

SPORT PARACHUTIST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION



**AGM Gossip
Brit100 Latest
Empuriabrava Christmas Boogie**

February 1999

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Simon Ward



This lovely sunrise shot by Keith Larrett is of Lyle Presse trailing his toe in the water



Cover Photo: by Johnny McLemming (of Arizona Airspeed) shows team p.u.l.s.e. Knut Krecker and Oliver Furrer having fun



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NOTE: Some of the photos contained in this magazine may show skydivers without helmets, in which case they were jumping abroad. In the UK it is mandatory to wear a helmet for obvious safety reasons.

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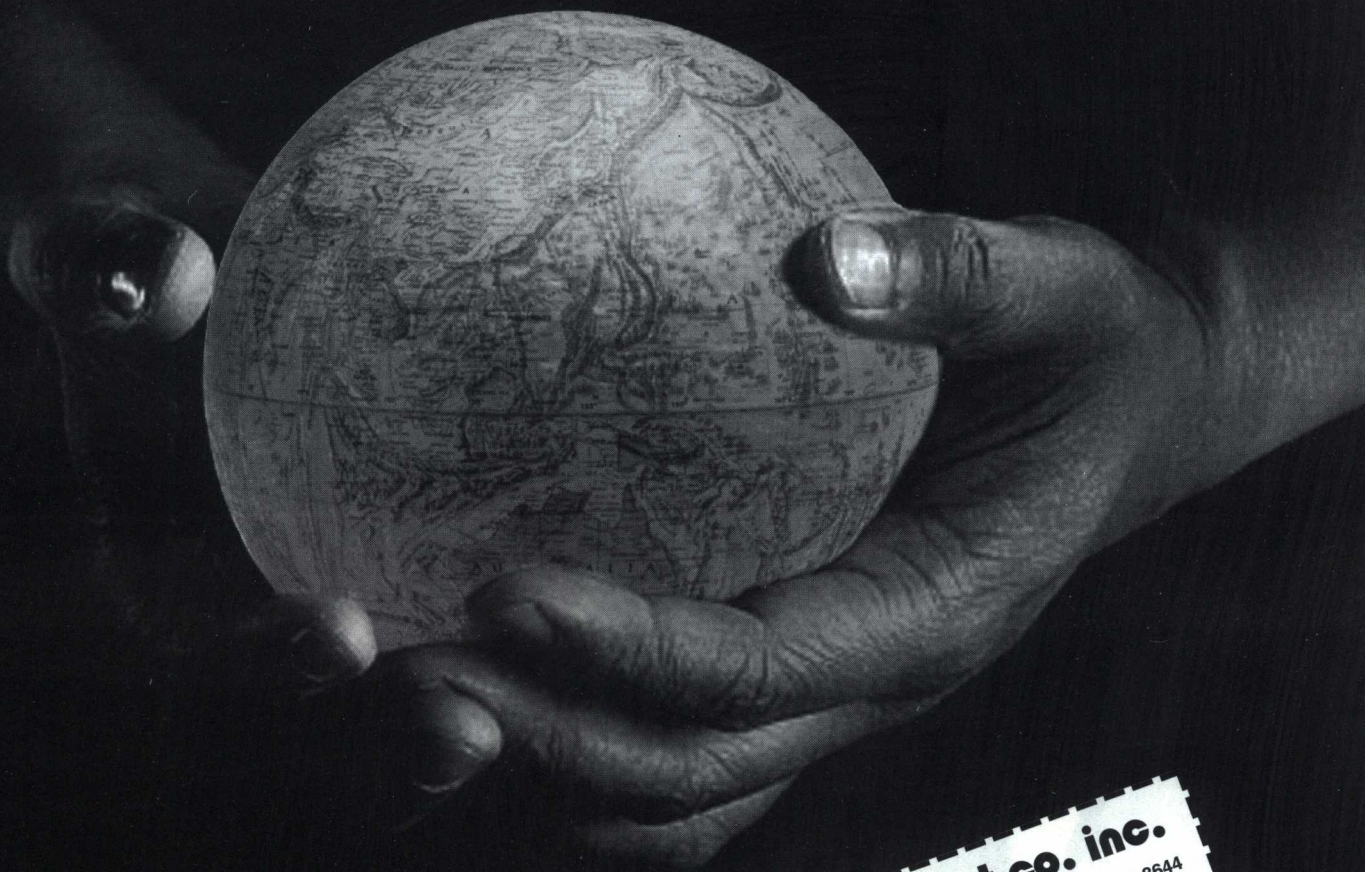
Adrian Bowles gives a blow by blow account of fortunes at the Canopy Formation World Meet in Eloy



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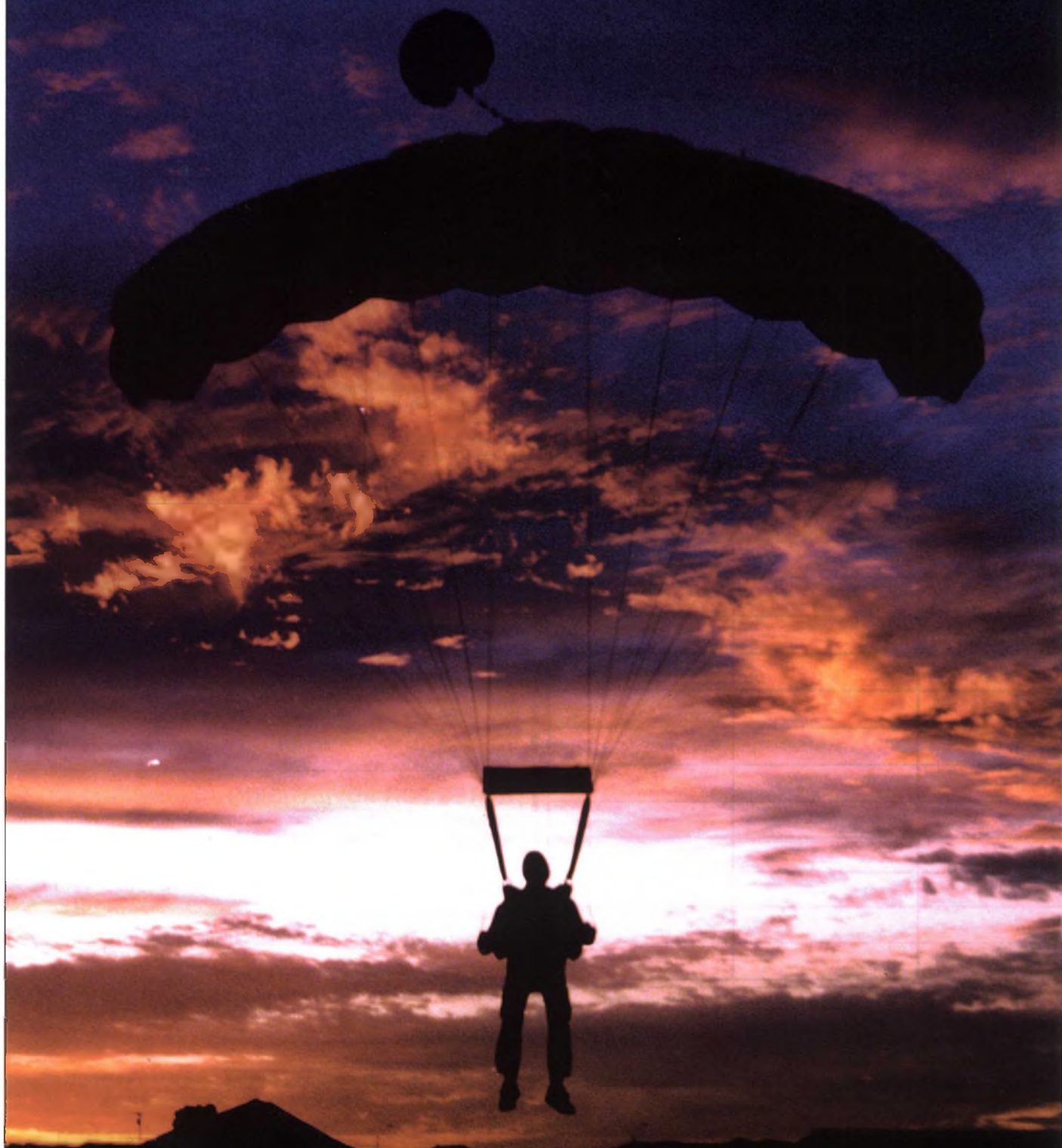


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SPACE GAMES

The next Space Games will be held at Skydive Sebastian, Florida, 5-9 March.

1-4 March is dedicated to AD tests, race training and fun freefly jumps.

For more information contact Olav Zipser, the First School of Modern Sky Flying at Skydive Sebastian on 001 530 304 0876 or ffcrown1@aol.com.

The sport of skydiving is constantly progressing. Over the last decade we have seen the birth of skysurfing, freeflying and winged suits for example, whilst flat flyers have combined their talents to build a 297-way formation. Now, Olav Zipser, Free Fly Clown #1 and father of free flight, has invented a new and unique game to test three dimensional human flight performance – the Space Games

The first Space Games was held during 9-15 November at Skydive City, Florida. Here, we record the concept of the competition and news of future events. The actual results of the competition can be found in *Skydiving* magazine, issue number 210 or by contacting Olav.

Atmosphere Dolphin Test

To enter the Games you must first pass the Atmosphere Dolphin Test using the Space Ball; a weighted tennis ball which travels at exactly 180mph, straight down. The test is done in freefall with an appropriate examiner and involves first retrieving the ball (in a head-down flying position), releasing it and performing a disorienting manoeuvre (eg, frontloop), then retrieving the ball again. Another manoeuvre is performed on a different axis and then the jumper must safely track, deploy and land with the ball.

There are 93 people who have passed this basic test 'A' and who could therefore compete in the Space Games. Six people

Atmosphere Dolphin Challenge

The object is to accumulate more transitions than your opponent while remaining safe and controlled. You must point at the ball while on level at arm's length, before each transition, to represent the ability to catch the ball at that time. Transitions must be completed as follows: 360° turn on the horizontal axis, flip forward or backward on the vertical axis, then a cartwheel on the side axis. The race begins on the release of the ball by the Ball Master. Transitions may be disallowed if full control is not shown. The race ends when the Ball Master retrieves the ball at around 6,000ft or at any time during race for safety reasons (for instance if approaching a cloud or if flying is not controlled).

"In the AD Challenge the most tricky thing is not to be distracted by the other racer in front of you. You have to remember not to rush too much. It is one thing to do a training jump and quite another to be in a competition with someone racing in front of you....no matter how you try, your adrenaline level rises and rises..."

"Olav won this Game confronting John Matthews of the Total Body Pilot School of Free Flying in the final. John made the same amount of transitions but sadly one was not on video." **Stefania Martinengo**

have passed the 'B' test which involves six transitions showing controlled movement left and right in all three dimension axes. Only Olav himself has passed the 'C' test which uses two balls. The Atmosphere Dolphin Test is a real aid to identifying controlled and therefore safe freeflying.

Space Ball

Olav Zipser explains "Before starting the Space Games we sent full guidelines to the FAA including an aerial view of the DZ showing a large, non-populated area on which space balls could be potentially dropped without endangering anyone. (Thank you so much to Z-Hills manager TK, for doing all the work!)"

For 3 years we [the First School of Modern Sky Flying] have developed the Atmosphere Dolphin licenses using strict guidelines and video records. We strongly suggested to the FAA not to allow anyone

3-way Freefly

The 3-way freeflying teams did as many jumps as they wanted during the week and then chose their best three dives to present to the judges.

"We tried a different approach for the Space Games. Instead of the usual method of scoring technical, artistic and overall, we only gave one overall score, a number between 1-10. This was because the three categories strongly overlap anyway. Judging artistic could be considered nonsense (we cannot say that Leonardo is better than Michelangelo or vice-versa!) but we should keep on supporting competitions as is the only way, at present, to show what we can create, meet each other, exchange ideas and have Loads of Fun." **Stefania**

to jump with the space ball unless they have been properly licensed and educated about safety through our School."

The Space Games consisted of three separate competitions (see boxes). The Space Games are unique. Two jumpers compete in the same air space at the same time, the winner advances to the next round and the loser is eliminated. Points, times or scores are not cumulative, so a competitor focuses on only one match at a time. An exciting feature of the Games is its objectiveness – each round clearly has a winner or a loser. The space ball is so cut and dried that the competitors are the judges. There are no arguments on whose style or creativity deserves more points.

Olav Zipser / Stefania Martinengo

Freefly Indy 500 Pylon Race

This involves two racers and two 'pylons' with video (one is the Ball Master) who provide the racecourse. The object of the Game is to end the race in front of your opponent, in a safe controlled manner. The Ball Master's responsibility is to sit with the ball (this ensures straight down flight), film the other pylon, and retrieve the ball at about 6,000ft to end the race. The rear pylon's responsibility is to sit on level in front of the Ball Master about 40ft away from the ball. If a racer touches a pylon, the ball or the other competitor in any way, no matter how slight, they lose the round.

"I entered the gate first giving me some advantage on Tim Strauss, the other racer, but soon I felt him right on my back ... as soon as we turned the corner he overtook me. I tried to go faster but then I miscalculated the turning point and the forward speed took me much further than I wanted, losing even more ground. While I was racing, I found myself watching Tim attentively, trying to learn his technique – which, I had to admit, was much better than mine around the corners."

"Olav won the Indy 500 but not as easily as you might think, a couple of times it was very tight with the other racers, as in the round with Colon Berry when Olav finally overtook him only in the last part of the race. It was very exciting!" **Stefania**

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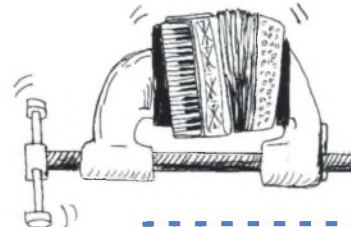
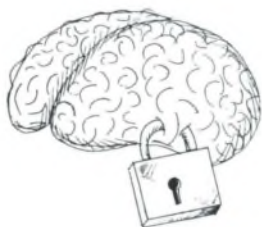
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PRIZE - Get Fleeced!!

Malfunction Skydive Clothing are offering a fleece to the winner of this issue's Puzzle Page. To enter the competition, send your completed puzzle (photocopied if you don't want to damage your mag) to Malfunction Skydive Clothing, 35 Eskdale Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4DN. The winner will be drawn on 1 March.



DINOBATS - Solve the pictorial clues to give skydiving phrases



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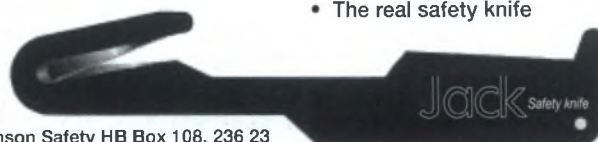
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Council Matters



COUNCIL

ROYAL AERO CLUB

Three nominations have been put forward for Royal Aero Club awards, including one which was prompted by an ordinary member rather than a Council member. The Aero Club is interested in further Youth oriented projects, this is to better match the Government's requirement for funding for sports which involve an educational orientation; if anyone knows of any suitable projects then please forward details to the RAeC delegate – John Smyth.

PATRON

Although we invited our Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, to several events next summer, he has been unable to fit into his schedule. Invitations to future events need to be in almost a year in advance. Please contact the Chairman if you have any ideas or suggestions

BPA OFFICE

BPA Administration Co-ordinator Sharon Norris has been promoted to the newly created position of National Administrator, a role similar to David Oddy's old one. David is finally retiring after many years of loyal service highlighted last year by the award of an RAeC Certificate of Merit. Jane Doughty has been recruited to the office to take up Sharon's old position of Administration Co-ordinator. Jane used to work for us years ago. We wish both Jane and Sharon success in their new roles.

IPC

The International Parachute Committee is looking at ways to improve to appeal of the sport to the public to aid acceptance as an Olympic sport. Please send any suggestions or comments to John Hitchen as soon as you can. One of the governing factors of Olympic acceptance will be the TV interest of the disciplines – imagine how much more exciting blade running looks

than accuracy, for example.

DEVELOPMENT

As there has been little response to some of the insurance services offered through the 'Blue Skies' insurance scheme, several of the products are being withdrawn.

BRIT 100

The Brit 100 project is well under way, check your local DZs to see when the training and selection weekends are scheduled. The aim is to improve individual jumper's skills; whether they take part in the record attempt or not. There is a lot that can be learnt from these active seminars. See page 34 for the latest update.

RETENTION

Whereas the amount of newcomers to the sport is very positive, our retention of them and our long term membership is not nearly so successful. Constructive ideas to the Chairman of Development please. Next year will see the Association supporting the DZs more.

OLYMPIC RECOGNITION

Whereas we all recognise what a dynamic sport parachuting is, the fact is not known by many outside of our environment. The public generally perceives us to do crazy things rather than appreciate the seriousness of our top athletes. There is a need to have someone on our side who can deal with the media on a professional basis – candidates to Charles Ross charles@email.com.

ELECTIONS

The council elections saw a record number of nominees stand but only the same proportion of the membership voted. Send any ideas to improve the number of returns to Chair of Development.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Association's Development Plan was previewed at the AGM event. This plan presents the direction for the BPA to

follow for the medium term future. It is reliant upon the co-operation of us all to benefit the sport as we aim to regain the status of the most popular adrenaline sport.

COMMUNICATIONS

Some problems with the web page have been rectified; now that the trial period is drawing to a close, please feed your comments to Charles Ross. The aim last year was to focus on the would-be first time jumper. Please let us know whether you think it should now be opened up further to serve the core membership. (Remember all things cost money – it could be reflected in your subscription rate in years to come!) Contact charles@email.com or write c/o the BPA office.

SKYDIVE STARTER MAGAZINE

By mid year it is hoped that an annual magazine will be launched specifically for the newcomers to the sport; this would be given to all P6 members in order to explain about the sport and enthuse them. We are looking for a name and for contributions appropriate for this level of jumper. Ideas to Lesley on sportpara@aol.com or 01733 755 860.

COMPETITIONS

NATIONALS AND REGIONALS

The FS and New Age Nationals

New Ratings

Basic Instructors

Michelle Pollard
Pauline Chandler
Karl Everitt
Robert Marshall
Mark Scobie
James White
Danny Branstorn
Frank Hynds
Stuart Morris

AFF Basic Instructors

Steve Crabtree
Chris Whitlock

Approved Instructors

Richard Green
Sarah Aldon
Craig Bassindale
Daniel Ng
Jim Pescod
Craig Bonnar
Andy Goodall
Craig Hughes
Gareth Leonard
Christine Betts
Terry Harvey

Advanced Instructor

Dennis Hayes

Examiner

Jon Stafford

are to be held at Sibson, the CF Nationals will be held at Target Skysports, see diary (back page) for dates The Classics Nationals are being offered up for rebid, any drop zones interested please contact the BPA office. The Central Regionals will be held at Target Skysports on May 22, the Northern Regionals on May 28 at Strathallan and the other one is up for rebid.

NATIONAL TEAMS

Sebastian XL and *Junction 9* will be the British 4 and 8-way teams to be funded to the World FS Meet in Australia next October. The level of funding has not been decided.

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LETTERS

You may have noticed that with me in the Editor's seat, the letters page has been tiny. This isn't because we don't get many letters, it's because most of them don't make it to print. To be worth publication, text must raise valid points in a constructive manner... which is true of this 'bumper' letters page. I am happy to say I also receive letters after every issue complimenting the editorial team which I usually don't publish because it's a bit like blowing our own trumpet. But, what the heck...

THE MAG

Dear Editor

I would like to congratulate you on your fine publication. Your magazine is truly a publication you can be proud of. Articles and photos are of outstanding quality. Keep up the good work!

Bernard Parker

Chief Editor,

Canpara magazine

Canadian Sport Parachuting Association

(Thank you very much – I am proud of it. But not too proud to take constructive criticism on board either, such as this next letter... – Ed)

Dear Lesley

As a newcomer to skydiving (22 jumps to date and still terrified.) I look forward to receiving my copy of *Sport Parachutist* every other month.

The presentation and photography are first class and I read (albeit with confused interest) enthusiastic accounts of various competitions and record attempts. As much as I enjoy it, I have one criticism (and I mean only to be constructive here); there's very little in it for me! You know, the one who 'enjoys' packing, annoys the CCI with a thousand questions and could write a 10,000 word essay about the deployment sequence.

I jump at a very friendly DZ. Any of the experienced jumpers will help you out, and that's how it should be! After all, the continuity of parachuting is dependant on encouraging a steady stream of

newcomers into the sport and keeping them there. It also keeps experienced jump prices down. Yes, that's the responsibility of every DZ around the country, but it's also the responsibility of the Association. What better way than to use our own publication to do so. The circulation is potentially more far-reaching than any one club alone. As such, it must be many people's first contact with the idea of parachuting as a leisure activity.

Let's have a student/newcomers section. For us newts, "Knowledge dispels fear!" I (at least for a while) really do want to read about good packing technique, the aerodynamics of a ram-air canopy and basic freefall skills. *Sport Parachutist* must be the forum for this.

