

SPORT

PARACHUTIST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION



Stop Press!
Britain's Biggest Formation:
98-way in '98
Full report inside . . .

August 1998

Springo

By Blue Track

Photo Jussi Laine



Fun standard included.



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SPORT PARACHUTIST

Journal of the British Parachute Association

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Cover Photo: This moody exit shot was taken by Simon Ward during the Brit 100 week at Langar – see pages 27-30 for full write-up.

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 Reproduction, printing and despatch takes a total of 3½ weeks so some information may be out of date or superseded.

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.



SUPPORTED BY



Ed
Speak

Thank you to everyone who wrote or emailed me to say how much they liked the last 'Bumper' issue of the Mag, I hope you enjoy this one too. When I returned from holiday (team training) it was very motivating to find a sackful of appreciative letters.

Andy Kelly

'This isn't right' was the thought in my head which wouldn't go away at Andy's funeral. That my mate Andy and his infectious laugh isn't here any more is still unbelievable. And to set his obituary in this Mag (page 34) and the letters about him (this page) seemed bizarrely wrong, he was always so full of life.

Can we learn anything from his accident? The conclusions of the Board of Inquiry are that 'he released his main canopy and deployed his reserve canopy whilst in an unstable position...this resulted in the pilot chute and bridle line becoming entangled.' Andy was a good skydiver and he followed the '1, 2' drill we have all been brought up on. But as experienced jumpers, should we re-examine our reserve drills? They were designed many years ago and now that most of us jump reserve activation devices and main canopies which malfunction violently, is it more important to get stable before deploying the reserve? Think about it – we all accept the risk of skydiving and with it comes responsibility. If we can learn anything from Andy's accident he would have wanted us to do so.

But the biggest thing we can learn is, if you're having a 'bad day' when nothing seems to go right or you're feeling down, remember how much Andy would like to be here sharing the day with you (I'm sure he hadn't finished playing yet) and how much fun he would have got out of it. Enjoy every second of your life. Don't cry for Andy, laugh for him.

See you in the next life Andy, missing you in this one.

Lesley

LETTERS

**ANDY KELLY**

We would like to take the opportunity to thank everybody for all the support and kindness they have shown us and for the many letters and flowers we have received.

To us, he was Andrew and to his friends, Andy, and probably called a few other names but to all of us the same wonderful guy, always smiling and laughing.

It seems like only yesterday, we lived in Tenterden and often drove past Headcorn and saw canopies in the sky. Andy was nearly sixteen and wanted to parachute. On his birthday, he did his first static line jump and so the story began, the rest you know.

In such a short time, Andy achieved so much, he was always positive, that's why! His attitude was, if you want it, you can do it, and he would work incredibly hard to succeed. But this did not make him selfish or self-centred, he always had time for other and, like all of us, he needed others.

Andy touched all of us in many different ways and the lesson for all of us is that nobody knows what tomorrow will bring, so make every day count. Smile, laugh, teach, learn, be happy, make others happy, do something with your time, it's precious and can soon be gone.

We have been overwhelmed with the sympathy shown by Andy's friends and thank you all because it genuinely has helped.

Don't let us be sad, he wouldn't want that, he is there whenever we want to think of him, remember him laughing.

Andy's family

Dear Lesley

I only met Andy a few weeks ago when I started my AFF course and I would be lying if I said he was a close friend but I think the following anecdote says a lot about the sort of guy he was:

My first take on AFF Level 5 was a minor disaster and I was VERY down about it (I have never been the most confident of students and the Dear Dive Doctor letter from Fee Full in the last issue of Sport Parachutist could well have been written by me!). Andy, like most instructors, was at great pains to offer support and encouragement and focus on the positive rather than the negative aspects of the jump. About an hour or so after the debrief he was eating his evening meal on a bench in 'Skid Row' at Headcorn airfield as I checked in at the office before heading off on the 30 minute walk back into Headcorn village.

"Ian, I'm going into Headcorn in a few minutes. I can give you a lift if you don't mind waiting", he shouted across. I thanked him and accepted his offer, but then got talking to some other students and we decided to go for a group beer elsewhere instead. I went to tell Andy and apologise for the change in plan. He grinned. "That's okay, I wasn't really going into Headcorn – I just offered because I thought it was a bit far for you to walk!".

I was, in reality, pretty much a stranger to him but his kindness was genuine and it seems was typical of the kindness he showed to all who were interested in the sport he excelled at.

I guess most AFF students feel they build some special kind of bond with their instructors – we effectively trust these people with our lives at a time when we feel we are at our most vulnerable. But Andy always went the extra mile to offer support and encouragement and point out the priorities and I shall always remember my last conversation with him:

He asked "You know what was the best thing about that last jump you did?" "I got my body position right at last", I guessed. "No", he replied. "I stayed pretty stable and you let go", I guessed. "No", he said. "The important thing is that you smiled! If you're

not enjoying it there's no point is there? Remember to always smile!".

Andy certainly knew how to smile, how to live life to the full, and how to help others enjoy it too. When I felt I was too gormless, too frightened, or just too damned old to ever complete AFF he reassured me: "I'm determined to get you to level 8. And I will." And you know something? He was right. He'll be up there in spirit with me asking if I'm 'having fun' on each and every jump it takes. He's given me the confidence so that even if it means I'm legally taking my qualifying jump in a frappe hat I know it won't matter because, with his help, I'll get there eventually. And I know that when I do graduate Andy will be up there grinning, "See. I told you!"

Blue Skies Andy and sincere thanks.

Ian Smith

WOMEN IN FS DEBATE

Thanks for the latest issue of your magazine.

I think your article and the way it included information from different areas and topics was very interesting and thorough. A lot of new arguments were presented that I think are valid in both directions.

It will be interesting to follow the discussions further.

Just a clarification though: We have not thought of, or discussed a full segregation to all male and all female teams. I think this would lie far in the future if it is an interesting way to go at all. We have so much to gain on having a possibility of mixed teams, both internally in our sport and also externally. Limiting to all male and female would prove difficulties for almost all normal size and smaller countries in regards of the females having enough qualified persons to choose from to form teams. I think this would hinder the development more than push it. The adding of an all female event would not then stop any other development, only make a new place for those who wish to compete in this direction.

I will be happy to follow up on any comments you have or may receive.

Pal Bergan
IPC FS Subcommittee

Council Matters



DEVELOPMENT

Dave Turner approached the BPA on behalf of the Brit 100 Record attempt for a grant to help cover the cost of bringing specialised aircraft in for the event. The BPA agreed to help out in return for exposure in the planned publicity campaign of the event (see centre pages for write-up of the event).

AGM

The AGM is being relocated to the Hanover International Hotel, Hinckley (as the refurbishment of the Post House Forte has left it unsuitable). The new hotel has an extensive leisure centre, room rate is £35 per person per night, including breakfast, based on two people sharing. The AGM will be held on 23 January 1999. If there are volunteers/suggestions for seminar topics contact Sharon Norris at the BPA offices.

Council Nominations

Nominations for Council are no longer to be sent out with the October issue of *Sport Parachutist*; instead they will be available from the office or DZ's from the summer onwards – just 'phone up & ask for one. It was considered a waste to print and mail 4,500 when only 14 were returned last year. Council is keen for more people to stand for the positions. Everybody is welcome to attend Council sessions to see what goes on (dates in the Diary page 9), 'phone the BPA office for details. If anyone has constructive suggestions on increasing the numbers standing for election get in touch with Charles Ross.

FXC's

The FXC's that the BPA now has are being brought up to service standard and will be loaned out to clubs in the near future. Only about 50 have been ordered to date. Any further clubs wanting to loan the FXC's, contact the Committee.

COUNCIL

Oxon & Northants Parachute Centre is now Hinton Skydiving Club, with new facilities, see club pages (50-51) for more details.

The BPA staff are being moved around slightly as David Oddy will unfortunately leave us after the AGM next year to enjoy complete retirement. There are a couple of new positions being created in the office to tackle the ever mounting stream of paperwork, details from the Staff Liaison Officer – Lofly Thomas via the BPA office.

GASCo (General Aviation Safety Council) are putting together a new safety video: the BPA has put money into it.

RIGGERS

Applicants to do some of the paperwork task of rewriting manuals and training courses are being sought by Paul Applegate. Paratec's new tandem canopy and harness are now being used by Dave Morris at Langar.

COMPETITIONS

The Committee has started on the challenge of helping Development write the next BPA Development Plan, as it sees the competitive element

as one of the vital components of the future of the sport. The World Class Performance Plan goes in for approval soon; in it the BPA bids for certain schemes to help our champions (present and future) train for international excellence.

World Cups

Teams are advised if they wish to enter the forthcoming World Cups in 4, 8 and 16-way to be held at Ampuriabrava, Spain (4/8-way) and Portugal (16-way) they should do so via the Competitions Committee. This is a directive from IPC.

FS Nationals

A senior member of the Sports Council will present the prizes at the FS Nationals. Omniskore will be at the FS Nationals again this year. The committee would like to thank Sue Meacock for the help from Sibson both in fiscal and kind that has allowed this to happen. One reason for having the system on hire this year is to allow judges, computer buffs, competitions and the committee to question the Omniskore consultant as an aid to making a decision on whether to buy a system.

In addendum to the rules for this year's FS Nationals is: No individual may enter in more than one team in any one event (event = senior, junior, intermediate). This means that you cannot be on a team in, say, the senior event and be an alternate for another team in that same event. The rule does not affect individuals being on separate teams in separate events ie, an individual can still be on a junior, senior and intermediate team, but only on one team in each event.

Anti doping

The committee has been tasked by the Sports Council to create a realistic and workable anti doping policy.

NEW RATINGS

Advanced Packer

John Crowhurst
Pete Shew
Marian Shearer
Chris Thomas
Garath Leonard

Advanced Rigger

Pete Sizer
Howard Goldby

Approved Rigger

Geoff Hughes
Richard Whealty
Ruth McHenry
Dave Ballard
Basic Instructor
Paul Naismith
John Bishop
Stewart Kerr
Craig Bassindale
Aaron Faith
Kenny Leeder
Andy Shaw
Susan Nolan
Anthony Harwood
Paul Hollow
Christine Betts
Terry Harvey
Jeff Allen
Paul Dunn
Dave Skinner
John Ashby

Tandem Basic Instructor

Michael Gook

Approved Instructor

Robert Blake
Ned Blyth
Sarah Laughton
Kathryn Salisbury
Andy Scott
Kate Stephens
Andy Holloway
Alan Heard
John McKnight
Mark Lamb
Phil Collett
Tony Lightfoot
Francis Mullin

National FS Judge

Andy Allman

Judges

Jackie Glover has resigned as Judges co-ordinator, the committee would like to thank Jackie for all her hard work in the past. John Saunders has taken over. We welcome applications for the post from any available judges, especially those keen to encourage new judges.

Chairmen can be contacted via the BPA or on:-

BPA	Phil Gibbs	PNCGibbs@aol.com
Competitions	Chris Allen	Skydive_International@compuserve.com
STC	Tye Boughen	Tye@mail.com
Development / Communications	Charles Ross	charles@email.com
Riggers	Paul Applegate	Tel: 01869 277 469

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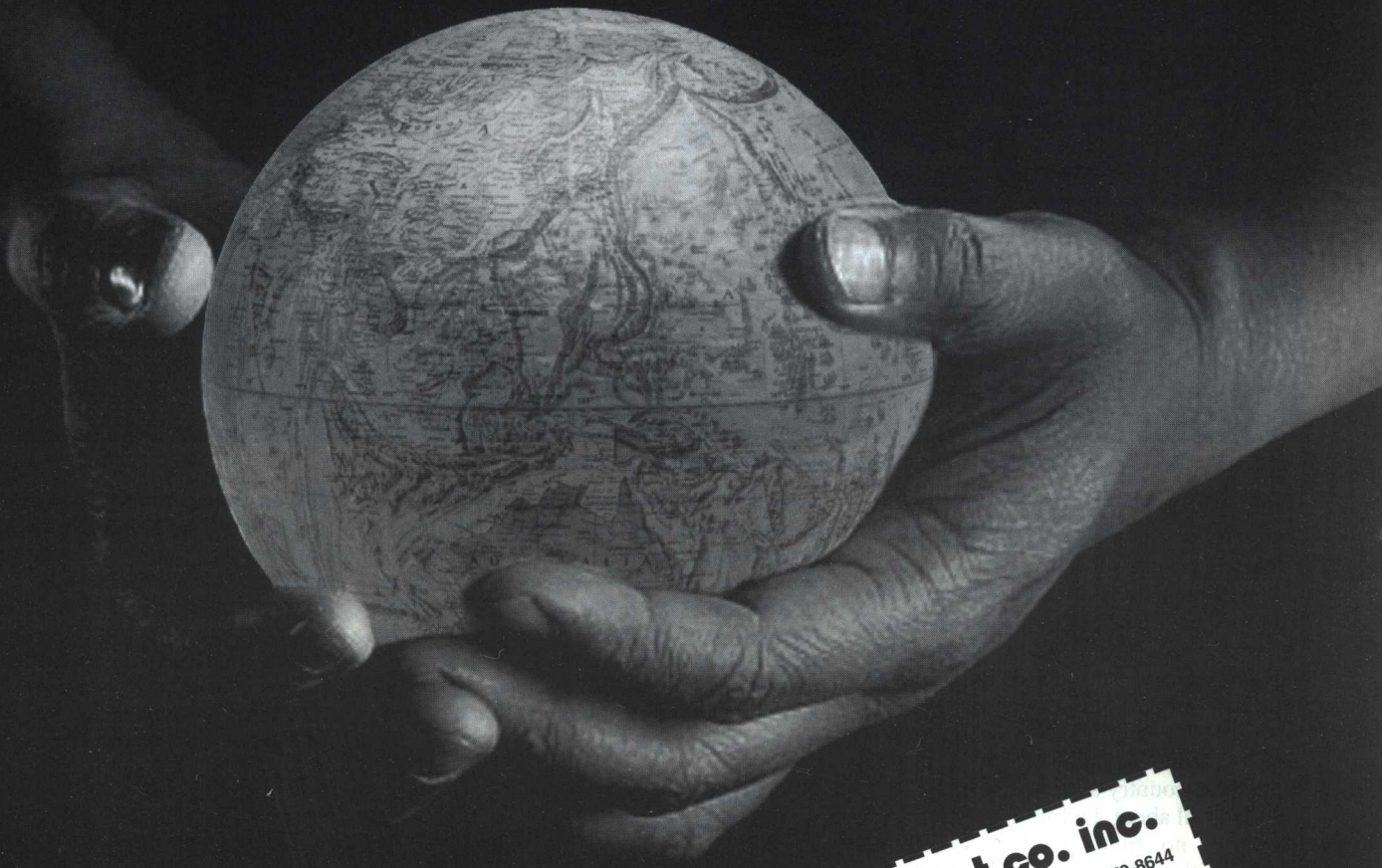
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DECEMBER	21 October	9 November	5 December

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Once again WoTs is coming to you live and hot from the sunny resort of Perris Valley. We are on location filming with a crew from Wales and jumping hard at the Film Festival (it's a tough life) . . .

FREEFLY CAPITAL

Perris Valley was the host to the third FlyBoyz Free Fly Film Festival. Going from June 28 to July 5, this year in excess of 200 freeflyers turned up. Names as legendary as Olav Zipser, Knut Krecker and Bobby Cusp were there, all with their own inimitable styles. Olav was there with his space-ball, shooting some funky film. The FlyBoyz were coaching and pumping up the vibes and the place was going off big time. Perris is undoubtedly the

Freefly capital of the world. Freeflyers are everywhere and relative work is confined to the hard core teams and a few others at the weekends. If you have not yet made a move into freefly then give it a go. They say you either love it or hate it and, so far, everyone who has tried it loves it !!

FREEFLY JOKE

Q – How many freeflyers does it take to change a light bulb?
A – 20 - that's one to change the bulb, 19 to film it!!

HOT RODS FROM SPACE?

Have you seen the footage of BJ Worth or Patrick de Gayardon jumping into the cave in Mexico? I'm sure that you have. Well it has come to WoTs' attention that there is some

'Funky Stuff' going on here. BJ was contacted by a dude who is a bit of an 'Alien Watcher'. This dude videoed the jumps from the TV programme. On replay in slow-mo, as BJ and Patrick enter the cave having jumped from helicopters, there are two very strange things leaving the hole, at high speed. These objects are 'Rods' up to 30 feet long with triangular antennas at each end and in the middle. The dude, who has studied these things going off, says that they are moving at a speed which makes them invisible to the human eye, but he has evidence of them from many locations. He believes that the cave is a nesting site for these things. Strange and funky, but true. Get out your footage, run it in slow-mo and see what you reckon.

SPACE GAMES

Olav has come up with a funky idea, the Atmosphere Dolphin Challenge. This is a series of events for two competitors. In order to enter you have to show excellent freefly skills. First is a tracking race, from A to B, the one who goes the furthest wins. Second is the Freefly Indy 500.

Two cameraflyers set up 40ft apart and the competitors race each other around the human pylons. Third is the Atmosphere Dolphin Challenge, the event is with a space ball. The competitors start with their finger pointing at the ball, less than 6 inches from it. They then start and do a 360 degree turn and return to pointing at the ball, then they do a front loop and return, and finally a cartwheel and return. The winner is the one who finishes all three moves first. Cool Contest!

PD FREE FOR ALL

Performance Designs Free For All is coming to the UK via Weston on the Green for the August Bank Holiday weekend. They are bringing all their demo's and some very cool organisers, from Airspeed & Olav down. Make sure you are there to jump with these guys and learn from them.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Tomorrow is easy if you apply today's knowledge.

George Pilkington

Did you know . . .

. . . that only two of the 15 current Council members have no business interests in sport parachuting



It's time for a change!!

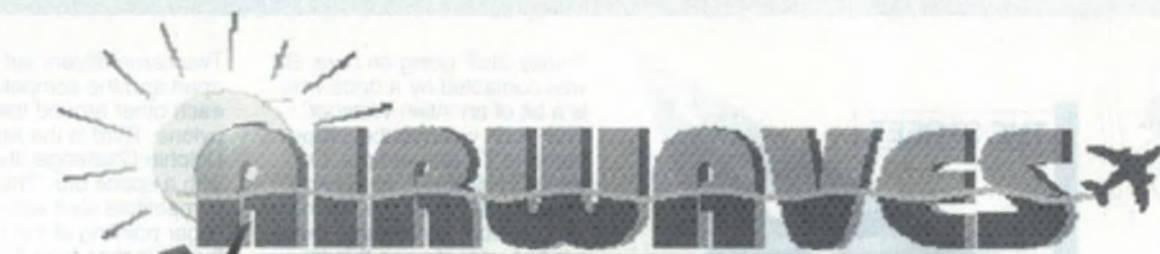
- Fed up with current policy?

Then

- Stand for Council next year
- Obtain a nomination form from your DZ or the BPA office
- Find a proposer and seconder
- Complete the nomination form and return to the BPA office.

*We need new blood – **all** candidates welcome*

Note: To reduce costs, nomination forms will not be inserted in the October Mag as in previous years. They are available from your Drop Zone or from the BPA office.



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News



SEBASTIAN XL WIN FLORIDA SKYDIVING LEAGUE

British 4-way team *Sebastian XL* won the Florida Skydiving League and came third in the America's Cup (with a handicap). They also managed to smash a few British records on the way, scoring an outstanding 19.2 average at the last meet and a record breaking round score of 28 points in time.

