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The Mag

April 2005



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



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editorial



What a total pleasure it has been to work with someone who has the same attitude as me – that it should be done right or not at all, so let's get on with it, do it to the best of our ability and enjoy what we do. Lucie has been fabulous. A joy.

She's a very bright cookie. I had that figured at her interviews but I had no idea just how smart, she constantly surprises me with how quickly she picks things up, grasps hold of new ideas and is off running with the ball while I'm still explaining how to pick it up. She also has that seemingly rare quality these days – initiative.

It's been very been fulfilling to see Lucie charged with the same buzz I get when it all starts coming together, when pages are going in the 'dummy' thick and fast and it's all taking shape as a complete Mag not separate articles. It truly is my 'baby', each one becomes my pride and joy, they develop a life of their own and you shape its growth just like a child. Lucie's been feeling that too, taking ownership of her areas such as Club News, as well as helping me with the entire magazine (all 92 pages of it, the biggest ever!).

Lucie clearly loves the job as it offers her the chance she's always wanted – to work in skydiving. I hope this is the start of a very long partnership. If you see Lucie on a drop zone, do say hello, she really cares about making your Mag better and any feedback to either of us will be taken on board.

Lesley

We have lots of overseas subscribers, non BPA members who get The Mag because they like it.

If you're interested in skydiving, whatever nation you're from whether a first jump student, an adventure sports enthusiast, or you jump abroad, you'll enjoy The Mag.

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



British Parachute Association

Patron: His Royal Highness
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BPA, Wharf Way,
Glen Parva,
Leicester LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271
Fax: 0116 247 7662

skydive@bpa.org.uk
www.bpa.org.uk



BPA Staff

Technical Officer	Tony Butler
National Safety Officer	John Hitchen
PA to above officers	Trudy Kemp
Financial Administrator	Jon Gretton
Secretary-General	Martin Shuttleworth
Administration Secretary	Susan Moran
Membership Services	Karey Goodwin
Membership Services	Sue Allen
Stock Controller	David Lucas

BPA Council

BPA Chairman	Chris Allen	skydive@ukgateway.net
Vice Chairman & Competitions Chairman	John Smyth	smiffy@uol.com
Development Chairman	Kieran Brady	kbrady@fsbdial.co.uk
Communications Chairman	Eddie Jones	eddie@skydivecamera.freemove.co.uk

Council Members	
Paul Applegate	paul.applegate@tesco.net
Ian Marshall	marshallcf@aol.com
Weed Stoodley	weed@stoodley.co.uk
Andy Scott	andrew.scott@orange.co.uk
Tony Goodman	raknights@aol.com
Jim White	jcwhite526@hotmail.com
Nigel Holland	hollandnigel@aol.com
Adrian Bond	ajbond-3@hotmail.com
Ralph Fielding	ralph.fielding@ntlworld.com
John 'Geordie' Page	geordiepage@tesco.net

BPA Officers & Representatives

STC Chairman	John Hitchen
	john@bpa.org.uk
Riggers Chairman	Paul Applegate
01869 277 469	paul.applegate@tesco.net
BPA Vice Presidents	Jim Crocker, John Lines & Bob Card
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Pilots Committee Chairman	Tony Knight
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EDITORIAL

The Mag, 5 Station Road,
Ailsworth,
Peterborough, PE5 7AH
United Kingdom
Tel/Fax: 01733 380 568
editor@skydivemag.com
www.skydivemag.com

EDITOR

Lesley Gale

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Lucie Fenton

DESIGN

Andy Venum

ADVERTISING

Jayne Notley
Warners Group Publications
West Street
Bourne, Lincs PE10 9PH
adverts@skydivemag.com

Ad Manager – Jayne Notley
01778 391 189
Ad Sales – Sarah Makin
01778 392 048

Ad Production –
Natalie Reynolds
01778 392 052
Fax: 01778 394 748

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Ian Bobo trails his hand in the water for a free expression round of freestyle swooping

Photo: Francisco Neri



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Max Cohn above Ipanema Beach, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, by Eric Claudel

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The Mag

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

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PD Team

The lovely thing about these photos of the PD team, from Francisco Neri, is the complete control and casual, almost nonchalant air of the canopy pilots. They have planned their approach down to the last millimetre, making inputs way up high and are now coasting on the perfectly executed wave they devised and executed. This is the only way to complete such recognised canopy freestyle manoeuvres as the ghost-rider (no hands in toggles) or lazy boy (leaning back completely) or blind man (looking back the opposite way).

Conversely, people making radical toggle input near to the ground are on the edge of control and potentially dangerous, even if it may look flashy. What characterises an excellent pilot is the predictability and smoothness of their swoop, carving a regular, even arc, and with an attitude as serene and in total control as Ian Bobo on the cover and the rest of his team shown here.



Jay Moledski



Jay Moledski does one heck of a wingover





Shannon Pilcher



Jay Moledski





Shannon Pilcher



Jay Moledski



Photos by Francisco Neri

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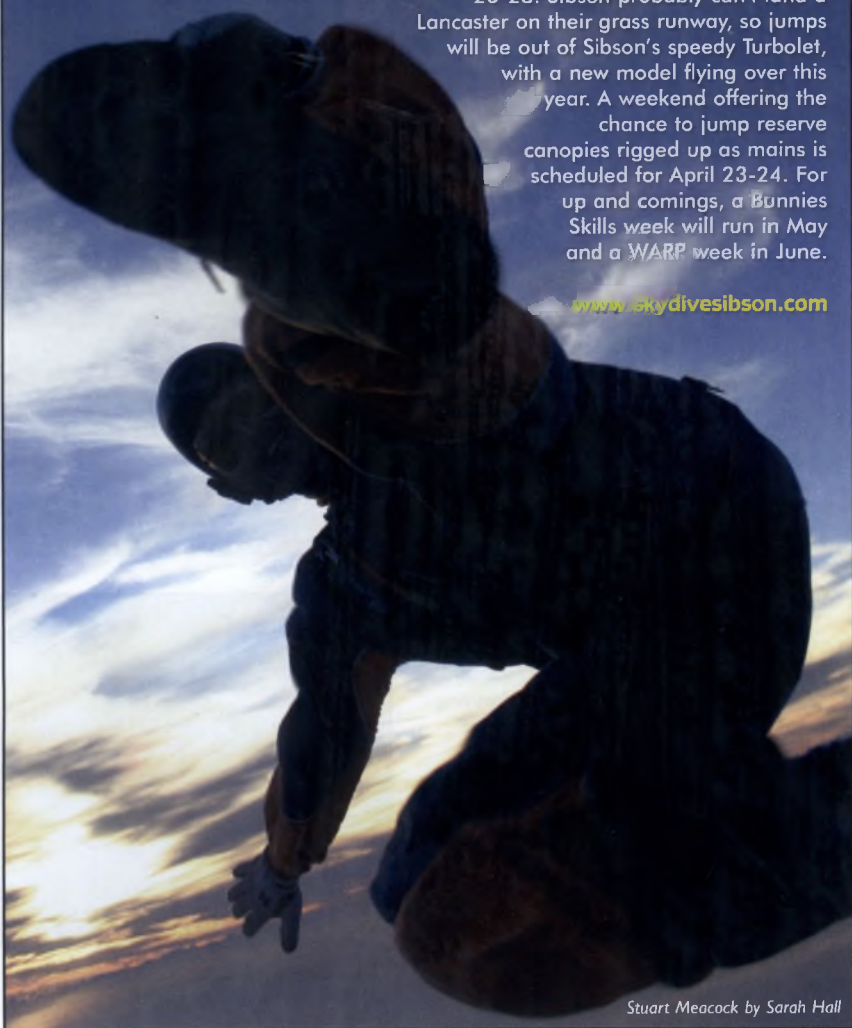
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Fun-Tastic

Wingsuits, freefly and fun are the names of the games at Skydive Sibson. They have two winged weekends lined up, April 30 - May 2 and a BirdMan weekend with Jari on the August bank holiday – presumably with some BirdWomen too. The Babylon Boys will be back for the end of May bank holiday, the UK Freefly Festival in July and the Lancaster Boogie on August 20-28. Sibson probably can't land a Lancaster on their grass runway, so jumps will be out of Sibson's speedy Turbolet, with a new model flying over this year. A weekend offering the chance to jump reserve canopies rigged up as mains is scheduled for April 23-24. For up and comings, a Bunnies Skills week will run in May and a WARP week in June.

www.skydivesibson.com



Stuart Meacock by Sarah Hall

Freefly School at Black Knights

Rob McVey, man on the cover of the August 03 Mag, has started a freefly school based at Black Knights. He has separate premises on the DZ and is running a Freefly Festival in

June. BKPC have an 8-way Grand Prix event lined up too, in May (14-15) and a whole catalogue of events to take advantage of the monster Porter F-GODZ which will be based there all summer from May.



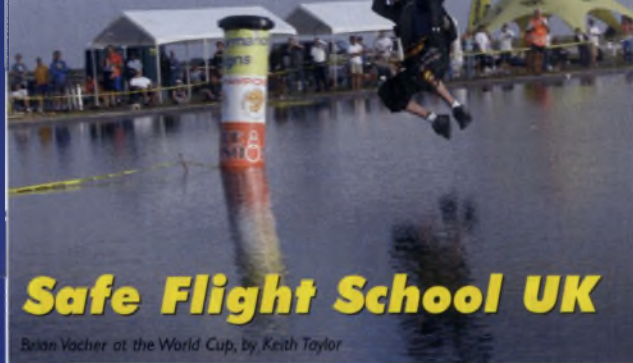
The monster Porter by Mike Pascoe

Freefly School 07793 753 3990
www.freeflyschool.co.uk
www.bkpc.co.uk

JM^{Is} Newsround

The Safe Flight School, usually based at Skydive Lillo in Spain, is coming to the UK; 15-17 July at St Andrews and 13-14 August at Old Buckenham with more TBA. The school is also travelling to Ireland, Germany, and Portugal. It runs at least two courses in Spain each month and also bespoke programmes. Brian Vacher, owner of the Safe Flight School and captain of the UK Canopy Piloting team at the World Cup, finished 12th in the Pro class.

www.safeflightschool.com



Safe Flight School UK

Brian Vacher at the World Cup, by Keith Taylor

Northern Grand Prix

A Grand Prix in 4-way and 8-way FS will be held at Cark, 28-20 May, with Friday a designated practice day. This weekend offers an opportunity to jump the only PAC 750 XL in the country and sample the aerial aesthetics of the Lake District, Morecambe Bay and stunning coastline. NWPC offers a warm welcome to any visitors prepared to travel. Cark's friendly hospitality is as legendary as their parties.

www.skydive-northwest.com

As the Scottish Nationals are usually on the same weekend and involve the same disciplines, Strathallan has decided **not** to hold the Scottish Nationals this year, as they did not want to detract from the Grand Prix event at Cark. They wish NWPC all the best for a very successful meet – and might even send a team or two down to compete!

NWPC Cark





Tortuga in Italy is the new home for Olav Zipser and Stefania Martinengo. They have a busy programme lined up for the year, including the legendary Space Games and the world freely project offering training dedicated to experienced freeflyers, first on group flying and, later in the year, on tracking and related skills.

www.worldfreely.com

Olav and Stefania@Tortuga

Euphoria Comms System

Euphoria Freely School is now offering coaching with the revolutionary air-to-air radio communication system by Rare Dynamic Inc (John Devore & Mike Swanson of Alchemy). The high noise cancelling system allows the coach to give clear, calm and precise voice commands to the student in freefall, under canopy and in a wind tunnel. "The system offers the ultimate in air to air communications, it allows the coach to give very specific commands and cuts down on the time it takes for a student to translate hand signals. A student's progression is faster and more cost effective. This new technology will revolutionise the way we coach and organise our skydives!" said Andy Newell of Euphoria, who's touring UK DZs previewing the system. Mike Carpenter offers the service full time at the Euphoria Freely School at Skydive Lillo, Spain. You can demo the equipment at the Euphoria Travel Boogie, Lillo, 6-10 April, with guest Nils Predstrup from world champion freestyle team Funkflyz.

www.freeflyeuphoria.com
www.raredynamic.com



Alec Catten

Aero-Tastic

BPA members Nigel and Alison Haslam won a silver medal in an indoor skydiving competition held at Aerokart in France. They entered the 3-way competition, together with their French instructor, William Hamouchi. The remarkable thing is that Nigel and Alison are still going through AFF, with 20 jumps between them, yet they succeeded in beating a field of experienced skydivers! Nigel and Alison are confirmed tunnel rats and fly for fun and to develop their skills.

The competition had an unusual format in that, rather than being points scored within a given time, it is the time taken to build 15 points, ie, three times through the sequence of 5 points. There were two levels of competition; 3-way and 4-way with 32 teams overall and a high standard of entries including national and professional teams. Belgium team Hayabusa won the 4-way closely followed by Veloce Aerokart and Lapalisse Aerokart.



Fubar by
Martin Ciekala

The 3-way title was taken by Existenciel Seloger.com ahead of our own FUBAR in silver with We Were Young... in bronze position. Fubar were squeaky clean without a single bust – despite the pressure of having to rejump the last round. They thank William and his tantrums, AFF instructor Steve Murphy and friend Calvin Blacker. Next year Fubar intend to move up to the 4-way competition alongside the big boys.

www.aerokart.fr



3-way medallists: Fubar (silver), Existenciel Seloger.com (gold) & We Were Young (bronze)

Martin Ciekala

ATMO-TASTIC

Marco Tiezzi and Gigliola Borgnis, the inventors of the Atmonauti way of flying, have brought out a dive pool and rules for Atmonauti competitions, just like the IPC dive pools for FS and freefly. It gives formations as 'free', ie, single formations (like randoms) and 'block', ie, sequences flying from one specified point to another. Full diagrams and details are on THE Atmonauti website. The competition format is revolutionary as there is no time limit, rather the competition is determined by the exit altitude of 2,500 metres until a safe track-off altitude. Hence, by flying more horizontally you can increase the effective time for scoring points. Exits are free and there must be a complete break between each point.

Marco and Gi have founded the world's first Atmonauti centre at their new home in Brienne le Château, conveniently situated in the Champagne region of France, and boasting a Pilatus Porter and a Twin Otter. They proudly announce the first Atmonauti RW competition, at the end of their Atmonauti Pro-Boogie, 29 April - 8 May in Brienne. Teams will be formed on the spot at the boogie between the great flyers who will be there. The meet will have five rounds. The boogie will feature a world record Atmonauti attempt and, most of all, will be dedicated to playing 'the new games' of 4-way Atmonauti FS, Atmonauti races and SFIDA, a fun challenge where two people do a hand contact with the navigator followed by transitions.

They emphasise that this kind of flight is accessible to almost anyone, from people with 80-100 jumps, formation skydivers who only need a few days to get into it and good freeflyers who will master the position in just a few jumps.

www.atmonauti.com



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DVD Reviews

Flyboyz Film Festival 03

Reviewer	Chris Hollis
Runs for	70 minutes
Cost	\$19.95 (US)
Content	7/10
VFM	8/10
One Line Review	A bit of everything – swooping, freeflying, base and unfunny Americans

Perris-based freeflyers, the Flyboyz, started their film festival in 1997 as a showcase for cool freeflying. Now it's expanded to a full-on celebration of all things airborne. This DVD shows entries for the 2003 festival under various headings ranging from aerial visual, comedy, music video and the most coveted award – the 'Daddy Phats'



Each movie entry is under 10 mins long. They range from semi-professional productions to home movie. Subject matter includes some incredible base footage, freeflying, wingsuits and extreme canopy handling. Whatever tickles your skydiving fancy, I'm sure you'll find something stimulating here. Watching the atmonauti guys track next to a Porter is very cool, as is the base jump onto a New York city street. The base jump that goes wrong near the waterfall is another matter!

The comedy section is nearer the home movie end of the scale, and some of the state-side humour doesn't really strike a chord this side of the pond. The music section is great and the base movie is a worthy 'Daddy Phat' in anyone's book. (If anyone has a book full of 'phat', that is!)

Skydiving DVDs are coming along thick and fast, and this particular example is more of an overview of what's deemed cool right now rather than a movie in its own right. The whole product is very professionally put together with some professional menu screens, slick graphics and cool tunes. If you fancy a broad slice of what's going on at the cutting edge – this is for you. Although, judging from the earlier reports from our very own skydiving DJ Richie, this material was probably best viewed at the festival itself!

Equinox Boogie

Reviewer	Rob Silver
Runs for	1hr 24mins
Extras	20 mins
Cost	\$40 (Aus)
Content	6/10
VFM	7/10
One Line Review	Great if you were there!

G-day! Here's what some of you have been waiting for. All the way from Australia the guys at Toogoolawah have put together a

nice double DVD package that covers the Equinox Boogie skydives and some of the shenanigans really well. As you would expect the Aussies know how to have a good laugh. There's great coverage of all skydiving disciplines including some awesome tracking, our very own Dave Morris putting together some pretty 50-ways and of course the fab freeflying. You even get to see some of the wildlife. The Aussie naked formation skydive record may need a PG certificate but who cares?!

There are some great comedy sketches that break the movie up nicely and give you a fine feel of the fun to be had. Remembering this is a boogie movie it's great showing for a rainy afternoon at the DZ but, like most boogie compilations, could be a bit lengthy unless you were there. If you're thinking of the Nox Boogie 2K6 get it for a flavour of fun down under. For me, it will keep me going until the next one!



Hercules Boogie 04

Reviewer	Caroline Allen
Runs for	53 mins
Extras	photos, organised loads & more
Cost	€35
Content	8/10
VFM	8/10
One Line Review	Gives a great feel of what the Herc Boogie is all about

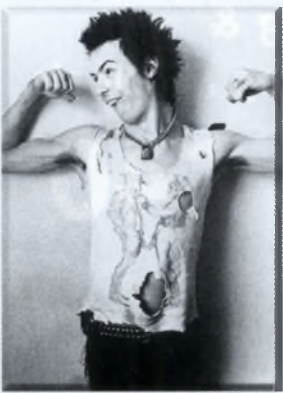
The Herc Boogie: fantastic jumps, a great party atmosphere and some insane naked people. [Just like Equinox then!] The DVD is split into four sections; the movie, photos, organised jumps and the video competition. Plus there's an extensive stills photo gallery (listed by camera flyer), loads of organised jumps (listed by load organiser) and some bonus material (the video competition entries).



The boogie itself is brilliant whatever your discipline but, because the majority of the jumpers were there to do big-ways, freeflyers and birdies may find it a bit FS heavy. But there is a bit of everything; the totally awesome Herc, helicopter and jet footage, some impressive formation stuff, huge bird-flocks, fun jumps, military boys executing slick drill dives and some crazy antics on the ground – both day and night. Party footage is included! The stills gallery is not to be missed.

Interviews interspersed throughout the movie enable you to meet world class load organisers and other colourful characters. There's humour all the way through but you may have to have been there to fully appreciate all of it. It's not a slick Hollywood movie but an opportunity to relive the experience if you were there, or get a taste of the fun you could have in Lidköping, Sweden in 2006.

Herc Boogie facts for the spotters: 623 participants from 18 countries made 10,989 jumps in 8 days, on 140 loads from the amazing C130. Just one thing I just don't get... I was there from beginning to end, how did all those gorgeous men pass my radar undetected?



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Sid
XXX

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The Nox

The drums started to pound out the rhythm for the Nox about summer 2003...



... After two years of waiting, the first day of Equinox 2004 finally dawned. Over four hundred friends from twenty odd countries visited for nine glorious sunny days. Many were returning, having spent two whole years in eager anticipation.



The People

It's all about the people, and Equinox draws even the most reclusive out of hiding. A grand reunion of familiar faces created an intimate feel while new additions provided excitement. Toogoolawah was at the heart of a British invasion, were there more Brits than Aussies or did it just feel like that?

The selection of coaches was impressive, especially considering there was no money for any of them, they did it for the luurrrrve...

UK's Dave Morris entertained, educated and exited 50 large formation skydives for the week. Toby Stafford of Sebastian XL fame worked some quality sequential, local Ben Nordkamp (aka Sideshow Ben Marley) fired up his collection of 18-ways and Luke Oliver organised nudie-ways – well, this was Oz after all! Belgian Steve ran a series of high quality sequential jumps with his hand-picked crew.

Ash Crick led a spirited team of freefly organisers, including ex-pat Swarbs (Mark Swarbrick), local Iarikans Crikey & Josh, Czech Champ Skoty, UK Champ Rob 'F&%king' Silver, Pony (the one and only), Alejandro Ramos of team Aria and America's finest femme, Amy Chmelecki. They all ran a million classy dives for the week while George Pilkington's Atmonauti jumps rocked and so did Yogi's tube dives.



