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The Mag

December 2002



The British Parachute
Association Magazine

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World Cup**

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The Mag, Station Road,
Ailsworth,
Peterborough, PE5 7AH
United Kingdom

Tel/Fax: 01733 380 568

editor@skydivemag.com
www.skydivemag.com

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CHANGED ADDRESS?
Call the BPA on
0116 278 5271

ADVERTISING
Jackie Green
Warners Group
Publications
West Street
Bourne, Lincs PE10 9PH

Tel: 01778 393 313
Fax: 01778 394 748

adverts@skydivemag.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Lesley Gale
lesley@skydivemag.com

**EDITORIAL AND
WEBSITE
CO-ORDINATOR**
Beverly Fairhurst
bev@skydivemag.com

DESIGN
Andy Venum
Tel: 01733 380 809
stylaprint@btconnect.com

IT AND SCANNING
Max Dane
Mark Wiles

Photo: Simon Ward



editorial

Congratulations to VMax,
World Champions!

VMax have worked so hard to achieve their fantastic result. They have done 1,200 training jumps since their first meet in February '99, raising their average from 8.8 to 15. VMax have coped with several team member changes and must be an example of team harmony as both Champ [Sacha] and Patsy [Sarah] rejoined the team after leaving.

VMax won the first women's 4-way World Cup in '99 with an average of 11.4 as an unknown, new team. They then trained hard, doing eight weeks of training and 40 hours of tunnel time in 2001 leading up to the World Meet, where they were gutted to finish fourth. Hats off to the chicks and Brian for soldiering on; 200 jumps and 20 hours in the tunnel later, their winning score at the World Cup was six points clear of the next team.

The BPA has made a major contribution to funding as well as the huge amount of their own money the team has invested. We commend VMax and wish them luck in 2003 for their training plan of 500 jumps before the World Meet in September at Gap.

British hopes in FS are high all round. Sebastian XL have been hovering just out of the 4-way medals at the last three World Meets. The BPA has backed the team all the way with funding to assist their sponsorship from Skydive Sebastian. Maybe 2003 will be their year - go XL, go!

In 8-way, VNE have been a little out of the limelight as the hopes of hardware were focussed on VMax and XL. But this World Cup has affirmed VNE's status as the best of the non-professional teams; a terrific achievement as they obviously can't rival full time skydivers and hold down jobs too. VNE achieved a British record average of 12.6 on a new slower dive pool, thanks to their huge commitment of 250 team jumps since the World Meet last year - entirely self-funded. A demanding training schedule of 450 jumps before the next World Meet will hopefully bring VNE the fourth place they desire. In recognition of their performance the BPA has now pledged support by way of funding.

It's fantastic to see the UK doing so well - not bad for a little island with shoddy weather! National pride is at an all-time high; everywhere I go, British jumpers have been saying how proud they feel. All our FS teams are shining bright; we thank them, they inspire us and we wish them every success.

Lesley

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The British Parachute Association

Patron: His Royal Highness
The Prince of Wales

BPA, Wharf Way,
Glen Parva,
Leicester LE2 9TF



Tel: 0116 278 5271
Fax: 0116 247 7662

skydive@bpa.org.uk
www.bpa.org.uk

BPA Staff

Technical Officer	Tony Butler
National Safety Officer	John Hitchen
PA to above officers	Trudy Kemp
Financial Administrator	Jon Gretton
National Administrator	Martin Shuttleworth
Administration Secretary	Susan Waterfield
Membership Services	Karey Goodwin
Membership Services	Sue Allen
Stock Controller	Dave Brown

BPA Council

BPA Chairman	Chris Allen	skydive@ukgateway.net
Vice Chairman & Competitions Chairman	John Smyth	smyffy@aol.com
Development Chairman	Ian Midgley	ianmidgley@hotmail.com
Communications Chairman	Kieran Brady	kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk
Council Members	Paul Applegate	paul.applegate@tesco.net
	Craig Poxon	craig@poxon.org
	Dave Hickling	bpslanger@aol.com
	Ian Marshall	marshallcf@aol.com
	Eddie Jones	eddie@skydivecamera.freemove.co.uk
	Jim White	jwhite526@hotmail.com

BPA Officers and Representatives

STC Chairman	John Hitchen	john@bpa.org.uk
Riggers Chairman	Paul Applegate	01869 277 469 paul.applegate@tesco.net
BPA Vice Presidents	Jim Crocker, John Lines & Bob Card	
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December 2002



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VMax win the women's 4-way event at the World Cup, Empuria; see page 6 for full story

Photo by Brian Vacher



Photos: Dave Brown

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"The British Mag is excellent, very visual and better than all the other national publications"



Mark Kirkby (Arizona Airspeed)
(Mark is a Brit who moved to the US from Cark ten years ago, lived in a tent, packed to pay for his jumps and is now a four time world champion. See? It can be done.)

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December 2002

WORLD CUP

Empuriabrava hosted the World Cup brilliantly

Our UK competitors Ian Matthews and Sarah-Jayne Smith report on their own disciplines...

The Centro de Paracaigudisme Costa Brava, aka CPCB on the northeast coast of Spain is owned and run by ex-pat Brit Pete Jones, is a popular boogie destination for European skydivers for a number of years and proved itself a worthy host for this major world event.

What's a World Cup?

The World Cup is held every other year, alternating with the World Championships, which are held as part of the World Air Games (WAG). The World Cup is a 'Class 1' IPC event, surpassed only by the World Championships, and is used as a trial run for any new rule changes. One major difference with a World Cup is that each nation can enter more than one team in each event; this in some ways makes it the more competitive event as a greater number of the world's elite teams can come and strut their stuff.

Brits Abroad

The British delegation, led by Head of Delegation John Hitchen, numbered around 40, an outstanding turnout. This included F5 teams in 4-way open, 4-way women's and 8-way open, plus CF rotations and 8-way speed events. We also had a hard core of supporters, groupies and packers, plus Al Macartney hovering in case any slots were going. We also had the luxury of a Delegation Manager at the meet, John Smyth, to sort out all the 'nightmare on admin street' and leave the teams to focus on the job in hand. This was first tried at last year's World Air Games where it was an outstanding success; John was to put in a styling performance once again. It really does make a difference and I would like to hope that in future the BPA actually funds a Delegation Manager, rather than it coming out of John's pocket.

The DZ

For the event, the landing area was moved to the north end of the DZ, backing onto the football field which was home for the competitors' tents. The spectator area was immediately next to the landing zone and included a large marquee, full time ambulance and a mobile studio for local radio station 'Ona Catalana'. It also housed the camera download area and, inside a darkened tent, the judges' 'fish tank' where competitors and spectators could view the judging as it happened through a glass partition, providing a respectful silence was kept.

The centrepiece of the public spectator area was a huge video screen, supplied by last-minute sponsor Braun. The screen showed all the judging 'live' and could be clearly seen by spectators and competitors, regardless of how bright the weather was. In front of the screen was a raised stage; the price we were to pay for media coverage – immediate post jump interviews for spectators and Spanish TV cameras! The organisers must be congratulated on the impressive way they set about showing the event off to the public and media. Sponsors were well represented, including Red Bull who have a long-standing relationship with the DZ. The public were welcomed and well catered for. There were some nice extra touches too – free hats and free water were a welcome relief in the blistering sun. As one competitor summed up – "This meet is everything the 2001 World Air Games should have been".



Opening Ceremony

A large crowd of spectators, a stage full of dignitaries and a gaggle of competitors were treated to a wonderful spectacle of a modern dance depicting a story involving hordes of children, jousters, fireworks and horsemen fighting off a fire-breathing dragon. A few words would have helped us understand the story(!) but we guessed it was Catalan folklore with the dragon as the baddie. It all went off like clockwork with the exception of one or two horses who seemed a bit uneasy with the dragon and consequently deposited a few 'traps' for unwary competitors landing under canopy; a member of each delegation jumped into the area with their national flag (nice one Al, so much for stack discipline) before the opening speeches by the organisers, BJ Worth and local bigwigs. Of course the UK contingent had more flags than anyone else!





4-way Open

Now it was time to get serious. The Union Jack was hung from the top of the highest lighting mast around the football field, jumpsuits went on and all focus was now on round 1. FS started with 4-way and ran smoothly, blessed by perfect weather. With 30 teams in 4-way, the fleet of three Twin Otters ensured a fast turnaround. This 4-way open event was billed as the most competitive formation skydiving meet ever held, with four teams capable of scoring a 22+ average; the three best US teams – *Arizona Airspeed* (current world champions from 2001), *DeLand Majik* and *Golden Knights Gold* (new US National champions), along with *France Mauberge*. *DeLand Morgies* completed the top five teams that would be fighting it out for the medals. Fresh from their recent US Nationals win, the *Golden Knights* had the opportunity to go head to head with their main rivals for next years World Championships – *France Mauberge*. For FS anoraks (myself included), this was the only place to be and we were not to be disappointed.

Something Special

From round 1, we got what we were expecting – a firefight for the medal positions. Within the first four rounds, the lead had changed hands three times as first *Airspeed*, then France, then *Majik* pulled out awesome jumps to steal a lead over the other teams. France and *Majik* seemed to be skydiving faster; *Airspeed* look slower but were clinically clean and precise. The *Knights* and *Norgies* were hot on the tails of the leaders, with the *Norgies* taking third place from France after six rounds. The *Knights* suffered a bust out of the door on round 6 and seemed to fall off the pace. There was no room for errors; to be in for a medal in this meet, you were going to have to do something special.

After eight rounds of battle, *Majik* had managed to pull into a lead with 177 points, ahead of France on 173 and *Airspeed* on 172. Going into finals day, the word on the street was 'It's *Majik's* if they want it enough'.

Brits

The UK was represented by *4Pak*, Brit bronze medallists. After years of being the top amateur team in the UK (second to *Sebastian XL*), this was expected to be their last meet and they were looking for something special to finish on. They had a mixed meet; at times we sat in awe watching them move but on other rounds the spark just didn't seem to be there. Uncharacteristic busts on two rounds had hit them hard and their meet finished with a 12.5 average – disappointing by their own high standards. The guys were obviously a bit flat but competitors like these don't just shrink away. *4Pak* may retire but we haven't seen the last of these guys.

Incidentally, last year at the WAG, only Norway and Switzerland had females on 4-way open teams averaging 16+. This year Russia and Italy also had females on their top open teams, all flying dynamically and more than keeping up with their male counterparts.



DeLand Majik



Airspeed



Golden Knights



4-way Women's

Six teams entered the restricted women's class; the UK represented by VMax. After a disappointing 4th place at last years WAG, Sarah had rejoined the team and the chicks had trained hard this year. A storming 15 average at Nationals had put them in a good position to bring home gold. Their main opposition were the Norgie chicks (Norway TNT). They too had had one person change since their silver medal last year and had arrived armed with a new line-dancing routine to keep the cameras on them. Sweden, third last year, were back but with big changes in line-up.

Camera Bust

VMax set off in impressive style, 5 up on Norway TNT after two rounds with some fast, clean skydiving. The Norgies were 'unlucky' and suffered a camera bust in round 2; no such luck for VMax, they just use the best cameraman. It's a team game and all five slots win or lose the medals; as usual Brian's camerawork rocked with perfect vertical framing. The Norgies were not going to be beaten though and kept pace with VMax for the next five rounds, first taking back a point then losing it, then taking it back again.

No Room for Errors

After seven rounds, VMax had a 4 point lead – comfortable in some circumstances – but not at world meets. There was no room for errors here! VMax and the Norwegians both looked superb; it was obvious that the other teams were going to be fighting for bronze.

Nerves

Nerves began to show in round 8 as VMax funnelled out of the door and busted back to an 11 – that must be their 4 point lead gone in a heartbeat! The girls were trying to put it behind them and were on the creeper pad prepping round 9, as the Norgies were up on screen being judged. Col came over and calmly let us know that TNT had just done the same – busted back to an 11. We all breathed a sigh of relief. Phew! I didn't think my nerves could stand any more. The chicks had two more rounds to keep their focus and still had a 4 point lead going into the finals day.



Photos in this article:

Bruno Brokken
Colin Bridges
Gustavo Cabana
Richard Hayden
Ian Matthews
Patrick Passe
Rez Shiel
Brian Vacher
Gus Wing

Competition videos are available from Gustavo Cabana, cost 30 Euros. Email guscabana@usa.net



8-way Open

8-way open attracted ten teams from eight nations. The Russians, current 8-way world champions, had reformed after their victory and had been training hard for the meet but were an unknown quantity. France had put together a team intent on winning which completed around 400 training jumps prior to this meet. The USA registered two 8-way teams; the *Golden Knights* and *Majik Airspeed*. The *Knights* too had trained for the 8-way, although they had prioritised 4-way in the run-up to their US Nationals victory.

Brits

The UK were represented by *VNE*, current UK national champions. The team had continued to train through the summer after Nationals and, being self-funded, were looking to see how much ground had been made up on the professional teams since last year.

High winds delayed the start of the 8-way but we eventually got off to a storming start posting a 14 on a fairly slow dive, only one behind the *Golden Knights*, two behind *Majik Airspeed* and three behind the French and Russians. We would be very happy if we could stay that close on all the dives. After another couple of rounds, France had pulled into a small lead over the *Golden Knights* and *Airspeed*. Round 4 had everyone excited; this had the potential for some high scores. *VNE* posted a 16, again equalling but not beating the current UK record set by the previous national team *Junction 9*. That record will fall! The training put in by France and the *Golden Knights* was evident as both teams scored 26's, well ahead of the rest of the field.

France in the Lead

This pattern continued into to round 8. France, leading on 148 points, were skydiving very slick and clean, almost holding each point too long before moving on. These guys have put a team together with the clear intent of winning the World Championship title next year and are looking seriously good. The *Golden Knights* held second place on 144, ahead of *Majik Airspeed* with 139. Russia's early promise had faded and they trailed behind on 118.

VNE produced some good dives and were holding off the Red Bull sponsored Spanish team. Disaster struck on round 7 when we funnelled our normally solid B launch and only posted an 8. Ouch! At least we are consistent though – we haven't funnelled a launch since last years world meet! A strong 14 in round 8 put us on 98 points and made sure we kept our position going into the finals day but round 7 had hurt.



UK team VNE





I would like to state how IMMENSELY PROUD I was of VMax. From day one of the training camp through to the medal ceremony they conducted themselves superbly. As the national anthem played with ALL the Brits singing at the top of their voices I had a big lump in my throat, so God knows how they must have felt. It was INSPIRATIONAL.

I would also like to mention VNE with a big thank you from me personally and on behalf of the BPA. Yet again they were superb ambassadors for British skydiving winning a huge amount of respect from everyone at the competition and making lots of friends. The VMax and VNE combination plus XL will ensure that British FS stays at the top of the world for some time yet.

Finally the organisation out there was OUTSTANDING. Empuriabrava have achieved an incredible success with this European and World Cup. My thanks to ALL of them out there for making my job so easy and enjoyable.



John Smyth
Delegation Manager

Best Drinking Story:

In the early hours on a party night after the meet, Sacha [Chilton from VMax] plus a Golden Knight and an Aussie left the Surf Bar, in the rain to go 'home'. A bit disorientated from the night's activities, they managed to get lost, finding themselves coming up against a canal with no way over it. So they 'borrowed' a small boat and paddled over with their hands, abandoning the boat on the other side. After 90 minutes in the pouring rain, they reached safety, finding themselves outside the Aussie's apartment. Which was just next door to the Surf Bar.



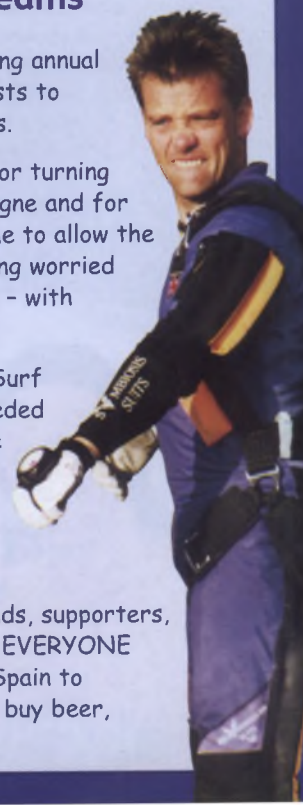
Thank You from the FS teams

John Smyth, again, for taking annual leave and paying his own costs to deal with our admin matters.

Kevin and Debs McCarthy for turning up with oodles of champagne and for taking VMax's trophies home to allow the chicks to party without being worried about losing/breaking them - with hindsight, a very good idea!

The tree just outside the Surf Bar, for providing much needed security and support to one VMax member while we stopped a taxi to pour her into. (It's okay Nutty, I didn't mention your name).

But most of all to our friends, supporters, groupies, packing b.....s and EVERYONE who made the trek out to Spain to support, cheer, wave flags, buy beer, pack, or feed the ducks.



Finals Day

Finals day dawned and what a day this was going to be. Everyone had ensured a good night's sleep, ready for the last day – yeah, right! Competition nerves had ensured many a sleepless night on all the teams – all the hard work, all the training, all the sacrifice to get here. Two jumps to go. Right here, right now.

To add to the excitement, all final rounds were to be jumped in reverse order. Each team would then be taken onto the stage to see their last round judged. In front of the audience, the TV cameras and all the other competitors. By wanting media coverage, this is what we had signed up for. There was to be no hiding emotions.

8-way

France continued with clean, precise skydiving to maintain their overnight 4 point lead to take gold with 186, against the *Golden Knights'* 182 and *Majik Airspeed's* 176. Russia had to settle for fourth place on a distant 152. *VME* produced another couple of 14's, beating Spain to the cut for the final round and finishing on a 12.6 average. This was a personal, team best and UK record average and still we were disappointed because the 13 was soooooo close, one silly mistake away. Where is Richard Hamblen when you need him?

Women's 4-way

Starting with a four point lead, the *VMax* chicks were on edge but very focused and keeping their cool. In round 9, they kept their nerve to take another two points off the Norwegians with a clean 14, to go into round 10 with a six point lead. This final round was a long time coming and, like *WAG* last year, was a fast round – a single mistake could easily change the positions. Not the time for heroics, just a solid skydive required. Up on the stage the *Norgies* and *VMax* posted 18s in turn and the champagne corks started to fly in the Brit corner. *VMax* – WORLD CUP CHAMPIONS!!!!

Relief and joy at the moment *VMax* saw their winning score displayed



4-way Open

Round 9 saw *Majik's* lead reduced to three points by France, 199 to 196. *Airspeed* kept third on 194 and *DeLand Norgies* fourth on 191. The *Golden Knights* finished round 9 with 187 and failed to make the cut for round 10. This obviously disappointed them but this had been a battle with the biggest and best.

Round 10 saw *Airspeed* pull a superb 28 out of the bag to toast all the other teams by three points and push France down to the bronze. However, the main cheers were for *USA DeLand Majik*, who kept their lead to win by 224 points to *Airspeed's* 222 and France's 221. After a disappointing third place at US nationals, missing the sought after US team slot for next year, *Majik* had proved their worth and beaten all the world's top 4-way teams to take gold with a 22.4 average. This had been a great battle of the top competitors. To put it into perspective, last year's winning average at *WAG* was 21.4; this year Norway came fourth with 21.6. All three medal-placed teams averaged 22+, this has never been achieved before.

Italian ladies *Kewara* are delighted with their bronze



DeLand Majik win the 4-way



The Aftermath

Once the scoring was finished, the party went off! Champagne soaked competitors from all the nations, win or lose, set about celebrating a most awesome meet. The UK had something special to celebrate – our chicks were the champions – and for the Brits the party continued for three nights solid.



Solly Williams
& Nutty



Joey Jones &
Craig Girard

And Next Year?

Gap-Tallard, in France, is home to the 2003 World Championships. This DZ's reputation for running meets is second to none. The French federation has already stated that their goal is for the French to win gold in both the 4-way and 8-way events and are intent on running all events out of Porters, having cornered the world market in them. How very sporting.

