



What's Up?

A Newsletter for Kitefliers

Number 79 March 2004



New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.

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

The Newsletter for Kiteflyers

Welcome

To Jeff & Sonia White who are new NZKA members and reside in Wanganui. Welcome to the New Zealand kiting community.

Phone: 06 344 3686

Email r32gts1@xtra.co.nz

Reminder

To all those members who enjoy reading **What's Up** this is your last issue if you have forgotten to renew your membership subscription.

To ensure you get the June issue pay your subs now.

What's Up

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New Zealand
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PO Box 56,
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Visit us on the Web at:
nzka.org.nz

What's Up is distributed quarterly, free to NZKA members.

Editor: John Archbold.

Letters, articles, stories, or other items of interest about kites and kiteflyers are welcome and can be sent to the NZKA, PO Box: 56, Wellington or to The Editor, What's Up, PO Box: 51 215, Tawa, Wellington.
E-mail: archde@ihug.co.nz

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Cover photograph: Tribilite and penguins

By courtesy: Richard Wotton



Campbell's Comment's

From the Presidents Desk

I have just come back from our annual festival in Porirua, I won't elaborate on the festival, as I am sure it will be covered later on in the newsletter. But I would like to thank Anne Whitehead for organising the festival for the NZKA.

Congratulations to our retired bulletin editor, Richard Wotton, on his win of the Trans Tasman travel award.

As my last comments didn't appear in our last issue (my fault not the Editor's J), I would like to reflect on a few of the latter events in the year starting with probably the most ambitious workshop NZKA and NZKA members have taken on to date. This was "the making of Peter Lynn soft kites". This workshop was held over Labour Weekend. We were extremely fortunate to have Peter and Elywn Lynn in attendance. Peter held several sessions in front of the white board imparting a lot of his hard gained knowledge on how and why soft kites fly, along with his techniques for creating his wonderful kites. There were, from memory, five midi kites, six minis and a flag kite started.

Although the workshop was held over 3 days, most attendee's didn't complete their chosen kites, this made us all appreciate the complexity of the task we had undertaken. It was gratifying to see all those hours on my knees (cutting) gradually take shape into my yellow and black Gecko. It was also pleasing to see many more of the finished kites take to the air at the first few festivals of the year. Congratulations to those that completed their project. We started this year with a new two-day festival at the Chateau Golf Course at the base of Mount Ruapehu. We joined together at night for an excellent meal; we could have fed the entire

village with pasta. Many of us stayed in the Whakapapa Lodge. Everyone at this excellent event agreed, this was one worth attending. We hope to combine with the Tongariro Natural History Society again next year and repeat the festival.

A lot of members were then spotted in Nelson for their annual festival. This is always one festival every member should attend if they can, except for Wanganui festivals that is.

I am pleased to announce (with much relief) that we have a new Bulletin editor, John Archbold, as we can see he has done a wonderful job and I look forward to further issues of 'WHAT'S UP?'

I would encourage all members to support John by contributing articles, whether large or small, anecdotes, photos, plans, tit-bits of information, hints and tips, as all these go to making a strong magazine.

Attending a workshop or festival spread over a couple of days has proved a very beneficial means to creating strong bonds of friendships among those attending these events.

To anyone thinking of running a kite day, workshop or other kiting event I would recommend trying to make it over two days, this does make it more worthwhile for people to travel to such events and will attract more attendees.

Our next festival is on Sunday the 21st of March in Palmerston North at Coronation Park by the railway station. Following this, it is Easter at Eltham.

I look forward to seeing you all on the flying field.

Geoff Campbell

What's Up Next...?

2005 Kite Festivals Holiday
in New Zealand

Nelson Kite Festival —
January 21st –23rd, Neale Park, Nelson

Hawke's Bay Kite Festival —
January 29th and 30th, Tareha Park, Napier

Rotorua Art in the Sky 2005 (NZKA AGM) —
February 5th and 6th, Arawa Park Racecourse, Rotorua

Background

In 2002, a proposed International Festival was derailed by the uncertainty that followed September 11th. A subsequent attempt to get sponsorship for a festival in 2004 failed. The costs to bring high profile fliers to New Zealand are high, as airline sponsorship is not available outside of their current commitments. Currently there is not enough corporate sponsorship available for anything that is not a mainstream sport or big TV exposure event.

Smaller events can get funding through pub charities with some restrictions.

New Zealand is currently one of the most popular tourist destinations, and as most keen kitefliers link their holidays to kite festivals, why not capitalise on it?

Objectives and Principles

To run a series of back-to-back kite festivals at or near popular tourist venues and attract the world kiting community to have a kiting holiday in New Zealand.

There will be no sponsorship of any flier.

For insurance and numbers management, registration will be required for each festival but no fee.



Other features such as evening functions, clothing, badges etc are user pays.

Current Status

We have strong interest from a group in France and some individuals in the USA and Japan. We have a long list of emails of potentially interested fliers from Europe, Canada, England, United States.

