

# skydive

*The Mag*

February 2000

**FAI World Record**  
Thailand  
**People in the Sport**  
Norman Kent  
**Camera or Danger?**  
by Simon Ward



The British Parachute  
Association Magazine

GAP TALLARD Centre - FRANCE

18th Sept. 1999

An ATOM has been timed  
at 524,13 kmh ! \*

But... with a little help

from a friend:

Mike Brooke

was in the

harness !



ATOM:  
Absolutely  
perfect for  
supporting  
your talent.

\* 325.75 mph



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**AGM - The Social Event of the Year**  
At most AGMs for the last ten years, the membership has a solidarity in approach (brothers!). Motions are either universally carried or wholeheartedly dismissed - as was the case this year with the poorly presented review motion. It could be argued that this is a good idea but not if executed by people who did a fair job of executing themselves in front of 480 people. Stand up and be discounted!



Photo: Simon Ward

**Chairman's Report**  
Chris Allen's report, in glorious Powerpoint, was the best I can remember, see insert in this Mag. It's good to see a young Chairman with a proactive approach, vision and drive. Also, the highest votes in the election, proving membership support. Good luck Chris. Development Chairman Ian Midgley demonstrated his pilot new BPA website which was very well received. And John Smyth's Competitions Committee has been the most proactive for years. The BPA Council is looking good, and now we even have two women in the hot seats.

**Girl Power**  
A unified membership feeling was shown by the standing ovation for our Women's World Cup Champions, VMax, Right On Ladies (and Gent!). Also, spontaneous applause for the magazine during Chris Allen's speech, thank you. Praise for the Mag was universally high, all motivating stuff, the only gripe was that two people weren't getting it (the magazine that is!).

**Brit100**  
Simon Ward, Brit100 Chairman, presented Trish and I with a framed photo of the famous 100-way in appreciation of our support. Super Cool. Surely a BPA Certificate of Merit would have been appropriate for Simon and all the Brit100 committee for tremendous positive PR. I'd like to publicly recognise his constant help, input and support both for the magazine and for British skydiving. I have so much respect for Simon. His concepts are sound and could be well used by the BPA.

**Summary**  
Whilst the dinner was good fun, it lacked a binding ingredient like after-dinner speeches (we have so many funny characters in the sport this would be entertaining) or at least a toast to the year. And what was that soup? But the day was efficiently organised by Sharon Norris (nice one!), the seminars were excellent and the happy mingling of British skydivers went on all night.

May your sky dreams come true

*Lesley*

**skydive**  
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| April    | Wed 08 Mar    | Wed 15 Mar    | Sat 15 Apr |

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**NOTE:** Some of the photos contained in this magazine may show skydivers without helmets, in which case they were jumping abroad. In the UK it is mandatory to wear a helmet for obvious safety reasons.

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The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability correct at the time of going to press. Reproduction, printing and mailing takes a total of 3 weeks so some information may be out of date, or superseded.

SUPPORTED BY



Front Cover by  
Johnny Panakis  
from Patrick Passe's new  
movie, see also page 4

Cover shot shows  
Richie Hornig swooping a  
bridge at Besalu, Spain

# skydive

The Mag

## features . . .



**Getting it Right. . . . 4**  
Shots from **Patrick Passe's** latest movie

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A sequence of action shots  
with comments by **Dave Morris**

**Big-way Skysurf . . . . 9**  
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bronze medallist skysurfer

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**Simon Ward** traces the evolution of  
flying cameras

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**George Pilkington** enthuses  
about the new World Record

**AGM. . . 36**  
**Lizzie Harris** rounds up the  
action, plus a pictorial spread  
of our '99 achievers



The break-off shot above  
was taken by Willy  
Boeykens at the recent  
World Record, see page 28

Getting it

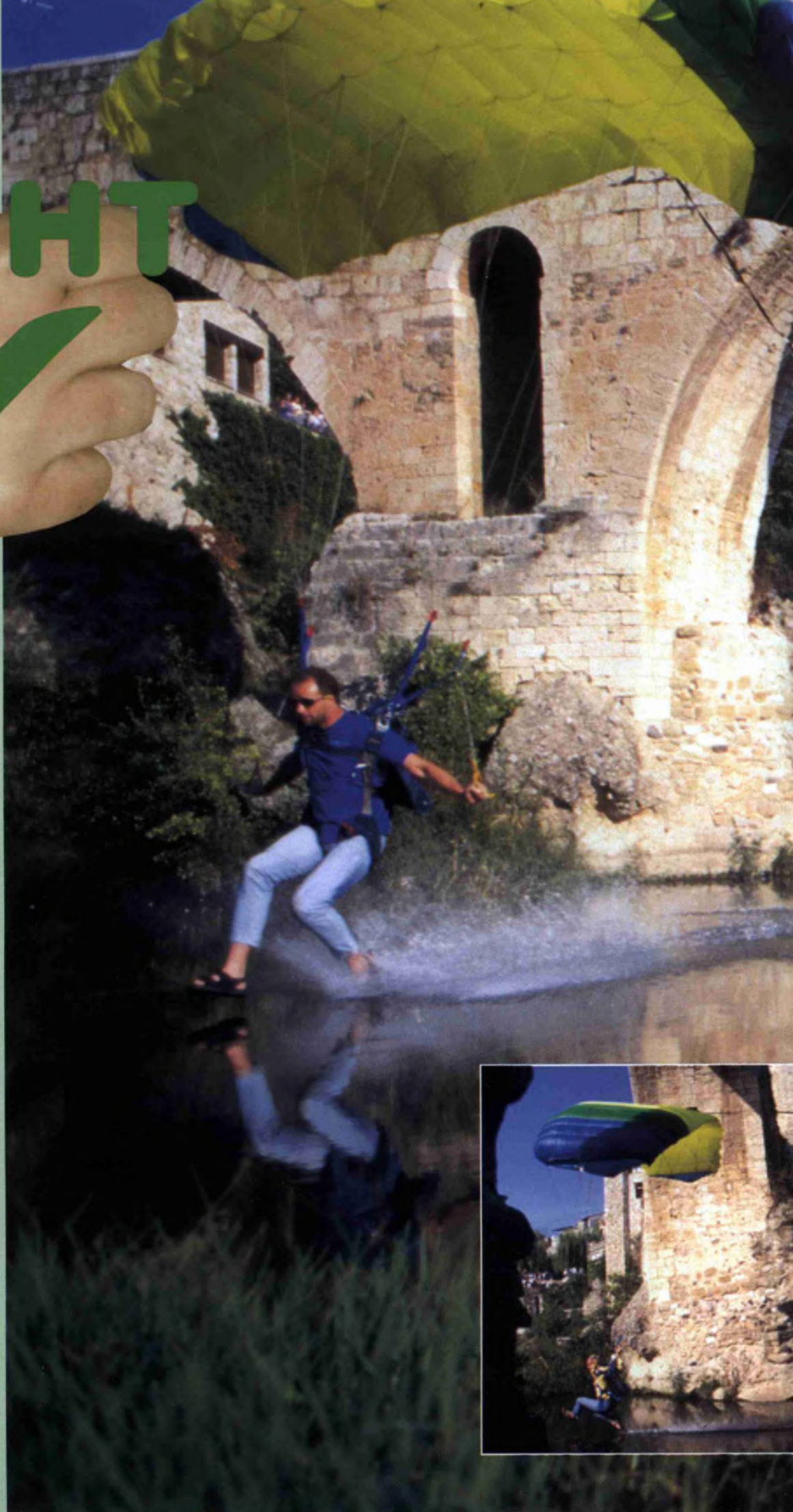
RIGHT

These shots and the cover shot, by Johnny Panakis, show Bruno Brokken and Richie Hornig flying with their Velocities under a narrow bridge at Besalu, Spain. They were taken during the filming of Patrick Passe's new movie, *Crosswind*.

*Crosswind* also shows Rickster Powell swooping the gorgeous Lake Taupo between big rocks sticking out of the surface of the water and piloting his high speed canopy inside narrow and bushy ravines.

*Crosswind* includes freefly with the *Fly Boyz*, tracking jumps, the last skysurf tandem skydives with Patrick de Gayardon above Hawaii, beautiful jumps with Wendy Smith above New Zealand, Omar Alhegelan playing with his skyball, skysurfing with the team *Pulse*, funky shots of *Airspeed*, tube jumps, flares into the fire, wing suit jumps, exciting base jumps, and 'more French craziness'.

*Crosswind* is a three year project, filmed with 16mm cameras by Patrick Passe, Wendy Smith and Claud Remide (for the base jumping segments). It is a complete 60 minute film; the theme of the story is the Relative Wind. *Crosswind* will be released in June or July 2000. Next issue (April), we have a complete article by Patrick Passe about the movie.





Bruno Brokken



Richie Hornig



Patrick Passe



*Bruno Brokken and Richie Hornig were chosen for this challenging swoop situation. After a few training jumps sliding on the water under a small bridge at La Muga, Empuriabrava, they decided to go for some more ambitious action. They knew a beautiful place called Besalu, where there is an amazing and very old Spanish bridge with stone arches over the river. This was far riskier, the entrance for the swoop is pretty dangerous. They could easily have broken bones or gone in at the start of the swoop – or got wet at the end!*

*Nothing like that did happen. Bruno and Richie showed amazing control of their high speed Velocity 120's, impeccably timed swoops, awesome flares and took their flight path under the bridge trailing just a foot in the water! The pigeons nesting on the stones suddenly took off when Bruno and Richie flew under the bridge, they were very surprised! This is hot! This is called Getting it Right!*

**Patrick Passe**



Getting it

**WRONG**



Photos, taken by Johnny Panakis, show JC (we'll leave him nameless to protect the guilty!) attempting to fly across La Muga on the beach at Empuriabrava on his Icarus Extreme FX 99.

Words by Dave Morris

Getting it wrong starts before you even get into the aircraft

*If you*

...buy the smallest, fastest thing on the market, ignoring all the advice

...say to yourself, "I'm gonna have a go at that on my next landing" regardless of the fact that you only have 250 jumps

...secretly think you're as good as that professional

...then you are going to get it wrong! When you do, the canopy you have chosen, could leave you with a broken leg, or kill you

It's the person in charge of the canopy that makes it look good, not the canopy. If you don't have the experience then the canopy doesn't matter (within reason), because a jumper with 6,000 swoops will make your effort look tame, with much less risk.

Accuracy is extremely important. The skilled pilot will not only come into land fast, but accurate as well, to the centimetre vertically and to the metre horizontally. You're flying a lethal weapon so be careful of letting off the 'safety catch' for you and others.

There is definitely a right way and a wrong way to learn the necessary skills. The process starts by jumping your bum off! Lots of jumps building up slowly with a huge degree of control and precision. Learn to use the front risers without letting go of your toggles, that way it is easier to abort when you miscalculate – and you will miscalculate. Start slowly with 45 degree turns and build up from there. Stay away from toggle turns. They increase the risk. Most important of all, take advice!







Pictures 1, 2 & 3 above show a vertical miscalculation, which could have had different results if it were not over water and onto a beach. At an estimated speed of 50 mph or more the jumper has a split second to adjust the flight trajectory during a swoop. In picture number 1, the toggles should have been a few centimetres lower giving the canopy half a metre more lift.

Picture 8 is a real classic. Our man is looking at where he wants to

go – but his left hand is steering the canopy in the other direction. Most of the latter photos show him hanging onto the toggles rather than controlling the canopy and, hence, his destiny. In photo 9, a PLF position, with feet and knees together, may have been a good idea. Easy to say now, I know he walked away and we should thank him for a great sequence of stills that really demonstrate what happens when you get it wrong.

Dave Morris

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Marcus Heggli

# Big -Way Skysurfing



Sven Baumann

## Spin - Pervis



Brian Rogers

If you feel pressure on the 2-way grip and you start spinning around each other, stand straight on the board and work in the opposite direction. It will stop you. If the pressure gets to strong, just let go and start tracking towards a centre point between the other surfers. If you lose level and need to get higher, just bring your arms and your upper body forward, put your board in an 45 degree angle, catch air and you'll get lift. If you are too high, bring your arms in and try to get down. But it's easier to come up, so the surfer that is lower should work on floating.

There are many ways to fly together. You have to find the one you like the best. For example, some people bring the board in an angle and move sideways, others track around each other find a circle and take grips, some use their arms to move forward or backwards. At the end of the jump a good separation is very important. One surfer should pull at 4,500 feet, the rest of the group should track away and pull at 4,000 feet and 3,500 feet. Therefore you have enough separation in distance and altitude.

It will take some jumps until you'll be able to fly around each other and do everything you want to. But don't give up. It's so much fun! Learn to use your board and the teamwork in the sky and feel the spirit of surfing! I hope you will enjoy more of your skydives.

**EXPAND YOUR PLAYGROUND!**

**Oliver Furrer**

Our sport, skysurfing, is becoming more and more popular. Since it has become a competition discipline it has become a team sport. A cameraflyer and a surfer, who perform their routines and feel free in the sky. Over the years the skills have progressed and reached a level where it is possible to fly in any position. You can even jump with other skysurfers and fly around each other like freeflyers – just that you have the board on your feet. But it takes practice and time to be able to do all the moves, stay close together, be aware of what your partner is doing and to have fun.

It doesn't matter if you have a large or a small board, a piece of wood, a snowboard or a super carbon high tech board. It's more important that

you feel comfortable and can control your board before you start doing 2 or bigger ways. Safety comes first! Many people still underestimate the speed of a surfboard and the fact that you can get hurt.

A detailed ground briefing will make it easier. Talk about the exit, the programme, pulling etc. A good briefing will help you to have more fun and success. A bigger plane is better, too. You have more space in the door to hold on to each other and stand straight. Give a good exit count, so you will leave at the same time with no pressure on the grip. During freefall it is important that you always keep eye contact with your partner. Watch what he is doing and work together.

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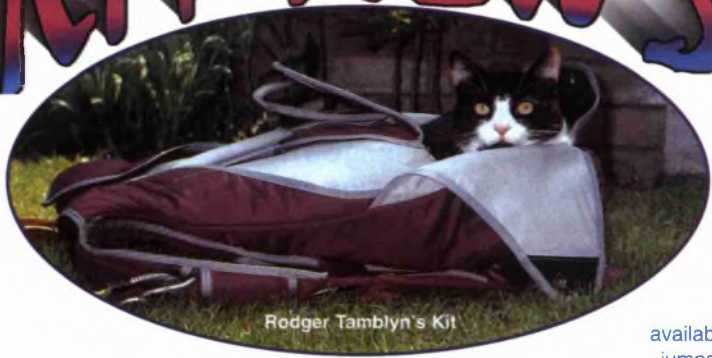
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# KIT NEWS



## Jump on Track

Larsen and Brusgaard, the Danish manufacturer of the *Dytter* range of audible altimeters, have finally released onto the market as promised, their fully featured software to be used in conjunction with their *Pro-Track* audible alti and freefall data recorder. Called *Jump-Track*, the software is essentially an electronic log book that manipulates data from a Pro-Track.

The Pro-Track/Jump-Track combo competes with Cool & Groovy's *Evolution 2000/Interface 2000* products which were released last year.

The Jump-Track package includes a CD-ROM and a small docking cradle which accepts the Pro-track. The system runs Windows 95/98/NT formats and is well designed and easy to use, with instructions and help available at a click of the rodent. The freefall data feature allows you to view your jumps in graph form showing altitude against time and provides a vertical speed profile, exit altitude, freefall time, deployment altitude, and average vertical speed.

A really funky feature allows you to run a digital video of your jump right there in a window on the screen and have it synched in with the graph showing your vertical speed, so that you can easily see how various body positions affect your fall-rate – nice one L&B!

The log book feature automatically logs the jumps from your Pro-Track, although you need to manually enter some fields such as Drop zone, aircraft type and equipment, or you can set up preferences which will fill these in for you during the download if you always jump at the same DZ. You can add stamp-men (or stamp-women – Ed) type FS formations of your own or use the incorporated IPC dive pool. The data recording features of the Pro-Track may still be read without a Jump-Track by using its built-in LED screen, and the Jump-Track log book software feature may be used without a Pro-Track by manually entering jump data. Jump-Track retails for around £80, Pro-Track for around £200.

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by  
**Rob Colpus**



**STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...**

### Reflex Action

Following a recent main/reserve fatality in which a main suspension line became trapped under a rolled rim grommet on a main container flap, Fliteline are recommending that all grommets installed on *Reflex* main containers be inspected for flush fitting. They go on to recommend that all grommets now be counter-sunk so that any potential snag points are eliminated. Additionally they urge owners of all harness/containers of any make or model to have the grommets inspected.

Fliteline - 001 909 245 8828  
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[www.fliteline.com](http://www.fliteline.com)

### New Product?

send info to  
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Note: Kit News is an editorial feature, not paid for in any way by advertising. We aim to provide facts about new kit so that you, the reader, may make an informed choice. Inclusion of a product here in no way constitutes a recommendation.

## Reap what you Stow

Sunpath Inc have added a centre stow at the mouth lock of the *Javelin* main deployment bag. The *Javelin* bags now have three stows at the mouth lock. The idea is that the last stow to release will be the centre one, thus pulling the bag level with the horizon just prior to the canopy hitting the air.



Sunpath claim that this mod assists high performance canopies to open on heading more often than they would with the conventional two stow mouth lock (which is not very often!). The new bag now comes standard with the *Javelin* or may be bought separately for around £35.

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

## French 4-Ring Circus

Parachutes de France have come up with a unique way of building tandem risers which according to them both reduce the load on the small locking loop whilst also resulting in a stronger riser to boot. They've achieved this by utilising what is, in effect, another ring – formed from a small grommet on a short length of tape which passes through the third ring on the system on the front side of the riser.

This arrangement eliminates the usual grommet through the riser webbing which reduces the ultimate strength. The end of the yellow cable is routed up a tunnel on the front of the riser and is covered by the riser covers. These new risers also incorporate front trim tabs as standard.



Parachutes de France  
0033 1 34327777  
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## Holy BatRak Boneman

Those innovative little boneheads at the Bonehead factory in Perris, California, have come up with yet another funky looking camera helmet or two. Called the *BatRak* (because it looks like batman's hat and it takes a rack of cameras) this helmet is a hybrid between the company's *DaBomb* (Kit News Aug 99) and *Flat-Top* camera helmets. Like all Boneheads, it's moulded from carbon fibre and has a foam liner that conforms to the wearer's head shape. The *BatRak* is side opening making for easy access and egress and comes complete with a chin cup and neck strap. The bat ears make for flat sides which allow easy fitting of cameras, plus a top platform measuring 6 x 8.25 inches. The ears also provide plenty of room for audibles, camera switches, sandwiches etc. The *HalfRak* has only one ear (should have called it the Holyfield) and is suitable for a side mounted video and a top mounted stills.

The *BatRak* retails for around £330 whilst the *HalfRak* goes for just under £300.

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



## All Voodoo to me!

Rigging Innovations, makers of the *Talon* and *Telesis* harness/container systems, have released a new rig onto the market with the freerflyer in mind. Called the *Voodoo*, the new rig is similar in looks to the *Talon* but with a *Vector 3* type main pin cover and continuous side flaps. RI claim that their new *V-Flex* harness design is more comfortable than existing designs (Oh yeah!) due to a longer main lift web and yoke, custom flat forged hip and chest rings, extra wide leg strap comfort pads, and an unusual leg strap/hip junction geometry.

**Rigging Innovations**  
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## Rogue Drogue NEXTed

**Paratec of Germany have been busy again! They tell us that they've now solved the age old problem of rapid wear on tandem drogue bridles.**

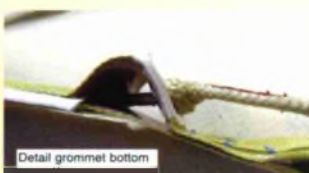
The new *Paratec Drogue Concept 2 (PDC2)* as they call it, incorporates a centre kill-line made from 4mm high molecular Dacron line with a breaking strain of 1,000kgs in place of the usual tubular nylon. This leads into a kevlar bridle through a stainless steel grommet, thus eliminating the constant damage to the two kevlar tapes normally used to keep the guiding ring in place.



Detail top



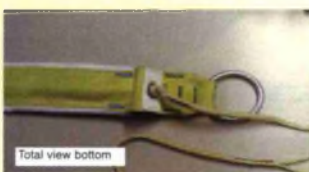
Detail grommet top



Detail grommet bottom



Detail bottom



Total view bottom

On the bottom end they use a special, teflon coated, glass fibre tape sewn inside the bridle for friction-free protection. The grommet is made to sit up on its end to allow free passage of the bridle. Both ends of the bridle are separate lengths of Dacron attached by larksheads which allow them to be field replaced and also act as natural stops. Old style *Next* drogues as well as *Vector* type drogues may be retro fitted with the new PDC2.

**Paratec**  
0049 68 37 7375  
[www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de)

micron

The Relative Workshop have added a new size to their range of *Vector 3* containers to cope with the increase of smaller than 120 sized high performance mains now on the market. This time they've given the new size a name – *Micron*, and taken the opportunity to make a few other changes. RW claim that the *Micron* is the narrowest rig now available and suitable for main canopies of no more than 120sq ft. They've also improved on the bottom of container pilot chute and bridle protection and smoothed off the over-the-shoulder contour of the rig. The *Micron* is not available with the larger size 3-rings and type 8 webbing risers because they will not fit nicely under the rig's narrow riser covers.

*(Although most small rigs are purchased with mini rings, the larger size have always been available. Some manufacturers will build mini type 17 risers with a large ring set to provide the best of both worlds. It's a retrograde step in my opinion when the large 3-ring option is excluded for merely aesthetic reasons, when they are in fact far safer. Large size 3-rings have a 4 to 1 mechanical advantage over mini rings, thus providing lower pull forces at cutaway time when high Gs may be experienced with small high performance canopy malfunctions.)*

The new *Microns* are available with dual colour leg strap pads – allowing the inside of the pads to match the back pad (what they call 'body contact' panels) making for an overall attractive colour scheme.

