



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com February 2014

# skyDIVE

the mag

1964-2014



**INSIDE:** HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BPA AGM 2014 THE DUBAI INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING  
COMP RETURNS TRIBUTE TO JOHN HITCHEN NEW WOMEN'S VERTICAL WORLD RECORD  
FREEFLY BREAK-OFFS WITH ALLY MILNE PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS, REVIEWS AND EVENTS

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Happy Birthday to *Skydive the Mag*! 2014 is the 50th anniversary year of the very first edition of what was then *Sport Parachutist*, which was first published in Summer 1964. The fantastic BPA Archive Project has now finished scanning every single back issue and the full archive is online for your enjoyment.

The magazine has changed a lot over the years, but one thing that has remained the same is its community spirit. The Mag just wouldn't be what it is without all its fantastic contributors, so why not make 2014 the year you join them and get involved too? You could send silly pics for the caption competition, support your club rep, suggest articles you'd like to see or even write one yourself...



*Liz Ashley*

#### British Parachute Association Ltd

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BPA Ltd, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271 Fax: 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk www.bpa.org.uk

**Patron** His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

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Craig Poxon **Vice Chair** craig@bpa.org.uk

Paul Moore **Competitions Chair** paul508@mac.com

Craig Poxon **Development Chair** craig@bpa.org.uk

Adrian Bond **Communications Chair** adrian@bpa.org.uk

John Hitchen **STC Chair** john@bpa.org.uk

Paul Applegate **Riggers Chair** 01869 277469 paul.applegate@tesco.net

#### Council Members

Paul Applegate paul.applegate@tesco.net

Karen Bain karen@bpa.org.uk

Alex Busby-Hicks alexbusby@mac.com

Brian Cumming brijumps@gmail.com

Jackie Harper jackie@bpa.org.uk

Ian Marshall marshall@bpa.org.uk

Ian Rosenvinge ian.rosenvinge@me.com

Mark Skaratts mark.skaratts@bpa.org.uk

James Swallow james@skydiving.co.uk

Brian Vacher brianvacher@yahoo.co.uk

Thea Westley thea@bpa.org.uk

#### Representatives

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By Marius Melusel for Project XCF*

*Welcome: The new California State Freefly Record 64-way, including Brit Andy Ford in red and yellow.  
By Norman Kent*

*Contents: Kiting Project XCF's 39 sq ft canopy at sunset – check out how short the lines are!  
By Marius Melusel*

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Archant Dialogue Ltd, Prospect House,  
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[www.archantdialogue.co.uk](http://www.archantdialogue.co.uk)

**ARCHANT** } **DIALOGUE**

**Liz Ashley** EDITOR  
**Mike Waters** PRODUCTION EDITOR  
**Richard Berry** SENIOR ART EDITOR  
**Matt Copland** JUNIOR ART EDITOR  
**Kayleigh Penswick** MULTIMEDIA  
ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE  
**Andy Copland** ADVERT PRODUCTION  
**Stuart Meadows** ACCOUNT MANAGER  
**Nick Paul** CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
**Zoë Francis-Cox** PUBLISHING DIRECTOR  
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OBVIOUS SAFETY REASONS. STUDENTS WITHIN  
THE MAG ARE COMPLYING WITH BPA REGULATIONS.

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SKYDIVING COURSE OR QUALIFICATION ABROAD, WE  
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THE UK, THROUGH YOUR CCI.

## CONTACT

If you would like to get involved with  
*Skydive The Mag*, please contact:

- ✉ Editorial enquiries  
[editor@skydivethemag.com](mailto:editor@skydivethemag.com)
- ✉ Club reps and general enquiries  
[mike.waters@archantdialogue.co.uk](mailto:mike.waters@archantdialogue.co.uk)
- ✉ Competition entries  
[compzone@skydivethemag.com](mailto:compzone@skydivethemag.com)

## ADVERTISING

For advertising enquiries, please contact:

Kayleigh Penswick Multimedia Advertising Sales Executive

- ☎ +44 (0) 1603 772853
- ✉ [kayleigh.penswick@archantdialogue.co.uk](mailto:kayleigh.penswick@archantdialogue.co.uk)

Andy Copland Advert Production

- ☎ +44 (0) 1603 772896
- ✉ [andy.copland@archantdialogue.co.uk](mailto:andy.copland@archantdialogue.co.uk)

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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   |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| April 2014    | February 25   | April 17    |
| June 2014     | April 22      | June 04     |
| August 2014   | June 17       | July 29     |
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(L-R) Sabre 150, JVX 39 prototype and Neos 84. By Project XCF

## PROJECT XCF

**Do you ever** think about when you might want to downsize your canopy? This guy does! His name is Ernesto Gainza and his dream is to safely fly and land the world's smallest parachute, a 35 sq ft NZ Aerosports JVX – which is about the size of a single bedsheet.

Ernesto will be the canopy pilot for Project XCF (Xtreme Canopy Flight) at Skydive Dubai this spring. Project XCF will not only be aiming to set the world record for flying and landing the world's smallest parachute, but also to record the fastest descent rate under a parachute. The current WR was set in 2008 by Luigi Cani when he landed a 37 sq ft NZ Aerosports JVX.

If you have recently decided to downsize your canopy, you probably took some advice first. There are lots of aspects to consider, from your experience level and jump numbers to what you hope to achieve by flying a smaller canopy. Project XCF's main challenge, however, will be to answer the question: "Will a 35 sq ft canopy even fly?". As with any attempt to break a world record, this project will, through its existence alone, expand our understanding of human limitations. If successful, it will not only set new limits for human flight, but will give Ernesto and Skydive Dubai places in its history and will provide us and the companies that manufacture our skydiving equipment new data to help us understand where our limitations are. Both Cypres and L&B are providing the project with specialised equipment to determine Ernesto's descent rate, for instance.

A lot of skydivers consider their wing loading when choosing the canopy size they would like to fly. As interesting as it might be to work out what Ernesto's or even your own wing loading would be on a 35 sq ft canopy, in this

case there is far more to consider than wing loading alone. In the first instance, this is about aerodynamics and the raw physics of producing something that creates enough lift to keep a human airborne. Trying to fly something that produces barely enough lift leaves little if no room for error even before the other risks are considered.

**The Exit:** A canopy of this size inflates so fast that neck injury is a risk. Any momentary paralysis or blackout that this might cause could impede Ernesto enough to devastatingly change the outcome of the attempt.

**The Flight:** To determine whether the canopy is landable, tests must be carried out during flight. Stalling a canopy this size is nothing like stalling a regular-sized canopy. The descent rates involved can cause pilot entanglement, huge G-force changes or even laceration by the canopy's lines (which have to be extremely thin on a prototype like this). The G-forces produced by being under a canopy this size with line twists would require a near-immediate cutaway before they cause unconsciousness.

**The Cutaway Procedure:** Not only does Ernesto have to be able to perform his reserve drills with barely any thinking time but, for the project, the emergency handles have had to be moved due to modifications on the container that were required for the canopy. Ernesto has to learn and train totally new reserve drills.

**The Landing:** As with any high-performance canopy landing, Ernesto is committed to the landing. His descent rate and relatively low altitude once the landing procedure is started at this point will rule out being able to deploy his reserve. However, unlike a regular high-performance canopy that can be controlled with a variety of inputs using harness, riser or toggles, this prototype does not produce any

lift with rear-riser input – which means that the loss of a single toggle will leave Ernesto with no way of landing safely. This canopy flies so close to the limits of its aerodynamic envelope that any turbulence or crosswinds present a much higher risk of canopy collapse than on any production canopy.

With all of this to think about, Ernesto faces one of the greatest challenges of his life. The planning and preparation that the team is currently going through is meticulous and complex. Of course, safety is their number one concern and, while Ernesto and the Skydive Dubai team work on the ultimate goal of flying the record-breaking canopy, he is also preparing both physically and mentally with exercise and research. Ernesto has four different prototype canopies to fly and will aim to fly each of them 20 times, landing each one a minimum of five times. The project was launched at the DIPC in December 2013 and included two landings with the VX 46 sq ft which were performed by the athlete in front of more than 1,000 spectators.

This project would not be possible without its sponsors and supporters, including His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai, Skydive Dubai, Xtreme Flight, Go Fast, NZ Aerosports, Icarus Canopies, L&B, Cypres, Cookie Composites, Rainbow Designs and Oakley. Throughout the project, a production team will follow them closely and produce a documentary to cover how the whole project went. But, in the meantime, follow Project XCF's progress and show Ernesto, Skydive Dubai and his team your support by following them on Facebook (*Xtremeflight Parachuting Demo Team*) or subscribing to them on YouTube (*Xtremeflight*).

**Georgie Roles**

## Scrambles

The latest new event for DZs to host – tunnel scrambles! Several DZs have now hosted their inaugural tunnel events, where participants are 'scrambled' into mixed-ability teams and then compete against each other. They are a fantastic way of getting to know new people who you can then jump with back at the DZ and of staying a part of a busy skydiving scene over the quieter winter months. Langar's first event comprised 18 4-way teams

who then morphed into 12 6-way teams. The 4-way was won with a 22-point average – for a scrambles team!



By Gary Wainwright

## Royal Aero Club Awards

**Congratulations to the** three BPA members who have been successfully nominated for Royal Aero Club Awards for 2013. BPA Secretary-General Martin Shuttleworth receives a Certificate of Merit for his service, hard work, devotion and initiative. Rigger Examiner John Curtis receives a Silver Medal for his services to rigging since 1964. Finally, the Mag's Liz Ashley has been awarded the Aviation Journalist of the Year Award.

## First Wingsuit Nationals

**Get yourself down** to Netheravon on May 23-26 for the first-ever BPA Nationals in wingsuiting. This will be the third year that Netheravon has run a competition, but a lot of dedication and hard work has led to the elevation in status to an official Nationals event. Five new BPA Wingsuit Judges qualified in 2013 and the regular Nethers flockers have been enthusiastically working behind the scenes to make this happen, so do go along and help make the event a success.

## Ben Cornick

**Skydivers and friends** of Ben Cornick recently donated more than £20,000 in just 16 hours after Ben badly broke his femur and arm in a landing accident in Fiji, where he had been working as a Tandem Instructor. Ben is a recent staff member of several BPA dropzones and was not covered by insurance when he broke himself because it was not a work jump. He faced losing his leg unless £20k could be found for an immediate med-evac to New Zealand.



In a heartwarming reminder of what a great community exists within skydiving, hundreds of people immediately sent enough money to charter a Learjet for Ben and save his leg. Despite now having to endure some good-natured abuse about checking his insurance cover, Ben is safe and recovering in Auckland. *Are you sure YOU'RE insured?*

## Kaizen win silver

**Congratulations to BPA-funded team** Kaizen, who attended the Windoor indoor skydiving competition in Empuriabrava in January and came home with their first 20+ average as well as some shiny silver medals and €2,000 in prize money. Kaizen are training hard again this year, planning more than 500 jumps together and 20 hours of tunnel with an ultimate goal of winning the World Championships in August.



By Nigel Holland

BPA VFS team QFX also continued their meteoric rise with their best-ever tunnel average of 15.7 and a high score of 19. They came fifth overall, one point behind fourth and five points behind bronze.

## Parachutists Over Phorty FS record 2014

**Jack Felstead is** organising a POPS 50-way UK record, to be held at Hibaldestow on July 19-20. This would beat the existing UK record of 36 and the Australian POPS who have two unofficial records for us to beat. They built a 47-way in 2007, which was never ratified as a wrong grip was spotted in the photos a few days after the event. The Aussies then successfully built a 42-way in 2012 when they travelled to Perris, USA, but it was not strictly an Australian record as seven of the participants were USPA jumpers including Dan BC and Kate Cooper-Jensen.

The minimum criteria is a cast-iron commitment to attend two or three build-up weekends in May and June and then the multi-aircraft record attempt weekend in July. If a 'Brit POPS' 50-way is successful, it will be not just a UK and European record but also the biggest POPS formation outside the US. To be part of this UK record attempt, please email Jack directly at [jack.felstead@btinternet.com](mailto:jack.felstead@btinternet.com)

## Dick Gays

**1970s and 1980s** BPA member and innovator Dick Gays died in July 2013 after a short illness.

Though Dick hadn't jumped for some years, he will be remembered for his parachuting-related devices and inventions which furnished many UK DZs over the 1980s and 1990s as well as nowadays. Dick also made his famous 'Parashapes' canopy designs, including the 'Wally Gubbins' canopy and an Olympic Rings canopy.

On retirement from normal work, Dick continued his own company making landing trainers (also known as 'fan trainers') which were perfect training aids for landings in the days of round parachutes. He also developed various training harnesses or freefall simulators and his ingenuity led him to try his hand at making his own sport parachute canopy which he named 'Slots'. Though this unique gliding parachute far out-performed round canopies, it unfortunately arrived after the ram air canopy and did not progress beyond its third iteration 'Slots 3'. Nonetheless, there are not many people who have their own ideas about canopy design, let alone make them a reality and jump them. What made this all the more noteworthy was that Dick was not actually a Rigger. However, he was an enthusiastic and enquiring jumper and



Dick Gays' pioneering 'Slots' design

Instructor at Sibson and was also on the BPA Council for a time.

Following his retirement from jumping, he continued to use his creativity by designing and manufacturing solutions to enhance the lives of disabled people through the charity Remap. The secretary of their Leicestershire branch estimates Dick alone contributed around 40 per cent of that branch's efforts and output. In the year just before he died, he received the top national award from Remap, which he was presented with by Professor Heinz Wolf.

Dick's canopies and designs will be pictured, fully written up and videos presented in due course on the BPA Archive site. Our condolences to his family and friends.

**Andrew Hilton, BPA Archivist**

## ANOTHER new world record

**Big-way FS sequential** is pushing new boundaries at the moment, with last issue celebrating Patrick Passe's four consecutive sequential world records in Empuria – a two-point, three-point, four-point and then five-point 106-way featuring 25 BPA skydivers. Within a matter of weeks, BJ Worth's Kaleidoscope event took place in Deland where a two-point 110-way was successfully flown. What will be next?



By Andrey Veselov



By Andrey Veselov

## Lewis Collins

**Never, when watching** *The Professionals* all those years ago on TV, did I imagine that I would come up against Lewis Collins. Sadly, as most of you already know, he died recently in Los Angeles at the rather early age of 67.

Encountering him at Headcorn Parachute Centre during the 1980s was a pleasure, and always the same thereafter. He was a magnet for pretty ladies and an excellent skydiver. I recall dragging him from his tent by his ankles one morning because he had not woken up from his slumber to undertake a dive for which he had manifested the day before. This was because we had been out guzzling until late the previous night.

Then, because I was working as a consultant to the MOD, we decided to go for a high altitude jump. Nothing to what Felix Baumgartner achieved in October 2012 – we were aiming for a more modest 70,000ft together with Dave Spencer. We considered that my contacts at the MOD and beyond would get us in the air in the bomb bay of an ageing Canberra Bomber which, at the time, could only be found in Chile. I was covering Latin America on behalf of International Military Services (MOD) and travelling to Chile quite a lot apart from other countries in the region. To cut a long story short, the three of us, Lewis, David and myself, attended the Farnborough Air Establishment for pressure chamber training where we were taken up from 20k through to the exit height and given tasks to perform, both with and without oxygen. We all sailed through this. We also located three GQ 360 parachutes, learning how to 'sleeve' pack them. After trying really hard to persuade the Surgeon General of the USAF to lend us three pressure suits for the actual jump, we failed to complete the jump due to his refusal to do so. We did at least



Lewis Collins  
© Rex Features

acquire the Canberra from the Chilean Air Force and I still possess one of the 'chutes.

Just to bore you all with one other memory. Lewis and I were two members of a 4-way at Headcorn. Lewis was front floater and I was front diver. It was my job to reach out and take his leg grip. Unfortunately, I leaned out too far and a bit too eagerly, promptly falling from the aircraft between Lewis' legs and somersaulting away. As I turned over behind him, I caught a momentary glimpse of his face which was wreathed in smiles and laughing. I was never as good at skydiving as he was, that is certain.

These stories remind me very much of Lewis, who Dave and I got to know well. He was every bit the man he portrayed in his films – there was none finer nor more gentlemanly than he. Speaking for myself, I shall miss him and I am certain Dave Spencer will echo these sentiments.

**John Crowhurst**

## Got to be in it to win it!

**Well done to** BPA Freestyle team *Euphoria Freestyle* who were the subjects of an IPC (International Parachuting Commission) press release about overall ranking lists for 2013. IPC said, "There are few surprises as those nations that have dominated in different disciplines continue to do so. However, in one or two cases, the failure to enter every possible First Category Event has had an impact." They go on to talk about Artistic events and explain that "Great Britain take first place in Freestyle despite France's dominance, due to consistence of entry". However, *Euphoria* juggle full-time jobs and military commitments (one is currently in Afghanistan) to attend all the competitions, so this seems a fair reward – nice one guys!

## Sue Tylcoat

**Sue passed away** aged 54 on December 15 2013 just before midday. I was with her. She has been very strong and I am so proud of her. Sue was diagnosed with Small Cell Lung Cancer in January 2013. She underwent extensive chemotherapy followed by radiotherapy to her lungs and head. Her ambition was to live a year. She didn't quite make it but went down fighting – like the girl she is. We made the most of our time together, going on countless holidays, as anyone who has followed her on Twitter or Facebook will know. She never once complained or sought pity. We returned from a week in Malta in late November, which we thoroughly enjoyed, not knowing that just around the corner the cancer would return – big time. Thankfully, she was only in hospital five days, on morphine with me sleeping next to her bed. My best friend of 24 years will remain my best friend forever.

**Dave Tylcoat**



Sue had nearly 300 jumps, mostly trained by Dave from her first jump – a very able student I might add! Dave has nearly 3,000 jumps. Starting in 1970, he has represented Britain at three World Championships in Style and Accuracy and in 1983 was British National Champion. He was owner and Chief Instructor of Lincoln Parachute Centre (1980-1988) and Eaglescott Parachute Centre (1988-1994). Dave and Sue retired from skydiving in 1998.



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ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE  
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**OPTIMA II**  
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MODULAR MOUNTING CAMERAS  
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AUDIOLOGS & ACCESSORIES  
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CLOSED-FACE  
HEADGEAR  
CLOSED FACE WITH  
PORON XRD LINER  
# L3112



**OPEN-FACE HEADGEAR**  
CAMERA MOUNTS AVAILABLE  
# L5131



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OPEN-FACE HEADGEAR  
COMFORTABLE ABS SHELL  
& SHOCK ABSORPTION LINER  
# L5080



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NEPTUNE 2 PLATE, ORNG PLATE  
# L6756



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CAMERA MOUNTING PLATE WITH ANGLE SETTINGS  
# L6753



**COOKIE C3 PLATE**  
CAMERA MOUNTING PLATE WITH ANGLE SETTINGS  
# L6753



**COOKIE C3 PLATE**  
CAMERA MOUNTING PLATE WITH ANGLE SETTINGS  
# L6753

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WIN  
A SOLO  
AUDIBLE  
ALTI!

By Milko

## DECEMBER'S WINNER



By John Baggaley

Winner: "While 19 jumpers yell at him to get out already, Johnny 'Skygod' Smith tries to figure out the number of degrees of his hook turn now that the DZ is 'upside down'..."

**Rob Gallo**

Runner-up: (JM1 Qualification Spot from 10,000ft AGL) "Hmm. If that's Blackpool Tower, CUT! If that's the Eiffel Tower, we're a bit deep..."

