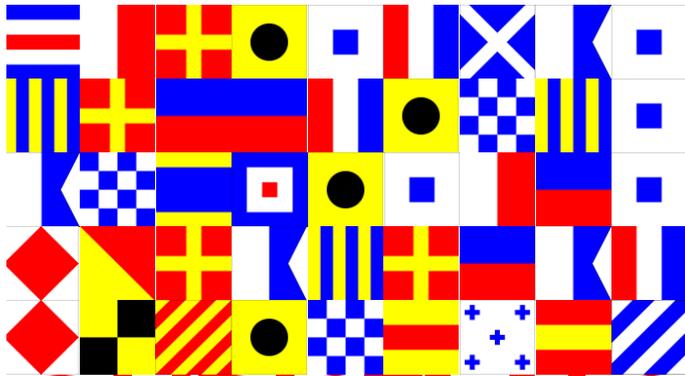
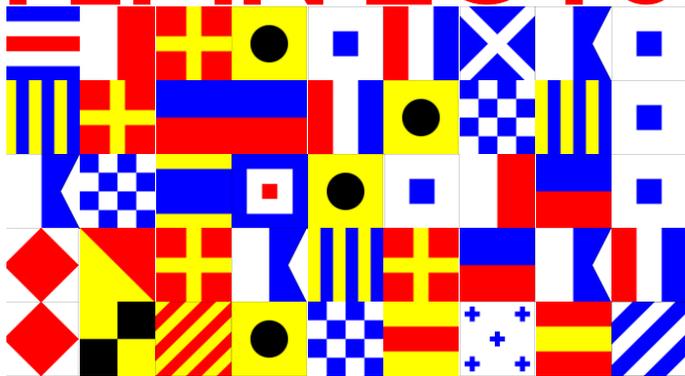


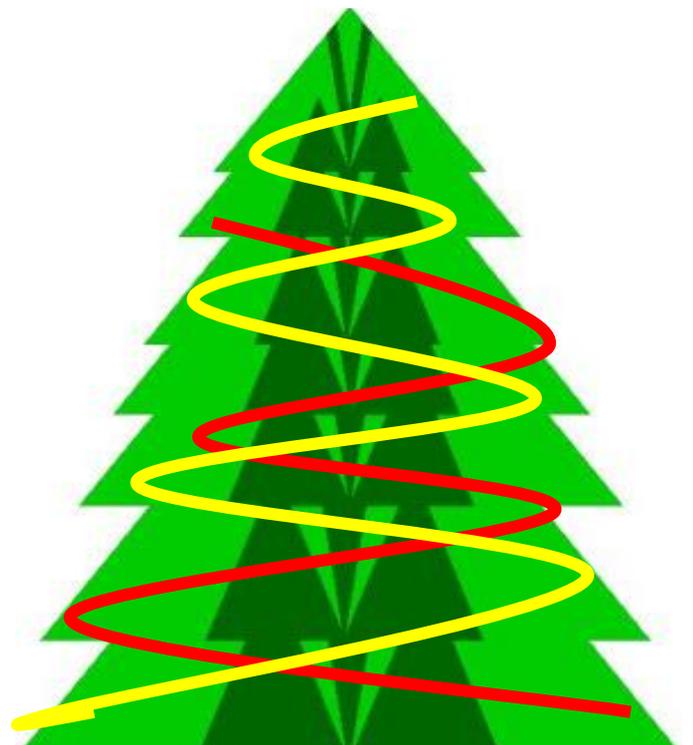
CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 2015

