

Get to know the your committee. From left to right: Peter Linnell (chairperson), with Danny Steer and Alan Outram (Capt Bung).

THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

Brighton Kite Flyers create a Sandstorm

It was early on Saturday morning as we set off with high hopes and a boot full of buckets, spades and of course kites towards Weymouth for our annual bank holiday pilgrimage. The traffic was not too bad and the journey only took 3 ½ hours, including the final crawl into Weymouth itself. For those of you who have not been to this Festival it takes place at the end off miles of sandy beach close to Weymouth town Centre. There are many hotels, guesthouses and holiday flats. situated next to the beach very close to the flying site. There is also an area for camper vans and an out of town campsite. Therefore, after booking in to our flat it was off to find Ray Oakhill. Although Saturday was not a festival day, but just a free flying day, they decided to give the Teddy Bear an airing. So Ray and Simon set about the task. It was not long until some other members who had made it down for the weekend joined them. Yet again, it was a big hit with the public as people flocked to see it. The rest of the afternoon was spent having fun digging holes, making sandcastles and catching up with old friends. As the day drew to a close the Teddy Bear was put away for the night (along with half the sand from the beach) and thoughts turned to food and the end of our first day.

Sunday dawned bright but no wind, slowly the wind picked up so there were many people on the sands trying to get their kites in the air. Easier said than done. As soon as we managed to get the lifter kite up in the air, we hit a hole in the wind and came back down to earth like one of Captain Bung's parachutes. Try as we might (and we did try) it would not go up. We were not the only ones. Of course, Jo Public wanted to know why there were not many kites flying seeing, as it was windy. You try telling them that the wind has holes in it; no, it was not worth the effort. Later on, the wind did pick up and the air was filled with kites. Ray Oakhill came 3rd in the rokkaku fight but he lost his kite somewhere over the rooftops of Weymouth this he claimed was a good excuse to make a new one, he'd been trying to lose it for years! (Good Bye Slack Alice we knew you well). Later in the day, we decided to put up our 9-metre spinning doughnut. The wind was stronger by now, it took off rather well, only to pick up sand from the beach and throw it out like a cement mixer from the hole in the middle. The next thing we knew was that the food stall, on the other side of the road by the funfair, had closed its shutters as there was too much sand being

blown about. Therefore, after a short but memorable flight. down it came. It did look good though. Hope we see it flying again soon, as it caused quite a stir.

Fish and chips for tea, and then off to the Mayors reception. OK so where was everybody. Free glass of wine/orange juice, kite flyers turning down a free drink!

That was of course followed by the annual fireworks display and night flying, which was as spectacular as ever.

Monday dawned cold, wet and horrible. As Paul Chapman dropped in for eggs and bacon, we sat and looked at the empty sky and talked kites and kite flying. Definitely a day for catching up with old friends in the Tearooms.

Simon & Corinne Hennessey



NAME THE BEAR



We have had the new club Teddy Bear up at several festivals and other events, and it has always caused quite a stir. One question, that is always asked is what's it called? To date we have not yet officially named it. As it is the Club's Teddy bear it should be up to the members to name it and a competition to name the bear is

being held. There will be a prize for the final name and he/she will be officially christened at Brighton Kite Festival this year. Please send your ideas to The Teddy Bear Competition, c/o The Teddy Bear, 11 The Sheepfold, Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8EG or e-mail teddybear@hennesseys.co.uk

KITES OVER CRAWLEY

What more could a kite flyer ask for? It was a lovely Saturday morning as we turned up at a school in Crawley. The children had been doing projects on kites and the headmaster had asked that we give a display, free barbeque tickets for all who attended. One slight problem! Glorious sunshine but no wind. Keith Boxall started the day off running around the field determined to get his two-line stunter to fly. It did but he exhausted himself in the process. Peter set up an area at the school gates to show some of his kites. He found some good wind flying at altitude, but not as high as normal, seeing as Crawley is very close to Gatwick one of the biggest airports in the country. We managed at various stages to get single line kites in the air but it was hard work. Oh well, time

for a Burger," and of course as soon as your back is turned the wind picks up!