**Conrad Allen**

# 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](mailto:compzone@skydivethemag.com) and include your name so we can let you know if you've won. The closing date for entries will be **March 19 2014**



## Read Skydive your way

### APP

The *Skydive the Mag* App is compatible with iPhones, iPod touches and iPads and is optimised for the iPhone 5 (through Apple Newsstand) or for all Android devices (through Google Play). All you need to do is search for 'Skydive the Mag' in Newsstand in the App Store or in Android Apps, find the *Skydive the Mag* App version you want and download. For non-members, the App is just £2.99 for one month or £14.99 for a whole year's subscription.

### 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. The updated details can be found in the BPA e-Newsletter or on the address label 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](http://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.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

BPA members get *Skydive The Mag* free as part of their membership. Also, if you take out a magazine subscription and subsequently join the BPA as a full member, your magazine cost is deducted from your BPA membership fee so you don't pay any extra.

### HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

If you are not a full BPA member and would like to receive the printed *Skydive The Mag*, check out [subscriptionsave.co.uk/skydivemag](http://subscriptionsave.co.uk/skydivemag). If you prefer, you can also subscribe over the phone on +44 (0) 116 278 5271.

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# RENEWAL TIME

**Your BPA membership** renewal form for the year from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 is enclosed with this Mag. To keep jumping after 1 April, please renew before then. New for this year, most members without ratings now have the option of renewing online – please see overleaf. Members with ratings, because ratings need to be signed off, will need to complete and return the renewal form and send it to the BPA Office with their subscription payment or payment authorisation. The renewal form may also be obtained from your Centre or downloaded from the BPA website.

The subscription for renewal of full membership for the year 2014/5 is £108.65, comprising a BPA element of £63.22 (3% increase on last year) and an insurance element of £45.43 (unchanged from last year) – resulting in an increase to the overall subscription of 1.7%.

The cost of joint membership is £196.95. As joint members share one copy of the Mag, both share the same postal address on the BPA membership database but each joint member has their own unique email address.

## New password

**If you are** a BPA member, you can read your Mag online for free at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com) or via our App. However, you will need to enter a password to gain access. You can find the password on the bottom of your bimonthly BPA e-Newsletter and it is also printed on the address label that comes with your Mag. Your 2013 password will no longer work, so log in to the App now, save the new password and beat the postie for the rest of the year!

## BPA grievance procedure

**Further to the** member resolution passed at last year's AGM in January 2013 to give members the 'Right of Appeal to a Tribunal', Council has codified a BPA grievance procedure. It applies when a BPA member or members have a grievance with a BPA decision (other than a disciplinary decision, in which case the BPA disciplinary procedure applies). The grievance procedure is appended to the December 2013 Council minutes and set out on BPA Form 282, both of which are downloadable from the BPA website. The procedure seeks internal resolution of the grievance but, where this is not possible, goes on to referral to the external dispute resolutions service Sport Resolutions UK.



**Council 2014 at their inaugural meeting**

# COUNCIL 2014

## OFFICERS 2014

Council 2014 met after the AGM to elect Officers and representatives as follows:

**Chair of Council**  
Martin Soulsby

**Competitions Chair**  
Paul Moore

**Vice Chair of Council and Development Chair**  
Craig Poxon

**Communications Chair**  
Adrian Bond

**Treasurer**  
Debbie Carter

**Royal Aero Club Delegate**  
John Smyth MVO

**STC Chair**  
John Hitchen

**Royal Aero Club Alternate Delegate**  
Craig Poxon

## COMMITTEES 2014

**Communications:** Paul Applegate, Adrian Bond (Chair), Alex Busby-Hicks, Brian Cumming, Craig Poxon, Ian Rosenvinge. Co-opted ex-officio (non-voting): Liz Ashley – Editor, *Skydive the Mag*.

**Development:** Paul Applegate, Adrian Bond, Alex Busby-Hicks, Craig Poxon (Chair), James Swallow, Ian Rosenvinge, Brian Vacher. Co-opted ex-officio (non-voting): Debbie Carter – Treasurer.

**Competitions:** Karen Bain (Vice-Chair and FS Rep), Jackie Harper (WS Rep), Ian Marshall (Classics Rep), Paul Moore (Chair), Mark Skarratts (CF Rep), Thea Westley (CP Rep). Co-opted ex-officio (non-voting): Kate Charters (Judges Co-ordinator), Mike Lovemore (Speed Rep – TBC), Martin Reynolds (Technical CP Rep – TBC) and Weed Stoodley (Artistics and VFS Rep).

## Annual Report 2013

Members (except those without a valid email address in their BPA membership record) will receive a link to the BPA Chair's Annual Report 2013. As this is the first time we've used e-notification for company documents of BPA Ltd, we're also including a paper copy this time as an insert to this Mag. Future Annual Reports will be online only, unless you opt for a hard copy by snail mail (at the time of writing, no member has done so).

# BPA Online Membership Service

• Full members in the UK and Channel Islands or at a BFPO postal address who do not hold ratings may renew online for the new membership year (1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015). 'Ratings' include instructors, riggers, packers, pilots and any other rating that has to be 'signed off'.

• Full members in the UK and Channel Islands or at a BFPO postal address may update their contact details (postal address, telephone/mobile, email).

**Full members will need the following information to activate their online BPA membership account:**

- Name
- BPA membership number (not licence number!)
- Personal email address as already recorded on the BPA database
- Postcode or BFPO number as already recorded on the BPA database

**For instructions on 'how to activate your online BPA membership account', please see [bpa.org.uk/instructions](http://bpa.org.uk/instructions)**

The new BPA online membership service is NOT available for:



- Full member renewal where ratings are held, although full members with ratings in the UK and Channel Islands or at a BFPO postal address may update their personal contact details online
- Full member renewal for overseas members (other than those with a BFPO postal address)
- Change of name or ratings
- Conversions
- Taking out Student Provisional or Temporary Memberships

- Updating personal contact details of Student Provisional or Temporary Members
- Pilot applications
- Making discretionary donations to the British Team Fund or the Drop Zone Defence Fund. Such donations continue to be extremely welcome, and may be made by card payment over the phone during BPA office hours (M-F, 9-5) or by cheque or bank transfer.



*The newest Instructors*

## NEW RATINGS

### CSBI

Mark Atterbury  
Trevor Evans  
Christopher Haughin  
Alex Mining  
James Thompson  
Mark Guyatt  
David Charlton  
Scott Beach  
Stephen Burdon

### TBI

Adam Gooch

### CSI

Siân Stokes  
Darren Graham  
Karl Peart  
Jordan Wilcox  
Conrad Allen

**Advanced Instructor**  
Chris Beattie

**Instructor Examiner**  
Noel Purcell

**Advanced Packer**  
Andy Shaw (R)

**Basic Rigger**  
Simon Chipp  
Josh Clark

### Parachute Rigger

Ricky Davies  
Chrissy Downer  
Pelham Georgiades  
Mathew Knight  
Simon Nath  
David Pratt  
Simon Soper  
Dan Whitby

**Advanced Rigger**  
Andy Shaw

## LAST CHANCE!

**The Royal Aero Club Trust Bursary Scheme**, for young people between 16 and 21, exists to provide financial assistance for those wishing to upgrade their existing qualification in a wide range of air sports and aviation-related activities. The BPA has promoted the scheme through the Mag and BPA members have been extremely successful in securing funding over the years. 2013 was our best year yet, with 21 of the 37 bursary awards going to young skydivers.

Applications, which must arrive at the Trust by 31 March 2014, need to be signed off by your CCI and up to £1,000 per award is available.

Full details, rules and an application form are available on the Royal Aero Club Trust website.

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

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# BPA AGM 2014

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU PUT 500 SKYDIVERS IN A HOTEL AND PROVIDE THEM WITH FREE SEMINARS, FREE TRADESTANDS, A QUEEN TRIBUTE BAND AND DRINKS FOR £1.75?

WORDS LIZ ASHLEY PHOTOS PAUL BAYFIELD

## LOST: ONE WEEKEND. PLEASE RETURN IF FOUND

Every year, a weekend in late January mysteriously disappears into legend as skydivers the length and breadth of the country descend on one poor, unsuspecting hotel. If you think the AGM sounds like a boring meeting on a Saturday morning, then think again – it is an annual reunion of our close-knit community. Many people arrived the night before, as usual, and the bar staff were dismayed to find that the night was yet young for the BPA at 3am. Old friends caught up and new friends were welcomed, and at some point most people caught a few hours' sleep before the main event.

**1** Queen tribute band *Rhapsody*

**2** Inaugural Council meeting

**3** Reg Green modelling at Anu Ojha's space talk

**4** Waiting for the start of the AGM proceedings

**5** BPA Archivist Graham Spicer presenting the Archive Project



The AGM itself is primarily a review of the year's BPA news, successes and achievements. As is traditional, we started with a minute's silence to remember BPA members no longer with us, before looking at what the BPA had done in 2013. The full report is available as an insert to this magazine and Craig Poxon's excellent video review can be viewed on the BPA Facebook page, but 2013 highlights included four strategic goals: pursuit of excellence; membership retention; staff succession planning; and a premises review. As BPA Chairman Martin Soulsby summarised, "Apart from record numbers of jumps, record numbers of A Licences, a record financial surplus, a sustained trend in the increase in retaining members, the launch of online renewals, the launch of the BPA Archive website with all the Mags ever produced online, the launch of the App for the digital Mag, the largest FS 4-way Nationals in the world again, a complete review of the terms of reference for the BPA, the new grievance process, the Arbitration, the first Wingsuit coaching roadshow, the retirement of John Hitchen and the recruitment of Jeff Montgomery, it has really been a pretty quiet year!"

The formal AGM concluded with a vote to set full BPA membership renewal at just £108.65 – a mere £1.85 increase on 2013-14.





**6** Fancy frocks at the evening do

**7** Communications Committee Chair Adrian Bond on stage

**8** Al Hodgson with some of the helmets available at the tradestands

**9** World record beer mat flipping attempt!

**10** Checking out the goodies on offer in the exhibition hall



Less than the cost of a pint – unless, of course, it's an AGM pint! Presentations of awards and certificates for 2013 followed and the BPA's best were applauded on stage as they collected their prizes.

The afternoon delivered an action-packed schedule of seminars, tradestands, meetings and socialising. Anu Ojha returned for a fascinating and educational talk on space, John LeBlanc from PD delivered lectures on landing and packing, Al Macartney taught us about staying alive and Kaizen told their story from AA in 2008 to being the British female team at

the 2014 World Championships later this year. If you missed them, check out [vimeo.com/bpa](http://vimeo.com/bpa) where you can catch up on some of the best seminars.

This year also featured a Guinness World Record attempt – beer mat flipping! Having discovered that a world record existed for the most beer mats flipped and caught in one minute, of course we had to set out to try and beat it. It turned out to be harder than it sounded and, despite Charlie Pearce's BPA-beating best effort of 62, the world record of 70 still stands.

In the evening, the tradestands were packed away and the room transformed into a formal dinner setting complete with dancefloor. Being in Nottingham, there was an optional fancy dress theme of Robin Hood with the incentive of a year's free BPA membership for the best costume. After the meal, a flamboyant Queen tribute band got everyone dancing and singing along before Adrian Bond of the BPA's Communications Committee led the fancy dress competition. I could print the photos of the semi-naked wrestling that somehow resulted between the two finalists, but some things are better left unprinted!

If you've never been to an AGM before, then you are missing out on a fantastic, and free, day. It's not just for experienced jumpers – there is plenty for everyone and you come away feeling tired, happy and pleased to be a part of this fantastic sport. See you at the next one! ●



# 2013 AGM AWARDS

RECOGNISING THOSE AT THE TOP OF OUR SPORT, WHETHER FOR COMPETITIONS, JUDGING, INSTRUCTION OR OTHER CONTRIBUTION

PHOTOS PAUL BAYFIELD



## THE TAZ CAUSER TROPHY FOR EXPERIENCED SKYDIVER OF THE YEAR 2013

**The Council called** for nominations from the membership to win the Taz Causer Award for Experienced Skydiver of the Year for 2013. The most votes from Council members in deciding on the nominations received from members determined this year's recipient.

Weed Stoodley was inspired by the Head Down World Record while visiting Skydive Chicago in 2012 and set her sights on getting involved in big-ways. In the past year, she has worked hard – starting off participating in small groups, through to larger ones in big-way camps and multi-plane formations. After 200 jumps in 2013 and plenty of time in the wind tunnel, she has achieved much during her progression.

Her achievements over the year are:

- Florida State Record 10-way Female Head Down (December 12 2012, Skydive Sebastian)
- British Female 10-way Head Down Record (May 6 2013, UK Parachuting, Sibson)
- Bronze medallist at 2013 British VFS Nationals with *Mind Your Manners* (August 24-26 2013, Skydive Hibaldstow)
- British 30-way Head Down Record (September 8 2013, Skydive Hibaldstow)
- Euro 96-way Head Down Record (September 21 2013, Skydive Empuriabrava)
- 63-way Women's Vertical World Record (November 30 2013, Skydive Arizona)

For the 96-way Euro Record, she was initially on the bench but was elevated from there to take part in the 108-way attempt. While that wasn't successful, she did her job and was part of the team that achieved the final record.

Anyone who knows her will attest to her enthusiasm for the sport. While managing her business and being involved in her eldest son's professional racing career, she still manages to find time to skydive, judge, be Competitions' VFS and Artistic Discipline Reps AND turn up at Council meetings to offer her valuable insight and opinion. She is awesome!



## BPA STAR AWARDS 2013

**We know there** are many examples of fantastic service within our sport and we believe it's time for them to be recognised! That's why the Association asked A Licence holders and above to tell us about great service they've received from another BPA member – to tell us if they've spotted a BPA Star!

Each eligible nomination has been considered by a panel of judges (the five BPA Vice-Presidents).

The winners of the BPA Star Awards for 2013 are: Stacey Canning, Stu Ferguson, Ally Milne and Peter Stone.

We also have great pleasure in recognising the members who nominated our BPA Stars, who are: Samar AlQahtani (nominated Peter Stone), Kathryn Campbell (nominated Stu Ferguson), Stephen Chew (nominated Ally Milne), Daniel Giltrap (nominated Stacey Canning) and Sheena Moran (nominated Stacey Canning).



## UP-AND-COMING CAMERAPERSON AWARD 2013

**The Competitions Committee** has established a new award to recognise the best camerawork by an up-and-coming cameraperson. A panel of BPA Judges has viewed and considered video footage from a number of nominations.

The 2013 winner of the Up-and-Coming Cameraperson Award is Sarah Neale for her outstanding efforts in her first season filming Canopy Formations. Sarah's award was collected at the AGM on her behalf by Martin Robiette.



## THE MIKE FORGE TROPHY FOR NEW SKYDIVER OF THE YEAR 2013

**CCIs or Advanced** Instructors nominate the New Skydiver of the Year. The criteria used for nomination are for a relatively new skydiver who has progressed well during the last year and is also considered to be a valuable member of his or her club.

The 2013 Mike Forge Trophy (New Skydiver of the Year) winner completed a tandem skydive at her centre in late July 2013 and immediately booked a further tandem skydive and her AFF Course for the start of August.

She has impressed her CCI with her hard working and dedicated attitude toward skydiving.

Away from the centre, she is a full-time mum. Even before her course, she set herself tough goals for preparing for the skydiving course. She found the AFF course challenging and had to complete several repeat levels, but did not give up.

She can be found at the centre, eager to jump on most days despite being unable to drive. She arranges lifts every day to get her to and from the airfield. She has now completed 98 jumps and has obtained her B Licence and FS1. She is also learning to drive so that she can get to the airfield more easily!

Her CCI states that his nominee is one of those students that turns up on the dropzone and unexpectedly surprises you with her enthusiasm and dedication to become a long-term part of the skydiving community.

The 2013 winner of the New Skydiver of the Year Award is Rachel Edgson of Skydive Langar.



## THE INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR TROPHY 2013

The COO and STO choose the Instructor of the Year and it is awarded to an Instructor who gained an Instructor rating within the past 12 months.

The criterion used is that the Instructor not only did very well on the Instructor Course, but is also the type of Instructor that students would be very happy to turn to for advice.

The COO and STO have chosen Siân Stokes from Skydive Langar as Instructor of the Year for 2013.

# CERTIFICATES

## CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

**Certificates of Merit** are awarded to Catriona Adam, Liz Boniface, Laura Kenyon and Weed Stoodley for their participation in the World Record Women's Vertical 63-Way Formation Skydive in Arizona, USA on November 30 2013.



## CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

A **Certificate of Merit** is awarded to BPA member Maxine Tate for her European Record in Women's Canopy Piloting Distance of 90.23 metres, achieved at the UK Nationals at Dunkeswell in September 2013.

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

**Certificates of Appreciation** are awarded to Andrew Hilton and Graham Spicer to record the Association's grateful thanks for their sterling work in planning and developing the BPA Archive Project.



## FAI JUDGES' CERTIFICATES

**FAI Judges' Certificates** are awarded to the following Judges who qualified in 2013:

**Richard Del-Toro** – Canopy Formation

**Sue Del-Toro** – Canopy Formation

**Ruth Ferris** – Formation Skydiving

**Frank Mallabone** – Canopy Formation

**David McMinn** – Canopy Formation



## BPA NATIONAL JUDGES' CERTIFICATES

**BPA National Judges' Certificates** are awarded to the following Judges who qualified in 2013:

**Ruth Ferris** – Wingsuit

**Roger Flavell** – Accuracy

**Frank Mallabone** – Speed Skydiving and Wingsuit

**David McMinn** – Speed Skydiving and Wingsuit

**Dougie Peacock** – Wingsuit

**Liz Warner** – Canopy Formation and Wingsuit



## JUMP/FREEFALL CERTIFICATES

**Eddie Carroll** – 17,000 jumps

**Ally Milne** – 6,000 jumps



# 2013 GRAND PRIX/UKSL OVERALL MEDALLISTS

## ACCURACY LANDINGS

### SENIOR EVENT OVERALL ACCURACY LANDINGS CHAMPION:

Janos Leszko



## CANOPY FORMATION 4-WAY SPEED/ROTATIONS

### SENIOR EVENT OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*The Mysterons* Derek O'Neil, Gareth Hughes, Paul Noguier, Jason Hobbs and Matt Kite



## CANOPY FORMATION 2-WAY ROTATIONS EVENT

### ROOKIE 2-WAY EVENT OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*Cockerham Cockups* Carl Marsh, Ben Henshall and Sarah Neale



## CANOPY FORMATION 2-WAY SEQUENTIAL EVENT

### INTERMEDIATE 2-WAY EVENT OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*Air Biscuit* Gavin McLeod, Marcus Muir-Smith and Martin Robiette



## FORMATION SKYDIVING (4-WAY) – Rookie Class

### OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*SeaFury* Robin Fisher, David Day, Sean Peters, Wez Thompson and Charlie Hart

### SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:

*Phwoarrrsome* Jill Judd, Alex Whitehead, Becky Frew, Kelly Spittle and Nick Robinson

### BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS:

*Fly Wild* Nadine Bibby, Graham Wallace, Dave Scott, Rudy McClenaghan, Gordon Hodgkinson and Tony Timlett



## FORMATION SKYDIVING (4-WAY) – A Class

### OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*Funnel Vision* Matthew Willson, Lizzy Carroll, Hannah Tillyard, Georgie Marsh, Sam Benment and Wes Guest

### SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:

*Tr4ck* Richard Cotton, Kathryn Campbell, Caroline Vaughan, Timothy Key and Robie Basak

### BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS:

*Entropy* Eoin Kerr, Mark Andrews, Madeleine Leong, Lauren Mc Nerney and Peter Hodges

## FORMATION SKYDIVING (4-WAY) – AA Class

### OVERALL CHAMPIONS (GOLD MEDAL):

*Anti Gravity Ninja Swans* Helen Williams, Roy Little, Ben Barber, Stefan Richards and Dorian Harwood

### SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:

*Aerodyne 4Mula* David Rodgers, Simon Ashley, Marcus Wallen, Kate Lindsley, Claire Scott and Mike Coleman

### BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS:

*Fiasco* Danny French, Pam Hawes, Caroline Kirkland, Charlotte Pope, Guy Martin and Barrie Bremner



## FORMATION SKYDIVING (4-WAY) – AAA Class

### OVERALL CHAMPIONS - (GOLD MEDAL):

*Bodyflight Isis* Anna Hicks, Sarah Smith, Luci Boella, Siân Stokes and Nigel Holland

### SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:

*Raykipo* Hari Ganapathy, Michael Roberts, Katy Saxby, Marc Fletcher, Liz Moor and Grant Richards

### BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS:

*Dynamite Wolf Squadron* Renata Heranova, Jeremy Price, Peter Mather, Ane Brentford and Simon Brentford



## Royal Aero Club Awards

### Certificate of Merit

Martin Shuttleworth

**Silver Medal** John Curtis

**Aviation Journalist of the Year**  
Liz Ashley





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**THANK  
YOU!**



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# HITCH RETIRES



# JOHN HITCHEN

## How did it all begin?

JOHN ENLISTED IN THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT IN 1956, DID HIS FIRST JUMP AT WESTON AND WENT ON TO SERVE IN CYPRUS AND JORDAN, BUT HE DID HIS FIRST SPORT PARACHUTE JUMP 40 YEARS AGO. NOW THE NEWEST BPA VICE-PRESIDENT, THE PARTY CELEBRATING HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 31 YEARS AS NATIONAL COACH AND SAFETY OFFICER SAW MORE THAN 130 PEOPLE COME TO WISH HIM WELL – DESPITE HIS INITIAL BELIEF THAT NO-ONE WOULD TURN UP!