Next Steps

The priority is to get the basic information out to the international kiting community so they can decide whether to visit New Zealand.

Confirm details of the tour:

Possible midweek Wellington evening event.

Possible midweek Taupo evening event.

Rokkaku challenge over the 3 festivals for a trophy donated by Peter Lynn.

International Visitors Co-ordinator

Ray McCully will co-ordinate the promotion to overseas fliers and act as the liaison with each of the festivals. This ensures a consistent message goes to all fliers.

What's Up Next...?

Regular updates will appear in *What's Up?* over the next two issues as information becomes available. In the meantime, plan your holidays

and accommodation for a great two weeks of kite flying with overseas visitors in 2005.

2005 Kite Festivals Holiday in New Zealand Update

Publicity has reached Europe with some enquiries from France, Netherlands and Germany. Major publicity is hopefully going to appear in the American Kitefliers Association magazine during March. Interest has also been received from Australia.

Initial interest has been from a significant number who receive sponsorship to attend festivals. Unfortunately, sponsorship of anyone is not an option as we do not have the funding. Hopefully, they will still find NZ an attractive place to visit.

We have members making private visits to the following festivals this year: Fano, Dieppe, Marseille, Tours, one in the Netherlands and of course, Peter Lynn gets to the odd festival so I am sure we will have plenty of publicity.

NZKA members need to advise me or the local organiser of their intention to attend an event. The sooner the better as there is a lot of planning required.

It is not expected that a registration fee will be charged but other activities such as evening functions, badges, patches etc will be on a user pays basis. Therefore a 'registration form' for the festivals will be published later in the year.

I am also interested in hearing from anyone who can provide accommodation, transport, a meal, or a coffee to any overseas visitor passing through the area. I am hoping that we can get a win-win for all involved – visitors get to enjoy NZ home hospitality and members get to meet kite fliers from different cultures.

Contacts

To register intention to attend any festival and make a hospitality offer:

Ray McCully
7 Goodwin Ave Rotorua
ray.mccully@xtra.co.nz
07 348 3828

To register intention to attend Nelson Festival

Ted & Gretchen Howard
info@kites-rainbowflight.co.nz
03 548 8707

To register intention to attend Napier Festival

Ian or Sharon Russell
rj.russells@paradise.net.nz
06 843 4359



QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY 2004

Theme: Miniatures and Indoor Kites:

learning to make small
adding the fine details, -scales, feathers -
having fun

Tutor: Jim Ayers

Dates: Saturday 5th

Workshop: 10 am to teatime – out for dinner

Sunday 6th of June

Workshop: lunch till teatime – takeaway tea and

Sunday morning and Monday – see the sights

Venue: Trinity Methodist Church Hall,
Clive Square Napier

We are looking at making the workshop time a little shorter so people can have a chance to visit some Hawkes Bay attractions. With the workshop being held in town, it will allow for (hopefully) easier parking, as we can use the on site car parks.

Price will be dependant on the numbers coming. We have more space than last year's venue and as we are making small things we can fit more people in.

Dead line for interest is 30th April so that we can plan and price.

The Guest Tutor, Jim Ayers, is well known through New Zealand for his art and kite talent. The fine detail will entail learning how to draw the wings, scales etc the make the miniatures more special. For those who are new to NZKA this is a good opportunity to mix with a few new faces in a relaxed environment (at meal times). Even if think you are not skilled the information you absorb will make the trip worth while.

Contact: Sharon Russell

92 Bill Hercock St, Napier

06 843 4359

rj.russells@paradise.net.nz

What's Up Next...?



Easter at Eltham

Informal four day festival: 9 - 12 April 2004

Arrive Friday and fly every day. There is a Public day on Sunday which has traditionally attracted a good crowd. The flying field is off Neil Road, just south of Eltham.

A bulk booking has been made at the Stratford Lodge which has twin rooms at only \$18.00 per person per night plus a \$5.00 linen charge, if you don't have your own sleeping bag. The lodge has a communal kitchen.

Ring Anne NOW: 04 476 7227, E-mail: drachen@internet.co.nz

To make accommodation bookings.

Advanced Notice

Labour Weekend Wellington Workshop 23-25 October 2004

The traditional Labour Weekend gathering is in the advanced stage of planning - watch this space for full details next month.

Mark the 23 - 25 October on your calendar.

Amendment to NZKA Rules.



At the AGM in February, a Rule change proposed by Stephen Cook was approved and has now been cleared by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

Please delete the existing Rule 3, and replace with:

3 OBJECTS The objects of the Association shall be to;

3.1 - encourage and develop kitemaking and kiteflying, and

3.2 - promote contact and involvement among and between members of the Association

Introducing...



John Archbold

Greetings readers. This is my first issue as editor and I have enjoyed putting it together. All the usual challenges have been encountered, not the least of which, is getting enough contributions to fill the magazine. Nothing too much has changed from this point of view in the last twenty years - I have included below Bob Maysmore's plea from the very first issue of What's Up produced in 1984.

