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The Mag

December 2004



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



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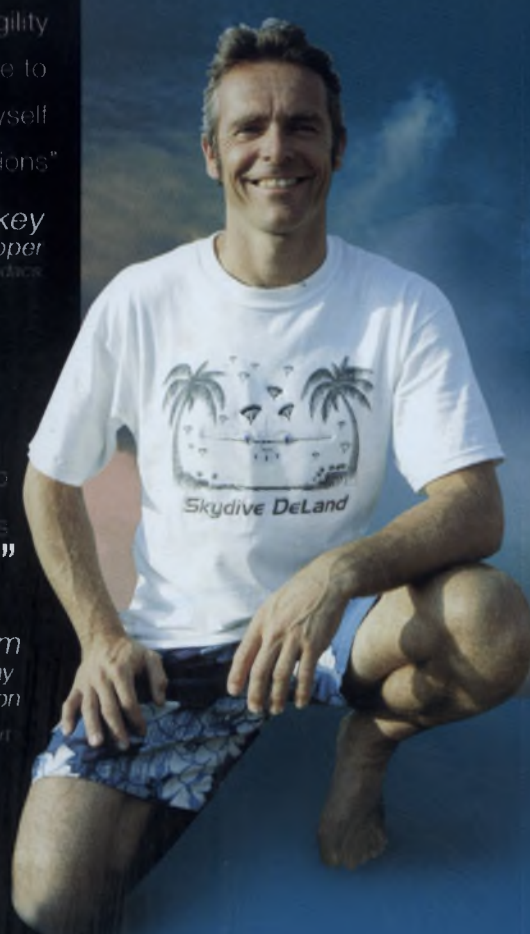
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editorial

The big story this issue is *Brit Chicks* and the new record 60-way. I make no apology for plugging my own project as it's been entirely altruistic. All the many coaches and helpers, including myself, Kate Stephens and international guru Kate Cooper, gave our time for no more reward than seeing the women around us grow, improve their skydiving and succeed in their goal.

And what a reward that was! As the centre spread will tell you, the 60-way was the largest jump for 70% of its participants. Just like the *Brit Chicks* 50-way in 2002, this record was built on basic skydiving skills not on years of experience. It was amazing to see the confidence levels build as people realised they were consistently performing – and it wasn't nearly as hard as they thought!

Everyone who showed up was on every load for the first five days; all had the same chance to learn, improve and shine, regardless of jump numbers. The *Brit Chicks* article (page 36) was written by Lucy Misch, who arrived with 126 jumps and nothing bigger to her name than a 15-way. She left a British record holder, and *Brit Chick* of the Year, with her head held high and greater confidence in her own ability.

Brit Chicks isn't about being female. It's not even really about building big-ways, setting records or creating positive publicity – although we achieved all of these. It's about teamwork and giving, what this wonderful sport is all about. It's about believing in yourself and following your dreams. You can all do it, whatever you wish... men too! If you want to get involved in an event; whether it's a local competition, a big-way record or the Nationals, then have faith in yourself and go for it. If you haven't yet met anyone who shares your dreams, go to the AGM, get connected through the BPA website or go to a boogie and I guarantee you'll meet people who do.

Make good use of the Christmas present enclosed for you; the BPA 2005 Calendar. Pop it on your wall, plan what you want for 2005, then make it happen! Wishing you a cracker of a Christmas and a tippety-top new year... see you at the AGM.



Simon Ward

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Photo from Langar Boogie by Tony Danbury

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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.

Langar Boogie II

Visiting American Duffy Fainer gives the alien's perspective

Every seasoned jumper needs a change now and then, and travelling to drop zones in other countries is a great way to re-energise your jumping. For a long time Pezris-ite like me, a trip across the pond to the UK made for a fun vacation and cultural exchange. I was happy to get an invitation to join the Brits at Langar for the final boogie of the summer and their first 50-way sequential weekend. Right on cue, that apparently mythical English summer sunshine descended upon the Nottingham region for four consecutive days.

Ian 'Milko' Hodgkinson and Dave Morris, two organising icons in the UK, were our masters. They managed an amusing act between them as their distinctly different styles and personalities ultimately generated balance and fall rate harmony. Their mix of wry British humour, sarcasm, and non confrontational debriefs kept the attitudes right and the skydiving sharp.

The series produced the largest sequential ever in the UK, including a two point 52-way, and nearly a three point 50-way, just milliseconds from completion. Consider that these were coming from 13,500 ft, out of four aircraft, with break-off at 5,500 ft and you can appreciate the accomplishment. Adding to the fun was a posse of determined women showing us a perfect 60-way on Saturday afternoon, when we also set a Langar record of 1001 jumps in a day.

The Brits have always had a world presence in formation skydiving, and scores of the country's best were on hand. Many talented up and coming skydivers with just a few hundred jumps were showing off their skills too, indicating a promising future for FS-UK.

I appreciated the BPA's rules on gear checks before emplaning and check-ins after landing. After 30 years in the sport, I'm well aware that everyone will eventually misplace something; having someone look you over without having to 'humble yourself' by asking will save a life sooner or later. The controllers on the ground communicated with the aircraft, ensuring traffic-free skies below. The Langar attitude toward safety and personal accountability works and everyone accepts it as routine.

No beer gets sold on the DZ until aircraft operations cease and, when they do, the bar at Langar is more than busy. Guinness and Stella Artois flowed liberally while bands and DJ Richie played all weekend long. The opening night bonfire and barbecue was a great icebreaker, ultimately

proving that when you put skydivers, fire, meat and beer together, we're all speaking the same language. Incidentally, you don't have to worry about eating utensil etiquette by the fire at Langar; you can hold your steak, lamb or sausage in either hand.

The following evening the Brit Chicks set another record – for how delectable you can look in school uniform. Their lovely English skin was shown off to perfection with added freckles and bunches. DJ Richie made the Skool Disco a veritable dancing mania, his aide Tony dealt up psychedelic visuals and Hennie kept our vessels brimming.

No proper trip to the UK countryside would be complete without a traditional bed and breakfast. My B&B was 450 years old and, like an Alice in Wonderland scene, didn't have a level step or a right angle anywhere. Located conveniently above the fog-enshrouded cemetery, it was a scene right out of a Dickens novel. Don't forget the authentic country English pub – mine came complete with Cantonese take-out, and many are actually now serving Indian food, England's newest indigenous cuisine. Just make sure you get your food order in by 8:45, it's countryside after all, and country folks go to bed early. Except of course if you're camping out at Langar, where the summertime is never taken for granted, boogie weekends are never missed, and the party goes on and on... and on.



Main image: Tony Danbury

Tony Danbury





Seven Aircraft

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Six New Records and Firsts

Largest UK female formation – Brit Chicks 60-way
Largest UK FS Sequential – two point 52-way
Largest UK docked Atmonauti – 5
Largest UK docked female Atmonauti – 3
First two plane Atmonauti dive in the world
Most Langar descents in one day – 1001

Loads a Jumps

306 Lifts
4,710 Descents
130 Helicopter jumps





Main image: Marco Tiezzi

Marco Tiezzi



Simon Ward

Marco Tiezzi

Atmonauti

Bullet Freefly School were thrilled to find that Marco Tiezzi and Gigliola Borgnis of Atmonauti fame wanted to come to Langar for our Boogie II. We had about thirty people eager to learn how to do Atmonauti or to improve their skills. They were split into novice, intermediate or experienced groups, with George Pilkington helping to take some of the pressure off Marco and Gi.

As the week progressed, so did the Atmonauti, we were thriving on the brilliant sunshine, soaring temperatures and intensive jumps. Everyone was learning something. You wouldn't believe how excited some people got when they'd taken a grip and held it – it's not as easy as it looks! Marco and Gi were so impressed that they were often putting together 20 or 30-ways at the end of each day. These flocks made the world's first two plane Atmonauti jumps.

While all this was going on the atmo chicks got a UK record of three linked, and a mixed dive saw another UK record of five linked. There were also some notable naturals, Alex Stone being one of them, right there in the thick of it on her first attempt... 'Cheeky monkey!'

Bullet Freefly School would like to say thanks to everyone for a cracking boogie but especially to Marco and Gi, two of the nicest people you will meet in skydiving today.

Eliot Martin



Andrew Lovemore

ATOM Legend

by Mike Brooke

(524,13 km/h)



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The current members have committed to two training camps, one with the Swiss National team in 2005 and the second to be decided.

The open slot is for a person, who will have less than 300 jumps come August 2005, as the team will compete in the British Nationals in the junior Category.

If you would like to join our team visit our website or get in touch.

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8-way **SPEED** Nationals

The skill of building an 8-way formation in the quickest possible time

Langar Lost Souls

Eight teams assembled at Skydive Sibson to compete for the National Championships and have a go at cracking the current UK record, 7.62 secs held by the Red Devils.

Background

Earlier this year, the BPA Competitions Committee understandably decided to discontinue the 8-way Speed Nationals. This event has traditionally been held at the end of the FS National Championships and, with the Nationals now being held over weekends, there wasn't sufficient interest and time to justify continuing the Speed event. It seemed a real shame to me and a lost opportunity to develop the event into a stand-alone meet, in which teams could enter in flat, sit and head-down. So in a manner that befits this great democratic nation of ours, we appealed the decision, Comps Committee agreed, the bids went out and Sibson secured the meet.

The rules were amended to allow hybrid or head-down dives and you could build any controlled formation you liked. Six rounds, no show, no grips of course, but that was about it for rules.

The forecast was terrible, high winds and rain, a double whammy. Still, a handful of local teams and a greater number of visiting teams, presented themselves at meet director Stuart Meacock's briefing on 2 October...

The Competition

Iron Chicken kicked off the lead with 15.48 secs on round 1, smokin' chicken more like, and as round 1 was almost complete.... we went onto

a wind hold, which lasted most of day one. Pants.

A few spells were cast, souls sold or sacrifices made to the weather gods, and luckily towards the end of the day, the weather relented and we completed round 2. *Another Plan 8* threw an 11.50 secs on the board and mooched into first place, which is where they stayed for the rest of the meet, slap bang in the lead, a fantastic effort, those guys never ever disappoint. *Langar Lost Souls* gave them a run for their money but in the end *Another Plan 8* prevailed, strutting their stuff for gold.

On day two, competition was seriously hot for silver and bronze between *Tourettes*, *Langar Lost Souls* and *Iron Chicken*. *Langar Lost Souls* grooved into second place with a 12.28 and 12.50 on rounds 3 and 4. Bronze was secured by *Tourettes* by a gnat's whisker, total to *Tourettes*, 1 minute 12.30 seconds; compare that to *Iron Chicken* in fourth with a total score of 1 min 12.65 secs. If we had been sitting down we would have been on the edge of our seats!! Sad then for *Iron Chicken* that the forecasted weather arrived at the end of round 4 and the meet was called.

The Presents

Prizegiving was Sibson Style; in addition to the gongs and fabulous National 8-way Speed trophy, Sibson donated two more prizes, one for the least speedy team; a giant snail won by *Special Forces*, *Special Needs* who are determined **not** to win it next year, go for it guys; and one for entertaining the judges the most, a giant wicker bird won by *The Borg*, whose winning dive drew oohs and aahs from the assembled competitors.

The Thank-yous

Big thanks to the judges Karla Cole and trainee Christele Askew who both did a fantastic job; to Sibson, their pilots and staff; and to Stuart Meacock, first time meet director. Stuart, I believe you still owe a case of beer.

The Past

There has been a National Speed 8-way Championship for over 20 years. The trophy records the names of the winning teams and some of the record breaking times and is an awesome piece of British skydiving history.

The Future

Running the event separately this year was a glorious success, with over twice as many teams as for the last five years, demonstrating that there is still healthy interest for an 8 way Speed Nationals. Flat, sit or head-down, it doesn't matter – fastest team wins. One team attempted to compete in a hybrid and I have no doubt that next year there will be more, a wingsuit team has already registered an interest! As our sport evolves so, I hope will this meet, it's so much fun and so keen and exciting a competition where anything can happen right up till the last round.

The fastest time was achieved by National Speed Champions, *Another Plan 8* with 10.50 secs and so *Lucifer's* record stands for another year. With the interest raised this year, there is talk of teams training, so next year could be a different story!

Lizzie Harris
info@skydiveltd.com



Silver medallists: Langar Lost Souls



Special Forces, Special Needs



Winners: Another Plan 8



Bronze medallists: Tourettes

Photos: Sarah Hall

Results

Total time after 4 rounds

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Another Plan 8 | 51:05 secs |
| 2 | Langar Lost Souls | 57:86 secs |
| 3 | Tourettes | 1 min 12:30s |
| 4 | Iron Chicken | 1 min 12:65s |
| 5 | The Borg | 1 min 34:88s |
| 6 | The Touchables | 2 min 09:40s |
| 7 | Decaffin8 | 2 min 20:00s |
| 7 | Special Forces | 2 min 20:00s |

Full results: www.bpa.org.uk

The Touchables



New competition rules meant that forming 8 people could be counted (previously stars only)

View from the Teams

Someone (no names mentioned) suggested we enter the 8-way Speed Nationals... the weekend before! Oooh, er... 'Do we know enough people?' 'Will they want to jump with us?' 'How do you get eight people out of an aircraft quickly?' were just some of the problems we faced. We had loads of help from experienced jumpers; exit strategies, desirable base fall rate and, more worryingly, what to do for a second point. What second point?! We'd be happy with a first point! Which we did build on that 'training' weekend.

The competition itself was amazing, with so many talented people on hand to offer advice and support. We loved every minute. Even when one of the team pulled his back on the first day, tying his shoelaces... so he says! Or Sunday, 8am, waiting to take off and watching our breath condense into clouds inside the aircraft. We had a fantastic time. You don't need huge jump numbers, we had just 10% of the winning team's total, but you'll learn plenty and enjoy yourselves in the process.

Decaffin8

Alison Chaplin, Decaffin8

We really enjoyed ourselves and were glad to add some humour to the weekend. Our first jump was obviously affected by our lack of research into the rules but we were proud to receive the prestigious Snail Award. It was our first attempt at a police team and all but one members' first ever competition, so we were really happy to just be involved... and realised at the end how apt our team name was!

Kal 'The Copper' Graham, Special Forces Special Needs



Special Forces, Special Needs



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SNAIL AWARD
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2005 Events

Algarve Boogies Portugal

Target Skysports will once again co-ordinate two boogies at Skydive Algarve. They offer beach jumps, freefly and FS organising, big-ways, wingsuit hire, self-catering apartments at reasonable rates, and can arrange transport if desired.

Winter Boogie, 22 Dec -9 Jan

Spring Boogie, 19 Feb - 20 Mar

0113 250 5600

The Search

Skydive University is arranging its annual treat for new skydivers described by organiser Anne Maxwell as "total skydiving decadence". The week, 12-18 March in Deland will include canopy skills, mental prep, mini tunnel camp, packing skills, coping with competition and either FS or freefly training from national champions. Billed as a "high energy event where each person will be encouraged to skydive with confidence", the Search undoubtedly offers world class coaching at a price it would be impossible to match. Skydive U is searching for the most worthy new jumpers to benefit most.

www.skydiveu.com

Chicks Records

Kate Cooper and a world-renowned team will try to break their own female world FS record, currently 131. *Jump For The Cause* is planned for 26 Sept - 1 Oct at Perris Valley and will raise money to fight breast cancer. Invitations have already been issued (14 to Brit Chicks!) but you can try out at Kate's big-way camp, 5-8 May, Perris Valley.

www.jumpforthecause.com

A women's CRW world record attempt is planned, 30 April - 7 May, Lake Wales, Florida. Organisers are Cheryl Michaels, Wendy Faulkner and Lyn Hannah, with Chris Gay as coach. So far, six British women will attend.

www@boxofclue.com

Missy Nelson and Amy Chmelecki are organising an attempt at the women's vertical world record at Skydive Chicago, 24-26 June. Training camps will build skills beforehand at Eloy (29-30 Jan & 14-15 May), Sebastian (5-6 Mar) and Chicago, 21-22 Jun.

sugargliderzfreefly@hotmail.com

The Sky Sisters Convention at Ramblers, down under, will offer fun jumps and national female freefly, FS and BirdGirl records, organised by such names as Missy Nelson and Fiona McEachern. Dates have been amended to 16-24 April with a warm-up camp 19-25 March. International skydiving women are welcome, as Aussie rules state their records can include 25% non Australians.

www.ramblers.com.au

Young Eagles



Young Eagles 2003 by Simon Ward

The second Young Eagles at Netheravon, 8-9 Jan, will see youngsters take part in events designed to mimic skydiving competitions. £20 will cover a weekend of events, learning about skydiving, swimming pool, prizes, buffet, T-shirt and a Young Eagles video.

skydive@robertames.co.uk



Work starts on the SkyVenture Arizona tunnel by Jeff Provenzano

SkyVenture Arizona

Work has started on a wind tunnel located on the DZ at Eloy. At 14 feet diameter, the tunnel will be the largest skydiving simulator in the world and, with 1600 hp, the wind will be suitable for free as well as flat flying. The facility should be open by February 2005.

Skydive Thailand

Brit Stephen Northcott (of Extreme Sports Cafe fame) opened a drop zone at Pattaya Air Park, Thailand in November. Skydive Thailand offers AFF, tandem and fun jumps with a Skydive

University course and mini-boogie in February. The Air Park offers many adventure sports from kart racing to bungee jumping, kite surfing, microlight flying, scuba diving and more.

www.skydivethailand.com



Clare Murphy and Mark Calland
Speed Skydiving World Champions

Speed Skydiving World Champions

Brits Mark Calland and Clare Murphy have won the speed skydiving world cup 2004, in separate men and women's events. The world cup combines four competitions. Mark and Clare won the first two (Lille & Hibaldestow), see August's Mag and also the third, 23-25 July, in Gryttjom, Sweden, where Clare beat her own British record with an average speed of 419.28kph. At the last event, 27-29 Aug, Jumptown, USA, Mark again came first while Jeanne Cameron of the USA placed first female, but this was not enough to deny Clare of her title.

2005 will see the first UK speed skydiving nationals, at Target Skysports, 6-8 August, alongside the FS 8-way and artistics nationals.

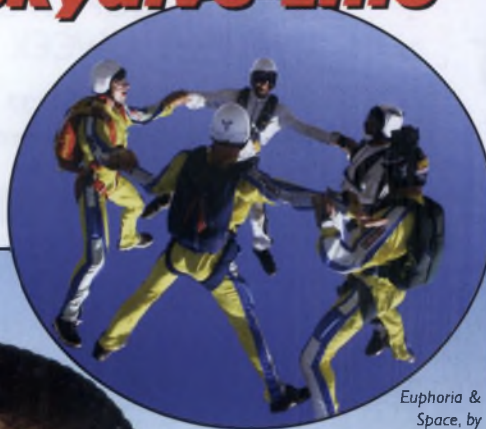
www.speedskydiving.com

UK Schools at Skydive Lillo

Euphoria

The Freely Euphoria Flight School is now based full time at Skydive Lillo, 45 mins south of Madrid. Euphoria is offering custom freely coaching camps, which include airport pick-ups, accommodation, coached jumps and priority with packers.

www.freelyeuphoria.com



Euphoria & Space, by Rob Simpson

Safe Flight School

Brian Vacher has moved to Lillo to set up the Safe Flight School. This offers 3 and 7 day canopy piloting courses aimed at a variety of experience levels and including seminars, a 40 page manual and video debriefs.

www.safeflightschool.com



Brian Vacher sloops, by Ben Sherman

Skydiving Stunts

Naked Science – Earth's Core

BPA members Nigel Holland and Andy Ford took part in some filming for National Geographic. In a new documentary Nigel will be falling from a plane, into a volcano and all the way to the centre of the Earth. The idea is that if it takes a skydiver a minute to fall to the ground, it would theoretically take a further 36 hours in freefall to reach the centre of the earth. *Naked Science – Earth's Core* will be screened at Christmas time.



Nigel Holland in the spotlight, by Ruth Roberts

Bridget Jones 2

The second *Bridget Jones* movie includes a skydiving sequence filmed at Hinton. Fran Shashkova was Renee Zellweger's stunt double, wearing a cheeky little creation by Rob Colpus (plus padding) and a rig in matching colours made by Chris Thomas (TSE). Alex Fixen appears in a small cameo role as Bridget's cameraman. Dave Emerson filmed some dropaway shots of the Dornier, with pilots Steve Swallow and Tony Richards. A twin Squirrel helicopter flown by Mark Wolffe was used to get exit close-ups and in-air shots of Bridget's canopy. All this was under the watchful eye of Julian Spencer, stunt and aerial coordinator.



Fran Shashkova as Bridget Jones 2, by Tony Richards

The Return of Godzilla

The Black Knights Parachute Centre, Cockerham will have the monster Porter F-GODZ back for the summer from 1 May 2005. They are opening full time from May to September and have a busy programme of events out of the fastest climbing Porter in the world.

info@bkpc.co.uk

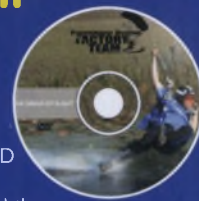


F-GODZ, the monster Porter, by Mike Pascoe

DVD REVIEWS

by Chris Hollis

PD Factory Team The Dream of Flight



High performance canopy flight has exploded in recent years. Five talented PD pilots who have collectively dominated the competition scene fly together beside clouds, through fjords and down mountain ravines, ending with some incredible swoops. Look out for the amazingly accurate, synchronous five-way formation swoops, and canopies landing simultaneously from opposite sides of the same pond – not to be tried at home at the village fete demo!

