



# NEWSLETTER

September 2006

<http://singaporekites.com>

## HOME

### **SKA to hold 25th AGM on 29 October 2006**

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on 29th October 2006 at 3pm. The venue remains at Pasir Ris Park.

*See you there!*

### **Kite Flying Carnival @ Tanjong Rhu**

SKA has been invited by Tanjong Rhu Neighborhood Committee to co-organise a community event on 17th September at Tanjong Rhu (open field between Pebble Bay and Costa Rhu Condominiums). SKA organised kite painting competition event. Many SKA members were there to fly their big and colorful kites. MP Lim Biow Chuan graced the event.



### **Kite Workshop at Roysth School**

September 14, 2006

Yusni and Gadis conducted a kite workshop and kite flying session at Roysth School.

### **Kite workshop at The Moral Home for Disabled**



August 29, 2006 - Microsoft Singapore and SKA jointly did a kite-making workshop for a group of residents at The Moral Home for Disabled, Mattar Road.

The residents were delighted to have "visitors". After making the kites, they had a good time launching and flying the kites in a field beside the Home.



## Making kites at BNI family-Bonding party



August 26, 2006 - A group of 10 families from the BNI group gathered at Pasir Ris Park for a kite-making session.

## St Patrick's School students learn to make kites



July 26, 2006 – Thirty enthusiastic students at St Patrick's School attended a practical session on basic kite-making. The students put in commendable efforts to produce interesting designs on the kite sails as well.



## READ! Singapore 2006



West Coast Park 2006

*Photo by Andrew Bi*

July 23, 2006 – Kites were flying at West Coast Park in conjunction with READ! Singapore 2006 campaign and promotion of the book *The Kite Runner*.

### REGIONAL

## Kelantan kite festival

By SAGER AHMAD

Last month, an international kite flying festival was held at Pantai Sri Tujoh in Tumpat near Kota Baru. The event attracted 150 participants from all over the country as well as from Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and Thailand.

Tourism Malaysia's deputy director-general II Datin Dalilah Ahmad said the large number of participants is a clear indicator that kite flying is a crowd puller.

She said the event will be held annually as part of the country's tourism calendar to boost tourist arrivals to the East Coast. She added that it will be part of the campaign for Visit Malaysia Year 2007 in conjunction with the 50th Merdeka anniversary.

Pasir Gudang in Johor has been hosting kite festivals for the past few years, usually in January. But in Kelantan, the windy month of June is a more suitable time as it is also the end of the padi season.

As a side attraction, several events were held, including coconut plucking contest for monkeys, cooking of sweet Asyura porridge, water events and an elephant show. There were many stalls selling food, drinks, handicrafts and souvenir items including kites from China.

At night, participants and other guests attended a barbecue dinner hosted by Pantai Sri Tujoh Resort with a wayang kulit performance where the tok dalang or puppet master spoke in both Malay and English, much to the delight of guests.

For more information, contact Tourism Malaysia Kelantan, Jalan Hilir Balai, 15300 Kota Baru. Tel: 09-747 7554, Fax: 09-747 8010 or visit [www.tourism.gov.my](http://www.tourism.gov.my)

Source : *The New Straits Times*

## International Kite Festival in Jakarta

Dozens of colorful kites with various designs are being showcased in an international kite flying festival in Ancol beach resort, North Jakarta, Indonesia, enlivening festivities marking the 61st Indonesian Independence Day.

The 2006 Jakarta International Kite Flying Festival, organized by Le Gong Kite Society in cooperation with the Jakarta Tourism Service, is being held in the compound of Ancol recreation center on August 18-20.

The organizer has listed over 100 local and foreign participants of the 13th International Kite Flying Festival here under the theme of "One Sky One World".