Cheryl Marks



Flour tracking dive



Gail, Eileen, Yobbo & friends



Dave Morris's 30-way

The Days

Every day was packed with non-stop jumping activity, from three Caravans, a Beaver and a Skyvan. There were a few off-drop zone landings, the Birdmen seemed to prefer it that way! The most entertaining was an off load of nudists who landed in the middle of town – an honest mistake which resembled a PR stunt and definitely resulted in free advertising! Over 6,200 jumps were completed, a fair few were after dark as Ben Nordkamp postponed his visits to the bar (and the hairdresser) and ran night jumps two evenings in a row.

1,900 packjobs were done by the team of PackMaster 2000s, who apparently were due for a service seeing as four of their pack jobs did not open. For those who thought the days got a bit long, the aptly named Calapso bar in the pool area was open every afternoon with free beer, a dozen kegs all up. Entertainment was provided by Herman da German's guitar and song, sometimes assisted by Ash on keyboard and vocals. Local didgeridoo artist Matt James made music with a vast array of instruments. Even the local school orchestra came by and played for us! Cecilia and Jane's shaded poolside massage set-up tempted many to exchange jump tickets, packjobs or cash for a bit of body therapy.



Suzie McEvoy & Handbrake's hoop dive

The Nights

Nightly entertainment is essential for any boogie, and the 'Nox sets the pace! After-dinner activities kicked off with MC Archie drawing the free nightly raffles, followed by the most anxiously awaited event – Elad's edited day tape. Slideshows by Muzza on the big screen and Coombes's selection of short films were a hit, live bands impressed us all as did DJ Richie's commitment. He just loved to make people dance, the Rave Tent was choicely named. On Friday night individuals displayed their skills in a very entertaining talent show. Highlights were Josh Vanderstelt on a unicycle, Hazel's amazing way of telling a joke and Amy's all-singing, all-dancing, hula-hoopin' American Sideshow showing us that the US people are decidedly more talented than their president.

As a result of generous sponsors the nightly raffles were packed with amazing prizes, total retail value more than \$20,000! Many participants won something and Greg Puttick won a lot, apparently due to his lucky clothes... which he wore for the rest of the week. Lucky but stinky!

We played nicely together in the sky, although Herman da German did have an argument with Ben Mumby's lines at 1,000ft. Chicks dig scars though, right? The majority of the sprains were due to Way Cool's crate climbing contest – once popular with Boy Scouts, now a post-beer activity!

The final jump of the boogie was Dave Morris's group. 42-way, 3 points, Hollywood spot. Love ya work Dave! From beginning to end, the Nox was an orgy of great times, thanks largely to the awesome Ramblers team – you are all amazing. And to those fabulous Brits who travelled halfway around the globe to live the legend of the 'Nox, we hope it was as magical for you as it was for us.

Froydis Brekken-Elvik & Luke Oliver

The Epilogue

Catch up on your sleep. Stay current. Be safe. It's only 723 days to the next one...



Jane Henderson
& Laura



NEXT NOX

Pre-Nox

14-20 October 2006

EquiNox

21-29 October 2006

De-Tox

30 Oct – 5 Nov 2006





Photos by:
 Steve Newman (Bullet Freefly), Angela Heisler, Archie Jamieson,
 Murray Anderson-Clemence (Extreme Photography),
 Wayne McLachlan, Anthony Fitzgerald, Grant Ball (Way Cool)



NOX FAX

Jumps	6242
Loads	385
Cutaways	11
Broken bones	7 (6 in 1 person)
Free kegs	12
Beers for 'firsts'	4928 (176 cartons)
Macca's bar tab	\$846

Rob F Silver & Greg Puttick



Young Eagles



Ever competed in ten rounds of accuracy, six of 4-way FS, plus 4-way CF rotations and freestyle, all in a day and a half?

Young Eagles have.

Now in its second year, Young Eagles is a skydiving competition with two differences; firstly, it's for under-16s and secondly, there is no skydiving. Everything is simulated so they get all of the fun but none of the risk.

Our Young Eagles performed rounds of 'freestyle' in the swimming pool, all captured on film underwater and then judged. We also simulated CF rotations in the pool; teams of four on a float rotated their front ('top') person to the back ('bottom') and were scored on how many times they could achieve this in 2 minutes. Back at Netheravon, a creeper competition mimicked FS, scored by real judges just like the real thing. Accuracy was run using a mini fan trainer and a real electronic pad.

All these events are usually run at national and international level. One of our ultimate aims is to create a whole new breed of skydiving competitors who will go on to become our next



Mad Cows and Simon Thomas



Simon and the Figheidean Fairies

generation of winners. Before each event a seminar was run on that branch of the sport to teach the teams the basics.

Something inspirational happened when the current champions turned up. If you could only have seen Sacha Chilton's jaw drop when she saw round 1 turning 16 points in time! Slot perfect. 35 seconds. Can **you** do that on creepers? We had some of the best coaches and speakers possible. Jeff Chandler and Jim Scarratt coached accuracy. Martin Williams, Liz Ashley, and Andy Godwin helped Sacha with FS. Gary Sweeney of *Euphoria* judged and coached freestyle, whilst Paul & John Yeoman and Eugene Brennan of CF team *The Outcasts* gave a superb presentation on their skills. Claire Jones commanded an army of folks who collected footage for the event video. Isn't it amazing how many cool champion coaches gave up their free time? And of course the parents were all brilliant and ran around doing everything else.

All that inspiration showed. Competition was fierce this year. The pre-Christmas training sessions undoubtedly raised the game when the competition actually started. Since its initial start with skydivers children, the competition has expanded to youth around the drop zone; this is an important spin-off from the project. Every local youngster carrying a medal off the DZ increases the bond between the local community and our sport. This year, so many gold and silver medals were awarded that a last minute purchase of extra gongs was needed. 2-way team *Pumpkin Patch* won gold medals in all four elements, whilst the senior 4-way team did just as well. The *Figheldean Fairies* won gold in all events and Elice Watson in her first year of competition scored the first ever Young Eagles dead centre in accuracy.

The *Random Chicklets* fought well and learned fast, especially given that they'd had a lot less time together for training. The *Gruesome Twosome*, inbetween moments of, well, gruesomeness, showed just how fast 2-ways can shift, and the *Flying Mops* were the court jesters of the weekend, fighting through tough times with buckets of adrenalin. A little more consistency and they'd have pipped the *Fairies* at the post. In the best tradition of FS, it was all down to the last round, with everyone at the door trying to sneak a peak at the scores.

Blue Peter presenter Simon Thomas generously gave up his Sunday afternoon to hang a bunch of medals around a lot of tired necks. He stayed afterwards for the photographs with teams and organisers, whilst we all attacked the buffet.

All this was made possible thanks to the Army Parachute Association at Netheravon who hosted the event giving free access to all their facilities. Durrington Swimming Pool allowed two of the events to be staged there. Stu Albion's freefall school Wintersun Skydiving, in cahoots with Symbiosis, awarded an additional prize of custom-made jumpsuits to the four girls who are the *Figheldean Fairies*.

In addition to their superb support so far, the APA has gone on to offer discounted jump tickets to all 16-18 year olds, once they've been trained. The APA is helping this project in a myriad of other ways. As we go to press, we're also finalising details of a Young Eagles 4-way creeper meet, to be run alongside the Armies (Army Championships), in the summer. Why not bring down a team of kids from your drop zone? There's one training in Headcorn, at least one school in London entering, and the idea is that the Young Eagles will use the same dives as the actual Armies. We might even let adults **try** to compete against them!

So are the jumpsuits from Symbiosis/Wintersun Skydiving indulgent gifts? Not really. The donating companies have stolen a march on a lot of less forward-thinking firms in the sport. Some of these teams have grown up together, gone to school with each other, and already competed in other sports together. It was clear that the winning girls' previous team



Sacha Chilton coaches Mad Cows



Jim Scarratt keeps an eye on the Flying Mops



Ashley & Will dirtdiving 2-way CF



Ashley & Will in a 2-way CF wrap

efforts in dance competition had transferred across, in the way they were anticipating and judging each other. Friendship, one of the most important dynamics of a solid and successful team, is already there. Tunnel training in this country is about to become a reality. If these teams go on training and increasing skills the way they are, I predict you'll be competing at the Nationals in less than two years against former Young Eagles... and you might be having trouble keeping up! Our best champions have all used tunnels for a lot of their training. Think about it...

Rick Boardman
ricksriggery@aol.com

Future Young Eagles
contact Rick or Rob Ames
skydive@robertames.co.uk

Photos by Claire Jones, Tony Makepeace, Ian Turner & Neil Plummer

RESULTS

FS 4-way

Senior

Gold Figheldean Fairies
Silver Random Chicklets

Intermediate

Gold Flying Mops
Silver Random Chicklets

FS 2-way

Gold Gruesome Twosome
Silver Pumpkin Patch

CF 4-way rotations

Senior

Gold Figheldean Fairies
Silver Random Chicklets

Intermediate

Gold Flying Mops
Silver Mad Cows

CF 2-way rotations

Gold Edwin and Maddy
Silver Ashley and Will

Team Accuracy

Senior

Gold Figheldean Fairies
Silver Mad Cows

Intermediate

Gold Random Chicklets
Silver Flying Mops

Junior

Gold Gruesome Twosome
Silver Pumpkin Patch

Individual Accuracy

Senior

Gold Elice Watson
Silver Isabel Boardman
Bronze Rachel Plummer

Intermediate

Gold Edwin Ames
Silver Lois Plummer
Bronze Scott Tearle

Junior

Gold Ashley Turner
Silver Mollie Lovell-Knight

Artistic Event

Senior

Gold Rachel Plummer
Silver Elice Watson
Bronze Natalie Kite

Intermediate

Gold Rachel Blythe
Silver Hazel Blythe

Madi Lovell-Knight

What's New

In Competitive FS

Andy Scott pulls together opinions from around the world on the best approach for the new IPC dive pools

IPC meets every year to confirm rules and formations for competitions. The latest meeting in Poland during February yielded the biggest changes seen in the last couple of years. Some of the world's best in their field have given their thoughts here to help you out.

Remember, at this point opinions are new and may change as R&D goes on throughout the year.

Rules

Here are the main changes with some ideas of the impact.

Ladies 4-way - your camera situation is unchanged - a male or foreign videographer is allowed, but they will not get a medal whereas a female videographer will.

Busts

● NJ is gone

Kate Charters says "This could be a bad thing as judges will now have to decide a definite yes or no (as to the formation build) and teams may lose more points."



● Omitted formations lose 3 points

"Severe but they are rare."

Kate

● A bust is 1 point deducted, not 2

Solly Williams says "I like this. Purely personal. Teams will always adapt to the rule changes and I don't really think it will change too much. If it means we can go faster and take more risks then isn't that why we started skydiving in the first place?! :) There are enough rules governing control and showing separation etc to keep teams in check."



● Teams can request a rejudge of one round per meet

"This is giving something back to the jumpers but in no way discredits the judges" Kate

Dive Pool

In both dive pools we saw a swap between a random and a block to alleviate contention or give a new twist on an old favourite. There are no new formations, so no major brain-twisters as we will have seen the pictures before!

Train hard and have fun -
Good luck!

Andy Scott



4-way

Random M - Star replaces Bundy

(now block 12)

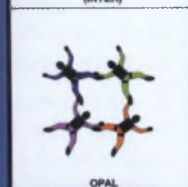
An age-old favourite! Solly says "Wrist grips or high grips will be the question on the launch. Depending on the level of the team you will find both okay, or a combination with some high and some wrist. Lower experienced teams tend to go for high grips. The trick with the star exit is having your tail getting down low and in some sense propping up the outside centre on the fly away. The tail needs to look aggressively up on the go. To be able to do that he/she should leave in a manner that allows for that to happen. Practice that at the mock-up and you'll start to see a marked improvement."



Block 5 - Opal-Opal Direction arrows are removed

This allows rotation in any direction. Solly says "I don't see this having any impact on the way it is executed or coached at all levels."

Pete Allum says "Now that the arrows and degrees have been removed from block 5, teams are starting to hop over forwards, sending the outside centre over the inside centre, giving an easier vertical and catches. The block is now similar to the old bipole-donut."



8-way

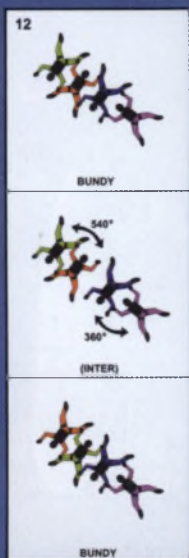


12 - Bundy-Bundy

A new block from an old random

Solly says "When writing this I must admit not having performed the block yet but experience tells me that the pieces will rotate forward and the front piece will end rotating about 500 degrees when well executed. Levels and a good finish will over-ride technique on execution."

Pete says "So far in the 4-way it seems to be unanimous to spin block 12 forward, like 21 for the back pair. The back pair can shear some of the rotation from the front (but not much). The front is very easy to spin so making sure that each person has definite inputs and stops should help this piece stop in the right place!"

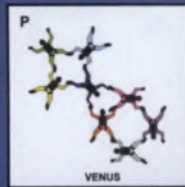


Random P - Venus replaces Buzzard

(now block 17)

Stumpy says: "The launch will be the same as ever - VNE's preference was bipole at the top, donut at the bottom. It's a more irregular random build than the Buzzard and inside centre (Blue) has to take the centre of the formation completely, so it may be a second slower getting in and out of the random.

Inside centre must be positive and move fully in and out for the random. So now it's **P-Venus** we'd best be careful how we pronounce it! ;-)"



Block 12 - Stereo Bipole-Stereo Bipole Bottom of block changed

"An interesting change which will result in a slot switcher for everyone. The second point will require more travelling, and more discipline to give a clean close. At the time of writing we haven't trained it yet but I suspect the pieces will cog with the key people (Yellow and Pink), continuing through the centre to present their right knees to Blue and Orange. Green and Purple push through hips to close with a BIG emphasis on set-up with each other. This block will definitely be slower to close when learning

but with practice (and a lot of neck-twisting) should not be much slower than before."

Stumpy

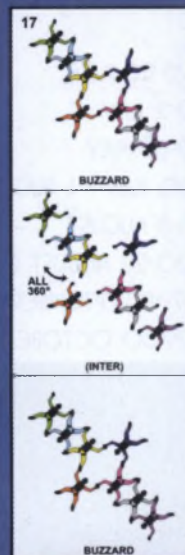


Block 17 - Buzzard-Buzzard

A new block from an old random

"This one looks fun! I would predict the 'way to go' will be the compress pieces rotating forward with the centre singletons coggng with them - this will lead to good visuals in the centre and a positive close. Green and Purple to 'whip' an outside 270° (avoiding any clash with the centre compresses which could stall them), stop, watch and provide a positive stopping point for the compress. Everyone will be driving forward to the close, so don't forget to dig knees in to stop hard and allow a fast move out from a stationary point. I foresee a few 'interesting' landings until the technique is fine-tuned, after which it should be quicker than the old block 17 (Venus-Venus)." Stumpy

"On the whole, the changes in the 8-way pool seem to balance each other out so scores should be comparable with before - but I reserve the right to change my opinion once we have had the chance to try them out!" Stumpy



BPA COMPETITIONS

Intermediate 8-way FS

The intermediate 8-way dive pool is as follows:

8 Randoms: B, F, G, J, K, M, N, P

8 Blocks: 1, 4, 6, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21.

A round will consist of 3 or 4 scoring formations depending on the draw.

Intermediate 4-way FS

The intermediate 4-way dive pool is all 16 Randoms and 12 Blocks:

2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21

The last Mag stated intermediate 4-way dives are 3 points; they may also be 4 points, depending on what is drawn.

Junior 4-way FS

The junior dive pool is all 16 Randoms, rounds are 3 points.

No Jump Number Limit

Qualification for junior and intermediate 4-way and 8-way FS categories is now not by jump number. Instead you choose your own category.

8-way Grand Prix

There will be two categories this year, senior and intermediate

FS dive pools 2005 -

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28-30 MAY	FREELY SCRAMBLES (PRE & POST FF1 CATEGORIES)
11-12 JUNE	FS COACHING ROADSHOW (FRI & MON TO BE INCLUDED ON COACH AVAILABILITY)
25-26 JUNE	POPS MEET
2-3 JULY	ARTISTICS ROADSHOW
9-10 JULY	8-WAY & ARTISTICS GRAND PRIX
30 JULY - 1 AUGUST	4-WAY FS NATIONALS
6-8 AUGUST	8-WAY, ARTISTICS & SPEED NATIONALS
20-29 AUGUST (TBC)	SUMMER BOOGIE
17-18 SEPTEMBER	4-WAY SCRAMBLES
29-30 OCTOBER	HALLOWEEN 10-WAY SPEED



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Photos: Andy Wright & Rob Simpson



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Paul Mayer, Bodyflight UK, answers in red

Tell us about your company and any parent or sister companies

Paul: We have started the company for this project and we are privately owned. We are partnered with Bodyflying Zurich, who have built and operated many facilities – they brought a wealth of experience to our project and will be training our UK staff.

Simon: We are a Public Limited Company (plc) funded through investment, equipment lease and director loans to just under £3m. It is our intention to build a series of tunnels throughout the UK and to promote the sport of bodyflying as something anyone can do. We have purchased a tunnel from SkyVenture LLC in America. The benefits include years of commercial wind tunnel operational experience, a six year development history leading to the most efficient flying tunnel, second to none safety & training, plus a group of owners who already communicate best practice.

Is it run by skydivers?

Flyers would be a better description, although I personally am a skydiver! Our Swiss partners don't jump but do fly occasionally.

As it happens, we are all skydivers so far but expect to hire non-skydiving staff too. A number of the investors are non-skydivers.

Who are your key people?

Presently we have four staff full time: Chris Ashmore, who's looking after our engineering; our chief instructor David Sawyer, Nicole Russell who manages our office and Bev Fairhurst starts with us shortly in marketing.

The full team is yet to be recruited but Rusty Lewis will be involved and Rob Ames is driving the construction and development.

What's your tunnel like?

Our tunnel is an amazing facility that was built by the MOD for testing planes. It is a recirculating flow so there will be no weather problems! It has a regulated temperature airflow, mechanically chilled, which provides a constant comfortable environment. It is powered by a 4000HP motor and has some excellent on-site facilities; training, accommodation, etc.

It's 1,000 horsepower and should produce speeds of about 150mph with a wall-to-wall laminar airflow. It will have two video systems that can be pointed at

Wind Tunnels UK

A wind tunnel in the UK is arguably the biggest opportunity to grow our sport. Now two are opening within weeks of each other, less than 50 miles apart. We ask Simon Ward, Chairman of SkyVenture UK and Paul Mayer, Managing Director of Bodyflight UK the same questions...

state of the art hard disk technology or robust DVD and video recorders. There are three team rooms, offices and a very large classroom, meeting and merchandising area.

How big is it?

At 16.23ft (5m) diameter and 8m high flying area it is the largest tunnel worldwide that can be used for skydivers. Globally others may say they are biggest – but that won't be true for long!

Our tunnel is large enough to support 8-way formations or nearly all 4-way blocks! We are projecting a flow in the region of 145mph which is enough power to cater for freely also.

It's 12 feet, octagonal, 7% larger than SkyVenture Orlando. This is fast becoming the standard, offering the ideal balance between safety, economy, skydiver requirement and practicality. The instructors can easily cover safety in a 12 ft diameter. The bigger the tunnel, the harder it gets – for every extra 2 feet, the instructor has to cover 44% more area! The cost of electricity is also a major consideration. 12ft can use up to 1,000hp – and that's with SkyVenture efficiency.

Most tunnel flying is with 1-2 people. Of team events, 4-way FS is most popular, 12 ft allows most 4 way blocks to be practiced. To train 8-way in the same way as 4-way in a tunnel would take 18-20 ft. Freely and sit fly are also heavily in demand so speed is important.

Finally, think practicality, imagine the heat you get from a car engine of 100BHP; now imagine how much 1000HP will generate! Any more than this becomes exponentially harder, Fort Bragg and Aerokart already suffer from high temperatures, with about 3000HP.

Are there any similar tunnels?

Not quite this big! However some science tunnels do occasionally let skydivers in. Design-wise the nearest example to ours would be Fort Bragg.

Yes, the most famous being SkyVenture Orlando and SkyVenture Perris Valley. A SkyVenture tunnel will open soon in Arizona, one is planned for Fort Bragg, and another seven are on the order books.

How many will it take?

4-ways will rattle in our tunnel – and we can accommodate 8-ways also. For more than 4 freeflyers there would need to be a high skill level. Did I mention we are the largest in the world?

4 people comfortably for FS. For freely it very much depends upon skill level, but 3-way is quite possible.

Where are you and why?

We are in Bedford – purely because it's where the MOD built it! But it is a very central location, only 30mins from Luton Airport and close to the M1.

At Xscape, the home of indoor skiing and other entertainment, in Milton Keynes. Great communication by road or public transport, centrally located with 6.5 million footfall, a huge market for non-skydiving customers, plenty of entertainment, restaurants, cafes, pubs and clubs and good local accommodation.

