

Sport Parachutist



December 1994

January 1995

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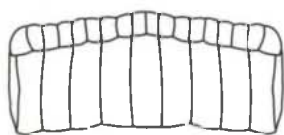
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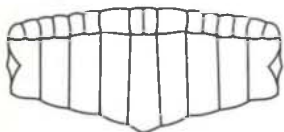
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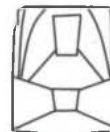
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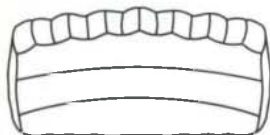


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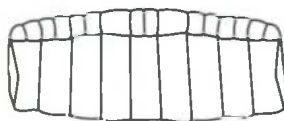
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Sport Parachutist

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December /
January 1995

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The Royal Aero Club

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Cover Photo: Skysurf - Tandem jump over Tahiti
with Wendy Smith and Patrick de Gayardon
Photo by Patrick Passe

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NEWS & EVENTS

PIA SYMPOSIUM 1995

The Parachute Industry Association is preparing for its third biannual International Symposium on March 22-26th, 1995. Orlando.

The five-day event features three days of lectures, demonstrations and seminars; a trade-show with more than 100 exhibits; and concludes with The PIA Symposium Banquet.

Orlando, close to several of the worlds largest parachuting equipment manufacturers and skydiving centres, is also near many tourist attractions including Disney World, Epcot Centre, Sea World and Universal Studios.

PIA has reserved 500 rooms at the Hyatt-Orlando for conventioners. Exhibit booth rental is \$500 for PIA members and \$750 for non-members.

For more information contact: Cheryl Zimmermann, 208 E. Rosehill Avenue, Suite.101, Deland, Florida 32724 U S A. Tel / Fax (904) 738-6899.

BRAZIL 'AIR PRESS' SYMPOSIUM

104 Brazilian skydivers attended their first-ever symposium recently at Aguas de Lindoia. Seminars, conducted by professionals like Skydive U coach Ricardo Pettena, covered all aspects of the sport, which has been growing fast in Brazil in the last three years.

Greike and Ricardo Contel, publishers of Tiv Press, the Brazilian skydiving mag and organisers of the event, will conduct another symposium next year as they believe this is a beginning of a 'boom' for skydiving in Brazil.

MISSING WOMEN

APOLOGY: In the September issue of SP Sharon Wright and Cornelia Welmouth's names were inadvertently left out of the list for the Women's record at Langar last July. Sorry ladies.

THE ST PETERSBURG PROFESSIONAL PARACHUTE CENTRE

The St Petersburg Professional Parachute Centre is looking for an exchange with jumpers from a UK club that could involve demo jumps and participation in each other's national championships. In Russia they organise airshows in major cities, involving drops into stadiums and city areas, as well as water jumps. Next summer they will take part in the opening and closing ceremonies of the Goodwill Games.

They are very interested in exchanging with a British team and entering the UK Nationals. In return they offer to organise training, board and lodging and transportation within Russia, together with a chance to enter the Russian Championships and do demos from various planes and helicopters, and possible commercial partnership if wanted.

Contact Dennis Barygin, 197022 St Petersburg, Kamennostrovsky pr 44.b-12, Russia; tel: +7-812-230-8654; fax: +7-812-542-6570.

NEW FAI PRESIDENT

Norwegian Parachutist Eilif Ness, FAI President was elected on the 14th October 1994 at the federation's annual general conference at Antalya, Turkey. This is the first time any parachutist has held the highest post in the sport aviation world.

Eilif Ness is best known for serving as IPC President from 1991 to 1993. Before that, he was Norway's delegate to the IPC for 20 years, serving as the first chairman of the (then) RW subcommittee from 1972 to 1981. As subcommittee chairman, he was instrumental in getting IPC to accept formation skydiving as a competition form (10-way speed star) introducing together with BJ Worth, the concept of sequential formation skydiving.

During his skydiving career, Eilif Ness was team captain of the Norwegian National RW team from 1971 to 1975, including the 10-way speed star team Polar Bears, bronze winners at the 1st Europa Cup in Innsbruck in 1974 and participants in the 1st World Parachuting Championships in Warendorf, Germany, in 1975.

COMIC RELIEF

Skydivers with not enough to challenge their brain cells during the winter months may like to think up silly things to do on Red Nose Day, March 17th 1995.

In nine years, Comic Relief has raised an amazing 92 million for projects helping to house the homeless, immunise children against potentially fatal diseases, provide clean water in remote areas and help disabled people fight for their rights. Help goes to the poorest people in the UK and in Africa.

This year the aim is to top 1993's sum of 18 million plus to take the total past 100 million. The organisers say Think big, think fun and think early! Would - be nude skydiving gorillas should send an A4 SAE (two first class stamps) to Debbie Adams, Comic Relief, Room D115, Sulgrave House, 1 Woodger Road, London W12 8QT.

Word in the Media suite says Get off your butt and DO IT SOON, DUDES!!! (sorry, thought I was George for a moment.)

5,000 JUMPS

Congratulations to Jane Buckle who completed her 5,000th parachute descent at Headcorn Parachute Club on the 31st July 1994. Jane is the first British woman to achieve this number of jumps (we believe).



SYMBIOSIS SUITS

Tel: 0622 890967 Fax: 0622 891236 The Airfield, Headcorn, Kent, TN27 9HX. England.

Friends keep asking us "when are you going to do a new Ad?" "It's been years" they say-

Well they're right ! But only because we've been so busy with the high demand for SYMBI JUMPSUITS and WARMWEAR, that our priority has been to give our customers top service, and fast delivery, and not spend our time on Advertising.

Anyway - to please our friends - here it is !

Rob Colpas

WORLD CUP – NO BRIT TEAM!

The World Cup, which is the "Off Year" World Meet, was held in Spain at Ampuria, 23rd Sept onwards. Making the trip from the UK to compete at world level were... that's right dude, there were no Brit teams. Let me say again: "*No British team, 4-way or 8-way.*" Now that may not be a big deal to you, but the four of us who were there (arriving too late to enter as a 4-way) got nothing but hassle from the rest of the world as to where our national teams were, the answers we gave *cut no ice* with them. No national representation at a comp of this level is disgusting!! (oh if this were not a family mag!) The other nations could not believe the answers that we gave them as to the absence. *Something needs to be done here.* We must represent ourselves. It doesn't matter to the competitors whether we are on the podium (within reason) so long as we are there!

Did you know that you don't have to be a champ to go to the World Cup and get a buzz from competing at such an event? Call the BPA for details of how you can represent your country, and let's not allow this sorry state to happen again. The *Face* that British competition skydiving lost in Spain this year will take some getting back!

FRENCH & USA KICK A**!

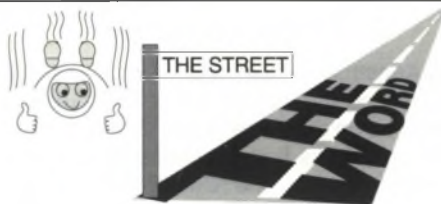
The USA won the 4-way at the above event, having scored a scorching 29 points in time on round two. This round was a classic for the sceptics, nearly random, just up their street. This is a new world record. And Mark Kirby, ex- Cark jumper, is on the team! See, you northern jumpers have got it. Nice One, Mark. This is the first time the French have lost for a long time. There were about 4 points in it at the end of round 10.

The French 8-way won their event by a staggering 28 points! This is the biggest victory margin ever in a world comp. They were very fast and very clean and no busts. The Knights, as usual, had changed someone just before the meet. They always do this, but they suffered at least two busts. They were not up to the French, by a massive amount; they have a lot of work to do before Gap in '95 and that is going to be some battle. Be there!

SIBSON '95

What's going down at Sibson next year? Well they have a Turbolet permanently based there from April onwards. The new runway is to be opened in the spring, and this will alleviate the need to take off towards those trees that grow higher each year.

The Nationals will be held there again with the 'Let as the ship. Stuart & Alex are running a Sit School using Airtime



Design's double-winged suit and the aim is to be relative in any attitude! (no bad attitudes!) Load organisers trained by these two will be on hand to guide you.

June will see a freestyle seminar with a big name coming in for it (this has yet to be confirmed). After a horrible year Skydive Sibson's back for '95 with a vengeance.

AIRWAVES LA ROCHE – NOT MUCH DOSH!

Rod Batholomew has set up an English-speaking skydiving club at La Roche Sur Yon, on the west coast of France. They have a Turbolet 410 which will take Brits to 13k for only £10.00! AFF, raps, tandem, FS instruction are available and they have great catering and accommodation, too.

La Roche is to be the venue for next year's French nationals, and is the preferred training site for the French B Team, who averaged 10 jumps a day on three camps last year! Rod told WoTS that the 40 Brits who went last year had a *wicked* time. Call Airwaves on 01-322 557375.

NEW DUDES FOR SWORD

Right, if you were thinking of applying to Sward for the jobs advertised in the last issue of SP, stop! The slots were filled very rapidly, and they now have Andy Mihalop, who is ex-Royal Green Jackets, running the accessory side of the show. Andy did AFF with Pete Allum & Kevin Hardwick, and is a bit of an ankle, but very enthusiastic. Allan Hewitt has taken on the rigs, canopies side and that is being run from his base at Aldershot. So it's biz as usual for Sward Sky Gear. Call 'em on 0793 772323.

ISRAELI RALLY BOOGIE

Sky Club, the skydiving centre of Israel, invites you to try skydiving over Israel. The event will combine jumping over some wicked scenery, and some ground-based tours of historical sites and Holy Cities, and a jump into the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth 400ft bgll! There are 4 dates of 9 days available in '95 and the cost is \$1500 per jumper, \$1400 per non jumper. This includes almost everything, including jumps. Sounds like a cool holiday. Call WoTS for details 0788 860882.

BAT WING

The BatWing is the latest canopy to be produced by Precision Aerodynamics Inc. from the States. The release of this wing has been awaited for a long time. They wanted to release it on Halloween '93, but

it was not ready. Now it is! It comes in sizes: 98,116,134,153,&171 sq ft.

"The BatWing is a design of which I am immensely proud, it goes beyond the realm of elliptical and approaches the *outrageous!*" said George Galloway, the designer. "The BatWing is a high speed aerofoil, and it will screw you all the way into the planet if your control input dictates! This canopy will obediently and rapidly obey, without regard to the consequences – *For experienced skydivers only*". Sounds awesome to me. If you want one, call TSE on 0262 678299.

1995 FS CHALLENGE

Pete Allum has put together a Formation Skydiving Challenge. This is a "postal" meet. The brief details were given to WoTS by Stuart Meacock and run as follows. Two dives will be drawn from the 4-way pool and these will be published at the beginning of the month. The "competing team" will then have until the end of the month to submit a video of the two dives. This will be judged and the winners announced. You can *cheat* (practice!) as much as you want and, obviously, the teams who turn the most win! Call Pete / Free Fall Co for details on 0832 280055.

FREESTYLE WIN

This year eight skydivers from Centro de Paracaidismo made the trip to the World Freestyle Championships at Eloy, Arizona. The event was won for the second time by Marco Manna & Bruno Brokken. The pair have entered the champs three times now and have two victories, and one second place (the second place was a surprise as they got best individual & best camera). Viveanne & Siarel (we call him Charles) came second in Sky Surf. All eight achieved personal bests or came home with the hardware. Good Show.

STUART & ALEX GET 12TH AT WORLDS

The Meacock family are at it again. Stuart & Alex left Sibson to compete at the 1995 World Freestyle Championships, and came home with a result to be proud of, twelfth. This is excellent as they have only recently started this game – Alex is the camera man and Stukins on the tumbling. See the video at Sibson this year. Well done dudes, you kicked it.

SKYDIVE "U" AND PDF

Tim Moran, who runs Skydive U at Langar, is to receive more sponsorship from Parachutes De France in the form of Atoms, Minimax reserves, Merit mains and Cypres AADs. This equipment will be available free for use by AFF grads and SU students.

Tim told WoTS that the student need only bring a jumpsuit & footwear. Cool & Groovy Fridges with air to air communications, altimeters, rigs and coach-worn, chest-mount video will all become available as the season progresses. Fancy a bit of that? Call Tim on 0992 715859 for more details.

SYMBI SPONSOR THAT THE WRITER'S FORGOT

It was drawn to WoTS attention that the successful girls' attempt at Langar (WoTS, last issue) also had a tad of sponsorship from Symbiosis Suits, although everybody who wrote about the event forgot to mention this fact. Symbiosis Suits, tel: 0622 890967.

SEE YA LATER 'DUDES

Chris Lynch & Jenny have left Headcorn, where Chris ran Slipstream Adventures AFF School off to the sunnier climes of the USA. They called WoTS from Heathrow to say "Goodbye to all our pals; and take care". Nice one, Guys, stay cool.

COOL ROO RETURNS

Derro Armstrong, who unfortunately damaged his neck and had to pull out of MindGames, has had an op on his neck and is now back in the air again. His first jump was in Gap with "Cool Cat", George and "Cool Chick". He had lots of fun, and "burned" us on the 540s, much to our shame, but you should have seen his face on the way up! Well done, Roo; to use your words: "Hey, man - jus' F.... skydive!"

JIM IN RESIDENCE

Jim Parsons, the DJ/skydiver, has been given a regular gig at Weirton Manor night club very near Headcorn. He will play there on the first Saturday of each month starting 4th February. So if you fancy a bit of ravin', go skydiving at Headcorn on those weekends. Wave your hands...

WEDDING BELLS

Moley (ex-Sibson) is to marry an American called Chantel, whom he met while ensconced at Perris. They have been living together for some time and he popped the Q mid-November. Chantel is very pretty, with hair down to her bum! Yahoo Moley, best wishes to you both and where's my invite you ...

SPAIN XMAS, and 95 AGENDA

The Boogie will run this year from 16th December to 6th January. Planes are: two Twin Otters, two Porters and one or two Skyvans. Load organisers will come from three countries; George & Dave Morris are the Brit contingent. It sure beats Christmas at home.

The DZ is open from 18th February '95 (after the post-Xmas boogie shut down). Aircraft will be a Pilatus & Twin Otter. Marco Manna will be running a freestyle School, and there will be Chute Yer Knees plus Sky Surf seminars. The World POPS Meet is to be held here on 20th September. Contact them on the following number for more info! 010 3472 450111.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

LIFE'S TOO LONG ...NOT TO HAVE ANY FUN!

Call or fax your words to George on 0788 860882, go on, do it now!

CORRESPONDENCE

PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Dear Ola,

It has come to my attention that a certain member our members of the BPA Council have made some unfair comments on the level of instruction British students are receiving from Flagler Aviation AFF courses. I started skydiving in July last year following a tandem jump with Chris Lyall, who in my opinion is an excellent instructor. After thirty-one jumps and twelve crazy five-second delays I decided enough was enough. My problem stemmed from my work which entails me being away for a month at a time, which made regular jumping out of the question, this was compounded by the British weather, needless to say progress with my chosen sport was slow to say the least.

I finally decided to do something about it and scanned your magazine for an AFF course in the USA where it seemed reasonable to expect the weather at least to be on my side. As ever price was a regulating factor, but luckily I came across a course which seemed to be right for me.

The ad went something like this:

Are you having trouble getting off student status? YES

Tired of waiting on good weather? YES

Tired of jumping outdated equipment? YES

So it was that I decided on Flagler Aviation. I thought to myself, who better to teach me but the co-developer himself! I arrived on a Monday morning and met Rocky Evans and his crew. He took great interest in my problem and then said leave it to me I'm gonna sort you out!! Straight away I could feel my confidence rising. It was a great feeling. Rocky and his crew proved to be excellent instructors with great emphasis on safety. Safety was paramount. I wasn't even allowed in the plane until my dirt dives were perfect.

I went through the course with only one re-jump which was level three, the reason for this being I didn't look at my rip cord before I pulled which caused a slight fumble. That mistake cost me \$60. Rocky shouted at me on the deck. Look and identify before the pull Do it again!! Needless to say I didn't make that mistake again. After every jump I received a thorough de-brief and in turn Rocky debriefed his instructors. After three days of intensive instruction I passed. I couldn't believe it!

I had such a great time that in May I went back again. The reception I received was tremendous, it was like going back to a family. While I was there this time, Rocky had a problem student. He had already done two AFF courses and failed both. This guy couldn't be left alone in the sky. He was one person who would never pass, even with Rocky's instruction. Though he had spent a fortune doing AFF Rocky was not going to pass him, just so he could come home to Britain and possibly kill himself.

If anyone out there is thinking of going to the USA on AFF I can thoroughly recommend Flagler Aviation. It is a great place and a great family. My thanks to Rocky, Mary, Cliff, Dan, Bill and John (video).

Your sincerely,

Ian Sheppard

NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THIS

Dear Ola,

Short but important note to all collegiate parachutists. In the long, tedious, and (so far for us) fruitless process of attempting to gain full recognition (and funding) for parachuting as a sport, and not just a stunt or a good time for the few, I stumbled across the fact that sport parachuting is not affiliated to the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA). "The what? ...", I hear you say. Yep, not even the BCPA knew about it.

Well, here's the potential good news. I have been told both by BUSA and the Treasurer of our Athletic Union that affiliation would mean that sport parachuting would be funded in competitions at national (and perhaps regional) level, in the same way as other mainstream sports. This may mean two things:

(a) Our existing nationals regionals (note the plural!) could be subsidised by BUSA (I have been told, on good authority, to the tune of: transport costs; half board accommodation; and entry fees);

(b) The establishment of a separate national or regional competition under BUSA subsidisation.

