

TASKITE



Issue 33, Spring/Winter 2004

Quarterly Newsletter of KITE FLYERS of TASMANIA



Colourful Display at Devonport

WHO'S WHO?**President**

Robert Brasington
groundzerokites@tassie.net.au

Vice President

Sheryl Dorrington

Secretary/Public Officer

Peter Baynes
813 Sandy Bay Rd
Sandy Bay 7005
pbaynes@iprimus.com.au

Treasurer

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

Committee

Chris Thomas
Ian Flewellen
Kevin Collings
Linden Dorrington
Malcolm Dick

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 latest edition of *Taskite*.

Congratulations to all newly and re-elected office bearers and thanks to all who attended the weekend retreat/workshop at Bicheno earlier in the year.

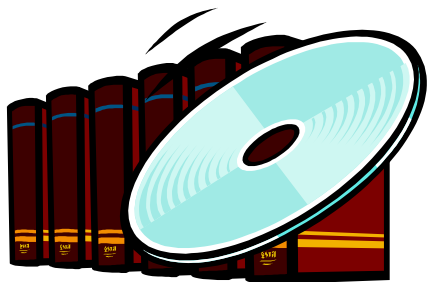
I'll be looking to revise the format of the newsletter over the next issue or two. In the meantime, as always, a call for contributions to the next issue... I can be contacted at:

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".

Kite Flyers of Tasmania. Calendar of Events

- Heritage Forest Festival of Kites
Sunday 24 Oct. 2004.
Launceston.
- Fly @ 42 Degrees South
Sunday 7 Nov. 2004
Clarence.
- Devonport Kite Festival
19 & 20 Feb. 2005
- Binalong Bay Kite Retreat.
26 & 27 Feb. 2005.
- Mid Winter Workshop.
28 & 29 May 2005.
Teacher and venue to be advised.

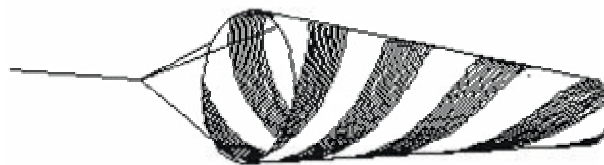


BARBER'S POLE WINDSOCK

Flocky Bock

Like paper, cardboard or tin, rip-stop cloth is basically a two-dimensional flat and stiff material that can only be formed into three-dimensional shapes by folding or rolling it along a straight line, e.g. cylinders and cones. This has led tailors and sheet metal workers to invent the art of pattern development, where they replace a complex surface with sections of cones. At the same time the seams must be matching in length. It is beyond the scope of this article to show you how to make the pattern for inflatable soft kites and for common animal patterns it is far easier to unstitch a cloth toy and start from there. But to explain the principle we will look at the simplest of forms: a cylinder and a cone and unroll their surface including decorations, in this case a spiral.

The steepness of the spiral is called the pitch. It is defined like a thread either as turns per a given length (e.g. turns per inch) or progress (mm) per turn. To get a spiral with an appearance of 45 degrees I selected a pitch of two diameters per turn. This shall also be the height of the cylinder.