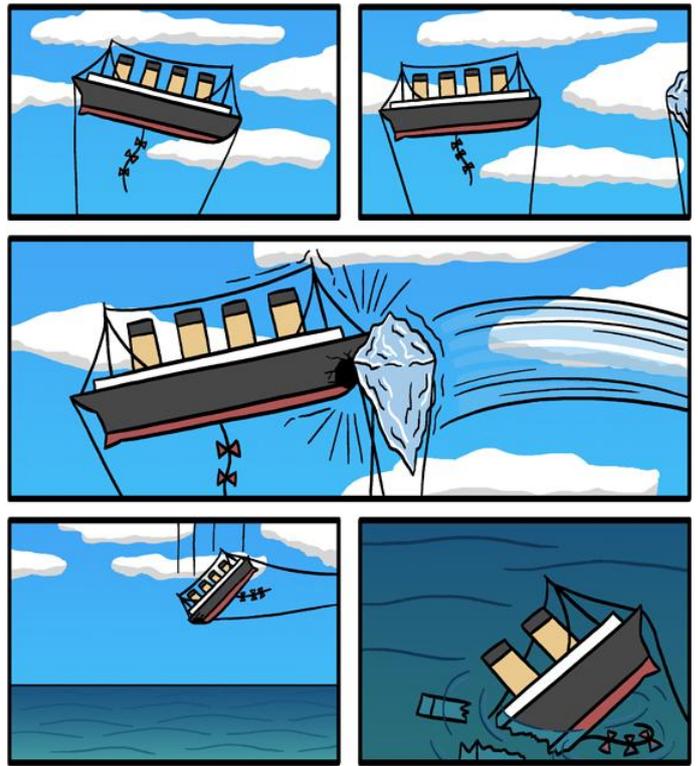
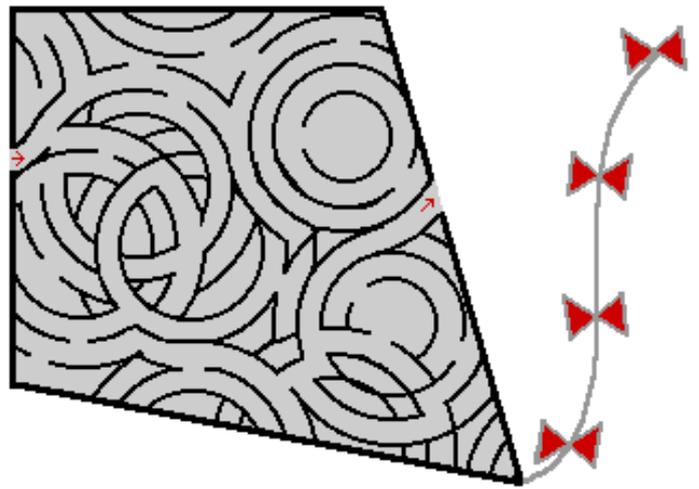
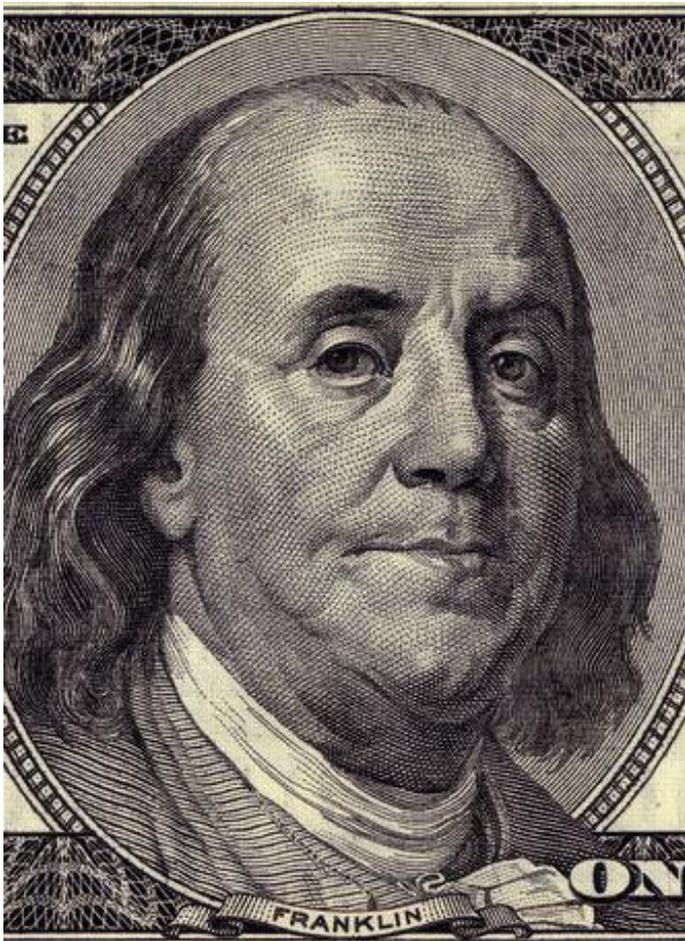


CHRISTMAS  
GREETINGS  
AND WISHES  
FOR A GREAT  
FLY IN 2016



Featuring FIR TREE KITE BY ENGLEBERT SIMON  
CELLULAR ART KITES - NUREMBURG 2004





## QUOTABLE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Benjamin Franklin said a lot of memorable things, but do you know which of these famous quotes he said? Read the following ten quotes and mark 'True' beside the ones that were really said by Benjamin Franklin. (Hint: There are six quotes in the list by Benjamin Franklin.) When you find one that wasn't, give yourself an extra bonus point if you can name who actually said it.

True/False: The following were said by Benjamin Franklin.

1. Remember that time is money. T / F
2. We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately. T / F
3. The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest. T / F
4. Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise. T / F
5. Work as if you were to live a hundred years, pray as if you were to die tomorrow. T / F
6. The best and only safe road to honour, glory and true dignity is justice. T / F
7. If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace. T / F
8. They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety. T / F
9. Wish not so much to live long as to live well. T / F
10. Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? T / F

*Just received; Advice for the Editor*

## Guidelines for Bureaucrats:

1. When in charge, ponder.
2. When in trouble, delegate.
3. When in doubt, mumble.

James Boren, writer, in The New York Times (1970)



# SPINNER BEARINGS FOR?!

We were trying to find a Spinner bearing suitable for a medium Sized Bol or Wind wheel. The fact that a good sized sealed bearing swivel would cost \$50 was not encouraging when we added the import cost it seemed even worse. I looked at Skate bearings but they did not seem to accept large lateral Forces being designed mainly for speed of rotation.

