

THE KITE

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2010



Picture courtesy of Jon Ward

KITES FOR SALE

Commercial Kites:-

Spirit of Air Javelin two liner wingspan 6ft
Greens Delta wingspan 8ft
Shark wingspan 7ft
HQ Hot Pepper wingspan 4ft
Merlin Fighter kite wingspan 22 inches
Sky Bums Rok 3 ft tall
Sky Bums Conyne wingspan 6ft
UFO Sam wingspan 18 inches
Brookite No 4 Cutter Diamond shape wingspan 27 inches
Celtic Delta wingspan 4ft 6 inch
Star wingspan 3ft
Rainbow Star wingspan 3ft
Dolphin Diamond shape wingspan 32 inches

VHS videos

Flight School Dodd Gross 1.5 How to fly
Flight School Dodd Gross Tricks
Trickery Flickey Flexifoil
Knight of the Manja

Misc.

Drogue windsock 5 inch diameter oal 54 inch
Saltire design
Drogue windsock 5 inch diameter oal 54 inch
Unionjack design
HQ Genrator spinner
Generator spinner
F tail spinner
7 misc, tails
5 Prowinders
1 pair padded straps
1 Beach rolyly Seat/Carrier

For prices and info please contact:
barnes.oran@blueyonder.co.uk
Tel: 01772202558

Made Kites

3 Delta Kites based on Micheal Goddard plan wingspan 7ft ,Red.white.Black
Nosey T shape kite wingspan 4ft
2 Della Porta Eye of Horus 26x 40 inch.
One Red, one Yellow
Hexagon yellow 39 inch
Della Porta 37x46 inch Dark green, blue, yellow
Diamond Jewel wingspan 5ft
Rok Yin/Yan 39 inch tall
Rok Cockerel 39 inch tall



A Note from your Chairman

Hello to all members of the NKG,

My first duty as chairman of the NKG is to thank those members able to attend the AGM on the 21st February. Understandably there were many unable to make it due to fresh snowfalls and generally poor road conditions. An excellent buffet preceded the meeting with enough food to last days. Had we been snowed in.!

The meeting, expertly chaired by John Welborn, was brief and to the point with one eye on the weather. The minutes of the AGM are contained in this edition of the magazine, so please take a little time to read, comments would be welcome.



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I would also like to thank members present at the AGM who gave me a vote of confidence as the new chairman of the club. Enid will be a hard act to follow as of course will John Wellborn, acting Chair following Enid's retirement.

When I look back over the past 10 years as a kite flyer, I have noticed many changes, most notably that of the weather and in particular the winds. When I first learnt to fly a kite, I remember long flying days, summer and winter with winds that were steady and constant. These days the chance of having a whole day when the wind is constant and suitable to fly a selection of kites is rare; we are more likely to be faced with winds of 18+ mph, or nothing at all.

We are all well aware of the importance of good flying sites, to make the best of the winds, so I would like to ask members to be on the lookout for sites, with easy access and of course the all important toilet. Whilst the list of Fly-ins and Festivals are completed for this year any suggestion for alternative flying sites will be put forward for consideration in 2011.

Attending the AGM over the past few years I have noticed what appears to be a diminishing interest in the art of kite building. The days when a display of new kites cheered the walls of the meeting room seem long gone, with only one member displaying a kite at this year's meeting.

To try and encourage a resurgence of enthusiasm

To try and encourage a resurgence of enthusiasm for the art of kite making, I have put forward a proposal that those interested would all build to roughly the same kite design, such as a Roller, which would be judged on the skills of kite making, interpretation of the design and how well it flies, so this aspect of the judging would take place at either Beacon or Chester.

Last, but by no means least, I have a duty to remind all our members of the importance of Kite Safety. A recent incident involving an insurance claim against the club will remind us of how important it is to apply the rules of safe flying wherever we are. It is also the duty of members to instruct new members on points of kite safety.

I hope you enjoy a season of fair and pleasant winds and I look forward to meeting up with you all at the various Fly-Ins and Festivals.

Gwen.

WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

No new members in the last quarter

A warm kiting welcome to you all, it's lovely to have you in our group.

EDITORS CORNER

Hello everyone and welcome to another issue of the NKG newsletter, my thanks once again to those made the effort to contribute. This issue contains the minutes from a very snowy AGM, thanks to everyone who made the effort to come out in difficult conditions and help us sort through all the procedural stuff that helps keep the club going.

One item that wasn't resolved during the meeting was the presentation of the altitude sprint cups, we know that Neil Edwards won the open altitude sprint cup, but apparently the winner of the ladies cup was one of our newer members and nobody got her name, so if the mystery winner can make herself known to me we can get your trophy to you.

The Beacon festival has been confirmed for 19/20th June and once again we have a marquee and lights coming from the scouts along with toilets and a sound system, so if anyone can pitch in and help out on the day that would be great.

I've added Fleetwood in for the August fly-in, unfortunately the shop at Lytham has closed which is a shame as the extra beach there would have made a fantastic fly-in site, but the facilities at Fleetwood mean we can still hopefully get some smooth beach winds.

I hope to see lots of you at Harewood next month and hopefully those going to Driffield will have a great time and I look forward to receiving a write-up and some pictures from all the events this year, hopefully the weather will be a little bit kinder to us in 2010.

