons vanilla extract
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon (optional but worth it)

Method

Preheat oven to 350F or gas mark 4

Put bread cubes in a large mixing bowl

Melt chocolate in a Porringer/double saucepan/bowl over warm water. Don't let the chocolate get too hot it only needs to just melt. Then stir in all the cream.

Mix the sugar, egg yolks, butter, vanilla and cinnamon until smooth then add the chocolate mixture again mixing until smooth.

Pour this mixture over the bread and mix well but be gentle you don't want to break the bread up.

Beat the egg whites until they form stiff peaks then fold them into the bread mixture.

Pour all this into a large Pyrex/ casserole dish which needs to be standing in a roasting pan with enough boiling water in it to come halfway up the outside of the dish.

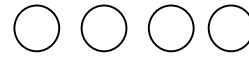
Place this in the oven and bake for 35 minutes or until the pudding just begins to set.

Serve immediately with more cream and enjoy. This will serve 6 people but it does microwave well the next day if you really don't want to share it.

Puzzle Corner (13)



1. Six coins laid out so:



Move just one coin to form 2 lines, each with 4 coins.



2. This sum works for both letters and numbers:



TEN
 TEN
FORTY
SIXTY

What are the numbers?

3. The following coin denominations available: 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, 1.

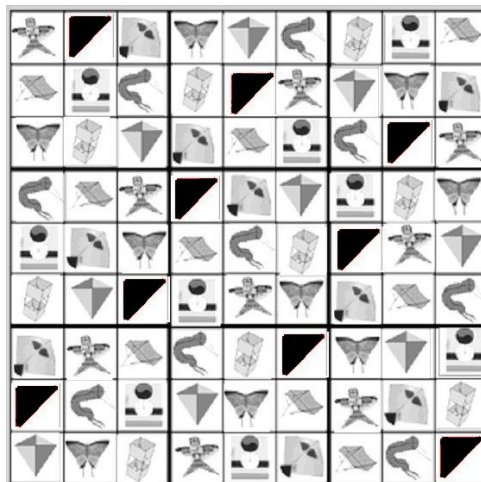
If you want to buy 3 toggles, you can give the exact money using 2 coins. For 1 toggle, you need at least 4 coins and for 2 toggles, you need 6 coins. No change needs to be given. How much is a toggle?

Did you know that a *stapling machine* can impale things?

Answers to john@johnbrowning.net.

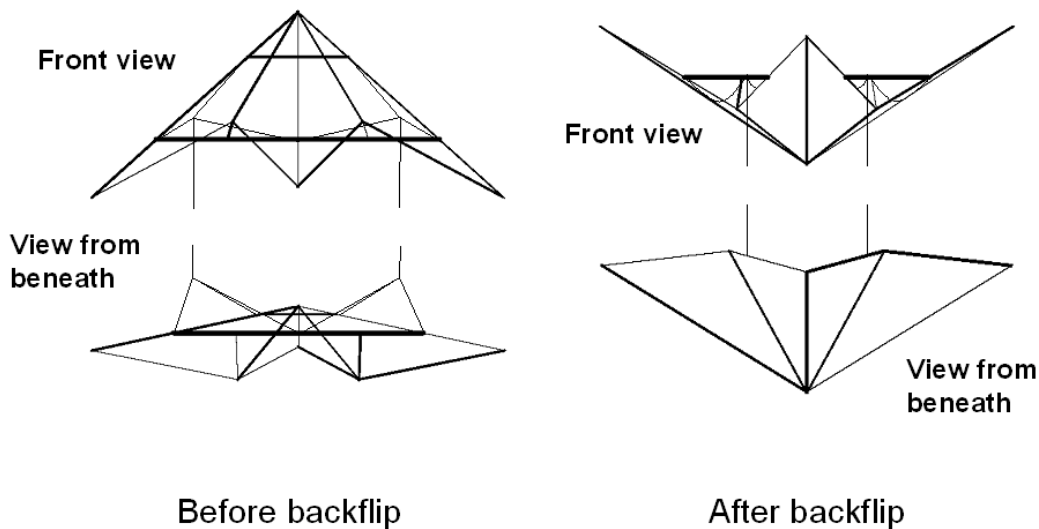
Any comments about Puzzle Corner?

The solution to Kite Sudoku in the last issue



Newbie sports kite flier confessions 4 – Back flips

A back flip is where the kite flips out of its normal flying position into a position where the back of the kite is facing you, with the nose facing downwards.



