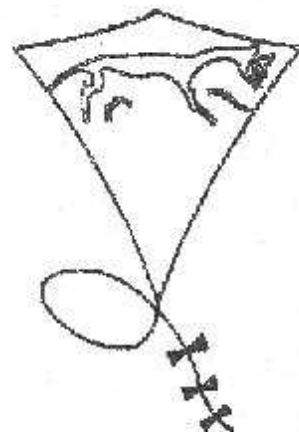


Cowpat Hill

White Horse Kite Flyers
Autumn Issue 1999
October - December



Robinson' Ramblings

I find it hard to believe, as I write this it's only twelve weeks to Christmas! Where does the time go? Another season of washed out Kite Festivals passes. None more so than the Bath Kite Festival, I feel so sorry for the organisers. All the time and effort to organise the event only for the weather to come along and ruin it completely, we at WHKF know how they feel, but at least our festival wasn't a two-day washout this year, that makes a pleasant change.

Of course the Bath festival was the first this year that Marla attended, Ron was there too, but his was a rescue mission. Marla had come over to add to her Wallace & Gromit collection (which must be the biggest in the USA), without Ron. However, she had had so much success in tracking down more W&G merchandise, Ron came over with an empty suitcase to take some of the stuff home. Luckily for Ron we were able to take in a visit to a steam fair over the weekend. Fred Dibnah was at this fair, Fred has become a hero of Ron's since we sent some videos. Whilst mentioning Fred Dibnah, in one of his videos he says that years ago Steeplejacks used to use kites to fly their ropes to the tops of buildings so they could haul their ladders up. Do any of our members have information on this? I think this would make a very interesting article for the magazine. Another use of kites that I hadn't heard of before!

Nov Don't forget the AGM which will be held at The White Hart, High Street Wroughton on Sunday 14th October 99. There will be the normal raffle which I hope you can support because the proceeds cover the cost of the sandwiches and chips.

Kindest Regards

Dave Robinson

White Horse Kite Flyers
PO Box 585
SWINDON
SN3 4YR

At Middle Wallop

"We ain't gonna make many kites today"
I overheard that Neil say.
I thought there was a chance they may.
But I kept quiet and on the grass I lay.
At the end of the day
Janet counted the pay
"182" we all heard her say
(including Neil)
Neil just walked away.
I think it is possible that Neil may
In future think hard before he says,
"We ain't gonna make many kites today."
(Hey, don't laugh - I did say may).

Jemma Willis

Breakfast

Last year I wrote an article about the breakfast cooked for us at Aldershot festival by The BOF so this year I cannot let it go by without comment on this year's offering. Tracy seemed to spend all day at the cooker preparing a continuous stream of food. This was produced with all the skill of BOF but in larger quantities and with a very much lower cholesterol content. Admittedly it did require a cup of coffee to get her kick started but it was very worth while. I will make sure I have always got a spare cup ready for her.

This was only the start. At lunch time we were treated to a superb chicken stir fry (even less cholesterol) and then just before leaving more bacon/sausage/egg/mushroom butties. Then when I get home there is a cooked dinner waiting for me!!!

During the day the workshop worked hard and a few bears were dropped. The only casualty was when Pete decided to try his rabbit with the 3 metre 'chute which went beautifully and was on line to drop just inside the field. At the last moment it hit an updraught and parked itself in a large tree. Luckily, with a long pole and a little climbing Pete recovered the rabbit and 'chute undamaged. We all had a great day and I look forward to next year. Many thanks Tracy and hope that you will be there to do the honours again.

Arthur

The Irvine report on festivals 1999

It's that time of year again when I try and remember what we've done, kiting wise, over the past year. We have had a very quiet year on the kiting front because of other things happening in family life. This has made us choose events closer to home than in previous years and we've only stayed for one day at most festivals where we normally stay for the whole weekend (having our caravan stolen hasn't helped either!)