Come on Lesley, let's have it!!!

Kind regards and keep up the good work!

Glen Manson

(Thanks for your letter and your interest Glen. My readership covers all British skydivers from 6-10,000 jumps – so it's a bit of a game trying to include something for everyone! But I absolutely agree with you that we need more in the Mag for newcomers. We're planning a few things to correct this. Firstly, from the next issue, we'll include glossary-style boxes for newcomers which will explain the jargon used in articles. Secondly, I would like to form a small working group of newcomers to the sport to advise on what they most need

in the Mag. If I can throw the ball back into your court, will you join us, Glen?... And can any other interested 'newbies', BPA instructors or jumpers who want to help, please contact me. Finally, as an invaluable additional tool, the BPA Communications Committee has given the go-ahead for a separate annual publication (working title, Skydive Starter) which will be given, free, to everyone who makes that first jump. The aim is to educate and excite the newcomer about skydiving. We hope that this will improve retention as well as preparing people better for the sport. – Ed)

Dear Lesley

Here is my new address as I don't want to wait any longer than absolutely necessary to receive my copy of your fantastic Mag. *(I love letters that start like this! – Ed)*

Now that is dealt with I would like to congratulate you and the rest of your team on the new look that you've given *Sport Parachutist*. I've been in the sport 14 months now but sadly, after 47 jumps. I'm still a student – British weather and RAPS are not very compatible! I've always found the Mag to contain great articles and it is very informative but I am particularly grateful for this month's FS tips. I should graduate Cat 8 in a few jumps time and hope to be joining a 4-way team soon after. Tips such as this should help me improve my skydiving until I can find the money (and the weather!) to get some serious coaching.

The photos in the Mag are just great and certainly an inspiration to one such as myself to explore as many different aspects of the sport as I can, after I have qualified Cat 10 that is. It seems sensible to get a good grounding before progressing onto something more difficult but I'm just dying to get out there and see what I can do in freefall given the chance.

Lastly I would like to register my vote for the new name, *Sport Skydiver*, for the Mag. I feel that this better represents the goals of the vast majority of people in the sport – as the goal of every student that I

know is to get off that dope rope and be a skydiver!

Thank you and Blue Skies

Mike Ehlas

(Thanks for your letter Mike and it's good to know we're keeping some students happy! As far as the name goes, we've had lots of excellent suggestions and the most popular so far is Skydive UK! which seems to say it all. Anyone who wants to design a logo, please do, your reward is to see it on the new cover. – Ed)

HELP WANTED!

Dear Lesley

Can any of your readers help with this query? Captain Joseph Kittinger of the United States Air Force, who holds the altitude skydive record from 108,000ft, wrote a book about his experiences. I cannot find it in England. It was entitled *The Long Lonely Leap* and published by EP Dutton in 1961. Can anyone help please?

Andy Mizen

197 Tollgate Road, London EC6 4JY

CALLING COMPANY PARACHUTE CLUBS

Dear Madam

We are going to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Companies Parachute Clubs in France at the French Company Club Championships during 10-12 September '99.

We would like to know of any such clubs within your association, (for example, Firemen's club, Policemen's club, etc) who would be interested in taking part in such events as Accuracy, 2-way CF, 3-way FS.

We would be very pleased to welcome a few foreign teams during these Championships and thus would be grateful if you could inform them about this event.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Tranchant

President Commission of the Companies Parachute Club, 62, Rue de Fecamp, 75012, Paris, France.

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Email ffp@ffp.asso.fr

AAD Debate Rages

We had a stuffed inbox of letters responding to the mandatory use of AAD's at one BPA centre. Here's a selection...

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RISK

Dear Lesley

In your December issue, Nigel Rogoff, CCI of Weston, explained his 'no AAD – no jump' rule, on the basis that the cost is not a price any skydiver should ignore. If the issue solely involved price, I would support Nigel.

I can understand the rationale for such a rule for students, where a measure of responsibility for the jumper remains with the instructor and CCI but for experienced jumpers I believe the decision should be left with the individual.

Had the new rule required an audible altimeter or hard hat I would not be writing, but AAD's introduce new risks as well as reducing the more obvious ones. I do not doubt that once we have reliable statistics they will show overall AAD's save more lives than they cause. However AAD's do present new risks and I personally feel more comfortable without.

Whilst I respect the choice of others to use this device, I find it regrettable that a CCI feels he can make the decision for other experienced jumpers – particularly in a sport which should, in my view, be encouraging acceptance of personal responsibility.

I write this piece in the hope of adding to the debate before other DZ's go the same way. I suspect the issues may not be fully appreciated until an AAD is shown to be responsible for a fatality near to home.

Sincerely
John Halford

(Anyone who is not sure what the 'new risks' of an AAD are

– especially if you own one – should do some serious thinking, then discuss the area with an appropriate person. — Ed)

EDUCATE NOT EXCLUDE

Dear Lesley

Nigel Rogoff was right, morally, to insist on AADs but not to exclude people who cannot afford one. I share his view, just not his method of implementing it. I'm sure we all value the individual's right to self-determination.

Yours
Mick Cooper

ALL FOR ONE, ONE FOR ALL

Dear Lesley

I'm concerned for these reasons:

1) The BPA has always made its safety rules through STC which has worked well for many years. If individual clubs make their own rules, it undermines this consensus system and this has negative safety implications. Uniformity of rules is a safety feature of our Association and should not be cast aside so easily.

2) Many BPA members jump without an AAD. The BPA has always maintained that this is an acceptable risk for an informed adult to take. If some CCI's now say that it is unacceptably dangerous, it contradicts the BPA line. How will it play in the press if we are divided among ourselves?

3) One of the benefits of belonging to the BPA is that any member can jump at any Affiliated club. If the rules at some clubs exclude some members, our mobility is reduced, devaluing membership of the BPA and making it harder to build competitive teams. This undermines one of the purposes of the Association (to promote competition and excellence).

4) Some members can't afford to pay for an AAD and will be therefore be excluded. Do we want a two-tier Association, in which members who are better off have more freedom and facilities? There will always be people who can afford more jumps and newer kit than others but at least, until now, we could all get on the same 'plane.'

5) The competitors and instructors of the future are the struggling student jumpers of today. We risk driving them away. This new cost barrier will hit them just when they are deciding whether to commit to skydiving and buy their own equipment. Student retention is already a big problem.

I realise that each individual CCI has a duty to make their club as safe as possible and I understand they must dread a fatality. However, we should not go into this experiment because of emotional arguments but through wide discussion and agreement based on objective criteria.

Yours
Martin Lyster

(We send Nigel the best of get well wishes for a complete recovery. When we went to press he was fighting his injuries with the same determination and strength which made him many times National Champion. Keep it up Roggy! —Ed)

AND IN RESPONSE

Dear Lesley

We are all aware that Nigel has troubles of his own at the moment and will not be around to 'fight his corner' for the next few months or so. Whilst I do not profess to know all of Nigel's reasons for making the ruling, I wanted to reply in the magazine on his behalf, to give the membership an insight into why he made the decision. Nigel is one of the most experienced skydivers in the UK, he has competed at national and international level for his country in both CF and FS disciplines. He is an advanced instructor and CCI for many years. As such,

Nigel has jumped at DZ's all over the world.

On safety, one overriding fact has been obvious to Nigel when a freefall fatality has occurred; that on almost every occasion, an AAD would have saved the person's life. He has also witnessed incidents where people are only still alive because they were wearing an AAD. It is indisputable that the use of AAD's has saved many lives over the past few years. There will always be incidents which involve AAD's failing as they are, after all, only a piece of equipment but, on the whole, AAD's do save lives.

Nigel has had many debates over this issue at Weston, as it is the Weston membership that this ruling will affect the most. Nigel's philosophy on the subject is very simple. If more skydivers wear AAD's, more lives will be saved.

Some BPA members have commented that making AAD mandatory is outside any recommendation/ruling of the BPA. This is true – but CCI's have been making individual safety decisions at their own DZ's for years. Some choices have been made to enhance BPA official rules, eg, the wearing of hook knives or AAD's for tandems were introduced at the CCI's discretion at some British drop zones long before the BPA made them mandatory. All in the name of safety.

The contentious issue with an AAD is obviously the cost. My estimation is that 95% of skydivers would wear one if the cost wasn't prohibitive. £700 is a large sum of money to spend on a piece of equipment you may never need. Nevertheless, Nigel maintains that this expense is nothing compared to saving a life. I must stress that these opinions are not my own but have been picked up from several conversations with Nigel over the past few months.

We all wish him well and hope for a speedy recovery.

Tim Homer
Junction 9 British 8-way
Team

Christmas at Ampuriabrava

Photos by Enrique Gaston





Christmas time in the UK, fun with the family, wet, cold...

No thanks!

I went to Empuriabrava for the Christmas Boogie, 15 days of beautiful weather, loads of skydiving and great people. 680 people registered from all over Europe and beyond, making a great party atmosphere and lots of fun.

This was my first time and I was really looking forward to it although, as a newcomer to skydiving, I was a little unsure what to expect. I needn't have worried though. I was spoilt for choice with aircraft, there were two Casas, two Porters, a Turbolet and a Twin Otter. Manifesters Lynne and Mari-Anne made sure we didn't wait long to get in the air. They even managed to find time to play good sounds and kept smiling throughout, all adding to the good vibes.

On ground control were Mitch Decoteau and Pete Jones keeping everyone safe and happy – shame about his jokes though (*some things never change* – Ed). Everything ran smoothly with only three minor injuries during the entire boogie. Just over 10,500 boogie jumps were done, bringing the year to a record 73,000!

The load organising catered for everyone, with a host of experienced staff to suit all levels. Milko from Langar, Jeff from Boogie Performance, Richie and Darrio from Vichy plus Juan and Pep, resident instructors at the centre. AFF and Skydive U were available with a number of Brits achieving Cat 10 and seven students graduating from the AFF programme. The first week was for freeflyers with the Babylon Freefly Festival. It was a big success, with Stephan and Sylvain joined by Philip, Maus and Flex, to name but a few. I was impressed by their enthusiasm; they seemed to enjoy tumbling with me, I think I may be addicted (*to what?* – Ed).

It was great to have the opportunity to try out new kit. The PD Roadshow was there, offering advice to help newcomers like me through the minefield of products on the market, as was Chris from Parachutes de France. From talking to other people of my level, this was a major feature of the boogie.

The only downside was the few bad weather days, which coincided with the 10-way Speed Star competition, sponsored by Captain's Cabin. I am told that every year this is the highlight of the boogie. However, it was put aside for this year rather than risk it being half hearted. A shame – though we made up for it in Captain's Cabin later! In fact, the bad weather gave everyone a chance to catch up on a little sleep and recover from the mad partying that Empuriabrava has to offer.

The Sky Rats bar, run by Pascal, put on entertainment every night, Rockin' Dave Taylor was a highlight as well as the Brazilian dancers... WOW! It was then off into town for good food and fun at Oasis, before partying the night away at Captain's Cabin and the Surf Inn.

And so time to go home, to say 'hasta luego' to new friends and to make one last skydive over beautiful Empuriabrava, with its blue skies and amazing coastline. How long till the Easter Boogie?

Ben Dover



Every skydiver knows about the expansion of gases within the human body at altitude.

When you have all finished giggling about the problem, read on for useful information about the more serious effects that failure to understand the subject can produce...

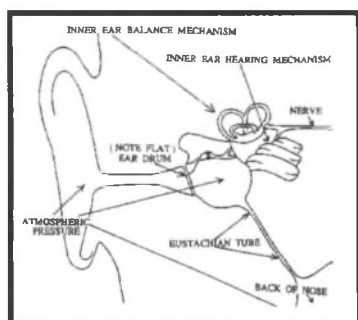


As Mr Scott was wont to remind Captain Kirk on occasion, "You canna change the laws of physics, Captain!" In this particular case, the laws that govern the rate of the expansion of gases. Although complex in detail, they basically state that a body of gas will expand if the surrounding pressure drops. We decrease the air pressure around us every time we ascend to altitude and we do it without the niceties of controlled cabin pressure. This means that any gas contained within our bodies will start to expand.

Air is found in several areas of the body; most obviously the lungs, but also the sinuses, stomach, bowel, and middle ear. There are also other places it can be found and where problems can arise. In a nutshell, as long as these gases can escape to the outside, their expansion should not pose problems. However, complications such as pain, disorientation and even damage can occur should they remain trapped. Let's look at the troublesome areas...

The Ear

The ear is the place where we most feel the effects of the slow ascents and rapid descents of skydiving. It's a very complex but surprisingly fragile piece of biology, subject to a lot of stress during a day of skydiving. The middle ear is the part we are concerned with. It is separated from the outside world by the eardrum but it also has a passage to the outside via the Eustachian tube which connects it to the back of the throat. As we ascend to altitude, the air in the middle ear expands, pushing against the eardrum and causing it to bulge out. This is the cause of the slightly full feeling that you get as we climb.



Once the pressure is sufficient, air can escape through the Eustachian tubes, allowing the eardrum to settle back, causing the 'pop' we all know. This expansion and settling will take place all the way to altitude. It can be aided by yawning, swallowing, sucking sweets or any other activity which opens the Eustachian tube.

On the descent, the opposite is true. Pressure increases on the outer surface of the eardrum, causing it to bulge inward. Again the Eustachian tubes will equalise this pressure. However, because the freefall descent is so rapid compared to the ascent, and also because the Eustachian tubes are better at emptying the inner ear than filling it, ear pain and discomfort is more likely to be caused. A properly executed 'Valsalva' manoeuvre where the nose and mouth are pinched shut, and air forced into the middle ear by blowing can alleviate this – but don't attempt this until you know what you are doing or you could cause damage to your ear.

The problems here are nothing that every skydiver has not dealt with but they are dramatically compounded when pressure equalisation is disabled by something as simple as the common cold blocking the Eustachian tube with phlegm. The eardrum will bulge inward or outward until, depending on the circumstances of the ascent or descent, it ruptures, causing severe pain and sometimes disorientation. Vertigo experienced by a failure to equalise pressure in the middle ear can range from mild to severe and can pose a serious safety concern to any skydiver struck with it during freefall.

Avoiding Problems

To avoid these serious complications, do not jump with a cold, flu, sinusitis, or any

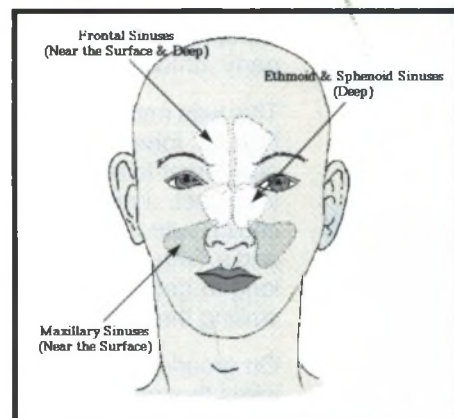
other ailment that may affect your ability to equalise pressure efficiently. What may seem only a mild bother on the ground

"The eardrum will bulge until it ruptures, causing severe pain and disorientation"

can become a serious problem in the air. Most commercial pilots will ground themselves for

these ailments – and they have the luxury of being able to control their descent rates and cabin pressures. We should do the same.

The Sinuses



The sinuses are air-filled cavities within the bones of the face. I have absolutely no idea of what they are supposed to do (other than to keep decongestant manufacturers in business!). They have a passageway into the back of the nose through tunnels in the bones of the face. In a similar fashion to the inner ear, expansion and contraction of trapped air during ascents and descents will take place, with pressure equalisation happening through the nose. As it is a little more efficient than the venting of the Eustachian tubes, most people are not aware of it happening until the system fails to work, such as when the jumper has a cold or sinusitis. When the equalisation cannot take place, severe pain in the affected sinus can be felt, accompanied by profuse tearing in some cases. It can

NO WIND Situation



Photo by Colin Bridges

happen quickly too and without prior warning, as I can personally attest. The loss of equilibrium can be alarming and sudden.

Avoiding Problems

Basically, don't jump if you have sinusitis or a cold or flu. Even with c o m m o n

decongestants you are at risk, as these are not formulated with skydiving in mind. As a sobering example, a fatality occurred some years back on a major record attempt which was believed to have started because a jumper continued to jump with a severely blocked sinus. The ensuing rupture at altitude and loss of vision due to blood and subsequent disorientation, led to a freefall collision that resulted in that jumper's death. It's just not worth it.

"The loss of equilibrium can be alarming and sudden"

The Digestive Tract

Okay, here's the bit you really started reading this article for (which is why I put the more important stuff ahead of it!) Our digestive systems can contain anywhere up to around a litre of gas. This is

comprised of the by-products of digestion, swallowed air, and all the carbon dioxide in that Diet

Coke that you gulped down whilst packing. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to work out that, as the gases expand, they have to go somewhere. Go somewhere they do, through the outlets traditionally supplied for this purpose; the mouth and the anus. Depending on the amount of gas present and the altitude you are at, anything from mild to extreme discomfort can be experienced. It may be socially polite to hold it in but this just may not be an option. Show me the

jumper who claims that they have never given in to temptation on the way the altitude and I'll show you a liar!

Avoiding Problems

Adjust your diet to reduce the amount of gas-producing food that you eat. Anything from the cabbage family, pulses, beans, and carbonated drinks are the main offenders. Do yourself and the others on the load a favour. I realise that some jumpers owe their entire notoriety in the sport for their prowess in this field but I really don't need to experience it every time I ride to altitude. You can stop laughing now.

The Teeth

We've covered the main areas where air and gas traditionally lurk but there are other areas where it can crop up unexpectedly and cause problems. One of these is in the teeth. Gas can be lurking in fillings, abscesses you didn't realise that you had, or in the gums. If you start to experience mild to severe tooth pain on a ride to altitude, there's not much you can do about it then. However, it is a timely warning to get a dental check-up as soon as possible.

Injuries

There are other ways that air can get introduced into the body, mainly through injury. In a serious medical evacuation by air, sometimes the persons transporting the patient will insist on sea-level pressure in the cabin. This can be to avoid unnecessary damage caused by air expansion in a fracture or wound. Obviously we are not looking at such an extreme but if, for instance, you have an eye injury such as small sliver, you may find yourself at risk from damage due to expansion of introduced gas. If you are jumping with any injury and feel pain on the way to altitude, it's probably a good idea to stop jumping until it clears up, as you're not doing yourself any good.

In Summary

Basically all we're saying here, is that there is a lot of gas inside us and it's fighting to get in and out of the body all day, in a way that not even most experienced aviators get to experience. We have to make sure that we are in a physical condition which allows us to achieve the necessary equalisation in a controlled and comfortable manner – before it happens in a painful and potentially damaging one. To put it bluntly, don't jump with a cold, flu, sinusitis or a suspect injury. And for heaven's sake, lay off the beans!

Gareth Holder

FAI News

FAI Moves Home

The FAI has moved from Paris to their new premises in Lausanne, Switzerland. The new details are:

Federation Aeronautique Internationale
Mon Repos 24
Lausanne
Switzerland

Tel: 0041 21 345 1070 Fax: 0041 21 345 1077
Email: sec@fai.org Web: <http://www.fai.org>

Women in Airsports

The FAI's drive to increase the role of women in air sports (*nice one FAI but what's wrong with them doing it on their own? – Ed*) received a further boost when Joy Parker Blackwood of Canada was elected Vice President of the FAI General Aviation Commission. Four of the FAI's Commissions now have women in prominent positions.

Web sites of the month:

www.brit100.co.uk

for the latest animated Brit 100 skydive

www.ffadventures.com/skydive_safari/safari.htm

for details of South African safari and skydiving trip

<http://home.earthlink.net/~skeff1/>

for good skydiving pictures, quick to download

news://rec.skydiving

for a newsgroup discussion page on skydiving

www.skydiveaz.com/resources/Exit_Order.htm

Skydive Arizona DZ Manager Brian Burke's essay on 'Why we don't want freefly, freestyle or sitfly people exiting first'

www.performancedesigns.com

for Rob Colpus' article on pack volumes

www.hotmail.com

for a free, portable email address

Sky Eye at Sebastian

Martin Evans is now chief organiser at Sebastian. Organising is offered free of charge to the customer and Martin claims to cater for each and every level and discipline within the sport. Video & stills photography is available, often subsidised by the management of Skydive Sebastian and/or Sky-Eye Sequential. For the freeflyers, Olav Zipser's School of Modern Skyflying headed up by Mike Swanson offers coaching and video services along with other independent freefly coaches and cameraflyers who also call Skydive Sebastian home. For information visit <http://www.skyeyeskydiving.com> www.skydiveseb.com

Swardy in the Spotlight

Keep an eye out for the new series of *Don't Try This at Home* as Simon Ward attempts to walk from one biplane to another at 5,000ft. Although this barnstorming

feat was seen in America it has not yet been achieved over British soil – but watch this space!

FAI Action

FAI President Eilif Ness and Secretary General Max Bishop were received by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Director of Sports Gilbert Felli on 10 November '99. Mr Felli, who is in charge of IOC relations with international federations, pledged full support to FAI.