When will you be open?

We have our engineering team on site and are well under way. Our motor is being delivered in May and we could be open the first week in July. The exact date will be announced in June.

Construction is about to start as I write and we expect to be open by the last quarter this year.

What are your plans to keep it safe?

All flyers and instructors follow our safety programme which has been developed over the 14 years that our Swiss tunnel has been in operation. Usual safety equipment must be worn also. We offer training programmes which take people through safe progression and we verify the skills and experience of any instructor before they can coach in our facility.

The safety of our customers is our number one priority. SkyVenture in USA has instructors with thousands of hours and they have developed a training programme. Owing to the amount of tunnels springing up SkyVenture has funded the International Bodyflight Association (IBA) as a new, independent, non-profit organisation. Their mission is to develop programmes and write manuals for all instructor training & ratings, and later on for flyer & coach ratings. We pretty much have universal systems in skydiving, it's time to do the same in tunnel flying if we're serious about our customers. Craig Buxton, co-founder of Skydive U heads up the IBA and he's been working for several months with SkyVenture's top trainers – the manual is awesome.

How will I know if your instructors are any good?

The fact they have passed our instructor training is a first step! Our instructors undertake over 6 weeks in the tunnel training before they can progress. There is currently no independent tunnel rating system – however you do have the ability to watch people flying easily so you get an idea fairly quickly of who has flying skills!



The largest part of our recruitment process will not be based on flying skills. We aim to recruit the best coaches and not necessarily just the best flyers... so personal skills and personality count for a lot.

All SkyVenture Instructors will have a rating from levels 1 to 4 followed by Trainer level 1-4 and finally Examiner. We will use proven and qualified trainers from the USA until we become self sufficient in two years.

How much will it be to fly?

Although our price tariff is not set or published yet, I can say that it will range from £6 per min to £12 per minute, with the best rates for block/repeat bookings and members. A one-off three minute flight will obviously cost more per minute than a booking for an hour. We will also be offering a discount system where free time is given as tunnel time is accumulated.

Remember this cost can be shared with other flyers! Split between a 4-way team, training becomes very reasonable – you book the tunnel, not a flight.

Our tunnel will cost more than the USA equivalents (sadly we have VAT and higher prices in the UK) and less than the French tunnel – and that's before travel, accommodation, etc. We will be offering some great deals for skydivers, especially off-peak and block bookings. More importantly we will be offering the best learning possible to ensure that flyers get top value. Final prices have yet to be set so check the website for updates.

What proportion will be jumpers and non-jumpers?

It's very hard to predict. We're aiming our facility more at skydivers and hope they will make up 70%.

About 50:50 between public and professional (ie military, skydivers and tunnel camps). The good news is the revenue split will be closer to 63:37 in favour of the skydiving market (ie, 50% usage but only 37% revenue) which takes into account block booking discounts and the less intensive staff requirements.

What will you do, if anything, to convert tunnel flyers to skydiving?

We are speaking to DZ operators to integrate training and follow on referral from our visitors – hopefully tunnel time will be an asset to skydiver training and an introduction for newcomers to our sport.

We anticipate 25,000 individuals flying for the first time each year. The vast majority will never have made a skydive. We know from other tunnels that there is an appetite from this group to try the real thing, which we will feed. SkyVenture UK has already met with the BPA Development Committee to make this very point and we have stated that we are keen to work with the BPA to encourage the uptake of first time skydivers.

Do you see drop zones as partners or competitors?

Clearly this can be viewed either way; however I personally didn't stop

skydiving because I flew tunnel time and I don't think many people do! I hope to work closely with UK drop zones to enhance our sport whilst also providing a first class facility in its own right.

Sadly I think there is a feeling that we are competitive to DZs. I am more than confident that this is not the case. With UK tunnels, jumpers will stay more in the UK, so they will also jump more here. Tunnel flying is very expensive at the moment as it requires travel, accommodation, time off work, etc. UK tunnel flying means more money left for skydiving here. If you try something in the tunnel, you're keener to do it in the air. Tunnel flying will help in the off season. And what will we do with the 25,000 hot new prospects? My guess is, a lot of them will end up on a drop zone!

It will raise the game. Look at competitive 4-way since tunnel training, now UK has a better chance. I think we'll look back in a couple of years and find it is one of the best things that ever happened to UK skydiving.

Is the other UK tunnel complementary or competitive?

Mostly for me it's not a good thing! However with more tunnels and marketing more newcomers will be introduced to bodyflying. I am sure that we will both benefit from each other's marketing efforts. On the bright side we then have the ability to hold inter-tunnel competitions!

It can be viewed as both but it is very much competitive. The first thought will be that it is great for skydivers as it doubles the inventory and keeps the prices sharp. It's a shame we are so close but we do have a plan to launch new tunnels in other UK locations. I just hope it isn't a case of too much too soon too close.

Will tunnel flying become integrated with UK skydiving?

I think tunnel flying will play an important role for UK skydiving as a whole; the benefits are huge with UK teams having a level playing field for training and individuals learning increasing so that jumps can be fruitful when the sun shines. I also think AFF and student training programmes will benefit greatly in the same way.

I think skydiving has basically got a new discipline in the same way that freeflying and birdman have evolved. Most jumpers will try the tunnel and some will use it loads because they get what they want from it. We will integrate in other ways such as competitions for skydivers – who will have some non-skydivers to beat as well.

Are there any personalities involved?

Well, I can't claim to be a 'personality' for sure, although David and Bev are known a lot more on the DZ circuit.

Oh yes, and in tunnel flying they don't come much bigger than Rusty Lewis who most will know from the Orlando tunnel, Rusty has a reputation second to none in the bodyflying world. We have made



Simon Ward, SkyVenture UK, answers in blue

agreements with a new ladies 4-way team that includes Claire Scott (Sparky) from VMax – it is likely that some other VMax players will also be involved in coaching. Our World Champion in Speed Skydiving, Mark Calland is doing some projects with us and two of the greatest guys in UK skydiving, Al and Swifty are heavily involved. They will be involved with the general public and corporate groups – one of our aims is to raise the profile of UK skydiving and to assist in opportunities for our best athletes. This will be the first time you can really fly and participate with the people you are sponsoring and that's a big part of sponsorship.

How can our readers check progress?

We are keeping our website (www.bodyflight.co.uk) up to date with news, and sending out updates to people on our mailing list... also they can email or phone at any time!

Check out www.skyventure.co.uk or write to me, sward@skyventure.co.uk

Anything to add?

We are holding a competition to win a place in the opening hour flying plus lots of other goodies. Our launch party will be spectacular so visit our website to enter the competition or join our mailing list. If you are interested in working with us, we are looking for the right personalities and coaching skills... we provide (and pay for) our staff training so flight experience is not crucial. If you are interested in working for us, email david.sawyer@bodyflight.co.uk for an application form and attach your CV. I hope to get the chance to fly with a lot of people soon!

We have agreed to sponsor a new girls team for virtually unlimited tunnel time. They have a great competitive pedigree, they are committed and have a real chance of taking over from where VMax left off. We won't ask them to do anything but achieve their own goals to qualify for our support, which could be equivalent to 6,000+ jumps. This just doesn't happen without a wind tunnel and I hope it goes part way to demonstrating our commitment to the skydiving part of our business and our own attitude to have such a leap of faith. Rest assured, there will be many surprises to come yet and we hope that they all benefit the BPA membership.

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Canopy Piloting World Cup

The second World Cup of Canopy Piloting was originally scheduled for October 04. Then Hurricane Charlie devastated the Florida Skydiving Center at Lake Wales, damaging the buildings beyond repair and taking out the tail of the Otter. It was incredible, all the old drop zone buildings disappeared and only the concrete foundations of the hangar remained.

As a result the meet was postponed until February 2005. All facilities were now run out of trailers in the old trailer park. Nevertheless the DZ put on a great meet running two Otters across one of the best swoop ponds in the world for 70 competitors, 44 in the Open Class and 26 in the Intermediate Class, with 17 countries represented.

The UK Team

The Brits had a good turnout, originally with six competitors in the open event (Paul Gurteen, Mike Holmes, Chris Lynch, Martin Reynolds, Brian Vacher and Gary Wainwright), and two in intermediate (Ian Brown and Paul Rossouw). Some of the team turned up early to train. Martin Reynolds had a slight accident during one of the training runs and clipped a marker (doing an estimated 50 mph!) and broke his arm. This was obviously a huge disappointment for him and the team. It seemed that some of the markers used during training were too strong to break on impact and for this reason all markers were changed before the start of the meet to reduce the impact, making them similar to the ones used on the UK Swoop Tour.

Day One - Speed

The courses consisted of 70 metre carving runs, one left, one right, with the open using 1.5 metre gates and intermediate running 3 metre gates. Unfortunately the correct speed course was only set up the afternoon before the start of the competition. Gary Wainwright exited for his training run but had rigged his removable deployment system incorrectly; hence he immediately chopped his Velocity 90. As a result he didn't get to see the course until his competition run.

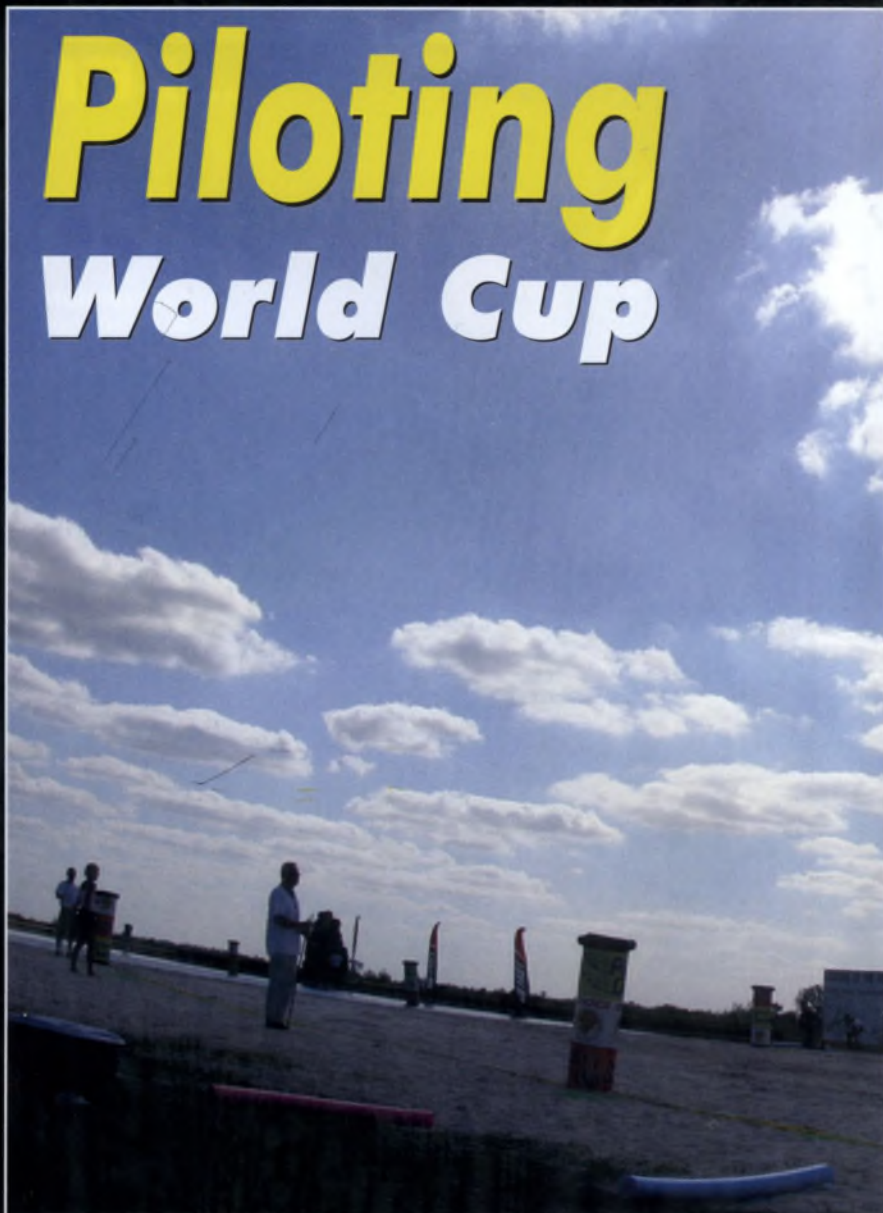
Brian Vacher was now feeling left out as he hadn't had a malfunction since New Year's Eve and was only totalling 10 to Gary's 11. Not to be outdone, after exiting on round one and relentlessly trying to kick out severe line twists, he cutaway and had to take a rejump. The pressure was on to find the canopy and get a repack in the 45 minute call (Many thanks to Bruno Brokken for his help!). The IPC rules only allow one malfunction during the meet so a packer was used from then on.

After two rounds there were two Brits in the top twenty in the open and two in the top four intermediates.

Day Two - Distance & Zone Accuracy

The distance courses again ran with 1.5 metre gates for the Open and 3 metre gates for the Intermediate. It was an eventful day. The previous world record of 132.85m, held by JC Colclasure was smashed three times; initially by Bruno Brokken with 133.67m, then shortly after by Shannon Pilcher with 145.48m, and then finally by Jonathan Tagle with his run of 146.24.

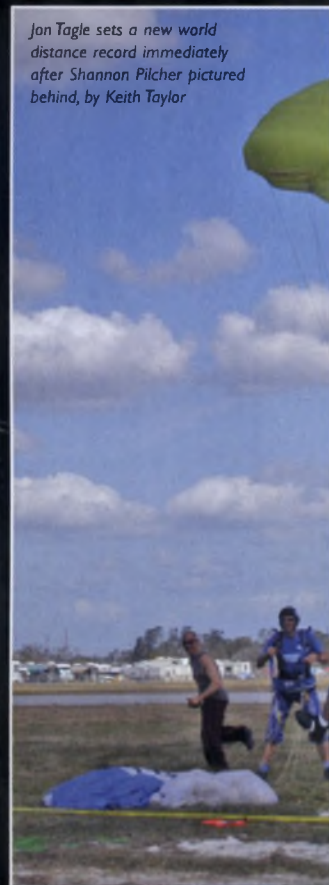
Things were happening in the UK camp too. Chris Lynch and Paul Gurteen both put in two solid distance runs but Michael Holmes and Ian Brown had verticals, entering above the level of the gate scoring zero).



Brian Vacher by Keith Taylor, KT Aerial Visuals



Jon Tagle sets a new world distance record immediately after Shannon Pilcher pictured behind, by Keith Taylor



Mike Holmes in the distance event, by Rusty Lewis



Jay Maledski by Francisco Neri



Jon Tagle by Francisco Neri



The competition pushed onto the zone accuracy event. Zone accuracy consists of four water gates, through which a competitor must drag a part of the body to score that gate, and six scoring zones with zone 3 giving the best score. The top four pilots in the open class all scored the perfect 100 points on both rounds. Brian Vacher fared well with two scores of 96 pushing him up to 13th place. Chris Lynch again had solid results which pulled him up the rankings to 20th place and into the semi-finals. Paul Gurteen, who had been very high in the overall rankings, unfortunately got busted to a zero on the first accuracy run after catching a foot in the dead zone. Despite this, he still made the cut and finished the day at rank 22. This left three Brits in the semi-finals of the open class.

At the end of the second day Paul Rossouw led the intermediate Class after two solid distance runs and two great zone accuracy runs. Unfortunately Ian Brown, who had been having an amazingly good meet, broke his wrist, committing to a zone accuracy landing. Despite his competition being over and not completing the final three rounds he still finished 8th in the intermediate class at the end of the competition.

Day Three – Intermediate Semi-Finals

Everyone watched the intermediate runs with anticipation as we tried to beat the weather early in the morning. Paul Rossouw, one of the last to leave the aircraft for the semi-finals, made the wise decision not to run the course as the cloud cover meant he was a long way from his usual set-up point. He was awarded a rejump. The weather came in but the intermediate semi-finals were still completed. Paul Rossouw dropped to third place with Pablo Hernandez from Spain taking the lead and Chris Johnston from USA in second place.

Day Five – Intermediate Finals & Open Semi-Finals

After a weather day, the winds finally came within limits for the open semi-finals and the intermediate finals. Chris Lynch had a strong distance round but finished in 21st place due to the ranking system. Paul Gurteen discovered the water and finished 22nd and Brian Vacher had a strong distance round but was pushed out of the final 11, again due to the ranking system, and finished in 12th place. In the intermediates Paul Rossouw finished with two strong zone accuracy rounds but it wasn't enough to beat Pablo Hernandez who took the gold.

Day Six – Open Finals

The top 11 competitors completed the final two zone accuracy rounds against a strong headwind. The PD Factory Team dominated the top three places with new team member, Jonathan Tagle taking a well earned gold medal. Team Icarus came 4th & 5th whilst newcomer John Zuliani from Canada finished strong in 9th place.

Jonathan Tagle takes gold

42-Way Formation

To celebrate the event a big formation jump was organised by the PD and Icarus teams. All the competitors jumped from a Casa and Twin Otter and pulled at 15,000 feet. The PD and Icarus teams provided a solid 8-way base whilst the competitors flew a huge X in non contact formation. This is believed to be a first as all pilots flew high performance cross-braced canopies with an average wing loading of 2.2!

Brian Vacher
brianvacher@yahoo.co.uk

Paul Rossouw in the distance event, by Keith Taylor



Results

Open

1	Jonathan Tagle	USA
2	Jay Moledzki	Canada
3	Shannon Pilcher	USA
12	Brian Vacher	UK
20	Chris Lynch	UK
22	Paul Gurteen	UK
28	Michael Holmes	UK
42	Gary Wainwright	UK

Intermediate

1	Pablo Hernandez	Spain
2	Paul Rossouw	UK
3	Chris Johnston	USA
8	Ian Brown	UK

Full results: www.canopypiloting.com

Senior top ten, by Francisco Neri





Intermediate winners Chris, Pablo and Paul by Brian Yacher



Paul Ranslow just makes zone 3 in accuracy, by Keith Taylor

"A good size pond is not an option. It is an absolute prerequisite. The spills were spectacular when pilots got it wrong. Without doubt if there was no pond they would have resulted in serious if not fatal injuries. All the pilots walked away from these spills without harm, to the oohs, aahs and applause of the crowd"

Canopy Piloting Commentary



I went to Lake Wales having never seen a swoop competition of any kind, let alone a full Canopy Piloting World Cup. I wanted to be educated as to the reality of what I perceived to be a potentially very exciting and challenging new discipline. I was not disappointed.

Spectator Appeal

CP is without doubt the one skydiving discipline that has real spectator appeal. It has excitement, speed, obvious skills, and the potential for spectacular spills. It's a bit like the Formula 1 equivalent of motor racing. Once a few hitches are sorted out about the time taken to change courses, public commentaries etc this is the way to go in bringing skydiving to the general public.

Safety

The safety measures in place to ensure no serious injuries occur are impressive, a bit like tyres, crash barriers and strict safety rules in Formula 1. A good size pond built to IPC standards is not an option. It is an absolute prerequisite. The spills were spectacular when pilots got it wrong. Without doubt if there was no pond they would have resulted in serious if not fatal injuries. All the pilots walked away from these spills without harm to the oohs, aahs and applause of the crowd. In fact the only injuries were to two Brit team members which were freak and minor arm injuries. How odd is that in a skydiving competition?

Pride

I was immensely impressed and proud of the delegation's performance and the manner in which they conducted themselves. They were truly professional even in the face of utter disappointment in picking up those two injuries. Some I knew, others I met for the first time; all were a credit to the BPA and their country. As always the rest of the world had an immense respect for the Brits, especially as they knew that they had achieved their standards self funded while competing against full time professional teams. It was obvious to me that the athletes on the Canopy Piloting circuit have a huge amount of camaraderie. It reminded me of the accuracy circuit in the 1980's around the world, when I was with the Mustgetbeers: really good vibes.

The Future

I would like the BPA to become one of the world leaders in CP but we must be pragmatic. We need a UK DZ prepared to take on the Local Authority Councils and get permission to build a pond that complies with all the standing water regulations, planning permission, etc. We have offers from all around the world to help and advise on how to set up courses, once we have built the necessary pond to IPC minimum standards – have no doubt this is a BIG pond! I can co-ordinate those offers but we need this pond. For the DZ that is prepared to take on the local government regulations I believe the long term financial reward in terms of media interest, CP competitions, training and so on will be worth the short term effort.

This will not happen this year unless we are very lucky. In 2006 there is the first World Championship in CP. I would like to send a strong team but how should we select as we have no Canopy Piloting UK Nationals (we have no pond!) I have devised a plan with Brian: we will select the Brit team from the results of the senior event at a second World Cup that IPC have decided to run this year in Austria. (Note - there is no intermediate event at a World Championship so, to be considered, an athlete must be eligible to enter the open class.) There is still an intermediate class at this second World Cup in August 2005. I would encourage as many people as possible to contact Brian Vacher or Chris Lynch to find out more about how to enter. Remember: the intermediates of today become the champions of tomorrow.

