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Knotting Matters

Newsletter of the

INTERNATIONAL
GUILD OF KNOT
TYERS

KNOTTING MATTERS

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF KNOT TYERS

PRESIDENT - Jan VOS

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EDITORIAL

The time has arrived for your editor to take a simple, selfish, self indulgent decision.

When in future I have to type or retype a contribution to "K.M." on the subject of the turkshead, that is how I will spell it!

As one of the world's slowest typists, the extra keystrokes involved typing Turk's Head as compared with turkshead amazes me I reckon it's an extra 5 onto 9. I do not claim my way is the only correct way. But if you want turkshead spelt another way please let me know and give me plenty of time to type it out.

CHORDA FORTI Sketched by Brian LAMB

I am enclosing a line drawing of an inn sign that was illustrated in the *Daily Telegraph* on Monday 1st January 1990. It is one of a 50 strong collection of signs that the owner, Mr Jimmy Young from Crediton, Devon has been forced to sell because of lack of space. Mr Young is named in the Guinness Book of Records as being the man who has visited most pubs - 23759.

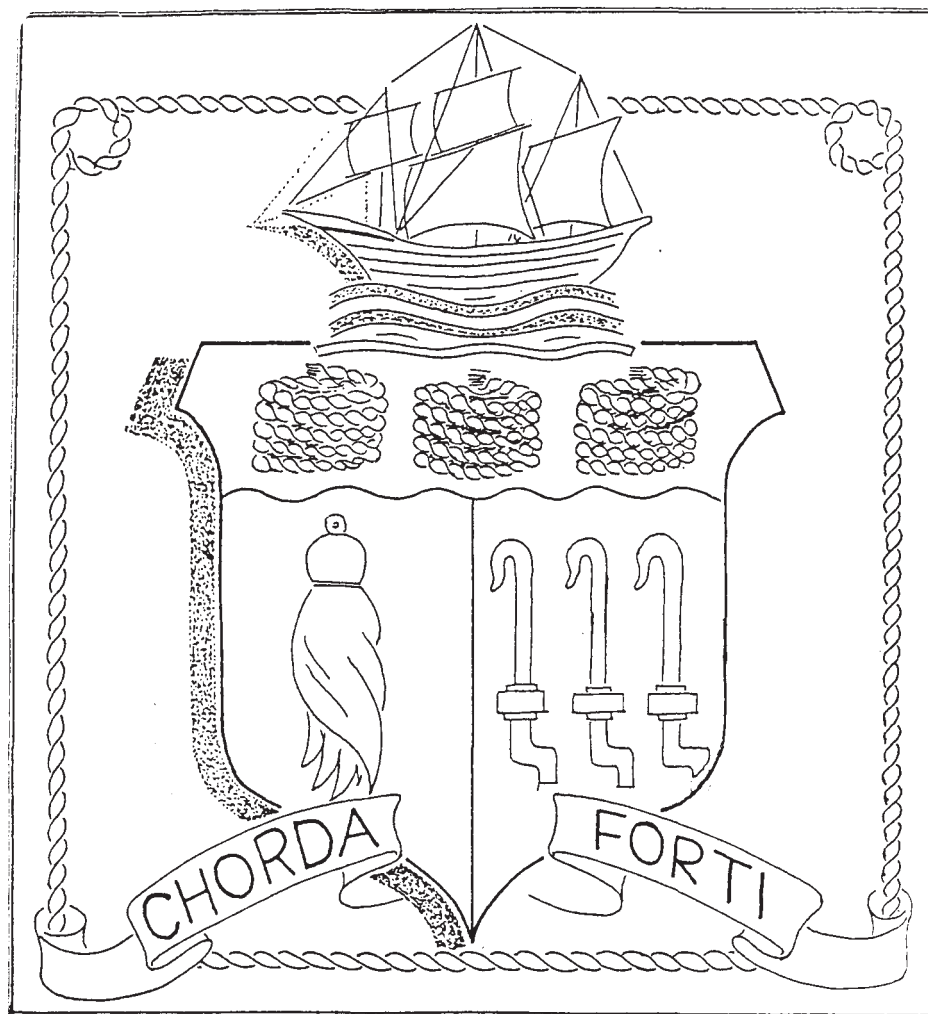
My drawing differs in certain respects-

- 1 ...The right hand ropehook is slightly shortened.
- 2 ...I have stencilled the name "Ropemakers Arms" whereas the original was in a broader Gill Sans type of lettering.

Apart from this it is a reasonably true likeness!

Brian Lamb, 02 January 1990

The IGKT secretary has written to Mr Young about the sign and found it was already sold. To whom, I wonder?



ROPEMAKERS ARMS

COPIED FROM DAILY TELEGRAPH, PP 45
MONDAY 01 JANUARY 1990
FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY PAUL ARMIGER
OF JIMMY YOUNG, COLLECTOR OF INN SIGNS
OF ROPEMAKERS ARMS P.H. EXETER.

BRIAN LAMB
21/01/90
BY E. CLAY

TURBANS by Harry ASHER

Illustrated by Phil Vernon

This article introduces a new form of turkshead based on the well known four strand square plait.

Warming-up exercise. Turbans are not easy to make, still less to illustrate, so we will start with one cut down to half size, the *half-turban* or *simplissimus*. Start with a right handed overhand knot Fig 1a, then repeat the tuck used in making it - Fig 1b.

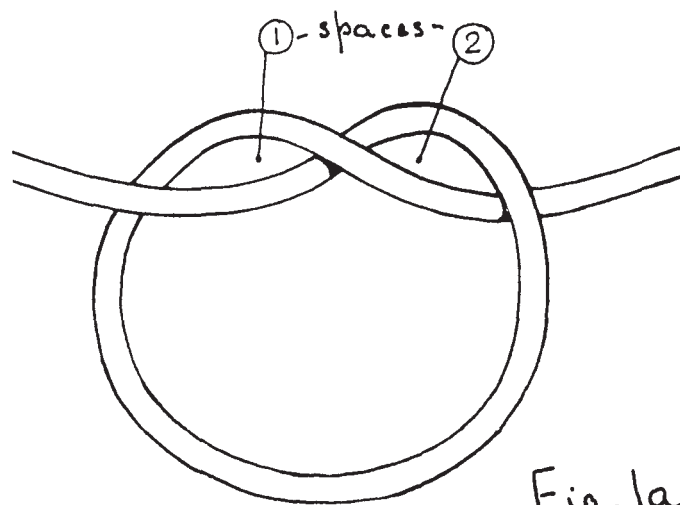


Fig. 1a

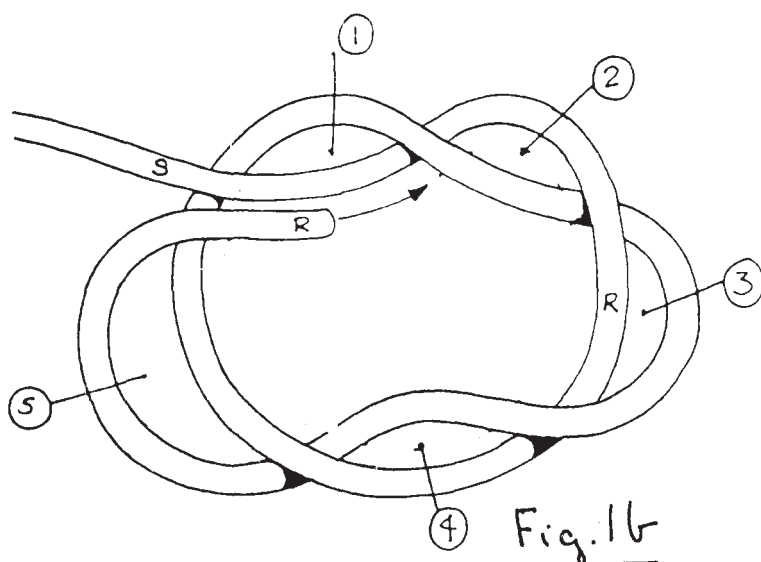


Fig. 1b

Note, possibly to your surprise, that though only two tucks have been made there are now five separate spaces, each one enclosed by a pair of bights.

