

SPORT PARACHUTIST



2 FROM GQ



also 'PROTECTOR' 17ft (5.2m) Steerable Reserve

Flight Data

Terminal velocity opening time—1.5 secs. Normal rate of descent with 220 lbs.—17.5 ft./sec. Rate of turn—360° in 7-8 secs.

Canopy

The canopy is manufactured from 1 oz. ripstop weave, heat sealed, nil porosity nylon. There are 20 gores, two of these have blank portions to provide drive and steerability. The blank gores are covered with nylon net for additional safety during deployment. Stable in flight, the canopy will provide adequate manoeuvrability coupled with a low descent rate.

Liftwebs

Manufactured from 4,000 lbs. (1820 kg) nylon webbing the liftwebs are connected by a strop for additional safety. American snaphooks with 5,000 lbs. rating are used. The Protector can be adjusted to any of four positions on the wearer.

Pack

Of synthetic materials and shaped to fit the body. The ripcord position can be either right hand side or top pull. The tie downs are integral with the pack.

'PATHFINDER'

Flight Data

Terminal velocity opening time—2.5 secs. approx. Normal rate of descent with 220 lbs.—15.5 ft./sec. Rate of turn—360° in 4 secs.

Canopy

Manufactured of nil porosity heat sealed 1.6 oz. nylon fabric, the canopy has 24 gores and 30 shaped apertures to provide drive, lift and turning.

The canopy is extremely stable and recovery after stall is immediate with minimum surge.

Harness

Nylon webbing with a breaking strain of 4,000 lbs. (1820 kg), with conventional American ejector snaphooks and 1½ shot Capewell canopy releases. The harness is instantly adjustable at main suspension and backstrap points. A full length backpad and comfort pads are provided.

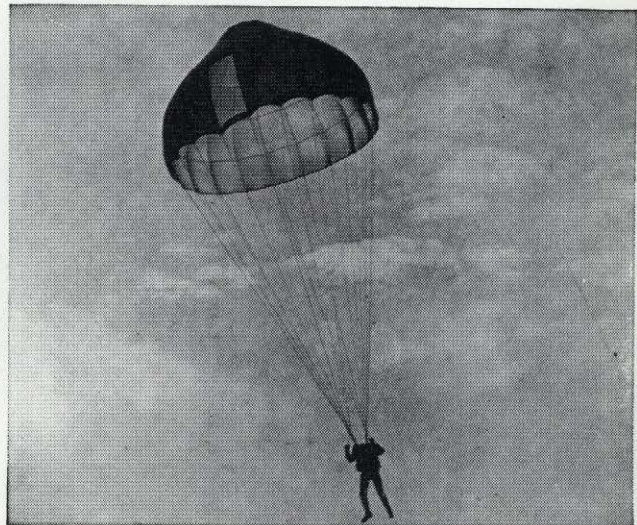
Pack

Available in either three pin 'style' configuration or the more conventional four pin assembly. Both packs are designed for use with the Irvin Hitefinder and other automatic openers.

Sleeve & Auxilliary

The sleeve is of heavy duty 4½ oz./sq. yd. cotton fabric with conventional line stowage and mouthlock.

The 36" diameter auxiliary is manufactured from low porosity nylon.



Further details and prices available from:

**RFD-GQ LTD., Parachute Sales Division, Godalming,
Surrey, England. Tel: Godalming 4122 Telex: 85233**



The British Parachute Association Ltd,
Artillery Mansions,
75 Victoria Street,
London, SW1H 0HW
Phone 01-799 3760

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Editor's Note—

The views of contributors To "Sport Parachutist" are not necessarily those of the Editor, or of the British Parachute Association, and no liability is accepted for same.

Sport Parachutist

EDITORIAL

It seems that all the Czechoslovakian Mens team who competed at the 1972 World Meet, perished in the level crossing tragedy in Bulgaria. Those who died included Pospichal, World Accuracy Champion Majer, Kumba, who hit nine discs in a row, and their coach Jehlicka. Jehlicka had almost six thousand descents, and one of his duties included test jumps for KRAS, the PTCH manufacturer. It remains to be seen if their team can recover sufficiently to produce a top ranking mens team for the 1974 World Meet.

In this issue I have included the OFFICIAL report to the membership, of the 1972 World Parachute Championships, by team coach Doug Peacock. It arrived after the last issue had gone to print, but I thought I must include it, not only because I think it to be a good article, but because it contains the views of the coach, and also of course, some photographs of the team.

In an attempt to sell the magazine in the U.S.A., I have arranged a "swop" advert deal with both Skydiver magazine and Parachutist so you can expect to see adverts for both of these journals in Sport Parachutist.

Front cover photograph by Lou Johnson, shot above Halfpenny Green from the Twin Pioneer. Jumpers from left to right, reading across the top are: John Shankland, Jim Crocker, Dave Waterman, Neville Hounsome, Sally Cain (breaking wrists), Steve Talbot, Buzz Bennett, Charles Shea-Simonds (back to camera) and Dick Rieter. The two out jumpers are Mick Chapman (left), and Bob Higgins (top right).

Revised Instructors/Clubs Lists

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION INSTRUCTORS ADVANCED RATINGS (EXAMINERS)

Name	Club	BPA No.
Acraman, R. S.	R.S.A.	444
Anderson, B.	A.P.A.	4590
Bool, W. G.	T/Valley	3930
Catt, W.	A.A.C.	415
Card, R. G.	A.P.A.	1927
Crocker, J. T.	South Staffs	2066
Dale, A. J.		845
Day, T. J. W.	Met. Police	1705
English, J. A.	Northern Para	3767
Gardner, E. A. J.	Parachute Regiment	178
Griffiths, R.	Green Jackets	115
Hounsome, N. C.	T/Valley	1598
Hughes, D.	A.P.A.	116
Jackson, M. L.	R.E.	343
Jacobs, K. E.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	471
Jerstice, B.	Lancs.	2101
Laing, J.	R.A.P.A.	1323
McLoughlin, J. E.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	175
Mapplebeck, K.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	1035
Martin, M. A.	A.P.A.	1444
McQueen, A. S.	R.A.P.A.	4318
Meacock, W. J.	Peterborough	578
Peacock, D.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	125
Raine, G. P.	A.P.A.	2229
Reed, M.	Yorks.	596
Reiter, R.	S.P.C.	4931
Rumney, C.	S. P. Centre	9492
Runacres, R. J.	R.A.P.A.	338
Schofield, B. S.	Para Regt	2332
Shea-Simonds, G. C. P.	S. P. Centre	475
Sherman, P. W.	Old Warden	4757
Slattery, W. P.	Nomad	258
Stephenson, E. W.	S.A.S.	7699

APPROVED RATING

Name	Club	BPA No.
Addison, N. F.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	2566
Armour, A. M.	A.P.A.	5649
Andreau, M.	A.P.A.	1645
Aveling, M. F.	Parachute Regiment	7450
Beard, J. A.	Green Jackets	2050
Bennet, D.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	3024
Bennigson, P. J.		8975
Birch, D. T.	R.A.P.A.	3036
Black, A.	R.E.	1106
Bolton, M.	South Staffs	5114
Bowles, J. A.	R.A.P.A.	1237
Boxall, J.	Hereford	5455
Burns, R.	Sport Para Centre	3445
Cameron, K.	A.P.A.	7372
Cathro, G.	Parachute Regiment	1547
Cavanagh, P. D.	B.K.S.C.	2817
Cockburn, A. M.	R.A.P.A.	2749
Cole, A. J. N.	B.P.C.	346
Colgan, J. A.		6332
Cooper, A. E.	Manchester	3026
Crawley, T.	Green Jackets	343
Dale, A. J.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	845
Daubney, J. E.	S.A.S.	2290
Deakin, M. D.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	4239
Denley, P.		113
Desoldato, D.	S. P. Centre	3764
Dinneen, K. J.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	3507
Dickson, T. G.	Scottish	472
Dixon, A. C.	A.P.A.	6174
Elliott, W. E.	A.P.A.	3432
Ellis, G.	A.P.A.	3432
Fernie, W. G.	Scottish	1859
Forsdyke, J. K.	South Staffs	3027
Forster, N. J.		5783
Francis, R.	S. P. Centre	3437
Fuller, I.	T/Valley	5532

Gray, I.	Golden Lions	8374
Hackett, D.	R.M.	878
Hagan, T.	Nomad	1930
Harper, I.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	5543
Harrison, J.	Old Warden	2734
Henry, T.	S.A.S.	3110
Herbert, C.	Singapore	1866
Hewitt, B. N.	Northern Para	6023
Hill, A. V.	Eagle S.P.C.	193
Holt, A. C.	Northern Para	2224
Hull, R. J.	R.A.P.A.	8878
Jarrett, R. G.	Parachute Regiment	8370
Johnson, A. T.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	898
Jones, A.	Parachute Regiment	1886
Jones, D. J.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	6979
Kemley, J. M.		1952
Kirkham, R. N.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	6498
Lewington, E.	Parachute Regiment	5382
Lonsdale, R. C.	R.E.M.E.	1151
Loutitt, I. A.		4001
Maddy, W.	R.E.M.E.	1430
May, C.		2643
Melville, L. W.	7 R.H.A.	1016
Miller, I. G.	Lincoln P/F	772
McCarthy, D.	R.A.P.A.	949
McCauley,	Peterborough	4416
McGill, J. A.	7 R.H.A.	2066
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Maclennan, W. M.		4060
McMillan, I.	S.P.C.	6099
McNaughton, D.	Parachute Regiment	417
Morrison, A.	A.P.A.	4848
Noble, K.	Northumbria	4298
Noble-Nesbitt, R.	Northumbria	6461
Norris, J.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	2363
O'Brien, M. J.	B.P.C.	332
O'Brien, N.	A.P.A.	4378
O'Brien, R. L.	S. P. Centre	3550
Oliver, A. R.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	2518
Oxley, T. E.	R.A.P.A.	1442
Parker, A. H.	A.P.A.	3138
Parkinson, H. E.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	3276
Parry, R.	B.K.S.C.	2735
Patrick, J.	7 R.H.A.	1781
Payne, D. C.	Paraclan	2370
Peel, F.	S. P. Centre	7096
Perkins, R. G. G.	Martlesham	7794
Price, A. J.	R. M.	5489
Prin, O.	Peterborough	6559
Prince, D.	N.W.P.C.	1880
Purves, M.	Martlesham	6882
Pusey, D. C.	Parachute Regiment	2598
Railton, K.	R.A.P.A.	5932
Reddick, J.	R.A.P.A.	349
Rees, B.	J.S.P.C.	874
Ritchie, W.	Sport Para Centre	6632
Rixon, T.	Peterborough	1250
Robinson, R. J.	Parachute Regiment	4059
Rose, A.	R.M.S.P.C.	2587
Rymer, D.	R.A.P.A.	5967
Sansom, D. B.	Parachute Regiment	3232
Savage, D.	Nomad	1671
Scarret, W. T.		1428
Scott, R. S.	S.A.S.	2899
Seeger, R. A. M.		495
Shone, G. B.		2245
Smith, E. H.	S.A.S.	759
Smith, J. F.	Nomad	3847
Souter, R. F.	R.A.F.S.P.A.	5594
Standing, B. R.	Parachute Regiment	2191
St. John, L. N. E.	B.P.C.	257
Taylor, M.	Old Warden	1982
Together, M.	A.P.A.	5077
Walmsley, J.	Parachute Regiment	930
Ward, M. R. L.	R.M.	5741
Wright, J.	Parachute Regiment	1298
Whitney, D. M.	Parachute Regiment	2163
Williams, J.	Thames Valley A/S	5343
Wilson, J. W.	R.A.P.A.	2900
Winwood, M. J.	A.P.A.	2319
Wiseman, J. M.	S.A.S.	2183
Wittke, R.	R.A.P.A.	2505

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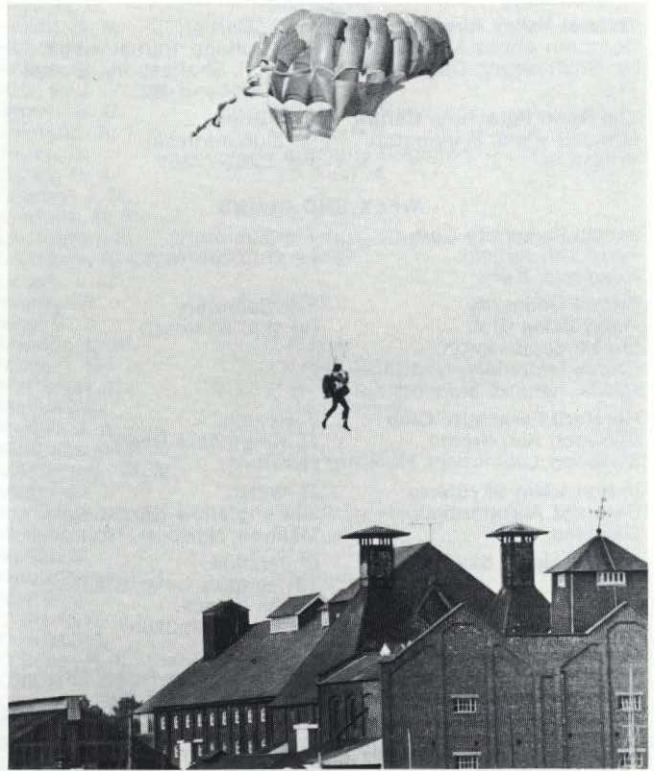
WATER JUMP

Your idea of the perfect water jump may well be the same as mine. It starts with stepping casually out of a Skyvan at twelve grand, or better over a big blue Californian lake clad only in a rig and swimming trunks, flying the 32-man till its starting to get boring (I should have said two Skyvans in formation) and then dumping and floating down bang on target, to be pulled from the water by as many Hollywood starlets as can fit on a large cabin cruiser carrying large stocks of draught bitter, etc etc . . . well, if you settle for a 172 and four grand, substitute the muddy waters of Oulton Broad, Suffolk for the Californian lake, forget the relative work and replace the cabin cruiser with a speedboat crewed by two stalwart, but highly unsexy East Anglian boatmen, and I have made the perfect water jump . . .