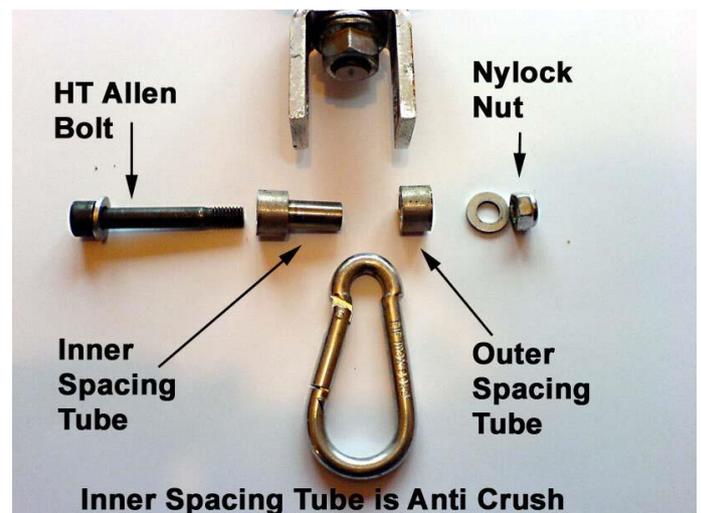
Ivan had an old racing bicycle front wheel and without saying anything about it stripped out the spokes cleaned up the spoke holes, stripped, cleaned and re-greased the bearings and cones, and made a clever bracket for the other end ending in a fairly tough carabineer. He used 1.2mm thick Bridle through the holes at the other end to attach the Bol to. The wheel bearing at least uses a cone and ball which looked more likely to accept the lateral load and was easy to fix if it went wrong.

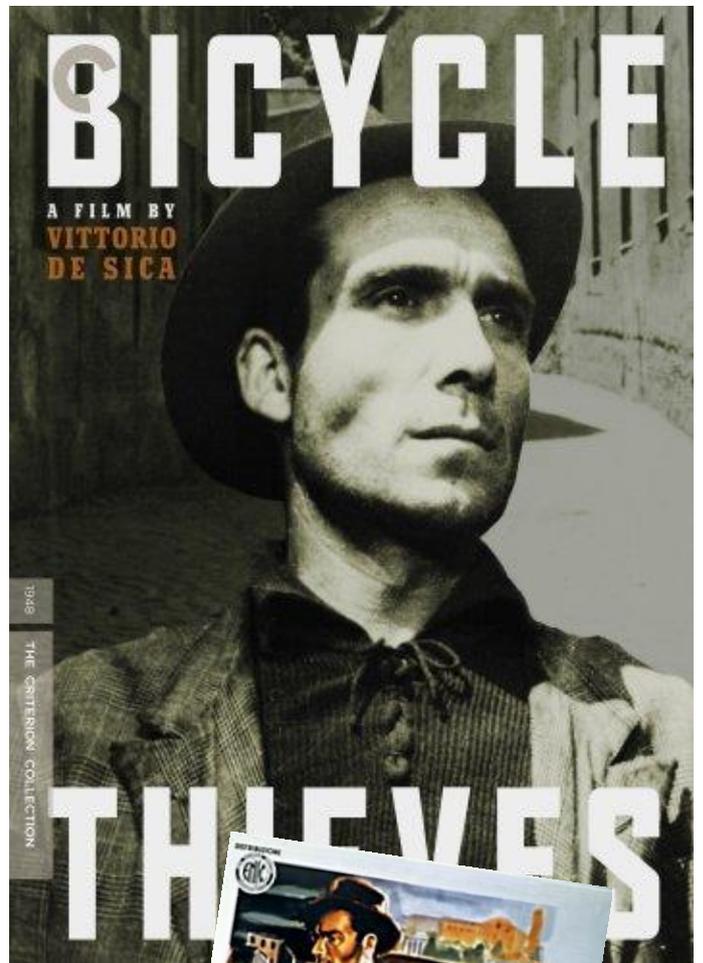
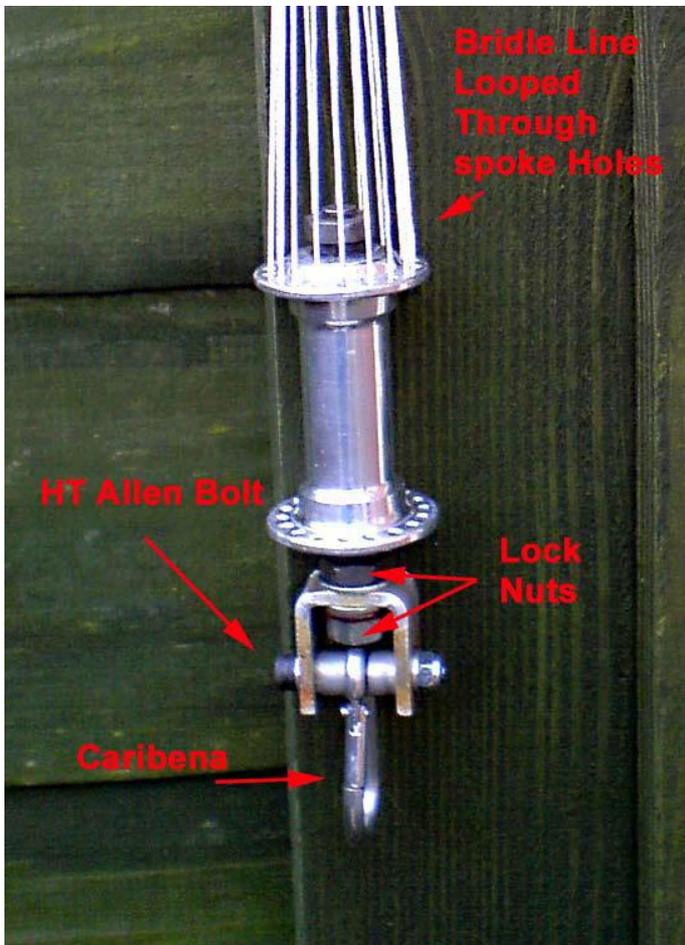
We had finished a Jan Claes 24 panel rotor in .6GSM Rip-stop (Very light Stuff) and took it out to the field. It worked really well providing no twist in the line at all with the light winds that the rotor seems to like. In strong wind the rotor has a tendency to judder but the wheel bearing accepted the force very well. So in the following week we kept an eye on the hedgerows for duff bikes or discarded wheels as I liked the rotor so much I wanted another swivel so I could build another bol and we could put two out at the same time. After a week with no sign of a junk wheel being found I approached my local bike shop. I asked if I could purchase another hub and the owner said no they did not stock them ...But he would have a look at the Junk Wheels he had for a couple of front ones he disappeared out of a door I had never seen him open before and after several moments of loud clanging emerged again with two front wheels. I asked him how much he wanted and he said "nothing they are only junk". I thanked him warmly and