Quote of the Month

"Failure is not in the falling down but in the staying down"

Mary Pickford



From Emma Moran

246-way World Record Official

The 246-way built in Skydive Chicago, USA on 26 July '98 has been ratified by the FAI and is now an official World Record. The last official record was 200, set in Florida in 1992. The World Team, headed up by BJ Worth built a 216-way in Bratislava during '94 and a 297-way in Russia during '96 but neither qualified for FAI recognition as the first was wrong-slotted, the second incomplete. There is a growing body of opinion which suggests lowering the qualification for FAI world records to make it easier for the public to understand and to register achievements. BJ Worth's world team is having another go at a World Record in March this year in Bahia, Brazil.

Arizona Antics

More than 560 skydivers registered for Skydive Arizona's holiday boogie from 19 December to January 4, highlighted by 17 straight days of perfect weather (*hmmm, interesting concept and not one I've come across! – Ed*). Jumpers made 16,907 skydives at the Boogie, from four Super Twin Otters, a Super Skyvan, a DC3 and several hot air balloons. There was only one injury; a broken leg caused by a low turn. Organisers at the boogie included *Arizona Airspeed* members plus George Jicha, Tim Wagner, Jack Guthrie and Philippe Ludwig. The skydives included large formation loads, a two point 50-way, freefly raft, tube and hoop dives, 80-way scrambles, 10-way speed and a DC3 load of jumpers who entered the New Year in freefall.

Skydive Safari

An all inclusive skydiving and adventure package has been put together by Freefall Adventures to combine six days of safari action and African cuisine with six days of jumping from a King Air in an exotic location. Package prices are around £2,000 and include flights, all meals (high level catering), accommodation at a range of places, game reserve trips, ten skydives (more are \$15 to 14,000ft) plus the usual benefits of load organising and skills coaching.

Freefall Adventures, Florida
is run by ex-pat Mick Hall,
tel 001 561 388 5925, fax 001 561 388 1832,

SkydiveMik@aol.com

www.ffadventures.com

www.ffadventures.com/skydive_safari/safari.htm

UK Skydiving Newsgroup

Craig Poxon is planning to set up a skydiving newsgroup. Designed for Brits, the group will be able to discuss issues relevant to British jumpers.

Those interested or to find out how the project's progressing, email Craig on craig@poxon.org

Bits n Pieces

Women's World Record Event

Well known organisers Kate Cooper and Tony Domenico are organising an assault on the Women's World Record in September of this year at Perris Valley, USA. Tony stated "Our goal is to get 140 of the best female jumpers in the world in one place for this event. This is what will make the event really fun, exciting, and successful."

Kate and Tony own Square One and Square Two (equipment dealers), have been around for years and are used to success. Tony ran the base team for the 297-way World Team in Russia and is doing it again in the planned World Record attempt in Brazil this March. They organised the first 90-way star and the first three digit star, from a two point 114-way (see SP, February '98). They organised (probably) the fastest 100-way ever, 45 seconds. Tony said "We have done tons of 100-way stuff, we have a really good system for organising and a good following. We have this 100 way stuff down pat, we know how to organise it, debrief it, and keep it going."

The '99 Sporting Code of the FAI is now available at
http://www.fai.org/sporting_code/scg.html

Look No Hercules!

The Hercules Boogie '99 has been cancelled due to the Swedish Airforce Hercules Fleet becoming unavailable. The organisers apologise but say that they'll be back, perhaps in the millennium. Those who have already registered will be given a full refund. For information about when and how the next boogie is going to take place, keep an eye on their website: www.gfk.se/hercules or email hercules@gfk.se or phone Nisse Bernhardtsson, 0046 31 92 34 45.

Funky Skydiving Footage Required

Any BPA members who have entertaining skydiving video footage, whether amusing (funnel, tube, shoddy landing) or thrilling (death-defying, plunge, plummet, hurtle, but no-one hurt), should contact Gavin Hill from Real TV. Real TV runs a half hour programme, five nights a week in 24 countries around the world, showing out of the ordinary camera footage from the bizarre to the hilarious – anything to amaze or entertain the viewer. The company will pay from \$250 for a basic clip to \$1,000's for a 'narrow escape'. Anyone with video footage they feel may be suitable, send a VHS viewing copy only (if they like it they will request the original) to Gavin Hill, Real TV, First Floor, Associated Press House, 12 Norwich Street, London EC4A 1BP



Quote of the Month

"Remember the five rules for life or skydiving:

1. Show up
2. Pay attention
3. Tell your truth
4. Do your best
5. Don't be attached to outcomes"

Dan Millman

From Pete Allum

Jump for the Cure

The jump will be done in association with the Susan Komen foundation, to raise money for Breast Cancer. The foundation has raised over 90 million dollars for breast cancer projects, see <http://www.komen.org> Each participant is encouraged to be creative and find new ways to collect donations, like holding a company party, an event at your local DZ. There are lots of fun incentives to help the fund raising. The organisers are working out a deal where each person can raise donations for the event and these donations will count towards their registration fees.

Team Captains are as follows:

- ◆ Jennifer Powers - USA/Canada
- ◆ Carolyn Clay - USA
- ◆ Kally Kowalski - USA
- ◆ Jill Scheidel - USA
- ◆ Jennifer Martin - USA
- ◆ Mollie Mercer - Canada
- ◆ Wendy Smith - France/Euro
- ◆ Amy Goriesky - California, USA
- ◆ Lesley Gale - UK
- ◆ Nancy LaRiviere - USA
- ◆ Elisabeth Warren - Norway (Pending)
- ◆ Ginger Kuhlmann - USA

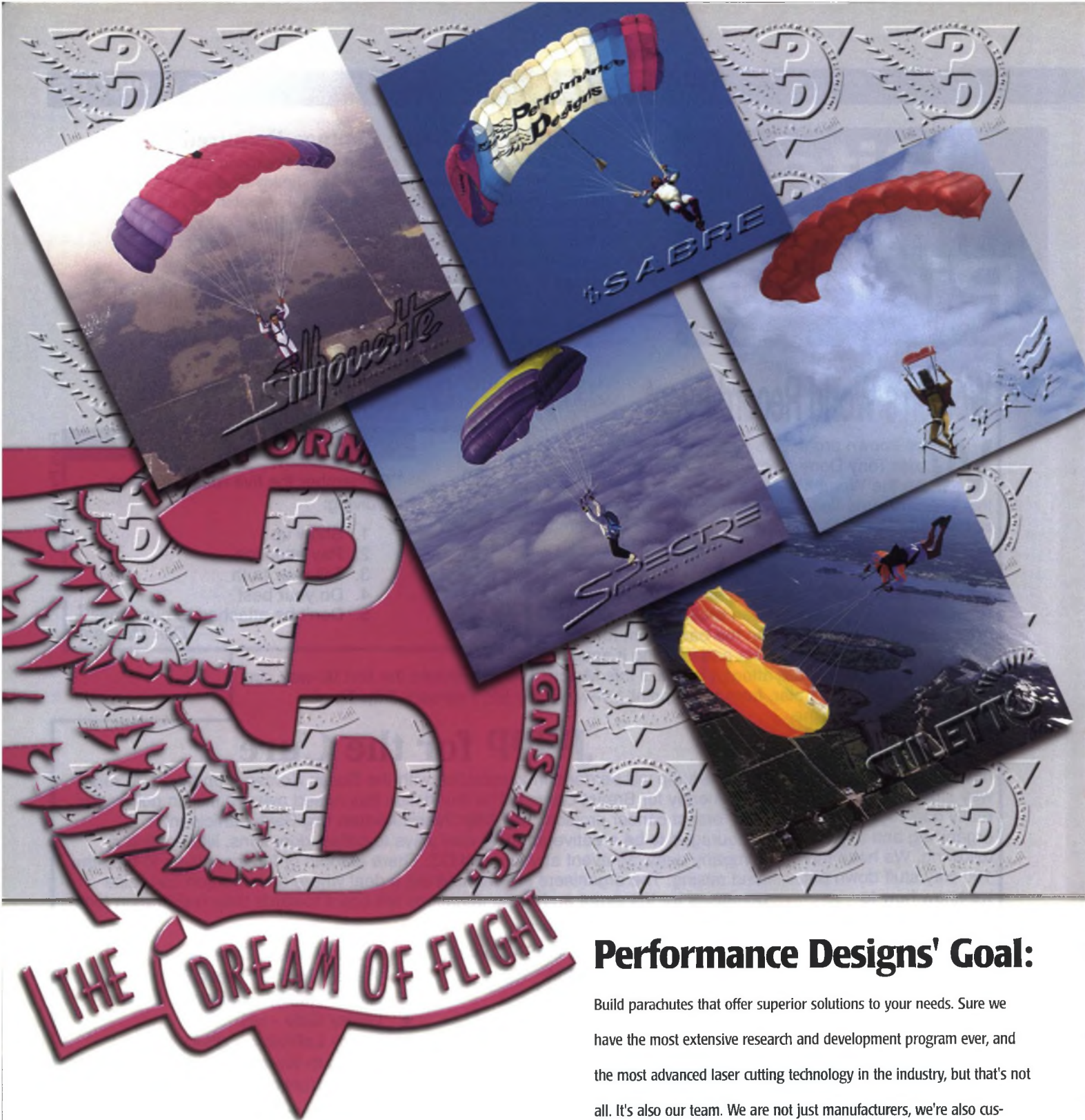


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**At Performance Designs,
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Club News

JSPC Drop In For Cancer Relief

It may not have received the same amount of publicity as the overnight stay in prison of Michael Howard, but the day spent by nine members of the Germany based Sennelager Training Centre's Warrant Officers and Sgts Mess raising money for the **Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund**, was equally important. On Saturday 26 July '98, six members of the Mess, led by the RSM, John Frear, completed a tandem parachute jump over Bad Lippspringe. The event was organised by the Chief Instructor Jim Scarratt.



Jim Scarratt taking John Frear tandem

Anderson and Gary Beckett. John Horne, Jimmy White and Chris Gray videoed the jumps. The families and other Mess members came along to give their support and afterwards everyone tucked in to a BBQ and a few cold beers.



In late September, the Mess presented John Horne (front left, pictured with the jumpers and instructors) with a cheque for £1,015. Many thanks to all those who sponsored the jumpers and to the staff at JSPC(L) for making the day a huge success.

The Macmillan Fund is a well known organisation but still relies heavily on donations from events such as this.

The fundraisers were taken for their tandem jumps by Jim Scarratt, Paul Worthing and Taff Davies, all staff members at the Joint Service Parachute Centre (Lippspringe) and in the same Mess. Each of the instructors made two tandems from 13,000ft with video. Their passengers were John Frear, Clem Cleminson, Stan Webster, John Lording, Scott

Jim Scarratt

Cessna Caravan at Wild Geese

By now, the new Cessna Caravan should be operational. Rumours fly of very fast turnarounds, more bums on seats (well, floor anyway), more altitude than you could shake a stick at and even a door! So don't let the cold get to you – get to the Geese and get jumping. See you there!

ACHIEVEMENTS First freefall

Stephen Robinson,
John Riddell, Una O'Hegarty,
Sophie Graber, Salam Masood,

Irwin Armstrong, Kim Eklund,
Andrew Hegarty.

At the annual Christmas Dinner, honours, in the form of the Perpetual Trophies, were awarded:

Student of the Year
Una O'Hegarty

Skydiver of the Year
Sean McKenna

Congratulations to all!

Francis Mullin

Happy at Headcorn

A turbine Porter is at Headcorn until 1 March which will then be replaced by a Let 410. All the staff and club members at Headcorn are looking forward to a WICKED 1999.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Tracy Wadeson – Cat 8
Ian Smith – AFF Cat 8
Malcolm Darling – 1000th Jump
Simon Hughes – 24 Hours Freefall



Alex Fixsen – 30 Hours Freefall



Stuart Albon videoed by Cathy Travers on her 10th tandem video

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

June 5-6 Speed 8
July 10-11 4-way Massive Meet
Sept 4-5 LAC Meet

Lisa Bryant

Target That Turbine

Target Skysports at Hibaldstow has added a fast-climbing TURBINE Dornier to their fleet of aircraft, bringing the total to five.

Time-Out!!



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for Free Fall Competition Skydiving, or any skydiving where an accurate 'End of Working Time' signal is required.

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POPS CORNER

Parachutists Over Phorty Society



TOP POP GONE WEST!

As some of you may already know, John Crowhurst has taken up new employment, and unfortunately it's a bit further than the number 12 bus route. John is now residing and working in the capital of Ecuador, Quito. He will be home in the UK in March for a while and, when he returns to Quito, Pauline, our Chief Judge will be going with him.

On your behalf, I would like to wish them the best of luck and hope everything goes OK for them. They have a very large apartment out there and have said if any of us should be in their vicinity, we would be most welcome to stay for a while.

WORLD MEET - CHILLIWACK

The accommodation chosen by some of our members who are going to the meet is the Travel Lodge, where we can get a discount if five or more rooms are booked. If you need details, please contact me.

UK MEETS 1999

As well as the meets already decided on (see diary dates), there will be an informal FS weekend, possibly in late June, where members can brush up on their FS skills and just have fun. The date and venue will be published in the next Mag.

Sue Hill

Hon Sec / Treasurer

www.pops.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

William Payn, Caroline Kiridand, Steve Peck, Robert J Henderson

New OC for Netheravon

The centre has been fairly quiet with a lot of the JSPC staff away in Florida on an AFF / skills training camp (it's a hard life in the military!) However, the Christmas party went on despite their absence and a good time was had by everyone.

A fond farewell to Andy Allman who is handing over his post of Officer Commanding. Many thanks for your hard work and effort in the last couple of years and we wish you and Tracey all the best in your next posting back in the green stuff, well, sort of green in your case!

Welcome and good luck to the incoming John Horne (direct from Lippspringe, Germany) John and his wife Melanie are no strangers to Netheravon and we look forward to a busy jump filled '99.

Instructors from Netheravon have run two military exercises this year; the first to Raeford, the second to Lake Elsinore, in which nine out of 15 AFF students have qualified cat 10 within two weeks. They are now well and truly hooked on the sport, great news!

Martin Williams

Shoddy at Sibson

It was third time lucky(ish) for the Nationals Speed 8. At the first attempt (during the Nationals!) we only managed one round, so the medals were saved. We tried again in October before the Let left. The weather was glorious - until the time we wanted to start jumping. As the medals had a 'use by' date (1998) engraved onto the back, it was rescheduled for 7-8 November. Only two teams registered. At this point the freeflyers realised that you were only going to jump if you strapped a tandem to the front or did the 8-way - so they did the 8-way!

They proved to be entertaining but in no danger of building an 8-way (maybe they should all have tried flying the same way up!). Sunday's weather was bad, so the competition was called on two rounds, the winners were 3 & 5/8th's, Viagra Falls were second with freeflyers Rum third.

The LET arrives 23 April, Friday jumps will be £12 (no inflation here!).

The FS and New Age Nationals will be at Sibson.

There will be an 8-way sequential on 19 and 20 June.

On all the bank holidays (May and August) there will be a party atmosphere with FS as well as the usual FF load organising.

Be here, not there!

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SILVER STARS

End of Season Trip - Ampuriabrava

We had a great end to 1998 with a club trip to Ampuriabrava. As Will and Tony were going to be there with a group of AFF students, the rest of the club thought we'd go along too!

CONGRATULATIONS!

AFF Level 8

Jerry Biggs, Andy Jackson, Darren Smith, Trevor Hallett, Andy French

Cat 8

Stuart Miller-Hall, Jeff Montgomery, Jonathan Miller

Cat 9

Kev McTaggart

Cat 10

Rich Olpin, Fred Hinton, Paul Ringrose

200m Jump/D Licence

David Hix

New Ratings

Well done to Gareth Leonard on achieving his approved rating and also to Andy Paddock for his Tandem Rating

Skydiver of the year

Neil Ashcroft who has also just been awarded the BPA's Novice Accuracy award for 98

Rich Olpin



Rich Olpin and Fred Hinton over Ampuria with Warp coach Dave Lewis

Hinton Heights

What a fantastic end to a brilliant first year at Hinton! We had a superb Christmas party at the Red Lion in Brackley. Girl Power definitely won the night – no mistletoe required!

HINTON ACHIEVERS

Fist Freefall – Vicki Hedgley, Lee Birchill, Ian Hill, John Holmes

Cat 8 – Steve Carter, Jason Carter, Rowena Telfer, Ted Murphy

Cat 9 – Tim Carter FF1

Student of the Year and 100

Jumps – Biff/Rowena

1000th Jump – Steve Ashenden, Gary Small, Mile Brown

1000th Tandem – Geoff Woods

We send our very best wishes to Nigel Rogoff

Rachel Gray/Claire Tuckett

Hinton Go Large

For five days, from Monday 26 April, Steve Mursell is running a

FS Skills Camp, using a Skyvan. Jumps will vary from 8 to 18-ways and the idea is for jumpers to tune up their skills for successful large formation dives. To ensure great skydives and maximum fun, everyone must be prepared to have an open mind towards learning and be a team player. We will work on tight exits, quick first point times, piece flying, line flying plus good all round individual flying skills. There will be two to three groups, depending upon skill levels so everyone should have some challenging skydiving.

Registration is limited (to ensure we can do five to six jumps per day) so get your name down quick! Jump prices are £16 to 12,000ft. Registration for the event is £45 which includes all coaching and video costs plus one week's membership to HSC.

Contact Steve on 01869 324178 or email SMursell@aol.com

Gazza and 'Jimmy the Gut' at Peterlee

We took Jimmy 'Five Bellies' Gardner, Paul Gascoigne's best mate, on a tandem jump on 22 December 98. It was our last day of the year and proved a popular, enjoyable event.

The whole thing began when Paul Gascoigne heard of the Metro Radio Charity Pop appeal. (Gazza was, and probably still is, on a strict diet and Jimmy had joined him on it). Gazza phoned the radio station to pledge £1,000.00 to the Charity appeal if they could arrange for Jimmy to make a parachute jump, essentially a bet!

A staff member at Metro Radio knew Gary Bowden, who jumps at Peterlee, and we agreed to take Jimmy on. We ascertained the maximum suspended weight our tandem systems could take and with the advice of Thomas Sports came to a figure of 220 kilos/484lbs for the Next System with 420 Main & Reserve Canopies. Given that Jimmy had dieted from 266lbs to 221lbs, this allowed 263lbs for the tandem instructor, complete rig and clothing. Some quick calculations

and we decided Ian Rosenvinge (myself) could make the jump allowing Steve Burns to film.

The day dawned and the Paparazzi began to descend on Peterlee. The Sun actually set up facilities ready to develop and transmit Steve Burn's air to air photos to the Newspaper immediately on Steve landing. Unfortunately, the Mandelson Story took the Sun's editorial preference but we still made the internal and sports pages of several nationals as well as the regional papers and TV.

Cameras swamped the DZ, chasing the land rover with myself, Jimmy, Steve and Gazza on board, across the DZ. Endless photos were taken of Gazza pushing Jimmy's five bellies into our Cessna 182; a final mobile call to Jimmy's Dad and we were off. 12,500ft was achieved with Jimmy smiling all the way back down. Gazza was great signing autographs, posing for photos and chatting to folk. It was a great day for everyone.

Ian Rosenvinge

The Magic of Merlin

Although only a weekend and Bank Holiday operation, Topcliffe has enjoyed a successful year, mostly due to new Officer Commanding, Lieutenant Steve Boardman who quickly got to grips with problems the centre had been experiencing and turned the operation around.

Big changes at Merlin were the departure of CCI Dave 'Emmo' Emerson and the arrival of Andy 'Bum Spot' Dixon. A new club house and large aircraft are strongly rumoured for the near future with night jumps, seminars and competitions all programmed for 1999.

Last season ended in grand style with the Christmas accuracy competition and dinner dance with John Hitchen as Chief Judge and VIP for the prize giving ceremony.

A special mention goes to Mandy 'Blonde Bombshell' Taylor, overall winner of the accuracy competition despite being in the intermediate category. Others worthy of mention are Bill Rule BEM, an old 'n' bold skydiver who looks after manifest and admin and Paul Hollow, our BI and cameraperson. Thanks go to Malcolm Briggs, winner of the Helping Hands award 1998 and Jenny Briggs, winner of Best Student of the Year, for her grit and determination. She is now enjoying her ascent to the dizzy heights of Cat 8. Well done Jen!

Millennium Jumps at Border PC

Do you want to jump into the new century? We would love as many people as possible to jump and party with us into the millennium. Contact me at Border Parachute Centre.

Katherine Andrewes

Making a Real Holiday Show of Themselves

Chris Hollis and Louise Simpson were married on 16 January 1999. They chose Sebastian as their venue and took along the *Real*

Holiday Show to record the event.

Keep an eye out as the proceedings are due to be screened on 10 February on Channel 4.

Chris and Louise send thanks to all their friends who joined them in Sebastian.



Steve Andrew takes Duncan Ritchie on his first skydive over Skydance Skydiving, California. British Freeflyer Adrian Nicholas tags along...