**The Relative Workshop – 001 904 736 7589**  
[www.relativeworkshop.com](http://www.relativeworkshop.com)

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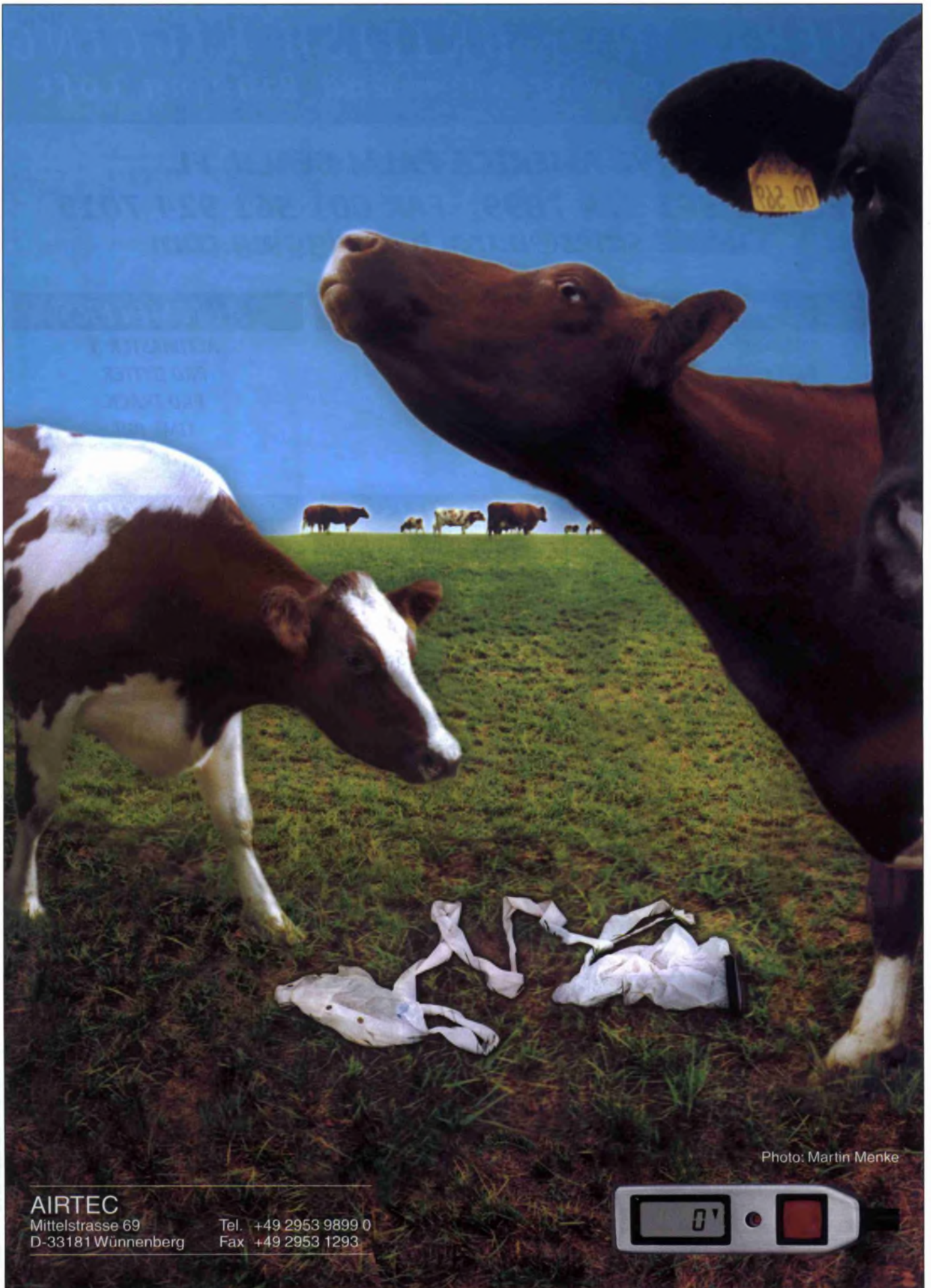


Photo: Martin Menke

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# dear skydive...

## dear skydive...

### IS AFF REALLY EASY?

When you have finished your AFF is it really easy to do your consolidation jumps and is it really easy to talk to everyone at a parachute centre?

The reason I am asking these questions is now that I've done it, paid and qualified to Cat 8, the people concerned aren't really interested. Come to think of it they were not that bothered in the first place. Maybe it is because I can't get to the DZ as much as I would like. Surely I can't be expected to hang around all day everyday for a window in the weather?

When ringing about the weather (due to the DZ being 40 miles away), should I be told what they expect to happen? Or should I be told "It might be okay this afternoon, see you later"? Or should I be expected to ring Michael Fish? Should I feel inadequate when asking stupid questions like "When I jump out what exercises should I be doing as this is only my first consolidation jump?"

I don't know how the so-called experts at the drop zone I use cope with jumping from 13,000 ft but, believe me, I find it very difficult indeed and need a bit of help to enjoy the sport I am loving more every time I jump. I am new to this and I need help to overcome anxiety. I am not afraid to tell anyone this so why is it too much to expect a little help and understanding? Surely you are not born to be British champions, even they all did jump number one.

Carl Jackson

We can't comment on the treatment you've received at your 'zone but don't assume it is the same all over the country. Now you're Cat 8 (Congrats!), maybe try going to another drop zone if you're not getting on well at yours. It is a fact of life that British skydiving inevitably involves waiting for breaks in the weather, which are not predictable. But there are useful ground exercises to do and there is no excuse for poor attitude towards up and comings. It's important for us all to welcome newcomers and be open about the fact we all have had (and still do) rational and irrational fears.

## dear skydive...

### PUTTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Another great issue immaculately timed for Crimble - well done!

I'm sure Brian McGill's piece on page 62 (*Club News*) was well intentioned, but I'm afraid it's riddled with inaccuracies. This is not to deny credit

to Don Hughes' achievements in the early days, but they shouldn't be allowed to detract from the achievements of others.

Don was not a member of the first British Parachute Team. The first World Championships were held in St Yan, France in 1951 and it wasn't until 1958 in Czechoslovakia that the British first fielded a National Parachute Team (which consisted of Mike Reilly, Dennis Lee, Jim McLoughlin and Sue Burges). In 1960 the World Meet was held in Bulgaria with Mike Reilly, Tony Charlton, Dennis Lee and Alf Card (no relation to Bob!) In 1962 Don Hughes was in the third British Team at the World Meet in the USA. Two years later he was the Brit Judge at the first World Meet at which a British Ladies Team (Helen Flambert, Penny Seager and Diana Knipe) competed.

For Brian to suggest that in the early '60s 'there were no rules and control' is completely untrue as the BPA was formed in 1961 with Mike Reilly as the first Chairman. He was killed parachuting into the Channel the following year and Dare Wilson took over and was largely responsible for the first set of BPA Safety Regulations, which appeared at that time. The Army Parachute Association was formed in 1962 and Rothmans donated the first DH89a Rapide - G-AJHO - to the APA in 1963, the year before Don Hughes was appointed first Chief Instructor at Netheravon. The story of the aeroplane purchase was told by the APA's first Secretary, Major John Weeks, in an hilariously funny article that appeared in the very first issue of *Sport Parachutist* entitled 'The Khaki Airline'. Edward Gardener, first Team Commander of the Red Devils, was the person responsible for the purchase of the first Parachute Regiment Rapide - G-AGTM and the purchase of RAPA's Rapide - G-ASRJ - was negotiated by the APA Committee in 1964.

**Sources:** Mike Reilly's book - *Alone in the Sky, Sport Parachutist* issues 1-5 and my log books!

Charlie Shea-Simonds, BPA475

## dear skydive...

### BIRDLAND BAR

I once visited a DZ and saw a poster, which said *There are no strangers here just friends we haven't met yet*. I thought, that's nice! Now I know it to be true. I did not realise how many friends I had, let alone how many very good ones. Since Jake and began running Birdland Bar at Sibson, the offers of help and the very real help we've had have been truly amazing.

Thank you very, very much to those who did and to those who were just patient while we fell over each other in the kitchen and were slow with mental arithmetic. If we are no better in 2000, I hope we will be at least as entertaining! Hope to see you there.

Pete Male

## dear skydive...

### CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me at the recent BPA Council elections. Once again I have been elected your Vice Chairman of Council and Chairman of Communications Committee. This year I have also taken on the role of Northern Region Representative. I will endeavour to carry out these roles to the best of my ability on behalf of the membership. If anyone has any issues they would like to discuss with me my contact details are at the front of the magazine. Feel free to call.

Kieran Brady

## dear skydive...

### WOT NO AIRSPEED?

Mag looking very good (as usual). Going to be a bit anal here. December issue, page 36 'In 1993, France won a World 4-way championship when they beat America's *Airspeed*'. *Airspeed* didn't form until '94.

Gary McGuinness

*Thanks for putting us right Gary. We apologised to Airspeed (the confusion arose because the US team beaten in 1993 included Jack and Kirk but, of course, was not Airspeed, who formed in December '93). We received the following reply:*

Hi Lesley

No worries mate! (just learned that one from Australia!) The writing was good, I didn't even notice the goof.

By the way a change in the 4-way line-up has occurred, instead of an A & B team scenario, we are going to go with two teams of equal strength, competing side by side, as with *Airspeed* and *Vortex*. The team that wins the Nationals will be the 'A' team! Thus creating a competitive environment year long, this will be sure to give *Airspeed* the best chance of re-taking its true presence in 4-way. One team is: Craig, myself, Eagle, and one yet to be determined. And in the blue corner, Kirk, Alan, Christopher Erwin of *Air FX* fame, and one to be determined.

Mark Kirby  
Arizona Airspeed

## Letters Policy

A question at the AGM suggested some people may think we are deliberately excluding or censoring letters which are contentious. Just to clarify the situation, our policy is as follows:

### We don't print letters which are:

- Anonymous (though we'll omit your name if reasonable)
- Personal or vindictive
- Thank-yous (unless a good reason)
- Only relevant to a small group
- Inherently boring

This doesn't leave many letters!

### We encourage letters which are:

- Relevant to the membership
- Well argued
- Balanced
- Raising interesting points

We forward the letter to relevant parties to allow a response in the same issue or the problem to be resolved.

If you do have a 'beef' with someone or something, we suggest you write directly to them before the Mag.

Write to  
letters@skydivemag.com

# Sky Times

## Skydivers first to see the rising sun

John Deans sent us a comprehensive report on the Millennium Dateline Jump, but, as they say, space does not permit us to reproduce it in its entirety. Here are a few extracts:

*"At 5:19 am on 1 January 2000, a group of six skydivers exited a Cessna 406 over the international dateline, 130 miles due east of the Chatham Islands, to become the first people in the world to witness and photograph the first dawn of the third millennium..."*

*"The Chatham Islands only has a population of a few hundred people, with the large number of media and TV, the only people allowed on the island had to be invited by an inhabitant. We participated in numerous interviews by the media personnel who, having interviewed everyone on the island were by then resorting to interviewing each other..."*

*"We circled the plane above the cloud to witness the first dawn of the new millennium at 5.19am, twenty-five minutes before the same sun*

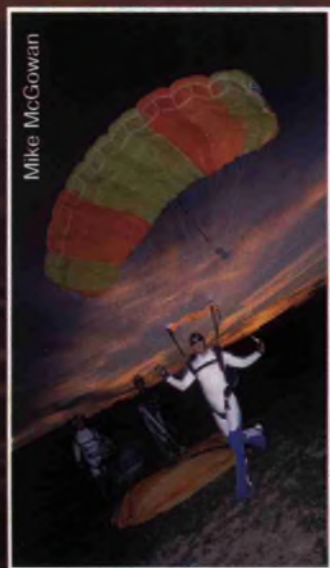
*would show itself to the mass media at Chatham Islands. We were euphoric. We exited at 7,000ft, whilst we had good visibility of our boat below. It was glorious – the sun had cleared the horizon and was bathing us in its warm glow... We landed within twenty feet of the dinghy..."*

*"It was over, we had been the first to witness the first sunrise of the new millennium, we had probably made the first skydive, we had probably made the first water jump and we had probably executed the furthest civilian water jump from land. As we made our way back to the Chatham Islands we reflected on what we had done, sunk a few bottles of champagne and discussed what we would do to celebrate the next millennium."*

If these snippets whet your appetite, then email John at: [johnkdeans@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkdeans@yahoo.com) and he'll email the whole article to you.



Peter Vincent



Mike McGowan

## \$7 to 14,000ft

Sorry, but you only got those prices if you were one of the 61 Brits at the Skydive Arizona Boogie at the end of last year (century, millennium, era etc). As a special treat on New Year's Day afternoon, jumps were two for one 'cos the DZ was closed until noon, following serious partying the previous night. It seems to have been a lot of fun, with four Super Otters, Skyvan, King Air, DC-3, DC-4, Sikorsky S53, Stearman, two balloons and a Porter (phew).

A DC3 drop at midnight let 42 jumpers enter the millennium in freefall. Cheap jumps, lots of food, drink, music, champagne and a great atmosphere (including the first rain for 100 days) made it a Boogie to remember. Get registered for next year's and celebrate the real Millennium in style.



Paul Martin



Mike McGowan



Paul Martin

## SWEDISH HERC BOOGIE

Yes, it's on this year! Noon, Friday August 11 – check in, 9am to 7pm, Saturday August 12 to Saturday August 19 – jump out! During the last two days there should be TWO Hercules so b00gie over to email or [hercules@gfk.se](mailto:hercules@gfk.se) for details.

### WE GOT YOU COVERED

Don't forget your insurance, just in case one of those nasty bouncy things happens on your next skydive in the sun. As well as long standing harrison Beaumont, you could try Jacksons who offer annual cover at £81 for a single person, £116 for a couple and that includes scuba and skydiving. They have three categories of risky sports including abseiling, horsey stuff, water sports, skydiving and scuba-diving. You pay £200 excess for skydiving in the event of a claim. Snowcard ask for £168 for a worldwide, annual policy with minimal excess. Prices for annual cover probably work out a bit cheaper than several separate policies, but remember to shop around.

Jacksons: [www.jacksonsinsure.co.uk](http://www.jacksonsinsure.co.uk)

Snowcard: [www.snowcard.co.uk](http://www.snowcard.co.uk)

Harrison Beaumont: [www.hbinurance.co.uk](http://www.hbinurance.co.uk)

### FREE WEATHER!

Well, at least free use of a weathery website. Aimed at pilots (and who hasn't dreamt of doing that at some time), weatherweb gives all the techie stuff like TAFs and METARs. It also offers forecasts that the rest of us can understand.



including (gasp) upper winds. All you need to do is head for [www.weatherweb.net](http://www.weatherweb.net), and enter 'weather' for user name and password. It could save you a wet weekend at the DZ.

### IN THE NEWS TODAY

[www.poxon.org/Craig/Skydive/uk.rec.skydiving.html](http://www.poxon.org/Craig/Skydive/uk.rec.skydiving.html)

In June 1999, Craig Poxon set up [uk.rec.skydiving](http://uk.rec.skydiving), a British Skydiving newsgroup. There have been over a thousand messages on the group since it started and the number of participants grows weekly. You can meet people (albeit virtually) from other drop zones and discuss issues affecting all of us in the UK.



Craig Poxon

### SWALLOW SWOLLOWS

Steve Swallow was out flying the G92, for fun over the holidays. He allowed his mind to wander...coming in to land he realised he was behind the curve and tried frantically to catch up. Unfortunately, fast as he worked, it was too late and Steve crash landed the Dornier. "I looked out the window, it looked like it was all over, CRASH. It is now!" Fortunately Steve walked away, with only a bruised body. Steve has just fired a pilot for not being 'on the ball' with the plane, and this happens. "I screwed up, not the aeroplane." The good news is that Steve has procured TWO more G92's. These will be at Hibble Bibble (Target Skysports) for the opening party in April. One will spend the summer at Strathallan in bonnie Scotland, the other to feed the freaks at Hibble. They will both be at Hibble for the Combined Nationals.

Main photo taken 5.30 am, 1 January 2000 by John Deans

### EYE PEE SEE

PÅI Bergan, the Chair of the IPC Formation Skydiving Committee tells us of an active year including the suggestion of a change in competition format. A report of last year's work, together with proposals for next year and what went on at the IPC meeting, Canberra, in January can be found at [www.fai.org/parachuting/committees/fs](http://www.fai.org/parachuting/committees/fs)

### RAeC Rally

The Royal Aero Club Awards Ceremony will be held in London in April, and HRH The Duke of York (the President), has been invited to present the awards. As you may, or may not know, a few BPA names are to be honoured (see last issue's *Sky Times*), along with pilot Mike Pepper from Sibson who is up for the British Precision Pilots Association's David Timmis Trophy

Why not go along and show your support for those who are being recognised for their achievements and services within aviation sports. Get your tickets from the RAeC office at Kimberley House, Vaughan Way, Leicester LE1 4SG. You can find the date, venue and full details of the prizewinners on the RAeC website at [www.royalaeroclub.org](http://www.royalaeroclub.org)

### DON'T LET IT DIE !

Eaglescott Parachute Centre needs to stay alive. If you are interested in re-opening this DZ, then get in touch with the owner on 01769 520404 (after 2pm). Eaglescott has been going for 15 years, and has unrestricted airspace, camping facilities, dedicated buildings, and above all, experienced and willing skydivers.



### GOING DOWN ON EL PORTILLO

Ever been to the Dominican Republic? Neither have I. But an offer from ICT Travel makes the El Portillo Beach Resort sound like a neat skydiving holiday destination. Loads to do and see when you're not plummeting (ping-pong included), and beach jumps too! \$25 a jump, all-inclusive hotel with meals and booze including Spanish wines between 11am and 2am (!!!), along with a French chef. Oh, and apparently, "all our water comes from our own water purification plant ensuring a marvellous and trouble-free dream vacation" – what more can you ask for! Contact them at [trvl@email.com](mailto:trvl@email.com), phone on 001 514 344 1818

### OOOPS!

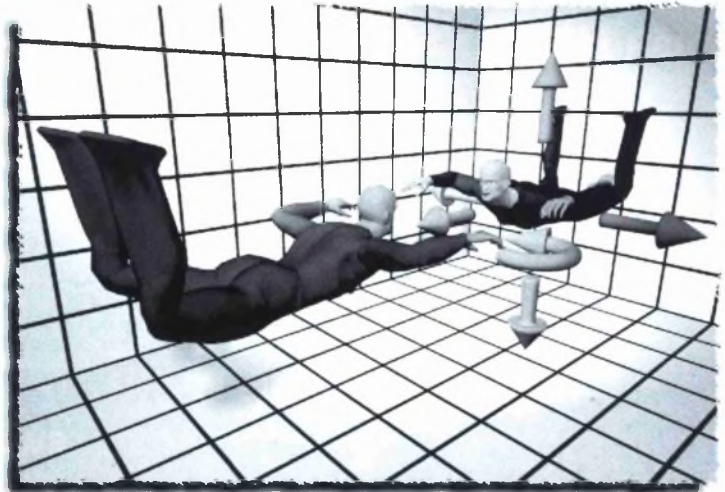
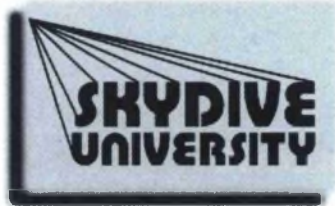
Last issue we reported on DZ Sports' move to Hinton but should have added that the business is now owned by Geoff Wood. In the World Meet report, we wrongly stated that France beat America's Airspeed at the World Meet 1993. They did beat the USA that year but the team was not Airspeed.

### SITE-SEEING



[www.enclave.com](http://www.enclave.com) has loads to interest the novice and experienced jumper. [www.makeithappen.com/wis/skydive](http://www.makeithappen.com/wis/skydive) is devoted to Women in Skydiving. Just get out there and do it! [www.normankent.com](http://www.normankent.com) lets you see what can be done with a camera and 9,000 camera jumps.

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# INCIDENT REPORTS

## Not Compatible

A rigger was doing a normal six monthly repack and, on completion of the reserve, he started to pack the main. It was obvious that the main canopy was too small for the container and that the deployment bag was too big for the container.

## Conclusions

The jumper was aware that the kit was not very compatible but stated that it worked okay. In my opinion this was an incident waiting to happen. The odds of having a malfunction were greatly increased by this mismatched equipment.

## Recommendations

Always make sure that your main components are compatible with each other, if in doubt ask your rigger or reserve packer.

## Chest Strap Releases

Three reports have been received reference chest straps coming undone during freefall or deployment. One jumper noticed his prior to deploying and crossed his arms to ensure they stayed in the harness.

## Conclusions

In all cases proper flight line checks were reported to have been done correctly and in one particular case an instructor checked one jumper while explaining to him the importance of double checking that chest strap was routed correctly. Could it be that some particular rigs, which have no turn back on the edges or have only single thickness webbing, are more susceptible to unthreading?

## Recommendations

More information is required on this one. Please let me know if any one else has had similar problems and on what type of rig. In the meantime be careful to check all chest straps.

## Radio Radio

An instructor was talking down a student on the radio while wearing his rig. While transmitting to the student, the instructor's Cypres fired. The Cypres had the protective silver sleeve installed and was in service date.

## Conclusions

In this case the Cypres main body case had a crack in it which was a contributing factor as the unit was not correctly sealed. However, just as a preventative measure, I will be taking my rig off before talking any one down with the radio.

## Recommendations

It's generally good advice to keep rigs with a Cypres away from any radios.

## Flaps Away

I have received half a dozen reports of bridle lines flapping in freefall and main containers prematurely opening. In all cases the jumpers deployed higher than normal and the canopies opened okay.

## Conclusions

In some of these cases the jumpers themselves did not notice. However, quick thinking by others in the group, AFF instructors who gave a pull signal prevented, the situation from getting worse.

## Recommendations

Make sure that any velcro holding the bridle line is effective and that all the bridle is stowed correctly and cannot work loose. Finally, have a quick check prior to exit to ensure it has not been caught during the aircraft ride.

## Safety Tag Unsafe

An embarrassing situation occurred when a drop zone checked a rig prior to allowing it to be used and a safety tag was placed on the rig to show it had been inspected. Unfortunately the safety tag was placed on the reserve housing above the RSL ring that was designed to pass over that particular spot.

## Conclusions

Adding this safety tag to let every one know that the rig had been inspected would have prevented the RSL from working as designed. It could have caused the main canopy to hang up while the reserve was being deployed.

## Recommendations

Please be very careful when adding anything to a rig, even something as small as a safety tag, make absolutely sure it will not hinder any part of the system from working.

## F111 Problems

Since the previous incident reports I have received an alarming number of standard type malfunctions on large, docile F111 canopies. They include almost everything from line-overs, bag locks, high twists with sliders stuck up, streamers etc.

## Conclusions

It is possible to get a malfunction even with the best equipment and the best packing, but nevertheless a lot of these malfunctions can be put down to poor packing techniques and checks.

## Recommendations

It's easy to become complacent when packing student kit as it's generally very forgiving. However if all packers and trainee packers stay alert and question the standards every now and then, this could help to reduce the problem and prevent some student reserve rides.

## Total Chaos

Six reports of total malfunctions have been reported and are very much related so I will discuss these together. The causes of these reported reserve rides were floating pin pulls, hard pulls and one through

not being able to find a BOC toggle.

## Conclusions

This is an ongoing problem that keeps happening. It is sometimes caused by poor equipment maintenance and other times by the deployment device being dislodged in the aircraft or on exit. The hard pulls were all packing errors, which are easily done when jumpers are new to pin pull systems.

## Recommendations

Being aware of this potential problem and its possible preventative measures is the best advice. When changing systems learn as much as possible about the possible problems from others.

## Borrowed Kit

An experienced cameraflyer borrowed a rig with a leg strap throwaway, and used it in conjunction with his clip winged camera suit. On releasing the pilot chute, it tried to deploy through the wing causing a total malfunction.

## Conclusions

Borrowed equipment seems to give an alarming number of incidents. Even though this cameraflyer was aware of the potential problem and tried to work past the wings, this was not successful.