At 13 minutes it is short but with swooping videos brevity is a good thing as, regardless of skill, watching people land can be repetitive. The product is well edited and thought out, down to the ubiquitous techno soundtrack. I defy anyone not to move their head with the horizon during the dizzy pilot's eye view of the fjord swoops! Extras include interviews with the team (bizarrely shot in a canoe!) and three short promos. Perfect if swooping is your thing and a long boredom threshold is not.

www.performancedesigns.com

Note: PD team members each have around 6,000 jumps and skydive full time. High performance canopy flight requires a high degree of training and experience. *Don't be a statistic. Seek advice before trying anything new.*

Timeflyz – Vol 2

Tim Porter's second DVD offering, imaginatively titled *Timeflyz Volume 2*, is this footage of the Lapalisse Spring Boogie 04. It's predominantly freeflying but the whole spectrum of skydiving is included. Big flat ways, head-down, tracking dives, atmonauti, 8-way, 4-way, hybrid, even tandems. Eagle-eyed viewers may spot big names like the FlyBoyz and Babylon. Tim really makes you feel like you're there with his close-in camera work and some serious carving above, below and round his subjects in cumulus-filled skies. Check out the 4-way team turning blocks with freeflyers dangling from chest straps!

The DVD is cut into four 15 minute sections, with a soundtrack by skydiving dance music specialist, DJ Richie. My player stopped after each part to return to the menu, annoyingly disrupting the flow of tunes, which I thought were excellent! Ground shots are virtually non-existent, it's a skydiving showcase, not a traditional boogie video. If you have Vol 1, you'll know what to expect. If you don't and would like something to gaze at when you can't stand on your head at 200mph, this might just be for you.

porterabove@hotmail.com
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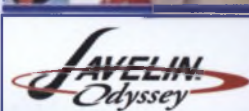
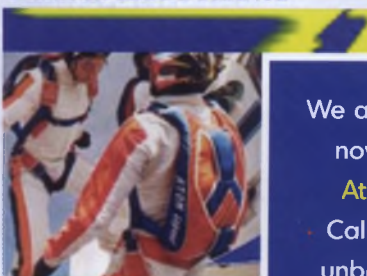
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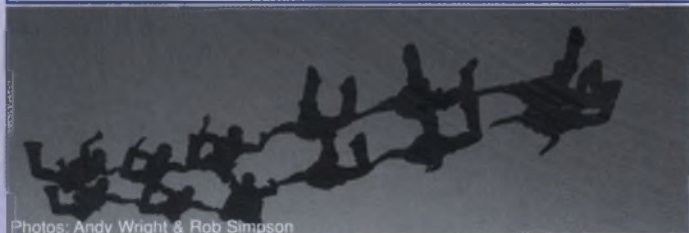


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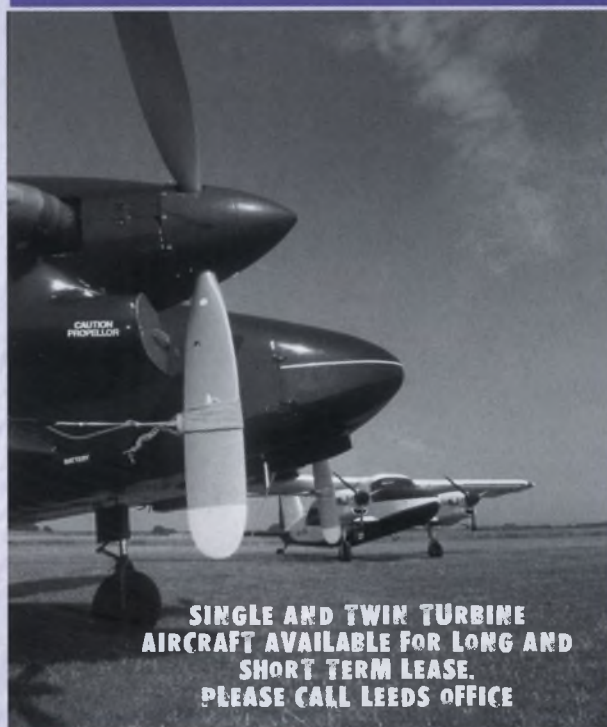
Photos: Andy Wright & Rob Simpson



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Optic Win

European Skydiving League



So, you win the Nationals, what next?

For Optic, British Intermediate Champions, there came an invite from Willy Boeykens, to attend the European Skydiving League (ESL) Finals in Spa, Belgium.

Willy founded ESL, which runs along the same lines as the NSL in the States. The finals are in AAA (senior) and A (like intermediate) classes only, so we would compete in the Single A category, using a slightly different dive pool. (see pages 12-13 of last Mag, October 04, for a run-down of the categories)

Still, this was an opportunity too good to miss so, with less than five weeks notice, three Grand Prix events still to fight for, and with 1 new block (8) and 4 new randoms (D, H, L & M) to learn, we bit the bullet, booked the flights and committed! We spent a weekend on the new randoms, exits and block and we were ready to go...

We flew out at 6.45am (after very little sleep), and were collected from the airport by staff from the Spa Skydiving Centre. At the DZ, we moved into a chalet vacated by some of their staff (who very kindly slept in the hangar for the duration of the meet!),

ate what seemed like the best spaghetti in the world, then did a couple of training jumps to familiarise ourselves with the competition aircraft – three Caravans. After this, we slept, and slept... then slept some more. In the evening we had the draw. There were 21 teams, 11 AAA, and 10 A, from six nations. After wearily dirtdiving we went back to bed.

Friday 2 Sept

The weather was glorious, it was an early breakfast, stretch, and then some serious creeping. The first rounds went well and in round 4 we broke our record competition score with a 17 giving us an 8-point lead! By the end of day 1, we'd completed six rounds, and held a 7 point lead over *Black & Blue* (Belgium) & *Duo Penotti* (Holland) so we could relax with a good meal and a few beers before bed.

Saturday 3 Sept

With only four rounds left, it looked like we would complete the competition, making for a good party that night. Another two good rounds put us 10 points ahead going into round 9. A technical video problem meant we had to repeat this jump then, to make things worse, on climb-out, the



automatic door closed leaving the cameraman outside but the rest of the team still in the plane! Our nerves were well and truly frazzled by the time we finally exited!

Round 10 would only be judged when all the teams finished. We were on the final load so, with everyone waiting for us to land, our off-landing was inevitable!

Judging

When we finally got back AAA was judged first, with gold going to *Hayabusa*, the Belgian National team with a 19.3 average which should make for an interesting World Meet. Next came A class, we were judged last and, when everyone else's scores had been posted, we only needed 2 points to win. We scored 12, giving us the title with 10 points to spare, WE'D WON!!!

There was a video competition, which Christian, our stand-in cameraman, won comfortably, well done mate and thanks for coming! The Spirit Trophy, for the nation whose top three teams in each category score the most points in total, went to Belgium by a clear margin – well done to all the home teams!

50-way Attempt

The competition was followed by a Spa record 50-way attempt, open to all competitors who wanted. There was an incentive – if the 50-way was successful, the DZ would pay for the jump! The load was organised by *Hayabusa* and, after a short but very thorough brief and walk-through, the three Caravans took off for the formation load. The 50-way didn't quite complete, around 40 got on, everyone was close. The jump was fun, safe and the DZ paid for it anyway – what a great ending!

Hayabusa won the AAA (Senior) category





Optic by Christian Hinchcliffe

Hayabusa by Willy Boeykens

WANTED! – YOUR Views on ESL

Should we change our system of categories and dive pools so we are more in line with ESL? Comps Committee wants your views, for details on the systems see page 25, overleaf.

The Party

The Belgians know how to host a party! Prizegiving was followed by lots of drinking and dancing, with music going till the bar shut at 4.30am, the last stragglers survived to watch the sunrise at 7am. (Yes, they were from Optic, we're home-grown at Hibble remember!)

Sunday & Monday

After packing up, we were transported to Willy's house, stayed overnight and were given yet another lift to the airport. We had to leave the trophy, as it was too big to get on the plane, hopefully it's following us home to Hibaldstow!

Our first jumping trip abroad proved invaluable competition experience. Whoever gets the chance to go next year – do it, we'd love to go back. We should have a bit more notice in 2005, let's try to get six teams, and challenge Belgium for The Spirit!

Ruth Kent

ruthkent@yahoo.co.uk

Willy Boeykens takes The Spirit trophy for Belgium



Thanks

- Andy Scott for inviting and encouraging us to attend
- ESL organisers, we had amazing support from everyone, in particular Willy Boeykens
- Everyone at Spa, for a well organised safe meet and party, and for making us welcome
- Target Skysports for supporting us all year

OPTIC TEAM PROFILE

Outside centre

Pete Allan
Age: 28
Time in Sport: 10 years
Jumps: 800



Point

Sue Farquhar
Age: 28
Time in Sport: 5 years
Jumps: 400



Tail

Karen Bain
Age: 31
Time in Sport: 4 years
Jumps: 600



Inside centre

Derrick Kent
Age: 36
Time in Sport: 4 years
Jumps: 2,000



Camera

Christian Hinchcliffe
(usually Duncan Frew)
Age: 30
Time in Sport: 10 years
Jumps: 1,500



Manager
Formed
DZ
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Ruth Kent
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27 Aug - 4 Sept

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2004 Formation Skydiving Grand Prix League Table

Senior	Place	Points
4 Motion	1	84
Double Vision	2	71
Wizards	3	40
Yes, Yes, Oh Yeah!	4	31
V2	5	24
Swingers	6	20
Spank The Champ	7	15
Spank	7	15
NRG	9	11
TTWAN	9	11
Misstral	11	10
Pot Noodle	12	9
Army 4	13	7
Dunno	14	5
Jinx	14	5
Heat	16	4
NSP	17	3

Intermediate

South Parc	1	121
Optic	2	101
Evolution	3	65
Dynamix	4	23
Orbital	5	21
X Chicks	6	20
S Sense	7	16
Last Resort	7	16
Let's Get Horny	9	15
Helix	11	11
ENV	12	7
Damn	12	7
Blurred Vision	12	7
Grr8ed	15	5
Beaver	15	5
Pot Noodle	17	4

Junior

Spanish Fly	1	80
4 Better, 4 Worse	2	55
Aspect	3	40
Quake	4	35
No Angels	5	20
Exile	5	20
Tom Memorial Team	5	20
Let's Party	8	15
Shag Pile	8	15
Submarine Business	8	15
H does D's	8	15
Airworks	12	11
Get Carter	12	11
Red Devils	12	11
Psychosis	15	9
Tex & Beavers	15	9
Watch & Learn	15	9
Fat Boys	18	7
Escondido	18	7
Qi	18	7
Flying Circus	21	5
Shadow Peaks	21	5
Out Ya Like	21	5
Frog & Rosbifs	24	3

2005 Grand Prix in Artistics

In response to suggestions from competitors, I put forward a proposal to host Freely Grand Prix events in 2005 on the basis that we had such a great turnout for the Nationals this year. It was agreed that we would hold two freely events next year, dates are in the diary (inside back cover) and the calendar enclosed with this Mag. Only freely will be included initially due to smaller numbers of freestyle and skysurfers. The B category is going to be re-worked to improve matters for teams. Please support the events so that we can make them bigger and better in the future.

Nigel Holland



FS Grand Prix

Congratulations to the winners of this year's Grand Prix events, see table above left. The whole year has seen some great competition and teams fighting it out at all levels. The response and interest shown is a real positive for competitors. This year has seen the first real step into a Grand Prix style event and, over the year, many lessons have been learned for the future.

As requested last issue, please take five minutes to respond about whether we should adopt the ESL system of A and Rookie categories to replace our Intermediate and Junior ESL, these are summarised in the box to the left. Send your thoughts in to the BPA before 10 Jan 05. The feedback gained will really help our competitions to develop as you want them.

Well done to the 2004 World Meet delegations – some close competition there also. See you at the 2005 events!

Andy Scott

ESL	BPA
AAA – Identical	Senior
A – 3-4 points 16 random formations 8 blocks – 2,4,6,7,8,9,19,21 35 seconds working time	Intermediate – 3-4 points 12 random formations 12 blocks – 2,4,5,6,7,9,11,13,14,17,19,21 35 seconds working time
Rookie – 3 points 16 random formations No blocks 50 seconds working time	Junior – 3 points 12 random formations No blocks 35 seconds working time

BPA Calendar 2005

Last year the Communications Committee, chaired by Eddie Jones, took the initiative to publish the first BPA calendar. The feedback we received was very much in favour, so we are proud to enclose a second calendar with this Mag. Other comments were that it would be nice to see more photos from British drop zones. Fortunately we had far more UK entries this year, so there are more British photos than last time and it would be good to see this trend continue.

Members also commented that, although it was great to have a free calendar themselves, they would like to be able to buy further copies for friends and relatives. We have therefore printed some extras this time around; these are available from the BPA Shop for £5.

Calendar sales – BPA Shop 01953 861 030
0845 658 5544
or via BPA website

Please send feedback on the 2005 BPA Calendar to the Communications Committee via the BPA Office. We thank all those photographers and teams who sent in entries; if you weren't successful this time, please try again next year.

Christmas Holiday

The BPA Office will be closed on Friday 24 December 2004 for the start of the Christmas holiday and will re-open on Tuesday 4 January 2005. The BPA staff would like to wish all members the compliments of the season.

Fans of FANS

The FANS Free [Gym] Access for National Sportspeople Scheme is gaining ground, thanks to BPA members! The scheme allows those ranked in the top 10 nationally, or who compete in a national squad, to apply for free or reduced-rate access to local council owned gyms in their area – if the local council subscribes to the FANS scheme (England only).

If you are eligible and live in Kent, Surrey, Sussex or Hampshire, West Oxfordshire, the Cotswolds or Calderdale (around Halifax), you're laughing because the scheme is available in your area.

Recently, the FANS scheme has been extended to Mid Devon through lobbying by Jim Weir and Deb Clarke of National Freestyle Team *Tumbleweed* – they even got photographed with the mayor when they helped to publicise the official launch (how's that for civic recognition?). So if you're eligible but your local council isn't yet a fan of FANS, it's time to get knocking on the door of their sports development officer!

AGM and Dinner

The BPA AGM on Saturday 22 January 2005 at the Hanover International Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire will start at 10.30, followed by a presentation ceremony and an exhibition of parachuting kit and services. Limited exhibition space (no charge) may still be available but it's going quickly so please contact the BPA Office asap if you're interested. Attendance at the AGM and associated events is free. We are still looking for sign language interpreters to offer their services to help deaf skydivers.

Afternoon seminars, meeting and forums will include the following and more:

Seminars

Brit Chicks
Canopy progression system
Speed skydiving
Tunnel training
Insurance
Making the most of the media

Open Forum

Competitions Committee Open Forum

Meetings

Judges
POPS
Display Teams
Pilots
Skydive Mag Club Reps*
Drop Zone Defence Fund

* Please note this meeting is specifically for Club Reps, it is not an open forum as has happened in the past.

Annual dinner and dance tickets for Saturday evening are £23 and must be bought in advance from the BPA office. Hurry, they're going fast! If you fancy a less formal nosh, the hotel is planning to hold a curry night, see details on the day.

The dinner is followed by musical entertainment, including the popular Celebrations Disco. You'll be very welcome to join in, whether you've had the formal dinner or something more spicy!

Book accommodation directly with the Hanover and quote 'BPA' for the special rates, including breakfast and car parking:

Fri 21 Jan	£65 double/twin	£45 single
Sat 22 Jan	£80 double/twin	£65 single

Hanover Hotel 08457 444 123

For the latest AGM updates, visit the BPA website.

Council 2005

Only 14 nominations were received for the 15 seats on Council next year so a ballot will not be necessary. Council 2005, in alphabetical order, is:

Chris Allen
Paul Applegate
Adrian Bond
Kieran Brady
Ralph Fielding
Tony Goodman
Nigel Holland
Eddie Jones
Ian Marshall
John 'Geordie' Page
Andrew Scott
John Smyth
Elizabeth 'Weed' Stoodley
Jim White

The inaugural meeting of the new Council will be at the AGM, 22 January 2005.

New Ratings

AFF Instructor
Madeleine Moore
Aron Jones
Dean Hoskins
Adrian Wilbrew
Michael Harrison
Robin Durie
Steven Farster

Tandem Instructor

Richard Parrott
Andrew Lovemore
Michael Blanchard
Eddie Jones
Daren Bell
Mark Willcox
Marcus Orme

FAI Judge (FS)

Dona Crum
Ruth Cooper



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Feb 25 - 27 – VRW Skills Camp with Alchemy and the FlyBoyz
March 24 - 27 – Blue Water River Boogie on the Colorado River
May 5 - 8 – PPP Big Way Camp w/Dan BC, Kate, & Tony



Freely Megacenter Tunnel Camps with Alchemy and the FlyBoyz
 December 27th-30th
 February 18th-19th
 March 18th-19th

Perris Performance Plus 4-Way Tunnel Camps with Dan BC
 December 8th-12th
 January 12th-16th
 February 9th-13th
 March 9th-13th



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- World Champion Firestarter Skysurf School
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FS World Meet CROATIA

The 2004 World Parachuting Championships of FS, CF and Classics took place in September, near the town of Rijeka on the north-west coast of Croatia. Although new for Croatia the area had, in its previous guise as Yugoslavia, been host to the same event in 1985. It offered most of us the opportunity to visit a new country and so have another adventure.

The exploits started before we had even left Stansted with the UK delegation being questioned by the crew of Ryanair about our Cypreses. A misunderstanding meant an hour on the tarmac not knowing if we were going to be allowed to fly, and an unexpected diversion via BA to Venice for some. Top travel tip: keep those little plastic 'Cypres' cards handy, they come in really useful sometimes!

On arrival in Trieste, Italy we got our hire cars and set off for Croatia, via Slovenia. After losing the rest of the team en route, we finally arrived at the hotel to high winds and rain. Armed with a crash course in Croatian – 'Bok' for hi/bye and 'Pivo' for beer, and a handful of local Kuna, we checked in and proceeded immediately to the bar to find the other competitors.

We found a lot of frustrated teams; this weather had been here all week and the forecast for the next day's official practice was bad too. The US 8-way had been the first to arrive – almost a week ago – and had only managed to do a single jump on one of the three lifts that actually flew on Monday. Amazingly no-one had injured themselves in the meantime, despite the bar being nearly drunk dry. Oh, and they had had an earthquake on Tuesday! So we had a beer, caught up with some old faces and then settled into our cells for the night.

UK Teams

The UK was represented by Spank (4-way), Om (8-way) and Misstral (4-way female). It was always going to be a rebuilding year for the UK

after the peak of Gap in 2003 with XL, VMax and VNE now retired or taking a well-earned break. It was the first world meet for the majority of our competitors, which added a buzz to the UK team area.

The UK also fielded a classics team but unfortunately no CF teams, a point which seemed to be lost on the meet organisers who insisted on calling them to the aircraft and delivering their meals at lunchtime.

John Hitchen had been invited as IPC Controller so was unable to be part of the official UK delegation. This left John Smyth to combine the roles of Delegation Manager and Head of Delegation; a job which he did admirably despite many hours spent in traffic between the different drop zones for FS and accuracy.

Official Practice Day (Friday 17 Sept)

The winds were still howling, to the extent that all official transport to the DZ and all events were cancelled for the day. There was no chance of doing the official practice round nor any other training jump, so our first team jump from a helicopter, my first jump out of an Mi-8 and our first team jump in Croatia was going to be Round 1 of a world meet. What could possibly go wrong? (Col?)

A trip to the DZ found a scene of devastation – the team tents which had been carefully laid out village-style were lying scattered around the DZ, along with the portaloos. Two ancient Antonov An-2s and a single Mi-8 helicopter were tethered to the ground. "Where are all the other Mi-8s we asked?" "Arriving on Monday" we were told. Hmmm. Isn't the world meet supposed to start today?

We wandered around, checked out the Mi-8 and moved out of the way as a toppled portaloos approached us across the tarmac, blown by the wind. 'Wouldn't it be funny if someone was in one when it blew over' we thought.

Saturday - The Meet

Saturday dawned to clear skies and light wind; a total change from yesterday. At the DZ the meet organisers had converted the previously empty hangar into a new home for all the teams, with partitions forming booths for the different nations, a fantastic job considering the little amount of time they had.



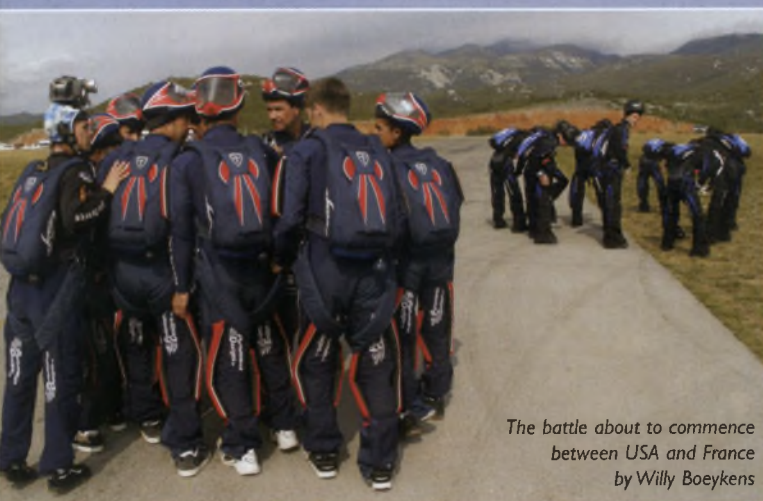
Background image: Willy Boeykens



Om by Andy Wright



Mistral by Andy Wright



The battle about to commence
between USA and France
by Willy Boeykens



Misstral by Andy Wright

8-way Open

As with previous years, 8-way was going to be a battle between the three professional teams – USA, France and Russia. All three teams had undergone major personnel changes since Gap last year, with France fielding an entirely new team. This one was going to be hard to call.

