

What's Up?

September 1999

A newsletter for kitefliers

No 61



New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.

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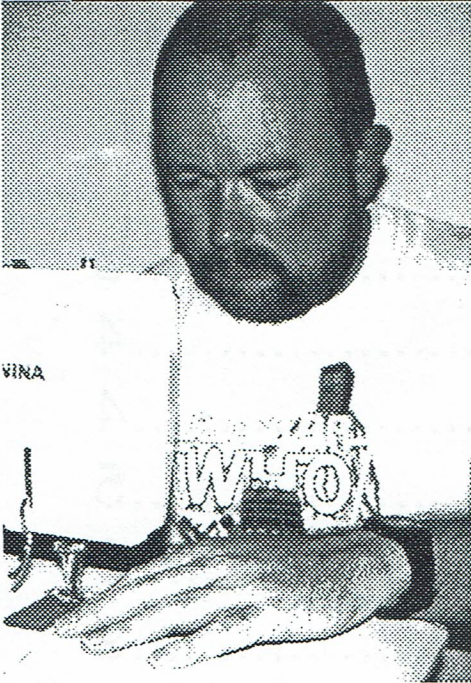
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Cover Photo

The Mermaid - Designed by Yvonne de Mille and
made by Yvonne de Mille & Anne Whitehead.
Photo by Peter Whitehead.

Whitehead's Words



Well I write this, as we are about to head off to Bondi for what is becoming an annual pilgrimage. I would have to recommend this as a festival. It has been a great place to see a lot of friends at one time, and has always been an inspiration with all the new kites we see. Again this year we look

forward to going with a strong contingent from New Zealand. Including the Bowies, McCullys, van Weers, Whibleys and Whitehead seniors.

Christmas New Year holidays could be planned around Christchurch and Nelson. The Brighton Beach festival has been confirmed for 1 January 2000, with some international fliers to help us see the new dawn first in the World. The next weekend is the annual Nelson summertime kite festival. A great way to start the new year / decade / century / millennium (take your pick).

Planning is well under way for Easter next year in Nelson. Members should be aware that Easter joins Anzac day next year so we will all end up with a 5 day weekend (not just the lawyers) and that extra activities may be planned. Having flown in Nelson for the last few years I can only recommend it as a flying site. We have had some of our most enjoyable, easy flying there. When the tide is right it also offers an easy access to water for all the new kite surfing activities.

It has been a quite winter, but with the onset of spring more activity should break out. I will leave the rest of this page for the editors to introduce themselves.

My first newsletter is now in front of you. I hope you enjoy reading what everyone has been doing over the winter. I apologize for the delay in getting this to you. I look forward to hearing from you all as to what you would like to see in the magazine and your contributions.

A little about me for those of you who don't know me. I meet my husband at the first NZKA kite festival held at Lower Hutt in January of 1985. We seemed to keep meeting at the same festivals and from there I guess the rest is history. After a suitable kitey wedding we headed off on our honeymoon to the World festival in Tasmania in 1988. A strong contingent of NZKA members, including Phil & Shirley Whitehead accompanying us. I know not everyone takes their inlaws with them but I have never been known to do normal things as a rule.

In another life I work for HarperCollins and have done so for the last 17 years. That keeps me busy but also gives me the chance to catch up with kite fliers around the country. Putting together the newsletter is a big learning curve. Please bear with me over any mistakes. Apart from kite flying, designing

and making what little time left is spent trying to keep an eye on our two Burmese cats, who just hate us leaving them when we head off to kite festivals. If you have a chance to call in and see us here in Wellington please do so, we enjoy catching up with kite fliers as they travel around.

A n n e
Whitehead.



Regional Roundup

Reports in from around the regions.

Nelson.

The last couple of months we've had fairly still conditions but with the occasional good wind. The May fly had really good wind. A little bit gusty but a good northerly. Superb flying conditions after low cloud lifted to give us a great day and a good turn out. We had the large kites up but Hootie the Blowfish (the fugu) suffered damage, blowing out some panels. Strong winds!! Buggiers with Cquads and speedwings was the order of the day. A German exchange student from Blenheim turned up with his yoyo kite and had a good time.

Kazu Kurihara (he attended the Napier festival with Phil & Shirley Whitehead) arrived in to see us. He came back to join us for the June kite fly, which turned out to be a no wind day. Still we had a great time. We flew some light wind Chinese paper kites that Perrin (Kiteworks in Auckland) had picked up. The range is quite diverse from fish, hawks, dragonflies and swallows.

Overcast and slippery under foot for the July kite day. Time was spent preparing a cutting table so that the Nelson kite club could start work on their arch. The rain cleared mid afternoon so we did managed to get some flying in. The Nelson kite arch is being built to the same specifications as the NZKA arch so that when both are at the same event they can be joined or flown underneath each other. It is noted that the president of the Nelson kite club Pat Tollan died of a brain tumour on Saturday 17th July. At his funeral his casket was draped with his flexifoil.

Ted Howard

The Waikato Kite Club is on the move again. First there were 24 years at Innes Common Hamilton the 1 year at Minnogue park Hamilton then 2 years at Wainui Reserve Raglan and now its back to Innes Common. We initially moved from Innes Common due to the poor quality wind and then we moved from Minnogue because Wainui reserve was such a magnificent spot that always had some wind but now we have moved back to Hamilton.

Two reasons.

1. This year the people just stopped coming. Flying at Raglan did not suit everyone but in 97 and 98 we had good attendance's on nice days and some days we had a really good amount of flyers. Unfortunately in 99 it all dried up and Lorraine Paul Michelle and I often found ourselves alone on the hill. The Beauty of Innes common is that it is on the Sunday drive trail and we always get people turning up with kites.

2. The whole reason we left Innes Common is that the wind was really poor due to a large wind break across the prevailing wind. This year it was thinned and although it still works the wind is better than it used to be.

So we moved back and the numbers are up so although it has been a transient few years we are confident that we will again have a decent bunch of committed flyers turning up on a regular basis.

At the moment the plan is we fly on the second Sunday of the month at Innes Common Hamilton from 12.30 - 4pm

On the odd month with 5 Sundays we are planning 5th Sunday flies at Ocean Beach Raglan. There are normally 2 or 3 a year so it will be a treat and better for the buggy types.

Any way thats the news.

Fly hard

C Watson

Wellington kitedays....

For years and years, the Wellington area fliers have flown on the first Sunday of the month, at various locations. One such was MacAlister Park, where in January 1973 a few of us formed the Wellington Kite Association. We tried out other spots over the years, including Elsdon Park in Porirua. After one such flyday in July 1984, we met in Bob Maysmor's office at the Porirua Museum nearby, and resolved to form the NZKA and to produce a magazine.

