

TASKITE



Issue 31, Spring 2003

Quarterly Newsletter of KITE FLYERS of TASMANIA



Gerard Clement cell kite at Long Beach

WHO'S WHO?**President**

Robert Brasington
groundzerokites@tassie.net.au

Vice President

Flocky Bock

Secretary/Public Officer

Malcolm Dick
PO Box 615
Devonport 7310
devonport@stallards.com.au

Treasurer

David Geer
PO Box 22
Rosny Park 7018
dgeer@mrt.tas.gov.au

Committee

Lynden Dorrington
Avril Flewellen
Rodger Willows
Chris Thomas

Life Members

Helma Stevenson
Kent Stevenson
David Chandler

Membership Fees

Single	\$20
Family	\$25

Please forward to The Treasurer

FLY DAYS

1st Sunday of the month
Queen's Domain – Hobart
12pm onwards
Rodger Willows 0427 278 640

2nd Sunday of the month
Meercroft Park – Devonport
2pm onwards
Dot Priestly 6424 4803

3rd Sunday of the month
Binalong Bay Beach – St Helens
10am onwards
Robert Brasington 6376 1667

4th Sunday of the month
Show Ground – West Ulverstone
2pm onwards
Avril & Ian Flewellen 6425 2242

EDITOR'S CORNER

Welcome to the Spring edition of *Taskite*.

Inside you'll find reports from visits to overseas festivals from Rob Brasington and Ian & Avril Flewellen.

For those wondering about the nuances of wind speed Flocky has contributed an article which may help??????

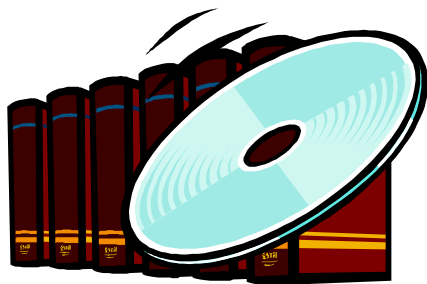
As always, a call for contributions to the next issue... I can be contacted at:

813 Sandy Bay Rd
Sandy Bay 7005

pbaynes@iprimus.com.au

6225 0291

CLUB LIBRARY



The club has a number of resources that you may find interesting and helpful.

There are back issues of the magazines from the Australian Kite Association and the Australian Kite Society. These contain many interesting photos articles and kite plans.

The library also has a copy of the A.K.A CD-ROM which contains all the early newsletters of that Association. There is lots of interesting kite information to be found here. Also available is a CD-ROM with 4 issues of the Drachen Foundation Journals .

Recently Kent Stevenson has donated his collection of magazines to the library for loan. David Chandler has also loaned his magazine collection to the library for members to borrow.

To borrow, or place a hold on, any items please contact Rodger Willows 6224 6433 (home) and he will organise your "loan".

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fee notices have been sent to all members in accordance with the proposal approved at this year's AGM.

Please ensure all due payments reach David Geer at your earliest convenience.



BIRD KITES

Have you started your bird kite yet? Plans are still available from the secretary (Malcolm 64278590)

If you need help bring your kite to the next festivals for help from Avril or Malcolm

If you have successfully completed a bird kite(s) then bring them and fly them with other members in a flock.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello everyone and welcome to the spring edition of Taskite.

Suddenly the kite-flying season is with us again and I hope you have had time to finish that special kite project that you planned last autumn to complete over winter. Ah! So easy to plan but to find the time to get it done.

I do know that there are a few members who completed their little projects and the fruits of their labours will be seen shortly at the October and November festivals. The national and international kite festivals have attracted some of our members to attend them, and Cheryl and Linden, Avril and Ian, Greta and Ken, and Robert and Tracey have been traveling to festivals, and meeting up with new kite flying friends, and discovering and learning all about new kites.

Your club committee also has been busy over winter and since the A.G.M have had productive meetings to discuss the aims and objectives of the club. Please take the time to complete the enclosed questionnaire and send it back to me or hand it to me at the Launceston festival. The committee is planning a programme of workshops, social and flying events during the coming year and is keen to seek your input and suggestions.