Dazzz

NKG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010 (MINUTES)

Minutes of the 7th Annual General Meeting of the Northern Kite Group

Held on 21st February 2010 at The St Thomas's Church Hall Moorside, Oldham

Present

John Welborn (Chairman), Dave Bleasdale (Secretary), Mary Jones (Treasurer), Daryl Smith (Editor), Karen George (Honorary Auditor)

Stuart Baldwin, Brian Williamson, Frank & Jennifer Hardman, Peter & June Lightfoot, Dave Stead, Josie Bretherton, Kevin Mullarkey, Marie Welborn, John Braidwood, Gwen Williams, Sally Humpage, Colin Savage, Mike Lewis, Selwyn Forster, Bernard Crick, Dave Green, Fred Senior, Neil Edwards, Dave Holt, Linda Holt, Lydia Holt, Ron Ogden.

This is the list of members signed in. The 27 present did not meet the quorum required to conduct business (members under 18 are not counted in the determination of the quorum).

At this point the Chairman had to refer to point 12.1 of the group's constitution which states that:

If a General Meeting does not have a quorum at the start of the meeting, the Chairman of the meeting must put the following motion to those present:- "The number of members present shall be the quorum." The meeting shall be deemed to have a quorum if three quarters of the members present vote in favour of the motion.

If the motion is not passed, the Chairman must adjourn the meeting for no more than twenty eight days, to a time and place to be advised to members by the Secretary. At least seven days notice of the meeting shall be given.

The business of the General meeting shall then be conducted by those present who will be deemed to be the quorum.

All members present voted in favour of the above motion & the meeting continued.

Apologies

Jock & Peter Walker, Paul Jennings, Enid Knowles, Rodger Dawson, Jim & Vanessa Potts, Kieth Proctor, Lorna Carpenter, Dennis & Pat Emslie, Mark Welborn, Graham & Marina Lockwood, Flo & Jo Barnes, Ken Kain, Peggy Leaver, Denis & Janet Riley, Ray Smith, Beryl Black, Simon Cooper, Richard Greenwood, Ray & Shiela Smith, Phil Ashton

Prior to starting the meeting John Welborn informed the members that there should have been a presentation of a Gavel to Enid Knowles to thank her for her time as chairman in previous years. Unfortunately neither Enid nor the Gavel could be at the meeting due to the weather conditions. It was agreed to present the gavel to Enid at a later date perhaps Beacon.

John also proposed that Enid be made Honorary President again in recognition for all the work she has done for the group.

Proposed: John Welborn Seconded: Mary Jones

"That Enid Knowles be made Honorary President"

Passed: Unanimously

Best Kite Competition

There were no entries for either of the Best Kite Competitions. See item in A.O.B. regards kite competition for next year.

Previous Minutes

Copies of minutes from the previous AGM were circulated around the room & they were accepted as a true & accurate record.

Chairman's Report

John gave a brief report of the groups activities over the past 12 months, having resigned as secretary at the previous AGM he very kindly offered to become acting chairman after Enid Knowles had to resign from the role due to ill health. Some of the highlights of the year included the "Museum of Science & Industry" event which had been a great success. John thanked all those that helped out. Harwood this year was one of the busiest ever with two teddy bear teams kept busy all day. A new event was held at St Helen's which had plenty to entertain the non kite fliers. Chester as usual had very little wind but the auction postponed at Beacon due to weather was a great success. Children in Need raised £650.50 which the group made up to £1028.50 with _ the proceeds from the auction at Chester.

Treasurers Report / Annual Accounts

Mary reviewed the accounts. The group is in a quite healthy financial state due to income received from Harewood House, St Helens, Wakefield, Taylor Park & Kite Collective (D Holt). We finished the year with roughly the same balance as the start of the year. The full audited accounts version was available for inspection at the meeting. The accounts had been audited by Karen George. Membership was slightly down on last year but we had 2 good years previously

Proposed: David Stead Seconded: Dave Holt
"The accounts for 2009 be adopted"
Passed: Unanimously

Editors Report

Dazz reported that he hadn't been able to put as much effort into the magazine as in previous years due to other commitments but said he hoped to be back to normal this year. He thanked those that had contributed & welcomed any article, photos etc for the coming year. Gwen Williams commented that the last full magazine was excellent.

Flying Sites for Fly ins

The club has previously paid Wakefield council £32 for a licence to fly at Pontefract Racecourse, it was agreed to no longer continue with this due to the amount of fly ins at Pontefract & the numbers of flyers that attend. Due to the drop in numbers of campers at Bolton le Sands it was agreed to look at an alternative site for a 1 day fly in. Shiela Smith will not be organising the xmas meal at Stainland this year.
Club Fly In List For 2010 – 2011

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act Implementation

(The following from John Welborn)

Changes to parts of the scheme made in December 2009 make it very unlikely that members will need to register because of kiting activities. The changes are included below in italics

The ISA registration scheme starts in, July 2010 when those starting new work can apply and the November 2010 date when those starting new work must apply. The rest will have until 2015

A summary of the effect of the new laws on the Group.

- 1 Members camping together with their children as a club is not a regulated activity.
- 2 Parachuting children's Teddy Bears is not a regulated activity.
- 3 Kite workshops for children and working in schools are regulated activity and ISA registration is needed only if carried intensively and frequently
Only in rare situations would registration be necessary see details below.
- 4 Information Sharing is required if a member is expelled from the Club for child protection related reasons.
- 5 Recently ISA have emphasised that private arrangements are NOT regulated activities
NKG Club rules only allow the caring for or teaching of members' children on a family friend basis and require children to be in the care and control of their parents guardians or close relatives.