We started 1999 at Olympia for the Model Engineering Exhibition. This was the day after I had received my first insulin injection as a diabetic and I was feeling very tired. We had great support from Kiteflyers for the whole event and New Year's day was the first time we had ever put on a display in the main hall. We flew some indoor two line kites and I had made some Rokkakus out of tissue and balsa wood. We may well have been the first to fight with Rokkakus indoors! I'm not too sure what the public thought of our display but we certainly had a great time.

David and I entered the Newbury pairs league over the winter months and surprised us by placing fourth. I'm sure we could have done better but I can't convince David he needs to practise, maybe next year. We have also been practising with other club flyers as the Matrix Management team. This seems to have worked quite well so far, but more of that later.

Stowe Gardens was the next event, but we could only make the Saturday. This was the first outing of the Matrix Management team in front of the public. Practice on the side of the arena went well but as soon as we entered the arena, the wind dropped, so we couldn't fly. The team flew on the Sunday but sadly we weren't there to join in.

The WHKF Swindon festival followed next and the weather was well like it normally is! David and I spent most of the weekend flying with Matrix Management in various line ups. My father was with us for one day and Rosie spent most of her time looking after him. At 74 this was his first Kite Festival and he thoroughly enjoyed it despite the rain. We ended up flying a mega team of 11 kites on the Sunday, which concluded with a spectacular crash during an 11 man thread. One not to try again too soon!

We stayed in a tent at the Tewkesbury fun festival next and braved the thunderstorms that predominated that event! I'm still amazed that I persuaded Rosie to stay under canvas for one night so there's hope for next year. This was a very nice, relaxed event and one I recommend to those that haven't been before. The site is large and well kept. We flew a 3-man display and dropped a few bears.

This is where my brain cell really gives up. I know we did a number of local fetes, dropping bears and giving demos but I'm not sure where or when. We did one with Pete Dawson where there was virtually no wind and I ended up flying my indoor kites in the arena trying to avoid the other flyers gamely launching their kites. We did a fete where there was a really small area to display in and the public insisted on walking under our kites despite repeated warnings over the PA and having marshals moving them on.

The Kennet Kite Club's festival at Thatcham fitted in next (somewhere!) and again we dropped bears and flew in a mega team; 9 people this time I think. I think they must have concrete under the field as I really struggled to get my ground stakes in to set up for the bears and managed to destroy them completely when I tried to take them out.

Hengistbury Head then appears in my mind. We love this festival and it usually falls on my wedding anniversary to Rosie so we make a long weekend by going down on the Friday night. We were flying on the site during the Saturday and the number of people, who couldn't fly the kites that they were bringing to the field, amazed me. Offering my help, I became clear that the majority of these were new kites, straight from the bag, that were not set up to fly by the manufacturers. Once adjusted, the kites flew and the owners went away happy. How many potential kite flyers does the industry loose through shoddy workmanship?

We dropped bears all day Sunday and raised over £150 for St John's Ambulance.

Bristol, the last big festival of the year. We treat ourselves each year at Bristol and stay in the hotel near Ashton Court. This year the weather was kind and we all had a great time. I got to fly the large inflatable mermaid, which was on the front of the latest edition of Kite Passion, in the main arena. They were playing 'Dark Side of the Moon' over the PA system and I couldn't think of a better way of spending a Sunday afternoon.

I'm sure we went to other festivals and things, but those are the ones that stick in my mind at the moment.

What's in store for the rest of the year? We'll try to do One Sky One World if we can. Then STACK UK is running a team building workshop, which we're booked to do. Then it's the AGM and hopefully we round off the year with The Mince Pie Fly-in, (*I'm sure you really meant Mince, though who knows?* - Jane) if it's going to happen.

Hope to see you all on the field sometime soon.

Regards,

Doug, Rosie and David Irvine

Bulford Kite Workshop - Thursday 29th July 1999

This workshop was held the morning after the night before! To explain this - Neil was to stay overnight with us en route to Bulford, unbeknowing that our daughter, Emma, was having a BBQ/party for her 18th birthday on the Wednesday evening for a few of her friends at our house. Neil did know it was Emma's birthday but the last time we had spoken nothing was planned but then Emma decided she would like something so it was all very quickly planned at the last minute. Thankfully, the weather was very kind to us and most of the occasion was held outside where I would say at least fifty people turned up! But all went very well and Neil did eventually get to bed after helping tidy up!

