



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com December 2013

skyDIVE

the mag



INSIDE: CF, CP, ACCURACY AND SPEED 8 NATIONALS NEW 96-WAY HEAD DOWN EURO RECORD
106-WAY FS SEQUENTIAL WORLD RECORD WHAT YOU SAID IN THE SKYDIVE THE MAG SURVEY
NETHERAVON OPEN DAY WOWS CROWDS PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS, REVIEWS AND EVENTS

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Aranjuez where we 'hang out' in the evenings is a modern city of 100,000 Spanish city workers who make the short daily commute to Madrid, European city of culture for 2005. Alternate activities, restaurants, music bars, clubs and skydivers bars number in the hundreds!

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After a jam-packed October Mag, I was spoiled for choice again in December! BPA members have been doing some fantastic jumps both at home and overseas, including the remainder of the Nationals competitions plus some great new European and World records too.

The survey results have been really helpful in backing up my editorial strategy. The highlights are on pages 22-25 and, for numbers geeks (like me), the full statistics are on the BPA website. More than 70 per cent of you said the educational articles and Safety Zone interest you the most, so this Mag has a double-sized Safety section and there are plenty of educational articles lined up for the future. Exit Zone also returns this issue after space restraints squeezed it out last time.

Liz Ashley

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Cover: PD Factory Team member Ian Bobo flies his Peregrine 84 canopy through the centre of a 10-way CF diamond, by Norman Kent

Welcome: One of the many completed formations by the world record-breaking 106-way group, who built a two-point, three-point, four-point and then five-point 106-way on consecutive jumps! By Bruno Brokken

Contents: Scattering the sky with skydivers at sunset. Gustavo Cabana captures an exit from the world record sequential jumps



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IT IS MANDATORY TO WEAR A HELMET AND ALTI FOR
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THE MAG ARE COMPLYING WITH BPA REGULATIONS.

SKYDIVING TRAINING AND SYSTEMS VARY IN DIFFERENT
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THE UK, THROUGH YOUR CCI.

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Anyone can contribute to *Skydive the Mag* and
we welcome news, articles and photos from
everyone, regardless of experience.

Deadlines you need to know:

Issue	Copy deadline	To reader
February 2014	January 02	February 18
April 2014	February 25	April 17
June 2014	April 22	June 04

Hayabusa champs again

Top team Hayabusa, the Belgian National team, have done it again. They attended the 37th World Military Parachuting Championships in China and came home with gold for the seventh time in a row. Known as CISM, the championships follow different rules to most FS competitions. The first point is always a star and working time starts after five seconds or whenever this first point is keyed. Unsurprisingly for such a high-quality team, this has led to some outrageously high points averages!

Hayabusa have consistently scored averages of more than 30 points in time for the last few years of this competition and, in 2013, they scored their best-ever 37.8 average. As well as the star, each round consists of two other randoms and one block – so there is the potential for fast moves.

New wingsuit

Earlier in 2013, we covered the news that wingsuit company BirdMan was rising from the ashes, having previously ceased trading. It is now testing its third new wingsuit since its relaunch and, bizarrely, it has chosen to give it the same name as PD's high-performance canopy, the Katana.

bird-man.com

Go Team GB

As you read this, our UK delegation will be busy competing in Dubai at the International Parachuting Championships and Gulf Cup. Good luck to *Raykipo* in 4-way Open; *Varial* in Freely; CP competitors Martin Reynolds, Maxine Tate, Nigel Holland and Max Bruffell and Accuracy veterans Jeff Chandler, Pete Sizer, Janos Leszko, Glenn Stephenson and Esther Reynolds.



By Luciano Bacque

NATIONAL RECORD

A new Argentine National record was built recently when 44 skydivers linked up over Colonia, Uruguay. This beat the previous record, which had stood for ten years and was a 30-way set in Lobos, Buenos Aires. The jump was done from a single aircraft and the photo shows jumpers piling off the tailgate!

Canopy focus

Five days, 100 registrants, four main events and tons of fun. Project Orange was the first event of its kind, centred around the main canopy-related disciplines. Taking place at Deland, the home dropzone of canopy manufacturer Performance Designs, the idea was to highlight the best of the CP, CRW and Classic Accuracy worlds and to provide jumpers with an opportunity to access them.

The *CRew Dogs*, led by *Clean Air* team members Chris Gay and Brian Pangburn, were able to accomplish something no one has ever done before. After building a 12-way formation and punching out the centre of it, *PDFT*'s Ian Bobo flew his Peregrine 84 (loaded at 2.65) through the centre of the formation... and got it on the first try! Since they accomplished this CP/CRW fly-through on the first attempt, you'd think it was easy – but behind the CRW part of it was more than 100 years of experience and more than 100,000 skydives. Ian Bobo alone has 20,000 jumps and 24 years in the sport. After achieving this jump, they kept pushing the limits and flew through a number of times, culminating in a jump where four *PDFT* members



flew through. The 'Threading the Needle' stunt was incredible to watch from the ground and even more so from the inside!

Another highlight was the Reserve Backyard Accuracy Challenge, where registrants were set up with a PD or Optimum reserve and their skills of landing a reserve in a backyard were put to the test. With the landing area fully equipped with a pool, a dog, palm tree coolers and other inflatables, approximately 30 jumpers battled for first place and tried to avoid pummeling into any of the obstacles... or the judges.

There were also CP and Accuracy competitions for all levels of jumper, from novice to expert. It was open to all, so a number

of fun jumpers participated in Sport Accuracy – where jumpers' landings were judged by the FAI judging panel. Alyssa Corazzi, a young jumper with only 30 jumps, completed the entire 10 rounds of Accuracy and took away the prize for Most Improved.

"Unlike other events, we came away from this one being exposed to all sorts of disciplines and equipment and having gained knowledge about things we'd never seen before", said Chantal Rosenfeld. Chantal and Nadav Schwartz, both from Israel, drove all the way from California for the event. This being a canopy-focused event, they were able to experience a high pull for the first time and enjoy the same skies as the amazing CRW formations.

Newest Major CP Event

October 11-13 saw canopy pilots from all over descend on Skydive Raeford to attend the Sunpath Products Canopy Piloting Open. This latest 'Big Money' event was organised by Canopy Piloting Training Series (CPTS) founder John Nolan.

Hailed as an event 'by swoopers for swoopers', John's vision of how a swoop meet should run was quickly and generously supported by Sunpath, who provided a 'Big Ass Cheque' of \$5,000 for first place. This was followed by \$2,000 for second place funded by Sky Systems USA, and finally \$1,000 for third provided by local company Blue-Emu. Not only did the event offer significant cash prizes, but local wind tunnel Paraclete XP donated more than five hours of tunnel time as prizes.

With all of this as incentive, the best of the best travelled from far and wide. *PD Factory Team*, *Alter Ego*, *Adrenalin Obsession* and *'World Famous' Irish Swoop Team*, to mention but a few, were competing for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Unlike a regular FAI CP event, John wanted to challenge the competitors by mixing up some of the events. Distance was to be completed by a round of 'Old School' Distance and Zone Accuracy was represented with a Hula Hoop round – with bonus points for dragging an extra water gate and 25 additional bonus points for committing to a centre zone landing. This was a major talking point among competitors, debating if it was strategically better to lay up short for standard points or risk the additional bonus points and in turn the extra negative zones. Both talent and strategy would be put to the test.

Alas, the weather gods were not as kind as they could have been and only four rounds of competition were completed. The Hula Hoop Accuracy Challenge would have to wait for another time.

Unlike other major CP events, John ensured that ALL 36 competitors walked away with a prize. Anyone who did not finish in the top three of either Advanced, Pro or Prototype got a helmet bag or gear bag from Sky Systems USA, and the top three in both Advanced and Standard got 15 minutes, 30 minutes and one hour of tunnel time each. When presenting the prizes, John announced that, on top of the top three 'Big Ass Cheques', the remainder of the top 10 competitors would receive cash prizes. In total, more than \$10,000 was awarded in cash prizes! Swoopers, keep your eye out for the 2014 Sunpath CP Open...



A big thanks to Tim Thacker (Raeford Aviation), Greg Windmiller, Pat Thomas (Sunpath Products), Doug Park (Sky Systems USA) and, of course, John Nolan for organising a superb event. I know that all of the competitors are eagerly looking forward to next year.

Rod McCrory



Hall of Fame

On September 7 2013, Jackie Smith was inducted into the USA's National Skydiving Museum's Hall of Fame in a series of events held over two days at Skydive Chicago. The other inductees this year were Jack Jefferies, Jim Wallace, James 'Curt' Curtis, Chuck Maccrone and Kim Emmons Knor. They joined such famous names as Ted Strong, Gene Paul Thacker, Bill Ottley, Jerry Bird, Cheryl Stearns, Joe Kittinger, Bill Booth, Dan Poynter, Carl Boenish, BJ Worth, Craig Girard – the list goes on.

The Museum has not yet found a permanent home, so it goes on the road to display memorabilia and the bios of the Hall of Fame Members. It recognises and honours those who, through leadership, innovation and/or outstanding achievements, have defined, promoted, inspired and advanced skydiving at the highest and sustained levels in the past, present and for future generations of skydivers. It is the history of skydiving.

This year's Induction was hosted by Skydive Chicago. It took the form of various welcoming speeches, then dinner, then the induction ceremonies. Skydive Chicago provided all the waiters and servers, who were their young skydivers. All were wearing their jumpsuits and many wore their helmet cameras as they served – a novel concept. The footage, as the evening progressed and the wine flowed, was interesting.

The format for the induction ceremonies after dinner was that each inductee had a presenter who gave a 15-minute summary of the inductee's achievements and why they were a worthy candidate for the Hall of Fame. After that, the inductee was invited on the stage and

the presenter put on their Hall of Fame Blazer, just like in golf with the Masters' 'Green Jacket'. The inductee then made a thank you speech, the presenter came back on stage to give the framed certificate followed by a photoshoot and then on to the next candidate.

Jackie was second up. I was very honoured and humbled to be asked to do the presentation for Jackie, as her main sponsor (Pat Thomas, owner of Sunpath) does not like doing speeches. However, she did stand next to me as co-presenter. I am no stranger to doing speeches, but I must admit to being hugely nervous as I looked out into the audience, which contained all of the previous Members of the Hall of Fame, plus all the great and good of US and world skydiving. All heroes of mine over the last 40 years – a real 'wow' factor!

Our Jackie was not intimidated at all in her reply. In her normal, natural and modest manner, she gave a thank you speech that all acknowledged was one of the best they had ever heard in all the years of this ceremony. It is hard to accurately articulate my emotions listening to her, just to say that I was immensely proud of Jackie – she represented UK skydiving superbly.

A big thank you goes to Pat Thomas and Sunpath, who sponsored the whole event and who, with Eddie Carroll from Skydive Vegas, paid for Jackie's family to attend.

Also, another big thank you goes to the BPA Council, who funded Jackie's attendance. Money well spent – she did the BPA proud.

John Smyth MVO
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WIN
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By John Baggaley

OCTOBER'S WINNER



By Cliffy

Winner: "The moment two 4-way teams realised sharing a cameraman may not have been the best idea..."

Martyn Clark

Runner-up: "Even the plane thought their exit was HA-VOC."

Kat Goodwin

CAPTION COMPETITION

— WIN A SOLO AUDIBLE ALTI!

Win a Larsen & Brusgaard SOLO audible altimeter, courtesy of The Jump Shop! To enter the competition, just send your caption to compzone@skydivethemag.com and include your name and phone number so we can let you know if you've won. The closing date for entries will be **December 31 2013**



Read Skydive your way

APP

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BPA MEMBERS' FREE APP ACCESS

To access either version of the App free of charge, simply give the BPA members-only login details when prompted. They can be found in the BPA e-Newsletter or on the carrier sheet that came in the post with this mag!

ARCHIVE

BPA members can also access the Archive of Skydive The Mag back issues via the Skydive The Mag website at skydivethemag.com. The

Starter Mag is absolutely free to access in the dedicated Starter section, and regular issues can be accessed free of charge using the same BPA members' login details as the App.

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Skydivers

**Objects can be closer
than they appear !**

Photo Willy Boeykens



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Council 2013



ELECTION OF BPA COUNCIL 2014

Twenty-six nominations have been received for 15 elected seats on BPA Council 2014. An election will therefore be held, and will be independently administered by Electoral Reform Services. The election timetable will be published on the BPA website. Full (voting) members will receive a ballot pack by post and voting will be online or by post. The result, as received from ERS, will be posted on the BPA website on Tuesday 21 January 2014 and formally announced at the AGM.

The candidates are: Paul Applegate, Paul Aubrey-Rees, Karen Bain, Adrian Bond, Jack Bradford, Kieran Brady, Alex Busby-Hicks, Brian Cumming, Brian Dyas, Jackie Harper, Jonathan 'Lord' Woof Irving, Jason Kelleher, Mike Lehan, Ian Marshall, Pete McLaughlin, Paul Moore, John 'Geordie' Page, Craig Poxon, Ian Rosenvinge, Mark Skarratts, Jason Snailham, Martin Soulsby, James Swallow, Brian Vacher, Steven Watkin and Thea Westley. Thank you to all of the candidates for standing.

Comps consultation

The **Competitions Committee** has released a consultation paper on competitions funding criteria. It has been available on the BPA website since 24 October, ahead of the next BPA Council meeting on 3 December. Feedback is invited by 30 November so, if you are a competitor who would like an input and have not yet done so, it's time to get your skates on!

bpa.org.uk/news/consultation-on-competitions-funding

UKSL results

Each year, teams in four categories compete not just at Nationals, but also in three UK Skydiving League competitions around the country. Teams collect points for their placings and the team with the highest cumulative points score over all four competitions are crowned UKSL champions. Congratulations to *Bodyflight Isis* in AAA, *Anti Gravity Ninja Swans* in AA, *Funnel Vision* in A and *SeaFury* in Rookie – this year's champions. Their medals will be presented at the BPA AGM on 25 January 2014.



Christmas and New Year Holiday



The **BPA Office** will close at 1700 on Friday 20 December and re-open at 0900 on Thursday 2 January 2014. The BPA Council and staff send all members and their families best wishes for the festive season.



AGM DAY

EMCC NOTTINGHAM

SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 2014

LOCATION

The BPA AGM and associated events will be held at the East Midlands Conference Centre (EMCC), University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RJ on Saturday 25 January 2014. The exhibition opens at 0930 and the AGM starts at 1030. For the AGM agenda, see page 11 of the October Mag or bpa.org.uk/agm. From about 0830, we're hoping to tempt you with the smell of coffee and bacon cobs (or rolls, if you're from the south!) that will be on sale.

AFTERNOON SEMINARS

The planned seminar programme will be posted on the BPA website nearer the time.

EXHIBITION, GOODY BAG AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Details of exhibition space hire are available from the BPA website or BPA Office – subject to availability, terms and conditions apply. For more on how to get your business' promotional goody in the goody bag and about other sponsorship opportunities, please contact the BPA Office.

I'LL DRINK TO THAT!

We know one or two of our members may like a little drink, particularly as the one thing we (sadly) won't be doing at the AGM is any skydiving! With that in mind, we've negotiated some rather amazing bar prices: pints of selected beer/lager, £1.75; glass of house wine, £1.75; all other drinks, 20% off normal rates. Please drink responsibly.

DINNER BOOKINGS

The BPA Annual Dinner will be held at 1930 for 2000. Dress will be dinner jacket or suit and tie for men and evening wear for ladies. Alternatively, you may opt for the fancy dress theme of 'Robin Hood and his Merry Band'.

Dinner tickets cost £25 each and must be purchased in advance from the BPA Office – telephone 0116 278 5271, payment with order (please have your card ready when telephoning). Seating will be in rounds of 10, tables may be reserved if booking 10 tickets at the same time. If the vegetarian main course is required, it must be requested on booking. Please advise on booking of any special dietary requirements, of which we shall notify the venue. The menu is:

Butternut Squash and Sage Risotto with shaved parmesan

*Roasted Pork Loin with mash, creamed peas and apple gravy
(Vegetarian option) Vegetable Tagine with Lemon and Parsley Quinoa sauce*

Warm Chocolate Brownie with Vanilla Ice Cream

Coffee and mints

The dinner will be followed by live entertainment and a disco. Attendance is free-of-charge to BPA Members and their guests.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION

Hotel bedrooms, if required, should be booked direct with the De Vere Orchard Hotel, located adjacent to the Conference Centre, which is offering them (subject to availability) at the BPA rate of £66 per night double/twin and £54 per night single occupancy including full English breakfast. You can book online at deverevenues.co.uk Select 'Book Bedrooms Online', then select 'East Midlands Conference Centre and Orchard Hotel' from the drop-down box and enter Corporate Code 'NCPCUB'. There is a link from the BPA webpage bpa.org.uk/agm. Please book early, as we expect we'll fill the hotel.

See the BPA website for other accommodation options, including the nearby Nottingham Wollaton Park Travelodge – but hurry, it may also get fully booked.



Nationals correction

Apologies that the October Mag had errors in the Senior 8-way Nationals scoreboard due to not including all rounds. The result was correct but the teams' points averages were not. The correct scores should have been:

MicroClim8 – 13.1

Brit Chicks – 12.2

Thunderbirds – 8.3

Brit Chicks Evolution – 6.9

Reprob8s – 5.3

2014 competition dates

Some competitions have already been confirmed for 2014, with the rest to be finalised at the next Competitions Committee meeting. So far there are three UKSL meets on the calendar as well as Nationals in several disciplines.

17-18 May

FS UKSL meet 1

Location: **Sibson**

14-15 June

FS UKSL meet 2

Location: **Netheravon**

12-13 July

FS UKSL meet 3

Location: **Langar**

6-8 September

4-way FS and VFS Nationals

Location: **Hibaldstow**

13-15 September

8-way, Artistics and Speed Nationals

Location: **Hibaldstow**

20-22 September

Nationals Rollover Weekend

Location: **Hibaldstow**

26-28 September

CF, Classics and 8-way Speed Nationals

Location: **Sibson**

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Boxing Day



WEED'S EYE VIEW

WEED STOODLEY WAS ONE OF THE 15 BPA MEMBERS WHO WERE PART OF THE 96-WAY HEAD DOWN EURO RECORD SET AT EMPURIABRAVA IN SPAIN THIS AUTUMN. THIS IS HER TAKE ON GETTING TO THE RECORD AND THE RECORD FROM HER EYES



I had found my slot. I was in place and, as the outer pod I was to dock on was about to close, a massive 'Mexican wave' surged through – suddenly taking the grip out of my reach! The relief as my fingers took the grip was enormous.

With dytters ringing out at 7,000ft, our outer pods and stingers hesitated – reluctant to leave a moment too early, just in case! Pods fanned out at 5,000ft and, as I tracked away, it felt for a moment like a lonely sky until, deploying, I turned to see the wonderful backdrop of the Bay of Roses and a sky full of unfurling canopies.

I couldn't be certain we had a record, but whatever – I had docked and flown a 96-way. I'd also been part of 108-way attempts! I'd done my job. I'd hardly been like Fonzie, nor appeared remotely related to Chuck Norris, but I'd been part of it!

GETTING ON A BIG-WAY

Watching the World Head Down Record in awe at Summerfest 2012, I was inspired – enough to contemplate giving big-way a go myself. So, with nearly 1,000 jumps and more than 10 years in the sport, my main focus became any event offering head down group flying and gaining big-way experience to aid my vague →

*The 96-way almost complete,
by Tom Naef*



and tentative goal to be part of the UK head down record at the end of 2013.

From 3-ways at Langar early in the year to 10-ways, 20-ways and even a multi-plane 40-way, plus trips to Europe and USA, my confidence and flying skills certainly upped. Even better, I happened to clock up a couple of records along the way – the Florida women's state head down record 10-way and the UK Women's head down record 10-way!

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND (WELL, SPAIN!)

With the UK record looming, talk from the "cool'n'groovies" was on the

forthcoming Euro Record. I hadn't even contemplated this event; it was planned as a 108-way! Unimaginable! But, being easily led, the promise of sun, sea and awesome bench jumps on offer and being encouraged by "What can you lose?" and "You never know, you may just get a slot", I got caught up in the euphoria. Buckling, I decided to join the travelling UK clan.

Thanks to the joys of Facebook, a UK Euro Record villa thread started up. Wonder organiser Liz Boniface managed to secure us our own huge villa, complete with pool and boat! Euro Record was on, and I would be tagging along with some of the best big-way flyers from the UK.

MEANWHILE, BACK IN SUNNY HUMBERSIDE...