John Smyth, Head of Delegation





UK delegation Gary, John, Paul G, Paul R, Mikey, Brian, Chris and Ian, by Bruno Brokken



Chris Lynch by Keith Taylor



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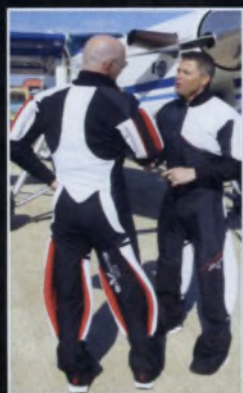


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2005 DIARY OF EVENTS

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May

1st

F-GODZ Turbine Porter arrives for the summer. Open everyday for the summer season until **12th-Sept.**

14th - 15th

BPA 8 Way FS Grand Prix Competition

30th May to 3rd June

Student Progression week

Date TBC

Chris Lynch Wingtips course

June

18th - 19th

BPA Canopy Formation & Classics Grand Prix Competition

18th

DZ Party, Disco and BBQ

18th - 26th

Freely Festival

25th

DZ Party, Disco and BBQ

July

Date TBC

Summer Ball

18th - 22nd

Student Progression week

Date TBC

Craig Poxon, Wingsuit introduction weekend

August

Date TBC

Tim Porter Freely Coaching

Date TBC

Mark Calland, Speed Weekend

29th to 2nd Sept

Student Progression week

September

10-11th

Final Turbine Weekend & DZ Party
BPA Freely Skills Roadshow

12th

F-GODZ Turbine Porter Departs

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Beginning 8-way

The top three Brit 8-way teams joined forces to write this guide to get you started, especially 4-way jumpers who fancy a bit of 8-way

Interest in 8-way has grown year on year. In 2004 ten teams competed at the 8-way Nationals. Compare this to 2000 when just one team competed! This growth is largely down to VNE, who got behind the 2003 and 2004 Grand Prix 8-way circuit, travelling to almost all the events coaching teams.

Getting Into 8-way

Grand Prix competitions are a great introduction to 8-way – either come with a ready-made team, or turn up anyway and join a scratch team. There will always be experienced jumpers on hand who are happy to advise, coach or even join in.

GP draws use both the senior (complete) IPC dive pool and the intermediate dive pool, which just contains the simpler randoms and blocks. It's easier on your memory, as each dive is only 3-4 points. This gives you more time and more reps on each block. A little practice with this pool will instill the basics in your group – exit, fall rate, levels and awareness. The more complicated formations in the senior pool will build nicely once you have established this foundation.

Now there are **no jump limits for the intermediate category** at the Nationals. To qualify you just need to not be an experienced or highly trained team.

Why Do 8-way?

8-way is a wonderfully varied dive pool as there are many possible subdivisions. Some moves involve four 2-way pieces, others two 4-ways, two 3-ways & two singletons, or eight individual flyers. The combinations make for great visuals, it is a lot of fun to set up two 4-ways side by side. Your slots and jobs will be very varied. You even have time to appreciate the visuals, especially on the hill, as with 8 people this effect is magnified.

It is a great event for instilling discipline. 8-way simply will not work unless you fly to references rather than grips. Regular 8-way definitely improves your 4-way; half of VNE won a bronze 4-way nationals medal in 2003, without a single 4-way training jump.

You will see improvements in each other's flying skills, alertness, and discipline, benefiting all your other skydiving activities. The mental training of competitive FS will carry through to every area of your life.

Competition is challenging. It's one thing to perform well on a skydive, quite another to maintain that standard over a full 10 rounds of a meet. But, if you're prepared to work at it, taking home a Nationals medal could be a realistic goal for you.

8-way is fun! As with anything worthwhile, it sometimes requires hard work but this is the joy of a new challenge.

Not Like 4-way!

If you've done 4-way, you're in a good position to try 8-way. You have team discipline, mental focus and skills. You're probably used to going much faster than you'll need or want to in 8-way. But it isn't 'just like 4-way' at all...

You can get away with a lot in 4-way: docking with momentum, grabbing grips, a shaky or turning point so you key it and move on. An 8-way formation is more fragile so you need more discipline.

With 8 people, the fall rate may not be your ideal. You'll need a greater range, anticipation and the skills to recover quickly from a level change.

Be prepared for everything – dirt-dives, debriefs, team discussions – to take four times as long. You have twice as many people to make suggestions, then twice as many people to talk about them.

Unlike 4-way you don't have to stick in each others' pockets all the time. You can do your own thing occasionally, or split into smaller groups of 2-4 people.

8-way Exit

In 4-way you can fly any first point out of the door; in 8-way there's just not the room. Stick to one exit. Even VNE use one exit 90% of the time.

Be strong and assertive but not aggressive about your exit stance. VNE's exit motto – if you're comfortable, you're taking up too much room! Whatever your position in the door, and it may not always be ideal, be determined about presenting both yourself and the whole chunk to the relative wind. Everyone needs to fly the formation on the relative wind before moving or gripswitching to the first point.

The best way to learn an 8-way exit is a thorough brief from an experienced coach; Grand Prix (GP) events are ideal.

Dive Pool

Just like 4-way, the pool consists of randoms (single formations) and blocks (two formations, linked by a defined move, the inter). The rules and judging are also pretty much the same as 4-way.

Understand that the high degree of difficulty in the dive pool, and the presence of slow blocks will translate into much lower averages than you would expect on a weekend 8-way jump.



Photos of Box of Frogs by Brian Knight



Airspeed by Mike McGowan



8-way has many interesting blocks, like building these tees side-by-side



CANADIAN TEES



Paying attention to levels and cross referencing will mean you can even build the more complicated formations



HOPE DIAMOND

Box of Frogs by
Brian Knight



Our continuity plan is colour-coded
according to the exit slots shown here



Craig Girard's golden rule – build the centre first



There are four centre slots and four flakers,
paired together as piece partners

Continuity Plan

The continuity plan provides a starting point to 'puzzle' the dive, ie, decide who goes where. At the end of this article we have printed a continuity plan, colour-coded, based on a standard exit and showing the first point in relation to exit slots. It is based on *Airspeed's* plan but modified for inexperienced teams and one standard exit.

Slots

Everyone has their own job, or A slot, defined by their place on exit, each has its own specific traits. Practice in a particular slot will allow you to become expert. We can roughly divide an 8-way team into four centre people and four outside, flaker people.

Centre 4

Working the centre has a lot of responsibility, you are in charge of setting the fall rate, pace, angles and indeed emotions of the entire skydive. The centre must pay close attention to the centrepiece and heading of each formation. Be precise: just a few degrees out in the middle means an extra few feet for the outside to fly.

It is very important to make your moves with confidence, this gives a clear picture for the outsides. Being hesitant will cause the flakers to start second-guessing. Be calm but make your move quickly and exactly, then be solid.

Two of the centre people (Blue and Orange) set up and key most of the formations, each checking half the formation before making eye contact and keying together. This is a distinct skill and cannot be underestimated. The entire feeling of the skydive radiates out from the centre, a key can be dynamic and pick up the pace of the team or it can be calming and settle everyone down. Orange and Blue must be mentally alert and have a good awareness of the entire picture, this is probably the best place for the most experienced jumpers.

The other two centres (Pink and Yellow) have most of the centre fun – er, out-facing slots – and must be confident and precise. Complete any turns, working with your opposite before even looking out for grips.

Never sacrifice accurate centre work to pick up grips.

Craig Girard's golden rules of 8-way:

Rule 1: Build the centre first.

Rule 2: Let the centre build.

Outside 4

The outside people need to be precise, to have a good fall rate range and to react quickly, especially to level changes. Know who is the set-up for each point and fly relative to them as well as referencing your clone (who should be doing the same thing). See the centre build before you pick up your own grips.

For the most efficient move it makes sense to face all the formations in the same direction, towards what we call by convention the point. Point (Green) is front floater and the person at the top of the formation, often facing out, sometimes for several formations in a row. Make your move confidently and stop; trust yourself, rather than correcting for non-existent mistakes. Understand you will not be able to see all of the formation but trust that the pictures you have are enough. This is a good slot for a confident skydiver.

Tail (Purple) is rear floater and generally at the back of the formation, facing in. Often they have the same grips on consecutive points so must be extra aware to see the key, drop grips and watch a complete break before picking up the grips of the next formation. As the formations face away from you, the centres will be more likely to favour the point so you must be quick to improvise if needed.

The other two outsides (Grey and Cyan) probably have the most straightforward slots with very few switchers so this is a good place to put relatively inexperienced people.

Jade/Yellow and Purple/Pink will get the majority of the slot switchers so it is important they have a good memory. The slots are not rigid, the nature and enjoyment of 8-way is that everyone trades places every once in while.

Fly With Your Piece Partner

Each outside flaker is paired with a centre person, whom they will fly with in most of the blocks which split into four 2-way pieces. You are piece partners and will need to work at flying together, communicating with each other through the grips and of course on the ground.

Do not try to do your piece partner's move for them. Just do your own move and have confidence in your team-mate. The interesting thing is that you fly closely, intimately even, with your piece partner – yet never make eye contact with them, instead you should be always watching the person opposite you, your clone.

Reference Your Clone

Everyone's job is to see and fly with their clone through the entire skydive. Sometimes you'll be doing the same move, other times not. It's like a dance of two people, getting the right level, angle and distance from your clone, on every move, so that the other six fit in without effort.

As you practise this skill you'll find it easier to know exactly what is happening across the formation. Looking across the formation to your clone you will correct levels naturally whereas having blinkered eyes on just your own end of the skydive will make any problems worse. Expanding your horizons to a level of awareness of the whole formation is what will really lift your team to a new level.

Non-continuity

Your piece partner is the person you're most likely to get swapped with at the bottom of a block. Their slot is your B slot (and vice-versa). If this occurs you're going to spend the second page (second time through the drawn sequence), in your piece partner's slot. VNE often take a swing move (longer transition to get back into slot) as the repetition you get on the second page can make this a high scoring sequence.

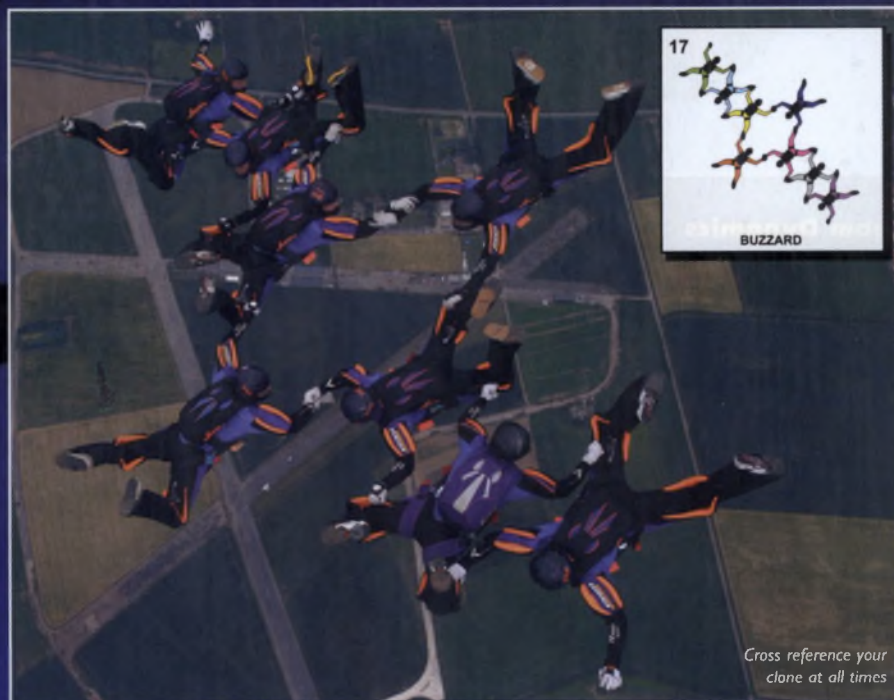
Each dive must be considered on its own merits and for the experience of the specific team. For many this intellectual challenge is what makes 8-way really fascinating.

Keys

Remember who keys each point. Build this into your mental dirt-dive, be looking at them and react quickly. It's easy to bust on not showing total separation between points, far more than 4-way. Everyone must react and move in sync, think 'electric shock grips'! Anticipate the key and be aware of exactly where you are going to next.

Making Your Move

Take pride in your move, be positive, confident and precise. Stop as hard as you moved. Come to a complete halt before you pick up grips. Docking with just a tiny amount of momentum has huge consequences for your team-mates. Build a good, solid, nicely shaped formation, especially at the start of a block move. Taking the extra second to make it symmetrical and shaped well will shave time off the block move.



Photos of VNE by Andy Wright



Even if it all goes wrong, good eyes and communication into the centre will sort it out

Team Dynamics

Committing time and money, setting goals, tolerating each other and good communication are vital, even more so than 4-way.

Mathematicians out there will know that within an 8-way team (9 people) there are 36 possible pairings ($8+7+6+5+4+3+2+1 = 36$). Each of those relationships is important and should be nurtured.

Be Patient

- Listen and to try not to speak over each other. Rock sessions are good for this but make it your usual practice. Don't fall into the 'everyone's talking but no-one's listening' trap!
- Efficiency on the ground is necessary to get everyone in the air. In 8-way, letting everyone have a say in the debrief is generally time-wasting. Best to let someone run it, focussing only on specific improvements.
- It helps to have someone whose job is to say, "Enough, let's move on!". Many teams each take a turn at being 'captain' for the day. This means everybody gets to experience how hard that job is!
- It's everyone's responsibility to co-operate with whoever is in charge. If you've agreed to meet up at a particular time, be there. It only takes one person to be 'just' getting a coffee, and there are 7 peed off people who might have liked to do the same. If you are 10 minutes late that's 1 hour 10 minutes of everyone else's time wasted!
- Get a coach: obvious for a training camp but also do it for 8-way weekends. A coach has priceless knowledge which could save your skydive. People will more readily listen to a coach, accept advice and generally behave constructively. This leaves you free to concentrate on your own skydiving.
- Use the five minute rule... if you feel like criticising your team-mate, wait five minutes

Om by Gary Wainwright



Get a coach whenever possible or ask someone with 8-way experience to help

and see if it's still so important. Better still, keep it until the rock session. Time is a great healer.

- Be patient while dirt-diving. If someone has a slot-switcher the dirt-dive will need twice as many reps to go through the second page. That person may be making more mistakes – be supportive.
- Be patient when people suggest alternative moves. There is often more than one way of puzzling a dive. Work through one plan all the way to the end, even if you don't think it's a good one; then go back and try another option. When the decision is made (normally by the captain of the day), everyone must buy into the plan.
- Be patient with whoever is giving keys. You have one move to remember on each point – they have 4 or 5 mental steps (Grip, check this, feel that, make eye contact over there, key it), and may need extra minutes on the ground.
- Some people take longer to pack than others; that's just life! Deal with it. Help them by getting them a coffee while you get your own, they can help you by not faffing!

- Take responsibility for the team vibe. Lift your team-mates when they need it. In time it will be returned. Let your vibe dictate the jumps, not the jumps dictate the vibe.

- Be forgiving of mistakes. Stick your hand up when you make one. Foster an environment where you can all shine because you are not afraid of making an error.

- Remember bad days are almost invariably followed by excellent days. They are the route to your goal. To grow you need to move out of your comfort zone.

- Respect each other. Different personalities bring different things to the team. Value rather than resent your differences. They are needed to make a balanced team. Vive la difference!

- Be honest, open and communicative with the team. Nurture your relationship with each team member and take time to fix it if needed. This life skill will spill over positively into your personal, work and family relationships.

Sick Woodhull, Lesley Gale and Ian 'Stumpy' Matthews

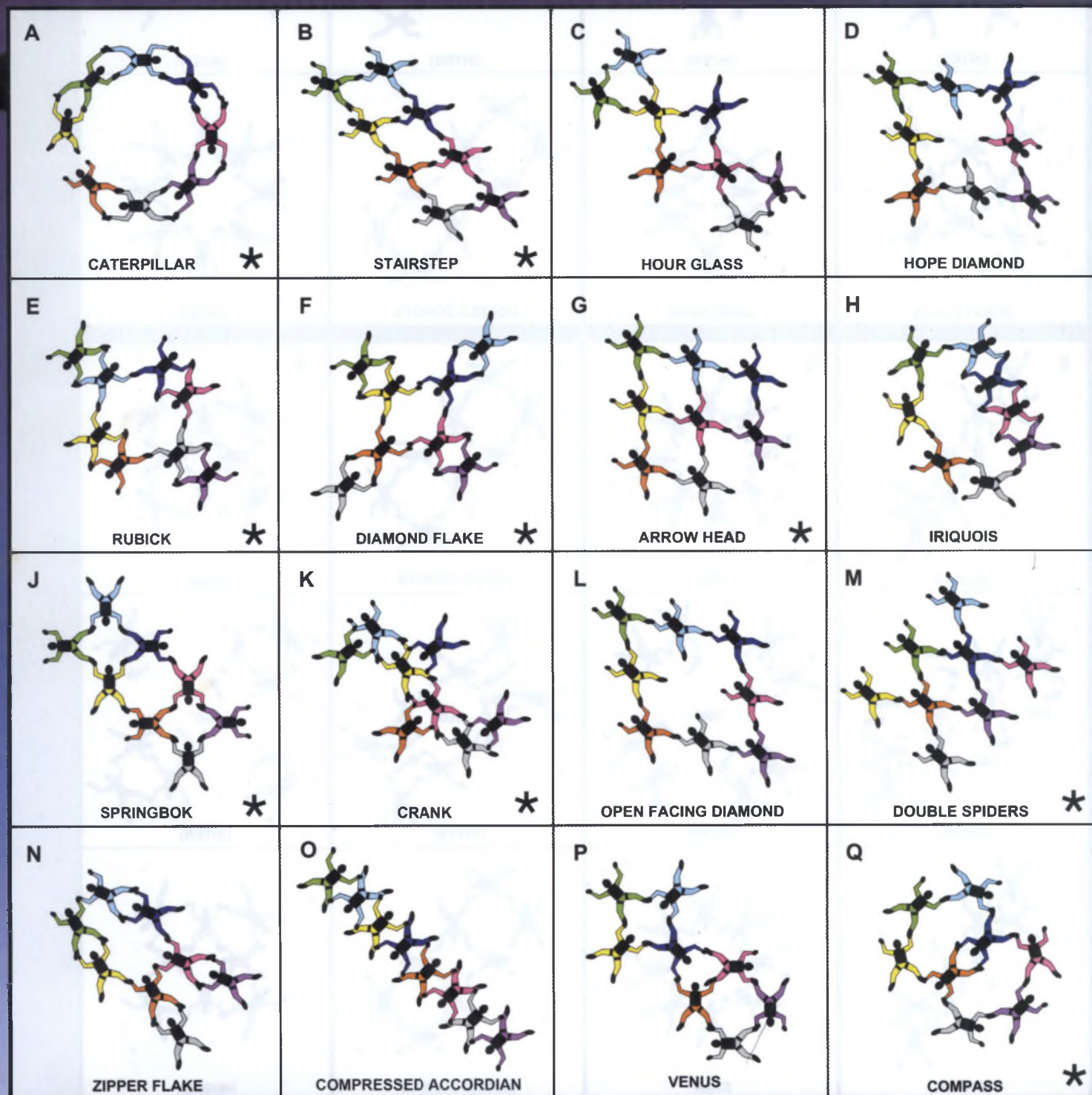
Continuity Plan

This is a continuity plan for 8-way based on that used by Arizona Airspeed but modified for less experienced teams. The colours are shown on the standard exit to right, where the five floaters from the front of the aircraft are Green, Yellow, Orange, Grey and Purple; the three divers are Cyan, Blue and Pink. This plan will keep Blue and Orange doing most of the keys.

The direction of turn is indicated for the block move. Note this is **not** the same as in the IPC dive pool, where often turns are marked in any possible direction. Blocks and randoms with a number of options are marked with *. We have given a suggested plan for the randoms but these are all possible variables when puzzling a dive, build a non-standard random to assist you to get back into slot when needed. The blocks which swap some people are indicated.

Use the plan as a starting point when walking through the dive. Try this standard version first, walk it all the way through. Then you may want to consider other options which may better suit the specific dive and your team, such as swing moves.

