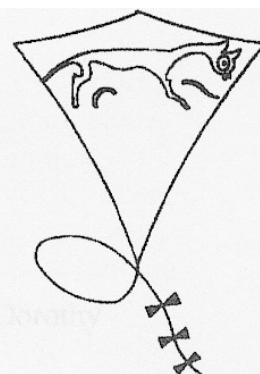


cowpat hill



WHITE HORSE KITE FLYERS
WINTER ISSUE 2004
JANUARY - MARCH

Thank you all

I don't know quite how to express my sincere thanks to you all for your generous gift to Neil, on his departure as Chairman. Neil will be in his element! All those aircraft he'd only ever dreamt of seeing. What a fabulous gift by some very special people. Thank you all so very much. I know for the next 2 weeks all I'm going to hear is what aircraft he saw, what nationality they were and when they went out of service!! As long as it's made him happy, I can tolerate it!!! My heartfelt thanks to you all once again. My vouchers were a surprise, an added bonus. Thank you!

Sue and Family

White horse kite flyers
PO Box 585
SWINDON
SN3 4YR

White Horse Kite flyers
A.G.M.
November 03

1. Welcome: to all members from the President

2. Apologies: Jerry & Caroline Swift, The Simpson's, Dorothy and Josie & Ron

3. Minutes of 2002 matters arising 1000 tadpoles were made at Cleethorpes.

4. Chairman's Report: Neil gave his last report as Chairman saying it was with mixed emotions sad that it was an end of one era but happy that the club is in good health and was looking to the future, also he may now be allowed to fly his kites a bit more. The club has done as many if not more workshops this year, including 3 one Thousanders or as near as (Cleethorpes, Bedford and Basingstoke). More kite kits have been sent out with our fame spreading worldwide, pictures on the Internet revealed children in Japan making whkf sleds. The club had within its members Matrix Management, 3D and Gemini to show the sports kites off, during the year they picked up awards both here and abroad. Other big kite displays went pretty well, but the best for Neil was the Mince pie fly when the big stuff was flown together. Clear blue sky with the Beast in all its glory surrounded by the frogman's legs and other big kites. What a way to end 2002. The Charlie Sotich and Martin Lester workshops went well and were very much appreciated by all who partook. Lets hope Sam Hustons workshop in the spring goes just as well. Brian and Lynn are being evicted from Barbury at present they do not know what they are going to do but say they will keep in touch. Is there life after cobblers? We wish them the best for the future wherever it may lead them.

Thanks were given to Dave and Janet for all their hard work for the club & to Tracy & Pete for cowpat thanks also to Marla for raising vast amounts of money for the club and to all members for making the club what it is.

Looking to the future the club will soon have a new Chairman and committee elected by the members things will change but I hope they will only be for the furtherment of the club. I will be about next season to help out as much as I can. But I would now and again like to fly my kites and talk to other flyers on the field and not from the inside of the marquee. But finally from the Annals of Kite History "it's only a clearing up Shower" Thank you all and here's to the future of WHKF.

5. Hon Sec's report: Highs of the year were Bedford and the Isle of Wight events for people to look out for next year.

The catching the wind event at Wroughton was put together in 3 weeks and impressed Wroughton staff. Paul Chapman was flying off the ceiling all weekend after finding a historic kite probably the only one left in the world and it's at Wroughton. A low of the year was Basingstoke the event was sponsored this year so sled kites were free this caused a problem and it was agreed with Roy that kites should be at least £2. The new Chairman will need all our support. In the year ahead hopefully our festival will be at Wroughton see later in report. Lydiard have been

very understanding and it was suggested that maybe we hold a family kite flying day there.

6.Hon Treasurers report: Thanks were given to Janet and the accountant members saw copies of the expenditure and income sheet. Festival was at a slight loss not by much but at a loss. Accountant commented on a good set of figures.

7Cowpat Editor report: Thanks to all for your support this year, we would like to make some changes next year so look out for them. Please support us and have your say it can be long or short any recipes or cartoons will be much appreciated.