It was at an 'Old Comrades' meeting in 1973 when John first heard about sport parachuting from someone who had jumped at East Midlands Skydiving Centre in Ashbourne. So, on April 27, John went along to Ashbourne and met Tom Sawyer.

No doubt all of us can remember our first jump, but probably not so many were quite like John's. Having downed five pints in the local pub with Tom followed by 10 minutes of 'training', John was in the aircraft – apparently he didn't need any training as a former Para! He had to climb over a refusal and, after an uneventful descent, he managed to break his coccyx on landing thanks to his rubbish PLF!

On his second jump at Ashbourne some six weeks later, John's young son was in the Cessna 182 to watch his Dad – they literally held him out of the aircraft door without any safety harness! After one more jump at Ashbourne, John discovered Grindale and CCI Ronnie O'Brien in June 1973.

His second and third freefall descents were once again more memorable than most as he landed under his reserve on both of them on the same day and, rather than risk a third malfunction, he accepted

Arthur Lowthorpe's invitation to retire to the pub for the rest of the day.

John's first log book contains quite a few interesting 'remarks' from his instructors at Grindale:

- Jump 74, first PC jump: *"Incompetent Little Toad."*
- Jump 86, PC cut-away jump: *"Bust leg – well done w\*\*ker."*
- Jump 92, RW base: *"Must work on your position – you fall like a pregnant toad."*

John's most memorable jump, however, must surely have been number 223 at Grindale on August 8 1975, recorded in his log book as *"Nearly Head Office!"*. For anyone who doesn't know what happened, that was the day his 'Protector' reserve blew every panel. It was later discovered that the reserve had been refused by the military, having failed under test, but was left on the civilian market.

But John couldn't stay away from skydiving and his mates at Grindale so, most weekends, he would be transported to the DZ laid flat on his back on a mattress in the back of an estate car.

John resumed jumping on July 11 1976 and, two jumps later, he was on a demo into a Sheffield school. He started the Sheffield School of Freefall Parachuting and spent many years at Wickenby, Elvington and Sturgate before starting his career with the BPA in 1981.

### THE BPA YEARS

Before taking on the role of NCSO, John had previously been a BPA Council Member for several years and had taken a keen interest in the BPA Instructor rating system.

He was also a BPA and FAI judge in Style, Accuracy, Relative Work and Canopy Relative Work (FS and CF, as we now know them) and served as Chief Judge at the British Nationals and also internationally at World Cups and a CF WPC.

John also became active at IPC as one of the BPA delegates from 1982/83. For

many years, he served as deputy chair of the Style and Accuracy Committee and he was the chair from 2001 until he recently stood down.

John has been elected by IPC to serve as FAI Controller at several World Championships; a role that he found particularly enjoyable but challenging at times. His first appointment at a Style and Accuracy WPC was in China in 1994, followed by Hungary in 1996, Vrsar, Croatia in 1998, Japan in 2000, Rijeka, Croatia in 2004 and Montenegro in 2010. Other such appointments include World Cups in Russia in 2005 and Osijek, Croatia in 2007.

As if that wasn't enough, he has also served as Chief Judge at the 1995 Style and Accuracy World Cup of Champions in Cuba and the 1999 CF World Cup in Russia, as well as being Jury Member/President at various other WPCs.

Being active on the international scene has certainly had its perks and John has been fortunate to visit many places while 'working' in skydiving, but the single most important benefit has been the opportunity to make so many new friends along the way. Now that he's retired, he intends to chill out a little, spend some time travelling and meet up with them. ●



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## TEAM GB REPRESENTED FS, CP, ACCURACY AND SPEED AT THE SPECTACULAR FOURTH DUBAI CHAMPIONSHIPS

WORDS MARC FLETCHER

**T**eam GB were proudly invited to participate in the fourth Dubai International Parachuting Championships (DIPC) in December 2013, with entrants in Accuracy, Speed, CP and 4-way FS disciplines. With an average winter temperature of 24 degrees and clear blue skies, it is easy to understand why the DIPC event, hosted and organised by Skydive Dubai, has quickly become a popular stop on the international competition circuit.

Part of any international event such as the DIPC is the opening ceremony. In holding with this tradition, and in typical Dubai style, it has to be said that this year's opening ceremony was an event unto itself. Perhaps the building-sized, concave and projected stage backdrop should have been an early giveaway. After the introduction speeches, we were gloriously entertained by high production value video shorts, contrasting the old UAE with the new, before and after skydiving. Next came what can only be described as a multitude of skydiving-inspired dance routines. Using a combination of LED suits, human-sized rings, flamethrowers, cloth, bungee cord and trapeze wires, we were, to all intents and purposes, mesmerised. Just as one might think the evening was coming to a close, our entry wristbands began to flash in synchronicity as a DJ was raised through the bottom of the stage, playing

Pendulum. A split second after the audience were on their feet and going wild, the sky burst into flames with an enormous, musically choreographed fireworks display. Many minutes later, having already passed the point of disbelief, many people found it difficult to comprehend the final act of the evening. What started as a distant buzz of a high-powered engine quickly developed into a neon-illuminated stunt plane, lasers affixed to the wings, showing off through the diminishing levels of remaining firework smoke.

Further extravagant entertainment during the DIPC included a firework Gala Dinner in the shadow of the Burj Al Arab and several air shows from *Al Fursan*, the UAE's Flying Display Team, and our homegrown *Red Arrows*.

The daily focus of the DIPC was the Palm dropzone, where all nations had been provided with amenities such as air-conditioned rooms, packing areas and refreshment stands. In order to keep the surrounding airspace uncongested, if competitors were unfortunate enough to land at one of the alternative sites such as at the top of the Palm, it was necessary to be ferried back to the Palm DZ using one of the many Skydive Dubai speedboats. Obviously speedboat is just a synonym for 'dropzone minibus' in Dubai.

Although a large number of days were spent in active competition, the excellent weather gave all an opportunity to



**1** Raykipo launch a meeker, by Grant Richards

**2** Brian Vacher on a distance round, by Mikey Lovemore

explore the multitude of adventurous activities available. During the day, people visited water parks, indoor ski slopes and went dune buggy racing. At night, the high price of alcohol did little to dissuade people's appetite for a good party. With a little prior planning, it was possible to visit bars offering free drinks for women and complimentary, custom-engraved, drinking chalices for gentlemen.

Team GB had a fantastic, possibly even magical, time at the DIPC and, having all made it home safely, would like to thank the Crown Prince of Dubai for his generous patronage of the DIPC and also our head of delegation, Jeff Chandler. →





3

## CANOPY PILOTING – MAXINE TATE

As always, the DIPC Canopy Piloting brought in all the big hitters from around the world with a total field of 74 pilots. The rounds were spread out over six days, with the first half of the rounds being held into strong headwinds. It was a battle of power: Peregrines vs. Petras. When the winds finally died down, the Distance records began to tumble, with a new World Record for Nick Batsch (158.76m) who took the gold in that event and a new European Record for Julien Guiho (147.19m) who came in third. Jay Moledzki also scored the only perfect 100 in Zone Accuracy to take the gold in that event. After all nine rounds, the Peregrine took a full sweep of the podium with Curt Bartholomew (USA) on top, Julien Guiho (FRA) in second and Jay Moledzki (CAN) in third.

Team GB was five-strong this year, led by veterans Brian Vacher and Martin Reynolds, together with new faces Maxine Tate, Stephen Hogan and Nigel Holland. Brian had an outstanding comeback with an overall finish in 12th place, having left last year's competition through injury. Team GB also brought back two new Distance records – Brian with a new British record and Maxine with a new European Women's record. Stephen had a very consistent performance throughout and Martin posted very respectable scores in Speed and ZA before having to retire with a rolled ankle. We were all surprised to see Nigel follow through on his promise to actually be at a competition. He certainly set a new standard in freestyle with his own interpretation of a superman – a definite crowd pleaser.

**3** Brit team Raykipo with CP competitors Martin Reynolds, Maxine Tate and Brian Vacher, by Mikey Lovemore

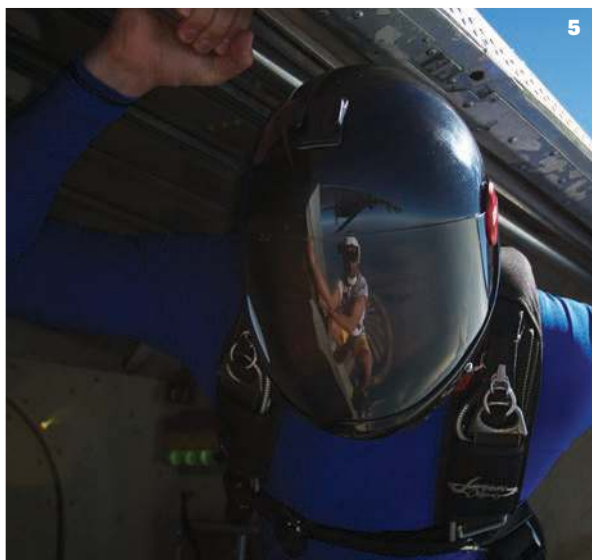
**4** Distance World Record holder Nick Batsch on a Freestyle run, by NZ Aerosports

**5** Mikey Lovemore focused on a Speed Skydiving exit, with cameraman Claudio Troncso and the backdrop of the Palm visible in the reflection of his visor

**6** Nigel Holland after a good CP run, by NZ Aerosports



4



5



6



### CLASSIC ACCURACY – GLENN STEPHENSON

Team members were Jeff Chandler, Janos Leszko, Glenn Stephenson and Pete Sizer. Normally an Accuracy team would consist of five participants, but unfortunately no one else was able to fill the final position. The aim in the Accuracy landing discipline is for each member of the team to land as close as possible to a 2cm target, with the best four scores from each round counting towards an overall team score. It is the most difficult of the various Accuracy disciplines requiring specialist canopies, electronic measuring equipment and years of training to reach the highest levels.

Overall, the team scored well with only a few hiccups. In particular, Janos had an outstanding start with world-class scores over the first three rounds. Pete had one of his best international meets ever and the overall team score of 6cm in round three was a new British record at a major international FAI event using the 2cm target. →



**7** Glenn Stephenson's view from the helicopter skid

**8** Canopies in the stack: one on the tuffet, one setting up and Glenn Stephenson as top man taking a photo while waiting his turn

**9** Brian Vacher on a speed round, by Mikey Lovemore

**10** Maxine Tate setting a new European female Distance record in CP, by Mikey Lovemore

|                  | 1  | 2  | 3 | 4  | 5 | 6  | 7  | 8  |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|
| Jeff Chandler    | 4  | 3  | 2 | 7  | 1 | 16 | 2  | 3  |
| Pete Sizer       | 1  | 3  | 2 | 3  | 4 | 6  | 5  | 16 |
| Glenn Stephenson | 7  | 16 | 2 | 4  | 2 | 3  | 3  | 5  |
| Janos Leszko     | 0  | 1  | 0 | 6  | 1 | 16 | 10 | 16 |
| Round Totals     | 12 | 23 | 6 | 20 | 8 | 41 | 20 | 40 |



## SPEED – MIKEY LOVEMORE

Speed skydivers from around the world were invited to compete in a demonstration event at the fourth Dubai International Parachuting Competition (DIPC). The Speed competition was organised for the second year running by the ISSA (International Speed Skydiving Association) in conjunction with the DIPC.

Speed skydiving is the fastest non-motorised sport in the world, with competitors often reaching speeds of more than 300mph. For me, the attraction of Speed skydiving lies in its simplicity and purity. Who doesn't like going fast and feeling the acceleration?

ISSA World champion Marco Wiederkehr dominated the competition with a final result of 309mph, 32mph faster than his long-time rival Alexander Diem. Up-and-coming speeder Reinhard Wiesenhofer took a comfortable third, showing great consistency as he gets ever-faster throughout each competition. Many thanks are owed to Arnold Hohenegger, Chairman of the ISSA, for his hard work as the Speed skydivers' head of delegation.

The focused, yet fun, atmosphere at the competition pushed me to up my game. I'm fired up about Speed skydiving again, having struggled to reach the speeds I know I am capable of at my past few competitions. Sharing experiences with other competitors has given me some ideas of what I need to work on to go faster and I am looking forward to the BPA Speed roadshows this year to keep working on my skills and helping others develop as well.

Along with newcomer Jason Bird, I was excited to get the personal invitation to compete in Dubai and I have also been invited to be part of the ISSA board representing the UK. It is an exciting time for Speed Skydiving as we have just been officially recognised as a discipline by the FAI IPC, so from now on you will be seeing Speed Skydiving at IPC competitions. There is now an IPC Speed sub-committee (including yours truly) tasked with overseeing the discipline and we're looking forward to our first official IPC Speed competition at the World Cup in the Czech Republic in August. Years of hard work by members of the ISSA board, especially Arnold Hohenegger, have paid off and it's a proud day for speeders worldwide. We can now be taken seriously in our tight outfits competing in a pure skydiving discipline which is the fastest non-motorised sport on the planet. We're looking forward to the influx of new competitors and the inevitable increase in exposure and skill. Will we soon see a new world record which is faster than the current 330mph by Marco Wiederkehr? Get your speed on! Now is our time!



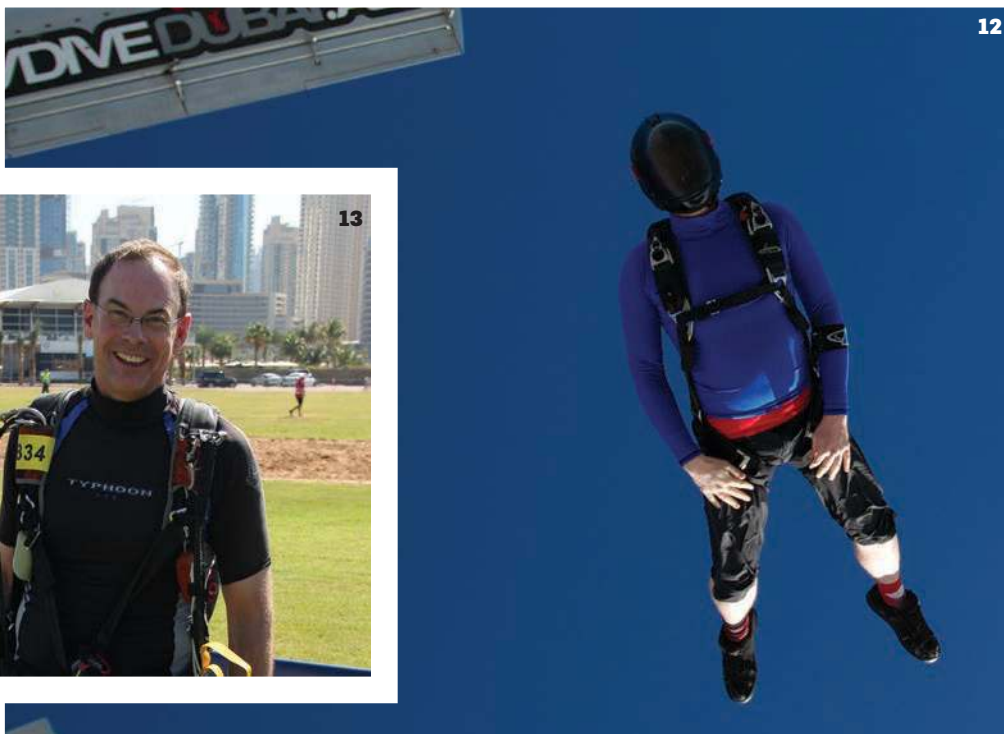
11



12



13



**11** Mikey Lovemore  
foot-cam on a  
fun jump

**12** Mikey Lovemore  
easing into his  
Speed position  
after exit, by  
Claudio Troncoso

**13** Martin  
'Dangerpants'  
Reynolds, by  
Mikey Lovemore

14



**14 Nigel Holland** dragging water on a windy day, by Rolf 'Kuri' Kuratle

**15 Martin Reynolds** swoops against a skyscraper backdrop for a round of Zone Accuracy, by Mikey Lovemore

**16 British record holder in Distance,** Brian Vacher, by Mikey Lovemore

15



#### 4-WAY OPEN – MARC FLETCHER

The DIPC represented a last-minute but unmissable extension to *Raykipo's* 2013 season. Having not jumped together for more than three months, we arrived in Dubai eager to complete as many training jumps as possible. Jumping on the first available bus, having being reliably informed it was headed to the Desert campus where training jumps were possible, we were very surprised to find ourselves delivered to the Palm. This removed the possibility of getting more than two practice jumps, where most of the freefall time was spent distracted by the incredible Palm vistas. *Raykipo* opened the competition strongly, leading the pack of non-professional teams. Unfortunately, as the competition developed, our lack of currency and unfamiliarity with Otter exits cost us heavily in points – leaving us to finish in eighth place. *Hayabusa* stormed to victory, their 25.1 average leaving them nearly 30 points ahead of second place, and the French girls won the female 4-way by a similar margin. 8-way was a tighter battle but was eventually won by local team *Dubai Asaar 8*, player-coached by Craig Girard. All told, *Raykipo* had a fantastic time and would like to extend their thanks for the generosity and friendly camaraderie shown to us from all levels of competitor. ●

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# What's **NEW** For **2014**



## **NEW FF COACHES!**



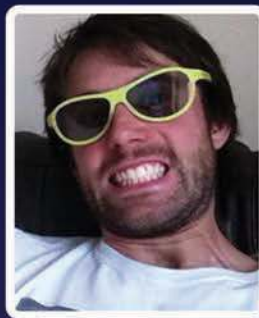
Liz Boniface



Paul Cooper



Jay Southall



Steve Howes



Adam Dare

## **NEW EVENTS!**

- 22-23 MAR** - Freely With Liz Boniface
- 29-30 MAR** - 6-Way FS Meet
- 12-13 APR** - Blackjack 14-Way FS Competition
  - Tracking & Angle Flying With Paul Cooper
- 26-27 APR** - Freely With Adam Dare
- 10-11 MAY** - VFS Workshop With Paul Cooper
- 17-18 MAY** - Dynamic Group Flight With Steve Howes
- 21-23 JUN** - Team Elite Diamonds and Jewels Bigway
- 23-24 AUG** - FS Bigways with Dave West

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PRO-ORGANISERS AMY CHMELECKI AND SARAH CURTIS WERE JOINED BY EUROPEAN SKYDIVING LEGENDS DOMITILLE KIGER AND ANNA MOXNES TO LEAD 63 OF THE BEST FEMALE FREEFLYERS IN THE WORLD TO SET A NEW HEAD DOWN WORLD RECORD

WORDS LAURA KENYON

# WOMEN'S VERTICAL WORLD RECORD

**T**his was my third Women's Vertical World Record (WVWR). It is always a slick operation with great support from the dropzone and sponsors, but the most striking thing for me is the atmosphere. All of the girls, and in particular the organisers, make this an incredibly supportive and encouraging

experience with everyone staying really positive through a physically and mentally challenging event. It is a women's record, but the support from the guys in organising the bench jumps, flying video slots and taking great photos is also vital.

