

# skydive

The Mag



The British Parachute  
Association Magazine

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June 2002

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# skydive The Mag

Out on the sixteenth of every other month



## The Mag

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## editorial

Thanks to all of you who completed The Mag readership survey, Bev is ploughing through these and we'll bring you a full report next issue. It's not too late to send yours in, even if you've already renewed; if you've lost it, email Bev for another. It was wonderful that a massive 92% of people who responded to the BPA questionnaire are happy with the content of The Mag (see page 23).

## Freeflying

It's no surprise to see freeflying is growing in popularity (44% of questionnaire respondents participate compared to 26% in June 2000). Let's make sure it grows safely. I see people putting together big-way freefly dives with too many relatively inexperienced people. We all know head-down and head-up are much faster than belly flying. What we may fail to appreciate is that it only takes a tiny deviation from a neutral flying position to generate massive horizontal closing speeds. Even with a hard hat, a collision is potentially fatal. If you haven't the skills to approach and stop next to someone flying vertically, fly no contact, dock in complete control, release, turn 360 and dock again, you shouldn't be doing anything bigger than a 2-way.

That's what the FF1 and FF2 qualifications are for - to keep us all safe. Don't rush through them, don't award them prematurely (you're not helping anyone) and respect your flying limits.

Enjoy the Freedom of Flight formations in the centre spread and appreciate how much in control these guys are. I'm sure we'd all like to be doing that sort of stuff, well it starts with learning the basics just like any other discipline. Let's stay small until we're safe to go large. Many videos of so-called big-way freefly jumps in the UK have most of the people out of the frame! Where are they? Are they in control? If you're invited on a freefly 14-way which sounds like a potential zoo, be big enough to refuse if you're not completely happy - it could save a life.

Have fun but stay safe!

*Lesley*

PS Hope you like the Brit student on the front cover, I do! We know you want British covers but we're sent far more high quality images from abroad than at home. Send us a UK cover shot and we'll use it!



## The British Parachute Association

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## deadlines

| Issue    | To Reader | Copy Deadline |
|----------|-----------|---------------|
| August   | 16 Aug    | 6 July        |
| October  | 16 Oct    | 6 Sept        |
| December | 16 Dec    | 6 Nov         |

● out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of every other month

● copy deadline is the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month before

skydive  
June 2002



Adam Rosen

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

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



**British academic John O'Hare's triumphant face on landing after his AFF graduation jump**

**Photo by Katarina Ollikainen**



# skydive

*The Mag*

Out on the sixteenth of every other month

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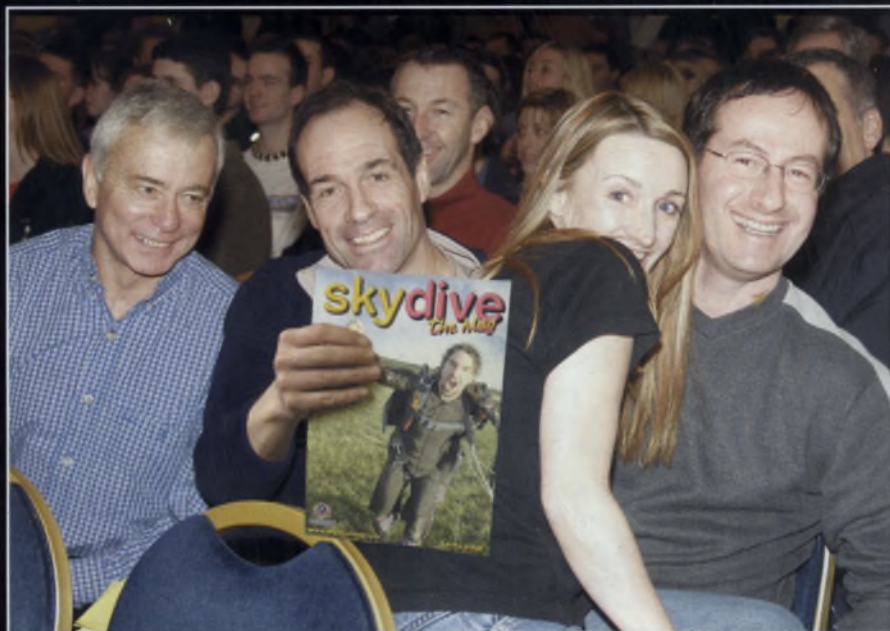
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## SPECIAL AND SEXY



Simon Ward

The Mag is, first and foremost the British Parachute Association (BPA) magazine, but we have an increasing number of non BPA members who subscribe just because they like it.

If you're interested in skydiving, whether a first jump student, a rock star or an adventure sports enthusiast, you'll enjoy The Mag.

**If you subsequently join the BPA** as a full member (after six jumps or when you progress to freefall) your magazine subscription amount is deducted from your BPA membership fee so, in all, **you don't pay any extra.**

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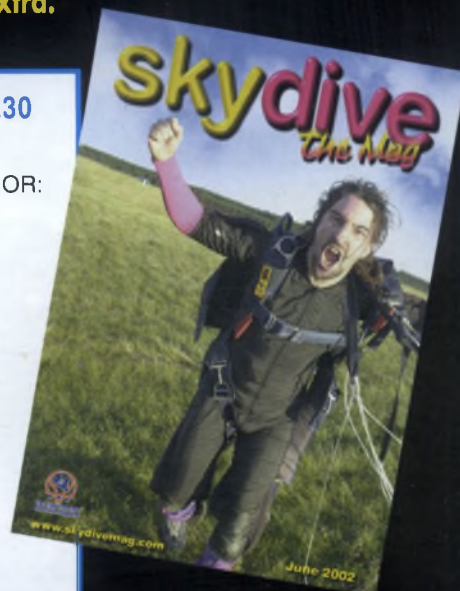
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**skydive**  
 June 2002

# Sarahjayne

*Well, I finally did it!  
I took to the skies to  
see what all the fuss  
is about and do you  
know what?*

**I GET IT!**



Earlier this year I set off to Florida to see my brother, Derek, at Z Hills. When I arrived I was introduced to Martin Evans from Sky-eye on camera and Tracey Eckersley, my AFF instructor. Derek refused to do this and I quote "Would you teach your sister to drive?"

## Level 1

*"the most frightening experience of my life, I couldn't breathe"*

As we left the plane the feeling of falling hit me, this was overtaken by the fact that I could not catch my breath. Within seconds I had brought my right hand under my chin to 'deflect' the airflow past my



face. My mind raced with how long would this last? I tried to calm myself, 'It's just sensory overload, get on with it'. I practiced three dummy pulls taking a deep breath before each one. At 5,000ft I pulled! As I landed three people ran over to congratulate me on my first jump! Bulls\*\*t! I have never felt so humiliated in my life. I wished I'd never pulled.

## Jump 2

*"I took my new found comforter (neckwarmer)"*

I took my new found 'comforter' (a neck warmer worn over my mouth and nose!) it made me unrecognisable; any more cock-ups and I could say "That's not me, no, no that's some nutter!" It did seem to help. This jump was my 6<sup>th</sup> and Derek's 6,000<sup>th</sup>!



## Jumps 3 and 4

*"the question of 'Why am I doing this?' started to fade"*

## Jump 5

*"lost the plot altogether"*

We had lost Derek by now and this was the first jump when Tracey would let go of me. I involuntarily started a turn, which I stopped only to send myself the other way! I couldn't stop and, after a few too many rotations, lost the plot altogether! So, whilst on my side, clocked my alti and pulled.

## Tunnel

*"I'd struck a confidence low"*

I'd struck a confidence low that led me to the wind tunnel in Orlando where I met the newest member of XL, Thomas Hughes, this guy is really good! (Good looking too girls!) It was just what the doctor ordered. Here, we let go of levels and focused on one area at a time.

## Jump 6

*"controlled, slow turns"*

Time to let go again! Shake my head in freefall? Oh yeah! Tracey had confidence and guess what? I was stable! WOW! I carried on to do controlled, slow turns.

## Jump 7

*"an eye opener, I lost all altitude awareness"*

Until now my awareness had been really good but I became so engrossed in getting forward motion I lost all altitude awareness. Tracey tapped her alti. We were at 4,000ft! Where did those 50 seconds go? I had f\*\*ed up big style, I had some cold sweats that night I can tell you. Growing up in this sport, I knew the possibilities.

## Jump 8

*"I grounded myself"*

If only those trees had moved it would have been perfect. Yes, I managed to fly myself into the trees at the edge of a HUGE landing area. I realised at 200 feet that I should have S'd off some distance or even taken a downwind landing instead of an obstacle. Fortunately, by the time Tracey reached me she had calmed down! A lot! I grounded myself. I was tired, had information overload and I'd had enough!

## Jump 9

*"I was beginning to fly my body!"*

Awesome! I actually achieved forward motion, I took all those issues that I had been carrying and dealt with them, it was all coming together, I felt at last like I was beginning to fly my body! A big YEEHA!





Photos: Martin Evans  
[MartinEvans@skyeyeskydiving.com](mailto:MartinEvans@skyeyeskydiving.com)

Sarahjayne Thomas, daughter of Lofty and Grace Thomas, sister of Chris and Derek, on her AFF course with brother Derek and Tracey Eckersley

## Jump 10

### *"I now understand why we do this!"*

My first climb-out turned out to be easier than I had expected even though the prop blast blew me into Tracey! I did the usual student kicks and my 'backloop' was a flop! It felt good to be in control as I became solid as a rock. Had another go at forward motion and kept on heading! I saw Martin loads on this dive; I now understand why we do this!

## Jump 11

### *"I actually felt like I was skydiving!"*

Next my biggest personal obstacle; dive exits! These were part of the reason I never wanted to skydive. Why? I can ask now. I did my first delta track and didn't wobble all over the place, the biggest shock I got here was the sensation that my arse was going to overtake my head when I stopped (no comments needed here, thank you!) I gave Martin a big thumbs-up. I actually felt like I was skydiving!

## Jump 12

### *"Graduation!"*

Up until now we concentrated on one thing at a time. I asked if I HAD to do everything in one jump! Well you gotta ask! I dived out and was stable by 13,000ft, did a backloop, which I fell off, held it for a few seconds and started my 360s right and left, tracked, had time to do another 360. The ride back to earth I used to reflect on what I had just done. As I landed I knew this was 'IT'. I'd graduated. Tracey tried to tell me I'd have to do it again! Yeah, right! Smiles all round? I burst into tears when I saw Derek at the factory! Just having a girly moment I guess.

## Consolidation Jumps

### *"the weirdest feeling"*

Martin bullied me into my first solo. Thanks Martin! I was more nervous now than I had ever been, what do I do? Who will give me a kit check? Will the pilot know I'm there? It was the weirdest feeling being the last one left in the plane. Mind you, I got out!

## 3-way

### *"a personal confidence I never knew I had"*

Soon I jumped a full-face helmet and – wow – what a difference! Breathe EASY! Which made my skydive much more fun. Tracey and Martin did a no contact dive with me. I held my dive exit, my slot and we did two 360 turns in place! WOW, how cool was that? Over my time there Tracey and Martin had instilled in me a level of trust that turned into a personal confidence I never knew I had.

## Back at Home

### *"Just some snotty-nosed student"*

Now I'm home, I am privileged to be a Thomas on the DZ. I have lots of friends who want to help me. BUT would that be the same if I was someone else? I'm now finding myself intimidated by skydivers if I don't know them – who am I? Just some snotty-nosed student, right?

## Involve Them

### *"YOU are still intimidating"*

Let's try to remember, once we've taken a student's cash and taught them to survive, we need to introduce them to other skydivers and especially students; it gives us someone at our level to talk to. Involve them somehow so that they feel part of it. Some people are shy and afraid to ask what they think will be a silly question. My time around the sport has taught me that to progress and improve I need to ask: What? Where? When? How?

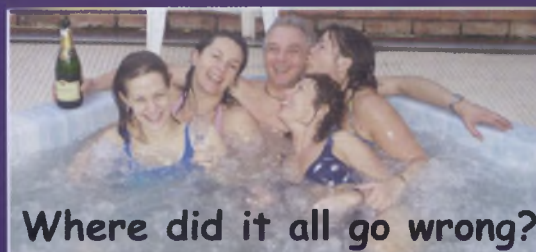
Still, with all I know and the friends that I have, YOU are still intimidating! I know nothing compared to you. Take a moment to remind yourself how you felt as a student and how a friendly face saying "Hi, how did you do today?" would've helped you feel part of 'IT'.

'IT' is so worth being part of! This year's T-shirts have a whole new inspiration!

Sarahjayne Thomas  
[sjt@divegear.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:sjt@divegear.fsnet.co.uk)

# JM's Newsround

Compiled by  
John Mayo



Where did it all go wrong?

Simon Edwards



More stories and more detail on all of these items are on JM's Newsround at [www.skydivemag.com](http://www.skydivemag.com)

## Giveaway FREE Duck Tape

Where would skydiving cameraflyers be without gaffer tape? Pretty unstuck.

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## 300-way World Record



Current and previous members of *Arizona Airspeed*, many times world champions in 4 and 8-way FS, are organising an attempt on the World FS Record, aiming to build a 300-way. The Brazilian Air Force will provide five C-130s. Approximately 30 jumps are planned, taking place between 7-19 December 2002, at Maceio, a tropical beach resort city in the northeast of Brazil. Dan BC, Jack Jefferies and George Jicha are heading up the project and have assembled a star-studded international team of organisers and recruiters. Half of the group are elite level competitors; the remaining half hugely experienced Hercules organisers; this talent will be combined with the *Airspeed* culture. Invitations have been sent out to jumpers recommended by the organising team and to members of the Arizona Challenge list, who have consistently built demanding large formations. In addition the team

has reserved a number of slots for jumpers 'outside their current awareness' and they are continuing to search for talent. Skydivers who feel they deserve a slot should contact Dan, Jack or George with their skydiving resumé. The team asks applicants to have patience, as they will closely consider each potential participant before issuing an invitation. This may take several months, so they suggest you book the time off work now.

Photos: Mike McGowan

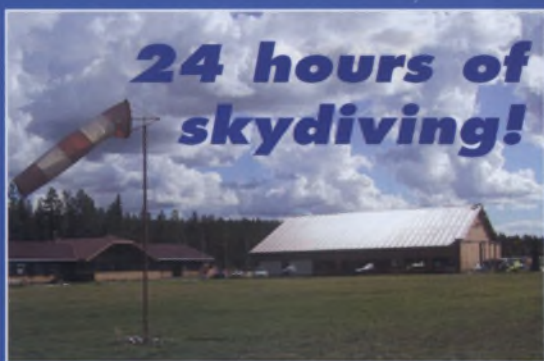


Dan BC

### Leadership Team:

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## 24 hours of skydiving!

Østre Åra, situated 125 miles north of Oslo in Norway, has a massive annual boogie where it is possible to jump for 24 hours non stop! This year it is on 5-21 July. There's no registration fee, free load organising and free video. There are two AN28 tailgate aircraft, taking 22 jumpers to 13,500ft in 12-15 minutes. Formation loads will go higher. Oxygen jumps to 20,000ft will be available along with FS and FF at all skill levels, tandem and wingsuit jumps, a tracking competition and a range of seminars.

[www.skydivenorway.no](http://www.skydivenorway.no)  
[info@fallskjerm.no](mailto:info@fallskjerm.no)  
 Dane Kenny: 07816 821204



## RAeC Trust Photo Competition



The 2002 competition will be held from 1 July until 1 October, with the theme of 'Flight'. For entry forms, etc, go to the Royal Aero Club Trust's website.

[www.royalaeroclubtrust.org](http://www.royalaeroclubtrust.org)  
[administrator@royalaeroclubtrust.org](mailto:administrator@royalaeroclubtrust.org)

## Land a Wingsuit?

People have talked about landing wingsuits but no-one has yet attempted this. A New Zealand documentary team is following Chuck Berry's training programme to achieve this. Chuck plans to skydive with a wingsuit and land it at high speed on snow – without a canopy! He spent last winter practising high speed runs on snow and favours a Squall which is a bit like a thin snowboard. Digital Dog filmmaking team is working on fundraising. If everything goes according to plan, Chuck will attempt his project in winter 2002.

[www.digitaldog.co.nz/wingsuit.html](http://www.digitaldog.co.nz/wingsuit.html)



## BirdMan Docks on Pilot under Canopy

On 17 April in DeLand, Florida, Jari Kuosma and Vladi Pesa closed the gap between canopy and wingsuit on their 17<sup>th</sup> attempt. Jari wore a Skyflyer wingsuit and did a controlled dock on Vladi's ankle. Vladi was flying his PD Velocity 84 with modified risers and a wing loading of 3.5 to 1 (he jumped a 30lb weight bag). Vladi has 8,000 jumps, is a canopy swoop

competitor and a BirdMan instructor. Jari, president of BirdMan, has 2,100 jumps in total, over half in a wingsuit. Jari and Vladi are planning to do more attempts in order to get better footage. They warn jumpers not to attempt this stunt without consulting them.

**BirdMan: 001 386 785 0800**  
[www.bird-man.com](http://www.bird-man.com)  
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## SkyEuroCup 2002

The SkyEuroCup is an official IPC event which combines the results of all the artistic national championships and events into one ranking. Full details of all events are on their website.

Participating countries include the UK, Norway, Italy, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Portugal and the Maldives.

One participating

event, Norway Extreme Sports Week is in its fifth year. This event at the end of June will bring together people who enjoy skateboarding, freeclimbing,

canoeing, paragliding, base jumping and skydiving.

Peterborough

Parachute Centre is once again host to the artistic events British Nationals, which is also participating.

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*Clockwork Orange, last year's UK skysurf champions, by Mark Harris*



**Free Coaching & Demo Gear**

Sebastian XL and Chris Lynch are doing a free PD event at Hinton, 13-14 July. Following Chris's highly successful canopy skills seminar last month, he will be offering pilot skills and freely coaching and XL will offer FS coaching. The boys will organise and jump for free, along with providing a full fleet of PD demo canopies for people to try in their own kit. There will also be prize giveaways and seminars over the weekend.

[pete\\_allum@compuserve.com](mailto:pete_allum@compuserve.com)  
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Mike McGowan

## Tim Ace!



Ex pat Tim Mace competed in the South African nationals in every event, receiving five golds and one silver. He won the style, setting a new national record, won swoop accuracy, 2-way FS, 4-way CF rotations, 8-way CF speed and took silver in freely. He is now on a 4-way team with Hughie Newman, Glenda Miles, Linda Holland and Clyde Holland on camera. They plan another 250 jumps before the SA nationals in September. If they win they will then do about 800 jumps before the world meet. Tim's comment, having left his job to skydive for a year, "We're not doing it because we think we're in with a chance of a medal. Just doing it because we can and to see how good we can get. We've got our own King Air so we don't have to rely on other people filling loads. Brilliant." Tim is no stranger to world meets, having competed in 1985 and 1989 on the British 8-way team, Mo.

[timma@aviation.denel.co.za](mailto:timma@aviation.denel.co.za)

## Wind Tunnel Open in France

The company Aérokart opened its vertical wind tunnel near Paris on 23 May. It will run Thursday to Sunday until 30 June, then will re-open in September permanently.

There are three different speeds available, depending on your weight and/or skydiving discipline. An 8-way has been built in the tunnel, (whose diameter is over 4m) using normal jumpsuits and extra weight. A specific speed flying area will be open in the future for freeflyers where the wind can run between 200 and 250km/h, allowing some interesting 3D flying. Management company, Véloce Parachutisme have three qualified instructors available, at least one from a current French FS national team. The tunnel will be run like a normal drop zone. Flyers will have free access and buy tickets for two and a half minutes of tunnel time to use as they want throughout the day.

| Opening Hours |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Thursday      | 6pm – Midnight |
| Friday        | 4pm – Midnight |
| Saturday      | 4pm – Midnight |
| Sunday        | 2pm – 8pm      |



Bruno Passe

Aérokart  
 199/201 route de Pontoise, 95 100  
 Argenteuil, France  
 Tel: +33 (0)1 30 25 71 90  
[infos@aerokart.fr](mailto:infos@aerokart.fr)

# Fred Borthwick

"Fred Borthwick's tandem jump at Skydive Sebastian was a very special occasion. Knowing he had very little time left [he was terminally ill], Fred's decision to skydive and the way he went about it, showed exceptional strength and his incredible attitude in the face of life's greatest challenge."

Lyle Presse

[www.skydiving.com](http://www.skydiving.com)

"We knew Fred was special, a brave man who'd had a very tough time. He knew his time was precious and he wanted to fly. We wanted to fly with him too. Lyle, Mark, Rook, Mike, Scott and I were the lucky ones to go. We're sad to lose our friend. Fly free Fred."

Adrian Nicholas

[wingsuit@aol.com](mailto:wingsuit@aol.com)



Adrian Nicholas



## Safety Poster

The BPA has published a safety poster showing a low turn. We have had many people asking how the photo was taken.

"The picture was actually cropped considerably and shows Al Macartney from Quiksilver over Netheravon, safely executing a turn. He is quite high and landed some distance away. I was under canopy at the time and using the Olympus E100 digital camera on zoom which serves

to foreshorten the perspective. Interestingly, the camera is only rated at about 1.4 megapixels (often around 3 megapixels claimed by many other manufacturers who use software improvements such as interpolation) which only goes to show the quality available from these cameras."

Simon Ward

[simonw@musicradio.com](mailto:simonw@musicradio.com)

## SkyVenture Arizona and SkyVenture UK

The SkyVenture Wind Tunnel built in 1997 is now running over capacity, often booked weeks in advance. The upsurge in demand has prompted a large expansion programme, including a tunnel in Arizona and, next year, the UK. SkyVenture also plans to build tunnels in Southern California, New Jersey, Chicago and Texas, has begun in Malaysia and are building a tunnel in the United Arab Emirates for the military.

The Arizona tunnel will be located just outside Phoenix, 45 minutes from Skydive Arizona. It will be faster, smoother and quieter than previous SkyVenture tunnels. It will produce 45% more horsepower than the Florida predecessor and will be optimised for skydiving. The Florida tunnel will also undergo substantial upgrades.

### SkyVenture UK

We are reliably informed that a SkyVenture tunnel will be built in the UK, at Milton Keynes, to open probably next year. We'll keep you informed, check our website for the latest details.

### TunnelCamp.com

SkyVenture has also acquired TunnelCamp.com. Alan Metni, former *Arizona Airspeed* member and owner of TunnelCamp.com will join SkyVenture as its Chief Executive Officer. TunnelCamp.com has trained more than 350 skydivers over 900 hours at SkyVenture.

Bill Kitchen – [bill@skyfun.com](mailto:bill@skyfun.com) or

Alan Metni – [alanmetni@pobox.com](mailto:alanmetni@pobox.com)

## New Tunnel Teaching Programme

An 8-way project team, Arizona Evolution, has been formed from TunnelCamp.com graduates. They participated in a new approach to training at the SkyVenture wind tunnel which produced very positive feedback. An 8-way team is made of four two-person pieces; each piece was assigned to an *Airspeed* coach. Each camper then did the block in his own slot with the coach in the other; then vice-versa with the camper in their piece partner's slot, again with the *Airspeed* coach. The same structure is also offered in 4-way.

[www.TunnelCamp.com](http://www.TunnelCamp.com)  
[mail@airspeed.org](mailto:mail@airspeed.org)



Quiksilver training in the SkyVenture wind tunnel

# CARK Then...



The founders of Cark in 1972; Dave Prince and Alan Morris with regular jumper Brian Shaw

**Thirty years in business is a long time, yet this is just the start for the North West Parachute Centre. Based at Cark Airfield, near Grange Over Sands, it houses a vast scenery encompassing spectacular views of the Lake District, Morecambe Bay and the Isle of Man.**

## Then

Cark Airfield goes back to the 1940s when it was used as a training ground in the Second World War and then No 188 Gliding School of the Air Training Corps took it over. They continued to fly from here, mainly at weekends, until transferring to Walney Island in early 1947. The airfield was then abandoned but certain sections of the runways have been used post-war by private light aircraft for several years.

### The Beginning

Dave Prince found this piece of land whilst flying overhead one day. Together with new business partner Alan Morris, he saw the potential and jumped at the opportunity to rent it, starting NWPC in Easter 1972. Soon afterwards the need became greater when the nearest parachute centre at Cockerham closed down. At the start there were just two buildings and the old control tower. They didn't even have a toilet for many years! Jimmy Latham is the landowner of Cark Airfield; Dave says that he is the best landlord anyone could ask for, you can tell him what you need and he would get it for you.