8.United States of America report: Membership this year has stayed the same. Thanks were given to everyone for making feel like family. Marla commented that we all did a good job.

9.Election of Officers: Neil is standing down as Chairman. One person has shown an interest no more nominations were received. Arthur Dibble was duly elected as Chairman of the WHKF.Arthur took over the role as chair. At this point a presentation was made to Neil and Sue with thanks from the club. A presentation was also made to Neil from Charlie Sotich and Ron and Marla Miller.

10. Election of Officers: Vice Chair Don Baggett proposed Dave Robinson seconded by Dave Thompson.

Secretary Dave Robinson proposed Pete Dawson seconded Pete Willis.

Treasurer Janet Robinson proposed Don Baggett seconded Pete Willis.

Editor Tracy Willis proposed Arthur Dibble seconded Pete Dawson.

All other committee members were duly elected with addition of Dave Thompson who was proposed by Don Baggett and seconded by Dave Robinson.

11.Festival for 2004: After the catching the wind event Wroughton approached us to hold our kite festival back there. Meetings have been held with the Wroughton staff. Advertising would be provided by Wroughton and they were also seeking a sponsor though one hasn't been found as yet. Wroughton will still take the gate money. Food traders are a problem as they only want healthy food on site but this is still under discussion. At the last meeting the buggiers were represented and invited to the event if the gate money is good for the weekend Wroughton will give the club a share this is still a proposal nothing has been agreed. As mentioned earlier it was suggested that a family fly in was held at Lydiard Park. A further meeting with Wroughton is in the pipeline.

12.Other Events: There are still some places available on Sam Hustons workshop.

Stowe is on the 24th/25th of April

Cleethorpes Neil needs help at a workshop on the Friday anybody willing to help

please contact Neil.Brinkworth show is Sunday 5th of September and Lackham 15th of August All dates will be issued in the magazine.

Doug Irvine requested to hold a winter league at Barbury this was agreed and Doug will be organizing this.

13.National Body: Jon Caton attended a meeting on putting forward a National Body of Kite flyers It was felt that this was not the time or the place to discuss this proposal and would be taken to a committee meeting.

14. Equipment for 04: A proposal was made to change the workshop sled but it was agreed to keep them the same. 250 watt amp to be taken on at committee level. New club trailer Pete and Neil attended the showman's show where they visited a trailer stand, new trailers are only 50kg lighter it was agreed this would be taken on at committee level.

15. Projects for 04: suggestions made matched banners, playsail and a windbow Arthur would like to see a further workshop held to undertake one of these projects in WHKF livery a date will be set at a committee meeting and members will be informed. Anyone welcome not just sewers.

16 Club Constitution: If there is anything that members felt needed changing it was to be sent to the secretary 42 days in advance (nothing was raised) Updating the constitution will be taken to a committee meeting and will be presented at the 2004 AGM.

17 Any other Business: Honorariums were proposed for Neil, Janet and Tracy Proposed Jon Barker seconded Don Baggett.

The mince pie fly in charity will be Cancer Research. Thanks were given to Bibury football club for letting hold the meeting there and providing the food.

Arthur's Chairman's address

At this time I would have expected to be thanking you for voting for me and conveying my sympathy to the losers. However as I was the only person standing I feel it is more a case of "It's a good job some sucker was prepared to do it"

The first job I must do is to thank Neil for all the work he has put in to the club over many years to get it to where it is today. He will be a very hard act to follow..... To note this occasion we have a small token of our appreciation and as Dave Robinson has been instrumental in organising this I would like to call on him to make the presentation.

.....
My prime objective will be to maintain the standards Neil has set and to take us forward to new ventures. The Club will change; there is no doubt about that as I said in the magazine no one can hope to do all that Neil has done and so I will require a committed team behind me and I will try to improve communications through out the club to get the extra support I need. I should also like to pull the membership together a little more so that we present a more unite front at events as do other well known clubs in this country. The changes will be slow and little difference will be noticed to start with as I have not been involved in much of the organisation for this years events and I understand that these are well under way. When Neil told us last year

that he was standing down he promised that he would continue to assist. With out this I would not even have contemplated taking over.