Having got that out of the way, I'll tell you a little about myself and my kite flying.

A graphic designer by occupation, I specialise in print production and have been

involved with the industry for over 30 years. My business is based in Lower Hutt where Lise, my wife, manages the office, and tries to keep me on track. It was Lise who fired my interest in kites after she had attended a

Kite Workshop at Whitireia Polytechnic run by none other than Anne and Peter Whitehead.

The product of that workshop was a Rokkaku which proved a challenge to fly. One of the advantages of flying days is the meeting of more experienced flyers, and at the National Festival we gained some tips on modifying the harness. Next time you are in Wellington, look for the kite with a barn owl pattern; we'll be close by.

Over the last few years we have built up a small collection of kites and we both enjoy NZKA flying days. We keep a couple of pocket kites in the glove box of the car in case we get the opportunity to fly while journeying round the country.

The Editor



Orbitury

Moira Saynor

Moira Saynor, a Wellington kiteflier, died on 11 December 2003 and is now no doubt, flying kites in that great celestial kite field high in the sky. She will probably be in touch with Harry Luyk and John Watson, who went before, so she has got some serious support and competition there. I hope she lets out plenty of line! She was

an avid supporter of the annual auctions and will be remembered for her ready smile and cheerful disposition; even when kites didn't fly to expectations at the Wellington monthly gatherings. We will all miss her and our thoughts and sympathies go out to her husband Ken.

John Derham

NZKA 20th Anniversary National Festival

Elsdon Park Porirua 6th – 8th February 2004

Trying to get the time off work for both of us to be able to attend our very first kite festival was a small problem but not as big a problem as accommodation, after days of phone calls and being declined at every motel in the area we resorted to B&B Homestays and found a lovely home in Whitby about 10mins from the park which was a bonus.

We left Wanganui early Friday morning and arrived at Whitby at 9.00am, met our hosts and dropped off the luggage, then continued on to Elsdon Park. The park was empty but we soon noticed a car full of kites, which happened to be Stephen Cook's so we in no time had a good conversation going. As more people arrived and the grounds were opened we got our place on the field and watched for a while.



*Elsdon Park on Sunday afternoon.
Photo: Richard Wotton*

Not really knowing anybody we found members very friendly coming up to us and introducing themselves as well as some members that we met at the Chateau. Geoff Campbell then arrived and later Richard Wotton, who introduced us to the rest of the club. A good breeze was up (until it got gusty) and we saw a good range of kites to get us thinking, most of the day was spent talking to members and just watching.

After the AGM and some socializing we got to meet Peter Lynn and the conversation got onto bugging, with some very funny stories. After we went back to our homestay to find hot coffee and mud cake awaiting – yum, and a nice chance to talk to our hosts, who moved to NZ from South Africa a few years ago.

Saturday morning we were treated to a fantastic fully cooked breakfast to set us up for another kite

flying day which disappeared all too quickly, amazing how time flies when you are having fun!

The most memorable part of the whole weekend was Saturday night. The meal was just fantastic, a big credit to the chefs and company a lot of laughs. Then onto the real action, the auction, well Jeff

knew what he was going to bid on (the NZ flag) although he bid over what we had agreed on. At the end of the auction Peter Lynn gave us a swallow kite made by Robert Van Weers that he somehow won the bid on (not intentional). The whole evening was a real hoot and one we will never forget. Came away with more kites than we have line for!

Sunday was much the same, although the wind had turned around and was coming from the south, a few more different kites were seen. Congrats to Richard Wotton for winning the Trans-Tasman Challenge, gives us a bit more incentive to get out there and get a sewing machine.

Monday we went to Te Papa and got the royal treatment with a guided tour from Sandy Bartle through the Wings exhibition. Once again treated to more of Peter Lynns intellect.

This club has been one of the most organised and most welcoming that we have ever been involved

with, all of the members were so friendly and full of helpful advice. We would like to say a special thank you to Geoff Campbell and Richard Wotton for being so helpful in starting our kiting adventures.

Jeff and myself thank all members for making us feel part of the club, it was one of the best holidays we have had in a very long time and we look forward to many more enjoyable flying days.

Jeff & Sonia White



National Festival

Last year while discussing the coming national festival I heard mention of something called "sevens" that was also on in Wellington at Waitangi Day weekend. I don't know what "sevens" is, but I'll bet it didn't draw as big a crowd as our 20th anniversary festival, held at Elsdon Park, Porirua.

The breeze was fairly lively on Friday afternoon, and I took such a relaxed approach that I didn't even drag out a kite until about 2.30pm. Too many people to talk with to be flying! As always, this event is a great opportunity to catch up with fliers from around the country. It was a pleasure to meet Tony Rice, the genial Queenslander who was here as winner of the AKS travel award at Sydney's Bondi Festival of the Winds last September. It was also a pleasure to have the company of Bob Maysmor for the weekend, along with those originals who are still regulars at our events.