Under the watchful expertise of the BLTs, and Mikey Carpenter (*Volare*), 30 Brits set a new head down record over the UK. One of them was me! I'd reached my goal and my third record of the season. Just days after the UK record, in what felt like a mass exodus, some 20 or so Brits arrived on the Costa Brava. Thirteen of the bravest of those souls were sharing one villa. Most of the boys had laid claim to the 'man cave' in the lower level of the villa. The banter was fun, good-humoured and, of course, with an 11:2 male to female ratio, smattered with the usual

Brits on the record

Mikey Carpenter (Sector Leader), Will Blackie, Paul Cooper, Gary Crisp, Jake Diliberto, Rich Frame, Dan Guest, Jim Harris, Ally Milne, Matt O'Riordan, Glenn Phillips, Dave Reader, Jay Southall, Adi Wilde and Weed Stoodley



crude humour. Political correctness took a back seat (if, in fact, it had a seat at all?).

SKYDIVE EMPURIABRAVA – EURO CHALLENGE 2013

Not having visited this DZ for a few years, the transformation was incredible. A clever array of pallets and cardboard boxes seemed to define the architecture of the event. The facilities were second to none. It had a carnival-like atmosphere, with more than 150 freeflyers being joined by 150 or so flatflyers for their own sequential world record attempts. The place was heaving. The air of excitement and expectation was huge – nearly as

huge as the dominating posters of the organisers adorning every wall.

With perfect weather and enough planes on the apron to keep Terminal 5 busy, I registered. Goody bag in hand and sporting my own 'PRO FREE FLY' pass, I was excited but nervous and felt pretty special. And so, after a detailed brief from chief organiser Nimmo of *Babylon* at the 6pm welcome evening, more than 150 people waited in anticipation, their ears straining to hear their name as resident DJ Regan read out the chosen 108. Slowly, as the remaining places dwindled, any chance of hearing my name became more remote. It wasn't to be. I wasn't one of them.

PARK LIFE – LIFE ON THE BENCH

This was a strange time emotionally; I hadn't planned to come to the event. I had little reason to expect to hear my name, but human optimism prevailed. Not being included was a strangely hard blow. A new and emotionally tough experience.

I'd heard about being on the bench, the ups and downs of this group of people, all hoping for a shot at the record. A strange mix – to succeed from the bench, you need the record participants to fail! So I took advantage of jumping with bench organisers – none other than →

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Scott 'Plamer' and world-famous Kai Kai of *Maktoum*. If a slot would open, these jumps were a chance to show you may have what it takes. In fact, one of our bench jumps was our own 108-way – we tried to spell out '108' in the sky with just one plane load and beat the record attempt to it. Luckily for the real attempt, we failed – only just, though!

GREAT BRITAIN. GREAT INDEED

As each record attempt failed to build, people were moved around, in and out. The UK sector, under the fantastic guidance of Mikey Carpenter, all flew brilliantly – minds no doubt focused by his pre-jump warnings of: "Don't f**k up. The UK bench is waiting for your slots". Great for them, but harder for

1 *Using streamers to aid navigation, by Rolf 'Kuri' Kuratle*

2 *Beautiful sunset canopy ride after a record attempt, by Rolf 'Kuri' Kuratle*

3 *Dirtdiving in the landing area – the only space big enough to practise! By Rolf 'Kuri' Kuratle*

those UK hopefuls wanting a chance! Damn you, boys!

There is another dilemma of a bench slot – that of "What if?" What if I do get a slot now? Everyone has flown together. What if I mess up? What if I get lost? What if it's only me off? Strangely, the bench felt a safe place – a place you always have the skills to fly that 108-way! Where getting cut is not a worry. Where "it's only a one-point skydive" flows easily. That you could do better. Where anticipation is perhaps more palatable than reality.

ON. OFF. ON

While on a call for a bench jump, Mikey quietly mentioned: "just be ready". The nerves set in. But, as no slot materialised,

I ran back to the bench to kit up, almost relieved – only to be stopped on the way by French sector captain Matt Hill: "Weed, get your kit – France needs you". And so, scarcely one hour later, I was on the right trail plane on their fifth attempt and surrounded by strangers. As first front floater from the Black Beech, I was to leave when the super floater (UK's Dan Guest in the lead plane) left – some eight seconds before the base.

Being first to climb out was physically challenging for me. Hanging on seemed to go on forever and, visually, it was just a sea (or sky) of planes! I can't really describe getting to my slot, how I did it, how I found my way or how I flew, but I do recall the sheer distance from the base as I floated back up toward it. How both →

4



time and distance seemed to stand still but race by all at the same time.

The formation didn't build, but I flew in my slot as second stinger on the outer pod in the red sector. I'd found my place. I landed on a high, but was shocked by the monster such a formation became, the waves and the surges. How difficult it was to anticipate its speed and trajectory and how it tested every inch of my flying but, more so, I was shocked that I could be part of it!

AND HERE COMES THE AXE MAN TO CHOP OFF YOUR HEAD

With a day lost to weather, the organisers were running out of time and jumps. On the dirt dive, standing in my slot, the whispers were: "we are going smaller". Being last on, I knew I would be first off. I was content. I'd been on a 108-way attempt, an achievement beyond my expectations in itself.

Nimmo, all-powerful and with token clipboard in hand, walked round the formation, chopping and cutting. Rumours were right. It was to be a 96-way. The bench was getting bigger.

He looked at me, standing close. I stood waiting for the hand of doom to descend on me but, after tipping his drawing one way up and then the other, he hesitated and moved on. I'm sure he had his clipboard upside down and some luckless skygod on the opposite side of the formation took my hit, but I wasn't complaining.

Over the next four jumps, now with blankets for those near the doors (me) to ward off the cold, the seven planes manoeuvred skilfully into formation, almost wingtip to wingtip. However,

despite an increased altitude to some 22,000ft, that record was still elusive.

LESS IS MORE

The organisers recognised that increasing altitude was having a negative effect. Even with oxygen, the altitude and cold took their toll. So, for the final jump, we would be back to 19,500ft. Less altitude and less time to build but, hopefully, with a fully *compos mentis* contingent, the trade-off would work.

Nimmo was in no mood for niceties as he briefed the final attempt: "Just do your job. You have one thing to do. Do nothing more and nothing less", ending with "just f***ing do it." It was not a request, it was a demand!

On Mikey's final brief to me, he asked: "What would Chuck Norris do?" Everyone knew. Chuck would fly still, he would fly strong – he would succeed. Chuck was to be my inspiration. In typical Mikey lingo, he wound up with: "Just be like Fonzie. Be cool."

A RIGHT ROYAL SEND OFF

As we walked to the planes for the final attempt, the congregated flatflyers, giddy on their multiple world successes, formed a human walkway – cheering, clapping and high-fiving. I was proud and privileged to be part of the record attempt and to be part of such a wonderful community.

And so, for the final time, the formation, loaded with anticipation and expectation, snaked its way to altitude. The rest you know. On the last attempt, the formation was built and I got my fourth record of the year.

5



4 Tightly-packed divers ready to swoop to the formation, by Will Penny

5 The new 96-way completion, by Tom Naef

A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION

I started the year on 3-ways and then 10-ways, progressed to 30 and 40 and, keeping current and nearly 200 jumps later, ended up past 100-way and a 96-way record holder. Sometimes, I still need to pinch myself. You just never know where the smallest of goals may lead.

A record is more than the participants; the list of those who make it happen is almost endless. But, to those and the whole UK contingent – freefly, flat, on a record or otherwise – whose encouragement and support was just awesome, thank you to one and all.

A special mention has to go to Mikey Carpenter, our UK sector leader who had faith in me and put my name forward, and Matt Hill, the French sector captain who give me that shot.

Finally, thanks to the inhabitants of the UK villa – my vocabulary is enriched from the shared experience! ●

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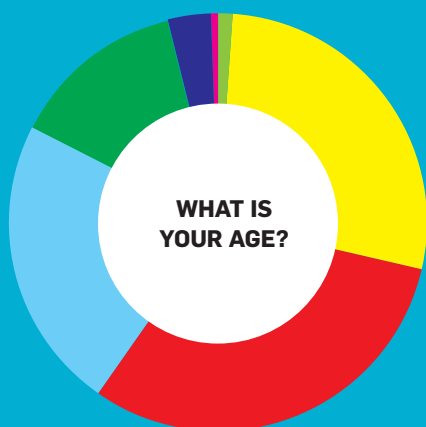
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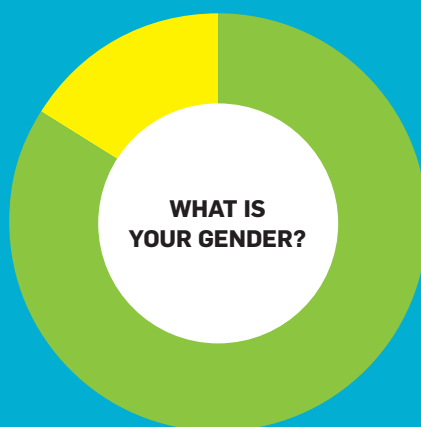
Skydive survey

WE ASKED FOR YOUR VIEWS AND WERE DELIGHTED WITH THE RESULTS! FANTASTIC FEEDBACK SHOWS THAT THE MAG HAS ITS FINGER ON THE PULSE OF BRITISH SKYDIVING

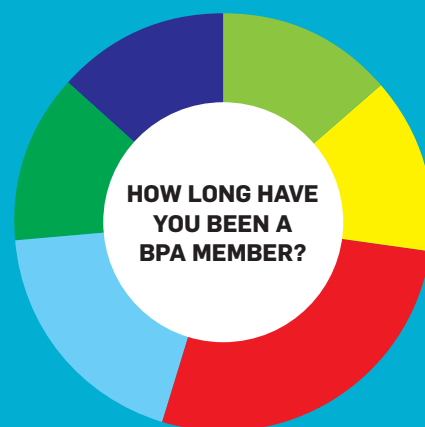
WORDS LIZ ASHLEY



- Less than 20
- 20-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61-70
- More than 70



- Male
- Female

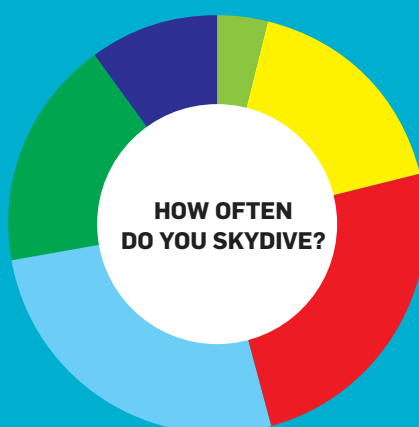


- Less than a year
- One-two years
- Two-five years
- Five-10 years
- 10-20 years
- More than 20 years

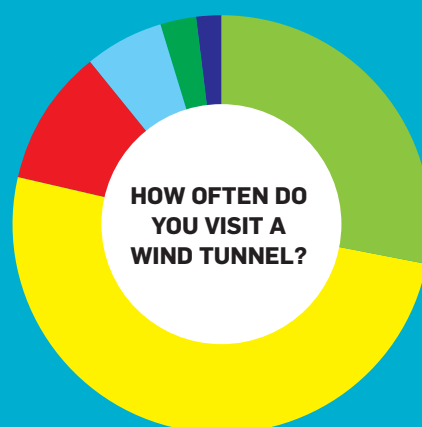
“The average Mag reader is... male, in his 30s, lives in the south and has been a member of the BPA for two to five years. He has a C Licence and fewer than 500 jumps, and does up to 100 jumps a year. He does 4-way FS but isn't in a competition team, and flies in a wind tunnel between one and five times a year. He works in IT and 'likes' the BPA and *Skydive the Mag* on Facebook. He spends between 30 minutes and two hours reading each Mag and is most interested in the educational articles, Safety Zone and Kit Zone, but reads most of the content. He thinks the design and content are good or excellent and may have been inspired to try something new as a result of reading about it in the Mag. He believes the Mag represents his views and interests and those of the skydiving community, and that it talks to him in the right tone”



- Less than 50
- 51-200
- 201-500
- 501-1,000
- 1,001-2,000
- 2,001-5,000
- 5,001-10,000
- More than 10,000



- One-five times a year
- Six-20 times a year
- 21-50 times a year
- 51-100 times a year
- 101-200 times a year
- More than 200 times a year

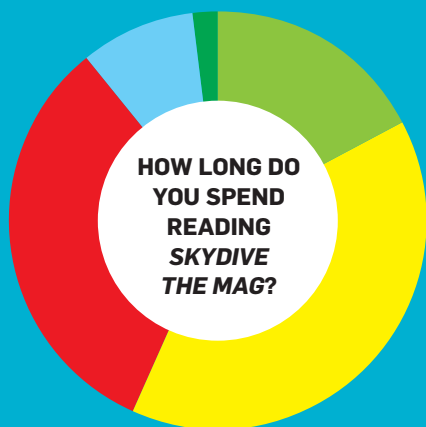


- Never
- One-five times a year
- Six-10 times a year
- 11-20 times a year
- 21-50 times a year
- More than 50 times a year

WHAT HAS THE MAG INSPIRED YOU TO DO?

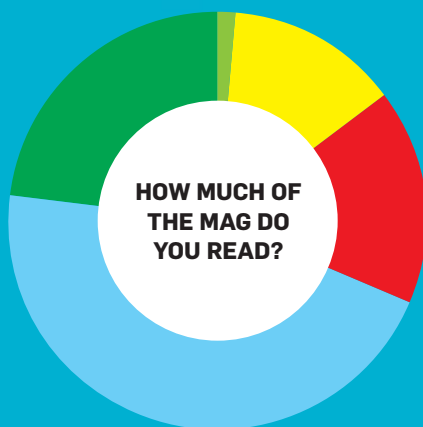
149 people wrote about something they had done as a result of reading about it in the Mag. Most of these were different disciplines such as FS, FF, wingsuiting or CF, but other highlights included:

- Try different exits
- Send in a picture
- Wear ear protection in the plane
- Check kit more rigorously
- Smile on exit!
- Become a Rigger and Instructor
- Use tips in Progression Zone to improve my landings
- Pay attention to small safety and packing details
- Get a Coach rating
- Have canopy training

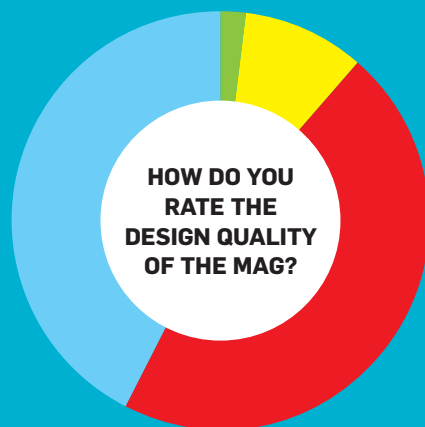


- Less than 30 minutes
- 30 minutes-one hour
- One-two hours
- Two-four hours
- More than four hours

Note: Publishing industry average is only 20 minutes



- I don't read it
- A little of it
- Half of it
- Most of it
- All of it



- Poor
- Acceptable
- Good
- Excellent

YOU SAY, WE SAY

More about learning, progression and safety please!
It's good to see that these are the most popular articles across the board. I've increased safety articles in the last three years and introduced Progression as a new 'Zone' in 2012.

“I really like that the Mag now has an early progression part to bridge the gap between A Licence and FS1. Before it felt like a ‘this is what you could be’ with the awesome experienced stuff, but now it’s like ‘you’re one of us!’”

Published anonymised fatality reports might better reflect the harsher safety realities of skydiving.
The USPA magazine publishes a couple of fatality reports per issue, but then the US usually has more than 20 fatalities per year. In contrast, we have just one or two in an average year so there are fewer to write about. Because of the low numbers and close-knit UK skydiving community, anonymity would be pointless as people would work out who it was and it could seem disrespectful. Instead, if there are lessons to learn from a fatality (and there usually are), then these are brought up in a Safety Zone article – either with or without direct reference to the fatality. In fact, I read every single BPA incident report, from twisted ankles and twists in lines to femurs and fatalities, and base Safety Zone upon them.

Possibly have a ‘funnies’ section showing photos of mishaps (safe ones!) e.g. unsuccessful exits.
I like it! Send them in and I’ll print them.

Possibility to opt out in favour of iPad app for a discount.
The Mag wouldn’t be financially viable if we couldn’t depend on its numbers. Most people do want the Mag and are happy to pay for it as part of their BPA membership. A few would rather not have it and save the money. The Mag costs the BPA less than £1 per person per issue so, if an opt-out were

available, then it would be only a small amount of money you’d save. We charge £24 per year for non-BPA members to subscribe, still only about the cost of a jump ticket, but BPA members do not pay this higher rate.

Why do we have to pay again to get the Mag on the app?
You don’t! The app is free to BPA members, you just need the password. This is published on the address label for your Mag and is also on the bottom of the BPA e-newsletter. Non-members can pay to subscribe to the app.

A classified section for buying and selling kit.
This was dropped from the Mag many years ago, along with the Letters page, as it is impossible to avoid it being out-of-date. Nowadays, there is a healthy kit sales market both online and on DZs and there is no need for the Mag to try and duplicate this. There could also be liability issues if someone bought or sold kit through the Mag that was unsafe or unsuitable, and we don’t want the responsibility of vetting private kit sales.

Can we have a competition with a prize?
Check out the new Comp Zone, introduced in August 2013.

More tunnel content would be good.
The main focus of the Mag has to be skydiving – after all, we are the official magazine of the British Parachute Association. When we print non-skydiving content, it needs to be directly relevant to skydiving or of general interest to skydivers as a community. So, for example, we usually cover the Bodyflight World Challenge, which is a tunnel-only competition, but this is because it is attended by a large number of UK and international skydivers and is a major event on the calendar. We have also printed other non-skydiving articles where they have been directly relevant, such as articles on musculoskeletal health and ear protection. There are lots of topics that skydivers might want to read about (BASE and other sports, weather, judging, flying) and some of these are in the pipeline, but all will be clearly linked to skydiving.

“More advanced articles” and, from a different person, “More student articles”.
It was funny to see how many suggestions for one thing were balanced out by suggestions for the exact opposite. Other examples included “Too much foreign content, it’s a UK Mag after all” alongside “Develop more of an international perspective”. Ultimately, I think the lesson is that skydivers are a wide and varied bunch and no magazine could ever be ‘one size fits all’. Nowhere is this more true than when it comes to Club Zone, which I think of as ‘the Marmite section’ because people either love it or hate it. Some believe that it is the heart and soul of British jumping and could even be given more pages (which it has been since I took over as Editor), while others say that it should be scrapped as being all parties and BBQs and they only read their own club anyway before skipping the rest.

Nearly 87 per cent of you said that the Mag content overall was good or excellent, with a further 10.9 per cent agreeing it was acceptable. Just 2.4 per cent thought it was poor. As an editor, I don’t think it’s possible to get 100 per cent approval because any steps I took which made those 2.4 per cent happy would be likely to make some of the remaining majority unhappy.

“I feel the Mag has a perfect balance of content aimed at beginners to expert, any change may disrupt the balance!”

“It is a world-class publication of exceptional quality” and “Change nothing at all, it is an awesome magazine”
I was delighted to read through dozens of pages of comments and find so many of them were overwhelmingly positive. There is a lot of good feeling towards the Mag, with people saying that they love it; that it makes them feel part of the sport; that they enjoy spotting pictures of their friends and that they look forward to it arriving through their letterbox. Editing it is not my full-time job (I’ve got one of those as well), so hearing that people like it and that it makes a difference is my main motivation. Thank you. ●

The Mag survey ran online from August 30 to September 30 2013. There were 421 respondents, which is approximately 7.3 per cent of the membership. Although this sounds low, it is actually very high by industry standards – response rates as low as one per cent are routine for other magazines.

This article highlights just some of the many questions asked. The full statistics and responses to the rest of the questions can be found on the BPA website.

HOW DO YOU RATE THE EDITORIAL QUALITY OF THE MAG?

DOES THE MAG TALK TO YOU IN THE RIGHT TONE?

DOES THE MAG REFLECT THE SKYDIVING COMMUNITY’S INTERESTS?

● Poor
● Acceptable
● Good
● Excellent

● Yes
● No
● I don’t know

● Yes
● No
● I don’t know

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WHITE PARTY

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UK Canopy Piloting Nationals

THIS YEAR, FROM SEPTEMBER 20-22, THE UK CANOPY PILOTING NATIONALS WERE ACTUALLY CONTESTED ON UK SOIL (AND UK POND WATER) AT DUNKESWELL DROPZONE IN DEVON

WORDS MARTIN 'DANGERPANTS' REYNOLDS



For the past six years, this National competition had been held in Germany at RAPA, the BPA-affiliated Rhine Army Parachute Association. The reason for this event being held overseas was that, until this year, there has not been a DZ in the UK with a swoop pond suitable to meet the safety requirements to host this competition. RAPA have always done a good job hosting this competition and the swoop pond in RAPA is second to none in Europe, but everyone in the CP community is pleased and excited to have a new pond in the UK suitable to hold this event and for future training and advancement of our discipline at UK and world level. Having a pond in the UK also meant there would probably be a higher turnout of UK competitors able to travel to the location, and this proved to be the case.

