How to make a paper bird

Luminous Birds by Kathy Hinde will see Vicar Street have its own beautiful flock of birds throughout the 2015 festival. We want to fill Kidderminster with birds in unexpected places and venues through the town. KAF needs your help to make paper birds come to life! Follow the instructions below and/or the online tutorial (www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSZK-WH8n7w or search ‘Kathy Hinde Instruction Video’ on YouTube) to make a bird, drop it off in the bird box at Kidderminster Town Hall or Wyre Forest House then try and spot your bird during the festival.

You will need: A piece of white A4 paper, scissors and a flat surface

1. Make your paper into a square. With your (A4) piece of paper landscape in front of you, take the bottom right corner upward to meet the far side of your paper, making a right angled triangle on the double sided paper and fold down the diagonal line.
2. Cut the ‘left over’ rectangle, on the left hand side of your paper off using a pair of scissors, leaving you with a square piece of paper with one diagonal fold.
3. Open your square and write your wish, prayer or hope for the future on one side of your paper.
4. With your square open in front of you fold it in half, creating a rectangle, from left to right, open and repeat but from top to bottom, make sure your folds are really firm.
5. Open it again and fold these two rectangle folds again, in the opposite direction so the folds are present on the front and reverse of the paper.
6. With the side you have written on facing upwards, fold diagonally, creating a triangle.
7. Fold again creating a smaller triangle.
8. Keeping your paper on a flat surface, pick up one of the two small triangles, (so the triangles are at right angles to each other) and place your hand inside the fold of the triangle to open it up and then press down to create a square using your previous folds as a guide.
9. Turn it over and on this side if you pick up the triangle it should be diagonally across the centre of the square you just created. Again, reach inside this triangle and flatten it, creating another square.
10. Now you need to make a kite shape. The bottom of the kite shape (the longer sides) should be at the open end of the folded paper, fold the top half of your square only, so the two ‘outside corners meet in the middle of your kite shape. Turn over and repeat. Again, strong folds.
11. Fold the top of your kite over, to create a small triangle shaped fold, use the top, side points as the base line of the triangle. Fold in both directions to make a firm fold and then place in front of yourself in the kite position.
12. Re-open the folds you made for the kite shape into a square.
13. With one hand lift up the top open corner of your square, place your other hand on the small triangle you just made at the top of the kite and pull the flaps open. Pull back the two open sides along folds that are already present making a tall diamond shape. It will have the small triangle underneath.
14. Turn over and repeat. This should leave you with a tall diamond shape that on one half is split down the centre giving you ‘legs’ and the other half having two diamonds flaps with a small triangle in the centre.
15. With the separated ‘leg shapes’ at the bottom, fold over one half from the right to the left and the fold up the bottom to make a thick triangle at the top with one leg remaining at the bottom.
16. Fold back one flaps at the top.
17. Now fold over from the left to the right making a full diamond again, Lift up the bottom and fold in half like step
15. Take the first grouping of paper and fold it back right to left.
18. Now you should have a triangle that is made up of two outer triangles and a further two inward right angled triangular shapes. Take one of these ‘inner pieces’, pull it out side-wards to about 70 degrees and fold, repeat on the other side creating a 3 spiked hat/crown shape.
19. To make a head for the bird, on the right hand spike, grip the spike around a third down from the top on both sides, place your finger inside the outer side fold, then on the top side of this push down in between your grip and pinch creating a small triangle, half inside the fold and half outside. Press it flat to get the best effect.
20. To make the wings, one side at a time, fold down the middle spike to create a triangle, using the second corner up on top of the right spike. It will feel natural to fold this directly down, but folding the equilateral triangle to be pointed further towards the head will look really effective.
21. Turn over and repeat, use the other wing as a guide for your fold.
22. Congratulations! You have made a paper bird.