The pattern for the meet soon started to emerge, with USA taking a small lead over France, and Russia just behind in third. The new French team were fast but could not match USA's *Airspeed* and by the end of round 8 USA led with 155 to France's 151, with Russia in third with 148.

4-way Open

4-way was always going to be a fight between France *Mauberge*, 2003 World Champions, and USA's *Deland Majik*. The two had met twice previously, the last time at the Malevski Cup in Russia earlier this year which *Majik* took by a single point in the last round. This was going to be one to watch. Russia and Italy would be no doubt fighting it out for bronze.

The event ran to form for the first four rounds with no more than two points separating USA and France, with Italy in third, a single point ahead of Russia. Round 5 saw yet more controversy regarding the execution and scoring of block 12 (*Zipper – Star*). Some 'interesting' camera angles employed by the

French resulted in three busts and a lot of random NJs on their scoresheet. On the back of this the USA also picked up two busts, which they protested (unsuccessfully), based on comments unwisely made, and posted on the web, by one of the judging staff. This sort of stuff only sours the meet – block 12 needs to be modified or ditched.

By the end of round 6, USA still held a two point lead over France, with Italy in third four points ahead of Russia. Round 7 saw France pick up another centre-points bust, while USA torched the random sequence to pull into a 6 point lead. The applause though was mostly for Russia, who performed what most people agreed was the best jump of the meet to win the round with a superb 28 and leap frog past Italy into third place. The *Omniskore* re-runs of the Russian jump indicated that the judges liked it too! (BTW, it's still available on www.skyleague.com/pages/scores)

By the end of Wednesday, nine rounds were complete with the USA lead over France stretched to 8, with Russia another 6 points adrift in third, a point ahead of Italy. *Spank* had finished their meet after round 8 with a respectable 14.25 average – a few Mi-8 practice exits might have made the difference but Richard Hamblen was still in the UK.

4-way Female

Synchronicity, the USA ladies team, who placed third in Gap behind UK (*VMax*) and Norway, had spent the year training hard. France, Russia and Italy had also improved greatly in the last 12 months and it was clear the three medals would be decided between these four teams.

The event took the same course as the 4-way open, with USA establishing and then holding a lead over France. By the end of round 9 USA led with 150 to France's 147, with Russia in third on 135, a point ahead of Italy.

Misstral, in their first world championships, produced a personal best meet average of 10.78 over 9 rounds to finish 7th and were a credit to themselves and the UK – a point noted by a number of other delegations. What a year it's been for *Misstral*, well done chicks! (And Andy of course!)



Misstral by Ruth Kent



Spank by
Simon Ward



Spank by Andy Wright

Russian 8 by Gustavo Cabana



Mistral by Duncan Frew



Om by Stumpy



Om by Ruth Kent



Jojo Friedemann

The Final Rounds

The weather had started to deteriorate again through the week with some extended weather holds. The forecast wasn't great either; we had to get the meet completed quickly before our luck ran out. Thursday morning again brought full cloud cover – we were in for a long wait. Following the now-famous sugar trick devised by George Pilkington and performed in Croatia by a number of believers, it started to clear by 3pm and round 9 of 8-way began.

This completed with USA losing a point to the French but still three ahead going into round 10. Russia took the high score of the round to close the gap to two points behind France. Om finished in 9th with a respectable average of 8.33 over nine rounds, a big improvement over their Nationals. With minimal training, they had held it together for the first world meet for 8 out of 9 team members.

4-way Female Results

4-way female round 10 then jumped, followed by the first load of 4-way open, while the weather, and the light, continued to deteriorate. The last Mi-8 4-way load (the top three teams) was put on a weather hold. Judging of the 4-way female was brought forward; USA finished with a 19 to give a five point lead over France in second place, with Russia in third. USA ladies took the gold!

4-way Open Results

As the celebrations started, discussions were taking place between the 4-way open teams and the management – the teams wanted to go

and finish the meet. So with cloud covering the DZ and the mountains next to us and rapidly failing light, the Mi-8 took off for what was surely going to be the last load of the day, flying high so the teams could open above the clouds (in theory).

The teams landed in near-dark conditions; first Russia, then France and finally USA. With an almost unassailable 8 point lead, USA Majik landed knowing they had done enough to achieve their dream and were mobbed by a crowd ready to congratulate them. The teams left the landing area to the sounds of the old Queen classic *It's a Kind of Magic* over the PA system. A coincidence? I think not.

The scoring was a formality, Majik taking gold for USA with 227 points, 8 ahead of the French on 219. Russia kept their nerve to take the bronze, a single point ahead of Italy. As the champagne corks popped the sky gave us a most awesome red sunset. Majik were ready to party but the 8-way would have to come back tomorrow.

Friday

Friday dawned, bleakly for many (for others, Thursday never ended), and the 8-way teams reassembled at the DZ. The sugar gods however had left and the pre-meet weather was back to stay. For the first time in many years all events could not be completed; 8-way was called on the 9 rounds jumped. There was one event worthy of note though...

One of the Japanese 8-way girls needed to use the portaloo. She was tiny and the winds were strong... It was probably cruel to laugh.

The Honours

USA took the booty in FS events, winning gold in all events; a great result after Gap last year. They also won a lot of friends by consistently coming out from their team tent to cheer other competitors off to the aircraft.

I've always been impressed by Craig Girard's boyish enthusiasm for everything that is skydiving. After over ten years at the top of the sport, he held Excalibur aloft in Croatia for the sixth time in his career, with just THE most enormous grin. Talking afterwards, I told him of my observation and he commented "Always remember, this might be the last time you win it". Yeah, good point. But you know what, somehow I don't think we've seen the last of Mr Girard and the mighty Excalibur.

Personal Comments

Congratulations to Dona Crum and Ruth Cooper who both passed their assessments at the meet and are now FAI International rated judges. Big thanks to Derrick and Ruth Kent for travelling to Croatia to wave flags and support the UK teams – yet again.

After the meet Craig Girard said "My job is to make world champions. And I made seven new ones in 8-way today". Respect. The new Airspeed world champions included Eliana Rodriguez, the first woman to win an open event at a world championships (as a flyer within the team – Russian Elena Vertiprakhova was the world champion cameraflyer in FS 8-way in 2003). Respect 2.



USA's female 4-way team Synchronicity win



USA – female 4-way world champions

Jojo Friedemann

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4-way Open		Ave
1	USA	22.7
2	France	21.9
3	Russia	21.1

4-way Female		
1	USA	16.9
2	France	16.4
3	Russia	15.3

8-way Open		
1	USA	19.1
2	France	18.8
3	Russia	18.6

Patrick de Gayardon Trophy

Last year in Gap, the French Federation introduced the Patrick de Gayardon trophy for the best overall team at the world meet – and promptly awarded it to themselves. This year, the USA took three golds in the FS events and the Gayardon trophy was nowhere to be seen. Funny that.

Stories

Ex world meet silver medallist Cool Kat (Rob Colpus), out supporting the UK teams, was left looking after baby Amelia while Rotti and Debs

were in the air. He was seen to be standing by the pram, gesturing inwards and saying "Gooooooo toooo sleeeeeeep... goooooo toooo sleeeeeeep". He admitted it was the most nervous he'd ever been at a world meet!

Stumpy, spotting the Italian 8-way team (VNE's rivals from last year) dirtdiving in the hotel, threw some smart comments as he walked past them into the toilet... unfortunately into the ladies' toilet, a point not missed by the Italians!

And Finally

I was having a beer with Rod from Om, discussing the years we had been training and competing. In future times when we will have forgotten who won which meet, the thing we will always remember is the journey, the many adventures we have had travelling around the world with a group of like-minded people – some of whom amazingly I can still call friends. Croatia was an adventure I will never forget.

Ian 'Stumpy' Matthews
Spank 4-way FS team



USA's Deland Majik – 4-way world champions



USA's Arizona Airspeed – 8-way world champions

Photos: Jojo Priedemann

Background image: Willy Boeykens

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Aerial photo by Graham Harding

World Meet celebration photo by Barbara Harding

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photo by: Francisco Neri

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Brit Chicks

2004

Women's Formation Record

60 WAY

As I've only been jumping since January 2004 I'm not aware of everything in the skydiving scene but one of the guys from London Para School suggested I applied for the Brit Chicks Record attempt. I thought I'd give it a go and wrote to Lesley Gale attempting to fill out the application form to the best of my ability. I really didn't know where best I'd be suited, as my rather small number of jumps (126) didn't give me much idea. I received a rather concerned email back from Lesley saying a minimum of 200 was required but to come along anyway and give it a go. Feeling a little disappointed but determined to show her and everyone else what I could do I booked into a B&B and drove up to Langar the following week.

Saturday 28 August

I arrived bright and early feeling slightly queasy from nerves, signed in and sat on the mats waiting for the introduction talks. Everyone seemed to know everyone else but soon I was able to introduce myself to some people and get chatting. I quickly discovered what I already thought would be the case; everyone had vast experience and seemed very knowledgeable. However Lesley soon put my nerves to rest when she told us, "One of my main aims for Brit Chicks is that it is open to everyone, not like traditional big-ways which are invitational only. A great benefit in running a record event is that the best turn up as well as the lower experience so the knowledge is pooled and we can all learn from each other, using the talent and knowledge we're surrounded by." It turned out the biggest completed formations of the girls there varied from 357 to a 9-way!

After the initial briefing we were organised by Lesley and Kate Stephens into three planes; the base and two whacker sections. I was part of the base 8 chunk that would leave the Skyvan (my first time on a Skyvan – yes, lots of beer!). I would let go, fly round to my left and create one of the three zippers which formed the spine of the formation. Only a couple of seconds of actual flying but I was chuffed that I was getting an opportunity to do it. I looked in awe at the other women who were going to join the base, not only from the back of the Skyvan but from other separate aircraft in the sky, completely awesome. After all the thorough briefings including safety which was one of the most important things, I had a DZ orientation and we dirtdived. We were not planning on doing formation loads for a couple of jumps, so we went up in our base Skyvan to practice our exit and 18-way formation.

The first jump was very memorable. The plane was lovely and spacious, the exit smooth, we just popped our chunk out onto the slipstream and the other divers got to the formation

quickly. I wasn't wearing any lead and realised that I would need some, to help with flying at the same level, which Lesley stressed was the most important thing. She said that, no matter how big the completed formation was, when she looked across it everyone was on the same level and that was the key to success – amongst other things of course! We spent the first three jumps getting familiar with the girls on our plane, winding up the lone male camera and working on getting our exit and complete base 18-way quickly and effectively. For the last jump Lesley announced we were to attempt a three aircraft formation load. My nerves hit me again as various elephants loomed out of the dark; worries about track-off, exit, canopies in the air. But my determination to carry on was always there so I ignored them and sent them back to the circus!

The jump was just amazing – to see all these other people in the sky with me, flying in and around the formation. This skydive will always be remembered by Kate getting out of one of the trail planes and pointing a looong way upwards at the Skyvan thinking 'We're going up there!' The Skyvan had just got too much altitude. Like us, the pilots were not used to flying in formation with each other and needed a bit of practice to make perfect! Still Kate's plane did a fantastic job (of crazy de-arched swoop improvisation) and everyone got into the video picture. Not all grips were taken but Lesley and Kate were highly impressed at the performance on our first day, so we left with high hopes for the next.

Sunday 29 August

Sadly the weather was not on our side, the winds were too high. So after a lazy Sunday lunch, we met again at 2.30 and were finally able to get a formation load up as the winds dropped slightly. They were still at the highest end of jumpable and my elephants returned in full force, especially due to canopy control. The pilots flew much closer together and looking out of the window I got terribly excited to see the other planes flying next to us! However, although the jump was a progression on the day before, we were tired from the waiting around and had some difficulties with levels. But as Lesley stressed in our debrief we still had plenty of time to work on the small problems, and getting 50+ people to all fall at the same rate wouldn't happen in one jump. Canopy control wasn't a problem as it was a case of face into wind at 2,000ft and come straight down! (I still managed to land on the runway but stood it up nicely and didn't get dragged backwards!)

Monday 30 August

Feeling fresh and lively, we all turned up eager to jump and get really warmed up before the record attempts the coming Thursday. But the wind was not having any of it, remaining gusty and blowing various tents away. We were terribly disappointed but all enjoyed the seminars that Lesley and Kate took to discuss various different aspects to techniques of big-ways. We all learned so much from them and drew on their vast experience and amusing stories from past events they had been involved in. We parted on Monday afternoon as the wind was not budging. It was highly frustrating but we left with confidence that we would complete the record the following weekend... and I was pretty chuffed that I'd managed to get so far and determined to keep doing everything right!



On the first Saturday all the Brit Chicks were split into three groups, base and two trail aircraft, each load practised building their own segment of the formation out of the relevant plane





Thursday 2 September

We met bright and early back at Langar, the skies were beautiful and the wind had gone on holiday! There were not enough girls for a record but we were all keen to get up in the planes to start to practice again. The first load of the day was a little hectic; base chick Sarah sprained her ankle and had to scratch from the load at the emplaning point, leaving Lesley charging after a truck in full speed screaming for them to come back. But even with the last minute changes, everyone coped really well and the cobwebs were brushed out. Over the next few jumps everyone had small individual problems to sort out. Kate Cooper, who had flown in from the States to coach us, challenged everyone to think of an individual aspect of the skydive that they wanted to improve and then to work on that each jump. Personally I found keeping the same body position for the entire skydive very challenging, I wasn't used to flying for a few seconds and then holding on to two grips until break-off. Furthermore, as the fall rate increased and I found myself putting more and more lead on, I needed to adjust my arch, my shoulders and my leg position. I decided that in the skydive I would do a body scan and adjust each part of my body accordingly, for example, I made my legs wider than I would normally fly to give myself more stability, especially when people were docking from behind.

The third load was a bit of a calamity jump for me and some other people in the base plane. Someone stood on Helen's foot on exit... she lost a trainer... I caught the whiplash from the delayed exit and flipped over... the base broke... and my thoughts were far too indecent to report! After the rebuild, I lost a grip on the zipper, recovered and docked again but was kicking myself for the next hour. I was a little paranoid that I would get binned but Lesley kept reassuring everyone that we were not in a little black book with marks beside our name, we were allowed to mess up once in a while! Still my determination grew to make it a better skydive for myself and everyone else, so I put more lead on and spoke to Lesley about my body position and docking technique. The final formation load of the day was a much better skydive for everyone, including the base. I actually managed to smile and the second I did, Lesley commented that all tension was removed from her leg grip, so in the dirt dive I practiced taking a grip and smiling... although it later turned into a manic grimace when the fall rate increased! I was so relieved to get everything right, that my tracking went all wrong, which reminded me that I couldn't relax until I was completely safe and on the ground. I made a mental note to improve my tracking, both for my safety and everyone else's.

Friday 3 September

This was the first day that we had enough chicks to attempt a record (51-way +) and the first time not everyone could join the main load as we had more women than slots. We progressed from three planes to four and went straight for a 60-way! The first load was a really great start, with everyone in the picture, but many grips still to be taken by break-off. Still we were all excited and there was a feeling in the air and amongst us that we could do it.

The next jump we completed the formation. We didn't count it as a British record, as American Kate was on the load but completion it was – my first 60-way! (The reality later changed to a 61-way when Lesley looked at the number of people in the picture and realised she'd miscounted!)

We all had high hopes for the next few jumps. American Kate stood down to coach us on the ground and we filled her space with a Brit chick. The next jump was not complete and I felt like I had personally messed up again, my body position was not keeping the same arch as it had been. I was determined not to screw it up again until the formation was built. The fourth skydive was a 59-way! One person was out and we were all pretty gutted. During the skydive there was a bit of desperate docking behind me and I gritted my teeth, clung on and fought back to stay stable. I decided to add another two pounds to give me more of a chance in staying strong against a hard dock. For the final jump of the day I was up to 10 pounds and made a mental note to myself never to gain any more weight as I can't seem to walk very well with it around my stomach! Generally we were all pretty tired, very excited that we had done it once and so keen to make it a record. Sadly on Friday it was not to be, the last load only built to 56. We crashed pretty early, completely exhausted but excited about the following day...



Thursday's jumps were from three aircraft, building the central base and two out of three whacker sections of the planned 60-way





Friday's jumps from four aircraft yielded this complete 61-way, not a British Record as it included American coach Kate Cooper



Friday's fourth jump – this formation was all British but incomplete, only a 59-way

Photos: Andy Ford

Saturday

On Saturday 4 September, sixty British girls jumping from four planes in the sky above Langar drop zone all became British Record holders. We all wanted it. With smiles and confidence we boarded the planes for the first two formation loads that were so close to completion. The fall rate had slowed, which created problems for the whackers, so the base knew we had to slap on our arches and keep the fall rate up. As we looked up into the sky, clouds arrived and all our hearts fell. This was the first moment which cast a shadow of doubt into our minds to whether we would get the record. If the weather was against us we wouldn't stand a chance. But two hours later, the clouds parted and we were given another chance for hopefully the final time. Before we left the base plane we dedicated the jump to Sarah, a girl on the team who had been taken to hospital after an injury the day before, due to a low cutaway and reserve deployment.

This time the exit was sweet, the fall rate was perfect, I felt the whacker set build behind me, saw the two other lots of whackers in front of me, but wasn't sure if we had built it. As we broke off I could see in the eyes of the base that they were also unsure. Under canopy it was silent, no cheers or screams. I landed and then heard Andy Ford and Chicken Man [Adrian Thornton] shouting and everyone on the DZ clapping and cheering. We had done it! We were hugging and kissing everyone, even Lesley couldn't quite believe we had done it, I was shaking and just so amazed that I had been able to be part of it. It was a truly fantastic moment.

That night we celebrated in style, with a yummy buffet (thanks Karen you star) and champagne for each and every Brit Chick. We toasted our success and spent the night watching the video, reminiscing stories of the event, Lesley's fantastic analogy of the skydives ("Yes, yes, yes!" – Andy never really recovered!) and each and every personal moment of terror, nerves and happiness we had felt. We thought of Sarah who although not with us on the jump, had been in all our hearts as we reached the record. We send her our love and hope her speedy recovery continues, Sarah has amazed the doctors so far.

This event was a creation of Lesley Gale and Kate Stephens and, with the help of Kate Cooper, it became a success. It is something that all Brit Chicks will never forget. Those who had been involved in the previous record two years before were still in our thoughts and in the atmosphere of our skydives. Our thanks go out to everyone else who helped behind the scenes, the pilots, manifest, packers, Langar DZ, the café... and to each and every Brit Chick who helped make our dreams a reality.

Until 2006!...

Lucy Misch
darkwoman2@aol.com



Thanks to our Supporters

Coaches

Kate Cooper, Lesley Gale
Kate Stephens, Sarah Laughton
Claire Scott, Liz Groucott
Sacha Chilton

Camera

Andy Ford, Adrian Thornton
Nick Davison, Ryan Mancey
Mike Pascoe, Simon Ward
Simon Ward, Bev Ford
Craig Poxon

Media & PR

Final buffet Muscle therapy Assistance

Karen Baggaley
Trish Jones
Ineke Ferdinandus
Mike Pascoe, Anna Parr

*All gave their time and skills
for no financial reward*

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Angela Hickling
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Media

- Central & BBC prime time regional TV
- Local commercial and BBC radio
- Regional and local press
- Extensive web coverage including BBC
- Brit Chicks PR team created a web-based photo and press facility
- Participants generated their own local PR using these resources
- Overall over five million people were reached through Brit Chicks



Andy Ford

British Female FS Record 60-way

Date: 4 September 2004
Place: Langar
Held for: 4 seconds



Chick	Jumps	Biggest*
Adele Murray	670	20
Alex Stone	900	50
Ali Mayo	1,350	121
Alli Armstrong	610	50
Amanda Kemp	1,200	50
Anita Donaldson	670	50
Anna Palmer	598	50
Annie Rugg	2,550	50
Anthea Harrison	500	36
Audrey Rowe	850	132
Caroline Allen	480	52
Caroline Guest	260	46
Caroline Hughes	1,203	125
Catherine Glenister	360	50
Charlie Cooke	216	15
Cheryl Marks	237	18
Claire Scott	2,700	50
Conny Van Setten	1,700	357
Diane Fricker	735	50
Elaine Cherry	1,692	62
Elaine Curtis	850	60
Fiona Birnie	775	135
Hannah Betts	100	16
Helen Angove	420	16
Helen Mills	640	40
Helena Stone	210	9
Jan Gaynor	826	50
Jan Tunks	1,750	357
Julia Foxwell	1,400	140
Julie Woodrow	1,450	357
Kate Stephens	1,700	100
Katie Woods	1,160	64
Kerry Baldwin	408	42
Kerry Burgess	350	20
Lesley Gale	3,100	357
Lisa Crewe	1,063	50
Lisa James	633	50
Liz Ashley	576	78
Liz Crichton-Stuart	900	84
Liz Groucott	2,700	50
Lottie Capanni	570	50
Louise Hawkins	780	30
Lucy Misch	126	15
Lynne Murray	980	50
Maria Russell	560	50
Martine Howland	800	50
Michelle Meakins	800	50
Mireille Applebee	368	20
Nicole Watson	1,550	80
Ruth Green	1,435	124
Sacha Chilton	2,700	50
Sally Beck	850	33
Sandy Holland	1,235	86
Sarah Goodall	330	28
Sarah Laughton	3,000	56
Sarah Withers	1,080	133
Taz Causer	422	50
Tina Wiseman	275	28
Vicki Priest	560	50
Zuzana Tillner	140	14

* biggest formation before Brit Chicks 04
Source - registration forms



Andy Ford



Nick Davison



Mike Pascoe

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Taken to XS

For about four years now the Electra has been Parachutes de France's mid-performance range workhorse canopy available in sizes from 130 to 210 sq ft. The Electra, the successor to PdeF's Merit, and like PD's Silhouette, is a hybrid design where the top surface is made from zero-P fabric while the bottom skin is standard F111 type material. This configuration provides adequate mid-range performance while making packing easier for the less experienced.