MICK HALL'S AFF SCHOOL

British jumper Mick Hall, who is Chief Instructor at Sebastian and runs the AFF and Tandem school, has started up his own AFF school as well. He aims to offer students a good introduction into the sport through AFF and continue to help after they have completed the course. He will be working with Airwaves (Rod Bartholomew) offering an after-service to students with advice on equipment, courses available to them (Skydive U etc), and DZs to jump at in England and Europe. Mick has over 3,000 skydives, has been Chief Instructor at Sebastian for nearly three years and graduated approximately 500 AFF students through the school. He is an AFF Instructor, Skydive U rated, Tandem Master, One-on-One and WARP Instructor. Mick's new company is Freefall Adventures, tel 001 561 388 5925, fax 001 561 388 1832, e-mail SkydiveMik@aol.com, URL <http://www.ffadventures.com>

STUNT WORK REQUIRED

BPA member Lise Leroux who wrote *One Hand Clapping*, reviewed in the previous issue of Sport Parachutist, is currently working on her second book, *Sheep Tipping*. This is a time-travelling skydiving book to be published in January 1999. David Lynch is considering the film rights for the book. There are stunt double slots available for men, women and a camerawoman

of good FS ability, cutaway experience and high jump numbers. If anyone is interested could they contact Lesley Gale at *Sport Parachutist* or Lise Leroux on 0181 577 6373.

STOLEN PARAGLIDER

A paraglider was stolen from the Bournemouth area on 18 May. It is a Freex Spear paraglider, white on the undersurface, lilac/purple on the top surface and is housed in a black and brown bag with the word FREEEX printed on it in several places. There may be a reward for useful information, please call the Crime Desk at Bournemouth Police Station on 01202 222 527.

COLUMBUS INSURANCE

Columbus Direct, a company offering skydiving insurance has now lifted a temporary restriction on the number of jumps made during a holiday. For a few months, Columbus limited the number of jumps to ten but there is now once again no limit on the number of jumps made on any one trip for experienced jumpers. Contact Columbus on 0171 375 0011.

NEW FRENCH DROP ZONE

A new drop zone has opened in France, near Le Mans. The aircraft is a Pilatus Porter which will fly to 4,000m (14,000ft). Contact Serge or Karen Savin on 0033 243 71 34 34 or 0033 243 71 52 73, fax 0033 243 71 23 23.

CHANGES AT THE ROYAL AERO CLUB

After two and a half years as Chairman of the Royal Aero Club, Fred Marsh has stood down and is replaced by David Cole for the next 12 months. David has been Vice Chairman of the club for the past two and a half years as well as Chairman of the club's FAI Committee. Until quite recently he was also Chairman of the British Microlight Aircraft

Association. You can contact David Cole on: 100772.1123@compuserve.com. The new Vice Chairman of the RAeC is Peter Saundby, who represents the RAeC on Europe Airports, where he is a member of the Bureau. He is a retired Air Commander, an active glider pilot, and a Council member of the British Gliding Association. His e-mail address is: peter.saundby@virgin.net

NEW WORLD RECORD - ACCURACY

The FAI is ratifying a new World Record for the most consecutive landings on a dead centre by a woman (6), set by Cheryl Stearns at Marana, Arizona on 10-13 May 1998.

FAI MOVES HQ

The Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI), the world governing body for all kinds of sporting aviation and air and space records, is to move to a new headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland. FAI President Eilif Ness of Norway, commenting on the decision, explained that there were several reasons for the decision to move to Lausanne, including "the synergy effect of being co-located with the numerous other International Sporting Federations already based in Lausanne, including co-location with the International Olympic Committee, emphasising FAI's primary role as the air sport governing body". The move forms part of FAI's aim to position itself for the millennium as a modern, business-like federation, well placed to serve the needs of its members and in the mainstream of the world sporting movement. For the latest information see web site at: <http://www.fai.org>

ANDALUCIA TO HOST SECOND WORLD AIR GAMES

After a tense and closely fought contest between three well-qualified bidders, the 2001 World Air Games have been awarded to Spain by the Council of the FAI. The successful bid, put forward jointly by the Real Aero Club de Espana (RACE) and the Federacion Aeronautica

Espanola (FAE), plans for the second World Air Games to be held on ten sites centred on Seville in Andalucia in June 2001. None of the proposed sites is more than three hours drive from Seville, which will hopefully ensuring a more cohesive, unified Games. The opening ceremony will be held in Seville, and the closing ceremony at the new motor racing circuit in Jerez de la Frontera.

The Andalucian Games will include:

- * Hot Air and Gas Ballooning
- * Gliding
- * Parachuting
- * Aeromodelling
- * Aerobatics (Powered and Gliding)
- * Microlights
- * Helicopters
- * Rally/Precision Flying
- * Hang Gliding
- * Paragliding
- * Amateur Built and Solar Powered Aircraft

Extensive media coverage is planned so it is hoped that sponsors will find it attractive to support the Games. The budget for the event runs to several million dollars, only a small part of which will be covered by entry fees. Substantial financial and material support has been pledged by Spanish government authorities at national, regional and local level. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has been informed about the award of the Games to Spain, and FAI has pledged to work closely with the IOC to ensure that there is no clash of interests.

Spain promises outstanding weather, uncongested airspace, good infrastructure and a big welcome from friendly local people. It is already clear from the front page treatment given in the Spanish press and TV to the announcement of the Games that the event will have a big impact in Spain. Further information on the World Air Games is available at the following website: <http://www.fai.org/wag/>



What's On

HAPPY HERCULES

After the 1997 Herc Boogie where more than 600 skydivers made over 7,000

jumps, the 1999 Boogie will be even bigger. The date of the boogie is 11-20 June 1999 and once again the jumpship will be a Hercules. The a big formation boogie is organised by Gothenburg Parachuting Club in co-operation with the Swedish Air Force and the Special Forces Corps. The event is taking place at Hovby Airport outside the city of Lidköping in central Sweden. For more information, contact Nisse Bernhardsson +46-(0)31 923445 or visit their web site: <http://www.gfk.se/hercules>

PEAK ON THE POLE

The organisers of this year's jump onto the North Pole will be running the event again in 1999. Please see: <http://www.skypole.ru>

WONDERFUL WOMEN

A Women's World Record attempt (female) will be held at Perris Valley Skydiving during November 6-8, the aim is to build a 120-way. Jumps are planned from 18,000ft out of a Casa, Skyvan and Otters, the cost will be \$360 for 15 jumps. Minimum qualifications for interested people are 500 FS jumps, 100 in the last year and references from 3 qualified organisers. Women interested in participating should contact Jan Meyer, via email at Aerosoftware@MakeltHappen.com, or browse <http://www.makeithappen.com/www/index.html>

EXCITING AND EXOTIC

ESA are planning a Cuba Boogie in October/November this year with an Mi-17

helicopter. For February 1999, they propose to hold another boogie in Thailand. ESA are also investigating the possibility of a boogie in South America for the year 2000. Interested parties contact Darryl Moran on 01252 712284. ESA has changed their email and web site address which are now skydive@exoticskyadventures.com and <http://www.exoticskyadventures.com>

REARRANGED REGIONALS

These are now rescheduled for August 15-16 in CF and FS at Target Skysports.

Did you know . . .

. . . that *Sebastian XL* won the Florida Skydiving League

SMILING STUDENTS

A student progression week is planned for Monday 31 August to Friday 4 September at Hibaldstow with tuition, jumps and parties on the agenda. For more information call Helen on 0113 250 5600 or write to her brand new email address of helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

AGM AGENDA

This has been scheduled for 23 January 1999 at a new location, Hanover International Hotel in Hinckley. Rooms will be £35 per person including breakfast, based on two people sharing. The hotel has a leisure centre and is very spacious and upmarket. See next issues of the Mag for more details.

LEARN AT LAPALISSE

Lapalisse is planning some seminars on FS (Aug 17-23) and freeflying (Aug 21-23). Call Bernard on 0033 4 7099 1803 or email: info@lapalisse-aero.com

BEAUTIFUL AT BORDER

Border Parachute Centre is

planning jumps onto Beadnell beach during August 15-16, the views are reported as 'stunning'. The briefing is at 10am on Saturday 15, life jackets will be provided. The jump will be followed by a barbeque and beach party. Call Border on 01665 589 000.

SUMMER SCRAMBLES

A 4-way scrambles LAC meet at Border is planned for 22-23 August, call 01665 589 000 for details.

EVENTFUL AT EQUINOX

The biannual Equinox Boogie 'down under' is set for 24 October - 1 November this year. Organisers include Jerry Bird, Jeff Ronzevalle. A fleet of aircraft is planned, including a Caravan, Twin Otter, Porter, Skyvan, Twin Bonanza and more plus guest novelty aircraft such as a Stearman, Tiger Moth and various helicopters. Load organising, fun dives, night jumps, mystery skydives plus pool parties, live bands and huge parties are promised. For more information phone 0061 754 231 159, fax 0061 3899 2863, email Jeff.Ronzevalle@RZVL.aol.com or check <http://www.uq.edu.au/ramblers>

SWARM THE SYMPOSIUM

The PIA (Parachute Industry Association) Symposium will be held during January 10-14 1999 in San Diego, hosted by Irvin Aerospace. There will be over 100 hours of seminars, 123 exhibits, several meetings and other related activities such as a Caterpillar Club reunion. For more information call 001 972 231 4127 or email hq@pia.com

SKILLFUL AT SEBASTIAN

The annual excellent skills camp run by *Sebastian XL* from 28 November to Dec 13 will have a limit of 24 people to

Did you know . . .

. . . that Skydive Sibson now has a web cam at <http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/sibcam>

ensure quality coaching. The cost is £30 per day, per person coaching fee to include each skydive with an XL member, seminars, beach jumps, barbeques, usual Sebastian facilities. Jumps cost £18.50, this includes your slot, the coaches slot, camera slot and camera wage. First come, first served; so send your deposit, payable by 10 November of £150 to XL's manager Gary Southam, email, gsoutham@compuserve.com, telephone 01252 717701, address 28 Pound Close, Hilland Rise, Headley, Hants GU35 8LU.

Stop Press!

Credit Card Fee Waived

The Bank of Scotland is no longer charging an annual fee for users of the BPA Credit Card.

The Bank of Scotland has been offering a 'balance transfer rebate' for debts transferred from other credit cards. They are now replacing this with a special introductory APR for new card accounts of 11.9% on all purchases for 6 months. This is better than other competing cards, and this special rate applies to both new spending and balances transferred, making it a very good offer for new cardholders.

To apply for or enquire about a BPA credit card, call

0800 716097

Quote of the Month



"Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward. For there you have been and there you long to return"

Leonardo da Vinci

Ronnie's

This month -
Check out summer T-Shirts
For kit from top to toe

for Parachute de France Atom - Sunpath Javelin - TSE Tear Drop containers; for Springo - Merit - BT Pro - Stiletto - Sabre - PD mains; for Techno - Tempo - PDR reserves. Also for Eureka FT 50 altis - Factory Divers - Time Out!! - Tony and Symbiosis jump suits.

For latest details call Pete on

01832 280131 at Sibson Airfield, Sibson Peterborough, PE8 6NE



Diary Dates

Key to Colours

BPA Events
Formation Skydiving
Canopy Formation
Style & Accuracy

Freeflyng & Skysurfing
Boogie & Fun Events
POPS
Unclassified

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
AUGUST			
3-7	BI/Advanced Instructor Course	Bridlington	BPA T: 0116 278 527 F: 0116 247 7662
5-16	World Freefall Convention	Quincy, USA	T: 001 (217) 222 5867 E: wffc@freefall.com W: http://www.freefall.com
6	Pilots Meeting	BPA Offices	T: 0116 278 5271 F: 0116 247 7662 E: skydive@bpa.org.uk
7-9	Open Skysurf Cup of Russia	Moscow	T: 001 972 394 2566 E: SSIProTour@aol.com
8-9	8-way Meet	Strathallan	T: 07000 467 593/01764 662 572
8-9	Freefly Seminar	Leopoldsbu	Philippe Baldewijns T: 003 4 725 022 15 E: nicoli-p@imaginet.fr
8-14	Toby Stafford Skills Camp	Peterborough	T: 01832 280 490 E: TobyStafford@compuserve.com
8-16	16-way Meet	La Ferté, France	T: 0033 164 75 5555 F: 00 33 164 75 5550
8-16	Porter Week	Silver Stars	T: 01285 861 344 W: www.skygods.u-net.com
10-14	Exam/Pre-Advanced Instructor Course	Bridlington	BPA T: 0116 278 5271 F: 0116 247 7662 E: skydive@bpa.org.uk
13-14	Rescheduled NORTHERN REGIONALS: CF/FS	TARGET SKYSPORTS	T: 0113 250 5600 F: 0113 250 5600 E: helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk
15-16	Beach Jumps	Border	T: 01665 589 000 F: 01665 721 053
15-16	POPS Meet	Target Skysports	Sue Hill T: 01253 713 841 E: pops@shew.clara.net
17-23	FS Seminar	Lapalisse, France	T: 00 33 4 7099 1803 F: 00 33 4 7099 2856 E: info@lapalisse-aero.com
18	Council Meeting	BPA Office	T: 0116 278 5271 F: 0116 247 7662 E: skydive@bpa.org.uk
21-23	Freefly Seminar	Lapalisse, France	T: 00 33 4 7099 1803 F: 00 33 4 7099 2856 E: info@lapalisse-aero.com
21-30	Boogie	Karlovy Vary	Pete Marsden T: 01932 701 321
22-23	16-way Meet	Weston on the Green	RAFSPA T: 01869 343 343 F: 01869 343 676
22-23	Scrambles LAC Meet	Border	T: 01665 589 000 F: 01665 721 053
22-23	FREESTYLE/SKYSURF & FREEFLY REGIONALS	NETHERAVON	APA T: 01980 633 371
22-23	ARMY CHAMPIONSHIPS	NETHERAVON	APA T: 01980 633 371
25-31	Bank Holiday Fun Week (Jump Tkts £12 m/wk)	Peterborough	T: 01832 280 490 F: 01832 280 409
28-31	FREESTYLE/SKYSURF & FREEFLY NATIONALS	TARGET SKYSPORTS	T: 0113 250 5600 F: 0113 250 5600 E: helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk
29-31	PD Tour	Weston on the Green	RAFSPA T: 01869 343 343 F: 01869 343 676
21-23	16-way Meet	Weston on the Green	RAFSPA T: 01869 343 343 F: 01869 343 676
31-4 Sept	Student Progression Week	Target Skysports	T: 0113 250 5600 F: 0113 250 5600 E: helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk
SEPTEMBER			
3-12	CLASSICS WORLD MEET	CROATIA	
5-6	LAC Meet	Headcorn	T: 01622 890 862 F: 01622 890 641
5-6	Freefly Seminar	Leopoldsbu	Philippe Baldewijns T: 003 4 725 022 15 E: nicoli-p@imaginet.fr
12-13	Woodmouse 4-way Meet	Peterborough	T: 01832 280 490 F: 01832 280 409
19-20	Freefly Seminar	Leopoldsbu	Philippe Baldewijns T: 003 4 725 022 15 E: nicoli-p@imaginet.fr
19-20	8-way Speed Meet	Headcorn	T: 01622 890 862 F: 01622 890 641
19-27	FS WORLD CUP (4-WAY, 8-WAY)	EVORA, PORTUGAL	T/F: 00 351 667 437 98 W: http://www.fppq.pt/ano98/wcandec.html
21-25	AFF Instructor Course	Weston on the Green	BPA T: 0116 278 5271 F: 0116 247 7662 E: skydive@bpa.org.uk
26-27	CENTRAL REGIONALS CF/FS/S&A	WESTON ON THE GREEN	RAFSPA T: 01869 343 343 F: 01869 343 676
26-27	POPS Meet	Langar	Sue Hill T: 01253 713 841 E: pops@shew.clara.net
30-OCT 4	FS WORLD CUP (16-WAY)	SPAIN	BPA T: 0116 2785 271
OCTOBER			
3-4	8-way Speed	Peterborough	T: 01832 280 490
6-11	End of Season Party (Jump tkts £12)	Peterborough	T: 01832 280 490
20-21	Freefly Seminar	Leopoldsbu	Philippe Baldewijns T: 003 4 725 022 15 E: nicoli-p@imaginet.fr
24-Nov 1	Equinox Boogie	Toogoolawah, Australia	T: 0061 754 231 159 W: http://www.vq.edu.au/ramblers
27	Council Meeting	BPA Office	BPA T: 0116 278 5271
NOVEMBER			
1-10	CF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	ELOY, USA	T: 001 520 466 3753 E: skyaz@aol.com W: http://www.skydiveaz.com
6-8	WOMEN'S WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT (FS)	PERRIS VALLEY, USA	Jan Meyer E: Aerosoftware@makelthappen.com
9-13	BI/Advanced Instructor Course	Strathallan	BPA T: 0116 278 5271
16-20	Exam/pre-Advanced Instructor Course	Strathallan	BPA T: 0116 278 5271
20-29	Latin America Friendship Cup (FS/S&A)	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	F: 00732 899 1900
28-Dec 13	XL Skills Camp	Sebastian, USA	T: 01252 717 701/001 561 388 5672 E: TobyStafford@compuserve.com
DECEMBER			
15	Council Meeting and EGM	BPA Office	T: 0116 2785 271
JANUARY '99			
10-14	PIA Symposium	San Diego, USA	T: 00 1 972 231 4127 E: hq@pia.com
23	BPA AGM	Hanover Hotel, Hinckley	BPA T: 0116 2785 271
FEBRUARY			
11-18	Womens FS World Meet	Sebastian, USA	T: 001 561 388 5672 E: SkydiveSeb@aol.com
19-21	WOMENS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT	SEBASTIAN, USA	T: 001 561 388 5672 E: SkydiveSeb@aol.com
27-Mar 2	Skills Camp	Sebastian, USA	T: 01252 717 701/001 561 388 5672 E: TobyStafford@compuserve.com

Email your event to sportpara@aol.com by 7 September (latest) to be included in the October issue

EXTREME GAMES

The 1998 ESPN Extreme Games was without doubt the most intense competition to date for *Team PlayStation*. Held north of San Diego during June 98 the venue was a small landing zone on a beach headland. Surrounded by hazards there was absolutely nowhere else to land!

To be invited we had to compete on the entire 1997 Pro Tour earning sufficient points and a top 10 world ranking as a team. *Team Playstation* were ranked 7th going into the competition. The field was 'the best' not 'the rest'.

The organisation was unbelievable – months of planning and a vast amount of money spent culminated in a perfect venue for a competition and demo by the top ten surf teams in the world. The organisers (SSI) had laid on staging areas, packing



Andy Ford



Andy Ford

Andy Ford

Fin Molloy





facilities, food, video/judging trailers, a full ESPN outside production unit along with security and a massive jumbotron. The jump aircraft was a dedicated Casa fitted with numerous cameras. There was a helicopter fitted with a gyro camera that would track us to the ground. Live air-to-ground footage from the helicopter, cameraflyer and the many views inside the aircraft and in the landing area were fed onto the jumbotron whilst an announcer pumped up the crowd. This was for just ten teams!

Rules

The aircraft made one pass per team so oxygen was available from 6,000 feet, as you could be at altitude for 45 minutes. Bryan Burke was in charge of safety on board. Judging was live so when you landed you knew how you had scored. Marks were awarded for presentation and technical ability with a variety bonus. Teams need to perform four different routines which meant they need a large pool of moves.

Although the meet was a Skysurf competition, the *Fly Boyz* were there demonstrating their unique skills to ESPN to promote the inclusion of Freeflying into next year's Games. They brought their

inimitable style to the meet and put the competitors at ease through their energy and presence. Until you have been on the aircraft with them it's difficult to understand but they are the unbelievable – they made exits that had the whole aircraft in bits!

Training

The first training dives were amazing. We turned onto jump run heading up the coast and the view from the tailgate made you speechless. I have never experienced anything like this before – when we opened up I had a chance to have a really good look around. We were over the sea, the surf was crashing in below us and the harbour had boats and jet skis leaving snail trails. We headed back to the beach flying together, happy with the jump and now focusing on the landing. The best approach was a right hand circuit with a 180° over the staging area, swooping towards the sea into the arena. I was concentrating so hard I didn't hear the announcer or the crowd but as I stepped onto the sand I became aware of it and tingled all over.