You have all received by now a notification asking you to forward your remittance to make your membership fee extend to the end of June 2004. Thank you to those members whom acted quickly and sent their form back by return post. There are still a number of members who have not responded and the treasurer, David, has asked that you get your form filled out and send it with your remittance to him as soon as possible. There is also the opportunity to give the form and the fee to your treasurer at the Launceston or Hobart festivals.

Publicity is an important issue for any club. The public needs to see that there is an active kite club in Tasmania . We need to be seen so that we can grow our membership base. Starting at the Launceston festival the committee would ask you to assist in some simple promotional ideas that only need your cooperation. At past festivals we tend to park the car, leave the kites in it, and just go out onto the field with one kite and fly. When you stop and think about this, we are just another of the hundreds of kite flyers attending the festival. No club identity, nothing to make the other kite flyers think " hey! there is a kite club, I must check that out, I'm interested!"

At future festivals it is planned to rope off a small section of ground, and members are asked to bring their kites to this area, and to make their base in this area. We will put up the club banner (also the gazebo if the wind is suitable), an information board, make membership information available and have a static display of kites that we don't intend to fly on the day. Kites for the static display will be fixed to the "fence" of the area. Members are encouraged to talk to any one who shows interest in the display about the kites and the club.

Members are requested to assist with handing out membership information pamphlets at 1 p.m. on the day.

We intend to make a walk through the crowd and flying field handing out the pamphlets. This should only take ten minutes so it won't adversely affect your flying time.

The committee believes that by implementing these simple ideas, the club can gain valuable publicity and exposure.

Our public liability insurance covers only claims arising out of accidents to third parties. Claims can only be made if the event is a sanctioned club event. The club 's public liability excludes any claims made involving kite buggies or kite surfing or power kites used in these activities. If you are involved in an accident and you are using a buggy, a power kite or are surf kiting, then the club isn't interested, you need your own private insurance. If you plan to run a kite workshop, or attend a function and fly a kite and would like this activity to be a club sanctioned event then you **MUST** advise me (your secretary) **PRIOR** to the event **NOT** after an accident occurs. If you are not sure on what the club public liability covers then I welcome the chance to show you the policy and to discuss it with you, especially if you intend running a kite event which involves the club name.

Thank you, to all those members involved in getting this issue of Taskite together and distributed. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by all.

Best regards, see you soon

Malcolm.

EVENT DATES

Saturday 11th. October - fly at **BURNIE** opposite Australian Paper Mill 11:00am.

Saturday 18th. October - fly at **WYNYARD** yacht club (Tulip Festival) 11:00am.

Sunday 26th. October - **LAUNCESTON KITE FESTIVAL** at Heritage Forest 11:00am.

Turn east off Invermay Rd and go to the end of Forster St. until you come to Churchill Park Club members are requested to arrive around 10:00am to help set up the Club enclosure, put up banner, gazebo and kite display
At 1 p. m. we will hand out publicity and information to as many people as we can in 10 minutes.

Saturday 1st November - **KFT DINNER** at Wentworth Park Howrah 6:30pm.

KITE AUCTION will be held in conjunction with the dinner so please bring or send along an item to go into the auction.

Sunday 2nd November - **HOWRAH KITE FESTIVAL** Wentworth Park 10:30am.

Club members are requested to arrive around 10 a.m. to help set up the Club enclosure, put up banner, gazebo and kite display. At 1:00pm we will hand out publicity and information to as many people as we can in 10 minutes.

Boxing Day 26th December- **DEVONPORT**, Meercroft Park 11:00am onwards. BBQ lunch at noon BYO food and drink.

Saturday February 14th, 2004 – **DEVONPORT**, Meercroft Park 2:00pm pre -festival fly. **ULVERSTONE**, BBQ that evening at 6:30pm.

Sunday February 15th. 2004 - **DEVONPORT "KITES OVER THE BLUFF 2004"**



Amaznig !!!

Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttær in what oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a total msees and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

ANTWERP'S VLIEGERFEEST, 2003

Ian & Avril Flewelen

While on holidays in Belgium visiting family we had the opportunity to attend the Antwerp Single Line Festival in Antwerp, Belgium. As we had prior commitments we missed the first day, but turned up on the evening of Saturday the 16th to see the night-fly.