Kite Workshops

ISA have confirmed that anyone running or helping with a children's kite workshop, whether parents are present or not, is carrying out a regulated activity

Registration will only be needed if the activity is intensive (four times a month) or frequent (once a week) Registration is NOT needed if the .regulated activity is carried out less often

ISA have confirmed and reconfirmed that 16 and 17 years old helping with these activities frequently or intensively must be ISA registered.

These changes to the rules are intended to reduce the number of people needing to be registered

A duty of care exists to those participating in the workshop and it would be sensible to insist that parents are present and responsible for their children during the activity in case of accidents or accusations of impropriety.

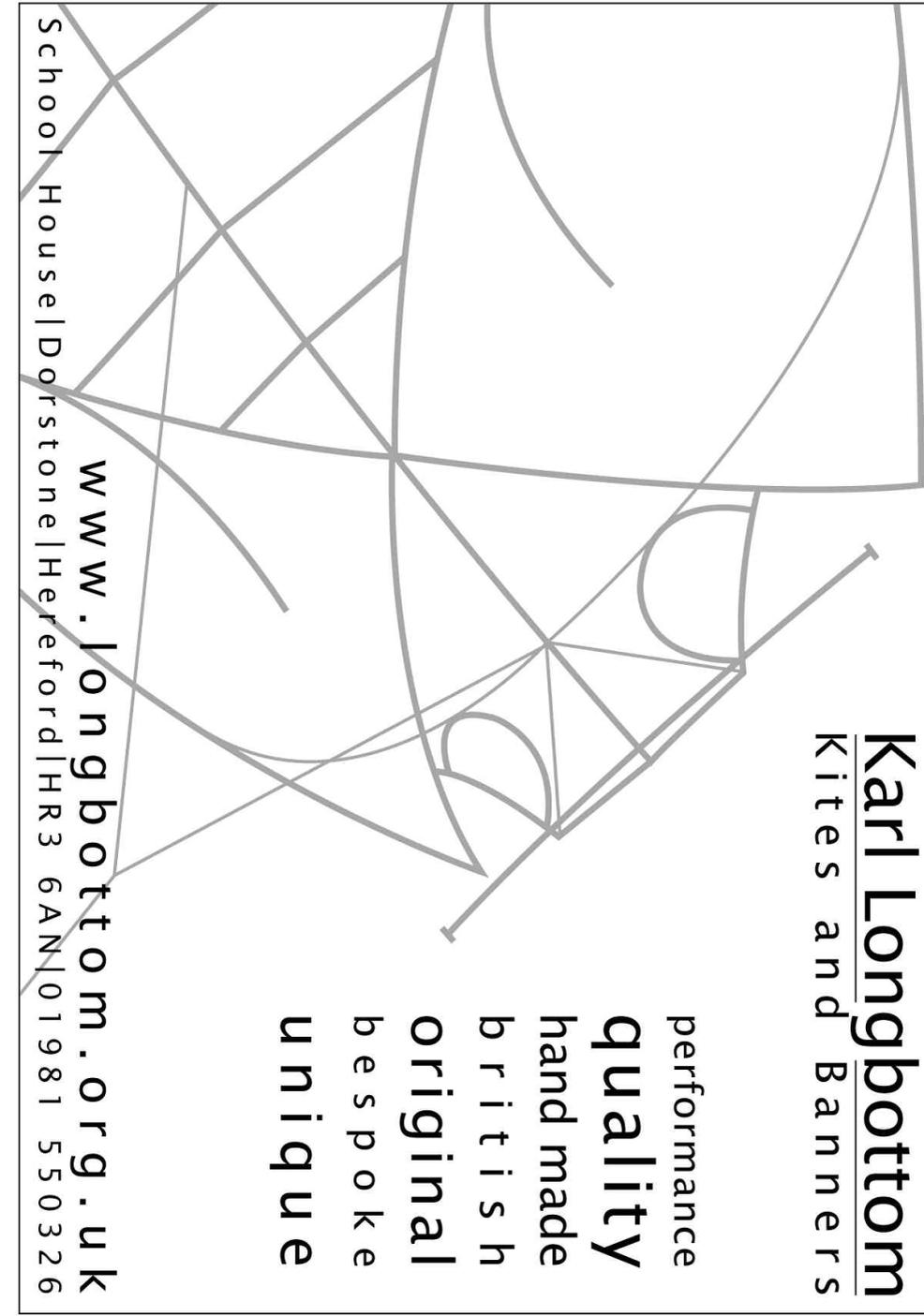
Working in schools

The changes allow someone to work or/ volunteer in one school for a short time and then go on to other schools for a short time without having to be registered even if their total for ALL schools is more than intensive (four times a month) or frequent (once a week) However if the intensive (four times a month) or frequent (once a week) condition is met for ONE of the schools then the person must be registered

This change only applies to schools and similar premises

Public Liability Insurance

The Zurich Public Liability Insurance for individuals had been taken up by 87 members in 2009. The renewal date for the policy is July 2010 the members were asked to respond quickly when the renewal notice was sent out.



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Sad Loss

Mary Jones reported that sadly Gene Watson had passed away on 3rd February. Gene will be greatly missed and all our thoughts go out to Margaret & her family.