Well now the French company have released a 110 sq ft version of the canopy built completely from zero-P fabric and named the Electra XS. The XS uses the same basic aerofoil design and line specs as the rest of the range but is aimed at experienced jumpers, particularly experienced chicks, who would like a smaller packing canopy with high performance but not of an aggressive nature like many of the ground-hungry pocket rockets at the top end of the main canopy spectrum.

PdeF claim, and others have confirmed, that the Electra XS has very slow and comfortable openings, making it a good choice for camera or wingsuit flyers.

PdeF Safety Bulletin

Parachutes De France issued a Safety Bulletin which addresses the potential for a polyamide plastic stiffener plate inside the deflector flap mounted on the base of the Atom Millennium series reserve container to become deformed.

The bulletin states that if the deflector shows signs of deformation a qualified rigger must take remedial action as shown by instruction in the bulletin. If the flap is not yet deformed the rigger needs to add some stitching which will prevent future deformation occurring.

Pde F will carry out the above mods if the rig is returned to them but will charge for the reserve repack and the return shipping costs.

PdeF - 0033 1 34 32 77 77
www.parachutes-de-france.com

Atomic power

Parachutes de France have recently launched the next generation of their Atom Legend harness container onto the market. Called The Atom Legend R (or Legend-air) the new rig features so called 'cut-in laterals' which are now a 'must-have' feature having first been introduced on the Javelin Odyssey three years ago. It also boasts a funky aerated and cushioned back pad and inside leg strap design.

The cushioned padding features a very cool-looking black mesh over yellow foam material, which extends from under the 3-rings, over the shoulders, down the back pad and inside the leg straps. The stainless steel leg strap buckles are also protected by cushions for added comfort. Legend R options include a BOC designed with freeflyers in mind, the padded handle of which is maintained in position with a stiffener which locks the hand deploy pouch so the pilot chute cannot inadvertently escape until the handle is pulled.

The neck or yoke area of the rig features reversed sewing so that no binding tape is prominent on the outside to rub or dig into the wearer's neck. Another feature unique to the Legend is the addition of small



stiff fabric triangles sewn at the base of the reserve tray which deflect the main risers during opening, preventing the possibility of snagging under the reserve tray.

The 3-ring system and hip rings when ordered come standard in stainless steel, while stainless steel leg and chest strap buckles are available at extra cost. There is no price increase planned for the new generation rig.

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

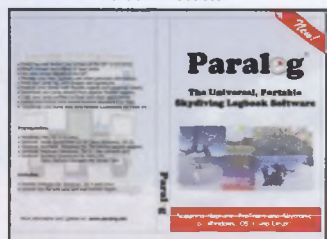
Neptune extras



The Armor cover protects the unit



Screen Protector



Paralog logbook software

About a year ago Alti-2 Inc, the Florida company which brought us one of the all-time favourite wrist mount altimeters, the Alti 3, launched onto the market their next step, the Neptune. This was an all-singing, all-dancing compact multi-function visual/audible/data-processor. Since then the Neptune has become a popular alternative to Larsen and Brusgaard's ubiquitous Pro-Track and is in fact favoured by canopy swoop competitors who use the device's digital read-out to help them to accurately judge their height for the swoop.

And now, just in time for Christmas, Alti 2 have produced some nice little stocking fillers that the discerning Neptune owner won't be able to resist...

The first of which is called the Armor, a silicon rubber cover designed to protect the Neptune from bumps, bruises and - worst of all - cracked LCDs! Designed for use on a Neptune used as a visual altimeter, the Armor will retail at around £7.

The Swoop Mode equips the Neptune with three programmable 'chirps' under canopy in addition to the normal freefall alarms.

The removable, disposable Screen Protector saves the Neptune's screen



from scratches and dings. A package of six screen protectors and an applicator will retail for about £4.

The Paralog is a universal, portable skydiving logbook programme using data from the Neptune. A retail copy on CD includes 1 licence key and is available for about £45 from the manufacturer, Paralog, an independent company which has worked closely with Neptune to develop the software.

Lastly, the IrData USB Adapter is designed for computers without built-in IR ports, for updating Neptunes and downloading jumps from the Neptune to the Paralog logbook program. The adapter will retail for about £25.

Write to Santa, or contact Alti-2 Inc, or Paralog for the Neptune Paralog accessories.

www.alti-2.com/neptune
www.paralog.net

Vigil in the dock!

In the June issue of Kit News we reported on some problems with the new boy on the AAD block – the Vigil from Advanced Aerospace Designs (AAD) of Belgium. Back in April this year AAD issued a service bulletin recalling and replacing all Vigils manufactured before March 26, because of faults with the product's printed circuit board which they had to redesign to be less sensitive to static discharges. Well now the troubled device is back in the news, having recently been banned from use in Sweden, and temporarily banned in Germany.

The German and Swedish Parachute Federations had been getting around the table to share their opinions and experience of the device. In recent reports they've stated several reasons why they were not prepared to allow its use at DZs in their countries. The Germans subsequently rescinded their decision after a heated meeting with the Vigil's MD Jo Smolders.

Amongst their concerns were that, in their opinion, the Vigil's firing tolerances are too wide at plus or minus 80m (240 ft). They reported that one unit taken from the field that they tested did not even meet those tolerances, although others tested did. They were concerned that the manufacturer had advised a DZ in Holland to set the device 50m higher when several units failed to switch on on a high pressure (ideal for skydiving) day. They are also less than satisfied with the company's statement that the Vigil has an unlimited lifespan when it is well known that electronic components deteriorate with age, especially in a highly active arena such as skydiving with its varying temperatures, vibration and movement.

Another of their concerns is that the unit is sensitive to moisture and the box is not sealed by any form of gasket. They went on to say that "the electronics are not mechanically shielded and are easily damaged when changing the batteries for instance". It was also their electronics expert's opinion that some of the Vigil's electronics are of "sub-standard design".



Some recently added notes in the Vigil Manual concerning the inability to set the Vigil for a lower DZ altitude than the take-off point, and their strong recommendation that the unit should be turned off in a descending aircraft even when set at the PRO setting, left them concerned that "the company had so far been unable to develop algorithms that are good enough to handle these situations – simply put, the code in the unit is not ready".

Due to these points and others they concluded that in their opinions the Vigil is not a finished product, and that it requires more testing. They finished by saying that they are prepared to work with the manufacturer to improve the device to their satisfaction.

Smolders reacted angrily to the criticism stating that commercial considerations were involved particularly in the case of the Germans, as the Vigil's biggest rival, the Cypres, is a German product. He also refuted the criticisms on a technical level, stating that no series of actual tests had been carried out by the complainants and that many of their comments were merely opinions and could also be levelled at other AADs on the market. AAD report that the Vigil has been selling well since the April mods and that their customers are happy with their purchase. Watch this space.

Advanced Aerospace Designs nv/sa
info@vigil.aero
www.vigil.aero



Despite controversy, the Vigil still has internationally renowned happy customers

Paratec Service Bulletin

The German company Paratec issued a Technical Service Bulletin recently which called for the ripcord pin swaging to be inspected on their Next Sport, Next Student and Next Tandem rigs. During a routine inspection the swaging of a ripcord pin on a Next container's reserve ripcord was found to be insufficient. They went on to find four other ripcords from the same batch with the same problem.

The ripcords concerned were manufactured between 2000 and 2001 and carry the batch number TSE 1 PTD 5141A which is stamped on the handle. The pins can be identified by a visual inspection of the swaging which will be rounded for the suspect batch instead of crimped like most other pins.



Paratec pins; the top pin, which is a flat crimp is fine, the bottom pin, which is round swaged, is suspect and needs to be tested

Remedial action should be carried out by a qualified rigger. In the case of rounded swaging the pin must be pull-tested according to the relevant procedure. In case of failure the ripcord must be removed from service, and in the case of compliance the pin must be marked with a red waterproof marker and logged in the rig's data card.

The above scare spurred Paratec into a series of intensive tests with the help of specialists in the field of metal deformation, resulting in the development of a new method of securing pins to ripcord cables. The company's new technology involves a tool which forges two 'dimples' into the pin on adjacent sides. The dimples not only create a secure connection to the cable, but they also force it to run in an S-curve which further increases the pinch force.



The new Paratec method; first a dimple is forged on one side (top pic), then a second offset dimple on the other (bottom pic) so the cable runs in an S-curve, this path is shown to right.

Paratec claim that their new connection is so strong that the wire ripcord cable will fail before it would slide out of the pin.

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- 26th Night Jumps
- 27th 10 - Way Speed Star
- 27th US Collegiate National Championship Registration
- 28th - 1st US Collegiate National Championship
- 28th 8 - Way Scrambles
- 31st New Years Eve Party

January

- 8th World Cup Swoop Pond available for training
- 10th - 14th Team Fastrax Team Training
- 15th Florida Canopy League Meet
- 19th - 23rd Great White North Boogie
- 22nd Night Jumps

February

- 4th - 6th Women's Canopy Formation World Record Training Camp
- 8th - 12th World Cup of Canopy Piloting
- 13th - 18th Team Fastrax Team Training

March

- 13th - 18th Team Fastrax Team Training
- 26th Night Jumps

April

- 18th - 22nd Team Fastrax Team Training
- T.B.A POPS Boogie and SOS World Record Attempt
- T.B.A POPS SpringFest
- 23rd Night Jumps
- 30th - 7th Women's Canopy Formation World Record



Florida Skydiving Center 440 S. Airport Road Lake Wales FL, 33859
www.FloridaSkydiving.com / Info@FloridaSkydiving.com / Tel 00 (1) (863) 678-1003 / Fax 00 (1) (863) 678-1409

So they have jumped! Are you 100% sure that ...

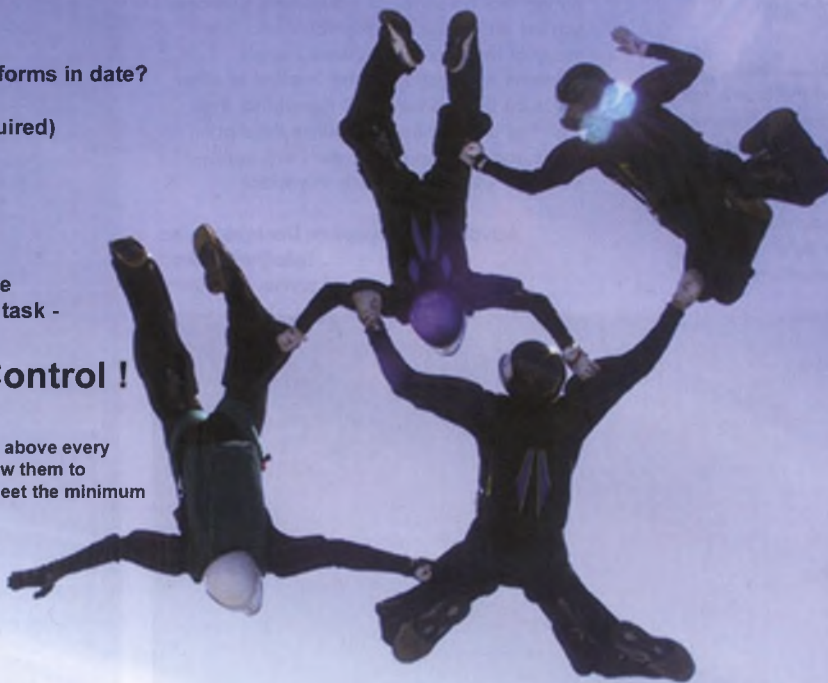
- All BPA Memberships were in date?
- All medicals in date?
- Centre registration and indemnity forms in date?
- Club memberships in date? (If required)
- Reserves in date?
- Cypress/FXC in date? (If required)

Checking these each time someone manifests is an almost impossible task -

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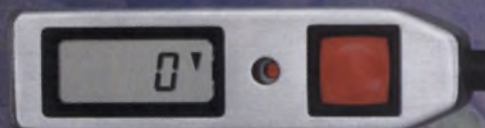
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Photo: Jojo Priedemann

Artistics World Meet Brazil

World Meet Cancelled!

Just one week before teams were due to fly out to Brazil, a note appeared on the WPC website stating "We are varying upset to inform that the 5th FAI World Artistic Skydiving Championships are canceled" (sic). You can imagine the reactions of people who had trained so long and so hard!

Fortunately IPC informed the Brazilian authorities that cancellation was not an option and a Plan B was put in place. So we found ourselves at a DZ in Boituva, near Sao Paulo. The change of venue was met by relief from many – a landing area on an active drop zone at 2,000 feet, instead of Brasilia city centre, at 3600 feet. It did cause a few headaches for those who had already booked connecting flights; in Brazil, if you don't use part of your ticket they cancel all onward flights automatically!

It also meant booking accommodation was not possible until we arrived. Fortunately the local skydivers drove us to hotels and translated for us. Some stayed in cheap basic hotels in town, while others opted for the comforts of The Ranch, set in the countryside with a pool, gym, etc, plus a top barman who needed little encouragement to give us good measures! (Half a pint of gin with a splash of tonic for a quid.) We still made sure Apples was tucked up in bed at 9pm with a mug of cocoa. (Honest!) This didn't ensure his beauty sleep though as one of the French contingent tended to further international relations very noisily outside his window into the early hours.

Boituva DZ

The DZ was incredibly welcoming and everybody bent over backwards to make the event run as smoothly as possible. They did a fantastic job considering they had very little notice. Boituva is run by 'James Dean' (his real name is so long and unpronounceable even the locals can't cope with it!), who started out as a packer and gradually built up to owning his own operation.

Training

The other side of the airfield houses the Centro Nacional do Paraquedismo, which in turn hosts AFF, tandem and freefly schools. They use a separate manifest but the same aircraft! This led to considerable confusion, given the sudden influx of competitors wanting to manifest for multiple loads. Manifest would appear to be full for the next 10 loads, but we could turn up with kit, get onto a plane immediately and find it was only half full. It was rare to be on the load you had manifested for! Having said that, everyone was happily getting in the jumps they wanted.

Visibility Problems

Weather holds were caused by smoke mixing with the humid air and hanging in a thick haze for days. This made it very difficult to see the ground, despite the bright red earth that usually made the runway highly visible. The haze was so thick at times that some teams chose not to jump. Some days it left the sun as the only point of reference for heading!

Male Freestyle

This was again dominated by Nils and Martin from Denmark who posted consistently high scores, scoring more than 9 points for each free round. The French were hot on their heels, beating Italy's Olav Zipser into third.

Female Freestyle

Stefania Martinengo (Italy) and Yoko Okazaki (Japan) were level pegging after round 2 and scored the same on round 3. Stefania pulled ahead on



Apples & Gary Dawes





World Freestyle Champion Yoko Okazaki

round 4, only to fall back on the round 5 compulsories. Yoko took the opportunity to steam ahead, putting up consistent 9.2s for the final rounds, the highest scores in this competition. UK's *Tumbleweed* were scored 7.0 by one judge for one compulsory move and scored consistently well for camerawork.

Female Skysurf

Despite only having four competitors the female skysurf was a very close competition with Japan in the lead after the first round. The first compulsories didn't open things up with only 0.1 separating the scores of the top three teams on this round. The Japanese increased their lead on round three but a poor fifth (compulsory) round gave the French and



Russians a chance to overtake. This shows how the compulsory rounds can make or break all artistic disciplines.

Male Skysurf

It was a close battle all the way but in the end Dmitry Ovodenko and Igor Kalinin of Russia

pulled clear of *Pulse*, Switzerland to win, with France taking the bronze. *Project Airwave* certainly enjoyed Brazil to the full, but an old niggling injury meant they never really did themselves justice. They were still the only UK team to make it to the final rounds.



Babylon landing



UK Freestyle team
Tumbleweed,
Deb Clarke
& Jim Weir

Ground photos: Deb Clarke & Gary Dawes

Freefly

The first protest of the meet was by the French freefly teams, who contested the quality of the video equipment used to judge their round 2. As a result the entire round was rejudged on better equipment, resulting in further protests as new busts were shown, altering scores. This didn't alter the medal positions so much as the qualifiers for next year's WAG in Germany. Australia 1 missed out by just 0.2 and were understandably miffed.

Competition was close but *Babylon* had a firm grip on gold from the outset. The next three teams ended with scores within 0.4 of each other, with silver and bronze being decided on the highest scoring round, giving France the hat trick. At the other end of the scale there were closely fought battles going on between the British boys (*Space*), Brazil, Russia and Norway.

Comments

The standards of flying were phenomenal. The final results show the total domination of France; every French competitor went home with a medal! Former skysurf and freestyle champions were visibly disappointed to lose their titles, especially where the lead wasn't established until the final rounds. Such is competition!

Many freestylers objected to the potential dangers of the *Atmonauti Barrel Roll*, a compulsory move involving diagonal flight. It was agreed that for this round only two freestyle teams would exit per pass. Even so there were some pretty close openings. It looks as if this move will be withdrawn from future dive pools.

Scores Breakdown

One of the most helpful aspects of the meet was being given a points breakdown of each round. The four different categories – difficulty, execution, artistic value and camera work – helped identify strengths and weaknesses. Could we adopt this at the UK Nationals? It would help teams identify areas they need to improve before arriving at international competitions, and can be very encouraging.

Skydive Boituva

James Dean is planning a boogie in February. If you get the chance, GO! It's carnival time in Brazil and the country will be having one huge party! There will be two Cessna caravans and other aircraft, it's Brazilian summertime and the hotel on the DZ will be finished.

See www.skydiveboituva.com.br

Deb Clarke, *Tumbleweed*
debandjim@yahoo.com

Silver medallists *Pulse* from Switzerland, photo by Koji Mizoi



Pulse & UK Skysurf team Project Airwave;
Lucas Kuller, Rob Powell, Oliver Furrer
& Gary Dawes



Female Skysurf champions
France – Blandine Perroud, Cyril Lancry



Male Skysurf champions
Russia – Dmitry Ovadenko, Igor Kalinin



Freefly World Champions Babylon



Female Freestyle champions
Japan – Yoko Okazaki, Axel Zohman



Male Freestyle champions
Denmark – Martin Kristensen, Nils Predstrup



Freefly champions
France – Vincent Reffet, Frederic Fugen, Stephane Fardel



RESULTS

Freefly

- 1 France
- 2 France
- 3 France

Female Skysurf

- 1 France
- 2 Russia
- 3 Japan

Male Skysurf

- 1 Russia
- 2 Switzerland
- 3 France

Female Freestyle

- 1 Japan
- 2 Italy
- 3 France

Male Freestyle

- 1 Denmark
- 2 France
- 3 Italy

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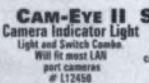
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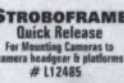
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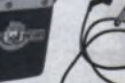
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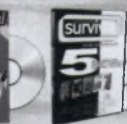
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It's Goodbye From Him

I would like to thank the membership for their support over the last two years. I did not stand for Council this coming year as I have to dedicate a lot of time towards 'The Chartered Professional Review' in order to become a Chartered Civil Engineer.

Calvin Blacker
calvin.blacker@rmg-a1m.com

What Happened to 'First Come, First Served'?

I am a D-licence holder, BPA member and skydiver for 14 years, having worked my way up on rounds through the system. I have jumped at many DZs in the UK, Europe and the US. Throughout this time I have always experienced the unwritten rule in manifest of 'first come, first served', with the reasonable exception of tandems and students.

Imagine my disappointment when I turned up at Hinton on 26 September with some team-mates to do some fun jumps. We placed our names on the board indicating we were 'ready to be manifested' and waited. We were finally manifested on a load with a delay of several hours, which is understandable with the sheer amount of tandems and AFF wanting to jump.

My disappointment was triggered by manifest when people started to drop off loads and then the AFF was grounded for wind reasons. Rather than pulling people from later lifts to earlier ones, manifest simply filled gaps with those people on the 'ready to be manifested' board and their friends from the local clique. This meant that we had to wait five hours for one jump on Sunday, which is unacceptable for a DZ with a turbine aircraft (Let 410). (A team-mate managed only three jumps during the whole day and this was

only because he was jumping solo). When this approach was questioned I was told not to 'hassle' manifest. This practice is becoming a habit at Hinton.