Duncan's dad, Alex Ritchie saved Richard's Branson's life last year during their world record attempt to balloon around the world; he climbed out onto the capsule to jettison two fuel tanks to allow the balloon to climb and avoid the mountains. Tragically, Alex died following injuries sustained whilst training for the next Branson/Virgin attempt in Morocco

Martin Evans

Photo by Martin Evans

Terribly Tiddly at Tilstock

The venue for the Tilstock AGM and Christmas Party was the Tern Hill Hall Hotel, the scene of similar debauchery for the last three years. 75 members and their guests attended and we had a great night. Our thanks to Charles Ross for coming along and advising us on serious Council matters such as which wine to choose for which course! After dinner and several bottles of wine, the traditional prizes were awarded.

Tony Houlton got the 1998 Crater Award for more injuries on one jump than the rest of Tilstock put together – luckily not in this country! The Bum Spot and LP (Lost Property!?) awards went to Simon Davenport and Martin Wilshaw, both Instructors! Liz Rimmer finally achieved Party Animal of 1998 after years of training. Ian Sandbach was given Life Membership, awarded to the outstanding Club Member of the Year.

Student of the Year 1998 was awarded to Terry Nicholls for persistence and determination in the face of the British weather.

Make sure you're there next time. The venue will be the same and the date is 11 December. Put it in your diary. If you can't wait that long, our first annual St. Valentines Barbecue is 13 February and the annual Tilstock Birthday Party is 5 June, with lots of loud music and dancing. It's going to be a Large 1999. Be there!

Colin Fitzmaurice

Two New Arrivals at Peterlee

Congratulations to Ian and Thelma Rosenvinge on the birth of their daughter Enya in November.

Our second new arrival is the Islander. On loan from Headcorn, it will be here until at least November.

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

AFF Level 8

Sean Fahey, Steve Smith

Cat 8

Norman Farrer, Steve Ashman

IC1

Mick Glover, Chris Cowie, Glen Staley, Phil Hewitt, John Witham, Chris Beattie, Dave Levan, Anthony Fernyhough, Sean Robson

FS1 (Cat 10)

Bryn Chaffe, Geoff Mason

Most Persistent Student,

Norman Farrer – very well done!

Most Progressed Student goes

to Phil Hewitt

Congratulations to **Approved**

Jump Pilot, Darren Mathison.

Club Reps

Border	Katherine Andrewes	01665 589 000
British Skysports	Mal Richardson	01377 254 142
Cyprus	Pete Smith	j6cisepi@dial.cylink.com.cy
Eaglescott	Tim Barlow	tim.barlow@natpower.com
Headcorn	Simon Hughes	Airaffair@btinternet.com
Ipswich/N London	Richard Johnson	gravaddict@aol.com
Langar	Tony Danbury	bpslangar@aol.com
Netheravon	Martin Williams	martinwilliams5@compuserve.com
North West	Pete Findlay	Peter.Findlay@btinternet.com
Paragon Skydiving	Linda Ross	0973 746 929
Peterborough	Cornelia Waymouth	LillaW@aol.com
Peterlee	Geoff Mason	0191 586 5278
RAPA	Jim Scarratt	jscarratt@compuserve.com
Silver Stars	Richard Olpin	richard.olpin@tmc.u-net.com
Strathallan	Kelly Halliday	01738 445 135
Target Skysports	Helen Swallow	helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk
Tilstock	Colin Fitzmaurice	colin@tilstock.demon.co.uk
Weston	Bev Ford	Bev@oxfordtc.co.uk
Wild Geese	Francis Mullin	f.mullin@ee.qub.ac.uk

Sebastian XL Skills Camp

The skills camp ran from 28 November to 13 December. 24 people attended and did up to eight jumps each day with video and a full debrief. Coaches each had their own team room.

Two Super Otters were used with an exit altitude of 13,500 feet. Everyone received an information pack and seminars were held which allowed XL to share their extensive knowledge and gave jumpers the opportunity to share their own experiences.

Thanks to everyone involved for supporting the team.

HOT DATE

Sebastian XL skills camp 27 February to 7 March 1999

Gary Southam – Team Manager

Bucks Fizz

On 13 November Chris Allen and I attended the party at Buckingham Palace given by Her Majesty The Queen to mark Prince Charles' 50th Birthday.

Representatives from the several hundred organisations the Prince is involved in also attended.

It sounds very formal. However, we were greeted with strobe lighting, jugglers, clowns, singers and a multitude of entertainers made up of young people the Prince's Trust is helping.

There were around 850 guests; with name badges and the party atmosphere it was remarkably easy to socialise with the many celebrities attending. Most importantly, we were able to thank the Prince warmly for agreeing to be our Patron and express our hope that he would be able to attend some of our events.

Our BPA name badges drew attention; Lisa l'anson wants to skydive and the Queen Mother thought it was all rather dangerous.

Chris and I felt very lucky to have been invited to represent everyone and wished that all our members could have shared the experience.

Rowland Whitehead

BCPA

Our first British Collegiate meet of the year on 28 November, at Langar, got off to a cloudy start. However, Sunday brought blue skies and low winds. Unfortunately, most people only managed one jump due to the lack of aircraft and it being a very busy day but everyone had good time anyway.

Chuckles had a successful weekend and delighted many a girl!! The disco went down a storm and nothing was done by halves. Hope the hangovers have finally gone!

It was a very successful meet with 80 people from 12 universities attending. It gave the freshers a chance to get used to the stress of a skydiving boogie and jumping in the cold. Here's to the next meet!

Special congratulations to Rachel Stockford on achieving her Cat 8 and to Laura Kenyon on her first freefall.

Pip King & Natalie Walers
Plymouth University



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Just for Old Fogies?

Style and accuracy is for dinosaurs. The only people doing it are 'has-beens', relics from the past, fossilised fuddy-duddies. They compete in the Classics because it's their only chance of getting a medal. They're not good enough to do any of the fun disciplines like formation skydiving or freeflying. Styliers jump on their own 'cos they don't have any friends... Right?

Wrong. Classics are still thriving in many countries. It takes the same technical skills, coaching and determination as any other discipline – coupled with that overwhelming desire to win. The pressures on the jumper are just as great. Anyone who has competed will understand what I am talking about. That trembly feeling in your gut just prior to exit, adrenaline building up, the anxiety of knowing you have to outdo your competitors with no room for errors.

We are all in the sport for the same reason. So give another discipline a try. If you don't like it, then at

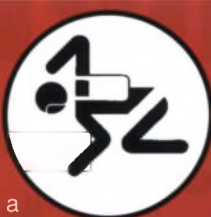
Style

Style is a great discipline. For freeflyers amongst you it is a chance to hone your skills. Freeflying is about flying your body in any position and style challenges this. For others it's a great excuse to wear one of those PVC suits! And if you are just off student status then this is a prime time to start...you've just been doing backloops and turns, so will probably fare better at a style set than someone with 50 jumps more. For those who don't know, a style set is a 360° turn followed by a 360° turn in the opposite direction, then a backloop, the sequence is then repeated. This is timed for each style competition jump and penalties are awarded if the manoeuvres do not start and stop precisely on heading. You win by being the fastest to complete all rounds.

Style is about speed and precision. The faster you are falling, the faster you can turn. But the faster you turn, the less controlled it becomes. The key is finding the right balance between the two. Style is a far more individual discipline than most of the other ones in skydiving. Success or failure is solely your responsibility. It is just you that wins. The feeling of standing on the winner's podium is to know that you, just you, are the best.

Getting Started

Jumping on your own? Want to try something different? Then why not give it a go? Get on a normal lift to the top, pick a heading just prior to exiting the aircraft and do a nice stable exit. Keep looking at the heading and just relax for about ten seconds, picking up some speed. Now do a left turn until you come back round to the heading. Stop and then go back the



Main photos by Willy Boeykens

other way. Stop on heading again and do a back loop (for the belly flyers amongst you, it is easier without booties). If there is time then repeat this sequence – but make sure you remain altitude aware. Ask someone on the ground to watch you on telemeters, to time your set and verify your headings.

The serious ones amongst you can take it a step further. Pick up that heading and do a stable exit. Now flatten your position and gradually transition into a head down dive, a track that has gone way too steep. Feel the speed pick up and hold this for about ten seconds. Now bang a transition into a tuck position (as shown in the photo). Keep those knees in tight; arms just out in the airflow. Feel the speed. Don't forget to maintain your heading. Now squeeze the air, feel the turn, control and stop it on heading. Push a turn back the other way and now the backloop. Don't fall off. Control. Now repeat the manoeuvre. Enjoy it? Harder than you expected? Then give it another go.



Accuracy

Accuracy is both a team and an individual event where competitors try to land on a 3cm disc to get a 'dead centre' score of 0. If the jumper does not get a disc then their distance away is scored in centimetres unless they are more than a set distance away which is counted as a 'zap'. There are five in a team with the top four scores counting and the worst thrown away. All five jump on one pass and have to land on the same target. Thus teamwork is important to avoid interfering with each other's approaches. The individual's score is both for themselves and for the team.

Getting Started

So what if the cloud base is a bit low, around 2,000 feet or so? You're on the drop zone waiting for the weather to clear. But you're there to jump aren't you? So why not give accuracy a

go? Beg, borrow or steal an accuracy canopy, such as a Parafoil. (If you borrow equipment make sure you get a full brief from an instructor before jumping.) Let's go try a bit of accuracy. Can't find a Foil? Well, jump your own canopy or the next best thing.



Exit the aircraft upwind (that also helps on most jumps!) and deploy slightly high if on borrowed gear. Watch out for 'Foil rock', which is a rocking effect sometimes experienced on opening of a canopy if it is near to the stall point. Sort out the slider and take control of the canopy. Feel the heavier toggle pressures. Slowly ease the canopy into deeper brakes. Feel it sink and then find the stall point. Remember where this is. Keeping an eye on your position you can relax. Take time to appreciate the view that you're normally down too quickly to see. But be careful not to turn your back on the target. Keep watching it. Watch the windsock. It's the wind you're competing with on your approach. Bring the canopy around on finals aiming for about half brakes. Look at the target and assess your angle of approach. If you're going to land short, let up on the brakes; if you're going to overshoot then put more pressure on them. No rapid movements, just v-e-r-y g-e-n-t-l-y. Be careful not to cross the stall point. And if you're still going over the top of the target then so be it. Have a nice landing past the target and be fit to jump again later on.



least you have tried. You may even find a new passion. Encourage others. Let them see for themselves what they are missing. The winter's a great time to take up accuracy – you can still get that adrenaline jumping thrill without freezing your nuts off!

Style and accuracy are neither easy nor boring. It takes dedication to get to the top. They can be fun. You can compete as an individual. No need to rely on other people. And if you have just come off student status and are now category 8 then why not? All other disciplines require you to have some further qualification such as FS1 to compete. In Classics you don't. Anyone can do it. So why not do a few jumps and go to some of the regional competitions or even the Nationals? Yes, anyone can compete, no matter what standard. What have you got to lose? Anyway, you never know, you might even enjoy it!

Alastair Macartney

About the author: Alastair is only 22 but has 1500 jumps and is on the British Army 4-way FS team Quicksilver, who took bronze in the '98 FS Nationals and competed in the World Cup in Portugal.

He has also competed in all skydiving disciplines at National or regional level. A real all-rounder, Al came

fifth in men's style at the '97 Nationals; he also enjoys freeflying and skysurfing.



Self portrait



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May 1-3 May 29-31	Bank holidays with FS load organisers, freefly coaches, fun & frolics
June 19-20	8-way FS Competition
July 24-Aug 1	BPA FS Nationals (Training camp from 17 July – team jumps £12)
Aug 20-22	BPA New Age Nationals (Training and free coaching from 14 Aug)
Aug 28-30	Bank holidays with FS load organisers, freefly coaches, fun & games
Sept 18-19	Woodmouse 4-way FS Meet

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Photo by Ian Brown

XL Update

After doing 600 training jumps and fifteen 4 way meets, winning the Florida Skydiving League and the British Nationals (and not doing quite as well as we had hoped in the World Cup in Portugal), XL sat down and looked at one of our long term goals: Australia '99 – and how we could excel even more!

More Jumps Required!

Seeing how close we were to the medals in Portugal simply added more fire to us and our sponsors. Skydive Sebastian owner Andy Grimwade immediately said that jumps were not an issue and we should do as many as we could before October '99. So we started the winter off with 200 jumps in November, upping our daily jump number to 12-13. We also planned our training schedule well in advance to incorporate 20+ (!) weeks of jumping. The plan is to do at least 1,000 jumps before the meet. Contrary to popular belief we do *not* get paid to train, we live on skydives and the Florida sun!

Outside Coaching

Another step for us was to look into getting more coaching, we have been coached in the past and always felt huge benefits from it. Before, we only ever planned a week each year but the whole team was agreed on getting as much outside coaching as possible.

Skills Camp

The team held a skills camp in Sebastian that went off very smoothly, the weather co-operated (unlike last year!) and the people who stayed for two weeks ended up doing 60+ jumps, all coached and videoed.

XL is fully committed to improving and pushing the national and international standard, we are 'at it' full time and if anyone has any ideas on how we could do even better please get in touch!

Pete Allum

Next Skills Camp: Feb 27 - March 7

Training Schedule

XL will be training on the following dates, if anyone would like to do some coaching or one-on-one we can work almost any time between these dates:

Jan 1 - Feb 7	March 10 - 23
April 8 - 22	May 1 - 15
May 22 - June 5	June 12 - 26
July 3 - 17	Aug 7 - end of World Meet

XL is:

Ian Brown (c/o skydiveseb@aol.com)
 John McIver (mrblueXL@aol.com)
 Lee Love (leelove1@compuserve.com)
 Toby Stafford (tobystafford@compuserve.com)
 Pete Allum (pete_allum@compuserve.com)
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KIT NEWS

by Rob Colpus
(back by popular demand!)

A Year in Reserve

Major US Canopy manufacturer, Performance Designs Inc (PD) are currently negotiating with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the USA to allow a major change in reserve repack rules for their range of reserve canopies.

Current rules in the US require any sport reserve to be completely repacked every four months. The BPA showed the way forward a few years ago by changing the UK requirement from a four month cycle to one of six months, but with the inclusion of a detailed external inspection.

PD would like to see the repack cycle for their reserves increased to **one year** with a detailed external inspection every four months.

The company believes, and experience backs them up, that there is no need to repack so frequently. The act of repacking does not improve opening reliability; and speed of deployment is only improved by repacking every two or three weeks, after which time the canopy has lost most of its trapped air and opening times will not significantly change from then on. In fact, trials carried out over the years on bag packed canopies have shown no great differences in opening times – even for canopies that had been packed for several years (providing they had been stored in a normal climate and did not utilise rubber stow bands). In fact, PD believe that frequent handling of reserve canopies is more likely to adversely affect them, due to possible contamination and damage from work surfaces, tools and rigger's hands. Reaction from US riggers has been mixed – although

Go Nvertigo !



Sky Systems, makers of the popular *Factory Diver* full-face helmet, have reported brisk sales of their new and funky freely helmet, the *Nvertigo*.



The new helmet is an openfaced, close-to-the-head design similar in general shape to the *Gath* and *Gecko* helmets but with a more sophisticated and attractively ribbed shell. The composite helmet features an unique tensioning system known as the *Sky Dial* which

tightens the helmet around the user's head both at the base of the head and across the forehead with a simple twist, and will only release when a centre button on the *Sky Dial* is pressed. The *Nvertigo* also features dual audible altimeter ports that accept *Time-Out*, *Pro-Dytter* or *Skytronic Pro*.



Sky Systems – www.skysystemslltd.com
Kit Store – 01622 890967
symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com

few believe a 12 month cycle would adversely affect opening reliability, some made the point that the illegal practice of 'pencil packing' a reserve, which they believe will still go on, would in effect mean the canopy will experience a packed period of two years.

If PD are able to acquire FAA permission for a 12 month pack cycle for its reserves, it would give them a marketing advantage over their competitors as their reserves would become cheaper to own.



PD – 001 904 738 2224
www.performance designs.com

Velociraptor

At the recent PIA Symposium, Performance Designs released the *Velocity*, to add to their already extensive range of sport canopies.

This top of the range, semi-elliptical rocket is not intended for the general market but is aimed at the already very experienced *Stiletto*, *Springo* or *Icarus Extreme* pilot. PD have developed this canopy to compete head-on with the New Zealand designed *Icarus Extreme*, which, since hitting the US market via Precision Aerodynamics' workshops, has had considerable success with the discerning turf-surfer.

Like the *Extreme*, the *Velocity* is a cross braced tri-cell. Cross bracing, a feature PD pioneered with their F111 fabric *Excaliber* in the late 80s, creates a very rigid and flat profile which in turn generates considerable speed and lift potential, allowing the experienced pilot to jump a smaller surface area than they otherwise would, but still get plenty of lift and surfability. Models are available in seven sizes from 79 to 120sq ft.

Comparing the *Velocity* to their *Stiletto*, PD claim a faster forward speed, a higher descent rate on full glide and more dive in the turn. They state that great care should be taken when when jumping the *Velocity* for the first time on the final turn before landing. It will start to turn more slowly than the *Stiletto* but, once it

gets going, will turn faster and lose altitude more rapidly. Therefore, more height is required for the hook turn.

Because the cross braced, tri-cell construction results in a very clean, flat and rigid wing, PD claim the *Velocity* will produce excellent 'surf turf' landings from a straight-in approach, but will also allow for a very stable, deep brake performance resulting in a much reduced rate of descent in slow flying mode.

PD continue to advise caution when downsizing any canopy type and recommend that skydivers wanting more performance should downsize one step at a time.

PD – 001 904 738 2224
www.performancedesigns.com

Please Release Me

The Relative Workshop, designers of the original 3-ring circus single point release cutaway system, which is now standard on 100% of current sport harnesses, have published a manual on the detailed construction of the system. The manual covers all three popular types of risers and costs just \$10.

Over the years 3-ring systems have been constructed badly by some manufacturers causing problems ranging from stress failures to difficult or impossible cutaways. The tolerance within the geometry of the rings is quite fine, especially with the mini-ring system, where a small manufacturing inaccuracy can result in extreme and unsafe pull forces being experienced.

The Next Generation

The Relative Workshop, manufacturers of the *Vector* series of harness/containers is currently working on the next generation *Tandem Vector* system. The *Tandem Vector*, along with Ted Strong's *Dual Hawk*, was the world's first successful tandem system and is still by far the most commonly used in the world today.

The only details Kit News have heard so far of the new model concerns development of a more comfortable student harness, and a self-cocking drogue. Relative Workshop claim that the new drogue will inflate quickly even if the packer has forgotten to re-set it after the previous jump.

Relative Workshop – 001 904 736 7589

Relative Workshop – 001 904 736 7589

Hats Off to Z1

Parasport Italia are now offering a very nice range of airbrushed paint schemes on their full-face Z1 helmets. Apart from the usual solid colours you may now choose from a spray paint effect (small white specs on a solid finish), rainbow drops (a splurge of spilled rainbow paint), blue jeans, marble effect, a sunny-side up fried egg, granite effect, sunset or an eye-in-the-sky. All of these may be seen in colour on Parasport Italia's web site.

www.parasportitalia.com







Photo spread by Keith Larrett

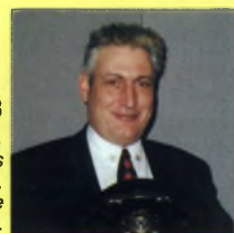
AGM Awards



BPA Certificate of Merit
Another Planet, for their Bronze Medal in the World Cup

Mike Forge Trophy 1998

Neil Ashcroft (Silver Stars).
Neil qualified Cat 8 in just 3 months, is now Novice Regional Accuracy Champion. He is an 'inspiration to his club' as he achieved all this despite being an amputee.



AGM

Nice One David and Sharon!

Everywhere you went at the AGM, people were praising the new venue. The Hanover International Hotel was massive with excellent facilities, luxurious rooms and a mega swimming pool/sauna complex. The atmosphere was buzzing as a record attendance swarmed through the hotel, making the BPA presence well and truly felt. We say hats off to David Oddy and Sharon Norris for organising the event.

Initiative Test

To arrive at the Hanover was easy from the North but we printed the directions incorrectly from the South so half of the attendees had to use their initiative. We would apologise but feel it acted as a good warm-up for finding your way around the huge hotel which was so confusing that a map, compass and orienteering badge were needed.

The AGM kicked off on Friday night with more people arriving early than usual. Most of these people were upgraded to deluxe double rooms, at no extra charge, which included a sofa-bed so four could sleep in one room in complete comfort if required.

Chairman's Report

Saturday morning brought a crowd of about 470 people to the AGM itself. This

Council and Committee Meetings

9 Feb Competitions
16 Feb Development
23 Feb Vice Presidents Investigation Report
2 Mar Council
20 Apr Council

(STC meetings in diary page 56)

began with outgoing Chairman Phil Gibbs giving his report on the year's events which is printed in full on an insert in this magazine. A powerpoint presentation made sure his messages were put across. *Brit100* representatives Simon Ward and Darryl Moran presented the BPA with a photo of the 98-way as a 'memento of the magical, team-oriented week'.