4-way

The *Golden Knights*, current US 4-way champions will be working on keeping the 4-way sword in the USA and have the best wind tunnel in the world. I would imagine some US tax dollars will be getting invested in a Porter too. *DeLand Norgies* did just 90 team jumps this year and still put a 21.6 on the board – watch this space when they train for real. And don't forget *Sebastian XL*, who couldn't make this world cup but are still hungry for that elusive world medal.

8-way

Arizona Airspeed plan to do 700 jumps and reclaim the 8-way sword from Russia who have some hard work to do. France are looking very good and will be on home ground. It would be a brave man who would bet against a USA/France/Russia 1-2-3, with all capable of taking the number 1 slot. What of *VNE*? Well, its unrealistic with the calibre of the top three professional teams for us to get on the podium but we have closed the gap a huge amount in the last year. World number 4 is the goal and we have a training plan to suit. But maybe if we close our eyes really tight and make a wish...

Women's 4-way

VMax – the chicks want another gold and have set a huge training commitment for 2003; standing on podium is truly addictive! The *Norgie* chicks, second in the last two world events, only want one thing – the gold. The USA, 2001 world champions, will be back with a vengeance and France always produce something good on home soil. It's going to be one to watch.

Come to Gap

A quick plea to everyone – why not make the trek down to Gap. If this year is anything to go by, the World Championships in 2003 will be awesome. Bring flags, bring champagne, bring ducks, but most importantly, just bring support. The teams really appreciate anyone who comes to support us and it DOES make a difference. The party at the end is normally pretty good too!

And finally (yes, I'll shut up and go after this one), on a personal note... A few months ago, Nutty said to me in a frustrated tone of voice "I JUST want to be a World Champion". Well guess what chick? You are. Chick rocked!



4-way Women's

1	United Kingdom	VMax	Centre
2	Norway	TNT	Right
3	Italy	Kewara	Left



8-way

1	France		Centre
2	USA	Golden Knights	Right
3	USA	Majik Airspeed	Left
7	United Kingdom	VNE	



4-way Open

1	USA	DeLand Majik	Centre
2	USA	Arizona Airspeed	Right
3	France	Maubeuge	Left
20	United Kingdom	4Pak	

Full scores:

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Stumpy (Ian Matthews)
specialist.plant@virgin.net

Canopy Formation

This was my first international competition; in fact I had only competed once before! (in the 2002 Nationals.) I'm 28, have been doing canopy formation for just two years and began to specialise in camerawork in the last year. I was the only female competitor in the World Cup. During the event I tore a ligament in my ankle and was taken to hospital where my left leg was put into a soft cast. With no-one to replace me, I continued to jump, giving the TV journalists no end of joy, filming my unique 'undercarriage up!' landings and inspiring huge amounts of unexpected respect from the hardy Russian teams – including the Siberian team which is quite something!

Brit Teams

I jumped camera for both *Hinton-8* and *Team Focus*, the two CF teams representing Britain in this World Cup, both trained at the excellent Hinton Skydiving Centre. The day before the meet, we had the opportunity of an official training jump; In *Hinton-8* there were a few radical changes to the team's strategy so the competition started with us on tenterhooks!

Canopy formation is one of the fastest growing disciplines in the British skydiving community. Greatly advanced by new kit and new techniques, CF is changing and breaking out of the classic mould. The BPA has been an overwhelmingly supportive influence behind getting CF teams into the World Cup, thereby also opening up the discipline by profile to every skydiver at home.

Will to win

During the competition, both British teams did marvellously. A medal cannot sum up the hard work and extreme pressure that a good team navigates through to compete in a competition like this. The will and determination to learn and improve that these teams showed was recognised and I dare say, respected by other teams. Thanks must go to Christoph Balaski of the world champion French CF team for sparing the time and humour to stop by and impart a wealth of tips and constructive analysis. All the competitors showed incredible generosity to our young British teams. Biff of *Team Focus* commented "We all said that if we came here and learned just one thing, then it would be a trip worth taking". Well, we didn't stop learning the whole time.

Brit Delegation

A word must be said on the efforts and sheer hardiness of the whole British BPA delegation. I believe every one of my fellow team members will agree when I say both John Hitchen and John Smyth were a strong positive influence on us all and express thanks to both. I will never forget when John Hitchen, relieved that the competition pressures were finally over after a long week, jumped in the resident pool fully clothed in a fit of exuberance – only to emerge from the water seconds later

dismayed with his wet mobile in his hand! Thanks also to Annette Williamson for taking me to the hospital when I tore a tendon. Annette was always cheering us up and making us laugh at every opportunity.



Annette Williamson and John Hitchen

Highlight of the Ceremony

The profile of the event was very high. The CF category gathered as many if not more crowds than the traditionally more popular FS and FF events. When jumping on to the beach for the awards ceremony the British team, lead by Ian Marshall and Richard Hayden, joined forces with the Turkish team performing the highlight of the ceremony. The two teams built a 9-stack above the sea, breaking off into groups for a spectacle of 2-stacks, flying drop-flags, downplanes and the longest pendulum I have ever seen in my life! [A pendulum is when one canopy and parachutist hangs upside-down from two other canopies in a stack.] Well done to Paul Yeoman and Carl Blair for pulling that one off, the crowd loved it!

TV companies had cameramen and journalists chasing around the teams all week, finding a great interest in the kit, skills and techniques. We were stopped by residents of Empuriabrava and told in a myriad of languages how good it was to see these canopy formations building and flying above their town. It's easy to forget what a beautiful and unique sport canopy formation can be in the shadow of other more hyped skydiving events but for one week the residents of Empuria reminded us!

Empuria Skydive Centre

Empuriabrava is surely one of the most beautiful drop zones in the world and extremely well run. I heard many competitors comment that this year's World Cup was the best they'd ever been to and I well believe it. They catered for every conceivable need with seamless professionalism; thank you! Little wonder that it is one of the busiest skydive centres in the world.

And Now...

Hinton-8 through all their hard work and added strength of *Team Focus* to make up the eight won a deserved bronze in the CF Speed 8-way European Cup. After this long competition with its ups and downs and weather holds, competitors talked of their new ideas for training and coaching with some of the teams they met at the World Cup. They planned for new competitions and improved standards to achieve; this is surely what world meets are for! *Team Focus* learned a lot and set new goals to look forward to. Well done to everyone who took part and a special thanks to the teams that supported me as their cameraperson and gave me the opportunity to learn and compete. As the only female in the CF category I was made to feel the 'belle of the ball' and was proud to jump with them.

Sarah-Jayne Smith
sjscookie@yahoo.com



The British CF Delegation

CF Speed (8-way)

- 1 Russia 2 (pictured, below right)
 - 2 France
 - 3 Russia 1
 - 4 UK, Hinton-8
- Hinton-8 took bronze in the European Championships, podium pictured right



CF Sequential (4-way)

- 1 France 1* (pictured, above right)
- 2 France 2*
- 3 Russia

* Tie-breaker based on fastest last point

CF Rotations (4-way)

- 1 Russia, Siberian Legion (pictured, right)
- 2 Russia 1
- 3 France
- 8 UK, Team Focus



We have not reported on the artistic events as we had UK competitors entering and as this was a European championship event only, not part of the World Cup

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BOOKS

Skydiving Basics - by Doug Peacock and Andy Allman	£8.00
Skydive - Sport Parachuting explained by Chris Donaldson	£14.99
Skydiver's Survival Guide (NEW!)	£15.00

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GOGGLES

Flexvision clear	£8.00
Flexvision tinted	£10.00
Flexvision overglasses	£11.00
Kroop	£8.50
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Sorz - Tinted, mirror, amber, clear	£19.50
Blaze/Peerser Goggle	£16.50

Other goggles available, call for details

VIDEOS

Basic Body Flight - Skydive University	£42.50
Basic Canopy Flight - Skydive University	£42.50
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Other Videos and DVDs available on request

MISCELLANEOUS

Alti-2 velcro wrist mount	£6.00
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JM's Newsround

Compiled by
Beverly Fairhurst

Delmarva Burgled

Skydive Delmarva in Laurel, Delaware, USA, was burgled on 13 November and a number of rigs were stolen. Any information to help us recover the equipment or apprehend the culprit(s) would be appreciated.

Vector Tandem TV-13 - Black

VTC-II reserve; EZ-384 main, black/white/purple; Cypres Tandem 1-pin

Javelin TJN - Purple/Electric Blue

Stainless steel, white pinstripping, white embroidery 'Skydive Delmarva, Staff, Kathy'; Sabre 135, rainbow; PD 126; Cypres

Javelin TJN - Purple/Electric Blue

Same rig as above but reads 'Skydive Delmarva, Staff, Bill'; Heatwave 135, pink/teal; Cypres

Javelin Odyssey TJN - Blue/Gold

PD factory team container with Sunpath & PD logos; stainless steel; Vengeance 135, navy blue/2 white racing stripes; Micro Raven 135, green

Javelin Odyssey J3 - Teal

Sunpath demo container; articulated; stainless steel; gold embroidery; lavender harness; Sabre 2 170, blackberry/lemon/teal; PD 126; Cypres

Javelin TJN - Teal/Charcoal/Black

Hip & chest rings; Jedei 136 prototype, teal/charcoal; PD 126

Javelin J3 - Black/Blue pinstripes

PD 160 reserve, green; Cypres

martinevans@skyeyeskydiving.com
001 888 875 3540

Stolen Gear Database

The international internet-based lost and stolen property database, **ItsBeenStolen.com** now includes lost and stolen skydiving gear. The website enables you to check if any second hand gear you've bought is registered as stolen. There is no registration as it is supported by volunteer effort and donations.

<http://ItsBeenStolen.com>



Speed Skydiving World Cup Brit Goes Ballistic

The third speed skydiving world cup was held at Lapalisse in France in September. The meet was called after two rounds, five jumps in total. Mark Calland is the first Brit to exceed 300mph at competition level; on his 500th jump, his fourth jump in the speed skydiving world cup, he racked up 312mph. Mark thanks Stuart Morris of NWPC and Shaun Ellison for helping with his training.

Speed Skydiving World Cup Results

1	Marco Wiederkehi	Austria	304.66 mph
2	Mike Brooks	France	293.50 mph
3	Guillaume Victor Thomas	France	293.10 mph
4	Luigi Figoni	Italy	290.20 mph
5	Mark Calland	UK	278.48 mph

www.speedskydiving.net

Photos: Shaun Ellison

HAHO Round Jump

Brits Graham Spicer and Martin Cruikshank with the help of Dan O'Brien of SkyDance Skydiving in California decided to do a HAHO (High Altitude, High Opening) jump from 30,300 feet using static line round canopies. After putting up with over 12gs of opening shock, they experienced temperatures up to -40° C with winds up to 60mph. They were under canopy for over 30 minutes and travelled about 18 miles. Graham and Martin, pictured right, broke the world altitude record for the type of equipment they used.

graham_spicer@tinyworld.co.uk



Aero Store Boogie

Brazil, 18-30 March 2003

Aero Store's 9th international boogie will be run in conjunction with their group trip to Brazil. The trip is from 18-30 March 2003, with the boogie running from 20-23 March in Buzios. Activities include skydiving, scuba-diving, beaches and Brazilian nightlife. On 27-28 March jumps can be made on to Ipanema Beach.

Jil & Marco Castanon,
aerostore@aerostore.com
Tel: +1 610 327 8555
Fax: +1 610 327 8445



Air Sports Bursary

The Royal Aero Club Trust, as part of its Flying for Youth programme, has launched a bursary scheme for young people who wish to upgrade their existing qualification in a wide range of aviation related activities including skydiving. The Trust will award bursaries up to £500 to suitable candidates. Applications must arrive at the Trust by 31 December 2002 and should be submitted through an approved sponsoring organisation, club or association. For conditions and an application form:

www.royalaeroclubtrust.org



Extreme Sports Café

This new company is an internet based business offering extreme sport holidays including kite-surfing, scuba-diving, climbing, free-diving and snowboarding. Multi-sport holiday packages are available for people who already do one sport but would like to try other activities too. Sample weekends are available to try several activities. When you find one you like, ESC will then transfer remaining holiday funds over to the preferred sport. They also organise skydiving boogie trips, AFF courses, tandems and freefly coaching. ESC plan to open branches where people can come to eat, drink, relax and talk.

www.extremesportscafe.com

Freefly Thursdays



The Freefly Training Center at Skydive Sebastian in Florida is undertaking a new scheme, Freefly Thursdays at the SkyVenture wind tunnel in Orlando. Every Thursday from 6-8pm FTC will be offering freefly training and group coaching. The training will be in 15 minute blocks (which can be shared by up to two freeflyers) and private or one-on-one coaching will also be available, plus full video debriefing.

info@freeflytrainingcenter.com



Alaska Jon



Scuba Skydive

Jon Trevor won a Dive magazine competition with the photo to left, taken by Ralph Mitchell. He received a new regulator and his picture was displayed in the October issue. Competitors had to photograph themselves diving in an unusual place with a carrier bag from the magazine's sponsor, the Scuba & Outdoor Pursuits Centre.

Jon undertook a great deal of planning; he strengthened the plastic bag and tried each piece of diving gear separately, before combining them for the goal jump. Jon wore a wetsuit, hood, cave helmet with torches, diver's mask and a regulator but was advised not to jump with flippers.

jont@globalnet.co.uk
www.scubapursuits.com



North Pole Skydiving

The Arctic Centre in Moscow is organising trips to the North Pole in April 2003. Programmes available include skiing, diving, ballooning and skydiving. Depending on the numbers and preferences, skydives on the Pole will be from a Iljushin-76, MI-8, AN-12 (or AN-26). Training jumps in Siberia will be done from a MI-8 and/or an AN-2. The 10-11 day trip starts in Moscow and will incorporate going to Khatanga in Siberia for sightseeing and a practice jump. On the last night will be a festive dinner with presentations of certificates at the hotel in Moscow. Depending on the programme, costs range from \$7,500 – \$9,700. You can even do a tandem for \$15,000.

Nathalie Chudiak: chudiak@freeler.nl
Tel/fax: +31 70 383 6687

On the web:

More details on all these stories are on our website plus the following we didn't have room for:

Philippines Skydiving Festival / Fly-In
Sun Path Sued
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Pilot Cadet Scheme
Babylon News

www.skydivemag.com

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2002-2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12/21 - Night Jumps and
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12/21 - 1/5 - Christmas Boogie
and New Year's Events:

12/25 Christmas Day & Dinner

12/27-28-29 - Big Way Camp
with Boxman organizing all week.

Tryouts for World Record - boxorg@aol.com

12/31 New Year's Eve Party & Ball

New Year's Eve Midnight Jumps
...freefall into the New Year!

12/27-31 - Basic Freefly Skills Camp

1/5 - TK's 42nd Birthday, 42-Way Dives

1/11-12 - 16-Way Invitational Weekend with Boxman

1/17-19 - Friday to Sunday, GoFast and
Total Body Pilot Air and Speed Races.

1/18 - Night Jumps Saturday Night

1/18-19 - Annual Pond Swoop Meet at Z-Hills

1/24-25-26 - Big Way Camp, Boxman & Guy Wright

2/1-16 - AFF Certification Program

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AGM

**Saturday 18 January
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Hanover
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If you've never been to an AGM, make this the year you do. We promise you a great time and an interesting day – and it's FREE!

Photos: Simon Ward



The AGM starts at 10.30 with a speech by BPA Chairman Chris Allen, summing up the previous year, then he will present the annual awards



A superb array of skydiving manufacturers and shops are on hand with their wares all day



Seminars from VMax and VNE, a celebration of Brit Chicks, advice on instruction from Mike Rust, canopy handling by Jack Bramley and more



The usual meetings of display teams will take place; judges, pilots, POPS; plus open forums on Competitions and The Mag



The day is rounded off by the dinner dance, 7.30 for 8pm in evening dress (DJ, lounge suit or posh frock). Dinner tickets are £21 from Sue at the BPA office



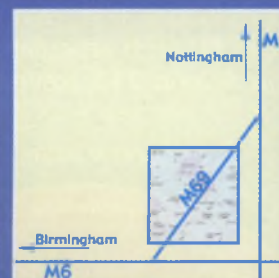
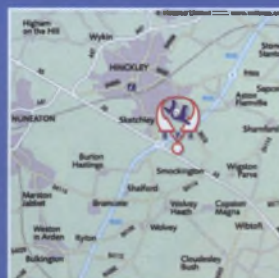
After dinner, the Sibson-based skydiving band Grounded will play followed by a disco; the entertainment programme is free and open to all

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Fri 17 Jan £60 double/twin, £40 for single occupancy

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BPA Matters

New FAI Licences

The International Parachuting Commission has agreed on a worldwide standard of Certificates of Proficiency, commonly known as licences. Previously, requirements for A, B, C, and D licences varied from country to country and many of nations issued no FAI licences at all. IPC considered that the travelling parachutist and all drop zone operators would benefit if one standard of FAI Certificate of Proficiency was applied throughout the world.

The new FAI International Certificate is intended to be the benchmark for worldwide recognition although national bodies can still set their own standards if they wish. Drop zones throughout the world are urged to welcome visiting parachutists whose level of expertise is certified through the new FAI International Certificate of Proficiency (CoP).

The BPA can now issue these documents to any members who require them. Copies of the application Form 226 have been sent to clubs and centres, may be downloaded from the documents online page of the BPA website and are available on request from the BPA office. The standards for each level of Certificate (A, B, C or D) are printed in the four official FAI languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish). Each CoP booklet will require a photograph of the applicant and their signature. The BPA will



BPA Christmas

The office will close at lunchtime on Monday 23 December and reopen at 9am on Thursday 2 January 2003. The staff wish all members a happy Christmas and new year. Don't forget to check out the BPA website over the holiday!

www.bpa.org.uk

certify the qualifications of the applicant by adding a sticker for each level of Certificate to signify the level of proficiency reached (A, B, C or D). The numbering system is based on the country codes of the International Olympic Committee, the UK code being 'GBR'.

The BPA (and other national parachuting associations) will continue to issue their own National Certificates (BPA FAI Certificates Red) alongside the FAI system. So the new CoPs do not replace current BPA Certificates (Red) and do not correlate directly with the BPA system. They are simply the parachuting equivalent of the international driving licence. They will help you when abroad and will aid CCLs to get a good idea of a foreign parachutist's skills when visiting a BPA club.

Martin
Shuttleworth

Certificate requirements

"A" Certificate: "Parachutist"

25 Freefall jumps
5 Minutes of Freefall time
5 formation jumps OR 5 freefly jumps, involving at least two participants and made under the supervision of an instructor.

Demonstration of control of the body in freefall in all axes (backloops, turns, barrel rolls etc.)

Ability to pack a main parachute

"B" Certificate: "Freefall Parachutist"

50 Freefall jumps
30 Minutes of Freefall time
Successful completion of ten formation skydives, at least five of which must involve a minimum of three participants, OR ten formation freefly jumps, at least five of which must involve a minimum of three participants.

"C" Certificate: "Experienced Parachutist"

200 Freefall jumps
1 hour of Freefall time
Successful completion of fifty formation skydives, at least ten of which must involve a minimum of four participants, OR fifty formation freefly jumps, at least ten of which must involve a minimum of four participants.

"D" Certificate: "Senior Parachutist"

500 Freefall jumps
3 hours of Freefall time

The "A" Certificate holder may only participate in formation skydiving or freefly jumps under the supervision of a qualified instructor.

"B" to "D" Certificate holders may jump under self supervision.

Competitions

Nationals 2003

The venue for next year's Nationals have mostly been decided, as follows:

FS 4-way	Target	26-28 July
FS 8-way	Target	2-4 August
Artistic Events	Target	2-4 August
CF / Classics	TBA	

Regionals 2003

Dates for the Regionals are as follows and an 8-way circuit has now been added, at the request of competitors.

FS 4-way

Northern	Strathallan	23-26 May 2003
Central	Langar	16-17 August 2003
Southern	Headcorn	10-11 May 2003

FS 8-way Grand Prix

Strathallan	23-26 May 2003
BPS Langar	4-15 June 2003
Target Skysports	5-6 July 2003

Canopy Formation

Northern	Wild Geese	28-29 June
Central	BPS Langar	27-28 September
Southern	Cornwall	3-5 May 2003

Classics

Northern	Wild Geese	28-29 June
Central and Southern		TBA

Roadshows

The roadshow programme will be even bigger and better next year. Drop Zones, contact the BPA Comps Committee to request an attendance at your club or centre.

