

COWPAT HILL

Journal of the White Horse Kite Flyers
Winter 2025 January - March



Dates for your diary 2025

February

- Sunday 9th - Club fly-in at Barbury Castle

March

- Sunday 9th - Club fly-in at Barbury Castle

***** Advance Notice *****

- Friday 29th - Sunday 31st August - Lytham St Annes
- 10th 11th May - North Hants Kiter's Jolly Up
- 2nd 3rd August- North Hants Kiter's Jolly Up

Subscriptions for new members for 12 months from December 1st 2024 £20 (including 4 issues of Cowpat Hill and kite flying insurance at approved events). £7 for each additional family member. Renewals will be reviewed annually. Personal Liability Insurance to be advised.

COWPAT HILL is the journal of The White Horse Kite Flyers and whilst every care is taken when compiling it, The Club and its officers cannot accept responsibility for any omissions or errors that may occur. Any information printed are the views of the individual submitting them and not necessarily those of The White Horse Kite Flyers Club, its committee or members. Data provided by you will be stored on a Club data base for the purpose of circulating this magazine and other Club information.

Cover picture: Dave and your editor having fun at Barbury many thanks to Alan Pinnock for the picture

A bit from the Editor

Hi Folks,

As normal for the Winter edition of Cowpat Hill the AGM minutes and accounts take up a fair section. These are important things so if you couldn't attend please read them through.

Neil's welcome is a particularly important read - I would like to thank Neil for his hard work in starting, nurturing and growing not only the Club itself, but also individual members in their kite flying and kite making skills. His practical support (I bought my first sewing machine from him) and advice has been fundamental to me, and I am sure he still has lots more advice to give in 2025.

Andy



"SINCE ELON MUSK BOUGHT
THE COMPANY THAT MAKES
THESE KITES IT KEEPS
VEERING TO THE
EXTREME RIGHT AND
STICKING ITS NOSE
INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S
KITE BAGS..."



Club Fly-In at Barbury Castle January 2025



Whilst there wasn't any sunshine and there were only 3 of us, we had a great time. Lots of kites flown, a bit of interaction with the public and a lot of laughs. Thanks Dave (Cross) and Alan (Pinnock). Photos by Andy, Good Photos by Alan



Dave's Feathers McGraw is a real triumph of design and execution. Take a close look at that drogue - it's the diamond from the film! With blue internal vanes it looks just the part.





WHKF AGM

Basepoint Business Lounge

Swindon SN5 7EX

17th November 2024 at 12.00

Welcome from the President.

Welcome to you all to our Annual General Meeting and I hope that we have a very good one. A bit different from our first AGM that was held in a Lambing poly tunnel up at Barbury, those were the days! This year has seen a bit more action in the kiting world with a few more events taking place which we as a Club and/or individuals have attended which is good to see. I am afraid that I have not been able to get around much, more later. Your committee has been busy during the year trying to do the best for the Club with insurances etc... to make sure that we try to give the best to you our members and also to stay solvent, to which I thank them very much for.

I hope that the coming year will be a good year with further progress within the Kiting World. It is surprising how long and how much Covid has effected our world since it reared its ugly head, let us hope that we can advance and go forward now and Covid is a distant memory. Now it is up to us as a Club to make the most of this opportunity and if possible regain some of our past glories.

Now very much to the future; I have decided that I will stay on as your Life President but stand down as an active member of The Committee with your blessing. I cannot do now what I would like to do for the Club well remembering saying in the past "that will take two people to do that, but I can do it on my own". Sadly those days have gone and I am not able to do or get around to doing those things. So now is the time to take that very hard step back and let the younger ones take up the reins. I have been very happy and proud with what I have done in and for the Club over the years

but I cannot go on for ever. Thank you everybody for everything over those years and may they continue.