Either way, affiliation would give sport parachuting:

(a) Recognition, and therefore a better chance of being funded in the scramble for money at the start of term;

A new independent source of funding other than your own University sports budget. If we jump to it (excuse the pun) it seems there's money to be had!

What do we need to do?

What BUSA needs are requests for affiliation from all university

clubs. Nothing can be done for this current year (apparently because of organisational changes, BUSA have said to themselves that no affiliations will be enacted upon in the year 94-95), but affiliation is a possibility for 95-96.

Guys and Gals write to the following address: The British Universities Sports Association, Suite 36, London Fruit Exchange, Brushfield Street, London. E1 6EU, Tel: 0171 357 8555 Do it now.

All you need to say is that your University parachuting club wants to be affiliated and to partake in any national/regional competitions they organise and fund - simple as that. E-mail me if you have a problem.

Blues skies and good dives!

Ian Robert Douglas B10492, Northumbria University, e-mail: I.R.Douglas@ncl.ac.uk

PS Hello to Chris, and everyone at Topcliffe! (especially Kev, our favourite - pisspot, I mean - pilot).

3D FALLING IN THE FRAME

Dear Ola,

I am writing to you hoping that there may be a cameraperson out there reading this who wants to film freestyle and become part of a serious freestyle team.

Over the past few years I have been learning freestyle. Much of this has been self-taught, but recently I have had some professional coaching. This coaching is only available abroad and therefore I have not been a regular jumper in Britain, which is why I am using the correspondence column to find a cameraperson/team member.

If there are any British people interested in learning/improving their freestyle camerawork, while I improve my freestyle I would be pleased to hear from you. Ultimately I would like to form a team with the intention of entering competitions which are springing up everywhere (hopefully here in Britain too?). Don't worry if you're not the best cameraperson in the world. I would still like to hear from you. Considering freestyle is still in it's infancy, an enthusiasm to learn new techniques, is the way ahead!

Interested, phone Russell 081 572 6664.

Blue skies and 3D falling,

Russell Pullan D8021

CORRESPONDENCE

LET'S DO IT

Dear Ola,

I read Lesley Gale's article (August '94) with interest. Here are my thoughts on the possibility of a national freestyle competition. Firstly, many people in Britain show an interest in freestyle, but are discouraged by the lack of any clear objectives. This would change if there was a competitive framework – a formalised pool of figures gives positive aims to competitors and fun jumpers alike.

Secondly, a competition at national level need not, at first, be used as world team selection, but would nevertheless give momentum to freestyle in this country. IPC rules need not be used if they don't suit the occasion. The overall standard may not be very high, but it might just give encouragement to those with potential. If successful, then 1996 might see a more serious competition to select a national team.

Thirdly, it could be a postal competition in the first year. This would reduce the financial burden (judges' expenses and host club's outlay) which, it seems, is the main obstacle. Teams would submit a videotape within, say, a month of publication of the compulsory moves (the pool would have to be published much earlier). They could choose the aircraft and background, and the weather couldn't interfere. Cheating wouldn't be a problem – there's no such thing as a bust. Rifle clubs have been holding competitions by post for decades – believe it or not, they send you a target and you send it back with holes in it! A national competition doesn't, at this stage need to be as serious as the formation skydiving nationals, and the BPA has nothing to lose. Let's do it.

Soft landings,

Eno

ACCIDENT REPORTS

Dear Ola,

On the debate about accident statistics and their reporting. Of course there is a need for accident statistics to be published – but please let's have relevant information at the right time in the right place. I really don't need to know how many one-off first time jumpers have sprained an ankle. What I do need though is information that is relevant, open and timely – information with meaningful content that will allow me to make informed decisions, especially where safety is concerned. While not wishing to capitalise on the misfortune of someone else, if something has gone seriously wrong out there, I'd like to know about it so that my fate does not rest on ignorance of the avoidable. And if some DZs have a poor safety record, please tell me about it; at least then I can exercise choice.

As for where accident reports should appear, well, for me the magazine is not the right place. If I meet people who show an interest in the sport, I usually try to do a bit of PR and pass on a recent issue of the magazine. Typical response is a fascination with the photography and surprise that the sport is so widespread. The one thing that would stop me passing on a magazine would be full accident reporting. It would be all too easy for people not involved in the sport to read accident or fatality reports out of context with little or no understanding of the sport, with the obvious outcome. This then seems to be about getting the right balance in meeting the needs of the people in the sport.

In many respects what we have now on accident reporting is not far off the mark. Personally, I would like to get faster feedback on accident statistics without them being buried in the minutes of meetings held back in the mists of time. I would also like to understand why the need for factual information is subject to such tight restrictions. Please can we do something that will help to keep people in the sport well informed with current information, do something that will keep safety issues prominent, and do something that will put accident statistics into perspective without them being sensationalised. But, please, not in the magazine. Sincerely,

Geoff Evans D8537

BEER'S ON ME!

Dear Ola,

As is so often the case at the end of the season, I'm putting pen to paper, or more appropriately power to the wordprocessor, to express my gratitude to the people who made this season rather exceptional.

After a long lay-off (nearly two years), and having achieved Cat 6/7 I decided to go for it and give it all I'd got, mainly because one day I had made a promise to a very good friend! The ever so welcoming London Parachute School, with whom I spent many a season in years gone by, took me back on board.

Work started under the watchful eye of Chris Francis CCI, a real psychologist, in fact I needed a psychologist more than a parachute instructor!

Et voila, so many jumps later, Cat 8 at last.

The London Parachute Club is as advertised, small but very friendly. There is a distinct family spirit. The scenery around the place, both from the air and the ground, is superb. I would normally drive for 1 hour through country lanes before reaching the place early in the morning, at sunset a few of us would enjoy the last of the sunshine, having spent a marvellous day in the fields. The sky-diving is one thing but the feel and the atmosphere is another.

So to Dick Barton, Chris, Pat, Val, Derk, Steve and all others whom I might have forgotten, thank you.

By the way, I have not deserted Lewknor. I'm a few miles nearer Oxford working on my Cat 9, where I receive excellent WARP tuition from my friend Bernard, and all coaching is done in French. Thanks again to all at LPS. See you in 1995.

Paul D8990

IN DUBLIN'S FAIR CITY

Dear Ola,

On a cold and miserable Friday night, 6 of us from the Scottish Parachute Club joined the international skydiving jetset by flying off to foreign lands for the weekend. Half an hour later we arrived at Dublin airport, an airport colder and more miserable than the one we had just left. The weather went unnoticed, however, compared with the warm reception we received from the 8-strong welcoming committee. No sooner had we arrived than we were bundled into cars and driven to the nearest pub for our first taste of the local swally. At closing time (some 2 minutes after we'd arrived), we were taken direct to a party. Not a bad start.

Our hosts were regulars from the Irish Parachute Club, who ensured the weekend continued in this vein, by hosting, chaffering, entertaining, feeding & watering us until it was time to fly back to work, on Monday morning – slightly dazed but otherwise OK. As well as this we also managed a staggering 3 jumps each.

The IPC is located near a small village, whose name is impossible to spell, but is pronounced something like "Clan Bollocks". The weather is crap, and the DZ is built on one gigantic sheep shit, which rapidly transfers itself to everything not wrapped in cellophane. Especially if it's a white jump suit. But the atmosphere of the place and the friendliness of the people are something not to be missed. If you're lucky you might even jump.

See you in January.

Dave Connolly D8738.

BPA INSURANCE

Dear Ola,

I read Dave Hickling's letter regarding Langar's tandem fatality with great interest. A few points. 1. The general level of insurance premiums may have been rising but the most significant factor affecting the BPA's insurance increases is that our insurer made a significant loss on its BPA policy (ie. its policy payouts exceeded its policy premium). 2. Was there indeed an insurance payout resulting from this double fatality? If so, on what grounds and how much? 3. I as a council member was not even aware that the HSE had provided a report on this incident, let alone seen it. Yours sincerely,

Kevin Hughes P4718

RECORD BREAKERS

Dear Ola,

Through the pages of SP I would like to say a "big thank you" and "see, I said you could do it and now you've done it!" You achieved two new records in one day and an unofficial 48-way the next; the team-work, atmosphere, dedication and commitment were second to none. Basically thank you all for making it happen in such a spectacular way.

We must not forget that if Dave and Angela Hickling had not taken it on, all your excitement, support and anticipation would have gone to waste. So a huge thank you to Dave and the Langar staff who made us all welcome, the pilots for doing a most excellent and demanding job and "staying" to the Sunday afternoon.

We all appreciated the great camera and associated work carried out by John Drew, Martin Wright and Laurent the mad Frenchman. By the way I hope you guys have mended your arms after hanging on to the Let 410!

Last but not least a big hand to Alexis Perry for whipping the girls into shape very professionally, with great tact and sensitivity, thus organising your new records to great success.

I know the thank you's seem to go on and on, but they have to be said. Without everybody pulling together, these records would just not have happened. So in that vein I think there will be quite a few more names added to the list for the next British Women's Formation Skydiving Record, especially with everybody having such fun and fantastic vibes. I feel I am probably right in saying that there are a few girls out there who feel they missed out on something. We must not forget to say "Well done and good effort, guys" to Darryl, George and the 60 guys for their new British Formation Record, which looked a peach from the ground when it was held for so long.

So girls, until next time (and further readings from Cosmopolitan by John. "How to look after your man...") when we meet altogether again, maybe a 65-way? Something for you to think about heh? Let me know.

Thanks again.

Adrian Thornton D2819

WINE AND ROSES...

Dear Ola,

It was with great interest and agreement that I read Martin Lyster's article in the October mag. I believe he has hit the nail on the head regarding the BPA's attitude towards its financing. When subscription leaps by some 30% and inflation is generally around 3% in one year something is wrong! With a dwindling membership and the BPA's insistence on alienating the over 40's by having the added cost of a full medical forced on them annually, it will only fall even further in the coming two or three years. What next, another 30% increase taking the subscription to almost £70.00? Remember that not all BPA members are wealthy, but ordinary working lads and lasses (and some that don't have the luxury of working!) with all the various commitments to meet before those few extra pounds are spent on their chosen sport. I know that quite a few are creaking under the weight of hay bales and that final straw isn't too far away! Insurance costs have spiralled upwards and no doubt will continue to do so.

Surely it must come to a point where insurance must be levied on a per jump basis after a basic minimum premium per member. We need to get our finances sorted out internally and look at every avenue including the funding of teams to the World Meets, maybe by chasing sponsorship for the teams, wages, expenses etc.

I'm not too sure about Martin's vision of a European Parachute Association as saviour, as experience with our European business partners in Brussels hasn't exactly been cost effective over the last twenty years! The days of wine and roses are over, get in the real world or the BPA will go the same way as the Dodo...

Mal Harrison D5869

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OCTOBER 28 - 30
NOVEMBER 07 - 13
NOVEMBER 12 - 15
NOVEMBER 17 - 28

17 - 18

19 - 20

21 - 23

24 - 26

26TH

DECEMBER 10 - JAN 2

DECEMBER 24 - 25

DECEMBER 25

DECEMBER 31

JANUARY 14,15,16

JANUARY 21-22

FEBRUARY 18,19,20

MARCH 4-5

MARCH 25-APRIL 1

APRIL 1-16

APRIL 10,11,12

APRIL 14-15

APRIL 15

7TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN BOOGIE

FALL RW TRAINING CAMP

RW SEMINAR AND COACHING BY MARK HEWITT

26TH ANNUAL TURKEY MEET

PRACTICE

8-WAY

16 AND 20-WAY

10-WAY

AWARD NIGHT

CHRISTMAS BOOGIE

CHRISTMAS SCRAMBLES

PRIZES

BAND

STRONG TANDEM CERTIFICATION COURSE

MUFF BROTHERS 4-WAY

STRONG TANDEM CERTIFICATES COURSE

3RD ANNUAL MUFF BROTHERS 4-WAY MEET

SPRING RW CAMP

30TH EASTER BOOGIE

7TH ANNUAL 20-WAY SEQUENTIAL

10TH ANNUAL SPEED 40-WAY

AWARDS NIGHT



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People in the sport...

CHRIS ALLEN

Age, marital status, family etc?

33 years old, single (open to offers!), no children that I know of.

Job description?

Chief Instructor with the Red Devils.

Time in sport, qualifications?

Started sport parachuting in 1981(13 years), BPA AFF, Tandem, Advanced Instructor and Examiner.

Jumps, malfunctions, personal kit (past and present)?

5000 skydives, 3 malfunctions, I did 12 intentional cutaways while making a set of slides for my advanced rating.

I started skydiving on a TAP then moved on to a PC on joining the Red Devils. My first Ram Air jump was on a Strato Cloud which was contained in a Wonderhog with a Tricon Reserve. After this I jumped a Unit 200, GQ 236, GQ Raider, Simoon, Fury, Wildfire, PD170, Sabre 135 mains. After the Wonderhog I used a GQ system 3, Chaser, Talon, 1 pin Teardrop and Vector.

When jumping with the Red Devils I use a Sabre 135 in a Vector or a PD 193 in a Talon. Currently my personal gear is Sabre 135 in a 1 pin Teardrop with a Micro 150 Reserve.

Competition experience, medals, teams?

I first started competing in 1983 and have won a series of medals along the way. The highlights for me over the years have been representing Great Britain in 8-way at the World Meet in 1991. The trip was paid for mostly by the team, but I would have parted with anything to go. The atmosphere was intense and I found it to be a great experience, one that I long to repeat.



Cool & groovy Chris!

In 1993 I was team captain of the Red Devils 4-way team who became national champions. Winning the nationals was a first for the Red Devils.

Three days after the nationals the team was split up, with three members going back to display team mode. Military shit happens I suppose!

Most memorable skydive (good or bad)?

I have had many memorable skydives. Among them have been one of the first 2-point 45-ways at Z-Hills; a 70-way room dive with the Golden Knights (I was in one of the rooms); a 16-way cloverleaf dive with the French National 4 and 8-way teams; round 1 of the world meet in 8-way; docking eighth on the present British 8-way speed star record, held at 7.62 seconds (very apt for a military team). I have done a lot of high calibre 4-way dives and could not choose one in particular above the rest. On the bad side it has to be going low on Tony Butler during an AFF evaluation dive.

Favourite DZ (British and world-wide)?

I have jumped at most clubs in the UK and think they all have something special about them, be it the

people that jump there or the way the centre is run. When not jumping with the team I spend most of my time at Netheravon with the occasional visit to Sibson. My favourite DZs abroad are DeLand in USA and Gap in France.

Do you have an ambition?

I have lived my life pursuing various goals. Next year I am leaving the army to study for a degree in leisure management. At some time in the future I would like to compete at a world meet again.

When not skydiving what do you do?

Most of my time is taken up with skydiving or some related subject. Given a spare moment I do like to ride my motorbike, weight-train or read Dan Millman books.

If there was one person in the sport who has influenced you, who would it be?

The late Tom Piras had a lot of influence on the way that I skydive and teach. He had a way of getting the best out of a skydiver. This is something I can only hope to equal.

Persons or team you admire (past or present)?

Jerome Bunker, Dan BC, Jack Jeffries, Dave Alexander, Jason Grime, Charlie Hartigan, Dave Mitchell, John Smyth, Debbie Allum, Jackie Young, Rob Colpus, Tim Mace, The Golden Knights and The French 8-way team.

Where do you see the sport is going, what would you like to see?

I can see the sport becoming even more commercialised than it is at present. With that commercialisation I believe that centres will have to present an even higher corporate image if they are to survive against other centres and adventure sports.

Static line round parachuting will be taken over by RAPS and I expect that we will find it harder and harder to get decent insurance coverage for

a realistic price as the years go by.

I would like to see us having a freestyle nationals, more coaching for up-and-coming skydivers, a system like the Norwegians have for training and choosing their national team. It would be good to keep our safety standards high and have more instructor seminars.

What advice do you have for up-and-coming skydivers?

Be an information sponge, use a coach who will teach and debrief you in a positive way.

Try not to put too much pressure on yourself: it's OK to make mistakes. Most of all enjoy what you are doing, it will give you a far higher learning curve.

What is your favourite joke?

A man goes to his local club and finds he has to give a talk on any subject for five minutes. He elects

to spend five minutes talking on oral sex and manages to impress everyone with his depth of knowledge on the subject. On returning home he decides he cannot tell his wife he

lecture her husband gave and how lucky she was to have him. The wife, finding this all very odd, tells the woman that she is very surprised because the first time he tried it he was sick and the second time his hat blew off !!!

What if anything winds you up?

Negative people who always seek to complain instead of finding a positive solution and those who try to influence others for selfish reasons.

The BPA is not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, but it does wind me up when people have time to sit at home and write letters of complaint, but do not

have time to get themselves on to Council where they could do something about their complaints.

Compiled by Dave Mitchell

Next issue: Simon Ward



Chris wanted to be a biker when he grew up

has talked about oral sex and tells her that his lecture was on sailing.

The next day his wife is out shopping and bumps into one of the women who had listened to the lecture on oral sex, the woman congratulates the wife on the wonderful



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The BPA: Insurance

At the last Council meeting, the Development Committee was asked by the BPA Chairman to look again at the question of levying the insurance premium from the membership. I have discussed the subject with several members at different parachute centres, and have produced this paper for consideration.