Council 2003

Only thirteen nominations were received for the fifteen seats on Council 2003; all will be on Council next year with no need for an election:

Chris Allen
Paul Applegate
Calvin Blacker
Kieran Brady
Ralph Fielding
Billy Gollan
David Hickling
Nigel Holland
Eddie Jones
Ian Marshall
Ian Midgley
John Smyth
Jim White.

New Ratings

AFF Instructor

Paul Floyd
Mike Gorman

Tandem Instructor

Gavin Tuckley
Nick Brooksbank

Cat System BI

Tommy Parry
Dave Saville
Oliver Neuberger
Noel Purcell
Chris Gilmore
Chris Southworth
John Howard
James Swallow
Ben Wood
Vancant Allen
Marcus Orme
Billy Blanchard
Adele Murray
Aff Afshorian
Richard Parrott

Tandem BI

Steve Newman

Cat System Instructor

Ian MacDonald
Bernard Holland
Nick Brownhill
Alice Gillies
Billy Gollan
Geoff Mason
Danny Wood
Barry Davin
Gavin Horrell

Advanced Instructor

Phil Collett
Dave Lewis



Liz Danby
Photo by Matt Abram

Classics Nationals

The Classics Nationals were held jointly with the CF Nationals at Hinton from Saturday 7 to Wednesday 11 September. Registration stayed open until Saturday morning; coupled with persuasion in the bar on Friday night, more competitors were encouraged to enter the Classics as well.

Accuracy

Accuracy kicked off first and continued across the whole competition with the odd round in drizzling rain. The general conditions were not easy with gusting winds and 'industrial haze' at low altitudes. Despite this some competitors were posting great results on the scoreboard.

The tuffet was an inflatable type and not the standard mattress, which caused a number of problems. It is thought that the low air pressure did not provide a sufficiently solid base for the electronic pad to register true scores on all occasions and a number of rejudges had to be given. It also caused some injury when Ian Marshall bounced off it landing hard on his coccyx. He spent the rest of the meet walking around looking like he was constipated!

The weight of the scoring pad on the inflatable tuffet caused it to sink so it was below the level of the tuffet, as opposed to the standard of it being seated slightly high. This was not too much of an issue but for the three swoopers, jumping a PD Velocity 103, Safire 129 and a Sabre 150, this was a major problem. The judges increased the generator output when the swoopers were jumping to try and raise the pad but it still remained below the level of the tuffet. This requires a far larger leg movement and greater inaccuracy. One of the judges also learned that when the swoopers were jumping it was probably not a good idea to stand on the wind-line short of the target!

Style

Style, the most weather dependant of all the events due to the use of ground-to-air camera, started on the last day and all five rounds were completed. With a fast pace to complete the event some competitors were making back-to-back loads and judging was done at the end, so competitors did not know where they stood throughout their jumps. The event was run from a Cessna 206 with no door; a bit of a cold trip to altitude in the cooling September day! With style having only four different variations in the draw

most competitors turned the right way. Only one rejudge was given due to drift and the pilots did a fine job dodging the cloud formations.

Coaching

With a number of past and current national team members on hand there was a tremendous amount of free coaching and encouragement given to all the up and coming competitors. The veterans were extremely approachable and much help and advice was given.

Weather

Weather for the most part was fairly good and jumping took place every day. Monday was the worst day with rain and drizzle resulting in an early stand-down and a bit of a 'session' with the bar immediately opening.

Weekend

With the competition scheduled to run from Saturday through Wednesday there were a number of people who hoped to finish on the Sunday evening. For the most part in the Classics this did not work and those people that were unable to take the time off work had to either withdraw or take zaps for the remaining rounds.

The Future

There was much debate about the future scoring of the event. Most thought that the scoring distances were too harsh and should be increased in all categories. There was also a proposal that a Master Class be introduced for competitors who have previously been on the national team.

In Summary

The judges did a great job serving the competitors well as did the CCI Dave Emerson and Meet Director John Hitchen. Prizes were presented by the airfield's owner, Pauline Harrison. There were a number of new faces collecting medals, particularly in the intermediate events and also some older faces making a return, such as Julian Spencer back after 14 years! It was great to see Dougie Peacock, at 70, winning a gold for team accuracy; this made him the oldest person to win a gold in the UK Nationals. The last time he competed in a nationals was 26 years ago!

Calling EVERYONE for Next Year!

It was unfortunate that there were no novice competitors. There is no minimum eligibility so, static line students, come on down! This also meant that no team entered for the Club Cup, which is a great event. Accuracy is not just there for the competition. It is a survival skill we all need and everyone can improve on, whether you're a demo jumper or a static line student. Most of your landings you probably land in the rough area that you intend but how often do you pinpoint this exactly? You never know when you might need this skill after an aircraft emergency over a town centre. So come along next year and we can all learn from each other.

Al Macartney
alastair@macartney.co.uk



Fran Shashkova-Richards



Esther Reynolds



Wet Judges: Tony Makepeace, Bob King, Sue Waterfield, Gail Stephenson



Al Macartney's medal winning swoop



Photos on this page by Sarah Jane Smith

RESULTS

Notes:

1. Lines in pink denote female competitors; men are in blue, so the results in the men's and women's competitions can be distinguished
2. Detailed scores are available on the BPA website:
www.bpa.org.uk

Accuracy - Intermediate

1	Carl Blair	28.28
2	Paul Yeoman	36.53
3	Rez Aral Shiel	40.00

Scores in cm over 8 rounds

Accuracy - Senior

1	Esther Reynolds	0.21
2	Nick Johnston	0.29
3	Julian Spencer	0.31
4	Glenn Stephenson	0.45
5	Jeff Chandler	0.70
6	Ian Marshall	1.05
7	Douglas Peacock	1.18
7	Fran Shashkova	1.18
9	Al Macartney	1.36
10	Roger Flavell	1.49
11	Ivan Rossington	1.54
11	David Howerski	1.54
13	Liz Danby	1.56
14	Paul Ledden	1.60

Scores in cm over 10 rounds

Style

1	Julian Spencer	45.09
2	Al Macartney	50.51
3	Nick Johnston	55.71
4	Esther Reynolds	56.02
5	Fran Shashkova	57.11
6	Glenn Stephenson	76.90
7	Liz Danby	78.66
8	Roger Flavell	64.00

Scores in secs over 10 rounds

Overall

1	Julian Spencer
2	Esther Reynolds
3	Nick Johnston
4	Al Macartney
5	Glenn Stephenson
6	Fran Shashkova-Richards
7	Liz Danby
7	Roger Flavell

Team Accuracy

- 1 **Sixty Niners**
Nick Johnston, Jeff Chandler, Douglas Peacock, Ivan Rossington, Glenn Stephenson
- 2 **Has Been Fun**
Julian Spencer, Ian Marshall, Esther Reynolds, Liz Danby, Fran Shashkova-Richards
- 3 **Swoopers**
Al Macartney, Dave Howerski, Rez Aral Shiel
- 4 **Flying Flatcaps**
Paul Ledden, Carl Blair, Paul Yeoman, Roger Flavell

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Photograph by John Dewys



In recent years we have seen a huge growth in canopy formation. This year for the first time the BPA included a 2-way competition in the Nationals, opening the doors for a new generation of competitors. The BPA's Competitions Committee has played a good part in developing this discipline.

New Event: 2-way

The 2-way event proved very popular and attracted quite a number of teams, the majority who had not been in national level competition previously. Many seasoned competitors took up the BPA's lead by jumping with inexperienced competitors, rather than their regular team-mates, making the 2-way event both very competitive and much subscribed to. This was undoubtedly a great success since many of the new faces have subsequently competed in CF competitions abroad. The Nish Bruce trophy for this new event was kindly donated by Jason Bruce, in memory of his father.



Team Focus (Clive Bennett, Scotty, Biff, Paul Nauger) won the 4-way Rotations and Speed events

8-way Speed

The growth of regular skydivers competing at the Nationals was not limited to the 2-way event either. Hinton CREW School, established by Richard Hayden in 2001, put together an 8-way team *Hinton-8*, consisting of some of the willing students who learned CF at the school. *Hinton-8* were the only 8-way team to compete this year but taking the gold at the Nationals paved the way for them to compete in the World Cup five weeks later where they placed fourth. This event also incorporates the European Championships where *Hinton-8* took the European bronze medal. (see page 14)

4-way Sequential

4-way sequential is one of the most demanding of the CF events. Despite its technical challenges, this year's Nationals remained competitive with several teams showing their sequential prowess very effectively. The overall winners were the very experienced *Team X*, who have represented Britain for many years at international level and who will now represent Britain at the World Championships at Gap, in September 2003.

4-way Speed

Team Focus, who are also based at Hinton Skydiving Centre, won the event convincingly with a fine performance.

4-way Rotations

Team Focus had to work very hard to retain their status as national champions as there was stiff competition. By winning, *Team Focus* got the green light to represent Britain in the European Cup and the World Cup.

RESULTS

2-way Sequential - Senior

- 1 IPC Senior
- 2 Jumps On
- 3 Hinton 2

2-way Sequential - Inter

- 1 Take Me
- 2 Team GB

8-way Speed

- 1 Hinton-8

4-way Sequential

- 1 Team X

4-way Speed

- 1 Team Focus
- 2 Team X
- 3 Take Me

4-way Rotations

- 1 Team Focus
- 2 Team X
- 3 Take Me

By one of those strange quirks of fate, the members of *Team Focus* won the European Cup bronze medal also, by helping out the *Hinton-8* team who were plagued by illness just prior to the event. Equally, Sarah-Jane Smith and Ian Marshall from *Hinton-8*, jumped with *Team Focus* in the World Cup, as their own Claire Jones and Scotty couldn't make it due to work commitments.

The Organisation

This year's CF and Classics Nationals were a great success under the stewardship of Hinton Skydiving Centre. They pulled out all the stops, providing three aircraft and facilities that were pristine and well managed, for the comfort of the competitors. The Chief Judge, Kate Charters worked with all the teams competing, ensuring that everyone was kept fully informed. Kate's approachable personality was a definite bonus for all the first time competitors, reassuringly guiding them through the formalities of competition.

Meet Director John Hitchen was encouraging and as informative as ever. Working closely with Julie Lloyd on manifest and Kate Charters, they managed somehow to keep the events moving along. For those reading this who are unfamiliar with CF and Classics events, they are notorious for competitors cross-competing in different events and disciplines. Just getting all the events completed can be a nightmare for the organisers; John, Kate and Julie's tenacity certainly didn't go unappreciated by the competitors.

Richard Hayden
info@crwseminar.com



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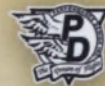
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Brit Chicks

One of many letters

Thank you BPA for your support of this venture which was an amazing success. I am still buzzing from the record breaking skydive which was the best I have ever done! (My number 399 to boot!) I turned up on the first warm-up weekend, never dreaming I would end up on the record itself. We were extremely warmly welcomed by Lesley and Kate and learned absolutely loads about how to fly big-ways effectively, successfully and, most importantly, safely. The organisation and team spirit was amazing and every chick was given a chance to get on the load, regardless of jump numbers. The selection process was meticulous, fair and sensitively communicated. The Bench Babes were looked after with top class coaching such that everyone progressed their skydiving and remained a real part of the record achievement. Lesley and Kate should be applauded for this class achievement for British skydiving and let's hope for similar events in the future.

Anna Palmer, a.m.palmer@reading.ac.uk

Return to the Sport

I returned to the sport after a 17 years! After some excellent ground training at Chatteris, I jumped with an instructor from 13,000ft. The staff kept telling me, "It's like riding a bike, you never forget". I was really pleased to see safety standards are even higher than my first time around. Anyone thinking of returning to the sport after a break, do so now, the rewards are well worth it.

Gregor Murphy, gregkerrok@aol.com

Cover Grippers

Will those people griping about the cover shots just shut up! Can't you appreciate the photos for what they are – stunning images showcasing the amazing excitement, skill and achievement in our sport? Just because you may need a disclaimer to inform you of the blindingly obvious, it doesn't necessarily mean the rest of the readership are equally dense. If you want to whinge, how about addressing the issues that really count? Just enjoy the cover shots and please credit the rest of us with a little intelligence.

Max Hurd, maxbigblu@hotmail.com

Top Mag - Top Website

Wow! I thought the magazine was good (and I've been reading it avidly since 1999) but the Mag website really shows the dedication, professionalism and bloody hard work you guys put in. The magazine is absolutely awesome and I wonder how you keep topping the standard with every eagerly awaited issue – but you do! Keep it coming!

Gary Lane, gary.lane@omada.org.uk

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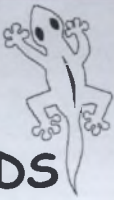
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Thanks Brit Chicks

From Vicky...

What a fantastic 50-way, congratulations on achieving your goal. It was great to read about it in the Mag and to see how apparently effortlessly it was done. I look forward to reading about the 100-way very soon!

I would like to thank you for selecting me as a main beneficiary of the raffle. I was incredibly touched by the generosity of everyone and I am extremely grateful.

I am up and about most of the day now in my wheelchair and with physio, gym and occupational therapy I am making pretty good progress. It is going to be a long haul however and I do not expect to leave Odstock until next summer; but when I do the money will be a lifeline. Customised computers, wheelchairs and the like are all expensive but will greatly enhance my life. I will let you all know how the money is spent when the time comes.

I'd also like to thank all of you out there who have sent great messages of encouragement. Love and thanks to you all.

Vicky Holton, vickyholton@hotmail.com

From Penny...

The treasurer of the Penny Roberts Appeal has received a cheque for £2,124 from Brit Chicks. This is quite unbelievable and everyone is so very touched by the generosity of the skydiving community. This is a big boost to Penny's Appeal and takes the total to over £4,500, which puts the target of £10,000 so much closer. Many, many thanks to all involved.

Roger Wedge, wedgeroger@hotmail.com
on behalf of Penny Roberts

See page 51 for Penny's story

WANTED: Canopy Training

I was saddened to see two more preventable fatal incidents in the October Mag; all the more distressing when they were avoidable jumper error. During the progression system very little attention is paid to canopy handling and landings; the main emphasis is on the exit position. Surely this should be addressed? Though some time is paid to canopy control this is often the case only after the student has made some kind of error. There needs to be a more structured approach to teaching and reviewing canopy handling throughout the progression system. If canopy control is part of the debrief and a student is given additional instruction it would lead to greater awareness of the importance of good piloting.

David Butterell, david.butterell@bt.com

Canopy handling within the training progression system is currently being considered by the BPA Working Group that is looking at the problems of low turns.

Tony Butler, BPA Technical Officer, tony@bpa.org.uk

Cover Bother

I felt that I had to reply to your answer to Ruth Covell in the August Mag about the June front cover shot of an AFF student. The point that Ruth is trying to make is that it was probably not the best shot to place on the cover. Your reply stated that the student was perfectly dressed for the jump, then got comfy, but was he perfectly dressed? **NO!** If you look above his cutaway pad you will see a hook knife tucked away in the harness; at the time of the jump he was not an intermediate or experienced parachutist so should not have had the knife.

Mick Glover
m_a_glover36@hotmail.com

Shop Around for Insurance

For a couple of years I have been a loyal customer of Harrison Beaumont for several reasons: the cost was reasonable; they would pay out for injuries resulting in death, loss of sight, loss of limb, or permanent total disablement; and they covered other 'risky' activities at no extra cost.

If you travel abroad skydiving more than once a year it makes sense to get a multi-trip policy. I was shocked this year when I received the renewal quote, which had rocketed 50% from £127 to £190 (annual, worldwide) – and this included a 10% no claims discount! This rise was blamed on the events of 9/11 with insurers pulling out of the market and on recent claims.

I had allowed my insurance to briefly lapse since I had no forthcoming trips. A long weekend trip came up at short notice and I called HB on the Friday to renew my insurance. When they told me how much it would cost to renew I said I'd shop around and get back to them. I was unable to immediately find another insurer offering reasonable cover. Reluctantly I called back to be told that everyone was in a meeting and my request couldn't be processed. I was amazed – not only had the price been hiked by 50% but now I could not obtain cover! Explanation of the situation and my pleading made no difference. Without adequate medical cover I had to cancel my trip.

I wrote to Harrison Beaumont to complain and received conflicting information in reply from FP Beaumont, Chairman, stating the office was closed due to a computer emergency and placing responsibility on me for not providing them with reasonable time. I accept that I put them under pressure but I would expect a company with customer interests at heart to make every effort.

I could not find another company who could offer similar cover; with another trip looming I had no option but to renew with Harrison Beaumont, which I did grudgingly. Since then I have discovered AXA Travel whose cover is better and cheaper than Harrison Beaumont. Compare these prices:

	Europe Full	Europe Reduced	Worldwide Full	Worldwide Reduced
Harrison Beaumont	£ 141	£ 120	£ 212	£ 180
AXA Travel	£ 84	£ 79	£ 94	£ 89

'Reduced' refers to whether you have some sort of travel and/or home insurance already that will cover travel delays etc and are taking out additional insurance for unusual activities. Harrison Beaumont have some reductions such as 10% for BPA members and 15% for instructors and 10% no claims but I doubt if these can be combined.

If you are going away this Christmas, I hope you read this in time to save yourself some money. I have no personal or business association with AXA, or the underwriter, Cega Aviation – but I know who I'll be renewing with next year!

Craig Poxon, craig@poxon.org
See: www.axatravel.co.uk

My only observation is that a 'multi-trip' policy allows clients to get up and go at any time especially for those unplanned 'spur of the moment' trips – shooting oneself in the foot springs to mind.

FP Beaumont
Chairman, Harrison Beaumont

Ace BPA

One Saturday in July my fiancé Cathy, a US resident, did her 1,000th skydive at Langar. After dropping Cathy at Gatwick on Monday, I posted a 1,000 jump certificate application form to the BPA. The certificate was delivered to Cathy on the following Saturday in North Carolina! Way to go BPA!

Stealth, stephen_elvy@selvy.freeseerve.co.uk

LETTERS

Amazing Week at BKPC

I had an **amazing** week at Black Knights which has taken me from static line to freefalling from 10,000ft with turns! When I arrived the welcoming and friendly atmosphere allowed me and other students to settle in quickly. A 'buy ten get one free' deal on the student tickets left no excuse but to get jumping! I was thrilled to do my first freefall, achieving my initial goal for the week in one day!

Whilst I wasn't jumping I was learning to pack. When I was jumping I was reaching terminal velocity on my 15 second delays! I was in my element and the support I received on the ground gave me extra confidence which was brilliant! After watching the clouds turn purple as the sun went down, we watched videos of the day. My last jump was to 10,000ft with Cy, Rob, Murphy and John (who completed his AFF level 8). I now have an adrenaline-packed video, have progressed from Cat 2 to 7 and have made some lifelong friends. A big thanks to everyone for one of the best weeks of my life.

Michelle Huggins, m.huggins-01@student.lboro.ac.uk

Thanks Wild Geese

I would like to thank Wild Geese for their hospitality and expert organisation at the recent Regional competition. They have excellent facilities and everything appears to be nearly new or brand new. I think that Steve Swallow of Hibaldstow will be proud of his FS teams – *Sky Pirates* won gold in junior, *Quest* won gold in intermediate and my team (*Elemental*) won silver in junior.

Calvin Blacker, calvin@skydive-elemental.com

Very Special CF Seminar

I would like to compliment Richard Hayden and everyone involved for organising the FANTASTIC CF week in Empuria during October. Pete Jones, DZ owner, was his usual friendly self, making time for everyone. The coaches were excellent, giving advice and listening to the less experienced so that progression could be made at the correct pace. Although I am not a CF jumper, anyone was happy to chat to me regarding what was happening and why. My husband, a fairly new CF jumper, was coached, learned lots, has even more confidence and did the midweek competition in which he won a silver. CF is fun, safe and infectious. It was a privilege to be in Spain for that very special week.