I realise that tandems need to be manifested ahead and that they take priority as they bring in much-needed cash and ancillary sales to the other DZ enterprises (eg, café). However, it is grossly unfair and disappointing that experienced jumped who have already wasted a good portion of their lives sitting on UK drop zones during bad weather or quiet days and have supported British DZ's through thick and thin, (including paying into the Drop Zone Defence Fund) could be treated so badly.

Isn't it time the BPA carried out a specific 'customer satisfaction' survey of all its Affiliated DZs to find out just how well these centres are serving its members?

Bruce Cornfoot
bruce.cornfoot@accenture.com

I am sorry to read that Bruce Cornfoot was not looked after properly when he visited us. It is Hinton's policy to manifest sport skydivers on a 'first come, first served' basis. In this instance we seem to have got it wrong for which I apologise. Manifesting mistakes can be made from time to time.

Mike Browne
Hinton Skydiving Centre
info@skydive.co.uk

Thank You Cyprus DZ

My son and I were looking at going abroad for extra skydiving. Online I discovered Cyprus Skydiving Centre where Dave Wood (the manager) told us that at weekends the centre is civilian and in the week it's military but if we didn't mind mixing then we could join in.

In nine days Dave managed to get us 57 jumps, which was excellent as they only jump between 7am and 1pm. A huge 'thank you' to Dave for a fantastic holiday, to Chris (his wife) for all her help especially with admin, also a massive thanks for the two jumpsuits you so kindly gave us. Also to Matty, Aff, Paul Floyd, Phil, Greggor and especially to George Panagopoulou, a personal friend who helped me back into the sport.

The Drop-In Bar opens at the centre after all is packed away. A tradition for the first time visitor is to ring the bell and announce where you come from - if you do visit please take the time to do this.

Gareth Wood
trainadmin@branas.co.uk

Puzzle

by Paul Boorer



Main (Cryptic)

Across

- Chancy President shelters explosive device makers (6)
- Starts "thank you" and coughs aloud (4-4)
- A formation more likely to come into the ground (6)
- Time to rent road vehicle (8)
- Cocktail of Ativan has ten flying (8)
- Hound beasts all over the place (6)
- Nips around turn (4)
- Come too soon! (10)
- Perhaps a parachutist should keep a weather eye on these strings (10)
- Air-brake (4)
- Runs over and capers about (6)
- Most of scent concealed by strewn dead rose (8)
- Shetland island sailor left England insecure (8)
- European chases incomplete big formation (6)
- Fool turned and checked out (8)
- Left the night before learners planes (6)

Down

- Needle shows amps varying in mathematical function (7)
- Accuracy of summary charge (9)
- Steven's wrestling competitions (6)
- Hidden object of FAA - Erosion of flying (4)
- European politician has ones accent (8)
- Surfaces of fast low aircraft producing slowness (5)
- Shade of canopy (7)
- Coil around half of un-cool assembly (7)
- Suitability of broadcaster boarding iron ship (7)
- Raise part of hem, or do really strip apron etc (9)
- Shows Princess's dramas (8)
- Material with amazing duration. Not half! (7)
- God obtains gizmos (7)
- Instrument of French wickedness (6)
- Spanish houses that skydivers use? (5)
- Where surprises come from in the sky (4)

Reserve

Across

- AAD
- Departures (4-4)
- 4-way formation: more gentle
- Old aircraft
- Mechanical flight
- Dog
- Rotate
- Foresee
- Circumstances
- Air resistance
- Reviews
- Went up
- Wobbly
- 4-way formation: speaker
- Evaluated
- Heights

Down

- 8-way formation: direction indicator
- Exactness
- Happenings
- Of aircraft
- Stress
- Control surfaces
- PD canopy: ghost
- Governing body
- Health, condition
- Landing field
- Exhibitions
- Hard wearing material
- Contraptions
- Contraption
- Tail-gate aircraft
- Primary colour

1. Compass, 2. Precision, 3. Events, 4. Air, 5. Aero, 6. Emphases, 7. Flaps, 8. Spectre, 11. Council, 14. Fitness, 17. Aerodynamic, 18. Displays, 19. Cordura, 21. Gadgets, 22. Device, 24. Cases, 26. Blue, 27. Dog, 28. Rotate, 29. Foresee, 30. Circumstances, 31. Air resistance, 32. Reviews, 33. Went up, 34. Wobbly, 35. 4-way formation: speaker, 36. Evaluated, 37. Heights, 38. 8-way formation: direction indicator, 39. Exactness, 40. Happenings, 41. Of aircraft, 42. Stress, 43. Control surfaces, 44. PD canopy: ghost, 45. Governing body, 46. Health, condition, 47. Landing field, 48. Exhibitions, 49. Hard wearing material, 50. Contraptions, 51. Contraption, 52. Tail-gate aircraft, 53. Primary colour.

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There's been a drop-off in the number of people writing or phoning with a story. Presumably we're all soooo safe now that these tales of daring are in the decline, or maybe the insurance is soooo expensive that we're being really careful when and how we jump! It could also be that no-one's reading my literary masterpieces but I **can't** believe that!

This Christmas, as before, I have a gift for some of you, which relates directly to some stuff I have collated this year. Bear with me...

Bandits at Six O'Clock!

"I arrived from airfield 'x' and, having called airfield 'y', was told to report overhead 'z'. From the wind information being given to the other traffic I was aware that the wind was in the region of 12 knots almost directly across the runway. My initial reaction was not to land with this crosswind (my aircraft has a tailwheel) but, as a similar aircraft had just landed, I elected to have a look.

"After I'd flown a circuit at 2,300 feet for a visual I decided that, with caution, I could just about make the landing even though the crosswind was only just below the limits.

"I therefore returned to overhead 'z' and called for joining instructions. A Cessna called downwind just as I was given a straight-in, and I asked if I was number 1 to land. The controller checked the position of the Cessna and advised me that he was No 1, and a straight-in approach was commenced, whilst looking for the other traffic. Around this time I heard a call, which went something like "Skydive One, four canopies released". Although I had been listening from about 15 miles out, no information had been given to landing traffic that parachuting was being performed on the airfield. Looking at the airfield from 2,300 feet I had not spotted a clearly marked drop zone. With no information from the tower to advise that parachutists intended to land on the airfield, I continued my approach and identified the Cessna ahead of me to land.

"The Cessna did either a touch and go or an overshoot and I continued until, with less than 1,000 yards to go, I saw a parachutist circling to my right and apparently trying to track into wind across my path. I immediately initiated an overshoot and turned left, away from the parachute, and the controller requested that I remained on the runway heading. I declined as I couldn't see the remaining parachutists, and believed that a clear possibility of striking one existed. I subsequently decided not to land at airfield 'x'!"

Bogeys All Over Me!

(Note for skydivers: NOTAMs are part of a national notification system to warn pilots of any change along their flying route which is not permanently on their maps. A demo jump, for example, should generate such a NOTAM.)

"I flew within a mile of a parachute formation. The parachute drop was mentioned in the NOTAMs but I'd forgotten that NOTAM times aren't in British Standard Time."

"I had examined that day's NOTAMs in the morning, via the web page. I noticed the demo marked for 'x', indicating a 4 mile radius clearance was required. The stated time was a twenty minute window in the middle of the day. I telephoned the NOTAM office that day, to be certain that the parachuting would have finished by the specified time. I asked if there was a contact frequency that I could use to check once airborne. They said not.

"I set off with my three passengers a little after midday, and climbed above cloud and over the mountains towards my destination. My planned route was then to follow the coastline. I was in contact with regional air traffic at first, then I changed to London information but they could not hear me, so I was out of radio contact at the time of the incident. As we approached 'x', I checked my watch, and decided it was well after the parachuting had finished. I nearly decided to fly over 'x' town, rather than to follow the coast. Had I done this, it may have proved disastrous! Instead, I flew around the coastline, and as we came back towards 'x', a passenger saw the parachute formation, which we were turning towards at the time. The parachutists were less than a mile away and at our altitude! I immediately turned back out to sea, not knowing how many formations to expect.

"Lessons I have learned:

1 NOTAMs are NOT in Brit Standard Time! (I don't think I'll ever forget this one.)

2 NOTAMs are well worth reading and understanding. I was given no training in understanding NOTAMs, they are not explained in text books and were not tested in my PPL exams. Yet they can be almost as difficult to interpret as weather and can be just as important."

Contributing Factors

You may not believe this but, although I find it fascinating, I rarely feel right when I comment about where people screw up! None of us are perfect, and that's that. Here are two pilots who have voluntarily admitted being in the wrong place at the wrong time as far as us skydivers are concerned. That may be true of the second example and this pilot's pretty clear on where he thinks the fault lies.

But look again at the first one. Before we scream, "F@#@ing pilots" every time a pilot gets in our way, maybe we should ask ourselves how much we helped him get there? A 'bandit' tearing across the drop zone is as much a nightmare to a pilot as it is to us. As surely as they think we're nuts to jump out of aircraft, we think they're nuts to stay in one. The BPA has been liaising with the other air users for many years, and all air users run their own sport at the delegation of the CAA.

So, what can you do? The next time the local flying club's having a flight safety evening for their members, offer a short presentation with all that lovely footage we've got in our rigbags. Show them how our sport works and make them more **aware** of us. Watch their reaction when the penny drops, that we frequently release clusters of 200 lb bombs in a long line, which then glide all over the skies from 3,000 feet down to the ground at speeds of up to 40mph! If you're a bit nervous about actually talking to a pilot instead of making hand signals at one, then why not take a skydiving club pilot along with you? (Of course he'll want free coffee, sandwiches, a petrol allowance...)

Mach Two with my Hair on Fire

"We were making a 2-way wingsuit jump, with camera. Our direction of flight, perpendicular to the run-in, turned out to be slightly downwind. We did mean to make a 90 degree turn during the dive but, one way or another, it didn't happen. We did some great flocking before break-off at 5,000ft, when the leader deployed, and the cameraperson shortly afterwards.

"I then max-tracked all the way down to 3,000ft, and deployed myself. I opened a long way downwind from the landing area and knew I hadn't a chance of making it back. I had some trouble with my zips and only got my hands to the toggles at about 1,500ft. Looking down I was surrounded by power lines and marshland. I picked a landing area even further downwind (probably now about two miles from the DZ) which looked at least like it was dry.

"As I got lower, I realised it had power lines on every boundary. I ended up taking a crosswind landing on terrain which was anything but flat. I hit an upslope and, hampered by my leg wings, ended up crashing in. Somehow I didn't break either myself or the wingsuit. I hitch-hiked back to the DZ and had a couple of very large coffees!

"When I look back on it, I made several errors:

- 1 Never checking the navigation at any point during the flight.
- 2 Pulling way low considering I didn't recognise any scenery after break-off.
- 3 Wasting time fiddling with zips when cutting away the wings would have given me far more time and options.
- 4 Incorrectly planning the approach coming in to land.
- 5 Not cutting away the leg wings to at least give me a chance of getting away with a nasty landing."

This was a wingsuit jump which got a little out of hand, with time and options running out all the way. No surprises there. Our victim has made lots of good points here and, of all the types of skydiving we do, it can't be denied that wingsuit flying has a tremendous workload. That's why you can't just get on with it until you've got a lot of jumps in your logbook. BPA guidelines suggest a minimum of 500 freefall skydives or 250 in the last 18 months, plus instruction from a experienced wingsuit jumper.

But, to get back to my theme, do you see some similarities with the other two stories? Our jumper is reading a little like a pilot, even when describing elements of the freefall.

But here's the clincher for me. Our notified Drop Zones usually have a radius of 1.5 nautical miles. The big red mark on a pilot's map means avoid a 2 mile radius.

Maybe you should bear that in mind when you brief for your next flock. Do not fly further than 1.5 miles away from the airfield. Maybe when you do that presentation to your local flying club about our sport, you'd better mention that those 200 lb bombs can glide a very long way.

In other words: Don't become a bandit!

Merry Christmas.

Rick Boardman

Note: Reports here are compiled from the Confidential Reporting System, a voluntary method of reporting directly to Rick Boardman, in complete secrecy. We do not give specific details, to protect the sources' confidentiality.

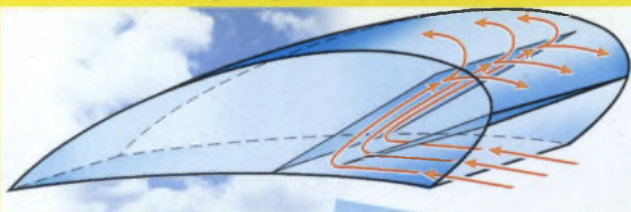
A resumé of incident and injury reports is contained within the BPA's Safety and Training Committee (STC) minutes, enclosed with each magazine. In the rare case of a UK fatality, a Board of Enquiry is immediately formed and convened. It investigates and makes a full report to STC with conclusions and recommendations; these reports are also covered in the STC minutes.

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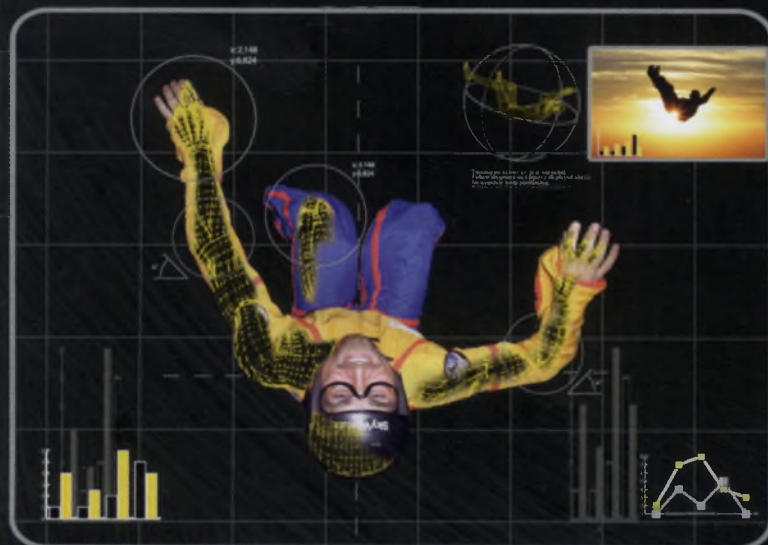
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Neil Queminet

16 September 1966 - 5 October 2004



Those that knew Neil will remember him as a lively and popular member of Ipswich Parachute Club. Neil is remembered for his newly-qualified eagerness on winter midweek trips to the DZ, dragging Geoff and Andy out of the warm rigging room and persuading them to put up the door-less Cherokee in the freezing cold... and again... and again!

Neil completed his AFF in 1994 in Florida. He started freeflying after jumping with the early experimenters on a visit to Perris Valley. On returning to the UK he continued this fledgling discipline with Tim Porter. Going back again to the States he trained with the Free Fly Clowns. On one such visit, he was introduced to Jakey (Simon Jakeman, the author of Groundrush) which no doubt sparked the early flames of a later passion! So incessant was Neil about skydiving that one of his best friends, Adam, took it up just so he would know what Neil was going on about. He had Adam doing the freaky stuff straight off AFF! I'm told Neil's cool blue leather Zerox should trigger some memories.

After Ipswich Parachute Club closed, Neil jumped at Sibson, where he and Tom Brotherstone were chosen as most improved jumpers at one of the early freefly weeks. Neil was known as a knowledgeable and helpful person who would offer his assistance and expertise, no matter who you were or what your question was. This was a characteristic trait in all aspects of his life.

One of his last forays into the world of skydiving was typically Neil, partying hard at the Wiggaz Festival at Weston in 2002... and discovering how much of a handful a huge blond Afro wig attached to your frappe hat can be when you are trying to fly head-down! He also got to try a wingsuit at the first of the now regular festivals at Weston. Neil wisely decided against jumping his beloved Jedi, instead borrowing a more docile Sabre from his friend Lisa - which he promptly chopped on deployment due to a line-over! After several hours tramping through fields thick with crops and, thanks to Fordy's eagle eye from above, we eventually recovered the main and free-bag much to Neil's, not to mention Lisa's, relief!

Skydiving took a back seat when Neil started base jumping. As with skydiving, he travelled far and wide, visiting countries such as Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, South Africa, Malaysia, Russia and finally Thailand. A camera documented the fun wherever he went. Neil developed a passion for editing, culminating in the release of our video, *Dead Air Dummies*. If you have been on a DZ near Dan, Trevor, Eddy or me, you'll be hard pressed not to have seen his work!

Whilst preferring to remain anonymous and unseen on most of his jumps, Neil was very pleased to take part in the high profile competition in Kuala Lumpur at the New Year. Although his primary motivation was to add the second tallest building in the world to his logbook, he placed well in the competition, especially in the acrobatic section! In true Neil style, with relatively 'simple' manoeuvres and an impeccable performance he scored highly, over the more extravagant but less successful attempts of his peers! He was also a proud participant in the 30-way world record this summer from the Ostankino Television Tower in Moscow, one of the largest free standing structures in the world.

Neil had a varied and colourful past and he always gave 100% to everything. Some of us were surprised to say the least when we learnt that, as a teenager in the early 1980s, Neil represented Great Britain in the European Championships at Copenhagen in Junior Roller-Skating! Neil and his skating partner Caroline placed highly despite some very strong opposition from military teams, especially the Italians who trained almost full time. Fortunately for Neil, photographic evidence has been hard to come by!

A keen guitarist, he would keep the DZ entertained. He was once in a band called 'Violet Wonder', playing in local pubs. The best track in their repertoire was: "If you break my heart I'll break your legs I swear I will!"

His other passions included street hockey, rock climbing and downhill mountain biking in the dark! He loved fast motorbikes, especially his Fireblade. He also recently took up cooking with great enthusiasm.

Neil worked hard and excelled professionally, as with his personal life. He studied diligently part time to achieve his Dispensing Optician qualifications and was a respected practitioner.

At his cremation there was standing room only in the chapel. It was a pleasure to meet so many people from his family, friends and colleagues who thought he was as great as I did. We drank late into the night, it's what he would have wanted! You missed a great party mate, I wish you could have been there!

Looking at all the pictures I have of Neil, it's impossible not to notice three things:

- 1 He was always wearing red (it was a superstitious thing for him)
- 2 He was usually grinning from ear to ear or pulling a stupid face
- 3 More often than not, he had a beer in his hand!

Neil lived life to the fullest and he loved the motto: 'Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting "F**k me what a ride!"'

Neil will be truly missed by his parents, Bob & Carol; sister Suzanne; fiancée Hayley; his colleagues; and many, many friends.

C-ya mate!

Craig Poxon



Club News



St Andrews

Ewan and Yuri by Jim Stevenson

Achievements

First Freefall

Martin Cressey

50 Jumps

Cat Phillips

Iain Quickfall

Yuri Melo

100 Jumps

Stuart Cameron

600 Jumps

Bruce (ZZK)

9,000 Jumps

Scotty Milne

1 Hr Freefall

Ewan Cowie

Both planes are operating full time to allow everyone as much progression as possible. We welcome new skilled jump pilot Richard Hambly. We saw the first hybrid dive at St Andrews – Andy H and Bruce building a 2-way base, and Der docking and going to stand up. Will we ever see Bruce on his belly again?!

Regular university student jumpers returned with an influx of new ones keen to find out what the sport is all about. To encourage the clubs, we have a league table of first-timers trained, prompting fierce competition to run the most courses!

Congratulations Grant Burns of Glasgow, who raised over £600 for the Helene Harris Memorial Trust.

The infamous St Andrews nights have started again, kicking off with a Hawaiian party boasting flowers, grass skirts and some truly shocking shirts (plus some unpublishable photographs!). Lots more fun is planned.

Gary and Susan recently took over the canteen and have been doing a fantastic job – keeping hordes of hungry skydivers fed and watered, introducing comfy new sofas and replacing the worn out tables and chairs. One clubhouse wall has been covered in Skydive Mag clippings, providing a colourful talking point.

Tom Fletcher



Billy Gollan takes Callum Bisset for a tandem, photo by Chick Adams

Paragon

With the drop zone resembling a swamp we're pioneering a new branch of the sport: Mud Swooping. Who can plough the longest furrow before touching down? We tried for photos but no-one was stupid enough to get anywhere near the action. It's best left to the imagination anyway; not a pretty sight!

We thought we'd lost our CCI one Sunday. Usually first to arrive, we were wondering what had happened when he turned up, breathlessly announcing he'd taken a slight detour of about forty miles through Fife to try and catch a glimpse of something called a 'Masked Shrike'. Bless! He doesn't have many vices so I suppose we can forgive him a bit of twitching.

Callum headed off for a tandem instructor's course but unfortunately didn't get on it, although he sat in and enjoyed the pre-course tandem jump (see photo above). Although Walter's in Iraq he's clocked up 36 hours' freefall. Not sure how, I think he skived off to Empuria. Billy Gollan notched up 1,500 jumps. It was good to get a visit from Emma Brunton, we miss our resident doctor. She's contemplating getting back into skydiving but can't afford the wellies! Never mind, the mud will soon freeze.

Our Christmas party is 11 Dec at the Inchture Hotel, phone the DZ to book. (£10 deposit). Photos next issue!