Regional Round Up Contd.

We have been back there a few times since but for quite a few years we used Fraser Park in Lower Hutt (where we staged the annual gathering some years ago). It was large enough but the northerly wind was turbulent coming over the hills. Southerly were excellent and we had some good sky-filling days. The only park in Wellington was the Alex Moore Park in Johnsonville (where we had a couple of Wind Festivals) but it was usually occupied by sport activities.

We tried a few others but more recently we have gathered at Ngatitao Domain in Plimmerton. Not as large as Fraser Park, but just enough room for our usual turnout. The winds have been good on most

occasions, although we had some rotten days during winter. We all remember two splendid days when a gentle breeze from over the sea lasted all afternoon, and all our stuff just floated.....

We have made this our usual flying site. Easy access and a good strong knee-high fence to tie lines onto. During summer, drop in and join us. Contact details inside the back cover.

Tony Fitchett

Millennium Festival

MILLENNIUM FESTIVAL - CHRISTCHURCH
NEW ZEALAND..31/12/99- 1/1/00
6 July 1999.

Hello from, Elwyn Lynn, Jenny Cook and Peter Dixon you will have heard we have now taken on this Millennium Festival from Yvonne and her crew, so we just want to make contact with those of you who have either confirmed or expressed a strong interest in sharing this special New Year's Eve with us.

Although we plan a much simpler and shorter Festival it is part of a large, varied and exciting event organised by the Christchurch City Council so even for those of you with less interest in kites there will be many things happening on Brighton Beach during this period.

Currently we plan to have kite flying New Year's Eve and New Year's Day at the South Brighton Beach, starting very early in the morning i.e. just before Sunrise! From then on there will be many opportunities for you to fly your kites, go Buggyng, trying the new exciting sport of Kitesurfing. Nothing toooooo organized, - just come and have some casual and relaxed fun with us all.

Accommodation: If any of you have not yet booked accommodation at the YMCA in Christchurch

but still wish to have accommodation with other kite flyers who will be staying there, you have till the 20 July to make and confirm your booking with them directly <accom@ymcachch.org.nz>. Please also advise us of your intentions.

Bonus.

Gretchen and Ted Howard, co-organisers of the Nelson Kite Festival have announced that their Kite Festival which is usually held at the end of January will now be held on the 8 and 9th January and so for those of you who will be in New Zealand attending this Festival in a most beautiful part of New Zealand will be a real bonus.

Nelson is one of New Zealand premier holiday regions, beautiful beaches, wonderful café's, delicious seafood, close to premier wine growing area, great for crafts/artisans etc, one of the main fresh fruit and vegetable growing areas of the South Island and one of the top sunshine areas of New Zealand.

Please contact us if you need any further information.

Peter Dixon <peter.dixon@ccc.govt.nz>
Jenny Cook and Elwyn Lynn
<peterlynnkites@xtra.co.nz>

Kite Safari - Wharariki Beach

We decided about April May that the Nelson kite club did some adventuring and that kite safaris were a good description for these adventures. We set the date as the last weekend of June. Darcy Fawcett had chosen Wharariki Beach as being an ideal spot.

dune areas. The group of 11 spent the next 5 hours flying. We experienced light southerlies and smooth winds.

We tested a 5 wheel buggy set up and also an extended rear axle on the latest Peter Lynn buggy. It

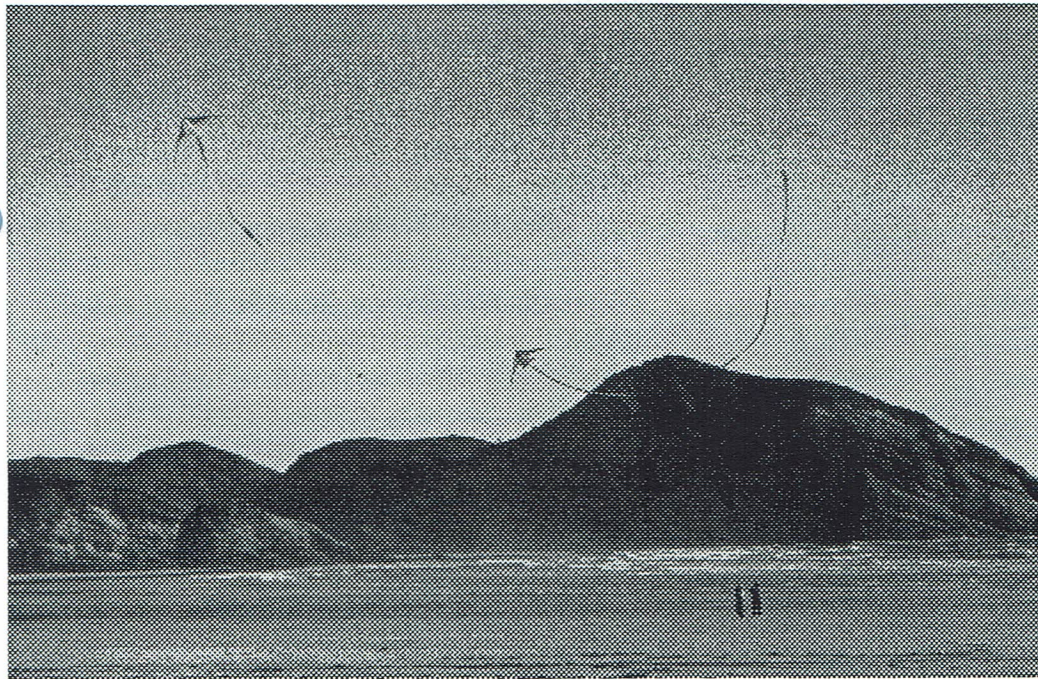
was very stable at speed especially sliding. Being mid winter we headed back to the vehicles along a moonlit track. It was cold but quite stunning scenery. It took us just over two hours in our trusty Lada to get back to Nelson.

The whole area of Golden Bay is just great for kite flying. On the eastern side from Pakawau to Puponga and on the western side from Farewell Spit to Wharariki Beach it

doesn't matter which way the wind is coming from you'll always find a spot to go fly kites. It's smooth winds and clear air.

For those fliers planning to come to Nelson over Easter you may wish to consider going across to Golden Bay for a kite safari.

Ted Howard



Heading off on the Saturday afternoon to Collingwood where we flew at sunset. From Collingwood you head on the road to Farewell Spit but take the Wharariki road from Puponga, this brings you out to the Tasman sea and Wharariki beach. The beach is reached via a track which is about 15 minutes walk from the car park. This track can best be described as a goat track but the reward is magnificent beach vistas with great



Top photo.
Gretchen Howard &
Darcy Fawcett
trying pairs flying.