It started with a request from a Regatta organiser for a demo into the lake as part of the festivities, and he wanted four 172 lifts at a rate of one every hour from 2 to 5 pm. This sounded like fun, and besides Oli had not eaten since spending his Biggin Hill loot, so seven of us set out for the coast to do battle with Oulton Broad. Only two of us had been into water by parachute before, Bob Hull at Bad Lippspringe and Scott Schumaker plenty of times as a USAF pararescue troop. We were lucky to have free advice on tap from this quarter, as these guys have a lot of hard experience. The basic message was to face the wind, drop the Capewell covers below 50 feet (in case one capewell should fail), fire the Capewells on impact, and if the canopy should cover you, stay cool and work along any line, which must bring you out at the edge somewhere . . . as it turned out, this was the least of our worries.

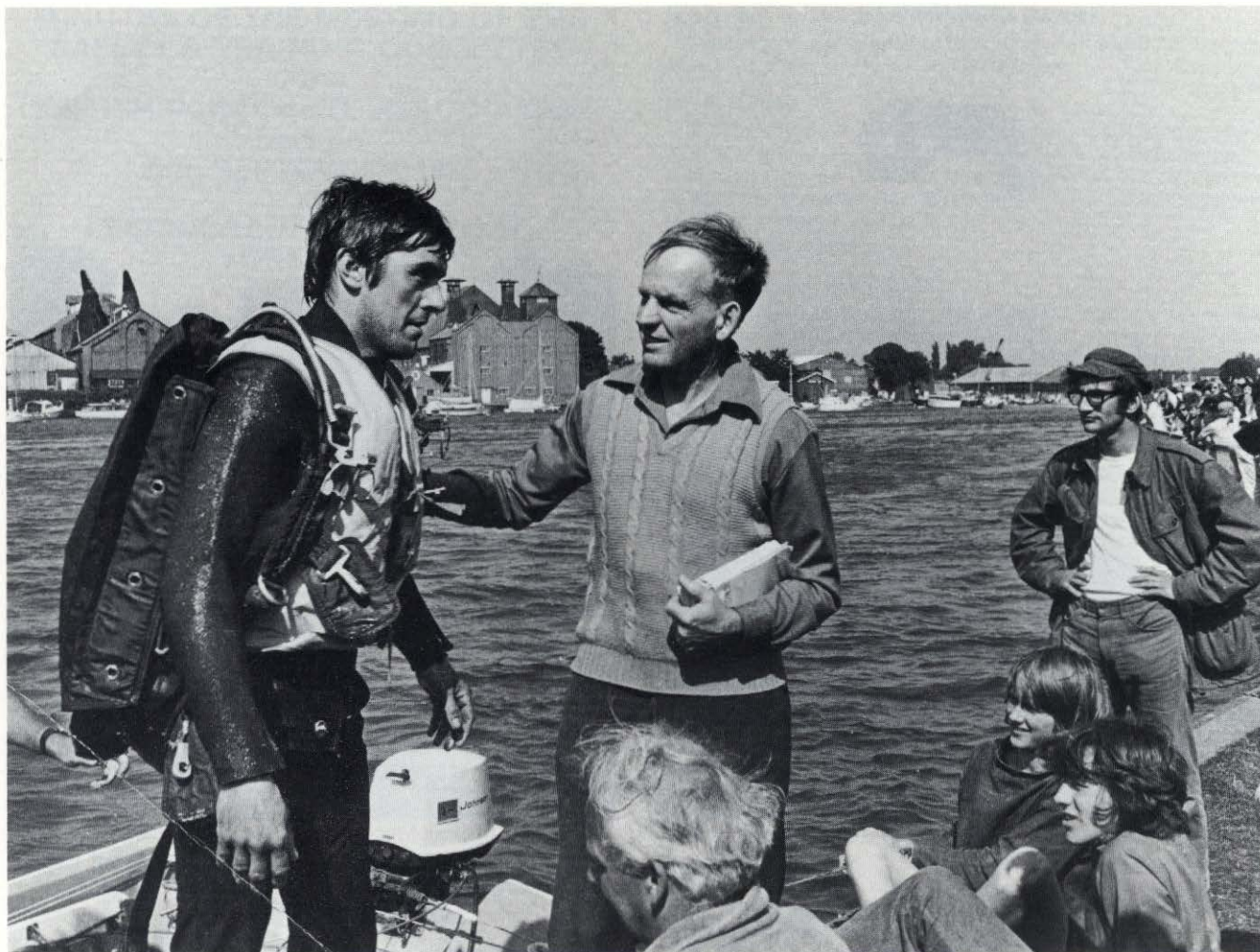
Oulton Broad is a freshwater lake on the coast, protected from the sea by a system of lock gates and shaped like a map of Africa, although, as one pessimistic jumper was heard to remark, a good bit smaller. There was an interesting sea breeze blowing, but fortunately it was down the long axis with a clear overshoot, or seven team members would have retired on the spot. One of the locals informed us with evil satisfaction that the last team to do the demo had become sadly familiar with the warehouses on the bank after spotting short in a crosswind . . . after a moments silence for these unknown warriors, we set about bending the ears of the boat crews about not driving over canopies, etc, as we had heard about the incident in Poote harbour. The nautical gents were full of confidence and promised a de-luxe, Prince Charles type job. We asked them to follow the jumpers down the wind-line, so that the canopies would blow clear on the far side and the boat could drift down on the man in the water. With four boats for three jumpers we were well prepared, but we briefed the drivers to go for specific canopy colours so that one guy did not get more than his fair share of boats!

The first lift set off for the airfield, gaily attired in wetsuit jackets and yellow kapok buoyancy jackets. These were the result of a raid on the local yacht club, and proved ideal for the job. CO2 jackets give excellent flotation when they work — and none whatsoever when they do not. A kapok type jacket gives a bit less buoyancy, but is completely foolproof, and as it goes under the harness there is no need to thrash about undoing legstraps, pulling little toggles etc. Just fire the Capewells and float. Sorry if I am going on a bit about this but it worked so well for us that I think it is worth a mention, especially as there have been cases of jumpers getting into trouble after a failure of a CO2 jacket.



Ray Perkins goes into the Broad.





Ray, and far right "small bespectacled Oliver".

On arriving at the airfield we had our first problem, as we couldn't find the Cessna anywhere! It was a vast old war-time bomber field, with crops growing on it, and after a ludicrous search we spotted the tail above the crops and were soon at two grand watching the streamer heading off in the general direction of Wales. A deep spot was indicated and a PC, PTCH-8 and a cheapo duly cracked open over the trawler dock . . . and began to travel at an angle away from the lake, towards the aforementioned cluster of warehouses. Hanging under a double-L in tennis shoes this development was disturbing to say the least, but happily an enormous dogleg appeared at about a thousand feet, and we were headed back for the middle of the lake, all thinking charitable thoughts about the honesty of the streamer. Face the wind, drop the covers, fingers in the cables and KERSPLASH! everything goes dark as you fire the Capewells and bob back into the sunshine with the canopy well clear downwind. Great. While the boat crew were hauling in yards of sodden cheapo I tried hooking the reserve back on, and was surprised at the way it floated, pulling strongly up on the D-rings. This only lasted about 3 minutes, but in an emergency I imagine it could be useful, especially if assistance was fairly near at hand.

The next lift was Bob Hull, Oli Prin and Larry Cantrell, who set off while a shivering Perkins, Purves and Suttle wrestled with their horrible sodden canopies in the packing area, which the organisers had sadistically arranged in the middle of the crowd, exposing the struggling packers to whuffo comments like "Oo look, mum, 'e's got knots in it", etc., etc. Our efforts were mercifully interrupted by the arrival of the aircraft, which seemed to be well right of the windline. Sure enough three canopies appeared and commenced a crabbing competition. The PC's were going to hack it OK but Larry on the cheapo was destined for terra firma, and after some spirited toggle work, landed spot on in the only open area, the donkey rides, emerging dung-stained but intact. (Memo to USPA, Cantrell **still** needs a water jump for his D licence!). Meanwhile Bob had drawn well-earned applause for a nicely judged cutaway from about eight feet. Ray noticed this and the Perkins applause-meter was tuned in to see if it was worth doing himself on the next jump . . . actually our second jump was the subject of some private unease, as we did not have first hand experience of jumping totally wet parachutes. We had all heard totally conflicting versions of what wet canopies do (or do not do) and the only solution was to find out for ourselves. The main



Bob Suttle

argument 'against' was that the pilot chutes could not cope with the added weight of the wet sleeve and canopy, but then an MA-1 is said to generate 200 lbs of drag at terminal velocity, so what do you believe? Anyway it was a distinctly thoughtful trio who squatted in the Cessna, dripping offensively on the immaculate carpet. (We discovered later that everyone had decided to open head down to give the pilot chutes more drag!)

Our fears proved to be unfounded, however, as the PC, PTCH-8 and cheapo all opened fast and hard, amid great clouds of spray. Once again the dogleg blew us back to the target, and Ray decided to do a Hull and cut away. As he fired the Capewells, he noticed (a) that he was higher than he thought, and (b) a prominent sign saying CAUTION SHALLOW WATER. Both these points were duly survived and a nice picture resulted.

By this time we were all getting a bit tired of water jumping but the programme called for one more lift, so off went Bob and Oli again, this time with Scott, immaculate in full wetsuit and flotation gear. Once again Bob, normally a hot spotter but a bit off form today, took it too far right, and Oli and Scott on the cheapos were in a poor position. Scotty tried to crab across, ran out of height and rather than risk hitting the crowd area, backed into a tree. This may seem an eccentric choice of target, but then Scotty is trained to make tree jumps and probably appreciates a nice one when he sees it . . . he was quite unhurt, as was his kit, but he could have done without the wetsuit and lifejacket as he slunk away through the appreciative crowd.

During Scotty's unscheduled tree landing demo, another drama was being enacted overhead, as Oli made his bid for the water. He realised in time that the only hope lay in running over the Park and into the water and the other side, and came roaring over our heads, sanding the Yacht Club roof with his seatstrap and splashing down beside a rather flash yacht whose occupants were sitting in the cockpit having tea. Faced with the extraordinary sight of a column of water, followed by the emergence from the depths of a small, bespectacled figure spouting water like a gargoyle, they reacted in true British tradition and merely waved politely before returning to their tea, while the rescue boat came racing round the corner.

And that was that, barring the problems of drying all the kit properly. Reading through this waffle, I have probably given the impression of a Mickey Mouse demo, but then I have concentrated on the more amusing aspects of the day. In fact there is a lot to setting up a display like this, and I think we learned a lot from it. On the whole it was a success, and although with 2 men out of 12 off target we cannot claim complete success, the two who missed kept off the crowd and themselves intact. The recovery boat crews were terrific, averaging about 15 seconds to get the jumpers from landing, and this is certainly an area where you need competence. Finally, we learned that water jumps are fun . . . roll on next Summer!

MIKE PURVES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SAFETY & TRAINING COMMITTEE
of the
BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
held on
28th SEPTEMBER 1972
at
LEEDS/BRADFORD AIRPORT,
YORKSHIRE**

PRESENT:

J. Crocker	<i>Chairman</i>
J. Meacock	<i>Peterborough Parachute Centre</i>
C. Shea-Simonds	<i>Yorkshire Aeroplane Club— Sport Parachute Wing</i>
M. Reed	<i>Yorkshire Parachute Club</i>
I. G. Miller	<i>Lincoln Pathfinders</i>
D. Prince	<i>North-West Parachute Centre</i>
W. Boot	<i>Thames Valley Air Sports Club</i>
B. Jerstice	<i>North Lancs Parachute Club</i>
A. Cooper	<i>Manchester Sport Parachute Club</i>
R. O'Brien	<i>Sport Parachute Centre</i>

In Attendance:

A number of observers.

Apologies for Absence:

Messrs. St. John, Schofield and Lewington.

Minutes of previous meeting:

Mr. Boot gave a report on the letter from the Cinque Ports Flying Club and it was agreed that Mr. Boot need not submit a report in writing as it was apparent that the news letter from the Flying Club was grossly exaggerated and in so far as the rules were concerned, was completely without foundation.

Riggers Report

The Riggers Sub-Committee were not represented at this meeting and no report was forthcoming from them.

Incident Reports

An incident report was read from Miss S. Gardner arising out of the use by her of a Talisman Reserve. All Club Chief Instructors should take careful note that care must be taken to ensure that there is sufficient slack in the steering lines to allow for a complete inflation of the canopy. It is dangerous to attach the steering lines to the connector links, which if done, will cause an increased rate of descent and a reduction in steerability.

Incident reports were also submitted by Messrs. Prince, Meacock, Dixon and Crocker.

Renewal of Instructors Ratings

Mr. I. G. Miller's Instructors rating was renewed.

Static Line Deployment Bag

Mr. Meacock produced the Static Line Deployment Bag designed and constructed by Mr. B. Francis. Mr. Meacock had carried out a test on the bag as a result of which it had ripped into two halves. However, it was clear that this was not a design fault, but arose from material of insufficient strength being used and weakness in the construction.