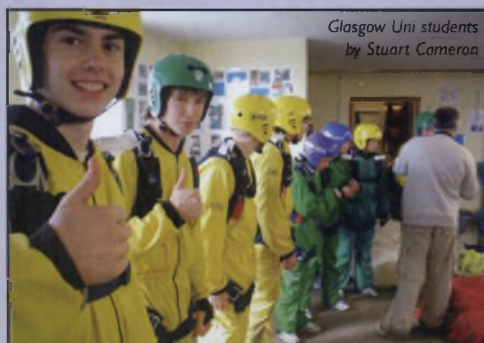
Bob Henderson & Lynsey McLagan



Derek Burton by Graeme Mackay



Glasgow Uni students by Stuart Cameron



Langar



Angela Hickling
Photos: Tony Danbury



Rob Chilton

The crew dogs were back for the CF Grand Prix. CFUK flew through all categories, taking gold every cell of the way! H2O took silver in every category – nice one!

At the FS 4-way Grand Prix Langar's home teams took gold and bronze in the seniors, (good going 4 Motion and TTwan) and Submarine Business bronze in the juniors – well done everyone! (Apologies to all teams – we tried to order blue sky, but apparently there's a huge backlog!)

YAHOO! Terry Connor finally got his Cat 8. After working through RAPS, then transferring to AFF he was just jumps away

when he broke his ankle. Six weeks away and then he qualified on jump 50. Nice to have Rob Chilton back, he returned to the sport after 15 years off (!) and did his 100th jump.

Our Christmas Party is 11 December, at Langar bar, with huge quantities of alcohol, loadsa music and a buffet (food £5ish per person). Get your carol sheets out, bring some egg nogg, and help us celebrate Christmas, Langar style! (Remember Christmas Day is the only one that Langar is shut.) Merry Christmas and see you in the new year.

Lisa James

Black Knights

Achievements

First Freefall

Alan Davies
Sarah Jane Doy
IC1, FS1,
1 Hr Freefall
Jon Turnbull



Rob McKey

It was great to see Danny Rowlands back in the sky. Despite a couple of months off due to injury he's always been there to help out – top man! It's the people that make the DZ tick so thanks go to our maintenance heroes. Mike Ferguson has spent more time repairing the centre's roofs after the summer storms than jumping. Chris Taylor renewed the main path whilst trusty apprentice Eddie Davies learned how to use a hammer. The bunkhouse has been given the 'changing rooms experience' by Alison, they're now almost palatial with new carpets, curtains and bedding. The centre's C185 just been in for its C of A with Tiggs loaning us an Islander. Gordon gave up a lot of his time to help on G-PC's maintenance, thanks one and all.

One of our tandem instructors has been seen line dancing in a local late night drinking establishment. Now we're all eagerly awaiting the appearance of Mr Smith's rhinestone jumpsuit and snakeskin hackey!

We've been supporting collegiates at Freshers Fairs with presentation and displays, and welcome a wave of keen new jumpers. Godzilla, the monster Porter will be back at Cockerham from 1 May '05 for the entire summer season, come and jump! We look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas do. Seasons greetings!

Jeff Illidge



Keith 'Rat Boy' Sumner
by Martine Lindsay

Achievements

Cat 8

Stefan Price
Annie Glasius
Terry Connor
Nicki Rowlands
Russel Leech
Michelle Horspool
Ian Kikuchi
Darren 'Spud' Logan

IC1

Steve Ward
IC1 & FS1
Rab 'General' Peterson
FS1
Iain Millis

Jump Numbers

50

Ian Thompson
Terry Connor

100

Steve Sandilands
Rob Chilton
Rab 'General' Peterson
Colin Bell

200

Ket Patel
Pete 'Sonic' Bacon

300

Helena Stone
Andrea MacLeod

400

Caroline Guest
1,000

Darren Atter
Lynn Thompson

1 Hr Freefall

Steve Sandilands
Rab 'General' Peterson
Colin Bell
Dan Williams

12 Hrs Freefall

Paul Rowe
Ivor Flowers

72 Hrs Freefall

Phil Curtis

Weston

Achievements

50 Jumps

Alison McGregor

100 Jumps

Ant Matthews

Munro Kendrick

100 Jumps, IC1

Kerr Stewart

FF1

Ricky Butcher

200 Jumps

Dave Lee

Si Stephenson

Dougal Seeley

400 Jumps

Nigel Holland

IC1, 1 Hr

Freefall

Marc Fletcher

1,000 Jumps,

12 Hrs Freefall

Andy Lovemore

It's been hectic with all sorts, from night jumps to 4-way to mysterious winged people waddling about. The birdman weekend was a huge success in spite of awful weather. Top marks to Andy Ford and Craig Poxon; a lot of effort, time and kit was invested in this weekend, 11 wingsuit virgins got in the air and the number of smiles in the bar as a result was a great testimony.

September saw the annual carnage of the Weston Scrambles. Most of the thirteen (yes thirteen!!) teams completed three rounds. The standard was scarily high with skygods and goddesses picking up tips from their Baldricks! Curry, beer and a disco set a high tone for Saturday night, luckily Scouse and Beaver were around to bring it down again. The boys out-danced the girls with a remarkably camp display by Nige, Ricky, Si and Mike, who've apparently been approached to reform Village People.

- 1 Spork Chops (Anna, Dru, Lou, Paul)
 - 2 Sorbital (Leonie, Marrion, Gary, Lou)
 - 3 Sh*t Myself (Craig, Buncie, Jashe, Mikey)
- Wooden Spoon Ashley's Angels

The prestigious 'Baldrick of the Year' went to Louise Wyper. Best Quote went to the ever enigmatic Dougal Seeley of *Team Potato* for 'spending a lot of time thinking about root vegetables'. Special Merit award went to Phil 'The Key' Hartree who appeared to be in fast forward as the points were being keyed so fast and dynamically... if only the formations were built too!

A legend was born with our very own OmniScott. Andy Scott stepped in as judge and devised such a complex system of bartering for points that he had to take on secretarial support! (Cheers Andy, you rocked.) Thank you Anna, Leonie, Di, Chris and Woody for organising an outstanding event.

Alf Batchelor & Anna Palmer



OmniScott and Best Baldrick Louise Wyper



Photos: Andrew Lovemore



Weston scrambles winners Spork Chops



Silver medallists Sorbital

Hinton

Achievements

First Freefall

Carlton Reeve

Cat 8

Neil Phelps

Ryan O'Neil

Steve Brooks

Gavin Rixon

Helen Redwood

FS1

Simon Davies

Andy Fryer

Sara Fennie

Jump

Numbers

50

Anne Barrago

Natalie Keith

Alan Gayton

David Hale

100

Richard Palmer

200

Alberto Mazzucato

400

Duncan

Humphreys

800

Mike Beedon

1,200

Yo Lee

1,600 &

24 Hrs Freefall

Maddie Moore

1 Hr Freefall

Peter Lindstrand

Andy Fryer

Kenya Boogie sees a strange looking party from Hinton armed with inflatable toys. Led by Mike Sheehan we'll again be sending goodies for the local kids. Footballs, pens, pencils, chalk and books are greatly appreciated by some of the friendliest people you'll ever meet. It's a real wake-up call to see how little they have. For tiny money we can provide learning materials which make a real difference. We're hoping to do similar for Cambodia where Ian Marshall makes regular trips.

Best wishes to Steve Baldwin who's recovering from a broken pelvis... our sympathy to Fran who's got to put up with him! It's common to lose control of certain bodily functions with such an injury... but we would never be cruel enough to mention it!

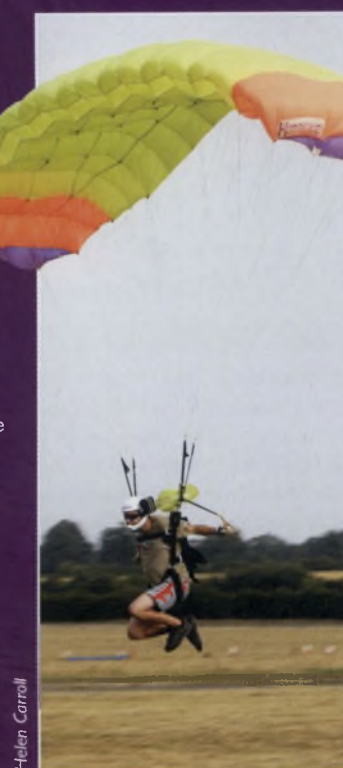


Clare Murphy, fastest woman in the world!

This edition's stupidity award goes to Grant Richards who asked the TurboLet pilots standing by the burger bar drinking tea if the Let was in the air.

Clare Murphy now holds the title of official Women's World Speed Champion. We haven't seen her move that fast since the bar opened. Mick Matthews clocked up another major achievement his 100th Saga Holiday Cruise. A new addition to the DZ is already training to be a packer: 'Evie Jemima Bongo Johnson'! Thank you from Jo and I for everyone's best wishes.

Brucie



Helen Carroll

As the summer that never was bade us a final farewell, *Katie's Cold* won our annual Halloween 10-way speed, affectionately known as the Frostbite Friendly. Attendance was fantastic – we had nine teams, even without VNE and Om. The fancy dress party was even better than usual with some truly amazing costumes, even James dressing up and only three slackers. Big 'thank you' for battling through the weather to get here.

We welcome back our resident Uni club members and their 'newbies', who should take great encouragement from our newly qualifieds list. Well done guys, with a special mention to Maria (and her bank manager) who got there in the end. The BCPA Freshers Meet returned with Tim Cooke at the helm and the usual blend of fun, music and jumping.

Our super team *Optic* conquered the European Skydiving League at Spa, Belgium, winning one of the most highly crafted trophies skydiving has ever seen. Christian also took a prize for his camera work, nice one! *Dazed and Confused*

took gold at our scrambles. Fergie, one of our tandem instructors, took his son to the air. Baldrick got engaged, Lisa is finally making an honest man of him. Best wishes from the club to Kerry and her poorly leg. We all miss you, especially your cheery singing early on Saturday mornings in the packing shed.

Christmas dinner is 11 Dec, then we're all out to hot and sunny Portugal for the Christmas Algarve Boogie. Last year was fantastic. Any Montriou can be booked for nights out! Everyone is welcome, and H & Tony are flying out. See you in the sky.

Gerv Henderson

Target



International Space Cauldron by Andy Wright
Party pics: Darren Birkin



Achievements First Freefall

Davina Sandberg

Cat 8

Andy Price

Olly Urgan

Tim 'Silent Bob'

McGivern

Morton Bell

Willis Drummond

Paul Chedzoy

Jo Burns

Maria Allen

John Newborough

Neil Murray

Ken Smith

Jono Cole

Kev Groarke

Jump Numbers

50 Ian Ward

Jason Bates

John

Newborough

200 Laura Hillas

300 Gerv Henderson

1,100 Rich Baldwin

1,500 Tony Keithley

1,800 Andy Wright

3,000 Darren Birkin

4,500 H

UK Parachuting

Tony Knight and tandem student by Grant Richards



Life at UK Para is moving forwards, as of 1 January 2005 the DZ will be under new ownership; Jason Thompson and Grant Richards take over with Tony Knight staying on as CCI. Watch out for forthcoming events.

Andy Page ventured down to Weston to try out wingsuits, could this mean that a birdman will be seen over 'Old Buck' in the near future? Unfortunately Silvia has fractured her ankle; hopefully she will be up and running soon. Tomo and Grant are both off to Florida in Jan for winter sun, tunnel time, jumping and the PIA Symposium.

Grant Richards

Brid

Paul and Rob Nelson did an unsuccessful flag jump – the flag fell to bits! The party night went better and everyone was suitably drunk, thankfully since Dave Walker was practising his DJ skills. Keep practicing!

Stuart Self did his one jump for the year so we don't expect to see him till 2005. Vicki Hasler's been allowed her rig back since Sadie Sutcliffe has now her own (with a little help from Helen Moon). No-one's seen Dave Saville and Nicki Punchard since Dave's taken on a problematic bathroom project – although you can still hear his cries of despair from Brid!

Dave Saville



Dave 'Toffello' Walker had his first tandem malfunction and dealt with it ably. Pilot Joe Allenby offered excellent assistance by telling Dave his container was open – after he'd left the plane!

Keeping up with the superbike posse Birchie's made everyone jealous with his 50cc monkey bike which allegedly does 25mph! (This is yet to be seen!)

Tracy Pollitt

Achievements First Freefall

Sarah Cussworth

Claire Vernon

Cat 8

Duncan Maloney

Alex Jeans

400 Jumps

Stuart Self

500 Jumps

Tracy Pollitt

600 Jumps

John Gannon

1,000 Jumps

Dave Walker

Achievements

Cat 8

Mark Reed
Hakan Yonal
Darren Bezzina
Greg Cabb
Steve Hudson
Neil Sinclair
Trevor Dodds
Lee Birchenough-
Richards
Dan McIlroy

FS1

Greg Wheatley
Lorraine Dixcey
Kris Young

FF1

Pete Benjamin

Jump Numbers

100

Mike Wemyss

200

Greg Wheatley

300

Mark Price

700

Chris Ives

800

Ivan Peters

Chris Bowley

1,000

Lloyd Quenby

Ian Robertson

4,000

Shazza Simonian

Steve Wilkins

5,000

Mike Rust

Gary Small

Chatteris

Gary Small and Mills Rust take pilot Nick Chip on his AFF level 1 - from the plane he usually flies! Photo: Sharon Simonian



If you haven't booked your Christmas dinner ticket yet, ring Steve at the DZ NOW! It's a big venue this year so everyone is welcome, it's Sat 18 Dec, £22, let's make it a night to remember! Good luck Greg and Lorraine on their winter tour of Europe and a big goodbye to Shazza Simonian who's touring the States, we hope to see you next year. We close on 19 Dec and re-open on 29 Jan. To all jumping in the meantime, have fun and be safe.

Steve Wilkins

Netheravon

Achievements

Cat 8

Alison Gale
Nigel MacGillivray
Potki
Martin Tindall

FS1

Freddie Huntley
Darryl Bradley
Maxine Tate
Mal Pettit
Jack Harfield
Mark Lawrie

Loadsajumps

100

Pamila During
Jack Harfield
Mal Pettit
Mark Lawrie
Chaz Sagar-
Goldsmith
Linda Treharne

200

Huw Thomas

300

Chalky Whyte

400

Steve Woolley

500

Graham Harrison

Tom Canty

800

Mike Ehlas

900

Mike Lewis

3,000

Stu Albon

Over forty 4-way teams registered for the Armies, where we made the most of any gaps in the cloud. The record for the greatest number of 'kit on' calls for one jump goes to Woof who had nine! 4-way FS results, ignoring the military/open distinction:

- | | |
|--------|--------------------|
| Junior | 1. Red Devils |
| | 2. Pants (RAF) |
| | 3. Go Navy |
| Inter | 1. Meat & 3 Veg |
| | 2. Boolean |
| | 3. Royal Engineers |
| Senior | 1. Army |
| | 2. HEAT |
| | 3. XRD |

Thanks to Cark for the loan of their shiny new PAC for a few days, it created a lot of interest and really helped.

At the Speed 8, BT (ask Smudge) took the honours followed by *It's Life Jim* and *Sounds Grrrr8*. The evening foam party saw the usual round of dodgy fancy dress. Full body armour

was advisable for the dance floor due to a worse-for-wear roller-skating cocktail waitress.

The third APA raffle's proceeds are being split between Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Bob Soutar, who had a crippling accident two years ago. The contributors' generosity was overwhelming. The Naked Caravan Twister was a much sought-after prize. Nethers was delighted to present the two causes each with cheques for £1,200. Thanks to Airtec, World Endeavour, Skysystems, Skyventure Orlando, Para Gear, Aerodyne, Symbiosis, Bonehead, Chris Lynch, Tony Suits, Sunpath, staff & jumpers for contributions.

The Autumn Ball saw over 200 guests welcomed by 12 guys dressed in black tie and military mess dress - and 2 wearing just bow ties and week-old underpants! The extravagantly decorated packing hall had been transformed into the perfect setting for a delicious dinner prepared by Sharky and the boys

from 'Hot Stuff'. After a champagne reception, dinner was heralded by military buglers, followed by some informal speeches and the first of many farewells to Gwyn Burton, then madness began with a bucking bronco and gyroscope. A barbequed breakfast at 2.30am provided just enough energy for most to last until the bar closed at 4. Everybody looked fantastic in their best frock and dinner jackets - even Kath made an effort and ventured into a very enticing shimmering red dress for the first time in living memory! Thanks to everyone who put so much effort into the ball. Memories are on www.netheravon.com and www.darren-birkin-fotopic.net.

Bon voyage Helen Taylor, who's embarking on an alternative career as a penguin counter with the British Antarctic Survey. Good luck mate - we'll miss Winnie!

Kath Salisbury &
Tommy Trindall

Photos: Darren Birkin & Dave Liddle



Tilstock

Colin, DZ owner celebrated his birthday, just one year off the big 5-0. He needed some assistance to blow out the candles on his cake – he just hasn't got the puff these days – ah bless. Andy Gleeson is engaged to be tying the knot in May 2005. Congratulations all.

Andy Goodall, instructor and pilot, decided to get the train to Whitchurch on his first day flying for us. He bought his ticket, boarded the train and went to sleep. He woke up in Whitchurch, Cardiff! If they don't have a GPS coordinate these pilots just don't have a clue :-)

Despite the aeroplane curse we've been suffering there has been plenty of jumping. Tiggs has helped us out with various of his aircraft fleet, and we've had an Islander in for the last couple of months, allowing some great 8-way action.

Pete Shaw, who's in his 70s, reached his 1,000th jump, and Bryan Teeson made his 200th with an all-police 4 way 'The Flying Pigs'. Poly Parsons who started jumping at Halfpenny Green finally achieved Cat 8 after a fairly long break. RAPS students are flying through the system, especially Caroline and Paul. The

burning question is: who will get there first?

At the Czech boogie 16 of us disrupted the otherwise peaceful lives of the locals. Jumping galore from the Let 410 included a Tilstock 14 tracking dive and we loved the Mi8 helicopter.

We're open throughout Dec and Jan except for Christmas Day and the AGM. The Christmas bash at Hawkstone Park is on 4 Dec and we've even already booked the same venue for next year – 10 Dec 2005, so don't say you didn't get enough notice Andy! And finally... Pat – remember Shawbury – Quack Quack!

Steve Cooper



Colin's birthday cake is too hot to handle! Photo by Steve Cooper



Ray Parker, Steve Cooper and Tony Lightfoot join Rosie Walls on her FS1 jump. Photo by Keir

Achievements First Freefall

Gavin Wood
Gareth Wood
Richard Bell
James Brown
Liz Boniface

Cat 8

Poly Parsons
FS1 & 100 jumps
Rosie Walls
200 Jumps
Bryan Teeson
Russell Adams
Ty Grundy
300 Jumps
Dave Gordon
600 Jumps
Steve Smith
1,000 Jumps
Pete Shaw
2,000 Jumps
Tony Lightfoot

Achievements FS1

L Davies
N Jeanes
100 Jumps
D Lamsley
R McConnell
K Faulkner
I Barley
G Clack
G Fowler
400 Jumps
P Walters
500 Jumps
D Gould
700 Jumps
G Stevens

Silver Stars

South Cerney held its first AFF and Tandem Instructors course; thanks to all who assisted and congratulations to our new AFF instructors Dean and Aron. The military personnel managed to jump from a Chinook when it was here, including Colonel English who did his first helicopter jump. Well done to Tom & Louise who very quietly got married and to Tim Symonds, whose wedding the team jumped into. We close on 5 Dec and re-open on 29 Jan with night jumps planned for Saturday 4 Dec. The Let 410 should return in March.

Marie-Anne Stevens



Calum Grant and Bob Bellamy with Santa, photo by Jim Stevenson

Strathallan

We've made the most of what little good weather there has been by bringing in an Islander occasionally to supplement our Cessnas, including Julie Terry's fancy dress birthday party weekend (see pic). There has been lots of student progression, with a host almost at Cat 8, and with Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian Unis clocking up points for the BCPA League. Planning is under way for another big Strath trip to the Christmas Algarve Boogie. Improvements are being made to our hangar and facilities, to be ready for the start of summer.

Rupert Connell

Achievements First Freefall

Gordon Law
Karen Law
Bob Mowatt
Graham Bygrave

Cat 8

Ally Pringle
IC1, 50 Jumps
Joanne Gibbs
FF1
Lorena Sanchez
200 Jumps
Ray MacDonald
1,000 Jumps
Alan Russell



Emily Christie, Alan Russell, Julie Terry and Joyce Carter prepare for a zoo dive

Jersey

It's been a great first season here at Skydive Jersey. We're newly affiliated to the BPA and we've been jumping on to the beach all summer. As the size of the landing area varies somewhat between high and low tides, you need an A licence (25 jumps) to skydive here so our AFF courses are conducted in France, using Skydive Jersey instructors. Skydiving is still seen as a bit of a novelty here on the rock and on a fine day will attract dozens of spectators who, without fail, applaud EVERY landing, good or otherwise.

The majority here have between 50 and 300 jumps and, now we're able to jump regularly and hone our skills, who knows, we might even see Jersey's first ever 4-way team in next year's Nationals!

On one occasion just prior to take-off, Julian the 206 pilot was asked to return the plane to the apron, whereupon the skydivers were told to get out by Customs and Special Branch officers. Someone had reported seeing five people with 'back-packs' running towards and climbing aboard a waiting plane, which looked awfully suspicious... it's early days!

Skydive Jersey are spending the winter improving the facilities, aiming to have a rigging loft, VAT-free equipment shop and packing hall. Plans are also under way for a Jersey Boogie!

