

WHAT'S UP?

The Newsletter for Kitefliers

Number 106

December 2012

New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.

Visit our website at: www.nzka.org.nz

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the NZ Kitefliers Association will be held at Sports Club, Fergusson Park, Tauranga on Sunday 31st March 2013 at 9.30 am. (Quorum is 20% of 43 = 9)

1. Apologies for absence
 2. Greetings to visitors
 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 28th AGM
 4. Matters arising from the Minutes
 5. President's Report
 6. Financial Report
 7. Appointment of reviewer for end of year accounts
 8. Formal business of which due notice has been given.
- None so far. Must be advised 1st week in March.
9. Festival 2014 and 2015
 10. Other business.
 11. Election of officers.
 - a. President
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Committee x3 (or 4 if combine secretary/treasurer)
 12. Close meeting

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Visit us on the web at :
www.nzka.org.nz

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Lake Hood for the Flight 4 Life kite
day. Photo by P Whitehead

Late announcements

Te Awamutu kite day 9th March

Cambridge 16th March

Presidents Words

Commiserations to Stephen Cook, once again the weather has conspired against him and the Lions Kite day for December 2nd. The day before was quite a nice day (as far as Wellington goes) and then we had one of the worst days imaginable. By 2 o'clock the cloud had come down to near ground level and the wind was gusting from 25mph to 40mph.



We had the annual kite making weekend at a new location this year. We all went to Ohakune and availed ourselves of one of the motels and their common room for sewing. The weekend was also used for a trial run of the venue for the Kiteflying at the Chateau on the 1st of January. The weekend worked well with everyone (bar John Whibley) getting their kites finished. The motel at Ohakune seems to have worked out well as far as accommodation and a place to feed everyone. We look forward to the New Year event.

Commiserations also to Ian Russell who has had some sort of parting with his motor bike and ending up with a broken collar bone, more later.

If there are any snafus with this magazine its all the fault of Microsoft Publisher, as it seems to make decisions on its own. We will get better.

Ohakune Kite making weekend report.

This year the group made two differing objects. Some people made a Google-flex from instructions supplied by Mike Mosmann and others made a monkey line object with instructions and encouragement from Robert van Weers.

We had enough space at the venue, but would be limited to about the numbers that were there this year. Nearly everyone finished their projects, which was good to see. And the cooking arrangements worked well. On the afternoon of the Sunday we had our usual team photo of the nearly finished articles and this year even managed to post a video entry on facebook (Or somewhere like that). I understand that most of the kites have been flown already and we look forward to a good showing at the Chateau next year.



Otaki Festival Of The Wind 8-9-10 March 2013

Come and enjoy 3 days of free, open-air, eco-friendly family fun to be held on Otaki beach.

Be wowed by every kind of kite imaginable from the giant to the tiny, acrobatic and single line. Kite buggies, kite surfing, weird and wonderful, traditional Maori and international designs. Get involved in the contests and kite making.

A festival for everyone, kids and grown ups, amateurs and professionals. We hope you will come and join in the fun. Maybe even make a kite or other wind powered things.

There will be classes, workshops and other events leading up to the event. Please "like" our facebook page wherever in the world you are to help us promote our festival, to keep informed of what is happening and to see who

is coming and what sort of kites they will be bringing with them.
www.facebook.com/OtakiFestivalOfTheWind

The closest accommodation to the beach is Byron's Resort which has a range of options from campsites to motel units with prices ranging from \$25 - \$130 per night. There is also a very good Restaurant on the 5 acre complex. 5 mins drive away is the Cottage Park Motel, with motel units around \$125 and cabins for \$69 per night, camping is also available.

The rural service town of Otaki has a population of 5,500 and is situated near the north bank of the Otaki River on the Kapiti Coast. It is about an hours drive north of Wellington the Capital City. Kapiti's history begins in Otaki and the area is historically significant for Maori with several marae in and around the township plus a number of total immersion Maori schools and the Te Wananga O Raukawa, Maori university. It is close to the walkways of the Tararua Ranges and has many outdoor attractions. Otaki Beach is wide and windswept – perfect for kite flying.