Mr. Meacock reported that he had been in discussion with Mr. Dineen and Mr. Wright of Irvin's and they had suggested that in the first place the break tie joining the canopy and the bag ought to be at least 150lbs. breaking strain.

It was also understood that Irvin's were talking to Mr. D. Peacock concerning R.A.F.S.P.A.'s need for a bag operated static line deployment. It was hoped that Mr. Peacock would keep the Committee informed if any developments were made.

It was finally agreed that Mr. Meacock would contact Irvin's and arrange for them to manufacture two specimen bags, one being of the open type and one being of the closed type.

Application for Advanced Instructors Ratings

The following were granted their Advanced Instructor Ratings. Messrs. T. Dale, G. Fernie and R. O'Brien.

Mr. P. Denley

Mr. Denley held an instructors Rating until approximately 1964/65. He was at present attending the Instructors Examination Course at Grindale. Permission was requested from Mr. Denley to have his Instructor Rating renewed if he successfully passed the examination at Grindale.

Permission granted.

Potential Instructors Course

It had been suggested by Mr. Forsdyke that the Committee ought to give consideration to reducing the two year involvement in sport parachuting that a proposed Potential Instructor must have carried out prior to attending a Potential Instructors Course. The matter was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the period ought to remain at two years, but occasionally there would be fair case for a dispensation to be granted.

Applications for dispensations were received from Messrs. Howell and Cottrel, and after very careful consideration it was unanimously agreed that both should be granted the dispensation.

Any other business

Mr. B. E. Clarke is a diabetic but wishes to parachute. It was unanimously agreed that if Mr. Clarke's General Practitioner and Consultant certify him medically fit for parachuting then he should be allowed to do so.

Instructors Convention

It was suggested by the Chairman that the time allowed for the Instructors Convention prior to the A.G.M. was inadequate. It was unanimously agreed that the Secretary General be approached with a view to arranging facilities for the Instructors Convention to commence at 11.00am and 2.00 pm as previously suggested.

Mr. A. Cooper

Mr. A. Cooper applied for permission to train and despatch a Student with only one hand. Permission granted.

Training Aids

The Chairman pointed out to the meeting that Council had now approved financial aid in the acquisition of training aids so as to standardise this sphere of training throughout the country.

It was agreed that the next step now was to agree proofs of the drawings to be used both on the posters and the overhead projectors, and this in itself was a substantial task. It was suggested that Mr. G. Mitchell of the Vauxhall Sky-Diving Club be approached to see if he would make available his posters for the next S. T. C. meeting, as obviously some of these would be of considerable assistance to the Committee who could use them as a basis to work from. The Chairman agreed to consult with Mr. Mitchell and if possible arrange for his posters to be available at the next S. T. C. meeting.

Spin Test

Mr. Meacock pointed out that the spin test had been discontinued in France. The test has been replaced by four alternate turns in under twelve seconds.

Blood Donations

Active parachutists are again reminded that they ought not give blood, as this could cause danger to themselves, particularly if jumping within a few weeks of the donation at altitudes of 7,000 feet and over.

Date of next Meeting

9th November 1972 at 19.00 hours at 301 Independent Para Squadron, Barrows Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham, 26.

Letters . . .

*Rhine Army Parachute Association
OIC RAPA Centre
STC Sennelager
British Forces Post Office 16
14th November 1972*

Dear John,

As the officer in charge of the RAPA Centre, I can only take exception to Oliver Prin's comments in the October issue, on his reception at Bad Lippspringe during our annual meet. However I think he spotlights his reasons when he compares his recent experience with his sojourn here last year. Therein lies the difference! Last year Mr. Prin spent six months here as a supernumary member of the staff. Plenty of free jumping, food and accommodation — even free medical treatment when he was ill. In short, he was on the inside and "one of the boys." His common sense must have told him that he could not expect the same conditions to prevail, when he arrives as one of approximately 80 competitors, to be with us for one week! The small staff of five men had plenty to do in running the meet and coping with the inevitable problems which arise on these occasions, without trying to act like redcoats at a holiday camp.

I am truly sorry if Mr. Prin feels that he was not more welcome and can assure him that he, along with all civilians, will always be welcome on our DZ. It is a known fact that when one returns to a place which is associated with happy memories and the old faces are no longer there, things never seem to be the same. One goes away feeling somewhat disappointed and let down. I venture to suggest that this is just another example of this, which has had its effect on Mr. Prin.

Bob Hull, also of the Thunder Chickens, comments in the same issue along the same lines about the lack of friendliness. I find it strange that the present staff at Lippspringe should be blamed for this — at least that is the inference made. Surely in a gathering of close on 100 parachutists, the remedy lay in their own hands! Again, of course, like Oliver Prin, Bob was returning to his old stamping grounds and as I have just said, things are never the same.

To put the record straight, I must contradict Oliver when he says there is a special price for civilians here at Bad Lippspringe. In fact, the special price is for servicemen at this centre. The M.P.D. in their benevolence, pay a fair subsidy to ensure a reduced price to the services and it goes without saying that we cannot pass this subsidy onto our civilian friends. The cost of living is indeed high in Germany and the jump prices charged here are compatible with local civilian centres. The large number of German civilians who are regular visitors will prove this fact. In order to prevent charges of unfair competition and accusations of taking the civilian centres' livelihood away from them, we are not allowed to undercut the local centres.

I can also assure Mr. Prin that our costs of aircraft hire and our overheads are just about balanced by the income we receive. One comment which has been made on occasions concerning RAPA, is that, for a Services Centre, too much time and too many of our facilities are devoted to civilian visitors. — These I hasten to add, are generally from some 'jump hogg' who has had to wait his turn behind civilians for a lift. Reading a converse statement makes me think that we just can't win this argument. It also indicates to me that we are probably steering down the middle of the road in this respect.

To conclude, I would like to briefly explain the set up for any prospective visitors, (if Bob and Ollie's letters have left us with any). We are basically a Service's organisation, with a DZ situated on a NATO training area here in Germany. Our only accommodation is part of a barrack block within the training centre barracks and as such, with all the will in the world, we cannot offer accommodation facilities to civilian visitors. Details of Gasthaus's and a camping site which border the DZ, can be obtained by writing to the OIC RAPA Centre and this is the most we can do in this respect. We possess a clubhouse and bar which is open to all and visiting jumpers have the unrestricted free use of all our equipment, which includes, PC's, Foil, Wing and Cut-a-way. Our C.I. vets the documents and ability of visitors and initially restricts them to their apparent capabilities. There is no membership charge and instruction and advice is gladly given on all aspects of parachuting. Our rigger will undertake and assist in the repair of any equipment and our maintenance stocks can cater for practically any eventuality. Parachuting takes place seven days a week from March to November and it is only on rare occasions that military training requirements in the area force us to suspend jumping. There is no height restriction over the DZ, but local regulations prevent flying before 9.00a.m. and between 1.00p.m. and 3.00p.m. Generally the weather is favourable for parachuting.

Finally in spite of Oliver Prin's remarks, I will say you are welcome here, provided you wish to parachute, meet parachutists and drink some beer, and understand that the majority of jumping at Bad Lippspringe is done by Servicemen attending basic courses. On the other hand, if you are just a free-loading bum, who is only interested in something for nothing and as much duty free goodies as you can obtain, you are no more welcome here than you will be on any other D.Z.

T. E. Oxley D458

*Yorkshire Flying Services
Leeds Bradford Airport*

Dear John,

Every year only about 5% of BPA members actually vote in the election for our Council. The elected Council's efficiency is therefore a direct result of this election. Attendance at this year's Council meetings has been pathetically poor and whilst the individual Council members concerned are largely to blame for their lack of interest in our sport, the electorate must be partly to blame for electing the wrong people.

It is with these facts in mind that I would like to use the medium of the Magazine to implore BPA members, for the sound future of the sport, to vote wisely. Although every member is entitled to 14 votes, he (or she) should only vote for those candidates who they are positive will serve us to the best of their ability as Council members; even if it means only putting four or five crosses on an election paper.

Remember that the achievements of the BPA are largely results of Council decisions — You, dear reader, are responsible for choosing that Council.

Yours sincerely,
Charles Shea-Simonds

THE SCOTTISH SPORT PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

by Tom Dickinson, Chairman

The Scottish Sport Parachute Association (S.S.P.A.) was founded on 14th July 1972 by three founder organisations: the Golden Lions Freefall Parachute Team, Paraclan Parachute Club and the Scottish Parachute Club.

The Executive Committee consists of: Dave Payne (Paraclan), Secretary, Major John Dent (Golden Lions), Bill Allen (S.P.C.), Dick Dodd (Paraclan), Alex. Phillip (Independent) and Jill Targett (Minutes Secretary).

With the development of sport parachuting in Scotland over the past three years it became apparent that the further growth of this sport could be aided if all the parachuting interests in Scotland could speak with one voice.

The main aims of the S.S.P.A. are :

1. To promote, foster, develop, organise and control the sport of parachuting in Scotland.
2. To coordinate the activities of parachute clubs in Scotland.
3. To represent parachuting interests in negotiations with the Civil Aviation Office for Scotland, with local authorities and other statutory bodies (eg the Scottish Sports Council).
4. To establish a Scottish Parachute Centre employing full time instructors.
5. To assist in the training and qualification of new instructors.
6. To liaise with the British Parachute Association.
7. To encourage the establishment of a Scottish Parachute Team.

The S.S.P.A.'s relationship to the B.P.A. is, of course, a vital one and from the beginning it has been emphasised that the S.S.P.A. will be complementary to, and will not replace certain essential services provided by the B.P.S. namely :

1. Qualification of Instructors.
2. Licensing of parachutists.
3. Promulgation of Safety Regulations.
4. Provision of third party insurance.

An arrangement has now been finalized with the B.P.A. by which all parachutists in Scotland will be members of the S.S.P.A. from 1st April 1973 and through the S.S.P.A. will obtain the services listed above, for which the S.S.P.A. will pay the B.P.A. an agreed sum per member per annum.

S.S.P.A. members will not have B.P.A. voting rights, but will be represented on the B.P.A. Council by a co-opted member.

English and Welsh B.P.A. members visiting Scotland will not require to join the S.S.P.A. as they will be covered by the B.P.A. Likewise, S.S.P.A. members visiting England or Wales will already be covered by B.P.A. insurance.

The founder members of the S.S.P.A. operate in the following manner:

The Golden Lions Freefall Team is a military display team under the command of Major John Dent, H.Q. Scottish Division. Its purpose is to aid recruitment to the Scottish Regiments.

The Team, which has 14 members, is based at the Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, Midlothian and carries out displays over the length and breadth of Scotland.

Training jumps take place at Strathallan Airfield, Auchterarder, Perthshire. Strathallan is run by Cirrus Aviation Ltd.

Paraclan Parachute Club, Chief Instructor Dave Payne, operates at Charterhall Airfield near Greenlaw, Berwickshire, using Colonel Douglas Stewarts' Cessna 180. Paraclan has some 35 members, many with Navy and T.A. connections.

The Scottish Parachute Club, Chairman Ian MacLennan, also uses Strathallan Airfield, currently dropping from a Piper Tripacer, but with a Cessna 182 in the offing. The S.P.C. runs the Skymasters Display Team. Club membership in 1972 has topped the 100 mark for the first time.

New member organisations of the S.S.P.A. are expected in 1973, which promises to be an exciting year for parachuting north of the border.

Gordon Fernie, B.P.A. Council member, is forming a club in the west of Scotland. Until D.Z. and aircraft arrangements have been finalized, he will operate at Charterhill, but hopes to be firmly based in the west after 1st April 1973.

There is also the strong possibility of a full time parachute centre being opened around April/May 1973 at East Fortune Airfield, East Lothian, by an organisation which is already involved in similar activities in England. Negotiations are under way at the time of writing.

The S.S.P.A. will continue to have very close ties with the B.P.A. and it must be emphasised that the current arrangement is feasible only because Scotland has its own Scottish Sports Council as a counterpart of the British and Welsh Sports Councils.

The S.S.P.A.'s constitution and relationship with the B.P.A. fall into line with the federal design envisaged by the Sports Councils for the overall structure of sport in the United Kingdom.

In case anyone fears that the arrangements described in this article form the prelude to the erection of a Tartan Curtain across the border, please be assured that visitors are most welcome, and the winter is a good time to come. Parachuting is one of our winter sports.

Footnote: As a matter of historical interest, the formation of the S.S.P.A. was predicted in an article in Sport Parachutist, Summer edition 1966 (page 13, Club News) by the author of the present article.

SOUTHERN SKYDIVING CENTRE

Just in case you thought we'd sunk or floated away. We haven't. In fact we are more here than we've ever been.

1973 at the Southern Skydiving Centre means expansion. Our programme for the new year includes regular jumping with the opportunity of making water jumps in the summer, in conjunction with local regatta events around the island. So watch out in the mag. for further information and dates or contact us at the local para. doss house, 8 Northbourne Avenue, Shanklin, I.W., PO37 7LT. Shanklin 4475.

Eric Mitchell

BRITISH PARACHUTE CLUB NEWSLETTER

We thought it about time some information was leaked out on the British Parachute Club since it was discontinued as a Limited Company and was reborn as a straight-forward club when it moved home, last January, from Blackbushe to Headcorn Airfield. We are now situated in the backwaters of Kent, about ten miles from Maidstone, on the farm of Chris Freeman where the sheep have learned to lie on their backs and the chickens run faster than a twin-engined parawing. Chris takes a lively interest in the sport and protects our interests from irate villagers who have been unexpectedly visited, as well as providing excellent facilities, such as overnight accommodation and hot breakfast.

A fairly small but highly productive club has emerged in the last year. We have a Cessna 172 permanently on site with our gallant pilot Vic being practically an accessory to it, missing out on breakfast, lunch and tea should our manifest ask it.