Election of Officers

Secretary, Treasurer & Editor offered to be re elected
The Chairman resigned

It was proposed that Gwen Williams be elected Chairman

Proposed: John Welborn Seconded: Dazzz

Passed: Unanimously

It was proposed that the rest of the existing officers:

Secretary Dave Bleasdale
Treasurer Mary Jones
Editor Daryl Smith

be re elected en bloc

Proposed: John Braidwood Seconded: Frank Hardman

Passed: Unanimously

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman.

NKG MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

To all Northern Kite Group Members

The group has had another successful year in 2009, despite the membership being slightly down on the previous year, for those interested a copy of the balance sheet is included in this Magazine.

Thank you to all who have paid their membership for 2010. promptly, renewal was due on 1st march for 2010, those who have not renewed will find a reminder with this magazine. Please remember if your membership isnt up to date you are not covered by the groups insurance when flying.

Wishing all members Happy Kite Flying in 2010, and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the year.

From Mary Jones (Treasurer)

PAULA'S DAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2009

For thoughts of you who don't know Paula, she was born 43 years ago on 5th November and we lost her July last year. She was born with a disability and had a lot of health problems but it never got her down. She was full of fun, always singing. She liked nothing better than to come down to Otterspool with us and chatting to all the kiter's.

Last year Mr Dave (three kite's) Green decided to cheer us up on her birthday by organising a Paula's Day down at Otterspool. Of course he only had to mention it to our friends at Otty and the wheels were set in motion.

This year even though her Birthday was on the Thursday we were pleased to find out that Dave had organised the Day again, on our usual Wednesday. The well oiled machine got in motion and every thing was organised. Many thanks to Beryl for the food and her famous soup, Kevin and Selwyn for the tents, Jan & Denis for the drink and every one else who contributed to make the day go so well.

As it was a special day it was decided to try and break the Otty record for a Multi Group Fly and they managed to set a new record of 10 two line kite's in formation. Well done Dave, Gwen, Selwyn, Kevin, Colin, Denis, Richard & Keith.

Thank you to all our friends who took part on the day. It turned a sad time into a very happy one. Paula would have loved it.

Best wishes from Barb, Ken, Colin & all the family.

WOODVALE RALLY 7TH/8TH AUGUST 2010

As most of you know the NKG have been supporting this massive rally for many years. The organisers are keen for us to continue and offer again generous free entry and camping.

Following last years success we will be camping in that same area with plenty of room to fly. Please look at the vast list of attractions on their website:

www.woodvale-rally.org.uk/

Free camping/admission is available from 6pm Thursday 5th August (please do not arrive before you will not get in). This concession is for those who are going to help us erect the arena on the Friday morning, otherwise you may arrive from 10am Friday and vacate the site by 12 noon Monday 9th August.

Passes are limited and providing you are attending to add to the kite display you can obtain a pass from me free of charge by sending a SAE to Jim Potts, 15 Stonegate Close, Leeds LS17 6EN. The passes are per vehicle and you will need to send your vehicle registration number with the SAE. Passes will be allocated on a first come first served basis, I expect to be able to distribute them in early June.

RAF Woodvale lies situated on the A 565 Liverpool to Southport road. Postcode is L37 7AD

Jim Potts

DIEPPE 2010 (PART DEUX)

In the second of our instalments on the up-coming Dieppe festival we hope to give you a bit more information to help make your stay more enjoyable.

Firstly, the dates have now been confirmed as the 11th – 19 September 2010

This year's festival is being hailed as the biggest in its history in order to help celebrate its 30th anniversary. There are more attendees promised than ever before and a show that will stay in the memory for ever.

Dieppe is an old and historic town with a modern swagger to it. It has an affinity with another town called Dieppe in Canada – and the two towns host the kite festival on alternate years. The bond between the two Dieppe's is strong indeed; born from events of enormous magnitude in World War Two, where a lot of Canadian soldiers lost their lives on the shores of the French town of Dieppe. You will see Canadian flags being flown almost as much as the great 'Tricolour'. This part of the coast is known as the 'the Opal Coast' – it's beautiful, and when the sun shines it's hard not to believe you're on a Caribbean island. Our great friend John Dearden can be spotted regularly taking a refreshing dip before his and toast and cup of tea are ready.

A great castle stands high on the cliffs overlooking the flying site, and next to one of the flying fields is a superb Olympic style swimming pool with slides and Jacuzzi's for the kids to enjoy when they fancy a 15 minute break from the kites. Bars and restaurants are part of the culture of France, and there are many to choose from around the town. You can enjoy a coffee / beer alongside the harbour and watch the boats go by, or perhaps have lunch in the heart of the Dieppe overlooking the wonderful market and the church that forms the main hub of this great town.

The flying site itself is not unlike 'the dips' at New Brighton, but its only 50yds to the shops. Various arena's are set up to house various displays of kites, one for single lines – one for large display kites – and one for dual and four line team displays. The beach also gets used a lot by many fliers, including the public. On the 2nd Saturday of the festival is the official 'Night Fly' and if you want to take part you've got to let the relevant folks know about it in advance. It is something truly special to watch but its standing room only as once again the fantastic French public come out in their huge numbers to support it – roughly 10,000 pop along just to watch this night fly, so book a table well in advance if you want a meal out that night as all restaurants will be fully booked.

Now, I know a few of you have been following our lessons on 'get by in French' and are keen to learn a few more important sayings.

Avez-vous vu ma cerf-volants? – Have you seen my kite?