1 Is corporate insurance an advantage? Should we get out of this process entirely, and require all clubs, centres and display teams (henceforth referred to as organisations), or even individuals, to arrange their own cover?

For:

- Corporate bargaining position;
- Central administration can monitor incidents and claims and fight the BPA's case with the Insurers and other bodies.

Against:

- Much reduced administrative effort by BPA office staff to obtain quotes;
- Much reduced effort in monitoring membership viz-a-viz insurance;
- Loss of corporate bargaining position
- Insurance companies can trade organisations off against each other and raise premiums;
- Smaller organisations will probably find premiums too large for their cashflow and cause them to close down, therefore loss of opportunity to continue the sport;
- Individuals may not be able to get personal third party cover at the current £18.

2 Should we load those members of the parachuting community against whom the majority of claims are made? Historically the majority of claims are against students who hit things, display team members who hit/drop things, and students who claim against instructors. Taking these in turn:

STUDENTS:

For:

- One-off membership for students is an easy target;
- Small increase has big yield.

Against:

- Student insurance contribution on a jump per capita basis is already substantial — can we justify an increase;
- Although the insurance premium is not part of the DZ operators fee, it is an element of calculation for the "local" course price — what can the market stand?

DISPLAY TEAM MEMBERS:

For:

- High-risk group, often sponsored, who are probably able to pay!
- Could aim at teams only, on registration;
- Could be levied on a per capita per display basis, ensuring those who do the most, pay the most;
- "Professional" teams are well-trained

and motivated, and would probably attract a smaller premium in the open market, while smaller teams, who do fewer displays, would have less clout.

Against:

- High premiums will put many small display teams out of business, allowing rich/sponsored teams to thrive and the smaller teams to wither. Big shows will survive, small shows will wither;
- Discourage new teams to enter the display business, therefore denying the public opportunities to observe and learn about our sport.

INSTRUCTOR LIABILITY:

For:

- Instructors have a big responsibility to get their information across correctly, and are liable individually if they err;
- Could be applied on a rating basis, the more ratings held, the higher the loading;
- Drop zone operators could be encouraged to pay the loadings for the Instructors who work for him?

Against:

- CCI's are vulnerable to higher loading for all their ratings, and for the centres they run;
- Does not necessarily target the drop zone operator;
- Individual instructors may relinquish ratings if not fully used, to avoid loadings;
- May discourage individuals from becoming instructors in the first place.

3 Is there scope in applying the premium on a jump per capita basis, across the membership, with a minimum and maximum levels?

For:

- Those who do the most jumps, would pay the most insurance premiums;
- Those who do few jumps pay a great deal per jump for their membership;
- Setting an appropriate minimum will ensure a yield to budget.

Against:

- Those who do the most jumps are probably less likely to err, as they remain in practice;
- Those who do few jumps are potentially more vulnerable to error;
- Policing of minimum/maximum will be very difficult, as logging of jumps when no longer a student is not mandatory, and unscrupulous members would claim the minimum to reduce their commitment;
- The minimum level would have to be set to maintain income at the required budget level.

4 Should we direct insurance loading directly at the drop zone operators?

For:

- Loading is placed at organisation level, and would be applied at a membership quota level.

Against:

- Continued stress on the resources of drop zones will cause some to become financially unviable, and therefore reduce opportunity to participate;
- Membership may be discouraged, to reduce loading.

I have tried to be objective about each of the questions I have discussed, with the intention of encouraging debate on the subject.

I will lay my cards firmly on the table in that, having explored all these points, I believe the status quo is the fairest system: to apply the premium for all members.

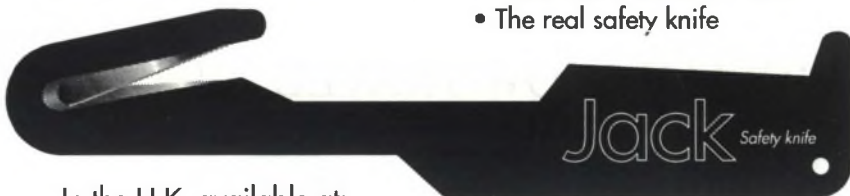
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POPS CORNER

POPS CORNER

POPS By the time you read this, autumn and Xmas will have passed yet again. But there's the whole of '95 to come and I wish you all a very happy New Year, with the promise of great meets and times ahead.

AGM: First, the BPA AGM which, as you know, will be held at the Forte Posthouse Hotel, Walsgrave, Coventry on 21st January 1995. The time will be 10.30 a m and, usually, concludes at about 13.30pm. POPS mini AGM will be held at approximately 14.30 pm in our own room kindly provided by the BPA. If you're proposing to attend the BPA dinner, as many of us are, and would like to be on the POPS table, then please advise David Oddy of your membership.

1995 Meets: – Provisionally speaking, the Meets programme for this year looks as follows:

April – Cyprus (see below);

May 27/28/29 – Black Knights Parachute Centre, Cockerham;

July 15/16 – British Parachute School, Langar;

Sept 26/27/28/29 – Centro de Paracaidismo, Ampuriabrava World Meet, Spain.

There happens to be a special planned in Cyprus between several Belgian and British POPS which will take place either the third or fourth week of April. If you're feeling flush and not proposing to either go to the World Meet or stay over for a holiday, then Kingsfield, Cyprus could be for you. Contact either me, Michael Allum, our TOP POP, or direct to Michel Van Beirs on 010 32 58 411468 for final dates and accommodation availability near Pergamos, Larnaca.

Many of us will be heading for Ampuriabrava and the numbers of jumpers could well exceed 300, the largest contingent coming from the USA. Local facilities will come under pressure even though late September is,

generally, out of season. So, plan your thing and we're here to help, but do please send an SAE if you want an accommodation list. All the arrangements are looking good and the Centre's operator, Peter Jones, anticipates two Porters and an Otter. There will be the usual 'banquet', probably under a giant marquee on the DZ etc and those of you who attended the meets in Australia and Florida will remember well the great atmosphere which prevailed throughout.

POP SHOP – Some kit for sale includes: 3 GQ360s with round reserves all decked out in military containers and equipped for high altitude. Very little used, price negotiable, around **£1,500** each.

282 Foil (6 jumps) with Swift reserve, in a black leather one pin Tear Drop. As new as you'll ever get. £1,600. Call me on 081 392 9291 if interested.

A great welcome to new members **William Gillan** (POPS 624) of Aberdeen, **Hugh Morrison** (POPS 625) of Plymouth, **Ian Nicholson** (POPS 626) of Horsham, **Terry Warby** (POPS 627) of Sunderland, **Krystyna Baxter** (POPS 628) of Forfar, **George Cross** (POPS 629) of Billericay, **Bob Parry** (POPS 630) of the Black Knights Centre (guess who arranged Bob's membership!), **Thomas Smith** (POPS 631) of Edinburgh – sorry I messed up your number Tom, **Jan Winhede** (POPS 632) of London W2, **Heiko Eichen** (POPS 633) of Holstein, Germany brother of Inger Allum, **John Parker** (POPS 634) of Great Eccleston.

This has been the best input of members in any two month period for some time, these delightful people exude great enthusiasm and include some big numbers jumpers whose presence, we hope, will be felt at Ampuriabrava next year.

Finally, for those of you who know Alicia Anderson (TOP POP USA) and USPA Director Pat Moorhead, a very active POPS jumper as well as a founder member of SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty) – it will please you all to be advised that they plan to marry the weekend of 19th November, ten days from the date of writing this corner. By the time you read this the happy deed will be done. Join me in wishing them our heartfelt best wishes and considerable happiness always. See you at the AGM?

John Crowhurst Hon (Treas/Sec POPS UK)

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POPS PROFILE

Let's start the New Year with the boss. TOP POP Michael Allum (POP 252) and Inger Allum (POP 127). They won't mind if I add parents of you know who.

To anyone who knows Michael and Inger, it makes perfect sense that they first came into the sport via the smoke and chatter of a wine bar. A poster displayed on the wall extolled the highs of "doing a jump". It seemed a good idea, so after a couple of glasses they signed up. Thus it was that back in 1977 they did their first jump course at Ipswich, with Val and Pat Slattery and a very young Chris Francis. And it came to pass that they were irrevocably hooked so to speak, spending endless weekends at jump centres working their way through the category system. Inger was first to join (POP 127) and Michael took a little longer (POP 252). Although Inger is

no longer jumping, she's still a drop zone addict, is as often on the scene as Michael, and is at present thinking of opening a weekend drop zone in Estonia. Michael is still very much on the jump scene. They both enjoy the social side of POPS, the people, the travelling. Inger with her Canon produced some of the meet pictures on this page, whilst Michael, having inherited the mantle of TOP POP, is looking forward to next year's 3rd World Meet in Spain.



Mike and Inger Allum

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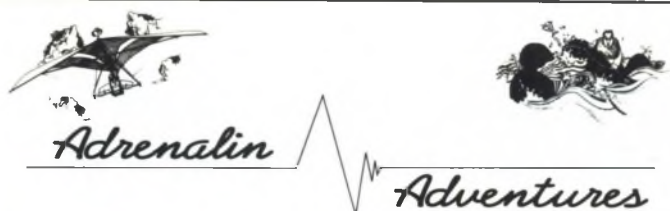
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31 Dec	10 Way Speed Formation Competition (3 rounds)
	International Load Organisers
	Large Formation Skydives
	Prizes / Parties / Beer / Fun
7 Jan - 18 Feb	Closed
18 Feb	Open for 1995 season
25 Feb - 9 Mar	Train in Spain
	4 / 8 Way / Coaching / Special Rates.
	Take advantage of the Southern Climate
6 - 16 Apr	Easter Boogie
	Load Organisers / Twin Otter / Pilatus
Porter	/ Parties / Fun !!!
TBC	Skydive University Coaching Seminar, with Rob Laidlaw
6 - 13 May	Marco Manna "Basic" Freestyle School
	From just off AFF or just wanting to try Something new

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PARTY TIME

AGM 1995

21st Jan

Arrangements for the Annual General Meeting, the programme of supporting events and the annual dinner and disco, are coming along well, and subject to final confirmation on The Day, when everyone will receive details of "What's on and Where". The programme will look something like this:

This will start at 10.30am, and be over by 12.30pm at the latest.

Immediately following the AGM, the thirsty among you can retire to the hotel bar, where snacks will be available. The restaurant will also be open for those wanting something more substantial.

While you are eating/drinking your lunch, the newly elected Council will be holding their brief inaugural meeting, the purpose of which is to appoint the main officers who will hold key posts within the Association for the next year.

These will start at 2.00pm, and various rooms have been reserved in which a series of talks and video presentations will be held on the following topics:

Ram Air Progression System (RAPS): the APA's experience.

The British Style and Accuracy Team's China experience: you will have read Bob Card's entertaining article in the magazine – now is the chance to see the video of the World Championships.

The World Championships in Canopy Formation held in Australia this year. Hear how the Brits fared from a team member, and see the video of this event.

The RAFSPA 4-way team, selected to represent us at the 1995 Formation Skydiving World Championships, will give presentation entitled "4-way training tips and techniques".

Hear all about Freestyle from an expert – the latest of the recognised skydiving disciplines. The RAF will give a talk on their "specialised parachuting".

Skydive University – talk by Andy Allman.

Each of these sessions will last for approximately 1 hour, and the times will be staggered to allow people to attend more than one if they so wish.

The following meetings have also been arranged:

POPS meeting.

Judges' meeting. (If you are interested in learning more about judging or are considering taking up the art, then you will be more than welcome to attend).

Pilots' meeting.

During the day, there will also be displays of skydiving equipment and "goodies" from various manufacturers.

Annual Dinner: This will be held at 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

Tickets are now available from the BPA office and each Club.

This is an ideal opportunity for a social get-together with friends from your own Club – let the BPA office know if you would like to reserve a Club Table.

Also: Immediately following the Annual Dinner, at around 10.30pm, there will be the usual disco, open to all members, free of charge. This will go on into the small hours of Sunday morning, and will round off what we hope will have been an enjoyable day for everyone.

And Finally: Accommodation at the hotel is being booked very quickly, so if you haven't yet made arrangements, may we suggest that you do so as soon as possible. Just ring the hotel direct on 0203-613261, and mention that you will be attending the BPA's function. Just a reminder that the cost of a twin room (there are no single rooms) will be £41.50 per room. The hotel is easy to find if you are travelling via the M69, M1 or M6 motorways. Leave the M6 at junction 2, and take the A4600 towards Coventry. After the first roundabout, the hotel is located on the left-hand side of the road, approximately 3/4 of a mile from the motorway. The full address of the hotel is: Hinckley Road, Walsgrave, Coventry.

The success of this event depends very much on your support, so we hope that as many of you as possible will come along – if last year is anything to go by, you won't be disappointed!

We look forward to seeing you at our new venue on the 21st January, and in the meantime, wish you a happy and enjoyable Christmas.

David Oddy

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Sport Parachuting Hacks

You will have noticed that I have been touting for some extra skill and manpower to help with the workload involved in producing the mag and, hopefully resurrect some ideas which have had to stay on the backburner, and introduce some new ones without risking early death from overwork.

To maximise the use of the people who were keen to be involved I decided to have what normal mags have - assistants and editorial board members. This allows a blend of different personalities at different stages of the sport which I hope will give the mag a good balance.

I now have a smooth blend of experience, skygodliness, enthusiasm, literacy, humour and aerial instability to help me shape the mag. I'll let you guess which words describe who but the board now consists of: George (Cool & Groovy) Pilkington and Lesley Gale, both of whom are regular and popular contributors to SP already. In addition, Bess Ryder and Iain Mackenzie representing the future of the Sport and who are close enough to nip in to the Airscape offices to lend a hand when the going gets tough. In the next issue I'll be announcing what we've got planned by way of improvements - stay tuned!

Ola

BESS RYDER

A perennial WARP student Bess Ryder has been hanging round Headcorn for years

Aspiring to that day of glory

When Buckle demands loads of beers.
But attempts at Cat 10 and pit-landings

Have proved simply too feeble for words

So it's back to one's sad little one-ways
Before going splat in the turds.



Don't mock the afflicted!

IAIN MACKENZIE

After a successful career as an apprentice jewel thief and international libertine, he has rocketed to greater heights as Ola's shiralee. Major talents include bastardising the English language at every opportunity and imbibing Islay malts to achieve the former with style. Mac's four-year skydiving career to cat 5 has been meteoric (not!). No doubt he will progress further once he learns to put his kit on properly....



You can always tell a really serious jumper by the aircraft sticking out of the ear

After the

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Michael Bouman (Office)	Tel.: int. 31 1820 85870	Fax: 31 1820 85870
Or Rob Colpus (GB), Fred Post (Switzerland), Derek Thomas (USA), Bob Hallett (USA), Eric de Coster (Belgium), Mitch Decouteau, Claudio Bionda (Italy)		

*New and
final dates:
1-18 March!*

British Classics Nationals

30 July – 7 Aug '94

After a successful week of canopy contact, the Sunday saw the prize-giving for that event. The "other" mob arrived, to be greeted by good old Bridlington sunshine. Some arrived in time to gate-crash the prize-giving photographs – mentioning no names, but see the last mag (back row, far left)!

It was good to see the usual gang, but Fran and Esther were sadly missed. This year saw more welcome newcomers, all revved up and ready to join the dizzy heights of competitive jumping. There were no less than eight novices and seven intermediates registered to take part, including home grown. In fact (to blow Bridlington's trumpet,) there were Dave and Nicky, five novices, reared by the tender hands of – who instilled esprit de corps, and imparted admirable lessons on how to 'run with the big dogs'.

Team Johnson did the club proud by winning the club trophy on the last accuracy jump between Jo Wills (Novice, Hibaldstow) and Mike Shaw (Novice, British Skysports). The round probably drew the most crowds of the week, with many seniors around the pit offering encouragement.

The winner on this occasion was Mike Shaw's 67.02 overall – just too much for Jo to beat. Nicky Williamson was the only novice to hit the pad in round ten with a score of 0.14. The star of the novices was Ron Good, with a professional arrival that took out the anemometer. Some serious bending back into shape was required (for the anemometer, that is)!

From the intermediates Team Johnson could boast only two recruits out of the seven. However, they did Bridlington proud by taking first and second place (13.35 and 14.23 respectively). Massimo Apicella (Italy and Cark) produced excellent performances in both team and individual accuracy with a final score in the individual accuracy of 11.65. The star of the intermediates was Jo Scott for her sheer determination and sense of humour.

The senior female accuracy and style had the same three names in positions

1,2 & 3: Kathy Andrewes, Debbie Curtis, and Tracy Harrison respectively. Cheryl Smythe unfortunately had to withdraw owing to family commitments; nevertheless, she finished fifth overall.

The senior men's accuracy was won by Les Carroll (just for a change), with the silver medal hanging on tie-break jumps between Brian Shaw, Dave Ballard and Keith Duncan. Brian Shaw won gold and silver, with Dave Ballard taking bronze.

Men's senior style was dominated by the army with Dougie Young taking gold, Les Carroll, silver, and Dave Ballard the bronze. In the overall senior men's event Les Carroll took gold, Dave Ballard, silver, and Carl Williamson bronze.

The team event also experienced military domination with *H Troop* being awarded gold, *Must Get Beers* (Alan Dumbell, John Smythe, Steve Hastings and Steve Eversfield) talking silver, *TA's Team* (Tim and Kathy Andrewes, Tracy Harrison, Debbie Curtis and Cheryl Smythe), *Something for Nothing* suffered a major setback with the untimely exit of Harry Morgan, who departed on the Wednesday to fly out to Quincey. Even so they managed fourth place, with Keith Duncan, Andy Bremner, Nick and Dave Johnston all increasing their efforts to compensate.

