

# skydive

*The Mag*

August 2003



The British Parachute  
Association Magazine



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"What UK skydiving lacks in weather it more than makes up for in its magazine"

Simon Ward

*Skydive Mag wishes Simon all the best for a full and speedy recovery from his accident (see JM's Newsround)*

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**skydive**  
 August 2003



# ATOM

Legend

by **Frick Atmonauti**

(School of Human Flight, France-Italy)



# Vol

[vɔl] n.m. flying, flight.  
Navigation in the atmosphere  
using the gravity to generate  
the lift necessary to the perfect  
control of a trajectory.



# skydive The Mag

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Page 1

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## editorial

For once the summer has been kind to us, hurrah! Hence, we have lots of British events in this Mag, including the first UK swoop tour, the Classics, CF and Scottish Nationals plus a plethora of happenings at various locations, all reported in Club News. Those who see their event in Club News and wish it was a separate article may be interested to know how we choose - it's the photographs. The quality of the images we're sent will define whether or not a full report will be visually exciting and interesting to those who weren't there as well as those who were.

Of course the importance of the occasion makes a difference; the Nationals always has a separate article - and rightly so. But, again, the better the pictures are, the more space it will have. This year we have the biggest article yet on the Classics Nationals, as we were sent many cool snaps of the action. The Canopy Formation Nationals, also at Hinton, have twice the space allocated last year, because we had good pictures. There is a limit to the number of prizegiving photos a page can stand without being boring. So, if you've an event coming up which you feel deserves a good slot in the next Mag, make sure you arrange for photos to do the occasion justice, so I can return the favour with a satisfying article.

Colin, my new fantastic right hand man at the office, is adding his help to the image problem. A photographer by trade, Colin's been using our Olympus digital camera with excellent results. The 'Stop Press' photos overleaf of our FS 4-way champions, were taken by Colin. We went to print between the 4- and 8-way FS Nationals at Hibaldstow, so these images would not have been possible in the timescale without Colin. He also took many of the kit photos for the 'Starters - All the Gear' article on page 32.

In other areas too he is proving awesome. Of course I miss Bev's cheery personality and outstanding efficiency but Colin's in-depth knowledge of the sport has already proved invaluable. This is the next natural stage of growth for the magazine as it helps me tremendously to have another skydiver's opinion in the office. Meanwhile, Bev has found a new job and house in Cornwall and is enjoying a break from us nutters.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate ALL our nationals medal-winners, especially the many who set new records. There will be a full report on the FS and artistic events next issue but meanwhile, turn over to see our happy 4-way winners in each category...

*Lesley*

## deadlines

| Issue    | To Reader   | Copy Deadline |
|----------|-------------|---------------|
| October  | 16 October  | 6 September   |
| December | 16 December | 6 November    |
| February | 16 February | 6 January     |

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

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

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

Rob McVey, from Black Knights Parachute Centre, Cockerham



Photo: Team Elsinore Eclipse

## FS National Champions

Hot off the press are photos of our National 4-way Champions, full report next issue. Results are available from the BPA website in the mean time.



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## features



### UK Swooping Tour 6

*The first ever canopy swoop event in Great Britain*

### Style and Accuracy Nationals 18

*A breath of fresh air sweeps into a classic event*

### CF Nationals 22

*Canopy stacking too is in revival*

### Martin Siddell 25

*Dave Howerski remembers his friend*

### Stay Safe 27

*The good stuff we should all take note of*

### 2 Canopies Out 30

*What to do if you're under a main and reserve*

### For Starters: All The Gear 32

*Skydive University coach Anne Maxwell goes through the equipment you're gonna need*

### Looking Cool?... 38

*Looking Cool... Looking like a Twit....*

### Flight Test: Sabre2 46

*Al Macartney puts the Sabre2 through its paces*

### Scottish Nationals 52

*Jim Stevenson's super shots from this friendly meet*



## regulars

|                      |    |                              |     |
|----------------------|----|------------------------------|-----|
| Subscribe to The Mag | 1  | Club News                    | 60  |
| JMs Newsround        | 12 | BPA Affiliated Drop Zones    | 74  |
| BPA Matters          | 25 | BPA Associated Organisations | 77  |
| Dive Doctor          | 37 | Classified Adverts           | 79  |
| Kit News             | 44 | Puzzle                       | 80  |
| Letters              | 51 | Diary                        | IBC |
| In Confidence        | 57 | Advertisers Index            | IBC |



# UK Canopy Swooping Tour

You've seen them swoop at your drop zone, or at a bigger DZ abroad. They're the guys that really know how to fly. You hear them before you see them. They know how to handle their canopy, put it through its paces and achieve maximum efficiency from it swooping soooo far and going soooo fast.

But how good are they really? They can do all this on a big open drop zone but when they really have to dial their canopy in and put it exactly, and I mean exactly, where they want to, how good are they then? Can they hack it in such an environment?

The UK Swooping Tour provides a medium to put these canopy pilots to the test.

*Stuart Piper*

*Al Macartney*



*Martin Reynolds*



*Brian Vacher*



The tour was set up by Chris Lynch and Alastair Macartney earlier this year and aims to provide a competition format for high performance canopy pilots within UK, similar to the US Pro Swooping Tour. The UK Canopy Swooping Tour consists of two tour stops this year and the first was at Headcorn on 13-14 June.

## The Event

Nine competitors turned up for the event with the Friday designated for practice before the competition began on the Saturday. Prior to this the course had been set up in the week with Chris Lynch having put a lot of work into the rules, course design and course markers. Unlike many other skydiving disciplines, practicing the exact skydive – in this case swooping the course at Headcorn – is not cheating but actively encouraged.

## The Rounds

The competition consisted of four rounds. The first two were straight distances. Competitors had to pass part of their body through an imaginary line drawn between two entry gates standing approximately five feet high. Distance was then measured from this point. If competitors flew through the course but were above the height of the entry gates then they scored zero. To be on the safe side, many opted to level out well before the gates to ensure a scoring run through the course, but this clearly then diminished the overall distance they could score.

Rounds three and four were also a straight distance event with three additional targets placed on the course. Competitors had their distance measured in the same way as the earlier rounds but also scored bonus points if they were able to hit the targets.

## Conditions

The weather conditions were fine for the competition but the wind speed picked up through the day. Round one had practically nil winds while the last round had a head wind gusting 14-18 knots. Obviously this head wind limited the distances that



Tim Carter



competitors scored, but also placed the added difficulty changing the set-up position that competitors used on each round. With a mix of canopies competing, most jumpers opted for cross-braced canopies, although the old faithful Stiletto was also present and still continued to perform well.

## Safety

The competition was invitational but anyone was able to try out for entry. All competitors made safe approaches and it was clear that safety was at the forefront of everyone's minds. Additional bonus points were awarded for stand-up landings.

## Tour Future

There is another tour competition in late August at Netheravon and, so far, that is all that is scheduled for this year. Next year the plan is to go bigger, taking the event to more public places. Can you see yourself swooping the beach or the local water park? We now need locations and sponsors to help make this happen so if you think you might be able to help then please let us know.

## World Cup Team

The UK is sending a self-funded team to the first World Cup of



Big Thanks to

**All competitors** for competing safely  
**CCI Pete Sizer** for being brave enough to let us have a meet  
 Chief Judge **Richard Moulton** and all his helpers  
**Vicky** in the office  
**Zygos** for the course markers  
**Performance Designs** for the course flags  
**Steve Langley** for the photos  
**Jamie Freeman** for cutting the grass



Winner – Chris Lynch



CCI Pete Sizer & bronze medallist Gary Wainwright



Canopy Piloting to be held in Perris Valley, California in September. The team members are Chris Lynch, Tim Carter, Gary Wainwright, Brian Vacher and Alastair Macartney, incidentally the top five in this meet. The Go Fast World Cup of Canopy Piloting has been sanctioned by IPC and is a test event. The President of the Organising Committee is Lyle Presse, who has headed up the US Pro-Swooping Tour for many years now. The event is supported by Go Fast energy drink.

## Summary

In all this was a very safe and successful competition getting a group of like-minded skydivers together and providing an avenue for canopy

piloting to progress further in the UK in a competition format. Competitors were constantly coaching and debriefing each other in a positive format to further develop all of our skills.

## What's Next?

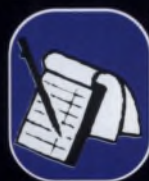
If you're interested in getting involved in the competition scene then get in touch with us. Let's see you at the next tour stop at Netheravon, 23-25 August.

Al Macartney  
alastair@macartney.co.uk



UK Swooping Tour  
[www.swooping.co.uk](http://www.swooping.co.uk)

1st World Cup of Canopy Piloting  
[www.skydiveperris.com](http://www.skydiveperris.com)  
(special events)



23-25 Aug Netheravon, UK  
UK Swoop Meet no 2

24-28 Sept Perris Valley, USA  
1st World Cup of Canopy Piloting

## RESULTS

|                      | ROUND 1<br>DISTANCE + BONUS = TOTAL<br>COMPLETION. TOTAL (POS) | ROUND 2               | ROUND 3               | ROUND 4               |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 CHRIS LYNCH        | 194 + 20 = 214<br>214                                          | 211 + 20 = 231<br>445 | 182 + 65 = 252<br>697 | 161 + 65 = 226<br>923 |
| 5 ALASTAIR MACARTNEY | 0 + 20 = 20<br>20                                              | 133 + 20 = 153<br>173 | 110 + 35 = 145<br>318 | 84 + 35 = 119<br>437  |
| 7 STUART PIPER       | 115 + 20 = 135<br>135                                          | 68 + 20 = 88<br>223   | 0 + 20 = 20<br>243    | 49 + 0 = 49<br>292    |
| 2 TIM CARTER         | 146 + 20 = 166<br>166                                          | 145 + 20 = 165<br>331 | 194 + 50 = 244<br>575 | 98 + 35 = 133<br>708  |
| 4 BRIAN VACHER       | 172 + 20 = 192<br>192                                          | 128 + 20 = 148<br>340 | 0 + 20 = 20<br>360    | 79 + 20 = 99<br>459   |
| 3 GARY WAINWRIGHT    | 97 + 20 = 117<br>117                                           | 73 + 20 = 93<br>210   | 103 + 30 = 133<br>343 | 131 + 50 = 181<br>524 |
| 8 MARTIN REYNOLDS    | 88 + 20 = 108<br>105                                           | 53 + 20 = 73<br>178   | 0 + 20 = 20<br>198    | 42 + 20 = 62<br>260   |
| 9 CHRIS SHAW         | 9 + 20 = 29<br>29                                              | 46 + 20 = 66<br>95    | 0 + 20 = 20<br>115    | 102 + 0 = 102<br>217  |
| 6 SIMON VACHES       | 59 + 20 = 79<br>79                                             | 65 + 20 = 85<br>164   | 52 + 35 = 87<br>251   | 62 + 35 = 97<br>348   |



Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright scoring bonus points for hitting cones

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# JM<sup>Is</sup> Newsround

## Sward Injured

Simon Ward was injured at Netheravon on Sunday 6 July. After completing an uneventful landing, Simon was hit by another skydiver, Wayne



Humphries, attempting a swoop landing. Both Simon and Wayne were taken to hospital with various

injuries. Simon had a CT and MRI scan that showed two small fractures in his neck vertebrae, was in hospital for nine days and is now wearing a neck brace for the next few months. South African Wayne Humphries has a ruptured spleen, two broken ribs and a dislocated shoulder.

## Bob Soutar

Netheravon jumper Bob Soutar suffered a freak and tragic skydiving accident on 2 January this year. The incident happened abroad and Bob's insurance cover was limited to medical treatment at the time and £5,000 for total disablement. Six months later Bob is tetraplegic and still in the Spinal Unit of Salisbury District Hospital. His friends are planning to raise money through events such as sponsored walks to help cover additional costs. Anyone interested should contact Tessa Rome.

**Tessa: 01672 810 913  
07950 500 138**

## Losing It

ITV are looking for video clips of emotional sporting moments, from the jubilation of the winner to the disgust of the loser. Anyone with amusing, entertaining or outrageous skydiving tantrums contact Granada Sport.

[losingit@meridianTV.com](mailto:losingit@meridianTV.com)



## New Movie

A Canadian production team has released a new large format movie. *Adrenaline Rush, The Science of Risk* features spectacular footage of extreme skydiving and focuses on the biology of risk-taking, as well as the physics, psychology and physiology that make human flight possible. Sequences include Adrian Nicholas and Katarina Ollikainen's recreation of Leonardo da Vinci's first parachute design from 1485 (pictured above). There are also wingsuit jumps, eye to eye freeflying sequences with world class skydivers such as Mike Swanson, Rob Silver, Rook Nelson and Dave Brown, plus a 4,150 foot cliff jump from the Katthammaren Wall in Norway. This 38 minute movie took close to 1,000 jumps to complete and will be playing on selected screens across Europe.

**Erin Golden: [egolden@yahoo.com](mailto:egolden@yahoo.com)**



## Dragon Eye Art

British skydiver Ceri Lewis has set up a T-shirt company that has been overwhelming US skydivers. Dragon Eye Art produces some awesome skydiving artwork on a range of T-shirts. Some of the top US competitors are wearing them with design input from skydivers such as *Team Extreme*.

**[www.DragonEyeArt.com](http://www.DragonEyeArt.com)  
DZ Sports: 01295 812 300**

## Holy Demo Robin!

Some female Brit classics team members recently did a demo into London city airport. Also featured is Robin Mills who, desperate to jump, agreed to drag it up as it was supposedly an all girl demo!

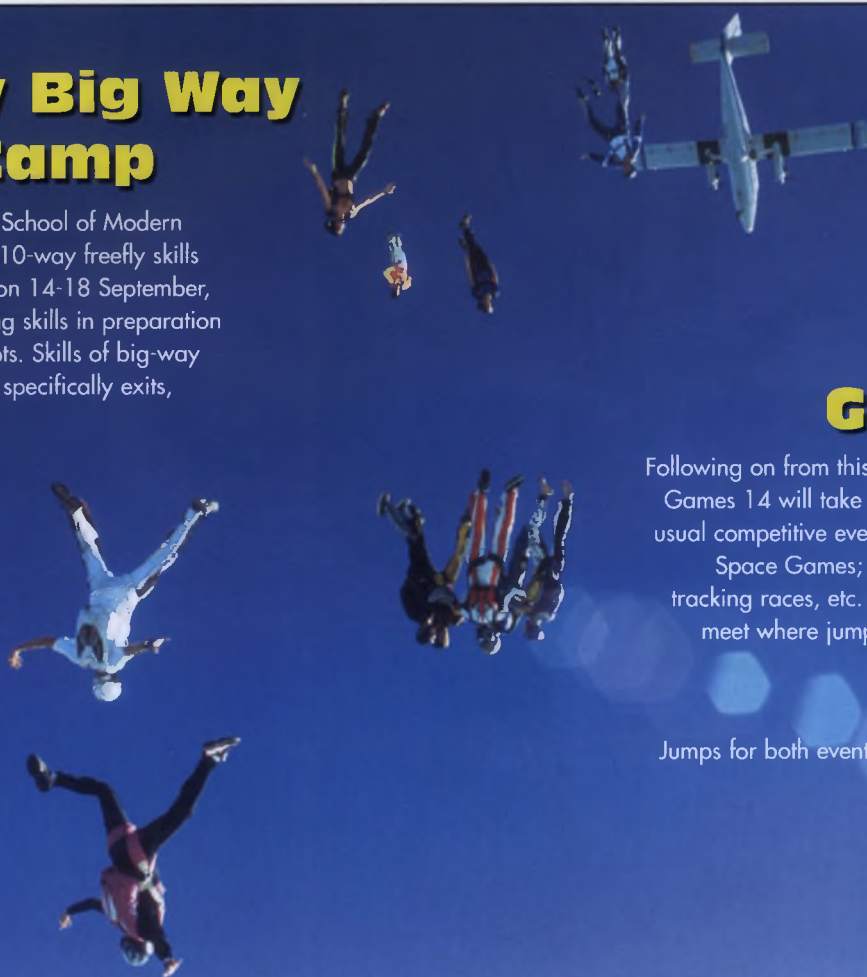
Robin has made a long overdue return to competing. He has been invited to compete on this year's classics team at the World Meet in Gap; his last appearance at this level was 27 years ago in Rome!

Some old faces from the past turned out as ground crew, Geoff Saunders and Bob Hyatt ('H'). These two guys are also legends; Geoff was on *Symbiosis* 4-way team who won the silver medal at the world championships in France in 1979. H was a very talented classics jumper who narrowly missed a medal (by 1cm!) in the accuracy world championships in 1976 to come fourth!



# Freefly Big Way Skills Camp

Olav Zipser and the 1st School of Modern Skyflying are holding a 10-way freefly skills camp at Ravenna, Italy on 14-18 September, with the aim of improving skills in preparation for future record attempts. Skills of big-way flying will be enhanced, specifically exits, approach, set-ups, grip discipline, safety and canopy flight. All Atmosphere Dolphins are welcome – or come and try out for your AD licence.



Steve Utter

## Space Games 14

Following on from this on 20-28 September, Space Games 14 will take place at Ravenna with all the usual competitive events made famous through the Space Games; the AD Challenge, Indy 500, tracking races, etc. The aim is a fun and friendly meet where jumpers express their creativity in flying whilst improving their reactions and precision.

Jumps for both events will be from 15,000 ft from the Dolphin Express Casa.

[stefania@1Olav.com](mailto:stefania@1Olav.com)  
[www.pullout.it](http://www.pullout.it)  
[www.worldfreefly.com](http://www.worldfreefly.com)



## Exit – Bruno Brokken

Review by John Drew

Do you know Bruno Brokken? The big Belgian galoot that films tandems at Empuriabrava. One of the nicest men you could ever wish to meet. Fluent in at least five languages, taught himself to play the piano, current world gold medal cameraman for 4-way FS, twice freestyle world champion cameraman. (Git.) He even saved the life of our own George Pilkington by pulling off a mid air rescue and then dismissed it as *'just like dealing with a bad AFF student'*. (Double git.) Hardly surprising then, to find out that his new publication is one of the best skydiving books you could have on your bookshelf.

Exit is a weighty tome, tipping the scales at 650 gms and containing 147 photos divided up into 13 sections. The overall feel of quality is obvious as soon as you open it. The excellent photographs convey the obvious enjoyment Bruno gets from taking them. My personal favourite is the double page smoke trail swoop under a bridge arch.

In our sport, there are people who are experts in their own chosen disciplines. There are perhaps a handful of people in the world who are equally at home on a 300-way formation, a canopy 6-stack, standing up on the shoulders of a board flyer, winning a canopy swoop competition or flying a wingsuit. There is only one person I know who can do all of the above and take top quality photographs at the same time. Now I have done a bit of camerawork in my time and what blows my mind is Bruno's use of wide angle lenses. Using these means he has to be so close to the action. It makes the hair on the back of my neck stand up when I think of how close he was to the Mirage jet to get the shots for the book. (What Mirage jet? You'll have to buy the book to find out!) If you love the visual aspect of our sport or if you wish you could answer those people that ask you "So what is skydiving like?", then this is a book you should own.

Bruno Brokken: [roasis@readysoft.es](mailto:roasis@readysoft.es)



Bruno Brokken

## Big-ways at Langar

The second Langar Boogie is from 6-14 September this year with three turbine aircraft; a SkyVan, TurboLet and Caravan plus many different load organisers, for both flat and freely. The Boogie 2 features a Brit Chicks Roadshow on the first weekend, 6-7 September. This will be combined with a big-way camp, focusing on big-ways and formation loads, run by Lesley Gale and Kate Stephens. All are welcome to attend this event at Langar, host of the Brit Chicks female FS record and the last three British records.

[www.bpslangar.co.uk](http://www.bpslangar.co.uk)  
[lesley@skydivemag.com](mailto:lesley@skydivemag.com)



Photo of Brit Chicks launch by Andy Ford

## World Team 04

BJ Worth's World Team is meeting in Thailand in January next year, to attempt two records. The first is a Guinness record mass drop, going for 672 skydivers in the air at the same time. This will be a demonstration jump out of seven C130s into the Sanam Luang Royal Memorial Grounds, downtown Bangkok, the site of



Photos: Simon Ward

the successful record mass drop in '99 (pictured, left). The second is an attempt at

the largest freefall formation, currently 300. BJ's goal is a mere 372, from four Hercules at 23,000 feet. Rob Colpus and Darryl Moran are the UK team captains. Royal Sky Celebration 2004 will honour Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand on her 6th cycle 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday.



## Skyline Tandem Record

Skyline charity organised a simultaneous tandem day in aid of the Meningitis Research Foundation, using Wild Geese, Strathallan and Langar. The Geese achieved a record number of tandems for Northern Ireland when they managed to complete 40, Strathallan jumped 44 after a challenging weather day and Langar set a personal best for the most tandems ever completed doing 101. Across all the clubs 185 people jumped and over £25,000 was raised.

[oliver@skylineevents.co.uk](mailto:oliver@skylineevents.co.uk)

## Perris 4-Way Camp



Dan BC  
 by Norman Kent

World famous coach Dan BC, now located at Perris Valley, has been running 4-way and tunnel camps for many years. Now he is offering a new style camp, dubbed Perris Performance Plus, combining tunnel and freefall training. Over five days, each participant will get at least an hour of one-on-one coached tunnel time and 24 jumps (4-way) with coach and video. The first Perris Performance Plus will be in November.

[www.skydiveperris.com](http://www.skydiveperris.com)  
[danbc@skydiveperris.com](mailto:danbc@skydiveperris.com)

## Arizona Challenge

Jumpers in Eloy built this funky looking 84-way formation made up of in-outs and frisbee flakes as this year's Arizona Challenge. The formation was completed on the second attempt on Monday 26 May, under the capable organisation of George Jicha, Dan BC and Arizona Airspeed members. The Arizona Challenge is an annual invitational event with the aim of building a difficult large formation on the last day; earlier jumps are smaller loads on the same theme. What will next year's challenge be?