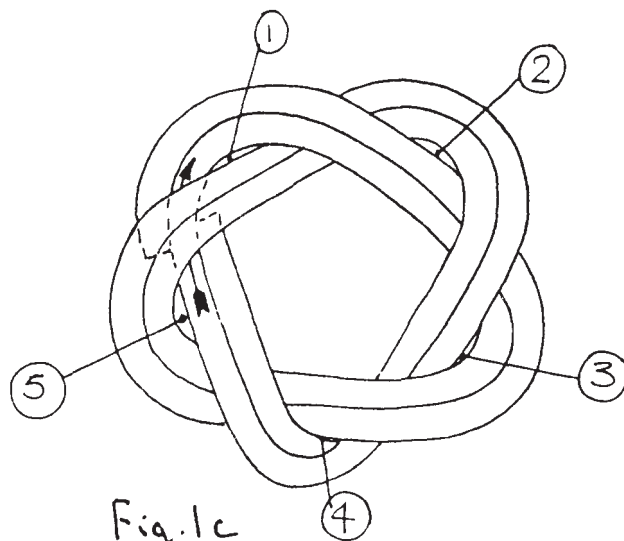


Fig. 1c

To complete this extremely simple introductory form, follow the original track round once more to double Fig 1c, or again to treble.

THE 4-STRAND 5-LOOP TURBAN

The turban is, of course, made with a single strand and it makes four circuits, or laps. For description it is convenient to give different names to this strand according to which lap it is on; thus on lap 1 it is strand 1, and on laps 2, 3 & 4 it is strand 2, 3 or 4. The general plan is simple. Think of a *simplissimus* in the single form, before doubling, laid flat round a table napkin ring. This is the start, Fig - 2a.

Now withdraw the ring and take the working end down through space 1 towards the centre of the ring, up space 2, down 3, up 4 and lastly down through space 5. That completes lap 3.

Fig. 2a

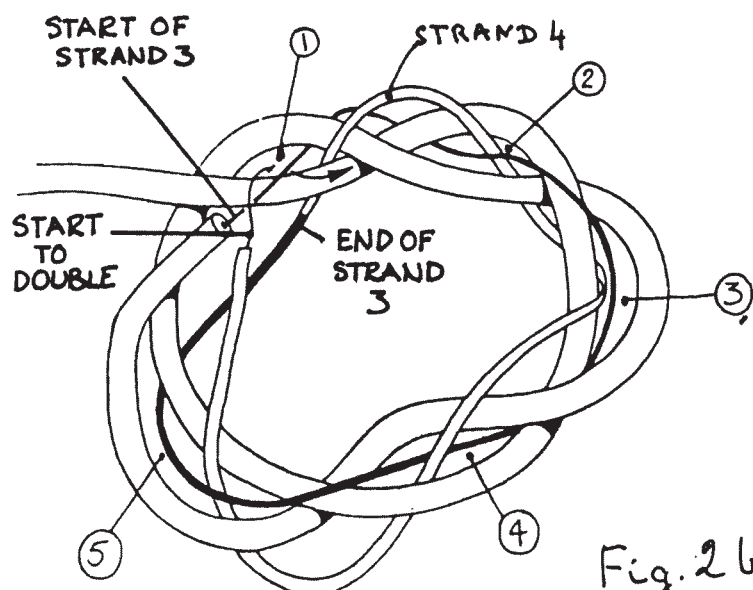
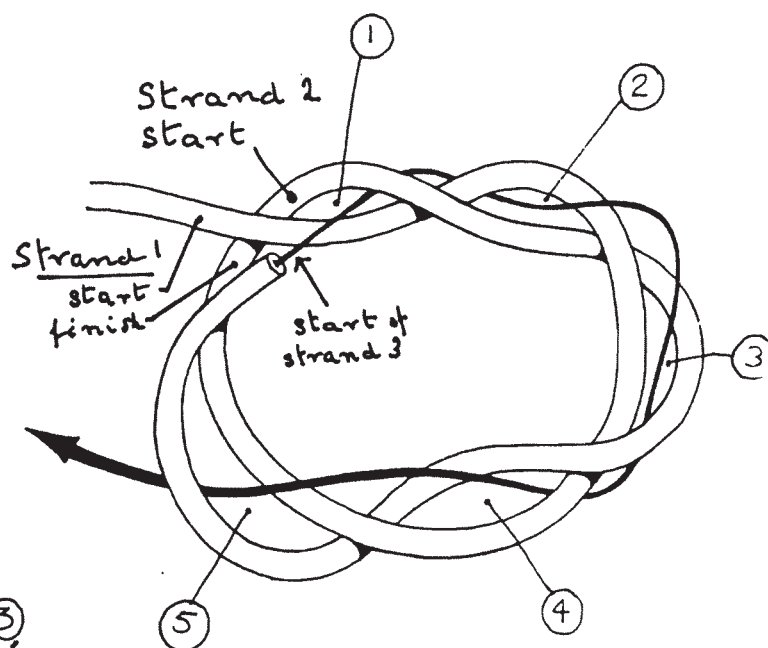


Fig. 2b



Having finished with a "down" you start lap 4 with an "up" Fig 2b. But now there is a complication - on this last lap besides going up and down the end must do so in such a way that strand 4 spirals lefthanded round strand 3; i.e. strands 3 and 4 form a lefthanded twin spiral. This will happen if the end comes up to the right of strand 3 in one space and down to the left of it in the next.

It might be a good idea to make a start with nothing more than this general plan in mind, and then to double. If there is confusion or difficulty it may have been due to failing to recognize strand 3; in early trials it can be helpful to mark this strand, e.g. with type correcting fluid, working back from the working end when lap 3 has been completed.

The diagram 2c shows the appearance of the 4-strand 5-100p turban as viewed by eye in the plane of the ring.

OTHER TURBANS

If two tucks are added to the original overhand knot, two extra loops are introduced and a 4-strand 7-100p turban will be formed. Alternatively, the work can proceed directly from the tying of the overhand knot, when a 4-strand 3-100p turban results. Thus the 4strand series can be made with any odd number of loops.

A 6-strand turban having any odd number of loops can be made by making a third spiral pair immediately after the second spiral pair has been completed. It is easy to get confused and I will not claim that the result is worth the trouble, but it will suit people who like to do things just because they are difficult! Others may like to go further than I have gone and investigate whether it is possible to make turbans from the other spiral plaits described in the IGKT publication *A New System of Knotting - Vol 2*. I shall be glad to learn of any successes.

ARE TURBANS A FORM OF TURKSHEAD ?

Webster's Third International Dictionary defines a turkshead as a *knot that is ornamental as well as practical and is considered to resemble a small turban*. On this definition the claim of the turban to be recognised as a turkshead is at least as strong as that of the conventional examples.

Ashley gives: *Turk's-Head: a plaited wreath or ring, a section of which is similar to a sinnet*. For Sinnet he gives: *Sinnet is braided cordage*. Here, too, the turban qualifies.

ARE TURBANS REGULAR?

For a circular plait to be regular, whether turkshead or turban, all parts running in sequence round the ring should be identical. There is, of course, the tiresome bit at the finish where two end fail to meet, but for this discussion we can consider the circular plait to be completed in single form (without doubling) and the two ends to be joined in an invisible weld.

Conventional turksheads certainly pass the test, but some of my learned friends who have been kind enough to examine a 4-strand sloop turban critically, claim to have detected irregularities. However I and others contest this claim and the matter stands unresolved; but this is IMPORTANT, and until regularity is established the turban will not be held in high esteem.

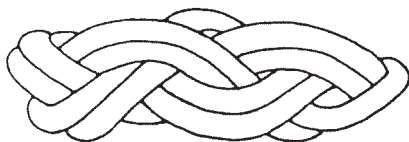


Fig. 2c

10746 Madrona Drive, R.R. 1, Sidney, B.C., Canada. V8L 3R9.

(604) 655 1225

28th December 1989,

Dear Frank,

May I start by wishing you a prosperous and happy New Year.

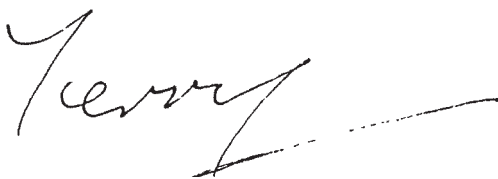
This past year has been a bit on the quiet side as far as knot tying goes. In June I took a tumble and managed to break my right thumb and finished up in a cast for two months - now I can manage a one handed bowline but when it comes to a Turk's Head and the like it is useful to have all ten digits working!

