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Vol. 14 No. 5
OCTOBER 1977

EDITORIAL

It's some time since the cover of our magazine featured a student sport parachutist; yet student sport parachutists are the life blood of the clubs, as are the instructors who train them. So to all of those of you who are student sport parachutists — stick with it in spite of the weather, the future of the sport is in your hands. And to all instructors — your labours are appreciated; keep up the good work — *safely*.

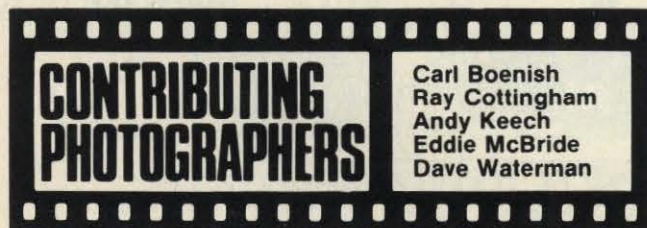
Once again it's time for us to consider nominations for election to the 1978 BPA Council. It's no good sniping at BPA from afar — destructive criticism is something we can do without. So if our Association, and thus our sport, is to flourish, the right people must be nominated for Council election. The success or failure of the 1978 BPA Council and its subsequent work is squarely in the hands of you, the membership. Please therefore, let us have plenty of well qualified nominations for next year's Council.

Blue skies and soft landings,

Charlie

Editor's Note

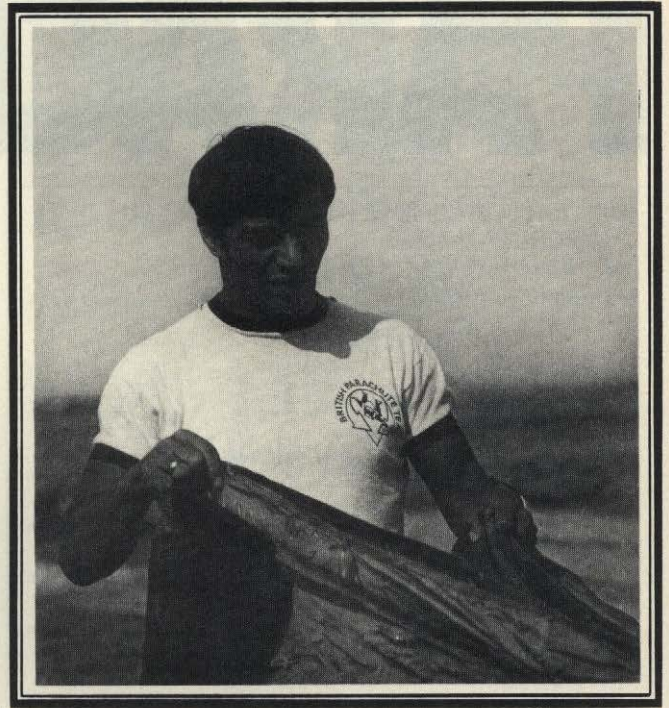
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THE DROP MAN

Calendar of Events

31st October-	BPA Instructors Course/Exam 4/77
4th November '77	Sibson
20-24 February '78	BPA PI/Exam Course 1/78
3-7 April '78	Relative Work Seminar
17-21 April '78	Classic Seminar
1-5 May '78	BPA PI/Exam Course 2/78
23-31 May '78	Army Championships
17-25 June '78	BPA Classic
	National Championships
8-16 July '78	BPA RW National Championships
29 July -	
5 August '78	Rhine Army Championships
7-11 August '78	BPA/PI/Exam Course 3/78
14-18 August '78	Student Progression Course 1/78
19-20 August '78	British Collegiate Championships
11-15 Sept '78	Student Progression Course 2/78
6-10 November '78	BPA PI/Exam Course 4/78



BPA PI/Exam Course 3/77 at Elvington

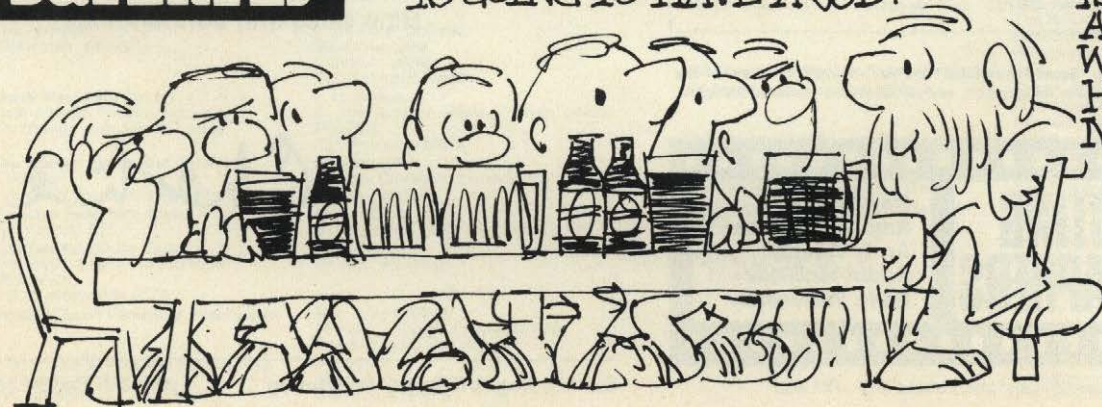
КРЫЛЬЯ РОДИНЫ... ИЮЛЬ ... 7 . 1977 .

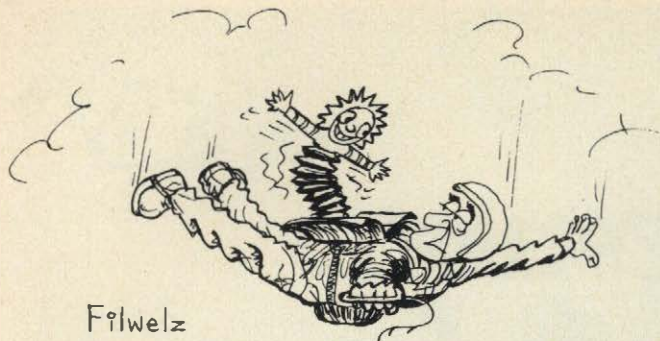
A recent cover of the Russian Aviation Magazine, "Wings over the Motherland" features Grig Surabko wearing a British Team Tee Shirt!

SUPERFLY

ON THIS TEAM, *EVERYBODY* IS GOING TO HAVE A JOB!

.... BUT FIRST IS THERE ANYBODY WHO HASN'T HAD A MALFUNCTION?

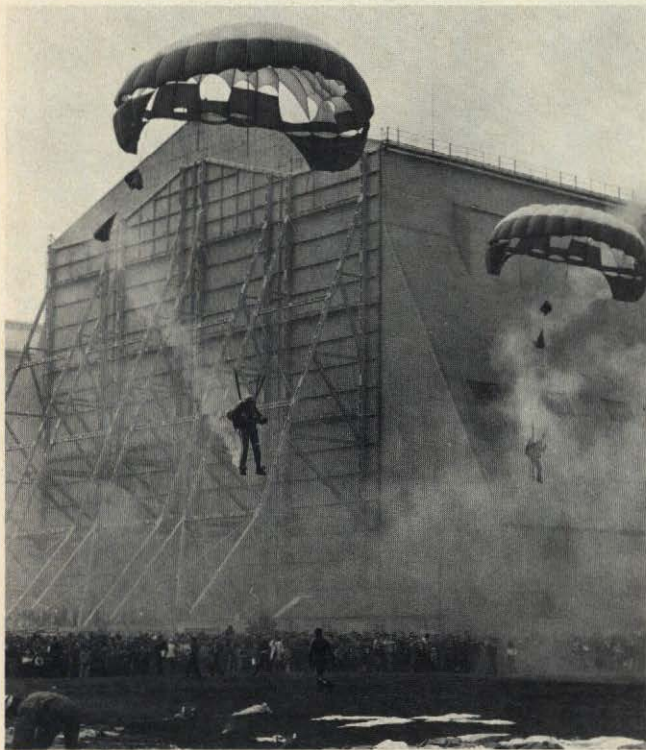




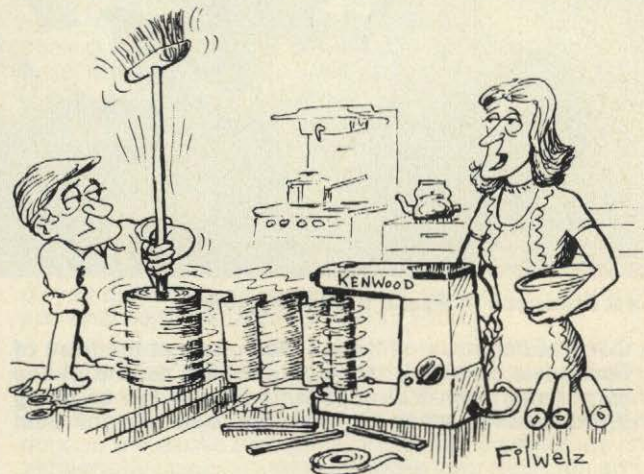
Fiwwez



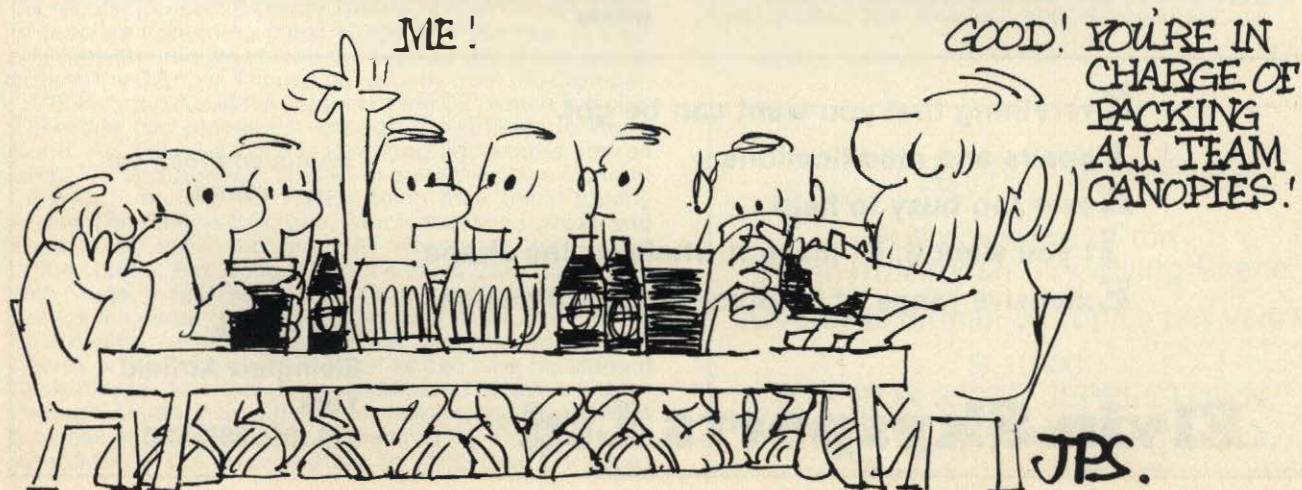
Peter Prior presents 1st Place Trophy in the recent Shobdon Round Canopy Meet to deserving winners Marcia Rogers, Amanda Redfern and Steve Bowman.



Mr. Artus of Fleet kindly sent this photo of a Falcons' display at RAF Cardington — note the vast airship hangars, a familiar sight to Duck Enders!



"Any chance of me using the streamer machine to mix a cake?"





First European In Space a BPA Member ?

photo— Dave Waterman

Congratulations to Will Grut (seen here at the front of a Symbiosis diamond) in being selected as one of the 5 short-listed from 600 applicants for the job of being the first Brit. in space in 1980. We wish him the best

of luck in the further selection, and hope that his being a member of the 1977 British RW Team competing in the World Championships in Australia will influence those making the final choice in his favour.

□ □ □

Congratulations to the Williams Family Team members who've just got married — Steve Newton and Colin Bruce; but not to each other! Also to Biff who's just announced his engagement to SSPA Sky Queen, Mary Keith.

A letter from Marrion Pebworth reminds me that I've given little publicity to the Wales and West of England Parachute Club who jump regularly at Badminton. They are also short of Instructors — see the Club list for details.