There were huge open marquees which served as an undercover central area housing children's kite-building area, display of kites, refreshments and announcement area. In front of the marquee long tables, chairs and umbrellas were made use of by a mixture of kite-flyers from many nationalities all enjoying the balmy weather and the opportunity to exchange kiting stories. All around the boundaries there were tents and campervans where people, clubs and vendors had settled in for the weekend. Reggae/techno music filled the air adding to the festival atmosphere. The only thing missing was the wind!

The Festival was celebrating its 10th Anniversary and consistent with other years – bar one – a lack of wind! There was a light-fluttering breeze, but we were told this was regarded as a hurricane in Antwerp. Wind and Antwerp are not generally used in the same sentence. This did not seem to distract from the atmosphere or the occasion but there was enough breeze to launch the faithful deltas and block of flats.

We were made really welcome by the organisers Frank Coenraets and Guy van Acker. We asked if there were any areas we could not fly in and were advised that “there is a highway over there – don't fly on the highway. And there is a lake over there – don't fly on the lake”. We could accept these terms having seen the drivers in Antwerp. Tasmanians are considered laid back, but I think these guys could teach us a few tricks.

As the daylight faded breeze picked up enough to launch about six illuminated and reflective night kites. Entertainment continued on the ground with fire-twirling and fire-eating. Volunteers were called for a crash course in fire-breathing which all added to the atmosphere. Ian reneged the offer, valuing his beard too much. Obviously, public liability is not as restricting in Belgium. The festival goers still had plenty to talk about and were settled in a late night, as we headed for home.

Sunday proved to be a better day with about 800 people and light wind of about 5 mph. We had more success getting our flock of six cockatoos up which caused a lot of interest. We were welcomed back to the festival with a showbag of refreshments to keep us going through the day. We mingled with the flyers and spectators, communicating as best the language barrier would allow. There were 3 or 4 Schweinman deltas flying. These were constructed at a workshop to celebrate the 20 year anniversary of a Belgium Kite Club.

Someone once told me that “nice people fly kites”, and I think this carries worldwide. We met one man from Britain who had been coming to Belgium for the past 22 years and hadn't flown a kite for 19 years! He said he enjoyed the company and just hadn't stopped coming yet. Another man had been coming over from England for 17 years and flies someone else's kites. Great! The afternoon passed too quickly and we enjoyed the diverse range of kites, the wind gardens and the new contacts.

At the end of the day we were privileged enough to witness our first real fighter kite competition. It was won by a Malaysian flyer who we were told was world champion two years ago (sorry about the lack of a name). We were lucky enough to be given a running commentary by someone who knew far more about the tactics than we did.

The finale of our day was along with all that we had gained and experienced from the time at the Festival, we won the People's Choice Award for our six cockatoos. We have added to our collection a copy of Art in the Sky – if anyone would like to translate this from Japanese or Dutch – we would be most appreciative. The pictures are beautiful and we are very humbled by the presentation.



LONG BEACH, October 2003

Robert Brasington

The twentieth Long beach festival held last month in Washington State was, without a doubt, held in the best flying conditions the event had ever experienced.

Tracey and I have been visiting the event now an irregular basis now for more than 12 years and the weather was not just good, it was brilliant. This can make or break a festival on the peninsula, as when the weather is bad, it can be really bad, forcing all from the beach with gale force Alaskan winds.

We got to fly every day for the 7 days of the event, and the flyers and crowd turned out in force filling the beach and the skies. The international guests this year were Claudio Capelli from Italy and Gerard Clement from France. Both are very well respected for their art. Claudio is a working artist and uses kites as his platform, loose bold strokes painted on to the skin, difficult to interpret until up in the sky. Gerard's work involves an eclectic mix of old and new, primitive and complex. He is also very well known as author of books on kiting.

The organisers of the festival work extremely hard to get the event together and on any day a new group of coordinators are put together to make the event happen. Each day has its theme and all the kite flyers seem to join in on making an event for themselves, not necessarily the public. I am always amazed at the spirit of kiting that bonds the Washington State flyers together. Thursday is hand crafted day, the day when the all the kites built throughout the year are put to the judges scrutiny. About 14 categories are assessed and our old friend John Freeman was successful the Masters division of the Flat and Bower section, seen by many as the toughest to win.