Helen Jordan

Thanks John Smyth

As a group, VNE, VMax and 4Pak offer sincere appreciation to John Smyth, who spent his own time and money to be Delegation Manager at the recent World Cup. John was tireless in his efforts to ensure that everything ran smoothly, leaving us with a minimum of admin, which allowed us to focus on the competition. We hope that, with the success of the last two world events, the BPA will consider making the position of Delegation Manager a permanent feature in the future.

Ian Matthews (VNE), ian@specialistplant.co.uk

Just for Fun!

Congratulations to the Freely Wiggaz for the Wiggaz Festival at Weston, a blend of freely, 'wigsuit' flying, FS, tracking and sit-flying. It was a hoot! To see people wearing massive multi-coloured affros in freefall puts a smile on whuffos' and skydivers' faces alike. Next time you are scowling because you missed that point or blew that dock, just remember why we all do this sport – for fun, right?

Andy Scott, andrew.scott@orange.co.uk



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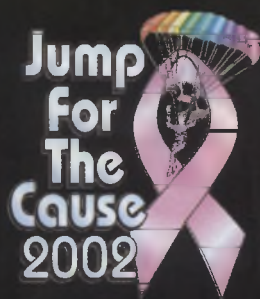
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Three years
after
successfully
breaking
the

women's
world FS record, Kate
Cooper, Tony Domenico,
Mallory Lewis and Brad
Hood decided that their
winning formula would
succeed again... enter Jump
for the Cause 2002.



Raoul Gravell





The record attempts were made from 16,000 feet out of seven aircraft; a Casa, SkyVan and five Twin Otters. Photo: Norman Kent

Invitations went out, a charity which would benefit was sought and countless hours of organisation by dozens of people started. This culminated in a new record set on 19 October by 131 female skydivers from all around the world.

The Beginning

On Sunday 13 October, scores of women from 11 different countries arrived at Perris Valley, California, ready to check in and put on their rather pink suits. The weather was glorious and all boded well. On Monday, after a welcome ceremony over breakfast by the pool the first of many dirt-dives was held.



Craig O'Brien

Meticulous Planning

Everyone knew their aircraft and their positions in the skydive due to meticulous pre-planning. The formation and all names were available on line, in the welcome pack and on large posters on the wall of manifest. It was announced that on the first day jumps would be from just 12,500 feet, without oxygen, before going higher the next day. But it would be with all seven aircraft and 135+ women going for the whole formation and breaking off at 6,500 feet. The idea was to sort out the aircraft formation flying and get everyone accustomed to their exit positions and approach to the formation, as well as the break-off sequence and safety under canopy with so many others around. We did three skydives that day, with quite a large number managing to dock in the limited time available.

Monday: Tragedy

The day ended in tragedy when one of the group, Shannon Embry, spiralled into the ground all the way from opening and died. We were told the next day that her toggles had not been released, there was no damage to the canopy, nor were there any twists. The reason for the fatality may never be known. Her death, from a torn aorta, almost certainly occurred during or close after deployment and not from the injuries sustained from the landing; in fact no bones were broken. The whole event was obviously very upsetting and people searched in their hearts for the strength to continue.



Norman Kent



The team was colour coded to aid people in finding their slot, with so many pink jumpsuits in the sky! Photo by Norman Kent

Everyone returned the next day wanting to complete the goal of raising money and awareness for breast cancer by successfully making a record. Particularly poignant were Shannon's words in the biography booklet that was put together with quotes from all the participants: *"I am very lucky that I do not have a personal story related to cancer but I believe all of us should help when and*

where we can. Doing something you love like skydiving and using it to combat something as hateful as cancer seems like a win/win situation". It was also very touching to hear that the charity which would benefit from the money we raised was still behind us 100% in spite of the potential bad press the event might now receive.

Tuesday: 100+

The next day we were briefed on using oxygen and made four skydives from 16,000 feet, which were getting progressively better – the last one with over 100 docking on the formation. Victory would be ours...

Wednesday/Thursday: Grounded

Then – believe it or not – we spent two days on the ground, making just one skydive at the end of the day on Thursday. It was cloudy and fairly chilly. I thought this was sunny California! Still, it gave us the chance to buy some outrageous polyester clothing for Saturday night's party.

Friday: California Record 132-way

Friday dawned cloudy again, but the sun burned through well before lunchtime and we were able to skydive again and earn the wonderful food we were being served morning, noon and night by the restaurant staff. The realisation that time was running out and that there was an axe ready to chop underachievers concentrated the mind

Brad Hood



and the last jump produced a completed 132-way. This was a California state record but we only held it for 2.35 seconds, so the FFI record was not yet ours (the formation must be held for three seconds to qualify as an official FFI record). One of the judges advised us to aim for ten seconds so they would not have to work so hard!

Saturday: World Record!

Jump number two was to be it. 131 women left the Casa, Skyvan and five Otters at 16,300 feet above Perris and made that perfect skydive. We held the formation for



Carol Clay would dump out of the formation to signal to the first wave to track off. Photo by Norman Kent

10.7 seconds – there was to be no doubt! As we celebrated on the landing area, the aircraft did a formation flypast. The atmosphere was jubilant. One more skydive was made by the group, bringing four more women into the formation, but it was not quite complete. There would be only one new world record this time.

Cancer Charities Benefit

By the time I left, almost \$400,000 had been raised for the City of Hope Cancer Centre by the participants of both the women's record and their male supporters taking part in the Boyz Wayz organised by Roger Ponce de Leon. The guys really got into the spirit of things by sporting pink underpants and a

special mention must go to Norman 'Stripper' Kent, whose show alone raised over \$900 for the cause!

Congratulations to everyone who took part, especially the Brit chicks, who were me, Sarah Withers, Audrey Rowe and ex-pat Tracy Eckersley.

The Future

Organiser Kate Cooper is doing it again, aiming for a 150-way next. She said "I really look forward to reuniting the team in 2005. This time we'll have more Brits though – right?"

Cornelia Waymouth
cornelia.waymouth@ukonline.co.uk



Norman Kent

Women's World Record

131-way

19 October 2002

Perris Valley, USA



Raoul Gravell

*"The women of JFTC amazed me.
Their strength, compassion, and
dignity (well, except for the
polyester party!) was astounding."*

Kate Cooper, Dive Organiser

Raoul Gravell

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For
The
Cause
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I need unbiased advice

I just don't know what canopy to get. I've done 280 skydives but have only recently started jumping again and have only done 12 jumps in the last four years! I'm 8 stone 6lb and are currently jumping a Hummingbird. I don't like going backwards in high winds. I'm the type of jumper who enjoys the freefall and likes a nice, not scary, ride and a good easy landing - which I'm not getting!



For your needs, experience level and currency I'd suggest maybe a PD Spectre, 150 in size. This is a 7-cell, zero-porosity fun canopy which is forgiving, good in turbulence and should give you penetration in high winds but not be too quick in nil wind conditions.

You could consider the ZP.exe canopies from the Chute Shop, South Africa; not as popular but not as expensive. They are 9-cell, fun canopies made from an easy-to-pack type of zero porosity fabric.

Stay well away from the higher performance elliptical canopies at this stage as they tend not to be very forgiving when things don't go to plan!

The choice available is huge so ask advice from instructors. Test jump demo rigs before you make any decisions and make sure you downsize slowly. Get some advice from your CCI about the different flight characteristics of ZP canopies to F111s. Go on a canopy skills course which will improve your landings and be a great help in gaining the most fun, performance and ability from your choice of canopy.

Dr Madeleine
info@dzsports.com



I last jumped twelve years ago

Is AFF the best way back to jumping? I have made 1,400 jumps and am 52.



With your jump numbers you probably don't need to do an AFF course but an AFF school would perhaps be able to organise some check-out lessons and dives. Phone your preferred club and get its CCI to give you some advice. Maybe one of the instructors could spend some time with you on a quiet day revising important points like main deployment, malfunction procedures, aircraft drills, canopy control. Make sure you get fully briefed on the kit you will be using and obviously keep it simple for a few jumps. As you're over 40, you'll need to get a BPA medical form stamped by your GP. Going through everything that has changed since you were jumping is a big task and best achieved by visiting a drop zone again - and reading The Mag, of course!

DoctorD
thiswayup@talk21.com



Dive Doctor



Is a Sabre 2 for me?

I have about 50 jumps and I've decided on a rig but am not sure about canopies. Would a 170sqft Sabre 2 be suitable? I'm only 155lb so can I go for a 160sqft reserve?



Choosing the right canopy is really important; take the following points into consideration:

- What size and type of canopy are you jumping at the moment?
- How often do you jump?
- How much do you weigh with all your kit on?
- How confident are you with your current canopy?
- How good is your ability if you have a poor spot, to choose where to land and do that safely?

The Sabre 2 is a lovely canopy; the openings are soft, as are the landings; it is fairly responsive and it's a good all-rounder. For the 170 size, the recommended maximum weight is 153 lbs for a novice, so the next size up would be more appropriate. Find out more from:

www.performance designs.com

For a PD 160 reserve, the recommended maximum weight is 136 lbs for a novice skydiver; therefore only look at the PD 176 reserve or larger.

Arrange some test jumps on the main before you buy. Try a Sabre 2 of the same size as the canopy you currently jump before going any smaller. Downsize slowly to the recommended size. It is better not to change too many factors at once. This will give you a better idea of what features you like about the flying characteristics of the canopy rather than simply the forward speed.

Dr Madeleine
info@dzsports.com



Is my canopy too small?

I have done 50 jumps, passed my AFF course in 24 jumps and have jumped an Icarus Safire 170 main ever since. I am 13½ stone. Someone questioned my choice of canopy size stating that it was too small for someone of my low experience, although I have no problem landing nicely in the right area. What are your opinions?



An Icarus Safire 170 main for someone of your weight is no big deal. If you read all the bumf from Icarus, you will find that a 170 can handle up to 300 pounds exit weight and you are obviously well within that. However with your experience level, I suggest you take it very slow and easy and check out the brake settings, ie, where the stall point is, so you don't eat grass in nil winds and try and steal half the drop zone up your bum when it's windy!

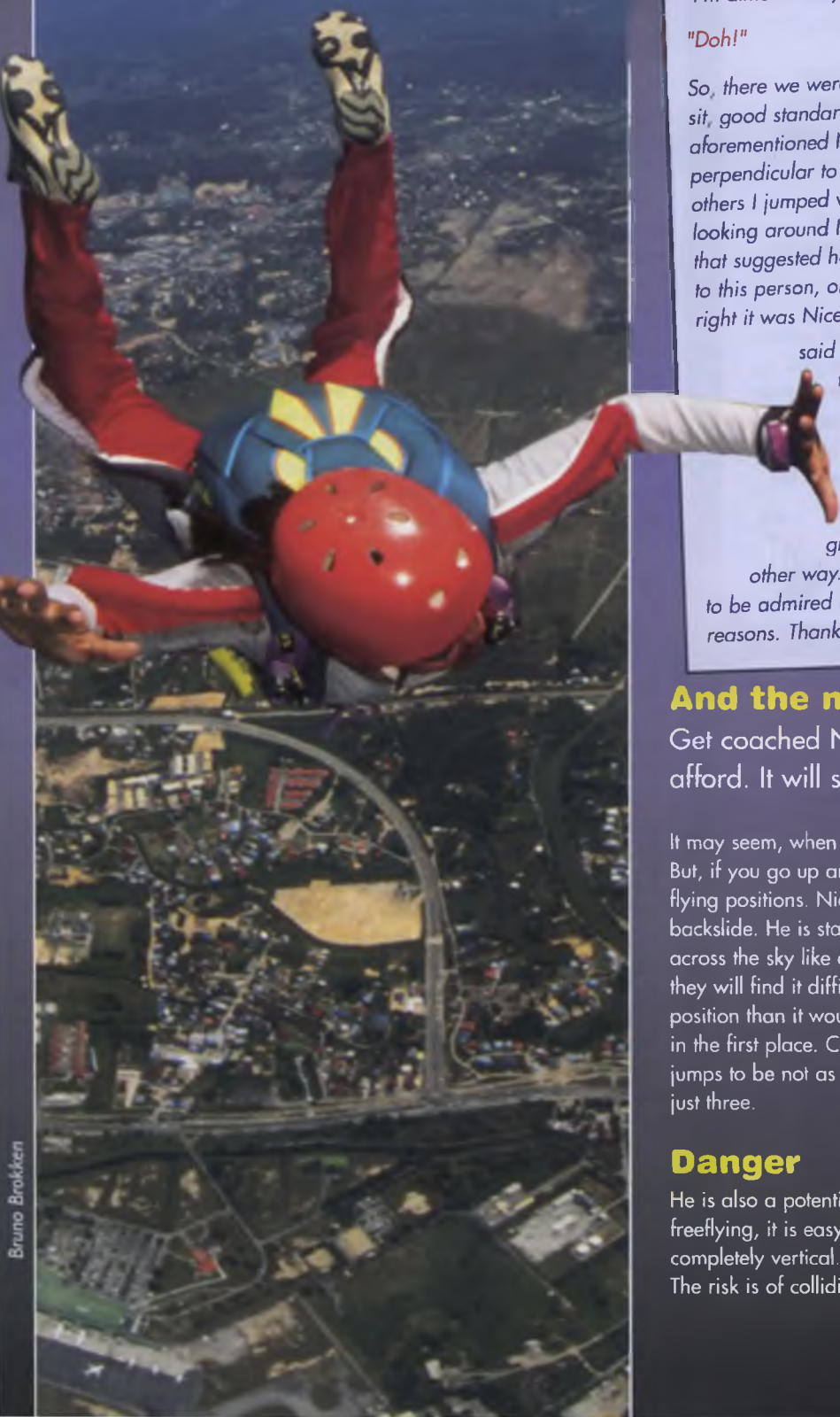
Dr Apples
paul.applegate@tesco.net



These are all genuine questions and answers, just edited for space. Anyone considering buying a canopy should GET ADVICE from instructors and riggers about a canopy's suitability for their weight, experience level, annual jump numbers, canopy awareness and the type(s) of jumping they will be doing

For Starters

The first in a new series for up and coming skydivers, though there are lessons here to benefit jumpers of any level



Get Coached!

True Story 1

Sent in by a freefly coach...

There's this geezer, nice guy actually, who said the all too common "I'm almost ready to get coached, I've done about 20 solo sit jumps."

"Doh!"

So, there we were, having exited first doing a 3-way freefly (mainly sit, good standard, going down the tube). Exiting second was the aforementioned Nice Guy. I know for absolute certainty that I tracked perpendicular to the line of flight and opened in plenty of space. The others I jumped with also had no problems with break-off. As I'm looking around I see someone open in a position above the ground that suggested he'd exited first. Somewhat confused I wandered over to this person, once we'd landed... who d'ya think it was? Yes, you're right it was Nice Guy. I asked what he'd been doing in freefall; he

said he'd exited in a sit facing the aircraft tail, did a 180° turn and watched the aircraft for a bit, then held that heading and fell down the tube.

Nice Guy's 'falling down the tube' was in fact a backslide of such magnitude, he not only killed off the safety margin of horizontal separation between groups, but also travelled the same distance again the other way. In a kinky way, a backslide of these proportions has to be admired but stunts like this should be discouraged, for safety reasons. Thank goodness for Big Sky Theory.

And the moral of the story?

Get coached NOW. Get the best quality that you can afford. It will save you time and money.

It may seem, when you're starting out, that coached jumps cost more. But, if you go up and teach yourself, you'll most likely ingrain poor flying positions. Nice guy above has done 20 jumps with an inbuilt backslide. He is stable and feels good about his sit-fly but he's moving across the sky like an express train. When he jumps with someone else, they will find it difficult to get close. It will be much harder to correct his position than it would have been to learn to fall 'down the tube' himself in the first place. Compare the cost, already of True Story 1 doing 20 sit jumps to be not as proficient as True Story 2, overleaf, who has done just three.

Danger

He is also a potential danger. Because of the high vertical speed of freeflying, it is easy to backslide very quickly if your torso is not completely vertical. Just a tiny lean forward will create a hefty backslide. The risk is of colliding with someone else, at considerable speed.



Jason Tebbe learning with Chris Lynch, who took the photos



Steve Scott, learning to sit with Andy Ford, who took the pictures

Another danger is of 'corking'. When you fall off your sit position, the natural default is to go on your belly, the only other flying position you know. The sudden reduction in speed will shoot you rapidly upwards relative to others, like a cork out of a bottle and just as unpredictably. Colliding with anyone at this speed could be fatal. A good freefly coach will teach you to curl up into a fast-falling ball instead. You can then go straight back into sit from this, a few reps and you learn to do this quickly, in one fluid motion, so it just looks like a groovy back somersault.

Be Patient

The BPA has a progression system for freeflying. The aim is that you learn sit first, which gives you a fast falling position to recover into when you're learning head-down. Don't try and run before you can walk – master sit skills before moving onto head-down, for safety, proficiency and progression reasons. FF1 (head-up, ie, sit skills) is before FF2 (head-down skills). Don't rush onto FF2, you'll be better off if you gain FF1 and

The same principles apply for any area of the sport; FS (formation skydiving), CF (canopy formation), accuracy, canopy flying. Talk to our national champions; almost all received good coaching at an early stage in skydiving.

Gary Wainwright



then spend lots of jumps enjoying and honing your new found sit skills before moving on to head-down. Many people are so gung-ho to get on their heads that they miss out much they could be experimenting with in head-up. All freefall skills are transferable so you will be better off becoming good at head-up before trying head-down than having a half-cocked knowledge of both.

It makes sense to progress to FF1 with a coach, do not just go and jump with your non-FF1 friends – apart from being against the Operations Manual, it's dangerous and it won't teach you much other than bad habits. After a bunch of coached jumps it is probably good to jump with talented freeflyers, to become accustomed to different fall rates but stick to 2-ways.

Benefits of coaching

A coach should check your equipment is safe for freeflying, perhaps tightening your closing loop or tying your legstraps together at the back, to stop them falling down in sit-fly. They will work to get you in a good sit position, where you're falling straight down and have plenty of range of movement. You'll be more motivated to jump as you'll get more rewards from your jumps. Being videoed and extensively debriefed makes the quality of your mental imagery very high, allowing you to learn other skills quickly. It's also good to

look back on at home to laugh (or cry!), see progression and learn without jumping.

Coaching isn't just for people with loads of jumps. The earlier you start the better, learn the right way first.

Choose your coach wisely

There is a list of UK freefly coaches here to help you. Shop around. This doesn't mean going for the cheapest. Find someone you feel you can get on with; if you enjoy their company you will be more relaxed and hence skydive better. Choose someone whom you have good reports of; ask others and make sure they can teach as well as skydive. Find out what time they can give you, try to keep the same coach for a bunch of jumps, continuity is important.

In summary...

When Nice Guy finally gets some coaching (assuming he lives that long!) he will have to spend time and money unlearning his mistakes. Although coaching may seem expensive, in the long run it will save you money and could save lives.

Compiled by Lesley Gale
lesley@skydivemag.com

Reviewed by Justine Shotton,
Lindsey Ashwood & Jerry Pack

True Story 2

Sent in by the same
freefly coach...

A young lad came over and said "I hear you are coaching freefly, I've never done it before, I've got FS1 and 60 jumps."

"Great!"

So, after a full brief involving chats about equipment, exit order, alti awareness, tracking direction, fall rate control, corking avoidance and body position control, we exited in a train. I released him and there he was, sitting, falling down the tube and looking very happy. Admittedly he did have the odd wobble onto his bum as he let his legs rise up but managed to recover each time. Following a debrief we jumped together again, this time he also managed a stand-up. He made a third jump with an expert freeflyer who commented to me afterwards "Wow, he's really good for three sit jumps".

Just a few coaching jumps will bring great results



Ca
Du
He

Hi

Hi



Choose a coach whose company you enjoy;
you'll be more relaxed and skydive better

Sarahjayne's Tip: Learn to RELAX in freefall

On my last consolidation jump, I found myself at 9,000 feet thinking "What to do now"? I'd done turns, a backloop (yes my first full backloop!) so decided to simply enjoy the view, watch the ground and start seeing what it actually looks like when it's getting nearer. (Don't do this if you are of a nervous disposition!) I took a breath in, then had a big breathe out; as I did so, I felt my whole body position change. I'd have said I was relaxed before, obviously NOT!