The Nelson Kite
Club Safari group.
Photos by Ted &
Gretchen Howard.

Pirouette

I would like to start off by expressing my sincere thanks to everyone who voted for me at Napier over Easter.

It is a real honour to win such a prestigious prize and I look forward to Bondi with great expectations.

Pirouette came about from an idea that I saw on the beautiful Island of Fano during a visit a little over a year ago. Some of the kites that impressed me most, were kites with rotating panels built on to the sail.

There were a few different types, some with rotating spheres and others with rotating discs.

Once I had returned to N.Z. I wanted to build a new kite but wanted something new and original.

Anyone who designs their own kites knows that this in it self is more than enough of a challenge.

When I saw Peter Whitehead's kite with two counter rotating spheres, which by the way is a beautiful kite, I knew then that I would opt for a kite which would contain rotating discs of some sort built on to the sail.

The shape had to be a long one otherwise known as pencil kite because these kites tickled my fancy at the time, no other particular reason for this I suppose. On to the drawing board I went and soon about half a dozen designs emerged. It was then on to my beautiful wife to get her opinion (I wonder if this sounds familiar to anyone?) after some discussion I had made up my mind on which design to go with and we all know by now which one that was. The difficulty of building this kite from scratch was not the sail because this is fairly straight forward but how do I attach the "spinners" on to the kite and what makes them spin?

One of the souvenirs I brought back from Fano was a video of the event, which had the particular kite on it that I sought and after much scrutiny worked out a plan of attack. This turned out to be somewhat different from the one that I had seen because of the construction of the axles. The ones on the video were constructed using actual ball bearings, I thought this would add a lot of extra weight onto the kite so I set out to find a lighter and easier solution. I have drawn up a plan, as published below, to show you how I eventually put the "spinners" together and on to the sail. I hope this will be of use to anyone who wishes to use this idea on there own kite, or if they wish to build there very own Pirouette. Please read all of the instructions before starting. Should anyone have any difficulties

or have any questions to ask, please give me a ring and I will be only too happy to help you. Good luck.

P.S. I hope my A B C's are not too confusing as I only thought it would make things clearer.

To build a rotating disc you will need the following;

(A) 30 strips spinnaker 15 x 3 cm (if using rainbow colors 6 x 5 each)

(B) 1 strip 95 x 2.5 cm black

(C) 2 strips 6.5 x 3.5 cm black

(D) 1 carbon tube* 6mm ID x 7cm

(E) 1 carbon tube* 5.5mm OD x 33.5cm

(F) 2 small pieces of flexible tubing 5mm ID

(G) 1 piece of fiber glass 2mm x 96cm

*The carbon may be replaced by fiberglass

Also, I'm sure parka nylon will do (although the end result will be a lot heavier) just as well as spinnaker.

Start by making two groups of each 15 strips (A) secured to strips (C). This will later become part of the axle (detail 1). This is very tricky because you are sewing trough 17 layers of fabric, in order to prevent them from moving I heat seal the ends with a hot knife or soldering iron before attaching them to the strips (C). The next step is to sew the two pieces of (C) together to form a tunnel to pass the piece of tubing (D) through (detail 2) care must be taken here for the object is to get a nice tight fit. You might have to have a few goes at this to get a near perfect result. Once you have convinced yourself of this you can move on to the next stage which is to secure the other ends of the 30 strips (A) to the leading edge strip (B) this job is made easier if you fold the entire strip (B) in half first. Keep your mind on the job here for it is very easy to sew a strip up side down. Make sure all of the strips are leaning the same way otherwise the counter pressure will prevent the disc from spinning properly. Once you have sewn all 30 in place you will have a small piece of (B) strip left. Continue to sew this down overlapping the outside of were you started with the first one, this should get all of the sewing out of the way. Next insert the tubes (D) and (E) and leading edge spar (G) and voila you have built yourself a rotating disc. Now we have to attach this onto the sail, to do this you will need the following;

Pirouette cont.

(H) A reinforced hole in your sail slightly larger than the outside diameter of the disc.

(I) 4 lengths of tape 5mm x approx. 48 cm (*) (the length will depend on how large you cut your hole)

(J) 2 pieces of vinyl tubing 5mm ID x 4cm

(*) This can be bought in most haberdashery shops.

Take the 2 pieces of tubing (J) and punch 4 holes in one end (detail 3a). This is where later the tape will go through. The next step is to pair up the 4 pieces of tape (I) and find the center of each one, sew them in the center together to form two crosses. (Detail 4) Now comes the tricky bit, you must manipulate one of the crosses into one of the tubes (detail 3b) (tip: use a crochet needle) and repeat this procedure for the second one.

Divide the hole in your sail into 4 and mark these points on both sides of your sail, as this is where you sew the ends of the tapes on to the sail. Once you have done this you are ready to fit the disc into place, slide the spar (E) through spar (D) which is inside the tunnel made up of two pieces of (C) then place the 2 pieces of vinyl tubing (F) on spar (E) one on each end and slide them as close as possible to spar (D) without them touching it, make sure your disc is spinning well before finally placing the two pieces of vinyl (J) onto the ends of spar (E).