Sport kite in normal flight and after being backflipped

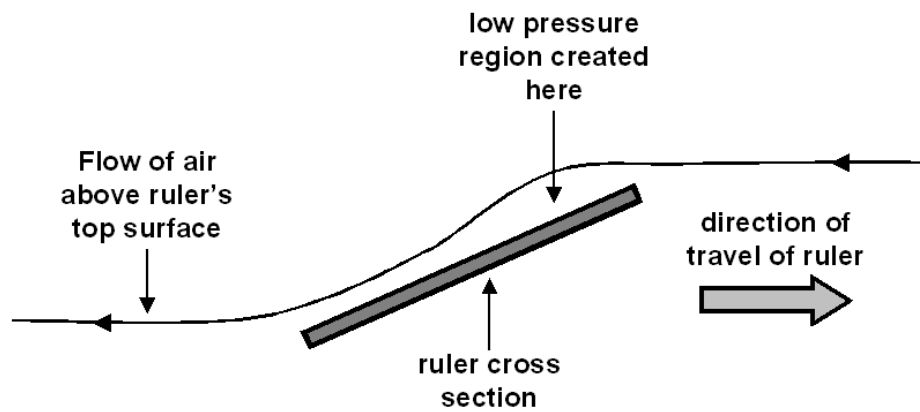
The back flip is supposed to be easy. For example Prism's "Freestyle Pilot" DVD says:

"The backflip is one of the first tricks we teach because it's easy to learn for anybody who can keep a kite in the air. ... To do a backflip start at the top of the window with your arms fully outstretched, then give a big downwards sweep of the hands towards your knees. Cock your wrists to give a quick downwards snap before throwing your hands upward ... If the kite doesn't flip all the way over: throw your hands up faster, start with your hands lower, or use a sharper snap of the wrists before you throw upward."

So I tried and tried to follow these instructions, and similar instructions in other videos. But a good back flip (that is one where the nose falls sufficiently back and downwards) was only achieved sporadically. After lots of practice, effort, trial, and heart ache, I came to realise that the back flip works by a simple mechanism described below, and following some of the above instructions could actually get in the way of a good back flip.

As an experiment, take a ruler (or similarly shaped rigid structure such as a strip of card), angle it so that one of the long edges is slightly raised (rather like an aircraft wing has its leading edge raised) hold it by one or both ends, and wave it through the air, raised edge first. If you are very sensitive, you may be able to feel the ruler being lifted by the current of air over its surfaces, just like a wing is. But don't worry if you can't feel this effect. Now again wave the ruler through the air raised edge first, but this time, in the middle of the wave, let go of the ruler. You should find that it spins about the long axis of the ruler, with the spin starting with raised edge first moving back over the rest of the ruler.

What is happening is that when the ruler or any similar flat structure with a raised leading edge moves through the air, the air flows over the raised edge, but can't change direction fast enough to get to the top surface just behind the raised edge. So there is a low pressure area just behind the raised edge. Further down the upper surface the air flow has had time to change its direction to get to the surface, and the pressure reduction is not so great. The result of this disparity in air pressures is that the ruler wants to flip over, which is what happens when you let go of it.



Airflow across the top of a moving ruler

The same thing happens with a sport kite. When flying normally, the reduced pressure behind the top of the sail means that if the lines are suddenly released, then the kite flips over backwards. Just how fast and far it flips depends on the kite's shape and weight distribution, and on how fast the kite is flying before the lines are released.

So returning to the video instructions, so long as the pull down with the arms and flick with the hands is one smooth movement to make the kite fly fast, just before the line release, then the back flip works. The problem is when the actions are more jerky, such as with a really sharp snap of the wrists. This causes turbulence and the kite doesn't fly normally and then the back flip doesn't always work. Jerky snaps do have their place, but in tricks such as the snap stall where the aim is to stop the kite flying, which is another subject.

COWPAT AND TECHNOLOGY

It is interesting looking back at Cowpat over the years to see how it reflects the advances in technology. In the earliest issues articles were commonly phoned through or at the best hand written and posted. These were then edited on, I believe, an Amstrad computer using a desk top publishing package that had to be loaded from a cassette recorder. Although I do not know for certain I can only imagine a single print being done and then photocopied. This was then handed out as a single sheet to those present at Barbury.

Richard who was the first editor then went through a selection of computers and took the magazine to its current A4 multi sheet format. When Dave and Jane took over I think they started with one of the infamous BBCs. I remember some of the comments about spelling and grammar as Jane had to type in all the articles by hand from those sent in by post. We all know the BoF's style, so imagine what his articles must have been like, even when typed.