Next challenge! We were asked, if it was possible, to see this big Teddy Bear, we showed them the bag, but this was not good enough. They had heard so much about it and wanted to see it fly. "Of course, lets go for it" said Simon Hennessey (where does all that enthusiasm come from). "No it will never fly" was the cry! "There's not enough wind!" "You must be mad!" But with the normal BKF attitude these were but small problems. So off we go much to the children's delight. This should be good, half a dozen grown men running around a school playing field trying to fly a 40 foot Teddy Bear. After much

running around a loud cheer was heard as up it went for a short but wonderful flight. It was great to see the children's faces and to think that maybe, just maybe, some of them may have found the fun that can be had while holding a piece of string.

Corinne Hennessey

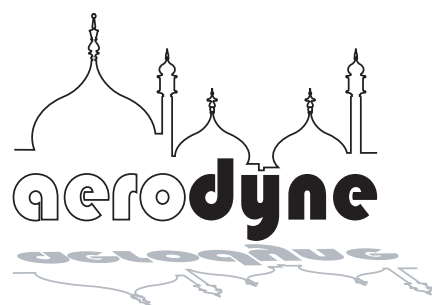
MISSING IN ACTION:

- Sex: Female
- Made: 1980's
- Height: One metre
- Colour: White
- Alias: Slack Alice
- Last seen: Over Weymouth
- Reward offered

WORD SEARCH

Thank you

A big thank you must go to Toody, and not forgetting Mick, for all their hard work in the past on Aerodyne. Hope that you enjoy your retirement and look forward to seeing you on the kite field soon.



S	W	I	N	D	S	O	C	K	S	V	A
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- Dihedral
- Span
- Winder
- Eddy
- Parafoil
- Sled
- Delta
- Aerodynamics
- Beaufort
- Spar
- Appliqué
- Drogues
- Diamond
- Roller
- Rokkaku
- Windsock

Beccles Bunch Battles with Beast at Berck.

A very pleasant crossing on the Superseacat instead of the slow Transmanche ferry to Dieppe was an unexpected bonus, which made the trip to Berck-sur-Mer so much quicker. We got to Berck on Thursday, which gave us a day to spare and a choice of parking places with all the other motorhomes on the seafront for the whole week for free.

Just by chance, we were eating outside a seafront restaurant and were accosted by Lynn and Hugh from the Beccles Bunch and got the lowdown on who was going to be flying (I did not know that the World Cup was taking place, woe is me!) and what they had been up to for the previous two weeks. It seems the weather had been glorious and there had been hardly any wind for all that time - but things were about to change! The first weekend, as always at Berck, was packed with spectators and it was difficult moving along the seafront at all. The sun still shone, but the wind was offshore and blowing force 5/6, making single line kites very unpredictable in the turbulence and conditions for sport kite flyers was much the same. Not the best of conditions for the World Cup.

On Monday I was pleased to see Simon Hennessey, Alan Outram and Pete Linnell and of course Teddy, our new Peter Lynn Teddy Bear kite, which I was hoping to fly every day for the rest of the week. It was too windy and turbulent to fly that day and even for the rest of the week until Saturday, when the early morning breeze was along the beach from the north and blowing 8/10 mph. So I made the decision to anchor the line to the concrete blocks provided. I should explain that these blocks are in two parts joined by a large piece of angle iron. Each block is 2 cubic feet, which would normally be adequate to anchor the bear at a wind speed of up to 10 mph. Anything above that and we would not normally fly. Another technicality to bear in mind is that

the lifter kite is not 4 sq. metres as ordered, but 8 sq. metres!

Things were looking good until the wind increased gradually to 18/20 mph and I looked at the anchor to see two guys sitting on it and another trying to hold it back with a rope as they were all being dragged along the sand. I managed to rope up another block to the original anchor, but it was getting serious and time to get the beast out of the sky. Jacky Penney called for help and ten, yes ten men came to her aid immediately! Meanwhile George, Hugh and I were using the pull-down to get the beast nearer to the ground, while seven hefty blokes were using another pull-down to ground the lifter. Hugh and I had a very intimate moment on the sand when the lifter line was practically cutting through his thigh and my hand was somewhere very close to his wedding tackle, but neither of us was in a position to let go of anything at the time!

When we were at Lunen, we purchased some Kevlar on which to fly the lifter kite, as the existing line was too heavy in the lighter winds. I had been told that Kevlar has the ability to cut itself at a knot, unless it is sleeved. Well, I can assure you that it is quite true, because I had to chase the lifter kite for a quarter mile along the beach! Now it is sleeved at the knots.