Visitor attractions include Kapiti Island Nature Reserve; the beaches; Coastlands Shoppingtown; Ruth Pretty's shop (for foodies), Lavender Creek, Trinity Heritage Rose Farm, Otaki Gorge, Otaki Forks, and the outlet stores, including major outdoor clothing and fashion brands. The Fly By Wire Adventure Ride; Paekakariki Steam Museum; Southward's Car Museum;

If you are coming from out of town be sure to give yourself time to visit Wellington, just a short drive away, Lonely Planet named it 'the coolest little capital in the world' (2011), and the city is renowned for its arts, culture and native beauty.

For more information please make enquiries to Yvonne de Mille
yvonedemille@paradise.net.nz

New Year at the Chateau

This event is held in conjunction with the Tongariro Historical Society on the golf course in front of the Chateau on Mount Ruapehu. This has got to be one of the most picturesque flying sites in the World, and with the imminent threat of some steam out of the volcano this could be very inspiring. This year the main group are staying in Ohakune and travelling to the golf course for the day. As we have now been doing this event for about 10 years it is becoming known in the area as an event to watch out for. When we were making the kites in Ohakune people said that we should go to the New Years event, to be told that we are the event. There will also be the opportunity to fly at the High School grounds in Ohakune on the 31st and 2nd as well.

Nelson Summer Kite Festival 18-20th January 2013

This is the 22nd annual event at Neale Park, Nelson.

Here is the plan for the weekend :

Friday 18th: Set up tents, and storage areas in the ablution block. If you have any spare folding tables, chairs, please bring them to the field. BYO take-away meal on the field.

Saturday 19th: Warm up day and possibly some kite buggy/landboarding racing/fun on Saturday afternoon.

Come and join in, meet other kitefliers who'll be there from around the country.

BYO food and drink for BBQ meal in Ted and Gretchen's backyard.

Sunday 20th: The public day, so please be there as soon after 9am and help us set up the field for a 12 noon start. The event runs until 5pm, then we'll pack up and head off to town for a meal.

Monday 21st: Flying and final pack up and clear out. Come and help if you can!

Summerdaze Kite Day in Wanaka will be on Saturday 12th January 2013. There will be kite making workshops in Queenstown and Wanaka on Thursday and Friday, then on Saturday a grand display of kites on the Wanaka waterfront, providing a very spectacular backdrop for the kites!

The **Summertimes Kite Day** at New Brighton beach will be on Sunday 27th January 2013. Come along and fly your kites at the biggest kite festival in the south.

If anyone is planning coming along to these events, please let me know as there are activities planned around them and all flyers will be welcome.

A March 2013 flying day

The first Sunday in December and Johnsonville Lions has booked the park and the BBQ for its annual family kite day. Part of a north Wellington Festival, and my Lions Club has planned this kite day each year for about the last 10 years. Saturday is a great day for our family Christmas parade through Johnsonville – cooling but gusty breeze and a few scattered clouds. A great parade ensued.

Sunday comes round, strong gale, intermittent heavy rain, and low cloud/mist leaving 50 m to 100 m visibility. I didn't even unlock the park gate, and

the BBQ sausages go back in the freezer. About 6 out of 10 December kite days have been rained or galed out!

BUT, the first Sunday in March 2013 is National Children's Day, and for the second year Johnsonville lions plan a family kite day. In addition to kites we will also have the Council 'push play' trailer with games etc, and also some fresh sausages to BBQ. So, if you are in Wellington, book the first Sunday in March at Alex Moore Park. On the law of averages we 'must' get a reasonable flying day at some stage! See you there. Stephen Cook

Ray & Rosemary McCully put on a kite demonstration at Selwyn Ridge Primary in Tauranga at the end of November. If you go to the following link and scroll down you will see photos from day:
www.selwynridge.school.nz/room4