made my way home.

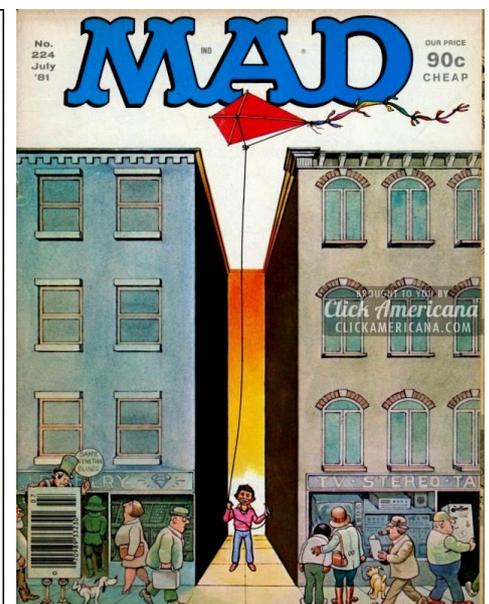
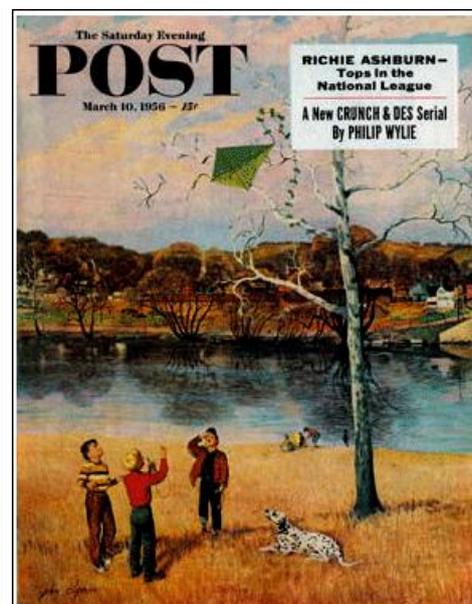
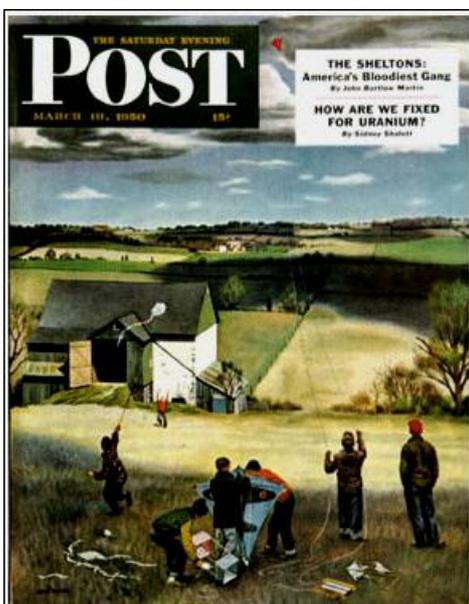
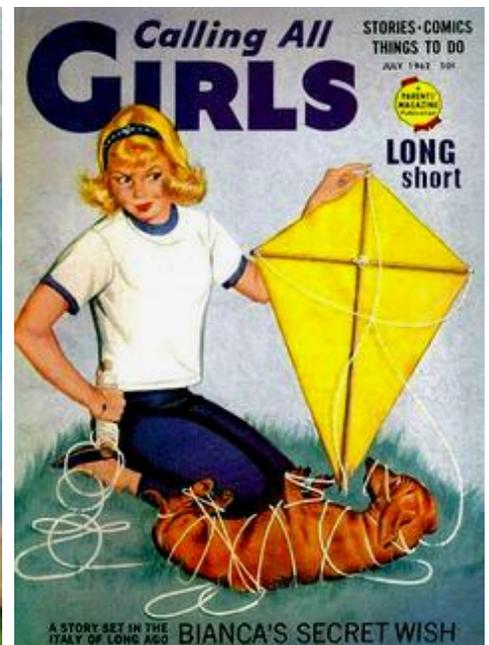
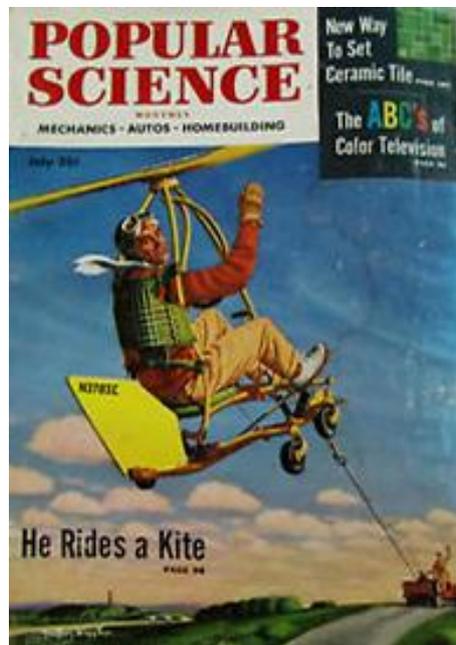
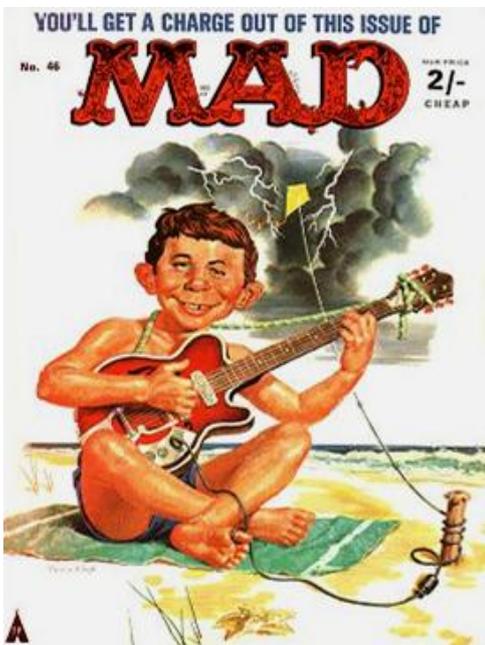
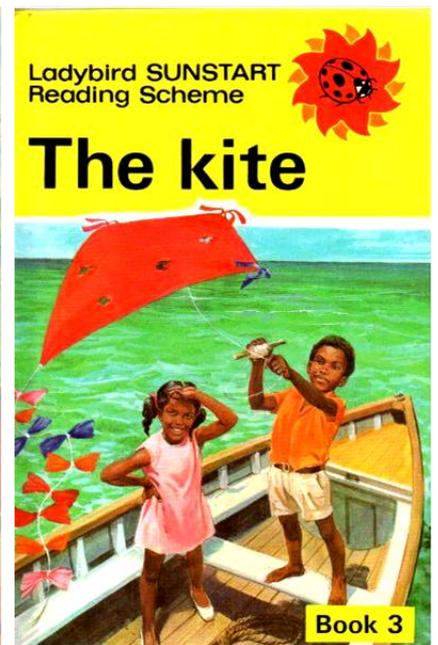
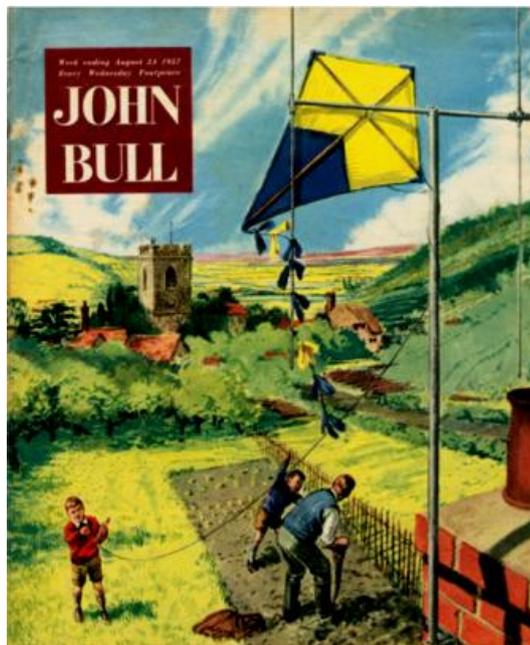
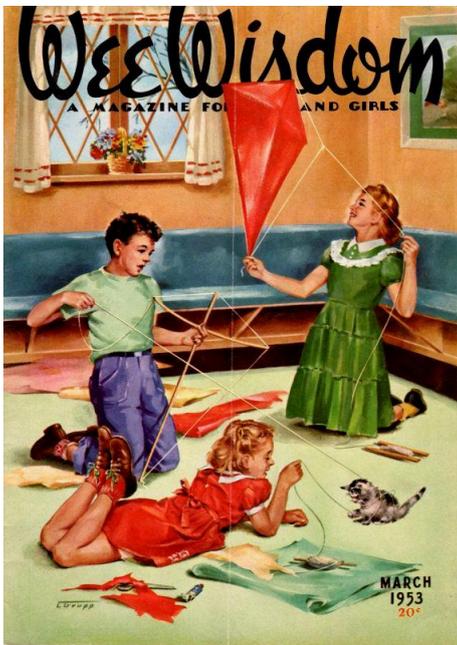
I removed the spokes cleaned the hubs up and handed them over to Ivan to perform his miraculous transformation on one. The second hub had a different spindle diameter to the first he made but he spotted this and made a bracket as good if not better than the first. So now we have two which cost us ....nothing and seem to work well. All the materiel's used where "at hand" Ivan bought nothing to make these up.

