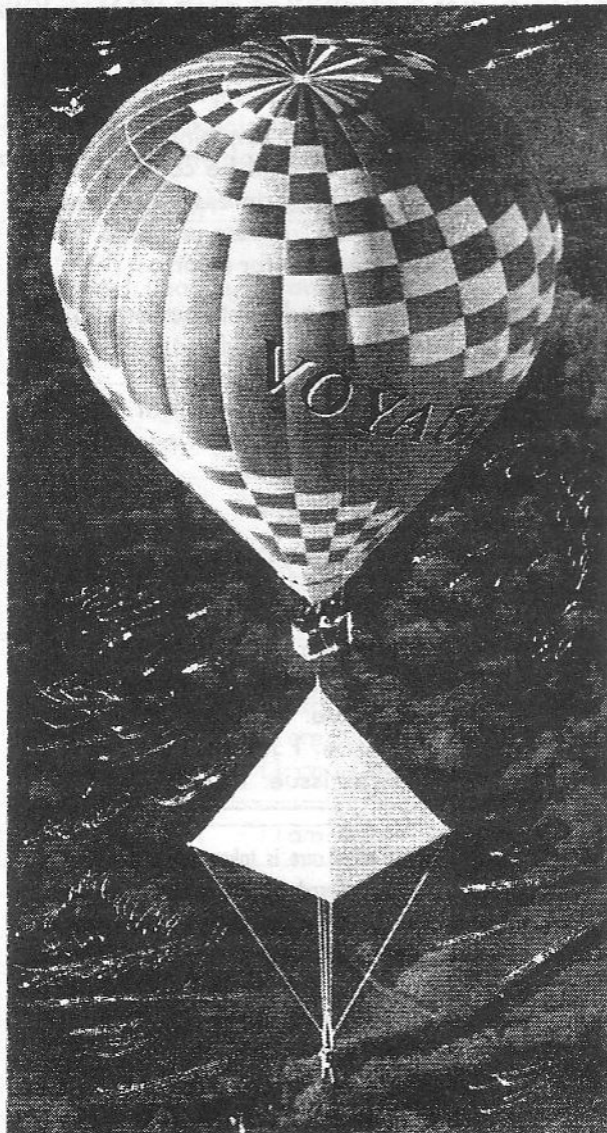
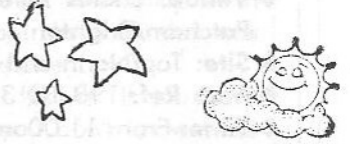


ROMAN CANDLE 57.

The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad. The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils. Gordon Bennet, Fifty Seven Varieties of the same old Mindless Drivel, can it get any worse?



After 500 years, Leonardo's parachute is put to the test



Some Five Hundred odd years ago, Leonardo da Vinci knocked out a sketch for the first ever Parachute, and now someone has had a go at making a working version.

If all goes well it will prove once and for all, whether or not Leonardos design is a goer. Quite unlike modern Chutes, Leos design is pyramid shaped and the base of his canopy is formed from four 24'(8m) Pine poles. As originally sketched in 1485, Leos chute had another vertical pole to keep the canopy open as he supposed whereas we know that the air would perform that task.

The man responsible for recreating Leos chute, skydiver Aidrian Nicholas, has decided however to dispense with that vertical pole though in all other respects his version follows the original very closely.

You may have noticed that there is no crown vent in Leos design, which leads one to suspect that this Chute would be highly unstable, but in tests so far conducted with the weighted chute suspended below a tethered Hot Air Balloon, the chute descended without being unduly unstable.

As the modern version of this amazing chute weighs in at a hefty 187lbs(85kg) it was decided that as discretion is the better part of valour, it would be a bit dodgy having that lot coming down on top of you on landing, so the plan is to ascend to 10,000'(3,000m) attached to the Balloon, cut loose for the "LEO" descent then cut lose again, dive clear and deploy a modern Parachute.

The first full attempt went down the Tubes due to High winds on Salisbury Plain. At ground level there was nothing but as they ascended the wind rose to about 25mph, which, cont..



Leonardo's 1485 parachute sketch

cont from page one.....by the time the Balloon has reached sufficient altitude for the chute drop, the whole shebang had drifted well away from the empty expanse of Salisbury Plain and as there was no clear space below them it was decided to abort the attempt.

All being well, within the next few weeks the Team involved will have another go in the wide open spaces of Arizona, we wish them well.

Was LEONARDO da VINCI REALLY THE FIRST TO DESIGN A PARACHUTE? History has it that some decades before Leo sketched his famous Chute design, an unknown hand had scribbled a drawing of a surprisingly modern looking round Parachute with a cross frame, however the details and methodology behind the drawing do not exist...

PARACHUTING BEARS ARE QUICK OFF THE MARK YOO WOT...

Holy Zarquon, those daring Teddy Bears of Overton on Dee, near Ellesmere in Shropshire, certainly do not let the grass grow under their feet. No sooner than we had word of what the Humes were up to with a replica of Leonardos chute, there the Teds were, up the Bell Tower of the local Parish Church, St Marys, flinging themselves of in order to raise a load of Dosh for the usual good causes

And the best bit of all, the Furry whatnots were equipped with Bear sized versions of Leonardos jolly old rag.