Sunday was the best day by far of the whole festival. Not only did the sun shine and warm us all up, but the wind was now on-shore at below 10 mph, so Teddy was given another airing and he flew just like a soft old Teddy Bear should, for the whole day - at last!

On the social front, it was good to see all those wonderful kiteflyers coming out of hibernation, not only the Beccles Bunch, but Ray Bethell, Uncle David Gomberg, Pete Dolphin and others too numerous to mention. Oh yes, I nearly forgot to mention that my crown has been taken over by Rolf Zimmerman as "Lawn Mower Man" with one of his big stars. In fact it was "Star Wars" between him and Gomberg and the German won to loud cheers from the English contingent.

I have not mentioned much about the World Cup, which I watched some of the time and supported "Matrix Management", Pete Dawson, Doug Irvine and Pete Willis, who did extremely well considering the very short notice to enter the competition. The event was won by "Overdrive" from France as all will know by now, and I must say that they gave a very spectacular performance at every opportunity. I understand from the UK team that the atmosphere exuded by all teams was very friendly and always encouraging to one another, and that is what kiting should be all about.

Ray Oakhill

A Personal View of Weymouth

Having just got back from the Weymouth Festival, and cleared out the sand from my kite bag, shoes, cabana, the car, and several orifices, I got to wondering why it is that I try to get to Weymouth every year. Unlike some kite flyers, I do not have the opportunity or the time (when do these people cut the lawn, decorate, or do anything

other than fly kites???) to go to many festivals - or even fly-ins - during the year, but I do try to make a special effort to get along to the festivals organised by the BKF, the Brighton Kite Festival, Petworth, and Ardingly - and to Weymouth.

So why Weymouth for me? It is the first big festival of the year, so there is the impetus to get the kites out after the winter and get back to flying. It was one of the first festivals I went to, apart from

Cont.

our own Brighton Kite Festival, so there is also an emotional attraction of sorts, I suppose. It is certainly a great place to fly. The beach is an excellent flying area, with plenty of space - most of the time - usually a consistent wind just right for kites, and excellent organisation by the Kite Society and Weymouth Council, who seem to go to great lengths to welcome kite flyers and to provide all the facilities we need, including barriers to separate the big kites in particular from the general public. With the promenade running all along the beach, most of the public are happy to stay off the beach anyway and watch the kites from a sort of grandstand. I seem to be particularly lucky in that the years I have managed to get to Weymouth the weather has been excellent, with good wind and lots of sunshine, and only the occasional shower. Weymouth was also the festival that I successfully flew one of the first kites that I made myself, so to celebrate, I try to make a new kite every time I go to Weymouth. I don't always succeed, and one year I built a kite and then slipped a disc, so it had to wait a year before it flew!

So what it is like to fly at a festival like Weymouth? Well, as a novice, it is a bit nerve wracking to fly a kite in public. If it is a dual or four line, there is always the thought that you will do something stupid and make yourself look like a nobby; if a single line, will it take out half the other kites flying, or the public (or like my roller at Ardingly, suddenly decide that there must be something jolly interesting on the other side of the grandstand, and do a lovely swallow dive and leave my line either side of a 3 story building!)? Once you've done it once or twice, though, you

realise that this is all part of kite flying and other flyers are only too willing to help sort out problems, or to help with your technique or how best to trim your kite - only last year at Brighton, Nicholas came to the rescue of my Jewel with some judiciously placed clothes pegs. There is also the opportunity to join in with Club activities and fly kites that an individual could only dream of. To be part of a team successfully launching a big kite, and then to hear how much the public enjoy watching it is quite a buzz.

Weymouth has become "my"

festival, and I am sure most other flyers have "their" festival as well. It might be a big festival like Weymouth, or it might be a small school fete where kite flyers have been invited. The important thing as a Club member is to get along to any sort of gathering and fly your kites with others. It doesn't matter what sort of kite, or what sort of event, just give it a go. You'll soon find your own favourite. The only problem then is that you have to go every year - or is it that really a problem at all?

Peter Jackson

Rough @ Rougham (but not all the time)

I left Brighton at 4.00am for the drive up to Rougham. The wind was good and the weather dry when I left, the trip was smooth and uneventful, but as I neared Bury-St-Edmonds and then Rougham airfield the wind dropped and the mist and rain came down. The gates were locked on arrival although I managed to get through to Martin on his mobile (thank god for those things) and was let in. As you can imagine on a wet 7.00am morning not much was going on, but the site looked great, large and flat. Slowly people appeared and the wind came and the rain went by lunchtime. What more could you ask. A good turn out by the Brighton Kite Flyers, Peter Linnell, Dave McArthur, Ray Oakhill Danny & Pad Rice were already there from Friday night, Mike & Norma House, Steve & Angie Ranson and Mike Stuart turned up later.