Fifth place in the team accuracy went to *No Eye Deer* (Annette Williamson, Joanne Johnson, Simon Nath, Helen Prouse and

Massimo Apicella), who I am told, had a few problems with spotting!

All in all, a good week was had by all and the weather was fairly well behaved. As in all competitions, it isn't just competitors who are necessary for a successful week. Lynne provided an invaluable service – without whom everything would have fallen apart. Tracey kept body and soul together with food and refreshments, and last but not least the unsung heroes, the pilots – Dave, Joe and Gary.

If there had to be a star of the week, it was Rachel Andrewes – the only person to speak sense all week, and the cutest and best behaved too.

A word from the host

Dave Johnson thanks all the willing club members who gave up their time to assist with the smooth running of the competition, John Hitchen (Chief Judge) and his team of loyal judges, who worked hard as always. Special thanks to Keith Bryce of East Yorkshire Borough Council Leisure Services Department for his support of the event.

The National Club Accuracy Competition was a great success, as was the novice competition. Let's hope it will develop more competitors in 1995. We will look forward to seeing you all again at Bridlington.

Dave Johnston



Club Acc Champions: senior: Nick Johnstone; inter: Mike Cain; novice: Mick Shaw



1995 National Club Accuracy Champions on the podium



John Smyth stretching for a good score



Nicky Williamson hits the pad

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THE SWOOP SUIT

The SWOOP SUIT is our all around model. The body comes fairly snug, and has a piece of spandex down the middle of the back to allow a snug torso length while allowing you to still touch your toes. There is enough room for extra clothes in the winter. The forearms can be made of spandex, cotton felt or polycotton. The legs are made of cotton felt or polycotton. Like the Tony Suit the arms and legs will be adjusted to fit the jumper's height, weight, and fall rate requirements. The front can be made in nylon, cotton felt, or polycotton. A nylon front gives the fastest fall rate, then the cotton felt, and the polycotton gives the slowest fall rate of the three.

THE PIT SPECIAL

The PIT SPECIAL also comes in either a nylon, cotton felt, or polycotton front. Spandex covers the back and hips. This gives a tighter, no flap fit but still allows a full range of movement. Over the last year we have removed the spandex from the grip area on the male pit. This gives a better feel during a block move when cranking is involved and also makes the suit last longer. The entire legs are made of cotton felt or polycotton. We offer spandex, cotton felt, or polycotton forearms. Although this is the suit the world's top teams are using, it can still be used for fun jumping if the jumper is average, or lighter than average weight. We suggest spandex forearms for the light weight fun jumpers and for teams (We also make cotton felt or polycotton slip-ons to wear on the forearms for larger loads). For the medium weight jumper who prefers a skin tight fit over the looser SWOOP SUIT, regular cotton felt or polycotton forearms are recommended.



**TONY
SUIT**

THE CAMERA SUIT

We offer the CAMERA SUIT with two different wing types. It is very important that the correct wing type is chosen. TYPE A is a FASTENED WING for pull-out, ripcord, or bottom of container throw-away. TYPE B is a WINGLET for legstrap or bellyband throw-away. You can choose between a STANDARD FIT or TIGHT FIT (all spandex back). The front can be either nylon, cotton felt, or polycotton. The sides can be cotton felt or polycotton. Choose spandex, cotton felt or polycotton for the forearms and the legs come in cotton felt or polycotton. The front of the wings are made of nylon for lift and the back can be either cotton felt or polycotton. One layer of O.P. fabric has become popular lately.

THE SIT SPECIAL

This suit has dual wings on each arm. It makes sit dives easy. The French call it Chute Assis. It is possible to be in a sitting position while keeping the same fall rate as you would have in a regular position. It is very easy to fly with dual wings unlike the single wing which is very hard to fly and do tight sequential in. This is a whole new outlook and people are having lots of fun with this new event. You can also use this suit for board jumping and freestyle though a smaller wing is necessary for these

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Calling all Freestylists!



***T**he calling all freestylists article by competitions committee on the Freestyle Nationals printed in the August issue of Sport Parachutist was published because Competitions Committee is investigating the possibility of holding a Freestyle Nationals and is trying to gauge both interest and feasibility. We would therefore like to hear from:*

1. Freestylists

– who would like to attend and may have valuable experience of international competitions to share. we are particularly interested in feedback from the recent World Freestyle Meet in Eloy, Arizona.

2. Drop Zone Operators

– who would be interested in running such a Nationals. In theory this should not be disruptive of usual skydiving ac-

tivities as teams will consist of a videographer and freestylist, who will be easily accommodated on most lifts without requiring special spotting. The competition could bring publicity to the Drop Zone and is particularly attractive to television.

3. Possible Judges

– who would like to be involved in the judging of freestyle. As yet there is no FAI qualification freestyle judging so we hope to make a panel of FAI judges with other persons if it is felt this would be helpful. Perhaps this would include someone with relevant experience from another freestyle sport such as ice-skating, gymnastics or trampolining.

4. Skysurfers

– who would be interested in giving an exhibition of skysurfing for the

media or who may have ideas about running this element as a separate competition.

5. Videographers

– who would like to be part of a freestyle or skysurfing team, or who may already be doing so. The Freestyle Nationals should be run on the same lines as international competitions where the camera person is part of the team, contributing to the points scored and gaining a medal if the team is successful.

Please could you send any comments to Chris Allen, Chairman of Competitions Committee at the BPA address. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to be able to use this response to give freestyle recognition and encouragement in the UK.

**Lesley Gale, on behalf of
Competitions Committee**

Whose Rules for Freestyle IPC WFF?

***I** was a pleasure to see an article about freestyle in the August issue of SP and we were interested in the issues it raised. However, we were disappointed in the attitude expressed, which seemed totally at odds with the ethos of freestyle discipline.*

Freestyle has literally stood traditional skydiving on its head. Its name derives from the freedom experienced from a new discipline where anything goes. The narrow-minded skydivers among us still make sarcastic comments about "going unstable", thereby relating freestyle to the stable spread. In freestyle there is no stable spread and anything resembling it is considered easy and boring.

Freestyle is nothing like relative work. Many people are ignorant of, or refuse to acknowledge, the level of difficulty and skill involved when turning the body through three dimensions, whilst remaining controlled and on heading.

Being the camera flyer in a freestyle team provides plenty of opportunity for the ultimate workout! A series of manoeuvres creates radical changes in vertical and horizontal movement, making it a real challenge to keep the freestylist in shot, particularly as the camera flyer may also be manoeuvring, eg, rolling, pivoting or looping.

Most of all, freestyle is fun.

We have been a freestyle team for over a year now and if it hadn't been for a recent serious injury we would have competed at the 1994 WFF World Meet in Arizona this month. The BPA is well aware of this fact because it was approached by us (and other organisations - more successfully) for sponsorship earlier this year. It therefore came as a surprise to read Lesley Gale's comments re: "insufficient interest", "low standards" and "lack of performance." It may also have had the same impact on Chris Gauge and David Drewette, who competed in previous world meets.

Freestyle is becoming more and more popular (along with skysurfing and

Chute assis) in this country. Europe and the USA are way ahead of us and have more opportunities for sharing information and coaching. We have spent a lot of time, money and effort to progress in this discipline, from buying the most up-to-date literature and videos to attending European seminars, buying camera equipment and purpose-built rigs and suits.

The new IPC rules have been met with general dismay throughout the freestyle population

At times we have felt very isolated and would welcome the opportunity to meet other teams around the country. If a national meet or boogie were organised it would give teams at all levels a forum from which to learn and have fun with other like-minded skydivers. It would also demonstrate to the BPA that there is interest, experience and skill in this discipline.

If the BPA is considering a national freestyle competition then we suggest that, rather than blindly following the proposed IPC rules, it considers approaching the WFF for advice (which

will be freely given). The WFF has already successfully run five world meets and sanctioned numerous European meets.

The new IPC rules have been met with general dismay throughout the freestyle population because not only do they severely limit the freedom allowed in each competition dive and make training incredibly difficult (30 compulsory moves instead of five) but they also raise several safety issues. Some top-class freestylers have indicated that they might boycott IPC-run competitions.

Another factor to consider for our country is whether there are experienced freestyle judges. A usual panel would consist of freestylers, camera flyers and gymnasts etc, and we suggest that the average RW judge is not qualified to assess the difficulty, control, skill and aesthetics involved in performing a sequence of three-dimensional manoeuvres while the camera flyer barrel rolls, stands up etc.

Freestyle, arguably, is the skydiving discipline most appealing to the general public and, if for no other reason, the BPA must accept it and aid its development in the UK.

We call upon the BPA to consider the nature of the discipline before enforcing too many rules and to include the views of experienced freestylers like ourselves when organising an event.

Free Skies

Ann Beckitt and John Goodyear



Triple front loop exit at Strathallen, Freestylist – Anne Beckitt. Photo by John Goodyear

Five steps to perfect freestyle...

1

EXITS

Start practising those tricky exits early. It can help to have the security of a static line until you gain confidence. Photo of Dave Burns, by Colin Bridges.



3

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Joh

5

PERFECTION

Once you have developed a repertoire and found yourself a cameraman with whom you can form a team you can start entering competitions. About 1000 jumps should ensure that you are good enough for videos of your performance to be shown in the club bar without causing you major embarrassment.

Above Patrick de Gayardon over Amburiabrava

2

THE BASIC SKILLS

When you have mastered the stable spread you will need to get used to staying stable in some unusual positions. If you are finding this difficult. Get some friends to hold you steady.

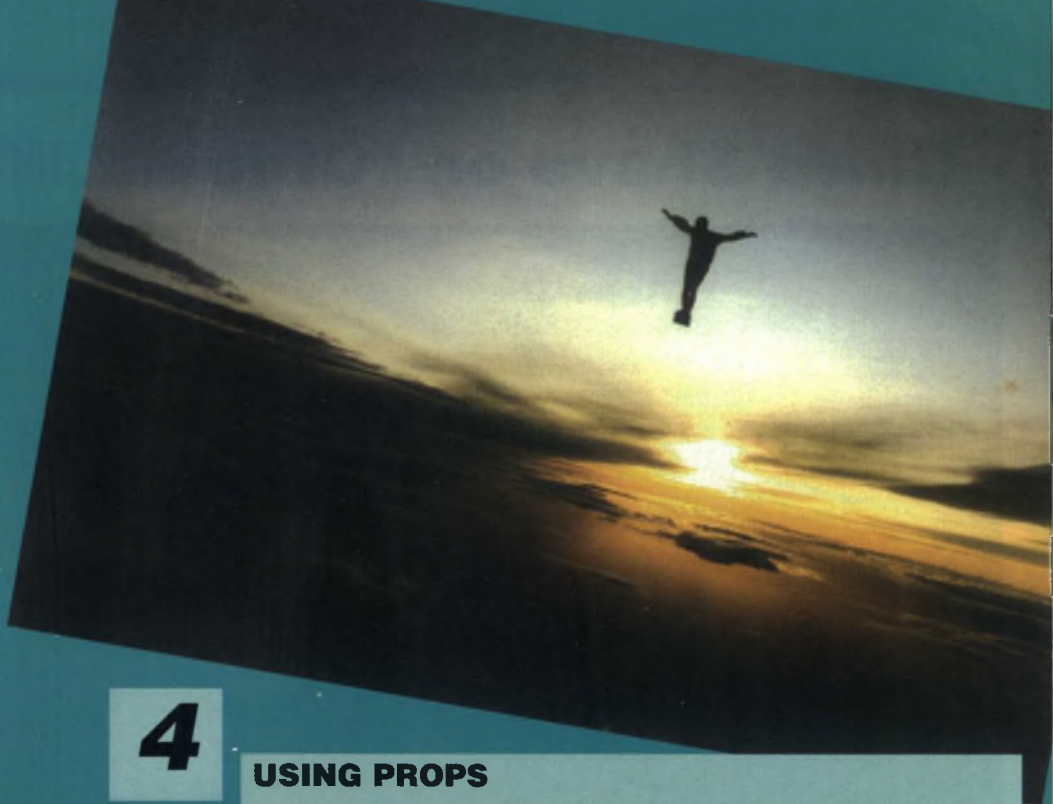
In the photo you can see a member of Hot and Bothered being assisted prior to attempting a piked layout backslash. Pic by Adrian Thornton





ADVANCED TECHNIQUES

Once you have mastered the basics you can start practising on your own. As your confidence grows you can add refinements to your routines. Here we see a rising Ann Beckitt being performed Back Layout over Strathallan. Pic by Ian Goodyear.



4

USING PROPS

The basic freestyle skills can be turned into new skydiving disciplines by the simple addition of props such as boards (stiff or flexible), skis, windsurfers, motorbikes - in fact almost anything as long as it was not originally designed for skydiving.

Above, Scott surfs over Hibaldstow. Captured by Phil Parker.



Close Shave on "Official" World Record



Photo by Leo Dickinson

Last issue we featured a spread of photos of the record attempt in Bratislava. Lesley Gale was there, and here she provides some background detail.

On 19 August 1994, in the skies of Bratislava 216 skydivers built the largest formation ever and held it for an astonishing 10.8 seconds – long enough for a second point! The jumpers on the load landed thinking they had successfully set a new world record but were devastated to learn that someone had docked in the wrong slot. This unofficial record will remain unofficial. It is the largest formation ever built but is not recognised by the FAI.

The following day's attempt at a 215-way was successful but is not official either because it was not held for the required three seconds. The formation was held for six seconds but different grips being dropped owing to tension meant the planned formation was held for only 2.1 seconds. Therefore the skydivers involved had twice come within a gnat's whisker of being world-record holders.

The dives were organised by BJ Worth, with 17 team captains putting teams together from 27 countries. Jumps from 21,000 ft, via an AN-12 and two AN-26s, were provided by the Slovak Army. An excellent oxygen system was masterminded by Dr Ben Massey.

The 216-way was memorable for more than its size. Jumpers exited through storm clouds of icy rain (painful for

those without Fridges!) and became charged with static electricity. This built up in the formation so that everyone on one side could feel static electricity pulsing through the grips, nobody had experienced this before. The load also provided surprises for spectators, who reported that the formation literally punched a hole through the cloud!

Lesley Gale

Factfile

British Participants

Rob Colpus
Lesley Gale
Rhino
Darryl Moran
Tim Moran
Tim Homer
Dave Morris
John McIver
Stewart McArthur
Derro Thomas
Mandy Dickinson

Dane Kenny
Rob Doyle
Toby Stafford
Andy Ring
Eastley
George Pilkington
Jim Keery
Charlie Hoare
Fred Ryland
Burb Thompson
Tim Mace
Phil Curtis

World Team 94

Participating Nations

Australia	Indonesia	Peru
Austria	Italy	Russia
Belgium	Japan	Slovak Republic
Canada	Lithuania	South Africa
Czech Republic	Luxembourg	Spain
Denmark	Mexico	Sweden
Finland	Netherlands	Switzerland
France	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Germany	Norway	USA

Team Organisers

Pal Bergan, Norway. Alexander Beloglazov, Russia. Garry Carter, USA. Rob Colpus, UK. Kate Cooper, SA. Patrick de Gayardon, France. Bob Hallet, USA. Etienne Herin, Belgium. Herman Landsman, Holland. Dan O'Brien, USA. Harry O'Connor, USA. Patrick Passe, France. Alexis Perry, France. Rusty Vest, USA. Julie Ward, Australia. BJ Worth, USA. Anatoly Zhirov, Russia.

History of FAI World Records

Year	Size	Location
1973	12	Arantchi Tachkent, Ouzbekistan
1974	28	Ontario, CA, USA
1975	32	Tahlequah, OK, USA
1979	36	Muskogee, OK, USA
1980	40	Davis, CA, USA
1983	45	DeLand, FL, USA
1983	72	DeLand, FL, USA
1986	100	Muskogee, OK, USA
1986	120	Quincy, IL, USA
1987	126	Koksijde, Belgium
1988	144	Quincy, IL, USA
1992	150	Koksijde, Belgium
1992	200	Myrtle Beach, SC USA

World Freestyle Skydiving Championships 1994

The 1994 World Freestyle Skydiving Championships took place at Eloy, Arizona and brought with it over a hundred skydivers from twenty different nations around the world. Skydive Arizona has been host to many world class competitions in the past and with a fleet of three Twin Otters, a King Air, a DC3 and the odd Cessna or two, they were more than capable of handling an event such as this.

Sony were the main sponsor for the championships, promoting their Handycam range of camcorders (backed up by Budweiser and Outdoor Products) and providing \$5000 prize money.

The judging panel this year had the usual mix of freestylers, camera flyers, gymnastic coaches and skysurfers led by chief judge Roger "Doc" Flynn.

One sight which was to become very familiar over the coming weeks was that of the two white Stiletos belonging to Olav Zipser and Omar Alhegelan. Omar, who started jumping only 12 months ago, now has over 1200 skydives and has trained exclusively with Olav just for this one competition. Their early training jumps were occasionally shown on Skydive Arizona's DZTV and exhibited some incredible flying skills. The one that sticks in my mind was seeing Omar in a straddle stand-up position with Olav in a straddle headstand taking grips while inverted. (Just imagine a vertical 2-way compressed accordion.) Olav's style of camera flying is like nothing else I have ever seen in freefall. He flies in a head-down dive all the time and is able to fast-fall, slow-fall, side-slip and cartwheel all in this position, giving some highly inventive camera angles.