Anyway, we did, the following morning, go to the kite workshop at Bulford camp. After an initial

hiccup at the gate; we were shown where we were to go and then met up with the Warrant Officer who was in charge of the event. We were made very welcome and even given tickets for free drinks and a BBQ, the BBQ I might add was extremely good. It was a very hot day and Phil and Ashley really enjoyed cooling off in the 'stocks' with sponges being thrown at them and on the 'greasy pole' where they attacked each other with filled pillowcases, the loser ending up beneath the pole in a big tub full of water. Despite not a lot of wind Don and Donald were able to fly a few kites and the children and adults were impressed with the kites made in the workshop. So all in all it was a good day on our part and Neil has informed us that a letter of thanks has been received from Bulford camp so they were obviously pleased.

Di, Don & Phil Baggett

Sarah, Donald, Ashley & Harriet Capewell

Dear Sir

I have just received my Summer Issue of your hitherto respectable magazine and feel compelled to record some observations on the appalling downward trend in the contents. I have no doubt that you have, until now, exercised some editorial censorship in order to keep a standard of respectability. With your latest publication however, you have let the standard drop to an unacceptable level. I am sure I am not alone in finding this quite deplorable. I refer of course to the page of nonsense written in response to the sincere and reasonable suggestions made by Prof. Newtstuffer concerning Millennium celebrations. I know the professor to be a mild man with delicate and perceptive sensibilities and I have taken pains to ensure that his eyes do not see this disgraceful response and that his ears do not hear of it. It would destroy his simple and gentle faith in humankind if he should come to know that such invective had been published in the same magazine which had previously shown the grace to print his article. It is of course too late to undo what has been done but it would go some way to assure your readers that no horrible lapse of editorial responsibility will ever occur again if an abject and grovelling apology were printed in your next issue.

Yours faithfully

Winslow Uptake.

Dear W.H.K.F.

It is with great regret that I cannot attend the AGM meeting this year in person and give my report. My report will be sent to a committee member in time for the meeting.

Ron Miller (American Membership Committee Member)

Stormy Weathers - part 1

World Kite Museum
Long Beach, Washington
August 23 1999

Stormy Weathers may have set a world record last week, but first somebody has to find his kite.

The 78 year old inventor was attempting to break the 100 year old world altitude record for a kite during the Washington State International Kite Festival at Long Beach last Friday. The current record, set by the National Weather Service in 1898, is 12471 feet. Challenging a mark that has stood for over 100 years required nearly two years of design, analysis and testing by Weathers. The kite he eventually designed, built and flew was in the shape of a five pointed star, 7 1/2 feet high with a 10 foot wingspan, and weighing a mere 13 ounces. Cambered wings provided height and temperature every 15 minutes. Independent ground based triangulation measurements were conducted using GPS technology.

The kite lifted off in 4 mph winds at 2:46pm PDT. Weathers slowly let out the 50lb spectra line from his specially designed reel, a modified mag wheel on a freely rotating pedestal. The kite continued to increase in altitude for the next three hours. At 5:15pm ground based observations determined an altitude of 3087 feet. At 5:40pm however an ominous cloud bank swept in from the west, obscuring the kite and increasing the tension in the reel. During the next hour Weather's assistant let out over 3 miles of line to accommodate the strong winds. At 6:30pm, the line snapped. The kite, now somewhere near or above the altitude record, was lost. Stormy believes the tension provided by 5 miles of line would have kept the kite flying in a stable manner, but its altitude would have increased considerably. He suspects it may have landed as far away as Montana.

If the kite can be found, the data stored in the altimeter watch may reveal that the world record was indeed broken. A reward of \$50 is offered by The World Kite Museum in Long Beach, Washington. The kite design may also be obtained from the museum. Anyone finding the kite is asked to be careful not to disturb the buttons on the altimeter watch, for fear of erasing the story of Stormy Weather's wildest kite ride ever.