Dave then changed to a Mac and by this time I was using a Psion3 hand held. As Dave also had one of these we used to meet at Barbury and I would download articles to his using the infrared link. This was improved when the massive 1MB flash ram plug in memories became available and we could just pass these over. From the Psion it was then possible to down load to a word processor on the Mac.

When Tracey took over PCs with Microsoft Word were the most common option and are still the norm. I must consider myself lucky that this has remained so and that the majority of articles arrive at my desk via the internet and I do not have to re-type them. I can take virtually any type of file and simply have to re-format them to fit the available space and then email them off to who ever is going to print them. I can even send them out to people who require the e-format without leaving my desk.

When you consider that all this change has been in the lifetime of "Cowpat Hill" one wonders what facilities future editors will have at their fingertips.

Arthur

Mary Had A Little Kite....

Mary had a little lamb
She also had a kite
No matter how much she tried
The kite would not take flight
Up and down the park she ran
In and out of the trees
“I’ve had enough of this” She said
And fell down on her knees
Watching Mary in her plight
An old gent was sitting by
“Let me help you out” he said
“I’m sure we’ll make it fly”
Putting down his Cowpat Hill
Gave the centre piece a tweak
“There you are” the old gent said
“Now it will fly for a week.”
Up away the kite did fly
To the sun and clouds above
Mary shouted out with joy
And gave the man a hug
P.S. “You have done it now” said Mary’s mum
“Kite flying was quite a hike
She’s standing there, just doing nowt
Now I’ll have to buy her a bike”...

oo00oo

Kites that do not fly = child exercisers.

Ron Dell 18th April, 2009.

And from John Browning

Mary had a little kite
She could not make it fly
(She'd turned the bridle inside-out
Which only made her cry)
She asked a White Horse kiter
To tell her how and why
Now everywhere that Mary goes
Her kite is in the sky

Interesting the similarity in the themes of these 2 totally unconnected rhymes. At least they show a common faith in the abilities of our club. (ED)

ROBINSON'S RAMBLE

What's going on! Good weather two Festivals running, it didn't look too good on the Friday set-up day, I awoke to torrential rain, I thought here we go again "another washout" however by lunchtime on Friday the weather had started to turn for the better and we didn't look back from then on. Thanks to all of you who turned up to get the site ready, I will not mention all of you because I will miss someone, however you all know who you are so **THANKS!!!** The festival wouldn't be possible without your help. A very big thanks to Don Baggett our Vice-Chairman, if you didn't know, Don arranged for the Helicopters to be there, and by the amount of people going to look at them they were a great attraction.

Thanks also to all of you who helped in the workshop, it raised over £225, which goes some way to helping fund the event. Thanks to Pete Willis for organising the car-parking, he only found out a couple of days before that there weren't as many people coming to do this job who had originally said they would come, so he had to work all weekend at car-parking, again; thanks Pete. A very special thank-you goes to Marla, who this year was assisted by her husband Ron, Ron had arrived at our house on the Thursday prior to the festival to surprise Janet and myself, we had no clue that he was coming over, his first visit to the UK for 2½ years, together they organised the raffle and raised the sum of £1020.30, a magnificent effort! Thanks must go to all of you who donated prizes and dug deep into your pockets to support the raffle, our biggest fund raiser! We had a bit of a shock on the Saturday morning, Neil Harvey had recently had a hip operation and surprised us all when he turned up with his son-in-law, Patrick; on the Friday to put up the PA tent and supervise the installation of the PA, the shock came on Saturday when Janet received a call from Neil to say he wouldn't be able to come to the festival because his hip had popped out over night and he was back in hospital, this meant that yours truly was the PA announcer for the weekend. I wouldn't put me anywhere near the top of the ladder when it comes to this duty, so luckily for me George Webster was at the event and offered his services for a few hours each day, thank-you George!

I thought considering we had to move the event some way out of town, plus Swindon had the largest music festival to ever come to town, organised by the BBC, this was a free event that attracted 40.000 people over two days, our event didn't do too badly with visitors, however the traders would disagree with me on that one! I would estimate we had about 1500 over the two days.

We have been very lucky to get Cliff Quinn to come over from America to do a workshop for us, Cliff is rated as being one of the best kite making teachers in the USA. We have had to move the venue for this event, it will be held at the Croft Centre, Old Town, Swindon, over the weekend 24/25th October, the fee will be £80 including Buffet lunch each day The kite he will be teaching is a Marconi, those of you who are regular at our workshops will soon be receiving your booking form, anyone else interested please contact me.