The position my body fell into was fantastic; I felt my hips ease forward, my arms lift back and my whole chest area opened up. There was a real, instant difference in my stability. I'd watched a video from the weekend before of a jump I'd done where the transitions were good but I was buffeting all over the place as my knees were down. I'd put this down to the effort I'd put into the turns, not realising my body position was way off!

So, build it into your plan to consciously relax and you'll feel the difference. Learn to walk before learning to fly!

Sarahjayne Thomas (pictured above)
sjt@divegear.fsnet.co.uk



Simon Ward

UK Freefly Coaches

rk
nkeswell
adcorn

Shaun Ellison
Gavin Horrell
Chris Lynch
Mike Milton
Chris Guntrip
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Photo: Sharon Dale



Penny Roberts

APPEAL

Can you think back to what you were doing in 1995?

For many of you life will have changed over the last seven years, but not as much as for Penny Roberts. In 1995 Penny had everything to live for. She had a good job as Senior Infection Control Nurse at Bradford Royal Infirmary and her own house and car. A regular jumper at several drop zones had made her many friends in the skydiving community.

On 31 March 1995, Penny was at DeLand, Florida training as part of a 4-way team. The training was progressing well and life was sweet as the team boarded the plane for the second time that day. Many skydivers have experienced a malfunction and go into their reserve drills as they have been taught. Penny had experienced a mal before but this time it was different. One side of the main canopy stayed attached as she deployed her reserve causing an entanglement.

Her cameraman found her on the runway with massive injuries including a broken neck. Penny died that day several times but was lucky enough to have a paramedic jumping on the same load.

He resuscitated her and tended her until the ambulance arrived. The following day I visited her in Intensive Care and was convinced she would not be coming home to England. I did not know then about her strong will and determination, characteristics she would be needing over the next few years. Five weeks later Penny was loaded into a flying Intensive Care unit in the form of a Lear Jet for the long flight home with five stops on route. The next time I saw her was in Pinderfield Hospital which would be her home for the next few months.

Penny was assessed and categorised as quadriplegic, no movement below the chest with limited use of her arms and hands. Since then life has been a constant uphill struggle, which would test her strength to the limit on too many occasions, such as the modification of her house. But this was nothing compared to the battle she would face in '98. This was the year Penny met a man who was to become her partner, she was very happy and things seemed to be going well for

her. Then, much to everyone's surprise, Penny became pregnant; this signalled the end of the relationship and she was left to have her baby alone. While Penny was busy planning the birth, trouble was brewing with the local authorities who were questioning whether someone in Penny's condition could bring up a baby or should they take it into care. It was only three days before the birth that word came that she would be allowed to keep it. I saw Penny when Peter was 24 hours old and there was a new light in her eyes. What a godsend this young man has been to her, everything revolves around him and he has given her life a new meaning.

A year after her accident Penny returned to DeLand and did a tandem skydive, since then she tries to do at least one a year. It's an opportunity for her to slip back into dz life and catch up with friends.

Every once in a while someone throws her a lifeline, like a computer bought from funds raised at North West Parachute Centre, many companies donated items to be auctioned like canopies and T-shirts. The computer has helped to keep communications open and is a link with the outside world. The biggest lifeline came in March 2002 in the form of a van which has been modified for her to drive from her wheelchair. The first time she drove it she was terrified and was seen screeching round her village at all of 2 mph! Since then she has driven to London and is able to take Peter to places like Chester Zoo. Nowadays Penny is rarely home and is enjoying her freedom of the open road after seven years.

Last year a new physiotherapist came to Penny and decided to reassess her. She took her off the muscle relaxant

Email Penny:
Penelope.Roberts1@btopenworld.com

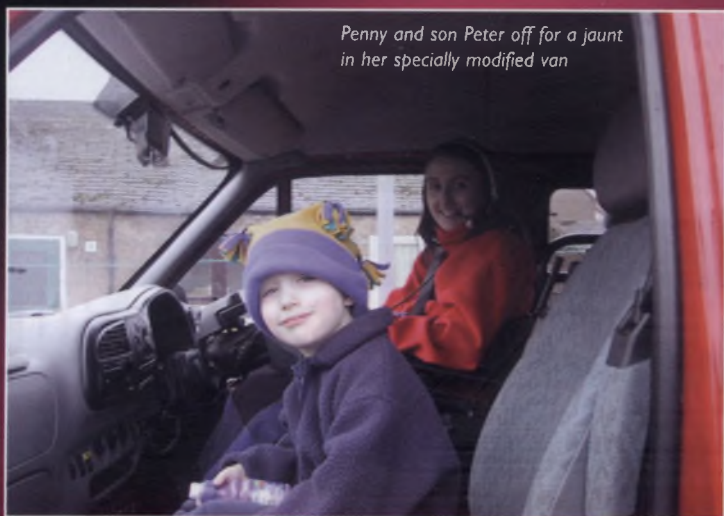
medication which Penny has taken since her accident and the results surprised everyone. Muscles down her left side, at first thought to be paralysed, weren't. Working on them has brought good results and she can now stand with the use of callipers but not unaided. A new treatment called biofeedback, could have Penny standing unaided if it were available in this country.

Biofeedback is a learning technique, which can be extremely powerful in restoring control of muscles that have functional losses due to neuropathology. In many cases this can result in greater function in patients with spinal injuries. America is Penny's only option to receive this treatment, at a price of £10,000. This amount of money is just a dream to someone who relies on benefit. With our help we could get Penny to America for this much needed treatment (see box below). She hopes to fly over in January '03 and would appreciate any help we can give.

As you turn the page and forget about it, ask yourself, what will you be doing in seven years time?

Sue Findlay

Penny and son Peter off for a jaunt in her specially modified van



Penny Roberts Appeal:

Call Pat on
0121 686 1275
Or send cheques

(made out to Penny Roberts) to:

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Sub Post Office
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Birmingham
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- 18th February, 2003
- 15th March, 2003
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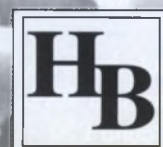


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GLOBAL COVER

Kit News

by
Rob
Colpus



**Time-Out!!
Time-Out!!**

If you're one of those jumpers who sometimes has problems hearing when your audible is telling you time's up. I SAID, IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE JUMPERS WHO SOMETIMES HAS PROBLEMS HEARING WHEN YOUR AUDIBLE IS TELLING YOU TIME'S UP! – then Time-Out Technologies reckon they have the very thing for you. I said, TIME-OUT TECH... okay, you get the message!

Called the XS, which stands for *Xtension Speaker*, this extra earpiece for use with the latest model slim-line *Time-Out*, comes equipped with a flexi-cable and velcro tab mount which allows you to fit it directly over one ear while the Time-Out unit itself sits over the other – voila, stereo beeps! The XS is designed to get the sound to the correct area of any helmet, to where the jumper can actually hear the bleep, no matter where the unit is located.

The XS should be available by the time you read this and will retail for around £20.

Time-Out Technologies:
01992 715 244
info@skydivetimeout.com

Ninjas - mutant maybe?

Parachutes de France have issued a directive which demands the mandatory grounding of their *Ninja* which was released about a year ago as the intended top performer in PdeF's range of main canopies. The *Ninja* is a cross-braced elliptical such as the *Icarus Extreme* and the *PD Velocity* although without the extreme end performance. PdeF claimed when the *Ninja* was released that the new canopy would provide the "frills without the spills"!

But it seems that there were a few more spills in the design than they bargained for. In their recent directive PdeF state that, "various deflation occurrences have been reported to us but these occurrences were due to local air turbulence and any problems were avoided by the good skill of the users". They then go on to state that, because they cannot control customer skills and because of the risk generated by this canopy being used by neophyte or low experienced skydivers, they have decided to ground ALL *Ninjas* forthwith. *Ninja* owners are asked to contact PdeF.

Parachutes de France: 0033 1 34 32 77 77
www.parachutes-de-france.com



All *Ninja* canopies are grounded

Boomerang

Bonehead Composites, makers of the *Mindwarp* and other funky skydiving helmets have added yet another model to their repertoire. Called the *Boomerang*, the new product is a non-opening visor, full-face composite helmet with what Bonehead call a 'low profile' because the helmet fits close to the head, although so do most other full-faces on the market today.



The *Boomerang*

As with all current full-face helmets the *Boomerang* has good peripheral vision and the chin area is cut in and down to afford good vertical vision. The *Boomerang* has an internal audible pocket and a unique strap flap device which is provided to prevent any strap-rash during high speed freefall, as they expect more freeflyers to select the helmet over the usual open face models. The *Boomerang* is available in five sizes, small to XXL.

Bonehead: 001 909 943 1166
www.boneheadcomposites.com

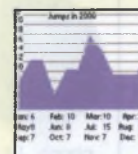
Palm Reading!

Another piece of high-tech gadgetry is being offered to the skydiving market by a US company going by the name of Vorpaware. Vorpaware's *Paralog* is a fully featured skydiving logbook and data recording piece of software which is compatible with any palm-top microprocessor device running OS version 3.1 and above.

The *Paralog* owner may log every jump in complete detail right there in his or her palm at the drop zone and even get a witness signature if desired. Custom reports and graphs can be generated in custom colours and personal rig data such as packing dates and AAD service info for up to four rigs may be maintained. The *paralog* is capable of logging up to 65,535 jumps in detail. (That should be enough then!) It can automatically calculate freefall time or input straight from a freefall data recorder such as the *Pro-Track*. The little bugger even has an alarm which will warn you when AAD inspections or membership due dates are approaching – if you like that sort of thing! *Paralog* retails for around \$35.

Reports

Type:	Altitude & Delay
Highest's Left Altitude:	14288
Lowest Open Altitude:	2968
Average Freefall Delay:	8.59
Standard Fall rate jumper:	18.83%
Average Standard delay:	1:31
Vertical Fall rate jumper:	2.17%
Average Vertical delay:	0:58



Personal Info

Jump #	Date	Delay
187	11/27/01	1:01
Drop Zone: Skydive America		
Witness: Twin Otter		
Jump Type: Sky Fly		
Wind Speed (MPH): 14		
Landing: 50 ft from target		

Drop Zones

Chengland	Winger Lakes
Skydive America	Local Center CR
Cross Keys	

Statistics

Total Jumps	238	Freefall Time	2:44:41
Last Jump	32162	Repack In	102
Profile	Plan	Clear	
Report	Start	Rec New	

www.vorpaware.com

One on the Side!

2K Composites, those venerable UK builders of open-faced hard helmets, have come up with yet another model to add to the now bewilderingly long list of camera helmets available on the market.

Called the *Side-FX*, this open-faced helmet has been designed with a flat top and side panel to allow for the easy fitting of camera mounts. Their innovative new external bracket design allows the camera to be fitted in up to four different positions,

ie, forwards or backwards facing, or inverted to allow for some new sexy camera angles in freefall.

As with the other helmets in their range the Side-FX features nice smoothed-off edges all over, producing a pleasing aerodynamic shape with reduced noise levels at higher speeds. The helmet comes with enclosed audible ports and retails at just over £200 with the camera bracket pre-fitted.

2K Composites: 01280 823 796
www.2kcomposites.com

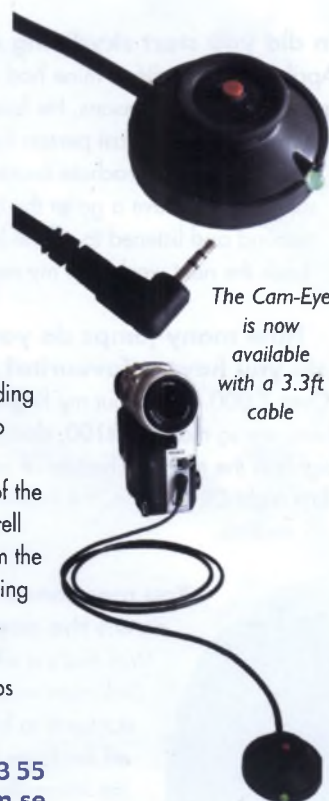


Cam-Eye Evolves

The popular Cam-Eye 2, skydiving camera control switch and multi-coloured LED manufactured by the small Swedish company calling themselves Skytools, is now available in a 'sport' version. The difference between this new model and the Cam-Eye 2 which we've all come to know and love, is the fact that the LANC cable is 3.3 feet long and the LED is mounted at the control button.

The original Cam-Eye is still the best option for helmet mounted cameras, while the Cam-Eye Sport can be used for any other application where the camera is further away from the operator, such as when mounted on an aircraft's wing for exit shots or even for a foot-mounted camera for instance.

The Cam-Eye Sport offers one of the best and most cost effective operating options when using a 'bullet camera' set-up. Attaching a bullet-type miniature camera to a video recording device (camcorders with analogue in, or video cassette decks like Hi8, DV, VHS) has become extremely popular due to the very small size of the camera and the relatively low price. Skytools tell us they've been receiving glowing reports from the likes of mountain bikers, motorbike riders, racing car drivers, speed windsurfers, snowboarders, paragliders and covert camera manufacturers regarding the Cam-Eye Sport and the list keeps growing.



The Cam-Eye is now available with a 3.3ft cable

Skytools: 0046 70 554 83 55
www.skytools.m.se

Ozzy Cycles

Good news for those who intend taking their rig with them on their next jumping tour of Australia is the APF's (Australian Parachute Federation's) stipulation that the reserve pack cycle acceptable in the owner's own country is now acceptable in Oz. In other words our six month BPA cycle is now okay, whereas before ALL reserves were restricted to the APF's 120 day term. There's more – where the owner is also the qualified packer of their own system they may also repack it in Australia with another six month period, providing they are to jump the rig themselves. However if the rig is to be loaned to an Australian jumper the gear must be packed by an APF rated reserve packer.

APF: 0061 2 6281 6830

BirdMan are Pantz!

BirdMan Inc have been successful in building and marketing specialist wingsuits for the past few years – first the *BirdMan Classic*, then the *GTi*, then the *SkyFlyer*. Now the company, based in Finland and the USA, have developed what they call *BirdMan Pantz*.

Available in two types – *Tracking* and *Base*, the Pantz look similar to other freely trousers available on the market but are in fact, constructed from a stiff zero-p, parapack-type fabric at the back and with vents in the legs, approximately at shin level.



The Tracking Pantz feature the vents at the front and back, while the Base Pantz have them in the front only. These vents allow the air to enter the legs and inflate the lower section creating a larger more rigid surface. The air in the legs is trapped by double closure velcro cuffs at the ankles.

BirdMan claim that the inflation of their Pantz provides a real boost in forward movement and lift, in the case of the tracking version – both face to earth and inverted. There are plenty of bells and whistles on the Pantz, including a heavy-duty quick-snap belt, multiple pockets, padded knees and even a mobile phone pocket (which you might need if the Pantz do their job too well). They may be bought off the shelf or custom made. Delivery is around six weeks and the price is about the same as a regular freely jumpsuit.

BirdMan: 001 813 713 4548
www.bird-man.com

Paul Applegate, or Apples as he is known, has excelled at almost every aspect of the sport.

Apples was a CF World Champion and a National Champion in 8-way FS. He is an instructor and rigger, has done film stunts, been on British record 60, 98 & 100-ways and was part of a world military record 50-way.

Apples has made over 7,000 jumps with only one minor incident. Here, he shares some of the lessons he's learned along the way.

People in the **SPORT** Apples

When did you start skydiving and why?

28 April 1973. A mate of mine had called into Compton Abbess airfield to enquire about flying lessons. He found a parachute centre there where the bar stayed open until the last person fell over and it had truckloads of women. He enrolled on the parachute course and naturally, I went to give him moral support (and have a go at the beer and the women!). As I had hung around and listened to all the lessons, the instructor said that if I came back the next week with my money, he would let me jump.

How many jumps do you have now and do you have a favourite?

Over 7,000. I can't put my finger on any one particular skydive because there are so many; Brit100, doing a tandem in Cyprus and seeing the Golan Heights in the mist, the beauty of jumping in Switzerland in the mountains, my first night CRW demo, the first time I saw someone in freefall – the list is endless.

You mentioned in The Mag, April 2002, falling down the north face of the Eiger

Well that's a whole article in itself! Cinematographer Leo Dickinson was making a film reconstruction and needed a stuntman to look like some poor sod who perished falling off the Eiger whilst trying to climb it. With the help of Jim Warmesley, Jump Shack and Karrimore, we came up with something that looked like a Karrimore rucksack but had two canopies in it. I did some training in the States where I lost about two stone in sweat, wearing a complete climbing ensemble, then went off to Switzerland to do the dirty deed. We didn't actually fall off the Eiger; we cheated and used a helicopter that flew in from the South side about a thousand feet above the peak. It was one of the scariest things I've ever done, watching the rock rush past my ears, trying to look like a dying man (which I thought I was!) whilst trying to see a hidden altimeter. Then I had to flick onto my front, take a big fat woolly mitt off to find the pin pull and, as soon as the canopy

Main photo: Olympus Digital

Background: Military 50-way by Simon Ward

opened, shove it back on so I didn't get frostbite on that hand. It was such a rush, we didn't really feel the cold. Leo, the bugger, made me do it six times though!

When was your first skydiving competition and how did you do?

I can't remember the first competition I entered. In the mists of my memory it was a 4-way competition out of a Rapide at Netheravon but I can't remember how I did. The inspiration for doing competition was going to my first nationals in 1975 at Dunkswell (they used a DC3, still got the T shirt).

Tell us about becoming a world champion

A group of us who all did CReW together, called the *Mountain Men*, worked hard, begged stole and borrowed our own way to the States. There was no sponsorship in those days. (I tell a lie, we had sponsorship for bumper boots from the firm that occupied the offices below the BPA in Leicester!) Before we went, Scotty Milne gave us a pep talk on competition pressure. None of us had been to a World Meet but we had all won gongs in local and army competitions. We all said "Yeah, yeah, yeah, we can handle it, we're big boys". How wrong could we be? Your first World Meet is like your first day at school, you're afraid of everything and afraid of showing it. Being a Brit, stiff upper lip and all that, I got on with it, did the job and came back with gold in the 8-way speed and a silver in the 4-way rotations. I have to admit, at the medal ceremony, to having a tear in my eye; then I spent a week trying to sober up. The *Mountain Men* won a Royal Aero Club Award – The Prince of Wales Cup for that. It was great to be part of that team.

What do you like about CReW?

CReW's great because it teaches people respect for the canopy above their heads; it's not just a drag device to stop you crashing into the planet. Also, you've got plenty of time to break off and have another go if it all goes horribly wrong. You can talk to each other when you're doing it – and that includes expletives which are an integral part of instructing someone in CReW!

Where do you keep your medals and which means the most?

They all hang up in my rigging room. My World Meet medals are alongside my Weston scrambles medals because they all mean a lot to me and I had to work my buns off to earn each of them.

What do you put your personal successes down to?

Not being afraid to ask for help and asking people who know their stuff.

What jumping do you do now?

Flat flying but people keep trying to tempt me over to the dark side.

What about the dark side?

That's the stuff you used to do years ago when no-one else would jump with you! I reckon that if Steve Scott can get his FF1 at his age, then so can I (sorry Scottie!).

What was the biggest challenge doing the military 50-way?

We all had identical jumpsuits and kit, it was a nightmare trying to find your slot! We tried coloured covers for the Pop Tops but they kept blowing off so we had to recognise people by their goggles or the soles of their trainers; some people deliberately left their shoelaces undone as a marker! We only had two days to complete it, out of two Chinook helicopters and doing a demo into Middle Wallop afterwards.

Who are your heroes?

Anyone who has ever taught me anything; there are plenty of them.

Tell us something about yourself people don't know

I was a world champion at throwing and catching an egg. My record stood for about a month, until some git in New Zealand beat me.

What's your ideal weekend?