The school/marae complex adjacent to the park was the focal point for the weekend's social activities, beginning with the traditional Friday night fish and chips dinner. This was followed by a brisk AGM under President Geoff Campbell's chairmanship. The high point of the evening was the surprise presentation – engineered by Ray McCully and accomplices – of life memberships to Tony Fitchett, David Bowie and Anne and Peter Whitehead. This was a very fitting recognition of the service these four members have given the NZKA over the past 20 or so years.

Saturday's wind was fairly blustery, and it wasn't a day for staking out every kite in the bag but there was still a good show. After a day on the flying field, everyone adjourned to the school for a bit of R & R. Sue van Weers and Karen and Liz Whibley were hard at work preparing dinner while everyone else swapped tall tales over drinks and nibbles. During the course of this, a late item was obtained

for the auction when Anne Whitehead snatched Peter Lynn's trusty flying hat from his head. Later, Peter was so keen to get it back that his opening (and the only) bid was \$100. Expensive hat!

After a sumptuous feast, a lively auction, with President Geoff at the helm, netted around \$1600 for the association. Well done, everyone!

Sunday began with a very light, almost nonexistent breeze, which was a good test for my new Ultra-light kite. The wind soon picked up, though, to give us the best conditions of the weekend. The sun came out and everyone was able to enjoy the show.

After a scary incident in the morning when the kite got out of control and attacked James Cone – a classic fighter attack out of the sun, which took him completely by surprise, to say the least – I was honoured to have my Lamson Aerocurve chosen as the winning kite for the Trans-Tasman Travel Award, and I thank all those fellow fliers who voted for it. The following day I E-mailed Florian Janich, the German designer of this Lamson variant, to tell him the good news. His response is shown on the next page.

My thanks to the organisers and the chefs for putting in the hard yards and making this 20th anniversary festival such a great success.

Richard Wotton

There is more on the National Festival on p14



National Festival

Hi Richard!

Wow - congratulations! Why do you get a trip to australia and not me? ;-) I wish you a great kitefestival and good luck with the woman at Bondi Beach ;-))))))

It is fine to see that many people are interested in my plan. But I am only the builder of the plan - Charles Lamson is the only one!

Bye, Richard, me and my lamson go outside and try to find someone who

let me win a ticket to Bondi Beach, too.

Best wishes, Florian



Top: Tony Fitchet received life membership.

Above: the cutting of the birthday cake.

Top right: Elwyn Lynn and the flag kite.

Centre right: Peter Whitehead at the auction.

Far right: Robert van Weers with his WWII 'Gibson Girl' signalling kite.

All photos by Richard Wotton.

Twenty Years Young



NEW ZEALAND KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION NOTICE

Following a recent upsurge of interest in kites, a group of kite enthusiasts from throughout New Zealand have established the New Zealand Kitefliers Association.

The Association intends to publish a quarterly newsletter which would include information relating to:-

- Sources of material
- Lists of Kite Day venues throughout New Zealand
- Networks from Kitefliers - the International magazine for kite flyers
- Worked to sail, map, map column
- List of Kitefliers in N.Z.
- Biographies of members
- Kite designs
- Stories of kiteflying incidents
- Trouble shooting column
- List of events anything else relevant

The newsletter will help many kitefliers, especially in the smaller towns and rural areas, to keep in touch with new material, kite days and with other enthusiasts. It is intended to hold an annual kite day, the location of which would be ideally somewhere in central New Zealand, but could vary from year to year. The kite day will probably be held towards the end of summer school holidays.

The annual membership fee is \$5. For further information please send a stamped addressed envelope to:-

H.J. Kitefliers Club,
9 Beach Road,
Porirua,
Wellington.



1984 When it all started

Legend has it that it all started as Bob Maysmor and Peter Lynn were lying in the sun watching their kites aloft in the renown benign Porirua breeze, thinking that life couldn't get much better. They were right of course and they decided that an organisation was needed to bring more like-minded people together.

Things moved rapidly, with the first **What's Up** issued in September and the first National Festival was held in January 1985, at Lower Hutt. Since then there has been a National Festival every year.

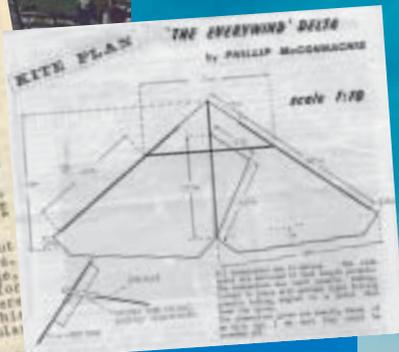
Top: The foundation members still together at the 2004 National.

Above: The first notice announcing the incorporation of the NZKA.

Centre right: The first National Festival Group photograph.

Right: Ten years on, the 1994 National Festival, held in Christchurch.





2004 The tail continues

Top left: The National Festival 2004 filled the sky with kites at Elsdon.

Centre left: The first What's Up which included in it's contents, plans for a kite, member profiles, and the Civil Aviation rules for kite flying.

Top right: Out of retirement, Bob Maysmor's chinese kite.