## Recommendations

Think very carefully about the type of jump when borrowing kit. All sorts of problems are due to complacency about borrowing other equipment.

Allan Hewitt

## Tip of the Month

Never buy or jump second hand kit without first having it checked by an instructor or rigger

**CONFIDENTIAL**

If you have any safety related occurrences to report  
IN COMPLETE  
CONFIDENCE  
write to:

Confidential Report  
Allan Hewitt  
Sky Science, Unit 1  
The RBL Enterprise Units  
Ordnance Road, Tidworth  
Hants SP9 7QD

E:mail:  
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| Briefcase Rig Bags | Was £16.00 | Offer Price £11.95 |
| Helmet Bags        | Was £23.95 | Offer Price £19.95 |
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|                               |            |                    |
|-------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
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|---------------|------------|-------------------|
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| Fibus Sandals | Was £24.95 | Offer Price £9.95 |

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|                          |            |                   |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Log Books 2 jumps/page   | Was £7.50  | Offer Price £5.50 |
| Log Books 20 jumps/page  | Was £8.00  | Offer Price £5.95 |
| Log Book Holder standard | Was £10.00 | Offer Price £5.95 |
| Log Book Holder deluxe   | Was £12.00 | Offer Price £8.95 |

### ALTIMETERS

|               |             |                     |
|---------------|-------------|---------------------|
| PDF Altimeter | Was £91.95  | Offer Price £74.95  |
| Altmaster 2   | Was £136.95 | Offer Price £114.95 |

### KNIVES

|                   |            |                   |
|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Zak Knife & Pouch | Was £6.50  | Offer Price £4.95 |
| Jack Knife        | Was £10.00 | Offer Price £7.95 |

### GOGGLES

|                  |            |                   |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Standard Goggles | Was £9.00  | Offer Price £5.95 |
| Sky Eyes         | Was £12.00 | Offer Price £9.95 |

### WEIGHT VESTS

|                   |            |                    |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Weight Vests      | Was £30.00 | Offer Price £19.95 |
| Weight Belts      | Was £17.00 | Offer Price £12.95 |
| Weight tubes 440g | Was £2.00  | Offer Price £1.50  |

### COMPLETE RIGS

| Report No | Container        | Main          | Reserve    | Comments   | Price |
|-----------|------------------|---------------|------------|--|-------|
| 6         | Talon            | Maverick      | Phantom 26 | Max. weight 195lbs, ROL deployment. RSL fitted                                       | £500  |
| 237       | Vector           | Springo 160   | X175R      | Max. weight 176lbs, ROL & BOC deployment. Kill line pilot chute                      | £1200 |
| 238       | Atom             | Springo 120   | Techno 128 | Max. weight 176lbs, BOC deployment. Excellent Condition                              | £1350 |
| 240       | Talon 2          | Jedei 105     | Techno 155 | Ringed Harness Excellent Condition   | £1200 |
| 241       | Teardrop SF      | Triathlon 120 | Techno 155 | Excellent Condition  | £1250 |
| 243       | Teardrop SF      | Springo 120   | Techno 98  | Excellent Condition  | £1250 |
| 244       | Talon Classic    | 252 Foil      | Swift      | BOC deployment. Fitted for Cypress & RSL. Excellent Condition                        | £1200 |
| 245       | Tandem Dual Hawk | Master 425    | Master 425 | Vector or strong deployment system available. Excellent buy for any tandem operation | £2000 |

## Parachutes

main distributors for:

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|------------|-----------|
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| VENGEANCE  | OMEGA     |
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| STILETTO   | RAVEN     |
| SABRE      | TRIATHLON |
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| SPECTRE    | QUADRA    |
| LIGHTNING  | FANDANGO  |
| NAVIGATOR  |           |

## Containers

main distributors for:

|          |         |         |
|----------|---------|---------|
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| TEARDROP | TALON   | JAVELIN |
| NEXT     | FLEXON  | REFLEX  |
| VOODOO   | TELESIS | QUASAR  |

## Jump Suits

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| SYMBIOSIS SUITS | AIRCARE SUITS |
| TONY SUITS      | BEV SUITS     |

Dealers still required for some drop zones. Call for details

## Parachute Parts

Call for prices for all parts, Pilot Chutes, Deployment Bags, Risers etc.

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# COUNCIL MATTERS

## COMMUNICATIONS

Ian Midgley is heading up a complete revamp of the BPA web page, a demo was shown at the AGM of the progress made to date.

## COMPETITIONS

In recognition of VMax's achievement at the first Women's World Cup, it was recommended to Council that they should be reimbursed their air fares and entry fees. Council, who added their hearty congratulations to the team, wholly endorsed this. In addition, all members were offered Life Membership of the BPA.

## DEVELOPMENT

The discussion about what could be gained by having the first questionnaire fully analysed still rumbles on (see last issue of the Mag both as soapbox and in the letters page). Chris Allen has summarised the results of the first questionnaire in his Chairman's Report (see insert in this Mag). A new questionnaire has been devised with the help of professionals which will provide quantitative information. It is enclosed with this Mag. Please take the time to fill in and return with your membership renewal form. This time around, there will be a much quicker analysis (for the June Mag). The information has been carefully chelated and is needed to help decisions on several specific projects. Thanks in advance for bothering!

## COUNCIL

Dave Harrison applied to Council to have his BPA Membership reinstated. After long discussion it was decided to allow Mr Harrison to renew and thus jump in this country.

## Club Representatives

To improve communication between Council, drop zones and the membership there are now three club reps covering the country. This was as a result of a proposal by Mike Allum, last year's club rep, and will allow more centres to be visited. Should you wish to contact your local rep they are:

- Scotland, N.Ireland and North England: Kieran Brady 01236 732461
- Midlands: Michael Allum 01394 460887
- South and South East: Mike Danby 01622 891615  
*assisted by* Richard Tregaskes, 0207 465 2223

It is as important for the views of the membership to be made known to Council as it is for Council's ideas to be heard by the membership.

## Council 2000

|                   | votes | Position |
|-------------------|-------|----------|
| Chris Allen       | 453   | BPA Ch   |
| Mike Allum        | 436   | D        |
| Dave Hickling     | 428   | D        |
| Paul Applegate    | 425   | Cm,Cp    |
| Ian Midgley       | 422   | D Ch,Cm  |
| John Saunders     | 415   | STC Ch   |
| John Smyth        | 394   | Cp Ch    |
| Tim Andrewes      | 392   | Cp       |
| Chris Clements*   | 383   | Cp       |
| Tye Boughen       | 374   | D,Cm     |
| Lofty Thomas      | 371   | D,Cm     |
| Kieran Brady      | 356   | D,Cm Ch  |
| Dona Crum*        | 342   | Cp       |
| Mike Danby*       | 288   | Cp       |
| Richard Tregaskes | 263   | D        |

\* = new Council member  
 D = Development Committee  
 Cm = Communications Committee  
 Cp = Competitions Committee  
 Ch = Chairman


Dave Emerson withdrew and Kevin Hughes was unsuccessful (245 votes).

Council members' contact details are shown on page 3.



**Council Members**  
 back row from left to right: Lofty Thomas, Tye Boughen, Chris Allen, Ian Midgley, John Saunders  
 front row: Kieran Brady, Michael Allum, Dave Hickling, Paul Applegate, Dona Crum, John Smyth, Mike Danby, Chris Clements, Richard Tregaskes

Photo: Simon Ward




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**Icarus**  
CANOPIES



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**S**uper Pilatus Porter and Twin Otter all year



For more information, get in touch!  
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Tel +34 972 450111 Fax +34 972 450749  
E-mail [cpcb@gna.es](mailto:cpcb@gna.es) Website: <http://www.skyrats.com>

## Skydive Hibaldstow



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Skydive magazine for our diary of events  
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# Camera or Danger?

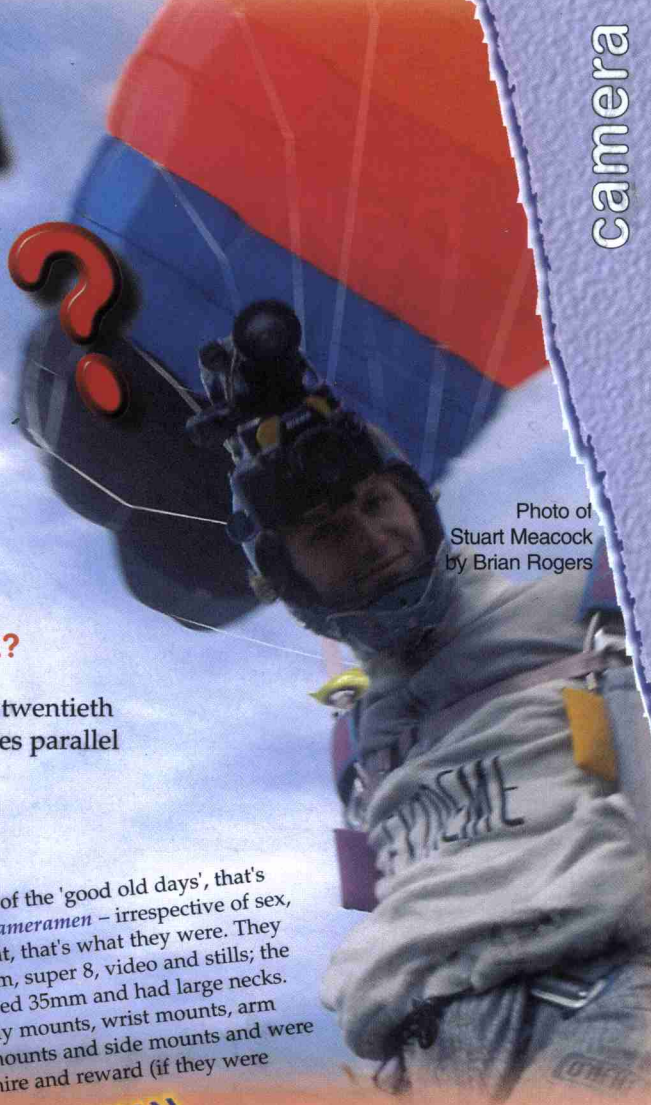


Photo of Stuart Meacock by Brian Rogers

Is the new breed of flight recorder as safe as we think?

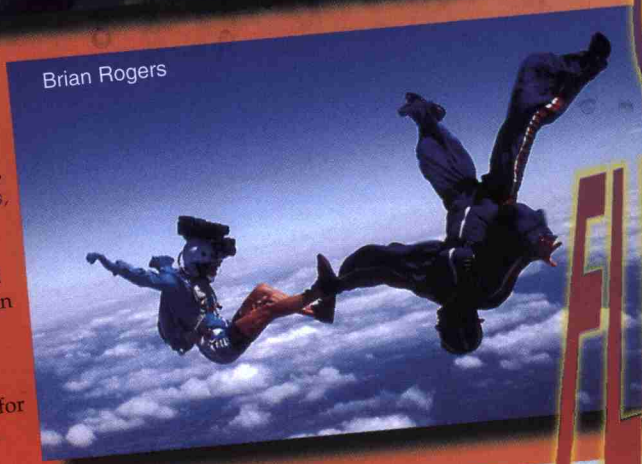
**S**kydiving is a sport in its infancy. It only became possible in the twentieth century, so is still changing at a tremendous rate. With this comes parallel development in peripheral areas such as rigging, training, DZ management, camerawork, marketing and more.



Badger by Colin Bridges

We've all heard of the 'good old days', that's when we had *cameramen* – irrespective of sex, ability or format, that's what they were. They filmed on 16mm, super 8, video and stills; the really brave used 35mm and had large necks. They used belly mounts, wrist mounts, arm mounts, top mounts and side mounts and were available for hire and reward (if they were smart).

CAMERAMAN  
CAMERA FLYER  
FLIGHT RECORDER



Brian Rogers

Then a new breed emerged, of *cameraflyers*, who became part of a team and portrayed their partner in an artistic manner for competitive reasons and for an audience.



Simon Ward

Then Sony re-wrote the rules through miniaturisation, they invented the PC7. Now anyone and everyone can bolt on a camera and record their skydive – their flight. I call this new breed the *flight recorder*.

How do we differentiate and what are the skills required?...

# Camera or Danger?

Here I have defined three distinct categories, although there are obviously blurred lines between them.

|                        | Technical skills | Flying skills   | Sight |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| <b>Cameraman</b>       | Competent        | Competent       | Yes   |
| <b>Cameraflyer</b>     | Modest           | High            | Yes   |
| <b>Flight Recorder</b> | Unnecessary      | Basic or better | No    |

The use of a sight is important as by fixing a sighting device you are effectively giving yourself a pinpoint focus for the skydive which places that function as a priority.

## Cameramen

These guys effectively take video, film and photographs for hire and reward. Their main function is to capture the skydive for a specific



Simon Ward

audience. They include tandem photographers, film-makers and general photographers covering everything from AFF to fun jumps. In all probability the competition team cameramen (FS & CF) belong in this category. They are fairly interchangeable between teams though some will argue that their cameraman will offer competitive advantage to their results, especially at high level.

Technically they usually work with video and stills. Typically video is moving from Hi8 and most serious cameramen will be using digital. The very serious will be on 3 chip digital cameras and possibly DVcam rather than mini DV. This category used to be the entry point into camerawork and we see a wide range of abilities. The better cameramen have fantastic flying skills and good technical skills with knowledge of light, depth of field (and all the inputs that affect it), lenses, film, jumpsuits, camera-mounts etc. Many will even have sales and marketing skills to enhance the revenue from their work.

They become very self sufficient in the air, aware of the dangers, canopy openings, safety systems on helmets and of all the things that can and do go wrong technically and during the skydive. This knowledge is all part of the trade and should be learnt.

## Cameraflyer

These are the guys you see with the skysurfers and freeflyers. They make their partners shine and add to the aesthetics of the skydive for the viewer. Creativity is shared between cameraflyer and performer. As pointed out above, a Formation Skydiving competition team may claim to have a cameraflyer and it is equally likely that a cameraflyer will end up as a flight recorder or cameraman on another kind of jump.

The best cameraflyers have arguably the best flying skills of all the camera people; they can fly in any position with gear on their head. Technically their primary medium is video, 1 or 3 chip cameras with wide lenses, though you will often find them using a stills camera on occasion. They are very aware of their partner and of the dangers of flying in close proximity, especially with surfboards. They use full face helmets and are very air aware, especially at break-off and dump time.



Pulse-Parris by Wendy Smith

## Flight Recorder

This is where we hear the warning klaxons, danger is everywhere. At worst a flight recorder requires absolutely no flying skills and no technical skills. It is the new, cheap entry into flying with a camera and rarely regulated.

Against this is the advantage that the sport has gained from these new toys. Because it is now so easy to strap a small palm, digital pc to a lightweight helmet, many are doing it. Add a super wide lens, forget the sight and off you go. It is not uncommon to see everyone on the dive with a small camera. In terms of training and available footage to the media, the benefits are just fantastic. They make our sport come alive and are ideal for use:

- \* by AFF instructors
- \* inside competition teams
- \* inside big formations
- \* for POV (Point Of View) shots
- \* to show all angles of a dive for training purposes
- \* for editing into a production as they provide a huge volume of footage.

At this point *you can leave the plane with zero flying skills and zero technical skills.*  
Hence, the **dangers:-**

- \* lots of low experience freeflyers
- \* usually no checks as to the suitability to jumping camera or the equipment used
- \* often no safety system on the helmet, and I mean much more than a Fastex snap fastener
- \* often protruding camera mounts that can catch risers and lines
- \* out-of-control flying with metalwork on the head makes for painful dockings!
- \* lack of knowledge and thought of what to do when things go wrong
- \* camera helmets not strapped in for take-off are effective projectiles in crash situations
- \* it's the other jumpers on the load who are often at risk.

I appreciate that this is at one end of the spectrum but let's remember a would-be cameraman normally has a thirst for the knowledge, they want to take pictures and make videos and will go to some lengths to research and learn the trade. The cameraflyer and flight recorder may not be as aware of these dangers unless taught.



## Summary and Conclusions

The invention of the mini digital pc is without doubt one of the best things to happen to our sport. We now have a wealth of high quality footage from all aspects of skydiving. As in other areas we are developing specialist skills under a single umbrella and I think that within camerawork we have:

- \* Cameraman – portrays the subject as required
- \* Cameraflyer – part of a creative partnership
- \* Flight Recorder – the camera sees what they see

All improve the image of the sport.

On the negative side we are creating new dangers for ourselves. I call upon the manufacturers of helmets and camera-mounts to develop far safer products for the evolving specialist market, especially the cameraflyer. Whilst we have one or two great examples of engineering we have many that are potential death traps.

On the drop zone, let's encourage all forms of camera work safely. I'm not after minimum jump numbers and any restrictive practices, I'm advocating we aid, coach, encourage and keep safe the new breed of camera person as they help to bring our sport alive.



Simon Ward

Main photo by Brian Rogers



# WORLD TEAM

THAILAND '99

# Dreams Come True

Since 1994, legendary skydiver BJ Worth has been trying for an official FAI World record. On two separate events his World Team built the largest ever formation... but both times failed to qualify for an FAI official record. This time they were successful, George Pilkington describes the action, in his own inimitable style.

Rob Colpus



Monday 29 November and we leave Heathrow Airport for Bangkok to be part of World Team 99. Thirty Brits in all are part of this historic event. When we arrive in Thailand, a local tells us of the customs of his people and the 'Land of Smiles' as he put it. "Even if you offend us, a smile should put it right" he said, I took that on board, and do you know, IT WORKED!

There are two World Records on the table in Thailand. The one BJ Worth and his World Team have been after for a long time – an FAI World Record for the largest freefall formation. BJ, ex *Mirror Image* USA 8-way (World Champion), IPC and USPA President and James Bond stuntman, put together a World Team to go after this record in Bratislava 1994. There we built the biggest formation ever but someone docked in an incorrect place and blew the FAI World Record. (To qualify, the formation must be slot perfect as submitted before the jump.) In '97, Anapa, the mission that was Russia, we made a 297, still the largest formation ever built, even today, flown for an incredible 12 seconds. But, three skydivers out meant no official FAI record. This year, '99, Ubon, Thailand, we're still chasing that elusive goal.

## Demo

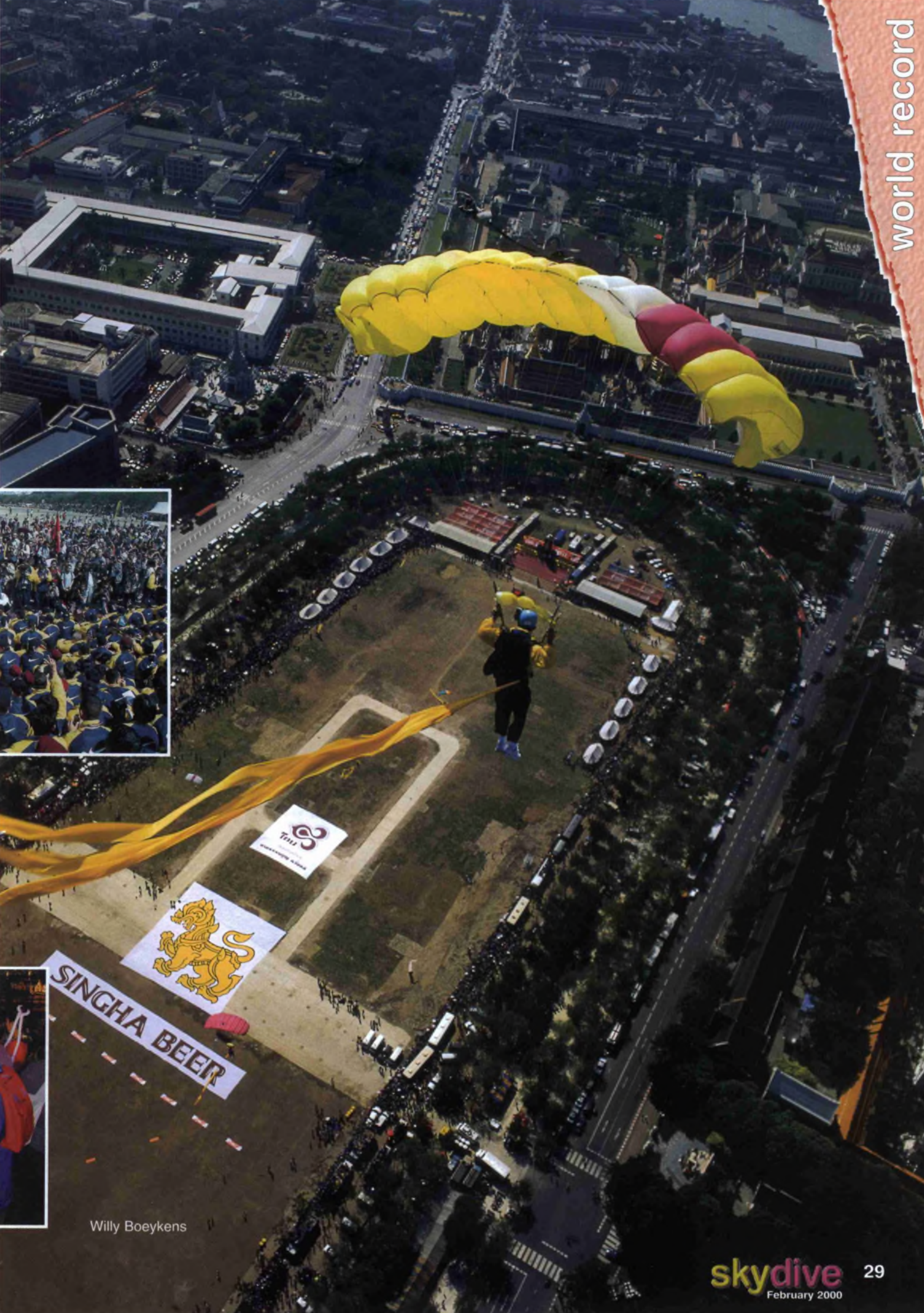
The second record is easier in theory but, in practice, kind of hairy. A World Record Mass Jump, on December 2, into Sunam Luang, Bangkok. Check out the photo to right – there's nowhere else to go! The jump is to start the birthday celebration of His Majesty the King. The World Team is joined by 200 top Thai skydivers including military dignitaries such as Commander in Chief of the Royal Thai Army and General Hugh Shelton, Supreme Commander of the US Military (he reports to Bill Clinton). In all, 572 skydivers from 38 different nations jump out of five Hercules and a Fiat G222.

The number 572 is chosen for its symbolism, honouring Thailand's previous King Rama V and its current King Bhumipol on the occasion of his 72nd birthday. The jump is flawless and we are received like heroes (all 572 of us!). Throughout the gig, the Thais treat us as honoured guests with a welcome and hospitality second to none.