Avez-vous vu ma femme? – Have you seen my wife?

Merci, j'ai trouvé ma cerf-volants – Praise be, I've found my kite.

Si vous trouvez la femme de lui dire que je trouve mon cerf-volant - If you find the wife tell her I found my kite.

Un grand un s'il vous plait - A large one please.

There, that should keep you busy until our next instalment – remember its practice that makes perfect and you'll find your stay is a better one if you are communicating effectively with others.

Until next time, 'au revoir' (goodbye).

Neil & Lindsey

THE TRICKING YEAR 2009

Most trick fliers in the UK are fairly independent spirits happy to do their own thing, so trying to get most to compete is a bit like herding cats.

However there are a number of trick competitions throughout the year and NKG fliers have been doing the club proud.

Over the winter, the Winter League takes place and whilst this is set up principally as a precision event, most of the Winter League events also hold an informal Trick competition. 3 events were required to qualify

Winter League 2008-9

Novice section:

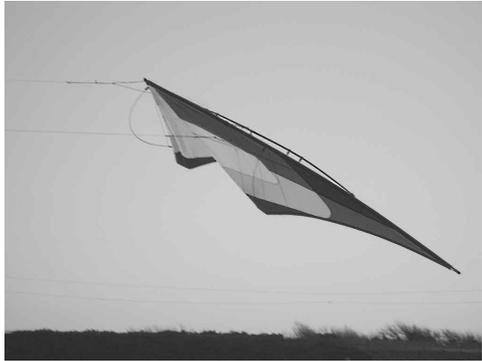
1st Jon Ward (Fluke of the year!!)

2nd Dave Wilson

Experienced:

2nd Mike Fogg

Truth be told, there weren't that many qualifiers, but good results nonetheless.



There are also Trick Out competitions at most of the large festivals. The conditions at the Beacon and Chester didn't play ball, but Mike Fogg competed at Bristol against 15 other fliers and beat some very good fliers on the way to the final before losing valiantly against Chris Goff.

The Fractured Axel web site also runs the Virtual Freestyle (VF) competition, where people submit 60-90 second video clips, which are peer judged by their competitors. Four VF competitions were held in 2009 and the top 10 results for the NKG fliers are listed below:

VF 11 (24 competitors)

10th Mike Fogg

VF 13 (33 competitors)

8th Mike Fogg

VF 12 (23 competitors)

2nd Mike Fogg

6th Adam Pollitt

VF 14 (8 competitors)

2nd Mike Fogg

3rd Adam Pollitt

Whilst Mike and Adam have been blazing the trail in the competitions, there are some equally good fliers within the club who 'keep them honest' and ensure they don't have it all their own way locally.

Mike and Adam are to be congratulated for ensuring that Northern trick kite flying is respected by the very best fliers nationally. Well done lads.

Jon Ward

NKG FINANCES 2009

N.K.G. Balance Sheet for 2009

		Income	Expenditure
Membership Fees		£1118.00	
Magazines		£40.00	£884.19
AGM			£435.02
Group Insurance			£1169.54
Individual Insurance		£738.38	£730.40
MOSI		£840.00	£815.00
Beacon Festival		£500.00	£419.37
Chester Festival		£1678.00	£1000.00
Kite Collective (D Holt)	£400.00		
Taylor Park	£125.00		
Harewood House	£200.00		
St Helens	£200.00		
Wakefield	£100.00	£1025.00	
Clothing		£30.00	£26.00
Base Ball Caps		£12.00	£1.00
Enamel Badges		£12.50	
Pontefract License			£32.00
Secretaries Expenses			£130.02
Treasurers Expenses			£15.50
Gifts			£49.97
Children In Need		£650.50	£1028.50
Sub Totals		£6644.38	£6736.51
Balance B/F		£5235.14	
Balance C/F			£5143.01
Totals		£11879.52	£11879.52

DEATH OF A BEARDROP

I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone for all the beautiful cards and lovely comments about Gene that I have received and the very generous donations. A very special thank you to those who attended the funeral, I was overwhelmed by the number who came. You have all helped me so much to cope at this very difficult time. I am delighted to say that I collected £1,300 in donations which has now been passed on to our local MacMillan Nurses and Cancer Care groups who have helped Gene and I so much over the last two and a half years.

Although Beardrops are no more I have wonderful memories of the happy hours we have spent at Festivals and fly-ins; Gene was never happier than when he was flying and especially when he was parachuting bears and I know that whilst he has been ill it has been these activities which have kept him going and helped him to cope with his pain.

I hope to come to some meetings and am looking forward to seeing you all again. In the meantime thank you once again for everything.

Margaret Watson
(A lonely Beardrop)

NKG KITE BUILDERS

As Gwen has proposed a new kitemaking competition I will furnish a few rules hopefully keeping it simple and fun, the kite to be made is a Pearson Roller which has a top and a bottom sail, a keel on the lower sail and a two point bridle, you can find plans in several places including the NKG web site.

<http://www.nkg.org.uk/plans.htm> <http://www.kiteplans.org/>

The kite must be made and fly during the year at any NKG fly-in or other event attended by the NKG and you need an NKG committee member to verify this (If you can also provide a photo of the kite for the Magazine that would be good too) and then final judging will take place at the AGM next January based on build quality and presentation and scored on how well it flew by the committee member who verified it.