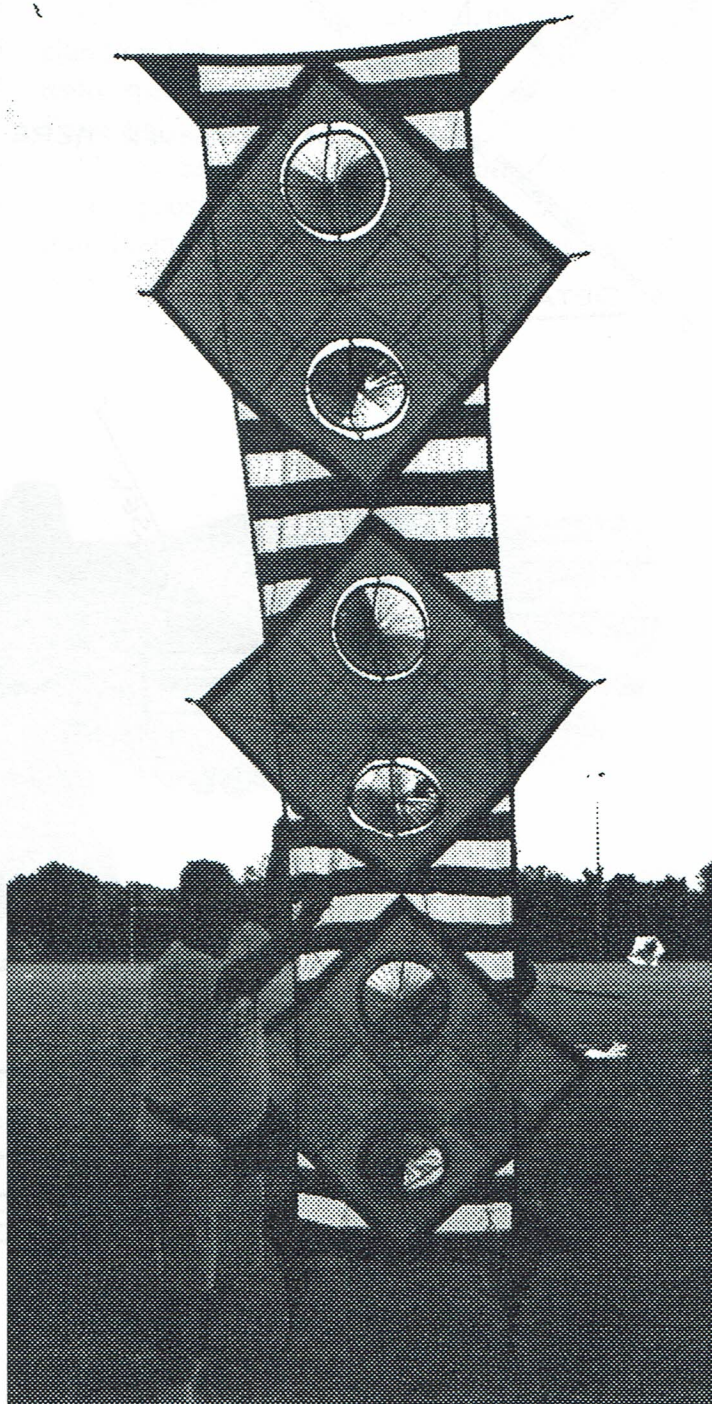
Troubleshooting;

If your disc is not spinning well you may want to check the following;

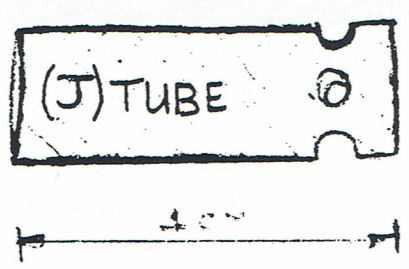
- (1) Spar (E) fits to tight into spar (D)
- (2) Some of the strips (A) have been sewn the wrong way around
- (3) The vinyl tubes (F) are too close to spar (D)
- (4) The hole in your sail is not big enough
- (5) The lengths of the tapes (I) are too long
- (6) There is no wind in which case you should not be flying at all.