### Let Down

Dave admits the organisation was hard and the hiring of aircraft was a pain. They started with a Cherokee 6 and then moved on to a Cessna 172 but having to rely on other people and constantly getting let down meant they purchased one of their own. It wasn't ideal as it could only jump two students and an instructor. Eighteen months later they got a Cessna 182, which carried three students and an instructor, this increased the number of students per lift by 50% and climbed noticeably better too. They eventually bought an Islander in 1982, in keeping with other centres using bigger aircraft and the influx of students in the 80s.

Trying to cope on what budget they had, the equipment back then was very basic. Their kit store consisted of four main parachutes and four reserves. After they ran their first student course they had enough money to buy two more and this continued as more students came along. It was a good partnership; himself, Alan, Joyce and Doreen. Dave and Alan had met whilst jumping at Cockerham so it was a natural collaboration and turned out to be a good one too.

### Family Affair

Alan handled the recruitment of new students and the money side of things. Dave employed the pilots, sorted out the instructors and dealt with the aircraft. Doreen used to look after the kitchen and Joyce did the book-keeping and ran the office. It was most definitely a family affair.

### Love of the Sport

It was a 7-day week trying to run the centre but they all did this for over ten years as well as having their own careers. Dave was a site manager working in civil engineering construction and Alan had his own bricklaying company. The work that went into running the centre and the hours they had put in showed commitment all round – but none of them did it for the money, it was the love of the sport that called.

### Hit 'n' Miss

*"If you want to make a small fortune out of parachuting, start off with a big one,"* says Dave. He got a living out of it, but not what you would call a good one. He said it was all about managing the money. *"With the British weather being how it is, you are at the mercy of it, it's very hit and miss particularly in this part of the country."*

# and...

# Now



Photo: John Williamson



Dave, Doreen, Joyce, Stuart and Martin  
in the early days

## Natural Progression

It was a natural progression for Dave to take on the role of CCI; a chief instructor had to be appointed and, in those days, you didn't have to be an advanced instructor, any instructor could be a CCI. In 1979 Dave learned to fly, partly down to one of the pilots leaving. His rigging began out of necessity. He says if kit was damaged sending it off took ages and cost money, so he obtained a sewing machine and got on with it. When the Riggers' Committee was formed, Dave was asked to sit on it. He declined at the time as he didn't consider himself to be a rigger although, looking back, he had done as much sewing as they had!

Does Dave regret anything? "Never, it took a lot of hard work, but I don't regret it for a minute".



Stuart Morris, son of NWPC founder  
Alan, practising his dummy pulls



Cark management in 2002, Martine, Dennis, Stuart (with baby Georgina), Mick and Kay

## Now

Dennis Buchanan is CCI now, he has been jumping at Cark since September 1979 when he was 22. Initially employed as a BI and tandem instructor, Dennis has always been a regular face at Cark and a name you will never forget; he is like a part of the furniture. He got his Advanced Instructor rating in 1998 and then took over from Dave Prince as CCI in 1999 when Dave retired. After more than 20 years of jumping it seemed appropriate he should fill Dave's shoes.

## Family Handover

Why did Dave and Alan give up the business after 27 years? Alan had long decided that he would retire at 65 and Dave had been encountering back problems for many years. Alan passed on his half of the business over to Stuart Morris, his son, and Stuart's wife Martine.

## Stuart and Martine Morris

Stuart works for Lancashire County Council. He's been jumping since he was 16. He and his brother Andrew were both on the British Style and Accuracy team for two years and Stuart was joint British National Champion. His skydiving experience is vast; as well as accuracy, Stuart has a great deal of formation skydiving under his belt. He was a member of Cark's infamous 8-way team, No-Go, in the nineties who achieved bronze and silver medals at the British Nationals.

Stuart had hoped the NWPC partnership would be handed over at some point and is glad it has. "It's nice to hand over a business from father to son. My Dad's astounded that we have a turbine and are competing with other centres in the UK. We are up there now with the big boys!" says Stuart. Martine, a qualified book-keeper took over Stuart's Mum's role and deals with the book-keeping and auditing. A silent partner in NWPC, Martine's provided constant encouragement and backing even through bad times such as the foot 'n' mouth outbreak.

## Mick and Kay Carruthers

Mick and Kay Carruthers are the other half of the partnership. "Working with Mick is ideal" said Stuart, "being of a similar age and attitude. In this short period, this place is now back on the map". Mick, a pilot and skydiver, has always had hopes of running his own centre. He's been flying since he was 21 and was one of the first people in Britain to gain his jump pilot rating at the age of 23.

"In the fifteen years I've been in the sport, I could see the potential [of NWPC] from day one. Being a jumper here, my vision was not just to be a pilot but also to operate the place. Initially I wanted to get a turbine, cost didn't matter. Whether we had the jumpers or not, the jumpers would come." In truth to this visiting jumpers from Cockerham, Langar and Hibaldstow now jump at Cark. The facilities have expanded no end and there are two large aircraft now available to jump; the TurboLet for experienced jumpers and the Islander for the students.

"I'm pleased we got the TurboLet. People back then laughed at us but, now we have done it, who's laughing now? I try to listen to the regulars and give them what they want. You learn that you don't ever expect anyone to thank you. However, I want to thank all the people that jump here from the bottom of my heart, I don't often get the chance to".

The future of Cark is promising. "What the future holds is in a long term partnership. There is still so much potential for us, my head's bursting all the time with new ideas, I wake Kay up in the night saying things and have to write them down! It's quite frightening to think how much work goes into a full time centre, when you consider we are a weekend centre and there is still a lot of organisation, we have worked hard to get where we are now".

Kay is Mick's wife and partner, she says "When Mike was flying, I never imagined that one day we would be part of the operation. It takes a lot of hard work but we have achieved loads in a short time". Kay is a jumper herself and likes to get involved with the people, the jumping and the



Collegiates Kai Sherwood, Beth King,  
Will Bradbury and Rick White over Cark

Kai Sherwood over Cark

organisation. She has a part in the course bookings, manifest and the sales and admin in the office. She can always be seen running around organising lifts and running the office.

## More Everything

Dave Prince can still be found at the DZ attending to rigging and sharing his experiences. He enjoys coming to the parachute centre, without the responsibility that he used to have. He and Alan are still close friends and often enjoy a round of golf together. When asked his thoughts on how things are running now since he left, Dave said they probably aren't making a lot of money, but they are doing a lot of skydiving! He says *"It has now taken on its own momentum with a bigger aircraft. More skydivers, more people, more visiting jumpers, more boogies, more everything really"*.

## Shining Stars

Cark has been the home to many shining stars, such as No-Go, mentioned earlier; Zero Tolerance,

who were British CF champions and many members of British accuracy teams. And who could forget Mark Kirkby of Arizona Airspeed, many times World Champion, who started his skydiving career at Cark. He last visited two years ago and has fond memories of his time here. *"Cark was a lot of fun. Like at most small drop zones, the people make it, by being real, very friendly, helpful, and just entertaining. NWPC meant good times and great people."*

## What Now?

NWPC has freefly, FS and CF coaching on hand as well as AFF and WARP. Stuart would like to see even more changes, a new packing area, new buildings, new everything.

Happy Anniversary NWPC and here's to the next 30 years, what changes will we see next?

Michelle Meakins  
[MeakinsM.railtrack@ems.rail.co.uk](mailto:MeakinsM.railtrack@ems.rail.co.uk)





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## BPA Roadshow Fantastic

A big thank you to all at the BPA, I've just had one of the best weekends. The roadshow at Cork, run by VNE, was everything I needed and much more. VNE, these guys could not do enough for everybody at this glorious weekend. Their commitment to each group or individual was outstanding. I have learned so much, my head is still spinning, trying to take it all in. Tips on launching our 4-way (as one for a change!), improving my body position, using the mantis and much more. It was a shame the weekend had to end so soon. But I know over the next few months my skydiving will improve, as I practice the skills that these guys have shown me. I just hope I can attend another roadshow this year; I still have so much to learn.

Also, a big thank you to Council member Jim White, who put me on the road to starting our own Junior FS team.

**Mike Henderson, fallingbrick@hotmail.com**

Just a brief note to say that the coaching roadshow with the guys from VNE and Liz from VMax was a great success here at NWPC, a lot was learned by all. Well done BPA and cheers to them shandy-drinking southern jessies from VNE and VMax.

**Tony Spruce, Tony@sprucey.freemove.co.uk**

## Front Cover Gripe

It must be difficult to obtain photos of the right quality and format for the cover. However, I think that you should have opted for a photo where the skydivers are wearing helmets, altimeters and do not have their cutaway and reserve handles covered. Even though there is a warning on page 2 regarding the wearing of helmets, the covering of handles is dangerous and should not be condoned by The Mag (even if it was in America). I hate to moan, especially when I have learned so much from The Mag in the past three years.

**Calvin Blacker**

*Our editorial policy is that photos of students should conform to BPA regulations but experienced jumpers not within the Ops Manual are okay if skydiving abroad. This is so we don't exclude the many exciting, vibrant and high quality images we are sent from overseas.*

*The cover did generate debate at almost every UK drop zone about the importance of*

*seeing your handles. The velcroed T-shirt is deliberately obscuring the rig (and hence handles) for the publicity photo and not likely to be copied; however it drew attention to the practice of freeflying with clothes which can ride up over handles. I have never heard so much discussion on the topic as recently. Our policy respects the fact that we manage our own risks, through thinking for ourselves.*

**Lesley**

I agree, it did produce a lot of debate. However a disclaimer should be placed near the picture. Where this is not possible (eg, front cover) another shot should be used. The disclaimer only mentioned lack of helmets, maybe it should have included lack of altis and covered handles.

Keep up the good work, The Mag is looked forward to, not only by me but by my work colleagues who steal it!

**Calvin,  
calvin.blacker@cammba.com**

*You're right about the disclaimer. Sorry!*  
**Lesley**

## Keeps Me Smiling!

We are now living abroad and I really look forward to receiving The Mag. When you can no longer hear from people close at hand you actually miss the stories, pictures, news and, best of all, GOSSIP! It helps me keep my sanity and interest within skydiving and brings a smile to my face.

**Kelly Strachan, mjs10uk@yahoo.com**

## Sooooo True Luvvy

I received my first Mag yesterday and was blown away by the quality of, well, everything. Excellent layout, wonderful pics, buckets of info on current and future events and the Club News pages are well cool. A quickie on Lesley's editorial, sooooo true luvvy. There is nothing worse for PR than seeing grass-stained teeth on jumpers who think it's cool to jump with, as you say, a hanky.

**Lee 'Noonman' King, leeking65@hotmail.com**

# LETTERS

## Worth a Thought

After a recent experience, I have some personal safety matters worth a mention to all jumpers — no matter how inexperienced or experienced. Whilst training in the USA our four person team was involved in an aircraft emergency. We were seated in a Cessna 182 climbing to 3,500ft to do accuracy — WAIT! Don't stop reading because I mentioned accuracy, this could have happened to anyone! At 2,500 feet we heard a loud noise — like an explosion coming from the left wing area. The Cessna had been hit from above by a Pilatus Porter. We were not fully aware of what had happened, we were losing height and our team leader made a quick decision to leave the aircraft — now at 2,000 feet. We all followed and landed safely. Our pilot managed to land the damaged Cessna but the incident resulted in the tragic death of the Porter pilot.

When you get into an aircraft, you really need to be ready to get out at a moment's notice. Are your leg straps, chest strap and helmet ready? Are you aware of your altitude, ie, when you have cleared 1,000, 1,500 and 2,000 feet? Do you have a plan for any aircraft emergency? What would be your minimum height for deploying your main instead of your reserve? Have you gone through emergencies with an instructor or, at the very least, in your own mind?

This is not my first aircraft emergency, I have been in a Cessna which ran out of fuel whilst climbing to altitude and witnessed several others. Many jumpers out there will have their own stories to tell — emergencies do happen and when you least expect it. I know that we were all very, very lucky that day: I also know that we were all ready to jump. It's worth a thought!

**Debbie Curtis**

**BPA Note:** Students should talk to an instructor if in any doubt about what to do in an aircraft emergency

## Penny Roberts

I hope you might wish to help raise funds for Penny Roberts, who is paralysed from the chest down after a skydiving accident.

Penny Roberts, senior nurse at the Bradford Royal Infirmary, was fit and healthy with a great zest for life. In 1990 she made her first jump and developed a passion for skydiving. In March 1995 Penny had a bad accident, as some of you will remember, suffering multiple injuries including a damaged spinal cord. Despite this she did a tandem jump a year later.

Penny also found love and in 1998 had a baby boy, Peter. Sadly her relationship with Peter's father did not last and she has had much confrontation with the authorities to keep her son. She now lives in her own home in Yorkshire with full-time care to look after both of them. Peter is nearly four and has been the best therapy by constantly challenging Penny to get stronger to cope with him. She has some use of her arms and hands and can now stand with a standing sling. She can move a group of muscles in her left leg and her injuries have been reclassified as incomplete.

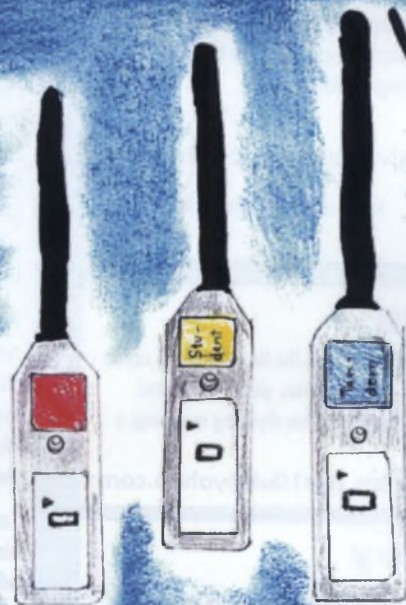
Penny is a remarkable young lady who has fought for her life, her son and her dignity. She now has the offer of a new treatment, developed by Dr Bernard Brucker at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami. The Biofeedback treatment would last three weeks, when Penny would be assessed and any part of her spinal column that has function would be used to improve her mobility. Penny will need to take her carer and son with her. It is estimated that we will need to raise £10,000 to meet the costs.

Can you help with a personal gift of money or organising a club donation? If you can, please send a cheque made out to Penny Roberts at the address below. I'll keep you informed as the fund progresses.

**Roger Wedge CBE (Retired)**

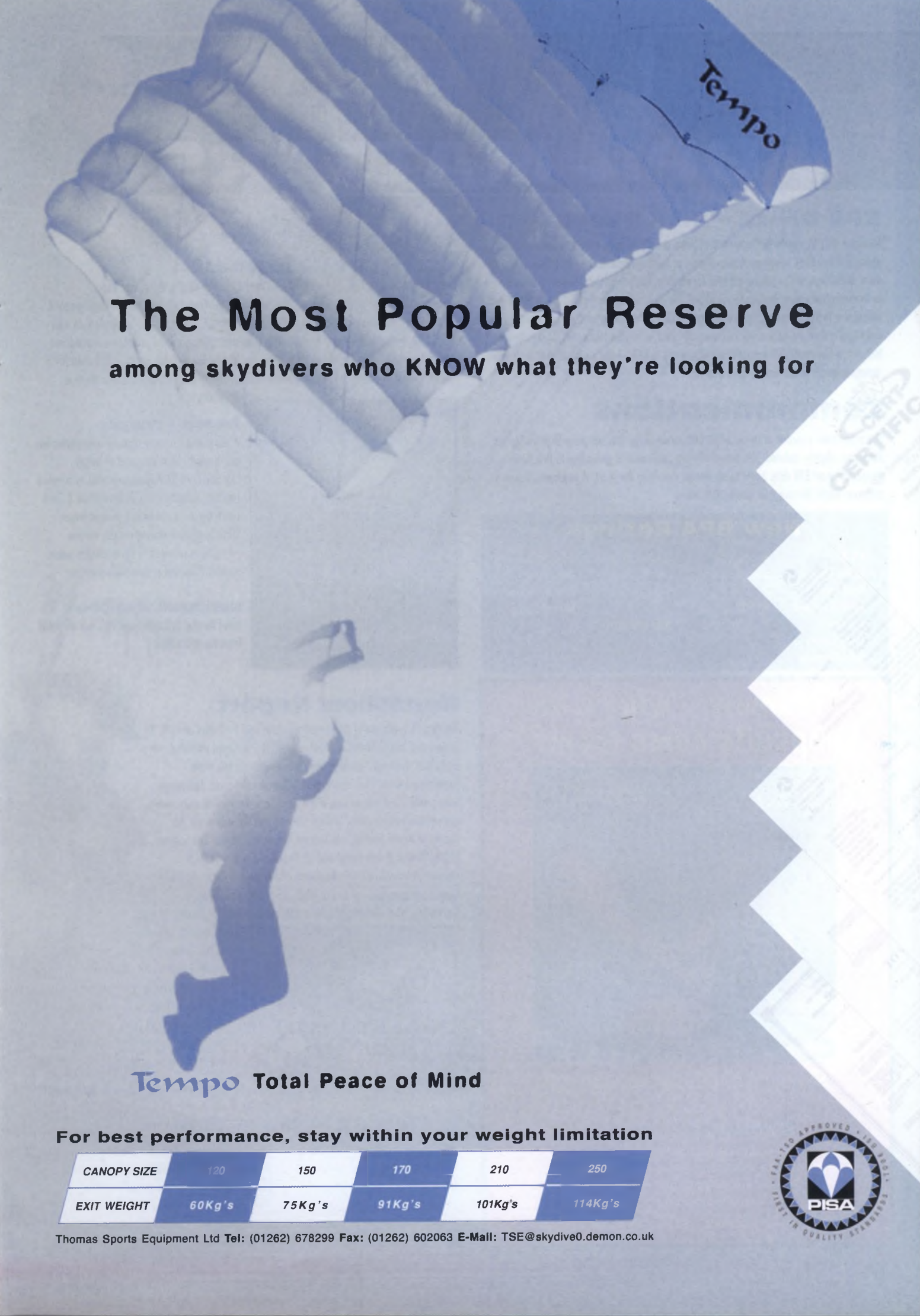
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# BPA MATTERS

## BPA Office – Real People

Members may be comforted to know that there are NO plans to introduce automated phone call handling, telephone option menus or holding music to the BPA Office. More and more these days, we're getting plaudits for serving you through real people at the office, even through the super-busy renewal period. The personal service, attention to detail and willingness to put things right when we occasionally get it wrong (yes, we are human!) has been appreciated by quite a few members this year – they've told us so. If you want to hear a friendly greeting from someone who wants to help – and we have dealt with some strange requests in our time – give us a call.

## Communications

There has been a second print run of 30,000 copies of the BPA's popular Skydive Starter Magazine, slightly updated. This award-winning publication is given free to first time jumpers at most BPA drop zones to encourage them into the sport. If you haven't seen a copy and would like one, contact the BPA office.

### New BPA Ratings

|                 |                  |                       |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>CS BI</b>    | <b>Tandem BI</b> | <b>CS Instructor</b>  | <b>Adv Packer</b> |
| Calum Bisset    | David Ferguson   | John Hillam           | Kevin Fyfe        |
| Andy Carr       |                  | Anne Johnson          | Michael Jackson   |
| Bernard Holland | <b>AFF BI</b>    |                       | Richard Bishop    |
| Ron Perry       | Mark Maynard     | <b>Adv Instructor</b> |                   |
| Jason Farrant   |                  | Steve Jelf            |                   |
| Mike Harrower   |                  | Paul Hollow           |                   |

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**"Symbiosis, of course, darling!"**

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ROB COLPUS – Father of Symbi

## Competitions

### Anti-Doping Rules Published

The BPA Council has formally ratified *BPA Form 220: Anti-Doping Policy and Rules*, downloadable from the BPA website. This follows the current guidelines on anti-doping issued by UK Sport. It is the personal responsibility of all competitors to familiarise themselves with Form 220, including the list of prohibited & restricted substances and prohibited methods set out at Appendix A. Competitors with asthma should note the mandatory pre-notification (by a doctor's note) of the use of certain asthma medications, details of which are also given in

Appendix A.

### Swoop Accuracy

A test swoop accuracy regional competition has provisionally been arranged at Target Skysports, 24-26 August, preceded by a swoop coaching roadshow run by Pete Allum & Chris Lynch the weekend before, also at Target. Steve Swallow is sorting out the various permissions required to dig a suitable water trench before this is absolutely definite.

### Nationals/Regionals

Rules for the nationals/regionals are available from the BPA office.

Hans Berggren



## Roadshow Report

The first FS roadshow of the season was held on 11-12 May at Cark. 35 juniors and intermediates with between 55 & 350 jumps attended over a glorious weekend. Coaching was also provided to two more experienced 4-ways, reviewing their video and dirt-dives. 138 jumps were made: 12 x one on one, 8 x 3-way, 16 x 4-way. There was also a competition between two 13-ways. The coaches did a fantastic job, thanks to Martin Soulsby, Ian Stevens, Ian Matthews and Kev Sargent of VNE (British 8-way team) and Liz Groucott of VMax (British women's 4-way team). Thanks also to all the staff at Cark, especially Dennis and manifest and to Jim White, FS rep on Competitions Committee, who's cheerfully done a tremendous job in organising. There's

still time to catch one, see below. Contact the DZ in advance to put your name down for this free coaching – it's a great help if everyone knows roughly how many jumpers to expect. This is a tremendous opportunity for juniors and intermediates so go for it!

Martin Shuttleworth & John Smyth

VNE by Gus Wing



## Coaching Roadshows

| Date         | Area     | Coaches      | Drop Zone    | Contact                    |
|--------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 15-16 Jun    | FS       | VNE          | Target       | info@targetsky.demon.co.uk |
| 13-14 Jul    | Artistic | tbc          | Peterborough | hollandnigel@aol.com       |
| 31 Aug-1 Sep | CF       | tbc          | Strathallan  | 01764 662 572              |
| 31 Aug-1 Sep | FS       | Sebastian XL | Peterborough | skydive@skydivesibson.com  |

Camera roadshows are running alongside each FS roadshow

# BPA Questionnaire

Here are the result from the third membership questionnaire, issued as an insert to The Mag in February 2002. The results of the previous membership questionnaire in 2000 are shown in brackets, if the same question was asked.

The total number of questionnaires returned was 1,256 which is a response rate of approximately 25%. (Year 2000 questionnaire yielded 1,281 responses)

Thank you to all members who kindly completed and returned the questionnaire and to Lucie Wood, Development Officer for her many hours of painstaking analysis. These results will be considered in detail by Council and its subcommittees over the coming months.

The results of the Mag readership survey (second page of the questionnaire) will be printed in the August Mag as these responses are still being analysed.

## 1. Gender? 2002 2000

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Male      | 85% | (88%) |
| Female    | 13% | (12%) |
| No Answer | 3%  |       |

## 2. Have you done a static line course in the last three years?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 21% |
| No        | 78% |
| No Answer | 1%  |

## 3. Have you done an AFF course in the last three years?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 30% |
| No        | 69% |
| No Answer | 1%  |

## 4. Do you participate in the following?

|                 |     |       |
|-----------------|-----|-------|
| FS              | 72% | (59%) |
| Freefly         | 44% | (26%) |
| Accuracy        | 21% | (8%)  |
| Camera          | 20% | (1%)  |
| Canopy Swaoping | 12% |       |
| CF              | 11% | (4%)  |
| Freestyle       | 10% | (5%)  |
| Style           | 3%  | (1%)  |
| Skysurfing      | 2%  | (1%)  |

## 5. Do you jump the following?

|                     |     |       |
|---------------------|-----|-------|
| BOC                 | 79% | (75%) |
| Pull-out            | 16% | (11%) |
| Ripcord             | 7%  | (5%)  |
| Leg strap throwaway | 5%  | (7%)  |
| Static line         | 3%  |       |

## 6. Do you have more than one set of kit?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 20% | (21%) |
| No        | 80% | (77%) |
| No Answer | 0%  | (2%)  |

## 7. Do you have an AAD fitted to your own equipment?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 70% | (65%) |
| No        | 23% | (31%) |
| No Answer | 8%  | (4%)  |

## 8. Have you ever had an AAD fire?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 4%  | (4%)  |
| No        | 95% | (94%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 9. Do you have an RSL fitted to your own equipment?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 26% | (32%) |
| No        | 66% | (62%) |
| No Answer | 8%  | (6%)  |

## 10. Do you jump with an audible altimeter?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 68% | (71%) |
| No        | 31% | (26%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 11. Do you have a square reserve?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 89% | (88%) |
| No        | 6%  | (7%)  |
| No Answer | 5%  | (4%)  |

## 12. Do you have a round reserve?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 5%  | (7%)  |
| No        | 89% | (87%) |
| No Answer | 6%  | (6%)  |

## 13. Have you ever had to use your reserve?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 35% | (32%) |
| No        | 64% | (66%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (1%)  |

## 14. Have you sustained a parachuting injury in the last three years?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 12% |
| No        | 88% |
| No Answer | 0%  |

## 15. Do you compete?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 27% | (28%) |
| No        | 72% | (70%) |
| No answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 16. Should the BPA continue to fund competitions?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 90% | (81%) |
| No        | 7%  | (14%) |
| No Answer | 2%  | (5%)  |

## 17. Would you like to see the BPA continue to fund coaching roadshows?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 90% | (80%) |
| No        | 8%  | (14%) |
| No Answer | 2%  | (5%)  |

Note: Previous question: Would you like to see the BPA fund a skills roadshow?