Applique on the sail is allowed so feel free to add any designs you wish, if you prefer to go for a plain sail however you won't lose any points for this. Any materials can be used to make the kite and any size is acceptable (As long as it fits in the hall)

All kites will be voted on anonymously by members who want to vote at the AGM on a simple choice of which kites they like most and then the flight scores will be added to these to get a final result.

I hope the new style of competition will bring us some great Rollers to look at over the course of the year, and I look forward to seeing them all at the AGM in January.

Dazzz

KITES FOR SALE

It was the day of the AGM , Marie and I needed to get up early so we can arrive before everyone else to help set things out. I was just sorting out the agenda papers and Marie was packing the makings for tea and coffee when the phone rang. Who was ringing this early ? . It was Marina Lockwood , we cannot make it to the AGM, oh dear I said why not ? There is so much snow that Graham cannot get out of the drive and even if he could the car would not get up the hill out of the village . Sorry but there is no way to get the gavel to you either .

I thought I had better look outside, there is six inches of snow on the car and the road outside is a skating rink . The fates have turned against us, The committee postponed the January AGM because of snow and blocked roads . Why do this to us four weeks later in February ? I had better ring Mary to see what the weather is like over the Pennines. Mary says the roads are ok and Dave has already checked with the caretaker for the Hall , Rachel from World Cuisine can get the food there . The meeting can go ahead.

Once again the East has had the worst of the snow , I check Highways website for the state of the M62 , it is open but very slow going. I must get there if at all possible but the road over Saddleworth moor is closed so I will have to go through Oldham. We pack a spade, wellies ,spare coats, sweaters and a flask of coffee .

The phone rings again, this time it is Jim Potts , the snow is very bad in Leeds, the ring road is at a stand still . He wont be going, which is a pity because I wanted to pick a few bargains from him. He tells me Keith Proctor had set off from Doncaster straight into a major traffic jam and has had to turn back home.Fred Senior rings from Batley, how is the snow where you are ? is the meeting still on? . It is I said and I am still going.

I start sweeping the snow off the car wondering if this is a good idea and run the engine to clear the ice off the windows . We just manage to get out of the village and onto the A64 which is down to one lane . It is still snowing there is heavy traffic and it is slow going .

The M62 comes next, the fast lane is closed and fog is now added to the snow just to make it more fun driving . I might even get there before the meeting ends. We Ring Mary to say we are on the motorway but going slow, she is almost there. Luckily the Saddleworth Moor road is now open and we arrive just in time to see Rachel taking the food in.

Next problem for the Chairman is the lack of people , lots of members have apologised because they cannot get there and the numbers attending do not quite make a quorum. It would be daft to tell everyone we must adjourn the meeting to a later date. Fortunately , I remembered a clause in the Constitution which allowed us to continue if three quarters of those present agreed.

The meeting went ahead, the food was excellent again and Gwen Williams was elected as the new Chairman. My Chairmanship started with a marquee blown upside down at Beacon Park and ended in a snow storm at Oldham! The in between bits were great, St Helen's and Silloth in particular.

Congratulations and Good Luck Gwen , I hope the weather is kind to you . I am sure everyone will give you all the support you need to keep the Club running successfully.

John Welborn

HAREWOOD HOUSE KITE FESTIVAL 22ND/23RD MAY 2010

Harewood House Trust have once again invited us to arrange the 4th Kite festival which as last year will be held on the North Front directly in front of the main house. All the details are now finalised.

This is a two day festival with full program and commentary by Dave Holt. The theme for this year is everything Teddy Bear so please bring your teddy bear kites.

Admission to the event, grounds and attractions at Harewood are free on production of a current kite club membership card which proves you are insured. If you wish to visit the House itself there will be an additional fee.

Camping is free for members and adjacent to the arena as in previous years. The purpose built toilet block is open 24hrs and water is available. Please follow the signs to the camping area and do not drive across the arena.

You may arrive from 2pm Friday 21st May and vacate by 12noon Monday 24th May. For those of you arriving late on Friday, say after 8pm you may find the main gate closed. Ring me on 07860-822211 and I will give you alternative directions for entry to the site.

For those of you who have not been to Harewood before this event is set in the stunning grounds of the Harewood estate with the famous Harewood House adjacent to the flying site. Free access is on the understanding that you are attending to contribute to the kite display. We appreciate that not all family members are kite fanatics and so there are many other attractions available to all to make this an enjoyable weekend.

Further information about Harewood House and this event is available on their website:
www.harewood.org

Directions can be found on the above website, the postcode is LS17 9LG

Confirmed display teams attending:

Wigsley Wings,
Skyartists,
Kite Collective,
Team4Mation,
The Lincoln Loonies,
Graham Lockwood
Bear dropping team Caroline & Jerry Swift with friends.

As in previous years we join with our friends the North East Kite Fliers to support this event.

There will be a fliers meeting at 0945 each day at the PA booth, formal flying will be 10 am to 5pm both days. The height limit is 1000 feet.

Looking forward to seeing you all there

Jim Potts

Many thanks to Neil Edwards for his work in running the NKG Kite Library, but he is now handing over the reins, so we are now looking for a volunteer to take over and continue this service to NKG members, Most items are with members so there is very little to actually take care of in terms of stock, and the library is run via the forum so there is no paperwork involved.

You can find more information on the library and rules on the NKG forum at:
<http://www.nkg.org.uk/forum/>

Anyone interested should contact Dazzz

NKG Library Rules

You must be a paid member of the NKG to use this facility. Requests from non-members or those whose membership has expired will not be accepted. If you break or lose an item you agree to replace it or have it repaired to its previous condition as when you received it.