I did not expect to be attending the record this year. I returned to skydiving

in May 2013 after a significant break from the sport, undecided as to whether I wanted to start back skydiving or not. However, it could not have been a better start back as it coincided with the UK Women's Head Down Record held at Sibson. It was a great event (thank you Karen Wilson-Roberts!), well organised, with great support from the dropzone



and some invaluable assistance with the organising from some of the boys (Paul Cooper, Michael Wilson-Roberts and Rob Titchner). Even back then, the Women's Vertical World Record was already a topic of conversation.

I went on to take part in the UK Head Down Record in September, at which point I started to think seriously about going to the world record. Although this would be the third that I had attended, it would only be the second that I had participated in as injury had prevented me from taking part at the second. This made it an extra special event for me personally, especially with such a great group of UK flyers (Weed Stoodley, Liz Boniface and Cat Adam) to hang out with – and I needed a holiday, so I put my name on the list.

### WARM-UP DAYS

The event kicked off with two optional warm-up days followed by three record attempt days, with an additional day allocated for backup in case of bad weather. The warm-up days started with 76 people registered, increasing to 86 registered by day two. These days are an opportunity for people to get current at multi-plane formation flying, try out different slots and show the organisers their skill set. The jumps were fun and challenging while allowing the participants to get used to jumping with oxygen, the visuals of a large head down formation and approaching the formation from both dive and float exits.

At this point, I must give a massive shout out to John Lyman (Skydive Arizona Rigger). I had a gear malfunction on the →



**1** Multi-aircraft exit, by Norman Kent

**2** Excitedly emplaning, by Norman Kent

**3** Building on the base, by Norman Kent

**4** Superfloating the Skyvan, by Norman Kent

**5** The first dock on the base 4, by Nik Daniel



**“The organisers encouraged us throughout the day: “We know you can all do it. We believe in you, let’s do it!””**



7



second jump on day two when my bridle line came detached from my pilot chute. Thankfully, John sewed it back on in very short order (10 minutes!) so I didn't miss any of the briefs, debriefs or jumps. Thank you, John!

All of the UK girls participated in the warm-up days, taking the opportunity to blow off some cobwebs, try some different formation slots, catch up with old friends and meet the other girls. The warm-up days were good fun but, by day two, I could feel the pressure starting to build. Performance anxiety was definitely present. This was our last chance to prove our flying skills sufficiently to ensure we made the cut for the first jumps on the record days.

#### RECORD DAYS

The record days started at 0730 with a brief and roll call. The 96 women who were registered were split into three

groups. Day one started with a 65-way for the record attempts and a 22-way and an 11-way organised by Brandon Atwood and Steve Curtis.

All of the UK girls started on the record formation. Weed and I were positioned as first stingers on a pod, Liz as first stinger on a second pod and Cat as second stinger on a first pod. The first day saw four record attempts, each from 18,000ft with a Skyvan as the lead plane and two Otters as trail planes. The jumps got progressively better throughout the day, with some substitutes to and from the bench – but no record secured yet.

Day two started with a larger record formation and plane formation: a 69-way with a Skyvan and three Otters. Once again, all the UK girls made the cut although Weed and I changed positions slightly to first stinger on a line and second stinger on a pod. The pressure



**6** Closing in on the record, by Norman Kent

**7** Sunset over the Arizona desert, by Norman Kent

**8** The record shot, by Nik Daniel

**9** Why don't YOU get involved? By Norman Kent

was definitely building. The organisers encouraged us throughout the day: "We know you can all do it. We believe in you, let's do it!" Again, the standard got progressively better throughout the day with some changes to and from the bench – but, once again, no record.

The pressure to get the record was reflected in the start time of the third day which was brought forward to 0700 with wheels-off at 0745. The formation was reduced from the 69-way to a 65-way to start the day, with all the UK girls still representing, along with a 22-way and an 11-way for the girls on the bench.

The 65-way flew really smoothly but, unfortunately, a couple of people did not make their slot. The second jump was much the same as the first, after which the organisers made a couple of changes – dropping the formation to a 63-way. Towards the end of the third jump of

the day, there was a real feeling that everyone was flying as a group with very little tension and it felt really solid. Everything I could see in my peripheral vision looked good and I felt sure that we had nailed it!

When we landed, everyone thought we had it and the atmosphere was electric. However, we had to wait for the judges to check the formation. The two judges on the dropzone came to their verdict pretty quickly, but we had to wait for a remote third judge to confirm. After what felt like hours, the verdict was in and it was a record! The whole group erupted into cheers and hugs, and it was an incredible feeling. It had taken 12 jumps, but we finally had it – with all the UK girls on it! Go Team UK! Photos were taken and the raffle was drawn, and then everyone headed to the bar and the party. What an amazing day!

I have had a great time getting back into skydiving this year, remembering all of the little things that make it such an awesome sport and a great community and achieving far beyond my expectations. To any girls out there who think they might be ready in a couple of years for the WVWR, it is a great event and I can't promote it enough. If you want to come and make a start in 2014 on head down formation flying, or if you are already an amazing flyer and want to come and provide support and tips, we will be looking to do the UK Women's Head Down Record again early in the summer of 2014. There is a warm-up weekend on May 3-5, the record attempts are to be at Sibson on June 14/15 and there are some tunnel camps with QFX to practise HD formation skills. You can join or find out more by joining the Facebook event or getting in touch with me (Laura Kenyon) or Karen Wilson-Roberts. Please watch this space and get involved! ●

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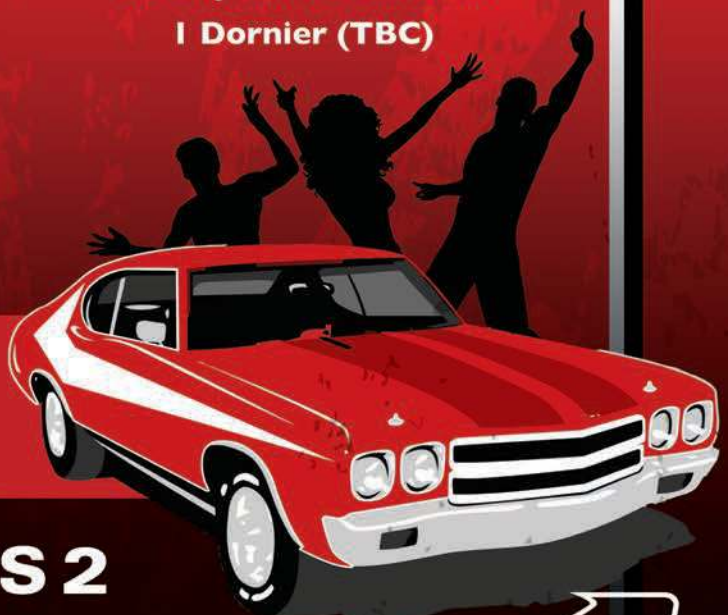
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# Memories of Chris Carroll



IT'S DIFFICULT TO SUM UP A CHARACTER SUCH AS CHRIS IN SUCH A SHORT SPACE, BUT HERE GOES; CHRIS HAD THREE MAIN PASSIONS IN LIFE – THE AIRBORNE, MOTORCYCLES AND SKYDIVING – FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY BEER AND FOOD

By Lizzy Carroll

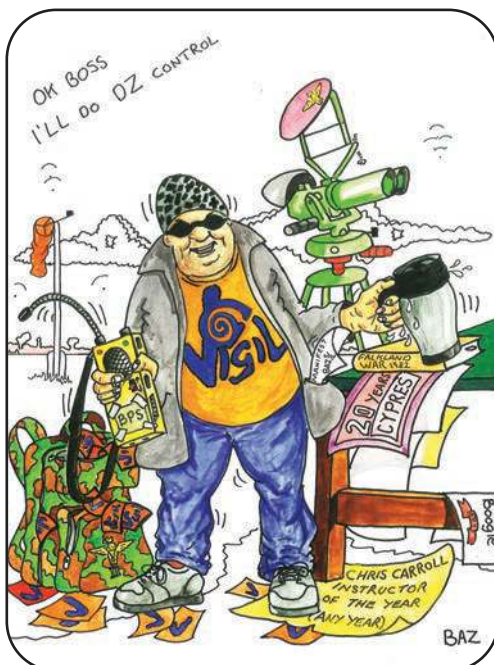


**C**hris did his first jumps in the early '80s at Brize Norton while training to gain the coveted Red Beret. From that point on, it's fair to say that he lived skydiving and, in the early days, he would travel to Headcorn on his motorbike at every opportunity. When he later moved up to Derby, he adopted Langar as his new DZ and you could find him there on many weekends teaching RAPS, on DZ control or (after jumping) lunging in the bar with a Jägerbomb in hand!

As much as he loved jumping in this country, he would escape the British weather and opt for warmer climes whenever he got the chance – Empuriabrava being a favourite of his. Whichever DZ he was at, his larger than life character and incredible personality meant he made lifelong friends wherever he went. It's a tribute to the sort of person he was that he touched the lives of so many people.

Chris was big in character and big in friendship and he was someone you could depend on. He was always ready to help cheer you up and the only man I know to make a very uncomfortably long hug comfortable!

Your smile and friendship will be missed by many. Fly free, blue skies. ●



*Chris was tragically killed on a skydive in the Gambia following a low turn.*

# Keiron O'Rourke

KEIRON WAS A STAR. HE WAS ONE OF THOSE SKYDIVERS WITH A 'REAL' LIFE – A FAMILY, A HOUSE AND A JOB – AND LITTLE FREE TIME. BUT HE ALSO HAD A DREAM OF FLYING. HE LOVED OUR SPORT BUT, MORE THAN THAT, HE LOVED SHARING HIS PASSION



1 Memorial jump, by Gary Wainwright

2 By Jim Bradwell

3 By Tony Danbury

**K**eiron always had a smile on his face and time for others, a recognition of the effort he put into the development of our sport.

He didn't just fly for himself, a 4-way team or one of those big-way events he loved so much; he flew for everyone who could learn something from him. Keiron dedicated so much time to newly qualified students. He was one of those FS coaches who would come to the DZ not just because you asked him to coach you. He would always make you smile in the sky, no matter how hard the jump was, no matter how much you struggled. And Keiron wouldn't stop jumping with you once you got your FSI. He only wanted to help you get better and more confident, no matter your level. On the ground, he would happily help you dirt-dive a jump. On bad weather days, he would get a group of skydivers new to load organising together and talk us through the specifics of big-ways, the techniques and the safety. So many new skydivers owe part of their love of the sport to Keiron's enthusiasm, support and help.

**Raphielle Barbier**



**O**n the day I first met Keiron, it was obvious right from the start that he was a 'lifer' with his enthusiasm, need for speed and an unforgettable, contagious smile.

With the coaching and help from his 'buddy' Milko, he soon began to show his potential – winning his first National Competition in 4-way with teammates *Chaos* within his first year. From this moment on, he was hooked.

As jump numbers totted up, he decided that it was time to start giving back to the sport and gained his FS coaching rating, with which he helped many newbies find their feet and progress through the qualification and beyond. He seemed to thrive on the progression of those around him – so much so that when I decided to go for my AFF Instructor rating earlier last year and was struggling to get over the classroom demons in my head, he took me under his wing (into a classroom in his workplace) to show me I could do it with different methods!

Along with helping other skydivers progress, he also progressed quickly himself, gaining multiple sequential world records on our last trip to Empuriabrava.

Outside of skydiving, Keiron was a loving husband, doting father to his beautiful daughter and a true friend.

Keiron will be sorely missed by many people in different areas of life but, rather than cry that he is not here tomorrow, I smile at the memories from the past.

Thanks, buddy – blue skies! ●

**Siân Stokes**

*Keiron was tragically killed following a canopy collision within the landing pattern on a 200-way in America.*

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BREAK-OFF ON FREEFLY SKYDIVES HAS BEEN A HOT TOPIC RECENTLY WITH THE INCREASE OF THE OPENING HEIGHT FOR A AND B LICENCE JUMPERS AND A COUPLE OF WELL-PUBLICISED AAD ACTIVATIONS. THE AIM OF THIS ARTICLE IS TO TEACH A GOOD PRACTICE SIT-FLY BREAK-OFF PROCEDURE WHICH CAN BE USED AS A REFRESHER FOR THOSE ALREADY IN THE KNOW

# FF BREAK-OFF

**T**he first area we are going to look at is ancillary equipment. While audible altimeters are not mandatory for freefly jumps, it is very unlikely you will find an experienced freeflyer without at least one. They are an invaluable backup piece of equipment. It is, however, the newer flyers to the discipline who require them the most. Some freefly jumps can be disorientating and, when not used to the increased speed and decreased freefall time, it may be easier to lose altitude awareness. When flying at much higher freefly speeds such as fast head down, it may be advised that more

than one audible is worn and the volume of the alarm is set to high. The best place to mount an audible is internally in the helmet to ensure they can be clearly heard when needed.

AADs, while not mandatory for C and D Licences at all centres, should always be worn. There are many living examples of people who would not be here today if it were not for this invaluable part of your equipment. Remember, no one ever thinks it's going to happen to them until it does! Also consider picking a reserve canopy that you would be happy landing under while unconscious. Some manufacturers make low bulk reserves so you can get a

bigger, safer reserve for the same volume. Your reserve does not need to be smaller than your main.

## ORGANISE, NOT IMPROVISE

Anyone who has been freeflying for a while knows how easily a 2-way can turn into a 10-way and the next topic for consideration is planning the skydive. While jumping with your regular jump buddies on small groups, you will all have a pre-set plan that you follow week in and week out. However, when jumping with new people for the first time or in larger groups, break-off should be explicitly stated and walked through. A good →



time to do this is before boarding the aircraft! People who do not have good movement skills such as forwards and backwards should keep group sizes smaller until this is achieved, as by hanging on the outside of a group they will have people in the centre tracking past them on break-off. Sometimes the best idea is to split a larger group into small, safer groups where people will have the opportunity to learn more.

The BPA increased the opening height for both A and B Licence jumpers in 2013 and it is now set to 3,000ft. When discussing the break-off during the planning of the jump, this should be remembered and consideration given to it. Many coaches are now upping break-off on freely jumps to 5,500ft or even slightly higher for coach jumps and larger

jumps. When experienced trackers break-off slightly higher, they should also be mindful of the line of flight – if they track up or down the line of flight, they may be reducing the available airspace on opening. If they realise they have ended up flying along the line of flight, they may tweak the heading of the track and be aware once open to fly their canopies perpendicular to the line of flight. Larger groups should always be given more time before the next group exits the aircraft to minimise this issue.

### METHOD, NOT MADNESS

Next we will examine a method of breaking off that allows you to check your airspace at every stage from a sit-fly position to a full deployed canopy. The key is to be looking where you are going





## Seven potentially deadly sins that reduce the safety of yourself and others

1. Not planning a break-off height
2. No audible altimeter
3. Not breaking off at pre-set height
4. Lots of inexperienced people on a larger formation
5. When back tracking, not looking the direction you are going (e.g. filming your feet)
6. Losing heading control during transition from back to belly track
7. Not having an effective track to provide adequate separation

they may then smoothly move into a back tracking position using a point on the horizon (180 degrees from the centre) to ensure the heading of the track remains straight. At this point, if you are aware there is someone on a similar heading, slowly adjust the heading to clearer airspace while continually looking around. Once you can tell the airspace above your back track is clear, you may now transition to a fast max belly track using half a barrel roll. The technique for the barrel roll should include fixing on a point on the horizon so that heading is not lost during the rotation. Now you are belly tracking. Track like a rock star – your airspace on opening depends on this. Keep looking around and also now make sure the airspace below you is clear. From now, you will move smoothly into the belly fly position and, as on all jumps, you should wave off before you pull. As soon as your canopy is fully open, fly the canopy away from the line of flight to give yourself and others more space.

If you cannot complete all of these steps while maintaining heading and safely generating enough separation to deploy, you need to raise your break-off height or reconsider jumping in a large group!

So we have covered several topics during this article which, all combined together, can help you and the others around you increase your safety margin. The key with all issues to do with our own personal safety is to make sure you have the right equipment *and* have a plan. Stay safe out there! ●

### Ally Milne

– UK and European Freefly

Record holder

– Full-time Instructor and Coach at Skydive Langar

Thanks to Airtec, PD, UPT, Airkix, and Cookie Composites  
[tryskydiving.co.uk](http://tryskydiving.co.uk)

## “When jumping with new people for the first time or in larger groups, break-off should be explicitly stated and walked through”

and making sure at every stage before you make a move that you can see the airspace you are moving into is clear. The larger the group, the more proficient the flyer has to be at break-off. Sooner or later, you will find a break-off corridor that isn't clear and you will need to adjust accordingly by moving to clearer airspace. You can practise break-offs on solos or you could even ask your coach to film you during a break-off drill dive.

From a sit-fly position that is facing toward the centre of the group, the flyer

should smoothly transition from sit-fly to a fast back-fly position as soon as the pre-arranged break-off height is reached. If you try to rush this stage, you may over-rotate – which can cause a great deal of height loss. From the fast back-fly position, the airspace both above and behind where the sit-flyer started must be checked to be clear. Many people just roll onto belly-fly and track from there. This does not check the airspace behind you and could cause a high speed collision. Only once they know the airspace is clear,

**1 Back tracking away from a formation before barrel-rolling to the belly position,**  
by Ewan Cowie

**2 Alan Foulkes-Williams and Henry Cressey,**  
by Chris Cook

**3 Stay safe out there! Ally Milne,**  
by Gary Wainwright

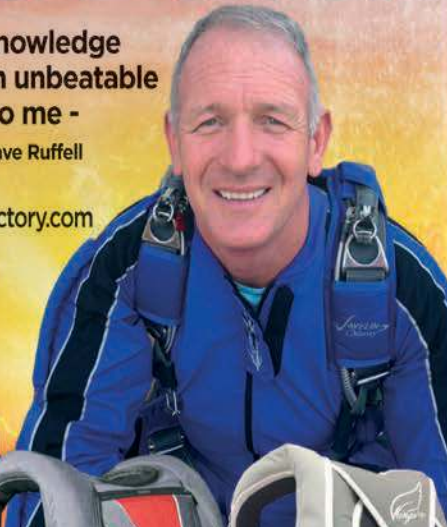


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# SKILLS PREVENT SPILLS

AN OPINION PIECE BY SCOTT MACKENZIE

There has been some discussion recently about canopy handling training and whether there is a requirement within the BPA to introduce more licences to prove an individual is capable before progressing further. The typical knee-jerk reaction would be that there most definitely is. However, is this really the case? Is there not already enough regulation involved in our sport? Could the answer to safer skies lie elsewhere?