Dates for next year

29/30 April & 1 May	Weymouth	
6/7 May	Stowe	
13/14 May	Swindon	
20 May	Grange Infants School, Swindon	Workshop only
10/11 June	Wiltshire Agricultural & Steam Show, Wroughton	Workshop & demo

A Towering Success

As most of you are aware by now at the beginning of the year the club purchased a 50ft pneumatic tower from which to parachute teddy bears when there is insufficient wind to lift them with a kite. We (well mainly Neil) built a trailer to transport this device and its accessories based on an old caravan chassis obtained by Pete Willis.

The saga of decorating the trailer is some thing I won't bore you with, suffice it to say there is a small group who don't want to see a grinder, wire brush, sand paper or Galvafruid ever again. The final result looks quite impressive.

We must also thank Ken for organizing the pump we use to elevate the tower, without it we would have been on a rather pointless exercise.

The tower has now been used very successfully at a number of events and has caused a great deal of favourable comment. Apart from its use on windless days it has proved very effective on sites where there is insufficient space to drop bears from a kite and makes a great attraction with the bunting guy ropes and WHKF flag. I would never have believed how many places a bear and parachute could get stuck or how often. Once you have got three in a row stuck at various points and have had to drop the tower and then pump it back each time the novelty wears off and modifications were soon included. Even now it happens occasionally but is often recoverable without dropping the whole thing.

Pete has become expert at towing the trailer to site and positioning it accurately for erecting or dismantling. We are all getting better at the assembly by working as a good team but we would always welcome extra hands to the pumping.

Thanks again to those who have helped make this project so successful.

Windsocks

The Club has recently acquired a quantity of small decorative wind socks at very competitive price. Most of them are three feet long including multicoloured tails. There are two designs one depicting a humming bird another a butterfly and a few with seagulls or teddy bears. These are going for the ridiculous price of £1 each. At events they will be available to non members at £2. There are also some larger ones (up to six feet) with stars and stripes or multi colour, prices will vary accordingly. All proceeds will go to club funds.

Samples will be available for viewing at club meetings but as we are not allowed to trade on the club site or at other festivals they should be ordered from Pete Willis, Neil or me for delivery at a later meeting. Alternatively any of us on the usual numbers. If I am away leave a message with my son Martin.

Arthur

Greetings from the depths of Planet Brighton...

Thought you may be interested in checking this one out - especially as the season's fast drawing to a close...

HAYLING ISLAND KITE DAY

Date: Sunday 24 October 1999

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Site: The Inn On The Beach

Height Clearance: 200ft

Contact: Toody Oakhill (although I'm not the event organiser!)

This event forms part of the Hayling Island Arts Festival running from 10 -25 October. I am assured by the organiser that the site promises plenty of treeless shoreline and a guaranteed breeze.

FLYING SITE DIRECTIONS:

Exit A27 to Hayling Island

Cross bridge onto Island and stay on main road

After 3 miles there's a roundabout

Take 2nd exit into Manor Road

Follow this for 1.5 miles to another roundabout

Turn right

After 0.6 miles look for sign on left to Par 3 Pitch 'n' Putt Golf Course

Turn left here

Follow road towards the sea

The Inn on the Beach is a large white-walled building on the water's edge

Toody Oakhill (Seems this might be a great way to start half term - Ed)

Hi again

Anyone who would like information about the teachers and classes at Fort Worden, let us know and we will put you on the mailing list.

Send to: Ron and Marla Miller
5440 North 49th
Tacoma, Washington 98407
USA

or E-mail: Kytpepl2@aol.com or call: 253-752-705

Thanks

We were very sorry to hear that Dave and Jane (our editors) were resigning from their post as editors of Cowpat after eight years. They have done a great job and would have been sorely missed particularly when they have had to put up with the garbage I have supplied over the years. However I understand that due to high pressure from America they may now continue.

I know that Dave has had the ambition to publish a Dibble free issue but I don't intend to let him realise this even when he eventually gets to a final issue. One of the reasons they wanted to give up was the lack of articles supplied by club members.