But before my mishap I did manage to make a bow fender, or as some would call it a "pudding", for the oldest vessel built in British Columbia still afloat. The tugboat DELTA celebrated her 100th birthday in May and was relaunched from the very yard she had been built. My contribution to the occasion was to make a pudding for the old girl. It was six feet long, 11/2 ft in diameter and weighed about a hundredweight when finished. The outer covering was 3/4" (dia) oiled sisal rope over a core of 2" (dia) polypropylene cut in varying lengths to give the right shape, through the middle is an 11ft galvanized chain. The sisal was donated by Canada Cordage Ltd, the other material, old tow line, was scrounged from various docks. To add to the fun of the occasion the pudding was made in a passageway not much larger than the finished product! I am enclosing a couple of photographs, as yet I do not have any pictures of the pudding on the DELTA as the owner is in the process of making some modifications to the bow.

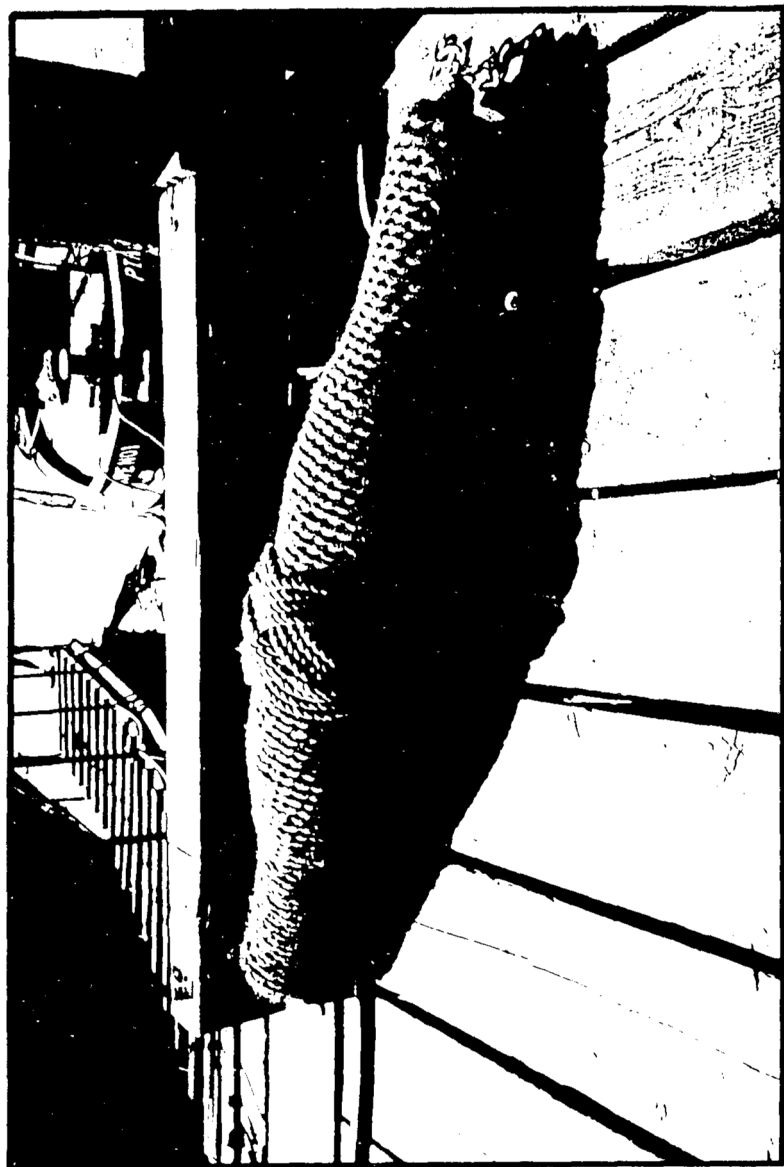
My other achievement was a two day knot tying demonstration at the Cowichan Boat Show in early June, as always there was a lot of interest and I think, hope, a couple of new members for the Guild.

An entry for your Knot Year. I will be at the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre, 1761 Cowichan Bay Road, Box 787, Duncan, BC, V9L 3Y1. Tel 604 746 1723. On Saturday 16th June. Time: 11.00 - 16.00 local, 18.00 - 03.00 GMT. The event: The Cowichan Bay Boat Festival.

Regards,

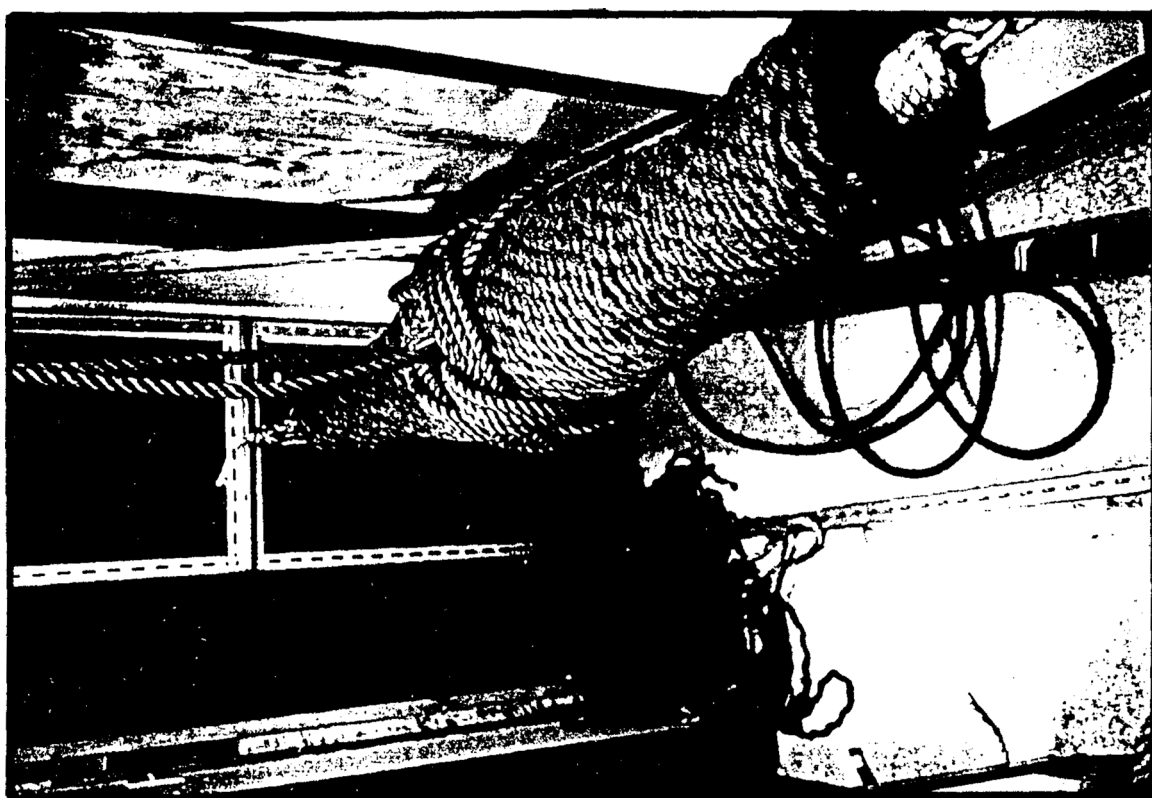


Terry Ridings.



Two views of the bow fender or pudding for the
1889 tug *DELTA*.

Made by Terry Ridings, B.C. Canada, Spring 1989.



INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF KNOTS AND ROPEWORK

The paper prepared by Frank C. BROWN published in the last issue of KNOTTING MATTERS (#30 Winter 1990 - pages 4 to 7) has brought an interesting response. Here is an extract from your replies so far.

FROM Sten JOHANSSON -

"I and some other members of IGKT are working on a computerized bibliography of everything which contains knots or is connected with knots. Please let us know of any lists of books, pamphlets, brochures etc. on knot monographs, knotting names and terms, braiding, knots and ethnology, ornamental ropework, applied ropework, knots used on ships - in fishing - in surgery - in rigging - in magic, and on knot theory.

"Our forthcoming bibliography is very serious and we have already compiled the draft on the letters A and B. We hope this will be of use to all knot lovers. Do you know anyone who has made a similar bibliography or intends to start to make one? There is no point in several I.G.K.T. members working on the same thing without knowing that there are others also making the same.

"We are using an IBM-compatible computer, I think, and we expect to create a database in the future where you can retrieve any work remotely connected with knotting. But we are not there yet - this is not a two months project but two years or more. As we are doing this via correspondence we want it to be right from the beginning

so we do not have to do it all over again.

"About the publishing of the bibliography I have suggested as an incentive that everyone contributing entries should receive a copy. I have also suggested that it should be given to the IGKT to be published by the guild for its benefit.

"The records in our proposed database include details of: the author's name; the language if different from English; a short description of the work; the publisher and place of publication; the year of publication; the ISBN and LCCC numbers if known and appropriate; whether illustrated or not; the number of pages; the name of another work which refers to this one; and the name of an I.G.K.T. member known to have a copy of the work.