**Before we start** to create new licences, let's look at what we currently have and see what exactly is missing – if anything.

Going back to basics, we have the established CH1 and CH2 curriculum. If done correctly, the CH2 material is, in fact, as complete a life-saving toolbox for canopy control as it gets. How often do we see low turns when a flat/elevated turn could have been managed with ease? What about slowing the whole canopy flight down with toggles to let the traffic clear rather than diving like a falcon through a flock of pigeons? How many experienced skydivers have taken the time to learn the full range of their canopy? These are all skills that are taught at an early level, will save your life (make no mistake) and are part of the CH2 brief.

## SAFETY, UH...FIRST?

So why are people hurting themselves under moderately loaded, fully flying canopies?

This is probably more to do with personal responsibility at a deeper level than simply watching what's happening around you on any particular jump. Once a skydiver has achieved B Licence, how often do they practise the CH2 exercises? How many people actually take the time to think about why we have CH1 and CH2 and treat it as more than a tick-box exercise?



Hundreds of jumps later, having progressed from larger canopies, these skills are forgotten – but that could very well be when they are needed. The only additional skill set required here is to have the discipline to practise them regularly, knowing your canopy well enough to pilot it rather than it fly the person underneath. If you don't use it, you lose it.

For some, the CH1 and CH2 material is very basic and the mistake is made that its subject matter is only for novice skydivers. In reality, the material is the toolbox for survival in the sky and should be revisited on each different canopy you fly. Whether you choose to or not is another matter.

How often do we see small people jumping small high-performance canopies and it's okay because "my wing loading is only x, y or z?" Especially the smaller, semi-current jumper who is on a small high-performance canopy in large traffic situations. These jumpers are very often flying in a quarter-brake configuration when coming in to land in nil wind conditions, as the speed is too scary, before sliding to a stop on their bum. Have they taken advice about the performance traits of small ZP canopies and understood the differences from their student days? Has this canopy pilot the necessary skills and confidence to slow the

canopy flight down enough further up? Is this a suitable canopy for the application or skills? Sometimes the size of canopy is even dictated by offering the pilot the ability to be able to jump in a larger window of wind conditions.

## SKILL MISMATCH

With focus on freefall skills increasing thanks to wind tunnels, are we creating a subconscious mental division between freefall and canopy skills? When that minute in the tunnel is over, we get out and plan the next. Could this be happening in the sky, post-deployment? As skydivers, we must be aware that the skydive is only halfway through at deployment and isn't over until all canopies have landed safely. We must remain engaged, look at what is happening and adjust our flight mode to suit.

As freefall skills progress at a fantastic rate without a canopy ride in the tunnel, are we only looking at the canopy ride as a means to get us to the ground with no focus? These canopy skills can't keep up with the freefall abilities and there is no alternative to train another time.

Within these groups, small canopies are often preferred due to either having a small rig on a small person so it's not too bulky or because of "being awesome in freefall, therefore I must be able to match it with a demanding canopy".

## TOP TIPS: KIT TIP

People often touch their handles on the ground, looking to see where they are and drilling in the muscle memory of finding them under pressure. But have you tried looking under canopy? If you wear a full-face helmet, you may find your view is quite different with it on and your handles will generally be further up your chest once you are sitting in your harness.

## OPS MANUAL QUIZ

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

**Q1** Who may act as DZ Controller?

**Q2** Who must wear a knife?

## NEW COACHES

There were a grand total of 190 new coach qualifications awarded in 2013. FS was the most popular discipline with 102 new coaches, followed by CH with 56. There were also 13 new FF coaches, eight in CP, six in CF and five new Wingsuit coaches. The DZs given are the ones where the coaches achieved their rating, but they may be available to coach at other DZs. Congratulations to all.

### FS COACH

Robert Bellamy, Strathallan  
Kevin Edgell, Netheravon  
Mal Richardson, Jersey

### CF COACH

Alexander Smart, Strathallan  
Kieran Thomson, Strathallan

### FF COACH

Alan Foulkes-Williams, Langar

### WS COACH

Kieran Thomson, Strathallan



By Rob Lloyd



Scott Mackenzie,  
by Chris Cook

learn are already there and it is up to each and every person as to whether they want to practise these so that when the day comes and you need it, you deal with it.

What can you do to work on these? Firstly, start with solo jumps. Work on going back to basics with stall points, become comfortable in slow flight, make flat turns without losing altitude, test rear riser avoidance manoeuvres and learn your canopy. If you can, work with a coach to discuss the inputs and make sure you have a full and complete understanding of what is happening.

Why not do some air-to-air exercises on a flocking jump with a coach to see what effects all these inputs have in relation to another canopy in the sky? This is an especially fantastic learning opportunity and will also get you used to flying with another canopy in close proximity within a controlled environment.

There are numerous quality canopy courses out there which build on these life skills and they are worth every penny. If you can't make that happen, work through the CH material again – one day, you will need it. ●

Again, this all boils down to a jumper's decision to what equipment they have.

### YOUR FALL, YOUR CALL

Ultimately every parachutist and canopy pilot is responsible – responsible for whether they choose to work on their canopy flight skills and responsible for choosing a canopy suitable for their skills and application. This isn't anything new or revolutionary, nor is it the key to what is missing from our various grades. In fact, the golden nugget is already there, the skills to

Section 1, paragraph 4.3.2  
The DZ Controller must be a nominated BPA  
'B' Licence parachutist or above who has been  
fully briefed on his/her responsibilities and duties  
for the specific activities of the day and must be in  
place whilst parachuting is in progress.  
Section 6, paragraph 3.4  
All BPA 'A' Licence parachutists and above are  
required to carry a serviceable knife about their  
person, or on their equipment. The knife should  
be readily accessible.

# 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 stand in the aircraft door already holding onto 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 21 and A...

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

By Dave Head



## 21: Zigzag-Marquis

This exit is relatively tricky for Outside Centre as they have to get their hips higher than their head. There is a lot of work between Inside Centre and Outside Centre to make this happen. If a team wasn't confident enough to launch a 21 in a competition, they could launch an H instead and grip switch.

### OUTSIDE CENTRE

Stand close to the front of the door holding onto both of Inside Centre's arm grips. This exit doesn't have to be a head jam as you are further inside the aircraft. It's okay to put your weight onto the grips in order to keep

steady. Make sure you are standing at a slight angle towards Inside Centre so it's easy for Point to pick up both of your grips. Give the count, giving a big leg swing with your left leg, and work really hard to push off your right leg to get away from the aircraft and throw your left leg into the slipstream to help to rotate your hip so it's higher than your head. Continue to work the rotation of your hips even when you have exited the aircraft.

### INSIDE CENTRE

Stand in front of Outside Centre holding onto both of Outside Centre's arm grips. Help

Outside Centre to stand steady. Stand with your left leg on the edge of the door and push off your right leg on the count. You want to aim to fly underneath Outside Centre on the slipstream as this will help Outside Centre to have their hips higher than their head. You want to aim to have your hips lower than your head and to be at a 45-degree angle to line of flight.

### POINT

Stand at the front of the door with your left leg in front of your right leg. Pick up both grips on Outside Centre. If you do not feel

comfortable with this, then pick up Outside Centre's arm grip and drop onto their leg grip after exiting the door. On the count, leave at the same time as Outside Centre and, if you are exiting with both grips, assist Outside Centre by lifting their left leg grip up. Work really hard to present the front of your body to the slipstream.

### TAIL

Stand on your right leg in the door and hold onto the rail with your right hand. Pick up Inside Centre's left arm grip with your left hand. Watch Outside Centre's count and leave slightly ahead of Inside and Outside Centre. You want to push off your right leg so you are at a 45-degree angle from the door. Drop onto Inside Centre's right leg grip.

### CAMERA

If new to 21, start by treating it like an E. Anywhere in the one-five o'clock position on exit will do initially, with the ideal position depending on how consistent the team is and how far they kick away from the aircraft. It can be challenging for the front pair to get good presentation. This may cause it to cut in or carve on the hill, so anticipate this and react quickly.

If the team does not kick away from the aircraft much or struggles to present, then peeling (going after the team) is best in competition. In the one-two o'clock position, you are more likely to get clean air between Point and Inside Centre and being above the team makes it easier to react and keep a steep view if there is a presentation issue. If the team is comfortable with this exit, then leading (going before the team) to put



By James Stevenson

yourself in the four-five o'clock position will work equally well and should be used to help debrief exit presentation in training.

To peel, let go as soon as Inside Centre's head or shoulders start to pass through the door and go with them. Do not wait until Point has also cleared the door or this will leave you late and looking at the team at a shallow angle. Follow the centre of the formation with your sight to help keep all grips in frame. To lead, you need to let go earlier – perhaps

towards the bottom of the pulse in-swing. Try to follow Inside Centre behind and to their left, to the right of Tail as you drop away from the aircraft.

Any grips needed to complete the 21 can be picked up quickly, so expect a fast key if presentation is good.

**Exit rating** 



By Dave Head



By Dave Head

By James Stevenson



This exit is relatively straightforward, particularly as it's quite easy to get communication with each other. The most critical part of this exit is timing. This is a good exit to grip switch to other formations from.

### OUTSIDE CENTRE

Stand just to the left of the centre of the door. It's important to give Inside Centre some space, but you don't want to be too far up the door as Tail will struggle to get your leg grip. Hold onto the rail with both hands and stand on your right leg. You can stand facing the inside of the aircraft and extend your left leg out so it's easy for Tail to pick up your inside grip on your left leg. When giving the count, bend your right leg on the down of the count so you are generating enough power to enable you to spring off to get away from the aircraft. Aim to push off and lift your left hip up so you are at a 45-degree angle to line of flight. The further away you are from the aircraft, the easier it is for Inside Centre to find the space they need out of the door. Really work your presentation with your left hip and upper body by lifting your left shoulder up and right shoulder down.

### INSIDE CENTRE

Stand to the left of Outside Centre and pick up a high grip of Outside Centre's right leg grip and the outside arm grip of Tail's right arm. When standing in the door, have your left leg in front as this will help with presentation when leaving the door. Pick up eye contact with Outside Centre, match Outside Centre's count and, when leaving the door, push off your right leg and really work to present your chest to the slipstream by dropping your left side down. Work both your left shoulder and left knee down, aiming to be at a 90-degree angle to Outside Centre.

### POINT

Stand to the front of the door and pick up both arm grips on Outside Centre. Pick up the grips on whatever is comfortable, which can either be high grips or wrist grips. Stand with your left leg in front to help your presentation. Pick

By Dave Head



# A: Unipod

up eye contact with Tail and, on the count, leave slightly later than Inside Centre. You want to aim to be 45 degrees off Outside Centre when leaving the door. Really work your presentation by lifting your right side up, which will also help Outside Centre's presentation. Fly with your left knee slightly down to help maintain the 45-degree angle. With this exit, you want to feel like you are following the exit out as you want to aim to have your hips higher than your head.

### TAIL

Stand in the door fairly low but also away from the aircraft to allow space for Inside Centre to get further out of the door. Hold onto the inside rail with your right arm and position your arm so it's easy for Inside Centre to pick up your arm grip. You should extend your right arm fully. Pick up the inside leg grip of Outside Centre's left leg. Pick up

eye contact with Point. On the count, leave slightly earlier than Outside Centre. You want to be the lowest person on the formation. Aim to push off your right leg so you are at the same 45-degree angle as Outside Centre. To help with the timing, work your rhythm with Outside Centre.

### CAMERA

A is one of the more challenging exits when first starting camera. It is a long thin formation and, if it doesn't kick away from the aircraft, there is a risk of being burbled by Inside Centre.

The ideal place to be is in the three o'clock position and use framing to put the long axis of the formation across the widest part of the camera screen. Unfortunately, this is exactly where Inside Centre is – especially if the team doesn't kick away from the aircraft. To avoid being burbled, aim to be on either side of Inside Centre in clean air – either to their left in the



four-five o'clock position between Inside Centre and Tail or to their right in the one-two o'clock position between Inside Centre and Point.

To their right needs a very close peel right on the team as they leave. This can be safer for showing grips clearly, but leave too late and you will have a shallow viewing angle on the team which is not clear for judging. Let go as soon as Inside Centre's head or shoulders start to pass through the door and drop with them. Do not wait until Point has also cleared the door or this will leave you late and shallow. Follow the centre of the formation with your sight to help keep all grips in frame.

To their left means leading, leaving slightly before the team. This is more useful for debriefing but will put you further away from the team and you may need to drive at them to keep a steep viewing angle. Let go earlier, perhaps towards the bottom of the pulse in-swing.



By James Stevenson

Timing is critical for a team that keys fast. Experiment with both to find what works best and what you feel most confident with.

Exit rating 

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# WHAT IF...?

**What If...** your cutaway pad or reserve handle comes away from your harness in freefall? Instead of suggesting answers at the bottom of the page as usual, this time we bring you ideas straight from real-life experience...



*A fumbled exit knocked out this cutaway pad*

*Below: This man dislodged his cutaway pad against the door on exit and was told about it by others on the jump. He opened his reserve instead*

# FLOATING HANDLES

**I was doing** the last jump of the day after two days of many jumps. I was relaxed and a little weary. The jump plan was a 4-way sit with me as the base. I was to exit from the front float position. Rear float climbed out, I climbed out and then another skydiver got in the door and I gave the count. As I was on the front float position I gave the count with my head, which was quite an energetic move from that position for everyone to see.

The moment I got off the plane, I heard a 'clink' sound and you know when there is something 'not right' in freefall. I looked down to see my reserve handle laying on my belly. As I had looked down, I had ended up on my back and it seemed a good idea to stay on my back as I figured I could shield the handle from the air better there. I grabbed hold of it with my left hand and waved my right arm around to tell the other three to 'go away'. I spent the whole jump waving around like a mad woman for them to go away. As the plan was for me to be the base and I was lowest, they all tried individually coming in to do some close proximity flying with me. I discouraged them as much as possible by waving around, looking distressed and (stupidly) shouting "GO AWAY". At one point, I tried to put the handle back in in freefall but did a mad spinny thing so decided to not carry on trying that.

I was really just very worried that the reserve was going to come out with three people above me and just wanted to try and physically prevent it from happening by a) holding onto it b) making them go as far away as possible from me and c) shielding the handle from the air to try and control it.

When it came to break-off height, I tracked away on my back, then flipped over onto my stomach and (still holding onto the reserve handle) deployed my main and waited to see what would be above me after my main deployed. I did this slightly higher than normal and so wouldn't have necessarily done a fantastic track as I did it mainly on my back and not for a long distance. Incidentally, I'd just recently started doing tunnel time and learning to fly on my back, so I was a lot more comfortable with back-tracking than I had been before. Back-flying and tracking were invaluable skills in this situation – a good reason to not ever stop learning new disciplines!

Once the canopy was open, I checked my airspace, was slightly higher than normal and then had to fiddle quite a bit to get the reserve handle back into the harness where it is held. The place it goes is higher when the canopy is open than when you are wearing the harness on the ground! Once I was happy that the handle was back in, I looked over both of my shoulders to see if I could see anything 'flapping around' and saw nothing, so I did a nice conservative landing pattern and landed in a good clear space.

I was aware of not doing anything radical and not going near anyone under canopy as I had no idea if the reserve pin had popped or not, but all clues were leading to it not having been popped.

It all feels a bit unreal and the outcome was very positive, but I'm aware of the fact that any number of things could have gone wrong. I wonder if I could have done anything better – better back-flying skills to get above the other three instead of below them, perhaps?

**Sarah Neale**



## It wasn't me!

**Many thanks for** the messages I've had wishing me "a speedy recovery from your broken ankle following your Cypres save", but the incident in the last Safety Zone wasn't me! The girl in question wanted lessons to be learnt but felt no need to have her name publicised, so I just printed it anonymously. Confusingly, her rig looks similar to mine, the incident mentioned that it was a female who had been knocked out and my name was the only one on the page, so I can see how two and two has made five – but I'm fine, thanks. The floating reserve handle this issue wasn't me either, although it actually is me in the white helmet letting the blue guy know his cutaway pad had come out. **Liz**



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bkpcinfo@googlegmail.com  
**bkpc.co.uk**  
*Blackhawk Caravan*

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Bridlington, E Yorkshire YO16 4YB  
T: 01262 228033  
Mob: 07522 335713  
info@skydivegb.com  
**skydivegb.com**  
*GA8 Airvan*

### **3 Cark**

**Skydive North West Club**  
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Cumbria LA11 7LS  
DZ: 01539 558672  
T: 01229 889516  
skydivenorthwest@gmail.com  
**skydivenorthwest.co.uk**  
*PAC 750XL*

### **4 Chatteris**

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March, Cambs PE15 0EA  
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T: 0871 664 0113  
info@ukskydiving.com  
**ukskydiving.com**  
*Twin Otter, Nomad*

### **5 Cornish**

**Cornish Parachute Club**  
Perranporth Airfield,  
Higher Trevelas, St Agnes,  
Cornwall TR5 OXS  
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  
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**headcorn.com**  
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info@skydiving.co.uk  
**skydiving.co.uk**  
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single turbine, Cessna Caravan*

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Northants NN13 5NS  
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### **10 Jersey**

**Skydive Jersey Ltd**  
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**skydivejersey.net**  
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### **11 Langar**

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Nottingham NG13 9HY  
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info@skydivelangar.co.uk  
**skydivelangar.co.uk**  
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### **12 Netheravon**

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Perthshire PH2 7TB  
T: 01821 642454  
billy.gollan@btinternet.com  
**paragonskydiving.co.uk**  
*Cessna 182*

### **14 Peterlee**

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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**  
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Road, Ipsden, Oxfordshire OX10 6AS  
T: 0845 1307 194  
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**  
29 Regt, Duke of Gloucester  
Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester  
Gloucestershire GL7 5RD  
DZ: 01285 868111  
T: 07716 792942  
info@silverstars.me.uk  
**silverstars.me.uk**  
*Cessna Caravan*

### **18 St Andrews**

**Skydive St Andrews**  
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Glenrothes KY6 2SL  
T: 01592 882400  
skydivestandrews@mail.com  
**skydivestandrews.co.uk**  
*Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206*

### **19 Strathallan**

**Skydive Strathallan**  
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Perthshire PH3 1LA  
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**skydiveswansea.co.uk**  
*Cessna Caravan*

### **21 Swindon**

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info@skydivelondon.co.uk  
**skydivelondon.co.uk**  
*Airvan*

### **22 Tilstock**

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skydive@theparachutecentre.com  
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jump@ukparachuting.co.uk  
**ukparachuting.co.uk**  
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Peterborough PE8 6NE  
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skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk  
**skydivesibson.co.uk**  
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### **25 Weston**

**RAF 22 Training Group**  
Availability TBC

### **26 Wild Geese**

**Wild Geese Skydive Centre**  
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh  
Road, Garvagh, Coleraine,  
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ  
T: 028 2955 8609  
jump@skydivewildgeese.com  
**skydivewildgeese.com**  
*Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan*

## **BPA Overseas Affiliated DZs**

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**Cyprus Parachute Centre**  
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**skydivecyprus.com.cy**  
*PBN Piston Islander*

### **RAPA**

**Rhine Army Parachute  
Association**  
Flugplatz, Bielefelder Strasse,  
33175, Bad Lippspringe, Germany  
T: 0049 5254 982 2378  
atgg-jspclac@mod.uk  
**skydive-badlippspringe.com**  
*Cessna Caravan*

## **Parachuting Societies**

### **BCPA**

**British Collegiate Parachute  
Association**  
Jack Bradford, BCPA Chairman  
mail@bcpa.org.uk  
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### **POPS**

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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

## CARK

skydivenorth  
west.co.uk



Stevey D on his Velo 71

**Club members arrived** in the early afternoon and, as usual, congregated in the bar for the club's 41st annual Christmas dinner dance. More than 150 sat down for the meal, followed by our annual club awards and achievements. Big congratulations to all our award winners – it was a very difficult decision to make as many had achieved so much throughout 2013. Our winners were:

**Student of the Year:** Sam Boardman

**Skydiver of the Year:** Ming Chu

**Outstanding Achievement:** Tracey Mifflin, Dave Hunter, Scott Allender, Steve Doran, Dave Honeybone and Kieron Hayes

**Little and Large Award:** Dave McMinn

**Commitment to the Sport:** Brian Shaw

Following the awards, Dennis treated us to a comedy sketch and we all then retired to the bar. The disco divas hit the dancefloor and many stomped on into the twilight hours. Breakfast was a more sombre affair, with a few nursing bad heads and others not even making it to the breakfast headline of 10.00. Bidding our farewells, club members migrated home to end another year at Skydive North West.