Now moving on to the election of committee officers and members. As I have stated repeatedly we will now have to have a dedicated team who are prepared to take their share of the work otherwise I don't stand a chance.

Arthur

Lunen Drachenfest 2003 - a Lunen virgin's perspective

The 'phone rang shortly after the Bedford K.F. It was one J Swift – "*there are two seats available on the Lunen minibus, interested?*" We'll call you back tomorrow - Pat actually called back within ten minutes to say yes!

Having taken this impetuous decision, uncertainty set in. Past stories were remembered – long journey times, drinking, gymnasium accommodation, drinking, dubious weather, drinking etc.. Was it really for us? Ah well, I guess everyone was a Lunen virgin once. And besides, knowing only one other overseas festival, Dieppe's superb bi-annual *Cerf Volant*, it would be an interesting experience.

Thursday 16th October arrived, a beautiful autumnal day and a good forecast (global warming seems rather nice!). A certain Gloucestershire Gent (!) collected us mid afternoon, Volvo already well laden. Leaving Lechlade there was even less space, and we still had to collect a certain Thatcham resident! A welcome cuppa, yet more into and onto the Volvo and we're off. Arriving in Folkestone, a wrong turning leads us to the Shuttle check-in instead of Tesco. Having no obvious way of turning around, our Gloucestershire-lad calmly executes an off-road U-turn and we're away. (Did this contribute to a 'certain' happening on the M4 one week later? Was it the reason for he who has proposed a *barking spider* fine to be the perpetrator of the weekend's first such – albeit with an eloquent 3-2-1 countdown?).

Following dinner in Tesco, we met the rest of the Lunen-bound folk – the Swifts, Andy Desadaleer, Barrett P, Turpin S, McArthy, Croxton, Scarfe, Hennessy and Dave McAurthur (Brighton) and Dave Johnson (Avon). The minibus and trailer are duly loaded but Hennessy can't find his car keys. Being closest I am blamed, but fortunately Barrett P is seen re-acquainting keys with car.

The 10:40 Shuttle 'sailing' was easy (I was actually a Shuttle virgin) and ninety minutes later we're in France following a thirty minute 'sailing' - most confusing! There followed the night drive through France, Belgium, Holland and into Germany,

arriving in Lunen around 06:30. An easy, albeit slightly cramped, journey for the passengers but not so easy for our very able drivers Jerry and Andy.

After breakfasting in the Persil Hotel we moved to the *Drachenfest* site. This is normally a huge glider field, but this weekend is devoted to kiting and associated antics. After meeting our hosts, the day was spent flying (kites) and/or shopping, the afternoon seeing the skies occupied by large Swindon and Brighton kites. Some of us ventured into Dortmund (famous for its *Pils*), and were entertained by Carolin and Paul waltzing to live harp music in the main concourse - we were amused, onlookers were somewhat aghast!

Returning, we set-up our sleeping arrangements in a school gymnasium. After marking (!) our respective territories it was back to the flying site and its hanger for *das Abendessen* (dinner), enjoying potato, spinach and sausage 'stew'. The ambient temperatures were low and whilst the Pils was good, the hot Glue Vine was more comforting and less likely to cause interruption to sleep! An early night in a relatively comfortable bed was disturbed by Simon complaining about sticky sweets in his sleeping bag - young Turpin allegedly the culprit.

Saturday, the first day of the *Drachenfest* dawned very cold. *FruhStuck* (breakfast) in the hanger comprised scrambled eggs, boiled *Wurst* (sausage) and plates and plates of beautifully presented cold meats, cheeses, breads etc. - I generally avoid red meat, but succumbed. Familiar faces appeared in the form of Robert Valkenburgh, Roy and Hayley, Janeka, Dave Gomberg, Ron and, I thought, Marla - but as she wasn't forcing, sorry selling, raffle tickets I wasn't sure!