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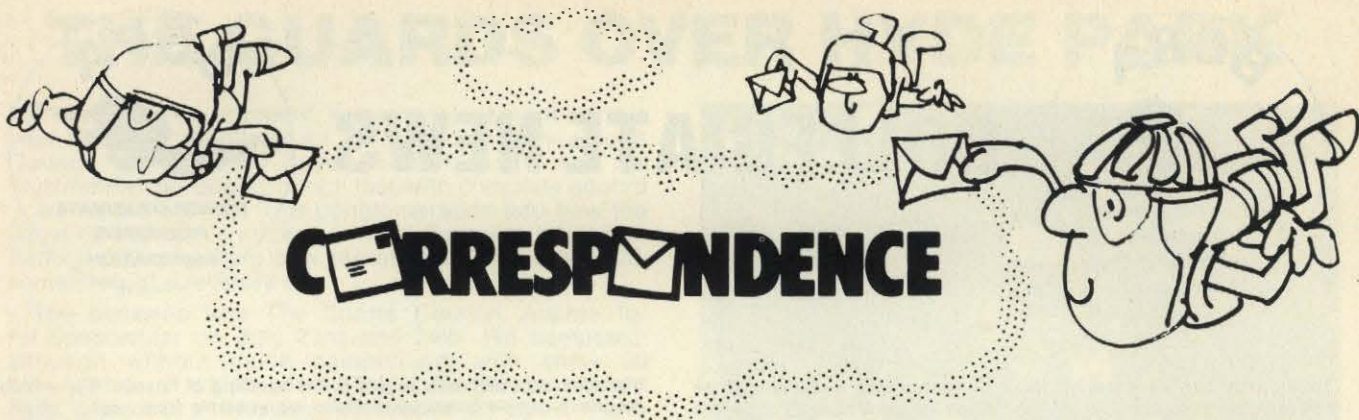
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Dear Charlie,

Sport Parachutist, Page 4, List of Clubs, bottom right hand corner, weirdos and oddballs section. There you will find The Hong Kong Parachute Club, BPA's most distant outpost. The British Empire is alive and well and freefalling in far Cathay.

There are, however, some problems with being so dreadfully far flung, one of which is that we are a little off the regular UK jump bum circuit. For some reason unlike Leeds or Sibson we just don't seem to get people popping in for the weekend to say hello. So we thought we had better let everyone know who, what, where we are so that if any of you ever decide to take the scenic route to Pope Valley and round about the South China Sea get an uncontrollable urge to throw yourself out of an aeroplane, you know just where to come.

The Hong Kong Parachute Club is now the Joint Services Parachute Centre (HK), the name having been changed to protect the cash flow. It is a service club with a solid civilian core having grown from rather more distinct civilian origins. The most important thing, though, is that everyone is welcome, the CCI will take money off absolutely anyone being one of these Scottish laddies and so rather attached to the folding stuff.

In the last year the club has stabilized its previous slightly erratic existence (yes that was an a in erratic). The two big boosts have been the arrival of a nice new shiny Cessna 182P at the Hong Kong Aero Club and the arrival of a slightly worn and frayed CCI, in the shape of Deak Wright, at the DZ. Deak, ex of the Freds, is our first full time instructor and has started throwing students out of the aircraft with a vengeance, running regular weekly free fall courses for the military and grand civilian courses over public holidays. This in turn has given the regular jumpers a steady stream of crumpet on which to practise tightening chest straps and the rest of their smoothy techniques so you even get to see a few smiles around the DZ now. Though not usually from the crumpet.

Which brings us to the subject of the DZ, which is a pity. There are two places flat enough for airfields in Hong Kong. Kai Tak was sea not very long ago and is littered with 707's and Jumbos. This is not quite the place to alight on your trusty PC, Air Traffic being their usual touchy selves. The other is Sek Kong which boasts a runway and about 20 square foot of grass, as near to a DZ as you get in the colony. Sek Kong is about 4 miles from the border with China. In fact the student wind limit of 10 knots is set not for the usual reasons but because Deak has got fed up of having to trot to the big hedge, peer over and ask the guards of the People's Republic if he can have his student back please. Not that they understand when he does because Cantonese with a Glaswegian accent equates to speaking scribble. Anyway back to the Dee Zed (and when Mac of the Freds did the spotting over Christmas

that usually meant a 3-mile walk). It may be small but it is edged with fine throwaway areas. Paddy fields, the Gurkha rifle range and bayonet practice area, fish farms and the Sgts Mess cess pit.

We have a team of sky gods, the Green Dragons, who thrill the crowds with their descents into housing estates, skyscraper roofs, high voltage cables and the sea when asked nicely and offered money. Trouble is that in Hong Kong no one likes to see a flat empty space, it offends their money making conscience. So although you jump at 5,000 ft into a fine well reconnoitred DZ by the time you open at 2,000 ft the locals have dug the foundations of a tower block and built the first three storeys.

And the weather is far from the constant wall to wall blue expected by those who have only heard distantly of Hong Kong. The monsoon brings cloud base at 16ft and winds of 40 knots, marginal conditions for our tight DZ. Packing in the summer in 35°C and 98% humidity requires one can of San Miguel beer per 6.5 minutes to avoid wipe out. Not that I expect these figures will bring much sympathy to the eyes of the average UK jumper who has played duty icicle all winter but we do want you to know just what hell we go through for our sport.

Apres jump is good. Wanchai, the world of Suzie Wong, is at your feet (I told you the spots were rubbish) and the traditional post para activities of slurping, chomping, lying and thinking of England are on. More, these can all be done in the exotic ambience of oriental mammaries and temporarily unwell matelots. Knocks your Red Lion and a half of the cheapest Landlord into a cocked whatsit. So should anyone happen to find themselves passing by, do drop in. There is parachuting at Sek Kong most days. If the typhoons have arrived and winds are in excess of 110 mph, don't despair. Don your solar tapee and we'll see you in the Red Lips Bar, Tsim Sha Tsui, and tell you all about it.

B. SIMON

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COLLEGIATE NEWS



The long not too hot summer has finally come to an end, and everyone has just returned to college, and all that college life involves. Lots of people with similar interests will be getting together over the next few weeks, some keen to have a go at the more regular Sports and others who wish to have a go at something new and different. In a lot of cases they will be able to join thriving established clubs such as the Rugby, Soccer and Squash Clubs all colleges have, but for most student parachutists and potential parachutists there isn't a strong well funded parachute club to join. And if student parachutists in this situation want to get a look in when the students union, or the Sports Federation come to share the money out in a few weeks time they will have to get a club together pretty quickly.

So you want to start a parachute club . . . but you haven't any money, kit or even many parachutists, but you do have a lot of facilities which are at your disposal in the form of lecture rooms, cinemas, gyms etc. and also very good tools of communication with a lot of other young people. I know that this is the position of at least six colleges at the moment, and I hope that by making a few suggestions on this page that it may help to get them off the ground, (sorry about the pun).

Before a Society can be set up most establishments require a list of ten names of people who wish to partake in whatever sport or activity it is. Last year when I established the Wolverhampton club I found this to be a bit of a stumbling block. Although I think I was the only person in the college with any jumping experience, to get ten names on a piece of paper presented no problem — but when it comes to allocating finance and other clubs have a hundred members or more a ten member club isn't going to get a big slice of the cake. So to get people interested I got hold of copies of "Masters of the Sky" and "Sky Capers", booked the largest cinema in the college and did one hell of a lot of advertising. Well, we all know the effect "Masters" has on people, and out of a crowd of two hundred and fifty signatures of people who were adamant that skydiving was the sport for them, and then I was in a position to tell the union that we were one of the biggest societies in the college.

Some clubs now in existence have found little or no opposition to their plans from the union or Sports Federation, and have in fact got lots of support from them, but if you have a union like mine that revolves around its rugby club, and regards flying, hang gliding and sport parachuting as sporting death anyway you're in for a bit of a struggle. We have had one case already this year of a University Sports Federation who refused to loan money to the university club because they were under the misconception that they could be held liable if a parachute purchased with their money later malfunctioned etc. If this problem is encountered you must explain that this is not the case. The B.P.A. loans considerable money to clubs throughout the year for just this purpose with no legal liability whatsoever. If they won't accept your word inform them the details of their legal position regarding this, and details of insurance, which most colleges insist upon are available from the Secretary General of the B.P.A. As far as insurance goes, the B.P.A., and I think we all know, provides third party cover up to £100,000 worldwide for every member, and it also provides an automatic Instructors liability insurance, and on request a riggers and packers liability insurance. It seems to be common practice in most colleges to get all societies to insure themselves with a Endsleigh policy (Insurance arranged through the N.U.S.), the cover given most certainly isn't in fact necessary at all, but again it's up to you to explain this to your union. As an addition you could offer to provide the union or Sports Federation with a little more protection (how much more I'm not quite sure!) by getting your members to sign an indemnity similar to the one used by the B.P.A., they could be printed for next to nothing and may provide that "extra bit of confidence" in your activities.

Before any money will be handed over to a society, the society will be asked to "guarantee" its security by drawing up a constitution and electing members to serve on the club's governing body "the Committee". Make the constitution brief and to the point, state the name of the society and its aims, which will be basically to promote skydiving within the college. State the conditions of membership, and how the club is to be

managed, with particular regard to the handling of finance. If any club requires a sample constitution copies are available from me.

The best committees are the smallest, the fewer people you have to have the better, and make sure that if you have a few experienced or semi-experienced parachutists that they are included. If you haven't, try and build it from a nucleus of friends or people you have got interested in the sport. This may sound a little underocratic (sorry Julia) but it's far better to have things this way than to have a kit room full of reserves and no mains, or having money squandered on buying every member a super swooper jumpsuit or something silly like that.

Until last Christmas our club did not have a students union grant at all, but fortunately out of those two hundred filmgoers we had thirty or so sufficiently motivated people to organise functions to raise money to subsidise their basic course fees. Lots of societies run disco's etc. and all of them made at least £20 — peanuts!!! If you can organise the first strip-show of the term you can think in terms of ten times that amount, especially if you can run the bar as well. (By the way it pays to hire professional strippers — not offer a couple of girls a free course!!!).

Once your club is established and has finance, a decision has to be made on how to use it to the best advantage, and this will probably be dependent on the club's student training arrangements. Regardless of whether a club has its own instructor or not it will have to come to some sort of arrangement with a recognised club to use their D.Z. etc. In some cases, clubs make special allowances for students, I know for instance that Birmingham University has a special arrangement with Bickmarsh whereby their students are trained by the University's own Instructor and jumped at the Midland Parachute Club at quite a cheap cost to the university. But on the other hand the college club may have to pay the full £30 or so to their local club for full training there. The basic decision to be made is whether to spend money subsidising basic course students, that is for instance paying half the course fee for the student or whether to make the student pay in full for the course and if he continues in the sport subsidise his progression, or provide equipment for his use if he proves to be a keen jumper and a good helper. At the last B.C.P.A. Meeting the Committee voted to recommend the latter on the grounds that a lot of money is "wasted" on people who just want to make a parachute jump and don't want to continue in the sport, or even people who train but never even jump. I tend to favour this approach also, but on the other hand how do we know who will continue in the Sport anyway, everybody has to make their first jump sometime or other, and what's the sport all about? Surely it's got to let anybody who wants to do a parachute jump, and is fit to do so jump. I don't think that it would be fair to have a selection procedure, to choose who to subsidise on a course or not, and so I think a decision must be made to do one thing or the other.

When it comes to the purchase of kit I think the club must look at its long term position first, a club which is being run by one experienced person could collapse completely if that person was to leave, most college clubs I'm sorry to say seem to be like this at the moment, whereas University Clubs seem to be far stronger and regardless of who goes, there is always someone else to take responsibility for such things as kit and money when you do buy, think of the students first, a strato star is no good to a club with twenty static lines and one category X parachutist. If you have lots of money and become really strong then you can think about a club P.C. The maintenance and packing of your equipment should be close under the supervision of the C.C.I. at the D.Z. you use — remember *he* is responsible for all student equipment used on his D.Z.

The most successful and best established collegiate clubs such as Newcastle and Cambridge who have their own D.Z.'s and aircraft, and needs who have a considerable amount of kit have come about through good leadership, sensible planning and a lot of hard work, and whether in the end your club is a success is up to you and no one else. I'm sure that if you require any more help or information the other offices of the B.C.P.A., the area representatives and myself will try to do our best, so don't hesitate to get in touch. Good luck with your clubs.

DAVID TURNER, D.2190

THE GUARDS OVER HYDE PARK

For one amazing moment sometime in March of this year, the CAA, Heathrow Air Traffic Control, the Sports Council, the GLC, the Royal Parks Authority and the Westminster Borough Council met with complete accord — we were there too! This conglomeration and how the equation eventually added up to 12 descents into Hyde Park is still something of a secret and it could be said, something of a mystery too.

The occasion was The Sports Council Jubilee for All Spectacular on July 23rd and 24th. We competed, although without much competition, with some 30 other sports of which some 40 Hot Air Balloons might have provided a tiresome alternative to Sport Parachuting. In the event, sadly for the balloonists, their race never took place. Was it the weather or just insufficient telephone calls to the CAA?