As more competitors arrived, it became obvious that the standard of freestyle on the world scene had risen yet again. Marco and Bruno had some new moves which almost defy description and have to be seen to be believed.

One newcomer to the world championships was a guy called Robin Berg. Robin, who trains at Perris, teamed up with his camera flyer, Bill Beaver, more than a year ago and they had apparently been "saving themselves" for this one competition. We were not disappointed either. Robin's style was very powerful and energetic and his trampoline training certainly showed when he performed triple twisting back layouts during his free routine.

The competition was spread out over four days, with the fourth being kept as a weather day. Unfortunately we needed it. Everyone finished their compulsory dives after the second day and began working through their free routines. The free round is traditionally where most competitors turn in their highest scores and the creativity element plays a large part in this. On the third day it rained and no jumps were done. Residents at Skydive Arizona told us it was very unusual to have a full day of rain at that time of year and assured us that the next day would be blue skies again. On the fourth day it rained. The chances of having two days of bad weather in Arizona must be thousands to one, and to have those two days at the end of the World Championships, the odds go right off

the scale. So with one competition jump to go Bryan Burke (Skydive Arizona's DZ manager) came to the rescue. We were flown off to neighbouring DZs at Marana and Buckeye, where the weather had broken, and finished the competition there.

Dale Stuart and Ray Cottingham won the gold medal yet again in the women's advanced freestyle division. In men's advanced freestyle, Marco Manna and Bruno Brokken took first place by only 1.2 points, just ahead of Olav and Omar. Skysurfing saw a new world champion with Rob Harris and Joe Jennings taking the gold medal, beating Patrick De Gayardon and Eric Fradet into second and third place respectively.

On a personal note there are several people I would like to thank for making my participation in the 1994 World Freestyle Championships possible. In no particular order they are: Chris Thomas (for the best freestyle rig I have ever jumped), Rob Colpus (for the new Symbiosis Freestyle Suit), Ron Rodger (Trampoline coach and good vibes), Broadwood Gymnastics Academy, Kevin Flaherty (Handycam flyer!), Ian O'Callaghan (ZP pilot chutes) and Mastercard (for letting me have one!!)

Any up-and-coming freestylers should watch out for a British Freestyle Meet possibly taking place this summer at Sibson. Contact Stuart Meacock for more details.

David Drewette D9550



Dave Drewette holding a Tee over Eloy, Arizona. Photo by Steffen Lipps



My incredible skydiving tour of Lake Baikal in Eastern Russia began with an invitation from prospective adventure tour operators Potential & Co to join a select group of jumpers from Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Russia. I was very happy to be part of that group.

We left Moscow with only ten people in our group but this number increased to about thirty along the way. After a refuelling stop at Omsk, our Aeroflot Iljushin landed at Ulan Ude, a big town south east of Lake Baikal. There we visited a Buddhist temple where our tour was blessed during a Lama ritual by monks with incense and gongs. We followed the path of prayer and continued on our way by AN-26 to Severobaikalsk, where we stayed in comfortable lodges on the northern side of the lake.

Our main DZ was located at Nishneangarsk, but we also visited both larger and smaller airfields along the coast.

An MI-8 was laid on to take us jumping at several hot water springs. At one of the springs near Kotelnikovski, we stayed overnight and enjoyed the local delicacy of raw fish from the lake. Throughout our stay the food and hospitality of our hosts were exceptional, even by Russian standards.



Water jump at Lake Baikal near hot water spring. Photo by Natalie Chudiak

Jumping from the AN-26 was quite an experience. In no time we reached 13,000ft and, if the clouds allowed it, even 16,000ft. Exit points were no problem as the spotting was excellent - it had to be; although the DZ was big enough it was surrounded by mountains and woods on one side and the lake on the other... an unforgettable sight!

Some beautiful 12-ways were built, although some of the formations didn't make it, owing to the mixed levels of experience. You need not be very experienced to jump at Nishneangarsk Airfield but jumps at the hot water springs require more experience.

It is no problem, however, to fly to the smaller DZs as a passenger, in our group we had non-jumpers.

Next year three trips to Lake Baikal are planned, from 15th June to 15th August. Each group will take nine days: one day at Moscow and Ulan Ude respectively, and seven days at Nishneangarsk and its surroundings. The package deal will include all transportation, food and lodgings, 25 jumps, and the cultural programme. The cost has yet to be announced.

Nathalie Chudiak

Skydiving Adventures in Russia

The Parachute Rescue Centre of Moscow invites all lovers of adventure, especially skydivers, to take part in the following fascinating events:

1. The drop to the North Pole

This has been held annually since 1991. The 1995 expedition is scheduled to leave Moscow for the town of Chatanga in the Taimyr Peninsular on April 15th. You'll have a wonderful opportunity to see the indigenous population (nomadic tribes who breed reindeer) and to enjoy the nature of the unspoilt north.

From Chatanga an aircraft will take you to the Pole. After a three hour flight you'll see the top of the world through the open tail gate. It will surely be the jump of your life.

The price is 3,000 US\$, which includes: the flight Moscow - Chatanga - NP -

Chatanga - Moscow; hotel accommodation and all meals in Chatanga. An advance payment of 500 US\$ is required before February 15th, 1995 (sorry, but this sum can't be refunded if you decide to withdraw your application).

Non-skydivers can make a tandem jump over the Pole, as we can provide experienced tandem masters. The price for this is 4,000 US\$.

Sponsorship is welcomed. The expeditions are given extensive coverage in the mass media. There are always professional reporters and photographers among the participants. From the North Pole your trade mark will be seen all over the world.

2. Mountain skydiving

In July 1995 experienced skydivers only are

invited to make an accuracy jump on to the top of the highest European mountain, - the Elbrus - in the Caucasus. The price is 2,000 US\$. The jump will be remembered forever, and is not as dangerous as you might have imagined.

3. Stratosphera skydiving

We also plan to organise jumping from the altitude of 10,000 metres next summer. There are few people in the world who can boast this achievement. Why not join them? Only 300 \$US per jump.

We provide visa support. Interested? Please do not hesitate to contact us in Russia: Moscow phone / fax 7-095-2467563. Sergei Insarov fax 7-095-9289257. Ulyanovsk phone / fax 7-8422-361066.

Michail Rybochkin

1994 FS World Cup Empuriabrava

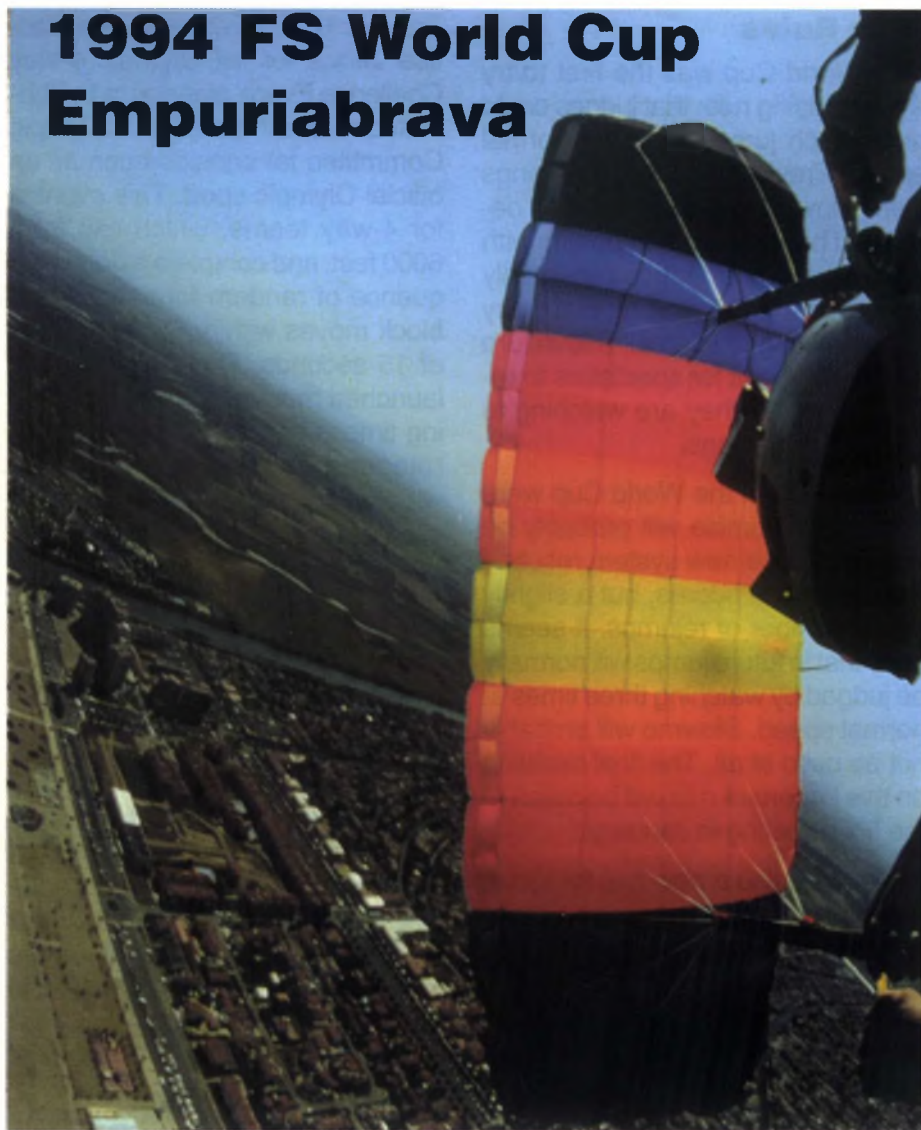


Photo by Bruno Brokken

Empuriabrava hosted the 1994 World Cup in Formation Skydiving during the first week of October. The 8-way event was won convincingly by the French team, *Les Hautes Alpes*. This is only the second time a world 8-way event has been won by the French, all other times the winners have been American. The French had a clear lead of 22 points over the *Golden Knights (USA)*, so much that they could have stayed on the ground for the last jump and still have won. Whilst this sort of gap is not unusual in National meets, in a World Championship it is virtually unheard of.

The 4-way event was won by USA's Arizona (ex-Vertical Speed), consisting of Jack Jefferies, Dan BC, Kirk Venum and Mark Kirby, a Brit-

turned-American who started jumping at Cark. Arizona set a new record for the highest score in competition, an amazing 29 points in 35 seconds working time. The French team Essone was second; the friendly, very likeable Russians gained the bronze in both 4 and 8-way.

British Teams

This is the first time that we have not been represented at a World Championships or World Cup in FS. "Why is there no British team?" was the most frequently asked question of the Meet. Britain is well respected internationally, it is comparatively recently that we were highly placed (bronze to Symbiosis 4-way in 1979, silver in 1981;

4th place to Mo 8-way in 1989). Since then, we have always sent teams who have performed creditably, you do not have to be in the medals to reflect well on your country. Airtime and Mind Games did Britain proud at the World Meet and World Cup during the last two years, being professional, well-liked and doing some excellent skydives.

We need to continue to send British teams to World events – to keep up with the sport, to ensure Britain as a force in skydiving is not forgotten, and to give teams experience at competing. Franc Mahut was amazed there was no British team, especially for the given reason that this money would be better spent on training. He commented "but international competition is an essential part of training".

Our national 4 and 8 way teams, RAFSPA and Games Company, chose to conserve their funds for training. Up to them! However, virtually any team can go to the World Cup, you do not need to be National Champions, or even to have permission from the BPA. More than one team from each country can enter. World Cups in Formation Skydiving are held every other year, during the "off-year" for World Meets in FS (where of course you do have to be a National team to enter).

World Cups are a good opportunity to gain experience and to learn innovations from the best in the world. The next World Cup will be in 1996, keep it in mind, contact the BPA office or the organisers direct.

Technology and TruScore

Although not a requirement of the rules, it is now customary to transmit live air-to-ground footage so that the spectators can watch the dives on a giant screen. This adds greatly to the excitement, especially in the final rounds where the

atmosphere on the ground is electric. The screen includes a stopwatch which counts down the working time whilst an electronic counter displays the number of formations completed by the team. This is an indication of the likely score although a bust will lower the posted score.

This year was a try-out for TruScore, a new electronic system of collating results from the judges developed by Larsen and Brusgaard, manufacturers of the Dytter. TruScore was linked into the live video system and added to the speed of results and the accuracy of timing.

It is ideal for use by five judges, as needed at a World Championship (although it can also be used by one or three persons). All judges press a Start Time button on exit. The system calculates the start of working time by disregarding the fastest and slowest times and averaging the remaining three. As the dive progresses, judges press the Point button every time they see a completed formation. These points are automatically computed and displayed as the final score. The judges will press Penalty if they see a bust or NJ if the jump is NonJudgable as they cannot see the grips (eg poor camera angle). A bust will result in the subtraction of two points from the score and NJ will result in a (conditional) rejump.

At the computed End of Working Time (eg 35 secs after Start Time for 4-way), all monitor TVs freeze the frame, which will stay on screen for five seconds to allow judges to score the last formation. Not showing the judges what happens after working time avoids any possibility of this influencing their decision.

On the whole, TruScore proved a great success in providing quick, accurate scores and eliminating the need for judges' scoresheets and handheld stopwatches, although a hard copy scoresheet can be printed out if needed.

New Rules

This World Cup was the first to try a new judging rule: that judges could only watch jumps twice, at normal speed. Previously, several viewings were allowed, with slow motion if desired. This caused a problem with judges watching videos repeatedly on a difficult point, leading to a delay in the posting of scores. This in turn makes it difficult for spectators to relate the jumps they are watching to the overall placings.

The findings of the World Cup were that a compromise will probably be arrived at. The new system resulted in much faster scores, but a slightly larger number of rejudges. It seems likely that in future jumps will normally be judged by watching three times at normal speed. Slowmo will probably not be used at all. The final decision on this important rule will be taken at the IPC meeting in January.

There was also a new rule for incorrect formations. Previously, three points were subtracted from a team which showed a bust, one for the formation in question, with the two following points, if built, not scored. This could sometimes prove unfair if two teams built the same number of formations with one bust, and one of the busts was on the last or penultimate formation.

The new rule is to subtract two points for a bust at any part of the dive. This worked well and will be kept.

Skydiving and the Olympics

IPC (International Parachuting Commission) has been working in recent years to make skydiving more attractive to the public and to media, in order to aim for recognition as an Olympic Sport and increase the interest of sponsors. It is difficult to achieve these laudable aims without sacrificing the sport as we want it. Altering our sport to make it more understandable to the public is okay provided this does not take over from the original event.

The World Cup was used as a practice venue for an Olympic 4-way Challenge Event, planned to be submitted to the International Olympic Committee for consideration as an official Olympic sport. This event is for 4-way teams, which exit from 6000 feet, and complete a drawn sequence of random formations and block moves within a working time of 15 seconds. The first formation launched must be a star and working time is started when the star is released or after five seconds, whichever time comes first.

The new competitions style did enable scores to be computed quickly, with jumpers receiving their score as they landed. Feedback from the competitors was that the event was successful in achieving a more understandable competition, but was not really an exercise they wanted to do. It seems more natural to start the dive the moment of exit rather than introduce an artificial start after 4 seconds. The short working time does not allow teams to build up momentum through the dive. In any case, recent reports are not positive about the inclusion of airsports of any kind in the Olympics. Skydiving has received a definite "No" for the years 1996 and 2000, so the earliest possible date is 2004. We have a disadvantage over more popular sports such as athletics, which can inject funds and sponsorship into the Olympics. In the IOC it is felt that the acceptance of any airsports would set a dangerous precedent.

There is an abundance of other airsports – aerobatic flying, hang-gliding, micro-lighting, gliding, ballooning etc – which could link to create an International Airsports Championship. Such aerial activities would surely fit better together than with Olympic Sports. This could therefore be a better way forward to increased interest and recognition for skydiving than the Olympic route. IPC is investigating this avenue.

Lesley Gale



Florida's Megajump Metropolis

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Calendar of 1994-95 Events

December 17-January 15	Christmas & New Year's Boogie
December 23	Christmas Star dives.
December 24-25	Original 10-Way Scrambles. Everyone wins!
December 24	Party around the Christmas tree.
December 27-31	Large Sequential Camp "City Style"
December 31	Traditional "City" New Year's Party.
January 6-8	Air Time Designs Sit-Suit Seminar.
January 9-15	Large Sequential Dives with Roger Ponce de Leon.
January 14-15	High Altitude Jumps.
February 3-5	CRW Seminar. Hosted by Mike Lewis and Performance Designs. PD Lightnings available. Pre-registration required.
February 3-5	Strong Ent. Tandem Certif. Course. Pre-registration required. Call (407) 859-9317 to register.
February 11-12	Valentines Day 4-Way Mini Meet. Coaching and seminars.
March 11-12	High-Altitude 4-way Meet. 2 rounds. "Skydive City Rules"; 70 seconds of working time.
March 18-19	St. Patrick's Day 20-Way Meet.
April 1-16	Easter Boogie, Skydive City Style
April 8-9	10-Way Scrambles. Everyone wins!
April 10-14	"City" Color-Coordinated Dives with Roger Ponce de Leon.
April 15	Easter 20-Way Competition
April 16-23	Large Sequential Dives: As large as we can go!
April 29-30	"City's" Original Mayor's Cup 8-Way Competition. The mayor has not lost yet . . .

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Skydiving & Sponsorship

Risky business or a business risk?

