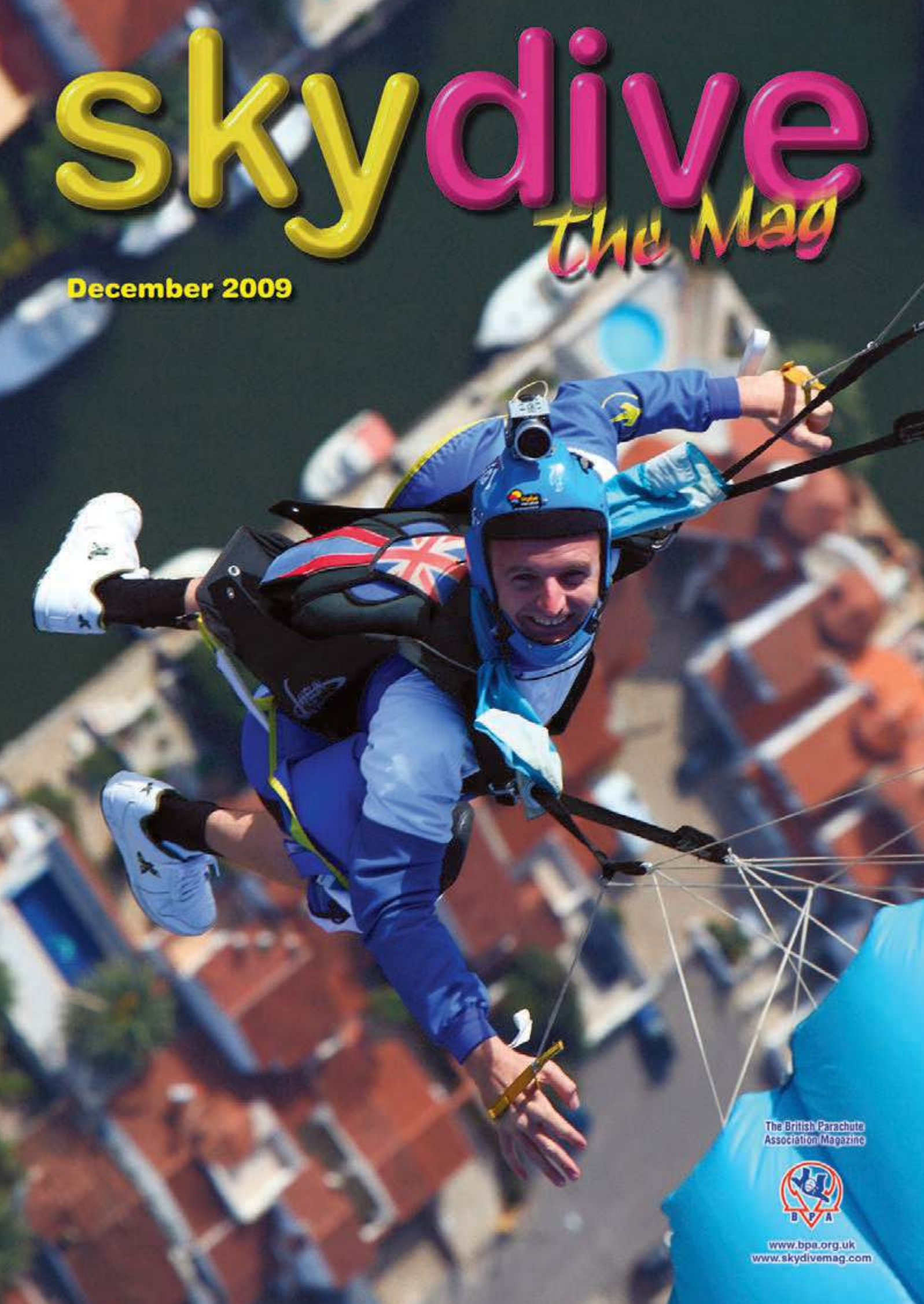
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The Mag
December 2009
The British Parachute Association Magazine
BPA
www.bpa.org.uk
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skydive The Mag

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Photo: Tag Pulham

We are now in a process of reviewing, updating and revitalising your magazine. It has remained fairly static the last two years or so, especially through the uncertainty of the tender period. Now it's confirmed I'm still in charge of your Mag I want to breathe new life into your old favourite, keeping what you like and improving what I can.

The challenge facing us is to develop the printed magazine alongside a new interactive Mag website, using both media to their full advantage. I'll be the first to admit our website is far from ideal. It wasn't great when it was first introduced and hasn't really changed in a decade. The good news is, we are developing a completely new site from scratch, designed to work in parallel with The Mag. We see the internet as the best forum for news, comment and quick access to photos. The bimonthly Mag is perfect to showcase superb quality photos of our sport, and for educational articles you can curl up by the fire to read.

Personally I feel perhaps there are too many event reports and not enough information. If you agree or disagree, I'd like to know. And if there are too many events, which ones are vital to cover, and which are more expendable? Now is the perfect time to give constructive feedback as this will help to shape your magazine in the new year. Please input by email or at the AGM in Blackpool, where we will be canvassing your opinions.

Enclosed with this Mag is your Christmas present from the BPA – a 2010 Skydiving Calendar. This year it developed its own flavour of scenic images, showing the beauty of our sport; being in freefall and flying under canopy gives a unique perspective on the landscapes of our world. We wish you a very merry Christmas and blue skies next year!

Lesley

Issue	To Reader	Copy Deadline
February 10	Sat 13 Feb	Fri 8 Jan
April 10	Sat 3 Apr	Tue 23 Feb

PS Remember to vote! Your Council nomination form will arrive in the post.

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www.skydivemag.com

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.**

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Breaking off at the Jump for the Cause
Women's World Record by Willy Boeykens

Cover:

Nigel Holland smiles at Bruno Brokken over Empuriabrava

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.

Skydiving training and systems vary in different countries. If you are considering taking a skydiving course or qualification abroad, we recommend you first establish its relevance in the UK, through your CCI.

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

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ESL Finals

Twenty-three teams from six nations turned up at Hibaldstow to compete for the ESL Spirit, previously won by Belgium, the Netherlands and most recently the UK, which was therefore hosting the ESL Finals for the first time. Target Skysports, Hibaldstow did what they do best, completing the competition by lunchtime on the second day.

The sun shone on the European teams (and South African guests) for the first time in three years. The last two ESL Finals had to be called after only three rounds due to wet and windy weather but the UK broke with stereotype, with perfect jumping conditions. The UK and the Netherlands were once again out in force in pursuit of the Spirit, a fabulous huge sword, a moment of glory and the ticket to hosting the competition next year.

AAA Class

In AAA, British team *Satori* stormed ahead and once again broke the UK national record average, with a 21.3, and equalled the UK single round record with a 35, showing their potential as the UK's national team going to the World Championships in Russia 2010. On their tails were *4XTT*, officially from Belgium, a new team comprising Sven Ibens (ex *Hayabusa*), Wesley Claessens, Paul Hofstee (*Dynamic Force*) and Jacco van Eerden, who were heading back home for the Belgian Nationals. In third were Norwegian *Frost*, who are looking to become the Norwegian National team for the World Meet in 2010. A guest place was had by *Voodoo*, from South Africa, who aim to become the South African national team in April 2010 and were using the northern hemisphere's summer to warm up their skydiving.

AA Podium

AA Class

The Netherlands and the UK dominated all other categories, with the Dutch winning all three. In AA, Dutch National Champions *Ignition* continued with their form, scoring an 11 point average to take gold, 11 points clear of returning team *Empat Laki Laki.* A tense finish was had, as *Empat Laki Laki* were tied with UK team *Random Vengeance* after round 9. The atmosphere was tense as round 10 was split-screened in the bar. *Empat* managed to push ahead early in the jump, going 2 points clear to take silver, with Brits *Random Vengeance* taking bronze.

A Class

The small field in A meant all teams were guaranteed a medal but this didn't dampen enthusiasm for the jumps. The Dutch national winners *Creeps* took a 9 point lead over UK Nationals silver medallists *Slot Machines.* Bronze was taken by scratch team *PE,* comprising two members from UK A champions *Unagi* (Pete Mather and Jon Dundee) along with Simon Brentford and Paul Geary.

Satori by Dave Butterell

A Podium

Prizegiving photos by John Williamson

AAA Podium

Rookie Podium

Rookie

In Rookie, UK national silver medallists *Gr4vity* could only manage second against a very strong *Team Meo,* who won with an impressive 14.4 average. Still, *Gr4vity* improved their average from 10.9 at the UK Nationals to 12.5 at ESL. Returning team *Blue Rebels* from Greece took bronze with a strong 9.7 average.

The Spirit

Across the field it was good to see teams returning from previous years as well as several scratch teams formed to help fill out the field. After the category medals were handed out it was time to get down to what everyone had come for – the awarding of the ESL Spirit. Initial confusion over the new scoring system had the UK announced as the ESL Spirit winners. This mistake was later corrected in the bar to much cheering from the Dutch squad, who were happily compensated with a free drink each, courtesy of Target Skysports.

Under the old system, the total scores from the top two teams in each category were added together to get an overall score per nation. Under the new system, 10 points are awarded for a gold, 8 for silver, 6 for bronze and 5-1 points for fourth down to eighth. Each nation is awarded these points for the best four placing teams across all categories, meaning the maximum score is 40 points if you win every category. Under the new system, the Netherlands had three golds and a silver, making 38 points – while the UK with one gold, two silvers and a bronze had a total of 32. Hence the Spirit was won back by the Dutch. This new system was introduced to try and encourage more nations to turn up, as the sword can be won with a much smaller squad than before, and it gives equal worth to teams in every category, encouraging a varied squad. Previously a high average AAA team could be worth two teams in a lower category.

Judging

Special mention has to go to Kate Charters, the only judge for the entire meet. Her job was made much easier by the Cametrix system and she managed to judge all videos within 20 minutes of them being downloaded. Thanks Kate for all the points.

ESL 2010

We are now looking forward to ESL 2010 in the Netherlands. Talk from the Dutch squad confirmed that it will be held at Texel next year, 10-12 September, and we all look forward to visiting the windy isle again. See you in 2010!

Richard Head
Phobia

Phobia

Photos by John Williamson

ESL Finals Results

		Team	Total/10 rounds
AAA			
1	UK	Satori	213
2	Belgium	4XTT	194
3	Norway	Frost	171
4	Italy	Spinapsi	163
5	SA	Voodoo	158
6	UK	Phobia	143
7	UK	Fend 4 Yourself	127
8	UK	Nuvision	125
9	UK	4tunate	92
AA			
1	Holland	Ignition	114
2	Holland	Empat Laki Laki	103
3	UK	Random Vengeance	101
4		Serge's Angles	97
5	UK	Old Skool	69
A			
1	Holland	Creeps	119
2	UK	Slot Machines	110
3	UK	PE	103
Rookie			
1	Holland	Team Meo	144
2	UK	Gr4vity	125
3	Greece	Blue Rebels	97
4	UK	Beef Curtains	78
5	UK	Karma	65
6	UK	RAFSPA Typhoon	55

Random Vengeance

The Spirit went to Team Holland

JM's Newsround

Skydiver of the Year

Nominations are invited for Skydiver of the Year 2009. Email suggestions, with reasons, to the BPA Office by **Monday 14 December**, Council will make the final choice.

skydive@bpa.org.uk

BCPA Hand-me-Downs

If you have any used skydiving equipment you no longer have a need for, it would find a good home with the BCPA. This collegiate body has launched a scheme to donate second hand gear, which will be passed on, raffled, or used as a prize. Bring your gear to the AGM, or to BCPA Committee members at Weston, Langar or Netheravon.

mail@bcpa.org.uk

Welsh Mini-boogie

Skydive Swansea is holding a mini-boogie, 27-31 December for those staying in the UK for the festive season to have a break from turkey sandwiches and relative work. Freefall views from Swansea can be seen on the October page of the BPA Calendar 2010.

skydiveswansea.co.uk

Satori Skills Camp

National record-breaking team *Satori* are running a 4-way skills camp in Skydive Seville, 17-21 December. You will jump with a *Satori* member, learn 4-way basics and improve your potential to join a team.

teamsatori.co.uk

JFTC Honoured in Parliament

An Early Day Motion (EDM 2148) congratulated the Brit Chicks and paid tribute to all on JFTC for setting a World Record, raising $900,000+ for cancer research and promoting breast cancer awareness worldwide.

http://edmi.parliament.uk

Skydive Expo

A brand-new, not-for-profit skydiving event has been launched, Skydive Expo, at Deland, 11-14 March 2010. Supported by manufacturers, it is aimed at helping you educate yourself about your gear, their gear and safety. The leading brands will be there, dedicated to answering your questions about packing, maintenance and what kit is right for you. There will be seminars by top names, organised skydives, nightly raffle and too much more to list.

skydiveexpo.com

Babylon Speed Riding

Vince Reffet and Fred Fugen are offering two Speed Riding courses in January 2010, at Val Frejus in the French Alps, combining skiing with canopy flying (parawings) around snowy mountains.

outfacing.com

Women's World Freefly Record

Sarah Curtis and Amy Chmelecki aim to break their own female freefly world record of 20 next year, 25-28 November, at Skydive Arizona. Two impeccably timed training camps are planned at Eloy, 2-3 April (Easter Boogie) and 28-29 October (Halloween Carnival).

amychmelecki@hotmail.com

World Team Delayed but Prepped

World Team base practice by Lydie Rabasa-Lhoret

The World Team sequential world record 252-way attempt in January 2010 has been postponed, due to problems with availability of multiple RTAF Hercules. World Team will run an event in January 2011, but are currently unsure whether this will be the 252-way sequential or raising their own world record of 400, set in 2006.

Nonetheless the World Team base 60-way still convened as planned at Skydive Arizona in November, as the base unit is the same for both planned record jumps. The base achieved multiple completions from three aircraft and refined the build, structure, and fall rate. They meet again at Eloy in November 2010 just prior to the next WT project in January 2011, whatever type of record that is.

theworldteam.com

ToraTora Brings Art Back to Freefly

Freefly team *ToraTora* are holding an Artistic Flight Meet, 3-11 July 2010, in Belgium, with a new form of judging. They want freeflyers to think creatively and showcase any form of human flight, without being restricted by standard scoring systems. Teams (of three) make ten jumps and hand in their chosen three rounds to be judged. Every jury member will 'judge by their own interpretation' to define the winners. *ToraTora's* Jasper van der Meer said *'The goal of the event is not the glory of one team but rather the development of human flight in general. Flying is a form of expression and, therefore, a form of art. This is a call to all freeflyers to show to the rest of the world what human flight means to you."*

toratora.nl

Martijn van Dam

Take the Plunge

Bodyflight is opening the UK's first double Flow Rider

Bodyflight wind tunnel are adding two new attractions in the new year. One is a Flow House, which creates a perpetual wave for surfers, so they can train and play inside. Another is a 200m zip wire from the top of the tunnel, where riders will reach 40mph. Bodyflight have already opened a leisure complex with pool, jacuzzi, sauna, steam room and gym, plus an adrenalin attraction, Vertigo, where you jump off the top of the tunnel with a fan trainer device.

bodyflight.co.uk

airkix.com
indoor skydiving

COMPETITIONS

CP World Cup, South Africa

At the time of this Mag arriving you may wish to follow our canopy pilots going for it at the World Cup in South Africa. Good luck all, hope you bring home some Christmas presents to reflect your hard work. Paul Moore is Head of Delegation after the fantastic job he did at the World Cup in the Czech Republic in August.

canopypilotingsa.co.za

Style Nationals

Massive thanks to South Cerney who hosted the re-run of the Style element of the Classics Nationals (weathered out at RAPA). We have overall champions now for classics events, see BPA website. Congratulations to Pete Sizer of Headcorn, Classics Overall Champion 2009.

Funded Teams

Comps Committee has been pleased to see a number of teams make funding criteria, either on their Nationals score or other merit basis. The 2010 funded teams are *Volare, Airkix Freestyle, Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants, Satori* and *Team Bodyflight* (was *Pussy Galore).* There are funds on hold for the CP competitors, waiting for the results in South Africa and confirmation of a 2010 event.

2010 Competitions Diary

Next year's meets are nearly all decided, the last ones to pin down are the CF and Speed 8 Nationals, and a Classics Grand Prix (GP). Dates are in this Mag's diary and on the BPA website. Roadshow bid forms have been sent to DZs so, if you want coaching from our champions, ask your DZO to bid!

GENERAL NEWS

Council 2010 Election

16 nominations have been received for the 15 seats on Council, so there will be an election. Nominees, in alphabetical order, are:

Paul Applegate
Christopher Beattie
Adrian Bond
Kieran Brady
Richard Head
John Horne
Paul Ledden
Ian Marshall
Paul Moore
Kevin O'Connor
Craig Poxon
Steve Saunders
Andy Scott
John Smyth
Martin Soulsby
Weed Stoodley.

The election will be independently administered by Howsons Electoral Services, who offer voting by post or online. You will receive a voting paper in the post. Please note that joint Members may not receive their voting papers at the same time, the second one may take up to an additional week. The election timetable will be announced on the BPA website, where the results will be published on Tuesday 12 January, ahead of the AGM on Saturday 16 January 2010. The new Council will hold its inaugural meeting on AGM day at the Blackpool Hilton. See page 13 for the latest on the BPA AGM.

Memo & Arts Review

Work is progressing well on an update of the BPA's governing instrument, its Memorandum & Articles of Association. However, our specialist legal advisers have only recently been able to recast it in a new format that came into force from 1 October 2009. The new draft is therefore unlikely to be ready for the 2010 AGM and will be considered at the following year's AGM.

Associate Members

This review highlighted an anomaly of the 'Qualified Associate Member'. The Council decided that Qualified Associate Members will be recategorised as Full Members, with effect from the new membership year beginning 1 April 2010.

"Incredible Skydivers"

Vice President Jim Crocker bubbled with enthusiasm and pride when he saw the amazing list of achievements by members, reported elsewhere in this Mag (also see Council Meeting Agenda October 09). *"Congratulations to all the incredible skydivers who have achieved so much, and to the Council that has so strongly supported competition training for many years now. Collectively they bring great credit to our sport and our Association".*

DZOs Meeting

The annual meeting of DZ Operators took place in Walcote Village Hall in Leicestershire on 27 October, chaired by BPA Chairman John Smyth. 18 dropzones were represented at the all-day meeting. The event was supported by the BPA's insurers, Mansons Insurance Brokers. There were no burning issues – other than the slow-burn one of upcoming European regulation of air sports. This was considered in detail with the BPA European team of Paul Moore, Tony Knight and Kieran Brady. The day provided an excellent opportunity for DZOs, Council Members and BPA Staff to meet. There was unanimous support for a similar get-together next year.

Christmas Festivities

The BPA Office will be closed from Thursday 24 December and re-open on Monday 4 January. The BPA Staff send compliments of the season to all Members.

BPA Matters

www.bpa.org.uk
0116 278 5271

By Martin Shuttleworth

Minutes of BPA meetings once ratified may be downloaded from the BPA website

Coach the Coach

Another Loughborough University coaching event is planned for Saturday 30 January. It will focus on pre-competition routines, setting goals, and controlling performance anxiety. If you're a coach there is no cost other than getting yourself there! If you're interested contact the BPA Office – the more interest we get, the more events we will try to subsidise.

Thanks for 2009

Many thanks for the support in 2009 and well done to all competitors and judges. Thanks also to the Comps Committee members for the many hours put in to manage one of the more heavyweight pieces of committee work, especially Helen at the BPA Office for all her hard work – great job all!

Andy Scott, andy@bpa.org.uk
Chairman of Comps

Web-based 8-way Comp

We are running a web-based 8-way competition with the dives posted on the BPA website at the start of four summer months, April through July. The draw will be from the intermediate dive pool with 2 rounds drawn per month (total 8 rounds).
Blocks: 1, 4, 6, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21
Randoms: B, F, G, J, K, M, N, P

Teams can jump as many times as they like, from any aircraft, and choose the dive they wish to submit. This is then uploaded onto UKS and will be judged as soon as possible, by Karla Cole, to 8-way Nationals rules with a few exceptions to facilitate a website competition. Any number of alternates can be used. The comp is free and is just for fun. There will be winners but no medals or prizes, just glory. Dates are:

Round	*Draw*	*Closing date*
1	2 April	30 April
2	30 April	28 May
3	4 June	2 July
4	2 July	30 July

Martin Soulsby,
martin.soulsby@bpa.org.uk
FS Rep & Chairman of Communications

Life Members

Council has conferred the honour of Life Membership on Mike Carpenter, Alberto Fuertes and Adam Mattacola, as Freefly World Cup gold medallists with *Volare*.