I feel we should question the reasons for this and solve the problem before asking Dave and Jane or any one else to take over the post. Is the reason that I write too many articles and every one else gets bored to tears with them? I can very soon cure this. Is there some other reason? Perhaps a lack of subjects. This should not be a difficulty as I should love to hear about festivals I have missed or kites people have made and flown. How about a problem page with difficulties you have had and solutions offered in a later issue. The list is endless. But who ever does it please can we have a regular calendar page so that every one knows what is coming up in the next few months and I would stop getting bombarded with the age old winge of "we didn't know it was on". Even I have to make the same complaint.

I will try and support our editors in any way I can but please let us know what you want. Once again Dave and Jane my own thanks for all you hard work and dedication over the last eight years and I am sure that goes for the rest of the members. And finally well done Marla for talking them back again.

Arthur

Stirring it up again!!

Since Aldershot last year, we have spoken about cooking a stir fry on the Club wok. But, wherever we went the favourite bacon and eggs came out. Then the first week of the school summer holidays I was asked to supervise at a children's cookery workshop. On the second day a celebrity chef visited called Roz Denney and the menu we were to cook was Chinese vegetable stir fry. Ah!! I thought I could adapt this and we could cook it at a festival. So, a year after we had spoken about it there I was surrounded in vegetables, cooking the Hungry Horse Stir Fry or should I say starving? I know we all were.

You will need:-

(serves 3 to 4)

3 spring onions

1 clove of garlic

1 small red pepper

2 carrots

1/2 small cucumber

115g baby corn

90g Chinese leaf of crisp lettuce

2 tablespoons soy sauce

2 tablespoons apple juice

2 teaspoons sesame oil

1 teaspoon cornflour

2 1/2 chicken breasts

3 to 4 tablespoons groundnut or sunflower oil for frying

1. Trim the stalks and roots off the onions and cut diagonally into small pieces. Put them into a small bowl.
2. Peel the garlic. Crush into the onions.
3. Cut the pepper in half. Remove the core and seeds and cut into slices.
4. Peel carrots and cut them into thin slices. Put the carrots in a bowl with the peppers.
5. Cut the cucumber in half and scrape out the seeds. Cut diagonally into thin slices.
6. Cut the baby corn in half diagonally too. Yes, these go into the bowl with all the other vegetables.
7. Make a stack of the Chinese leaf and cut into shreds. Put this in a separate bowl.
8. Mix all the sauce ingredients - the soy sauce, apple juice, sesame oil and cornflour in a mug until well blended.

• Heat the frying oil and cook the chicken when cooked take out of the pan.

• Add onions and garlic. Stir straight away for 30 secs. Don't let them burn.

• Add all the ingredients from the peppers bowl and stir fry these for two minutes, stirring these most of the time.

• Add the shredded leaves to the pan and stir them for a minute until just wilted.

• Return the chicken to the pan.

• Carefully pour in the sauce, and stir well until thickened and glossy.

Serve and eat straight away.

Can be served on a bed of noodles.

Go on have a go!! If I can cook it in the open air I'm sure you can in your nice warm cosy kitchens. Here's to a few more Club cook ups.

Tracy Willis

Dear Members

Well, another season nearly finished, the weather a mixed bag as usual, some good days, some bad days, but we generally managed to do something. The Club has travelled around a fair bit covering some new events and many old ones. The workshops have been, on the whole, well attended and our third batch of kite skins are disappearing at a very rapid rate. Many of these are now being posted to groups all over the country and so far no complaints of them not flying. I must say that it fills me with pride when people come up to me and say how good the kites are and how helpful the Club members are with the children and all for £1.00. Great to see smiling children's faces.

The fauna dropping gang have also had a good season, with the new pole being a great asset, problems excepted. Still, the ideas for solving the problems are coming in thick and fast. Trouble free pole dropping next year? Many of you have out with new kites this year from your own design or adapted ones and they have been brilliant, keep up the good work. Talking about kites and kite workshops, we shall have just had Sam Huston's workshop when this is printed. I hope that everyone who took part enjoyed it and learnt something. It is nice to have Sam and Ann over again. We have also been "Marlaized" again; you just do not know when you will meet her again at a festival. However, we do know that, all being well, she and Ron will be over for the Mince Pie Fly-in and the New Year. So, if things go wrong over the New Year it will be the Marla Bug and not the Millennium Bug that will be causing the problems. (Only kidding Marla).