S*ponsorship is a commercial transaction: there is as much give as there is take.*

This article aims to inform the average parachutist about the business attitude to sponsorship; it is by no means a definitive guide, rather more an introduction to those who are considering pursuing funding for their sport. I hope this stimulates response from those who have both been successful with their approaches to companies, and those who have bombed out. During my time working in this field one thing which has become apparent is that very few people maximise the effects of sponsorship, unless this happens the full benefit of the deal will not be realised and thus further contracts will not be awarded; it has been estimated that there are less than a hundred people in the UK who truly understand the complexities of sponsorship. If you have spoken with one of these I suspect your approach was rejected at the second hurdle: after serious consideration the sport was perceived as being too dangerous (whether this is true or not is a separate question, but it is based on historical crisis media handling – that is fact). If not, you have to take on the dominant role of responsibility for exploiting the agreement.

So what does this mean for the hopeful at the end of the day? Can I get the money? Can I still skydive or is my role now as an administrator? The answer is unknown in British parachuting circles but a look across to a similarly perceived high-risk sport, mountaineering, has shown success. Remember Rubecca Stephens being the first British woman to top out on Everest last year? The DHL Everest 40 Expedition was assessed to have gained £17.5 million of publicity for an outlay of under £50,000 to the



climbers and a similar amount to the coordinators of the media. Whereas the exact approach was personalised to fit the brief of both the expedition and the sponsor several traits were obvious.

Sponsorship is a method of promotion, a part of the publicity role of a marketing department. Publicity is now seen as quite separate from public relations, although it is in practice the latter who administer the projects; but publicity is seen as one out of advertising, sales promotion and personal selling. Promotion is but just one part of the marketing department's role. Sponsorship involves three parties: the sponsor, the sponsee and the target audience; the idea is for the former to communicate the message that they want to the latter by using the sponsee. A parachute team is just one type of media that could be used. Successful bids cross the boundaries of exact definitions, however rewards are plentiful. Unfortunately it is quite rare that bids will be reassessed, so the emphasis is upon a perfect approach at the first occasion. If this sounds complex, remember that you are asking a company to give some of its profits towards more-often-than-not an unproved project, which traditionally attracts poor media, in the

hope that there will be a massive target audience attitude change as a result of your efforts.

This already sounds heavy but is some indication of the starting line for sponsorship. The good news is that sponsorship is being so much more readily accepted in its subliminal advertising methods and the rewards are big. Not to be confused with patronage, the 'feel good factor donation prompted by the chairman's wife', which has up-to-now been the most common form of team funding from commerce. I would just ask that anyone considering funding in the future debates whether our sport's media image is firstly reflective of the truth and secondly supportive towards a bid that you might be requesting. A combined effort to resolve this will reap benefits for all. Other sports have started from a worse position and gained more: how many of you consider mountaineering that dangerous...over thirty people died in Scotland this spring in as many days. An appeal to the individuals in the collegiate part of our membership searching for an interesting project to complete, a request for all those who have been involved with sponsorship bids to share their experiences are starting points...

Not everything always goes to plan in sponsorship. The most supposed source of funding in this country, and one of the best practisers – Richard Branson's Virgin empire – backed the trans-pacific balloon venture which was ignored by the media, the Gulf conflict occurred a day after it set sail!

Charles Ross

Charles Ross is the marketing manager of Calange Outdoor Clothing – a company that does not sponsor skydiving.

Chris Claridge Memorial



September 11th 1994

Chris, who died on a display jump last year, was a keen Rugby Union enthusiast. For years he coached the youth teams at his Bristol club, and they decided to honour him with a benefit match, between a side raised from his former players, and the Bristol U21 team.

The Icarus display team was invited; leader Dave Lewis offered to deliver the match ball by parachute to start the event. We managed to get the Antonov AN-2 we used

last year, and so had some spare places, which were offered to friends and fellow-jumpers of Chris. What with those who also came, but were not eligible to jump, some 40 or so skydivers were there on a day which, though grey, stayed within limits.

Emplaning was easy as the DZ is 40 yards from the main runway threshold at Filton, luckily it is not an active aerodrome at the weekend! The jump was happy but uneventful. With several of the jumpers on their first display, two crosses ensured

good traffic separation and everyone landed safely and accurately. The ball was delivered and in reply the club Captain later presented Dave with a team shirt.

Though all jumpers contributed, we couldn't have done it without help. We should particularly like to thank the Western Daily Press, and Hereford & Gloucester Parachute Club, for generous and willing support. We regret that some of it had to go to British Aerospace at Filton, who, despite appeals, refused to waive so much as a penny of a £60 landing fee! We hope the shareholders appreciate it!

Last month, the team returned to Eastnor Castle to jump at the same event where Chris died last year. It was successful and without problems, and though there was much (perhaps inevitable) press interest, the tone of the reports was sympathetic and factual. Quietly, at the end of the day when the crowds had left, flowers were laid at the spot.

As for the Rugby – Bristol U21s won! Ah well, that's real life for you. The game was hard, fair, clean, and Chris would have enjoyed it.

Jumpers: Dave Bickerton, Jon Eeles, Dave Evans, Niels Hansen, Tony Hodson (Reserve), Chris Jones, Paul Kendall, Dave Lewis, Jason McAleese (DZ), Steve Porteous, John Powell, Brian Shepherd, Shaun Williams.

Chris Jones



Sandra Young

On Saturday 22nd October after a good day's jumping or parachuting in Scotland lost a valued friend when Sandra Young lost her battle against cancer. Sandra ran the Star hotel in Auchterarder for eighteen years and all those who visited Strathallan were shown the same warm hospitality (and a good warm fire in the winter).

Sandra understood the need for skydivers to unwind and was very tolerant of our antics. Although she did say that she wasn't sure which was worse, when we were hyper

after a good day's jumping or full of excess energy on a bad weather weekend.

As tolerant as she was Sandra also kept things from getting out of control and a reprimand from her carried more weight than one from the CCI. Sandra was a second mother to a whole generation of Scottish parachutists and will be sorely missed.

Goodbye Sandra from all past and present members of the Scottish Parachute Club.

Mike Strachan D4573

The BPA, can we afford it?

I read with considerable interest your letter recently published in the *Sport Parachutist Magazine*, concerning the current "way ahead" of the association.

I write to you as the current Chairman of the Development and Finance Subcommittee of the Council of the British Parachute Association, and therefore, one who has bothered to get off his backside and try to do something for the good of everyone.

Whilst I firmly believe your article is well intentioned, sadly it is also flawed in several statements and assumptions. You are bound to be sitting there thinking — well he would say that wouldn't he — but I have the same healthy scepticism that you appear to have, except that I have gotten myself onto Council and tried to do something about it.

I will reply to your cogent arguments in the order in which they are made, so that the membership can compare notes.

Your first comparison between the BPA and the BSAC falls down on the premise of economy of scale. As Mark Twain is credited with saying: "There are lies, damned lies and statistics", and the latter misused are worse than that. A comparison of the BSAC with the BPA is not between like organisations, as their pricing structures are considerably different, and first year membership can be in excess of £70, as opposed to our £9.20 (plus conversion).

The BPA does not only have 4,500 members, but works for all 30,000 who annually pass through our corporate hands, which makes the ratio 1:4285, remarkably comparable to the 1:3100 you quote for the BSAC. Without the Central Administration overseeing the safety of all the centres who look after these 30,000, we would be guilty of abrogating our responsibility.

There is a minimum working number of staff needed to fulfil any particular set of tasks, and we have set our employees at that level; I do not intend to elaborate further, but the administrative task of the Association is only just coped with by our hard-working team, and personnel reductions for short term financial gains would be counter-productive.



You comment on the overseas commitments of the BSAC gaining them income — there are three BPA affiliated centres overseas, all of whom contribute, by choice, to the BPA, because they feel that this gives them the best deal.

Your contention that the BPA costs are "out of control" and rising too fast is not borne out by the past three years figures. Taking the insurance premium out of the equation, the costs of the BPA have been maintained at about £300,000 per annum for the whole of that period, and this year's budget is predicated on the same standstill of expenditure. We have managed to give meagre pay increases to the staff, financed by frugal cost-cutting in

**"The BPA does not
have only 4,500
members, but works
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annually pass
through our
corporate hands"**

the "profligate" central administration. In similar vein, the magazine costs have been maintained at about £12 per member for a considerable period.

Without doubt, the fastest growing element of the total subscription is the insurance premium. The whole of the insurance market is undergoing a step change in philosophy, as Lloyds of London undergoes a fundamental transformation in the way it off loads high risk premiums, and without question, ours is a high risk sport. However, you have forgotten to mention that the BSAC insurance is for third-party only, whereas the BPA insurance has this plus the major element of personal liability, which is the section against which the majority of claims are made. This is not just students suing their club or instructor, but we have even had jumper versus jumper in the past year, which caused a claim which will cost in

... a reply

An open letter from Phil Gibbs, chairman of the BPA development subcommittee in reply to Martin Lyster's article published in the last issue of Sport Parachutist (page 33).

excess of £100,000 for our previous insurance company. I hope this is seen as responsible?

To clarify the position on the insurance front, the BPA Chairman tasked my Committee to investigate whether there was a better method of allotting proportionately the premiums to apportion loading where "blame" might fall, but having discussed a very comprehensive paper on the subject (a copy of which I enclose), the committee felt that they could not recommend a change to the Council. Predominantly, any change in insurance premium collection/apportionment must give a rise in the administration of such effects, and fiscally, this was unacceptable.

To put this whole matter into some sort of perspective, your insurance element of £18 per annum equates to 9 pence per jump if you do 200 jumps, 18 pence for 100 jumps and obviously 36 pence for 50 jumps per year. I challenge you to find cheaper insurance with similar cover, and if you do, to bring it to the BPA Council's attention so that all may benefit. How much does it cost you to insure your private car to get you to your centre?

However, I have instigated moves, without prejudice, to reintroduce cover for jumping in America/Canada under our current policy, and to include an element of compulsory personal accident insurance and optional "in-use" equipment cover. These last two elements are far beyond our current cover, and hopefully will be available at little or no increase to the basic premium.

On the magazine front, I am concerned that you are pushing for a reduction in standards, when all other input we have is for continued improvement. We are trying to make the magazine marketable to the general public, to get them interested in the sport, and for that a degradation would be certain folly. Although just over £2 per issue, for a specialist magazine posted first class to your home, with limited advertising support, and as yet untapped public appeal, I think you are getting a good deal. Ola has recently been to Council and the Development Committee with radical forward-looking ideas, and we are actively considering his proposals.

I agree with your comment about John Line's statement, as that must be our fervent wish — to reduce costs, but the figures in the annual statement speak for themselves — I abhor profligacy, and the central administration is subject to as many checks and controls as we can humanly apply, without reducing their function. However, a major function of the BPA is to fight legislation, and pressure groups, hell-bent on stopping light aviation in this country; without the BPA conducting these battles on your behalf, you would very soon find the sport squeezed out of the available list.

On the retention front, your comments about the cost of transfer are correct, and we have investigated a way of reducing this, but there are certain commitments that must be catered for, and the insurance element is unchanging. I hope that our blind freefall is checked by deployment rather than disaster, and trust that the membership in general can see the way ahead.

Looking Internationally, as you propose, one of your Association Vice-Presidents, John Lines, is the current Secretary General of the European Parachute Union, and the BPA forms the mainstay of that organisation, whilst Tony Butler is the EPU parachuting expert appointed to Europe Airsports, an association devised

to fight European Legislation.

One campaign worthy of note already was the link with the French Parachute Association to prevent the compulsory wearing of hard (and I mean very hard) helmets by all parachutists in Europe (including tandem passengers!)

"On the magazine front, I am concerned that you are pushing for a reduction in standards, when all other input we have is for continued improvement."

There is a vital area which you have not addressed, but I will reply to, as your question is implicit in all of your reasoning. We have major support from the Sports Council, not just for competitions, but for the general administration of the sport (currently in excess of £90,000 per annum), which helps to ameliorate the subscription problem. The Sports Council requires that every Association that gets financial assistance has a sound Development plan, and business plan, in place for a period of 5 years, for their perusal and consideration. Our current plan expires next May, and the new plan has been written over the past 12 months,

in order to get the support needed to keep your sport going. Given good grace and a fair hearing from the Sports Council, we are asking for additional funds in excess of £2,500,000 to improve the safety and other aspects of the sport. I trust that is enough!

However, the Sports Council is undergoing a fundamental change, as the Minister for Sport has decided that they may wish to concentrate their efforts on a limited number of sports; the list is yet to be published, and we may or may not be in that number. A loss of major funding from the Sports Council will radically change the way we are able to do our business, and I only hope that my fears are not justified. Further articles on this subject will be appearing in the magazine in the near future.

I believe that I have answered all of your concerns and, believe me, they are my concerns as well, as I wish to have a Parachute Association to be proud of, and participate with, as long as I wish to continue. I look forward to seeing your nomination for Council, as you clearly have so much to offer.

(More correspondence on this matter is published on the letters page ...ed).

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Books

HB - HARDBACK PB - PAPERBACK

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By Leo Dickinson HB £14.95
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By Charles Shea-Simmonds. Ideal for students. 144 pages HB £12.50
- 'Picture Library, Skydiving'** Full colour picture book including basic text 32 pages HB. £6.95
- 'The Sky People'** History of Parachuting by Peter Hearn.
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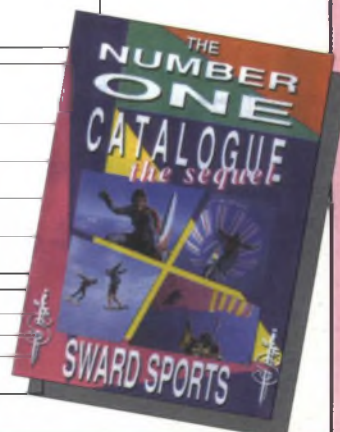
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Diary of Events 1995

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Dives

DATE EVENT LOCATION

December 1994

10 - 02 Jan Christmas Boogie Z - Hills Florida, USA

January

21st BPA AGM / Dinner Dance Coventry
30th Jan - 3rd Feb BI / Advanced Instructor Course 1/95 JSPC Netheravon

February

6th - 10th Exam / Pre-Adv. Instructor Course 1/95 JSPC Netheravon*
6th - 10th Approved Riggers Examination Course 1/95 Gainsborough

March

1st - 18th Indonesia Beach Boogie Bali & Lombok
22nd - 26th P.I.A. Parachuting Symposium Kissimmee, Florida

April

24th - 28th AFF / Tandem Instructor Course Hibaldstow

May

6th - 8th RAFSPA Scrambles Weston on the Green
8th - 12th BI / Advanced Instructor Course Bridlington
13th - 14th Northern Region Canopy Formation Meet Bridlington
15th - 19th Exam / Pre-Adv. Instructor Course 2/95 Bridlington
20th - 21st Northern Region Style & Accuracy Meet Bridlington
27th - 29th Central Region Formation Skydiving Meet Weston on the Green
27th - 29th RAFSPA 4 & 8 Way F.S. Competition Weston on the Green
27th - 29th Scottish Nationals Strathallan

DZ Guide

4 & 8-way
Blocks

Dudes n'
Doris' s

DATE EVENT LOCATION

June

17th - 18th Southern Region Canopy Formation Meet Dunkeswell
24th - 25th Southern Region Formation Skydiving Meet Dunkeswell

July

1st - 2nd Southern Region Style & Accuracy Meet Netheravon
15th - 22nd Rhine Army Championships Bad Lippspringe
15th - 23rd Canopy Formation National Championships Dunkeswell
22nd - 30th Formation Skydiving National Championships Sibson

August

5th - 13th Classical National Championships Bridlington
14th - 18th BI / Adv. Instructor Course 3/95 Ipswich
19th - 28th Army Championships Netheravon
21st - 25th Exam / Pre-Adv. Instructor Course 3/95 Ipswich
26th - 28th Paul Dixon 16-way F.S. Competition Weston on the Green

September

2nd - 3rd Northern Region Formation Skydiving Meet Hibaldstow
9th - 17th Formation Skydiving World Championships Gap, France
23rd - 24th Central Region Canopy Formation Meet Ipswich

October

30th Sept - 1st Oct Central Region Style & Accuracy Meet Hibaldstow

November

13th - 17th BI / Adv. Instructor Course 4/95 Hibaldstow
20th - 24th Exam / Pre-Adv. Instructor Course 4/95 Hibaldstow

Events

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0985 840225 (eve)

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2. 282 Foils @ £300 + VAT
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Container purple with yellow pop top and flash - main, blues with bright green end cell - reserve Red! 450 jumps - one owner

offer £1500

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RAFSPA SKYDIVING GEAR SALE

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SUNDAY MARCH 26 1995**

How many of us have old gloves, boogies, projects, jumpsuits and all sorts of other skydiving gear that does nothing other than gather dust? "Just in case we need it!" Now is the time to get rid of it all, at the RAFSPA car boot sale. All items sold must be at "traditional" car boot prices, ie, cheap.

If you do, however, have more expensive kit available, then for an extra donation, you too can have a "pitch" and sell that gear you've been advertising for the last 2 years!

Each pitch will cost £5, and all the proceeds will go towards the training costs of the British National 4-way FS team.

If you are interested in a pitch, then please contact Wayne Loxton on 0993 844798 or 071 414 5346 to book, but don't worry too much if you just want to turn up on the day - look forward to seeing you there. 0603 716589 (eve).

