



THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

WHAT WE ALL COULD HAVE BEEN DOING

While most of us have been looking out of the window over the winter months and wishing the wind would drop, or it would dry up, or when the wind had dropped it had been to more than nothing, should take inspiration from Alan Reynolds. He has not only built the Brighton Kite Flyers a lovely new pilot kite but has made himself two counter spinning doughnuts as well. One of these saw its first outing at the January fly-in when it came out of the bag, straight into the air and flew. After the first one proved itself and Alan was sure it flew ok he set to work on another and can you believe it had the second one was ready to the fly by the club February fly-in. Although the wind was strong the second one flew straight out of the bag again. These were great to see in the air and now Alan has semi retired we

look forward to seeing lots more of his creations on the kite field. If you fancy making doughnuts



similar to Alan's. While Paul Hill and I were looking through back issues of Aerodyne the other day we found that 13 years ago Eddie Megrath sent in great instructions on a Catherine Wheel, and along with brilliant drawings by Mik Jennison these were published in the April 2003 Aerodyne. Just in case you don't have a copy that old we will be republishing them for you in the next issue if Mik Jennison and Eddie Magrath don't mind.



Simon Hennessey

FESTIVAL DATES CONFIRMED

Brighton Kite Festival 2006 has had its dates confirmed and will be held on 8th and 9th July. Please come along and support the event, this year the club will be promoting ChildLine who are celebrating their 20th birthday. As in pasted years the event will follow the relaxed and family orientated arrangement with an arena for flying displays both single and multiline. There is also plenty of public flying areas where all types of kites can be flown. We will also be running a children's workshop. We will be hosting a trick out competition with many renowned flyers from around the UK so please come along and pit your skills against some of the UK's best flyers.



ANOTHER GREAT DAY FROM WHKF

Going back to October last year, while at the great Lunen Kite & Ice Cream Festival I was introduced to a German Kite maker call Holm Stuck. He makes



amongst other things a William Eddy replica as near to the original as is possible, with one exception, that he hand makes all the fittings from stainless steel rather than plain steel. He was soon signed up to run a Workshop by David Robinson to make his eddy at the White Horse Kiteflyer's winter workshop. Almost as quickly Alan Outram and I signed up and awaited the dates for the workshop. About a fortnight before the event I had a phone call saying that there were still spaces left and did I know any one who wanted to fill them from Brighton Kite Flyers. A few phone calls later and Matt Jones was signed up.

Well, as some of you know, Matt has a big one and it could sleep not only Andrew (his son) and Matt, but easily have room for me as well, so not only was I not going to drive but I had somewhere to stay as well, I must say it's a great campervan. The day soon came around and I was picked up by Matt at 5.30am and off we headed for Swindon, we made good time and arrived just before 9.00. It was great to be able to snooze on the way down (sorry Matt). As we arrived the gates were still locked, so we

waited, soon Keith Boxall, Alan Outram and Keith's friend Alan turned up. Not a bad turn out from Brighton, (Maybe we should look at doing a small workshop locally - let me know if you are interested).

As I have done a few of these workshops before I knew the drill and was soon set up on a table with my sewing machine and bits and bobs needed for the off. The kits were handed out and what kits these were! Each set was sewn up in the same fabric as the kite in little pockets with compartments for each type of fixture and fitting. Such attention to detail makes the workshop a dream to do. We were then asked what number between 1 and 20 we wanted and instruction booklets were handed out with these numbers on, none of us knew why and when we asked we were told to wait and see. At first we were going to have to do all the spar shaping, planing and sanding, but Holm thought that it would take too long and had made all the spars to the shape and size and all we needed to do was finish them off with sanding and adding oils. This still took time and we were all too pleased not to have had to do all the work in shaping, etc. The workshop split into two groups - 10 sanding, 10 ironing and sewing (there was a lot of



ironing) on the Saturday morning and then swapped round after a lunch break of pizza and salad. By the end of the day most of us had got to a stage where we felt we could finish the kite in the weekend which was a great feeling.

