



Features:
New Age Nationals
Dual Square Report
Scottish Nationals
IPC 16-way Dive Pool
100-way Jewel
Classics Update

SPORT

PARACHUTIST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

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August/September 1997

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Journal of the British Parachute Association

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Cover Photo: Sharon Simonian exits a balloon over Perris Valley, photo by Graham (the doctor) Ribbons.

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

The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability correct at the time of going to press. Reproduction, printing and despatch takes a total of 3½ weeks so some information may be out of date or superseded.



SUPPORTED BY



Ed Speak



Hello Reader!

I always thought no-one read my editorial but it seems perhaps you do! Last issue I asked you all to send in your news and pictures from around the country. As a result, our post-bag has been bursting at the seams, so this mag is packed with news and going-on from a range of British drop zones.

This issue, in addition to the copy dates facing, we have included guides to photographers for the topics we intend to cover in October's mag. Send us your best shots on these subjects and we will do our best to publish. We are always on the look-out for quality skydiving photographs, the more the merrier.

If you have never submitted before, all the more reason to have a go now. Telephone 01733 755 893 for a copy of our photographer's guidelines to help you. The main thing is to be **totally ruthless** with your selection so you only send quality shots. If you think it you have a potential front cover, send a print of larger than A4 size (or a tranny). In general, I would like to be using more shots by British photographers but you need to send me them first!!

Happy snapping,

Lesley

Diary



Date	Event	Location	Contact
August			
4-5	XL Seminar	Headcorn	01622 890862
4-8	BI/Advanced Instructor course	Strathallan	BPA 01162 785 271
4-8	Student Progression Week	Skydive Sibson	01832 280490
5	Council Meeting	BPA offices, Leicester	BPA 01162 785 271
7-12	World Games	Lahti, Finland	
11-15	Exam/pre-Advanced Instructor course	Strathallan	BPA 01162 785 271
14-17	European Cup	La Ferte Gaucher	00 33 164202072
15-17	FS and Freestyle training camp	Ampuriabrava, Spain	00 34 72 45 01 11
16-17	4-way meet	Weston on the Green	01869 343343
16-25 **	Classics and CF Nationals	Target Skysports	0113 250 5600
16-26	Army Championships	Netheravon	01980 633 371
19-24	Bank Holiday Jump Week - £12/jump	Skydive Sibson	01832 280490
23-25	POPS meet	Border	Sue Hill 01253 713 841
23-31	5th Annual Czech Boogie	Karlovy Vary	0181 941 9212
30-31	POPS Meet	North Sealand, Denmark	00 45 75 58 3737
September			
4	STC Meeting	BPA offices, Leicester	BPA 01162 785 271
6-7	POPS Meet	Holland (check for DZ)	00 31 486 473 044
6-7	LAC meet	Headcorn	01622 890 862
6-7	Halfpenny Green reunion weekend	Langar	01949 860878
12-21	World Air Games	Efes, Izmir, Turkey	00 90 312 3104456
12-21	World Cup - Classics	Efes, Izmir, Turkey	00 90 312 3104456
12-21	World Championships - FS	Efes, Izmir, Turkey	00 90 312 3104456
12-21	World Championships - Freestyle, Skysurfing	Efes, Izmir, Turkey	00 90 312 3104456
13-14	Annual Woodmouse 4-way meet	Skydive Sibson	01832 280490
16	Council Meeting	BPA offices, Leicester	BPA 01162 785 271
17-21	POPS Nationals USA	Raeaford, USA	00 1 910 875 3261
27-28	Northern Regionals - FS, CF and Classics	Topcliffe	01274 631 044
October			
3-5	FS/Freestyle Training	Ampuriabrava	00 34 72 450111
5-6	8-way Speed	Sibson	01832 280490
20- Nov 2	Tropical Boogie, Cuba	Cuba	01622 890967
23	STC Meeting	BPA offices, Leicester	BPA 01162 785 271
28	Council Meeting	BPA offices, Leicester	BPA 01162 785 271
24- Nov 2	Halloween Boogie	Skydive Arizona	00 1520 466 3753
November			
1-9	Kenya Boogie	Malindi, Kenya	00 254 288 4258
3-8	Cyprus Championships	Cyprus	00 357 4744337
10-14	Riggers BR & Exam course	Netheravon	BPA 01162 785 271
10-14	BI/Advanced Instructor course	Silver Stars	BPA 01162 785 271
10-16	Freely Festival	Skydive Arizona	00 1520 466 3753
11-17	FS/Freestyle Training	Ampuriabrava	00 34 72 450111
17-21	Exam/pre-Advanced Instructor course	Silver Stars	BPA 01162 785 271

** = Date and/or venue change



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*Pete Allum, Toby Stafford, Chris Lynch, John McIver
Team Sebastian XL*



This Events page will cover forthcoming events in brief, this information used to be found in the News page

100-WAY CANCELLED

The British record attempt scheduled to take place at Netheravon in early August has been cancelled. This was due to a problem with the hangar roofs which have to be replaced for safety reasons.

CF AND CLASSICS NATIONALS CHANGE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Army Parachute Association are unable to host the Classics and Canopy Formation Nationals. These have therefore been moved to Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, dates remain the same (16-25 August). Jump prices have increased by £1 per jump and re-jumps will be charged for. Entry forms should be sent to Target Skysports, Woodleigh Hall Farm, Rawdon, Leeds

What's On

LS19 6JT. Telephone enquiries to 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648 837. The venue change means that Hibaldstow are hosting every National Championship this year; the New Age Nationals (see page 17), the Collegiates, FS, Classics and CF.

EUROPEAN CUP

The annual European Cup in 16-way will be held at La Ferte Gaucher, from Thursday 14 August to Sunday 17 August. The event is always well attended, efficiently organised and 'nice vibes'. La Ferte is easy to get to from the UK, it is just the other side of Paris. The *Another Planet* skydiving team will be competing in the meet, if there are any other British teams wanting to go, call Serge Matha at La Ferte on 00331 64 20 20 72, fax 64 04 01 73.

XL SEMINAR

Sebastian XL will be at Headcorn during 4/5 August to run a skills seminar. Anyone who is interested in learning FS from the top skydivers in the UK, turn up at Headcorn or call Lisa on 01622 890 862 for details.

EXOTIC STUFF

Exotic Sky Adventures are re-running the popular Cuba

Boogie for a fortnight from October 20. Next year's Exotic Adventure will be in Bangkok, Thailand, for two weeks in February. The package price (not yet announced) will include luxury accommodation, 15 skydives organised by well known skydivers, transport, special events and parties. These boogies offer an adventure holiday combined with skydiving and are ideal to take non jumping friend or partners. Cuba and Madagascar participants will be offered discounts, slots on the boogie are going fast so register now to avoid disappointment. Details from Rob Colpus on 01622 890 967 or check out their web site on www.euronet.nl/users/skydive

KENYA BOOGIE

The Kenya Boogie will be held in Malindi, Kenya during 1-9 November this year. Jumps

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cost \$25 from a Super Otter; AFF, tandem jumps are available. Accommodation at the 5 star Hemingways Hotel costs \$50 per night, including breakfast and dinner. Transport from Nairobi to Malindi can be arranged, \$75 including jumping in. Other attractions are beach jumps, scuba diving, deep sea fishing, wildlife safaris and climbing Kilimanjaro. For more information call Harro Trempenau on ++254 2 884 258, fax 884 445, e-mail geosafaris@form-net.com. Or write to PO Box 24696, Nairobi, Kenya.

Calling all photographers:

For the next (October) issue we are looking specifically for photographs of the following, to be sent by the date shown:

- Canopy Collisions** - 12 August
- Espace Boogie** - 12 August
- FS Nationals** - 12 August
- Classics & CF Nationals** - 1 September
- Weston 16-way meet** - 1 September

Also, we are always pleased to receive any photos of current events, ideally with 1-2 paragraphs of text about the picture. Any shots you feel are possible front covers should be sent in transparency format or prints larger than A4.

Send to: Lesley Gale, Sport Parachutist, 3 Burton Street, Peterborough PE1 5HA.

SPORT PARACHUTIST

Copy Deadlines

	Copy Deadline	News and Snippets	Stop Press and Latest Diary	To Reader
<i>For:</i>	<i>Long articles & photos</i> <i>Dive Dr questions</i> <i>Dive of the Month</i>	<i>News items and</i> <i>Snippets information</i> <i>with photographs</i>	<i>Late news and</i> <i>dates, WoTS info</i>	
OCTOBER	Tues 12 August	Mon 1 September	Thurs 4 September	Sat 4 October
DECEMBER	Tues 14 October	Mon 3 November	Thurs 6 November	Sat 6 December
FEBRUARY	Tues 16 December	Mon 12 January	Thurs 15 January	Sat 10 February
APRIL	Tues 17 February	Mon 2 March	Thurs 5 March	Sat 4 April

News



XL AT THE WORLD GAMES

Sebastian XL, Britain's national 4-way team, have been invited to the World Games in Lahti, Finland, during 6 - 12 August. The World Games is an invitational international event for sports which have not quite been accepted into the Olympics. Skydiving is included, the disciplines are 4-way FS, Accuracy and Freestyle. The 4-way event is run under the proposed Olympic rules which allow just 25 seconds of working time and have removed the exit from the equation by starting the clock on the first break. Only six teams in the world are included; the US, French, Russians, South Africans, Brits *Sebastian XL* plus host nation Finland.

XTRA LARGE T-SHIRTS

Sebastian XL have produced some limited edition T-shirts, proceeds of sales are to support the team fund. Attractive design, available in all

sizes, get some from any of *Sebastian XL*. A good time to catch them might be at Headcorn during 4 and 5 August. Support your National team and BUY ONE!

CENTRAL REGIONALS

The Central Regionals held at Hibaldstow on the weekend of 5/6 July were well attended with sixteen 4-way teams turning up. The senior event was won by Weston based team *No Purchase Required* with an 11.3 average. Silver went to *Air Ecosse* who put up their (best ever) average of 10.8 with guest jumper John McIver. The bronze went to *Quicksilver*. There were only two intermediate teams; the *Royal Engineers* won the event, *Spin Echo* took the silver. In the juniors there was a battle for first place between *How Bizarre* (also starring John McIver) and *XS*. After a jump-off, *How Bizarre* came out in front but *XS* are looking forward to the

rematch at the Nationals where they will have Toby Stafford as their secret weapon. The bronze in the junior event went to *All for One*.

SUN CITY

Leopard Rock, a drop zone in South Africa offers an African experience combined with skydiving. Set by Pilanesberg National park on the slopes of an ancient volcano, Leopard Rock skydiving enjoys great weather and has a pool, restaurant, bar, thatched chalets and camping facilities. All the usual types of skydiving are offered as well as the chance to participate in game drives, barbecues in the bush, wildlife and wild night life. Call Karen Richards on 0027 1465 21372.

RED BULL SKYDIVING LEAGUE

So far eight teams have entered the Red Bull Skydiving League. Unfortunately the League got off to a very wet start and teams were struggling to complete the rounds in time. For that reason, the closing dates for rounds 1-4 have been extended to 29 August 1997. It is not too late to register, so any interested 8-way teams contact Wayne Loxton on 01264 359 516. Remember, you can compete at your own DZ as it is a video meet. There are £1,000 of prizes up for grabs!!

WESTON 4-WAY MEET

Red Bull have sponsored the annual RAFSPA 4-way meet to the tune of £3,500. The winners of the senior 4-way will walk off with new Javelins and jumpsuits; the intermediate winners will be given new jumpsuits, T-shirts and Red Bull were given out to all competitors at two attempts to run the meet in May. Only one round has been completed to date and the meet has been rescheduled for the weekend of 16/17 August. It is wide open at the moment, almost all of the teams busted in the first round. *No Purchase Required* and *4Pak* are leading the field with 8 points, closely followed by *Touch n' Go*. In the intermediates, *XS* are leading the field with an impressive 9 points.

The competition was limited to Weston members only and therefore was never advertised as an open meet. This was a decision taken by Red Bull, the sponsor, who wished to support the local club scene and strongly promote the Red Bull drink in this location. Red Bull are however offering other BPA members the chance to win £1,000 in the Red Bull Skydiving League (see above) and if these two events are

successful, 1998 could be a very stimulating year for the British skydiving scene as a whole!

NATIONAL TEAM TRACKSUITS

Earlier this year, the BPA Competitions Committee wrote to all Affiliated and Associated organisations inviting them to contribute to fund tracksuits for the British teams to wear to the World Air Games in Turkey. The BPA would like to thank the organisations who have contributed so far; *Dodingtons*, *Symbiosis*, *Harrison-Beaumont*, *Headcorn Parachute Centre*, *Ipswich PC*, *British Parachute Schools (Langar)* and *JAPA*.

Unfortunately there is still a huge shortfall in money and we would like to ask for any contributions, however small. The tracksuits have been purchased at a very low cost; thanks to sponsorship from View From athletics company, they cost £45 instead of £120. If anyone else would like to contribute to the tracksuits, in however small a way, please send your contributions to the BPA office, cheques made out to British Team Fund and envelope marked with "British Team tracksuits".

CROSS KEYS

For all those Brits travelling to the US for the summer a place to check out is Skydive Cross Keys in New Jersey - 25 minutes from Philadelphia. Our own Eddie Carroll is now the CCI of the centre for the summer. Eddie is not the only US resident Brit on the drop zone as the DZ owner John Eddowes is from Liverpool. The facilities include a full time Super Otter, Porter and Cessna and other aircraft on call. The drop zone is offers deals for teams, individuals or students. Eddie is definitely there to make for some excellent vibes. Check out www.freefalladventure.com

FLYING INCIDENTS

Two pilots have been prosecuted for infringing parachute drop zones. On 22 June 1996 a PA28 with an instructor and student on board flew through the Sibson drop zone and airfield ATZ without permission. The instructor was found guilty of breaking rule 39(2) of the Rules of the Air Regulations and was fined £100 with £250 costs by Peterborough magistrates. A private pilot who inadvertently flew into Weston on the Green whilst parachutist were descending was found guilty of endangering persons under article 56 of the Air Navigation Order. He was fined £750 with £600 costs.

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Council Matters



Target Skysports has a new CCI: the popular Trevor Dobson. Nick Harrison has taken over from Chris Francis as CCI of the London Parachute School.

Christine Kerry has left the BPA office and is replaced by Mrs Karey Goodwin who takes over the administration of membership services. Karey has been working as Administrative Officer for the Ministry of Defence records office in Leicester for the last nine years.

Associated Organisations

The following organisations have been associated to the BPA:

- Freefall Adventures/Skydive Cross Keys
- Red Devils (change from Affiliated status)
- Skydive City
- Centro de Paracaigudisme Costa Brava (Ampuriabrava)

Please note that this type of membership does *not* indicate that the centres follow the BPA Operations Manual.

DEVELOPMENT

PR Feedback

If anyone has any feedback on the PR campaign run by Image Wizard on behalf of the BPA, could they send to Charles Ross c/o BPA office.

The Committee liked the additional media coverage of our sport but is trying to evaluate whether it was a success in bringing more participants into parachuting.

Telephone Card

The telephone card promoted in last issue's *Sport Parachutist* is up and running. Flyers promoting the card are contained in this issue of the magazine. We apologise for the fact they were not printed in time for the previous edition, as promised. The cards offer cheap rate calls and are especially economical if used internationally. The BPA is paid a small percentage for everyone who uses the card so getting one helps BPA funds as well as saving you money. The telephone number to apply for your card is 0181 951 5858, ask for Rachel.

Lost Income

The grant that we get from the Sports Council (£93,000 which is about 20% of our total income) had not yet been received (at the time of going to press) for the year commencing 1 July '97. It is expected that this grant will be withdrawn gradually over forthcoming years. There will be a huge affect on the BPA's

balance sheet if nothing is provided this year. The committee is looking at ways to gain additional income for the work of the BPA. As of 1 Jan '98 there will be an administration deposit on all places on Basic/ Approved/ pre-Advanced and Advanced BPA Instructor courses.