## 18. Would you be willing to pay higher subs to fund coaching roadshows?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 47% |
| No        | 49% |
| No Answer | 4%  |

## 19. Do you think we should continue to fund our national teams at the same level? (£65,000 was provided last year)

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 77% |
| No        | 18% |
| No Answer | 5%  |

## 20. Should we fund our national teams at a higher level?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 43% |
| No        | 49% |
| No Answer | 8%  |

## 21. Would you be willing to pay an extra £10 on BPA subs to help fund our national teams?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 42% |
| No        | 54% |
| No Answer | 5%  |

## 22. Should we fund our teams at a lower level?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 28% |
| No        | 65% |
| No Answer | 8%  |

## 23. Do you read Council minutes?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 87% | (85%) |
| No        | 13% | (12%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 24. Do you have adequate access to safety information?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 83% | (77%) |
| No        | 15% | (21%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 25. Do you attend the BPA AGM?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 30% | (34%) |
| No        | 69% | (65%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (1%)  |

Note: Previous question: Have you attended an AGM?

## 26. Are you on email?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 87% | (71%) |
| No        | 13% | (28%) |
| No Answer | 0%  | (1%)  |

## 27. Do you use the BPA website?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 64% | (61%) |
| No        | 35% | (38%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (1%)  |

Note: Previous question: Have you seen the BPA website?

## 28. Are you happy with the content of the BPA website?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 54% |
| No        | 16% |
| No Answer | 30% |

## 29. Would you find the following pages useful on the BPA website:

### a. results/draws from previous competitions

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 55% |
| No        | 27% |
| No Answer | 19% |

### b. frequently asked questions

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 77% |
| No        | 7%  |
| No Answer | 16% |

### c. change of address/member details facility

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 66% |
| No        | 18% |
| No Answer | 17% |

## 30. Are you happy with the content of The Mag?

|           |     |       |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Yes       | 92% | (87%) |
| No        | 7%  | (10%) |
| No Answer | 1%  | (2%)  |

## 31. Have you been to The Mag website?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 43% |
| No        | 56% |
| No Answer | 1%  |

## 32. Do you jump abroad?

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes       | 82% |
| No        | 18% |
| No Answer | 0%  |

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Photo by Steve Little

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## EXTREME FX



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Photo of J.C. Lobbassure by Lariza Bayu - Meridini Shot Films Design by Kaz



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## BPA New Age / Artistic Performance Nationals

10th to 12th August: Junior & senior events. Registration up to 9am Sat 10th.

## Coaching

Our resident coaches in all disciplines, Stuart & Alex Meacock & Giles Fabris are here all summer. Former world champion Ashley Crick will be holding coaching weekends in Freefly & Freestyle -contact us for info.

## Sebastian XL Coaching & Camera Skills Roadshow

31st August - 1st September: free expert coaching in FS & camera skills from the UK's top 4 way team for individuals & teams from FS1 to competition standard.

## Woodmouse 4 Way FS Meet

14th & 15th September: the annual 4-way meet with junior, intermediate & senior categories.

## The 3rd Annual UK Freefly Festival

21st to 29th September: Big ways, tube dives, tracking dives, coaching & much more. Our residents, Stuart & Alex Meacock & Giles Fabris will be joined by Ashley Crick. More to be announced.....



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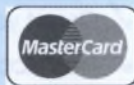
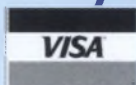
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# On

**Patrick Passe**  
tells you everything you  
need to know to organise a  
safe, successful and  
enjoyable tracking dive

# TRACK

**The tracking dive must surely be the most sociable of skydiving activities. It allows people from different disciplines with a great variety of experience and ability levels to join in a common pursuit.**

To take part you only need to know how to track correctly, either in a flat position or on the back. Freeflyers and formation skydivers can both take part in a tracking dive. Whatever the size of the group, from 2 to 20, the aim is to cover a long horizontal distance together by flying relative to one another in formation.

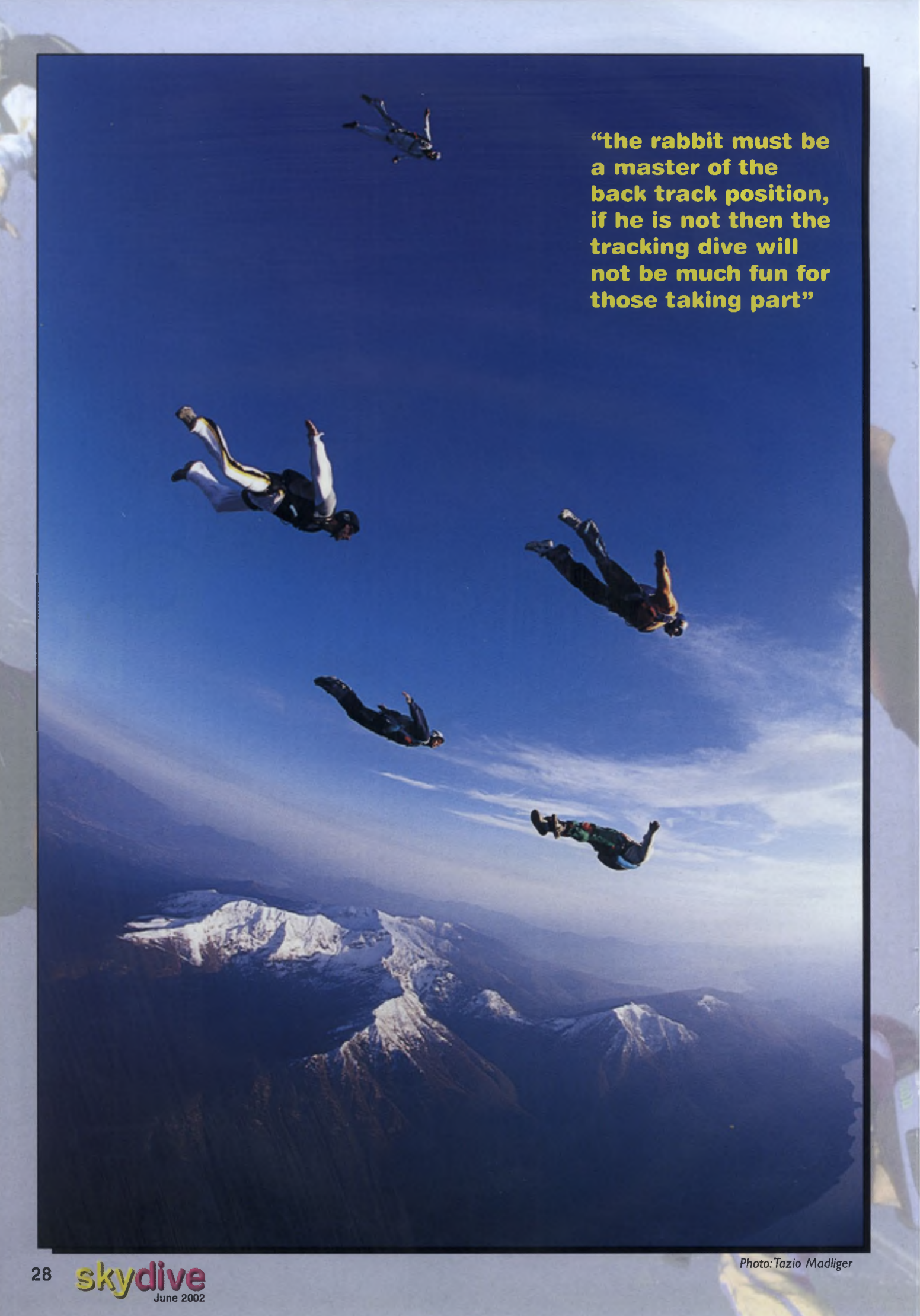
The leader of the formation is nick-named the 'rabbit' and will fly on his back so that he can see the group and thereby adjust the track speed to a comfortable level for everyone.

This sort of dive may seem to be a risk-free laugh but in fact requires serious preparation and briefing to ensure that safety is upheld throughout.

## **How to organise a tracking dive**

The organiser will usually be the rabbit and must be an accomplished skydiver in order to be able to judge the technical level of each participant. The bigger the group, the more experienced these people need to be, with a good notion of flying in relation to each other and with sufficient understanding of the technical side of tracking.

The organiser will explain to the group the reasons for his chosen track axis. He will then allocate an exit order to each member of the group according to their level of experience and preference. Finally, he will inform the CCI and jumpmaster of details of the dive, particularly the expected exit point, the chosen track axis and the anticipated zone for the opening point.



**“the rabbit must be  
a master of the  
back track position,  
if he is not then the  
tracking dive will  
not be much fun for  
those taking part”**

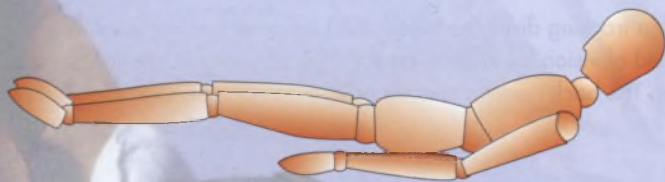
## The rabbit's role

The rabbit must be a master of the back track position. If he is not then the tracking dive will not be much fun for those taking part. The rabbit is the leader of the formation and must ensure the safety is upheld as he brings his group onto the intended track and, importantly, as he maintains the axis of track. At first the rabbit will adopt a moderate speed to enable everyone to quickly join the formation. He will then accelerate progressively so that the group can enjoy the pleasure of flying in formation at a united horizontal speed.

The rabbit's back track position will determine the outcome of the skydive. Generally, it needs only the slightest of errors for the fall rate to increase considerably with a consequent loss of horizontal speed (Sketch 1). In that case the point of the exercise would be lost on the followers who, in a flat track position, would be too arched with legs that are too bent. The rabbit can track just as rapidly on his back as a good flat tracker (Sketch 2).

The rabbit will adopt a position that will allow a good horizontal speed to be maintained (Sketch 3) but not so excessive that everyone cannot join the formation and follow (Sketch 4). Towards the end of the dive, about 10 seconds before the break point, the rabbit can accelerate progressively in order to test the tracking technique of the followers.

### Sketch 1 – Poor rabbit position



Poor position of the rabbit on his back; generally due to a too much horizontal field of vision. The head wants to lift, the spinal column follows and the back curves. Result: horizontal speed is weak and fall rate is high. By using a video camera to film the followers, the rabbit has a tendency to adopt this bad position in order to get the camera frame he needs. Solution: mount his camera at a more acute angle and/or concentrate on a head, chin and chest position without engaging the spinal column.

### Sketch 2 – Very fast back track

A very effective back track position that is equal to the best of the flat track positions. The head is completely leant back as if to obtain a field of vision of the horizon. The spinal column follows, the back arches, the legs stretch to the tip of the toes. The arms, slightly spread out and bent, will create a powerful forward support which will direct the angle of track. This back track position must not be



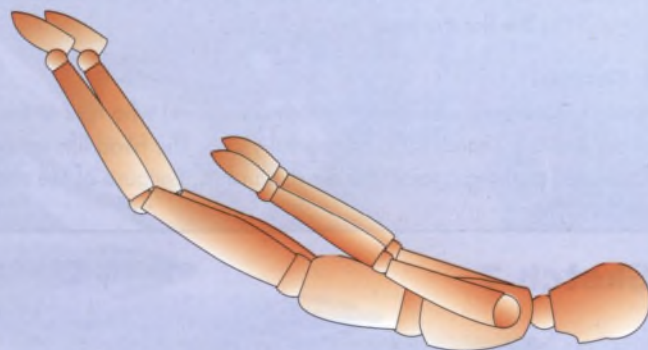
used during a tracking dive where the aim is to gather together all the trackers into one formation. Firstly because the position is too efficient to allow a rapid grouping of everyone taking part and secondly because the field of vision will provoke a too individualistic flight from the rabbit – who is supposed to observe the followers. The position will be welcomed about 10 seconds before the end of the dive so that the followers can test their tracking skills at higher speeds.

### Sketch 3 – Perfect rabbit position



Perfect position by the rabbit which enables each member of the tracking dive to track comfortably in the heart of the formation. The position is flat and stretched. The arms at waist level are pushing against the air flow. The head is in the axis of the spinal column or very slightly bent towards the chest to have a better view of the nearest and lowest followers. The arms of the rabbit, particularly the forearms, will finely tune the angle and direction of the track. For a more precise trim the rabbit will bend his position towards that described in sketch 2. This trim would be welcomed by those who not only keep up well with the rabbit but who also desire speed. All that is required is to de-arch the position and stretch out the legs.

### Sketch 4 – Flat tracking followers



Normal position of the followers on a tracking dive; the position is more de-arched than that for a solo tracker flying at 100% efficiency. The track speed adopted by the rabbit during a tracking dive must allow the followers to fly in this slightly de-arched position and is shown here in this sketch. This position will give a comfortable and equal speed for the whole group. It also allows for a small margin of manoeuvre in the fall rate and horizontal speed which will ease the approach to the formation and the flight paths between each person.

It is by taking into consideration the amount of arch in the followers that the rabbit will direct his speed for the tracking dive. If, for example, the followers fly close together and fairly arched the rabbit will adjust accordingly so that everyone can fly at ease within their margins of manoeuvrability. He can thus allow himself to accelerate so that the followers stretch their positions more, and until he perceives the bombing out of the less skilled trackers.

## The followers and their placement

For the big tracking dives the followers will generally divide themselves into three levels of technical ability:

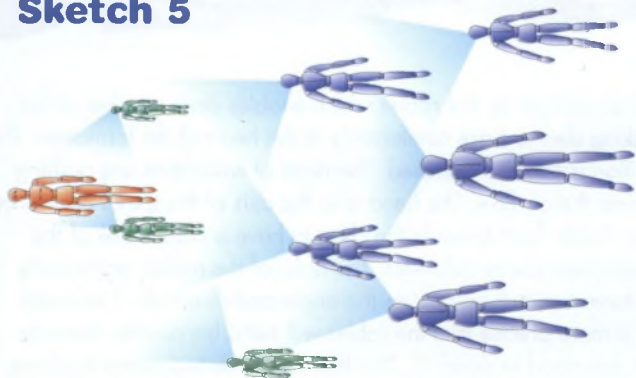
*The flat trackers* – mainly formation flyers

*The back trackers* – mainly freeflyers

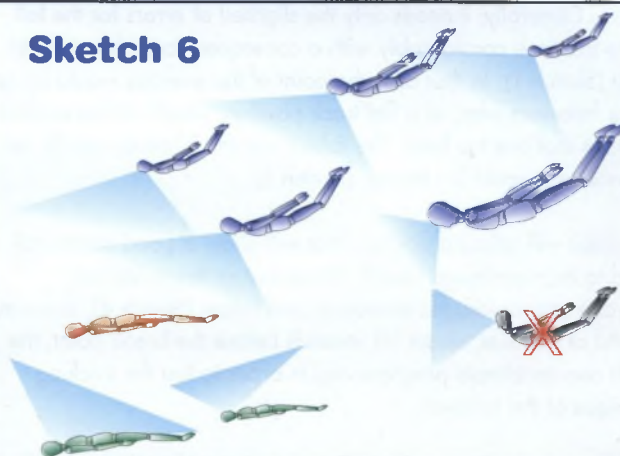
*Tri-dimensional trackers* – generally the very experienced freeflyers who can change from flat track to back track positions with ease whilst forming a big loop, for example of 10m to 20m, while barrel rolling around the formation.

The placement of each follower is done logically, to obtain a good viewpoint of the whole formation and to avoid the zones of wake turbulence. The flat trackers will be placed in a delta configuration in relation to the rabbit, and will have a downward field of vision. The placement of first to last are therefore tiered on a fairly upward oblique plan. The back trackers fly in the space situated below the rabbit while keeping a comfortable upward field of vision and by bringing themselves into a position below the formation, ensuring that they do not give their burble to a follower already placed in position (Sketches 5,6,7 & 8).

### Sketch 5



### Sketch 6



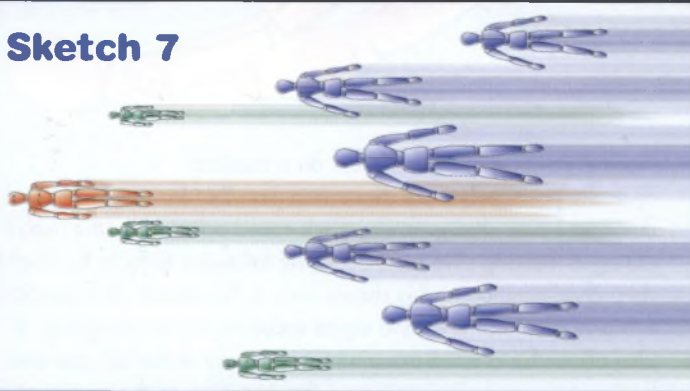
## Sketches 5 and 6 – A good field of vision

View from above (Sketch 5) and the side (Sketch 6) of a formation during a tracking dive. The tiered delta shape of the formation of followers in a flat track position in relation to the rabbit affords a good field of vision for each to control their positions in relation to each other and thereby avert collisions or crossing into each other's flight paths. The back trackers take up positions under the rabbit in much the same spirit as the flat trackers.

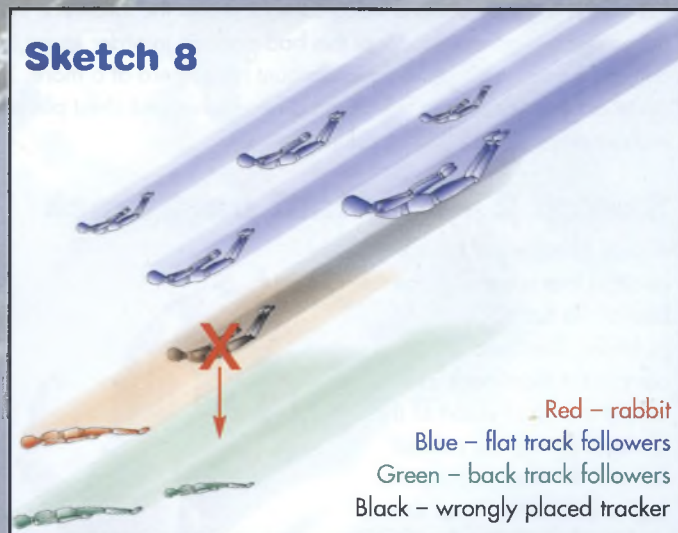
### Be careful

Awkward placement; a follower (Sketch 6 in black) who flies at the same height as the rabbit can be taken unawares into an uncomfortable position due to a search for a horizontal vision. The head lifts up again, the spinal column follows, the position becomes arched and the surface area pushing against the air diminishes. Because of the arch the follower is in a critical position. He risks falling out or bombing out of the formation.

### Sketch 7



### Sketch 8



## Sketches 7 and 8 – Burble zones

View from above (Sketch 7) and the side (Sketch 8) during a tracking dive showing the zones of wake turbulence or burble emanating from the trackers. During tracking, this zone is not vertical to the skydiver as it is in normal freefall. The burble zone describes a corridor of turbulence at around 45° in relation to the tracker's body and corresponds to his angle of track. The burble zone disappears 5-6m beyond the tracker. As is shown in the two sketches, the trackers must fly above or to the side of this invisible burble zone by imagining where they are likely to be. In Sketch 8 the follower in black places himself about 2m vertically above the rabbit and 4m or 5m behind him. He is therefore right in the middle of the burble zone emanating from the rabbit and will fall out of the formation.

**“the placement  
of each follower  
is done  
logically, to  
obtain a good  
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whole  
formation and  
to avoid the  
burble zones”**

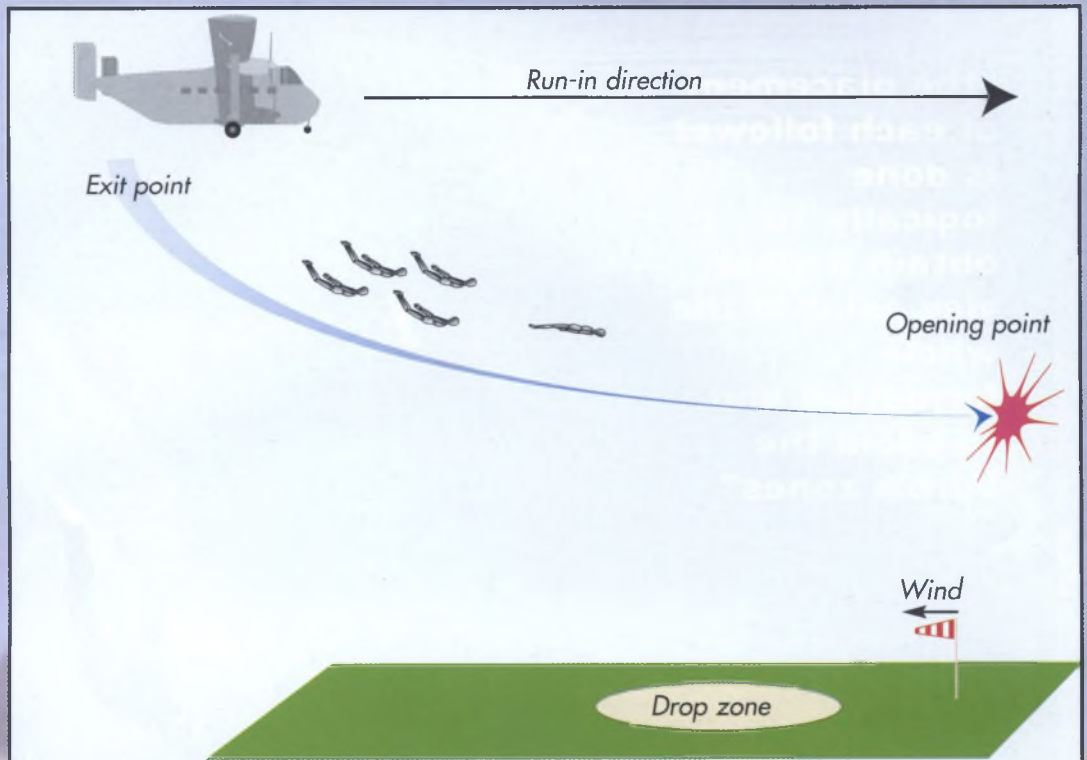


## Choice of tracking axis

There are two cases in relation to the choice of direction for a tracking dive.

### A – Tracking group only

The simplest example is when the entire load is the tracking group. If no other people are jumping, there is no danger of colliding with anyone else. Safety measures are identical to those on a normal dive. The rabbit will nevertheless choose a good track axis, towards the wind, and a good exit point somewhere in the region of 1,000m from the chosen opening point. This distance will correspond to that covered during the tracking dive. Hence, before the end of the dive, the formation will fly over the drop zone to rejoin the opening point area so the jumpers can come back under canopy, more or less into wind, towards the drop zone.