A good weekend's skydiving of course comes top but, when Weston closes, I really enjoy a day of beating on a local pheasant shoot when I can tramp across fields and through woods, keeping warm with nips of my own home brewed sloe gin! At the end of the day, we all end up in a local pub with good food and a roaring fire to thaw out the feet and hands. It means my family can join in too which is great.

Tell us about your family

I'm from old time farming family tradition in Somerset but my father branched out into engineering – that's probably how I started off in life – covered in shit but still holding a spanner! I have been married to my wife, Mary, for five years and have a daughter, Alex, who is almost three.

What's the greatest challenge being a dad?

Trying to train a 2 year old to develop from a packing weight into a Rigger's Moll. Alex

now has her own tool set, her first packing ticket and her own BPA number – 800,000.

Who would you most like to meet?

Joe Kittinger – the guy who still holds the altitude record for skydiving from a balloon – that man had titanium balls. Anyone who can self spot from 103,000 feet gets my vote – I'll sign him up for his IC1 any day.

What could we learn from your wealth of experience?

Two things I think. One is that skills are transferable and so you don't have to decide on one discipline and stick to it forever. I've managed to learn 4-way, 8-way, CRW and rigging alongside becoming an instructor for rounds, RAPS, tandem and AFF. The second is that if you are prepared to listen and learn from others as well as develop a healthy respect for our sport, you don't hurt yourself. My only injury to date was a broken rib inflicted by a tandem student's elbow as a result of a bad pack job (not mine!).

Any advice for up and comings?

Don't be afraid to ask anything at all. Some people may look old and grey and like they belong in a glass case but, if someone says "Come here and I'll tell you how to do that properly without breaking yourself", just remember that if he hasn't got a limp, any limbs missing or mechanical implants, he may be worth listening to. If he has got any of the above, listen anyway; he has a wealth of experience on how *not* to do it!



The Applegate family – Mary, Alex & Apples

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In Confidence



by Rick Boardman

One confession this issue, and then I think it's time for me to stop being the 'preacher', and teach you some preventive stuff.

Nice lines...

I weigh 17.5 stone, and I jump a Spectre 190. I've had no problems to date with the system. On the jump in question, I had no problems in flight until 500-600 feet. Then my left brake toggle completely parted company with the line (a bit of a shock at that height!). I was wearing thick winter gloves, which made gripping the mini risers very hard. I've got soft links fitted, so grabbing the links wasn't an option. I steered the canopy by putting fingers between the lines on each back riser and turned it into wind. I overshot by about 500 yards and slid the landing in, like a tandem master! I bruised myself all over the place; — thighs, backside, hips and it bloody hurt!

This could have been avoided if I'd paid more attention to my brakes. Three or four weeks before, I'd changed to velcroless toggles, because the old velcro ones had been picking at the lines. I didn't realise that the outer layer of finger-trapping was so loose from the action of the velcro. I've now had the lines knotted, finger-trapped and stitched.

Solution

Toggles must never be just finger-trapped. A thumb knot locks the loop, and the excess line is stowed with a finger-trap. If you're happy with the setting, get the rigger to finish the job off with a stitch to secure the finger-trapping.

Oh yes, and I make that a 1.29 wing loading, so of course you'll get bruised!

Prevention WINDING UP

I'd like to specifically target a couple of the malfunctions that take up more than their fair share of the statistics. Your instructors probably told you this once long ago. As we learn from the start, malfunctions are caused by three things:

- 1 Bad equipment
- 2 Bad packing
- 3 Bad body position

Some of us may have left our student lives but it doesn't stop those same three things affecting us. As students, the response to these problems we're generally taught that:

- 1 The club's equipment is well maintained and state of the art.
- 2 The club's equipment is well packed and the packers are highly trained or well supervised.
- 3 Once you're trained, the good body position is up to you.

Now that we're 'experts', what's changed? YOU HAVE!

- 1 You don't necessarily use club kit any more
- 2 You've probably got your own kit
- 3 Now you're qualified, is your body position as perfect on deployment as it was when you were coming up the ladder?

A note on experience levels

If you are reading this with a mind to look down on the 'victims', think again! Any expert parachutist could fit into the limited stats which I collect. Students, take note, this report is SPECIFICALLY targeting EXPERT mals. However, read this all anyway, as one old dog tries to teach the other old dogs some new tricks! You'll be an expert yourself, quite soon...

A note on canopies

The majority of the twists or brake fire problems seem to be on high performance canopies but this could reflect their popularity, as less and less of us use the more docile F111 canopies. Twists are harder to kick out on higher performance canopies than student ones.

Report in confidence to:

Rick Boardman
281 Ablington, Figheldean,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
SP4 8JX

Phone/Ans 01980 670598
Mobile 07747 114602
Email RicksRiggery@aol.com

The above are confidential



Photo: Steve Utter

TWISTS

Twists are caused by many different factors and I won't kid you; it is unlikely that this article will eliminate all of the problems, when so much other experience out there has not managed to!

What causes twists on expert kit?

- 1 Mis-matching of the canopy with the container
- 2 Uneven packing
- 3 Bad line stowage

1. Mis-matching

Does your canopy fit perfectly in the bag? Does the bag fit perfectly in the container? If you have the container size, does its volume indicate that it should have your main canopy in it? Canopy volume charts are available all over the place; the Paragear catalogue has one in the back; most drop zones have a catalogue kicking around somewhere. An older rig's volume can be worked out by some simple maths. Of course, your local rigger can help you with all of this.



Deployment bag too large

Has this jumper just got lazy or should this canopy be in a bigger bag? This extra bungee on the mouthlock is also an old jumper's trick for having a replacement bungee ready when the first one breaks. Can't he just put bungees in his suit pocket? All the bungees on this bag are quite soft anyway. Even the double stowed ones don't hold the lines too tightly. Watch out for uneven bungees like this. Does your bag have a mixture of tube stoes, big, small, thick and thin bungees? If so, change them all to nice, even ones that hold your lines tight.

2. Uneven Packing

This item is definitely something which needs to be dealt with in a packing area, with you and your rig. Some general hints and tips I can provide now; Pack under tension. Secure the rig to the floor some how (tent peg and pull-up cord, packing weight, eg, small child!).

- Even out the harness and risers (Get the legstraps the same length, tie the risers together with your pull-up cord — but take it off later!).
- Keep checking that the canopy has stabilisers and lines positioned evenly throughout the pack job.
- Once it's time to fold the canopy to the shape of the bag, don't lose control! Don't stop now until the canopy is in the bag. Don't let your friends interrupt you for anything, complete the stowing of the canopy.

3. Line Stowage

The lines must be as neat as you can get them. They mustn't be too loose, and they must have stows that are all the same size. If you have microlines, this is even more critical. You may want to double stow lines as in the pictures above but NEVER DOUBLE STOW A MOUTHLOCK.



One badly stowed line can cause one bight to lock around another



Check out the web address below for this report of a baglock, probably caused by double stowed bungees



www.poxon.org/Craig/Skydive/Stills/Baglock

There are mixed opinions on double stowing (twisting bungees back over lines). Why double stow when you can just use smaller bungees? A carefully made twist will, admittedly, rarely cause a problem but they can catch and that can cause anything from twists to a baglock!

If you can't find a smaller bungee, there's a method of double stowing onto the bag, rather than around the lines. See the instructions on a packet of tube stoes. (Go under the attachment point on the bag, then through the bungee as normal but then repeat this, under and through itself again.)

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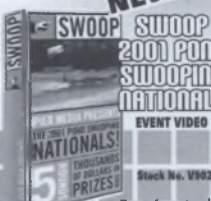
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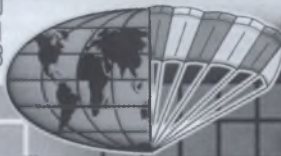
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BRAKE FIRES

Do any of us use brakes that are exactly the same? The photos provided were collected in one morning at one drop zone (except for the one from my horror box!). About the only thing they have in common seems to be that the toggles are all yellow! With such a vast range of choice, is it any wonder we get it wrong?

The top of the toggle (horn) has got to go far enough through the locking loop on the line to make the canopy stay on half brakes. Whether velcro or velcroless, the toggle must be held in place until you are ready to take control. If possible, the end of the horn should be protected from accidentally being knocked downwards. This becomes a must if you are using soft links and the slider is capable of travelling down the riser. With that little lot in mind, let's review some of these photos.

Horror toggle 1



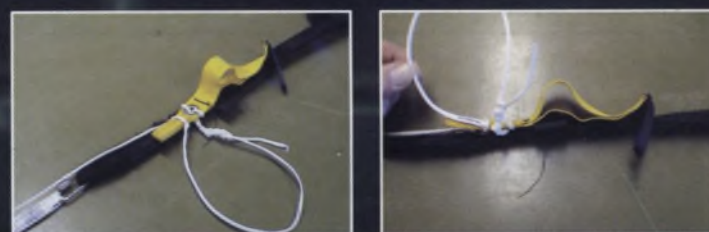
This is a large, docile canopy, with big links. The slider can't get over these but as the links are not covered by any kind of bumper, the slider grommets will eventually dent and then chew on the lines with every opening. The line is attached with a lot of knots on the end, and the spare brake line stowage is a tab of velcro tucked back under the toggle. Both of these combine to stop the velcro gripping the toggle, except for a short area at the bottom.

Horror toggle 2



This is a large, docile canopy again. The links are protected by bumpers so there are few problems up there. Watch for grooves worn in this type of bumper by the brake line. Even a small groove can trap a brake line at any time! The toggle is velcroless, and has horns at the top and bottom which face away from each other. A pocket under the toggle takes care of excess brake line. The toggle itself is half the standard thickness, and therefore a bit sharper on the palm of the hand, but hey, it's an adventurous sport! What do you want, an armchair?

Horror toggle 3



This is from my horror box. An old mini riser with velcro on it, and the toggle is an old velcro one which someone has tried to mod to velcroless. The riser has no horn protection at all, so the jumper has just slapped the old velcro together and trusted it to be okay for now. Presumably our hero couldn't afford to get this rigging work done because he'd just forked out for a new line set. He was also about to spend more, because having rigged it to his risers himself, he used mini links with no bumpers and tied his steering lines on with a thumb knot and daisy chains to lock it off. The slider would have started damaging lines straight away and unprotected, the brakes would have fired frequently. The loose thumbknot runs the risk of catching on the riser guide ring as you go to turn or flare. This would have finished our hero's day.

Setting the toggles

This sequence shows a sample toggle, set up in a variety of different scenarios. I suspect that some of you set your brakes like this, when you're pushed for time, and that's where our fun begins!



✓ Right

This is how to do it right. Put the locking loop through the metal ring and place the horn all the way through the loop then stow it in the elastic cover. On this particular riser, excess steering line is stowed in a small bungee, just beneath the toggle.



x Wrong

Everything was going great, but then we pushed the toggle horn through the ring, taking the locking loop with it.



x Wrong

This one is not so hot either! This time we skipped the metal ring completely, and what's holding the brake on is the elastic cover.



x Wrong

This 'innocent' little knot is keeping the steering line set to the length required. The trouble is the knot needs to be tucked just in the entrance to the grommet and, as you can see, this one isn't. Consequently, as you go from full drive to one of those crowd-pleasing toggle turns or flares for landing, the knot can jam in the ring. You've only got to flinch with a modern, fast canopy and you're in trouble.

In summary

Between them, twists and brake fires (on expert kit) contribute to between a third and a half of the expert malfunctions which we get in this country. It seems a pity to have to use up your last chance so often on what is actually a fixable problem in almost every case. Let's try and change that figure.

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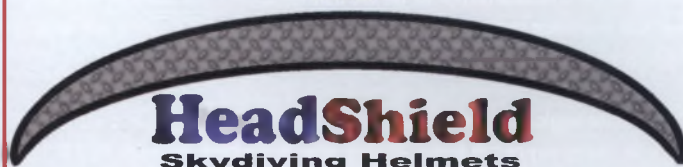
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Club News

Langar now has its very own freefly school! Steve Newman and Eliot Martin have started the *Bullet Freefly School* and have their own premises on the drop zone – a place for freeflyers to hang out! Services include coaching jumps and dive organising, both with video debriefs. They're building the school up over the winter months so come and check it out – we're open every day except Christmas day and we've got a fast, heated Grand Caravan with sixteen slots to keep you warm and current.

Bonfire night went well with all the usual festivities, despite persons unknown burning our largest ever heap of wood to the ground a night early. Hats off to Chris McCann, Steve Newman and Mike Outen for recreating an equally impressive bonfire in a couple of hours on the day. We couldn't have done it without the agricultural machinery driven by Mark and the land provided by Roly Gale.

Welcome to new pilot, Mark Harms and congratulations to Paul Lewis who has clocked up 1,000 flying hours.

Tony Danbury



EDITORIAL



There is less jumping going on in the UK at this time of year so please send in any pictures of whatever you get up to, jumping-wise over the festive season. Pass them to your club rep or send them directly to us.

Club reps have been changing around recently. Make sure you know who your club rep is so that you can keep yourself included on the achievements lists. It's great to see Cornwall Parachute Club and London Parachute School included again.

If you have any skydiving queries, visit the Mag website. Ask the Dive Doctor or check out the educational articles from the past seven years. You'll notice that many snippets of news we can't fit in to the present Mag appear on the JM's Newsround webpage. Keep your submissions coming via the web and by post.

Have a great time at your Christmas parties, wherever they may be. See you at the AGM.

Bev

www.skydivemag.com

Sam Bailey

LANGAR

Achievements

First freefall	Claire Wilson, Andy Corry
Cat 8	Ben Burns, Lyane Haywood, Michelle Coleman, Cheryl Marks John Thompson, Dave Garrett, Paul Monaghan, Chris Smith, Paul Fletcher Andrea MacLeod, Guy Vickers, Tom Woods, Graham Tew
IC1	Andy Pike, Richard Mace, Nick Shrine
FS1	Matt Robinson, Katie Woods
12 hrs freefall	Audrey Rowe
108 hrs freefall	Chris Harrison

Jump Numbers

100	Kris Ridley, Tina Wiseman
200	Warwick Farrer
300	Tom Hartland
800	Steve Newman, Audrey Rowe
2,000	Baz Carey
6,000	Dean Fisher



Judit Forro-Hunter
by Brian Vacher



RAPA

Achievements

First freefall	Lee Hart, Davy Hogg John Hughes, Vince McCloud
Cat 8	Charlie Butterfield Craig Millar, Seb Muntz Ollie Nyman Emily Sunderland
200 jumps	Scott Harrington

Goodbye to Steve Blee who is going back to the Red Devils and to Graham Barrett our second pilot who has gone off to teach people how to ski and will be back in March (I wish I had a job like that). We also say goodbye to most of the assistant staff. Barney is off back to the Fusiliers, Fozz and Lee return to the Duke of Boots and Scott has a short stay with his regiment before he heads back to Civvie Street. Dutch is posted to 16 Air Assault Brigade. Good luck on P Company, Dutch — you'll need it. Thanks for all your hard work, its been a pleasure working with you.

Words & photo: Buzz Busby

BLACK KNIGHTS

Photo: Sylvia Radcliffe



The highlight of September was the visit of F-GODZ, the world's most powerful Pilatus Porter for a week. This 750 shaft horsepower, beast of a jump plane was punching a hole in the sky over Cockerham and turning around lifts to 15,000ft in 16 minutes. Visitors and regulars made extensive use of the DZ during its visit and discounted jump prices ensured that everyone got as many lifts in as possible. We were particularly pleased to see Tim Porter who popped in to deliver some freely coaching. Tim passed his 10th year as a skydiver to the day at our centre and enjoyed a few chilled Stella as the sun set.



Billy Sharples in tandem with teddy to raise money for Clare House Children with Cancer

We're planning more visiting aircraft for next year and planning permission has been granted for a number of projects in 2003. We finally got the DZ gear shop up and running so now there's no problem getting spare gloves on a cold day or searching for replacement tube stoers.

November saw a newly married couple run straight from the registry office to Cockerham with their family and friends to make tandem jumps. It was great to see such well dressed spectators! Perhaps we should get our tandem instructors Billy and Danny licensed to perform weddings? (Although we feel cutting the cake in freefall may present some problems!)

December will see the launch of the new look www.bkpc.co.uk website which will enable our regular jumpers to keep abreast of upcoming events, DZ news and gossip, as well as providing our ever-growing community of students with a useful reference resource.

Jeff Illidge

Achievements

First freefall	Mike Ferguson Matthew Sixsmith Andy Davies Neil Ashworth, Mark Fox Dean Thorpe, John Boud Rob McVey
Cat 8	
FFI	

Jump Numbers

100	Pete Hamilton
600	Dave Gaskell
900	Jeremy Porter
800 tandems	Danny 'It's not my round' Smith

CARK

Chris Lynch Canopy Seminar

People of all levels of experience showed up to take in advice and learn some new skills on 13 September. The day incorporated lectures, question and answer sessions and a unique video of real landings, as well as all manner of canopy-flying related tasks, including packing and weather conditions. The video was enlightening, it showed how most of us had landed our canopies wrongly at some point in our skydiving careers, thinking we were correct. Chris taped all our landings too which was a bit unnerving; I think we were all picturing having our landings shown throughout the UK. This proved to be valuable to us all and Chris was impressed with how we piloted our canopies.

One of our AFF instructors said he got some useful pointers and some better ways to explain to his AFF students the force of the wind in relation to canopy attack. It's true to say that this stuff saves lives, people don't like to advise others on their canopy handling as it can be taken as criticism, whereas this course puts people on a level playing field. Experience ranged from 50 — 2,000+ jumps and everybody learned something.

We all felt that something like this should be included as part of the progression system, perhaps that's an idea for the BPA. We are losing more people under fully functional canopies than we are through malfunctions, which only goes to show how seminars such as this one can be so very important. People are even using their back risers now — before then they never knew they existed!

If you have never attended a canopy seminar then it's about time you did. Everyone will learn something, which will add to the safety and enjoyment of our sport.



Gary Turner

Achievements

First freefall	Stuart Adamson, Rachel Ingham Simon Keens, Maddy West Andy Butterworth
FF1	Julian Deplidge
FF2	Andy Brass

Jump Numbers

50	Dave O'Connor
300	Steve Hogan



Artistic Roadshow

Tim Porter and Chris Lynch hosted an Artistic Roadshow in September. The turnout was good with Cark's own freeflyers and some visiting jumpers. The coaching feedback was fabulous and many people commented on how quickly they learned new skills and how clear Tim's debriefs were. We hope there will be another roadshow next year.

Visitors

As well as Chris and Tim, we have had our fair share of visitors lately, John McIver has called in a few times coaching us in FS and an ex-member of Cark called in on us too – Mark Kirkby from *Arizona Airspeed*. He called in to say hi and even managed a couple of jumps.

There are now no excuses for visitors not finding their way to the DZ. With Cark's new plush sign, courtesy of Trish Hayton, no-one can end up at the caravan park now! The centre reopens on 1 February.

Bonfire Night

This year's bonfire night was an event and a half. In the seven years I have been jumping I have never known it to rain on bonfire night apart from this year when it chucked it down! Fireworks still went on as planned though and the bonfire was a site as it had an ambulance on top and the remains of someone's caravan! Wendy made some great pumpkin art (above) which Tony Hart would have been proud of! We had a band called Rox play in our packing shed, people danced the night away and a few of us got very wasted on Wendy's cocktails. Speaking of Wendy, she finally bit the bullet after her charity tandem and has now started her AFF and is eager to graduate.

Freshers

Bringing new faces to Cork this academic year, the Manchester University Freefall Parachute Association (MUFFPA) launched their momentous recruitment drive on 24 September. Novel literature, freefly helmets, recent charity jumps and enthusiastic current members contributed to the staggering 400 students who signed up. There was an impressive raffle, the top prize being a free skydive won by Sarah Dean, pictured below. In addition there was a post-event party and a towering, four metre high windblade. Many thanks to 2K Composites, DZ Sports, the Kit Store, Sky Chimes and Symbiosis Suits for their generous donations.