Thanks to Airspeed, VNE and Omniskore



* Other standard variations

1 <i>Slot switcher</i> DONUT FLAKE *	2 SWISS BEAR	3 DOUBLE CHINESE TEES	4 <i>Slot switcher</i> SNOWFLAKE
(INTER)	(INTER)	(INTER)	(INTER)
DONUT FLAKE	SWISS BEAR	DOUBLE DONUTS	IN-OUT
5 WAGGA	6 STAR	7 BIPOLE DONUTS	8 FRISBEE
(INTER)	(INTER)	(INTER)	(INTER)
WAGGA	STAR	BIPOLE DONUTS	FRISBEE

9

Slot switcher



TAJ

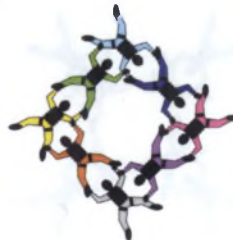
10



DONUT *

11

Slot switcher



NORWEGIAN BOX

12

Slot switcher



STEREO BIPOLE



(INTER)



(INTER)



(INTER)



(INTER)



MAHAL



DONUT



NORWEGIAN DONUT



STEREO BIPOLE

13



DOUBLE SATELLITE

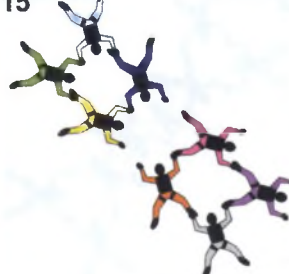
14



ACCORDIAN

15

Slot switcher



OPAL & ZIPPER

16

Slot switcher



CANADIAN TEES



(INTER)



(INTER)



(INTER)



(INTER)



DOUBLE SATELLITE



OPPOSED STAIRSTEPS



ZIPPER & OPAL



MONOPODS



BUZZARD



SIDEBODY DONUT *

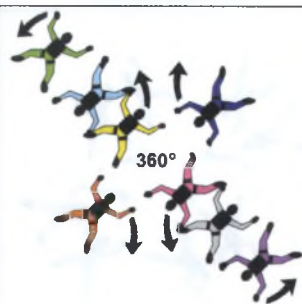


COMPRESSED DIAMONDS



CAT DIAMOND

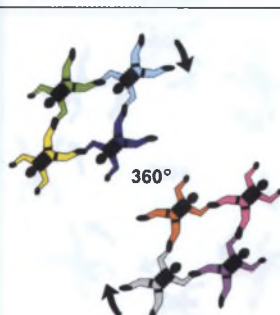
Slot switcher



(INTER)



(INTER)



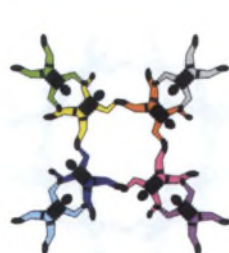
(INTER)



(INTER)



BUZZARD



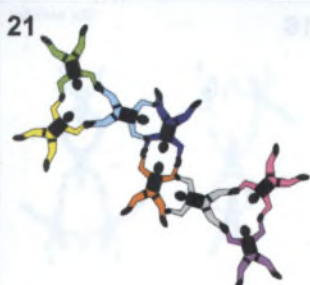
SIDEBODY DONUT



COMPRESSED DIAMONDS



CAT-ACCORDIAN

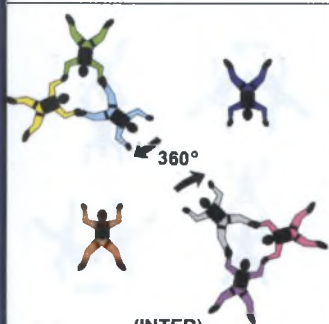


LEGO



OLD BONE

Slot switcher



(INTER)



(INTER)



EYE



COMPRESSED STAIRSTEP DIAMONDS

Top 8-way Tips

In The Air

- Build the centre first
- Let the centre build
- Fly with your clone (do the dance!)
- Fly to references not grips
- Be calm and smooth
- Stop completely before taking a grip
- Build clean randoms
- Know where the key is coming from
- Electric shock grips
- Start blocks with a good first point
- Trust your partner when piece flying

On The Ground

- Be on time
- Be patient
- Know when to bite your lip!
- Get coaching whenever you can
- Never forget you are here for fun!

BPA Intermediate 8-way pool

Randoms B, F, G, J, K, M, N, P

Blocks 1, 4, 6, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21

Download Continuity Plan

This senior 8-way continuity plan and one for intermediate 8-way can be downloaded in PDF format from:

www.skydivemag.com

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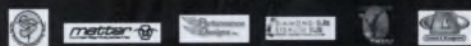
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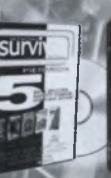
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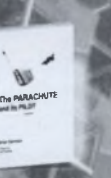
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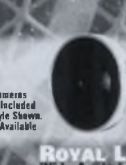
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Renewal Reminder

If you haven't yet renewed your BPA membership, you need to do so now. A renewal form was inserted into the February Mag. More forms are available from the BPA website or office and from DZs. The June Mag will only go to BPA members, so renew NOW!

Insurance Abroad

From 1 April 2005, the coverage of the BPA insurance policy will be reduced from £2m to £100,000 at overseas non-affiliated drop zones, excluding the USA, where the policy (as previously) does not apply. The limit will remain at £2m for Affiliated Clubs. As before, the policy does not provide cover for instructor negligence at non-affiliated clubs.

Also as before, BPA insurance does not include personal accident cover. The BPA strongly recommends that all members who jump overseas should take out their own personal accident travel insurance policy which includes cover for skydiving, with repatriation to the UK in the event of an emergency. It should also include equipment and baggage cover. See BPA website for more info.

Classics & CF Nationals

The Style, Accuracy and CF Nationals will be a combined event, Mon 5 - Fri 9 Sept. at NWPC, Cark, and are the selection Nationals for the World Meet in 2006.

New Ratings

CSBI
Duncan Humphreys
Andy Clark
Simon Bristow
Paul Dunn
Hannah Swallow
Colin Whyte
Graham Harrison
Alex Wilson
Rick McSpadden
Lloyd Green
Chris Ivory
Kevin Johnson
Jeff Cook
Glenn Coleman
Daniel Schmidt
Edward Paxton
Gervais Henderson

CSI
Stuart Murtha
Chris Cox
Darryl Gardiner
Andrew Lovemore
Robert Brown
Wayne Clark
Eric Bazin-Laziou

Advanced Instructor
Stuart Meacock

Examiner
Alan Wilkinson

Competitions Reps

Artistics	Nigel Holland
CF	Ian Marshall
Style & Accuracy	Geordie Page
FS	Andy Scott
Canopy Piloting	Jim White
Speed Skydiving	BPA Office

To contact your rep, see email addresses, page 1

Royal Aero Club Awards

Congratulations to recipients of the RAeC Awards 2004, presented by HRH The Duke of York at the National Army Museum, London in February. The Prince of Wales Cup was awarded to The Red Devils, a Bronze Medal to Derek Thomas and Certificates of Merit to Rob Noble-Nesbitt & Trudy Kemp.



Trudy Kemp



Derek Thomas & son Kyle



www.bpa.org.uk
Tel: 0116 278 5271

Main photo is Ricochet, by Andrew Lovemore

Freely Grand Prix

2004 saw the biggest attendance ever for the Artistics Nationals so we have decided to hold two Artistic Grand Prix. Initially only in freely, but in future we'd include freestyle & skysurf if there is a demand. Just like the other disciplines, points from the Nationals and GPs will go towards an Overall Freely Champion, in 'A' and 'B' categories. The A category includes head-up and head-down whilst the B category is just head-up, but both categories can include flat, back-flying, tracking, Atmonauti, or anything else you can think of!

The GPs kick off on 30 April at the Langar Boogie, I'm confident they will run smoothly together and I hope people will make the most of the competitions. As it's only freely the meet shouldn't use all three days of the bank holiday.

Alti-2 Official Freely Sponsor



I am proud to announce that the 2005 Grand Prix Freely B category are being sponsored by Alti-2, makers of the Neptune audible and visual altimeter. The Overall Freely B top three will win a great goodie bag! So come and compete for your chance to WIN! These events are in the diary, inside the back cover, (in pink for Artistic).

Freely Feedback

2004's Nationals were a tremendous success and this year should be just as popular. I will be rewriting the rules very soon and would like to hear from teams that competed in the B category with any ideas on how things can be improved.

Artistics Roadshows

We will be holding a number of roadshows throughout the country, providing everybody with the option to try out or improve their skills in freely. In previous years we've had no interest in freestyle or skysurf, but if you would like coaching in these disciplines then contact me, these are led by demand. All DZs were given the option to request a roadshow. Coaches lined up so far include Tim Porter & Rob Silver.

Keep up to date with Artistics goings-on at my dedicated page:

www.bpa.org.uk/artisticcompsnews.htm

Nigel Holland

DROP ZONE OPERATORS FORUM

The Development Committee, chaired by Kieran Brady, hosted the first forum run especially for drop zone operators. It was a mixture of presentations and open discussion, including guest speakers and covered topics such as risk assessment, incident management, insurance, licensing and marketing. More importantly the open forum provided an excellent opportunity for frank and open discussions.



33 participants, including BPA Chairman, Officers, Development Committee members and representatives of 16 DZs were treated to an excellent carvery buffet lunch kindly and generously sponsored by Skydive Strathallan. Based on the excellent feedback from this meeting, the committee plans to hold further forums, 1-2 times a year.

DZs represented	16
Overall satisfaction	84%
Wanted more forums	100%

Quotes

"Let's have another one!"
Ian Rosenvinge, Peterlee

"An excellent day with some great information" Mike Rust, North London

"Recommend these are held twice yearly"
Martin Harris, London

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Photo: The waterproof CYPRES 2 casing



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by
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Colpus



Super Viper

Thomas Sports Equipment has announced a brand new version of their popular Teardrop Superfly harness/container system, which will keep the UK's only rig manufacturer at the cutting edge of harness/container design for the foreseeable.

On display at the BPA's AGM in January and named the Viper, this latest manifestation of the Teardrop features 'cut-in' lateral straps, which are becoming available now on more and more containers, and were first introduced to the market by the Javelin Odyssey. The idea behind cut-in laterals is that the main container fits more snugly into the small of the wearer's back due to the lateral straps emerging from closer to the centre of the container than from its corners.



TSE's brand-new release, the Viper



Cut-in laterals keep the Viper fitting snugly



Boxed-in corners offer extra security

The new Viper also features more boxed-in bottom corners to the main container which afford more security for the BOC and which hide the throwaway bridle effectively.

TSE have also announced that their range of containers now come standard with all state-of-the-art options, including full stainless steel hardware with hip rings, kill-line pilot chute, hacky sack or freefly pad and hook knife. Teardrop, Superfly or Viper embroidered logos on the side flaps are available at no extra cost.

TSE
01262 678299
www.thomas-sports.com

Rainbow Rings



ParaSport SA, the small Spanish company which 18 months ago gave us a rubber stow band very similar to SkySystem's Tube Stoe, is now offering them in a variety of different colours. The middle size of the company's three Tubular Rings is now available in pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple and dark purple. There is a slight increase in price for the coloured bands.

ParaSport SA
www.para-sport.com/AT/item_0_eng.htm

Making Waves

Alti-2 Inc has developed a baby brother, audible only version of their popular Neptune audible/visual altimeter. Called the Neptune Wave the new device is intended as "an economic solution for jumpers who are already using a Neptune as a visual altimeter with logbook functions, and need a second device for use as an audible only."



The Wave has four groups of personalised audible alarm settings, each group has three programmable alarms. Like its older brother the Wave is waterproof down to 6 feet of water, is selectable in feet or meters, has a user friendly menu system and a swoop mode canopy alarm. The new toy is also equipped with an infrared interface for updating firmware. Software updates will be available from Alti-2's website.

The only physical difference between a Neptune and a Neptune Wave is that the Wave has white buttons. The Wave is available for about 75% of the cost of an audible/visual Neptune.

Alti-2
www.alti-2.com

Neptune Support

For those of you who own a Neptune audible alti and data processor, Alti-2 Inc has set up and registered a number of field support personnel in various countries whose job it is to relay any feedback or problems back to the company and to assist owners with the upgrades which can be downloaded from Alti-2's website. We reported on the swoop mode upgrade in the December issue of your favourite column. UK support agents are listed at:

www.alti-2.com/FieldSupportLocatorPages/_United_Kingdom.htm

Visor-bility

The Mamba is the latest offering from those innovative helmet experts from California - Bonehead Composites. Known more for their popular range of carbon fibre composite open-faced helmets, Bonehead has now, with the Mamba, gone flat out to grab a slice of the full-face helmet market.

Looking very much like a Parasport Italia Z1 the Mamba features a unique visor opening and locking system which involves simply pressing on both sides of the visor to release a pin, which is located in an aluminium plate at the forehead of the helmet. To close you simply pull down the visor and the pin clicks into place.

The helmet's padded lining has openings over both ears for internal audibles and the very neat, all round neck closure is constructed from neoprene with a fastex buckle under the chin. The Mamba comes with a professionally treated anti-fog lens.



The Mamba

Bonehead
www.boneheadcomposites.com

It's all a Mirage

Following a recent incident involving a Russian 4-way FS team, Mirage Systems issued a product service bulletin requiring the relocation of the AAD 'cutter' from one flap to another on all of their Mirage sport rigs, including the G3, G4, and RTS models. The work must be carried out by a master rigger.

The Russian team which precipitated this action had lost track of altitude and opened their main canopies at a very low altitude. When they got to the ground two of them discovered that their Cypres AADs had fired but the reserve containers on their Mirage systems had not opened. After inspection and further investigation by both Mirage and Airtec, the Cypres manufacturer, it was found that the malfunction could be duplicated if the closing loop was too long or made from the wrong material, and/or unlubricated. The root of the problem appears to be that the closing loop is cut some distance from the ripcord pin when the AAD cutter is located, as per the manual, underneath the No 1 flap upon which the pilot chute sits. This means that the cut length of loop has to thread its way through the pilot chute and the six grommets that lie above it. The pilot chute must

is opened manually by pulling the ripcord. They also stated that the cutter location they were using is also used by many other manufacturers with similar reserve containers with internal pilot chutes, and was approved by Airtec. The company felt that although the No1 flap location works well when the loop length and material is correct the risk of a jam-up is still a possibility if the loop is excessively long. Instead of being stacked on top of one another above the cutter, the grommets will usually spread out, requiring the cut loop to negotiate a high-friction, convoluted route when the AAD fires. Putting the cutter above the pilot chute means that the cut loop passes through only four grommets therefore reducing the potential for a jam-up.

The downside to the new cutter location is entirely aesthetic. With the cutter mounted above the pilot chute it becomes very difficult to hide the resultant lump from view and unless the reserve packer is very diligent and skilled an uneven and ugly pack-job could result.

Other rig manufacturers with similar 'internal' pilot chute reserve containers are looking at

push/pull the cut loop through all these grommets, whilst pushing aside the flaps through which the loop has yet to run, before it can launch from the container. If the loop is particularly long, stiff and/or unlubricated a jam-up is possible and this seems to have been the case with the two Russians.

Mirage Systems was keen to stress that this is not a grounding nor is it a recall, nor are there any concerns when the container

the problem although at the time of writing none have issued statements. Containers with an external 'pop top' pilot chute such as the Teardrop or Racer are not affected by this problem as the cutter is located almost on top of the ripcord pin at the bottom of the container and the long end of the cut loop is pulled through four grommets by the pilot chute which itself has no flaps to push aside.

Mirage Systems
001 386 740 9222

www.miragesys.com/ProductInfo/ServiceBulletins.aspx

Cheaper Pros

Larsen & Brusgaard, the Danish manufacturers of the ubiquitous Pro-Track and Pro-Dytter audible altimeters, has announced a radical drop in price for both the above devices.

The recommended retail price for the two very popular items has been reduced by 20% to 30%. At the same time the company announced the intention to release some brand-new products onto the market later this year. They assure us that they are not planning to discontinue the Pro-Track or Pro-Dytter.

Larsen & Brusgaard
www.L-and-B.dk



This'll Glow On You!

Nitepalm, a company from Dorset, has developed a small device which glows in the dark without batteries or charging by sunlight. Called GlowRing this 5cm x 1cm light is made up of an unbreakable, clear but tinted polycarbonate casing enclosing a state-of-the-art technology called Gaseous Tritium Light Sources (GTLs) which never needs batteries or sunlight – it just glows in the dark – all the time, and will continue to do so for ten years!



A GlowRing attached to a main riser during a night cutaway would make finding the cutaway canopy a lot easier and several GlowRings liberally spread around the jumper's body may also be of assistance on a dark night, although the standard cyalume is bigger and brighter. The GlowRing can be seen from 50ft although it is not bright enough however to adequately illuminate an altimeter face.

Nitepalm
www.niteproducts.com

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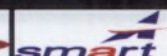
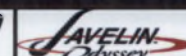
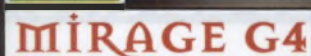
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skydive
April 2005

JACK FOWLER

Jack Fowler measuring Yorkie's accuracy



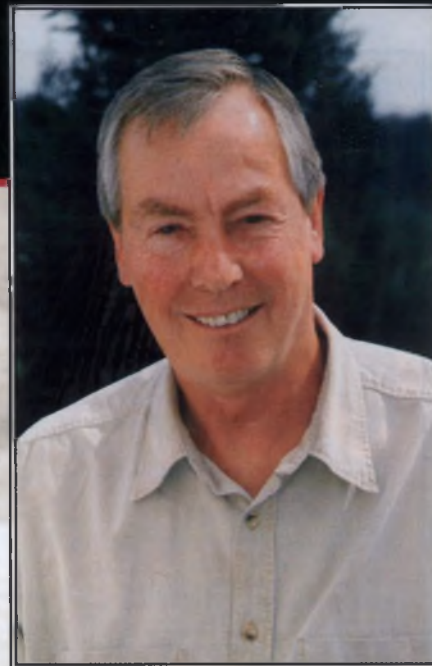
In common with everyone who knew him I'm sure, I can't think of Jack without remembering his infectious smile. Even last September at the Red Devils 40th birthday party, when it was obvious that he was struggling physically, his smile lit up his corner of the room. It was a shining beacon that touched all our hearts and continues to remind us of his amazing courage and fortitude throughout a life which was beset with considerably more than its fair share of turbulence and sadness.

Jack joined the Army as a boy soldier in the Royal Engineers aged fifteen. As an adult he passed 'P' Company, qualified as a military parachutist and joined 9 Squadron, the elite sapper unit of 16 Parachute Brigade. It was here that he started skydiving under the guidance of Mick Turner and Bob Runacres. In 1963 he met Ann – allegedly at the Naafi Club in Aldershot. Ann was then serving in the WRAC and they were married soon afterwards. They decided that Jack should leave the Army but soon discovered that life in 'civvy street' was not for them. In December 1964 Sherdy Vatnsdal, the first Chief Instructor of the recently formed Red Devils, persuaded Jim Walmsley to join the Team. Jim, in turn, introduced Jack to Sherdy, who persuaded him to rejoin the Army in the Parachute Regiment with aim of joining the 'Fred's'.

In 1965-6 Jack served in 2-PARA before joining the Red Devils. Jim recalls how, on Jack's first jump with the team, he was kitted out with the then highly sophisticated Mark I Para Commander. Jim briefed Jack to be careful how he handled the canopy and to follow him down, an instruction which Jack interpreted literally – he followed Jim for a downwind accuracy approach into the pit! It was the start of Jack's enthusiasm for accuracy and his subsequent expertise in this discipline. In 1970 Jim & Jack were persuaded by ex-Red Devils Team Commander, Peter Kingston, to join him in Patrol Company in 1-PARA for a two year tour in Northern Ireland. In 1972 Jack rejoined the Red Devils before becoming Team Sergeant in 1974.

The following year Jack was invited by the then Commandant of the Rhine Army Parachute Centre, Tom Oxley, to replace John Laing on his staff at Bad Lippspringe. Thus Jack, Ann and the family moved to Germany where they remained for the rest of Jack's service in the Army – it was a happy time for them all. We all knew Jack as a modest man and his winning of the Individual Accuracy Event in the 1979 Army Championships is a case in point. He celebrated the win in too fine a style and, as a result, missed the prizegiving altogether! He wasn't bothered, he didn't really want all of the fuss of the presentation anyway. But he didn't miss receiving his 1,000 jump Golden Lanyard from the Prince of Wales a couple of years later.

In 1983 he took over from Mac McQueen as RAPA Chief Instructor and this appointment, which lasted until he left the Army in 1985, was undoubtedly the highlight of his career. He was, quite simply, without equal in the job. He quickly



gained massive respect because he was just so quietly efficient, and there was never any shouting or bawling – maybe Mick Turner hadn't been such an influence after all!

It wasn't all plain sailing however. Tony Clegg remembers a stick of gunner students on their first jump all in the air together. Their not inconsiderable band of supporters suddenly broke free and surged across the airfield to greet them on landing, whilst the Islander circled overhead waiting for an opportunity to land safely. During this temporary confusion boss Tom Oxley arrived back on the drop zone. He overreacted in splendid style and summoned Jack and Tony to his office where he administered a blistering but unreasonable bollocking. Tony, in typical Cleggy fashion, wasn't prepared to take this and, as he started to gather himself for an assault at the Commandant over the table, he felt Jack's firm grip restraining him from doing something he would certainly have regretted!