Robert van Weers

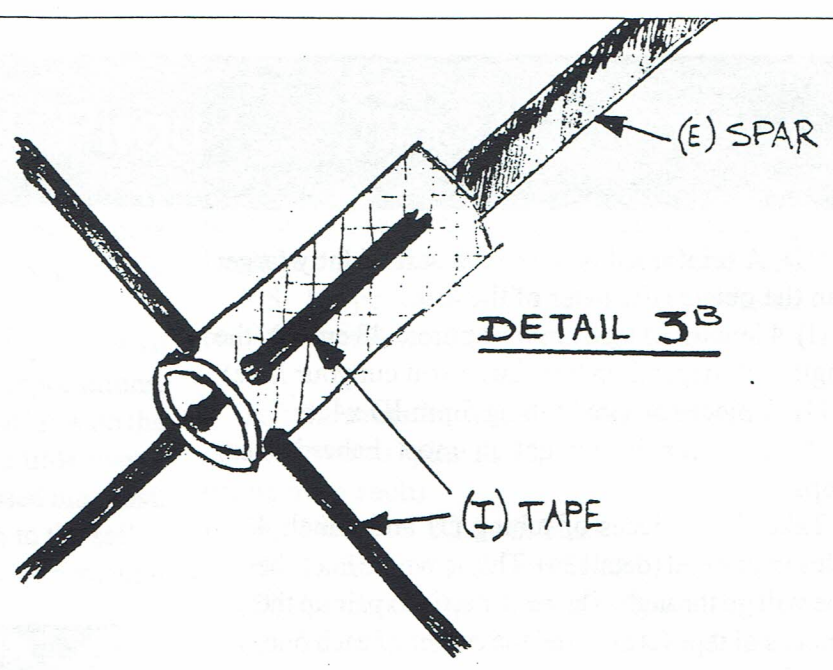
Photo by Peter Whitehead



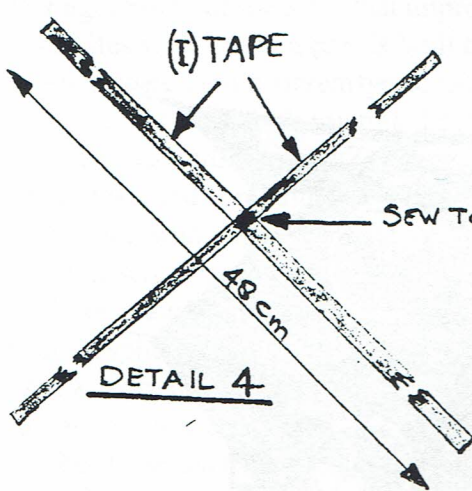
DETAIL 3^A



DETAIL 3^B

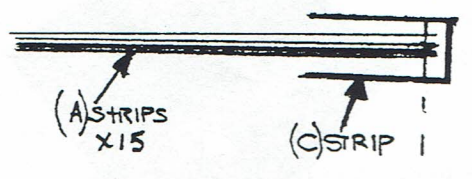


(I) TAPE

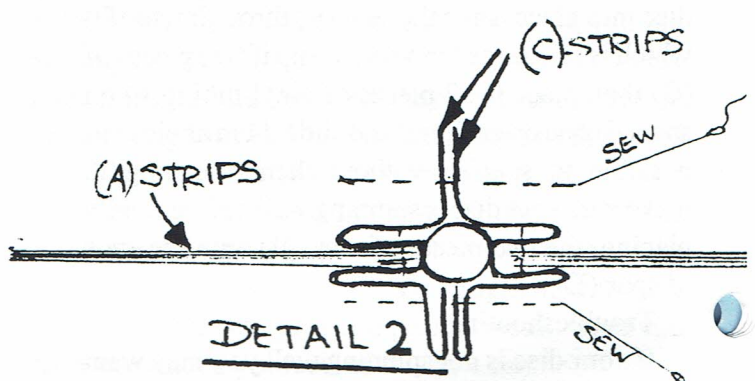


DETAIL 4

DETAIL 1



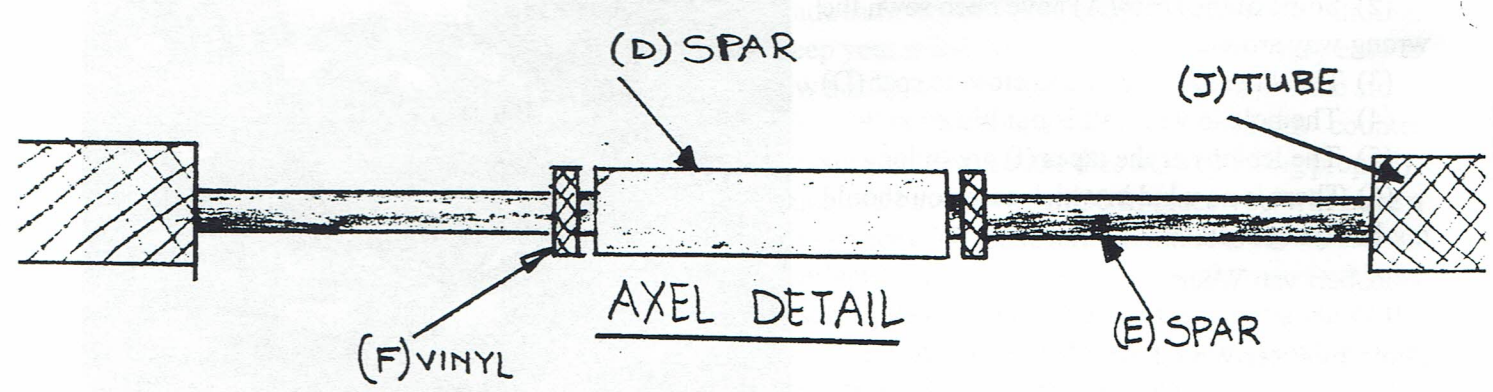
(A) STRIPS



DETAIL 2

(D) SPAR

(J) TUBE



Around the Shops

I have been working with Sharon Williams from the Te Toi Mana Gallery, also at the Arts Centre, making Manu Tukutuku in traditional materials with a contemporary finish. These are spectacular and are receiving a lot of interest, with exhibitions at the University Fine Arts and Maori Studies Departments, and commissions have been obtained by the City Council and the new New Brighton Library (which is definitely worth a visit).

It's also been a really busy time with kids kite workshops - for two weeks during KidsFest in July I was doing two workshops each day - and the bookings are heavy again for the September holidays. Children's energy and enthusiasm really makes having these workshops worthwhile and it's great to see parents and grandparents getting involved and having a great time too. Bookings can be made by phone 025-317-716 or a.h. 03-337-2669.

We had a chilly kite day at New Brighton beach for the launch of Japan Week. Elwyn Lynn and her hardy

crew came up from Ashburton and Aaron was there with the buggy club. The wind wasn't up to much and when it blew it was cold, so it wasn't a lot of fun. But we flew a few big kites, the Sumo Wrestler got off the ground a bit and C-Quads were moving up and down the beach. The response was good from the public who braved the day to come for a look at.

I've been selling lots of the lovely Chinese paper kites (see the photo). These are really nice to fly and also make great wall decorations.

I also have a few of the Bali bird, bat and butterfly kites from Kites That Fly. These are painted nylon and really spectacular, with claws and woolly bodies. Come and have a look.

My workshop, at the Arts Centre in Hereford Street opposite the YMCA, is open 7 days a week from 10am to 4pm. Phone 025-317-716 or a.h. 337-2669.



Rainbow Flight - Nelson

Outside the shop on both square and road frontage the new banners that Ted & Gretchen have made announce their shop. These custom made banners have battens in the sails and are on a swivel mount.

They have some second hand equipment for sale also. A Light Flight at \$145.00, a 12 foot Flexifoil for \$350.00 and a Stranger level 7 for \$300.00.

For keen kite makers Ted & Gretchen are looking at a new range of kiting bits and pieces, connectors for

spars and stand offs coming in from Australia.

New kites coming in for power people, the Flexifoil Blade. Also through the store the Revolution EXP which is a new version of the 1.5 and very nice to fly. The Shock Wave which is the new top of the line high performance kite.

Visitors to the Summertime Festival earlier this year may recall the fun we had with the hot air balloon kits. These are back in stock at \$15.00. A great idea for windless evenings.

NZKA Members Arch Project

The idea of the members arch is for every member to make at least one kite. It can be any colour, any pattern but should follow the outline shown. The kite should be as individualistic as possible expressing something of the member. It can be a design you like or have used on one of your kites, you might be a pale blue person and a kite of simply pale blue may be just your thing.

If you don't feel confident making the kite by yourself enlist the help of another member but it should be your design.

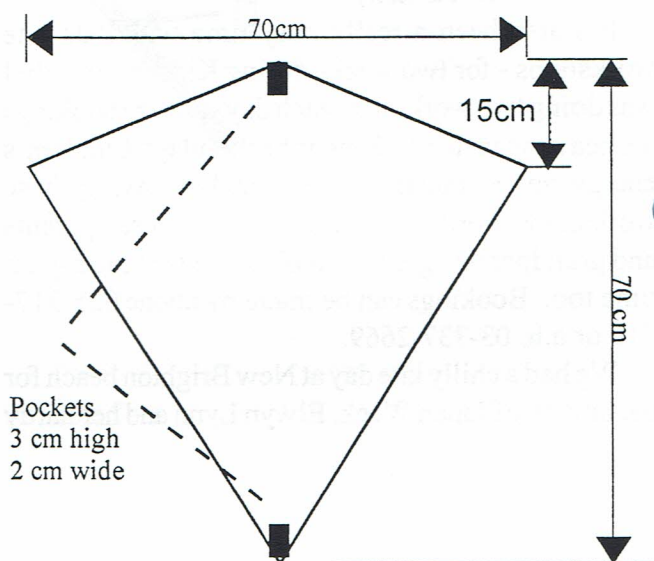
The kites for the NZKA arch are made from $\frac{3}{4}$ oz ripstop. The dimensions are shown in the diagram along side. The kite should be hemmed all round and two pockets only fitted, one at the top and one at the bottom. You do not need to provide a spar or any bridle points. Just simply the skin. The kites will be joined on a single line to form an arch by dedicated volunteers.

If you require further information contact Tony Fitchett, Peter Whitehead or David Bowie. When you have finished your kite send it, or give it to David Bowie or Peter Whitehead or PO Box 56 Wellington,

for joining to the line.

The Association has ripstop scraps available which has been kindly donated by Peter Lynn Limited.

Happy kite building.