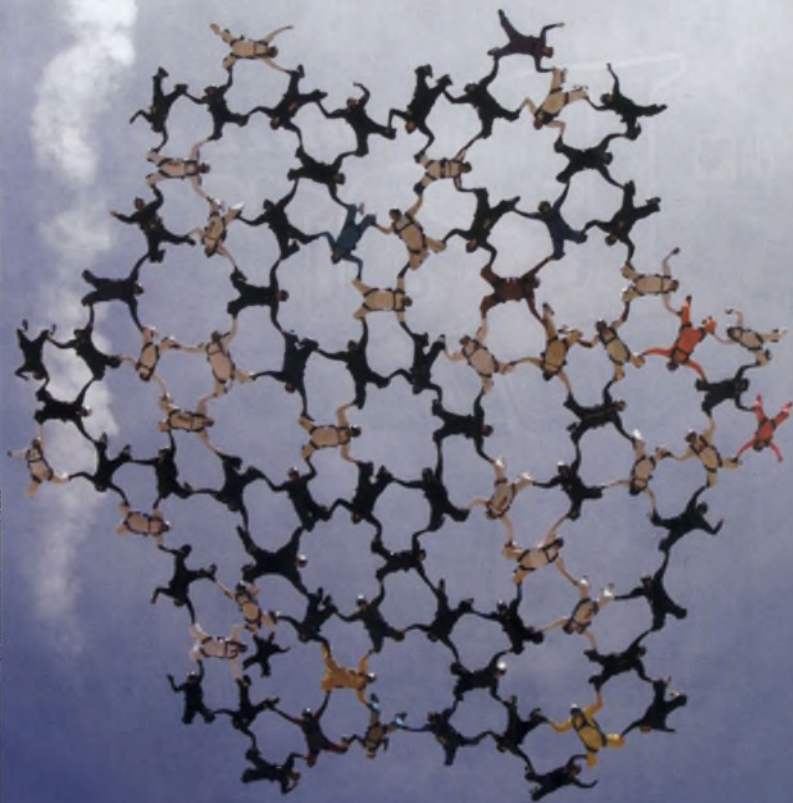
[www.skydiveaz.com](http://www.skydiveaz.com)

## 140-way Sequential

Following the success of this year's two point 120-way, big way organiser Guy Wright is putting together another World Record sequential event next spring. The venue is Skydive City, Zephyrhills, Florida, dates 14-18 April 2004. Project Z140 Deuce will be an international event with captains from around the world recruiting team players. Lesley Gale is the UK captain. Guy and fellow organiser Boxman will be holding several winter big way events for try-outs.

Guy: [blskyguy@aol.com](mailto:blskyguy@aol.com)

Lesley: [lesley@skydivemag.com](mailto:lesley@skydivemag.com)



Jason Peters

## Cessna 100-way

Crazy Dave Ruckert is putting together plans for a new record dive, a 100-way out of 27 Cessnas. This is planned to take place 17-24 January 2004 in Zephyrhills. Norman Kent is already signed up to film and photograph the attempt. Dav3e (that really IS how he spells his name) is famous for his Cessna events having successfully organised a 50-way out of a multiple Cessna formation.

[tkhayes@skydivecity.com](mailto:tkhayes@skydivecity.com)

## Photo Competition



Here's a reminder for this year's Royal Aero Club photographic competition, entries must be in by 1 October on the theme of Flight. Skydivers have done quite well in the past so it's definitely worth sending in your entries.

01729 840 108

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

## Ian Bellis

Ian Bellis, formerly of Performance Designs and more recently President of Aerodyne Research in Florida, was tragically killed in a road accident on Wednesday 25 June. Anyone wishing to share their feelings can post messages, memories or condolences on the Aerodyne website at:

[www.aerodyne-int.com](http://www.aerodyne-int.com)



**Only in Australia!**

## Equinox Boogie

The biannual boogie at Ramblers, Toogoolawah, down under, will take place in October next year. Some of the world's best load organisers will be there to arrange top class dives for flatties and freeflyers. Skydives are planned to go on into the night. In typical Aussie style fun is high on the menu with lots of novelty jumps planned, hybrids, spheres, tubes, rafts, rodeos, inflatables and even a record 30-way nudie jump is planned. Only in Australia!

[www.ramblers.com.au](http://www.ramblers.com.au)

## Fatal Incident Appeal

Police in North Lincolnshire are appealing to skydivers for assistance in investigating the death of 20 year old Stephen Hilder at Hibaldstow on Friday 4 July. Stephen's main bridle line and reserve risers had been severed. Officers need to speak to anyone who was at the airfield at any point between 9am on Monday 30 June up to the time of the jump on Friday (3pm), who has not yet spoken to them. The police are appealing to jumpers everywhere: "Anyone who knows Stephen through skydiving and has information that may be of use to us, however insignificant they think it may be, is asked to call us urgently".

Detective Superintendent Colin Andrews

01724 282888

[gemma.bell@humberside.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gemma.bell@humberside.pnn.police.uk)

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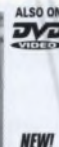
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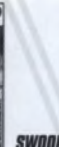
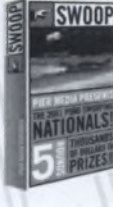
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# Nationals Classics

## **Classics seemed to undergo a revival as competitors and old friends travelled from afar to attend the British Nationals**

The Classics Nationals were again held at Hinton from Tuesday 17 to Sunday 22 June. Coaching roadshows in classics had been held the two weekends just before the Nationals, hosted by Hinton and coached by Julian Spencer, our 2002 Classics champion. They were a great run-up to the nationals and proved a huge hit with both newcomers and the more seasoned competitors, Julian tailoring his coaching to each individual. Newcomers gained valuable knowledge from watching the more experienced jumpers. Unfortunately Julian was called away to work abroad leaving him unable to defend his title this year.

### **Accuracy in Thermals**

The competition got going mid-morning on the first day with the accuracy event for which there were four teams. We completed four rounds that day in what proved to be tricky conditions. Although the winds were light there were sudden changes in direction and plenty of thermals catching a few people out on final approaches. Sadly Paul Ledden injured himself quite badly on landing. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

### **Welcome Back to Old Faces**

The following two days unfortunately there was no jumping because of very high winds. This was frustrating for competitors but gave everyone the opportunity to catch up with faces old and new. It was good to see Tim and Katherine Andrewes who had made the effort to travel from Spain to attend. One of the surprise entries was Robin Mills known more latterly for his involvement in formation skydiving and big-way records, who last competed in the classic events as a member of the British team at a world championships 27 years ago!

Another welcome surprise was Kevin McCarthy who had also travelled from Spain, both these guys showing us all that despite an extended hiatus from classics they maintained the skills necessary to win medals at a national level. Robin's horsebox proved to be a popular focal point over these two days, and I'm sure it was nothing to do with the endless cups of tea and bacon 'n' egg butties that were forthcoming. We also welcomed Roumy Radountcheva, an accomplished classics jumper previously from the Ladies Bulgarian National team, now living in England.

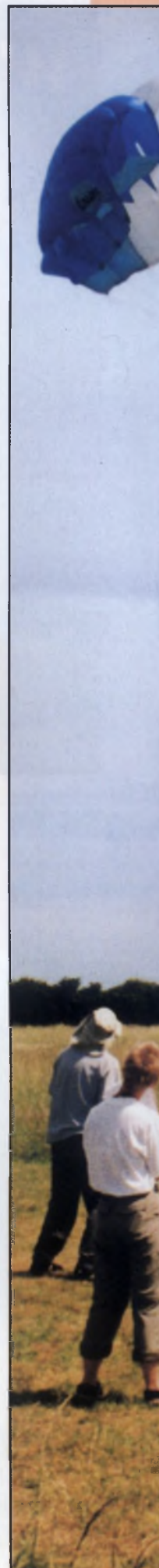
### **Style**

Friday morning dawned with blue skies and it was decided to get going with the style event. The clouds rolled in late morning below our exit level of 7,200 feet and it is to the credit of the judges, pilot and ground cameraman that we were able to complete four rounds of style that day with rejumps only occurring because of freefall drift. Later that day another two rounds of accuracy were done, ensuring minimum round criteria for both events. This enabled us to go for a later 8.30am start the next day. Saturday morning saw the fifth and final round of style completed.

*Esther Reynolds, joint women's overall champion*



*Robin Mills is on the Brit team for this year's World Meet. He last competed for Britain in classics in 1976!*



Kevin McCarthy travelled from Spain for the Nationals and is now on the British team for the imminent World Meet



Fran Shashkova-Richards, Brit team member



Glenn Stephenson, men's accuracy bronze



## Accuracy in Turbulence

This was followed by the final four rounds of accuracy. Again there were some challenging accuracy conditions with bumps and thermals sorting the men from the boys. This was where the more experienced jumpers came in to their own after holding their nerve through some very turbulent approaches to gain some good scores. Al Macartney ditched his Foil in favour of his faster swoop canopy and then started scoring on the pad, also keeping the rest of us entertained! There was debate as to whether to increase Fran's jump prices as she spent a good five minutes at 1,000 feet on one descent, her team-mate at the bottom of the stack having almost packed by the time she landed. By Saturday evening the classics events were finished for competitors with maximum rounds completed in both disciplines. However the judges had a long night ahead of them judging the five rounds of style.

## Camaraderie and Sportsmanship

The general feeling was that it had been a good nationals with no protests and a great air of camaraderie and sportsmanship. Thanks must go to Geoff Wood and Mike Browne for again hosting this event and making us so welcome. Dave Emerson for managing to combine his CCI and meet director duties so efficiently and still find time throw a Parafoil on his back and win a silver medal in the team event. Chief judge Kate Charters, along with Bob King and Tony Makepeace, as ever did a thoroughly professional job throughout the competition as well as trainee judges Sue Waterfield, Frank Mallabone and Gail Stephenson. Special thanks to Frankie, our ground-to-air cameraman who never deserted his post, Bob O'Hara the pilot and Nicky Johnston for the loan of his very nice tuffet. Gus Malyon did a tireless job on manifest, also relaying ground-to-air instructions to the pilot for the style run-ins and co-ordinating calls and lifts for competitors throughout a long and hectic couple of days.

## Brit Team

The British classics team for the world meet this September in Gap is Robin Mills, Kevin McCarthy, Jeff Chandler, Geordie Page, Glenn Stephenson, Fran Shashkova-Richards, Esther Reynolds and Liz Danby. The team is made from the highest scoring individuals who are happy to fund themselves to the world meet.

## On or Off Year Selection

This was a selection year for Classics because at the 2002 AGM competitions meeting a majority of competitors had voted for selection to revert to on year. It was therefore disappointing not to see more of these talented senior competitors with their wealth of skill turn up for the event which they had campaigned for. It is to the credit of those competitors who opposed on year selection, that the majority of them did indeed turn up to support the Nationals, putting those who were for on year selection into a minority. Therefore in order to retain some of our best current classics jumpers it would now seem that off year selection is the answer, and those of us that believed otherwise were wrong. If we are to keep the classic events alive and encourage and support new competitors in the disciplines as well as raising standards, it is up to the senior competitors to support these events and leave the politics to the committees.

Although there were no intermediate competitors this year, it was heartening to see some new young seniors making good progress, who will be names to watch out for in the future.



*John Smyth, comps chairman & Carl Williams, who won all the men's events*



*Sunshine and Hinton's sociable atmosphere made for an agreeable meet*

*Fran Shashkova-Richards*





Katherine Andrewes, women's style national gold



AccRats, team accuracy gold



Fran Shashkova-Richards, ladies overall bronze



Has Been Fun, team accuracy silver



Al Macartney, men's overall bronze



Two Pumps & A Squirt, team accuracy bronze



Photos: Tony Richards, Paul Denis-Smith, Steve Saunders & Nick Mirehouse

### Open Senior Accuracy (ten rounds)

|    |                         |      |
|----|-------------------------|------|
| 1  | Carl Williams           | 0.26 |
| 2  | Tim Andrewes            | 0.32 |
| 3  | Esther Reynolds         | 0.44 |
| 4  | Glenn Stephenson        | 0.46 |
| 5  | Katherine Andrewes      | 0.55 |
| 6  | Kevin McCarthy          | 0.60 |
| 7  | Roumy Radaountcheva     | 0.61 |
| 7  | Jeff Chandler           | 0.61 |
| 9  | John Page               | 0.62 |
| 10 | Robin Mills             | 0.67 |
| 11 | Nicky Johnston          | 0.81 |
| 12 | Fran Shashkova-Richards | 0.97 |
| 13 | Dave Emerson            | 1.17 |
| 14 | Alastair Macartney      | 1.35 |
| 15 | Andy Houston            | 1.36 |
| 16 | Ivan Rossington         | 1.39 |
| 17 | Liz Danby               | 1.42 |
| 18 | Paul Ledden             | 1.60 |

**Notes:** Paul Ledden retired injured round 4  
 Andy Houston retired round 7  
 Nicky Johnston retired round 7  
 Carl Williams did not contest round 10

### Open Senior Style (five rounds)

|    |                         |       |
|----|-------------------------|-------|
| 1  | Roumy Radaountcheva     | 44.09 |
| 2  | Carl Williams           | 45.63 |
| 3  | Katherine Andrewes      | 48.82 |
| 4  | Jeff Chandler           | 49.39 |
| 5  | Alastair Macartney      | 51.43 |
| 6  | Esther Reynolds         | 56.69 |
| 7  | Fran Shashkova-Richards | 62.37 |
| 8  | Nicky Johnston          | 62.85 |
| 9  | Liz Danby               | 67.01 |
| 10 | Robin Mills             | 67.45 |

### Open Senior Overall

|    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 1  | Carl Williams           |
| 2  | Roumy Radaountcheva     |
| 3  | Katherine Andrewes      |
| 4  | Esther Reynolds         |
| 4  | Jeff Chandler           |
| 6  | Alastair Macartney      |
| 7  | Nicky Johnston          |
| 7  | Fran Shashkova-Richards |
| 9  | Robin Mills             |
| 10 | Liz Danby               |

### Women's Senior Overall

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Katherine Andrewes      |
| 1 | Esther Reynolds         |
| 3 | Fran Shashkova-Richards |

**Note:** Roumy, as a non-British national, does not qualify for this event, only for the open competition

### Men's Senior Overall

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Carl Williams      |
| 2 | Jeff Chandler      |
| 3 | Robin Mills        |
| 3 | Alastair Macartney |

### Team Accuracy (eight rounds)

|   |                                                                                         |      |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1 | <b>AccRats</b>                                                                          | 0.89 |
|   | (Jeff Chandler, Carl Williams, Tim Andrewes, Katherine Andrewes, Kevin McCarthy)        |      |
| 2 | <b>Has Been Fun</b>                                                                     | 1.99 |
|   | (Robin Mills, Esther Reynolds, Glenn Stephenson, Fran Shashkova-Richards, Dave Emerson) |      |
| 3 | <b>Two Pumps &amp; A Squirt</b>                                                         | 3.25 |
|   | (Alastair Macartney, Paul Ledden, Nicky Johnston, John 'Geordie' Page*)                 |      |
| 4 | <b>The Good The Bad &amp; The Ugly</b>                                                  | 3.81 |
|   | (Andy Houston, Ivan Rossington, Liz Danby, Roumy Radaountcheva*)                        |      |

**Note:** \* These teams were short of one competitor

# National Formation Canopy Nationals

**The CF Nationals kicked off in fine style on Friday 19 June in glorious sunshine at Hinton Airfield. Unusually the weather was very kind and helped to set up a great event**

It took some time for things to settle down, as rounds of accuracy were still in progress, the 8-way speed and 4-way rotations were the first to be called. This highlighted a problem when teams on call had to inform Gus on manifest that they would be unable to assemble for a lift as members of a team – or their kit – were already in the air. This proved a major headache for Gus and was in part a result of problems with the black Beaver, which was ejecting competitors at an alarming rate. This was due to the climb rate to altitude. CF only requires 6,000 to 7,000 feet depending on the discipline. However, true to form and with everyone pulling together, the problems were soon ironed out.

## 8-way Speed

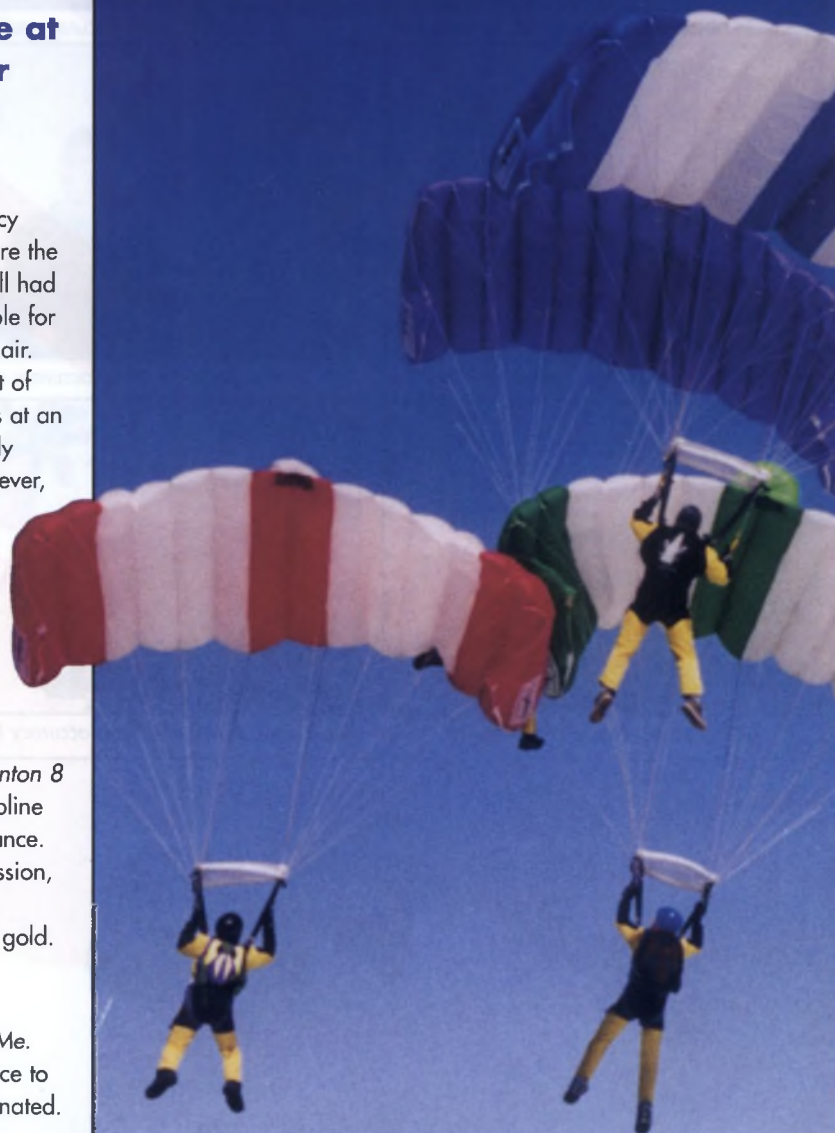
*Hinton 8* were the only entrants so it looked like they might trip over a gold medal again. This year showed a marked improvement in their style due to the perseverance of Ian Marshall and the introduction of a new coach in Sergeant Roly Coleman, team leader of the *Tigers* parachute display team. *Hinton 8* were quite cute when they adopted him as coach and the discipline he brought was shown to good effect in their winning performance. *Hinton 8*; Steve Saunders, Paul Yeoman, Carl Blair, Gordon Mission, Rob Johnson, Steve Stringer, Ian Marshall, Eugene Brennan, Mike Pera on video and Roly Coleman as alternate-coach took gold.

## 4-way Rotations

This event attracted three teams, *Team Focus*, *CFUK*, and *Take Me*. *Team Focus* had a new member, namely Yolande Lee, yes it's nice to see a girlie pushing into CF, which has always been male dominated. This team had not done many training camps together with this format but, with their new sponsor's 3663 Food Service banner held high, and supported by Home Craft of Bloxham & Cross Embroidery of Banbury, they were prepared for battle wherever they went.



*CFUK* started with their alternate jumper in the first round and were marked down, as he had never previously competed in rotations! He soon got the hang of things though and was quite impressive in the second round. Pat Hammond's team *Take Me* also paraded a new team, using two of the 8-way team (well we all know what Pat's like, just up for a



laugh) they put up a good show. A really tight competition ensued but *Team Focus*; Clive Bennett, Biff Thornton, Yolande Lee, Scotty Melville and Claire Jones on video, triumphed and took the gold. This of course made a bit of history, as Yo became the first female to win a medal as a senior competitor in the British CF Nationals. *CFUK* missed top place by one point and had to be content with silver leaving *Take Me* to carry off the bronze.

## 4-way Sequential

This event was contested by *Team X* once again setting out the table with *Cell Mates* as antagonists and a new team *Arf the Eight* (half of *Hinton 8*, how original). This is technically the most difficult of the disciplines as it involves transitions from point to point in order to achieve difficult formation builds. Ian Marshall and Alan Fielding of *Team X* are two very experienced CF veterans and they spent much time happily assisting the other competitors. They passed on a wealth of knowledge and technical expertise, helped in overcoming many problems and showed how to achieve the shortest route from point to point. All of the teams managed to whiz through three rounds. *Team X* made a decision to try out one of their reserves and, much to the disgust of Alastair Macartney, it wasn't him on it. However, he was seen later having to pack the reserve so there is justice up there!

*Team X*; Ian Marshall, Alastair Macartney, Alan Fielding, Nick Mirehouse and PD Smith on video collected gold, equalling the national record with a 5 point round, whilst the silver went to *Cell Mates* with *Arf The Eight* picking up the bronze.

## 2-way Sequential

Whilst this event is still in its infancy, many regard it as good fun although it is still technically difficult. The discipline is divided into two categories, intermediate and senior. This year the intermediate section had only one entrant, *Blair Witch Mission*, who decided that a walkover was too easy and entered the senior section with the other teams to have a bit of fun.