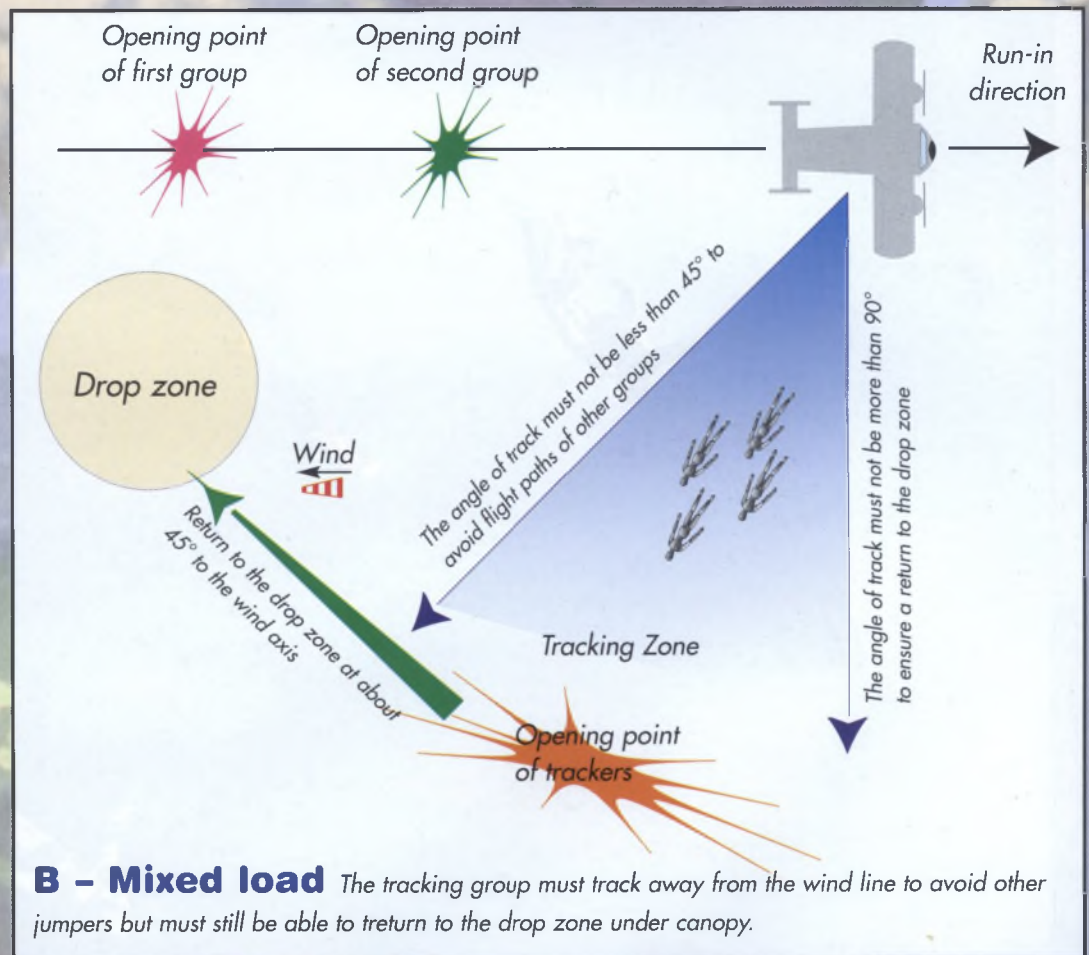


### A – Tracking group only

If the entire load is the tracking group, it will track along the wind line

### B – Mixed load

The load includes other skydivers. If the tracking dive axis is not judiciously chosen and respected the trackers risk entering the opening point area intended for the others on the same load. Consequently the rabbit must choose a track axis that will not allow his formation to enter this danger zone but will allow them nevertheless to fly into wind and reach the drop zone. For this reason it would be best if the group of trackers exit last and about 10 seconds after the other skydivers, in order to optimise the distance between them. Then the rabbit and his followers will evolve in a tracking zone of between  $45^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$  from the exit axis as is shown in the sketch.



**B – Mixed load** The tracking group must track away from the wind line to avoid other jumpers but must still be able to return to the drop zone under canopy.

### Be careful

The rabbit must be vigilant to ensure he maintains a good track axis which is indispensable for safety. Consequently the rabbit must be sufficiently experienced to have a notion of how far the group has travelled, without having to look at the ground. During the dive, the rabbit can receive corrections of the axis by one of the flat track followers who is also very experienced, who can see the ground and who can therefore optimise the direction.

## The start of a tracking dive

To make a good start to a tracking dive the rabbit and the first followers co-ordinate together an aircraft exit that will enable them to group quickly into formation. In the door, the rabbit will be in a high floater position with his back to the slipstream. He faces the first followers who are also in a high floater position but who will face the aircraft engine on exit. Eye contact between the rabbit and the floaters is important to synchronise the exit. The rabbit will leave in a semi-sitting/semi-back position to give enough body surface towards the relative wind so that he doesn't fall like a stone. He prepares immediately to stretch in the air to start the track. At the same time the floater followers will accompany the rabbit in his exit. The floater followers will arch and bend the legs slightly to counteract the rabbit's bigger sink caused by his position. This way will give the followers their best angle of manoeuvrability to place themselves rapidly in close proximity as the rabbit puts himself into a back-track position 3 or 4 seconds after exit. It is in the transition to the back-track position that the rabbit will orientate himself smoothly towards the predetermined track axis. For choice A, the rabbit would find himself on the right track axis as soon as he is out of the aircraft but for choice B the axis must be carefully selected.

## Approach and regrouping

In order to remain in the flexible spirit of a tracking dive, the placement in the aircraft, the approach and positions in the heart of the formation do not have to be rigorously set. However, certain priorities on a tracking dive are needed:

### 1. Positioning in the aircraft

It is important to prepare the placement of the rabbit and the floater

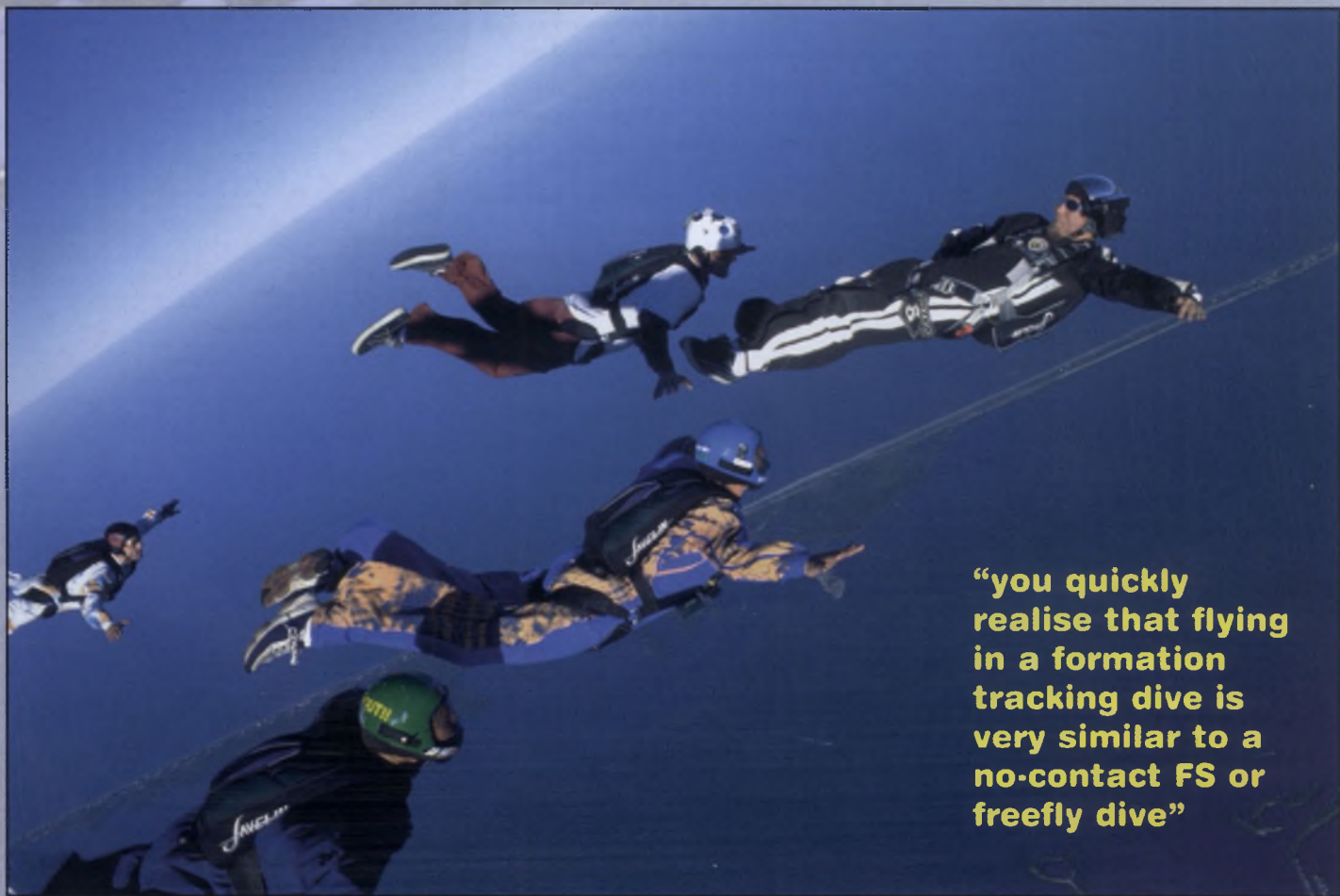
followers so that a good exit is made to enable a fast build of the track formation. The other followers will leave as if for a formation skydive. The exit order depends on who wants to do what. Those who want a long steep dive for a long approach will exit last. Those who are not yet very quick at these sort of manoeuvres must not exit too far behind the rabbit as they risk not joining the formation.

### 2. The approach

Everyone uses his personal technique, either as freeflyer or as a formation skydiver. To elaborate on these techniques here would constitute the writing of another specific article. The approach technique for a tracking dive is similar to that of a freefly dive in a large group or a formation skydive. The same points, such as angle and approach speed, respect of traffic, safety, etc, are to be individually managed. Naturally the approach can seem more difficult to manage in the first few dives because of the absence of a constructed base as in an FS dive, and also because the rabbit is in perpetual flight. However, you quickly realise that flying in a formation tracking dive is very similar to a no-contact FS or freefly dive.

## Placement order

The shape of a tracking dive could very easily be planned with a specific place for everyone in the formation. However, to keep the flexible spirit in which a tracking dive is made, places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Everyone chooses a free space whilst respecting the construction of the formation as mentioned earlier. Once in the formation, jumpers avoid displacing themselves in an unexpected manner which could be dangerous, for example, colliding with someone or giving their burble to those who follow.



**“you quickly realise that flying in a formation tracking dive is very similar to a no-contact FS or freefly dive”**



## Break-off

Break-off for a tracking dive is similar to a formation skydive. Ideally everyone would wear an audible alti; the latest models will signal break-off altitude and the opening height. The bigger the group, the higher break-off will be. For example a separation at 5,000 feet would be appropriate for a group of 20 experienced trackers. A maximum opening altitude must be defined by the organiser. This will be respected by all to avoid opening under the flight lines of the trackers in separation. At break-off, the formation will burst with everyone directing his separation trajectory according to their position in the formation. Those who are in a forward position, near the rabbit will leave at about 45° from the track axis, those in the middle will leave at 90° and those in back position will leave at around 120°. Each person should be aware they may have to deal with differences in levels from the staggered construction of the formation, which could have repercussions during the separation.

## Conclusion

The need for safety in tracking dives cannot be over-emphasised, particularly when it takes place from the same aircraft from which another group is also exiting. The technical level of the rabbit is extremely important as the precision of the flight on the tracking axis is vital to ensure safety.

## FAQs

### What should I wear

A light freely jumpsuit or equivalent (sweatshirt and jeans) is ideal. This offers freedom of movement and gives material above the waist.

### How do I go faster?

During a tracking dive you generally need to accelerate in order to join the formation. This requires a technique which consists of de-arching and hollowing the shoulders more, lowering the arms which are pushing against the air and stretching the legs to the maximum.

If these corrections are not sufficient to reduce the distance, you must then give yourself an extra 'lift'. This technique consists of generating more horizontal speed by angling your trajectory slightly towards the ground (10° to 20°) for a short distance (some 20 metres) before returning to the original angle. This sudden vertical speed will give the new energy needed to restart in the flat track position at greater speed. The higher vertical speed is thereby redirected into horizontal speed as soon as the tracker takes up the flatter angle once more. He will have to conserve and maintain this speed by a stretched out position. In a placement above the formation this technique demands anticipation. It will only be possible with a basic position that is sufficiently flat.

### How much experience do I need?

This article develops the techniques for large tracking dives. Whatever the discipline, the more people there are in freefall, the more technical levels and individual experience become important. A novice with 50 jumps, for example, would not generally have the technical level needed for large tracking dives, but could considerably improve his tracking technique in a dive with 3 or 4 others which includes a rabbit instructor.



Photo: Julien Franceschi  
Rabbit: Fred Fugen

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Translation: **Helene de Laya**  
Illustrations and article courtesy of:  
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# OLYMPUS Spotlight

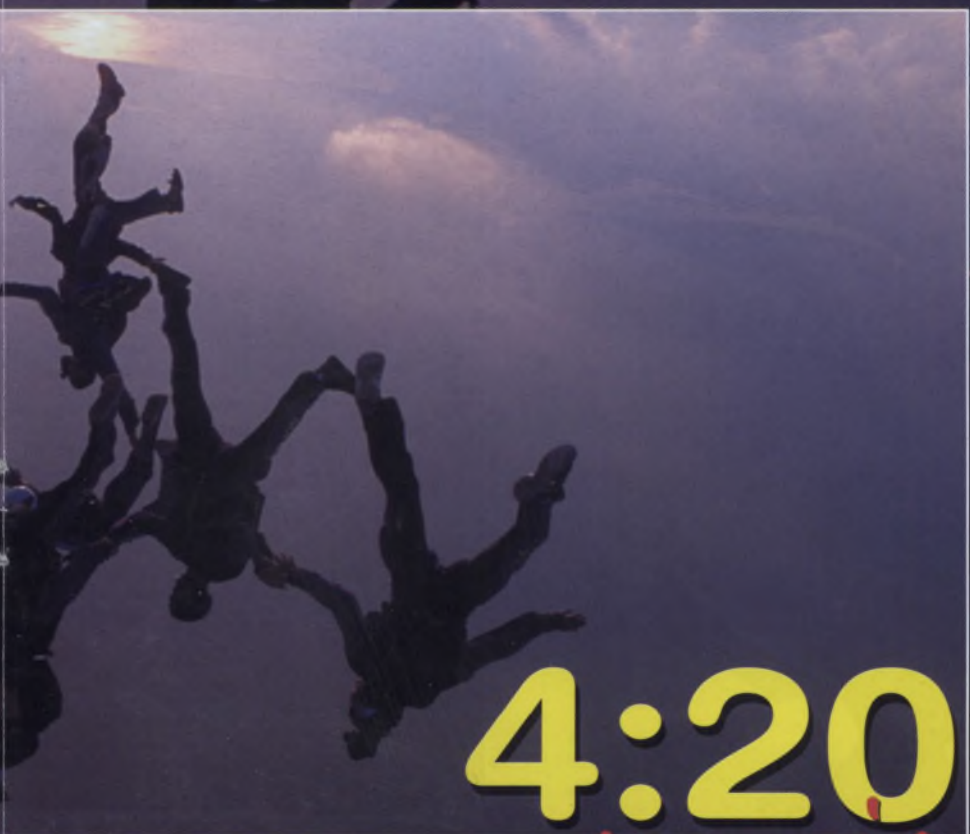
**The Freedom of Flight 4:20 boogie was four days of fun freeflying action. Skydive Deland's fleet of a Supersonic Otter, Rocketvan and Turbo Porter combined with perfect weather meant skydivers did between 6 to 10 organised jumps a day.**

**Everyone had the chance to be on a 3D dive and a tracking jump. Many were skydives to dream about....**

Freedom of Flight coaches Jimmy, Hunter, Alex and Francisco were on hand to organise more than 50 participants into groups ranging from 3-ways to 19-ways. 4:20 jumpers were grouped according to their skill level and encouraged to experience not only to practice their sit-fly and head-down skills but also 3D and tracking dives. The response from the jumpers was overwhelmingly positive and people found that they were doing really well on skydives that they had only dreamed about.



Photos by Rickster Powell and Francisco Neri



# 4:20

*Boogie*



# OLYMPUS Spotlight

## Canopy Education from Scott Miller

The 4:20 boogie included a high performance canopy seminar by Performance Design's test jumper Scott Miller who is also a Freedom of Flight canopy school coach. 30 people gathered to soak up canopy information as Scott shared knowledge on high and low speed approaches, how to get more from your existing canopy and when to downsize, just to name a few of the many topics covered.

## Unconventional

Saturday night started off with a raffle where registered boogie participants had the chance to win cool prizes. Registered jumpers were then treated to dinner at The Perfect Spot and complimentary beer. Then the party was on. Three DJs kept the crowd going into the late hours of the morning but not late enough to keep jumpers on the ground Sunday, where more tracking, multidimensional and flock dives were organised for beginners and intermediates.

By the afternoon a 12-way group was assembled to start more challenging skydives, the group made 5 jumps together with the intention of building and flying more unconventional shapes in the formations. All the jumpers learned a lot and the most important thing is that all skydives were planned and safely executed.

*James Tranter*



**4:20**  
*Boogie*



Freedom of Flight coaches  
Alex Ramos, Francisco Neri, Hunter Roberts and Jimmy Tranter



**07:20** *Boogie*

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*In a time of uncertainty...*

Photo by JC Perren

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## I want to make a camera helmet.

What guidelines should I stick to regarding safety, etc, to mount a camcorder to my helmet?



John

There are lots of dedicated, tested helmets on the market at the moment, designed to mount cameras for all types of skydiving. I like the 2K Composites ones – and they're British – but others are available too.

If you're making your own, get advice and help from an experienced cameraflyer.

Important things to consider:

- Make sure the way the camera is mounted is unlikely to cause injury on impact, eg, bolts protruding on the inside of the helmet.
- Make sure the mount can't detach from the helmet as you could injure someone if it comes away.
- Think about whether your camera will be best mounted on the top or the side of the helmet.
- Find a way to cover nooks and crannies which could trap lines, risers or rings on deployment or in case of a cutaway.
- A strap or chin-cup can be used.
- I highly recommend some form of cutaway system to be incorporated for the helmet in case of entanglement with the main parachute or lines.
- Think about breaking off and dumping higher. Revise your reserve drills and emergency procedures to include getting rid of the helmet, just in case.
- A slow opening canopy can reduce the chance of neck strain on deployment.
- Think about your body position on deployment to reduce the chance of neck strain.
- Protect your camera. Make sure that protruding bits are covered and supported, eg, the lens.

Dr David

dlsawyer@hotmail.com



## Can I jump in the UK without an AAD?

I'm thinking of buying my own rig and I have 20 jumps. Considering the cost of a Cypres, is it against BPA regulations to jump without an AAD?



Franz

Not jumping an AAD is within BPA regulations. Be aware that AADs are mandatory at Empuriabrava in Spain and will become mandatory at all French drop zones from January 2003.

divedr@skydivemag.com



# Dive Doctor



## I'm always getting twists!

I'm a static line student with six jumps and, for all but my first jump, I've been getting twists. My arch is good and I have a good stable spread, yet I always end up with twists. Is it anything I am doing wrong or is it simply bad packing?



Chris

Twists in your lines crop up when the deployment bag rotates after being pulled from the container. During a freefall deployment, the bag is pulled directly out into clean air and with half a decent pack job, twists are unlikely. On a static line jump you are lying on the slip stream, head-high, and the bag is pulled from a different angle, slightly up towards the reserve tray. This means it is more likely to get knocked by something as it is extracted and start to turn while the lines deploy – the result: twists.

Some parachute centres pack their student equipment using different techniques to try and eliminate this but, for the most part, twists are a somewhat inevitable nuisance that just happen sometimes.

The bag could also start to twist on extraction if there is uneven tension on your risers. If you are rolling over to one side on exit, then one riser will pull tight a fraction of a second before the other, which is usually enough to whip the bag into a spin.

Solution: always try and keep your body level on the airflow on exit and arch as you leave the aircraft. Just imagine you are sliding down a giant kid's slide on your belly, facing the same way as the plane. The whole deployment should happen a lot more evenly, with less chance of twists. In any case, they should happen less often when you go on to freefall. Always remember to look past your twists and check to make sure the canopy itself is good.

Dr David

dlsawyer@hotmail.com



## Can I jump here after doing AFF abroad?

I'm taking an AFF course in South Africa. After completion will I be able to jump in the UK?



Simon

Doing AFF outside the UK is a long subject, well covered in the Starter Mag article, *AFF – The Whole Story*. You can get a copy from the BPA.

In brief, there can be problems training overseas as the systems are different to our own. Also the equipment is likely to be different which means your reserve drills will have to change when you return. If you train abroad and then arrive at a UK drop zone needing to borrow kit and be briefed on it, you will be last in the queue behind all the bona fide AFF students at that drop zone, so you may find it difficult to get jumps in. It's likely to be hard going.

If you know where you will be jumping in the UK it would be worth giving the DZ a call (see page 73). Also, if you haven't yet definitely confirmed your course it may be worth phoning around the BPA Associated organisations which offer AFF (see page 75) as they all have a British drop zone which is prepared to take their AFF students on return to the UK.

If you do go ahead with your AFF abroad, get in at least 30 jumps before you return and, if possible, purchase your own equipment.

divedr@skydivemag.com



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# Pete Lambson



**It is with great sadness and regret that I announce the death of Pete Lambson, tragically killed in a skydiving accident at Netheravon on 30 March 2002. All of us that knew Pete, and there are hundreds out there, will remember him for his sense of fun, zest for life and love of skydiving.**

He had a distinguished parachuting career in the Royal Marines. Pete was the Chief Instructor of the Hong Kong Parachute Club in the mid-eighties, followed by a long spell as CCI at JSPC Netheravon from 1986-92. During this time he was a member of the Royal Marines Canopy Formation team that built a World Record 24-stack in 1986, a stack record that still stands as it has not been beaten since. On leaving the Marines he continued to pursue his skydiving at drop zones all over the world but his home DZ was always Netheravon.

Many readers will know Pete as a BPA examiner and instructor who has worked with numerous courses at all levels. Most will remember his wry, wicked sense of humour and his raucous cackle of a laugh that would echo around every DZ he ever visited. I remember vividly being on the end of his sense of humour when taking my AFF instructor rating. The debrief to the course went something like, "There are three things that blokes don't like being criticised for, their driving, their sexual prowess and their skydiving ability... The AFF instructor course is very demanding so please do not take this criticism as a slight against your skydiving ability..." We immediately knew that someone had failed. The debrief went on, "Congratulations to Steve, Dane and Dick you have all passed the course, well done. Mike and Mickey, (followed by a very long pause), congratulations so have you!" The silence was broken by a burst of that laugh of his, the sod!

As an instructor Pete was always willing to help keen up-and-coming jumpers progress. On the day that he died he was in a 4-way FS group

**"remember him for his sense of fun, zest for life and love of skydiving"**

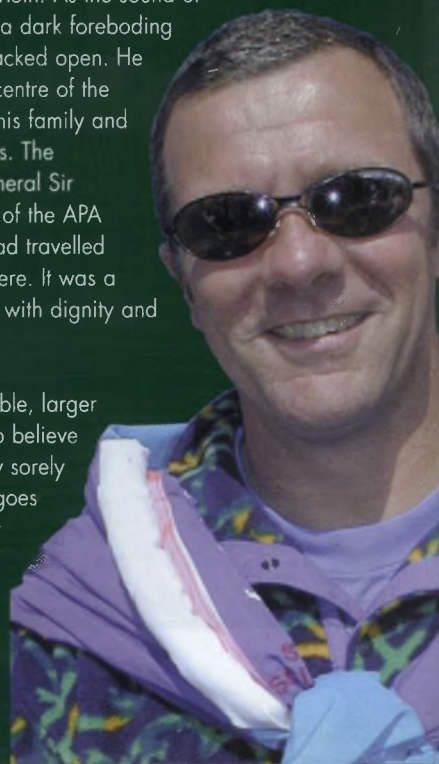
coaching three such jumpers. He was also the load organiser of the POPS big-way record attempt, taking place at Netheravon over that weekend. It is a measure of the respect and popularity in which he was held that the memorial service in celebration of his life was packed to overflowing. All 600 seats were taken in the church with at least another hundred friends standing at the back. The service was followed by a very poignant low and slow flypast (with CAA approval) by two Army Parachute Association

aircraft, trailing smoke. The vast majority of the guests made their way back to Netheravon bar after the service for Pete's 'Scran and Wets' which went on long into the

night. Pete's ashes were scattered over the airfield that afternoon by a lone skydiver jumping from a Tiger Moth. As the sound of the aircraft died away, against a dark foreboding sky, John Horne's parachute cracked open. He released Pete's ashes over the centre of the airfield, watched in silence by his family and his many friends and colleagues. The impressive turnout included General Sir Michael Rose, former President of the APA and hundreds of friends who had travelled from all over the world to be there. It was a very sad day that was handled with dignity and respect by all.