Skydiver of the Year 2009

The Taz Causer award is for a UK skydiver who has achieved something really special in 2009. Nominations for the Skydiver of the Year, with reasons, by BPA Members should be emailed to the BPA Office by **Monday 14 December 2009.** Council will select the winner from nominations received, and the award will be presented at the AGM.

Martin Shuttleworth

Ex BPA Members Survey

Development Committee emailed a significant number of lapsed Members with a link to an online survey asking their reasons for leaving the sport and whether the BPA could do anything to encourage them to rejoin. The email also relayed progress such as the fall in BPA subscription cost and inclusion of death & critical injury benefits with membership. Nearly 9,000 emails were sent, over 5,000 were delivered, and more than 500 people responded to the survey. The results are now being analysed and will be posted on the BPA website.

Craig Poxon, craig@bpa.org.uk
Chairman of Development

NEW RATINGS

AFF Instructor
Stuart Storey
Bryn Chaffe
David Head
Chris Southworth

Tandem Instructor
Olly Burgin
Colin Stevenson
Brendan O'Rafferty
Robert Peterson
Chas McNeil
Chris Nelson
Adrian King
Mike Murphy
Darren Smith

Advanced Packers
Michael McNulty (S)
Westleigh Guest (S)
Peter Harries (S)
Chris McCann (T)
Joe Willoughby (T)
Aaron Binks (S

CSBI
Mike Riley
Gary Chapman
Ross Foster
James Graham
Danny Kelly
James Peace
Kim Mason
Dave Pacey
Richard Molloy
Nicky Wilkes
Karen Bain
Mike McNulty
Martin Heywood-Wakeman

AFFBI
Olly Burgin
Chris Brook

Tandem BI
Joe Bickerton

CSI
Alex Pascoe
Jade Elliott
Shane Cook
Doug McIlwraith
Stacey Hastings
Kevin Dynan
Jon Irving
Sally Uren
Jan Louis Jurgens Saunders

Advanced Instructor
Dave Clarke
Andy Clark

Instructor Examiner
Pete Sizer
Billy Steele

Photo from Langar Boogie II by Gary Wainwright

WWW.SKYDIVEEXPO.COM

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- **New-look AGM day in a top hotel in Blackpool seaside resort**
- **Brand new BPA Film Festival – watch and judge the winning entry!**
- **Fixed price drink – now even lower – £2.50 for beer, lager & house wine ***
- **Annual Dinner – a great menu at a sensible price ****
- **Comedian during dinner *****
- **Hotel nightclub for exclusive use of BPA members on Saturday**
- **Special BPA rate at this fine hotel ******

* Fixed price drinks noon Fri 15 Jan through till noon on Sun 17 Jan
** Dinner by advance ticket only – £21 from the BPA Office or website
*** Comedian sponsored by the Blackpool Hilton
**** Book hotel rooms with Stephanie Hill on **01253 627977**
Quote BPA for special rate (£89 double/twin, £59 single)

Morning AGM, etc
10.30am, AGM & awards ceremony

Lunchtime Film Festival
1-2pm, Film Festival - come and vote for your favourite

All Day Exhibition
9.15 - 4.30pm, Skydiving-related equipment, accessories & interests

Afternoon Presentations
- Travel back in Time . . . . . David Waterman, photographer
- Freeflying to World Cup Gold . . . . . *Volare*
- From Rookie to World Cup . . . . . *Phobia* 4-way FS team
- Fitness for Skydiving . . . . . Sarah Cannon, *Bodyflight Storm*
- The Modern BCPA . . . . . Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman & guests
- Jump for the Cause . . . . . Audrey Rowe & Jo Hawley
- Canopy Formations . . . . . Steve Saunders
- Skydiving & the Environment . . . . . Nick Brown
- Competitions Open Forum
- Meetings – POPS, Pilots, Display Teams

(Seminars still being added – latest programme on BPA website)

Evening Entertainment
Dinner, Comedian, Nightclub, Hit the town!

Dinner Menu

Minestrone soup with Parmesan cheese flutes

Pot-roasted chicken breast with Dijon mustard mash, honey glazed carrots & a rosemary cream sauce

or

Asparagus risotto (vegetarian)

Fresh berry cheesecake with strawberry and vanilla sauce

Coffee and mints

Note: AGM Proxy Votes
A Member who will not be able to attend the AGM but who wishes to vote should request a proxy voting form from the BPA Office. This relates only to motions to be voted on at the AGM at 10.30am (agenda published, pg 29, October Mag & on BPA website), **not** for the Council election.

BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER
AT FIRST GLANCE, DOESN'T THE STORM APPEAR TO BE JUST ANOTHER 7-CELL? PERHAPS...
BUT JUMP THE STORM AND ALL YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT A 7-CELL WILL BE CHALLENGED.
WELL MANNERED
RESPONSIVE
POWERFUL
BEAUTIFUL
PHOTO BY: ADRIANNA SCAVUZZO
WWW.PERFORMANCEDESIGNS.COM
STORM
ROBERTA MANCINO STORM 97
FREEFLY RECORD HOLDER - WINGSUIT FLYER - INSTRUCTOR

BAH HUMBUG..

The Twelve ~~Days of Christmas~~

Gripes of a Grumpy Old Instructor

Photo: Katie Woods, Milko & Bruno Brokken, by Mike Gorman

1. ***"I can't afford £300 for a canopy course, it's just too much"... when coupled with "my team's just bought 6 hours of tunnel time"***
   It's pointless being awesome in freefall if you can't get down safely afterwards.

2. ***"Can someone give me a quick check please?... ooh no, not you, you're a rigger, you might find something wrong"***
   Isn't that the point?!

3. ***"I could see I was deep, so at six grand I tracked for the DZ/pulled high even though there were groups out after me"***
   Keep to your own airspace, don't infringe other people's.

4. ***"Yes I know neither of us have FS1 but if we tell the jumpmaster we're doing two solos and then exit quickly and catch each other then I'm sure that'll be allowed"***
   No it isn't!

5. ***"I can't afford head down coaching, but it's ok because I know I'm going straight down and not tracking under other groups..."***
   Not without a coach as a reference you don't.

6. (on run-in) ***"Where's the spot?", "What's the wind doing?", "Which direction are we landing?"***
   Know these **before** you board the aircraft!

7. (at kit 'n' docs checks) ***"What's my reserve again?" ...*** (to friend) ***"What have you got, I think we got the same didn't we?"***
   Get to know your kit on the ground when you have time, rather than at 1,500 feet over power lines after a malfunction!

8. ***"I've been jumping a 190, but I'm going to order a 150 for my new kit as I don't want to get bored"***
   Only boring people get bored under canopy.

9. ***"No I don't have my FS1 but I've got an hour of tunnel time so I'll be fine on that 8-way"***
   Tunnel doesn't teach you tracking or canopy control.

10. ***"200 jumps – YES! Pass me that wingsuit and camera helmet!"***
    It's a minimum requirement, not an automatic right.

11. ***"You might hit your head doing that exit like that"... "It's okay, I have a Cypres"***
    Only as a backup, don't ever plan to use it!

12. ***"Can you come and look at this closing loop and tell me if it needs changing?"***
    If you're asking the question, then the answer is yes! It's a bit of string for God's sake, costs pennies to replace but if it snaps on climb-out could bring down the entire aircraft... change it!

Grumpy Old Instructor Article written by Cool Young Instructor Liz Ashley

Fred Ryland

It is with great sadness that we let friends in skydiving know of the sudden death of Fred Ryland in August 2009. Many of you had lost touch with Fred following his retirement from skydiving as a result of a neck injury in the late 1990s, when he was still at the height of his skills.

Fred began his skydiving at Hereford Parachute Club while still at university and, following the completion of his PhD, he joined Peterborough Parachute Club as an instructor, where he trained and dispatched many of the sport's current skydivers. Fred stayed at Sibson for four years, taking time out to skydive at Zephyrhills, also obtaining his FAA Private Pilots License.

Fred was a exceptional skydiver with a successful record of competing in both Classics and Relative Work (RW – now Formation Skydiving) at national, European and international level. He was hugely competitive in everything he did, achieving a British National Championship in Accuracy in addition to a huge number of wins as a member of both RW, and Style & Accuracy teams. Fred was a member of the first European record-breaking formation and went on to be a member of two world records, in Thailand and Russia. In total Fred was involved in five record-breaking teams. He was also one of the demonstration skydivers at the Barcelona Olympics, attempting to secure a place for parachuting in that competition.

A long-standing member of the Brittany Ferries Display Team led by Robin Mills, Fred skydived his way across the UK and Europe, jumping at many major sporting events, including the Formula 1 at Silverstone and a home game at Manchester United. Fred loved skydiving, loved competing and enjoyed the company of his many friends in the sport. The injury that forced him from the sport also led him to lose touch with many of these friends and it is with sorrow that we remind you of Fred's achievements now that we have lost him.

Fred was intelligent, funny, passionate and occasionally exasperating. At the same time he was thoughtful, loving and truly supportive of his friends and those he loved. He was also undeniably cool. Many of you know that he was an incredibly knowledgeable computer and technology professional with a great love of every new gizmo. Fred was a collector of all types of music and film, only recently selling off his vinyl collection in favour of downloads. His favourite artist was Frank Zappa, his favourite movie was Pulp Fiction.

Fred separated from his long-time partner Lindsey and eventually moved to Benalium, Goa, in 2007 where he became a much-loved member of the community. Fred worked with Goan friends to create a beach cinema and music venue that kept them in business following the Mumbai terrorist attack and the fall in tourist numbers. This included a showing of Slumdog Millionaire on the beach, before it was even premiered in India, using an illegal download on his laptop, a temporary screen, a portable projector and horrendous wiring.

Throughout this time Fred had maintained contact with Joanne Vaughan, moving to France with Jo in the summer of 2009. In France Fred found contentment and happiness and was very much looking forward to a permanent future with Joanne. However, sadly on 26 August 2009 Fred suffered a fatal heart attack. He was 58 years old.

We want to thank all of you who loved Fred for getting in touch, for joining us at his service, for posting messages and photographs on Facebook, and for giving us your support and friendship. We both miss him very much. Thank you.

Lindsey Major & Joanne Vaughan

LETTERS

Wot, no Incident Reports?

I just wanted to ask if there was any reason why the Mag does not publish incident reports and findings following serious injuries and fatalities. There seems to be much hearsay and comment on websites following such incidents but I would have thought the magazine would be a better forum for sharing reports so people can learn from them. I noticed from a recent trip to Perris that the USPA magazine runs very detailed incident reports.

Derrick Potton
derrick.potton@hiscox.com

Thanks Derrick, your letter was just the kick up the bum I needed! We used to have incident reports in the Mag but they dried up due to the pressure of work on our voluntary contributor, Rick Boardman. I've now picked this area up again. Instructor and rigger Liz Ashley has kindly agreed to take over incident reports and other useful information on kit in a whole new safety section of the Mag. Many thanks to Rick for the incident reporting in the past, and we look forward to reading Liz's reports in the future.

That said, the internet provides a useful forum for instant discussion of a problem, whereas a bimonthly magazine can offer considered comment later. Both are valuable and we see them as complementary, not exclusive.

Lesley Gale, Editor

Wot, no DZ Feature?!

I just wondered why there was no Dropzone Feature in the last Mag. As you know I was not happy about the features from the beginning when Skydive Airkix started there first, as this was unfair advertising for those who wouldn't get a feature until three or four years later. I was told the BPA office pull a DZ from a hat for each issue, to make it fair. Now that this has been omitted for the second time, those DZs that have not featured could now not be in for another three years. A bit unfair don't you think?

Ash Kemp
DZO, Skydive Weston

There was no DZ Feature last issue because we did not have enough space due to a plethora of important skydiving events: the World Cup, World Games, CF, CP, FS, Artistics and Classics Nationals, and the World Head-down Record. There was not room for a DZ Feature without stealing space from Club News, which was also overloaded due to a great summer's activities.

The October Mag is usually full of events due to its position at the end of the season, covering all the Nationals and more. Now winter is here we have space for informative and educational articles. This issue includes a DZ Feature, and these will continue until every BPA club that wishes to be featured has been covered.

*Ash's email to me and subsequent post on **UKskydiver.co.uk** generated an interesting discussion about the relative value of photographs and information. We strive for balance and I guess everyone probably has a different opinion on what they want. We're currently in a phase of relaunch, refresh and redesign so now is the ideal time for Members to input as to what they would like to see to improve their Mag – email me!*

Lesley Gale, lesley@skydivemag.com

Photo: Andy Lovemore

Satori Skills

You know what the score is at Skydive Spain... wall to wall blue sky, fast efficient manifest, 15,000 feet damn fast, friendly staff, and a massive landing area. So then, three days in Seville should leave you feeling refreshed and recharged, providing the perfect fix to send you back home with a spring in your step. Well in theory, yes – just don't invite *Satori* along!

I went out to Seville with just 93 jumps and an FS1 sticker to do the Satori Skills Camp. My objectives were very straightforward. I wanted to gain confidence in my ability to jump with other people, to improve my FS skills so successful 4-ways were no longer just flukes and, most importantly, to have lots of fun!

The course was made up of 15 jumps over three days. My instructor was Aaron. We did three 2-ways, seven 3-ways with another student and five 4-ways with brilliant local jumpers Manolo and Bego. All jumps were properly briefed, walked through, dirtdived, debriefed, and laughed about in the bar (also put onto DVD to take away). One of the main benefits of the camp was having full access to Aaron and Jules who offered advice and answered questions.

The knowledge, professionalism and enthusiasm of Jules (who had obviously forgotten her Ritalin) and Aaron were immense. If you want a nice chilled-out three days of skydiving, do not sign up for a *Satori* camp! Don't get me wrong, a lot of fun was had, but after three days I was bordering on broken! The early morning warm-up and stretching routine clearly demonstrated that these guys weren't here to mess about! Bizarrely however, I kind of enjoyed leaving the hotel when it was still dark to go and stretch.

The day after the course I made six jumps with two of the other students. Guess what? The training was obvious immediately! I'm now sat at home in my '*Satori Alternate*' T-shirt waiting for the phone to ring! Guys thanks so much for a great three days. I've been watching the DVD ad nauseam and I'm really chuffed with the progress I made. My objectives were definitely met. I did a 4-way with some of the Hinton guys on my return and we did 11 points, nice one guys, and big thanks to Satori Academy!

Peter Greener
peter.greener@norbain.co.uk

SPEED Nationals

Ballistic Chicks

Blizzard

Blizzard

This year's UK Speed Nationals was held at Skydive Airkix, Sibson. I don't think they knew what hit them when our team showed up wearing suits of the brightest pink imaginable. We were all JFTC chicks flying our suits just one more time before the Women's World Record.

Six teams entered in total, of all different experiences and disciplines so it promised to be an interesting meet. *Swine Flew* has to win the best team name award, they were all from the police and it took Dave Turner all weekend to work out the team name! *Rush* and *Le Dive Geffins* were freeflyers attempting flat-flying. Although the competition rules permitted speed in head-down or head-up orientation as well as the traditional belly-down, everyone opted for the latter. *Special Needs* – hmm, need I say more? All the old-timers were missing were their zimmer frames! We are led to believe the name came from the ailments of the team – dodgy knees, bad shoulder, gammy leg, tennis elbow, aching this, that and the other. *Blizzard*, the current intermediate 8-way National Champions turned up in search of another medal. The *Ballistic Chicks* (named after our pink spray-on suits) completed the line-up.

No sooner had we got our gear checks and registered on the Saturday morning than we were on a 15 minute call – arrrghh, we hadn't even worked an exit out! We legged it to the mock-up, worked out who was going where, wheels-off and round 1 was under way! Paul our cameraman for round 1 was nearly blinded by our attire – and gutted he wasn't in pink! Brian filmed us too and wore an honorary chicks pink buff, good one!

The DZ was buzzing, it was a great atmosphere with everyone cheering and whooping. We entertained ourselves between rounds with pile-ons, new ways to wear your buff, beanbag fights, and listening to Rhino strum the guitar – of course we dirtdived too.

Second Point

There was as usual a prize for the best second point – we tried rodeos, swimming and twin block verticals. Lee the judge liked our swimming but the 'best' deservedly went to *Special Needs* – Rhino's team – for building a 3D 'Starship Enterprise'. Excellent. Make it so.

Three rounds were jumped on the Sunday and the meet was called at round 5. We, *Ballistic Chicks* managed to shave 4.6 secs off our build from round 1 to round 2 so we really thought we could be in for a chance of gold. However it was clear from the start who the winners were with their consistent build times and ingenious second points. *Special Needs* won the gold, *Blizzard* got the silver and *Ballistic Chicks* took bronze. Yay, we got a gong! Prancing around in the pink paid off. The police team *Swine Flew* (later dubbed '*Bounced Cheque*' by DT for obvious reasons) won the snail award for the slowest time, this being the third year running.

All the teams had a really good competition from what I saw, with super people, daft photos, great fun, big laughs and everyone really enjoyed themselves. Thanks all!

Michelle Meakins, Ballistic Chicks
shellm1@yahoo.com

Skydive Airkix, Sibson 5-6 September

Special Needs' special second point, a Starship Enterprise

Photos by Sarah Hall, Paul Dorwood, Nigel Rowlan, Andy Lapsley & Mark Harris

Winners, Special Needs

Silver to Blizzard

Special Needs

Ballistic Chicks

DOES 4-way have to cost the EARTH?

At this time of year, you're probably thinking about what to do next season. 4-way is fabulously rewarding but people can be put off by the money. Most teams nowadays spend a small fortune in the tunnel and on training camps.

But does 4-way need to cost an arm and a leg?

That was the question I and my friends – Jonny Flowers, Pete Harries, Sam Bemment and Chris Cook – asked ourselves the night we formed *Team Enigma.*

Concept

Calling ourselves a 'concept team' we set out to explore just how much can be achieved whilst spending the minimum amount possible.
The theory was that, by putting an emphasis on 'free' training such as dirtdiving, visualising and the coaching available at BPA Roadshows and UKSL (UK Skydiving League) and from our more experienced skydiver friends, we could learn an great deal.

Having only participated in Rookie or A, and with our combined jumps numbering just 1,000 at the start of the season, we decided to push our theory to the absolute limit by entering AAA.
Our goal was to achieve 5 or 6 points per round. This would mean we had learned enough to complete a page per round (ie, complete the dive sequence).

Homework

As such, we would need to learn the entire dive pool. Our season started with the mind-boggling task of re-acquainting ourselves with the 16 randoms, as well as learning 22 blocks. Overwhelmed by new information, we made the decision to 'swing' out of any slot-switchers. This means, if a block swaps you with your piece partner, taking a longer 'swing move' to return to your original positions, thus avoiding having to learn two slots. Ultimately, our swing moves proved to bewilder and amuse our peers!

Training

We spent many hours dirtdiving, visualising and learning the dive pool, with Captain Pete becoming an encyclopaedia of block technique! One of the nicest surprises was the amount of help we had from other teams and coaches. Having been apprehensive that our concept would be received badly, we were amazed at the support we received.

We found if you ask a more experienced skydiver for advice, they'll chat to you for hours! Bad weather days proved particularly beneficial, and with DZs such as Langar having no shortage of exceptional skydivers, we found a lot can be gained for the cost of a beer! Our thanks go to everyone who helped us; Chris Cook, Katie Woods, Stumpy, Phil Hartree, *Fend4Yourself, Phobia* and many others.

We spent around three hours in the tunnel, each session learning and practising a few more blocks. We did 10 training jumps at Langar, and attended all UKSL meets.

Result

In all, the competitions have been really successful. Like most teams, we suffered the odd angry word when a teammate slept in or missed a dirtdive. Yet our focus on our own unique goal and the knowledge that we would most probably come last were strangely liberating! We had a lot of fun.

At every meet, we achieved our goal of one page per dive, every round, sometimes exceeding this, achieving scores of 7 and 8 at Nationals.
At times, our scores weren't too dissimilar to that of our competition. We weren't doing it particularly elegantly or even well, but we were doing it! AAA on a budget! We couldn't be happier with our performance and we hope we have proved our theory: 4-way doesn't need to cost a lot of money.

Laura Hampton, Team Enigma

Photos by Milko, Blair Stent,Tamzin Jackman & Bodyflight

Enigma's Budget 4-way Tips

- Dirtdiving and creeping are fantastic ways to learn and practise randoms and blocks – even in bad weather!
- A small amount of well-planned tunnel time can be more beneficial than lots of poorly-planned time
- Ask everyone for advice, take it all on board & develop your own style by combining what works for you
- UKSL meets and BPA Roadshows are superb ways of gaining experience – and free coaching!