It was off in the evening for a carvery dinner and as we had the big camper Don Bagget kindly picked us up and took us to the restaurant (thank you Don). To say it is a good carvery is not enough and Andrew who is under 10 could have a three course meal for less than £5.00, while the grown ups paid £12.00 for a two course meal. Well those who know Andrew will be aware that



when he eats he eats and after two starters a second helping of main and 2 sweets he finally said he was full. We headed back to the School where we had kindly been allowed to park the campervan (Thank you Peter Willis). When we arrived Peter and his family invited us in for a quick night cap as Peter lives on site. Peter is in to home brewing

ANOTHER GREAT DAY FROM WHKF CONTINUED

(Schnapps) and has a father-in-law that works for a local brewery! What more could you want! Well both Matt and I had a taste of the Schnapps and the beer. We can't wait until Teston to see if we can do just as well with the Schnapps. A quick night cap ended in a great evening telling stories about our past escapades, these stories were great to listen to and had me in stitches (just a piece of advice if you are getting married, don't invite Peter on the stag night). Midnight soon came and went and as we had a lot of sewing still to do we headed off to the campervan for some sleep. For any of you interested we are told you can get Schnapps kits from lots of places but the best one is the Peach flavour.

Sunday soon arrived and we headed off for breakfast - pasty from the corner shop. Then back into the school hall for the workshop for the final push to finish off the kites. I must say that sewing the cotton fabric is much

easier than ripstop but you do need to keep ironing it. By lunch time most of us had finished or could see the end very nearly. At around 11.00 people started asking about fabric for a bag and Holm then pulled out 20 bags he had made with pictures and information about the kite workshop printed on. Each bag was numbered with the number of the instruction book you were given so your kit was now complete and numbered. It will be fun to see if we can get all 20 flying in one place soon. We stopped for lunch at around 12.30 for homemade Shepherd's pie and crumble. Half an hour later we started to pack up, the raffle drawn, group photos taken, goodbyes were said and we headed off home. Another great workshop and what a way Holm had put the kits together. I have never seen anything like it. Thank you to Holm and thank you White Horse.

We are looking forward to the October workshop.

C O U L D
T H I S B E
T R U E O R
O R J U S T
M A K E
B E L I E V E

Egyptians may have used kites to help build the Pyramids. Scientists think the ancient Egyptians may have used kites to help build the Pyramids. The technique for moving their huge stones large distances has baffled archaeologists. Scientists have now found they can use sails and wind power to raise huge objects. A Californian software engineer who saw a hieroglyphic showing men holding ropes apparently connected to a 'bird' wondered if it was actually a huge, man-made kite capable of providing the lift to raise a heavy block off the ground. After raising a 180kg cement block off the ground with kites bought in a shop, Maureen Clemmons took the idea to Morteza Gharib, a professor at the Californian Institute of Technology. He then lifted a 3.5 ton obelisk by using a large sail.

"The instant the sail opened into the wind, a huge force was generated and the obelisk was raised to the vertical in a mere 40 seconds," Professor Gharib told New Scientist magazine. "We were absolutely stunned."

The discovery offers a possible theory as to how the Egyptians, and perhaps early Stone Age dwellers in Britain, constructed their huge monuments.



NEW YEARS DAY FLY-IN

Well, like a lot of New Years Day's flies, the weather was against us. This year this was no exception. It was cold and very windy. A few of the more certifiable amongst us did try and fly a kite or two (I now have 2 with minor repairs needed). Corinne did however manage to fly her kite I brought her back in October for her birthday for the first time. Sue Scott (Paul Hill's young lady) had brought some home made mince pies up, still warm from the oven, but even with these the cold soon got into us and we headed off to the Pub for a hot drink and a bite to eat.



The only problem with this idea was the pub had run out of gas so there was limited, to no hot food. After a hot drink we abandoned the fly-in and headed off to Saltdean for a hot meal in the "Saltdean Tavern". Not put off by this we are planning for the same time same place next year.



Richard Sutton (Chippy)

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ROY'S KITE FLYING FIELD

If you have been into "power" for any amount of time then you will know Roy Broadley, Hayley Gillingham and Kites Up.