Pete was one of those indomitable, larger than life characters, it is hard to believe that he has gone. He is already sorely missed. Our sincere sympathy goes out to Hilary, Kristie and Ben at this difficult time.

Mike Smith  
[mikeskydive@onetel.net.uk](mailto:mikeskydive@onetel.net.uk)



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FOUNDING MEMBER PIA

# Para Gear

JC Colclasure  
Swooping the pond  
at Quinicy 2001

Photo by: Lance Sings  
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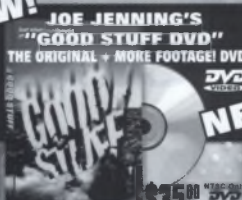


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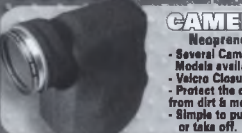
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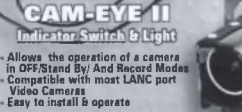
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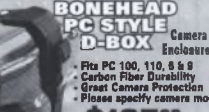
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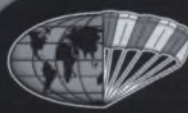
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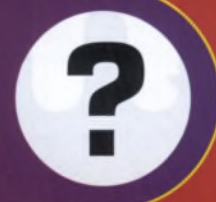
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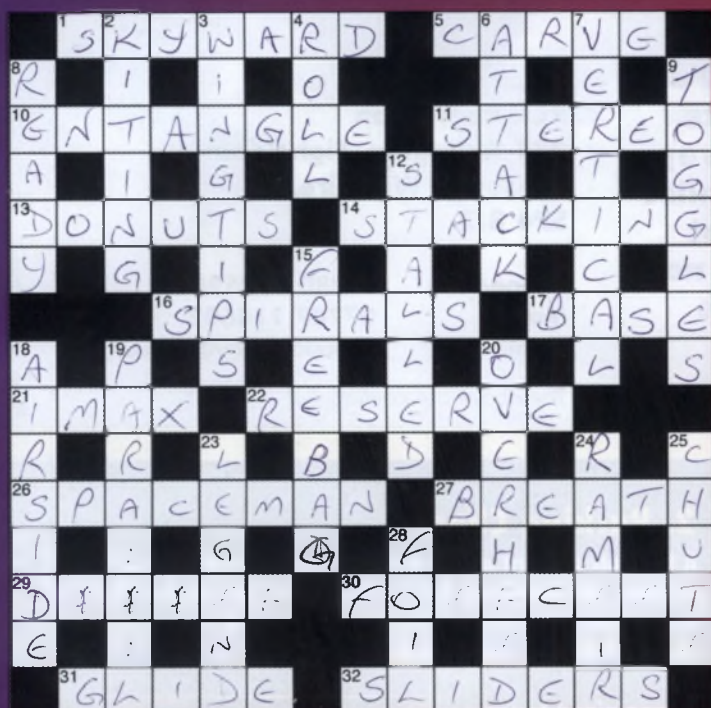
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# CUTAWAY CROSSWORD



Two sets of clues with the same solutions



The main clues

the reserve clues are much more controllable.

ARE ELLIPTICAL AND TWISTED

Make a decision – stay with the main – or cut away and use the reserve

## Main clues

### Across:

- 1 Photographer eats Kentucky on the way to altitude (7)
- 5 Slice portion of dining-car veal (5)
- 10 Tolkien's view from a tree? – knot (8)
- 11 It's heard all around when the needle is dropped? (6)
- 13 Accomplish crazy formations (6)
- 14 Building a canopy formation, start swooping and turning (8)
- 16 Quick turns that go down well (7)
- 17 Low skydiving? (4)
- 21 The big film. Timeless image, gets a ten (4)
- 22 Back up and reverse round the bend (7)
- 26 He's an 'out of this world' freefall expert (8)
- 27 It can be taken away and tested for alcohol (6)
- 29 It takes the piss, being repaid in reverse (6)
- 30 Look forward from foc's'le briefly (8)
- 31 Powerless movement on this slope (5)
- 32 These sci-fi characters can be stuck up (7)

### Down:

- 2 King has sex appeal walking under canopy (6)
- 3 Twin pigs fly both sides of an aeroplane (8)
- 4 Turn over the bread (4)
- 6 Savage angle of wing (6)
- 7 Upright freeflyers relative work (8)
- 8 Prepared handy prompt (5)
- 9 Brake switches (7)
- 12 Skydive starts with lanky Edward not flying forward (7)
- 15 Release catch, it holds the reserve (4,3)
- 18 Problem I raised with access to the apron (7)
- 19 Fly after launch as airborne troops sicken (8)
- 20 Where to wear a helmet, above the DZ (8)
- 23 Hip or ankle harness (6)
- 24 Run into first class wing (of this type) (3-3)
- 25 Heard to fire a round, say (5)
- 28 Beat very thin metal plate (4)

## Reserve clues

### Across:

- 1 Up
- 5 Turn during flare
- 10 Collide in CReW
- 11 Hi-Fi
- 13 Pastries
- 14 Piling up
- 16 Helices
- 17 Bottom
- 21 Cinema format
- 22 Book
- 26 Astronaut
- 27 A light wind
- 29 Alternative to D-bag
- 30 Weather prediction
- 31 Coast
- 32 Deployment retarders

### Down:

- 2 Playing with a toy in the wind
- 3 Ends of aerofoils
- 4 Pitch, yaw...
- 6 Wing angle
- 7 Erect
- 8 Up for it
- 9 Steering handles
- 12 Delayed
- 15 Detachable deployment aid (4,3)
- 18 Restricted area of airport
- 19 Be towed behind boat
- 20 DZ airspace
- 23 Myth
- 24 Square (3-3)
- 25 Round
- 28 Square

By Paul Boorer

answers – inside back cover

Quote of the Month:

"If you want to make a small fortune out of skydiving – start with a large one"

Dave Prince

# In Confidence

A fresh approach to incident reporting by Rick Boardman



Many thanks for the positive feedback I've had on last month's confidential reports. I've had lots of comments passed my way about premature main deployments whilst freeflying. Like I said, this happens a lot more often than you might think. We'll no doubt be touching on this subject some more this year.

Report in confidence to:

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

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

The above are confidential

Photo: Steve Utter

## 1. You Need Hands!

A jumper had returned to the sport after a break of several years. The rig was not the trendiest thing on the drop zone but it was serviceable. The jumper was briefed for a solo descent to get back in the swing of things. Everything was going fine until the pull-out deployment device was fumbled and dropped. Reserve drills were carried out successfully.

Three days later, new handles had been built to replace the ones discarded by the jumper and the rig was ready for use again. As the jumper was observed on telemeters, the same problem occurred again. The pad could be seen trailing behind the rig, just before the jumper gave up trying to find it and got the reserve out.

At this stage the DZ owner overruled everyone and announced that the jumper either converted to throwaway deployment, or left the DZ. After retraining and, having paid for the system to be converted, the jumper thought things over and retired from skydiving.

### Contributing Factors

The unusual factor in this tale only came to light many months later when, in a casual chat, the jumper asked another skydiver if maybe her Reynauds Condition had been the problem.

More prevalent in young women than men, Reynauds Condition affects the blood vessels in fingers and can cause numbness if there is a temperature drop of only a few degrees, with pain later when blood flow returns. You've probably felt something similar when jumping in the winter; however sufferers of this condition will have this numbing effect even on a summer's day.

### Prevention

This quite definitely comes under the heading of READ THE SMALL PRINT. Your BPA medical tells you to stop jumping if you are in doubt and to consult the BPA medical adviser. Most medical problems are best dealt with early on for your own peace of mind. Also, if it transpires that you knowingly falsified your medical, it's going to make it difficult to get jumping again. This jumper did well to consider that, if you can fumble your main deployment device because of reduced feeling, then the same applies to your cutaway pad.

## 2. Packing Checks

A freefall student asked a more experienced jumper to critique his technique on packing check one, before he got tested by an instructor. He then proceeded to do a four line check of the main and nothing else.

*"I explained to the student that check one is when you should also examine the container for defects. As I moved the harness, it became apparent that the reserve tray was almost completely detached from the container. In fact, only the seam along the top was holding it on. It was also revealed that the system had probably done several skydives like this."*



### Contributing Factors

Looking further, it became apparent that most of the packers present at the time on this particular DZ were very quick, because there was a lot of money at stake. A great deal of the freefall equipment was also off line, leaving both AFF and RAPS students pushing hard to pack the serviceable freefall rigs as a priority.

### Prevention

The first check of any parachute on a pack job must be that it's ALL serviceable. There is a simple incentive for people to give the whole system a once-over at the start and that's time. Why waste your precious time packing something, only to discover on the last check that it's broken? Also, whole chunks of the container can't be seen once the main is closed so, if you don't look on the first check, you're unlikely to see any damage. The scary thing is that this rig had been in the air with this damage for some time.



### 3. Impossible Cutaway

A camera jumper with over 2,000 skydives was jumping a high performance, highly wingloaded canopy.

*"As soon as I deployed, I knew something was out of the ordinary. I felt twists behind my neck, forcing my head forward and I started to rotate at high speed. I tried to cutaway but the cables wouldn't budge. I got two hands to the pad and still couldn't cutaway. I knew I'd opened higher than normal and I knew I had a bit of time left but it occurred to me that I might have to pull the reserve handle anyway and risk an entanglement. Finally, I got my left hand behind the yellow cables, just above the cutaway pad and had just enough leverage to get free from the main. I got face to earth, and had a reserve at about 1,500 feet."*

*"On reflection, maybe ordering this system with big 3-rings might have helped. I've since had metal housings fitted to the risers, to help reduce friction on the cables. I was also very conscious at the time that I don't wear an AAD."*

#### Hard Cutaway Contributory Factors

With a high performance canopy, you get higher loadings on you and the harness if it all goes wrong. I think it surprises all of us whenever we read of malfunctions like this because, until you've experienced one, you can't believe the forces at work on those little loops and their yellow cables. Once the G-force loads the 3-ring system up, you have got a lot of work to do. The smaller the canopy and the higher the performance, then the higher the wingloading and G-force will be.

#### Hard Cutaway Prevention

Don't have a main malfunction! Or, to be less flippant, be aware of just how violent a modern, heavily loaded main can be when it goes wrong and do all that you can to minimise the chance of it happening. Many jumpers don't jump their smallest canopies when doing camera, because of the potential for hard openings and violent malfunctions like this victim experienced. If the canopy bites, be ready and don't get so fixated on the problem that you lose track of altitude. It is a modern irony in skydiving that altitude awareness is probably enhanced, when you aren't wearing an AAD. Don't take yours off! Just get out of the mindset that it's always going to be there for you.

#### Large 3-Ring System

The jumper is quite right, big rings would help. There's a lot more knowledge out there now about

how cutaway systems perform. 3-ring systems work as a set of levers. Remember all that school stuff about long levers needing less effort? The big 3-ring system has longer levers and that's why it works better than the small system. In theory, a big ring set loaded to 5,000 lbs should gear down to a load of about 5 lbs on the loop where it passes around the yellow cable.

Mini rings began purely for fashion. A mini ring set will pass a much higher load down to the loop. If the load gets high enough, it can even start pulling the yellow cable through the grommet; the pull force at that point goes off the chart! Remember that you aren't trying to get just one of the releases to work, but two. As well as having a smaller mechanical advantage, mini-rings have less tolerance to manufacturing inconsistencies. In other words, it only takes a tiny deviation from the intended specification to create a huge pull force.

#### Cutaway Housings

A more recent attempt at looking cooler is having soft housings. Instead of the traditional hard metal housings to guide and protect your cutaway cables, jumpers (briefly) fell in love with the idea of the cables being sleeved in side channels made from nylon webbing. Frequently these channels are only cosmetic; once the cables are out of sight inside your container, they are just routed within the layers of fabric and webbing that are the shoulder and neck parts of your system. This design has turned out to be 'not the best out of the box' and most system designers have reverted to the toughness and more predictable friction of metal housings. If you have soft housings on your system, you might want to think about replacing them with metal.

#### Riser Housings

Another recent innovation has been miniature metal housings fitted to the main risers, to minimise friction problems on the ends of the cables where they are channelled along the back of the back risers. These would have helped this jumper who reports twists in the risers behind the neck.

#### Cutaway Drills

Ask yourself these questions NOW. Do you peel the cutaway pad off its velcro, and then pull downward? Or do you pull the cutaway pad down in one movement? Try both methods on the ground and note the difference. If you're on a high wingloaded canopy, have you given much thought to a two handed drill, ie, both hands on first the cutaway pad, then the reserve handle? Talk it through with your CCI. Finally, have you ever found out how much pull force you're capable of? I am aware of two jumpers who know that they can't pull downward very well because of old injuries. They are always choosy about who packs their reserves and they always pull test their handles after each repack. If you are in any doubt, arrange a cutaway pull test using a suspended harness with an instructor or rigger, to put your mind at rest.

# Kit News

by  
Rob  
Colpus



## Wide and Small

A tasty little wide angle lens is now available which is ideal for those nice close-up shots from chest or hand held camera or close-ups for AFF instructors and others, but without the distortions of a fish eye. Called the *Diamond.3* this lens has a 110 degree field of view but without those nasty little vignettes (black corners).

The *Diamond.3* is a very very small lens – only 44mm in diameter and 8mm deep. It comes in two different thread sizes 30mm and 37mm so it fits most Sony camcorders with no adaptor ring needed and has excellent optical quality – no colour tints etc. Its small size has plenty of benefits to your camera – less wear and tear on the camera frame, and more importantly less chance of getting snagged or ripped off by risers. The *Diamond.3* is available through Max Cohn of Generation Freely in the USA.

[www.generationfreely.com/diamond.3](http://www.generationfreely.com/diamond.3)

## A Reserve in Time!

The reserve repack time cycle in the USA is still 120 days (4 months) whereas the repack cycle here in the UK is a nice sensible six months. However since July last year the USPA have recognised 'foreign' reserve cycles providing the rig is only jumped by the 'non American' owner. USPA recommends that any visiting jumpers with rigs in date between the four and six month range bring with them a copy of a BPA's document that states the validity of the six month cycle, just in case they come up against a hick backwoods DZ that may be ill informed on the subject.

USPA: 001 703 836 3495  
ext 314

## MAX FAQTOR



The Paratec company of Germany is celebrating a new arrival in their family with the birth of the *Faqtor* – a medium high performance main canopy. Paratec claims the *Faqtor* has inherited family genes from the "best of the *Fandango* and the *Quadra*, (see past Kit News) with a dash of the *X-Wing* thrown in".

The *Faqtor* is a 9-cell, zero-P, mildly elliptical wing, which according to Stefan Ertler (the mad genius behind Paratec's designs), affords the *Faqtor* a smooth carve in the turn and exceptional slow flying control at the end of a long turf surf. Like all manufacturers today Stefan claims on-heading openings, of course!

Stefan enthuses that his new baby, "seems to be a bit slower in straight flight but, as soon as you turn it, it feels as someone has hit the nitrogen button and it really accelerates out of a toggle or front riser turn." The new canopy had its first public outing at Skydive Portugal this spring.

Paratec: 0049 68 37 73 75  
[www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de)

UK dealers: Point Zero: 01980 844130  
Thomas Sports Equipment: 01262 678299  
Stu Albon 01580 291210

## Soft Wrappings

Precision Aerodynamics are now the third company, behind Parachutes de France and PD, to offer removable soft links on their range of main canopies. Precision's links, called *Wrap-it*, appear to be almost exact copies of the soft links introduced

by Parachutes de France about five years ago, utilising a small metal ring which passes through a loop, rather than a chunk of webbing as used by PD in their *Slinks*. Approval for use on Precision reserves is pending.

Precision: [www.aerodynamics.com](http://www.aerodynamics.com)

## Cutting Corners

Sunpath are now offering what have been coined *Dynamic Corners*, as an option on their *Javelin* container for use by wingsuit jumpers. Developed by Morpheus Technologies, a small base equipment company and also available on their own base rig, *Dynamic Corners* consist of small, wedge-shaped sections of fabric which span between the side and bottom flaps of the container and allow the boxing at the bottom corners to be removed – while at the same time tucking away to hide and secure the stowed lines and main deployment bag when packed.

Boxed corners on parachute containers are there to hold the deployment bag firmly in place until full deployment of the pilot chute and bridle. However, because of the more horizontal trajectory of wingsuit flyers, boxed corners can sometimes lock

the bag in place when the pull direction of the pilot chute is at a sharp angle towards the jumper's feet. The option, which is also available as a retro-fit costs around \$30.

Sunpath: 001 813 782 9242  
[www.sunpath.com](http://www.sunpath.com)





About seven years ago a small New Zealand company by the name of New Zealand Airsports came up with some very innovative ram-air wing designs which were the brainchild of Jyro, the mad Kiwi designer and ex NZ skydiving champion.

In early '99 Jyro joined forces with Precision Aerodynamics of the USA to manufacture his designs – the *Safire*, the *Omega* and the *EXtreme FX*. Later that year NZ and Precision again expanded with the introduction of a Spanish military parachute company and the formation of a tripartite organisation calling itself Icarus Parachutes. Icarus manufactured the three designs along with the newer *Crossfire* and *EXtreme VX* at the three separate facilities in NZ, USA and Spain. Last year Precision left Icarus after some acrimony.

Coming back with a vengeance, Icarus have just announced three new main canopy designs which will supersede their existing range. Simon Mundell of Icarus claims in a recent press release that the *Safire*, *Omega* and *EXtreme* incorporated sophisticated "full-surface shaping, constant cell proportions and lowered wing tips with the aim of reducing drag and increasing lift at both high and low air speeds." These shaping techniques used now by several top end parachute manufacturers and made possible by CAD/CAM and laser cutting tables, took parachutes beyond standard ram-air designs and created truly efficient wing shapes.

Icarus claim they have taken this process further and come up with even more refined versions of their products. The three new designs have been introduced now to challenge other top manufacturers for the main parachute innovation crown, notably Performance Designs, Precision and Parachutes de France.

### Omni

The first of the three is a lightly elliptical 7-cell design which will compete head on with PD's *Spectre*. Called the *Omni*, this canopy has been primarily designed with the intermediate jumper in mind or those who prefer an easy life afforded by 7-cell performance. Icarus claim that their new *Omni* has gone some way further to combat the inherent 7-cell disadvantage of reduced lift and inferior flare characteristics when compared to a similar 9-cell design. They claim that the *Omni* manages to retain nice 7-cell openings but at the same time providing the 'get back from a bad spot' performance of a 9-cell.

### Safire 2

The second newcomer is the *Safire 2*. Yes you guessed it – a successor to the company's relatively popular original *Safire* design which has been on the market for four years. The *Safire 2*, like the original, is a truly elliptical, fully zero-P, 9-cell design. Improvements include new trim and plan-form shaping techniques which Icarus claim improve the glide ratio and opening characteristics. They are particularly pleased with their work in achieving smooth on-heading openings which they claim are

just like 7-cells. (Where have I heard that before?) The *Safire 2* is designed to fly best at a wing loading of 0.75 to 1.6. At the lower end the canopy flies forgivingly and is an ideal intermediate canopy, while at the higher loadings it's a relatively fast swooper.

### Crossfire 2

The last of the three newcomers is a replacement for the *Crossfire* – a canopy which suffered some bad PR last year due to a series of mods which had to be carried out on some individual canopies to correct stability problems. However the original *Crossfire* remained a favourite with its owners and proved to be a worthy challenger for the PD *Stiletto's* long held crown. Taking advantage of Icarus' refined R&D work the *Crossfire 2* has been honed to achieve a performance somewhere between the *Stiletto* and the *EXtreme* or *PD Velocity* crossbraced wings. Icarus claim that the *Crossfire 2* has light riser pressure resulting in an impressive recovery arc and swoop distance – surprise, surprise! They also claim excellent openings.

[www.icaruscanopies.com](http://www.icaruscanopies.com)



## Thomas & Grommet

Thomas Sports Equipment issued a service bulletin in March which advises *1-Pin Teardrop* owners to check the two grommets in the metal reserve pilot chute cap of their rig. Apparently some grommets may have been manufactured with sharp edges which

could cause shredding and breaking of the closing loop, resulting in a premature opening. Any sharp grommets should be replaced immediately by a qualified rigger.

Thomas Sports: 01262 678299

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photo: Dan Parker

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# Club News

## EDITORIAL

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this enormous edition of Club News. It's much bigger than before as there's been so much going on therefore more photos and news sent in. Please keep sending photos to us as we always make good use of them!



Have you visited the Mag website yet? An increasing amount of my time is spent keeping it up to date, including JM's Newsround where you'll find snippets of current skydiving news plus loads of links. Our bi-monthly Mag cannot be that current so our regularly updated website fills the gap. Using the search facility you can see all Mag articles from 1995 onwards – a very useful tool. Tell me what you think via the Mag feedback page.

*Bev*

bev@skydivemag.com  
www.skydivemag.com

## Club News

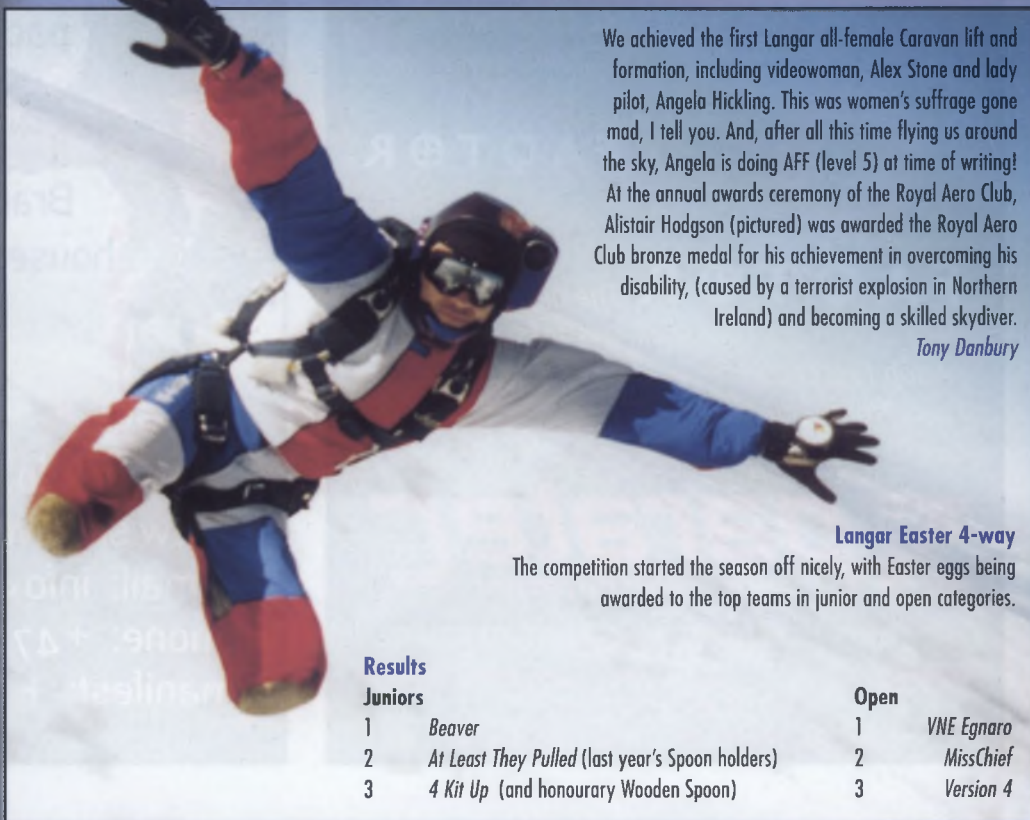
"If yer name's not down,  
it's not goin' in!"

