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The Mag

April 2004



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



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The Mag

Bruno Brokken



editorial

NEW PUBLICATION DATES

I hope you enjoy this spring issue with the superb photos of Mike Frost flying his wingsuit around the Eiger and, of course, the World Record 357-way in Thailand. We have the annual awards from the AGM, plus some great advice from VMax's Sparky on putting your own team together and preparing for the Nationals. This will be followed up in the June Mag with help on what to do when you get there.

You won't have to wait as long as you think for the second instalment. The June and subsequent magazines will be out on the first weekend in the month (rather than the 16th). It makes sense to publish at the start of the cover month rather than halfway through. You'll know when to expect your Mag, it will give quicker reports on events and will be out in December in time for your Christmas presents. I don't know why we didn't do it years ago!

Each February magazine will be published two weeks later than the others, on or around Valentine's Day; firstly because we love our readers (!) and secondly because this gives the BPA Office the best chance of printing, distributing and processing the membership renewal forms.

The revised copy dates below are now all Tuesdays to give time to report on the weekend just gone. Of course we will also schedule in various events such as nationals, regionals and boogies later than copy date so we will make your Mag as up to date as we possibly can.

Keep your photos coming into The Mag – and don't forget the 2005 BPA Calendar. The Communications Committee is producing another one for 2005 and we are already looking for images. The format will be the same; one large horizontal and one smaller vertical shot with the theme of British skydiving.

Lesley

deadlines

Issue	To UK Reader	Copy Deadline
June	5 Jun	Tues 27 Apr
August	1 Aug	Tues 22 Jun
October	2 Oct	Tues 17 Aug
December	4 Dec	Tues 26 Oct
February 05	12 Feb	Thur 6 Jan

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April 2004

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Jumpers on World Team '04 on their way to a new FAI record, see page 28
Image: Hans Berggren

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The Mag

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NOTE: Some of the photos in this magazine may show skydivers without helmets or altimeters, or otherwise not obeying the BPA Operations Manual, in which case they were taken abroad. In the UK it is mandatory to wear a helmet and alti for obvious safety reasons. Students within The Mag are complying with BPA regulations.

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



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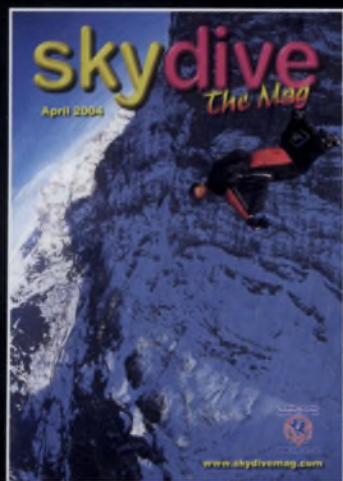


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Cover photo: Max Hurd



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If you're interested in skydiving, whatever nation you're from whether a first jump student, an adventure sports enthusiast, or you jump abroad, you'll enjoy The Mag.

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Eiger

Challenge

The Eiger is one of Europe's highest and most intimidating mountains at 13,026 feet. Its North Face is a cold concave vertical slab of rock with a long history of grisly ends, being renowned for the speed at which the weather changes.

Half a mile to the west of the North Face is the Jungfraujoch, referred to as the 'Top of Europe' as it has the highest train station with a superb observation platform.

Max Hurd and I had a crack support team assembled and were all set to fly our wingsuits around the North Face...





For me, the Eiger trip was the pinnacle of a fourteen year skydiving career. Although completely different to my other achievements, it exceeded winning multiple national competitions, competing at the top in world meets and even setting world records.

An expert team had been put together, comprising mountain rescue pilots, base jumpers and wingsuit flyers. The aim was to utilise local knowledge to enable us to be the first to fly this route in wingsuits, following the contours of this mountain whilst painting smoke trails in the sky.

Familiarisation

The first day in this stunning setting we made equipment familiarisation jumps over the nearby airfield from an aeroplane. Skydiving is generally the sport of warm blue skies but we were going to jump in very low temperatures, flying less than 200 feet from the wall, so needed to ensure we and the modified equipment were ready for the conditions before going to the mountain.

Observation Eiger Flight

On day two, we made an observation flight from the airfield to the mountain. As soon as we took off for the 20km flight, the North Face was visible. As we approached, it just became bigger and bigger until it filled the windscreen. The plane moved violently from

the turbulence and wind shear off the mountain. We flew around it for 40 minutes being shaken and battered against the airframe. We took video as we flew, agreeing the flight path, checking critical clearance altitudes such as the west ridge and looking for primary, secondary and alternate landing areas... just in case!

Air Glacier Mountain Rescue

The third day began with a trip to the Outdoor Centre to hire snowshoes for the hike later. We stopped at Air Glacier to make arrangements with this mountain rescue helicopter company. The talent of these guys is unbelievable and their knowledge of the area is superb. Working around mountain rescues, they were going to fly us from the main ski station at Kleine Scheidegg, 6,500 feet above mean sea level, to our exit altitude, 2,000 feet above the summit.

Setting Up The Landing Zone

From the valley station in Grimmelwald, we took the mountain train up the lower slopes to the station at Alpigen (5,000ft) before hiking into the snowfield to recce the landing area. My heart was racing, not just from the exercise, but the anticipation and enormity of what we were doing.

Having agreed this was the perfect landing area, we set our altimeters to zero. Even though we were at 5,000 feet above mean sea level, this was the hard deck from now on, as far as we were concerned.

We set up a windsock and laid down a blue tarpaulin, a visual reference from altitude. We geared up and did final radio checks, then left Rob at the landing zone and got back on the mountain train to climb to Kleine Scheidegg. Arriving up at the main ski station, we entered a party atmosphere! The sun was out, there was no wind and we could smell the food, hear the laughter and see all of the different sights, framed by a sea of mountains. We waited nervously as meeting time approached...

Helicopter Pick-up

From this station, Elliot called ahead to Air Glacier to confirm the pick-up. The pick-up point had been changed, so we hiked 250ft up the ski slope to a heli pad. We were exhausted from the altitude, gear and hike but didn't have too long to wait before we could hear the thudding sound of the rotor blades echoing around the mountains. The helicopter came around a corner and swept up the slope towards us. Skiers stopped to watch as the powder snow blasted us. Two minutes later, the pilot had received the final brief, Elliot had radioed down to Rob to confirm the landing zone was clear and we took off.

Ride to Altitude

Climbing up the west ridge, we could see the 'Mushroom' from which base jumps are often made. Huge cracks in the glacial snow and multiple hazards reminded us of how important it would be to land safely with Rob or at one of the alternate landing

*"My heart was racing,
not just from the exercise,
but the anticipation and
enormity of what we
were doing"*





Eiger Challenge Team

Mike Frost	Wingsuit
Max Hurd	Wingsuit Camera
Elliot Clarke	Jumpmaster Scenic Air CCI
Rob Titchner	Ground control
Air Glacier	Pilots and helicopters
Paul Applegate	Rigging
Gemma Molinaro	Ground Photography
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zones. We kept on climbing and passed the observation point on the Jungfrauoch.

In the helicopter, the bubble of the screen kept the wind off me. I was facing towards the tail rotor. To my left was the pilot, in front of me was Elliot, who was looking out for other air traffic and constantly checking with the pilot. Max was behind the pilot, getting the cameras ready and trying to keep out of the wind. The sun flashed between the rotor blades and I felt its warmth on my face.

Time To Go

All too quickly we reached exit altitude. We were at 16,000 ft and in the right place: in line with the north wall, half a mile before the ridge and without any other air traffic to cause concern. It was time to go.

Huge Grin

We wished each other good luck, before stepping down onto the snow-covered skid. I looked at Max with a huge grin and was ready. We were focused, did the exit count and were gone. Accelerating across the sky together, I was leading and Max filming. Because he was so focused shooting both video and stills, he relied on following any directional changes I made so I was responsible for both of us. I could see the ridge approaching and we cleared it with ease.

We then flew across the North Face, only a few hundred feet to our right. Looking below, I knew the vertical wall met a slope, which was 3,000 feet above our landing field. At 4,000 feet we turned to avoid the closing slope flying out towards the blue tarpaulin in the landing zone and into clear

air for deployment. We opened our main canopies flying away from the wall, unzipping the arm and leg wings before releasing the brakes to pilot the canopies back into the landing area.

Elation, Relief and Achievement

Max and I have made many demo jumps and this was no different. There were many hazards – power lines, railway track, train, people, log cabins, buildings, slope, knee-deep snow – and all at 5,000 ft! Max made the first approach as I watched a thousand feet above him. He had a superb landing. I followed, diving the canopy between the cabins and landing right by the windsock. There was an incredible sense of elation, relief and achievement.

Jump Two

But there was no time to waste. Elliot had stayed on board the helicopter, which had landed up at the ski station and was waiting to take us up again. Rob was now confirming on the radio that we had made it. We packed the parachutes next to the log cabin, the train delivered more passengers and sledgers passed us on their way to the Eiger Run. We loaded back on the next train to meet the helicopter and make another jump.

Buzzing

Feeling more confident Max and I buzzed about the jump and discussed the upcoming flight with alacrity. Glimpsing out of the left window, the Eiger stood with the north wall permanently cold and shaded from the sun.

From the train station, we hiked back up to the heli pad in bright sun; the mood was completely different now that we knew what was in store. We took off and, whilst we climbed to altitude concentrating on the job, Elliot and Rob took care of our safety.

Stunning

Over the next two days we made a total of eight jumps alongside the mountain, our smoke painting yellow trails which hung perfectly, almost motionless in the clear blue sky, with the very light winds with which we'd been blessed. Each time we jumped we became more confident. The smiles grew bigger, we tried different exits, working a multitude of angles – but always respectful of the mountain.

Mike Frost
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Stolen Gear

Earlier this year Empuriabrava had a huge theft of over 20 rigs, all with canopies and AADs. Among the stolen items were Atoms, Javelins, Teardrops and various wingsuits (several of the items bearing the Red Bull logo). A full list of the missing kit is on their website.

www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

Martyn Davies, a British Gliding Association member, had his parachute stolen from Shobden Airfield. It was a GQ round with serial number 693926.

Martyn Davies 01564 822 309
martyn@26fal.freemove.co.uk

Mike Brooke Joins Peronne

Ex-pat Mike Brooke, most famous for his speed skydiving, is the new director of Peronne drop zone. Situated just north of Paris they have a Pilatus Porter and are currently booking bigger aircraft for the coming season.

mike@parapassion.com
www.cedps.com

New German Record

Two new German National FS records were completed in three days at Umm Al Quwain, near Dubai. Dieter Kirsch, happily recovered after a premature deployment injury on the Thailand World Team experience, organised the 122- and 123-way skydives, pictures next issue.

Stephen Hilder

Humberside Police are continuing to investigate all aspects of the death of Stephen Hilder. They say there has been a significant forensic development in the case but, until further tests have been carried out, no conclusions can be drawn. There has been speculation in some sections of the media that Stephen may have taken his own life but police say all lines of inquiry are still being pursued at this time. Detective Superintendent Colin Andrews, who is leading the investigation, has renewed his appeal for anyone with any information about Stephen's death to contact the incident room.

Incident Room 01724 282844
hilder.incident@humberside.pnn.police.uk

Henny Wiggers



Women's CF Record

A European Women's Canopy Formation Record is being organised by Sarah Jane Smith and Gauda Ballisky at Empuriabrava from Thursday 29 September to Sunday 3 October 2004. This event will include professional load organising and coaching for all levels. All women are very welcome to enquire but the event will eventually be by invitation.

Sarah Jane Smith
sjscookie@yahoo.com

CF Seminar

Brit Richard Hayden is once again running a CF seminar at Empuria from 25 September to 3 October this year. Coaching is available for all levels; beginners, intermediate and advanced. A minimum of 100 jumps (in any discipline) is required to attend the seminar, which includes the third Captain's Cabin Challenge CF big-way.

richardhayden_crew@yahoo.com



Black Knights Go Monster

F-GODZ 'Godzilla', the world's most powerful Pilatus Porter, will be on the rampage for the whole of July at BKPC. Godzilla takes a mere 12 minutes to reach 15,000 feet. With regional 8-way FS, Classics and CF competitions, BPA skills roadshows and coaching events scheduled, the Black Knights at Cockerham are looking forward to a busy July.

www.bkpc.co.uk

Big-Ways



Brad Hood

Kate Cooper to Coach Brit Chicks

World renowned big-way organiser Kate Cooper is coming to the UK, to coach at *Brit Chicks*. Kate has over 7,000 jumps, organised the world's first 100-way star and first 2 point 114-way, and captained or participated in World Record 100, 126, 144, 200, 216, 282, 297, 300 and 357-ways. Phew!

Kate will coach the *Brit Chicks* record attempts from Thurs 2 to Sun 5 September, during Langar Boogie 2. She joins the *Brit Chicks* coaching

team of Lesley Gale, Kate Stephens and VMax, who will run base practice and build-up loads on the weekend before (August bank holiday).

Lesley, Kate S and Liz Groucott will also run a warm-up and selection weekend on May bank holiday, 1-3 May at Langar Boogie 1. Multi aircraft loads will be organised with a SkyVan one or two of Langar's Caravans.

lesley@skydivemag.com

Big-Way Camp

Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld, Kate Cooper and Tony Domenico are running a large formation camp at Perris Valley from 13-16 May. The organisers will use 20 to 40-way jumps to duplicate all the jobs, visuals, and responsibilities of a big-way. The camp is 20 jumps with four from 16,000 ft with oxygen.

www.skydiveperris.com
kate@squareone.com

Jump For The Cause

The current and previous Women's World Record 118 and 131-ways were organised by Kate Cooper. She's planning a third *Jump For The Cause* event in 2005. Both *Brit Chicks* and the big-way camp above will be used as selection events for *Jump for the Cause* so ability will be what matters, not jump numbers.

kate@squareone.com

50-Way Invitational

50-way invitational sequential skydives at the Langar Boogie 2, in September, will be organised by Milko and Dave Morris. Warm up and introduce yourselves if necessary to Dave and Milko at Langar Boogie 1 in May where there will be a SkyVan and two Caravans.

50way@bpslangar.co.uk

Pauline Richards

Australian skysurfing champion Pauline Richards had a fatal landing at the Australian Swoop Nationals in January. Pauline has won medals over the last 20 years in almost all disciplines and was training hard for her third World Meet. With over 5,000 jumps (1,200 in the last year), and an AFF instructor, tandem master and cameraflyer, she leaves behind many memories and countless friends.



Dean O'Flaherty

Sky Sisters Convention

Ramblers, Toogoolawah, Australia, is hosting *Sky Sisters United*, a convention to promote Aussie skydiving chicks, 19-25 March next year. There are two all female Australian record attempts planned; 50-way FS organised by Fiona McEachern and Julie Ward (Julie was on the 357-way in Thailand) and 10-way head-down organised by Amy Chmelecki and Missy Nelson of *Sugar Gliderz*. Three Caravans will take loads to 14,000ft. Coaching will be available with advice on canopy handling plus one-on-one pilot skills jumps. It's mainly for ladies but all are welcome. It will culminate in a black frock/tie banquet.

www.ramblers.com.au susie@skydiver.co.au

JMs Newsround Online
www.skydivemag.com

Reviews

Pro Swooping Tour 2003 DVD

Shots of people landing... a lot!

Reviewed by Chris Hollis
Cost \$29.99
Content 7/10
VFM 6/10

The Pro Swooping Tour is a hi-tech roadshow of the latest competitive discipline in skydiving. The cream of the world's pilots gather to show just what the canopies of today are capable of in expert hands. Put to a thumping rave sound track, we see various swoops and carves over some incredible distances, including the recent World Cup of Canopy Piloting.

Although the incredible skill of the pilots is beyond question, whether or not the subject matter can hold your interest for the full hour of running time is debatable. After half of the DVD I found myself only really interested in some of the hairier moments as, impressive though they are, there's only so many swoops you can watch one after the other. The events are well edited and well photographed, but the highlights of the video for me were the small promo sections of the Performance Designs factory team and the Icarus Extreme team. As well as presenting their products in an exciting and dynamic way, these advertisements also feature some great formation landings and in-air footage.

DVD extras include chapter selection and a review of the stats for 2003. Purchase this DVD if watching swoop after swoop is your thing; otherwise, for an equally breathtaking collection of canopy piloting clips, save your money and purchase something like the excellent *Out of the Blue*.

www.proswoopingtour.com



Swedish Friflaj Festival Episode 3 Video

Good times and great skydives in Sweden

Reviewed by Chris Hollis
Running Time 90 minutes
Cost US \$25 including shipping
Content 8/10
VFM 7/10

In July 2003, the world's best freeflyers gathered for the third and last Swedish Friflaj (that's 'Freefly' to you and me) Festival; this compilation video is its story. It opens with some truly excellent Matrix-style computer graphics before the skydiving begins. The list of attendees and organisers reads like a who's who of the international freeflying world with many of UK's leading skilled flyers such as Alex Meacock, Rob Silver, Tim Porter and Adrian Nicholas.

All aspects of freeflight are well represented with atmonauti, hybrid dives and even a tracking dive following a skysurfer. The editor has also tried to capture the mood of the event with ground footage of partying, lazing around and even racing the aircraft with a Ferrari!