Philippa Pickering & Julian Storey

Achievements

Cat 8

Stephen Mauger
Olaf Blakely
Nick Alderson
FS1
Richard Pedley
Alun Griffiths
Pete Dolbel

IC1

Alun Griffiths
Pete Dolbel

Jump Numbers

50

Matt Honeycombe
Darren Menard

100

Pete Dolbel
George Judge

200

Stu Cruickshank
Alun Griffiths

RAPA

Achievements

Cat 8

Lisa Coggle
Richy Perry
Liz Weston
Matt Patton
'Fluff' Williams
Christiana Gockle
'Dusty' Miller
Grace Hirst
Glen Bradford
Thea Follett
Ray Cogan
Garth Greyling
Steve Evans

IC1

John Hill
Steve Evans

FS1

'Taff' Jones
Seb Muntz
Kenny Imrie
Thea Follett

200 Jumps

Stu Storey

300 Jumps

George Barnett

1,000 Jumps,

12Hrs Freefall

'H' Harrison

3,000 Jumps

Mark Bayada

Alex Busby



We said farewell to Alan and June Wright, going on their American odyssey. New OC Maj Paul Moore arrived with bucketfuls of ideas, bags of enthusiasm and family Lesley, Leanne and Chantelle. Sgt Bazz Barron returned to Army life as a recruiting Sgt in Wakefield and is now a regular at Tilstock. 'H' Harrison leaves us to return to 1 Para and hopefully a slot in the Red Devils. Tag Pullham has been promoted and will be back at Nethers soon so we wish him and Roz all the best... and even I managed to spend three months in green kit.

A PAC 750XL visited in August for two days of test jumping. It was surprising how many of our regulars – and not so regulars – were here on a Monday and Tuesday! The new boss wasted no time checking its

suitability for tandems, by taking daughter Chantelle on her first.

Dedicated 20-way weekends have seen some impressive formations and many stories over a beer and barbecue. We will have multi-aircraft loads every weekend if enough people want to.

Eric Briscoe returned to the sky after 30 months, logging his 18th hour in freefall. Bill Sharp had been malfunction-free for 20 years, but this was eclipsed on 3 November – which also marked Bill's 30th year of parachuting. Bill's now packed over 4,000 reserves and recorded over 140 saves.

Mark Bayada took Sandra Renfert from Airtec on a tandem for his 3000th jump, joined by Mr Cypres himself and regular here, Helmut Cloth (pictured right).

FSC Paderborn, the local German jumpers at RAPA threw yet another fantastic party. It started with the Paderborners putting on a great display into the Trackener Hut, and continued into the small hours with free food and drink. Thanks guys, we look forward to your AGM early next year.

We're now closed and will reopen on 12 Feb. We have an exciting 2005 lined up, with progression weekends, CF, FS and camera coaching, 20-way, 8-way Speed, 9-way Scrambles and the 41st RAPA Champs. The DZ is also getting a facelift with improvements planned for the bar, patio area, manifest and bigger swoop ditch, which will be 80 m x 8m x 1m. For details, see February's Mag, the unofficial website www.jspc.de or join the group www.yahoo.com/groups/sports/skydiving/LippspringeDZ UK bods, you can fly to Paderborn for £35 return from Manchester, Southampton and Stanstead, see www.airberlin.de

Alex Busby



Achievements

First Freefall

Leah Frost

Cat 8

Chanda Webb

Martin Hailey

Dmitri Tkatchev

FS1

Jonathan Tyzack

FF1

Ben Shephard

Jump Numbers

50

Andy Hughes

100

Lee Colbeck

Rob Martin

200

Georgina Atkins

300

Andy Gregory

500

Mick Thomas

800

Andy Sauer

Phil Knowles

Lancaster Boogie
Photos: Sarah Hall



Lee Colbeck receives his 100 jump certificate from John Meacock



Sarah and Olly win the Film Festival Duckie

Big apologies to Mick Thomas, whom I somehow omitted from the last report. Mick celebrated his 60th birthday and we believe his 25th year in skydiving on 24 July with a skillfully organised 15-way courtesy of Rose and friends. Congratulations Mick, how could I have forgotten you!

The annual Lancaster Boogie came and went without injury or the engagement of legal services. Obviously local supplies of hangover cures were seriously affected but the weather was kind and a completely diverse skydiving agenda was the one and only rule for the week. Sibson's first ever tandem Mr Bill went without a hitch courtesy of Granters and the fabulous Dave Bailey, while some glorious tracking, pylon and hybrid dives resulted in big smiles all round for Granters, Simes, Andy, Bob, the inimitable Elliot Clarke and others. Load organising of the highest quality combined with a not too early start and bar opening finish made for a seriously chilled and relaxed vibe. I strongly recommend you check out the Lancaster Boogie next August.

Talking of Mr Bailey, we said a temporary cheerio to Dave who is Australia bound, but not before he provided Sibson with a fantastic new mock-up, thanks Dave, now all we need is for people to work out how to use it... Andy, Ben and Nick take note!

The weather's been more yuck than yahoo but regardless there has been plenty of student progression, track dives, FS and sit plus truckloads of flock activity with Kev Goode buying beer for his first wingsuit dive.

Congratulations to Rhino who celebrated his 21st year in the sport on 2 October, as Sibson hosted the Speed Nationals, see page 12. Our Annual Film Festival attracted four entries, all very different, Fishy & friends, Sarah & Olly and Dan 'the man' Witchalls submitted films almost worthy of Tarantino or other such luminaries. Top effort guys. No expense was spared on the prizes; in the form of the Duckies, they had to

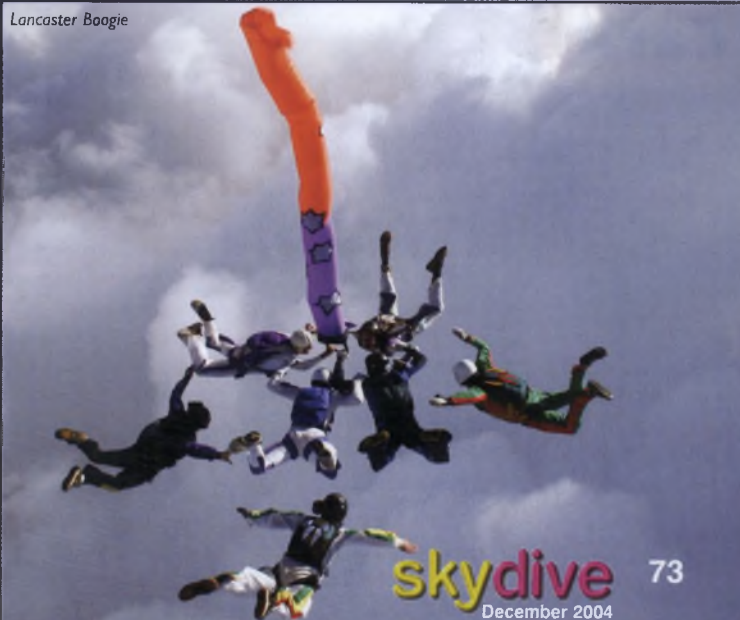
be seen to be believed! Unfortunately like fame, they proved to be all too fragile, ask David Fish.

Sibson says cheers to our fantastic bar folks, Michelle and Jason, thanks for a great season, hope to see you again. Congratulations *South Parc*, new Intermediate Grand Prix winners and to Caroline, Nicole, Sacha, Anthea, Cheryl, Kerry, Cath and Lesley for their tremendous efforts at *Brit Chicks*.

Sibson closes 19 Dec – 6 Feb and the Let returns early March. On 18 Dec we celebrate the end of the year with a kick-arse party.

Lizzie Harris

Lancaster Boogie



Achievements

FS1

Neil Beattie
James Taylor

Cat 8

Chris Oakes
'Mac' MacDonnell
Gavin Wood
Steff Marsh
Ben Mountfield
Sefti McGarrigle

100 Jumps

Clare Morefield

200 Jumps

Allan Vaughan

Tyrone Jones

Sharron Davey

300 Jumps

Pelham Georgiades



'Isaac' Newton by Paul Pedley

Cyprus

We have had a few visitors who appeared to have had a good time. Gareth & Gavin Wood (no relation to CCI Dave) had a ten day holiday, packing in 53 jumps. Paul 'Isaac' Newton brought over an ExPed of RAF people and proceeded to jump various parts of their anatomy off under the watchful control of Tex and Dave. Chris Wood was somehow persuaded to hold out the beer can for Tex to catch as he swooped by! Dave Wood did his 1,000th AFF jump and Chris Oakes achieved Category 8 in five days and 18 jumps. Congratulations to both.

Phil Bell

We're getting another 206, mainly to deal with the backlog of students from our thriving tandem operation and not-so-thriving weather. This is great news as this is one plane devoted to regular jumpers, and one plane for tandems. Static line courses have now really taken off with potentially loads of new freefallers from the local universities. A last minute demo for the 100th anniversary of Exeter Football Club was pushed for time and in the rain; but it somehow went according to plan!

Some regulars went to the Herc Boogie and we've used one of your photos - not that we're jealous or

Dunkeswell

anything! *Tumbleweed* arrived back from their travels looking justifiably rather chuffed. They had clocked up silver in the Nationals, 10th in the world and Deb's 2,000th jump!

Our manifestor doubled up on her 100th jump and IC1 - if that doesn't shut her up nothing will! Those off to DeLand have a good time, those not going - tough! We kick off 2005 in early February. 2004 is now all but history, thanks to everyone for your support especially those who work here.

Dan Batchelor



Herc Boogie jump by Ryan Mancey

Cark

Achievements First Freefall

Chris Davidson
Helen Clarke-Gauld
Dan Gauld
Mark Wright
Vikki Harding

Cat 8

Nick Ward
Peter Webber
AFF Graduate
Gary Yerrill
Chris Meehan

100 Jumps

Maddy West

FS1

Dave Honeybone

Proud parents Gaz and Ali Turner welcomed baby Brandon into the world while Stuart and Martine Morris welcomed Alexandria India. Congratulations Katie Kelsall, who finally did a tandem with her dad Craig, after trying for so long since her 16th birthday. We hope to see Julia, Craig's wife skydiving again, she's given up jumping since giving birth to baby Skye. Come on Julia, you know where your rig is!

There was a good turnout to the first Grand Prix Cark

had ever hosted, 4-way FS.

Gold medallists were:

Senior: *Blurred Vision*

Inter: *Optic*

Junior: *Spanish Fly*

Many scratch teams did really well considering their experience. We hope to host many more competitions and welcome other new jumpers. The XL750 has been a great new toy.

'The Management' welcomes back students from Manchester, Preston and Liverpool Unis, we've been really busy with static line courses and major

progression. NWPC will remain open for December and January, only closing for Christmas Day and Boxing Day weekend. We've always closed over the Christmas period but now we have the PAC, we just can't stop!

Our new hangar will be a fab little home for the XL750, doubling up for creeping and packing. It'll be ready for our New Year's Eve party, jump into 2005 from our new plane!

Michelle Meakins

Craig Kelsall takes daughter Katie for a tandem



Photos: Peter Hughes



16 teams registered for our LAC Meet, the sun shone and there was no wind, making for some exciting landings – unfortunately too eventful in some cases, get well soon Dan!

The launch formations were 'interesting' perhaps unique and the 'spiral staircase' posed a few problems with only two of the senior teams getting a score. *Why Us?* held onto their lead throughout the launches, and dominated the accuracy. Only Chris Lynch swooping to four pads and taking silver, prevented a *Why Us?* clean sweep – Dave Crowhurst took the gold, with Pete third and Ken fourth (Jane was a lowly 6th)

Overall, Chris Lynch's team *In the King Plane* took silver and *Gate Crashers* bronze. The winners of the intermediate team cup were *2 Pie R* with Mo Sherwood taking the Accuracy. Saturday's prizegiving was at the party in Wings – complete with Athens-style laurel wreaths.

Pete Sizer

Just 16, Graham Crowhurst did his first tandem jump with Clem. Graham's been helping with the LAC since he was walking. He comes from a skydiving family – dad Dave got gold at the LAC and mum Fiona was the country's first AFF student. Not long before we can see younger brother Colin jumping too!

A warm welcome back to Neil, who has joined us for the winter flying the Beaver and to tandem instructor Mick who has followed the trend of antipodeans heading to Headcorn. We're proud of our *Brit Chick* contingent Mireille, Jan and Lou – well done you and all the chicks – what an achievement! Despite bad weather, we've still had a pretty good year's jumping as you can see from the achievements list, so here's to 2005!

Ruth Cooper



Pierre Pascal
Accuracy photos
by Nigel Rowlan



Pete Sizer

Headcorn



Ken Gregory

LAC winners by
Simon Hughes



Wild Geese

It's been a quiet couple of months but we're still progressing students; four achieved first freefall on the same day! At 79 Holly Irwin made history by becoming the eldest person to jump at the Geese. She did a tandem with Nigel Moore and raised over £2,500 for charity. Nigel said she was a super student with a great body position and smiling throughout.

John McCourt



Holly Irwin in tandem
with Nigel Moore,
photo by John McCourt

Achievements First Freefall

Mark McGarvey
Stephen Hamilton
Ian Hamilton
Nigel Shields
50 Jumps, F51
Eddie Black
100 Jumps,
1 Hr Freefall
Rod McCrory
500 Jumps
Sean McKenna

Graham Crowhurst on the front of
Clem Quinn and joined by
Jane Buckle, photo by Simon Hughes



Achievements

First Freefall

Danny Lau
Mark Godsalue
Tony Kirk-Burgess
James Laffler
Peter Chittenden
Clare Beer

IC1

Tony Kirk-Burgess
Digger

IC1, F51

Macca

F51

Richard Parkin

Cat 8

Davina MacKenzie

Jump Numbers

50

Nick Brown

100

Richard Parkin

Laura Brothers

Alex Turner

A Bond

Digger

200

Richard Cole

Keith Stock

300

Wendy Watkins

Tilly Attewill

Graham Wallace

400

Steve Such

500

John Walters

Kevin Dubash

Clare Smith

700

James Wilson

800

Wiggy

Andy Holland

Matt Holmes

900

Lou Hawkins

1,000

Pierre Pascal

3,500

Ken Gregory

6,500

Jane Buckle

7,000

Mike Milton

10,800

Chris Lynch



Peterlee

Tom Memorial Team
by Alan Thompson

The last 4-way GP of the season had a great turnout with these results:

- | | |
|--------|-------------------|
| Senior | 1. 4 Motion |
| | 2. Double Vision |
| Inter | 1. South Parc |
| | 2. Optic |
| | 3. Evolution |
| Junior | 1. Tom Memorial |
| | 2. Does D's |
| | 3. 4Better 4Worse |

Very well done to our own Tom Memorial Team who are Geoff, Richard, Georgina, and Nick filling in for Tom. They were videoed by Bryn who happened to be back for a short visit. Hopefully Tom will be back next season when he recovers from his accident. Evening entertainment was provided by Chris and Andy who connected up to a TENS machine whilst attempting to eat and drink... with hilarious consequences. Maybe you had to be there to appreciate it, and of course naked darts which I don't think even those taking part understood.

Spanish Fly won gold at the Ark and Langar GPs and became overall 4-way GP Junior Champions, well done!



Bounce Back Boogie pics by Paul McCormick



Five different universities were welcomed back with the Bounce Back Boogie. Saturday evening's party had a theme of Cowboys and Indians with a live band Gold Rush and a rodeo bull. Hang in there guys, the weather can't be bad forever. Good luck to Chris Beattie, off to New Zealand for six months and to Phoenix who've taken over the DZ video franchise. At last the runway hardening is complete so we can still operate even after prolonged rain which previously sometimes stopped play.

Paul McCormick

Achievements Cat 8

Andrew Brumby
50 Jumps
Mandy McGuinness
100 Jumps
Alan Adams
200 Jumps
Georgina Impey
900 Jumps
Alan Thompson
1,500 Jumps
Bryn Chaffe
12 Hrs Freefall
Alan Thompson

Non BPA Affiliated centres



Tigers

After a good season with over 50 displays, we've had to say goodbye to long term team member Kev Rowland who's moved to Finland with his family. Good luck, you will be missed. We look forward to welcoming his replacement, Pete Brown, who's now enjoying an attachment at the JSPC Netheravon. We're eagerly awaiting the next team training in Sebastian, Florida. We've lots of bookings for 2005. If you would like info on the Tigers jumping into your event phone 01227 818 026 or see www.thetigersfft.co.uk

Dave Clarke

Pumpkin

An interesting AFF course in September saw one young man who got drunk, got arrested, got released... got drunk again, got arrested.... and got slammed up for three weeks in an LA jail, missing his return flight! (Not the normal PhD course I hasten to add!) Special congratulations to James Watson, who came back after a dislocated shoulder to pass with honours.

Winter weather is forcing groups to spread their wings to USA and Europe. Some guys going to the Chicks Rock Boogie chickened out... all those women in party mode... far too intimidating! They're off to Florida now, wish you a safe and fun time. Old members have taken part in most UK events in UK, like the Sibson Wingsuit Weekend, the integration of TP into regular clubs has well and truly taken place, aim achieved!

Martin Williams

Achievements Cat 8

James Watson
James Barry
Gavin Harries



James Barry deploys,
photo by Brian Harrell

Royal Artillery

We held the first Royal Artillery parachute team reunion for over 20 years; newer team members got together with the old 'n' bold to chew the fat. There were video and slideshows of past and present demos and it was a really good evening. Congratulations to Rick Bishop who picked up the Chris Murphy trophy for Black Knight of the Year, and an Oscar should go to him for his acceptance speech! He also wins the first DZ party award while Chris Byrne gained his first water jump. AFF trips to Perris Valley and Australia are in store.

Carl Jackson

Achievements
800 Jumps
George Easton



Photos by Steve Hughes

POPS

Hinton's meet got off to a windy start, which kept most of us on the ground chatting. Two members braved the conditions and their landings made the rest of us thankful that

we stayed on the ground! We had a good old rant about the top time in Switzerland followed by a very nice meal at a local pub.

At the POPS record attempt at Langar Boogie 2 we started by building the base out of the TurboLet but we didn't have much luck. On the third and last jump of the day, we changed to the SkyVan and saw a stunning 8-way launch and a build to 16 with just two out. Everyone got ready for what we all believed would be a successful record the next day, out of the lead SkyVan with the Let as trail. Guess what? Blown out again, just like last year!

For the UK and European POPS record to happen next year we need ALL the over 40 jumpers who have a positive attitude and the necessary big-way skills. We know you're out there. Email your skydiving CV to jack.felstead@connectfree.co.uk or Pete Knight (pete@freefall.org), or contact Mike Tobin, Billy Payne or Craig Kelsall.

I hope to see lots of you at the AGM.

Niels Hansen



Royal Artillery parachute team reunion

POPS dive at Langar by Tony Danbury



POPS New Members

Steward Brokes
Andrew Edmonds
Michael Lloyd
Len Doran
John Rooke
Les Nixon
Steve Crabtree
Mick Nealis
Tim Pedley
Jim Pescod
Bob Wood
Geoffrey Mason
Steve Simmons
Andy Clarke
Dick Kalinski
David Hogg
Mick Berry

Who are YOU going to meet at the Symposium?

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Everyone will be there... so should you!



Register on-line at www.pia.com

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Jacksonville, FL 32202
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COMPLETE RIG Quasar II container black with white trim, Sabre 107 main, Tempo 120 reserve, BOC with hackey handle, (collapsible new pilot chute). Expert 1 pin Cypres (requires service)
Cost: £1,200 (offers accepted)
Location: Glasgow
Contact: Ginette Bailey
01360 313784
Email: ginette_juju@hotmail.com

SPECTRE 107, JAVELIN, TEMPO.
Javelin TJ 120/135, very small harness.
Cost £400. Tempo: 120 Reserve, no
jumps. Cost £350. Spectre 107, 96
jumps. Cost £750.
Location: Kent
Contact: Jan 07710 499106
Email: mail@jananddave.co.uk (JATU)

COMPLETE RIG FOR SALE 4 years old, fully maintained, Zerex container, Black and Golden yellow, PD Sabre 1-170, Reserve Tempo 150, Cypres 1 (8 years left). Will fit medium build /height. 580 jumps. Cost: £1,500
Contact: Michael 07973 633946 (After 3.30pm)
Email: michael.wilson-roberts@unilever.com (MIWI)

COMPLETE RIG Stiletto 135, 150 jumps, Cricket 130 Reserve, 1 pin TO (BOC), turquoise, navy, white, matching suit/hat. Excellent piece of kit. Cost: £1,250
Location: Leeds
Contact: Jon Vennell 07745 003488
Email: eve@lozandjon.fsnet.co.uk

COMPLETE RIG Javelin 2, Jungle boogie colours. Sabre 135/Microraven (never used). BOC Cypres ready. Cost: £950 for quick sale.
Contact: Anita 01902 343616
Mobile: 07761 289837

TANDEM VECTOR EZ384 Main, 360 reserve, Cypres, 250 jumps on container, 50 jumps on main £3,800 ono. Also PD500 tandem main, 300 jumps, £250 ono.

Location: Tilstock Chatteris
Contact: Chris 01691 828406
Mobile: 077888 27175 (CHGI.2)

TSE ZEROX MK.1, Navy/Sky, Sized for 135-175 main, retractable pilot chute. Swift 175 reserve, Cypres 1 (usable until 31/12/05). Excellent condition.
Cost: £495 ono
Location: Nottingham
Contact: Bob Connell
0115 982 5772 (eves)
Email: bob@skydivers.co.uk (BOCO 4)

FXC AAD'S J modified require 2 year service twenty avialble £45 each ono on offer for the lot.