Steven Hoy has resigned from Council due to the pressure of work. There is now no driving force behind the proposed Review of the BPA so it will probably lapse. The Committee is preparing to reformulate the Development Plan for the year 2,000 and following five years, so will try to include conclusions of the review work done so far.

Sportsmatch

Sportsmatch, a government organisation which doubles commercial sponsorship grants on new projects which benefit the grass roots of a sport, was discussed at length. The membership should be aware of this facility of non-elite funding, if anyone wants details contact Charles Ross at the BPA.

In preparation for the World Championships in Canopy Formation at Netheravon next summer the BPA has granted an interest free loan of £10,000 to the project – the loan to be repaid in full in a year's time. The Army Parachute Association is matching the loan and is providing most of the co-ordination behind the event. This is the first time that the UK has hosted a World Meet.

COMPETITIONS

At the Freestyle, Freeflying and Skysurfing Nationals, two

NEW RATINGS

Tandem Instructors

Tim Porter
Mike Browne
Mark Bayada
Dteve Smith
Rob McGiff

AFF Instructors

Tony Goodman
Lee Love
Neil Wolfenden

teams reached the required level to receive BPA funding to the forthcoming World Air Games in Turkey. Congratulations to freestyle team *Pari Passu* (Ann Beckitt & John Goodyear) and skysurfing team *Playstation* (Mike Frost & Andy Ford).

Selection criteria for the forthcoming CF Nationals have been set at the same levels as last year. The required averages are as follows:

4-way rotations	11.2 points
4-way sequential	5 points
8-way speed	100 seconds

Bob Card has declined to attend the World Air Games in Turkey so the full time Head of Delegation will be John Hitchen.

STC

Equipment checklist books for reserve repacks are now available from the BPA office at a cost of £6.00 per book. Using the book will be made a mandatory requirement from January 1998 with the aim of standardising the forms used when repacking reserves.

We have a Cessna 182
which can carry four
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... on bad weather days Tim enjoyed hanging out near
the pelican crossing and playing
with his Time Out! ...

Andy Marsh

16-way Goes Official

IPC has now adopted 16-way FS competition as an official discipline. A dive pool of 9 randoms and 12 blocks has been put together and are shown on the pages following. The pool can be downloaded from <http://iria.mines.u-nancy.fr/~fai/parchuting/documents/>

The IPC rules are summarised as follows:

- Exits are from 13,000 feet with 50 seconds working time.
- The event will be run over eight rounds.
- Dives will consist of 3 or 4 points, depending on the last item drawn from the new pool.

• Teams consist of 18 members plus one or more videographers and must be of National composition to be eligible for medals.

• Total separation is not required between points.

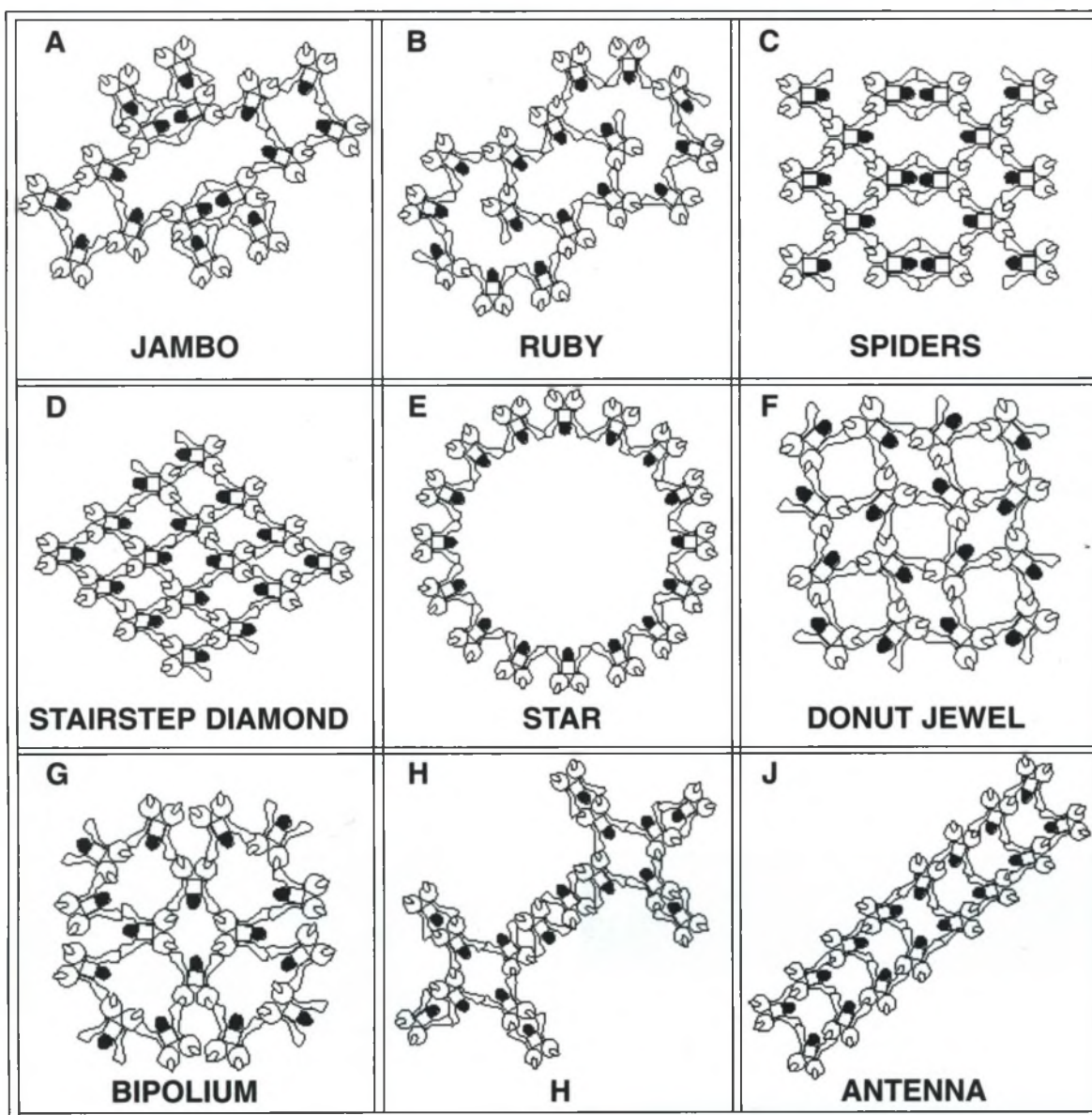
• 'Busts' for omitted or incorrect formations or inters are the same as in 4 or 8-way, ie 2 points lost for a bust.

The main area of change with other FS areas is that separation between points is not required. This was decided in consideration of the difficulty of judging total separation between 16 people,

especially at normal speed viewing. The new rule leads to a phenomena known as 'free transition' where it is perfectly allowable to keep whole chunks of the formation going from one point to the next. It will be interesting to see which teams keep what sections if any, during a meet.

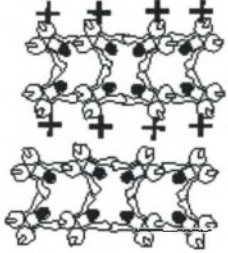
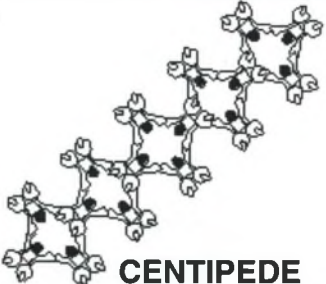
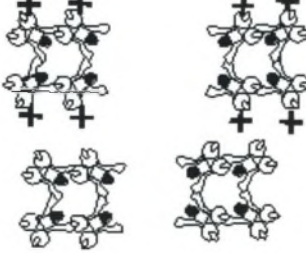
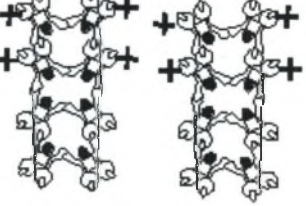
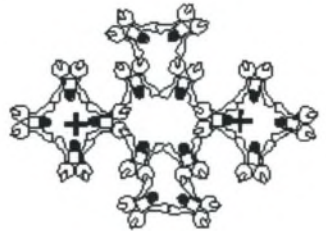
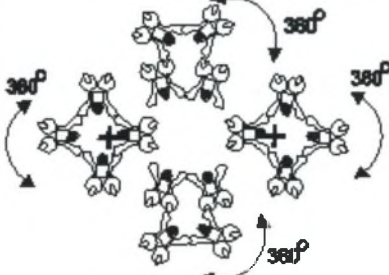
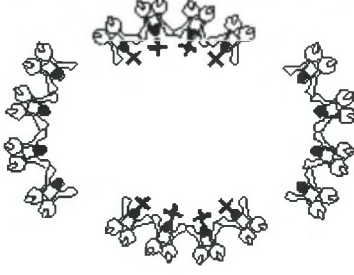
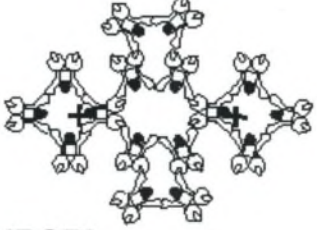
It is certain that the adoption of 16-way by IPC will raise standards in this area. We look forward to the sport breaking new ground in this area whilst we hope that the fun factor of 16-way meets will never be lost; it is a very social FS event.

IPC Formation Skydiving Pool 16-way Event: Random Formations - 1997



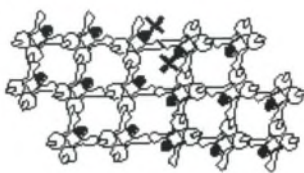
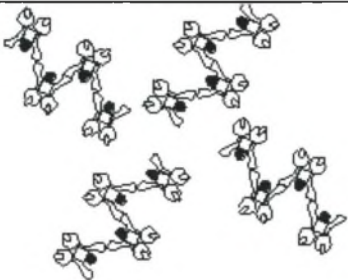
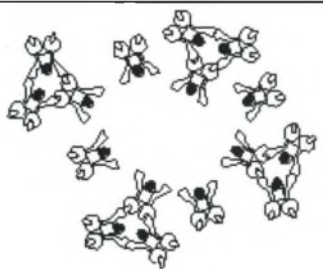
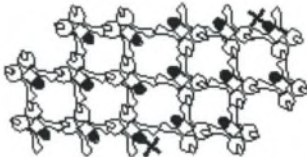
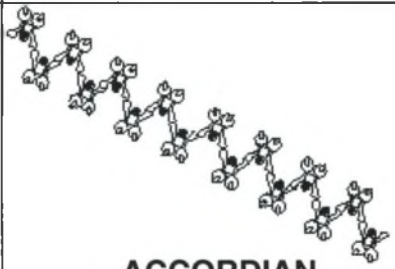
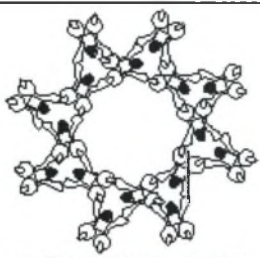
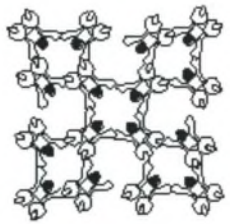
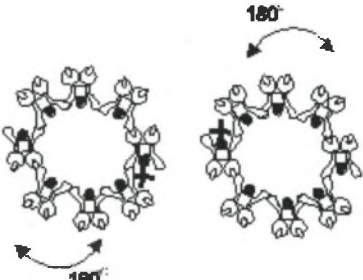
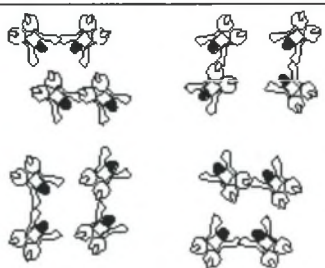
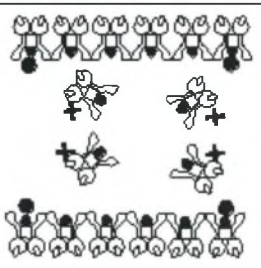
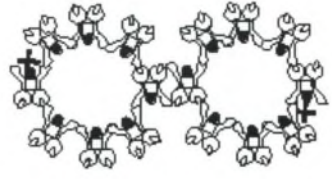
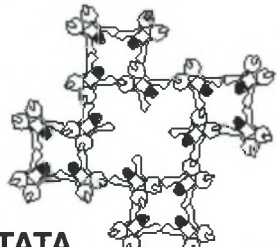
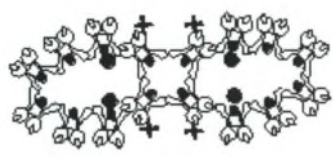
artwork courtesy Australian Parachute Federation - May 1997

16-way Event : Block Sequences - 1997

1  TWIN ZIPS	2  CENTIPEDE	3  QUADRA DIAMONDS
 TWIN ZIPS	 MOTH	 SIDEBODY DIAMONDS
 TWIN ZIPS	 MOTH	 SIDEBODY DIAMONDS
4  SNOWFLAKE	5  NAIROBI	6  LINES AND LOOPS
 IN-OUT	 NAIROBI	 LOOPS AND LINES
 IN-OUT	 NAIROBI	 LOOPS AND LINES

artwork courtesy Australian Parachute Federation - May 1997

16-way Event : Block Sequences - 1997

7  STAIRSTEP ARROWHEAD	8  WHACKER	9  ROSE
		
 STAIRSTEP ARROWHEAD	 ACCORDIAN	 DONUT FLAKE
10  TUMBLEWEEDS	11  HAKUNA	12  HIP
		
 TUMBLEWEEDS	 MATATA	 HOP

artwork courtesy Australian Parachute Federation - May 1997



Winners, Intermediate FS – *Royal Engineers*
with Meet Director Andy Allman (far L) and
Chief Judge Jackie Glover (far R)

Southern Regionals



Winners, Senior FS – *Raingods*

The Southern Regionals took place at JSPC Netheravon on 17-18 May. Even though the weather was forecasted to be bad, there was still a large number of competitors who made the effort.

In FS there were 5 Junior, 5 Intermediate and 6 Senior teams. CF; 1 Junior and 2 Senior. The Classics were supported by the same old crew, some of whom are now close to retirement, a total of 14 competitors.

The weather wasn't in our favour and a lot of time was spent on the ground but in the short times when the skies did clear a lot was achieved with 4 rounds of FS, 2 rounds of CF, 4 rounds of Accuracy and 1 round of Style. This was due to the hard work and good organisation by the Meet Director Major Andy Allman, Chief Judge Jackie Glover and Judges Jo Scott-Williams, Bob King and Tony Makepeace.

The standard of the competition was high. This was the first UK competition to use a 3cm disc. A good time was had by all, especially at the bar for the space/trekkie night.

