

# COWPAT HILL



Vol. 1, No. 8

NEWS SHEET OF THE WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS

September 1990

## PRIVATE SKY

### Is It... 'Fliers' Or 'Flyers'?

We have recently been making flags to fly at displays and the question of how to spell 'Fliers' or should that be 'Flyers'? came up. My COLLINS English Dictionary states (under 'flight'): flyer, flier *a. fly-fishing a catching fish by artificial flies on hooks. fly'ing a. moving through the air; air navigation; a. capable of flight; streaming; swift.* So you lot work it out! If you read the above you will see that it could all relate to kite flying or should that be fly-ing?

### One Sky One World

As you will see in the special story from David Robinson\* we have been asked by the local Rotary Club to help disabled people have a try at flying kites. So on October 14th, the OSOW day at Barbury we hope to do just that. Please, if you can, come along on that day and lend a hand or perhaps loan a kite so that others can experience the thrill (or frustration) of flying a kite.

### Totally Biodegradable Paper Kites?

I was recently given the new David Pelham 'FLY KITES' paper kites kit (*published by Penguin Books - many thanks Mick!*). This contains material to make four paper and cardboard kites. I can only say that I agree with 'THE KITE FLYER Notice Board' the money would be better spent on Mr Pelham's other kite book 'KITES'. Having said that the kites are very colourful and would no doubt fly.

### Last Of The Summer Wine

I was on the phone to Doug Jones the other night when he burst out laughing. He just managed to say 'quick, kites on the telly' and there, in 'Last Of The Summer Wine' was the trio trying to launch a kite! Doug did calm down and come back on the phone, though as he said, it all looked just like the happenings at Barbury Castle! and NO! I'm not putting names to faces. (*Mind you, Ron does wear a flat cap!*)

*Richard Everett*

### Kiting For The Disabled\*

#### A Kiting Appeal From David Robinson

I was recently approached by Peter Newson a Swindon Businessman and Rotarian about the possibility of the W.H.K.F. assisting with the Thamesdown Rotary in an afternoon of kite flying with the disabled. This came about after the Rotary Headquarters in London sent out a directive to their branches pointing out the therapeutic value of kite flying and for the disabled it would be similar to riding for the disabled etc. As Peter Newson is an old friend of mine and knew that I was a kiting enthusiast, he approached me to see if we, as a club, would be interested in helping out. From this approach I arranged for Peter and the Chairman from the local Rotary to come along to our August fly in at Barbury Castle where we had an informal meeting with Ron Gunter, myself and several members of W.H.K.F. where it was agreed that a good day for this venture would be 'ONE SKY ONE WORLD' day on October 14th.

Since this meeting Peter Newson has contacted thirteen schools in the Thamesdown area and also the person who co-ordinates the activities for disabled children in Thamesdown and he has informed me that about 20 local disabled children and helpers would be brought to Barbury Castle to kite fly between Twelve and Two o'clock on the 14th. So please, all of the members who would be interested in helping... MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Many Thanks... David Robinson.

### Breeding Ted's

The 'COWPAT' mole has heard from a certain Teddy Bear that Vic Walker's house extension has been turned into a temporary maternity ward for pregnant Ted's! Mole's understanding is that Vic is breeding fauna and within weeks they will be seen training with the SAS (and you know their motto ... WHO BEAR'S WINS!).

Vic has stated that he is going for the record of... "Most fauna Bears on ONE parachute"... and that will be no PICNIC... so watch the 'COWPAT' for more news!

Remember, when out flying your kites, look up and give them a SMILE, they get lonely up there!

## WATCH FOR THOSE POWER LINES!

*(Held over from the August issue)*

### Lets Go Fly A Kite (Or A Car)!

By Martin Croston

Three years ago at the Bristol Kite Festival my Stratascoop 7 was to land me in REAL hot water. On that particular day the wind was very, very strong, it must have been blowing at least 30 miles per hour. We had attached the kite to Vic Walkers Bedford van and thought no more about it, believing that the kite was quite secure! As the wind blew harder I saw the kite beginning to move the van, this was bad enough but Vic's wife Julie and their pet fox (*that's right a FOX!*) were sitting in the passenger seat! Things were to happen very quickly, with the sheer power of the kite the front of the van lifted up and then the whole vehicle bounced across the field for about 100 yards and would have gone on to crash into some trees if at that point about 10 of us hadn't jumped on the van to stop it!

This was all captured on the local television station as a camera crew were at the festival filming the children's personality 'Timmy Mallet' who was there for the weekend. *(and who, I might add, didn't help us at all!)* At that point I got my Cortina and hitched it to the back of Vic's van and this stopped the problem. We decided to bring the kite down as the line was at breaking point. With the help of still more people we did managed to drag it down. The illustration opposite *(by Martin Lawrence of the Snowdonia Kite Club)* shows this very well. Peter Powell was one of the very many people who helped us and I was most grateful that we eventually got the kite down. After this experience we were loaned a much bigger vehicle which the kite couldn't move!!!

*Martin Croston*

### Kite Parachutes

Vic Walker is now exporting parachutes out to New Zealand. A kite flier whilst on holiday from that country and doing the rounds of the kite festivals saw the advert in the Kite Society magazine for 11' *(and not as Vic thought it!)* cargo chutes. After getting in touch and having a chat with our man, four of these parachutes are now on route down under to New Zealand.

*(Um... just a small thought here Vic? Will those parachutes work upside down? Ed.)*



### Articles For COWPAT HILL

We would be pleased to receive articles for possible publication in COWPAT. Hints, comments, plans even the odd moan! we'll try to make use of whatever you send! See Ron on any Second Sunday or send it to:

**Richard Everett**

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### The Who Did What Bit

Published by Ron Ouster on behalf of the White Horse Kite Flyers

Edited by Richard Everett

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Another COWPAT HILL News Sheet in October