Subscriptions

Unusually, there were no items of business proposed by the members. The next agenda item was to fix the subscription for '99 at £60.50, an increase of £1. BPA Treasurer Debbie Carter explained that this increase was due to the Sports Council who had awarded us a grant of £50,000 but it was conditional on raising membership subscriptions. Charles Ross

Did you know...

...that Phil Gibbs has donated a trophy for next year's AGM which will be awarded to the most improved display team

and the BPA staff had managed to persuade the Sports Council to reverse their original decision to give us zilch. Another condition of the grant is that it is not to be spent on performance and excellence (ie, funding national competitors) as we have not won enough medals in World Championship events.

Election Results

David Oddy then announced the results of the Council elections. Twenty-two members had stood for the fifteen available places on Council, giving a meaningful election for the first time in many years. It was very positive to see that 45% more members voted than last year with a total of 757 votes received, compared to 521. Thirty-five of these votes were invalid due to cards being incorrectly filled out. Another eighteen arrived after the closing date, giving a total of valid votes of 697.

The votes cast were as follows:

Chris Allen	471
Mike Allum	430
Paul Applegate	420
Charles Ross	419
Dave Emerson	415
Dave Hickling	414
Lofty Thomas	405
Tye Boughen	400
Ian Midgley	371
Peter Carroll	355
Tim Andrewes	355
Ian Marshall	352
John Smyth	352
Keiran Brady	348
John Saunders	348

Steve Swallow	343
Regan Tetlow	304
Chris Jones	294
Paul Ledden	232
Clem Quinn	232
Jason Brister	219
Richard Tregaskes	149

The names above the line make up the 1999 Council, we wish them luck. We thank everyone who stood for Council and hope they will try again next year.

Standing Ovation

Phil Gibbs presented the annual awards which are shown around the border of this page. The AGM closed with David Oddy making a short speech to thank the members for their support and friendship over his many years in the BPA office. The entire hall stood up, clapping and cheering David to show they considered the thanks were due to him, not the other way around. It was quite a moment.



1998 Regional Competition Overall Award Winners



Accuracy Landing Champions

Novice

Bronze – John Bagwell

Silver – Wrag Holms
(not pictured)

Gold – Neil Ashcroft (above)



Intermediate

Bronze – Pauline Chandler

Silver – Roger Flavell
(pictured far right)

Gold – Adrian Langley





**Instructor of the Year
and 1,000 Jump Award**
Barrie Buck (Netheravon)
*Barrie is keen, enthusiastic and very
helpful, having a super approachable
manner with students.*



1,000 Jump Award

Jack Felstead (not pictured)

Esmond Liggitt

**1,000 Jump Award & 12
Hours Freefall Award**
Steve Nalden



Trade Stands

The many stalls of skydiving related equipment did a lively trade all day.



George Pilkington launched his new *Evolution* audible altimeter.



Airtec demonstrated a waterproof *Cypres* (for all those times you want to skydive underwater?) and Dona Crum modelled the latest Symbi Skin for under the jumpsuit warmth.



Rick Boardman and Chris Jones ran their popular 'check out the potentially suicidal' kit activity. Sharon Allen from Junction 9 brought a Get Well book along for members to sign their best wishes to Nigel Rogoff – in addition to the 600 cards and letters he had already received.



Sharon Allen from Junction 9 brought a Get Well book along for members to sign their best wishes to Nigel Rogoff – in addition to the 600 cards and letters he had already received.



The Very Latest on Brit100

Following the *Brit100* presentation at the AGM, we had great offers of help. Thanks to Bev Ford who becomes our administrator and also to Hinton Skydiving, Pete Marsden, Sky Science, SunPath, Symbiosis Suits, Target Skysports and Thomas Sports (tactfully placed in alphabetical order) who have all offered support above and beyond any expectation.

Sadly, Skydive Sebastian have had to pull out after blowing an incredibly expensive Otter engine. We hope they will be back supporting the record – and remember; they were there when we asked! Thanks Andy.

Brit100 LEAFLETS

Sponsorship leaflets were given out at the AGM and are now available. Many thanks to Alan James and Steve Fairbrass. If you need some send an A5 SAE to **Simon Ward, Mill Farm, The Fox, Purton, Swindon, SN5 9EF**. Don't forget, he'll help design any *Brit100* sponsorship packages you need.

BRIT100 WEEKENDS

The schedule is filling up fast (see below). Make sure you get your requests to Simon Ward immediately; simonw@musicradio.com or 07074 746669.

STOP PRESS!

Likely Brit100 weekends (to be confirmed)

27-28	Feb	Strathallan
1-3	May	Target Skysports
1-3	May	British Parachute School, Langar
29-31	May	Peterborough Parachute Centre
TBC		Wild Geese
TBC		Netheravon
TBC		Black Knights



Darryl Moran, Phil Gibbs, Charles Ross with the 98-way photo presented to the BPA

BRIT100 FACTS

- ➔ *Brit100* will be made up of the UK's finest, available skydivers who can work in a team to build a common goal.
- ➔ The first goal of *Brit100* is to build a 100-way formation, we will then build it up to maximum capacity (about 120).
- ➔ There is no bench. There will be a 100 team, 120 team etc; once chosen the participants stay on the team.
- ➔ *Brit100* DZ weekends are **NOT** selection weekends, they act as confirmation of selection, a proving ground and coaching for the future.
- ➔ The team is **not** already chosen. As you would expect, the team captains have a good idea of about 80% of their preferred team. But the final selection will not be made until much closer to the event. If you think you are being overlooked, talk to the team captains (details on page 34) and get others to refer you.

Check out the website, win some prizes, raise some sponsorship, catch us at the DZ's and be part of it in whatever capacity.

www.brit100.co.uk



Senior

Bronze – Glenn Stephenson

Silver – Dave Ballard
(not pictured)

Gold – Jeff Chandler

(pictured with granddaughter Rachel)



Freefall Style Champions

Intermediate

Bronze – Roger Flavell

Silver – Carol Macartney

Gold – Pauline Chandler



Canopy Formation Champions Junior

Senior

Bronze – Alastair Macartney

Silver – Dave Ballard
(not pictured)

Gold – Jeff Chandler



Red Devils Crew 2
Aron Jones
Graham MacLennan
Aaron Hearsum
(pictured)
Dane Richardson
Karl Everitt

Senior

Over the Top
Brian Pushman
Mick Rich
Gerry Buggle
Peter Annison
Pat Hammond
(pictured)



DROP ZONE DEFENCE NEEDS YOU!

The DZDF is probably the oddest part of the BPA – a substantial sum of money, donated by members and totally independent of Council. It is available as a fighting fund for when parachuting is under threat at any UK club. You give us the money, mainly as donations at membership renewal time; about £1,000 last year (THANK YOU!). As new Chairman I urge you all to make a donation on your BPA renewal form. I am also urgently seeking additional members.

Chris Jones

0144 677 4624 or cjones@new-coll-cf.ac.uk



Seminars

A varied, interesting programme of talks and seminars filled up the afternoon. Simon Ward and Darryl Moran gave an all-singing, all-dancing presentation on *Brit100* and reported they were amazed with the universal support for the project. British Champion skysurfer Mike Frost spoke about his passion and some of his hobby-horses. George Pilkington astounded audiences with his capacity for entertaining whilst conveying some serious safety points. Another Planet's diver Rhino stole the show at the Planeteeers' session on 16-way tips.

The conference rooms used were larger than previously – and just as well because almost all of them were packed. Other meetings included a forum on competitions to assess member's opinions and a seminar on the new and radical Development Plan by Charles Ross. Anyone wanting a copy of the Plan can contact the BPA office, or Charles on charles@email.com.

Dinner Dance

The evening dinner and dance was packed with 235 people scoffing an efficiently served, excellent meal before booging the night away. The only blot on the whole weekend was the bar – which did not have

enough staff and closed at only 5am. We hope they can sort out the bar for next year as in all other respects this was a perfect venue.

A skydiver's stay at a hotel would not be complete without some ruckus with the



management. Sure enough, Sunpath owner Derro Thomas managed to get himself arrested for jumping into the swimming pool fully clothed (reports of him being naked are untrue, we are pleased to say). We hope the hotel will still have us back next year (if they won't, stop buying Javelins).

Lesley Gale

photos by Lesley Gale/Matthew Byrne

Stop Press!

The owner of Headcorn Airfield, Chris Freeman has died in hospital from renal failure, aged 68. Nine hundred people attended the memorial service at Headcorn Airfield on 22 January. A church organ played in the hangar and Tiger Moths did a formation fly-by as a mark of respect. The airfield has been owned by the Freeman family since the Second World War.

Royal Aero Club Awards

John Meacock –
Royal Aero Club Diploma

Jackie Smith –
Gold Medal

John Hitchen –
Bronze Medal

(more details in April issue)

BPA OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES (mostly elected at inaugural Council meeting, directly after AGM)

BPA Chairman:Chris Allen
Vice-Chairman:Kieran Brady
STC Chairman:Tye Boughen
Competitions Committee Chairman: ..John Smyth
Development Committee Chairman: ..Ian Midgley
Communications Committee Chairman: Charles Ross
Riggers Committee Chairman: ..Paul Applegate
Pilots Committee Chairman:Pat Howell
Treasurer:Debbie Carter
Royal Aero Club Delegate:John Smyth
RAeC Alternate Delegate:Ian Marshall
Liaison Officer to CAA:Tony Knight
GASCo Representative & VP: ..Anglea Hickling
IPC Delegate:John Hitchen
Club Representative:Mike Allum



Formation Skydiving Champions Junior

Angels of the North
Neil Sharpies
Joanne Eardley
David Eardley
Regan Tetlow
Sarah-Jane Walker



Intermediate Turning Tricks
Ashley Kemp
Amanda Williams
Debbie Bull
Tony Silman
(pictured)
Theresa Dougal



Senior Quicksilver
Ian Cashman
Alastair Macartney
(both pictured)
Wayne Thomas
Dave Tyler



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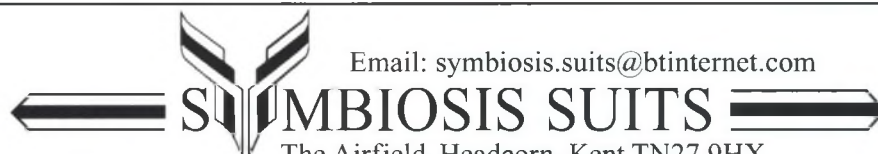


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Events for '99

March 25 The Let 410 returns – Party!

April 2-5 Easter Mini Boogie –
8 Way Competition

May 1-3 Stealth's Formation Loads...
After last year's success even more
26 Ways

Freefly Seminar

Chris Gauge and Tim Porter –
British Champions, coaching at all
levels. Limited to 25 people. £20
Registration, Book Early

May 29-31 Brit100 Training Weekend
Dave Morris shows us how it's
done

July 3-11 The Large Aircraft Boogie
All you could ever need, CASA
212, Load organisers, Freeflying,
Parties and more

July 12-16 Brit100
The UK's Largest Formation

Our Smashing Sponsors



Coldseal Conservatories have come on board (again). They'll be running an internal sales incentive with

tandem jump prizes to be taken during *Brit100*, they'll also auction a jump to raise money for Nigel Rogoff. In return they'll get media coverage, press releases for trade and specialist magazines, pictures, video, Simon Ward presenting at their conference and image equity.



Skydive Sebastian, the UK's favourite American DZ, have put money into the project. A great gesture from Andy

Grimwade who already supports British skydiving by sponsoring the national FS team – *Sebastian XL*. Andy has great experience on 100+ ways and has volunteered himself for the base.



Cool & Groovy have also come up trumps. We'll be sporting *Brit100* T-shirts courtesy of them, thanks George. All *Brit100* jumpers will

be loaned new *Evolutions* for the jumps and we'll be giving some away as prizes.

£££ Cash Raising Comp £££

Brit100 is a real team effort and not confined to those with slots. The person who raises the most money for *Brit100* but is **not** on the record attempt will be given a brand new *Evolution 2000 Time-Out!* as a thank you from us. Plus we have a standard *Time-Out!* for the second highest. (*All that effort and you just get a chocolate bar?* – Ed)

We'll also make the same offer (yes, that's a total of four *Time-Out!* units) for participants **on** the record – so get the sponsorship rolling in guys! If you need any information to help your search for cash, like a PSP letter, give Simon a call – 07074 746669. We'll also have other *Time-Outs!* to give away on the *Brit100* DZ Tour.



Since the last Mag we've had some major successes on *Brit100* – proving it's an area that all kinds of people wish to get involved in. Some great news on the sponsorship front, see left. Jose Fowler has built the mother of all databases to keep us organised. Kevin Richardson and his team have built a great website, at www.Brit100.co.uk

Letters have gone out to DZ's inviting them to host a *Brit100* weekend, make sure one is happening near you. There are seminars by top jumpers from *Brit100* and the medal winning 16-way team, Another Planet as well as a few surprises and prizes – and even surprise prizes!

Last year's *Brit100* record breaking 98-way



Photo by Tony Danbury

What's New?

www.brit100.co.uk

You can download free snaps and even see an animated version of the skydive we are planning!

Thanks to the Brit100 web team:

Kevin Richardson	Website Co-ordinator
Adrian Morton	Website Construction
David McKelvie	Digital Video Editor
John Nunn - aka 'BJ'	Website Construction/Gif Animation
Robert Seber	Website Construction/Javascripting

Have a read of the sponsorship article overleaf and see how you can use a copy of the letter to gain sponsorship and support for the event. Ask for a PSP (Personal Sponsorship Plan) letter to take to your employer. If all's gone to plan, we now also have our glossy sponsorship leaflets available. E-mail me if you

need further details, letters or leaflets:

simonw@musicradio.com

Top marks go to Ian Chick who wrote the letter below right. He's really got into the spirit of the thing which is to get everyone involved, even if they are not on the load. Thanks and good luck Ian! Let me know if you can do the same.

Article by Simon Ward,
Brit100 Chairman



When?

12-16 July 1999

Logo Competition Results

A close run thing with some great entries, including lots of late ones not published last time. Thanks to all the entrants, what a fantastic selection we had! We're now using the logo to left, designed by the winner, Paul Hunter (Batman to most of us). In true Brit100 team approach, he wins nothing more than thanks, he's rich and famous enough already!

Who?

Chairman

SIMON WARD
Tel: 01793 771 037
simonw@musicradio.com

Dive Captain

DARRYL MORAN
Tel: 01252 712284
emdazzle@aol.com

Team Captains

CHOPPER (DAVE COWELL) – Weston
Tel: 01372 743 137
chopper@bcs.org.uk
ROB COLPUS – Deep South
Tel: 01622 890 967
symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com
DAVE MORRIS – Langar
Tel: 0371 986 600
dave@daleside2.demon.co.uk
GEORGE PILKINGTON – No Fixed Abode
Tel: 01788 860 882
george@coolingroovy.com
STEVE APPS – Netheravon
Tel: 01980 671 242
steveapps@aol.com
GRAHAM HARRIS – Northern
Tel: 01224 321568
garris@btinternet.com

Aircraft and DZ

DAVE TURNER & DAVE HICKLING – Langar
Tel: 01949 860 878
BPSLangar@aol.com

Dear Brit100

Brit100 is the way to go and we'll be supporting it to the full. We'll be asking all our AFF students for '99 and graduates of '98 for a donation to the Brit100 fund. All of them have been impressed with the media coverage in '98, they feel part of it, some even turned up at Langar to watch. Here's some other things we'll be doing and some ideas:

- ➡ I will change our enrolment forms to include a donation section. Students who make a donation could be thanked by a signed letter from the organisers or a thank you section in the SP Brit100 update, this will please them no end to get their name in our 'Grade A' mag
- ➡ Depending on the donation amount, send them a photo or T-shirt
- ➡ For company or large donations (say £1,000+), invite them down for the day
- ➡ Consider a free tandem skydive on the day for the biggest donor
- ➡ For some fun let's get a high profile public figure on a tandem, do a formation lift around them and let them tell the TV News how it felt to set the record for the largest formation with a tandem in it
- ➡ When every first time student goes to collect their RAPS or tandem certificate, give them a donation form for Brit100 and inform them that they could be part of the record attempt

Good luck!

Ian Chick

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Our very experienced coaches will teach you the very latest techniques

ALL STATIC LINE/ PROGRESSION STUDENTS:

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'AIRWAVES' Courses means 20 years experience, continuity with instructors, BPA Associated, BPA instructors which means a British Licence with support and continuation training on your return to the UK at our own or approved centres.

We welcome all students wishing to complete their AFF from any AFF School

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Come and have 'Fun in the sun' –
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Sponsorship & Skydiving

We all talk about it, most of us want it but only a few of us have it...

We just don't know how to get sponsorship. Most of us approach it from our own point of view – what do we want? But to gain the sponsorship we need to put ourselves in the sponsor's shoes, what do they want? Simon Ward explains the approach which works...

All photos by Simon Ward

First thing's first, let's get REAL, there is little potential for serious sponsorship in skydiving. Quite simply we offer a poor return on investment and we're a risky bet – one serious accident or death could ruin the best of plans. Worse still, most of the things we want sponsoring are poles apart from a sponsor's objectives...they want publicity, you want to win the nationals; they want you at a corporate event, you want to team train. And what does sponsoring skydiving cost? Probably a lot more than a high profile hot air balloon.

Well, that's the negatives out the way, so let's concentrate on where we *can* win. Before deciding exactly what you want it may be worth considering a few points

Win, Win Situation

Sponsorship of any type must provide a 'Win, Win' solution for both parties. All too often we are guilty of deciding our needs without considering those of the potential sponsor. Hopefully the categories in the box overleaf will point you in the right direction.

New Age Skydiving

As a minority sport we get relatively little coverage in competition, certainly in FS and CF disciplines. With large teams, high costs and no predictable coverage we are a bad bet. The emergence of the new, visually exciting areas and of

extreme sports coverage by the media is changing that for our skysurfers and freeflyers, witness the support for Mike Frost and Andy Ford by Playstation.

Demo Teams

By far the easiest



The Red Devils, media owner and a high profile, all Brit partnership with 'the lads'



The Royal Marines building their record breaking stacks, maybe not brilliant visual branding but they got plenty of publicity

commercial justification for sponsorship comes from high profile demo teams such as the *Royal Marines Freefall Team* in the past and the *Red Devils*. Both teams worked well for sponsors as they added media 'stunts' and record attempts to the long list of demos they did.

Image Equity

In these examples it's easy to see how

commercial sponsorship works as a company extracts image equity from the teams. Playstation has the same brand values as medal winning. This team is also an ideal candidate for trade sponsorship, something Sony Professional (video) was quick to pick amongst others.

I have been fortunate to enjoy a partnership with Olympus Cameras for over 15 years. I have introduced them to different areas of aviation and adventure sport, they have been a brilliant supporter of my work. I use and love their gear (now we are playing with digital stills), they have published dozens of my articles and pictures promoting their equipment by association.

Another example of image equity was Red Bull who attached themselves to a wide menu of skydiving activity, skysurfing with Chris Gauge, demos, world meet competition, DZ support, competitions, product sampling and tandems for celebrities and media. Their brand values include youth, adventure and stimulation – pretty close to cutting edge skydiving really.

Think from the Outside

Think as a skydiver and you are limited to skydiving. You must approach it from the outside, think marketing,... brand values,... ROI (Return on Investment),... budgets,... timing,... image,... media value. In short, think as a Brand Manager or seek appropriate advice.

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The proposal you sell must offer solutions to the client, it's a simple sales job based upon a needs analysis of the client, a bright idea and the possibility of winning over every other bright idea. Add to this every trick you know; leverage, favours, personal contacts, do what you say you will do, over-deliver, be creative and you may just get in the door.

Duration

Think product life cycle for you and the sponsor. A three year deal is about right; year one to establish and learn, year two to work hard and year three to maximise and leave before it all goes stale. Have you got a three year plan?

There are obviously exceptions to this such as the Cadbury's Crunchie Flying Circus (Wingwalking on biplanes). One of my all-time favourite sponsorships with never ending stunts, records, media opportunities, visibility, personality, history, romance, noise, aviators and 'daring' girls. It has so many top ingredients.



Brit100

All this brings me nicely onto *Brit100* and our sponsorship strategy. We believe it is innovative, affordable, manageable, creative and delivers great value for everyone, in fact it is 'Win, Win, Win' – sponsors, jumpers, the sport.

We avoided the 'one large sponsor' route in 1998, as when asking for cash in tens of thousands, you need planning time we didn't have plus deliverable results. Instead we took the 'bite size chunk' path. We invented the PSP and the CSP.