Maybe it was this incident which caused Jack to confide in Jack Muir, suggesting that perhaps he wasn't doing such a good job as CCI because Tom was giving him a hard time. Jack was able to reassure Jack by swearing him to secrecy before he telling him that he'd recently typed out Tom's recommendation for Jack's BEM. This was announced officially in 1984 and Jack journeyed to Bonn to receive the award from the British Ambassador. The event dissolved into low farce as the Ambassador, who'd been at the sherry and was obviously 'Brahms and Liszt', attempted to pin the medal on Jack's son Jamie who was standing proudly alongside Jack in Royal Marine uniform!

Bob Charters recalls a RAPA Championships where over fifty teams had competed and at the prizegiving a select band of VIPs were informed that a skydiving mega-way was to be the parachute display. The subsequent 800 foot cloud base prevented this, so Jack and Bob decided on eight of the staff jumping with static line aeroconicals. Bob watched Jack appear out of the cloud with pilot chute in tow and struggling. He sorted it all out and landed with a massive grin on his face and to spontaneous applause from the well-impressed spectators. Didn't Bob get it right when he wrote: "Jack was just Jack, a wonderful father and husband; I



Dubai 1978 – Jack is in yellow opposite the camera. To his left are Tim Andrewes, Said Kallif, Mac McQue (reaching), Ron Lutze, Mike Smith, Martin Tougher, Ali Nasser, Pete Sherman & Wally Wallace

Photos courtesy of Jackie Smith and P  te Hough

know I shall miss him and I thank him for being my boss, my mentor and, most of all, my friend."

Only two days after he had arrived to take over as Commandant from Tom Oxley, Bob Card was approached by Jack to ask him if he'd like to jump on a display for the local school. On exit Bob had no idea where the drop zone was but he finally picked out the target cross in the middle of an area about the size of a volleyball court. Bob had to work extremely hard to make it whereas Jack, with all his natural skill as an accuracy jumper, just glided nonchalantly in. All Bob could say was "Sergeant Major, don't ever do that to me again!"

Arthur & Margaret Gibson and Jackie Young all especially remember Jack and Ann's wonderful hospitality as they always seemed to have an open house, especially for the younger soldiers. John Laing records that nothing was too much trouble for Jack. John and Evelynne were concerned about buying a dining room table locally because of the difficulty of getting it back to UK, but Jack urged them to 'leave it to him'. A week later, courtesy of Jack, the table arrived safely at Netheravon in the back of an Islander!

Jack had qualified as a judge in 1978 and, after leaving the Army, Jack and Ann travelled thousands of miles to judge at competitions around Europe. This can be a pretty thankless task so it was fascinating to learn that his logbook reveals that he judged 87 competitions, 63 of them together with Ann – an astonishing total which reflects Jack's total selflessness and Ann's loving support.

But it was his personal moral courage and resolute bravery that remains our ultimate memory of Jack. He challenged medical opinion on behalf of both Jane and Jamie, and they know only too well how fortunate it was for them that he did. But he still had to face his greatest challenge. How appropriate was the hymn: "Fight the good fight with all thy might." And for nineteen months he did just that – right to the end. Here again he challenged medical opinion and as a result he came so very close to winning. He was talking about holidays in Europe with the family after he had recovered, even in his final days. But it was not to be, he never had that final operation – he was totally exhausted from the battle and we can take comfort in believing that the Almighty has more important challenges for him in another place.

So, if you ever feel besieged by troubles, or believe that life has dealt you an especially difficult hand, think on the shining example set by Jack Fowler, supported by his beloved Ann, and just get on with it. And always remember Jack's radiant smile – it will surely give us both inspiration and hope.

Charlie Shea-Simonds



Army Champions 1983 – Bob Charters, Jack Fowler, Pete Hough, Kiwi Sharpe & Jock Muir



RAPA Championships 1978, shows Commandant Tom Oxley presenting to Jack

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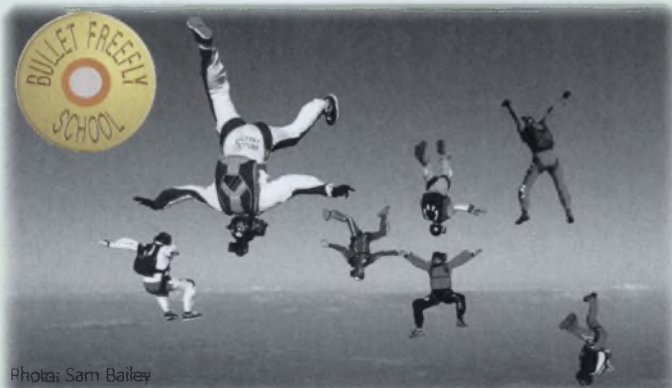


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Wheee... SPLAT!

"I'm a medium sized bloke, on a 170 canopy. I have just over 200 jumps, spread out over about 15 years. I tend to go away for a few days at a time, get in as many jumps as I can and then not jump again for a few months.

"I therefore hadn't jumped for about a month, and visited the DZ for a long weekend. There had been a lot of bad weather but, as luck would have it, it was sunny and calm for the exact four days that I was there. It wasn't until I was under canopy on my first jump and looking down that I realised that the DZ was very waterlogged, most of the landing area had turned to mud and standing water. The only two parts that weren't glistening in the sun were an area a long way from the packing area, and a fairly small area near to it. I did several jumps, landing out on the area with the longer walk. Although this kept your kit dry, to get back still meant walking ankle-deep through mud and water.

"On my next jump I watched a couple of people land on the smaller area, nearer to the packing area, and decided to follow. There was no clear wind direction that day whatsoever. There would be no wind at all for half an hour, then a small gust would turn the landing arrow and the wind would vanish again. People had been landing in one direction with no wind when you got on the plane and then (following the arrow) landing in another direction with no wind by the time you got down again.

"I have always been aware that the combination of no wind (or quickly changing direction) and everyone aiming for the same spot is a recipe for disaster, with people coming in from all sides. So, I took it carefully and made sure I knew who was around me in the sky and what they were up to. When I turned into wind to land there was none so, in order to get down quickly I started doing some S-turns to lose some height. The waterlogged area of the DZ was approaching fast so I started sinking the canopy with some brakes. Then I realised that I was getting very low, still determined to get down before the approaching wet bit, I finally let the

canopy recover in full drive for a good second or two and then flared.

"You won't be surprised to hear that my flare did absolutely nothing for me and I went in hard. In hindsight, it's a good job I landed in that mud – if I'd made it to the harder ground it could have been much, much worse. Despite all my faffing around, I still managed to make it into the worst of the bog! The CCI had quite a few things to say to me! Things like "Why the S-turns? How many jumps have you got on that canopy? We were watching you for ages because we knew what was coming!". The gutting thing – apart from my rig being covered in mud and an extremely sore thumb – was that I felt I knew everything that I had done wrong. As I stood there getting my CCI's bollocking, I was thinking, this is exactly what I'd be saying if I'd watched someone do the same thing.

"The reason this incident has had such an effect on me, is that I see myself as a very sensible jumper. I see the young dudes, with all the kit and 30 jumps, attempting wild things and cringe. Therefore, I was surprised to perform such a truly awful landing! The point is, everything that I did wrong, I knew not to do but I did it anyway. There are a lot of other things I know not to do in order to stay safe. Maybe one day I'll find myself doing these too."

Comment

There are always many human factors in every incident or accident. As frequently happens, this jumper has picked up on most of them, and the last paragraph, if it becomes part of the mindset, could keep us all out of trouble if we could but accept it.

Another way to say the same could be:

I accept that I could get hurt today, because:

- I'm not perfect, and none of my fellow jumpers are either
- No matter how often I see someone else in a spot, it doesn't lessen the chances of me getting into the same fix! But it does mean I'm getting better at spotting the problems well in advance.



Photo by Patrick Heaney, of sex god Max Cohn and comms expert Ryoichi Kamiya



Who Watches the Watchers?

"I've been rigging for quite a few years now, so I wasn't too surprised to see this one. A club rig was brought to me with a query from the main packer. The 3-ring riser loop on one side was misrouted where it came out of the cable housing, causing a potential for a riser release problem.

"What was more interesting was the discovery that the rig, a student one by the way, had last been used extensively by an instructor course, which had been run throughout the previous week. So many different potential instructors from so many drop zones had practised so many different lessons throughout the course, it was impossible to trace exactly when the mistake had sneaked in.

"Why wasn't I surprised to see this one? Well, to be honest, I've become used to giving serious scrutiny to any rigs that have been away for use in ground school instruction, as it's been my experience that something has usually gone wrong by the end of the course."

Comment

Instructor & rigger courses do tend to put both the people on them and the kit through the wringer. I'd take it as a mark of the standard the courses need to set. At the end of the courses it's often the case that, after such an intense week, visiting candidates can't wait to get going. In this case perhaps the tidy up could have been a little better.

But it's unfair to just apply this to what are at the end of the day very professional courses. This sort of thing can happen just as easily after an IC1 brief on kit or flight line checking. Running the Flight Line stand at the AGM is great but it leaves me with a dilemma. With so many faults built in, how do I keep track? Well, believe it or not, I write a list of faults, build them in to each rig and then, when I'm finished, cross them off the list as I take them out again. Just a suggestion!

Talking of Flight Line Stands

Thank you to all who supported and took a stab at the Flight Line stand at January's AGM. Poor old Chris Jones is still thrashing some figures and graphs from the data, which is proving more complicated than we originally thought. By using a test format and paperwork identical to the last one we ran, some four years ago, we should be able to see if there's been any change in how we do things.

For now, my observations from the day were as follows:

- The stand was as popular as ever, despite it being ran on a non-existent budget, and therefore looking VERY cheap, compared to all the funded stands. I think a lot of you were actually distracted by the 'bling' around you.
- The change from fibreglass dummies to skydivers made life much simpler for all, and you could interact with the models on a much better level. (In fact, some of you tried to interact with some of the female models several times throughout the weekend!)
- This form of testing needs to be out of the AGM and on the drop zones. Come on, CCI's, how about it? It's easy enough to do on a wet weather weekend.
- We should be back bigger and better, next year.



The Flight Line stand at the AGM, where volunteers modelled suspect gear for participants to check
Photo by Simon Ward

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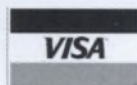
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Puzzle

by Paul Boorer



Main (Cryptic)

Across

1. Head taking care of light (6)
5. Pee oddly when shaken and fully extended (8)
9. French king imprisons second evil composer (7)
10. Began to write in dictionary (6)
11. Destroy the continuity of that timbre a kettledrum possesses (5)
13. Firmness of ground: a bit silty (9)
16. Three fifths of Wednesdays are wild in this country (6)
17. Opt to follow diamond formation (3,4)
19. Smuggling trick almost circles Anglo-French force (7)
21. Drink plenty, when half-cut becoming pliant (6)
24. X marks the drop zone (2,7)
26. The attraction of skydiving? (5)
28. Whipped cream on a plate exposed here (6)
30. Talk about exercise and work (7)
32. Crazy Russky formation skydiving jumps (8)
33. Become a flyer on falcon's first rocky shelf (6)

Down

2. Make a mistake in the grip of terror (3)
3. Box containing rake falls (7)
4. It could be cut, painted and lain askew (4)
5. Waving fist after doctor moves aimlessly (6)
6. In favour of public relations officer (3)
7. Partly conceal situation of pregnancy when sitting (7)
8. Discharge judge in early English court (5)
12. Vertical pipe is held by king and queen (5)
14. Copy rugby player at university (4-2)
15. Stranger employed in career, ie, roustabout (6)
18. Box of ribs (5)
20. Drunken nun interrupts self controlled smokers (7)
22. Calm accountant appears in book illustration (7)
23. Second court rider attacks on the wing (6)
25. Turn about river to follow course (5)
27. Main danger of free flying (4)
29. First class opening of rock tune (3)
31. Sand dunes hidden by icebergs (3)

Diagonal

1. Shadowy image of Beck's pro centre playing (7,7)

Reserve

Across

1. Navigation light
5. Spread out
9. Composer of La Gazza Ladra
10. Spread out
11. Discontinue
13. Steadiness
16. Nordic country
17. Utensil: 4 way formation (3,4)
19. Vehicles
21. Lithe
24. Drop zone (2,7)
26. Planet
28. Photographer's apparatus
30. Function
32. Jumps with board (8)
33. Grow feathers

Down

2. Miscalculate
3. Splicing of suspension lines
4. Pin down
5. Blows in the wind
6. Expert
7. Partly rest on
8. Kick out
12. Part of rig
14. Reserve (4-2)
15. More uncanny
18. One of rig's straps
20. Bungles FS
22. Pacify
23. Flies in quickly
25. Skydive forward quickly
27. Reduce sail
29. Skydiving medium
31. Unit of work

Diagonal

1. The shadow of the observer cast on to a cloud, often surrounded by a luminous halo (7,7)

ACROSS: 1. Beacon, 5. Deployed, 9. Rossini, 10. Opened, 11. Break, 13. Stability, 16. Sweden, 17. Ice pick, 19. Traffic, 21. Supple, 24. TANDRENS, 26. Earth, 28. Camera, 30. Operate, 32. Skysurfs, 33. Fledge.
DOWN: 2. Mistake, 3. Rake, 4. Painted, 5. Waving, 6. PR officer, 7. Conceal, 8. Discharge, 12. Vertical, 14. Copy, 15. Stranger, 18. Box, 20. Drunken, 22. Calm, 23. Second, 25. Turn, 27. Main, 29. First, 31. Sand.



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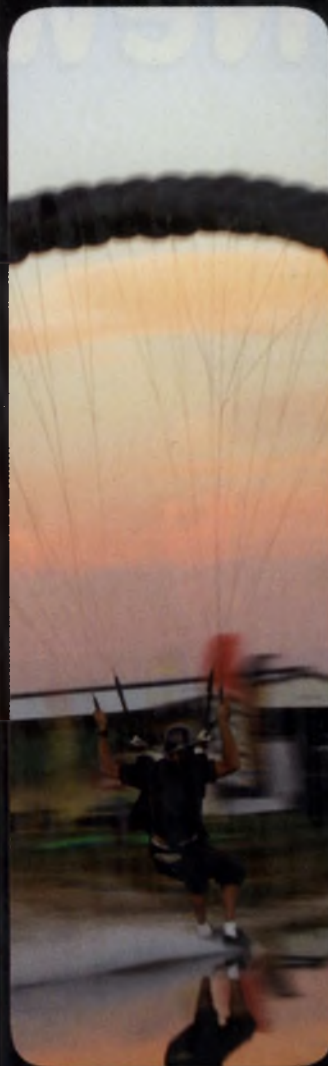


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Club News

Langar

As we kicked off with our annual 'Crazy Weekend' on 19-20 Feb we tripped over our shoelaces and landed in a big wet puddle created by the appalling weather! We will not be beaten and are re-scheduling the Crazy Weekend for 14-15 May.

Don't forget the Langar Boogie, 30 April-8 May, with Tony DeBruyn and his Skyvan. Milko will run his invitational big-way sequential, if interested contact milko@bpslangar.co.uk

We're hosting the CF 16-way diamond on 28-30 May, email mark@weaver95.fsnet.co.uk

We have a new bar manager Simon Tillyard, running our now non-smoking bar. Kick Tilly off with our annual St George's Day bash on Sat 23 April. Be patriotic, show your true colours and come in red and white. For dates of our IC1 briefs and packing courses or to be included in our mailing list email me at lisa@bpslangar.co.uk

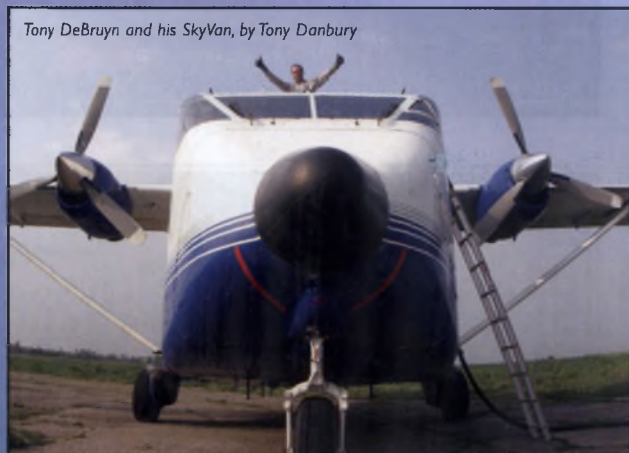
Would all of our caravan-owning customers please get in touch with us, (01949 860 878 or email info@bpslangar.co.uk)... very mysterious, isn't it?!

Lisa James

Ray Armstrong & Sam Bailey in tandem and Steve Newman head-down, by Gary Wainwright



Tony DeBruyn and his SkyVan, by Tony Danbury



Sibson

Outgoing CCI Kev Goode (left) & new CCI Stuart Meacock checking out the runway



Photos by Sarah Hall



Sibson reopened for the season to a newly updated day room with comfy sofas for chillin' between jumps. The weather has been a real charm (not!) with some cold crisp days and more snow than most of us remember. Our new CCI Stuart tested his snowboarding skills on the runway with the assistance of a rope and 4 wheel drive! Thanks to the fabulous Kev Goode for his brilliant CCI-ing, over now to Stuart. Our new Turbolet should be here by now, replacing 477 and we look forward to even faster turnarounds, more jumps for all!

23-24 April will be Sibson's first Reserve Canopy Trial weekend, that does NOT mean an opportunity to chop at will! It's a chance to jump specially rigged up reserves as main canopies. A large order of wingsuits will be arriving at the DZ imminently, they are this season's 'must-have', so on 30 April-1 May we have the Wacky Wingsuit Weekend for novice and experienced wingsuit flyers. For all you FS novices there is an FS Bunny Skills week, 14-20 May, and a WARP Coaching week, 13-17 June. The annual return of the Babylon Boys is 27-30 May, to coach and load organise. There will be a party!

Lizzie Harris

This year sees the return of the Dornier G92 and our beloved Islander. As the only DZ in the south running the G92, RAFSPA is a great place for teams training for the Nationals, come along and check us out! (The rumour that all jumpers require an AAD is not true, but of course recommended.)

Weston re-opened on 5 March, it was arctic but a lot of brave members turned up to show their commitment. Only two loads before the snow but everyone retired to the clubhouse to enjoy the new, improved bar with shots starting at 63p! The bar's under new management and will open from 7pm every Friday. Manageress Anna Palmer is equipped with a crew of gorgeous young ladies and a handsome young man... oh and then there's Scouse! They have fresh ideas to make our evenings more entertaining and have started a collection for a new stereo system.

The season looks fantastic, with freely coaching on 23-24 April, then a 4-way meet on 18-19 June, the legendary Wingsuit Festival run by Andy Ford on 20-21 August, Scrambles on 24-25 September and more including a Plummet weekend.

New CCI Barry Buck has taken over from Brian McGill, thank you Brian for everything! The packing team has doubled in size! Last year it was only me, but now there should be someone there every weekend. Contact me to join us. (hollandnigel@aol.com). Congratulations to Malcolm Knox for 25 years in the sport. Wishing everyone a great season!

Nigel Holland

Chris Ivory by Andrew Lovemore

Weston

Achievements

100 Jumps

Nick Hollis
John Harrington

400 Jumps

Brian Gray

800 Jumps

Phil Hartree

1000 Jumps

Dave Curtin



Steve Jones

Steve Jones

It is with great regret that I inform of the passing of Steve Jones. Steve was a brave and courageous young soldier in the Royal Corp of Signals and was the only Army member in the ill-fated C130 that crashed in Iraq killing all ten on board. Steve completed his AFF in the USA last year and arrived at Weston to complete his consolidation descents. He was dedicated and enthusiastic during his short time in the sport and was rapidly becoming a recognised entity within the RAFSPA membership. Our sincerest condolences go out to his family and friends.

Brian McGill

Silver Stars

The Silver Stars staff, support team and hierarchy went out to Paris to spend some time in the tunnel, great fun! Thanks to Dave Tyler, Aaron Faith, Dave Alexander, Alistair Macartney and Nige Wright for their assistance. All jumpers are welcome to go to Cotswold Outdoor store where they will qualify for a discount on all purchases. NB: Closed weekends are 30 Apr - 1 May and 28-29 May

Achievements

Cat 8

Tom Ramsden-Hare
100 Jumps
Louise Ramsden-Hare
John Slaney
400 Jumps
Clarky
600 Jumps
Geordie
800 Jumps
Big Al

Marie-Anne Stevens

*Andy Sauer, Jude Goodman,
Alex Meacock by Sarah Hall*



Clarky by Big Al



Brid



Dave Walker as Elvis by Nick Johnston



Lara Walker by Nick Johnston

Achievements

First Freefall

Stuart Connell

First Freefall,

Cat 8

Rick Taylor

50 Jumps

Keith Brooksbank

400 Jumps

Lara Walker

Craig Smart surprised us all by returning, jumping, and enjoying it, although it was more stressful for those in the plane with him! Another returner was Karen Messenger; it's good to have another girlie jumper back in the fold.