Could be we have another Worlds First here, but the Bummer Bit is we dont know the names of the poor beknighted Dropniks who were responsible for knocking up these natty canopies. Perhaps the ever expanding Mr Slater who sent us the details of the caper will do the bizzo and send us all the gory details, so we can give credit where credit is due

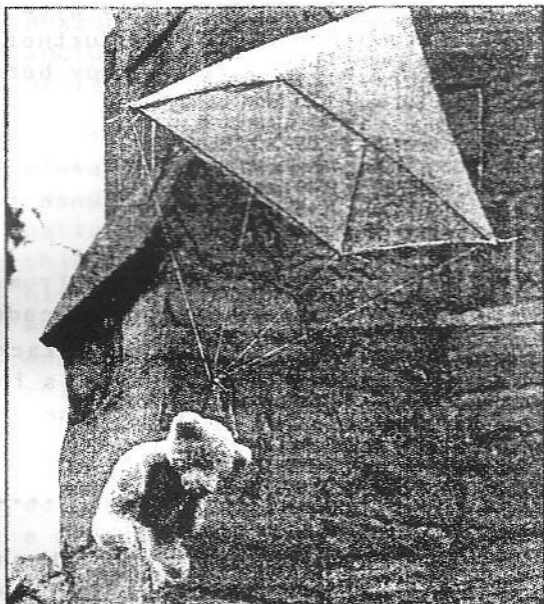
Who's the bear traffic controller?

K.N.D.S.T. NO MORE? or weird ST STILL HAPPENS.**

A rather weird Postcard came through our door recently, it read "Thanks for all your Roman Candles, Now a new life begins in Romania" It was from good old Koose Verheij, one of our Dutch Parafauna friends from way back when and founder of the wait for it "KONINKLYK NEDERLANDS DIEREN SPRING TEAM" or the ROYAL DUTCH ANIMAL SKYDIVING SQUAD.

Gordon Bennett, wot gives, is Koose exporting Parachuting mayhem to South Eastern Europe? are all his KNDST mob going with him, will the E.U. allow such a thing to happen, do the poor Romanians know what is about to hit them?

Maybe its none of our busines, but naturally being a right Nosey load of Furr Barstewards we want to know most of the ins and outs of the whole shebang.....



He's off - Ted in full flight from the church COMPLETE WITH LEO CHUTE

ILLUMINATED BEARS AT SARFEND ON MUD, WHOOPS SOUTHEND ON SEA,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Word has it that featured quite heavily in the celebrated illuminations of the well known Essex Resort are Teds engaged in a variety of thing including one on a Parachute whose presence announce that Para Teds can even stand 240 volts right up the Khyba.

All jokes aside, its amazing just where images of Teds doing what we do so well appear, unless, unbeknownst to us, we have a Dropnik amongst the illumination crew.....

Pyreneans want foreign bears out

FARMERS and politicians in the Pyrenees are demanding that Slovenian bears released into the mountains in an attempt to revive traditional fauna should be deported from France.

Inhabitants of the country's rugged south-western corner are unimpressed by the government's efforts to turn back the ecological clock.

To Pyrenean shepherds, the cuddly-looking creatures are a menace that kill their sheep, goats and foals and threaten

By Patrick Bishop in Paris

their livelihood. A Bill to capture and expel the newcomers was presented to parliament early yesterday, to the dismay of Green deputies who condemned the move as "contrary to nature".

"The bear was always part of the landscape of the Pyrenees before it was exterminated," said a Green spokesman, Denis Baupin. The stock of indigenous French bears in the mountains

dwindled to only six through systematic hunting until the late Fifties.

Most experts agree that the species cannot survive without an injection of foreign blood.

In 1996, the government introduced three bears from Slovenia, cousins of the Pyrenean variety. Despite their tiny number, their presence angers local sheep farmers and goat farmers,

and getting rid of the bears has been a vote-catching issue for local politicians.

Yesterday, Augustin Bonrepaux, Socialist deputy for the Ariège area, who is promoting the Bill, said they were responsible last year for killing 200 sheep, three goats and two foals.

The Bill's supporters claim that for the bears to survive the population will have to grow to 50, making the damage to livestock correspondingly greater.

Well now, we seem to have another variation on the much maligned Wolf story, you know the one where the Wolf, far from being the stuff of nightmares was in fact suffering from well dodgy "P.R."

It would seem that the poor old Pyrenean Bear is in the same boat, up the same creek without the proverbial. Is it impossible, even this near the 21st Century, to enable some free spirit creature to live as they should without the Humes getting, as usual all unnecessary?

Probably not, after all its about Money and votegrabbing, I know hes lying cos his lips are moving Politicians jumping on the Bandwagon, the poor Bears are just an excuse thats all. Wanna bet that if the locals could earn a sodding good wedge of Dosh from the presence of the Bears, they'd be falling overthemselves to import even more.

SEVENTEEN EXPLOSIONS HELP DEPLOY WORLDS LARGEST RAM AIR PARACHUTE, QUICKLY AND SAFELY.

