

skydive

The Mag

October 2001



The British Parachute
Association Magazine

www.skydivemag.com



Some wait
for evolution ...
Others make
it happen.

PERFORMANCE DESIGNS
SABRE2

The New Slightly Tapered Nine Cell
From Performance Designs



editorial

I'd like to introduce my fantastic new assistant, Beverly Fairhurst. Bev's been here for three months now and has really attacked the position with gusto. She's been working in publishing for three years and has an apprenticeship in marketing. Bev is enthusiastic, dedicated and totally committed to producing the best magazine we can for you. She loves her job and commented "This is the first work place that I'm not clock-watching, I just get so into what I am doing the day flies by".

Bev has a cheerful disposition, a mind of her own and a good sense of humour. The last is vital to work here! Should you call *The Mag*, do say hello to her. One of Bev's main roles is to develop our relationship with clubs. I am sure you can see her input in this issue's club news, possibly the best yet.

This is another bumper issue 84 page Mag, made up of 57 editorial pages and 27 pages of adverts. Understand that extra advertising always results in extra reading for you. The proportion of adverts will never go above one third of the magazine. Additional pages of advertising sold above this ratio means that we increase the size of the magazine. An extra page of advertising will result in two more editorial pages to read; an extra two will add six editorial pages. It is this improved revenue which has made your Mag bigger and glossier with more room for your articles.

This issue is packed with goings-on from all over the UK so it's great that Jackie and Cheryl from Warners Group have sold enough advertising to cover the cost of space for it all. Enjoy!

The Mag

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- copy deadline is the 6th of the month before

Lesley

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Photo shows John Reid taking Sarah for a tandem skydive above Strathallan, with Vernon Metcalfe on video. Photo by James Stevenson

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 Reproduction, printing and mailing takes a total of three weeks so some information may be out of date, or superseded.

SUPPORTED BY



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Nancy Koreen over Lake Tahoe, photo by Janine Hill, a Brit now living in California



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**LIFE'S TOO SHORT
NOT TO**



Espace Boogie



Photos Willy Boeykens



The Brits were a massive presence at the Espace as usual

Let's keep it that way, the boogie would not be the same without the 'Roast Beef'

FS

The finest F5 load organising team was as usual headed up by 'The Man' Patrick Passe. He who has given us a 45-way compressed accordian – as the fifth point! Pastie was assisted by Dazzle, Milko, Fred and Dario who all did sterling jobs.

Freefly

This year freeflying came of age at the Espace. Load organisers were Marco and Gi of Frick Atmonalti, Tazio Madliger. The skydives ranged from small sit jumps to 22-way Atmonalti and head-down loads. 'Atmo what?' Atmonalti. This is a form of back flying that Marco discovered. It's a bit like tracking but, instead of one person on their back and the rest on the front, there is one on his front, the rest on their backs. The controls are the same as head-down but the dive last 70 seconds. Way cool.

The Espace Boogie was, as it always is, paradise



Track Dives

George took over the sunset tracking loads and all of these were heavily oversubscribed. Then Marco and George combined a jump to do a 'Trak-Monalti' dive. Half tracking and half in Atmonalti. This was a bundle of fun and a first we reckon.

Tube and BirdMan

There were many birdman and tube jumps made too. Condolences to Pierre who lost his hand-held tube in a swamp. (He had a bit of a moment when trying to retrieve it, when he found himself sinking in quicksand. Wisely, he left the tube where it was...)

The Espace Boogie 2000 video is OUTSTANDING
Buy one - Ed



"Once stability and heading were comfortable, I would give Pauline the nod and she would then climb up on me. As soon as Pauline stood up she would start flying her body surface. The fall rate dropped, the flying speed significantly increased and it was barely noticeable that I had another skydiver riding me! The rides were smooth and effortless, very different to the difficulty of someone climbing all over your back...."

"Our best ride was about 25 seconds with Pauline deploying from that position."

Max Hurd

Aircraft and Facilities

Unfortunately the Antonov giant jet of previous years was 'unavailable'. Boooooooo! So aircraft this year were two Super Otters from Skydive Portugal, going up and down like mad with Lapalisse's Skyvans going as fast as they could. Between them these four aircraft dropped 350 skydivers, 9,123 times. Not bad eh? The manifest was run 'avec beaucoup efficiency' by Giles and Julie. This, the thirteenth Espace Boogie was held at Joel Cruciani's DZ, Lapalisse. The food was fantastic, the bar was impressive and not as expensive as usual.

Video

Stephane, Joel's brother, did a sterling job editing the day's jump videos, exceeding his usual excellent standard. Shown on a 20ft square screen, the daily video was a gathering place for all skydivers in the evening.



Photos Willy Boeykens

Espace Boogie

www.espace-boogie.com

Musak

Joel invited DJ Richie for the duration to spin some choons, Lapalisse rocked like never before. The bar was rammed on both party nights with gyrating skydivers, dancing all over the bar and makeshift podiums till the early hours. I just love it when Joel says "Just one more tune Richie" coz you know that with his mixing, that 'tune' will last half an hour...

Espace – The best boogie in the world.
THANK YOU Joel and all. See ya next year.

George Pilkington
george@coolngroovy.com

JM's Newsround

Compiled by
John Mayo

Simon Ward



SKYDIVE U - THE SEARCH III

Skydive University is offering the chance for sixty low experience skydivers to take part in an event referred to by a participant as "student heaven". This opportunity includes vastly discounted jumps with coaching, along with sports psychology advice, exclusive equipment demonstrations and seminars.

The lucky few will be chosen on their drive and enthusiasm for skydiving and will be at Cat 8 or above. You can apply to attend either or both camps and tell Skydive University why you should be selected. The weeks will take place on 20-24 February and 27 February - 3 March next year.

FFI: 001 561 581 0100
www.skydiveu.com

Skydive Borneo 2002



Pilot Pete

Photo by Sgt. Ashcroft



In August Pete Allum of *Sebastian XL* visited RAF Coltishall, Norfolk and flew with Flight Lieutenant Mike Hayes in an RAF Jaguar aircraft. The flight consisted of a medium level transit to Scotland, including Loch Lomond and Strathallan DZ, then a transit back to base during which Pete tried his hand at the controls. What did he think?

"When Mike asked me if I was interested in going for a two hour flight in an RAF Jaguar, it didn't take me too long to return his call... It has to be every kid's dream to fly in a fast jet, so being a kid (as most of us still are), I was pretty excited at being strapped into a Jaguar. Mike let me throw the jet around and gave me an interesting perspective on the flight from Norwich to Scotland and back. Well, I thought that I had a pretty good job but these guys rock!"

Pete Allum

The next Exotic Sky Adventures boogie will be at the stunning location of Borneo, from a Hercules C-130, on 22 February - 9 March.

The location is ideal for non-skydiving accompanying persons and children.

Record Breakers

In August ten jumpers of RAF Falcons Parachute Display Team (based at RAF Brizenorton) jumped from from a Hercules C130 with oxygen assistance and broke the world record for a high altitude display parachute jump.

Lots of spectators including local and national press and the BBC, stood in the naff weather at Elvington Aerodrome in Yorkshire to see these brave military parachuting instructors jump from 25,000 feet in temperatures of up to -28°C.

BBC coverage of this event will air on *Record Breakers* in November/December this year.

FFI: Ed Marshall
01494 496 130



FFI: Herman Landsman
0031 222 311 658

skydive@exoticskyadventures.com
www.exoticskyadventures.nl



Photos by Bruno Brokken



Fame at Last!

Tony Lightfoot made the front page of the local newspaper when he was at Pete Marsden's Czech boogie

STOLEN GEAR

Stolen from Hibaldstow on 19 August:

- Purple Bonehead helmet (with ratchet chin cup),
- Panasonic NVE-X1B video camera on side mount,
- Pro-Track in ear piece,
- Green Miranda camera bag with accessories.

Any info contact:

Hibaldstow or Steve Murphy
0161 655 2141 (home)
0161 856 5477 (work)

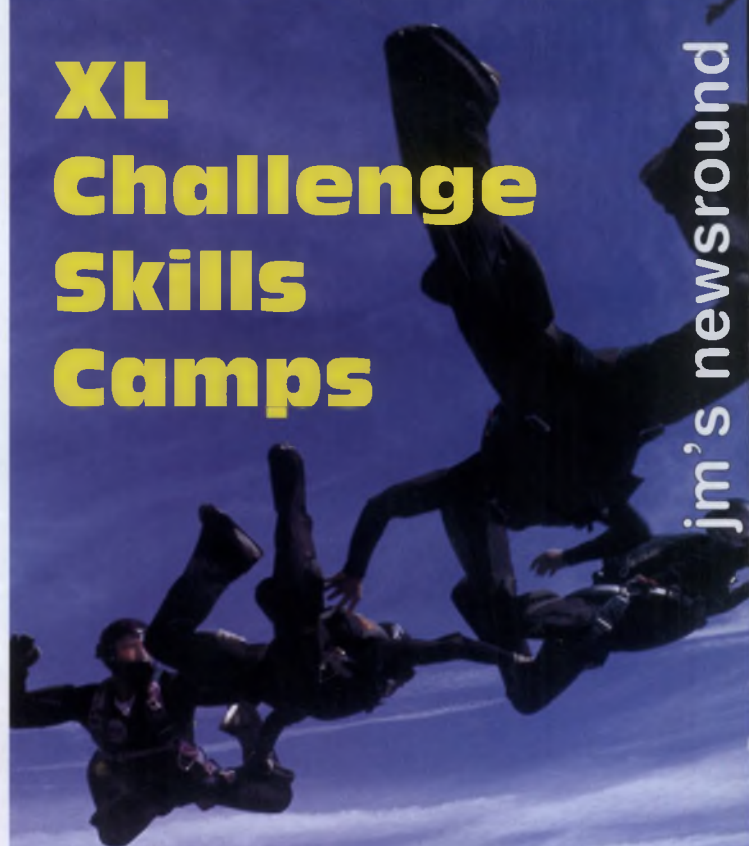
Jump for the Cause: Again!

A women's world record in September 2002 located at Perris Valley Skydiving in California is being organised as a *Jump for the Cause* fund raiser to benefit Breast Cancer Research. Try out events are being held throughout the year. Each person will be judged on their own current merits for this event.

Organisers are Kate Cooper, Mallory Tarcher, Brad Hood and Tony Domenico, the successful team of 1999's women's world record.

FFI: Kate Cooper
kate@square1.com
www.jumpfortheCause.com

XL Challenge Skills Camps



British national team *Sebastian XL* are running skills camps every two months over the winter period at Sebastian, the first being on 24-28 October which lasts five days. There is a maximum of eight people per camp with a minimum of half an hour in the wind tunnel per person. The camp starts with a day of one-on-one with XL then two-on-two for the rest of the camp. This is a fun and fast way to progress by learning from the best. Your skills will benefit enormously from tunnel time, from intensive coaching and XL's positive attitude.

Photo by Ian Brown

FFI: Pete Allum
pete_allum@compuserve.com

Swing the Lamp Reunion

A *Sibson Old Boys Swing the Lamp Reunion* is being organised at Empuriabrava on the last week in April and the first week in May 2002.

If you jumped on:

- *Gobuckafuffalo*
- *The A Team* (Speed 8)
- *Peterborough United*
- *The Mustgetbeers* (Acc),

get in touch and join in for no hassle skydiving, boozing and story-telling in the sun to ease the arthritis. Packers will be available to ease those back pains!

FFI: John Smyth
smyffy@aol.com

From Pterodactyl to Pfalcon

Cinematographer **Norman Kent** learned that **Steven Spielberg** was in search for an unusual point-of-view shot of flight through clouds for the ending of his feature film *Jurassic Park III*. Norman submitted footage from his film *Willing To Fly*, which features Ken Franklin in freefall with a falcon.

Spielberg superimposed a flock of Pterodactyls flying into the distance over Norman's shot. "Using 35mm film for *Willing To Fly* has been paying off big," Norman said, "and having Steven Spielberg viewing my material is a great accomplishment for me."

National Geographic is working on *Terminal Velocity*, a documentary about the maximum speed, acceleration and aerodynamics of the peregrine falcon. Norman Kent was chosen as he is the only cinematographer to have ever shot this type of footage.

The footage in *Willing to Fly* of the falcon following Ken Franklin in freefall is being used to demonstrate to National Geographic the potential of studying the falcon's capabilities for

quick acceleration and tremendous speed. This had been a lifelong dream of Ken's and he became a skydiver in order to study the falcon at close range. The documentary focuses on Ken's studies and achievements.

"This has been some of the most demanding flying and filming I have ever done. The shots we are getting now go beyond what we captured for *Willing to Fly*. It has been an awesome experience with a 100% success rate. Every jump has resulted in new and unusual angles that not only help in the study of the falcon, but will also blow the audience away", reported Norman Kent.

Terminal Velocity does not yet have an air date although it is possible that it will release late this year.

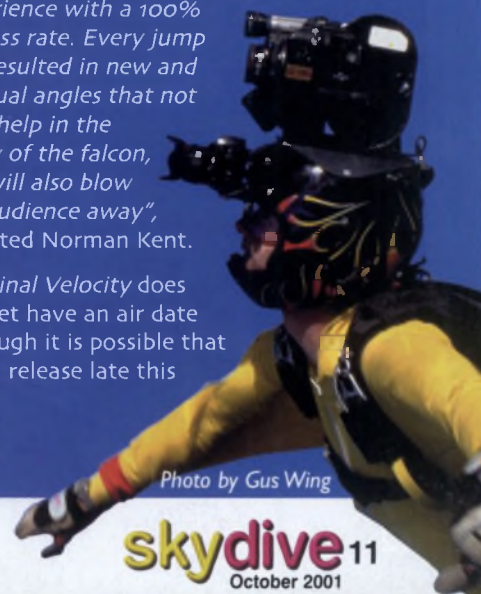


Photo by Gus Wing

skydive 11
 October 2001



Aerial Photos of USA and UK by Bruno Brokken



The 2001 World Games in Japan has just put parachuting on the world's sporting manifest. 28,000 spectators watched the competition over three days. A further 10,000 people watched the spectacular skydiving demo into the opening ceremony. Television footage was broadcast around the world by NHK (Japan) and TWI (international). Reuters, CNN and dozens of other media networks picked up the footage. The largest newspaper in Japan with a circulation of 10,230,000 (The Yomiuri Shimbun) hailed parachuting as the most popular event in the Akita World Games.

It was a short competition, very well organised and resourced, spectator friendly and with our talented athletes doing what they do best. A big screen TV, good PA sound around the grounds, knowledgeable commentary and regular interviews with athletes and officials all combined to enhance the skydiving action. Jumpers packed, creeped and landed close to the spectators, proving happy to mingle and pose for photos with the happy crowd.

Organisers of the 2005 Duisburg (Germany) World Games have already approached FAI officials for a huge skydiving entrance into their Opening Ceremony. They attended the parachuting competition site over three days, along with the International Olympic Committee, some taking flights in one of the two Chinook helicopters used as the competition aircraft.

While there will be no new sports for the 2004 Olympic Games in Beijing, our success at the Akita World Games has propelled our ambitions further than we could have imagined possible.

This event has also provided plenty of evidence to suggest that rather than fiddle around too much with the rules of our events, we should be paying a lot more attention to planning, presentation, disseminating information and delivering what we promise.

Leanne Knowles, IPC News Media
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WORLD GAMES

After attending the poorly-run World Air Games, Granada, Spain it was a great pleasure to turn up in Japan and find efficient organising by World Games staff. From the start we were treated as world class athletes; we were met in Tokyo when we arrived and given a very smooth ride through the usual transport and bureaucratic hoops.

Thirty of us took part in the opening ceremonies for the World Games, the Brits led the way with a no contact canopy stack right into the centre of the arena. The show was on a par with Olympic ceremonies I have witnessed.

The competition site was a ten minute walk from our accommodation and was the size

of about six football fields. An accuracy area was part of the venue and there was a giant screen for spectators to enjoy the freefall competition.

After landing in the FS competition we would watch our dive on the giant screen as it was scored, then we were interviewed for national TV and the spectators,

our comments being translated into Japanese. The crowd would then applaud and show a real interest in the results.

The World Games was by far the best representation of competitive skydiving I have ever seen. XL would like to thank the BPA for supporting us to such a showcase meet. We hope that this event brings skydiving more into the public eye and puts us another step higher on the rungs for Olympic acceptance.

Pete Allum, Team leader, XL
pete_allum@compuserve.com

'by far the best representation of competitive skydiving I have ever seen'



Photo Michael Allum

Formation Skydiving (7 Rounds)

- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 1 USA | 149 |
| 2 Norway | 146 |
| 3 France | 140 |

Accuracy

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| 1 Marco Pflueger (Male) | Germany |
| 2 Janming Wang (Male) | China |
| 3 Ning Wei (Female) | China |

Men's Freestyle

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 Olav Zipser / Matt ('Rook') Nelson | USA |
| 2 Nicholas Arnaud / Stephane Fardel | France |
| 3 Omar Alhegellan / Greg Gasson | USA |

Women's Freestyle

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Stefania Martinengo / Filippo Fabbi | Italy |
| 2 Yoko Okazaki / Alex Zohmann | Japan |
| 3 Gigliola Borgnis / Marco Tiezzi | Italy |



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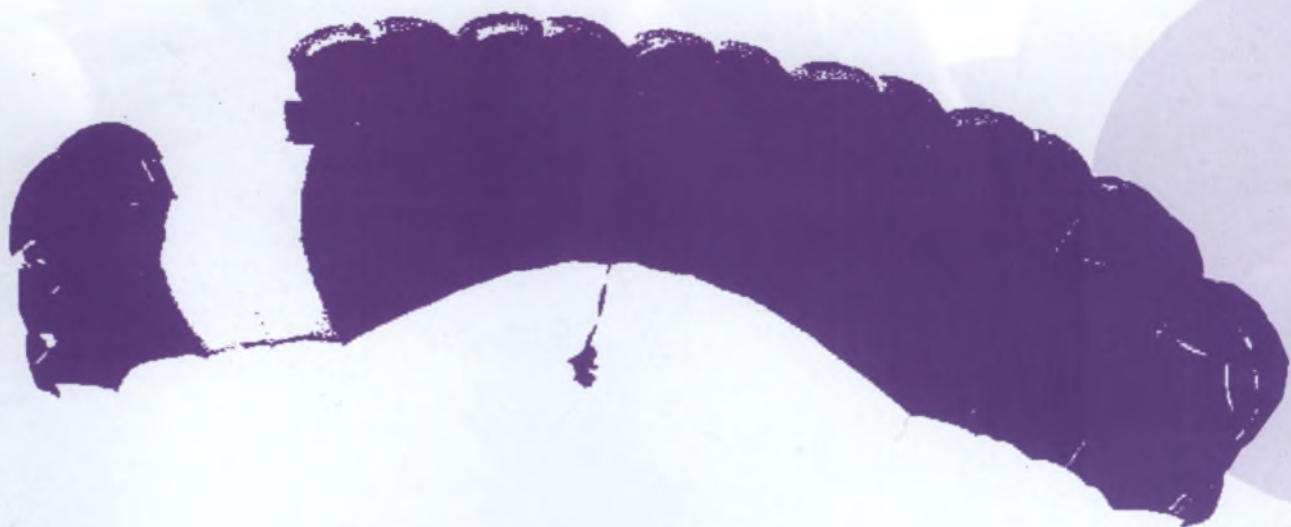


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Strathallan Club Chairman Kieran Brady's idea was "Let's make this the biggest coaching event ever staged in the UK"

It's not unusual for Strathallan to pull out all the stops as far as our annual open week is concerned. But following Kieran's comment, the concept of the Extravaganza was born. The committee set out delegating tasks for what would surely be an organisational nightmare, bearing in mind we are a weekend club run by volunteers.