There were five teams in the seniors; competition was stiff and extremely close and with the onset of bad weather only two rounds were jumped. Lo and behold *Blair Witch Mission*; Ian Marshall, Carl Blair and Gordon Mission won the gold! This was also a new British record in round one with five points in 90 seconds. *Pieces of Eight* collected silver.

## Organisation

Once again Mike Brown and Geoff Wood, owners of Hinton Parachute Centre had the misfortune of having scores of CF jumpers descending on them to compete in the Nationals. They kept their cool and did a great job of organisation for which we give our sincere thanks. Congratulations to CCI Emerson who managed to keep us in check, give yourself a pat on the back. To the unsung heroes (the judges) we take off our hats. Frank, the fly on the wall spied on all and sundry with his ground to air video to great effect.

We couldn't close without offering thanks to the pool camera people, possibly with the exception of Mike Pera. Now that he has done a bit of CF and some filming he seems to be beginning to like it. This could become a serious problem and he should see a doctor about before it turns nasty. We cannot express our thanks enough to Gus and Julie who kept going despite the hiccups.

On a personal note I would like to thank everyone who attended the Nationals and made it such a great event, they reminded me why we do it:-

Coz it's so much fun!

Carl Blair  
Hinton-8 secretary

## 8-way Speed (4 rounds)

- 1 Hinton 8

## 4-way Rotation (5 rounds)

- |   |            |    |
|---|------------|----|
| 1 | Team Focus | 30 |
| 2 | CFUK       | 29 |
| 3 | Take Me    | 22 |

## 4-way Sequential (3 rounds)

- |   |            |    |
|---|------------|----|
| 1 | Team X     | 11 |
| 2 | Cell Mates | 3  |
| 3 | Arf The 8  | 1  |

## 2-way Sequential (2 rounds)

- |   |                     |   |
|---|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Blair Witch Mission | 9 |
| 2 | Pieces of 8         | 7 |
| 3 | Jumps Off           | 7 |
| 4 | Cell Mates          | 6 |
| 5 | Let Me Go           | 4 |



Hinton 8, gold, 8-way speed



Team X, gold, 4-way sequential



Cell Mates, silver, 4-way sequential



Jumps Off, bronze, 2-way sequential

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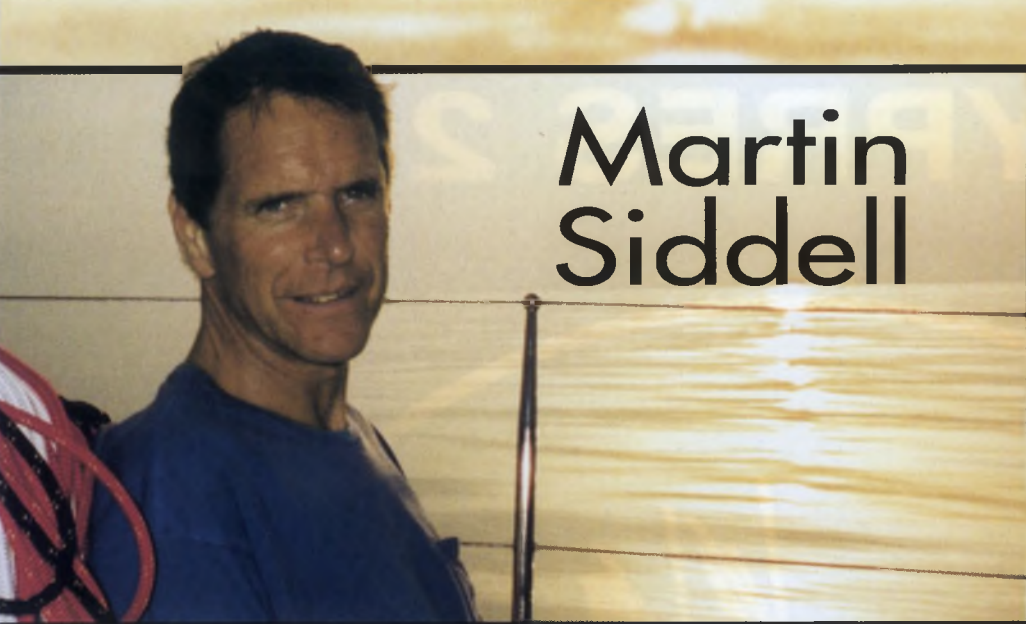
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# Martin Siddell

On Sunday 11 May 2003 Martin David Siddell lost his life in a skydiving accident at Skydive City Zephyrhills Florida whilst making his third jump of the day. He was 52.

Martin was born with aviation in his veins. Family wartime aviation service and experience influenced Martin to take up flying. He left school in the sixties and went straight into pilot training as a sponsored student for British Airways. He had flown for BA for 31 years. Martin was delighted in 1990 when he was promoted to BA Captain.

Martin was a well known and well liked jumper on drop zones, both on the east and west coast of USA as well as in Europe. This pattern of jumping fitted well with his international flying duties.

He had a passionate interest in all aeronautical things, ranging from bungee jumping to base jump training from hot air balloons to an analysis of onboard fly-by-wire systems of modern passenger jet aircraft. He was a passionate freeflyer devoted to improving his head-down flying skills.

In British Airways Flight Crew Orders: Captain's Responsibility, it states *He must do his utmost to develop a high level of 'Esprit de Corps'*. All of Martin's fellow aviators and many skydivers can vouch that this certainly was the case as far as he was concerned.

We had it on very good authority and substantiated from a second reliable source, that Martin had once been officially reprimanded by a well-known airline for low hooking a passenger jet! In the skydiving world this gave Martin tremendous kudos and beat anything we could ever do.

Despite his wry humour Martin was also a reflective and thoughtful man with egalitarian views and a strong sense of humanity. He easily commanded respect and loyalty from those with whom he worked. As a family man, he was both a loving supportive husband and also a father to four grown up boys. He undertook his many roles in life with dignity and compassion and a mischievous sense of fun.

His wife Angela, a psychotherapist, and his four sons survive him. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him on both sides of the Atlantic for his insatiable lust for life and sense of adventure. I suspect now that he is gone, my liver will last a bit longer, but many others and I will dearly miss Martin.

Dave Howerski  
DavidLHowerski@aol.com

## BPA Matters

by Martin Shuttleworth BPA Office

### UK Sport support continues

UK Sport has given the BPA exchequer grant aid of £30,000 for the nine month period from 1 July 2003 to 31 March 2004. This is in support of the Action Plan that was submitted by the BPA Council earlier this year. UK Sport has specified that half shall be allocated to safety targets set out in the plan and the other half to the competitions targets. The funding is pro rata the same as last year, except that this time it covers only a nine month period because of a change in UK Sport's funding year.

### Wingsuit guidelines

The BPA has recently published guidelines for jumping a wingsuit – in BPA Form 235, which is available from the BPA website or the BPA Office. These are not BPA rules, but are produced in an effort to assist Club Chief Instructors and those wishing to jump a wingsuit.

## Competitions

### Mondial – Wish our Teams Well

The UK Delegation to the World Parachuting Championships Mondial ('mondial' means 'one world'), 6-14 September 2003 at Gap, will comprise about 50 people, including competitors in FS, CF, freefly, freestyle, style and accuracy. Women's 4-way team VMax will be defending their world title. Good luck messages can be emailed or faxed to the BPA Office and we'll be delighted to pass them on to the teams. They really do make a difference.

### CF & Classics Southern Regionals

These will be held at Netheravon, 4-5 October. The Competitions Committee is grateful to the Army Parachute Association for kindly agreeing to host this event.

### Canopy Piloting World Cup

A self-funded UK team will attend the IPC Go Fast World Cup in the new discipline of canopy piloting, to be held at Perris Valley skydiving centre in California, USA, 24-28 September. The Brit team comprises Tim Carter, Chris Lynch, Alastair Macartney, Brian Vacher and Gary Wainwright.

## New Ratings

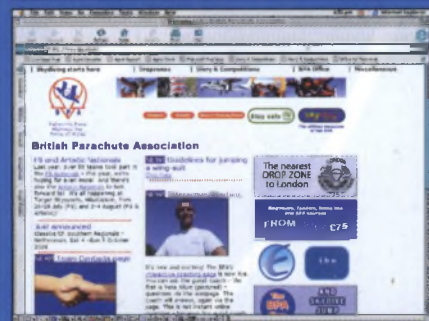
#### AFF

Aaron Faith  
Simon Powell  
Gary Smith  
Wayne Costello  
Dane Richardson

#### Tandem Instructor

Craig Poxon  
Kevin Fife  
Chris Beattie  
Charles Hurd  
Ralph Mitchell  
Toby Goodchild

## www.bpa.org.uk



### Blue skies, white backgrounds!

The home page of the BPA website has had a makeover. It now contains news and has been redesigned with a white background. This will make it easier to print off a hard copy. Two new pages have been introduced – an interactive coaching page and a team contacts page. The Development Committee welcomes feedback on the new pages. It will be considering whether or not to give the whole of the BPA website a makeover in the new format, when it starts work on next year's Action Plan.

*"I was very happy to be asked to be part of an interactive coaching page, as I see massive benefits in being able to reach people immediately and also everyone that writes in."*

Pete Allum, peteallum@aol.com

# CYPRES 2



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# Stay Safe

## Safe skydiving is an attitude

### **Skydiving is a risk management sport**

Every time we jump, we consciously or unconsciously weigh the risks against the rush. To improve our odds of staying alive to jump again we all need to practise safe skydiving. This is more of an attitude than one or two (or even dozens) of hard and fast rules. It's knowing yourself, your gear and being aware of what's going on around you.

**Every injury or fatality** has been linked to a chain of events, or uncertainties, that led to the accident. The first step in preventing accidents is learning to recognise the uncertainties. This will allow you to evaluate the circumstances and make a decision based on the information you have, not just on your emotions.

**Did you check your gear** before you put it on? How about before you left the aircraft? Could you have dislodged your main pin when you sat down in the aircraft or when you stood up on jump run? Did you take the time to locate all the handles on the rig that you are jumping? Are the ground wind speeds too strong for your canopy or your level of experience?

**When you feel uncertain** – about anything – take the time to find out what's going on. Ask someone to give you a pin check, both on the ground and before exit. Know the wind speed before you get on the aircraft. If the wind is too strong for you, don't be afraid to sit out the jump.

**When you were a student**, your instructors were responsible for making no-go decisions by a non-emotional evaluation of many things. You may have been disappointed when manifest announced that students were on a wind hold, but you understood that the decision was made with your safety in mind. Safe skydivers take the same responsibility for themselves. Safe skydivers evaluate the risk factors and make a decision based on their own capabilities, not their emotional drives.

**Your go and no-go decisions** should be based on your own limits. Be honest with yourself. Evaluate your abilities and limitations. Know your

personal limits. As your skills and abilities increase you may find that you can expand your personal limits. Remember that what's right for you is not necessarily right for someone else. Don't push your friends to jump in conditions they are not comfortable with and don't allow them to talk you into busting your limits.

**Learn all you can about gear** – how it works, how to maintain it properly and how your canopy flies in different conditions.

**Avoid over confidence** – we are always learning. Those who feel they already know all they need are the most likely to be involved in an accident.

**A safe skydiver knows that no skydive is so important that it can't be delayed until conditions are suitable. Don't lose sight of your values and priorities in your rush to get to altitude.**

Photo: Michael McGowan

## Stay safe



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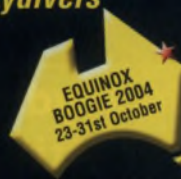
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The Diploma, which is approved by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority and Ministry of Education, has been produced for the novice skydiver 0-100 jumps who wants to fast track a career in the Skydiving Industry. This is a 32 week course where lectures, assignments and 200

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For information on Christchurch [www.chnz.net](http://www.chnz.net) or contact us directly at: Christchurch Parachute School, P O Box 16-625, Christchurch New Zealand,

Tel 64 3 3435542 Fax 64 3 3484366  
email [steve@skydiving.co.nz](mailto:steve@skydiving.co.nz)

# 2

## CANOPIES OUT?

### What Should You Do?



If you deploy your main at a low altitude, your Cypres may fire and you could end up under two square canopies. Should you cut away? Which one do you steer with?

The brave blokes at Performance Designs did a series of test jumps, in association with the PIA. Kai Koerner of Airtec summarises the results, which suggest the best ways of coping with the various possible configurations.

Of course there are no absolute answers to such questions, these are recommendations based on live tests. The bottom line is: all such situations are best avoided by deploying at a safe altitude!

**There are four different possibilities in the event of a Cypres firing after main deployment:**

#### **Situation 1**

*Only the reserve pilot chute is out.*

#### **Situation 2**

*The reserve deploys after the main.*

#### **Situation 3**

*Reserve and main deploy simultaneously.*

#### **Situation 4**

*The main deploys after the reserve.*

Depending on the configuration of the canopies, situations 2-4 could develop into a biplane, a side by side or a downplane. The closer to a simultaneous deployment you have, the more critical the situation will be, as the chances of a downplane or a serious entanglement increase.

#### **Situation 1**

*Only the reserve pilot chute is out.*



The jumper has reached Cypres activation altitude. The Cypres opens the reserve container during main deployment. Depending on the design of the reserve pilot chute and the reserve container, only the pilot chute trails behind. It is not certain that the reserve will remain in the container. What is to be done?

After a Cypres has fired, both altitude and time are limited. Your priority should be to look for a hazard-free landing area. Try to approach it slowly, possibly flying on brakes, or not even releasing them in the first place.

If the main is open and the reserve is starting to deploy (reserve behind the main), wait until it has deployed and prepare for the ensuing situation.



It is not advisable to 'pull in' the partially opened canopy, as it cannot be guaranteed that it will not continue to deploy. During the test jumps for the study there was one injury because a canopy opened at the last moment and caused a downplane.

#### **Situation 2**

*The reserve deploys after the main.*

The reserve opens after the main and hence deploys behind the main. This can lead to one of two most likely possibilities: a biplane or a side-by-side. If the top surface of the rear canopy is **BELOW** the trailing edge of the front canopy, there will be a tendency to form a biplane. If the top surface of the rear canopy is **ON LEVEL** with or **ABOVE** the trailing edge of the front canopy, there will be a tendency towards a side-by-side configuration.

Situation 2 could also develop into a downplane but this is likely to be controllable (by cutting away).

#### **Situations 3 & 4**

*The reserve and main deploy simultaneously, or the main deploys after the reserve.*

These are the worst possible cases. Depending on the configuration of the canopies, situations 3 & 4 may develop into a biplane or a side-by-side but the chances of a downplane or a serious entanglement are greatly increased.

**Full Dual Square Report:**  
[www.performancedesigns.com](http://www.performancedesigns.com)

## Flying a Biplane

Stay calm! Do not cutaway. If you have to steer: use the toggles of the front canopy and steer gently and slowly. Do not release the brakes of the rear canopy. Do not flare on landing but be ready to perform a PLF. The descent rate will be low. Do not cut away from a stable biplane, as there is a danger of the cutaway main entangling with the reserve.



### VIDEO LOGBOOK

#### Successfully Landing a Biplane



*The biplane is developing.*



*The jumper steers carefully and lands successfully.*

### PHOTO LOGBOOK

#### Successful Cutaway from a Biplane



*Here everything is going well and the jumper cuts away his main without hindering the reserve.*



*But you can clearly see how the main is snaking past the reserve. There is a real danger of the main catching and making it difficult or impossible to fly the reserve.*

### VIDEO LOGBOOK

#### Unsuccessful Cutaway from a Biplane

*The jumper noticed his reserve deploying. He cut away his blue main while the yellow reserve was opening. A main riser catches in the A-lines of the reserve.*



*You can see the main begin to hinder the reserve.*



*The main has already distorted the reserve considerably. The reserve is rotating rapidly.*



*The reserve is starting to entangle with the main.*



*Both canopies are now totally out of control.*

*The jumper was very lucky and only had slight injuries. It is almost certain though that landing the biplane would have been a better option.*

## Flying a Side-by-side

Gently and carefully steer the dominant (usually the bigger) canopy. Leave the brakes of the smaller canopy stowed. If the side-by-side develops



into a biplane, fly it as recommended to the left. If the side-by-side does not develop into a biplane, cutaway.

**REMEMBER: first disconnect the RSL!** Only cutaway if there is no entanglement. In the case of smaller or elliptical canopies a cutaway is generally recommended.

## Flying a Downplane

At Cypres altitude this is an extremely critical situation. It occurs if one canopy opens with a twist and / or if both canopies turn on opening. When the situation becomes obvious, prompt action is required as the descent rate is very high. The solution: if there is sufficient altitude, cutaway. **REMEMBER: first disconnect the RSL!**



### VIDEO LOGBOOK

#### A Downplane

*Here you can see the reserve deploying through the main risers.*



*Both canopies open but immediately form a downplane.*



*The descent rate increases rapidly (about 70 ft/sec). In the bottom picture the jumper is no more than 80m (270 feet) from the ground.*



*He too was lucky to get away with only minor injuries. The total time under the downplane was about 5 seconds.*

All the video logbook photos are taken from real videos we have been sent and are neither from test jumps nor posed. As you can see, none of these situations is pleasant. Unfortunately it is not practical to build an AAD which will not fire if the main is deployed at an extremely low altitude.

**These problems are best avoided by deploying the main at a safe altitude.**



# For Starters

## All The Gear...

*Photos: Simon Ward, Colin Bridges, Olympus Digital & Adrian Nicholas*

Once you gain your Cat 8, you will need to buy equipment of your own. There is a wealth of choice with suppliers who will try to convince you that you need every latest gadget and you must buy new. It is sometimes implied that, as skydiving is such a dangerous sport, anything else might prove unreliable in your hour of need. In reality, apart from a good rig, alti and helmet which can all be acquired relatively inexpensively, most other pieces of equipment are optional.

### New or second hand?

New or used should be a financial choice not one made out of fear or a need to impress. If money is not a consideration, then acquiring all of these toys is an exciting game. If, like many people, your finances took a big hit from completing your recent skydiving course, your mortgage is due and your salary is still two weeks away, then you may have to make some choices about the type of equipment you need relative to what your budget can afford. There is little point in having all of the gear and gadgets and no money to spend on jumping. Buying used gear, or a mixture of new and used, can often be a great way to get good skydiving equipment whilst saving money to enjoy the sport that has just become your latest obsession.

### WEIGHTS

If you are reasonably light and are flying at the edge of your range in a fairly extreme body position to keep down with others, wearing weight will help you adopt a more comfortable and versatile flying position. The amount of weight and how you wear those weights will be determined by your body size and mass, the neutral position you use and your experience level. In order to maintain a comfortable neutral whilst flying in a diverse group, both weights and a good jumpsuit are very useful tools. Learn to adjust the amount of lead you wear depending on the jumping you are doing, to keep you flying in a comfortable position for that fall rate.

Be aware that 12-14 lbs of lead will cause your canopy to handle as if it were approximately one size smaller. Also be aware of the need to be able to jettison the weight easily in the unlikely event of a water landing.



Anne Maxwell (below left), Skydive University director, coach, rigger and AFF instructor with 3,000+ jumps, has written this article from seven years of experience answering students' questions about all the peripherals for FS. Next issue she will look at rig & canopy choice.



## Weight vest

When using a box position (such as the photo top left) a weight vest is an appropriate choice. It is also the first choice if you are much heavier in the hips than shoulders and wear a larger container. When most of your weight is below your centre of gravity, there is a tendency to backslide. To fly in neutral requires compensation with a more legs out position in freefall. This drastically reduces your ability to move forwards dynamically and, paradoxically, creates more drag. When chest weight is worn, legs can come back to a 90-degree position, and a faster fall rate is achieved whilst allowing a fuller range of movement.



*A weight vest is good if you fly in a box and/or you have a low C of G*

There is a limit as to how much chest weight is efficient. After a certain point, weights will also need to be worn in the middle of the body. A weight vest that accommodates upper and lower weight is the ideal solution. It is very uncomfortable to wear more than about 12 lbs of lead in a vest, and places a huge strain on the neck and shoulders. A weight belt can then be used to assist in weight distribution.

## Weight belt

If your body weight is more evenly balanced a weight belt is the perfect choice. It is also the preferred choice when flying in a mantis position (photo above), as the head and shoulders are higher than the knees. It can be worn outside the jumpsuit and is generally one of the more comfortable ways to wear lead. When wearing a weight belt, make sure that it does not interfere with your handles. This is especially true if you have a short torso. Always check that your handles are clear before exiting the aircraft and after deployment. Whether you use a vest or a belt, keep it loose enough to be comfortable.



*This weight belt is comfy, safe, easy to use & good for a mantis position*



*This weight belt has clips which take some strain onto the rig*

## Rig weight

Weights can also be worn in the rig itself. Some rig manufacturers or riggers can build pockets in the back pad of the rig to accommodate some lead. The size of the rig will determine how much lead can be comfortably worn in this location. It is one of the safest and most comfortable places to wear a small amount of lead as it is safely stowed and the weight is distributed through the harness of the rig.



*Rig weight is comfortable and places less opening force on the body*

## Jumpsuits

A well fitted jumpsuit, built with your fall rate requirements and type of skydiving preferences in mind is worth its weight in gold, and is probably one of the best value for money items on your shopping list. Initially, the price appears very expensive for an item of clothing; however, the value in terms of durability, materials and workmanship is excellent. A formation skydiving jumpsuit is custom made from materials to measurements. The best manufacturers usually sponsor a top team who provide research and development feedback. Suits will be modified and updated regularly from recommendations based upon thousands of jumps and many wind tunnel hours. Suits to be avoided are cheap copies of originals where the manufacturers don't even jump.

I highly recommend buying your first suit from a dealer, rather than measuring yourself. Most dealers provide excellent advice on the type of suit most suitable for your skydiving requirements and fall rate needs and they will take expert measurements, also asking what you wear underneath your jumpsuit and taking this into account. They will also provide colour fabric swatches from different manufacturers and will assist in choosing jumpsuit options. Any alterations will then be at their expense. Unless you pay for a rush order, most jumpsuits will take on average eight weeks to be manufactured depending on the time of year. If you do decide to measure yourself or have a friend do it, take into account warmwear and weight vests.