Don't forget to write your name and achievements on the Club News poster. That's where your Club Rep gets the information to send to us...

Don't rely on telepathy, osmosis or carrier pigeon. Pen and paper work much better!



## LANGAR



We achieved the first Langer all-female Caravan lift and formation, including videowoman, Alex Stone and lady pilot, Angela Hickling. This was women's suffrage gone mad, I tell you. And, after all this time flying us around the sky, Angela is doing AFF (level 5) at time of writing! At the annual awards ceremony of the Royal Aero Club, Alistair Hodgson (pictured) was awarded the Royal Aero Club bronze medal for his achievement in overcoming his disability, (caused by a terrorist explosion in Northern Ireland) and becoming a skilled skydiver.

*Tony Danbury*

### Langer Easter 4-way

The competition started the season off nicely, with Easter eggs being awarded to the top teams in junior and open categories.

#### Results

##### Juniors

- 1 Beaver
- 2 At Least They Pulled (last year's Spoon holders)
- 3 4 Kit Up (and honorary Wooden Spoon)

##### Open

- 1 VNE Egnaro
- 2 MissChief
- 3 Version 4

Langan's 8-way team, Box of Frogs at a training camp at Empuriabrava with Andy Pook from VNE

Brian Knight

## BRIDLINGTON

On 2-5 April six Brid jumpers flew over to Wild Geese in Northern Ireland. They had a very successful week with a lot of progression. Thanks to Maggie Penny and her team for all their hospitality and 'craic'. The trip also highlighted the fact that some people have hidden talents — pole dancing, tattooing, heavy sleeping and slow fall rates! The video, once edited will reveal all! Another trip to the Geese is being organised for September.

On a culinary theme, any visiting jumpers should sample the delights of Tracy Bartleys' 'Flame Grilled Whoppas'. They are fully endorsed by Humberside Fire Brigade. Those with a slightly stronger constitution should go for the contents of Karen 'OB1' Messenger's' explosive frying pan.

Flavour of the month are Kelvin Raines' circa 1970s jumpsuits — big flared items. Only Dave Walker and Paul Simms have been daft enough to jump them. Dave jumped the 'balloon suit' and managed an impressive 81mph in freefall and Paul Simms managed 120mph.

Paul Simms

### Bridlington Achievements

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Cat 8        | Lara 'Mrs B' Jordan |
|              | Chris Watson        |
| FSI          | Dave Walker         |
|              | Paul Simms          |
|              | Simon Cathrine      |
|              | Simon Rehill        |
| 1hr freefall | Simon Cathrine      |
| IC1          | Janet Mackintosh    |
|              | Phil Robinson       |
|              | Alan Westerman      |
|              | Simon Rehill        |

### Jump Numbers

|     |                       |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 800 | Phil Lyall            |
| 200 | Simon Rehill          |
|     | Dave Walker           |
| 100 | Simon Cathrine        |
|     | Ali Rennie            |
|     | Vicki Hosler          |
|     | Karen 'OB1' Messenger |
|     | Janet Mackintosh      |
| 50  | Phil Robinson         |
|     | Chris Watson          |

## BLACK KNIGHTS

We're doing lots of tandems and RAPS courses and the experienced jumpers and their rigs are coming out of hibernation. Our students are moving nicely through the progression system and during the open week at the end of May, many more achieved their longer term skydiving goals. Visiting student jumpers enjoyed our individually focused attitude to training and are coming back more. Several exciting developments are in the pipeline, one of which should limit the disruption to jumping caused by any wet weather. Our second progression and fun week is on 17-26 August. There will be plenty of additional activities to help people learn, party and get plenty of jumps in.

See Drop Zone Focus, page 72.

Jeff Illidge

### BKPC Achievements

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Cat 8          | Kate Sourkovia, Paul Collins |
|                | Peter Hamblinton             |
| 24hrs freefall | Billy Sharples               |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| 100   | Joe Edwards     |
| 400   | Arthur Wrennall |
| 2,000 | Danny Smith     |

### Langan Achievements

|       |                                                  |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Cat 8 | Oliver Morison, Anita Levy, Tim Holland          |
|       | Andy Siggers, Bryan Teeson, Tracy Ward           |
|       | Corinne Davis, Melvin Watson, Steve Hyde         |
|       | Andy Cartwright, Simon Allen, Alex Slade         |
|       | Emily Cooper, John Thompson (about bloody time!) |
| IC1   | Ralph Fielding, Alec Flint, M-C Rowlinson        |
|       | Kris Ridley, Tom Armstrong                       |
| FSI   | Tom Armstrong, Kris 'Spiderman' Ridley           |
|       | Gary De'Ath, Jamie Bestwick, Ian Ridpath         |
|       | Damian Malkin, Alec Flint, Tina Wiseman          |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                                           |
|-------|-------------------------------------------|
| 50    | Bryan Teeson, Nick Shrine                 |
| 100   | Keith Thompson, Abi Fineberg, Gary De'Ath |
|       | Andy Pike, Jo Pettit                      |
| 200   | Tom Hartlond, Ric Kent, Rich Batten       |
| 400   | Vicky 'Digger' Priest, Vicky Wilkinson    |
| 500   | Poke-It Paul Henderson, Cat Darby         |
|       | Darren Atter                              |
| 600   | Caroline Hughes                           |
| 700   | Martyn Score, Martin Liepmann             |
| 800   | Stan Hopkins                              |
| 1,000 | Mike Gorman, Rick Woolfall, Billy Payn    |
| 2,000 | Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright, Rusty Lewis      |
| 2,500 | Joey Willoughby                           |

### Hours Freefall

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 12 | Martin Score, Caroline Hughes |
|----|-------------------------------|



Joe Edwards had a deep spot on his 100<sup>th</sup> jump at the Umm Al Quwain boogie and got a lift back to the DZ in this helicopter!

## CHATTERIS



This season there is already lots of progression taking place. The end of March saw night jumps with lots of people doing their first, followed by a Mexican theme evening with mucho food and cerveza. Thanks to Brad Reader for trying to poison everybody with his extra hot chilli!

Steve Wilkins

### Chatteris Achievements

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| First freefall | Rob Butler, Steve Hudson       |
| FF1            | Anu Ojha                       |
| IC1            | Gary Hewstone, Vicky Robertson |
| FS1            | Dave Phillips                  |
| Cat 8          | Pete Lander, Pete Benjamin     |
|                | Karl Chapman, Phil Coates      |
|                | Danny Porter                   |
| 36hrs freefall | Mike Rust                      |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                                 |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 100   | Pete Herrick                    |
| 200   | Jo Brookbanks, Sylviane Herrick |
|       | Lloyd Quenby, Chris Bowley      |
| 300   | Ivan Peters                     |
| 500   | John Stevens                    |
| 700   | Yo Lee                          |
| 1,000 | Ron Perry                       |

Russell Smith



## POPS

### New Members

Amanda Kenny, Nick Little, Smithy, Nick Corby, Steve Watson, John Howard, Francis Cheetham, Kirk Blackmore, Louise Hawkins, Jim Bradwell, Ken Foster, John Boxall, Kevin White, Howard Whyte, Kelvin Price, Charlie Stringer

The World POPS meet now seems a long time ago, although a few of us stayed on in New Zealand for a week or two. The full results and report are on the new-look POPS website:

[www.thepops.org](http://www.thepops.org)

Start thinking about the next World POPS meet for 2004 in Switzerland!

### POPS Record Attempt 6-7 April, Langar

Last year, Paul French promoted the idea of breaking the UK POPS formation record, and got a group of us to turn out on a series of unpromising weekends, where we

Julie Shew, Volker Cornils, Deirdre Brookes & Pete Shew at the World meet



Paul French

failed to get a single jump. The first attempt at Langar in April looked as if the previous year's bad luck was still there. We had about 35 POPS on the DZ on Saturday, but in spite of blue sky, the wind

didn't drop until late. There were some cries of "night jump", but unfortunately most of us had had a drink or two by then. Sunday was still windy, but much more promising so we split into two groups of sixteen. Everyone was rusty and unused to jumping together but the standard improved during the day. The fourth and last jump of one group was inches from beating the record. We were sure that if we had had a two day weekend we would have been formation flying two planes by the end, and the record would have been shattered. Thanks to Dave Hickling and Dave Morris for the organisation and coaching.

Pete Shew

[pete@thepops.org](mailto:pete@thepops.org)

The POPS record attempt at Langar  
Photo: Alicia Morehead



# SIBSON

## Improvements

Sibson has seen plenty of paintbrushes over the last couple of months. There is a new AFF training room, complete with 'designer ceiling graffiti', a new video room and a fully equipped rigging loft (upstairs, not quite in the loft), complete with Brad Rock for all your rigging requirements. The bar has a lovely new barman, Mike and a second goldfish. We are in the process of building a windblade swoop course for unrivalled fun under canopy. The Let has returned with a new paint job, and new engines to get you to 13,000 feet more quickly.

Stuart Meacock is now back from Spain to fly the Cessna and train with team *Sibson Freely* which has sponsorship from Vector (Micron containers), Larsen & Brusgaard (Pro-Dyitters and Pro-Tracks) and THC (Total Head Coverage) helmets by Kevin McCarthy.



## Diary Dates

This year's Freely Nationals on 10-12 August will have two levels of competition, so get your teams planned and come and enjoy the atmosphere, whatever your experience level. The third annual Freely Festival will be held on 21-29 September. Beat your colleagues to it and book your holiday time now! There will be an FS coaching and camera skills roadshow with Sebastian XL on 31 August - 1 September for individuals and teams. Get your FS1, some competition coaching or advice on camera flying. There's no registration fee and coaches and cameraman slots will be shared by jumpers if you want to come along. Let us know what you want so we can pass it on to the team for them to plan the best seminar for you. A freely roadshow will also be held on 13-14 July. Email: [info@skydivesibson.com](mailto:info@skydivesibson.com)

Cornelia Waymouth



Photos: David Du Plessis

## PPC Achievements

|                |                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| First freefall | Sarah Buckmaster                                                                                                             |
|                | Jonathan Tyzack                                                                                                              |
|                | Tom Whorewood                                                                                                                |
| AFF L8         | John McGuire                                                                                                                 |
| Cat 8          | Jim Gowan                                                                                                                    |
|                | Paul Gradwell                                                                                                                |
|                | Ed Ashby (he is the first person in Sibson's 31 year history to have had an off-landing and to hitch a ride back on a boat!) |
|                | Lee Mathews                                                                                                                  |
|                | Lizzie Wright                                                                                                                |
| FS1            | Mark Andrews                                                                                                                 |
| 200 jumps      | Oliver Reynolds (our new packer)                                                                                             |
| 700 jumps      | Jules Houl                                                                                                                   |
| PPL            | Ronnie O'Brien                                                                                                               |

# RAPA

## Hello, Goodbye & Get Well

The year has started well for RAPA and as usual, we saw the assistant staff leave us to join their teams. Farewell to Sully Rahaman and Jeff Zubaya who are now with the *Black Knights* Parachute Display Team, and Keith McLeary who joins the *Golden Lions*. Also goodbye to CCI Mick Nealis, who has returned to the UK to run the Royal Engineers' team. Good luck Mick and see you in June for the swoop comp.

New faces on the staff are, Mark Bayada (new CCI), Bernard 'Dutch' Holland, George 'Barney' Barnett, Scott Harrington, Nick Culligan, Lee Senior and 'Fozz' Foster. We also have two new CSIs - Richard 'Bazz' Barron, and Rory Storm. Bazz joins us having been the team leader of the Prince of Wales' Own Regiment Freefall Team, *The Yorkies*, and a CSI at Tilstock. Mark Scobie (Red Devil of the Year 1998) has also joined us from the *Red Devils* and continues to impress the locals on the DZ with his swooping skills, but not the locals in the aircraft. Graham Barrett has come over from Balleykelly

as our second pilot, and is enjoying the delights of cheap German beer.

Bish broke his tibia during the Army snowboarding championships in February. Best wishes Bish. Let's hope you get to swoop again soon. I'm jumping again, five months after bending myself in Elsinore. Remember kids, you can't land using dive loops!

## Tying the Knot



Phill Collett and Natalie got hitched and the wedding was such an occasion that they managed to grab the front page of the Forces newspaper *The Sixth Sense*. Dave Jack and Lynne Peil got engaged in on a 2-way (pictured above) and Dave pulled out a large wooden ring from his jumpsuit.

## Freebie Parties

Kurt Miewes a local German jumper celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> year parachuting with a party at the centre. We had a great time, especially as Kurt footed the bill for the food and drink. The Paderborner Club celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with another free party, this time held in the ground training hangar.

## Events

The first weekend in May saw over fifty POPS from throughout Europe attending the POPS style and accuracy meet. Loads of training jumps were made in the previous week, but unfortunately the weather didn't hold for the competition. That didn't dampen the spirit in the bar though.

Buzz

## Achievements

|                |                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| First freefall | Milly                           |
| Cat 8          | Scott Harrington, Nick Culligan |
| FS1            | Barney, Linda Gillan            |
| FF1            | Dutch Holland                   |

## Jump Numbers

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 50  | Scott Harrington |
| 200 | Dutch Holland    |
| 600 | Buzz             |

## EMPURIA

Congratulations to Kuri of *Babylon*, who came back from the Red Bull Anti Gravity competition in Poland last week with a gold medal for flying camera with Swiss skysurfer, Stefan Klaus. Stefan and Kuri (pictured) took first place in the second year of the Red Bull sponsored skysurf event, maintaining a consistent lead (total points 36.0) over second place French team, Eric Fradet and Lodina Alessandro (35.4 points).

Oliver Furrer and Alex Greber took third place with 31.9 points and best free round score. They were pleased as this was their first event since teaming up and training together this year in Empuriabrava. Kuri is back home at Babylon Freestyle School, coaching, training and looking forward to the Skysurf World Cup 2002 in Austria.

Competition details: [www.redbullantigravity.pl](http://www.redbullantigravity.pl)

Benigale Richards



## MERLIN

Following a difficult time, we seem to be getting back on track and hoping to put the nightmares and upheavals of the last eight months behind us. New CCI, Trev Dobson is settling in well and club safety officer, Bill Rule no longer needs an interpreter when having conversations with him. Husband and wife team, Graham and Sue Armitage have both got their Cat 8s and son, Sean is very close to making it a family threesome. Mark Hardy

now has a specially designed jumpsuit in a fashionable shade of brown. Club events and social activities will be announced soon.

Ken Wharton

### Topcliffe Achievements

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Cat 8                | Graham Armitage    |
|                      | Sue Armitage       |
| 3,000 civilian jumps | George Campbell    |
| 300 jumps            | Ken Wharton        |
|                      | (George is older!) |

## CYPRUS

The club re-opened for the summer with a lovely new paint-job on the aircraft and lots of mad-for-it jumpers raring to go. The club welcomes loads of new staff – Tommy, Dave, Neil, Darren, and Chris K. Congrats to Paul Moore on earning his jump pilot's licence and to Chris B and Helen for tying the knot.

Helen Mills



Helen, Chris B,  
George M, Paul W,  
George P & Mike

Babylon

Paul Rooney

## WESTON

### Weston Plummets

Four plummets have recently achieved FS1 (Paul, Ben, Brian, Phil – come-on Lilli!) and the 4-way funnels have started in earnest. The season plummet 'big-way' has been claimed with a 6-way speed star, celebrating Chris Cox's 100th jump. Several plummets are experimenting with funky freefly. Thanks to Carl Scarisbrick for saving Claire from the dark side. Claire has joined the revamped team DAMN for the Southern Regionals. Team UBI is offering all plummets an in-house skills camp – cheers guys. Thanks to the club FS gurus who continue to help us out: Steve, Moose, Ash, Mark, and Josh among many others. Welcome to Nyssa who joined us in Spain last year as a spectating whuffo and is now close to completing AFE. Finally three cheers for Dave Woods (pictured) for effort beyond the call of duty.

Dru Spork

Due to circumstances too convoluted to understand, Weston's opening weekend was delayed until Easter. While the plane was at the menders, we struggled with a borrowed Islander, thanks to the Red Devils. We then used the ill-fated Nomad. Ill-fated, you say? The second load didn't manage to get airborne, choosing instead to become intimate with the old bomb-dump at the end of the runway. This resulted in a very broken aircraft, a trip to hospital for four jumpers and some coverage on the local news. Andy Ford, Andy Scott and Gareth Davies sustained minor injuries. Paul Floyd Jnr was not quite as lucky and is now sporting an attractive cast, while his back mends. Get well soon, Paul!

Everything appeared to be conspiring against us. We suffered drought: the limited skydiving forced us to spend hours in the bar, drinking it dry. We suffered famine: to ease the boredom and restlessness, people were forced to strip the food van bare of its supplies. As despair tightened its grip, a dark shape appeared on the horizon. Was this a plague of locusts? Indeed not – it was the welcoming sight of the Beaver and our returning Islander! Joy abound, particularly for Mike Westwood, Weston's new chief pilot!

We are now looking forward to a summer of plenty: the Rodders 4-way meet on 29-30 June, the Wingsuit Festival on 20-21 July and the Weston Summer Ball on 25 August. Thanks to everyone for their patience, support and good humour in the face of such adversity. Let the skydiving commence!

Bev Ford

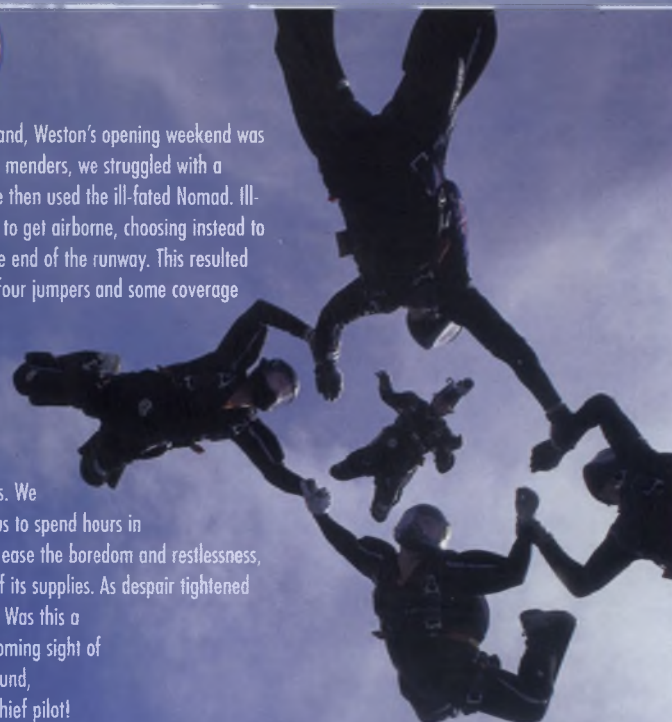
### RAFSPA Achievements

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| Cat 8 | Jonathan Ashe  |
|       | Freddie During |
|       | Pam During     |
|       | Kevan Stanley  |
| FS1   | Brian Gray     |
|       | Phil Hitchings |

### Jump Numbers

|       |               |
|-------|---------------|
| 100   | Jude Goodman  |
|       | Chris Cox     |
| 200   | Gareth Davies |
| 1,000 | John Lewis    |

Weston photos: Andy Ford



# HEADCORN

Our Let 410 is back, as is Chris Lynch, with his Freefly Centre UK now up and running. Welcome to Vicky Thomas who is joining the staff as club secretary and to tandem instructor John Reid, Louise and Digit, their very cute boxer puppy. The season got off to a great start with the Easter Babies Birthday Bash. We celebrated loads of birthdays with beer, alcopops and a very entertaining karaoke evening in Wings. There was also a go-karting outing, in which Daamon Parker thrashed all comers.

## Andy Kelly Meet/FS Southern Regionals, 11-12 May

This year's Andy Kelly 4-way meet was combined with the FS Southern Regionals. A record-breaking turnout of twenty-two 4-way teams and a great atmosphere made for an excellent weekend in spite of less than perfect weather. Many of the teams arrived on the Friday evening. It wasn't long before the camping field was looking like some sort of huge festival!

It was great to see so many junior teams, 13 in all, with many of the senior and intermediate competitors giving lots of coaching and advice whilst we waited for the weather to improve. Eventually a decision was taken to make use of the altitude available, which resulted in the first round being run from the TurboLet from 7,000 feet. The 13 junior teams were first to go and all that dirt-diving certainly paid off, with an excellent score of 6 points from *Skypirates* and three other teams scoring 5 points — not bad for 20 seconds working time! *Chatteris Juniors* and *Mo-Fo-Ho's* both did ad-hoc demos into Headcorn Cricket Club following a deep spot. The junior teams were stood down, leaving the remaining teams crossing their fingers for clear skies which arrived just in time to do two rounds each.

An awesome party was held that evening, with a disco, a barbecue outside in the new picnic/BBQ area (thanks to John Reid) and a bar at the back of the packing shed. Brian Vacher's gymnastic efforts provided entertainment and the beer, blue alcopops and friendly vibes flowed into the early hours.

An impromptu trolley meet was organised (and videoed!) on the cloudy Sunday morning. We played hackey and hopscotch and best of all, we had a go on a gyroscope and a hovercraft! The meet was called at 3pm after just one round in the junior competition and two in the intermediates and seniors. Thanks to Andy Kelly's Mum, Angela for presenting the medals and to everybody who helped make this such a fantastic weekend. This was an excellent competition, with an atmosphere many described as being more like a national than a regional competition, despite the best efforts of the weather gods. Next season we will have a new shower block and toilets. In the words of Mick Danby, "We want next year's Nationals!"

Vicki Tomlinson

## Southern Regionals Results



### Seniors:

- 1st Relative Breeze
- 2nd Zygos

### Andy Kelly Meet (scored on a handicap system)

- 1st Skypirates
- Joint 2nd S-Sense, Team Chaos, G-Force, Quest, UBI



### Intermediates:

- Joint 1st Quest / UBI
- 3rd MissChief

### Juniors:

- 1st Sky Pirates
- Joint 2nd S-Sense, Team Chaos, G-Force



Tony Hill



Swift's  
200<sup>th</sup>  
jump

## Balloon jumps at Headcorn

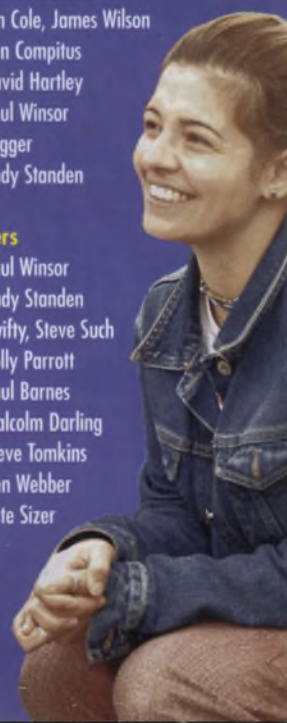
The Easter Bank Holiday weekend saw a new meaning to 'early bird lift'. Hastily arranged in Wings the previous evening, four lucky but slightly apprehensive looking skydivers were ready and kitted up for 6am when Tony arrived with his hot air balloon. It wasn't long before the balloon was at 3,500ft over the DZ. First out was CCI, Pete Sizer on his first balloon jump (beer!) followed by Trevor Cowell, Mark Swift on his 200<sup>th</sup> (more beer!) and Steph Lawlor. Each person clambered onto the edge of the basket taking in the eerie silence and pausing briefly to smile for the camera, before falling back into the still air. The smiling faces said it all — it was awesome! More balloon jumps are planned at a cost of £45. If you are interested contact Garry Wilson at the club.