At the tail end of last year, we hired the parachute club to a film production company and decided to spend the profits from this venture on world class coaches for the benefit of all. Can you imagine the excitement when names like Dan BC, Jack Jefferies and Sven Zimmerman accepted invitations to come and coach?

Kieran managed to liaise with the BPA Competitions Committee to arrange a BPA Coaching Roadshow to run at the same time, same place. This was secured with only one month to go, resulting in the talents of Nick Lupton from *4Pak*, Sacha Chilton and Claire Scott from *VMax*, and, from *XL*, Steve Hamilton, Pete Allum and John McIver, the favourite from the past. This is surely a line-up of coaching talent unsurpassed by any previous event in the UK. Imagine our surprise at the start of the event when in addition, Derek Thomas walked in, followed by Rob Colpus, plus everyone's favourite leading Scottish jumper, Billy Somerville.

Skydive
Strathallan
XTRAVAGANZA

Descents	2,500
Registered jumpers	125
Free cans of Red Bull drunk	1,000 +
Malfunctions	4
Pilots	7
Injuries	0



Photos: Phil Parker





Photos: Jim Stevenson





The lift capacity on call was outrageous. With 125 people registered, the usual two Cessnas and the SMG92 Turbine (Rocket) were complemented by Hibaldstow's Turbine G92 to make a lift capacity well capable of handling the jump-hogs there. Thanks to Dave Penny for having his Caravan on standby too.

The Xtravaganza started on Friday 3 August with the Classics Nationals (see write-up elsewhere in The Mag) and registrations being completed for the Xtravaganza. On Saturday and Sunday all the coaches were kept busy with everything from one-on-one through to 12-ways. It was a great sight to see all the jumpers, including the recent Category 8 students, taking advantage of the top name coaches available.

This was a week where people got the jumps they asked for with whichever coach or coaches they chose. Where else could Julie the manifestor have done her FS1 dive with John McIver, Jack Jefferies and Dan BC? They did 19 points!

As we moved into Monday things were going very smoothly. Sven Zimmermann was jumping on almost every lift to cover all the coaching requirements. Sven was the week's jump hog, he even did a few hop 'n' pops from the Cessnas. Dan Parker from Hibaldstow arrived on Tuesday and, by Wednesday I am told, he had attained some new fangled freeflying

qualification never previously awarded in this country (something to do with dolphins).

Throughout the week various seminars were held on topics such as:

- high performance canopy control
- 4-way
- mental preparation
- safety under canopy
- swoop landings
- accuracy
- body flying.

At one point as I walked through the hangar I noticed Chrissie Clements had all of the coaches competing with the jumpers in an accuracy competition from the fan trainers. It's good for foot placement apparently but some of the efforts were hilarious!

Some jumpers were there for fun, some for serious coaching, some came for freefly or FS qualifications. There were students who turned up to progress onto freefall, to do tracking and turns, there were also first time students who turned up to do tandems. It was noticed that Lisa Saunders conned her coach into packing for her on all her warp jumps! Everyone was there to help and no one seemed to mind. No-one went away disappointed.

Red Bull laid on the entertainment for Saturday night supplying the drinks, the

music and two tee-pees. Everyone got very drunk on the free beer. People staggered around and people fell down. Jack peddled a pushbike through a raging bonfire, see picture below. Dan BC tried to follow him, but fortunately Kieran stopped him before there was any serious harm done.

The week cost a fortune. We laid on the best. Jump prices were kept to a minimum and it was just a total blast. It's too early to say if it will happen to this extent again next year but let's keep our fingers crossed for August 2002.

Andy Frew
andrew@magnum-group.com



Photos: Jim Stevenson



Hats Off!

... to the people who made this possible..

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Karen Farr | Derek Thomas | Robin Paton |
| Kieran Brady | Mick Lupton | Jim McIntyre |
| Eddie Jones | John Hitchen | Jean Christie |
| Anne Johnson | Annette Williamson | Sir William Denny Roberts |
| Calum Grant | Bob King | Andy Gibson |
| Duncan Cockburn | Kate Charters | John Finnegan |
| George Todd | Tony Makepiece | George Cormack |
| Bunny | Rob Colpus | Scottish Air Traffic Control |
| Jack Jefferies | Dona Crum | Lucie Wood |
| Dan BC | Steve Swallow | Ralph Fielding |
| Sven Zimmermann | James Swallow | Julie Terry |
| Sacha Chilton | Dave Penny | Marion McPhillips |
| Claire Scott | Ian Middleton | Kevin at Red Bull |
| Pete Allum | Dave Ibbotson | Jones Electrical Services |
| John McIver | Lee Love | Everyone in the camera pool |
| Steve Hamilton | Gordon Halley | |



Party photos: Chris Clark

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COUNCIL Matters

BPA Membership boost

BPA membership is on an upward trend this year. By the time you read this it's likely we shall have reached the magic figure of 5,000.

AGM: 19 January 2002

The AGM will be held at the four star Hanover International Hotel in Hinckley, Leicestershire. Tickets for the annual dinner dance are available from the BPA office, chicken or vegetarian main dish, price £21. Last year the dinner sold out, book now!

Dinner dance: 0116 278 5271

There will be an exhibition of kit, equipment and skydiving services. If you're interested in a stand, at no charge, contact the BPA office now.

Overnight accommodation is at the special rate of £75 for a double / twin room or £65 for single occupancy, inclusive of breakfast and parking. Call the hotel, quote BPA for the special rates.

Rooms: 01455 631 122

Got an Opinion? Stand for Council!

Council is the body of volunteers which makes decisions about our sport. Experience is not necessary, just enthusiasm and an open mind.

Could your knowledge and skills help our sport?

Obtain a Council nomination form from:

- the BPA website at www.bpa.org.uk
- your own parachute centre
- the BPA office

These must be completed by a proposer and seconder and returned to the BPA office by noon on Thurs 1 November 2001.

Nationals

Next year's selection nationals for FS will be run over two consecutive long weekends from Saturday to Monday. A third weekend will be held in reserve. An early decision on where and when is planned so competitors can plan. Input has been invited from DZ operators on nationals and grand prix events.

It is hoped that late entry fees will be abolished, as, for example, was the case with this year's FS nationals. It was felt that this encouraged late entries from scratch teams.

The new age nationals will be run over a long weekend too. No format has been determined for the classics and CF nationals, other than that the two disciplines will run as a combined event.

Selection criteria

The minimum selection criteria for unfunded athletes to the World Championships has been abolished. Very strict criteria to qualify for funding will be maintained.

Coaching roadshows

The FS roadshows have been a runaway success although attendance at the Classics ones has been poor. Swoop accuracy and canopy pilot techniques are being investigated by the committee.

Judges seminars

Judges are being funded to international seminars in FS, freestyle, skysurfing and freeflying.

Chris Allen gets his POPS from Pete Shew, photo by Cath Symonds



Chris Allen (above left) has only just turned 40. We at Skydive Mag believe Chris is the BPA's youngest Chairman, he was 37 when he took office. Chris is an active jumper who skydives every day possible. He runs an AFF school, is an ex-Red Devil and has been on the British FS team, representing UK internationally. Chris has a degree in leisure management and a diploma of law. All that he does as Chairman is voluntary, he gives countless hours of his time, as do all Council members.



Incidents

British Parachute Association Ltd

Extraordinary General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association will be held at BPA Offices, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester on Tuesday 11 December 2001 at 18.30.

Agenda

- 1 To receive and adopt, if approved, the Annual Accounts of the Association and the Report of the Auditors for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001.
- 2 To confirm the re-appointment of the Auditors, and to authorise the Council to fix their remuneration for the ensuing financial year.
- 3 To set the Provisional Membership Subscription for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2002.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the thirty-fifth Annual General Meeting of the Association, to be held at The Hanover International Hotel, A5, Hinckley, Leicestershire on Saturday 19 January 2002 at 10.30am.

Agenda

- 1 To receive and adopt, if approved, the report of the Chairman of Council.
- 2 To consider any items of Special Business*.
- 3 To set subscriptions payable by non-provisional Members for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2002.
- 4 To close the formal proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

Other items of business

- a To announce the result of the election for the 2002 Council of the BPA.
- b To present various annual awards.

*Note: Members are reminded that under Article 13 of the Articles of Association, only such business as is notified to the BPA in writing, at least 40 days prior to the date of the meeting (by midnight on Monday 10 December 2001) can be included under agenda item 2, Special Business.

Above notifications issued by the National Administrator for and on behalf of the Council of the British Parachute Association Ltd dated 10 September 2001

SPEED FREAKS

August Bank Holiday weekend saw the third annual Speed Freaks meet at Target Skysports, Hibaldstow. This year was a little special as we were also holding the UK event for the first World Cup of Speed Skydiving.

Cool as!

This was the third event in a series of five being held at different venues across Europe - Lapalisse, Texel and Hibble, with Bottens (Switzerland) and Empuria taking place in September.

Jumpers from Italy, Brazil and Switzerland made the effort to join the elite - if slightly mad - group of people around the world who can officially call themselves FAST! The events were run concurrently with only Brits qualifying for the UK Speed Freaks. Competitors in the international event could gain ranking points for an overall placing in the World Cup. The international event was over six rounds and the Speed Freaks over three, with the fastest average speed achieved on a single round to count for a final placing.

Racing Kilometre

Jumpers were each issued with two ProTracks, kindly loaned by the boys at L&B. The gadgets were fitted to the rig harness at the hip (thanks Gary) for greater accuracy on each speed run. Jumps were made from a standard thirteen grand. After that, the rules were simple - go as fast as you can through the 'racing kilometre', measured between 2,700m and 1,700m (8,700ft to 5,500ft for us imperial chaps). Ending the kilometre at 5.5 grand gives a racer plenty of time to slow down to normal speed for deployment.

Linford

Some seriously quick speeds were put on the board the first day. Mark Calland did a Linford out of the blocks and posted a cheeky 236.92mph on the board. Allesandro Mooney led the field with a whopping first run speed of 250.60mph. Game on. Average speeds were much higher than last year - had people been practicing?

Which Way Up?

Competitors made jumps in head-down dives, stand-ups, foetal positions and anyway down that you can imagine. Phil 'smooth dude' Beck, who competed last year topless to reduce drag, went a step further this year by shaving his entire torso! He claimed that the razor went no further. Hmm... Depilation seems to be effective though as he went on to clock several 200+mph jumps. Looking forward to next year, Phil!

Mental

Kai Sherwood is completely bonkers. A head-up freeflyer and mechanical engineer by trade, he devised a three-ring device that kept his feet pointed and tight together in freefall. Mental. A cutaway system was employed so he didn't fall over on landing. Not satisfied with this, he later jumped after tying one of his feet up to his harness. Flippin' mental! His best attempt in a two-leg stand-up produced a sweet 210mph. Respec' due.

Wetsuit

Round 2 saw Noel Purcell blast to 246.51mph. His secret? A borrowed wetsuit! Tight as. Craig Poxon moved up a place on the leader board with 225.73mph. The chasing peloton comprised of Gregster, Rob, Simon, Phil and Daz who were all increasing their speeds and clocking 220+. Awesome stuff.

Cool Chicks

The women's event had Lucia and Marianne locked in a stand-up/head-down battle of their own, speeds increasing on every jump as they tweaked their flying positions to go faster. Lucia's fastest run of 238.35mph was produced in round 4 and ultimately gained her first place in the women's event and sixth position overall. Marianne's fastest stand-up was a highly respectacle (*sic*) 213.28mph on her final jump, giving her second place in the women's and eighth overall.

Sun Gods

The sun gods were with us and the weather continued to improve as the weekend went on. Monday saw the arrival of the second aircraft which meant we could really get down to business, finish the meet and also squeeze in some fun jumping at the well-attended freestyle boogie. The videos of the action went down a bomb in the bar every night as everyone rocked to the sounds of live band Gypsy and rolled into the wee hours to some very cool tunes from DJs Gregster and Aiden.

Close Finish

The main event saw Philippe and Allesandro starting to leave everyone else in their slipstream. Philippe recorded a massive 270.25mph in round 4 with Allesandro netting a 270.14 in round 5. Philippe saved his best for the end with the data showing 270.26mph. It was a race to the wire with a mere 0.15mph spelling the difference. This was Allesandro's first speed meet but we somehow don't think it will be his last!

Hands On

As well as providing the international trophies, Nigel Tarn from Red Bull kindly provided a masseuse for complimentary treatment to jumpers to keep them in top form. As you can imagine, the facility went down very well. No pun intended! Nigel was supposed to make the presentations but was too busy skydiving! Thanks to all the event sponsors and supporters who ensured that every competitor went away with a prize. Respec' due to Unlucky Alf and Lol who kindly gave their time and skills to make a fine job of the judging.

The whole weekend can easily be described using the words of visiting jumper, Francesco Polonio:

"FANTASTICO!"

Chappy
chappy@original-lizard.com

Peaks



Noel Purcell, UK speed freak winner



Mark Calland (2nd, UK) & Craig Poxon (3rd)



World Cup overall winners;
Philippe Corthesy (Swi), Lucio Pellacani (Ita)
& Alessandro Mooney (Ita)



World Cup female winners;
1st Lucia Bottari (Ita) and
2nd Marianne Cotrin (Bra)

Prizegiving photos by Greg Reid



Chappy by Dan Parker

Media Coverage

The Independent on Sunday ran a full page article on speed skydiving (right).

ITV made a mathematics-based education programme using speed skydiving data for comparison to some theoretical acceleration calculations. The programme is to be screened on **Channel 4** early next year.

NOW Sport satellite station screened a 3.5 minute live programme on the internet and on TV to 120 million people. See: www.now.com



SCARY STUFF

An incident occurred on the Friday evening before the meet, where a jumper was making a practice speed jump: he suffered a premature main deployment at approx 7,000ft whilst in a stand-up position. The main was shredded (and has not been seen since); this caused a violent rotating mal which was successfully cut away with the reserve deploying normally. On inspection afterwards, the rig had suffered substantial damage to the reserve tray and displayed severe friction burns. The jumper thankfully suffered nothing more than ligament injuries to the neck and a shoulder. We don't know how fast he was going when the incident occurred as the ProTrack on his headgear flew off with the opening shock. We'll let you know if it turns up!

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cameramen available

Halloween Meet

27 - 28 October

10-way speed

Friendly Competition

Disco, fancy dress party Saturday night

Good fun all weekend



Annual Christmas Dinner & Party!

15 December

Wonderful dinner off the DZ
(ask anyone who went last year),
then back to party in the bar with live
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*Photos by
Tony Hathaway
Janine Hill*

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Calendar

Early Winter 2001

October

6-7 Tunnel camp
Hosted by The Golden Knights. Come learn from the best at one of the world's best training facilities

27 Halloween Party
Pumpkin drop contests
Flock dives with Haagen Daaz

November

11 Veterans Day
All Vets get \$12 jumps and free lunch!

15-17 Speed Freefly

17-25 Turkey Boogie!
Start the winter right at our official thanksgiving boogie! 8 Way, 10 way speed & 16 way competitions all with prizes!

December

1-2 Performance Designs demo days and seminars

21-26 Christmas Boogie!
Come join us for the world's oldest and favorite Xmas boogie!
Competitions, big ways, guest organizers, parties, fireworks, food and lots and lots of beer!

January

5-6 Cra-Z-y Ways
World class invitational dives with Haagen Daaz.

Awesome slide shows by Tony Hathaway & Janine Hill at all big events!



CF Festival Hinton

2001 will go down in British skydiving history for interest in CF. The Red Devils CF festivals earlier in the year attracted far more people than anticipated. The same was true of Hinton's CF Festival in July.

We planned for about 75% experienced CF jumpers and 25% novices attending. In fact the reverse was the case, so the coaching team began, like Alice in Wonderland, right at the beginning with lots of one-on-one CF intros.

A record breaking nine CF1s were awarded over the weekend, with six attendees qualifying shortly afterwards. So the festival resulted in fifteen more qualified British CF jumpers.

I believe that this is only the beginning. Jumpers find CF easy to learn, great fun and full of opportunity.

CF Coaching:

Always available from Richard Hayden and Steve Saunders at Hinton. You must be Cat 8 (ideally with ICT) and have 100 jumps.

Contact:

Richard: 01252 622237 (evenings) or richard_hayden@btinternet.com
Hinton DZ: 01295 812300 or info@skydive.co.uk

CF or Canopy Formation represents the best value for your jump ticket money of all the skydiving disciplines, providing several minutes of entertainment rather than seconds. The canopy control skills developed to achieve CF will put people in good stead to understand and fly their canopy for their entire jumping career.

As a testament to this, the Dutch have introduced a requirement of five CF jumps to qualify for a C Licence. Their view is that more canopies are in the air, they all fly faster, so the piloting skills learned in CF are essential.

Hinton Skydiving Centre was host to this year's CF Festival, a three-day annual event of collaboration between reputable coaches, superb DZ control and the willingness of many first time or intermediate CF jumpers attending. This was a memorable festival with an excellent seminar programme, top quality coaching and weather in the 30s. These combined to make the event the success the massive pre-planning operation set out to achieve. Skydivers from Britain, Ireland and even Holland took part in an event planned months earlier.

Seminar 1:

Effective canopy control techniques

The programme kicked off with the seminars, using all the latest audio-video presentation equipment. The first was on effective canopy control techniques given by Richard Hayden. Selecting the right canopies for the job was discussed and advice like the best places to look on the second hand market across Europe, together with illustrations on wing loadings for optimum results.

Wing Loading

Modern CF involves consideration of wing loading, measuring your weight when you are fully kitted up:

$$\text{Wing loading} = \frac{\text{exit weight (in pounds)}}{\text{area of canopy (in square feet)}}$$

The attendees learned that on modern ZP canopies, most recreational CF jumpers use a wing loading of 0.9 to 1.3 pounds per square foot, whereas, competition CF jumpers load theirs to between 1.3 and 1.6.

Some manufacturers still recommend their canopies be loaded to between 0.7 and 1.0 pounds per square feet.

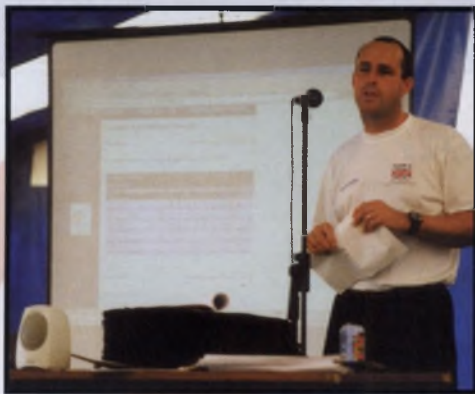
The reality is that such a light wing loading on a zero porosity CF canopy is likely to result in the jumper floating above the stack, struggling to get down and being left 'high and dry'. Many canopies are manufactured in America where they tend to give very conservative

statements about the equipment they make, in order to protect themselves. That is not to say that their recommendations should be ignored but it is worth bearing the different legislation in mind.