If you are doing any formation skydiving, booties are a necessity. If you compare buying a jumpsuit to buying a car, booties would be the fuel injection option. They dramatically increase your range of motion and speed of movement. There is a concern that lack of flying experience may create control problems in freefall, but I have found that the benefits outweigh any short term challenges. If you are fortunate enough, 30 minutes flying in the wind tunnel makes a new suit feel like an old friend. When choosing options, ie, competition grips, inside leg grips, etc, think long term. After graduation it may seem that your first 4-way is a long way off but 100 jumps later when your first team is trying to build a caterpillar formation, those inside leg grips will seem pretty important. It is much cheaper to buy an option at the outset than to pay for an alteration later.

It is possible to buy a good jumpsuit second hand. It is a good deal if you can find a team jumper who is your clone selling a suit with all the options. You should be able to pick it up for half price or less. A suit that doesn't quite fit or needs alterations is rarely a good deal. You may as well put the money to a new custom suit.

The main points to look for when choosing a manufacturer are the quality of the suit, the price, delivery time and, very importantly, after sales service. To narrow the choice make a list of which manufacturers the top teams use. Although their suits are sponsored, most high level teams would not



wear a mediocre suit even if it were free. They have a choice of which suit they wear and whom they choose is a positive endorsement.



## Altitude devices

An altimeter is one of the mandatory pieces of skydiving equipment. Although there are plenty to choose from, I recommend using one that is easy to read and has excellent after-sales service. I know of at least one



manufacturer who provides free lifetime warranty. This service is particularly useful when you drop your altimeter on the creeper pad.

## Audibles

Although not strictly necessary, I enjoy the added security and particular benefits of wearing an audible. Whilst not relying on it, the extra altitude warning is extremely useful. An audible is especially useful if you are doing different disciplines – such as flat-fly, freely, breaking off high – as freefall time will vary from skydive to skydive. If you intend freeflying, many coaches will not let you jump without an audible (or even two) as they are such a useful safety precaution when learning to fly at the higher speeds involved.



Which one you choose will depend on whether you want a basic model or if you want the top of the range which will act as a log book, measures your freefall time, speed and can be hooked up to a computer for even more statistics. Generally speaking, the more functions the higher the price.



A full-face helmet (top left) offers good facial protection when jumping with others, compared to an open-face (bottom). Some prefer flip-up visors (top right) which can be opened under canopy for greater freedom



*Inside leg grips are a good choice for a long lasting suit, you may also wish to go for double arm competition grips (see photo top left). Buying from a dealer will help you make these choices.*

## Helmets

Again these are mandatory. The main considerations when buying one should be comfort and safety. Try on as many as possible to find the perfect fit. I wear a full-face as the added protection has saved me a few times from kicks in the face. It also provides added security when wearing contact lenses. In the UK, there is a 50 jump minimum requirement for wearing a full-face. If you do decide on the flip-top option, the only practical solution if you wear glasses, it is a good idea to practice lifting the visor on the ground so as not to run into problems when using it under canopy.



Most open-face helmets allow easier communication as you can see the person's whole face, although they

do not protect the jaw and mouth. A separate pair of goggles is necessary, trying on several pairs to find one compatible to your face and helmet is a good idea.

Leather frappe hats, whilst meeting the minimum mandatory requirements for wearing a helmet, provide little protection from injury. In the UK, these can only be worn if you have 200 jumps.



## Hook Knives

You will need to jump a hook knife, the main reason being in case you get a line-over malfunction on your reserve. There are many types, they all work. Find one you like which will conveniently fit your rig. Locating on the chest strap is not a good idea as it is easy to lose; the leg strap is preferable. To keep it sharp, do not use your hook knife for random tasks.



## Gloves



Gloves are extremely useful to protect the hands from landing mishaps, line burns, scrapes and cold weather. Good skydiving gloves should be thick enough to protect from the cold whilst being thin enough to feel your handles. Buying from a skydiving store rather than a sports shop will ensure that the gloves you buy have been tested in freefall.

Anne Maxwell  
annemaxwell1000@hotmail.com

**Next issue Anne will look at rig and canopy choice**



## HOT TIP

Whilst choosing

colours is a very personal issue, most jumpsuit manufacturers agree that limiting the number to three is a wise idea. It tends to decrease the likelihood of needing a new jumpsuit in six months, just because you are too embarrassed to wear the old one. Dayglo is rarely a lasting fashion!



SEE ALSO

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## Getting Started

Kate Stephens  
April 2001

## Freeflying gear: Head-up Flying

Giles Fabris  
August 2000



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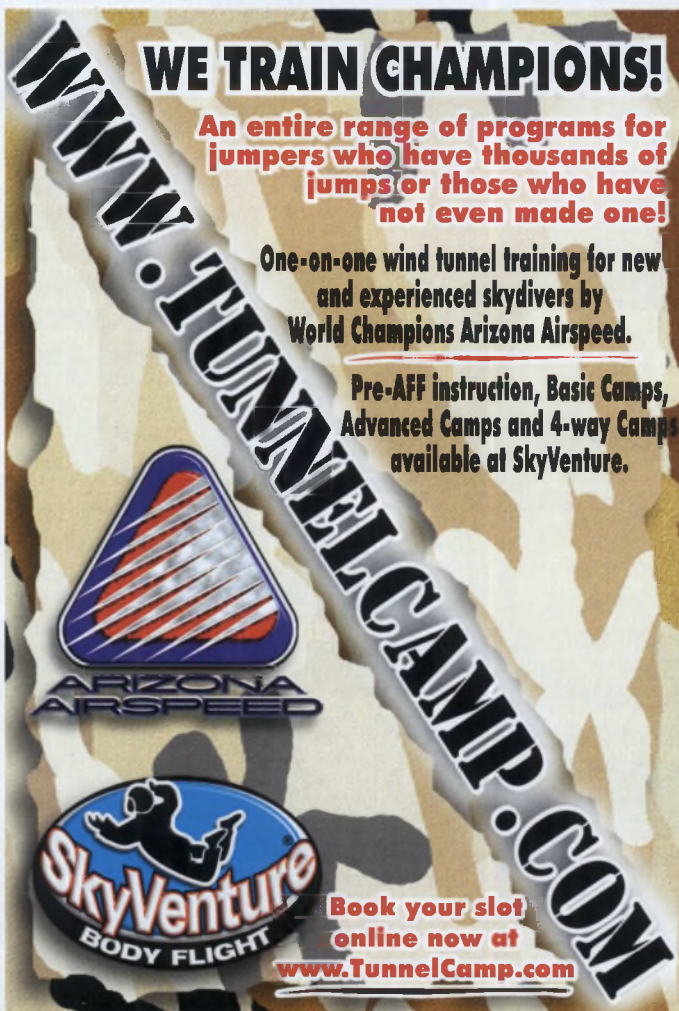
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## What are they on about?

I hear various terms used at the drop zone and in magazines and I feel a little stupid in not knowing what people are on about. Sometimes it's like listening to a foreign language! Is there a glossary of skydiving and slang terms around?



Don't put yourself down, you aren't stupid, just not yet informed. There is a huge glossary of terms on the BPA website: [www.bpa.org.uk](http://www.bpa.org.uk) If you're not into the internet the Starter Mag has a glossary, you can get hold of one at your local DZ or from the BPA Office.

[divedr@skydivemag.com](mailto:divedr@skydivemag.com)



## My body position is terrible

I have recently done and passed AFF Level 1 but my stability was no good, my legs were bent, I wasn't arched enough and my arms weren't in the correct position. I was thinking about a wind tunnel. I want to progress but don't want to keep doing the following levels if I fail. What do you suggest I should do?



Relax – level one is all about introduction to freefall. Communication, reaction and awareness are all important factors for the first jump along with a basic stable position. It takes a while to develop the muscle memory needed to confidently adopt the correct stable position every time and yours is a common issue among students. Here are some handy tips to help you accelerate your muscle memory development:

- Try some light warm-up stretching to loosen up your lower back and stomach muscles.
- Prop a mirror up on the floor.
- Lie on your stomach facing the mirror with your legs extended slightly against a wall.
- Lift your arms off the floor with your elbows both parallel to the floor and forming a straight line from elbow – elbow via your neck line.
- Arch your body at the hip so that both your chest and lower thighs are raised above the floor by an inch or so.
- With your body arched, keep breathing and checking floppy forearms and toes pointed to the wall. Hold the position for no longer than 15 seconds at a time, relaxing totally inbetween.
- Repeat the exercise, eyes shut at first, then check or adjust position using the mirror or a buddy.

Keep practicing the exercises frequently during the week inbetween levels. The wind tunnel is great and, if you get the chance to go, discuss goals with your instructor and take a video (most tunnels have a video system). Good luck!

Dive Dr J  
[andrew.scott@orange.co.uk](mailto:andrew.scott@orange.co.uk)



# Dive Doctor



## I can't get the dummy handle

I've done seven RAPS jumps and got straight on to dummy pulls. My position is fine; the problem is getting my dummy handle. I do plenty of practice on the ground but I keep missing it in the air. It's the shock of leaving the plane – when I'm about to get the thing, the static line pulls my chute and then I'm all over the place. I think I keep trying to pull the sides of the container by mistake.



Dummy pulls are tricky until you get the hang of them. This is good news – if you can pull the handle in a calm, controlled way, maintaining your arch while your opening main is distracting you, you should find the pull on your first freefall comparatively easy.

It sounds like you're using a bottom of container system, where the dummy pull handle is located on the bottom right hand corner of the rig. If this is the case, the flap on which it is mounted will probably move about a little when your main canopy is pulled from the container. This makes it harder to find but, again, if you can find a handle which may have moved, it should be very easy to get hold of when you go onto freefall. You'll then be reaching for that handle while the main is still in the rig, keeping that flap nice and solid and the handle just

where you expect it to be. Get your instructor to explain this to you with a real rig on the ground.

The solution is just to keep practicing. Take it slow – you shouldn't be trying to grab the handle while you are still pushing away from the plane. Don't try to beat the opening canopy. Try shouting your count **Very Clearly** as you perform the drill, which should force you to get the timing right:

**"One Thousand!"**

Don't even think about finding the handle yet. Just exit nicely, keep your head up and ARCH!

**"Two Thousand!"**

Only now start to reach for the handle. Keep your arch, don't flatten your body, it's just the arms that move. Make sure your left arm does its job as well as the right, moving both at the same time. There is plenty of time to find that handle. If you miss it, slide your hand around until you've got it. Keep counting...

**"Three Thousand!"**

Pull that handle and return to a stable spread, keeping that nice big arch. Don't drop it. The opening canopy might be trying to throw you out of position, but show your instructor you're trying.

Continue your count and check your canopy.

Dive Dr D  
[thiswayup@talk21.com](mailto:thiswayup@talk21.com)



## I don't want to pay twice

I have done three jumps and would like to subscribe to your lovely magazine which I have seen around the DZ. I understand that when I go on to freefall and get my full BPA membership the magazine is included. I'd like to get The Mag now but I don't want to pay twice.

Take out a magazine-only subscription now and, when you upgrade to full BPA membership later, you just pay the difference. Happy reading!

[divedr@skydivemag.com](mailto:divedr@skydivemag.com)



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skydive

August 2003

# Looking Cool...?

**By the time you've got a few hundred jumps you're getting pretty good. Got yourself a rig, jumpsuit, all the other bits of kit and can turn those points fairly quickly, be it head up, down, flat or under canopy.**

**In fact, you're actually pretty cool, people are looking up to you in the bar and YOU are the one that is providing those inspiring coaching tips to the up and coming jumpers.**

**Ring any bells? Is this you? Change the jump number figure to suit; 100, 500, 1,500, 3,000+. It fits for most of us.**

But then have a good look. A seriously good look. Is it really you? Yes to a degree, but how much do you genuinely know? Is your knowledge actually that detailed or are you sat right on the tip of the iceberg? When you think you know it all, or even just think you have the skill to achieve something, take a step back and really **think**. For most of us it's not until afterwards, when an incident has happened, that we realise we weren't quite up to it. Hindsight is fantastic.

The following four things happened to me...

- *120 jumps – made a late turn, not having a full grasp of altitude. Very lucky with only a limp for a month.*
- *1,800 jumps, AFF instructor – freefall collision whilst not being 100% aware of what was going on around me. I was shaken though uninjured but the other person wasn't so lucky.*
- *2,900 jumps – cutaway at 4,000 feet following a CF wrap, turned a half series and then smoked it on down. Pulled my reserve sub 1,000 feet (no Cypres). It seemed cool, with the adrenaline pumping, until the reserve pilot chute started bouncing off my right arm before deploying. Landed without further incident.*
- *3,400 jumps – slightly in the corner, despite 600 jumps in the previous year on that type of canopy with 300 of them using rear risers. Still in sink and didn't quite have the lift on the rears that toggles can give. Luckily I had the knowledge and skill to recover and only scraped my bum on the concrete at the front of the DZ, with no further injury – but obviously hadn't had the skill to avoid being in that situation in the first place!*



Can you associate yourself with any of these incidents? If not, I'm sure you can come up with your own. Each one of the above I thought would never happen to me. Which one left me looking cool? How many of us have had a bad landing and hoped no-one has seen it? A little knowledge can be dangerous.

So why do we put ourselves in these situations? For most (particularly males) it is our ego. We want to go fast and progress as quickly as we can. We cut corners and take shortcuts, jumping smaller, faster canopies, before we can totally handle our present one. We want to get on the bigger, better jumps and forget the basics. We want to look cool.



**Having knowledge in this sport, which can be unforgiving, is knowing how much you don't know and therefore how much more there is to learn.**

So why not slow down? Keep jumping that canopy until you've really put it through its paces over hundreds and hundreds of jumps. Keep doing the basics – you can never do enough skills jumps. **Stay aware.**

So who's the coolest jumper on the drop zone? Perhaps it's the quieter one that has been around for a while, doesn't have the desire to show off or try to look cool, sticks to the simpler jumps, flies a larger (by 'cool' standards) canopy that will give lots of lift and doesn't land it in an extreme way. Perhaps, just perhaps, this is the coolest person on your drop zone, without even trying. And perhaps they are the ones that, overall, have the most fun and reap the maximum amount of satisfaction out of our sport.

**Al Macartney**  
[alastair@macartney.co.uk](mailto:alastair@macartney.co.uk)

*Photo, by Norman Kent, shows Ian Bobo (left) and Shannon Pilcher from the Performance Designs factory team flying their Velocity canopies at Deep Woods Ranch, Florida during a training camp.*

*"The toughest thing to do in the sport of skydiving is to not let your ego get the best of you... there are a lot of strong personalities in this sport, it takes a bigger person to stay humble I believe"*

*Ian Bobo*





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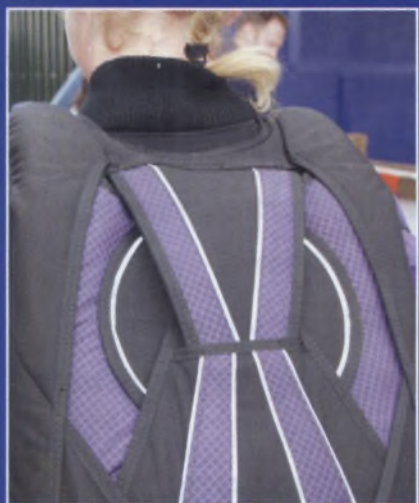
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The FreeZR from Paratec

## Yokeless Spacers

Sunpath Inc will soon be offering a yokeless option on their *Javelin* harness/container system. The yoke is the section of the rig above the reserve container and close to the back of the jumper's head. Some small female jumpers sometimes find this yoke restrictive when wearing a full-face helmet – preventing the jumper from getting their head back comfortably.



Olympus Digital

The yokeless Javelin has a deeper cut allowing more freedom of neck movement

The yokeless rig will still have a yoke of course but it will be cut much deeper; because of this no Javelin logo will be embroidered on the tiny yoke area. But if you really really want to advertise Javelin however, Sunpath have been good enough to allow you to pay extra cash to have their logo embroidered on the reserve flap.

Another new option to emerge from the bowels of Sunpath is an ultra luxurious, quilted and breathable foam backpad lined with neoprene. Named *Spacer* this option is only available in black on the *Odyssey* rig. Sunpathers claim that the *Spacer* is unbelievably comfortable.

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



## Cool as a Freezer!

Paratec of Germany, a company better known for its *Next* container system and its series of main and reserve canopies has now forayed into the world of skydiving helmets with the release of a new full-face called *FreeZR*. (Freezer – get it ?)

Developed and built by a coalition of Paratec and a motorcycle helmet manufacturer in Germany, the new helmet features a flip-up, moulded and shaped visor made from 2mm lexan. Thumb tabs and locking pins on each side make for secure fitting and easy opening. The shell is at the moment made in one size and the removable three-piece lining can be changed for size and fit. A smaller shell is planned for the future as the present shell is better suited to the average to larger head sizes. The moulded shape of the visor allows the user to wear spectacles or sunglasses with comfort. Cyrano de Bergerac would like this helmet.

All round vision is good and the lining is very comfortable due to soft foam and 'coolmax' liner material – all technology taken from bike helmets. Audible pockets are built into the lining on both sides and the shell is available in six colour choices.

(Paratec tell us that the name *FreeZR* is a homage to George Pilkington and his *Fridge*, which was the first full-face helmet to hit the British skydiving market about ten years ago.)

[www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de)

## Yet More Helmets



The Guner

Yet another little snippet for 'Helmet News' is the latest issuing from Bonehead. Called the *Guner*, this open-faced helmet looks similar to the company's ubiquitous *Mindwarp* but lighter in weight and with a more rounded shape. The *Guner* features a mini seatbelt type buckle similar to that supplied with Parasport Italia's *Z1 Evo*, and two internal audible pockets.

It comes in three shell sizes (XS, Small-Medium, Large-XXL) with a 'raw carbon-fibre matt finish'. Paint in a range of stock colours is available at no extra charge. Bonehead claim this is the most comfortable helmet in their range.

001 909 943 1166  
[www.boneheadcomposites.com](http://www.boneheadcomposites.com)

# Spring Fashions!

Another nice little product to emerge from those aero-boffins of Paratec in Germany is a new spring loaded pilot chute for use in reserve containers and student mains. Their new drogue, known as Powershot, is a true round canopy design, constructed of 8 gores with a pulled down apex which according to Paratec's Stefan Ertler, generates the highest drag possible due to its large projected surface area.

Stefan goes on to say that "The mesh-fabric-mesh construction provides both a fast inflation and projection of drag, combined with the ability to continue to do this even when the pilot chute is orientated on its side, once out of the container." Highest grade spring steel with a spring force of 28DaN (ca 62 lbs), conically shaped, provides excellent launch, acceleration and penetration through the container flaps into the air.

The colours, a combination of bright orange and white fabric with black mesh, make it easy to spot on nearly all terrains after a cutaway.

[www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de)



The Powershot is brightly coloured to assist finding it after a cutaway



## Keeping VIGIL

It seems that AAD's are a bit like buses – nothing comes along for ages then two arrive at once! Only last issue we reported on the new Mars AAD from Czechoslovakia and in this issue a new product from Belgium, named Vigil!

Advanced Aerospace Designs nv/sa (AAD – get it ?), a Belgian engineering company, claim that their new baby is 'the result of four years of intense development by a highly qualified team of engineers and skydivers' by means of simulated freefalls in a pressure chamber, computer simulations, test drops with dummies and live jumps.

AAD obviously intend to take on the Airtec Cypres's almost total monopoly of the hi-tech AAD market for the past twelve years. They claim that the Vigil's features make it the most advanced state-of-the-art AAD system yet produced. As far as basic function and looks go the Vigil is very similar to Airtec's Cypres, with a main processor box, one or two bullet size cutters and a control unit with LED display. Their system has multi mode capability – ie; Pro, Student and Tandem modes. It features an alphanumeric display programmable in any language.

They also claim their product is up to 40% smaller than 'old style electronic AAD's' (what could they mean by this we wonder?) and it is '100% Industry Standard set-up compatible' (in other words it fits in a Cypres pocket). Free cutter replacement is available after a live firing.

Advanced Aerospace Designs claim that because they have selected high-tech materials such as kevlar, stainless steel, aluminium alloy and other composites and, because of its unbreakable box, interchangeable parts and upgradeable software they can guarantee a low cost of ownership and a life expectancy of 20 years.

As if all this were not enough, the Vigil also works as a data-logger. It logs the last freefall time, total freefall time and number of jumps – all this is downloadable on a PC through an infrared communications port. The system is designed to function for four years without battery changing.

If all goes to schedule, by the time you read this, Vigil should be available on the market and for a slightly cheaper price than the competition.

**Advance Aerospace Designs**  
[info@vigil.aerowww.vigil.aero](mailto:info@vigil.aerowww.vigil.aero)

## A snapping problem

What started with two reports to Mirage systems concerning broken ripcord pins found on two individual Mirage



rigs has transformed into a major search across the globe, and involving most manufacturers of harness container systems.

The pins on the two Mirages seemed to break under normal wear. Even after working with Capewell Components, the US company which produced the pins, they were not able to find the cause even after detailed microscopic and metallurgical examination.

Shortly after this another broken pin turned up on an aircrew's emergency bale-out rig. The most alarming thing about these breaks is that the pins broke close to where the pin meets the cable, leaving the broken pin still spanning the grommet, thus keeping the pack securely closed. (This would not, however, prevent a Cypres type AAD from opening the container.) Several other pins from the same batch of 200 manufactured in November 2001 have been tracked down and tested and found to be sound.

Capewell is the only company in the US that makes ripcord pins and they distribute them worldwide to both civilian and military customers. Sometimes the pins are supplied as part of a completed ripcord and sometimes the ripcords are made up by the rig manufacturer. So far the failed pins found were from both sources. What makes this problem extra puzzling is that Capewell tests every single individual pin before it leaves the factory, and

the tests equal or exceed those required by the FAA TSO requirement.

Capewell have stated that these are the first pins to break in the company's history. Apparently the 200 pins involved in the Mirage service bulletin were actually part of a batch of 60,000 pins, produced over a long time period.