Simon Ward

Simon Ward



Willy Boeykens



# WORLD TEAM

THAILAND '99



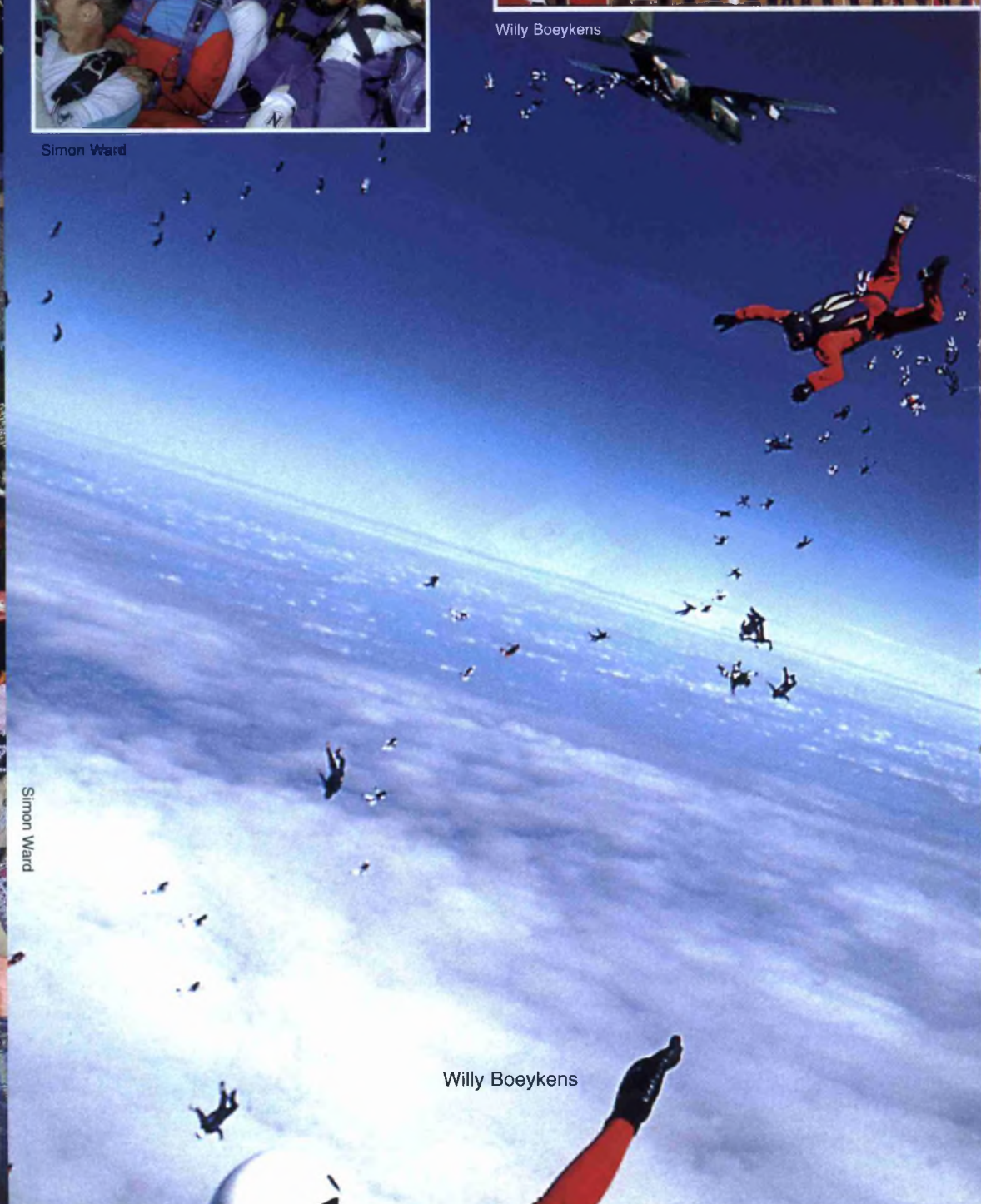
Simon Ward

*Did you know...?*

When 300 people dirt diving all lay their rigs & helmets on the ground, that makes a million quids worth of gear



Willy Boeykens



Simon Ward

Willy Boeykens





Willy Boeykens



We are there for two weeks, with 320 hand-picked skydivers and aim to break the World FAI Record of 246, set in 1998, in Chicago, USA. We have four Hercs, world renowned organisers of outrageous calibre and the experience of BJ Worth and his 21 'Super Captains' to bind it all together. Surely we can't fail? But if World Records were easy, everyone would be doing it! Early jumps are worrying but gradually things improve. The excitement builds as the loads get nearer the magic 300.

**A Great Leveller**

A 300-way attempt, exit at 22,000ft, my nightmare dive from hell! There's the bell. Oh God! Take three more massive tokes on the oxygen, and head for the tailgate. Line up... and we're off. Over the gate, boom, onto the 'Hercules Massive' (meaning slipstream, but its a little more aint it..) and pick up visual on Alexis. Roll onto my back and rock off down there. And roll out, fly into the swarm of skydivers around the forming base. Yep this is cool. Hold on! Where am I? Oh No! No! This aint right. Turn left, hack through a load of blues, must be over here. Oh no, this aint right either. I'm falling.. Boom! I've

landed on a low blue dude. Oh Sh\*#!... Now I'm low and its time to break off.

On the ground, by the time I'm back to the team, Dazzle's in the middle of a debrief. "What happened George?" asks Dazzle, I tell him."Brain not working, must've been hypoxia!" "Yeah, well, I already told Kate Cooper it was your first mistake. Fire in head mate! Real difficult to put out in a minute!" says Dazzle with a smile. We laugh. I go to find Cool Kat (Rob Colpus) "Hey Rob, have a word with my suit will you, it's not working!" "Right suit, get your stuff together" said Rob. "OK that should do it George, but go and rub it on some of my team's suits, they're all flying great!" So I find Eagerly (Jim Keery, he flies like an eagle, even on only 15 jumps a year) and rub my leg against his suit. Magically it works, the suit performs faultlessly from now on. (Thanks for the faith Dazzle! And, you are a World Class organiser mate! It's a pleasure to see you in action.)

Big loads really are the great leveller. You have to keep your wits around you, two mistakes and you're on the ground, hot shots n' all.



THAILAND '99

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

### James Bond Stunt Double

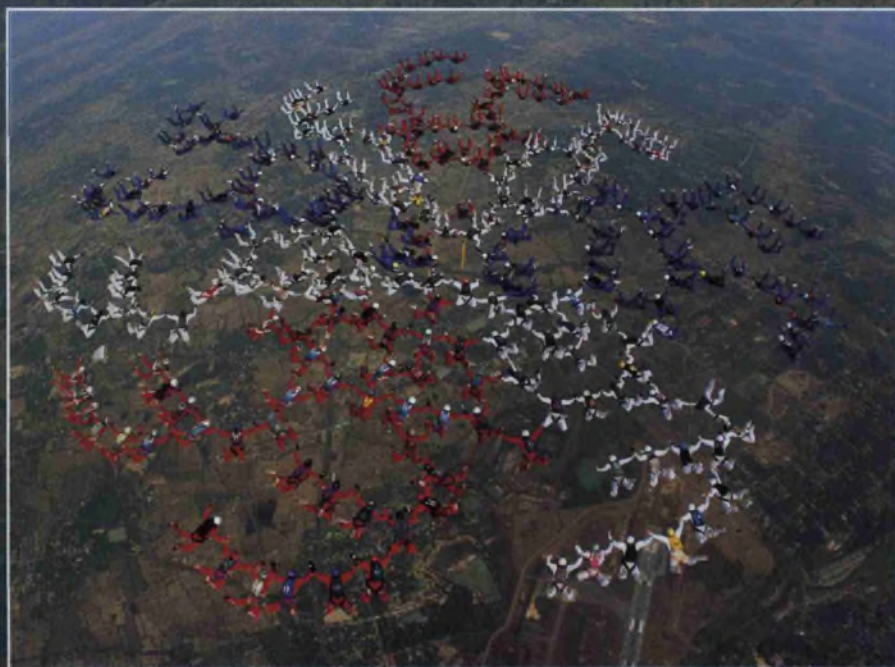
"Are you scared BJ?" I ask. "No, are you?" "You bet I am, in fact I'm scared shitless. 300-way at 22,000 feet, it's very close to the 'unnecessary riskscategory!" He laughed and we go to the planes. So that's why he's the James Bond stunt double, nerves of steel.

### 150 way Base Practise.

We come down in the planes from a 300-way attempt, there's some low cloud and one plane runs out of oxygen. Am I happy or sad? Happy – I'm happy! I'm still alive so I'm happy! The Captains decide there's enough height to do a 150 base jump. Dazzle's 'Euro Roast Beef' team is in the base, so off we go. On run-in, there is zero pressure. 3 Hercs for a 150-way. Nice. We run in at 13,500ft. Exit good and the skydive magical. 148-way with break-off at 49 seconds. Yahoo, that feels great. For me, the second best jump of the gig.



Willy Boeykens



Willy Boeykens

*Did you know....?*

...that the formation completed weighed an estimated 22 tons and had a diameter of about 100 feet

### Magical C's

Things are not going too well. Kate Cooper & BJ have been 'blowing smoke up our asses' for days, in an attempt to motivate the World Team. We need John Robbins! John was the 'Magic Man' in Bratislava and Anapa; at both gigs the best skydives were made, after John spoke his words and blew his 'Magic Dust' on us. At the next dirt dive, BJ and Dan are making changes to the formation, as they believe it is the reason why we are having so many problems with the blue quadrants. BJ finishes up and says "And now long time World Team member George Pilkington would like to say a few words".

"Hello World Team. I can't tell you how pleased I am to hear that the formation is at fault, and that's why we aint been building it, coz I thought we were skydiving like turkeys!" Everyone sort of laughs. I say some of the usual drivel, and all of a sudden, out of the blue comes this "What I would like you all to think about are the 'Three C's'. On these skydives, You need to be COOL, You need to be CALM, and you need to be CONNECTED."

### The Last Day

Well here we are again, last day, still no world record. Just like Bratislava '94 and Anapa, '97. The DZ is heaving with about 5,000 Thais. A school bus of children arrives after a journey of 500 miles, to watch us. Wow! They want



Wendy Smith



BU Worth by Rob Colpus



Simon Ward

# WORLD TEAM

Simon Ward

THAILAND '99

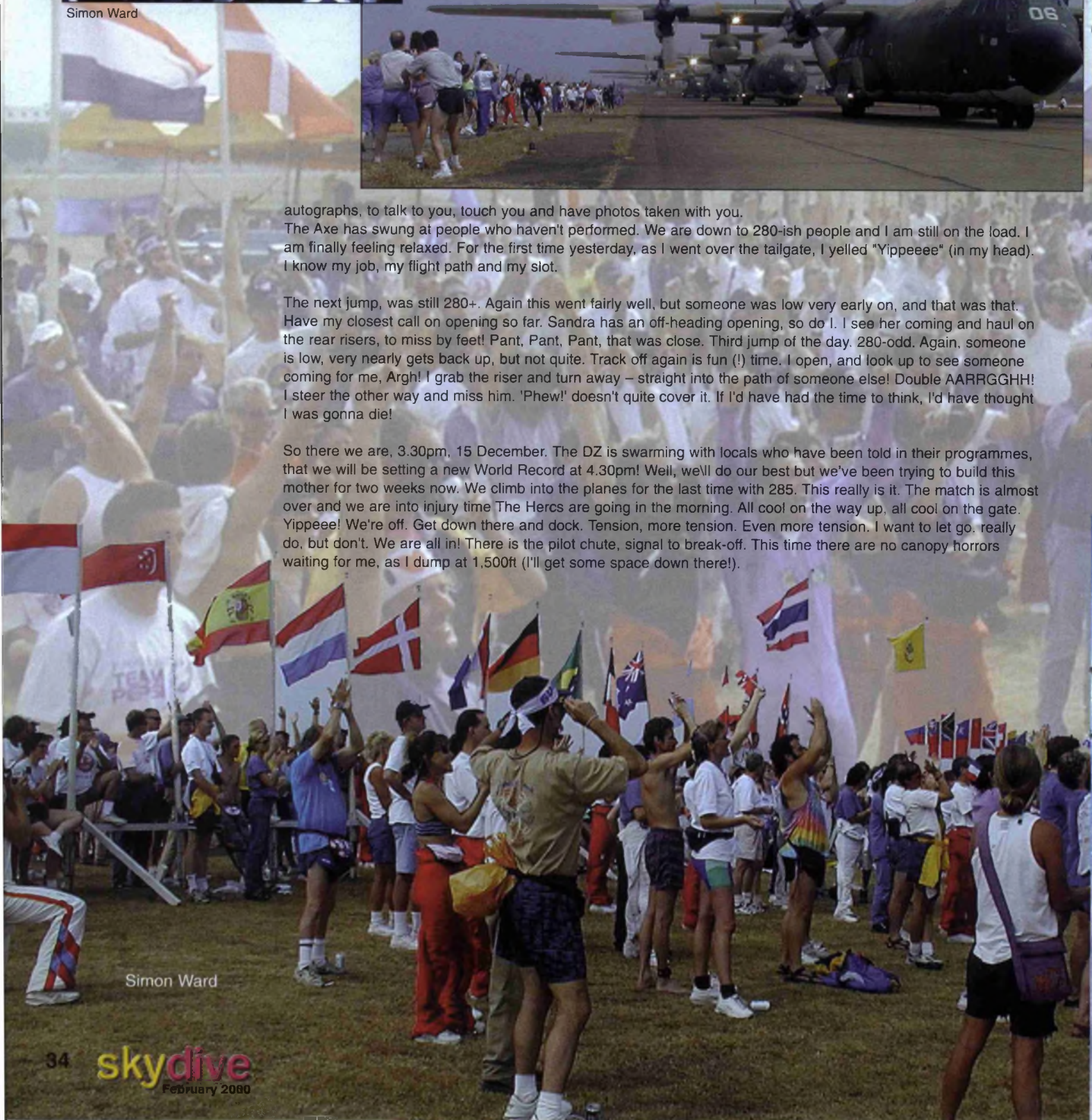


autographs, to talk to you, touch you and have photos taken with you.

The Axe has swung at people who haven't performed. We are down to 280-ish people and I am still on the load. I am finally feeling relaxed. For the first time yesterday, as I went over the tailgate, I yelled "Yippee" (in my head). I know my job, my flight path and my slot.

The next jump, was still 280+. Again this went fairly well, but someone was low very early on, and that was that. Have my closest call on opening so far. Sandra has an off-heading opening, so do I. I see her coming and haul on the rear risers, to miss by feet! Pant, Pant, Pant, that was close. Third jump of the day. 280-odd. Again, someone is low, very nearly gets back up, but not quite. Track off again is fun (!) time. I open, and look up to see someone coming for me, Argh! I grab the riser and turn away – straight into the path of someone else! Double AARRGGHH! I steer the other way and miss him. 'Phew!' doesn't quite cover it. If I'd have had the time to think, I'd have thought I was gonna die!

So there we are, 3.30pm, 15 December. The DZ is swarming with locals who have been told in their programmes, that we will be setting a new World Record at 4.30pm! Well, we'll do our best but we've been trying to build this mother for two weeks now. We climb into the planes for the last time with 285. This really is it. The match is almost over and we are into injury time The Hercs are going in the morning. All cool on the way up, all cool on the gate. Yippee! We're off. Get down there and dock. Tension, more tension. Even more tension. I want to let go, really do, but don't. We are all in! There is the pilot chute, signal to break-off. This time there are no canopy horrors waiting for me, as I dump at 1,500ft (I'll get some space down there!).



Simon Ward

When I get back, the DZ is pretty subdued. Sherry Schrimsher, FAI Chief Judge tells us that we built the biggest complete formation ever. 285 – Oh Yes! But we only held it for 1.1 seconds – Oh No! Blast! No stinkin' FAI World Record. Not again!

That night we are treated to a banquet hosted by the Governor of Ubon. In his speech he makes us all feel very honoured with his words: "World Team, we, the people of Ubon Ratachani will never forget you. Each time we look up into the skies we will remember you. You came to Ubon and risked your lives in our skies to build a new World Record, in honour of our beloved King's Birthday. In your sport you pay him homage. We thank you for this and we will NEVER forget the World Team." It's enough to move you to tears. Even Kevin McCarthy is nearly welling up.



Many skydivers are sad, no 'bit of paper'. A Guinness World Record, but not official from the FAI. Me? Well I certainly am not sad. We had just built four consecutive 280+ ways. A first. We had built and flown the world's largest complete formation. I try to console myself and others but we still all feel a sense of failure.



**Extra Time**

That night BJ and Air Vice Marshall Bunchuay call the Chief of Defence Staff in Bangkok, who was dining with the King and Queen at the time, and asks if we can hang onto the Hercs for one more day. He buys two more jumps. 11.30am and the World Team is on the tarmac, kitted up, ready. BJ does his final speech. "Its the end now. We won't have these people together again, ever. Let's do it now please. One jump only." We all agree. Alexis takes the mike. "Guys, lets concentrate and keep the World Team's safety record. We haven't broken anyone yet, let's not make it now." We go to the planes and fly to altitude. There is a real calm in the planes. The formation flying is superb, just like *Brit100*, but with much bigger planes. Herman holds up his white board at four minutes, and for the first time we see the final equation: COOL + CALM = ALL CONNECTED.

Aleya and I step onto the Hercules 'Massive', for the last time. We are into extra time! I look down at Ubon's Moon River shining in the sun. Roll over and race down there. There is Alexis, Yahoo. Roll out and fly in. Following Aleya, she docks, I dock. Tension. More tension. "Arggh!" I yell. But I aint letting go. The tension eases, the formation flattens and I look around (sneakily coz you're not supposed to...) only cameras are not holding on. Oh Yes! I geek Dazzle. he don't geek back. (*I've been there too!* – Ed). Pilot chute and the tension goes. I wait for the next one, there. I turn and blast off. Bleeps in my ear, four grand already! There is Suzanna 3 metres ahead, double bleeps, "Come On Suz, Dump!" She dumps, I dump. The Flat Line screaming in my ear is the referee's whistle, thinks I, but it's okay, cos the ball is in the BACK OF THE NET!

The DZ goes mad. Just like *Brit100*. but three times bigger and more intense. Finally the World Team have done it. A 282-way formation, held complete for 7.11 seconds, well in excess of the required 3 by the FAI. It took five years in total and about 90 jumps to get it right, but get it right we did. In the last relative seconds of the millennium, BJ Worth's dream was realised.

**And finally...**

To be part of this fantastic event was an honour and a privilege. World Team 2002? – I'm there!

**Brits on World Team 99**

|            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| Adams      | Chris                        |
| Cliff      | Andy                         |
| Calpus     | Rob (Cool Kat)               |
| Crum       | Dona (judge)                 |
| Gregory    | Ken                          |
| Grimwade   | Andy                         |
| Hoare      | Charlie                      |
| Hadkinson  | Ian (Milka)                  |
| Keery      | Jim (Eagerly)                |
| Kenny      | Dane                         |
| Knight     | Pete (Tarmac Twin)           |
| Mace       | Tim (Not in Space)           |
| McCarthy   | Kevin                        |
| McKelvie   | David (video/website techie) |
| McRobbie   | Sandy                        |
| Mills      | Rabin (Drinkup)              |
| Mizzi      | Chris **                     |
| Madebe     | Tony (Funky)                 |
| Moran      | Darryl (Dazzle)              |
| Morris     | Dave (Big Nose)              |
| Pilkington | George (Big Mouth)           |
| Randel     | Mark (Eastley)               |
| Stephens   | David                        |
| Thomas     | Steve                        |
| Thomas     | Derek                        |
| Travers    | Cathy                        |
| Tunks      | David                        |
| Tunks      | Janet                        |
| Vanderpost | Eno                          |
| Ward       | Simon (camera)               |

\*\* special mention for Chris who landed in a tree, dislocated his hip, went to hospital, to traction, to back out and made it on the record (with the RIGHT grip). Nice One Dude!

George Pilkington





# AGM - Just

## Loads of Jumpers, lots of style, MAJOR PARTY

*Sexy Lizzie Harris describes the action*

Saturday 22 January saw 480 skydivers assembled at the Hanover International Hotel in Hinckley for the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the BPA. First, the venue: excellent accommodation with helpful staff and, most importantly, more bar staff on hand than last year, buying a drink was a positive pleasure!

The day started off in its normal fashion, once the "Hiya how ya doin" 's and "Gosh, havent see you in an ages" and "How much for a cup of coffee??" 's were over it was into the main presentation room for the formalities of the day. The Chairman of the Association, Chris Allen (loved the suit!) kicked the meeting off with the presentation of his annual report. Chris's speech encompassed all the work of our Council in 1999.

There were thanks to the staff and the members of Council.

Special mention was made of the positive relationships the BPA has developed and continues to develop with our external stakeholders, ie, the Civil Aviation Authority, the Sports

Council and our insurers. Things sounded pretty peachy for skydiving in the UK in 1999, what with the Brit100-way, an increase in full time membership renewals and a £47,000 grant secured from the Sports Council. The members present were told how brilliantly our competitors had represented us in competition in 99 and, in particular, VMAX received a standing ovation for bringing back a gold medal in Women's FS. Nice one!

Chris went on to tell the audience of his vision for the association over the next three to five years, development of the sport with more full time members for the association, better communication of our sport to the general public and improved return on our investments. The Chairman conveyed his view that our association is in good shape, with a healthy bank balance and a Council which, working as a team, will continue to serve the best interests of the members of the association. Great speech Chris! The members present then adopted the Chairman's speech unanimously.

The members of the association were then asked to vote on an item of special business, to order a review/audit of the association by an external company. Unfortunately the proposer of this motion, Pete Carroll was unable to attend and so Ian Marshall and Charles Ross put the



# Grrrrreat!

Photos: John Mayo, Colin Bridges and Simon Ward

case for a review on his behalf. Given all the positive messages we had just heard from the Chairman of Council it was not surprising that the proposal for an external review of our association at our cost was rejected overwhelmingly. Given also that the proposers could not tell us how much it was going to cost felt a bit like them asking us to sign a blank cheque! The Chairman had informed us in his speech that the council constantly reviews and audits the BPA and measures its success in all areas against set criteria.

This is the second year that such a review has been mooted and for the second time it was voted against. There were quite a lot of questions from the floor on this topic mainly along the lines of "If it ain't broke why fix it", Although a heated exchange of views ensued there were no fisticuffs! It was as a demonstration that if you are going to stand up in front of 480 skydivers you should be well prepared!

Debbie Carter, our Treasurer then proposed that, as our insurance premium had not been increased this year, membership subscriptions should be increased only in line with inflation. The members present voted unanimously to increase subscriptions by £1. It is a condition of Sports Council funding that there is an annual increase, however slight.

The results of the election for council for 2000 were announced, the Instructor of the Year award was given to Zoe Carroll from Hinton, who collected her trophy on crutches (!) as she was recovering from a skiing accident. The Mike Forge Trophy for new skydiver of the year was awarded to Giles Owen from Sibson (Nice one Giles!).

The Chairman, on behalf of the Association, awarded a number of Certificates of Merit, the recipients were, VMAX, Sebastian XL (for their competition successes), Gary Southam, Sebastian's manager, Adrian Nicholas (for World Record freefall and gaining outstanding PR for the sport), Tony Knight for CAA liaison and Wild Geese Parachute Centre for a superb

job hosting the CF and Classics Nationals. FAI diplomas were presented to VMAX, Vice Versa, Sebastian XL and Junction 9. Peter Allum was awarded his 14,000 jump certificate, the first Britain ever to achieve that number of jumps.