Seminar 2: Competitive CF

Mark Weaver by Sarah-Jane Smith

Nationals gold medallist Mark Weaver (right) gave a safety brief to everyone, using the BPA CF training card system, unveiled earlier this year by his Team X colleague Ian Marshall. Mark also gave a very informative seminar on CF competition disciplines and what's expected in today's standards. His explanation of some of the more esoteric rules served as great encouragement to potential future competitors among the group.



Seminar 3: Video Techniques

Paul Denis-Smith (PD) of Team X and a nationals gold medallist gave another constructive seminar on video techniques, including in competition; this was received with acclaim. PD's video seminar is part of the BPA's videographer's roadshow and is worth a visit when the next roadshow is announced, check the diary for details. PD is full of useful advice on using video for best results. His tips on how and where to fly your canopy to get the best video footage are invaluable.

Aircraft

In addition to their usual Turbolet, Hinton laid on an Islander for the festival, with an Antonov AN2 providing the group with novelty jumps at the end of each day. Dougie on DZ control co-ordinated everything superbly.

More Coaching Please!

The scrambles competition planned for the Sunday was scrapped at the request of the participants, who favoured developing their skills further under the stewardship of some of the best coaches in the country.

Even More Coaching Please!

June's edition of The Mag mentioned the demand for more CF coaches. With the growth of this discipline, as described earlier, we face a potential shortfall in coaches while the demand for learning increases.

Team X doing a competition
style exit by Tony Danbury



Coaching Team:

Richard Hayden
Steve Saunders
Mark Weaver
Colin Dickson
Biff Thornton
Paul Speller
Bob Lyttle
PD Smith

Achievements

The festival achieved its aims of providing a safe, informative weekend, giving participants a good grounding in the basics in CF. The record award of nine CFIs over the weekend was testimony to the aptitude of the attendees, the skills of the coaching team and the robustness of Ian Marshall's CF Training System.

And Afterwards...

It gave me great pleasure after the event to see my in-box being full of e-mails from attendees commenting that "it was the best skydiving event I have been to". There were even enquiries about next year's festival. Karen Brennan, who was the first student to be awarded her CFI, went on to win the intermediate gold in the CF nationals. Six people contacted me to say they had gained their CFIs with a further one or two jumps. This sort of spirit makes the Hinton CF Festival worth the effort and adds to the fun!

Richard Hayden
richard_hayden@btinternet.com



Participants by Sarah-Jane Smith

Freefly, Freestyle & Skysurf

Peterborough 17-19 August

Freeflying

Four teams from three UK parachute centres, entered the freefly – but with only ten training jumps between them there was potential for disaster! The vibes were good, the weather was great, the mood was relaxed and two rounds were complete by lunchtime. Once the first scores were on the doors, it was looking a tight race... suddenly the atmosphere became more serious with Weston: Sibson rivalry bringing out everyone's competitive edge.

Further jumps were delayed until the teams had had the opportunity to view their second round scores and assess how to progress. For those unfamiliar with the scoring systems in the new age disciplines it is subjective and in many ways similar to ice skating; based on technical merit, execution of moves and artistic impression. It is also scored on overall camera work. Therefore it was important for teams to see which routine the judges preferred. Going into round 3, *Freefly Sibson* had the edge but there were only nine points splitting the top two.

FREEFLY	
	Score
1 Freefly Sibson	321.5
2 Bodyflight	273
3 Advance Rapide	159
4 The Dirty Sanchez	70



The teams were evenly matched in their performance but the camera work and artistic impression were to give *Freefly Sibson* a 48 point win.



Main picture by Gary Wainwright shows *Polaroid Joycam* (ex *Clockwork Orange*), skysurf champions



Skysurf

SKYSURF	
	Score
1 Polaroid Joycam	334
2 Mechanical Lemons	211

I was disappointed not to see any other teams from last year's nationals returning to compete again. Dave Sturgeon with myself, *Polaroid Joycam* (aka *Clockwork Orange*) were defending our title against *Mechanical Lemons* – Mark Harris who placed fourth in 1999, with new cameraman Dave du Plessis.

A rather odd order of events took place with *Polaroid Joycam* finishing the meet on Friday but *Mechanical Lemons* completing rounds four and five on Saturday morning; both jumpers are tandem instructors at Sibson and needed to work in between competition jumps. Judging had also been delayed due to the needs of freefly which meant that we completed the meet without a single round being scored! The *Lemons* put up a good fight, performing some great synchronised barrel rolls, but *Polaroid Joycam* successfully defended our title

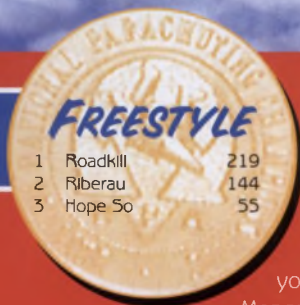
Polaroid Joycam would like to thank our sponsors for their support: Polaroid, Fibrenyle, Icarus Canopies, Mirage G3 and Skydive Sibson

Prizegiving photos by Stuart Meacock and Matt Lee

BRITISH NATIONALS



Freestyle



1	Roadkill	219
2	Riberau	144
3	Hope So	55

This was a family affair with brothers, Alex and Stuart Meacock jumping against each other. Alex demonstrated a classic 'pointy toes' style and Stuart Meacock had a freestyle approach. The third was a scratch team of two Sibson regulars; Keith Rouse and Russell Smith on camera. The position of the teams remained the same throughout the competition but, as frequently happens with those extra jumps, the scores were improving with *Riberau* scoring 20 points more on their final round than their first (56 compared to 36).

The biggest cheer for any team at the presentation had to be for freefly team *The Dirty Sanchez* (Andy Mihalop, Sara Williams and Peewee) and their novel dive plan. Thank

you to Sue Meacock and all the

staff at PPC for running the meet smoothly and effectively, to Dona Crum for judging with Sue Skull as assistant judge and to Pete Gray for organising the video downloads and keeping the judges in refreshments!

The people that stayed at Sibson for the whole weekend had a great time and learned loads with some coaching tips and fun dives organised by the winners. The new age disciplines are all about having fun so join us next year, it really is the taking part that counts!

Cath Symonds
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NATIONALS

Formation Skydiving 4-way

Hibaldstow

20-22 July

Quest, intermediate 4-way champions, pictured by Goody



Prizegiving photos by Greg Reid

Senior

I had mixed reactions when I heard that the nationals were to be held over a weekend as opposed to the nine day standard sentence of awful summer weather... My optimism shone through however and I had decided before I got to Hibaldstow that it was just what we needed to keep the interest in competitive UK skydiving up. Even though senior attendance was down, it was a pleasure to see so many teams overall and an absolute joy to see the standard of the junior and intermediate teams being pushed. Way to go! After so many articles and rumours mourning the death of FS it was great to see so many teams had been putting such effort into improving.

XL had recently peaked at the World Air Games and had no chance to train prior to this meet. Our performance lacked a little fire but we still ended up with a respectable 18.4 average, so we turned with pleasure to watch the battle

for silver that was taking place between 4Pak and VMax. Both teams put in solid performances and had everyone guessing down to the wire. VMax did a superb job of clawing back the points after a slow start but did not match the consistency of 4Pak. As a team 4Pak amaze me with their motivation and continued efforts... go boys! No Name were a scratch team who, with no practice and an average draw managed some respectable rounds, but a few slow dives cost them the ten point average that they were capable of.

Thanks to the slick organisation of the team at Hibaldstow the dream of a weekend nationals was easily achieved and we even had time to let our hair down and party!

Pete Allum, XL
pete_allum@compuserve.com

SENIOR (110 ROUNDS)			
	Total	Ave	
1 XL	184	18.4	
2 4 Pak	142	14.2	
3 VMax	140	14.0	
4 No Name	84	8.4	



Intermediate

INTERMEDIATE

(8 ROUNDS)

	Total	Ave
1 Team Quest	70	8.75
2 Muppets	61	7.63
3 We're No Angels	59	7.38
4 Transition	758	7.25
5 Sekoya	39	4.88

It was the first Nationals for *The Muppets*, we had been battling it out with *Quest* at the earlier Grand Prix competitions and enjoyed the fight with the scratch teams too. In the early rounds we lost valuable points, by round 5 *Quest* were in a good strong lead with *Transition* close behind, and we were joint third with *We're No Angels*. In the sixth we won the round, putting us just only five points behind *Quest* and one point behind *Transition*, the meet was really heating up. It was all gonna be down to the last two rounds...

In the penultimate round we were joint second with *Transition* and knew it was going to the wire. By now *Quest* were way out in front. *Transition* had their worst round of the meet which put them just out of the medals by one point. What a meet! Nice one *Quest* who did two training camps this year plus tunnel time.

The general feeling was that Hibaldstow had done a superb job manifesting the teams and trying to keep one step ahead of the weather. We did have a couple of weather holds but, when it cleared, everyone scrambled so things were moving again really quickly. To have completed all rounds for all three categories by Saturday night was more than anyone had hoped for and it meant the DZ was really alive and rocking well into Sunday morning. Overall for our first nationals it was a fantastic experience, with great vibes from everyone who was involved.

Linda Peters & Mike Gorman
(a pair of Muppets)
hooksky@msn.com



Junior

JUNIOR

(8 ROUNDS)

	Total	Ave
1 UBI Body Flight	110	13.75
2 Usual Suspects	90	11.25
3 Handbags @ Dawn	87	10.88
4 Route 16	82	10.25
5 No Illusion	48	6.00
6 Sky Pirates	42	5.25
7 X-Ma	29	3.63
8 Sodexho	6	0.75
9 3 + Another 1	4	0.50

The level of skydiving in the juniors was amazing. Nine teams entered, five had been away on training camps and it showed; the top four had a 10+ average, making an all-time best year for juniors and a great basis for the future. This doesn't take anything away from the scratch teams who made the F in FS stand for Fun. We all received help from the likes of *XL*, *VMax*, *Solly Williams* and other experienced bods, which was great and most appreciated.

First place went to *UBI Body Flight*, who did some rockin' dives with a 13.75 average, they also equalled the British junior record of 10 on round 4. Well done guys, not so wet behind the ears eh! The battle for second and third was hot between *Handbags@Dawn*, *Usual Suspects* and *Route 16*. *Omniskore* wasn't working so it was only after six rounds that we realised how close it was. We missed out on silver by three points, nerves getting the better of us. But the lads from *Usual Suspects* are such a nice bunch, we let them off. A big congrats to *No Illusion* for 11 in time, the girls were ecstatic.

The most memorable junior jump had to be the team that, on their donut launch spinning (been there done that) remembered to look up and wave at the cameraman as they whizzed round!

Excellent, it was the jump that summed up the fun vibe that was going on and carried on for a very loud, drunken prizegiving, T-shirt swapping ceremony and all night party. This was my first Nationals and definitely not my last. We went through a huge range of emotions, I've met some really great people and can't wait to see them all again at next year's meets.

The *Handbags* have been together less than 12 months. We started off as a scratch team with a 0.75 average (and spinning donut!). We had a two week training camp with Gary Smith, he's fab! We did a total of 65 jumps, two hours in the tunnel and gave Gary grey hair. We had about flown off our learning curve and had a whole heap of fun too. We had a change in line-up with Marcus the honorary handbag (or rucksack as he's known), joining us and the current team completed around 40 jumps together. We made the most of *Whix* when they trained at Langar. The BPA coaching roadshow with *XL* which was held at Langar was also invaluable. It all paid off with us getting a 10.88 average at the nationals and also two rounds with 13 in time, our best ever competition score.

If you're a bunch of baby skydivers just completed F51, thinking of entering for next year, do it! We've had so much fun and learned loads. Ask for help and advice off other teams, go along to the BPA's coaching roadshows or, even more fun, go do a training camp!

Sally Beck
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www.handbagsatdawn.net



Formation Skydiving 8-way Hibaldstow

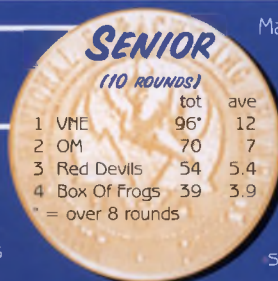
27-29 July

Senior

Attendance was up from one team last year to four in this year's weekend format nationals, held from Friday to Monday. In the F5 quadrant, this idea was popular and successful – although every discipline is different and its format should be decided on its merits for that area.

As our British 8-way team *VNE* had used up all their holidays training for and competing in the world meet, they could not make the Friday competition so the other three teams got under way without them. *VNE* member Andy Pook was there; he tirelessly, patiently and efficiently coached other teams throughout Friday. We were lucky with the perfect weather and had completed seven rounds by Friday night.

VNE had to catch up on Saturday doing two jumps to everyone else's one. They had a great Nationals, achieving one of their goals which was a 12 point average, 2.8 pints up on last year (er, sorry, points not pints!). This was especially impressive as *VNE* did all eight jumps in a single day, scored no busts and were jumping with an alternate, Al



SENIOR (10 ROUNDS)		
	tot	ave
1 VNE	96	12
2 OM	70	7
3 Red Devils	54	5.4
4 Box Of Frogs	39	3.9
* = over 8 rounds		

prizegiving, seal the event and party. Who were we to argue?

Second was *Om*, a scratch team of experience and talent, who gained a 7 point average. This included ten busts and 3 NJ's so their average was 8.3 on the RHAS system. In bronze were the *Red Devils*, a new, young team who had done a training camp in Raeford but suffered heavily with busts, losing 14 points. In fourth place were *Langar's Box of Frogs* who had the best logo of the meet, did some excellent skydives and scored a respectable 3.9 (losing 8 points to busts). Once again the meet demonstrated just how difficult it is to score well on 8-way sequential, the event itself is very different to walk-up 8-way weekend dives.

Only two teams entered the no-show speed event but both had a blast. *Om* won with a

Macartney as one team member could not make the Nationals due to a wedding! *VNE* did eight jumps on the Saturday and were so far ahead the Meet Director stopped the meet there so we could have the

best time of 12.06, second were *Netheravon's Mayhem* with a best time of 26.39 seconds.

The management at Hibaldstow did a terrific job of keeping the aircraft flying with competition jumpers which, combined with generally excellent weather, meant the meet completed in the minimum of time. Facilities at Hibaldstow have improved tremendously; great showers and where else in the world can you find TV sets in the bunkrooms?

The BPA's competitions committee look set to continue with the weekend format for next year. I thought it was a great success in boosting attendance and taking the endurance factor out of the F5 nationals.

Lesley Gale, Om lesley@skydivemag.com

Intermediate



PARACHUTE INTERMEDIATE (FIVE ROUNDS)		
	total	ave
1 Crispy Cocks	15	3
2 Octopussy	1	0.2

This was always gonna be a fight for gold between *Crispy Cocks* and the aptly named all-female *Octopussy*, probably due to the fact that these were the only entries! *Crispy Cocks* was hastily put together just before the meet by Chris Peacock (see – the name ain't that rude!). Experience levels ranged from several thousand jumps down to 300 and we showed promise on paper. With Lynne on the team, this meant that there were more chicks than blokes in the competition. Go figure!

Octopussy was made up of 4-way team *No Illusion* as the core, with the others hailing from *Nethers*. Jump numbers were from 400 jumps down 75 – Gillian, a recent Cat 10, was at her first competition. In at the deep end or what?!

Octopussy, with no 8-way experience whatsoever, were completely discombobulated by the new formations but threw themselves into their mission like demons. Round 1 saw them fly a sweet exit from the Dornier but a low jumper on the transition denied them their first point. Derby made her 100th jump on round 2. The girls successfully flew four out of the five exits and their efforts finally paid off in round 3 with a point on the board. Good stuff. Their whooping and a-hollarin' could be heard at the far end of the airfield. Some sweet camera work was produced by the ice-cool Pete H, who has continued to have an excellent season.

Crispy Cocks scored a cool 5 points on round 1 but things went rapidly downhill

from there, with only one successful launch out of five. So much for experience! A three point average was finally achieved at the chequered flag. A little disappointing maybe, but good enough for the gold and showing some good skills and potential. Way to go! The cool camera stuff was produced with style and in full colour by Rob Stevenson.

8-way is not easy and *Octopussy* admirably coped with the pressure with constant smiles, bags of effort on the creepers, in the mock-up and in the air. They thoroughly deserved the silver medal and were a fine example to everyone.

Chappy, *Crispy Cocks*
chappy@original-lizard.com



VNE, senior 8-way champions, by Andy Ford



Venue Change

This nationals was to be held over two successive weekends rather than the usual one week, a motion suggested by FS competitors, to save on annual leave. For those who lived reasonably close, this is a good idea but for others who have to travel hundreds of miles to the venue, doubling the travelling is not such a good idea. The host DZs have to meet the expenses of the judges and others, so these costs apparently significantly increased for the two weekends compared to the one week. Faced with this, British Skysports at Bridlington canvassed to discover the likely number of competitors and, estimating the number to be small, reluctantly withdrew their offer to host the competition in June. To their credit, Skydive Strathallan in Perthshire, Scotland stepped forward to host the event on the same dates. Because of the travelling distances involved, some of the competitors said they would not return for the second weekend so we aimed to complete the competition in the first.

The competitors, judges and officials who gathered were the enthusiastic hard core of this discipline in Britain. In spite of all the above difficulties, we were present and raring to go on Friday morning. Strathallan were starting their excellent Extravaganza week so the organisers had their work cut out to run all events. It all worked well if a little hectic at times and we successfully completed the event over the first weekend.

Accuracy

All ten rounds were completed in the first weekend. Unfortunately competitors were unable to practice and get used to the local conditions, due to the late move of the venue to Strathallan, with no time for the DZ to be cleared to jump on Thursday. As is typical of this drop zone, the conditions were challenging with winds varying from nil to over the limits and over the buildings! Wind direction also changed frequently resulting in either clean smooth air down the field to being bumpy due to turbulence over the trees and hangars.

Jeff Chandler took the gold in the men's event, his scores were all in single figures. A great achievement – although I think the conditions were always steady for him! Glenn Stephenson came second with generally excellent scores spoiled by a few zaps. The find of the meet was Pete Allum in bronze, who only zapped once while using a borrowed Parafoil for the first time. We realise that he is totally committed to FS with the *Sebastian XL* 4-way team but we hope he will find time to train and compete again in Classics. Andy Bremner finished in fourth with great determination and enthusiasm although he was disappointed with his scores. Watch this space in 2002 for his time will come. Freddy (Ian McDonald) came fifth although he withdrew after three rounds to successfully concentrate on CF.

In the women's event, there was only one competitor, the famous Esther Reynolds, who has represented Britain many times in the World Championships. Given the conditions and lack of competition, Esther performed well, beaten only by Jeff in the combined results.



Men's Accuracy

ACCURACY

(cm after 10 rounds)

	Total
1 Jeff Chandler	38
2 Esther Reynolds	65
3 Glenn Stephenson	75
4 Pete Allum	77
5 Andy Bremner	114
6 Freddy Macdonald	48*

STYLE

(secs)

	Ave
1 Esther Reynolds	10.95

Style

The women's style event completed 2 rounds with Esther taking gold. There were no male style entrants.