Chief instructor Lawrie St. John is in attendance for 99% of the jumping year with just the occasional day off for "an at home with the family". Second in Command, Mike O'Brien and Adrian Hill continue their good works with student needs and spirit raising, whilst Alec Linley still tells a good story and packs a good pack.

All in all we have every need catered for with plane, pilot and instructor consistently available and only weather preventing jumping. Packing loft and sit/read/talk/eat premises on site with friendly local pub 100 yards down the road. Suspended harness has the dual use of training students and entertaining visitors.

One week and two weekend courses have been held since we moved, with the progression of the students extremely high, Club membership now standing at 62. In order to keep our manifest length reasonable and devote more time to student advancement, we intend having only two or three training courses a year, the next being in April 1973.

Most Saturdays some jumping was in progress when the Royal Engineers moved in and Alec Black kindly took our students in hand. A fair amount of weekday jumping also took place during the summer months when the army or police training was in progress.

Jumping can sometimes be eventful with bets taking place on whether that new student will land left of, right of, or in the stream. No-one knew how deep it was until one obliging student working on the principle that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line — decided to walk through it, in preference to going over the bridge, and found it to be thigh deep. Neighbouring farms have the occasional visitor drop in but as long as you don't land on the crops you get a lift back by tractor.

Height wise we get what we want, weather permitting, due to the first class co-operation of London Air Traffic Control. The only competition comes from the model aircraft crew in the middle of the airfield which affords us endless hours of amusement on windy days when circuits get broken and wars rage over who crashed whose plane.

We hope eventually to have a pit but as everybody, without exception, is keen to learn relative work, this tends to get pushed to one side and also, at the moment, we are spending all available funds on re-equipping.

Our regular attendance is between twenty and thirty members with a wide variety of experience, from the first static liner to the fully fledged star man. No preferential treatment is given to either side, the manifest going in order of arrival and packing. We are always pleased to see the occasional visitor who manages to find us and can, with fine conditions, guarantee him a good day's jumping.

Dear Sirs,

In your June issue you replied to a letter from L. N. E. St. John by suggesting he try Para-Gear for Pilot Chutes. We thank you for the recommendation. Please be advised that the availability of surplus U.S. Pilot Chutes is not great. To the best of my knowledge no one has them available in quantity at this time. Sport Para Service has an open purchase order for a large quantity, which we are sending as fast as possible.

Sincerely,
GARY LEWIS,
Manager — Para-Gear Equipment Company

Lille 22.11.72

John.

Dropping you a line with a few bits of information for your mag.

The new best performance for Relative Work in Europe is now a 15-man star. This performance is a result of 2 by 5-day courses at the aerodrome of Gisy-le-Noble near Fontainebleau organised by the E.I.S. (School of sports for the Armed Services).

The aircraft used was a Twin Otter.

During the course a number of big stars were made notably one 13 and two 14-man stars, culminating in the 15-man, held for more than five seconds, on Friday 13th October. Following is the list of the jumpers by order of contact, the name of their respective clubs, and number of jumps per man to date.

Willaime	E.I.S.	2,000	Blondel	E.I.S.	2,400
Bothy	E.I.S.	3,000	Carreau	Lyon	1,900
Goubel	Lille	1,700	Felix	E.I.S.	3,000
Baum	Lille	600	Mingham	E.I.S.	3,400
Rocqueplan	Strasbourg	3,600	Armaing	E.I.S.	1,700
Deba	E.I.S.	1,400	Hautem	E.I.S.	2,000
Mallie	Strasbourg	800	Lauglade	E.I.S.	1,200
Mallebrera	Lille	1,300			

I will try and get you a photograph as soon as possible.

Dave Savage

Thank you for the news, Dave. It would be a great help if you could get a photograph. That European record might not last long. We now have regular relative work week-ends at Staverton using a Twin Pioneer and our relative workers are regularly putting together fast ten-man stars.

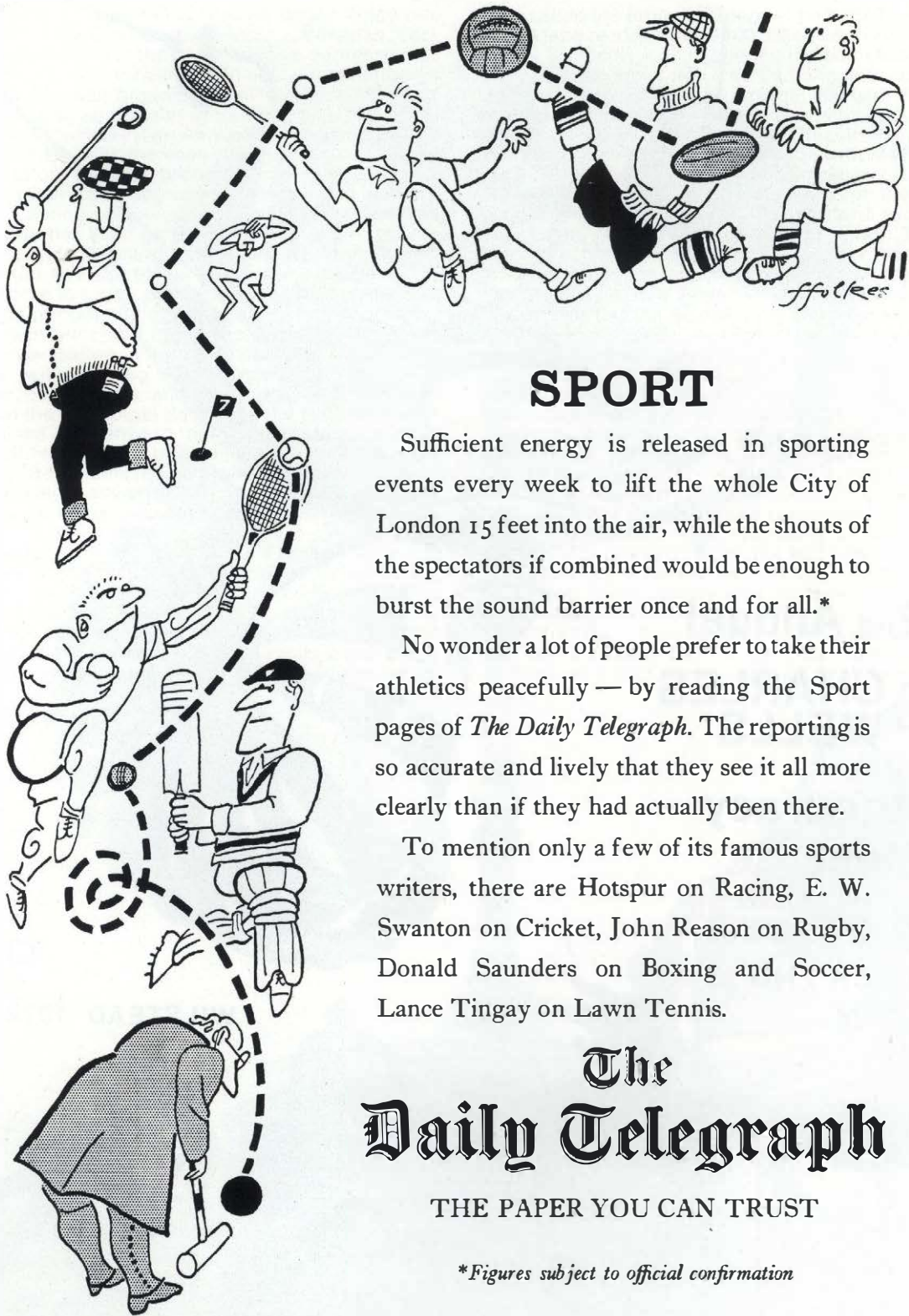
Bothy and Armaing were both in the French team at the World Meet.

I have the unhappy task of reporting to the parachuting world, in particular to old members of the British Parachute Club from Fair Oaks and Blackbushe and to the members of the Isle of Wight Parachute Club, the sad death of Alan 'Trodder' Green on Friday 17th November 1972.

We will always remember him as the quiet, soft spoken gentleman of our sport who, as a founder member of the British Parachute Club, helped towards making skydiving what it is today.

Trodder, who had been ill for a number of months, will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

Eric Mitchell



SPORT

Sufficient energy is released in sporting events every week to lift the whole City of London 15 feet into the air, while the shouts of the spectators if combined would be enough to burst the sound barrier once and for all.*

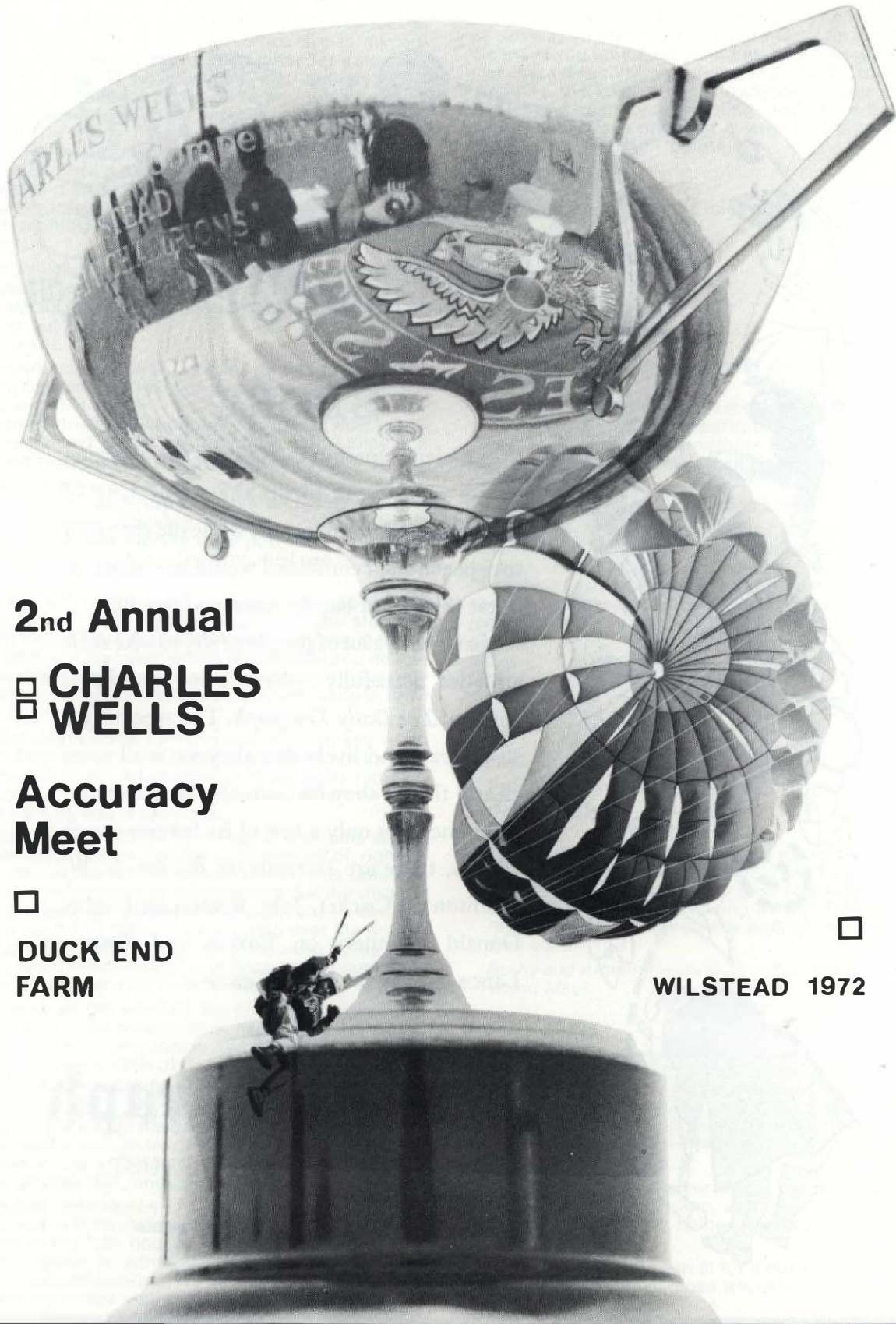
No wonder a lot of people prefer to take their athletics peacefully — by reading the Sport pages of *The Daily Telegraph*. The reporting is so accurate and lively that they see it all more clearly than if they had actually been there.

To mention only a few of its famous sports writers, there are Hotspur on Racing, E. W. Swanton on Cricket, John Reason on Rugby, Donald Saunders on Boxing and Soccer, Lance Tingay on Lawn Tennis.

The Daily Telegraph

THE PAPER YOU CAN TRUST

**Figures subject to official confirmation*



2nd Annual

**□ CHARLES
□ WELLS**

**Accuracy
Meet**

**□
DUCK END
FARM**

**□
WILSTEAD 1972**

2nd ANNUAL CHARLES WELLS MEET, DUCK END FARM, WILSTEAD

It was with no little uncertainty that we began to lay our bigger plans for the Charles Wells Meet at Wilstead. Last year's Meet, conceived in the post nationals depression of no more Meets to look forward to till next years nationals (apart from the well-organised but weather blighted Weston meet) was so popular in its small way (4 teams) that we resolved to make it an Annual fixture in the British Jumping calendar. With the keen co-operation of Charles Wells, the Bedford brewers, preparations went ahead with the aim of attracting as many competitive minded jumpers as possible. Casting nervous glances back at the weather, which this year has been generally wobbly, we opted for six team jumps from 3-grand, all to count, a number which tends to reduce the luck element. We also know that you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink and with the lack of competition gatherings in this country, we felt a touch uncertain about the response. The best plans and organisation in the world aren't worth a rub of cold soap without two vital ingredients. First — enthusiastic competitors and second — weather. 'HE knows' cried the Archangel Savage at the Nationals with a finger raised heavenward after any notable zap or triumph. Well 'HE Knew' all right at the Charles Wells meet for not only did 13 teams roll up producing a whole bunch of well-known faces as well as several new ones, but tricky though it was at times, the weather was definitely on our side.