Roy has been there since (even before) the early days at Brean and was the driving force behind what has become a mega event at Wallop. Kites Up have recently moved to new premises - still in the village of Cliddesden, just outside Basingstoke, but now, conveniently, just opposite the pub! Behind the pub, accessed by a controlled gate down the road, is a dream of a 20 acre field for Kiting activities. After a huge amount of work by the pioneers of this project in removing the stones and filling the holes, the grass has now grown and is purposely kept to a reasonable length with golf course style "rough" around the edges giving a good guide and keeping you back from where the road or hedges are. The field is in Cliddesden, just off the A339

Alton Road. (Not far from J6 of the M3).

There is a membership fee to pay of £115, which works out to just over £2.00 per week (payable annually in advance) for those who wish to use buggies and boards on the field. A fee has also been set of £52 for those who are looking for space and clean wind for precision, trick and



single line flying - there is room enough for all.

You can stay as long as you like and go when you want - seven days a week - the only requirement is the obligatory insurance which most people have when they join a club

(Brighton Kite Flyers offer £5m cover for all forms of kite flying except traction) and, of course, if you are going to buggy, you must be a member of the BBC. The membership fee goes to pay for the upkeep of the field and the rent.

The only thing that seems to be missing, surprisingly enough with this hugely popular sport of ours, is the number of people wanting to take advantage. The weekends are obviously more popular and some low key events are sometimes spontaneously or otherwise organised for those who want to take part but during the week you can often have the whole place to yourself!

Are you on shift work reading this - what are you doing this afternoon? - Get down there!

For more details contact Hayley or Roy at Kites Up on 01256 812487.

Allan Pothecary

K I N G S F O L D K I T E A N D S T E A M R A L L Y



The 8th Annual Kingsfold Kite and Steam Rally will be held on 23rd and 24th of September 2006 at Wattlehurst Farm and we have again been invited to attend to demonstrate our kites. Would you like to join us this year?

The location will be the same as last year but we may be allowed to extend the camping allocation if we get enough flyers. The procedure is similar to previous years. If you want to spend the

weekend having a bit of a laugh, flying a few kites and knocking back the odd Mississippi Red Eye then e-mail John Dimmock your vehicle registration number and he will send you the ticket.

admin@media-services.co.uk If any of you do not have email facilities, please ask any of the Brighton Kite Flyers if they will apply on your behalf.

We are told that John Browning would have finished the mowing by the time of the festival.



WHAT WOULD YOU WEAR WITH THE CLUB LOGO ON

As you know over the last few years the club has been producing t-shirts, hooded tops and last year some new club pins. We are continuing with the t-shirts, hoodies and pins. Some of you may already know we have added to these items some sew on patches about 70mm square with the club logo on. These are black with yellow sun, magenta kite and white lettering. These sell for £5.00 and can be obtained, while stocks last, from Paul Hill.

If anyone has any other ideas of what they would like to see the logo used on, clothing or such, please let the committee know and we will look in the viability of producing it. If it is embroidered we have a supplier that will do one offs if you are interested

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ANOTHER THING TO DO IN THE WINTER

What have we been doing over the winter you asked, well we went to India for three months and had the most fantastic time, met many interesting people and saw so many memorable places and things, really did see Indian life.



We went to the Ahmadabad International Kite Festival which was FANTASTIC. When we arrived in Ahmadabad for the festival the first people we recognised were Carl Longbottom and Darryl (Dazz) Smith then later met up with Nick James and Bob Cruickshanks. They were to be our companions for the duration of the festival and what an enjoyable group they were. The opening ceremony was electric with atmosphere and emotion, what an experience!!! We met lots of people from around the world who we already knew which added to the buzz. We had only set eyes on, at the outside, a dozen Europeans in the two months we had been out there up to that point.

A couple of weeks before the festival, all over the state, there were kites by the thousand being made and sold in all the shops as is manja which we had made in front of us, whatever strength of cotton and whichever colour we wanted. The actual festival in Ahmadaba lasted for three days which included the opening ceremony, kite flying by the river, numerous interviews, rooftop flying, heritage walk, wonderful hotel and fed and watered regularly throughout the time. The hospitality was second to none. The fourth day we were

bused to Anand for the day which was in a huge park, very hot and very light wind, if any. Enough light kites were able to get off the ground to make it extremely enjoyable, but sad when the festival came to an end and we all had to say our goodbyes as we were staying on for another month. The following weekend we had been invited to the kite festival in Kambhat by the local kite maker whose place we had visited beforehand and what a wonderful day that was, all the local villagers came up on the roof with us, we took loads of photos of them all, which we took back the following week in albums for them to keep, much to their delight.