Ken Cameron, Steve Treble, Geordie Laing and Dinger Bell.

Sgt Ken Cameron, Scots Guards, LCpl Dinger Bell, Life Guards, LCpl Steve Treble, Life Guards and Geordie Laing made up the first lift. A pleasure not only to have Geordie 'guesting' with us but relaxing for once. Tommy Collins, 664 Sqn AAC, formerly Welsh Guards, flew the Scout and within seconds there was Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus and the Penthouse Suite of the Hilton, all at a glance. The DZ was the Marble Arch end of Hyde Park so with a steady 8 knots from the West, Ken Cameron released the streamer over a pre-estimated opening point to avoid cluttering up the Foyer of the Dorchester Hotel.

Tommy managed 3,000 and Ken Cameron became the first man ever into Hyde Park after a free fall descent (difficult to account for German Pilots). The adrenalin count went up a few points as a Pan Am Jumbo came 'close' on the streamer run. Dinger Bell caught Ken Cameron waving to his mother in law clearly visible, Ken said, through the rear port hole of the Jumbo! After the drop was complete Tommy rang Heathrow Traffic Control to enquire about the Jumbo, a voice replied, 'Oh yes, I saw it all, no hassle, you had a clear 300 feet' — Great panache and remarkable precision.

Of great importance to the Team was the presence of Charlie, Anita, Boomerang and the BPA Caravan. Charlie had kindly agreed to be contracted for the weekend some weeks before. At the cost of, we suspect, a couple of days of much needed Welsh holiday. All 3½ of them suffered the intense overcrowding of Orme Square, where we all stayed; mountains of almost uneatable



Demo No. 2 — Tom Rldgway, Pete Johnson, Chrls Chrstle and Dinger Bell.

Greek yoghurt on the first night and an endless rather suspect Italian meal on the second. It was convenient to be able to drink, eat and sleep within minutes of the DZ. Incidentally Charlie's contract was the guest place on the last display — it turned out to be my place! ! !

We had booked a slot for the caravan in the static display area where we took turns in dishing out BPA literature and trying to answer the inevitably somewhat inane questions asked by the general public. Incidentally, several inquiries came in from undergraduates, both left and right, so the BCPA, we hope you benefit. (The BCPA and Dave Turner will probably want us to add that undergraduate questions were less inane than the rest, I am not sure they were, like, would you believe it — "What happens when both main and reserve parachutes fail to open?" — The question asked by a third year student at University College, Oxford studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics. If someone from the BCPA would like to contact us we will describe him to you on condition that you advise him when he approaches your Association, to keep out of politics! After each display we packed canopies in front of the caravan and Charlie lectured or indoctrinated the capacity crowds!



Dinger, complete with fully inflated life jacket!



No. 3 — Hammy Hamilton, Charle, Steve Treble, Chris Christie plus jump pilot and camera hog, Tommy Collins!



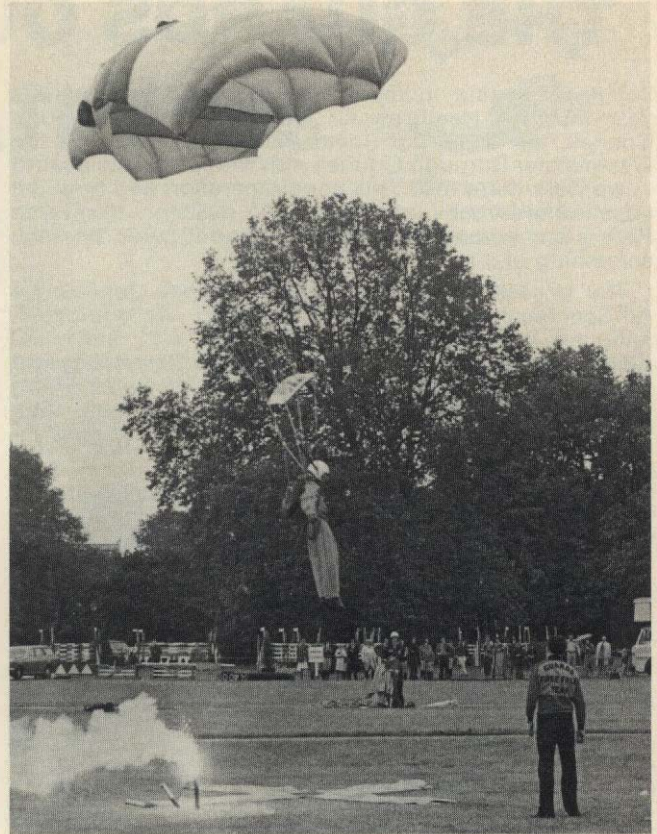
Lift off...



... and touch down for Pete Johnson.

The second display on Saturday was also from 3,000, disappointing in that there was no Jumbo to scare the pants off Tom Ridgway who we were lucky to have guest jumping for us. The safety conscious Dinger Bell succeeded in inflating his life jacket (CO²) before deploying his main. He came down looking positively obscene, with a pair of the biggest boobs either the commentator or the crowd had ever seen. The crowds mirth must surely have been brought on by what, to the commentator certainly, was a clearly audible PFFFFF??RRRTT from about 2,300 feet.

Sunday, dawned a bit gloomy particularly after the Italian meal. It brightened however, and the Team with Charlie guesting were cleared to 5,000. With an incomer to Heathrow every 2 minutes Traffic Control were excelling themselves, eventually the exit was made at a touch under 4,000 and everyone made it. So an uneventful



final display, except for Tommy's success in inverting at least 6 umbrellas on take off including, we believe, that of the Lady Mayoress of Westminster — she kept her humour!!

The Sports Council asked us to do a fourth display on Sunday afternoon at rather short notice so we warned Heathrow. In the meantime we were visited by Royalty, Princess Alexandra, Angus Ogilvy and family. Sam Houston and Charlie were invited to lunch. Charlie to drink properly, he had fulfilled his contract; Sam to drink orange squash, he was going for the fourth lift. All that came out of lunch was interest from James Ogilvy, Walter Winterbottom and Jackie Charlton in when the next Guards Free Fall Team Basic Courses were to take place. We haven't heard much since!! Heathrow Traffic Control having excelled themselves, were unable to support a further P hour and so we stood down.

Most articles of this nature finish with a series of inevitable tributes, and this article is to be no exception. Apart from those mentioned in the first paragraph Tommy Collins fascinated the crowd and destroyed the British Model Aeroplanes Association Display during one of his deep breath landings. Our apologies to the Model Aeroplanes (they really were all over the place) but our thanks to Tommy. Special thanks to Anita for her photographs. Behaving like an eighteen year old, which she can't be far off anyway, in spite of the pregnant state, her camera missed nothing. Finally — it will happen again!

SAM HOUSTON

(Also sincere thanks to Sam Houston, who not only set it all up and gave three brilliantly enlightened commentaries but totally involved the B.P.A. and wrote this article; and also to his lovely wife Joanna, who played the perfect hostess to the entire team in Orme Square — Ed.)

THE CARK WHITBREAD ACCURACY MEET 1977



After being cancelled earlier in the year due to gale force winds, the N.W.P.C. Accuracy Competition was held on the 13th of August at Cark in weather that was fit only for Accuracy — overcast sky and light winds. Charlie Shea had arrived with the B.P.A. caravan and that seemed to put the seal of approval on the proceedings. By 9.30 ten teams had booked in and £241 was in the kitty as prize money. As the judges who had promised to attend had not turned up, Brian Laithwaite, centre pilot and instructor was appointed Chief Judge (that will teach him not to enter a team) with assistance from Len Doran and Sheila Bradley.

At ten the first team was airborne in Cark's 182 flown by Chris Benyon, who was determined not to move from the left hand seat until all the rounds were completed. The N.W.P.C. team jumped second and set the standard that had to be beaten — 3 D.C.'s and a 21 cm. Peterborough United were second with a total of 79cm and Uranus II third scoring 2m 31cm. With the arrival of Jim Fieldhouse in his 205 things got moving. Steve Eversfield of Peterborough United and Derek Thomas of Staticline Relly Rules had steering line problems and claimed rejudges. Steve made no mistake on his rejump getting a disc. The individual battle was warming up between Alan Morris, Steve Eversfield and Ray McGuire. Some of the competitors were very erratic getting discs in one round and missing the pit altogether in the next.

At the start of the fourth and last round N.W.P.C. led Peterborough United by just 28cm. with N.W.P.C. to jump first. Brian Shaw homed in to score 1cm. Peter Fox followed with 5cm. Dave Prince came in to a disc and Alan Morris made no mistake of taking his third disc of the competition. A total team score which meant N.W.P.C. could not be beaten. The final round continued with "Hitler" (Alan Johnson) having his Cloud mal for the fifth time in four weeks (gotta be something wrong with that one), and Charlie Shea getting nearer and nearer to a D.C.



Deserving individual winner, Alan Morris.



Cooke arrives to present the prizes. . .



. . . and presents 1st Team to N.W.P.C.



Dave Howerski's 1000th jump was celebrated in a traditional manner.

Ben roared the 182 low over the packing shed to signal that the competition was over and he could now go for a pee. All the results were known except the individual award. Alan Morris and Steve Eversfield both had 3

D.C.'s and a 10cm. A jump off was organised and again each scored a D.C. — another jump off and again two D.C.'s. There had to be a result but with both jumpers coming onto the disc like a dog to a bitch on the heat, this could go on all day. It was decided to have two Disc's and measure each foot. Alan was first to jump. The wind had by now got up to near the limit, Alan came in high and made his usual vertical approach; however he missed the disc's scoring 31 cm. with his right foot and 4cm. with his left. The pit was cleared and a huge crowd awaited the arrival of Steve. Steve made a shallower approach and realised that he had gone too far down conceded defeat by raising his arms in a gesture of resignation.

The "Little Old Man of Cark" had won the day (life begins at 43!!).

With all the results known it only remained for the cups, medals and loot to be given out. Once again the "Bard" (or is it now the "Laird") of Cark, Mr. John Cooke, took his Kitchen Apron off long enough to do the honours. Ten teams had jumped four rounds in just 5½ hours. Thanks must go to the Press Ganged Judges who performed a difficult task with a minimal amount of hassle. Joyce and Brenda who kept the nosh and drinks coming, Jan Challinor for marking and a special thanks to Amanda for the slick way she organised the manifest. Also thanks to the teams from the South who made the trip up to Cark for the first time. For those teams who didn't come we are in the top left hand corner as you look at the map and the message is clear — "Cark Rules — OK".

KEN HOLT, D.1312.

photos by Charlie and Steve Bowman.

RESULTS

FULL TEAM RESULTS

1. N.W.P.C.	2.73m	£60
2. Peterborough United	3.44m	£45
3. Uranus II	18.20m	£25
4. Staticline Relly Rules	46.84m	
5. Dropouts	79.33m	
6. Paragon	80.75m	
7. Manchester Cloggers	85.96m	
8. Uranus I	95.32m	
9. Wolfgangs Big Time	120.72m	
10. Anonymous	134.46m	

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

1. Alan Morris	Whitbread Trophy	£35
2. Steve Eversfield		£25
3. Ray McGuire		£15

BEST LADY

JaneSpence	£20
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BEST ROUND CANOPY

F. Collins	£16
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THE 1st ANNUAL RADIO TRENT ACCURACY MEET

The Free Fall Parachute Club (Langar) opened for business on April 30th 1977, and just 16 weeks later, on August 20th and 21st, nine four-man accuracy teams assembled to take part in the first parachute competition to be held on Nottinghamshire's newest D.Z. The competition was only part of a two-day combined flying and parachuting display, and was scheduled to take place in the morning and evening of both days.

The event was scheduled for 4 rounds, with (looking on the blackest side!) one round to count as a competition, but the weather on Saturday was kind to us, so that by the evening, after a day of good jumping in near perfect conditions (although a little gusty in the afternoon) we retired with exactly 3 rounds completed.

The general standard of jumping was high, and it was a real treat for our newer jumpers to watch the way in which teams like Peterborough and Duck End repeatedly attacked the brand new and rather landscaped pit. On the other hand a few jumpers kept the judges on the move by giving impressions of artillery practice.

During the break between the morning and evening parts of the competition there was a flying display — somewhat abbreviated — and some parachuting for the spectators benefit. The mass drop of 11 canopies (from 3 aircraft) may not sound a lot to some, but it's 7 more than we normally see over Langar, and it looked good, especially the unscheduled cutaway from a "nasty" P.C. Mal.

Two pairs of jumpers attempted to demonstrate canopy R.W. The first attempt was abortive, but the second pair hooked up O.K. However, I can best describe it by saying that having seen Canopy R.W. at last I remain totally unconvinced!