2014 will see a more robust diary of events coordinated by Katie Hayes. If any club members have ideas for comps, fun meets or evening themes, get in contact with Katie direct. Bids are in for a number of coaching weekends across all the skydiving disciplines, with a huge wingsuit meet confirmed for the Easter weekend with top European coaches attending not only to compete but also to set a wingsuit formation record for the North West. More details are available from Jim Scott, our wingsuit Instructor.

Don't forget to check out your new 2014 BPA calendar, as we have four out of the 12 pics this year, and congratulations to all our 2013 achievers. Let's hope 2014 is even better!

**Stu Morris**

## LANGAR

skydivelangar.co.uk

# Any more records to break?

**It gets dark** earlier as winter sets in, so there's more time for even longer parties! Bonfire night went off with the usual bangs, whistles and whizzes and we had a record size bonfire too. Lots of people brought really nice (i.e. big and noisy) fireworks to add to the display which were just brilliant! The fireworks were followed by Shaggy's mini-beer festival (er, that's a mini-festival – the beer was full-size) and the Halloween Fancy Dress 'do' until the early hours.

The BCPA Christmas Boogie took place in mid-December with a bit of jumping, and, you've guessed it, more partying for the 100-plus attendees. That same weekend, the Bullet Freestyle Christmas dinner booked out the Unicorn's Head in Langar with approximately 60 people. Unusually, everybody was on their best behaviour for a good night out. I reckon it may have been a bit rowdier at the BCPA do...

Langar jumper Weed Stoodley has been awarded the BPA's Taz Causer Experienced Skydiver of the Year for 2013. Over the last couple of years, she has been involved in a string of British, European and World freefly records, culminating in the 63-way Women's Vertical World Record (see p36) at Skydive Arizona last November. Well deserved recognition – well done, Weed! While we're doing awards, our very own Ally Milne has gained a BPA Star Award for outstanding customer service. Nice one, that man!

Sadly, we have to report the untimely deaths of Chris Carroll and Keiron O'Rourke in skydiving accidents at different overseas events (see p41-42). Both were much loved members of the Langar community and will be greatly missed. Our condolences go to their family and friends.

On a lighter note, Langar has had another record jumping year – this time exceeding

## RAPA

skydive-badlipperspringe.com

# And there it was, gone...

**All in all**, a great year for all involved at RAPA. With the 2013 season coming to an end somewhat prematurely due to circumstances beyond our control, it was lucky that we had the chance to finish on a high with a night to remember!

The weather gods had been putting a block on the usual copious amounts of jumping that we're used to, with the winds preventing skydiving over a number of recent weekends. One of our main events of the year looked like it could be in jeopardy but, lo and behold, ideal conditions were bestowed upon us out of the blue (literally) on October 31 – or, as us mere (im)mortals call it, Halloween.

The preparations for the 'Fright Night Jump' were in full swing, with a number of lifts going up in the afternoon before prepping the DZ for the onset of darkness. With the safety briefs out the way and bodies adorned with various illumination devices, Moore Cambell took to the skies with the first timers and those only wanting a hop and pop. These were followed with FS jumpers from 13,500ft. To cap off the evening and, as it unknowingly turned out to be, the season, the annual RAPA Halloween

Party followed the end of the night jump. A variety of costumed figures descended on Uncle Tom's Cabin, renamed Uncle Tom's Coffin for the night, with our resident DJ Scary (Doug Macpherson) providing the tunes to take us into the early hours of the next morning.

Big important date for the diary: the RAPA 50th Anniversary over July 23-27 2014. Big events are planned over the five-day celebration period. Confirmed so far are two Skyvans, one Caravan, a total of nine lead organisers for all levels of wingsuiting, freeflying and RW, 50-way RW jumping, a German Ladies Head Down record attempt and evening entertainment. Watch this space for more info as more things start to get confirmed!

Wishing all at RAPA and the rest of the skydiving world all the best for 2014 and the bluest of skies! Check us out at skydive-badlipperspringe.com and remember: we are the best BPA DZ in Germany!

**Rich Oakley**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Emma Drew**

Tyler Mason's FS1 attempt with Siân Stokes, Rich Wheatley and Matt Willson, by Nick Robinson



31,500 jumps. We couldn't have achieved that without all our jumpers (and the staff!), so it's a great big "Thank You" to everybody who jumps here. There's plenty of room for more, so come and join us in 2014 and help us make next year yet another record-breaker – see what's going on at [facebook.com/skydivelangar](https://facebook.com/skydivelangar).

Tony Danbury

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** Jack Walker  
**CAT8/CHI** Christopher Edwards, Rachel Rushton  
**JMI** Rachel Edgson, Martin Lowe, Charlie Mogridge, Steve Padmore, Rob Smith  
**CH2** Rachel Edgson, Martin Lowe, Charlie Mogridge, Steve Padmore, Rob Smith  
**CFI** Matt Kite  
**JUMP NUMBERS 50** Rachel Edgson 100  
 Scott Higham, Guy Stanley 400 Paul Willcock  
 1,300 Nick Robinson 2,200 Siân Stokes  
**ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Rachel Edgson

## JERSEY

skydive  
jersey.net



Mal Richardson and Richard Hamilton

## Prizes, pilots and... potatoes?

**Despite the weather**, we've had some days jumping and Mally has been giving some ground schooling to those wishing to progress their canopy piloting skills. We were able to practise on one afternoon by hopping out of the Cessna below the cloud base at about 5,000ft to try exercises like canopy stalls and recovery. As any qualified pilot can attest, recovering a stall is a good survival skill to possess whether your wing is fabric or fixed.

There was a great turnout for our end of year celebrations at the Aero Club, so thanks to those who came along to enjoy the evening with us. A few of the prizes were handed out, including (in no particular order):

- **Most Progressed Skydiver Award and 100 Jump Certificate:** Richard Hamilton
- **50 Jump Certificate:** Michelle Traynor
- **First Freefall Certificate:** Sarah Jackson
- **200 Jump Certificate:** Johnny Kelly, Liam Hardman
- **1,000 Jump Certificate:** Peter Dolbel
- **Club Member of the Year:** Nigel O'Brien
- **Potato Head Award:** Mal Richardson

For the pilots:

- **Le Prix d'Aviation 2012:** Dale Curtin
- **Le Prix d'Aviation 2013:** Brian Heath

Thanks to Michelle and Cheryl for bringing the mulled wine and mince pies, Mally for organising the evening and the ladies for working the bar and putting up with the Jäger bombers! A new record of 11 people was set for Mally's circle of booze. Well done to those brave enough to get involved – you're all record breakers! The evening was a great success and there was a chance to review some of the 2013 action on the new big screen.

There are already a couple of people confirmed for their AFF course on the club trip to Florida in March. Look out Spain, Dubai and the USA – the jumping beans are coming. We're taking a break for January and are hoping to take to the skies again from February, so onward and upward (then downward super fast!) for 2014. Happy New Year!

Nigel O'Brien

## HEADCORN

headcorn.com

## When in doubt, add helium

**Things have inevitably** slowed down a bit with the onset of winter and we have been considering turning the airfield into a waterpark thanks to the unusually high rainfall of late. For the first time in many winters, we have actually been grounded for days at a time due to a waterlogged airfield. Even the Christmas Day jump was abandoned, which was a shame as the weather was actually jumpable for the first time in years.

While Pete and Janos were sunning themselves at the Dubai Cup, we were freezing our proverbials off back at Headcorn. It was good to see so many members braving the cold during a spell of good weather in late November and early December.

The Laming brothers, Joe and Sam, made the first XRW jump at Headcorn and it was quite spectacular for a first attempt. We are looking forward to seeing more of this kind of action and some pictures.

Daniel Douglass got signed off for his A Licence on December 20, which turned

out to be our last day of jumping in 2013 and not a moment too soon – he will have gone off to Australia for a year by the time you read this.

We welcomed back Will Grut, who turned up out of the blue after having gotten himself current stateside after a 20+ year layoff.

Georgie Rhodes, now well established as the new receptionist, has been escaping the office every now and then for the odd jump and is well on her way to FS1.

The annual airfield Christmas bash was another resounding success. However, when are the staff at Chart Hills going to learn that if you put helium balloons (or any other toys, for that matter) on the table, they will be used and abused?

See you all in 2014!

Jane Hopkins

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Daniel Douglass  
**JMI/CH2** Mutian Li, Charlie Puttick, Jose Videria  
**JUMP NUMBERS 400** Si Beech

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## BRIDLINGTON

[skydivegb.com](http://skydivegb.com)

*Tandem Instructor Martin Heywood-Wakeman and Paul 'Gibbo' Gibbs with the 'BOOM' glasses, by Sara Orton*



## No Bungling here

**As we say** goodbye to 2013 and welcome in the New Year, it is fair to say that last year was both busy and productive at Skydive GB. Throughout the year, we have encouraged many new jumpers into the sport and nurtured them into competent and safe skydivers.

Our regular jumpers have sustained their enthusiasm and support for the centre, for which we are eternally grateful. During the party season, we have blown up part of Yorkshire for Bonfire Night, experienced some strange military drinking rituals thanks to P Company staff, witnessed a semi-naked female Zippy (Laura) and met Shaun Ruffell's alter ego of a rampant banana.

The Hull University students have played a major part in the partying and jumping recently. A special mention must go to Hugh Boden and Mike Gibbs for creating the Hull University Skydiving Club and their constant motivation for recruiting new members.

One person who quietly keeps us all safe and in order is the legendary Ray Armstrong. He is overworked, underpaid and we regularly cause him untold aggravation – thanks Ray, you are appreciated. Huge thanks must also go to all staff and pilots. Everyone has worked hard throughout the year and made the centre into what it is becoming.

We look forward to the return of Gibbo's military group from Leconsfield throughout 2014 as they provide much entertainment and enthusiasm while completing static line courses.

The display team aims to have a busy time again this year; last year proved successful and safe thanks to Ray Armstrong, Alec Flint, Paul Gibbs and Dave Saville. That's not forgetting the lovely Ninja, who has looked after their safety on the ground. Ninja also looked after manifest throughout the year and remained calm and collected – even when we really annoy him!

Darren Glover will be facilitating further canopy courses again this year. He is also available most weekends for those who have yet to complete their jumps from previous courses. Andie Harrison highly recommends these courses and has not smashed himself up since completing one, which is definitely our measure of quality assurance.

Our aims for 2014 are to encourage new members to the sport, give the tandems good memories to take away with them and progress our regular jumpers further. So here's to 2014 and all the excitement, progression and fun it may bring.

**Sara Orton**

## SWINDON

[skydivelondon.co.uk](http://skydivelondon.co.uk)

## Invites or didn't happen

**Predictions don't seem** to be my forte, but then again neither does turning up to parties as I once again missed the Christmas Party. However, it seems everyone had a good night, even Dan Morgan, and the awards were presented. Brucie won Instructor of the Year, then we all realised he does the manifesting and he is magically available when student lifts go up. No, I am not bitter. Cath Thorne won a well-deserved Skygod of the Year and, better still, she thought it was a compliment. Sue Reed won Best Student, again well deserved. The rest don't matter as I wasn't told, but well done to those who won.

What does matter, though, is the Redlands Wind Tunnel Scrambles. For a small DZ, we do have a good community spirit and entered nine teams of three at Basingstoke. Brucie (Em, probably) took control and teams were picked at random: one skygod (1,000+ jumps), one intermediate (100+ jumps) and a Baldrick (useless). For me, this was a great night. Each team did five rounds of two minutes with various pretty patterns. Some were even as they were intended.

In third place were by far the best team and the one that had the most fun. If only they had taken things seriously! Cath, Matt Adler and I flew wonderfully well in a fun-loving manner. In second, the Welsh team of Dan Morgan, Claire Briggs (back after serious shoulder injury, again) and Sue 'Student of the Year' Reed amazed the crowds by simply being awesome. But in first place, with more points than second and third combined, were Chrissy Downer, Sarah Cowan and Charlene Coxhead, who stunned the crowds not only with their tight jumpsuits but with their ability to stay still at the correct height and simply turn points. A special thank you must go to Geordie, who judged the night, and Mike McNulty, who helped him count.

We also did some jumping and, on the last day, expert cameraman Jon Eeles filmed a tandem and touched Mike's toggles twice – well done, mate. Paul, Lucy and Simon went old school and got their IS1, Tom Webster did something at Redlands and got his FF1. Matt Adler managed to get his B Licence, Simon Clarke and Doog

McDougall got their A Licences. Sarah Cowan got her FS1 with Chrissy's help, as did Dunken Duncan on his 21st attempt – proud of you, sort of. Cookie, Ash, Flanners and Fozzy are all well and are keeping the country protected, and there may be some big news in 2014...

The biggest well done, though, goes to our own home-bred skydiver. Jason went to Dubai as the UK's representative for Speed and finished a well-respected eighth. All joking aside, we are so proud of you. Also, can you please get permission to come back on Facebook so we can tell you, and give Dermot a hug as he is upset that you are now teamed up with Jonny?

The annual trip to Wales will be in February and most of our jumpers are off to Spain in February for a week of, er, jumping. I am not going and wasn't invited, so basically it didn't happen.

**Dylan Griffith-Jones**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Simon Clarke, Doog McDougall  
**CH2/JMI** Matt Adler **FF1** Tom Webster **FS1** Sarah Cowan, Adam Duncan, Andrew Griggs **IS1** Paul, Simon Cresdee, Lucy Wildy-Smith **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Matt Adler **100** Cath 'Skygod' Thorne, Jessica Campbell

## BECCLES

ukparachuting.co.uk

*Santa jump with Andy Page and Rob Bellman, by Chris Higgins*



# Back by popular demand

**So, due to** extenuating circumstances (namely, I forgot the deadline), I may have missed the last issue of the mag. With the beer fine paid and many a sorry said, let's crack on with the news!

Back in September, we had the amazing Brian Cumming stop by for a big-way weekender. Attendance was brilliant, many new skills were learned and this happened without the formation getting hosed too often! Big thanks go out to Brian for taking the time to come over to us and for sharing his knowledge and experience.

In October, we were visited by the famous 4-way team *Raykipo* for an FS coaching weekend. This was an astoundingly successful weekend with three people (well done to Jason, Blane and Mike) achieving their FS1s and one person becoming an FS coach. As well as this, plenty of people received top quality advice and help in improving their skills. Thank you to *Raykipo* for taking the time to come and help us all out. We are all extremely grateful. If you missed out, make sure you're here for the next one.

On December 7 2013, we celebrated all of the year's achievements at our annual Christmas party. There was a brilliant turnout with much drinking, dancing and frivolity. Well done to Terry Wilsoncroft for winning Club Jumper of the Year – this was truly well deserved as Tel has been jumping with UK Para since the Old Buck days and he has always supported the club. The Student of the Year Award went to Leanna Lewis, who showed true dedication this year and has wowed all of us with her achievements in the last few months. Finally, the Spanner of the Year Award was given to Tomo Thompson, who committed the cardinal sin of slowing down the programme earlier in the year. No one can get away with that!

Looking forward to 2014, there are plenty of events planned. These include a visit from *Team Heat*, who will be carrying out another canopy course early in the year. In May, we will be having our annual scrambles event. We're also going for the BPA roadshow events – fingers crossed we'll get them so we can all learn new skills and improve our safety in the skies.

Other exciting news for 2014 is that the club room has had a complete overhaul – all of the old tatty flooring and sofas are gone. New kit storage units and carpets are now in place and new sofas are on order. A new creeper pad has also been built at the back of the big hanger.

Thank you to Tomo for the cash injection and to Jude for all the hard work you've put into improving the clubbie areas. All I can say is bring on 2014 – it is gonna be epic!

**James Page**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CATB/CHI** Don Miller, Neil Oliver, Mark Ovens, Peter Swayer **CH2** Jason Ambrose, Benny Butterworth, Mike Leggett **JMI** Jason Ambrose, Mike Leggett **FSI** Jason Ambrose, Mike Leggett, Blane 'Cutaway' Kinge **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Leanna Lewis **300** Andrew Cobb **400** James Page **600** Russell Sherman

## WILD GEESE

skydivewildgeese.co.uk

# Start as you mean to go on

**Happy New Year** from all at Wild Geese! As the year drew to a close, the Christmas festivities were enjoyed with a great turnout at the annual Christmas Party. Although he wasn't present, congratulations were given to Rudy McClenaghan who was awarded 2013 Skydiver of the Year. With the absence of 'chainsaw' this year, things were a little quieter than usual. That's not to say that everyone was perfectly behaved, but the rest can be left to your imaginations...

Unfortunately, several low pressure systems prevented any skydiving activity as the centre closed up for the Christmas break. Hopefully this will mean that the New Year has brought the very keen and eager Queen's University Belfast Skydive Club back in force to make up for lost time. A great resurgence in the club has seen student numbers increase very noticeably.

Team 338's skydive in memory of Callan McErlain



As we roll into the new year, British National Rookie 4-way team *Fly Wild* have their sights set on winning Single A at the Nationals and, with their sponsorship from Bodyflight Bedford, their dream could become a reality. Also planning to compete this year, current Irish National Canopy Piloting Champion Rod McCrory will be heading to the Canopy Piloting World

Championships along with Aaron Cosbey and the rest of the 'World Famous' Irish Swoop Team. Let's keep the winning momentum in 2014.

Enjoy a great 2014 skydiving season, set achievable goals to work towards and be safe!

**Rod McCrory**



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## HINTON

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**As you read this**, we will be entering another skydiving year. Let us hope that it brings lots of sunshine, low winds and a lottery win for all of us to feed our skydiving habits! Looking back at 2013, it was a really good year overall (once the weather turned) and a huge amount of achievements were clocked up by an increasing number of new, young and keen club members.