THE ULTIMATE COMPARISON TEST

COMPARE AND GET MUCH MORE FOR YOUR SKYDIVING BUDGET

YOUR HOME DROPZONE	*We're looking for a cool new name.*
AIRCRAFT FLEET:	*Sometimes a Porter on weekends but it usually rains on the weekend. We do have... the full-time cessna.*
WORLD CHAMP TEAMS:	*None, but my friend did meet Craig from Arizona Airspeed one time when he was in Eloy. That was cool!*
WIND TUNNEL	*I think there is single engine one at about a 6 hour drive away depending on traffic , but I heard it was broken or something.*
AMENITIES	*Soda machine, a new snack machine, a run down fridge and one pump..and, we have a rigger and also a tree to pack away from the rain... and the new portaloo.*
AVERAGE # OF GOOD WEATHER DAYS:	*Huh... it's hard to say as we jump though all kinds of nasty stuff. It's not rare to see hail stones can be coming into the open door, "good weather" like Arizona doesn't really happen.*
FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATE FOR VISITORS:	*No idea, I live here. plus do I look like I'm good with finances?*
CONTACT INFO:	*Are you serious???*

YOUR DROPZONE LOGO HERE

We don't have a logo per say yet. but we are working on it, the DZ-O's nephew is good with computers...I heard.

DROPZONE NAME	SKYDIVE ARIZONA.
AIRCRAFT FLEET:	4 TWIN OTTERS, 4 SKYVANS, 1 PORTER, 1 BEECH 18, 1 DC3 AND HOT AIR BALLOONS.
WORLD CHAMP TEAMS:	AZ AIRSPEED, AZ ARSENAL.
WIND TUNNEL:	14 FOOT SKYVENTURE TUNNEL ON SITE.
AMENITIES:	RESTAURANT SERVING ALL DAY, FULL BAR, RIGGING LOFT, GYM, MASSAGE THERAPIST, SWIMMING POOL, HOTEL, GEAR STORE, BUNK HOUSE, TEAM ROOMS, INDOOR PACKING, SHOWERS, LAUNDRY MACHINES, CAMPING, RV HOOK UP, VIDEO ROOMS AND MUCH MORE...
AVERAGE # OF GOOD WEATHER DAYS:	350+ DAYS!
FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATE FOR VISITORS:	ABSOLUTELY!
CONTACT INFO:	4900 N. TAYLOR RD. ELOY, ARIZONA 85131 USA PHONE: 520-466.-3953 FAX: 520-466.4720

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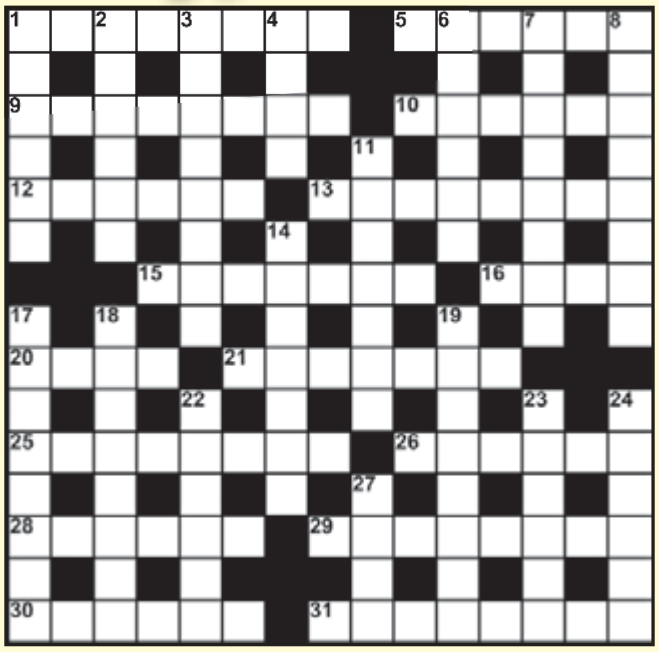
PHOTOS /// RABASA-LHORET / FORDE / CHMELECKI / PETERS /// CREATIVE: FORDESIGN.COM

Puzzle by Paul Boorer



Main (Cryptic)

Across

1 Clue for pool – it sends us head over heels (4,4)
5 What developing man on TV had, a smell (6)
9 Prepared for another skydive in deck surrounded by grass (8)
10 Musharraf's Pakistan supplying club for flighty warriors (6,inits)
12 Picks outsiders in essential economic trials (6)
13 Increased prices of records without a noise (8)
15 Cooking on grill for the evening (7)
16 Charge is about right (couldn't be less) (4)
20 Storyteller's back track (4)
21 Wear a singular piece of military clothing? (7)
25 Ready to be quietly fixed. Not I (8)
26 Music where echo conceals note after a brief time (6)
28 Tied up after former spouse left (6)
29 Crookedly got train, acting like you were 15 (8)
30 Retying a sling for show (6)
31 Dropzone, Wellington got disreputable there (8)

Down

1 Rod ate and threw up over the pond (6)
2 It measures height of short tree (6)
3 Bird eats cat – I point! (8)
4 Disguised? Nope! (4)
6 Raises saint and another one (6)
7 Break in, or else find a place to get a lift (8)
8 Movement to other side of errant FS formation (8)
11 Committee flipping coin, with luck king's head comes off (7)
14 Freed from tangle of red lace (7)
17 Largely grim and very quiet Queen's retainers (8)
18 Pulling strings by the bunch to control parachuting (8)
19 Body of US flag reconditioned with edges of even-weave (8)
22 Eg, Brownie's time under river (6)
23 The short and small river adventure (6)
24 Get log whittled to a smaller piece of wood (6)
27 Extract one gas from another in this area (4)

Reserve

Across

1 Aerobatic somersault (4,4)
5 Upward journey
9 Serviced a reserve
10 Forces' skydiving club (initials)
12 Chooses by ballot
13 Measures of parachutes' extremeness
15 Turning about the body's axis
16 Unrestricted
20 Floaters' step
21 Exhaustion
25 Set; up for it
26 Parachutes de France canopy
28 Went through door
29 Spinning
30 Indication
31 Durham DZ

Down

1 Threw up (US)
2 SSK AAD
3 Place
4 Not closed
6 Gets to one's feet
7 US lake DZ
8 Relocate (to another canopy)
11 Governing body
14 Became cloudless
17 Jumpsuit handles
18 Controlling parachute
19 Aircraft body
22 Photographer's equipment
23 Tingle of pleasure
24 Brake handle
27 Region

SOLUTION ACROSS
1 Back loop
5 Ascent
9 Repacked
10 RAFSPA
12 Elects
13 Loadings
15 Rolling
16 Free
20 Hall
21 Fatigue
25 Prepared
26 Techno
28 Exited
29 Rotating
30 Signal
31 Peterlee

SOLUTION DOWN
1 Barrel
2 Cypres
3 Location
4 Open
6 Stands
7 Elsinore
8 Transfer
11 Council
14 Cleared
17 Grippers
18 Risering
19 Fuselage
22 Camera
23 Thrill
24 Toggle
27 Zone

Are you a good TEAMMATE?

There you are at the beginning of a team all full of excitement, enthusiasm and good intentions. These new teammates will become your best friends for the rest of your life! ... Then by the time you get to the Nationals you can hardly talk and you can't wait for it all to end.

Does that sound familiar? Of course it's never happened to me but it has to 'a friend'...

Well obviously the rest of them are all wrong, never admitting their mistakes or giving you the credit you deserve. But hang on a sec, take a step back and let's look at this another way round. Just turning up at the DZ spending hours on the trolleys or watching video is missing a fundamental part of being a team. You can be stronger than your individual skills if you actually work and communicate as a team.

Now we could write a whole Mag on how to be a team on the ground and in the air. But for today just think about what you can do, not your teammate but **you**, go on be honest, think about what you are and are not doing!

A good teammate:

- ✓ Get to places on time – whatever
- ✓ Knows what is important
- ✓ Does what's needed, even when they don't feel like it
- ✓ Owns an issue rather than blaming others
- ✓ Listens to really understand, not just to be polite
- ✓ Understands moaning is not going to change the weather
- ✓ Trusts their teammates and their abilities
- ✓ Has a plan B, even if it is just how to get back to plan A
- ✓ Is positive and realistic, never negative
- ✓ Understands that listening is tough but powerful
- ✓ Knows it's easy to attack/destroy, and harder to build/support
- ✓ Learns to ask, *"how can I help you?"*
- ✓ When someone offers advice, smiles and says, *"thank you"*
- ✓ Is not afraid to make mistakes
- ✓ Learns from mistakes and tries never to repeat them
- ✓ Believes in themselves and their ability
- ✓ Knows it can take years to become an overnight success
- ✓ Laughs, enjoys and always, always, always buys their beers.

Martin Soulsby
martin@bpa.org.uk

Photos by Karen Baggaley & Nigel Holland

16-way REVIVAL

Milko's team taking the Pepsi Challenge exit

In recent years 16-way has taken a back seat but Empuriabrava's fast-climbing Twin Otters, Spanish sunshine and beautiful bay provided the perfect setting for a 16-way Renaissance

Four teams entered; one Spanish, one Belgian and two British, *Sore Point* led by Milko and *Age of Concern*, captained by Billy Payne. The Brits were out in force, even managing to sneak onto the Belgian and Spanish teams.

Format

The competition would be judged on eight rounds with the first six rounds being picked from the 16-way dive pool. Round 7 would be judged on the quickest build for a 32-way with the teams in first and fourth place joining together, likewise for the teams in second and third position. Round 8 would be a 16-way speed star with extra points up for grabs for the most entertaining second point.

The format would allow two days' practise, which were essential as most jumpers had never seen the 16-way dive pool, let alone tried to launch anything bigger than an 8-way.

Billy's team go for a tight unlinked exit

Sore Point

The teams split into two camps with Billy's and the Belgian team deciding to free fly the exits while Milko's and the Spanish team were building up to launching the full 16-way exit. By the end of the practice jumps Milko's team had successfully launched a 15-way. With all skydives being shown in the bar at the end of day it was a great way to pick up tips on stuff we hadn't managed to practise. We could see improvements with all the teams as confidence grew.

Rounds 1-6

The Spanish team lost Regan to a knee injury on exit. Milko's team changed tactics, deciding to fly exits rather than launch them – body parts and teammates are too important! Billy's team had a few issues losing a helmet and cutaway pad on exits but that didn't stop them putting in some good rounds. The Spanish team partially launched each dive but would lose vital seconds trying to fly before dropping grips and building the first point. The Belgians lost time due to slow exits and first

Sore Point

Age of Concern

point builds, after that they would pick up the pace. Even their famous, *"Show me your war face!"* exit couldn't help them, the pilot got scared!

Round 7 - 32-way

Saw the Belgian's and Milko's team join together, while the Spanish joined Billy's group. For some jumpers this would be their largest formation but that didn't stop both groups scoring four points.

Round 8 - 16-way Speed Star

Everyone thinks speed stars are easy and quick to build. To prove that point most teams dirtdived elaborate second points, ours was going to be a Starship Enterprise. Milko's team nearly proved it when they had 15 people docked in under ten seconds only for the last person to take it out! Billy's team wasn't any better, experiencing three funnels before completing the star. In the end the slow but steady Belgian tortoises won the round, leaving the hares licking their wounds.

Thanks to all the teams, Milko and especially Empuriabrava for running a smooth, relaxing event. They made it feel more like a boogie with great evening entertainment and banquet. This fun, high standard meet is well worth a visit but just one word of warning – you may have to pay extra baggage to carry your medal home!

Maria Russell
marialrussell@yahoo.co.uk

Photos by Gary Wainwright, Nigel Holland & Mike Gorman

16-way Results

1	Sore Point
2	Age of Concern
3	Empuriabrava
4	Ouwe Ouwe Feestje Bouwe

Age of Concern & Empuriabrava 32-way

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Eli The Golden Child

Eli Thompson – Father, Husband, World Champion, Film Star, Author and Beautiful Human – has left us. He died as he lived, redefining the limits of what is possible. His accident, over the mountains at Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland, happened whilst shooting a typically innovative, visionary piece of 3D film, of two flyers, in wingsuits proxy flying, through mountains and ridges. The two flyers needed to turn, and fly over a low 'saddle' into the valley beyond; Eli missed by inches.

When I started writing this tribute for Eli, the first drafts finished pretty early, as I felt guilty and my writing was blocked. The guilt was from the thought of, 'who the hell are you to write about Eli?' and the block from my belief that Eli couldn't be summed up in words. As is often the case in situations like, this the answer was right in front of my face. Firstly, the reason I feel qualified to write this is because I loved and respected him, we had shared many joyous moments, and I watched him help strangers. Secondly, I realised I could sum him up in words – but not my words. The words that typified Eli were the words that I heard repeated multiple times, from friends around the planet: ***"Eli changed my life"***.

At Eli's celebration memorial, at Perris Valley, watching a troop of technicians build a set that literally came straight from a Hollywood studio, I was helping Eli's father, Alonzo, rig up four laptops into the video equipment. Just as we finished wiring, the first person appeared with video footage to give to the operator. When 'the operator' turned out to be Eli's father, the person hugged him, told him he had some very special footage of Eli and recounted a small anecdote, punctuated by tears, about a very special moment when as a nobody on a strange drop zone, Eli had recognised his personality, taken the time to nurture it and made him feel very special. As at one stage all four laptops were simultaneously downloading footage and stills, Alonzo was often surrounded. Black, white, Hispanic, American, Oriental, European dudes and girls waited to download and talk about how they loved Eli. I was humbled, and remembered that my story with Eli held the same essential points.

We met at the Espace Boogie, France, in 2000. At 27, Eli was already multiple World Freefly Champion. In France, as in every country he skydived in, he had found a second home. At Espace, the Flyboyz reigned supreme, with Eli working the boogie with the natural confidence of a born showman. Whilst the other multiple groups of flatflyers were being debriefed by an assortment of angry, argumentative, skygod organisers. Eli danced, soothed and coaxed his students through their debrief and on to the next load. He created his own tribe, encouraging them all the way. If you looked at the manifest of the freeflyers that he taught, supported and nurtured between 1999 and 2003, you would recognise many previous and recent British Freefly Champions.

In his 'breaks' he would work with random groups of free and flat flyers, pioneering many of the hybrid styles that are only now being perfected by others. In the middle of all this, Eli mentioned he had a bad back, I naturally thought he'd had a bad opening or overdone a move. Later I found out (from someone else) that he'd met up with an Italian couple at the airport, who were coming to the boogie. Their bag had been stolen, which contained all their money and skydiving docs. Eli lent them some money, took them to the boogie and, as it was very late when they arrived, Eli let the couple have his hotel bed while he slept on the floor. Next day he smooth-talked them through manifest. When I asked him why he'd done it, he said that the couple were planning to do their hundredth freefly jump together and they had been so excited, and then badly upset when they couldn't. Eli said he felt 'duty bound' to try and make it happen. In the end they used his jump tickets and he jumped with them.

The moment he made me feel the most special was in Perris Valley at my first X-Fest when, hearing of my difficulty learning to fly in the tunnel, he cut himself off a few loads. (Bear in mind these loads were with the X-Team, at his boogie, that he had flown a dozen of the best European freeflyers in for, and they were filming for Red Bull.) He grabbed me, borrowed a set of air-to-air headsets being test piloted by Team Extreme, and took me back to the tunnel. Twenty minutes later I was flying in the tunnel with Eli talking me sweetly through every move. When we came out, he ran back to manifest. I stood round bemused, and tried to pay someone – the operator said, *"Dude, keep that smile on your face, one of the world's best freeflyers has just paid to train you, it's on his tab!"*

Off and on between 2000 and 2004 I toured around the globe with Eli, and watched him be loved and give love as he freely shared his ability and knowledge. It was in 2003, at the Espace Boogie in France, when everything changed for Eli, as he met Sarah, and he found out what 'special' meant. To Eli his family were everything. When Tahani was born, he told me that he couldn't believe that anyone could be so happy. He said that he couldn't believe how lucky he was; he was working in skydiving, he had a TV show called Stunt Junkies for Discovery Channel coming up, and some decent (fingers crossed) sponsorship from Red Bull on the horizon. I laughed, and said *"Lucky? nothing to do with talent then?!"*
"No Richie, they just haven't found me out yet."

Tribute by Richie Parr

Some of Eli's Achievements

Commercials: Honda, Mountain Dew, Coca-Cola, Denny's, Tutti-Fruity, Monster Madness, Bayer Aspirin

TV/Film: Stunt Junkies host (2006-2007), Flyboyz Feature Film, Austin Powers III – Goldmember, Strange Universe, Out Of The Blue, Thrill-Seeking Experiences, Adventure Crazy, Paul Keoghan's Travel Channel, Birth Order: A Sibling Story, Cutaway, The Rescue, Tom Sawyer, Water Sprite

Video/DVD: Flyboyz Film Festival (1998-2003), Party Mix, Willing to Fly, Good Stuff, Crosswind, Chronicles 2 & 3, Secret Agent 420

Theatre: Peter Pan, Macbeth, Fiddler on the Roof, Little Shop of Horrors, Barefoot in the Park, New Mime Circus Theatre Ensemble, Hue Rock Concert

Achievements: Red Bull Athlete (2001-2008), Gold, Perris Freefly Challenge (1996), World Freefly Champion (Flyboyz, 1997-2000), Space Games Gold (2000), Freefly Gold SSI Pro Tour (1999), National Freefly Champion (1998), Freefly Gold SSI Pro Tour Florida (1997), SSI Pro Tour Germany (1997)

Skills/Interests: Combat training, physical comedy, tai-chi, cycling, snowboarding, racquetball, stunts, volleyball, photography, swimming, singing, wakeboarding, base jumping, high performance canopy pilot

Eli's Family

Eli's son, Taelen Eli Rider, was born after he left us. Sarah is keen to collect and collate any images, video or stories that you may like to share for Taelen, Tahani and Destiny, his three children. You can contact Sarah or make a donation at:

http://web.mac.com/sarahfarooqui

You can buy the Eli Memorial Dive photograph by Karen Lewis at:

http://exitshot.smugmug.com

All proceeds go directly to Sarah

On a Wing and a Prayer

A 68-way US national wingsuit record was set on 11 November at Skydive Elsinore in California. The record team included our own Mark Harris, Duncan Wright, Stephen Such, Rob Gray, Craig Poxon, John Kallend, and Paul and Elana Cain.

Last year, a 71-way flock at Elsinore achieved an unofficial record, laying a building block for the future. During the year following, big things happened; the BPA adopted a wingsuit skills rating and the US, SA, and Oz accepted a judging system for wingsuit records, using a grid. *(see Newsround, page 11, October 09 Mag)* Wingsuit Big-way 2009 was an international effort to take wingsuit formation flying onto the agenda for FAI recognition.

The event also raised over $5,000 for City Year, an organisation that helps children from challenged backgrounds. Wingsuit Big-way participants provided inspiration for these kids, visiting them in school with the slogan; 'If we can fly, you can graduate!'

Matt Hoover

Matt Hoover

"It was great to meet and fly with new faces and old rogues. In my sector everyone performed amazingly throughout the event. The wing sector is the hardest to fly given its size, asymmetry and changing centre line and yet they all pulled together as a team to form a 'no question' formation – twice, and in so few jumps.

"They had a frustrating knack of leaving it to the last jump of every day to pull off an amazing sector formation. I think it was revenge for me putting them through the mock-up so many times and enduring my mammoth debriefs (I'm sure they are still dreaming about them). I earned the nickname 'Duncan the Terrible' but my team made the event what it was – awesome!

"It's amazing to think how far wingsuiting has come. Only three years ago the largest 'formations' were about 45 guys occupying a very generous amount of sky with no slots and no real emphasis on levels – if you appeared in the picture somewhere you were 'in'. Everyone should rightfully be proud of where we are now and how quickly we arrived here!"

Duncan Wright
Plane Captain

Matt Hoover

Mark Harris

"One of my 4-way teammates, Guy Martin, decided we should all have a go at wingsuiting. His boundless enthusiasm is hard to resist, so we dutifully reported for a First Flight Course with Mark Harris and the Birdman Top Gun team at Skydive Airkix.

"Mark also suffers from unlimited enthusiasm, and this led to Guy and me taking every chance to hook up our rigs to progressively more advanced wingsuits, and trying all the manoeuvres Mark threw at us. One weekend he surprised us with news that the BPA had accepted an approval system for wingsuiting... and he had been secretly teaching us everything required! We were given WS1 and WS2 ratings, and invited on Wingsuit Big-way 2009.