PSP (Personal Sponsorship Plan)

With limited time we asked participants to get involved and find sponsors to cover the value of their own costs, about £500. The money was not kept personally, it all went into the team effort. We will repeat this approach this year and give every participant a letter for their employers, friends, suppliers and contacts. (see example letter to right). There is no limit to the amount one can raise and last year Chris Adams provided several.

CSP (Corporate Sponsorship Plan)

Last year we asked companies to fund the cost of a full attempt, ie, one jump,

approximately £2,500. We got a couple on board. This year we already have Coldseal Conservatories (again) who have funded a full package for £6,000. In return they will get media coverage, press releases for trade and specialist magazines, pictures, video and a full corporate tandem package. Naturally, others will follow and we will tailor the sponsorship and benefits to their requirements.

Trade Sponsors

A number of skydiving suppliers and trade contacts have helped in the past and are keen to get involved again. Outside skydiving Sims Pneu Pac supplied oxygen, John Deere tractors the retrieval facility

as well as friends such as PD, *TimeOut!*, Symbiosis Suits, TSE and SunPath. This year we are aiming much higher and can offer far more in return such as; promotion at the AGM, exposure on the *Brit100* website, in *Brit100* articles and during the *Brit100* DZ tour. New sponsors Skydive Sebastian, Britain's favourite American drop zone and Cool & Groovy who make the most sophisticated audible altimeter available, will promote their products whilst helping British skydivers achieve their objectives. Once again it's Win, Win on the two way street of sponsorship.

Fundraising

This year we are keen to attract further sponsorship and funds from skydivers with ideas and contacts, we'll be offering incentives and prizes. Try applying some of Ian Chick's ideas to *Brit100* and your own popularist events (see page 35).

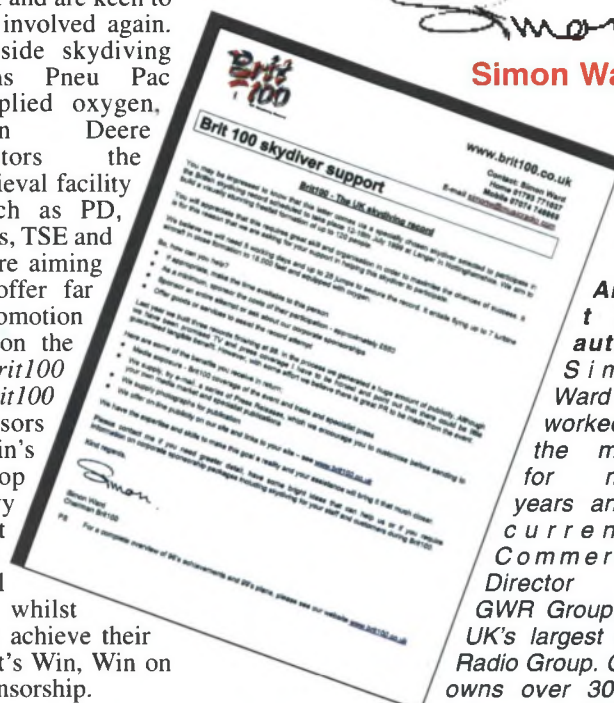
I feel confident that we will raise substantial sponsorship for the event which is Win, Win, Win. Our sponsors will receive huge benefits in many ways

as they did last year, check out the website (www.Brit100.co.uk). The participants will enjoy a more well organised event, with better resources and subsidies. Knowledge of the sport is shared. Other skydivers will benefit from the DZ tour. We will set a British Record – a real achievement. British skydiving will gain a huge PR boost – as it did last year. This is one project we can all get behind. For all these reasons the BPA is supporting Brit 100 – as a sponsor whose aims equate with those of the *Brit100* committee and British skydivers.

Good luck in your sponsorship seeking, be it in support of your own goals or those of *Brit100*.

Simon

Simon Ward



About the author:

Simon Ward has worked in the media for many years and is currently Commercial Director for GWR Group, the UK's largest pure Radio Group. GWR owns over 30 UK radio stations,

including Classic FM, as well as a growing overseas division. Simon has an understanding of media and, in particular, sponsorship with nearly 20% of GWR's substantial turnover coming from this area. Simon is Chairman of Brit100 and the commercial driving force behind it. Like all Brit100 organisers his work is voluntary and all benefits go towards the Brit100 DZ tour and the record itself.

The Different Kinds of Sponsorship:

- Σ **Sympathetic sponsorship** provided by 'friends' of the sport, the event or participants. Quite possibly it can be leveraged on a favour basis.
- Σ **Trade sponsorship** comes from the people with the most to gain from great achievements in skydiving such as manufacturers, retailers, DZ's. The supplier is looking for endorsement – "good enough for them, good enough for me".
- Σ **Commercial sponsorship** is a straight exchange of money for your services. Typically a sponsor will wish to attach their name to your public triumphs.
- Σ **Fundraising** which is more a source of money rather than sponsorship but worthy of a mention.

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- April 5-9 Student Progression Week**
Any student jumper welcome, cut price jumps, BOC and leg strap deployment available.
- May 1-3 Formation Load Weekend – up to 28-ways**
Plus **BRITISH RECORD ATTEMPT TRAINING CAMP**
- May 22-23 Central Regional Competition**
Formation Skydiving, Canopy Formation and Classics
- June 5-13 Skills Camp – FS Coaching by Lee Love (Sebastian XL)**
New Age Disciplines Progression Week
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- June 27-28 4 Way FS Handicapped MONEY MEET**
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What A Spektakel !!

At the back end of '98, the second edition of CF Spektakel took place at Oud Turnhout in Belgium. A long week filled with Canopy Formation for beginners as well as experts. Coaches, canopies, jumpers and lift capacity together with good weather ensured success. The broad objective was to introduce beginners to Canopy Formation, expand CF skills and fly big formations. Not an everyday opportunity!

Beginners

There was something for everyone to learn. Beginners made their first jumps and progressed quickly. They had the free use of CF canopies (PD Lightnings in different sizes), got ground and safety instructions from a coach and made one-on-one learning jumps for half a jump ticket. Later more experienced jumpers went up with them to 9,000 ft. They learnt a lot in a short time, growing from 2 to 4-way or even 9-way!

Coaching

Peter Vohwinkel explained basic principles and skills to beginners. Stefan Heuser was there for the more experienced and competition jumper. Optional video by Hans Schenk and Ruben Hamberg was available. Mike Lewis had to cancel because he was ill – but he did send the PD Lightnings!

Every day started with a briefing and ended with a debriefing. What happened during the day, what went well, what could be improved? The emphasis was on sequential but we weren't shy of a few rotations. As the week progressed, formations grew bigger and everybody got to fly more difficult slots and formations. In '97 Spektakel built the biggest formation over Belgium. In '98 we continued what we started. We flew 9-way diamonds. Different people took part

so as many as possible got to fly big formations and to practice what they had learned in smaller groups.

Diamonds

Every first and last load of the day made a 9-way diamond. The last Saturday evening we ventured a 16+ way. We exited the sunset load at 12,000ft. The formation built quickly and neatly. Everybody did what was expected of them. At



7,000ft the cameraman docked and completed an 18-way: the biggest formation over Belgium! It was flying long enough to become the biggest formation over Holland – but just before the border we had to turn 180° and head back to the DZ. Shame!

Success

No Shit: the week was a huge success! Participants from Holland, Belgium and Germany, many from the world record, plus 5 complete teams trained, learnt and had fun. Three Pilatus Porter were available, with at least 10 CF loads every day.

Be There!

'99 will see another edition of CF Spektakel, bigger,



better, 'bester'! Probably during the second week of August. With more coaches, more jumpers, bigger ways (25?) and at least as many parties as this year. See you at CF Spektakel '99!

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All photos by Hans Schenk



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Dear Dive Doctor



Dear Dive Dr
All my jumping career I have been looking forward to gaining my Cat 10. Now that I finally achieved this earlier this year, I've found it difficult to keep motivated to skydive. I know, deep down, that this is what I want to do but without a clear goal I find it difficult to get inspired when I get to the 'zone and often end up not jumping. I don't know what jumps to do, who to jump with and find it easy to make excuses to not get in the 'plane. The longer it's been between jumps the worse it gets. What can I do?

Helen Highwater

Dear Helen

Don't worry, a lot of people find this at your stage. It's a bit like being a teenager; you feel grown-up and want to be treated that way but at the same time making decisions in the adult world isn't as easy as you'd thought. You're now qualified as a grown-up skydiver but you're not yet used to acting as one.

You just need to get into the habit of jumping again. It would be good to do a bunch of jumps back to back. I'd suggest taking some holiday and dedicating it to jumping, possibly abroad to maximise your jump numbers and take advantage of better weather than British winters. Enrol on a skills course, a freefly course, a boogie or some other form of organised skydiving. It really doesn't matter which – whatever you fancy most. The organisers will help get you manifested, motivated and in the air. All you need is a bit of airtime and you'll find that your confidence will grow, you'll get back into the jumping habit and this will be a great boost when you return to the UK.

We've all been there, at some stage everyone suffers a lack of motivation but just get back into

it and the sport will grab you big time again.

Blue Skies
Dive Dr CC

Dear Dive Dr

I have about 200 jumps and most of them have been FS jumps, now I am trying out the exciting realm of freeflying. But the problem is that I don't seem to be able to stay in the head-down position for more than 5-10 seconds. This is also true about the stand-up position. I am using a Factory Diver helmet in the jumps so I thought this might be a problem, what do you think?

Carl Ling

Dear Carl

Freeflying has a lot to do with enjoying being free! Using a full-face-helmet is not a problem but don't you want to be free? Use a frappe hat and a *Time-Out!* for freedom. Feel the air. Get some instructing and train your sit-fly hard before moving on to stand-ups and head down. Don't try to run before you can walk!

Freefly Physician

Dear Dive Dr

I have just graduated AFF and don't know what canopy to buy. I don't feel quite ready for a real 'hot' canopy – but they cost a lot of money and I don't want to buy something larger and find I am soon bored with it. Also all my friends are jumping small Stilettos and I don't want to get left behind! Or look like a learner. Any advice?

Pete Urbed

Dear Pete

Buy a canopy which is right for you NOW. That is the best way to improve your canopy skills. You will learn so much from jumping a canopy which is right for you, every jump you will be picking up flying skills. When you do upgrade, these skills will let you make the most of your

'hot' canopy instead of being frightened of it. Just as in skiing, you wouldn't get 2m skis straight away, you'd learn to ski first! You'll have far more fun and learn more on a canopy the right size.

I suspect you are concerned about looking cool like your friends. What's right for them ain't necessarily what's right for you. You'll look much cooler flying a canopy the right size and landing well, in the right place, than jumping something too advanced and screwing up because you don't have the ability to handle it yet. Standing up on landing looks a lot cooler than creaming in!

Ask advice from dealers and instructors, **not** your friends. Remember that a small canopy is a lethal weapon. The more radical the canopy, the more likely you are to hurt yourself (or others) on landing. It will also malfunction faster and more dangerously, requiring quicker reaction. Canopy collisions are more likely as there is less margin for error. Buy the right canopy now or you may not live long enough to get bored.

Dive Dr CC

Dear Dive Dr

I have 650 jumps and reckon I'm well over average FS ability for my number of jumps. I've done lots of one-on-one and been lucky enough to get on some good loads at my home DZ. I'm going to some boogies over the winter and I'd like to ask how best to impress the organisers so I get moved up the groups and onto good loads. I'm confident in my ability, it's just I don't know many people so I need to be noticed!

Wan A Bee

Dear Wan

The best way to impress the organisers is to look good on video. Most boogie videos will be done with the cameraman floating so I suggest you take a floating slot by lurking behind the organiser at the dirt dive.

You can do the best swoop in the world but it won't be on video!

Practice floating skills before you go. You can give yourself a head start with an excellent exit. In the door, put your eyes on the base (ie, organiser) and leave as nearly as possible at the same nanosecond as they do. Whatever the first point, know your slot in relation to the base person. On exit, pick up the organiser immediately, move to your position relative to them and stop there. A red hot tip for quick floating is not to move in a direct line to the base; watch the angle they are dropping down at and go to intercept them, ie go to where they will be. You should never go above the base, arch into the float position if necessary.

Lurk your slot as close as you dare. Be disciplined about when you pick up your grips. The organisers will notice someone who gets to their space quickly, waits for the base to build and then docks confidently. Fly your slot now and be 'on the blocks' for the key to the next point. As the organiser's head goes up for the key, start your move to the next space of sky you will occupy, relative to the centre of the formation, not the grips you will be docking on. If you move immediately on the key, you don't need to go any faster to get there quicker.

Choose slots you are happy with – better to do an easy slot superbly than make an average job of a difficult slot. It is also probably better to be near the base as you will be on video immediately. Be very safe tracking off and under canopy, you don't want to get noticed for the wrong reason like hurting someone! Be honest about your mistakes and be good vibes – these two characteristics will impress organisers far more than skydiving skills.

You may be out to impress but remember to enjoy your jumps and not be too impatient to jump with the 'hot shots'. It's your money you're spending, have fun!

Dive Dr CC

Franck Bernachot. **Yes.**

Style World

Recordman. **Yes.**

Style World

Champion. **Yes.**

Atom «**Axis**»
harness container
by P.d.F. **Yes.**
First class equipment. **Yes.**



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REVIEW - SHOTGUN BOOGIE a CD by Rockin' Dave Taylor

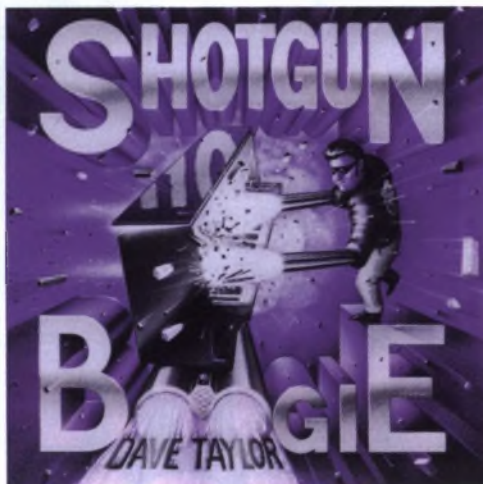
Over the last few years BPA member and Headcorn local skydiver Dave Taylor, has been seen tickling the ivories at the Herc Boogie in Sweden, the Espace Boogie in France, the Christmas Boogie in Empuriabrava, and even at the BPA's AGM rave. But I doubt if many of the jumpers that have boogied to Dave's 50's Rock n Roll were aware of his long involvement in the music business.

Since going professional in '74 at the age of 17, Dave has made his living as a musician, playing along the way with the likes of Bill Haley, Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee-Lewis, BB King and Shakin' Stevens to name a few.

During a successful period in Scandinavia in the late 70's and early 80's fronting his own band, Dave picked up the nickname - 'the Acrobat Pianist' after his style of climbing all over his piano whilst thrashing out a toon with various parts of his anatomy. After returning to the UK he toured with the US Group *Big Daddy* who achieved a UK Top 10 hit, and appeared on radio and TV shows including *The Kenny Everett Show*, *The Old Grey Whistle Test*, *Pebble Mill at One* and *Razzmatazz*.

Since getting hooked on skydiving about ten years ago, Dave has managed to combine his two passions - as you do, by jumping into some of his music gigs, under the title of the *SkyJivers* parachute display team.

Once, when booked to play at the Imara Big Band festival in Finland, Dave jumped onto the roof of a multi-storey building in the town centre - apparently he got the wrong roof, and had to climb through a fire-light to end up in the bar with canopy over shoulder looking for a beer!



In the last decade Dave has produced several albums of his own music, either Jump-Jive, Boogie Woogie or 50' style Rock n Roll, produced by his own record label *Midnight Rock Records*. The latest of these is the subject of this review (Oh yeah, I nearly forgot).

Called *Shotgun Boogie* the CD contains 21 songs, 14 of them written by Dave himself and all of them fronted by Dave and his piano. If you like this genre of music, then you'll like this album. The various tracks range from fast and furious, to the occasional Elvis like ballad, with plenty of musically accomplished instrumental solos. The few tracks not written by Dave himself, the title track among them penned by Tennessee Ernie Ford, are well performed, and if you're already acquainted with them you'll like Dave's band's interpretation. Believe it or not, they even do a rockin' version of Irvin Berlin's *White Christmas*.

Some of the tracks have been recorded with as many as 20 musicians contributing, including piano, electric, acoustic and pedal steel guitars, trumpets, alto, tenor and baritone sax, trombone, bass trombone, bass and drums. The production is of a high quality and very professional, and the CD sleeve includes a pocket biography of Dave including, of course, a picture of him skydiving over Headcorn.

Whether or not you're a 50's Rock n Roll, Jump-Jive or Boogie Woogie music freak, I think you'll like this CD. Anyway it just goes to show that you'll find a skydiver succeeding in which any field you care to look - I like that!

Rob Colpus

Dave Taylor and Midnight Rock
Records - 01227 368772,
Email - rockindav@aol.com



On the Soapbox

Yet again we are regaled with another full-page spread of news of Dinosaur parachuting - the World Championships in Classics. Why on earth is so much magazine space wasted, council energy wasted and, more importantly, competition money thrown away on the interests of the smallest sector of membership of the entire organisation. We see the same faces, every article, year after year. It's clearly not a discipline enjoying a significant level of popularity.

If the hierarchy of the BPA is to retain the faith and commitment of the 'rank & file' members of the association then it will have to start to recognise the need to serve the wishes of the majority of that membership. Surely the time has arrived to recognise the fact that the greatest sector of the members of the BPA participate in FS, followed by the new wave of disciplines such as freefly and skysurfing. When this happens we can dedicate more of the Sports Council grants to the areas that need it, to make us a credible entity in world parachuting. This means encouraging competition and getting more people involved in the ideal of getting better.

The whole thing becomes even more manifestly unfair when the guys who went out to the States to represent the country in the CF World Championships got next to no backing. Yet the classics people seem to get a disproportionate sector of the available competition funds in relation to the percentage of the BPA members who take part.

If this continues then perhaps we should, in an effort to be fair to all, make sure that no competitors get any money! Either that or we should go with the majority vote and put the money towards the disciplines that have the most popular support (except freefly, boardsurfing, sitflying, FS and CF of course!)

Let's take this sport into the next century and not keep it anchored in the last one!

Mick Cooper

For the record: 'So much' magazine space was one and a half pages, the total devoted to Classics in the whole of '98 was four pages, that seems cool to me. I don't expect everyone to enjoy reading every article, the readership is diverse in interests and the Mag should reflect this.

We had two British teams at the CF World Meet, Cross Keys Crew who were funded by the Competitions Committee to the tune of £15,000 plus travel and Team X who were virtually unfunded, as they had not met the selection criteria. For a different view on the Classics see page 22. - Ed.

Here at Skydive Arizona, the world's largest full time drop zone, the American FS Nationals are in full swing. Canopy Formation teams from all around the world are assembling in readiness for the World Meet in the alternative landing area (known as the CRW Dog Pound). With over 100 Twin Otter loads flying daily you'd think that there would be some conflict but with some amazing organisation the two groups had no trouble. Many a UK drop zone should take note!

British Delegation

There are two teams representing the UK. *Team X*, the Sequential team, are doing some smooth, controlled dives and aiming for a 5-point average which looks distinctly possible. Britain's Rotations team, *Cross Keys Crew*, are also cranking out some nice consistent 15's and even a few 16 with more potential there if they can iron out some small mistakes. It is evident that the straight down the back technique is not going to win medals but the team is performing well. Mike Trost from the US team has been coaching *Cross Keys Crew* and the Dutch team from Teuge – and also providing additional help to *Team X* at the meet.

The owner of Cross Keys, John Eddowes, a drop zone in New Jersey, who is competing in the US Nationals comes over and wishes both of the British teams good luck and puts some money on the jump accounts for training. (For those who are not aware Sebastian is not the only British owned drop zone in the states!)

An illness affects many of the Brits with first *Cross Keys Crew* member Nigel Rogoff, then Jo Scott Williams the British judge and finally Graham Liggins, the team manager, going down with the 'lurgy'. Bob Card steps in at short notice to attend the team manager's meeting on the first day of the competition proper.

Spotty's canopy which had recently had some lines replaced starts opening off heading – a trim check shows that the lines have stretched and the canopy goes off to be re-trimmed in the rigging room. Not the type of action you need just before your biggest meet ever!

Cross Keys Crew in training over Elsinore. Photo by Todd Hawkins

World Meet in Canopy Formation

Sunday - Training Jumps

Official training jumps – our chance to see what we will score in meet conditions on the ground-to-air camera. Air-to-ground videographers are also jumping with the teams to allow comparison of judging methods and to provide excellent live images of the teams. The jump for the Rotations team sees a nice 15 point dive from *Cross Keys Crew* – setting a new British Record! This is looking very promising with the team in fifth position on the practice round. The Russians, French, Italians and Americans all place a 19 on the score sheet. The competition looks as we thought – with these four teams as a 'premier league' well ahead of the rest of the field. In the Sequential event *Team X* put up a nice 5 point dive even with a bust. They are also fifth but with the France, USA, Canada and Switzerland leading their event.