I arrived at the DZ on September 18, and managed to get seven training jumps in. Winds were tricky and, on my last jump of the day, I landed about a metre

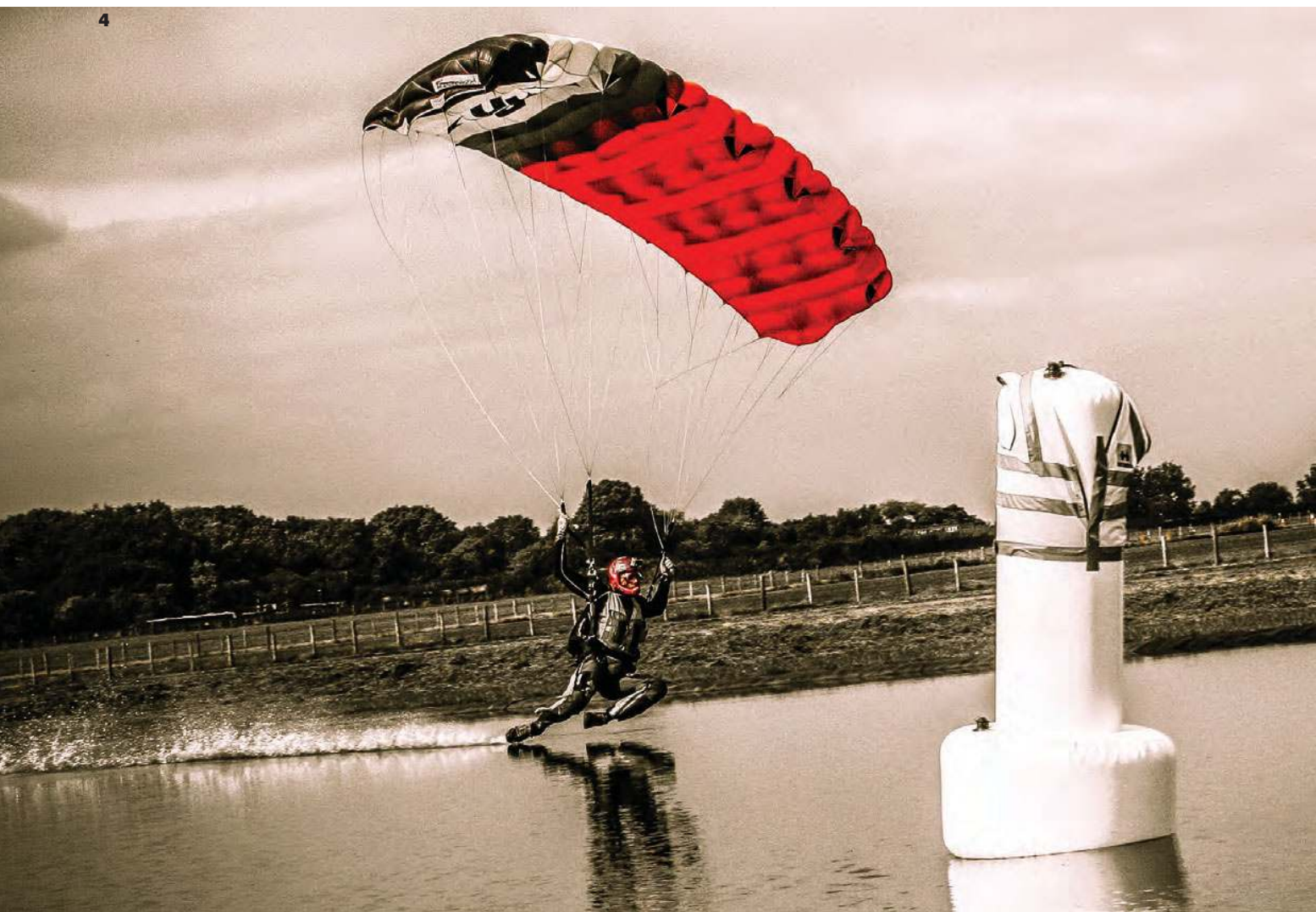


from the start of dry land! The water was cold. I pulled myself out of the pond and stood to the side, feeling damp, cold and disappointed in my jump, a bit glum-faced. However, as I looked up to see Chris Lynch on his last practice jump of the day, planing out his canopy about 100 metres short from the gate, and then the inevitable splash four metres short of the shoreline, I soon cheered up. I am not sure if it makes me a bad person but, in 10 years of participating and competing in canopy piloting, the excitement and pleasure of watching someone else land in the pond has never diminished. We both hung our kit up to dry for the night next to all the other wet gear and walked over to The Aviator for a few pints of Otter ale.

ONWARD AND UPWARD

Thursday was official practice day, but unfortunately the weather was low cloud all day. As the day went on, more competitors and all the judges turned up and it looked like it would be a good event. The judging of this event is not →

4



5



easy and sometimes a little controversial to say the least, and to see the dedicated team of judges who I have seen improving year on year turning up was reassuring. In all, 26 competitors entered the Open event: 17 from UK, three from France, three from

Ireland, two from Belgium and a South African. It was good to see a good mix of respected canopy pilots from various countries who had come to the UK. There were some new faces to CP: Joe Laming, Gary Davidson, Cedric Veiga Rios and

Darren Glover, who I know have all put in a lot of effort this year and have high potential, and Jack and Scott, who are starting out in competition. Dave Honeybone was there to build on last year's 'first comp', and it was good to see Chris Lynch (previously the UK's top canopy pilot, mentor and someone who has put much, if not more than anyone else, into advancing canopy piloting here in the UK over the years) returning to the sport. Thursday night saw the draw for exit order, and then it was back to The Aviator to prepare mentally for tomorrow's competition... with the aid of a few more Otter Ales.

BEYOND THE ALE

The weather forecast for the weekend had been good, but the first day of competition began with low cloud sitting over the south west of the UK. This was unfortunately to be the theme of the next few days. However, 2pm came and the Beech took off with the first group for their official practice run. This completed and the first competition jump was distance. Steve (Steve) Hogan from Ocana DZ had an awesome top run of 105.80m on his JYX. Brian Vacher landed 20cm short of that, with myself, Maxine and Gerard from France having pretty good runs. Maxine,



“In 10 years of participating and competing in canopy piloting, the excitement and pleasure of watching someone else land in the pond has never diminished”

the UK's first female CP competitor, set a new European female Distance record of 90.23m. Spencer Hogg (usually one of the UK's top distance contenders) had just taken delivery of a new canopy, a Petra 69 – which, for those of you who are not familiar with canopy piloting, is about the size of a beach towel. Unfortunately, he had only managed to get about six training jumps on it before the competition and had not quite got to grips with its more than rapid descent rate while sorting out the removable slider and pilot chute system. This, combined with a controversial decision to 'run in' at 5,000ft due to cloud, meant that after sorting out the RDS and chest strap, he just about managed to pop the toggles in time to flare and make the entry gate (however, he did manage to land just before his dummy hit the ground, which he had spat out of the plane at 5,000ft as the door opened...). Over the next year, I believe exit height for Canopy Piloting will start to become an issue needing to be addressed, as more competitors start to fly these new wings, highly loaded at three plus.

Next round was Accuracy, and conditions were good but with a slight downwind push. This is my personal favourite event and I had a really sweet run. Set up at 1,200ft, a nice smooth 450

degree turn and I dragged my foot across the water through all the scoring gates (I think size 14 feet may help with this), then popped up on the toggles to put it down side-on in Zone 6 next to the box... boom. Fabrice from France had a really good run and Gary Davidson and Joe Laming had exceptionally good runs in their first ever competition on the pond. I think Gary and Joe will certainly feature highly in future events.

The round after that was Speed and conditions were fair with a slight cross/into wind, meaning speeds would be pretty average. Brian had the best run of 2.9 seconds and I was 0.06 seconds behind him, while Rod McCrory also had a sub three-second run. There were a few re-jumps just before sunset to finish off the round and then off to The Aviator for a few more Otters and to contemplate the day's jumps and tomorrow's strategies.

RAIN STOPS PLAY

Unfortunately, the next day saw the return of low cloud and drizzle, and so we all sat around the DZ chatting and doing admin. Saturday night was due to be party night in The Aviator, but weather conditions meant we would now be competition jumping on the Sunday. Even so, we had a few Otters and a bit

1 Gary Davidson,
by Guy Wells

2 Extra long chest straps allow for radical body positions,
by Gary Wainwright

3 (L-R) Overall silver for Brian Vacher, gold for Martin Reynolds and bronze for Simon Larcombe.
By Stevie Doran

4 Chris Lynch,
by Guy Wells

5 Martin Reynolds winning the Accuracy competition,
by Guy Wells

The big picture

Canopy piloting can bring out very mixed responses in the skydiving community regarding issues relating to skydiver safety. There are some who feel that improving training facilities and giving coaching and guidance will mean that skydivers will be safer and better equipped to compete, and that this knowledge will also filter down into improved knowledge and awareness of the art of canopy flight for all skydivers. At the other end of the scale, there are those who feel that these issues will be miraculously resolved by banning any turn more than 90 degrees. I think dropzones in the UK are thankfully more of the former, and the whole of the CP community very much appreciates Jason Farrant's (and Dunkeswell's) decision to build a swoop pond. As I have said before, I feel this is a decision made by someone who wants to promote our sport and I know the infrastructure around the swoop pond at Dunkeswell is in place and working well. Gary the CCI is very aware of all the jumpers' abilities and limitations on the DZ. Simon Larcombe is on hand almost every weekend for expert advice on canopy piloting and the running of a safe swoop pond on a busy DZ and all is overseen by Jason the DZ owner.

I think building a swoop pond and inviting potential swoopers to come and learn and jump in as safe an environment as possible, has some risk attached, particularly for a DZ quite happily operating a good and lucrative tandem and AFF operation. But, in the long run, it is highly beneficial to canopy piloting and the safety of our sport in general. For this reason (and the pub 100m away from the DZ) I think everyone was really looking forward to this year's UK Open CP, UK Nationals CP and Irish Nationals CP competition. So, a big thank you to Dunkeswell for this investment in Canopy Piloting.

of a party, and Ryan (one of the local jumpers working at the DZ) sang and played a few favourites on the guitar.

Sunday, and low cloud again meant that, at 2pm, meet director Paul Moore called it. I think everyone was disappointed that the weather meant we did not managed to do all the competition jumps, but we had completed a round in each discipline – meaning that we had a meet.

The medal ceremony followed. New UK Overall National Champion was Martin Reynolds AKA Dangerpants (me), with Brian Vacher in second place, Simon Larcombe in third and Wez Westley a close fourth. Gerard Burnside was third in the open event. For the individual disciplines, Martin Reynolds (me again) won the Accuracy, Brian Vacher won the Speed, and Stevo Hogan won the Distance.

Big thanks to Jason and Dunkeswell for the venue and world-class swoop pond, thanks to Paul Moore the meet director and all the judges, and thanks to all our overseas guests for making the effort to come to our first (hopefully of many) CP Nationals in the UK. Personally, I really enjoyed the week, and the only thing I would have changed would be the time of year this event was held. ●

Full scores are available on the BPA website



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Canopy Formation Nationals

SIBSON, SEPTEMBER 13-15 2013

WORDS MARY BARRATT (SUNDOGS)

It was good to see so many people turning up for the Canopy Formation Nationals this year, and it was even better to see so many new members of the CF community eager to compete. After getting their CFi stickers during the June roadshow, Jason Hobbs and Marcus Muir-Smith put their new skills to good use with medal-winning Senior and Intermediate teams. Kate Lindsley, who also got her sticker in June, did a fantastic job as a Senior alternate for *PH36* and helped them take silver. Sarah Neale got CFi in July and has quickly become an indispensable part of the CF camera crew, which was confirmed by her work with not one but two gold medal-winning teams. Another CF newcomer, Matt Kite, was kept busy as part of a Rookie team (*Wise Prankers*) and as cameraflyer for a Senior team (*The Mysterions*). Special congratulations go to Craig Poxon, who actually managed to get a CFi sticker while competing! With so many competitors, new and familiar, we had a great range of teams across the CF categories: *CFUK* (Senior 2-way Sequential; 4-way Speed and Rotations), *The Mysterions* (Senior 4-way Speed and Rotations), *PH36* (Senior 2-way Sequential), *Sibson CRWsaders* (Senior 2-way Sequential; 4-way Speed and

Rotations), *SunDogs* (Intermediate 2-way Sequential), *Cockups and Wise Prankers* (Rookie 2-way Rotations).

As usual, the weather kept us on our toes. This gave us all a chance to show that CF isn't just about 'precision collisions' – it also involves an ability to make precision decisions. Some tricky winds and spectacular cumulus gave the more experienced competitors an opportunity to demonstrate just how skilled CFers can be when it comes to planning spots, run-ins and flight paths. It seems that some of the myths just aren't true; CF isn't all about landing off, reserve rides every jump and using big knives. Everyone landed under their mains (mostly with their helmets on and nearly always on the PLA!) and all of the knives stayed safely tucked away.

Despite the challenging conditions, all rounds of the competition were completed and there were some great performances. *CFUK* were particularly notable here; while giving time to coach and encourage the newer teams, they still managed to retain golds in Senior 2-way and 4-way categories and to set a new UK record in Senior 2-way Sequential with a fantastic score of 16 points in time. As something of a scratch team, *The Mysterions* surprised us all by

1 4-way rotations team CFUK, by Craig Poxon

2 Cockerham Cockups, by Sarah Neale

putting in an exceptionally impressive performance and fighting off the more experienced competition to earn silver in Senior 4-way Speed and Rotations. *SunDogs* didn't have to fight for gold in Intermediate 2-way Sequential, so we focused on beating our previous best scores and those of teams that had formerly won gold. We were pleased with our performance and very proud to receive the Pat Hammond Trophy. Meanwhile, in Rookie 2-way Rotations, consistently solid canopy skills (even when things didn't quite go to plan) earned *Cockups* gold.

It's great to see CF enjoying a resurgence in interest. In fact, this was the biggest turnout for a few years, which is quite an exciting development for the discipline. We're hoping that continues and we see more teams next year (and, of course, the same teams returning to up the ante!). So, if you like the idea of developing your ability to make precision collisions (and precision decisions) or if you already have your CFi but don't really use it, then look out for the dates of CF roadshows in future issues of the Mag and get yourself involved. ●

Full scores are available on the BPA website

2





Accuracy Nationals

PHOTOS BOB KING

Classic Accuracy is one of the earliest forms of competitive skydiving. Competitors tend to jump large canopies, which can be manoeuvred with precision even when 'sinking in' on a deep-braked approach. Scores are measured in centimetres, with the best score being a 'dead centre' score of zero. Like in Speed 8, the LOWEST cumulative score wins. The maximum score per round is 16cm so, whether you miss the pad by an inch or a mile, you still get the same score.

The UK has a small core of experienced Accuracy competitors, most of whom also represent us on the international circuit. As you read this, many of them will be in Dubai at the International Parachuting Championships and Gulf Cup – good luck to all.

Janos Leszko is the 2013 National Champion with a total score of just 40cm over 10 rounds. Pete Sizer took silver with 56cm and Glenn Stephenson bronze with 66cm. The full score sheet is available on the BPA website. ●

1 Competitors
Esther Reynolds, Steve Hastings, Janos Leszko, Glenn Stephenson, Richard Bissett and Peter Sizer

2 Steve Hastings on the pad

3 Overall champion Janos Leszko headed for a good score





Speed 8 Nationals

WORDS AND PHOTOS PAUL DORWARD

There is no doubt in anyone's mind that Speed 8 is the single best competition on the whole competition circuit. It is one of those events that has you laughing from start to finish. Where else can you and a bunch of mates (some of whom you don't even know) get together, bomb burst out of an aeroplane with the only intention of grabbing hold of them as quickly as possible and then, if successful, come up with a home-made, hilarious second point – which you are not even judged on – for pure comic effect and to entertain the judges. This year's event at UK Parachuting Sibson was huge, with a record number of eight teams. This ranged from scratch teams formed on the day right through to a couple of semi-serious contenders.

Even with the poor weather hindering the start of the competition on the Saturday morning, as soon as the blue sky

and sunshine started to emerge, the UK Parachuting Sibson team did what they do best and pushed the big green 'GO' button. We managed to rock through a couple of rounds on the Saturday afternoon and called it a day after one more round on the Sunday morning. A pretty interesting battle slowly emerged for the medals between team *Raykip8* (made up of *Raykip8* 4-way team plus guests), team *Reprob8s* (organised by the Bradley twins and consisting of a motley collection of mods and rockers) and team *Equal Pay*. However, as close as it was, team *Raykip8* eventually took first place to secure the gold, with *Equal Pay* taking a well-deserved silver and *Reprob8s* just behind in bronze.

If you haven't competed in a Speed 8 competition before, then make sure you make this one of your 2014 things to do. All you need is your FS1 and a sense of humour, and I can guarantee you will have an absolute blast. See you next year... ●



Speed scoring

Scoring in 8-way Speed is as follows: teams build an 8-way as fast as possible. The clock starts when the first person passes through the aircraft door (so it doesn't make sense to climb out and then launch because the clock is ticking) and stops when the 8-way is built or 50 seconds pass. The team with the lowest total time is the winner.

SCOREBOARD

Team	Total time in seconds (three rounds)
<i>Raykip8</i>	40.59
<i>Equal Pay</i>	52.54
<i>Reprob8s</i>	53.58
<i>Nethers Cutaway</i>	97.80
<i>Don't Be L8</i>	108.03
<i>RESPA</i>	111.59
<i>Don't hesit8</i>	150.00
<i>Mayhem</i>	150.00

1 Michael Roberts helping Raykip8 win gold in style

2 Bronze for Reprob8s, gold for Raykip8 and silver for Equal Pay



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Icarus Canopies by NZ Aerosports are coming to the 2014 BPA AGM day! Come have a beer and a chat at our booth on Saturday the 25th of January at East Midlands Conference Centre, University Park, Nottingham.



Opening the doors on SKYDIVING

RECENTLY, NETHERAVON DECIDED TO OPEN THE DOORS OF THEIR DROPZONE AND INVITED THE LOCAL COMMUNITY INTO OUR WORLD

WORDS ELANA CAIN

On October 19, more than 100 local residents visited the Army Parachute Association, toured our dropzone, talked to the jumpers and got to know the people they see flying over their homes every weekend.

Like every other UK dropzone, we have received complaints – aircraft noise, parachutists landing in farmers' fields and so on – and sometimes it felt like we weren't the most popular neighbour in the village. How wrong we were! After a fun and informative afternoon, it became crystal clear that our relationship with the community is particularly robust and has a long and healthy life ahead of it. A few visitors did seem a little apprehensive at first, but once the myths had been dispelled (no, we are not all 'crazy fools' with a death wish) and procedures explained (we really do go out of our way not to fly over your house), a new understanding was reached and a strong mutual respect gained.

Would we recommend other dropzones to open their doors? Without a doubt. Here is our guide to holding a successful Open Day.

GET THE TIMING RIGHT

Choose a time of year when there will probably be jumping but it's not going to be hugely busy – skydivers really don't want to take the time out to talk to guests when they could be jumping. October worked very well for us.

SELECT YOUR GUESTS

We chose not to put up posters or advertise in newspapers – we wanted to keep this a very local event. We made the open day an 'invitation only' affair too. A short article was written in the village newsletter advising the readers to email or phone if they would like to attend and an invitation would be issued. We sent personal invitations to all members of the



1 Trying on equipment

2 Children love creepers!

local Parish Councils and members of the community we knew were active in local affairs. Getting local knowledge on this is vital!

DEVISE AN INTERESTING PROGRAMME

There are a couple of serious things that do need to be addressed – flight safety and noise control, for starters – and we recommend you give a short 15-minute presentation on this, but keep the rest of the programme interesting and fun. Our schedule included a dropzone and aircraft tour (great photo opportunity), a kit familiarisation brief, a creeper display, kids' creeper activity, display stands showing the different parachuting disciplines, observation of a hanging harness lesson, photo boards and a big

screen video presentation. A grand finale will make your day memorable. At our event, the *Red Devils* performed a spectacular display with the crowd getting smothered in red smoke – they loved it!

KEEP YOUR GUESTS FUELLED!

It may seem like a simple thing but making sure you have refreshments on hand is vital. Remember, many of the country's biggest issues have been solved over a cup of tea. You may also have several elderly or disabled visitors, so have seating available and don't forget to tell people where the loo is!

DURATION

We planned a two-hour programme. As expected, this ran over a bit and, in →



3 Charlie Shea-Simonds explaining parachuting operations to an interested local audience

4 Medals won by local Netheravon teams were on display, from BPA regional and National competitions right up to World Cup medals

5 The Red Devils lining up after a demo while one of Netheravon's Caravans performs a flypast



4

reality, three hours were occupied. This seemed like an ideal duration – long enough to cover all issues and short enough to keep the interest and excitement up.

DIRECTIONS

It's going to be a bit of a disaster if no one can find the parachute centre. Make sure a Satnav-friendly postcode is on your directions. Signpost your car parks clearly and ensure your guests know where to go when they get to your dropzone.