Eltham 3rd Sunday in March

Eltham will be on again in 2013. The farmer's field is booked, the Lions are ready and rearing to go and new accommodation has been accessed. Anyone coming for the weekend please liaise with Anne and Peter Whitehead so that we can all end up in the same motel

Photos from Ashburton Flight 4 life



Flying Farewell to Charlie Watson at The Moose Meet, 27th October 2012

Charlie Watson was the main instigator/pioneer of the Western Circuit Kite Buggy Events, that featured The Moose Meet, The Blue Balls, and The Naki Nutbuster. The biggest and longest running of these events is the Moose meet, held at the northern end of Muriwai Beach, South Kaipara Heads. There you'll find a huge area, 2-3kms wide and about 12kms in length, a moonscape of amazing sand dunes, reminiscent in some ways, of the coastal dunes in the Northern Sahara.

The 18th annual Moose meet became a special pilgrimage for most of us, as Charlies final wishes were to have his ashes spread over the dunes. Lorraine, Kaiya and Matt Watson came up from Raglan on Saturday, and with Perrin's dropper bag, and about 6 different lofts, we laid Charlie's ashes out across the back dunes beyond Mooseland camp. Some short speeches were made, and those who wanted to, came forward to help fill the dropper bag, while others got to pull the release cord and let him go. Immediately after this, Craig Hansen from Peter Lynn Kites, pulled down the airbanner that had proclaimed "El Moose", and relaunched with just 2 letters: "CW." This flew for the rest of the weekend, and until the last stragglers left on Monday afternoon.

Many of us were missing Charlie, and all seemed at a loss to get any racing going. Instead we romped over the dunes with fond memories of many years sharing them with Charlie. If ever there was a sacred home for dune riding in New Zealand, this is it, now blessed with his eternal presence.

Ride on Charlie, like the wind...God speed mate! Ted Howard



I have the same problem as Stephen Cook, sharing the two passions of kite flying and motorbike riding. Many a time it has been to turn up on a motorbike and fly kites that you have managed to smuggle in to someone else's car. The weekend of Ohakune was very much one of those weekends. I travelled to Taupo early Friday morning and joined 100 other riders to ride around the Taupo Motorsport Park track, sometimes referred to as the A1 track, in a controlled environment, at speed. Most enjoyable fun, then joined with Warren and Sharon and convoyed to Ohakune. It was only after trying to sew a nostril on to a monkey's face that I remembered that kite sewing is not as relaxing as kite flying. I reckon that if all the reverse stitching was added together, I could have sewn another half a monkey. To be in a group of like-minded people who suffer from short-term memory loss, especially of the sewing of Robert's Angel, most amusing. That people put themselves through suffering and heartache, because they know when they get past the frustrations, they will have a magnificent kite that they have conquered and sewn themselves. I take my hat off to Robert to remain so upbeat through the weekend when he could see the frustrations growing many a times on the sewers faces. To the chefs, well done. A very yummy apple crumble. This mixture of both passions and Taupo were to continue for another couple weekends. Following the Ohakune kitefly was to be the Taupo small kite kitefly. Kites and motorbikes tend to dislike the same weather, rain and strong wind. Erring on the side of caution, rider and bike stayed in Napier.

The following weekend went back to a true Taupo November weekend, clear skies, gentle South westerly. Riding around the Taupo Motorsport Park track again with like-minded motorbike people. Slight problem this time, second to last lap of the second to last session, passing another bike on the outside of a corner, they were failing to take the corner leaving me with no room on the track. Gravel, hard braking, going round a corner and a another rider on the inside of you does not leave very good odds. As a result, I am now remembering how to type with a left hand as my right collarbone is broken in to three or four pieces. As those who were around me at Waitarere would remember, people waiting for the ambulance to arrive and being able to do very little to help is very hard for them. Yet again I have to say a big thanks to St John Ambulance and the first people on the scene. Like the crash at Waitarere, it will not put me off. I will be back to motor biking again, it might just take me a while.

