

What's Up?

The Newsletter for Kitefliers

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New Zealand Kitefliers Association Inc.
Visit our website at : www.nzka.org.nz

New Members

Jeltje Baas Holland

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The Dannevirke Lions are planning

a kite day on 18 October 2009.

To be held in the large playing field area at the northern end of the main street.

They would like this to become an annual event and include small kite workshops, if possible have kites for sale and so on.

They would like support from NZKA members to enable this to be a large public event. They are a very involved Club and will have local radio station and newspaper support for the event. Members are asked to support etc etc

Cheers Stephen Cook

Other upcoming events

Start saving for the 2010 AGM just out side of Christchurch at Easter. More details as they come to hand

Ohakea 6th September 2009

Wigram airfield October 2009

More information next issue to confirm dates and places. Also check the web site for changes and confirmations

What's Up?

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The cover photo is from Ray McCully and is of the infamous event staged by Anne Whitehead where she landed a pilot kite on the lamppost. This then became the point of interest for nearly all members attending the festival. Most glad that it was not them the focus of attention.

All unattributed articles by Peter Whitehead.



Presidents Words

This magazine will be filled with more photos than usual as I have only written small reports about some of the latest kitefllys.

We have had the AGM for the year and are starting to batten down the hatches for winter. I hope that I am not going to hibernate as much as last winter but get on and finish a couple of kites. I have some cut out and when we have tidied up in the workshop, hopefully I can get ready to make a lot more. I have some ideas and also some old kites to actually make work. See this space in autumn as to how well I have done.

After the AGM and commitment to traveling south we look forward to an AGM next year in the South Island somewhere near Christchurch.

Start saving now for next Easter and we are

starting to talk to the Eltham Lions about the AGM for 2011 being held at Eltham.

The Chateau January 2009

This year was a nice relaxed affair, with reasonably good flying.

There was the usual turn out of members, and a good contingent from the Tongariro Historical

Society. The great thing is that this is taking on a life of its own, and members of the public are returning year after year.

New Years day was a good flying day. Some members even went down to the field the next day, for another round of flying.

As usual the company was great and the setting spectacular.

On the day that we left the weather packed up and was really wet. We all look forward to this years event. The lodge is already booked, so I hope to see you there.





Visitors from Holland

The mother of Darfield resident Evelien Baas, Jeltje Baas, is in New Zealand with a new art project. Previously she has exhibited in the Darfield Art Gallery (2004) with acrylic paintings, portraits of people and cows as well as landscapes. In 2008 she has started a new series of children's and cow portraits with a twist, as they are painted on kites. The children's portraits have been exhibited in the air during the summer at kite festivals in Europe (The Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, France and the UK). Pictures of these kites can be found on www.jeltjebaas.nl.

The series of six cow kites are/will be painted in the Netherlands and in New Zealand. They will be a combination of 2-meter and 1 meter high Ohashi Edo kites. Last week Jeltje has visited Peter Lynn's kite factory in Ashburton to get more materials. Peter Lynn is world famous in Europe in the kite scene. In the factory they expressed amazement that Jeltje was painting on kites, as kites are usually made from materials in various colours sewn together to create a form or to create a picture through appliqué techniques. During the 18th annual Nelson Summer Kite Festival, which will be held from the 16th to 18th of January, these cow kites will get their first public outing.

The first finished cow kite had its first try out in a Darfield garden. Jeltje says "It is much harder to fly kites in New Zealand than I expected, the wind is gusty and seems to change direction all the time. In Europe we mostly had steady wind from one direction, even if the wind was very strong at times."

Evelien Baas

Tasmania 2009

We know we have found the perfect place to fly kites that is close enough to home to be affordable on a regular basis.

In 2006 Rosemary & I had joined the Tasmanian fliers at Robert Brasington's Binalong Kite Retreat weekend and then stayed on for the Devonport Festival the next weekend. It was great flying.

This February we again went to Tasmania along with John & Karen Whibley and Malcolm & Diana Hubbert. At Binalong we shared a 3 bedroom house with coastal views to the south for the weekend. The rocky coast of Binalong is amazing.

On the Saturday we flew kites on Taylors Beach (about 13km north of Binalong) in perfect winds that allowed multiple kites to be flown in a very small area. See Battle of Mountains deltas photo. About 15 fliers were flying approximately a 100 kites on 150m of beach that is so white it does not get hot and you must put sunscreen under your chin. Many fliers ran out of flying lines. The flying was followed by a BBQ at Robert and Traceys home.