Above: Jack and George Penny's Mermaid at the 2004 Nelson Kite Festival.

Left: Another extremely popular NZKA event, the two-day fly at the Chateau Tongariro.

Happy Birthday NZKA.





National Festival

Was it 20 years ago??

Wasn't it the Beatles who sang "It was twenty years ago today ..."? Yes it was, on their Sergeant Pepper LP, and that thought dates me, just as it dates the NZKA.

A great celebratory weekend was held, and others will write about that. What interested me though was my own long term involvement, and why I am still here. As a member since late 1987 (or was it '88?) from a kite workshop run by Peter Lynn at Wanganui. I still have one of the delta kites I made – crappy orange and tatty, but still flying.

I remember too my first festival – at Fielding – I was embarrassed to be there, no fancy kite, knowing not much, but wanting to be part of it all. Stayed away from the social activity because I basically knew no-one, and not really much about kiting. I recall being a quiet background person in a far corner of the field, with a friend I had come with. Just how much have things changed!

And so to today, 14 or 15 years later. Knowing a lot of people, being friends with a lot of people, having too many kites (says Rosemary) and probably

having too much of a say about things at times!! I know a whole heap more, and my making and flying skills have progressed greatly.

And that was all because YOU, the members, actually involved me and wanted to help – or just offer sometimes unwanted advice. And took the time to assist, guide and involve me.

I keep thinking of this, and hope the rest of us do too.

Remembering each of our own first probably tentative involvement. We do have a range of new or prospective members who come to our events, and they too may well be embarrassed to be there, no fancy kite, knowing not much, but wanting to be part of it all.

Do we talk to them, make ourselves known, introduce them to other members, help with their (possibly simple) kites – in other words, are we up-front about involving new members in

our kiting world. Sometimes we might be too involved with our own flying problems and our own long term friends to remember back to when we started. But generally I think not – we do want others to get the same enjoyment out of kiting, NZKA and its members, that we all do.

So, let's have another good twenty years or so. Regardless of the march of technology there will always be a place in the world for an environmentally friendly, non polluting, generally non-competitive group or individual, cheap or expensive, close together or far apart, gentle softness or violent strength, delicate colour or brilliant stained glass, young toddler or ancient pensioner, teetotal or wine buff, quiet introvert or raucous extrovert, do it yourself or just 'buy them' past-time of kite flying!

Stephen Cook

NZKA Regalia

The NZKA has a range of smart looking badges, stickers and embroidered patches for sale.

Embroidered Patch	\$7.50	20th Anniversary enamel badge	\$7.85
Lapel pin	\$5.00	Eltham 2001 embroidered patch	\$7.50
Windscreen sticker	\$4.50	Eltham 2001 lapel badge	\$7.50
20th Anniversary embroidered patch	\$ 7.50	Contact Rosemary Cook	04 477 2036

Looking back

NELSON JAN. 18-19

After a l-o-o-n-n-g-g wait on the wharf at Wellington (after taking a nameless Wanganui flier's advice re possible traffic delays) we took to the briny for the voyage to Picton: stage two of the annual trek to Nelson for their great summer kite festival.

As usual, Nelson lived up to its title of "Sunshine Capital of New Zealand". After applying a thick coating of sunblock at our motel, it was out to the park to see what would fly. This part of the event is very casual, and it's relaxing (you know, what Joe Public thinks kite-flying always is) to fly just one or two kites while easing into the weekend. The evening was topped off with takeaways eaten al fresco on the field, when Bruce Thomson, of the Nelson Kite Club, gave an impressive performance with his Humungoburger.

Saturday dawned fine, with the promise of more serious sun. Dalwyne and I spent some time at the excellent market in Montgomery Square before heading out to Neale Park. The breeze was light, but there were plenty of kites up throughout the afternoon. Once again, Peter Lynn and his troops were in attendance – this time with a bunch of Peter's new flag kites adding a patriotic touch to the event. (The flag flew all evening and was still up when Dalwyne and I left for our motel. When we drove back to the park in the morning it was still there, but I don't know if this signified an



a kite and line laundry sailing away over those big hills, never to be seen again. However, Stephen Jarvis responded rapidly to the crisis and we soon had things back under control.

Robert van Weers' wood and calico Biplan replica revelled in the strong wind and stayed

*Main Picture:
Anne and Peter
Whitehead's
Brasington
Cellular Kite.*

*Left: Dalwyne
Wotton sheltering
from the sun.*

Photos: Richard Wotton

all-night flight. Come to think of it, it wouldn't have been flown all night because that's illegal).

The Sunday morning sky had a rather threatening look, but the rain stayed away until late afternoon, allowing us to take full advantage of the strong but very steady breeze. It was very consistent right through the day, so tangles were kept to a minimum. I had a couple of anxious moments when, having just checked the (considerable) tension on the lines of my pilot and double parasled, they tangled. I had a sudden vision of

aloft for hours – until rain turned it into a much heavier than air machine and brought it to the ground, as well as pretty much bringing the day's flying to a close.