And that was the parachuting for the day. The flying display produced some good aerobatics (but don't they all?) although first prize should go to the demonstration of how nearly to crash a Cessna 150. At least I think it was only a demonstration!

Sunday was a washout for jumping. Rain, wind and cloud restricted us to only half a round more in the evening, before calling the meet at 3 rounds. Chris Theobald of Radio Trent, one of our sponsors, handed out prize money and a 15 year trophy to 3 teams and 3 individuals. The placings and prizes were:

1st Team	Trophy and £250	Peterborough United	5.86 m
2nd	£125	Duck End Farm	17.34
3rd	£75	N.W.P.C.	40.46
1st Individual	£50	Steve Eversfield	0.00 m
2nd		Bob King	0.09
3rd		Sally Smith	0.42
1st Lady	£50	Sally Smith	0.42 m
2nd		Les Leader	6.03
3rd		Ann Hiatt	10.80
1st Novice	£50	Paul Webb	15.52 m
2nd		Steve Mulvaney	21.38
3rd		Albert Wragg	21.47

Peterborough United kindly agreed that after the trophy has been engraved by Radio Trent it will be held at the Studios for publicity, before going first to Peterborough and then back to Langar in time to be competed for next year.

Yes, we are already talking about next year. We know we made mistakes this time round but these can be corrected next time. The aim of this event was three



Steve Eversfield won the Individual.



Ray McGuire gets a nice one...

fold — Firstly to show to sponsors the wide spread interest in competition, both from you the jumpers, and to some extent, the spectators; Secondly to show British Parachuting that Langar is established, and finally, to show the general public that parachuting is a serious but entertaining business. (If you said it was a P.R. exercise you'd probably be right.)

In rounding off this year I must record our thanks and appreciation to our sponsors — Radio Trent, Sandcliffe Motors and Hoover Domestic Appliances Limited, to Charlie as Meet Director, and his team of judges, to the B.P.A. and to those of you who came and had a go! Come again next year — you're all welcome.

Charlie took the pictures JOHN NICKOLLS, D.823



Collin Bruce and Steve Eversfield chat up the Press!



Denis Garner attacks it with his heel.

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THE GREEN JACKETS GET WET

Having spent two quiet, carefree years as an explosives instructor I thought it would be a welcome rest when I was posted to The Royal Green Jackets Parachute Display Team at the start of the 1977 season. Once I was settled behind my new desk I checked the year's programme and was horrified to discover that we had been booked to do two water jumps into the River Trent at Nottingham. I was a bit disturbed about this as I had heard many tales about the Trent being very dangerous, with underwater currents waiting to whisk away a parachutist and his jettisoned equipment, and all kinds of other horror stories all of which I believed (fool).

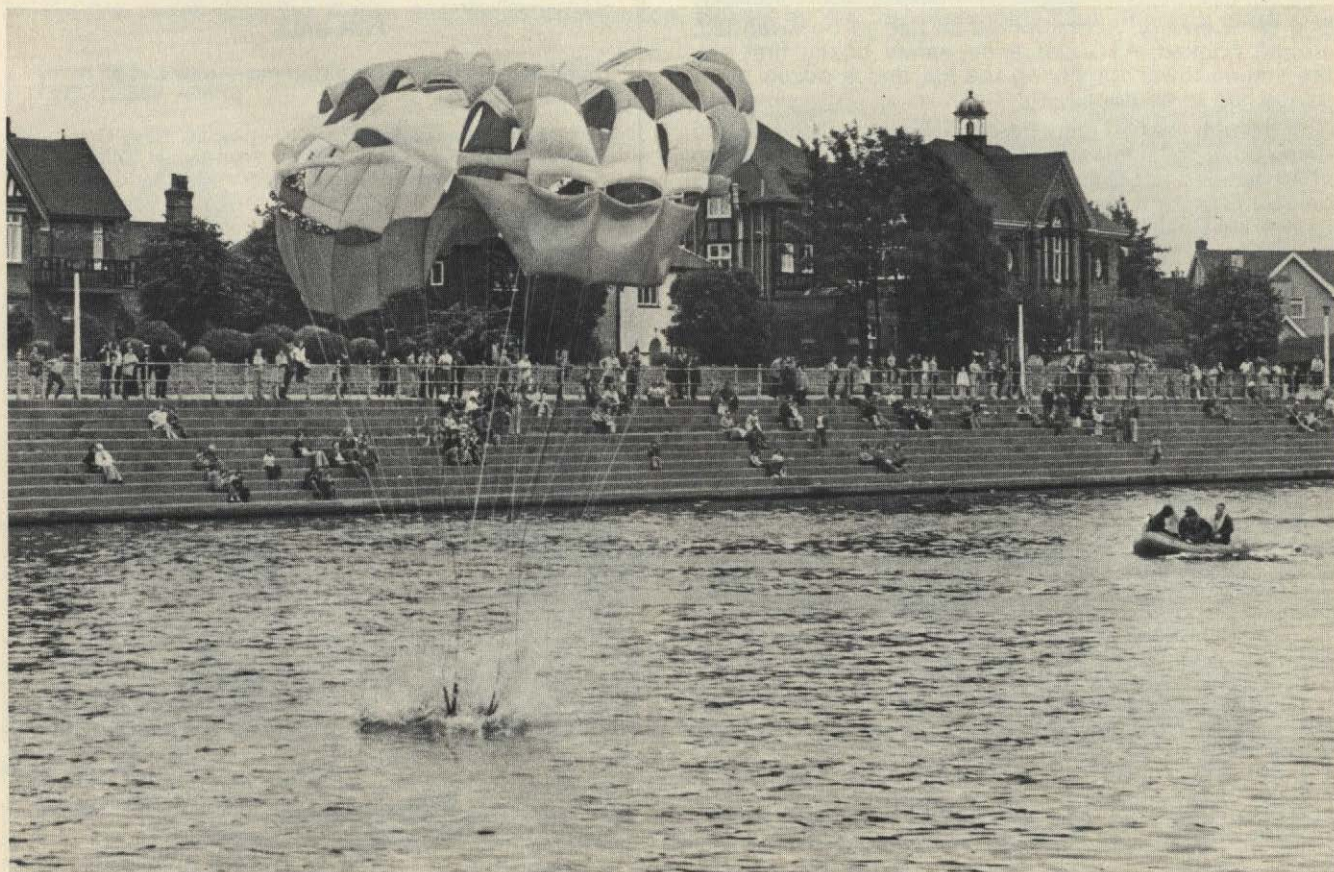
However I decided to go and take a look at this liquid doom that was waiting for us, so a DZ recce was arranged with the show organisers, the Severn Trent Water Authority Recreation Committee. The water looked very still and calm but I wasn't fooled by that, I knew that Jaws and family would be lurking in the boiling cauldron just below the surface. The river expert from the Water Authority told me that there were no underwater currents, that the surface current never exceeded 2 knots, the water was 12 feet deep and the river bed was gently sloping gravel with no plant life or obstructions and only very small animal life. I didn't believe him as I had heard all the stories! There must surely have been strange happenings and disappearances in that murky stretch of water, so I sought the advice of the Nottingham River Police. They must have been very carefully briefed by the 'expert' as they told me exactly the same story. However after threatening to release the Mafia on the city, they finally agreed to take me up and down the DZ on their launch

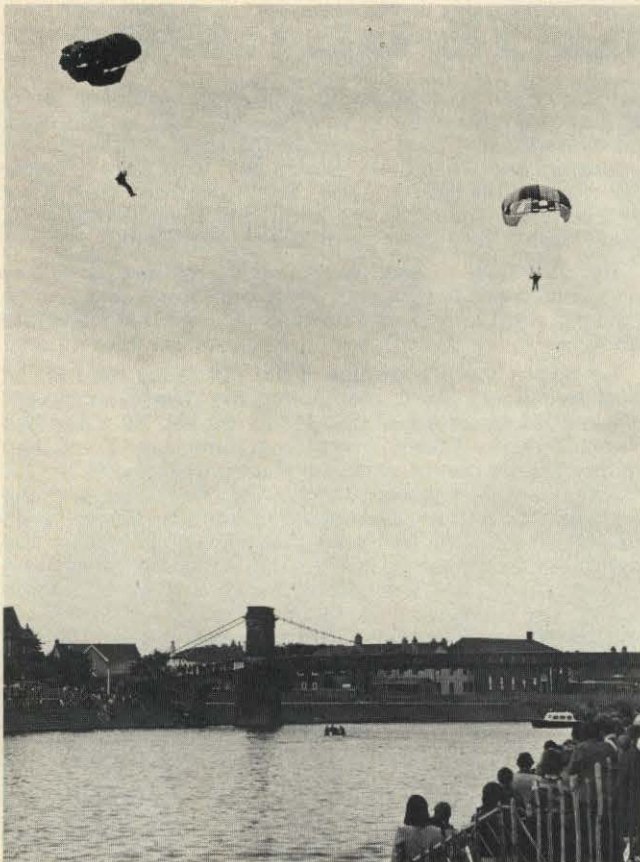
with the depth sounder going: That must have been faulty as it showed the water to be between 8 and 12 feet deep on average, so I paid a visit to the local pleasure boat operators and small craft owners who were sure to know the river better than anyone. They just confirmed what everyone else had told me about the river in that area, that it was a very calm gentle stretch of water.

By this time I was beginning to believe that this particular piece of river was OK to parachute into, and as I did not want to appear a coward I agreed that we would do it.

So began the preparation. I did not fancy the idea of putting our new Strato clouds into the river even though it was fresh water, so we decided to use two PC's and two Papiillons with Talisman reserves (how would you like to be over the centre of Nottingham under an 124?). Our square canopies were put away in the stores and the team started training on real parachutes. Naturally as we had to train in the same kit that we would use for the demo, we were wearing inflated lifejackets for the training jumps at Thruxton. The comments were many and varied but mostly rude. We also made an early morning visit to the Winchester swimming pool where we practised going into the water with equipment on and freeing ourselves from the canopy, before giving the recognised OK signal. I am sure the short time we spent in the pool was very valuable training and it emphasised the fact that a fully inflated lifejacket of approved design can be relied upon to keep a parachutist afloat.

Apart from the training there was the usual desk work to attend to which I did with our administration officer,





Sgt. Bill Convery. Accommodation had to be arranged, aircraft booked, ATC clearance, safety boats, first aid, fire station tower for drying the kit, and a dozen other things had to be done.

The day of the first jump finally arrived, and I think I had better point out at this stage that in true cowardly tradition I had decided not to jump, with the excuse that I should be on the ground looking after the safety side of things. It must have been a good excuse as the team didn't abuse me. Well not much anyway! I was to be in one safety boat with Lionel Hitchcock in the other, and there were two more boats standing by in case of trouble. In each boat we also had a police diver (in case Jaws took any of our kit to the bottom) and a radio operator in direct contact with the first aid people (a complete mobile accident unit no less). The jumpers were Gary Douglas (Jumpmaster),

Mike Skeet, Dave Humberstone and Bo Kinder. In normal parachuting style, our aircraft failed as it was on its way to pick up the team and this resulted in a panic to find another one. We finally got the use of the Cherokee 6 from Langar (thanks very much Tom), and the jump was carried out on time. Neither the divers nor the first aid were needed, and I barely got my feet wet, which is just how it should be.

A few beers that evening (but not too many Safety Officer, Sir) set us up nicely for the jump on the second day. We were pleased to discover that our aircraft a Cessna 205, was back with us and everything looked set for a successful display, which it turned out to be. All the jumpers were recovered from the water very quickly and none of the carefully planned emergency services were needed. A lot of effort went into the show, but everyone agreed it was worth it and we all enjoyed ourselves tremendously.

I would like to say a special thank you to the following, for their assistance:

WO2 Geordie Laing, Netheravon.

WO2 Ted Lewington, Red Devils.

Nottingham Fire Service, for their hospitality.

Nottinghamshire Constabulary, for their divers and use of the river launch.

Severn Trent Water Authority.

Jaws didn't get us this time, but perhaps he will have another go next year.

TED STRAWSON, D1375.

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1st ANNUAL HOME COUNTRIES MEET



Competitors from Scotland, Ireland and England gathered at Farranfore, Elre, over the August Bank Holiday weekend for the first Home Counties 4-Man Sequential Competition. Hosted by the Irish Parachute Club, it was a great meet.



Scotland's "Last Great Act of Defiance" — Billy Somerville, Mary Kelth, Mark Conrad and Sandy Spence — were deserving winners.