After a perfect training day on the Friday, things got moving down at the hall of the Elephant & Castle in the village, where we held the registration and briefing, with the arrival of the Red Fred contingent, comprising four teams. No lack of enthusiasm there. The 'B' team had Bob Harman and Peter Schofield with the Clouds which many were to watch with interest. The third and fourth teams

were called the Frog Stompers — the WHAT? — to qualify send a tape recording and 100 baked bean labels to Jackie Smith. Suddenly it all happened the competitors were all there and the small hall was bursting with pints, laughs and lies. It fell to my lot, as an organiser with Bob King, to open the briefing and welcome competitors . . . no small pleasure . . . and introduce the Officials — namely Pete 'the Teeth' Sherman as Chief Judge with Moody Dave as his offside and that new star of the competition scene Manny Fester-King who ruthlessly kept the aircraft in circuits — backed up by Keith Burrow who sadly put himself out on the first jump with a leg injury. The briefing taught us many things including the fact that a Spinney, far from being an area of woodland where pheasants roosted, was a Red Fred in freefall! Saturday morning looked bleak as the blue skies of the previous two weeks were obliterated with seemingly low cloud — but the 7.30 streamer run dispelled our fears and the meet took off with a vengeance with round after round going under the judges flashing fitchets. That day's jumping took care of five rounds even though the wind conditions as the day developed gave cause for a few anxious glances at the anemometer. Although the anemometer took a pounding around the 6 to 6½ m.p.s. mark only one team had the conditions necessary for a re-jump, Frog Stompers 'B'. During the day Bob Harman's performance on the Cloud came in for some close eyeballing as he consistently brought it in giving truth for the first time in competition in this country to the stories of its prowess that we have heard from Berni Deirker-land. Peter Schofield in the fifth round also produced a classic Cloud descent to score a 12 cent. strike. Other notable performances on the Saturday were by Cathy Burrow from the Australian/Wilstead 'B' team, who after starting with a 2 cent. jump continued



"The wind came close to the limits"
Judge Dave Moody sprints for cover as Ray McGuire lands, and then takes off again.



A nice dead centre from Andy Sinclair.

to score well in first place, dropping to second position after the 3rd round until her 6th jump on the Sunday when a bum spot saw her drifting backwards over the pit and out of the placings; John Meacock, now jumping a Papillon after his success with the PTCH 7, showed that it is the jumper not the canopy by refusing to give up his first place after running second for the first 3 rounds; Chris Simpson of the Para Reg. Marauders, jumping in only his second meet took a firm grip on third place to hold it with steady scoring under his Papillon and got a neat DC to boot on his third descent. There were disappointingly few DC's scored but the following were presented with Duck End Discs during the meet: Sooty Standring, Graham Cathro, Scotty Milne, D. Richie, Bob Harman, John Meacock, Gerry McCauley (2), Chris Simpson and Andy Sinclair.

Duck End Farm has no bar or clubhouse, as do most clubs situated on airfields so the planning of a barbecue with adequate beer seemed the logical thing to maintain a Meet atmosphere, and prevent jumpers from having to scatter all over the countryside in search of these necessities. Eric Endersby, from the village, and his good lady got the hot coals doing their thing and before long the nippy Autumn evening was forgotten as with the feeding over, the coals were hauled inside the hangar to the sounds of barrels gurgling with genteel chit-chat filling the air. Some chit-chat. Matty the Flying Finn is no sloth at letting it all hang out and once the ale lubricated his tonsils . . . all the stops come out. The massed voice choir of the Aldershot Aerial Ballet dug out their chorus books and before you could say 'pour us another' the hangar was like a Welsh Valley . . . to remain so till 1.30 am skillfully led by Ray Foster, also from the village, with guitar and his delightful female accompanists . . . (he never did let on where they came from). Sunday morning saw a bleary bunch at the local cafe for breakfast at seven, but the danger of an early start vanished in the heavy ground mist. The judges drifter load got airborne soon after 11.30

to signal the start of the sixth and final round. Low scudd soon lifted giving problem-free spotting but as the blue skies and sunshine arrived so the wind came close to the limits necessitating an almost constant eye on the wind machine. Finally a halt was called after the home team, Wilstead 'A' (number six to jump) landed. Gusts over the limits were recorded on their run in but fortunately subsided during their descent. Half a round to go . . . but we still had six hours of daylight so it was a case of patronising the canteen tent and being patient. Well it all paid off finally as the continuation of the sixth round got under way soon after 4 pm with Moody Dave and Cathy Burrow doing the streamer run for Anglia TV. Conditions steadily improved with the last teams having very nice accuracy weather. The sun continued to shine and Les Leader using the Duck End score sheets to the full, had the teams and individual totals right up to date soon after the last jumper landed. It then took some adjusting to the fact that we had really completed the meet, for that phrase 'meet completed' is a fairly rare one . . . but its evidence was all around in the weary but smiling jumpers. Prize-giving time soon followed at which it was my privilege to preside and introduce Wing Commander Oliver Wells, Chairman and Managing Director of Charles Wells, the Bedford brewers, who was to present the trophies donated by his company. Cups and medals were presented to the first three teams and the first three individuals . . . not a bad thing to introduce at the Nationals. Two other presentations were also made: Bob Hiatt received a Club 1000 jump certificate which he qualified for at Abingdon during the British team selection and Gordon Maskell, on whose property we jump all year round was presented with a bottle of internal lubricant. Sadly it all had to end . . . a great bunch of competitors and pilots . . . let's all hope we get the chance to meet and compete more often. It's up to US—jumpers and clubs to get things really moving, and not before time. With say at least six regular meets a year to go to in this country, the competition scene could



really liven up. How about the relly workers also getting it together and securing a regular meet?

Our sympathy went to Terry Day who broke his wrist during Friday's practice jumping and also our thanks for providing the loudspeaker which proved invaluable with manifest to pit communications and saved a lot of legs being worn to the knees. The 'Good Sportmanship' mention must go to the Compton Abbas team (the Spread-eagles) of Mike Benyon and Eddie McBride who despite one member short entered into the spirit of things carrying an automatic 10 metres in the team event. Thanks also to

pilots Ron Burgess, Derek Squires, John Searson, Bob Styles and Wayne Osborne who flew to their usual high standard. Finally a word from Gordon Maskell who wishes to thank competitors for leaving the area so clean and observing the 'be kind to pheasants rule'. So, see you all next September, when we hope to have the international flavour of a French and German team— possibly even the 7th Army team — and if you enjoyed yourselves half as much as we did . . . you had a ball.

DAVE WAUGH



Top photograph. Peter Schofield guides the Para Plane 'Cloud' into the pit. Cardington balloon hangers and balloon in the background.

Bottom photograph. Competitors, pilots, and friends, at the 2nd Annual Charles Wells Meet, Wilstead, 1st October, 1972. All results page 30.

All photographs by Barry Rolfe (Telefoto), and available for sale from 246a Randolle Avenue, Maida Vale, London, W 9.

**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
ARTILLERY MANSIONS,
75 VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON SW1H 0HW
THURSDAY, 12th OCTOBER, 1972**

PRESENT

L. N. E. St. John — Chairman
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds W. J. Meacock
Miss T. Rixon A. J. Unwin
Wg. Cdr. G. F. Turnbull

IN ATTENDANCE

Sqn. Ldr. W. Paul — Sec. Gen. BPA
Col. G. M. Hawtrey — Sec. JSPC
D. Waterman — PRO BPA
R. J. Ellerton — Parascending

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

K. Dineen
P. W. Sherman
J. T. Crocker
A. J. N. Cole

Item 46

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

A proposal by Wg. Cdr. Turnbull and seconded by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds that the previous minutes be accepted was carried.

Matters Arising

(1) **Aircraft C of A.** There was little progress to report but the Sec-Gen had spoken with Mr. Whicher of CAA who asked for further time on the matter. His staff were looking into the question of the implications of reverting to a system of Approval by Type but there was still some opposition to this from CAA(Ops). He asked that we wait for him to receive the conclusions of his staff.

(2) **Liaison CAA/BPA.** The Sec-Gen reported that he had written to the Director of Flight Safety outlining BPA's fears that it seemed to be losing some of its authority and suggesting a meeting to discuss BPA's responsibilities, role and authority. A holding reply was on its way to BPA but in the meantime the Sec-Gen had spoken with a Mr. Halliday who is now responsible for parachuting matters at CAA and was aware of the contents of the letter sent to the D of F.S. Mr. Halliday pointed out that there was no question of CAA not recognising the BPA as the Authority on sport parachuting and that BPA was given its place alongside BLAC and BGA — he emphasised that as with these two bodies, there could be no question of giving BPA any legal standing. On the matter of amendments to the Air Navigation Order he pointed out that it was the intention of CAA (even before receipt of the BPA letter) to pass the suggested amendments to BPA for consideration and comment. Should there be any matters of dispute in the suggested amendments, CAA would be pleased to meet with BPA for discussions. It was Mr. Halliday's view that BPA may well be pleasantly surprised at the suggested amendments.

Mr. Unwin was of the opinion that BLAC did have legal responsibilities so far as Instructor Ratings and Licences were concerned. Mr. Shea-Simonds felt there was a very fine dividing line here since certainly as far as Flying Instruction is concerned, BLAC does all the testing and courses and recommends to CAA who should be granted an Instructors Rating — should the Instructor do anything wrong, CAA can withdraw the rating. What concerned Mr. Shea-Simonds was that this didn't take BPA any nearer to being able to deal with individuals who operated outside the recognised BPA regulations. The Sec-Gen reported that during his talk with Mr. Halliday he had quoted an example where BPA had reason to fear that its authority could be under-

mined, i.e. where a Division of CAA claimed that it could not withdraw an Exemption under any circumstances. The Sec-Gen had emphasised that the example quoted had not been finalised and was in fact still under consideration by the S & T Committee of the BPA. Mr. Halliday having asked for details, undertook to look into the matter.

It was agreed that whilst awaiting the reply from the D of F.S. and the suggested amendments to the Air Navigation Order, the Sec-Gen would in the meantime check with BLAC to ascertain what powers they had in respect of Instructor Ratings, and with Mr. Halliday as to the outcome of his check with the Division.

(3) **World Championships — 1972.** The Sec-Gen reported that he was still awaiting the Head of Delegation's report and summary of expenses. He had telephoned Wg. Cdr. Johnson in Germany to ask when these could be expected. Wg. Cdr. Johnson had expected to be in England during the current week when he would have handed over the report etc. His visit to England had not materialised and he had now agreed to post the report and expenditure summary.

(4) **Scottish Sport Parachute Association.** The Chairman referred to the Sec-Gen's letter to the Scottish Sport Council and to the subsequent reply which had been copied to each Council Member. He then read a letter from Mr. T. Dickson, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the proposed SSPA, in which the Executive Committee requested that, in view of the Scottish Sports Council's reply, the BPA Council reconsider its decision of 31st August when the SSPA proposal was defeated by four votes to three. The reply from the Scottish Sports Council indicated that the setting up of the SSPA would be in keeping with the current trend in other sports where an autonomous body was set up in each of the Home Countries deals with domestic matters in their own areas and each Home Country is represented on a Great Britain Federation dealing with matters relating to the United Kingdom as a whole and with International aspects of the sport.

Wg. Cdr. Turnbull referred to Mr. Crocker's comment as shown in the Minutes of the previous meeting — "if the Scottish members wanted to set up on their own there was little or nothing that could be done to stop them . . .". He felt that should they decide to go ahead without BPA approval, this would in fact create the split which some members seemed to fear. On the other hand, if BPA approval is forthcoming they have agreed to support the Association and comply with its regulations. Mr. Shea-Simonds supported Wg. Cdr. Turnbull's view and proposed that Council recognise the SSPA and get down to agreeing details of BPA Membership costs for Scottish members.

Mr. Unwin felt that Scottish members would have to be members of the BPA if the CAA gives BPA the responsibility of running the sport in the United Kingdom and therefore they should be full members of BPA paying the full subscription rate which would include supporting the Magazine. If it is the matter of finance, the SSPA could be a sub-section of BPA with BPA making an appropriate grant per year to offset the difference between the current BPA subscription rate and the proposed £2.00 rate. Mr. Meacock made the point that CAA does not and would not impose a membership requirement on anyone wishing to parachute.

Wg. Cdr. Turnbull proposed and Mr. Shea-Simonds seconded that the request for Council to reconsider its previous decision be accepted and that the setting-up of the SSPA be formally approved under the terms outline in the original proposal submitted to the meeting of 31st August. The proposal was carried by five votes in favour and one against.

(5) **National Relative Competition.** Mr. Waterman, had not had the opportunity to discuss the matter with other Relative Workers but would do so when the opportunity arose. He pointed out that his memo to members was due for discussion in the Agenda and this may take in aspects of Relative Competitions.