Competition - Round 1

The morning of the competition brought some nerves as we kitted up. At 6,000 ft we went onto oxygen and continued to climb.

At 10,000 ft we were instructed to land. The interviewer had missed the plane but the boss of ESPN had insisted we return for him! When we did finally get back to altitude the tension was high but the *Fly Boyz* put us back at ease. My cameraman Andy [Ford] switched on the transmitter and we moved into position on the tailgate. We ripped it up – stall frontloop, sync barrel rolls, nose carve to body roll into sit, hen to filthy, track away with reverse to track past and loops to finish. It was amazing! Under canopy we flew in formation down to 1,000 feet where we broke and Andy made his approach first. He made a huge swoop from one end to the other and I followed him – high 5's all round. We went over to meet the crowd and sign autographs. The mood was just like a beach party.

Round 2

We returned to the airport and boarded the aircraft for round 2. After the third pass we heard that one of the teams had had a camera malfunction; it had zoomed in totally, so they had scored zero. Everyone was gutted – my heart sank for them as it could happen to anyone. Before us were Eric Fradet and Pete Raymond doing one of their funky exits. We turned onto jump run

and came off oxygen for the red light signalling 30 seconds. As we made final preparations, jump run was aborted and we made a go-around. The same happened on the second and third passes. We then heard there had been an incident, everyone was anxious to know what was happening. As we made more aborted passes Brian told us it was Eric; there had been a canopy collision in the landing area and he was injured. Peter had swooped into him – the area was so tight it was always a possibility. On the

sixth go-around we finally made our exit. Even though it had been an eventful lift, we made the fourth highest score for that round. As we approached the landing area we could see Eric and the medical team. He was later stretchered off. There was obviously great concern as the ambulance hadn't moved in a while but, like a scene out of a movie, he got up and walked out of the ambulance saying "I know when I'm hurt, now let me get out". Everyone was so relieved he was okay if seriously shaken up.

Rounds 3 and 4

We went on to make the third lift that afternoon and I wound up the invisible man so fast I damaged my arm. We continued to hold sixth place. Going into round 4 on the Sunday morning we were only a few points behind fifth place. We knew we needed a great round. Due to lack of training time we had made minimal jumps preparing for rounds 3 and 4. We had a new move which wasn't yet perfect every time but, because of the new rules requiring different routines, we had to do it. I had a rough exit but the

new manoeuvre worked like a dream. It's called a carousel and is an inverted curve around the cameraman on my back. Overall our routine was smooth but not strong enough to take fifth so we placed sixth (which meant we didn't go into the final round).

Finale

We packed, extremely happy with our result and the release of competition tension. I then became an interviewer for Channel 5. Dragging the cameraman around I had such a laugh interviewing anything that moved. I found out that most teams were happy with the judging, who in turn were really impressed by the level of competition. Troy Hartman (last year's Champion who was judging) indicated he might be returning – with Joe Jennings perhaps? He wouldn't say.

Results

Into the last round, it couldn't have been closer. Oliver [Furrer] and Knut [Krecker] had shown flair and showmanship, leading through the entire competition but were demoted to third when they did not get the

whole variety bonus available. Valery Rozov and Cliff Burch – recently teamed up following the death of Alexi – were now leading the field. Cliff was 1996 Champion with Bob Greiner; Valery had made 400+ training jumps this year. They had a great round using the Eagle as their

strongest move along with a great sync backloop sequence and a nice hang with carve. Enough to take the gold.

Vivienne [Wegrath] and Marcus [Heggli] were relaxed. Vivienne showed why she is the #1 woman and better than all but one male team, taking the silver. She was strong, smooth and together they work so well. Oliver and Knut were going for it, with difficult angles and hand-grab transitions. Two strikes in freefall kept them in bronze. One of the biggest surprises of the meet was fourth place; Stefan Klaus and Brian Rogers. They were the alternate team who were only able to compete when another couldn't make it. Stefan is the protege of Oliver finishing second in Turkey but he changed his cameraman recently which left him with insufficient points. Brian is world renowned with over 6,000 camera jumps. They had a great meet.

Eric finished close behind in fifth. Disappointed with his performance he is clearly the most talented surfer on the tour able to perform more moves than anyone else both in the conventional axis and reverse. The results showed that teamwork, understanding and defining the rules were just as important as ability.

The Future

Team Playstation were delighted to finish sixth, just behind Eric. We learnt so much from competing here. We intend to grow for the future, training through the remainder of the season, competing at the Nationals and next year focusing on the World Air Games. In addition to this we are producing multimedia CD ROMS which will be available in August – watch this space!

Mike Frost
Team Playstation

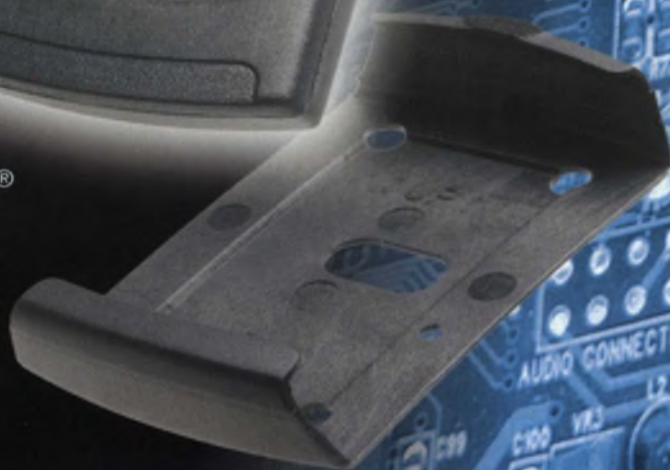


Andy Ford



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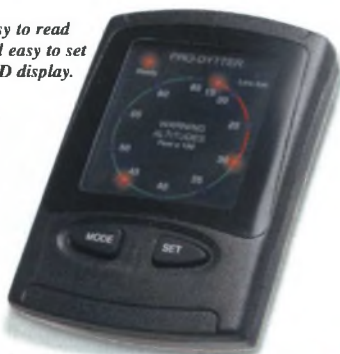
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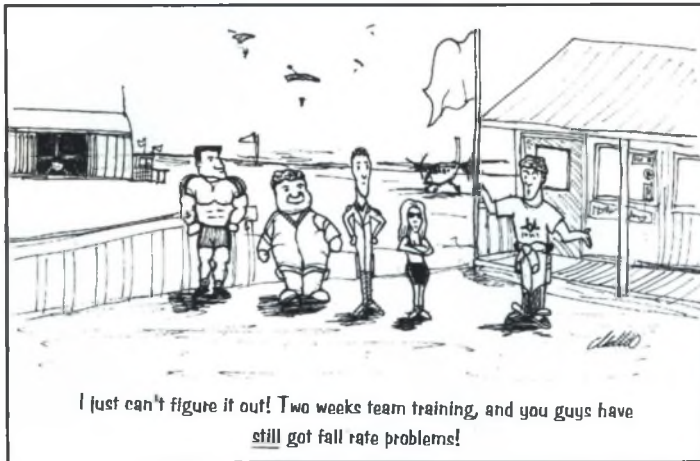
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Cartoons and DINGBATS by Chris Hollis

Spot the Difference - Find the ten differences in the cartoons



Word Search

Find the following skydiving terms which can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal

AFF	Lego	Strops
Arch	Manta	Symbiosis
Arrowhead	Merlin	Talon
Axe	Porter	Teardrop
Bipole	RAFSPA	Teva
Dildo	Reserve	Thomas Sports
Dive	RSL	Time-Out
Eye	Skysurf	Taj
Hooch	Spot	Track
In-out	Star	Tye Boughen
Iriquois	STC	Yes Sir
Javelin	Stiletto	
John McIver	Streamer	

DINGBATS - Solve the pictorial clues to give skydiving phrases



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Jump With Mark, Olav, Tony, Patrick & Wendy

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Event Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

USPA License # or Equivalent: _____ Total Jumps: _____

Where did you hear about this event? (circle one)

Web Page Friend DropZone Magazine Other _____

What motivates you most to attend? (circle one)

Organizers Demo's Available Seminars Free canopy drawing*

Free video on organized loads Aircraft Location Other _____

What type of skydiving are you most interested in this event? (circle one)

CRW Free flying Sky surfing Formation skydiving Other _____

Which event location(s) will you be attending? _____

***You must register with Performance Designs no later than 3 weeks prior to the event date to qualify for the canopy drawing. You must be present to win.**

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Weston on the Green August 29-31

Organizers:

Mark Kirkby
[Arizona Airspeed]

Olav Zipser [Father of
Modern Free Flying]

Tony Uragallo
[Free Fly Guru and
Jumpsuit Manufacturer]

Patrick Passe
[Aerial Cinematographer
and Organizer]

Wendy Smith
[World Renowned Videographer
and Free Flyer]



Club News

Sixteen at SIBSON

We completed the 16-way sequential meet, even though at registration nobody thought they would jump at all. This was won by *Another Planet* with a total of 22 points over 5 rounds, an average of 4.4. Second place went to the Weston/Netheravon team, 2x8, who did some cracking scores, averaging 3.2 and beating *Another Planet* on one round scoring a 5 to *Another Planet*'s 4. The bronze medal went to *Mixteen* (who used to be *Jigsaw*), who showed solidarity by training earlier this year and committing to enter the European Cup in La Ferte Gaucher during August.



Toby Stafford

Congratulations to :

Rob Montgomery, Gunny, Jack Delabye, David Robinson for **first freefalls** (one of them has managed to stay the right way up!).

Sam Radford (last year's Sibson student of the year) for cracking track turns and achieving **Cat 8**, Julian Perrott and Angus Mackirdy also achieved **Cat 8** at Sibson after doing AFF elsewhere.

Laughs at Langar

16 May saw Langar's first *Team for a Day* weekend, where several of the highly experienced jumpers took the 'new kids' under their wing for a few jumps. Most groups had four people, with a few three and five. Teams included one or two 'sprog' plus a more experienced jumper and a Team Leader. This gave a balance of ability with *everybody* paying their own slots. The emphasis was on exit techniques and disciplined flying with basic drill dives worked out beforehand.

Participants generally had a really good time and learned loads, made new friends, and Sue Ball even got her Cat 10/FS1! Thanks are due to



Mixteen by Billy Morris

Gavin Murray, Brian Matthews, Belinda Hard, Colin Torsen for **FS1** (Cat 10).

Karen Rendall for achieving her **200th jump**!

Yvonne and Bob for another **baby boy** "but I wanted a baby sister!", said Josh. Guess you can't have everything you want in life.

Cornelia Waymouth



2x8 by Billy Morris



Helen Jordan

A jubilant Nigel Jordan achieving his Cat 8 on June 6 almost exactly a year from his first jump on June 9 1997

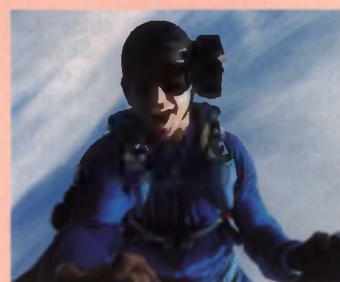
all the team leaders and Langar's other experienced people who put their time and jump money into the weekend, but especially to Rich and Leigh Woods who organised the whole thing.

Tony Danbury

KC Freefly Week

The second Annual Keiron Clark week was held at Sibson from 13-21 June. It got off to a pretty slow start thanks to some nasty weather. Friday it all kicked off with the Let flying back-to-back lifts to altitude all day long. Most freeflyers averaged about nine jumps apiece for the day.

Full points going to Sven Zimmermann and Mike Maguire for making the trip from Germany and Holland respectively. All skill levels were catered for during the week with Alex Meacock and Sven Zimmerman providing coaching for all levels. For the more experienced, the groups started off at 3 and 4-way and, by the end of the weekend, had grown to 6 and 7-way dives of the highest quality. Groups of this size would not have been possible even as recently as last year. The learning process was greatly enhanced as



Darren Casey by Mike Maguire

most people were equipped with video giving different perspectives of each dive – also resulting in a monster bar tape!

It was satisfying to see how much people had progressed since last year, particularly Tom Brotherstone and Neil Queminet who were this year's winners of the KC Cup – Good Stuff Boyz!! The freeflying was all super safe and loads of fun. Just can't wait to see what's happening by this time next year??!

Mark Swarbrick



Darren Casey, Lambey & Rob Tichner

Mike Maguire

Chatteris Chit-chat

Congratulations to:

First Freefallers:

Dave Lockwood, Gareth Huyton, Jude Scott, Ronnie Boy, Jase the Plumber, Big Boy Clive and Drew Smith

600th jump: Brucie Johnson with a complete naked Islander lift including pilot and co-pilot (*Where's the pic?* – Ed)

500th Sharky Shazza Simonian

200th Stu McReynolds, Ian Robertson

400th Baz the Mad Arab

Cat 8 Ron Perry (19 jumps!!)

Cat 10 George Katsoulis, Yo Lee

1,000th – all naked tandem – Mike

Rust with Brucie as passenger

Baby boy – Martin and Sue Crossley

First cutaway: Ady Baldry – glad to know you can do it old bean!

News

Jump prices on a Friday have been dropped to £14 for 10,000 feet.

Tye me Kangaroo Down Sport..

We would like to wish **Tye Boughen** all the best in his new chosen career with the police force. All at Chatteris will miss your smiling face around the DZ as well as your continuous enthusiasm for the sport and the way you would give up your slot in the aircraft so that students get to do those early jumps.

Richard Johnson

Club News

Peterlee PC

Ian Rosenvinge –
This is Your Life

It is a year now since Ian Rosenvinge formed Skydive Academy and took over as owner and CCI of Peterlee Parachute Centre, and all of us at the club congratulate him and his wife Thelma for what has been an excellent year.

Some months ago Paul 'Ginge' Moore, along with some of Ian's other friends, thought it would be a top idea to give Ian an official leaving do from RESPA in the form of a *This is Your Life* at his new parachute club. Thus 'Operation Frozen Fingers' began! The plan involved months of organisation to get together as many of Ian's friends to meet up at his new DZ *without* him finding out. In fact, the planning was kept so secret from Ian that he should really be quite scared that he has so many accomplished liars for friends.

The evening started off with a spectacular display of parachuting expertise at the DZ by RESPA members and Northwings parachute display teams. After the extraordinary display of spotting talent they got from their jumpmaster (whose name will not be mentioned to protect the guilty), they needed all the skill and expertise they had just to get back

to the DZ. But they did return, even if some by car!

Ian was then presented with the big red book and escorted to the local pub where, thanks to Ian's wife Thelma, his parents and some extra help from the club regulars, everything was set up in true *This is Your Life* fashion. The pictures of Ian's early life were worth it by themselves and a treat not to be missed.

Paul Moore was a star as Michael Aspel and did a great impression of a professional presenter and entertainer.

No-one could have predicted the finale to the evening. Ian and Thelma had their own secret to share with everyone. As an encore they took the stage to announce that Thelma was expecting their first baby! It was the ideal ending for what had been a wonderful day. All of us who like to think of ourselves as Ian and Thelma's friends wish them well with the new family.

Other Club News

New Club Kit

The Centre has just brought four more sets of student RAPS kit for use by students and club members, all equipped with square reserves, RSL and AAD's fitted as standard.

Congratulations!

1,000th Jump – Steve Burns

Individual Canopy grade 1 (IC1)

Geoff Mason
Bryn Chaffe – "He of the funny name who looks like the guy out of the *Lightning Seeds*".

Cat 8

Anthony Fernyhough
Mick Glover
John Witham
Phil Hewitt – qualified in 20 jumps after only a few weeks in the sport.

Geoff Mason

Contributions to *Club News* are welcome: cartoons, stories, photos, jokes, news, drawings etc.

Contact your club rep (listed below), any volunteers for other clubs, contact sportpara@aol.com

Club Reps

Border	Katherine Andrewes	01665 589 000
Langar	Tony Danbury	bpsianger@aol.com
Eaglescott	Tim Barlow	tim.barlow@natpower.com
Headcorn	Simon Hughes	Airaffair@btinternet.com
Ipswich/N London	Richard Johnson	gravaddict@aol.com
Peterbough	Cornelia Waymouth	LillaW@aol.com
Peterlee	Geoff Mason	0191 586 5278
Strathallan	Kelly Halliday	01738 445 135
Wild Geese	Francis Mullin	f.mullin@ee.qub.ac.uk
Netheravon	Martin Williams	01980 620 609
Weston	Bev Ford	Bev@oxfordtc.co.uk
Silver Stars	Richard Olpin	richard.olpin@tmc.u-net.com
RAPA	Melanie Horne	100550.2171@compuserve.com
North West	Pete Findlay	Peter.Findlay@btinternet.com
Target Skysports	Helen Swallow	helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk
Tilstock	Colin Fitzmaurice	colin@tilstock.demon.co.uk
Cyprus	Pete Smith	j6ciseipi@dial.cylink.com.cy

Bit of a Dummy!

This shot of a Dutch student performing a dummy pull at Soulac last year, brings home the importance of knowing what you are pulling.



Rod Bartholomew

BEFORE YOU TAKE OFF CALL THE 'OFFICE'

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0336 numbers are charged at 50p per minute

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The Met.Office



What the Devil...

Mac (Graham) MacLennan, well known *Red Devil* and ex RAPA instructor, completed his 3,000th jump whilst team training. Mac went to great lengths to keep this fact from the rest of the team but failed miserably. He suffered the consequences from the younger *Red Devils* he had helped to select and train. Those young chaps Don Hughes and Brian McGill would have been in the picture but were still in the bar!

The team's thanks go to Brian and Don and all the staff at Cyprus for putting up with us for so long.

Mark Brown



Flexitime!



Simon Hughes

Alex Fixsen over Headcorn may look as if he's in pain but this is just his party piece, as performed on all his tandem skydives (250 per year!)

News from Netheravon

AFF Success

Allan Hewitt took Gary Sweany on an AFF course at JSPC on Monday 18 May. Gary completed levels 1-5 on Tuesday and on graduated on Wednesday, completing levels 6-8 before lunch! All without incident or repeating any level – good skills! (Gary had about an hour in a wind tunnel over a year ago, could that be the reason?)

Get Organised!

Andy Allman and Tim Moran are now load organising at Nethers as a regular feature.

Deep Regret

The regulars at Netheravon express their deep sense of sorrow and disbelief at the news of the loss of Andy Kelly. He was admired and liked by all who knew him and, although not a regular at the club, was a friend to many.

Martin Williams

Headcorn Headache

A website operated by a Headcorn resident opposed to aircraft noise has won this issues' bad taste slot.

Paul Goodwin included a picture of a monkey under a parachute alongside a report of the incident concerning Andy Kelly's fatality. Mr Goodwin has also made insulting references on the website to other aviation incidents including slating Virgin Atlantic hero Tim Barnby.

Mr Goodwin declined to comment, other than to say he had now removed some of the offensive material after receiving a complaint.

Friends of Andy Kelly have set up their own website on www.btinternet.com/~andykelly



Pierre Pascal 'beaming up' over Headcorn

All Agog (gle)



Simon Hughes

Is Ian Marshall just enjoying the moment or trying to tell us he's left his goggles behind?

A A D's

will be required by all skydivers at Weston from 1 March 1999

OBITUARY



Mick McCullum

Tom Richardson

Tom passed away on Sunday 17 May after celebrating his 82nd birthday with all his family.

All of us who knew him at Halfpenny Green in the 1980's send condolences to his sons and daughter.

Tom stopped jumping after his 399th skydive after medical advice and did his 400th jump on a tandem rig with Robbie Cooper. His last jump was a tandem with Stewart Williams, on his 80th birthday.

Goodbye Tom – we'll miss you.