And so it was onto the Regional Championship winners, the BPA Young Artist Contest, Brit100 presentations, and all of a sudden the meeting was over and it was time to investigate the bar! The afternoon lectures/discussions were once again a huge success. Probably the most well attended one was the particularly foxy Brit100 presentation given by Simon Ward (he really can do that PowerPoint Thang). Simon took the audience through all of the goals that had been set in order to achieve the new British record, he demonstrated how humungous media interest had been created and he outlined a number of suggested projects for the future, it was fanbloodytastic!!!

The Dinner was well attended but the grub wasn't up to much, if fact it was quite difficult to ascertain exactly what we were eating! I guess one of the highlights of the evening was the marriage proposal of Mick Tyler to Anne Parker (see photo bottom left of this page). I wonder if that's the first time that's happened at the AGM?

There was a lot of booging and a lot of drinking and it was just grrrrreat! In true skydiving style the party burned on into daylight and people mooched straight from the bar into breakfast. You can see from the photos that everyone had a top time, if you didn't make it to the 33rd AGM I suggest that you try real hard to get to the 34th, you won't be disappointed!

**INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

**MIKE FORGE TROPHY**



Zoe Carroll



Giles Owen  
Runner up (inset) Alex Smith



**BPA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT,  
FAI CHAMPIONSHIP DIPLOMA**

VMAX (Sacha Chilton, Sarah Laughton, Claire Jenkinson, Kate Stephens, Brian Vacher)  
Sebastian XL (Pete Allum, Toby Stafford, John McIver, Lee Love, Ian Brown)

**BPA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT  
FAI CHAMPIONSHIP DIPLOMA**

Gary Southam, Adrian Nicholas, Tony Knight, Graham Liggins, Wild Geese Parachute Centre  
Vice Versa (Chris Gauge, Tim Porter)  
Junction 9 (Tim Homer, Trevor Cannell, Julie Cannell, Sharon Allen, Nigel Allen, Darren Birkin, Martin Soulsby, Andy Pook, Bob Spratley)



Junction 9



V MAX



Chris Gauge



Adrian Nicholas



Pete Allum

**CERTIFICATES**

Accuracy and CF Judge  
Jayne Harrison  
2000 Jumps Al Macartney  
5000 Jumps Ian Cashman  
14000 Jumps Pete Allum  
36 Hours Freefall Sharon Allen  
12 Hours Freefall Paul Scott



Tony Knight



Sexy Sharon Allen



Jayne Harrison



Graham Liggins



# AGM Awards

## BPA YOUNG ARTISTS 2000



Intermediate FS regional champions  
*Chicken Wings*



Junior FS regional champions  
*Angels*



Intermediate CF regional champions  
*Over The Top*



Senior FS regional champions  
*Nehiy*



Senior Accuracy regional champion  
*Jeff Chandler*

Junior Accuracy regional champion  
*Gillies Pagan*

Intermediate Accuracy regional champion  
*Roger Flavell*



**GOLD**  
Age 6 - 9

Matthew Outen



Lorna Henderson

**SILVER**  
Age 14 - 17



**SILVER**  
Age 6 - 9

Thomas Carter



Abl Lemm

**GOLD**  
Age 10 - 13



**GOLD**  
Age 14 - 17  
Sarah Outen

## BPA REGIONAL OVERALL AWARD WINNERS



*Brit100*  
Chairman Simon Ward presented framed photos to the BPA, Langar DZ, Cool & Groovy, and the Mag as thanks for their support.



Intermediate CF regional champions  
*Bottoms Up*

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# WORD

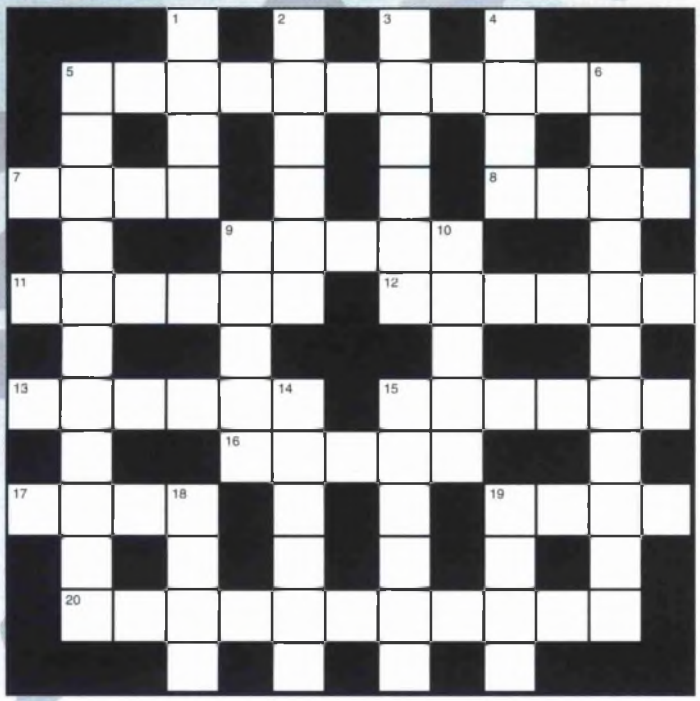
Compiled by Trish Chapman

**Across**

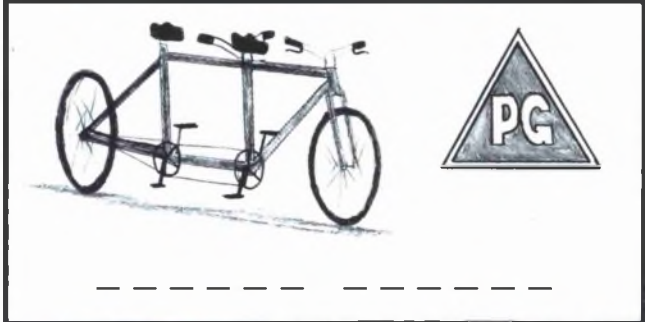
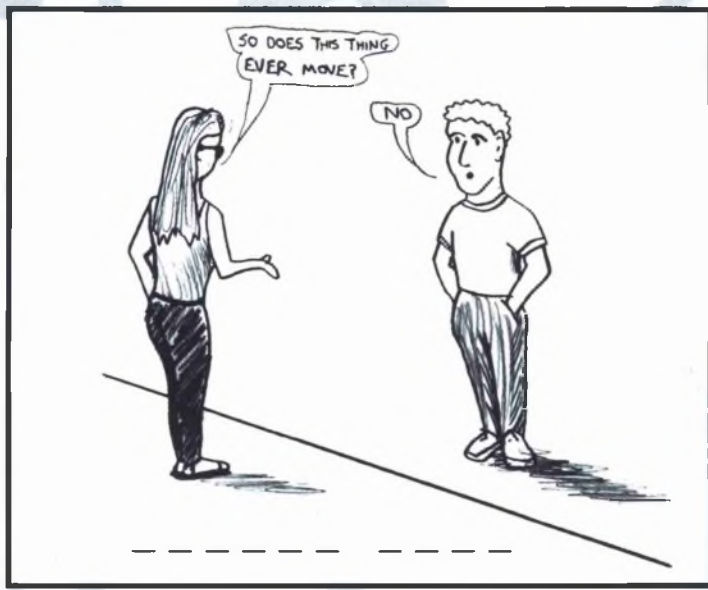
- 5. Y2K, it's only half of it (3,8)
- 7. Parachuting display to entertain the crowds (4)
- 8. The Oriental point of the compass (4)
- 9. Sad music about sky colours (5)
- 11. Pulls down toggles to land wearing hot trousers (6)
- 12. Written in stone with acid (6)
- 13. Dances or turns in rigging lines (6)
- 15. Make out of EEC art (6)
- 16. Water above 100 degrees centigrade (5)
- 17. Shape of Surrey County Cricket Ground (4)
- 19. Monarch of the Glen, early freestyle position (4)
- 20. Book a seat in advance, in case of emergency (7, 4)

**Down**

- 1. Bubbly choc bar made of aircraft prefix (4)
- 2. Skydive City - it's where it's at (1, 5)
- 3. Jump on a lot of elastic (6)
- 4. Astronaut Tim's name, rhymes with space (4)
- 5. Solo flight across cuckoo's nest (3, 4, 4)
- 6. This is how quickly to fall (7, 4)
- 9. Actions common to heart and drum (5)
- 10. Heavy weather is ten on Beaufort Scale (5)
- 14. A night sky filled with stars (6)
- 15. Completion of category system (3, 3)
- 18. Lean to one side, sounds like a classical composer (4)
- 19. Slide on ice (4)

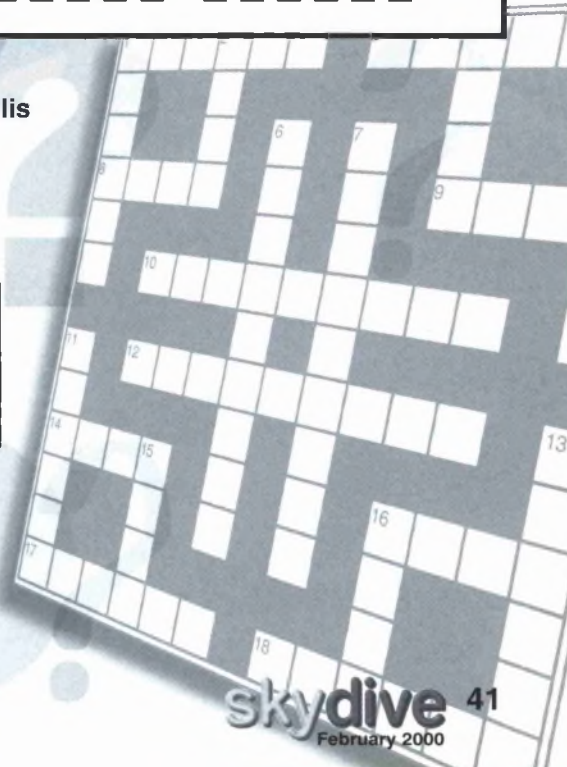


# DING



by  
Chris Hollis

Puzzle  
answers  
on the  
inside  
back cover



# People in the SPORT



## Norman Kent

is known throughout the world for his stunning images, imaginative footage and creative talent. At 43, he has over 9,000 camera jumps and has worked on countless TV, movie and commercial projects. He has made several skydiving movies, including the renowned *From Wings Came Flight*. Norman has three joys in life; photography, skydiving and love.

He made his first film at 14, a shoot-em-up. At 19, he took up skydiving, jumped camera on his 27th skydive and then met his third passion, Deanna, whom he soon married. They worked on many projects together, always speaking to each other on the phone several times a day, if apart. Deanna changed Norman's life. Tragically, she died of Crest syndrome, a rare lung disease, on April 20, 1997. Here, Norman talks of his latest creation, *Willing to Fly* and how he finished this powerful film without her.

### You started your life as a cinematographer, how did this translate into skydiving?

Skydiving was a great world to explore with film, not only is it a complicated and rich environment for exploration, but it's a challenging world to try to translate to the viewers, both skydivers and non-skydivers alike. I am not as concerned with what is happening in front of the camera, but rather, how what is happening in front of the camera appears.

### What is more important to you, still images or moving pictures?

Both media are very important to me. Still film allows me to be very violent and aggressive with my flying, and then for just a split second, I hold my breath and shoot, and that is what you see, just that split second. Movie film allows me to show more of a story with a start and a finish. Both are equally challenging and rewarding. I would love to do another still film project; I keep talking about that.

### Is *Willing to Fly* aimed at jumpers or non-jumpers?

The film is aimed at people, I hope that it is appealing to the person in each skydiver. As skydivers, many like images just because it is us in front of the camera, or just because we know that what is happening is hard or cool. In this film, I searched for images that could apply to all people. This is why many of the subjects in the film are common and have been seen before (4-way, 10-way, freestyle, style, CRW) I wanted to show an unusual perspective of usual events. Some non-skydivers would say there is nothing usual about the events, so for them it is more that I want to give them an access to a world that they have not yet experienced.

### How successful has it been with the public?

It is too soon to say, in that the film is still very young and the first people we wanted to share it with were the skydiving community. But as I say that, the reaction among non-skydivers has also been amazing, they can't believe what I did is possible, they always ask, "where is the camera and how is it so steady?" Additionally, I am working on a new feature film and many of the participants in the project want to know "why they have never seen anything like this before..." So I would say the reaction so far has been really great.

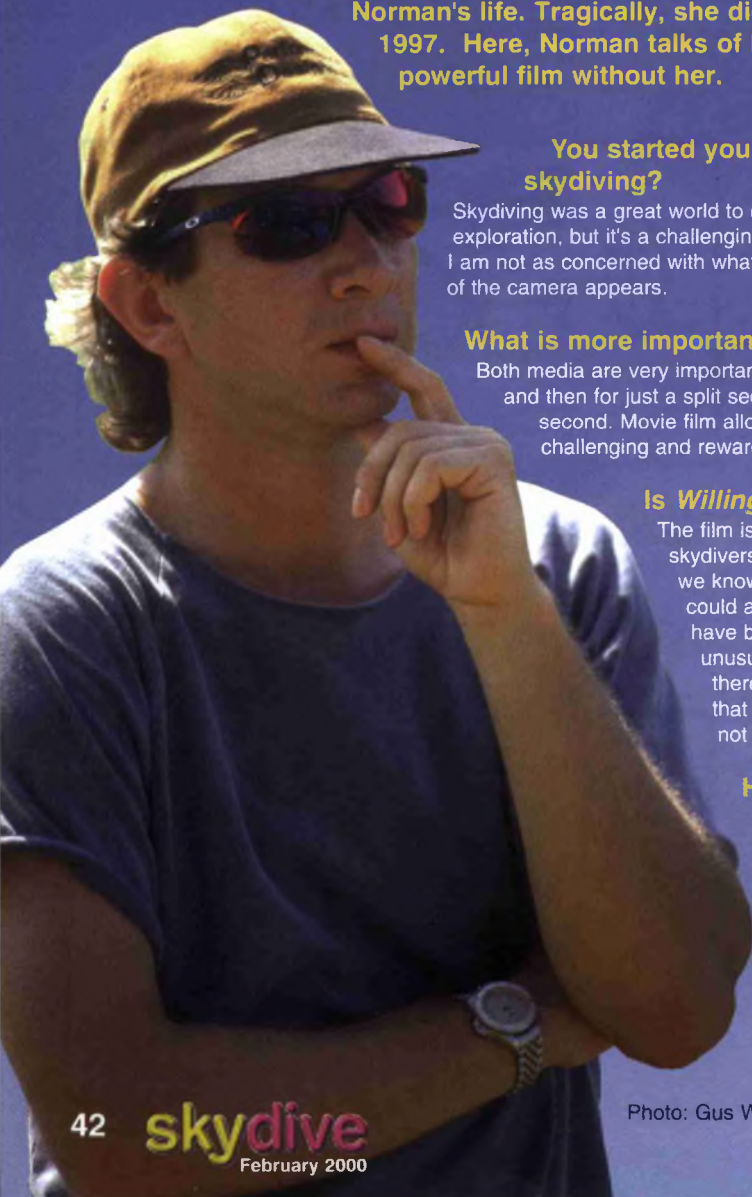


Photo: Gus Wing

Photo: Van Wideman

### How big a production was *Willing to Fly* ?

There were over 600 people on the credit list, both performers and production people and we shot over 32 hours of footage for this project.

### Were you touched by interacting with the performers?

Yes, very touched, as a matter of fact that was the whole reason for making the film, I wanted to be touched by people performing just for the love of it and at the same time, I was filming for the love of filming. It was like, " I am doing what I love, they are doing what they love, what does that look like?" – It looks like *Willing to Fly*.

### Why did you shoot in 35mm film?

Quality, film is superior in the range and quality of what you can capture, and 35mm is almost four times as big as 16mm movie film. Additionally, I wanted these images to have the ability to reach as large an audience as possible and 35mm film reaches where video does not.

### Was that very physically demanding?

Yes, my 35mm camera set-up weighs 32lbs and I shoot with it all day long, day after day. With video, the advances in technology have led to smaller and smaller cameras, but with film cameras that is not the case; the film does not change size so you can only go so small. The high speed flying such as head down and the deployments are the most strenuous areas.

### Do you think you might even affect people's lives with a film of such power?

I am counting on it! That is the reason I did the film, I wanted to know what it is like to watch people in love with what they are doing? How do those type of images affect the viewers? – that was my search. I say that every time someone watches *Willing to Fly* they will 'see' a different film. What they 'see' is based on their surroundings, their mood, what type of system they watch it on, everything really. *Willing to Fly* is an interactive film, that is why half of the project is a book. The film will grow as the viewers explore it!

### What was the start of the dream and how did you make up the storyboard?

That is a complex question which could take up an entire article, but I will try to answer it briefly. The movie really is about life, the translation from skydiving into life is the challenge. *Willing to Fly* began as a conversation about what is possible when you are in love. Sara Ryan is a very dear friend of mine and she drew the illustrations and wrote the poetry in the book. Those illustration were my 'storyboard'. Sara and I would speak about life and she would summarise our conversations in illustrations. That was the framework for the exploration, an exploration of perspectives. Then I decided which parts of skydiving would best carry the ideas.

### The music was written for the film but which came first, chicken or egg?

In *Willing to Fly*, I wanted the music and visual elements to be given equal importance, I did not want to have to make pieces fit, rather I wanted the joining to be more natural. I had a master plan of what I wanted the music to be. From there I edited the sections of the film and sent the sections to the music composers (Rick Conrad and Jeff Carruthers). They would then compose the music and send it back to me.

From there I would fine tune the edit to blend with the music, sometimes the piece would go back and forth many times and sometimes it was right on the first time. This project was the first time where the images and music both 'met in the middle' in post production. I am very happy with the result and I think the music is amazing.

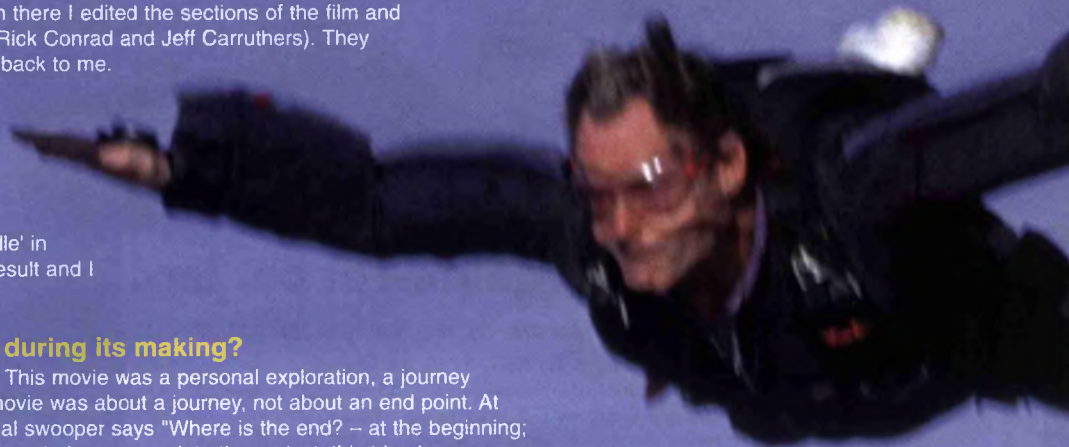
### How much did the movie evolve during its making?

Tremendously, as that was part of the plan. This movie was a personal exploration, a journey that grew and evolved as my life did. The movie was about a journey, not about an end point. At the end of the film in the narration the eternal swooper says "Where is the end? – at the beginning; where is the beginning? – at the end". As I was trying to complete the project, this idea became very tricky, since if there is no end, when do you finish? But then I realised there is a difference between completion and finding an end point.

For a complete biography of Norman Kent see [www.normankent.com](http://www.normankent.com)



Photo: Keith Larrett



Main Photo: Ken Franklin and Frightful the falcon play during the shooting of *Willing to Fly*, captured by Norman Kent

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Photos by Robbie Culver  
 Catalog Cover Photo by Norm Kent

### Is there anything you would do differently if you were to remake it?

No, not a thing, but let me explain. I am sure that I would do many things differently in my next projects, but each image in *Willing to Fly* is a result of living and seeing what was there, and that exploration I would never change.

### How close was Deanna's character to the Skydancer she plays?

Very close because Deanna was a dreamer and she was constantly dreaming of flight. She also walked the beach that you see in the beginning of the film every day of her life here. That is where she created many of her moves. She was about dreaming, not competing. Many of the concepts of *Willing to Fly* began with her and were learned by me as I lived my life with her. But the important thing to know is that the film is not about Deanna, rather it is about the essence of a dreamer. The Skydancer section is about transformation – the Skydancer is transformed into the Eternal Swooper and it is from there that the narration comes. So, the 4-way is about the 4-way, not about the Skydancer or the Eternal Swooper. The Eternal Swooper is just our narrator that is leading us through the journey of *Willing to Fly*.

### When she died, did you feel like scrapping the film?

When she died there was a point when I felt like scrapping everything, but never just the film. Her death became part of who I was as a film maker, but at the same time, the concept of the film did not depend upon Deanna. When Deanna died, I had to re-evaluate everything in my life and that included this project.

### Do you feel Deanna is still with you?

Yes. Everyone has their own beliefs about how people exist once they are no longer in the physical, but for me it even more simple than that. Just knowing Deanna changed me and my knowledge of her is something that is always with me. She exists in my thoughts so she is real for me, just like all the people with whom I share my life.

### Was your son Ramsey always going to be involved?

No, not at all. Ramsey began skydiving after Deanna died. I was not going to push Ramsey to skydive, I told him I would support him in what ever he loved doing – but the choice was up to him. Once Ramsey made the choice to skydive, that still did not make him an automatic choice for the film. He had to work to bring his skill levels up so that he could fly with the other performers; he did that and more! I am really proud of him!

### Is Nicole anything like her film character?

Yes, she is like her character in that she is very playful and very beautiful. Nicole had never modelled or performed before but she was a natural because for her it was all about the play – the play of a romantic encounter between cameraman and performer which leads to her losing track of altitude. Nicole is about fun and adventure and that is what I think her part portrayed. As far as her outfits go, she was game to try anything, if I had asked her to shave her head or dye her hair pink, she would have loved to do that too – that is why I love her and love filming her.

### Does it feel contradictory to start making the film with your wife and end it with your girlfriend?

I am glad that you asked that question! I had a full life with Deanna and I was fortunate enough to complete with her. Even though it seems that losing your life slowly is difficult, it gives you time to explore the transition with the people who you love. Deanna and I were committed to living fully through that transition as we had done with so many other transitions in our life. I asked Deanna before she died "What will I do now that you are not here?" and Deanna answered "All the things that you could not do with me." It was clear that everything in my life would be new – loving, having relationships, filming, everything! What I did not want to do is the same thing, I was not looking for a replacement for Deanna. I learned after meeting Nicole, that you can start a relationship with a new person and that becomes a brand new life. *Willing to Fly* is about perspectives and my life would not have been complete without stepping into a new life or perspective, so actually it is very natural that Nicole would be in the film.