"The event built up slowly starting with 16-way diamonds. A picture of a slot-perfect formation on the second attempt gave a huge sense of elation, more confidence, and a round of beer for everyone that night. I still have flashbacks to the wondrous sight of the awesome flockers in front of me in that formation, and was amazed how I'd managed to reach that goal is such a short period of time."

Rob Gray
Record Participant

BRITISH head-down RECORD

British Records normally take months of meticulous planning, inviting the top level names and repeating multiple attempts until one is finally successful.

This October saw a very different kind of record, snatching a golden opportunity for a quick stab at the end of a fun weekend at Hibaldstow, using the talent at hand.

The weekend was billed as an 8-way speed competition, pitching freeflyers against flat flyers. After some dubious judging that placed the highest ranking freefly team in third position (behind the flatties), it was time to get on with the important business of setting a new British head-down record.

There was just enough time for a single attempt to beat the previous official record of 11 set in 2007 after the Euro Freefly Record that year. Freefly participants from the speed event teamed up to attempt a 14-way.

With the standard ever improving and a fantastic year for British freeflying in general, many flyers have been showing the basic skills required to start participating in such jumps. It was great to see new faces getting involved with the old hands.

Organised by the *Bad Lieutenants*, the group planned a 6-way base with four sets of stingers. The formation built quickly and flew smoothly, allowing the remaining flyers to identify their slots. On landing it was unclear if the formation had completed, but one by one it seemed apparent that the formation had completed. This was verified by the BPA judges and the CCI to produce a new British Head-down Record of fourteen. A big thank you to Weed Stoodley for her time, and to all the flyers involved.

Whilst the 14-way remains a modest number, huge potential exists within the UK to make a significant improvement in 2010, drawing on the talent from all the different dropzones. Freeflyers who feel they have the skills and would like to be involved, stay tuned for events and future record attempts in 2010. With the new powerful wind tunnel arriving soon in Manchester and the level of interest ever increasing, the only thing left to say is, get out there and train!

Fly hard and stay safe.

The Bad Lieutenants
badlieutenant@hotmail.co.uk

Participants

Al Hodgson
Blake Hooper
Charlotte Kemp
Claudio Leitteri
Dan Parker
Darren Glover
David Joyner
James Davies
Jay Southall
Mark Joyner
Martin Reynolds
Matt O'Riordan
Peter Brookes
Will Blackie

Camera
Chris Brook

UK Head-down Record

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow
4 October 2009

Aerial photos by Chris Brook, ground shots by Mike McNulty

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TWO World Records

for the price of ONE

Willy Boeykens

Karen Lewis

Pink Skies

On 26 September in Perris California, 181 women from 31 countries made history, building a new ladies' world record freefall formation, raising over $900,000 for medical research, and promoting breast cancer awareness in the process. The Brit Chicks were there in force! This is their story...

Monday & Tuesday 21-22 September Warm-up 60-ways

Many of us drifted into Perris over the weekend, did a couple of fun jumps and enjoyed the pool and the sunshine – not quite like the DZs we're used to! Monday was the first day of the Jump for the Cause (JFTC) event and we went straight into warm-up jumps. 60-ways to get us into the big-way mood and give us practice at building our individual sectors.

Whilst the smooth organisation of the JFTC team was a joy throughout, the extreme temperatures tested us all. Dirtdiving in full gear in the 40° heat was something we had to learn to cope with. I took to wearing a wet t-shirt under my jumpsuit and wet buff on my head. The girls by the door however had to huddle under blankets on the early morning jumps. No-one ever said that world records come easy!

The warm-up jumps went incredibly well. The boys already in Perris ahead of the men's world record event built bases for us to dock our sectors on, an excellent building block for what was to come. We even tried out a new grip technique with the person arriving at the formation presenting their arm and being picked up by the person already docked. This taught us patience and avoided people arriving and desperately pouncing on the formation! By Tuesday evening we were ready to go bigger and put all the sections together in a 180-way.

Wednesday & Thursday 180-way practice

Many of us approached our first 180-way with some trepidation. I sat in the plane as it climbed to 18,000ft thinking, *"What on earth am I doing here? I must be crazy!"* But once the first jump was out of the way, my nerves were calmed. I realised that I had plenty of time to track away from this monster skydive with my tracking team and then find some clear air to open my parachute.

Willy Boeykens

K Plane

The K Plane was ably led by UK organiser Caroline Hughes, who worked hard to get her team ready for the daunting task of stepping into a slot without the benefit of practice. Their enthusiasm and support was contagious and unwavering. Our own Shona Blainey was a fantastic asset, always boosting the Brit Chick morale. It is a testament to Caroline's skills to see so many of the K-planers, many of whom were relatively low-experienced, performing brilliantly on the record. Caroline was herself drafted in for the final jump too!

Henny Wiggers

The pilots' formation flying of the nine aircraft – a spectacular V-shape with a Skyvan leading eight Otters – was inspiring. Looking out of the window, I couldn't help but get goosebumps thinking of so many of my friends scattered throughout those other planes and how we'd soon all be joining up in the same formation.

The skydives posed some interesting challenges to someone like me, more used to competition 4-way jumping. Using oxygen from 12,000 feet, being patient in building one perfect point, tracking away from 7,500ft to 2,500ft, dealing with 180 canopies in the air, never mind the usual challenges of landing in Perris!

The outer sections were not allowed to dock yet but we were itching to touch this massive formation! We patiently waited in our slots, waiting for the word from Kate that we'd deserved the right to full record attempt.

Friday – Return of the Spider Monkey!

Record attempts began! We'd had seven warm-up jumps, seven 180-way practice jumps and now everyone was finally given permission to dock. The game was on!

Viki Bingham, our very own 'spider monkey' (bizarrely long arms), suffering with her sinuses had to step down. She was ably replaced by someone from the K Plane (support team). When Viki became well enough to jump by the end of the day, a new slot was created for her on her very own whacker and we became a 181-way – fitting as previous JFTC records were 131 and 151! It didn't matter that adding Viki made the formation a bit wonky, it was clear Kate valued the hard work and determination of every participant. Room was made for those with the skills and mettle. No-one could remember a world record where the final size was bigger than originally planned!

The jumps went well with good progress but we weren't quite there and retired for the day hungry for another go in the morning.

Saturday – Victory!

On Saturday we were told we'd earned the right to go higher – 19,000ft. We could taste victory in the air. There was a buzz, an excitement. We'd been so close. We could do it. Nearly there...

The plane captains regrouped after the first jump and decided to redesign the formation! To make it less crowded between the outside whackers, they were made smaller by creating extra whackers, building on the mini whacker that our spider monkey pioneered! Could this be the key to success?

The second jump of the day felt beautiful. Calm, smooth skydiving. We were all quizzing each other on the landing area: *"Was it there?" "Did we build it?" "Did you see anyone out?"*

Then a rumour whizzed round as we were packing – one grip out! I felt a sinking feeling in my stomach, which I tried to put to one side and concentrate on getting ready for the next skydive. Manifest announced we were on a call for another attempt and we were called to the creeper pad for a dirtdive. Kate asked us to take up our positions and called out *"Are we complete?" "Yes?"* A pause. *"Well, that's the second time today!"*

The creeper pad erupted with shrieks, cheers, kisses, hugs and tears – a moment of pure elation that none of us will ever forget! The sweet, sweet end to a long journey of building our big-way skills, training camps, selection events and a week of dressing almost exclusively in pink! We had done it!

Jo Hawley

Aerial photos by Willy Boeykens

Photo by Henny Wiggers

"The atmosphere and vibe created by so many women from all over the world joining together for a common goal was amazing. When I went to JFTC for the first time, there were only four Brits on it. The fact that there were over thirty this time is a real testament to the level of female skydiving in the UK, which makes me feel very proud!"

Audrey Rowe
JFTC 2002, 2005 & 2009 participant

Women's World Record 181-way

26 September
Skydive Perris

Record breaking Brit Chicks

Becky Austin
Hannah Betts
Viki Bingham
Fiona Birnie
Martina Brant
Clare Butcher
Sarah Cannon
Sarah Churchill
Liz Danby
Cheryl Farnden-Marks
Lesley Gale
Lou Gower
Ruth Green
Jo Hawley
Celeste Hill
Caroline Hughes
Amanda Karlsson
Joana Lammens
Heather Little
Michelle Meakins
Jo Price
Ros Pulham
Audrey Rowe
Maria Russell
Vicky Scargill
Claire 'Sparky' Scott
Kate Stephens
Maxine Tate
Julie Woodrow
Kris Young

Radio Ga Ga

Two jumpers in each plane – the front and rear floaters – were given radios, which was a huge help with consistent exit timing. On each jump, Kate gave instructions *"Door open"* followed by *"Floaters out"* and the magic words *"Ready, set, go"*! Amanda Karlsson was a Brit Chick with a radio, *"We occasionally heard feedback from Kate, like* 'Woo Hoo, great exit' *and under canopy* 'Great jump, we will be record holders very soon'. *That was inspiring and really helped my confidence."*

Skydivers jump to world record

TORQUAY

Girl Power!

One of the goals of the event was to promote a positive profile of skydiving. It's a shame that the BPA can't afford to have a significant resource dedicated to PR, but several of us pursued media coverage ourselves, appearing on local radio and in regional press. Check out Shell Meakins' fantastic profile in **www.womensportreport.com**

Photo by Willy Boeykens

"The Brit Chicks were an AWESOME part of JFTC. I spent the entire event smiling at TBC (Top Brit Chick – aka Lesley Gale) across the base. Having the British contingent range from members of the reigning World Champions on down to relative newcomers on the big-way circuit showed that British women's skydiving – as a percentage of all jumpers worldwide – is unrivalled. GO BRIT CHICKS!"

Kate Cooper-Jensen
JFTC organiser & big-way guru

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts. The British donations made a substantial contribution to the $900,000 fund-raising total. Thank you too to Aerodyne and Vigil for supporting the Brit Chicks raffle allowing us to give away an entire rig, raising over $9,000 alone.

"Little did I know for me how ironic filling out an application form for JFTC would turn out to be!
February 09: diagnosis of breast cancer
March 09: lumpectomy
April 09: radiotherapy
September 09: 181-way World Record
Quite a year!

Jump for the Cause has always been a special event for me, raising money for research (from which I am now benefitting) and awareness of breast cancer.

1 in 9 women will get breast cancer. Pretty scary statistics! During JFTC I agreed to work with a team making a documentary about the event to increase breast cancer awareness. The camera did pop up at odd moments but I was glad to do it. I do feel strongly about 'breast awareness' since it was exactly this that had lead me to detecting my own lump/thickening and that indeed may have ultimately saved my life!"

Ruth Green
Second-time JFTC participant

Blue Skies

Whilst planning JFTC Kate Cooper and Tony Domenico had the idea to run an unofficial Men's World Record alongside it. Running back to back formation loads would make great use of the nine aircraft on site. With women a minority of our sport, it was likely that a lot of their husbands and boyfriends would be skydivers, already intending to be at the event to support. (During the guys' first get-together, we were asked who was here with a partner on JFTC; one replied, *"Not yet!"*)

Larry Henderson happily agreed to organise the event, recruiting international skydiving organisers BJ Worth, Tom Jenkins and Roger Ponce, plus Jason Russell and Randy Garman to help with logistics.
Local cameraman Terry Weatherford headed up the camera team of Gustavo Cabana and Luciano Bacqué from overseas, plus locals Kristian Caulder and Bill von Novak

The event had to be unofficial as the FAI (Fédération Aeronautique Internationale), the world federation that ratifies records, does not recognise claims solely of men, they only have general and feminine categories. This didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm! Initially the aim was a 100-way, but such was the interest that it was increased to 125. The event proved so popular that the support team numbered 50. They were looked after by Doug Forth and Josh Hall.

The aim of the event was to complement JFTC, adding to the goals. All of the staff worked as volunteers ensuring that any profit would add to the total. Each participant personally contributed $250 as part of their registration fee, raising over $30,000 in this way alone.

Before the event, Tony Domenico sent out emails asking for guys to help out by being the base for the women to practice building their whackers on. There was no lack of volunteers! Two 6-ways and an 8-way set a solid base for three 60-ways for eight jumps over two days. Pressure was high on us guys in the bases; we wanted to give the girls the best opportunity to practise and there were over 50 men hungry for our places!

Wednesday 23 September – Day 1

On the first day of the men's event, all 125 jumpers went up but only to 13,500 feet. As is usual with big events, things were slow to start, and whilst the girls made three jumps that day, since we were backing

Aerial photos by Gustavo Cabana

Portrait photos by Fiona Birnie & Henny Wiggers

The men's world record would not have taken place without JFTC, it's impossible to see it as a separate entity. The support and camaraderie between the boys and the girls was fantastic all week, with lines of high-fives on the way to the planes and the pre-flight dirt-dives, and the cheering and waving as each plane took off. All these great vibes helped make it the best 'feel-good' skydiving event of the year.

Rob Gray

Photo by Willy Boeykens

them up we only made two as we ran out of time. Despite jumping from only 13,500 feet, everyone got a great picture of the formation and practised break-off without the added pressure of aiming for a completion.

Thursday 24 Sept – Day Two

We were now jumping from our target altitude of 16,000 feet so started to use oxygen. BJ Worth was captain of my plane. On the first jump, I watched with an equal mixture of horror and amusement as BJ got backpacked by a Brit with an ink-barely-dry World Team invite. Later video review revealed he was not to blame – rumours of World Team being postponed due to him are greatly exaggerated! On the third and final jump of the day, our sector completed, as it did on the four jumps the next day, and the three the day after! Big-way jumps – especially record attempts – often become a matter of endurance, maintaining focus and remaining consistent until the goal is achieved.

Saturday 26 Sept – Day Three

Backing up the ladies gave us the opportunity to watch their nine planes formate overhead, see them exit and the build. Whilst waiting to do our ninth attempt we were watching their jump as usual and it looked pretty complete to us. Nice one ladies! Now the pressure was on us to fulfil our own record. On the ride to altitude, the pilot passed the message that they thought there was one out. Oh no! It had looked so good. Could we get the record before the chicks? No, there were issues and we didn't complete. Turnaround times of 90 minutes allowed for packing, eating, hydrating, debriefing and a dip in the pool to cool down in the stifling heat. The less astute of us had returned to the pool whilst the girls gathered again to prepare for another attempt. Screaming, shouting and whooping suddenly erupted from the creeper area and we ran to join in the celebration – dripping wet!

Right, now the pressure was really on as we went on a call! We met and had a pep talk. We didn't need to run it out again, we'd done it enough and it was swelteringly hot. We just needed to go up and do it. Larry recounted the news that popular Perris load organiser Lemonhead's brother Jared was currently struggling from an aggressive form of cancer, but hearing about our attempts was bringing him strength. This one was for Jared...

With us normally backing up the girls, we could perform our primary function of supporting them and were waving them off every load. The UK was probably the loudest, most visible contingent in the party. Usually the ladies were in the air whilst we did our final dirtdive. This time, they were there for us. We were surrounded by them, cheering us on with the chant that had given them so much strength and, ultimately, success, "*Right here, right now, this skydive, my personal best!*" ... except now they were urging us, *"this skydive, YOUR personal best!"*

Well, the practise paid off and, with more than a little inspiration from the women, we did it. It was one of the smoothest calmest builds of a large formation I have ever had the privilege to be on. They say you know when a large formation is complete as you can just feel it. This was like that – everyone knew we'd done it, in the air and on the ground. The ladies were there to greet us when we landed. They formed a huge human corridor that we all passed through, to high-fives, hugs and kisses, even waiting for the last guys who landed way out to come back. We were there to support the girls, but I think they outdid us on this as well!

Craig Poxon

Morale-boosting tuxedo jump by Karen Lewis

Gustavo Cabana

Luciano Bacqué

Men's World Record

26 September, Perris Valley

Record-breaking Brits

Neil Butcher
Brian Cumming
Chris Davies
Rob Gray
Marc Le Gresley
Des Meyer
Craig Poxon
Paul Rowe
Ian 'Dennis' Taylor

Coming down from the last jump, it was immediately obvious from the reaction on the ground that we had completed and that we had held it for a looong time. Being greeted back into the packing area by pretty much every JFTC chick was overwhelming – high-fives and hugs were in abundance. Perris was a great place to be that day!

Brian Cumming

Photo by Willy Boeykens

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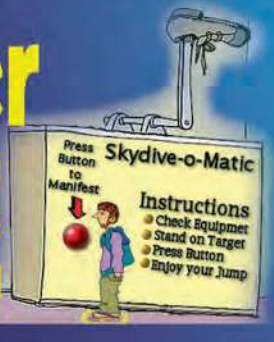

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Stretch Freefly Suit

A SUITable Performance

Kit News by Rob Colpus

Tony Suits of Florida was keen to announce a couple of new features, which it has released or are about to release onto the jumpsuit market. The first is a new female FS suit with a 'signature V-Cut', that slims the silhouette, and the second is a new stretch suit for freeflyers.

The boss Tony Uragallo has been concentrating on his range of wingsuits for a few years now, and in fact Tony himself came first in the distance event at a wingsuit event in Germany with a 3.58 glide ratio whilst flying his newest creation, the X-Bird suit. Tony wingsuits also won first in the time event with Tobi Scherrinsky scoring 78.9 seconds, flying a Tony XS.

tonysuits.com

Signature V-Cut

Tony Uragello flies his own wingsuit, photo by Scotty Burns

Aerodyne Hooked

Aerodyne's honeycomb zpX fabric

Aerodyne, makers of the Icon container system, Pilot main and Smart reserve amongst other nice things, has announced that its popular Icon rig is now available with the Skyhook RSL system, as developed by Bill Booth of United Parachute Technologies for his Vector series of containers. The Skyhook is only available on the company's size I4 Icon and larger at the present but smaller sizes will be made available soon, said Aerodyne.

The company went on to say that it will still produce the standard version of the Icon, but it will not be retro-fittable to Skyhook. Other changes to the Icon include cut-in laterals and lateral padding on all rigs.

Another announcement from the Aerodyne camp was that its Pilot and Triathlon main canopies are now built with 100% zero-P fabric. Previously they were made with F111 ribs. The company was keen to point out that the zpX fabric versions of these canopies have always been 100% zpX.

flyaerodyne.com/fly

Testing ARGUS

Aviacom SA, the Belgian manufacturer of the Argus AAD tells us that in 2010 the very first Argus AAD units will be due for their first four yearly check-up. With this in mind the company is offering dealers, riggers and other interested persons a 3-day course, including a visit to their factory, in order to qualify as a certified Argus maintenance operative.

The course will be composed of:

- How the Argus is manufactured
- Different levels of quality control
- How to test an Argus
- How to download the information
- How to solve minor problems
- Tour of the factory.

And, of course, says Aviacom – a visit to the Brussels Grand Place – goes without saying! The cost of the course is 1,249.50 euros, which includes pick-up from the airport, hotel and meals, as well as the download module and software.

argus-aad.com

Sky Tied

The Sky Tie from SkySystems is the first and only magnetic slider retention device on the market, the US company is keen to inform us. Designed to be an easier way of stowing a canopy's slider in flight, the Sky Tie is a *'clean and simple solution for keeping your slider down where you want it'*, according to Skysystems.

The Sky Tie fits to the outside top of the reserve pin flap on the container and operates by the use of a magnetic strap, which flips over the pulled-down slider, thus keeping it closed and behind the jumper's head for the canopy ride.

The Skysystemers claim that their new baby will not wear out slider materials as velcro does, and that its low profile presents less to snag on than the plastic ball that a lot of jumpers currently use to do the same job.

skysystemsusa.com /accessories/SkyTie

On Yer 'ead Pal!

New developments from those Floridian milliners over the pond at Skysystems Inc include the latest version of their open-faced Nvertigo helmet. A successor to the NVertigo-X, the Nvertigo-V features three flat surfaces for the mounting of cameras, and is available in six standard colours or custom paint if you should so desire.

The Nvertigo-V comes standard with a normal chin strap or can be fitted with a Sky-Cup ratcheted carbon chin-cup for the serious cameraflyer. It has two audible pockets and comes in multiple shell sizes for a superior fit says the company.

Other news from Skysystems include the long-awaited availability of tinted lenses for the popular Factory Diver and Oxygn full-facers, and new paint finish options, including matt and high gloss finishes.

skysystemsusa.com

Updated Beeps and Peeps

Solo2

Optima2

Viso2

Never ones to let the grass grow under their wings, those innovative Vikings at Larsen and Brusgaard of Denmark have announced a list of improvements to three of their popular altimeter products.