Pauline Chandler

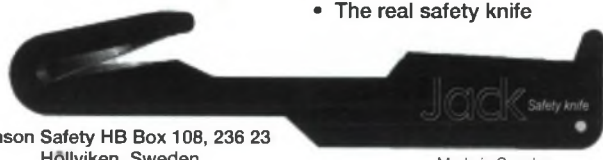
Senior FS – 4 Rounds	Total	Intermediate FS – 4 Rounds	Total	Junior FS – 4 Rounds	Total
1st Raingods	45	1st Royal Engineers	27	1st 2 Para	16
2nd Animation	35	2nd Spin Eco	17	2nd Dyslexic Skydogs	12
3rd Quiksilva	28	3rd Team 79	13	3rd YTS	6
Senior CF	Total			Junior CF	Total
1st Over the Top	1.34			1st Helian CRW	1.11
2nd Straps and Raps	2.00				
Senior Acc – 4 Rounds	Total	Intermediate Acc – 4 Rounds	Total		
1st A Chandler	0.08	1st P Chandler	6.64		
2nd D Ballard	0.13	2nd R Flavel	11.44		
3rd C Smythe	0.30				
Senior Style	Total	Intermediate Style	Total		
1st A Chandler	8.00	1st P Chandler	7.92		
2nd D Ballard	9.56	2nd R Flavel	8.35		
3rd C Smythe	10.13				

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BRITISH RECORD ORF

The planned British FS Record Attempt of 100, to be held at Nethers has hit the wall. The military have decided that they need to pull the roof off the main hangar and replace it. They have chosen the same week to do this! So guys and gals, no roof, no record! You should all have heard from your team captains by now, but if not here it is. Good effort by the Carroll Brothers, they tell WoTS it is on for next year. Records, very special, don't happen a lot. You need weather, aircraft and skydivers and venue; without one or more, no record! Shame about this year, eh? Be on the next one!

SUITS YOU MADAM

Bev Suits, originating from the USA have recruited a new dealer in the UK. Sean Richards and Nicky Fagen (the Mad Woman from Weston) are now the UK reps for Bev. They can provide custom orders for FS suits, sit suits, freefly suits (as used by the *Fly Boyz* - Scorching Hot Pro Tour team), tandem passenger suits...don't they bring their own?... and weight vests. Delivery time is around 4 weeks. Call 01869 325 796 NOW for details.

LANGAR BOOGIE

Langar held its annual Big Aircraft Boogie in what was looking like, at the time of writing, the wettest week in Langar's history. All the usual dudes were there, Alexis & Jeff from Boogie Performance, along with their Skyvan; Dave Morris; Milko; Tony; DH with his new surf board, Chuck One and the rest of the motley crew. The first Saturday night an excellent band played followed by a cool DJ. Fun was had but no skydiving. Tuesday afternoon the rain cleared up and they did 500 skydives then. But the rest of the time was Wet n' Narsty. Stay Smilin' Langar, Party ON!

THE REAPER WENT DOWN

TO NEW JERSEY....

Early July and the Reaper rocked into New Jersey, Cross Keys DZ, and pressed the 'Smite' button! He was looking for some souls to steal! This time the Reaper turned his attention to Brit CCI of Cross Keys, Load Organiser Extraordinaire, Eddie Carroll. Eddie was coaching *SkyTribe* team captain Spotty, in some FS. The dive was not happening and they broke off in order to do some CF. Eddie's Stiletto snivelled, and snivelled some more - about 14 seconds in all. Eddie gets "Flat Lined" from his *Time-Out!!* And elects to "Chop the Mother". Just as he is reaching for the handles, the Reaper lets fly and the Stiletto bangs open with bulk twists. Ed is unable to see the canopy, the twists prevent his head from going far enough backwards.

Eddie is now on his back, spinning faster than a fast thing and going down real fast. "I lost 500 ft in a heartbeat, I chopped it, flipped onto my front and dumped my reserve. I was very low. My reserve opened at about 400feet!! Agghhhh!" (His Cypres had fired but it did not cut the loop as 'Fast Eddie' was just ahead, "No Shit, there I was over the Forest, 90 ft trees, with nowhere to go. 'I'm gonna get hurt here' was my first thought..." (A mind concentrator, if ever there was one!) Out of the corner of his eye he caught sight of a tiny track and managed to sink his PD Reserve into it. Nice One Eddie! I reckon it needed a dude of your calibre to walk away from that one with just a muddy jumpsuit! They build em tough in New Jersey: "Come an 'ava go when ya think yer 'ard enough!". *Addendum:* Eddie grounded himself as soon as he landed.

HIBBLE BIBBLE

Target Skysport's first annual boogie was held 14-17 June.

Attended by lots of northern skydivers, Steve Swallow had on hand 2 Dorniers, and 2 Load Organisers (Chris T & George), I was gutted not to see Chris Lynch there, like I read about in some magazine. Anyway, Steve had ordered a whole load of rubbish weather. Friday was OK, with a few loads dodging the clouds. Saturday dawned overcast and raining, and stayed like that all day.

Fortunately, we all had Been There with the weather before and knew the necessary action. Beer Drinking! This started in earnest about the middle of the afternoon. The evening saw the arrival of a DJ. (He reckoned he had been in the business for 20 years, but had still to learn that a good DJ only says "Hello" and "Goodbye".) But, despite his inane drivel, he played some cool choons. The Hibble Bibble 'Spices' Emma, Andrea & Donna looked HOT! As may be expected, it was light before we stopped.

Sunday had 2 lifts, one from the top, one from 4,800ft. Sunday night was much the same as Saturday. Monday dawned bright and initially we got to skydive. Most did 5 jumps and there was one particularly sweet 11-way that was finished at 5,500ft. Narce! All in all, a most excellent time. Go to Hibble, the vibe is great, the people are lovely, the babes are BABES and if you can jump, you do! Welcome to Trev, the new CCI, what an asset! Baldrick's Bandanna Boogie Hibble Bibble, Hubble Bubble, WICKED!

KC FREE FLY - SIBSON

Peterborough Parachute Centre threw a week of Freefly, in remembrance of KC (Keiron

Clark - check out 'Friends we miss' on <http://www.coolngroovy.com>). Most of his buddies showed up. Held the same time as Hibble, the weather was much the same. On a couple of days most did 5 jumps, all reportedly had a great time in the evenings as well. Freeflying is certainly growing in popularity. Don't get left behind, make sure that you do some too, you'll find a whole load of new laughs! If you need instruction, go to Sibson and see Stuart and Alex, they'll set you off on the right road.

P-P-P- PICK UP A PENGUIN

A Mexican newspaper reports that bored Royal Air Force pilots stationed on the Falkland Islands have devised what they consider a marvellous new game. Noting that the local penguins are fascinated by aeroplanes, the pilots search out a beach where the birds are gathered and fly slowly along it at the water's edge.

Perhaps ten thousand penguins turn their heads in unison watching the planes go by, and when the pilots turn around and fly back, the birds turn their heads in the opposite direction, like spectators at a slow-motion tennis match. Then, the paper reports, "The pilots fly out to sea, aim directly at the penguin colony and fly over it. Some ten thousand penguins look up, up, up at the aircraft - and fall over backwards!"

— Audubon Society Magazine

VIDEO OF THE MOMENT

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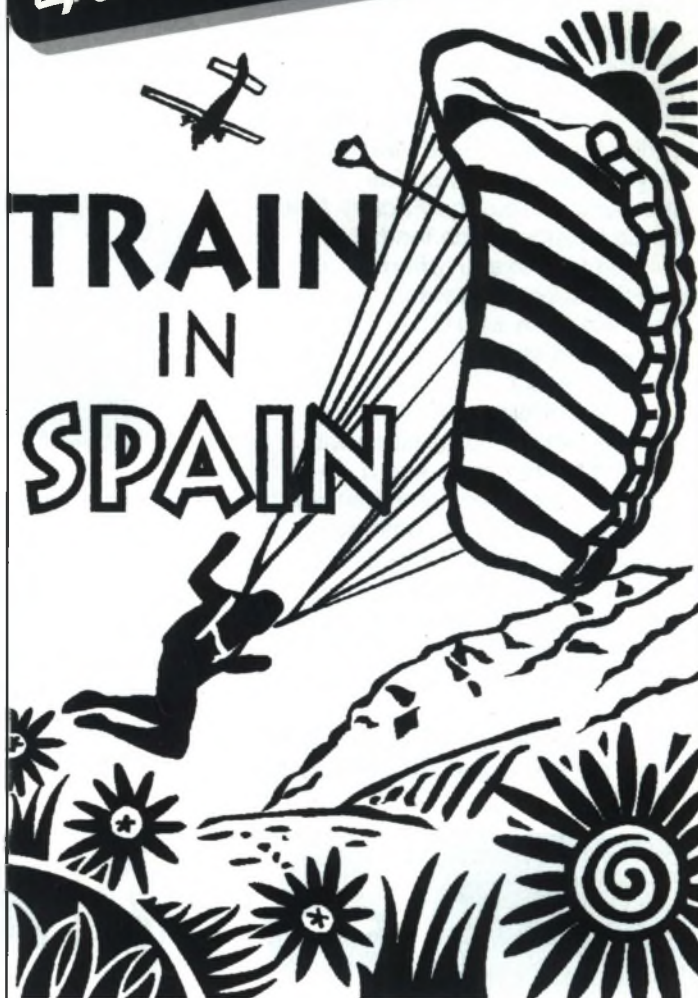
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Italia Full-face

Parasport Italia have joined the ranks of the full-face helmet manufacturers with the release this summer of their so called Z1 helmet. Introduced to the market at the PIA symposium in the USA earlier this year, the Z1 features a very 'narce' flip up visor as standard. Unlike the *Factory Diver* flip-up version which tends to jut out and look like an afterthought (which I suppose it was), the Z1's visor sits flush with the rest of the helmet and clicks into place nicely just before exit. The helmet also features a replaceable, anti-fog lens, an airtight collar fitting with adjustable chin strap and a machine washable, interchangeable liner with pouches on both ears to take an audible alti. The Z1 is available in black, white, red, yellow, jade and royal and retails in the UK at approximately £155, a similar price to the popular *Factory Diver*.

Parasport Italia – 0039 121 69692
or The Kit Store – 01622 890967

See the Light (3 times)

As you've probably gathered by now, unless you take your holidays on the moon, the *Cool & Groovy Fridge Co* have added an LED (light



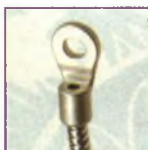
emitting diode) to their popular *Time-Out!* audible alti. This version called the *Final Frontier*, (now what you gonna call the next version George?) comes with a LED port into which fits an optional cable. At the other end of this cable is a LED which fits onto the inside of a pair of goggles or helmet visor. Each time

a button is pressed or a freefall warning given, the LED will flash in time with the audible bleeps. The Danish Company, *Larsen and Brusgaard* were the first to introduce a flashing LED to their *Dytter* audible alti, although a special version had to be ordered – unlike with the *Time-Out* where the plug in point feature is now standard and at no extra cost, although the LED and cable retail at about £20.

Cool & Groovy – 01788 860882



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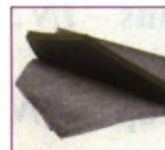
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KIT NEWS

by Rob Colpus



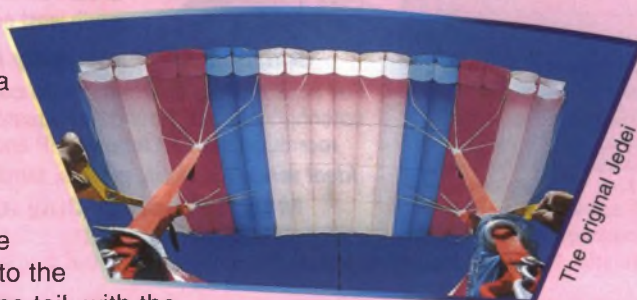
Jedei Swing Wing

Air Time Designs, a Florida canopy and jumpsuit manufacturing company owned and operated by ex-pat Brit Tony Uragello, have moved another step forward in the high tech, high performance, main canopy world with the release of their *Swing Wing* version of their top of the range *Jedei* canopy. Compared to the original *Jedei* the *Swing Wing*'s leading edge curves back more and the trailing edge less. Tony says this makes for a more solid ride and improves front riser performance.

The canopy also has a unique line configuration. For a

start, the steering line assembly features a continuous outside line going from the toggle to the very outside edge of the tail, with the

other four steering lines running parallel with each other. Apparently this allows the loaded cells to give a bit, distributing the load more evenly throughout the steering system. Tony has also incorporated New Zealand Aerosport's (featured in last month's *Kit News*) so called 'Eagle trim' – where the lines not only get longer towards the rear of the canopy, but also get longer towards the end cells. This, we're told, improves flight, lift and more importantly, the openings. The *Jedei Wing* is currently available in 105, 120 and 136 sizes. Other sizes are expected soon.



Air Time – 001 813 782 5484

Genera

Rigging Innovations Inc., of California, manufacturers of the *Talon* and other harness/container systems have released what they call "the first of a new generation of parachute systems". What they mean by this is that their new *Genera* is a complete, ready to go system including a harness/container plus main and reserve canopies aimed as a low cost "entry level, first kit". The company's aim is to supply a complete *Genera* in four weeks for starters, with the eventual goal of a 10 day delivery time. The *Genera* harness/container looks very similar to the company's *Telesis* and is available only in black cordura fabric. It is made in four sizes depending on canopy volume and in four harness sizes. It has all of today's usual features such as Cypres ready, RSL, BOC and velcro-less toggles. The main canopy is a *Gargano* manufactured zero P 9-cell called the *Gen-X* and available in 150, 185, 215 and 250 sizes. The reserve supplied is the popular *Tempo* from the South African company *PISA*. *Rigging Innovations* claim that the saving made on purchasing a *Genera* system over others on the market will allow a just-off student status jumper to be able to afford an AAD as well without having to look out for suitable second-hand kit.

Rigging Innovations
001 909 928 1438

or The Kit Store – 01622 890967

Paratec Speed

Speed 2,000 is the name given to a new series of reserve canopies from the German manufacturer *Paratec*. *Paratec* have found reasonable success with their series of main canopies including the *Fandango* and the *Balance* as featured in a previous *Kit News*.

The *Speed 2,000* series of reserves can be split down into two principle categories: The 'A' category (120-170 sq ft) for Sport use and the 'B' category (220-250 sq ft) for student use. Both designs feature the same *Paratec* airfoil and construction method, but are different in their flight

performance. According to *Paratec*, (and backed up by *Kit News* when we made a test jump on the 120 version this summer) the 'sport' category, although a 7-cell, possesses a 9-cell type flight and flare characteristic, ie: excellent lift capability and forward speed. Whereas the 'student' category has a 'stall free' landing characteristic similar to the company's *Balance* student main canopy, which is proving popular with several big European DZs. *Paratec* claim clean, fast, on heading openings (don't they all!) yet not smacking hard at terminal. All *Speed 2,000*'s are 7-cell canopies

equipped with 725 Dyneema (spectra) microlines, and are manufactured and tested in accordance with the German certification procedures and have been issued with the German Federal ministry of Transport type approval.

Paratec – 0049 6837 7375

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Dive of the Month



This issue's **Dive of the Month** was sent in by Mike Bouman, a load organiser for Exotic Sky Adventures. Further contributions to this column are welcome, the aims are originality and fun. Send to Sport Parachutist, 3 Burton Street, Peterborough PE1 5HA – or email: sportpara@aol.com

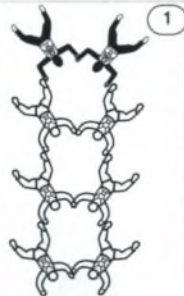
Zipper Turn

This is one of our favourite dives we did on the Exotic Sky Adventures' Cuba Boogie and which is really fun to do. The nice thing about this dive is that there are bigger and smaller parts that turn. It is a continuum and, although the formation stays the same, the view from each of you will be different after every point.

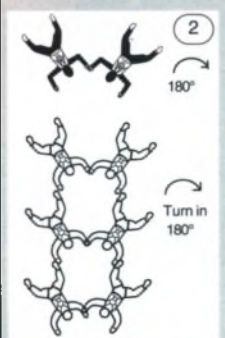
This dive can be done with 6, 8, 10, 12 or 14 skydivers. The bigger the group, the more impressive it will be but also you won't be able to turn so many points. This is the 8-way version (for points) but try the bigger ways for fun and great visuals.

Puzzle

1. Build an 8-way zipper in the direction of flight. Or, if you have an aircraft with a tail gate exit, launch by standing the formation sideways across the tailgate and just hopping out.