Item 48

ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mr. Shea-Simonds had considered that when nomination papers went out to the membership, there should be some indication given as to how many meetings current Council Members had attended during the previous year. He had however had second thoughts on this and felt that perhaps it would be unfair on certain members who for perfectly acceptable reasons just could not attend. He therefore proposed that where a current Council Member is nominated for election and has been a bad attender, the Chairman ought to write to him pointing out the absences of the previous year, and suggesting if circumstances were still such as to prevent reasonably frequent attendances during the coming year, then perhaps he should reconsider the nomination. Wg. Cdr. Turnbull in seconding the proposal cited his own particular case where due to pressure of business he had been unable to attend as many meetings as he would have preferred — he felt this was unfair to the members who had voted for him and in view of this had already informed the Sec-Gen that in the interest of the Association he reluctantly would prefer not to accept nomination but would be willing to serve as a Co-opted Member if the new Council wished. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Item 49

'1,000 JUMP' BADGE

Mr. Shea-Simonds suggested the award of the 1,000 Jump Badge should be used to achieve maximum publicity via local newspapers, radio and television and that every effort should be made to start this at the forthcoming AGM in January. Mr. Waterman suggested that the publicity angle could be enhanced if a 'personality' could make the presentations. It was agreed that the presentation would be kept within the BPA and that sufficient publicity would be forthcoming by using the 'local-boy' approach in the areas concerned.

Item 50

PARASCENDING REPORT

Mr. Ellerton reported:

(a) There had been difficulties with the BPA Insurance Brokers over increasing premiums for Third Party Insurance for Parascending Clubs, despite no claims and a progressively better record of ascents. Thanks to the good offices of Major Conningham a new contact (Wilson & Co.) had been established and lower premium rates were now available to the clubs.

(b) He emphasised that his particular interest was the younger element in Parascending and he thought it worthy of mention that there was a continual increase in requests for information as to how to get on to free-falling when old enough. This was a very encouraging sign and pointed to a valuable source of recruitment in the course of time.

(c) Officials of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme had been in contact and are keen to have proposals for Parascending to be included in the Scheme. It had been emphasised that such proposals should have the backing of the BPA or some responsible body. In discussion it was pointed out that in due course there may well be plans for Sport Parachuting to be included in the Scheme. It was agreed the Parascending and Sport Parachuting should not be combined within the Scheme but that each must have its own standards. Mr. Ellerton stated that the Parascending S/T Committee now sought the backing of the BPA Council for that Committee to progress the plan to include Parascending in the Scheme . . . Council agreed.

(d) Considerable work was going on with youth organisations, e.g. Eton College, North London ACF, Bognor Youth Clubs and Venture Scouts and Rangers. Good publicity had recently been received via BBC radio and had resulted in 55 requests for information.

(e) Mr. Ellerton had hoped that through the Parascending page in the 'Sport Parachutist' he could now have been in a position to present a Global picture of what was happening in Parascending but since the space had not been provided he could only present a rather local picture collated from reports from clubs with which he was in direct contact. He expressed his disappointment that despite Council's approval for a page to be made available to Parascending, this had not been forthcoming. An article had been submitted announcing that a Parascending Safety and Training Committee had been set up and calling for reports to be forwarded — shadow editor was available to receive and prepare such reports for publication. He asked if the editor of the magazine would say why the articles had not been published. Mr. Ellerton then referred to a picture in a Sunday newspaper of a four-year old boy 'parascending' — he had not seen the picture but he had been told of it and would most certainly be taking the instructor concerned to task over the matter. His immediate view was that this was not acceptable and was irresponsible and he would be raising the matter with the Parascending S & T Committee. Miss Rixon asked if there was in fact a minimum age limit for Parascending — Mr. Ellerton stated there was not but obviously this must now be considered.

Mr. Meacock in reply to Mr. Ellerton, confirmed that he did have the Parascending article but had thought it better to include the results of the World Championships which was probably of more interest to the members. Wg. Cdr. Turnbull pointed out that the editor had previously, and quite rightly, stated that he always wanted copy but now when a page had been approved for Parascending and copy submitted, it wasn't printed — this was a page which could help to sell more magazines. Mr. Meacock stated he would ensure that a page was available in the next issue but pointed out that he had some important points to raise on the matter of Parascending, either at the present meeting or at the AGM.

Item 52

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

a. Approval of an application for affiliation by the **Eagle Sport Parachute Centre** was proposed by Mr. Shea-Simonds and seconded by Mr. Unwin and unanimously carried.

b. Notification was given that the Lancastrian Parachute Centre had ceased to operate but would be re-titled 'The Black Knights Sky-diving Team, and would seek re-affiliation in due course.

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TAHLEQUAH 1972

The 1972 World Championships were concluded here at six in the evening of Thursday 17th August, but British medal aspirations died some sixty minutes earlier as the immaculate Czechs totalled 16 centimetres on their final Group jump to edge Great Britain into fourth place by a margin of 14 centimetres. The subsequent Russian jump of 0.97m which brought the Soviets the Silver medal was of academic interest only, as their ability to score inside 1.93m in the perfect accuracy conditions prevailing was never in serious doubt and the Swiss Gold was already secure thanks to a classic 17 centimetre total achieved on a fourth round re-jump. Thus ended the eighth British incursion into the World arena: 4th place in Group Accuracy and 7th place overall.

The road to Tahlequah started some three months earlier at Weston on the Green on the occasion of the British National Championships. Selected from this competition, the top ten jumpers in the land were invited to attend team training and final selection at Royal Air Force, Abingdon. In the event only seven of our parachutists came under serious consideration as Dale, Cathro and Wright were unable to make sufficient qualifying descents owing to military commitments. This left Meacock, King, Savage, Hiatt, Kemley, Mapplebeck and Standing in contention for the six available team slots and on 25th June, after some 30 further jumps, Hiatt was the unlucky seventh man and arrangements for the five week trip proceeded apace.

Contact had already been made with the South-east Conference Director, Gene Thacker for the British contingent to set up a training camp at his Raeford Drop Zone and the party left Heathrow on Saturday 15th July. The decision to train at Raeford was possibly the major factor in the results subsequently achieved in Tahlequah. Facilities here were first class with exclusive use of a 182, good deep pea gravel, tape recorder on the telemeters, rigging facilities, air conditioned accommodation, excellent home cooking by Billie Thacker and continuous help and encouragement from ex Golden Knight, Gene Thacker. The team quickly settled down to a routine of six and seven jumps per day with a break from midday until four when temperatures soared into the nineties with a relative humidity approaching eighty per cent. Emphasis was laid on style training as this event was considered the key to a high overall placing and after some 25 jumps performances showed a pleasing consistency with corrected averages ranging from 8.8 sec (Meacock) to 10.5 sec (Mapplebeck). Accuracy conditions were tricky in the humid atmosphere and the tree-shrouded drop zone with average results varying from 0.29m (King) to 1.34m (Meacock). In all, 200 accuracy jumps were made plus twenty team accuracy and 155 style jumps. Parachuting was interspersed with a little graded physical training and at the end of two weeks and some 70 jumps apiece the top five jumpers for Tahlequah were named. Meacock and Kemley were in to turn style, King and Standing primarily for accuracy and Mapplebeck was in to lead the team stack. Savage was nominated as Team Alternate. On Monday 31st July the team boarded the 737 of Piedmont Airlines thoroughly acclimatised, relaxed and confident.

The thousand miles to Tulsa, via Washington, passed pleasantly enough thanks to the comfort and efficiency of the American internal airline system and the final sixty-odd miles from Tulsa to Tahlequah were covered in a school bus laid on by the Organisers. Accommodation was provided at the North-eastern State College in town some three miles from the Airport. Next morning the team

visited the Drop Zone anxious to make some familiarisation jumps to be confronted with a farmer's field containing a tarmac strip, a couple of hangars and a somewhat tatty heap of gravel which was the World Championship pit. Helicopters were, however, provided and the team made a couple of accuracy jumps before going swimming in the afternoon nursing a distinct sense of anti-climax. Head of Delegation, Doc Johnson arrived in the evening together with Target Trust representatives Ian Sampson and Ian Dunning.

Further practise jumps were made during the week and as the days went by various impedimenta appropriate to a parachute meet, such as windsock, telemeters and anemometer began to arrive and were assembled in the vicinity of the pit. The Army erected a field kitchen and a spectators' stand was put up to augment the plentiful bales of hay. Much in evidence also were the American national team with their highly vocal entourage who had, presumably all together, been training on site for the previous four weeks and who were displaying impressive accuracy with Papillons and Mk3 Para Commanders in national colours. Spectre at the feast was American National Style champion Johnson complete with plaster and crutches, having contrived to break a leg in training the previous week.

On Friday evening the hosts suffered a further setback when the World Championships' Friendship Saloon was raided by a posse in the middle of a welcome party, and the Assistant Meet Director incarcerated in the local nick. This particularly unfortunate occurrence detracted somewhat from the festivities but it was confidently asserted that the Opening Ceremony on the morrow would fully vindicate the Organisation and bring some sense of order to the proceedings. Alas to relate, the said Opening Ceremony passed off unnoticed by ninety per cent of the teams, perspiring dutifully in their track suits and waiting in vain for someone, anyone, to tell them what was going on.

The serious business began on Sunday 6th August with the first round of Group Accuracy in marginal conditions with winds at altitude in excess of 20 metres/sec and the met information over an hour old. Undisturbed by the spectacle of the American women's team fast disappearing over the brow of a nearby hill, Meet Director Heaton attempted to order the British team aboard the helicopter with the met now 90 minutes overdue. His suggestion was, however, firmly resisted until the necessary details arrived to indicate opening points of 1,200 and 2,400 metres for first and fourth men respectively with fifteen degree variation to boot. This information was superbly exploited by the team who opened their bid for honours with consecutive dead centres from Mapplebeck, King and Standing with Meacock a shade short on 1.12m.

Clear skies the following morning presaged the start of the style event. Top British scorers were Meacock with 8.8 sec and Kemley with 10.0. Mapplebeck was immediately the victim of a particularly harsh decision which gave him a 3.5 arrow penalty out of his final loop. Style continued the next day until mid-afternoon when jumping was suspended because of increasing winds. Meacock and Kemley were again the most impressive with 8.7 and 9.0 respectively, Mapplebeck (9.9), Standing (10.2) and King (10.8) backing up well. On Wednesday, with midday temperatures in the 100's four rounds of style were completed; Kemley turning an immaculate 8.6 left series to equal the fastest British time in international competition. At this stage the pattern was beginning to emerge with best times of 6.5 from Armaing, 6.8 Pospichal, 7.2 Ossipov and 7.4 Schoelpelle. Thursday 10th saw the



Brian Standing over Raeford.

completion of three accuracy rounds. This day was the watershed as far as our individual accuracy was concerned, Kemley undershot for a disastrous 7.80m and Standing collected 1.56m of his subsequent 2.65 ten round total. Meacock was awarded a re-jump and improved two and a half metres to 1.31m; still setting up for the dead centre however, instead of playing it safe and close.

Friday was rest and recreation day spent at the lake-side with the water skiers, Saturday was blown out and on Sunday jumping recommenced at 06.30 with accuracy in light winds. Parachuting continued through midday temperatures of 110 degrees and by nightfall the team had pulled back a few places with dead centres. from Standing (two) Kemley and King with Mapplebeck totalling 19 centimetres for two jumps. Of the other competitors at this halfway stage Kumber had five consecutive discs, Majer had totalled 9 centimetres and Sutton had already collected his final total of 19 centimetres which was to earn him second place. Only Cloud in the sky was that of US Alterante Bill Hayes who had so far amassed seventy centimetres on three jumps. Monday saw a further round of individual accuracy with Kemley continuing his revival with 0.08, Standing being awarded 0.06 for a clean strike and Mapplebeck taking his first disc in the individual event. In the sizzling midday heat Group jumping recommenced with the team totalling a fighting 0.76m (Mapplebeck 0.03, King 0.33, Standing 0.00 and Meacock 0.40). After this effort the team went back to the College to rest in air conditioned comfort for a couple of hours before returning at six o'clock to complete Round 3 Group Accuracy and go into first place with an immaculate stack and 0.70 total. (Mapplebeck 0.00, King 0.00, Standing 0.04, Meacock 0.66.)

On Tuesday 15th the final round of Style was completed, Armaing of France clinching the title with a final right series of 7.3 sec to give him an average of 7.18, one-tenth of a second ahead of Pospichal (Czechoslovakia). Third was Schoelpelle (USA) who averaged 7.7 for the five jumps. The two latter provided an interesting contrast between Eastern and Western schools of thought, Pospichal using pulse turns with long arm and leg configuration while Schoelpelle turned tight with minimal arm movement and good leg control. Armaing gained consistently over his rivals by virtue of lightning transition between manoeuvres. The day continued with Round seven accuracy, King slipping a little through an off line 2.20m while the rest all scored inside a meter. Wednesday followed with Rounds eight and nine and with the Meet virtually over the British continued to consolidate their overall position with consistent scoring from Mapplebeck (two Dead Centres), Standing (0.06 and 0.00) and Meacock (0.40 and 0.00).

The Meet was concluded on Thursday 17th August with the final round of individual accuracy and two dramatic rounds in the Group event. Britain entered Round four as leaders for the first time in World competition as surface windspeeds in the heat of the afternoon fluctuated between two and five metres per second with pronounced thermal activity. Team after team fell victim to the unstable conditions and fell out of the running. The Swiss scored over 14 metres, the Canadians over 15 while the Czechs totalled 2.91 and the Russians an ominous 0.08m. For the first time in the competition the British stack was untidy with Meacock and Standing at the same level and unable to resolve the situation. Mapplebeck and King scored their customary dead centres, then in a salvage situation Standing reached desperately for 0.83 and split seconds later Meacock, having been forced out to the last second

crashed home for a worthy 1.46 metres. Hasty calculations put the Russians in the lead with 3.87m, ourselves second on 4.87m and the Czechs third with a 5.50m total. The rest were nowhere. With conditions improving all the time, we looked set for a place in the honours at least. The issue was left wide open again however as the Swiss protested a wind shift and were awarded a re-jump. In nil wind conditions they made no mistake to score 0.17m and go into the lead at this stage with a mere 3.03 total.