## Headcorn Achievements

- 1<sup>st</sup> freefall Ian Cole, James Wilson
- AFF L8 Ken Compitus
- Cat 8 David Hartley
- FS1 Paul Winsor
- ICI Trigger
- Andy Standen

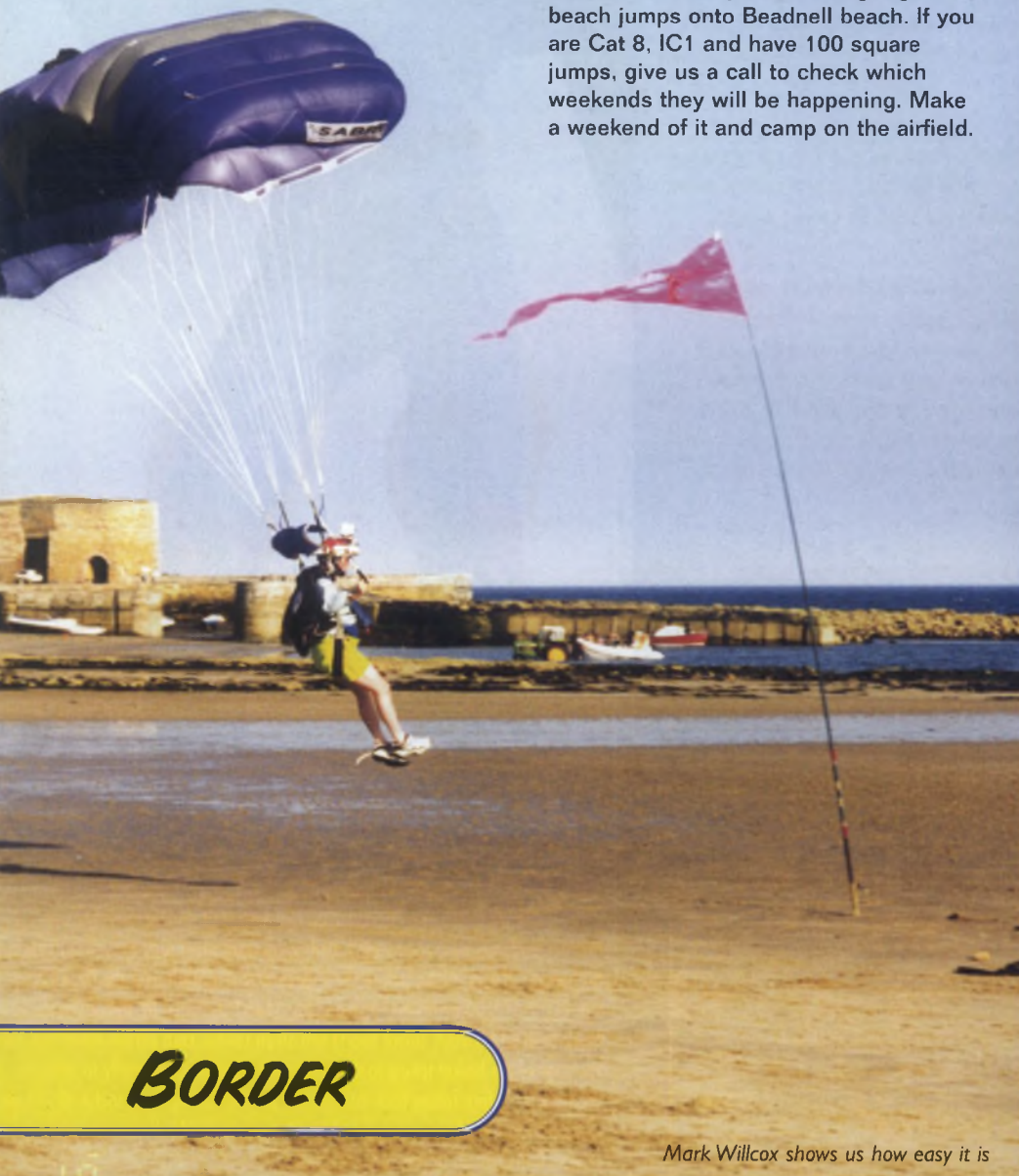
## Jump Numbers

- 100 Paul Winsor, Andy Standen
- 200 Swift, Steve Such
- 300 Polly Parrott, Paul Barnes
- 1,200 Malcolm Darling
- 1,300 Steve Tomkins
- 2,000 Ken Webber
- 4,000 Pete Sizer



# Beach Jumps at Border

This summer we plan on doing regular beach jumps onto Beadnell beach. If you are Cat 8, IC1 and have 100 square jumps, give us a call to check which weekends they will be happening. Make a weekend of it and camp on the airfield.



## BORDER

Mark Willcox shows us how easy it is

Gail Stephenson

Dave Hutchinson celebrated his 1,300<sup>th</sup> jump recently



The hangar doors of Brunton re-opened this year with a new owner, Chris Francis; new CCI, George McGuinness and a new aeroplane, a Cessna 206. Tim and Katherine have left for summer climes and we all wish them well. The leaving party was a good night. Of course if you have a leaving party, then there must be an arriving/opening party too. This was held on the Easter weekend and with the help of our new neighbours (seven microlight pilots), we had a pig roast to celebrate.

George McGuinness is making a name for himself by appearing on Border TV on a programme about adventurous older people. The same weekend we had an unusual static line jumper. He was captain of the paras in World War II who had made many static line jumps. When he passed away, his family thought it would be fitting to scatter his ashes from a static line bag on the Granddaughter's tandem jump, with the rest of his family watching from the ground.

Lyndsey Hutchinson

### Achievements

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Cat 8       | Emma Britten    |
| 100 jumps   | Ed Murdoch      |
| 1,300 jumps | Dave Hutchinson |

## TILSTOCK

A progression week is planned for 8 July. *Air Rage* returned from team training in DeLand, good luck to them for the season. Back at home, team training got well underway in May. We're glad to hear Jamie McCulloch has recovered from his cracked rib, another non-jumping injury, he fell from the toilet! Contact him for more details. (Never say, "Don't send it in to the Mag," Jamie!).

After a 16 year break, welcome back to Joe Diamond (ex CCI), now joined by his 16 year old son, Ben. Also welcome to new pilot, James Seward. Congratulations to Sarah and Tullis Matson on the arrival of Oliver and to Pam Lewtas on her engagement to Simon Davenport (proposal on bended knee in the bunkhouse), but probably less of a congratulations to Dav on the new Skoda!

Liz Rimmer

### Achievements

|                |                                                 |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| First freefall | Hareth Abdulla, Sue Bloomfield<br>Stuart Taylor |
| Cat 8          | Ria Bremner, Tye Grundy<br>Bryan Teeson         |
| 400 jumps      | Dave Kesterton, Steve Smith                     |

## PARAGON

Due to circumstances beyond our control, Paragon has been non-operational for longer than we care to mention — but hey, we're back in the air again! We'd all like to say a big thank you to our new CCI, Rob Noble-Nesbitt for making this possible.

Sandra Inglis

## PETERLEE

### Turbine Boogie

On 24-29 July there will be a TurboLet at Peterlee with the possibility of it staying a few more days if there's the demand. Camp on the airfield or stay B&B in Durham.

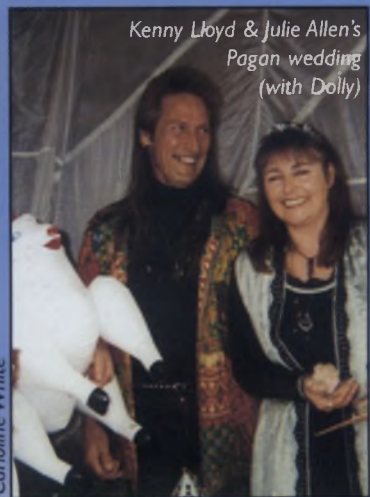
### Peterlee Achievements

|                |                                                            |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| First freefall | Chris Rout, George Hawson<br>Karen Williams, Giles Barnett |
| Cat 8          | Guy Radcliffe                                              |
| IC1            | Guy Radcliffe                                              |

### Jump Numbers

|     |                           |
|-----|---------------------------|
| 100 | Ollie Neuberger           |
| 200 | Paul Dorwood, Bill Steele |
| 300 | Alan Thompson             |

Kenny Lloyd & Julie Allen's  
Pagan wedding  
(with Dolly)



Caroline White

Steve Saunders



## HINTON

Tigs in tandem with Glen Morris,  
Geoff Wood, Dolly the sheep & Mike Browne

Mid April saw a Pagan/Druid wedding with a 60s/70s feel to it between Kenny Lloyd and Julie Allen in Julie's log cabin in west Wales. The ceremony was officiated by Pat Jones and suited them completely.

At Easter we had a barbecue on the Saturday and an Easter egg hunt on the Sunday. Due to the bad weather, it wasn't exactly an egg hunt, more 'open your eyes and there's bound to be an egg in front of you'.

There has been a hive of activity on the 4-way front, with most of our teams going to Florida for training camps and an excuse for Maddie of DZ Sports to buy nearly everything in the DZ shops over there.

Congratulations to Steve Baldwin and girlfriend, Francis, on the arrival of their son Jake.



**Nish Bruce Memorial Trophy:** 3 Meat 1 Veg



**Silver:** Team Clueless



**Bronze:** Sensory O4load

### Nish Bruce Memorial Scrambles

20-21 April was our Nish Bruce Memorial Scrambles competition. There was a large turnout and we got a lot of the comp done on the Saturday, followed by a barbecue and Steve Baldwin's band, *Touch* got the hangar dancing and singing (please Danny, never sing again). Even Pete Carroll and Ian Marshall were dancing! Tig's latest collection of 'little bottles' were handed out so the colour on the DZ the next day was a shade of green. Even the Let crew know to avoid Tigs when he offers them a drink from a strange-looking bottle! The conclusion of the competition was on Sunday. Congratulations to the winners and to the *Far Canals* who won the coveted wooden spoon.

At the end of the weekend was Nish's memorial dive. It included a handful of close friends, his son, Jason and his brother Andy who did a tandem. Tigs also did a tandem with Glen. Geoff (holding Dolly the inflatable sheep, bought for Tigs by Nish) and Mike dived on Tigs' tandem and Emo scattered Nish's ashes over the DZ. A fitting farewell to a much missed friend.

### Fancy Dress Party

May Bank holiday was the excuse to hold a fancy dress party. Loads of people came dressed up but the most daring person had to be Alex Waller, who dressed and impersonated Dave Emo. Chris and Clair were mixing some fantastic cocktails and even though we thought Tigs had run out of his 'little bottles', he managed to find a few more. With a lot of determination (and whinging) by Rich Orford, we dusted down the space hoppers and had a round of Space Hopper Olympics. The casualties were few this time, only taste buds were damaged, and the eventual winner was Alex Waller although he didn't look like a winner the next day when the hangover kicked in (hee hee).

Caroline White

### Nish Bruce's Memorial Dive



### Hinton Achievements

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Cat 8          | Gary Cotten      |
| IC1            | Annette Bollman  |
|                | Clemens Knoblock |
|                | Will Walls       |
| FS1            | Annette Bollman  |
|                | Clemens Knoblock |
|                | Will Walls       |
| FF1            | Danny Jessop     |
|                | Will Walls       |
|                | Marcus Goodsell  |
|                | Adam McAteer     |
| 12hrs freefall | Maddie Moore     |
|                | Dorian Harwood   |
|                | Grahame Meggison |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                  |
|-------|------------------|
| 100   | Dave Hall        |
|       | Annette Bollman  |
|       | Clemens Knoblock |
| 200   | Maria Russell    |
| 300   | Sansy Thorne     |
| 400   | Alex Waller      |
|       | Adam McAteer     |
| 500   | Ivan Betts       |
| 600   | Rob Zealley      |
| 800   | Maddie Moore     |
| 1,000 | Grahame Meggison |
|       | Julie Woodrow    |
| 1,100 | Dorian Harwood   |

Caroline White



Paul Hollow

Niki Banks, president of York Uni Parachute Club over Hibaldstow

## TARGET

### Achievements

|                |                                                                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| First freefall | Phil Horan, Will Power, David Blakeley Rachel Clegg                                  |
| AFF L8         | Mark Chapman, Gavin Holderness Suzie Pratt, Stuart Temple Mike Cockburn, Blair Stent |
| Cat 8          | Rob Harwood, David Downham Adam Nicholson, Blair Stent Helen Armstrong-Brown         |
| IC1            | Liam Dunne                                                                           |
| FS1            | John Fletcher, Blair Thompson Lucy Herrett                                           |
| FF1            | Heather Gumbley, Rob McConachie                                                      |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                                                                  |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 50    | Hannah Swallow, Blair Thompson Jill Walker                       |
| 100   | John Fletcher, Jane Henderson Christie Shuttleworth, Lee Meyrick |
| 200   | Liam Dunne, Baz Braid                                            |
| 400   | Kai Sherwood                                                     |
| 500   | Ruth Covell                                                      |
| 600   | Alec Cotton, Jay Southall                                        |
| 900   | Jamie Elliott                                                    |
| 1,000 | Darren Glover, Noel Purcell                                      |

### New Sheriff in town!

Its official! Target have chosen their new CCI — Paul 'H' Hollow. At 28, Paul is possibly the youngest ever CCI in the UK but has over 2,000 skydives and is a regular jumper and instructor. H is a keen wingsuiter, so anyone interested in having a go can contact him.

### Jumpstastic

Over Easter the DZ was heaving! The G92 worked like a trooper till dark o'clock and most people got eight or nine skydives each day. May bank holiday saw the first Target 4-way FS Scrambles — a roaring success. It was organised and run by Chris Peacock and Andy Ibbetson, who did a fantastic job. The atmosphere was brilliant and all the junior jumpers I spoke to said it was a good opportunity, not only to meet and jump with new people, but to gain new skills and experience competition for the first time. Following the Scrambles' huge success, Target have decided to make it a permanent fixture.

### Results

|   |                                                        |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Norfolk 'n' Points (Andy, Andrew, Terry, John Chris S) |
| 2 | Norfolk 'n' Clue (Chris P, Heather, Rich, Brendan)     |
| 3 | Norfolk 'n' Way (Derrick, Jane, Calvin, Rob)           |

We also held a freefly weekend, a nearly permanent feature with the fastest Turbine in the UK and the friendliest atmosphere you could want. Thanks to freefly team *Euphoria* who coached and organised.

Ruth Covell

## BCPA

### Team Training

In March the *Skypirates* (Steve Rossall, Chris Southworth and Damian Fereday) joined the BCPA trip to Skydive Elsinore in California to do two weeks of team training in preparation for this year's competitions. They took first in the southern regionals at Headcorn, see page 63.

### Achievements

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| First freefall | Chris Adams |
| 200 jumps      | Jo Redman   |

### BCPA Scots

#### 19-21 April, St Andrews

The first ever official BCPA Scottish Nationals went down a storm, with St Andrews providing a great location for an unfortunately poor weather weekend. There was plenty of enthusiasm for jumping despite the conditions, with a packed manifest for lobs from 2,500ft to the dizzying heights of a full five grand. Everybody had a great time regardless, with the only licensed DZ bar in Scotland refusing to close until the last man had gone, while free green stuff ensured that the CCI's jokes were mercifully lost in the haze.

### BCPA Northerns

#### 3-7 May, Cark

87 skydivers were registered at Cark, where the super-fast TurboLet and student dedicated Islander were the ideal complement to the friendly atmosphere and can-do attitude.

### Freefly

The first BCPA freefly event was eagerly competed, with junior (pre-FF1) and senior (post-FF1) skydivers each performing pre-declared solo manoeuvres filmed by the coaches. Dives were marked on technical merit and artistic impression, with Gordon Morison of Strathclyde clinching victory in the junior category and gaining his FF1 at the same time.



## STRATHALLAN

Dashing Danny Branson

Photo: Jim Stevenson

The turbine is back and Strathallan is now open on Friday evenings from 5pm right through the summer. On our first Friday evening we saw a large Indian village filling the camping area as good weather, loads of jumps and serious partying got the season well under way. The tallest indoor climbing wall in Scotland is now complete. Kieran, Bob the Builder and gang have been busy constructing this new facility. Best wishes from Strathallan to Billy, new CCI Rob and all the staff at Paragon.

Anne Johnson

### Achievements

|              |                                            |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1st freefall | Jim Robertson, David Broadley, Evan Barlow |
| Cat 8        | Jeff Simpson, Kenny Shaw, Rob Dargie       |
| IC1          | Bill Mudie, Dugald Robertson               |
| FF1          | Alan Russell                               |
| 1hr freefall | Joyce Carter                               |

### Jump Numbers

|             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 500 jumps   | Rupert Connell, Andy Frew |
| 1,100 jumps | Calum Grant               |
| 1,500 jumps | Eddie Jones               |
| 5,000 jumps | Billy Somerville          |



### Junior Freely Reults

- 1 Gordon Morison
- 2 Tim Cooke
- 3 Marius Hjelste

### Senior Freely

- 1 Will Bradbury
- 2 Kai Sherwood
- 3 Rupert Connell & Rob McConachie

### Experienced Accuracy

- 1 Kai Sherwood
- 2 Brett Channon
- 3 San Saunders

### Student Accuracy

- 1 Will Powell
- 2 Simon Mitchell
- 3 James Davies & Mike Vasilyer

### Overall Results

- |   |             |     |
|---|-------------|-----|
| 1 | Leeds       | 145 |
| 2 | UWE         | 131 |
| 3 | York        | 50  |
| 4 | Strathclyde | 32  |
| 5 | Salford     | 26  |
| 6 | Manchester  | 24  |

### Weekend Awards

*Student of the Weekend*  
Chris Adams  
*Best Dressed Playboy*  
Dan Argent  
*Best Dressed Playgroup*  
Sheffield Hallam

### Our Sponsors

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Cypres  
North West Parachute Centre

Thanks to our superb sponsors who ensured that everyone went away with something, from freely pants and audible altis to t-shirts, bum bags and mugs.

Dave Thompson  
& Damian Fereday

**BCPA**  
British Collegiate  
Parachute  
Association

[www.bcpa.org.uk](http://www.bcpa.org.uk)

### Muzik & The Party

On Saturday night the hangar turned into the playboy mansion! Super smooth saxophonist Nick Battles kicked off the fun before *Deep Spade* spun funky house through to the early hours. Bunny girls adorned the tuxedoed males and Nina provided extra fun for all, not least 'Daniella', our own shaven queen! Meanwhile, the barbecue was fantastic and the bar was cheap!

### Fun Jumps

Regan Tetlow and Dan Parker headed the coaching and load organising, with plenty of help from the more experienced, to ensure that no-one shied away from the skies. Freely groups, flatfly groups, tracking dives, WARP and loads of student progression ensured the planes were rarely on the ground. 50 lifts and over 700 jumps were completed over the weekend.

### 3-way FS

There was no decline in enthusiasm for 3-way FS, with eight teams entered and everyone from Cat 8s to intermediate champions, team *Quest* who took part in the pseudo-scrumbled competition.

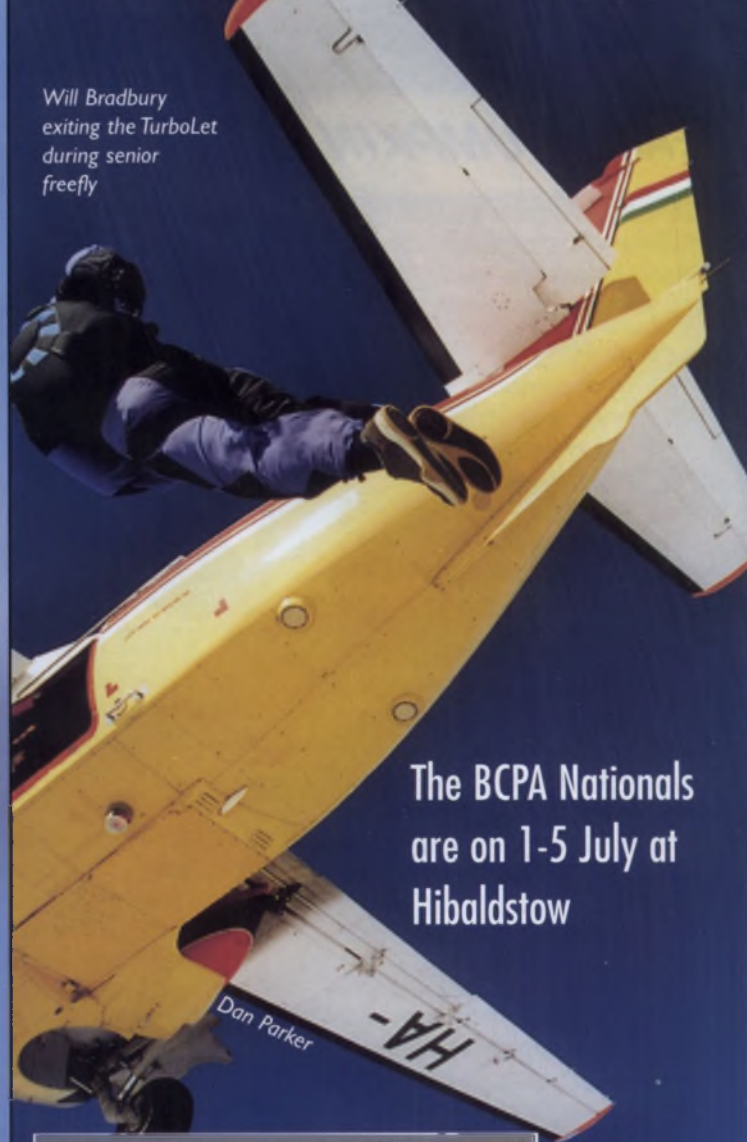
### Results

- 1 *Cheeky Monkeys*  
(Gita Weller, Tim Cooke, Oliver Van Bilsen)
- 2 *No Worries*  
(Lynne Murray, Rupert Connell, Niki Banks)
- 3 *Mini Minxes*  
(Beth King, Felicity Wood, Geetha Narayanan)

### Accuracy

Accuracy also went down well, with Will Powell and Kai Sherwood taking away the glory with first places in the student and experienced categories respectively.

Will Bradbury  
exiting the TurboLet  
during senior  
freely



The BCPA Nationals  
are on 1-5 July at  
Hibaldstow

Skypirates, team training in Elsinore



Bunny girls  
Felicity Wood &  
Karen Foster



Dan Parker



Kai Sherwood

skydive  
June 2002

## TEAM PUMPKIN

Team Pumpkin have been really busy attending AFF and Sky U courses in Elsinore or jumping hard and getting all kinds of qualifications.

### Achievements

|           |                                                                                        |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cat 8     | Mike Beeden                                                                            |
| FS1       | Gary Mcandlish, Mike Beeden<br>Michaela Van Es                                         |
| FF1       | Adam '3 names' Mcateer                                                                 |
| SS1       | Dave Fish                                                                              |
| IC1       | Mike Beeden                                                                            |
| 200 jumps | Chris Steele, Andrew Stewart<br>Hossein Panbechi, Jo Brookbanks<br>Peter 'Ming' Warren |

Mike Beeden, friend of Chris Steele who is a long time TP member, went to Elsinore with Chris. Mike completed his AFF course in nine jumps, no problems on the consolidations, made a very impressive check-out skydive and achieved his Cat 8 in seven days. He then cracked on with his Sky U course, gaining his FS1 and, soon, his IC1 and B licence – a total of 67 jumps in three weeks! He was a great student and is now a happy and confident 'young' skydiver, well done mate!

In a continuing effort to broaden UK horizons, fifteen members of TP visited Wild Geese PC in May for a long weekend. A special welcome back to Del Lloyd who has been out of the sport for a while.

*Martin Williams (Chief Pumpkin)*  
[www.teampumpkin.com](http://www.teampumpkin.com)

Edinburgh Uni Skydiving Club



Max Griffiths

## ST ANDREWS

### BCPA Scots Meet

The BCPA Scots meet was held at St Andrews and got off to a great start in the bar on the Friday night. The meet was attended by a number of differing university clubs from throughout the UK. For weeks before the competition there was great discussion as to how the accuracy target should be done. Louise, the organiser of the event enlisted the help of Andy Hutchison and Alastair MacLaren to mow the accuracy pad although Alan came to the rescue with the buzzer pad that he personally constructed. Saturday's FS competition was halted due to lack of altitude but the accuracy competition went ahead. The most amusing part of the competition was the rivalry between Alan and Rick White from Sheffield Club, the results of which Alan is still disputing! The party on Saturday night saw the introduction of the luminous green punch – bizarrely enough, no-one thought to question its ingredients!

### Goodbye Graham

Due to job commitments Graham Harris (co-owner) is uprooting to Houston (what hardship!) He knows to expect jumpers camping on his floor throughout the year. The staff and jumpers at the centre wish him, Trish and Ross well in their new homes.