Additionally, it might not have been possible to finish the film without Nicole's support; personally and as a performer and producer. So Nicole being part of this project is not contradictory, it just reflects the natural changes and stories of my life.

### How did you film so close to the *Airspeed* openings and XTZ star?

With XTZ and *Airspeed*, I was so close that there was contact. But the reason it was 'safe' was because of the level of the performers. They all loved what they were doing and it was fun to them- they were consciously pushing their limits, which allowed me to push the limits of what was possible. As the *Airspeed* guys deployed, they were slapping me on the way up – they were aware of their every move – they did not pull and close their eyes! The up close and personal views of XTZ came from me with my helmet camera being part of their actual exit – that was quite a ride!

### I loved the swoop landings and pond crashes – where did that idea come from?

The ideas of the crashes came from Rambo crashing by accident the first time (that is covered in the book). The crash was so gorgeous and spectacular that it became a place I wanted to explore!

### Tell me about flying with Frightful the Falcon and the last minute phone call inviting you to film with him

It was completely awesome to fly so close to a bird, to share flight with a being that I have admired for ever! The phone call was just destiny, like all of the other parts of the film!

### How much do you live your own life by the philosophies of the Skydancer?

This is how I live my life, yet I get lost in life just the same. For me the philosophy of the Skydancer is an ongoing philosophy of life – it is about perspective, and love and about a life that grows and changes every day!

### Have you always been a spiritual person?

No, I learned all of that with Deanna and it then became a part of my life.

### What qualities do you admire in people?

The ability to love, to live in perspectives and to play all out!

### What advice would you have for up and coming photographers?

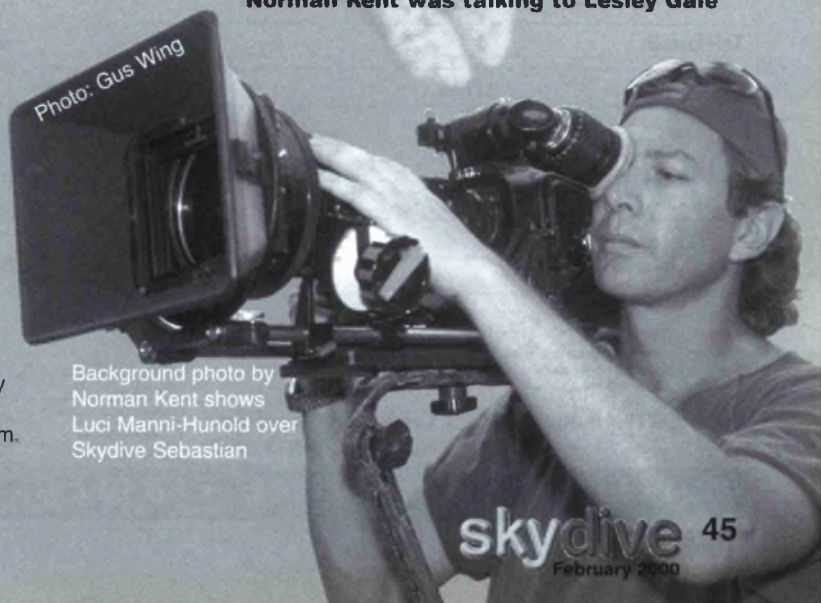
That would be too much to cover here – but there is a section on my website about just that:

[www.normankent.com/advice/htm](http://www.normankent.com/advice/htm)

### What's Next?

I am not sure – but I would like to do another projection tour with *Willing to Fly*. The film is very interactive and I would like the opportunity to have direct discussion with the viewers.

Norman Kent was talking to Lesley Gale



Background photo by Norman Kent shows Luci Manni-Hunold over Skydive Sebastian



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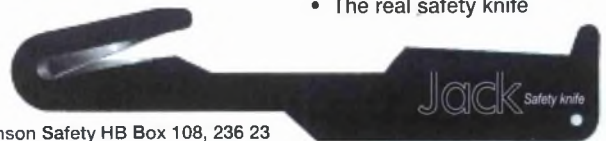
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Expiry date for the April issue - Monday 20th March 2000

# uk drop zones



Photo: Simon Hughes

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- 🛖 bunkhouse
- ⛺ camping welcome
- 🚐 caravans welcome
- 🚿 showers

1-22 Civilian BPA Centres  
A-D Military BPA Centres

All BPA Affiliated drop zones are run under the BPA Operations Manual

**1 BLACK KNIGHTS PARACHUTE CENTRE**  
Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane, Cockerham, Nr Lancaster  
Tel: W/end 01524 791820 or 0151 924 5560  
www.bkpc.demon.co.uk  
Open: Weekends, bank holidays 8am - 6pm  
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 182  
LO FS CF AC WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**2 BORDER PARACHUTE CENTRE**  
Brunton Airfield, Chathill, Northumberland NE67 5ER  
Tel: 01665 589000 Fax: 01665 721053  
skydivenorth@email.msn.com  
www.borderparachute.co.uk  
Open: Wkends winter, any day by call in summer, 9am - dark  
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Cessna 182, larger aircraft on call  
FS AC WP 🏠 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**3 BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS**  
Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Tel/Fax: 01949 860878 E-mail: bpslangar@aol.com  
www.bpslangar.co.uk  
Open: Every day 9am to 8pm (for sunset), 10am start Sunday  
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Porter and Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)  
LO FS FF WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**4 BRITISH SKYSPORTS, BRIDLINGTON**  
East Leys Farm, Grindale, Bridlington, E.Yorks YO16 4YB  
Tel: 01262 677367 / 0836 276188 Fax: 01262 401871  
Open: Every day 8am - 8pm  
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Islander  
LO FS CF AC WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**5 CORNWALL PARACHUTE CLUB**  
Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield, St Merryn, Cornwall  
Tel: 01841 540691  
Open: Weekend 8am - dark, Wed & Fri (summer)  
First Jump Courses: squares, tandem  
Aircraft: Cessna 182  
FS WP SU 🏠 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**6 DEVON & SOMERSET PARACHUTE SCHOOL**  
30 Tower Way, Highfield, Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon  
Tel: 01404 891680 Mobile: 0850 032767  
AGUEST1@compuserve.com  
Open: 9am - dark, W/ends, midweek by arrangement  
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Cessna 206  
FS CF WP SU 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**7 EAGLESCOTT SKYDIVING CENTRE**  
PO Box 1728, Salisbury, Wilt, SP4 9UY  
Drop Zone closed  
Tel: 01209 520552 Mob: 07887 532490  
www.bluehill.co.uk/eaglescott  
Centre now closed. Business and equipment available for sale. Write to MJN (Southern) Ltd, 16 Lynwood Drive, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6BY  
FS CF FF AC WP SU 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**8 HEADCORN PARACHUTE CENTRE**  
Headcorn Aerodrome, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX  
Tel: 01622 890862 Fax: 01622 890641  
skydive@headcorn.u-net.com  
Open: Every day 9am - dark  
First Jump Courses: squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Turbolet (Apr-Sept), Beaver (Oct-Mar), Islander  
AC WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**9 HINTON SKYDIVING CENTRE**  
Hinton Airfield, Sleane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS  
Tel: 01295 812300 Fax: 01295 812400  
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk  
Open: 9am - 7pm Tues - Fri, 8am - 6pm Sat and Sun  
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Cessna 206 (all year), Turbolet March - Dec  
FS CF FF SU AC WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**10 LONDON PARACHUTE SCHOOL**  
31 Green Street, Hazlemere, Bucks HP15 7RA  
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40  
Tel: 01494 459500 Fax: 01494 444326  
Mob: 0958 695199  
Open: Weekends 8am - dark  
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, tandem  
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna 206  
WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**11 MERLIN PARACHUTE CENTRE**  
Alanbrooke Barracks, Topcliffe, Nr Thirsk, N Yorks  
Tel: W/days 01204 391860 W/end 01845 578971  
Open: Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark  
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Islander  
FS CF AC 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

**12 NORTH LONDON PARACHUTE CENTRE LTD**  
Chatteris Airfield, Manea, March, Cambs PE15 0EA  
Tel: 01354 740810 Office 01725 513330  
Fax: 01725 510690 www.chatpara.com  
Open: Tues - Fri 10.30am - dark, Weekends 8am - dark  
First Jump Courses: rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
Aircraft: Islander  
LO FS CF WP 🍽 🍷 🛖 🚐 🚿

# Drop Zone Focus Headcorn

## View from the inside

**Owner/Operator:** David Parker

**Staff:** CCI: Pete Sizer

**Instructors:** Jane Buckle, Clem Quinn, Cathy Travers, Rob McGiff  
Stu Albion, Colin May, Baz Smith (Packer) **Pilots:** Alex Fixsen,  
Dave Evans Let pilots Vlad, Miros, Josef, Martin

**Aircraft:** Turbolet (15 place), April-September, Turbine Beaver (10)  
October-March Islander (9) All Year

**Altitude restrictions:** Above 3,500ft London ATC (not normally a problem)

**First Jump Courses:** Static Line, AFF, Tandem

**Jump Prices:** £17 Altitude, £13 Altitude (Friday) £27 Static Line  
£25 Freefall

**Load Organising/Coaching:** FS, WARP, Style & Accuracy

**Businesses located on DZ:** AFF School, Rigging Room,  
The Kit Store, Symbiosis Suits

**Planned Events:** Feb 19 – Night Jumps,

Mar 13-17 – Student Progression Week, Mar 18 – Night Jumps

Mar 27-31 – BPA AFF & Tandem Course,

Apr 1 – Turbolet back, Apr 8 – Turbolet Return Party,

Jun 3-4 – Speed 8 Comp, Jun 12-16 – Student Progression Week

Jul 3-7 – FS Coaching Week, Jul 8-9 – Andy Kelly 4-way Competition

Sep 2-3 – Launch & Accuracy Competition

Sep 11-15 – Student Progression Week Sep 30 – Dinner & Dance

**Special attractions:** Turbine all year  
Bar/restaurant open weekends

**Canteen:** Sandwiches (hot & cold), meals, snacks etc

**Evening Grub/Bar:** Evening meals available in bar, two Indian  
restaurants 10 mins, Chinese takeaway, good local pubs.

**Scenery and other local attractions:** Leeds Castle 20mins  
Biddenden Vineyard 15mins, Maidstone 20mins  
Fly in an old Tiger Moth, fly a Helicopter

**Other information:** A new airfield manager with a much more relaxed  
attitude has helped us do more jumps than the previous year. Better  
facilities are also promised in the near future. Midweek jumping is also  
on the up with the Turbolet flying much more than it did the last year.

## View from the outside

In the heart of beautiful Kent, this friendly club is especially great in  
summer as it's fun to watch the many small aircraft. On Sundays you  
often treated to the sight of aerobatic flying. This, with the spectators  
plus picnic tables, grass and countrified atmosphere lend the feeling of  
'a grand day out'. Their turbines (Turbolet and Beaver) have relatively  
few problems with air traffic as they climb and descend so quickly.

As well as the DZ cafe, there is a public bar and restaurant on the  
airfield, offering quality food at a reasonable price (under new  
management since '99). Rob Colpus runs Symbi Suits and the Kit  
Store on the zone and is always there giving good advice on kit and  
providing constant entertainment.

### 13 NORTH WEST PARACHUTE CENTRE

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria  
Tel: 01772 720 848 Fax: 01772 492 722  
dave@skydive-northwest.com www.skydive-northwest.com

**Open:** Weekends and bank holidays  
**First Jump Courses:** rounds, squares, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Islander

**LO FS CF AC WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 14 PARAGON SKYDIVING

Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol PH2 7TB  
Tel: 01821 642454 Fax: 01821 642656  
billycurri@aol.com http://members.aol.com/billycurri

**Open:** Wed – Sun  
**First Jump Courses:** rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 206

**CF WP AC** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 15 PETERBOROUGH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE  
Tel: 01832 280490 Fax: 01832 280409  
www.skydivesibson.com

**Open:** 8am – 8pm, Tue – Sun (summer), Wed – Sun (winter)  
**First Jump Courses:** squares, AFF, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Islander, Cessna 206

**LO FS FF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 16 PETERLEE PARACHUTE CENTRE

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Peterlee, Co Durham DH6 2NF  
Tel: DZ 0191 517 1234 Tel/Fax: Office 0191 386 5261  
skydiveamy@aol.com http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy

**Open:** Every day 8.30am – 8.30 pm (tel. Mon, Tue, Thur)  
**First Jump Courses:** squares, AFF, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 182, piston Islander

**FS CF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 17 SKYDIVE STRATHALLAN

Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA  
Tel: 0374 686 161 Weekend 01764 662572  
www.skydivestathallan.co.uk

**Open:** Fri 5pm – 9pm weekends 9am – 9pm  
**First Jump Courses:** rounds, squares, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Islander, 2 x Cessna 206

**FS WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 18 STIRLING PARACHUTE CENTRE

Thornhill, Nr Stirling, Scotland FK8 3QT  
Tel: 01786 870788 Fax: 01786 870748  
parajump@aol.com

**Open:** Weekends 9.30am – 9pm, sometimes midweek  
**First Jump Courses:** rounds  
**Aircraft:** PA-32, Cherokee 6

**LO FS CF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 19 TARGET SKYSORTS

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow, Brigg, North Lincs  
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648837 DZ  
info@targetsky.demon.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk

**Open:** 9am – dusk every day  
**First Jump Courses:** rounds, squares, AFF, tandem  
**Aircraft:** C92 Turbine, Dornier Sky Servant, Cherokee 6

**LO FS FF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 20 THE PARACHUTE CENTRE

Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA  
Tel: 01948 841111 Fax: 01948 840638  
skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk  
www.tilstock.demon.co.uk

**Open:** Sat 8am – dark, Fri 2pm – dark (summer)  
**First Jump Courses:** squares, AFF, tandem  
**Aircraft:** 2 x Cessna 206

**LO FS CF AC WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 21 UK PARACHUTE

Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU  
Tel: 01953 861030 Fax: 01953 861031  
ukpa@kema.co.uk www.kema.co.uk/~ukpa/

**Open:** Weekdays 9am – 8pm (best to phone first)  
**First Jump Courses:** squares, tandem  
**Aircraft:** PA-32 (available for weekend displays)

**FS CF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### 22 WILD GESE SKYDIVE CENTRE

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh,  
Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ  
Tel: 028 295 58609 Fax: 028 295 57050  
parachute@wildgeese.demon.co.uk  
www.wildgeese.demon.co.uk

**Open:** Every day, W/end 8am – dark, W/days 9.30am – dark  
**First Jump Courses:** squares, tandem  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

**CF WP** ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎ ☎

### A ARMY PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

The Commandant, JSPC Airfield Camp, Netheravon,  
Salisbury, Wilts. SP4 9SF  
Tel: Bulford Camp 01980 633371, ext CCI 8229, Staff 8277  
apanethers@aol.com

### B RAFSPA & RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team

JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-Green, Bicester, Oxon OX6 8TQ  
Tel: 01869 343343/343201 Fax: 01869 343676  
cciraftspa@aol.com

### C SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE

Shackleton Barracks, BFPO 802.  
Tel: 01504 721472 Fax: 01504 721342  
Mobile: 0802 328755 SPC NI@aol.com

### D SILVER STARS PARACHUTE TEAM

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,  
South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD  
Tel: 01285 861344 or 01285 860551 ext 8259  
info@silverstars.fsnet.co.uk www.skygod.u-net.com

# Sebastian Times

Official Publication of Skydive Sebastian, The World's Most Scenic Drop Zone

## We Have Training For All Skill Levels

We offer, team coaching & Training, RW training courses, FS1 Progression, WARP & Skydive University Coaching to CAT 10, Wind Tunnel Training, Free Load organizing by Martin Evan's (Mr. Sky-EyeSequential) and National Champions Sebastian XL.



## Learn To Freefly!

Learn to Freefly with the orbit punks, the hottest freefly coaching anywhere!



## Brits for Brits!

Skydive Sebastian is the only American drop zone owned and operated by brits.

We graduated more than 200 Brits last year! ...We must be doing something right!

## Full Fliteline Includes

Two Super Otters, and One Super Casa 212 (tail gate)

## Hours of Operation

**Winter:** Oct. 1st to Apr. 31st  
7 days a week sunrise to sunset  
**Summer:** May 1st to Sep. 1st  
6 days a week (closed Tuesdays)  
sunrise to sunset

We also have a Full time Pro-Store for all you skydiving kit



Photo by: Keith Larrett

## Back By Popular Demand!!! Our \$999.<sup>99</sup> AFF Special!

"You are always number one", stated Sebastian owner/operator and ex-pat Andy Grimwade. "Our staff of USPA & BPA Instructors are here for you the customer. Just compare our 2000 Special, Complete AFF Courses \$999.<sup>99</sup>, that's under £600.00, now that's a CRAZY PRICE!

We now have a 15-jump RAPS course available! The 1st jump and ground school is only \$99.99. We also specialize in safety transitioning students from RAPS to AFF.

Military and Student discounts available! Our location provides a great opportunity to economically combine skydiving and a fun filled vacation! Sebastian is a beautiful town with white sandy beaches and is only 90 minutes from Orlando, the world's leading tourist destination.

- Our experienced staff and concern for safety have earned us one of the best safety records in the industry.
- Go from jump 1 to CAT 8 in a week
- Skydive Sebastian is recognized by BPA and licenses to BPA requirements
- National Champions "Sebastian XL" available for first class coaching!



For school, AFF, RAPS, WARP, bookings kit hire or general information, contact:  
[info@skydiveseb.com](mailto:info@skydiveseb.com)

For Andy Grimwade, DZO contact:  
[uspa1@aol.com](mailto:uspa1@aol.com)

JJ Johnson, DZ Mgr  
[sebmanjj@aol.com](mailto:sebmanjj@aol.com)

Sebastian XL Coaching info:  
[pete\\_allum@compuserve.com](mailto:pete_allum@compuserve.com)

Team rooms, RV & Campground  
Contact: [info@skydiveseb.com](mailto:info@skydiveseb.com)

400 West Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958  
PH: 1-561-388-5672 • FAX 1-561-388-2105

Proud sponsor of Sebastian XL, The British National 4 way Champions 95,96,97,98 & 99.





# Parachuting organisations

## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFILIATED D.Z'S

**Foreign Military Affiliated  
DZ's are run under the BPA  
Operations Manual**

## CYPRUS COMBINED SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,  
Dhekalia Garrison, BFPO 58, Cyprus  
Tel: Office: 00 357 4 744337  
DZ: 744245  
Fax: 00 357 4 744180  
Email: skydive@logos.cy.net

## RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)  
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,  
Germany, BFPO 16  
Tel: 00 49 5254 98 2378 or 98 2740  
Fax: 00 49 5254 98 2740  
E-mail: awright91@aol.com

## ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

### Associated Organisations

when operating at a BPA Affiliated  
Centre, are run under the  
requirements of the BPA  
operations manual. The BPA takes  
no responsibility for training or  
advice given by those  
organisations when operating at  
non Affiliated centres.

## ACTIVE SKYDIVING

Giengoynan, St Fillians  
Perthshire PH6 2ND  
Tel/Fax: 01764 685316  
M: 07803 041348  
E-mail: scotty@skydive.prestel.co.uk  
<http://www.commercepark.co.uk/skydive/>  
Run by Scotty Milne, ex Red Devil, 5 times  
British Champion, over 6,500 jumps, 25 years  
experience, Advanced Instructor, AFF  
Instructor, Tandem Instructor, Examiner and FS  
Coach. Offering Accelerated Freefall (AFF)  
courses in the UK, Spain or Florida using state  
of the art equipment.

## AIRWAVES KENT LTD

43 Baldwyns Road, Bexley,  
Kent DA5 2AB  
Tel/Fax: 01322 557375  
M: 0802 472566  
E-mail: skydive@air-waves.co.uk  
Operated by Rod Bartholomew, 19 years  
experience BPA AFF, RAPS, tandem and FS  
instructor rated. Provides professional /  
personal skydiving holidays at Royan and  
Soulac (France) and Florida. AFF, WARP, one-  
on-one, RAPS and RAPS progression are all  
available at our summer French seaside resorts.  
Operating full time in France from May to  
September and Florida November to May.

## BRITISH COLLEGIATE PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o Paul Channin - Chairman, BCPA  
72 Park Road, Liverpool L37 6AQ  
Tel: 0956 395680  
E-mail: paul.channin@kinesis.com  
<http://www.bcpa.org.uk/>  
Affiliations: Bristol University, Exeter  
University, Lancaster University, Loughborough  
University, Newcastle University, Nottingham

University, University College of St. Martin,  
University of East Anglia, University of  
Plymouth, University of Portsmouth, University  
of Sheffield, University of St. Andrews,  
University of Surrey, University of Sussex,  
University West of England, Warwick University,  
York University.

## DAVID MORRIS ACTION SPORTS

2 Daleside, Cotgrave, Nottingham  
NG12 3QA  
Tel/Fax: 01115 989 2050  
M: 0374 986600  
E-mail: dave@daleside2.demon.co.uk  
[www.daleside2.demon.co.uk](http://www.daleside2.demon.co.uk)

Dave specialises in AFF courses and tandem  
introductions in the UK, Spain and France. The  
AFF course includes free jumpsuit, altimeter,  
helmet, goggles, video log with re-jumps at cost.  
A great deal if you want to learn to skydive.  
Dave has over 7,000 jumps and is a BPA  
Instructor, Examiner, tandem and AFF.

## EAST COAST PARACHUTE CENTRE

8 Burns Crescent,  
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0TS  
Tel: 01245 268772  
Currently sharing facilities with the London  
Parachute School at Lewknor drop zone.

## MANCHESTER PARACHUTE SCHOOL

23 Heywood Gardens,  
Prestwich, Manchester M25 1FW  
Contact: Chris Miller  
Tel: 0161 798 6895  
M: 0370 575621  
E-mail: chris.miller@zetnet.co.uk  
Based in Stockport, Manchester with 2,000 sq  
ft of full time, fully equipped premises for the  
teaching of RAPS courses (Ram Air  
Progression System). We also offer tandem  
jumps and AFF courses. Train weekdays or  
midweek evenings, jump at weekend.  
Presently running in conjunction with Target  
Skysports.

## PARACHUTE TRAINING SERVICES

11 Godwyn Close, Abingdon,  
Oxon OX14 1BU  
Tel/Fax: 01235 529570  
E-mail: doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk  
[www.paratrg.demon.co.uk/](http://www.paratrg.demon.co.uk/)  
Run by Doug Peacock, BPA  
Instructor/Examiner. The complete RAPS  
package, PTS offers one jump introductory  
courses with the option of individual  
progression training through Cat 8 and  
advanced grades. Operating at Hinton Airfield  
in conjunction with Hinton Skydiving Centre.  
Six days per week, call for further information.