For example: ARCHIBALD Rex WORKING WITH ROPE

Knotting and splicing modern cordage for the boatman and hobbyist. Applied ropework.
Published by Wilson & Horton Ltd Auckland New Zealand 1976, revised 1977. ISBN 0 86864 005 0
41 pages [Des Pawson Collection]

Kindest regards
Sten Johansson

Skebokvarnsvaegen 123
S - 12435 Bandhagen
SWEDEN

FROM Desmond MANDEVILLE -

"Frank Brown's contribution is a timely one. Interest in classification of knots is pretty fitful. My own two modest attempts at mapping the bends met with a fairly deafening silence!

"Frank Brown quite logically sees his catalogue of knots and ropework as suited to computer filing, but speculates whether illustrations could be handled that way. Of course they could! Computer graphics are at an exciting stage of development, and can already handle 3-dimensional structures, turning them round to present different aspects on the screen.

"For a century or so now, *chemical* structures have been fully systematized, which includes general agreement as to how they relate to each other and, more recently, which are the key elements that should be *quoted first* in drawing up a classification - so as to know where to place a particular structure in the index, and where to look for it when you want to find it. We are nowhere near that point yet, with knots. Perhaps Frank Brown's promised system of coding will get us started.

All kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

Desmond Mandeville.
13th January 1990

68 Hervey Road
Blackheath
London
SE3 8BU
ENGLAND

SEND A SEARCH PARTY Suggests Cy CANUTE

I was recently told of an excellent display of ropeworking (Chest beackets, tools, etc.) seen in a glass fronted wall recess in "the sailor's room" of the Elizabethan Merchant's House that is a tourist attraction in Plymouth, Devon. A notice states it is the work of Chief Petty Officer R. E. Tucknoll, Submarine Service (1984). Could one or more of our West Country members investigate, please? The *C.P.D.* might like to join us.

LETTERS TO WALES

Your editor has received *four* replies to Joe Pratt's query (K.M.30, page 21) about how to fix a rope securely to lift a heavy sphere. Desmond MANDEVILLE suggests using a Jug-sling knot suitably opened up as a basis; Howard DENYER and Eric FRANKLIN have both suggested the traditional solution; Stuart GRAINGER has provided a rather original alternative.

Eric and Stuart's answers are shown on the next two pages.

FROM Founder Member and Past President Eric
FRANKLIN -

"The answer to the problem posed by Joe PRATT is
the Jury Mast Knot.

"Many years ago I was told, or I read, that in
the days when the main ammunition for ships'
cannons was the cannon-ball or round shot, the
boys would carry these from point to point by
means of a sling consisting of a jury mast knot.
I have a grandson who is a basket-ball fanatic
and his parents decided to give him his own
basket ball for Christmas; they thought it would
be a good idea if, when he awoke, he would see it
suspended in mid-air and that is where I became
involved. They asked me to devise a means which I
did: with this knot.

In the present instance the people concerned,
having "enough rope to tie up the Queen Mary"
could have made a Jury Mast Knot of suitable size
to lie flat on the road; the large round boulder
could then have been trundled onto the centre
of the knot, the four loops gathered up (evenly
spaced round the boulder) and the boulder hauled
up onto the lorry by the available crane. *Easy!*

I enclose a print from the relevant page in my
latest book just about now coming off the presses
and available shortly.

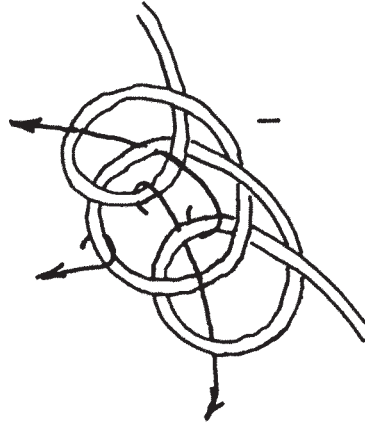
Sincerely

63 Aylward Road
Merton Park
London
SW20 9AJ
ENGLAND

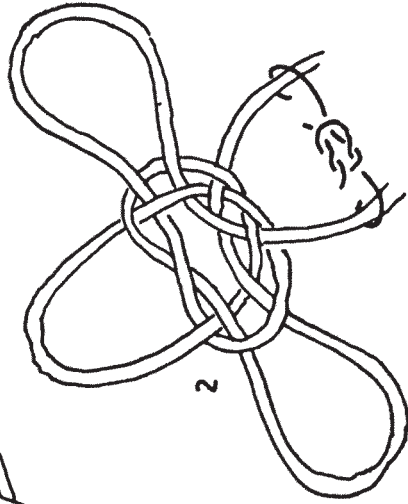
Eric Franklin
17 February 90

Some More Knots (11)

With any luck you will never have to use the Jury Mast
Knot for its original purpose — rigging an emergency mast —
but its fun to tie and it does have other uses.

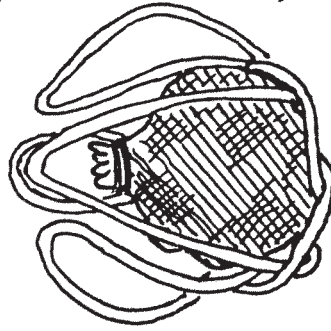


You need three hands to tie
this knot so use your teeth, a
projecting door knob or your
foot for the top loop.



Jury Mast Knot

This knot can be used as a sling to
hoist a package of, say, food, clear of
the ground or to carry a load. Lines
can be attached to the loops with
Becket Hitches.



Similar to Sheet
Bend but made
into a fixed loop.



Becket Hitch



FROM I.G.K.T. Council member and retired master-mariner Stuart GRAINGER -

"The letter from Joe PRATT in the January "Knotting Matters" rang a bell with me, because I remember when nearing one of my B.O.T. exams, for a Mate's ticket I think, one of the candidates in his oral exam was asked a very similar question by the examiner: "How would you sling a smooth sphere?" His immediate answer was "Use a cargo net", but the examiner responded that all the cargo nets had been eaten by cockroaches.

What actually happened after that I do not remember, except that we conducted our usual post mortem in the pub and our expert solution to the problem was something like the enclosed drawing. There is never a cut and dried way to solve such problems, but I think this one must have satisfied the examiner concerned on the next occasion, because he gave up asking the question thereafter.

I hope this will give satisfaction in Swansea.

