

What's Up?

The Newsletter for Kitefliers

Number 89 August 2007



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New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.

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

The Newsletter for Kitefliers

Welcome

The NZKA welcomes a new member:

Änatole Perry, Auckland,
anatole@skytoys.co.nz

What's Up

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New Zealand
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Visit us on the Web at:
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to NZKA members.

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Below: The NZKA display
organised by Jim Court at the
Hobbies Expo held at Taupo early
in July.



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This issue of What's Up contains some important news of coming events - turn directly to page 4 to make a successful start to the season and then get your kites ready to go. At your leisure you can then look at the cover which features photographs by Peter and Anne Whitehead taken at Cervia. There is plenty to read in the rest of the magazine thanks to the efforts of: Peter and Anne Whitehead, Ray McCully, Stephen Cook, Sharron Russell and Allan Little.

Presidents Flyer

I'm not going to say too much about Cervia, as we have lauded it's praises in the past and showed lots of photos of interesting, different and new kites that we have seen there. Suffice to say that the wind was probably even better than usual and we hardly had to leave the restaurant to fix errant kites. The only incident was when Simon Frieden was launching his train of 5 Hargreave kites to use as a man lifting system. We decided to launch

The weather since returning home has been atrocious so we have done no flying. In fact as I write this we are sitting here with no wind (in windy Wellington). We can hope that the weather will get better by the time we start to have national flying days again. Look out for flying on Fathers day week end at Wanganui and Ohakea.

The Labour weekend work-shop is just about fully subscribed. People are hearing about this from all manner of sources now, so you have to be quick to be involved, and this year will be a good one. Run by Robert Brassington from Tasmania who will showcase 3 different kites and a kinetic kite. There will be more written about this in an article elsewhere in the magazine.

We have had a committee meeting and the main thrust to come out of that is that we need to concentrate on members, getting new members and retaining existing members. We are going to put a new membership form in with the magazine. These are to give to people

with kites in the air in a moderate wind. The kites were lifted and then the middle kites started doing a

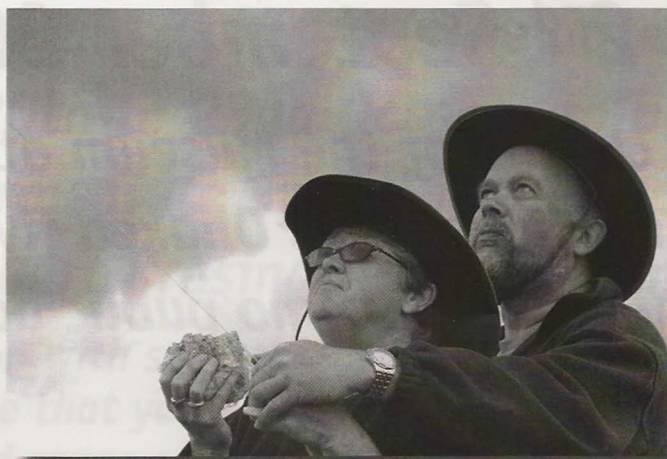
large sweep through the sky, ultimately plowing into the ground and attacking some Dutch kitefliers. No actual harm was done to anyone and very little damage was sustained by the kites. Most

of the trouble was that some of the Dutch mistakenly thought Peter Lynn had something to do with it.

while you are out flying. Who knows where the next member is coming from? The web-site is going to be upgraded soon, so look in again to see what is going on with this means of communication to you the members. And as we are only producing 3 magazines a year you need to check the web a little more as events can sneak in between magazines and you not even know about them. There are still promoters out there that believe they can organize events in about a month and that we would like to fly kites at their event, or that we would like to come along to their event and give us a month notice that it will be on.

We also need to start confirming numbers for the annual get together at the Chateau. It was a little wet last year, but there were also times when there was some magic flying and light on the surrounding countryside. It is flying at probably the most scenic spot in the country and a great way to start the new year.

Peter Whitehead



What's Up Next...

Ohakea

Sunday 2nd September 2007

Due to the closure of the Museum at Ohakea Air Force Base, this years Ohakea fly will be an NZKA only event, with no public advertising or official public entry.

This means that we will be flying under the instruction and control of the Commanding Officer of Ohakea.

We will be entering through the normal gate but it will only be manned between 10 and 11am. After this it will be locked. Please bring your NZKA ID as those manning the gate may not have met you before.

Note: If you don't have your NZKA tag then show your drivers license as the person at the gate will have a current membership list.

The closest towns for food etc will be five minutes car journey away at Bulls & Sanson.

If you have any queries email Ian Russell (contact under committee) he can then supply with a phone number if you think you will arrive after 11am.

See you there.

Labour Weekend Workshop

Well after a year off we are back with the Labour weekend workshop. The dates are Saturday 20th to 22nd October to be held at Raroa Intermediate School in Johnsonville. Our tutor is Robert Brasington from Tasmania.

After discussion with several members at New Year your comments were that you wanted to make something that covered a good range of techniques. I passed this message on to Robert and this is what he has offered.