The movie itself is made up of shots from various participants and organisers and as such, has more of a home-made feel than some of the more commercial products. The highlight for me was a wingsuit exit from an Antonov tailgate where the flyer ends up going higher than the aircraft!

The FriFlaj Festival organisers have decided to call it a day after three so, if you wanted to go and haven't, you've missed the boat. Buying this video will just show you what a great time everybody else was having! If you were lucky enough to go, this video is the perfect way of recapturing a world class event in a beautiful part of the world.

www.friflaj.com



Scottish Para History CD



A 'must have' for Strathallan regulars past and present

Reviewed by Colin Bridges
Cost £15 – All Proceeds to Cancer Charities
Content 9/10 (for SPC jumpers)
VFM 9/10

A CD covering 40 years of Scottish Parachute Club history has been put together by Andrew Hilton. It's a nostalgia trip down memory lane with over 1,500 photographs, newspaper cuttings, stories, logbook entries and other memorabilia, presented in a website style format. It's packed with interesting facts, eg, the Scottish Parachute Club pre-dates the BPA. Covering 1960-2000, this busy CD has taken over five years to collate. Anyone who has jumped at Strathallan will probably find at least one picture of themselves and some long-forgotten faces – be prepared for a night of laughter.

To order a copy, send a cheque for £15 (payable to Andrew Hilton) to the address below or pay online with PayPal.

Andrew Hilton, G/2, 56 Fortrose Street, Glasgow, G11 5LP, UK.

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 Email: mclamp@doctors.org.uk

UK Swoop Tour

The UK Swoop Tour will run again this year throughout the summer, starting at Headcorn, 29-31 May. The UK swoop team at last year's World Cup will run the tour and bring the latest IPC rules to the UK event. Anyone wishing to compete will have to qualify (unless they have already qualified for the Pro Swoop Tour), for which opportunities are being created. Competitors must be solely dedicated to the event.

gottaflychris@aol.com or brianvacher@aol.com

Wing Tips Seminars

Chris Lynch's *Wing Tips* canopy pilot courses for all experience levels will be run at many UK locations this year, see diary. The first day is devoted to *Wing Tips* basics seminar covering essential survival skills. Day two is swooping, with advice for swoopers and help for those who wish to start. There are changes and updates from last year; advanced exercises for previous students can be arranged. Pre-registration is preferred.

gottaflychris@aol.com

Freestyle Swooping

The 2004 Pro Swoop schedule is online including Freestyle Swooping and its return to the Extreme Games.

www.proswoopingtour.com

New Swoop Forum

A new website has been launched for the global swooping community with forums and the ability to post events at no cost.

www.canopypiloting.com



T-shirts For Adventure

A new range of skydiving T-shirts has been launched, with from a British manufacturer, who can also create bespoke designs for teams, drop zones, organisations and clubs. They do shirts for climbing, hiking and scuba as well as skydiving, for which four different designs are currently offered; FS, head-down, knee-flying and tandem.

www.blueone.co.uk
07773 492 3388

Brit FS Tunnel Camp

Brit Emma Hammersley is co-ordinating tunnel camps (dates in diary) at Perris Valley run by ex-pat Mark Kirkby and Gary Beyer from *Arizona Airspeed*. Designed for British jumpers in terms of FS competition rules and the different dive pools for juniors and intermediates, they are aimed at all levels and include 2 hours of coached one-on-one tunnel time over 4 days. The content is flexible with a student to coach ratio of 3:1.

emmahammersley@yahoo.com



Hibaldstow Speed Meet

Pro-Track are backing the Speed Awareness Weekend, 1-3 May, at Hibaldstow organised by Mark Calland. The event is a mini speed competition with Pro-Track, Pro-Dytter, and T-shirt prizes. Seminars are planned to highlight the fun and competitive side of this new discipline, but also make people aware of the dangers.

mark.calland@btinternet.com



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Claire Scott
Adrian Pettitt

Tandem BI

Ryan Mancey
Leonard Gillis
Simon Jarvis
Tim Sheppard

Category System Instructor

Madeleine Moore
Liz Ashley
Martin Harris
Aff Afsharian
Adele Murray

Renewal Reminder

If you haven't renewed your BPA membership you need to do so now. A renewal form was inserted into the February Mag. More forms are available from the BPA website or office. The June Mag will only go to current BPA members, so renew NOW!

FANS

The Sport England sponsored 'Free Access for National Sportspeople' (FANS) Scheme provides national sportspeople (those in the top ten rankings in the country) with free access at off peak times to certain gyms. FANS is currently only available through selected councils, mainly in southern England although it may spread with demand. To see if your local council takes part in FANS, contact their sports development officer. If they have not yet come across it, the BPA Office will be pleased to send them details. We know of no similar scheme operating in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.

Insurance

The insurance group on the Development Committee has been made a formal Subcommittee, with David Hickling in the chair. It will be researching all aspects of insurance for the best value for BPA members in future. The suddenness of this year's 150% premium increase is due to an enforced change in insurance company (our underwriters left the UK market) set against our previous successes in keeping premiums low, despite a relentless upward trend in claims. The difference has had to be corrected in this first year with new underwriters. Tough negotiation lies ahead for the Insurance Committee but remember it does not have a magic wand. All airports associations are facing similar issues with the cost and availability of insurance cover.



Main photo: Dean O'Flaherty



More for the Media

New Council member Elizabeth 'Weed' Stoodley has taken on the unpaid role of BPA Media Officer, reporting to the Development Committee. The aim is to co-ordinate and promote positive publicity about skydiving, through features in newspapers, magazines, TV, radio and in the new electronic media. "I'm going for a proactive approach", she says, "and we shall need all hands on deck to get it to work. If you have writing, photographic, web design, video skills, or have contacts in the media, get in touch and we'll see what we can achieve by pulling together". If you have ANY items you feel will make interesting reading contact Weed, details below. Don't forget the important elements of Who, What, When, Where and Why and, even better, attach a picture. "My understanding and hope is that people send items to me and I'll try and get them into possible media."

weed@stoodley.co.uk or 0161 223 3882

Action Plan 2004/5

The BPA's Action Plan for the year commencing 1 July 04 has been agreed, covering each of the BPA's main areas of activity; Safety & Training, Competitions, Communications, Development and Administration. The plan is also used to bid for funding from UK Sport.

UK Teams for World Meet

Hinton-8, last year's 8-way CF winners, will attend the World Meet as the British team. In FS, 4-way bronze medallists DPW and 8-way silver medallists Om will represent the UK; higher placing teams declined the invitation.

Who To Call?

The Competitions Committee have specialised areas as listed; contact the relevant person via the BPA Office or the email addresses on page 1.

Ian Marshall	CF
Andy Scott	FS
Brian Vacher	Canopy Piloting
Jim White	Classics
Nigel Holland	Artistic

COMPETITIONS

Accuracy

At this year's Nationals, to be in line with IPC rule changes, the maximum allowable ground wind speed will be set within 6 to 8m/s. Scoring must stop if the wind exceeds this limit and for 30 seconds after it returns below that limit, after which scoring then may resume. A competitor landing 10 seconds before to 30 seconds after the wind speed exceeds the limit may rejump. They must make an immediate decision within 15 seconds of landing, before the next competitor lands and must inform the Event Judge.

Jim White

FS

International

In FS, there are no dive pool changes for 2004 but a few rule changes as follows, full details on the FAI website.

Total separation means no part of the competitor's arm touching another body (ie, incidental leg contact is okay).

Cameraflies of different nationality, or different gender in the case of gender-specific events, can be used but will not qualify for a medal.

Exit timing – camerapersons not showing the team exit start time may incur a 25% reduction of the team total for that round. This is to avoid deliberate attempts to gain advantage.

Europe

The European Skydiving League is growing. ESL uses results of three local weekend meets (equivalent to our Grand Prix) across Europe to determine the ESL champions for each country. Meets on the same date will use the same draw. These champions are then invited to the ESL finals in Spa, Belgium, 4-5 September, to compete to become overall ESL champions. ESL's 'triple A' category is the same as our senior 4-way but the lower experience categories differ, both in qualifying jump numbers and dive pool. See www.euroskyleague.com

UK

Pre-registration

You can now register with the BPA to qualify as a junior or intermediate FS team for 2004. (Form 233, from the office or website). For junior 4-way, three team members' jumps must not exceed 900; for intermediate not more than 1,800; all post FS1.

Dive Pool Change

In the 8-way intermediate dive pool, random L (open facing diamond) has been replaced by random P (buzzard).

Judging Video

British FS teams training for the World Meet this year may send Kate Charters, Judges Co-ordinator, tapes for judging feedback to help them.

Grand Prix

The Grand Prix events this year have increased in number from the traditional four regionals to 12 competitions (a mixture of 4- and 8-way). The BPA aims to have two dedicated coaches on site to deliver quality coaching free to competitors.

Intermediate GP Champions

The 2004 champion intermediate team will receive targeted coaching for the senior category if they wish, to encourage the team to stay together. They will also be invited to enter the World Cup in Eloy, October 2005, alongside the senior teams.

Andy Scott



Photos: Belgrave & Portman



Royal Aero Club Awards

BPA members were again honoured at this year's Royal Aero Club awards ceremony, against the stylish backdrop of the Navy & Army Club, London. Friends and family were on hand to see HRH Prince Andrew present the awards to our own John Smyth and VMax. The experience of watching our 'stars' mix with royalty and the likes of adventurer/balloonist David Hempleman-Adams was one to enjoy (together with the wine!).

Andy Scott



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Hib Events Diary

April 17-18	FS 4 Way Scrambles Meet
May 1-3	BCPA Northerns - Speed Awareness Weekend
May 15-16	FS Skills Camp by XL
June 12-13	Artistic Roadshow
June 20	Tandem Record Attempt
June 23-25	Mikey McGrath Freefly Camp
June 25-27	Speed Skydiving World Cup
June 26-27	FS 8 Way Grand Prix POPS Meet Mikey McGrath coaching & LO
July 10-11	FS 4 Way Grand Prix
July 26-30	FS coaching from XL
July 31-Aug 2	FS 4 Way British Nationals
Aug 5-6	FS coaching with John McIver
Aug 7-9	FS 8 Way British Nationals Artistic British Nationals
Aug 14-15	Nationals back-up Weekend
Aug 21-22	Wingsuit Festival
Sept 18-19	FS 4 Way Scrambles Meet
Oct 30-31	Halloween 10 Way Speed

All dates subject to change.

Please keep checking website in case any dates have to be changed.

WANTED

7-9 competent head up freeflyers up for a new challenge.
Mikey McGrath's Freefly Camp teaches the skills to fly in larger groups.
7-10 jumps per day + **FREE** canopy seminar.
More info on website — events diary.

Do you feel the need for **SPEED**?
Then this weekend will fill you with all the info.
Seminars run throughout and a mini comp run
by Mark Calland. L&B sponsoring so Pro-Track,
Pro-Dytter, T-shirts up for grabs.

Teams and individuals welcome.
John McIver and Steve Hamilton are available
to prepare teams for the Nationals or to do
one-on-one coaching. Fees paid directly to them.
For more info contact
john@sebastianxl.org

Mikey will conduct a canopy seminar
on Saturday - £20 per person.
He is also available all weekend for FF coaching
and Load Organising.

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SCOTTISH NATIONALS 2004

BPA Grand Prix FS 4-way & 8-Way



29-31 May - Competition
28 May - Practice Day

- Registration Closes / Competition starts 8am Sat
 - Teams can enter any or all disciplines
- Entries to BPA Grand Prix only are also welcome
 - Free Camping
- Turbine Aircraft & 2 x Cessna 206



Photo by PD Smith



Have a query?
Want to register?
ralph.fielding@ntlworld.com

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4-WAY
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Flight Test: Pilot

Aerodyne's website reads, "The name says it all. A canopy designed by pilots for pilots"

They're right. I had a lot of fun on this flight test...



Aerodyne International have been making their mark in the parachute industry since forming in late 2002 and merging a number of existing companies. They have invested heavily, including head-hunting key staff from across the industry, such as the late Ian Bellis, Edward 'Bushman' Anderson, Dominique Marcu and Arnold Collenteur.

The Pilot is their canopy marketed at the beginner and intermediate market and Aerodyne believe strongly in their product; "If you are looking for a canopy that you can truly enjoy, without the need to 'work at it', then the Pilot is the canopy you have been waiting for."

The Pilot comes in various sizes from 104 to 210 and has Spectra 750 lines mounted on soft links as standard. The slider has dual retraction cords and the coloured line attachment tapes make pro-packing easy, particularly for those new to this method. The company's Marketing Director, Edward 'Bushman' Anderson believes "the canopy to be unmatched" and the company are starting to take a real foothold in the industry.

Opening

Pitching the pilot chute at terminal, the Pilot gave a reassuring snatch as the bag was lifted from the container before a comfortable snivel – not so long it's unnerving, but long enough to give that snug feeling of confidence in a soft opening. The last stage to full inflation is more prompt but very acceptable, to the extent that cameraflyers could jump this canopy.

Like a number of high performance canopies on the market, a sloppy pack job meant the canopy dived off to the side, but it quickly stabilised on a straight flight path. Should it open in twists then it may have a tendency to rotate if there is uneven pressure on the risers, but could equally sit still while you gently kick yourself round. The half brake setting provides stable flight characteristics and hence uneven pressures in the harness can still allow an acceptable opening.

Flight: snappy yet amiable

The test canopy had a fixed brake length providing slack in the brake lines when on full flight. This is the ideal position for them to be in allowing a full range of flight control. New models will now ship with a free end and a factory marking. This will allow those that want a more responsive canopy to shorten the factory setting if required, or equally to lengthen for increased docility.

Gentle toggle pressures allow the complete control range to be explored. The platform design of this nine-cell zero porosity canopy offers a snappier response compared to some other manufacturers' products aimed at this market niche. Light riser pressures encourage all control methods to be used and make learning the canopy's full abilities simple. Flat turns can be accomplished simply and a high level of control is still available in deep braked flight. Turbulence obviously affected on the canopy, but it still rode through it in a confident manner like a needle through cotton.

Landing

A straight-in approach with a full flare, allowed an acceptable landing. Yet it didn't ooze complete power in the way that a prince may be strong but a king has the absolute power. Adding more aggression shows how the canopy likes to fly. The light riser pressures allow for easy, confident rotations that can be cleanly held into a dive. Easing up provides a lovely recovery arc; not so sharp it removes the excitement, but enough to allow recovery from minor errors. The extra speed thus generated provides the ability to almost stop the canopy using a full and efficient flare process.

Suitable for: most jumpers

For the novice this canopy might seem slightly twitchy, but it will give those snappy turns that most are after. A mature judgement of ability and choice of larger size should still allow the capable novice to progress sufficiently on one. As skills progress and techniques are refined this canopy is definitely suited to more of an intermediate or experienced jumper at the appropriate wing loading for their canopy piloting skills.

Aerodyne's website reads, "The name says it all. A canopy designed by pilots for pilots." They're right. I had a lot of fun on this flight test – so much so that, when it was finished, I kept the canopy in my container for a few more jumps to really enjoy those flight characteristics that the Pilot is all about.



Front View

PILOT

9-cell, zero porosity, very lightly tapered

Manufacturer Aerodyne

Aspect Ratio 2.51

Sizes 104, 117, 124, 132,
140, 150, 168, 188,
210



Back View

VERDICT – Stars out of 10

Toggle Pressure	★★★★★★★
Front Risers	★★★★★★★
Glide Angle	★★★★★★★
Forgiving	★★★★★★★
Landings	★★★★★★★
In Turbulence	★★★★★★★
Value	★★★★★★★
Overall	★★★★★★★

Note: Glide angle refers to getting back from a deep spot.

SUITABLE FOR

Novices:	★★★★★★★
Intermediates:	★★★★★★★
Experts:	★★★★★★★
Extreme flyers:	★★★★★★★

NB: The above is purely opinion and will change dependant on factors such as canopy size, wing loading and conditions.