We have a Cessna 182

which can carry 4 parachutists for hire. The rates are £125 + VAT per tacho hour with pilot (we have a contact who is experienced in this work that we could put you in touch with) or £95 + VAT per tacho hour dry (with pilot)

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Translated into English, surfing the "net" is the trendy term applied to the act of using the internet. One of the most impressive features of this virtual world is the total lack of international boundaries. I use words like "virtual world" with caution though. As vogue terms like "information superhighway" and "cyberspace" take their place in accepted vocabulary they risk mystifying an essentially simple facility. Take an article I read in a recent edition of the *Sunday Times*. The headline, "Lonely heart tangles with earthly law in cyberspace".

Apparently a love-struck suitor was pestering, with e-mail, a woman he had met via an on-line dating agency. Cue the expert: A New York psychiatrist, sex therapist and author of the novel "Virtual Love" explains, "People could become very upset when cyberspace relationships are broken off."

Excuse me do I smell cybershit here? It is people like this who are mystifying a means of communication that is essentially no more mystical than the fax machine, ie, sending words down a phone line. The "cyberspace affair" no more took place in cyberspace than pen pals cement friendships in a pillar box. As for the harassment, which the *Sunday Times* reporter had given a futuristic, technological and sinister spin (computer virus-infected sex fiend performs virtual rape, shock, horror), surely it could not be anywhere near as troublesome as phone calls and considerably less irritating than conventional lovesick letters — you don't have to get out of your chair to bin them.

So let's duck the sensationalism and have a look at some of the more practical aspects.

Hmm, well it's still got a lot to do with com-

puters but if you can word process, then there is hope for you. But, let me start with an analogy — the chat line.

I'm told (ahem) that on a chat line many people can converse at once, you can ring up and listen, butt in, be a pratt, make friends and generally have a sociable time with people you don't know, or know very well, but only to speak to.

Now imagine a system where there are hundreds of people running a similar service all over the world and they all join up, and that the people who are listening or talking could be calling from anywhere in the world. Their calls are routed by a local service provider so they pay only the cost of a local call (not an 0898 number), and simply have to pay a membership fee. Imagine also that because of the enormous number of people, the chat lines were divided into interest groups so that you joined conversations which covered a particular topic, say skydiving.

Further, imagine that this local call can not only get you to a chat group but that every day, when you called your local number and identified yourself, you got a whole load of recorded messages that were solely for you, sent by anyone who was a member of one of the groups on the system (ie, e-mail).

Expand the service now so that apart from chat and personal messages you could get information; you could be asked to be put through to, say, the weather bureau in Val d'Isere for the local ski conditions, or a number in the States that could give you information on DZs that you could hit during a business trip to Australia. If you couldn't find the info you ring up the skydiving chatline and ask, knowing that you'll get an answer if not immediately within a few hours. Not only that but the person who fields your message fixes you up for a 20-way on the Saturday morning after you arrive.

In fact the most difficult concept to understand is why there are so many people out there will-

ing to provide so much for nothing. There are gigabytes of dates, times, books, lists, pictures, songs (yep - digitised music) and news items etc, etc. That is the essence of it. Once you've sorted out your access with a local service provider (who is the only person you pay, apart from BT), ie someone with a machine and the software that will route your call, store your mail etc, then for the cost of a local call, you can visit anywhere in the world. There are thousands of people who have set up computers attached to a phone line just for the pleasure of making information available, or for others to put information they think will be useful on to.

For instance at the University of Florida, someone has set up a skydiving database which contains DZ information and skydiving photographs. The skysurfer you see coming out of the screen in the picture above was downloaded in 3 mins flat from there, to my office in London SE1. It has been put there, along with a hundred or so others, for anyone to log on to and download. It is not surprising, therefore, to find out that the fuel for growth of the internet has been the academic and military establishments, which explains why libraries, NASA, universities etc, feature prominently.

It's all made possible by clever networking message handling and routing software and big computers which can allow many people on the system at once.

The good news, however, for the average technophobe, is that once you have got your system set up it's so automated that, unless you can't even use a cashpoint machine, you can't fail to use the internet, especially for the basic e-mail and newsgroup facilities. I won't pretend that getting modems to work is a cinch but it's getting easier.

One route that is a cinch is to buy a laptop with one already installed, all you have to do is plug the phone cable provided into the socket and get to grips with the communications software.

But why would you want to get involved in all this? Well, it's not for everybody, but if you regularly need to correspond, communicate or even do research it may be.

Take e-mail. It's efficient — no stamps, no envelope, no complicated formatting, so no fancy word processors are needed; function not form is the aim.

Communications are short and to the point for efficiency, prompted by the fact that you rapidly build a network of regular correspondents (I very quickly realised that the idea was not to write a proper letter to everyone, it's not feasible with 20 letters to write per day on top of normal business). Keeping to two or three lines focuses the message and cuts the bullshit.

Of course the mail is read and replies are composed off-line. Your phone bill is not ticking away, and you can take as long as you like. Once you log on to the system your mail goes whizzing off, passing on the way down the wire, any mail for you (which has been sitting on your service provider's hard disk, waiting

for you to log on) which sits itself on to your hard disk. Mail can be anything from a short message to a picture, to a spreadsheet file. Anything digital basically. Once that, and news items that you have expressed an interest in receiving, has come down the line, if you're not interested in exploring the globe you just log off, read and reply. Next time you log on, off go your messages.

If you do want to explore the globe while logged on, then you tap in the electronic address of the computer you want to visit (no more mystical than a phone number or post-code) and off you go. Your screen, after a short pause becomes a terminal on to that computer, you log on, change directories find files and download them.

Having done my best to demystify the internet, I'll give you an example of some stuff that landed on my hard disk after I logged on to the internet and started collecting the skydiving sessions. I've edited it a bit (my comments are in bold italics), it is one of at least a hundred topics that are under discussion at the moment.

A contributor sparked off the following debate after a water landing in which his canopy proved to be a hazard saying: "All that theoretical knowledge is great until you're tangled in suspension lines and a clinging, wet canopy."

He stated firmly that in future he would be: "pulling the cutaway handle 10-12 feet above the surface and going for the PLF when I hit the water."

A reply came: "You absolutely can't judge height above the water if you're far from land. I know someone who died doing that a few years ago. He had a few thousand jumps, and was a good swimmer. He cut away from about 150 ft. I'm sure he thought it was ten feet. It's a question of what's worse — trying to swim out from under a clingy canopy or lying face down unconscious in the water."

A debate ensued about how one could accurately gauge height above water since: "The water surface is a fractal [effectively]. No matter how far away from it you are, you get the same visual effect. You certainly would have difficulty telling the difference between 75ft and 10ft! People have *died* from cutting away at what they believed was a safe altitude over water."

"You should never cutaway before entering the water. The only [perhaps] exception to that is if the body of water is so small that you are very, very close to landmarks on land, or perhaps you are landing right next to a boat.

Well, can you or can't you tell how high up you are? A contributor who had experienced an unintentional ocean landing wrote: "I will dare to say [with caution] that if you are very careful, you can tell the difference between 10ft and 100ft above the surface if certain conditions exist such as wind, agitated waves and if it is sunny."

"I did cutaway from my main on my ocean-landing and I did it at about 4-5 ft above the surface, as I had planned. I did not rely on just the surface of the water, because this will not give you enough information to make a good

estimate of your true altitude. "One can gauge from craft on the water, the trees around the body of water or other surrounding features how high they are."

It was pointed out however, that while: "Jumping into a lake a couple of hundred feet wide is different than landing 1/4 mile off-shore of an ocean, you can still be fooled!"

An enterprising contributor suggested that: "The jumper could drop their helmet — if it falls for 13.5 minutes, he is a smidgen too high to cut loose."

Hmm, now that's an idea, the soundness of this idea was exposed thus: "Dropping your helmet is not doing your head any favours. The reason why you have it is to protect your head. If the water is not deep and there are rocks around, you're gonna be very sad that you didn't keep it. Keeping your helmet on and not cutting away over water makes sense to me."

Another flaw: "This plan is unworkable. By the time you're at 10ft, drop your helmet and observe that it hits pretty quick, you won't have time to cut away before you're in the water too."

The originator of the plan agreed with these criticisms and modified it accordingly: "I would drop my altitude estimator [meaning anything but the helmet] probably about 20-30ft, and be ready to cut loose by a dozen or so feet."

What about the good old alti? "You can check your altimeter as well, although it's hard to use when the gradations become smaller than 100ft."

Aha, but it's unlikely that the water is at the same altitude as your DZ! "Good point, the chances are that it will be lower so you would cut away a bit high."

Well, let's get back to the main point... "The fact remains that several people have been killed by cutting away too high over water. I don't know of anyone killed because they didn't cut away. To be sure, some have drowned also but there's no evidence that cutting away would have improved their situation. The reason why the SIM says not to cut away until contact is made is because it's a demonstrated bad idea."

The original author's opinion is that with "significant amounts of nylon over my head I plan on mitigating the potential hazard by putting some distance between myself and the parachute. I view the parachute as the hazard, not the water. I can swim literally for hours. But no matter how good a swimmer you are, once you're weighted down and your range of movement is restricted, you have a major problem.

This was accepted with reservations: "I accept that it is possible to cut away very carefully at 10ft and walk [swim] away. But I ask: is it worth the risk to go back into freefall based on your guess of your altitude? Also consider that anybody who has tried this stunt too high to survive is not available to relate their experiences as rebuttal."

But... "What about the people that drowned because they couldn't extricate themselves from their 'chute?"

The reply: "You're exaggerating the relative dangers of nylon in the water versus high speed water hitting your body. High speed water is almost always deadly. Nylon in the water is generally not.

This was not accepted. "I don't think I am exaggerating. If so many people died in the early days of skydiving from unintentional water landings and swimming isn't that difficult, there has to be a correlation between the added dimension of difficulty vis-à-vis the parachute. If many folks were perishing from their unintentional water landings, it's hard to believe as a percentage they all couldn't swim."

Others contributed to the debate including the suggestion that for ocean landings near the coast: "Avoid landing in the surf zone. You are better off with a longer swim to the beach than trying to get out of a harness in the surf."

And to help you get free quickly "Have B-12 leg straps so it's even easier to get out of your harness quickly in an emergency situation."

The skydiving newsgroup is very active. It's the ultimate grapevine. Nothing newsworthy happens without getting sooner rather than later on to the net. For instance, I had to wait a week for returning skydivers to get news of the World record attempt in Bratislava. Eyewitness accounts were available on the internet on the day after.

Although predominantly Americans contribute, it is truly international. One can start personal correspondence with any of the contributors to the newsgroup. I've communicated with skydivers from Scotland, Sweden, South Africa, America, Finland, France, and Russia and have only been active for a couple of months.

The Parachute Industries Association are online and have a bulletin board that can be dialled up if you have a modem. Via them, you can access many of the kit manufacturers, including Airtec, Strong Enterprises etc.

It is difficult to explain such a vast sprawling structure and the way it works in one article. My main message is that it is far simpler than you may think, but for those of you who are not tempted to join the bandwidth, I will keep an eye on the skydiving section and bring news and interesting discussions to your attention. Watch this (cyber)space.

Ola



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Kit News

DUAL HAWK TANDEM UPDATES MANDATED BACKGROUND:

This bulletin mandates five updates that were previously recommendations.

SERVICE BULLETIN: Inspect all Dual Hawk Tandems for compliance and unless previously updated, make the following changes in accordance with instructions available from Strong Enterprises:

1. Replace yellow cable cutaway handle with breakaway drogue release PN 862020. (Ref 13/3/94 addendum to DHT Manual and Tandem Jumping No 15, Feb 94).
2. Change type VIII main risers to type VII main risers. (Ref. Tandem News No 14, March '93.)
3. Change reserve free bag from light blue bag with nitrile O-rings or rubber bands to orange bag PN 730324 with bungee stows and plastic chokers. (Ref Tandem News No 7, Jan.'91; NOTE: This bulletin cancels Service Bulletin No 10.)
4. Modify Master reserve canopies manufactured prior to 10th Sept. 1990 by adding reinforcing tape across tail. Canopies not previously updated will have stabilizers that stop about one and a half inches short of the tail, while updated units will have the stabilizers sewn directly to the tail.
5. Install Cypres AAD. (Ref. Tandem News No 12, May/June '92 & TN No 16, Aug '94.)

A RELIABLE RADIO SYSTEM

For the last 14 years I have been using a radio system to talk students down. Until recently, for one reason or another, I could not guarantee any more than 80 - 90% reliability. With the advent of RAPS it is even more desirable to have as close to 100% reliability as possible. This we have now achieved at Eaglescott, and I would like to pass on the following information to anyone who may be interested.

Receivers

The system consists of a hard helmet (Centurion motorcycle helmet BS5361-76), to which we have fitted 49MHz receivers which mount on the chest strap with a lead to the helmet. The helmet has a small speaker concealed within the lining, and an aerial taped over the top.

The receivers start life as small personal communicators (transceivers), and are readily available from shops selling CB and other radio equipment. They are about £40 each. They come with a headband and a boom microphone, both of which you need to remove. These are sold under various names, one of which is a Midland Tracker Model 75-101 hands free 2 way FM radio (this, of course, is only used in the receive mode). The beauty of this system is that the speaker is *inside* the helmet, and therefore clearly audible.

Transmitter

This is a more state of the art unit, and is sold as a Maxon 49 MX hands free communicator. It has five channels, costs about £85, and reaches in excess of 4-5000' AGL, with very clear reception in the helmets. Channel B is 49.845MHz, which corresponds to the receivers. It can be used on VOX, but we prefer PTT. It is, quite importantly, DTI WT Licence exempt. In use, you wear a headband with an earpiece and boom microphone - this is useful as you can hear exactly what you are transmitting, and soon become aware when the batteries need changing as there is a low battery light, but it is difficult to see in sunlight.

We have used these transmitters for the last 3 - 4 months with 100% success, and I am totally happy with them. Of course, no radio system will replace training, and the students are obviously made aware of this. It is still useful, though, to be able to assist them occasionally, resulting in first-jump students landing on the target most times.

The headband version is the one we use for talking to RAPS students as it has an external aerial which is more efficient than the other version of the Maxon 49 HX, which has ear microphones (which we tried out). This one, used on VOX, is popular with motor-cycle schools. It can be used for WARP and AFF as external noise does not affect its use.

If anybody would like more information, please give me a ring at Eaglescott, or call Clive at CBM, 30 South Street, South Molton, Devon EX36 4AE, Tel: 0769 572820. He will know exactly what you mean as I have pestered him for the last year until we came up with this solution!

by Dave Tylcoat

ELECTRONIC SCORING IN SPAIN

At the IPC meeting in India earlier this year, Larsen & Brusgaard of Denmark was given the task to develop an easy operating electronic scoring system by which the judges could present their scores immediately and with extreme timing accuracy.

The TruScore™ was finished several months later and became the official scoring system for judging the World cup in Spain - performing flawlessly.

One of the main goals for Larsen &

Brusgaard was to make the TruScore simple to operate - with the use of the PC mouse only. Using Microsoft Windows™ software it took thus just a few minutes for the Event Judges to install and operate the system.

The less workload on the judges was immediately noticed from the very beginning of the World Cup. Among other things it was no longer necessary to use hand-held stopwatches, collect scoresheets after each jump for collation of the final score, etc, etc.

The judges simply pressed the start buttons on their control panels on exit - most often they would be seeing the live signal from the transmitter carried by the videographer - and watched the jump for any infringements. At the computer calculated end of working time (based on the average start times from the middle three judges) the monitor screens would go blank. On the second play the judges pressed the scoring buttons accordingly while the Event Judge supervised the process on his detailed main window layout. Most often, the laser printer provided the official score even before the team had landed!

Also at the Olympic Challenge Event the TruScore proved its superiority by accurately calculating whether the release of the exit star formation was inside or outside the 5 second mark and then compute when the 15 second end of working time would arrive.

The TruScore system is carried in a small carrying case complete with program diskette for any type of PC or laptop computer and includes software for the 4-way and 8-way disciplines as standard. The price is about US\$ 7,000.00.

For further information about the TruScore Judging System, optional software packages and accessories, please contact LARSEN & BRUSGAARD, Mosevej 3 4070 Kr. Hyllinge, Denmark. Tel: +45 42 40 44 05 / Fax: +45 46 75 77 22.

CYPRES SAVES

The Student Cypres had its first outing of the year on September 4 at Hoevenen, Belgium, when a student had a lineover after being unstable on opening. He did not cut away and the fast rate of descent caused the Cypres to fire. The student landed safely under both canopies.

On September 16 an experienced skydiver had difficulties deploying her throwaway, and after several unsuccessful attempts cut away instead of pulling the reserve. Her Expert Cypres fired at 750'. She was later unable to explain why she had not tried to open the reserve, quite a common occurrence among those who have AAD deployments.

This was the 11th Cypres save this year and the 40th in all; the average experience of each Skydiver saved is over 500 jumps.

BOOK REVIEW

Flying Rebel – the Story of Louis Strange

This is the latest in a series of aviation histories by Peter Hearn, author of *Parachutist*, *The Sky People*, *Sky High Irvin*, and *When the Chute Went Up*.

His subject this time is Group Captain Louis Strange, who served with the RFC in World War I and again with the RAF in World War II. Louis Strange was one of the few airmen to

be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in both conflicts; his sheer courage and unorthodox methods marked him out as a truly heroic rebel.