The fifth round proceeded apace under cooling skies and fading winds. First to score were the Swiss with a Gold clinching 0.76 metres. Now under pressure were the British team who responded with a copy book stack and a repeat of their opening jump, three dead centres from Mapplebeck, King and Standring with Meacock trying to make sure and falling short for 0.93. This left the Czechs with 30 centimetres slack which they exploited with deadly precision and we were out of the medals.

Thus ended what was undoubtedly the toughest World competition to date. New standards in accuracy and style were set and it now seems probable that times for the present style format will be improved upon only marginally. Rather one envisages a raising of standards among the less favoured parachuting nations with a consequent levelling of times around and below eight seconds as the norm. First class accuracy was achieved by jumpers using Papillons, Mk 3 Para Commanders, PTCH 8's and the new Soviet UT 15. The much vaunted Cloud was jumped six times by Hayes who totalled 4.06 metres in the process and three times by Straziota of Venezuela who then gave up in disgust. With the develop-

ment of a more sophisticated control system the Paraplane will doubtless appear as the accuracy machine of the future with with a tremendous bonus of slow landing speed to facilitate the task of the judges. When the stage is reached that the parachute canopy is the deciding accuracy factor rather than the sheer skill of the jumper, then separate classes for separate canopies will have to be considered. At the moment, however, the truism remains that the canopy is only as good as the jumper using it and for my money the performance of the Meet was that of Kumbar using a PTCH 8 for his nine consecutive Dead Centres in the individual accuracy event.

What of the British Team? Arguably the strongest combination to leave these shores, the team undoubtedly consolidated the position of Great Britain in World rankings in face of considerably improved opposition. It was particularly pleasing to note that without exception the jumpers improved upon their training performances under the stress of competition. The Group Precision in particular brought out the best in Mapplebeck and King with four Dead Centre strikes apiece from the five jumps. Meacock confirmed his ability as National Champion with the highest overall placing (28th) followed immediately by Standring (29th) whose consistent accuracy earned him 19th position in the individual event. Kemley thrived in the international atmosphere and finished with a respectable 9.6 sec style average while Savage provided invaluable backup assistance all along the line. In all, a solid team performance which augurs well for the national and international future of our Sport.



1972 British Parachute Team. Standing left to right: Dave Savage, Ken Mapplebeck, John Meacock, Bob King, Kneeling: Brian Standring, Sheila Luker, John Kemley.

RELATIVE WORK AROUND EUROPE

The following three pages illustrate the work of Cologne photographer, Peter Boettgenbach.



Exit from Twin Otter. Thoma, Base and Herzog Pin.



11 Man Star over Laon, France.

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**CHAIRMAN
LAWRIE ST. JOHN**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1972

I would very much have liked to report something spectacular after being your Chairman for a year, but unfortunately this is not so. I am however able to report a further year of steady increase in our membership and the following table shows our progress over the last five year period:

Type of Membership	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	(Note: the 1972 figures are as 30th November)
Provisional	144	622	873	1136	947	
Full — New	1263	965	913	1072	2059	
Full — Renewal	706	802	919	1030	1161	
	2113	2389	2705	3238	4167	

Membership Analysis — 1972

Month	Type of Membership			Totals
	Provisional	Full	Renewal	
January	1053	1088	993	3134
February	1107	1151	1019	3277
March	1070	1188	995	3253
April	958	1081	883	2922
May	1005	1331	1022	3358
June	1104	1446	1013	3563
July	1087	1602	999	3688
August	1112	1594	1090	3796
September	1116	1613	1125	3854
October	1029	1820	1150	3999
November	947	2059	1161	4167
December	— details awaited —			

You will know that your Council decided to change the membership system by introducing an annual common renewal date of 1st April and it is gratifying to know that this decision was greeted with approval by all sections of the membership. Apart from easing the problem of documents checks at clubs, it will mean easier accounting and a considerable saving in postage costs. Renewal reminders will be via the magazine. You will appreciate that this new system will place a considerable work load on the BPA office in the month of March each year. It will be August/September 1973 before the new system is fully implemented with every member on the same renewal date of 1st April. Those members already on the new system can help the BPA office by getting their renewals in as early as possible in March.

I intend to raise the matter of Provisional Membership and will in fact be suggesting that this type of membership be discontinued. A few clubs will argue that Provisional Membership is encouraged so as to keep down the cost for the student who may wish to make only one, two or three jumps. I, like most of the clubs, and I believe, the majority of the membership, believe it is not unreasonable to expect anyone coming into the Sport to become Full Members.

More new clubs have opened up and others have moved to different locations with the result that we now have a more balanced spread over the country — those vacuum areas are slowly being filled. In addition to the general increased participation it is also encouraging to find the Competitive and Relative aspects of the sport have progressed enormously, with my own pet subject, 'Relative Work', really making the scene.

The vast majority of Instructors are doing a really excellent job and our low accident record of this year is, I am sure, due in no small part to their dedication, enthusiasm, observance of Rules and Regulations and sincerity to see the Sport grow and progress. There has been a lot of criticism of how hard it is now to become an Instructor — this has in fact been relaxed in part. I for one would far sooner see fewer good Instructors than a long list of those who strut about and do nothing except to get some sort of kick out of seeing their name on the 'Sport Parachutist' Instructor List. The new type of Instructor Courses are proving most successful and we are now beginning to see the benefits of the hard work done by the Safety and Training Committee and

especially those two stalwarts Charles Shea-Simonds and John Meacock who drew up the lesson plans which have been used so successfully by The Sport Parachute Centre and Thames Valley Airsports Club on the courses already completed.

B.P.A. Council

Your elected Council has worked hard during the past year but I must observe that a few members have been noticeably absent from most of our Meetings. I know that in some cases pressure of business has prevented attendance and, that it is no small feat to attend those monthly Council Meetings. I hope those members who have allowed themselves to be nominated for Council will consider the matter carefully so that should they be elected, their seat on Council and vote on important subjects are not wasted by non-attendance. Please do not waste your members' time; if you cannot fulfill your obligations, say so!

Your H.Q. and Staff

Bill Paul, our Secretary-General, has carried out another magnificent years work and I know that if we had had the advantage of his dedicated work in our earlier days we would have been further advanced than we are to-day. Most of you do not know it but Bill Paul and his wife Dorothy are in the office at 8 a.m. each morning and even do work at home. On your behalf I would like to thank Bill and Dorothy for their splendid work for our Association. The work load steadily increased during the year and in the Autumn we employed a young lady Miss Janet Druce to further assist Bill. Our office has outgrown itself and we took over another room in November so that Bill could concentrate more on the important work in hand and be able to think in a little peace and quiet. Anyone who has tried to work in an office with typewriters going, and tried to hold an intelligent conversation, will know what I mean. We took on this additional room because it now looks as though our impending move to Pall Mall will not transpire.

Safety and Training Committee

Jim Crocker has carried out his duties as Chairman of the Safety and Training Committee very well and most Meetings have been very well attended. You will probably have noticed that several of the STC regular attenders are also regular attenders at Council Meetings — the sport owes a lot to such people for their dedicated service. Under Jim Crocker the STC has progressed a considerable amount of work including the matter of training aids and standardisation of instruction. The STC recommended to Council that Training Aids in the form of Overhead Projectors, Slides and Posters be purchased — Council approved the recommendation and decided to subsidise the cost of providing these training aids to clubs. At the time of writing the STC is giving top priority to the task of completing the work on training aids.

Investigation has been carried out on Deployment Bags and we now have both Irvin and RFD-GQ interested in these.

The Riggers have now formed themselves into a Committee and have held a number of Meetings during the year. We all hope their good work on standardisation of methods and materials will continue and result in a real feed-back of information to the Membership. Courses for budding riggers are being planned and to date 13 members have expressed interest in attending such courses.

Fatalities. Unfortunately I have to report two fatal accidents in the past year — one a student on his third static-line jump and the other a member of RAPA who was drowned after landing from a jump.

BPA Parachuting Regulations. I would like to think that more of our students were purchasing our Parachuting Regulations Booklet — my own students please note! Whilst on the subject of Parachuting Regulations, I would like to see the STC go through this book in 1973 and update it. The sport is a fairly fast changing one and a number of the Regulations require to be reviewed.

The Journal — 'Sport Parachutist'

In my opinion 'Sport Parachutist' is by far the best Parachuting Journal I have ever read and I have personally had this view expressed to me by others.

John Meacock has done a tremendous job in re-organising this once sadly neglected Journal — believe me John, your hard work has been appreciated by the vast majority of our members. PLEASE SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION BY SENDING MORE ARTICLES. It's your Journal, so let's have some 'give' as well as 'take'! Photos, jump stories, safety tips, training hints and tips, moan and groan letters, firsts, displays that went right or wrong, etc. etc.!

National Championships

The 1972 Nationals at R.A.F. Weston-on-the-Green were very successful and, I believe, enjoyed by the vast majority of competitors. Standards improved over last year and we witnessed some keen competition. Our thanks must go to Meet Director, John Cole, and the Judges who gave so much of their time and experience to this event. In particular our thanks are due to Marc Schneebeli, the Swiss International Judge, who took on the job of Chief Judge and who most unfortunately was severely injured with Angela Cole in a car accident shortly after the Nationals. I understand Marc is now well on the way to recovery and in fact returned to Switzerland fairly soon after the accident. Angela Cole is still in hospital and on behalf of the membership I extend our sincere wishes for her full and speedy recovery.

The Royal Air Force did a first class job in providing us with technical facilities, accommodating us, feeding us and entertaining us when the weather was bad. We are indebted to Group Captain Green, the Station Commander, RAF Abingdon for his approval and utmost co-operation, to Wing Commander Peter Hearn for the benefit of his assistance and for making so many of his staff available to us. What would we have done without the energy and patience of Flt. Lt. Peter Burgess and his hard working staff who despite bad weather and long hours were always on hand to help us. We are also indebted to Air Vice Marshal Sowery, a long time supporter and member of the BPA, who so kindly presented the trophies and prizes — sorry it had to rain so heavily on you at the crucial time.

World Championships

Our congratulations must go to our British Team which came fourth in the Team Accuracy (second of the Western Block Countries) and seventh in the Overall Rating (third of the Western Block Countries) out of a total of 29 teams entered. The team was ably looked after by our Head of Delegation, Wg. Cdr. Alan Johnson, and expertly coached by Flt. Sgt. Doug Peacock. They had trained hard for this and I feel did very well as our National Team. However, a lot of thought must go into our preparations for the next World Championships and I believe we should start training earlier and possibly use the results of the 1973 Nationals as a basis for Team Selection for the 1974 World Championships. It is understood that the FAI are drawing up plans for a 'Relative' World Championships and that the first of these could be held in 1973. The possibility of entering a Team for these Championships will be given a lot of thought and consideration by your Council.

The Target Trust Group were very generous in sponsoring our National Team to the sum of £2,000 and this played a large part in defraying all the costs involved in training, travelling, equipment, etc. Considerable assistance was provided by the membership through support for the Annual Raffle and their generous contributions and donations. On behalf of you all I thank the Target Trust Group and members for their support. The following is a provisional statement of account for the World Championships:

Income		Expenditure	
Raffle (1970/71)	566.00	Entry Fees	415.21
Raffle (1971/72)	1393.00	Training UK/USA	530.39
Target Trust Group	2000.00	Pennants/Target	
Members' Contributions	488.79	Logos	179.91
Donations		Entertainment USA	37.50
(Display by P. Denley)	30.00	Clothing	632.59
(Sport Para Services)	25.00	Air Fares	2797.17
Sports Council Grants	719.00	Insurance/Medical	241.25
		Accomm/Meals/	
	5221.79	Refresh's	158.80
		Transport/Meals	
		(Transit)	52.82
		Vehicle Fuel (Tulsa)	19.25
		Personal Allow's	299.16
		Coaches Expenses UK	20.80
Debit Balance	194.50	Film/Cables/Postage	31.44
	£5416.29		£5416.29

Assistance to Clubs

The BPA has continued to assist affiliated Clubs this year with interest free loans, free use of films and rigs:

Loans: The Sport Paracute Centre	—	£500.00
Thames Valley Airsports Club	—	£300.00
Manchester Free Fall Club	—	£100.00

Films. There are five films available, 'This is a Sport?' (2 copies), 'Masters of the Sky' (2 copies) and one copy of 'Sky Capers'. These films have been extensively used by Clubs and the demand is increasing. I shall be asking for more copies to be purchased and for our library to be supplemented by any new films that may be available.

Rigs. The ten BPA rigs which have been written-down to nil stock value are distributed as follows:

Beyond Repair (BPA)	1
South Staffs	3
Met. Police	2
Indep. Skydivers	1
Sport Para Centre	3
	10

I previously referred to Training Aids as recommended by the STC. BPA will be subsidising the cost of these to Clubs in addition to paying for the art work necessary for the posters and slides which will cost in the order of £440.00. To date bids have been received for 6 sets of Posters, 4 Projectors, and 6 Sets of Slides and it is hoped that we can satisfy these bids early in the new year. The costing for the aids will be approx:

	To Club	Met by BPA	Total Cost
Overhead Projector with Slides	£26.00	£26.00	*£52.00
Posters (per set)	£11.50	£11.50	£23.00
	* allows for trade discount		

Linked with assistance to clubs must be our emphasis on advertising and Public Relations. In this connection, our PR man Dave Waterman, ably assisted by John Partington Smith have worked well and were responsible for the work on the BPA Exhibition which some of you will have seen at the Nationals, Farnborough and in Midland Bank Branches around the country. Linked with this was the production of the BPA Brochure which is passed out to enquirers and which some clubs have purchased from BPA to supplement their own publicity. John Partington Smith also designed the new BPA Badge which your Council thinks reflects the modern image and concept of our sport. The various badges with the new design will be available early in the new year.