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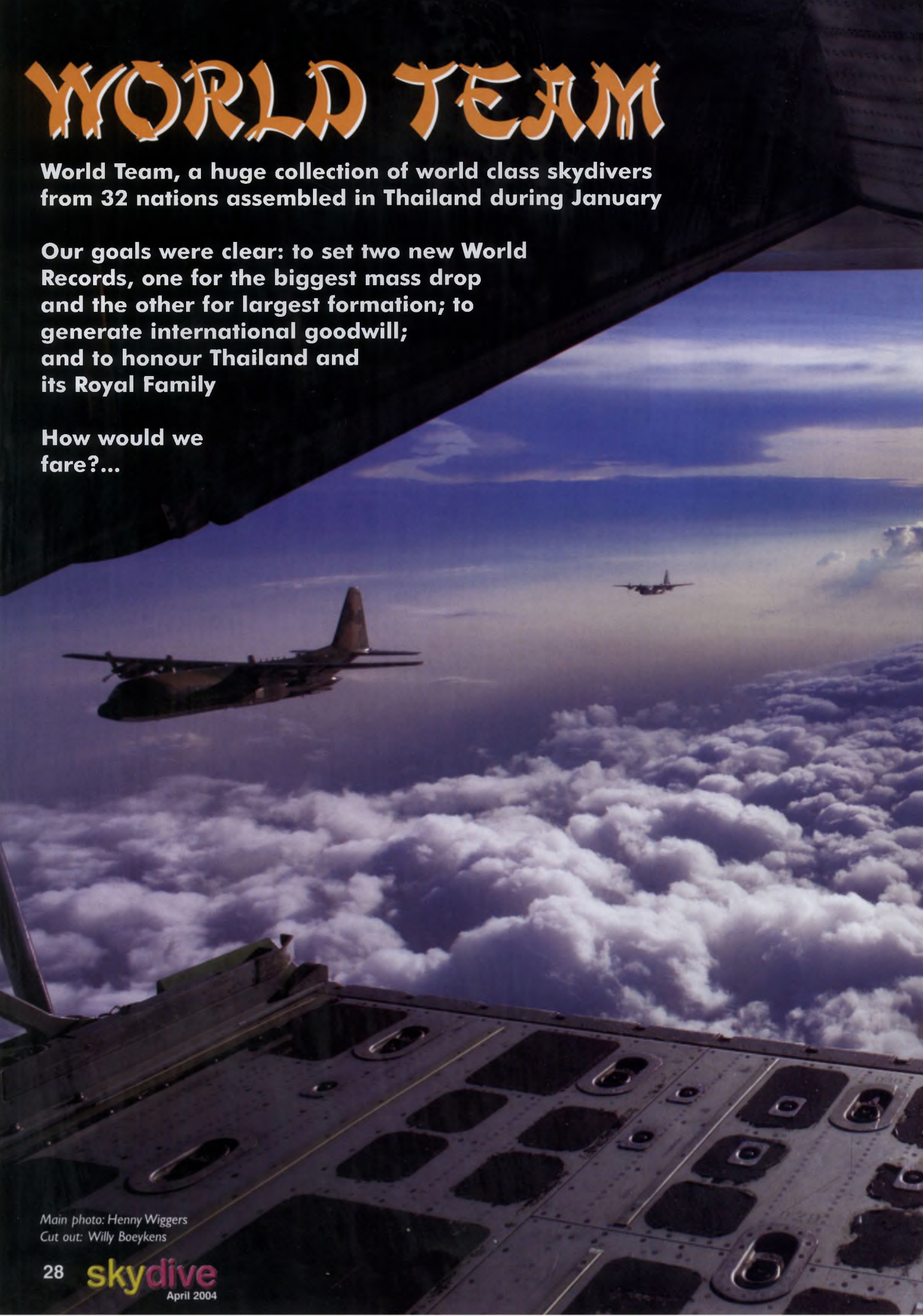
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WORLD TEAM



World Team, a huge collection of world class skydivers from 32 nations assembled in Thailand during January

Our goals were clear: to set two new World Records, one for the biggest mass drop and the other for largest formation; to generate international goodwill; and to honour Thailand and its Royal Family

How would we fare?...

Main photo: Henny Wiggers
Cut out: Willy Boeykens

Q4





672 MASS JUMP

**Saturday 24 February
Sanam Luang Royal Ceremonial Grounds
Bangkok**

This was the fourth time that World Team, the brainchild of BJ Worth, had assembled in ten years. Our first job as World Team members was a mass freefall drop of 672 skydivers over Bangkok – yes, 672!! – into the Sanam Luang Royal Ceremonial Grounds, just in front of the Palace. An aerial photo of Bangkok indicated the necessity of landing in the grounds as the only ‘out’ was a football field or, failing that, the river. We were bottling somewhat until we visited the arena, to discover it was seriously enormous. Just a standard demo jump then, with 40 jumpers I knew and 632 I didn’t. What could possibly go wrong?!

The jump was in honour of Thailand’s Queen Sirikit and in turn we felt honoured to be chosen. The first Royal Sky Celebration had occurred in ‘99; a World Team mass drop of 572 skydivers in respect for His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej’s 72nd birthday, the completion of his sixth 12-year astrological life cycle, a celebrated event in Thai culture. Five years later was Queen Sirikit’s 72nd birthday and a second mass drop was planned to mark the start of the year-long celebration; 672 skydivers to represent the completion of Her Majesty’s 6th cycle on her 72nd birthday.

The huge load assembled at the Royal Thai Air Force Base in Bangkok, neatly lined up in, er, attractive blue and yellow shell suits with matching streamers. We were assigned to one of six Hercules C-130s, two smaller ones, some Porters and a BT-67, a strange souped-up DC3. All of these would run in at 7,200 feet, symbolic of Her Majesty’s 72nd birthday.

Symbolic of our struggle against reality more like... (I’ll get my coat.) The jump was to be a new Guinness World Record mass freefall drop, improving on the 572 in Bangkok, 1999 and also on the 588 mass drop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, April 2000 (the latter included some static liners).

The jump was truly awe-inspiring. We ran out of the back of the Herc, all spontaneously whooping and cheering, to be greeted with an amazing view in freefall of the buildings of Bangkok with the earlier jumpers a vision of dotted blue and yellow. All too soon we were opening our canopies, checking the spot, releasing streamers, then choosing a flight path as far away from others as possible in the overcrowded skies. I have never been so focussed under canopy in my life! My senses were heightened (by fear) to the beautiful spectacle all around me. Too busy checking out the flight paths of zillions of canopies to take it all in, I took a few mental snapshots (Kodak moments) for later on. As soon as I had landed my eyes were up and scanning the cornucopia of colour surrounding the Royal Gardens. Unexpected tears were suddenly streaming down my face at the beauty of it all and in humble amazement that I had been a part of this massive international collaboration.

Bruno Brokken



Henny Wiggers





Craig O'Brien

BJ Worth



Craig O'Brien

WARM-UP DIVES

Our next adventure was at Korat Air Base, where the Royal Thai Air Force provided aircraft, pilots, ground crew, drop zones and some amazingly close formation flying led by Captain Airboon Suttiwan. We arrived, split into sectors and started warm-up dives, coached by our sector captains. The 30 Brits were distributed in two sectors; Sector 5 (blue) which had Darryl's intrepid band and Herman's demonic Dutch dudes, plus Sector 4 (white) made up of Rob's brave and fearless warriors with Eric's Belgian brigands.

Each colour-coded sector of five whackers is a slice of the overall 'pie', the formation design reflecting the Thai flag. In the training jumps we learned to carve a path to the formation which would not interfere with other sectors, there being clear no-man's-land inbetween, a no-go area to avoid collisions. This doubled as an area for low people to get back up. Gradually we built an awareness of the entire sector, following the guy in front, picking out each jumper, knowing their position in the formation and working with them. The whole sector took the same path to the formation, avoiding traffic from other sectors. The only way something of this size would build is if we acted as an enormous team, following the same plan. If we all acted as individuals the result would be chaos.

We built alternate sectors of the eventual formation around a star base, roughly 100-ways, starting with jumps at 18,000 feet, progressing to 20,000 feet. Both altitudes required oxygen, dispensed from a system designed by Dr Ben Massey, which slid along the length of the Herc, allowing us to compress an exit on the 'one minute' call while still taking oxygen, before binning the masks completely and preparing to exit.

The base 70-way trained under Dan O'Brien, Tony Domenico and Craig Girard. The relatively small base had been designed to build quickly, allowing each whacker maximum time to form. The most important thing was to set a consistent fall rate allowing each jumper to be comfortable in the middle of their range.

Two days of 100+ways from a Herc were followed by a couple of days of 200+ways from two Hercs. One group was the real base plus four whacker teams, the other four whacker teams around an improvised 24-way base from the alpha (support) team. Unusually, the alpha team was packed with all-stars such as Craig, Eliana & Dennis from *Airspeed* plus Kurt & Eric from the *Golden Knights*. We really needed their talents as injuries, sinus problems and stomach upsets meant we were down on head count, losing a few people a day. Dieter Kirsch was injured in a premature reserve deployment in the Herc's 140mph slipstream and veteran Kate Cooper dislocated her shoulder on exit, taking both team captains out of the ball game.

Next came a further two days of build-up dives, now from 23,000 feet, using the real base with the first three rows of whackers on each sector making 220-ish, out of three Hercs. These went pretty well until a false signal kept 84 skydivers on the Herc ramp for 1 minute 27 seconds without oxygen! Going into freefall with all those hypoxic skydivers was interesting; some had a complete blackout, others could not function properly but fortunately no-one was hurt.



Willy Boeykens



Brits on World Team, photo by Gordon Hodgkinson

BRITS ON WORLD TEAM '04

Andy Montriou
 Andy Pook
 Caroline Hughes
 Celeste Hill
 Chris Adams
 Dane Kenny
 Dave Morris
 Dave Stephens
 Darryl Moran
 Dave Tunks
 Derro Thomas
 Dona Crum (judge)
 Garry Willard
 Gary McGuinness
 Gordon Hodgkinson
 Jan Tunks
 Jim Keery
 Julie Woodrow
 Ken Gregory
 Kev Sargent
 Lesley Gale
 Milko Hodgkinson
 Pete Knight
 Rhino
 Richard Wheatley
 Rob Colpus
 Rod Fairweather
 Sandy McRobbie
 Steve Thomas
 Steve Watson
 Tim Mace



Henny Wiggers



Henny Wiggers



FAI WORLD RECORD HISTORY

1973	12	Arantchi Tachkent, Ouzbekistan, USSR
1974	28	Ontario, California, USA
1975	32	Tahlequah, Oklahoma, USA
1979	36	Muskogee, Oklahoma, USA
1980	40	Davis, California, USA
1983	45	DeLand, Florida, USA
1983	72	DeLand, Florida, USA
1986	100	Muskogee, Oklahoma, USA
1986	120	Quincy, Illinois, USA
1987	126	Koksijde, Belgium
1988	144	Quincy, Illinois, USA
1992	150	Koksijde, Belgium
1992	200	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, USA
1998	246	Ottawa, Illinois, USA
1999	282	Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand (World Team '99)
2002	300	Eloy, Arizona, USA
2004	357	Takli, Thailand (World Team '04)



Hans Berggren



JC Coldasure



Hans Berggren





RECORD ATTEMPTS

Finally, on Monday 2 February, after a week of training dives, we were ready to go into freefall and attempt a formation with the largest group ever, 368 skydivers.

We managed 318 on the first attempt, 337 on the second. Both jumps made a new Guinness record for the largest freefall formation but of course did not get our goal of an FAI record where everyone must dock in their pre-determined slots. Based on the first two attempts an FAI record was clearly possible but by no means a definite.

The next day, with the numbers cut slightly to 358, formations built to 230, 321 and 324. Craig Girard, in line of flight, was now sporting a lime-green suit made *overnight* by Thai tailors (are you listening Rob?), which acted as a beacon for the jumpers spilling out of the four Hercs.

Personally, initial underconfidence had pendulomed to complacency, then I had found the right mental state, was in the groove and thoroughly enjoying this incredible skydiving experience. How often do you get to play with four Hercs and world class jumpers? It was a privilege to sheepdog very good divers and I learned a lot as well as gaining confidence in flying close to the formation and around lower jumpers, avoiding their attempts to take me out. My awareness of the big picture increased every jump and I found myself marvelling in freefall at the nature of what we were doing. The formation took on a life of its own as it grew, with ripples and waves undulating through it. It seemed like a giant pulsating jellyfish, with individuals swarming around 'the mother' anxious to join and become part of the collective. The thing was so damned big it is hard to describe; the 200+ ways I had done in 1994 were small fry by comparison and my many 100-ways mere chicken flu - er - feed!

On Wednesday we only managed one jump before two aborted take-offs prevented any more skydiving. How frustrating! On Thursday the weather was absolutely atrocious; torrential rain and gale force winds, leaving just one more day to set the record...

Loads more detail and photos at:
www.theworldteam.com



Hans Berggren





THE RECORD JUMP

Friday dawned disgustingly cloudy and we arrived at the DZ in meteorological and psychological depression. We had come so far and worked so hard, through so many problems, that failure through lack of the opportunity to jump would have been like squeezing limes in our eyes. We assembled unhappily only to be told by BJ that a cunning plan was being hatched. The Royal Thai Air Force had located another air base with good weather, Takli, in the east. The idea now was to move the entire operation lock, stock and smoking barrel to the other airfield. How cool is that?!

We climbed into four Hercs and the BT67 with jumpers, judges, ground crew and supporters plus water, provisions and Singha beer for afters. Landing at Takli we were well happy with the sunny conditions and were able to relax a little before climbing to altitude to attempt a 357-way. The frustrations of weather and aircraft had focussed everyone's minds and there was an intense atmosphere of concentration and purpose as we lined up in complete silence. As I ran over the tailgate and into freefall the unbidden thought went through my head 'On our way to a World Record'...

Out in the slipstream the picture was more perfect than the most exquisite visualisation; the base in the ideal position and my sector team-mates impeccably set up in front of me. The jump had that magical, almost slow-motion quality that you only get on such exceptional loads; the base 70-way building faultlessly and beautifully on level. Our whacker docked more precisely, cleanly and quickly than on any other attempt and my heart seemed to be beating both faster and slower than usual. I was deeply immersed in the jump, entirely focussed with a 'This is it' feeling...

Suddenly I was horrified to see someone ten feet low, in a white jumpsuit to my right. He disappeared from view and I willed him with every fibre of my being to GET BACK UP... NOW! I could see from his body shape and size that if he had sufficient desire and determination this was possible – but records do strange things to people's head-spaces and whether he docked, to my mind, would be entirely down to mental strength.

The rest of the formation was building progressively in an air of absolute quiet with minimal movement. I focussed on flying perfectly level and could see the last people in the whackers opposite me taking their positions with an air of extreme concentration. The jump was all but complete, I could see no-one low but still had no idea if white-suit had made it back up or not. 'Come On' I said in my helmet, 'Come On... COME ON...' I cared so much I was almost crying. 'Come On... Come On...' I tried to see Craig in the centre to see if he was nodding but all I could see were legs and arms. 'Come On... COME ON...' The jump went on forever. Whatever number we had built to, I was sure it was as complete as it was going to be and we seemed to be in this immense beautiful flying tapestry for an age.

A pilot chute from the centre, the first wave left. Second pilot chute and our wave left... 'job's not finished yet' I said to myself, 'find a safe piece of sky'. Landing on a handy golf course with others from Sector 5, we hugged and talked of this very special jump, an incredible thing to experience... and no-one knew if white-dude had made it up nor if we had the record. Getting back to the air base we found the same air of happy achievement, suppressed excitement and tremendous anticipation. Congratulatory kisses were tempered with caution as we knew an FAI record was down to the judges' say-so. They were locked in a glass-sided room with an atmosphere as tense as an arms conference. Eventually chief judge Sherry Schrimsher emerged... and dispensed great joy as she announced we had indeed set a new FAI World Record – a 357-way, complete, built as stamped and held for six seconds. Well done white-suit! Well done World Team. Well done BJ. Well done me! I felt immense pride to be part of the team that had set a new FAI world record, raising the bar by almost 20%, and on only the seventh attempt.

Lesley Gale
lesley@skydivemag.com

DID YOU KNOW?...

...if you took one minute to congratulate each person on the load, it would take you six hours!

Bruno Brokken



Hans Berggren





Craig O'Brien



Bruno Brokken



WORLD RECORD

357-way



WORLD RECORD FACTS

Date: 6 February 2004
Place: Takli, Thailand
Held for: 6 seconds
Fall rate: 120mph
No of attempts: 7
Nations: 32
Average age: 42
Average jumps: 4,600
Gender: 81% male, 19% female
Previous record: 300-way, Arizona, 12 December 2002

Photo: Willy Boeykens

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Photo: Willy Boeykens



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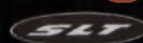
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por•ter (noun)

from Latin portare, to carry

1. An attendant who carries traveller's baggage
2. A maintenance worker for a building
3. The quickest way to 15,000' at Cockerham this July



Photo by kind permission of Markus Herzig

F-GODZ "Godzilla", the world's most powerful Pilatus Porter, is operating every day in July at the North West's most accessible drop zone. This 750 horse power monster of a jump ship gets you to 15,000 feet in 12 minutes!

2004 DIARY OF EVENTS

Check www.bkpc.co.uk for the latest updates

APRIL

9th-12th
Drop Zone Open All Easter Holiday
16th, 23rd, 30th
Drop Zone Friday Openings

MAY

3rd
Drop Zone Open, Bank Holiday
7th -16th
BN Islander 10 place aircraft:
Student progression and 8 way
FS practice

31st
Drop Zone Open, Bank Holiday,
DZ Party & BBQ

JUNE

25th Drop Zone Friday Opening
TBC DZ Party / BBQ

JULY

Open every day with Turbine Porter Aircraft!