Finally I would like to say a special thanks to Kevin Griffiths, a mutual friend of Janet and myself, and Ron & Marla, Kevin is the manager of the Three Crowns in Brinkworth, Kevin took three days off work to help at the festival, he did a great job helping Janet over the weekend, he helped do the litter bins on both days, not bad for someone who isn't a kite flyer, and who wasn't even a member of the club. **He is now!**

White Horse Kite Flyers Autumn Workshop (24/25th October 2009)
Presents

The Modern Marconi
By
CLIFF QUINN

We selected Cliff as this year's presenter for his unique experience and devotion to sharing his kite building knowledge.

Cliff lives in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. and has been kite flying and kite making since 1992.

In the 17 years of kiting he has received many kite making awards such as the prestigious AKA Grand Champion Award, the Smithsonian Kite Making Award among many others.

For the past 10 years Cliff has been a kite making competition Judge at the annual AKA Convention. However, for several years he's enjoyed teaching kite classes. He's taught at the famous Fort Worden Kite Making Conference, the Mid-West Area Kite-makers Retreat plus many others... and now here at WHKF.

Cliff's a friendly chap willing to share tip's, trick's, and methods to make us better kite makers.



This picture can be found on the club website at <http://www.whkf.org.uk/images/Marconi.jpg>

So, our suggestion is to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn and most importantly to make a fantastic "Modern Marconi" Kite, not often seen, a great flyer, and one you'll be proud to put in your kite bag.

The modern version of the Marconi is an easy build and well suited for intermediate and experienced kite makers. For this class a complete kit will be provided. All RSN sails will be pre cut (a selection of colours available), all wrapped carbon spars pre cut, pre slit edge binding, fittings and complete construction plans. Templates for a couple of graphic designs will be available. For those who wish to create unique graphics, bring extra fabric. The Marconi is a low to high wind kite, can be flown with or without a tail, It's a kite not often seen, offers lot's of graphic opportunity's, easy and quick to assemble and a great kite to add to your kite collection. Students are 'expected' to have fun, learn some new kite making techniques, share some of their knowledge and most importantly be proud of their work.

Register early, as the class will be limited. The cost for will be £80 and will be held at :-

The Croft Centre
Marlborough Lane
Old Town
Swindon
SN3 1RA

<http://www.swindon.gov.uk/leisuresport/croft.htm>

Surprise!

The best part of my year is hearing the words that I can go to England to one of my favorite festivals and stay with our dear friends the Robinson's. I am sure at some point they wonder if I ever go home. I have always said that when the key does not open the front door or my room is painted bright yellow I will get the hint.

Finding a great price with Air Canada I was off and flying. On my way to have a great month in England. Yes, I did say a month.

Just barely over Fort Worden Kite Makers Conference, where we (Miller's and Robinson's) run the biggest raffle you can imagine, doing a couple of weddings (I am a florist and wedding planner) and a larger than life fund raising auction for a school (volunteered) I was more than ready to leave town.

It is always hard to leave Ron at home to work. But, this time after being there for Weymouth, Ron called and said he found a flight for \$357 round trip. Wow!

We could do this and let's surprise everyone. The plan is in motion and it is our secret once again. You will have to ask some of the White Horse folks about how many times we have surprised them and who shows up at airports around the world to meet them. Father Christmas comes to my mind. If I recall the Robinson's are the ones who started this with a surprise for Mr. Harvey on his birthday and I wore a chicken costume.

This time Ron flew in and no one was the wiser. First we got Janet when Ron showed up at their home. Then it was to the pub that evening and we got David. The next morning it was Neil and the group at the festival site and on and on as he saw people that he knew. How fun. Some day I know that our door bell will ring and the entire White Horse Kite Flyers will be standing in our yard. They all will be welcomed.

It was great that Ron was there to help and to see friends once again.

The festival was great. The only bad thing is that we did not have our dear friend Neil there, something about another trip to the hospital and here's hoping they fix that hip

Kiting is a great hobby and sport and most of all sharing this with great friends that we have met. Like seeing Pete Dolphin and Ralf Maserski, and all are other kite friends at the festival. The "People of Kiting" is the best part. I never thought that I would some day meet people from all over the world all because someone put a kite line in my hand.

So, what can you do to keep this sport growing and to build your club? Step up! Run for an office in one of your clubs, volunteer to help with a festival, make a kite with a kid. Share some kite making ideas with a group or teach a kite making class.

Put a kite line in some one's hand; give them the gift of kite flying.

If all of the above fails, buy a raffle ticket..

ARE YOU READY TO RAFFLE?

That's what I say when we are ready to find out who the winners are.