Since the discovery of the broken pin on the bale-out rig, it's become obvious that the problem is not limited to Mirage systems. The Jump Shack's John Sherman, whose company manufactured the ripcord used in the bale-out rig, recommends that riggers inspect pins with a magnifying glass as they assemble and repack reserves, saying that small folds or flaws in the metal should be cause for alarm. Tweaking and twisting the pins with fingers is a good idea, he says, as the pins which snapped did so under light loads.

Capewell themselves have issued a product service bulletin dated 15 July which relates to all pins produced from 28 November 2001 through to 15 July 2003. The bulletin specifies two simple tests which should be carried out using a spring balance, on either packed containers (without opening them) or unused ripcords.

As we go to press both Sunpath and Parachutes de France have issued mandatory service bulletins which insist on the application of Capewell's tests to their various products manufactured between certain dates which may include pins from the batch in question. We suspect that we will soon be flooded by similar bulletins from all the other rig manufacturers. Capewell's tests including pictures and diagrams can be found on their website.

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

# Flight Test: Sabre2

In the first of a new series of kit reviews, Al Macartney test jumps the Sabre2

The Sabre2 will fly you safely whilst providing a challenge. It inspires confidence and is enjoyable. It gives the sweetest landing whether you fly a slow, gentle approach or a hard, aggressive pattern. It is a superb all-round canopy – gentle enough for intermediates with lots for the more experienced jumper to play with. Verdict: a big thumbs-up!

The original Sabre canopy was released onto the market in 1989 and was a state of the art rectangular canopy designed for the mid range high performance canopy pilots. In 2000, Performance Designs (PD) recognised that the Sabre, whilst an excellent canopy, was based on a ten year old design and hence went back to the drawing board, looking hard at what the customer really wanted. PD, whose vision is to 'offer superior solutions to our customers' needs by producing a consistent quality product that will stand the test of time', spent two years in extensive research and development consisting of hundreds of designs and thousands of test jumps. "We had to get it just perfect. I had a precise vision of the flight characteristics that we had to achieve and refused to compromise," said John le Blanc, the Sabre2's chief designer and Vice President of Performance Designs.

The Sabre2 was launched in 2002 and has sold over 3,000 canopies in its first year. Marketing Director Edward 'Bushman' Anderson said "it is proving to be the best all round canopy we have ever produced, with sales exceeding every projection we ever made." It is their second best selling product (after their PR reserve series).

Here, the flight characteristics are generally compared to its retired predecessor, the Sabre.

## Opening: positive calm

The old Sabre sometimes had a tendency to make a swift impact on opening. From pitching the pilot chute it is clear the Sabre2 is quite different. The opening gives a feeling of confidence. You can feel the 'snatch' as the canopy leaves your back, a longer snivel than the original Sabre (which will please many) and then the ambience of a butterfly unfurling its wings as the canopy gains full inflation. The sensation is of positive calm; slow enough for comfort but sufficiently fast that it doesn't deplete your altitude.

It mattered not how I packed it. I tried both the factory recommended Pro pack and my own version, which some people rudely alluded to as a 'trash pack'. The Sabre2 took both in its stride, spitting out the imperfections of both pack job and body position.

If you do end up in twists the canopy will happily sit there while you calmly assess the situation and kick yourself round.

## WHO JUMPS ONE?

• **Sparky** – (Claire Scott) from VMax, World Cup Champion



• **Eric Fradet** – 25,000+ jumps, world gold medals in FS, CF & skysurfing

• **Kevin McCarthy** – Empuriabrava's AFF school owner



• The French women's 4-way team – who could not land a canopy before!

• **Max Cohn** – founder of Generation Freely and ex Icarus spokesman

• **Andy Ford** – AFF Instructor, VMax cameraflyer, swooper, wingsuit flyer



• **Lise Aune** – world medallist, Norgies 4-way team

• **Loic Jean Albert** – crazy Frenchman known for his outrageous stunts





The Sabre2 is gentle enough for the intermediate jumper yet has lots of fun in store for the more aggressive experienced pilot too

## Flight: fun

The opening does not eat into your valuable altitude. You would not want it to. You want the time for just you – well, for you and your canopy. This slightly tapered zero porosity nine-cell canopy has a slightly flatter glide angle yet with the same speed as the original. This translates into a more efficient aerofoil that will transport you back from those deep, deep spots or give greater penetration into a driving wind. For those that like a tranquil canopy flight you can create a lower rate of descent, sitting in brakes as you wait for the other traffic to land, like a buzzard floating in a summer breeze. Gentler toggle pressure gives slightly more responsive turns. But be warned, the efficient design with minimal drag makes it lose more height, but not disturbingly so. The long control range gives a feeling of comfort and adaptability that allows for accurate and controlled flat turns at both high and low speed, an often underestimated safety characteristic. With factory brake settings, on the larger sizes, toggles can be depressed to full arm extension without stalling.

Commencing harness turns requires more assertive input as the canopy doesn't like its equilibrium perturbed. For the low experienced pilot this allows greater freedom for error. For the more aggressive pilot it can easily be built up with the addition of some front riser carve or an initial squeeze on both brakes, assisting the preliminary rotation.

## Landing: easy

Slow speed approaches or poor flares provide reassuringly forgiving landings as long as you fly a decent size canopy. Using correct flare technique will allow you to really feel the true magic of this tremendously efficient wing. Even a straight in approach will allow you to glide further yet softer – like a princess gracefully sliding on ice! There is still more lift, despite the slow airspeed, at the end of the landing.

For the more aggressive pilots the front riser pressure is light enough, even on the larger sizes, to really generate that deep, forceful speed. Powerful, dynamic approaches can be built up without difficulty. A harness turn, coupled with a slow driving carve, pulling and embracing a tight grasp on the front risers, can accurately generate the acceleration that allows the powerful enchantment of the Sabre2 to dominate. NB: refrain from aggressive approaches until you are totally familiar with this canopy and have developed the skills. It will hold its dive longer than a Stiletto.

## Suitable for: almost anyone

PD make them in their standard sizes from 97 to 260. Their canopy chart includes weight ranges for students. For most British skydivers this canopy is almost perfect. It's great for the novice providing lift, stability and adaptability whilst the experienced jumper can take the same canopy and fly it really aggressively. You could purchase this canopy with a low experience level and still be jumping it 1,500 jumps later. If for some reason you start to get bored then an experienced canopy pilot can suggest exercises that will further challenge you on this canopy for another few hundred jumps.

If you want a more forgiving flight then choose a larger size. For more aggression consider a smaller version. But be careful when downsizing and ensure your CCI is aware of your intentions before jumping or purchasing it. If you go for a smaller canopy get a full brief from an instructor taking into account all relevant factors including the effects of shorter lines and slightly more dynamic stall points. Remember, it's you that pilots the canopy. Don't let it fly you.

PD believe it is 'quite possibly the world's most perfect all-round canopy'. I beg to differ. The Sabre2 IS the world's most perfect all-round canopy!

Al Macartney  
alastair@macartney.co.uk



Side View

## Sabre2

9-cell, slightly tapered zero porosity

Manufacturer: Performance Designs

Aspect ratio: 2.58:1

Sizes: 97, 107, 120, 135, 150,  
190, 210, 230, 260



Back View

## VERDICT – Stars out of 10

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Toggle Pressure | ***** |
| Front Risers    | ***** |
| Glide Angle     | ***** |
| Forgiving       | ***** |
| Landings        | ***** |
| In Turbulence   | ***** |
| Value           | ***** |
| Overall         | ***** |

## POTENTIAL TO KILL / MAIM

Medium

## SUITABLE FOR

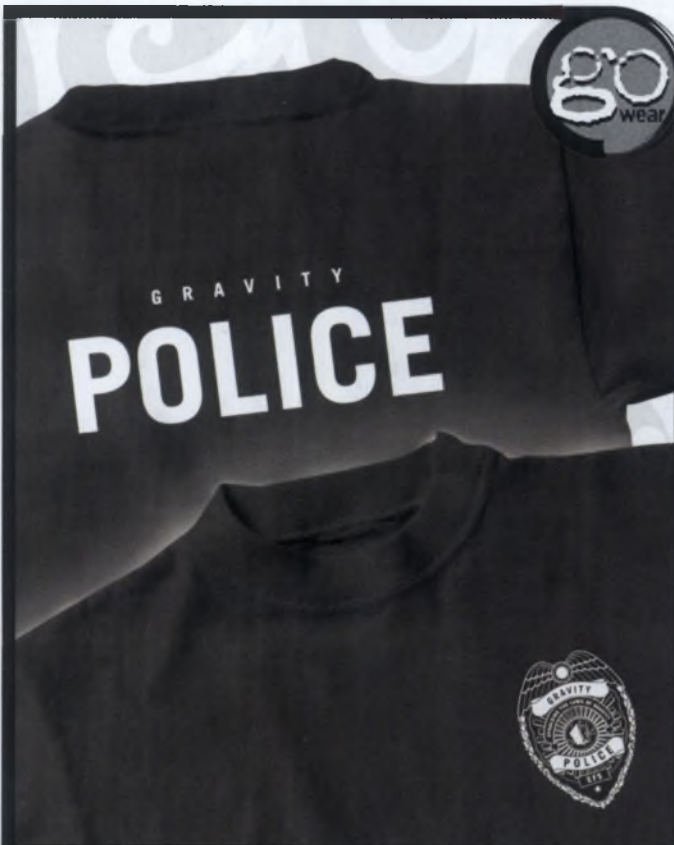
|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Novices:        | ***** |
| Intermediates:  | ***** |
| Experts:        | ***** |
| Extreme flyers: | ***** |

NB: The above is purely opinion and will change dependant on factors such as canopy size, wing loading and conditions. We have assumed wing loading of around 0.8 for novices and 1 for intermediates.

See PD website for recommended wing loadings and flight characteristics:

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

Photos: Simon Ward



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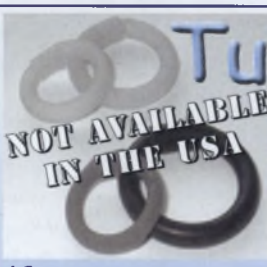
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Photo Credit: Craig O'Brien

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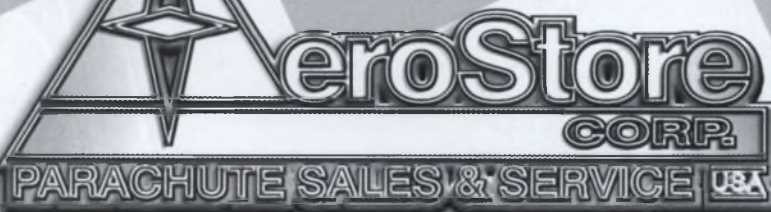


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## WANTED: More Competitions

I would like to propose more competition within skydiving. I praise all the work that goes into the current Regionals/Nationals highly but am making a comparison between skydiving and other sports.

Competition and coaching are inseparable. I believe that there is only one level of warp coach. All sports have many levels of coaching. Could this be adopted by skydiving?

I'd like to see more junior level competitions, eg, league table every month from January to December. This will encourage more skydivers to compete, developing better skills earlier. The individuals with the strongest desire and endeavour are the ones rising to the top. Is there a possibility of more people competing at the top?

**Peter Warren**  
pedroalto61@yahoo.co.uk

### In Response..

I am largely an FS 'anorak' so I will focus on that area, although much will also be true for other disciplines. We have a very active FS competition schedule in the UK. I know of at least 12 separate FS competitions in May – October, the majority incorporate junior and/or intermediate levels. There have also been four FS Coaching RoadShow (CRS) weekends this year. These popular BPA-sponsored events, introduced in the last three years, offer free coaching from leading competitors at many levels from 'Warp' to 4-way, 8-way and advanced 1-on-1. It is hoped that the CRS programme can be expanded in the future – if you have attended any, send constructive feedback to the BPA to help this happen. Or, if you want your DZ to run one, ask them to apply to the BPA – we can only go

where invited! One of our aims is to encourage people to do training camps and competitions; that is where the real learning curve begins.

Depending on our own commitments, team members may also be able to offer weekend coaching sessions or wind tunnel camps.

Our Regionals/Grand Prix and the Nationals are open to every BPA member with an FS1 rating. This year we had a record 47 teams for the 4-way FS Nationals, the majority intermediates and juniors. Everyone CAN compete at the top! Sure, the teams that sacrifice the most and work the hardest get the medals; that is entirely correct. Anything else would devalue the award. But other teams will find themselves in their own peer groups of similar level teams battling it out for a final placing at THEIR nationals.

If you have an idea for a competition, take it to the Competitions Committee of the BPA Council. This committee sets the formats for all BPA competitions in all disciplines and the meetings are open to everyone. All proposals are considered and many adopted (eg, the 8-way Grand Prix events this year). The meetings are held bimonthly in Leicester; if you cannot attend write your proposal down and send to the BPA office. If you want improvement, be proactive in making it happen. Make the effort to travel to as many coaching and competition weekends as you can and talk to us about your ideas [preferably with the opening line "Would you like a beer?" :-)] We are all dedicated competitors and want to make the FS season the best it can be; you may well have a gem of an idea that we need to hear.

**Ian Matthews (Stumpy)**  
VNE 8-way FS National team  
lan@specialistplant.co.uk

# LETTERS

## With Echoes from Cornwall

June 2003 saw the end of skydiving in Cornwall. Reflecting back on the past 27 years since the conception of the centre, there are too many memories to mention. It is though with a sense of pride that we remember the thousands of first time students introduced to our sport, the centre's wonderful colourful members through the years and the skydivers from all around the world who enjoyed, participated and created the forward-thinking and unique parachuting environment in Cornwall. The centre also produced its fair share of successful champions, well known names and legends. We would like to say thank you and pay tribute to every parachutist, pilot, skydiver and all their respective families who have helped us to TOUCH THE DREAM.

**John Fisher and family**

## On Or Off Year?

At the 2002 AGM the competitions meeting discussed the selection of the Classics team being on year. The argument for change was well presented and also well opposed with an equally good argument. At the end of the discussion the vote was for on year selection. This was actioned and hence this year's world meet team has only just been selected. Note that the majority of the people who opposed this change have just attended this meet.

At the 2003 AGM I put forward a better argument, I believe, for off year selection and the idea of having this year's nationals as selection for two years to bring it back in line. The vote deemed this to be the competitors' wish; however it was discussed and rejected by Comps Committee and Council. I now ask that this is reconsidered for the 2004 Nationals and that next year's selection of the Brit classics team be for the world meets in 2004 & 2005. John Smyth [Competitions Chairman] has advised me this may be academic as the UK may

not be invited to send classics competitors to WAG 2005 but to just chance this would be a mistake.

What I would like the committee to take note of is that the change from off year selection was made by people who did not compete at this year's nationals; in fact, some have not competed for many years. We are now only 76 days away from an international competition. That isn't much time to organise leave, finance, team training (selection after all is of individuals) and, while some decide whether they can attend, the clock continues to tick.

On the whole, classics are on a decline but this year's Nationals had little of the bickering witnessed in the past. Teams were supportive of each other. Despite the odd moan, I believe those that entered enjoyed the meet. I know spinning and stomping will never be the events they used to be but no new competitors want to enter a political hornets' nest.

**Geordie Page**  
Brit Classics team member  
geordiepage@tiscali.co.uk

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# Scottish Nationals

**New faces, familiar names and seasoned competitors brought their talent, enthusiasm and determination to Strathallan for the Scottish National Skydiving Championships and BPA Northern Regionals**



The last weekend in May provided a sunny setting for Scotland's famous annual skydiving event, where the promise of a great vibes competition always draws some welcome visiting teams from the rest of the UK.

## 4-way FS

There was only one team in the senior event but five intermediate and three junior teams. *Elevation* dominated the intermediate 4-way, with a close contest for other places between *South Park*, *G-Force*, *Hib Airspeed* and *Factor X*. The competition was fierce and all teams showed improvement over their previous meeting at Headcorn two weeks before. Eventually, *Elevation* took the honours in both the Scottish Nationals and the BPA Northern Regionals. Full results for all events are shown overleaf.

The junior teams benefited from coaching by the intermediate teams who were only too pleased to demonstrate points and launches. The junior competition was won by *On The Edge*, with our home-grown team *ENV* a commendable second and the scratch team *4 Squared* third.

## 8-way FS

There were only two teams in the 8-way competition, they were unable to complete all six rounds but managed four. The *Cark* team *Shedded* were clear gold medal winners.

## Accuracy

The top three individuals soon pulled away from the rest of the field. There was a closely fought competition for first place with every round crucial to



Photos: James Stevenson

the final result. The last round saw Andy Gibson secure victory from reigning champion Glenn Stephenson to claim the Chandy Trophy, with Roy Bannerman taking bronze. In the team competition *Strathallan Stompers* – with both Andy and Glenn – managed to push the *Golden Lions* into second place, taking home another gold.

## Canopy Formation

Teams competed in both speed and rotations. At senior level the *Golden Lions* reclaimed their title, whilst last year's winners *Up to Ur Nutz in Gutz* with a different line up and a new *CreW* dude, our very own Ru, dominated the intermediates.

Duncan Cockburn, Billy Somerville, Dave West,  
Lisa Saunders and Mike Harrower on video



## Happy Birthday

Bill Mudie turned 70 years old back in May and to celebrate during the Scottish Nationals he was presented with a bag of goodies including a framed photograph of himself in freefall secretly taken earlier on in the day!

## Great Rapport

All in all it was a good competition, there were lots of friends made, with a great rapport between the disciplines. Everybody enjoyed themselves and we hope to see more of you again.

Anne Johnson  
anne.e.johnson@tesco.net



Billy Somerville, Duncan Cockburn,  
Dave West, Lisa Saunders



Vernon  
Metcalfe



Scottish Nationals participants





Photos: James Stevenson



## Formation Skydiving

### 4-way

#### Senior (4 rounds)

|   |              |    |
|---|--------------|----|
| 1 | Sterling Bri | 22 |
|---|--------------|----|

#### Intermediate Northern Regionals (6 rounds)

|   |            |    |
|---|------------|----|
| 1 | Elevation  | 68 |
| 2 | South Park | 52 |
| 3 | G Force    | 46 |

#### Intermediate Scottish Nationals (6 rounds)

|   |              |    |
|---|--------------|----|
| 1 | Elevation    | 68 |
| 2 | Hib Airspeed | 38 |
| 3 | Factor X     | 36 |

**Note:** not all the intermediate teams entered both competitions

### Junior (4 rounds)

|   |             |    |
|---|-------------|----|
| 1 | On the Edge | 23 |
| 2 | ENV         | 13 |
| 3 | 4 Squared   | 3  |

### 8-way Grand Prix (4 rounds)

|   |         |    |
|---|---------|----|
| 1 | Shedded | 10 |
| 2 | J8      | 1  |

## Accuracy

### Senior Individual (6 rounds)

|   |                  |       |
|---|------------------|-------|
| 1 | Andy Gibbson     | 3.38  |
| 2 | Glenn Stephenson | 3.69  |
| 3 | Bannerman        | 8.93  |
| 4 | Hamilton         | 25.55 |
| 5 | McConnell        | 36.25 |
| 6 | Studders         | 42.68 |
| 7 | Gilluley         | 78.97 |

### Intermediate Individual (6 rounds)

|   |          |       |
|---|----------|-------|
| 1 | Gulligen | 93.74 |
|---|----------|-------|

### Team Accuracy

|   |                                                                       |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Strathallan Stompers<br>(Gibbson, Stephenson,<br>McConnell, Gulligen) |
| 2 | Golden Lions<br>(Bannerman, Hamilton,<br>Gilluley, Studders)          |

## Canopy Formations

### 4-way Rotations

#### Senior

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | Golden Lions |
|---|--------------|

#### Inter

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Up to Ur Nutz<br>in Gutz |
|---|--------------------------|

### 4-way Speed

#### Senior

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | Golden Lions |
|---|--------------|

#### Inter

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Up to Ur Nutz in Gutz |
|---|-----------------------|

### 2-way

#### Senior

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | Golden Lions |
|---|--------------|

#### Inter

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Up to Ur Nutz in Gutz |
|---|-----------------------|

CCI Karen Farr



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### Hib Events Diary

23 - 25 August

Brit Chicks Roadshow

20 - 21 September

FS 4-way Scrambles Meet

25 - 26 October

Halloween 10-way Speed

*Further events to come. All dates subject to change.  
Please keep checking in case any dates have to be changed.*

*We would like to thank all the teams who  
entered the FS Nationals this year.*

*On the 4-way weekend we had another  
record number of 47 teams and finished the  
competition in 2 days, with 134 G92 lifts  
doing 2,016 descents - well done guys!*

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# In Confidence

by Rick Boardman

Report **in complete confidence** to:

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

**Phone/Ans** 01980 670598

**Mobile** 07747 114602

**Email** RicksRiggery@aol.com

## Dodgy Cutaway

"After a six to seven second track, I deployed the throwaway. It didn't feel right, so I reached behind to make sure the pilot chute had gone. It had but things still weren't happening, so I got on with my reserve drills. As the reserve opened I felt a tug across my back and, looking down, I realised my right riser was still attached! Both handles were in my hands. The riser was attached by the RSL velcro which had not fully released. The main lines were trailing down my body with the canopy about half out of the bag and the pilot chute was fully collapsed.

"I landed safely. There was a knot of bridle around the pilot chute which could have caused insufficient drag. Some of the bungees had gone, there was a lot of line loose and, further up, there was a classic bag lock going on. Maybe I did my reserve drills too close together? I teach reserve drills all the time so I certainly went on to autopilot for that bit. Maybe I was so snappy with my drills that the riser didn't have time to peel off the RSL velcro before I pulled the reserve anyway. It was disconcerting at the time to see my main still attached with my reserve out but all's well that ends well!"

With a low drag bag lock above, it's conceivable that there wasn't enough pull on the RSL velcro to let the riser go. There was a drill taught long ago, which included checking that the risers had actually gone, before deploying a reserve. Older systems with Capewells on the risers did have a habit of not always releasing straight away. The search for a better release for skydivers eventually gave us the 3-ring (thanks, Bill Booth!). We've come to expect a clean, quick cutaway as a result.