3rd-4th FS 8 Way Regional Grand Prix Competition

12th-13th Chris Lynch - "Wing Tips"
Canopy Seminar & Coaching

14th Chris Lynch - FreeFly Coaching

15th - 16th - BPA Canopy
Formation Skills Road Show

17th-18th CF & Classics Regional
Grand Prix Competitions

19th-23rd BPA Tandem / AFF
Instructor Courses

24th-25th BPA Formation
Skydiving Skills Road Show

TBC - Tim Porter - FreeFly Coaching

AUGUST

30th Drop Zone Open, Bank Holiday
TBC DZ Party & BBQ

SEPTEMBER

3rd, 10th Drop Zone Friday
Openings

17th-26th BN Islander 10 place
aircraft: Student progression and
organised FS jumps

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AGM

The fourth Saturday in January was blessed with blue skies and light winds... but not much jumping would have been carried out as a large proportion of the BPA was at the Hanover Hotel near Hinckley for the AGM and dinner dance

The hotel was teeming with skydivers, many of whom had travelled long distances, proving once again that the AGM is a great chance to meet up with skydiving friends and a good excuse for a party during the bleak winter months.

BPA Chairman Chris Allen kicked off official proceedings with his address to a packed conference room. The speech was enclosed with the February magazine. Chris dealt out the unwelcome news that insurance premiums have rocketed due to companies passing on the cost of the 'compensation culture' and spiralling claims. This has led to a rise in our annual subscription from £71 to £106. This news received a muted response. At the subsequent vote, the show of hands on whether to accept the figure initially seemed a close call, until Chris succinctly pointed out that a rejection of the subscription fee would mean no insurance for the BPA and therefore no UK skydiving. Motion carried!

Safety statistics were revealed, and a two-minute silence held for those BPA members who are sadly no longer with us. The worrying statistic that of those skydiving fatalities, 70% occurred under a fully functional parachute, prompted Chris to remind the membership to consider their canopy handling carefully. I think we all hope for the AGM day when no two-minute silence will be needed.

Speeches over, various awards and certificates were handed out. After the meeting concluded, members had the chance to peruse the trade show for

Photos: Simon Ward, Colin Bridges, Darren Birkin



everything from goggles to canopies within the well-attended exhibitors' room boasting 20 stalls of skydiving related clothes, equipment and accessories.

The afternoon saw various seminars held in the hotels meeting rooms. Whatever your interest, there was something for you. VMax talked about their busy year during the world meet build up and showed some of their in-air footage of the good... and the bad! The VMax out-takes video reassured the rest of us that even world champions can have a bad exit every now and again!

John McIver talked about psychology with the aid of his XL teammates via video clips. He even had members of the audience putting matches out with their mouths! Back in the main conference room, Brian Vacher gave an informed and enlightening talk on canopy piloting, with some breathtaking footage. For the true adrenaline junkie, there was even an in-depth explanation of the insurance premium issue. Attendance varied according to subject, I'm told!

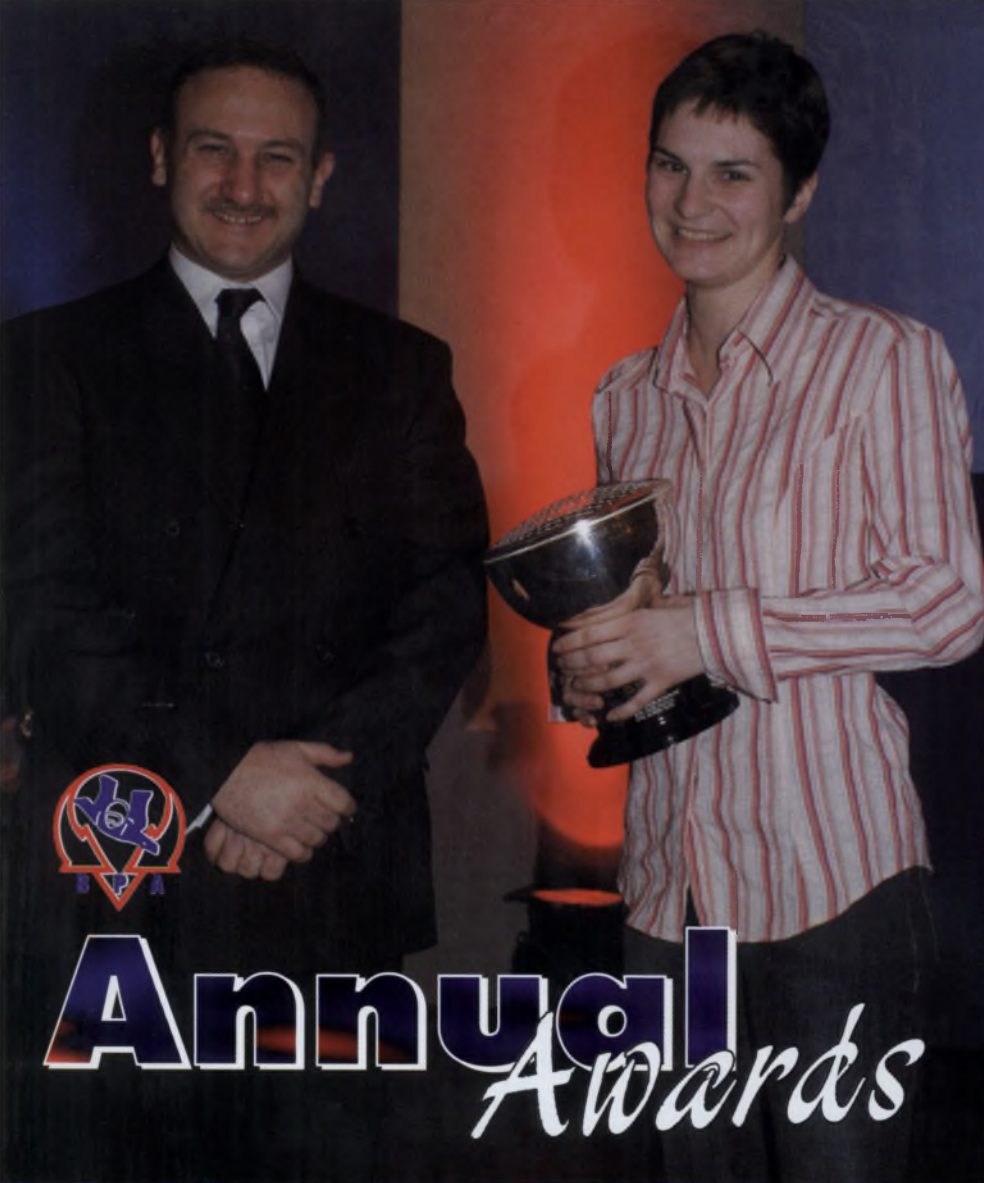
The true reason people attend the AGM could be found behind the hotel's well stocked bar and, after the official black tie dinner was finished, the assembled membership did their best to prove how well skydivers like to let their hair down. Entertainment for the party was provided by a disco and a live band featuring our own Jon Gretton, financial administrator at the BPA Office. Evidently Jon's been hiding his more creative talents away all these years judging by the effect the band had on the dance floor!

All in all, it was a very enjoyable weekend. If you have never been to an AGM, make the effort next year. Student, intermediate or expert, the AGM is a good chance to hear what your association has been up to, pick up a few bargains, and – oh – did I mention there's a party?

Thanks to Chris Allen, everyone involved in the seminars and all at the BPA for organising such a successful event... plus a big thanks to all of you, the skydivers of the UK, whose attendance makes it what it is.

Chris Hollis
hollisc@ttint.com





Annual Awards

Instructor of the Year: Lisa James

British Parachute Schools, Langar

John Hitchen & Tony Butler selected Lisa for the Instructor of The Year because she did particularly well on her course and is also the type of instructor that students would be very happy to turn to for advice. "Lisa came well prepared for the CSI Instructor course and her ability to teach shone through despite the complexity of the lesson content that she had to work with. Her static line dispatching was excellent."

Examiners Instructor Course Report
March 2003, Netheravon



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Sarah Laughton, Andy Ford
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World Champions 2003.

Certificate of Achievement: Derek King
To record our appreciation for your design
skills in producing a vibrant *Stay Out of the
Corner* poster for display at clubs and
centres for the BPA's campaign to promote
safer skydiving.

BPA National Judges

Accuracy: Frank Mallabone,
Sue Waterfield, Ruth Cooper,
Karla Cole, Ted Payne

FS: Frank Mallabone, Elizabeth Warner

CF: Sue Waterfield

Artistic Disciplines: Sue Skull

5,000 Jumps: Andy Page



Andy Page



Derek King

Regional Overall Champions

ACCURACY

Junior: Gareth McCann

Intermediate: Frank Robinson

Senior: Glenn Stephenson

STYLE

Senior: Carl Williams

CANOPY FORMATION

4-way Rotations: H20

Richard Green, Russell Strong, Maria Russell,
Dave Phillips, Jude Haig

4-way Speed: H20

As above

4-way Sequential: Team X

Alan Fielding, Alastair Macartney,
Nick Mirehouse, Ian Marshall

2-way Sequential: Blair Witch Mission

Gordon Mission, Carl Blair, Ian Marshall

8-way Speed: Hinton 8

Paul Yeoman, Steve Stringer, Carl Blair,
Gordon Mission, Steve Saunders, Ian Marshall,
Rob Johnson, Roly Coleman, Eugene Brennan,
Mike Pera

4-WAY FORMATION SKYDIVING

Junior

Bronze: On The Edge

Mike Henderson, Carol Sutton, Rachel Stott,
Karen Bain, Darren Baillie, John Williamson

Silver: Mission Impossible

Laurens Van Der Post, Simon Weber,
Simon Larcombe, Peter Smith, David Fish

Gold: Evolution

Stephen Rossall, Amanda Truman,
Robert Rossall, Damian Fereday,
Chris Southworth, Greg Reid

Intermediate

Bronze: US UK

Madeleine Moore, Vicky Wilkinson,
Russell George, Martyn Score, Andy Wright

Silver: V2

Brian Vacher, Emma Hammersley, John Keogh,
Stuart Brown, Ivan Betts

Gold: Elevation

Marcus Beck, Sally Beck, Alex Stone,
Katie Woods, Gary Wainwright

Senior

Gold: Born To Be Child

Rob Colpus, Nick Lupton, Mark James,
Lesley Gale, Gary Wainwright

8-WAY FORMATION SKYDIVING

Intermediate: Shedded

Dave Head, Alan Webster, Darren Baillie,
Brian Jones, Pete Spedding, Steven Doran,
Tracey Peake, Lisa Crewe, Rachel Stodd,
John Williamson

Senior: Om

Lesley Gale, Rob Colpus, Julie Woodrow,
Julia Foxwell, Mark James, Sacha Chilton,
Liz Groucott, Nick Lupton, Kate Stephens,
Colin Bridges, Darryl Moran, Steve Mursell



Elevation



US UK



V2



Shedded



Evolution



On the Edge



Photos: Simon Ward

Mike Forge Trophy: Fern Napier

"Fern went through all of her AFF course without repeating a single level and excelled every time. On completion of the AFF course she set her sights on achieving FS1 on the same trip, a feat that has never been done to my knowledge on any military expedition before and her eagerness stayed with her throughout. On the last day she was rewarded and achieved her FS1, scoring eight points in the process, something everyone on the trip was very proud of."

Tony Goodman

Royal Artillery Parachute Team



Mission Impossible



Blair Witch Mission



Om



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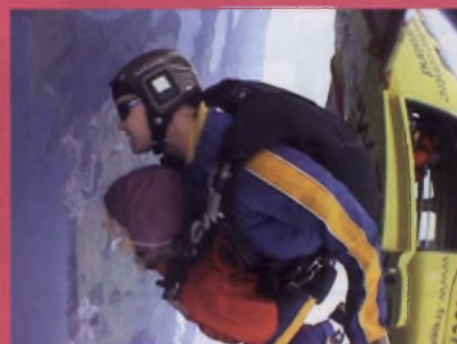
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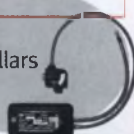
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Bill Mudie

May 1933 to December 2003

Bill Mudie penned the following letter just two days before he finally succumbed, after a long fight, to cancer. Right up to the end he was still jumping, and shrugged off the illness with his happy and cheery disposition. He was truly an inspiration. We all miss him dreadfully.

As per his wishes, Bill's ashes were scattered over Strathallan. As usual, Bill landed in the pit.

29 Dovewells Drive
Brechin
ANGUS DD9 6BW

Dear Friends,

23 / 12 / 03

I am sorry to inform you I have gone down hill recently. My local GP has got me on the Morphine and a nurse attends. I have got oxygen and a mask for when I get short of puff. I am so grateful to you lot for the inspiration to come back after periods of treatment but I am afraid there will be no coming back this time. Why worry, I have done it, I have been up there 335 times, wonderful times and the company helps. I want to be in two places at once. Just North of here, about six miles, there is a Pictish fort, a flat topped hill called Catterthun, great views south east to the coast and Montrose and north to the Grampians. My dad had a smiddy 2 miles this side and as a laddie I spent good times up there with a stalkers brass telescope, so this is a family thing close to home, car park between the White Catterthun and the Brown one. The other part of me wants to be scattered out of an aircraft door above Strathallan landing area. I will be watching your approaches. I don't want any hard landings because that will hurt you much more than it would hurt me. Have a good one mate. I can scribble this and Mabel will transform it into readable material. I am not to mention individual names, there are too many I want to thank. I had a blast, so rejoice the fact.

Blue Skies

Bill Mudie

Bill Mudie





Skyhooked

The Relative Workshop, manufacturers of the *Vector* family of harness/container systems have issued what they term a 'General Caution' concerning their revolutionary *Skyhook* reserve static line (RSL) system. Kit News first reported on the *Skyhook* in the October 03 issue of your favourite magazine.

The *Skyhook* is an RSL which not only pulls the reserve pin following a cutaway, but also automatically releases the non-RSL riser in case the RSL riser was released prematurely by itself – and then uses the departing malfunctioned main canopy as an oversized pilot chute to deploy the reserve canopy.

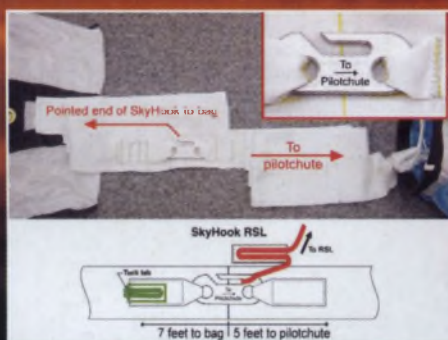
The 'General Caution' was issued after one incorrectly sewn *Skyhook* managed to sneak its way through Relative Workshop's quality control system. For the *Skyhook* to work as intended the small hook device which is attached to the reserve bridle must be sewn facing the deployment bag and not the pilot chute. If the incorrectly located hook had been used in anger in response to a main total malfunction then a pilot chute in tow would have resulted. If this were the case the pilot chute in tow could have been released by pulling the small yellow RSL tab – not a situation to be recommended.

The Relative Workshop are keen to point out that this situation can only be caused by an installation error at the factory or during a rigger repair. It cannot be caused by a packing error. The 'General Caution' relates to all *Skyhook* equipped rigs manufactured between 12 October and 1 December 2003, and recommends that a qualified rigger inspects the hook to confirm that its positioning is correct as per the manual and the diagram which is printed next to the hook itself. The Relative Workshop will pay the rigger's fees if a bill is forwarded to them – can't say fairer than that!

The Relative Workshop
001 386 736 7589
www.relativeworkshop.com



Photo: Gus Wing
Test jumper: Louie Palomares



Correct routing diagram for the *Skyhook*



A SnapPING Solution

In the August 03 issue of Kit News we reported on a mysterious and worrying problem of broken ripcord pins. What started with reports in the States concerning broken ripcord pins found on two individual *Mirage* rigs eventually turned into a major search across the globe, and involved most manufacturers of harness container systems and hardware.

Following the initial discovery several other faulty pins were detected after the manufacturers, Capewell Components, devised a field test. Although the faulty pins were a very small minority of the total number produced, the mysterious problem sent shivers through the parachute industry and the sport.

What made the problem extra puzzling was that Capewell reportedly tested every individual pin before it left the factory, and the tests equal or exceed those required by the FAA TSO requirement. Capewell also stated that these were the first pins to break in the company's history.

After several months of detailed microscopic and metallurgical examination Capewell are now satisfied that they have found the reason for the problem; poor internal quality control. The pins

are made from short rods of stainless steel which are swaged into their final shape. These rods often have very small surface pits.

During swaging, the pits can transform into 'laps' or folds in the metal, especially if the equipment used to form the pin is worn or hasn't been properly maintained. A lap greatly weakens the pin. Capewell have concluded that laps can be prevented by using only rods with a perfectly smooth finish and paying more attention to the condition of the tools and dies used to form them into pins.

The company have now introduced changes to their manufacturing process to take on board the lessons learned, but specify that owners and riggers should continue to comply with their bulletin CW03-01 which states that any pin manufactured from November 2001 to July 2003 should be tested. A pin need only be tested once. If it fails it should be withdrawn from service, and if it passes it should be permanently marked and the results recorded on a packing data card.

www.capewell.com



Keeping Vigil Again

A spate of three inadvertent *Vigil* firings recently caused the Belgian company Advanced Aerospace Designs (AAD) to temporarily put a hold on sales of their product until the cases in question were investigated. (We reported on the new *Vigil* AAD in the August 03 issue of Kit News)

It seems that the first firing in December last year was not considered inadvertent as the jumper apparently opened too low – low enough for his *Vigil* to fire as he was being pulled upright by his main. AAD stated that the *Vigil* acted as it should in this situation.