Venue for the competition, Kerry County Airport, Farranfore, home of the Cork Skydiving Club.

photos by Liam Mulcahy

MORE SCOTTISH STARS

If you'd strolled into the Star Hotel in Auchterarder on Saturday night 28th May, you'd wonder what the hell was going on. Songs were being sung, guitars played and ample ales consumed. Harry Morgan doing a strip on the pool table? What is this you'd ask. Well, what it was in fact, was the members of the Scottish Parachute club celebrating the two eight-man stars we'd just got that day.

All in all, seven members of the club gained their SCR awards with a lot of help from Mark (the hat) Conrad, who organised the loads, and Jack Gregory, both from the States.

The second jump of the day saw the building of the first eight-man over Scotland to include Scottish jumpers and it equalled the previous eight-man record held by some visiting Englishmen back in April '74. Six of us got our SCR's on this one. On our next jump we got another eight-man with Harry Morgan gaining both his SCR and SCS when he closed eighth. The star broke as Jack came in ninth but at least we had a nine-man link which is still something of a record for us.

Our success was worthy reward for the many attempts we've had over the last few months to build these elusive stars, the seven members being the first of many more who are sure to win Star Crest awards in Scotland this summer.

Credit must go to Mark and Jack though, for giving us the confidence and attitude needed to go up and build a star. It was unfortunate that Biff Burn, who has put a lot of effort into getting us up to standard on all our other attempts, missed the big day due to his judging commitments at the Nationals. Rumour has it he couldn't eat for days when he found out what we did without him.

Previous attempts have always included some of Scotland's best jumpers and occasionally visitors from the South, but things just never seemed to click together properly. The best we got was a six-man with a few bodies round about. It was on the morning of Saturday 28th that things started to move in the right direction. We counted the heads and had a promising ten-man load. Mark organised the ride, everybody being given a slot they could handle well with a solid front five picked from the pool in such a compromising way as to leave good capable flyers in the trail plane.

After a lot of dirt dives, we took off, the first lift of the day, and ran in at 11,000. The build up was a bit ropey to say the least, with the pin dropping out of sight. Only four from the lead plane got together with Harry Morgan coming out three and pinning Kenny Davidson. Donny Gillies and Kath McCormack closed three and four. Mark closed five from the ten slot, Richard Arkle came in six and and I'm afraid I wiped it out docking seventh. When I took wrists, I slid over Harry's back which brought a big smile to his face but ruined the star. We debriefed the whole thing and Mark went over some of the points he . . . eh . . . couldn't help noticing on the jump. Everybody was either in or close to the star but it was the first jump of the day and we hoped the next one would be smoother. For the next jump, a couple of slots had been changed with Harry in the trail plane now and me in the lead. After more dirt dives we took off and ran in again at 11,000, with Ronnie Groat and Dave Hunter, our pilots, forming the planes with their usual expertise, Ronnie making Staccato noises like a machine-gun all the way up as he followed Dave. One banana . . . two banana . . . and out we went. Billy Sommerville, the super swooper, actually pinned Kenny this time. Donny closed three, I came in four and Kath made it a five. The lead five had got together and it



was nice and stable. Already the trail plane mob were arriving and Jack docked six. Richard Arkle closed seven. Everybody was looking across the group at the people opposite. I could see Donny's false teeth rattling in the slipstream, his head nodding away as he counted who was in. Kenny was looking at Jack's Wonderhop and decided to change his kit again (guess who's getting his Strato Piglet 2?). Richard wore a smile that I last saw on the wrapper of a Nestle's "Five Boys" chocolate bar. Then everybody's eyes turned to Mark who was making his approach. As he docked there was an explosion of emotion like we'd won the pools or something. The screaming was even heard on the ground. We got it together by 6,500 and held it for eight seconds before a grip was lost and we broke. Under canopy, the scene was the same, everybody still screaming. Richard threw away his ripcord in sheer excitement.

On the ground our fellow jumpers were dancing about, cheering as soon as they saw it was an eight. It was something that every jumper from static-line upwards had been waiting for; our own first eight-man.

As I said, we'll be doing more attempts whenever there's ten bodies available so if you want some real good skydiving, why not come up to Strathallan and get your SCR or maybe even your SCS. It's certainly worth the trip up.

SCR 7133

Ricky Fleming C2348

P.S. Don Bruce and Mary Keith have just got their SCR's as well and Biff closed eighth again.

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Frenchie records Teddy about to go "down the pipe" over Pope Valley

BUZZ'S CANADIAN COLUMN

The 1977 Canadian National Championships were held in St. Antoine, which is 35 miles east of Montreal and were notable for several reasons; weather, television coverage, sponsorship and an accuracy jump off. The weather did not co-operate as the wind blew steadily at 20-25 mph almost all the week. By using the evening calm we had managed only five rounds of accuracy and one round of eight man by the end of the fourth day and things were looking exceedingly dim. It was now a case of early (6 am) starts and late finishes. Fortunately the weather was now co-operating as the wind had dropped to below 20 mph (only just) and in two days we ran 10 rounds of four man, 5 rounds of eight man, 5 rounds of style and one round of accuracy. At one point the eight man was being run out of Twin Beeches, at the same time as style was being run out of C-185's. Needless to say this attempt to make maximum use of the time and weather available gave the judges a busy time. This performance is all the more impressive as we had eleven four man teams, six eight man teams, and twenty six stylists. The Friday and Saturday were blown and washed out respectively, although an abortive attempt to run one round of accuracy gave rise to a protest to the jury, as to whether the scores for the jumps that had been made should stand or not.

On Saturday night the decision was made to call the eight man event as with six complete rounds, further jumping would be unlikely to change the standings. There was some feeling to call the accuracy event as well but the meet director decided wisely to continue right to the last. Next morning dawned clear and calm and the final four rounds of accuracy were run off. That was not the end of the competition, as Pierre Forand and Grnter Stefan were tied with ten discs each. A five round jump off was organised, but did nothing to break the tie as each stomped a further five discs, to set a joint new Canadian accuracy record. The results are as follows:

4 Man	Terminal Eyes	66 points (10 rounds)
8 Man	Rocky Mountain High	17 points (6 rounds)
Style (M)	Pierre Forand	6.72 sec (avg)
	(F) Brenda Blue	8.62 sec (avg)
Accuracy (M)	Pierre Forand)	0.00
	Grnter Stefan)	
	(F) Kathy Cox	0.15 (avg)

Terminal Eyes is a team from Abbotsford, B.C., while Rocky Mountain High was a combination of T. Eyes and Sundance, the second place four man team. Both will be going to Australia in November.

The sponsorship came from Molson Breweries, who have apparently decided that it suits their marketing policies to become more involved in amateur sports. Their involvement this year basically consisted of organising a pre-meet press conference and arranging and paying for a television network (CTV) to cover the event and produce a half hour show on Wide World of Sport, which was shown countrywide two weeks after the competition. For CSPSA and parachuting in general this coverage was excellent public relations and we have every hope that the relationship with Molson will continue in future years.

Our invitation to the Cuban team to participate was never answered, so I guess our brief flirtation with international politics can be considered a wash out.

In my last column I mentioned that we had established standards in order for any individual or team to automatically qualify as a member of the National Parachute Team. As can be seen Terminal Eyes averaged 6.6 points per round thereby automatically qualifying, while the

eight man team did not meet the standard. The BoD decided to send the eight man team in any case, so we will have a full delegation in Australia in November.

The team standards for the 1978 team have been set and are:

Overall Score:	Male	3.9 points
	Female	4.35 points

The overall score is based on:

	Style	Accuracy
Male	7.6 avg.	0.10 avg.
Female	8.2 avg.	0.25 avg.

Based on this year's results our competitors have a long way to go.

The fund raising "Great Canadian Chute Out" is now over and raised a gross total of \$4600, netting \$2300 after expenses. While this is not as much as was hoped, for a first time it was successful and plans are now underway to organise next year.

That's all for now

BUZZ

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REVIEW

(more from Dan Poynter)

No one has written more than Dan Poynter about the technical aspects of sport parachuting equipment with such authority. For fifteen years he's been totally committed in parachuting, flying and rigging, and, more recently, hang gliding. "The Parachute Manual", published originally in loose leaf binder form in 1972, has already established itself as the ultimate authority on parachute equipment. It's certainly the riggers 'Bible' and when I reviewed it originally in 1972 I suggested every club ought to have a copy for reference. The new eagerly awaited bang up to date second edition is now with us in a paper back format with 500 pages of vital information on all American equipment including Strato-Star and Cloud, SST, Throw-away Pilot 'Chutes, R 2's and the Three Ring Circus. Apart from being the complete rigging and equipment manual, it also contains fascinating background history that is well worth reading. I make no apology for repeating that I believe every club ought to have a copy and that all club members be encouraged to devour its contents on bad weather afternoons.

The second book is the recently published paperback "Parachute Rigging Course" also by Dan Poynter. This is definitely aimed at aspiring riggers, and, whilst it is orientated to those wishing to achieve an American FAA Senior Riggers Certificate, it is a valuable question and answer presentation of vital rigging knowledge. Perhaps our own BPA Advanced Riggers could get together with this course and agree how they could use it as a basis for their own rigging examinations. Its 60 pages of small print contain a comprehensive programme of 16 lessons which include: Familiarisation, Rigging Equipment, knots etc, Fabrics & Thread, Sewing Machines, Patching, AoD's, Regulations, Design, Materials, History, Hardware, Inspection, Parts, Maintenance and Packing. I thoroughly recommend it.

Both these books are obtainable from Thomas Sports Equipment, Top Floor, 102-104 St. John Street, Bridlington, North Humberside- phone 0262-78299. "The Parachute Manual"-£19.53 less postage "Parachute Rigging Course"-£8.28 less postage

C S-S

LEGAL NOTICE

Clubs should be aware of a recent case involving a B.P.A. Affiliated Club, The Cheshire Parachute Club, where landowners had obtained an injunction against the Club's landlord restraining him from permitting parachuting activities, and the take-off, over-flying and landing of aircraft.

In this case the injunction had been obtained ex parte, that is to say, on the application of the Plaintiff without giving the opportunity for the Defendant to be heard in opposition. Such injunctions are only granted in very urgent cases where irreparable harm is likely to occur, and where there is no time for a full hearing. In this particular case it was granted for just over a week, during which time a County Court summons was served. Unfortunately, the Summons did not come to the notice of the Parachute Club, who were not directly involved in the action, until some days later, by which time the injunction had been made permanent until the hearing of the action. Obviously, this brought parachuting activities to a complete stand-still.

The Club sought legal advice and the financial backing of the B.P.A. to have the injunction removed, as a result of which application was made to the Court. The grounds of the application were that, whilst technical trespass was admitted in that there had been occasional landings on the Plaintiff's land, these were not deliberate and they caused no damage. Further, there is an express right given in the Civil Aviation Act 1949 to overfly other people's property provided this is exercised reasonably, and it follows that take-offs and landings in accordance with normal aviation practice are a reasonable exercise of this right. The Judge held that an interim injunction pending a full hearing was not appropriate in this type of case because any trespass of which the Plaintiff complained could be compensated for in money terms, and accordingly lifted the injunction. The case now appears to be proceeding on the issue as to whether or not any damage has been suffered by the Plaintiffs and it

remains to be seen whether the Plaintiffs will press on to a trial. At the trial, if trespass is proved, there is a possibility that a permanent injunction could be granted restraining such trespass.

The purpose of this note is to bring the attention of Clubs the need to take immediate advice from the B.P.A. if they are threatened with proceedings for trespass or nuisance. The B.P.A. can in urgent circumstances make a limited award of up to £250.00 to cover the cost of immediate legal action which is needed, pending the next Council Meeting at which Clubs can put their case for further assistance. It is stressed, however, that this does not relieve Clubs of the requirement to carry out their parachuting operations in a responsible manner, nor to help themselves financially in such a situation. It is important in appropriate cases to fight such hostile action, as once landowners get the impression that they can stop parachuting operations willy-nilly by applying for an ex-parte injunction, the idea will soon spread amongst the community, with resulting detriment to the parachuting scene generally.

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BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, 30th JUNE, 1977 held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT

W. J. Meacock — <i>Chairman</i>	
J. T. Crocker	D. Orton
D. Peacock	W/O E. Lewington
J. Petherbridge	W/O J. Laing
P. G. Mitchell	D. Waterman
P. A. Howell	P. J. Prior
J. Sharples	D. L. Howerski
J. L. Thomas	D. I. Waugh
R. H. Swainson	I. B. Wright (<i>Co-opted</i>)
M. Chapman	Mjr. T. H. Ridgway (<i>Representing Chairman</i> <i>A.P.A. — Co-opted</i>)

IN ATTENDANCE

Sqn Ldr W. Paul — *Sec. Gen.*
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds — *NC/SO*
S. W. Talbot
T. Sawyer
R. W. Dyson
and ten observers.