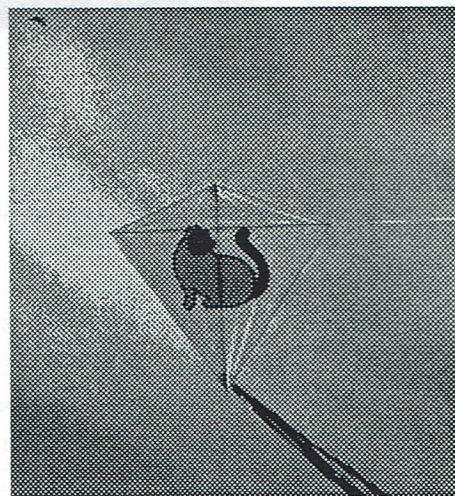


Welcome to New Members

A welcome to these new members. If you meet up with them on a flying field please make them feel welcome.

Justin Emerson, Wellington
Des & Gillian Heath, Akaroa
Jan & Ron Thornton, Waikanae
Douglas Toy, Levin
Eugene Visser, Auckland
James Tam & Sylvia Wong, Auckland
Hansen Ihle, Hamilton

For those with internet access take time to check out Eugene's web page at home.clear.net.nz/pages/konz



NZKA Arch kite by Rosemary McCully

In the Land of the Rising Sun

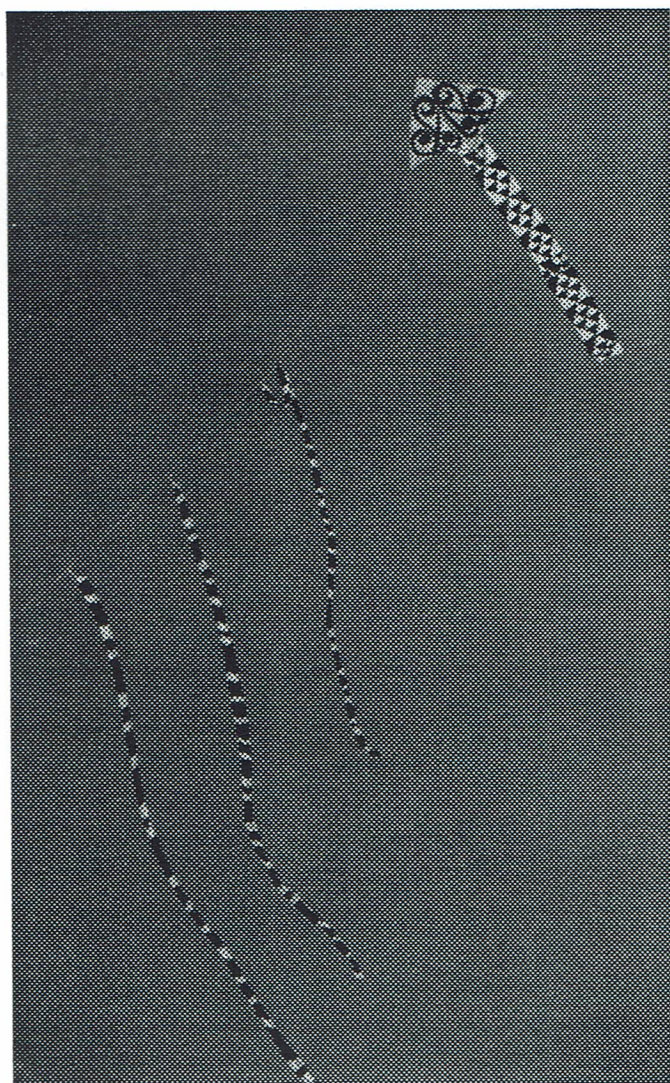
By default I received an invitation to Japan in late March. Elwyn Lynn & Yvonne de Mille had been invited and were unable to attend. When both ladies suggested I should go instead I felt honoured. Yvonne already had a design so we worked together to produce a fairly impressive mermaid. Sewing and cutting took precedence over much else in our lives, respective partners being told to do everything as we burned many late nights. I was due to depart April 26 for Tokyo so Sunday morning we sewed up to lunch time. It was drizzling here in Wellington but a phone call to relatives at Paramata was good news, it was clear up at Ngatitoa domain. We bundled everything in the car and raced up the motor way. We laid her out, marked the two bridle points, put the bridles through and ... yessss it worked, of course it did. We needed to add some fabric in some more places, seaweed here, clothing here. At 9.30pm that night I finished the last of the sewing. I then finished off my 10 metre tails for my new delta, but Murphy's law said the hot knife should start to be difficult and not work to full capacity, anyway at 10.30 I'd done it. I then packed and headed out at 8.00am the next morning.

I arrived into Tokyo late Monday evening and slept. Next morning met up with Canadians Wayne Pattison and Mel Edlund and Englishman Barry Poulter who had arrived in the previous evening. We had the day in Tokyo before heading north to Aomori prefecture and Fujisaki where we were to fly kites. My last trip to Japan had been 20 years ago so I was keen to explore. We headed slowly down the Ginza towards the kite museum and to have lunch with Modegi-san at his restaurant. I managed to find a book shop within 1/2 hour and I managed to communicate 'kite books' which worked well and I had 2 new books in my bag. The kite museum is just over the road from a lovely paper shop so I diverted in there for a quick look.

The museum is an Aladdin's cave with all sorts of things in nooks and crannies. It's hard to take it in all at once and I was glad to go back and revisit it between festivals. There is a wonderful collection of well over 200 kites. From the most wonderful delicate miniature kites to a cultural pot of ethnic kites from all over the world including a Maori kite. It really was rather impressive and almost too much to take in, best in

small doses.

Golden Week which is April 29 - May 5 is so called because it takes in Green day (29) Constitution Day (3) and Childrens Day (5) I was told this is not the time to travel in Japan. Travelling may be interesting at that time but it's great to see all the carp flying and of course this is the time of year for it. Late Tuesday we headed to Haneda airport for our flight to Aomori. The 6 Americans joined us there having just landed. Tanna & Glen Haynes, Kathy Goodwind, David Gomberg, Bob & Charmaine Umbowers. On arrival at Aomori we were greeted by Mrs Sato. Having done a class with her at Junction last year I knew we'd have a great time. We headed off to a sushi restaurant for dinner before arriving at Mrs. Sato's. All of us were staying there that evening. What a place. A real league



In the land of the Rising Sun Cont.

of nations. Tatami mats and futons were spread wall to wall upstairs and down. The sake was out and conversation went from there.

Next day was the start of cultural exchange. Being dressed in kimono, taking part in the tea ceremony, ikibana demonstration and then preparing a dish from NZ for the civic function that evening. The things we do !! It was great fun and I would be more than happy to go through the whole process again. That evening we met with kite groups from all the different areas at the evening function. Then we were whisked off to our host families for two nights. A little difficult when they spoke no English. My dictionary wasn't the best at times but it certainly helped.