On Sunday we went about 20km south to a river mouth at Scamander to fly on the beach south of the river. The flying was initially just as good but an approaching rain front was steadily increasing the wind strength. About 2pm we did the prudent thing and packed up.

The Binalong Retreat is marvellous flying in a beautiful location. Is there a downside? Of course, nothing is perfect – there are no toilets at Taylor's Beach so it is either the bush or a drive back to a beach closer to Binalong.

The following weekend we were in Devonport (the port of the Bass Strait ferries) for their annual kite day on the Sunday. A brief shower at the start washed the kites but then we settled down to day of good strong sea breezes that



due to coastal trees was a little lumpy. Kites flew all day except for the hour during which the Rotary Club had their helicopter teddy bear drop. Businesses and public "bought" bears and the closest bear to a marker won prizes.

We will be back in 1 or 2 years as we still have some more of Tasmania to see and Taylors Beach is kite heaven.

Ray & Rosemary McCully



Taupo AGM 2009

The Taupo festival was characterised by a lack of wind. On the Friday beside the Lake we had periods of wind, but also time when there was no wind.

The Saturday was taken up with the AGM in the morning and a team photo. Then trying to fly in the afternoon. The wind was light to variable, as evidenced by the fact that Anne Whitehead managed to land a lifter nicely onto a lamp standard. Well somebody had to do it. There is a photo on the front cover immortalizing this event with onlookers praising the Gods that it was not them that did this deed.

The Sunday was again plagued with light shifting winds. This was probably the first showing of Malcolm's large Rupert Bear kite.

I think we saw all of Ray's mountain kites at some stage or other over the weekend, but I don't think they all flew together. He had to wait to get to Tasmania to get them all flyin'g at once, but that's another story for elsewhere in the magazine.

It was nice to spend a little more time talking to members at the event than being tied up flying all the time. It was a good weekend.

We look forward to an AGM event in the South Island next year.





This page
Above Richard Wottons kite
Left Anne Whitehead and David
Bowies kites
Opposite page
Top Paul and daughter
Rupert Bear from Malcolm and Diana
Photos by Anne and Peter Whitehead

Nelson January 2009

The annual Nelson Summertime kiteday was held at Neale Park in Nelson. Again this was on Wellington anniversary weekend, so it works well for us from Wellington.

As usual Peter Lynn brought something special to the event. This time it was a large Edo kite that had been made in Holland for their festival. I understand they had been too afraid to fly the kite, so it was up to us.

The kite took a while to put together and then an even longer time to untangle the bridles. This kept the spectators and helpers amused and enthralled. Finally all was ready for the launch. The first effort ended in mild disaster with some of the wooden dowel extensions breaking. This was more spectacular from the sound point of view than it actually was. A few small repairs and we were ready again. This took a large group of helpers to hold the line and even more to hold both sides of the kite for launching. The launch went well next time and the kite rose into the air, and stayed there in a stable manner. We left the kite flying for about 2 minutes then slowly

lowered it to the ground.

While this had been happening at low levels and everyone had been engrossed a major 100 degree wind shift was occurring and all the kites were now coming down at the spectator end of the field. I believe that if we had not had this entertainment going on people would have seen the wind shift happening and started trying to save their own kites. By letting all the kites move on their own we had very few issues and only one set of kites in the sound system.

Apart from this Nelson was a great day on the Sunday. The Saturday had been a little too windy, so we left the field to the buggy people and enjoyed the company of fellow fliers.

Thanks once again for a great festival.



1. Robert van Weers new cat kite
 2. The Monster Edo from Holland
 3. The bridle tangle
 4. Anne is not the only one to snag a kite
- Photos by Anne and Peter Whitehead

Darebin Festival With Kites

The weekend after Devonport we were staying with relations in Melbourne and visiting our daughter. A council newsletter arrived in their letterbox Saturday and on the cover was “Darebin Family Kite Festival Sunday 10 to 5pm”. The park was 10 minutes up the road from our accommodation.

Off we went on the Sunday with the expectation of flying our kites one more time in Australia. We flew but not for long.