Before we went to the festival in Ahmadabad we had been up to Rajasthan and all over Gujarat, to the mountains, sea, saw the wooden ships at Mandvi being



such a wonderfully colourful country and the people are so resourceful, came across no aggravation, life just happens. Just as well I kept a diary as we went to so many places and experienced so much, could write a book. This experience was made possible because we had a wonderful driver who was with us the whole time and took us into his family which we were made to feel part of and welcome, although we did have our own apartment as a base. Would love to go back, so many new friends



made all by hand tools, 100 tons of cargo, 250 foot long!!! some amazing workmanship. We saw over different parts of hospitals, factories, weddings, which we were invited to- magic, funeral pyres, copper pots being made, lions - the list is endless and before we came home did one more trip to the hill station at Saputara, which was idyllic. It is

and wonderful people, but if it doesn't happen have enough memories to last a lifetime.

The summer to come? Well we intend to go to the festivals as usual and to Dieppe in September. Would be lovely to have some Indian summer, keep our fingers crossed.

Happy times to everyone,
Paddy and Dan Rice.

Useful Contacts:

Coordinator/Chairperson:

Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E simon@BKF.org.uk

Events coordinators:

Ray Oakhill
 T 01273 306842
 E ray@BKF.org.uk
 Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E simon@BKF.org.uk

Aerodyne:

Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E Aerodyne@BKF.org.uk

Club library:

(BKF members only):
 Paul Hill
 T 01273 421286
 E paul@BKF.org.uk

Club Kites:

(BKF members only):
 Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E kites@BKF.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Peter Jackson
 T 01444 451076
 E Membership@BKF.org.uk

SORRY THERE IS NO PETWORTH

There have been some changes in the running of Petworth Kite Festival over the last few years and what with one thing and another the new organisers feel that this year they will not be running a dedicated kite festival in Petworth Park. We are in discussions with them to get it re-instated in 2007 so keep your fingers crossed and hope we can get the festival back online next year.



Merchandise

T-Shirts/Sweatshirts:

Alan Outram
 T 01737 771196
 E alan@BKF.org.uk

Pins/Cloth Badges:

Simon Hennessey
 T 01273 582309
 E simon@BKF.org.uk

fly-in reminders

Our Monthly fly-in are where we try to get as many club members as possible to fly together. These are held on the 1st Sunday of the month on Telscombe Tye, East Sussex, and the 2nd Thursday at 6pm in Stanmer Park (Summer only). If you are intending to turn up it is worth remembering that during the summer, members may well be attending kites festivals, but the fly-ins are still on, so see you there soon. The venues for these fly-ins will be discussed at the AGM and may well change. The Tye seems to have cows on it more and more of the year, making it harder to fly there. Keep an eye on Aerodyne and the website for updated information.

Please contribute to your club newsletter - even the smallest of items is welcome. Anything sent to the 'Editor' will be considered for print unless marked otherwise.

Contributions should be sent to:

Aerodyne
 c/o Simon Hennessey
 11 The Sheepfold
 Peacehaven
 East Sussex. BN10 8EG
 aerodyne@BKF.org.uk

Deadlines dates;
 January issue - 1 December
 April issue - 1 March
 July issue - 1 June
 October issue - 1 September

remember

Can you remember those times in 2005 when every time you think about them you have a little chuckle and realise just how lucky you are to be a member of Brighton Kite Flyers as they all pull together to make light of the situation and help out. Well our resident cartoonist (Lisa Sullivan) does.



Thank you

I would like to say thank you to all those who made this issue of Aerodyne possible Richard Sutton (Chippy), Allan Potheary, Lisa Sullivan, Paddy & Dan Rice and Paul Hill. who have helped to make this edition possible. I must also say a very big thank you to those who have edited Aerodyne this month in one shape or form.

Simon Hennessey

PLEASE DO
 KEEP THE
 ARTICLES
 COMING IN
 AERODYNE IS ONLY
 POSSIBLE WITH
 YOUR HELP AND
 SUPPORT.

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