The first post in each thread will contain details of the item, and the current borrower and the date they received the item (more or less.)

You should post requests for the item in the appropriate thread. The item will be sent to each person in turn in the order they appear in the thread. Requests will be pruned from the top when they are filled.

Chatter will be removed from the threads to keep them clear. No other posts may be made in this section of the library. Please post reviews, questions etc. in the appropriate section of the forum.

Items may be held for a month and then must be sent to the next person in the 'requests list'. If there are no further requests then you may keep the item until someone does request it.

You can hold up to 2 items from the library at any time but please don't request a 3rd item before discussing it with the librarian (currently me) as this reduces availability for other members.

Items can be requested more than once but if multiple requests are made then priority will be given to those requesting the item for the first time.

You are not allowed to pass the item to anyone else without them requesting it on this library forum - that way we can keep track of things. The only exception to this rule is for those members without internet access who want to request things via the magazine - if they want to request anything they must do so in writing to the Editor of the magazine and their contact details must be included in the mag. The mag is a quarterly publication which means people may be deprived of accessing library items if that person is anonymous - details will then be posted on their behalf onto the relevant thread.

The deal is you agree by the above rules and pay for the packaging & postage to the person who requests the item next (or arrange a suitable handover venue such as a fly-in). Apart from that it's free.

If you use the Library then you are agreeing to abide by these rules - that way we will all get to share in peoples kind donations to the club.

CRANTOCK 2009

Here we are in early January with the snow lying on the ground and it seems a good time to reflect on the highlights of the kiting year that was 2009. For me, the high point was a trip down to Crantock near Torquay in Cornwall.

Crantock is an annual weekend event organised on the Fractured Axel (FA) forum and is an annual invitation to the trick flying community to go down to one of the preferred flying locations of top UK kite designer, builders and flier, Tim Benson.

It was Tim's trailer video for the Deep Space that sucked me into trick kiting. One of those 'I've got to be able to do that' moments. (If only I'd known how difficult how difficult it was going to be...!!)

Mike Fogg and Adam Pollitt had been planning on going down for some time and at the last minute I decided this was too good an opportunity to miss and we agreed to go down together. As the owner of the car with the biggest boot, I had the privilege of acting as chauffeur for the weekend. Unfortunately for Mike and Adam, this necessitated them driving from the Wirral over to Marple before we tried to cram the proverbial 'quart into the pint pot' as three tents, associated camping gear and three kite bags were crammed into the boot of my car.



After a largely uneventful drive down there we arrived in Crantock and headed to the local supermarket to stock up with essential provisions for three blokes on a weekend away – beer, hot dogs, Pot Noodles and water. We eventually headed off to the beach at about 5pm to meet some of early arrivals including Mark Clements, the builder of the Talon - one of the favoured kites of the NKG trick community, and an hour or so later by the man himself, Tim Benson.

Winds were very light on the Friday early evening, so we headed off to grab some beer, some food, some more beer and for Mike some of his favourite white spirit. The only slight problem was the Crantock sand dunes that made the ascent back to the camp site feel like climbing our own personal Everest.

Saturday marked the arrival of the FA regulars and was the day that the vast majority of the day trippers attended. Winds were a bit fitful in the morning but improved in the afternoon. Unfortunately the wind was blowing across the beach which resulted in some turbulence off the headland and it certainly wasn't the super smooth, beach wind we might have hoped for. On Saturday afternoon, it blew a fairly steady 5-6 mph, which turned out to be the best flying winds of the weekend.

On Sunday morning, we woke to the tents flapping about in the breeze. Because we were heading straight home after flying we drove down to the beach car park. What a revelation. The dunes to the car park are less than half the size of the ones to the camp site and much more manageable to the more middle aged

On Sunday morning, we woke to the tents flapping about in the breeze. Because we were heading straight home after flying we drove down to the beach car park. What a revelation. The dunes to the car park are less than half the size of the ones to the camp site and much more manageable to the more middle aged and less fit amongst us. (Mental note now lodged for any future visit!)

When we arrived on the beach we were greeted by a good 15 mph + offshore wind. As the tide went out, we were left with the choice of flying near the Dunes where it was more sheltered but very turbulent or trying to fly further down the beach where the wind was steadier, but too windy to do any real tricking. Not ideal!

By mid afternoon, we had enough and headed home. The ‘highlight’ of the trip back was the M5 being shut for about 30 minutes. There was a minibus next to us in the inside lane and as people got bored and got out of their cars and started walking around, Adam recognised a number of the cast members of Hollyoaks. Mike and I being a bit (in my case, a lot) older were totally oblivious to who they might have been. Even now, I would only be able to recognise Ricky Whittle and only because he’s been on Strictly Come Dancing!



We eventually arrived back in Marple at 10:30 pm moved all Mike and Adam’s kit into Mike’s car and said our goodbyes.

The highlight of the weekend wasn’t really the kiting, but meeting new people. Tim Benson, who we were all a bit awestruck about meeting, is a really nice guy (turns out we only lived a few miles apart in Bradford back in the day!) and his wife Linda is just a warm hearted, straight as they come, Yorkshire lass. Tim is certainly no kite ‘God’ to her!! It was also great to meet some of the top London based fliers (Piero, Chris and Pete) who had an immediate respect for Mike and Adam due to their Virtual Freestyle competition exploits and put up with the ‘hanger on’ with good grace.

