



Shortly after this photo everyone looks around to see what Dick saw, yes a kite flying at Teston

THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS

TESTON WITH BOTH WIND AND SUN

Teston Bridge June Kite Weekend was like none before, well almost none before, not only did we have good weather we had some wind as well. The wind was all over the place on both days but most people there had a go at flying kites at least once over the weekend.

We arrived late on Friday compared to others but were soon set up and cooking dinner in the ELF camp, It was good to be amongst kite flying friends again, Although not my first festival this year it was the first with all the family there as well. Still Corinne soon invoked the traditional

camping rules and insisted that I did the cooking, after all what better way to relax after a long drive where she tried hard to keep her eyes open but was soon snoring away in the front seat.

A few drinks were had a few people had a little too much and showed up their sons, we won't say who but the guilty know who there are. Saturday soon arrived and as with several other Teston's saw some great views for the early risers to see the sun come up through the mist allowing some great photo opportunities.

The sun soon burnt the mist away

giving the venue a whole day of sun shine and wind. Kite flying took place all day in some shape or form. The evening soon was upon up with the Go Gits performing their 1812 again, and Bow's collection on silly hats being used by anyone willing or in some cases being forced to where them. We have some photos to prove it as well, which will be published soon. Off to bed ready for another day, with wind and sunshine again. More flying and more fun with great friends, Teston is not so much a kite festival but a great weekend where kites are flown and friendships are confirmed, renewed and even new ones made. A great weekend roll on August if it's half as good it,s one not to be missed.



ROBBY GOES TO THE SEASIDE

It was Simon's fault that all this started. (*It always is*) There we were, a group of Brighton kite Flyers at Portsmouth admiring Bernhard Dingwerth's new Frog inflatables when who should come along but Bernhard himself. "Ah Bernhard", our esteemed Chairman says, "how easy is it to make your Frogs?" "Dead easy" replies Bernhard (in a German accent, of course). "Could we make them in a weekend workshop?" asks Simon. "Easy peasy" says Bernhard. "Would you come and lead a workshop?" continues Simon. "You don't need me", says Bernhard, "I will be putting the plans on my internet site, and you will be able to follow them, no trouble".

Now, thinks me, if Bernhard thinks that his plans are simple to follow, and you can knock up an inflatable over a weekend, then perhaps I will have a go at making Bernhard's seal after all. The plans for the seal had been published in Kiteflier and I had thought of having a go as soon as I saw the article, but it looked big and tricky. However, with Bernhard's encouragement, I decided there and then to have a go. Nothing ventured, as they say. As there is nothing like getting on with things once you have made a decision, I immediately went over to the Kite Society stand to check in the Kiteflier for the amount of material needed, then shot over to Roy and Hayley where, with John Lancaster's assistance, purchased yards and yards of suitably coloured material. Once back home with my purchases, I checked Bernhard's web site to download the plans which I could blow up to a larger size easier than copying the plans in the Kiteflier. My approach was to make full size paper templates to use to cut out the material. I had used heavy duty lining paper in the past successfully, and looking at the sizes of some of the templates, this seemed to be worth repeating. I started with the smaller pieces, and gained a false sense of wellbeing which evaporated somewhat when moving onto the sides. Not only did I have to start off with a piece of lining paper over twelve feet long, it soon transpired that it was nowhere near wide enough, and second twelve foot length had to be cut and sellotaped to the first to get a piece of paper big enough for the template. I was starting to get a feeling that I had embarked on quite a big project.

After completing all the templates, I had to make sure that I had all the other bits and bobs needed for the project. A long zip was needed. I was adamant that it had to be the right blue to match the rest of the seal, but also wanted plastic and chunky so that it could be flown at Weymouth and not get clogged up with sand. Eventually I had to compromise on the chunky, but was otherwise

satisfied. Hilary unearthed some gauze for the front vent from a now long discarded tu-tu from her ballerina days, and a trip to a chandlers at Lymington while on a late autumn holiday in the New Forest provided the needed black line (although this proved to be unnecessary after the first flight).