Next year's nationals will select the British classics team for 2003, so the way is open to compete for those valued five places in both men's and women's teams. There are some promising new classics competitors around as well as many excellent past masters, so get training and competing. If you're interested in training camps or competitions, check the mag, contact me or the competitions committee and we'll do our best to help.



Chrissie Clements
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Photo: Simon Ward



Canopy Formation

Only two teams attended the CF this year. *Team Focus* entered the senior event, they were not long back from a training camp in Empuriabrava, breaking in new man Scotty Melville with Clive Bennett, Biff Thornton, Steve Tawse and Freddy McDonald on video. The intermediate team was *Take Me*, with Pat 'I'm always going to retire' Hammond, Eugene Brennan, Yo Lee, and Karen Brennen plus Eddie Jones on video

Team Focus entered senior rotations, and *Take Me* entered the lot; intermediate rotations, sequential and speed. Both teams took advantage of Friday's good weather with *Focus* completing all six

rounds, and *Take Me* getting a couple of rounds in each discipline, finally completing all three events on the Sunday.

The disappointing turnout in teams may have been partly caused by the last minute change in venues from Bridlington to Strathallan. It would be interesting to hear from anyone who turned up at Brid (*no-one did - Ed*) or who thought it was too late in the day to rearrange travel plans to such a northern location. Praise must be given to Strathallan for hosting the event at the last minute.

Steve Tawse
sttandem2@aol.com

CF 4-WAY		
Senior Rotations (6 rds)		
1	Team Focus	25
Intermediate Rotations (6 rds)		
1	Take Me	28
Intermediate Sequential (5 rds)		
1	Take Me	21
Intermediate Speed (6 rds)		
1	Take Me	468 secs





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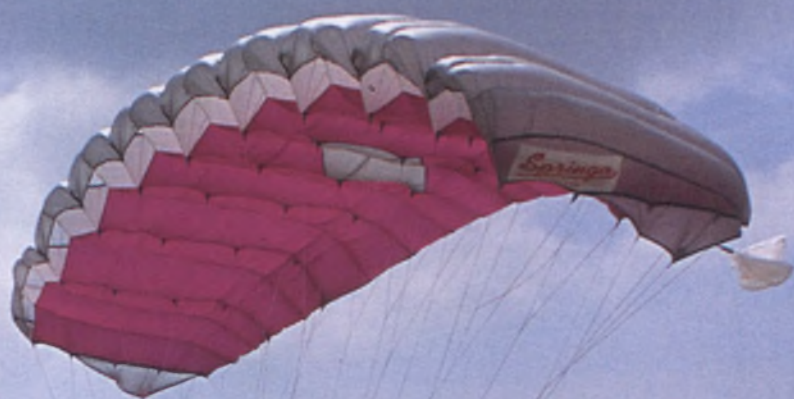
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Blue track
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She wore an itsy-bitsy, teeny-weeny... **BIKINI-WAY**

"Ten blue nipples hanging off the rail..."

What else would an Otter load of lady jumpers in bikinis sing on the way to altitude?

The idea had been cooked up by the RAFSPA girls while watching a swooping sunset load after a successful scrambles meet at Weston-on-the-Green. Too much Bacardi Breezer bravado the guys thought, but firm commitments were made along with a dedication to do it for charity: Breast Cancer Research.

The plan started small but grew. Media interest was predictable and impressive. Support was obtained from the CCI and jumpers throughout the UK. It is easy to say "Yes" but reality dawned as the girls started preparing. How, exactly, do you make a bikini stay on at 120mph? Will bikini tops handle deployment snatch? Can body parts be restrained from interference with emergency handles?

No Cellulite!

The greatest concerns seemed to be the visual aspects – bellies, thighs and hips in freefall. The cameramen were to be briefed to shoot only from above (sure, that'll work). There was no shortage of volunteers!

No Sunshine!

The English weather did its thing, rolling in a nasty weather front to ensure stormy, chilly conditions for the jump. Plasters were offered for protection of... er... salient body components. The full implications were re-considered; plasters are not always painless when removed, so ultimately the bikini jumpers decided to man it out.

The Way Up

To celebrate the occasion some applied lipstick in the plane. Others spent time on the trip up reading the latest gossip. The song "Ten blue nipples" started and counted down to seven by the time exit height was reached. Nerves doubled as the plane got called around a number of times trying to spot around an approaching storm. It was going to be cold.

The Way Down

The first two launches funnelled as jumpers froze block solid out of the door. First was a 6-way; Sarah Walker, Caroline

O'Hagan, Ruth Covell, Jo Redman, Adele Murray, Clare Skiba, with Bob Spratley on camera. Second was a 5-way; Liz Crichton-Stuart, Nancy Ivory, Vickie Priest, Sally Beck, Taz Causer and Simon Ward on camera. They mostly recovered to build an open star which looked great waving at the camera on the evening's news.

The stars of the bikini-way were local jumpers Sarah Price, Vickie Kilby and Nat Green, all very recently Cat 10 who launched their 3-way and held it all the way down. Way to go girls!

Finally there was a first jump tandem by Tilly with instructor Grant Richards and Andy McGing on camera.

Cameramen

All of the cameramen were unable to follow the briefing to stay above the formations. Apparently this is because girls without lead float. They are all sticking to the story.

No Jumpsuits

Just about everyone found flying without jumpsuits to be difficult. A lot of pitching was reported, particularly during tracking. The situation was so bad that Sarah Price ended up with a reserve ride following an uncomfortable deployment and a spinning mal.

Achievements

BBC TV was on hand for interviews on the way to the packing hangar. Girls and skydiving are a heady mix for the media. Well done ladies, you achieved excellent, positive coverage for the sport, plus nearly £4,000 for Breast Cancer Research.

Who's in the line-up for next year? I'll get a camera by then!

Dru Spork

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Liz Crichton-Stuart

Liz is proving a capable event organiser in the world of skydiving and was the chief manager of the bikini way. Liz is a founding member of the Weston Plummets, manages the website www.westonplummets.org, runs the Weston kit store – oh, and runs a London hostel in her spare time!

All photos: Simon Ward





BRA-NANERAMA

Joining the cause were the cool chicks at Hinton who stripped off their clothes and donned their bras for the same charity, Breast Cancer Research



Anna Palmer, Emma Hammersley and Catherine Glenister, photo by Dorian Harwood



Sarah Stern, Caroline White, Zoe Carroll and Maddie Moore dirt diving, photo by Steve Ashenden

In July, twenty of the girlies at Hinton, in association with *Walk the Walk* charity, did a skydive in our bras, to raise money and awareness for Breast Cancer Research. After months of planning, with the bras sponsored by Playtex and customised by ourselves, we were ready to jump. The only thing standing in our way was lousy weather. All the blokes on the DZ thought it was Christmas with twenty babes walking round in their bras in the cold. Quote of the day went to Lucy for "Do you ever get the feeling you're being watched?"

The next day was glorious warm sunshine and we manifested a Let bra jump. It was amazing how many cameras were about that day! At lunchtime, the Let took off. Its cargo was thirteen girls in their bras and four smiling cameramen, flown by one very red-faced Ukrainian pilot. Surprisingly it wasn't as cold as expected and we launched our skydives. Much to the cameramen's disappointment the bras held up well (*hank you Playtex!) and all our sequins and ribbons stayed on.

The remaining girls jumped on different loads, to the delight of some tandem passengers. All the ladies really enjoyed themselves and had a sense of "I did it". The following weekend, Kate, the press officer for *Walk the Walk* did a tandem in her bra; Mike Browne, the tandem instructor, was gutted. (Not!) Phil Bird borrowed a bra and jumped with some of the girls; but didn't quite fill the slot.

Our pictures got in *The Sun* and numerous other local newspapers raising lots of awareness for the charity. We raised over £6,000 for Breast Cancer Research, got great publicity for the charity and for skydiving and we had a lot of fun doing it.

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Photo by
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Chicks ROCK

So, you've got your team, agreed your goals and made your training plan. Phew! Difficult bit out of the way. All you need to do now is go and do lots of skydives – right?

Wrong.

Keeping a team together can be difficult. There are issues to deal with all the time which include, more likely than not, the occasional argument or disagreement.

A team that stays together is likely to be a team that is happy and is on track toward achieving its goals.

KEEPING A TEAM TOGETHER

A little bit of thought about the way the team is run can give the team the best chance of staying together and being successful in achieving its goals. There are things you can do, both in training and in competition to help the team perform at its best and to make sure that stress levels are low and fun levels are high.

1. During training

Enjoy!

Take a step back every so often and consider why you're doing the team. Your personal goals might be to do some good scores and have a lot of fun. Never forget the latter and recognise that when it doesn't make you happy or you're not having fun, then it's probably not worth it. If you're there because you want to be there you will have a lot to gain.

Be comfortable with the plan

You agreed on your goals before you made your training plan. It's important that everyone really buys into that too. Don't commit to something that you can't do either financially or in terms of time commitment. Be realistic about what you can do – don't kid yourself. Be honest with the rest of your team-mates.

Try not to put anyone under pressure to do something they aren't able to, such as commit money they can't afford or time they can't spare. It results in too much stress for that person and is likely to result in disaster further down the line.

Communicate well

You might think chicks would communicate well because we're meant to talk a lot. Maybe we do, but we still use rock sessions sometimes. This involves sitting down at the end of each days training or at the end of the weekend somewhere where you won't be disturbed. Everyone takes a turn, whilst holding the rock, at saying what they think about the way things are going, good things and bad things. Only that person speaks and the rest listen. If you need to get something off your chest that you couldn't deal with during the day, now's your chance. Don't let things brew. It will affect your performance.

This isn't the only way of dealing with issues. At least one of VMax would not agree that this is the way to handle things and would say that often it's better to deal with things as they arise. Rock sessions fill some people full of fear! But they're not meant to be a place where you pick on your team-mates, just a comfortable place to speak your mind uninterrupted.

Be sensible about time off

We learned this the hard way, in fact we're still learning it. No matter how many times your coach tells you this, it's really hard to do when you're only doing a couple of training camps a year. But it's true, quality not quantity should





"a team that stays together is likely to be a team that is happy"

VMax performing Mustang Sally with Grounded at Weston Summer Ball.
Photo by Andy Ford

be at the front of your mind when training. Recognise when you're tired and call it a day before you get frustrated and before arguments start to brew. It's really easy to waste a day's training because you worked that bit too hard the day before. Remind yourself how much each team jump costs!

Don't lay blame in debriefs

If you can honestly say to your team-mate *"you really were awful"* and you both think it's funny then okay. But in general, it's a much better idea to let people spot their own mistakes or for your coach to point them out.

Have an opinion

Team decisions can take a long time, take it from us. We've found it helps if everyone has a vote whether they feel particularly strongly or not. If there is a difference of opinion in the team, then vote on it and accept that the decision may not be what you wanted.

Each day, have a team leader

We don't have a team leader but we try to have a leader of the day. This person is responsible for knowing what load you're on, making sure dirt dives happen when they are supposed to, making sure tickets are purchased and making sure everyone knows what they are supposed to be doing and when. It's a job that most of us would hate to do all the time especially when our team-mates are being naughty!

Be on time

Be on time in the morning, be out at the plane on time, be on time for dirtdives, debriefs, meetings. Just be on time always. Spending half the day hanging around for your team-mates is a waste of energy.

THANKS TO:

The BPA,
Ernst & Young, Man Group Plc,
Sports Choice, Sunpath,
Symbiosis Suits (you madam!),
British Parachute Schools (Langar),
RAFSPA (Weston), Skydive DeLand,
Solly Williams, John Smyth and
everyone who supported us through
the World Meet

A big thank you to all our sponsors and supporters,
we couldn't have got anywhere near as far as we
have without you

At the time of writing this, we had just made a two
year plan leading up to the next
World Meet (Gap, 2003). We're going for gold!

We would be very, very, very grateful for any more
help you can spare

Background Image: Rusty Lewis

“you’ve got just under six minutes in a ten round meet to prove yourselves”



Photo: Brian Vacher

2. Competitions

You’ve done all that training, the team has run like clockwork and you’re all the best of friends and skydiving like super sky gods and goddesses. Right now, here you are at a meet. This is where it gets stressful.

Here’s your chance to show what you can do and you’ve got just under six minutes in a ten round meet to prove yourselves.

A poor performance is difficult to deal with and can often be attributed to things that happen on the ground. Time on the ground is free. Here’s what you can do with it.

Keep your energy levels constant

Take the time to recognise what happens to your energy levels in between rounds. You could find yourself on the ground for hours. It’s enough time to get cold, get tired, go to sleep and wake up feeling groggy and on a 20 minute call. It’s

important to stay warm, keep moving, don’t cat-nap, eat little and often throughout the day. It’s really easy to get caught out and it feels really disappointing when you know you didn’t perform at your best.

Get your coach there if possible

If it’s possible and affordable this could be a good idea. Our coach Solly comes to the Nationals. Having him there helps to get the best out of us in the competition. It’s someone to guide you with puzzling dives at the very least, but it’s also someone to help you with any last minute questions, nerves and it’s someone who can make useful observations on the way things are going during the competition and help to bring things back on line if they are starting to go wrong.

Do what you trained

You probably did your best skydiving during training, rather than in competition. So don’t invent any funky moves in a competition, or try to go faster. If you didn’t do it in training then don’t do it now. It’s always hard trying not to go faster, especially when you’re on roughly even scores with another team. We’ve found that you don’t need to skydive frantically to get good scores. It’s better to make small moves and avoid a breakdown in communication.

VMax – New Line-up

Kate decided to leave the team after the FS Nationals, to pursue other areas.

Sarah Laughton, who originally formed the team in ‘98, is rejoining VMax in the next stage of their training, a two year plan, aiming to win back their world title. Sarah (affectionately known as Patsy) is a determined, talented and accomplished skydiver; British 8-way Champion in ‘96 with the Army 9, silver 4-way medallist and women’s 4-way World Cup Champion in ‘99 with VMax.

If VMax attain their goal in 2003, they would become World Champions, a more prestigious title, as the event now has full IPC recognition.



The new VMax line-up; Liz, Sacha, Sparky, Sarah, photographed by Greg Reid, winning the British Nationals 8-way speed shield this year

Liz Groucott

PROFILE

Deal with any bad rounds positively

At some stage during a competition you might have a bad round. This could become a bad meet very easily if you let it. A bad round is very hard to get over and will try very hard to affect your performance in the next few rounds. How do you think it feels to funnel an exit in round one of a World Meet? You need to leave it behind, get over it fast and move on. A very large part of competition is all in the mind. Remember, it's never over until the fat lady sings.

Keeping a team together that has fun and achieves its goals perhaps has less to do with skydiving than you might think. Or rather there is a lot that you can do to improve the team's performance without even getting in the air. But all this stuff is free and it all contributes towards the team's performance in that short time it has to prove itself, and towards everyone's enjoyment and satisfaction. And if you're not enjoying it, what are you doing it for?

Liz Groucott
egroucott@uk.ey.com

Age: 29

Time in sport: 11 years

Number of jumps: 1,650

Number of jumps in past year: 450

Slot on team: Outside centre

Favourite DZ and why:

Weston – it's friendly, I like the people and it's got cool planes.

Skydive DeLand for training camps

Most memorable jump and why:

Every jump of the World Meet this year because it was just so amazing to be there.

Also, I can't forget my first jump where I kicked all the way

What are the strengths you bring to the team?

I'm enthusiastic, organised (apparently!) and always pushing to train more

And your weaknesses?

I fuff a lot and I don't know how to travel light. And I'm always pushing to train more

What do you like about being in an all-female team?

It's not, we've got Brian although he is an honorary chick.

Good things are no leader and fewer bad aircraft smells

Skydiving tip: Get some tunnel time, it rocks

Beauty tip: Haven't a clue. Use lots of hair conditioner

Favourite position: Hot sunny DZ somewhere in Florida

Favourite underwear: Don't have any (favourites)

Do you watch your weight? Yes

To what do you find it hardest to say no? Things that sound like fun and chocolate and icecream and especially chocolate icecream

Do you 'wear the trousers' in a relationship?

Don't think so but I fuff slightly less than he does.

Favourite film and why:

I can't sit still long enough to watch films

What job do you do? Tax consultant

Ideal way to relax: From training? Trying to freely

What are your other interests?

Horseriding, skiing, travelling

What winds you up?

People who tell me big fibs. People who stop and stand still when they get off an escalator

Do you have a philosophy and, if so, what is it? It's a short life so do lots with it

Describe yourself in three words:

Happy, determined, alien feet

Anything to add:

After the Nationals, when Kate said she was leaving, we were gutted. But we're really pleased Sarah has rejoined the team and it's great to have a plan again, working towards the next World Meet. Wahay!



Photo and background image: Brian Vacher



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Netheravon Top Guns

I feel that instructors don't get enough recognition so I'd like to thank Rick Boardman at Netheravon for organising the progression week for the Top Gun course in June. Rick (call sign: Jester) kept us busy with a very enjoyable week's jumping. Everyone progressed and we received instruction on packing and chats about different aspects of the sport. Thanks again Rick.

Nigel Munday (Iceman)
nigelmunday@hotmail.com

Instructor Course

Thanks to Trevor Dobson (CCI) at Hibaldstow DZ on 11-15 June and all the victims who gave up their time to strap themselves to the front of the skydiving taxi service. Hibaldstow is a very friendly DZ with some fantastic jump aircraft. It's definitely well worth a visit. Lastly thanks to John Hitchen (you all think it but never say it 'egg on legs', affectionately!) and Kieran Brady from 'Wales' for advice and enthusiasm.

Graham 'Pemb' Pemberton
graham.pemberton@btinternet.com

Frog Seeks Princess!

I am Frrrench and I've been desperately looking an Engleesh princess, Emma, who I met at Lapalisse, 18-21 August. She is beautiful, 'as charming eyes, amazing hair and ze perfect smile. In fact, she is absolutely gorgeous! She lands very well, folds her sail with skill and, I 'ope she will come back soon to Lapalisse or Gap Tallard. Please contact me!

Christian
pisadoo@wanadoo.fr

Good Job, John!

We would like to express our thanks to John Smyth for an incredible job done at the World Meet. John took two weeks annual leave to travel out to Spain to deal with the administrative side of things and make sure that everything ran as smoothly as possible for the competitors. There was a lot to do and the amount of effort John put in was outstanding. His enthusiasm, tact and interest in the teams also helped to keep our spirits high, especially during those difficult moments. He had many 5am starts and late finishes. He basically saved us from all the hassle we didn't need in 40 degree heat. This left the competitors free to concentrate all our energies on the competition. We don't know what we would have done without him.

VMax
www.vmax.org.uk

The Endless Fall

I feel that I should draw members' attention to a wonderful book about the pioneering day of sport - *The Endless Fall*. It was advertised on the inside back cover of the June issue. Having read it I was sufficiently stirred to contact the author, Mike Swain, who told me that he also supplies videos of the sixties skydiving (including Bill Cole's heart-stopping 'chuteless' jump) and hopes to publish part two of his memoirs if sales of *The Endless Fall* demonstrate that it is a viable project. As there is so little good writing about our magnificent sport I really think we should get behind Mike Swain and ensure that reminiscences like his are not lost to future generations of jumpers.