RISK ASSESSMENT

I know! Health and Safety is a time-consuming issue, but ask yourself this: how would you feel if someone got hurt because you didn't think about all the risks? How would your fellow skydivers feel if their kit or dropzone equipment got damaged because a visitor was unsupervised? Going through a risk assessment process is a

thorough way to make sure you have covered all safety bases and protected yourself and the dropzone.

FINALLY, ASK FOR HELP!

You will be amazed at the amount of talent there is on your dropzone and how keen people are to help out. Check out our incredible volunteers:

- Andy Godwin and the *Euphoria* Team: Freefly and freestyle display stand with video presentation
- Charlie Shea-Simonds: Parachuting operations presentation
- Kath Salisbury, John Bagwell and Rick Boardman: Kit familiarisation brief, audience participation, hanging harness demo
- *Bodyflight Isis*: Creeper demonstration.
- André Taylor: Production of the Great Nethers Video Presentation

- Spike and Jackie Harper: Wingsuit stand and gadget corner
- Andy Myers: Screen and video projector
- Zoe Farrell: Cups, saucers and teapots
- Gail and Grant Knight: Refreshments
- Matt Knight: Hanging parachute display
- Tanya Blandford, Robbie Way and Louise Watson: Meet and greet duties
- The *Red Devils* Parachute Display Team: for doing what comes naturally!
- Rob Camps and Mark Bayada: Dropzone tours and commentaries
- Stacey Canning, Jeannine Cook and all the members of the APA staff: The best hosts possible
- And all our club jumpers who took the time to talk to guests and make them feel welcome

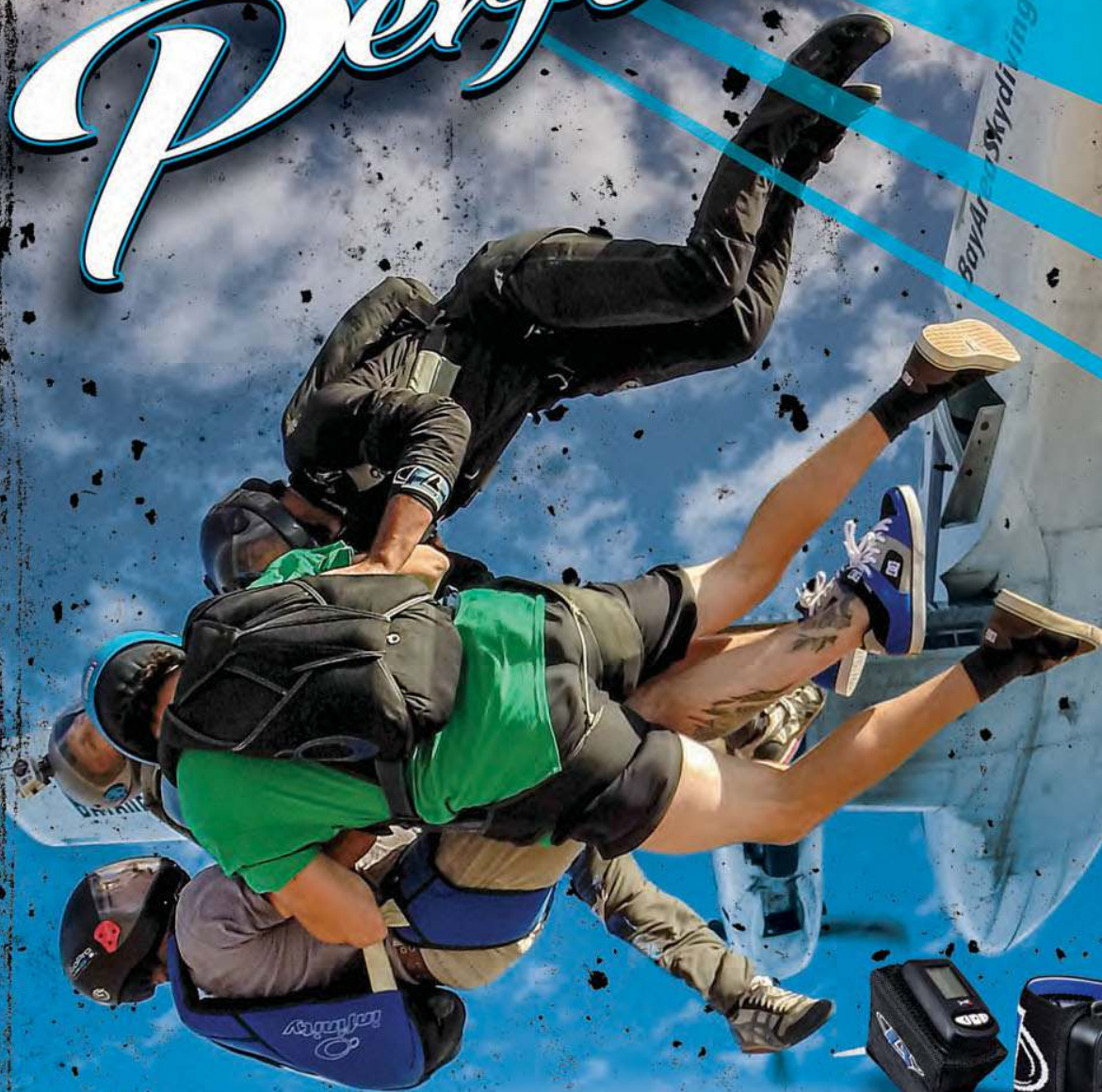
Since our Open Day, we have received numerous thank you emails and requests for more information about our parachute centre. It turns out that 99 per cent of the local population like nothing better than sitting in their back gardens watching parachutes in the air! Who would have thought it? ●



“A few visitors did seem a little apprehensive at first, but once the myths had been dispelled (no, we are not all ‘crazy fools’ with a death wish) ... a new understanding was reached”

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1

EURO SEQUENTIAL



PATRICK PASSE HAD A VISION – A GOAL. HE KNEW THE RUSSIANS HAD TURNED TWO POINTS ON A 101-WAY SEQUENTIAL EVENT EARLIER IN 2013 AND FIGURED HE COULD DO BETTER. HE WANTED TO MAKE A NEW RECORD

WORDS SHELL MEAKINS

So on came the challenge – the European Sequential Challenge. But it wasn't just one more person and one more point – his vision was a 106-way with five points. So out went his invites. The Sequential Euro Record was scheduled only three months in advance. More than 150 Europeans wanted to be a part of this

event. Emails were being sent to Patrick every day and there was a lot of interest.

This was set to be a fantastic event to be a part of. Running alongside the Freefly Euro Record group, we knew this was going to be a lot of fun. The whole event was the most fantastic atmosphere I have ever been a part of on a skydiving event from start to finish. The level of skydiving

was fantastic. We knew we could do this from the first jump together and it felt so easy – so calm but with so much energy. The organisation and the fun was all there. It ticked every box. In the welcome meeting, Patrick told us: "You know what you are doing, just do it!" And do it we did.

After two warm-up jumps of 104-ways (funny, really, when you say a 104-way is

CHALLENGE EMPURIA



a warm-up jump), we started the 106-way sequential attempts to get our new European and new World record on the same skydive. We had barely begun, but already we had two new records. Brilliant! Bring it on!

Winds hindered some of our jumping time and we only managed four jumps at the start, but this didn't stop us. We →

BPA members on the record

Ros Ayling, Fiona Birnie, Ane Brentford, Neil Butcher, Martin Cressey, Allison Cronnelly, Lesley Gale, Phil Hartree, Gordon Hodgkinson, Milko Hodgkinson, Phil Jenks, Heather Little, Tim Mace, Shell Meakins, Des Meyer, Rich Molloy, Paul Myers, Keiron O'Rourke, Billy Payn, Maria Russell, Paul Seymour, Sián Stokes, Rod Stone, Dave West, Ronan Whelan

were on a roll, and we stayed on it. The magic remained and just got better. We made two new records (European and World) on each jump to follow, all the way up to the fifth point on the 106-way. This was amazing. There was no stopping us!

The FAI judges did a great job of getting the news of our new records to us only an hour after we had landed from the jumps. Thank you for that – it was a lot of fun!

As all 106 of us stood together by the big screen set-up and watched in anticipation for the announcement to appear on the screen, I remember thinking to myself: "This is crazy – how many records are we going to break today?"

Big smiles and lots of cheers and whoops followed as it was announced yet another record was broken and the footage to follow. The pre- and post-production set-up was great – very well organised – and the camera team were awesome.

And so we prepped for the next and the next, and this became our routine all the way to our main goal: a 106-way five point sequential skydive. Now that's something to be proud of. We had done it, it was awesome. We even joked about how long we held the fifth point for and that we could have put six in!

I am so happy to have been a part of this event. It was the best. ●

Shell 'now has quite a few World and Euro records under her belt and lots of smiles' Meakins



Best group ever

"Day after day, when I was receiving applications, I was so happy to see the level of the group that we would have. I think this is the best FS group of this size that we have ever had in Europe. The whole group was in the perfect mood. No pressure, no stress, only the necessary concentration and all the rest was about having a great time. During two days, we had huge fun. These two days were magic and I will remember them forever.

"This is such a huge present for a load organiser and, when it ends up with four European records and four world records, this is the best reward for everyone.

"I would like to thank all of the participants for giving their best with the most positive attitude, the Plane Captains on the event and Pete Allum and Manu Sarrazin for organising the Alpha team. I really hope that this European group will meet again to achieve some other amazing goals."

Patrick Passe, organiser of the Sequential Euro Record



1 The record-breaking 106-way team over the beautiful Bay of Roses, by of Roses, by Bruno Brokken

2 Author Shell Meakins with Smurf-buddy Ane Brentford

3 Exit, by Andrey Veselov

4 Break-off, by Gustavo Cabana

5 Break-off, by Bruno Brokken

6 Some of the seven aircraft emptying, by Andrey Veselov

7 Organiser Patrick Passe and part of his record-breaking team on oxygen before a jump, by Andrey Veselov



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EXIT ZONE



With 16 single-point 'random' formations labelled A-Q and 22 numbered double-point 'block' formations when doing 4-way FS, you can literally stand in the aircraft door already holding on to the right combination of arms and legs, jump out all together and let it unfold and fly. Exit Zone brings you tips from National Champion team *Satori* on how to successfully manage each exit. This edition is brought to you by 18 and C...

WORDS JULIA FOXWELL (FS) AND DAVE HEAD (CAMERA)

By Dave Head



18: Zircon-Zircon

Although this is the top of a block move, I think this is a great one for Rookie teams to try – everyone has good visuals of each other, so it's relatively straightforward to get the timing right. It is also fairly similar to other exits, so it should feel fairly familiar. I recommend that you give it a go.

OUTSIDE CENTRE

Stand just to the left of the centre of the door, facing the inside of the plane. Hold onto the inside rail with your left arm and hold onto Point's left arm grip with your right hand (you may need to wait a moment before Point gets

into position). Trail your left leg and get communication from Inside Centre before giving the count. On the count, swing your left leg and push off your right leg to push away from the plane and lift your left hip up so you have left the plane at a 45 degree angle. In terms of the angle, it is a similar exit to the H and 19 exits.

INSIDE CENTRE

Stand in the door, facing towards Tail at the back of the plane. Hold onto Tail's arm grips with your left hand on Tail's right arm grip (ideally on the outside of their arm) and your

right hand on Tail's left arm grip (on the inside of their arm). Stand with your left leg forward and right leg back. Give Outside Centre a nod to say that both you and Tail are in position. When exiting, you want to aim to get underneath Outside Centre and really work to get your left side down to help with presentation. This is one of the few exits where you want to aim to have your head lower than your hips when exiting.

POINT

Stand slightly behind Inside Centre and hold onto Outside Centre's left arm grip with your right hand (ideally on the outside of their arm)



By James Stevenson

and Inside Centre's right leg grip with your left hand. Aim to get a high grip on Inside Centre – this will help Outside Centre to get your arm grip. This is a great exit to pick up eye contact with Tail, who is standing in the door. When Outside Centre is giving the count, you want to aim to be slightly later through the door than Inside Centre and really work your presentation with your right leg up and left shoulder down. You are aiming for a 45 degree angle through the door. You should see Tail underneath you when you have left the plane.

TAIL

Stand in the door, holding onto Outside Centre's right leg grip with your left hand (high grip) and holding onto the inside rail with your right hand. You want to stand fairly low but also have your right leg relatively straight to give Inside Centre lots of space in the door. Trail your left leg to help with presentation too. The further out Inside Centre can get, the better. Get eye contact with Point in the door. On exit, push off your right leg so you are at the same angle as Outside Centre.

By Dave Head



However, you want your left arm grip to be in front of you, so you need to leave slightly earlier than Outside Centre. On exit, you should see Point above you.

CAMERA

18 presents well and is usually steep, favouring a leading exit (letting go before the team). However, it is best to not go too early because you may not be able to get back up over the top quick enough to show the close of the block clearly if the team goes flat to the horizon during the block inter.

Time your exit to be in the three-four o'clock position close to the team, as this will capture the steep presentation but will allow you to cope with the block inter going flat more easily. To get in that position, imagine you are doing a 2-way with Inside Centre and aim to leave the aircraft at exactly the same time as they pass through the door. As it presents well, 18 may be keyed quickly out of the door. There is a natural tendency for your head (and, therefore, lens) to follow Outside Centre or wherever else you are



By James Stevenson

looking for the exit key as you initially drop away from the aircraft. If you are close to the team or they do key very quickly out of the door, try to shift your sight to the centre of the formation (the gap between Inside Centre and Outside Centre) as you leave and orientate your head and body to make best use of the camera widescreen to help ensure all grips are in frame before the key comes. After the key, keep driving up the hill at the team in order to help stay steep on them.

To complete the block inter, teams may use either flat cogging or vertical techniques. Cogging may cause wider separation between the two sub-pieces on the hill, so anticipate that you may need to back away or adjust your sighting to keep both sub-pieces in frame – especially if you are initially close to the team.

Exit rating 

This exit is a fun one to do, as it's a fairly long exit. However, because of this, timing and presentation are critical – it is one that does tend to take some practice to get right. If a C exit came up in competition and you weren't confident to give it a go, you could launch an H and gripswitch.

OUTSIDE CENTRE

Stand in the middle of the door, allowing Point enough space to pick up your left leg grip and to be able to clear their left shoulder out of the door (this would depend on how big the door of the aircraft you are exiting from is). Once Point has positioned themselves, you can then shift along slightly to the left – this will give Inside Centre some more room. You are head jamming, you have Point's left leg grip with your left hand and you are holding onto Inside Centre's left arm grip with your right hand. As with the other exits, it is Outside Centre's count. When exiting, aim to be at 45 degrees. Use the grip on Inside Centre to help to get your right side down to help with presentation and also work your left leg up to help your left hip get presentation to the slipstream. This is one of the more challenging exits for presentation,

so you need to work extra hard for it. Like the G exit, you should be able to watch Tail drop onto the outside leg of Inside Centre.

INSIDE CENTRE

Stand in the door facing the pilot in a stance with your right leg slightly further in front of your left leg in the door. Have a double grip on Outside Centre, holding onto their right arm grip with your left hand, and hold onto Point's inside grip of their right leg with your other hand. Point should be stalked to make it easier for you to pick up this grip. You do feel quite uncomfortable standing in the door. When Outside Centre is giving the count, you want to be strong with your left arm to allow them to use this for balance and presentation. When leaving the door, push off your right leg and aim to come through the door with your hips underneath your head. Feel Tail dropping onto your right leg grip and watch Point releasing their compressed grip on Outside Centre before giving the key.

POINT

Stand at the front of the door, holding onto Outside Centre's left leg grip with your shoulder clear of the edge of the door. Stand

stalked on your right leg so Inside Centre can pick up the inside grip on your right leg. When Outside Centre gives the key, make sure you go with the leg swing and help them by lifting up their leg grip to aid their presentation. You want to push off your right leg quite aggressively and really work your own presentation, making sure your right arm and right hip have a good presentation to the slipstream. Pretty much straight away, let go of Outside Centre's leg grip. Continue to look over your left shoulder and aim to keep a 45 degree angle with Inside Centre.

TAIL

Stand in the door, taking hold of Inside Centre's left leg grip and holding onto the inside rail with your right hand. Make sure you are taking a grip at the knee area of Inside Centre. Stand in the door with your left leg trailing and aim to hang fairly low – this will give you a greater chance for a successful exit as it is such a long exit. On Outside Centre's count, leave slightly earlier than Outside Centre. Push off your right leg, dropping down and really working your right side down to get a good presentation before picking up the grip on Inside Centre's right leg. Aim to get the inside



By Dave Head

C: Murphy Flake

leg grip of Inside Centre's right leg – that should be the closest one to you.

CAMERA

C can be a difficult exit for a team to present consistently and it may rotate anti-clockwise, cut in and carve or go flat early on the hill. This can make it challenging for Camera to be in a good steep position to show all grips clearly to the judges before the key to the next point comes. Long, thin exits tend to be steeper, which favours leading (letting go before the team) to get the best viewing angle. However, because C can be unpredictable, it is better to go 'with' the team or peel tight on the team to try and be in the two-four o'clock position looking across the hill – orientating your head/body to use the camera widescreen to help ensure all the grips are in frame if necessary. If you are above the team and looking at them across the hill, it is much easier to compensate quickly for off-presentation.

To get in that position, look at Inside Centre's head or shoulders as the pulse comes and imagine you are doing a 2-way with them, following just behind them as they pass through the door. As with any exit where you want to stay close to the team, it is important to let go the moment people start to move rather than waiting until after everyone has cleared the aircraft door. Anticipate poor presentation and react quickly to what you see.

Exit rating 

By James Stevenson



By James Stevenson



2013/2014 – SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 5-8: Connie and Bobby's First Anniversary Boogie. The crew from Long Island come to party! Dinner and bash at the DZ to celebrate.

December 6: Night Jumps.

December 7: High Altitude Load (Morning).

December 7-8: FurtheranZe FS Camp. Run by veteran competitor/formation skydiving coach Bob Byrne on Saturday/Sunday. Cost will be \$25 per day including six Skydive City jump tickets and share of video. Registration must be paid to reserve a slot. The easiest way to pay registration is to visit Skydive City's reservations page at www.skydivecity.com/Reservations/reservations.html. For more information, contact Bob via Facebook or at byrnerj@yahoo.com

December 20-January 5: Annual Christmas Boogie. Last year, we managed some 800 skydivers making some 7,000-8,000 skydives throughout the Boogie – yes, you should have been here! Dinners every night, Load Organising in all disciplines every day. Book specialty jumps online.

December 21: Night Jumps.

December 22: High Altitude Load (Morning).

December 25: Open at 10am.

December 28: Night Jumps.

December 29: High Altitude Load (Morning).

December 31: Pirate Day – don't miss out!

January 1 2014: Open at 10am.

January 4: Night Jumps.

January 5: High Altitude Load (Morning).

January 11-12: FurtheranZe FS Camp. Run by veteran competitor/formation skydiving coach Bob Byrne on Saturday/Sunday. Cost will be \$25 per day including six Skydive City jump tickets and share of video. Registration must be paid to reserve a slot. The easiest way to pay registration is to visit Skydive City's reservations page at www.skydivecity.com/Reservations/reservations.html. For more information, contact Bob via Facebook or at byrnerj@yahoo.com

January 18: NSL/FurtheranZe/SkyLeague/4-way Mixer. Come and meet the 'who's who' of 4-way around the area. Kurt Gaebel, Sally Hathaway, Bob Byrne and others will be on hand to discuss the upcoming season and help you with your own goals. Free drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

January 18-19: SIS Sisters in Skydiving Round Two at Z-Hills. The last SIS event was such a success that we had to do it again. RW, Freefly, Canopy coaching and events planned, register at www.skydivecity.com. For more information, contact Annemarie or Rebecca through the Facebook Event.

February 1: 4-way Scrambles Meet. High and low experienced people are welcome to come and play 4-way all day – last event, we had 17 teams! Four rounds of competition in the Scrambles and video is provided in the registration fees – bring your own video if you have the equipment. For more information, contact Gary Fox at gfox77@tampabay.rr.com

February 2: Super Bowl Sunday. We will have food, drink and the game on all the big screens at the Sunset Bar.

February 8-9: Meet One of the Florida Canopy Piloting League Series. Swoop action at its finest as we close in on the FLCPA and US National Championships. For more information, contact Albert at albert@swoopleague.com

February 15-March 9: The German Invasion, with Mike Hecker and his group. Welcome back, everyone!