There was a bit of a pause after this as I needed time to work up a sufficient head of steam to cut out the material. Eventually, I grasped the nettle one evening, and dragging out the bags of material and the templates, started trying to match up the two. Next problem: even with a lounge / diner, with the amount of furniture in the room there was not enough space to lay out the larger templates on the material to mark it out, and doing so on the carpet wasn't the best idea either. The next attempt used the kitchen, at least here I could get most of the template down in one go, and the hard lino floor made marking out much (or at least a bit) easier. Several evenings later, all was cut out and stored in



a large Wilkinson's box kept in the lounge so that I could not forget that it now all needed sewing together. Everything seemed ready, and the only real mistake so far was not to reverse the template for the second side so that I had two 'right' sides - not a real problem at all, but since Martin Lester's Spirit workshop, I have tried to follow the master's advice and make sure that the 'right' side of the ripstop was always on the outside of my kites.

Eventually, sufficient courage had been drawn up to commence sewing. Not just sewing either, not only had I brought matching blue thread, but the black bits were sewn with black thread and the white bits with white thread. Professional or what! OK, it didn't last quite to the end when different colours had to be sewn together, but at least I made the effort, and I know that the colours mostly match, even if you can't see it from six inches, let alone fifty feet in the air. At this point in the proceedings,

ROBBY GOES TO THE SEASIDE

it is worth reflecting on Bernhard's "easy peasy" comment mentioned earlier on. All the templates did match with the one exception of his bag for the kite. I checked the sizes several times, but sorry Bernhard, there is no way the kite will go in a bag that small! Apart from that, even the instructions that didn't seem to make sense when reading them through did so when you had the relevant pieces in your hand. Only once did I really get stuck, and that was right near the end when the tail had to be attached to the body. Eventually, I worked out that more of the body needed sewing together, after which the tail fitted easily. The kite does not need any internal supporting lines, but many of the seams are reinforced with lines in them, and this broke four needles during the sewing. This was not entirely the fault of the line, it was also due in part to the sheer amount of material being sewn and manipulated at some stages causing needles to be bent far beyond their design tolerances. What about making a seal in a weekend workshop? Even if you were given all the pieces ready cut out, the amount of sewing, let alone the bridling I think would make it tight to say the least for the moderately competent kite maker to complete in a weekend. Not that it is difficult, just time consuming. Perhaps the frog is smaller?

Anyway, I digress. The sewing done, furniture was moved out of the lounge, and Hilary's hair dryer pressed into action to inflate the kite for the first time. Not only did it inflate, but it looked generally OK, and not a lot different to the pictures on Bernhard's web site. Bridling took several evenings, but I was taking it slowly and measuring carefully. If you are making any sort of kite with multiple lines, it is worth looking at the method used by Bernhard which I had not come across before. Essentially, each section is joined to the next using larks head knots, which makes adjustments and replacements very simple indeed.

It was now Easter, so Weymouth was not that far away, and Robby was - at last - complete, and stored in a bag bigger than Bernhard's ready to take to the seaside. Saturday at Weymouth was a good flying day, in fact, like many of the previous few years, the best flying day. Fortunately, John Lancaster was the third Brighton Kite Flyer at Weymouth and ready to help with test flying (Hilary was the second, but shopping takes priority at Weymouth). The seal needs a lifter, so a Rok was attached to it and Robby launched a few feet off the ground. The face was completely wrong, and the joint decision was that the whiskers attached to the bridle were not helping (this is where the black line came in). Taking the whiskers off the bridle helped a lot, and the whiskers flying free looked pretty

good (I had used Dacron for the whiskers, so perhaps them being a bit heavier than nylon meant that they did not need tying down). Robby was launched for real, and looked pretty good, although it did look like he has a lemon in his mouth with the face a bit pinched. I was chuffed that it flew, and looked like a seal, so I was well pleased.