AFF courses generated more than 30 A Licence graduates, both homegrown and from abroad, and our AFF Instructors worked tirelessly to try and get everyone through the system as seamlessly as possible. I know that we didn't get everything right all of the time and we were sometimes undermanned for the sheer volume of grinning faces who never failed to appear every weekend, but they still kept on coming! Thank you to all of those students. Bear with us and we will try to keep you jumping as much as possible in 2014!

A club trip to Kenya in November was an excellent platform for old and new club members to let their hair down, splash on the sun cream and enjoy the less rigid rules of the new and revamped Kenya Boogie. Every jump was a beach jump from the Blackhawk Caravan of Mark Ross and Boogie organiser Bob Weyn worked tirelessly with his team to ensure that everything ran smoothly – what a great job they did.

Highlights of the trip were many and various, including first demos into 40 Thieves Beach Bar for Lynne Mattingley, Sean Field and Ryan 'Flyin' Onion' Bunyan and a host of others – well done guys. Other firsts for some were tracking dives, inflatable dog jumps, no hat jumps, no shoe jumps and loads of other stuff. Congratulations also to John Clifford, who completed his AFF course at the Boogie under the watchful eye of Maddy.

Thank you to all of our club members, families and friends, and we look forward to seeing you all here again in 2014.

### The Management

**ACHIEVEMENTS AFF GRADUATES** Kenny Burns, Martin Harrison, Tim Jones, Dmytro Kashuba, Brian Ranns **CAT8/CHI** Brian Ranns **JMI/CH2** Stefan Gauntlett, Christopher Sykes, Latchoumane Thomas **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Stefan Gauntlett, Latchoumane Thomas **100** Sean Field, Lynne Mattingley, Christopher Sykes **1,000** Scouse Green

## TILSTOCK

# Hooray to 2014

**We had a** few nice weekends towards the end of the year and it has not been too cold either; we still had plenty of jumping in us! We had a little experienced static line Accuracy competition when the clouds were a little too low for high lifts, which kept some of the club jumpers entertained. Well done to Ellie Southworth for your amazing canopy handling skills and for taking home the gold. Dave Major also made a massive achievement at the end of 2013 on becoming a pilot examiner. Woohooo to Dave! Keep up the good work.

Dan Cope, the brave soul, did his 100th skydive at the end of the year; he did this totally naked on November 30 2013 in minus temperatures – brrrrr! Impressively, he managed to raise more than £3,000 for The Donna Louise Children's Hospice, which is epic. The response to his jump has

been amazing, with kind people sponsoring him from pretty much all over the world – including as far as Japan and America.

Once again, we finished off the year with a fantastic Christmas party at Hawkstone Park. There was, of course, a lot of alcohol, a lot of dancing, a lot of acrobatics, a broken nose (Dan and Ellie) and about two hours of sleep between us all. We also passed on our club awards to new homes, which are as followed:

- **Student of the Year Award** went to Dan Griffiths.
- **Club Member of the Year Award** went to Kyle Sinclair.
- **Take Up Golf Award** went to both Dave Major and Alex Busby-Hicks.

The Makeover Team, AKA myself, Ellie

## NETHERAVON

netheravon.com

# Don't we scrub up well!

**This year's Christmas Ball** was a stylish affair held in the Solstice Holiday Inn. Almost unrecognisable in black ties and cocktail dresses, the Nethers skydivers partied the night away and celebrated a year of great events, new records and awesome parties. The event was organised by APA Instructor Stacey Canning, who once again went above and beyond her job description to deliver a great event. Perhaps that is why she has been awarded a BPA Star Award! Congratulations Stacey – you really deserve it.

More awards for Nethers Chicks! Beating stiff competition from the usual mainstream sports, Anna Hicks and Liz Warner have picked up awards from the Army Sports Control Board. Anna took third place as Army Sportswoman of the Year and Liz Warner was Runner-up Sports Official of the Year.

In November, CCI Mark Bayada decided to take advantage of the early sunsets by running a Night Jumps event. His course included three jumps: a daylight practice jump, a night time hop and pop and an altitude skydive. Twenty jumpers from all over the UK and Ireland attended the training and 12 were lucky enough to make the final night jump before the weather stopped play.

The future is looking bright! After a year of extremely hard work by the APA team, we now have the full support of all the necessary governing bodies, both military and civilian, and can look forward to an exciting and action-packed year.

The Netheravon 2014 Events Calendar is already published on our webpage at netheravon.com and is absolutely packed with a huge variety of activities for every skydiving discipline. Top coaches include Andy Godwin, Paul Capsey, Mike Lewis, CF team *Crwsaders*, *Army SAVoA*, *Wez Westley*, *Jeff Chandler* and *Bodyflight Isis*. Monthly progression days and packing courses have been scheduled in to ensure new jumpers are looked after and valued.

2013 had its full share of romance at Netheravon, with jumpers tying the knot left, right and centre. Congratulations to all our newlyweds! The final congratulations go out to Murf and Olessia, who welcomed new baby Alexey on December 27 2013.

### Elana Cain

**ACHIEVEMENT CH2/JMI** Chris Frain, Ash Horton, Tom Hu, Sophie Kotze, Brian Popkin **FSI** Chris Frain, Ash Horton, Tom Hu, Sophie Kotze, Ade Rudd **FFI** Don Gillies **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Chris Frain, Ash Horton, Tom Hu, Sophie Kotze **100** Kwunita Man

theparachutecentre.com

Dan Cope just after his naked 100th jump, by Dave Major



Southworth, Dan Cope, Dan Griffiths, Pete Dickens and Kyle Sinclair have been creative with the clubhouse over Christmas. With hangovers, tiredness and a lot of love, we have a brand new manifest, a freshly decorated clubhouse and a fab new club zone area. Each and every one of you has a photo on that wall – there is no hiding! Muhahaha!

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year from Tilstock and we are all very excited about 2014. Don't forget that we are open every Saturday throughout the year and we start our Friday operations at the beginning of March. We are also open on all Bank Holiday Mondays.

**Mary Carbutt**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL**  
**Laura Jones JMI/CH2 Martin Price**  
**WSI Jules Bergel JUMP NUMBERS**  
**100 Dan Cope, Bryan Kent, Martin Price**

BCPA

bcpa.org.uk

## We don't need no education

**Wrapping up the** first semester, the 2013/14 year has gotten off to a great start for the BCPA! At our first event in November, BCPA Freshers at Cark, we had more than 100 collegiate skydivers attending and a group of 10 got their first taste of CF – with many successful stacks built over the Lake District. Saturday night saw another bodacious Freshers party, with Sam Haste's legendary cocktails and our chairman being waxed for charity raising more than £400 for the County Air Ambulance Trust and the Royal British Legion. Thanks to Jim Scott and Dave McMinn for the CF coaching and Neil McLaren for DJing.

December brought a new event, BCPA Xmas. We started on Friday at Bedford Bodyflight for coaching and competitions, including two successful 8-way groups. Congratulations to our 4-way Scrambles competition winners Joe Mann, Nicholas El-Batal, Roy Wimmer and Jack Bradford, and many thanks to our coaches Milko, Siân and Tristan. The event then moved onto Skydive Langar, where we experienced less than ideal weather, but Saturday night saw some very creative Christmas fancy dress...

We are excited to announce two foreign trips this year! The Easter Tour in April will be headed to Skydive Dubai – a first for the BCPA. The Summer Tour in June will see us return to Skydive Spain in Seville. More details can be found on our website.

Two events down and we are just picking up pace. By the time you receive this, BCPA Indoors at Manchester Airkix will have happened. Our first dropzone event of the year will be at Peterlee Parachute Club on March 14-16. This year will also see us at Dunkeswell and Hibaldstow for the legendary Nationals. We will also be making another attempt at breaking the BCPA Big-way Record.

If you want to get involved or get in touch, find us at [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk) or on Facebook.

**Ali Woodhouse**

Jim Scott and Stu Reid CF break-off over Cark at sunset during BCPA Freshers, by Craig Hicks



CORNISH

cornishparachuteclub.co.uk



Andy Mon, by Jon McCallum

## No party like a Christmas party

**The beach jumps** on the last Saturday were a fantastic way to end the season, along with a tandem for our pilot Chris in clear blue skies and light winds. At least with some jumping going on it kept us off the beer and punch until a little later in the day. The party was well attended as always – thanks for all who managed to make it. For those who missed out, there is always this year. We were entertained long into the night by Tim and his new band Paradox – you guys rocked! Other entertainment came as the punch levels in the second bucket went down. Some people will never learn!

We are pleased to be able to say that Chrissy is fit and well after her recent operation and all tests returned clear, meaning she is now a lot lighter on

her feet and so can run around after us more (or find it easier to kick our butts into gear).

The good thing about having a DZ 350ft up on a clifftop is that the recent floods have done no damage to the DZ, although it's safe to say it may have been a touch too windy to jump...

We would like to wish everyone at the club and in the skydiving community a very safe 2014.

**Ben Wood**

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# 2014

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Night Jumps 15th

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## Big Way FS with Will Cooke

3rd weekend of every month

## Bi-Monthly CH courses

details on facebook

## MARCH

Safety Day 15th  
BPA Instructor Course 24th - 28th  
Milko's FS Scrambles 29th - 30th

## APRIL

WGD Canopy Course 5th - 6th

**Boogie 1 - D-FOXY and 2 Grand Caravans 18th - 21st**

FS Load organising from Dave Morris, Milko, Siân Stokes and Will Cooke

FF Load organising from Ally Milne, Paul Cooper and Bullet Freefly

Easter Challenge - FS Invitational

Hangar Party

**6Way Competition 26th - 27th**

## MAY

Bullet Tracking Weekend 24th - 26th

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## PETERLEE

skydive  
academy.org.uk

*Alan's freefalling Father Christmas, by Simon Minto*



## G-PLLEE flies again!

**Jumping tailed off** at Peterlee towards the end of 2013, as I would imagine it did at most UK DZs, with some of our jumpers departing to warmer climes abroad to continue their skydiving. Our total jumps for 2013 are slightly down on 2012, which was our busiest year ever. While regular jumping increased, our tandem numbers are down but our AFF numbers have significantly increased. Not having our Cessna 182 G-PLLEE for a considerable part of the year undoubtedly affected those jump numbers, but 'EE' is now back safely in the main hangar and is good to go when we start jumping again. We start up mid-week again, as is our tradition, on the first Wednesday after Valentine's Day – February 19 2014.

We had a great Christmas function in Durham to end the year, which also saw the presentation of our Annual Awards. Andy Laws took the Most Entertaining Landing Award to great applause, Sue Bober took the Most Persistent Student Award and Aaron Wilkinson took the Most Progressed Student Award. New in 2013 was the Most Mentioned Instructor Shield, which was awarded to Kevin Johnstone, with Newcastle University winning the Peterlee College Club of the Year Shield for the 2012/13 academic year. Martin Mansfield collected the latter and then entertained us

after dinner with some fantastic (and impromptu) playing of the venue's electric organ to a highly surprised but highly entertained audience – some talent. Rather than forgetting those CDs again next year, I will look to book Martin again for our 2014 Christmas function!

We say farewell to Adam Boxall who leaves the staff, but hopefully he will remain well connected. We welcome Colin Daley to look after the office, sales, bookings and administration mid-week. Here's wishing all our Peterlee regulars a great 2014!

**Ian Rosenvinge**



*University Club of the Year NUPC 2012/13, by Alan Thompson*

## SWANSEA

skydive  
swansea.co.uk

## Looking forward to 2014!

**As this article** goes to print, I'm hoping our club jumpers and staff will have finally recovered from their hangovers after our epic Christmas party which began politely enough in Morgan's Hotel and ended in carnage scattered around Swansea! Hope you enjoyed it, guys. Nice to see you all scrubbed up for the occasion as per Sara's instructions! Well done to Chris Dutton and Will Tension for jointly winning the Skydiver of the Year Award. I hope you two haven't been squabbling over who gets to take the trophy home. Remember boys, sharing is caring!

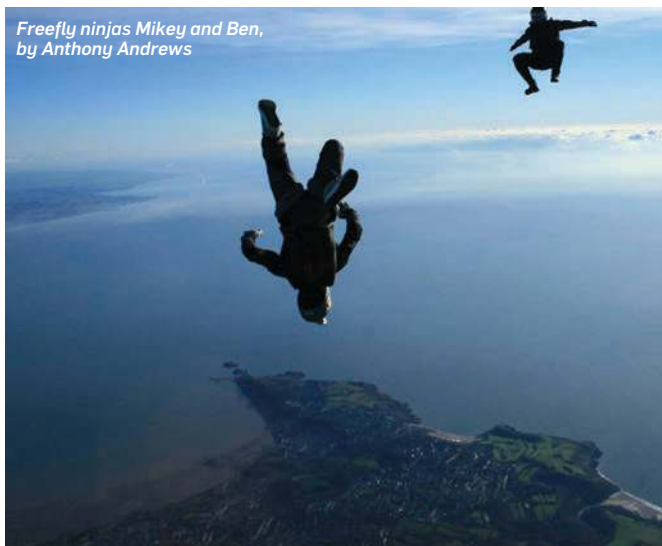
Despite the dismal weather towards the end of the year, we still managed a few good jump days and some achievements. Well done to Ray Beckett, Elliot Davies and Gary O'Brien on gaining their A Licences. Aled Mason finally gets to put a camera on his head after getting his C Licence (Yeah Boi!) – don't forget to get some footage of your favourite jump buddies, ahem! Lovely surprise to see Ben Jenkins rocking up to the DZ to celebrate his 1,000th jump with fellow freefly ninja Mikey Phillips getting his 600th in on the same jump... although he didn't quite manage a Michael Jackson-style crotch grab. Well done to Matt Oakley, our upcoming ninja, who got his FF1 – now you're in TWO mag articles! I also feel Shamus deserves a special mention for finally joining Facebook! Welcome to the world of boring status updates and selfies, my friend!

After a fantastic 2013, Skydive Swansea is looking forward to the year ahead! The DZ has had a few cosmetic adjustments over the last few months. The place is looking bright and fresh ready for 2014 as we expect the arrival of lots of old and new faces in the new year. Judging by our fully booked AFF courses, there will be lots of new jumpers to play with in the sky! We will be looking to open on lots of Friday afternoons into the evenings from April onwards, possibly some Wednesday afternoons too. We are also looking at a couple of midweek progression sessions for our club jumpers, so keep an eye on our Facebook page for future details.

**Laura Turner**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CATB/CHI** Ray Beckett, Elliot Davies, Gary O'Brien  
**FF1** Matt Oakley **JUMP NUMBERS** 200 Aled Mason 600 Mikey Phillips  
900 Anthony Andrews 1,000 Ben Jenkins

*Freefly ninjas Mikey and Ben, by Anthony Andrews*



## CHATTERIS

ukskydiving.com

# It's the thought that counts...

**As you all know**, we have been on shut down since the end of December so it's only a short piece this month in comparison to my normal articles. Firstly, however, Happy New Year to all of our friends and jumpers!

We ended 2013 with a great Christmas party, as normal. This year's theme was 'Party Animals', with a great turnout – you've never seen so many people in a wide variety of animal onesies! A massive thank you to those who came and made the effort. Everyone enjoyed the yummy hog roast and danced well into the night with music provided by local band Wild Honey.

As always, the night was used to reflect back on the year's successes and to remember lost friends. The Student of the Year Award went to Deimantas Cepe (or 'Jim') and, because choice for runner-up Student of the Year was tough, it ended up being a joint award to Tom McNicholas and Robin Auld. All are students who staff felt had worked particularly hard to get their

licences and to get where they are today. Another award that was presented at the party was to long-standing Chatteris jumper, employee and now Advanced Instructor Chris Beattie. Chris has been working incredibly hard to achieve his Advanced Instructor's rating and one of his genius suggestions was to order some new tandem suits with built-in leg grips, making it easier for the less flexible tandem students to hold their legs up for landing. Unfortunately, something went a little wrong along the way and the suits turned up with grips alright – more like 'ankle grips' than 'leg grips'. Pretty useless as it goes, but at least everyone found it amusing. However, this wasn't quite as amusing as the award presented to Chris for his achievements. Let's just say his infamous red and blue tandem suit now has its very own reinforced but useless ankle grips...

Anyway, moving onto this year. We have just opened up again for the season and are already in the process of planning lots of events and

roadshows to happen here at Skydive Chatteris. We're looking at trying to cover coaching in nearly every area of the sport; FS (from new students to big-way organising), FF, wingsuiting, CP and CRW. If you have an idea of what you would like to see happening at the DZ, then feel free to get in touch. As mentioned in the last issue, Chatteris is now a club run by its members and those who have paid for membership (restricted or full) will be able to vote at our AGM in December. For more details on the new membership and important dates for your diary, check out skydivechatteris.co.uk.

That's all for now, but keep an eye on our Facebook page and future issues of the Mag for news.

**Robynne Haynes**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FF1 James Rosling FF2 Ben Reed-Smith  
WS1 Nick Griffin JUMP NUMBERS 300 Michael Burns**

## BLACK KNIGHTS

bkpc.co.uk

# Alpha Juliet is back!

**Happy New Year** everyone! I must start with our biggest and best news of all – our fabulous aircraft, the Blackhawk, is back! Alpha Juliet will grace the skies again and it's 15,000ft every time. Needless to say, the staff and club members are delighted with this news and look forward to welcoming everyone back for some serious playtime this season. We also have a new addition to the family: a 206, for those who fancy a bit of old school.

A great time was had by all at our Christmas Party and it was both wonderful and bizarre to see our club members in all their finery as opposed to the usual jumpsuits and numerous layers of thermal clothing. Everyone enjoyed the amusing end of year video put together by our very own David Simpson and our fearless leader, CCI Paul Yeoman, was very pleased with the award presented by the club members as thanks for all the hard work he has put in keeping us all in the air this year.

Special mention has to go to John Welch, who was given two awards. The most prestigious was the Tool of the Year Trophy, for the exceptional blunder of driving his car into the sea outside the parachute centre. Well done John – you earned it. Big congratulations to the following, who were also presented with awards on the evening:

- **Club Member of the Year:** Phil Symons
- **Skydiver of the Year:** AJ Taylor, Steve Searle
- **Student of the Year and Tool of the Year:** John Welch
- **Special Recognition:** Roger Hughes, David Simpson

Thanks to everyone for an unforgettable evening and especially to Sharon Beeson for organising it all.

Our students continue to make great progress, with more than 100 completing their first skydives and Brad Needham finally making his first freefall two years after completing his ground school. Well done Brad – we knew you'd get there. Big thanks to our university groups, who have been here come wind, rain and high water to complete their first and subsequent skydives and made clubhouse evenings lively.

Newly qualified club members have all started and are storming through their FS1 awards, while several more experienced club members have benefited from training from the well established wingsuit coaching team here too. I think everyone will agree that the progress here at the centre is immense. There have been plenty of improvements around the grounds of the centre recently too, with staff members working hard to upgrade facilities for



Award winners,  
by Claire Simpson

everyone's use. The heating in the clubhouse is very much appreciated by all – thanks, Paul.

Our Charity of the Year for 2014 will be the air ambulance, so various collections and fundraising activities will be taking place. Please give generously and support this vital service.

We have masses planned, with FS, freefly, wingsuiting and CREW events in the pipeline, and several of our club members are also putting teams together to represent Black Knights at various national competitions.