Barry Joss

Headcorn Achievers

Pete Sizer 1,000 jumps • Liz Danby Cat 8 • Vicky Holton Cat 10

Headcorn Speed 8 Woodmouse Shield

Sibson's 16-way meet clashed with Headcorn's Speed 8 so attendance was down. However, six teams registered and battled the typical Headcorn June weather.

Saturday afternoon became jumpable after a dreary morning and they completed round one. Team *Can't Touch This* led with a speedy 19.8, followed menacingly by *Why Us?* with a 22.6.

Into the second round by late afternoon and *Why Us?* grapple a 23 seconds.



Telemetry by Simon Hughes

Can't Touch This made a bungle scoring a zap.

The weather closed in on Sunday so the Speed 8 is rescheduled for 19-20 September.

Simon Hughes

Life's a Beach

Border Parachute Centre have organised some beach jumps on 15/16 August. If you fancy getting sand between your toes, join us jumping onto beautiful Beadnell Beach.

Requirements are B Licence (Red) and a minimum of 100 jumps. Briefing is at 10am on 15 August and life-jackets will be provided. There's a barbeque and beach party either on the beach or at the airfield. Bring your camera, the views are excellent!

Scambles Lac Meet 22-23 Aug

Each team will be made up of 4 jumpers of mixed ability. The format is points and time to the first formation and times from landing to hitting the target. The competition will be judged by the team leaders (who may be open to bribery). The CCI's decision is final (unless you can change his mind!) Saturday night is party time.

Congratulations to:
Mark Wilcox – 12 hours freefall
Katherine Andrewes – National Style Champion 1998

Katherine Andrewes

Tidings from Tilstock

The Parachute Centre was open from 22-30 May, for the annual progression week. It is held on the anniversary of Lyn George (*thanks for all the fish*) setting up the parachute centre all those years ago. He is busy flying sharks nowadays.

Colin Fitzmaurice took delivery of some new student kit for the week, the extra four RAPS rigs and two tandem rigs are just peachy.

There were 66 loads, using two Cessna 206's. Progression, fun jumping, wiggle loads, stick dives, train exits plus interesting points. A faultless safety record for the week (other than the volleyball!).

Super-Progression Heros:

D licence: Gavin Stanley
Cat 8: Hans Donner, Pam Lewtas
Cat 10: Tim Ragdale
First freefalls: John Darwin, Mark Newman, Richard Thompson

Will Dodge, able stuntman, jumped the world's oldest Papillion, landing on the cross, nice one! A shame there isn't a pit. How is the foot?

Pilot Andy Chappell was finally tempted into freefall as a tandem passenger, greeted on landing by half the club. He replayed the video for most of the evening,



while everyone drank the case of beer and humoured him (see pic).

George Pilkington arrived for some head-down coaching and left soon after he realised everyone on the 'plane already had at least one Time-Out!!

Due to the continuing adult education programme at Tilstock there were no unplanned pregnancies during the week. (Although Gavin Stanley failed in his mission to find lime-green ribbed condoms). Lamp-post climbing was a nocturnal sport, championed by Tony Lightfoot. We drank Whitchurch dry and the party finished at 7am in the clubhouse when Amanda (Buxton) finally lost her voice.

Thanks to Colin Fitzmaurice, 'that woman' and all the staff for

hosting the progression week. The management quote of the week was "You're all a bunch of bastards".

Chris Gilmore and Liz Rimmer

Northern Regionals

The Northern Regionals was pretty weathered out on 13-14 June at Hibaldstow, only the Accuracy was completed. The CF and FS Northern Regionals are therefore, re-scheduled for 15-16 August. Target Skysports are also holding a Student Progression week during Mon 31 August to Fri 4 September. Turn up for tuition, jumps and parties, the last progression week was very well received.

Target are now on email at:
helen@targetsky.demon.co.uk

WESTON ROUND UP

Following the successful 4-way Meet in June, Weston is preparing for the annual 16-way Dicko Cup on 22-23 August 1998. We are hoping to see at least four teams enter and, who knows, someone may give *Another Planet* a run for their money!

The PD Tour sets up camp at Weston for the August Bank Holiday, offering a wide variety of services including coaching from Patrick Passe, Wendy Smith and Mark Kirkby, use of demo kit and much more. But for any non Party Animals – beware – the hangar party on Sunday 30 includes Nicky Fegan's brother's band. You have been warned!

On 26-27 September Weston will host the Central Regionals

Bev Ford

Weston on the Green 4-way competition

Saturday 20 June saw the 4-way competition kick into gear. Round 1 was completed in hail and rain before the cloud cover fortunately departed.



4Pak going for solidarity

The Intermediate competition saw a total of six teams, with a rather disappointing entry of three teams in the Senior category. Pete Allum and Toby Stafford of *Sebastian XL* were on hand all weekend to offer advice to competitors. You have to admire their energy – Pete was also Meet Director and Toby was jumping with a team but they still managed to spend loads of time with teams, imparting valuable knowledge. Thanks goes to Nigel Rogoff for arranging for Pete to be at the Meet – it would be great if this were possible again in the future.

The Intermediates was won by a sharp-looking XS with a more than respectable average of 10.5 and scoring 15 in Round 2 – believed to be a new British Intermediate record. Well done to the boys. Also

very respectable scores from *Turning Tricks* (2nd), the *Red Devils* (3rd) and an under-strength *In Sync*. It looks as if the Nationals is going to be very competitive at this level.

The Seniors was won by 4Pak with an average of 9.5. Second place went to

The Good, The Fat and The Ugly, a scratch team, third went to *Hairspeed* who bravely went for the Senior group – good effort.

All six rounds of both the Senior and Intermediates were completed by the Saturday evening – surely a first in living memory! This says loads for the efficiency of the Manifest Monsters (Claire Holland and Anita Donaldson), Andy House (DZ Control) and Bev Ford, (Camera manifest). Thanks also to all the cameradudes and the judges; Carla Cole, Amanda Kenny and Jo Scott.

Hats off to Phil Lee for his 1,000th jump and Steve Mursell his 2,000th jump.

4Pak

APPOINTMENTS VACANCY WESTON MANIFEST MONSTER

Hours: Long

Pay: Not worth it

Work Load: Varies from nil to run-off-your-feet

Job Description: DZ Control, BPA Representative, Rigger, oh yeah, and Manifesting

Responsibility: By the bucket-load

Requirements:

- Female (men couldn't do it)
- IT literate to degree level
- Ability to work with figures (eg. Toby or Pete Allum)
- Sense of humour (tested to the max)
- Patience (bottomless)
- Politeness (except for DZ Control)
- Vulnerability (makes the men feel in control)
- Drinker (job is so stressful alcohol abuse is essential)
- Flexibility (required to bend over backwards)
- Mind reading
- Ability to work without being shown any respect

Environment: A hut in the middle of a field with no nearby toilets

If you wish to apply for the above position:

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Claire Holland

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who attended
our Boogie*

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This year's Scottish Skydiving Championships were the best attended for years. Thirteen junior 4-way FS teams entered, a very positive indicator to the future of our sport. In addition there were five senior/intermediate 4-way teams, five teams in the CF discipline and 19 competitors in individual accuracy. With some jumpers competing in several events, manifesting could have been a nightmare. However having an Islander, a Dornier and two Cessna 206's allowed all the events and over 600 descents to be completed by midday on the Monday without incident

Scottish



Air Ecosse

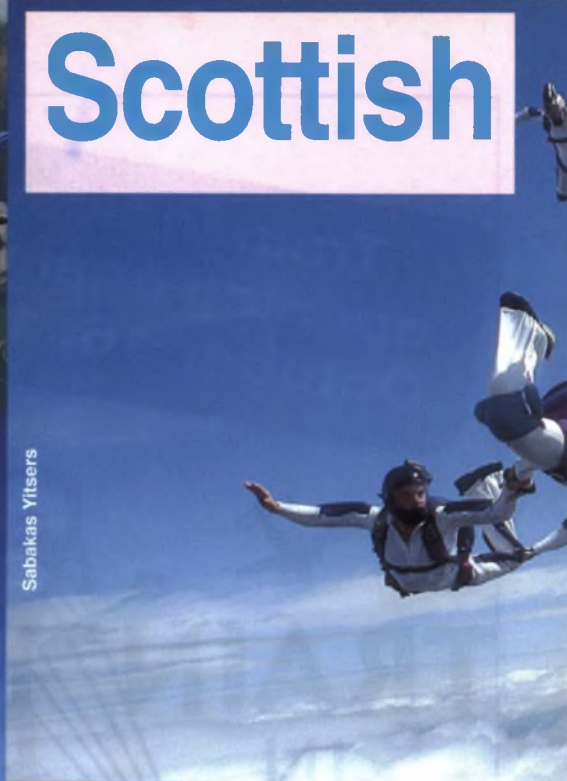


Sabakas Yitsters



Angels of the North

Sabakas Yitsters



Formation Skydiving

Everyone was on great form. It was good to see the senior teams constantly helping juniors dirt-dive the rounds. Because of the number of junior teams, some had to jump the second round from the Dornier at the same time as the others were jumping the first round from the Islander. It became quite interesting to watch which team was dirt-diving what round and who was copying from whom. Occasionally it became too much for some senior jumpers competing in both to remember the right skydive and how fast to fly – as some of us found out!



Air Ecosse – Senior 4-way Gold



Army Red – Junior 4-way Gold



Angels of the North – Junior 4-way Silver

Keith Larrett



Angels of the North – Junior 4-way Silver

Junior

There was a great deal of rivalry in the junior event. They impressed everyone with most scores of 4-7 in round one and between 2-6 in the second round. With thirteen teams entered, not everyone could win a medal, so every point counted. At the end of round two it was finely poised with *Short Cut* and *Angels of The North* on 8, *No Plan B* on 9, *North and South* on 10, *Sabakas Yitsters* on 12 and *Army Red* leading with 13 points. Round three proved to be the more difficult. *Sabakas Yitsters* managed to score 11 points only to be busted to 0, this made for a most competitive last round.

With two junior teams with the same score still to jump, Keiran Brady was pushing the planes and jumpers to the very end. The last two teams kitted up, walked to the plane on Sunday night

Senior

In the senior competition, *Air Ecosse*, with a guest appearance by Martin Soulsby, jumped into the lead with 11 points on the first round. But local team *Perfect Speed* were just 2 points behind proving *Air Ecosse* could not afford to relax. But by the end of Sunday 24 May, the senior FS event was completed with *Air Ecosse* winning with 39 points (9.75 average) and *Perfect Speed* second with 28 points (7 average).



Clachan Achoin – Intermediate 4-way Gold

Intermediate

The intermediate competition got off to a good start with *Clachan Achoin* on 7 points and *Relly 2B* on 5 points. Sunday dawned with blue skies and sun giving us the perfect opportunity to complete the competition. *Clachan Achoin* proved they were, indeed, the dog's with zero busts, taking the gold with a 6.75 average (27 total). *Relly 2B* took silver, 4 points behind and also-ran's, the *Green Team* came third with an average of 1 (sic).

Photos by
James
Stevenson
unless
stated
otherwise



Air Ecosse



Nationals

and were told "Not tonight children, come back tomorrow." This made us juniors realise that competition was annoying sometimes as we had to stay relatively sober (that was the theory – we got drunk anyway!). Monday dawned and the end was nigh. Junior teams *Get a Grip* and *Strathallan Airspud* in the plane, laughed at Colin Bridges looking like Mr Biggies which was what we needed after a long but enjoyable weekend.

The results showed that every junior team there was jumping to a good standard. The junior gold was won by *Army Red* with a score of 24 points (average 6), followed by *Angels of the North* on 19 (4.75 av) with *Sabakas Yiters* taking the bronze with 18 points. It was good to see *Sabakas Yiters* gaining a medal as their savage bust to 0 on round 3 almost left them with no chance at all.



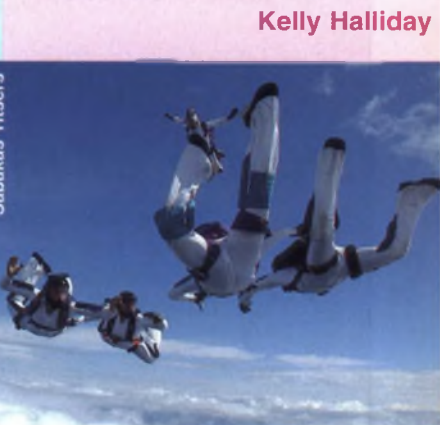
Accuracy
During the morning the blue skies ensured that the FS competitors hogged the limelight. Later in the day as the weather changed, the FS competitors could relax and watch the CRW and accuracy competitors 'strut their stuff'. The intermediate accuracy was hard fought, resulting in D Pritchard claiming gold with 10.14m, K Fyfe silver with 10.14m and A McKenzie bronze with 13.53m. In the senior accuracy things were even more fiercely contested with R Bannerman taking Gold on 32cm followed by D Brown with 39cm and D Blyth on 41cm.

Canopy Formation
This year we had five teams competing in the 4-way speed event, which ensured that every one was wound up and hot to trot. Gold was taken by *Zero Tolerance*, who improved from 55 seconds on round 1 to 31 seconds on round 4 for a total of 2min 42sec. Silver went to *Golden Lions A*, 3min 40sec, and bronze to *Golden Lions B* with 4min 24sec.



The Future
Many thanks to all involved. The standard of jumping has to beat previous years in all aspects and next year, watch out for the babies! I hope that in the future we will include freeflying as there were quite a few freeflyers at the weekend doing great jumps. We are also hoping to include an 8-way event next year; with this in mind we have arranged an 8-way meet on 8/9 August. See you there!

Social
A ceilidh, barbecue and beer in the hangar allowed the competitors to relax on Saturday evening. On other nights the Star pub was, as usual, dripping with drunks, punks and jumpers, giving the place a good atmosphere. We watched the daily events on video in order to banter with other teams and relive the day's excitement. This was inbetween some of us finding alternates to jump with on Monday bank holiday as some had to work, perish the thought!





KIT NEWS

by Lesley Gale

What a Numbskull!

Bonehead Composites, a US based company manufacturing carbon fibre helmets, has developed a freely helmet to add to its range of FS and camera helmets. The new *Mindwarp* is form fitting which, the company claims, reduces camera shake, a more acute problem when freeflying due to the increased speed. The vacuum packed carbon fibre is 'so hard you can hit it with a hammer' but can be softened in the owner's oven and moulded even closer to the head. The same can be done with the heat sensitive foam liner. Bonehead are also selling the helmet to non freeflyers and stress it is suitable for all types of skydiving.

Always a Snag

Relative Workshop has released information concerning tests on harness webbing which has been frayed by *Velcro*. We have all seen harnesses which have a fuzzy appearance because of wear on hook velcro, often near leg strap throwaways. It appears that this wear does affect the strength of the webbing in the affected area.

Five test samples of webbing of average wear, with 'a moderate fraying of the webbing material so that it is noticeably soft and fuzzy compared to an un-frayed control sample' were tested for the breaking strain. The control sample had a breaking strain of 5,070lbs and the frayed samples failed at an average of 1,608lbs below that. It was clear that increasing the wear reduced the

strength, the webbing failing at lower loads for increasing snag.

Relative Workshop states that they are in no way suggesting that the use of velcro is wrong but hope that readers can be made more aware of the consequences of wear and therefore incline towards avoiding the problem. They recommend that users mate all velcro when rigs are transported or stored when unpacked to avoid the hooks coming into contact with the webbing or fabric. They also recommend that skydivers pay special attention to any place where velcro is used, replacing when necessary and, if purchasing new equipment, explore containers with minimum velcro closure.

Future Visions

Prescription Goggles

Skydiving goggles designed for jumpers who wear prescription lenses have been launched by Dr Neville Cohen in the USA. The goggles are lightweight with foam edging and an adjustable elastic strap. Small vents around the lenses prevent fogging. The lenses can be clear or tinted with prescription or non prescription lenses.

Dr Cohen - 001 888 326 3937
URL - www.bobster.com

Shades of the Future

Sunglasses with a tiny camera concealed in one arm could provide a 'cool' way to record your freeflying skydive. The *Alain Mikli Lunettes Camera Sunglasses* can be attached to a remote VCR, weigh less than 75g and will record to a range of 40m.

Joseph Men's Store - 0171 591 0808

Softer Links

The BPA Riggers Committee has cleared soft links manufactured at a lower strength than was previously acceptable. Up until recently the minimum required spec used to be 800 pound Dacron but now 525 pound Dacron is okay to use.

Digi Mount Update

The feature in the last issue of Kit News on the *Digi Mount* camera side mount for digital cameras unfortunately included an incorrect phone number for the parent company, Heller GmbH. The correct phone and fax are below.

Heller - Tel 0049 89 612 2829
Fax 0049 89 612 6869

Non-Stick Comes Unstuck

The red Teflon-coated cutaway cables featured in April 97's *Kit News* should be checked for damage. Jump Shack, who manufacture the cables, issued an inspection notice asking jumpers to check their cables after they found cracks in some of the coatings. These cracks could make a cutaway difficult or impossible because they could snag a riser locking loop. The red Teflon-coated cables are easily distinguished from the standard yellow Lolon-coated cables which have been used for years.

Jump Shack states that cracking has only occurred on cutaway cables

made from a specific batch, which are a darker red than usual. But, in the interests of safety they recommend that all red Teflon coated cutaway cables are inspected by the owner. This should be done by removing the cable from the rig, placing between the thumb and forefinger, applying slight pressure and pulling the entire length of both cables through the fingers, feeling for any imperfections. If any cracks are found, owners can return the cable to Jump Shack for a free replacement. The company stresses that this is an isolated production problem and maintains that the Teflon-coated cables are superior to Lolon-coated ones, requiring less pull force to operate.

Jump Shack - 001 904 734 5867

Tandem Cypres Takes Off

Airtec, manufacturers of the *Cypres* AAD report they have now shipped 3,000 Tandem units world-wide. Presently, the *Tandem Cypres* is the most widely used AAD for tandem jumps. Airtec reports that, in seven years of manufacturing the Tandem Cypres, they have had ten units activate, saving 20 lives.

Airtec - 0049 2953 8010

Firewire Technology

Most videographers nowadays use two formats for filming skydives – Hi8 or DV, the latter becoming more and more popular as High Street prices keep tumbling. DV is going to be the format of the future just as Hi8 was for 8mm.

Ever been on a DZ, just had you and your team filmed and the other camera-dude has some excellent footage but no way of transferring it? Well, apart from investing in Sony's *DHR 1000* at a princely sum of around £3,300. Help is at hand in the form of computer hacker Arik Drori from Israel, who has broken the programming codes that the camera holds within itself. As you may have guessed, the DV-in capability is enabled for the rest of the world but 'disabled' for Europe. This is due to EC legislation designed to protect local VCR industries. Arik has now published his findings on the Internet (much to the annoyance of Sony International!).

The key comes in the form of the *Sony Technician's Handset (RM-95)*; with the right codes and the handset you can change between NTSC/PAL, Rec in/Rec out, adjust the zooming range and so on.

This isn't a simple procedure so Videoage Productions in Ashford, Kent is now one of the first companies to offer this reprogramming service in the UK. Videoage charges £180 to enable DV-in which includes the return delivery of your



camcorder by Amtrak. An additional charge may be made for modifying other camcorder settings. Turnaround is usually 2-3 days.

Interestingly the RMT-807 remote control which is included with your DV camcorder is also 'disabled'.



Bill Morris

Beneath the pause and slow motion buttons are two blank positions where the record buttons are usually found. Videoage can modify your remote for £10 or alternatively offer you a US sourced version for £45. Do remember that this only applies to the DV Firewire connector and not the analogue ports.

However, be aware this will void your warranty so don't be surprised if Sony won't touch it afterwards if anything goes wrong. Those of you thinking of upgrading to DV might consider buying an official PAL Fire-Wire In enabled model from abroad instead – on which Sony apparently honour guarantees.