Flying started early, the skies were blue and it warmed nicely through the day, a few teddies were even seen descending. As is to be expected, there were many beautiful and ingenious kites flying. Whilst having a love for four lines (not two, Mr Swift!) I have a growing appreciation of single liners. Particularly impressive were Swallowtail and Monarch butterflies and the minimalistic and low-cost artistry of Didier Ferment, a Professor in mathematics at the University of Amiens. The afternoon saw an attempt on the world mega team record, currently standing at 36 kites. 67 started the attempt but 'only' 56 managed to stay aloft for the pre-requisite time. Nevertheless a new world record was made.

Come evening, temperatures again dropped. We were afforded another huge meal in the aforementioned hanger - joints of *Schweinefleisch unt gekochter* (can't keep translating) accompanied by, I'm afraid, more of that warming Glue Vine. A night fly and firework display followed. The organisers anticipated low temperatures, providing braziers for the many spectators. These comprised lengths of tree trunk set in the ground, cut radially and lit from the core. Provided you could get near one they were very effective. (An idea for der Svinden Drachenfest?). We didn't see any of the late night antics (more subdued than usual apparently) as we had to put Neil and Arthur to bed - poor old chaps.

Day two and the site was obliterated by early morning fog and mist, but the sun burning through yielded a spectacular sight. The Brits had full attendance for breakfast bar one, we believe he preferred a lie in!!

The day was again beautiful albeit with less wind. I was volunteered to participate in the afternoon Rok fight, supporting Dave Johnson. This would be my Rok initiation, so besides being a Lunen virgin and a Shuttle virgin, I guess I was a Rok virgin also (verging' on the ridiculous now!). We came fifth in the three-match fight, the other teams occupying the first four positions.

The formal elements of the *Drachenfest* finished around 5:00 pm and it was out for a formal dinner. This was at a local hostelry serving good food and beer in nice jugs (!). To the Proprietor's astonishment we sought to obtain some jugs (!) as souvenirs. Having plied *die Kellnerin* with After Eight mints, we were surprised at having to pay for them.

As is custom, the weekend concluded in the ice-cream parlour where four huge ice cream and fruit concoctions were shared and fully consumed – though at times Mrs Swift seemed to be wearing more than she was eating bless her!

So, that was Lunen. An early night in readiness for a 5:00 am departure and as the gymnasium lights were extinguished, it was akin to the end of an episode of 'The Waltons'. No sooner than we were asleep. We were rudely awoken by Mrs Swift – it was 4:00am already. Those not arising immediately being physically attacked by said Lady – next time I'll wait!

On the road by 5:00am to plan (well done Jerry!!!! – I'll avoid the obvious comment), a stop for breakfast in Belgium, motorway hassle around Antwerp and one more 'Lunen' custom - a Belgian chocolate factory visit. Our last stop was at the Citie d'Europe for a 35 minute trolley dash around Carrefoure. It was then to Le Shuttle and a 2:30 pm 'sailing'. Arriving back in the UK 25 minutes before we left. I never did understand the film *Back to the Future*.

The general consensus was that this year's event was more subdued than previous. The weather and the hospitality were superb but retail prices in the (limited) retail outlets were some 30% higher than previous years – seemingly a common feature of Euro zone.

Would we go again? The answer must be yes. I still think Dieppe is superb and would not want to miss that one, but the two events are so different. You fly kites at Lunen, you look at kites at Dieppe and soak up the truly international flavour. To do Lunen one year and Dieppe the next seems like an ideal situation.

Chris Mabon

Sky Chat Rtd.

May I firstly thank you All very much for the surprise you sprang on me at the AGM. It was a good job that Dave had brought the lounge seat, or you would have had to pick me up off the floor. I will do a report on the Trip at a later date.

Next I have to thank all of you who sent Christmas cards and presents and sorry if Sue and I did not send one to you. At the last count we had received about 160 cards. Thirdly I must thank all those who supported The Mince - Pie Fly-in. whether it was by just coming, giving raffle prizes or by working by doing the food or selling raffle tickets. I was not firing on all cylinders that day (or on other days lately) so it was doubly welcome. It looks as if we raised about £230 for Cancer Research. Very well done.