After a quick spruce-up, it was off to the excellent Lambretta's restaurant to round off the weekend's social side. If you were at this festival, I'm sure you enjoyed it. If you weren't there, pencil it in for next January – you won't regret it. Many thanks to the Nelson Kite Club for organising the event.

Richard Wotton

Chateau Tongariro weekend

“Fore!” isn’t a cry normally heard on a flying field, but at the first day of the New Year fly on the Chateau Tongariro golf course, it was a distinct possibility. Owing to a communication glitch between the organisers and the Chateau management, the presence of kitefliers on the day was unexpected. However, a compromise was quickly reached and nobody was zapped by ball or bol.



Scenes from the Chateau.

Photos: by Richard Wotton

The summer sun was biting deep, and frequent applications of sun block were a necessity. Unfortunately, the breeze wasn’t as powerful as the sun, and fliers had to work to keep even their light wind kites up for most of Saturday.

The evening saw a bunch of (mostly) red-faced fliers gather at the lodge for a magnificent meal of beef and pasta (memo Anne Whitehead: it was 25 for pasta, not 75!). Anne and Peter were at the helm in the kitchen and did a great job, along with their team of helpers. Nobody went away hungry – especially those who really like pasta. It was a good social evening, with plenty of catching up to do since the Father’s Day weekend events at Wanganui and Ohakea.

Sunday began with a very light breeze, but this picked up nicely by late morning so there was plenty of colour in the sky. One stand out new kite was Rosemary and Ray McCully’s owl kite, made by talented German kite designer Rolf Zimmermann. It was good to see Jim Ayers down



from Auckland for the event, and as always, Jim seemed to be delving into a bottomless kite bag as different kites kept taking to the sky.

Geoff Campbell’s new gecko had its first official outing over the weekend. The big inflatables looked very impressive with the mountains as a backdrop.

I was amazed by how many people were in the park for the weekend, so we got plenty of exposure with our kites. On Sunday, a lot of members of the public were also flying – including the manager of the Chateau, who was delighted with the weekend. Thanks must go to Sarah Gibb, of the Tongariro Natural History Society, who organised the event and accommodation.

Look out for this event again next January. Be there!



NZKA Website Newsletter

Dear Members:

What has been happening at the site these last few months?

New Members Section

I am in the process of creating a new section at the site intended for NZKA members only. As this part of our site contains sensitive information, you will need a User ID and Password to access this part of the site. These can be obtained by filling out a form with your preferred User name and Password. Once we have verified your membership an email will be sent to you confirming your log-in details so you can access this new feature.

Easter Egg Hunt

The hunt is on again to find the elusive golden Easter egg. This year I have made it hard to find but over 25 entries have already been received. So people, don't delay and get your entry in to win this years great Easter egg hunt.

Find the link in the news scroller to get the details.

The site has a new home.

By the time you read this newsletter the NZKA website would have moved house.

I have obtained 100 MB of space to host our site right here in New Zealand. You might notice a slightly faster download time of the site but other than that no noticeable changes would be observed.

I would like to thank **2D Host** for their assistance and for generously giving us the space. Visit their site [[Click here](#)] if you are looking for a responsible host company to host your business website.

NZKA Kite Forum, A meeting place for Kiteflyers.

Not a lot has been happening at the forum, seems no-one has anything to say or report. Return to it regularly to check new entries. Who knows there might just be a question on it that you might be able to answer. This could help some others out.

You might also want to become a moderator in charge of a topic that you specialize in. For this you need to contact me.

Go have a look and sign up to become a member. Don't forget to add this URL to your Favorites folder. Click the link on our homepage to go to the Forum.

Kite Links

World Kite Clubs

I have finally found the time to run a link check on the pages containing the overseas kite clubs and other such links. There are quite a few links to visit and it should keep you busy for hours during this nasty spell of bad weather that plagues this country right now. A link can be found in our dropdown menu at the top of the site. Select: "NZKA Links/world kite clubs" to go surfing.

Line Junk

I am still working on a page to show pictures of NZKA members line-junk. If you are a NZKA member and would like to help out, send some of your images, or any other images you might have of other members line-junk to me and I will upload them on to the web page.

Regards:

Robert van Weers
NZKA Webmaster



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

Regional lines

News from the regions

Canterbury tails ...

Christmas has been and gone - no kites under my tree this year, but a few new toys have been turning up in the KiteShop since and I've had some lovely days flying big sport kites at Hanson park - stretching my arms a bit! The annual Nelson kite festival on 17th and 18th January at Neale Park. This is the best flying field in the country and attracts flyers from all over New Zealand. We had challenging winds, but the temperature was good, the hospitality great and the spectacle was, well, spectacular. After breaking a line, having a couple of tent pegs pull out and a fishing pole snap, I pulled everything out the sky and found I had 18 ground things still out! There was quite a bit of excitement as runaway kites sped past across the park. Thankfully the recovery rate was impressive. Lots of big kites were about and plenty of people came along to enjoy the day. Congratulations and thanks to the Nelson Kite Club for putting on another great event.