You can contact Mike on www.endlessfall.net or telephone 001 941 365 8433.

Mark L-Rostovsky

Freelance Instructors

I've been asked by several centres lately to help out on a freelance basis with AFF, etc. Sometimes I can help but most of the time I can't. To help tie up the various centres with the many freelance instructors out there, I thought of putting together an instructor database which would be available to CCIs and DZOs. So, if any freelance 'hired guns' out there would let me have their rating and contact details (not just AFF but tandem and CSI also) I'll put something together. It's best to email me but phone is fine too.

Colin Fitzmaurice 01948 841 111
colin@theparachutecentre.com

Coaching Roadshow

If there is a roadshow coming near you next year go along and make the most of it. It's great fun!

The teams at Langar would like to thank John McIver, Toby Stafford and Rob Stevenson of *Sebastian XL* for all their help they gave us over the coaching roadshow, 14-15 July. It was a great opportunity to be coached by our British team who brought with them a wealth of new skills from over the pond. We certainly made the most of it. They coached several 4-way teams. John McIver jumped with a local 8-way team. We finished the weekend buzzing from all the new stuff we had to take in and feeling we had taken several more steps up.

Show these guys your appreciation. When you start putting time and money into training, even at a junior level, it makes you realise just how much these guys have sacrificed personally and financially to be where they are now. Thanks guys and thanks Langar.

Sally Beck, Handbags@Dawn
sallybeck@handbag.com

FS Nationals

VNE had a great nationals. We achieved one of our goals which was a 12 point average (2.8 points up on last year). We'd like to thank everyone at the FS nationals. The competitors who supported us and allowed us to skip Friday - which meant we are still employed! The staff that helped us complete eight rounds on Saturday. The judges for keeping us on our toes (the jelly beans are in the post!). Lastly, a huge pat on the back to Al Macartney for an awesome job as alternate.

To those that have helped make this year possible: Symbiosis for great suits; Sunpath for the new Odyssey; Weston-on-the-Green for keeping us in the air. A special thanks goes to John Smyth for all his help and support at the World Air Games. He spent a lot of time and energy dealing with silly problems so that we didn't have to.

To those that have been asking what we're going to do now, watch this space. We've no detailed plans yet but the team is still together and looking at ways of achieving more while keeping our jobs!

Andy Pook, VNE
andy.pook@whitelight.co.uk

Dave Paton

Please could you pass on a huge 'thank you' to all at Nethers for the way that everyone has pulled together and supported one another over the tragic death of our mate and fellow 'A' team member Dave Paton. Special thanks go to Mike Smith, Gwyn Burton and Nick O'Brien for a magnificent fly past, and also to the whole club - we'd like to name you all but the Mag is just not big enough.

This has meant so much to Dave's family (Dave snr, Mary and Jenny), Faye, and all of his friends. Particularly the respectful and caring way that we were allowed to say goodbye to Dave when his ashes were scattered over the drop zone. Wherever Dave is now, we're sure he'll have wholeheartedly approved and have also said 'thanks'. That's in-between lifts at the big DZ in the sky of course!

Andy Godwin & Kath Salisbury
kathryn.salisbury@ons.gov.uk

AFF CERTIFICATION



Photograph by Scott Hartley

ACCELERATED FREEFALL



Skydive Sebastian is associated with the BPA (British Parachute Association) and our AFF instruction completes all the requirements of this association as well as the USPA (United States Parachute Association).

At the end of the 8 levels of the AFF course, the BPA requires that you make 10 solo 'consolidation' jumps. At Skydive Sebastian you will continue to receive instruction and guidance throughout these jumps.

Once you have completed these 10 solo's, you will have achieved "category 8" of the BPA classification, and you can also apply for your FAI (British standard) "A" Certificate.

You will then be able to jump at any DZ in the United Kingdom, as long as you meet the currency requirements of the CCI (Club Chief Instructor) and there is suitable equipment available.



Team Sebastian XL - John McIver, Toby Stafford, Rob Stevenson, Pete Allum, Steve Hamilton



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We Remember DAVE PATON

"If a man can make so many people upset at his death then he must have made many people happy with his life"

"Dave had two passions in his life – skydiving and... skydiving"

So his Dad told us at his funeral. Those of us who were lucky enough to know him, knew just how true that is, although he liked the odd party too!

He loved life and it loved him back. This year, Dave was studying for his degree at Southampton Uni, having received his commission as an Officer in the Royal Navy. The long summer break allowed him to concentrate on his jumping and, with the beautiful Faye on his arm, life was good.

So many of us are happy to just take from this sport, to pay our money and jump but Dave wanted to give something back to this activity he'd found and loved. He wanted to introduce people to it, teach them and encourage them to continue. He was an approved instructor, inside centre for our 4-way team, display jumper with the *Raiders* and, having just returned from Perris, – a budding freak-flyer. Dave knew the risks in this sport of ours and accepted them.

25 July 2001 was fantastic weather in the Portsmouth region, big blue skies and virtually no wind. We were doing a demo, with a big, Navy Sea King helicopter to ourselves, and a crowd to applaud our daring sky-fall! Dave loved it; he had stopped jumping early at the weekend to ensure that this jump would be his 500th. Tragically, Dave made an error of judgement on landing; a moment of madness of the kind that, had Dave been a footballer, would have ended with a twisted ankle but, because he was a skydiver, it took him from us.

We have the honour to call Dave a team-mate and, along with so many others, we are proud to call him a friend and are better people for knowing him. All of us who attended his funeral are totally amazed by the strength shown by his family; Dave Paton Senior, Mary and Jenny; it is clear where Dave got his great personality. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and to his girlfriend, Faye. Their courage was further demonstrated when, during the wake, they received news that Dave's grandfather, William, had passed away, the 'Man Upstairs' was very cruel to the Patons that week.

Dave was a genuinely nice bloke, the world will be a poorer place without him, he will be missed but not forgotten.

Sleep well mate, see you in the clouds.

Elkie Brookes, masu@gt.net.gov.uk

On behalf of all associated with *The Royal Navy Raiders*



Dave Paton joins his mum doing a tandem

JAVELIN BITS

Oetiker housing clamps and anti-twist riser tubes are two refinements which until recently, have only been available on the top of the range *Javelin Odyssey* harness/container. They are now supplied as standard items on all models of the popular rig.



Oetiker clamps (above) attach the cutaway housing to the harness without the need for hand tacking.



Anti twist riser tubes (above) are inserted into channels in the risers to shield the ends of the yellow cutaway cables from becoming trapped if the risers are twisted during a malfunction.

Anti twist riser tubes have been available now for two years as a special option on some rigs or in kit form but are only now starting to be supplied on some production systems. Why manufacturers have dragged their heels over this obvious safety feature is a mystery to many in the industry who believe they should be standard on all systems.

For those still without riser tubes, DIY kits which may be fitted to any rig are now available.

Sunpath: 001 813 782 9242
www.sunpath.com

Kit News



Photo: Simon Ward

by Rob Colpus

Sabre Twoth

After many years in production, one of the most popular ram-air main canopies ever produced has finally been superseded by its mark 2.

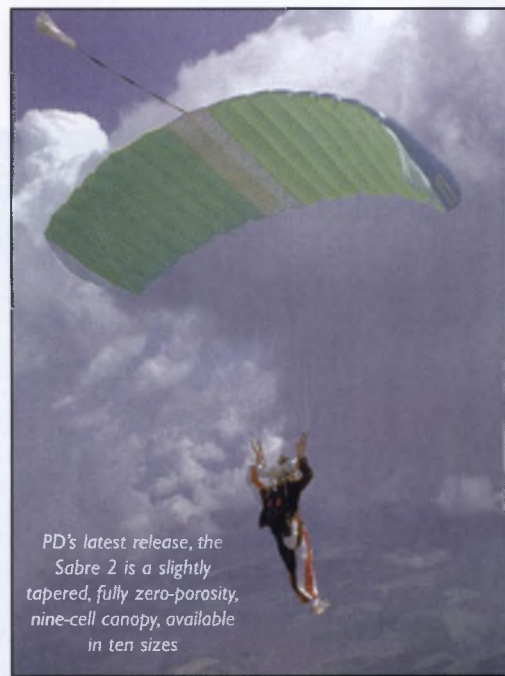
When the *Sabre* from Performance Designs was first introduced it was advertised as a very high performance canopy intended for use by very experienced ram-air pilots. Over almost ten years in production, it has gradually been moved down the performance ladder and is now even in use as a first time canopy (in large sizes) with some AFF schools around the world.

Although not the first canopy in the world to employ the use of zero porosity fabric (the *Blue Track* from Parachutes de France has that distinction), the *Sabre* was the first US canopy to do so and it soon sold in large numbers. Although the *Sabre* employed state-of-the-art fabric, it was still not a sophisticated elliptical aerofoil like the *Blue Track* but a normal rectangle with reasonably heavy toggle pressure and a pretty sluggish response to steering input. Rectangular designs tend to produce relatively large wing tip vortices and therefore drag.

Although four years ago PD released two more sophisticated elliptical designs onto the market (the *Silhouette* and *Spectre*) in competition with its own *Sabre*, they decided to continue to build the older design whilst monitoring the market demand. It must have been a bit of a surprise to PD to find that despite their new, more modern products, the old *Sabre* continued to soldier on with a steady order book worldwide.

Now it seems that all levels of skydiver, from novice to very experienced, have come to demand a more refined parachute with lighter toggle pressure and sharper toggle response without having to handle the radical, pocket-rocket performance of the top of the range ellipticals. Therefore enter the *Sabre 2*.

The *Sabre 2* is a slightly tapered, fully zero-porosity, nine-cell canopy, available in ten sizes from 97 to 260 square feet. In comparison to the original *Sabre*, PD are claiming that the *Sabre 2* will deliver more consistent, on-heading openings (not



PD's latest release, the *Sabre 2* is a slightly tapered, fully zero-porosity, nine-cell canopy, available in ten sizes

difficult!) and a slightly flatter glide angle as per most ellipticals.

The company are at pains to stress that the *Sabre 2* has been designed from the ground up and is not just a modified *Sabre* – although the retention of the name is no doubt a smart marketing ploy on their part.

Like other mildly elliptical canopies the *Sabre 2* has better penetration in high winds and a lower rate of descent in half brakes than a rectangle of the same size. The company claims that like its predecessor, the *Sabre 2* is very easy to land with plenty of low speed lift, allowing slower touchdown speed and softer landings.

PD say that the *Sabre 2* will attract all categories of canopy pilot. The turf-surfer will choose the smaller sizes for more wing load and performance, and the less experienced skydiver (or those who prefer a more tranquil return to earth) will choose the middle to larger sizes. I'm sure they're right!

PD: 001 904 738 2224

www.performancedesigns.com

Time Out? - Not for Time-Out

After being conspicuously absent from the scene for the past two years, the Cool & Groovy Fridge Co have now reappeared with a new Time-Out product.

The original Time-Out audible altimeter broke the mould when George Pilkington released it about six years ago. It was the first three bleep, solid state, microchip audible alti on the scene and it revolutionised the audible market. The success of the original Time-Out spurred on the development of the *Pro-Dytter* from Denmark and the *SkyTronic* from Italy, making audibles standard equipment for most skydivers world wide.

The *Time-Out 2001* has been designed along the same simple but reliable spec as the original but with an improved processor speed and a much slimmer case.

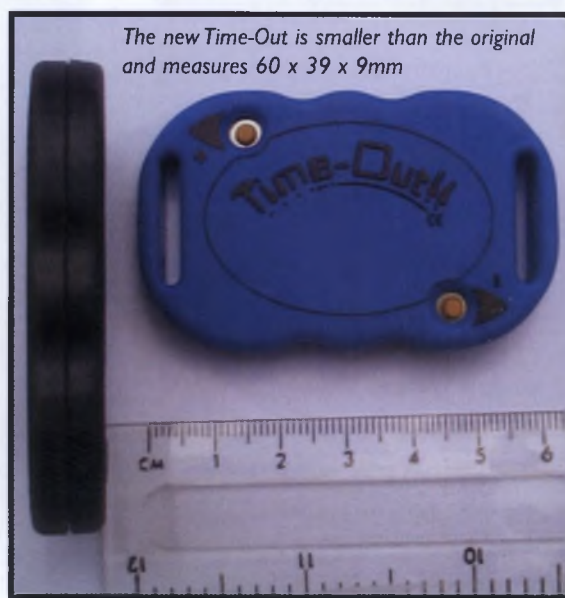
It features a five second break-off warning, adjustable between 3,000ft and 12,000ft in 500ft steps.

There are two fixed warnings: 2,500 feet (rapid bleeps) and 1,500 feet (flat line tone). These are what C&G call *Minimum Decision*

Altitudes and have been chosen to achieve successful canopy deployment ahead of Cypres (provided of course that you react to the noise!).

"The warnings at 2,500 feet and 1,500 feet are fixed to prevent confusion in a high stress situations," says George, "These altitudes are critical. You need to know when you're passing through them, whether you're in freefall or under a deploying canopy. This doesn't vary, whether you're in Perris, Langar or DeLand." George says this information is vital to skydivers and will never go out of date.

Another feature George is proud of is unique to Time-Out. He calls it *Descent Rate Information*. Once below 2,500ft, descent rate becomes very relevant. The Time-Out provides this information by bleeping until your descent rate becomes safe. ('Safe' is around 20ft/second vertical descent). Time-Out will give you a flat line warning below 1,500ft until open canopy, Cyprus activation, or impact. This feature enables you to focus on the malfunction whilst monitoring altitude by listening. If the flat line comes along before the canopy is open, you are out of time so you need to action reserve procedures immediately.



The new Time-Out is smaller than the original and measures 60 x 39 x 9mm

Photo by John Mayo

Other improved features:

- ✦ **Extension speaker port**
an additional speaker for the other ear!
- ✦ **Visual LED port**
a light which flashes in time with bleeps
- ✦ **Longer battery life**
12-18 months (4 x 1.5volt button cells)

Cool & Groovy have aimed this new product at the 'essential kit – everyone must have one' end of the market, so there is no data-recording-malarky and the price has been kept competitive at around £100.

Cool & Groovy: 01788 860882
info@coolngroovy.com

A Bit of Rough

The Jumpshack, manufacturers of the *Racer* series harness/container system issued a service bulletin recently which calls for the inspection of ripcord pins fitted to Racers between 15 May and 24 July 2001. The bulletin states that a fault in manufacturing produced a rough finish caused by microscopic cracks to the part of the pin that contacts the closing loop. While this will not result in a failure of the pin it could increase both pull forces and wear on the closing loop. Affected pins should be returned to the Jumpshack for replacement.

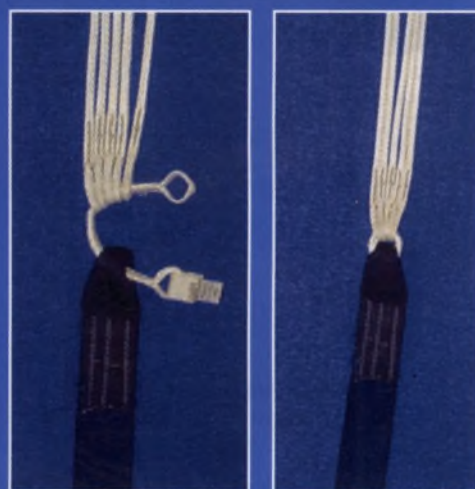
Jumpshack: 001 386 734 5867
www.jumpshack.com

A Soft Victory

In response to customer demand, Performance Designs are now supplying canopies built for stock with their *Slink* removable soft links as standard in place of the long serving metal *Rapide* link.

Stainless steel Rapide links will still be available if ordered with custom canopies from the Florida company.

PD: 001 904 738 2224
www.performancedesigns.com



Slink soft links are now standard on PD canopies

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Photo: Simon Ward

Incident Reports

By Allan Hewitt

If you have any safety related occurrences to report
IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE

Write to:

Allan Hewitt,

The RBL Enterprise Units, Unit 8,
Ordnance Road, Tidworth, Hants, SP9 7QD

Tel: 01980 847622 or 07785 784748

allan@skyscience.co.uk

Control Toggle Hang-up

A jumper cut away from a spinning malfunction after he was unable to release one of his main steering toggles. This has become cause for concern as the same incident has occurred many times over the last few months with different jumpers and different equipment.

Conclusions

Many things could have caused this incident. The packer may have pushed the toggle too far through the half brake setting, causing the half-brake loop to lock on the knot where the steering line is tied to the toggle. The half-brake setting could have slipped down the toggle during deployment.

Recommendations

Make sure the steering toggles can be set safely on half-brakes. If the toggle can be pushed too far into the half-brakes setting so that it ends up on the soft part (between the grommet and the hard finger), or it can go over the knot, then take extreme care during packing and/or ask a rigger to inspect the following:

1 Can the half-brake loop be shortened? Be careful, as a loop too small may tightly grip the finger when tension is applied.

2 Can the toggle fixing method be altered to prevent a packer pushing the toggle too far? ie, Is the Velcro or are the tuck tabs correctly positioned?

Bad Landings

The majority of incidents over the last two months are based on sprained ankles, broken legs and other landing injuries.

Conclusions

Most of them are quoted as landing with legs apart. Some of them did not flare and some of them flared too late. No-one attempted a PLF.

Most of them were on square canopies and were well set up into wind ready for landing. They had plenty of time to prepare for landing but they did not have their legs together in case of a hard landing.

Recommendations

Instructors should teach PLFs on square canopies with emphasis on keeping legs together for landing. More PLF training when flaring is well worth the effort.

Riser Locking Loop Broken

A student turned up for a flight line check. The checker, who happened to be a rigger noticed, that the riser locking loop was badly frayed and only had a few strands holding it together.

This was only noticeable by twisting the riser a little and looking underneath where the Teflon cable passes through the loop. The checker cut away the riser and placed two little fingers inside the loop and gently pulled. This broke the 250lb loop.

Conclusions

This was a malfunction just waiting to happen. The riser was also on the RSL side which meant that if the loop had broken during deployment, the reserve would have deployed into the streaming main parachute.

This badly frayed loop failed to be spotted over the previous few days by a number of different packers, twenty jumpers and all other flight line checkers. The recent reserve packer also did not spot the badly frayed loop.

Recommendations

Reserve packers, main packers, jumpers and flight line checkers have to be very methodical and conscientious. This applies especially when inspecting student equipment which has a very heavy workload so is subject to more wear and tear than a personal rig.

Packers should not drag the rig, as a main point of wear is on the locking loops.

Premature Toggle Release

An AFF student reached for her control toggles and found that one toggle had already released and was wrapped around the riser and canopy lines. She released the other toggle and then spent a lot of time trying to free the other toggle. By the time she had control of her canopy she was below 1,000ft. Her instructor said it was probably packed badly. However the same thing happened on the next jump, which resulted in her missing the drop zone and only getting control of the canopy by a few hundred feet, ready for landing.

Conclusions

A rigger was asked to check out the equipment and after stowing the control toggle and mating the Velcro with lots of pressure, he demonstrated that the Velcro was worn by gently snapping the riser. The toggle then fell free. The packers put this student with very little experience in a situation that could have been avoided. The instructor should have had the rig checked the first time it happened.