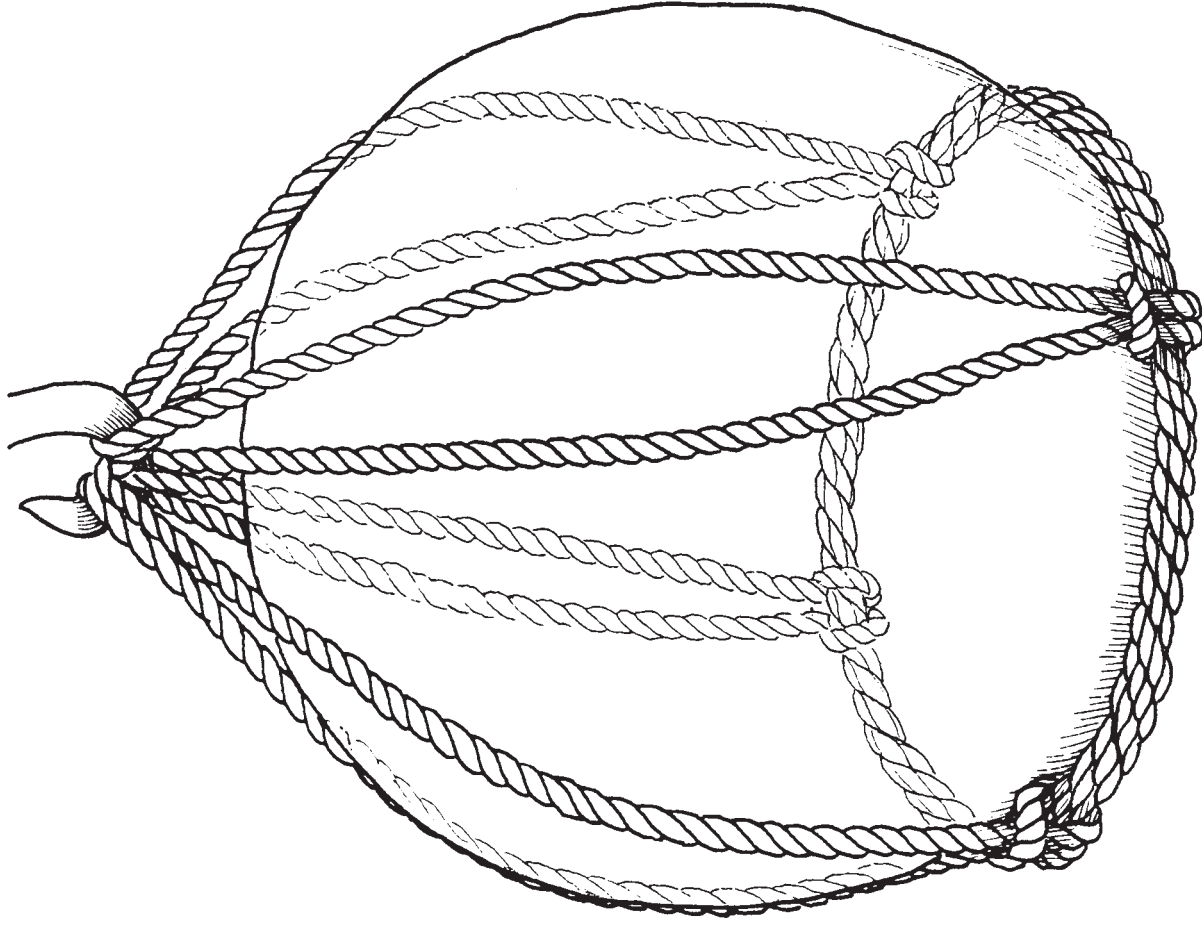
Yours sincerely,

Stuart Grainger
19th February 1990

Cuckamus End
Cuckamus Lane
North Leigh
Witney
Oxon OX8 6RR

TO SLING A SMOOTH SPHERE

1. Lay up a Grommet (left handed if rope is right hand laid) about $\frac{2}{3}$ diameter of boulder.
2. With a second length of rope, approx. 8 times the boulder's circumference, make four lifting beackets, joined to the Grommet with equidistant Cow Hitches. Splice the ends together.
3. Adjust the lifting beackets to be of equal length.



OBITUARY

We were saddened to hear that Dr. Edward Hunter died in February, 1990. He was 85.

The international publicity he secured for Hunter's Bend led to the I.G.K.T.'s creation; and he was always proud to have been a founder-member.

A retired consultant physician, he treated Scots knotsman James Nicoll in the early 1960s after his heart attack, neither one knowing then of the other's interest in knot-tying.

At the 1986 Knotting Extravaganza he displayed his wooden knots, loosely interlocked yet carved with the simplest tools from solid blocks. Because someone said he couldn't do it, he even made a round turn & 2 half hitches. Journalist Philip Howard, who wrote the Times feature that appeared on 6 act 78, said recently: "I keep his carved Hunter's Bend on my desk. It reminds me not write in a convoluted way."

Edward Hunter was always quiet and undemonstrative ("The only way you knew if he was smiling was if his ears moved," his daughter told me). But he was the catalyst knotting needed and he leaves us all richer for his friendship.

GB

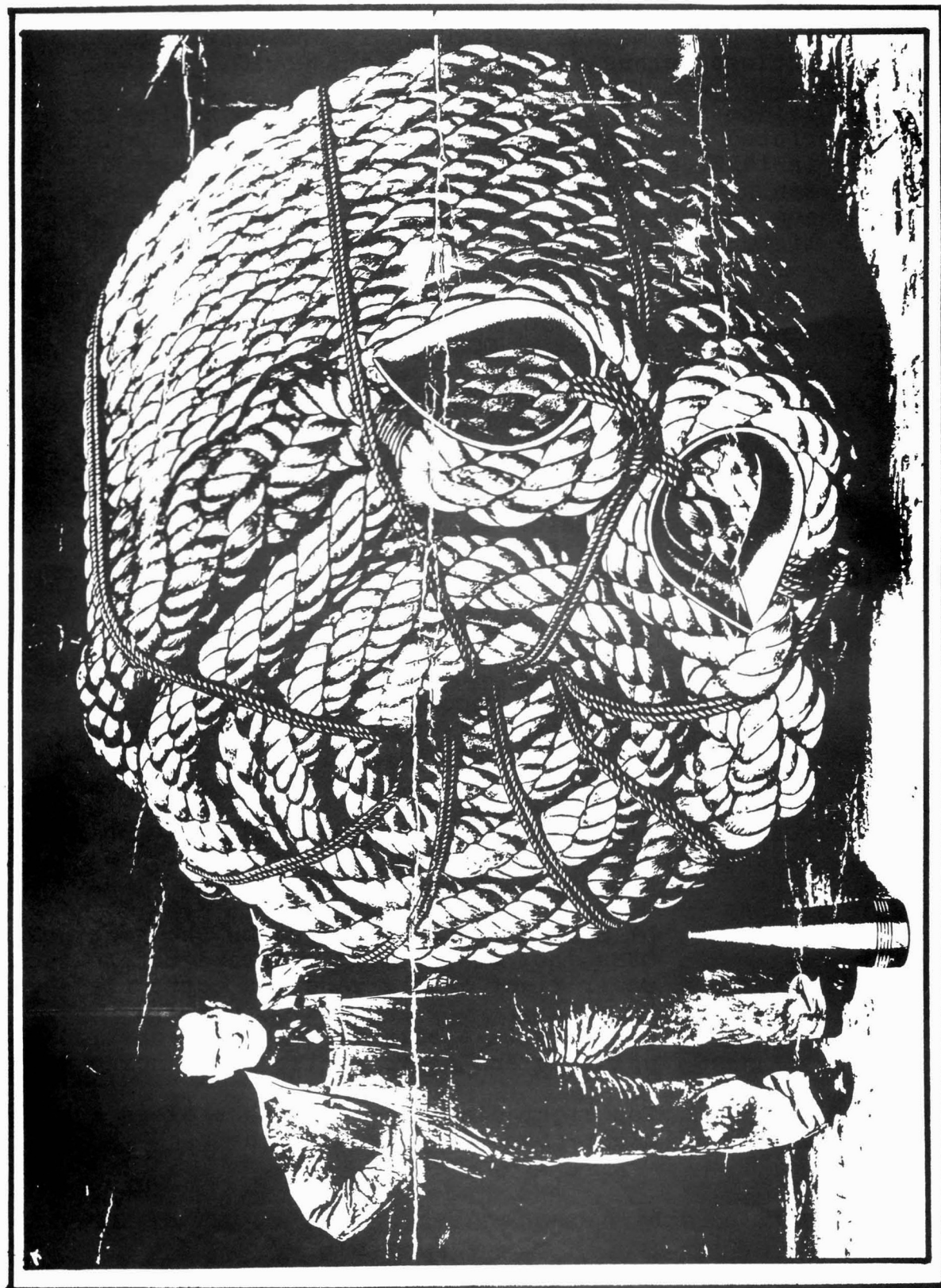
BIRMINGHAM'S ROPES GO AROUND THE WORLD

WRIGHTS ROPES LIMITED made the largest fibre rope ever - 47 inches in circumference and carrying 3780 yarns - in 1856 to launch the steamship Great Eastern, which laid the first successful Atlantic cable.

By 1832 two generations of ropemakers had established the earlier Dartmouth Street works of William Wright - close to where the London and Birmingham railway arrived a few years later.

The late Reg Jones, father of I.G.K.T. member Colin Jones, became head of Wrights' fibre splicing shop in 1942. Rare photographs of Reg at work and of fibre ropemaking in the long closed Universe Works, Garrison Street, Birmingham have now been compiled in a 14 page A4 pamphlet. Much of the material is derived from an article first published in the defunct *Birmingham Weekly Post* in January 1952, with additional items from Colin's own collection.

Copies from Colin Jones, 51 Ashmead Rise, Cofton Hackett, Birmingham, B45 8AE. Tel 021 445 5436. Price £1.75 including postage and packing.



Reg Jones beside a towing/mooring spring, possibly late 1940's.
From the collection of Colin R. Jones.

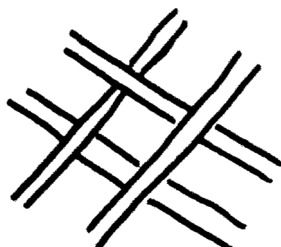
ASHLEY ERRORS Spotted by John CONSTABLE PART I

I feel slightly guilty at even suggesting that there can possibly be mistakes in a book which I revere so greatly.

To have achieved such a superb work must have given Ashley great satisfaction; it has certainly given me enormous pleasure and must have equally done so for countless enthusiasts all over the world.