**AJ Taylor**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Brad Needham CAT 8  
Cabbagehead, Steve Collins, Phil Murray FS1 David Roe  
CH2/JMI Helen Draper-Mercer, David Roe WSI AJ Taylor  
JUMP NUMBERS 50 Helen Draper-Mercer, Ben Egan, Phil  
Murray, David Roe, Alfie Wardle 100 Helen Draper-Mercer  
ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL Matthew Flood TWO HOURS IN  
FREEFALL Mark Lord**

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## SIBSON

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# Even more shenanigans

**Wow – now that** was a season. We did pretty much everything you guys asked for; new facilities, new events, new instructors, new coaches and some crazy parties.

We had the infamous helicopter jump that went viral. Now, what is it they say? "No publicity is bad publicity"? Then the now-legendary jump from the C-130 Hercules. The Women's Head Down Record was a roaring success. BCPA Nationals, I believe, jumped more than any other year. Oh, and they partied too. Who remembers naked Pokie? Okay, let's forget that. All the usual competitions were well attended and some of the staff even managed a medal or two at the 8-way Speed. Oh, and the tunnel scrambles really caught on and are always well attended.

*Raykipo* did an amazing job following a tough season. They started out great before an injury to one of the team members left them with some difficult decisions to make. Marc Fletcher stepped in, dusted off his FS suit and came up with the goods. The team trained hard at Sibson and at Bedford, attended Nationals and finished up with a 16.3 average. Then they went to the world meet in Dubai and, along with the British delegation, put in a storming performance. Well done, guys.

All of the staff would like to congratulate Guy Martin and Sarah Hall on tying the knot on January 12 2014. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs from us all – hope you have enjoyed your honeymoon and are fully refreshed for a super busy season. Also worthy of mention is that Chris McCann, our CCI, has just racked up 100 hours in freefall. Well done, Chris – that's a lot of freefall.

So, what next for 2014? Well, one of our main aims this season is to work with the post-AFF students, so we are employing 10 new FS coaches. The idea is that once we have graduated from consols, we can hand over straight to the UK Parachuting coaching team based at Sibson to nurture the future champions as early as possible. We also now have a jam-packed calendar posted on our Facebook pages, which includes two Brian Vacher Canopy Courses, Dave Lewis organising, the G-92 back for selected weekends, Killa from *Volare* organising selected dates all year, Steve Howes from *Varial* for the one-on-one coaching, our summer boogie from July 21-27 and even more mid-week operating days. We will now open one week per month extra from April to September to get in some cheeky mid-week jumping, AFF progression and any other shenanigans you can think of.

Rob Titchner, by  
Michael Wilson-Roberts



If you haven't jumped at Sibson, give us a call or come on down and try us out. We welcome all jumpers of all categories. From student to experienced, we have space for you all. Why not follow us on Twitter, add us to your Facebook (UK Parachuting – Sibson Airfield) or check out our website [skydivesibson.co.uk/events](http://skydivesibson.co.uk/events) to keep up to speed with all the happenings at UK Parachuting Sibson.

**Paul Dorward**

**ACHIEVEMENTS 100 HOURS IN FREEFALL Chris McCann**

## HIBALDSTOW

[skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

# Double whammy

**Hibbleween hit like** a Force 10 hurricane, destroying all jumpers in its path. It's one of the most debauched events of the year and this year was no different. Whether it was dancing to DJ Cavill or accepting sambuca in our 'Church of Sticky Drinks', things got messy – maybe too messy. We're sorry for pouring 'buca in your eyes, Rich Dunn! That was the last Halloween ever in our old buildings, though, so who knows what is planned bigger and better for 2014?

The season continues to develop jumpers, which is showing particularly in our walk-up FS. New doors are always opening and we're putting together formation loads on the last weekend of the season this year. Oh, how times have changed! With the university students getting bolder, the jumping scene feels like it's getting stronger in the winter than ever before.

The Christmas Party, once second to Halloween, proved to be wilder! After a great weekend of jumping, the centre put on their usual free

spread of drinks and food for our jumpers to dig into. The hectic Christmas Awards Ceremony proved bigger than ever as the whole bar was packed out with people trying to find out who was voted for in our prestigious awards. This year's winners are:

**Spammer of the Year:** Rich Dunn  
**Face Planter of the Year:** Richard Cotton  
**Boozehound of the Year:** 'Sober' Sophie MacDonald  
**Student of the Year:** Shona Peacock  
**Most Progressive Jumper:** Shona Peacock  
**Team of the Year:** *Team Tr4ck*  
**Skydiver of the Year:** Kathryn Campbell

Shona Peacock impressed us most with her commitment to skydiving over summer, passing her AFF and FS1 and even getting into some load organising within a month of starting. Very impressive, Shona, but how are you going to beat that in 2014? Kathryn won Skydiver of the Year by giving so much back in 2013. After

winning Single A at the Nationals, Kathryn focused on a coaches rating, helped develop our FS students, started load organising our groups and even found time to try some wingsuiting. A great season and a well-deserved award.

The end of the season is always melancholy. On one hand, there are goodbyes as the dropzone closes for a few weeks so staff can get some well earned relaxation time (well, those who don't head out to Seville for their Christmas Boogie). On the other hand, it's a great time to reflect on what was a huge year for Skydive Hibaldstow as we yet again broke our jump records in 2013.

With our opening weekend drawing in large numbers already, 2014 is looking big as we announce our latest line-up of events and lots of new freely coaches – it's never looked better than 2014. Are you going to be part of it?

**Stubert Ferglstein**

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## March

March 1

**U** B Licence Progression DayLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

March 1-2

**FS** Pinch JumpLocation: **Sibson** • skydivesibson.co.uk

March 1-2

**U** Progression WeekendLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

March 8-9

**FS** FS1+ Load Organising with StubertLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

March 8-9

**A** Freely Coaching with Bodyflight EuphoriaLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

March 8-9

**FS** FS Big-way WeekendLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

March 15

**U** Safety DayLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

March 15-16

**FS** Load Organising with StubertLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

March 15-16

**FS** Will Cooke's Big-way FSLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

March 15-16

**FS** Load Organising with Mike LewisLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

March 15-16

**FS** FS Coaches Weekend with IsisLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

March 15-16

**A** Tracking WeekendLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

March 21-22

**U** SOS Record attemptLocation: **Netheravon** • pops.org.uk

March 22-23

**FS** Foundry Intermediates Load OrganisingLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

March 22-23

**A** Freely with Liz BonifaceLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

March 22-23

**FS** 4-way Scrambles with SAVoALocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.comCYPRES 2  
never pay a battery

March 22-23

**FS** FS ProgressionLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

March 24-28

**BPA** Tandem, AFF and Pre-Advanced Instructor CourseLocation: **Langar** • bpa.org.uk

March 29

**U** Packing CourseLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

March 29-30

**FS** 6-way FS MeetLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

March 29-30

**FS** Milko's FS ScramblesLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

## April

April 5

**U** B Licence Progression DayLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 5-6

**U** Progression Weekend (WGD Canopy Course)Location: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

April 5-6

**FS** Load Organising with Mike LewisLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 9-13

**U** Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS) World RecordLocation: **Elsinore, California** • sosworldrecord.com

April 12-13

**A** Tracking and Angle Flying with Paul CooperLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

April 12-13

**FS** Blackjack (Pinch Jump invitational)Location: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

April 12-13

**A** Freely Coaching with Paul CapseyLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 12-13

**FS** FS Big-way WeekendLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

April 18-21

**WS** Cark Easter Wings 2014Location: **Cark** • skydivenorthwest.co.ukCYPRES 2  
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April 18-21

**B/F** Boogie 1 – Easter ChallengeLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

April 18-21

**FS** Easter Wingsuit Load OrganisingLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 18-21

**B/F** Easter BoogieLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

April 19-20

**CP** Flight-1 Canopy CoursesLocation: **Hibaldstow** • flight-1.com

April 19-20

**A** Freely Coaching with Bodyflight EuphoriaLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 26

**U** Packing CourseLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 26-27

**FS** Introduction to Big-way FS with Dave WestLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

April 26-27

**A** Freely with Adam DareLocation: **Hibaldstow** • skydiving.co.uk

April 26-27

**FS** 6-way CompLocation: **Langar** • skydivelangar.co.uk

April 26-27

**FS** FS ProgressionLocation: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

April 26-27

**A** Freely Coaching with Paul CapseyLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

April 28-May 2

**BPA** Tandem, AFF and Pre-Advanced Instructor CourseLocation: **Hibaldstow** • bpa.org.uk

## May

May 3

**U** B Licence Progression DayLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

May 3-4

**FS** BPA FS RoadshowLocation: **Sibson** • skydivesibson.co.uk

May 3-4

**CF** Canopy Formation Coaching with CrwsadersLocation: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

May 3-5

**FS** 16-way Comp with Mike Lewis

Location: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

May 3-5

**U** Progression Weekend

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

May 10-11

**FS** Killa from Volare Organising

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

May 10-11

**A** VFS Workshop with Paul Cooper

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

May 12-16

**BPA** Instructor Course (CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced)

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

May 17-18

**FS** UKSL Meet 1

Location: **Sibson** • bpa.org.uk

May 19-23

**BPA** Instructor Course (CSI)

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

May 22-25

**B/F** Twin Beech Boogie 1

**FS** FS Progression

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

May 23-26

**WS** Wingsuit Nationals (Competition)

Location: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

May 23-June 1

**B/F** Cark Week 1

Location: **Cark** • skydivenorthwest.co.uk

May 24-25

**S&A** Accuracy Grand Prix

Location: **Headcorn** • headcorn.com

May 24-25

**CF** CF Grand Prix

Location: **Black Knights** • bkpc.co.uk

## June

June 6-8

**U** BCPA Meet

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

June 7-8

**FS** BPA FS Roadshow

Location: **Beccles** • ukparachuting.co.uk

June 7-8

**CP** Flight-1 Canopy Course

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

June 14-15

**FS** UKSL Meet 2

Location: **Netheravon** • bpa.org.uk

June 21-22

**FS** Team Elite 36-40 Diamonds and Jewels event

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

June 28-29

**FS** 28-way Competition

Location: **Hibaldstow** • bpa.org.uk

June TBC

**FS** BPA FS Roadshow

Location: **Chatteris** • ukskydiving.com

## July

Jul 5-6

**A** Speed Skydiving Roadshow

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

July 12-13

**FS** UKSL Meet 3

Location: **Langar** • bpa.org.uk

July 12-13

**A** 2-way VFS Competition

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

July 18-20

**CP** Canopy Piloting Nationals

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

July 19-20

**FS** 50-way POPS record attempt

Location: **Hibaldstow** • jack.felstead@btinternet.com

July 21-27

**FS** European Skydivers over Sixty record attempt

Location: **Eisenact, Germany**

July 21-27

**B/F** Sibson Summer Boogie

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

July 23-27

**B/F** 50th Birthday Boogie

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

## August

August 1-10

**B/F** Cark Week 2

Location: **Cark** • skydivenorthwest.co.uk

August 2-3

**FS** 4-way Cup

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

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August 4-8

**BPA** CSBI, AFFBI, TBI and Advanced Instructor Course

Location: **Headcorn** • bpa.org.uk

August 9-15

**U** Armed Forces Parachute Championships competition

Location: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

August 11-15

**BPA** CSI Course

Location: **Headcorn** • bpa.org.uk

August 15-23

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

Location: **Banjaluka, Bosnia**

August 16-17

**CP** Flight-1 Canopy Courses

Location: **Sibson** • flight-1.com

August 20-24

**B/F** Twin Beech Boogie 2

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

August 24-31

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

Location: **Prostejov, Czech Republic**

August 30-31

**CF** CF Grand Prix

Location: **Netheravon** • netheravon.com

## 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** 8-way FS, Artistics and Speed Reserve 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

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# Skydive the Mag – The First Fifty!

Visit us at [bpa-archive.org.uk](http://bpa-archive.org.uk)



**2014 is an** auspicious year for *Skydive the Mag* as we approach the 50th birthday of the BPA magazine. As we await the June 2014 edition which will mark the Golden Jubilee, it's appropriate to reflect back on some of the things that have gone into the creation of the quality magazine we enjoy today. This isn't the full story of the BPA Mag, which will have to wait until later in the year and will appear on the BPA Archive website in due course, but it is intended to set the scene.

Let's look at the Mag by numbers to start with. The first edition of *Sport Parachutist* was published in the summer of 1964 and there were two further editions that year. To date, there have been 279 editions of the magazine. Two of these are completely unnumbered and three have duplicate volume and edition numbers. A number of editions had incorrect volume numbers and this form of identification was eventually discontinued. A small amount of colour was used on the front cover of the Mag from the outset, but the first full colour front cover appeared at the end of 1971 with use of colour on the back cover beginning from 1977. This was followed by additional colour pages inside at the beginning of 1979. Increasing use of colour followed from the mid-1980s through the 1990s until full colour was attained. The third magazine in 1964 was offered for sale to the general public for the

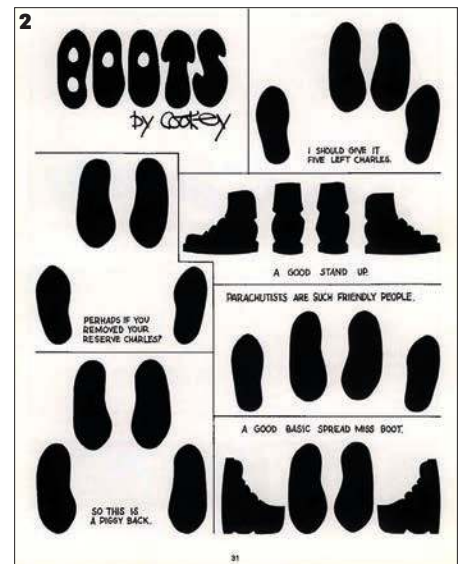
princely sum of 15p, or three shillings in what those of us of a certain age nostalgically refer to as 'old money'. Today, a single copy of *Skydive the Mag* will set a subscribing non-member back £3.99 – but it is a very different product with full colour and twice as many pages. There have been 17 discrete editors or, in times of crisis, editorial teams (although several of these have served more than one term). This makes the job sound a little like a prison sentence and, at times in the dim and distant past, it must have seemed like that. One edition of the Mag has no identifiable editor following a small editorial crisis that arose back in the 1970s.

## DIGITISATION

As you are probably aware, digitisation of the entire back collection of magazines has been completed in time for the 50th Anniversary of the Mag. This has involved a lot of work but has provided a fascinating insight into the evolution of the magazine, as well as a few challenges along the way. Early black and white magazines were simple to scan, but those from around 2000 employed more sophisticated and colourful layout which tested even the most advanced text recognition software to the limit. The total number of pages in the Archive is well over 10,000. A lot of subject matter has changed little down the years – technical, safety, people, competitions, trips – but the

contrast in the way it is presented is enormous. Both style and substance have evolved considerably but, if one word is used to sum up the difference between the old and the new, it is 'professionalism'. *Skydive the Mag* showcases all that is good about British skydiving and the BPA. This has resulted in the decrease of potentially dubious (but entertaining) content over the years and some of the photos and cartoons from 40 years ago probably couldn't appear today. Who can forget the slightly outrageous (at the time) 'Boots' series by Cookey?

Will skydiving still exist after another 50 years? Almost certainly. Will we still be reading paper copies of the Mag? Perhaps not. One thing is certain, though – skydivers will still want to read about their sport. The previous 50 years of the Mag have had their ups and downs, but have finished in a strong place. Here's to the next 50! ●

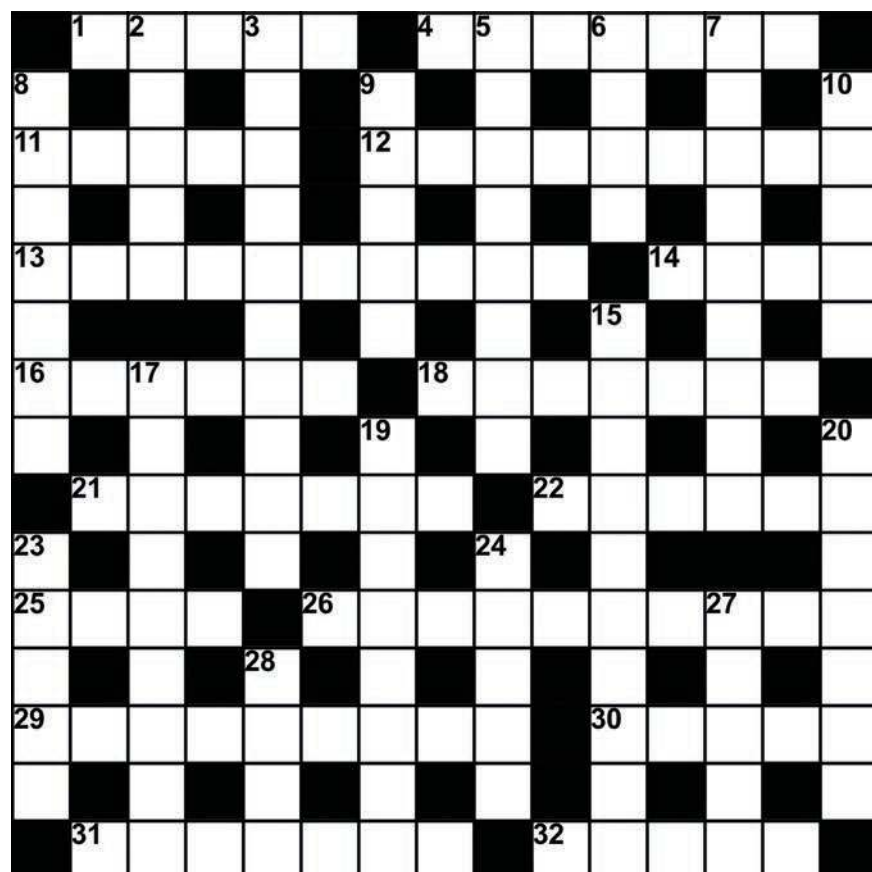


1 The first colour cover from December 1971

2 Boots, by Cookey

## 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](mailto:graham@bpa.org.uk) if you are able to help.



## Across

1. Greek letter
4. Air journeys
11. Musical speed/PISA reserve
12. Parachute descent that the police should be informed of (5,4)
13. Canopy nuisance factor or possible mal (4,6)
14. Thunder god
16. Go on board
18. Gasbag?
21. Absence of restrictions
22. Call for action
25. Moveable boarding stairs
26. Something that can be blown up
29. 4-way formation/Orbiting body
30. 4-way formation/Eccentric person
31. 8-way formation/Flying toy
32. Woodworking tool

## Down

2. Citrus fruit
3. Changed direction just before landing (4,6)
5. Harness part (3,5)
6. Helmet manufacturer
7. Landing
8. Critically lost lift
9. Fast falling skydiver
10. Pastime
15. Oval
17. Air pressure gauge
19. Use a smaller canopy
20. Having no immediate use (4,3)
23. Collide
24. Insects
27. Contents of skull
28. Mountains near Gap in France

## CARTOON



BAZ

Down

1. Alpha 4. Flights 11. Tempo 12. Night jump 13. Line twists 14. Thor 16. Embark 18. Balloon 21. Freedom 22. Signal 25. Ramp 26. Inflatable 29. Satellite 30. Crank 31. Frisbee 32. Plane 2. Lemon 3. Hook turned 5. Leg strap 6. Gath 7. Touchdown 8. Stalled 9. April 10. Sport 15. Elliptical 17. Barometer 19. Downsize 20. Blue-sky 23. Crash 24. Flies 27. Brain 28. Alps



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