*Source: Xinhua*



A contestant from Bandung, west Java, prepare a kite shape like pedicab at the International Kite Festival in Jakarta on August 20, 2006. Twenty two provinces in Indonesia and eleven countries including Malaysia, Netherland,

China and Japan, participated in the two day festival. [Reuters]



A contestant from Yogyakarta, central Java flies a kite at the International Kite Festival in Jakarta on August 20, 2006. Twenty two provinces in Indonesia and eleven countries including Malaysia, Netherland, China and Japan, participated in the two day festival. [Reuters]



Let's go fly a kite : A participant from the Philippines prepares his kite during the Bali International Kite festival in Tanah Lot. [AFP]

## Tanah Lot International Kite Festival 2006



(7/9/2006) As of July 5th more than 15 countries have registered their interest in participating in the *Tanah Lot International Kite Festival* set to be held August 11-14, 2006.

Following less than one month after the [ Bali Festival of Kites] to be held near Sanur Beach at Padang Galak Beach July 20-23, 2006, the Tanah Lot kite flying competition will take place in conjunction with a variety of traditional games and contests including *Sunari*, *Pindekan* and *Petakut*.

### International Competition

Local participation will be limited to 40 comprising selected Balinese teams, kite flying contingents from 9 other Indonesian provinces, and the 10 top-rated teams from the Padang

Galak event. Meanwhile, foreign teams of kite flyers are expected at Tanah Lot from Germany, U.K., Thailand, China, South Korea, Malaysia, Sweden, Philippines, **Singapore**, Taiwan, India, U.S.A. and Australia. Final confirmation of participation is still pending for teams from Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand and the Netherlands.

## More pictures from Bali International Kite Festival

by Neil Taylor





## Boat race and kite festival in August

By Rosli Abidin Yahya (Jul 24, 2006)

Sports lovers in Brunei Darussalam will be able to enjoy two international traditional sports meets in August, organised in conjunction with His Majesty's 60th birthday celebrations.



**Hj Maidin Hj Ahmad ... Sports lovers in Brunei Darussalam will be able to enjoy two international traditional sports meets in August.**  
- Rosli Abidin Yahya

On Sunday August 13, the celebration executive working committee for the Brunei-Muara District will organise a traditional/speed boat race at the Water Sports Complex in Serasa, Muara. The chairman of the organising committee, Hj Maidin Hj Ahmad - who is also the president of the Brunei-Muara Boat Race Association - said the water sports meet is a much-awaited event by sports fans in Brunei.

Competitors from neighbouring countries may participate in the meet, Hj Maidin said.

Perhaps one of the most eagerly anticipated events in His Majesty's 60th birthday celebration programme is the ASEAN Kite Festival, to be held at the Tungku Beach from August 18 to 20. Hj Maidin - who is also the treasurer of the ASEAN Kite Council - said the opening ceremony to the Festival will be held on August 18, while the closing ceremony will be on August 20.

Participation in the Festival will come from at least eight countries that make up the ASEAN Kite Council, he disclosed.

A brainchild of the Philippine Kite Association president, Orlando Ongkingco, the ASEAN Kite Council has appointed Hussin Haron, the president of the Johor Kite Association, as its leader. Ongkingco was chosen as vice-president, **Gadis Widiyati** of Singapore as secretary, and Hj Maidin as the treasurer.

The council committee are made up of Sim Sarak (Cambodia), Handayani Ningsih (Indonesia), **Yusni Yusof** (Singapore) as well as Sakda Pandee and Zainal Abidin (both of Thailand).

Among its objectives, the council hopes to turn kite flying into a popular competitive sport.

Courtesy of Borneo Bulletin

## Brunei For International Borneo Kite Fest In Bintulu

By Achong Tanjong (Jul 24, 2006)

Bandar Seri Begawan - Six Bruneians will be among the 13 S participants to take part in the second International Borneo Kite Festival 2006, organised by the Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) from August 21 to 27 at the old airport ground.