1. Fan. Simple appliqued stylised graphic on fan platform, Done in Lunen, Germany and Geelong, Aust. very successful. All carbon and ripstop construction. 750mm across. Note, there are about 6 different graphics done for this workshop (no circles as in image)

1/2 day -\$30.00 Ausd NZ\$35



2. Sode- modern version of the classic, in ripstop, satins, silks etc with organza tail. workshop involves the use of slave paper to carry the multi mediums. and the handling of the 6M tail. Head 800 high.. full day #30 Ausd NZ\$35



3. Angel, simple but elegant kite, unique construction, done before with great success.

1/2 day \$22.50. NZ\$25

4) Kinetic Can be used as a hanger, line laundry, or on balanced arm for garden use. 800 mm diameter, original construction, ripstop and carbon.

1/2 day \$27.50 NZ\$31

Please contact Anne or Peter Whitehead if you wish to participate. We have already had a good response so do not delay.

Third Taupo Home made Kite Week-end

17th and 18th November 2007

At Taharepa Reserve, cnr Lake Tce (S.H.I) and Taharepa Road.Taupo.

This is your chance to show off your winter's sewing plus the results of the Labour Week-end Seminar at Wellington.

The aim of the week-end is to show that Kiting is not only the factory built kites but includes design, pattern making, sewing, test flying, (swearing?), aerodynamics etc.

The flying field is across the road from the Lake, so bring your Kite Surfing gear too.

Contact is Jim Court (07)377-4784 or E-mail: jimulian@paradise.net.nz or write: 39 Acacia Bay Rd. Taupo

Annual New Year Fly at the Chateau Tongariro

There will again be kite flying over New Year at the Chateau. The Lodge is booked for:

Saturday 29th Check in during afternoon. Workshop etc evening

Sunday 30th Workshop am. Flying on #9 fairway in afternoon

Monday 31st Workshop am. Flying on #9 fairway in afternoon

Tuesday 1st Jan Check out am. Flying 10am to 4pm public day.

More information in next Whats Up.

In meantime please advise Anne Whitehead if you require Lodge accommodation. Catering arrangements will be discussed at Labour Weekend workshop.

Tasmanian Summer Kite Events



***Binalong Bay weekend 16 & 17 February
Devonport weekend 23 & 24 February
Contact Robert Brasington at
groundzerokites@tassie.net.au***



Easter 2008

Annual Festival and Meeting

Friday 21st March to Monday 24th March 2008

**CITY OF
NAPIER**



Theme: Art Deco - 1930's

Dress up or fly to the theme

Art Deco expressed all the vigour and optimism of the roaring twenties, and the idealism and escapism of the grim thirties

Its decorative themes are

- ***Sunbursts and fountains - representing the dawn of a new modern age.***
- ***The Skyscraper shape - symbolic of the 20th century.***
- ***Symbols of speed, power and flight - the exciting new developments in transport and communications.***
- ***Geometric shapes - representing the machine and technology which it was thought would solve all our problems.***
- ***The new woman - revelling in her recently won social freedoms. (Graceful, flowing naked ladies)***
- ***Breaking the rules - cacophonous jazz, short skirts and hair, shocking dances.***
- ***Ancient cultures - for oddly enough, there was a fascination with the civilizations of Egypt and central America***





From the Webmaster

Dear members

Well, it's nearly done, the new website that is. I hope to put it up for scrutiny next week or so. I have been working hard out on it for the last few days now, just getting the look and feel right of it all plus getting the various scripts to work.

What's new?

Well everything really, I started from scratch so the site looks very different from what it was. I thought it might be a good idea to do it this way, as I could get rid of a lot of old and outdated stuff. There will be an archive for some of the more memorable items for those interested in old stuff.

I adapted the keep it simple method making updates the more easier. I also wanted the graphical content lowered to help load the pages faster.

Images

To help load the page faster I have made use of an image rotator that does just that. It rotates a series of images in a random manner. I received some feedback from you stating that we needed some updated images hence the use of this script. Every time you visit the front page the image is changed making it look different every time.

Here's looking at you.

Here's one way you can help. Send me some images for this script, the more images I have the better as you will not likely see the same image twice in one visit. The theme for this script is "NZKA Members Having Fun".

The photo's should be of nzka members flying a kite or doing something kite related. Please don't send images in poster format, they eat bandwidth at my server. All I need is an image with the following dimensions; 400 pixels wide by 400 pixels high, jpg, jpeg or gif format, either is ok. Send these to: webmaster@nzka.org.nz

Rss Feed

What is that you ask? It is the one line scroller at the top of the page. It streams information gathered from a text file that you as a member can manipulate. Here is the description for RSS direct from wikipedia.

RSS Feeders (which, in its latest format, stands for "Really Simple Syndication") is a family of web feed formats used to publish frequently updated content such as blog entries, news headlines or podcasts. An RSS document, which is called a "feed", "web feed", or "channel", contains either a summary of content from an associated web site or the full text. RSS makes it possible for people to keep up with their favorite web sites in an automated manner that's easier than checking them manually.