One of the trends emerging from these reports is the array of surprises in store (for some people) when they cut away. Perhaps the thing to learn from this story is NOT to do the drills 'on autopilot' but to think calmly through what you're doing. If it's a straightforward malfunction, as seen in training, then doing calm, methodical emergency drills should see you through it.

## Coming In Hot

"We were doing our third demo into a tight arena abroad, in hot conditions, and in front of a grandstand. We were about 1,000 feet above sea level and I guess the temperature was in the high thirties. I was last in the stack but didn't see the first two people down (there were nine of us). I noticed two people seemed to have hard landings. I landed without incident (except for it being very bumpy). I hadn't seen X land, but discovered on landing that he had broken both femurs.

"X was second down, loading a very high performance canopy at about 2.3 lbs per square foot (I later found that he has less than 100 jumps on this canopy). His comment was that everything felt normal on his swoop. He went to rear risers as he normally does but nothing happened. There was an experienced jumper in the grandstand (with over 4,000 jumps), who said that X's swoop looked great but he just didn't seem to flare. This is consistent with X's statement that he was on rear risers as from a distance it would look as if he didn't flare.

"I asked the two jumpers who had hard landings what happened to them. They both said "I flared and nothing happened." They were both jumping more conservative canopies (Stiletto and Springo loaded at 1.5 - 1.7). Neither was injured. Another jumper (2,600 jumps, Spectre loaded at 1.5) said it was the fastest landing he has ever had. He said it felt like it was 5 knots downwind when it was actually about 5 knots into wind.

"X is one of the very best canopy swoopers. On this occasion the conditions caught him out. He really went for it, with an ultra high performance canopy, onto an unfamiliar DZ with difficult wind conditions. To quote him "Why was I going for it so much on only our third demo?"

"X asked us how far he travelled - we went back and measured 84 ft from initial impact to stopping. It could have been MUCH worse. This has been a big learning experience for me. Just before we went, I was thinking of taking a canopy loaded at 2.1 which I have about 300 jumps on. A very experienced friend took me to one side and said "I can't believe you are thinking of taking that! Take your Stiletto [which I have 1,300 jumps on] or I will slap you!" All I can say is I'm glad I listened to him!

"There is a display psychology that you have to impress the crowd when in reality the crowd very often doesn't know what it is looking at! The idea of our display was to show the crowd high performance landings but actually they would've been just as impressed with much more conservative ones. After the accident, that's what we all started doing. We got just as much applause!"

The danger of reporting an incident like this is that if you don't personally do demos or jump ultra high performance canopies, it's tempting to think it doesn't apply to you. The demo added to the jumper's accident by letting his ego write a cheque his body couldn't cash. More and more people are hitting the floor under a serviceable parachute - aren't ego and peer pressure two monster factors at work here? If you had a swoop area out of view of an audience, would many people use it? I suspect not. Those that do would probably be a little more conservative.

The quick aerodynamics lesson is that the higher the DZ and the hotter the day, the thinner the air will be, so you will get less lift in the flare from your canopy and your wing loading should be more conservative. The aim of a demo is to showcase our sport to the public. When it goes wrong we all pay the price.

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# Club News

Well, my first mag has certainly been a baptism of fire! Take it from me seeing how much work

goes into getting this out is quite an eye-opener. Whatever preconceptions I had were shattered. The thought, care and professionalism that Lesley puts into each individual page really is amazing.

Having spent so many years reading The Mag when it arrived in the mail, it has been an experience to see the many processes that produce what you receive. It takes a lot of skill and talent to continue to juggle six balls and keep a dozen or so plates spinning on poles whilst writing informative and interesting articles.

A huge thank you goes to Bev for all the ground work she has done over the last two years. I would have been very lost indeed without the systems she left in place.

So onwards to the next issue, the curve is on the horizon but I'm catching it quickly!

Cheers,

Colin

## St Andrews Achievements

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| First freefall | Jonny Flowers  |
|                | Anna Phillips  |
| Cat 8          | Alan Mackay    |
|                | Ewan Cowie     |
|                | Catriona Adam  |
|                | Aileen Dowling |
| ICI            | Alex Astaras   |
| FF2            | Ben Blake      |

## Jump Numbers

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 50              | Aileen Dowling  |
| 100             | Alex Astaras    |
| 300             | Graeme Mackay   |
|                 | Gordon Morison  |
| 500             | Ian Johnston    |
|                 | Bruce ZZK       |
| 800             | Vicky Wilkinson |
| 1,000           | Dave West       |
| 12hrs freefall  | Vicky Wilkinson |
| 120hrs freefall | Sandy McRobbie  |



Olympus Digital



Wiggaz Festival at Target



Om, 8-way Grand Prix gold; photo by Olympus Digital



Speed winners: Noel Purcell, Mark Calland, Deb Clarke

## ST ANDREWS



Photos: Dave Drewitt



Once again the DZ was brightened by the presence of all four of the VMax girls! Friday night was surprisingly quiet, yet this changed on the Saturday morning as the lure of world class coaching brought folk out from behind the woodwork. The chicks began with seminars, then split everyone into groups of 2, 3 and 4-ways.

On the weekend of the VMax roadshow we also had a demo into Cupar, a nearby town with a full Islander load. Sacha acted as MC for the display and did a great job getting the crowd going. The jumpers mingled with the crowd and had lots of pictures taken, for some it was their first demo but certainly won't be their last!

Chris Lynch brought Wing Tips and loads of regulars took the Friday off to come and improve their canopy skills. Everyone learned a huge amount and their awareness of other canopies increased.

Rob Silver, Chris's team-mate from Free Jive also arrived and organised a sunset tracking dive on Friday. This got folk in the mood for the freeflying roadshow the next day when Free Jive gave seminars on safety and body positions. The sun split the skies on Sunday and the jumpers took great advantage with excellent progression, Rob and Chris had jumpers turning points in sit-flying and head-down.

Shona cunningly managed to organise a champagne birthday night for Darren, Graeme, Gordon, Brian and Sandy. It was great to see Marian McPhillips and Lindsay Slater both returning to jumping after a layoff following motherhood. From the smiles they both loved being back in the air.

Gordon Morison

The Wiggaz Festival was a huge success with nearly 100 people attending, see photo to left. Matt and Rob did a fab job organising and everyone involved had a blast – cheers guys for a great few days!

Congratulations to Noel Purcell for winning the World Speed Meet (UK Event), and also to Deb Clarke for taking first place in the women's event. Mark Calland (organiser of the event) had the fastest recorded speed. It was cool to see some foreign skydivers on the DZ.

The POPS meet was very well attended and everyone got involved, particularly the Hit 'n' Rock event. The POPS meet will now be an annual event at Hib.

John McIver has been helping Hib jumpers by providing coaching. We wish all the Hibaldstow teams great success in the Nationals, especially *Snafu*, *Advance Rapide*, *Evolution* and *On The Edge*.

The BCPA Nationals was plagued with bad weather and was brought to a sudden and horrifying end on Friday with the tragic death of young Stephen Hilder. Although we did not know Stephen until the collegiate week, it was obvious he was a fun-loving man with a great passion for skydiving. Hopefully the saddening circumstances of his death will be resolved. Everyone from Hibaldstow sends their deepest condolences to Stephen's family and friends. (*Obituary next issue – Ed*)

Congratulations to *Om* who took gold at the 8-way Grand Prix. *VNE* graciously made themselves not eligible for medals. We would like to thank you all for carrying on after the terrible events.

*Hannah Swallow*

# TARGET



Kerry Connell over Empuriabrava  
by Richard Baldwin

## WESTON

An impressive thirteen teams took to the skies for the annual Rodders 4-way meet (five senior, one intermediate and seven junior). Teams competed together but with every level jumping rounds from their own junior/intermediate/senior dive pool. By Sunday 4pm it was done and dusted, no major dramas other than the obligatory mal, courtesy of Amanda Kemp. It was a close run thing and on Victory Hill outside the clubhouse, the tension started to mount as we awaited the final scores. Gold went to *Max Pak*, a *VMax-4Pak* combo (they'd have such beautiful babies), second place *UBI*, who had some of their best skydiving of the competition on Sunday, courtesy of Shane's hangover. In third place a tight podium battle with 4<sup>th</sup> placed *4Play*, were *Team Beaver*, despite Colin's play-safe policy of splitting at six grand on round 4.

The competition ran thanks to *UBI* in particular judge Ben Woods. Jumphog award goes to Andy Scott who sacked *VNE* for the pleasures of 4-way for the weekend, making two guest appearances for *UBI* and *4Play*. Thanks also to the cameraflyers for their fabulous work, to CCI Brian McGill, the pilots and Ange & Max on manifest – you rock! Here's to Rodders' memory and a fab and safe time for all at the Nationals!

We're looking forward to the Summer Ball on 24 August and the Wingsuit Festival on 20-21 September. Wishing a speedy recovery to Ben Wood, nursing a wobbly knee. Much love and positive vibes to Craig Cunningham, who is poorly sick but displaying characteristic determination to rise above it – go Craigy.

*Lindsey Ashwood and Bev Ford*



Max Pak

Photos: Andy Ford



### Achievements

Cat 8 Michael Jarvis

-

FS1 Louise Hughes,  
Chris Vella,  
Declan D

IC1, 100 jumps, 1 hr freefall  
Al McGregor



# HINTON



Photos: Con Ryan



The display season is upon us again and several club members have done their first; Ralph Mitchell, Ian McConnell and Mike Beeden. Mike won the 'Who's got the biggest smile on landing' award. Con Ryan completed his 100<sup>th</sup> display with a grass-eating act.

## Hinton Scrambles

The weather was unkind on Saturday, only giving us 3K, so we held an impromptu accuracy competition. A few people hit the target whilst some went sailing off into the long grass. The winning team was 4-Way Hey with Team Durex second and 8 Between Us third. The individual winners were, Ian Ridpath first, Paul Morgan second and Sandy Keith third.

We had a BBQ in the evening, Tigs bought down a few of his little bottles. Magic Matt captivated us with card tricks and various other mysteries. I'm not quite sure what some of the boys were doing with the elastic room dividers but the bruises the next morning looked painful!

Sunday saw blue skies and sore heads and we completed three rounds. Winners were Hello Boys, with 8 Between Us in second and 4-Way Hey in third. The highly sought after Wooden Spoon went

to Team Durex. Gus compiled a fantastic video of the weekend.

## Dates for the Diary

23 Aug Party ( birthday party for 12)  
11-12 Oct 8-way Speed  
8 Nov Fireworks Party

Caroline White

## Achievements

Cat 8 Adam Coates, Chris Davies  
Trevor Haines  
Dylan Griffith-Jones  
IC1 Dejan Postic, Sandy Keith  
Philippa Pickering, Ernie Hulley  
FS1 Paul Smith-Grallan, Ernie Hulley  
Frank Bester, Matt Abram  
Andrew Crosta  
FF1 Sam Matthews  
CF1 Maria Russell

## Jump Numbers

100 Dave Haylor, Matt Abram  
Paul Smith-Grallan, Ernie Hulley  
Neil Hoffman, Charlie Hoffman  
200 Lucy Maycock  
300 Ian Ridpath  
400 Clare Murphy, Mike Sheehan  
500 Elaine Parks, Anna Palmer  
Diane Fricker  
600 Clair Tuckett  
1,300 Dorian Harwood

# CORNWALL

Cornwall was run by the Fisher family: John Fisher (here), wife Fran, daughter Linda and son Eddie.



After 27 years of success, business has sadly come to an end at the Cornwall Parachute Club. John and Fran Fisher originally opened at Bodmin, but the club's real home was Fran's Ranch, at St Merryn near Padstow, the location most Cornwall jumpers know and love. CPC holds extra fond memories, the atmosphere was very special and the view from altitude was stunning. I remember CPC holding a fun 3-way speed meet, where a visiting team were joking about how easily they would build a star. They made a decent attempt but it never completed. There were no excuses at the barbie afterwards – just the confession they were too busy drinking in the view beneath them; from the Camel estuary and beaches in the north to Land's End off in the distant west.

John was justifiably proud of CPC. The facilities and training methods used were inspired by those he believed were doing it right, he had great respect in particular for the late Roger Nelson's innovative and forward thinking attitude. Cornwall was one of the first parachute centres in the UK to teach first time jumpers to use ram-air canopies. The disciplines of freestyle and skysurfing were both encouraged in their earliest days.

The limits of a small Cessna DZ were understood and club members would be encouraged to travel, learn new skills and perhaps work in the sport.

Cornwall's very special atmosphere would invariably draw them back to share their knowledge with those at home. If you have some old copies of Sport Parachutist read the article about John's expedition to China, which was the inspiration behind the club's China 8-way competition. It's a great example of the sense of adventure at Cornwall.

CPC had an outstanding safety record and second only to this was the constant reminder – keep skydiving FUN! Those with the drive but not the wallet to progress were helped along whenever possible by a CCI who enjoyed seeing club members reach their goals. Many have become achievers at the very pinnacle of our sport, not just in competition and by breaking records, but sometimes in more personal ways too.



John McIver, Chris Gauge, Andy Pook and Sarah Withers are a few of a surprising number of people who started their skydiving careers at our busy little centre on the North Cornwall coast. They have many fond memories between them. You'll know when you encounter one – they'll probably be among the most knowledgeable, friendly and skilled skydivers you'll ever meet!

David Sawyer



# LANGAR

At the first Langar Boogie we did 2,159 jumps over the week 134 turbine lifts (42 SkyVan, 68 Let, 24 Caravan); come and help us beat that at Boogie 2, 6-14 September.

Steve 'Stealth' Elvy, our main load organiser for some years, has, sadly, left us and emigrated to the States. For his last organised dive, he put together a 31-way (based on an 8-way donut provided by local team *Box of Frogs*) from the Let and Caravan – it very nearly built... you can't win 'em all. Keep in touch: [stealth@elvy.org](mailto:stealth@elvy.org).

The BPA 8-way FS Grand Prix weekend was a great success with five teams plus VNE doing the same dives and coaching the others. Needless to say VNE were way ahead, but they weren't officially competing. Gold medals went to team *Om* with 41 points over five rounds. Local teams *NRG 8* and *Box of Frogs* took silver and bronze with 37 and 36 points respectively – nice tense finish! Many thanks to VNE for their

help and input, especially from scratch team *Yellow Ducklings*, who got some top notch coaching. Milko clocked up his 7000<sup>th</sup> jump and the teams got together for a three-point, two-aircraft dive culminating in a 30-way star – the biggest round ever built in the UK we think.

Langar's contribution to the Skyline tandem skydive record came to 101 tandem jumps in the day – a record for us at least.

Craig Poxon is now qualified as a BirdMan Instructor and has a selection of wingsuits so if you want to learn, Craig's your man and Langar's the place.

*Tony Danbury*

## Achievements:

|                 |                                                                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cat 8           | Adam Skilling, Rob Copsey, Dale Jinman<br>Jean-Philippe Gaume, Chris Britton |
| IC1             | Cheryl Marks                                                                 |
| FS1             | Jo Hawley, Caroline Guest, Cheryl Marks, Clare Wilson<br>Chris Smith         |
| FF1             | Darren 'Swift' Swift                                                         |
| 12hrs freefall  | Andy Brass, Al Hodgson                                                       |
| 108hrs freefall | Milko                                                                        |

## Jump Numbers:

|       |                                                                  |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 100   | Tom Woods, Caroline Guest<br>Tracey Ward<br>Darren 'Swift' Swift |
| 200   | Angela Hickling                                                  |
| 300   | Katie Woods, Ric Kent                                            |
| 400   | Tom Hartland                                                     |
| 500   | Fiona Birnie, Gus Brown                                          |
| 700   | Terry Robertso                                                   |
| 800   | Al Hodgson                                                       |
| 900   | Martyn Score, Craig Poxon<br>Andy Brass                          |
| 1,000 | Caroline Hughes<br>Steve Newman                                  |
| 1,100 | Gordon Hodgkinson                                                |
| 1,200 | Rick Woolfall                                                    |
| 1,300 | Charlie Bazley                                                   |
| 7,000 | Milko                                                            |



*Milko by Gary Wainwright*

*NRG8 by Tony Danbury*



*VNE, photo  
Olympus  
Digital*

# DUNKESWELL



Gavin Horrell's 1,000<sup>th</sup> jump  
by Skydive UK Video

We have moved, we are now located by the kart track and say goodbye to the potholes as we now use the karting entrance. We have taken advantage of the weather and a lot of first time RAPS students have passed their Cat 8 status quite quickly. Most of the University students have gone home for their well deserved break, don't leave it too long.

Well done to Arron Jones for passing his jump pilot's ticket - I do believe that is a beer offence! I'm sorry to say that Mike Wills is departing for six months going to sunnier climes but will be back - we'll keep your slot warm.

Gavin Horrell

## Dunkeswell Achievements

|                                |                                                        |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Cat 8                          | Lizzy Swan, Dan Batchlor<br>Rowan Hydes, Rob Butler    |
| 1st freefall                   | Chas Baker, Clare Smith<br>Han Thornburn, Steven Howes |
| 12hrs freefall and 1,000 jumps | Gavin Horrell (in 3 years!)                            |

# CHATTERIS

The cafe is now under new management and is undergoing lots of improvements, a creeper pad is in the process of being installed and drainage to the main runway is now in place. Well done to Pat Hammond for taking out 900 homes for 10 hours by going through a big mains electricity cable!

Congratulations to Mike and Gary on doing 4,000 jumps each which was jointly celebrated with Ribs on his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday by doing a cool snooker break dive.

## Achievements

|                |                                                                                                        |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st freefall   | Dave Britton<br>Oliver Smith                                                                           |
| Cat 8          | Alex Johnson<br>Jason Kirtley<br>Ian Turner<br>Fiona Law<br>Bren Stenson<br>Dan Allen<br>Jason Kierman |
| FS1            | Pete Herrick                                                                                           |
| FF1            | Chris Bowley                                                                                           |
| IC1            | Jamie Shotton                                                                                          |
| 48hrs freefall | Mike Rust                                                                                              |

## Jump Numbers

|       |                         |
|-------|-------------------------|
| 50    | Bren Stenson            |
| 100   | Phil Coates             |
| 300   | Vicky Robertson         |
| 500   | Lloyd Quenby            |
| 4,000 | Gary Small<br>Mike Rust |

Steve Wilkins



Chatteris regulars  
at Headcorn, by  
Brad Reader

# WILD GESE

Saturday 21 June the club was buzzing with anticipation as we briefed the first group of tandems for the record attempt. By 4pm we had jumped 41 tandems for the Meningitis Research Foundation and set a club record.



Mike Murphy

CF & Classics Northern Regionals were held on 28 June but as usual there was no support from the mainland clubs. Despite this the judges and local competitors had a ball.

## Accuracy Results

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Senior</b> |                |
| Gold          | Mike Murphy    |
| Silver        | Evan Simpson   |
| Bronze        | Francis Mullin |

## Intermediate

|        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| Gold   | Rachael Harden |
| Silver | Kenny Rooney   |

## Junior

|      |              |
|------|--------------|
| Gold | Garth McCann |
|------|--------------|

John McCourt



Kenny Rooney



Francis Mullin

Photos: John McCourt

# HEADCORN

Awesome! Wicked! Superb! Just a few of the comments from happy people who were lucky enough to jump the Twin Squirrel helicopter on 6 July. 20 lifts of funky exits were executed, with inventive combinations hanging off the skids and Pierre Pascal even jumping his BirdMan suit. Many people decided once was not enough, so the chopper was in the air almost the whole day. Looking forward to a fridge full of beer from all those helicopter virgins – you know who you are!

## Speed 7

An excellent turnout of eight teams registered for this year's Speed 7 Woodmouse Shield. The usual handicap system allowed junior teams a couple of floaters, the intermediates a no show exit and the senior teams running it out from behind the line. Despite some typically stop-start competition weather, round 2 was completed on Saturday. The evening saw another excellent party in Wings with a very impressive buffet (thanks Vicky!) ending with human pyramids (I think the biggest was 10...) built in Skid Row and a certain member of *On The Rocks* sleeping on a roof somewhere... Consistency won through in the end for local team *One Foot in the Cloud* who were deserving winners of the Woodmouse Shield after a nail-biting finish with just 0.26 seconds separating the top two teams! Overall, the fastest time for the star was 18.29 secs, by *Why Us?*

## Results (times over 3 rounds)

- 1 *One Foot in the Cloud* (senior) 61.23secs
- 2 *Mouse Droppings* (senior) 61.49secs
- 3 *Why Us?* (senior) 62.99secs

The prize for best second point went to last year's winners *Elsinore NRA* for their cool tracking arrowhead. Special thanks to meet director Clem Quinn and judges Ruth Cooper and Penny.

## Zygos 4-way weekend

Early in May, HPC joined forces with team Zygos in organising a 4-way training weekend for relatively low experience jumpers. The emphasis was on fun and honing our FS skills, benefiting from the expertise of two in-air coaches, Chris Shaw and Dave Tunks. We were introduced to team dynamics, debriefing strategies and 4-way secret stuff. Everyone had a great weekend, lots of fun skydives and learned oodles.

## Zygos 14-way weekend

A group with 200 - 900 jumps met on a very hot sunny Saturday morning, and wrote down our objectives for the weekend. Top of the list was to have fun and then to improve our own skills. After a good briefing the first jump proved that goal one was easily achieved, with loads of happy smiley people yahooping. As the day got hotter so did the skydives, the vibes and the laughs. Our second objective was easily met. Everyone changed slots and did better swoops, tighter exits and nice controlled docks. What a magical weekend, full of good vibes, laughter and fun. After being on the verge of walking away from the sport this weekend has rekindled my

enthusiasm and love for the sport. Long may it last!

Special thanks to Chris, Dave, Garry, John & Malcolm for the excellent coaching, video and photos on both weekends.

Goodbye to Shiralee and Tony who have run Wings bar for the last few years. You'll be missed but we hope to see more of you as customers. Vicky and Paul will be taking over – good luck!