A club Algarve trip was injury-tastic with Simon and Rick making arrivals rather than landings and gaining high fashion slings and limps. The best part about Simon's injury was his inability to drive his Subaru; Dave Walker's been making a bomb

charging spectators 50p to take it for a spin on the runway!

A Paris wind tunnel trip also had its share of nightmares. Alex sprained his ankle before going and poor Mark broke his arm there. Get well soon you guys. The others have returned with new found skills a little nearer to FS1; we just need the weather now! Our AFF students are off to sunny Portugal, come back with tans and Cat 8s.

Dave 'DIY' Saville surprised us by actually

finishing Nicky's bathroom (started in 1982). Well done you big hat, just work out how to grow back the carpet and you're sorted!

The centre now has three aircraft and a couple in bits (ongoing project for Nick 'Steptoe' Johnston). Come and jump our fleet.

Big thanks to Tracy for doing a great job with Club News, cheers mate.

Lara Walker

Peterlee

Achievements

First Freefall

Lizzie Gower

Tom Calverly

Simon Tully

Adam Pencharz

IC1

Graham Wilkins

Kev Mitchell

50 Jumps

Isla de la Haye

Dave Robinson

500 Jumps

Paul McCormick

1 Hr Freefall

Kev Mitchell

The taxi-ways, driveways and shower facilities are all being improved and the Nomad will be with us throughout spring and summer.

Well done *Spanish Fly* who picked up gold medals at the AGM as junior 4-way Grand Prix Champions. NUPC President Stu 'Barks Like a Dog' Ferguson was the brain behind the now legendary Refreshers Boogie which had a fantastic turnout from local unis, regulars, Leeds and Scotland. A quiz on Friday started off the proceedings with a bizarre music round: singing at its most surreal! Ewan from Edinburgh Uni managed to get on all but one of the lifts over the weekend! RAPS revision sessions were run, an FS

seminar given by Mike Coulthart and a 'Floormation' (4-way creeper) competition went right to the wire. It was eventually won by the Scots team *Sex, Drugs and Sausage Rolls*. The boogie culminated with beer hats and a live band doing the longest rendition ever of 'Sweet Home Alabama' with an encore of an unrehearsed rendition of Gay Bar (You probably had to be there!). Cheers to everyone who helped out.

3Fly had a setback when team member Glen bust his tib/fib in the US but he hopes to be back soon. Congratulations to Andy Howe (Mandy Chowe to those who have forgotten his real name) and his now fiancé Rowan, God help her!

Paul McCormick



Junior 4-way Grand Prix Champions Spanish Fly

UK Para



New DZ Shop by Grant Richards

UK Parachuting's first weekend on 5 Feb had luck on our side, good weather and Tiggs with his 206. There was much activity the first day with three people in AFF ground school, a number of tandems, our first club jumpers and Dave Skinner with some WARP coaching. The day closed with all the tandems jumped and Andy Page presenting the staff with a bottle of champagne to celebrate the start of a new era at UK Parachuting.

Chris Vella has attended his advanced packing course, and is learning his trade under the watchful eye of Andy Page. We have been training RAPS students from the University of East Anglia. Our Islander should be here by April. We have an advanced packing course in May, a Turbine weekend in July and Brian Vacher's canopy school in August.

Tommo has retained the UK Parachuting Snooker Championship, the trophy now sits proudly on his desk. By the next edition of the mag it should be mine - I'm not bitter!

Grant Richards



2005 started for a small group in sunny Algarve. Michelle did her Level 2 AFF before being defeated by some wet grass and ending up in hospital. We all wish Michelle a speedy recovery... although manifest will benefit from her unfortunate grounding! Apres-jump activities included Kieran trying his hand at bar-tending in the local Indian and Sweep making his debut at the now infamous Crow's Nest Karaoke!

Back in Scotland, the hardest of the Strath Crew haven't let freezing conditions stop them, throwing on their thermals and snowsuits to make the most of every jumping opportunity.

A January weekend saw club regulars enjoying the first 'Free Jump Sunday' organised by the committee as a thank-you for our support. This is likely to become a regular event. Team *Malarky* (Lorena and Unai) were noticeable by their absence at the beginning of the year after a (literally) cliffhanger experience in the Alps resulted in damage to their Mystery Machine. The intrepid Spanish duo returned in February, thank goodness as their amazing packing skills will keep Sweep off our backs! The Mag 7 boys have been adding their own brand of mayhem to club goings-on, look out for their take on Club News in the future.

A Strath posse of 9 headed to Z-Hills in Florida for 2 weeks of non-stop blue skies, notching up 450 jumps between them. Several Otters were taken over by our mad big-ways! Scott Miller's canopy control courses saw us practicing high level flares,



Calum Grant by James Stevenson

flat turns, rear riser and toggle stalls (just a wee bit scary!), culminating in the ultimate bum spot. This very worthwhile course left us all with things to think about.

Chris 'Cup of Tea' Goatley got the traditional American whipped cream topping surprise following his 100th jump. The image of him running to the shower block covered in cream sporting an upturned cup on his head will stay with us for some time! We couldn't stop the green-eyed monster rearing its head as we watched the US military jump from the tailgate of a Herc. No-one other than a very persuasive Dave Ruffell managed to sneak themselves on! Thanks to the Gibson girls for sourcing essential landing gear (Vans!) and Elaine for keeping us amused with her 'KFC naked-man-in-the-toilet' story!

The club will run a speed competition starting after Friday night opening in April and host a BCPA competition on the last weekend in May.

Emily Christie

Achievements First Freefall

Steven Kelly
Fiona Pocket
Euan McMillan
C Maxwell
W Candlish

Cat 8

Sergie Rulikovsky
Ian Croy
Baz Wilson
Mark Dixon

IC1

Ralph Davidson

FS1

Steve Kynaston
Rob Dargie
Chris Goatley

FF1

Alan 'Spidey' Parker

Jump Numbers

50

Baz Wilson

100

Andrew Coulton
Chris Goatley

200

Alex Eastwood
Joanne Gibbs
Lorena Sanchez

300

Alan 'Spidey' Parker

800

Russell Hollingworth

1900

Calum Grant

1Hr Freefall

Emily Christie



Chris Goatley gets a whipping after his 100th jump by Dale Hines

Headcorn



Bewl Reservoir jumps are rescheduled for 24 July, photo by Mark Bailey

A warm welcome to Alan who's joined us to fly the Islander; he's already done his static line course and started working in the bar. Sadly it's goodbye to Niall our Beaver pilot, he's got a grown up job working for Aer Arann – well done! We had a great night out bowling in February (what I can remember of it, anyway!). Paul scooped the gold for the boys, while Jacks got the gold for the ladies – again! Wooden spoons went to Tel and Lauren. Tel's performance peaked by his third pint – a couple of hours before he started bowling! Lauren did really well for a wee'un.

We'll be having a summer ball on 1 July, a great opportunity to get dressed up. Willy the Whale will take to the waves on 24 July for the great HPC splash at Bewl Water. NB – not 31 as originally scheduled.

The Paris wind tunnel kept our members flying inside when blowing or freezing outside. Chris

Shaw and Graham Cooper (team S-sense), have run 6 camps over the last 4 months. Each camp provided lots of fun and learning for coaches and flyers alike. The wind tunnel is just a day trip from HPC so Chris & Co will be running more through the year.

Ruth Cooper & Chris Shaw



Graham Cooper taking evasive action, photo by Michelle Theobald

Chris Lynch by Simon Hughes



Paragon



Tandem is a four letter word to Jackie, by Chick Adams

All club members being of a delicate and genteel nature, we were shocked at the vast range of expletives coming from Jackie McMullen as she landed after her tandem. The video is on sale now, sounding a bit like an episode of the Osbornes shown right before Blue Peter.

Calum and Katrina are expecting! The new arrival is due in August, by which time Calum should be a fully fledged tandem instructor.

Rob Noble-Nesbitt's been awarded a Certificate of Merit from the Royal Aero Club, for dedication to the sport over forty years. This was well deserved and we feel very privileged to have Rob as our CCI. Well done mate! There's no better way to spend a wet Sunday at the drop zone than listening to Rob's highly entertaining tales of the early days.

Chik Adams is still in the front running for the Bum Spot of the Year award 2005. He does like those T-shirts! John Brompton, our pilot has broken the 300 hours para dropping barrier. Congratulations for putting up with us lot for that long. Of course the wee valium we slip in his tea helps!

Feedback from club members tells me that the exploits of Alice are keenly awaited each issue. This time however I have been instructed (by Alice) to say that she has said nothing, done nothing and merits absolutely no mention this issue at all. There. Happy now Alice?

Someone did have a rather spectacular landing in the mud the other day but I won't mention who!

We're planning a club trip to Empuria, 5-15 Sept. Anyone who fancies it will be made most welcome. Ask at the DZ or phone, for flight and accommodation details.



Yvonne Leslie

Bob Henderson & Lynsey McLagan

Achievements

FS1, IC1

Joe McLaughlin

IC1

Alex McMullen

Dunkeswell

All the best to Leanne and Dan, our former manifestor and club rep, off to Australia for a fresh start. Who can blame them?! We welcome Jo, Leanne, Shashta, Emily and Charlotte, they returned from the US having completed AFF. Adrian Thornton is again instructing and soon to be introducing his eldest son Alastair into the sport. Alastair did a tandem at the Hercules Boogie last summer and has been counting the days till his 16th birthday so he can jump here.

Lucy Kiff

Achievements
48 Hrs Freefall
 Jason Farrant
2000 Jumps
 Gavin Horrel



Magnus takes Alastair for a tandem, his dad (Adrian) captures the action

Wild Geese

Wild Geese Members

If you would like to see something in this space make the effort and supply your club rep with photos and details of your achievements. If you don't make the effort neither will I.

Many thanks and hopefully I'll have lots for the next issue!

John McCourt
skydiving@ntlworld.com

There is light at the end of the winter tunnel with a beam of spring and the faint glow of summer. Throw off your thermals and thaw out your extremities (all in the privacy of your own home please!). The ever popular Nish Memorial Scrambles on 23-24 April is a really good way for new faces to meet the old ones. Sorry Ash but you know what I mean! Contact Caroline: carolinewhite@frogfall.f9.co.uk

Talking of old faces – or well known & much better looking faces – Julie Woodrow is leaving for a new life in Melbourne, Australia. The fact she has an Aussie boyfriend has in no way influenced this! We wish her all the best & will show this in our usual way... via the bar!

Maddy is just a blur at the moment, racing between DZ Sports and Point Zero. The new venture sees Maddy Moore, Geoff Wood & Mike Browne (pictured) join forces to become

Hinton

the new Point Zero owners. It's business as usual at both places, we wish them the best of luck.

Don't forget your BPA and Hinton membership renewal, we will check!

Brucie

Achievements
First Freefall
 Robert Churchwell
 Justin McCall
 Lee Funnell
Cat 8
 Antonia Nilson
Jump Numbers
100
 Trevor Haynes
200
 Sandy
 Tony Lock
900
 Mike Beeden
1000
 Elaine Park

Baz landing on the beach in Kenya by Helen Carroll



Geoff Wood, Mike Browne, Maddy Moore, Andy Bennett & Phil Nash



Cark

Peter Hughes by Steve Hankey

Kat by Peter Hughes



Jersey

New Year's Eve on Alderney by
Dominic Beaugie



Danny, Cliff, Kevin, Carl, Nicola & friends



74 skydive
April 2005

Even temperatures of minus 20 degrees haven't stopped us, as it's only 12 minutes to altitude in the PAC. Our hangar is complete, looks very swish! Two new pilots are to be checked out on the PAC. When Duncan and Dick are qualified Mike can get back into freefall (after 8 months!). We have many more new jumpers arriving all the time, Cark welcomes brother 'n' sister Paul & Yvonne Rimmington after qualifying AFF in Lillo, Spain.

We're looking forward to the season, with regular freely meets & an event in June, check website and noticeboard. Dennis is arranging more packing courses, get in touch for info. We'll be open on Friday afternoons from 8 April in preparation for the northern sun!

Michelle Meakins



Matt, Lee & Fiona by Neil McLaren

2005 started with a BIG New Year party on the neighbouring Channel Island of Alderney. What a place for a party... and Liam, none of us have EVER seen anyone swigging absinthe from a bottle before!

Winter has been busy with the new Portakabins which house the shop, kit store, packing hall, office and classroom. There's even a smart, new, Skydive Jersey liveried minibus to ferry people to and from the beach DZ to the airport. A pre-season celebratory party was organised in the new premises and jumping started on Valentine's Day. Everyone who's been prepared to brave the bitter cold has managed to jump.

CCI Andy Montriou should by now be grappling with the joys of parenthood, for the first time. Rufus Safety Montriou (Driving dangerously Officer? Absolutely not. 'Safety' is my middle name!) is due on 16 March.

Alun Griffiths

Achievements AFF Graduate

Declan Carlin
Paul Cafferkey
50 Jumps
Flipper Menard
Tim Griffiths
Simon Griffiths
200 Jumps
Pete Dolbel

Black Knights

Hot on the feet of Jeff's career change, Rob McVey is poised to transform into a full time freely coach at the newly announced BKPC Freely School. Rob's been pulling together his school's website, furnishing his new DZ room and organising this year's freely festival. He's also committed to the *Avalore* freely team

and will compete at the Nationals. It's brilliant to see people who love our sport so committed, good luck Rob from all of us.

Matt's creative efforts on our website have led to much gossip. The site's new 'welcome' photo includes a director and a pilot / instructor apparently embracing. We're sure it's just an

optical illusion! More events are being planned for summer, let Jeff know if you're interested in speed skydiving and wingsuit introductory weekends.

Matthew Walmsley

Achievements Cat 8

Gavin Holmes
50 Jumps
Amelia Walters

Target



8-way AGM head-down

We welcome back all the jumpers who went to Skydive Algarve and Skydive Spain for a break in the sun. The G92s have been working hard getting as many jumpers as possible to 15,000 feet with our boys, Jim, Dan and Louis coaching out in the Algarve and Spain. Despite UK snow and hail our jumpers were still notching up the achievements. See the next mag for a full write-up of our Opening Boogie in Skydive Spain!

Hannah Swallow

Achievements

Cat 8 Stephen Price
IC1 Lynne Forman
FF1 Rachel Aspey
Lizzie Compton
Andy Wright

Jump Numbers

50 Kev Groarke
100 Holly Kilham
Maria Allen
400 Gerv Henderson
800 Derrick Kent
1600 Tony Keightley
1900 Andy Wright



Successful Skeasel jump

Despite plummeting temperatures, we've been getting the jumps in. Free load organising is now available thanks to Caroline Hughes, who has run weekends for beginner and intermediates. Contact Caroline at load.organising@btinternet.com

The first social event of the year, the Valentine's 'language of lurve' party, was once again mistaken for Halloween by a well known local rigger. Speedos have a time and a place, and mid February isn't it!

Budding film-makers, remember the Netheravon Festival of Film, our own version of the Oscars, in the autumn - red carpet, limos, posh frocks and all! Details posted on the website soon. Packing courses are now run on the last weekend of every month, aiming to do enough over the weekend to qualify for your packing certificate. Book via the APA Office.

Congratulations Phill E and Liz, awarded

riggers' ratings, and to all the Nethers folk who qualified on the recent CSBI & CSI courses. For all the concerned people out there, Tommy's toggles no longer resemble any fruit or veg - well at least not grapefruits or aubergines! We send best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Farewell to our long suffering aircraft engineer, Tony Clegg, who's packing up his tool box and heading off to Spain for a well deserved retirement - thanks for all you've done for the APA over the years.

Kath Salisbury

Achievements

1000 Jumps Master Bish
12 Hrs Freefall Master Bish
Lee King
24 Hrs Freefall Cossie



As the Universities' year end approaches, competition on the league table is hotting up, with all still to play for.

Jumpers from St Andrews took full advantage of the Christmas period to take skydiving holidays in Portugal and the US. Scottish 4-way team *Helix* went to Perris for a training camp, with a few regulars.

Unfortunately, the fine Scottish weather followed them! Still everyone made the most of the few days of jumping with top level coaching and big-ways, and the tunnel provided something to do on wet days!

Brian Dyas, DZ owner and one of the founders of St Andrews, has moved on, as his family has been transferred to Texas. Brian was instrumental in building the club from nothing and will be sorely missed.

Tom Fletcher

St Andrews

Bruce Kerezinski by Dave Gillan

Achievements

First Freefall Oliver Farzin-Niq
FF1 Cat Phillips
CF1 Gary McDonald
200 Jumps Ally Milne
400 Jumps Tom Fletcher
900 Jumps Karen Brennan
1 Hr Freefall Ruth Morrison



Tom Fletcher's 400th jump by Dave Gillan

Language of lurve
party by
Kath Salisbury

Netheravon



RAPA

We trekked off to the UK for the APA and BPA AGMs: five instructors squeezed into one car for 14 hours! The AGMs were very useful with informative seminars and Mark unveiling the new canopy handling and piloting grading system. It was also a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and spend far too much in the bar.

Then off again for instructor training; 8 hours in the Perris wind tunnel and 4/8-way jumps at Elsinore, coached by John Hamilton. We were joined by Iain Anderson who's returned, welcome back Iain and Pamela. The tunnel is an excellent training facility, although it does show you're not as good as you think you are! Our tunnel time took us from solos to all 7 of us rotating through 3-ways. This paid dividends and saw some outstanding skydiving back at Elsinore, the 8-ways were especially impressive.

We welcome 2 new members of assistant staff, Chris 'Ginge' Parker and Justin Yeoman. Sadly we say goodbye to Mark and Anne Bayada who are going to Netheravon. Good luck for the future and thanks for all you've done Mark, I hope we see you again soon. I'm sure you'll be itching to try the new improved sweep pond!

Something is planned for almost every weekend, see our ad for details. RAPA is closer than you think, and we will pick you up from Paderborn airport.

Alex Busby

Mark Bayada by Bish

Tilstock



Last 8-way of 2004 by Ria Bremner

There are some new visitors at Tilstock; we're playing host to a flock of sheep who run to the left when the planes take off and to the right when the jumpers land. They provide us with amusement, new barbeque jokes and another reason to stand up on landing. Ray will confirm this, he recently decorated his lovely red jumpsuit with sheep droppings!

Our new manifestor, Rosie moved on from Arthur and David's café and is doing a grand job. Congratulations to Sandy, our pilot, who has also got himself a new job, with Emerald Airways in

Liverpool. A correction from the last Mag... Caroline does not have her Cat 8 yet, but only one more jump to go. Good luck!

The year has got off to a good start as we have two planes with new engines – which both work at the moment! We've been doing a lot of jumping lately, brilliant, especially for winter. There are still loads of students coming up and we have trips planned to Dubai, Florida and the Czech boogie.

Ria Bremner

Achievements
3000 Jumps
Chris Gilmore

Chatteris

The annual party was as usual a boozy affair with a good turnout. Well done Steve Hudson, Student of

the Year. Chatterites have headed off in various directions. The Perris trip saw over half of the time rained out, the wind tunnel was put to good use! Well done Shazza

for qualifying as a USPA AFF Instructor and Mark Price for his FS1. Eloy was as awesome as ever. At Skydive Algarve we were given good attention and enjoyed the very laid back atmosphere and top weather. Some went to Novi Sad in Serbia with more donated

equipment, they opened up the club just for us to jump their AN2. We have set up a sponsorship scheme to subsidise a few of their students to come and see how we do it in England. If anybody has any serviceable equipment they'd like to donate, contact me at Chatteris. Bearing in mind they're still jumping front 'n' back

round kit as students, we're looking for big docile squares like Furies, suitable containers, reserves, jumpsuits, Protecs etc. Simon Chipp, one of our packers and prospective pilots broke his ankle on level one – muppet!

Steve Wilkins



Novi Sad in Serbia by Milan Tomin

Achievements
Cat 8
Mandi Saker
Rai Ahmed
IC1
Sue Hyde
FS1
Mark Price
Tony Labbadia
Sue Hyde
200 Jumps
Stuart Young
Tony Labbadia
900 Jumps
Chris Ives
2000 Jumps
Russ Smith
12 Hrs Freefall
Chris Ives
60 Hrs Freefall
Steve Wilkins

Red Devils

After another very successful season of displays in nine different countries, the Red Devils ran their annual selection cadre in Cyprus. After a gruelling fortnight, we welcome successful candidates Jay Webster, Dunck Murray, Ed Blakey, Lee Reed and Andy Braye.

Five plus Dane Kenny went out to Oman for Exercise Sand Jumper, where we supply a small training team to work with the Sultan's Special Force, an extremely successful trip. We also worked with the Omani national 4-way team.