Now back to the Club. We have Arthur now as Chairman and he needs our support. Arthur has brought a new wave of thoughts into the Committee and this will require all of our co-operation in bringing them to fruition. Club projects like the Wind Bow and Play Sail will only come about with your participation, so get sewing. There are other things in the pot and the Committee will be putting them forward at a later date. So as always please give them all the help you can. There are also plans to re-vamp "Cowpat Hill". Tracy & Pete are already looking into ways of adding some colour to it, but this may mean an earlier dead line for articles. O dear I will have to pull my finger out.

We have said our sad farewells to the Simpsons who have left Barbury Castle and have moved Wootton Bassett for time being. I thank them for their kindness and support over the years they have been on The Hill and wish them all the best for the future. What is life like without 'Cobblers'.

Now wishing you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year with clean winds and tight lines.

Neil

CRUMBS FROM THE HICHAIR

A NEW REGULAR ITEM

This article has no intension of taking over from Sky Chat that we hope to see continuing for years to come even if it is renamed Back Chat or even Sat Chat. The first thing I must say is a big thank you to every one who came to the AGM and supported my election. I hope I will be worthy of it.

As I said at the AGM there are going to have to be changes as I do not have the time or space to do what Neil has done. I am however very keen to establish communications with any one who wants to take part in festivals, workshops and club projects so to start this off will any one who wants to hear from us more often than the quarterly magazine please complete the form below and return it to me.

The prime method of communication will be by E-mail but for those of you who do not have this I will use snail mail, possibly on a post card printed with a copy of any E-mail. I was delighted to find very soon after the AGM Pete Dawson had updated the web site and we hope to keep this much more active with a smart new format

being set up currently, so keep checking it for details. In fact this form can be found on the site for those of you who would prefer to return your details electronically.

With the current situation on The Data Protection Act I must reiterate that signing a membership application for WHKF allows The Club to store the details supplied for purposes of circulation of information only. The Club undertakes not to supply this information to a third party.

	Name	
Address		
'Phone number		
Fax number		
E-mail		
Mobile		
I would like to help at events with: -	Workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Parachuting teddies	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Single line displays	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Multi line displays	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Catering	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Setting up	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Clearing up	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Car parking	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Camping	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Raffle	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Merchandising	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/>
	PA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Others. Please specify.		
I would like to take part in: -	Club projects	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Socials	<input type="checkbox"/>

I have the following skills I could offer: -

Thanks Arthur

CLUB PROJECTS

This year the club is going to build two 75 foot contra rotating wind socks and a play-sail. These will be in the club green with the white horse logo and name. They will also have many panels with individual emblems.

Panels of the background colour will be available from the mince pie fly onwards and a workshop will be held to sew them together on the weekend of February 14/15. At this workshop any one not experienced in appliqué but would like to learn will be able to do so starting with one of the letters in the club name (there are 20 of these, times 3).

As you can see there is a lot of work to do and we want as many people as possible to join in so please collect your material at one of the meetings or contact any committee member and we will arrange postal delivery. The finished item will depend on you so let your imagination run wild, nothing rude please.

On the weekend we will require as many people as possible and even if you don't sew we will require help marking out, cutting, making tea and setting up the potluck lunch.

PLEASE HELP YOUR CLUB. LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.

ROBINSON'S RAMBLE

Well if you weren't at the AGM you missed a treat; we got Neil well and truly. I suggested to the committee that we couldn't just give Neil a piece of engraved glass as a retirement present, in my opinion he deserved a really good gift for his years of service to this club of ours, and they all agreed. So I arranged a surprise trip to the US Air force Museum in Dayton, Ohio. If you didn't already know Neil's passion in life apart from kites and rare breed chickens is, military aircraft, the surprise element was that he was travelling, completely unbeknown to him, on the Thursday after the AGM, so he had no time to think about it! Elsewhere in this magazine you should be able to read his report on the trip. After all of the excitement of telling you about Neil's retirement gift, I almost forgot to mention that our new Chairman is Arthur Dibble, Arthur is a past Vice-Chairman, he stood down from that post 2 years ago, Neil will be a very hard act to follow, but I am convinced, with Arthur we have the right person at the helm, he will need us to assist him all we can, so that we can take the club forward to a new era! One of Arthur's initial ideas; is, for more of our members to get involved in club projects, I support him fully in this initiative, going back 5/6 years ago the club was famed for producing a new kite for the start of each kiting season, unfortunately this has not been the case in the recent past, please come along to the event in February, if you haven't got involved in a club project before, you may be presently surprised, how enjoyable they are.