There are some caveats to using them however. We used racing bike aluminium alloy hubs as the steel ones where too heavy. They are not as light as a "normal" bol spinner so having them thrashing about at the end of a rope did not seem wise. So we tend to put them next to the stake and have the whole length of rope rotate. Also the bearing is **not sealed** so it is unwise to put them in with your precious rip-stop creations we keep ours separate with the stakes. We don't know the upper limits of the lateral forces these bearings will allow (bols are powerful things) so we are keeping ours fairly small for the moment If I manage to destroy one I will let you know but for the moment persistence and Ivan's good engineering have paid off.





Thanks to The 'Kwombles'  
(Dave Salmon and Ivor)... Ed.



A SELECTION OF RATHER DATED MAGAZINE COVERS.....

# DONATIONS TO THE MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS

Last year the Midlands Kite Fliers received donations from three+ Kite Fliers.

Kites and line were donated by Terrance Beese of Brierly Hill, Dudley. These are to be auctioned at the next Annual General Meeting to raise funds for our charity – The Midlands Air Ambulance Service.

Another large collection of kites+ was donated by the widow of Ron Randall of Coventry. These were sold off to members at several fly-ins over the late summer. Several other pieces were sold at the AGM (1) raising over £250.00 for our charity.

One kite was donated to a young man who attends our Coton Park fly-ins. It bought a tear to the eye of whose members present to see the enjoyment in his face as he flew his new kite..... I know Ron's widow would have been very pleased to see him flying.....

Lastly thanks to Chris Addicott of Melton Mowbray for the kites that he sold to the club, which were then sold on to members adding to the funds to go to the charity.

\*Several kites were also donated at the AGM (1) which also boosted our final donation to the Air Ambulance of over £250.....

Many thanks to everyone for both donating and buying. Ed.

**BY KITE FLIERS  
FOR KITE FLIERS  
WITH KITE FLIERS  
ABOUT KITE FLIERS**

## QUOTEABLE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

### ANSWERS

1. True
2. True
3. False (Thomas Jefferson)
4. True
5. True
6. False (George Washington)
7. False (Thomas Paine)
8. True
9. True
10. False (Patrick Henry)

© Bonnie Rose Hudson with thanks.....



A BIG 'CHRISTMAS' HINT TO THE  
THEME OF YOUR NEXT NEWSLETTER,  
DUE IN JANUARY 2016



# KITE WORKSHOP HANDBOOK

GLENN DAVISON



This handbook gives you the opportunity to spread the joy of building and flying kites with a quick result even if someone has never built a kite before.

Your biggest reward will be the smiles on the faces of your students when they see their kite in the sky.

You'll have all the resources needed to begin. This book contains details showing you how to speed preparation, how much to charge, how to advertise, and where to find the best materials and kits.

Seven different kite plans are included along with a special section about designing your own kites.