Micky Doyle

In my opinion DV-in is one of the most significant features of a digital camcorder and I'll be knocking on Videoage's door pretty soon!

Billy Morris

Videoage - 01303 813438

Action Video System

An Oxfordshire based company, Vision Source, has developed a small, lightweight, hands-free video system called the *Actioncam*. The



system is supplied as a kit comprising the miniature colour video camera, remote audio video and power cable, miniature Hi8 VCR (135 x 148 x 62mm), battery pack (70 x 40 x 38mm) and a waist pouch. The camera can be gaffa taped to the side or top of a helmet and the VCR unit is worn around the waist. The screen folds out for ease of use. Vision Source claim their product is suitable for a range of adventure sports including skydiving.

Vision Source - 01865 891 326



Skydive Sebastian Schedule of Events

All summer starts June 1st to Oct 31st,
\$10.00 skydives every Sat. & Sun. morning .
* All loads that have wheels off by 10:30 am *

September 4th-7th - *Labor Day Boogie*

\$1.00 per 1,000ft all weekend ,
Load organizing by Danny Page.

October 1st -31st - *Customer Appreciation Month *

\$10.00 Skydives all day, every day, all month!
(Must buy tickets in blocks of 50, NO REFUNDS)
Halloween Party Sat 31st
Live Band & Free Beer!

November 6th-8th

Veteran's Day & 2nd Annual Florida Keys
Boogie Marathon, Florida.

November 24th - November 30th

Thanksgiving Turkey Meet

With Roger Ponce de Leon, 60 way sequential
Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner

Nov 28th- Dec13th - * Skills Camp *

With Pete Allum and Sebastian XL

Dec 19th -Jan 4th

Annual Christmas Boogie By The Beach*

Load organizing for all levels
Roger Ponce de Leon and Friends
Christmas Day " Hit 'n Chug"
The Second News Years Eve "OTT" Party
If you missed last years don't miss this one!
Some 600 jumpers enjoyed a nights of
Free Beer & Food, Live Band, Laser Light
Show and a great Fireworks Display!

Feb 1st -10th ++ WOMEN'S TRAINING WEEK++

Free Coaching by Some of the World's Best!

Feb 11th-18th - 1st Women's World Cup

4 & 8 way Formation Skydiving. FAI sanc-
tioned meet over 10 rounds

Feb 19th -21st - Women's World Record

Organized by Sandy Wambach and DD Bartley

Feb 27th -March 7th - *Skills Camp with Sebastian XL*

March 6th - 13th - *Catering to Canadians Week*

Organized by Rob Laidlaw, Lyle Presse and
Wanda Welch

March 18th - 22nd - 1st European Challenge Cup

4 way & way Formation Skydiving, Handicap
Meet.

Must be EEC Residents for Cup and medals Non EEC
Residents welcome as guests .

April 1st -11th - *Easter Boogie*

Roger Ponce de Leon & Friends 20 & 40
Florida Fax meet. Live Band

April 16th-18th - 1st Annual Invitational 100 way.

Speed sequential over 3 rounds

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"The World's Most Scenic Drop Zone!"



European 1st Challenge

4-Way 8-Way

Formation Skydiving - March 18th - 22nd, 1999

Handicap Meet Over Six Rounds • Aircraft: Twin Otters

Must be EEC residents for trophies. Non EEC members welcomed as guests
for FFI & Entry Forms - Contact Skydive Sebastian

...sounds like a
perfect time to train
cheap before the
US Nationals!



Women's 1st World Cup

4-Way 8-Way

Aircraft: Twin Otters
Official Practice Day:
February 10th

Formation Skydiving - February 11th - 18th, 1999

followed by:

Women's World Record (100+) - February 19th - 21st

for FFI & Entry Forms - Contact Skydive Sebastian

Organized by:
Sandy Wambach
& DD Bartley

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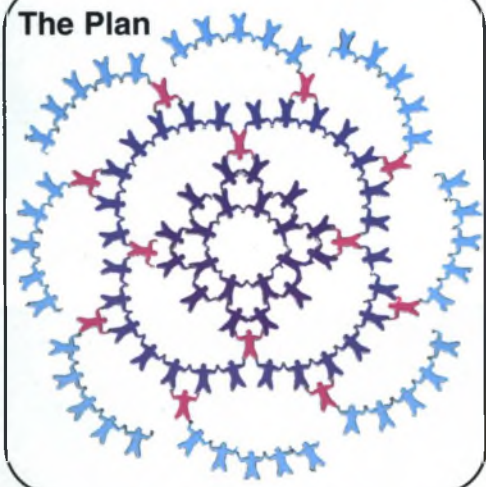
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100

The Plan



A new standard for large formation skydiving in the UK was set in early July. It happened thanks to a team of 130 jumpers, excellent back-up and organisation, and despite the best attempts of the weather gods to foil plans. The Brit 100 event at Langar was arguably one of the best supported, most widely publicised and best vibes events in the history of British skydiving. We were there not just to break the British large formation record of 62 but to go after a 100-way – and we had the personnel, resources and enthusiasm to do it.

As it was, the 100 remained elusive but 98 – on the first of only three attempts – came oh so close. Just what may have been achieved in ideal conditions is anyone's guess. The event suffered throughout the week from indifferent weather. The difficulties were compounded on the last day by aircraft availability problems which meant it was not always possible to snatch the few weather windows that did arise.

After three build-up dives on the first weekend (and a two-day weather-enforced stand-down), initial efforts focused on a scaled-down version of the planned 100-way dive (featured in the June issue of SP). Dive organiser Darryl Moran, advised by the various team captains, had the headache of selecting jumpers most appropriate to each individual slot.

70-way attempt

70 jumpers exited from two Skyvans, a Turbolet and a Porter – flying in formation together for the first time – to attempt a 70-way portion of the planned 100-way formation. The second of three attempts

Brit 100 Achievements

- ◆ 68-way formation
- ◆ 80-way formation
- ◆ 98 on first 100-way attempt
- ◆ BPA support for a mass project
- ◆ Exceptional media coverage and promotion for the sport
- ◆ Mass sponsorship and support brought in by numerous team members
- ◆ Best record team and vibes any of us can remember – ever!

The Result



Steve Johns

built to 68 – the largest formation built over Britain.

80-way

At this point one of the team captains stood himself down for a jump after going missing on the 70-ways (must be too much head down, George!) Two 80-way attempts followed, the Porter being replaced by a third Skyvan. The second successfully built to 80 but suffered a couple of broken grips near the centre. Again the largest formation ever in the UK.

Weather holds were used as opportunities to snap photos for our generous sponsors and to film ground shots for television footage. Detailed briefings and dirt-dives as well as messages of support from various quarters also helped keep up the momentum and ensured the full-on commitment and positive attitude of the jumpers.

The Big 100

With more marginal weather forecasted, the decision was made to shift to the 100-way which was, after all, the prime objective. Darryl said "As time went on and we suffered abysmal weather, I realised that it mattered more to the team as a whole to have a go at the main objective. So we went for the magic 100". The

Did you know . . .

...the average age of Brit 100 participants was 35 with just under 2,000 jumps each



"I was overly impressed by the attitude, standard and team spirit of the British jumpers there"

Steve Apps



"From the bench to the base, I've been on the lot, I had a great time"

George Pilkington



 Sibson Turbolet was called in and the Porter was added once again; 100 jumpers exiting from six aircraft, now at 17,000 feet with the aid of oxygen.

First Attempt

Tension and excitement were high. First attempt, Thursday morning, and we had 98, flying flat and steady, exceeding all expectations. Just one diver slightly late (he docked after some other jumpers had tracked off) and one who got lost. Surely we would do it next time! But after one more attempt the weather closed in again. It would all be left to the last day...

Friday morning saw a third attempt, all was looking good until the formation hit cloud. Foiled again – frustration grew.

The Last Ditch Effort

It came down to one last attempt late afternoon. All six planes flew for almost an hour, a good part of that at 17,000 feet seeking a suitable gap in the clouds – but

there was none. With the oxygen bottles running low and those near the doors half frozen, Dave Morris, stalwart of the base, took the hard decision to abort the dive. We knew we wouldn't have another chance but it was more important to stay safe. As it was it took a supreme effort to get those floaters back in from the Turbolet rail after the aborted run-in!

Unfinished Business

To the average eye we'd smashed the existing large formation record by over 50% but we wanted more. We have unfinished business – see you there next year!

Angela Macdonald-Smith

FREE OFFER!!

If you would like a copy of the 98-way formation (and a couple of other images) for your computer screen, e-mail Sward at simonw@musicradio.com

Thanks to our Sponsors

Our main support came from the BPA who really got behind the one aspect of the sport that 99% of jumpers would aspire to be involved in, great to see this from our Council. Commercially we had two sponsors who paid for a full 100-way attempt each. Nottingham based **Coldseal Windows** literally put us 'in the frame' for a record and **Associated Asbestos Removals** were equally supportive. We had a wide range of personal sponsors including **Trent FM**, **Prickett & Ellis**, **Environmental Consultancy**, **Hornagold & Hills**, **Connect Computers** and **Wilson James**. All the money went straight into the team fund rather than to the individual.

Other companies helped by allowing participants additional time off or through services. Thanks to **Sims Pneu PAC** for the fantastic support with free oxygen bottles and **John Deere Tractors** who lent us a tractor and trailer unit. To **Peterborough Parachute Centre** for the loan of their Turbolet. Also to the goodie bag and T-shirt providers, **Javelin, PD**, **Symbiosis Suits**, **TearDrop** and **Time-Out**. Finally, demonstrating amazing team spirit, the camera crew (**Tony Danbury**, **Steve Johns** and **Simon Ward**) put their TV earnings into the pot and two jumpers personally donated £200.

All our sponsors made the attempt that much easier, thanks to you all from all of us. Also to ALL of the 435 people registered for the Langar Boogie, especially the bench and those understanding boogie jumpers who went 'on hold' so that the record attempts could take the best weather.



All photos by Simon Ward unless otherwise credited



"I just think we had the nicest bunch of skydivers in the world"

Dave Hickling



"I feel really proud of the achievement for what was only a two and a half month project"

Rob Colpus

"98 on the first attempt is a reflection on the quality of British skydiving"

Dave Morris



"The team spirit from the bench amazed me – they volunteered to keep their 40-way on the ground just so the 70-way could have one more attempt"

Chopper



"Dave Morris was the man of the century for aborting the last lift – he has the biggest balls of anyone I know"

Dave Turner

"We did not allow the lousy British weather to dampen our spirits. We got out there and broke the record. 98 British men and women linked up in a near-perfect formation. Nobody can take that away from us!"

Darryl Moran



"98% result, 20% weather, 120% team – a privilege to be part of it"

Simon Ward



Did you know . . .

...the aborted last lift of six aeroplanes cost a record £3,500

Media Coverage

BBC Leeds	Phone interview
Radio 5 Live	Phone interview
BBC East Midlands TV	News & Features
News24	World-wide News & Features
Central TV	News & Features
Sky News	News & Features
BBC Radio Nottingham	News & phone interviews
BBC Derby	News & phone interviews
GEM AM	News & Live links from DZ to Mid-morning Show
Trent FM	News & Live links from DZ into Breakfast Show
Radio Nottingham	Phone links into Programmes and News
Sky	Afternoon and evening features live from DZ
BBC TV	Live from DZ
Central TV	Live from DZ
Daily Mail	Centre Spread
Newark Advertiser	News
Swindon Evening Advertiser	Feature
Manchester Live Cable	Feature
Independent Radio News	News on Commercial Radio Network
News Direct (London)	News & Feature
Melton Times	News
Century 106	News, Features & Live programme interviews
CBBC Newsround	Feature
Classic FM	News
Bingham Journal	News
BBC Midlands Radio	Phone-in Feature

This is not a complete list and it certainly does no credit to the frequency of arriving media. Pre-event coverage started on Friday 3 July with a significant amount over the weekend. BBC, Central and Sky all had a presence on the drop zone. Trent FM and GEM AM had on-site presence with the Black Thunder promotional vehicles and we broadcast live into their peak-time programmes.

Simon Ward was the main spokesperson for the event and could be seen with a mobile phone permanently glued to his ear. Darryl Moran and Dave Turner were prominent spokespersons and many other jumpers were featured on TV. We envisage more press coverage to come and are trying for magazine features. Jumpers are already putting to good use the press release that Simon Ward gave to all participants for local press, to promote their involvement with the national record. The BPA was well promoted as a progressive and supportive governing body throughout and the sport was portrayed in a positive light.

Commitment to the Cause

On run-in on the first 100-way attempt, one of the jumpers tried to stand up and found he had not undone his safety belt. He tried to release the karabiner but, in a bit of a panic by now, was unsuccessful. As the one minute call was given this skydiver hacked through the safety belt with his hook knife! And did the entire skydive with the karabiner and 6" of webbing trailing behind his harness. Full Commitment!



Editorial

Well, I have never been part of an event with such an incredible team spirit nor one which has done so much for British skydiving. In particular the following were brilliant:

BPA Support – The BPA put in cash, acting as a members' resource rather than a ruling body – long may this approach continue. The positive publicity must have been just reward and the members appreciated this partnership.

Safety – No injuries all week despite over 100 canopies in the air simultaneously (one canopy collision but no-one hurt). Hats off to Dave Morris for his brave safety call.

Langar Management – We applauded their nerve to lay out financially for so many aircraft. They could not have kept us more informed nor looked after us better. Many unexpected extras made life that bit easier: free breakfast, free showers, free beer and even some free jumps, courtesy of the sponsors (who were also amazing).

Media Exposure – Simon Ward and his camera team worked tirelessly for no financial gain. We were gobsmacked by the interest generated in the media through daily emailed news releases and photos. Simon drafted pre- and post-event press releases which were put to good use by Brit 100 participants. Spectators turned up day after day to give support and cheer everyone on.

Roll on next year!

Lesley

Dive of the Month



It's a Burner!!

This is a skydive that a lot of 4-way teams are using to assess their improvement through the season. It's also a great 'feel-good' factor skydive where you can crank through an impressive amount of points. The current record for the dive is 44 in time (35 seconds) by the Swedish National 4-way team. *Sebastian XL* clocked up 35 points in time. *Quiksilva* and *Air Ecosse* have both tried the dive with *Quiksilva* scoring 27 and *Air Ecosse* 25.

No Movement Required

At first glance you may comment that there's not a lot of movement required - that's the whole point! Minimise the moves to maximise the points - that's competition 4-way in a nutshell. It tests a team's ability to fly down the tube relative to each other. It's an excellent dive for synchronising keys, working on flashes and improving communication within the team.



This month's dive sent in by
Dave Tyler
Quiksilva
who got it from
Chris Lynch

1. Meeker

Exit

A normal Meeker launch.

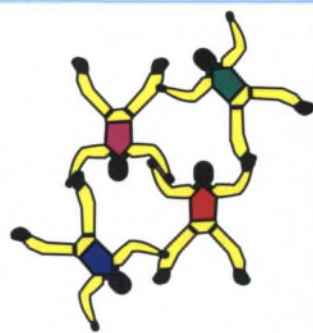
Green is Rear Floater

Red is Centre Floater

Blue is Front Diver

Purple is Inside Diver

Green leaves slightly early on exit right shoulder down. Blue watches the formation and makes sure they are higher than Red. Red and Purple should be well presented across line of flight.



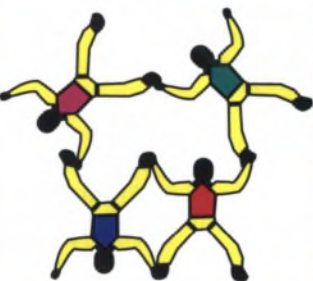
2. Donut

Ideally you want to key and move to this formation in under 2.5 seconds. Green and Blue should not move but must ensure that they maintain the distance between themselves. If possible Red should only rotate 45° right and cheat the left hand grip across their body which will make the move to the next point quicker.



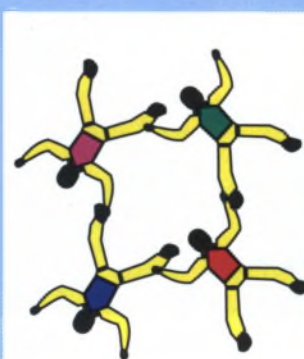
3. Yuan

Green and Purple do not move. Red and Blue move to the compress picture. Purple should pick up the inside leg grip. The formation should build out to in, ie Red picks up Green's leg grip then Blue's leg grip. This will make it easier for everyone to know when the formation is built.



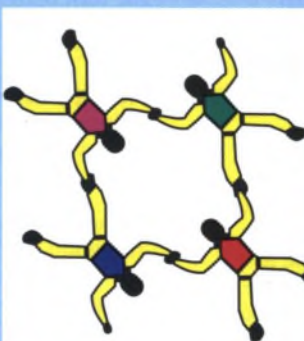
4. Opal

The Opal should be built exactly the same as the Yuan but Blue must ensure their left hand is kept under the chin to show separation from the Yuan. The build from the Yuan to the Opal is the most likely area for a bust with the potential for Blue not having dropped the leg grip on the Red before someone else has picked up their Opal grip. Be aware and look through the centre of the compress piece to see that grip dropped before you pick up.



5. Stairstep Diamond

This is the only time that Green may have to move. It is Green's responsibility to ensure that Red is not too stretched. Green and Blue pick up the arm grips on the Purple and Red. Purple and Red pick up the leg grips. If possible Green and Blue should pick up the grips on Purple and Red behind them and Red and Purple should keep the leg grips as far forward and possible. This will make the transition back to the Meeker quicker.



Keys

Red keys all points.

Hot Tips

When you dirt-dive, do it with energy, control and at the same pace that you think you can skydive at. Do not slap grips! Take them cleanly. Remember that to break the Swedish record you need to build a point every 0.8 seconds but each point must be built with control. Back to basics: Move - Stop - Grips! It's a skydive worth repeating. Work on minimal movement and maximum control. Have fun!

High Performance Landings



Dave Morris by Colin Bridges

Landing incidents are causing an increasing and frightening number of deaths

This article gives some useful pointers on landing patterns to increase **your** safety – **and** that of those around you

In recent months, more and more potentially hazardous situations have arisen during high performance landings. One obvious problem is the premature landing by skydivers lacking judgement, experience and technique. However inconvenient injuries from these landings are for the drop zone and friends of the individuals in question, I am even more concerned by the possibility of injuries to others resulting from poor high speed landing techniques.

Regardless of personal flying style, elegant high performance landings are characterised by the following features:

Last year, 35% of the total skydiving fatalities in the US were caused by landing accidents.

The jumpers concerned had an average of 1,095 jumps and 6½ years in the sport, 71% were D licence.

Good Landing Technique

- ✓ The initial approach is easily understood by others in the air.
- ✓ The turn onto final approach does not intersect the flight path of other canopies.
- ✓ The approach and landing is done so it does not cross a straight ahead, conservative approach to the centre of the landing area.
- ✓ It is acceptable to blend the turns onto crosswind and final into a single, smooth carving 180° if it is 'round' enough to allow you to alter it in the event of traffic conflict and is intelligible to others as a transition through the customary downwind, crosswind and final approach.

Instruments to measure airspeed and descent rate prove that a 180° turn does not develop significantly more speed than a 90° and that toggle turns do not generate any more speed than riser turns. Riser turns have a major advantage over toggle turns – you can abandon the risers and be back in control immediately with a full range of toggle action if a problem arises. Turns over 90° often degrade your swoop because it is harder to judge your altitude,

timing and traffic – more risk for absolutely **no** gain in performance.

Remember, if you must use your brakes to pull out of the dive, you are slowing down and reducing the quality of your swoop; you need to start your turn higher and finish earlier. A well executed landing uses the toggles only to sustain the glide parallel to the ground.

In Skydive Arizona, a pattern has evolved which has proved to be very safe and courteous to other skydivers.