At the basic beeping end of their range the Solo, which replaced the Pro-Dytter a couple of years ago, which in turn replaced the original aneroid Dytter, is now the Solo2 and features a new water-resistant, durable rubberised casing and an upgraded circuit board and sensors.

The more complex Optima audible alti, now sporting the name Optima2, includes an added set of warning beeps that can be set for a specific altitude during normal or high speed landing approaches. The company tells us that this feature *'has been added to aid both swoopers and conservative pilots alike find the 'sweet spot' for initiating landing sequences'.* The Optima2, also now supplied with a durable water-resistant rubberised casing, has four low speed warning banks, and up to three selectable climb warning alarms.

The third product to receive the new water-resistant and durable rubberised casing is the company's digital visual altimeter, the Viso, now Viso2, which has also seen an improvement in its backlight, allowing it to be easily turned on or off, plus a daily jump counter.

All three 'mark 2' products are now equipped with a replaceable air filter and use ultra low power, utilising easy to acquire Lithium batteries that, according to L&B, last for hundreds of dives.

l-and-b.dk

Viso2 hand mount

A Symbiotic Solution

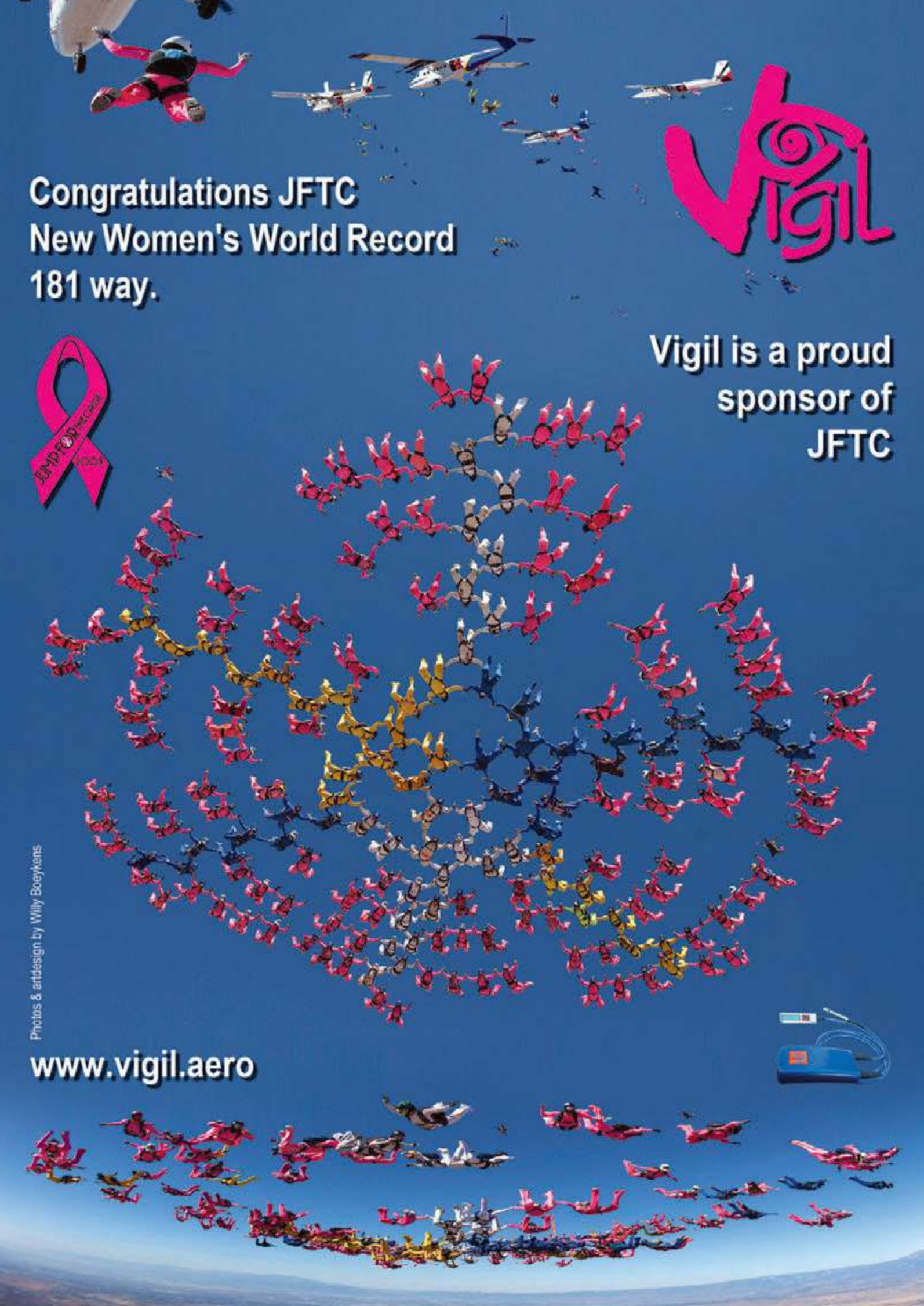
Symbi suits has been busy this autumn with the development of its new product – Bootie Bottoms. These are essentially a hybrid combination of freefly bottoms and cordura megabooties.

Symbi sees two applications for its new product – the first is for AFF instructors who don't really need to wear an FS suit with grips but would still like to have the control and power of the megabooties at their disposal. The second is for the use of tandem masters who constantly find themselves in a head-high attitude – the lift from the megabooties can help correct this, and the extra control and power can assist on exit or with a dodgy student body position.

The megabooties are also available in an extra large 'meshed, vented' semi-inflatable version. Symbi's Bootie Bottoms are also available in a military version, called Tactical Bottoms, which come with a plethora of pockets and a baggy fit, to wear over the uniform and other kit.

symbiosissuits.co.uk

Symbi's Bootie Bottoms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CLUB News

Geek for Gary Wainwright

Langar

A very successful Boogie II crammed 2,725 jumps into the weather windows, with plenty of other shenanigans. Martin Kristensen, Kristian Moxnes and Jim Harris joined our home-grown Bullet freeflyers, coaching and creating premium freefly dives. Milko, Billy Payn, Dave Lewis and Brian Knight arranged awesome FS dives. Macca from Phoenix-Fly was wingsuit coaching while Brian Vacher ran another Safe Flight School, making more competent canopy pilots.

A Long Ranger helicopter, Dornier and Jan's super fast Beech 99 complemented our 2 Grand Caravans. Evening entertainment ranged from the ever so elegant Cocktail Soiree to the not so beautiful Doctors and Nurses Finale Party (Isn't it unhygienic for nurses to have such hairy legs?!) We're already scheming for Boogie 1 in 2010, check our website or join our Facebook group to keep informed.

Dave Lewis dive by Tony Danbury

We've still managed to jump every weekend this year so far. University students have returned in force again. Billy Payn and Dave Lewis ran a fantastic 12-way weekend which evolved into a 24-way event, with plenty of 'oohs' and 'aahs' from the crowds at the skydives, formation flying, take-offs and landings of the Caravans. Congratulations to the 5 Langarites on *Sore Point* who won the Empuriabrava 16-way trophy, and to all on the JFTC 181-way.

3 Peaks Challenge on Snowdon, by Sarah Bailey

A bunch of us did the Three Peaks Challenge in aid of the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance – quite a feat with little or no training! Combined with a raffle and auction at the boogie plus various events over the season, this made the year's total £14,000+ – making us feel better about lost toenails and huge blisters! The resulting exhaustion took its toll on Milko and Sian who got engaged nearing the top of Scafell Pike. Congratulations guys!

We're open every day apart from Christmas Day. We'll fly with just 5 paying customers midweek so grab your thermals and come on over!

Sarah Bailey

Swansea's new mock-up G-HEAP

Milky key by Tony Danbury

Scott Calcraft & Ruth Jordinson by Jimmy Freemantle

Boogie II by Tony Danbury

Achievements
Cat 8, CH1
Paul Bateman
Tim Freeguard
Charlie Laughton
Mike Watson
Paul Johnson
Antonio Morote
CH2, JM1
Kieron O'Rourke
Simon Mottram
Chris Townsend
Graham Ablett
Chris McKenna
Seanán Doherty
FS1
Natalie Coe
Simon Donnelly
Graham Ablett
Hannah Tillyard
JM1
Joanne Woods
FF1
Matt Kite
FF2
Scott Calcraft

Jump Numbers
50
Natalie Coe
Chris McKenna
Hannah Tillyard
100
Danielle Baker
Tamzin Jackman
Simon Donnelly
Simon Mottram
Chris Townsend
Ross Shaw
200
Lee Brack
Martin Cole
Seanán Doherty
Ryan Briddon
400
Stu Faulkner
Scott Calcraft
900
Ian Taylor
1,200
Jo Hawley
1,300
Bill Miller
1,400
Fiona Birnie
2,500
Ally Milne
3,100
Pixie MacLeod-Hodgson
48 Hours Freefall
Martyn Score

Swansea

We've had unbelievably good weather and lots of action. DZ carpenter Shamus surpassed all expectations and made the mother of all mock-ups – well done mate and many thanks for your time! Congrats to the McNamara brothers for passing AFF. Jane, their Mum isn't far behind. Three skydivers in one family – that has to be a Welsh record.

We're going to re-run the very successful mini boogie we did last Christmas. We're open 27-31 December for anyone who doesn't like repeats on telly, wants a break from the in-laws, or wonders if their jumpsuit still fits after all the turkey ... not to mention partying in Swansea each night! The itinerary will be posted on UKS closer to the time.

Kolio & Kev Johnson are on the Beer Board for being in the 2010 BPA calendar – stunning pic Kolio, sums it all up! Merry Christmas everyone. Sara and I thank all the staff for their hard work, and club members for their support, giving us a truly amazing year!

Carl Williams

Achievements
AFF Graduate
Tom McNamara
Max McNamara
FF1
Paul Sheehan
50 Jumps
Becky
Benn
200 Jumps
Adam George
Shamus
2,000 Jumps
'H' Harrison
Nick Anthony
4,000 Jumps
Ryan Mancey
1 Hour Freefall
Paul

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Nethers

The big news is that the move to the new(er) hangar is under way. Unfortunately we're closing a bit early for Christmas due to demolition contractors. Some would say they've already started after a bit of a mishap with a Land Rover handbrake and the canteen porch! The DZ reopens on Valentine's weekend (13-14 Feb).

17 way over Nethers by Lee Thomas

Smudge, Al and Spence have been involved in high profile events raising money for Help For Heroes. The three amigos travelled to Switzerland to (base) jump the Eiger in wingsuits – a first for Spence! Al and Smudge took part in the world record attempt for multiple jumps from the Menara KL Tower in Malaysia. Al made the most jumps in 24 hours with 32 (just a regular number for Al any day at the DZ!), and Smudge came third with 27. Well done lads!

We held a fun scrambles weekend. The SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty) guys and gals smashed the UK record taking it to an 8-way before they ran out of eligible jumpers! Scary goings-on in the bar were reported on Halloween, with the award for – erm – 'bravery' going to Keira for a very X-rated costume!

Nice one Mick Cooper, now completed 3,000 tandems! Congratulations to Becky Bull and Mike Outen on their engagement. Congrats and best wishes to lovely couples Andy (Edmunds) and Sarah, also Bish and Sarah on their forthcoming festive nuptials.

Kath Salisbury

Photos by Polly Chandler

Achievements
First Freefall
Rob Campbell
Cat 8
Jim Collins
Ski
Rob Addison
Naomi Spencer
FS1
Mike Sheers
Rick Foti
Lawrence Watts
Bahram Heydari
Lucinda Blake
Mike Sheers
Graham King
FF1
Alex Dand

Jump Numbers
100
Chris Shields
Jaf Wase
Colin Kidgell
Sam Burrell
Alex Dand
Tom Bellis
Dave Lee
300
Vince Blandford
600
Ed Bowyer
Sarah Scatthill
700
Trevor Davies
1,000
Will Thomas
1,500
Si Bristow

RAPA

RAPA staff did well in the Armies, winning gold in senior & junior team accuracy and Jay Leighton taking individual junior accuracy gold. With no time to rest on their laurels it was straight back to Germany for an action-packed advanced course. This included a new element with Iain Anderson adding an introduction to CF, culminating with a 2-way downplane, aka 'who can hang onto their trainer the longest?'

Farewell and a massive thank you to the Incremental staff, heading off back to their units. Their hard work and dedication has been outstanding. Many thanks also to Iain (Silverback) and Pam Anderson who leave us for Cyprus PC. Having spent 3 tours at RAPA we're sure it's not goodbye but 'au revoir'!

Skydive mates and work colleagues went to the UK to join family & friends for a memorial to the late Mike Warren. We sign off this year with a suggestion that we follow the code by which Mike lived, *"It's not the years in your life but the life in your years"!*

Chris Flowdy & James Bacon

Farewell to Ben, Smokey, Jay, John & Gary

Iain Anderson

Achievements
Cat 8
Mike Brookes
Ben Railton
Tony Gaul
Bobby Fox
FS1
John Fay
James Bacon
Jason Leighton
Mike Brookes
Mike Turner
Chris Flowdy
CF1
Alex Pascoe
Gary Chapman
CP1
Matt Hetpinstall
50 Jumps
Bobby Fox
100 Jumps
Chris Flowdy
200 Jumps
John Fay
James Bacon
Jay Leighton
300 Jumps
Gary Chapman

Weston

Heather Sims does a charity jump for Leonard Cheshire, Banbury

Sorry we missed the last edition, laziness got the better of me! Congratulations to all the Weston teams at Nationals, we had, yet again, the largest turnout. Well done to the medallists! We hope to see all the teams back next year.

The Skyvan returned in September for an FS coaching weekend, with loads of super jumps and 70 tandems too! With lots of new FS coaches everyone made the most of it. Next year we aim to use the Skyvan more, keep an eye on our website.

Warwick, Aston, Imperial, Kingston and Brunel Universities have brought loads of students to take advantage of the 3 and 5 jump static line course packages we offer as an incentive to come back. 79 static line jumps were made on one weekend alone. Over 26 uni students have done AFF level 1s and hopefully will be back. WUSS (Weston University Skydiving Society) had its first party on Halloween, with drinking games taking advantage of cheap booze prices. Top marks to Laura Head and friends, in the bar till 6.30am!

Steve and I thank everyone for a very safe year, especially the staff who have made this the best season ever at Skydive Weston. Jumps are up massively from 2008, AFF and static line have doubled. We are closed from 7 December till 6 February for jumping, although the office will still be open. We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Ash Kemp

Achievements

AFF Graduates
Steve Rouke
Steve Ferrand
Jenny Lawrence
Kirk Wilson
Adrian Shrimpton
Gillian Lipscombe
Justyna Koschanka

FS1
Kye Bromley
Claire Seymour
Martin Roberson

Jump Numbers

50
Kye Bromley

100
Greg Lucas

300
Antonia Nilsson

500
Victoria Bradley
Rebecca Bradley

1,000
Nick Whitely

1,500
Si Bristow
(leaving the sport!)

Christine Dawes and Simon Hartland by Simon Wilkinson

Tilstock

Achievements

Cat 8
Paul Wood
John Newsome

FS1
John Galbraith
Matt Goodman

First Freefall
Wayne Powell
Warren Fullwood
Agnieszka Kropiwnicka
Ed Milne
Steve Parton

FF1
Julie Skilling

100 Jumps
John Galbraith

300 Jumps
Michelle Eppleston

1,000 Jumps
Hans Donner

1 Hour Freefall
John Galbraith

12 Hours Freefall
Dave Schofield

As 2009 draws to a close it's nice to reflect that it's been one of our busiest ever, especially with the resurgence of solo static line – perhaps because in the current financial climate it's a cheaper option than tandem? Who knows but we've had lots of student progression; also many tandems converting to static line. Hopefully, everyone will continue through winter, ready for the new Manchester wind tunnel in spring. When there is a firm opening date we'll be organising trips and coaching from Tilstock.

Paul Wood before last consol by Lukas Holownia

Paul Lewis continues to recover well from his injuries and we hope to have him back flying the Airvan in the new year. We warmly welcome tandem instructor and rigger Paul Stockwell and partner Vicky who have upped sticks from 'dahn sahf' and moved near Tilstock. We must be doing something right!

The Christmas Party and AGM at the Hill Valley Hotel is 12 December, call the DZ **soon**. Everyone is welcome, you don't have to be a club member or even a jumper! We close after the party, re-open on 9 January, then close on 16 Jan for the BPA AGM.

We're then open every Saturday till the end of February, then Fridays, Saturdays and bank holidays until end of Nov 2010. Merry Christmas and a happy new year to everyone!

Colin Fitzmaurice

Herbie Loureiro proves Colin does jump sometimes

Skydive Airkix

Top Gun by Mark Harris

Jack Johnson by Mark Harris

Jo Dawson's 300th jump by Sarah Hall

We celebrated the Phoenix Bar & Grill getting its full licence with a cartoon characters fancy dress party. Morning balloon jumps, then evening costumes – a surreal day and night! Great work all round Andy 'Motorway Man' Lapsley, particularly in the surprise 'Ultimate Cage Fighting' event.
The bar is now fully equipped with furniture and stocked with beer and spirits – life is good!
Hot meals and snacks are available all day and into the evening.

August saw BOGOF Fridays, with many taking advantage of £10 tickets. Early bird loads on Saturday mornings also qualified for BOGOF tickets. We rewarded the teams that had been training here by giving them free jumps on Fridays all August if they were entering the World Cup – *Escondido* were happy! Email us to be notified of upcoming events and offers, or join our Facebook page for Skydive Airkix.

We did a demo into Rockingham Speedway for the British Touring Car Championship – exciting to land to a cheering crowd! They liked it so much, we're invited back. Mark Harris, the Top Gun team and some regulars have been training here for the world record flock in Elsinore.

On 25 October we said goodbye to the Turbolet. Sadly it's come to the end of its life but don't worry, we have a replacement fast-climbing turbine already sorted! Halloween saw many making their first night jumps, followed by a great party. Nobody could believe that Sarah was a night jump virgin. Not any more! She enjoyed big fireworks under canopy, bonfire night came a few days early!

Cartoon characters fancy dress by David Newsham

Skydive Airkix grew up last year to become bigger, busier, better, and something to be proud of. As usual we're closed over winter, re-opening in February. We've got some great plans for 2010 already but if you have any events you'd like to see or want coaching or training, let us know. Thanks so very much to Chris and his team, Andy and his team, Sarah, Gee and of course Zolo – great job guys. Thank you everyone who jumped at SDAK in 2009 – a great year! Happy Christmas and blue skies for 2010.

Dave Turner

Achievements
AFF Graduate
Richard Swain
FS1
Ailwyn McGeoch
Eliza Ratusniak
Steve Faulkner
Matt Pichel-Juan
JM1, CH2
Lesley Kent
WS1
Jack Johnson
Scott Calcraft
WS1, WS2
George Impey
Brett Robinson

Jump Numbers
50
Liz Soley
Lesley Kent
100
Matt Pichel-Juan
200
Caroline Moran
Jamie Booth
Brett Robinson
Dave Dunn
300
Jo Dawson
Jack Johnson
Scott Calcraft
400
Derek Hancock
500
Joel Gluth
700
Guy Martin
George Impey
800
Mark Baker
1,100
Paul Cooper
1 Hour Freefall
Lesley Kent

Paragon

Rab tandem by Gary Wainwright

Rob - Danger - by Rab

Zulu Uniform is a wonderful plane,
But of late has caused Billy some significant pain,
So Errol DZ is temporarily aborted,
While the mechanics go and get oor wee plane sorted.

So we're jumping at Strath and having a blast,
But we all know that it surely can't last,
We need to play by the rules and do nothing shady,
Cause we're under the watch of a certain man Brady.

Rab's been away learning how to do tandem,
It's a miracle he passed we thought they would ban him,
Now he's rattling them out and having a hoot,
Some say he's miserable, just doing it for loot.

Rob's been on holiday and enjoying his break,
Spending time off the dropzone he must think it's great,
He carries all that responsibility across those broad shoulders,
It's no wonder that he's starting to look a bit older.

By the time you read this we'll be back near the Tay,
Doing as much as we can in a very short day,
With Christmas now just round the corner,
We can't wait for the summer and it to be warmer!

Mag7

PS We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year – drinking responsibly is for Southerners!