Monday – Opening Ceremony

The ceremony is extremely well organised with Larry Hill welcoming all the delegations and Patrick Castella jumping into the event to open it. For those who don't know, Patrick is the most successful CF competitor ever with

Cross Keys Crew by John Eddowes



11 medals from World Championships including all three gold medals from the last Championships and many other medals in other events as well. Dignitaries and FAI officials give speeches including our own Bob Card who apologises for the change in venue and recognises the two fatal accidents this year to CF competitors. After a moment's silence in respect, the formalities are over and the entertainment starts – a Wild West show followed by a buffet and free beer. Only in America!

Tuesday – The Meet Starts

Conditions are ideal, the whole delegation turns up to give support. The few faxes of goodwill are taped to the inside of the UK

Brian Soderman





US Team by Brian Soderman



team tent. With the words of Mike Trost – “It’s just another skydive” – ringing in our ears we board the Otter. The other competitors and spectators watch us in the hangar which has three screens showing live video; ground-to-air, air-to-ground and

inside the aircraft – plus scores and information from Omniskore superimposed. With all these angles and information, the event becomes even more spectator friendly.

The dive gets off to a good start but a low canopy and over-ambitious call sees the team busted to score a 13. Bummer! The dive was smooth and the team just over-amped. Other teams also have problems so what looks bad could have been worse but the team needs to eliminate these errors, compose themselves and put some better scores up. The team is lying joint fifth with the South African team and a gap behind the top four evident immediately. The Russians

Cross Keys Crew by John Eddowes

“Hey, somebody forgot to tell this old RW dog how much fun CF can be!

Sequential canopy formation was never my cup of tea, but watching these pros is really something.”

Tim Wagner

bottom of the formation. The straight down the back technique involves flying close to the tails of the canopies in the formation through the turbulent wake behind the stack.

As the day progresses the Russians are well in the lead and the battle is really for the other medals. My canopy begins the day well but then starts opening off-heading, so between rounds we stretch lines to try and improve the situation. This results in a couple of 180 turns on opening and consequent slow builds. We keep missing the 15th point by fractions of a second, the calls are noticeably slower than previous days for fear of another bust. The South Africans are that fraction quicker and are managing to squeeze the 15th in. We are squeezed out of fifth into sixth position as consistent 14’s begin to tell.

As the mid-day turbulence builds up the US team ride the plane down. But because other teams continue to jump they are forced to go up – they have a bad dive which will be their throwaway round. They can afford no more mistakes. *Cross Keys Crew* get a rejump because we are lost on camera; although the action is captured by the air-to-air cameraman, this is not admissible for judging. The team are offered the rejump the next morning, they take the option of cleaner morning air and hope another day will bring better luck.

Wednesday

The early morning darkness gives way to a perfect day with the Sequential event starting. *Team X* is optimistic about the Sequential draw and starts the day with a 5-point average, bang on target. The Sequential scoreboard shows the predicted groupings from round 1. *Cross Keys Crew* do their

rejump but it is not smooth and they can’t seem to break the 14-point barrier. As the day goes on *Team X* fortunes also take a knock with a couple of small mistakes which cost them

precious time. They begin to lose touch with the gaggle of teams chasing the leaders. A couple of problem dives seem to be competition pressure.

Round 5 sees the French score a 12-point dive, everyone cheers like mad in the hangar as we think it is a World Record but the dive is later scored at 11 – half the width of a cell makes the difference. The US team starts very strongly but drops points on a couple of dives and slips into second place, two points behind the French with the Canadians pulling into third, clear of the Swiss. The final two rounds on Friday should be an interesting fight for the gold. New national records are set today in Sequential; New Zealand with 7, Czech Republic with 8, United States with 11 and Canada with 10. Today also sees the first and only cutaway of the meet from the Czech team with a wrap and the unusual sight of a round reserve!



The British Delegate: L to R Graham Liggins, PD Smith, Roger Flynn, Alan Fielding, Graham Ribbons, Es Liggett, Mark Weaver, Mickey Doyle, Bob Card. Seated: Adrian Bowles, Iain Markham, Jo Scott-Williams, Eddie Carroll, Nigel Rogoff, Gary McGuinness. (Ian Marshall, AWOL)

*Many thanks for your
support in '98*

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CF 4-way Rotations

	Team Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	Russia	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	140
2	France	19	19	19	19	19	18	19	19	133
3	Italy	19	19	19	19	18	19	19	17	132
4	USA	19	19	20	19	19	15	18	15	129
5	South Africa	15	13	15	15	15	15	15	13	103
6	Netherlands	13	12	14	15	14	13	15	14	98
6	United Kingdom	13	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	98
8	Australia	12	11	13	14	13	13	13		
9	Canada	13	8	15	10	15	7	15		
9	Germany	10	13	11	13	12	13	14		
11	Switzerland	9	10	10	9	9	10			

Thursday

The 8-way event looks like it will be a close result with all teams capable of building sub 40 second formations. The US team have a couple of bad rounds which drop them out of contention for gold, whilst the French continue with smooth dives. The Russians do well but are flying 'on the edge'. This event has come a long way since the IPC proposed scrapping it a few years ago. This is only the third world meet since the UK won a bronze in this event – and where are we now, having not competed in the event since? The day finishes with the French leading clearly from Russia with the Germans, Americans and Canadians fighting it out for bronze.

Friday – 4-way Finals

The final rounds of the 4-way events start with Sequential. *Team X* have no hope of gaining positions in the overall standings but still have pride to play for. They start well but a collapse on the third point results in a bust and lost time. The problems of collapse are not confined to the UK. The Americans have to try and make up some ground on the French. A rough docking on the first formation loses a third of their time before they even score a point. They have blown the gold. The French are in the aircraft, completely unaware of this, do a beautiful, controlled dive. The hanger is full and when the final frame freezes on the screen at 12, a big cheer goes up. Once again everyone thinks a new World Record of 12 points has been set but the judges later deem it to be yet another 11 point jump. The Canadians are a little way back from the top two teams but still clinch bronze, their ability and effort pays off.

The Rotations event is next. The gold is already sealed but there's everything to play for with the other two medals. The Americans are just ahead of the French and Italians but can't risk another bad dive. The UK are battling it out further down the table with the Netherlands. The Brits going down the back and the Dutch using a sashay technique. Mike Trost had trained both teams.

The UK are one point ahead but round 7 sees the Dutch team pull out a 15. The dive has a bad start with a 180° on opening and nerves evident. The dive is scrappy with the 15th

point once again fractionally out of time. The team have been reticent about calling early and risking another bust since the first round. Lying equal sixth with the Netherlands we jump round 8 and have our smoothest dive of the meet. Both teams score a 14, with the 15th point just out by the judges (the spectators were 50/50 as to whether it was in) so we finish in equal sixth. Everyone on the ground watches the Dutch and are amazed that they weren't bust at least twice. (After watching the tapes at the end of the competition, the team were also surprised but then that's competition for you!)

CF 4-way Sequential

	Team Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	France	10	10	8	10	11	10	10	11	72
2	USA	10	11	9	9	8	10	10	5	67
3	Canada	10	7	9	8	7	8	8	8	58
4	Switzerland	9	8	6	6	7	7	4	6	49
5	Germany	6	7	6	6	8	7	4	8	48
6	Czech Republic	6	6	0	5	8	4	4	5	38
6	New Zealand	5	6	4	4	7	7	4	5	38
8	United Kingdom	5	4	3	4	3	4	2		
9	Netherlands	1	3	2	1	2	3	3		
10	Italy	1	3	0	1	2	3	3		

The US team once again rides down in the 'plane complaining of turbulence. The Russians and the French continue. Just as the Italians and Americans are boarding the aircraft, Meet Director Bryan Burke puts the teams on a weather hold as two large dust devils cross the landing area. The hold lasts 3-4 hours and when the teams continue, the conditions have probably deteriorated.

The Americans make a couple of mistakes and lose any sort of medal. The Italians remain composed in the poor conditions and grab the bronze with both hands. France has just clinched silver with the Russians taking the gold. As the sun sets, the meet is all but over with only the final two rounds of 8-way scheduled for the next morning. Some serious partying by the British delegation begins!

Saturday – 8-way Finals

The teams wake to the usual Arizona weather pattern. Barring any major mistakes, the top two places are settled in 8-way with the USA

and Germany fighting it out for bronze. A slow box formation for the US team narrows the gap between the US and Germany to just a second with one round to go. The Germans are confident, the Americans are under pressure. The Americans build the kite but is it quick enough? The Germans start well and, as the last jumper docks on the tail of the kite, they know they have taken the bronze from the US team. The 8-way is a wrap (Thanks Tim W, borrowed your joke!) with the French winning gold and the Russians silver. The champagne cork pops – and all before 9.30 in the morning!

Sunday – Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony and banquet were always scheduled for the Sunday and it's good to see the UK delegation *almost* complete with only one face missing. Some teams decide not to turn up to the medal ceremony. Whatever their reasons, these delegations did not look good. Lillian and Patty Hill present the awards and familiar faces are once again on the podium. Bob Card presents FAI diplomas to all participants and,

after a couple of speeches, the beer truck opens and the T-shirt swapping reaches frenzied fever pitch.

With the day drawing in, we return to the hotel to spruce ourselves up for the banquet.

Bob Card presents Team Manager Graham Liggins with a Certificate of Merit from the BPA. A small gesture from the Association for all his

hard efforts. As the night progresses the competitors exchange stories of the meet and look forward to meeting again in two year's time. The event was a great success and, although team numbers are down this year with many of the Asian countries not appearing, the performances are up.

What Now?

In order for the UK teams to break into that top division they need a massive injection of money, time and coaching. All the British CF team members have the talent to achieve this. They have demonstrated an excellent safety record as well as a showing a marked improvement on previous year's performances, even with a reduced working time.

Adrian Bowles
Cross Keys Crew

NB: shaded areas in scoretables denote throwaway rounds

CF 8-way Speed

	Team Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	France	29.67	35.69	37.70	33.33	35.79	33.90	40.51	30.46	236.54
2	Russia	35.32	42.81	34.33	32.27	32.25	42.62	48.44	41.05	260.65
3	Germany	44.60	41.67	46.61	41.34	42.92	39.54	47.01	45.68	302.36
4	USA	40.93	35.77	78.81	44.84	34.89	41.43	61.17	45.20	304.23
5	Canada	56.03	47.54	39.13	49.83	49.47	65.50	48.42	45.45	335.87

BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



Numbers 1 - 24 refer to
Civilian BPA Affiliated
drop zones
(listed to the right)

Letters A - E refer to
Military BPA Affiliated
drop zones
(listed overleaf)

All **Affiliated** centres in
the UK are run under
the BPA Operations
Manual

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Coaching Available

- LO - load organisers
- FS - formation skydiving
- CF - canopy formation
- FF - freeflying
- AC - accuracy
- WP - WARP
- SU - Skydive U

Facilities on the Drop Zone

- rigging facilities
- video room
- parachute equipment shop
- canteen
- evening restaurant
- bar
- bunkhouse
- camping welcome
- caravans welcome
- showers

1 BLACK KNIGHTS PARACHUTE CENTRE

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane,
Cockerham, Nr Lancaster
Tel: W/end 01524 791820 or 0151 924 5560
www.geocities.com/pipeline/dropzone/5352

Open: Weekends, bank holidays 8am - 8pm
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 185

LO FS CF AC WP

2 BORDER PARACHUTE CENTRE

Brunton Airfield, Chathill,
Northumberland NE67 5ER
Tel: 01665 589000 Fax: 01665 721053

B&B, camping, bars locally. Beach jumps and barbecues in summer. Scenic views!

Open: Fri pm, wkends 9am - dark, wkdays by arrangement
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 207 & 206, Islander on call

FS AC WP

3 BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS

The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,
Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY
Tel/Fax: 01949 860878
E-mail: bpslangar@aol.com

Friendly helpful staff. We are here to help you skydive. Turbines go to 13,000 ft!

Open: Every day 9am to 8pm (or sunset), 10am start Sunday
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Porter, Islander & Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)

LO FS FF WP

4 BRITISH SKYSPORTS, BRIDLINGTON

East Leys Farm, Grindale, Bridlington,
East Yorkshire YO16 4YB
Tel: 01262 677367 / 0836 276188
Fax: 01262 401871

Small friendly club atmosphere. Visitors and spectators welcome.

Open: Every day 8am - 8pm
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Islander

LO FS CF AC WP

5 CORNWALL PARACHUTE CLUB

Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield,
St Merryn, Cornwall
Tel: 01841 540691

Open: Weekend 8am - dark, Wed & Fri (summer)
First Jump Courses: squares, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 182

FS WP SU

6 DEVON & SOMERSET PARACHUTE SCHOOL

30 Tower Way, Highfield,
Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon
Tel: 01404 891690 Mobile: 0850 032767
E-mail: AGUEST1@compuserve.com

Local accommodation available
Open: 9am - dark, Wkends, midweek by arrangement

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206

FS CF WP SU

7 EAGLESCOTT SKYDIVING CENTRE

Salisbury, Wilts, SP4 9UY
Drop Zone: Umberleigh, Devon
Tel: 01769 520552 Mob: 07887 532490
www.bluechilli.co.uk/eaglescott

Small friendly club with emphasis on safety, fun and progression in the sport through quality skydiving. Beginners through to experienced welcomed.

Open: Weekends 9am - 9pm, midweek by arrangement
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Islander

FS CF FF AC WP SU

8 HEADCORN PARACHUTE CENTRE

Headcorn Aerodrome,
Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890862 Fax: 01622 890641
Email: skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

Progression weeks, competitions, organised jollies.
Open: Every day 9am - dark

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Porter

AC WP

9 HINTON SKYDIVING CENTRE

Hinton Airfield, Steane,
Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812300 Fax: 01295 812400
E-mail: info@skydive.co.uk
www.skydive.co.uk

Small but friendly DZ with the emphasis placed on fun. Low membership fee.

Open: 10am - 7pm Tues - Fri, 8am - late Sat and Sun
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206 (larger aircraft for summer)

WP

10 LONDON PARACHUTE SCHOOL

The Cottage, Old Ruislip Road
Northolt, Middlesex UB5 6QD
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 0181 357 1568

Small but friendly club. Catering for complete beginners to experienced skydivers.

Open: Weekends 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206

WP

11 MERLIN PARACHUTE CENTRE

Alanbrooke Barracks, Topcliffe,
Near Thirsk, North Yorkshire
Tel: Weekdays 01204 456194
Weekend 01845 578971

Friendly atmosphere, bring two passport photos for camp pass. Camping, B&B close to airfield at local pub.

Open: Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

FS CF AC

12 NORTH LONDON PARACHUTE CENTRE LTD

Chatteris Airfield, Manea
March Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 01354 740810 Office 01725 513330
Fax: 01725 510690
www.chatpara.com

Airfield is owned by the parachute centre. Large indoor packing area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning permission.

Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF WP

13 NORTH WEST PARACHUTE CENTRE

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,
Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria
Tel: Airfield 015395 58672/58555
Weekdays 01772 720848

In fabulous lakeland scenery, visitors welcome.
Open: Weekends and bank holidays

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF AC WP

14 PARAGON SKYDIVING

Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642454
Fax: 01821 642656

Reopened under new management Friendly, fun centre with emphasis on safety.

Open: Wed - Sun
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206

CF WP AC

15 PETERBOROUGH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280490 Fax: 01832 280409
Birdland Bar: 01832 280404

PPC boasts 27 years of experience in running a safe, fun drop zone. Skydive Sibson!

Open: 8am - 8pm, Tue - Sun (summer), Wed - Sun (winter)
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)

LO FS FF WP

16 PETERLEE PARACHUTE CENTRE

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,
Peterlee, Co Durham DH6 2NF
Tel: DZ 0191 517 1234
Tel/Fax: Office 0191 386 5261

E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy

AFF, tandem and video available through Skydive Academy Ltd. B&B locally from £12.50.

Open: Every day 8.30am - 8.30 pm (tel. Mon. Tue. Thur)

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 182

FS CF WP

17 SKYDIVE STRATHALLAN

Strathallan Airfield,
Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Tel: 07000 467593
Weekend 01764 662572

A club run by the members for the members with the lowest possible costs.

Open: Fri 5pm - 9pm, weekends 9am - 9pm
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, 2 x Cessna 206

FS WP

18 STIRLING PARACHUTE CENTRE

Thornhill, Nr Stirling,
Scotland FK8 3QT
Tel: 01786 870788 Fax: 01786 870748
E-mail: parajump@aol.com

Open: Weekends 9.30am - 9pm, sometimes midweek
First Jump Courses: rounds

Aircraft: PA-32, Cherokee 6

LO FS CF WP

19 TARGET SKYSPOOTS

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, North Lincolnshire
Tel: 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648837 DZ
Fax: 0113 250 5600

E-mail: helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

Competitive jump prices, unrestricted altitude, friendly atmosphere, everyone welcome.

Open: 9am - 9pm every day
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: 2 x Domier, Turbo Domier, Cessna 206, Cherokee 6

LO FS WP

20 THE PARACHUTE CENTRE

Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch,
Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841111 Fax: 01948 840638
E-mail: skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk
www.tilstock.demon.co.uk

Friendly atmosphere, everybody is welcome. No Sunday operation due to local planning restrictions.

Open: Sat 8am - dark, Fri 2pm - dark (summer)
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206

LO FS CF AC WP

21 UK PARACHUTING

Currently operating out of:

Chatteris Airfield, Manea
March Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 01354 740114 Fax: 01953 861031
Booking Office: 01953 861030
E-mail: ukps@keme.co.uk
www.keme.co.uk/~ukps/

Large indoor packing area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning permission.

Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF WP

22 WEST WILTS PARACHUTE CLUB

Kemble Airfield,
Cirencester, Gloucester GL7 6BA
Tel: 01285 770856

23 WILD GEESE SKYDIVE CENTRE

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road,
Garvagh, Coleraine,
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: 012665 58609 Fax: 012665 57050
E-mail: parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

Open: Every day 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Porter

CF WP

BPA ORGANISATIONS

AFFILIATED MILITARY DROP ZONES

A ARMY PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

The Commandant, JSPC
Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wilts. SP4 9SF
Tel: Bulford Camp 01980 633371
Tel: ext Commandant 8245
Chief Instructor 8229 Staff 8277

B RAFSPA

& RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team
JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-Green, Nr Bicester, Oxon OX6 8TQ
Tel: 01869 343343/343201
Fax: 01869 343676

C SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE

Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802.
Tel: 01504 721472
Fax: 01504 721342
Mobile: 0802 328755
E-mail: SPC NI@aol.com

D SILVER STARS PARACHUTE TEAM

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,
South Cefney,
Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD
Tel: 01285 861344
01285 860551 x8259
www.skygod.u-net.com

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFILIATED DZ'S

CYPRUS COMBINED SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,
Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus
Tel: Office 00 357 4 744337
DZ 00 357 4 744245
Fax: 00 357 4 744180

RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,
Germany, B F P O 16
Tel: 00 49 5254 98 2378 or 98 2740
Fax: 00 49 5254 98 2740
E-mail: 100550.2171@compuserve.com

ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The organisations listed below, when operating at a **BPA Affiliated Centre**, are run under the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for training or advice given by those organisations when operating at **non Affiliated centres**.

AIRWAVES

43 Baldwyns Road,
Bexley, Kent DA5 2AB
Tel/Fax: 01322 557375
Mobile: 0802 472566
E-mail: src13xxi@airwaves.source.co.uk
Operated by Rod Bartholomew with 17 years experience BPA AFF, RAPS, tandem and FS instructor/coach rated. Offers professional/personal skydiving package holidays at the best Florida (Sebastian), French (Souillac + La Roche) and UK drop zones using highest quality equipment. RAPS progression and course conversions available at our French resorts. Individuals, groups and families welcome.

BRITISH COLLEGIATE PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o Paul Channin – Chairman, BCPA
72 Park Road
Liverpool L37 6AQ
Tel: 0956 395680
E-mail: paul.channin@kinesis.com
Affiliations: Bristol University, Exeter University, Lancaster University, Loughborough University, Newcastle University, Nottingham University, University College of St. Martin, University of East Anglia, University of Plymouth, University of Portsmouth, University of Sheffield, University of St. Andrews, University of Surrey, University of Sussex, University West of England, Warwick University.

COTSWOLD SKYDIVING CENTRE

Hangar SE15, Gloucester Airport,
Staverton, Gloucester GL51 5SR
Tel: 01452 616667
Mobile: 0468 887277
Static line, RAPS courses arranged. Come train and jump in the Gloucestershire countryside. A smile and a warm welcome awaits you.

EAST COAST PARACHUTE CENTRE

8 Burns Crescent,
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 OTS
Tel: 01245 268772
Currently sharing facilities with the London Parachute School at Lewknor drop zone.

THE FREE-FALL COMPANY

Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 00 34 619 356202 or 00 34 7245 0111 (centre)
E-mail: freefalluk@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/freefalluk
Operated by Kevin McCarthy, National Champion with over 5,000 jumps and over 15 years experience. Probably the best AFF school in Europe. State of the art equipment and professional, personalised training gives you safe, rapid progression to Category 10 and beyond! Videos with all jumps. Courses available all year in the Costa Brava. Flexible payment to suit YOU!