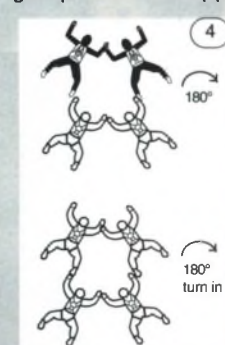
2. Break the formation into a 2-way zipper and a 6-way zipper. The 2-way zipper lets go but stays in place as a reference for the other piece. The 6-way zipper turns 180°. When this group has almost completed their turn, the 2-way turns in.



3. Now you have the same formation, looking the other way with a different arrangement of people.

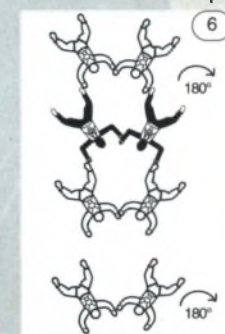
4. The formation now breaks into two 4-way zippers. The key comes from the second pair in the front. After their key the top 4-way zipper turns 180° while the second 4-way stays in place as a reference. Again, when the first group

has almost finished their turn, the second group turn their zipper.



5. And again you'll have the same formation facing the other way.

6. The formation breaks in a 2-way and a 6-way zipper but this time the front 2-way zipper turns first and the 6-way stays in place as a reference for the smaller group. When they have all but finished their turn, the 6-way slowly turns to make the formation complete.



7. Now, if you have enough time, you can go back to the first manoeuvre.

Keys

It's easy to give the key from the second pair down from the front of the zipper (when the formation is bigger, take the third zipper). Make sure that the formation is flying well before you give the key.



Secret Stuff

It's not so difficult and it looks great on video, as long as you make sure of a couple of things.

- look to the centre of the zipper and fly flat (legs longer)
- turn the groups in the same direction

- turn the zipper groups around their own centre
- keep looking to the other group
- turn slow, it's hard to stop when you pick up too much momentum
- the bigger the piece the slower the rate of turn and the earlier you start to stop
- maintain the fall rate

Have fun!



Michael Bouman
Exotic Sky Adventures



Intermediates

Go slow. This one is not a race. Keep it pretty and well shaped. Look to the centre of the formation, fly flat by flying your legs a little long.



Cool 'n' Groovies

Just do it!



Angles

Whenever you are in a zipper, maintain your angle at 90° to the person directly in front of you, the same angle you would be if side-bodied onto them.

Each formation should end up on the same heading as the previous one, but facing the other way.

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NEW AGE NATIONALS

The British Freestyle, Skysurf and Freefly Nationals were held at Target Skysports during 17-20 May 1997. This was the first British competition involving the three 'new' disciplines and, as such, it was borne from a mixture of public pressure, interest and controversy.

A forum to assess interest, discuss rules and decide on procedures had previously been held at Target in November 1996. This was attended by Roger Flynn (chief judge at Freestyle/Skysurf World Championships), John Hitchen and over forty very vocal, super interested skydivers from all over the country.

At this forum IPC rules from the 1996 World Cup were used as a basis for discussion. It was generally felt that, rather than have compulsory rounds, we should have only free rounds and therefore encourage people of all abilities to enter. There was quite a debate about



Freestyle, Skysurf and Freefly Champions and Medalists at Britain's first New Age Nationals

criteria for entry into World Championships and whether it was fair to set an arbitrary criteria at this early stage of the sport, or should those teams considered to be the best in the country automatically be invited to represent Britain at a World Meet.

Another area of controversy was the use of AADs and whether they should be compulsory. While it was accepted by some that the degree of risk may be higher than other close proximity skydiving, a consensus of people felt that a compulsory AAD ruling would have a detrimental effect upon the number of people who felt able to attend.

When the date and rules were finally made public, it was clear that only some of the 'wannabe' competitors' wishes had been taken into account. AADs and full face helmets were to be compulsory for all cameraflyers and skysurfers. A criteria of 50% of total possible scores was set for any winning teams wishing to represent Britain at the forthcoming World Meet.

The date of the competition was set so that the BPA could register names of winners into the World Championships in Turkey. Unfortunately it allowed only a short time (8 weeks) for training – and an equally short time to save for an AAD! This most certainly had a negative impact on the number of teams who registered. However the most devastating impact was that all over the country the competition coincided with exam week and therefore numerous teams had to abandon their hopes of competing.

That all said – the Nationals did take place and were a huge success.

On the first day of the competition the weather was bad so competitors had to amuse themselves by watching numerous videos from past World Championships, extreme games and Pro Tours. A discussion also took place between the



Pari Passu freestyle team represented Britain 'unofficially' at the World Freestyle Championships in 1995. Two years later they are our 'official' British freestyle team at the World Air Games in Turkey. We wish them luck.



Grace Thomas

Playstation, winners of the Skysurfing Trophy donated by Cool 'n' Groovy, with BPA Chairman Lofty Thomas who gave out the prizes

SKYSURF RESULTS

Team name	Team Members	Round					Total	Place
		1	2	3	4	5		
Playstation	Mike Frost Andy Ford	57.5	68.5	66	70.5	70.5	333	1
Surf Spice	Alison Jenkins Tim Porter	43.5	48.5	46	40.5	23	201.5	2
Board Stupid	Scott Wileman Baldrick	40	47	38	33	15.5	174	3

judges (Doc Flynn and John Hitchen) and competitors about judging criteria.

In these new disciplines the exit height is 13,000ft with working times of 45 seconds (freestyle), 50 seconds (skysurf) and 40 seconds (freefly). Freestyle and Skysurf teams are scored on 'difficulty of moves', 'execution' (body position and form, control of headings and angles and smoothness of movement), 'artistic impression' (creativity, originality, aesthetic appeal, continuity of style/theme of the routine), 'camera work' (composition, smoothness and stability of image, originality, effectiveness of angles and movements, teamwork).

Freefly teams are scored on 'movement skills' (ability to move as individuals by vertical and horizontal rotation, inverted and upright, ability to move as pairs, ability to perform contact in a safe controlled manner) and 'precision of performance' (correctness of attention, heading and body form, clarity and presentation, clarity and stability of image), also on 'teamwork' with their cameraflyer, 'originality' and 'virtuosity'.

In the afternoon of the second day the sky



Goody



in Freefly, Skysurf and Freestyle teams so it can safely be said that he was the busiest person on the drop zone that afternoon (along with Netti who had the unenviable task of manifesting him). The next day, once again we were stopped by bad weather. This third day was possibly the most difficult as nerves became frayed. Trev (Trevor Dobson - Meet Director) called it a day at 6 and the bar opened, which soon cheered everyone up.

On Tuesday afternoon (day four) the skies cleared again and all five rounds were finally completed. Suddenly the quiet drop zone of the day before had turned into an exciting place where everyone had a job to do - teams dirt-diving, skydiving, packing, cameraflyers downloading, Doc and John judging and Trev praying that the weather held.

By 8 it was all over and Lofty Thomas arrived for the prize-giving ceremony. Due to the small number of teams everyone was awarded a medal (some two or three) which was quite fitting for our first Nationals and well deserved. Trev rounded off his duties well with a speech of thanks and congratulations to the following.

- Airtec, Cool & Groovy and Thomas Sports for supplying three impressive trophies for the winners.

- all the competitors who took the time and made the effort to support this first Nationals and make it a success. Special praise went to Tim Porter whose enthusiasm was outstanding despite the disappointment of his regular team mate



Goody

Pari Passu, winners of the Freestyle Trophy donated by Airtec



FREESTYLE RESULTS

Team name	Team Members	Round					Total	Place
		1	2	3	4	5		
Pari Passu	Ann Beckitt Goody	61	63.5	49.5	50.5	62	286.5	1
Skydive Sibson	Alex Meacock Elliot Clarke	29	31	36	42.5	30.5	169	2
No Train	Alison Jenkins Tim Porter	27.5	25	24	23			3

(Chris Gauge – *Vice Versa*) being unable to attend (due to final exams).

- Steve and Helen Swallow of Target Skysports for having the guts to do it first.

- Roger Flynn and John Hitchen for judging.

- All Target staff: Netti, Baldrick, Gary, Kim, Kevin, Chris, Donna, James, Spice Girl from Hell (Sue), Annie, Denise and Emma.

The winning teams from the Skysurf and Freestyle events will now go on to officially represent Britain at the World Air Games in Turkey in September 1997, along with representatives from other skydiving disciplines. At last freestyle, skysurf and freefly have been recognised in this country and can only go from strength to strength.

Next year's Nationals will be bigger and better only if there are skydivers out there willing to support it. If you're an interested beginner, track down some of the competitors, get some coaching, form a team, have a go, have fun and we'll see you next year.

Ann Beckitt
Pari Passu Freestyle Team



Zero Gee, winners of the Freefly Trophy donated by Thomas Sports Equipment

FREEFLY RESULTS

Team name	Team Members	Round					Total	Place
		1	2	3	4	5		
Zero Gee	Simon Ashenden Kieron McLaughan Alex Meacock	41	43	47.5	42	54	227.5	1
The Sibsons	Elliot Clarke Mark Swarbeck Tim Porter	34	33	23	15.5	34.5	140	2

PERRIS VALLEY SKYDIVING



PHOTO BY VIC PAPPADATO



PHOTO BY FRITZ PENUR

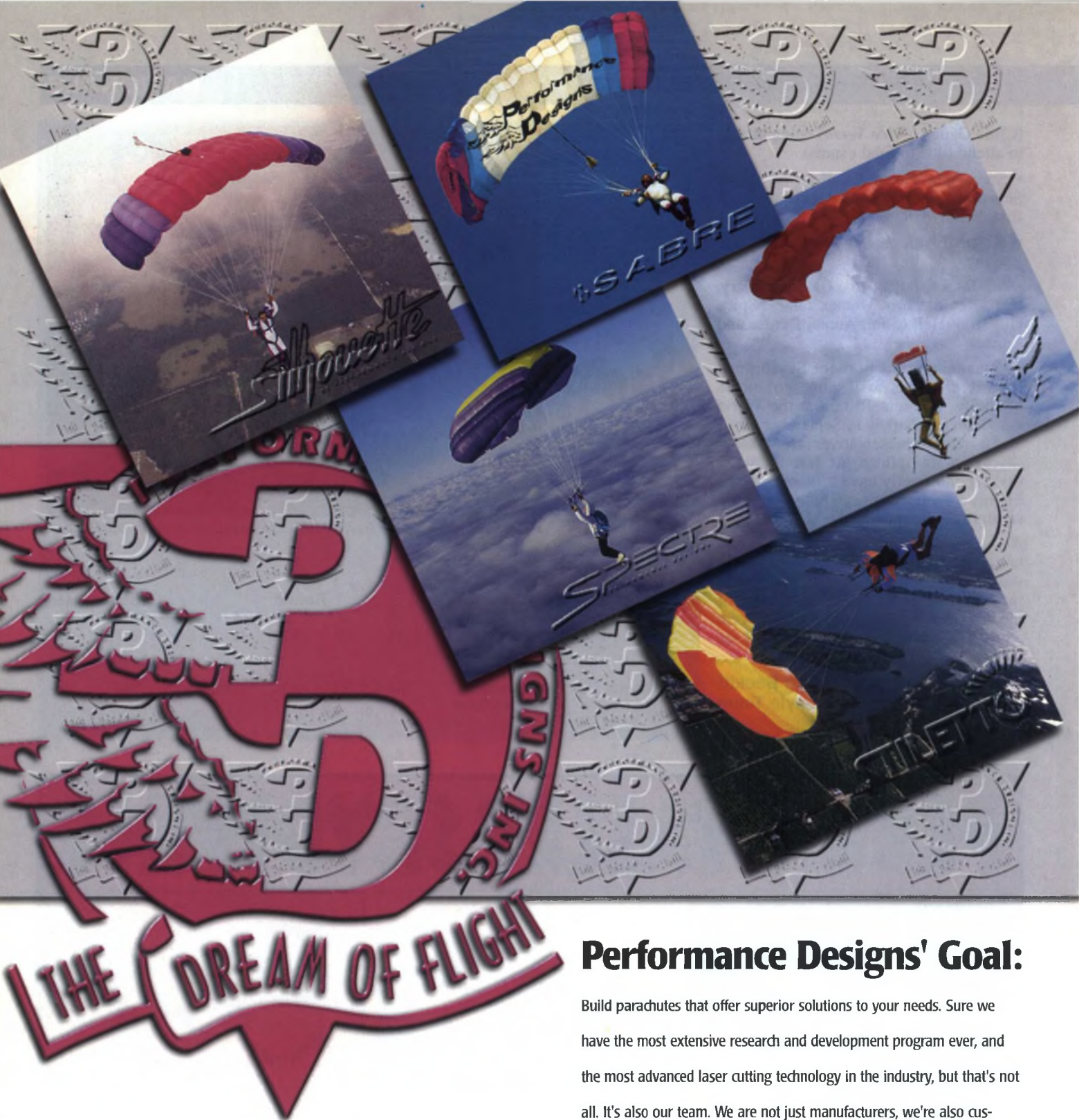


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Scottish Nationals



Photo: Colin Bridges

Winning senior team Air Ecosse do their stuff above Strathallan.

Predicting the results of this year's Scottish Nationals at Strathallan would not have been an easy task. Medals, trophies, T-shirts and *Time Out!!* jackets were all to be fought for over this three day event held at Strathallan over the last weekend in May. With many well-matched teams at the three levels of 4-way FS, anything could happen. For the first time there was an 8-way FS meet, with three teams competing for a new trophy. The 8-way event is now expected to be a permanent feature of the Scottish Nationals.

4-way

A total of fourteen teams entered; five at senior level, two at intermediate, and an impressive total of seven junior teams. It was clear that the battle for first place in the senior event would be very much between *Quiksilver*, the army team and *Air Ecosse*, the local Strathallan team who took silver in last year's British Nationals. Both teams scored a 9 in the first two rounds and *Air*

Ecosse edged ahead by one point at the close of play on Saturday.

At intermediate level, *Time Flies* (Headcorn) and *Clachan Achoin* (Scotland – really?! – Ed) were evenly matched after round one. However, *Time Flies* couldn't seem to launch a stable exit so, by the end of the third round, the Scots were five points ahead. This was an interesting development, as *Clachan Achoin* were entitled to enter junior level, but chose intermediate to make it a bit more of a challenge to the southerners. The name, by the way, is Gaelic for 'Dogs Bollocks'.

Junior teams *Sabakas Yitesers*, *Boo!*, *How Bizarre* and *Scunthorpe Airspeed* were all in medal contention, with *Phwoarsome*

not far behind. There was some drama to come on Sunday, however.

The seniors on Sunday went off fairly quickly. *Air Ecosse* and *Quiksilver* were close going into the final round but a disastrous mistake by the soldiers meant they were bust from a 10 to a 4!! The team had dirt-dived the round incorrectly, doing the formations in the wrong sequence. Rumour has it that one of *Quiksilver* said he thought the dirt-dive was incorrect but he was shot down in flames as the lowest ranking soldier. *Air Ecosse* saw the dodgy dirt-dive but didn't say anything as they thought it was all a military wind-up! *Air Ecosse* retained their title as Scottish senior champions with a final round score of 5. Scratch team *No Riggers Allowed* had a clear third position, not quite close enough to challenge the top two.

In the intermediates, *Time Flies* equalled *Clachan Achoin*'s score in the final round but that was not good enough for gold, which went to the Scots. *Scunthorpe Airspeed* finished the junior event in top place with an average of five per round, silver went to *How Bizarre!* and a jump off was required to settle bronze. Level scores in the jump-off meant another was required. The tension mounted and *Sabakas Yitesers* just pipped *Boo!* to the bronze by one point on the second jump-off.