February 15-16: FurtheranZe FS Camp. Run by veteran competitor/formation skydiving coach Bob Byrne on Saturday/Sunday. Cost will be \$25 per day including six Skydive City jump tickets and share of video. Registration must be paid to reserve a slot. The easiest way to pay registration is to visit Skydive City's reservations page at www.skydivecity.com/Reservations/reservations.html. For more information, contact Bob via Facebook or at byrnerj@yahoo.com

March 8-9: FurtheranZe FS Camp. Run by veteran competitor/formation skydiving coach Bob Byrne on Saturday/Sunday. Cost will be \$25 per day including six Skydive City jump tickets and share of video. Registration must be paid to reserve a slot. The easiest way to pay registration is to visit Skydive City's reservations page at www.skydivecity.com/Reservations/reservations.html. For more information, contact Bob via Facebook or at byrnerj@yahoo.com

March 15-16: Meet Two of the Florida Canopy Piloting League Series. For more information, contact Albert at albert@swoopleague.com

March 27-30: The Annual Great White North Boogie. Our New England friends migrate south for a spring startup party and some great organising for everyone. For more information, contact Edemeyer8175@aol.com

April 11-20: Annual Easter Boogie at Z-Hills. Always a great time as we ring in summer and ring out our winter season. Specialty jumps, great load organising and plenty of aircraft to jump from!

May 17-18: Meet Five of the Florida Canopy Piloting League Series. Swoop action at its finest as we lead into the US National Championships. For more information, contact Albert at albert@swoopleague.com

May 19-20: Official Practice Days for the USPA CP Nationals.

May 21-22: USPA National Championships at Canopy Piloting.
Registration information TBD and TBA.

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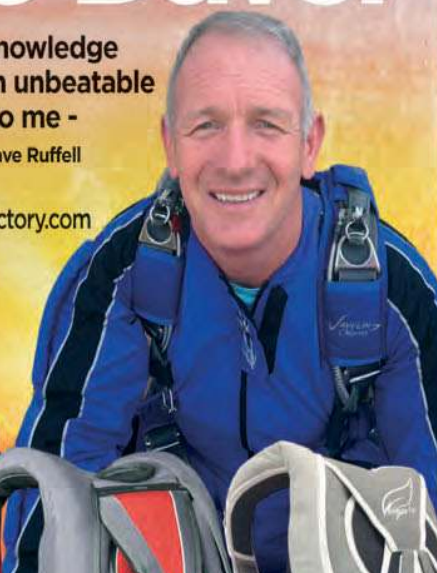
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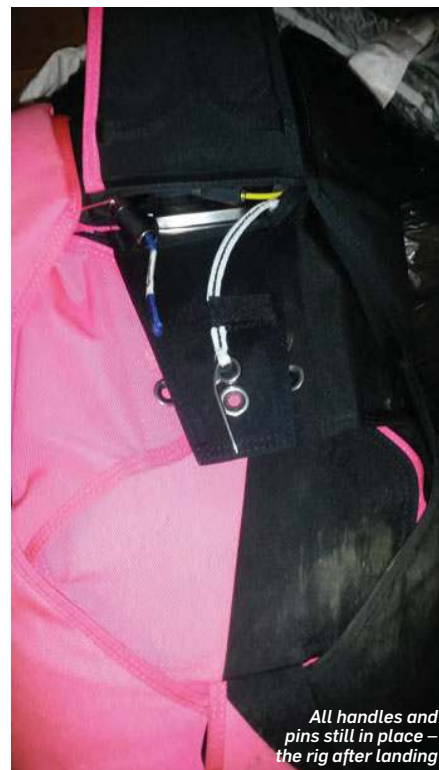
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The full-face helmet was cracked and scratched



All handles and pins still in place – the rig after landing

IT'S A KNOCKOUT

On Saturday October 5, I woke up on an airfield with several people standing over me. At first I wondered if I'd had a particularly good night in the bar. When I asked (which I remember doing once, but apparently it was actually nine or 10 times), it turned out I had been in an in-air collision and was knocked out in freefall.

I had been a diver on an organised 12-way and, on approach to the formation, I had been in a collision with another diver. Their shin had hit the back of my head and knocked me unconscious.

I span, belly to earth (luckily) in an incredible slowfall while unconscious, with all efforts by the load organiser and cameraman to get to me failing. My CYPRES did its job and saved me. According to my VISO, I was under a full canopy at 320ft and I had 81 seconds in freefall. My spinning body position on deployment caused a twist in my reserve, although this untwisted on its own. However, since I remained unconscious, no control was taken of my canopy and I landed very roughly. This part of the story is all second-hand – I remember none of it.

Brilliant care was taken of me on the airfield, and I was talked to calmly with an explanation of what happened. I was fortunate enough that half the NHS seemed to be out skydiving that day, so I had doctors and nurses seeing to me.

I was taken to hospital by ambulance, where I underwent lots of scans and was told I had fortunately escaped any spine or brain damage, but had a rare ankle break (my talus) and it would need relocating. That was fun, but I had been incredibly lucky.

Five days later, my ankle was operated on and pinned, and part of the reason for this was to make sure my ankle would heal robustly enough to continue skydiving! I was very well looked after and was discharged the next day.

I have spent a lot of time looking for the lesson to learn from breaking my ankle, and can't find anything new. My story is one of an unfortunate accident; there will always be human error in skydiving, which will naturally increase when jumping with more people. Everything did exactly what it was meant to. My helmet took the crack from the shin – I was told in hospital

by those who saw the helmet that they'd probably have been treating a fractured skull without it. My AAD fired and saved my life. To all those who couldn't believe I wanted to continue skydiving, I pointed out that I had been knocked unconscious above 10,000ft, failed to pull and only suffered a broken ankle – an injury I could get playing football. To me, this is evidence of just how good the safety measures in our sport are.

Throughout this experience, the skydivers, paramedics and hospital staff of all levels were just fantastic. I had the best possible care from hitting the ground to leaving hospital, making me feel even luckier. I will probably be even more pedantic than I used to be about checking my AAD is on every jump, though!



REAL LIFE

Just three issues ago, in June 2013, we asked, "What If... two people in your group collide in freefall and one now appears to be unconscious? You did their flightline check and personally saw that their AAD was on".

Why not look back digitally via our App (free to BPA members) to see what the advice was then? Here are the thoughts of another jumper on the group above as he tried to help under pressure:

"I was filming the group. As I watched the base build, I saw two people out of the corner of my eye go sailing past. At that point, I just thought they'd overcooked their approach and gone low. It was only when I saw the organiser turn and fly off to the side that I realised something was wrong. As I followed him, I saw him try to catch the jumper who'd been knocked out, but she started spinning – which turned out to be



PD's Reserve Backyard Accuracy Challenge, where contestants must land a demo reserve from PD in a tight area. It is roped off within the larger landing area and crowded by inflatable 'hazards'!

HIT AND MISS

How good is your accuracy? Do you plan exactly where you will land on every jump, or are you just aiming generally for the landing area? It is easy to dismiss Accuracy as something that is only done by two types of people: those trying to get their B Licence and those who do it as a dedicated discipline on either very big (Classic Accuracy) or very small (CP) canopies. However, the reality is that we are ALL canopy pilots and should all keep our Accuracy skills well tuned so that they are there when we need them.

A worst-case scenario could be a malfunction after a deep spot. Suddenly you are lower than usual, on a reserve canopy that you're not familiar with, and having to land off the dropzone because you don't have enough remaining altitude to make it back. Hopefully, you will be able to make a good decision as early as possible and land in the largest and clearest space near you, even if it is further away from the dropzone. But what if your only option is a really tight area, like someone's back garden, and there are

hazards such as trees and buildings all around. Could you land safely?

Why not practise fine-tuning your accuracy on every jump? If you can put yourself down with precision when the pressure is low, then you are improving your chances should you ever need to do it under stress. You could make it a fun challenge with your jump-buddies – who can safely land the closest to a pre-determined point in the landing area?

WHAT IF?

a super-effective slowfall technique. I could see straight away that the rest of the group wouldn't have a chance to match her fall rate, so I tried using my wings to get up on level. My instinct at this point was 'if I can get to her, I can pull for her'.

"It was hard work, even with the wings. I did manage to get up to her, as I watched the group break off. Because I was in max

slowfall and slightly limited by the wings, I wasn't really in a position to try to stop her spinning. She was looking me in the eye on every rotation, so I thought maybe she might be coming round. I was shouting and waving at her to pull – obviously to no avail, as she was still unconscious. Ultimately, I realised there wasn't anything more I could do without risking her taking me out if I tried to get closer, and time had been ticking away since

the planned break-off height so I threw my own pilot chute.

"In retrospect, the height her AAD fired ended up being about as perfect as it could be to have her land really close to DZ control. If I'd been able to stop her spinning and pull for her, who knows where she'd have landed, or how much harder if she'd been slumped unconscious under her main for a couple of thousand feet...

"Something we discussed afterwards was whether I should have been thinking about pulling her main or reserve. In my mind, I was just thinking to grab her hacky. I guess that if I'd managed to stop her in practice, I would have taken whichever was reachable."

B PROJECT ORANGE



Photo By: Norman Kent

Fly Through Team

Ian Bobo
Jessica Edgeington
Ian Drennan
Gage Galle

Videographers

Norman Kent
Bryan Scott
Henny Wiggers
Brian Festi

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Cliff Dobson
Steve Archuletta
Scott Lazarus
Yuliya Pangburn
Don Bromley
Eduardo Guillen
Michael (Chico) Tomaselli

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NEW COACHES

As usual, there are plenty of new FS coaches since the last Mag – a fantastic 29. This takes the total so far in 2013 to exactly 100, with a month still left to go. If you don't have your FS1 yet, then there are plenty of eager coaches out there who are waiting to help you progress. The DZs given are the ones where the coach achieved their rating; they may be available to coach at other DZs. Congratulations to all.

FS COACH

Samar Alqahtani, Dunkeswell
Simon Mooney, Netheravon
Ellie Southworth, Tilstock
John Chetty, Cyprus
Kye Bromley, Sibson
Chris Dodds, Sibson
Martin Roberson, Sibson
Thelma Goddard, Netheravon
Sarah Neale, Sibson
Alexandra Lane, Sibson
Emily Plant, Sibson
Neelfred Mallo, Netheravon
Charlie Lambert, Netheravon
Brian Gardner, Netheravon
David Simpson, Black Knights
Lesley Kent, Sibson
Eliza Ratusniak, Sibson
Kate Hayes, Cark
Justin Gumm, Netheravon
Peter Coville, Sibson
Christopher Dickie, Netheravon
Charlotte Pope, Netheravon
Stuart Perry, Netheravon
Keith Sharkey, Bridlington
Donald Macmillan, Netheravon
Isy Davies, Hinton
Rich Cotton, Hibaldstow
James Page, Beccles
David Charlton, various DZs

CP COACH

Alex Turner, Chatteris
Matt 'Foggy' Fogarty, Tilstock
Brian Dyas, St Andrews/Peterlee

WS COACH

Roger Hughes, Black Knights



By Matthew 'Elvis' Byrne

OPS MANUAL QUIZ

An introduction to the BPA Operations Manual forms part of the requirements for JM1. Each issue, we'll ask relevant questions and answer them in the wording of the Ops Manual.

Q1 Who may act as Jumpmaster?

Q2 What are the responsibilities of the Jumpmaster?

TOP TIP

Always watch the lift before you as you get ready to go up. You can gain the most up-to-date information from them and use it on your jump. Watch where they get out of the aircraft and where they open. See whether they are flying fast or slow in different directions to get a better idea of the upper winds. Watch their canopy pattern and judge whether it is a good one to copy or if you need to adjust it. If they make any mistakes, then there is no point in you making them too. DZ Control have all the info; ask them!



4-way team Pineapple Jesus in the middle of a 'vert' during block 6. By James Stevenson

SKYDIVER SPEAK

Fall Rate Focus

In this issue, we look at some of the slang to do with matching your fall rate to the people you are jumping with.

GO LOW

In this context, to end up beneath a formation. Also to 'sink out' or 'eat all the pies'! Not to be confused with the other meaning of 'go low', where you mess up and pull your parachute lower than you should have done.

FLOATY

Someone who is floaty has a slow fall rate and therefore has a tendency to 'float' above the formation unless they arch more or wear lead.

OVERCOOK

As in: "the load organiser is going to want a word with me, I totally overcooked my swoop and went straight past the formation."

VERT

Short for vertical transition. In FS, this is where skydivers move over the top of each other if it is faster than flying all the way around the outside instead.

LEAD

Weight worn in a weight belt (or, occasionally, in a weight vest or rig pouch) with the intention of increasing fall rate.

Section 3 (Jumpmasters), paragraph 2 – Responsibilities
2.1. JMs are responsible for briefing their pilots before take off on all relevant points concerning the requirements of the parachutists to be dropped. They will also ensure that all parachutists below BPA 'C' Licence have been fully briefed.
2.2. In an emergency JMs will, if practicable, seek and follow the instructions of the pilot. If this is not possible they will use their own judgement and act accordingly (see Section 10 – Safety, para 1)
2.3. The JM is responsible for ensuring that all parachutists below BPA 'B' Licence on board have been checked.
N.B. BPA 'B' Licence parachutists and above are responsible for ensuring that they have been checked.
2.4. JMs must be satisfied that aircraft movement on the ground, or in the air, within or close to the PLA/DZ will not endanger descending parachutists before dispatching any part of the lift.
2.5. The dropping of the Wind Drift Indicator (WDI) and subsequent spotting must be carried out by, or supervised by, the JM.

A2

Section 3 (Jumpmasters), paragraph 1 – General
1.1. A Jumpmaster (JM) is at least a BPA 'B' Licence parachutist appointed to take charge of the parachutists on any particular aircraft lift. He/she will normally be the most experienced parachutist on board. No aircraft with more than one parachutist on board will take off without a JM being appointed.

A1

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3 Cark

Skydive North West Club

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,
Nr Grange-over-Sands,
Cumbria LA11 7LS
DZ: 01539 558672
T: 01229 889516
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
skydivenorthwest.co.uk
PAC 750XL

4 Chatteris

North London Skydiving Centre

Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea,
March, Cambs PE15 0EA
DZ: 01354 740810
T: 0871 664 0113
info@ukskydiving.com
ukskydiving.com
Twin Otter, Nomad

5 Cornish

Cornish Parachute Club

Perranporth Airfield,
Higher Trevellas, St Agnes,
Cornwall TR5 0XS
Mob: 07790 439653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Cessna 206, guest aircraft

6 Dunkeswell

Skydive UK Ltd

Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell,
Devon EX14 4LG
T: 01404 890222
Mob: 07718 638000
info@skydive99.com
skydive99.com
Two Beech 99s and Caravan

7 Headcorn

Skydive Headcorn

Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn,
Kent TN27 9HX
T: 01622 891670
info@headcorn.com
headcorn.com
Cessna Caravan, Islander

8 Hibaldstow

Target Skysports

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
DZ: 01652 648837
T: 01132 505600
info@skydiving.co.uk
skydiving.co.uk
*Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92
single turbine, Cessna Caravan*

9 Hinton

Hinton Skydiving Centre

Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley,
Northants NN13 5NS
T: 01295 812300
info@skydive.co.uk
skydive.co.uk
PAC 750XL

10 Jersey

Skydive Jersey Ltd

C/O Jersey Aero Club, L'Avenue
de la Reine Elizabeth II, St Peter,
Jersey, Channel Islands, JE3 7BP
T: 01534 747410
info@skydivejersey.net
skydivejersey.net
Cessna 206, guest turbines

11 Langar

British Parachute Schools

Langar Airfield, Langar,
Nottingham NG13 9HY
T: 01949 860878
info@skydivelangar.co.uk
skydivelangar.co.uk
*Two Cessna Grand Caravans,
guest aircraft*

12 Netheravon

Army Parachute Association

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
T: 01980 628250
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
netheravon.com
*Three Cessna Caravans,
guest aircraft*

13 Paragon

Paragon Skydiving

Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol,
Perthshire PH2 7TB
T: 01821 642454
billy.gollan@btinternet.com
paragonskydiving.co.uk
Cessna 182

14 Peterlee

Peterlee Parachute Club

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,
Co Durham DH6 2NH
T: 01915 171234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
skydiveacademy.org.uk
Cessna 182, Cessna Grand Caravan

15 Reading

London Parachute School

Chiltern Park Aerodrome, Icknield
Road, Ipsden, Oxfordshire OX10 6AS
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info@londonparachuteschool.com
londonparachuteschool.com
Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan

16 Salisbury

Skydive Southcoast Ltd

Hangar 3, Old Sarum Airfield,
Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
T: 01722 323628
info@skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
Airvan, Cessna 206 and 172

17 The Silver Stars

Silver Stars

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Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester
Gloucestershire GL7 5RD
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Cessna Caravan

18 St Andrews

Skydive St Andrews

Osprey Road, Fife Airport,
Glenrothes KY6 2SL
T: 01592 882400
skydivestandrews@mail.com
skydivestandrews.co.uk
Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206

19 Strathallan

Skydive Strathallan

Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder,
Perthshire PH3 1LA
DZ: 01764 662572
T: 07836 201953
kbrady@btinternet.com
skydivestathallan.co.uk
Three Cessna 206s, guest turbine

20 Swansea

Skydive Swansea

Swansea Airport, Fairwood,
Swansea SA2 7JU
T: 07779 019655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
skydiveswansea.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

21 Swindon

Blue Skies Freefall Club

Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm,
Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AA
T: 01793 791222
info@skydivelondon.co.uk
skydivelondon.co.uk
Airvan

22 Tilstock

The Parachute Centre

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Shropshire SY13 2HA
T: 01948 841111
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
theparachutecentre.com
Airvan

23 UK Para Beccles

UK Parachuting

Beccles Airfield, Ellough,
Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7TE
T: 01502 476131
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
ukparachuting.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

24 UK Para Sibson

UK Parachuting

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
T: 01832 280490
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk
skydivesibson.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

25 Weston

RAF 22 Training Group

Availability TBC

26 Wild Geese

Wild Geese Skydive Centre

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Road, Garvagh, Coleraine,
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
T: 028 2955 8609
jump@skydivewildgeese.com
skydivewildgeese.com
Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

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Cyprus Parachute Centre

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Dhekelia Garrison, Cyprus
T: 0035 724 744337
info@skydivecyprus.com.cy
skydivecyprus.com.cy
PBN Piston Islander

RAPA

Rhine Army Parachute Association

Flugplatz, Bielefelder Strasse,
33175, Bad Lippspringe, Germany
T: 0049 5254 982 2378
atgg-jspcloc@mod.uk
skydive-badlippspringe.com
Cessna Caravan

Parachuting Societies

BCPA

British Collegiate Parachute Association

Jack Bradford, BCPA Chairman
mail@bcpa.org.uk
bcpa.org.uk
*A community for
university skydivers*

POPS

Parachutists Over Phorty

Jeff Chandler, Top POP
1 Beaulieu Road, Boscombe Down,
Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7PD
T: 07779 580399
jeffchandler@hotmail.com
pops.org.uk

SOS

Skydivers Over Sixty

John Houghland
13 Bowers Croft,
Cambridge, CB1 8RP
johnhskydive@hotmail.co.uk

CORNISH

cornishparachuteclub.co.uk


By the time we get to read this, the end of season will have gone. The hangovers as well, maybe, along with the vague memory of drinking some punch and singing sea shanties. I hope your suffering has been worth it and that you enjoyed what always seems to be a party that gets better as we all seem to remember less about it!

In October, we said farewell to Tom (the big pilot) as he headed back down south to the Falkland Islands. We wish him, Jane, Ben and Nick the best of health and happiness back home. Tom has been a great pilot and

loyal asset to the club, and we wish him many more soft landings however they may come. Matt Kitson is the new guy in the chair at the front – he takes almost as much room as Tom did. An ex-Marine (sorry, 'former Marine') who is now a naval officer with a CPL, Matt joins a very competent and enthusiastic team of pilots at the club.

The summer has definitely been switched off, but the hardened Cornish jumpers are still braving the cold for the chance of another skydive. The club was buzzing during the UBI Reunion weekend, seeing the old crew back together – this time not doing 4-way but tandems and DVDs (how times change). However, once the beer light came on, it was situation normal. The help from everyone has been magnificent, so thanks to Andy M (now at 4,000 tandems and happy to do more. Great!) Floyd, 8-Ball, Mr Pickles, Popeye, Geoff McVey, Jason S, Tim Porter and Mikey Lovemore.

The AFF guys have had a real run of bad luck with the weather in recent weeks, but we still hope that you will all have managed some jumping by the end of the year – somehow, somewhere.

From Dave, Chrissie and myself, we would like to thank everyone involved at the club for yet another fantastic year – let's look forward to another great season.

The club is now closed for the winter and we will be open for jumping again on February 01 2014.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from 'the Woods'.

Ben Wood

BLACK KNIGHTS

bkpc.co.uk

Black Knights made stronger

As we come to the end of yet another season, it's certainly been a challenging one for us all at BKPC. One thing is for sure – it has brought us closer together as a team. What does not kill you certainly makes you stronger. Well, that's the saying, anyhow...