According to a news report, the Borneo Kite Festival has attracted foreign participants from Japan (six), New Zealand (two), Australia (two), China (two), Taiwan (two), Indonesia (eight), **Singapore** (four), Brunei Darussalam (six), Thailand (four), South Korea (two), Germany (one), England (two) and the USA (one) - all invited by the Bintulu Development Authority.

The rest are from Sarawak (six), Kelantan (12). Johor (12), Selangor (six), Perlis (six), Terengganu (12). Kedah (six), Pahang (six), Penang (six) Perak (six), Malacca (six) Kuala Lumpur (six) and Kelab MAS (six).

The organiser will also hold a trade exposition with support from the Resident's

Office, Sarawak Economy Development Corporation (SEDC), Kite Association of Sarawak (PEWASA), Malaysian Kite Council (MPNI), Malaysian Tourism Ministry, Ministry of Culture, Arts

and Heritage Malaysia, and the Ministry of Town, Development and Tourism, Sarawak.

A total of 70 booths will be provided for local and international companies to take part in the expo.

They will display among other things food, agricultural products, herbs, manufactured goods, tourism products and services and banking and financial products. -- *Courtesy of Borneo Bulletin*

## WORLD

### 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival



A kite bearing the five mascots for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games flies at the 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong province, April 21, 2006. The internationally acclaimed event has been hosted since 1984, attracting representatives from over 20 countries and thousands of visitors from around the region every year. [newsphoto]



SKA member, Tan See Liang (left) leading the Singapore team.



Tan See Liang receiving **third prize** at the International Open kite category competition.



A kite flies during the 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong province, April 21, 2006. The internationally acclaimed event has been hosted since 1984, attracting representatives from over 20 countries and thousands of visitors from around the region every year. [Reuters]



A dragon-head kite, with pictures of Olympic mascots, flies during the 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong province, April 21, 2006. This kite is as long as 380 meters. [newsphoto]



A Chinese man flies a kite during the 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong province, April 21, 2006. The internationally acclaimed event has been hosted since 1984, attracting representatives from over 20 countries and thousands of visitors from the region every year. [Reuters]

## SPECIAL

### **Sky-high priced kite for sale**



A kite shop in Suzhou is selling an 88,000-yuan kite made of hundreds of gourds during Spring Festival holidays. When flying in the sky, the kite would perform pleasant music with the gourds sound in wind.  
(Photo: Chinanews.cn)

Source: Xinhuanet

### **Luminous kite to light up the night**



This luminous kite is more than 200 meters long, and the lights on it can give out more than 60

combinations of different lights. It took Lu Kaiguo, 73 years old, nearly a month to make the kite. The picture was taken on the evening of August 7, when Lu was trying to fly the luminous kite into the sky.

Source: Chinanews.cn

### **1,000-meter "wall" full of kites**



Stalls selling kites were orderly lined up around the Guangming Square in Shandong's Zaozhuang City on Feb. 18. Those kites hung up extended over 1,000 meters like a wall, becoming a beautiful backdrop in the city.

Source: Chinanews.cn

# The Fortunate Life

by Peter Lynn



Health, good friends, lots of toys, financial independence, no time clock, no boss, interesting projects and achievable challenges - oh, and youth of course.

What a fortunate life.

Actually I didn't plan it to be this way, it's just sort of happened.

Happiness!

Well actually not. The last twelve months has been more than a bit frustrating. The underlying cause?: - Not enough progress on kite developments –and more to the point, not having convenient excuses for this anymore.

Except maybe that I've been travelling too much -half the year sans sewing machine and workshop. Or if this doesn't sound convincing, then how about that I haven't been travelling enough?- kite events are a great source of inspiration and I always arrive back just bursting with new things to try. What I am certain about though is that the wind here is **impossible** for kite testing, a test of character which I completely fail. It's so

fundamentally annoying to build something exciting then have it sit untested for weeks; to eventually fly by running around in circles 'cos there's no wind, or have it blow out in a gale (usually at night when it's also snowing) which is the only other sort of wind we get here from April to October. Except for our nor'westers of course- which provide none and too much simultaneously. How many kites have I consigned to the scrap without my ever finding out that they did work?.- more than a few I reckon.