You had to see it to believe just what was happening as this amazing chute was being deployed, as it seemed to go on for ever.

There we were, glued to the box watching Discovery Channel, totally gobsmacked at the sequence of events that preceded the final deployment of this 5,000 sq ft monster Chute.

First off was a large pilot chute, which proceeded to pull out and deploy an extremely large drogue chute, which in turn started to deploy the main canopy. This grew to an incredible size, expanding a bit, then unfolding some more, then expanding further, only to start unfolding and expanding even further, This went on until the canopy became the Big Momma of all Ram Air Chutes.

The Seventeen Explosions? The Packing and subsequent deployment of this Chute is so complicated that it requires Seventeen Explosive Bolts to unfold the various segments of the Canopy. You have to take your hat off to whoever thought up the packing sequence for this Chute.

And the Payload? This chute is going to be used to safely deliver the Lander from the proposed International Space Station which is to be constructed in the next Decade. Why the Lander from the proposed Space Station is to be landed via a very large Parachute is anybody's guess, but obviously the powers that be are convinced that this is the way to go. Wanna bet its another way of saving money, it surely could not be on the grounds of safety, or is it?

PACKABLE PARAGLIDER ? NOW YOU CAN STUFF THE JOLLY OLD PARAGLIDER RAG.....

So your Paraglider flies like a dream, taking you pretty well anywhere you choose to go, but its not quite capable of doing what you really would like it to do, and that is being packed and deployed as a standard Parachute.

For clever Frenchman Jean Christophe Berland, that capability was his Holy Grail, and after three years of development and testing, he has finally come up with a Paraglider which safely combines Parachuting and Paragliding. Funnily enough it was the actual packing method which really drove him to distraction as this sequence is fiendishly difficult, as he says there is much less room for errors than in packing a standard Ram Air Parachute.

The increased scope of the Air deployable Paraglider has already attracted interest from the Military, of course, and other Paraglider manufacturers, so we hope that J.C.B. has got the thing fully patented.

SHOCK ! HORROR ! DOCTOR BANS HIS TOXIC TEDDIES....YAH ! BOO ! HISSES ! (ETC)

Teddy Bears and other assorted toys of a Soft Cuddly Persuasion in Doctors waiting rooms are spreading potentially fatal germs from toddler to toddler.

Edinburgh G.P. Dr Ian McKay made the shock discovery that as many as one in three of the soft toys harbours potentially lethal bugs.

The problem is regarded as so serious that "DOCTOR" Magazine has declared an amnesty for GPs to send in their Toxic Teddies for incineration (The Barstewards).

Dr McKay explained how disease can be spread "I noticed a little child was literally eating the toys, " he said. "The toy was thrown back into the toy box. It was rather disgusting."

Dr McKay has now removed all the toys from his surgery. "You either had to have no toys at all, or some system for cleaning them after each individual child had used them," he said "And we felt logistically this just wasn't practical.

So there you have it, just like that, INCINERATE them, altogether now BOO! Hiss! Still, its a fair bet that the quack is right about Toxic Teds, after all how many of our little horrors are harbouring essence of Stale Beer and Cow Pat Hills finest?

YOU COULD'NT MAKE IT UP IF YOU TRIED.....No 587 in the series.....

Desist, cries the Royal Jewellers, or its "Further Action" for you my lad.

Trader Solinder Singh who knocks out Teddy Bears from market stalls in Leicestershire has been ordered to change the name of his firm because it has upset the Royal Jewellers Asprey and Garrard.

They warned of further action against Solinder who trades under the name of Asprey Giftware Ltd, unless he changes his firms name. Crazy or what, hey Solinder hows about inserting another "S" in that name, that'll just about sum it up.

SOMETIMES YOU GET THE FEELING THAT ITS A FUNNY OLD WORLD WE'RE LIVING IN....THEY EVEN THINK WE'RE RAVING BARMY 'COS WE PARACHUTE FROM KITES, BUT THEN MAYBE WE ARE, YOO WOT!

But then are we as barmy as those sad barstewards who reckon the word history is sexist, or the even sadder tossers who said that that an advert for a job must not include the word hardworking or even enthusiastic as that would upset the apathetic or lazy.

As we said elsewhere, you couldnt make it up, it as they say, beats cockfighting, and they probably wont like that either. but quite honestly who gives a toss, we dont. These patronising plonkers are really only intrested in one thing, namely, trying to sanitise or maybe patronise, what is a rough tough and nasty old world, maybe some of that ilk will say and a good thing too, to which we can only say "Get a Life".

Still one things for sure, as long as you continue to get your quarterly dose of mindless drivel from the paw of a motheaten stinky Bear aka as the alta ego of a short fat ugly bastard, you will be spared any hint of patronising, politically correct load of cobblers.....

So as ever its the usual to the usual c/o The Boring Old Fart,

The Teddytorial, 48 Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7. 7TY, in what will forever be ENGLAND, no matter what the traitors have planned, and of course as usual its the jolly old "A PLAGUE ON ALL THEIR HOUSES"