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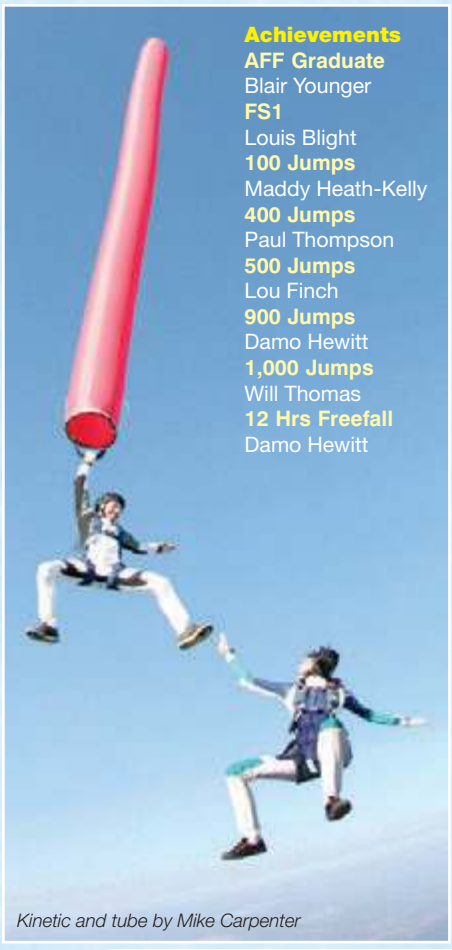
Dunkeswell



Achievements
AFF Graduate
Blair Younger
FS1
Louis Blight
100 Jumps
Maddy Heath-Kelly
400 Jumps
Paul Thompson
500 Jumps
Lou Finch
900 Jumps
Damo Hewitt
1,000 Jumps
Will Thomas
12 Hrs Freefall
Damo Hewitt

Kinetic and tube by Mike Carpenter

The DZ will be closed from 13 December and reopen on 8 January. Our Christmas party at the Royal Oak is 12 December – 3-course Christmas meal for £10. Numbers limited to 60, book on 01404 890222.

Massive congratulations to Charlotte Kemp and Pete Brookes of *Kinetic*, on the UK Head-down Record. *Kinetic* are offering freefly coaching weekends every month in 2010 for all abilities. Coaching is also planned with the Birdman Top Gun team, FS with Dave Lewis and tracking with Tim Porter.

28 April – 3 May is our skills camp and progression week for AFF, FS, FF and CF. Seminars, practical programmes, BBQs and free camping all week long! It's CF with Paul Yeoman and Steve Saunders and freefly with Mike Carpenter (30 April – 3 May). AFF, FS & FF Progression weeks will also run 22-27 June and 14-18 July. Chris Lynch's Wing Tips is 12-14 May, for all levels.

Jan's Beech 99 arrives for the Twin Beech Boogie 1, 17-23 May, with coaching from Tim Porter, Chris Lynch, and many more super-talented load organisers from across Europe. That's right – Boogie 1! We are holding **two** Twin Beech Boogies next year! The second is 26 July – 1 August.

The BPA CF Roadshow offers free string-jiggling coaching, 14-18 July, followed by the Mike Wills Memorial speed 10 comp on the August bank holiday. Registration is essential for most events, and limited to 300 for the Twin Beech Beach Boogies, register now to avoid disappointment! See **skydivethewell.com** Have a super Christmas and see you all next year!

Lou Finch

Kinetic exit by Mike Carpenter

Westleigh Guest at Bristol Balloon Festival by Andy Guest

Wild Geese

Mark, Brian, Fionnuala and Wendy by Martin McLaughlin

Pete Lehane tandem by Ralph Tartaglia

Achievements
First Freefall
Pete Johnson
Cat 8
Aaron Cosbey
FS1
Catherine McGinnity
CH1
Jenni Porter
Ryan McCreanor
CH2
Brian Kelly
Graham Wallace
JM1
Brian Kelly
Graham Wallace
50 Jumps
Jenni Porter
500 Jumps
Martin McLaughlin

A new event, the 'Next Level' is in the Geese's regular calendar. The idea is to make coaches available on a particular weekend day each month for progression, load organising and coaching. Initially covering mainly FS, expansion to freefly and canopy coaching depends on people getting involved – you know what to do!

The Queen's University Belfast Skydive Club committee is now ably populated by Eddie Monteith, James Beattie, Ryan McCreanor and Paul Brennan. Connor Campbell escaped from the rain to go down under, look out for a dropzone.com review full of asterisks.

Neal Fitzpatrick racked up 2 hours' freefall, impressive as it contains the best part of a year of hop 'n' pops. Catherine McGinnity achieved FS1, well done, it's been a long time coming! Aaron Cosbey rattled off RAPS levels in quick succession and is Cat 8 after being in the last Mag for first freefall. Nick Spiller is back in the harness in double quick time, nice one! Congratulations to Graham Wallace for a new arrival, hot on the heels of Mark McGarvey, bringing the total for each to two – twice as many reasons why they shouldn't be bumming about a rain-sodden DZ at weekends!

Martin McLaughlin

Eddie Monteith & Mark McGarvey by Ralph Tartaglia

Achievements
First Freefall
Alexandra Whitehead
AFF Graduate
Neil Cooper
Simon Widdup
Chris Rabone
Ian Moore
Cat 8
Matt Carr
Dion Wild
Neil Cooper
Clare Hudson
Courtney Benson
Chris Rabone
Simon Widdup
FS1
Matt Wilcock
Dot Riley
Dave Hesketh
Luke Morris
FF1
Craig Chalmers
300 Jumps
Nik Barnett
800 Jumps
Ana Budjelan

Ned with daughter by Neil McLaren

Chris Rabone

Cark

The Carlisle lads in action by Steve D

It's very sad news that Keith Toyer has hung up his goggles to look after his wife, Sylvia. Keith has been a valued active member of our club for many years, winning the very first Cark Skydiver of the Year Award back in 2001. We all miss you both and hope to see you in the not too distant future.

We gave Fiona McLaren a very big welcome home when she came to visit. It was good to hear she runs a DZ in New Zealand. Fiona's mum made a surprise visit too, bringing with her cakes, cakes and yet more cakes! The queue to her cake tent never went down. Great to see you both and thanks for feeding us **all day**!

Good luck to Chris Rabone who is off on the Asgard Project as climbing support crew on Baffin Island. Brrr – cold stuff! Happy 30th year at Cark goes to CCI Dennis, he's been at the centre nearly as long as the club rep – but I was only 12 then!

Skydive Northwest team have had a great 6 months offering free coaching to all. Over 100 1-on-1 jumps, 4-way scrambles and speed meets, a 'come try 4-way' weekend and the 'big-ways for beginners' proved invaluable. Dave and Helen will be organising many more events next year. Register on the website to receive regular updates. A big thanks to all.

Après skydiving has been fun-packed, with cocktails, giant jenga jumping and other drink-orientated early hour games. Katie has lost her 19th mobile and now her car keys, eventually heading home aboard the 15.32 to Liverpool Lime Street!

It was great to see visitors from everywhere, with the Tilstock and Scottish contingents getting bigger. Maybe we could do a north & south of the border 16-way?

We're host to a 2010 UKSL 4-way (12-13 June). Two top class coaches will assist any team with exits, launches, transitions, blocks and engineering. Dave and Helen offer coaching to any budding team, drop us an email and we'll try to help.

We close Sunday 13 December and reopen Saturday 30 Jan 2010. We wish all our staff, club members and visiting jumpers a very happy Christmas, and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Stu Morris

The McLaren's cake tent queue by Steve D

Jenga jumping by Neil McLaren

Chatteris

Achievements
Cat 8
Adam Gooch
FS1, 50 Jumps
James Addison
1 Hour Freefall
Jason Fox
400 Jumps
Rowena Owen
1,500 Jumps
Tom Prantach
4,000 Jumps
Chris Beattie

Stu swooping the pond by Lorraine Dixcey

It's official, we now own a Twin Otter! We're hoping to have it up and running next season, we'll keep you updated. Congratulations to newlyweds Mike and Jo Rust. Everyone had a really good time at the reception, fish 'n' chips for dinner – brilliant! There was a great band and lots of drinking, naturally leading to much dancing and some getting very drunk, not mentioning any names (cough) Darren.

Our pond was finally christened by *Team Heat's* Stu Storey taking a downwinder – very very fast! It's been a great year here at Chatteris, especially with the weather being more on our side. We're looking forward to an even better 2010, bring it on!

Lorraine Dixcey

Cornish

The last display of our season was a special surprise birthday present for Ann Fowler. Her party guests made up a very knowledgeable crowd, with judges, a BPA examiner, and experienced jumpers. Constantine is a spectacular demo arena when the conditions are good (which they were). We haven't forgotten your tandem Jamie, or that you asked for Ben – your choice!

The late summer sunshine has given everyone a big boost of enthusiasm, with coaching, camera jumps and freefly. Amazing club days very rarely happen, due to business commitments. However, the other Sunday, we had club jumping at Perranporth on the stunning north Cornish coast, followed by a spectacular club demo onto Mark's beach at Praa Sands, on the south coast of Cornwall, finished off by a beach BBQ, with fresh local mackerel. This unbelievable club day will be spoken about for some time. Well done Ben, Ross, Phil & Mark for a really nice demo and Steve for some excellent flying.

The CAA has been very helpful with our request to reuse Bodmin Airfield as a new PLA for students and club jumpers. Robert O'Neil at the CAA has given very professional help in securing the grass airfield as a new DZ. We wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a very merry new year. We will attend the BPA AGM at Blackpool, it's only a short distance! We're leaving on 5 Jan, so we're not late!

Chris Wood

Shane Wood by his dad Dave Wood

Becs, Jet Blonde by Dave Wood

Lewknor

Well what a year! Turbine has changed LPS so much that we've dug deep in the pockets and confirmed the Caravan for the next 2 years! We look forward to continuing 12K run-ins and the occasional jaunt higher. There is a team forming amongst the regulars, so keep your eyes open!

It's been an unbelievable year for AFF – too many graduates to list. Next year is set to be even better with March already full! Martin wants to thank all the staff for their hard work that has made 2009 such a success, he looks forward to their continuing support.

Congratulations to Rachel on finally pinning Martin down. We wish them all the best for their January wedding in Whistler BC, and a fabulous future together. Apparently there is a 'small' gathering on their return to celebrate. 2010 is looking fantastic and we can't wait!

Martin Harris

Mark Stone

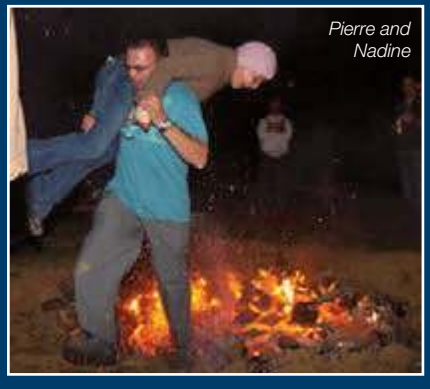
Headcorn

Chris Shaw has been organising 'Walk up Wednesdays', which, thanks to the peculiarities of the great British weather, often turn into Thursdays or Fridays, but – hey! – they usually happen. They are always thoroughly enjoyed. If you want to progress or try organised loads, just walk on up and Chris will happily to do his best to give you what you want.

Ruth Cooper

Chris Shaw's walk up Wednesdays

Jane & Pete triumph at the LAC meet, by Nigel Rowlan



Pierre and Nadine

Achievements

Cat 8, CH1
Steve Swift
Chris Davis
Marcus Cooper

FS1, 1 Hr Freefall
Lizzie Knowles
Eric Shapland

FF1
Jane Buckle

WS1
Wiggy
Lucy Smith-Wildey

WS1, WS2
Al Redler

CH2, JM1
Matt Nixon

CP1
Lucy Smith-Wildey

Jump Numbers

50
Stan Parkes
Marcus Cooper

300
Craig Crosbie

1,200
Paul Digby

2,000
Dave Hartley

7,500
Jane Buckle

1 Hr Freefall
David Lee

24 Hours Freefall
Dave Hartley

48 Hours Freefall
Lee Andrews

Alex Hopkins' 200th & Lucy Smith-Wildey's 800th, a 'Mr Bill' by Lucy

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South Cerney

Dave and Gill Lewis by Paul Gibbs

Karen Gibbs on AFF by Alex Murphy

September saw Cerney host the Style Nationals, coinciding with Matty Holford taking over the reins as CCI – in at the deep end! A hardy band of coaches are taking care of FS needs, while Alex Murphy and Cairan Van Rooyan have set up a dedicated freefly school, the 'Rusty Stars'. They are on hand most weekends to help the funky flyers.

All the best to Dave Lewis after his argument with the ground. He now has lots of time to indulge in his alternative pastime as the 'Del Boy Trotter' of the skydiving equipment world. Beware of a small bald man on crutches flogging kit at your dropzone!

We wish one and all a merry Christmas, a great new year (hopefully see you in Blackpool) and a 2010 of outstanding air time!

Paul Gibbs

Achievements

Cat 8
Shaun Stevenson
Jim Hadfield
Jason Harris
Conrad Allen
Imogen Parsons

JM1
Michelle Larsen

FS1
Mike Jasinski
Dave Rodgers
Mike Williams

50 Jumps
Alun Evans
Duncan Parsons
Dave Rodgers

200 Jumps
Mike Williams
Rachel Hayes

300 Jumps
Simon Ashley

700 Jumps
George Clack

800 Jumps
Nigel Page

900 Jumps
Chas McNeil

1,000 Jumps
Alex Murphy

48 Hrs Freefall
Stu Albon

Peterlee

Bruce McKee by Mal Smith

Freshers arrived in full force with students from Newcastle, Durham, Teesside and Northumberland Universities. The bar's been full every Friday and they are all keen as mustard for jumping as well as drinking! Who's gonna win the Uni trophy then?!

Many thanks to Janet Willcox for her hard work on the social side. Let her know if you have any 'après-jumping' activities you'd like to see, or to volunteer help. Sue O'Conner now has draught beer behind the bar (Carling and Camerons Trophy Special) – she's happy to supply what jumpers want, so let Sue and her team know.

Big congratulations to Roy Howorth, who celebrated his 70th birthday with a good ol' knees-up. Jonathan 'Jonsky' Brown, manifester extraordinaire, has left to be an Aircraft Engineer for British Airways at Heathrow. We all miss ya. He's been replaced by Steve 'Mankini' Wood in manifest. Ralph Weatherburn's also landed himself a job down south. Pay us a visit guys! Paul and Lesley Moore have returned to Peterlee. Paul is President of the European Parachute Union, a BPA Council Member and recently retired RAPA Commandant. Welcome back to blighty, it's great to have you both around.

Alan Thompson

Air Tourer 607 Group donated a Land Rover to us for use as an airfield safety vehicle, which Roy Howorth has been lovingly restoring. Charlie Mayo and Kev Mitchell have been hard at work refurbishing the reception area. Excellent work lads! Ian is hoping to have the new hangar up by Christmas.

Former Durham student Richard Head is standing for Council, all the very best, you have our support. We've secured the Classics Nationals, 2-6 July 2010, with hopefully Paul Moore as Meet Director.

Our Christmas Party is at Durham Masonic Hall on Saturday 12 December. Tickets are £25. There will be presentations and a raffle, proceeds going to St Cuthbert's Hospice, so remember to bring a raffle prize.

Sue Scott

Achievements

CH2, JM1
Michelle Tilley
Craig Wood

FS1
Kirsty Richardson

50 Jumps
Michelle Tilley
Craig Wood
Kirsty Richardson
Simon Minto
Nigel Peacock

200 Jumps
Oli Clark
Tom Derbyshire

300 Jumps
Trevor Garrett

1,300 Jumps
Dave Taylor

3,000 Jumps
Mark Willcox

Jonathan Brown sleeping like a baby by Alan Thompson

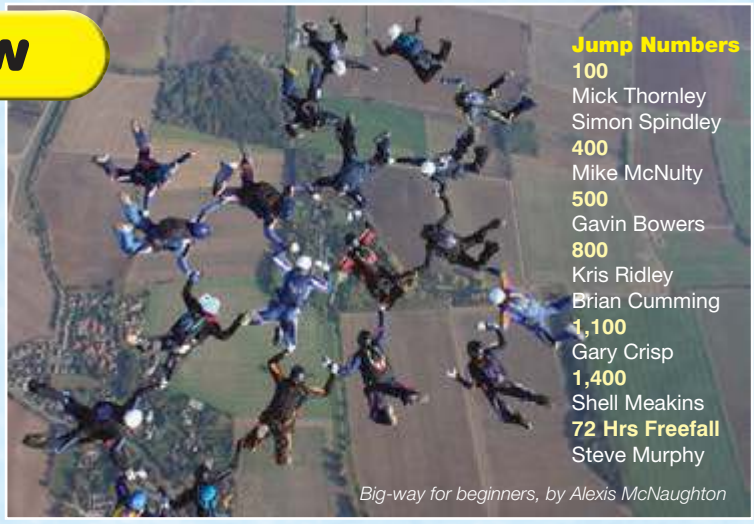
Photos by Darren Birkin

Hibaldstow

We ran a new event – a head-to-head match for freeflyers versus belly flyers in 8-way speed. 4 FS and 2 FF teams had keen rivalry, making for an exciting finish, and Weed keeping everyone in suspense until the last moment, when the belly flyers pipped the freeflyers into third place.

The Funshine Boogie returned, more are planned, keep your eyes peeled. Big-way Beginners weekend was a great success. Those with little or no experience made their biggest formations and learned what it's like to be on multi-plane formation loads. Organised by Simon Cathrine with help from Ronan 'Oirish' Whelan, the weekend was brilliant and everyone shone. Our own ipod party in the bar got everyone up dancing, with multiple games of Jenga. Feedback was immense, so many new skills learned, everyone had a great time and can't wait for more.

Frostbite Friendly 10-way Halloween Speed spooked us all! 5 teams did 3 rounds – yes, we actually jumped! Simon Cathrine judged the rounds and the winners – surprisingly – were Simon's very own team, *Standing on the Shoulders of Maggots;* second was the fastest team, *Fallen Angels;* with *Spookin 'ell* in third. The party was, as always, a riot with fantastic costumes and a good long night. My head still hurts now!



Jump Numbers
100
Mick Thornley
Simon Spindley
400
Mike McNulty
500
Gavin Bowers
800
Kris Ridley
Brian Cumming
1,100
Gary Crisp
1,400
Shell Meakins
72 Hrs Freefall
Steve Murphy

Big-way for beginners, by Alexis McNaughton

Freeflyers are losers by Mike McNulty

York Uni brought static line courses, well done to all the first time jumpers – welcome guys, come back and play some more! Well done to new licence holders George, Scott, Holly, Liam and Dan, and new FS1-ers, Mhari and Kate. Special mention goes to Steve Murphy, one of our original instructors and still as daft as ever! Two good friends, Pete and Susan, left for New Zealand, we wish them happy adventures.

Hib is open until 13 Dec, with Saturday 12 being the Christmas party, with free buffet, a band, awards and fun. Everyone is welcome. See you there... I shall NOT be drinking, I won't!

Michelle Meakins

Big-way for beginners, by Alexis McNaughton

Achievements
AFF Graduate
Mike Leggett
Frenchy
Becky Thorne
FS1
Michael Burns
JM1, CH2
Brandon Maxwell
WS1
Barrie Bremner
50 Jumps
Michael Burns
100 Jumps
Amanda Bradfield
Brandon Maxwell
200 Jumps
Dave Wall
300 Jumps
Michael Wemyss

UK Para

If you heard rumours, they are true! After 10 years at Old Buck, UK Parachuting is moving! A company has purchased Old Buckenham Airfield to develop the site into residential and commercial properties. From Jan 2010, UKPS has a new home at Beccles market town in Suffolk. It's a beautiful airfield just 10 minutes from Lowestoft beach, making for amazing visuals. Grant and Tomo have been working hard, with the help of staff and club jumpers to get it ready. We have new buildings, a camping area with shower/toilet block, bunkhouse, large packing area, clubroom and even a hangar for the Caravan. Most importantly there is a pub at the bottom of the airfield! They are ready to welcome us with open arms – we're not sure they know what they're letting themselves in for!

Keep up to date on the club zone of our website – watch out for the Beccles opening party! UKPS say a huge thank you to the local businesses around Old Buck that supported us over the last 10 years, also to everyone who got their hands dirty helping with the move.

Congratulations to our latest AFF graduates, especially Becky who's taken 18 months. After 4 years on BPA Council, Grant has stood down, he sends a huge thank you to everyone who supported him.

Last call for Christmas Party tickets! (12 Dec at The Banham Barrel, £15). This year will be less formal but still have disco, food, lots of booze and Steve Wickham. Camping is available at a discount price at Banham Zoo. Thanks to staff, club jumpers and friends for another great year. Have a fantastic Christmas and we look forward to seeing you at Beccles in 2010.