Today I again vented more than a few expletives at the sheer bloody unfairness of it.

Access to wind is solvable though:

The Wright Bros, abandoned Dayton for lack of good wind and set up summer camp at Kill Devil Hills. Pete shifted from Ashburton to the beach at Christchurch and then to Newcastle in Aust.

I'm stuck here in Ashburton- by friends, family, property, businesses – and toys- so all I can do is whinge.

Thanks for listening.

But enough of that, there has at last been some progress.

Two line traction kites of fifteen years ago had no power range- the flier just had to take (and try to survive) whatever pull the kite sent down the line. This is like a car with steering but no gears, no clutch, no accelerator and no brakes. Four line kites added

brakes, but it's only with the advent of LEI's, Arcs, and some 'foils (a little bit) that we gained an accelerator- though still an ineffectual one. LEI's with fifth line systems and Bow kites bought us the clutch as well but whenever it's activated, the steering disengages. In short, the development process started so ably by George (Pocock, early 19<sup>th</sup> cent) still has a long way to go before we have really efficient, safe and easy to use traction kites. We're about where the car was with the Model T, or maybe not quite. It's a wonderful challenge to be involved with.



Twelve months ago I began to focus on a principle called adaptive profile (AP).

AP describes kites for which the profile changes with angle of attack. The principle is that the appropriate profile for minimum pull- when very low angles of attack and max. luff resistance are required, is not the same as the best profile for max pull - when high angle of attack and good stall resistance are desired. This is obvious of course- but kites do not yet have this ability to any great extent

because there are so many variables and no available analytical technique for finding a combination that works - if there is one - which can't be known until it's found. The angle of attack has to match the centres of pressure of the changing profiles not only at the extremes but at every increment between.

By Oct '05 there had been excellent progress and I was certain then that all our commercial products would have been re-shaped by now as a result. C Quad and bridled foil versions were showing great promise and some Arc developments were not far behind. But the devil, as usual, was in the detail; it's taken longer than I expected - hence the frustration.

I still only have one style of AP kite really working, an AP bridled 'foil. AP versions of the C Quad, Arc, and other styles are still stuck at the "showing promise" stage.

The AP bridled 'foil is working well though. It has substantial de-power, no bad habits and is easy to fly.

It's bridle has no pulleys or sliding loops and requires about the same total length of line in it's construction as for conventional 4 line 'foil bridling.

And it seems to be a generic solution that will work for bridled foils across all sizes and for styles ranging from beginner through to extreme.

I'll have an AP 'foil with me on my next trip: Bintaloo (Sarawak), Bristol, Dieppe, Barcelona, Seattle (Drachen Kitesailing Seminar) Ashburton (briefly for a change of underpants) then Broome (on the hot side of Aust. , my last overseas event this year, whoooo! ) .

Come and have a fly and see what you think.

**Peter Lynn,  
Ashburton , July 31 '06**

Peter Lynn Kites Ltd  
105 Alford Forest Rd  
ASHBURTON 8300  
NEW ZEALAND

Ph: +64 (0) 3 308 4538  
Fax: + 64 (0) 3 308 1905

Email:  
[kitefactory@peterlynnkites.com](mailto:kitefactory@peterlynnkites.com)  
[www:peterlynnkites.com](http://www.peterlynnkites.com)

SKA Committee 2005/6

*President*

**Lee Wing Hong**

- winglee@pacific.net.sg
- tel 6445 2096
- fax 6445 3986

*Secretary*

**Polly Ching**

- cpolly@dso.org.sg

*Treasurer*

**Gadis Widiyati**

- Gadis@singnet.com.sg
- tel 9787 0534

*Founding Member*

**Shakib Gunn**

- shakib@singnet.com.sg
- tel 6440 2459
- fax 6440 2659