Recommendations

All packers need to be very aware of the consequences of badly worn Velcro especially when inspecting student equipment which, as I said before, has a very heavy workload.

Exit Problems

Static line students with bad exits continue to get entangled with the deploying canopy resulting in cutaway and reserve rides. One student had both legs caught in the risers and managed to release them but had a sprained ankle which caused him some concern before landing.

Conclusions

Bad exits are problems that I have covered before, however the reports over the past two months show this is a serious problem which is becoming more frequent.

Recommendations

Concentrating on practical training during courses can reduce these problems. Good exit training from a mock-

up to improve techniques could prevent entanglements on static line exits; although you can't guarantee a good student will do a good exit in the reality of the open door.

All instructors should be very critical when watching students in the aircraft mock-up to ensure the student has a good exit position before they are cleared to jump.

STC Working Group

This is part of a problem that is being investigated by an STC working group. Its findings will be reported in due course.

STC = Safety and Training Committee

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WESTON WITH T

If you're a true party animal, chances are you attended the first Weston Summer Ball on the August Bank Holiday...





THEIR BEST ON

Marquees on the lawn, tables adorned with candles, a plethora of balloons, champagne on ice... By 6pm on Sunday, Grounded had completed their soundchecks, the disco was in place and the scene was set... Let the party commence!

Without exception, the guests looked fabulous. It was like a scene from a James Bond film, with the guys in DJs and bow ties (quite a tasty bunch). And the girls – what babes!

Food and champagne was consumed at an astonishing speed and when Grounded started their set, the atmosphere was charged. The dance floor, which had been specially built by Moose for the occasion, was packed the whole night. VMax joined Rhino and the boys for the now customary Mustang Sally. Entertainment in the form of pole dancing, courtesy of Sacha, Jane, Amanda and Bev, proved popular with the male population!

By the time Grounded finished their set, the crowd were baying for more. The disco kicked off and kept the vibes going until the wee small hours. And then some more.

In the midst of this debauchery we held a massive raffle and managed to raise over £1,000 for the John Radcliffe A&E Department – nice one. A huge thanks to all our sponsors for the donations, the team that made it all happen, to the partygoers themselves and to Rhino, Kev, Leggy, John and Chris of Grounded. Same time next year!



Bev Ford
Bev.Ford@oxfordgroup.co.uk

Photos: John Mayo and Andy Ford



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MIRAGE 98 CONTAINER with all extras, Spectre 150 main, 150 jumps, PD 126 reserve, Cypres fully serviced, rig bag, alti, Time-Out, weight vest, full face helmet, jumpsuit, immaculate condition, bargain £2,000 ovno. Tel: Paula 07968 539313.

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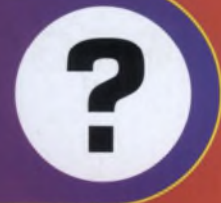
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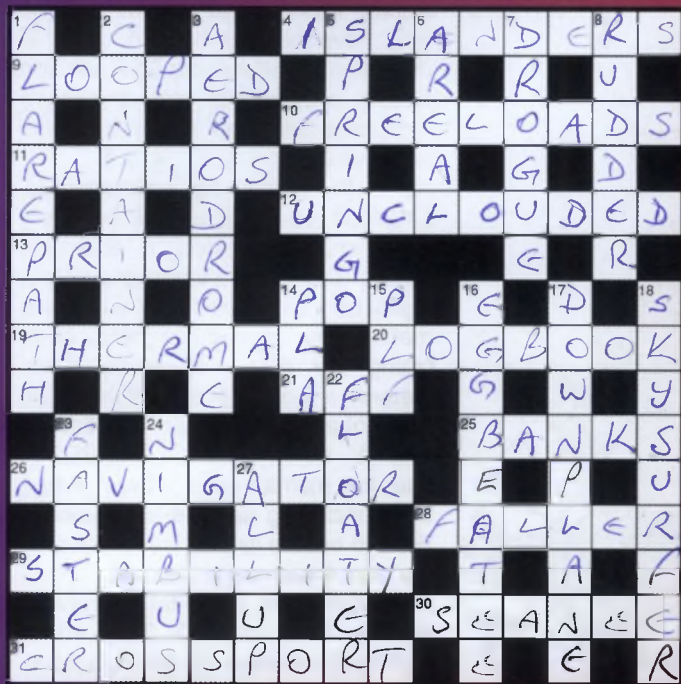
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CUTAWAY CROSSWORD



Two sets of clues with the same solutions



The main clues

ARE ELLIPTICAL AND TWISTED

the reserve clues are much more controllable.

Make a decision - stay with the main - or cut away and use the reserve

Main clues

Across:

- 4 One defames aircraft (9)
- 9 Poodle tumbled forward or backward (6)
- 10 Cadges lifts without paying (9)
- 11 Aristo affected relationships (6)
- 12 Bright blue sky (9)
- 13 The previous abbots deputy (5)
- 14 The opening of fashionable music (3)
- 19 The right malfunction briefly can increase ones altitude (7)
- 20 Look around bog in confusion for some paperwork (7)
- 21 A very loud training method (1,1,1)
- 25 Outlaw 1000s of money lenders (5)
- 26 The canal builder who knows where he's going (9)
- 28 Footballer without broken boot or slipper (6)
- 29 Street know-how helps self-control (9)
- 30 Meeting held by passe ancestors (6)
- 31 Intercellular opening in rib (9)

Down:

- 1 Illumination for landing manoeuvre and track (5-4)
- 2 Vessel to hold the queen (9)
- 3 Roamed o'er strange field (9)
- 5 Jump with no canopy (7)
- 6 A true description of a region (5)
- 7 Hydro guest's heart slows him down (6)
- 8 Royal mammary is controlled by pedals (6)
- 14 Where to climb up or come down (1,1,1)
- 15 Flap about short of a landing (1,1,1)
- 16 Chopper used in the kitchen to make an omelette (3-6)
- 17 Crash aircraft when two canopies fly apart (9)
- 18 Diver who jumps overboard (9)
- 22 Lightweight who leaves early (7)
- 23 More immovable, yet moves more swiftly (6)
- 24 Bums in hazy cloud (6)
- 27 Total weight of everybody in the air (3-2)

Reserve clues

Across:

- 4 Jump aeroplanes
- 9 Somersaulted
- 10 Scrounges
- 11 Expressions of aspect
- 12 Clear
- 13 Earlier
- 14 Fizzy drink
- 19 Up draught
- 20 Jump record
- 21 Fast track skydiving (1,1,1)
- 25 Rolls in turn
- 26 Steersman
- 28 Tripper
- 29 Steadiness
- 30 Group run by a medium
- 31 Internal parachute vent

Down:

- 1 Old runway lights (5-4)
- 2 Parachute holder
- 3 Airfield
- 5 Parachutes de France canopy
- 6 Regional
- 7 Tandem stabiliser
- 8 Steering gear
- 14 DZ field (1,1,1)
- 15 Roll (1,1,1)
- 16 Helicopter (3,6)
- 17 CF formation
- 18 Extreme skydiver
- 22 Slow faller
- 23 Quicker
- 24 Black cloud
- 27 Fully loaded (3-2)

By Paul Boorer

answers - inside back cover

Quote of the Month:

"strive for excellence not perfection"

Needs care

The CYPRES is a very compact high-end electronic device, which during 4 year time period was most likely subjected to a variety of mechanical and thermal stresses.

It's possible that the CYPRES was left in the trunk of a car for days, the rig was exposed to sun when packing, landing was not that good or the unit may have been subjected to great temperature differences. In addition certain components age and need compensation even if the unit was never used.

As with other rig components, CYPRES performs its task on every jump whether or not an activation occurs. Detecting altitude accurately, digitalizing data, executing numerous mathematic procedures and combining the data with preset parameters: a possible activation is the result of a continuous work process.

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*Fais confiance à tes sentiments

Club News

LANGAR

This August will prove to be Langar's most manic month in it's entire history – and we're all happily knackered!

The BPA Coaching Roadshow in mid-July went incredibly well, with three of the guys from *Sebastian XL* doing community service – and an excellent job they did, too. Toby, John and Rob helped out six 4-way teams and one 8-way, along with several 'nearly' teams (all short of one member!).

Over the August bank holiday weekend we went for a couple of big-formation loads from the Let and Grand Caravan flying in formation. The Saturday night party was a humdinger, with local band *WYSIWYG*, the best group we've had for ages.

The first two-way birdman jump over Langar was executed by Gary Wainwright and Dave Grzeskowiak.

GRAND PRIX

The BPA Grand Prix on 1-2 September went well, with Langar jumpers making up six of the eleven teams. Initially there were no senior entrants, so *Usual Suspects* and our own *Handbags@Dawn* made a canny move to that event.

Tony Danbury

Senior

Gold *Handbags@Dawn*

Silver *Usual Suspects*

Intermediate

Gold *Team Quest*

Silver *Sekoya*

Bronze *Rugrats*

Junior

Gold *UBI Bodyflight*

Silver *No Illusions*

Bronze *Sky Pirates*

Simon Hepple with a tube by
Gary Wainwright

Lyn Thompson getting her
FFI with coach Steve
Neuman by Gary Wainwright

RAPA

SPEED MEET

RAPA held its first speed skydiving meet over the first weekend in September. The plan was to hold three rounds of two speed runs. Due to the weather the event was reduced to four runs with most competitors completing three. Some respectable speeds were reached including three people exceeding 200mph, and Stu Murtha, who only just scraped in on the 200 jump minimum, clocking 199.11mph.

Winners

	Average speed over 1km
Gold	Craig Poxon (207.73mph)
Silver	Kiwi Sharp (206.71mph)
Bronze	Dirk Merhmann (188.17mph)

Craig also achieved the highest speed of the weekend of 230.08mph.

Thanks to Larsen & Brusgaard for their sponsorship and supplying the ProTracks used to record the speeds.

The British Forces (Germany) Championships will be held at RAPA from 8-15 June 2002, where as well as running the swoop event, we hope to run a speed skydiving event too.

Buzz Busby

Langar Achievements

Cat 8	Antony de Csernatony Mark Bowers, Pete Hall Wez Wesley, A. Went Ez al-Barbary, Steve Willis Mark Bowers, Garry Bearhead Kris Ridley, Ross Lambert Billy Rosedale, Chris Milsom
FF1	Gus Brown, Elton Watts Paul Lomax
IC1	Elton Watts, Paul Lomax, Weed
FS1	Paul Lomax

Pilot Examiner Paul Lewis

Jump Numbers

100	Kevin Gibney, Russ Cobham
200	Ben Wilkins, John Bryant Chris Bryant, Louise Roberts Chris Dutton, Gus Brown Paul Lomax
400	Darren Atter, Anthea Harrison Steve Newman
500	Ali Armstrong
800	Bill Miller
1,000	Sonny Ford Gordon Hodgkinson Graham Amies Chris McCann
1,400	Tony Bradbury
2,000	Milko
5,000	Dave Morris



Jo Pettit back in the air with new kit by Tony Danbury

BRIDLINGTON

In July the local radio station, Viking FM asked listeners to suggest dangerous things for celebrity *Pimp Daddy Dog* to do. CCI Nicki Johnston phoned in and offered him a tandem ride. After locking himself in the Gents, Pimp's final words on air before going up were, "You ain't getting me in no plane, fool." and, "Damn, even the pilot wears a chute!"

Anyone spending money on computers and not jumping, can now check out the British Skysports website www.britishtskysports.co.uk. There are links to pictures, DZ shop and a regularly updated achievements page.

Mark Hankinson and Sarah Bartley jetted off to the USA to visit the Freefall Convention in Quincy. Both had a good time, although Mark got himself some gravel-rash from driving a golf buggy in the dark - naked!

Progression week in August combined fun jumping, a BPA instructor course, an AFF evaluation course and student jumping.

Paul Simms

Achievements

First freefall

Alan Westerman, Craig Smart, Bryan Fisher, Colin Sutcliffe, Louise Smart

Cat 8

Vicki Hasler, Karen Messenger, Kimberley Smart, Dan Rowling, Joanna Smith, Chris Duggan, Chris Moore

FS1

Del Hand

IC1

Simon Cathrine, Paul Simms

Jump Numbers

50

Vicki Hasler, Karen Messenger, Alex Rennie, Stephen Bayes, Simon Cathrine

100

Wayne Locker, Paul Smethurst, Paul Simms

300

Richard Baldwin

400

Sarah Bartley

700

Phil Lyall

6,000

Nicky Johnston

Dutch Kendall by Bish Tute

Achievements

Cat 8 FS1

Jacko Jackson, Gaz Pope
Dave Graham, John Patterson
Steffi Beyer

Jump Numbers

100

Dave Graham, John Patterson
Steffi Beyer

200

Stu Murtha, Sully Rahman

500

Buzz Busby

2,000

Steve Blee

5,000

Dr Hartmund Heinlein

Club News

"If yer name's not down, it's not goin' in!"

Don't forget to write your name and achievements on the Club News poster. That's where your Club Rep gets the information to send to us...

Don't rely on telepathy, osmosis or carrier pigeon. Pen and paper work much better!

STRATHALLAN

A great season continues. The Extravaganza was a blast. Members are still revelling in the aftermath and free beer has made some great barbecue nights.

Anne Johnson

Achievements

First freefall

Joyce Carter, Arthur Agnew
Paul Murphy, Jo Fisher, Jeff Simpson

Cat 8

Joyce Carter, Mike Fallon
Alan Parker

IC1

Joyce Carter, Arthur Hotson

FS1

Ralph Fielding, Wendy Yeoman
Julie Terry, Arthur Hotson
Scott Jackson, Lisa Saunders

FF1

Julie Terry, Andy Frew

Jump Numbers

100

Ralph Fielding, Joyce Carter
Scott Jackson, Julie Terry

200

Robert Morris

400

Andy Frew, Rupert Connell
Duncan Cockburn

500

Anne Johnson

1,000

Calum Grant

1,300

Eddie Jones

3,000

Brian Robertson



Demo into the
Armies
Championships by
Simon Ward

NETHERAVON

The prizegiving was preceded by a demo. The Hungarian accuracy team showed off their skills before a swoop accuracy jumper dropped from a biplane (pity he missed the tuffet though!). *The Red Devils* put on a good CF show before a 16-way FS jump with smoke. The jumpers proceeded to boot the pad on the way past on landing, again putting some good scores on the board. Tony Butler represented the BPA and the prizes were presented by General Freddy Viggers. After prize giving there was a free pig roast and other nibbles which led on to the remainder of the bank holiday full of heinous amounts of jumping.

Dave Paton

During the championships David and Mary Paton visited us. Their son Dave was tragically killed during a parachute display in Portsmouth in July. They knew how passionate Dave was about skydiving and how much he enjoyed working and playing at Nethers. In a very poignant and moving moment Dave's ashes were scattered under canopy by two of his very best friends, Kath Salisbury and Andy Godwin. The single turbine of the Grand Caravan finally broke the two minutes silence observed by all on the ground as it approached the airfield on finals.

Fetish Party

The finale of the bank holiday was a much-awaited fetish party and mega raffle for charity. It was supported by TSE, SunPath, Symbiosis and Bev Suits. Local businesses and jumpers donated prizes and services. The raffle winners can be viewed on our website. Over £1,500 was raised and an initial donation of £500 was made to the Paton family for a memorial trust fund intended to assist people to experience the thrill of skydiving.

Thanks go to Charlie and Nick for valiantly flying 28 Tiger Moth lifts over the bank holiday weekend. £140 was raised for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance fund.

Congrats to Nick and Ronny Brownhill who tied the knot recently.

Tommy Trindall, Kath Salisbury and Al Macartney

Achievements First freefall

Richard Swaffield

Cat 8 Clare Mitchell, Nige Munday
Adam Jones, Mike Jackson
Dean Rooney, Helen Kiss

FS1 Wendy Vaughan, Mike Jackson
Steve 'Sharkey' Ward
Matt Applegate, Duncan Mann
Mike Pascoe, Carl Jackson
Lee Jones, Dean Rooney
Harriet Bowerman

FF1 Justin Pitt

Jump Numbers

100 Mike Jackson
200 Justin Pitt, George Easton
Andy Edwards
400 Paul Seymour, Mike Lewis

New Members

Chris Allen, Derek King
Pete Gray, Geoff Fritz
Joe McConville, Bernie Parker
John Wragg, Paddy Doyle
Lee Townsend, Ken Taylor
Melvyn Oxley, Richard Mace

Val Clapham winning the
Doncaster Plate
by Inger Allum



Armed Forces Championships

The competition attracted 31 FS teams, four CF rotations and over 100 accuracy competitors. A team from the Hungarian Air Force came from Budapest and were excellent competition. Everything except the 8-way was completed in time for the prizegiving and the huge party that followed.

The competition differed slightly from the Nationals, with the odd rule modified. The senior accuracy scores were measured to 1m rather than the traditional 16cm, making way for the swoop accuracy jumpers to have a better chance of a medal placing. Teams and individuals were allowed to play 'catch-up' and fun jumping was allowed in between competition jumps if you could fit it in.

The Red Devils fought hard to regain the CF trophy after their defeat last year. They only had one cutaway and managed to pull in front by one point to clench the title. With 18 competitors, style is far from dead. The standard was quite high considering the strict rules. *Quicksilver* coached teams for the FS event.

POPS

Sibson 4-5 August

Thanks to Sibson, we had a good meet at the beginning of August. Fifteen jumpers registered for the meet, including several new members. We ran three separate

competitions. Pete Shew won the Hit and Rock in a time of 13.78 seconds, Val Clapham won the

Doncaster Plate for individual target accuracy and with Don Taylor and Eric Meacher the team target accuracy competition too. It was definitely Val's weekend, because on the Sunday, together with Caroline O'Hagan, Graham Fowler and Mike Allum, she won the 4-way speed star competition.

Hibaldstow 1-2 September

We made full use of the Dornier and the altitude on Saturday. However the scrambles didn't produce a clear winner. Nobody would believe the number of points we did while the lens was fogged!

We lobbed a few Hit and Rockers out on the climb to altitude, but the competition and Pete's Pot was won by a late arrival, who jumped when we should have been in the pub -- well done Phil Harris (11.15 seconds). Second was Ian Fleming, and third Julie Shew, who landed on the target but couldn't get her kit off quickly enough!

Thanks to Pete Best who donated Pete's Pot and his wife Hattie, who along with others do the judging for our competitions.

Due to the wind and cloud, the POPS record attempt was put back to October but Ibbo gave us some useful training. If you want to join in, call me or Paul French. I know I keep reminding you, but those planning to go the World Meet in New Zealand should be registered by now. POPS shirts will be provided to all Brits who go, provided they let us know beforehand.

Pete Shew



Photo: Cath Symmonds

SIBSON

Photos: Russell Smith



Bar Tap Muppets

Shame on the heartless villains who kidnapped the bar tap Muppets and subjected them to cruel and unusual torture for their video nasties. They were held to ransom for a pitcher of vodka martini from Pete and Jake in Birdland Bar. The ruthless kidnappers returned the Muppets via a secret drop from a Cessna!

Photo by Dave DuPlessis



It's been a good summer, with Skydive Limited training and graduating a record number of students. A recent burst of static line students got onto freefall after a fairly quiet student season so far. The latest celebrity on the DZ was *Big Brother's* Narinder doing a tandem skydive.