News feed page

Now nzka members like yourself can add content in the form of edible text directly to the site. That content is instantly accessible through the RSS page. The 5 or so newest items will have their heading displayed in the feeder located at the top of the front page with a link to the article. So get connected and have your say. You will of course need to have password access to add content but not so for viewing it.

Search our site

I have placed a search engine at the top of the site, this is handy if you are looking for anything specific, ie: archived stuff, old articles etc.

Members pages

Apart from having the news items, I am unsure if we need a separate section for this. Over the last few years this feature has had very little or no use. Perhaps this could go before committee to decide. I will have it available at the new site nevertheless and all those who were issued with passwords will be transferred over to the new site. If yours doesn't work, use the forgotten password link. With the new site, this feature is automated.

So what does it look like?

Here is a screen shot of what I have as from today, the heading will change slightly but the layout will be as per image below. The URL will be the same familiar www.nzka.org.nz.

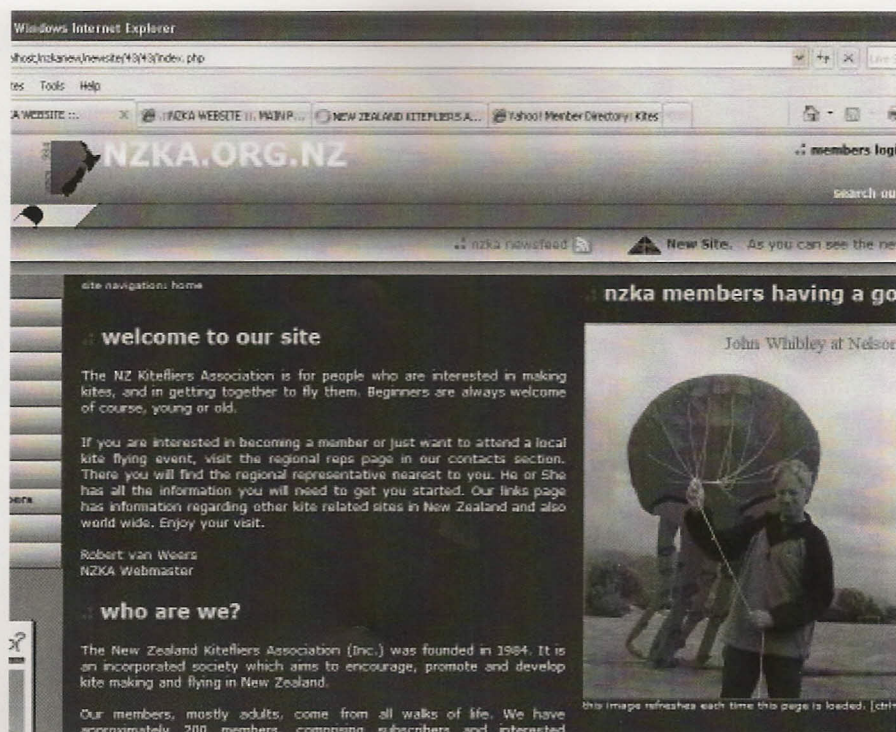
The site will be down for about 10 hours as I place the new version up and do some line testing. A splash screen will take it's place until the work has been done.

As always, your comments are greatly appreciated.

Regards

Robert van Weers

NZKA Webmaster



The new-look Web site

Kites, Flight & poor Sight

By: Allen Little

We all enjoy "Kites" for our own reasons. I have very bad eyesight with a corrected visual acuity of 2/60 and can hardly see my kite without the aide of a special spotter lens on my glasses. The thrill of feeling the safe lift off and flight stability combined with the sounds of my sail in the breeze are what I enjoy. Having assembled the Kite and set it free on the breeze, its time to relax.... I visualize the brightly coloured sail at the end of my line knowing what it was intended to do and imagine the spectacle.

People often say to me "how can you fly a kite with poor sight".... There are some very basic elements which are necessary as a visually impaired person and these could apply to most kite flyers:

- ◆ My kites are of very simple construction.
- ◆ Fabric is bright and contrasting.
- ◆ The line is easy to handle and track.