Some members are spreading their wings farther afield in October by going to Lunenburg. I wish them all the best and hope the winds are kind to you.

As the year progresses it is that time again. The A.G.M. looms, so thinking caps on to come up with ideas for 2000 to keep the Club in the forefront of kite flying. The other thing is to make sure that you attend the meeting, as I say every year it is your Club and the A.G.M. is your time to air your views.

We are already getting requests for next year, many of them are new venues and dates may clash. So, if you have any dates please let us have them as soon as possible. We may have to split our resources on certain dates as we have had to do this year and this brings us on to the next plea, more help at events whether kite flying or helping with the workshops. I know I keep on about this but a load shared is a load halved and I do like to sit down now and again (and again) still I can but dream.

Here's to clean winds and tight lines

Neil

Advert

Order your club leisure wear now, to avoid the Xmas rush. By the way Jane, I need a new club polo shirt.

Stormy Weathers - part 2

World Kite Museum
Long Beach, Washington
August 27 1999

Stormy Weather's High Altitude Kite has been found

Two Naselle loggers called the World Kite Museum in Long Beach Thursday morning to report that they had found the kite used by Stormy Weathers in his world record altitude attempt August 20 at Long Beach. Rod Smith, owner of C & J Logging, and a timber faller, Norm Penttila, were conferring in the forest between Pe Ell and Naselle (about 60 miles from Long Beach) Thursday morning, when they noticed a thin glistening line draped across the canyon between Trap Creek and Alder Creek. Smith had read the article regarding the lost kite in the Longview Daily News that morning (about 5.50 a.m.), and realised that it must be a portion of the five miles of kite line attached to Weather's kite. The two men tracked the line for over a mile before they reached the 7.5 ft. x 10 ft. international orange star kite. It was in perfect condition.

Smith and Penttila packed the kite out of the woods and called from Naselle to tell the World Kite Museum of the good news. By noon the kite was in Museum Director Kay Buesing's care.

Buesing described the event as especially lucky. "Mr. Smith told how two of his workers had commented about finding a line across a logging road several days earlier. It was so strong they couldn't break it with their hands. Besides, Mr. Smith mentioned that if the logging trucks had been running this week, they would have probably caught the line and torn the kite apart."

Launched from the main approach at Long Beach Friday afternoon, the kite was last seen at 5.30 p.m. at an altitude of nearly 3,000 ft. By 5.40 a fast moving front from the west had enshrouded it in a thick layer of clouds, obscuring it from view. However, the on-board altimeter watch continued to record altitude measurements at 15 minute intervals. It indicated that the kite climbed to approximately 5,000 by 6.00 p.m., and to nearly 11,000 by 6.30. At 6.40, the moment the kite line snapped, Stormy Weather's creation had obtained its maximum height of 12,340 ft., less than 50 yards shy of the world record. The altimeter also indicated that the kite continued to fly untethered for another hour and a half before it landed in the forest.

Late Night Fly

After a good day's flying at Middle Wallop on Saturday and a visit to the pancake van plus bar, it was time for a bit of evening flying - lights and all!! A few hours later and a few more beers and sweet pancake or two eaten and not just me, a good supply was eaten by most members who stayed.

It was time for a super light display by Tim (I think that was his name, if not I am sorry). It looked great anyway.

And so to bed, or so I thought, as it was about 11 ish but how wrong I was!! Most sensible people had gone to bed when someone said, "Let's see if we can stack some like a few years back." And so it began, a mix and match stack. The first two were 12 foot deltas then, from my recall, Roy's big blue octopus, then Martin's rainbow 80 foot parafoil, then my dolphin parafoil, then a 25 foot spin sock and last, but by no means least, Big Red and a chair.