Chris Clark

Ian Chick in action on the telemeters

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8-way

Three teams entered, all rounds were from the visiting Dornier. *Quik Ecosse*, the combo of first and second placed 4-way teams, gallantly offered to take a three point per round handicap. They may have regretted this by the end of round two, as *Team Target* and *Bill Steam* were in equal first place. A couple of higher scores in later rounds secured the gold for the favourites, with the mainly Scottish *Bill Steam* taking second ahead of *Team Target*.

There was a new trophy, the Allan MacArthur Memorial Cup, for this event. Allan, a former jump pilot at Strathallan, Hibaldstow and Wild Geese, had been tragically killed in a flying accident a few weeks earlier. His girlfriend Emma, also a jump pilot, presented the cup.

Accuracy

Not many entered the accuracy this year. It was held over four rounds, with Jase Baxter taking senior gold, ahead of Jimmy White. Dave Tyler got bronze after a jump off with Al MacCartney. Callum Bissett did the business at intermediate level, Allan MacKenzie took silver and Billy Currie the bronze.

Other events

The only Canopy Formation team who entered quit after a wrap in round one! Still, they beat all other competitors, so took the gold. It had been hoped to hold freestyle, skysurfing and freeflying, but the scheduling of the British Championships for these events impacted somewhat on the Scottish contest.

Party

As well as the usual sessions in the Star Hotel, there was a funky Ceilidh in the Strathallan hangar. The band had a fine mixture of rock and traditional dances with modern dance themes. This wasn't three old blokes and an accordion. It was four young musicians from Glasgow whose influences were less Andy Stewart, more Ministry of Sound. There was also beer and a barbecue, so most folk attending didn't get to the bar until about 11pm. At least in Scotland the bars don't shut early.

Epilogue

Marian Shearer, the current chairwoman of the SSPA, did a splendid job in getting the meet organised, ably helped by the other members of the committee and Kieran Brady, Meet Director. It was a fine weekend for the Scottish Nationals; sunny on the whole, with only one weather hold (cloud) on the Sunday and a blisteringly brilliant Monday. It should be a good summer at Strathallan. As ever, it was a pleasure to see so many visiting friends having a blast.

Kevin McPhillips



Chris Clark

**Air Ecosse**

(Billy Somerville, Graham Harris, Mike Strachan, Chris Whitlock, Andrew Hilton (front, video)) were 'just a wee bit lucky'.



Chris Clark

**Clachan Achain**

(Danny West, Gerry McClafferty, Pete Mitchell, Stewart McKay and Joanne Little) proved they were indeed the dog's bollocks.



Chris Clark

**Scunthorpe Airspeed**

(Billy Sharples, Emma Gracey, Sarah McEwan and Greg Reid) wondered about their *Time Out!!* jackets with 'Flashing Edition' on.

Results: 4-way FS (sponsored by Cool & Groovy Fridge Co)

	Score	Place	Average
SENIOR			
Air Ecosse	31	1	7.75
Quiksilver	29	2	7.25
No Riggers Allowed	17	3	4.25
Zero Tolerance	15	4	3.75
One Swallow	11	5	2.75
INTERMEDIATE			
Clachan Achain	24	1	6
Time Flies	19	2	4.75
JUNIOR			
Scunthorpe Airspeed	20	1	5
How Bizarre	15	2	3.75
Sabakas Yitesers (jump-off)	11+4+4	3	3.16
Boo! (jump-off)	11+4+3	4	3
Phwoarsome	9	5	2.25
Tall order	6	6	1.5
Steam In	1	7	0.25

Arizona Airspeed invited some of the best skydivers in the world to attempt to build a 100-way jewel formation over the Memorial Day holiday. 100 skydivers turned up to make the attempt, mostly from the US. The UK was represented by Pete Findlay, being free of No-Go commitments this year. The event started on the Thursday & Friday with amazing and challenging 16, 32 and bigger ways. These skydives were worth the jet-lag on their own! Highlights included 16-ways with 14 out-facing slots and piece moves which looked impressive on paper and simply awesome on video. On Sunday the base began practising their 100 way jewel, aiming for and achieving around a 30 second build. The other groups continued to work on larger skydives, building the discipline needed for the 100-way.

Monday May 26 was 100-way day. All attempts were made from 15,500ft using two Skyvans and three Twin Otters. The first two attempts suffered from tension and some serious waves. The third attempt was flat and stable, but one of the team lost his slot, leaving others with nowhere to dock. The fourth attempt failed three seconds out of the door, one of the team had a premature deployment. For the fifth attempt, everything went exactly to plan. The formation built flat, stable and with a good fall rate. It was hard to believe you were actually in a 100-way. The completed formation was held for about six seconds before George Jicha signalled break-off by deploying from the centre at 5,000ft.



100-way Jewel



So, what's the secret stuff about building 100-way jewel? It's not hard, just fly your slot and work hard all the way. Of course, it helps to have a team of 100 amazing skydivers, with positive mental attitude, five most excellent pilots flying in their most excellent formation, and George, Jack and the rest of the Altered guys pulling the whole thing together. This is so much nicer than those hoopy-loopy formation things. What next? Anyone for 144?

Photo: Brent Finley

Pete Findlay
D7050

Summer Time

(and the weather is lousy...)



Dave McDonald in summer wear over Langer – proving the sun still shines over Nottinghamshire!

Langer had probably the wettest boogie ever in the UK but jumpers and staff kept smiling somehow.

Colin Bridges

Barking Mad!

Fresh from the St Petersburg Boogie, the photos show a “barking mad” Russian with pyrotechnics doing a display over the city.





Eaglescott PC – The Royal Oak Shields

The rebuilding of Soweto (the soon-to-be-famous tented village at Eaglescott), beer provided by Steve Peck, a significant increase in the number and ability of intermediate jumpers, some good weather, a strong Bristol University contingent, some trophies donated by the long suffering Royal Oak and a variety of experience from 3 to 3,000 FS jumps, all provided the perfect mix-up for the first ever Eaglescott 4-way competition on the 14 and 15 June.

The weekend also saw a student accuracy competition which was naturally won by Richard Smith. 'Smithy' demonstrated an innovative ability to tank up his closest rivals at the DZ party to such an extent that they were unable to compete in round 2 on Sunday! The 4-way was won by 'The three sausages & one chipolata' led by Ian Grout. This was fortunate as all the other teams had names that were definitely inappropriate for display on the shield in the Royal Oak Pub.

Tim 'Nice but Dim' Barlow



This lovely sunset shot was taken by Dougie Young and shows the culmination of a 4-way training camp in Deland. The 20-way pictured was made up of three British Army 4-way teams, *Equanimity 5* (the South African 4-way team) and some local jumpers

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PEOPLE IN THE SPORT

Mike Frost

Mike Frost is so committed to the sport that he missed his finals in order to attend the 'New Age' Nationals, where he became the first UK Skysurfing Champion. Mike and his team mate, Andy Ford, have jumped at three SSI Pro Tour events and are building an international reputation. We asked him what it takes to be a skysurfer.

How long have you been jumping Mike?

I have been jumping for seven years and have 1,000 jumps of which 700 are skysurf.

Was it hard when you started skysurfing?

There were only a few skysurfers in the world when I first started and technique was a guarded secret. I once asked a surfer if I could pay for coaching and take them anywhere in the world he chose in return for his help – he said "No". I understood his explanation but, without support and on my own it took a lot longer.

How have you improved?

By making as many jumps as possible. Also, by visualisation and watching videos of other surfers. The biggest improvement came last year, altering my equipment. I changed the canvas top I used to a surf suit and ditched the snowboards for a rigid alloy composite board.

Is it difficult to control a board?

Surfing has to be one of the most difficult disciplines within skydiving. You have a board strapped to your feet, large enough to overpower you so you have to show it total respect – whilst knowing that your ability is sufficient to remain in total control. I believe there are too many skydivers who over-estimate their actual ability – the board will certainly highlight any inability.

Do you need strength?

Strength is important with surfing, especially when you start. Although, with experience, technique is associated to smooth dives – you can see that. It is physically demanding on the ankles, knees and lower back, you need to be in shape. But mental approach is very important along with attitude.

Do many women skysurf?

There are a number of women skysurfers on the tour. Vivien Wegrath is currently #2 in the world whilst Amy Baylie-Haas is also right up there hosing the men. Vivien's body roll triple is just the best and she probably does the sweetest 'avalanche' on the Tour.

How did you choose Andy as cameraman?

Andy and I first met two years ago, made a couple of jumps together which worked, but it wasn't until last summer that we started to train together. He's a very experienced cameraman who has filmed most other aspects of skydiving to a very high standard. Cameraflyers receive little or no recognition for the work they do, whilst in the new disciplines of skydiving their work attributes to 50% of the marks. Our fall rate was excellent and, his experience aside, we get on well together – that's very



Andy Ford

important so I asked him to join me. We have a great relationship in the sky, he gives me signals to let me know if the board's straight and that sort of thing, we really communicate in freefall.

Do you have any special routines or original moves?

The pace skysurfing is advancing with new moves is incredible. I have worked on new ideas before only to see someone else do them. That's great as you sometimes see that move done better and you can learn from seeing another approach. We have worked on an original transition called a 'Playstation' – it's an interaction between surfer and cameraman where Andy takes a grip on the front of the board and rotates whilst I'm sitting. When the pressure builds up I key the release into a really fast helicopter. We're working on something new at the moment – I could tell you about it but I'd have to kill you afterwards!

Is there any person or team who have influenced you?

There are so many of my peers who have influenced my style in the past – from Bob Greiner's classic approach to Sean McCormack's freefly. Rob Harris was the man though.

What competitions have you done to date and where did you place?

Team *Playstation* have competed in three rounds of the SSI Pro Tour with the following results:

Perris, California - September '96	11th place
Titusville, Florida - March '97	9th place
Monterey, California - April '97	14th place

At Perris we were still learning to fly together and how to present the basic moves. After that we only completed one jump during the winter before arriving at Titusville. A very long lay-off which



Andy Ford



Brian Eriker



Andy Ford

was through lack of time, money and weather. We placed ninth there, but at Monterey Bay things were different. I picked up some injuries and didn't know if I was going to be able to jump – let alone compete. It was a tough contest but that's the nature of competition.

How did you come to be invited on the SSI Pro Tour?

On the Pro Tour they invite the top ten seeded teams plus the top four try-out teams, decided the day before. This is where we experience maximum pressure as you have travelled thousands of miles and don't know the calibre of the other teams. You're up against it and you have to get through. It's such a buzz when you do and are officially welcomed into the competition – along with a fat goodie bag.

Did you do much training before each heat?

We attempt to do as much as possible at each tour stop, arriving one week early. This is the only way we can try to prepare and stay in touch with the other professional teams. They mostly live and train in Florida, California or Arizona and can afford to relax in the days leading up to the meet. At Monterey we did too much – 56 jumps in four and a half days which left me burnt out.

Are you looking for publicity as a skysurfer?

Skysurfing athletes are being recognised as serious professional competitors who produce fantastic video footage. In the UK I want to use the media to enhance the perception of skydiving in general through skysurfing – this is one way we can attract new members.

How did you get your sponsorship with Playstation?

Four years of hard work.

Have you found it difficult in the UK to gain acceptance of skysurfing?

In the beginning it was very difficult as I was 'Johnny-no-mates' jumping alone; however since I arrived at Weston, everyone has been fantastic – from Dave Wood the CCI down to the newest AFF graduate they have been very considerate.

Were you pleased to find the BPA has recognised the newer disciplines of freeflying and skysurfing in a National Championships?

The BPA is changing, they've had to. Skysurfing isn't new; however the ability and number who are doing it has improved to the point where it needs their support through a competition to decide who should represent them at the World Air Games. I believe that participating in international competitions is the best way for our teams to stay on the curve – the more you do the better you are. With

freely the progression has been incredible! It's great that there is a national competition for it at such an early stage in the sport. It means that we can develop teams early to succeed later on.

What did you think of the first New Age Nationals?

We had a great time at Hibaldstow although weather was our biggest problem causing frustration. All of the teams got on really well together. My hackey improved tremendously and the bar stayed open until 2am – I'm not much of a drinker, but I had fun. The sword supplied by *Time-Out!* as first prize in the surfing was so tempting – we just had to go out there and win it. Nice one George!

Winning it was a great feeling, I took the sword straight off its mount to 'feel the steel'.

Is it true you missed your finals to do the Nationals?

Yes – but I've worked very hard for many years at the surfing and the competition was just too important to miss or not support. If we hadn't made the effort to turn up then the BPA may not have held another.

Where there any lessons which could be learnt for next time around?

The primary goal was accomplished (to complete the event). There are a number of things which can be done better – we're all on a learning curve – the competitors, judges and the BPA.

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TIME-OUT - at 3 1/2 revs per second you still know where you are!

CONVERSE - on yer hoofs

SALLY & BEV - for letting us out to play

Would you have any advice for any up and coming skysurfers?

Skysurfing isn't easy but it can be a lot of fun. Everyone encounters problems and you just have to try and work through them. If things seem really bad – move back to a smaller board and ensure you have the right equipment, ask advice or get coaching. There are a number of experienced skysurfers around the

country, all will have a training board in a corner somewhere. The most important thing is to make sure you have enough experience before making a first jump.

What are your plans for the future?

We're gonna have as much fun as possible. We are training every weekend, with competitions planned in Germany, Turkey and Switzerland. We're off training in Spain soon and are going to take packers and just jump, jump, jump. It's the only way we can even hope to compete against the full time teams.

How do you fancy your chances at the World Air Games in Turkey?

There is a lot of talent out there and I should be doing some really impressive work by then. We've beaten teams who have stood on the podium before but I guess you just don't know.

Is there anything you want to add?

We love our sponsors, "they am de best". It is totally down to their support and encouragement that we have been able to achieve the results to date and with them that we intend to move forward.

Mike Frost was talking to Lesley Gale

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photo by Fritz Pfaur

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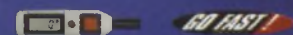
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SQUARE on SQUARE

- What would you do if you found yourself under two square canopies?
- In what configuration might you cut away?
- If you stay with the canopies, would you take the brakes off?
- Which canopy would you steer with?
- Would you flare for landing or do a PLF?

Here are some extracts and the conclusions of the Report on Dual Square deployment tests conducted by Performance Designs in conjunction with the PIA. The whole of the report is well worth reading and is available from the BPA office on request.

The Editor would like to thank Performance Designs, PIA and the jumpers who carried out these tests for their positive contribution to parachuting safety. We would also like to thank the Australian Parachute Federation (APF) for this summary of the report.

Common Results of a Dual Square Deployment

1. The most likely canopy configuration from a simultaneous or near simultaneous deployment is a **biplane** with the main canopy in front and the reserve in the rear. The most commonly preferred method of flying the personal biplane is to leave the brakes stowed on the rear canopy and fly the front canopy using smooth, gentle toggle input. A few canopy combinations were reported to be slightly more solid with the brakes released on both canopies, but the majority seemed to be most solid with brakes set on the rear canopy.

Conclusion: If a biplane is present and the jumper has directional control, leave the brakes stowed on the rear canopy and fly the biplane using gentle toggle input on the front canopy. Do not flare either canopy for landing. Be prepared to do a PLF.

2. The next most common configuration is a **side-by-side** with the main risers behind the reserve risers. The personal side-by-side was the result of the taller of the two canopies deploying behind the shorter of the two. It is not recommended to fly this configuration with all four toggles.

Conclusion: If a side-by-side is present and the jumper has directional control, fly the side-by-side using smooth, gentle toggle input of the larger/dominant canopy. If the canopies do not seem controllable and are not entangled with each other, disconnect any RSL, if time/altitude permits, and cut away the main canopy.

3. Another fairly common configuration would be a **fully inflated canopy (either main or reserve) with a trailing pilot chute, pc and bag, or trailing un-inflated second canopy behind the jumper.** This scenario if left unattended would sometimes remain as it is, or result in one of the other configurations.