The Freely Fest got off to a great start, including tube dives, tracking dives and large sit-fly groups. Unfortunately the Let broke down but Giles did a great job using the 206 and Islander. Giles is off travelling now and we welcome Keith as the new packer. Local band *Grounded* will be playing at next year's BPA AGM again.

Cornelia Waymouth

Achievements

First freefall

Duncan Brown, Grant Colley
Stuart Bamber

AFF 8

Dave Pook, Karen Fairall, Jim Gowan
Tom Crompton, Paul Gradwell
Steve Dawes, Anton Martin

Cat 8

Chris Bexon, Alex Burr, Claire Butler

FS1

Catt Hardesty, Dean Shortt, Steve Hillyer

Jump Numbers

100

Oliver Reynolds

200

Terry Wareham

ST ANDREWS

We had an exciting start to September when Channel 4 showed up with Dermott O'Leary to film another action type competition series called *SAS: Are You Tough Enough?* where a group of people have to train in SAS type skills. They were to do static line jumps. The episode will air in November.

Goodbye to Kat Elliot who's heading back to Uni. We will miss her, but we will really miss her Dad's super-duper, cillin-grillin, swingin-slingin psychedelic barbecues! Welcome to our new manifestor Gordon, aka Cradle Snatcher!

3-5 October saw Skydive St Andrews providing a demo into The Meadows for Edinburgh University's Fresher's Week. Hopefully, this will provide good publicity for the club and for skydiving in Britain. The more students, the better. They may as well spend that grant money on something useful!

Vicky Wilkinson

Achievements

First freefall

Cat 8

Andy Jones
Michael Franchetti, Kevan McCartney
Neil Symington
Jim McConnell
Graeme MacKay

50 jumps

BORDER

Border Parachute Centre finally opened again on 4 August having been shut for five months due to the foot and mouth crisis. Things are starting to pick up again and we still have night jumps planned for November.

Thank you to Ian at Peterlee and Brian at St Andrews who allowed us to take students to their clubs. Thanks to George McGuinness for the offers of support and to Topcliffe who hired the plane which meant we could pay our bills.

Congratulations to Dave and Kay on the birth of their daughter, Ellen and to Phil and Fiona on their engagement.

Katherine Andrewes

HEADCORN



Photo by Dan Rofe

This year, for the first time, we used the Let 410 for our annual water jump. Fifteen club members donned life jackets and splashed into Bewl Reservoir.

Richie Moulton and Graham 'Sharon' Stone chose to celebrate a gorgeous summer day with a naked skydive. The video, shot by Pete Leighton shows Richie and Sharon doing naked backloops. It has been putting punters in Wings restaurant off their food ever since!

Andy Kelly 4-way Meet

The Andy Kelly 4-way meet was rained off at the first attempt, and six teams entered the re-run on 4-5 August. The meet had the usual three categories and the draw consisted of four point randoms. A handicap system was used, giving eight points for juniors and four for intermediates, making it one big competition. Following a most excellent party in Wings, the meet was completed on Sunday.

Winners

Gold	Tray of Buns (Senior)
Silver	Ganesh (Senior)
Bronze	4 Bollox (Junior)

LAC Meet

Eleven teams showed up for the 21st Launch and Accuracy competition which was completed by late Saturday afternoon leaving the evening free to drink beer and watch the football! All landings were bravely videoed by Baz.

Winners

Intermediate LAC

Gold	Vertical Seafood Taco
Silver	LAC-Lustre
Bronze	Flee Fryers and a Mantis

Senior LAC

Gold	Zygosis
Silver	Ken Heavy
Bronze	Crash and Burn

Intermediate Accuracy (under 300 jumps)

Gold	Andy Killie
Silver	Mo Sherwood
Bronze	Polly Parrott

Senior Accuracy

Gold	Pete Sizer
Silver	Dave Crowhurst
Bronze	Jane Buckle

Welcome to Aussie tandem instructor Ken Webber.

Vicki Tomlinson



Jumpers and ground crew after the water jump by Dan Rofe

Achievements

First freefall

Car 8	Richard Stockley, Kelvin Howard
	Michelle Theobald, Danny Chilcott, Ron Hatton
	Richard Duggan, Dan Rofe, Neil Ross
	Liz Granger, Ollie
IC1	Trevor Cowell, Richard 'Polly' Parrott
	Jon Ashton
FS1	Richard Wiggins, Sean Hart, Jon Ashton
FS Coach	Andy Wright, Graham Cooper

Jump Numbers

100	Jon Ashton, Claire Taylor
	Ken Leaming, Steve Gordon
200	Steph Lawlor, Richard 'Polly' Parrott
	Paul Barnes
500	Steve Fairbrass, Martin Feeney
600	Pete Leighton
4,000	Clem Quinn
6,000	Jane Buckle

On the first weekend in August the Geese headed down to the Irish Parachute Club in Clonbullogue for the Irish Nationals. Team *Whatever* entered in the Senior 4-way FS and took third place. The Geese also took third and fourth places in the team accuracy. As always the hospitality at the IPC was great and everyone is looking forward to the next meet. Welcome to our new jump pilot Stephen Massey.

John McCourt

Achievements

First freefall

FF1

100 jumps

Robert Madden, Gareth Quigley,
Stephen Ferguson
Steven Kirk
Rob McConachie, Keith Hoy

WILD GEESSE



Team Whatever by Sharon Green

CYPRUS

We have negotiated with the gliders and have now got all day, all weekend jumping once a month. The weather has got really hot, and it's hard work skydiving!

At the end of July Chris B organised a mini speed build 4-way meet and hit and run accuracy competition. It was all very entertaining, with people legging it across the DZ with fully inflated canopies in tow, trying to burst balloons on landing! Chris B got the best hit and run time, closely followed by Mimi. The best 4-way speed build was scored by Chris B, Helen, Chris J

and Ed, building the first round point (a unipod) in 15.5 seconds!

The demo team has been busy over the last couple of months at various events around the island including several beach jumps.

During the summer shutdown, club members have been travelling far and wide. Mimi and Stravros jetted off to Quincy, then to the Czech Boogie, where they held the Cyprus club flag with Colin, Chris B and Helen, and ex-Cyprus jumpers David, Lynne and Anu.

Helen Mills

Achievements

FS1

800 Jumps

Chris Jacobs
Mimi Kypragoras



Cyprus club members and ground crew by Helen Mills

BCPA

Summer holidays finally arrived for the collegiates. Many settled down to real, albeit temporary jobs, while others stretched their student loans, hit the skies and quickly infiltrated new venues all around the country. Our collegiates have achieved great success in the Nationals and other events.

Look out for us at the BCPA Fresher's Meet in November. The next collegiate gathering will be over 27-28 October when we'll be thrashing Hibaldstow's home side at their 10-way speed competition. Contact Jason Brister: halloween@bcpa.org.uk

Dave Thompson

MERLIN

After closure due to the foot and mouth outbreak earlier in the year we are pleased to report that we are now back to normal and jumping every weekend and every bank holiday Monday. Following the successful karaoke and barbecue at the Red House in Thirsk, we plan a club social with nightclub and disco on 20 October, see Andy Dixon for details.

Ken Wharton

Achievements

First freefall

Cat 8
IC1

Rom Naplocha
Marianne Crosbie
Jerry 'Stoofer' Wood

Jump Numbers

250
2,000 tandems

Graham Cloake
Dick Kalinski

PARAGON

Achievements

First freefall

CF1

100
300

Ed Murdoch
Marco 'The Crane' Fazzi, Nabbit
Billy Ferguson
Billy Ferguson
Guy Hinks



Thanks(!) to Numpty, the Crane, Billy Ferguson and Guy Hinks for giving us all an eyeful with the first naked 4-stack over Paragon, by Debbie Williams



club news

BLACK KNIGHTS

At our open week at the end of August we saw loads of tandem and experienced lifts completed and lots of student progression. Thanks to Tig Featherstone for bringing his Islander in while our aircraft was away.

Over the last couple of months it's been good to see so many new faces doing well and enjoying themselves in our sport. This is what it is all about. One notable tandem was instructor Chris's son, Eddie on his 16th birthday.

Several of our nude skydivers (previously pictured in Club News), went out to Spain to film their parts (ahem) in *Pleasure Seekers*, an ITV documentary screened in September.

Chris, our landowner has opened a Zip Slide. He is looking at incorporating some form of cutaway device as it passes over his pond! Who will be the first?

Check out the notice boards for details of the Christmas party.

Jeff Illidge

Achievements

First freefall

Cat 8
IC1
FS1
PPL

Duncan Aspinall, Dean Thorpe
Peter Hambleton, Kate Sourkova
Anthony Jenkins
Dominck Chessum
Jason Keith
Matt Walmsley

Jump Numbers

50
200
600 tandems & 1,900 jumps

Dominck Chessum
Jason Keith
Danny Smith

PETERLEE

Alan Thompson from Peterlee PC was part of the team who broke the world record for deaf formation skydiving with a 14-way in Texas.

Mick Glover and Alan Thompson did their first demos into Pallister Park as part of North Wings Parachute Display Team. We think that Alan is the first deaf person in the UK to jump on a demo. If you know differently, let us know.

Thanks to Target Skysports, we had the Dornier G92 and the SMG92 on loan the week of the August bank holiday. We may get the SMG regularly at Peterlee on Friday afternoons.

Jane Robertson

Achievements

First freefall

Darren Fox
Cat 8

Billy Storey, Ali Cowley

Jump Numbers

200
Mike Colthart
500
Chris Beattie
700
Bryn Chaffe



Bryn Chaffe
with JC at
Elsinore by
Chris Beattie



CARK

10-way by John Williamson

Cark Boogie

This year's boogie featured our very own fast-climbing, uniquely glass-nosed Let 410 taking us to 14,500 feet in only twelve minutes. We completed 994 descents and over 73 lifts, including 44 tandems.

Jumpers used the week for more advanced coaching and taking advantage of our new WARP school. The school boasts that all WARP levels are videoed with extensive briefings to follow. As quoted by Stan, "There is only one way to do this - and that is RIGHT".

Another notable first during the week was Glen Hatch who became NWPC's first AFF graduate in the minimum number of jumps, in two days.

One day featured a much anticipated visit by the cast and friends of Blackpool's notorious *Funny Girls* cross-dressing cabaret bar, who revelled in our embarrassment whilst doing tandems for the charity Archangel 2000.

Load organising was available for all skill levels, with some impressive results. At one point the numbers were just right to split evenly into a boys group and a girls group. A friendly competition ensued when the two groups were set the same dives. Competition extended to the most stylish walk out to the aircraft and in-aircraft video. In the end the girls were deemed to have won. Naturally they were mature and magnanimous in their victory...NOT!

The girls also achieved another Cark first with the first all-women 8-way. For this they were joined by Stuart Morris (right), who seemed to have taken inspiration from the *Funny Girls* earlier in the week!

The week also featured the 4-way scrambles meet, however the team names are unprintable in a quality publication such as this. Freely was not neglected with resident Sean Ellison load-organising and coaching.

Night life in the marquee included guitarist Adrian Brookes, the annual prize quiz, *Play Your Cards Right*, a disco and a *Stars in Your Eyes* contest, compered by skydiver and part-time Matthew Kelly impersonator Antony Jenkins. The event was won by *Waste-of-Life* who proved to be a big hit with the ladies.

FS Skills Weekend

The FS Skills Weekend in August was great. Thanks to everyone for the massive effort. The expressions of determination and concentration on people's faces in freefall said it all! Initial feedback so far has been very positive and further events are to be scheduled.

Goodbye to Jane Harrison and Tim O'Sullivan who are emigrating to New Zealand in October.

Dave Head, Michelle Meakins and Doug Summers

Achievements

FS1

Duncan Stott, Jo Brass,
Julian Deplidge

Graduated AFF

Glen Hatch



By Pete Hughes

SILVER STARS

The team competed in the Armed Forces Championships and did really well considering the lack of training beforehand!

Success for Silver Stars at AFPC

Senior Style
Silver Andy Paddock
Bronze Jeff Montgomery

Intermediate Style
Gold Dean Hoskins

Senior Accuracy
Silver Jeff Montgomery

Intermediate Accuracy
Bronze Dean Hoskins

Junior Accuracy
Silver Stuart Miller-Hall

Team Accuracy
Gold Silver Stars

Congratulations to Lenny and Paula on the birth of their daughter, Jade Marie. Well done to Scott Hathaway who's finally started jumping!

Lenny

Achievements

First freefall Werner Smitts, David Morgan

Graduated AFF Scott Hathaway

IC1 Stuart Miller-Hall, Tommy Parry

Jump Numbers

100 Stuart Miller-Hall, Tommy Parry
200 Neil Freegard



RAFSPA



Waste-of-Life and 'Matthew Kelly' by Pete Hughes

CHATTERIS

After the Nomad shed an engine over Greenland, it's now sorted out and is flying over Chatteris. Thanks to John O'Connell for flying the Beaver over the summer. Also goodbye to Angela Wienand who is going to work in the States.

Steve Wilkin

Photo by Clfody



Photo by George Katsoulis

Achievements

First freefall John Biggs, Dan Aberdeen
Dan Porter, Mark Street
Christine Woodhouse

FS1 Richard Bennet, Angela Wienand
FF1 Yo Lee

Jump Numbers

100 Sharon Dawson, Adrian Crown
2,000 Sharon Simonian, Steve Wilkins

Red Devils reunion jump.
Photos by Simon Ward

RED DEVILS



September saw the first ever *Red Devils* reunion jump take place at Netheravon. Over 30 ex-team members attended the event including four of the founders of the team from 1964. Devils old and new jumped together all day, brought together by Dennis Hayes. The day ended on a 16-way with an impressive accumulated experience level of 60 thousand jumps. Then, in time honoured Freds tradition, it was up to the bar for beer and banter.

Lucifer 2

Achievements

1,000 jumps Tom Blakey

Tray of Buns by
Simon Ward



Dicko 16-way Meet

The annual meet on August bank holiday saw just two teams present. *Tray of Buns* consisted of 4Pak, VMAX and VNE, so the skill level was a little above average! The other, *Clip Hammer* was an intrepid mix of local jumpers, many with little or no 16-way experience. We completed all five rounds by Sunday in time for the Summer Ball. With a working time of 45 seconds, the highlight of the competition was an 8-point skydive from *Tray of Buns* — sweet.

Tray of Buns won with nearly a six point average, just doubling the score of *Clip Hammer* who were second. Next year, we'll make sure we don't clash with other competitions, so we can see more teams attending the meet.

This has been a remarkable year for Chris Ivory, who attained his FS1 at the beginning of the season. By July he had risen to the heady heights of National Champion in the Junior FS 4-way team, *UBI* and as we near the end of the year he is doing three and four point 16-way sequential. A fantastic demonstration of his talent and dedication to the sport.

Weston Plummetts

We are proud to be home DZ for some of the top teams in the UK. A big *Plummetts* thank you to those who have helped to make the 2001 season so enjoyable and to 4-Pak, VNE, VMax and X-Trix for coaching, encouragement, inspiration, fashion tips and singing.
www.westonplummetts.org

Achievements

First freefall Lucy Robinson, Kirsty Alderton
Cat 8 Lucy Robinson, Will Warboys

Darren Lewis, Rich Davies
Jon Beattie, Will Clements, Steve Davis
Will Clements

IC1 Pete Dobson, Jamie Shotton
FS1 Chris Cox, Andy Carre

FF1 Pollyanna Lenkic, Tom Crawley

Jump Numbers

100 Sarah Price, Matt Watts, Barry Kruger
200 Dru Spork
300 Mac Macdonald
400 Roger Flavell
600 Dave Wood

Bev Ford

We have a Cessna 182
which can carry four
parachutists for hire



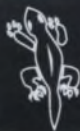
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FL 33540

HINTON

The Classics Roadshow arrived in July. Tim Carter wiped out a few myths by participating in the accuracy competition on his Extreme VX 79. He did very well too.

July also saw the Hinton CREW festival. Many visitors and regulars gave it a go. There was a massive party on the Saturday night and a fair few sore heads on Sunday.

Mega Plane Jump Day

August bank holiday Monday saw the arrival of many visiting aircraft. The most eagerly awaited of these was the Bell Jetranger helicopter. There were also two 1940s biplanes, a Tiger Moth, a Jackaroo (Tiger Moth copy with two seats in the back), an AN2 and a hot air balloon.

Achievements

First freefall

Jim Davies, Kate Crellin
Simon Gough, Hina Gandhi

Cat 8

Jo Bolton, Scott Witham
Becky Dixon, Karen Foster
Leonie Needham
Rosie Harland, Nicky Reader
Jane Dyke, Hannah Swallow
Dave Butterall, Jo Snowdon
Rob Rossall, Calvin Blacker
Nicko Braxton

FS1

Jo Bolton, Scott Witham
Becky Dixon, Karen Foster
Leonie Needham,
Rosie Harland, Nicky Reader
Jane Dyke, Hannah Swallow
Dave Butterall, Jo Snowdon
Rob Rossall, Calvin Blacker
Nicko Braxton

ICI

Leonie Needham,
Rosie Harland, Nicky Reader
Jane Dyke, Hannah Swallow
Dave Butterall, Jo Snowdon

FF1

Rob Rossall, Calvin
Blacker, Nicko Braxton
Simon McCombe, Beth King
Alex Pape, Pete Davison

FF2

Jump Numbers

100

Steve Barr
Ruth and Derrick Kent

300

Beth King

400

Ruth Covell

500

JP Reynard

600

Simon Brentford

800

Andy Wright

900

Noel Purcell

1,100

Torben Stockmarr

1,900

HP

In the late afternoon, ten experienced jumpers donned front-n-back kit and jumped the AN2. It was an amazing sight to see all the round canopies in the sky which we probably won't see much of in the future. At the end of the day there was a raffle to jump the hot air balloon which took off from a field behind the hangar. Three skydivers got out over the top and landed in the square. Then the balloon touched down on the DZ with the best landing out of them all!

Congratulations to Gary and Stephanie Watson on tying the knot in sunny France, with a honeymoon in Lapalisse.

Caroline White

Usual Suspects by Steve Saunders

Achievements

Cat 8

Dave Bolton, Steve Stringer
John King, Bruce Cairns

ICI

Dave Haylor

FS1

Maria Russell, Leonie Needham
Stephanie Watson

FF1

Rachel Gray

FF2

Alec Cotton, Jason Southall

Jump Numbers

100

Leonie Needham, Stephanie Watson
Chris Lewis

200

Rick Millin, Helen Ewing, Anna Palmer

400

Alec Cotton, Jason Southall

600

Woody

900

Dorian Harwood

TARGET

The freefly weekend was re-run with coaches *Euphoria*, *Bodyflight* and *Advance Rapide* -- thanks a million guys. The turbines worked harder than before, with over 90 lifts; the parties were wilder and the swoops were longer...Icarus Fantasticus! We saw plenty of new faces along with the funky freaks from the last meet

End of the Season? No way Jose! We still have the Halloween Boogie, 10-way speed meet, bonfire party and the Christmas party on 15 December to look forward to.