I spent the Friday and Sunday at the NZKA 20th Anniversary festival at Elsdon Park in Porirua at Waitangi weekend. (I was actually up there to work at the Martinborough Fair on Saturday). A good number of kitefliers came from not only from

around New Zealand but also overseas and it was great to see old friends again. Another weekend of challenging winds, but that's what we prepare for in Wellington! The biggest and best kites were on show at this event and the place I chose to park on Friday gave me a wonderful view of a sky full of kites. The packed lunches were great and the kitchen team were flat out all weekend. Sunday morning was a bit quiet, so the accounts of the success of Saturday night must have been right! Congratulations to the workers - the flyers and visitors all had a great time.

So back in Christchurch, the next NZKA monthly kite day is on Sunday 29th February (it's leap day so come along and see if you can get hitched!). These are held on the last Sunday of every month from 1 – 3 pm at Hanson Park. Hanson Park is in Opawa – the entrance is off Hawford Road. Everyone is welcome to come along and fly their kites or watch others flying theirs. We have had good numbers turning up on the good flying days - with a bit of pressure to perform when the local newspapers pick up the publicity! Onwards and upwards ...

Julie Adair

Hawkes Bay

Plans are well advanced to make this years Queens Birthday Weekend something special with a bigger more central venue and time to see the sights or visit the wineries. Please register your interest before 30 April 2004. Full details can be seen in 'What's Up Next' on page 6.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY 2004

THEME: *Miniatures and Indoor Kites, learning to make small, adding the fine details, scales, feathers and having fun.*

Tutor: *Jim Ayers*

Date: *Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th, Monday 7th of June.*

Contact: *Sharon Russell*

06 843 4359

rj.russells@paradise.net.nz

Wanganui

VALE ELIZABETH

Her many loyal readers will be saddened to learn of the recent passing of Elizabeth, the feline editorial assistant of *What's Up?* issues #69 to 72.

Elizabeth excelled at supervision, but when the tapping at the keyboard slackened she would frequently rise from her supervisor's nest amongst piles of paper on the desk and help out the struggling editor by strolling back and forth on the keys to boost the character count.



She was also a huge help when it came to selecting the photos. I would hold up each photo for her scrutiny and only the ones she got excited about were published.

Even at the ripe old age of 19, Lizzie (as she was affectionately known to her readers) still loved to work out with a spot of tree-climbing or unarmed combat with a piece of flying line, and she was still active up to her last week.

Richard Wotton

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PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL GIBSON

FAB FLYER: Wanganui man Richard Wotton, who has been making and flying kites for four years, will be winging his way to Sydney in September. At last weekend's national New Zealand Kiteflying Association festival at Porirua his new kite was voted the most worthy to be sent to the Australian national meeting this year. "And I'm allowed to take it," Mr Wotton said. He would get his flights and accommodation paid and was looking forward to the Festival of the Winds at Bondi Beach. His winning kite was a Lamson Aerocurve, made in six weeks during his spare time, using nylon and carbon fibre spars. Its larger prototype was built in the United States in 1897 during the drive toward manned flight. Mr Wotton said he went to a Danish kitefliers' meeting last year. "I became interested in historical kites and I'm going to carry on making them, using traditional materials like cotton sails and wooden spars."

New Victoria Ave store

Also from Richard is this cutting from the *Wanganui Herald*. The photo shows Richard with his award winning Lamson Box Kite.



Regional lines... News from the regions

Wellington

Completely unofficial from the editor, the photographs show me test flying the first kite Lise and I have made from scratch. The Hutt River is usually a placid stream with playing fields along it's banks that make an ideal flying area.

The recent spell of rough weather transformed the river to a raging torrent and the playing fields into river. The second photo, taken two weeks later, shows the same tree water bound. I estimate the water depth at two metres - and there was just a couple of metres to go to the top of the stop banks. We were very lucky and suffered nothing but inconvenience - we trust that all NZKA members came through the recent storms without serious lasting problems.

The Hutt River as it should be and as it was. This area of playing fields are immediately north of the Ava Railway Bridge which can be seen in the background.



NZKA Regalia

The NZKA has a range of smart looking badges, stickers and embroidered patches for sale.

<i>Embroidered patch</i>	<i>\$7.50</i>	<i>20th Anniversary enamel badge</i>	<i>\$7.85</i>
<i>Lapel pin</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>	<i>Eltham 2001 embroidered patch</i>	<i>\$7.50</i>
<i>Windscreen sticker</i>	<i>\$4.50</i>	<i>Eltham 2001 lapel badge</i>	<i>\$7.50</i>
<i>20th Anniversary embroidered patch</i>	<i>\$ 7.50</i>		

Available from:

Rosemary Cook, telephone: 04 477 2036



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Any articles, snippets or tips for kiteflyers are always welcome at What's Up. Send your contribution to the Editor.