The Teddy was put up along with lots of other kites as the rain stopped and it looked like it was going to be a good afternoon. But again the rain came down, We all carried on flying as long as we could. Most of the kites that were up came down eventually very wet. Including the teddy, Ray's flowform and my Serpent Delta. These were rolled up and put under Ray's awning for the night rather than packed away damp with the hope that we could fly them dry tomorrow. Off we went

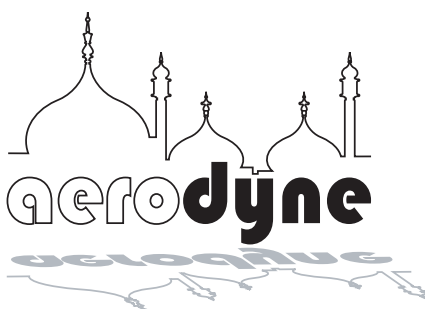
to the beer tent (nice one). The rain stopped and the wind dropped for the evening band, BBQ and fireworks.

Sunday, I woke up at about 5.00am and looked out of the Espace to see mist and no wind, so rolled over and went back to sleep till 7.00 when I was woken by the Brighton Banner blowing in the wind. Up, dressed out in seconds and dragged the sodden Teddy and Delta Serpent out across the field ready to fly. All laid out and the wind dropped. No problem at least it would dryer and the kites would not get put any wetter that sodden.

As the morning wore on the wind gods had fun changing direction, coming up as you sat down and just as you got to the kites, dropping again. Dave and myself were up and down like a jack in the Box and also had to move that ground anchors on the teddy about 4 times and almost 270 degrees. Eventually the wind picked up at about 12.00 and loads of kites flew. No more rain, just fun and flying and the Teddy dried.

Would I go again? You bet I would great site, great atmosphere and the weather can't be helped. (just a little more praying to the gods next year lads) Thank you for a great festival and a fun time.

Simon Hennessey



K I T E S O N I C E

Adventure 2002. Madison Wisconsin. USA

I had a much better flight to Madison this time around, going via Vancouver and Denver. Other years it has been Vancouver, Chicago and then on to Madison. A lot of the International kite flyers that flew via Chicago were stranded for a few hours at O'Hare Airport because bad weather grounded the planes until the blizzard had subsided. I remember my first trip to "Kites On Ice" because many of the other International flyers and I were stranded at O'Hare for 18 hours. A flight from O'Hare to Madison is only 35 minutes, so if you are looking for fun and games, this is not the airport to be stranded in, we now refer to it as "O'Horror" Airport. This year, due to the spring like weather, that Madison had been enjoying a few days before the festival, the ice was a lot thinner than at their previous festivals. This did not however, stop the festival starting on schedule. The only disappointment was, we could not fly at our usual place on the Lake, in front of Monona Terrace, because of the open water that was showing along the edge of the lake in front of the Terrace, and also beyond that the ice was dangerously thin. "No worry" said the lovely Linda Underwood, the organizer; we will go to plan B!! Which was on the same lake but at the other side at Olin-Turville Park where the ice was solid, Thousands of visitors strolled on the snow covered lake to admire and check first hand all the great creations that flyers from around the world had designed and built, many especially made for this festival. On this cold, clear, crispy weekend the sky was alive with kites of every color, shape, size and description above Lake Monona. There were Peter Lynn's penguins, cats and manta ray, Sven Weidhase and Andy Schmeelke new creation of a huge yellow bird, plus Aladdin and many of their other spectacular Creations. Gerard Clement's very impressive cathedral window, Rolf and

Claudia Zimmerman's flying their collection of huge kites, lobsters, seahorses, stars etc. Jos and Kaatje Valcke's very impressive collection of giant kites, Scott Hampton with his super displays of banners and ground displays, and what a beautiful back drop Masaaki Modegi and Mrs Sato's trains of diamonds were there. There were so many others, too