APOLOGIES

J. Norris (On holiday)

Item 33/77

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Competitions. The minutes of the meeting of 8th June 1977, as previously distributed, were received by Council and the following points arose:

- (1) **Selection of British Team for World Championships.** The Committee recommended that the 8-man team be the Symbiosis team and the 4-man be the RAFSPA team. Mr. Peacock pointed out that three members of the Committee were not at the meeting, himself, the NC/SO and Mr. Howerski. Mr. Peacock disassociated himself from the committee's recommendation and was of the view that only a 4-man team should be sent and that be the Symbiosis team which won the 4-man National Championships Event.

There was considerable discussion over the fact that no guide lines had been laid down prior to the National Championships governing the situation which had arisen from there being only one 8-man team in the National Championships event and that a 4-man from the same team had won the 4-man event. There seemed to be a case for laying down a base standard which any team must attain if it is to be considered for selection for World Championships. The Competitions Committee to note this for consideration in future planning.

The meeting having considered the Committee's recommendation, the following proposals were put forward:

- (a) Proposed by D. Waugh and seconded by D. Orton that the Symbiosis 8-man team and the RAF 4-man team be selected to represent this country in the 1977 World RW Championships.
- (b) Proposed by D. Peacock and seconded by W/O E. Lewington that the Symbiosis 4-man team *only* be selected to represent the country.

On being put to the vote the former proposal was carried by 11 votes for with 4 against.

b. Safety and Training. The minutes of the meeting of 2nd June 1977, as previously distributed, were received by Council and the following points arose:

- (1) **Tape Recording — RW Seminar.** Mr. Waterman informed the meeting that he had a tape recording of a RW Seminar and would be happy to produce copies for CCI's if they care to send him a blank tape for the purpose.
- (2) **'Square' Canopy Malfunctions.** The Chairman read a letter he had written to the Chairman of the STC in which he suggested that in view of the fact that probably 80% of the serious malfunctions at his centre (Peterborough) involved 'square' canopies, the Association should send out a circular

to all clubs and in each copy of the magazine, requesting information on such malfunctions. The information to include:

1. Deployment System used.
2. How the Canopy was packed.
3. Details of the Malfunction.

The matter of 'Square Canopy Malfunctions' would be an Agenda Item for the next STC meeting.

- (3) **Refreshments at STC Meetings.** Mr. Crocker referred to the excellent attendances at STC meetings and pointed out that some CCI's drive a journey of 3 or 4 hours to attend. He sought Council's approval for an approach to the girls in the office to work some overtime to provide coffee and biscuits — a small gesture of appreciation in return for the time and constructive contribution those attending STC meetings give to the BPA, bearing in mind that they are not paid expenses towards the cost of their arrangements — he also undertook to investigate the possibility of having a machine installed.

c. National Centre. The minutes of the meeting of 27th June 1977, as previously distributed, were received by Council and the following points arose:

- (1) **Composition of the Committee.** Mr. Waugh regretted he had found it necessary to withdraw from the Committee. A request to amend the Council Minutes of 19th May 1977 to correct the omission of W/O Laing and D. Waterman as members of the committee was accepted. The Committee would now comprise:

P. G. Mitchell — <i>Chairman</i>	
D. Waterman	G. C. Sutton (<i>Independent</i> <i>Advisor</i>)
W/O J. Laing	P. A. Howell (<i>In attendance</i> <i>as required</i>)
J. Sharples	
P. J. Prior (<i>as required</i>)	

- (2) **Function of the Committee.** The Committee had referred to the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 19th May 1977 setting up the Committee and felt the wording was not sufficiently absolute in its instructions to the Committee who had the impression that their function was to make a workable plan for (a) the trial period, and (b) the long term. The Committee requested that the Sec. Gen. amend the Council's Minutes to clarify this beyond any possibility of misconstruction. On seeking guidance as to the text of such amendment, the Chairman of the NCC agreed to provide this at a later date.

Mr. P. G. Mitchell, Chairman of the NCC explained the business conducted at the meeting of 27th June 1977 (Minutes attached). The Agenda comprised:

1. Committee and its Function.
2. Objectives of a National Centre.
3. Facilities at a National Centre.
4. Financing of the National Centre.
5. Expenses.
6. Memorandum by W/O J. Laing.
7. Draft Agreement between Worcestershire Gliding Club and the BPA.
8. Other Business:
 - (a) Calendar of Events.
 - (b) Venues of Meetings and Expenses.
 - (c) Reciprocal use of Facilities with the Midland Parachute Centre.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Mr. Mitchell and his Committee for the thorough beginning they had made to what was an important and extensive task.

Forward Planning. Mr. Howell, as Chairman of the FPC stated he still awaited updating figures regarding aircraft, DZ locations and problems facing clubs. The Sec. Gen. reported that nothing new had been received in response to the letter sent to all clubs in February. A summary of information received to date would be prepared by the Sec. Gen.

Mr. Howell referred to the fact that in a short space of time two situations had arisen (viz. Southern Counties Parachute Club

and Cheshire Parachute Club) where early legal advice had to be given.

Mr. R. W. Dyson, Secretary, Cheshire Parachute Club, was invited to address the meeting concerning the current problem facing the club. This was that the club had been deprived of its DZ facility because an injunction and claim for damages in respect of parachuting activities which had been served on the landowner. Mr. Howell was engaged in advising and helping the club in taking the matter legally to its logical conclusion. Mr. Dyson formally requested financial assistance from the BPA towards the legal costs which would be involved.

Mr. Howell outlined the current legal situation and stressed that this sort of action could, if allowed to go unchallenged, prove to be a most serious threat to sport parachuting all over the country.

It was proposed by Mr. Crocker and seconded by Mr. Howerski that a sum of up to £500.00 be allocated to the Cheshire Parachute Club towards meeting the legal costs of fighting the action with the proviso that the first £100.00 of the costs be met by the club.

Carried Unanimously.

It was also agreed that Mr. Howell would report back to the BPA (as 'joint clients') and that he prepare an affidavit based on the lines of that used in the Headcorn case — a copy of this was handed over by the Chairman to Mr. Howell.

Item 34/77

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Arising from the situation of Southern Counties Para Club and Cheshire Para Club — Mr. Howell felt there was a case for setting up some form of legal assistance fund or some arrangement whereby financial assistance could be made available at short notice where a club was threatened with legal action, e.g. that the Sec. Gen. in consultation with the Chairman should be in a position to agree immediate financial assistance up to an agreed figure. It was accepted that upon receipt of a request for such aid, Mr. Howell, Mr. Crocker or Mr. Sutton would be contacted for guidance.

It was proposed by Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Swainson that the Sec. Gen. in consultation with the Chairman and one or the other of Mr. Howell, Mr. Crocker and Mr. Sutton, be empowered to approve immediate financial assistance to a club of up to a maximum of £250.00 towards legal expenses in circumstances which to them seem proper and where such immediate action is shown to be absolutely necessary.

Carried Unanimously.

Item 35/77

AFFILIATION — FREE FALL CLUB (LANGAR)

This application, previously turned down by Council at its meeting of 19th May 1977 (Item 29/77), had been again submitted by the Club Chairman (Mr. T. Sawyer) who was in attendance to provide Council with such supporting information as may be required.

It was proposed by W/O E. Lewington and seconded by D. Howerski that the application be approved.

Carried by 11 votes to 5.

Item 36/77

APPLICATION FOR BPA MEMBERSHIP — Mr. T. Sawyer.

This application, previously turned down by Council at its meeting of 19th May 1977 (Item 29/77), had again been submitted. The meeting took due note of Mr. Sawyer's activities since the meeting of 19th May and whilst it seemed he was coming closer to Council's requirements it was felt that further proof of this was required if Council was to change its previous decision.

It was proposed by D. Orton and seconded by J. Petherbridge that the application be refused.

Carried by 13 votes to 4.

It was further proposed by W/O E. Lewington and seconded by D. Waugh that decision to refuse the application be reviewed at the September meeting of Council.

Carried by 13 votes to 2.

Item 37/77

PREVIOUS MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

1. **Adriatic Cup** (Item 28/77 B2). The Sec. Gen. confirmed that the Adriatic Cup Championships would be held at VSAR, Yugoslavia, from 10th to 19th September 1977. A copy of Bulletin No. 1 was handed over to Mr. Waugh for use by the Duck End Team (s) who had expressed interest in entering the Championships.
2. **Video System** (Item 28/77 B3). Mr. Waterman stated that in his submission concerning team training for the World Championships he had included a suggestion that it would be of immeasurable value as a training aid if the video system could be given a free fall capability. On the matter of insurance for the equipment, it was Mr. Waterman's view that this should not present a problem; his cameras are insured for parachuting. He also stated that he had jumped with similar equipment. The Sec. Gen. reported that the suppliers of the BPA video equipment had informed him that they were currently working on a system for use in free fall and would be advising him of the details in due course. The matter was left in abeyance till further information was available.
3. **Sports Aid Foundation** (Item 28/77 B4). The Chairman read a letter which the Sec. Gen. had submitted with the applications in respect of the members of the Symbiosis Team. The SAF had acknowledged receipt of the applications and covering letter. The applications should go before the Committee of Advisors in early July.
4. **Team Travel to World Championships** (Item 28/77 B6). To date no Bulletins had been received from Australia. The NC/SO had written for information and a reply was awaited. Lufthansa Airlines had contacted the Sec. Gen. but could give no indication of what concessions, if any, would be available. The airline was however able to provide a photocopy of the Entry Form which was now with the Sec. Gen. In view of the lack of printed information and the shortage of time, the meeting agreed that a telephone call to Australia was justified, particularly to get information on what, if any, training facilities would be available. If such information was not forthcoming, consideration may well have to be given to arranging training facilities in the USA. On the matter of air travel, it was agreed that the Sec. Gen. contact the RAF to ascertain what assistance may be expected in transporting the British Team to Australia, or at least the RAF element of the Team.
5. **BPA Scholarship Scheme** (Item 28/77 D). This was still being considered and would be reported on at the next meeting.
6. **British Collegiate Parachute Association** (Item 30/77.3). The meeting received an application from the BCPA for Affiliation to the BPA.
Proposed by J. T. Crocker and seconded by D. Orton that the BCPA be affiliated.
Carried Unanimously.
Proposed by J. L. Thomas and seconded by D. L. Howerski that a representative of the BCPA be co-opted to the BPA Council.
Carried Unanimously.
7. **Outstanding Loan— Wessex Parachute Club** (Item 30/77.b). Mr. Crocker reported that he had written to Mr. Donovan but had not received a reply. Mr. Waugh reported that so far as he was aware Duck End had paid over the money for the purchase of the Wessex Club aircraft. It was agreed that Mr. Crocker would now proceed with legal action to recover the outstanding loan.
8. **Public Relations** (Item 30/77.5). The Chairman's letter was now with the Sec. Gen. who was preparing a list of addresses from the Business Directory.
9. **Training Aids— Suspended Harnesses** (Item 30/77.7). The 20 frames were now ready and Mr. Thomas reported that his 10 harnesses were almost ready. Mr. Talbot would get his 10 harnesses ready as soon as possible — he had been awaiting a confirmatory order.

The collection of the frames from Mr. Patton could present a problem unless clubs were prepared to collect these direct from Mr. Patton. Mr. Prior kindly offered the services of Bulmer's Depots. The 20 could be deposited at the Leeds Depot and from there be distributed to other Depots as appropriate. The Sec. Gen. would liaise with Mr. Prior who was thanked for his kind offer of assistance.

10. **Council Minutes** (Item 31/77). The matter of making use of a shorthand typist to record and produce the Minutes of Council Meetings was again raised. It was proposed by D. Peacock and seconded by D. Waugh that: a shorthand typist be employed for a trial period of three meetings with the requirement that the Minutes are sent to the Chairman within 48 hours from the date of any Council Meeting.

Carried Unanimously.

The Minutes of the meeting of 19th May 1977 having been accepted were signed by the Chairman.

Item 38/77

OTHER BUSINESS

British Civil Aviation Standing Conference (BSASC). The Sec. Gen. presented the First Annual Report of the BCASC (May 1977). He pointed out that the BPA was not a member and gave some background information as to the function of the Standing Conference. He suggested it would be in BPA's interest to seek membership as a subscribing member — there was no fixed subscription rate. It was proposed by Mr. Crocker and seconded by Mr. Prior that:

BPA apply for membership of the BCASC and that a subscription of £25.00 be offered.

Carried Unanimously.

Item 39/77

Mr. P. R. Shurlock — CAA.