Roll on the summer of 2010. Will I be back? Well I’d love to, but with kids with GCSEs and A-levels this year and a high pressure year on the work front, I may struggle.

For any trick fliers who haven’t made the trip before, it’s well worth the long drive down to Cornwall. I was slightly nervous of going down this year, in case I wasn’t good enough. In reality, I’m not in the same league as many of the others down there, however I wasn’t the worst either and to be honest the top guys judge you on your enthusiasm for this sport rather than your ability. We are after all a small and tight knit kiting community.

Jon Ward

WWW.KITECALENDAR.CO.UK

APRIL 2010

- 4 SPKA Buggy Race Day, West Sands, St. Andrews, Scotland
- 11 12th Streatham Common Kite fly-in, Streatham Common, South London SW16
- 17 Skybums' Church Stretton Kite Festival, Church Stretton, Shropshire
- 24 & 25 North Hants Kiter's Jolly up 6, The Buggy Field, Cliddesden, near Basingstoke, Hants

MAY 2010

- 2 & 3 20th Weymouth International Kite Festival, Weymouth Beach, Dorset
- 2 & 3 East Yorkshire Kite festival, Driffield Showground, Driffield, near York, East Yorkshire
- 2 & 3 2nd Layer Marney Tower Kite Festival, Layer Marney Tower, near Colchester, Essex. CO5 9US
- 8 & 9 20th Swindon International Kite Festival, Brinkworth House, Brinkworth, Wiltshire SN15 5DF
- 15 & 16 13th Suffolk International Kite Festival, Rougham Airfield, near Bury st Edmunds, Suffolk
- 15 & 16 STACK national championships, round 1, Suffolk International kite festival, Rougham Airfield,
- 22 & 23 4th Harewood House Kite Festival, Harewood House, Harewood, near Leeds, North Yorkshire
- 29 - 31 Wallop 2010, Middle Wallop Traction Kiting Weekend, Army Air Museum, Middle Wallop, nr Andover,

JUNE 2010

- 4 - 6 4th Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival, The Imperial Recreation Ground, Exmouth, East Devon
- 5 & 6 18th Basingstoke Kite Festival, Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire
- 12 & 13 Kites over the Mersey, 7th Wirral International kite festival, "The Dips", New Brighton, Wirral, Cheshire
- 12 & 13 Teston Bridge Kite Weekend, Teston Bridge picnic site, nr Maidstone, Kent ME18 5BX
- 19 & 20 15th Southampton Kite Festival, Lordshill Recreation Grounds, Five Acre Field, Southampton,
- 20 Morecambe kite festival, New Brighton, Wallasey, Merseyside. CH45 3
- 26 & 27 Barmouth Beach Kite Festival, on the beach opposite the new Lifeboat Station, Barmouth, Mid Wales

JULY 2010

- 3 & 4 Sunderland International Friendship and Kite Festival, Northern Area Playing Fields, Usworth, Washington
- 10 & 11 32nd Annual Brighton Kite Festival, Stanmer Park, Brighton, West Sussex
- 17 & 18 Herefordshire Kite Festival, Berrington Hall, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0DW
- 18 Dunstable Kite Festival, the National Trust Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs, Bedfordshire -
- 24 & 25 Silloth on Solway Kite Festival, The Green, Silloth on Solway, Cumbria
- 31 & 1 The Eilmer 1000 Malmesbury Kite Festival, The Worthies, Malmesbury, Wiltshire
- 31 & 1 North Hants Kiter's Jolly up 7, The Buggy Field, Cliddesden, near Basingstoke, Hants
- 31 & 1 STACK Tricks Party Competition, North Hants Kites Jolly-Up 7, The Buggy Field, Cliddensden,

AUGUST 2010

- 1 Monmouth Kite Festival and Balloon glow, Monmouth Showground, Monmouth, South Wales
- 8 new Vintage Kite Meet, Shipley Country Park, Heanor, near Ilkeston, Derbyshire
- 7 & 8 Big Kite Weekend, Teston Bridge picnic site, nr Maidstone, Kent ME18 5BX
- 14 & 15 27th Shrewsbury Kite Festival, Sundorne Sports Village, Sundorne Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire -
- 28 - 30 Portsmouth International Kite Festival, Southsea Common, Portsmouth, Hampshire

SEPTEMBER 2010

- 4 & 5 23rd Bristol International Kite Festival, The Plateau, Ashton Court, Begger Bush Lane, Bristol, Somerset
- 11 - 19 Dieppe International Kite Festival, The Seafront, Dieppe, Normandy, France
- 26 Wakefield Kite Festival, Heath Common, Wakefield, Yorkshire

OCTOBER 2010

- 2 & 3 Bolton Abbey Kite Festival, Bolton Abbey, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6EX
- 2 & 3 16th Festival International de Cerf-volant d'Hardelot Plage, Hardelot Plage, France
- 10 OSOW = ONE SKY ONE WORLD - Kite flying for Peace all over the World:

Kite pictures from around the world...



Jan Claes, revolving Archimedes Screw which flies as a kite rather than line laundry



Viviana Cardenas and her Ammonite kite



John Pollocks Lifting Spirit



Flash by Franco Guardigli, quad line kite



Andreas Fischbachers Manta



Jacques Létourneau hand painted creations





PAULA'S DAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2009, OTTERSPOOL