Conclusion: If the main canopy deploys and the reserve is in a stage of deployment it might be best to aid the deployment of the reserve by shaking the risers. Then be prepared to take action on the resulting configuration. If the reserve opens and the main is in a stage of deployment, it might be best to remove the RSL and cut away the main.

Food for Thought

If you are still in freefall with your main container closed when your **Time-Out!!** flat lines at 1500 feet, would you deploy your main or your reserve?



Dougie Young

Choice of Reserve

Note: Some people have always believed that you must choose a reserve that is smaller than the main. While this is probably a safe thing to do it is not an entirely accurate gauge.

For example: a PD143R has shorter lines than a Stiletto 135. This combination flew well in a biplane with the main in front. 7-cell canopies typically have shorter lines than equally sized 9-cells.

Conclusion: Use great care to choose proper equipment. Choose a reserve that is similar in size to the main canopy.

4. A less frequently occurring configuration is a **downplane**. [During the tests] it always involved line twists due to a tumbling bag on deployment of the main canopy when it was the second canopy deployed. [The tests show it may be recoverable but] the fact also remains that the reason a person is probably in this position to begin with is that their AAD fired. If their AAD fired, they are already low. If they are already low there isn't a lot of time to be playing around trying to undo things when that time could be used cutting away and sorting out the best place to land. Being in a dual square situation calls for quick evaluation and quick action. A downplane plummets out of the sky at a high rate of speed. *Conclusion:* If a downplane is present, disconnect any RSL, if time/altitude permits, and cut away the main canopy.

5. Another infrequent configuration is an **entanglement of the two canopies.**

Conclusion: If a main/reserve entanglement should occur, do everything possible to clear the two canopies by pulling on risers and/or toggles. Be cautious about immediately cutting away the main canopy as this may accentuate the problem.

Final note: Additional safety devices, such as AAD's & RSLs, may cause standard emergency procedures to change. Analyse the release recommendations and be sure they coincide with your equipment manufacturer's guidelines. Practice these new emergency procedures prior to every jump.

The first conclusion of the Dual Square Report:

The best way to handle any Dual Square Scenario is to avoid the situation. Use appropriate and available altitude warning devices to help maintain good altitude awareness. Follow safety regulations on proper opening altitudes. Ensure that AAD's are properly maintained and used. Use properly maintained equipment and gear checks.

SKY SCIENCE

Welcome to Sky Science, this is a company that was started in March 1994 to provide a one stop source for all your parachute equipment, here is a brief resume of my qualifications.

BPA Advanced Rigger / Examiner, Instructor, Tandem Instructor, AFF Instructor and Relative Work Coach. I have worked as a full time rigger for over 11 years.

I have specialised in parachute equipment, not only with my BPA qualifications but also working with major canopy and container manufacturers. My aim is to give you the best service possible. If I can be of any assistance at all, then please give me a call.

Allan Hewitt

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Since the beginning of April 1997 we have been running the drop zone shop on behalf of the APA. We have a large stock of all types of accessories, and we aim to increase this on a weekly basis. If you can not see what you want please let us know and we will order it.

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Left: Complete harness replacement
Below: Reserve tray replacement



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Classics Update

The National Championships in Style and Accuracy 1997 will be a selection Nationals for the British team to represent Great Britain at the World Championships in 1998, to be held in Croatia. This years Nationals, are to be held at Hibaldstow in conjunction with the CF Nationals between the 16 and 25 August.

Running the BPA Nationals in conjunction with the Armies proved a great success last year, increasing the number of competitors five fold from previous years in all categories. Unfortunately due to a misunderstanding between two potential news reporters an article never appeared for the mag, each thought the other was doing it?! It is hardly surprising therefore, that a lot of skydivers out there believe the classics have finally died out in the UK. Nothing could be further from the truth and I will attempt to put that rumour to bed now. So what is happening with Style & Accuracy and how has it evolved over the last few years with the advent of 'New Age' skydiving?

Let me state that, in my opinion, Classic Style or Speed Style as some now call it, has far more in common with Freestyle,

Freeflying and Skysurfing than it has with Accuracy. It is only out of deference to tradition that IPC still link the two together.

It was great to see Tim Mace at the recent Southern Regionals entering the Speed Style, Tim is an advocate of New Age skydiving but stated he also relished the challenge in pitting his freefall skills against the clock I can only hope that other freestylers, freeflyers, sit-flyers etc could feel the same motivation now that individual freefalling skills are back in fashion. We might yet see a rebirth in Speed Style.

The photos show how Speed Style has evolved in the Nineties. They show Dave Ballard, former British National Champion, in action. The slick jump suit and full face helmet are considered essential in the quest to achieve faster and faster base times. However, judging methods and standards are a lot tougher so that a 6 second base time is often 'geeked' up to 8 or 9 seconds.

We have an historical wealth of talent in Accuracy. Jackie Young(née Smith) is a former World Champion and our teams have always done well in World Class Competitions including team Gold and Silver at European championships in the late 1980's. Accuracy still remains our best chance of winning medals at the World Championships and this has been reflected by Competitions Committee's decision to make Accuracy the primary event in selecting future British teams.



The pictures show Dave Ballard demonstrating the size of the disc and how modern accuracy shoes have to be modified in order to achieve precise strikes on the disc.(Please note that the picture shows the old 5cm disc; the new disc is about half the diameter).

All photos: Steve Fitchett

To be specific, the British Team will be made up of 5 men and 5 women. There are still separate men's and women's competitions in the Classics. The five places will be selected as follows:- first, second and third in the Accuracy event. The next two places will be taken from the first and second in the overall competition. In the event of either the first or second in the overall being in the top 3 places for the Accuracy event then the next two places will be given to the fourth and fifth placed competitor in the Accuracy.

The Classics British Team will have a Team Manager appointed, in addition to the Head of Delegation, funded by the BPA. This is considered essential as the Classics Team is made up of ten individuals who potentially have never jumped together before and history has taught us it takes a lot of coordination and man management and administration skills to get them working as a team unit. This is in contrast to FS where the team will have developed a way of working together before getting as far as being selected for the World Meet.

The popularity of accuracy on British drop zones has suffered along with CF because of the introduction of high performance

canopies – which do not lend themselves to precision landing techniques. Yet the standard of accuracy has got higher and higher. To do serious accuracy you must purchase a Parafoil or equivalent canopy of which there are now a few on the market but the Parafoil still remains the most popular.

Did you know . . .

. . . that our only British World Champion is Jackie Smith who won the gold in 1978 with ten dead centres out of ten rounds

When Jackie won the World Championships the diameter of the disc was 10 cms. For many years it was then reduced to 5 cms and scored on an electronic pad. The standard became so high that it has now become necessary to reduce the size of the disc to 3 cms. In area terms, the relevant sizes are as follows:

Disc diameter/cm	Disc area/cm ²
10	79
5	20
3	7

So you can see how much smaller the target has become!

That having been said the standard remains so high at international level that, even with the 3 cm disc, the top ten or so competitors at international events are still only separated by one or two cms.

Accuracy competitions are spectator friendly. I have been to many in Europe where the tuffet is placed in an arena or stadium and people are charged to watch. The whole competition being explained by a commentator as it progresses. They do create great excitement and tension in the final stages of the competition. The atmosphere in the arena stadiums can become quite electric, a great experience for the dedicated competitor.

So that's Style and Accuracy in the 1990's. I have avoided going into long laborious explanations of the scoring techniques but please give it a try or contact one of the classics jumpers at your own drop zone to give you a brief (I am sure there must still be one or two left at most D.Z's?!) and let's see you at the Nationals this year. If not in the senior event, try the intermediate, and there is also a novice event. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me on 0181 868 4084.

John Smyth

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PERFORMANCE DESIGNS TOUR EUROPE '97



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July 16 - Aug 3	Vichy, France/Women's Record Attempts and Espace Boogie
Aug 15 - Aug 17	Casale, Italy/PD Weekend
Aug 22 - Aug 24	Nettuno, Italy/PD Weekend
Sep 13 - Sep 21	Efes, Turkey/World Air Games
Dec 24 - Dec 31	Australia National Skydiving Championships

TOUR EUROPE (with Annica and Laura)

July 11 - July 13	Fallschirmsport Ddalus/Hoxter, Germany/PD Weekend
July 18 - July 20	Paracentrum Midden Zeeland V/Arnhemvelden, Netherlands Pink Boogie
July 26 - Aug 3	Vichy, France / Espace Boogie
Aug 09 - Aug 10	Fallschirmsportclub Muenchen/Muehlhof, Germany/PD Weekend
Aug 11 - Aug 17	International Pink Parachute Club/Klatovy, Czechoslovakia Skydive Pink Klatovy
Aug 29 - Aug 30	Fallschirmsportclub Saulgau/Saulgau, Germany/PD Weekend
Sept 06 - Sept 14	Casale, Italy/PD Weekend
Sept 27 - Sept 28	Skanes Fallschirmsklubb/Everad, Sweden/PD Weekend

TUNE IN, TURN ON

Description: Two different reports involve the use of ground-to-air radios for student jumpers. In one, the student could not understand the instructions clearly but tried to follow them, eventually landing off. In the other, a student cut away from a perfect main canopy after

believing (wrongly) that he heard a radio instruction to do so. There was no injury in either case.

Comment:

Radio is a valuable tool but it is only a back-up. All jumpers, even first-

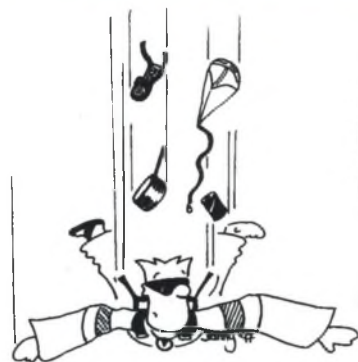
timers, are responsible for their own descent. If the radio works and gives useful information, all well and good, but you remain in charge.

SPIN DOCTOR

(Includes material received via Confidential Reporting Programme)

Description: There is a spate of reports involving irremediable twists on 'hot' canopies. More than one parachutist mentioned twists being spun into the lines by a rotating canopy, faster than it was possible to clear them. In all cases reserve drills were carried out correctly and successfully, without further incident.

Comment: One (very experienced) jumper says in his report: "Twists...on an elliptical high performance



canopy...are a non-trivial malfunction which require immediate action."

TWO CANOPIES

(Incident happened abroad, report is from Confidential Reporting Programme, filed by experienced observer)

Description: A jumper had a square reserve deploy while under a good main canopy and elected to fly both down. They were flying side-by-side and appeared stable, according to the observer. The jumper concerned set up for a long approach but, at about 200ft and apparently spontaneously, the canopies transitioned to a downplane, rotated and cleared. After a few seconds they downplaned again and were still rotating at impact. Fortunately the jumper was light, landed in a ploughed field and escaped serious injury.

Comment: The observer stated that both downplane rotations were fairly slow and the canopies were well separated. He speculated that it may have been possible for the jumper to have safely have cut away the main either before or during the downplane.

Conclusion: This is a difficult

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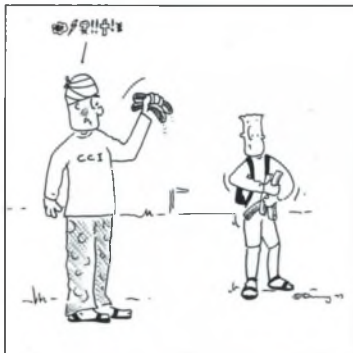
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situation and there are no clear cut answers. The PIA conference in February received the report of a research programme into dual square deployments, involving numerous test jumps, many different canopy combinations and configurations. The report is worth reading; highlights are on skydive.rec and the BPA has a copy. A summary of conclusions from this report can be found on page 33.

WEIGHT TO GO

Description: A freestyle jumper was in the middle of a routine when three lead-shot packs left his weight vest. He caught one but the other two fell to earth. Luckily they did not land on anything (or anyone!).



Comment: This is the subject of a current Safety Notice; weight wearers please note and ensure your system will not allow weights to fall out, whatever attitude you may be in. For anyone who does not know, Safety Notices are issued by the BPA and may be advisory or mandatory. They are usually displayed at centres and certainly will always be available from your CCI on request.

Additional note: In recent months two jumpers have lost Protec helmets in freefall. To paraphrase a pilot's saying, I suspect there are two kinds of

jumper: those who have forgotten to fasten their helmet before exit and those who haven't – yet! It may help to fasten your helmet properly as soon as you put it on.

ENTANGLEMENT

Description: A parachutist with 92 jumps performing 2-way CF left the aircraft at 6,000 ft. He waited two seconds before deploying his parachute and experienced a pilot chute in tow type malfunction. He cut away and operated his reserve, the pilot chute of the reserve then entangled with the pilot chute in tow. At this stage the main container opened and the main became entangled but partially inflated to about a quarter of its size. The round reserve could not inflate because the extractor was still snarled with the main. Twists in the lines of the reserve started forming which, by the time he landed, were up to the peripheral hem. The parachutist concerned landed in an emergency position, very heavily, under a partially inflated main and suffered damage to vertebrae and pelvis.

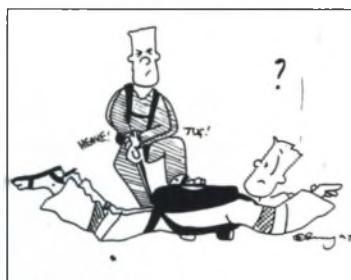
Comment: The equipment was inspected and found it to be in good working order. The pilot chute (which was almost new), probably would have opened the container given extra couple of seconds after exit, bearing in mind an exit altitude of 6,000 ft.

Conclusion: A square reserve, because of the free-bag, may have helped given the above sequence of events.

TOTAL

Description: An experienced jumper's kit had been converted to Bottom Of Container (BOC) deployment; the velcro fitted for leg-strap

throwaway was still in place. Some bridle line escaped from the pocket in freefall and mated onto the velcro. The result, with the jumper holding both handle and the loop of bridle line, was an impossible pull.



Reserve drills were carried out successfully without further problems. In this case the jumper's CCI insisted that the velcro be removed before the rig was jumped again.

UPDATES TO DISLOCATION REPORTS

Description: Another mid-air shoulder dislocation is reported; there was a history of dislocation and the jump-master says the student made a clean exit without hitting door or airframe.

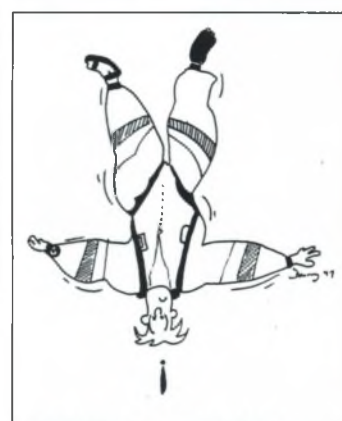
There is another report of a premature pilot chute deployment during sit-flying: in this case the bridle trapped the jumper's right arm, requiring him to cut away and deploy his reserve left-handed, which he did without further incident. The report does not state the type of deployment system used. See also 'Head-down Problem' report below.

HEAD-DOWN PROBLEM

(Taken from APF bulletin)

Description: A 'very experienced' jumper borrowed a baggier-than-usual suit for his 16th head-down dive. He

flew okay but on returning face-to-earth for opening, found that the suit zip had been forced open while head down. The suit inflated, forcing the rig away from the jumper's back and requiring more than one attempt to find the handle.



Comment from the APF

report: "Although this isn't a particularly serious incident it does emphasise how all our equipment has developed over the years to suit face-to-earth freefall.... Try to anticipate these situations... and consider the effects of an accidental opening while head-down."

Chris Jones

Author's note:

For numerous comments, electronic and face-to-face, much thanks. My e-mail address is now cjones@new-coll-cf.ac.uk – this is not likely to change again.