The display year is busy with shows in the US including New Orleans, Rhode Island, Oceana and the Monaco Grand Prix, it's looking exciting! We should now be in Cyprus on our annual training camp, doing at least 100 jumps each in preparation for the upcoming season.

We were pleased to be awarded the Prince of Wales Cup from the Royal Aero Club for enhancing the positive image of parachuting and helping raise £70,000 for charities. Outstanding Red Devil of the Year 2004 went to Billy Blanchard for his sterling efforts co-ordinating our aircraft requirements in our first year without G-ORED.

Danny Wood



Red Devils with Omani national 4-way team by Noah Stephenson

Non BPA
Affiliated centres

Pumpkin

Stuart Carter is training hard for the Freefly Nationals having been recruited into team *Homesick Fridge* (yes really!), who got silver in 2004. Good luck (to go with that 'natural talent' and training) Stu!

Our annual 'Welcome Back From Hibernation' weekend focusing on safe re-entry to the new season will have been held at Netheravon by now. Love is in the air! Congratulations to Charlie Gross and Steve Judson on their engagement, wedding bells will be heard in November 2005. Kevin Austin and Liza Grimes also got engaged on a swish weekend in New York! Congratulations... about time too!

Martin Williams



Pete Farrow with lovebirds Charlie Gross & Steve Judson by Clive Thomas

Achievements FS1

Scott Norris

50 Jumps

Richard Churchill-Coleman

'Politically Incorrect' Fancy Dress



Tim Cooke (BCPA Chair)



Rupert Connell



Vicky Tuck

BCPA

The Valentine's meet at Hinton simultaneously provided both one of the coldest BCPA weekends and one of the largest turnouts. Over 100 made it bright and early on Saturday morning. With 16 lifts in Hib's G92 and many more in the Cessna, even the very patient RAPS students were airborne by the end of the day. Hinton regulars did well to barely raise eyebrows at the Saturday night fancy dress, themed 'politically incorrect'! (AKA 'just asking for trouble'.) Some of the costumes were too incorrect to even describe but there were the obligatory German soldiers and topical foxhunters, with just a hint of rivalry between two of the biggest clubs - UWE and Leeds.

Despite the cold, blue skies did much to lift the mood and the meet (traditionally not competitive) was a high-spirited and enthusiastic kick-off to the season. Thanks to all at Hinton for their help, patience (!) and advice. The next meet (which is competitive) is the Southerns at Weston on 29 April - 2 May, so get ready! See www.bcpa.org.uk

Congratulations Tim and Lorraine on their engagement at the AGM (aww!), we wish them all the best for the future.

Abi Fineberg

Photos by Iain Fikins

POPS

Welcome to new members, Richard Fox-Berkeman and Tony Makepeace.

Those who went to the AGM had a great time, met up with old faces, and surprised Lesley with her honorary membership. The expression on her face as I interrupted Lesley's presentation told me she had no idea. The RAPA meet is almost here so I will see you there, or at Hilbaldstow, end of June.

If you fancy a trip to POPS in Switzerland check out www.fallschirm-demo-piranhas.ch/pops_05/pops_05.htm

Our own website has links to all other pops pages and more, check it out, a good way to spend non-jumping days: www.pops.org.uk

Neils Hansen



Neils, Andrew & Jeff over Gruyere

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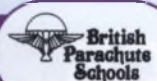
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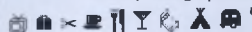
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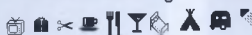
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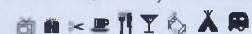
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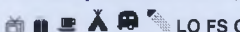
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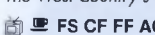
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Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206

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

UK Parachuting

Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU

Tel: 01953 861 030 or 08456 585 544

Fax: 01953 861 031

jump@ukparachuting.co.uk

www.ukparachuting.co.uk

Aircraft: PA-32 (available for displays), Islander

Open: Every day

First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem, AFF

 FS WP FF LO

21 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609

Wild Geese
Skydive Centre

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

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

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 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

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@aol.com

www.rafspace.com

C Services Parachute Centre

Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802

Tel: 02877 721 472

Fax: 02877 721 342

D Silver Stars Parachute Team

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,

South Cerney, Cirencester,

Gloucester GL7 5RD

Tel: 01285 868259

Fax: 01285 861344

info@silverstars.org.uk

www.silverstars.org.uk

Overseas Military DZs

Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Centre (CCSPC)

Dhekelia Garrison, BFPO 58,

Cyprus

Tel: 00 357 2474 4337

Fax: 00 357 2474 4180

dwchainsaw@hotmail.com

www.skydivencyprus.com

Rhine Army Parachute Association JSPC (L) (RAPA)

PTC HQ ATG (G), BFPO 16

Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378

Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740

awright91@aol.com

http://jpspc.de

(unofficial website)

ATOM

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(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.



BPA Associated Organisations

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

Active Skydiving

Active Skydiving

Active Skydiving

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

Parachute Training Services

PARACHUTE TRAINING SERVICES

Parachute Training Services

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

Royal Navy & Royal Marines Sport Parachute Association

RN & RM SPA

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

Airwaves



Airwaves International Skydiving School

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

PhD Skydiving



PhD Skydiving

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

Skydive Academy

Skydive Academy Ltd.

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

East Coast

East Coast Parachute Centre

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

Red Devils



Red Devils

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

Skydive Limited

Skydive Ltd.

Skydive Limited

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

The Freefall Company



FreeFall Company

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

Pops UK



Pops UK

Flat 14, 21 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4ES
Tel: 0117 973 8341
www.thepops.org.uk
Contact: Niels Hansen, Top POP
A society of skydivers over forty. We hold regular national and international meets at host parachute centres.

BCPA



British Collegiate Parachute Association

Top Flat, 68 Berkeley Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8HG
www.bcpa.org.uk
chairman@bcpa.org.uk
Contact: Tim Cooke, BCPA Chairman
The BCPA aims to promote skydiving at collegiate level. We run regional and national events for over 40 affiliated university clubs. The BCPA provides a community where university skydivers can find like-minded people to jump and socialise with.

Overseas Associated DZs

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

SPAIN

Skydive Empuriabrava

PO Box 194, 17487
Empuriabrava, Spain
Tel: 0034 972 450 111
Fax: 0034 972 450 749
info@skydiveempuriabrava.com
www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

Skydive Spain

La Juliana Aerodrome, Bullolus DLM, Seville, Spain
Tel: 0034 687 726 303
Fax: 0034 954 153 287
info@skydivespain.com
www.skydivespain.com

USA

Florida Skydiving Centre

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

Freefall Adventures, Florida

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA
Tel: 001 772 388 0550
Fax: 001 772 581 4468
skydivemik@aol.com
www.ffadventures.com

Freefall Adventures/Skydive Cross Keys

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

Perris Valley Skydiving

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

Skydive Sebastian

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

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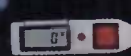


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DIARY

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1-3 Wingtips Canopy Coaching
RAPA, Germany gottaflychris@yahoo.co.uk

1-3 World Freely Project
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

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

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

6-10 Invitational Big-way Sequential
Zephyrhills, USA blskyguy@aol.com

6-10 Travel Freely Boogie
Lillo, Spain www.skydivelillo.com

13-17 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

15-17 Babylon Freely Workshop
Empuriabrava, Spain www.babylon-freely.com

16-17 20-way Weekend
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

16-17 4-way FS Scrambles
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
0113 250 5600 www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

16-25 Sky Sisters Convention
Rambler, Australia www.ramblers.com.au

18-22 Progression Week
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

19 BPA Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk

21-24 PST Open Swoop Competition
Perris Valley, USA www.proswoopingtour.com

21-24 SkyVenture Challenge
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

21-24 8-way Skills Camp
Lillo, Spain www.skydivelillo.com

23 St George's Day Party
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

23-24 Freely Coaching
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
skydiveweston@aol.com www.rafspa.com

23-24 Reserve Canopy Trial Weekend
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

25-29 BPA Instructor Course
Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271
AFF/Tandem trudy@bpa.org.uk

25-May 1 Freely World Record Attempt
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

28-May 8 Atmonauti Pro 2 Boogie
Brienne le Château, France www.atmonauti.com

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

29-May 2 BCPA Southern
RAFSPA, Weston www.bcpa.org.uk
0117 904 0578 chairman@bcpa.org.uk

30-May 1 Opener Boogie
Cross Keys, USA www.skydivecrosskeys.com

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

30-May 2 Multi Aircraft Weekend
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

30-May 2 Invitational FS Big-way
Langar info@bpslangar.co.uk

30-May 2 22nd Anniversary
Wild Geese 028 2955 860
N Ireland parachute@wildgeese.demon.uk

30-May 2 Wingsuit Weekend
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

30-May 7 Women's CF World Record Att
Lake Wales, USA www.wboxofclue.com

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

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

30-May 9 Jersey Boogie
Skydive Jersey 01534 747410
www.skydivejersey.net

MAY

5-8 World Freely Project
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

5-8 Big-way Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

7-8 Andy Kelly 4-way FS Meet
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

7-8 CF Coaching Weekend
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

9-13 BPA Instructor Course
Strathallan 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

13-15 Babylon Freely Workshop
Empuriabrava, Spain www.babylon-freely.com

13-16 World Freely Project
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

13-17 Airspeed Skills/Tunnel Camp
Eloy, USA todd@airspeed.org

14-15 Freely Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

14-15 8-way FS Grand Prix
Black Knights 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

14-15 Crazy £100 Weekend
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

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

14-15 Women's Freely W/Rec Camp
Eloy, USA sugargliderzfreely@hotmail.com

14-16 RW Max
Lapalisse, France www.lapalisse-aero.com

14-20 Bunnies Skills Week
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

16-20 Advanced Packing Course
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

16-20 BPA Instructor Course
Strathallan 0116 278 5271
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

16-20 Learning Curve Camp
Rambler, Australia www.ramblers.com.au

16-22 Beach Boogie
Empuriabrava www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

18-22 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

19-22 Women's Freely W/Rec Camp
Brienne Le Château, France g@atmonauti.com

20 Night Jumps
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

21-22 4-way Rookie Scrambles
Cross Keys, USA www.freefalladventures.com

21-22 Novice Accuracy Comp
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

21-22 Freely & Music Fiesta
Elsinore, USA www.skydiveelsinore.com

21-22 4-way FS Grand Prix
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

21-22 Deland Majik FS Coaching
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

21-22 Freely Coaching
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

26-29 Speed World Cup Heat
Spa, Belgium www.speedskydiving.com

26-29 Atmonauti Camp
Brienne le Château, France www.atmonauti.com

27-30 BCPA Scots Meet
Strathallan www.bcpa.org.uk
0117 904 0578 chairman@bcpa.org.uk

27-30 Dropzone.com Boogie
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

27-30 Babylon Boogie
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

28-29 Freely Coaching
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

28-30 Turbine Madness
Eloy, USA www.skydiveaz.com

28-30 4-way & 8-way FS Grand Prix
Cark skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
01539 558 672 www.skydive-northwest.com

28-30 CF 16-way Diamond
Langar 01949 860 878
mark@weaver95.fsnet.co.uk

28-Jun 5 CF Big-ways Week
Empuriabrava www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

30-Jun 3 Progression Week
BKPC, Cockerham 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

JUNE

2-4 Canopy Piloting Workshop
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

2-5 Italian Freely Record Attempt
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

3-5 Bridge the Gap
Elsinore, USA www.skydiveelsinore.com

4-5 Woodmouse Speed 7 Meet
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

4-5 Freely Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.freelymegacenter.com

4-5 8-way Speed Plus
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

4-5 POPS European Meet
Germany www.thepops.org

4-5 4-way Mini Meet
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

6-10 BPA instructor Course
Chatteris 0116 278 5271
Tandem/AFF trudy@bpa.org.uk

6-13 Queen's Birthday Boogie
Rambler, Australia www.ramblers.com.au

8-12 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

9-12 Women's Freely W/Rec Camp
Brienne Le Château, France g@atmonauti.com

10-12 Wingsuit / Canopy Flying
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

KEY

BPA
Canopy Piloting
Formation Skydiving
Canopy Formation
Style & Accuracy
Boogies
Freely & Skysurf
POPS
Speed Skydiving
Unclassified

11 Night Jumps
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

11-12 FS Coaching Roadshow
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www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

13-17 WARP Week
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

13-19 Euro Freely Record Attempt
Empuriabrava www.babylon-freely.com

14 BPA Council Meeting
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www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk

18 Summer Party
Black Knights 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

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

18-19 CF & Classics Grand Prix
Black Knights 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

18-19 4-way FS Meet
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
skydiveweston@aol.com www.rafspa.com

18-19 CF Mini Meet
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

18-26 Freely Festival
Black Knights 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

21-22 Women's Freely W/Rec Camp
Chicago, USA 001 815 433 000

24-26 Women's Freely World Rec Att
Chicago sugargliderzfreely@hotmail.com

24-26 Speed World Cup Heat
Hibaldstow 0113 250 5600
www.speedskydiving.com

24-26 RW4 Competition
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivetortuga.com

25 Iron Crank 4-way Meet
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

25-26 4-way FS Grand Prix
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

25-26 8-way Mini Meet
Netheravon apa@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

25-26 POPS Meet
Hibaldstow www.thepops.org.uk

25-Jul 3 Brienne Boogie
Brienne le Château, France 0033 66 108 5555

JULY

1 Summer Ball
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

1-4 Beach Boogie & Swoop Comp
Cross Keys, USA www.freefalladventures.com

2-3 10-way Speed Scrambles
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

2-3 Artistic Coaching Roadshow
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Dr Margaret Clamp 12
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Empuria Apartment 55
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Fly Your Body 37
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Lapalisse 53
0033 470 991 803 www.lapalisse-aero.com
Larsen & Bruggard 78
004 546 757 722 www.l-and-b.dk
Nemesis 14
0044 (0)1262 403 737 www.skywalkerinc.com
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Ramblers Parachute Centre 64
0061 754 231 159 ramblers@hypermax.net.au
Relative Workshop 10
001 386 736 7589 www.relativeworkshop.com
Ripcord Skydivers 62
0061 733 993 552 www.ripcord-skydiving.com.au
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canopypiloting@skydivelillo.com
Skydive Lillo 63
0034 630 05 05 04 www.skydivelillo.com
Skydive Space Centre 78
001 321 267 0016 www.skydivespacecenter.com
Skydive Spain (Target Skysports) 25
0044 (0)1132 505 600 www.skydivespain.com
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Space 47
0044 (0)1652 648 837 freeflyjimbo@hotmail.com
Sunpath 36
001 813 782 9242 info@sunpath.com
The Sunshine Factory 86
001 813 788 9831 www.sunshine-factory.com
Symbiosis Suits 37
0044 (0)1622 890 967 symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com
Target Skysports (Inc DZ Shop) 24-25
0044 (0)1132 505 600 info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
Thomas Sports Equipment 28, OBC
0044 (0)1262 678 299 www.thomas-sports.com
Tony Suits 47
001 813 788 4753 www.tonysuits.com
Velocity Sports Equipment 64
www.velocityrigs.com
Xlaviation 29
0044 (0)7768 643956 www.xlaviation.com

2-10
Teuge, Holland

CF Spektakel
www.para-teuge.nl

4-8 FS Week
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

6-10 BCPA Nationals
Cark www.bcpa.org.uk
0117 904 0578 chairman@bcpa.org.uk

8-9 Hoxter 4-way Mini Meet
Hoxter, Germany 0049 5271 7173

9-10 Scrambles
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

9-10 8-way FS & Freely Grand Prix
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

9-17 UK Freely Festival
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

13-17 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

14-17 Atmonauti Camp
Brienne le Château, France www.atmonauti.com

15-17 FS 4-way Skills Camp
Empuriabrava www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

15-17 Safe Flight School
St Andrews info@safeflightschool.co.uk
01334 880 678 www.safeflightschool.com

16-17 CF Grand Prix
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

16-24 RAPA Championships
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

18-22 Progression Week
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

18-22 Progression Week
BKPC, Cockerham 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

20-23 Beach Swoop Challenge
Empuriabrava www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

22-24 Speed World Cup Heat
Jumptown, USA www.speedskydiving.com

23-31 Lost Prairie Boogie
Eloy, USA www.skydiveaz.com

23-31 Espace Boogie
France www.espaceboogie.com

24 Water Jump
Bowl Reservoir 01622 890 862
near Headcorn headcorn@btconnect.com

25-29 BPA Instructor Course
RAFSPA, Weston 0116 278 5271
Tandem/AFF trudy@bpa.org.uk

28-31 Canopy Piloting Workshop
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

29-31 POPS European Meet
Austria www.thepops.org

30-31 20-way Weekend
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

30-Aug 1 4-way FS Nationals
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

AUGUST

4-7 Freely Chicks
Tortuga, Italy cathyskyb@aol.com

5-14 North West Skyfest
Cark skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
01539 558 672 www.skydive-northwest.com

6-7 POPS European Meet
Switzerland www.thepops.org

6-8 8-way FS, Artistics, Speed Nationals
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

10-14 4-way Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.perrisperformanceplus.com

10-15 French Nationals
Lapalisse, France www.lapalisse-aero.com

13-14 Freely Skills Camp
Elsinore, USA www.skydiveelsinore.com

13-14 Safe Flight School
UK Parachuting info@safeflightschool.com
01953 861 030 www.safeflightschool.com

13-15 Nationals Reserve Weekend
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

13-20 Czech Boogie
Karlovy Vary www.boogieclub.co.uk

13-20 Space Games
Tortuga, Italy www.skydivefortuga.com

15-19 BPA Instructor Course
Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271
CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv trudy@bpa.org.uk

16 BPA Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk

18 Party
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

20-21 Wingsuit Festival
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
ford1fly@metronet.co.uk www.rafspace.com

20-28 Lancaster Boogie
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

20-29 Summer Boogie
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk 0113 250 5600

22-26 BPA Instructor Course
Hibaldstow 0116 278 5271
CSI/Pre-Advanced trudy@bpa.org.uk

23-Sep 11 USPA Nationals
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

25-28 Atmonauti Camp
Brienne le Château, France www.atmonauti.com

26-29 Birdman Boogie
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

27 Night Jumps
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

27-28 POPS European Meet
Denmark www.thepops.org

27-Sep 4 Langar Boogie II
Langar 01949 860 878
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk

29-Sep 2 Progression Week
BKPC, Cockerham 01772 717624
www.bkpc.co.uk info@bkpc.co.uk

SEPTEMBER

3-4 LAC Meet
Headcorn www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
01622 890 862 headcorn@btconnect.com

3-4 POPS European Meet
Netherlands www.thepops.org

5-9 British Nationals Style & Acc
Cark skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
01539 558 672 www.skydive-northwest.com

9-11 4-way FS Grand Prix
Peterborough skydive@skydivesibson.com
01832 280 490 www.skydivesibson.com

10-11 10-way Speed Meet
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

17-18 20-way Weekend
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

17-18 4-way FS Scrambles
Hibaldstow info@targetsky.demon.co.uk
0113 250 5600 www.targetsky.demon.co.uk

17-18 POPS European Meet
Poland www.thepops.org

19-23 Progression Week
UK Parachuting jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
01953 861 030 www.ukparachuting.co.uk

22-25 POPS World Record Attempt
Perris Valley, USA www.skydiveperris.com

23-26 Speed World Cup Final
Skydive Spain, Seville www.skydivespain.com

23-Oct 2 MACIA Boogie
Brienne le Château, France www.atmonauti.com

24-25 Scrambles
RAFSPA, Weston 01869 343 343
skydiveweston@aol.com www.rafspace.com

26-Oct 1 Women's World Record Attempt
Perris Valley www.jumpforthecause.com

30-Oct 2 SOS Meet
Elsinore, USA www.skydiveelsinore.com

OCTOBER

1 APA Autumn Ball/Film Festival
Netheravon apo@netheravon.fsnet.co.uk
www.netheravon.com 01980 678 245

1-2 20-way Weekend
RAPA, Germany alexbusby@t-online.de

1-2 Freely Tunnel Camp
Perris Valley www.freelymegacenter.com

5-15 Flyboyz Film Festival
Perris Valley, USA www.flyboyz.com

7-9 Chicks Rock
Elsinore, USA www.skydiveelsinore.com

8-12 Spanish FS Nationals
Empuriabrava www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

11 BPA Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester 0116 278 5271
www.bpa.org.uk skydive@bpa.org.uk

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 - FS-8-way
 - FS-Women's 4-way
 - CF-Sequential

- DENMARK
- FRANCE
- Freestyle
 - Freely



- FRANCE
- FS- 4-way
 - FS-8-way
 - FS-Women's 4-way
 - Freestyle

- SWITZERLAND
- Skysurf



- RUSSIA
- FS- 4-way
 - FS-8-way
 - FS-Women's 4-way

- USA
- CF- Speed



photo by: Francisco Neri

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