## PhD SKYDIVING

Shrewton, Wilts SP3 4JY  
Tel: 01980 621363  
M: 07971 665815  
E-mail: aff@phdskydiving.co.uk  
[www.phdskydiving.co.uk](http://www.phdskydiving.co.uk)  
Friendly, professional AFF school run by  
Martin Williams, BPA Advanced AFF  
instructor and Skydive U coach. Providing  
clients with small, personally tailored courses  
all year in California, Spain and UK. Fully  
equipped with video, PD Navigator student  
canopy and Cyprus AAD.

## POPS UK

Hon Treas/Sec: Sue Hill  
40 The Hamlet, St Annes, Lancs FY8 3LE  
Tel: 01253 713841  
E-mail: popsuk@thepops.com  
<http://www.thepops.com>  
A society of skydivers over forty. Regular  
national and international meets at host  
parachute centres.

## SCOTTISH SPORTS PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

Anne Johnson (Chairwoman, SSPA),  
Strathallan Airfield,  
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE  
Dedicated to the promotion and development of  
parachuting in Scotland. Sponsorship of the  
Scottish National Championships and other  
competitions, provision of the only student  
progression, WARP, and CF training subsidy  
system in the world; riggers and instructors  
training grants and much much more. Get in  
touch!

## SKYDIVE ACADEMY LTD

P O Box 192, Durham DH1 5WD  
Contact: Ian Rosenvinge  
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261  
M: 0860 156779  
E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com  
<http://members.aol.com/skydiveamy>  
Run by Ian Rosenvinge (BPA Advanced / AFF  
/ Tandem Examiner & USPA AFF JM/I). Offers  
AFF, tandem, video and FS coaching at  
Peterlee Parachute Centre. AFF courses also  
run in Florida and Southern Europe, autumn  
through spring.

## SKYDIVE LIMITED

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,  
Peterborough PE8 6NE  
Tel: 01832 280066 Fax: 01832 280067  
M: 0850 007178  
E-mail: skydive@ukgateway.net  
Chris Allen, Ex Red Devil, CCI, BPA  
AFF/Tandem Examiner, USPA Safety and  
Training advisor and Skydive University UK  
coordinator. Offers AFF courses in America,  
Spain, Germany and the UK. Also available:  
team coaching, Skydive University one-on-one  
programme and tandem.

## THE FREEFALL COMPANY

4 Lowndes Buildings, Farnham,  
Surrey GU9 7JD  
Tel: 01252 733 565 M: 07968 71 20 20  
Tel: (Spain) 00 34 619 356 202  
E-mail: kevin@freefallco.com  
[www.freefallco.com](http://www.freefallco.com)  
Operated by UK based Kevin McCarthy,  
National Champion with over 5,000 jumps  
and over 15 years experience. Probably the  
best AFF school in Europe. State of the art  
equipment and professional, personalised  
training gives you safe, rapid progression to  
Category 10 and beyond! Videos with all  
jumps. Courses available all year in the Costa  
Brava. Flexible payment to suit YOU!

## THE RED DEVILS

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
Tel: 01980 678211 (Chief Instructor)  
Tel: 01980 678212 (Students)  
Tel: 01980 678203 (Rigging)  
Fax: 01980 678349

## OVERSEAS ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

### CPCB

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain  
Tel: 00 34 972 45 01 11  
Fax: 00 34 972 45 07 49  
E-mail: cpcb@gna.es  
[www.skyrats.com](http://www.skyrats.com)  
Skydive Spain! AFF courses (1 tandem, 7  
jumps with air-to-air video), tandem flights,  
freestyle school, Babylon freestyle school,  
Skydive U, free load organising, team

coaching (special rates), gear hire  
(with Cyprus). Pilatus Porter and Twin  
Otter all year. All jumps from  
12,500ft. Open all year - and now club  
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responsibility for any training or  
advice given by those organisations.**

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# Club News

## Langar to increase dive organising

**STOP PRESS!** Langar's new turbine aircraft is now confirmed! Their own Cessna Grand Caravan will be flying by Saturday 26 February. It's already decked out with a proper, roll-up door and all the handles and steps you could possibly want, and even a CD player! It'll take 18 jumpers, and we can have six floaters out.

We'll be adding to the dive organising team and we're also planning to provide more formal formation skydiving coaching. From April through September, Dave Hickling's idea is to run team training weekends along the following lines every month: first weekend 4-way, second weekend 8-way, third weekend 16-way. The fourth weekend will be given over to big ways (30+ jumpers).

As some months have five weekends, we also want to pull in some competitions! If you've always wanted to train and/or compete, come along and we'll do our best to integrate you into a team. We need extra help for all this, so we'd like to hear from anybody out there with coaching skills to come and join the pool. Ring and ask DH to work out a deal for you.

The general plan will be interrupted **July 1-9 with the Langar Boogie** when yet another large turbine joins our fleet. This will enable us to go for the British Women's formation skydiving record (end June): if you're interested, girls, you'd better let us know!

Joe Willoughby clocked up 20 years in the sport in January, and he doesn't look a day over 92. Nice to see Sally Beck and Alex Lewis back in the air after an



absence of some years, and also Clare Allen who braved a tandem jump with other half, Phil.

Langar jumper Giles Fabris joined Australian Sandy Mumme as videoman to compete in Women's Freestyle at the World Meet and they placed a very creditable 6th, well done guys!

Ian Stuart proposed to his lady Samara Lowe just before they hopped into the Porter for her first skydive in tandem with Chris Harrison! (*Did she accept? - Ed.*)

### WELL DONE GUYS

**First Freefall:** Jim McFarlin., Nicolas Desmonts

**Cat 8:** Michael Outen

**Cat 9:** Jenny O'Brien

**FS1/Cat 10:** Jim Bradwell, Shaggy Martin, Andy Blevin, Adrian Morton

**FF1:** Cat Darby (She's sitting pretty above), Chuckles  
**Jump numbers:** Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright (1000), Rusty Lewis (600), Simon Tillyard (500), Cat Darby (400), 'Tiny' Martine Howland (200), Owen 'Cottonbud' Martin (100).

Tony Danbury

## HINTON XL

After superstardom in an episode of Casualty, an amazing christmas party (big thanks to band *Raving Jeckells*) an en-mass exodus to Spain and USA for the millennium, and a club facelift, Hinton is back!! The shop is doing great and we have a full time rigger, Pat Jones. Last year's figures show 13,000 jumps and we are hoping to increase that this year.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday 22 April** Huge party (we will try and keep the noise down this year officers!) Unfortunately the club

will be closed **Sunday 23 April** due to Silverstone F1 being on, business as usual bank holiday Monday.

**May 6**, in association with MENCAP, attempt at 120 tandems in one day to beat our current record of 106.

Best wishes to Eamon who is going into hospital for the third time to sort out his broken leg.



### Achievements

**100 jumps:** Jamie Burgess

**Cat 10:** Graham Meggison

**Student of the Year:** Phil Lovell

Rachel Gray

## Club Reps are TELEPATHIC

Okay, we lied. They're not. So if you want your photo and achievements in the Mag, you'll have to let them know! They won't reach us by osmosis, carrier pigeon or thought transference. Ground shots showing fun, action and atmosphere especially wanted.

### HELP YOUR CLUB REP!

- give 'em your DZ photos
- party shots wanted too!
- email news to your rep
- write news on club poster

Please don't graffiti the club poster, it's so prattish!

## Club Reps

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| BCPA              | Andrew Wright<br>andrew.wright@hotmail.com      |
| BORDER            | Katherine Andrews<br>skydivenorth@email.msn.com |
| BRITISH SKYSPORTS | Lynne Johnston<br>01282 677 367                 |
| BLACK KNIGHTS     | Valerie McDonagh<br>val@bkpc.demon.co.uk        |
| CYPRUS            | Paul Moore<br>paul.moore5@virgin.net            |
| DEVON & SOMERSET  | Allison Harkins<br>alison@rhdesign.uk.co        |
| HEADCORN          | Colin May<br>skydive@headcorn.u-net.com         |
| HINTON            | Rachel Gray<br>tree2b@rg70.freemove.co.uk       |
| LANGAR            | Tony Danbury<br>bpslangar@aol.com               |
| MERLIN            | Mike Jeng<br>Miketizio@aol.com                  |
| NETHERAVON        | Kath Salsbury<br>skydivests@aol.com             |
| NETHERAVON        | Dave Paton<br>nittin_paton@hotmail.com          |
| N LONDON          | Richard Johnson<br>gravedict@aol.com            |
| NORTH WEST        | Doug Summers<br>drs37808@GixxoWellcome.co.uk    |
| PARAGON SKYDIVING | Sandra Inglis<br>billicurry@aol.com             |
| PETERBOROUGH      | Cornelia Waymouth<br>LillaW@smithz.clara.co.uk  |
| PETERLEE          | Eric Hall<br>blue@track.freemove.co.uk          |
| RAPA              | Jim Scarratt<br>jscarratt@compuserve.com        |
| SERVICES PC       | Simon Harlett<br>sydive@aol.com                 |
| SILVER STARS      | Richard Olpin<br>richard.olpin@tmc.u-net.com    |
| STRATHALLAN       | Pete Allan<br>peterallan@hotmail.com            |
| TARGET SKYSPORTS  | Regan Tetlow<br>regan.tetlow@virgin.net         |
| TILSTOCK          | Colin Fitzmaurice<br>colin@tilstock.demon.co.uk |
| WESTON            | Bev Ford<br>Bev@oxfordie.co.uk                  |
| WILD GEESSE       | John McCourt<br>skydive@jmcourt.freemove.co.uk  |

Submit material for Club News through your club rep and NOT to the mag direct

# Empuria 2000

Empuriabrava is great any time of the year but the Christmas Boogie is always brilliant, whatever the weather. It's a special place, the atmosphere's superb, and the people you meet are wonderful... Great skydiving, great partying, great times.

Whether AFF level one, your 2,000<sup>th</sup> head-down or jumping in dinner jackets and bow ties with all your mates (too cold to do it naked, eh boys?)... Whatever, Empuria had it.

The boogie started really well for those lucky few (like me) who turned up before Christmas, with sunny skies and not much wind. If, however, you were one of the masses who arrived for New Year, then you were not so lucky... No sooner had the skydivers started to arrive, so did the Tramontana... a super strong wind from the mountains that stayed for three days.

Come New Year's Eve, the wind dropped and the mayhem began as over 600 jumpers tried to manifest ... It was great... the atmosphere... the aircraft... the skydiving – awesome! A Casa, a Turbolet, a Twin Otter and three Porters were planes taking off and landing constantly without a hitch.

If you were brave enough to get up at 7am, there were balloon jumps, organised by Richie Hornig. Lots of load organisers about, including Milko from Langar, Marin from the French 4-way team. and Empuria's own Richie and Pep. Mike Brook and Jeff Ronzevalle were on hand too, so there were groups to suit all levels and some really nice jumps made – as well as some new mates.

We got off to a flying start with the Babylon Freely Carnival, a great laugh and lots of wicked head-down jumps with the Babylon team – there was some really nice flying going on. Steff, Sylvain, Kuri, Tom and the rest of the Babylon Freely crew were providing freely coaching and load organising as well as the chance to do some new style tracking formation jumps and some big group stuff. Andy and his team of pack rats made life easier for those of us too lazy to pack for ourselves – I didn't miss a load.

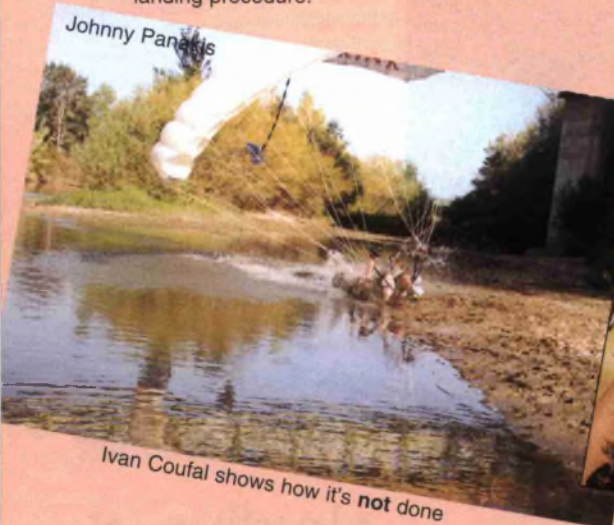
Manifest did a brilliant job whilst remaining stress free and making sure everyone was happy. Check in and registration was simple and trouble free and the talented Reiniero was never far from his post, briefing everyone on safety and landing procedure.



New Year's Eve started with the Captain's Cabin, 10-way speed star competition. It was a close run thing, with Milko and the Boogie Performance team managing first place, beating local favourites, *In the Hedge*, by 0.8 seconds over three rounds, out of the Turbolet. However the local boys had the best time of 11 seconds for one round. But it's the taking part that counts! All the teams enjoyed it and the prize giving was good fun, as was the after competition drinking. The tombola was pretty fabulousoo too, with a chance to win an entirely free, brand new, Icarus canopy (the winner had to take his clothes off on stage though) and discounts on a host of other stuff – not bad eh?

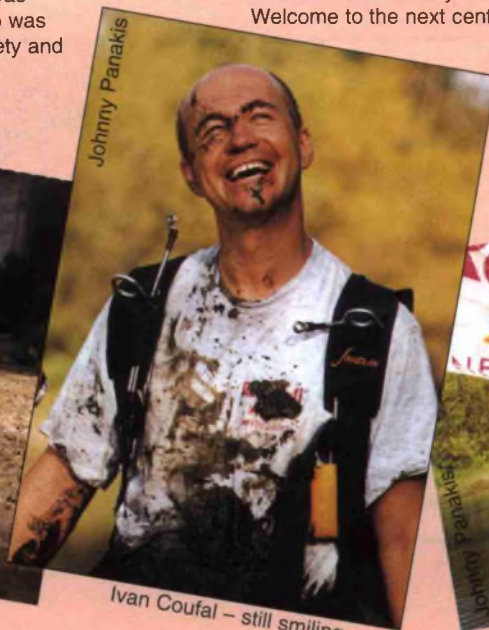
Then it was party time, the big 2000, and I couldn't think of a better place to do it than here. It was party on down all night (and most of the next day too, for some). The Sky Rats bar kept us all fed and watered and Rockin' Dave Taylor entertained us in his usual energetic style. What a way to avoid the hype, skydiving in one of the most stunningly beautiful views of any DZ and then celebrating Empuria style, **big time**. Welcome to the next century!

Ricardo Benjammin



Johnny Panakis

Ivan Coufal shows how it's **not** done



Johnny Panakis

Ivan Coufal – still smiling



Empuria staff try to emulate Bruno & Richie (see cover & page 4) It's a fine line...

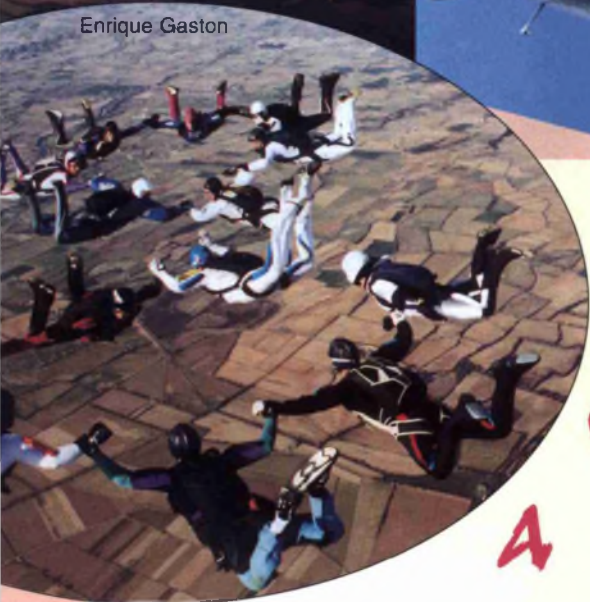
Johnny Panakis

Santi Corrella runs from the crocs!

Enrique Gaston



Enrique Gaston



B  
C  
P  
A  
say...

Johnny Panakis



**SCORES ON THE DOORS**

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| JUMPERS REGISTERED: | 633    |
| TOTAL BOOGIE JUMPS: | 8,500  |
| JUMPS '99:          | 76,000 |
| JUMPS '98:          | 71,000 |
| MALFUNCTIONS:       | 9      |
| INJURIES (minor):   | 2      |



Paul Stockwell

The BCPA (British Collegiate Parachute Association), together with the Netheravon, Hinton and Hibaldstow posse, took 12 of our jumpers to share in the atmosphere of (for many) their first boogie at Empuriabrava.

Arriving on Boxing Day, we were greeted by strong winds. However, our spirits were not dampened as we discovered the buzz from go-karting, conveniently located on the DZ (UK DZ's would do well to place a franchised go-karting track on their land – now there's an idea!)

The evenings entertainment started with a veritable feast of local delicacies. Captain's Cabin and the Surf Inn provided the watering holes.

As this was **THE** Millennium Boogie, we took our DJ's and appropriate Miss Money Penny attire for the new year and Paul Stockwell was on hand with his camera. The Bond theme continued when Henry Chow and I celebrated New Year's Day by jumping in our DJ's. It was a dive never to be forgotten (anyone know a good tailor?) – watch out Pierce Brosnan!

**Maximum respect** to Empuria – the organisation and friendliness of the staff, despite the sheer volume of skydivers, was phenomenal.

This Millennium Boogie saw more individual milestones than any previous BCPA meet. Congratulations to:

- Cat 10:** Jim Gwyther, Jo Redman, Dave Heatherington, Graham Meggison
- 100 jumps:** Marie Forbes, Dave Heatherington
- 200 jumps:** J-P Reynard
- 500 jumps:** Henry Chow (British 20-way with the dudes from Netheravon)

The BCPA is dedicated to promoting skydiving within universities and to the progression of our members. The past two years have seen more active members, with meets and competitions attended with ever increasing enthusiasm, thanks to a dedicated committee and university representatives. We now boast accomplished cameramen, approved instructors, WARP coaches and, very soon, a tandem instructor.

Jean-Philippe (J-P) Reynard

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

## Club News

# SKYDIVE ARIZONA

**Come for the sun - stay for the fun!**

South of the Border Boogie - Mar 15

Night Record - Apr 14 - 16

Easter Boogie - Apr 20 - 23


Turbine Madness - May 27 & 28  
\$11 jumps.

Arizona Challenge - May 29  
organized by George Jicha and Airspeed

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photo by Stein



### Nethers Pass The Buck

Kath Salsbury

The first weekend of the new Millennium, we celebrated with Barry Buck's birthday party - one more year to POPS! The weekend ended with what can only be described as an awesome tracking dive organised by Brian and Josh - thanks guys!




John Horne filming Barrie (Bing Bong) Buck with tandem passenger Clem Keeble, ex-para, who last jumped in 1944 at Arnhem

## Langar 2000

Two large turbines and the Porter...  
We fun jump all the time, plus we plan to emphasize 4, 8, 16 and Big Ways regularly!  
Open 7 days a week throughout the year  
Turbines fly daily  
Everybody Welcome!

### MARCH

25/26 We complete the fleet!!! The LET is Back! Party Saturday night!

### APRIL

1/2 4 way  
8/9 8 way  
15/16 16 way  
21-24 Easter! 4 days for Big Ways from multiple turbines! Party on Saturday  
29/30 Competition: 4 and 8 way sequential

### MAY

6/7 4 way  
13/14 8 way  
20/21 16 way  
27/29 Bank Holiday Big Ways

### JUNE

3/4 4 way  
10/11 8 way  
17/18 16 way  
24/25 Big ways...Get ready for...

New aircraft,  
18 place  
Cessna Grand  
Caravan. From  
26 February

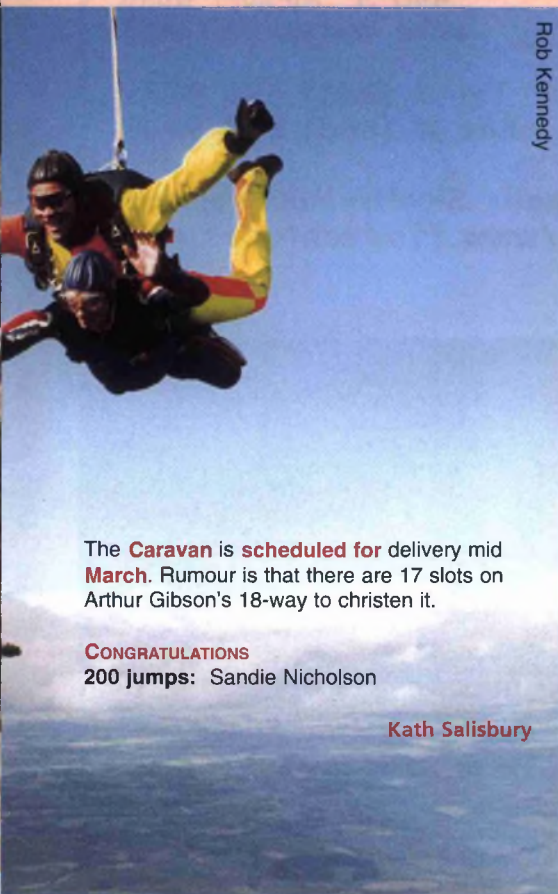
### THE BIG EVENTS!

British Women's Formation Skydiving Record attempt 26-30 June  
Langar Boogie 2000 1-9 July

**BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS**  
The Control Tower, Langar Airfield, Langar,  
Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Telephone & Fax: 44 (0) 1949 860878  
Email: info@bpslangar.co.uk - Website: www.bpslangar.co.uk



# British Parachute Schools



Rob Kennedy

The **Caravan** is **scheduled for** delivery mid **March**. Rumour is that there are 17 slots on Arthur Gibson's 18-way to christen it.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**200 jumps:** Sandie Nicholson

Kath Salisbury

## Jump Kent by Moonlight

We had one of the busiest years for a long time which we hope will continue into 2000. The November **night jumps** were very successful and more are **planned for February and March**. Thanks to all those who attended our Millennium/Christmas meal in January, everyone adhering to the theme of black/white plus a hat. Sorry to those of you who couldn't get a ticket.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Cat 8:** Pam Snow  
**1st Freefall:** Michelle Heard  
**500 jumps:** Baz Smith

Colin May

### Cark Party Promise

The year promises a lot at North West with an **Easter boogie weekend** with competitions, a disco and toga party followed by the annual **North West Skyfest, the first week of August**. Both events will be supported by a visiting big aircraft, in addition to our Islander.

**CARK – THE MAGIC IS RISING!**

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**1st Freefall:** Steve Byers  
**Cat 8:** Julia Clayton

Doug Summers



Mick Danby  
 and passenger  
 Anne Kevell  
 taken by  
 Mark Maynard

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Photo by  
Matt (Matt Dogg) McDevitt

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Our aim is to introduce you to the sport in a safe, professional environment where you'll never feel left out, or lost in the crowd. Our courses are designed to fit in with your schedule, so if you feel like a few days off to see the attractions, we can incorporate this into your training schedule.