MANCHESTER PARACHUTE SCHOOL

23 Heywood Gardens,
Prestwich, Manchester M25 1FW
Contact: Chris Miller
Tel: 0161 798 6895
Mobile: 0370 575621
E-mail: chris.miller@zetnet.co.uk
Based in Stockport, Manchester with 2,000 sq ft of full time, fully equipped premises for the teaching of RAPS courses (Ram Air Progression System). We also offer tandem jumps and AFF courses. Train weekdays or midweek evenings, jump at weekend. Presently running in conjunction with Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.

NATURAL BORN THRILLERS

10 Wetherby Gardens, Charlton,
Andover, Hants SP10 4DH
Contact: David Cassidy
Tel/Fax: 01264 335636
Mobile: 0410 907512
Operating at Netheravon every weekend, weekdays by arrangement. 20 minute skydiving courses a speciality! AFF, RAPS and progression by arrangement either at home or abroad. Easy payment terms available and significant discounts for group bookings. Video available for all tandem courses at a very modest rate.

PARACHUTE TRAINING SERVICES

11 Godwyn Close, Larkhill, Abingdon,
Oxon OX14 1BU
Contact: Doug Peacock
Tel: 01235 529570
The complete RAPS package. PTS offers one jump introductory courses with the option of progression training through to Cat 10. Operating at Netheravon in conjunction with the APA.

POPS UK

Hon Treas/Sec: Sue Hill
40 The Hamlet, St Annes, Lancs FY8 3LE
Tel: 01253 713841
Fax: 0151 448 1172
E-mail: pops@shew.clara.net
http://www.pops.org.uk

A society of skydivers over forty. Regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

THE RED DEVILS

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678211 (Chief Instructor)
Tel: 01980 678212 (Students)
Tel: 01980 678203 (Rigging)
Fax: 01980 678349

SCOTTISH SPORT PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

Anne Johnson (Secretary, SSPA),

Strathallan Airfield,
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE
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 CF training subsidy system in the world; riggers' and instructors' training grants and much much more.

SKYDIVE ACADEMY LTD

P O Box 192, Durham DH1 5WD
Contact: Ian Rosenvinge
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261
Mobile: 0860 156779
E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy
Run by Ian Rosenvinge (BPA Advanced/AFF/Tandem Examiner & USPA AFF JM/I). Offers AFF, tandem, video and FS coaching at Peterlee Parachute Centre. AFF courses also run in Florida and Southern Europe, autumn through spring.

SKYDIVE INTERNATIONAL

45 Legge Crescent,
Aldershot, Hants GU11 3NT
Tel/Fax: 01252 331326
Mobile: 0850 007178
E-mail: 100722.2744@compuserve.com
Chris Allen, Ex Red Devil, CCI, BPA AFF/Tandem Examiner, USPA Safety and Training advisor and Skydive University UK coordinator. Offers AFF courses in America, Spain, Germany and the UK. Also available: team coaching, Skydive University one-on-one programme and tandem.

SKYDIVE UNLIMITED

618a Thorne Road, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wilts SP4 9QG
Contact: Andy Parkin
Tel/Fax: 01980 670100
Mobile: 0468 037671
E-mail: jablquinto@aol.com
Professional, full time BPA AFF, static line and tandem instructor can offer AFF, static line courses and tandem skydives 7 days a week near Salisbury (75 miles from London). AFF courses in the UK, Spain, Florida and Germany (package includes flights, accommodation, car hire and BPA).

FOREIGN ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The organisations listed below do **not** operate in accordance with the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for any training or advice given by those organisations.

CPCB

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 00 34 972 45 01 11
Fax: 00 34 972 45 07 49
E-mail: cpcb@gna.es
http://www.gna.es/dleure/Paraca/cpcb.htm
Skydive Spain! AFF courses (1 tandem, 7 jumps with air-to-air video), tandem flights, freestyle school, K-Ramba freestyle school, Skydive U, free load organising, team coaching (special rates), gear hire (with Cyprus), 2 Pilatus Porters all year and other aircraft. All jumps from 12,500ft. Open all year – and now club house, tennis and pool!

HONG KONG PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o JSPC (HK),
Borneo Lines, Shek Kong, BFPO 1
Hong Kong,
CCI: Mr. Gary Lai
Tel: 00 852 2488 5447
Fax: 00 852 2488 9341
(Not operating at present)

LAPALISSE PARACHUTING CENTRE

Aerodrome F-03120 Lapalisse,
France
Tel: 00 33 4 7099 1803 Fax: 00 33 4 7099 2856
E-mail: info@Lapalisse-aero.com
www.Lapalisse-aero.com
Open March 15 to Nov 15. Facilities: packing hall, AFF, tandem, Shorts Skyvan, jumps from 14,000ft, creeping area, team rooms, videographers, gear hire, 25 bedrooms, free camping, restaurant, bar, pool, sauna, volleyball.

SKYDIVE CROSS KEYS

300 Dahlia Avenue, Williamstown, NJ 08094, USA
Tel: 001 609 629 7553 Fax: 609 629 7585
skydive@freefalladventures.com
www.freefalladventures.com
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www.skydivcity.com
Visit Skydive City / Z-Hills – Florida's number one drop zone! Five Twin Otters this season, Sunshine Factory on site, rigging, covered packing, free camping, showers, food, bar, climbing wall. One stop skydiving!

SKYDIVE SEBASTIAN

400 W Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA
Tel: 00 1 561 388 5672 Fax: 561 388 2105
E-mail: skydiveseb@aol.com
SebastianXL: TobyStafford@compuserve.com

Offers BPA and USPA qualified training. Aircraft – Super Otter, Super Casa. AFF, tandem, home of Skydive U, freely coaching, team training from Sebastian XL. Equipped team rooms, gym, volleyball, bunk-house, camping, beach jumps, load organising, rigging service, accommodation arranged.

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Aerodromo Sierra Morena,
Carretera Bailen – Motril, 6km,
E-23710 Bailen (Jaen), Spain
Tel: 00 34 953 125 233 Fax: 00 34 953 125 231
E-mail: TrainIS@aol.com
Open 15 October – end April. Skydive in Spain this winter from Europe's fastest climbing Twin Otter, also Pilatus Porter. Team coaching, FS courses, one-on-one, AFF and tandem. Freely welcome. Small shop and rigging. Cafe/ Tapas bar. Free team rooms, video debriefing. Large creeping platform. Cheap hotels. Freely/Skydive coaching.

Ed Speak



Well the 'clapometer', ie, my email inbox for the last issue was the best ever! Thanks to everyone who bothered to write and say they like the Mag, it all helps to keep me motivated to work even harder. A few of your comments are on the letters page (8), the rest I will keep to myself.

New Name – Skydive UK

A great response to the suggestion of a new name, it seems that most of you consider yourselves skydivers more than parachutists. We'll use the new name from the next issue. Thanks also to the many who sent in logos and designs, there is a lot of talent out there – keep them coming!

Contributions wanted!

There are suggestions below for contributions we are in need of for future magazines, if you can help please contact me.

Skydive Starter magazine

I am very excited about the new publication which has been approved by the Communications Committee.

An annual magazine for first timers which will be given to the 30,000 of these we expect next year (working title *Skydive Starter* magazine). Aims: to educate, encourage and enthuse these guys about our sport. Input welcome! Specific suggestions below.

Advisory Board – Newcomers

I am looking to recruit some newcomers to the sport who could give advice on what is needed in the Mag to make it easier to understand. Wading your way through all the jargon is hard work sometimes I know. Also, on what articles you suggest for the *Skydive Starter* magazine – what did you most want to know at that stage? We'd like to form a working group to help intermediate skydivers. Call me if interested.

Positive Change

The *Sport Parachutist* office is a bustling hub of activity as we are changing the name, changing printers, launching the new *Skydive Starter* magazine and, of course, working on your April issue. It's a time for positive change, we aim to keep what you like and improve the rest.

Lesley

Contributions Wanted!

Sport Parachutist magazine

Great photos as always
Better photos for Club News
Club News input – talk to your rep
Club Reps for centres not covered
Cartoons or ideas for cartoons
Jokes, Crosswords, Dingbats
Quotes of the Month, Did you know's
Skydiving Images; drawings, clipart
Canopy articles; choosing, flying, landing
Dive of the Month – fun dives not skills

Skydive Starter magazine

The Category System
Coping with Fear
An introduction to – FS, CF, Skysurfing,
Freestyle, Freeflying, Style and Accuracy
AFF – Here or Abroad?
FAI licences
Cartoons or ideas for cartoons
Jokes, Crosswords, Dingbats
Quotes of the Month, Did you know's
Other appropriate articles

SPORT PARACHUTIST

MAGAZINE	COPY DEADLINE	LATE LATE DEADLINE	TO THE READER
APRIL	17 February	8 March	3 April

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Tel: 0116 278 5271 Fax: 0116 247 7662
E-mail: skydive@bpa.org.uk
www.bpa.org.uk

WHO TO CONTACT:

Write to anyone listed below at the BPA address; BPA staff can also be contacted by telephone

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Technical Officer Tony Butler
PA to above officers Trudy Kemp
Financial Administrator Jon Gretton
National Administrator Sharon Norris
Administration Co-ordinator Jane Doughty
Membership Services/Subscriptions Karey Goodwin

NB: New BPA officers and representatives have been elected at the AGM, see pages 30-32 for details

SPORT PARACHUTIST

Journal of the British Parachute Association

WHO TO CONTACT:

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The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability correct at the time of going to press. Reproduction, printing and mailing takes a total of 3 1/2 weeks so some information may be out of date or superseded.

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Julie Gray and Trish Jones
CCP Ltd, Brookfield Park, Lincoln Road,
Peterborough PE4 5BW
Tel: 01733 579433 Fax: 01733 578584
E-mail: 106304.677@compuserve.com

Time to Renew!

Renewal forms are in the Mag, please return to the BPA office as soon as you can. Don't wait till 1 April or you could be sitting on the ground.



Juliana and Colon in action



Mike and John racing in the
Atmosphere Dolphin Challenge,
Jim Ball Master



Olav acting as a pylon with Indy
Car racer Tim Strauss just passing
the corner



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SMOKE GENERATORS for displays. DZ ground and free-fall smokes at low prices. Tel Joe Forster on 0115 9558 577 or Fax 0115 9558 576 anytime. A BPA member since 1967, pleased to be of service (Notts). (W2/004)

SKYDIVING BASICS

The Raps Manual

by Doug Peacock and Andy Allman
Obtainable from:

Parachute Training Services
11 Godwyn Close

Abingdon Oxon OX14 1BU

Tel/Fax 01235 529570

Cash with order £7.20 inc. p&p

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ITEMS WANTED

SABRE 170 in good condition, if you have one for sale tel Debi on 0181 884 7223 daytime, 01462 815448 evenings or Email Deborahc@curwens.co.uk. (Bedfordshire). (U2/012)

NOTE:

We recommend that all readers purchasing parachute equipment (old and new) take advice from a BPA Instructor or Rigger.

NEXT ISSUE:

Display deadline

MARCH 4

Classified deadline

MARCH 11

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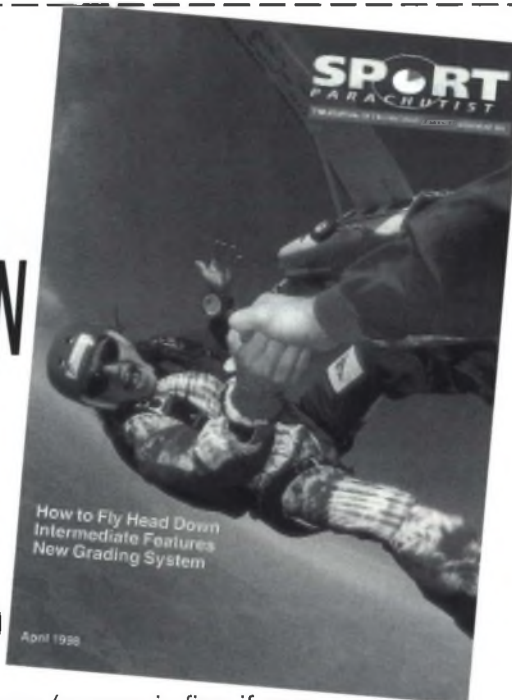
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SPORT
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POPS
Collegiate
Unclassified

FEBRUARY

13-14 Z Games Freely Competition

Zephyrhills, USA.
 Tel 001 800 404 9399 www.skydivercity.com

13 Valentine's BBQ

Tilstock. Tel 01948 841 111 Fax 01948 840 638
 Email skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk www.tilstock.demon.co.uk

11-18 Womens World Cup

Sebastian, USA. 4/8-way FS, 10 rounds.
 Tel 001 561 388 5672 Email skydiveseb@aol.com

18 BPA STC Meeting

BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662
 Email skydive@bpa.org.uk

22-Mar 5 BPA Advanced Instructor Course

Target Skysports. BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271
 Fax 0116 247 7662 Email skydive@bpa.org.uk

26-Mar 7 Heli-Ski, Skydiving and Paragliding

Combine the three in the Tian Shan mountains, an altitude of 4,500m. Valera Belousov Email vvbkj@globalnet.co.uk

27-Mar 2 Sebastian XL Skills Camp

Sebastian, USA. Coaching from National 4-way team, video, beach jumps, BBQ's. Tel 01252 717 701
 Email Pete_allum@compuserve.com tobytaford@compuserve.com

27-Mar 7 Go Vertical Freely Fun Week

Train in Spain Tel 0034 953 125 233
 Fax 0034 953 125 231 Email trainis@aol.com

MARCH

8-12 BPA Tandem & AFF Course

Target Skysports. BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271
 Fax 0116 247 7662 Email skydive@bpa.org.uk

8-20 World Record Attempt

World Team 99 (B J Worth). Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

13 Skydive Safari

A fortnight's combined skydiving and safari trip (see pg 14)
 Contact Mick Hall at Freefall Adventures, Florida.
 Tel 001 561 388 5925 Fax 001 561 388 1832
 Email SkydiveMik@aol.com www.fadventures.com

17 Royal Aero Club Award Ceremony

Tel 0116 253 1051 Fax 0116 251 5939 Email bgahq@aol.com

19-22 4/8-way European Challenge

Sebastian, USA. Tel 001 561 388 5672
 Email skydiveseb@aol.com Website www.skydiveseb.com

21-27 Cyprus Nationals

Novice Accuracy (Squares only), Team Accuracy, Individual Style, 4-way FS (Senior & Intermediate). Practice the week before. Tel 00357 4 744 337 Fax 00357 4 744 180

25-Apr 5 Accuracy Training Camp

Border, Kath. Andrewes Tel 0165 589 000 Fax 01665 721 053

27-Apr 11 Train in Spain Easter Boogie

Registration \$30. Casa, Otter, super Pilatus Porter
 Tel 0034 953 125 233 Fax 0034 953 125 231
 Email trainis@aol.com

27-Apr 11 Empuriabrava Easter Boogie

Tel 0034 972 450 111 Fax 0034 972 450 749 cpbc@gna.es

29-Apr 9 BCPA Progression Week

Gap, France. Tel 0956 395 680 Email paul.channin@kinesis.com

APRIL

1-11 Sebastian Easter Boogie

20 & 40-way. Live Band. Tel 001 561 388 5672
 Email skydiveseb@aol.com Website www.skydiveseb.com

2-4 Target Skysports Easter Boogie

Hibaldstow. Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648 837
 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

2-5 Easter Mini Boogie

Langar. 8-way Meet, Load organising, fun. Tel 01949 860878
 Fax 01949 860882 Email bpslangar@aol.com

2-5 Northern Speed 8 Competition

Peterlee. Also Square Accuracy Competition for intermediates and novices. Tel 0191 517 1234 Tel/fax 0191 386 5261

3-4 RAPA Easter 4-way Scrambles

Bad Lippspringe, Germany. Tel 0049 5254 98 2378 Fax 0049 5254 98 2740 Email jscarratt@compuserve.com

3-4 Timeout! Trophy 4-way Challenge

Train in Spain Tel 0034 953 125 233
 Fax 0034 953 125 231 Email trainis@aol.com

5-9 Student Progression Week

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8 BPA STC Meeting

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 Email skydive@bpa.org.uk

11-18 Go Vertical 1999 Freely Fun Week

Train in Spain Tel 0034 953 125 233
 Fax 0034 953 125 231 Email trainis@aol.com

14-23 Skydiving Expedition to North Pole

Nathalie Chudiak, The Hague, Netherlands.
 Tel/Fax 0031 703 836 687 Email chudiak@gironet.nl
<http://www.skypole.ru> www.skypole.ru

16-18 100-way Meet, Sebastian

Speed over 3 rounds. Tel 001 561 388 5672
 Email skydiveseb@aol.com www.skydiveseb.com

17-18 SPOCK, Strathallan

3-way Speed, Student Progression, Accuracy (rounds & squares).
 Contact Paul Channin Tel 0956 395 680
 Email paul.channin@kinesis.com

19-23 BPA BI Instructor Course

Target Skysports. BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271
 Fax 0116 247 7662 Email skydive@bpa.org.uk

MAY

1-3 Formation Load Weekend

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.
 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

1-3 Formation Load/Freefly Seminar

Langar. Tel 01949 860878
 Fax 01949 860882 Email bpslangar@aol.com

1-3 Bank Holiday Sibson Special

With FS load organisers and freely coaching.
 Sibson, Peterborough PC Tel 01832 280 490 Fax 01832 280 409

1-3 BCPA Northern's

3-way FS, Student Progression and Accuracy.
 Venue TBA. Contact Paul Channin
 Tel 0956 395 680 Email paul.channin@kinesis.com

22-23 Central Regionals - Target

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.
 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648 837
 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

22-24 BCPA Southern's

3-way FS, Student Progression and Accuracy. Venue TBA.
 Tel 0956 395 680 Email paul.channin@kinesis.com

22-23 POPS Meet

Dunkeswell. Contact Sue Hill Tel 01253 713841
www.pops.org.uk

22-30 Espace Spring Boogie

Lapalisse, France, with 3 Casa 212 and a Skyvan.
 Contact Pascal Nicoli Tel/fax 0033 478 756 050
 Email nicoli-p@imaginet.fr

29-31 Brit100 Training Weekend

Langar Tel 01949 860 878. Dave Morris on 0374 986 600
 Darryl Moran on 01252 712284, emdazzle@aol.com

29-31 Scottish Nats/Northern Regionals

Strathallan. 4 & 8-way FS, style, accuracy, freefly, skysurf
 Tel 07000 467 593 W/e 01784 662 572

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31-June 5 Progression Week

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Fly and Skydive over the Kamchatka Peninsula.
 Contact Valera Belousov Fax 01483 1483 451 548
 Email vvbij@globalnet.co.uk www.skypole.ru

JUNE

5 Tilstock Annual Birthday Party

Tel 01948 841 111 Fax 01948 840 638
 Email skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk www.tilstock.demon.co.uk

5-6 Headcorn Speed 8

Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641

5-13 Lee Love FS Skills Camp

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.
 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

5-13 New Age Progression Week

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 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648 837
 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

10 BPA STC Meeting

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19-20 8-way FS Competition

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27-28 4-Way FS Handicapped Money Meet

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 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

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 Paul Channin Tel 0956 395 680 Email paul.channin@kinesis.com

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Bad Lippspringe, Germany. Style, Accuracy, 4-way, 16-way, FS
 Tel 0049 5254 98 2378 Fax 0049 5254 98 2740
 Email jscarratt@compuserve.com

JULY

3-10 Student Progression Week

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.
 Tel/Fax 0113 250 5600 Email helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

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Langar. Turbolet, Casa 212 and more. Load organising, freeflying, skysurfing, parties. Tel 01949 860878
 Fax 01949 860882 Email bpslangar@aol.com

10-11 4-way FS Meet

Headcorn. Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641

12-16 British Record Attempt

Langar. See pages 34-35 for details.
 Contact Darryl Moran on 01252 712284, emdazzle@aol.com or
 Simon Ward on 01793 771037, simonw@musicradio.com

24-Aug 1 FS Nationals

Sibson. Peterborough PC. Training week before, jumps £12
 Tel 01832 280 490 Fax 01832 280 409

31-Aug 1 POPS Meet

Black Knights, Cockerham
 Contact Sue Hill on 01253 713841 www.pops.org.uk

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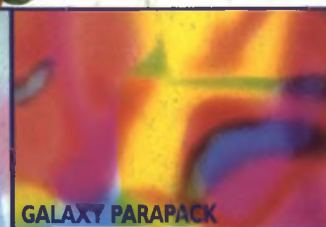
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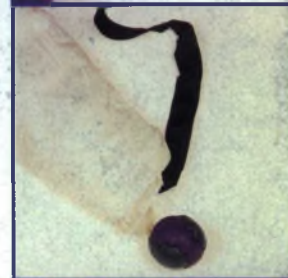
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