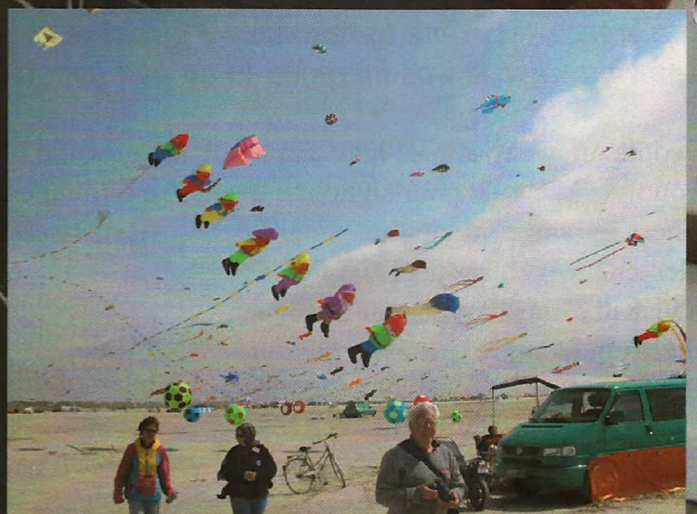
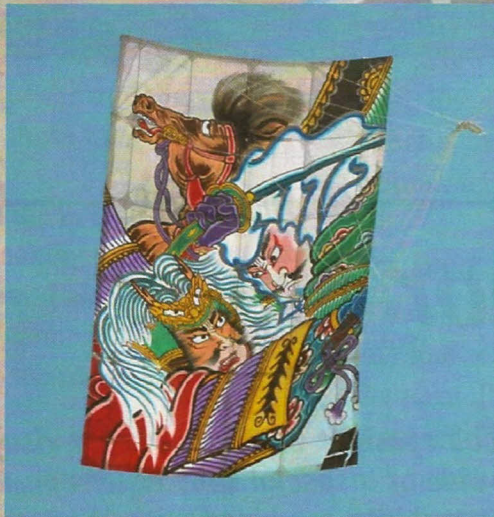
- ◆ Know the Flight environment which has been assessed for safety.
- ◆ The sun is to my side or behind me.
- ◆ Its important to sample the atmosphere, feel crowding and hear sounds or general ambiance.

Kite flying is an inexpensive and healthy pass time which can with a little thought be enjoyed all year round. Obviously there

are times when the conditions are not right for flying or the wind vanishes. There will be plenty of opportunities to dream and scheme, designing new and imaginative kites. As a person with poor eyesight one of my challenges is getting to my favorite flying places so I need to co-ordinate transport etc. With a little bit of collaboration and cooperation Kites and Kite Flying can be enjoyed by everyone even if you have poor vision.

Fano-2007 Report

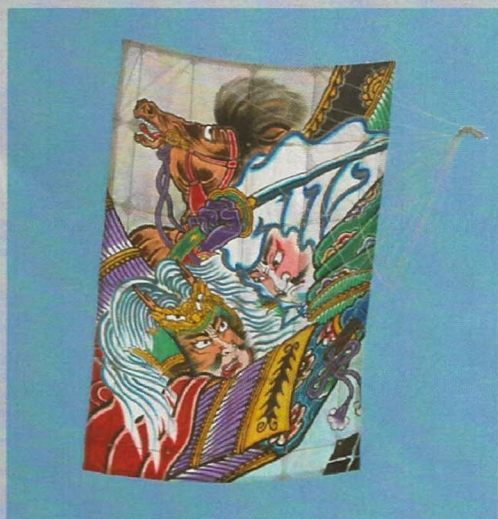
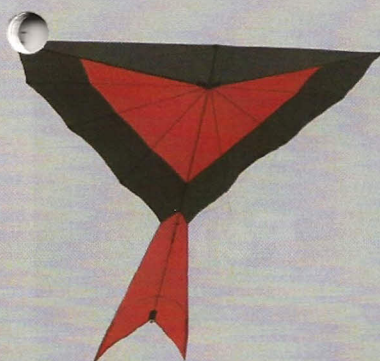
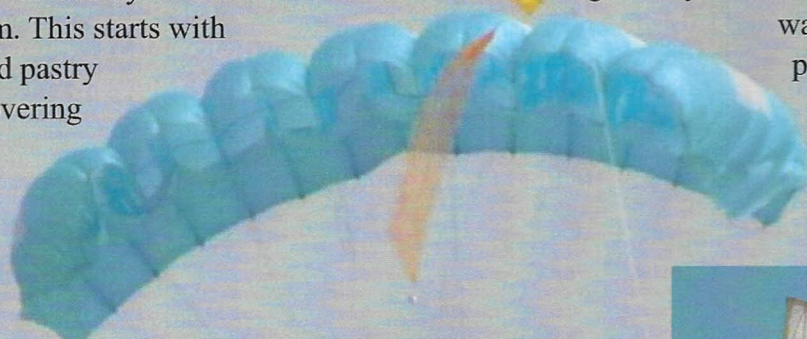
Words and images fail to describe the atmosphere on the island of Fano during the weeks when 5000 kite flyers descend on this unique area of Denmark. There is no other kite event quite like it; there is no organisation, no timetable and no rules. If there is a timetable, it is set by the sun, which is only down for about 5 hours at that time of the year.



This was my fifth visit in 7 years and it never fails to amaze me, kites of all sizes and genres filling the 5 kilometres of the single line area. Days start at about 5am. This starts with coffee and pastry and discovering

the outer parts of the island, exploring the small towns of Sonderho or Nordby, or just wandering about the coast line. The island has a long history

going back over 1000 years when it was a major sailing area and now only remnants of this past can be seen. The thatched roofs and tiny wandering streets are only a part of that which makes this island so special. The kites add the other dimension.



Opposite page, main picture: Barbara Bales.

Left inset: hand painted Washi.

Right inset: Just more stuff.

This page, main picture: Crazy Germans.

Top left inset: a kite by Erhard Kunzelmann.

Top inset: hand painted Washi.

Left inset: KAP lifter by Robert Trepanier.



