

WHAT'S UP?

The Newsletter for Kitefliers

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New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.

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

Facebook at NZ Kite making and flying



Cover photo. Anne Whitehead's Della Porta variant.

Inside cover : Top to bottom. The Russell's spiky things at Ohakea.

Monkeys at Ohakea

Whitehead's train at Ohakea Photos by Anne Whitehead

Photos on page 5 and 6 by R McCully

Page 3 : Flying at Whanganui on the Saturday of Fathers Day weekend Photo by R McCully

Back inside cover : Rotorua flying. Photo by R McCully



What's Up?

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Editor : Peter Whitehead

E-mail : drachen@paradise.net.nz

As I sit here putting the magazine together and look at the lack of articles I realise that we have just finished winter, with nothing much happening.

As I look at the spring weeds growing in the garden I think of all the things I am going to do, and all the things that I should have done. We went to Bondi years ago and David Bull had a red telephone box which was close to life size. We were talking about this and I suggested that we should do a blue police call box and of course a Dalek to go with it. Well talk is easy, it's finding



the time to do these things. Since inflatable kites have become the vogue I have had lots of ideas of figures to make. One was an Anomalocaris. It was another of the prehistoric creatures that they did not think existed. The palaeontologists thought that two or three animals had died in the same spot, until they found more than one of these occurrences.

This now becomes the coming events list. See the web site (www.nzka.org.nz) to find out more information about any of these events.

The Kitemaking Weekend retreat. See you all in Ohakune for the Robert Brassington kite making weekend. If you have not booked it's too late now. See you next year.

Waihi Beach Kite Day. 27th Oct 2013. Island View reserve. Seaforth Road

Taupo Home made kite day on 23rd/24th November 2013. Taharepa Reserve on the lakefront

Lake Hood kite day 23rd November 2013. Off Strangness Road Ashburton

Chateau golf course fly 1st January 2014 On the golf course in front of the Chateau. Mt Ruapehu

Nelson kite festival 17th – 19th January 2014. Neale Park, Nelson

New Brighton Beach Saturday 25th January 2014. 3pm onwards. See www.kites.co.nz for more information.

Eltham (AGM Kitefly) 6th – 9th February 2014 (more elsewhere) The farmers paddock south of Eltham

Te Awamutu 1st March 2014

Otaki Beach 7th-9th March 2014 more information closer to the time.

Cambridge 15th March 2014

Membership

Membership now stands at 45 with a former member rejoining – Te Tuhi Kelly now resident in the Cook Islands.

Schools

A number of schools in the Waikato Bays area have enquired through the NZKA website for flyers to talk about kites. The McCullys have been able to support all of these requests.

In July a Mt Maunganui school asked us put on an after school display for Matariki.

In September we did a kite presentation for 4 classes at Rototuna Primary in Hamilton and followed it with a short fly of the large flowform and spinsock and a couple of other kites.

Pillan Point School - Tauranga

This was a presentation on kites to the whole school (about 400 pupils) followed by a brief kite fly. While the presentation was good as far as the school was concerned, both Rosemary and I found it difficult to target the content and questions to such a wide age range. In future we will recommend a junior and senior school session.

Testing Malcolm and Diana's Kite Field

In July the McCullys visited the new home and flying field of Malcolm & Diana Hubbert near Tinopai on the northern end of Kaipara Harbour. We had to “endure” several calm days with beautiful sunrises and fog over the water before we got some wind to allow us to test out the part of the field. Malcolm with one train and me with 5 kite lines only partly occupied the available space. We are looking forward to Easter 2014.

Ray McCully



Organza Tails for Deltas

All our “block of flats” delta kites have always had a tendency to overfly as the wind strength increased even when we used a small drogue.

Over the last couple of months we have added organza trailing edge tails to all our “block of flats” delta kites. The organza used was as close in colour to the main colour of the kite and as a result it has enhanced the overall appearance. The wind range of the kite has increased and the overflying reduced.



The **AGM** will be held over the long weekend of Waitangi Day (6th – 9th February 2014) including the Friday the 7th of February (unfortunately a work day for some) This is a note to make sure everyone knows about the planned activities. As Easter is late in the year and there have been issues with the farmers field later in March we are having an early AGM. There will be a formal notice sent out with annual subscriptions early next year.

If booking accommodation in Eltham then, 113 High Street Motel has been pencil booked for us. Mention that you are there for the kiteflying and you will be able to get a room. Address is 113 High Street Eltham, Phone (06) 764 5345

The flying field is on Neill Road which is about 2 kilometres south of Eltham township. More information will be sent before the event detailing where the AGM will be (dictated by numbers) and what other events will be happening. The Lions (our hosts) are keen to show us Lake Rotokare and perhaps have a bar-b-que there.

Again motorcycling has taken precedence over a kiting activity. The weekend of the workshop I am doing a 1,000k in a day ride. Essentially Wellington to Rotorua and back, but in a large figure of eight – taking in the Wairarapa and Whanganui. I will pass ‘close’ to Ohakune, so if time permits I will call in briefly.