The story covers much of the evolution of the Royal Flying Corps and the aerial combat in the First World War is brought most vividly and authentically to life. Louis Strange entered the war as a Lieutenant and was one of the first of 37 pilots to cross the Channel in 1914 to begin the war against Germany; by 1917 he was Lieutenant Colonel with an MC and Assistant Commandant at the Central Flying School, Upavon. Back in France in 1918 he was awarded both the DSO and the DFC. Between the wars he was most active in commercial aviation and in 1940 at the age of 49 rejoined the RAF as a Pilot Of-

ficer. Three weeks after Dunkirk he was promoted Squadron Leader and posted to Ringway as the first OC Parachute Training School.

There is only one parachuting chapter in this book, covering the birth of Airborne Forces training. There is, however, so much more to tell about this aviator whose fifty years of active flying encompassed 115 aircraft types from the 1913 Box-Kite to the Venom jet of 1955. This is a tremendous read for all who prefer real-life adventure and I have no hesitation in recommending it to all members.

Doug Peacock

DETAILS

Flying Rebel – the Story of Louis Strange by Peter Hearn
Published by HMSO
Price £13.95.

Video REVIEW

The video of the British Woman's Formation Skydiving Record at Langar comprises 30 mins of superb footage to music and is an absolute must to banish those winter blues.

The video begins with exits from Langar's Skyvan, Cessna Caravan and Let 410 from 14,000ft to smash the previous record of 24 with a 29-way. Cameramen Adrian Thornton and John Drew's footage is complimented by Cornelia Weymouth's in-forma-tion shots. Split screen editing is used to good effect.

Once the 30-way is successfully accomplished there is a section with commentary from the BBC - lots of words like plummeting etc - usual fare.

Things start hotting up with a successful 38-way to music from 'Top Gun', culminating in a 50-way attempt from 15 grand. Everyone pushes themselves to the limit to achieve this, but in the end the maximum formation of the meet is the 48 way.

The visuals of all three aircraft in close formation for the run in and exit are great, I'm positively green with envy.

The final segment of this well-edited and very watchable video consists of photos available from their respective photographers.

To order your copy contact Adrian Thornton, Air 2 Air Video. Tel 01404 44801.

Iain

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Hilliam Lane
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Blue Skies Parachute Centre

Contact: George McGuinness
Bishops Court Airfield
Bishops Court
Co Down
N Ireland
Tel: 0238 510744
DZ: 0396 842202

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Open Friday afternoon and weekends all year and by arrangement during the week in summer. Progression, coaching and competition weeks in May and September. SL Round, RAPS, Tandem and AFF courses, WARP, CRW, Style and Accuracy coaching. Artificial pit, electronic pad, video, team rates, canteen, Cherokee 6 and Riems Rocket. Bar, restaurant, accommodation nearby and great beaches for barbecues.

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Ipswich
Suffolk IP3 9QF
Tel: 0473 710044
Fax: 0473 271055

London Parachute School

Weekend club: beginners courses and progression training. Farmland DZ. B&B available locally. Aerobicals, radios, boots and helmets loaned free. All welcome at small but friendly club. Please telephone beforehand for weekend activity.

London Parachute School
PO Box 18
Goring on Thames
Reading RG8 9EW
Tel: Drop Zone 0249 651909
Tel: Weekends 0860 559112

Merlin Parachute Centre

Open weekends and Bank holidays 9am till dark. Static Line Round parachuting courses every Saturday, Tandem & AFF by arrangement, CRW & Formation skydiving (coaching available, accuracy pit, BN Islander with in-flight door, friendly atmosphere, bring two passport photos for camp pass. Canteen facilities, indoor packing, camping and B&B close to airfield at local pub.

Merlin Parachute Centre
Alanbrook Bks
Topcliffe, Near Thirsk
North Yorkshire
Tel: Weekdays 0274 631044
Tel: Weekends 0848 875396

Midland Parachute Centre

Open every weekend 9am to 9pm. Static Line, Tandem and WARP. Canteen open during jumping hours serving snacks, drinks and lunches. Free bunk-house accommodation. Many local B&B's, tents but no caravans.

Midland Parachute Centre
The Control Tower
Windrush Camp
Nr Burford
Oxfordshire, OX18 4TW
Tel: Weekends 0451 844422 or 844449
Tel/Fax: Weekdays 0787 461621

North West Parachute Centre

In fabulous lakeland scenery. RW, CRW, WARP, Kit Hire, BN Islander, bunk house, showers etc. Camping on airfield, visitors welcome open weekends and bank holidays mostly.

North West Parachute Centre
Cark Airfield
Flookburgh
Nr Grange-Over-Sands
Cumbria
Tel: Airfield 05395 58672/58555
Tel: Weekdays 0772 720848

Oxon & Northants Parachute Centre

Open every weekend and midweek by arrangement during B.S.T. friendly atmosphere, visitors welcome, good local pub. Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airfield situated 1 mile off A422 between Banbury and Brackley. 'First Jump' Static-line courses, Tandem, Free-fall Progression, kit hire, student radios, Cessnas 182 and 206 aircraft.

Contact: Mike Bolton, Chief Instructor
Oxon & Northants Parachute Centre
Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airfield
Steane, Nr Brackley
Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: Office 0384 393373
Tel: Mobile 0850 762349

Paraclan Parachute Centre

Open all year round, weekends 0900-2100, mid week by arrangement during BST. S/L Rounds, Tandem, WARP, CRW, Formation, Style, Accuracy, Para Demos. Toilets, canteen, parking, B/B and Pubs nearby. Aircraft Cessna 207, BN Islander.

Contact: Ron Groat
Kinnell Airfield
Frickheim
Angus
Scotland DD11 4XX
Tel: 0241 828999

Peterborough Parachute Centre

Skyvan and Islander, AFF, WARP, Tandem. Bunkhouse accommodation, free camping, showers, bar, food. Unrestricted altitude. Twenty years experience.

Peterborough Parachute Centre
Sibson Airfield
Wansford
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 0832 280490
Fax: 0832 280409

Peterlee

Open 8.30am to 8.30 pm. Basic S/L courses, progression, Raps, WARP, rigging, displays. On site conveniences.

The Airfield
Shotton Colliery
Peterlee
Co Durham DH6 2ND
Tel: 091 5171234
Fax: 091 3865315

Scottish Parachute Club

Open 9am to 9pm weekends and public holidays. Over thirty years of skydiving in Scotland. AFF with square on square, video on every jump, Cypres fitted to all AFF equipment. S/L Round and Tandem courses, WARP, CRW, FS, Style and Accuracy coaching with video. Two Cessna 206's, artificial pit and electronic pad, cheap jump prices, shop, excellent student progression. Canteen, TV room, B&B and camping in local town.

Contact Scotty Milne
Scottish Parachute Club
Strathallan Airfield
Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire
Perthshire PH3 1LA
Tel: 0374 686161
Tel: Weekends 0764 662572

Skydive Scotland

Open Wednesday to Sunday (inclusive). Friendly, fun centre with emphasis on safety. First jump training on square and round canopies with radios and AADs. Tandem, AFF, RAPS, WARP, CRW, Accuracy. Kit hire available also large accuracy pit and Display Team. 2 Aircraft – Islander (in-flight door) and Cessna 207 always available to unrestricted altitude. Canteen, dormitories, hot showers, toilets and camping facilities all on airfield.

Skydive Scotland
The Parachute Centre,
Errol Airfield,
Grange
Errol
PH2 7TB
Tel/Fax: 0821-642881 (Office)
or 0821-642673 (Airfield)

Parachute Centre, The

Young progressive centre, operated by Skydivers for Skydivers. Student and RW. Progression, AFF, Tandem, RAPS, courses. Weekend and midweek evenings at present. Aircraft – C182 with others on occasional call. New club building, unrestricted altitude. Canteen and accommodation available.

The Sport Parachute Centre

Tilstock Airfield
Whitchurch
Shropshire
Tel: 0948 841111

Stirling Parachute Centre

Open weekends and some midweek. S/L Round Tandem, RW and CRW instruction, WARP instruction, lecture rooms, packing facilities, indoor training and B&B nearby.

Stirling Parachute Centre

Thornhill
Nr Stirling
Scotland FK8 3QT
Tel: 0786 870788
Fax: 0786 870748

Target Skysports Parachute Club

Open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and any other weekdays by arrangement. Static line Round, RAPS, WARP, RW and CRW, Tandem and AFF, Radio Helmets, AAD's student and experienced, kit hire. Aircraft – Twin Dornier (15 places), Cessna 206 in-flight door, Cherokee 6 and Piper Lance. Competitive jump prices – everyone welcome, unrestricted altitude. On airfield – bar, cafe, toilets and showers. Accommodation – caravans and camping.

Target Skysports Hibaldstow Airfield Hibaldstow Brigg

South Humberside
Tel: Anyday 0532 505600
Tel: Drop Zone 0652 648837
Fax: 0532 571071

Wild Geese Ireland

Open 7 days a week – 8am till dark. S/L round, S/L square courses daily, tandems, training to Cat 10, CRW, display team, kit hire, AAD's radios, large accuracy pit with competition pad. Cessna 206, Pilatus Porter. Accommodation for 36, camping welcome, hot showers, full catering, games room.

Contact: Maggie Penny Wild Geese Skydiving Centre Movenis Airfield

116 Carrowreagh Road
Garvagh, Coleraine
Co Londonderry
N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: Drop Zone 02665 58609
Fax: Drop Zone 02665 57050

West Wilts Parachute Club

Ex Badminton Parachute Club
Correspondence Address:
Contact: John Davis
24 Turners Lane
Cradwell
Malmesbury
Wilts SN16 9EN
Tel: 0666 577756

OTHER ORGANISATIONS ASSOCIATED TO THE BPA

British Collegiate Parachute Association

Affiliations 1994/95

Bath University	Glasgow University
Kent University	Kingston University
University of Central Lancashire	Lancaster University
Manchester Metropolitan University	
Southampton University	
Sussex University	

BCPA C/O Catherine Symonds – Chairman

c/o 23 Prince Lee Meadows
Darwen, Lancashire BB3 2BQ
Tel: 0254 776705
Ellen Ruston – Secretary
35 Delacy Street
Ashton, Preston, PR2 2DD
Tel: 0772 881360

The Free Fall Company

Peter Allum and Kevin McCarthy run the the AFF School, they also offer FS coaching – one to one, 4-way, 8-way. Trips to Gap (S France) can be organised. See Peterborough Parachute Centre.

The Free Fall Company

Sibson Airfield,
Wansford
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 0832 280055
Fax: 0832 280409

East Coast Parachute Centre

Currently sharing facilities with the London Parachute School at Lewknor Drop Zone.

8 Burns Crescent
Chelmsford
Essex CM2 0TS
Tel: 0245 268772

Flying Tigers Airsports

RAPS, AFF & TANDEM.

Kevin McIlwee Flying Tigers Airsports 6 St Hildas Court Palmyra Road St Helier

Jersey JE2 3YT
Tel/Fax: 0534 880140
Tel: Cellnet 0850 272141

Scottish Sport Parachute Association

Dedicated to the promotion and development of parachuting in Scotland. Services provided include equipment grants (Fan Trainers, Parachutes, Aircraft, Accuracy Pits, etc), sponsorship of the Scottish National Championships and other competitions, provision of the only student progression, WARP, and CRW training subsidy system in the world; Rigger and instructors training grants and much much more.

Sheila Lang (Secretary, SSPA) Strathallan Airfield Auchterarder Perthshire PH3 1BE

Slipstream Adventures

Run by Chris Lynch (current National Formation Skydiving Champion) as part of the Headcorn Parachute Club. We are the UK's longest running AFF school and have 14 rigs at our disposal. We offer expert instruction from expert skydivers at all levels.

Slipstream Adventures
Headcorn Aerodrome
Headcorn
Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 0622 890862
Fax: 0622 890641

Southern Skydivers

Complete range of skydiving training: AFF Tandem, RAPS, Progression training. Operating out of Poole Dorset, and jumping with the APA facilities of one of the largest, safest and obstacle free drop zones in the UK.

Contact: Bob Scouler
Tel: 0202 672408

David Morris Action Sports

Private AFF instruction with the use of Langar's facilities and aircraft. We can arrange AFF courses in Southern France. Kaleidoscope – experts in skydiving promotions, exhibition, stunts and displays.

41 Ellindon
Bretton North
Peterborough
PE3 8RG
Tel: 0733 266076

POPS UK

Hon Treas/Sec John Crowhurst

32 Colston Road
East Sheen
London SW14 7PG
Tel: 081 392 9291
Answer phone: 081 878 0147 (eves)
Fax: 081 392 9322

Parachute Training Services

The complete RAPS package. PTS offers one jump introductory course with the option of progression training through to Cat 10. Operating at Netheravon in conjunction with the APA.

Contact: Doug Peacock
11 Godwyn Close
Larkhill Abingdon
Oxon OX14 1BU
Tel: 0235 529570

OTHER AFFILIATED CLUBS/CENTRES

Army Parachute Assoc

The Commandant, JSPC
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury
Wilts. SP4 9SF
Tel: Bulford Camp 0980 33371
Tel: ext Commandant 8252
Chief Instructor 8229
Staff 8277

The Red Devils

Queen's Parade
Aldershot
Hants
Tel: 0252 24431 ext 4600/4699
Contact: Red Devils
Browning Barracks
Aldershot, Hants

RN & RM SPA

Dunkeswell Airfield
Dunkeswell
Honiton, Devon
Tel: 0404 891697/891716

Northern Ireland Services Free-fall Club

N.I.S.F.F.C.
Shackleton Barracks
BFPO 802
Tel: Civil 0504 49972
Tel: Military – Limavady 36472
Mobile: 0831 569 605

Silver Stars Parachute Team

Duke of Gloucester Barracks
South Cerney
Cirencester
Gloucester GL5 5RD
Tel: 0285 861344/0285 860551 x8259

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Club (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI
CJSATC Pergamos Camp, BFPO 58
Tel From the UK:
Office 010 357 47 44337
Drop Zone 010 357 47 44245

Joint Services Parachute Centre

Hong Kong
Borneo Lines
Shek Kong
NT
Hong Kong
BFPO 1
Tel: + 852 483 7221
Fax: + 852 488 9341
Mobile: + 852 9035 6467

RAPA JSPC(L)

Bielefelderstr
Normandy
Kaserne
4791 Sennelager
Tel: 010 495 254 822378
JSPC(L), STC, Sennelager BFPO 16

RAFSPA

Weston-on-the-Green
Nr Bicester
Oxon
Tel: 0869 343343

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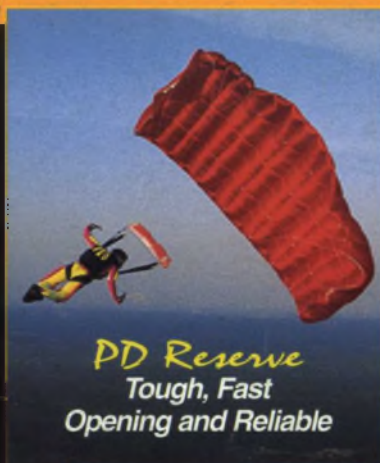


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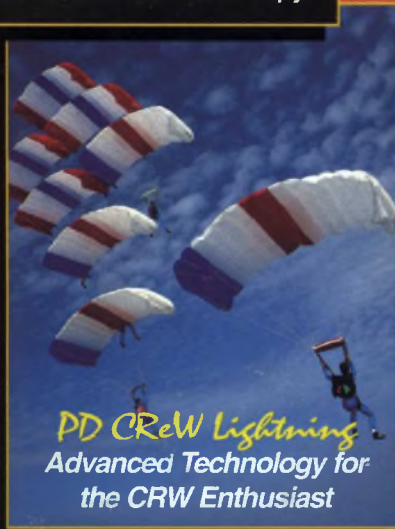
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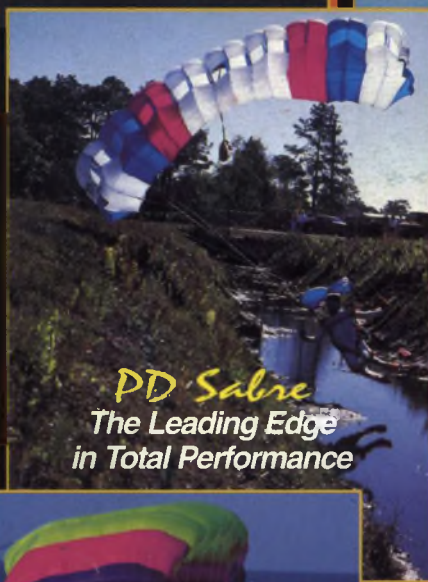
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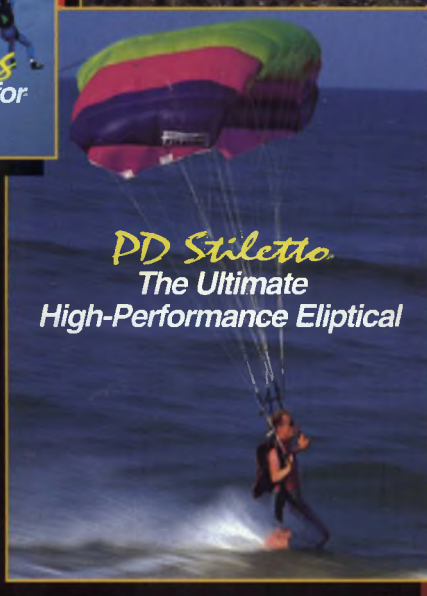
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