The Flight Line Check report is still available on www.new-coll-cf.ac.uk/flc but may have to be withdrawn during the summer if I need the space.



POPS CORNER

Parachutists Over Phorthy Society

← Photos show Moira Mullins, POPS No. 662, doing a tandem from 16,000 feet from a Super Otter at Sebastian



→
Pete & Julie Shew,
John Flower,
John Crowhurst,
Lenny Mobbs,
Dick Barton,
Mike Allum and
Jordanian pilot,
after the jump
onto Wadi Rum



←
Jeff Chandler
having just
received the
winners medal
for the accuracy
competition from
HRH Prince Ali



Group of POPS on the steps of the 'Treasure' at Petra (Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom)



POPS Fourth World Meet

I wasn't going to go, but booked at the last minute and wouldn't have missed it for the world. Forty of us left London Heathrow on 1 June – 32 Brits, 5 Germans, 2 Belgians, 1 New Zealander. Brits included international Top POP Mike Allum, and Claire from Travel Plus who arranged the flights and accommodation. Our first stop, Amman, then a connecting flight to Aquaba. We finally arrived at our hotel at about 23:45, it had been a long day! We met some of the American POPS around the pool and had a well earned drink or two before retiring for the night.

Monday was a very hot but quiet day; some of us went out to the DZ, which was at Aquaba Airport, to see the facilities and meet Major Samih Janakat, who organised the meet, along with advice from Mike Allum. When the manifest opened there were approximately 90 jumpers registered.

On Tuesday we all had a free jump out of a Hercules into Wadi Rum (Valley of the Moon) of Lawrence of Arabia fame. The views were incredible. After landing and some packing we were taken in coaches to a fleet of four wheel drive vehicles. With five or six people in each, we were driven (raced!) through all the spectacular scenery for over an hour. There were a few breakdowns and stops to ride camels but everyone finally made it back to where we started. After all that excitement we had a barbecue feast, washed down by a few drinks, and sat in Bedouin tents being entertained by local musicians.

Wednesday should have been the start of the meet but the winds were too strong, the Casa, Islander and all of us sat there waiting. The highlight of the day was a visit by Prince Mired who was very apologetic about the winds. On Thursday the coaches picked us up at 06:30 in the hope that the winds would be better; they were, little or nothing, so we started off the competition with the Hit and Rock. The conditions were rather tricky – it was Very Hot and got Even Hotter. Mineral water sales in Aquaba went up 1,000% while we were there. Accuracy over five rounds and the 4-way Scrambles were then started simultaneously using both aircraft. The accuracy was made very difficult with the winds either nil or max in a short time. A few rounds of each were jumped that day but it took until the last day, Monday, to complete the whole meet. Chief Judge Rene Boidin, Judge Pete Best, scorers Pauline Crowhurst, Hetty Best and Anneka Boidin did a fantastic job stuck out in the pit for hours/days at a time in temperatures reaching up to 45°C.

Quote of the meet:

"It's the first parachute meet I have ever been to where I have spent more on water than on booze!"

New British and European Record

The unstoppable Jack Felstead, who organised the team of POPS jumpers which built a 12-way British and European Record in March '97, now wants to go even bigger. He plans a two aircraft dive at Hibaldstow, building anything up to a 28-way. If you have the experience and ability to dock on a 27-way, call Jack on 0161 3011 710.

On Friday there was another free Herc jump onto the South Beach in Aquaba, much to the amusement of all the local people. A number of tandems were made during the meet. Sandy Moore from London was given the holiday by her family for her 50th birthday; she raised more than £5,000 for the Shooting Star Children's Hospice to do a tandem – and where better to do one than in Jordan? Jeff Chandler was the tandem instructor, and Sandy did a second one where an 8-way was built around her. Jeff also took up one of the Jordanian pilot's brothers and Chief Judge Rene on the last day of the meet. Brian Cannell from Bristol, who is paraplegic, was taken on a tandem by Roy Ritter. Roy owns the Freeskiies Skydiving Centre in Eilat, Israel.

Monday, HRH Prince Ali flew a Blackhawk Helicopter to the DZ and demonstrated his flying skills before landing with all his entourage and meeting the meet participants. All this was preceded by a lot of armed soldiers and police everywhere. Monday evening was devoted to a banquet and prize giving held at the Royal Jordanian Yacht Club. It was a memorable night, with HRH Prince Ali presenting the awards. The Hit and Rock was won by Pat Moorhead USA in 5.13 secs, our own Jeff Chandler came 5th. The accuracy was won by Jeff Chandler with 19 cms, – very good going considering the conditions. Jeff was also a member of the 4-way scrambles team which took 2nd place and John Hitchen a member in the team that came joint 4th.

It was a great meet and a stunning venue. Afterwards, most of us did the tourist thing, visiting the Red Rose City of Petra, riding horses and camels, seeing the Dead Sea coral from glass bottomed boats, snorkelling in the Red Sea and visiting the USS Boxer, a type of aircraft carrier that was in port. A good end to a fantastic holiday.

The next World Meet is rumoured to be in either Argentina or Cuba, watch this space.

Sue Hill Hon Sec/Treasurer

Next UK meet is at Brunton during the August Bank Holiday (23-25). See you there – bring the photos!

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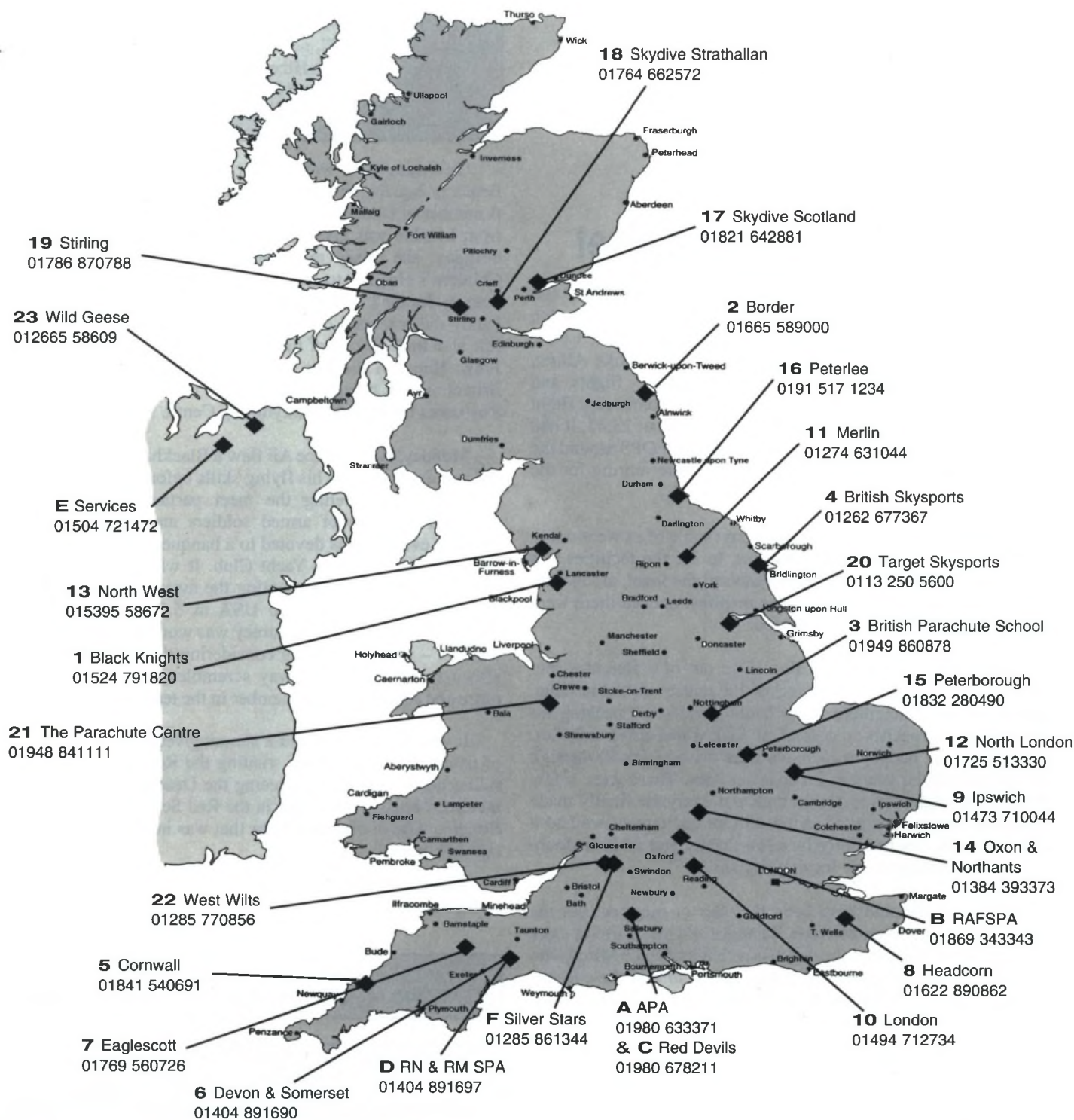
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BPA AFFILIATED DROP ZONES



The above map and list on facing page are BPA Affiliated drop zones in the UK (listed in alphabetical order). All 'Affiliated' centres are run under the BPA Operations Manual. Numbers 1 - 24 refer to civilian BPA Affiliated drop zones listed to the right. Letters A - F refer to military BPA Affiliated drop zones listed overleaf.

KEY TO SYMBOLS

- opening hours
- First jump courses offered**
- static line round courses
- RAPS courses (square parachutes)
- AFF** - AFF courses
- tandem
- Skydiving offered**
- aircraft type

- LO** - load organisers
- FS** - formation skydiving coaching
- CF** - canopy formation coaching
- FF** - freeflying coaching
- AC** - accuracy coaching
- WP** - WARP coaching
- SU** - Skydive U coaching
- Facilities available on the drop zone**
- rigging facilities
- video room

- parachute equipment shop
- canteen
- evening food
- bar
- bunkhouse
- camping welcome
- caravans welcome
- showers

- 1 Black Knights Parachute Centre**
Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane,
Cockerham, Nr Lancaster
Tel: W/end 01524 791820 or 0151 924 5560
Weekends, bank holidays 8am - 8pm

Cessna 185
CF AC WP

- 2 Border Parachute Centre**
Brunton Airfield, Chathill,
Northumberland NE67 5ER
Tel: 01665 589000 Fax: 01665 721053
B&B, camping, bars locally. Beach jumps and barbecues
in summer. Scenic views!
Fri pm, weekends 9am - dark, weekdays by arrangement

AFF
Cessna 207 & 206, Islander on call
FS AC WP

- 3 British Parachute Schools**
The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,
Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY
Tel/Fax: 01949 860878/860882
Friendly helpful staff. We are here to help you skydive.
Turbines go to 13,000 ft!
Every day 9am to 10pm (or dark), 10am start Sunday

AFF
Porter, Islander & Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)
LO FS FF WP

- 4 British Skysports, Bridlington**
East Leys Farm, Grindale, Bridlington,
East Yorkshire YO16 4YB
Tel: 01262 677367 / 0836 276188
Fax: 01262 401871
Small friendly club atmosphere. Visitors and spectators
welcome.
Every day 8am - 8pm

AFF
Cessna 206, Islander
LO FS CF AC WP

- 5 Cornwall Parachute Club**
Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield,
St Merryn, Cornwall
Tel: 01841 540691
Weekend 8am - dark, Wed & Fri (summer)

Cessna 182
FS WP SU

- 6 Devon & Somerset Parachute School**
30 Tower Way, Highfield,
Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon
Tel: 01404 891690
Local accommodation available
9am - dark, Wed - Sun

AFF
Islander

- 7 Eaglescott Parachute Centre**
Eaglescott Airfield, Ashreigney,
Chumleigh, Devon EX18 7PH
Tel: 01769 560726 / 01769 520552
Fax: 01769 560726
Weekends 9am - 9pm. Friday courses available

Cessna 180
FS AC WP

- 8 Headcorn Parachute Centre**
Headcorn Aerodrome,
Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890862 Fax: 01622 890641
Progression weeks, competitions, organised jollies.
Every day 9am - dark
2 x Islanders

AFF

AC WP

- 9 Ipswich Parachute Centre**
Ipswich Airport, Nacton Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9QF
Tel: 01473 710044 Fax: 01473 271055
Currently operating out of North London Parachute
Centre. Excellent rigging facility still open.

- 10 London Parachute School**
53 Columbine Road, Widmer End,
High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6BS
Tel/Fax: 01494 712734
Small but friendly club. Catering for complete begin-
ners to experienced skydivers.
Weekends 8am - dark
Islander, Cessna 206
WP

- 11 Merlin Parachute Centre**
Alanbrooke Barracks, Topcliffe,
Near Thirsk, North Yorkshire
Tel: Weekdays 01274 631044
Any day 01748 875367
Friendly atmosphere, bring two passport photos for
camp pass. Camping, B&B close to airfield at local
pub.
Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark
Islander
FS CF AC

- 12 North London Parachute Centre Ltd**
Chatteris Airfield, Manea
March Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: Office 01725 513330
Airfield 01354 740810
Fax: 01725 510690
Airfield is owned by the parachute centre. Large indoor
packing area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning
permission.
Fri pm, weekends 9am - 8.30pm, weekdays by arrangement
Islander
LO FS CF WP

Islander

- 13 North West Parachute Centre**
Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,
Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria
Tel: Airfield 015395 58672/58555
Weekdays 01772 720848
In fabulous lakeland scenery, visitors welcome.
Weekends and bank holidays
Islander
FS WP CF

- 14 Oxon & Northants Parachute Centre**
Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airfield, Steane,
Nr Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01384 393373 Mobile: 0850 762349
Friendly atmosphere, visitors welcome, good local pub.
Weekends, midweek by arrangement during summer.
Cessna 182 and 206

- 15 Peterborough Parachute Centre**
Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280490 Fax: 01832 280409
Birdland Bar: 01832 280404
PPC boasts 27 years of experience in running a safe,
fun drop zone. Skydive Sibson!
8am - 8pm, Tue - Sun(summer), Wed - Sun(winter)
Islander, Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)
LO FS FF WP

- 16 Peterlee Parachute Centre**
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,
Peterlee, Co Durham DH6 2NF

- Tel: DZ 0191 517 1234
Tel/Fax: Office 0191 386 5261
E-mail: skydivearmy@aol.com
www.members.aol.com/skydivearmy/index.htm
AFF, tandem and video available through Skydive
Academy Ltd. B&B locally from £12.50.
Every day 8.30am to 8.30 pm (phone Mon,Tue,Thur)

AFF
Cessna 182
FS CF WP

- 17 Skydive Scotland**
The Parachute Centre,
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642673
Fax: 01821 642004

Friendly, fun centre with emphasis on safety.
Fri - Sun
AFF
Islander, Cessna 207
CF WP AC

- 18 Skydive Strathallan**
Strathallan Airfield,
Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Tel: Mobile 0374 686161
Weekend 01764 662572
A club run by the members for the members with the
lowest possible costs.
Fri 5pm - 9pm, weekends 9am - 9p
AFF
Islander, 2 x Cessna 206
FS WP

- 19 Stirling Parachute Centre**
Thornhill, Nr Stirling,
Scotland FK8 3QT
Tel: 01786 870788 Fax: 01786 870748
E-mail: parajump@aol.com
Weekends 9.30am - 9pm, sometimes midweek

PA-32, Cherokee 6
LO FS CF WP

- 20 Target Skysports**
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, North Lincolnshire
Tel: 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648837 DZ
Fax: 0113 250 5600
Competitive jump prices, unrestricted altitude, friendly
atmosphere, everyone welcome.
9am - 9pm every day (summer), Wed - Sun (winter)
AFF
2 x Dornier, Cessna 206
LO FS WP

- 21 The Parachute Centre**
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch,
Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841111 Fax: 01948 840638
E-mail: skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk
www.tilstock.demon.co.uk
Friendly atmosphere, everybody is welcome. No
Sunday operation due to local planning restrictions.
Sat 8.30am - dark, Fri 2pm - dark (summer)
AFF
2 x Cessna 206
LO FS CF AC WP

Islander

- 22 West Wilts Parachute Club**
Kemble Airfield,
Cirencester, Gloucester GL7 6BA
Tel: 01285 770856

- 23 Wild Geese Skydive Centre**
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road,
Garvagh, Coleraine,
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: 012665 58609 Fax: 012665 57050
Every day 8am - dark
Cessna 206, Porter
CF WP

BPA ORGANISATIONS

BPA AFFILIATED MILITARY DROP ZONES

A ARMY PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

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

B RAFSPA & RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team

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

C THE RED DEVILS

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

D RN & RM SPA

Dunkeswell Airfield,
Dunkeswell,
Honiton, Devon
Tel: 01404 891697/891716

E SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE

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

F SILVER STARS PARACHUTE TEAM

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,
South Cerney,
Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD
Tel: 01285 861344
01285 860551 x8259

BPA FOREIGN MILITARY AFFILIATED DROP ZONES

CYPRUS COMBINED SERVICES PARACHUTE CLUB (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,
CJSATC Pergamos Camp, BFPO 58
Tel (from the UK):
Office 00 357 47 44337
Drop Zone 00 357 47 44245

HONG KONG PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o JSPC (HK),
Borneo Lines, Shek Kong, BFPO 1
Hong Kong,
CCI: Mr. Gary Lai
Tel: 00 852 2488 5447
Fax: 00 852 2488 9341

RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,
Germany, British Forces Post Office 16
Tel: 00 49 5254 98 2378 or 98 2740
Fax: 00 49 5254 87456

BPA ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The following are specialist organisations associated to the BPA. These 'Associated' organisations are not necessarily run under the BPA Operations Manual unless they operate out of a BPA Affiliated drop zone (listed above and on the previous pages).