Otherwise my next planned kiting, which needs publicity is at Hastings for a Lions Camp Quality on 16 January 2014. It is at – Lindisfarne college on about 5 rugby fields – cars are allowed on. I have agreed to make kites with the Camp Quality children –. I have a box full of Julie’s school sled kite kits left over from the Scout jambo-ree I did 2 years ago in Hamilton. Lions will feed us on the day along with all the children etc.

Camp Quality is a Lions project with an annual camp for about 70 or 80 children with life threatening disease – usually cancer. Each child has a minder and nurses etc are on site. Idea is to give the children a good holiday, and allow some respite for their families who generally have to care for them 24/7. Cost of running the Camp is quite large and folks donate all sorts from Ferrari rides to helicopter rides etc.

Lions are looking for folks to put on a bit of a display on the Thursday (16 January). It is a craft day and there will be an assortment of things for the campers to do. But we are looking for them to have some interaction with kites and kite flyers – some of the kids may well be in wheelchairs or crutches, and some will run round like there is nothing wrong with them

There is also a relaxing picnic day at Waimarama beach on Friday 17th January and looking again for some kites to be flown also. Again Lions will feed us from the camp picnic BBQ at the beach.

Please, if kite fliers are available we would appreciate giving these children with cancer a great couple of days.

Stephen Cook

Buggy at Ohakea

Ohakea had a good start this year – it's on, no it's not and a few days later, it's back on again.

Warren from Taupo & Gordan, Sharon & Ian from Napier all put their hands up for Ohakea with the goal to have everyone bugging or blokarting. Yes blokarts are not kites but after years of hard working Warren's hands & arms don't deal well with the pull of power kites.

Arriving at Ohakea found us back on the original runway with initial requests from the organisers to have the kites flying over the runway – not conducive to safe bugging so we were able to park on the edge have the kites flying out over the long grass.

With monkeys safely fastened to the ute, bols attached to the car & bears attached to stakes it was time for bugging.

Here the fun began.

Ian had just started to bug when a small kite attached to a young girl attacked him in the face. A quick drop of the buggy kite, reassurance to the young lass & confirmation that her kite was still attached to its line, Ian was off for the day whizzing up & down the runway.

Warren in the meantime assembled his blokart & started taking on the Manuwatu club. No landspeed records were broken but he did find out how secure his seatbelt was when he tipped over after lunch.

Ian convinced Sharon it was her turn to bug. Running alongside giving instructions helped her get on her way until a young lad came past in a blokart just as the buggy kite dipped. Blokarts stop very quickly & tip back quite stunningly when a tight kite line catches the top of the mast. Unfortunately the blokart didn't descend with the gracefulness of Team NZ's cat. A fright for all.

Gordan got out on his buggy and managed to not take himself or anyone else out while taxiing up & down the runway. That's how bugging should be 😊

A last spin at the end of the day left Sharon cursing Ian. Instructions had been don't go into the grass as it will slow you down. When a gust of wind zipped through, even the long grass didn't slow anyone down!! It was good luck that the wind stopped to take a breath that we were able to stop before the grass ran out.

An awesome time had by all, fingers crossed that this summer will be a kiting one.

Sharon Russell

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

2013 Committee

President

Peter Whitehead
59 Makara Road
Karori
Wellington 6012
Ph 04 476 7227
drachen@paradise.net.nz

Secretary/Treasurer

Ray McCully
7 Goodwin Ave
Rotorua 3015
Ph 07 348 3828
mccullyR@xtra.co.nz

Immediate Past President

Geoff Campbell
Computer Valet
1 Victoria St
Wanganui 4500
Ph 06 348 5805
027 4485 360
geoff@comval.co.nz

Committee Members

Ian Russell
Rotowhenua Rd, RD2
Napier 4182
Ph 06 844 0689
flyinthru@slingshot.co.nz

John Mason
13 Osler Road
Napier 4112
Ph 06 844 0127
John_mason@xtra.co.nz

Anne Whitehead
59 Makara Rd
Karori
Wellington 6012
Ph 04 476 7227
drachen@paradise.net.nz

Warren Ellery
41 Tamatea Rd
Taupo 3330
Ph 07 378 1418
anyupholstery@slingshot.co.nz

Committee Appointments Membership

Ray McCully
Ph 07 348 3828
rmccullyR@xtra.co.nz

Corporate Goods

Anne Whitehead
Ph 04 476 7227
drachen@paradise.net.nz

Webmaster

Robert Van Weers
85 Pitt Street
Palmerston North 4410
Ph 06 354 5765
webmaster@nzka.org.nz

What's Up Editor

Peter Whitehead
Ph 04 476 7227
drachen@paradise.net.nz



On Saturday October 5 the McCullys had 50 kites flying at the Rotorua Lakefront for a short period. The wind started to drop and the kite train in the bottom left was struggling to keep flying.

The display consisted of 3 x 6, 1 x 11, 1 x 13, and 2 x 3 kite trains plus 2 kites on their own line. The 9 kites lines were all tied off within a 40m x 30m area.

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.