Susie Richards

Après tandem by Paul Newton

Jersey

L'Eree dropzone at Guernsey. Photos by Alun Griffiths

A very busy September brought Skydive Jersey's season to an end for 2009. Beach jumps were aplenty, in fantastic heat. Cleverly, Liam Hardman had made the most of August's bad weather by completing ground school to obtain his B Licence, also CH2 and JM1 – well done Liam!

Pete Dolbel took out Jersey's tube for a company promo, and Alun followed Reverend Shea, the St Marks Vicar, with a can of smoke – much to the delight of the congregation.

We made two trips to Guernsey, bringing tandem skydiving for the first time. Alun Griffiths claimed the first ever wingsuit jump over Guernsey, and several local skydivers made the most of our visit by wagging off work, taking the opportunity to skydive over their own beautiful island. Our static display at the Guernsey Airshow was appreciated, spreading the word that we'd be back in 2010.

Plans to refurb the video room and packing shed, with a social beer or two over winter are in place. A trip away in March looks likely, as keen islanders are now craving AFF. Thanks to all the regulars, and UK staff who have again made skydiving in Jersey possible this year.

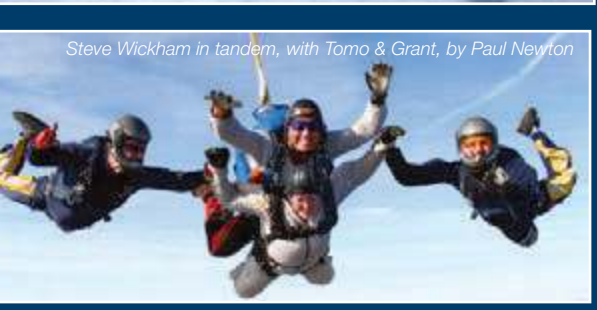
Mally Richardson

Swindon

Rich Crook and his walking crew raised £7,500 for Help for Heroes after walking 108 miles via every pub in 48 hours. Pieter is now on the camera team while Brucie is on the losing side once again, this time his Union Jack Gath helmet strap broke, so he can be heard crying himself to sleep most nights.

Jonny Moulder is yo-yoing between the rope and freefall – it'll click soon Jonny. A big goodbye to Mateusz who took 144 months to gain A licence and, now complete, heads back to Poland. We'll miss his enthusiasm, counting in Polish and attempts to relax – good luck Mateusz!

UK Parachuting's 500th AFF jump of the year by Grant & Tomo, photo by Barrie Bremner



Steve Wickham in tandem, with Tomo & Grant, by Paul Newton

Rob Spour is on a strict diet of cream cakes and lard after we saw the photos of his 100th jump, in a mankini! Get well soon to Andy Naude, recovering from a back injury from a tough landing in Malaysia. Andy Parkin has emigrated to France. His jokes and catch phrases have been used ever since, with various people trying to take the credit for inventing them. Parkin Bingo will never be the same without Andy and we all look forward to his return.

Leonie has prepared a spreadsheet of mighty proportions, mission control has been swept, and maps changed for the Morocco Motorbike Marathon. Luke, Buncie and Andy Shaw (plus anyone else they can drag along) will be riding through Spain and into Morocco at the end of the year – probably in a baby blue jumpsuit and Skydive London jacket! They've been annoying everyone by crying, "*Hands up if you're going to Morocco on a bike*", every 5 minutes. Good luck guys!

Dylan Griffith-Jones

Dylan Griffith-Jones and Babs Burnell by Martin Heywood-Wakeman

Rob Spour's 100th by Martin Heywood-Wakeman

Achievements

Cat 8
Mateusz Oblucki
Luke Shaw
Andrew Griggs

50 Jumps
Jess Sanderson
Armitage
100 Jumps
Rob Spour
200 Jumps
Pieter Potgieter
James Snellgrove
1,200 Jumps
Dylan Griffith-Jones

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Hinton

Aaron Kirkham's AFF Level 1 with Maddy Moore and Kris Sheppard by Eamonn Fairhead

Sarah & Liz Fletcher with Grandpa's Ashes

Team Heat canopy school held a very full course, great for skydivers of all abilities. The mixture of lectures and practical assessments was well thought out and very worthwhile. Watch this space for future courses.

Well done to all the recent AFF graduates – it's great to have so many new faces! Also well done to all those who've recently achieved FS1, there is a lot of flat flying going on, it is brilliant to see.

Sarah and Liz Fletcher carried out their Grandpa Robbie's dying wish, to jump with his ashes and scatter them over Hinton. They then flew a commemorative flag for Grandpa, who was a Spitfire pilot in WW2 and a top fella. Although tears were shed it was a great send-off.

Hinton will be closed from 21 December over Christmas, reopening on 5 January. Those of you going away to sunnier places for the holidays, have a great time and stay safe.

Tally Keith

Photos by Ray Armstrong

Achievements
AFF Graduate
Sarah Upson
Hannah Corbet
Nick Navas
Allan Russell
Nelson Thevasagayam
Cat 8
Peter Cartwright
FS1
Lawrence Fanza
Isy Tomlinson
Chris Griffin
CP1
Adam Searle
FF1
Matt Watkins
50 Jumps
Deep Gandelha
Sophie Holdforth
100 Jumps
Russell Jones
600 Jumps
John Lintern
2,000 Jumps
Matt Abram

Black Knights

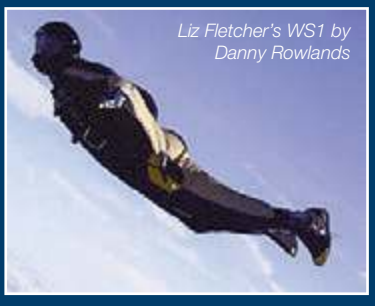
Enough folk to make two teams enthusiastically turned up for the Eddie Davies Cup, despite appalling weather. With just two points in it, *OAH* won gold and the Davies Cup whilst *Downpour* took silver. Thanks to everyone and especially Jeff for donating the prize money.

Liz Fletcher & Danny Rowlands are coaching the newly qualified A licence holders resulting in plenty of FS1s. Coaching is also available from the camera crew and a few tandem instructors. We also now have 3 AFF instructors. Huge congrats to Ben Henshall, the most rapidly progressed student of the year. He rocketed through RAPS and is still on fire!

Delta Zulu went back to her home, Gap in Provence, for her 50th birthday celebrations – what a party it was! Two bands and more food, champagne, wine and beer than you could possibly consume. The French CF team and canopy swoopers wowed the 250 strong crowd, with a grand finale Godzilla flyby by owner Mike Fitzgerald.

Work has started on our club room and snazzy new briefing room, coming along a treat, as well as an additional bunkhouse, with the original ones being refurbished.

Our Christmas party is 5 Dec at the Stork Hotel where we're taking over the whole hotel – do they know what they're letting themselves in for?!



Liz Fletcher's WS1 by Danny Rowlands

Danny Rowlands is making the entertainment end of Year DVD.

The DZ will be closed from 14 Dec till 16 Jan. We open again the weekend of the BPA AGM, for regulars and visitors to come and jump Delta Zulu, the fastest turbine Porter! Thanks for a fantastic year, see you all in 2010.

Sam Davis

Achievements
First Freefall
Mica Reid
Alex Baines
Alex Bowker
Cat 8
Ben Henshall
Clint Gaskell
Steve Searle
Luke Davis
Abraham Tavakoli
FS1
Matt Goodman
Chris Dale
Dan Sutherland
Alex Holland
WS1
Liz Fletcher
WS & FS Coach
Danny Rowlands
50 Jumps
James Baxter
100 Jumps
Carl Marsh
200 Jumps
Evan George
Andy Gleeson
Brian Berry
300 Jumps
Rick Hamnet

Eddie Davies competitors by Neil Henshall

Delta Zulu's 50th birthday in Gap, by Jeff Illidge

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Photo: Jojo Priedemann

BCPA

What are the essentials for a great BCPA Nationals? This year it would seem tea, inflatable games, endless free BBQ food and alcohol, a hot tub and wellington boots... but not a canopy or jumpsuit in sight! With not a break in the cloud in 5 days, the BCPA Nationals still managed a fantastic turnout, despite the absence of any actual skydiving!

After an epic superheroes themed party, with some incredible costumes, we had the league results, the end of year AGM and the amazing BCPA raffle. This had great support from countless companies with Airkix, the major sponsor, giving away tunnel time to the Individual League winner. There was a mild air of disgruntlement with Warwick attempting world domination in the raffle and the Leagues!

The 2010 committee was elected with new positions created to ensure BCPA works more smoothly than ever.

Chair Sam Lee
Foreign Trip Organiser Holly Blake
League/Comps Co-ordinator Garrick Foster-Taylor

BCPA League Results 2008-09

Achievements League

1	Warwick	334 points
2	Southampton	242 points
3	Loughborough	187 points

Competitions League

1	Warwick	297 points
2	Loughborough	182 points
3	Edinburgh	75 points

Individual League

1	Sam Lee	125 points
= 2	Phil Tzourou	66 points
= 2	Sam Bemment	66 points

We have added Regional Leagues to encourage further competition. Each Club will be allocated a geographical region, to make Northern, Southern, Midlands and Scottish champions. Points go towards both National and Regional Leagues. Focus will be put on Scrambles to encourage pre-FS1s.

BCPA is applying for membership of British Universities & College Sport (BUCS), which would give increased funding opportunities. We require 24 'Letters of Support' from British unis and are very close! Please email the BCPA to register your support.

The BCPA and UKSkydiver.co.uk are proud to announce a sponsorship deal that offers the cheapest skydiving gear in the UK and supports the BCPA Nationals with beer! Kicking it off with 10 free beers, UKS will provide a beer for every £100 spent, with items just short of £100 (ie, altis) also qualifying for a beer. You need a working .ac.uk email to qualify for BCPA discounts, but anyone in BCPA (at uni or graduated less than 4 years ago) can accumulate beer! Email **shop@ukskydiver.co.uk**

In October we launched the BCPA Hand-Me-Down-Scheme to donate second hand skydiving equipment to BCPA. We will pass them on, raffle off or use as prizes and rewards. Spread the word!

Congratulations to the 16 brave souls who set a BCPA record at the Langar Boogie II.

Sam Lee, mail@bcpa.org.uk

Bungee run by Kye Bromley

Bananmen by Kye Bromley

League winners Warwick by Kye Bromley

Nationals by Neil McLaren

POPS

8-way SOS Record: Niels Hansen, Jeff Chandler, Caroline O'Hagan, John Knight, Freddy De Man, John Flower, John Evans, Bob Gibbs, photos by Andy Edmonds

We'd like to make this next World POPS Meet our most successful yet. It's in Reggio Emilia, Italy, 4-12 June 2010, with a bigger and more innovative programme than ever! POPS and SOS members are working together to make 4-way teams. Niels Hansen has been the driving force and is keen to hear from anyone who wishes to form teams and maybe get some tunnel training going. Contact Neils – 07588418241 **niels_hansen514@hotmail.com .**

A British SOS record was achieved at Netheravon on 10 October, with an 8-way! I can almost hear voices out there saying, *'What? Only an 8-way?'* and to a certain extent you'd be right. There are ample numbers of 60+ UK skydivers with the skills but the secret is getting them all together in one place. Congratulations to those who did 'get it together' and were justly rewarded.

The BPA AGM at Blackpool is the venue for the POPS UK AGM. Please make the effort to attend. 2010 looks busy and hopefully rewarding so there is much to discuss. See you there!

Dick Barton

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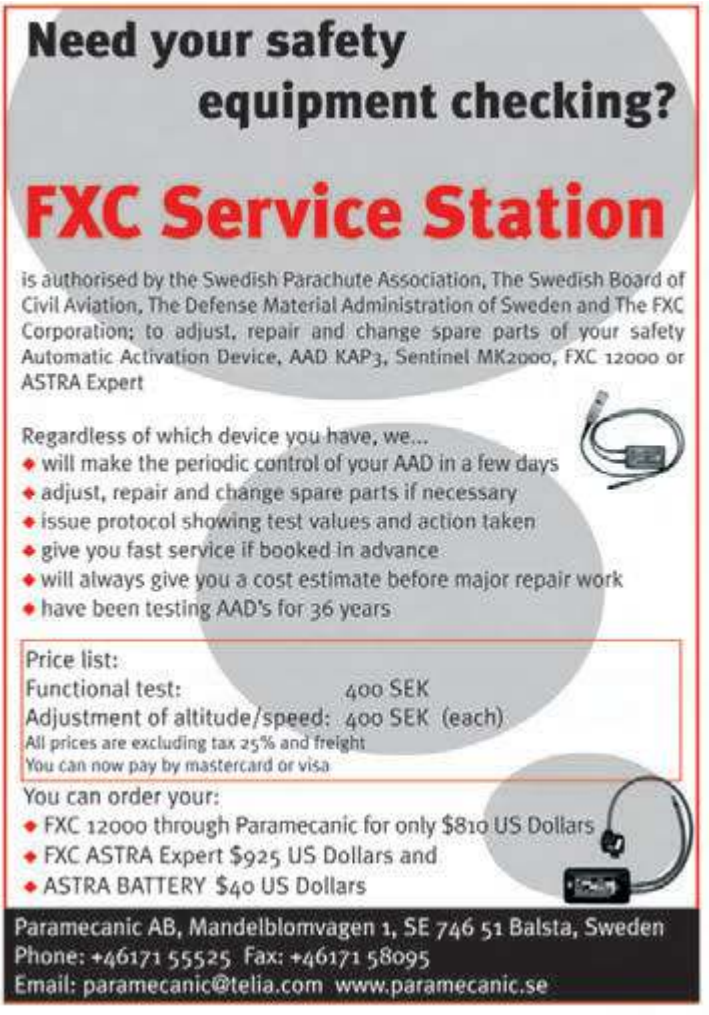
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- WI Wingsuit Instruction

1 Black Knights
01524 791 820

Black Knights Parachute Centre
Patty's Farm, Hillam Lane, Cockerham,
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Tel (DZ): 01524 791 820
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www.bkpc.co.uk bkpcinfo@googlemail.com
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3 Chatteris
01354 740 810

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Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 01871 664 0113 Fax: 0870 787 4909
info@ukskydiving.com www.ukskydiving.com
Aircraft: Nomad
Open: 8am-8pm Tuesday-Sunday in summer. 9am-dusk, Wednesday-Sunday in winter.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, rounds, tandem
A friendly, progressive drop zone with excellent facilities that are constantly being updated.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

4 Cornish
01872 553 352

Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield, Higher Trevellas,
St Agnes, Cornwall TR5 0XS
Tel: 01872 553 352 or 07790 439 653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
www.cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206, occasional guest aircraft
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends. Open most other days in summer, call for details
Perranporth DZ is B Licence only,
students & A licence can jump at Bodmin
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
A small but developing club with friendly staff, nice facilities & fantastic views of the Cornish peninsula.

WP FS CF CP

5 Dunkeswell
01404 890 222

Skydive UK Ltd
Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell, Devon EX14 4LG
Tel: 01404 890 222 or 07718 638 000
info@skydiveukltd.com
www.skydivethewell.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Twin Turbine Beech King Air
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First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
For midweek operation please call the DZ first.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

6 Headcorn
01622 890 862

Headcorn Parachute Centre
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641
info@headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan, Islander
Open: 9am-dusk, Tuesday-Sunday. 1pm-dusk on Monday in summer.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Come and join in the fun here at Headcorn!

LO FS CF FF AC WP

7 Hibaldstow
0113 250 5600

Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 DZ: 01652 648 837
info@skydiving.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk
Aircraft: Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6
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LO FS FF WP SU

8 Hinton
01295 812 300

Hinton Skydiving Centre
Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley,
Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
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Small and friendly. Bunkhouse, camping & showers on site.

FS CF FF AC WP

9 Jersey
01534 747 410

Skydive Jersey Ltd
States Airport, St Peter, Jersey JE3 7ZR
Tel: 01534 747 410
info@skydivejersey.net www.skydivejersey.net
Aircraft: 8-place Airvan, occasional turbines
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First Jump Courses: Tandem, occasional AFF trips
The only GB beach landing DZ. Operate from international airport. Stunning views of the island, with landings on the beach in St Aubin's Bay.

LO FS FF WP

10 Langar
01949 860 878

British Parachute Schools
Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY
Tel: 01949 860 878 Fax: 01949 860 012
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk
Aircraft: 2 Cessna Grand Caravans, Skyvan occasionally
Open: 9am-8pm (or dusk) every day. 10am start on Sunday. Office open every day, 8.30am-6pm.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Lots of aircraft, always lots of jumping, busy every day – midweek too!

LO FS CF FF WP CP

11 Lewknor
0845 130 7194

London Parachute School
The Byre, Woods Farm, Easthampstead Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 3AE
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 0845 130 7194 Fax: 0845 130 7195
info@londonparachuteschool.com
www.londonparachuteschool.com
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
LO FS CF AC WP

12 Netheravon
01980 678 250

Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury,
Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678 250 Fax: 01980 678 275
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
www.netheravon.com
Aircraft: 2 Cessna Caravans, regular guest aircraft
Open: Weekends & bank holidays, 8.30am – dark;
Wednesdays, 12 noon – dark; Fridays, 10am – dark
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Both civilian and military jumpers are very welcome
LO FS FF WP CP WI

13 Paragon
01821 642 454

Paragon Skydiving
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol, Perthshire PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656
billy.gollan@btinternet.com
www.paragonskydiving.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182
Open: 9am-6pm Saturday, 10am-6pm Sunday, all
year. 9am-7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses &
tandems only.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
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FS CF WP

14 Peterlee
0191 517 1234

Peterlee Parachute Centre
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
Tel/Fax: 0191 517 1234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
www.skydiveacademy.org.uk
Aircraft: Airvan, Cessna 182
Open: 8.30am-8.30pm weekends & bank holidays.
1pm-8.30pm Wed & Fri, weather permitting
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
15 minutes drive from Durham city, 25 minutes from Newcastle, centrally located for NE England.
FS CF WP

15 Salisbury
01722 323 628

Skydive Southcoast Ltd
Old Sarum Airfield, Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
Tel/Fax: 01722 323 628
info@skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
www.skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206
Open: 8 am-8pm, weekends & bank holidays
First Jump Courses: Tandem
Small and friendly. Excellent facilities, 5 minutes drive from Salisbury city centre.
LO FS FF AC

16 Sibson
01832 280 490

Skydive Airkix
Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
skydivesibson@aol.com
www.skydiveairkix.com
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17 South Cerney
01285 868 259

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Tel: 01285 868 259 Fax: 01285 861 344
info@silverstars.org.uk www.silverstars.org.uk
Aircraft: Finist SMG
Open: Wednesday-Sunday 9am-7pm
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Military and civilian jumpers are very welcome. Photo ID is required. Call or check website for prices.
LO FS FF CF AC WP CP

18 St Andrews
0845 189 5865

Skydive St Andrews
Osprey Road, Fife Airport, Glenrothes KY6 2SL
Tel: 0845 189 5865
skydivestandrews@mail.com
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206,
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19 Strathallan
07774 686 161

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Perthshire PH3 1LA
Weekends: 01764 662 572
Tel: 07774 686 161 Fax: 01236 732 461
kkbrady@btinternet.com
www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk
Aircraft: 3 Cessna 206, Turbine (for various events)
Open: 9am-9pm weekends & bank holidays.
5pm-9pm Fridays in summer.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, rounds, tandem
LO FS CF FF AC WP

20 Swansea
07779 019 655

Skydive Swansea
Swansea Airport, Fairwood, Swansea, SA2 7JU
Tel: 07779 019 655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
www.skydiveswansea.co.uk
Aircraft: Turbine Islander
Open: Weekends, weekdays by appointment
First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem
A friendly club with stunning coastline views on three sides.
LO FS CF WP

21 Swindon
01793 791 222

Skydive London
Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm, Wanborough,
Swindon SN4 0AA
Tel: 01793 791 222 or 01384 351 050
Fax: 01793 791 133
info@skydivelondon.co.uk
www.skydivelondon.co.uk
Aircraft: Airvan
Open: 8am-7pm Mon-Sat. 9am-6pm on Sundays.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
FS CF AC WP

22 Tilstock
01948 841 111

The Parachute Centre
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841 111
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
www.theparachutecentre.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Airvan
Open: 9am-dusk Fridays & bank holidays.
8am-dusk on Saturdays. Closed on Sunday.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
A small but friendly dropzone serving Manchester, Liverpool, Wales and the West Midlands.
LO FS WP