After lunch, we decided on a different approach. The sled was launched and put well up into the sky. Rather than tie the seal to the lifter, it was hooked onto the lifter line using a carabiner, and then using the seal flying line, simply slid up the lifter line until a suitable height had been reached. This time, Robby looked much better, so tying the lifter line to the seal was slightly distorting it. The afternoon was spent admiring my new creation, and the only down side was when my flying companion was not quick enough to prevent the sled from dropping into the sea late in the afternoon as the wind dropped. So, a winter very well spent, and I can see Robby getting a lot of flying time in the coming months and years. The only decision now is whether to make a second seal (John's preference, and Roy thinks he may be able to get two shades of grey ripstop to make a grey version), or do I have a go at Bernhard's parrot or frog? For these two, Bernhard has template plans on his web site for A1 plotters, and I am trying to get my son who has access to such a beast at his office to print them off for me which has to be better than scaling up and drawing out on lining paper.

The rest of Weymouth? Wet on Sunday and blowy on Monday, and although Dave MacArthur, John and I flew quite a bit on Monday, it was too fierce for a lot of kites, including Robby who stayed in his bag for the rest of the weekend. So thanks Simon, for asking Bernhard about a workshop and Bernhard for sharing his creations on the internet. I enjoyed making Robby, and enjoyed even more seeing him fly.

Peter Jackson



A CAPITAL DAY OUT

It all started at Jolly Up 6, Thank you Hayley, Roy and Colin for a fantastic weekend, thank you for letting us indulge in an 1812. Thank you to all those who helped set up the performance and a very BIG THANK YOU to all the other wonderful people who made Jolly Up 6 so much fun. I must apologise on behalf of The Grumpy Old Gits for the pathetic BANGs. We'll make up for it next time and make Jolly Up 7 truly memorable.

Imagine my surprise when I saw Marla walking up the field on the Sunday morning. I knew Marla was going to be at Weymouth and Swindon, but had no idea she was going to be at the Jolly Up. It was fantastic to catch up with her and to chill for a while in the Sunshine.

As usually the weekend was over far too quickly and while driving home,(well, crawling along the M3) an idea was taking shape. Once home, The Grumpy Old Gits and the Apprentice were e-mailed. As you may be aware, The Grumpy Old Gits organise GDO (Grand Days Out). The Idea: we need to take Marla on a surprise GDO. Several ideas of events and places were rejected as being far too Git.

But as is the way of things, Betty Sawyer (The Master's wife) suggested a boat trip to see the Thames Barrier. What a brilliant idea. Plenty Git. The Master has always wanted to see the barrier and what a wonderful way to see London from a different perspective.

Thank you Betty. You saved our bacon. Now there's an idea - can we fit in The Full English?

Made some phone calls, sent some TEXT messages and e-mails, eventually tracked down Marla. It's very difficult to hit a moving target.

It was eventually agreed. Tuesday 4th May (Star Wars Day) was the only day Marla was free.

An interesting twist whilst talking to Marla - she told me Cliff and Barbara from America would be staying with Don, so of course they had to come too. A few of you will know Cliff from the WHKF's Marconi workshop. Over the next few days the GDO was prepared with Military precision. John (the Apprentice) would travel from Winchester to Waterloo. Don with Marla, Barbara and Cliff would travel from Thatcham to Paddington. The Grumpy Old Gits would travel from Beaconfield to Marylebone. All planned to arrive at Parliament Square between 11.30-12.00. What could possibly go wrong? - Road works at Thatcham!

The Gits and the Apprentice arrived as planned, having enjoyed our various modes of transport. Maurice could not remember the last time he was on a bus and this was the first time for him and Alan on a Bendi Bus.

Then we got the phone call. The Wiltshire

contingent were going to be an hour late. Never mind, what shall we do?