Ruth Covell



Rick Birkett flying a 2000 sq/ft flag by Paul Hollow



TILSTOCK

Summer started with our annual trip to Jurby Airfield on the Isle of Man. Despite bad weather, nearly 80 tandems were done along with experienced jumps. After the last night of beer, swapping rooms (due to Ben and the duck), balcony hopping (and disturbing a naked Dave Lewis) we settled our stomachs in the morning with a martian's breakfast -- chips, cheese, sausage and curry! The bank holiday Full Monty photos are not yet available -- depends who gets to the negatives first. Night jumps are planned for

November and December. The Christmas party is on 8 December at the Tern Hill Hall Hotel.

Liz Rimmer



First freefall -- Russell & Ria with Pat

Achievements

First freefall

Richard Head, Tyrone Grundy
Paul Stanton, Chris Cichocki
Rob 'Ninja' Little, Ed Gladman
Claire Wilkinson

Cat 8

FS1

Jump Numbers

50

Andy Gleeson

100

Edward Bimson

1,000

Dave Schofield

2,000

Chris Gilmore

Drop Zone Focus

Map No

11



CCI:
Chris Lyall

INSTRUCTORS:
Chris Lyall, Mike Rust, Steve Wilkins, Dave Harrison, Sharon Simonian, John Stevens, Ian Robertson, Yo Lee, Darren Bell, Stuart Williams, Jim Pescod, Geordie Best, Tony Keighthly, Danny Ng, Steve Plank, Mick Cooper, Steve Munday, Brad Reader, Steve Watson, Dave Goodwin, Pete Mac, Martin Crossley, Sarah Laughton, Nick Harrison, Kim Newton

PILOTS:
Gee Watkins, Ben Harrison, Dave Harrison, Steve Wilkins

AIRCRAFT:
GAF Nomad N22B (14 place) Turbine

ALTITUDE RESTRICTIONS:
None

JUMP PRICES:
£30 Static line RAPS
£35 Freefall
£17 Altitude
£13 Altitude on Fridays

FIRST JUMP COURSES:
RAPS, rounds, tandem, AFF

COACHING:
WARP and freely

OPENING TIMES:
Tuesday - Friday 10am-dark
Weekends 8am-dark

ON SITE FACILITIES:
There is a canteen, pool table and bar on site, along with a video franchise and a microlight school.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS:
Six miles away, in March are pubs, restaurants and takeaways – some of which will deliver. You'll find several pubs in the surrounding villages too. Within a

North London Parachute Centre

Chatteris

Chatteris Airfield, Manea, March,
Cambridgeshire, PE15 0EA
DZ Tel: 01354 740 810
DZ Fax: 01354 740 406
Office Tel: 01473 829 982
Office Fax: 01473 829 515
chatpara@aol.com
www.chatpara.com

twenty minute drive is the town of Ely and the famous and historic city of Cambridge. Mepal outdoor and watersports centre and the golf driving range are also nearby.

ACCOMMODATION:
B&B farmhouse rooms are available on site and camping is free. Bunkhouses are under construction and will be available soon.

OTHER INFORMATION:
North London Parachute Centre benefits from the unique situation of owning the airfield, hence the ongoing building programmes and constant development. Visitors can expect a friendly welcome and a good atmosphere. If there's a chance of flying, we will!

Directions

Chatteris airfield is located between Chatteris and March. From the A1 take the Huntingdon turn-off. Follow the A141 signposted to March and follow brown tourist signs to the Parachute Centre.



Recommended Local Accommodation

Griffin Hotel, March (nice, with discounted rates for skydivers)
01354 652517

Green Welly, Chatteris (basic)
01354 659490

All images by Steve Wilkins



North London's Nomad takes 14 people to altitude and has a CD player!

BPA Affiliated Drop Zones

KEY

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

Facilities

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video room
equipment shop
canteen
evening restaurant
bar

bunkhouse
showers
camping welcome
caravans welcome
1-22 Civilian BPA Centres
A-D Military BPA Centres

drop zones

7 Headcorn Parachute Centre

Headcorn Aerodrome, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

Open: Every day 9am - dark

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Turbolet (Apr-Sept), Beaver (Oct-Mar), Islander

AC WP 

8 Hinton Skydiving Centre

Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk

Open: 9am - 7pm Tues - Fri, 8am - 8pm Sat and Sun

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 206 (all year), Turbolet March - Dec

FS CF FF SU AC WP

9 London Parachute School

31 Green Street, Hazlemere, Bucks HP15 7RA
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 01494 459 500 Fax: 01494 444 326
info@londonparachuteschool.com
www.londonparachuteschool.com
Mob: 07970 818 458

Open: Weekends 8am - dark

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem

Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206

WP 

10 Merlin Parachute Centre

Alanbrooke Barracks, Topcliffe, Nr Thirsk, N Yorks
Tel: W/days 01204 391 860 W/end 01748 875 367

Open: Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Islander

FS CF AC 

11 North London Parachute Centre Ltd

Chatteris Airfield, Manea, March, Cambs PE15 0EA
DZ Tel: 01354 740 810 Fax: 01354 740 406
Office Tel: 01473 829 982 Fax: 01473 829 515
chatpara@aol.com www.chatpara.com

Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Nomad

LO FS CF WP    

12 North West Parachute Centre

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria
Tel: 015 395 58 672 Fax: 01772 774 188
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
www.skydive-northwest.com

Open: Weekends and bank holidays

First Jump Courses: squares, tandem

Aircraft: Islander, Turbolet 410

LO FS FF CF AC WP    

13 Paragon Skydiving

Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656
wgse08233@cablenet.co.uk
www.paragonskydiving20.com

Open: Wed - Sun

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 182

CF WP AC   

14 Peterborough Parachute Centre

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
www.skydivesibson.com

Open: 8am - 8pm, Tue - Sun (summer), Wed - Sun (winter)

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)

LO FS FF WP    

15 Peterlee Parachute Centre

PO Box 192, Durham DH1 5WD
Tel/Fax 0191 517 1234
Email: Shottonairfield@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydivearmy

Open: All day Sat/Sun/Bank holiday Mon all day, Occasionally mid week

(especially Wed & Fridpm - phone to confirm before travelling)

First Jump Courses: Squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 182, Turbo 206

FS CF WP   

16 Skydive St Andrews

Kingsmuir Airfield, Saint Andrews, Scotland
Tel: 01224 865 000 (Tel: Weekends 01334 880678)
skydivestandrews@mail.com
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk

Open: Every w/end & Public holiday 8am - 10pm,

Regularly open midweek (by arrangement)

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 185, Islander May - September

LO FS CF FF WP SU  

17 Skydive Strathallan

Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Tel: 0777 468 6161 Weekend 01764 662572
kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk

Open: Fri 5pm - 9pm, weekends 9am - 9pm

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem

Aircraft: Turbine, 3 x Cessna 206

LO FS CF FF AC WP  

18 Skydive Wales

Pembrey Airfield, Pembrey, Carmarthenshire, Wales SA16 0HZ
Tel: 01554 891 534 Mobile: 07779 019655
will@skydivewales.co.uk www.skydivewales.co.uk

Open: Friday - Sunday

First Jump Courses: tandem. Squares available March 2001

Aircraft: Cessna 182

FS AC WP 

19 Target Skysports

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow, Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648 837 DZ
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk

Open: 9am - dusk every day

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: G92 Turbine, SMG-92 Turbo Finist, Cherokee 6

LO FS FF WP   

20 The Parachute Centre

Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841 111 Fax: 01948 861 031
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
www.theparachutecentre.com

Open: Sat 8am - dark, Fri 2pm - dark (summer)

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206

LO FS CF AC WP   

21 UK Parachuting

Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU
Tel: 01953 861 030 Fax: 01953 861 031
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk www.ukparachuting.co.uk

Open: Weekends & Weekdays (but phone first)

First Jump Courses: squares, tandem

Aircraft: PA-32 (available for weekend displays)

FS  

22 Wild Geese Skydive Centre

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh, Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: 028 295 58 609 Fax: 028 295 57 050
parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

Open: Every day. W/end 8am - dark, W/days 9.30am - dark

First Jump Courses: squares, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

FS FF CF WP  

A Army Parachute Association

The Commandant, JSPC Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: Bulford Camp 01980 678 250
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk www.netheravon.com

B RAFSPA & RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team

JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-Green, Bicester, Oxon OX6 8TQ
Tel: 01869 343 343 / 343 201 Fax: 01869 343 676

C Services Parachute Centre

Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802.
Tel: 01504 721 472 Fax: 01504 721 342
Mobile: 0780 232 8755 SPCNI@aol.com

D Silver Stars Parachute Team

Duke of Gloucester Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD
Tel: 01285 861 344 or 01285 860 551 ext 8259
info@silverstars.fsnet.co.uk www.rclft.fsnet.co.uk

1 Black Knights Parachute Centre

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane, Cockerham, Nr Lancaster LA2 0DY
Tel: W/end 01524 791 820 or 0151 924 5560
www.bkpc.co.uk e-mail jeff@payco.net

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

Bruntton Airfield, Chathill, Northumberland NE67 5ER
Tel: 01665 589 000 Fax: 01665 721 053
skydivenorth@email.msn.com
www.borderparachute.co.uk

Open: Wkends winter, any day by call in summer, 9am - dark

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 182, larger aircraft on call

FS AC WP 

3 British Parachute Schools

Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY
Tel/Fax: 01949 860 878 info@bpslanger.co.uk
www.bpslanger.co.uk

Open: Every day 9am - 8pm (or sunset), 10am start Sunday

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Porter and Cessna 206. Turbolet (summer), Grand Caravan

LO FS FF WP   

4 British Skysports, Bridlington

East Lays Farm, Grindale Rd, Bridlington, E.Yorks YO16 4YB
Tel: 01262 677 367 / 07836 276 188 Fax: 01262 401 871
www.britishtskysports.co.uk

Open: Every day 8am - 8pm

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 206

FS CF AC WP  

5 Cornwall Parachute Club

Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield, St Ervan, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 7RT
Tel: DZ 01841 540 691 CCI 01208 813 310
da.bentley@virgin.net
www.skydivecpc.com

Open: Weekend 8am - dark, 3pm - sunset Wed - Fri (summer)

First Jump Courses: squares, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 182, 206

FS CF FF AC WP SU 

6 Devon & Somerset Parachute School

30 Tower Way, Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon EX14 4XR
Tel/Fax: 01404 891 690
AGUEST1@compuserve.com
www.parachuting-uk.com

Open: 9am - sunset Wed - Sun, midweek by arrangement

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Cessna 206

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Birth of Birds over Peris, CA

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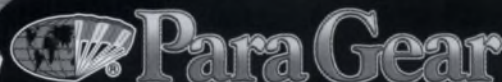
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Overseas DZs

Associated Organisations

When at BPA Affiliated Centres, the following organisations are run under the BPA Operations Manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for training or advice when these organisations operate at other centres

Active Skydiving

Glengoyan, St Fillans,
Perthshire PH6 2ND
Tel/Fax: 01764 685316
Mobile: 07803 041348
scotty@skydive.prestel.co.uk
www.commercepark.co.uk/skydive

Specialist AFF School offering residential courses in Spain and USA, video included on all jumps. Run by Scotty Milne, ex Red Devil, 5 times British Champion, with over 7,000 jumps. Advanced Instructor & Examiner, Scotty uses the latest equipment and teaching techniques for best results.

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78 Bexley High Street, Bexley,
Kent DA5 1LB
Tel: 01322 557375
Mobile: 07802 472 566
France: 00 33 (0) 619 605 997
skydive@air-waves.co.uk
www.air-waves.co.uk

BPA Approved instructors Rod Bartholomew (22 years experience), Chris Lynch (ex XL), & Coco Cazalas (USPA) offer AFF, RAPS / RAPS progression, tandem, FS, FF and team coaching at our beautiful seaside resorts in Royan, Corsica and Florida. Operating full-time all year, our professional and personal skydiving holidays have everything. Video included. UK support on return.

British Collegiate Parachute Association

Dave Thompson - Chairman
Mill Hollow Barn, Stockwell Lane, Sulgrave, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 2RS
www.bcpa.org.uk chairman@bcpa.org.uk

The BCPA aims to promote parachuting and skydiving at collegiate level. We hold events for our 25 affiliated university clubs and we provide help on setting up and running these clubs. Most importantly we provide a community where university skydivers of all abilities can find like-minded people to jump and socialise with.

David Morris Action Sports

2 Daleside, Cotgrave,
Nottingham NG12 3QA
Tel/Fax: 0115 989 2050
Mobile: 0777 498 6600
dave@daleside2.demon.co.uk www.daleside2.demon.co.uk
Dave specialises in AFF courses and tandem introductions in the UK, Spain and France. The AFF course includes free jumpsuit, altimeter, helmet, goggles, video log with re-jumps at cost. A great deal if you want to learn to skydive. Dave has over 7,000 jumps and is a BPA Tandem and AFF Instructor and Examiner.

East Coast Parachute Centre

8 Burns Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS
Tel: 01245 268772
RAPS, static line and progression courses. AFF - UK and abroad.
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FreeFall Company

The Coach House, West St, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7RL
Tel: 01372 801 851
Mobile: 0796 871 2020
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kevin@freefallco.com www.freefallco.com
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Oxon OX14 1BU
Tel/Fax: 01235 529570
doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk
www.paratrg.demon.co.uk
Run by Doug Peacock, BPA Instructor/Examiner. The complete RAPS package, PTS offers one jump introductory courses with the option of individual progression training through Cat 8 and advanced grades. Operating at Hinton Airfield in conjunction with Hinton Skydiving Centre. Six days per week, call for further information.

PhD Skydiving

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Tel: 01980 621363 Mobile: 07971 665815
aff@phdskydiving.co.uk www.phdskydiving.co.uk
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Beds, SG17 5BD
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pete@thepops.org www.thepops.org
A society of skydivers over forty. Regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

Red Devils

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678211 (Chief Instructor)
Tel: 01980 678203 (Courses)
Fax: 01980 678349
reddevils@reddevilsonline.com
www.reddevilsonline.com
Displays, tandem and RAPS courses.

Scottish Sports Parachute Association

Bunny McGeechan (Chairman, SSPA),
Strathallan Airfield,
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE
Tel: 01698 812 443 (weekdays)
Tel: 01764 662 572 (weekends)
info@sspa.co.uk www.sspa.co.uk
Newsgroup: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scotspa
The SSPA aims to promote parachuting in Scotland and provide training grants and subsidies for all aspects of the sport.

Skydive Academy

PO Box 192, Durham DH1 5WD
Contact: Ian Rosenvinge
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261
skydiveacademy@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy
7 day AFF courses our speciality. Late May-mid September at Peterlee. Outside this period, courses can be arranged abroad. Centre 15 mins drive from Durham city (2.45hrs from Kings Cross and less than 2 hrs from Edinburgh). B&B in local pubs from £12.50, in Durham City from £18.

Skydive Limited

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280066 Fax: 01832 280067
Mobile: 0785 000 7178
skydive@ukgateway.net www.skydiveltd.com
Chris Allen, Ex Red Devil, CCI, BPA AFF/Tandem Examiner, USPA Safety and Training advisor and Skydive University UK co-ordinator. Offers AFF courses in the UK and abroad. Also available; team coaching, Skydive University one-on-one programme and tandem.

Overseas Military Affiliated DZ's

These Drop Zones are run under the BPA Operations Manual

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,
Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus
Tel: Office 00 357 474 4337
DZ: 00 357 474 4245
Fax: 00 357 474 4180 skydive@logos.cy.net

RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,
Germany, BFPO 16
Tel: 00 49 5254 98 2378 or 98 2740
Fax: 00 49 5254 98 2740 awright91@aol.com

Overseas Associated Organisations

The BPA takes no responsibility for any training or advice given by these organisations as they do not necessarily operate under the BPA Operations Manual

CPCB

PO Box 194, 17487
Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 00 34 972 45 01 11
Fax: 00 34 972 45 07 49
cpcb@gna.es www.skyrats.com
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Skydive Sebastian

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FL 32958, USA
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Fax: 001 561 388 2105
info@skydiveseb.com
www.skydiveseb.com
Seb XL: pete_allum@compuserve.com
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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48 Alexandra Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight. PO31 7JT

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Helen Mills 00357 474 4337 2626
helen@bfb.com

20-28 US Nationals

Skydive Arizona 001 520 466 3753

23 BPA Council Meeting

skydive@bpa.org.uk 0116 2785 271

24-28 XL Challenge Skills Camp

Skydive Sebastian One of many!
Pete Allum pete_allum@compuserve.com

26-28 IPC Judges Seminar

Munich, Germany 0049 179 101 8040
florian@skyeurocup.org www.skyeurocup.org

27 RAFSPA End Of Season Party

Weston-on-the-Green 01869 343 343

27-28 Halloween 10-way Speed Meet

Target Skysports 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

27-4/11 Halloween Boogie

Lapalisse, France 0033 4709 01803
www.lapalisse-aero.com

27-10/11 Kenya Safari Beach Boogie

Diani 0025 4288 4258
www.skydivekenya.com
ronnie_jimborg@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER

1-4 IV Open Skyrats 2-way & Accuracy Meet and Catalan 4-way Meet

Empuriabrava, Spain 0034 972 450 749
cpb@gna.es www.skyrats.com

1-4 Para-Performance World Games

Perris Valley, USA paraprotour@excite.com

3 Langar Bonfire Party

bpslangar@aol.com 01949 860 878

3 Hibaldstow Bonfire Party

Target Skysports 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

17-25 Skydive City Turkey Boogie

Thanksgiving boogie Zephyrhills, Florida
www.skydivcity.com 001 813 783 9399
info@skydivcity.com

23-25 BCPA Freshers Meet

Location TBC
07957 174301
www.bcpa.org.uk freshers@bcpa.org.uk

24-3/12 Thailand Boogie

John Simms 01325 340000
extremesensation@btopenworld.com

DECEMBER

8 Tilstock Christmas Party

Tern Hill Hall Hotel 01948 841 111
www.theparachutecentre.com
skydive@theparachutecentre.com

11 BPA Council Meeting & EGM

skydive@bpa.org.uk 0116 2785 271

15 Wild Geese Christmas Dinner Dance

Wild Geese 028 295 58609
Bushtown House Hotel, Coleraine
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

15 Hibaldstow Christmas Dinner and Party

Target Skysports 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk

18-4/01 Elsinore Christmas Boogie

Skydive Elsinore, USA 001 909 245 9939
www.skydiveelsinore.com
info@skydiveelsinore.com

15-6/01 Empuria Christmas Boogie

Empuriabrava, Spain 0034 972 450 749
cpb@gna.es www.skyrats.com

17-25 Skydive City Xmas Boogie

Zephyrhills, Florida 001 813 783 9399
www.skydivcity.com info@skydivcity.com

23-5/01 Castellon Winter Boogie

Castellon, Spain 0049 5674 999 333
info@skydive.de www.skydive.de

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JANUARY 2002

19 ACM

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FEBRUARY

20-2/03 Umm Al Quwain Boogie

United Arab Emirates
Pete Marsden 01932 701 321
pete@boogieclub.co.uk www.boogieclub.co.uk

20-24 Skydive U - The Search III

Skydive Sebastian 001 561 581 0100
www.skydiveu.com

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Boogies
Freely & Skysurf
POPS
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Unclassified

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MARCH

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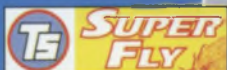
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