Now let us get on with this years AGM

Neil

Apologies

Keith Boxall, Ron and Marla Miller, Mick Burls, Bob Cruickshanks, Jill Ferrer, Chris and Pat Mabon, Roy Martin, Paul Parsons, Mike and Sheila Stevens, Alan Outram, Andrew and Sandra Scott, Janet Elvin, Paul Chapman, Sara Lyth

18 Attendees

DT – Sad to see NH stepping back from being an active member of the committee – his contribution has been outstanding.

A vote of thanks to be included for his commitment to the club.

He is very welcome to attend any future events, and we will be delighted to see him.

Minutes of last year's meeting

Proposed as an accurate record

Proposed Arthur Dibble

Seconded Alan Howden

Unanimous

Matters Arising

NONE

Chairman's Address

Yet another year has passed as Chair of WHKF, and despite the "variable" weather, there have been some memorable moments that have brought home the simple joy that can be experienced when "string pulling". One such happened at the Broad Haven Rendezvous this year, when along with Bob Cruickshank and Martin Crowther I was able to witness the sheer joy that was experienced by a young lad with severe physical challenges when he encountered some of the kinetic mobiles. His carer was overwhelmed by the lad's responses and the response of the flyers involved. Whilst the event was not as well supported as in the past, we received a very warm and appreciative reaction from the locals, and some members will be returning next year for another "non-official" event. (wrong tides again).

Several members attended the "Jolly-Up" events again this year and several at the August event commented that it was "like old times again" in terms of numbers and atmosphere, the signs are promising.

The ever-enthusiastic Mr Cruickshank yet again organised indoor flying events which were well supported by members both well practiced in the art of indoor flying and those keen to try it for the first time. It should be noted that not everything flying at these events is necessarily a kite!

For a second successive year I visited Lytham St Annes, for what is rapidly becoming the largest UK festival. Despite the vagaries of the British weather denying any flying on the Sunday, the event was, without doubt, an incredibly successful one. The illuminated displays on Saturday night were absolutely amazing, the candle display in the shape of one of Nick James' Angels was an extremely poignant moment.

So to the “Fun Fly”, a very soggy field necessitated the relocation of the Marquee and essential facilities but spirits were not dampened and the event was the usual combination of relaxed flying and over-indulgence of food.

I must thank all those stalwart members who have ensured the club has survived a challenging year and provided entertainment and flying opportunities for both the public and club members.

My fellow members of the committee deserve special thanks for their support and hard work in ensuring that as a club we are here again at an AGM.

Once again, in closing let me say that the future success of the club is in the hands of you, the members.

Reports

Hon. Treasurer

There was a commitment, as a club, to reduce our club value to c£5000 and you can see from the report that we a value now of just below this level.

Regarding the actual detail, as in income and expenditure, there is a deficit position this year of £1279. This was predicated by 2 key areas, club general operating areas and fun fly. If we separate the 2, the income is primarily membership, and the club costs need to be covered from this. The significant increases in insurance have impacted on operating costs, beyond that of the income available. The second area is fun fly and there has been a historical decision to subsidise this.

Accounts accepted by membership

Proposed David Thompson

Seconded John Elvin

Unanimous

Cowpat Editor

Apologies for August being late.

Contributions still welcome, any account of what you've been up to kite wise is always good.

Many thanks for those who contribute, particularly Dave for the cartoons and Arthur for scouring the web for information to draw together articles.

Election of officers.

Chair handed to President

President that David is happy to stand again.

Chair

Nominations

David Thompson

Proposed Andrew Rumming

Seconded Charlie Peace

Treasurer – Helen Peace

Unanimous

Treasurer

Nominations

Helen Peace

Proposed Arthur Dibble

Seconded Mike Houghton

Unanimous

Assistant Treasurer

Nominations

Arthur Dibble

Proposed David Robinson

Seconded Martin Croxton

Unanimous

Secretary

We do not currently have a secretary, and we have split the role into two, being an events officer and a minuting secretary.

Opened to the floor as just a minuting secretary, no nominations

Cowpat Editor

Agreed that Andrew will continue

Committee Members

David Cross, Martin Crowther , David Robinson

Janet Robinson, Kevin Griffiths

Events and Communications Officer

By splitting the secretary role, we have introduced and new role, as above. Janet Robinson has agreed to take on this role.

