

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF KITES & AIR CREATIONS

Celebrating 22 Years of Flying High

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NEWS RELEASE

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High flyers set to star at Bristol Kite Festival

The 22nd annual Bristol International Festival of Kites & Air Creations will take place in Ashton Court Estate over the weekend of **30 & 31 August 2008**.

Organizers are promising an action packed aerial extravaganza featuring spectacular flying displays, kite fighting battles, breathtaking synchronised routines flown to music and awesome power kites as well as colourful ground-based inflatables and air sculptures of all shapes and sizes. International kite guests will be winging their way from as far as Japan and Tasmania to join flyers and enthusiasts from the UK and Europe.

Top ranked international kite experts include iQuad, a team of six quad line flyers from the USA renowned for their impressive synchronized routines choreographed to music. At Bristol they will be joined by up to 50 other quad-line flyers and teams performing complex routines en masse as part of the official celebrations to mark the 20th birthday of Revolution kites.

Also joining in the aerial fun will be Japanese kite master Masaaki Modegi, president of the Japan Kite Association and curator of the Tokyo Kite Museum. He is one of the most respected kite designers and fliers in the world, as well as a leading expert renowned author of books on Japanese kites. Another long distance traveller will be award winning Robert Brassington whose spectacular cellular kites are inspired by Gothic architecture and Peter Lynn from New Zealand who designs and makes spectacular large special shapes that are always a crowd favourite.

Festival highlights will also include:

- spectacular array of air creations including original air sculptures and a collection larger-than-life inflatable creatures including 25 metre long dragons and a walk through coral reef.
- a 30 metre long multi-coloured manta ray and a gaggle of geckos designed and made in New Zealand by festival favourite Peter Lynn
- the brute power and thrills of kite-propelled buggies and land boards in the skilled hands of the Flexifoil pro-riders team

- spectacular and colourful sea-themed special shaped kites including swirling octopi, a flying scuba diver, a giant mermaid and Roly the mega killer whale
- aerial combat with traditional Japanese fighting kites each vying to be the last one in the sky
- fighting kites of Afghanistan including kite-making workshops in support of the charity Afghan Aid
- free children's kite-making workshops

Notes to Editors:

The Festival programme runs on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st August from 11.00am to 5.00pm. Free admission but parking on site £7 a car. To add to the festive atmosphere there will also be fantastic play structures and children's attractions, selected specialist kite traders, a licensed bar and an array of appetising food and drink stalls.

All the information can be found on the Festival's new website, which will be updated throughout the year – www.kite-festival.org.uk. The website has been sponsored and designed by local Bristol web firm Sandbox UK (www.sandbox.uk.com).

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