A letter had been received from Mr. Shurlock thanking the BPA for its letter of good wishes on his retirement from the CAA. It was proposed by Mr. Petherbridge and seconded by Mr. Chapman that:

A tankard be presented to Mr. Shurlock, suitably inscribed, in appreciation of his services to the BPA.

Carried Unanimously.

Item 40/77

Staff Salaries — Sec. Gen. and NC/SO.

The text of this Minute is being produced by the Chairman BPA and will be added later.

Item 41/77

H.M. Customs and Excise/Midland Para Centre

This item was originally introduced to Council business (30.3.77) on the basis of a submission by Mr. Crocker that the Customs and Excise investigation of the Midland Parachute Centre was a matter which warranted Council's attention. The matter was again discussed in Council on 19th May 1977 (Minutes issued under Confidential cover to Council Members only). The meeting now received further information from Mr. Crocker and Mr. Talbot, both of whom produced copies of letters between themselves and H.M. Customs and Excise.

On the basis of what was heard, it was decided that the matter was far from conclusive and *not* one for Council business.

It was proposed by Mr. Howerski and seconded by W/O Lewington that: the matter be dropped completely from Council business.

Carried by 12 votes to 3.

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 4th August 1977 at Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT:

W.J. Meacock-Chairman	Mjr. G. O'Hara (co-opted rep. Brg. Chiswell)
D. Orton	J. Sharples
P.J. Prior	J. Norris
D. Waterman	J.L. Thomas
P.G. Mitchell	D. Turner (co-opted)
I.B. Wright (co-opted)	D.I. Waugh
WO. E. Lewington	R.H. Swainson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sqn. Ldr. W. Paul-Sec. Gen.
G.C.P. Shea-Simonds-NCSSO
Mrs. H. Mitchell

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

M. Chapman
J.T. Crocker
D. Howerski

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. H. Mitchell as Minutes Secretary, and Mr. D. Turner who has been co-opted to Council as Secretary of the British Collegiate Parachute Association.

Item 42/77

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Safety & Training

- (1) Initiated by a letter from J. Meacock it had been agreed that S.T.C. collate information on ram air malfunctions. NCSO has circulated 20 pro-forma report forms to each club and display team, and he stressed that if any benefit were to be obtained it was vital that these report forms be filled in and returned.
- (2) The proposed change in the main rip cord pull for students was unanimously rejected.
- (3) Incident reports were discussed, and the NCSO stressed that one of the major points arising from these reports was the fact that hard helmets were decidedly instrumental in preventing serious injury and even death, and the S.T.C. will consider, at its next Meeting, whether or not hard helmets should be mandatory throughout sport parachuting.

- (4) Medical Certificates—it was proposed that if a prospective student had only one eye, that this should not be an automatic disqualification from sport parachuting if the good eye was compensating adequately, The Secretary General produced a new draft of the medical certificate which is in two parts, one part for retention by the doctor and the other part, bearing the doctor's official stamp, for retention by the parachutist. The Secretary General undertook to ensure that this draft covered the intentions of S.T.C.

B. Second Meeting- National Centre

- (1) Facilities—it was ascertained that M.P.C. were able to offer the following facilities to the National Centre.
(a) Aeroplane (b) Packing Shed
(c) Basic para. equip. (d) Landing pit.
and the Sub-Committee formally requested the use of these facilities from M.P.C. and in return offered the use of a Lecture Room in the club house which will be under the control of the BPA. The Committee looks forward to confirmation of these arrangements from the Chairman of M.P.C.

(2) Expenditure:

- (a) Overheads—the Committee estimate that overheads of all kinds will cost £2,400 for the trial period.
- (b) Equipment—the equipment budget was submitted and modified by events that have taken place since the Committee Meeting, and now reads as follows:
Basic caravan accommodation—£250
Cooker, fridge and freezer—No cost
(P.J. Prior has obtained the first two of these items at no cost, cost of freezer yet to be ascertained).
Lecture room table & chairs—£150
(Possibly being provided by P.J. Prior at no cost).
Four blower heaters—£40
Basic kitchen utensils—£100
(Possibly being provided by P.J. Prior at no cost).
Office furniture—No cost
(Being provided by P.J. Prior at no cost).
One suspended harness—£60
Extra gravel for pit ext.—£340

It was felt that the landing pit is by no means placed in the best position, but that for the trial period we would have to be satisfied with an extended pit in the same position.

Item

The Committee had originally estimated that equipment may cost marginally in excess of £1,000 but P. Mitchell requested to be allowed to submit a final budget at a later date when further information is available.

P.J. Prior was thanked for the remarkable success of his efforts in finding such valuable sources of equipment.

(c) Events-It was felt that insofar as events will be similar to those already held at other venues, costs would not differ significantly, and insofar as new events are to be mounted, they should be largely self-financing.

(d) The Secretary General reported that he had bid to the Sports Council for £750 toward overheads for the first three months of operation of a TRIAL PERIOD, which bid he feels will not prejudice any grant which we might obtain with regard to a PERMANENT CENTRE.

(3) **Planning Permission:**

P. Howell had reported to the Sub-Committee that his application to revive planning permission for the club house had been deferred by the Local Planning Authority until such time as they could make a site visit, and he reiterated his intention not to press for an established use certificate for parachuting purposes until the former planning permission has been obtained. The Committee expressed some concern that the question of planning permissions may not finally be settled prior to financial commitment by the BPA. P. Howell replied that there was no reason not to hold the trial period at Bickmarsh even if this remained an open question, and that the trial period would at least serve to prove the viability or otherwise of the concept in practice, of a national centre.

P.G. Mitchell has confirmed with G. Sutton that it is entirely possible that at the end of the trial period the BPA would be refused permission to operate a permanent centre, and that if this did occur, the total cost of £4,000 (less recoverables) would have to be written off as the cost of the experiment. The Chairman of the N.S.C. regarded this development re planning permissions as a significant step backwards, and invited P. Howell to appraise Council of the situation.

P. Howell said that it was common knowledge that wherever there is flying there are objections, and that tactics must be to proceed gradually in reviving a building permission and an established use certificate; it is therefore his intention not to appeal against the postponement at this stage, but to allow events to follow a less contentious course, even though the time scale has now been lengthened beyond original estimates.

The Meeting noted the following comments during discussion:

- (1) Prolonged wrangling with Local Authority during the trial would not benefit the BPA in any way.
- (2) At the Ashbourne enquiry, it has been ruled that parachuting was NOT an integral part of general aviation.
- (3) That if the BPA failed in its attempt to obtain the necessary permissions, this would probably herald the end of M.P.C. at Bickmarsh.
- (4) That should the trial period fail during the course of 1978 the major problem of resiting all of the planned events would arise, and with this in mind Council agreed to ask for bids to host the National Championships in 1978 as a contingency plan.

In view of the technicalities involved, and mindful of Council's responsibility to the membership, P.G. Mitchell proposed that G. Sutton be formally briefed to give an independent opinion on planning permission, and to advise Council as to the courses of action open to it. This was seconded by E. Lewington.

Carried unanimously-P. Howell abstaining as an interested party.

(4) **Fund Raising:**

The Committee recommended that no fund raising activities should be undertaken with regard to the trial period, and that all events in this respect are to be deferred in favour of a major fund raising activity for a permanent national centre.

c. **Forward Planning:**

Scholarship Scheme-the Secretary General reported that in his response to an appeal for sponsorship of a scholarship

Ian Wright suggested that other parachute manufacturers be approached to contribute towards the scheme, and it was agreed to approach the following:

Para Gear.	S. Schneider.
North American	Pioneer
Chuck Embery	Strong Enterprises
Security	E.F.A.
Thomas Sport Equip- ment.	

d. **Competitions:**

Minutes of the Competitions Committee Meeting of 6th July 1977 as previously distributed were received by Council, and the following points arose:

- (1) The PA were unable to grant use for 8 man team training of the Army Islander since the aircraft belongs to J.S.P.C. and is not under the control of A.P.A. On behalf of Brg. Chiswell, Major G. O'Hara stated that when the A.P.A. had acquired its own Islander (or similar aircraft) that this might well be made available for 8 man training: the delivery date of the aircraft to A.P.A. is uncertain.
- (2) D. Peacock reported that having initially decided to carry out phase 3 training at Pope Valley, it has now been decided, in view of the fact that a training camp is to be set up in Australia, to carry out phase 3 training there.
- (3) It was noted with regret that the Sports Aid Foundation had again rejected the Symbosis application for a grant towards their Pope Valley training earlier in the year, and that this rejection still appears to be based on a lack of understanding of the essentially team quality of relative work. The ruling received from the S.A.F. indicates that this matter is now closed, but it is hoped that in similar circumstances we may be more successful with future applications.
- (4) The Secretary General reported that he had bid to the Sports Council for £12,667 to cover pre-training and £10,000+ to cover travel and the competition itself.
- (5) D. Waterman explained how the phased training will be carried out, and the way in which the budget for this training would be used. He drew the Council's attention to the fact that at this time the Symbosis 8 man team are not able to jump from an 8 place aircraft. He also informed Council that he was mounting a small promotion campaign and asked the BPA to cover the cost of postage, distribution etc. The Council agreed to this request.
- (6) The Secretary General announced that he has made provisional arrangements for the delegation and spectators to move out on the 1st November on Apex fare to Sydney and then on to Brisbane. All excess baggage to a total of 55 lbs. per man will be at no cost. After the event there will be cheque made payable, by the Airline, to the BPA team fund (so that the airline are assisting us without breaching the I.A.T.A. Agreements). Cost per man will be in the region of £600.

The Secretary General reported that the RAF were considering providing transport for the RAF 4 man team, but that it would be unwise to rely on such transport being available. He has written to the Organisers informing them of our intention to compete in the World Championships, and the formal entry form will follow at a later date.

Item 43/77

BPA Trophies

Council considered whether any individual or team winning an event three times in succession should be allowed to retain the trophy. It was noted that our trophies were not replaceable, and it was proposed by L. Thomas and seconded by J. Sharples that a small scale replica should be given to such winners for their permanent retention.

Carried unanimously.

It was agreed to approach Endrust to request their permission to change the name on their trophy from 10 man event to 8 man event.

Item 44/77

BPA Certificates of Merit.

Comments had been received that the present Certificates of Merit were somewhat flimsy, and it was agreed that Fisher-print Limited should be approached with a view to printing the certificate on a heavier more durable card, with decoration

similar to that on the Sibson 1st Jump Certificate.

Item 45/77

Previous Minutes

(a) Composition of N.C.S.C.

P.G. Mitchell raised the point that it was his understanding that as a result of the Council Meeting at Bickmarsh on 27th June, C. Shea-Simonds was in fact a member of the Sub-Committee, whereas the Council Minutes redefining the composition of the Sub-Committee did not reflect this. He requested that the Secretary-General clarify the position of the NCSO (as a BPA Employee) since it was considered desirable that he should be a fully voting member of this Committee.

(b) Canopy R.W. Seminar Tape

Reference to this tape and its availability appears to have been omitted from the Minutes of the Safety & Training Committee, and it was requested that it appears in the next Agenda so that when the Minutes are published the Membership will be able to take advantage of the tape.

(c) Southern Counties Parachute Club

R. Swainson announced that the club had decided to move out of Holt Farm as this was now proving an impractical D.Z. for many reasons. The club now have a new D.Z. at Hattingly Fram near Alton. They hope to be operational at the new D.Z. on the August Bank Holiday. The Secretary General produced a report by the County Planning Offices at Chichester entitled "Parachuting in West Sussex". P. Howell was invited to scrutinise this document to determine policies being recommended in West Sussex.

(d) Cheshire Para Club

P. Howell reported that the application to remove the injunction came before the County Court on the 15th July. The Judge stated that where compensation is a proper remedy for damage caused by trespass, there should not be an interim injunction granted, and he removed it pending trial of the action. The club are now free to operate in a circumspect manner for the time being. It is as yet uncertain whether the landowners will take the action to trial, and the club have been advised to pay into court £20 compensation for technical trespass. Mr. Howell announced that the amount voted by Council toward legal costs was almost entirely used up, and argued that the action, as a test case, MUST be pursued to its conclusion. In spite of the already heavy costs, it was proposed by D. Waugh and seconded by D. Peacock that £250 be allocated to further legal costs and that P. Howell report progress at the next Council meeting. £50 of the above sum is to be recoverable from Cheshire Para Club whenever they are able to repay it: no interest is to be charged. Should any action be required before the next Council Meeting, the Chairman has absolute discretion to proceed as he sees fit.

Carried unanimously — P. Howell abstaining as an interested party.