Michelle Meakins & Rob Knight

Photo: Helen Nickols



Stan Peake by Ian Chick

Mike, Rob, Duncan & Michelle





Clare Murphy &
Jo Malone,
captured by
Brian Vacher

WESTON

conducted in front of a crowd with much hand-chopping and teeth-gnashing for some minor misdemeanour! Dave is truly inimitable; masses of patience yet intolerant; open to new ideas but only if you convince him they are his; great sense of humour except when he's running the world, I mean the manifest. There really is only one Dave Wood and he will be sorely missed. We wish you and Chris the very best.

Baby Mursell

Steve and Ali Mursell are delighted to announce the arrival of Thomas William Mursell. According to Steve and Andy, baby Thomas weighed around 6lb and the birth was 'a breeze' — Ali may have a different take on events!

Robbie Blain & Bev Ford



Simon Ward

Farewell to Dave Wood — a tough taskmaster with a heart of gold

Achievements

Cat 8	Ashley Dando
	Louise Hughes
	Louise Wiper
	Al McGregor
FS1	Nick Whiteley
	Fred During
	Pam During
FF1	Ian Charnock

Jump Numbers

50	Al McGregor
	Fred During
	Pam During
100	Becky Hughes
1,000	Jo Malone

Bye to Woodsey

Dave Wood has been tempted away to be CCI in the sunnier climate of Cyprus. Dave has successfully built RAFSPA into a safe, friendly, diverse, efficient and progressive drop zone despite having to combine his military duties with a seven day a week CCI role. He has noticeably transformed the parachute inventory to the pride of the club and the envy of other drop zones, has championed an annual summer ball to be proud of and still found time to rack up over 6,000 skydives.

You are not a true Weston club member until you've experienced one of Dave's infamous Chainsaw Pep Talks — usually

WILD GEESSE

Early on Saturday 14 September six teams were dirtdiving, waiting for daylight to start the FS regional competition. As usual the weather was against us but we got the first lift in by lunchtime. Everyone worked really hard and 17 lifts later we had completed the competition. Thanks to the judges and all the competitors.

The locals in Garvagh were treated to their first sight of wingsuits as instructors Paul Dornan and Francis Mullin took to the sky. The club's FS team *Practical Magic* made a day trip to France to check out the new wind tunnel and were suitably impressed.

John McCourt

FS Regional Results

Juniors

Gold	<i>Sky Pirates</i>	42 points
Silver	<i>Elemental</i>	11 points
Bronze	<i>Blazing Saddles</i>	8 points

Intermediates

Gold	<i>Quest</i>	62 points
------	--------------	-----------

Seniors

Gold	<i>Passed Out</i>	8 points
------	-------------------	----------

Achievements

First freefall	Ted Jenson
FS1	Freddie Mackenzie
1hr freefall	Kenny Rooney

Jump Numbers

900	Paul Dornan
800	Pete Lehane



Dain Thorne & girlfriend,
Charlotte Cooke over Gab

NETHERAVON

Late September saw the premier social event of the year — the Autumn Ball. Champagne cocktails, food, wine, a bucking bronco, more wine, sumo suits, Red Bull cocktails, a giant Scalextric, a bit more wine, a surf simulator and disco ensured everyone had a great time. The event coincided with Godder's birthday, who seemed to enjoy his Big Bird birthday cake even if he couldn't hold it the right way up!

An extremely cold Friday evening in October saw the defrocking of more night jump virgins. I'd name them if only they'd added themselves to the achievements list — is this a sneaky way of avoiding bell rings?! The evening passed without incident other than frostbite from the minus 30-something at max! Talking of extremes of weather, the centre remained relatively intact (one missing windsock) after the latest big storm although, when the wind machine clocked 65 knots, we sent the students home!

Halloween was celebrated in the traditional party manner, with quite a few scary costumes — Tag and Woof have promised to come in fancy dress next year though.

Kath Salisbury





Photo by
Eammon Fairhead

HINTON

We have more than doubled the packing area now that we have acquired the hangar next door —

aaahh, the luxury of indoor packing. Late September saw a fun scrambles comp in memorial to Rachel Gray. Andy Cliff's team won the 4-way on the Saturday and there was a tie for second, third and fourth places which was decided by a round of paper, scissors, stone. As a note to anyone who ever intends to play this with Maddy, she cheats. Everyone else saw this but me and I was judging it... oops. The Sunday saw 8-way speed, with Clive and Rich's team winning with a fantastic time of 23 seconds. This was followed by some 16-ways.

Chobba, our intrepid Let pilot, finally did a tandem with Geoff (pictured above). The look on his face can only be described as sheer terror! We're not sure whether this was because he was not flying the plane or because he was going to get out of it when it wasn't on the ground.

The DZ will re open on 4 January. Congratulations to Phil and Rowena Lee on tying the knot in sunny (if remote) Scotland.

Caroline White

Jump Numbers

100	Tony Walden	400	Anna Palmer
200	Leonie Needham	1,000	Maddy Moore
	Joanna Price	1,200	Dorian Harwood
300	Maria Russell	2,500	Bob Spratley
		48hrs freefall	Bob Spratley



Robin Durie and friends
by Craig O'Brien

Achievements

1st freefall	Ronald Bosley
	James Kearney
Cat 8	Pete Tetlow
	Emily Chinn
	Kristina Sadler
	James Catto
IC 1	Greg Henry
FSI	Ian Robertson
	Paul Forrest
	Tara Boyle
	Claire Hodge
	Ben Tidman

Jump Numbers

100	Greg Henry
	Mike Longmore
200	Dave Clarke
	Alex Jackson
	Will, Steph Jones
300	Billy Steele
	Pete Cripps
400	Bish, Tom Canty
	Jason Tebb
500	Mike Lewis
600	Mike Ehl
1,000	Dave Evans
	Noah Stephenson
2,000	Nige Jackson

CORNWALL

Keith's first jump in five months
and Kev's Cat 8 dive

Congratulations to Paul Yeomans who returned with the bronze for the European 8-way CF sequential in Empuria. He also won two gold medals for the CF nationals and a silver for accuracy.

Keith Keeler (pictured below & right) has started jumping again after an accident five months ago in DeLand.

Not being able to jump did strange things to Keith as he took a liking to dressing up in skirts! The dressing up caught on, especially on Halloween when everybody put on their best ghoulish faces and sexy rubber thongs! We did have a practice run earlier which caused quite a stir...



Alex Burr



Alex Burr

...flying high in the skies over Cornwall was Supergirl (aka Cheryl)!



Achievements

First freefall	Rob Butler, Scott Pearce
Cat 8	Kevin Brunyee
IC1	Keith Keeler, Tony Moody
1 hr freefall	Alex Burr
100 jumps	Alex Burr, Tony Moody



Jezzy Cook

ST ANDREWS

Edinburgh Uni Meadows Demo

Skydive St Andrews ran a demo for the Edinburgh University Skydiving Club into the Meadows in Edinburgh. Participants were veterans Alan Wilkinson, Iain Scott (Freddy) McDonald, Roy Bannerman and first time demo jumpers Graeme McKay and Ben Blake. The display was well attended by students and passers-by, although this may have had something to do with the bouncy castle EUSDC had laid on. Many of the DZ regulars came along to watch so a night out in Edinburgh was mandatory, which ended with a test of the salsa skills.

Parties

The vicars and tarts party was the first in a line of parties at the DZ. Contrary to expectation there were more nuns and priests than anything else, although it is suspected that this was an attempt to hide underlying intentions. The highlight of the following beach party which was the introduction by Shona of water pistols resulting in a drenched bar and a small swimming pool in the hallway (thanks to Freddy, Hannah and Cat). Another popular attraction was the paddling pool used as a punishment for failure in the drinking games which have become synonymous with the students. After the fun of the last



Alistair McLaren

two parties we were looking for another excuse to get dressed up and conveniently, Halloween was just around the corner. There were numerous creative costumes along with the expected witches, vampires, doctors and nurses! Freddy managed to top off the night, winning the 'three best costumes in a row' prize. Finally for a bonfire night against the elements; Alan and Dave Pritchard from Glasgow Uni put on an exceptional fireworks display much to Toggle's (DZ dog's) annoyance.

Achievements

First freefall	Fiona Bell
Graduated AFF	Louise Howard
Cat 8	Kevin Mullen
FF1	Jon Smullen
50 jumps	Colin Booth

Gordon Morison

St Andrews jumpers in Elsinore



Louise Duguid

HEADCORN

Achievements

First freefall
Richard Sweet-Escott
Laura Hopkins
James Rowlands
Steve Singer

IC1
Paul Winsor
FS1
Dennis McTaggart
Michelle Theobald

60 hrs freefall
Andy Ring

Jump Numbers

400
Mark Lawson
700
Jan Gaynor
1,000
Robert Wardman



Dennis Guy

Our Let 410 has now departed to be replaced for the winter by the Black Beaver and pilot John O'Connell.

Chris Lynch held another very successful canopy seminar together with the first canopy swooping seminar, both of which were well attended. A group of HPC regulars, organised by Jan Gaynor, recently completed a bike ride from Oxford to London and it seems that they had an excellent time. Andy Holland's trousers somehow managed to find their way onto a CCTV camera (don't ask!) and they managed to lose George Raft but found him again in time for lunch!

Vicki Tomlinson



Will Dodge's biannual Papillion jump...

TILSTOCK

Four flags and discs have been introduced to the DZ so many people are taking up the challenge and improving their accuracy along the way, thanks to Ben for that one. Tilstock features a 206 with full roller door (great for the winter) and re opens on 25 January.

Our local team *AirRage* have had a change in line-up for the new season; Steve Cooper has left the team and has been replaced by Mick Cooper who has bags of experience and the same surname (this makes things easier, I suppose!). They hope their average for next season improves, although groupies would be much appreciated as this would apparently increase their performance!

We managed to get two of our pilots into the air; Bob Prunty did a tandem and Jason Bishop is going through the system and completed his first freefall, nice one. I loaned out my beloved Vengeance 120 to a friend, only to see it fluttering away over our local woods. We eventually found the canopy and the search party also managed to find a sheep's head, a t-shirt, a pair of tights and a tub of KY gel – the mind boggles.

Dedication to the sport comes no harder than James Doyle who waited patiently to do his first freefall whilst his poor wife was ready to go into labour. Congrats on the new arrival. Congratulations also to intermittent visitor from Thailand, Steve Johnson, upon his coming marriage.

Gravel

Achievements

First freefall	Jason Bishop, James Doyle
Cat 8	Richard Head, Hareth Abdulla
10 hrs freefall	Ray Parker
24 hrs freefall	Simon Davenport

Jump Numbers

100	Bryan Teeson, Ria Bremner
200	Rob Grey
3,000	Simon Davenport
2,000 tandems	Martin Wilshaw



...and his biannual landing!

Steve Murphy taking his daughter on a tandem for her birthday, filmed by Paul Hollow

TARGET



Adi Green and Paul Hollow



The annual Halloween 10-way speed meet was well attended and coupled with Freshers, it made for a very busy weekend. The weather was against us from the start but spirits were high and we squeezed in a couple of rounds before dark then opened the bar for the fancy dress bash. Thanks to Hannah and crew for putting on an excellent party, Doom for the choons and Rotti et al from VNE for coaching the more junior teams.

Halloween 10-way Speed Results

- 1 *Traps for the Unwary*
- 2 *Ten Ticks*
- 3 *Smashed Pumpkins*

The nights are drawing in and it's getting mighty unfriendly at altitude so it's a good job our planes have heating! Don't forget it's not too late to come to Portugal this Christmas with Target and jump the G92 in the warmth of the Algarve.

Ruth Covell

Photos: Goody

Achievements

Graduated AFF

Emma Storrow

Kevan Marks

Julie Hutton

Cat 8

Lynda Walling

Elaine Wesley

Kat Install

Andrew Gardiner

36 hrs freefall

Steve Murphy

Jump Numbers

100

Andy 'Wez' Wesley

200

Jane Henderson

300

Derrick Kent

400

Damian Fereday

PETERLEE

The three worst kept promises in the world:

- A door on the C182 by Christmas
- A bar by Easter
- A turbine aircraft next summer!

Watch this space, you never know!

Jane Roberston

Achievements

First freefall Alan Adams

Jim Smith

Cat 8 Dave Scorer

Giles Barnett

Richard Head

IC1 Paul McCormick

FF1 Chris Beattie

4,000 jumps Dave Mitchell

LONDON

It may be a strange time to make a comeback in the Mag but we have had a very successful year. The season got under way in March when the first of 22 first jump courses started. We got all the way through to October until the weather got the better of us and created our first backlog. We managed to jump many first timers and a lot came back for more on our continuation weekends where several students progressed to Cat 8. Numerous tandems, students and groups of regulars made the weekends very enjoyable.

Next year there are loads of things in the pipeline. We are hoping to get a trip to Empuria organised in the spring or early summer, barbecues will become a more regular event, as will trips up to Border Parachute Centre (owned by LPS co-owner Chris Francis), which were a hit this year.

Rob Lay

Achievements

Cat 8 André Fourie, Rob Lay

First freefall André Fourie, Jaggi Botma

Rachel Hinde, Rob Lay

Chris Harraway, Barry Whitham

200 jumps Martin Harris, Adam O'Donnell

André Fourie, after his Cat 8 jump

by Martin Harris





CCI George McGuinness
on jump number 4,444!
by Neil McLaren

BORDER

Welcome back to Neil McLaren who is working alongside Ed Murdoch as the centre's resident cameramen. We are pleased to report that the centre is getting busier and we are operating through the week more frequently. Alongside all the current alterations and improvements, we will soon have a new shower block. There is also the possibility of a larger aircraft at Border next year!

Laura Johnson

Achievements

First freefall
Cat 8
100 jumps

Geraldine McGuinness, Eoin Muir
André Fourie
Harry Minty

Neil McLaren



André (or his twin brother?!)
after his Cat 8 jump



SIBSON

Flyboyz Festival

Flyboyz Eli Thompson, Charles Bryan and Fritz Pfür brought fantastic weather from Perris for the Sibson Freely Festival. Stuart Meacock logged his 7,777th jump during the festival. Lots of regulars and visitors took full advantage of the world class coaching on offer. There was a good mixture of one-on-one coaching, small groups and larger loads for the sunset lift every day. 2,000 descents were completed, not bad for a week at the end of September in the UK! [Next issue we will have a fabulous Flyboyz photospread from the Sibson Freely Festival].

Ollie's Ashes Dive

On the last day of the festival we said a final goodbye to Oliver Reynolds as his ashes were released over Sibson. Chris Allen, Kev Goode and Rory Leggott who had taken him through his AFF course only two years earlier formed a 4-way with 'Ollie'. Several other friends dived out behind the formation to watch the moving tribute, following a trail of orange smoke. At 5,000ft as the smoke started to thin, Ollie's ashes were released. It was, quite simply, beautiful. We watched the bluest of skies from the ground and saw Ollie's ashes hang in the sky before they disappeared. And then a rainbow appeared.



POPS

As reported last issue in JM's Newsround, 27 British POPS set a new European FS POPS record at Langar, organised by Jack Felstead. The total experience of the 27-way was a whopping 54,325 jumps and 553 years in the sport! In addition, Dave Bentley made his 500th jump on the record dive and Roger Bancroft made his 600th. Congratulations to all. Email Gary Wainwright for a video of the POPS record. It costs £10 and all profits go to Cancer Research UK.

gary_wainwright_uk@yahoo.com

Jack and his intrepid band are planning to go even bigger and better next year. Check the website for other events for 2003.

www.thepops.org

Record Breakers:

Jack Felstead
Mike Gorman
Simon Lovenbury
Dave Hickling
Steve Saunders
Tony Bradbury
Dave Howerski
Pete Stone
Dave Heatley
Andy Page
Pete Knight
Graham Burgmans
Mike Tobin
John Boxall
Terry Robertson

Sonny Ford
Tony Smith
Louise Hawkins
Roger Bancroft
Keith Johnson
Walter Bilsland
Martin Monks
Bob Connell
Phil Latham
Jim Bradwell
Ray Parker
Dave Bentley
plus Tony Danbury
& Gary Wainwright
on camera

POPS European and British FS Record



Gary Wainwright



Record breaking POPS; photo by Tony Danbury

Chris, Kev & Leggy on Ollie's ashes dive
by Stuart Meacock



Forest Rodent that Never Was

There was a fantastic turnout of eight senior and eight junior teams who had all proven themselves admirably at the Nationals, promising a tough competition. Sadly, low cloud and dismal weather meant not a single round of the competition was attempted. This brought out the madness in all and a night of bar diving and alcohol abuse ensued.

A weekend in October saw mega winds at Sibson (nothing to do with Jake's chilli). A gust of 86mph on Sunday robbed the front hangar of several pieces of its roof – but we still managed one lift! The traditional bonfire night party was a hoot with a packed bar, hot dogs, delicious soup plus of course the obligatory gallons of tequila. The best fireworks ever seen at Sibson were lit by Pete Male and Mark Harris without injury – incredible. (It must have been something to do with Dave Bailey being out of the country!) This was a terrific send-off party for Pete and Julie Gray who have left the UK for a new life in Portugal. The TurboLet has now gone back to the Ukraine but the C206 with its inflight door and toasty heating system will be taking us skyward in December to February.

Lisbeth Harris & Caroline Allen



We were sad to lose an old South African friend, Hans Jacob Du Plessis, aka Dup, who died at 62 from lung cancer last month.

Achievements

First freefall
Stuart Johnston
Cat 8
John McGuire,
Gavin 'The Skyplank' Gillibrand
Martin Cole
ICI
Mark Andrews

Jump Numbers

50
Ed Ashby
200
Stuart Wilson
800
Jules Hoult
1,500
David Bailey



Photo: Dave Du Plessis

PUMPKIN

TP has had a very busy time over the past few months. In June, 25 members visited Chatteris. With good weather and great hospitality the visit was brilliant. The first Pumpkin hybrid dive was made by Martin and Ian with Dave in a stand. To celebrate Chris Steele's birthday, they made some balloon jumps with David Fish of Flying Pictures and Matt Welvaert.

Dave Fish did a great job running the Sibson weekend in September. This was the first TP visit to be run by someone other than Martin! Many thanks to all the staff at Sibson too. Also thanks to Steve 'Toxic' Tiller who ran the Hinton end of season weekend in October. This was the largest TP weekend so far and we had members fly in from as far afield as Edinburgh and Guernsey.

The Orlando trip was excellent. Stu, Peter, Susan, Martin and Marie (TP packer from Elsinore) spent four and a half hours in the wind tunnel, made 250 jumps in six days and received coaching from Mickey Inabinat from Elsinore Matrix.

TP is getting more organised (thanks to events organiser Sarah Brooke) and we are planning TP weekends to various UK and foreign DZs next year.

Martin Williams

Achievements

FS1 Jamie Valder
FF2 Andrew Stewart

This section is non
BPA Affiliated centres

Jump Numbers

50 Danny Thompson, Stephen King, Ainsley Walters
Martin Kember, Stuart Carter
100 Mike Beeden, Steve Doane, Steve Tiller, Tim Earlam
Tai Ono, Simon Weber
200 Peter Smith, Simon Larcombe, Matt Welvaert
Ian McConnell
300 Jo Brookbanks, Andrew Stewart
400 Stu Brown, Dave Fish



Ros, Martin W, Susan, Chris J, Schnuffi the rabbit, Chris B, Tai, Pete, Vernon, Martin K & Hossein at Lake Elsinore



Drop Zone Focus



Cyprus Combined Services

Parachute Centre

Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus

Tel: 00 357 2474 4337

Fax: 00 357 2474 4180

skydive@logos.cy.net

www.skydivecyprus.com

Owner/Operator

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC) is a BPA Affiliated drop zone run by the British military

CCI

Dave Wood (formerly of RAFSPA)

Instructors

Greg McKenzie, Phil Bell, George Panagopoulos

Pilots

Chris Antoniou, Moss Meletiou, George Paschalis

Aircraft

BN Piston Islander 10 place

First Jump Courses

RAPS, Tandem, AFF

Jump Prices

Student – Military & Civilian (including equipment hire)	£15
Up to 6,000ft	Military £6 Civilian £8
Up to 10,000ft	Military £9 Civilian £11
Up to 12,000ft	Military £12 Civilian £14

Altitude restrictions

Maximum altitude is 12,000 feet.