Roll on Long Beach 2004; it's going to be hard to better this one!



LONG BEACH, October 2003 Robert Brasington



Above Left: Barry Poulter
Above Right: Gerard Clement cell kite
Below: Dan Kurahashi



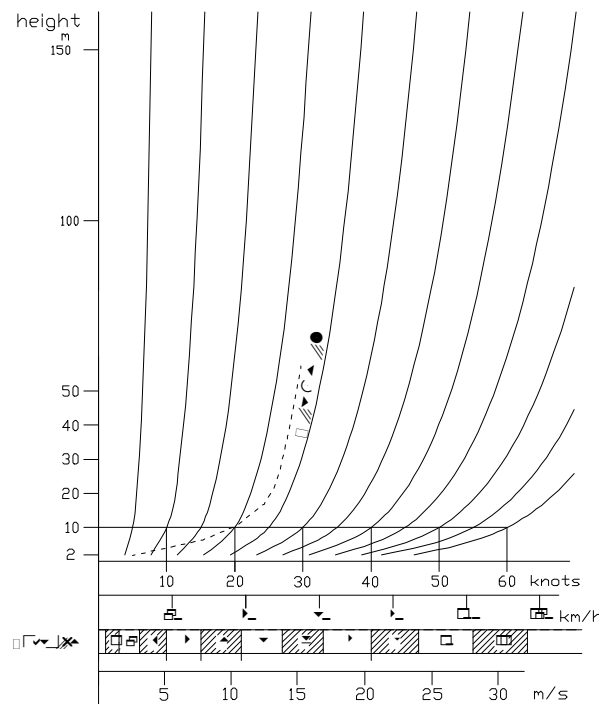
WIND PROFILES "Flocky" Bock

Any flier knows that the wind is stronger higher up, but I often wondered how much stronger it really is. The wind profile published in Moulton looked somewhat unrealistic, however it proved difficult to obtain any data at all. The weather frogs record only the wind speed at 10m and the airport guys are not interested what happens below 50m. I got some help from a maritime friend who supplied a table of wind speeds, but that was distorted at sea level due to increasing wave height and only reached up to 40m. Finally at Agfest 2003 I met Lawrie Marsh from the Bureau of Meteorology Hobart. This amazing chap not only remembered a power law for wind profiles on the spot but also was able to locate and subsequently copy for me a paper concerning the matter presented to a conference in 1965! Thank you Lawrie, I wish my memory were that sharp.

Out of a lot of information and source notes I found the complex general boundary layer formula can be simplified to an exponential parabola expressed in the power-law

$$\frac{v_h}{v_{10}} = \left(\frac{h}{10} \right)^\alpha$$

where v_h and v_{10} are the mean wind speeds at h metres and the standard height of 10 metres, and α varies from about 0.1 to 0.4 depending on the nature of the terrain. Measurements from Deacon in Australia found that for mean wind speeds an index of $\alpha=0.16$ fits gently rolling grazing land with a few trees very well up to a height of 300m disregarding the fist couple of metres of the boundary layer. This also closely matched the marine table I had, therefore I used it in preference to the value of 0.17 generally adopted by the British meteorologists. To save you tedious calculations and give a visual evaluation I have displayed various profiles in a graph entering selected speeds at 10m height.



WIND PROFILES

"Flocky" Bock

In the flying range below Beaufort 7 the rise from the speed at 3m to the speed at 50m is below 40%, far less than Moulton indicates. The graph also confirms the sad experience that in light winds (below Beaufort 3) a kite that won't stay aloft after it was run up to 20m has no chance to fly since the small wind improvement with height is gobbled up by additional line weight. On the other hand -since the line pull increases with the square of the wind speed- a large kite in Beaufort 6 which seemed to be fairly controllable at 3m pulling only 10 kp per square metre can become a fearsome hand full with 23 kp per square metre at 60m height and even for a big guy 3m² kites are the limit.

Remember that this graph is for open country only; bush, built up areas and mountain landscapes will have quite different profiles again with a lot more turbulent squalls in the first couple of hundred meters. But that does make flying just interesting!