Poor Landing Technique

- ✗ Downwind approaches over the centre of the landing area. In this situation, no-one in the air knows which way you intend to turn. For all practical purposes, you are obstructing the entire landing area. You are also putting yourself in a situation with no escape routes – if traffic eliminates your intended turn, you will be forced to land downwind or execute your turn too low. Downwind legs of the approach should avoid flying over the landing area.
- ✗ Sudden, snap turns, especially more than 90° have several problems. From the standpoint of other traffic, they don't allow a good view of where you will be going and greatly increase the possibility of a collision. They are also confusing to other canopy pilots.
- ✗ Approaches that may cause landing crosswind/cross traffic due to traffic, obstacles, turning too low or other factors.
- ✗ Approaches that cross through some or all of the normal straight-in approach pattern. Imagine a windline through the centre of the target area. No approach should cross this line.
- ✗ Approaches which conflict with normal flight pattern at the DZ (usually left hand circuit).

Bryan Burke
Manager, Safety and Training Advisor
Skydive Arizona

The swoop technique that is least safe, least impressive and most annoying to others is a toggle or quick front riser 180° through the middle of the landing area.

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Andy Kelly



His Spirit Flies On...

Andrew Kelly was born on 11 April 1971 to Angela and Gerald (Gerry) Kelly in Maidstone. 18 months later his sister Susie was born. When he was four the family moved to Africa and spent two and a half years in Sepele, Nigeria. Returning to the UK they eventually settled in Tenterden, Kent in 1980.

Andy had always expressed an interest in soldiering and joined the Cadets at 15. He enlisted in the Royal Corps of Transport, began Basic Training at Aldershot and was posted to Germany. When the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait exploded, Andy was posted to the Gulf and spent Christmas 1990 in the heat of the Saudi Desert. He saw active service once the conflict began. He broke his arm in a motorcycle crash near the front line but was found and safely retrieved by an American patrol. The Gulf War had a profound effect on Andy. It made him take a long look at what he was doing and what he wanted to do with his life.

When Andy was 16 he and (his father) Gerry enrolled on a static line round parachute course at Headcorn. They transferred to AFF and both were soon qualified parachutists. Andy quickly began to show a talent for his new sport and progressed rapidly. He continued to jump while in the Army.

In 1990 he won gold medals at RAPA Championships for Style, Accuracy and 4-way. After the war, Andy returned to Germany and was transferred to Lipp Springs where he now began to turn a hobby into a career. He became an Approved Instructor in 1991 and

"You showed me a different way of life and gave me so much, I can't thank you enough"

Billy Riggs (Ricketts)

later the same year became the first AFF graduate to become an AFF Instructor.

The Gulf experience had confirmed Andy's belief that army life was not for him and he left the military in 1992. His first job was as a private detective, mainly around London. He returned to Headcorn and took to driving heavy

"Larger than life"

Ruth Cooper

"The grin still remains"

Pete Allum

lorries around the South East. This job ended when he crashed his car on the way to work one icy winter morning. No transport to work meant no work. His unemployment was short lived and he soon found himself selling industrial vacuum cleaners. Because of the area he was expected to cover he was forced to move away from home. Although a good job the move away guaranteed it would

not last. He did not feel content away from his family, his friends and his familiar haunts. He ended that job and moved home to Tenterden where he reflected and considered his future.

His neighbours soon became aware of Andy's fondness for loud music. A fondness they did not always share!

"Miss you, love you, big hugs to Woodmouse and Crispy when you guys get together and Party Large!"

Aunty Lou

He applied for a summer job at Headcorn Parachute Club in early 1997 and it became permanent when the season ended. Headcorn was a place where he felt comfortable. He was with people who spoke his language, who enjoyed his company and appreciated his skills. He became a Tandem Instructor and then went to America to train as a pilot. On his return he was soon flying lifts in the Islander and it was clear that this was yet another skill he was intent on mastering. He was midway through his Advanced Instructors Course and was due to complete it in August at Bridlington.

"You made others happy with your enthusiasm and energy. Still can't stop hearing you laugh"

Dave Tunks



Simon Hughes

"In a world full of people, only some want to fly, isn't that crazy? – Seal '91

Andy – you wanted to fly and fly you did. You taught so many others to fly. You had the POWER! Your bright eyes will be forever missed. See you again my friend, love always"

Lesley Gale

Andy died on 27 May 1998 doing what he enjoyed most. His light while he was with us was bright. It was not easily ignored. He had the enthusiasm of a child about every adventure he undertook and it was very easy to be swept along by him. He used to say "Watch my wake – it's enormous." Those of us who knew him knew how well, how often and how easily he laughed. We knew how good he was as a skydiver, as an instructor and as a friend. Andy was gifted with rare and special

"Your energy will never fade and your friendship never forgotten"

Paul Ingram

talents. He knew how to learn and was always trying to develop and grow. He knew how to teach. He came to trust in honesty and had no fear of it. Those who

knew him casually could easily have considered him loud, brash and uncaring. How far from the real Andy that was. He was full of compassion and consideration. He had energy, enthusiasm, vision, humour. He had a taste for ladies and a taste for champagne! He had many friends. He loved their

"Andy did everything with ease"

Charles Lyne

know it and would supply it – quietly, personally, privately.

Andy has moved on. Those left behind have some very special memories. Memories full of happiness and foolishness and loud, loud music in the

Web page

Andy has a web page where people have left messages. Some are printed on these pages. You can browse the others or leave your own on:

www.btinternet.com/~andykelly



"It's better to shine brightly than to flicker forever – and shine you did. Respect!!"

Brucie Johnson

middle of the night. The memories abide, the dream remains...

Clem Quinn

Donations

If you wish to make a financial contribution as a memorial to Andy, his parents would like any monies donated to go to the Gulf War Veterans Association c/o Headcorn Parachute Club.

We have received some letters about Andy which are on the Letters page – Ed.



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Rubick Challenge!

"We judge the level of our success not by the size, but by the degree of difficulty." So said World Champion Jack Jefferies at this year's Arizona Challenge in Eloy. The sentiment has been around for years – the smaller the group, the greater the success rate and enjoyment. But I couldn't help thinking that Jefferies' idea of 'small' was quite different to mine!

The Arizona Challenge is an annual event organised by George Jicha and *Arizona Airspeed*, who invite top international skydivers with two goals in mind; to do the best large sequential ever and to complete a specific Challenge. Jefferies' comment referred to the organisers' decision to avoid the 'bigger is best' mentality and concentrate instead on complex skydives. Last year the successful Challenge was the magical 100-way Jewel. This year the Challenge was to build the largest Rubick ever, an 84-way. The Rubick is considered to be one of the more difficult formations in the 8-way pool

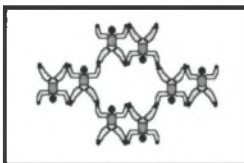
and no-one thought an 84-way would be easy!

Warm Up

We started the first of four days with medium-sized sequential – 16 to 20-way. Designed to 'push the envelope' was an abundance of nameless formations that defied description. I lost count of the formations we called a 'Jicha'! The aim was not to churn out points – most dives consisted of five or six formations – but to keep the degree of difficulty high. When one sequence was accomplished the next would be just that bit more challenging. After successfully completing a particularly complex 18-way, the first point of which involved two out-facing 8-way arrowheads joined only by two bipole-like grips, the follow-on dive consisted of a double-opposed-cat-diamond with only a leg-lock for a base (I did say these formations defied description). It was about now that we started to question the sanity of the organisers!

Halfway House

The second day was described by the organisers as 'not for the timid', which I thought was a fair description of day one! We continued with the same insane formations, but with increased numbers – 30-way sequential. On to day three, the Rubick base practised whilst the rest of us



did pretty amazing 50-way sequential. The final day was reserved for the Challenge itself – the 84-way Rubick. The early attempts built steadily but initial caution meant that the Time-Outs inevitably won. By midday a successful build began to look on the cards, until on one attempt we were convinced we'd done it. A detailed video review showed that, although everyone was in their slot, one grip had been dropped before the last grip was taken. As Jefferies said, 'there are no judges out there, we judge ourselves. Let's do it again!' No-one disagreed with that – we all wanted the photo!

Completion

And that was it – on the next jump the Rubick built smoothly and quickly and we knew it. Before the last canopy had landed we were circling up and celebrating American-style (or actually Japanese-style, but that's another story). Whether we judge the Arizona Challenge by size or by degree of difficulty, it was an amazing success. So what's the next Challenge? Rumour says it's something involving cats, perhaps a cat-jewel (whatever that is?).

Lurker

A special mention must go to Andy Cliff, who made the best lurk of his life and successfully completed the Rubick as the only participant without an invitation. George still wants your form Cliffy!

Chopper

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SIBSON – JUNE 20-21

What a great first meet of the year. Twenty-four jumpers registered on Saturday morning. The weather was different to the forecast (as usual!), heavy showers interrupted the jumping nearly all day. We did, however, manage to complete the Hit 'n Rock and nearly two rounds of accuracy.

Saturday night's barbeque in the lovely garden of Stoneacre was enjoyed by



thirty-five of us, plenty to eat and drink and, as an added bonus, the rain held off.

On Sunday the weather was kinder, although the wind was stronger. Three late arrivals had a go at the Hit 'n Rock and round two of the accuracy was completed. Due to the wind conditions it was decided not to have a third round. The rest of the day was filled with fun



jumping from the TurboLet, including a 14-way attempt.

We would like to thank Peterborough Parachute Centre for hosting the meet, the results of which were:

Hit 'n Rock (kit on)

1st	Pat Carpenter	17.38 secs
2nd	Ian Nicholson	17.97 secs
3rd	Nils Hansen	19.96 secs

Accuracy

1st	Brenda Grant
2nd	Glen Stephenson
3rd	Ian Haylock

Brenda was presented with the Doncaster Plate.



Brenda Grant receiving the Doncaster Plate

POPS on the Net

POPS is now on email at:
pops@shew.clara.net

Check out our web page on:
<http://www.pops.org.uk>

Team Accuracy

1st	Lenny Mobbs, Arthur Wrennall, Brenda Grant
2nd	Ian Haylock, Graham Fowler, George Poole
3rd	Glen Stephenson, Don Taylor, Ian Nicholson



Team Accuracy winners with Pauline Crowhurst

Sibson photos by Lenny Mobbs

New Members

Please Welcome:

Gavin Simpson,
Roger Bancroft,
Roger Hoe,
Terry Robertson



WORLD MEET 1999

The fifth POPS world meet is to be held at the Fraser Valley Skydiving Centre, Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada from the 18-26 September 1999. Chilliwack is 70 miles east of Vancouver and besides the skydiving there will be lots to do and see. If you are interested, please let me know. Then we can find out about flights, accommodation etc; if enough people decide to go then the costs could be reduced. If you want any more details send me an A5 SAE. More information will be published in the mag when I receive it from the World Top Pop. Updated information may also be found on the POPS web site.

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Jack Felstead and friend enjoying a sunset load over Langar

Gordon Hodgkinson

How did you start jumping, Jack?

My Mum and Dad both jump so I have been around the sport since I was in diapers. My Dad took me through my first jump course the night before my sixteenth birthday and my Mum despatched me the following day. That was in 1982, I now have 11,000 jumps.

Are your family behind you?

Very much, it's great to feel their approval and support. I have deviated 90° from the rest of my family who are all successful professionals. So in one way I am a black sheep but, in another, at least I have been successful in my chosen path and it's brilliant they recognise and support that. My parents, especially my Mum, have always been a source of inspiration. My mother races cars, keeps horses and lives a very busy life. I remember quite early on she told me I could do anything I wanted with my life, I could have a job I enjoyed. I didn't believe her, I thought that I had to hate five days a week and only enjoy the other two. But then I found it was true.

How did your skydiving career start?

I had just graduated from high school and planned to go on to university. I went to Zephyrhills in 1985 for a two month vacation – and I'm still on it! From the very first days at Z Hills I decided I was going to be a World Champion. I didn't tell anyone but I was on a mission, it was an inner fire which burned in me. It wasn't healthy; in fact, far from it, but it was great motivation. In the beginning no-one would jump with me. I was very young and not socially adept – to be honest, I was a total geek! The skygods at the time looked down on me, like, "Who is this kid?" This just fired up the big challenge in me more because I said to myself, 'Well I'm never going to get on loads because of my personality but if my skydiving gets really good I will.' So that's what I worked on, I was *so* focused on improving my skills. It took a long time to be given a chance but when I was I never looked back.

PEOPLE IN THE SPORT

Jack Jefferies



Colin Bridges

Why did you want to be a World Champion?

When I was in school I took a self realisation course. Because of looking inside myself I got a real belief that I could do anything I wanted in life. Becoming a World Champion was kind of a test, if I could do that it would 'prove' to myself that this was true.

How did you make it happen?

I just had a very strong desire and focused on it. Nothing sane. Nothing a normal, well-adjusted person would feel!

Are you sane and well-adjusted?

No. In fact I am horrified at the thought of becoming so. I am very black and white.

Very clear about what I want and expect and how things ought to be. I am extreme, I can take things too far. One of the things we have developed in the team is 'real talk', an agreement to be completely straight with each other and trust in each others' motivation as being pure. Sometimes there are really strong things said about motivation and desire. I hold people to what they say. When I am with my team mates I approach them as I do myself – very direct and cutting out the bullshit of normal relations. I personally go too far but I swing the team balance towards that side. Two poles of extreme opinion give a central point that is right for the team; whereas the poles are too radical, I am one of them.

What was your first skydiving break?

In 1985 Derro Thomas got me on a team for the famous Z Hills 16-way meet. He stuck his neck out to get me on the load; no-one wanted me, I was just out of puberty and looked it. We jumped well and won the meet against the top dogs, they weren't happy but it was kind of very satisfying!

My whole skydiving career has been like that. In 1987 my 4-way team fell apart just before the Nationals. I got picked up on a scratch team with Mark Harrington (later to be a team mate), Mickey Rabel (*Air Bears*) and Tim Denunzio (*Golden Knights*). We called ourselves *Shankopopolis Now*; all the major teams busted big time, somehow we didn't and took bronze! Then we joined with a hot 4-way team for the 8-way event and took silver. Add another two people for the 10-way event and we took a bronze there. The overall placings worked out that we tied for gold with the *Golden Knights*! It was wild! So at only my second Nationals, there I was, just a kid, walking away with a pocketful of medals. I was really so young and green at that time. The first meet I turned up for with that team, I'd been with them for about an hour when Tim asked: "Who is this kid that has been following us around and just where is the fourth" 

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member of our team?" All in the same breath, it was hilarious when he realised I was on his team.

Any more examples of your charmed skydiving career?

Well, at about the same time, I had a lucky break with the *Dream Team* who did the colour co-ordinated stuff for *From Wings Came Flight*. Rob Laidlaw had got stuck at the Canadian Border so they were a slot short. I was sewing jumpsuits for Tony Uragello at the time and Guy Manos calls and says "Could you be here in the morning?" Well of course I just ran out of the shop! All these skydivers with thousands of jumps were looking like "Who the f*** is this?" I have always been very competitive but then I was really quiet. So I didn't say anything to anyone but inside I got a real hard-on to beat these old guys at their own game. It made me so intensely focused on every jump that I beat them to their slots and it seemed I could do nothing wrong. I did so well, in fact, that when they dropped the numbers from 24 to 16, I was still on the load.

How did you join DeLand Gang?

Tom Piras noticed my Nationals performance and asked me to join a 4-way team, the *DeLand Gang* with Bill Campbell. We won the 4-way gold and the overall gold at the US Nationals in 1988, an off year. Then the following year we took silver to the *Golden Knights*. Because they only wanted to do 8-way at the World Meet, we got to go and compete in the 4-way World Championships in '89, where we took bronze, behind the French and the Russians. The following year, 1990, we again took silver in the 4-way Nationals, losing to the *Golden Knights*. We finally won the 4-way US Nationals in 1991, taking the overall gold too, and went to the World Meet in Czechoslovakia in 1991. We placed second to the French by two points. I almost quit skydiving!

The problem with the team we had was that there was competition within the team as to who was the best skydiver. We had immense personal talent but completely failed to build a strong team. It's quite interesting that no-one else from the *DeLand Gang* competed in skydiving again. In 1991, the team had started to work with Dr Bob Moore, who is our current team psychologist with *Arizona Airspeed*. He is now a close personal friend, I go rock-climbing and base jumping with him. At the time he was too late to save *DeLand Gang*, he could only do damage limitation but I developed a big interest in that side of things. I started to realise that, whilst you can choose an



Arizona Airspeed launch a Taj, Jack Jefferies is front floater

eminently compatible team, you have to put real serious effort into making it work.

So did you use this philosophy with a new team?

Yeah, three guys offered to pay me to jump with them which was the first free jumps of any sort I'd had. They were three of the most unlikely guys, not competitors or athletes. We all took huge chances and in 1992 won the US Nationals against the *Golden Knights*. We needed to make one change in the line-up and asked Kirk Verner, who has been with me ever since. We did the 1992 World Cup and took silver to the French. The following year we won the US Nationals again, went to the World Meet in 1993 and **again** placed

second to the French. I walked away. Once again I was ready to quit skydiving!

How come you didn't give up?

Dan BC, who was on the *Golden Knights* team we beat in '92, had planted an egg in my head, saying we should join forces. I made simultaneously one of the best decisions and one of the worst mistakes of my life. I decided we should get together and called him from a gas station. It was a great decision because that formed *Airspeed* but the big mistake was that I hadn't even discussed it with my then fiancée. It showed a terrible single-minded approach, the same thing which led to my getting divorced the same year I was married! But I learnt from that. Your best points are always your worst points, this is a strength/weakness paradox I learnt from Bob.

What happened with Airspeed?

We have had an amazing and very fruitful relationship. We have never lost any 4-way meet and this is our fifth year together. It has been so perfect – far better than I imagined. Nothing short of love. An awesome experience. We were very careful to pick compatible people in the beginning but have worked regularly on personal communication with enormous discipline. So any conflicts have been brought up and worked through religiously with diligence.

In '94 and '95 we won the US Nationals and in 1995 I finally became a World Champion – ten years from conceiving the dream to realising it. It was very big – so big it's hard to describe. At all those other meets, I had got drunk and partied



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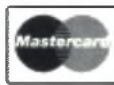
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 hard afterwards but that night I had one beer and didn't want anything else. The natural high I was on was so incredible nothing could have made it better, it would only have diluted it. The way it was done, too. That the team was so close personally made it just perfect. Also, the meet was very exciting – we were going balls-out and then, for no particular reason, we had a cautious round half way through. We didn't score badly but just didn't do our best. We were halfway through creeping the next round when Kirk suddenly stopped, put his hands on the ground and said "Look, I just want to make one thing clear. I would rather lose this meet than skydive cautiously!" That exemplified the spirit of *Airspeed*. It wasn't about competing with each other or even about winning. It was about personal bests and going-for-it; and those words were used from day one.

Did your score suffer from going-for-it?

Not from that but we had a rejump from a questionable decision and screwed it up – funnelled the exit, then had a double bust. Then we had to come back from that and still won the Championships. What a team! The World Air Games in Turkey last year was the same scenario. We had almost won and then nearly lost it completely with a triple bust in round 8. But the team came back and won, that's because everyone's focus is in the right place – it's not about winning or moaning or beating other people or proving anything; it's about seeing what you can do.

How did the relationship with Skydive Arizona come about?

Well, as the *Airspeed* 4-way, we could have gone anywhere at the time and been sponsored; we had loads of offers. We moved to Arizona because we saw what we wanted here – not just the jumps but the attitude and the trust. Larry Hill saw our potential and gave us lots of leeway.

So, now you'd finally become World Champion, don't tell me you were ready to give up skydiving again?