A big thanks goes to the McGuinnesses for their continued hard work and commitment to the team. Paul and Sharon would like to thank all of the regular staff and skydivers for their continued support during our turbulent year. I am happy to report that things are definitely on the upswing now as we look forward to the season ahead. We would also like to officially welcome Phil onto the camera team. He has brought some new ideas to the centre and we look forward to implementing them soon.

Keep on manifesting, Mandy! We will find someone who can help so you can come out of your hole. Mind you, if I am not allowed out of mine, why should you be? Hope you have a good holiday over Christmas.

We are continuing to see a lot of students come through on the RAPS courses and a few are even returning and developing well.

Congratulations to John Welch on achieving Cat 8 and starting to become a 'real skydiver'. AJ has completed her C Licence and will be attempting her first wingsuit jump under the close supervision of Roger. Good luck to you both! Oh, and an extra special mention must go to Chris Nelson just for being you!

We cannot end the year without also thanking the guys in the café – Sue, Ian and Emma. Plenty of good home-cooked cakes and evening meals have been greatly received. Even Ian has perfected his baking skills. Maybe he should be on *The Great British Bake-Off*, especially with Emma's chocolate beetroot muffins!

We are continuing to make improvements to the centre, so it could be all change again when we reopen in February. By the time the Mag goes to print, we will have rocked at the Christmas party and will have seen everyone out of DZ clothing – even if it is for one night only!

How could we forget to conclude with thanks to all of the tandem students who have attended this year and raised hundreds of thousands of pounds to support a wide range of very deserving charities? Special mention goes to

Christies for a massive £66,000 raised and to the North West Air Ambulance, our charity of the year for 2013. Nominations for charity of the year for 2014 are now being taken.

We have lots of exciting things planned for next season including some cheeky trips away, so keep your eye on the website for details to be published shortly. We will also be open during the Christmas period and we look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Blue skies

Sharon Beeson

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8 John Welch JUMP NUMBERS
50 Jacob Ambrozevicz 100 Matthew Flood
200 AJ Taylor 700 David Simpson



BCPA

bcpa.org.uk

Watch this space!

Despite our season finishing in July, we've been pretty busy over the last couple of months. Our members have been getting lots of jumping done and the achievements have been rolling in. Our chairman, Jack Bradford, competed in his first CP Nationals (he will be paying in beer at BCPA Freshers!) and the new committee have been busy planning this year's events.

With our own leagues kicking off, Elise Sharp has taken an early lead in the individual, taking

58 points from wins in our monthly FS and FF competitions alongside gaining her FF1 and C Licence. We can't wait to see who brings her some competition!

By the time this reaches your doormat, we'll have hit Cark with our Freshers event – featuring epic parties, Accuracy competitions and CF coaching.

After a day at Bedford on Friday December 13 (we're not superstitious!) we'll be at Langar over

December 14-15 for our new Christmas Boogie. Plans include live music, fancy dress, a scrambles competition and (possibly) night jumps. We're seeking participation from the whole skydiving community for this so, regardless of whether you went to uni or not, we'd love to see you there! Details and registration at www.bcpa.org.uk

It's shaping up to be a big year for the BCPA, so watch this space!

Ali Woodhouse

ACHIEVEMENTS FF1 Elise Sharp JUMP NUMBERS 200 Elise Sharp

HINTON

skydive.co.uk

Skydivers, assemble!

Hinton was well represented at the Nationals this year and had some fantastic results in many of the disciplines, including Georgie Roles in AAA, *Broken Ninjas* in A and a Rookie team including Sean Field, who had only just qualified for FS1 some 12 days earlier.

Team members achieved a gold medal with *Remote Squirrels* in the Rookie 8-way, Lauren Latour took gold in Freely B and *Mental Blox* won silver in the Hibaldstow Cup AA. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

The Annual 'Tent City Boogie' was a resounding success again this year, mostly due to the organisational skills of Lou Joyce and partly due to the fantastic weather. Those who attended were treated to a large and exciting cocktail of skydiving disciplines and some great jumps were completed. As usual, the social aspects were well attended and the week finished with the standard Hinton Fancy Dress Party.

Next came the *Brit Chicks*, with Lucy Maycock, Carol Beaumont and Georgie Roles representing Hinton. Although the formation wasn't completed, it is extremely evident from the photos, conversations and videos that the UK has some of the best and most dedicated female skydivers to be found anywhere in the world.

Our own attempt at formations followed with the Scrambles event, which was well attended with a total of nine teams taking part. The date was a little later than normal, which caused a few grumbles from the membership and rumours abounded that it might even be cancelled! Shame on you – you know who you are! The obvious reason for the change was to allow for more participation from skydivers who were well into the season and also from the new crop of licence holders freshly qualified from an ever-expanding AFF programme. At this point, it may be pertinent to thank the *Beyond The Hedges* team for some sterling coaching days and weekends throughout the season and for harvesting the skills of our up-and-coming skydivers.



Thanks and congratulations also to Ged and Kristen on the birth of Phaedra and Isla, and may their next efforts produce the rest of the 4-way team!

For those of you who lie awake at night and worry about the state of the nation and risk to life and limb for yourselves and your loved ones, please worry no more. Lucy Maycock has assembled a team of superheroes to take on the mantle of guardians of the universe and also to show us how quickly you can build a 15-way formation with strange people clad only in spandex and lycra and wearing facemasks so that their true identities are never revealed! The real reason was to celebrate her 1,000th jump. See how many superheroes you can spot...

The following names and achievements are a small reflection on the fantastic season we have had this year and the dedicated skydivers we have here. Thanks for reading from The Management.

Rachel

ACHIEVEMENTS CATS/CHI David Barnes, Damien Barnett, Michael Baynham, Andy Beavis, Kai Bedford, Luchesar Cekov, Ian Clarke, Seb Coignac-Smith, Rob Davies, Dave Dawe, Callum Fenner, Nicolas Ferrari, Andy Freshwater, Stefan Gauntlet, Darren Greenaway, Christopher Greenwood, Marek Grzezykowski, Paul Hodge, Ravi Jain, Holly Jenkins, Thomas Latchoumane, Alqirdas Lesevicius, Sam Parkins, Elizabeth Platt, Kasra Refain, Jono Rich, Emma Shayler, Ash Smith, Dan Thomas, Lennox Van Der Westhuizen, Robin Wardley, Stefan Wawrzyniak, Rory Wells, Jake Wilmot-Sitwell, Faye Wilson **CH2/JM1** Mark Boxwell, Kraig Evans, Daniel Kweli Griffiths-Brown, Philip Lowery, Lynne Mattingley, Elliot Mitchell, Karim Sekkat, Lee Waite, Rory Wells **FS1** Mark Boxwell, Kraig Evans, Sean Field, Lee Foxwall, John Hargreaves, Ian Hutch, Daniel Kweli Griffiths-Brown, Ravi Jain, Philip Lowery, Lynne Mattingley, Tom McLeod, Paul O'Sullivan, Tom Sain **FF2** Rich Madeley **WS1** Rachel Walker **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Mark Boxwell, Steve Campbell, Kraig Evans, Daniel Kweli Griffiths-Brown, Ravi Jain, Philip Lowery, Lynne Mattingley, Tom McLeod, Elliot Mitchell, Tom Sain, Karim Sekkat, Ami Thomas, Lee Waite, Rob Wardley, Rory Wells **100** Rodrigo Albano Smania, Retep Doow, Elliot Mitchell, Philip Lowery, Tom Sain **200** Isy Davies, Ian Hutch, Gilmerize Muller, Rachel Walker **300** Ben Wood **400** Jules Klomp **1,000** Lucy Maycock **3,000** Richard Orford **48 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Richard Orford

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POPS

pops.org.uk

Looking ahead

Three generations on a tandem jump. SOS Jeff Chandler (left), POP Polly Chandler (right), PUP Rachael Cheetham (née Chandler) and Taff on Tandem. Photo by Pete Hodges



There are more and more skydivers reaching the POPS criteria (over 40), although many with grey hair have not registered and are in denial. All major events have a large proportion of POPS too – wingsuiting and world FS records, coaches and so on. In the UK this year, we have had *Team Mayhem* run by Paul French (yes, the author). They took part in the 8-way Speed at

Middle Wallop, and again at the Nationals. The aim is still to increase the SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty) record from the existing eight, completed many times now, to a planeload of 14 to 16 – hopefully with a two-aircraft event again. This is planned for the March 21-22 weekend – names to John Houghland (Top SOS), please.

The new SOS Europe record is now 24, with skydivers from five countries, and we even have several JOS (Jumpers Over Seventy) now. The current record is only eight, so we hope to increase this at the same weekend as the SOS record attempt. If you are a JOS, you need to register as a UK POPS first and then as a JOS – the USA forms are available from Jeff. We also have three jumpers actively pursuing world records in POPS and SOS in the USA next year – Dick Barton, Peter Stone and Rob Stone. Good luck to them, and to Niels Hansen, who is hoping for European SOS selection.

Reminder – the World POPS Championships in Argentina will run from November 13-21 2014, and this is always good fun and successful. Last time in Holland, we won gold in 4-way SOS, 4-way Scrambles 1/2/3/4, 8-way Speed and Sport Accuracy. Also, Sport Accuracy is well supported and is getting more popular. It was used at the last Armed Forces Championships, needs very little prep and people can use their regular canopies – a challenge for people before and after they have done declared landing and for practice to hone your skills for all landings, whether demo or DZ.

Jeff Chandler
POPS 363, SOS 27, TOP POP 10

DUNKESWELL

skydive99.com

Jumping all year around!

Wow – that was something. We had 26 competitors from five countries for the UK and Ireland Canopy Piloting Nationals in September 2013. It was great seeing so many skygods here! Our warmest congratulations go to Martin 'Dangerpants' Reynolds, who took almost every gold medal there was at the competition. We have to say that he spent practically the whole summer over the swoop pond in Dunkeswell and we were pleased to see it paid off for him. Legend Brian Vacher took the overall silver and we do hope to see more of Brian here in 2014. Finally, we are proud that our own Simon Larcombe, coach of Skydive99 Canopy Piloting School, got the bronze medal. It has been an honour to host the CP Nationals this year and we do hope this will continue – proving digging the pond was all worth it!

Another bit of news is that we have restarted doing RAPS courses this autumn. Bristol University, Southampton University and the University of the West of England are now learning to skydive at Dunkeswell. It is great having loads of new students here, which also has a dramatic impact on our social life here at the DZ and the Halloween party was the one to prove it – The Aviator bar was left almost dry...

Overall, this has been a very good autumn season with lots of beer fines and we are happy to see so many AFF students working their way towards A Licences. The winter season is not going to be a quiet one either; we have loads of tracking and big-way weekends planned, so please come along and have fun.

During our Christmas Party on December 14 2013, we will have some kind of a talent show attempt here – *Drunkeswell has got a talent*. We do hope to have at least one competitor and you can win some fantastic prizes.

We are closed for only two weekends this season, but we will be open on the weekend of December 27-28 if you fancy some festive jumping between Christmas and New Year.

We are sure that next year will be even busier and we can't wait for the new season. If the two BEECH99 aircraft weren't enough, we now also have a Caravan. Let's fill them, guys! Our Facebook page – SkydiveUK Dunkeswell – always has the latest news and weather updates.

Miko

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Aaron James, Jonathan Mann, Braja Nandan, Sarah Price, Duncan Stagg, Jake Thornton, Kevin Young **CH2/JMI** Ivor Gillbe, Joe Graves, Stevo Hogan, Nicola Kavanagh **FSI** Jonathan Denovan-Smith, Codie Housam, Gary Townsend **FF1** Michael Perks **FF2** Matt Mitchell **WS2** Neil Empringham, Matt Mitchell, Jimmy Meen **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Sam Doughty, Kevin Graham, Simon Hope **200** Oliver Dixon, Alison Gale, Ryan Waters **300** Ian Hutchinson **400** Kevin Fear, Jonathan Phillips, Richie Taylor **500** Matt Mitchell **700** Chris Griffin **800** Tim Gaines **900** Joe Matthews, Gary Powell, Guy Wells **1,300** John Price **9,000** Gavin Horell

Gold medallist
Martin Reynolds,
by Guy Wells



SWANSEA

skydiveswansea.co.uk

**Matt Oakley's 200th jump,
by Anthony Andrews**



Amazing weather

The weather here at Skydive Swansea has been amazing! Lots of club jumpers, old and new, have been taking full advantage and getting their knees in the breeze! As the cold weather begins to set in, we have lots of achievements to look back on...

Well done to Sally-Anne Anthony, Will Tenison and Sean Mapstone on gaining their A Licences and to Nick Watts for gaining his B Licence – there's no stopping him now! Chris Dutton showed us all his awesome flying skills and achieved his FS1 – if you're interested in some FS coaching, keep an eye on our Facebook page for dates. Lots of other jump milestones were reached, including Matt Oakley celebrating his 200th jump and C

Licence with an epic big-way from 12,000ft, Mikey's 500th, Tanya's 700th, Anthony's 800th and our FS coach Kris Wojciechowski's 600th. Incidentally, by the time this goes to print, Kris will have a new addition to the family – congratulations Kris and Helen! There must be something in the air, as we also welcome a new edition to the Skydive Swansea family – baby Zak R-Hare, AKA 'Squidgy'. Nice one on the FF2 as well, Tom!

Good to see Paul Robinson back in the air after a long hiatus – nice to have you back, buddy. Happy birthday to Mikey Phillips, we hope you like your present – an offer to become our newest freefall paparazzo! As well as a cameraman, we have a new AFF Instructor – Rob Dawson. I'm sure his handsome face will draw in many new female students!

Remember, Skydive Swansea is open all year around. Yes, it may be cold, but we have a canteen providing lovely warm meals and cups of tea to keep us toasty! We are also now selling thermal glove liners, Altimaster Galaxy altimeters, goggles, winter and summer gloves and hook knives, and will be introducing log book covers soon too.

We are all looking forward to our Christmas party at Morgan's Hotel in Swansea on December 7. I think everyone was surprised they let us come back after last year's shenanigans, and I wonder if anyone will behave better this year (Paul Hutchings!)? Merry Christmas everyone!

Laura Turner

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Sally Anne Anthony, Sean Mapstone, Will Tenison **CH2/JMI** Nick Watts **FS1** Chris Dutton, Laura Turner **FF2** Tom R-Hare **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Nick Watts **200** Matt Oakley **500** Mikey Phillips **600** Kris Wojciechowski **700** Tanya Quigley **800** Anthony Andrews

SIBSON

skydivesibson.co.uk

Busiest year in history!

Here we are now at the end of the season and, boy, what a season! We have done it all. In our 40-plus-year history, we have broken all of the records. Club jumps are up a staggering amount, AFF jumps are way up on last year and tandem jumps are about the same as last year. So, all in all, a massive thanks to all of you, our customers, for making Sibson the place to be this year.

Many of the things we have put in place are the things that you have asked for. Where possible, we have met all of those requests – we are committed to just getting better and better. In the last two months, we were crying out for FS Coaches and, as the demand was there, Grant ran an FS Coaches Rating day where we qualified 12 new FS Coaches. A similar day is now being penned in the diary for Freefly Coaches. By the time this goes to press, we will also have held a full progression weekend (again, one of those things people have asked for) and so we will continue to do lots more of the same awesome events next year. Watch this space for dates to be announced. The G92 weekends have proven to be a massive success, again largely due to the amount of club jumpers we have making use of them when they are

here. With that in mind, we have a schedule packed full of dates next year for when the G92 will be visiting.

The CF, Accuracy and Speed 8 Nationals was a fantastic event, too – see pages 31-33 for a full write-up!

The Halloween Party was a resounding success, even though the weather forecast was diabolical – the worst winds predicted for 500 years and no chance of jumping whatsoever. We still managed to fill the bar with club jumpers, all in fancy dress, with what seems to be the Sibson routine of trying to build the biggest human pyramid – with Chris McCann and Phill Wandless providing the solid foundations. A massive thank you goes to Andy and the team at the Phoenix Bar and Grill who, incidentally, we are in talks with to introduce a slightly healthier menu next year which includes fresh fruit and lighter salads.

The second UK Parachuting and Bodyflight Bedford Tunnel Scrambles sold out within a week of being advertised, with 40 people ranging from those on AFF right through to those with thousands of jumps registered to go – proving that it is one event that caters for everyone's level of experience. This is such a brilliant event and a great way of mingling, meeting new people and mixing with the whole DZ demographic. That, and just having a completely fun night at Bodyflight Bedford's awesome facilities!

The Christmas Party sold out within three weeks again and looks to be a fantastic event at the Sibson Inn just down the road from the DZ. It should be a great night of fine wine and food, accompanied with one of Grant's legendary speeches as well as the annual presentation of the Student of the Year Trophy.

So, all in all, thank you to you, the club members, for giving us a great season to remember – here's looking to 2014 for more of the same. As usual, I'm still looking for good photos and achievements to go in to club news, so get in touch with all your craziness.

Why not follow us on Twitter, add us to your Facebook (UK Parachuting – Sibson Airfield) or check out our website skydivesibson.co.uk/ events to keep up to speed with all the happenings at UK Parachuting Sibson.

Paul Dorward



**Paul Dorward,
by Kye Bromley**

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I'll see you on the flightline

Here it is, the last installment of 2013 from Skydive Chatteris. It's not been the busiest time of the year, but we have been making the most of every bit of blue sky and all of the times the Met Office got it wrong.

I'd like to start by letting everyone know about this year's official Skydive Chatteris Christmas Party. It will be held on December 14 in the (still) very awesome clubhouse on the DZ and the theme this year is 'Party Animals', which means those attending are invited to come sporting their most spectacular animal onesie! The crazier the better, but fancy dress is not compulsory. Tickets are £25, which includes the best hog roast you'll ever taste, all you can drink (and probably a bit more) and, back by popular demand, we have live music from local band *Wild Honey*. As well as all that, there will be fun and games going on and the opportunity to watch the classic movie *Cutaway* – and play the infamous drinking game that accompanies it. The party will start when jumping stops or, for those not jumping, 6pm onwards. If you would

like to come and have not yet paid for a ticket, please contact Lloyd Quenby as soon as possible.

For those who aren't regulars here (or not on social media), we have announced that, as of next year, we will be Skydiving Chatteris Club Ltd – a non-profit-making club run by its members for its members. Anyone wishing to actively participate in sport parachuting at any experience level (subject to normal British Parachute Association and Civil Aviation Authority safety requirements) is welcome to join. We will be offering two types of membership: Full for £25 per year or Restricted for £10 per year. Full membership means that you benefit from our £16 jump tickets (currently the cheapest in the UK), full use of our clubhouse and its facilities, the right to vote at general meetings and the opportunity to stand for office after two consecutive years of full membership. Restricted membership still allows you to vote at general meetings, as we want our jumpers to have the opportunity to control how the club is run. It also means you have access to the clubhouse and its facilities, but only when accompanied by a full member. Jump tickets for experienced restricted members will now cost £20. This will not come into effect until we reopen again next year after the winter break and all money from membership fees will be going straight back into the club kitty, allowing us to improve and develop the skydiving activities and airfield for our members. The next AGM will take place at Chatteris Airfield on December 13 2014 at 5.30pm. Any qualifying member wishing to stand for office or add a main item to the meeting agenda should let the club chairman know in writing by no later than October 31 2014.

Finally, I'd like to mention one of our girls – Jeralee. She started RAPS at Chatteris a few years ago and didn't have the easiest ride through due to weather (we know how RAPS can be a nightmare), but she dedicated her time and, since qualifying, has sped through FS1 and more recently FF1. She even rocked up to the Nationals this year despite having never met the other people on her team, which was put together the week before, and still showed them a thing or two. Earlier this year, she applied for a job out at Skydive Spain, was invited for a weekend interview along with a few others and we knew even before she left that the job was hers. If you've ever been to Skydive Chatteris on a Saturday night, then you would have come across Jeralee – more than likely handing out the beers and making everyone roll around on the floor in stitches laughing while walking around like a dinosaur (if you don't know, don't ask! You'll find out soon enough). It's not every day you come across someone so fun and entertaining, but also caring and just an all-round genuine person. It's safe to say Jeralee is going to be seriously missed and it's going to be quiet without her around, but we know she is going to kick ass in Seville and live every day to its fullest. If you go to Seville and have the pleasure of meeting her, tell her we said 'hi'. Good luck Jeralee – we love you!

And now, before I forget, Skydive Chatteris' last day jumping of 2013 is December 15 and we will be opening again on February 8 2014. From all of us at Skydive Chatteris, thanks for an awesome year and have a great Christmas. Stay safe wherever you are in the world.

Robynne Haynes

ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JMI Hagen Schumacher
FS1 Brent Clarke, Hagen Schumacher, Dale Turner
WS1 Sarah Ashworth, Paul Bateman, Tim Freegard,
 Conor O'Brien **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Jeralee Cullen,
 Alex Ievlev **500** Paul Bateman **400** Dragos Lupu
8,000 Lloyd Quenby **12,000** Mike Rust



Sunset FS, by Dragos Lupu

CYPRUS

skydivencyprus.com.cy

Winter shutdown? What's that?