Ray Bethell @ Berck
(or should that be work) 2002

many to mention in this article, The only roped off area was the Sport Kite Demonstration arena with great all day demonstrations which the spectators lapped up. Featuring the famous Decorators from the UK, Team Chicago Fire, Team Windjammers, and yours truly. The winds just about flyable. On Saturday everyone worked hard to complete their routines. Sunday was a different matter, it was a great day for those that love strong wind, and by late afternoon it was blowing 15-18mph. I loved it, this is really my bag. Judy McCann the Sport Kite show Co-coordinator for the fourth year in a row did another great job in organizing the sport kite demonstrations. There is no doubt in my mind that this is one of the best kite festivals in North America, it is so well supported by the local people. Throughout

the day thousands of people swarmed throughout the Monona Terrace Community and Convention center, where workshops were held on both days plus kite displays and exhibitions. On top of all this the fantastic Guildworks indoor flying team once again did an awesome job of entertaining the masses with their hypnotic kite routines. These 3 days go so fast and everyone is so busy doing their thing there is not much time to socialize, but it was all gung ho at the last nights fare well party held again at Essen Haus restaurant. Good food, good company and the traditional boot drinking are always a blast. I would say this year was easily won by Sven and Andy from "Team No Limit"; this is a perfect name for them. This was an evening of laughter and tears, with everyone vowing to keep in touch with each other, and to return next year. The only sad thing about the evening was the news that Linda Underwood would not be organizing the Kites On Ice Festival in 2003, as she is getting married and moving to San Jose California. She will be sorely missed, as she is loved by everyone that has been lucky enough to have been invited to Kites On Ice. Linda and her wonderful team of volunteers have done a tremendous job, and in just a few short years, have made this a World Class Kite Festival. On behalf of all the kite flyers we wish Linda and Mr Lucky everything they wish for themselves plus so much more, "Thank you Linda for just being you."

Thank you for listening
Ray Bethell

We have found a source for embroidery onto club Patches, T Shirts, Fleeces, Hats, Bags well almost anything you can think off. Price lists will be available at the festival.

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The new Brighton kite flyers committee

Officers

Chairperson, Peter Linnell
Secretary, Simon Hennessey
Treasurer, David McArthur

Committee Members

Alan Crag
Alan Outram
Danny Steer
Paul Hill
Peter Jackson

Non Committee post
Membership Secretary,
Corinne Hennessey

fly - in reminders

Our Monthly fly-in is where we try and get as many of the club members to fly together. This is held on the 1st Sunday of the month on Telscombe Tye, East Sussex from 11.00am. Next to the A259 coast road between Saltdean and Peacehaven.

We also have a mid-year social fly-in (April- Sept) on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6.00pm in Stanmer Park, next to Sussex University

See you there

Don't forget that Brighton Kite Flyers will be holding the 24th Annual Kite Festival on July 20th & 21st 2002. Please can we request that as many members as possible come along to help and make this event one of the best ever. For more information you can contact Simon Hennessey or Alan Outram, or visit our website www.brightonkitefestival.co.uk

BRIGHTON KITE FESTIVAL
 Organised by the Brighton Kite Flyers

STANMER PARK
20TH - 21ST JULY
11AM - 5PM

2002

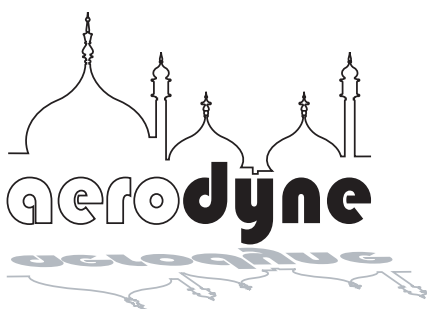
UK & International Plans
 Free Children's Kite Workshop
 Kite and Food Stall
 Saturday Evening Night Flying
 Sponsored by Brighton & Hove City Council

Press Publicity Pack
 Signed from AJFJ & AJF
 Events at Sussex University
 Radio 4000
 5000ft Night Climbing

Thank you

I would like to say thank you to all those who made my first issue of Aerodyne possible, Ray Oakhill, Ray Bethall and Peter Jackson for articles, Paul & Beth Hill for the wordsearch, Harry and Mable Kitability for the ditty and Simon Hennessey for articles and design.

Corinne Hennessey



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:

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October issue - 1 September

Whilst every care is taken to get the details correct in 'Aerodyne' the Brighton Kite Flyers cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions that may occur. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editors or of the Brighton Kite Flyers.