What's that building over there? After braving the Parliament Square traffic, we asked the very nice security guard. The Middlesex Guildhall, home of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom and of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

"Can we have a look and how much is it?" "Yes you May and it's free". Just the right price for GoG's.

After surrendering our weapons (two pen knives), we were allowed in. So we spend a very pleasant hour in the warm, learning about our heritage.

Eventually Don phoned,

"We're outside Westminster Underground". "Stay there; we're on our way."

Here was a wonderful surprise for the Gits as the Barbara was none other than Barbara Meyer, The President Of the AKA. What an honour for The Gits.

We had a wonderful afternoon, seeing the sights along the Thames. The captain was very knowledgeable; pointing out many places of interest. We had lunch at Greenwich and agreed we must do a full GDO there. Lots more to see.

On to another boat to see the Barrier. A very impressive piece of engineering. Back to Greenwich to catch the Docklands Light Railway. Another new experience for everyone - the tight turns really are something. We caught the underground at Bank, then on to Covent Garden for some shopping and Dinner in an English Restaurant, complete with spotted Dick and Treacle Tart.

We were all very tired, but we have lots of memories of our fantastic day out.

A very Special THANK YOU to Don, You worked wonders getting our America friends to and from LONDON, it really was appreciated and for being our photographer for the day.

I can't wait to do it again. To see our exploits go to [http://grumpyoldgits.org/A CapitalDayOut.aspx](http://grumpyoldgits.org/A%20CapitalDayOut.aspx)

Keith Boxall with help from John aka The AA



CHILLDON FESTIVAL

Well we have had some very different Swindon kite festivals over the past few years. From torrential rain that all but ruined the event (Swimdon) as few years ago, to festivals with no wind like last year (Stilldon). This year was going to be different again, only a little rain on one day and some wind, all-be-it very little, on both, this year the weather again made its mark on the festival. There was quite a chill during the day but over night it was close to freezing which was OK for those in their normal night time accommodation but not for those under canvas rather than in a caravan.

Matt and Dave had arranged to travel down with Charlotte and myself on Friday, once Dave had finished work and Charlotte had got back from school. We were just about to pack the car and head off when the phone rang and Bonefish asked when we were leaving as he was on his way home and felt like heading down. A few changes in plans and a little later set off time, a detour to collect the fish on route and we were off. Arriving a little later than expected but we were soon pitched and heading off to Malmesbury for Fish & Chips.

We asked a local for directions and were please to hear that he had just dropped his son off to get Fish & Chips and to follow him to the best one in the town, Weather it was the best we do not know but it was good.

Once back on site we all huddled in to Alan and Marian's awning along with Andrew and Sandra and chatted the evening away with hot drink and good company before heading off to bed for the 1st cold night.

The morning was soon with us but as with most campers under canvas we were up early so headed off site to see what we could find in the locality, Lyneham seemed a good place to head to and see what was going

on. It was all very still so we headed back to Wotton Bassett and found some traditional Lardy cake to take back for supplies during the day. A little worried that Marian would be cross that we brought cakes, we needn't of worried she was soon tucking in like the rest of us.

As the wind was iffy and not many people were there flying in the arena near the camp site we stayed down there and flew a good range of kites both club and our own throughout the day. Marla the ticket chick was there selling raffle tickets and breaking the odd arm. Several of our members won some great kites, Alan a large Rok, Dave a Waus and Bonefish a no wind kite, you should have heard the cheer and seen the smile on his face. We then headed back to Alan and Marian's awning for dinner a pasta feast only venturing out in to the cold to see the 1812 bangs by the GOGITs. Another evening soon came to an end and we headed off to another cold night, some with extra Blankets to try and keep the the cold out.

Another days flying was in order first drying of the kites that had got slightly damp in a shower the day before then a good array of many others as well. The day soon came to an end and we packed up and headed off home. Again the weather has given us the name for the festival, so this year we opt to call it "Chilldon". OK so it was cold, and it did rain a little on the Saturday but there is nothing the organisers can do about that, all in all the festival was great fun, would we do it again I expect so, maybe just maybe next year we could have "Sundon" or "Windon" (although Matt tried his best to do that this year). Thank you to the White Horse Kite Flyers for making us feel welcome. Keep up the good work and see you at your festival I hope.