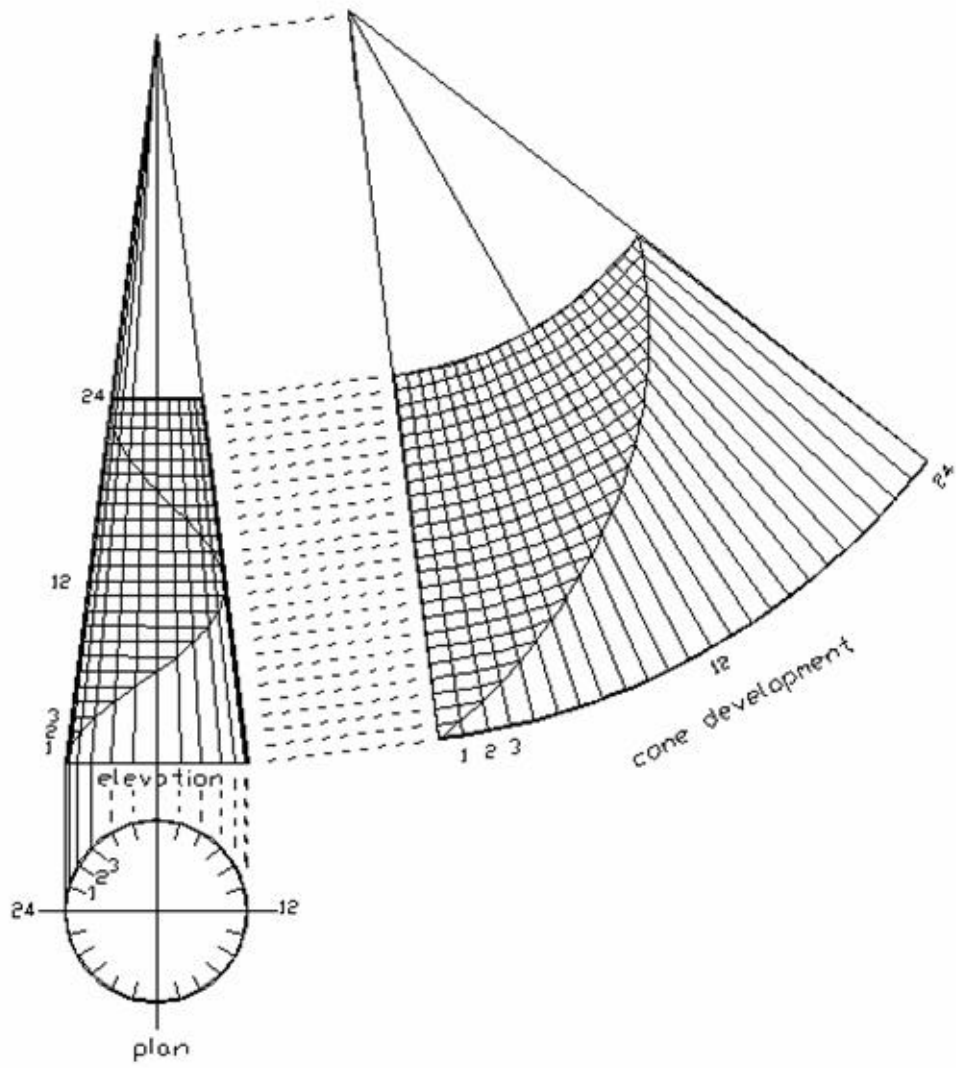
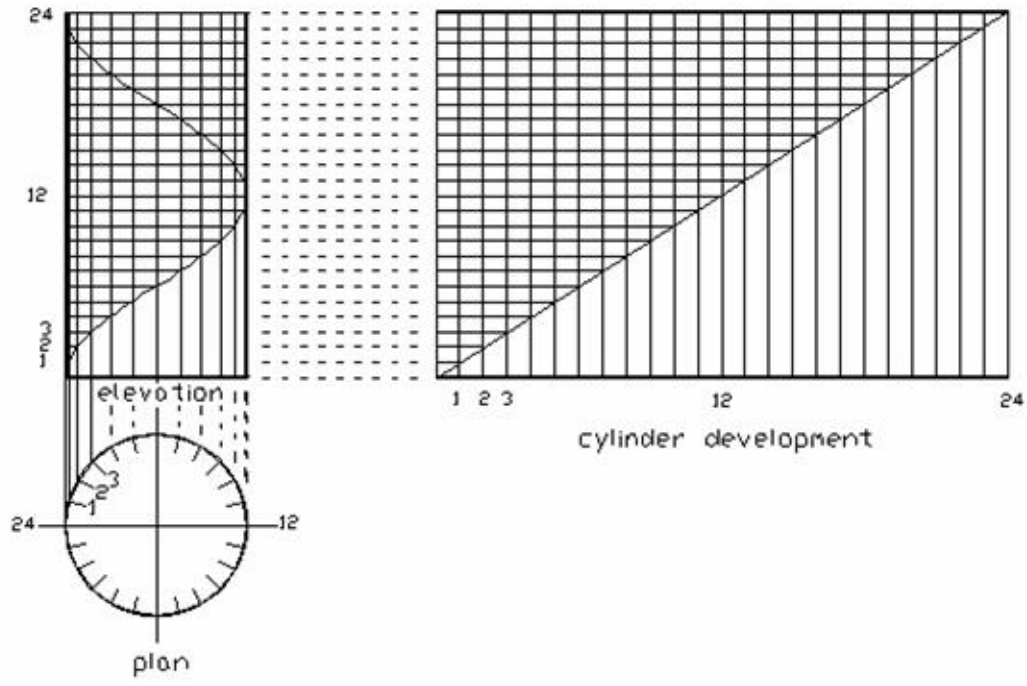
For the pattern of a screw line around a cylinder draw the elevation of the body (view from the side) and the plan (view from the top) aligned above each other. This is followed by the basic step of pattern making: Replace any curved line, here the circle in the plan drawing, with a series of short straight lines, called chords. Like stitches these should be close enough to give a good representation of the curve, but not so close that it will lead to too much work. I chose 24 steps around the cylinder numbering them from 1 to 24. This means I have replaced the circle with a duodecaquadrangle – if there is such a thing.