At this time of year I would like to be able to bring you all up to speed on the Festival, as I write this, I am unable to do so, due to certain guarantees not coming through yet; from the Science Museum, rest assured the committee is working hard to make sure it takes place at Wroughton in May, however if we are unable to get some vital assurances from the management at the Science Museum, we will hold the festival at Lydiard this year, and then negotiate with the Science Museum for 2005. One piece of information I can give you all; is that, we have invited Mikio Toki from Japan; he has accepted our invitation!

What a great idea of Martin Croxton's to hold an event in memory of the death of Doug Hagaman; ten years ago. Doug was our guest at the first Swindon Kite Festival in 1991, from that first meeting, Martin Croxton, Doug Jones & Myself; fell in love with Doug's kites, so much so, that we own eight of his kites between us. When he died in 1993 from a viral infection, he was only 39; it was a great shock to all of us! We arranged the memorial fly-in to coincide with our meeting at Barbury Castle, on the 14th December, the sun shone the wind blew (it was a bit lumpy) and with the help of Hugh & Lynn Blowers, & George & Jacky Penney, who travelled from Beccles for the event, we managed to get 13 Hagamans in the air, plus a windsock that he made me when he stayed at our house in 1991, if you go to tedberets.co.uk you'll see pictures of the event captured by our new Chairman Arthur Dibble.

Regards
David Robinson

A note from the Ed

It was agreed at a recent committee meeting that I would hold the Diary for the year. This means that all dates for events to be attended by the club must come through me. This will enable us to make sure we don't double book ourselves and will hopefully give us enough members to attend events. Dates of events will be updated in the cowpat magazine and also on the club website. Please if you wish us to attend an event give us plenty of notice and as I said check with me for date availability. You can contact me at my E-mail address or by phone my number is on the back of this magazine. Remember the club would appreciate any help you may be able to give at events no matter how small so if you could help with setting up or give a hand in the club workshop or clearing up at the end of the day please come along and make yourself known we are a friendly bunch and any help you can give will be much appreciated. Here's to many good events in 2004.

Thank you for your support in 2003 hope to receive many new articles this year lets hear from some more members don't be shy everyone has a tale to tell no matter how small lets hear from you whether it's a tale from an event, a recipe or cartoon this is your magazine and your chance to have your say.

The deadline for the next magazine is the 28th of March I look forward to seeing you all on a flying field somewhere soon a very happy new year to you all.

Tracy Willis.

Roy Broadley Kite Workshop

Cliddesden Village Hall, Feb 22nd 2004.

Attention all interested parties-Roy Broadley of Kites Up will be doing a workshop on his EYECLOPS kite, at the Cliddesden Village Hall, on Feb 22nd (Sunday) It will be all day-stopping for lunch at the Jolly Farmer (buy your own-Sunday lunch or bar snacks available)
There is a limit of 20 places, so a first come first served basis. A deposit is required in advance to ensure we cover costs. You will be provided with a kit to work from, but will need to bring a sewing machine (plus the usual bits and pieces-scissors, pencil, stitch ripper, etc). We won't be far from the Kites Up studio, so anything forgotten will be within reach!
Given time (and weather!) we hope to fly them later in the day-please bring flying line.
The cost for the workshop is £30 per head, of which £10 will be required as a deposit.

.....

Booking form

Eyeclops workshop, Feb. 22nd 2004, at Cliddesden Village Hall.

Total £30

Deposit of £10 required to secure place.

NAME:.....

ADDRESS.....
.....

PHONE.....

Please make cheques payable to Kites Up,
and send to The studio, Station Road,
Cliddesden, Basingstoke, Hants, RG25 2NL.