It was a great sight to see or at least what you can see at one in the morning and the top kite was a very long way away by this time. Only by the red light on the top kite and some very powerful torches could you see at all. And so to get it down. It was decided to walk it down as it was ground staked to three four foot stakes. Well, by two ish I think we had packed up (no mean feat by torchlight only as the genny ran out of petrol). And so to bed.

What a night to remember and not to forget,

Sorry if we woke you on our return to the camp site. I know that I woke Mr. Harvey. Sorry, sir. Sunday morning came round very fast but still a good day between the showers of rain but the party cheered you all up. Stephanie thanks you all for the cards and presents. It was great and thanks to Di for the jelly.

And so to the ride home and what a drive in all that rain at the end of the day. I've never driven in anything as thick as that before but, by following Neil and the trailer (when I could see it anyway), we got home. What a relief! Thanks again, Neil.

Well, that's it for now. See you all soon somewhere. It's been a very busy year and out most weekends but what good fun.

Good flying to you all.

Pete Willis

P.S. If you have any pictures of the night flying, I know some were taken and I'd like to see them. That's it, Merry Christmas and I hope you get what you want. Not long to go now!

Messages from America O.K. Instalment #1

From the American representative in charge of membership in the U.S. of A. this has been a quite year for increasing our U.S. membership. Although it hasn't gone backwards, we have gained 2 new members with one being a merchant,(vendor to some). The vendor, Cutting Edge Kites at Ocean Shores, Washington, absolutely had to have one of the W.H.K.F. festival sweatshirts to wear and is presently in possession of one, thanks to our overseas commodities shipper, Marla Miller. Many of the the U.S. members report to me that they enjoy getting the Cowpat newsletter and have hopes of it continuing. So lets give Dave & Jane our support in sending articles to them.

Ron Miller

Thanks

Just wanted to "THANK YOU" to all of you who have purchased raffle tickets for the Fort Worden Kite Makers Conference, March 2000. The winner must get yourself to Washington state (rates are cheap then, I should know) we will pick you up at the airport and take good care of you during your stay. If you're the winner you will receive tuition, room and meals, shirt and pin for 2 people. The draw will be held November 1, 1999 and one of you will hear my cute little voice the next day to let you know you have won. I know that one of you will win because we do a separate drawing for your side of the ocean. All the money that has been raised from this raffle and "THE RAFFLE" the biggie of biggies, the grand of grand and you won't believe your eyes raffle, goes to bring the teachers (the best of the best)from all over the world.

Wishing you all the best of luck.

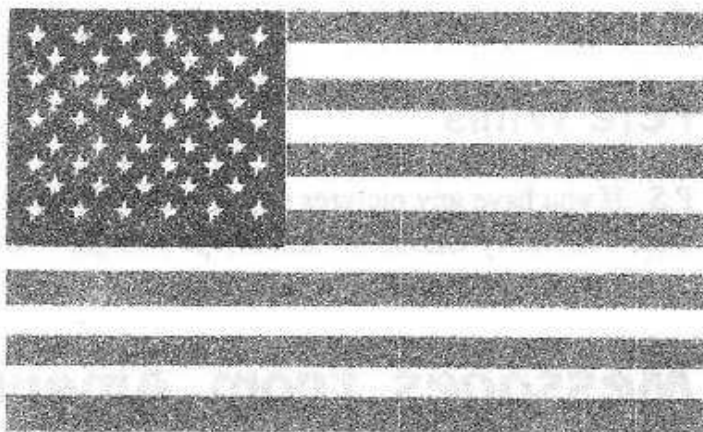
Thank you again.

Marla

PS, A special thanks to all of you who have donated items for the raffle. That what makes the conference happen.

Yet another visit to the UK!

Once again I had a grand time. Is this like getting boring to my fellow kite flyers?? You and your country just keep calling me back again and again. I was able to spend some time with The Harvey's and The Robinson's, even went on their holiday with them and saw more of you beautiful country. Found a wonderful place to have a little kite festival (ask David Robinson for details or me on my next visit).