Once again I was lucky to be at the Swindon Festival to work and have fun doing the raffle, seeing friends and enjoy catching up with what's new.

The weather could not have been more perfect and even though we had to move the location (thank you to the BBC) we had a great turnout. This is always one of my favorite festivals to attend.

With lots of donations and volunteers we managed to set the items and bags up and we were off and running. I cannot remember how many items we had but the marquee was full. Then comes my favorite part, selling tickets 4 for a pound. I have this game plan in my head and I know how much money I would like to raise.

Please accept my apology at this time for making you play my game. NOT!

I love the challenge and it is all for a great cause, "KITES" and continuing this great festival. No matter how many times you look at all the items you always miss some things. You think that I would know all the items there, but I always miss something that I wish I would have put some tickets in, and believe me I have missed some really great items and when we say "the winner is" I am wondering where that came from. Oh well.

I keep a running total going in my head of where we are with the sales. Then I figure out how to sell more tickets to get the target we are looking for. "Can't" is not in my head.

So at some point during the beginning of the drawing I see these wonderful socks on a young man sitting in the crowd and I want them. They have the White Horse logo on them AND so does his trousers. Can one be so pushy and take his entire outfit? Ok, I am thinking, he can keep his shirt.

One thing leads to another and I now am the proud owner of not only Dave Coombs socks, but also his trousers. What a great sport Dave and Marie were. AND thanks to Dave for putting the raffle funds over the 1000 pound total. A big thank you to all of you who donated and who purchased raffle tickets. Without all of you the raffle does not happen and the festival could be in trouble.

I know that when you see me again, please don't run away (I'm getting to old to chase you) just open your purse or dig in your pocket to buy those tickets. You know me, I don't go away. What ever you do, don't wear something I just might want, it could end up being auctioned off. Love to all of you and I miss not being there and seeing all of you. Until I can return to my favorite homeland, take care and have fun flying.

Marla



WHKF designer trousers and socks modelled by: Clifton

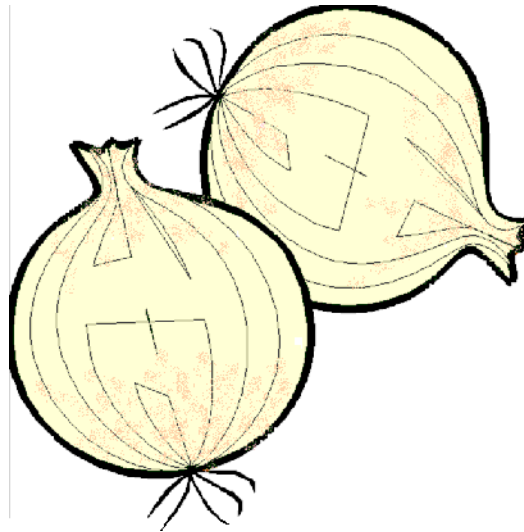
NORTH HAMPSHIRE KITER'S JOLLY UP5 Aug 1st & 2nd 2009

It's almost that time again! Come and join us for the 5th 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 evening onwards (£7 per tent/camper for the weekend).

For an ADDED BIT OF FUN, we will have a Competition for Garden Produce, which can cover fruit, veg, plants, anything really. Show us what you've been growing, you may get a prize!



The Saturday evening BBQ worked well again, so we will be doing the same format. (£6.50 and bring your plate and cutlery as normal please!)

There will again be an impromptu BBQ for those interested on the Friday evening, and Bacon rolls are available both mornings.

The Auction will be held on the Saturday evening, and any donations gratefully received before or on the weekend.

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

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

Club Merchandise

All items can now be viewed on the club web site. Prices do not include post and packing. Please contact us for these costs. Cheques should be made payable to WHKF.

T SHIRT S-XL	£9	POLO XS-XL	£14	SWEATSHIRT XS-XL	£16.60
T SHIRT 2XL-3XL	£9.50	POLO 2XL	£14.50	SWEATSHIRT 2XL	£17.90
2007 FESTIVAL	£9	POLO 3-4XL	£15	SWEATSHIRT 3-4XL	£18.40
2008 FESTIVAL	£9			FESTIVAL XS-XL	£25
2009 FESTIVAL	£10			CAP STANDARD	£7.50
PINS, PATCHES	SEE WEB PAGES			WITH EAR FLAPS	£10
MUGS, COASTERS		RELAX STICKER	£1.00	LEGIONNAIRE'S	£8.50

WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS CODE OF PRACTICE

Always fly safely.

Always be considerate to other people using the same area whether it is 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.

Never fly near those kite-eating trees.

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.

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