Days are filled with flying kites, visiting other groups of flyers and imbibing the feeling that everybody wants to be there. With camera in hand, walking just 1 kilometre may take up to an afternoon by the time one takes photographs, chatting with friends or just hanging

out, laying back in the sand and watching the sky go past.

Evenings are the best part. The sun sets at about 10.30pm and that is the time to really relax and do what seems right at the time. My favourite evening pastime was taking a kite to the beach again and

flying while the sun was setting, discussing the ills of the world and sorting out cures for cancer, or deciding on the best way for world peace, all the answers seem to be there on Fano.

R.B.

Fano

Above: Fano sunset.

Inset: Stuffed toys expanded.

Main picture: Robert van Weers' bol, a fantastic creation.



Here is a small project that took **years** to reach fruition!

A story and project with poetic licence!

By Stephen Cook

How many years ago were we at a festival in Wanganui or somewhere and the delightful small boules made by Charlie Watson from disused umbrellas made their first appearance?

I don't know how long ago that it was, but I do know that since then I have had some spare umbrellas gathering dust in my garage for a few years. Yes time fairly flies by when there is a project to complete and a life outside of kites to live!

As a sometime – very rarely – kite maker and a fairly basic builder I usually look for and collect stuff for a simple project or two. Photocopy plans, scribbled notes, bits of fabric and line etc. But nothing much seems to get made because there is always something else to do.

This last year I did not go to Napier for a workshop, and it was an 'off-year' for Wellington, so nothing got made by me. But I must have had withdrawal symptoms and felt that I needed to do something, but what? And then clearing out I spotted a couple of golf umbrellas. Bought for about \$5 each at a sale with this project



A successful test flight.

in mind. And there they were – tightly rolled, dusty and cob webbed in a dark corner of my garage. I would make a couple of Boules as planned a long time ago!

But where to find a plan? I needed something to copy or follow being blessed with an impractical brain when it comes to kite making. So off to the 'net', but there seemed to be no info for converting umbrellas, no simple diagram, just a range of seemingly complicated projects.

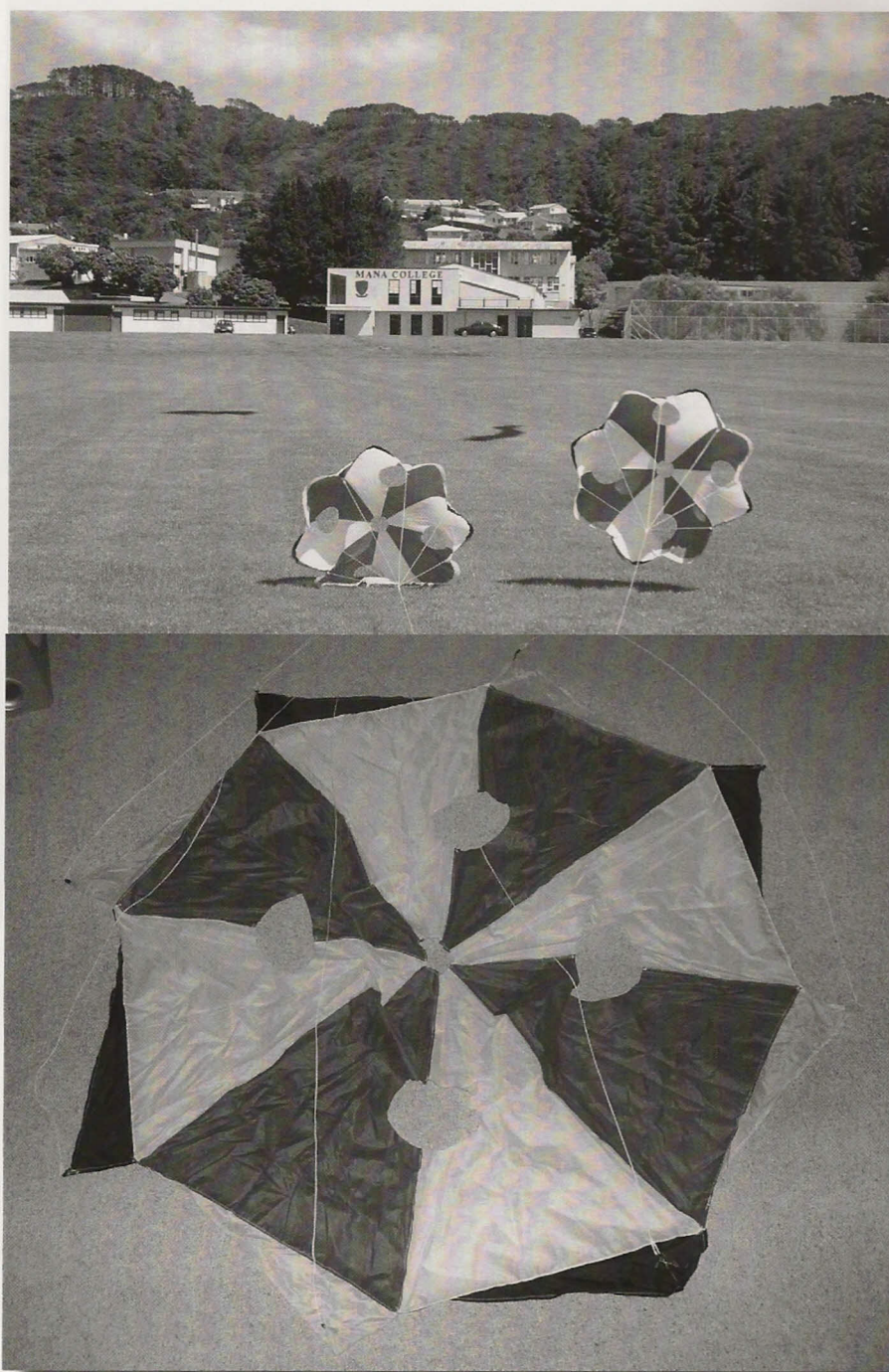
A quick e-mail to Charlie in Raglan and within a couple of days a very helpful email and pictures came winging its way to me. Was my reaction just