The second firing which happened in a rigger's loft has been found to have been caused by a short circuit in the wiring where the battery unit was not moulded in and was equipped with longer connecting wires. AAD hastened to add that only the first 50 (Beta) units were built this way; the current version is totally moulded in epoxy and the battery wire is shorter. With the early units "You just need to be careful when you close the unit not to clamp the longer battery connecting wire between the top and bottom halves of the case", said

the company. The *Vigil* user's manual states to be cautious of this under 'Replacing the cutter' and 'Replacing the battery'. The third case, over DeLand in Florida, involved a reserve firing just after the jumper's main was opened. Having carried out intensive tests on the *Vigil* unit in question, AAD have stated that they can find no reason at all why this occurred. They say they've run the unit through three weeks of intensive tests along with 50 other units they had in stock and they are convinced that this incident was an isolated one-off. "We have done more than 6,000 test jumps and we estimate that we have now more than 10,000 field jumps without any other incidents so really we don't understand what happened in DeLand", said AAD. The company's spokesman was quick to add that the Belgian army had intensively tested the *Vigil* and found not a single malfunction. They could not get the suspect *Vigil*, or any other *Vigils* used for control purposes, to malfunction in any way. "The Army have gone on to order 45 *Vigils*, which proves their trust", said the company.

AAD therefore decided to start sales again from 9 March since they could find no good reason to keep their baby off the market.

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- 3rd - 12th Easter Boogie
- 9th - 12th U.S. C.R.W. 8-Way Team Training
- 9th - 11th Brian Germain Canopy Flight Seminar & Coaching
- 10th - 18th U.S.P.A. AFF instructors Course
- 14th - 18th New School of Flight
- Easter Freefly & Tunnel Camp
- 16th - 18th U.S. Team C.R.W. Big Way Camp
Intermediate & Advanced
- 17th - 18th Florida Skydiving League
4-way Meet
- 18th Say Goodbye to the Casa
- 23rd North America Accuracy Cup
Registration & Practice
- 24th - 25th North America Accuracy Cup Meet

May

- 9th Mothers Day Extravaganza
- 12th - 16th New School of Flight
- Spring Freefly Camp
- 22nd - 23rd \$17 Jump Weekend
- 28th - 31st U.S.C.R.W. 8-Way Team Training

June

- 4th - 16th Max Cohn's World Championship
Team Training Project
- 6th Tandem Special
- 20th Father's Day Extravaganza
- 26th - 27th \$17 Jump Weekend

July

- 2nd - 5th Independence Boogie
- 2nd - 5th U.S. 8-Way C.R.W. Team Training
- 24th - 25th \$17 Jump Weekend

August

- 6th - 9th US C.R.W. 8-Way
Team Training
- 14th - 15th Florida Skydiving League
4-Way Meet
- 21st - 22nd \$17 Jump Weekend
- 28th - 29th Tandem Special

September

- 18th - 19th \$17 Jump Weekend
- 25th - 26th Florida Canopy Association
Sanctioned Meet

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For Starters

Preparing for the Nationals



Maybe you've put an FS team together or are thinking about it for this year.

In this two-part article, Sparky from VMax explains how to maximise your training, peak at the Nationals and get the most out of the meet.

We look at a casestudy team, Mission Impossible, last year's Junior FS Champions.

Plan Your Training

You need to time your training whether it is weekends, training camps, or a mixture, so that your performance will peak at the time of the competition. If you do plan a pre-Nationals training camp, allow some time to recover (generally a week) so that you arrive at the competition fresh and raring to go.

If you plan multiple training camps it's best to 'front load' your training into the beginning of the year rather than leave it to a few weeks before the competition. This then allows you to consolidate what you have learned eg, by visualisation, weekend training, watching videos.

Deciding where you want to train will depend on your preference for coach and aircraft availability. We are lucky that most drop zones in the UK or at the popular training locations abroad have left hand door aircraft, meaning you can do the standard traditional exits and the formations will appear the same in freefall. This makes it easy to adapt exits to the aircraft being used at this year's Nationals.

Training Camp

When you form your team you should discuss goals. Most teams will set an average goal (average number of formations scored in the working time of 35 seconds), as a reflection of progress. Discuss your goals with your coach so that they can plan your training accordingly.

Your training may consist of the following:

- **Personal drills** – 2-ways/4-ways to develop your personal skills.
- **Exit practice** – do all the exits in your dive pool at least a couple of times. This will also allow you to see all of the blocks 'on the hill', ie, the first few seconds out of the door when the formation is not yet flat.
- **Random sequences** – Sharpening up random work is the quickest way for increasing your 4-way average. (Randoms are single scoring formations.) Random jumps are lots of fun and allow you to develop your team's natural rhythm.
- **Drilling blocks** – make sure that you create the right pictures for the start of the block, the correct random start leads to a good block. (A block is two or more formations with a set move between them.)
- **Using the tunnel** – great for enhancing personal skills or drilling specific block moves.
- **Competition draws** – normally at the end of your camp. If you can, do the draws with another team to create some friendly rivalry! We would use old draws where we had the scores for the US and Norgie girls; this got the hearts racing!
- **Debriefing training camps** – with your coach to gain direction about what to work on when you return to your home DZ.

Competition Practice

Get some competition practice before the Nationals. Draws in training are no substitute for the real thing. There are lots of FS Grand Prix competitions planned this year with free coaching available, allowing you to experience true competition nerves.

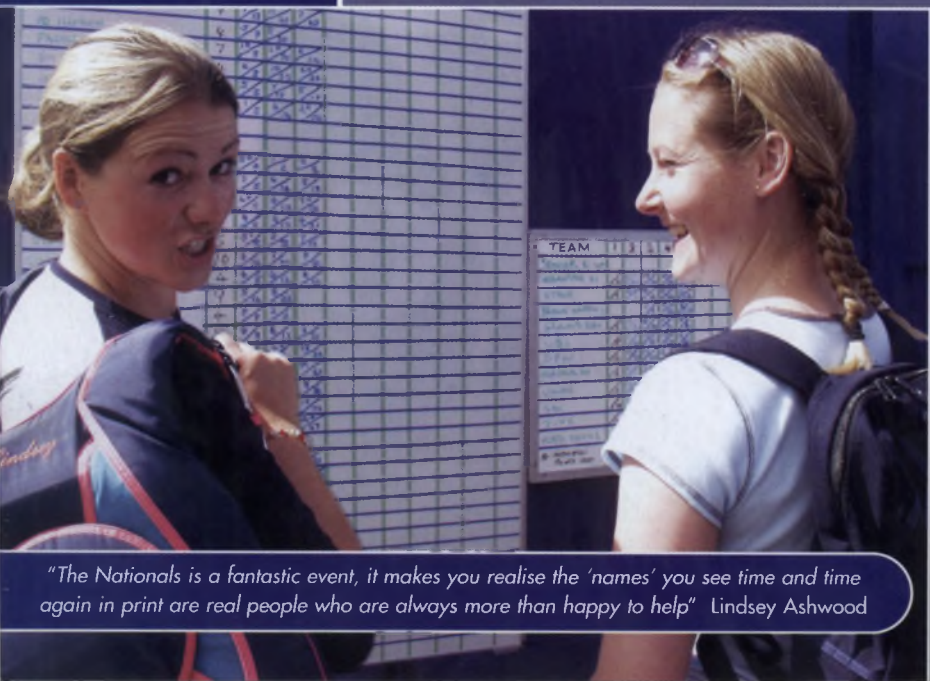
BPA Coaching Roadshows

These develop your personal skills and enable you to meet like-minded people interested in forming teams. If you already have a team, bring along your training plan and use the free advice from our top coaches.

Visit the Nationals DZ

Visit the host DZ before the meet, either a separate weekend or turn up a couple of days before the meet starts. The trip will allow you to check out the facilities, accustom yourself with local boarding procedures, get used to the aircraft and accustom yourself with the landing area. This should make you feel more comfortable allowing you to focus on the competition itself. The Grand Prix meets at Target Skysports (Hibaldstow) are ideal for this (8-way on 3-4 July, 4-way on 10-11 July).

Make sure that the last couple of jumps before the competition are 'feel-good', upbeat random jumps. The most important thing at this stage is to go into the meet with the right mental attitude, feeling prepared, ready and good about your team.



Photos: Colin Bridges

"The Nationals is a fantastic event, it makes you realise the 'names' you see time and time again in print are real people who are always more than happy to help" Lindsey Ashwood

Claire Scott (Sparky), VMax
claire.scott@purina.nestle.com



Junior and Intermediate Categories

Starting a team may sound daunting but there are categories designed to allow newer jumpers to compete at their own level and build skills gradually.

How To Qualify

Junior and intermediate 4-way teams are allowed one 'wild card', with no limit on jump numbers, often a very experienced skydiver. The other three team members' jump numbers must add up to less than 900 jumps for juniors and 1,800 for intermediates. The jumps are counted after each person qualifies for FS1. There is no limit on jump numbers for the cameraflyer and you do not need to have one (although it is definitely preferable). The team's category is defined when it first registers with the BPA on or after 1 March (any year) or from the first BPA meet entered.

Junior 4-way

Juniors and intermediates use fewer formations than the seniors (who use the entire IPC dive pool as in World Championships). Junior teams do entirely 'random' jumps, ie, single formations. The junior randoms have been chosen by omitting the most difficult from the international dive pool. Junior jumps consist of just three points (formations) whereas seniors do five or six.

The aim is to build personal skills such as in-place turns, grip discipline, fall rate control, etc, by focussing on individual flying.

Junior Randoms

A, B, C, E, F, G, J, K, N, O, P, Q.



Intermediate 4-way

The intermediate dive pool consists of the above randoms plus 12 easier blocks out of the 22 total. Intermediate dives consist of three or four points.

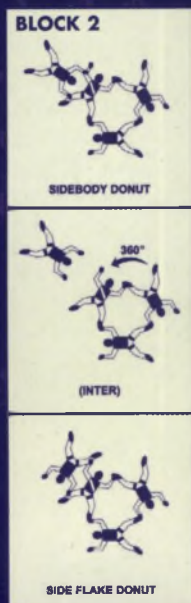
Now jumpers work on flying together, building on basic skills they learned as juniors.

Intermediate Randoms

As Junior

Blocks

2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21.



Intermediate 8-way

A junior or intermediate 4-way team can combine with a senior 4-way team and enter the 8-way intermediate event, with a reduced dive pool. To qualify, three team members' jump numbers must add up to less than 1800 jumps (post FS1).

All Disciplines

The above applies to Formation Skydiving (FS). There are similar systems in place for Canopy Formation (CF), Artistic Events (freestyle and skysurfing) and Classics (style and accuracy). Details are in the Nationals rules, available free from the BPA office.

IPC Dive Pool
www.omniskore.com



We formed Mission Impossible as a junior team at the start of 2003. We set out to engineer the best possible outcome, with limited training, against impressive opposition. We figured we could manage 100 jumps and an hour of tunnel time.

We had one goal: to win the junior Nationals. We did it!

On the way we won the Southern Regionals, took the Andy Kelly Trophy at Headcorn and earned senior gold at the Woodmouse Meet, Peterborough.

How Did We Get There?

Having set our goal, we obtained the rules from the BPA, and divided the overall plan into specific challenges. We had personal goals and team goals, and selected the most important.

One Thing at a Time

The best advice is this: don't try to fix everything at once – stick with the biggest issue at the moment. Once it's no longer the biggest thing, move onto the next biggest area, and so on. Design simple, manageable jumps that deal with the immediate challenge.

Our theory was that the first point comes from matching fall rates and having the basic skills. The next few points come from remembering the dive; after that come precision, teamwork, economy, communication; then, keeping it clean and eliminating wasted time. Somewhere – way down the list – is 'move fast'. We actually worked on slowing down our moves until the very end of the training. Thus 'dirt-diving slow motion' was invented.

Some teams dirt-dive using unrealistically fast movement, which can translate into rushed, sloppy moves. Slow motion dirt-diving aims to use really precise moves, then key points instantly so no time is wasted. It results in smoother dives, more economical transitions, instantly keyable points, and heightened awareness.

Choosing Slots

The four slots in a 4-way team are: Outside Centre; Inside Centre; Point; and Tail. The slots refer to the position on exit. Outside Centre tends to be floating and Inside Centre will probably be diving. As you would expect Tail is closest to the aircraft's tail and Point to the sharp end. The slots define where each person is most likely to be. Generally the two centres set up and key the formations. Tail will mostly be at the back of the formation looking in and Point is at the top, often facing out.

The most experienced jumper should be in either the Outside Centre or Inside Centre position, to control the launches. Beyond that, we figured Inside Centre needs to display awareness and communication, Outside Centre needs to be good at turning, Tail needs to be the quickest, and Point needs to be the most confident. We changed slots at one stage, to fix a launch, and then kept the new arrangement, simply because everybody liked it.

Training Randoms

We kept mainly to the junior dive pool, with the occasional block move just for fun. Everything was launched with minimal gripswitching – one formation is pretty much as easy to launch as another. With a pool of 12 junior random formations, there are 132 moves that can possibly be drawn, sometimes with a choice of ways to do them. So practically every possibility can be trained with 3-point dives, in about a hundred skydives, each jump being done twice. The first time through gives familiarity with the sequence, and the repeat gives an opportunity to hone any aspect. The moves were written down on a grid and ticked off once each had been practiced. If each person learns one thing per jump, then 100 jumps create 400 improvements – that's one big resulting gain.

We gave every move a score according to subjective difficulty. So Donut to Stairstep Diamond was rated as 1, Donut to Hook was a 3, and so on. Totting up gives a difficulty rating for the jump. We started with low-scoring dives, but eventually tested the most awkward dives that the numbers would provide.

We did about 20 jumps from a SkyVan before agreeing that left-hand door training was essential. A last minute change of training venue to Empuriabrava turned out to be a very canny move. The weather was perfect and the drop zone exceeded our best expectations in getting us in the air in their Otter. 50 training jumps were easy to achieve in a week, with a carefully planned rest schedule that kept energy levels high the whole time.

Setting Realistic Goals

During regular goal sessions, we constructed team 'plans' – our contract with each other. Subjects we discussed included; jump numbers per day, arrival time at the dz, time between jumps, packing, meals, even bedtimes – no subject was off-limits. Realism is the key to making this work. The idea is to construct a 'modus vivendi' to which everybody can stick, to get through the training on schedule, on good terms and in good condition. Peripheral issues, disagreements, fatigue and misunderstandings simply never interfered with training.

Relishing Challenges

Trying out new things, having ideas and making mistakes – and above all, keeping a good relationship with the sport – are the essence of



Mission Impossible was formed with (pictured above, left to right) Eno van der Post, the 'wild card' with 2,750 jumps; Simon Weber, 140 jumps; Dave Fish on video, who had 400 jumps but had never done 4-way camera; Simon Larcombe, man of 218 skydives; and Peter Smith with 280 jumps.



HOT TIP

Learning the letters for the randoms (and numbers for the blocks) is useful. If you're finding it difficult to remember a dive, just keep saying the sequence of letters and numbers in your head.

learning (given due respect to safety, of course). If anybody ever asked 'Are you sure about this?', the answer would often be 'No, but let's find out and have fun doing it'. Challenges provide rich pickings for those who see them as opportunities.

Thus, we entered the undersubscribed senior category at the Woodmouse Meet, and the result was way beyond expectation. The team learned its first senior blocks on a 20-minute call, dealt with remembering slot-switchers and 12-point jumps, and made first place. *Mission Impossible* are very proud to share space on the Woodmouse and Andy Kelly trophies with such teams as *Mind Games* and *4Pak*.

Fictional Draw

By the penultimate day in Empuria there were no training objectives left, other than to go faster. We devised some speed drills, involving moving as fast as possible, whilst maintaining precision. The trick is to work really hard on stopping and then make any final adjustments before picking up grips. On the last day we drew a fictional competition against imaginary competitors, producing an average in low double figures.

Nationals 2003

Two weeks later was the Nationals – and what an awesome competition that was, with another record turnout. Flat flying is bigger than ever! Records were broken and broken again, right from round 1. Everything was up for grabs right until the very last round when *Mission Impossible* actually became *Mission Accomplished* – magical!