Coaching

FS & WARP

Other businesses located on OZ

AFF school, DZ shop, tandem operation and a rigging shop

DZ Attractions

Guaranteed sunshine, full debrief facilities, equipment hire, two mock-ups, several creeper pads, covered packing area and 200 acres of landing area.

DZ Food & Drink

The Drop Inn DZ bar is open late and serves sandwiches and hot & cold drinks during the day too. There is also a barbecue most weekends.

Local Food & Drink

A huge variety of takeaways and great places to eat are within walking distance of the DZ including seafood taverns, Greek, Indian, Chinese, Mexican, French and Japanese restaurants.

Getting there

Contact the DZ for assistance in organising accommodation, flights and car hire. There is no accommodation on the DZ itself but they'll suggest a few reputable companies to use and can help keep the cost down. Last minute flights from the UK can be found for under £100.

Local Attractions

As well as being close to numerous beaches, CCSPC is 15 minutes by car away from Ayia Napa, the busy tourist town renowned for its vibrant nightlife. It costs £8 in a taxi to get there.

Overview

CCSPC is a good, friendly drop zone for all standards of jumper, all year round.



Directions

The drop zone is situated in the eastern sovereign based area of Cyprus, close to Dhekelia Garrison.

From Larnaca Airport

Follow motorway signs to Ayia Napa. At the second Dhekelia junction turn left. After 500 metres turn left on to a track. Follow for approximately 1 km.

From Dhekelia Garrison

Follow directions north for Xylatymbou. Exit left before the Ayios Rafael Monastery and follow the track to the drop zone.

Recommended Local Accommodation

Sussex Apartments

Tel: 00 357 2464 4811

Offers special rates for skydivers

The Daniandy Hotel

Tel: 00 357 2464 5250

Fax: 00 357 2464 5270

Offers special rates to skydivers, eg. £15 - £20 for a double room (Prices are variable)

The hotel has a pool and is situated next to the main tourist area.



Beat the Winter Blues

Umm Al Quwain Boogie
19 February - 1 March 2003

United Arab Emirates

Let 410



An26



DZ



DZ at Sunset



Gun Club



DZ Accommodation



Party Time!



Full package with The Boogie Club - £720

- return airfare and transfers
- 1 night in Dubai, 2 BBQ's
- 8 nights at DZ
- Free video
- Free Load Organising led by Darryl Moran
- Aircraft Let 410, Caravan, An26, An12
- Perfect weather
- Great accommodation
- Great parties

Contact: Pete Marsden

Tel: 01932 701321

Pete@boogieclub.co.uk

www.boogieclub.co.uk

BPA Associated UK Organisations

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@activeskydiving.com
www.activeskydiving.com
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, Advanced Instructor & Examiner with over 7,000 jumps. Scotty uses the latest equipment and teaching techniques for best results.

Airwaves International Skydiving School

78 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 instructor Rod Bartholomew (24 yrs experience), Coco Cazalac (USPA & FFP) & Sean O'Faolin (AFF) offer AFF, RAPS / RAPS progression, FS, FF, tandem & team coaching at our beautiful resorts in Royan, France and Florida. Operating full time all year, our professional skydiving holidays have everything. Video included. UK support on return. Training programmes now offered at the new wind tunnel in Paris.

British Collegiate Parachute Association

Lorraine Blacker, BCPA Chairman
12 Abberton Road, Manchester M20 1HU
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
slattery@blueyonder.co.uk
RAPS, static line and progression courses. AFF and tandem — UK and abroad. Tandem video by arrangement. Currently sharing facilities with the London Parachute School at Lewknor drop zone.

FreeFall Company

The Coach House, West St, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7RL
Tel: (Spain) 00 34 972 45 45 63
kevin@freefallco.com www.freefallco.com
Operated by Kevin McCarthy, ex National Champion with over 7,500 jumps and over 20 years experience. Probably the best AFF school in Europe. State of the art equipment and professional, personalised training gives you safe, rapid progression to Category 10 and beyond. Videos with all jumps. Courses available all year in the Costa Brava. Flexible payment to suit you.

Parachute Training Services

11 Godwyn Close, Abingdon, 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

Laburnum, The Hollow, Shrewton, Salisbury, Wilts SP3 4JY
Tel: 01980 621363 Fax: 01980 620609
Mobile: 07971 665815
aff@phdskydiving.co.uk
www.phdskydiving.co.uk
Friendly, professional AFF school and Skydive U coaching run by Martin Williams, BPA examiner, AFF instructor and Skydive U coach. Providing clients with small, personalised courses all year in California, Spain and UK. Emphasis on continued support in UK post course. Video on all jumps, only best equipment used.

Pops UK

Pete Shew, 6a Amphil Rd, Shefford, Beds, SG17 5BD
Tel: 01462 638312
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 or 300 or 212
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

Peterlee Parachute Centre, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
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 2hrs from Edinburgh). B&B in local pubs from £12.50, in Durham City from £18.

The Skydiving Company

Headcorn Aerodrome, Headcorn Kent TN27 9HX
Contact: Colin May
Tel: 01622 892 092
mail@theskydivingcompany.co.uk
Operating from Headcorn Parachute Club, the Skydiving Company offers tandem, RAPS and AFF courses.

Skydive Limited

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280066 Fax: 01832 280067
Mobile: 0785 000 7178
chris@skydiveltd.com 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.

Terminal Velocity Skydiving

4 Cottesmore, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7YL
Tel: 01344 440212 Fax: 01344 445704
martin@terminalvelocity.gb.net
Offers RAPS to Cat 8 plus support beyond, tandem with/without video and stills, WARP coaching and AFF in the UK and abroad. Emphasis on personal coaching and enjoyment. All courses under direct supervision of London Parachute School.

Overseas DZs

Overseas Military Affiliated DZs

These Drop Zones are run under the BPA Operations Manual

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus
Tel: 00 357 2474 4337
Fax: 00 357 2474 4180
skydive@logos.cy.net www.skydivencyprus.com

Rhine Army Parachute Association JSPC (L) (RAPA)

PTC HQ ATG (G), BFPO 16
Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378 Fax: 0049 5254 982 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

Centro de Paracaidismo Costa Brava

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 0034 972 450 111 Fax: 0034 972 450 749
cpbc@gnas.es www.skyrats.com
Skydive Spain. AFF courses (1 tandem, 7 jumps with air-to-air video), tandem flights, freestyle school, Babylon freestyle school, Skydive U, free load organising, team coaching (special rates), gear hire (with Cyprus). Pilatus Porter and Twin Otter all year. All jumps from 12,500ft. Open all year — and now club house, tennis and pool.

Florida Skydiving Centre

440 South Airport Road, Lake Wales, FL 33859, USA
Tel: 001 863 678 1003 Fax: 001 863 678 1409
info@skydivelakewales.com
BPA qualified WARP and tandem instructors and USPA AFF & RAPS courses. Very large landing open area, large covered and carpeted packing area, full line of equipment, rigging shop, cafe, snack bar and lounge. King Air summer, CASAs and Super Otters November-April.

Freefall Adventures, Florida

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA
Tel: 001 561 388 0550 Fax: 001 561 581 4468
skydivemik@aol.com www.freefalladventures.com
BPA & USPA qualified instructors. Owned by Brit Mick Hall. Otters and Casacs. Over 600 acres, classrooms, state of the art equipment, undercover packing, wind tunnel training, free camping, showers, bunk rooms, rigging, store, restaurant.

Freefall Adventures/Skydive Cross Keys

300 Dahlia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey 08094, USA
Tel: 001 856 629 7553 Fax: 001 856 629 7585
skydive@freefalladventures.com www.freefalladventures.com
BPA instructors. AFF, tandem, Skydive U, Monkeyclaw FF school, freestyle and team coaching. Super Otter, Super SkyVan, Grand Caravan, Stearman Bi-plane, helicopter and balloon jumps. Rigging loft, cafe/bar, indoor packing, team rooms, large, open landing area.

Perris Valley Skydiving

2091 Goetz Road, Perris, CA 92570, USA
Tel: 001 909 657 3904 Fax: 001 909 657 6178
office@skydiveperris.com www.skydiveperris.com
Three Super Otters, Super SkyVan, shaded packing and creeping, video rooms, organising, coaching, team and group rates, packing, rigging, Square One gear store, loft, guest house, RV hookups, restaurant, bar, pool, AFF and tandem schools.

Skydive Elsinore

20701 Cereal Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530, USA
Tel: 001 909 245 9939 Fax: 001 909 245 3661
skydive@skydiveelsinore.com www.skydiveelsinore.com
Sunny southern California's premier drop zone, located between LA and San Diego. Two Twin Otter aircraft, team rooms, snack bar, kilt store, rigging, camping, bunkhouse, warm showers and friendly staff. Professional instruction and coaching. Wonderful views and atmosphere.

Skydive Sebastian

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958 USA
Tel: 001 772 388 5672 Fax: 001 772 388 2105
info@skydivesebastian.com www.skydivesebastian.com
BPA & USPA qualified training. SkyVan, Super Otter and Caravan. Tandem AFF, FS1, Skydive U, FS and team training with Sebastian XL, freestyle coaching with Chris Lynch, Rob Silver, Mike Swanson, Rook Nelson. Load organising, beach jumps, camping, showers, bunkhouse, volleyball, rigging service, covered carpeted packing area, store and restaurant.

Need your safety equipment checking?

PARAMECANIC AB

FXC Service Station

is authorised by the Swedish Parachute Association, The Swedish Board of Civil Aviation, The Defense Material Administration of Sweden and The FXC Corporation; to adjust, repair and change spare parts of your safety Automatic Activation Device, AAD KAP3, Sentinel MK2000, FXC 12000 or ASTRA Expert

Regardless of which device you have, we...

- ♦ will make the periodic control of your AAD in a few days
- ♦ adjust, repair and change spare parts if necessary
- ♦ issue protocol showing test values and action taken
- ♦ give you fast service if booked in advance
- ♦ will always give you a cost estimate before major repair work
- ♦ have been testing AAD's for 34 years

Price list:

Functional test: 45€
Adjustment of altitude/speed: 45€ (each)
All prices are excluded vat at 25% & freight

You can order your:

- ♦ FXC 12000 \$810 US Dollars
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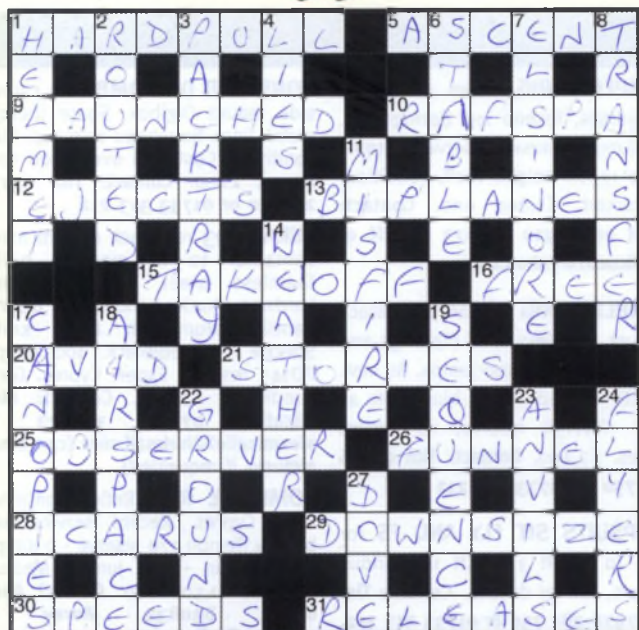
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Thursday : 6.00 p.m. - 0.00 a.m. Friday : 5.00 p.m. - 0.00 a.m. Saturday : 3.00 p.m. - 0.00 a.m. Sunday : 2.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. Will be closed from 23.12.02 till 01.01.03

> www.aerokart.fr



Puzzle



Main (Cryptic)

A skydiving related crossword with two sets of clues giving the same answers; use the main or the reserve!

Across

- 1 Severe sprain may demand use of reserve (4,4)
- 5 A smell on the way up (6)
- 9 Dined about one, and threw up (8)
- 10 This club mixes RAPS and AFF for the most part (6 inits)
- 12 Spits like the pilot with a broken plane does (6)
- 13 Spin-able acrobatic aircraft (8)
- 15 Relocate to the air strip (4,3)
- 16 Sans charge is about right (4)
- 20 Desiring the return of the fat lady (of song) (4)
- 21 4 tricky sorties (7)
- 25 Ex-student, priestly assistant, seer (8)
- 26 Channel of fuel containing nuclei of uranium (6)
- 28 Old skydiver whose equipment was damaged by sunlight (6)
- 29 Fluffy feathers, measure and cut (8)
- 30 Hastens getting pissed aboard ship (6)
- 31 Pulls second handle and lets go (8)

Down

- 1 Nutcase (6)
- 2 Beaten and given marching orders (6)
- 3 Verbal agreement with Ray to make part of rig (4,4)
- 4 Fabricates political economies? (4)
- 6 Self-controlled, yet bleats in distress (6)
- 7 In Hamlet's state or else in confusion (8)
- 8 Move from side to side of Manhattan group (8)
- 11 Held back by teacher if simpletons go off too soon (7)
- 14 Being in awe at hero's stand (7)
- 17 Bed covers as parachutes (8)
- 18 Paris confused one, its over one's head (8)
- 19 Order from toppled queen's Chancellor of the Exchequer (8)
- 22 After good set of drinks, stop someone from skydiving? (6)
- 23 Fast-falling skydivers compromised in lavs (6)
- 24 Bird's bills? (6)
- 27 Peaceful bird leapt (4)

Reserve

Across

- 1 Sticky handle (4,4)
- 5 Up-slope
- 9 Exited, of a group
- 10 Weston club (6 inits)
- 12 Expels
- 13 Double winged aircraft
- 15 Wheels-up (4,3)
- 16 Unbound
- 20 Eager
- 21 Tales
- 25 Bystander
- 26 Destroy a formation
- 28 Canopy manufacturer
- 29 Get a smaller canopy
- 30 Drives too fast
- 31 Liberates

Down

- 1 Head protector
- 2 Sent by a particular course
- 3 Part of container for canopy (4,4)
- 4 Fibs
- 6 Steady
- 7 US lake DZ
- 8 Relocate
- 11 Go phut
- 14 Rain, wind, sun, etc
- 17 Soft aerofoils
- 18 The overhead
- 19 Series
- 22 Earth
- 23 Blacksmiths' blocks
- 24 Birds, pilots etc
- 27 Dived

Solutions: Across 1 Hard pull, 5 Ascend, 9 Lunched, 10 RAFTSPA, 12 Eject, 13 Biplanes, 15 Take off, 16 Free, 20 And, 21 Simple, 25 Observer, 26 Funnel, 28 Turns, 29 Downsize, 30 Speeds, 31 Release. **Down** 1 Helium, 2 Round, 3 Pack tray, 4 Sable, 6 Stable, 7 Blister, 8 Transfer, 11 Mishmish, 14 Weather, 17 Canopies, 18 Airspace, 22 Ground, 23 Airtie, 24 Flyers, 27 Dive

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ROB COLPUS

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

14-15 Jan Christmas Boogie & Speed FS
CPCB, Empuriabrava, 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skyrats.com cpbc@gna.es

16-13 Jan Elsinore Christmas Boogie
Skydive Elsinore, 001 909 245 9939
California skydive@skydiveelsinore.com

20-22 Freely Tunnel Camp
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

20-22 Vertical Vacation Xmas Boogie
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

21-2 Jan Lake Wales Christmas Boogie
Lake Wales, info@skydivelakewales.com
Florida 001 863 678 1003

21-6 Jan Algarve Winter Boogie
with Target Skysports 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk

21-6 Jan Skydive City Christmas Boogie
Skydive City, 001 813 783 9399
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

22-5 Jan Portugal Christmas Boogie
Skydive Portugal info@skydive-portugal.com
Proenca a Nova www.skydive-portugal.com

26-3 Jan Australian National Champs
Sydney Skydiving Centre, Corowa, NSW
admin@sydneykydivers.com.au

27-31 Freely Skills Camp
Skydive City, 001 813 783 9399
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

28-31 New Year Boogie
Skydive DeLand info@skydiveland.com

JANUARY 2003

9-14 Airspeed Tunnel Camps 39/40
SkyVenture, Florida dan@airspeed.org
www.tunnelcamp.com

11-12 16-way Invitational
Skydive City, 001 813 783 9399
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

18 BPA AGM
Hanover Hotel, BPA 0116 278 5271
Hinckley, Leics Hanover 01455 631 122

18-19 Annual Pond Swoop Meet
Skydive City, 001 813 783 9399
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

22-26 Great White North Boogie
Lake Wales, info@skydivelakewales.com
Florida 001 863 678 1003

24-26 Vertical Skills Camp
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

24-26 Big-way Camp
Skydive City, 001 813 783 9399
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

28-31 Freely Tunnel Camp
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

FEBRUARY

6-8 Airspeed Tunnel Camp 41
SkyVenture, Florida dan@airspeed.org
www.tunnelcamp.com

6-9 Invitational Freely Record
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

15-16 Valentines £100 Weekend
BPS Langar 01949 860 878
£100 for weekend jumping info.bpslangar.co.uk

22-8 Mar Ecuador Boogie
Exotic Sky boogie@exoticskyadventures.nl
Adventures www.exoticskyadventures.nl

24-28 Instructor Course
Netheravon 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

MARCH

1-21 Apr Algarve Spring Boogie
with Target Skysports 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk

3-7 Instructor Course
Netheravon 0116 278 5271
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

10-16 Pure Progression Program
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

18-21 Freely Tunnel Camp
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

27-4 Apr Airspeed Tunnel Camps 42/43
SkyVenture, Florida dan@airspeed.org
www.tunnelcamp.com

APRIL

6-20 Large Sequential World Record
Skydive City, gareth.holder@aasage.com
Zephyrhills, Florida www.skydivicity.com

11-13 Vertical Skills Camp
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

12-27 Empuria Easter Boogie
CPCB, Empuriabrava, 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skyrats.com cpbc@gna.es

18-27 Easter Big-way Boogie
Skydive Nagambie 0061 03 5794 1466
Nagambie, Victoria, Australia

26-27 Hybrid & Tracking Weekend
Freely Training Center, Sebastian, Florida
info@freelytrainingcenter.com

MAY

3-5 CF Southern Regionals
Cornwall 01841 540 691
www.skydiverpc.com cpc@madasafish.com

3-11 Langar Boogie
BPS Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

8-13 Airspeed Tunnel Camps 44/45
SkyVenture, Florida dan@airspeed.org
www.tunnelcamp.com

10-11 FS Southern Regionals 4-way
Headcorn 01622 890 862
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

12-16 Instructor Course
Strathallan 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

19-23 Instructor Course
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CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

23-26 Scottish Nationals/N Regionals
4-way & 8-way Grand Prix
Strathallan 07774 686 161
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JUNE

12-17 Airspeed Tunnel Camps 46/47
Venue tbc dan@airspeed.org
www.tunnelcamp.com

14-15 FS 8-way Grand Prix
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www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

28-29 CF & Classics Northern Regionals
Wild Geese 028 2955 860
parachute@wildgeese.demon.uk
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

28-29 POPS Meet
Hibaldstow, Accuracy & Hit n Rack 0113 250 5600
www.thepops.org info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

JULY

5-6 FS 8-way Grand Prix
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

26-28 FS British Nationals 4-way
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
www.skydiving.co.uk info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

AUGUST

2-4 FS British Nationals 8-way
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk

2-4 Artistic British Nationals
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk

11-15 Instructor Course
Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

16-17 FS Central Regionals 4-way
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

18-22 Instructor Course
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CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

SEPTEMBER

4-14 World Championships
In all disciplines, Gap, France
skydivgap@online.fr 0033 492 540

16-27 120-way Competition, Dubai
Pete Marsden, the boogie club
pete@boogieclub.co.uk 01932 701 321

27-28 CF Central Regionals
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

NOVEMBER

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CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

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