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tonyf@paradise.net.nz
Johnsonville

Flying sites

Auckland

Bastion Point (every Saturday)
Contact: Perrin at Kiteworks
Phone: 09 358 0991

Bay of Plenty

Fergusson Park, Tauranga
Contact: Ray McCully
Phone: 07 348 3828

Christchurch

Hansen's Park, Opawa
Contact: Julie Adam
Phone: 03 365 3907

Napier/Hastings

Anderson Park. Green Meadows
Contact: Sharon Russell
Phone: 06 843 4359

Nelson

Neale Park
Contact: Ted Howard
Phone: 03 548 8707

Palmerston North

Ongley Park
Contact: Alan and Judi Main
Phone: 06 353 1953

Clarks Beach

Stevenson Road Park
Contact: Jim Ayers
Phone: 09 232 0251

Wanganui

Springvale Park (every Sunday)
Contact: Richard Wotton
06 343 2770

Wellington

Paraparaumu Beach
Contact: Tony Fitchett
Phone: 04 478 5575

Flying days

March 2004

7 Wellington
Clarks Beach
Stevenson Rd Park

14 Dunedin
Napier/Hastings

21 Bay of Plenty
Nelson
Palmerston North

28 Auckland
Taupo
Christchurch

25 Auckland
Taupo
Wanganui
Christchurch

20 Bay of Plenty
Nelson
Palmerston North

27 Auckland
Taupo
Wanganui
Christchurch

May 2004

2 Wellington
Clarks Beach
Stephen Rd Park

9 Dunedin
Napier/Hastings

16 Bay of Plenty
Nelson
Palmerston North

30 Auckland
Taupo
Christchurch

April 2004

4 Wellington
Clarks Beach,
Stevenson Rd Park

9-12 Easter at Eltham

11 Dunedin
Napier/Hastings

18 Bay of Plenty
Nelson
Palmerston North

June 2004

6 Wellington
Clarks Beach,
Stevenson Rd Park

13 Dunedin
Napier/Hastings

Photographs

If you want copies of any of the photographs of the 20th Anniversary Festival featured in *What's Up*, prints can be obtained from Richard Wotton, for just \$12.00 per print. There are many more photographs that will appear in future issues.

Contact:

Richard Wotton
Phone: 06 343 2770
44 Wairere Road
Wanganui
richardw@sarjeant.queenspark.org.nz

What's Up thanks Richard for his huge contribution to the magazine.

Trade Directory

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

Key: SI-single line, DI-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, RI-reference library.

Kiteworks

111 Symonds St, Auckland.

Phone/Fax (09) 358 0991

Services offered: SI, DI, C, Bu, F, Ka Re, W.

Rainbow Flight

5 Montgomery Square, Nelson.

Phone/Fax (03) 548 8707

Services offered: All services provided

A Kiwi Kite

1a Sunshine Rise, Raglan.

Phone (07) 825 7290.

Services offered: SI, DI, C, Bu, Re, Kw, D, Ex, RI.

Skylines and Bylines

The Kiteshop at The Arts Centre,

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: SI, DI, C, F, Ka, Re, Bm, W, G, O, Mo, Kk, Ex, RI.

Raven Kites

1 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui.

Phone 06 348 5805, fax 348 5806.

Services offered: SI, DI, Bu, C, power kites.

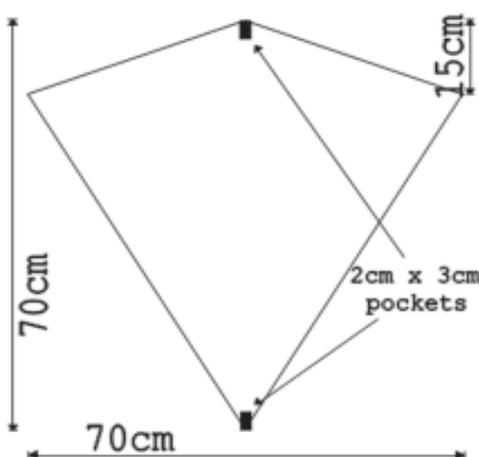
The NZKA Kite arch project

The members' arch is for every member to make at least one kite. It can be any colour or 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 – for example, 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 oz ripstop. The dimensions are shown in the diagram alongside. The kite should be hemmed all around 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 the skin. The kites will be joined onto a single line by dedicated volunteers to form an arch.

If you require further information, contact Tony Fitchett, Peter Whitehead or David Bowie. When you have finished your kite send or give it to David Bowie or Peter Whitehead, or send to P.O. Box 56, Wellington, for joining to the line.



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

Happy kite building!



National Festival



Top: Tony Rice's bug, definitely a wanted import from Australia.

Above: Tony Rice demonstrating bamboo 'hummers' on Saturday night.

Top right: John Murray (Australia) and Yvonne de Mille, the newest NZKA Committee member enjoying the southerly on Sunday.

Above right: Richard Wotton being congratulated on winning the popular choice award.

Left: Inga Dominke from Germany.