Eno van der Post
e.vdp@btinternet.com

Next Issue: At The Nationals

Sparky looks at how to get the most out of the meet



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Email: roy_wallace65@hotmail.com

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Email: andrew@andrewchowe.com
Peterlee/North East

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COMPLETE RIG, Hardly used, Sabre 150 (250 Jumps) PD126 no jumps, requires repack, Cypres fitted requires service , black BOC Eclipse container, VGC. Need quick sale. £1400 (offers accepted)
Contact: Mick McPhee +23276800083
Email:mjbmcphree@hotmail.com South

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Closing Date for the June issue - 18 May



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

Main (Cryptic)

Across

1. Part undraped in frozen area? Quite the reverse (6)
4. Difficulties for blue manuscript lacking class (8)
10. They must travel overseas (9)
11. Blackguard's University hidden in London School of Economics (5)
12. Fat containing some cord (7)
13. Tore about court and dived (7)
14. Where birds live in north-eastern streets (5)
16. Take risks with fury going after target (8)
19. Clears around computer, or teflon-coated cables (8)
21. Adder doesn't start to become a river carnivore (5)
23. Cockney hoping to have English name for position (7)
25. Noisy British Leyland electronic car comes first (7)
27. Relax the French ram (3,2)
28. This thin yarn will keep you in suspense (9)
29. Books about crazy verses (8)
30. Is aware of some of Amundsen's escapades (6)

Down

1. Land a bit short in rubbish aircraft (8)
2. Fibre from New York to west end of London (5)
3. Strips and runs around the course (7)
5. Freestyle skiers lacking energy take these? (5)
6. Grow everything in favour (7)
7. Joke men in alien gear (9)
8. Prince carried by shabby fleet (6)
9. Aged hare jumping around; it keeps the ears warm (8)
15. Tots collapsed after steps in these (9)
17. Kill and dump on outskirts of health resort (8)
18. Indian person's soft-soled shoes (8)
20. Fastener for each ship (7)
21. Formation of interest to paleontologists (3,4)
22. Prison's not so hot (6)
24. Child's demand for stroke that is excused (5)
26. Pieces about river people (5)

Reserve

Across

1. Arctic plain
4. Troubles
10. Parachute aeroplanes
11. Parasitic insect
12. Steven's _____ (RSL)
13. Dropped down on
14. Eyries
16. Jeopardise
19. Parachute activation devices
21. Parachute aeroplane
23. Deploying
25. Type of altimeter
27. Ease off (3,2)
28. Thin suspension cord
29. Secondary chutes
30. Sight & hearing &... etc

Down

1. Old aeroplane
2. Parachute material
3. Airstrips
5. Perils
6. Lighter than aircraft
7. Rig; kit
8. Fast
9. Hat, helmet, etc
15. PD canopies: heels
17. Throw out students
18. Skydiving practice devices
20. FCI canopy: eg. Cutty Sark
21. Formation: fossil (3,4)
22. Chillier
24. Short putt
26. The English, Scots and Welsh

I can't stay in a sit position

I'm having problems getting my legs to stay in the sit position. I push them down but they keep blowing back up again. I have quite a baggy freefly suit and I think this is making it harder.

Try rolling the lower legs of your suit up to above your knees, it's the equivalent of stabiliser wheels for kids' bikes and it will get you started until you figure your balance better.

Secondly keep your legs wide, it's easier to balance. Try this: start with your back against a wall, in a sit position with only the wall for support. The angle at the hips, knees and ankles should be 90 degrees (when viewed from the side). Start with your legs together, notice how much pressure your back is putting on the wall. Now, keeping your lower legs vertical, slowly step your legs as wide as you can. Hopefully you'll notice less pressure on the wall. What is going on here is the shortening of the horizontal distance between hips and knees (when viewed from the side), or another way to look at it is that your knees, lower legs and feet are closer to the weight of your head and torso. The result of using this in freefall is that it's loads easier to balance so you don't have to do that old hat thing of reaching back with your arms.

Finally, when in freefall keep your feet flat on the air and keep your lower legs as vertical as possible. The reason for this you will see next time you're driving your car, fairly fast, try to hold your fingers in line with the wind, then see what happens if you let them go even slightly side on to the wind.

Dr Lynch
gottaflychris@aol.com

Should I change to AFF?

I've done 35 jumps and am stuck on 20 second delays. I have sorted out my stability, but keep turning. Despite talking things through with my instructors I can't seem to stop the turns. I'm considering binning RAPS and saving up for AFF. This will take a while, but I feel that if I keep jumping, and not progressing I may get so frustrated I'll jack the sport in. Would you recommend AFF or sticking with RAPS?

As you have already progressed to 20 second delays it's easy to change over to AFF at level 3, negating the costly early two levels. Ground training will be necessary as there are differences between the two systems, but the skills and knowledge you have already obtained would be relevant and useful.

Although AFF is one way around the problem you may want to ask one of your instructors with a camera to follow you out on a 20 second delay and debrief your body position on video afterwards. It would be cheaper than changing to AFF and having to complete six levels and ten consolidation jumps.

Another alternative is a wind tunnel trip, a couple of minutes of tunnel tuition may be a cost effective alternative – and great fun!

Dive Dr Andy
Ford I fly@aol.com

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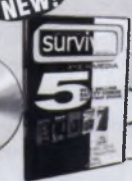
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Photo: Martin Thannheiser

Club News



Olympus Digital

Well it's goodbye from me...

This will be my last editorial as I'm off to pursue some personal projects. Lesley is not letting me off that easily though, as you will still see me around snapping the occasional pic for The Mag.

Judging by your reports and the amount of events published in the diary, the season is off to a great start. So I'll be looking forward to checking out the next few issues to see what you have all been up to.

Thanks to all for your help over the past few months, your effort and support have helped make Club News a great section of The Mag. I've enjoyed my time here being part of the team putting it all together for you.

See ya somewhere!

Colin



Calum Grant
over Z-Hills
By Jim Stevenson



At the end of January fifteen of us descended upon Zephyrhills in Florida making over 700 jumps. There was the chance to hone FS skills doing larger formations as well as small group stuff, with Dave Ruffell on hand to coach – just don't ask Harry about the Muff Dive! The freeflyers had a blast doing loads of really cool multi point dives with Pip on hand to give tips and coaching. A first for the majority of the group were two high altitude lifts from 22K. Wingsuits were available so some new birdmen took flight.

Visits from Aerodyne and PD provided plenty of kit for those who wanted to try something different. Plus there was the opportunity to swoop the pond – I'm not sure which was more entertaining, the actual swoops or Hilary's commentaries... 'Frankieeeee!'. The hospitality extended to us was fantastic – TK & Paul laid on a first class barbeque for us on our last night, Katie Ruffell sharing her delicious ice-cream birthday cake, with plenty

of beer to wash it all down. A day at Busch Gardens brought out the kids in us and we had an absolutely fantastic time. To ensure total success the Gibson girls were on hand giving out the best shopping advice.

The seats and lovely interior have now been ripped out of the new 206 to finish its transformation to jump plane, which seems a shame after the effort that went in to source and return such a super aircraft. It took several visits to France, unforgettable road trips and well executed flying by KB and Peter Connor to bring her home.

The club has welcomed the arrival of Border's jumpers and the McGuinness clan who are enjoying their time at Strathallan waiting for the new centre at Stranraer to open in May.

On a quiet Sunday morning, 18 January, Mick Fallon, Eddie Jones, Kieran Brady and Ron Wands took off to dispatch Bill Mudie for the last time over Strathallan. If you have yet to read Bill's letter to us all see his obituary on page 51.

Thanks to everyone who turned up for my surprise birthday party including those who made the extra special trip from St Andrews and Hibaldstow. It was a nice surprise guys and, needless to say, the traditional bonfire grub and karaoke went down a treat.

Anne Johnson & Andy Frew

STRATHALLAN

Achievements

First Freefall

Bill Wilson
Duncan Doig
Iain Croy

Cat 8

Joanne Gibbs
Andrew 'Sweep' Coulton
Lorena Sanchez
Scott Mackenzie

Jump Numbers

50

Joanne Gibbs

100

Alex Eastwood
Arthur Agnew
Jonathan Reed

300

Chris Reeves

900

Rupert Connell
Alan Russell

NETHERAVON

News of the bar being completely revamped by Bodgit 'n' Scarper (the Brothers Cott'O'n) is spreading like wildfire. As a result, new teams are using Nethers as their training base – it couldn't possibly be anything to do with all the fantastic skydiving facilities could it?! V2, Team Tequila, Sounds Grrrr8 and Team Heat are now resident, as well as freestyle team Tumbleweed (Deb Clarke and Jim Weir) preparing for the Artistic World Championships in Brazil later this year.

Euphoria, just back from a training camp with Max Cohn, are getting the Euphoria Freestyle School back into full swing with coaching and organised events planned as well as preparing for the Nationals.

Changes are afoot with the JSPC staff. Dave, Geordie and Clarkie are leaving us – Clarkie's taking up a career in extreme mountain biking! Thanks for all your help lads. Welcome to new staff Ali, Pete, Lorraine, Steve, Lee and Colin. We're saying a fond farewell to Ian Cashman who's been let off for good behaviour and is leaving the Army. Nige Allen is our new CCI and will soon stamp his own unique style on the job!

Congrats to Eno 'what correction button?' Van Der Post who completed his 3000th jump on a sunset biggish way – Kate Burn did her 500th on the same dive. We were all thankful to see Paul 'Bullet' Seymour demonstrating controlled approach techniques – not!



Eno Van Der Post by Gwyn Burton

Euphoria by Alec Cotten

Everyone sends 'Dibby' Lamsley best wishes for a speedy recovery following a little incident on the M4. Bar takings have been well down since her incapacitation! Folks have been busy producing the next generation of skydivers – congratulations to Nigel and Sharon Allen on the arrival of Ruby-Lee, and to Dawn and Steve Apps on the arrival of Eve.

Forthcoming events include a BOGOF (Buy One Get One Free) weekend and big-ways with the odd loan of the Silver Stars TurboLet – thanks guys. The APA is hoping to open a dedicated FS school. Keep an eye on these websites for the growing list of events:

www.netheravon.com
www.freelyeuphoria.com

Kath Salisbury and Mike Carpenter



Clarkie by Gwyn Burton

Achievements Cat 8

Murray Sutcliffe
Tim Below
Chaz Lawson
FS1
Sarah Martin

Jump Numbers 50

Graham Jolliffe
100
Jason Legg
200
Jeff Cook
Wayne 'Wings' Clark
300
Stuart Carter
400
Liz Ashley
500
Kate Burn
1,000
Andy Brace Newell
3,000
Eno Van Der Post



When the sun finally shone, we made the most of it, even with snow cover on the ground! Sadie Sutcliffe beat her personal record, making four jumps in a day. She progressed well because of it, and has kissed goodbye to the rope, well done Sadie. Leroy Jewitt put cousin Simon to shame doing three jumps whilst all Simon could dive on was one of Lynn's big breakfasts. Leroy is now jumping his new rig as an 'experienced' skydiver.

We're still working on getting that helicopter in but need responses from everyone wanting to jump it. The Caravan is booked from 14-18 June and again in mid August (dates tbc) for the Classics Nationals and instructor courses so keep your diary free.

The best achievement this month was the news of Rob and Sam's baby being born fit and healthy on 21 January. Lewis is my godson and I'm looking forward to spoiling him. Congratulations to you both.

BRIDLINGTON

Photos: Dave and
Lara Walker

Achievements

Cat 8
Liz Haley
Leroy Jewitt
FS1
James Birchall
IC1
Rob Johnson



Achievements

First Freefall

Donna Taylor
Wagstaff

AFF Graduate

Dave Suffolk
Tim Suffolk

FS1

Dan Batchelor
Tim Denson
Fred Chivers

Jump

Numbers

50

Rowen Hydes
Tim Suffolk

100

Dan Batchelor
Scott Pearce

200

Cliff Snelling
Tim Denson

400

Fred Chivers

1,500

Gavin Horrell



Tim Denson
over DeLand

DUNKESWELL

Photos: Gavin Horrell



The universities had a good start to the year with midweek jumping enabling first timers to get their knees in the breeze. Exeter Uni hosted their second annual society event which was a huge success. Ryan played a fantastic set for the entertainment. With prizes from the quiz being sponsored by Aftershock, the amount of drinking games and alcohol consumed was inevitable!

Our season kicked off with club members going out to DeLand, which I know everyone really enjoyed – even the two of you that, shall we say, had little accidents! A couple of birthdays were celebrated, one was an attempted 'hybrid' jump for Simon's by three complete novices to the jump. After it funnelled once or twice, the hybrid held and looked really good!

Tim and Dave Suffolk both confidently passed all their AFF levels with Tim notching up over 50 jumps in only two weeks! Dave chilled through at his own pace but managed, upon successfully completing his level 7 jump, to fracture his ankle... silly!

We welcome Ryan Mancey to the DZ who's recently passed his TBI. If you don't know him yet you'll agree, once seen, never forgotten!

Dan Batchelor

WESTON



Weston Plummets by Mark Walsh

Photo: Andy Ford



We extend a warm welcome back to all our members old and new, in particular to Steve Thomas who has returned after several years away. The DZ is looking great, everything squared away due to the huge efforts of the full time instructors and staff, cheers guys! Weston is operating an all turbine fleet this year featuring our trusty Islander and a Dornier G92 ensuring altitude is reached 'el rapido'. The Cessna 206 (G-SKYE) has been sold; the hangar just doesn't look the same without it.

The usual winter shuffling of FS teams has been frantic as teams change their line-up, category or split up. Negotiations for who jumps with which team have been particularly intense. There is no truth in the rumour that the fourth slot on UBI was up for grabs to anyone brandishing enough Jack Daniels!

X-Trix (senior 4-way FS) are taking a break this year. They have competed together for a number of years with a great deal of success. X-Trix, we salute you for the inspiration and time you have given to encourage and

develop so many of our budding FS jumpers here and we wish you all the best of British in whatever you do next.

Our more jet set club members are travelling the world in search of warmth with a group visiting Skydive San Diego and 4-way teams *Damn* and *Beaver* heading to Perris for training. (Hopefully the bar will be well stocked before *Beaver* arrive, as it won't be by the time they leave!)

For the group wintering in Eloy, balloons and big-ways were in order; John Trevor and Nick Whitely made their first balloon descent and others participated in loads up to 56-ways. Cameraman Dave Curtin made his first tentative steps towards the dark side having been witnessed sit-flying (or nearly!).

More info:

skydiveweston@aol.com
www.rafspa.com

Alf Batchelor



Achievements

First Freefall

Fiona McLaren
Clare Dunnington
Simon Whittle

Cat 8

Peter Milojevic
Nik Barnett

FS1

Matt Jagger

CARK

With the arrival of the PAC XL750 scheduled for May at Cark, 2004 is going to be busy. The aircraft will be based here permanently for both student and experienced jumpers. Being the only aircraft of its kind built for skydiving, it will be new to us all. It carries 18 jumpers and gets to altitude in 12 minutes, come on, let's test that theory! Here's hoping for lovely weather so we can say goodbye to the cold and put those thermals well and truly to rest!

We said farewell to Anthony Jenkins who has moved to Australia with his family. Our very own Matthew Kelly impersonator has left plenty of good memories. We wish him all the best. His last jump at NWPC was a 7-way just for him. We all celebrated with a meal and a good drinking session on his behalf (any excuse, huh?!). The same evening was spent celebrating Nik Barnett's Cat 8 and Matt Jagger's FS1. Matt turned nine points and he rocks!

All three of our newly qualified jumpers show great potential.

We're holding coaching roadshows throughout the year including Chris Lynch's *Wing Tips* and John McIver from XL doing FS as required; 1-on-1, 4-way, 8-way. Email me to receive all the club info that I send out regarding dates, boogies etc... and latest updates on our new arrival!

Michelle Meakins
shellm1@yahoo.com



Pete, Matt, Michelle, Janet & Simon
Photo by Duncan Stott

HEADCORN

Achievements

First Freefall

N Davis
I Grant
FS1
Penny McParlin

Jump Numbers

50 & IC1

Ritchie Rich
500
James Wilson
700
Louise Hawkins



Pete Sizer

HPC will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a HUGE party on 25 June at Chart Hills Golf Club. We want to get as many people together as possible so, if you've ever been involved with Headcorn, even if a long time ago, please come along for a grand reunion. For info on tickets contact the club.

We've got an extra competition in our calendar this year, with the reintroduction of the scrambles. Our competition year kicks off with the 4-way southern regionals and as usual all our comps will have a party on the Saturday night.

Ruth Cooper

Charlie Hankins, BEM, did a tandem jump at Fife on 23 August 1990 aged 70. That year he also pedalled his special wheelchair from John O'Groats to Lands End, and then four years later went the other way! Charlie went on to do seven further tandems at Headcorn, his last in September 2003, raising thousands of pounds for disabled services personnel. Charlie lost both legs and the sight of one eye in 1940, yet still went on to lead a full life and was a remarkable example to all who met him. He died aged 84 on 26 January 2004.

Clem Quinn

Charlie Hankins



ST ANDREWS

Achievements

First Freefall

Kevin Stewart
Mark Hobbs
Vicky Bingham
Fiona Millar
Vicky Thomson

Cat 8

Catriona Phillip
Iain Quickfall
Ruth Morrison

Jump Numbers

100

Tom Fletcher

200

Darren Rose



Graham McKay by Jim Stevenson

A few of the instructors disappeared to Spain over Christmas. Freddy seemed less than thrilled at coming back to the cold, but winning a new Neptune in a tombola took the edge off it!

Ian Johnston sneakily managed to be the first jumper at St Andrews to jump his wingsuit out of our Cessna 185. From everyone's reaction it looks like there will

be more in the near future.

As usual the DZ Christmas party was held at the end of January to coincide with Burns Day. It was a great success with the party continuing till the late hours, the secret santa adding much additional amusement.

All of the students disappeared down to

Peterlee for the BCPA meet, reports of much drunkenness and naked mud slides (Ally Milne!) have since been heard, all had a good time with big-ways.

Congratulations to Gary and Susan, who finally got hitched on the stage at the last night of Guys 'n' Dolls.