*Gordon Morison*

### Achievements

|              |                                                           |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Cat 8        | Andy Hutchison<br>Colin Booth<br>Jim Rae                  |
| Grad AFF     | Hamish Reid<br>David Carr                                 |
| 1st freefall | Kevin Mullen                                              |
| FS1          | Sarah Rhind<br>Darren Rose<br>Jon Smullen<br>Derek Burton |
| IC1          | Sarah Rhind<br>Gordon Morison<br>Andy Hutchison           |
| FF1          | Gordon Morison                                            |

### Jump Numbers

|       |                                                             |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 50    | Sarah Rhind<br>Darren Rose<br>Jon Smullen<br>Gordon Morison |
| 100   | Graeme McKay                                                |
| 400   | Ian Johnson                                                 |
| 1,000 | Dave Pritchard                                              |
| 3,000 | Roy Bannerman                                               |

## NORTH WEST PARA CENTRE

*Photos:*  
Duncan Stott  
Ellen Nath  
Pete Hughes



*Jan & Pete  
Hughes*

### 30th Anniversary

NWPC recently celebrated its 30th anniversary (see pages 12-15) and, in honour of the 70s, a fancy dress disco was organised. What a night – the platforms, the bizarre costumes and more big wigs than you could shake a stick at! Prizes went to the best costumes of the night. A well deserved first prize went to Kei, Jo, Mick and Wendy as ABBA. Everyone got down and boogied to the old tunes and Duncan astounded everyone with his sudden hair growth (I think he got quite attached to that wig) and his uncanny resemblance to Donny Osmond!

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Stuart and Martine Morris on the birth of their daughter Georgina Alicia on 28 March. They would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and support. Lil' G, is doing well and is already practising the mantis position! Congrats to Duncan Haynes on getting his jump pilot rating. He worked really hard at getting this, involving building up hours on a Boeing 757 courtesy of Air2000. He is now a regular pilot at NWPC. Happy birthday to

Drew Cummings who was 18 in April – no longer Mum's little soldier, although his Mum, Carol, was there holding his bib whilst he attempted a yard of ale in the pub! There have been a few regular Preston Uni Students at our DZ and Dave O'Connor from the Uni got his first freefall just before Easter and followed it up by qualifying Cat 8 two weeks later! Kate Surkova wasn't far behind, gaining her Cat 8 also a few days later.

### Competitions

The FS Skills weekend was organised by Stan Peake. 6 and 8-way organised loads were taken up and gave everyone a chance to improve their skills and seek advice. NWPC hosted the BCPA Northerns in May with 3-way FS comps, freely (coached by Dan Parker) and accuracy. There was a great turnout and the feedback from the collegiates was brilliant. A total of 738 descents were made over the bank holiday including a sought after Cark record. We achieved a 3 point 16-way! See BCPA write-up, pages 66-67.

*Michelle Meakins*

### CARK Achievements

|                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| First freefall    | Marcus Barrington, Dave O'Connor |
| Cat 8             | Dave O'Connor, Kate Surkova      |
| FF1               | Andy Brass, Mick Carruthers      |
| FS1               | Rachel Stott                     |
| Jump pilot rating | Duncan Haynes                    |

### Jump Numbers

|     |                                            |
|-----|--------------------------------------------|
| 300 | Kay Carruthers, Rob Frost,<br>Carol Sutton |
| 500 | Keith Luty                                 |
| 600 | Gary Turner                                |
| 700 | Pete Hughes                                |

# NETHERAVON

Team VNE arrived back from OeLand in Florida after a ten day training camp with Solly Williams. They did 79 jumps plus three hours at the SkyVenture wind tunnel. The camp got off to a shaky start with Darren Birkin recovering from an emergency appendectomy, Andy Scott breaking out in a cold sweat on take-off after the Nomad incident, Martin Soulsby hobbling round on some impressive blisters after the London Marathon and Kev Sargent spending the 'camp' wearing ladies knickers courtesy of Wilma. Commiserations to Mark Whitehead for not getting his Cat 8 – better luck next time! More can be found about VNE at

[www.vne.info](http://www.vne.info)

Changing Rooms have been in again, and given the manifest and reception a brand new look but, during the makeover process, the achievements list went missing. Apologies if you're not included in this Mag so see manifest and we'll make sure you're included next time.

POPS have a new recruit in Tommy 'twelve rigs' Trindall, who reached the milestone of 1,500 jumps on his 40th birthday. He's now working on getting cocoa in as bar stock! Congrats to Sandie Nicholson on reaching her half century. Thanks to the new Mrs 'Tiddlemouse' Wallis (formerly Ingie) for organising an excellent skydivers' piss up – I mean wedding reception! Thanks to the father of the bride for letting that one slip!

Easter was a very sad time at Netheravon, as we lost a much respected and dear friend, Pete Lambson. Our thoughts are with Hilary, Ben and Christie at this sad time. See page 47.

Kath Salisbury & Mark Whitehead



## Nethers Achievements

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| Cat 8 | Craig White    |
|       | Ian Robertson  |
| FF1   | Bob Soutar     |
| FS1   | Clare Mitchell |

## Jump Numbers

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| 700   | Geoff Halls    |
| 400   | Tessa Rome     |
| 1,500 | Chris Davies   |
|       | Tommy Trindall |

Photos: Gwyn Burtch

# WILD GEESE

## Pay Us a Visit

On St Patrick's weekend we were invaded by a load of Scotsmen from Paragon. Other UK centres also arrived for the fun. Even though the weather was not kind everyone managed to get a few jumps and at night, more than a few drinks. A group from Bridlington also dropped in for a week's jumping. They had the run of the centre and jumped to their hearts' content. The word's out we have a great centre and you can be on as many lifts in the Caravan as you want, so why not take advantage of the cheap flights from the UK and pay us a visit?

TV cameras arrived to make a short clip for BBC NI. Everyone enjoyed the day's filming except the poor presenter who had to do a tandem jump. He looked so nervous in the plane that they didn't use any clips of the ride to altitude. The finished programme looked good and the Geese got eight minutes of TV fame.

## Wild Geese's 19th Anniversary Meet

We celebrated the centre's 19th Anniversary with a fun packed May bank holiday weekend. On Saturday was a 'winner takes all' accuracy competition which created fierce rivalry with all levels of competitor trying for a piece of the tuffet. For a while Nigel and Mike were in the lead, both with tandems. We then continued the fun with a barbecue and party in the local pub. On Sunday was a 3-way scratch FS competition (one senior, one intermediate and one junior) which generated more good-natured but intense competitive spirit. This was a very close competition, and in the last round only one point separated teams *Ask the Captain* and *Where's Archie*. On Monday everyone was jumped out so after a few lifts it was time to relax in the sun with a cool beer.

John McCourt

## 19th Anniversary Results

### Accuracy Competition

|        |              |
|--------|--------------|
| First  | Stevie Kerr  |
| Second | Mike Murphy  |
| Third  | Sean McKenna |

### 3-way Scratch Meet

|   |                                                                                                     |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Ask the Captain</i> (with an unbelievable 10 points)<br>Mick Gook, Colin Stevenson, Kenny Rooney |
| 2 | <i>Where's Archie</i><br>Stevie Kerr, Archie McGuigan, Keith Hoy                                    |
| 3 | <i>Better than Stevie</i><br>Paul Doman, Reggie Diamond, Steven Marley                              |

### Achievements

|     |                                        |
|-----|----------------------------------------|
| FS1 | Keith Hoy, Sean McKenna, Steven Marley |
|-----|----------------------------------------|



Michelle Meakins & Duncan Stott

Mick, Wendy, Jo and Kei

Mark & Anthony Lloyd



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1795 JS Texel



# Drop Zone Focus

Photo: Neil Sharples



## Black Knights Parachute Centre

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane,  
Cockerham, Lancaster LA2 0DY  
Tel Weekend: 01524 791 820  
Fax/Tel Weekdays: 01772 717 624  
Email: [info@bkpc.co.uk](mailto:info@bkpc.co.uk)  
Web: [www.bkpc.co.uk](http://www.bkpc.co.uk)

### OWNERS/OPERATORS

Phil Cavanagh, Jeff Illidge, Cliff Lloyd

CCI: Phil Cavanagh

**INSTRUCTORS:** Jeff Illidge, Cliff Lloyd,  
Dave Ashton, Jim Swan, Chris Taylor,  
Danny Smith, Billy Sharples

**PILOTS:** Gordon Cooper, Jeff Illidge,  
Kevin Johnstone, Clive Watkins

### AIRCRAFT

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Cessna C-185 | 5 places  |
| BN Islander  | 10 places |

### FIRST JUMP COURSES

RAPS, Tandem, AFF

### JUMP PRICES

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Experienced, to altitude | £16 |
| RAPS                     | £31 |
| WARP (inc coach's slot)  | £32 |

### DZ SERVICES

A rigging service is available from Bernadette Whitaker and we offer packers and camera flyers.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Progression and fun weeks are held twice per year, including organised fun jumps, with Biplane, Balloon and water jumps on request. There are plenty of instructors available for those wishing to make real headway in their training. Other activities include a death slide, clay pigeon shooting and go-karting.

### LOAD ORGANISING/COACHING

There is no formal load organising. Just turn up and we'll introduce you to some of our jumpers and get you on a load. There are several WARP coaches at the DZ.

### FOOD & DRINK

Mo's Place sells cooked breakfasts, meals, snacks and beverages; served with a smile and a scouse accent! There are regular barbecues in the summer.

### EATING OUT

The Manor Inn, Cockerham village has been the traditional drinking hole for BKPC jumpers for as long as anyone can remember. It has top food and good beer. Bumbles Restaurant in Cockerham is cosy and oak-beamed, serving good food and real ale. Excellent cuisine can be found at Thurnham Mill Restaurant with its canal-side location.

Lancaster city has award winning fish 'n' chip shops, Chinese, Italian and Indian restaurants, plus all the usual fast food chains. The country town of Garstang has

an old English tithe barn with food served in the baronial way.

### DZ ACCOMMODATION

Clean bunkhouses are available on the DZ. There are four rooms, each sleeping four people. There's a newly refurbished shower block and free camping and caravanning.

### LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

We are situated on the Lancashire coastal walk on the North West coast, so we have stunning views over to the Lake District, the Bowland Fells, down towards North Wales and across the bay to the Isle of Man.

Blackpool Pleasure Beach is 30 minutes away and has some awesome rides. There's a dry ski slope 40 minutes away. The seaside town of Morecambe is just up the road and has all the usual attractions including ten pin bowling. Glasson Dock is a working port with pubs and shops. Also boats can be hired at the Lancaster Canal.

The historic city of Lancaster is 15 minutes away, with lots to see for the more culturally inclined. As a University city, there's plenty of nightlife and the Uni's leisure (swimming and sports) complex.

### OVERVIEW

BKPC is a small but friendly DZ and is very supportive of its students throughout their training. There is always someone to jump with.

## Directions

**By road:** BKPC is ten minutes from J33 on the M6. Take the A6 South for one mile, turn right (signed Cockerham/Glasson Dock) until the T-junction. Turn right into Cockerham village. At the T-junction with the Manor Pub on the right, turn right onto the A588. After a mile, turn left into Hillam Lane. At the end of the lane, carry straight on to the centre's car park.

**By rail:** We can also collect you from Lancaster Railway station if you give us some advanced notice. Just phone or drop us an email and we'll arrange to pick you up.



Map kindly provided by Visitmap 01342 823423

## Recommended Local Accommodation

### Foxlea

01524 791357  
£18/Person

### Stanley Lodge Farm house

01524 791863  
£18/Person

### The Stork Pub & B&B

01524 751234  
£40/Room, £24.50 Single

### Thurnham Mill Hotel

01524 752852  
£50 Double, £35 Single

All within five minutes of the DZ.





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# BPA Associated UK Organisations

## Associated Organisations

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

### Active Skydiving

Glengoyan, St Fillans,  
Perthshire PH6 2ND  
Tel/Fax: 01764 685316  
Mobile: 07803 041348  
scotty@skydive.prestel.co.uk  
www.commercepark.co.uk/skydive  
Specialist AFF School offering residential courses in Spain and USA, video included on all jumps. Run by Scotty Milne, ex Red Devil, 5 times British Champion, with over 7,000 jumps. Advanced Instructor & Examiner, Scotty uses the latest equipment and teaching techniques for best results.

### Airwaves International Skydiving School

78 High Street, Bexley,  
Kent DA5 1LB  
Tel: 01322 557375  
Mobile: 07802 472 566  
France: 00 33 (0) 619 605 997  
skydive@air-waves.co.uk  
www.air-waves.co.uk  
BPA Approved instructors Rod Bartholomew (22 years experience), Chris Lynch (ex XL), & Coco Cazalas (USPA) offer AFF, RAPS / RAPS progression, tandem, FS, FF and team coaching at our beautiful seaside resorts in Royan, Corsica and Florida. Operating full-time all year, our professional and personal skydiving holidays have everything. Video included. UK support on return.

### British Collegiate Parachute Association

Dave Thompson - Chairman  
Mill Hollow Barn, Stockwell Lane, Sulgrave, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 2RS  
www.bcpa.org.uk chairman@bcpa.org.uk  
The BCPA aims to promote parachuting and skydiving at collegiate level. We hold events for our 25 affiliated university clubs and we provide help on setting up and running these clubs. Most importantly we provide a community where university skydivers of all abilities can find like-minded people to jump and socialise with.

### David Morris Action Sports

2 Daleside, Cotgrave,  
Nottingham NG12 3QA  
Tel/Fax: 0115 989 2050  
Mobile: 0777 498 6600  
dave@daleside2.demon.co.uk www.daleside2.demon.co.uk  
Dave specialises in AFF courses and tandem introductions in the UK, Spain and France. The AFF course includes free jumpsuit, altimeter, helmet, goggles, video log with re-jumps at cost. A great deal if you want to learn to skydive. Dave has over 7,000 jumps and is a BPA Tandem and AFF Instructor and Examiner.

### East Coast Parachute Centre

8 Burns Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS  
Tel: 01245 268772  
slattery@blueyonder.co.uk  
RAPS, static line and progression courses. AFF and tandem — UK and abroad. Tandem video by arrangement.  
Currently sharing facilities with the London Parachute School at Lewknor drop zone.

### FreeFall Company

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

### Parachute Training Services

11 Godwyn Close, Abingdon,  
Oxon OX14 1BU  
Tel/Fax: 01235 529570  
doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk  
www.paratrg.demon.co.uk  
Run by Doug Peacock, BPA Instructor/Examiner. The complete RAPS package, PTS offers one jump introductory courses with the option of individual progression training through Cat 8 and advanced grades. Operating at Hinton Airfield in conjunction with Hinton Skydiving Centre. Six days per week, call for further information.

### PhD Skydiving

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

### Pops UK

Pete Shew, 6a Amptill Rd, Shefford,  
Beds, SG17 5BD  
Tel: 01462 638312  
pete@thepops.org www.thepops.org  
A society of skydivers over forty. Regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

### Red Devils

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,  
Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
Tel: 01980 678211 or 300 or 212  
Fax: 01980 678349  
reddevils@reddevilonline.com  
www.reddevilonline.com  
Displays, tandem and RAPS courses.

### Scottish Sports Parachute Association

Bunny McGeechan (Chairman, SSPA),  
Strathallan Airfield,  
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE  
Tel: 01698 812 443 (weekdays)  
Tel: 01764 662 572 (weekends)  
info@sspa.co.uk www.sspa.co.uk  
Newsgroup: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scotspa  
The SSPA aims to promote parachuting in Scotland and provide training grants and subsidies for all aspects of the sport.

### Skydive Academy

Peterlee Parachute Centre, Shotton Colliery,  
Co Durham DH6 2NH  
Contact: Ian Rosenvinge  
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261  
skydiveacademy@aol.com  
http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy  
7 day AFF courses our speciality. Late May-mid September at Peterlee. Outside this period, courses can be arranged abroad.  
Centre 15 mins drive from Durham city (2.45hrs from Kings Cross and less than 2 hrs from Edinburgh). B&B in local pubs from £12.50, in Durham City from £18.

### Skydive Limited

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,  
Peterborough PE8 6NE  
Tel: 01832 280066 Fax: 01832 280067  
Mobile: 0785 000 7178  
chris@skydiveltd.com www.skydiveltd.com  
Chris Allen, Ex Red Devil, CCI, BPA AFF/Tandem Examiner, USPA Safety and Training advisor and Skydive University UK co-ordinator. Offers AFF courses in the UK and abroad. Also available: team coaching, Skydive University one-on-one programme and tandem.

# Overseas DZs

## Overseas Military Affiliated DZs

*These Drop Zones are run under the BPA Operations Manual*

### Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,  
Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus  
Tel: Office 00 357 474 4337  
DZ: 00 357 474 4245  
Fax: 00 357 474 4180 skydive@logos.cy.net

### RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)  
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,  
Germany, BFPO 16  
Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378  
Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740  
awright91@aol.com

## Overseas Associated Organisations

*The BPA takes no responsibility for any training or advice given by these organisations as they do not necessarily operate under the BPA Operations Manual*

### Centro de Paracaidismo Costa Brava

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

### Florida Skydiving Centre

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

### Freefall Adventures

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

### Skydive Elsinore

Mission Trail & Corydon Road, Lake Elsinore,  
California, USA  
Tel: 001 909 245 9939  
Fax: 001 909 245 3661  
skydive@skydiveelsinore.com  
www.skydiveelsinore.com

# DIARY DATES

## JUNE

**15-16 VNE FS Coaching Roadshow**  
Target Skysports 0113 250 5600  
www.skydiving.co.uk

**15-23 Target's 1st Summer Boogie**  
Target Skysports 0113 250 5600  
www.skydiving.co.uk

**18 BPA Council Meeting**  
skydive@bpa.org.uk 0116 278 5271

**17-22 Big Formation Training Camp**  
Brienne le Château, France 0033 66 108 5555  
~vr16brienne@yahoo.fr

**21 Midsummer Dinner Dance**  
Headcorn 01622 890 862  
ruth@cooper123.freemove.co.uk  
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**22-23 Women's British Record Warm-Up Weekend**  
Langar 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

**22-23 New Age Northern Regionals**  
Wild Geese 028 2955 8609  
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk  
parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk

**23-30 Ekstremsportveko**  
Voss, Norway www.ekstremsportveko.com

**28-29 POPS Meet**  
Hinton 01295 812 300  
info@skydive.co.uk www.thepops.org

**29-30 Rodders 4-way Meet**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343

**29-13 Jul Golden Knights Training Camp**  
The Ranch, New York www.ranchskydive.com

## JULY

**1-5 BCPA Nationals & AGM**  
Hibaldstow nationals@bcpa.org.uk  
www.bcpa.org.uk

**3 Tandem Record Day**  
Aiming for the largest number of tandem skydives in one day - Langar 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

**4-8 Independence Day Boogie**  
The Ranch, New York www.ranchskydive.com

**5-21 Østre Åra Summer Boogie**  
24 hour skydiving in Norway - Dane Kenny:  
dane@kenny@aol.com 07816 821 204  
www.skydivenorway.no info@fallskjerm.no

**6-7 FS Central Regionals**  
British Parachute Schools 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

**6-7 Hinton CF Festival**  
Hinton 01295 812 300  
including CF seminar www.skydive.co.uk

**6-14 CF Spektakel 2002**  
National Paracentrum, Teuge, NL cfspektakel@fly.to  
http://fly.to/cfspektakel

**8-12 FS Week**  
Headcorn 01622 890 862  
headcorn@btconnect.com  
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**8-13 Student Progression Week**  
Tilstock 01948 841 111  
www.theparachuteclub.co.uk  
skydive@theparachuteclub.co.uk

**8-14 European Freestyle Convention**  
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com  
www.lapalisse-aero.com

**9-14 Jack Jefferies 4-way Training Camp**  
The Ranch, New York www.ranchskydive.com

**13-14 4-way Meet**  
Headcorn 01622 890 862  
headcorn@btconnect.com  
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**13-14 New Age Roadshow**  
Peterborough 01832 280 490  
Coaches tbc www.skydivesibson.com  
Nigel Holland: holland.nigel@aol.com

**13-20 Swedish Friluft Festival**  
Skydive Skane info@skydiveskane.m.se  
www.friluft.com 0046 707 979 757

**17-18 Cancer Survivor World Record Skydive**  
Skydive San Marcos, Texas, USA 001 512 335 3263  
talbano@austin.rr.com

**18-23 Airspeed Basic Tunnel Camps**  
www.tunnelcamp.com 001 480 283 2603

**19-21 7:20 Boogie**  
Skydive info@freedomofflight.tv  
Long Island http://freedomofflight.tv

**19-21 POPS Meet**  
Perg bei Linz, Austria pete@thepops.org  
www.thepops.org

**20-21 Wingsuit Festival**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343

**20-21 New Age Southern Regionals**  
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk  
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

**27-3 Aug World Cup of Champions**  
Lucenec, Slovakia lsc@pronet.sk

**26-28 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
Paracentrum Texel www.paracentrumtexel.nl  
Netherlands info@paracentrumtexel.nl

**27-29 FS British Nationals**  
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600  
1st weekend (4-way) www.skydiving.co.uk

**28 Bewl Reservoir Jump**  
Headcorn 01622 890 862  
headcorn@btconnect.com  
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**39-4 Aug Italian National Championships**  
Skydive Marche 0039 0734 964 488  
Italy info@skydivemarche.com  
www.skydivemarche.com

## AUGUST

**1-31 Summer Boogie**  
Skydive Marche 0039 0734 964 488  
Italy info@skydivemarche.com  
www.skydivemarche.com

**2-11 World Freefall Convention**  
Rantoul National Aviation Center, Illinois, USA wffc@freefall.com  
www.freefall.com

**2-11 North West Sky Fest**  
Cark 01539 558 672  
www.skydive-northwest.com

**3-5 FS British Nationals**  
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600  
2nd weekend (8-way) www.skydiving.co.uk

**3-10 Hercules Boogie**  
Lidköping, Sweden info@herculesboogie.com  
www.herculesboogie.com

**4-24 Flygang Sardinia Boogie**  
Castiadas, Costa Rei, Sardinia, Italy 0039 348 406 5874  
flygang@libero.it

## Key

**BPA**  
**Formation Skydiving**  
**Canopy Formation**  
**Style & Accuracy**  
**Boogies**  
**Freestyle & Skysurf**  
**POPS**  
**Speed Skydiving**  
**Unclassified**

**6-8 Jack Jefferies Big-way Open Challenge**  
The Ranch, New York www.ranchskydive.com

**8 BPA STC & Riggers Meeting**  
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271  
skydive@bpa.org.uk

**9-11 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
Leutkirch, Germany contact info tbc  
www.speedskydiving.net

**10-11 CF Southern Regionals**  
Cornwall 01841 540 691  
www.skydivepc.com cpc@madasafish.com

**10-12 New Age British Nationals**  
Peterborough 01832 280 490  
skydive@skydivesibson.com

**10-18 Target's 2nd Summer Boogie**  
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600  
www.skydiving.co.uk

**10-18 Espace Boogie**  
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com  
www.lapalisse-aero.com

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

**14-18 US Pond Swooping Nationals**  
The Ranch, New York www.ranchskydive.com

**15-17 International 16-way Meet**  
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com  
First Round www.lapalisse-aero.com

**17-18 POPS Meet**  
Bridlington 01262 677 367  
www.thepops.org www.britishskysports.co.uk

**17-18 Swoop Canopy Seminar**  
Hibaldstow, with Chris Lynch & Pete Allum  
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk 0113 250 5600  
www.skydiving.co.uk

**17-23 Armed Forces Championships**  
Netheravon 01980 678 245  
4-way FS/5&A www.netheravon.com



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Ottawa www.skydivichicago.com

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parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk

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**14-16 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
Bottens, Switzerland contact info tbc  
(exc. first 14 days) so long as doctor certifies totally unable  
www.speedskydiving.net

**20-22 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
Lapalisse, France info@lapalisse-aero.com  
www.lapalisse-aero.com

**21-22 Scrambles II**  
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**10 BPA STC & Riggers Meeting**  
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**4-13 FS & CF World Cup**  
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**14-19 Women's World Record**  
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**14-20 CF Seminar**  
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**22 BPA Council Meeting**  
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**26-3 Nov Halloween Boogie**  
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www.lapalisse-aero.com

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