Proud parents Jo and Marky are very grateful for all the cards, good wishes and goodies received for their new daughter Frances. Welcome to Chris Adams who's finally traded in his caravan and become a resident. We're promised a party soon...

Ruth Cooper, Vicki Tomlinson, Michelle Theobald  
Steph Lawlor & Garry Wilson

Zygos 14-way



Elsinore NRA



Photos: Malcolm Darling



*One Foot in the Cloud*

# BRIDLINGTON

There has been quite a lot of midweek jumping with all the unemployed or sick people hanging around much to the dismay of Dave Saville who is one of the few remaining regulars with a job. Simon Catherine has finally got his new rig although it should have been confiscated after what he was doing in it, on its first night at the centre. Helen Moon's new rig also arrived just in time for the Brid Chicks hen weekend at Langar, in honour of Lara Jordan and I.

Mike Burton had a shock recently when climbing to altitude, Dave Walker and Simon Catherine had, unbeknown to Mike, planned to strip off in the plane to do a naked skydive. I pitied poor pilot, Richard Hambley, although he swears blind he was admiring the east coast cliff views the whole time!

There have been plenty of demos for people to fight over. We welcome Leeds solicitors, Al and Debs Bould to our clan. A big congrats to Lara Jordan who has recently qualified to be a teacher, she will be keeping us all in order from now on - no change there then!

Langar's Caravan will be at Brid 18- 22 August which will also be a progression week.

Tracy Bartley

## Brid Achievements

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Cat 8         | Deborah Bould |
|               | Alister Bould |
| 1 hr freefall | Paul Scott    |

## Jump Numbers

|     |               |
|-----|---------------|
| 50  | Helen Moon    |
| 100 | Paul Scot     |
|     | Rob Johnson   |
| 300 | Tracy Bartley |
|     | Roger Goddard |
| 500 | Dave Walker   |

# TILSTOCK

We've had an excellent couple of months at Tilstock. Everyone has put in maximum effort to make the club rock. We desperately need a CS1 and a tandem instructor - contact us.

The departure of Ray Parker's camera gear from his noggin caused a major search and rescue operation, on the wettest day of the year. Luckily, the gear was recovered but unfortunately for Ray, it's not as big as it used to be.

Chris Lynch brought us his brilliant *Wings Tips*. We are now flying with more confidence, improved skills and greater safety. We were all surprised by how much we didn't know, and it

Photos: Dave Saville

# BLACK KNIGHTS

Summer has finally landed and the display season is giving the chance for some demo experience to those with good canopy skills and the necessary qualifications. June's progression and fun week was a great success with good weather, BBQs, Stella Artois and plenty of jumping. Thanks to Chris Ince for organising the evening clay pigeon shoot. Many of our Liverpoolian jumpers turned up for what they termed 'Post Office Robbery Practice', it must have been nice not to have to wear the balaclavas for a change lads!

Development work has begun on the runway project with the upgrade and extension of R24. Upon completion wet, unusable runways will be a thing of the past, G-BKPC is also scheduled for undercarriage upgrade work so watch out for details of replacement aircraft whilst she's away.

We're seeing our busiest time for many years with our WARP training programme. Thanks go to Ian, Carl and Neil for leading the initiative and giving their time to work with our up and coming skydivers.

## Achievements

1st freefall  
Paul Clayton  
Wil Cooke  
Danny Rowlands,  
Graham Stephenson  
Brian Rawlings  
Brian Van Den Heever

11 hrs freefall  
Dave Ashton

## Jump Numbers

50  
Michael Bridge  
Ben Griffiths

100  
Mark Backhouse  
Dean Thorpe

200  
Mark Walton

300  
Rob McVey

800  
Hugh Morrison

Photos: Carl Bridge

Jeff Illidge

# PARAGON

Photos: Bruno Brokken



Walter Gillan's 2,000<sup>th</sup> jump

Yes folks, the sun shines in Scotland (occasionally) and when it does we take full advantage. The barbeque gets lit, the beers get cracked open and the midges have a feast.

Billy Gollan has been making the most of his recently acquired tandem rating to pile them in. One of his early victims – sorry, passengers – was Chik Adams our heroic resident cameraman. The things people will do for a free T-shirt!

Walter Gillan launched himself out of the Porter for his 2,000<sup>th</sup> jump in Empuriabrava ably assisted by some of the Clark crew; Andy, Craig and Julie. Nice one Walter. Great photos, all those skydives and only five and a half pack jobs.

Dave Richards celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in July, with a mega party, which registered 7.5 on the Richter scale.

Coming soon to a drop zone near you; Tom MacKay. The sequel. Yes he's back in freefall again following a brief but fruitful resumption of static line activity. Well done Tom. Now the fun really starts.

Bob Henderson & Lyndsey McLagan

## Achievements

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| Dave Richards | 700 jumps   |
| Walter Gillan | 2,000 jumps |



Andy, Walter, Craig, Julie

just goes to show – no matter how good you think you are, there is always something new to learn.

The annual Alton Towers trip was enjoyed by all, especially the few who stayed dry and we've been partying like maniacs, with Hareth and his juggling firesticks the stars of the show. Hareth still has his eyebrows but Liz Rimmer tried her best to turn into a human torch!

Gravel

## Achievements

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1st freefall | Rosie Walls    |
|              | John Lintern   |
|              | Nick Woods     |
| Cat 8        | Sally Thompson |
| FS1          | Ria Bremner    |

## Jump Numbers

|     |             |
|-----|-------------|
| 500 | Steve Smith |
| 800 | Ray Parker  |

Photo: Colin Fitzmaurice



## BORDER

The sky was full of flying Elvis's over Border – the theme and venue for Graham Baxter's stag weekend. They even joined in the beach jumps dressed as 'the king' which raised a few eyebrows! Border wishes Graham and Lorraine all the best.

4th July weekend was David McGuinness's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday – it was great to see old and new regulars as well as our friends from other clubs joining in the celebrations.

We are holding another student progression week in September (ring for dates) to include RAPS, AFF and WARP; everyone is welcome. Why not camp on the airfield so you're there bright and early for the following day's jumping? The CCI even throws in a unique 'wake-up' call free of charge!

We've also found out that Helen's knickers can contain four iceberg lettuces; Catherine tested gravity and realised that it works and John and Alistair proved that two into one don't go!

Laura Johnson

### Achievements

Cat 8 Geraldine McGuinness  
Scott Findlay

### Jump Numbers

100 Katrina Bisset  
200 Rob Lay  
600 Ed Murdoch  
1,200 Alan Ramsay



Netheravon Photos: Simon Ward

## NETHERAVON

A big thank you to Lesley Gale and Kate Stephens for organising a Brit Chicks roadshow in June. There was some excellent skydiving, the culmination of which was a 2 point formation load with time to spare. It has to be said that the air smelt a lot sweeter during the ride to altitude! Thanks to Billy for manifesting, *Euphoria's* Alec and Gary Sweeney for some novel camera angles.

We were lucky enough to be visited by the *Icarus Pro Swoop Team* of Jim Slaton, Clint Clawson, JC Colclasure and Luigi Cani for the Netheravon Extreme skills camp. Thanks to the guys for providing some excellent seminars and awesome demos. The longest swoop award goes to Jim 'Swoopster' O'Kane, and the most jumps in a day award to Al Macartney with an impressive 15! It's just a shame that Netheravon's own chocolate bunny slayer (aka Aaron Hearsurn) didn't pay more attention to the canopy control seminars – ask him for details.

Judging by the achievements from the Uni guys, I'd say exams are well and truly over! Congrats to the Bristol Uni crew for an impressive number of Cat 8s – now you can make good use of all our newly evaluated WARP coaches. Dane Thorne's off on his travels care of Her Majesty – missing you already mate. And a mention for Nige Allen – one of the special little people of the DZ!

Kath Salisbury

## SIBSON



Babylon at PPC



Dave Saywer & Laura McLoughlin

Chris Allen

*Babylon* returned to Sibson on 22-26 May. Fred and Nimmo ran a very successful and well attended coaching event, they completed dozens of one on one coaching dives and then moved people into small groups, ending each day with much bigger stuff. Great weather made for some fab video. Names went in the hat for a free balloon jump courtesy of David Fish; Dean Shortt was the lucky man! David Fish and his team continue to entertain us at Sibson with all manner of aerial antics. Back to coaching for a mo, Ash Crick, Mark Swarbrick and Stuart Meacock, Sibson's very own FF coaches are to feature on the BPA website in the interactive coaching section for artistic disciplines.

### Woodmouse 4-way

By popular demand Sibson decided to hold the annual Woodmouse 4-way meet earlier than usual this year. It paid off, the weather was fantastic and the competition was completed in one day. A blessed relief for Rose as it meant a 5am finish in the bar wouldn't get her grounded on Sunday morning this year!

It was brilliant to see lots of very new FS1s getting teams together for what is always a fun meet. There were four junior teams, competition was hot; two intermediate teams where rivalry was damned hot – and two senior teams where the competition was furnace-like!



Orbital

Dave Bailey

### Woodmouse Results Senior (5 rounds)

1 *Mission Impossible* 27 points  
2 *Dèjà vu* 26 points

### Intermediate (4 rounds)

1 *Orbital* 23 points  
2 *Bizkits* 22 points

### Junior (4 rounds)

1 *Team Beaver* 34 points  
2 *Team Elvis* 14 points  
3 *Retromingent* 5 points  
4 *Funnel Rats* 2 points

A great prizegiving ceremony on Saturday night and a thoroughly kick-arse party afterwards meant some pale and tired looking faces on Sunday morning. That turned out to be just peachy, as the cloudy start meant wheels off at 11ish, how civilised!

## Netheravon Achievements

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1st freefall | Rob Waller                |
|              | Andy Lewis, Ed Porter     |
|              | Tom MacKeen               |
|              | James Convo               |
| Cat 8        | Tara Kane, Nick Burdick   |
|              | Ian Turner, Steve Pearson |
|              | Paul Morgan               |
|              | Steve Chadwell            |
|              | Gareth Walker             |
|              | Sean Carty                |
|              | Ian Thomas                |
|              | John Strong, Nigel Kirby  |
|              | Paul Rowland              |
|              | Neal Chadwick             |
|              | Leah Parle, Oli Goodman   |
|              | Pete Redhead              |
|              | Rob DeBois, Chris Buckle  |
|              | Dylan Trundell            |
| FS1          | Wayne Collier             |
| FF1          | Antoine Moron             |

## Jump Numbers

|       |                            |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 50    | John Strong, Leah Parle    |
| 100   | Bas Ward                   |
| 200   | Mike Lovemore,             |
|       | Nick Jenkins               |
|       | Mike Alderson              |
|       | Antoine Moron              |
|       | Andy Burgess               |
| 300   | Liz Ashley, Pam Snow       |
|       | Adam Jones                 |
| 400   | Stephan Reynolds           |
| 500   | Dane Thorne, Jason Tebby   |
| 600   | Sooty                      |
| 700   | Neils Hanson, Billy Steele |
| 2,000 | Tommy Trindall             |



Bollywood at PPC

Kev Goode's airfield residence warming party complete with illuminated garden gnome and Moose's milk also ensured serious hangovers – not least of all for Kev who played met roulette and won and Dave Bailey who downed a pint of Moose's milk and became even more of an animal than usual, Grrrr Dave! We ran a mini speed meet on the Sunday after the Woodmouse for two scratch teams, *Ouch* and *Anvil*. *Ouch* got together relatively quickly and did a spectacular second point, which earned them BIG bonus points taking them into an early lead. Unfortunately the competition was suspended due to Bob Owen's knee and subsequent trip to hospital, former Marine you see, what a wuss!

## Bollywood

Bollywood needed a skydiving sequence for the film, *Kyun! Ho Gaya Na Pyaar* (loosely translated means *You Can't Force Love*). The freefall work was done by Sarah Hall and Alex Meacock, filmed by Stuart Meacock. Dave Spencer acted as Aerial Co-ordinator. The film's two stars Vivek Oberoi and Aishwarya Rai, Bollywood's answer to Julia Roberts and Tom Cruise, arrived by chauffeur driven SUV, and the staff and regular jumpers at Sibson enjoyed the delicious free curries courtesy of the catering wagon.

## Achievements

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| First freefall | David Mountain   |
|                | Laura McLoughlin |
| Cat 8          | Martin Prescott  |
|                | Stuart Johnson   |
|                | Georgina Atkins  |
|                | Karyn Brown      |
| FS1            | Ed Ashby         |
| FF1            | Dean Shortt      |

## Jump Numbers

|     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| 50  | Jonathon Tyzack        |
|     | John Parker            |
| 200 | Roy Porter, Mike Evans |
| 300 | Steve Tiller           |
| 400 | Phil Knowles           |
| 500 | Simon Law              |
|     | Mick Thomas            |



Chris Allen

Lizzie Harris

## CYPRUS

There's no truth in the rumour that Apples travelled over 2,000 miles to do his 1000<sup>th</sup> AFF jump just to avoid the bar bill! But the bell was rung here in Cyprus as the bar was being locked up and the last punter had left!

Pat Backhouse (Chris B's Mum) came over to Cyprus and did a tandem skydive to celebrate her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and raised over £1,500 for the Crack Cancer Appeal at Cheltenham.

The parachute centre de-camped to the far end of the island for a week at the beginning of July. 30 tandem skydives were done in four days in Akrotiri to help promote skydiving and the club at t'other end of Cyprus.

*Helen Mills*

### Achievements:

|       |                  |
|-------|------------------|
| Cat 8 | Gary Martin      |
|       | Eddie Stojanovic |
|       | Rachel Welford   |
| FS1   | Chris Kelly      |



Pat Backhouse does a tandem with Greg for her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, pictured with son Chris and daughter-in-law Helen Mills

## LONDON

We didn't make an appearance in the last Mag, due to terrible weather causing the jumping of several first time courses to be cancelled. This led to a large backlog at the start of June but through the hard work of the staff we've managed to clear most of it.

As always there have been lots of smiles from the first timers with many coming back, we had several students who started here at LPS go elsewhere to do AFF and then come back to carry on jumping here. The last weekend of June was very successful with the sun shining all day. We jumped 30+ first timers all having a great time, lots of sunscreen was applied but many still went home rather red!

*Rob Lay*

## STRATHALLAN

Strathallan joined forces with Langar and Wild Geese to take part in the Skyline Tandem Record Attempt and successfully jumped all 44 students. Club instructors Calum Grant & Andy Gibson are buzzing around the skies in their new BirdMan suits whenever they can.

See page 52 for the Scottish Nationals report.

### Achievements

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1st freefall | Alan Embelton  |
| FF2          | Rupert Connell |
| CF1          | Rupert Connell |

### Jump Numbers

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 50  | Emily Christie   |
|     | Rob Dargie       |
| 300 | Joyce Carter     |
|     | Julie Terry      |
| 500 | Robert Bellamy   |
|     | Dugald Robertson |
| 700 | Alan Russell     |
| 800 | Rupert Connell   |

*Andrew Frew*

## POPS



Congratulations to Lofty and Grace Thomas (pictured below on their wedding day) on their golden anniversary, well done to Grace for coping so long!



Three record attempts at Langar were made, with the best building to 30 on Sunday morning, so we will be trying again on 12-14 September. Noel Farrelly (of Leo Dickinson's *Dead Man's Tales* fame) came over from Ireland. A good buffet was put on by the ladies in the canteen, many thanks.

Thanks also to the diehards who braved the weather and turned up for the POPS intro to freeflying at Sibson; no jumping was achieved, but Stuart Meacock gave informative lectures on kit, equipment, safety, how to start and what to practice in freefall. We all came away having learned something.

At Hibaldstow the 5-way speed star competition over two rounds was completed on the Saturday. First place went to *Falling Star*, silver to *Pentangle* and third to

*Dried Fruits*. On Saturday evening, we all went to Pete and Julie Shew's new house in Brig for a housewarming party and POPS buffet. Thanks to both. The Hit 'n' Rock on the Sunday – the less said the better – although with hindsight we could all see the funny side. I for one won't make the same mistake again!

Next meet is the record attempt at Langar 12-14 September. Phone me on 0117 9738341 or see [www.thepops.org.uk](http://www.thepops.org.uk)

*Niels Hansen*

### Welcome New Members

PJ Whitworth  
Linda Brazilier  
Paul Henderson  
Glen Birchall  
George Raft, Peter Maher  
Noel Farrelly, David Ship  
John Holley, John Parker  
Graham Ribbons,  
Paul More, Dave Evans  
Mike Cable  
Maureen Wright

## PUMPKINS

Another good course in June saw numerous AFF and Skydive University students travelling out to Elsinore. Martin got to play as well, attending a big way skills camp at Perris Valley run by Dan BC, Kate Cooper and Tony Domenico, well worth the time and money. Jo Brookbanks let us in on her secret, she is pregnant! TP wish her and partner Gary Small all the best.

*Martin Williams*



### Achievements:

|     |                                    |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| FS1 | Sue Lamond, Ainsley Walters        |
|     | Duncan Wright, Melanie Lovell      |
|     | Knight, Andy Muir, Damien Corcoran |

### Jump Numbers

|     |                              |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 50  | Steve Judson, Andy Muir      |
|     | Damien Corcoran, Chris Jinks |
| 100 | Melanie Lovell Knight        |
|     | Pat Sandeman, Duncan Wright  |
| 300 | Steve Toxic Tiller           |
| 600 | Dave Fish                    |

# CARK

A few Cark jumpers attended the FS Regionals at Strathallan and cleaned up! On the Edge came first in junior 4-way and a scratch team took the gold in 8-way too.

Julia and Craig tied the knot in great style at the Netherwood Hotel in Grange Over Sands. What a posh venue! Julia looked stunning and there wasn't a dry eye in the place when Craig came over all emotional. It's one of the best weddings I have ever been to. They even had their cake made by royal cake-makers! Craig and Julia make a fantastic couple.

They would like to say thanks to everyone for attending especially Brian Laithwaite for the video and Marcus Barrington for the photos. Mr and Mrs Kelsall honeymooned in Empuriabrava and were made very welcome by Pete Jones and his staff. Julia got in her 100<sup>th</sup> jump and Craig his 1,100<sup>th</sup>. They even got Andy Brass doing some FS! (That one's for you Snail!)

Rob Silver brought the Artistic Roadshow and many visitors came along with it. Pete Hughes got his FF1 and said of Rob that

he's a very friendly, easy-going guy who is a great teacher. The feedback was fab. We hope to see Rob again.

Best wishes to Craig Hill and fiancé Nicky who will be getting married at the end of July and are honeymooning in the Maldives.

## Friday Openings

Due to the glorious weather we've all been blessed with the most scenic DZ in the UK hasn't stopped flying. As a consequence, in August we are going to be open every Friday.

Michelle Meakins

## Achievements

AFF graduate Matt Jagger  
FF1 Pete Hughes

## Jump Numbers

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 50    | Wendy Lloyd,<br>Tjebbe |
| 100   | Julia Kelsall          |
| 1,100 | Craig Kelsall          |
|       | Pete Hughes            |
| 1,300 | Simon Nath             |



Matt Jagger's AFF



Newlyweds Craig & Julia Kelsall and friends



Photos: Pete Hughes

# BCPA

The weather at the BCPA nationals was against us. However the collegiates proved their drinking skills in the Hib bar and competition continued as a brave few attempted the 'Cypres Challenge' at the local cider pub. Special thanks to the Hibble staff who helped the rainy days go by with IC1 briefs, scavenger hunts and supplying us with food and drink. Thanks to our sponsors: L&B, Thomas Sports, Original Lizard, Headshield, Symbiosis Suits, Sunpath, 2K Composites.

## BCPA Awards

Duncan Longhorn Trophy for Special Contribution: Dan Parker  
BCPA Student of the Year: Gervais Henderson  
Special Contribution to the BCPA: Skydive UWE



Gerv Henderson

This is the time when the committee changes hands, so a massive thank you to the old committee. Lorraine did a stunning job as Chair being really friendly and helpful. Thanks also Will, Becky, Dave, Lee, Kristie the regional and dz reps and event organisers. Good luck to the new committee, Iain Firkins as Chair, Felicity Wood as Secretary, Roy Little as Treasurer.

BCPA would like to extend our sympathies to the families and friends of both Stephen Hilder and Leo Baker, both tragically killed in skydiving incidents.

Justine Shotton

Events in the Gulf meant that half of the team were recalled to their battalions. The remaining 12 went off to Skydive San Diego for pre-season training. 80 jumps each out of a brand new Super Twin Otter was achieved in 11 days with the help of Andy Whitcombe and Buzz of Skydive San Diego.