Gordon Morison

PETERLEE

Achievements

IC1

Keith Greenhalgh

FS1

Wayne Wilson
Linzi Widdall

FF2

Glen Staley
Alan Thompson

Jump Numbers

100

George Impey
Wayne Wilson

500

Glen Staley

600

Alan Thompson

January saw a fancy dress karaoke party for Bryn Chaffe and Ian Hall (son of Eric), to celebrate Bryn's departure to New Zealand to seek out a career in skydiving and Ian's end of chemotherapy. Sadly Ian's condition has returned and he now needs to complete a course of radiotherapy. Bryn is back with us for a while after a freak landing accident (we'll give you the benefit of the doubt on that one) in NZ. He is now the proud owner of a nine inch titanium plate with associated fixings. He then



broke his toe on an outing to the kitchen on his crutches (unlucky!). We wish them both good recoveries.

January saw the annual pilgrimage to the AGM with our plastic taking another bashing and the usual ensuing shenanigans. Valentine's weekend was the BCPA Freshers Meet, with a great turnout, shame no-one brought the weather! It was a great party with Mr Regan Tetlow on the decks and local band Beef. It was great to see everyone helping out after the Dornier got bogged down.

A recent last minute trip to Empuriabrava turned out to be worthwhile with Linzi Widdall gaining her FS1 and that man again Mr. Regan Tetlow (take a bow) providing some top class coaching.

Other activities have included balcony diving and the building of the new temporary eight man bunkhouse – an igloo to be exact, so it won't last long!

There is a real buzz around at the moment with hopefully at least two Junior FS 4-way teams looking to compete in the Nationals as well as a freefly team.

Sadly the Let 410 will not be returning this year, but there will be various turbine aircraft with us throughout 2004. A planning application for a tarmac runway is in its final stages; building should start early summer, without affecting normal operations.

Paul McCormick



George Impey



Ian Hall's party



Photos: Paul McCormick



Jonny Montague leaving a Pitts Special over Z-Hills, photo by Jimmy Goggin

Valentine's day saw a party with a theme of 'Red'. Everyone had various shades and patterns of red on and after the amount that was drunk, there were some very red faces. The dancing (!) went on till the early hours and there were some very sore heads and feet the next morning.

The baby boom continues with Brucie and Jo announcing that their first child is due in the autumn. We wish them well. The new burger van has been installed with a new extended menu – even including some healthy options!

Caroline White

We welcome back the Let and crew, it's great to have a large plane with a big heater at this time of year!

Jump Numbers

50
Bob Miller
1,400
Dorian Harwood

WILD GEESSE

The club's FS team *Practical Magic* held a skills seminar that was well attended, although weathered out. To add to their frustration the Caravan went away for its annual so it was back to the 206. It's been a rough couple of weekends without the Caravan – jumping in temperatures down to -23°C is not fun! Another skills weekend is planned for Easter with the aim of ending with a big-way from both planes.

PD did his 1,000th jump and John his 1,800th, a bridegroom doing a tandem to start off his stag night!

John McCourt

Achievements

First Freefall
Mark Spence
(pictured, right)

Jump Numbers

1,000
Paul Dornan

1,800
John McCourt



Photo: John McCourt

TILSTOCK

Jumping has started in earnest and we already have some rising fallers. We have our new Cessna and pilots to go with it – welcome to Caroline, Carl and Carl. Of course, we didn't get off to a great start with the 206, and pilot Sandy Whittaker certainly earned his beer after a recent 'exciting moment'.

Ria Bremner will be taking over as club rep, I'm sure she'll do an excellent job.

Correction from last issue: The Nick Irvine Memorial Trophy and lifetime membership were awarded to Pam Lewtas – well done Pam!

Ewan Bent

Achievements

Cat 8
Rosie Walls
Adrian Stokes

50 Jumps
Mike Allsop



John McCourt & tandem student
Photo: Maggie Penny



Photo: Stuart Meacock

You feel a bit like the Queen turning up at Sibson now after the Christmas break! Everywhere smells newly painted and squeaky clean. The day room is a positive haven of relaxation with new sofas for general lounging inbetween jumps and the bar now has all sorts of games and activities, a fab new menu and the customary most excellent selection of booze!

Our customers have returned from their travels and have been enjoying the cosy 206 and the cold but lovely weather so far this year. Students and novices have been taking advantage of the crisp windless days to get their knees in the breeze. We welcome back our fantastically speedy TurboLet for this season with its equally fabulous crew and all our club members for what we know will be a great year. Our friends from Babylon return on 28 May for the traditional highly popular three day Babylon Boogie with a big party on Sunday 30 May. Future events are a wingsuit weekend for August bank holiday, the

Woodmouse 4-way FS competition on 2-3 October and the tenth annual Sibson Freely Festival (dates tbc). Check out our stunning website: www.skydivesibson.com

Birdland Bar plans lots of after-jumping parties plus its very own firepit for us to get toasty warm around once the sun goes down. There will be bbq's abounding so put 19 June in your diary for the Summer Solstice and watch this space. The Birdland Bar Film Festival is on 25 September giving plenty of time to compile a truly awesome submission. Competition will be tough so film to impress. Prizes announced later.

Sibson will be open seven days a week from the beginning of May to the end of September giving us all the perfect opportunity to enjoy a few beers on Sunday once jumping is done, stay over and jump all day Monday and the rest of the week! Yippee!

Lizzie Harris

The winter is slowly disappearing and the weather has got better after weeks of cold, rain and snow. On the first weekend in March we managed 19 loads on Saturday and 15 loads on Sunday – nearly 300 descents – not bad for a couple of short cold spring days. We hosted a Leeds Uni doing a bunch of tandems for Rag Week – everyone landed with a smile on their face... you see it was worth all that hassle Bec & Bec!

We'd like to thank all our regular universities for bringing their students and the captains for encouraging them through the system; we look forward to the BCPA Northerns for some good weather, fun jumping and hard partying!

The new toilet facilities and bar extension are nearing completion. We have many teams training, preparing for the Nationals. Our midweek jumping is increasing each week.

Hannah Swallow

Achievements

Cat 8

Holly Kilham
Jason Choy

FF1

Will Powell
Dave Blakely

TARGET



Hybrid dive at Hibble by Dan Parker

CHATTERIS

Over 20 Chatteris regulars (a complete mixed bag of interests and experience) went to Skydive Arizona.

Our two AFF students did themselves proud – even on level 8 doing super positive stable exits with nine pairs of *Arizona Airspeed* eyes trained on them. No pressure then girls!

Seven of us spent a day doing 4-way training with Gary Beyer (ex *Airspeed*). Jumping with a world class skydiver is a truly mind-blowing experience and my face hurt at the end of the day from grinning so much throughout every skydive! Being able to learn from the best at very little cost is something unique to our sport – could you imagine Tiger Woods offering to play golf for little more than the green fee and a few dollars?

The beer flowed freely every night owing to the many 'firsts' that occurred. There were coached freefly and FS jumps, fun 8-10 ways, the odd zoo, an intentional cutaway, FS1s, wingsuit flocks, group sit-fly, tracking, high altitude loads, cross-country canopy rides, balloon jumps, and geek dives. Between us we completed 1,000 skydives in two weeks with no malfunctions and only one small landing injury. Returning home we're hot to trot and can't wait for the UK summer to get going so we can show off our new skills.

Vicky Robertson



Sharon Simonian



Photos: Ivan Peters

Beth Richard's Lancaster University BCPA group have settled at Black Knights, sporting an attractive set of new club tops, just to make sure you know who they are! Their enthusiasm is a welcome addition with many members progressing well, especially Thom Humphreys and Mark Pfeiffer who whizzed through their first freefall in a couple of weekends.



Coaches Juliana & Fabian Raidel

We welcome back 20 of our experienced jumpers from their invasion of Empuriabrava. Tales of eight jumps a day, formations that 'almost' built and eventful late night debriefings in the surf bar will no doubt be all over the DZ for the next few weeks. We're glad to see larger formation practice for when the Porter visits Cockerham for all of July!

Ian and Julie Green returned from DeLand, Florida where Ian took part in Skydive U's first freefly *The Search*. Ian did 40 minutes of tunnel time and 20 coached jumps with Fabian Raidel, and his wife Juliana Se Raidel, who incidentally was on the world record 357-way. Ian returned with his FF1 and an obvious buzz about his freeflying. Julie caught some tunnel time to brush up her FS skills. The rumours about Julie being concerned about the big opening at the back of the SkyVan 'in case somebody falls out' are completely unfounded!



Beth Richards & Danny Rowlands
by Alistair Hutchinson

Check out our website for the growing number of activities and to subscribe to our email newsletter so you're up to speed with the DZ: www.bkpc.co.uk

Matt Walmsley

BLACK KNIGHTS

BKPC Achievements First Freefall

Thomas Humphreys
Paul Haslam
Darren Graham
Lara Gray
Mark Pfeiffer
John Partington

FF1

Ian Green

Jump Numbers 100

Carl Sagar

200

Pete Hambliton
Dean Thorp

LANGAR

Achievements

First Freefall

Richard Beazley

Cat 8

Rosie Walls
Robin Baxter

Jump Numbers

50

Felix Dieckman

200

Andy Pike
Helena Stone

500

Tom Hartland

600

Sally Beck
Tash Higman

700

Gus H-Brown
Katie Woods

1,000

Al Hodgson
Stan Hopkins

1,200

Caroline Hughes

1,500

Mike Gorman

1 Hour Freefall

Pete Bacon
Andy May



Stan's 1,000th jump
Photo: Tony Danbury

We now have a matching pair of Cessna Grand Caravans! D-FLOH was joined by the pristine D-FBPS during February and they've both been working hard already. The Crazy £100 Weekend again worked well for those who took the gamble. Matt Byrne got seven jumps for his £100 (not bad) and Tom Hartland managed ten so they cost just £10 each (superb!).

This year we've got the Langar Boogie (1-9 May) with three aircraft – the Caravans and a SkyVan for tailgate fun. Everybody's welcome and we'll have organisers for both flat and freeflyers. The Bullet Freefly School is being augmented by Rob Silver again, come and make the most of the coaching opportunity.

In September, we're running Boogie 2, which includes the *Brit Chicks* FS Record, and a 50-way sequential record attempt. The 50-way stuff will be by invitation only, but we need to know who's interested, so register your interest with us – email 50way@bpslangar.co.uk. Organisation will be by Dave

Morris and Milko, so they're the guys you need to impress! The May Boogie could be a good time to make an impact.

Chris Lynch is running his *Wing Tips* canopy piloting seminars on Tuesday 8 June (Fundamentals) and Wednesday 9 June (Swooping) – pre-register with us at Langar for this, it's £25 per person per seminar. Following the seminar days, on June 10-11 we're hosting a stop of the British Canopy Swooping Tour, which Chris will be supervising.

Stan Hopkins clocked his 1,000th jump at the end of February – he's 71, doesn't look anything like his age and is still going strong! Bob Connell celebrated his 25th year in the sport a little while ago. Good stuff guys!

Owen 'Shaggy' Martin runs both flat and pro-packing packing courses most weeks at very reasonable rates – call 07732 568352 to book yourself on.

Tony Danbury

SILVER STARS

Silver Stars welcome their TurboLet for the summer
Photo: Big Al



We, like a lot of places, have a problem with locals who think we make too much noise. So over the last year we have taken steps, reducing our operating hours then closing one weekend a month and finally getting a quieter aircraft. So, with a lot of hard work and late nights, our TurboLet arrived here on Sunday 29 March. Hurrah!

It has come as a bit of a shock as we have been used to a Cessna 182! Being able to carry out more FS is great as we have been seriously lacking in that department. Climbing to 12,000 ft without spending too long in the plane is a real bonus. Now is a great time to visit as we are not overrun with jumpers so the scope is there to be a real jumpdog!

We welcome back Geordie Brown who has returned after his year's holiday at Netheravon.

Stuart Miller-Hall

Achievements

100 Jumps & FS1

Martin Rhodes

400

Rob 'Geordie' Brown
Tommy Parry

4 Hours Freefall

Stuart Miller-Hall



Photos: Gav Tuckley

We welcome eight new members to the team; Andy Shaw, Geoff Bull, Dan Schmidt, Andy Naude, Glen Coleman, Dom Hines, Pete Ford and Nath Connolly. Team selection was in Empuriabrava with twelve hopefuls and seven team members, then it was out to South Africa for a month of training.

In January the huge job of getting all the new kit on the road ready for team training to San Diego in March got under way. All the AFF instructors and a few others went out to the Oman for another successful trip teaching their Special Forces to skydive.

Congratulations to Marcus and Leisa on the birth of their little boy William, and to Noah and Suzie who have a daughter, Lottie. Goodbye and good luck to Nick Davison and

RED DEVILS

Mark Scobie over Murrayfield



Cossie. Nick has escaped the military to join the fire brigade, and Cossie is now working hard at the parachute centre at Netheravon.

England versus Scotland, at Murrayfield, was our opening demo (see photos above). It was a huge

success and has got our 2004 season off to a fantastic start.

The rest of the year is busy, check out our website: www.reddevilsonline.com

Adele Murray

PUMPKINS

Team Pumpkin ran a well attended 'Welcome out of Hibernation' safety weekend at Netheravon on 28 February. With a comprehensive safety review and refresher of survival skills we got back in the air nice and confidently – but it was COLD!

Good social at night time led to Sunday when weather deteriorated rapidly keeping us to a single 8,000ft lift. The end of weekend debrief was held, future plans were made and everyone started to leave... 30 minutes down the road the clouds parted and we knew perhaps a bad decision had been made. Those few that stayed on got four jumps that afternoon. UK weather, don't you just love it?

Martin Williams



David Fish

BCPA

Freshers II at Peterlee looked promising but unfortunately loads in the camouflage Dornier on Friday ended when it started to rain, disappointing the many jumpers from far afield. In total, there were 60 people registered from Durham, Newcastle, Leeds, Manchester, UWE, Glasgow, Abertay, and Edinburgh. The quiz on Friday evening provided a few laughs.

Despite the flooded runway, the pilots were happy to give it a go on Saturday so a few Dornier and Cessna loads made it into the air. Low cloud and rain stopped jumping so people drifted away looking for local pubs to share a few beers and

stories, before returning for the evening entertainment. Live band Beef was pretty good to say nothing of Regan Tellow (pictured) on the decks! The marquee and gas heaters made a real difference, and everyone enjoyed some good tunes, including an impromptu rendition of Postman Pat!

The weather actually got better on Sunday afternoon and there were six lifts in the Dornier. After last lift, the plane got stuck in the mud whilst taxiing to refuel! About 15 people did their best to get it moved (not easy!).

Iain Firkins



Paul McCormick

POPS

Our main meet is at Hibaldstow on 26-27 June, with Hit 'n' Rock, speed star or 4-way if time permits. Our last meet is a light-hearted affair at Hinton, 11-12 September.