After a well-earned summer break for the staff and some much-earned maintenance on our little Islander, we are back into the swing of things and looking forward to another season in the blue skies above Cyprus. At the end of September, Philip Bell ran a camera operators' workshop aimed at jumpers of all

experience levels – including those not yet qualified to jump camera. Many thanks to Phil for organising. It was extremely useful and everybody took away something from the workshop.

Beach jumps have attracted a lot of interest and the 8-way Scrambles have been pushed back to the end of November, giving the teams a bit more time to get some practice in and for those not yet registered to get involved and enter a team!

Don Hughes MBE, the man who founded the Cyprus Parachute Centre, sadly passed away earlier this year. Many older and bolder members of the club will remember Don, as he spent many of his later years as the club's

Rigger, although everyone who has jumped here has him to thank for the fantastic club we have today. His family held a small gathering at the club on October 20 where they scattered his ashes, dedicated a memorial bench, donated a photo and planted his favourite rose bush.

Scott Tate



Don Hughes MBE, founder of the Cyprus Parachute Centre

WILD GEESE

skydivewildgeese.co.uk

New faces in high places

Over the past couple of months, we have had the pleasure of giving both Ethan Moore (Nigel's son) and Kerrie Murphy (Mike's daughter) the experience of 'what Dad does' with their first tandem skydives. It's great to see Jonathan McAnenly back in the fold too. For student accomplishments, congratulations go to Roisin McCoy on completion of her first freefall – nice one, girl. A big well done also goes to Anthony Newman for his success in achieving Cat 8. Well done guys – beer!

The last of the competition dates in the BPA calendar has seen Rod McCrory and Aaron Cosbey travel to Dunkswell's new pond to compete in the British Open Canopy Piloting Championships (incorporating the British and Irish Nationals). A solid performance from Aaron in his first 'proper' CP competition was rewarded with a bronze medal in the Irish CP Championships. A fast time of less than three seconds in Speed saw Rod McCrory take third place in the Open Speed event and helped towards the gold medal in the Irish CP Nationals.

With the start of the new scholastic semester, the Queen's University Club (QUB) has seen a very encouraging take-up of course places from the influx of freshers – all spawned from successful canvassing at the recent Freshers' Fair. Well done to all involved.

The latest addition to the Wild Geese is Gillian Anderson, our new Sports Academy manager and publicity guru. Her valuable contribution to Wild Geese is already evident around the DZ and beyond, and we're delighted to have her on board. Welcome to the 'Funny Farm', Gillian!



Static line and Freefall students ready to go, by Gillian Anderson

So, as we look ahead to the end of the year and the impending mayhem of the Christmas party, we can reflect on a very successful and significant year at Wild Geese. Between our 30th anniversary and our members' successes at competition level, 2013 has been very enjoyable for us.

Finally, a big thanks must go to Dave and Maggie Penny (DZO and CCI respectively), Judith Lees (DZ Manager), all the Instructors, coaches, pilots and staff from all the club jumpers – we are indebted to you. Thank you!

So, until the next time, have a great Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Rod and Simon

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Roisin McCoy **CAT8** Anthony Newman

PETERLEE

skydiveacademy.org.uk

Alan Thompson and Piers Kittel, our deaf skydivers



ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Jamie Metcalf **CAT8/CHI** Ben Boucher-Giles, Lisa Charlton, Vincent Pietersz, Gabe Thompson **FSI** David Houghton **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Lisa Stephenson **300** Stephen Smith

Para-medical needed

September and October have, as usual, proved to be contrasting months. September saw the usual post-summer downturn and then October saw a vast influx of University Parachute Club students – some returning after their summer recess to take up the reins of their Club Committees and recruit several new members from their first year freshers in turn. Newcastle (led by Martin Mansfield), Teesside (led by David Fusaro) and Northumbria (led by Sue Bober) have already booked second Category System Courses with us, and Durham is now back up and running under Tom Wynyard with one course behind them. The practice of running syndicates from different University Clubs in parallel has proven a great success, with good banter between them in the bar and during the partaking of various inter-Club games.

A progression week was held from October 14-18 2013 which, barring one great jumping day on October 17, was regrettably otherwise weathered out. Meanwhile, we have welcomed Niel de Wit to the Centre's Instructional Team and Mick Cosgrove has lent a hand by taking some tandems for us

when he is not required over at Black Knights. We wish Martin Heywood-Broomfield a swift and full recovery from the injury sustained when he had his foot trodden on by a horse (elsewhere, that is – not DZ-related). Martin will be a loss to both Bridlington and ourselves in the interim. Kevin Johnstone, meanwhile, is recovering from his dislocated shoulder (sustained on a tandem jump, as previously mentioned) and we wish him the very best and a full and swift recovery too.

The clocks have now fallen back and, as is our practice, we have restricted our initial course bookings to Friday evenings through weekends. Should conditions be suitable, however, we will continue to open on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for continuation throughout November, with weekend operations continuing up to and including December 21 2013 (barring December 1 when we are closing to recover from our Christmas Function on November 30 2013). We reopen on weekends after the Christmas Recess on January 18 2014.

Ian Rosenvinge

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CARK
skydivenorthwest.co.uk
Duncan's meeker


Happy Christmas from Cark!

As the nights draw in, our University skydiving courses have been starting and finishing in the dawn and dusk of winter. The Uni committees have worked very hard this year to recruit and promote their skydiving clubs, and huge thanks go out to all of the committee members – Allenor, Phillip, Stephen, Colin, Rowan, Kairen, Harry and Kyle, to name but a few. Thanks also to our team of Instructors – Helen, Dan, Gary, Keith, Dave, Steve and Pete.

2014 will see a structure change at the club as we bring in an events co-ordinator. At the club's AGM in December, we will have a robust 2014 diary of events which will enhance all our club member's skills in all disciplines along with competitions, BPA Roadshows in wingsuiting, FS, VFS, Artistic, CF, Speed and IS, briefings, seminars, fun comps/meets and, of course, what will become the iconic *Cark's Got Talent*, which is to be held at our second open week in August. As club members, you may already be thinking of what you can do! We already have one entrant – Helen Shaw and her talking pussies! You now have a few months to prepare and amaze our select judging panel. The hosts, of course, will be Ant and Dec look-alikes.

Like father, like son has seen Sam Boardman (son of the infamous John

Boardman) gain his Cat 8 qualification in the minimum jumps possible. Well done to Sam for his great achievement, and dad will no doubt take some credit for your qualification!

To all of our achievers in this Mag and those previously printed, well done on your hard-earned achievements and we wish you success in all of your future goals.

Our bubbly canteen staff led by Tracey have kept all club members happy with their excellent service with a smile and varying meal deals after quickly picking up the reins from Chris and Polly. As the centre closes in December, we can't wait for our reopening to see what goodies you will tempt us with in 2014.

To all our club members and staff instructors, we thank you all for your continued support and commitment to your club and we wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year from Mike, Kay, Martine and Stuart. For those of you off to sunnier climes, enjoy and stay safe. We will see you all when we reopen on the first weekend of February 2014. Watch our website and Facebook pages for our 2014 events.

Stu Morris

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Karim Shokraee CAT8/CHI Alan Taylorson CH2/JMI David Hunter, George Neate, Jason Neate **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 David Hunter, George Neate, Jason Neate 100 Tom Reid 200 Kate Hayes 400 Gary Yello 600 Dan 'Heel Balm' Gauld 2,100 Jim Scott 3,800 Steve 'Noggin' Nolan 4,000 Peter 'The Unhinged' Conner

JERSEY
skydivejersey.net

New recruits!

Lots more achievements to celebrate again this month! We also welcome Sarah, who has just passed her AFF and done her first few jumps over our island.

Always keen to boost club numbers, Mally has found time in his busy schedule running the skydiving operation to create a new skydiver from scratch. Massive congratulations from everyone at the club to Mally and Mel, and welcome to the world to Pippa! With this great news comes Mally's A Licence from the BPA – British Parenting Association. He'll be working towards his NC1 (nappy changing) and DBB1 (Dinner-Bath-Bed) qualifications once he's got enough hours PIC (Parent in Command).

The move to the Aero Club is now a more permanent arrangement and is working well for everyone – we're enjoying use of all the facilities. A few of the Aero Club Committee have taken the plunge with tandem jumps in aid of the local charity Helping Wings – congratulations to Mike and Eveline!

Our club chairman Joe Kennedy has been instrumental in building relations with one of our closest dropzones across the channel in France at Vannes Bretagne. This month saw the chance for the skydivers of Jersey to attend a celebration of the links between Vannes and Jersey, and I'm told the entente cordiale was flowing freely for the weekend.

A few of us headed down to Skydive Spain to jump their Dornier in the scorching Seville sun. A great time was had by all, jump numbers boosted, qualifications nailed and new friends made – that's what it's all about!

We've now moved into low season for the commercial traffic at Jersey airport, so we'll be able to jump most weekends on Saturday and Sunday – so why not get in touch? Come on down and jump the beach!

Baby Blue Skies!

Nigel O'Brien


Kirstyne O'Brien trying hard to hide her flocking excitement

ACHIEVEMENTS AFF GRADUATE Sarah Jackson FS1 Claire Louise Smith, Michelle Traynor FF1 Johnny Kelly **JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Richard Hamilton 200 Liam Hardman 400 Nigel O'Brien

HIBALDSTOW

skydiving.co.uk

Dave West's Multi-plane FS event, by James Stevenson



Work is now fully underway for the new 'Skydive Hibaldstow' of 2014, with extensions to the bunkhouse and a brand new bar/cafe. We're very excited to have a new DZ!

The DZ hasn't slowed down since the Nationals, with weekend after weekend of busy events. Stubert's ever-popular FS1+ was fully booked out by people from all over the country – it's nice to see the event growing each season as people travel further and further for it.

We also celebrated the breaking of a new record this year. No, not the head down record – that was sooo last Mag. This time, the guys set a new record of 8-way head up – much harder! Nice work, guys. Will it get bigger? Only next year will tell us...

Formation loads seem to be back on the cards at Hibaldstow, with lots of opportunity to do both higher and entry level jumps with the Foundry gang. Dave West's Multi-plane FS was a big hit,

regardless of the weather, with jumpers doing 22-way skydives from our Dornier and Finist – only a few weeks after Stubert's Intermediates tried some challenging dives from the same aircraft.

Wingsuiting continues to surge thanks to Dave Butterell's efforts and our hire suits on site. After a big coaching session, we welcomed Richard Cotton, Sam Cavendish and Matt Lancaster to the flock after receiving their WS1s. There are plans to do some flocking later in November.

October is the start of the student season again as University students return to their Unis and start to work on the 2014 clubs. It's been quite a start for York University, who have already run two ground schools of super-keen students who want to do some freefalling. Joined this year by Lincoln University, the DZ has never been busier. Autumn never disappoints at Hibaldstow – let's keep it going into winter!

Stubert Ferglstein

ACHIEVEMENTS CHI Jess Coxall **FS1** Sophie McDonald
WS1 Sam Cavendish, Richard Cotton, Matt Lancaster
JUMP NUMBERS 200 Liam Goddard 300 Krystian
Groom 500 Rad Wzokliski 900 Gavin Bowers, Darren
Graham 1,300 Kris Cavill 1,700 Rob Spour 4,000
Sally Uren

NETHERAVON

netheravon.com

You should see us when we're busy!

Multi-discipline events just never stop at Netheravon! Since the last club news, there have been two Mike Lewis big-way and novice load organising events, two *Euphoria* training camps, two B Licence progression days, a Canopy Formation Grand Prix, a community open day and, of course, The Great Nethers Halloween Bake-Off! Slowing down for the winter? I DON'T THINK SO!

For B Licence and FS1 jumpers, Mike Lewis' events have been the portal to new skills and new friends. For many recently-qualified FS jumpers, there is that awful time when you just don't know who to jump with or how to progress. These events are the perfect solution. At Mike's last event, there were 23 attendees – everyone jumped, everyone progressed and everyone had fun. Watch out for news of Mike's winter training plan.

Euphoria seem to be on a mission to convert every Netheravon jumper into a freeflyer! Through their skills camps, we have seen huge amounts of jumpers gain their FF1 and FF coaches qualifications – just check out our achievers list! The video footage that has been compiled and edited by Andy Godwin

is supreme and can be found on the Skydive Netheravon Facebook page.

The prospect of some spectacular clouds brought out all the birdies for the Nethers Flocking event on October 19. Staying so long in the air at this time of year can be pretty chilly but, with successful large wingsuit flocks and beautiful sunsets, the temperature was easily forgotten.

And now for something completely yummy – The Great Nethers Halloween Bake-Off! Organised by the genteel and softly spoken Caroline White, this was a most delicious success. Crazy hardcore skydivers got in touch with their inner domestic goddesses and produced some of the most amazing and mouth-watering goodies. All proceeds went to *Pilgrim Bandits*, leaving a sweet taste in everyone's mouth.

Other great events included the Canopy Formation Grand Prix at the beginning of October, a great weekend rounded off by a mega stack complete with wingsuit flyby, the Army Parachute Association Community Open Day with more than 100 visitors from our surrounding villages enjoying skydiving close up, Stacey's B Licence days with jumpers travelling from all over the

UK to attend and another wedding! Congratulations to Kim Mason and Andy Myers!

Watch out for new events being scheduled all the time – woohoo!

Elana Cain



ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Dave Argles, Lee Gravier, Megan Jones, Josh Letzer **CH2/JM1** Bodhi Collins, Florin Cotofana **FS1** Bodhi Collins, Neil Guv, Garrick Taylor **FF1** Jonny Hislop, Stu Perry **FF2** Ed Petrie **WS1** Oz Gardner **WS2** Andy Myers **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Karry McClintock, Sue Nuttall, Francine Watkin 100 Lewis Olliver 200 Linda Glinski, Olga Hatcher 300 Charlie Lambert 700 Paul Aubrey-Rees 1,000 Ian Batey 1,400 Ian Nicholson 1,600 Mike Lewis

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Our aim is to provide the best prices and best training through our wind tunnel partners. Please ask your home dropzone for Halihop times. We will do our best to offer our service in your area.

For more information and to sign up for our newsletter, please contact us on bookings@halihop.com or visit our website at halihop.com



Pictures: Lauri Aapro

SWINDON
skydivelondon.co.uk

Get those acceptance speeches ready, folks

Losers. Redlands is apparently full of losers, but who will be the biggest loser? We have had, for about three years, a 100kg maximum weight for Cameramen and Instructors – excluding Luke, because he is a hunk-a-hunk-a burning love. But Mark Benson has been flying too close to the sun and, after drinking one too many babychams when living the high life in Bangladesh, he has topped the scales at 101.7kg. Cue the Redlands biggest loser competition – first to lose 6.6 per cent of their bodyweight wins. So far, the chubbies involved are Ed, Benson, Brucie and someone called Buncey who used to jump with us. With weekly weigh-ins using Boots scales and printouts to prove weights, we will be on the edge of our seats.

What a lot of people don't know is that we write these articles about six weeks before they are published, so we sometimes have to guess what will happen in the coming months. With this going to press just after the Redlands Christmas party, I feel it is only polite to make some predictions...



Chrissy Downer and Jenny Bouquet

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI James, Lisa, Mark, the other one who I can't remember
CH2/JMI Andrew Griggs, Howard White
FS1 Andrew Griggs, Howard White **JUMP**
NUMBERS 50 Andrew Griggs, Howard White

Sky Mong of the Year will once again be won by Crazy, who hasn't even jumped with us this year but his legacy stands. Members of the Year will be Andy TTyrrreelll and his most awesome wife Hazel. Biggest Strop was a close one with Em Tiptom, but I am happy to accept this award for the 'keys incident'. Landing Furthest from the Circle will once again be won by Dan Morgan, because safety never takes a day off. Jonny Moulder will win the Highest Swoop Competition and Lucy will win best Cameraman. Mike McNulty will win the coveted Buncey Award for being the most grumpy. Cath Thorne will win the I Survived A Weekend On Pot Noodles And Haribo While My Husband Went Off To Do An Iron Man Award, while Rick Thorne will win the Iron Man Award mainly for putting up with Cath. Carly will not win anything as she forgot to skydive for the whole year. The Adam Duncan Award for being beaten up by the most girls and loving it will once again be won by, er, Adam Duncan. Chrissy and Jenny will win the Best Looking Packers Award, by far. Ricky will win the Closest to the Cone Award, even though I managed to get closer – but, hey, it's traditional. H will win the Best Pigeon Impression Award, while Flanners will win the Tourist Guide of the Year Award. Luke will win the Best Team Member of *Team Sexual Chocolate* Award, while Mattridge will win the I Must Have The Blue Next Award or the Hissy Fit Award if he doesn't. Matt Adler will win the Always Sniffing But Never Tasting Award. Pieter will once again win the Cute-Off, but only because I forgot my phone. Sue Read will win Fittest Over 50 Award and Shaun Barrett the He Really Shouldn't Be Able To Skydive But Can Award. Ash, Fozy and Cookie will win the Standards By Which Instructors Should Be Judged Award. However, the biggest award will go to Brucie for going home the earliest – Em will no doubt stick to tradition and have him home for about 10pm.

We also did some jumping but, as no one filled in the achievements form for the Mag, nothing happened other than Mark, James, Lisa and the other one who I can't remember getting their A Licences and Howard White got his B Licence and FS1, as did Griggsy.

Dylan Griffith-Jones


TILSTOCK
theparachutecentre.com

Who needs sunshine?

There has been plenty of fun at the DZ towards the end of the season – the jumping has not slowed down and the miserable weather has not put us off. Some of the club jumpers have been doing some funky stuff in the sky, with formations spelling out 'Tilstock'. Only the 'T' and 'S' have been made as yet, but we are expecting the full name soon. Keep up the good work, guys.

We would also like to say a massive welcome to our new pilot, John Roberts. John has become one of our regular jump pilots and is definitely fitting in well with everyone at the DZ. We just haven't been able to persuade him to jump yet...

Ellie Southworth has done us all proud again, finishing off her year with more medals. Ellie and her team *Equal Pay 4 Women* came back from the Belgium ESL with a silver medal, also gaining another silver in the 8-way Speed with team *Equal Pay 4 Swans*. Well done, Ellie.

We have had a lot of students come off static line recently, completing their first freefall – it's great to see them staying keen and enjoying the social scene at the DZ every weekend. This has also meant that the tunnel trips have become more frequent, not just for our freefall students but for our FS students also. I think Buzz will be planning more and more of these trips over the winter to keep us all occupied while we are closed.

A big thank you to all of our Instructors, Manifesters, pilots, our CCI Buzz and Colin and Val for all of your help over the year and for making the club run smoothly weekend after weekend – and, of course, to all of our jumpers and everyone else who makes up the fantastic atmosphere.

We are closed over the winter and will reopen on February 1 for what will be another great year. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for any trips, parties and outings we may come up with while we are closed, and we hope everyone has a merry and safe Christmas and New Year.

Mary Carbutt

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Matthew Baker, Ian Pitchford, Becky Swinger, Liu Xia (Sheldon) **CAT8/CHI** Pete Dickens **CH2/JMI** Dave Smith **WS2** Johnny Galbraith **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Rich Scott

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HEADCORN

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Hi again from G-GOHI

Marcus Muir Smith and Simon Soper, by Marcus



It has been a long hard slog to altitude in the Islander G-AXUB for the last couple of months, but it has done us proud even if it has severely restricted the amount of fun jumper slots and upset the locals with its continuous drone. I am happy to report that our Caravan G-GOHI has finally returned to service and not a moment too soon!

Headcorn was well represented at all the Nationals this year, with Peter Sizer and Janos Leszko heading to Sibson for the Classics, Chris Lynch and Joe Laming to Dunkeswell for Canopy Piloting and Mary Barratt, Marcus Muir Smith, Dennis McTaggart and Michael Cambridge to Sibson for CF. It was good to see them bringing home bling too! Well done to Janos and Pete, who came home with gold and silver respectively in Individual Accuracy, *Team Headcorn* with the team Accuracy title, Joe Laming with bronze in Zone Accuracy, Mary and Marcus with gold for Intermediate Sequentials and Dennis and Michael with bronze for 4-way Speed and Rotations as part of the *CRWsaders*.

Mary and Marcus only formed *SunDogs* earlier this year after Marcus got his CF1 and intended to enter Rookie Rotations but, having focused on training throughout the summer and with lots of encouragement from Pete and Lee Andrews, they surprised themselves by improving so much

they felt confident to enter the Intermediate Sequentials. Along the way, they were also awarded the Pat Hammond Trophy! Also, Jane, Fleur Jones, Laura Brothers and Liz Hurry represented Headcorn at the *Brit Chicks* event at Langar, where they made a total of 58 jumps between them and almost got a new British Women's record.