The Darebin Festival is in a large park surrounding a lake with the only flat area being inside an artificial surfaced athletic track. Luckily the wind was from the direction with the least trees. The Australian Kitefliers Association members were there with two pilots in the air, off which they flew a mini and midi bear. The AKS was paid A\$500 to take part.

We tried a delta and a mock foil but quickly decided after a 3 or 4 tangles and no clear area to relaunch that we would not be flying that day. We added our Van Weer’s Moorish idol and fish/anemone to one of the pilot lines for a couple of hours.

The flying area was packed with families and each child had a kite. (there really is a place for cheap Asian kites.) Lines and kites were going in all directions and there were the sounds of

families having fun. For the council organizers it was a very successful event.

After saying goodbye to Maggie Phillips and Joanne and Ricky Baker who we had met a few years ago in Thailand and Hong Kong, we left early afternoon.

Ray & Rosemary McCully



Trade Directory

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

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

Kiteworks

111 Symonds St. Auckland.

Phone/Fax (09) 358 0991

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

A Kiwi Kite

1a Sunshine Rise, Raglan.

Phone (07) 825 7290

Services offered: SL, DL, C, Bu, Re, Kw, D, Ex and RL.

Raven Kites

1 Victoria Avenue. Wanganui.

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

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

Rainbow Flight Kites

19 North Road, Nelson.

Phone/Fax (03) 548 8707

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

Website: www.kites-rainbowflight.co.nz

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

Skylines and Bylines

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

P.O. Box 2194, Christchurch.

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

Mobile (027) 431 7716

E-mail: julie@kites.co.nz

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

Hawkes Bay Kite Activities

Just to let everyone know Hawke's Bay is still flying its just we have someone who forgets to send bits into WhatsUp, so here's an update of what we've been up to since Ohakea.

October saw one of the local radio stations organise a kite day. It was good to see a lot of families out flying and we helped a few who were having difficulties with their kites. The following weekend saw the Brownies fly their kites that they had made over the previous weeks. Some flew well, others didn't but they were happy to have a go.

The second Sunday of the month has seen somebody on the field with their kites flying, with various degrees of success. Our young family across from the park (who in the past has supplied us with fresh piklets) have popped over with their kites or had a go with one of ours. Not members but a family happy to enjoy being and doing things together.

November saw the home made fly in Taupo that the Napier contingent tries to attend. It was good to catch up with everyone and the view of planes flying below kites is always interesting to watch. Those mad Taupo people ☺

Since a few of those who buggy were in Taupo it was decided that they would head up to Raglan for a day or two's buggying. The two lads had an enjoyable time zooming up and down the beach, though one found out that little puddles aren't that little in Raglan. After much cajoling one youngish lass had a run and by the end of it she was quite proud of herself. What made us east coasters envious of the lucky Raglan team is that they can buggy an hour after high tide, on the east coast we can only buggy an hour either side of low tide.

Waitangi saw everyone back in the big smoke, Taupo for the annual festival. A good site with a very accommodating club room manager. The wind didn't always play ball but there was more on Taupo's last day than there was at Napier's last day of flying at the previous festival.

As I write this Easter has just happened and we flew. It landed up being a social catch up standing around hanging onto a kite but that's all ok. It's just about be the end of the outdoor season (kite flying) with the indoor season (kite making) about to begin. Stay warm and we look forward to Ohakea – the start of the season and we'll see who was productive over winter, happy sewing.

Sharon Russell

Flying Sites/Regional Reps

Auckland

Bastion Point
Contact : Perrin at Kiteworks
Ph 09 358 0991
kiteworks@xtra.co.nz

Bay of Plenty

Fergusson Park, Tauranga (3rd Sunday)
Lake front by Sound Shell, Rotorua (only when the wind is off the lake) Taharepa Reserve on the lake front at Taupo
Contact : Ray McCully,
Ph 07 348 3828
mccullyR@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch (Last Sunday)

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

Napier/Hastings (2nd Sunday)

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

Nelson (3rd Sunday)

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

Palmerston North

Ongley Park

Clarks Beach (1st Sunday)

Stevenson Road Park
Contact : Jim Ayers
Ph 09 232 0251

Wanganui (Every Sunday)

Springvale Park
Contact : Richard Wotton
Ph 06 343 2770
rwotton@xtra.co.nz

Wellington (1st Sunday)

Ngatitua Domain
Contact : Anne and Peter Whitehead
Ph 04 476 7227

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2009 Committee

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