# NEW KITE BOOKS

## KITE WORKSHOP HANDBOOK

Glenn Davison

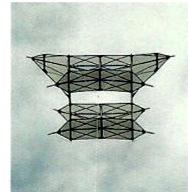
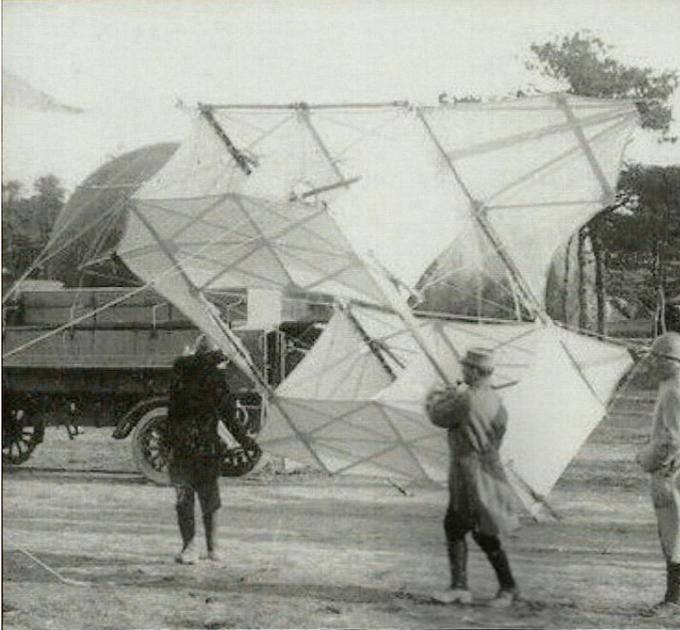
Glenn Davison is the author of Indoor Kite Flying, reviewed recently. He is also responsible for several American Kitefliers Association publications, including 'How to Fly a Kite' and 'Kites in the Classroom'. Both of which are readily available on the internet. (If you have any problem tracking them down send me an email.....

Both books leave a little to be desired, good ideas rather poorly presented, unlike his AKA publication. Still worth a look, if workshops are your thing. Both are available via Amazon for just over £5.00.....



# Les Aérostiers Cerf-volistes

dominique cotard



Nous n'avons pas voulu faire un livre d'histoire, ni un récapitulatif des dates importantes dans l'évolution du cerf-volant. Nous avons voulu simplement consigner par écrit le résultat de nos recherches sur le thème du rôle du cerf-volant durant la guerre 14/18.

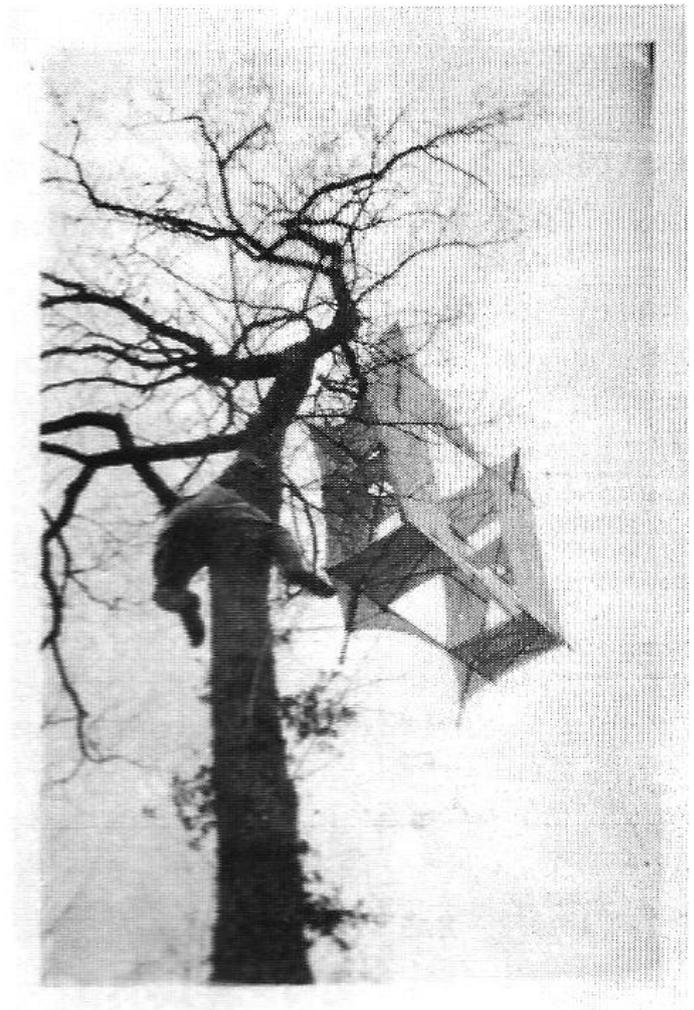
Nous n'avons pas voulu, dans cet ouvrage, froisser, ni être désagréable avec qui que ce soit, historiens, éditeurs, anciens combattants. Nous voulons simplement essayer de vous faire partager la joie que nous avons ressentie lors de nos recherches, d'apprendre l'histoire du cerf-volant, et surtout sa grande utilité dans son rôle militaire, durant la première partie de la Grande Guerre.