The initial stages of printing of polo and T-shirts for the World Meet are under way and will be posted on the POPS UK website when finalised. For information on accommodation, events and contacts about the world meet in Gruyere, Switzerland, see: www.swisspops.ch

Niels Hansen

New Members

HJ Powel
Elaine Cherry
Andy Pike
Melanie Close

POPS Record

50-way attempt at Langar in May
jack.felstead@connectfree.co.uk

DON'T MISS

BCPA Northerns 1-2 May Hibaldstow
BCPA Scots Meet 8-9 May Skydive St Andrews

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www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

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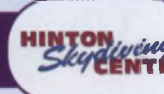
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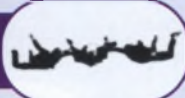
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First Jump Courses: rounds, RAPS, tandem
LO FS CF FF AC WP

16 Target
0113 250 5600



Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 DZ: 01652 648 837
www.skydiving.co.uk info@targetskydemon.co.uk
Aircraft: Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single
turbine, Cherokee 6
Open: 9am – dusk every day
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem
15,000ft on most lifts, host to 2004 BPA FS and Artistic
Nationals.
LO FS FF WP SU

17 Tilstock
01948 841 111

**THE PARACHUTE
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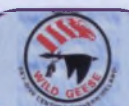
The Parachute Centre
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841 111 Fax: 01948 840 638
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
www.theparachutecentre.com
Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206
Open: 10am – dark Fri. 8am – dark Sat. 9am – dark on
bank holidays
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem
LO FS WP

18 UK Parachuting
01953 861 030



UK Parachuting
Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU
Tel: 01953 861 030 or 08456 585 544
Fax: 01953 861 031
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
www.ukparachuting.co.uk
Aircraft: PA-32 (available for displays)
Open: Weekends & weekdays by arrangement
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
FS

19 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609



Wild Geese Skydive Centre
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh,
Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: 028 2955 8609 Fax: 028 2955 7050
parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan
Open: Dawn – dusk at weekends. 9.30am – 5pm
weekdays (or later by arrangement)
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
Friendly atmosphere, fantastic views of north coast, excellent
facilities, no restrictions, plenty of local entertainment.
LO FS CF WP

UK Military DZs

- (A) Army Parachute Association**
APA Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wilts SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678 250
Fax: 01980 671 026
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com
- (B) RAFSPA & RAFSPA**
Hawks Parachute Team
JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-
Green, Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TQ
Tel: 01869 343 343 / 343 201
Fax: 01869 343 676
skydiveweston@aol.com
www.rafspa.com
- (C) Services Parachute Centre**
Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802
Tel: 02877 721 472
Fax: 02877 721 342
- (D) Silver Stars Parachute Team**
Duke of Gloucester Barracks,
South Cerney, Cirencester,
Gloucester GL7 5RD
Tel: 01285 868259
Fax: 01285 861344
info@silverstars.org.uk
www.silverstars.org.uk

Overseas Military DZs

- 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
http://jspc.de
(unofficial website)

Safire 2



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BPA Associated Organisations

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

Active Skydiving

Active Skydiving

Active Skydiving

Glengoyan, St Fillans, Perthshire PH6 2ND

Tel/Fax: 01764 685316

Mobile: 07803 041348

scotty@activeskydiving.com

www.activeskydiving.com

Contact: Scotty Milne

Courses: AFF

Location: Spain, USA

The Freefall Company



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

Contact: Kevin McCarthy

Courses: AFF

Location: Spain

Red Devils



Red Devils

Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Wiltshire SP4 9SF

Tel: 01980 678211 or 300 / 212

Fax: 01980 678349

reddevils@reddevilsonline.com

www.reddevilsonline.com

Contact: Edward Paxton

Courses: Tandem

Location: UK (Netheravon)

Airwaves



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

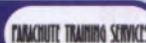
www.air-waves.co.uk

Contact: Rod Bartholomew

Courses: AFF, RAPS, progression, tandem

Location: France, USA

Parachute Training Services



Parachute Training Services

11 Godwyn Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 1BU

Tel/Fax: 01235 529570

doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk

www.paratrg.demon.co.uk

Contact: Doug Peacock

Courses: RAPS, progression courses

Location: UK (Hinton Skydiving Centre)

Skydive Academy

Skydive Academy

Peterlee Parachute Centre, Shotton Colliery,

Co Durham DH6 2NH

Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261

skydiveacademy@aol.com

http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy

Contact: Ian Rosenvinge

Courses: AFF

Location: UK (Peterlee) & abroad

Dave Morris Action Sports

David Morris Action Sports

2 Daleside, Cotgrave,

Nottingham NG12 3QA

Tel: 0115 989 3538

Mobile: 0777 498 6600

dave_morris@btconnect.com

www.daleside2.demon.co.uk

Contact: Dave Morris

Courses: AFF, tandem

Location: UK (Langar), Spain, France

PhD Skydiving



PhD Skydiving

Ramsdean House, Ramsdean,

Petersfield GU32 1RS

Tel: 01980 621363

Fax: 01980 620609

Mobile: 07971 665815

aff@phdskydiving.co.uk

www.phdskydiving.co.uk

Contact: Martin Williams

Courses: AFF, Skydive U

Location: UK, Spain, USA

Skydive Limited



Skydive Limited

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,

Peterborough PE8 6NE

Tel: 01832 280066

Fax: 01832 280067

Mobile: 0785 000 7178

chris@skydiveltd.com

www.skydiveltd.com

Contact: Chris Allen

Courses: AFF, Skydive U, tandem

Location: UK (Peterborough) & abroad

East Coast

East Coast Parachute Centre

8 Burns Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS

Tel: 01245 268772

slattery@blueyonder.co.uk

Contact: Val Slattery

Courses: RAPS, progression, AFF, tandem

Location: UK (London Parachute School)

Pops UK



Pops UK

21 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4ES

Tel: 0117 973 8341

www.thepops.org

Contact: Niels Hansen, Top POP

A society of skydivers over forty. We hold regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

BCPA



British Collegiate Parachute Association

5 Laxey Road, Horfield, Bristol BS7 0JA

www.bcpa.org.uk

chairman@bcpa.org.uk

Contact: Iain Firkins, BCPA Chairman

The BCPA aims to promote skydiving at collegiate level. We run regional and national events for over 40 affiliated university clubs. The BCPA provides a community where university skydivers can find like-minded people to jump and socialise with.

Overseas Associated DZs

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

SPAIN

Skydive Empuriabrava

PO Box 194, 17487

Empuriabrava, Spain

Tel: 0034 972 450 111

Fax: 0034 972 450 749

info@skydiveempuriabrava.com

www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

Skydive Spain

La Juliana Aerodrome,

Bullulus DLM, Seville, Spain

Tel: 0034 687 726 303

Fax: 0034 954 153 287

info@skydivespain.com

www.skydivespain.com

USA

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

Freefall Adventures, Florida

400 West Airport Drive,

Sebastian, FL 32958, USA

Tel: 001 772 388 0550

Fax: 001 772 581 4468

skydivemik@aol.com

www.ffadventures.com

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

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

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

COMMERCIAL

NON COMMERCIAL

DIARY

APRIL 04

17-18 4-Way Scrambles Meet
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

20 BPA Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271

24-25 FS Grand Prix 8-Way
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

26-28 Canopy Piloting Course
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

26-30 Instructor Course
Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271
Tandem/AFF trudy@bpa.org.uk

30-May 2 Texel Boogie
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl

MAY 04

1 Fancy Dress Jumps & BBQ
Dunkeswell 01404 891 690
aguest1@compuserve.com
www.parachuting-uk.com

1-2 POPS Meet
Bad Lippspringe volker.cornils@pops-d.de
Germany

1-3 Speed Awareness Seminar
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

1-3 BCPA Northern Regionals
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
www.bcpa.org.uk iain_firkins@yahoo.com

1-3 Brit Chicks Big-Way Weekend
Langar lesley@skydivemag.com

1-9 Langar Boogie 1
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

1-3 Buy One Get One Free Weekend
Netheravon 01980 678 245
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com

7-16 Progression Week
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net

8-9 FS Grand Prix/Andy Kelly 4-Way
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

8-9 BCPA Scots Meet
St Andrews 01334 880 678
www.bcpa.org.uk iain_firkins@yahoo.com

8-9 FS Skills Camp
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

10-14 Instructor Course
Strathallan 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

12-16 Freely Spring Camp
Florida Skydiving Centre 001 863 678 1003
Lake Wales info@floridaskydiving.com

13-16 Big-Way Camp
Perris Valley, California 001 909 657 3904
danbc@skydiveperris.com

14-16 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Headcorn 01622 890 862
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

15-16 CF & Classics Grand Prix
St Andrews 01334 880 678
skydivestandrews@mail.com
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk

15-16 FS Skills Camp
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

15-16 WARP Instructors Weekend
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
www.rafspace.com skydiveweston@aol.com

15-16 8-Way Meet & Skills Camp
Netheravon 01980 678 245
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com

15-23 Spring Boogie
Lapalisie, France info@lapalisie-aero.com
www.lapalisie-aero.com

17-21 Instructor Course
Strathallan 0116 278 5271
CS/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

21-23 POPS Meet
Pau, France swdetlef@wanadoo.fr

22-23 Freely Skills Camp
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com

28-31 Babylon Boogie
Peterborough 01832 280 490
skydivesibson@btconnect.com
www.skydivesibson.com

28-Jun 1 Freely Coaching
Cark 01539 558 672
madsilva@hotmail.com

28-Jun 6 Cark Open Week
Cark 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

29-31 UK Swoop Tour
Headcorn 01622 890 862
www.swooping.co.uk gottaflychris@aol.com

29-31 Bank Holiday Boogie
Netheravon 01980 678 245
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com

29-31 FS Grand Prix 4/8-Way & Scottish Nationals
CF, Classics, Strathallan 07774 686 161
kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk
www.skydivesthathallan.co.uk

JUNE 04

5-6 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Chatteris 01354 740 810
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

5-6 Espace Warm-Up Weekend
Lapalisie, France info@lapalisie-aero.com
www.lapalisie-aero.com

5-6 FS Grand Prix 4-Way
Cark 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

5-6 POPS Meet
Meibendorf 0049 5056 1522
Germany uli.meido@t-online.de
www.meido.de

5-6 Speed 7-Way
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

7-11 Freely Festival
Ramblers 00617 5423 1159
Toogoolawah skydive@ramblers.com.au
Australia www.ramblers.com.au

8-11 Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley emmahammersley@yahoo.com

8-9 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Langar 01949 860 878
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

10 STC & Riggers Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271

10-11 UK Swoop Tour
Langar 01949 860 878
www.swooping.co.uk gottaflychris@aol.com

12-13 Espace Warm-Up Weekend
Lapalisie, France info@lapalisie-aero.com
www.lapalisie-aero.com

12-13 Rodders 4-Way Meet
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
www.rafspace.com skydiveweston@aol.com

12-13 Artistic Coaching Roadshow
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

12-19 RAPA 40th Anniversary Meet
RAPA, Bad Lippspringe 0049 5254 933 862
Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

15 BPA Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271

15-20 Classics Nationals
Bridlington 01262 677 367
info@britishskysports.co.uk
www.britishskysports.co.uk

17-18 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Peterlee 0191 517 1234
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

18-20 Big-Way Camp 20+
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

19-20 Freely Coaching
Peterlee 0191 517 1234
shottonairfield@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy

20 Tandem Record Attempt
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

21-25 FS Skills Camp 1 on 1
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl

23-27 4-Way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley, California 001 909 657 3904
danbc@skydiveperris.com
www.skydiveperris.com

25 25th Anniversary Ball
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

25-27 Speed World Cup Round
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk

26-27 Skills Camp
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com

26-27 Espace Warm-Up Weekend
Lapalisie, France info@lapalisie-aero.com
www.lapalisie-aero.com

26-27 Big Way Weekend
Netheravon 01980 678 245
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com

26-27 Grand Prix 8-Way
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

26-27 POPS Meet
Hibaldstow 0117 973 8341
pete@thepops.org www.thepops.org

26-27 Flock of Birdmen
Cark 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

JULY 04

1-2 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
St Andrews 01334 880 678
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

1-4 Wildwood Boogie & Pro Swoop
NJ, USA events@freefalladventures.com

3-4 FS Grand Prix 8-Way
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net

5-9 FS Coaching Week
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

10-11 FS Grand Prix 4-Way
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

10-11 Scrambles Meet
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

10-11 Artistic Coaching Roadshow
Cark 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

12-13 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

14 Freely Coaching
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk gottaflychris@aol.com

14-18 European Flying Convention
Lapalisie, France info@lapalisie-aero.com
www.lapalisie-aero.com

15-16 CF Coaching Roadshow
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net

15-16 Wing Tips Canopy Skills
Cark 01539 558 672
www.wingtipscp.com gottaflychris@aol.com

16-18 POPS Meet
Perg bei Linz rudolf.hauser@salzburg.gv.at
Austria

17-18 UK Swoop Tour
Cark 01539 558 672
www.swooping.co.uk gottaflychris@aol.com

17-18 CF & Classics Grand Prix
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net

17-18 Freely Skills Camp
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com

19-23 FS Skills Camp 1 on 1
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl

19-23 Instructor Course
Black Knights 0116 278 5271
Tandem/AFF trudy@bpa.org.uk

23-25 Island Freely Extravaganza 1
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl

24-25 FS Coaching Roadshow
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net

24-31 Swedish Herc Boogie
Lidköping, Sweden info@herculesboogie.com
www.herculesboogie.com

25 Water Jumps
Headcorn 01622 890 862
headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

26-30 FS Coaching
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

30-31 International Swoop Meet
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl

31-Aug 2 FS Nationals 4-Way
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

31-Aug 7 POPS World Meet
Gruyere, Switzerland 0041 264 357 943
swiss-pops@bluewin.ch www.swisspops.ch

AUGUST 04

- 5 STC & Riggers Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk
- 5-6 FS Coaching**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 6-10 Freely Coaching**
Cork 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
- 6-15 NorthWest SkyFest**
Cork 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
- 7-8 Sit-Fly Intro**
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com
- 7-9 FS Nationals 8-Way**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 7-9 Artistic Nationals**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 7-15 Espace Boogie**
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com
www.lapalisse-aero.com
- 9-12 Tunnel Camp**
Perris Valley emmahammersley@yahoo.com
- 9-13 Instructor Course**
Bridlington 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 11-15 XL Skills Camp**
Cork 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
- 14-15 CF Nationals**
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk
- 14-15 FS/Artistic Nationals Reserve W/e**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 14-20 Karlovy Vary Boogie**
Czech Republic 01932 701321
www.boogieclub.co.uk pete@boogieclub.co.uk
- 16-20 Instructor Course**
Bridlington 0116 278 5271
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 17-26 Progression Week**
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net
- 18-22 4-Way Tunnel Camp**
Perris Valley, California 001 909 657 3904
danbc@skydiveperris.com
www.skydiveperris.com
- 20-22 Hybrid Weekend**
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com
- 20-22 Wingsuit Weekend**
Peterborough 01832 280 490
skydivesibson@btconnect.com
www.skydivesibson.com
- 21-22 Scrambles Meet**
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
www.rafspa.com skydiveweston@aol.com
- 21-22 Wingsuit Festival**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 21-27 Army Champs FS/ Classics/CF**
Netheravon 01980 678 245
apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com
- 24 BPA Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk

- 28 Fancy Dress Jumps & BBQ**
Dunkeswell 01404 891 690
aguest1@compuserve.com
www.parachuting-uk.com
- 28-29 POPS Meet**
Alleroed 0045 7558 3737
Denmark post@lite-flite.com
- 28-30 10-Way Speed Meet**
Cork 01539 558 672
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
- 28-30 8-Way Speed & UK Swoop Tour**
Netheravon 01980 678 245
www.netheravon.com www.swooping.co.uk
- 28-30 Brit Chicks Base/Build-Up**
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk lesley@skydivemag.com
- 28-Sep 5 Langer Boogie 2**
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SEPTEMBER 04

- 2-5 Brit Chicks Record**
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www.bpslangar.co.uk lesley@skydivemag.com
- 5-5 International 10-Way Speed**
Texel info@paracentrumtexel.nl
Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl
- 4-5 Weekend Boogie**
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com
www.lapalisse-aero.com
- 4-5 CF Grand Prix**
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk
- 4-5 LAC Meet**
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headcorn@btconnect.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
- 4-5 POPS Meet**
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The Netherlands URRON@worldonline.nl
- 4-6 Monkey Claw Jam**
Skydive Cross Keys 001 856 629 7553
NJ, USA www.monkeyclaw.com
- 8-9 Freely Skills Camp**
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Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl
- 10-11 Skills Camp**
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain icoufal@skydiveempuriabrava.com
www.skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 10-12 Island Freely Extravaganza 2**
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Netherlands www.paracentrumtexel.nl
- 11-12 FS Grand Prix 4-Way**
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- 11-12 POPS Meet**
Hinton 0117 973 8341
www.thepops.org pete@thepops.org
- 13-20 Artistics World Meet**
Brazil 0055 (21) 431 61 82
aeroclube@skydome.com.br
- 18-24 FS/CF & Classics World Meet**
Rijeka, Croatia 00385 4848 754
www.wpc2004.com info@caf.hr
- 17-26 Progression Week**
Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk jeff@payco.net
- 18-19 4-Way Scrambles Meet**
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600
- 18-19 POPS Meet**
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- 20 Water Jumps**
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www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
- 25 Birdland Bar Film Festival**
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skydivesibson@btconnect.com
www.skydivesibson.com
- 25-26 FS Grand Prix 4-Way**
Peterlee 0191 517 1234
shottonairfield@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydivemary
- 25-Oct 3 CF Seminar**
Empuriabrava, Spain 0034 972 450 111
richardhayden_crew@yahoo.co.uk
www.skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 29-Oct 3 Women's European CF Record**
Empuriabrava, Spain 0034 972 450 111
sjscookie@yahoo.co.uk
www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

OCTOBER 04

- 2-3 Woodmouse 4-Way Meet**
Peterborough 01832 280 490
skydivesibson@btconnect.com
www.skydivesibson.com
- 2-3 Wingsuit Festival**
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
www.rafspa.com skydiveweston@aol.com
- 7 STC & Riggers Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk
- 9-12 Big-Way Camp 20+**
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 18-22 Pre-Equinox Coaching Camp**
Ramblers 00617 5423 1159
Taogoolawah skydive@ramblers.com.au
Australia www.ramblers.com.au
- 19 BPA Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk
- 23-31 Equinox Boogie**
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Taogoolawah skydive@ramblers.com.au
Australia www.ramblers.com.au
- 30-31 Halloween Speed 10**
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www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

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- 15-19 Instructor Course**
Sibson 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 20-21 Skills Camp**
Skydive Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain icoufal@skydiveempuriabrava.com
www.skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 22-26 Instructor Course**
Sibson 0116 278 5271
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 26-28 Nov 4-way/Accuracy Meet**
Cyprus 00357 2474 4337
www.skydivencyprus.com skydive@logos.cy.net

KEY

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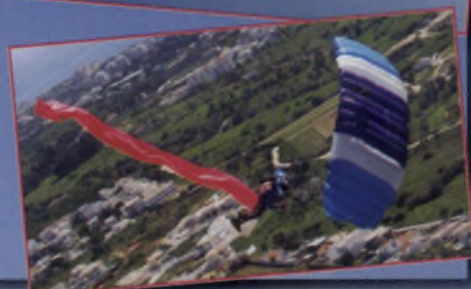


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