as quick? No, another couple of months went by before I eventually dusted off my resources and carefully cut off the frames, leaving a nice red and white set of skins.

Following Charlie's clear instructions I hot cut four 20cm holes around the inside, and

a smaller hot cut hole on the centre. A rough sewn row of stitching seemed to be enough to ensure the seams would not split where the panels joined. "No strengthening needed" said the man.

The technicalities of creating spin were a bit beyond me, but Charlie just said to use a right angle triangle at about a 4:1 ratio I made them in non matching colours and about 12cm by 50cm with a simple hem on the longest and shortest sides. Only remembered at the last minute to sew a few loops for line attachment – Charlie never mentioned that technicality! And after a false start I did eventually



Waitangi Day at Elsdon Park

learn to reverse the triangles to get contra rotating ground junk!

The lines attached at the join of each panel, and measure at least / about the diameter of the opened umbrella (or boule). Charlie said to use a very good quality swivel, so off to the Whitehead's to get some [and 'yes Peter – I will pay you ...']. After only about three weeks of very part time measuring and cutting and sewing and knotting I was ready. Waitangi Day at Elsdon Park Porirua, and a reasonable breeze. Would they work? Would they ever! – they 'flew', bounced, spun round, re-launched themselves, attracted kids and adults, and pulled much more strongly than I thought. No wonder umbrellas blow inside out in Wellington!

A simple project that succeeded, special thanks to Charlie Watson for the idea, the helpful email and allowing this story to be told. Hopefully the pictures give you an idea of this project. There is an old sun umbrella now gathering dust and cobwebs in the garage – watch this space in another five years or so!

A simple project that succeeded, special thanks to Charlie Watson for the idea, the helpful email and allowing this story to be told. Hopefully the pictures give you an idea of this project. There is an old sun umbrella now gathering dust and cobwebs in the garage – watch this space in another five years or so!

Kite Books for Kite Fliers

Over the years a wide range of kite books have been published. The following books will certainly give you some ideas to get you on your way should you need a kick start.

The Magnificent Book of Kites – Maxwell Eden

This is a good source book that covers everything from the anatomy of a kite, history, materials and a range of plans.

The Creative Book of Kites – Sarah Kent.

Another offering that covers kite history through to kite plans.

Kites – Ron Moulton & Pat Lloyd

This as the subtitle says 'is a practical book for the modern kite flier'. A good worth while collection of kite designs plus lots of extra reading.

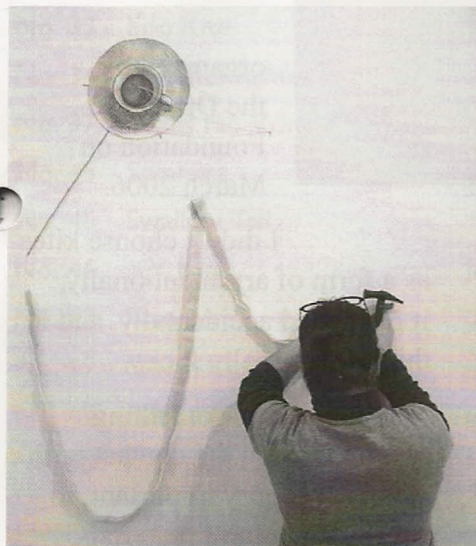
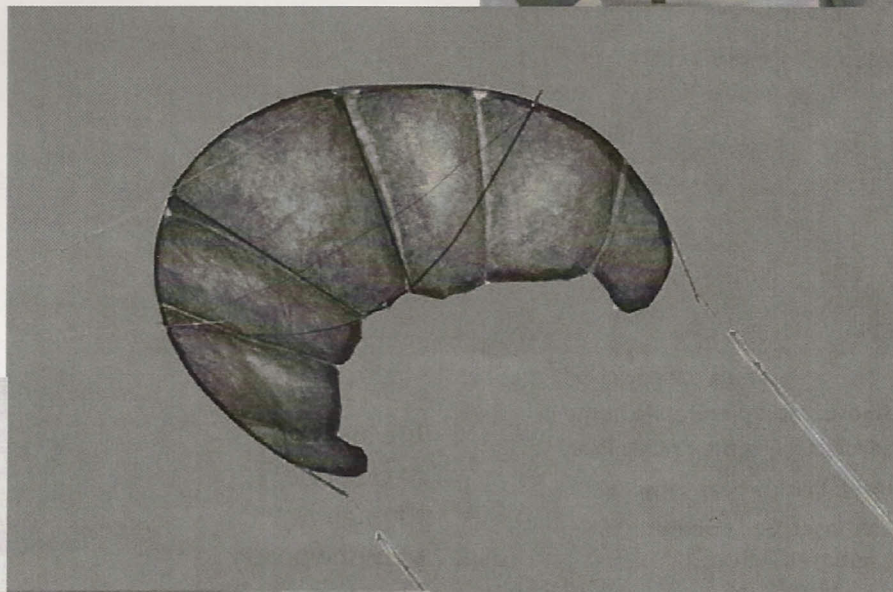
The internet also abounds with great kite sites to visit.