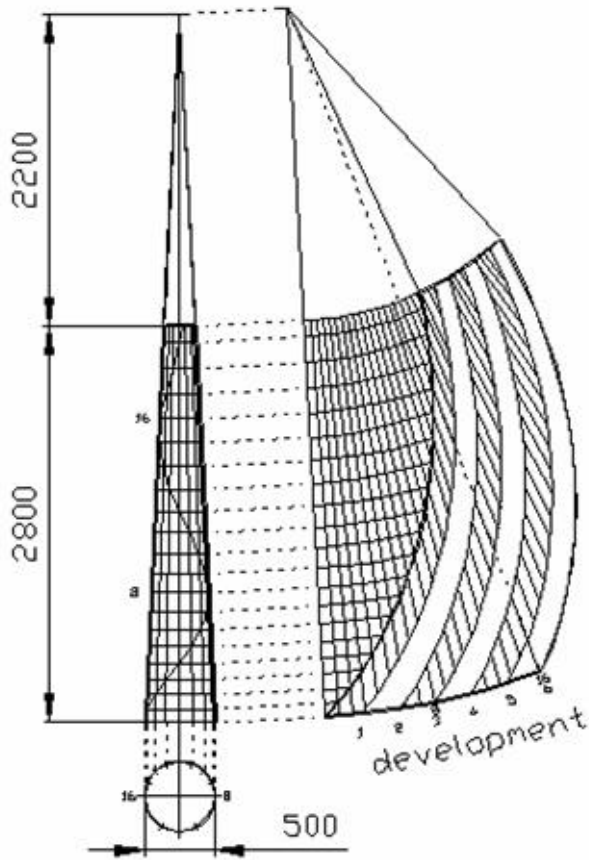
The height of the tube will also be divided into 24 equal parts. Here we cut the cylinder into horizontal levels numbered 1 to 24. Like steps of a spiral staircase, one unit forward to one unit up, we project the points of the stitches on the circle straight upwards until they meet with the corresponding levels of the cylinder: 1-1,2-2,3-3, ...e.t.c. Pretending the tube is made out of a transparent material, so we can also see the spiral line on the back, we obtain the side view of the spiral on the tube, which turns out to be the well-known sinus curve.

Cylinder Development. To the side of the elevation we unroll the mantle of the cylinder, which is a rectangle. The height stays the same. The length is found by taking the length of a chord on the circle into dividers and marking-off 24 steps on the bottom line. A comparison with the exact calculated length of $\pi \times d$ will show you how amazingly close this step method is. Now we project the levels 1,2,3... across and match them with the related stitch projected up from the base line to get the unrolled spiral. It turns out to be a straight line. But of course engineers knew since Archimedes that a screw is nothing but a wound up wedge (no, not wench). You may have not discovered anything excitingly new so far, but this example demonstrates the basic steps of unrolling curved areas.

Now you are ready to develop a screw line around a truncated cone (windsock). The basic procedure is exactly the same: plan, elevation, dividing the circle into chords, and projecting the points upward to the cone base. After that is a change, as the fall lines run from the base up to the vertex point of the cone. Again we intersect these lines with the corresponding height levels and obtain the view of a sinus-like spiral of constant pitch.

