

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF KITES & AIR CREATIONS

Celebrating 22 Years of Flying High

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NEWS RELEASE

July 2008

Rev up for Bristol Kite festival

Bristol will be playing host to over 50 specialist quad-line flyers and quad-line teams from around the world who will be coming to the Festival to take part in the official 20th anniversary celebrations of Revolution kites. They include iQuad, a team of six flyers from the USA renowned for their impressive synchronized routines choreographed to music. The Rev flyers will be given a special arena on site where they will be practising their routines throughout the festival before performing a complex mega team routine in the main arena as the finale to the flying displays each day.

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 America and Tasmania to join flyers and enthusiasts from the UK and Europe.

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 cathedrals 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:

- a 30 metre long multi-coloured manta ray, giant octopi 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 a flying scuba diver, a giant mermaid and Roly the mega killer whale
- paintings in the sky by renowned Italian artist Claudio Capelli
- 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
- 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.
- free children's kite-making workshops

For second year the Festival has again teamed up with the Bristol Children's Hospital charity, the Grand Appeal to raise awareness and much needed funds towards specialist medical equipment for the adolescent and oncology wards at the hospital. Wallace & Gromit will be joining in the Festival fun, making a star appearance in the main Arena.



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).

There will be a media preview featuring many of the festival's invited guests and their kites on Thursday 28th August on Bristol's Durdham Downs from 2.30pm onwards.

For press & media enquiries or photographs please contact:

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