Il est vrai que nous avons lu beaucoup de magazines, de livres, pour certains passages, nous nous sommes inspirés des articles, surtout sur le paragraphe de l'origine du cerf-volant ainsi que de son utilité scientifique.

Pour ce qui est de la troisième partie, nous remercions chaleureusement les services des archives militaires de la Défense (SHAA), qui nous ont permis l'accès à certains écrits, photographies, mais surtout de pouvoir les utiliser.

Bonne lecture à TOUS.

ISBN 978-1-291-65824-8



The one photograph from the book I couldn't help but reproduce here.....

*"What did you do in the Great War Daddy?"*

A fantastic book for the 'real' enthusiast. It is written in French which will put a few people off, but there is so much content, that I have been riveted for hours using my school boy French to slowly try to understand what happened in the Great War.

Available from Lulu.com it cost just under £20.00 with post and packaging. My copy arrived within four days.....



The 'Midlands Kite Fliers' meet at Cofton Park on;

- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2016
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2016
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (Mothering Sunday)
- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016
- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016
- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - OSOW
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016

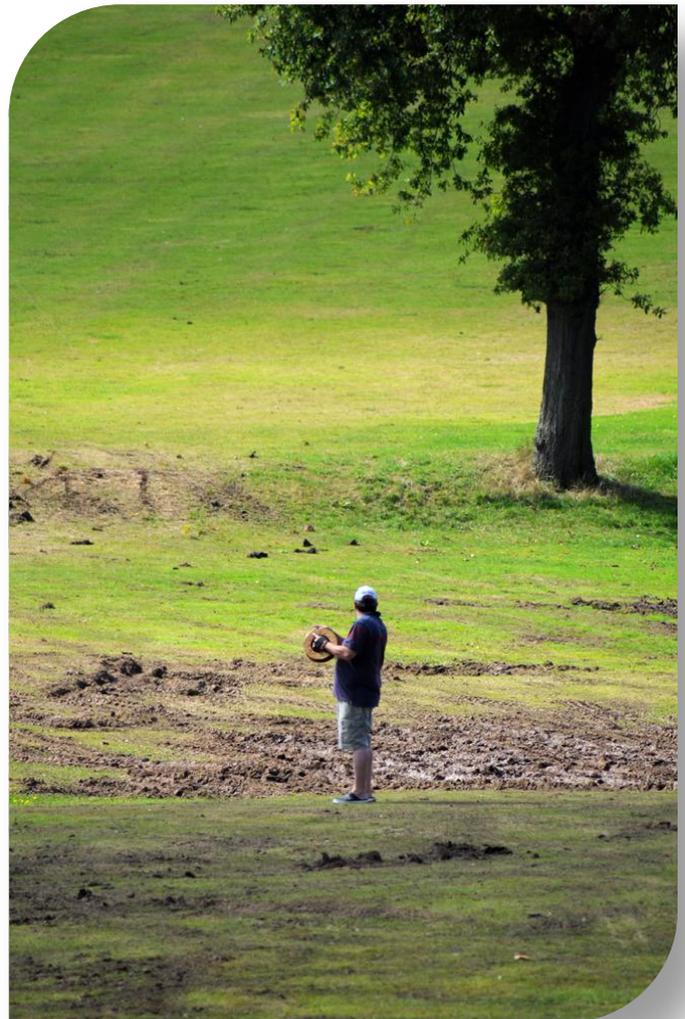
In the event of poor weather conditions the fly-in will be cancelled.  
It is always advisable to check that the event is happening before travelling any distance  
All our 'fly-ins' are Civil Aviation Authority and Birmingham City Council approved.



**MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
52 Shepherds Court, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, WR9 9DF.  
email: chairman@mkf.org.uk - 07840800830



'BILLY – NO MATES' FLIES ALONE  
IN THE MIRE THAT WAS COFTON  
PARK..... 6<sup>th</sup> September 2015



Lastly just a quick thought that was brought to my attention recently.....

I was approached by a couple of members, independently I must add, to say that they were finding other members /kite fliers a difficult group to get to know..... I was a little taken aback, then thought of my own experiences at a festival back in the summer.

Perhaps we all need to show more interest in others who are involved in our hobby. Yes there are some odd kite fliers about, me included, but ours is hobby where we can learn so much from others.

Merry Christmas, hoping to see you ALL in the New Year.

Bill Souten

# MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS CLUB KITE FLY-IN CALKE ABBEY SUNDAY 24TH JANUARY 2016

Calke Abbey, Ticknall, Derbyshire, DE73 7LL  
Use DE73 7JF on your Sat Nav

## OUR NEW YEAR FLY IN



**CAP 393**  
All Navigators: The Order  
and the Regulations  
**TODAY'S HEIGHT  
LIMIT WILL BE  
200 feet**  
MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS



**MIDLANDS KITE FLIERS OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
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