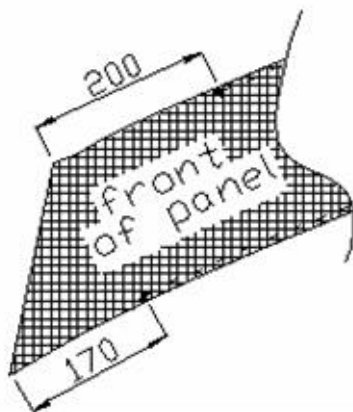
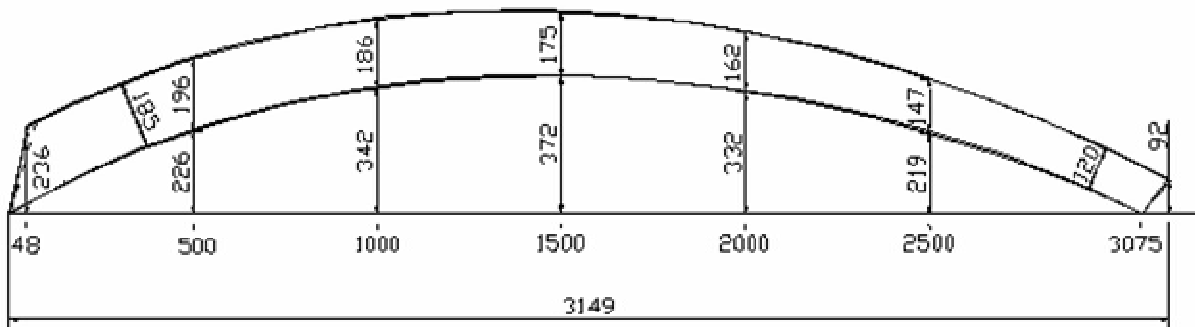
Cone Development. To the side of the elevation we unroll the mantle of the cone, but beware of the trap of drawing square to the axis of the cone. The **true height** of the mantle appears **on the slant** height in the elevation, **not on the centre line**, so the radii for the cone mantle have to be taken from there. The height levels, when projected square to the outer fall line, become slightly thicker. The height lines will become circle segments on the unrolled mantle. Take the length of a chord into a divider and mark off the 24 steps on the circle segments representing the base line. That arc line again is $\pi \times d$ long and gives the opening arc of the pattern for the Chinaman's hat. You can see here how it is possible to get matching seam length on different curved lines. Intersecting the correlated fall lines with the height-circles we obtain the unrolled screw line on the mantle. I have kept the parameters of both examples, the cylinder and the cone, the same to optically show you the similarities in the method.





The real windsock is much skinnier and longer. This time I have given up constant pitch in favour of a pitch that steadily increases with the length of the cone, similar to the worm in your mincer, but in reverse. This has the nice effect that a rotating drogue guides the eye accelerating towards the end. The spiral is $1 \frac{1}{4}$ turns. 16 chords marked on the baseline of the mantle give us the overall segment opening. This is divided into 6 equal parts. The unrolled screw line is rotated around the cone tip in six steps to start at these points. We now have the full mantle pattern for a six-panel drogue.

The coordinates for a single panel are given below. Panels of the same colour can be cut adjoining. Check that the width is 185mm at the front and 120mm at the exit.



To make those little scalloped vents at the intake that rotate the drogue, mark the screw line 200 mm in from edge on top and 170 mm at the bottom. The panel seams start on the matched marks. The edge binding, which later holds the opening fibreglass rod, collects the tips and corners.

A seam allowance to suit your practice must be added all around this template.

ONE SKY ONE WORLD



KFT Members are encouraged to participate in and support the annual One Sky One World event to be held early in September. Basically the day involves flyers around the world flying kites and sending an image to a co-ordinator who posts the images onto a website which follows time zones around the globe.

Some details are provided below and Robert Brasington can give more advice to anyone interested in participating.

Proclamation

It is clear that life on the planet earth is at a crossroads. The choice to turn from the path of self destruction from war, and environmental abuse; to love of self, others, and the world is before us. Increasing global awareness will lead to a widespread belief that anything other than peace and mutual concern is insensible, and will move us away from planetary cataclysm toward a better future. One Sky One World festivals will be held annually around the world to promote protection of the planet, peace, friendship and understanding between all people. Beyond this, One Sky One World does not endorse any ideology or political agenda.

Purpose

The purpose of One Sky One World, is simply to promote the concept of global harmony and understanding between all peoples of the world through an expression of the universality of kites and the wind. Through sharing the wind, our world wide connection with other flyers and all of nature is symbolically realized. The great air ocean favours no dividing boundaries, ideologies, and human conflict. It is much more the prerequisite for our existence, a catalyst in the chemistry of life, supplying our every breath. The International Kite Fly is an attempt to let the wind lift our kites and our awareness so as to more fully understand the necessity for peace.