My observations are based on the edition of The Ashley Book of Knots reprinted in Great Britain by Latimer Trend & Co Ltd, probably in 1972. Several years ago I sent a fairly full list to the American publishers. In my more recent researches into Turk's Heads I have come across others which I suspect were not in my original list.

PAGE	KNOT	COMMENT
59	366	Substitute Yardarm knot #1149 for Sheepshank knot(#1154).
122	697	In bottom right illustration the single black line should be shown ABOVE the first strand, not below it. As shown, the strand is tucked under five strands whereas the text correctly refers to tucking under FOUR.
124	706	At the base of the knot - right hand illustration - there is an extra single line shown 1/4" above the top of the whipping. Note:- it becomes apparent if the three strands are separately coloured (a device I found invaluable for clarifying the text).
133	743	Lefthand diagram a) Single black line should preferably not be shown as tucked under the whipping as this is not necessary and is difficult. b) Single black line must be shown as going OVER (<i>not under</i>) middle strand before tucking under right hand strand (as correctly shown). c) There is a surplus single black line below whipping and above centre end hanging down.
133	745	Top right diagram - the cross overs are not clear. Should be as shown here.



PAGE	KNOT	COMMENT
140	776	Jug sling lower diagram. The cross overs are not clear - particularly at the top right corner of the knot where the upper loop appears to lead the wrong way.
140	779	The single black line should be shown as passing ABOVE itself (where shown double lined) and NOT under.
141	788	I wasted a lot of time on this knot. The text describing the doubled knife lanyard knot is correct but it is incorrectly illustrated in diagram "A" where the lead shown by the single black lines should in both cases be UNDER then OVER instead of as shown. The doubling then continues as correctly shown in diagram "B".
145	803	Centre Diagram - left hand vertical strand should be shown as passing in FRONT of top loop and not behind.
164	883	The 'Crown' sits above the star and not below it as shown.
188	1038	Reference in text to "Knot #387" should read "Knot #2420".
190		Reference in first-paragraph to "the next two pages" excludes knots 1035 and 1038, on previous page, which can be tied in the bight.
191	1056	"Same" should read "similar" as the knot is NOT identical.
194	1076	Single line should be shown ABOVE lower side of bight, not below, before passing through coil.
194	1077	A warning should be given that an uneven distribution of weight will pull one loop through to another.
195	1080	Surely this knot deserves a star (Page 27)
196	1083	A bad knot - should be omitted. The illustrations are, in any case, wrong.
197	1086	a) Left hand illustration misses out one strand at left side of knot. b) Text refers to a "dotted line" but there is not one shown.

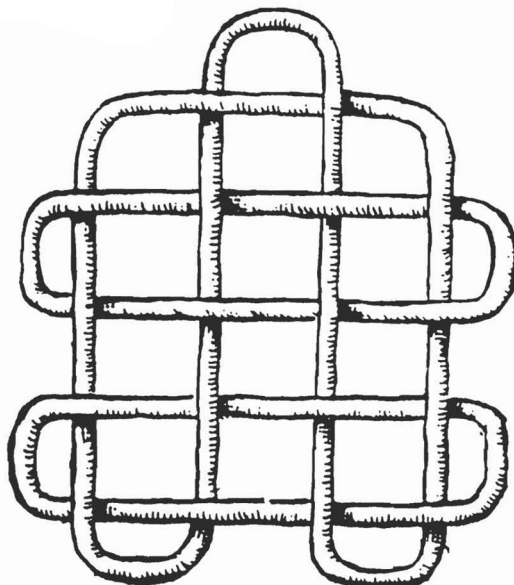
To be continued

O'BRIEN KNOT from Captain F.T.O'BRIEN

Dear Sirs,

Please forgive my approach in this way - out of the blue - but I write in the hope you may be able to help solve a family mystery. Mr Roy Bail of Cowes, Isle of Wight, told me of your society - we sailed together over the years in *Red Funnel*.

Enclosed is the so-called *O'Brien Knot*, found carved into the stonework surrounding an old fireplace in an ancient O'Brien Castle in County Clare, Ireland.



THE O'BRIEN KNOT

BALLINAKELLA PRESS, WHITEGATE, CO CLARE, IRELAND

It has been tentatively identified as "maker's trademark" of the mason who built the fireplace some hundreds of years ago; or an example of an early Irish logo-mark, with maybe an origin deriving from the Holy Trinity - (the three interlaced grommets!); or could they be based on ancient celtic spiral carvings?

From a practical point of view I cannot see any use for this - cask sling? Cargo net? Sword harness? Or plain netting?

I wonder if you with your great knowledge of knots, hitches, etc. could throw any light on the matter.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

F.T.O'Brien
23 Jan 1990

"Jackdaws"

3 The Brit
East Street
Beaminster

Dorset DTB 3DT
England

Tel Beaminster 863430

BOOK REVIEWS

NETTING - A History and How-to of Netmaking

by Barbara M. Morton

Price £7.95p

ISBN 0-89272-231-2

Published (1988) by Down East Books, Camden, Maine, U.S.A. distributed in the United Kingdom by

Alison Hodge Publishers

Bolsulval

Penzance

Cornwall TR20 8XA

England

Barbara Morton tells us she discovered traditional netmaking in the late 1950's when she went to live on the island of Vinalhaven in Maine. She has now written and illustrated this worthwhile modern methods manual, which is also an eye-witness account of traditional (and rapidly disappearing) American North-East coast netmaking.

It is a large soft-cover book almost 11" x 81" (27.5 x 21.5 cm), with 143 pages containing basic techniques and tools, 29 practical projects, 40 photographs (many of which are archive material), 82 illustrations, fishermen's nets, useful knots, and - a rare treat 36 facsimile pages from the 1887 edition of "The young Ladies' Journal" Complete Guide to the Work-Table detailing what netmaking was done in the drawing room a century ago.

This is an easily affordable collector's item you can not only read but use.

MAGICAL STRING

By Steve and Megumi Biddle

ISBN 0-964470-3

A Beaver Book published (1990) by

Arrow Books Ltd.

62-5 Chandos Place

London WC2N 4NW

England

Price - U.K. £2.50, Canada \$4.95, Australia A\$5.95 (Recommended).

Steve and his Japanese wife Megumi are Origami entertainers who have turned their hands to creating this children's fun paperback book, with 143 pages containing numerous string figures (cat's cradles) for 2 and 4 hands; also several string tricks and magical effects that are the basis for real conjuring.

Megumi's hundreds of sketches, suited for boys and girls of any ethnic background, are easy to follow because she draws the hands as if they were your own. Straightforward written instructions go with the drawings.

This is a fresh look at an old pastime. Highly recommended for youngsters. Grown-ups will want to borrow it.

I.G.K.T. SUPPLIES LIST

BOOKS	AUTHOR	COST
Breast Plate Designs	Brian Field	£2.50
Introduction to Knot Tying	Stuart Grainger	£3.80 +
Sollys Single Star Knot	Stuart Grainger	£1.00 +
Some Splices & Lanyard Knots	Stuart Grainger	£3.25 +
Ropefolk	Stuart Grainger	£1.75
Knotcraft	Stuart Grainger	£3.24 ++

(Knotcraft is available to I.G.K.T.members at a special price of £2.92 including postage.)

Turks Heads the Traditional Way	Eric Franklin	£1.50
Lashings	Percy Blandford	£2.00
A New System of Knotting vol.1	Harry Asher	£1.85
A New System of Knotting vol.2	Harry Asher	£1.40
Solid Sennets	George Aldridge	£2.00
Photo of A.G.M group at Portsmouth 1989		£3.50
Christmas cards (Pack of 10)		£3.00

POST CARDS

A	Turkshead mats 3-4	£0.15
B	Ropefolk	£0.15
C	Coach whipping	£0.15
D	Star knot	£0.15
E	Ocean plat	£0.15
F	Manrope knot	£0.15
G	Diamond rose knot	£0.15
H	Turks head mats 3-5	£0.15

SUNDRIES

1	Ties	£4.50
2	Metal badges - printed	£0.30
3	Tie tacks - enamel	£1.80
4	Stick pins - enamel	£1.80
5	Brooches - enamel	£1.80
6	Cloth badges	£0.75
7	Clutch badges - enamel	£1.80

ALL IGKT books, badges and knot charts are available at meetings or by mail direct from the Assistant Secretary (Supplies),
Barry DARKINS - his address and 'phone number are shown on page 1.

++ is a compilation of items marked +

POSTAGE AND PACKING

The Guild profit margin is small, so please help by allowing sufficient for packing and postage.