You must know that most Americans think that the food is not the best in England and that it must be foggy and raining all the time. Well, wrong they are! When at Bristol this year, thank God it was not any hotter, and of course we found several wonderful pubs to eat at once again. The winds were not the best for flying, but the Westport Windriders parafoil (made by Phil Scarfe) flew for a while.

It was great to see and chat with everyone.

It took along time to get down that front row, people kept saying things like "Are you here again?"

"Do you ever go home?" "Where is Ron?" or some would just start to laugh. Oh yes and I was surprised by Martin Croxton popping down for the day. Had a good time at the festival, and the auction (spent some money) and enjoyed the fireworks afterwards.

It was really great seeing all of you again and can hardly wait to get back ...Lunen anyone???

Christmas and New Year!

Happy kites and big hugs to you all.

Marla

A festival on my own!

This has been a tough year for me. My wife will go off to the U.K. to visit OUR friends and leave me to tend to the income producing part of our marriage. Must admit, she deserves it. Well, I do miss seeing all of you.

While she is attending your festivals, I was thinking of something to do on my own. Gee, why not go to a festival here. Hello Ron, wake up!!! So I did! Low and behold, I had a great time (please don't tell Marla). While she was at Brighton, I was at the Westport Windriders Festival and while she was at Bristol Kite Festival, I was at a small, but great little festival, the 6th annual, "UP YOU WIND" (don't ask, I don't know). This festival is put on by the local kite shop in Pacific Beach, Washington. It's well organised and lots of fun. A small amount of B&B's, with plenty of caravan & camping facilities.

This year they had kiting categories for prizes. What was different was that no one knew what the categories were until the winners were announced at the Saturday nite banquet. And no trophies or ribbons, just money in a envelope. It was different and a pleasant surprise. (OK, I did take a 3rd place which netted me 18 quid).

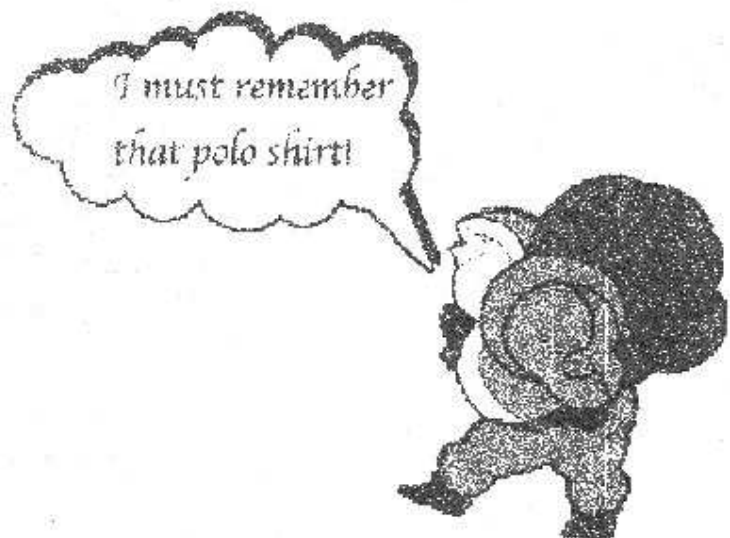
So as some of you can tell, I can survive on my own, but truthfully sometimes it's tough to be without that women. (Did I just say that?).

If anybody has questions, E-mail, and ask us!

Go to: kypepl.com and see pictures of our kites or write us a letter.

Best winds to all,

Ron Miller



And finally a note from the editor

After a summer of soul searching we decided that, due to other commitments, we would have to give up editing the club magazine. We told Dave Robinson and asked him to inform the committee at the Middle Wallop meeting. We thought that we would be able to continue to enjoy our flying and look forward to receiving our magazine through the post. We were Marlaized at Bristol, we had forgotten how determined she can be. She must be used to getting her own way (sorry Ron). So here we are looking forward to another year at the helm. If there is someone out there who really, really wants the job we could still be persuaded to give it up. Don't forget that you can now e-mail your articles. I wish I hadn't e-mailed Marla! See you all at the AGM in November.

dajmj@tesco.net

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 masts.
- 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

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Club Subscription: £6.00 (One year UK)

(including postage and kite flying insurance)

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