An Interlude with *Alessia Marrocu*

I first meet Alessia as a young teenager where she was travelling with her family to Cervia, Italy, years ago. Then she was a keen and observant young kite flyer but in later years has become a much loved and respected member of the kiting making fraternity in Europe. Although she has a relatively small body of work, she has developed a distinctive style of kite making. It is sensitive and considered, which is wonderfully refreshing in the current world of kiting where big and brash is seen as the measure of talent.

Alessia has just graduated from university and is working in the field of drama and speaks 4 languages fluently. Together with other young women kitemakers, she is creating a new genre of kite style, like feathers on the wind.

Robert Brasington



Top: Alessia Marrocu.
Above: Cerviaground.
Far left: "Paper in Flight".
Left: Vegetable in flight.

Alessia.

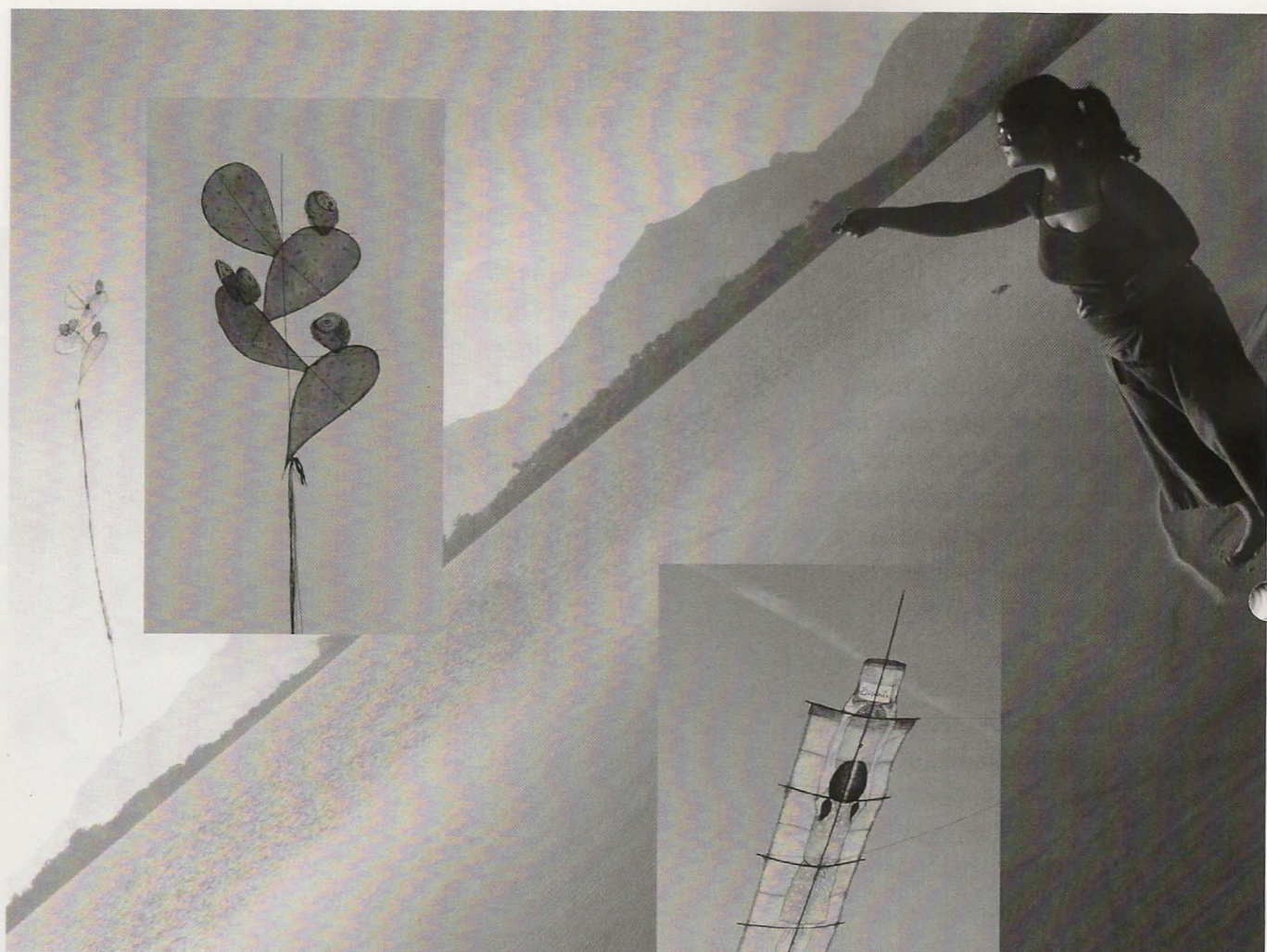
My name is Alessia Marrocu and I come from Sardinia, the Italian island in the middle of Mediterranean Sea.