Within the UK please allow:

For orders up to	£1. 00	28p
then up to	£2.00	35p
	£3.00	45p
	£4.00	55p
	£6.00	65p
	£12.00	£1. 00

For European countries the rates are about double the above.

Outside Europe the rates are higher still - as a guide for the USA:

	AIRMAIL		SURFACE MAIL	
	SEALED	UNSEALED	SEALED	UNSEALED
9 Books	£14.25	£7.20	£3.60	£2.30
2 Books	£5.10	£2.65	£1.50	86p
100 Charts	£7.90	£4.05	£2.80	£1.90
50 Charts	£4.45	£2.30	£1.30	95p

Do bear in mind that surface mail is rather slower than airmail getting on for three months sometimes. If possible use British currency. The guild has to pay a bank charge to convert currencies to Sterling, so please allow sufficient.

KNOTTING MATTERS BY AIRMAIL? .. asks Frank Harris.

If you live outside the UK your copy of KNOTTING MATTERS could well have arrived nearly three months after it was published. To save excessive postal costs we send "KM" by surface mail - this does not really affect you once you have received your first copy, subsequent copies should arrive regularly at three monthly intervals. We appreciate, though, that there are times when being out of phase is irritating. A recent example has been the IGKT Christmas Card designed by Stuart Grainger which we advertised in the October 1989 edition - the orders for 1989 are still arriving!

There is a simple solution. For an annual fee of £6.00 paid with your annual subscription your copies of KNOTTING MATTERS will be sent to you by AIRMAIL. If you would like to use this service, please write to me at the address given on page 1 enclosing your cheque. (£3.00 will be required for the remaining two issues of 1990 - Summer and Autumn.)

FGH

I.G.K.T. KNOT CHARTS at 10p each, binders 25p.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Turkshead mat and hitch mat. | 53. 3-lead 4-bight turkshead. |
| 2. Lanyard knot. | 54. Bead puzzle. |
| 3. 3-lead 5-bight turkshead. | 55. Rosenthal Zeppelin knot. |
| 4. Monkey's fist. | 56. Hunter bend. |
| 5. Ocean plait mat. | 57. Pole hitches. |
| 6. 4-lead 3-bight turkshead. | 58. Perfection loop. |
| 7. Sailmaker's whipping. | 59. Crown knots. |
| 8. Common whipping variations. | 60. Crown knots continued. |
| 9. Basic eyesplice. | 61. Star knot. |
| 10. Backsplice. | 62. Bottle (or jar) sling. |
| 11. End of a rope. | 63. Back mooring hitch. |
| 12. Rustler's (square) knot. | 64. Full (or double) carrick bend. |
| 13. Sheet bend variations. | 65. Tumbling thief knot. |
| 14. Sheepshank variations. | 66. Netting knot. |
| 15. Clove hitch variations. | 67. Sailmaker's eye splice. |
| 16. Constrictor knot. | 68. Eye splice with collar. |
| 17. Chinese lanyard knot. | 69. Wire splice, over and under. |
| 18. 5-lead 12-bight turkshead. | 70. Endless three part plait. |
| 19. Mat tied with a single cord. | 71. Chain splice. |
| 20. Celtic knot design. | 72. Macrame knots - 1. |
| 21. Knob coverIng. | 73. Macrame knots - 2. |
| 22. A square mat. | 74. Spectacles neck cord. |
| 23. A* | 75. Basic picture frames. |
| 24. B* | 76. Four strand sinnets. |
| 25. C* | 77. Circular mat. |
| 26. D* | 78. Rectangular mat. |
| 27. E* | 79. 3-lead 5-bight turkshead. ** |
| 28. F* | 80. 4-lead 7-bight turkshead. ** |
| 29. G* | 81. True lover's knot. |
| 30. H* | 82. Simple lanyard. |
| 31. I* | 83. Cowboy belt. |
| 32. J* | 84. Carrick bend and variations. |
| 33. K* | 85. Necklace in Chinese knotting. |
| 34. L* | 86. Macrame knots - 3. |
| 35. M* | 87. Macrame knots - 4. |
| 36. N* | 88. Connecting knots. |
| 37. O* | 89. 5-lead 7-bight turkshead. ** |
| 38. P* | 90. 4-lead 5-bight turkshead. ** |
| 39. Q* | 91. Square lashing. |
| 40. R* | 92. Diagonal lashing. |
| 41. S* | 93. Shear lashing. |
| 42. T* | 94. Prolong knot. |
| 43. U* | 95. Overhand knot by forceps. |
| 44. V* | 96. Figure-eight knot by forceps. |
| 45. W* | 97. Surgeons knot using forceps. |
| 46. X* | 98. 3-lead 4-bight turkshead. ** |
| 47. Y* | 99. Versitackle. |
| 48. Z* | 100. Theodore knot. ** |
| 49. Scaffold Hitch. | |
| 50. Highwayman's Hitch. | |
| 51. Multiple bowlines. | * Knotted letter design. |
| 52. Coachwhipping. | ** Tied round fingers. |

KNOT YEAR 1990

I.G.K.T. past president Geoffrey BUDWORTH chatted about the guild for 5 or 6 minutes with Derek JAMIESON on the Cockney broadcaster's nation-wide early morning B.B.C. Radio 2 programme on Friday, 8 March 90.

Ex-journalist Derek has a weekly slot featuring unusual clubs and societies. Geoffrey sent him a set of I.G.K.T. postcards and an introductory letter last September, resulting in valuable air-time during this year's high profile 'KNOT YEAR 90'.

By the next morning's post came 22 membership enquiries, plus a request for a guest speaker (fee payable). More are expected.

It shows how, when we make an effort and show ourselves, other knot tyers find out we exist and get in touch. Our Council's 'KNOT YEAR 90' initiative is under way. Do let us know how it goes.

MAR 27TH. 215 ENQUIRES & 15 NEW MEMBERS..
FAH

LETTER FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Due to the publicity I got last July 1989 for tying knots at M.I.T. in a National Science Foundation program I was invited to participate in the computer fair at the Computer Museum on February 24, 1990.

Since it was to be at a computer museum (they claim it is the only computer museum in the world), I suggested a program where I would discuss the quipu, Egyptian knotted ropes for surveying, binary numbers with knotted ropes, etc., all aimed at a mathematical flavour. This was accepted, particularly since I was doing the program at no charge. The museum had no funds to pay speakers. I was happy to have an audience and put up the I.G.K.T. banner on the wall. Due to a snowstorm in Boston on February 24 and another on the 25th, the museum appeared to have only a few hundred visitors to the Computer Fair.

Several years ago I heard of a knot tying Arthur Ashley in the Boston Area. In January 1990 I was finally given his phone number and I invited him to the fair on February 24 so we could meet. He did attend to see the demonstration and to meet me.

Arthur Ashley is a blood relative of Clifford Ashley, but the distance is great. The connection goes back to Clifford's father. Arthur told me that there are a number of direct descendants of Clifford living in the Cape Cod area.

Best regards

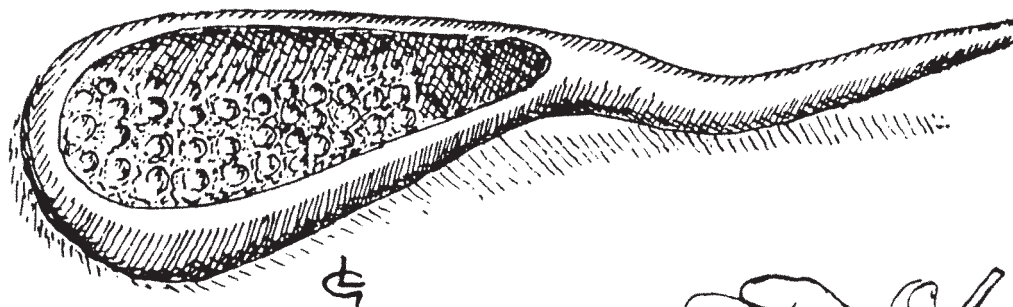
Frederick Browne
March 1, 1990

P.O.Box 327
Cambridge
Mass 02139
U.S.A.