Location: Tilstock, Chatteris
Contact: Chris 01691 828406
Mobile: 077888 27175 [CHGI.2]

COMPLETE RIG Stiletto 150 approx.
130 jumps (purple/jade), Speed 135
reserve 0 jumps, NEXT container (jade
container, grey suede back/grey
webbing & risers), s/s 3 & style rings,
Cypres, rig bag, packing mat & full docs
package. £1,600. DOM 02/01
Contact: 01833 650281 (PADO.1)

COMPLETE RIG 1 pin Teardrop (black & pink).Fury 220 main, Tempo 170 reserve. Only done 50 jumps,still like new. Comes with matching jumpsuit, helmet,altimeter (wrist), carry sack, goggles and gloves. No Cypres.
Location: York
Contact: Dean Clifford
01904 413149 (DEC 1)

JAVELIN 150 Javelin 1995 parachute,
150 Main, 155 Reserve unused,
Altimeter, £2,000 when new, now for
sale for £1,000 (offers accepted)
Location: Hampshire
Contact: James Smith
07717467629 (JASM.2)

COMPLETE RIG TSE Zerox Conatiner
black, red. GQ Raider main silver, red,
black with Phantom reserve. Unpacked
for inspection. 6 jumps as new.
Cost: Offers accepted
Location: Essex
Contact: Ted 01255 815392
Email: ed@bray.76381.fsnet.co.uk
(TEBR.1)

COMPLETE RIG Stiletto 135, Techno 128, Atom Millennium, hip rings stainless steel, kill line. Cost: £1,400.
Contact: Ross 07736 687014 (RORO 3)

ALTIS, JUMPSUITS, BAG AND MAT
L&B Pro-Dryter (£80), Silver Sapphire
Altimeter (£45), Royal Blue 'Symbiosis' FS
Suit (£80), Blue and yellow 'Original
Lizard' FF Suit (£80), Royal Blue Rig Bag
 (£40), Royal Blue Packing Mat (£15),
Flex Goggles (£10). Photos available.
Contact: Rob 07881 910094
Email: robknight@yahoo.co.uk

COMPLETE RIG Javelin Odyssey, all toys, excellent condition, Safire 149 Approx 500 jumps Cypres, Raven reserve. All in VGC, reluctant sale. Cost: £2,600 ono

Location: Sibson

Contact: Kev Goode 07798 503466

Email: kba2000@aol.com (UUGO.1)

COMPLETE RIG Javelin XRS, Stiletto 97, Tempo 120, Cypres, All with 130 jumps, unused last seven years therefore immaculate condition. Small harness, freely friendly Cost: £1,900 ono

Location: Sibson
Contact: Kev Goode
Tel: 07798 503466
Email: kba2000@aol.com (JUGO.1)

No responsibility is accepted for any negotiations which may result from these advertisements. The publishers reserve the right to withdraw any advertisement without giving a reason. No liability can be accepted by the publisher for any error or omission. Rates, terms and conditions for classified advertisements may be changed without notice. Any wording making a judgement on the suitability of kit for a skill level will be removed. Readers should take care before making payments or parting with goods to advertisers or persons replying to advertisements as no liability can be accepted by the publishers for any resulting loss or dissatisfaction.

NB: We recommend anyone buying parachute equipment takes advice from an instructor and/or rigger and does not part with their cash until the kit has been inspected and deemed serviceable and suitable for your weight, experience & skill level.

Classified adverts also available on the BPA website: www.bpa.org.uk

£15.00 per issue (private) ☐ £20.00 (trade) incl of VAT ☐

For an extra £10.00 I would like to appear on the BPA Website ☐

Please indicate the numbers of issues required ☐

Cheques should be made payable to Warners Group

your credit/switch card number below. **Issue No**

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Visa	Mastercard/ Access	Cheque	Switch	Expiry Date
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[illegible]

☐ Kit for Sale ☐ Miscellaneous **Maximum 36 Words**

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Sarah Makin, Classified Advertisement Department, **Skydive Mag**

Warners Group Publications, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincs. PE10 9PH

Name/Address (not for publication)	BLOCK CAPITALS
---	-----------------------

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DAYTIME TEL. NO. _____

Closing Date for the February issue - 20 January

skydive
The Mag

Item	This will be in bold	
Description		
Cost		
Location		
Contact		
Tel		
Email		

Facilities

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

Coaching

- LO Load Organisers
- FS Formation Skydiving
- CF Canopy Formation
- FF Freeflying
- AC Accuracy
- WP WARP
- SU Skydive U

BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



Civilian BPA Centres 1-20

Military BPA Centres A-D



3

Bridlington
01262 677 367



British Skysports, Bridlington

East Leys Farm, Grindale Rd,
Bridlington, E Yorks YO16 4YB
Tel: 01262 677 367 or 07836 276 188
Fax: 01262 401 871

www.britishtskysports.co.uk info@britishtskysports.co.uk

Aircraft: Cessna 206

Open: 8am - 8pm every day

First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem

FS CF AC WP

4

Dunkeswell
01404 891 690



Devon & Somerset Parachute School

30 Tower Way, Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon EX14 4XR
Tel: 01404 891 690 Fax: 01404 891 690

aguest12@btinternet.com

www.parachuting-uk.com

Aircraft: Cessna 206

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

First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem

CF SU

5

Headcorn
01622 890 862



Headcorn Parachute Centre

Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX

Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641

headcorn@btconnect.com

www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

Aircraft: Beaver (winter), Let 410 (summer), Islander

Open: 9am - dusk Tuesday to Sunday, 1pm - dusk on Mondays in summer.

First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem

Come and join in the fun here at Headcorn!

LO FS CF FF AC WP

6

Hinton
01295 812 300



Hinton Skydiving Centre

Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS

Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400

info@skydive.co.uk

www.skydive.co.uk

Aircraft: Nomad/Beaver (Mar-Oct), Cessna 206

Open: 8am - 9pm at weekends, 9am - 7pm, Tue-Fri

First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem

Small and friendly

FS CF FF AC WP

1

Black Knights
01524 791 820



Black Knights Parachute Centre

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane, Cockerham, Lancaster LA2 0DY

Tel: 01524 791 820 Fax: 01772 717 624

www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

Aircraft: Cessna 185

Open: 8am - 8pm, weekends and bank holidays, Fridays in summer & other days by arrangement

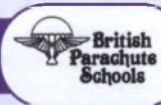
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem

Always a warm welcome at the North West's most accessible drop zone. Come visit us.

LO FS CF FF WP

2

Langar
01949 860 878



British Parachute Schools

Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY

Tel: 01949 860 878 Fax: 01949 860 012

www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

Aircraft: Cessna 206, 2 Caravans, SkyVan occasionally

Open: 9am - 8pm (or sunset) every day, 10am start Sun.

Office open every day 8.30am - 6pm

First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem

Lots of aircraft, always lots of jumping, busy every day - midweek too!

LO FS CF FF WP

7

Jersey
01534 747410



Skydive Jersey Ltd

States Airport, St Peter, Jersey JE3 7ZR

Tel: 01534 747410 Fax: 08708 313107

info@skydivejersey.net

www.skydivejersey.net

Aircraft: Cessna 206, occasional turbines

Open: Every day, hours vary with tide, call first before visiting

First Jump Courses: Tandem, AFF

Stunning views jumping onto the beach in St Aubins Bay. Good deals with local hotel.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

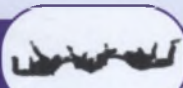
8 London
01494 459 500



London Parachute School

31 Green Street, Hazlemere, Bucks HP15 7RA
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 01494 459 500 Fax: 01494 444 326
info@londonparachuteschool.com
www.londonparachuteschool.com
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206
Open: 9am – dusk at weekends
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem, AFF
LO FS CF AC WP

13 Peterlee
0191 517 1234



Peterlee Parachute Centre

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
Tel: 0191 517 1234 Fax: 0191 517 1234
shottonairfield@aol.com
www.skydiveacademy.org.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182, Let 410 (Apr-early Nov)
Open: 8.30am – 8.30pm weekends & bank holidays.
1pm – 8.30pm Wed-Fri. Flexible hours, phone to confirm
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem
15 minutes drive from Durham city, 25 minutes from
Newcastle, centrally located for NE England.
FS CF WP

18 Tilstock
01948 841 111

THE PARACHUTE
CENTRE LTD.

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

9 Chatteris
01354 740 810

NLPC

North London Parachute Centre

Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea, March, Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 01354 740 810 Fax: 01354 740 406
chatpara@aol.com
www.ukskydiving.com
Aircraft: 2 Nomads, Cessna 206
Open: 8am – 8pm Tue-Sun in summer.
9am – dark Wed-Sun in winter
First Jump Courses: rounds, RAPS, AFF, tandem
A friendly, progressive drop zone with excellent facilities
that are constantly being updated.
LO FS CF FF WP SU

14 South Cerney
07779 019 655



Skydive South West

Duke of Gloucester Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester,
Gloucester GL7 5RD
Tel: 07779 019 655 will@skydivesouthwest.co.uk
www.skydivesouthwest.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182, Turbolet
Open: Fri-Sun (weekdays by arrangement)
First Jump Courses: tandem, RAPS AFF
AC WP

19 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), Islander
Open: Weekends & weekdays by arrangement
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem, AFF
FS WP FF LO

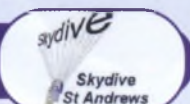
10 Cark
01229 889 516

NORTH WEST

North West Parachute Centre

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr Grange-over-Sands,
Cumbria LA11 7LS
Tel: 01229 889 516 Weekends: 01539 558 672
Fax: 01772 787 106 skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
www.skydive-northwest.com
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
Open: 9am – 9pm, w/ends & bank hols, weekdays by arrangement
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem, AFF
Set in beautiful surroundings of the Lake District. We aim to
make everyone feel welcome.
LO FS CF FF WP

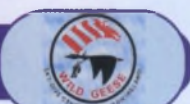
15 St Andrews
01334 880 678



Skydive St Andrews

Kingsmuir Airfield, Saint Andrews, Fife KY16 8QQ
skydivestandrews@mail.com
Tel: 01334 880 678
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 185, Turbo 206, Turbine for special events
Open: Weekends & bank holidays, midweek by arrangement
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem
A warm welcome, comfortable surroundings and professional
service await you at Scotland's newest parachute centre.
LO FS CF FF WP SU

20 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609



Wild Geese Skydive Centre

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvaghy,
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

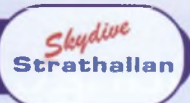
11 Paragon
01821 642 454



Paragon Skydiving

Erral Airfield, Grange, Erral, Perthshire PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656
www.paragonskydiving.com
bg@gollan66.fsnet.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182
Open: 9am – 6pm Sat, 10am – 6pm Sun all year. 9am –
7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses & tandems only
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
Nice friendly DZ, beautiful scenery, barbecue every Sat
night so come along and chill out.
FS CF WP

16 Strathallan
07774 686 161



Skydive Strathallan

Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Weekends: 01764 662 572
Tel: 07774 686 161 Fax: 01236 732 461
kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk
www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk
Aircraft: Turbine (for various events), 2 x Cessna 206
Open: 9am – 9pm weekends & bank holidays.
5pm – 9pm Fridays in summer
First Jump Courses: rounds, RAPS, tandem
LO FS CF FF AC WP

12 Sibson
01832 280 490



Peterborough Parachute Centre

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
www.skydivesibson.com skydivesibson@btconnect.com
Aircraft: Turbolet (summer), Cessna 206
Open: 8am – 8pm. Tue-Sun in summer (Mar-Nov). Wed-Sun
in winter (Dec-Feb). Closed January
First Jump Courses: RAPS, AFF, tandem
"Unrestricted altitude at competitive prices", "Great facilities",
"World class coaching" – Quotes from our customers.
LO FS FF AC WP SU

17 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@targetsky.demon.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

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

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

B RAFSPA & RAFSPA

Hawks Parachute Team
JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-
Green, Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TG
Tel: 01869 343 343 / 343 201
Fax: 01869 343 676
skydiveweston@aol.com
www.rafspa.com

Overseas Military DZs

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58,
Cyprus
Tel: 00 357 2474 4337
Fax: 00 357 2474 4180
dwchainsaw@hotmail.com
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://jpsc.de>
(unofficial website)

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for your kids

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sunscreen"



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www.ripcord-skydivers.com.au

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

Parachute Training Services

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)

Royal Navy & Royal Marines Sport Parachute Association

RN & RM SPA

Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Wilts SP4 9SF
Tel: 07811 208 929
skydiveandski@hotmail.com
Contact: Phil Elston

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

PhD Skydiving



PhD Skydiving

Ramsdean House, Ramsdean, Petersfield GU32 1RS
Mobile: 07971 665815
martin@phdskydiving.co.uk
www.phdskydiving.co.uk
Contact: Martin Williams
Courses: AFF, Skydive U
Location: UK, Spain, USA

Skydive Academy

Skydive Academy Ltd.

Peterlee Parachute Centre, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261
skydiveacademy@aol.com
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy
Contact: Ian Rosenginge
Courses: AFF, Tandem
Location: UK (Peterlee) & 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)

Red Devils



Red Devils

Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678300
Fax: 01980 678349
oc@reddevilsonline.com
www.reddevilsonline.com
Contact: Captain Edward Paxton
Courses: Tandem
Location: UK (Netheravon)

Skydive Limited

Skydive Ltd.com

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

The Freefall Company



FreeFall Company

Sector Aerodrome, Empuriabrava, 17478, Girona, Spain
Tel: 00 34 972 45 45 63
Mobile: 00 34 626 54 53 98
kevin@freefallco.com
www.freefallco.com
Contact: Kevin McCarthy
Courses: AFF
Location: Spain

Pops UK



Pops UK

Flat 14, 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

Top Flat, 68 Berkeley Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8HG
www.bcpa.org.uk
chairman@bcpa.org.uk
Contact: Tim Cooke, 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, Bullolus 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@floridaskydiving.com
www.floridaskydiving.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

Freefall Adventures/Skydive Cross Keys

300 Dahlia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey, 08094, USA
Tel: 001 856 629 7553
Fax: 001 856 629 7585
skydive@freefalladventures.com
www.freefalladventures.com

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 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

DECEMBER 2004

- 4 Dunkeswell Christmas Bash**
Fishponds House 07834 383 567
- 4 Peterlee Christmas Party**
0191 517 1234 www.skydiveacademy.org.uk
- 4 Tilstock Christmas Party**
Hawkstone Park 01948 841 111
- 4-8 Big-Way & Skills Camp**
Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 7 EGM & BPA Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk
- 8-12 4-way Tunnel Camp**
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com
- 11 Target Christmas Party**
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
- 11 Paragon Christmas Party**
Inchture Hotel 01821 642 454
- 11 Black Knights Christmas Party**
BKPC, Cockerham 01524 791 820
- 18 Langar Christmas Party**
Langar Bar 01949 860 878
- 18 NLPC Christmas Party**
Chatteris 01354 740 810
- 18 Peterborough Christmas Party**
Sibson 01832 280 490

18-Jan 2 Christmas Boogie
Zephyrhills 001 813 783 9399
USA www.skydivecity.com

18-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Lake Wales info@floridaskydiving.com
Florida 001 863 678 1003

18-Jan 6 Christmas Boogie
Empuriabrava 0034 972 450 111
Spain www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

20-Jan 2 Holiday Boogie
Perris Valley, California 001 951 657 3904
www.skydiveperris.com

20-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Lillo, Portugal www.skydivelillo.com
0034 902 366 209 info@skydivelillo.com

21-24 Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley emmahammersley@yahoo.com

22-Jan 3 Jump for Life Boogie
Gran Canaria 0034 928 157 000
www.jump-for-life.com

22-Jan 9 Algarve Winter Boogie
Algarve 0113 250 5600
Portugal www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

24-Jan 2 Holiday Boogie
Skydive Arizona 001 520 466 3753
USA www.skydiveaz.com

26-31 Feel Good Boogie
Ramblers 00617 5423 1159
Australia www.ramblers.com.au

27-30 Freely Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley 001 951 657 3904
www.skydiveperris.com

31-Jan 1 New Year's Eve Boogie
Cark skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
01539 558 672 www.skydive-northwest.com

JANUARY 2005

4-10 Malaysia Tunnel Camp
Malaysia info@extremesportscafe.com

8-9 Young Eagles
Netheravon skydive@robertames.co.uk

12-16 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

14-19 PIA Symposium
Jacksonville, USA www.pia.com

22 BPA AGM
Hanover Hotel www.bpa.org.uk
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22 IC1 Night
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USA www.skydiveaz.com

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5-6 Progression Weekend
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01539 558 672 www.skydive-northwest.com

5-8 Mardi Gras Boogie
Zephyrhills 001 813 783 9399
USA www.skydivecity.com

7-10 Advanced Packers Course
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

7-13 World Cup Canopy Piloting
Florida Skydiving Center 001 863 678 1003
Lake Wales info@floridaskydiving.com

9-13 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

12-13 Valentine's Meet
Skydive Arizona 001 520 466 3753
USA www.skydiveaz.com

14-18 BPA Instructor Course
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CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

18-19 Freely Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley, California 001 951 657 3904
www.skydiveperris.com

18-20 Freely Money Meet
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USA www.skydiveaz.com

18-Mar 5 ESA Boogie
Uruguay boogie@exoticskyadventures.nl
0031 222 311658 www.exoticskyadventures.nl

19-Mar 20 Algarve Spring Boogie
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Portugal www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

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22-Mar 6 Dubai Boogie
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01932 701321 www.theboogieclub.co.uk

25-27 Freely Skills Camp
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0113 250 5600 www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

12-18 The Search
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USA www.skydivecity.com

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19-25 Learning Curve Camp
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24-27 Blue Water River Boogie
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APRIL

2-3 Freely Coaching
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
skydiveweston@aol.com www.rafspace.com

2-3 CF & Camera Seminar
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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

4-8 BPA Instructor Course
Langar 0116 278 5271
Tandem/AFF trudy@bpa.org.uk

6-10 Invitational Big-way Sequential
Zephyrhills, USA 001 813 783 9399
blskyguy@aol.com www.skydivecity.com

16-17 20-way Weekend
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16-17 4-way FS Scrambles
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0113 250 5600 www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

16-24 Sky Sisters Convention
Ramblers skydive@ramblers.com.au
0061 917 3399 6400 www.ramblers.com.au

25-29 BPA Instructor Course
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AFF/Tandem trudy@bpa.org.uk

29-May 2 POPs European Meet
RAPA, Germany www.thepops.org

30-May 2 Freely Grand Prix
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

30-May 8 Langar Boogie I
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

30-May 8 Spring Boogie
Lapalisse www.lapalisse-aero.com

30-May 7 Women's CF Record Attempt
Lake Wales www.wwr@boxofclue.com
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MAY

5-8 Big-way Camp
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7-8 Andy Kelly 4-way FS Meet
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9-13 BPA Instructor Course
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14-15 8-way FS Grand Prix
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www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

14-15 20-way Weekend
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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

14-15 Women's Vertical W/Rec Camp
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16-20 Learning Curve Camp
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19-22 Women's Vertical W/Rec Camp
Brienne le Chateau g@atmonauti.com

21-22 Novice Accuracy Comp
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21-22 4-way FS Grand Prix
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www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

27-30 Scottish Nationals All disciplines
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07774 686 161 www.skydivesthathall.co.uk

28-30 4-way & 8-way FS Grand Prix
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4-5 Woodmouse Speed 7 Meet
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4-5 8-way Speed Plus
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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

6-13 Queen's Birthday Boogie
Ramblers skydive@ramblers.com.au
0061 917 3399 6400 www.ramblers.com.au

9-12 Women's Vertical W/Rec Camp
Brienne le Chateau g@atmonauti.com

18-19 20-way Weekend
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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

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Black Knights 01524 791 820
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

18-19 4-way FS Meet
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skydiveweston@aol.com www.rafspace.com

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Skydive Chicago 001 815 433 000

24-26 Women's VRW World Record Att
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USA sugargliderzfreely@hotmail.com

25-26 4-way FS Grand Prix
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25-26 POPs Meet
Hibaldstow www.thepops.org

JULY

- 2-10** **CF Spektakel**
Teuge www.para-teuge.nl
- 2-3** **9-way Speed Scrambles**
RAPA 0049 5254 933 862
Germany alexbusby@t-online.de
- 4-8** **FS Week**
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
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- 9-10** **Scrambles**
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- 16-17** **CF Grand Prix**
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- 16-24** **RAPA Championships**
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- 23-31** **Lost Prairie Boogie**
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USA www.skydiveaz.com
- 23-31** **Espace Boogie**
France www.espaceboogie.com
- 30-31** **20-way Weekend**
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Germany alexbusby@t-online.de
- 30-Aug 1** **4-way FS Nationals**
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- 31** **Water Jump**
Bewl Reservoir 01622 890 862
by Headcorn PC headcorn@btconnect.com

AUGUST

- 5-14** **North West Skyfest**
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- 6-8** **8-way FS, Artistics, Speed Nationals**
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- 13-15** **Nationals Reserve Weekend**
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- 15-19** **BPA Instructor Course**
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- 20-21** **Wingsuit Festival**
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- 22-26** **BPA Instructor Course**
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- 27-Sep 4** **Langar Boogie II**
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KEY

BPA
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