Actually I was. Long ago I had decided I didn't want to do the same thing all my life – once I had achieved my ambition I wanted to move on. But that's when the 8-way thing came up. Craig (Girard) had left the *Golden Knights* the year before. He saw us about to wrap the *Airspeed* team up after we had won and came up with a proposal to join with *Arizona Vortex* and do 8-way. We didn't know Larry Hill had been working with him on

the project long ago – that's why he'd sponsored *Vortex* in the first place. Larry is an incredibly visionary man and I don't say that lightly. With his proposals we became interested in the 8-way idea and started working on it.

How did you fare with 8-way?

Well the first year we took it too lightly. In all honesty, we had a touch of arrogance and complacency – which are two traits I deplore. We did 550 training jumps and the *Knights* did 1,000. They beat us in the '96 Nationals but we won the 4-way. Then, the 8-way had to go on the bench whilst we concentrated on the 4-way for the World Meet in Turkey. Which we won, despite a triple bust in round 8 as I said earlier.

So, twice World Champion and once again I wondered about leaving the sport. My greatest fear is ending up as an old man living in a trailer on the 'zone, telling stories about what I used to do. I am determined, like a madman, *not* to get stuck in this rut. But we had a meeting with the eight of us and Larry and said; we can train the 4-way and go for being World Champions the third time running. Or, we can stop the 4-way altogether and let the French catch up; focus on 8-way and go for a new World Championship title. We were risking everything. But the cool thing was, there was absolutely no discussion. That's why I love these guys.

So who's gonna win next year, you or the *Knights*?

Well, we each have our jaws locked around the other's jugular, the first one to release will be the one that dies. I believe it will come down to who wants it more. We are training to the utmost and using everything we've ever learnt about applying ourselves. I am committed to one goal in a way I haven't been since before winning the World Championships. We will have 1,200 training jumps by the end of October. At the moment we are behind them in average but I believe that we know more about training than they do. When we reach the World Meet average they have attained, we will be able to progress through new ground faster than they will. So, my vote's on us. I think we want it more.

You meet every month in the America's Cup, don't you?

Yeah, it's like a World Meet every month. They've beaten us every time so far but the gap is closing. The good thing about coming from behind is that, as the underdog, you can rise to the occasion when competing. The team that is expected to win has everything to lose.

There's a sort of 'natural gravity' that acts on two comparable teams, their scores will always be close. That's working for us right now. I think '98 will be a watershed year. Necessity is the mother of invention, both teams need to win so we'll both find ways to improve. There will be leaps in 8-way averages because of this fight.

The *Knights* have recently changed their technique to building formations pointing upstream as yours do, are they running scared?

I don't think that comes into it. Of course it's a compliment to us that they've changed but it's also a compliment to them. It means they're not above looking at other teams to improve. You can learn from anyone but you have to have the humility to do so. When I get new teams to coach, I look at their tapes and I learn from them.

Any advice for up-and-coming team jumpers?

Don't wait around for the perfect team, just do it. If you wait for the perfect team, it will never happen. Just start with a team, any team and you'll be surprised where it leads.

And **believe**. Believe in yourself and believe in your belief.

What will you do when you stop jumping?

I am never going to stop jumping but when I am not full-time in the sport I will climb mountains.

Don't you ever tire of jumping?

A little bit sometimes but it amazes me how much love there is in me for this sport. Even today [a cloudy day in Arizona] the aircraft takes off and I am going, **YEAH!**, more excited than anyone on the load! There must be something wrong with me!

Why have you led such a charmed life?

I really believe you can make anything happen, you control your whole life. Your attitude, your body language gives out a feel which other people respond to. So you get the breaks you need.

Whom do you admire?

Each of my team mates. These guys never cease to amaze me in their desire, determination, and ability to put up with my crap. I am also a big fan of my entire family, they kick ass in their lives and still respect me for mine.

**Jack Jefferies was talking to
Lesley Gale**



FlyboyFritzPfnur

Johnny Mc (Lemming)

Arizona p.u.l.s.e. — the new 'Freesurf' team at the Extreme Games

Life is cyclical. It goes round and round but it always comes back to what is genuine and true. There are many different disciplines in the sport of skysurfing. Everyone is creating their own style and being true to themselves. Each unique and different, but all connected by the love of freedom, fun and flying. So why shouldn't a new team mix it all up and create something exciting and fresh? Reaching beyond today's horizon...



p.u.l.s.e.



p.u.l.s.e. are sponsored by

- ◆ Skydive Arizona
- ◆ Innotech Solution
- ◆ Cool & Groovy
- ◆ Thomas Sports Equipment
- ◆ PD
- ◆ SunPath
- ◆ Airtcc

and can be contacted at

Oliver + 41 71 664 3540 pulse.skysurf@ibm.net
Knut + 49 6196 42138 k.nut@gmx.net

... Team p.u.l.s.e.

Team *pulse* – Skysurfer meets Freeflyer! World Champion Skysurfer, and overall winner of the SSI '97 World Tour, Oliver Furrer from Switzerland has teamed up with Knut Krecker from Germany, early Flyboyz member, and one of the best funky freefly cameramen in the world.

FreeSurf

The new AZ *pulse* started training in January 1998 and, after several hundred training jumps, Oliver and Knut give a new meaning to team interaction. They are mixing up their techniques and together have created a fresh new style called Freesurf! They give a performance never seen before with new camera angles, extraordinary skills, lots of speed, and amazing co-ordination which is very exciting to watch. Together, they make the most difficult moves look clean, smooth and almost effortless.

Deborah Witte



FlyboyFritzPfnur

Australian Extreme Games

All of the above was proved at the Australian X-Games April 12-18, powered by Sony Playstation, who helped to make them one of the largest extreme sport events ever broadcast on television. The world's best athletes came to compete in a myriad of extreme sports including Skateboarding, Street Luge, Free Climbing, BMX Stunts, Aggressive In-Line Skating, Wakeboarding, Bungee Jumping and, of course, Skysurfing. The Australian Parachute Federation helped co-ordinate the Skysurfing competition. With efficiency and expertise they arranged for a Caravan and got all necessary permits to facilitate jumps over the Extreme Games site in the city of surfer's paradise.

Australian X-Games Results

Oliver Furrer and Knut Krecker won after six rounds of competition, judged by Kathie Rickettes using FAI rules. The silver medalists were Mike Milton and Richard Brooks, with third place going to Kylie (Buffy) Tanti and Shane Dunn from Australia. All competitors as well as the 40,000 spectators had a great time. Overall, it can be said that the Sony Playstation Extreme Games were a storming success for all sports featured. The Games gave *AZ pulse* an opportunity to show the world their new and unique style of freesurf.

American X-Games

Pulse took the bronze, see pages 10-12 for a full write-up of the Games.

Come to the Sun

Oliver and Knut, the 'Freesurf Brothers', aim to do at least 1,500 jumps together by the end of the year. Their game plan is to give a good show at all of the upcoming competitions and continue training until the 1999 World Meet. They invite all those interested in freeflying, skysurfing, cameraflying, or those who are just curious about what it takes to jump a board, to come and check it out at Skydive Arizona. A place where you can always find warm weather and even warmer welcomes.

Share the Dream

The PULSE (Peace / Unity / Love / Spirit / Energy) team philosophy is based on a belief that the future of our sport will be more focused on interaction with, openness to, and mixing of all genres of flying. More variety, more fun and more pleasure. They hope that they can share their vision with other skydivers, to create a more united skydiving community. A community in which everyone in the sport stays closer together, accepts one another and strives to create better performances, and a more unified direction for the future. A future that has no belly flyers, skysurfers, freeflyers, or freestylers but only **one** united skydiving community walking many diverse paths in the pursuit of perfecting the Art of Human Flight.

Summer McDowell



FlyboyFritzPnür



k.nut



Johnny Mc (Lemming)



FlyboyFritzPnür

Classics and CF Nationals



Above:
H Troop – British Champions Team Accuracy Cup plus Jeff's Style Cup, Dave's Accuracy Cup, Jeff's Mens Overall Cup, Dave's Overall Champions Cup.
H Troop are – Cheryl Smyth, John Smyth, Dave Ballard, Julie Ballard, Jeff Chandler.

Far Left:
Chris Mitchell, Novice Accuracy

Left:
The three 'Old Campaigners'
Katherine Andrewes, Esther Reynolds, and Cheryl Smyth

Photos by Greg Reid

The forecast was the worst in living memory for the Classics and CF Nationals held at Target Skysports. Yet, despite one of the wettest, coldest weeks in June on record, all rounds were completed and the standard of jumping was extremely high

Classics

There were three teams in the senior event, five intermediate competitors and two

novice competitors. *H Troop* sponsored by Philishave comprising of Jeff Chandler, Dave Ballard, Julie Ballard, Cheryl Smyth and myself were determined to win back the Team Cup. Their main competition was the other half of the British National Team under the title of *Master & The Grasshoppers* – Tim Andrewes, Katherine Andrewes, Carl Williams, Esther Reynolds and Ian Marshall. The name is something

to do with Tim and Carl when they used to work together, make a point of asking them when you next meet! *Glen and the Stars* was the third team made up of Glen Stephenson, Pauline Chandler, Garath Leonard, Craig Garbutt and David Hix.

Team Event

I will not bore you with round-by-round details of the scoring. Considering the atrocious weather and the wind conditions

We are now taking bookings for skydiving vacations in Florida



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Telephone 561 388 5925
Fax 561 388 1832
Email: SkydiveMik@aol.com
You can also visit our website @
<http://www.ffadventures.com>

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For our professional, personalised training programmes. Our highly qualified and experienced instructors. State of the art equipment. Competitive pricing. Our knowledge of UK and European drop zones to assist on your return.

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going from nil to right on the limits, the standard of jumping was very high from the top two teams (well so it should be as these two teams make up the current British Team). *Glen and the Stars* were thus up against the best which showed itself from round 1. They ended the team event in third place on 3.94 meters after 8 rounds. A special mention to Glen Stephenson who scored two discs and a 0.01, remembering that we now use a 3cm pad this is very good indeed (just bin the zaps Glen and you will have cracked it!).

It was neck and neck between *H Troop* and *Master*, with only 0.01cm separating scores for most of the competition. The final round proved the decider with a relatively high (ie, bad) team score for *Master & the Grasshoppers* pushing them into silver on a total of 0.88cms. *H Troop* were the victors on a total of 0.78cms. Very close and a high standard of team jumping. An average individual score of around 0.02cms per round on a 0.03cm pad, exceptional scoring which bodes well for the forthcoming World Meet!

Men's Individual

Although the team event was completed in round 8, the individual event continued for another two rounds. Dave Ballard entered round 9 in the lead followed by Jeff Chandler and Carl Williams. Well the three of them scored exactly the same in rounds 9 and 10, thus leaving Dave Ballard the winner on a total of 0.12cms after 10 rounds. An average of just over 0.01cms per round – Bravo! Jeff took the silver and Carl the bronze.

Women's Individual

This saw a right old tussle between Esther Reynolds and Cheryl Smyth that went right to round 10 with Esther taking the gold on a total of 0.18cms and Cheryl the silver only 0.03cms behind on 0.21cms. More great scores on the doors, considering the awful conditions. Katherine Andrewes took the bronze so the three 'old campaigners' dominated the female competition.

Intermediate

Michael Cain (no relation!) won the intermediate competition on 1.18 metres after 8 rounds with Garath Leonard second on 1.85 metres. Craig Garbutt took the bronze.

Novice

Chris Mitchell took the Gold in this event scoring less than 25 metres on each round with a total of 80.36 metres. Well done Chris! Neil Ashcroft took the silver.

Women's Style/Overall

Katherine Andrewes comfortably won the style event on 50.83 seconds over five rounds; Cheryl picked up another silver and Esther the bronze. This meant that the overall went to Esther Reynolds, well done again Esther.

Men's Style/Overall

This was won by Jeff Chandler on 44.53 seconds over five rounds with Carl second and Dave Ballard third. This meant that Jeff Chandler took the Men's Overall while Dave Ballard took the Senior Overall, nice one!

Congratulations to the team of judges; Doc, Bob, Jo, Jane and Prof, for sticking determinedly to their task despite the appalling conditions. A huge thank-you to Steve & Helen Swallow, Trevor Dobson and all the staff at Target Skysports for keeping spirits up and, in combination with John Hitchin, making the most of every break in the weather to ensure we completed the meet, which was nothing short of a miracle.

John Smyth



Top: Team X
Top right: John Smyth
Above:
The Ballards celebrate
Right:
Esther Reynolds
Photos by
Carl Williams



The next time you need
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If you're into caving, hang gliding, paragliding, skydiving, flying microlights, or a pastime that is rather more strenuous than stamp collecting, then we can offer you our special Amateur Sports Protection Plan at a cost* that won't set your pulse racing. Add to that our special discount rates on travel insurance, and you're well and truly covered.



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For those who don't know: The CYPRES (CYbernetic Parachute Release System) is the only AAD on the market which is designed by skydivers for skydivers: Easy to handle - just switch it on in the morning, there is no switching off and on or re-calibration necessary between each jump. There is no need to turn the unit off in a descending plane, under canopy, on the ground or at the end of the day. In case that the landing area has a different ground level: The altitude reference can be changed very easy with the switch-on button. All this is exclusive to CYPRES and available nowhere else.

All you see

Every time CYPRES is switched on, it will calibrate to ground elevation by measuring the air pressure several times in a short period of time and take the average value as the value for the ground level. This happens during the integrated self test which also checks the air pressure measuring technique, the internal electronics, the battery, the

cables, the control unit and the container opening system. Only if this extensive check is successful, will CYPRES pass self test - otherwise it will shut itself down. While it is in use, it will constantly check the ground pressure and, if necessary, adjust to changing weather. This feature is unique to the CYPRES.



The CYPRES Set Up: Nearly all rig manufacturers install the CYPRES Set-Up in their containers automatically. All factory-installations are tested and approved by Airtec to ensure fast and reliable reserve

opening through loop cutting when you need it most. Detailed installation instructions are available for retrofits in most older rigs. The CYPRES "Riggers Guide", published by Airtec, covers nearly all existing rigs.

The release unit

for the reserve container is completely independent of the rig's system, because it does not pull the ripcord pin out of the closing loop but actually cuts the loop inside the reserve container. Through this exist two separate and independent container opening systems - one for the skydiver and one for the AAD. Even if the skydivers system is blocked, CYPRES is still able to do it's job. This method is an idea of Helmut Cloth who started CYPRES, and is exclusively patented for Airtec.

The CYPRES processing unit, or brain, has the calculating power of a small personal computer and is programmed to take account of all eventualities. The combination of the worlds-finest pressure sensing technology and electronics together with specially designed software

is permanently calculating and controlling the altitude, the vertical speed and 5 other parameters. If the situation for the skydiver becomes dangerous, apx. 4.5 seconds before impact, the processing unit will command the cutter to sever the reserve closing loop, allowing the container to open.

The power assembly:

Is located in the processing unit. It is designed to last 2 years or 500 jumps, whichever comes first. In combination with the automatic shut down of the CYPRES after 14 hours, this power assembly allows you to concentrate on skydiving and saves your money for tickets.

Field replaceable cutter

(available on 1-pin units). Easy to replace after an activation. Available since 1995. Prior to this every cutter was fastened permanently; each activated Cypres had to return to the manufacturer and allowed Airtec to investigate every activation.

...and all you get!

CYPRES Loop System:

Developed by Airtec to assure a quick reserve container opening. This loop is much thinner and has a much higher tensile strength than usual reserve loops. In addition with the CYPRES - Silicone, this loop reduces the possibility of loop jamming and loop tearing dramatically. Furthermore, it reduces the necessary force

to pull the ripcord up to 50%, although the tension on the reserve container remains the same. The loop is fastened to the easy-to-use CYPRES disc. (A lot of people call them "Smilies".) You should use a Cypres loop in your reserve container whether you have a CYPRES or not.

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Or would you fly in an aircraft which was never maintained? We take the necessary time for each unit. It's not just a "field test" in a pressure chamber under room temperature conditions. Each unit has to go through a complete test series. We test the hardware visually and electrically. We take the pressure measurement technic and electronics out of the unit and expose them to heat and

cold wherein a high number of simulated test flights take place. We check the power consumption, the calibration, the linearity, the precision and the functionality. The technical data is compared with that from the original production phase. Each unit gets the latest applicable updates. So your 4 year old CYPRES is treated in the best possible way.

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CF Nationals

Only three teams entered the Canopy Formation event; *Team X* and *Over the Top* in 4-way Formations; *Zero Tolerance* and in the 4-way Rotations event. Sunday's weather allowed us to complete the competition on the allotted weekend.

Formations

Over the Top pulled out of the Formations event, due to the incompatibility of their canopies. (If they had stuck with the AR7's they had four years ago, they would have had a better chance of competing.) *Team X* on their new PD160's which are colour coded to make remembering the formations & grips easier, set a new British Record of 5 points in the new time limit of 2 1/2 minutes working time. (If only they could do that on every jump) The team are going, unfunded to the World Championships in Eloy, Arizona during November. They have two more training camps scheduled before then, with their USA coach Mike Lewis and are aiming for an average of 5 points.

Rotations

Zero Tolerance blitzed *Over the Top* with some very good scores of 9 points (and looking close to a 10 but it was not to be!). Not bad for the 'new boys' in the seniors, looking very professional in matching kit and more than doubling their score from last year in the intermediates. Maybe with a bit of coaching, they might give *Cross Keys Crew* a run for the money next year!

Ian Marshall



On the Soapbox

These were not selection Nationals as the Classics and CF National Teams were chosen last year to represent the UK at the World Championships this year in Croatia and Arizona. It was hence extremely encouraging to see 90% of the Classics British Team still attending the off-year Nationals. I know there is a strong body of opinion in the FS world that selected National teams should not be required to attend our Nationals in the World Championship year because of training commitments.

Well the Classics Team have recently finished one training camp and have an additional two planned before the World Meet. Yet, nine of the ten team members competed in the Nationals. Others of our World Meet delegation made the effort to attend – Doc Flynn (Chief Judge), Bob King (Classics Judge) and John Hitchin (IPC Controller) (Titles in brackets refer to their World Meet responsibility). A big thank-you to all the above for supporting our domestic competitions when you already have a heavy international commitment.

On behalf of all the Classics community, I would like to congratulate *Team X* on their performance at the CF Nationals. These guys are going to the CF World Meet in Arizona totally un-funded and also attended their domestic Nationals. From our perspective, looking in, they have evolved into a totally professional team and I know will be a great credit to the BPA and their country in Arizona.

John Smyth

4-WAY

Team Name	Class	Handicap / round	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Average (inc h'cap)
How Bizarre	Junior	4	12	14	10	16
Angels of the North	Junior	4	6	8	9	11.6
In Synch	Inter	2	10	9	8	11
4 Pak	Senior	0	no score	8	9	8.5
Snot	Senior	0	no score	10	6	8
And Again	Inter	2	5	6	7	8
Upton Park	Senior	0	8	7	5	6.6
Yet to be Decided	Senior	0	7	8	3	6
Zygoxis	Senior	0	5	4	4	4.3
Headcorn Juniors	Junior	4	0	0	no score	4

4-way Fax Meet

The fax meet got off to a good start with 23 teams registering prior to 1 May. The idea was to do four rounds each month, with all videos in for judging by the first week of the following month. The weather and other factors made this impossible. After some thought and discussion, we have now reduced the rounds to three per month and 'videos in' date has been relaxed to allow all teams more time to do the jumps.