Parascending

It was unfortunate that the Parascenders did not manage to elect their representative to the BPA Council until March, but when I consider the problems the BPA suffered initially in trying to assemble in one room the representatives of various clubs, then one can easily appreciate their problems.

John Ellerton has very ably represented their interests since that time, but just as attempting to organise Parachutists is difficult, the same can also be said of Parascenders. We must bear in mind that there are something like 49 Parascending Clubs in operation. With this in mind we should not expect wonders of organisation overnight and I feel that impatience on our part would be to the detriment of our relationship.

Whether we like it or not, Parascenders do use parachutes and will therefore always be associated with parachuting by the Public. For the life of me I cannot understand why certain members should be so anti Parascending. To my mind the Parascenders are a good future source of free-fallers and there is evidence to support John Ellerton when he states that they encourage their members to progress to free fall. They have suffered a little bad publicity this year, but then, so has free fall parachuting.

Of their efforts in organising themselves so far, I am able to say that a Panel of Examiners/Safety and Training Committee has been formed and they will shortly be forming an Executive Committee and appointing their own Chairman. All Parascending Instructors are required to be full members of the BPA and I know it is the wish of the Parascenders to stay within the BPA. The vast majority of Council Members also support this view so please back them up with your own support. Let us be constructive and not destructive.

Annual Raffle

The Raffle at the AGM last year was our best ever and realised a profit of £1393 which of course went towards meeting the cost of the World Parachuting Championships. Bill Paul was delighted with your support and has specifically asked that I express his appreciation for the way members rallied to his call for support. The monies and counterfoils for this years raffle are slowly coming in but I would ask that those members still waiting to send in their returns do so as soon as possible so that the workload at the AGM is kept to a minimum. The arrival of 'Relative Work' on the World Parachuting Championship scene will mean that we will be trying to finance a 'Relative Team' to take part. Your support of the Annual Raffle is going to become more and more important.

Deposit Account

The Deposit Account is currently £5700.00 and it is hoped to invest further monies to build up this reserve. We want to be in the position to be able to increase our assistance to clubs and to meet any emergency which may arise at a club.

Civil Aviation Authority

There was a feeling that perhaps the BPA was not receiving the recognition it had enjoyed in the past. Recent correspondence shows this not to be the case but it did highlight the fact that reference to BPA in what was the old Restricted and General Exemptions had to be withdrawn because this was outside the powers invested in the CAA. It is understood that suggested amendments to the Air Navigation Order are at an advanced stage and should be favourable to our operation. BPA will be invited to comment on the suggested amendments before these are finally approved and progressed.

Scottish Sport Parachute Association

This Autumn the Scottish lads decided to form the SSPA. They wish their organisation to remain under the umbrella of the BPA and their members will pay a BPA subscription of £2.00 per year to cover insurance and the administration cost of providing Instructors Ratings, Packing Certificates, Permits and FAI Certificates etc. Such members will carry no voting rights but will be represented on Council by a Co-opted Member.

This change is in keeping with the pattern developed or developing in other Sports where the Home Countries set up an Organisation to look after local matters but is affiliated to the UK Governing Body. A big factor is that a Scottish Sport Parachute Association can apply to the Scottish Sports Council for grant aid, just as we do to our own Sports Council but it should be noted that in the case of our bids for grant aid, activities in Scotland are not taken into account.

Your Council sees this not as a break-away but more a way of progressing the Sport generally and giving additional support to the increasing demand for the Sport in Scotland. The Scottish Clubs are distant from us and a SSPA will be better situated to serve the interests and needs of the Scottish Members who have nevertheless expressed the wish to continue their association with us. Your Council has given this its blessing and we now look forward to a successful and progressive relationship.

National Coach/Safety Officer

The Council has endorsed a paper prepared by the Secretary-General in support of our case to employ a Full-time National Coach/Safety Officer and our bid for grant aid assistance is with the Sports Council. Our estimate of the overall annual cost is in the region of £2,850.00. Among his duties will be:

National Coach

- i Preparation of syllabi for, and supervision of, Instructor Courses and associated examinations.
- ii Coaching of National Teams for World Championship and other International Competitions.
- iii By periodic visits, supervise the standard of instruction, safety and equipment at Affiliated Clubs.
- iv Liaison with the Sports Council and other Bodies on the matters of coaching and development.

National Safety Officer

- i Technical Advisor to Chairman of BPA Council.
- ii Permanent Technical Member of BPA Safety and Training Committee.
- iii Permanent Technical Member of Parachute Riggers Committee.

iv Liaison with:

- a. **Civil Aviation Authority** on matters of safety and air regulations.
- b. **Armed Forces and Parachute Manufacturers** on matters of technique and equipment development and supply.
- c. **Other National Bodies.**

v Compilation of statistics.

The appointment of a National Coach/Safety Officer (NC/SO) is long overdue and your Council feels reasonably confident of receiving the assistance which will be necessary to employ such a person.

Appreciations

At this stage I would like to thank your Council and the Safety and Training Committee Members for their help throughout the year. Voluntary help these days is not very forthcoming so it is all the more gratifying to have the dedicated and able assistance of these members. Such assistance has contributed greatly to the BPA being in the strong position it now is. I must also express our thanks to that enthusiastic band of Instructors who despite the problems of weather and aircraft, to name but two, have given so much time to the training of student parachutists. We must not forget that without you, the membership, there would be no BPA—I thank you for your support during the past year. I thank also all the clubs for their able support and for providing the ever increasing number of new members.

On your behalf I thank the following organisations for their valued assistance on 1972:

The Target Trust Group — for their generosity at the Nationals and in sponsoring our Team for the World Championships this year to the amount of £2,000.00.

'The Daily Telegraph' — for their support in once again providing Trophies and Prizes at the Nationals and for their continuous support throughout the year including providing us with such excellent publicity facilities at Farnborough Air Show and the Aldershot Army Day.

Irving Great Britain Ltd and R.F.D.-G.Q. Ltd — for their assistance throughout the year — it is encouraging to see such Companies being forthcoming with advice and guidance in matters of development and safety.

Mr. David Cox (Midland Bank Ltd.) — for his publicity efforts in utilising our Exhibition to our advantage.

The Divisions of the CAA and London and Other Air Traffic Controls — for being so helpful and co-operative again this summer in providing clearances and where possible, the required height for our many displays. I and all clubs look forward to another season of such good relations.

In Conclusion

Remember that poor old flat kneed, orthopaedic wreck you call your Club Chief Instructor. He has probably spent a fortune in attaining this position which can sometimes be a thankless one. So go on, give him a hand whenever you can and buy him a pint now and again. Without him you would not have a Club.

May 1973 be a Happy and Safe Jumping Year for you all.

Sincerely,

L. N. E. St. John
Chairman

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Free Caravan Accommodation Catering Facilities

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14th November, 1972

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a short article for inclusion in the Sport Parachutist, on the efforts made locally by the Scottish Parachute Club to raise funds on a basis of sponsored jumps.

We hope the article will be of interest to others.

Yours sincerely,

A. Mundell,

The Committee — S.P.C.

50 JUMPS IN SEVEN HOURS

This British record was set by Corporal Bill MacLennan, Royal Highland Fusiliers, at Strathallan Airfield, Auchterarder, Perthshire on Saturday, 28th October, 1972, when he completed the 50 jumps between 8 a.m. and 3p.m.

The committee of the Scottish Parachute Club decided upon this method of raising funds to buy radio equipment after reading about the gallant attempt last February by honorary S.P.C. member Pete Denley, who was frustrated by high winds at the 26th jump. Bill MacLennan, S.P.C. instructor, volunteered to try for the 50.

Selling sponsorship forms to aid the development of a parachute club is none to easy. The public are more inclined to give money to a charity or to something with which they can more easily identify themselves. At two weeks before the date arranged for the attempt it was doubtful whether the sponsorship at that time was sufficient to warrant the financial risks involved in going ahead with the event.

It was at this point that the Club learned that Mr. Willie Roberts, proprietor of Cirrus Aviation, who operate the Strathallan Tripacer, had very generously offered to match the sponsorship pound for pound up to a maximum of £100. This was the green light to proceed and sponsorship picked up during the remaining two weeks.

The weather forecast for Saturday, 28th October, was poor. Winds of 15-20 knots were expected, with low cloud and showers.

When the Tripacer took off at 8 a.m. for the first jump, the cloud base was just high enough to continue and during the next hour the aircraft was dodging tendrils of low cloud which made spotting difficult, but an average of seven jumps per hour per hour was built up and sustained until the 50 had been completed.

There was only the Tripacer available and during the summer problems had been experienced with hot starts, so hearts were in mouths each time it had to be restarted after fuelling, but it behaved perfectly all the way through.

The three pilots who worked hard to achieve success were: Geoff Tucker, the airfield manager, Ron Groat and Hugh Clark. To them go many thanks for a hard day's work.

Ground activities were divided into the following team operations: three people collapsed and untangled the used parachute, while two others dressed and checked Bill for the next jump. Several packers were on duty. One folded the canopy and dressed the stabilisers, another cleared the crown lines and a third stowed the lines and closed the pack.

Eight P.C.s were available; three belonging to the S.P.C., three to visiting Parachute Regiment instructors Deke Wright and Bob Harman, who very kindly allowed them to be used for the day, one to the Golden Lions, for whose assistance we are most grateful, and one to Ian MacLennan, S.P.C. Chairman.

The packing operation went without a hitch. At all times there were at least four P.C.s packed and ready for use. There were no malfunctions or scares of any kind throughout the day.

As the day went on, the wind strengthened to around ten knots which made for softer landings than the earlier nil wind conditions.

Bill had brief rests during the refuelling pauses and showed no signs of fatigue until after the 40th jump. Even then all that showed was a slight decrease in his usual bounce, and he felt that he could have gone on to the 60 or 70 mark before needing a longer rest.

It was decided to stop at 50, however, because most of the sponsors had understood 50 to be the upper limit.

The effort raised £300 from which £100 in expenses (printing brochures and aircraft time) were to be deducted.

It was a real team effort and thanks are due to too many people to mention here individually, including the many non-parachuting sponsors, who gave so generously to this event.

Particular mention must be made however of S.P.C. committee member Bill Allen, who persuaded the Club committee to run the event and was the main driving force in ensuring its success.

The central figure of the day, Bill MacLennan, who now has 780 jumps to his credit, has helped the Club in many ways as an instructor and is now on a seven-month posting to Aldershot.

We may persuade him to come back on some long summer's day and try for the 100!

FULL TIME INSTRUCTOR REQUIRED
at THAMES VALLEY AIRSPORTS CENTRE
(Compton Abbas Airfield)

Applicants must hold an F.A.I. 'D' licence. This will be for season 1st March to 1st October, 1973. All details to be discussed at interview.

Apply to Chief Instructor at Club address.

FINAL TEAM PLACINGS CHARLES WELLS MEET

1.	Peterborough Para Centre J. Meacock, G. McCauley, R. Hull	36.77
2.	Wilstead 'A' R. Hiatt, A. Layton, B. Dierker	50.35
3.	Frog Stompers 'A' A. Sinclair, J. Petherbridge, A. Scott	59.23
4.	Para Reg. Marauders C. Simpson, D. Kenny, DeFelice	63.08
5.	Red Devils 'A' B. Standring, G. Cathro, R. Milne	64.82
6.	Frog Stompers 'B' J. Smith, S. Slater, G. Sugden	74.25
7.	Red Devils 'B' (Clouds) P. Schofield, D. Richie, R. Harman	85.19
8.	Eagles-R.E. Free Fall Team A. Black, Collingwood, Riley	105.62
9.	Brunel University M. Batchelor, R. McGuire, A. Meysner	107.31
10.	Met. Police T. Porter, T. Crawley, P. Slaughter	122.15
11.	Embassy Skydivers T. Rixon, S. Gardner, T. Ford	125.36
12.	Australia/Wilstead 'B' C. Burrow, K. Burrow, A. McKie	125.98
13.	Spread eagles E. McBride, M. Beynon	137.49

INDIVIDUAL PLACINGS — with 6 round totals

1.	J. Meacock	4.89
2.	R. Harman	9.78
3.	C. Simpson	10.13
4.	B. Dierker	10.97
5.	A. Sinclair	14.08
6.	R. Hull	14.80
7.	M. Batchelor	15.53
8.	G. McCauley	17.08
9.	C. Burrow	17.46
10.	R. Hiatt	18.28

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10. Telescope.
11. High speed W.D.I.
12. Assorted means of protection.
13. Sweets, tights, perfume.

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F.G.B.



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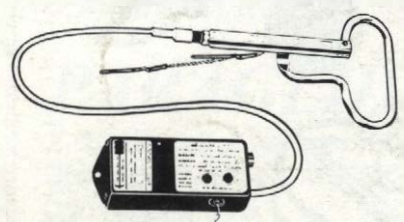
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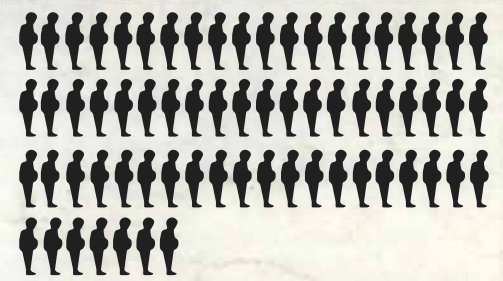
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