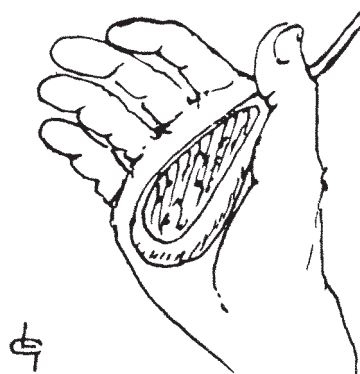
ALL METAL SEWING PALM

Owned and sketched by Lester Copestake

This all-metal sewing palm is 125mm long and weighs 100gm. In use it lies in the palm of the hand. The forefinger and thumb close round it to keep it firm and grasp the needle, whose butt locates in one of the indentations in the hollow. Great force can be exerted for the heaviest work without risk of even the largest needle slipping out of the hollow and injuring the hand. For fine accurate work with tiny needles the cup on the end of the point is used as a pusher.



It seems to be hand forged from mild steel or perhaps wrought iron. Its origin and history before 1955 is not known but it is clearly much older. Those who have seen it usually say it is the best implement ever devised for the purpose; would the real experts agree?



LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND

Dear Mr Harris,

It was wonderful to find out that of the six New Zealand members, one of them, Roger Carter, lives here at Plimmerton. We have met because of the guild at long last and we both know many of the same people, both of us having worked for the Wellington Harbour Board.

I look forward to setting up a number of events here in Wellington this year.

All the best

Tony Fisher
8 January 1990

11 Gordon Road
Plimmerton
Wellington
New Zealand

THE I.G.K.T. ARCHIVE

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR/COMMENT</u>	<u>ISBN, if any</u>
Japanese Kimomos	(No English)	457920279x
General Knots, Japanese	(No English)	?
L'Album des Noeuds	George Mendosa	2215010959
Canvas and Rope Craft	Frank Rosenow	0229118046
Team Roping	Leo Camerillo	0911647007
Identification of Knots	Geoffrey Budworth	N/A
New System of Knotting	Harry Asher (2 Vols)	N/A
Art of Knotting and Splicing	Cyrus L Day	0870210629
Knots and Splices	Cyrus L Day	0229642349
Om Knutar	Hjalmar Ohrvall	19171201120
Basic Surgical Techniques	R M Kirk	0433010658
Famous Cable Way of the World	Frederrick Dean	N/A
Admiralty Manual of Seamanship, Vol 1		?
Admiralty Manual of Seamanship, Vol 2		?
Reeds Seamanship	C M Swainston	N/A
De Gabersten (Surgary)	De Van Geldera	N/A
Rope Spinning	D W Pinkney	N/A
Portsmouth Blockmaking Machinery	K R Gilbert	N/A
Straw Plait	Jean Davis	085263580x
Coiled Basketry	M Swannell	N/A
Nets and Knots	Q Winch	0852197217
Things to Wear	M & M Petersham	N/A
Electric Cables in Victorian Times	R M Black	112901239
Introduction to Trawling	A Hodson	N/A
Seaman's Pocket Book	Admiralty	SO Code 20217
Photographic Guide to Plaiting	Clive Hiles	N/A
Manual of Surgical Knots	Bashir A Zikira	N/A
Hand Weaving Harriett	J Brown	N/A
Nichols Seamanship and Guide	A E Nichols	N/A
Nichols Cincise Guide to Board of Trade Examinations	A E Nichols	21 st Edition
Angler's Knots in Gut and Nylon	S Barnes	N/A
Camping and Woodcraft	Horace Kephart	N/A
Braid Rawhide Horse Tack	R L Woolery	087033333x
50 Practical and Decorative Knots	Percy W Blandford	0830693041
Weavers Craft	L E Simpson	N/A
Scout Annual 1990	David Eastern Editor	0723568499
Wire Splicing	R Scot Skirving	N/A
Learn About Knots	Ronald Hinton	0721404677
Knots	Mary Lawson	0454008244
Knots and Splices	Jeff Toghill	0730101339
Knots Ties and Splices	J Tom Burgess	0710086717
Knotting	C Arthur Pearson	N/A

Compiled on 3rd November 1989 by George ALDRIDGE, the IGKT's Achivist.

FRANK'S NEW KNOTTY NUMBERS

Your Secretary Frank HARRIS has set himself an awesome task. He takes pleasure in Turksheads ... so much so that he would like to have at least one of his turksheads on show at EVERY ONE OF THE KNOT YEAR '90 EVENTS. Yet another very good reason for telling him about your plans. His speciality is multicoloured turksheads - 12 X 10 in two colours; variations include two-colour turksheads with all the bights on both rims in the same colour.

Write to him as soon as possible to let him know what's on. If you want to telephone him, don't forget that his telephone number changes on 6th May 1990 - as will ALL LONDON NUMBERS.

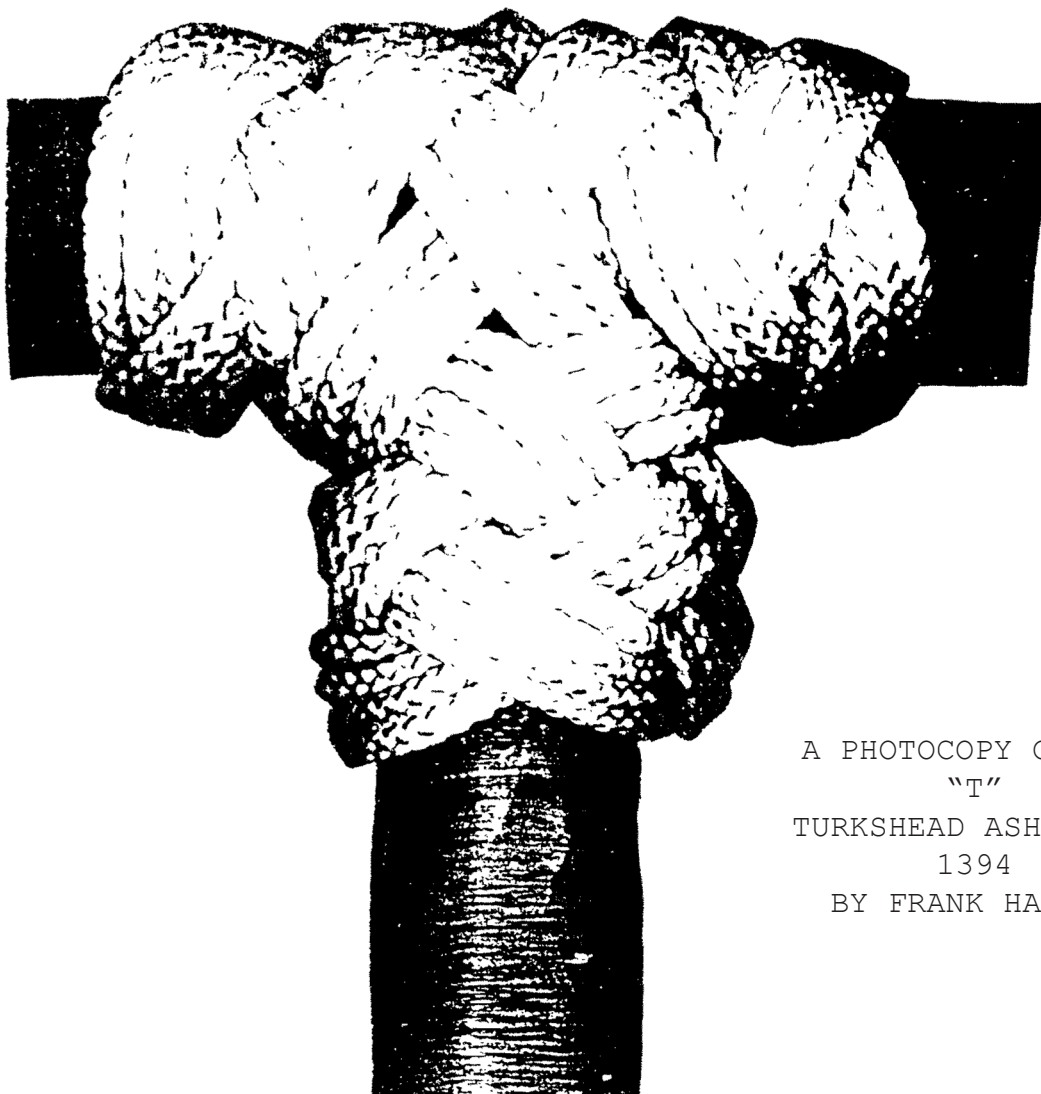
For UK callers from outside the London 081 area Frank's new number will be:

081 858 6728

For callers from outside the British Isles, i.e. from outside the U.K., Frank's number will be:

Your UK code + 81 858 6728.

If you hadn't already guessed, that's what the "UK+ ... " against our phone numbers on page one indicates.



A PHOTOCOPY OF THE
"T"
TURKSHEAD ASHLEY No
1394
BY FRANK HARRIS