The display season is well under way. We kicked off with Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh for the Scotland v Italy game and have been going strong ever since. We have featured on TV's *I'd Do Anything* with Ian Wright and have recently tandemed Lord Bath, the 71-year old owner of Longleat in Wiltshire. The tandem team led by Tim Skinner, has been working very hard having completed over 400 tandems since May. We're planning to update the website:

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

Adele Murray

This section is non BPA Affiliated centres

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### Military BPA Centres A-D

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01524 791 820



##### Black Knights Parachute Centre

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane, Cockerham, Lancaster LA2 0DY  
Tel: 01524 791 820 Fax: 01772 717 624

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

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cjpara@hotmail.com

www.borderparachute.co.uk

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Islander

**Open:** 9am - dark, Fri-Sun. Tue-Thu by arrangement

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

LO FS CF AC WP

#### 3 Langar

01949 860 878



##### British Parachute Schools

Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Tel: 01949 860 878 Fax: 01949 860 012

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

**Aircraft:** Turbolet (summer), Cessna 206,

Grand Caravan, SkyVan occasionally

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

Office open every day 8.30am - 6pm

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

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LO FS CF FF WP

#### 4 Bridlington

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www.britishtskysports.co.uk

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206

**Open:** 8am - 8pm every day

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#### 7 Hinton

01295 812 300



##### Hinton Skydiving Centre

Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS  
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info@skydive.co.uk

www.skydive.co.uk

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

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

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#### 8 London

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##### London Parachute School

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info@londonparachuteschool.com

www.londonparachuteschool.com

**Aircraft:** Islander, Cessna 206

**Open:** 9am - dusk at weekends

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem, AFF

LO FS CF AC WP

#### 5 Dunkeswell

01404 891 690



##### Devon & Somerset Parachute School

30 Tower Way, Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon EX14 4XR

Tel: 01404 891 690 Fax: 01404 891 690

aguest1@compuserve.com

www.parachuting-uk.com

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206

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

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CF SU

#### 6 Headcorn

01622 890 862



##### Headcorn Parachute Centre

Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX

Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641

headcorn@btconnect.com

www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

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

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

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

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LO FS CF FF AC WP

**9 Chatteris**  
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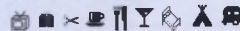
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 LO FS CF FF WP SU

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Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656

[www.paragonskydiving.20m.com](http://www.paragonskydiving.20m.com)

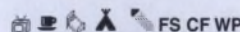
[bg@gollan66.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:bg@gollan66.fsnet.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Cessna 182

**Open:** 9am – 6pm Sat, 10am – 6pm Sun all year. 9am – 7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses & tandems only

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem

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 FS CF WP

**12 Sibson**  
01832 280 490



### Peterborough Parachute Centre

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE

Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409

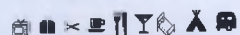
[www.skydivesibson.com](http://www.skydivesibson.com) [skydive@btopenworld.com](mailto:skydive@btopenworld.com)

**Aircraft:** Turbolet (summer), Cessna 206

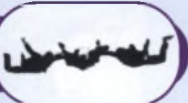
**Open:** 8am – 8pm. Tue-Sun in summer (Mar-Nov). Wed-Sun in winter (Dec-Feb). Closed January

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

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 LO FS FF AC WP SU

**13 Peterlee**  
0191 517 1234



### Peterlee Parachute Centre

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH

Tel: 0191 517 1234 Fax: 0191 517 1234

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

<http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy>

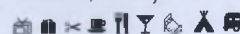
**Aircraft:** Cessna 182, Let 410 (Apr-early Nov)

**Open:** 8.30am – 8.30pm weekends & bank holidays.

1pm – 8.30pm Wed-Fri. Flexible hours, phone to confirm

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

15 minutes drive from Durham city, 25 minutes from Newcastle, centrally located for NE England.

 FS CF WP

**14 Redlands**  
01902 653 220



### Skydive Redlands

Redlands Farm, Wanborough, Swindon, Wiltshire

Tel: 01902 653 220 Fax: 01902 653 220

Weekends: 01793 791 211

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

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

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Finist Turbine (until Jul & from 9 Aug)

**Open:** 9am – 8pm at weekends. Please call

07855 908 083 prior to coming

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS

Indoor packing, hot and cold food.

 LO FS

**15 South Cerney**  
07779 019 655



### Skydive Southwest

Duke of Gloucester Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester,

Gloucester GL7 5RD

Tel: 07779 019 655 [will@skydivesouthwest.co.uk](mailto:will@skydivesouthwest.co.uk)

[www.skydivesouthwest.co.uk](http://www.skydivesouthwest.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Cessna 182, Islander

**Open:** Fri-Sun (weekdays by arrangement)

**First Jump Courses:** tandem, RAPS AFF

 AC WP

**16 St Andrews**  
01334 880 678



### Skydive St Andrews

Kingsmuir Airfield, Saint Andrews, Fife KY16 8QQ

[skydivestandrews@mail.com](mailto:skydivestandrews@mail.com)

Tel: 01334 880 678

[www.skydivestandrews.co.uk](http://www.skydivestandrews.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Cessna 185

**Open:** Weekends & bank holidays, midweek by arrangement

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

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 LO FS CF FF WP SU

**17 Strathallan**  
0774 686 161



### Skydive Strathallan

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Weekends: 01764 662 572

Tel: 0774 686 161 Fax: 01236 732 461

[kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk](mailto:kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk)

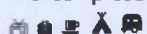
[www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk](http://www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Turbine (for various events), 2 x Cessna 206

**Open:** 9am – 9pm weekends & bank holidays.

5pm – 9pm Fridays in summer

**First Jump Courses:** rounds, RAPS, tandem

 LO FS CF FF AC WP

**18 Target**  
0113 250 5600



### Target Skysports

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,

Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN

Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 DZ: 01652 648 837

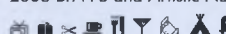
[info@targetsky.demon.co.uk](mailto:info@targetsky.demon.co.uk) [www.skydiving.co.uk](http://www.skydiving.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6

**Open:** 9am – dusk every day

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

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**19 Tilstock**  
01948 841 111

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### The Parachute Centre

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Tel: 01948 841 111 Fax: 01948 840 638

[skydive@theparachutecentre.com](mailto:skydive@theparachutecentre.com)

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

**Aircraft:** 2 x Cessna 206

**Open:** 10am – dark Fri. 8am – dark Sat. 9am – dark on bank holidays

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, AFF, tandem

 LO FS WP

**20 UK Parachuting**  
01953 861 030



### UK Parachuting

Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU

Tel: 01953 861 030 or 08456 585 544

Fax: 01953 861 031

[jump@ukparachuting.co.uk](mailto:jump@ukparachuting.co.uk)

[www.ukparachuting.co.uk](http://www.ukparachuting.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** PA-32 (available for displays)

**Open:** Weekends & weekdays by arrangement

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem

 FS

**21 Wild Geese**  
028 2955 8609



### Wild Geese Skydive Centre

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh,

Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ

Tel: 028 2955 8609 Fax: 028 2955 7050

[parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk](mailto:parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk)

[www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk](http://www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

**Open:** Dawn – dusk at weekends. 9.30am – 5pm

weekdays (or later by arrangement)

**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem

Friendly atmosphere, fantastic views of north coast, excellent facilities, no restrictions, plenty of local entertainment.

 LO FS CF WP

## UK Military DZs

### A Army Parachute Association

APA Airfield Camp, Netheravon,

Salisbury, Wilts SP4 9SF

Tel: 01980 678 250

Fax: 01980 671 026

[apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk)

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

### B RAFSPA & RAFSPA

Hawks Parachute Team

JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-

Green, Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TQ

Tel: 01869 343 343 / 343 201

Fax: 01869 343 676

[skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net](mailto:skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net)

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

### C Services

Parachute Centre

Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802

Tel: 02877 721 472

Fax: 02877 721 342

### D Silver Stars

Parachute Team

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,

South Cerney, Cirencester,

Gloucester GL7 5RD

Tel: 01285 868259

Fax: 01285 861344

[info@silverstars.org.uk](mailto:info@silverstars.org.uk)

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

## Overseas Military DZs

### Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Dhekalia Garrison, BFPO 58,

Cyprus

Tel: 00 357 2474 4337

Fax: 00 357 2474 4180

[skydive@logos.cy.net](mailto:skydive@logos.cy.net)

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

### Rhine Army Parachute Association JSPC (L) (RAPA)

PTC HQ ATG (G), BFPO 16

Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378

Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740

[awright971@aol.com](mailto:awright971@aol.com)

<http://jspc.de>

(unofficial website)



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# BPA Associated Organisations

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

## Active Skydiving

Active Skydiving

### Active Skydiving

Glengaynan, St Fillans, Perthshire PH6 2ND  
Tel/Fax: 01764 685316  
Mobile: 07803 041348  
scotty@activeskydiving.com  
www.activeskydiving.com  
Contact: Scotty Milne  
Courses: AFF  
Location: Spain, USA

## The Freefall Company

the FREE FALL company

### FreeFall Company

The Coach House, West St, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7RL  
Tel: (Spain) 00 34 972 45 45 63  
kevin@freefallco.com  
www.freefallco.com  
Contact: Kevin McCarthy  
Courses: AFF  
Location: Spain

## Red Devils

RED DEVILS

### Red Devils

Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
Tel: 01980 678211 or 300 / 212  
Fax: 01980 678349  
reddevils@reddevilsonline.com  
www.reddevilsonline.com  
Displays, tandem  
Contact: Edward Paxton  
Courses: Tandem  
Location: UK (Netheravon)

## Airwaves

AIR WAVES

### Airwaves International Skydiving School

78 High Street, Bexley, Kent DA5 1LB  
Tel: 01322 557375  
Mobile: 07802 472 566  
France: 00 33 (0) 619 605 997  
skydive@air-waves.co.uk  
www.air-waves.co.uk  
Contact: Rod Bartholomew  
Courses: AFF, RAPS, progression, tandem  
Location: France, USA

## Parachute Training Services

PARACHUTE TRAINING SERVICES

### Parachute Training Services

11 Godwyn Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 1BU  
Tel/Fax: 01235 529570  
doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk  
www.paratrg.demon.co.uk  
Contact: Doug Peacock  
Courses: RAPS, progression courses  
Location: UK (Hinton Skydiving Centre)

## Skydive Academy

### Skydive Academy

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

## Dave Morris Action Sports

### David Morris Action Sports

2 Daleside, Cotgrave, Nottingham NG12 3QA  
Tel/Fax: 0115 989 2050  
Mobile: 0777 498 6600  
dave@daleside2.demon.co.uk  
www.dalesside2.demon.co.uk  
Contact: Dave Morris  
Courses: AFF, tandem  
Location: UK (Langar), Spain, France

## PhD Skydiving

PhD Skydiving

### 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  
Contact: Martin Williams  
Courses: AFF, Skydive U  
Location: UK (Netheravon), Spain, USA

## Skydive Limited

Skydive Ltd.com

### Skydive Limited

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE  
Tel: 01832 280066  
Fax: 01832 280067  
Mobile: 0785 000 7178  
chris@skydiveltd.com  
www.skydiveltd.com  
Contact: Chris Allen  
Courses: AFF, Skydive U, tandem  
Location: UK (Peterborough) & abroad

## East Coast

### East Coast Parachute Centre

8 Burns Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS  
Tel: 01245 268772  
slattery@blueyonder.co.uk  
Contact: Val Slattery  
Courses: RAPS, progression, AFF, tandem  
Location: UK (London Parachute School)

## Pops UK

POPS UK

### Pops UK

21 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4ES  
Tel: 0117 973 8341  
www.thepops.org  
Contact: Niels Hansen, Top POP  
A society of skydivers over forty. We hold regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

## BCPA

BCPA

### British Collegiate Parachute Association

12 Abberton Road, Manchester M20 1HU  
www.bcpa.org.uk  
chairman@bcpa.org.uk  
Contact: Lorraine Blacker, BCPA Chairman  
The BCPA aims to promote skydiving at collegiate level. We hold events for our 41 affiliated university clubs and help to set up and run these. We provide a community where university skydivers can find like-minded people to jump and socialise with.

## Overseas Associated DZs

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

## SPAIN

### CPCB (Centro de Paracaidismo Costa Brava)

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain  
Tel: 0034 972 450 111  
Fax: 0034 972 450 749  
cpcb@gna.es  
www.skyrats.com

### Skydive Spain

La Juliana Aerodrome, Bullulus DLM, Seville, Spain  
Tel: 0034 954 153 281  
Fax: 0034 678 849 554  
allan@skyscience.co.uk

## USA

### Florida Skydiving Centre

440 South Airport Road, Lake Wales, FL 33859, USA  
Tel: 001 863 678 1003  
Fax: 001 863 678 1409  
info@skydivelakewales.com

### Freefall Adventures, Florida

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA  
Tel: 001 561 388 0550  
Fax: 001 561 581 4468  
skydivemik@aol.com  
www.fradventures.com

### Perris Valley Skydiving

2091 Goetz Road, Perris, CA 92570, USA  
Tel: 001 909 657 3904  
Fax: 001 909 657 6178  
office@skydiveperris.com  
www.skydiveperris.com

### Skydive Elsinore

20701 Cereal Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530, USA  
Tel: 001 909 245 9939  
Fax: 001 909 245 3661  
skydive@skydiveelsinore.com  
www.skydiveelsinore.com

### Skydive Sebastian

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA  
Tel: 001 772 388 5672  
Fax: 001 772 388 2105  
info@skydivesebastian.com  
www.skydivesebastian.com

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[www.symbiosissuits.co.uk](http://www.symbiosissuits.co.uk)  
**ROB COLPUS**

# Puzzle



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

## Main (Cryptic)

### Across

- Show disapproval of support for flying footwear (6)
- Old man's tape (6)
- Malfunctioning radar in crack military jump (8)
- Rely on God on the odd occasion (6)
- Deadlocked! Threw out pre-arranged deal and got a grip (6)
- Helmet is new? Dizziness follows! (8)
- Nomad flyer's aircraft (5,4)
- Failing to get the point of broken statue (4)
- Dive is initially even, but turning (4)
- Fast ship gets entangled with hedge (4-5)
- Jumps ship around Kentucky and waves on the beach (8)
- Good soufflés possibly they go over the shoulder (6)
- Coiled up and easily controlled (6)
- Nauseating foreign food stares you in the face (8)
- Fail to properly launch just part of a ship (6)
- Flight between two points goes from side to side (6)

### Down

- What a Blair speaks or a Thatcher, perhaps (7)
- Go swiftly forward where it is normal to go round (5)
- Hurl them from cockney peer's place (7)
- These flyers remain confused (6)
- A leap in the dark? Metaphorically but not actually (5,4)
- The girl is confused, illuminate for a second time (7)
- Good man in outdoor movement makes a point (4,9)
- Misplaced beat's a sin in Bach's 2nd (9)
- Copy the launch (4-3)
- Short hard cape, it should fit from shoulder to hip (7)
- It causes partial deafness to prevent it (7)
- French cheeses are heard to create wind (6)
- Mystic one took a dip at the front (5)

by **Paul Boorer**

## Reserve

### Across

- Jumpsuit foot cover
- Tape (Industrial strength)
- Air delivery
- Seldom
- Joined a formation
- Skysystems helmet
- Biplane (5,4)
- FS competition infringement
- Hollow cylinder
- Rapid (4-5)
- Jumps with a board
- Canopy connectors
- Easily managed
- Organs of vision
- Collapse a formation
- Playground apparatuses

### Down

- Rhetoric
- Rail
- Seat of earl
- Pilots
- Initial skydive (5,4)
- Switch on again
- Formation (part of a fire escape?) (4,9)
- Florida DZ
- Leave the ground (4-3)
- Straps of rig
- Noise dampener
- Light wind
- Devout Hindu

21. Breze, 24. Swami  
2. Oratory, 3. Track, 4. Earlom, 5. Almen, 7. First jump, 8. Earplug, 9. Open stairstep, 15. Sebastian, 17. Take-off, 19. Horness, 20. Earplug, 23. Riser, 25. Funnel, 27. Funnel, 28. Swings  
DOWN  
1. Bootie, 5. Gaffer, 10. Paratroop, 11. Rarely, 12. Docked, 13. Nervego, 14. Cypsy moth, 16. Bust, 17. Tube, 18. High-speed, 22. Skysurf, 23. Riser, 25. Funnel, 27. Funnel, 28. Swings

# DIARY DATES

## AUGUST

**16 Tandem World Record Attempt**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343  
Leonard Ansell: 01628 820 269

**16-17 FS Central Regionals 4-way**  
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www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

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www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

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Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271  
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

**18-22 Caravan & Progression Week**  
Bridlington 01262 677 367  
www.britishtskydiving.co.uk

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

**20-24 Skydive University Coach Course**  
Skydive Marche, Italy 0039 0734 964 488  
www.skydivemarche.com info@skydivemarche.com

**21-24 German Freestyle Festival**  
Soest, Germany www.fsc-soest.de

**22-24 Wingsuit Weekend**  
Peterborough 01832 280 490  
skydive@skydivesibson.com www.skydivesibson.com

**22-24 16-way European Cup**  
Brienne le Château, France 0033 66 108 5555

**23-25 Speed 8-way & Canopy Swoop Meet**  
Netheravon www.netheravon.com  
www.swooping.co.uk 01980 678 245

**23-25 Euphoria Freestyle Boogie**  
Netheravon eam@freeflyeuphoria.com  
www.freeflyeuphoria.com 01980 678 245

**23-25 Brit Chicks Weekend**  
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www.skydiving.co.uk lesley@skydivemag.com

**23-28 FS & FF Skills Camp**  
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skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**24 Weston Summer Ball**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343  
skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**23-25 Drop and Pop Student Accuracy**  
mitche01@hotmail.com 07958 147 299  
Cark www.skydive-northwest.com

**29-31 FF Coaching with Tim Porter**  
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk  
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

**29-31 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
DZ Pullout, Ravenna, Italy 0036 05444 87899  
www.speedskydiving.net www.pullout.it

**30-31 Wiggaz Festival**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343  
skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**29-1 Sep Big-way Sequential**  
The Ranch, New York 001 845 256 0069  
blskyguy@aol.com

**31-7 Sep Let 410 & Chopper Beach Boogie**  
Jersey, Channel Islands 01534 631 390  
treasurer@jerseyskydive.com www.jerseyskydive.com

## SEPTEMBER

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SQ, Australia www.ramblers.com.au

**4-14 World Championships**  
All disciplines, Gap, France 0033 492 540  
skydivgap@online.fr

**5-7 New York State Record**  
The Ranch, New York 001 845 256 0069  
blskyguy@aol.com

**6-7 LAC Meet**  
Headcorn 01622 890 862  
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**6-7 Brit Chicks Weekend**  
Langar 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk lesley@skydivemag.com

**6-14 Langar Boogie 2 & Big-ways**  
BPS Langar 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

**13-14 POPS Record Attempt, Langar**  
www.thepops.uk 0117 973 8341

**8-12 Progression Week**  
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk  
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

**10-14 Deaf FS World Record Attempt**  
Perris Valley, California 001 909 657 3904  
Uk contact: alan@thompsonskey.fsnet.co.uk

**13-14 4-way Seminar**  
Skydive Nagambie 0061 03 5794 1466  
Victoria, Australia www.skydivenagambie.com.au

**13-14 Euphoria Freestyle Weekend**  
Netheravon eam@freeflyeuphoria.com  
www.freeflyeuphoria.com 01980 678 245

**14-18 AD Big-way Skills Camp**  
Ravenna, Italy 0162 280 490  
olav@1olav.com www.worldfreely.com

**15-19 Progression Week**  
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk  
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

**18-21 Euphoria Freestyle Mini Boogie**  
Netheravon eam@freeflyeuphoria.com  
www.freeflyeuphoria.com 01980 678 245

**16-27 120-way German Record**  
& big-ways Pete Marsden: 01932 701 321  
at Umm Al Quwain pete@boogieclub.co.uk

**20-21 4-way Scrambles**  
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600  
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk

**20-21 Freestyle Boogie**  
Zeeland Holland, FL www.skydivezeeland.nl

**20-21 Wingsuit Festival**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343  
skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**20-22 9-way Speed & Sequential**  
Brienne le Château, France 0033 66 108 5555

**20-28 Space Games 14**  
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olav@1olav.com www.worldfreely.com

**22 Bewl Reservoir Water Jumps**  
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**22-26 Instructor Course - AFF/Tandem**  
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trudy@bpa.org.uk

**24-28 1st World Cup of Canopy Piloting**  
Perris Valley, California 001 909 657 3904  
www.proswoopingtour.com www.skydiveperris.com

**26-28 Speed Skydiving World Cup**  
DZ Hohenems, Austria 0043 557 672 170  
www.speedskydiving.net www.upcs.at

**26-28 Hurricane Freestyle Boogie**  
Florida Skydiving Center 001 863 678 1003  
Lake Wales stevenblincoe@yahoo.com

**27-28 CF Central Regionals**  
Langar 01949 860 878  
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

**29-5 Oct CF Seminar**  
CPCB, Empuriabrava, Spain cpcb@gnas.es  
richardhayden\_crew@yahoo.co.uk

## OCTOBER

**2-5 Pink Boogie**  
Belgium www.skydivecenterspa.com

**4-5 CF & Classics Southern Regionals**  
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk  
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

**4-12 Go Vertical Freestyle Boogie**  
Skydive Portugal info@skydiveportugal.com  
Praença a Nova www.skydive-portugal.com

**4-12 The Oktober Boogie**  
Skydive Nagambie 0061 03 5794 1466  
Victoria, Australia www.skydivenagambie.com.au

**7-12 PST Baja Challenge & Beach Boogie**  
Baja, Mexico www.proswoopingtour.com

**9 STC Meeting**  
BPA Office 0116 278 5271

**11-12 Chicks Rock Boogie**  
Skydive Elsinore 001 909 245 9939  
CA, USA www.skydivelsinore.com

**11-12 8-way Speed Meet**  
Hinton 01295 812 300  
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk

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

**16-26 Kenya Safari Beach Boogie**  
Geoff Wood 01295 812 300  
reallynicebloke@msn.com

**25-26 Halloween 10-way Speed**  
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600  
www.skydiving.co.uk info@targetsky.demon.co.uk

## NOVEMBER

**3-7 Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers PC, 0061 917 3399 6400  
SQ, Australia www.ramblers.com.au

**3-7 Riggers Course**  
RAPA 01869 343 343  
skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**8 Weston End of Season Party**  
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343  
skydiveweston.rafspa@virgin.net www.rafspa.com

**8 Fireworks Party**  
Hinton 01295 812 300  
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk

**8-11 3-way Scrambles**  
Brienne le Château, France 0033 66 108 5555

**10-14 Instructor Course**  
Headcorn 0116 278 5271  
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

**17-21 Instructor Course**  
Headcorn 0116 278 5271  
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

**21 SkyVenture Challenge**  
SkyVenture, Orlando, FL info@skyventure.com  
www.skyventure.com

**26-30 Women's Freestyle World Record Attempt**  
Skydive Arizona, www.skydiveaz.com  
Eloy, USA sugargliderzfreely@hotmail.com

## DECEMBER

**2 EGM & BPA Council Meeting**  
skydive@bpa.org.uk 0116 278 5271

**4 STC Meeting**  
BPA Office 0116 278 5271

**13 Tilstock Christmas Do**  
Tilstock 01948 841 111

**13 Wild Geese Christmas Dinner**  
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