Ian Russell

My turn. I stayed in Taupo to avoid travelling back to Napier, then back to Taupo for the following weekend. As with a number of weekends, Friday was a perfect day for flying kites but for the first time the Taupo fly didn't really happen. Saturday was a very yuck day with strong winds and heavy showers. Calls to John Wibley & Ian, lead to John taking his time travelling and Ian staying home. We caught up with John for tea and decided we'd see what Sunday would bring in the morning. Sunday morning was not much better. A guy from Hamilton rang to see how the weather was, but the weather didn't make the trip viable. A lunchtime drive along the lakefront saw a spirit flying in the sky, John was on the field. We had put our monkey's in the van and prepared to set them up on a flow form, one of John Wibley's supplied patterns. Up went three monkeys, all stringed along a small flow form. Anything bigger would have made for a very interesting time, especially when the wind suddenly came up and the rain came down. As John will attest to, one inflated Monkey does not really fit into a standard car, luckily he was flying solo.

It was good to see four monkeys the sky and hopefully when we adjust one of the bridles, they'll be just perfect.

Thanks to Robert for a job well done in designing and teaching us monkeys.

Sharon

Ray and Rosmary's
Googlexflexs





Robert and Warren with the first finished monkey

Jamie with his Googleflex

All the monkeys

Malcolm testing his lampshade

The fingers have it

Photos by A Whitehead



Flying Sites/Regional Reps

Auckland

Bastion Point

Contact : Perrin at Kiteworks

Ph 09 358 0991

kiteworks@xtra.co.nz

Bay of Plenty

Fergusson Park, Tauranga (3rd Sunday)

Lake front by Sound Shell, Rotorua (only when the wind is off the lake) Taharepa Reserve on the lake front at Taupo

Contact : Ray McCully,

Ph 07 348 3828

mccullyR@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch

Hansen's Park, Opawa

Contact : Julie Adam,

Ph 03 365 3907

julie@kites.co.nz

Napier/Hastings (2nd Sunday)

Anderson Park, Greenmeadows

Contact : Sharon Russell,

Ph 06 844 0689

unigirl@paradise.net.nz

Nelson (3rd Sunday) Neale Park

Contact : Ted Howard

Ph 03 548 8707

kitesfun@ihug.co.nz

Wanganui (Every Sunday)

Springvale Park

Wellington (1st Sunday)

Elsdon Park, Porirua

Contact : Anne and Peter Whitehead

Ph 04 476 7227

2012 Committee

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Trade Directory

Below is a key list of what kite retailers around the country are offering.

Key: SL-Single line, DL-Dual line, C-Custom made kites, Bu-Buggies, F-Fabric, Ka-Kite making accessories, Re-Repairs, Kw-Kite making workshops, D-Demonstrations, BM-Books and Magazines, W-Wind related articles, G-Gift items, O-Other recreational items, MO-Mail order catalogue, KK-Kite kits, Ex-Exhibitions, RL-Reference library.

Kiteworks

181 Symonds St. Auckland.

Phone/Fax (09) 358 0991

Services offered: SL, DL, C, Bu, F, Ka, Re and W.

Raven Kites

1 Victoria Avenue. Wanganui.

Phone (06) 348 5805, Fax (06) 348 5806

Services offered: SL, DL, Bu, C and power kites.

Rainbow Flight Kites

19 North Road, Nelson.

Phone/Fax (03) 548 8707

E-mail: info@kites-rainbowflight.co.nz

Website:

www.kites-rainbowflight.co.nz

SL, DL, C, Bu, F, Kw, D, W, O, KK and Ex.

Skylines and Bylines

2 Opawa Road – corner of Opawa, Wilsons and Shakespeare Roads.

P.O. Box 2194, Christchurch.

Phone (03) 365 3907, Fax (03) 337 2669

Mobile (027) 431 7716

E-mail: julie@kites.co.nz

Services offered: SL, DL, C, F, Ka, Re, BM, W, G, O, Mo, KK, Ex and RL.