Thursday was the festival. Wayne Pattison and I were hosted by Con-San. He was on the Fujisaki kite committee and had some impressive tsugaru kites (kites of the Aomori area). Con-San took us past Hirosaki Castle and all the cherry blossoms!! It was just spectacular. Travelling around the area we frequently saw carp on flag poles. Trying to buy them was an exercise and a half. Also very expensive I found out. I was told to wait for the sales after Childrens day. I could do a deal!!

We were flying on the banks of the river with snow

capped Mount Iwaki in the background. All the various kite groups were there setting up with tents and kites. The winds were very light to start so the stone mountain was first out of the bag. Slowly the winds picked up but never strong enough for me to confidently tether anything. Things were slowly emerging out of kite bags and by late morning I decided that the mermaid needed to be aired. She did all the right things and flew well. What a relief, all that hard work had paid off. My gecko didn't have quite enough wind so I still haven't tested him properly. My Maori design delta with additional tail and line streamers floated up and down with the light breeze but looked good. I did my best to keep something in the sky all the time. Much to my surprise most of the Japanese kite groups started packing up around 1.30 but the winds were really rather nice and many of us kept flying until we were told to pack up. Everyone had a great range of kites but sadly I didn't have the chance to take many photo's. The tsugaru kites are very impressive. The wonderful sound produced with their paper hummer and long rope tails trailing in the wind are truly memorable.

That evening we were taken to the Hirosaki Castle and had a chance to see the blossoms. What a great night, we wandered around the castle grounds and then met for dinner in the main rendezvous area. Another fun day had by everyone. The next day we travelled to meet the governor of Aomori prefecture and then we were to spend the day touring the area. We were well looked after and fortunate enough to spend time with local people who could share their knowledge. Fujisaki is where the fuji apple comes from and so there was never a shortage of apples in any form. The juice was great but not quite as good as the sake.

One of the highlights was a visit to a Zen Buddhist temple. There the priest had us doing Zen meditation that is normally for one hour but for us special deal only ten minutes - thank goodness I'm no good at keeping my legs crossed at the best of times. We then helped a great group of kids with their mums & dads to make kites that we then flew in the grounds of the temple. A very special day, we also had the tea ceremony with them. Many of the young children could speak a little English so as long as we used





simple plain English we managed to communicate well.

Every year in August Aomori holds the Nebuta lantern festival, these floats are rather large, 7 x 7 meters approximately. All done with wire armatures covered with paper and lit internally they are somewhat spectacular. There is a museum where you can visit and see a selection of these from past years. It was absolutely amazing. I managed to go through a roll of film. The Nebuta floats are based on folk tales. There were some magnificent looking characters; I could feel kite designs going through my head.

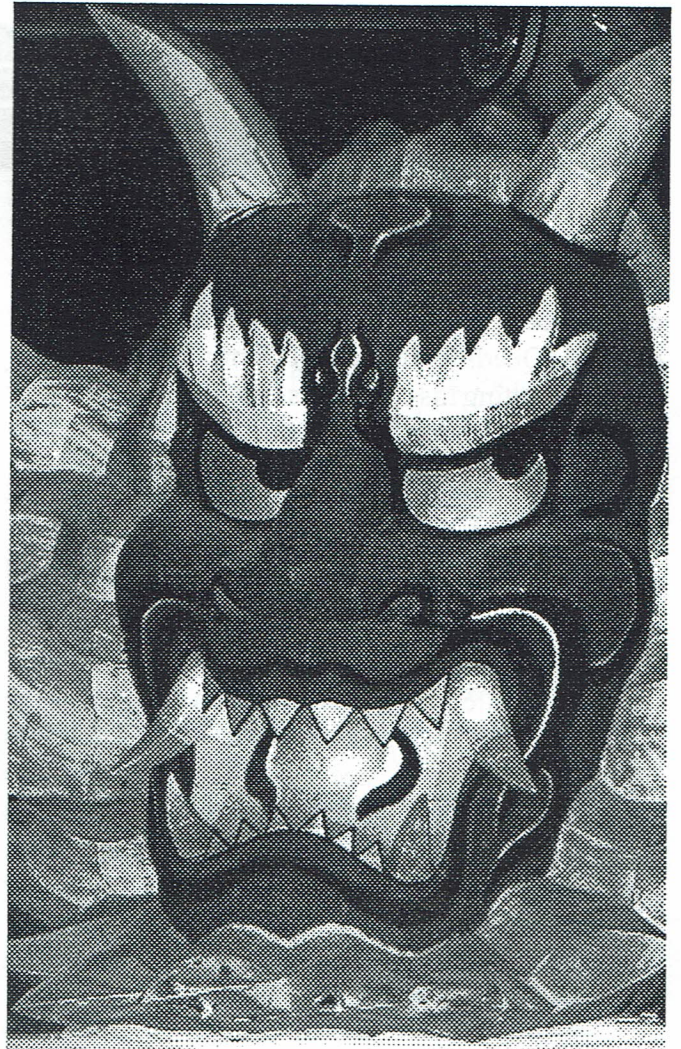
Mrs Sato is a dynamite lady and an amazing kite maker. Her workshop is very impressive but when she took us to the coolstore to see her very large kite, that was something else. Her tsugaru kite is about 10 x 6 meters all hand painted on traditional paper.

Like all things they come to an end. Farewells were made to friends old and new. We headed back to Tokyo before heading to Uchinada to attend the Japan Kite Association Kite Festival. Part 2 in the next What's Up?

Photos. Left - Mrs Sato's Tsugaru kite with the kite group.

Above - Tanna & Glenn Haynes with Mrs Sato in her workshop.

Right - A close up view of a Nebuta float.



Peter Lynn Kites

Newsletter August 1999

This month the Newsletter grew up into a monster and has had to be housed elsewhere. You can find it under the title "Kitesailing Review" on our web page at WWW.PETERLYNNKITES.CO.NZ. Basically it's a book about kitesailing with a bit of history, some theory, some information, some predictions, some photos and some tongue in cheek.

Publishing on the web rather than in print is a great idea except I won't get paid anything. But I wouldn't have been anyway. It's published as a "draft" so that I didn't have to get it comma perfect. I really like this. Hope you like it.