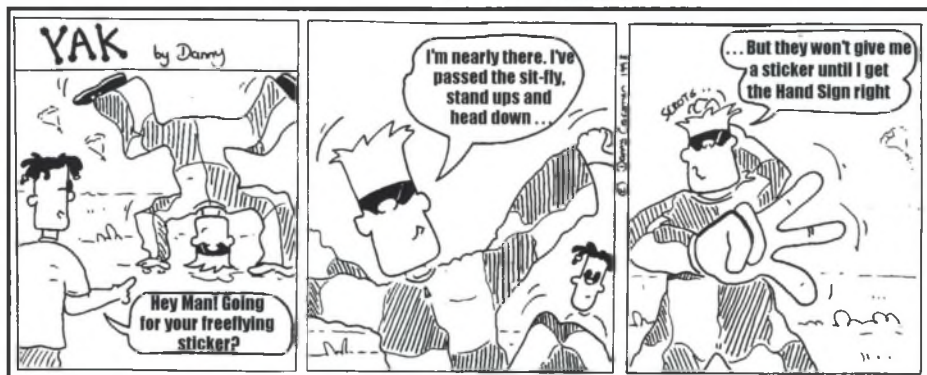
We have seen some excellent scores posted, with this month's 'Gold Star' going to the junior team *How Bizarre* who have put up scores most senior teams would envy, *before* their handicap was added. The pace has been set!

Other good news is we have two of the BPA's top judges on board with us; Dona Crum and 'H' (Bob Hiatt), who have bravely volunteered to sit in the hot seat and take the blame for all the busts.

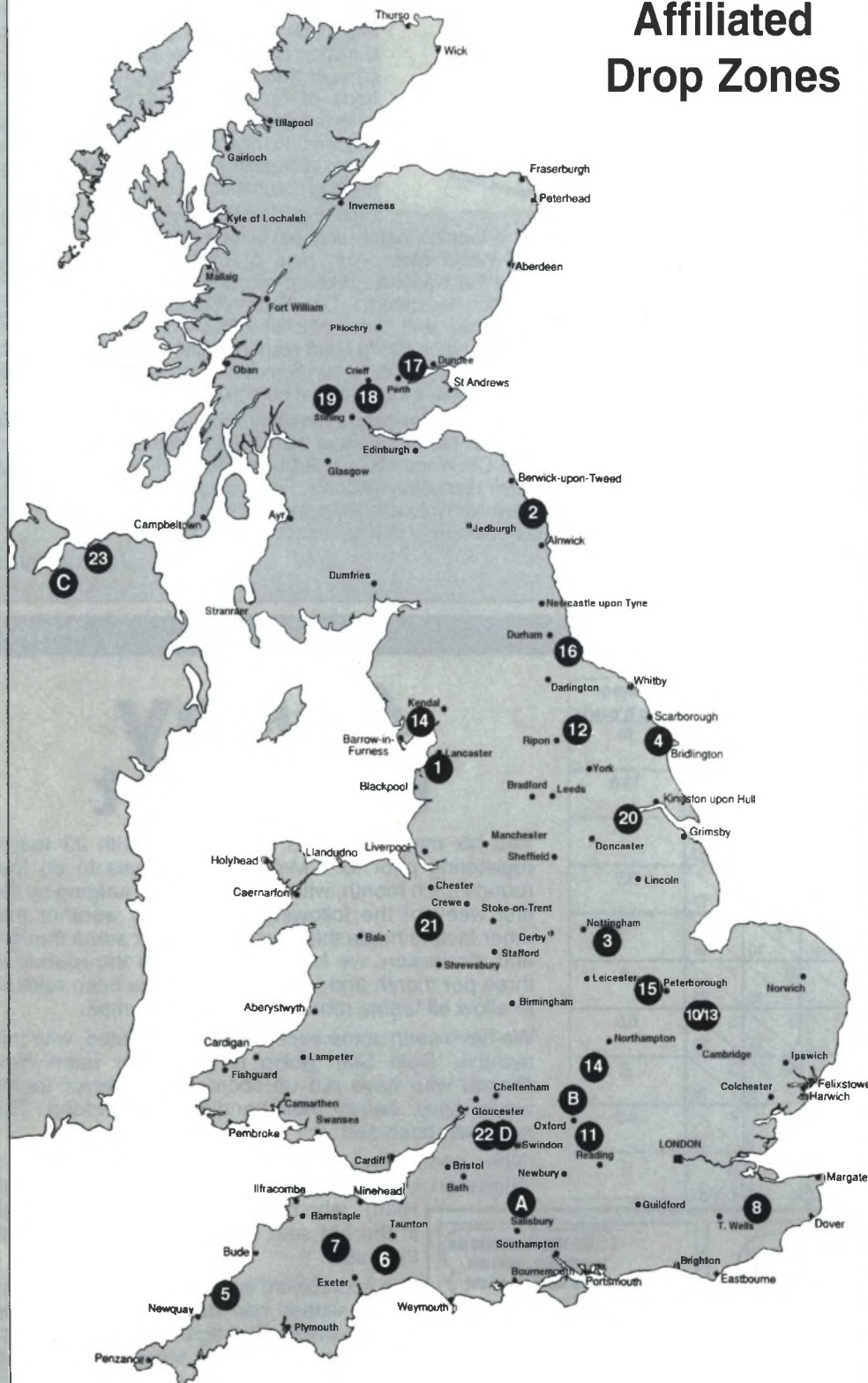
The scoreboard is shown for the ten teams whose videos had been judged when we went to press. The figure in the top left for each round is the raw score, the figure on the bottom right is the running total which includes handicap points added per round.

Another 13 teams are on board, yet to be judged. Keep jumping, get your videos in and get on it!

Ian Matthews/Tim O'Tei



BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



Numbers 1 - 24 refer to
Civilian BPA Affiliated
drop zones
(listed to the right)

Letters A - E refer to
Military BPA Affiliated
drop zones
(listed overleaf)

All **Affiliated** centres in
the UK are run under
the BPA Operations
Manual

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Coaching Available

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

Facilities on the Drop Zone

- rigging facilities
- video room
- parachute equipment shop
- canteen
- evening restaurant
- bar
- bunkhouse
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1 BLACK KNIGHTS PARACHUTE CENTRE

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www.geocities.com/pipeline/dropzone/5352

Open: Weekends, bank holidays 8am - 8pm
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 185

CF AC WP     

2 BORDER PARACHUTE CENTRE

Brunton Airfield, Chathill,
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Tel: 01665 589000 Fax: 01665 721053

B&B, camping, bars locally. Beach jumps and barbecues in summer. Scenic views!

Open: Fri pm, wkends 9am - dark, wkdays by arrangement
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 207 & 206, Islander on call

FS AC WP  

3 BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS

The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,
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E-mail: bpslangar@aol.com

Friendly helpful staff. We are here to help you skydive. Turbines go to 13,000 ft!

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First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Porter, Islander & Cessna 206. Turbulet (summer)

LO FS FF WP     

4 BRITISH SKYSPORTS, BRIDLINGTON

East Leys Farm, Grindale, Bridlington,
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Fax: 01262 401871

Small friendly club atmosphere. Visitors and spectators welcome.

Open: Every day 8am - 8pm
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Islander

LO FS CF AC WP     

5 CORNWALL PARACHUTE CLUB

Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield,
St Merryn, Cornwall
Tel: 01841 540691

Open: Weekend 8am - dark, Wed & Fri (summer)
First Jump Courses: squares, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 182

FS WP SU  

6 DEVON & SOMERSET PARACHUTE SCHOOL

30 Tower Way, Highfield,
Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon
Tel: 01404 891690 Mobile: 0850 032767
E-mail: AGUEST1@compuserve.com

Local accommodation available
Open: 9am - dark, Wkends, midweek by arrangement
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206

FS CF WP SU     

7 EAGLESCOTT PARACHUTE CENTRE

Eaglescott Airfield, Ashreigney,
Chumleigh, Devon EX18 7PH
Tel: 01769 560726 / 01769 520552
Fax: 01769 560726

Open: Weekends 9am - 9pm. Friday courses available
First Jump Courses: squares
Aircraft: Cessna 180

FS AC WP     

8 HEADCORN PARACHUTE CENTRE

Headcorn Aerodrome,
Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
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Progression weeks, competitions, organised jollies.
Open: Every day 9am - dark

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Porter

AC WP     

9 HINTON SKYDIVING CENTRE

Hinton Airfield, Steane,
Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812300 Fax: 01295 812400
E-mail: info@skydive.co.uk
www.skydive.co.uk

Small but friendly DZ with the emphasis placed on fun. Low membership fee.

Open: 10am - 7pm Tues - Fri, 8am - late Sat and Sun
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Cessna 206 (larger aircraft for summer)

WP  

10 IPSWICH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Chatteris Airfield, Manea
March Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 01473 710044 Fax: 01473 271055

Currently operating out of North London Parachute Centre. Large indoor packing area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning permission.

Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF WP     

11 LONDON PARACHUTE SCHOOL

The Cottage, Old Ruislip Road
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Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206

WP  

12 MERLIN PARACHUTE CENTRE

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Weekend 01845 578971

Friendly atmosphere, bring two passport photos for camp pass. Camping, B&B close to airfield at local pub.

Open: Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

FS CF AC 

13 NORTH LONDON PARACHUTE CENTRE LTD

Chatteris Airfield, Manea
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Tel: 01354 740810 Office 01725 513330
Fax: 01725 510690
www.chatpara.com

Airfield is owned by the parachute centre. Large indoor packing area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning permission.

Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF WP     

14 NORTH WEST PARACHUTE CENTRE

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,
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Tel: Airfield 015395 58672/58555
Weekdays 01772 720848

In fabulous lakeland scenery, visitors welcome.

Open: Weekends and bank holidays
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem
Aircraft: Islander

LO FS CF AC WP     

15 PETERBOROUGH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
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Birdland Bar: 01832 280404

PPC boasts 27 years of experience in running a safe, fun drop zone. Skydive Sibson!

Open: 8am - 8pm. Tue - Sun(summer), Wed - Sun(winter)
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206, Turbulet (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: skydiveamy@aol.com

http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy/index.htm

AFF, tandem and video available through Skydive Academy Ltd. B&B locally from £12.50.

Open: Every day 8.30am - 8.30 pm (tel. Mon, Tue, Thur)

First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: 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.

Open: Fri - Sun

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 207, Caravan

CF WP AC     

18 SKYDIVE STRATHALLAN

Strathallan Airfield,
Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Tel: 07000 467593

Weekend 01764 662572

A club run by the members for the members with the lowest possible costs.

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

First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem

Aircraft: 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

Open: Weekends 9.30am - 9pm, sometimes midweek
First Jump Courses: rounds

Aircraft: 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
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www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

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Tel: ext Commandant 8245
Chief Instructor 8229 Staff 8277

B RAFSPA

& RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team
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Nr Bicester, Oxon OX6 8TQ
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C SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE

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BFPO 802,
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E-mail: SPC NI@aol.com

D SILVER STARS PARACHUTE TEAM

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South Cerney,
Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD
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Quote of the Month

"Success in life comes not from holding a good hand, but from playing a poor hand well"

Denis Waitley
Rem L Witt

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Fax: 00 852 2488 9341
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RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,
Germany, British Forces Post Office 16
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E-mail: 10550.2171@compuserve.com

ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The organisations listed below, when operating at a **BPA Affiliated Centre**, are run under the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for training or advice given by those organisations when operating at **non Affiliated centres**.

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Tel: 01225 314599
E-mail: jason@bcpa.u-net.com
Affiliations: 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.

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THE FREE-FALL COMPANY

Box 194
17487 Empuriabrava (Girona)
Spain
Tel: 00 34 1935 6202 or 00 34 7245 0111 (centre)
E-mail: freefalluk@aol.com
<http://members.aol.com/freefalluk>
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Contact: Chris Miller
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E-mail: chris.miller@zetnet.co.uk
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Fax: 0151 448 1172
E-mail: pops@shew.clara.net
<http://www.pops.org.uk>
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THE RED DEVILS

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,

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Tel: 01980 678211 (Chief Instructor)
Tel: 01980 678212 (Students)
Tel: 01980 678203 (Rigging)
Fax: 01980 678349

SCOTTISH SPORT PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

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Contact: Ian Rosenvinge
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E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com
<http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy/index.htm>
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SKYDIVE INTERNATIONAL

45 Legge Crescent,
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E-mail: 100722.2744@compuserve.com
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E-mail: jablquinto@aol.com
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The organisations listed below do **not** operate in accordance with the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for any training or advice given by those organisations.

CPCB

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 00 34 72 45 01 11 Fax: 00 34 72 45 07 49
E-mail: cpcb@gna.es
<http://www.gna.es/dlleure/Paraca/cpcb.htm>
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www.Lapalisse-aero.com
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SebastianXL: TobyStafford@compuserve.com
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Equipment, Incident and Confidential Reports



WHOOOPS!

Description: The freefall student landed correctly on a grass surface but her feet slipped out from under, putting her down heavily with consequent bruising to both nether regions and dignity!

Comment: *Be careful out there!*

TAKING OFF AGAIN

Description: This early student landed perfectly but failed to collapse his canopy as he had been taught. On a fairly windy day, the parachute kept flying and pulled him backwards off his feet, dragging him and resulting in a broken ankle.

Comment: *You can't relax until the canopy's under control.*

(S)TRAINING

Description: There are several reports of injuries during training. As might be expected, these often involve landing exercises but they are far from the only cause.

Comment: *Maybe because the jump itself preoccupies students, they tend to assume training is safe. Students often put everything they've got into practical drills; one dislocated*

Confidential Reporting

If you have any safety related occurrences you would like to report **IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE**, write to:

Confidential Report
Allan Hewitt
Sky Science
Unit 1, The RBL Enterprise Units
Ordnance Road
Tidworth, Hants SP9 7QD

Tel: 01980 844 130
Fax: 01980 844 131
Email: 100770.402@compuserve.com

Tip of the Month - *Don't be a Statistic!*

Freeflying

If you plan to freefly, whether sit flying or head down, do *not* use a rig with a leg strap throwaway. The increased speeds of freeflyers and the unusual attitude of the wind to the deployment device can catch the pilot chute or the bridle. There is a serious risk of premature deployment (which may cause serious injury, a collision or a malfunction) or of a horseshoe malfunction which is one of the most difficult and unpredictable situations to

deal with effectively. For freeflying, it makes sense to use a BOC (bottom of container) deployment system or a pullout.

If you want to freefly and you have a legstrap throwaway, consider having your rig converted to a BOC. In the meantime, it is probably better to borrow another rig with a more suitable deployment system, obviously making sure you spend some time familiarising yourself with it.

Lesley Gale

his jaw doing 'arch and safety count' on the ground. Remember that like all modern sports training, you need to warm up and stretch muscles correctly before exercise. Though students may like to go off by themselves and practise, they really need to be supervised. And be sensible – a recent case involved a student who had been doing serious aerobics the day before and had not eaten since.

PILOT CHUTE PROBLEMS

Description: There is a spate of incidents involving pilot chutes and bridle lines becoming wrapped around the canopy. One made the canopy stall when flared leading to an injury. Three others caused handling problems

sufficiently severe to warrant reserve drills (without further incident).

Comment: *There is no obvious link between the incidents except that all were students. Possibly they may have been unstable on deployment?*

OLD DOGS & NEW TRICKS

Description: A reasonably experienced freefaller jumping new kit was unable to find the BOC toggle. He carried out reserve drills and landed safely under the reserve.

Comment: *The CCI notes that, despite instructions, the jumper failed to perform practice pulls in freefall. If you are on new kit, take heed: you must always get a proper conversion brief, take it*

WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

Further to past discussion here, I reprint without comment a formal proposal currently before the Australian Parachute Federation (APF), who have no official policy on the matter at present. It comes from their Technical Officer, John Chapman, (equivalent to our Tony Butler) who notes that it differs from official USPA policy:

'In any deployment emergency situation other than an absolute total malfunction (haven't touched any main deployment device) the APF recommended procedure is to cut away before pulling the reserve provided there is time to do so.'

seriously and practice on descents with no other work planned.

Chris Jones

Flight Line Check Results

A number of people have complained they can't find the 1998 Flight Line Check report on the Internet. I assure you it's there; unfortunately the link from the BPA website is wrong and numerous email requests for correction (going back to April) have so far been ignored. The correct URL is:

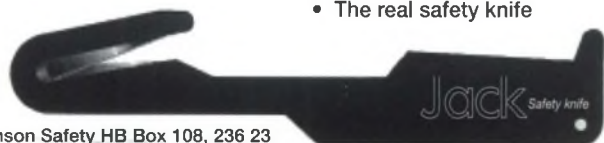
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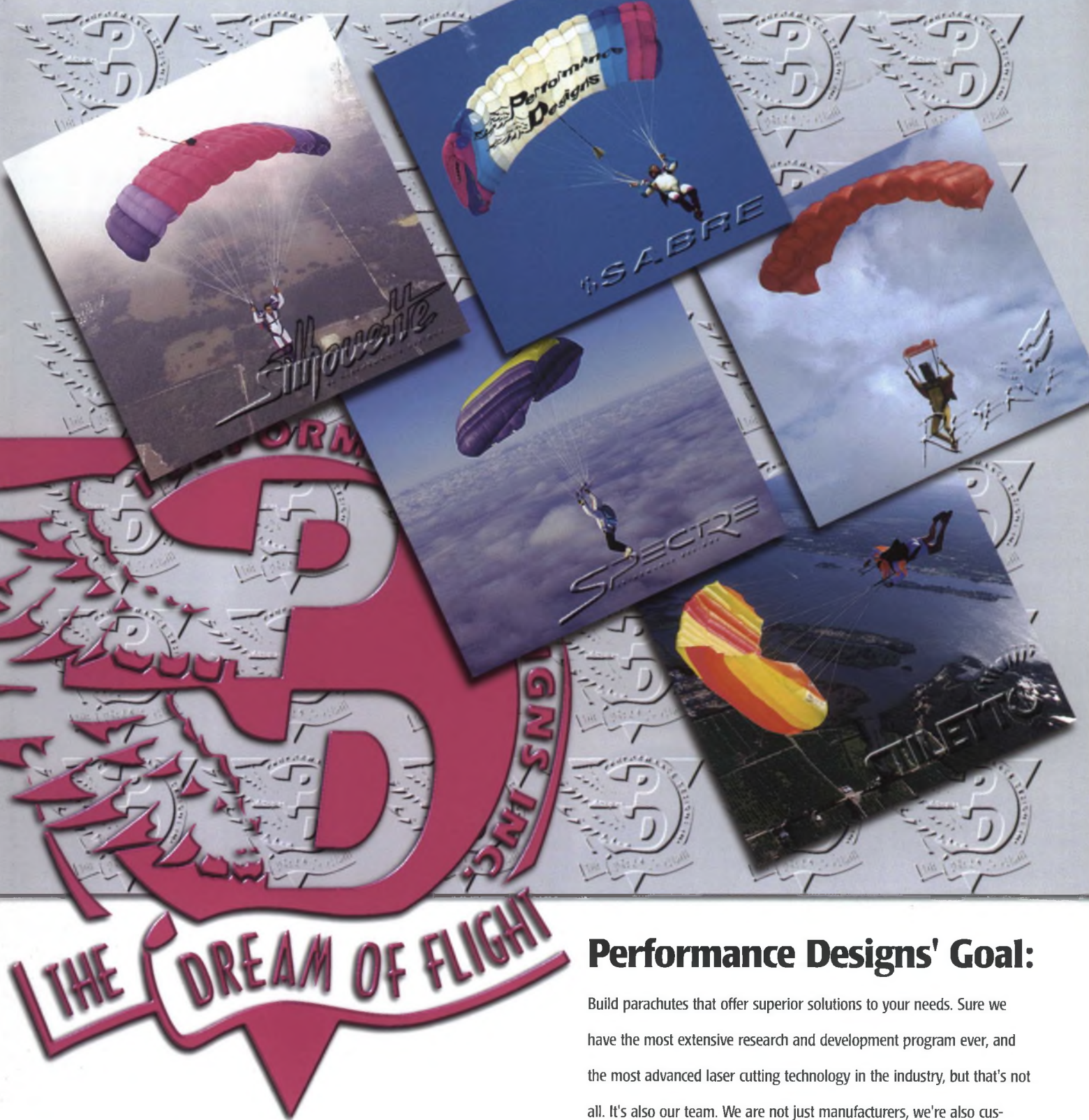
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