My father started making kites when I was really small and I went with him and my family

to my first kite festival in 1996 when I was 10.

It was Cervia International Kite Festival in Italy, and it was my first real meeting with the world of art-kites.

I've been going there every year since, spending my time in the



Above, main picture: At home in Sardinia flying the Prickly Pear.

Inset: Prickly Pear, close up.

Left inset: Self Portrait.

workshop tent, with my nose on the tables where artists like Kisa Sauer, Robert Trepanier, Anna Rubin, Jan Houtermans, Daniela Zitzmann and others were working. In a few years I started working on my first kite-attempts, and I've been going ahead working with kites ever since.

I make kites in paper and bamboo and I paint them with ink; normally starting with the drawing and then I find a way to make it fly. Most of the times inspiration come from ordinary

life and I try to describe through my kites the poetry I see in a small

thing, which too often passes unnoticed; but sometimes I also like to work in abstract and start with the structure instead of the picture.

I get revelations every time I work on something new, or I look at someone else working, or sometimes just walking around or travelling you step into some revelation, without searching for it.

I can say that something really important for my growth was going to Japan for "Paper in Flight". It was an art project

organized by the Drachen Foundation on March 2006.

I didn't choose kites as a form of art intentionally, It happened accidentally, and I think I was really lucky...

Making kites is something special for me: the contact with elements is very important, to work with natural materials, the light coming through the colours, the wind...

And every time it make me feel like I am giving life to a new small creature, which I can feel living at the top of my line and which I can share with the wind.

Alessia Marrocu

What's Up Kite Plan Index

Plans

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No. 7	The Fled	Harry Luyk	No. 55	Simple Star Box	Anne Whitehead
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No. 49	Falcon Notes in 48	Jim Ayers			
No. 50	Kite plan reprint of No. 6	Harry Luyk			



kitefliers association

Visit us on the web

www.nzka.org.nz



DISCUSSION SITE.

By Allen Little

For some time I have been concerned about ways to reach the public to share the joy of Kite's. Like all organizations we need to stay alive and encourage beginners so I have been thinking of ways to do this. Aiming to make connections with the general public and capitalize on inquisitiveness I have set up a YAHOO group to foster and promote the enjoyment of Kites and Kite flying in New Zealand. I hope this group will introduce people to the various aspects of Kite making, flying and enjoyment.

Visit and subscribe to this new discussion group at <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/Kites-NZKA> Its free and fascinating to read but participation requires an active YAHOO account.

VISIT - <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/Kites-NZKA>

If you have any questions or concerns please email:

vision@inspire.net.nz

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.

A Kiwi Kite

1 a Sunshine Rise, Raglan.

Phone (07) 825 7290.

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

Raven Kites

1 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui.

Phone 06 348 5805, fax 348 5806.

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

Rainbow Flight Kites

Rainbow Flight Kites

19 North Rd.,

Nelson Phone/Fax (03) 548-8707

email: info@kitesrainbowflight.co.nz website: www.kitesrainbowflight.co.nz

SI, DI, C, Bu, F, Ka, Re, Kw, D, W, O, Kk, Ex.

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



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nzka.org.nz

Flying Sites/Regional Reps

Auckland

Bastion Point
Contact: Perrin at Kiteworks,
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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,
Phone: 07 348 3828,
mccullyr@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch (Last Sunday)

Hansen's Park, Opawa
Contact: Julie Adam,
Phone: 03 365 3907,
julie@kites.co.nz

Napier/Hastings (2nd Sunday)

Anderson Park, Greenmeadows
Contact: Sharon Russell,
Phone: 06 844 0689,
rj.russells@paradise.net.nz

Nelson (3rd Sunday)

Neale Park,
Contact: Ted Howard,
Phone: 03 548 8707,
kitesfun@ihug.co.nz

Palmerston North/Levin

Allen Little, Levin.
Home: 06 367 5900
Mobile 021 865 055
vision@inspire.net.nz

Clarks Beach (1st Sunday)

Stevenson Road Park
Contact: Jim Ayers,
Phone: 09 2320251

Wanganui (every Sunday)

Springvale Park
Contact: Richard Wotton,
Phone: 06 3432770,
rwotton@xtra.co.nz

Wellington (1st Sunday)

Ngatitoa Domain
Contact: Anne and Peter Whitehead,
Phone: 04 476 7227