AIRWAVES

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

COTSWOLD SKYDIVING CENTRE

Hangar SE15, Gloucester Airport,
Staverton, Gloucester GL51 5SR
Tel: 01452 713410
Fax: 01452 854029

EAST COAST PARACHUTE CENTRE

8 Burns Crescent,
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS
Tel: 01245 268772
Currently sharing facilities with the London Parachute
School at Lewknor drop zone.

THE FREE-FALL COMPANY

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280055 Fax: 01832 280409
E-mail: freefalluk@aol.com
Operated by Kevin McCarthy, National Champion with
over 4,500 jumps, 15 years experience. Probably the largest
AFF school in the UK. State of the art equipment and
professional, personalised training gives you safe, rapid
progression to Category 10 and beyond! Courses available
all year, in the UK or the Costa Brava. Flexible payment to
suit YOU!

MANCHESTER PARACHUTE SCHOOL

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

midweek evenings, jump at weekend. Presently running in
conjunction with Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.

NATURAL BORN THRILLERS

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

PARACHUTE TRAINING SERVICES

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

SKYDIVE ACADEMY LTD

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

SKYDIVE INTERNATIONAL

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

SKYDIVE SEBASTIAN

400 W Airport Drive
Sebastian, FL 32958, USA
Tel: 00 1 561 388 5672 Fax: 561 388 2105
E-mail: skydiveseb@aol.com
SebastianXL: pete_allum@compuserve.com
Offers BPA and USPA qualified training in the sun. Aircraft
- Super Otter, Super Casa. AFF courses, tandem, the home
of Skydive University, advanced FS coaching, team training
from Sebastian XL. Fully equipped team rooms, gym,
volleyball court, bunk-house, camping, beach jumps, load
organising, rigging service, accommodation arranged.
Owned and run by Brits. Skydive Sebastian!

SKYDIVE UNLIMITED

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

SKYDIVE WINDRUSH

Orchard House, Audley End,
Gestingthorpe,
Essex CO9 3AX
Tel/Fax: Weekdays 01787 461621
Weekends: 01451 844422 or 844449
Courses in RAPS, AFF & tandem. You've seen the rest,
now see the best! Every category of skydiver welcome.

TRAIN IN SPAIN

Aerodromo Sierra Morena,
Carretera Bailen - Motril, 6km,
E-23710 Bailen (Jaen), Spain
Tel: 00 34 53 125 233 Fax: 00 34 53 125 231
Professional full time winter DZ (September - May). AFF
and tandem instruction, one-on-one, Skydive U trained
instructors. Team coaching, FS coaching for beginners. Full
time Twin Otter, Porter, also C182. Small shop and
emergency rigging facility. Cafeteria/bar. Large creeping
area. Team rooms, video debriefing. Special rates at local
hotels.

OTHER BPA LINKED ORGANISATIONS

BRITISH COLLEGIATE PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o Jason Brister - Chairman,
77 Trafford Road, Eccles,
Salford, Greater Manchester M30 0JT
Tel: 0161 707 0583/0973 378024
E-mail: jason@bcpa.u-net.com
Affiliations 1996/7: Bristol University, Exeter University,
Lancaster University, Loughborough University, Newcastle
University, Nottingham University, University College of St.
Martin, University of East Anglia, University of Plymouth,

University of Portsmouth, University of Sheffield, University of
St. Andrews, University of Surrey, University of Sussex,
University West of England, Warwick University.

POPS UK

Hon Treas/Sec: Sue Hill
40 The Hamlet, St Annes
Lancashire FY8 3LE
Tel: 01253 713841 Fax: 0151 448 1172

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

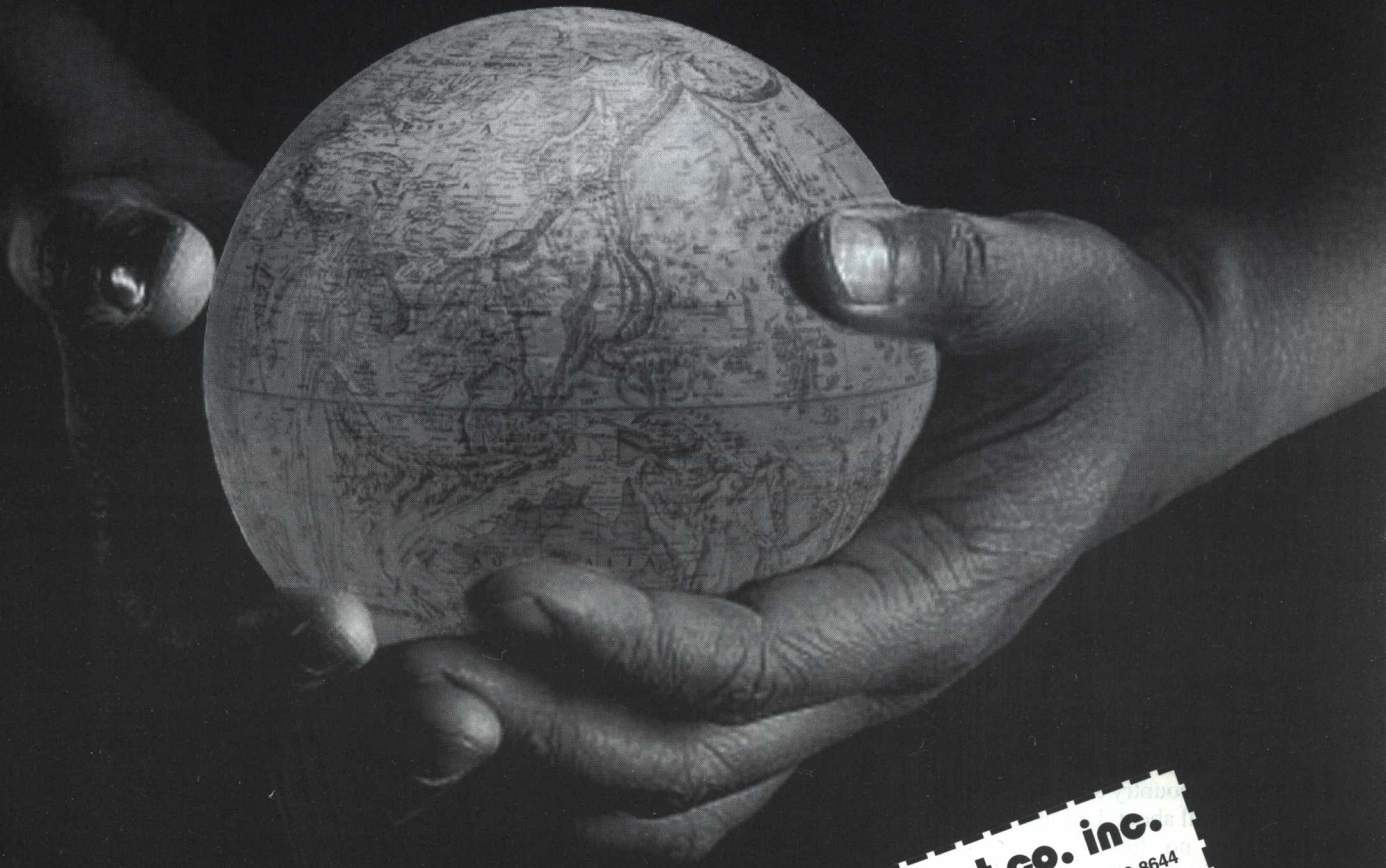
SCOTTISH SPORT PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

Anne Johnson (Secretary, SSPA),
Strathallan Airfield,
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE
Dedicated to the promotion and development
of parachuting in Scotland. Services provided include equip-
ment grants (fan trainers, parachutes, aircraft, accuracy pits,
etc), sponsorship of the Scottish National Championships and
other competitions, provision of the only student progression,
WARP, and CF training subsidy system in the world; riggers'
and instructors' training grants and much much more.

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Letters



CF

Dear Lesley

During April/May this year our team carried out two weeks training in Cyprus. Following last year's CF Nationals event Ian Marshall kindly offered to attend and coach the team in CF skills.

As a relatively inexperienced CF competition team we snapped up his kind and selfless offer. So to Cyprus we went with our keen, enthusiastic instructor Ian tagging along. As a rather old parachutist, and one who has been parachuting 15 years without much involvement in CF, I must admit to being less than enthusiastic about competitive CF (Rotations and all that – "What, not me!!!").

Like every aspect of our sport, and in the words of the RAF school of military parachuting, 'Knowledge dispels fear'. I have found this saying to be true at every new stage of my parachuting learning experience.

Ian (as anyone who knows him will agree) is extremely enthusiastic (to say the least) about CF. More importantly in the greatest traditions of the BPA, he is determined to pass on his skills and love for his discipline. Further more he is convinced that the discipline of CF is the most misunderstood and over criticised skill of them all. Having spent two weeks under his guidance I must agree with him.

Previously the thought of myself attempting CF rotations was unthinkable (only the foolish do that sort of thing). I am now a convert, and furthermore I believe that our sport must close this void in its safety and training sooner rather than later. We have WARP, Skydive U, Freestyle, Skysurfing and more, yet we do not seem to recognise the need to promote CF instruction and coaching.

We can dispel the myth that CF is not safe if we want to – and we should. When conducted correctly it is both

safe and very enjoyable. We must therefore put in place the relevant operational rules and lay down safe guidance for progression and instruction correctly for the further good and benefit of all.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Wright
Team Leader,
Regiment of Yorkshire
Parachute Display Team

STEVE GALE

Dear Lesley,

Stephen Edwin Gale
1968 - 1997

It is with great sadness that I must announce to your readers the loss of a close friend. Steve Gale was 29 years old and had been actively involved in skydiving since 1987. He began jumping at Bridlington that year completing his 100th jump on Christmas Day. He went on to skydive mostly at Brid, but also at A1, Headcorn, Sibson, Cranfield, Weston, Langar and Tilstock.

I first met Steve whilst working in a hospital in London in 1990. I had started jumping at Netheravon three years previously and although very keen I had only done thirty odd dives in this time. The weather, my career, time, money and 'the system' had ground my jumping to a halt. Steve abruptly put an end to this, with his endless enthusiasm and tireless energy. I took up skydiving once again, my life changed. I ended my ten year career, left my job and toured the world for a year. I went to boogies worldwide working at drop zones in far away places. I never looked back. I have Steve to thank for unleashing the potential in me.

Steve found a new purpose in his life; his career. He got a great job in the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead – and skydiving took a back step for a while. He followed other paths. His interest and input in sub-aqua was known to those he touched there. He

was a keen rugby player. Hey let's face it; Steve was a big guy with a personality to go with it!

Steve left to work in the Middle East a few years ago, and from there he was able to travel to New Zealand and the States. He managed to make friends in Perris and Deland. His interest in skydiving returned in earnest last year and he made his final jump at Brid in September 1996 with his old friend Nicky and Dorit, having her first tandem.

I met Steve at the end of February this year in London and he looked fit and well. We talked of meeting up at boogies this summer. His enthusiasm for skydiving had returned.

Steve died suddenly in Oman, the victim of the asthma he had suffered from for many years. None of his friends family or anyone who knew Steve ever perceived his problem to be such a threat. The terrible news was especially a blow to his family; his mother Claire and brother Julian. We send them our sympathy, our support and thoughts.

A service was held at Christ Church in Hampstead, London in April; attended by family, friends and colleagues.

All of us who knew and met Steve will remember him for his warmth and enthusiasm for life. His willingness to share these things with those he met will be his legacy to us.

We thank Steve for the friendship and great times he gave us and wish him peace. God bless him. We will miss him.

Brian Knight D9228

BRITISH 9

Dear Reader

By now you will probably have heard that the *British 9* did not compete for the whole of the 1997 British FS Nationals. The team believe the membership deserves an explanation as to the reason behind the team's actions and hope this letter will help you understand the decision.

After winning the Nationals in 1996, *Army 9* decided they would try to complete 300 training jumps during 1997 before competing at the World Meet in Turkey. The team have a goal of trying to be the

first British 8-way team to record a double figure average in competition. The team started in February with the Valentines Meet and a training camp in Arizona. However, due to poor weather the team did only 60 of the planned 80 jumps. From February to the end of May, the team had completed a further 40 jumps. However, during 20 days of training in June the team only made 24 training jumps. Due to the poor weather the team are about 60 jumps short of their training target.

The team had planned to compete for the whole of the 1997 Nationals, hold a further training camp in August and a training camp in September in Turkey before the World Meet. The contract signed by the National Team stipulates the team must attend the Nationals for the minimum of the first weekend. British 9 decided that due to the loss of training time, the team would only attend the first weekend of the Nationals – but that we would compete and try to finish as many rounds of the competition as possible as well as helping other teams. Then at midnight on the Sunday evening, the team would fly to Spain for a 50 jump training camp.

The *British 9* are not full time professional skydivers and, like you, we have to use our leave for training and therefore are limited in the amount of time off we can take. One team member was involved in pre-Bosnia training before the Nationals and will go to Bosnia straight after the World Meet. We are also self financing with no sponsor and the money we have for training is limited. We know we cannot please everyone but we have attended at both the Regional Meets so far and we will attend the Northern Regional meet.

By competing at the first weekend of the Nationals and then going on a training camp we believe we have achieved a reasonable compromise. Unless a team is full time with a sponsor it is impossible to carry out all the training required to give a good performance and attend all of the events people would like. I hope you will now understand our decision even if you do not agree with it.

Major Andy Allman
British 9 8-way Team

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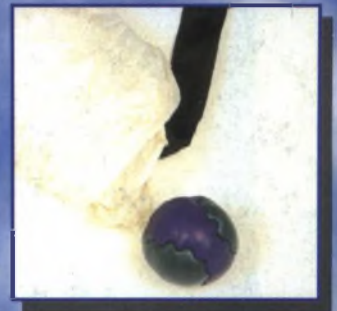


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