For those of you with internet access a search for OSOW in your favourite search engine will return several websites dealing with the event over past years and plans for this year.

Some sites are:

<http://subdivision.net/sky/osow>

<http://www.osow.org.uk>

<http://www.pkf2.fsnet.co.uk/osow.htm>



The World Has Been Here For A Long Time
Humans Have Been Here For A Short Time
Some People Are Here For A Good Time

KITEMAKERS WEEKEND - Bicheno, Tasmania**Graeme Poole**

"Please join us for a weekend of kite fun. The weekend begins on Saturday at 11.00 am as club members arrive at the venue, Camp Seaview. We have lunch then it's down to work!" That was the flyer / invite to members of the Kite Flyers of Tasmania (Inc.) (KFT) 2004 Kite-Maker's Workshop - and it lived up to it's promise.

I had been wanting to go down to Tassie to renew acquaintances with my kiteflying friends for quite a while now, and the mention of a kite making workshop, a long weekend in Adelaide and some spare frequent flying points was too good an opportunity to pass up on. Rob Brasington, president of the KFT informed me of this event a few months ago when I enquired about upcoming festivals in Tasmania. The club had decided to combine their AGM with an inaugural kite making workshop to improve the skills of their members. It was decided that members would make a Thai Cobra kite, which in turn could be flown at all club fly days. Great idea don't you think ?

The venue was Camp Seaview at Bicheno, a beautiful seaside fishing town and resort on the east coast of Tasmania. Camp Seaview provides a range of accommodation from dormitory style bunkhouses to fully self contained motel style units. All meals were provided at the camp and there was a superb large room which doubled at the workshop room and meals room. The club also provided subsidy vouchers for club members to help cover the costs of meals at the venue. Information was forwarded to all kitemakers who registered for the event which included details of the kite we were going to make, the materials list, where to purchase the materials, a copy of the plan of the kite and a plan of how to get to the venue.

The kite was based on a plan for the Thai Cobra Kite found in the book "Kites" by Ron Moulton and Pat Lloyd. The head of the cobra kite is approximately 600 x 600 mm and the tail was a minimum of 9 metres in length. The flyer described the kite as follows : "The Cobra will wriggle and twist as it flies but it's long tail makes it a stable navigator and all those gyrations just add to the fun." Arriving at the workshop at lunchtime Saturday, I imagined how some of the famous kitemaking workshops may have started - a group of dedicated kite makers meeting to share ideas, have some fun and pursue a common interest. Sewing machines were set up, templates were being prepared, materials were being cut and the banter had begun. 19 people were at the workshop, not all were kitemakers, not all stayed the whole weekend, not all made a Cobra kite, but all had a great time.

Rodger Willows was there making a vest from material printed with kites. He learned new garment construction techniques from my wife, Tania who is a professional dressmaker. Robert and Tracey Brasington were there, and as would be expected of professional kitemakers, had their Cobra kite finished about 2 hours after the workshop started. It provided the leading example of the finished Cobra kite all the others would strive for. The Brasingtons also made use of a shimmering light gossamer type material, showing kitemakers that materials other than ripstop and tyvek are valid medium for serious kites. David Geer and Peter Baynes were making tyvek kites, Ian and Avril, Flocky, Izzy and myself were all making ripstop variants. Kent Stevenson, a stalwart of the Tasmanian kiting community was making tyvek fighter kites and Kevin & Barbara and Malcolm came along on Sunday for the Club's AGM. Linden and Sheryl had already finished their Cobra kite (must have been keen) and were commencing work on Linden's Japanese warrior rokkaku.

There was no doubt that all participants enjoyed the weekend and it was decided that the event would again be repeated next year, and maybe even expanded to having a guest kite maker invited down to improve kitemaking skills of members further. It was a successful weekend, and I can recommend it to AKS members who might be able to consider attending next year's workshop. The hospitality of the Tasmanian kitefliers is exemplary.

My personal thanks to Rodger, Rob and Tracey for the hospitality they extended to Tania and myself for our trip down to Tassie.

KITEMAKERS WEEKEND



Kent Stevenson, David Geer, Tracey Brasington and Izzy von Lichten all eyes down and hard at work.

Avril, Linden and Ian discussing the applique process on Avril's Cobra kite



Rodger Willows working on his kiteflying vest