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## News in brief

### Geese's Skysurfing POP

Christmas dinner was held at the Bushtown House Hotel and we had great night. Old members mixed with the young blood and swapped war stories. **Skydiver of the Year** was jointly awarded to POPs member **Mick Gook** and young dude **Ian Foreman**. Mick won his award for achieving SS1, so it seems you can teach an old dog new tricks! **Student of the Year** went to **Irwin Armstrong** and the Bum Spot award went to Fergie.

John McCourt

### Border Awards

Presented at our brilliant Christmas party at the Victoria Hotel in Bamburgh, the winners were:  
**Student of the Year:** Nicki Leggatt. Despite horse riding injuries, she has done 11 tandem jumps to date. Bags of enthusiasm and a great new club member.

**Dedicated Skydiver of the Year:** Alan Morrison. For persevering against the odds! Alan spent numerous weekends sitting patiently waiting for the skies to clear and eventually completing his AFF course with Scotty in Spain.

**Woman of the Year:** Helen Brewis. For the second year running. Helen is a non-jumper, is our chief packer of student kit and tandems. A good laugh and genuinely all round nice person.

**Man of the Year:** Vince Thompson. All you young, handsome hot-shot skydivers eat your hearts out. Vince is our Chief Pilot and at 72 was the outright winner.

Congratulations to Paul and Audrey Rowe on the birth of Olivia Jade.

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

Katherine Andrewes



Ryan Jackson freeflying over the Trevoise Peninsular, taken by skysurfer Mark Harris.

### Chris Gauge

Tragically, as we went to press, Chris died in a skydiving accident in Spain. He was a lovely guy who gave a lot to the sport. We will all miss him.

## Sibson On Track

Have you seen the new look Birdland Bar yet and if not, why not?

The Let arrives March 1, so start your season and get current for the first fun Easter 'Skydive Joker' competition. The rules are great: you come along over any of the four days of Easter (Friday 21- Monday 24 April), do as many practice skydives as you like and make three competition (4-way) skydives.

If the rest of your team leaves early, get together with someone else and enter another team for another stab at it! You enter at junior, intermediate or senior level, and decide in which order you want to put the randoms/blocks which you have drawn out of the hat yourself. And the Joker in the title? You decide on which skydive you want to double your points before your jump! Call Sibson for the longer version of the rules.

Cornelia Waymouth

CONGRATULATIONS  
**FS1 & BPA Student of the Year:** Giles Owen

**Cat 8:** Gordon Denny, Caroline Allen, Rob Montgomery

## New Aircraft at Strathallan

Club Members partied harder and longer (on the house too – thanks Lloyd!) in the Star this Hogmanay as the year 2000 is a special one. It's our 40th (yes fortieth) anniversary!

The club was founded in April 1960 by Charles 'Doc' Robertson, held its first training course later that month at Perth Aerodrome and has been jumping ever since. We reckon this makes us the longest continuously operating parachute club in the world (any challengers?) and we want YOU to help us celebrate!

The party in the Star was just the first of many events we've planned. Kieran Brady has confirmed that in April, almost 40 years to the day since the club's first jump, we

WILL have a G92 permanently positioned at the DZ!

Club members have been working hard improving camping facilities, building shower blocks and the barbeques are ordered. We are looking forward to a great year and hope, whether you're an old friend or new, you'll come and party!

Get well wishes to Siobhan Skehan, who pranged herself in Eloy at New Year.

Email Strathallan your 'No shit, there I was two grand above Strathallan' stories for our upcoming club history pages!

Pete Allan

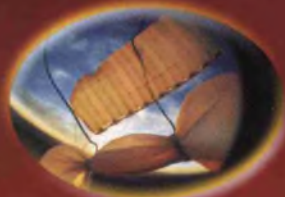
CONGRATULATIONS

**1st Freefall:** Daniela Ruff, David Bryan  
**Cat 8:** Andy Frew, Dougal Robertson  
**IC1:** Grant Kefferty

[www.skydivestrathallan.com](http://www.skydivestrathallan.com)  
 (designed by Andrew Hilton)

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Dave Morris

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|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>A &amp; B Rigging</b>                         | 15                             |
| Tel 001 (561) 924 7099                           | sales@parachuterigging.com     |
| <b>Airports Insurance</b>                        | 48                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1983 298480                        | yvonne@airports.netscape.co.uk |
| <b>Airtec</b>                                    | 16                             |
| Tel 00 49 2953 98990                             |                                |
| <b>Airwaves</b>                                  | 10                             |
| Tel 472 566 (mobile)                             | skydive@air-waves.co.uk        |
| <b>American &amp; British Rigging Inc</b>        | 15                             |
| Tel 001 561 924 7099                             | sales@parachuterigging.com     |
| <b>Avia</b>                                      | 50                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1707 262 774                       | aviaspecial@btinternet.com     |
| <b>Body Flying School</b>                        | 50                             |
| disadvantaged in telecommunications              | dlhowski@aol.com               |
| <b>British Parachute Schools</b>                 | 60                             |
| 00 44 (0) 1949 860 878                           | info@bpslangar.co.uk           |
| <b>Classifieds</b>                               | 51                             |
| <b>Dimension Productions</b>                     | 48                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1844 273 200                       | info@dimension-products.co.uk  |
| <b>Empuriabrava (CPCB)</b>                       | 24                             |
| Tel 00 34 972 450 111                            | cpcb@gna.es                    |
| <b>Fliteline Systems</b>                         | 56                             |
| Tel 001 909 245 8828                             | fliteline@ix.netcom.com        |
| <b>Freetail Adventures</b>                       | 62                             |
| Tel 001 863 679 9779                             | skydivemik@aol.com             |
| <b>Hanson Safety HB</b>                          | 48                             |
| Tel 0046 404 50260                               |                                |
| <b>Harrison-Beaumont (Insurance Brokers) Ltd</b> | 23                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1993 700 200                       | info@hbinsurance.co.uk         |
| <b>Hinton Skydiving Centre</b>                   | 46                             |
| 00 44 (0) 1295 812 300                           | info@skydive.co.uk             |
| <b>Infosave.net Ltd</b>                          | 11                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1252 761 266                       | infoSAVE@dial.pipex.com        |
| <b>North West Rigging</b>                        | 50                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1772 720 848                       | pringy@compuserve.com          |
| <b>Original Lizard</b>                           | 50                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1482 635 483                       | chappy@original-lizard.com     |
| <b>Parachutes de France</b>                      | IFC                            |
| Tel 00 33 (0) 134 32 77 77                       | parachutes-de-france@csi.com   |
| <b>Parachute Training Services</b>               | 48                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1235 529 570                       | doug@paratrg.demon.co.uk       |
| <b>Paragear Equipment</b>                        | 44                             |
| Tel 001 847 679 5905                             | sales@paragear.com             |
| <b>Paratec GMBH</b>                              | 64                             |
| 00 49 683 773 75                                 | infosave@paratec.de            |
| <b>Paul Morgan</b>                               | 50                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 121 236 3700                       |                                |
| <b>Performance Designs</b>                       | 8                              |
| Tel 001 904 738 2224                             | www.performancedesigns.com     |
| <b>Ravi's Adventure Nepal</b>                    | 20                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1203 351 495                       | Fax (Nepal) 009 771 374 198    |
| <b>Shape Skydivers</b>                           | 49                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1285 831774                        | asb@biplane.demon.co.uk        |
| <b>Sky Ads</b>                                   | 50                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1909 482 981                       | alandene@aol.com               |
| <b>Skydive America</b>                           | 14                             |
| Tel 001 561 924 2020                             | info@skydiveamericapb.com      |
| <b>Skydive Arizona</b>                           | 60                             |
| Tel 001 520 466 3753                             | jump@skydiveaz.com             |
| <b>Skydive Eilat (Israel)</b>                    | 11                             |
| Tel 00 972 76 33 23 86                           | ritterroy@yahoo.com            |
| <b>Skydive Sebastian</b>                         | 54                             |
| Tel 001 561 388 2105                             | info@skydiveseb.com            |
| <b>Skydive University</b>                        | 20                             |
| Tel 001 561 581 0100                             | skydiveu1@aol.com              |
| <b>Sky Science</b>                               | 22                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1980 844 130                       | info@skyscience.co.uk          |
| <b>Sunpath Products</b>                          | 40                             |
| Tel 001 813 782 9242                             | info@sunpath.com               |
| <b>Symbiosis Suits</b>                           | 20                             |
| Tel 01622 890 967                                | symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com |
| <b>Target Skysports</b>                          | 24                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 113 250 5600                       | info@targetsky.demon.co.uk     |
| <b>The Kit Store</b>                             | 11                             |
| Tel 01622 890 967                                | symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com |
| <b>Thomas Sports Equipment</b>                   | OBC                            |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1262 678 299                       | tse@skydiveo.demon.co.uk       |
| <b>Train in Spain</b>                            | 48                             |
| Tel 00 34 953 125 233                            | trainls@aol.com                |
| <b>UK Parachute Services Ltd</b>                 | 51                             |
| Tel 00 44 (0) 1953 861 030                       |                                |
| <b>Umm Al Quwain Aeroclub</b>                    | 61                             |
| Tel 00 971 6768 1447                             | aeroclub@emirates.net.ae       |
| <b>Z Store</b>                                   | 47                             |
| Tel 001 813 780 7339                             | gearstore@aol.com              |

# Diary Dates

**BPA Events**  
**FS** Freely & Skysurf  
**CF** POPS  
**Style & Accuracy** Collegiate  
**Boogies** Unclassified

## MARCH

**3-4 Night Jumps**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**3-5 Paraski 2000 Europa Cup**  
 La Polsa di Brentonico, Italy. Tel 0039 2864 52718  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**13-17 Student Progression Wk**  
 Headcorn, Kent. Tel 01622 890 862  
 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**15-20 South of Border Boogie**  
 Sonora, Mexico. Skydive Arizona.  
 Contact George Jicha. gjicha@primenet.com  
 www.skydiveaz.com

**20-24 Canopy Control Seminar**  
 Skydive Daytona, Florida.  
 24-25 Mar, competition on beach. Organised by  
 Lyle Presse. Tel: 001 904 437 4547  
 www.skydivedaytona.com

**22-27 Style and Accuracy Meet**  
 Marana, Arizona. UK contact Chris Clements  
 Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**27-31 BPA AFF/Tandem Course**  
 Headcorn. Contact BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**30-Apr 9 Space Games World Championships**  
 Skydive America. Tel 001 561 924 2020  
 info@skydiveamericapb.com  
 www.skydiveamericapb.com

**APRIL**

**TBC Style and Accuracy Meet**  
 Verona, Italy. UK contact Chris Clements  
 Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**6 BPA STC Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**1-9 Pre-Easter Boogie & 80-way Meet**  
 Skydive City, Zephyrhills, Florida.  
 Tel 001 813 783 9399 www.skydivecity.com

**15-23 Easter Boogie**  
 Skydive City, Zephyrhills, Florida.  
 Tel 001 813 783 9399 www.skydivecity.com

**15-30 Easter Boogie**  
 Empuriabrava, Spain. Tel 0034 9724 50111  
 Fax 0034 9724 50749 cpcb@gna.es  
 www.skyrats.com

**29-6 May Easter Boogie**  
 Train in Spain. Tel 0034 953 125 233  
 trains@aol.com

**18 BPA Council Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**20-23 Easter Boogie**  
 Skydive Arizona. Tel 001 520 466 3753  
 jump@skydiveaz.com www.skydiveaz.com

**21-24 'Joker' 4-way Meet**  
 Sibson, Peterborough. Tel: 01832 280 490  
 www.skydivesibson.com More info in club news

**21-24 Easter Big-ways**  
 Langar. Multiple Turbines. Tel: 01949 860 878  
 bpslangar@aol.com

**21-24 Easter Boogie**  
 Skydive Daytona, Florida. Tel: 001 904 437 4547  
 www.skydivedaytona.com

**22-24 European Carnival**  
 Empuriabrava, Spain. Fancy dress freefall contest.  
 Tel 0034 9724 50111 Fax 0034 9724 50749  
 cpcb@gna.es http://www.skyrats.com

**27-29 POPS Cyprus Meet**  
 Cyprus. www.pops.org.uk

**28-30 Texel Boogie 2000**  
 Texel, Netherlands. Organisers, good vibes, free  
 beer, two large turbines.  
 Tel 0031 222 311 464 www.avnet.co.uk/pct

**29-30 4 & 8-way FS Meet**  
 Langar. Tel: 01949 860 878 bpslangar@aol.com

**29-6 May Go Vertical VII**  
 Train in Spain. Tel 0034 953 125 233  
 trains@aol.com

**MAY**

**6 Tandem Record Attempt**  
 Hinton. Attempt at 120 tandems in one day.  
 Tel 01295 812 300 Fax 01295 812 400  
 Email info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk

**19-21 Europa Cup 2000 Accuracy Competition**  
 Lochen, Austria.  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**19-29 Border May Week**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Student Progression  
 Week, fun jumps, barbecues. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**27-29 Scottish Nationals**  
 Strathallan. 4 & 8-way FS, style, accuracy, freely,  
 skysurf. Tel 01764 662 572 weekends only.  
 bradyk@fsbdial.co.uk

**27-4 June Espace Spring Boogie**  
 Lapalisse, France. 2 Skyvans and a Casa  
 boogie@espace-boogie.com  
 www.espace-boogie.com

**27-28 Turbine Madness**  
 Skydive Arizona. Tel 001 520 466 3753  
 jump@skydiveaz.com www.skydiveaz.com

**29 Arizona Challenge**  
 Eloy, Skydive Arizona. Tel 001 520 466 3753  
 jump@skydiveaz.com www.skydiveaz.com

**JUNE**

**3-4 Speed 8 Meet**  
 Headcorn. Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**8 BPA STC Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**9-11 Europa Cup 2000 Accuracy Competition**  
 Opatija, Croatia.  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**12-16 Student Progression Wk**  
 Headcorn. Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**15-17 40-way Sequential**  
 with Pete Allum & John McIver, at Cross Keys, NJ.  
 pete\_allum@compuserve.com

**20 BPA Council Meeting**  
 BPA Office. Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**24-25 Beach Jumps & BBQ**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**26-30 Brit Women's FS Record**  
 Langar. Tel: 01949 860 878 bpslangar@aol.com

**30-2 Jul Europa Cup 2000 Accuracy Competition**  
 Bled, Slovenia  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**30-7 Jul CF World Championships**  
 Imrolva, Finland

## JULY

**1-2 POPS Meet**  
 Bridlington. www.pops.org.uk

**1-9 Accuracy & CF Camp**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**1-9 Langar Boogie**  
 Langar. Bulk aircraft! Tel 01949 860 878  
 bpslangar@aol.com

**3-7 FS Coaching Week**  
 Headcorn. Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**8-9 Andy Kelly 4-way Meet**  
 Headcorn. Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**8-16 CF Spektakel**  
 Teuge Airport, Holland. Contact Roel Roelofs  
 cf\_spektakel@yahoo.com

**15-30 Combined Nationals**  
 Hibernia, Tel 0113 250 5600  
 info@targetsky.demon.co.uk  
 www.skydiving.co.uk

**21-23 Zeeland Boogie**  
 Skydive Zeeland, sw of Holland. Two turbines.  
 Tel: 0031 113 12 910

**29-4 Aug Skyfest Boogie**  
 North West PC, Cark. Tel 01539 58672 / 58555  
 W/days 01772 720 848

## AUGUST

**4-6 Europa Cup 2000 Accuracy Competition**  
 Belluno, Italy.  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**10 BPA STC Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**11-19 Swedish Herc Boogie**  
 Sweden. hercules@gkf.se  
 www.gkf.se/hercules/index.html

**12-20 Espace Boogie 2000**  
 Vichy, France. Antonov 72  
 boogie@espace-boogie.com  
 www.espace-boogie.com

**17-20 16-way European Cup**  
 Brienne le Chateau, France.  
 Tel 0033 661 08 55 55 Fax 0033 661 08 55 50

**19-20 POPS Meet**  
 Wild Geese. www.pops.org.uk

**22 BPA Council Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**26-27 Beach Jumps & BBQ**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

## SEPTEMBER

**2-3 LAC Meet**  
 Headcorn. Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**2-10 Invitational FV Meet**  
 Empuriabrava, Spain with Dave Morris, Richie  
 Homig and Ivan Coufal. Tel UK 0364 986600 or  
 0034 972 450111 Fax 0034 972 450749  
 cpcb@gna.es www.skyrats.com

**Puzzle Solutions**  
**CROSSWORD**  
 Across: 5 One Thousand, 7 Demo, 8 East, 9 Blues, 11 Flares, 12 Etched, 13  
 Twists,  
 15 Create, 16 Steam, 17 Oval, 19 Stag, 20 Reserve Field  
 Down: 1 Aero, 2 Z-Hills, 3 Bungee, 4 Mace, 5 One Flow Over, 6 Descent Rate,  
 9 Beats, 10 Storm, 14 Stary, 15 Cat Ten, 18 List, 19 Skid

**DINGBATS**  
 Tandem Rating, Static Line

**9-10 Scrambles LAC Meet**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**11-15 Student Progression**  
 Headcorn. Student Progression Week  
 Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

**15-17 Texel 16-way**  
 Texel, Netherlands. International  
 competition. Two Turbolets. Videoman free slot.  
 Exit altitude 1,3500ft  
 Tel 0033 31 222 311 464 www.avnet.co.uk/pct

**22-24 Europa Cup 2000 Accuracy Competition**  
 Bolzano, Italy.  
 UK contact Chris Clements Tel 01252 322 419  
 chris@mountainsong.demon.co.uk

**30 Dinner Dance**  
 Headcorn Tel 01622 890 862 Fax 01622 890 641  
 skydive@headcorn.u-net.com

## OCTOBER

**5 BPA STC Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**7-8 POPS Meet**  
 Hinton. www.pops.org.uk

**17 BPA Council Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**28-5 Nov Halloween Boogie**  
 Lapalisse, France. Tel 0033 4 70 99 1803  
 info@lapalisse-aero.com  
 http://www.lapalisse-aero.com

**TBC Style & Accuracy World Championships**  
 Toba, Japan

## NOVEMBER

**3-4 Night Jumps**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

**4-12 FS World Championships**  
 Eloy, Skydive Arizona. Will include a 16-way  
 competition in addition to the women's 4-way.  
 Tel 001 520 466 3753 jump@skydiveaz.com  
 www.skydiveaz.com

**4-12 Freestyle, Skysurf & Freely World Championships**  
 Eloy, Skydive Arizona. Tel 001 520 466 3753  
 jump@skydiveaz.com www.skydiveaz.com

**5-14 Space Games**  
 Skydive America. Tel 001 561 924 2020  
 info@skydiveamerica.com  
 www.skydiveamerica.com

## DECEMBER

**7 BPA STC Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**12 BPA Council Meeting**  
 BPA Office Tel 0116 2785 271  
 Fax 0116 247 7662  
 skydive@bpa.org.uk

**16 Christmas Party**  
 Border PC, Brunton. Tel 01665 589 000  
 At Victoria Hotel, Bamburg.  
 skydivenorth@email.msn.com

Email your event to  
 diary@skydivemag.com  
 by 15 March (latest) for  
 inclusion in the April issue

CONGRATULATIONS

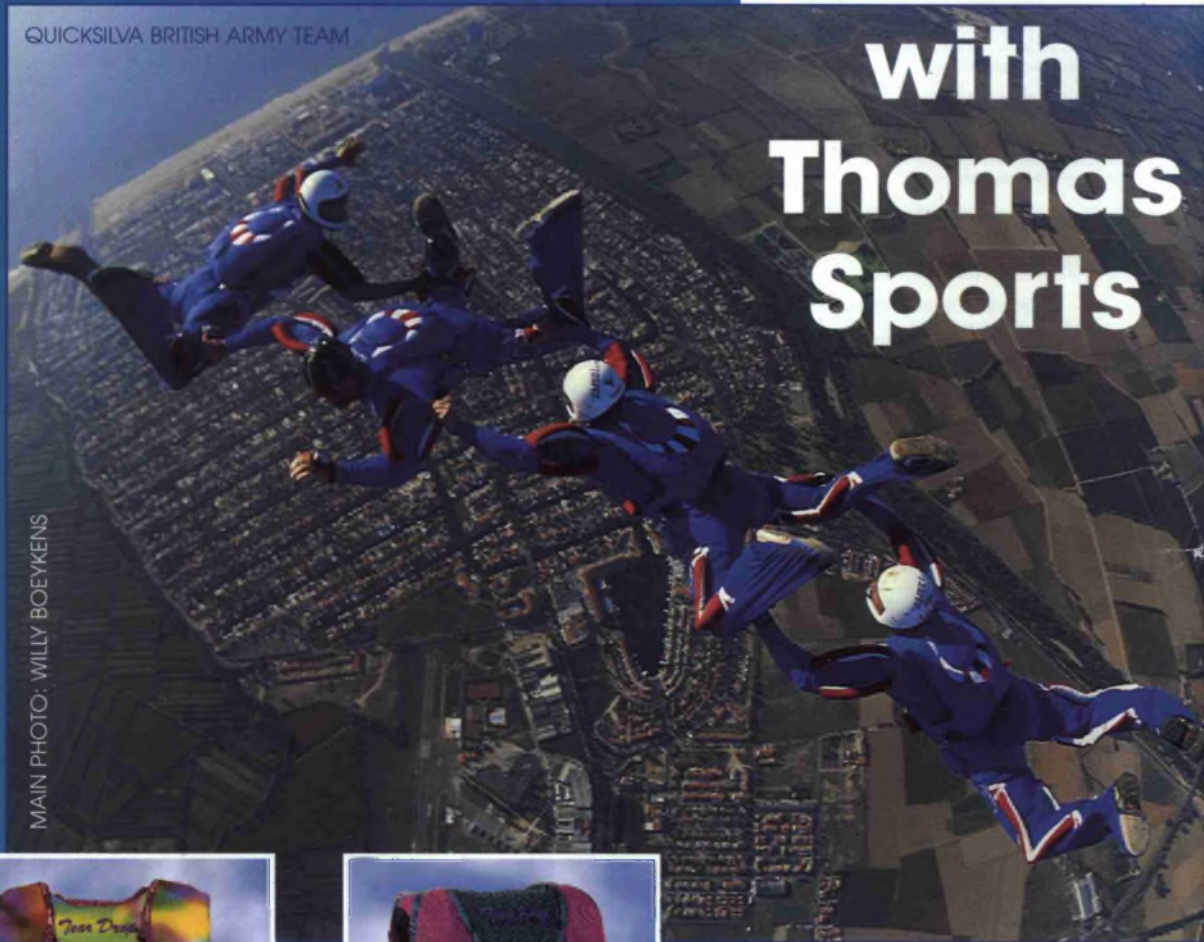


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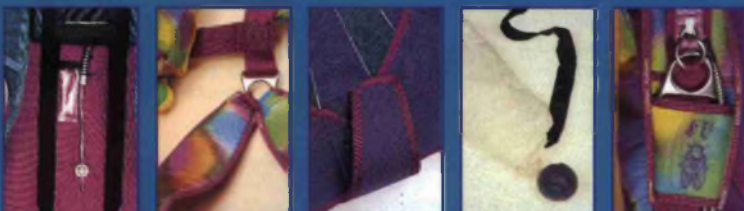


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