This leaves only a few announcements to make for this month:

- C Quad production is at full blast but we're still not nearly keeping up with orders world wide. It had been our intention to taper off manufacture in NZ about now and start taking supply from Europe for the Southern Hemisphere also. It is a bit silly to be still making 10 or so a week here when the main production is in the 100's. - and Pete and his sewing machine, who are currently making all ex NZ CQuads, are sorely needed to help deal with the biggest backlog of large single line kite orders this business has ever experienced. Unfortunately we've not been able to get any C Quads for here out of Dominique in Holland yet, he's putting his customers first, damn. But it will happen soon I hope, and when it does there will be some minor changes. Firstly, spare fibreglass won't automatically be included with each kite supplied and secondly the price will come down a little. Customers have been indicating that they only rarely require the spare glass or carbon but it will still be available with kites if requested, at a small extra cost.

- The noodle system has now been changed to the European standard for kites made here. Each kite comes with sewn in sleeves on the back of some spines that accept polyethylene foam floats for when kites are used on the water. This system is lighter, easier and works better. Floats are extra but inexpensive.

- While on the subject of C Quads, the 10.5's are now available ex NZ.

- New buggy things available also, Southern Hemisphere only at present: -"HighSider" frames for Comp. Buggies, and seats to fit. These are higher, wider and longer. -"Millennium" buggies. At last we have a name for our new suspension buggies and the design has gone through a few more iterations in the last month or so. They are excellent and now have optional spring-over- oil suspension units just like motorcycles and mountain bikes have. -Asymmetric headstems; These fit Comp., Folding and Classic buggies, increasing the rake of the front forks for high speed stability at some cost to backwards bugging.

- Garber Bars. Development continues; Something that has been pointed out to us as a problem with existing designs is that the mass and bulk of the reel is right in the middle of the bar where it is perfectly positioned to smash your face in during crashes. Back to the drawing board; we'll see what can be done about this. Lastly, there are some used prototype kiteboats for sale. One is a foil assisted tri-hull, there is one central seat catamaran and two side seat catamarans, all in Europe except one of the side seat cats which is here.

All of these are excellent boats that we have finished with now that the production moulds for the catamaran are at last on the way. Contact us for prices.

See Ya,

Peter Lynn, Ashburton, Aug. 2 1999.

PS. At last, I've found out (from Paul Sexstone) what hog-oilers are- but I'm not saying- yet.

NZKA Flying Sites

Auckland

Bastion Point (every Saturday)

Contact: Perrin at Kiteworks

Bay of Plenty

Fergusson Park. Tauranga

Contact: Jim Court 07 865 9693

Christchurch

Centennial Park

Contact: Stephen and Norelly Jarvis 03 338 7326

Dunedin

Kettle Park. Moanaru Beach

Contact: Bill and Jacqui Gee 03 454 3860

Napier / Hastings

Anderson Park. Green Meadows

Contact: Bill McLachlan 06 870 0205

Nelson

Neale Park. Nelson

Contact: Ted Howard 03 548 8707

Palmerston North

Ongley Park

Contact Alan and Judi Main 06 353 1953

Waikato

Innes Common, Hamilton

Contact: Lorraine Watson 07 825 7290

Wellington

Fraser Park. Lower Hutt.

Ngatitoe Domain, Plimmerton

Contact: Tony Fitchett 04 478 5575

Kite Days

September

5	NZKA monthly fly	Napier Hastings Wellington
10-12	Bondi Festival of the	Winds Sydney
12	NZKA monthly fly	Dunedin Waikato
19	NZKA monthly fly	Bay of Plenty Nelson Palmerston North
31	NZKA monthly fly	Auckland Christchurch

October

3	NZKA monthly fly	Napier Hastings Wellington
10	NZKA monthly fly	Dunedin Waikato
17	NZKA monthly fly	Bay of Plenty Nelson Palmerston North
24	NZKA monthly fly	Auckland Christchurch
24,25 & 26	Moose Meet	Muriwai Beach

November

7	NZKA monthly fly	Napier Hastings Wellington
14	NZKA monthly fly	Dunedin Waikato
21	NZKA monthly fly	Bay of Plenty Nelson Palmerston North
28	NZKA monthly fly	Auckland Christchurch

December

5	NZKA monthly fly	Napier Hastings Wellington
12	NZKA monthly fly	Dunedin Waikato
19	NZKA monthly fly	Bay of Plenty Nelson Palmerston North
26	NZKA monthly fly	Auckland Christchurch
31/1 Jan	Millenium Fly	Christchurch
8/9 Jan	Summertime Festival	Nelson

Kite Trade Directory

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

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 & 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, 111 Symonds St, **Auckland**. Ph/Fax (09) 358 0991

Services offered- Sl, Dl, C, Bu, F, Ka Re, W.

Skylines and Bylines, 27 Browning St, **Christchurch**. Ph/Fax (03) 337 2669 Mobile (025) 317 716. email- syvan@xtra.co.nz

Services offered-Sl, Dl, C, F, Ka, Re, Bm, W, G, O.

Sky's Unlimited, Wiroa Rd, R.D.3 **Kerikeri**, B.O.I. Ph/Fax(09) 407 7270

Services offered Power kites and kites sourced from Germany

Rainbow Flight, 117H Hardy St, **Nelson**. Ph/Fax (03) 548 8707

Services offered-Sl, Dl, C, Bu, F, Ka, Re, Kw, D, Bm, W, G, O, Mo.

Hyasa kites, 29 Ticehurst Rd **Lyttelton** Christchurch (03) 328 9934

Services offered Sl, Dl, C, Bu, F, Ka, Re, Kw, D, Mo, Kk.

A Kiwi Kite, 6 Long Street, **Raglan**. Ph (07) 825 7290 Services offered- Sl, Dl, C, Bu, Re, Kw, D, Ex, Rl.

Coastal Kites, 36 Manson St, **Tauranga**. Ph/Fax (07) 578 4250

Services offered-Sl, Dl, C, Bu, F, Ka, Re, W.

Octopus Kite for sale.

The original from Peter Lynn. The first rip stop version of this famous kite, 27 meters in length, pink, good condition. NZ\$2500 flying line included. Also available 90 foot spin sock from Catch The Wind. Some repairs, fair condition NZ\$700 or both NZ\$3000. Delivery arranged.

Contact Colin McKay, 36 Merewhira Road, Albany 1331 New Zealand

Phone 09 413 7173 Fax 09 413 7174

LABOUR WEEKEND KITEMAKING WORKSHOP

For members of the NZKA. To be held in Wellington 23 to 25th October.

Kaleidoscope with accents. Make a rokkaku using simple applique techniques.

Yvonne de Mille will take you through colour play using three colours to achieve a variety of layered shades and hues. This design will be placed in the central panel of your rokkaku.

Peter and Anne Whitehead will show you how to put everything together to get your rokkaku completed

The class will be limited to 15 people and is still on. Registration with a deposit of \$30.00 will confirm your place. Please mail to Anne & Peter Whitehead, 59 Makara Road, Karori, Wellington.