Back at Headcorn, the annual Bewl Water Jump took place. Due to lack of a Caravan, Jane had to fly two lifts in the Islander and 11 people got wet in total. Sadly, Martin Pitts had to return to Headcorn as the cloud base had fallen to 2,500 feet, which is less than the minimum now required for anyone below C Licence.

Some staff changes are imminent as we go to press, with Bernard Devine from the camera department retiring and moving to France and Adam Hughes flying off to New Zealand for six months to work as a Tandem Instructor and cameraman. This means faces changing in the office as Adam is going with fiancée Jo Hunter, the current Secretary/Receptionist. We welcome Georgie Rhodes, who will have taken over that role by now.

On the flying front, Jez Britcher and Drew Moon have done a sterling job flying the Islander and, after a hearing check, are now firmly back in the front seat of the Caravan (but not at the same time). We welcome Alex Fixsen, who will be flying for us again this winter, back from Texel.

During down times, lots of fun has been had in the new Basingstoke Tunnel. Simon Hughes has been running regular trips there and the last one was attended by 28 club members – a total of nine hours were flown.

As we wind down into winter, we are looking forward to the annual airfield Christmas bash at Chart Hills Golf Club (watch this space) and, beyond that, the long winter break. Here is to hoping that next season is as successful as this one.

Jane Hopkins

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Sam Everest **CAT8/CHI** Oscar Boyd, Sam Everett, Alex Leslie, Charlie Hole, Sam Parsons **JMI/CH2** Clare Forder, Isaac Gentle, Benjamin Jakobs, Stewart Taylor **CFI** Simon Soper **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Charlie Puttick **400** Holly Goodfield **1,600** Paul 'Diggers' Digby **2,000** Adam Hughes

LANGAR

skydivelangar.co.uk

Eyes meeting across a crowded... runway?

A romantic start to this issue's Langar club news! Baz Carey and his wife Mel have just celebrated 25 years of wedded bliss, and they would never have met if it wasn't for Langar DZ owner Dave Hickling sending Baz out onto the airfield to "get that b*%&\$ woman off the runway". The rest is history! Sounds like Baz could make a cartoon out of that...

Langar jumpers took part in the Euro Challenge skydives over Empuriabrava. Patrick Passe's five-point 106-way – four world records on four consecutive jumps – included Milko, Siân Stokes, Billy Payn, Keiron O'Rourke, Phil Jenks, Fiona Birnie, Des Meyer, Rod Stone, Paul Seymour and Neil Butcher. At the same event, the new 96-way head down European record included our very own Ally Milne, plus Weed Stoodley and Paul Cooper. Sorry if we've missed anybody out – good stuff, people!

We're deep into student training season and, as fewer dropzones around the country offer static-line courses, more and more Uni clubs are joining us. We now host Nottingham, Loughborough, Leeds, Stafford, Birmingham, Coventry and Warwick, and we're expecting others to join us too. We're also providing the facilities for the BCPA Christmas Boogie on December 13-15, so students from around the country will get to see the UK's best DZ. Well, we think it is anyway!

Keep up with developments at facebook.com/skydivelangar. We're always busy jumping (even when we haven't got a special event running) and we're open seven days a week all year round – with the sole exception of Christmas Day itself. Come and join us!

Tony Danbury

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Chris Harcombe, Liam Palmer **AFF GRADUATE** Lee Costello, Rachel Edgson, Christopher Edwards, Irena Johansson, Elliot Maginnis, Rich Potter, Rob Smith **CAT8/CHI** Rachel Edgson, David Edwards, Rosie Johnson, Tony Kerr, Elliot Maginnis, Nic Mather, Rob Smith **JMI** Rich Drabble, John Roberts **CH2** Rich Drabble, Stef Hanks, John Roberts **FSI** Scott Becker, James Brown, David Gagno, Ben Golding, Joel Hindson, Chris Kabban, Elliot Maginnis, Maggie McMahon, Peter Storey **FFI** Tamsin Gulliver, Dylan Morris-Roberts, Mike Watson **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Peter Storey **100** Mo Mohamed, Dylan Morris-Roberts, Simon Perry **200** Malcolm Murdoch, Steve Seymour, Mike Watson, Roy Wimmer **300** David Alatorre, Tom Busby **600** Ben White **900** Ross Lambert **1,000** James Pritchard **1,100** Ryan Briddon **1,200** Nick Robinson **2,100** Siân Stokes **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Martin Lowe, Stefan Pancel, Simon Perry



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Jet4you.com

RAPA
skydive-badlippspringe.com

Skydivers' holiday



Kirstin Rudolph not only gets to have her cake and eat it, but also to wear it after her 1,000th jump. By Rich Oakley

As the majority (well, when I say majority, I really mean all) of the permanent staff swanned off on a busman's holiday to Perris in California this September, a skeleton staff was left behind to keep the DZ running smoothly and at the standard expected from all the usual punters. I suppose you've got to keep in touch with how other DZs are rocking it to keep your own game up. According to the boss, anyway...

It wasn't all just fun there, apparently, as working their way through the fleet of aircraft that were available (three Super Otters and two Skyvans) and the resulting 29-ways was pretty hard going. That not being enough, Mark Guyatt managed to drag himself out of bed in the early hours of one Californian morning for the experience of jumping into dead air from a hot air balloon. Another of the highlights was getting down to the Chicks Rock Boogie Party at Elsinore to watch the excellently executed Night Swoop jump. All in all, the best part of three weeks very well spent.

Back home at the DZ, Kirstin Rudolph was greeted with the traditional cake as she reached the 1,000 jump mark. Preparation is now ongoing for the Fright Night Jump on Halloween, with the annual Halloween Party following it. Report and pictures to follow in the next issue.

A big important date for your diary: the RAPA 50th Anniversary over July 23-27 2014. Big events are planned over the five-day celebration period, so watch this space for more info as things start to get confirmed.

So, if you're ever in the area, come and visit us at THE best BPA DZ in Germany! Check us out at www.skydive-badlippspringe.com too.

Rich Oakley

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Gordon Geary, Ralf Hesse, Jan Hüssener, Mark Hutchinson, Bryan Ngoma **JMI** Gordon Geary, Ralf Hesse, Jan Hüssener, Mark Hutchinson, Bryan Ngoma **FSI** Heiko Lehmann **FFI** Charlie Brown, Josh Jamieson **WSI** Chris Flowdy, Josh Jamieson **JUMP NUMBERS 1,000** Geordie Batey, Kirstin Rudolph

SILVER STARS

History and future

The 50th anniversary celebration dinner for the Silver Stars team, club members and their families was held at South Cerney on September 27 2013.

The Silver Stars parachute team, as far as I am aware, is the longest running military parachute team in the UK – first representing the Royal Army Service Corps, then the Royal Corps of Transport and finally the Royal Logistics Corps. The Silver Stars are not only a parachute display team, but we also operate our own DZs at both Colerne and South Cerney – where soldiers and club members alike were trained and jumped.

It was formed in 1963 at 63 Parachute Sqn RASC by Lt Col Tom Ridgeway (pictured) and Bob Acraman, who was the first CCI. There have since been 16 CCIs over the years, most of whom held office for one to two years. I was an exception to that rule, running the DZ at Colerne for a total of 11 years during the period of 1979 to 1991. At Colerne, more than 6,000 soldiers and civilians trained and jumped. Many have since become display jumpers, Riggers, Instructors and CCIs, not only for the Silver Stars but for all of the major UK military parachute centres around the world – including Batus, Cyprus, Hong Kong, RAPA and Netheravon. One example

of these is Major Bob Card BEM MBE, who was the commandant of Joint Services Parachute Centres at both RAPA and Netheravon and later served as Chairman of the BPA.

The Silver Stars team members have represented Great Britain in many disciplines, including Style, Accuracy and Canopy Formation, winning five gold medals at World

Championships – including gold medals at the Armed Forces Championships and British Nationals. The Silver Stars regularly used Canopy Formation as part of their parachute displays as well, competing in the discipline (though this was on Clouds and Contact canopies in my time). I became the first tandem instructor for the Silver Stars in 1984 and this tradition still continues today. The Silver Stars

have changed our form and locations over many years, but the team is still strong and the future is bright.

Jeff Chandler



The Silver Stars 50th Anniversary Dinner Held at South Cerney on 27 September 2013

Back Row: Sgt Dean Hoskins Mr Rob Otis Mr Paul Baker Mr Kevin O'Connell Sgt Matty Holtford (CCI) Maj J A Trainnet (Secretary)
Sgt Tom Blaisey (Para) Mr Mark Hancock Mr Gareth Leonard Maj Alister Macartney RLC
Front Row: Maj Rudra Sahi (DGLR) Mr Steve Apps (Former CCI) Mr Dave Hogg Mr Mick Berry (Former CCI)
LtCol (Retd) Tom Ridgeway (Founder Member) Mr Jeff Chandler (Former CCI) Mr Matt Patrick (Former CCI) Mr Mac McQuae Mr Pete Marsden

Members who attended the anniversary celebration dinner at their home DZ in South Cerney, by Vance Allen.



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CYPRES 2

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November

November 30

B/F APA Christmas Ball

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

November 30-December 1

U Packing Course

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

November 30-December 6

FS Square One 333-way Sequential Record

Location: **Perris, California** · p3skydiving.com

December

December 3

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA Offices** · bpa.org.uk

December 7

B/F Christmas Party

Location: **Swansea** · skydiveswansea.co.uk

December 7

B/F Christmas Do

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

December 7-8

FS Big-way weekend with Gary Powell

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

December 13-14

U Chatteris AGM and Xmas Party

Location: **Chatteris** · ukskydiving.com

December 13-14

A **B/F** Christmas Tracking and Party

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

December 13-15

B/F BCPA Christmas Boogie

Location: **Langar** · skydivelangar.co.uk

December 14

B/F Christmas Party

Location: **Tilstock** · theparachutecentre.com

December 28-29

FS Festive Big-way

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

January 2014

January 10

U Mega Refreshers

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

January 25

BPA BPA AGM

Location: **East Midlands Conference Centre, University of Nottingham** · bpa.org.uk

CYPRES 2

model change for free

January 27-31

BPA Instructor Course – CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

January 28-February 2

U IPC Plenary Meeting

Location: **Vienna, Austria** · bpa.org.uk

February

February 3-7

BPA Instructor Course – CSI

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

March

March 21-22

U SOS Record attempt

Location: **Netheravon** · pops.org.uk

April

April 9-13

U Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS) World Record

Location: **Elsinore, California** · sosworldrecord.com

May

May 12-16

U Instructor Course (CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced)

Location: **Strathallan** · skydivestrathallan.co.uk

May 14-18

FS P3 Spring Fling event

Location: **Perris, California** · p3.com

May 17-18

FS UKSL Meet 1

Location: **Sibson** · bpa.org.uk

May 19-23

U Instructor Course (CSI)

Location: **Strathallan** · skydivestrathallan.co.uk

June

June 14-15

FS UKSL Meet 2

Location: **Netheravon** · bpa.org.uk

June 26-29

FS Power Play

Location: **Perris, California** · p3.com

June 28-29

FS 28-way Competition

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

CYPRES 2

Made in Germany

July

July 12-13

FS UKSL Meet 3

Location: **Langar** · bpa.org.uk

July 23-27

B/F 50th Anniversary Boogie

Location: **Bad Lippspringe, RAPA** · skydive-badlippspringe.com

August

August 2-3

FS 4-way Cup

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 15-23

CF **S&A** World Championships in CF and Style and Accuracy

Location: **Banjaluca, Bosnia**

August 24-31

FS **A** World Championships in FS and Artistic Events

Location: **Prostejov, Czech Republic**

September

September 6-8

FS 4-way FS and VFS Nationals

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

September 13-15

FS **A** 8-way, Artistics and Speed Nationals

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

September 20-22

FS **A** Nationals rollover weekend

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

September 26-28

CF **S&A** **FS** CF, Classics and 8-way Speed Nationals

Location: **Sibson** · skydivesibson.co.uk

October

October 4-12

B/F Equinox Boogie

Location: **Toogoolawah, Australia** · ramblers.com.au

October 12-18

FS Women's World Record and Men's World Record

Location: **Perris, California** · p3.com

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The BPA Archive goes live!

You can visit us at bpa-archive.org.uk

The **BPA Archive** Project was created in 2011 to mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of the British Parachute Association. The Archive aims to showcase the development and achievements of sport parachuting and skydiving in the UK, from long before the formation of the BPA right up to the present day.

The website is now live and contains the first two items to be released; The Magazine Archive and The Video Archive.

The Magazine Archive is an online repository of every BPA magazine produced from the first edition of *Sport Parachutist*, in the summer of 1964 to the latest editions of *Skydive the Mag*. The BPA is the first national parachuting governing body to put its entire back catalogue of magazines online. The Mag will celebrate its 50th anniversary with the June 2014 edition.

The Video Archive is a collection of historic videos, many of which have not been publicly available before. The key objective of the Archive is to digitise and preserve as many of these old videos as possible for the education and enjoyment of anyone interested in the history of UK sport parachuting. The Archive contains many more videos than are currently online and these will be released as they are digitised.

Feedback is welcome and so are additional contributions. Please contact the BPA Archivists Andrew Hilton and Graham Spicer at archive@bpa.org.uk



1 Christmas cover from 1984

2 and 3 Santas from 1968, by Charlie Shea-Simonds

4 Cartoon from 1982

Starter Mag Appeal

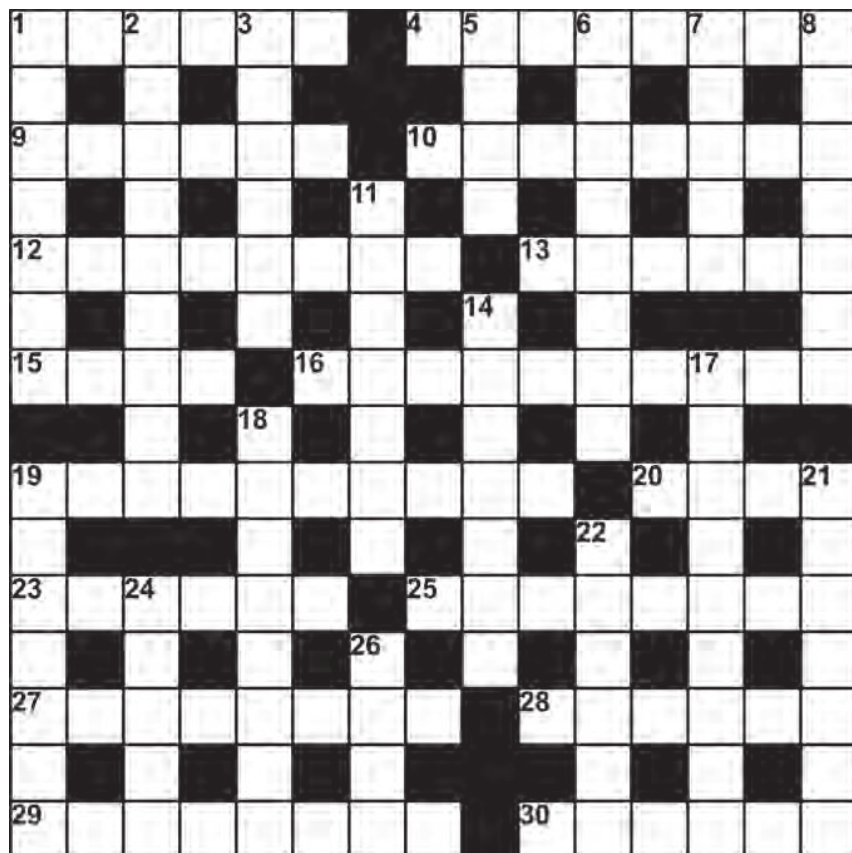
Do you have any paper copies of old *Starter Mags* that you would be willing to donate, or loan for copying and return, to the Archive Project?

Please contact graham@bpa.org.uk if you are able to help.

PUZZLE



Paul Boorer



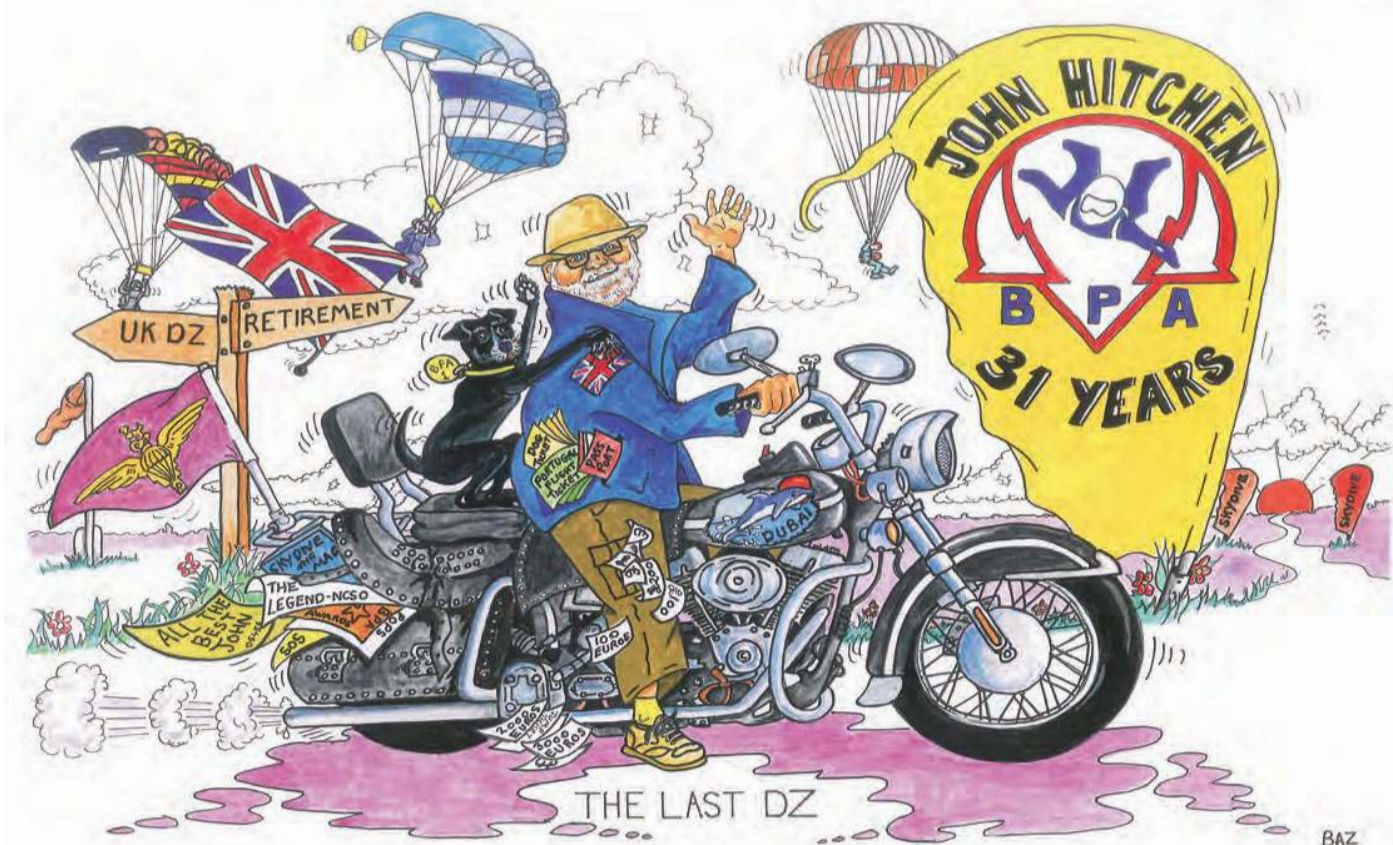
Across

1. AAD model
4. Swing to and fro (under a canopy)
9. Suitable for growing crops
10. The atmosphere above a site
12. Maximum freefall velocity
13. Piece of warm clothing
15. Controlled fall
16. Opening of a chute
19. Shaped like a squashed circle
20. Throw up
23. Flyers
25. Somebody on your side
27. Fliteline Systems containers/Involuntary actions
28. Of the oceans
29. Judged
30. Very cold

Down

1. Moved with minimum effort
2. Landing area material
3. Cream-filled cake
5. Egress
6. Shows
7. Rent
8. Malfunction/Life preserver/Actress
11. Sun Path container/Spear
14. Descended slowly (if at all)
17. Getting on an aircraft
18. Lookouts
19. Spanish skydiving destination
21. Non-working days
22. Damage or weaken
24. Flights to altitude
26. Lake

CARTOON



Down

1. Coasted 2. Pea gravel 3. Eclair 5. Exit 6. Displays 7. Lease 8. Mae West 11. Javelin 14. Floated 17. Emplaning 18. Spotters 19. Empuria 21. Weekend 22. Impair 24. Lifts 26. Mere

Across

1. Cypres 4. Pendulum 9. Arable 10. Airspace 12. Terminal 13. Fleece 15. Dive 16. Deployment 19. Elliptical 20. Spew 23. Pilots 25. Teammate 27. Reflexes 28. Marine 29. Assessed 30. Frigid

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