Dave Cross will continue with CAA liaison.

DT thanked the members for their support and faith.

Discussion Items

Insurance

Club Insurance and personal insurance are committed and increasing costs.

To ensure that these do not create additional costs do not create unmanageable burdens, we need to ensure the membership costs cover the insurance. We are, therefore, asking for a mandate to increase membership next year, by the additional insurance value, if necessary.

Treasurer and insurance coordinator will raise this with the committee if this arises.

From the floor:

Do we know next year's insurance? Not until May.

Do we have your authority to increase next year, should it be required to cover increase of club insurance?

Unanimous Vote.

Membership Fee for 2024/2025

£20.00 plus £7.00 for additional member's same address.

Must be paid by 31st December 2024.

Close of AGM business by Chairman.

Meeting Closed at 12.57

WHKF
Management Accounts
2023/2024

Year to date

Total

£

INCOME

Membership	630.00
Personal Insurance	362.50
Kits	398.50
Donations	6.40
Miscellaneous Income	83.19
Write Off Capital Loans	-

WORKSHOP INCOME

Food and Drink	-
Raffle/Auction	-
Evening Meal	-
Other Income	-

FUN FLY INCOME

Food and Drink	493.00
Raffle/Auction	393.20
Camping	56.00
Other Income	-
Donations	-

TOTAL INCOME **2,422.79**

EXPENDITURE

Kit Costs (excluding postage)	-
Kit Postage	82.59
Postage and Stamps	70.00
BKFA	200.00
Storage Fees	723.06
Stationery	94.10
Club Insurance	117.17
Depreciation	219.98
Meetings	-
Miscellaneous Costs	-

WORKSHOP EXPENDITURE

Professional Fee	
Accommodation	
Food and Drink	
Venue	
Evening Meal	
Other Expenses	

FUN FLY EXPENDITURE

Food and Drink	423.40
Venue	1,183.85
Equipment Hire	58.50
Other Expenses	-

TOTAL EXPENDITURE **3,172.65**

INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE **- 749.86**

Cash/Bank/Capital

Net Bank	-	655.76
Net Cash	-	-
Non Cash Adjustments	-	94.10
	-	749.86

WHKF**Balance Sheet****2023/2024**

Fixed Assets	2024	2023
Balance b/f	941	1046
Additions	0	0
Sales	0	0
Depreciation	94	105
	847	941
Net Value of Fixed Assets	847	941
Other Assets		
Stock	900	956
Bank	4208	4425
Cash	258	158
Prepayments	0	0
	5366	5539
Liabilities		
Loans (from Initial Members)	0	0
Accruals	0	483
	0	483
Net Value of Assets	6213	6963
Represented By		
Retained Funds brought forward	6963	7219
Surplus/Deficit	-750	-256
	6213	6963

White Horse Kite Flyers Code of Practice

Always fly safely

Always be considerate to others using the same area be it noise or physical intrusion into their space.

Always fly legally taking in to account all National, Local and CAA restrictions. **Never** fly at a height of more than 60m above ground level, in the UK unless a CAA clearance is in force. (as at festivals) IF YOU DON'T KNOW.....ASK.

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

Never fly near power lines, transmission towers or aerials.

Never fly near airfields.

Never fly a kite with anything metallic in the line.

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

Always use a brake line when flying large kites.

Always wear good quality gloves when flying large powerful kites.

Always give priority to domestic animals particularly if they are showing signs of distress.

Always clear up after yourself, especially lines, tails and bits of plastic that could trap, choke or injure domestic or wild animals.

Never fly near kite-eating trees.

Note the use of traction kiting at Barbury Castle is forbidden by law.

Finally remember.....your kites can get really quite lonely up high in the sky; just occasionally, look up and give them a SMILE. It will make you feel better too.

WHKF meet at Barbury Castle country Park on the second Sunday of each month

This issue edited by Andy Rumming, Please send articles to andrewrumming@me.com