Simon Hennessey

RECIPES FROM MARIAN'S KITCHEN NO.5 ROCK CAKES

These are always popular, and are also known as "Thud Cakes" (drop one of mine on a hard surface, and you'll find out why!)

Ingredients: (to make about 12)
2½ oz. Stork (or stores own make) - used to be called hard margarine, but we can't have that anymore!!

8 oz. S/R Flour

2½ oz. Sugar

4 oz. Dried Mixed Fruit

½ level teaspoon Salt

¼ level teaspoon freshly ground Nutmeg

1 beaten egg

2 tablespoons (ish) Milk (no "funny" milk- just cow-juice)

Method:

Sieve flour and salt into largish bowl. Rub fat into flour till it looks like fine breadcrumbs.

Stir in sugar, fruit and nutmeg.

Mix egg and milk and slop it into the dry mix.

Mix with a fork: hopfully it's not too "claggy".

Divide into a twelve hole bun tin.

Bake in oven (gas mk. 6, 200C) for 15 - 20 minutes - ish. (remember the tip about colour from previous recipes!)

Turn out onto a rack to cool.

You'll notice we're back with non-metric quantities (thank goodness).

I'm still waiting to taste other folks' examples from these recipes, and if you need an incentive, we won't be around the kite fields for a while, partly because it's the Traction Engine Rally season, and partly because I've broken a bone in my foot (no, no, I wasn't drunk, nor did I drop a rock cake on it). (I bet she was)

If anyone else has any recipes they'd like to share, let's see them!

Marian (aka cakelady)

JULY 2010 BRIGHTON KITE FLYERS AERODYNE

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Thank you

I would like to say thank you to all those who made this issue of Aerodyne possible Peter Jackson, Keith Boxall for articles and Sarah Longbotton and Marian Reynolds for recipes. I know we keep going on, but Aerodyne is only possible with your help, Come the club AGM the members are offered the choice of not continuing and supplying articles for publication in the club magazine and each year it is voted to be kept and that articles will come in. So please do write an article as we can not keep the publication going without them. So thank you again to those who help and keep the articles coming and those that haven't if you want to keep aerodyne going put into action the good words said at the AGM each year.

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

IMPERIAL VANILLA FUDGE

What you need:-

2lbs Granulated sugar
4oz butter
½ pt each Evaporated milk and milk or large can of evaporated milk made up to 1 pt with semi skimmed milk
Few drops of vanilla essence

What you do:-

Grease a swiss roll tin or other flat tray.

Place the sugar, butter and milks into a large heavy based saucepan and heat gently until the sugar has dissolved and the butter melted.

Bring to the boil and boil steadily to 116°C (soft ball stage), stirring occasionally.

Remove from the heat, place on a cool surface, add the essence and beat the mixture as it cools until it becomes thick and creamy and 'grainy'.

Pour immediately into the tin, leave until nearly cold then mark into squares with a sharp knife using a sawing motion.

Once cold, turn out of the tin and cut into squares.

What you get:-

Makes about 3lbs

What you do next:-

Bring it along to kite festival and share it out with fellow kite flyers.

Next Issue

As well as our festival, we are in the festival season and lets hope some of them, with luck, would have been good and someone will write them up for Aerodyne.

We have a range of sizes in all club t-shirts and hooded tops for sale T-shirts £10 hooded tops £25.00

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



fly - in reminders

Our Monthly fly-in is where we try and get as many of the club members to fly together. These are held on the 1st Sunday at Saltdean Vale, East Sussex, 2nd Thursday at Stanmer Park 6pm. Remember that during the summer members may well be attending kites festivals, but the fly-ins are still on.

See you there