23 UK Para
01953 861 030

UK Parachuting
Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough,
Norfolk NR17 1PU
Tel: 01953 861 030
Fax: 01953 861 031
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
www.ukparachuting.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan
Open: Every day.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
LO FS CF FF WP CP

24 Weston
01869 343 201

Skydive Weston
RAF Weston on the Green, Bicester,
Oxon OX25 3TQ
Tel: 01869 343 201 Fax: 01869 343 194
skydiveweston@fsmail.net
www.skydiveweston.com
Aircraft: G92 Dornier
Open: 12pm-8pm Fri. 9am-8pm Sat.
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A friendly drop zone with some of the largest facilities and best equipment in the country.
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25 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609

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Tel: 028 2955 8609 Fax: 028 2955 7050
jump@skydivewildgeese.com
www.skydivewildgeese.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan
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LO FS CF WP

BPA Overseas Affiliated Drop Zones

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0035 724 744 337

Cyprus Parachute Centre
CJSATC, BFPO 58, Dhekelia Garrison, Cyprus
Tel: 0035 724 744 337
Fax: 0035 724 724 330
info@skydivecyprus.com.cy
www.skydivecyprus.com.cy
Aircraft: PBN Piston Islander
Open: 7am-1pm weekends. Midweek by arrangement.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Please contact the centre before visiting to ensure availability. Equipment available for modest hire charges.
FS FF WP SU CP

RAPA
0049 5254 982 2378

Rhine Army Parachute Association
Flugplatz, Bielefelder Strasse, 33175, Bad Lippspringe, Germany
Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378
Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740
jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk
Aircraft: Turbine Islander, Quest Kodiak, Dornier G92 on call
Open: 9am-7pm (or dusk) every day, February to November.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Lippspringe DZ is the only BPA drop zone on mainland Europe and it has a swoop pond.
LO FS CF AC WP CP

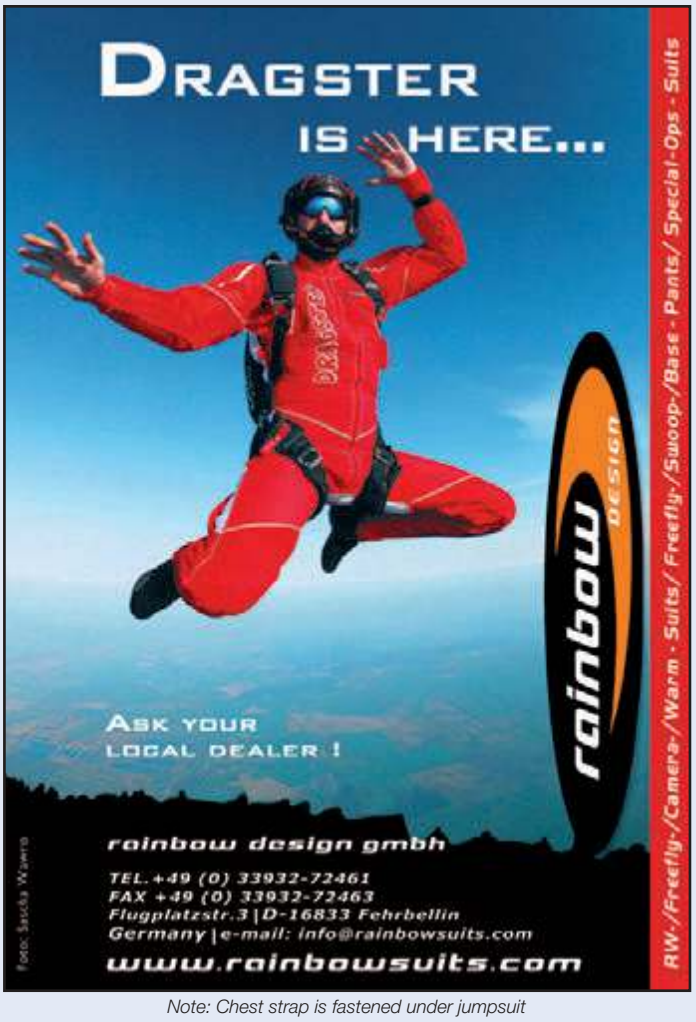
Parachuting Societies

British Collegiate Parachute Association
www.bcpa.org.uk
mail@bcpa.org.uk
Contact: Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman
Tel: 07912 526642

The BCPA aims to promote skydiving at collegiate level. We run regional and national events for over 30 affiliated university clubs. The BCPA provides a community where university skydivers can find like-minded people for jumping, competing and socialising.

POPS UK
9 Mansion House Mews, Pickwick Road, Corsham, Wilts SN13 9BB
Tel: 01249 701805 or 07860 559112
dbarton@fsmail.net **www.pops.org.uk**
Contact: Dick Barton, Top POP
A society of skydivers over forty. We hold regular meets at host parachute centres.

SOS UK
Flat 14, 21 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4ES
Tel: 01179 738341
nielshnsn@yahoo.co.uk
Contact: Niels Hanson
A society of skydivers over sixty.



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HEADCORN

Jane Buckle of Headcorn talks to Lesley Gale

DZ FEATURE

How long have you been at Headcorn and in what capacity?

I made my first jump here on 29 April 1979. I started working as an instructor two years and 400 jumps later in May 1981. I was the Club Chief Instructor during 1989 –1998 but, after I had my children, I found it hard to work the hours so left the CCI role and Peter Sizer took over. I have worked as manager, instructor, AFF instructor and pilot since then. I deputise for Pete when he is off and similarly he acts as manager during my time off.

How long has HPC itself been open?

Headcorn Parachute Centre (HPC) opened its doors in March 1979. Previously the British Parachute Club and Lashenden Sport Parachute Club operated from here at weekends in the sixties and seventies. We are one of the longest running clubs in the country and we love to introduce people to our fantastic sport.

What aircraft do you operate?

We have a Caravan (14 place) with a big engine, taking twelve minutes to 12,000 feet. For the last eight years we had a Let 410 during the summer months and were rather spoilt with all the space. Although the Caravan is a bit cramped in the back it's warm, gets up there fast and has a nice big door. We also have our trusty old Islander

Islander

(9 place) which has got us (and other clubs) out of the pooh on a few occasions. The Islander has novelty value in these days of turbine aircraft and it is hired out a lot during summer by demo teams.

Headcorn Parachute Centre
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
01622 890 862
info@headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
www.headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

Is Headcorn one of the few DZs left where you can learn accuracy?

Pete Sizer

This is certainly a great place to get advice on accuracy. We have our own tuffet. Peter Sizer the CCI is the 2009 British Accuracy Champion and represented the UK at the last two Classics World Championships. I was also a member of the British team for Classics in 1984 and 1986.

How about higher performance canopies?

Chris Lynch is based here and runs Wing Tips canopy courses. What Chris doesn't know about canopies you could write on a postage stamp. He runs the 'Essentials' course for jumpers wanting to improve basic skills and the 'Canopy Piloting' course for anyone wishing to learn high performance landings. Chris has run these courses all over the UK but is here most days and is always willing to give advice and help to anyone.

Chris Lynch

Do you offer coaching in other areas?

Chris Shaw

Del Hopkins is always available for FS coaching along with various others. We run a very popular 'Walk-up day' most weeks organised by Chris Shaw of Sky Skills. He checks out the forecast at the beginning of each week, decides which day looks best to organise here, then we email our members to let them know. Chris Lynch is always on hand for freefly coaching along with Richard Wiggins. We have a small but ever-growing group of wingsuit flyers, some of the staff now have their own suits. Recently we achieved a Headcorn record with 11 wingsuits on one load.

Do you have many young people?

Lucy Smith-Wildey

Absolutely! Alex Hopkins (son of Maxine/Dave) just made his 200th jump five days after his 18th birthday. Alan and his daughter Lucy Smith-Wildey started jumping at the same time just after Lucy's 16th birthday. Alan qualified first but now Lucy has left him standing. With 800 jumps at just 19, she's a valued member of the camera team and a talented freeflyer – even Auntie Jane has been known to ask her advice!

Are there other businesses on the airfield?

We franchise our photography out to Air Affair, run by Simon Hughes. This works well so we don't have to worry about the availability of cameramen. Symbiosis Suits, the only British jumpsuit manufacturer, is based here. That's useful as you can get measured by the boss so you know the measurements will be correct and if you need a quick suit repair the girls are easily bribed with doughnuts!

versatile
ver•sa•tile | ˈvərsətl |
1: embracing a variety of subjects, fields, or skills; also: turning with ease from one thing to another.
2: the Triathlon by Aerodyne.
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Chris Lynch tandem

HPC Summer Ball demo

We share the airfield with a flying club, helicopter school, the Tiger Club, hot air balloons, model aircraft and private planes. So we are fairly busy! The only downside of sharing the airfield with other aerial activities is, it can make it difficult to do passes on the way up, so we prefer to operate to 12,000 feet except when we're jumping students. It sounds like a bit of a nightmare but we have a very good working relationship with the other airfield users.

What's the Headcorn vibe like?

Like any club the vibe is always great on good weather days when we're jumping our socks off and more subdued when it's raining! We like to encourage our club members so love to announce achievements and call for beer! We've had some great summer balls at the local golf club, which start with the demo team jumping in.

How about food and drink?

We have a cafe in HPC that serves food throughout the day. Wings bar and restaurant, also on the airfield, serves food and drink in the evenings between Wednesday and Sunday. Wings is now under the relatively new management of husband-and-wife duo Bernie and Lynn. They have a new menu and lots of good skydiving videos playing. Some are the latest movies and some are Bernie's own compilations, as he worked here as a cameraman for ten years. Now that winter is upon us they are doing Sunday evening roasts and running themed evenings such as race nights.

Do you welcome visitors?

Yes we do. We have an 'experienced' button on our website with information for people wanting to visit. If you're current we can get you in the air fairly quickly. Students, lower experienced or uncurrent jumpers take a bit more time, usually this means waiting for an instructor to be available. It helps if you turn up in the morning and not late afternoon.

Why would 'Joe Jumper' visit?

We're open seven days a week in summer and offer lots of jumping opportunities midweek. We also operate right through winter, only closing for a week to ten days over Christmas. Like most clubs, tandems are our core business but this just means there are plenty of slots available on lifts as we rarely put more than four (tandems) in the Caravan. We also have our walk-up days midweek, anyone FS1+ is welcome, call us to find out the chosen day. We are well located, close to London and the Channel ports. On a clear day you can see London, France, the north and south coast of Kent and right into Essex.

What are your regular annual events?

Demo training over Easter, a Speed meet the first weekend in June, FS week in July/August, followed by our Scrambles and the Andy Kelly 4-way meet on the first weekend in September. We have also organised many water jumps into Bewl Reservoir. At Christmas, Headcorn Airfield has a big do at the local golf club, where the parachute club are normally conspicuous by the noise!

Tell me about the demo training

Every Good Friday I run a ground school for potential demo jumpers, followed by qualifying jumps for newcomers and anyone wanting to re-qualify. I am passionate about this as I believe demos are not just another jump to be done on your small fast canopy. I insist on a wing loading of no more than 1.3 and if you fall over on your qualifying jumps they do not count. When we put ourselves on show to the public we have to get it right.

Do you get involved in many displays?

We jump into quite a few local events and occasionally further afield. Weather permitting we'll be launching the Christmas festivities at the local hop farm by jumping in dressed as Santa and his elves. It was an honour in 2007 to be asked to organise the Brit Chicks demo into Hyde Park.

What more could the BPA and The Mag do for your dropzone?

Continue to promote the sport in this country and support the individual DZs. Simplify the terminology used on the BPA website when describing the two methods of qualifying, especially getting rid of the word RAPS as it means nothing to the man on the street. Offer a reduced renewal fee if you want to renew your BPA after August. Encourage more qualified people to jump in this country and not spend their money abroad. As for The Mag, I think that is great!

Headcorn Cafe

Photos by: Lucy Smith-Wildey, Simon Hughes, Nigel Rowlan, David Newsham

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DIARY

DECEMBER

2-6 Canopy Piloting World Cup
Johannesburg, SA — canopypilotingsa.co.za

5-8 Fuxion Camp
Empuriabrava — skydiveempuriabrava.com

8 BPA General & Council Meeting
BPA Offices, Leicester — bpa.org.uk

12 Christmas Party
Hibaldstow — skydiving.co.uk

12 Tilstock AGM & Christmas Party
Hill Valley Hotel — theparachutecentre.com

14-20 Volare Tunnel Camp
Bodyflight Bedford — info@volareproflight.com

17-21 Satori 4-way Skills Camp
Seville, Spain — teamsatori.co.uk

19 Christmas Party
Chatteris — video@ukskydiving.com

19-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Zephyrhills, Florida — skydivecity.com

19-Jan 3 Christmas Island Boogie
Mali Lonsinj, Croatia — m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz

19-Jan 3 Seville Christmas Boogie
Seville, Spain — skydivespain.com

19-Jan 3 Castellon Christmas Boogie
Castellon — skydivecenterspa.be

21-22 FF1 Camp
Seville, Spain — skydivespain.com

22-24 Safe Flight School Basics
Seville, Spain — skydivespain.com

25-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Empuriabrava — skydiveempuriabrava.com

26-Jan 3 Holiday Boogie
Eloy, USA — skydiveaz.com

25-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Perris Valley, USA — skydiveperris.com

26-Jan 3 Christmas Feelgood Boogie
Ramblers, Australia — ramblers.com.au

27-28 FF2 Camp
Seville, Spain — skydivespain.com

27-Jan 3 Silvester Boogie
Vrsar, Croatia — skydivevrsar.com

27-31 Welsh Mini-Boogie
Swansea — skydiveswansea.co.uk

28-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie
Lillo, Spain — skydivelillo.com

31 2010 Challenge Jump
Seville, Spain — skydivespain.com

JANUARY 2010

13-17 Big-way Sequential
Perris Valley — www.p3skydiving.com

15-17 Freeze Yer BunZ off Boogie
Zephyrhills, Florida — skydivecity.com

16 BPA AGM
Blackpool Hilton — hilton.co.uk/blackpool

18-24 Volare Tunnel Camp
Bodyflight Bedford — info@volareproflight.com

23 10-way Speed Meet
Elsinore, USA — skydiveelsinore.com

30 Coach the Coach
Loughborough Uni — skydive@bpa.org.uk

30 Night Jumps
Langar — bpslangar.co.uk

FEBRUARY

13-21 Castellon Spring Boogie
Castellon — skydivecenterspa.be

15-19 BPA Instructor Course (BI/Adv)
Netheravon — trudy@bpa.org.uk

15-21 Volare Tunnel Camp
Bodyflight Bedford — info@volareproflight.com

20-Mar 1 Boogie in Belize VI
San Pedro, Belize — skydivebelize.com

20-Mar 3 Spring Island Boogie
Mali Lonsinj, Croatia — m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz

22-26 BPA Instructor Course (CSI)
Netheravon — trudy@bpa.org.uk

27 Safety Day
Hibaldstow — skydiving.co.uk

27 Night Jumps
Langar — bpslangar.co.uk

MARCH

2-6 Airspeed 4-way Skills Camp
Skydive Arizona, Eloy — todd@airspeed.org

6-7 Pinch Jump
Langar — strollerweb.co.uk

11-14 Skydive Expo
Deland — skydiveexpo.com

15-21 Volare Tunnel Camp
Bodyflight Bedford — info@volareproflight.com

25-28 Z-Team Big-ways
Zephyrhills, Florida — guywright.com

26-Apr 4 Easter Boogie
Zephyrhills, Florida — skydivecity.com

28-Apr 12 BCPA Foreign Trip
Perris Valley, USA — mail@bcpa.org.uk

APRIL

1-5 Easter Boogie
Empuriabrava — skydiveempuriabrava.com

2-5 Easter Mini-boogie
Langar — bpslangar.co.uk

3-4 World Challenge
Bodyflight Bedford — worldchallenge.info

4-10 Go Vertical Spring
Empuriabrava — skydiveempuriabrava.com

17-18 Canopy Handling & Accuracy
Headcorn — headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

28-May 3 CF & Progression Week
Dunkeswell — skydivethewell.com

29-May 2 P3 Big-way Camp
Perris Valley, USA — p3skydiving.com

30-May 2 Freefly Camp
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia — aerograd.ru

30-May 3 Mikey C Freefly Coaching
Dunkeswell — skydivethewell.com

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Freefly & Skysurf
POPS
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Unclassified

MAY

1-2 Accuracy Grand Prix
Headcorn headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

1-2 Bridge the Gap
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com

1-4 2-way, 4-way, 10-way Comp
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

1-9 Langar Boogie
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

6-9 P3 100-way Camp
Perris Valley, USA p3skydiving.com

7-9 Freefly Camp
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

8-9 EuroPOPS
RAPA, Germany pops.org.uk

17-23 Twin Beech Boogie 1
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

22-23 UKSL 4-way FS
Netheravon netheravon.com

24-28 Big-way Camp 100
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

28-31 BCPA Scots
Strathallan mail@bcpa.org.uk

JUNE

1-13 Australian Record 100-way Att
Perris Valley aussie100way.com

4-6 Freefly Camp
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

4-12 POPS World Meet
Reggio Emelia, Italy pops2010.it

5-6 Speed Star 10-way
Headcorn headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

9-11 Swoop Flock
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

12-13 UKSL 4-way FS
Cark skydivenorthwest.co.uk

16-20 Vector Festival
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

21-27 FS & CF Russian Cup
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

22-25 Progression Week
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

28-Jul 2 Big-way Camp 120
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

JULY

1-4 Power Play
Perris Valley danbc@skydiveperris.com

1-5 American Revolution Boogie
Skydive Dallas skydivedallas.com

2-4 Classics Nationals
Peterlee skydiveacademy.org.uk

2-4 BCPA Northerns
Hibaldstow mail@bcpa.org.uk

5-11 Russian Record 200-way Atmpt
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

10-11 UKSL 4-way FS
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

14-16 Progression Week
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

14-17 CP Russian Cup
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

14-18 CF Week
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

14-18 Go Vertical
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

14-18 BCPA Nationals
Cark mail@bcpa.org.uk

17-24 BAG/RAPA Champs
RAPA, Germany jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

21-24 CP Nationals
RAPA, Germany jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

21-24 Russian Freefly Record Atmpt
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru

26-Aug 1 Twin Beech Boogie 2
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

31-Aug 8 Army Championships
Netheravon netheravon.com

AUGUST

1-6 FS, CF, Artistics World Meet
Menzelinsk, Russia fai.org/parachuting

6-8 Summer Bonanza
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com

14-16 4-way FS & VFS Nationals
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

21-23 4-way & VFS Nationals Reserve
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

21-23 8-way/Artistics/Speed Nationals
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-30 8-way/Arts/Spd Nats Reserve
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-30 Mike Wills Speed 10 Comp
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

28-Sep 5 Style & Accuracy World Meet
Montenegro fai.org/parachuting

SEPTEMBER

4-12 Langar Boogie 2
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

10-12 ESL Finals
Texel euro-skyleague.com

30-Oct 3 Empuriabrava 16-way Trophy
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

30-Oct 3 Chicks Rock Boogie
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com

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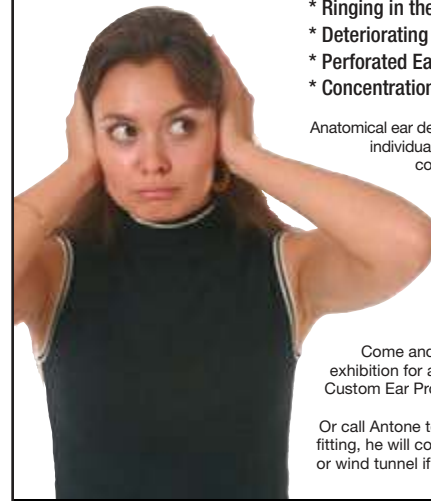

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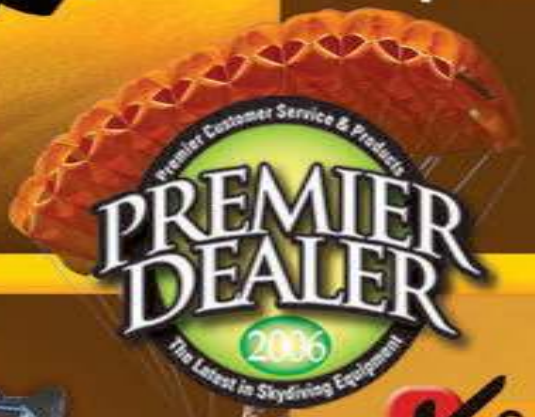

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