(e) Video System

It was noted that the Competition Sub-Committee had recommended that the Video System accompany the delegation to Australia, such a championship meet being the optimum use to which the system could be put. It would be necessary to design proper packing for transit and to insure the system. It was decided that one man should be solely responsible for the equipment and its operation, and that this should be R. Burn. It is hoped that the system will be absorbed in the generous excess baggage allowance the Secretary General has negotiated, and on a report from the NCSO that the system is not suitable for jumping, no further action to implement jumping with video is to be taken at this stage.

(f) Outstanding Loan- Wessex Para Club

The Secretary General reported that so far no monies had been received in this respect.

(g) Staff Salaries

The following was approved for inclusion in the Minutes of the Meeting of 30th June.

The Chairman having requested the Secretary General and the NCSO to retire from the Meeting, the Council then discussed the current salaries of both individuals, and unanimously agreed a proposal by W.J. Meacock and seconded by D. Waugh that:

(a) in view of the increase in the effective work by the NCSO

his salary be set at £5,000 per annum plus a supplement of £500 for unsocial hours.

(b) in view of the increased range of responsibility in the Secretary General's work together with his length of service with the Association, his salary to be increased by £500 per annum.

The Council having previously required job specifications to be written by NCSO and the Secretary General—the Chairman read the job specification which has been submitted by NCSO and looks forward to receiving the Secretary General's submission in due course.

It was proposed by E. Lewington and seconded by P. Mitchell that when the Secretary-General's job specification is to hand, these documents should be circulated to all members of Council for comment, and that a small Committee be set up to review them in detail and report to Council.

Carried unanimously

(h) British Civil Aviation Standing Conference

The Secretary-General reported that we are members of the B.C.A.S.C. having paid our membership of £25 as agreed at the last Council Meeting.

It was proposed by D. Peacock and seconded by P. Prior that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting of 30th June, 1977.

OTHER BUSINESS

Item 46/77

Affiliation of Tyne & Wear Para Club

The club has been set up at Sunderland Airport. The Chairman is R. Nixon, Secretary P. Rice, C.C.I. W.J. Barnes. This is a week-end club with no limitations on membership and beginners are accepted. The Secretary General outlined the equipment and facilities under the control of the club, and reported that there are currently 20 members.

It was proposed by J. Norris and seconded by L. Thomas that Tyne & Wear club be affiliated to the B.P.A.

Carried unanimously

The Secretary-General had queried the status of Northumbria Parachute Club and has been informed that this club has totally ceased operations.

Item 47/77

Instructors' Manual

The Secretary-General presented the final version of the Instructors Manual to the Meeting and reported that the total cost of production is £6 per manual. In view of the fact that the documents have been issued free of charge to potential instructors attending courses, it was proposed by T. Lewington and seconded by P. Mitchell that the BPA continues to provide the Instructors Manual, now in bound form, free of charge to potential instructors, and that the manuals be offered for sale to the general membership at a cost of £7.50.

Carried by 14 votes-2 against

Item 48/77

Accounts

The Treasurer, P.G. Mitchell suggested to Council that a preliminary review of the accounts along the lines of the Treasurer's annual report to the membership be first given to Council and that a half yearly report might also serve to appraise Council of the current financial position.

It was proposed by P.J. Prior and seconded by E. Lewington that the Treasurer reports to Council in these terms.

Carried unanimously

Item 49/77

The Secretary General reminded Council of the £200 limit on cheques to which he is sole signatory. The internal control aspects of raising the limits to £500 were discussed, and it was agreed to raise the limit to £500 subject only to confirmation by the Treasurer that the Auditors had no objection to this.

Proposed by J. Thomas and seconded by D. Orton that the Bank Mandate be amended to allow the Secretary General to be sole signatory on cheques up to and including £500. (Confirmed by the Treasurer that the Auditors are in agreement with this proposal-8/9/1977).

Carried unanimously



Carl Boenish records the World Record 40 Man Box built at the end of the 1977 US Nationals. Congratulations to all concerned.

**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY & TRAINING COMMITTEE, TUESDAY 26th JULY 1977
held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester**

PRESENT

J. Meacock
C. Shea-Simonds
E. Strawson
A. Linley
M. Winwood
G. Long
P. Corr
D. Hickling
D. Orton
J. Sharples
R. Willis
E. Finney
D. Prince
R. Swainson
J. Barnes
A. Knight

Chairman
NC/SO
R.G.J.
B.P.C.
L.I.F.F.T.
A.P.A.
S.F.F.F.T.
Halfpenny Green
A.P.M.
M.P.C.
R.A.F.S.P.A.
M.S.P.C.C.
N.W.P.C.
S.C.P.C.
N.U.P.C.
C.P.C.

APOLOGIES

J. Crocker
J. Laing
N. Law
N. Addison
D. Peacock
J. Nickolls
P. Slattery
G. Shone

Item 1

RAM AIR MALFUNCTIONS

Initiated by a letter from J. Meacock, it was agreed that STC collate information on Ram Air Malfunctions, to include details of canopy, reefing system, packing method, type of malfunction etc. It was agreed that the NC/SO circulate a proforma to clubs, and that a notice appears in the next issue of S.P.

Item 2

MAIN RIPCORD PULL FOR STUDENTS

A letter from E. Finney proposing a change to right hand cross pull for students was discussed at length. The proposal was rejected unanimously, and it was emphasised that, in the interest of standardisation, the BPA recommended system was outboard right hand pull for students.

OBSERVERS

G. Fernie
D. Gays
A. Bromfield
K. Toyer
P. Hallwood
A. Johnson

D. Turner
S. Woods
J. Bromfield
B. Hill
S. Mulvaney

Item 3

REQUESTS FOR EXEMPTIONS TO ATTEND PI COURSES

The following were considered and decided upon unanimously:

- a. B. Hill — 10 jumps short of 150 — Approved.
- b. A. Wragg — 45 jumps short of 150 — Rejected.
- c. D. Turner — 5 months short of 2 years, but 200 jumps plus — Approved.
- d. A. Johnson — 7 months short of 2 years and no CCI's recommendation — Rejected.

Item 4

INCIDENT REPORTS

The following incidents were discussed:

- a. Cark. D. Prince reported on the premature reserve deployment in a Cessna 182 by an experienced parachutist at 5000 feet. The parachutist was dragged from the aircraft causing severe damage to the latter and severe injury to the former. The meeting stressed the old lessons of minimum movement in the aircraft and constant protection of ripcord handles.
- b. Lippspringe. A letter from T. Oxley reported a student being dragged from the Islander by a premature reserve deployment whilst moving into the exit position. The students hard helmet was shattering on impact with the door frame. The lessons agreed in para 4a above were reiterated.
- c. Kirkbride. A. Knight reported on a Strato Star malfunction where the parachutist had spent too long trying to sort it out, found himself too low to cutaway and landing under the malfunction which caused him serious injury. His ski helmet did not protect his head adequately. The meeting emphasised the importance of acting quickly in the case of a malfunction that needed cutting away. In view of this incident and the one outlined in para 4b above, it was agreed that the subject of mandatory use of hard helmets by all categories of parachutists be discussed as an agenda item at the next meeting and that clubs be notified.
- d. Loss of control lines on Ram Air Canopies. S. Wood reported on an incident where he had sustained a broken control line (inadequately 'finger trapped') on a Strato Cloud, and sub-

sequent pulling of the relevant rear riser had inflated that side of the canopy and allowed him to land safely. It was agreed that extreme caution should be exercised when modifying existing 'pig-tails' to 'finger trapping', and that use of the rear risers only may be the necessary action in the event of a control line breaking.

e. Netheravon. A report from J. Laing outlined an incident where a student's static line had come unhooked — she landed safely under her reserve. It was agreed the best static line hook was the .AML 122 available from Aircraft Materials Ltd. of Watford.

Item 5

ADVANCED INSTRUCTORS RATING

A letter from A. Bromfield proposing the improvement of the Advanced Rating was discussed at length. It was agreed that the emphasis on the Advanced Rating should be on teaching advanced techniques, and to this end it was agreed the NC/SO produce a paper on how this should be implemented. Any input from members of the Committee would be most welcome.

Item 6

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The previous minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

Item 7

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. A letter from K. Noble proposed that if a prospective student only had one eye, that this shouldn't be an automatic medical bar from sport parachuting, particularly if the good eye was compensating adequately. It was agreed that this was a fair proposal and that the NC/SO should discuss the amending of the BPA Medical Certificate with the BPA Medical Advisor, Dr. Murray Leslie.

b. P. Slattery requested an exemption from the 100 hour P.I. rule for a Jump Pilots Approval for a Mr. A. Dodd who had 115 hours total, 75 hours PI and an IMC Rating. This was agreed unanimously.

**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING,**

TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 1977, held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| J. Meacock | <i>Chairman</i> |
| C. Shea-Simonds | <i>NC/SO</i> |
| E. Strawson | <i>RGJ</i> |
| E. Lewington | <i>PRFFT</i> |
| J. Laing | <i>APA</i> |
| R. Willis | <i>RAFSPA</i> |
| M. Winwood | <i>LIFFT</i> |
| D. Hickling | <i>Halfpenny Green</i> |
| D. Orton | <i>APM</i> |
| J. Barnes | <i>TWPC</i> |
| D. Gillies | <i>SPC</i> |
| A. Linley | <i>BPC</i> |
| R. Swainson | <i>SCPC</i> |
| P. Young | <i>RSA</i> |
| M. Purves | <i>MHPC</i> |
| J. Hitchen | <i>SFFP</i> |
| T. Knight | <i>CPC</i> |
| J. Nickolls | <i>FFPL</i> |
| D. Prince | <i>NWPC</i> |
| E. Finney | <i>MSPC</i> |
| B. Jones | <i>LBFFC</i> |

OBSERVERS

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| R. Kalinski | M. Bolton |
| R. Hiatt | S. Swallow |
| A. Collingwood | K. Toyer |
| E. Hartley | J. Hartley |
| M. Geelan | P. Hicks |
| P. Hibberd | J. Curtis |
| D. Waterman | P. Fisher |

APOLOGIES

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| J. Crocker | N. Addison |
| N. Law | |

Item 1

CANOPY RW TAPE

Any club requiring a copy of a Roger Hulls taped seminar on Canopy RW should send a blank cassette to D. Waterman, 33 Leckhampton Road, Cheltenham, Glos. plus 20p to cover postage.

Item 2

INCIDENTS AT HEREFORD

a. A report from D. McCarthy alleged the Strongbow Skydivers had given a display onto Hereford Racecourse in over the limit surface winds. R. Walters of the Strongbow Skydivers admitted that the WDI had travelled 1700 yards and that the surface wind was approximately 18 knots on the D. Z. (there was no anemometer). It was agreed that the NC/SO write to R. Walters to say STC believed D. McCarthy has reasonable grounds for making his report but that no action would be taken in this case as the exact surface wind speed at the D.Z. could not be established.

b. A report from D. McCarthy gave details of the failure of the right oleo leg on the club's Cessna 182 whilst taxiing. Because of the static line of the student slowing the emergency exit of the other three jumpers in the aircraft, D. McCarthy recommended that all static line students be hooked up after the aircraft has climbed through 500 feet. This was discussed, and it was felt that S/L students having to exit the aircraft below 500 feet in an emergency on a reserve was not acceptable. The meeting agreed unanimously that the recommended method for all single engined aircraft be to hook up static lines before take off.

Item 3

PROTECTIVE HELMETS

It was agreed that the current ruling on protective helmets is not satisfactory, but an alternative could not be agreed. This was

due to the difficulty of defining "lightweight protective helmets". It was agreed that the matter be postponed until the next meeting so that CCI's could give it further thought.

Item 4

RAM AIR MALFUNCTIONS

The NC/SO reported that so far he had received some 50 Ram Air Malfunction Report Forms, and that he felt this did not reflect the true number. The committee agreed that every effort be made to encourage these report forms to be completed if Ram Air Malfunctions had occurred. If there was any trend so far, the NC/SO reported that poor packing seemed to be a prime cause. R. Hiatt kindly agreed to produce an article for Sport Parachutist on packing Ram Air Canopies.

Item 5

ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR RATINGS

There was discussion on how the Advanced Instructors Rating qualification be improved and it was unanimously agreed that the following be added to Appendix A of BPA Regulations:

- a. At the end of para. 2 add "To be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of Drop Zone Management."
- b. Add new sub-para. 3 d(3) "To have made 100 Ram Air Descents."
- c. Add newsub-para. 3 e "Must have attended a BPA PI/Exam Course for assessment as a BPA Advanced Instructor."

Item 6

35mm TRAINING SLIDES

The NC/SO showed the meeting some slides of sequences of Bag S/L Deployment. The meeting agreed that 3 sequences be duplicated (19 slides total) and be made available in sets to clubs at cost. Clubs would be informed as soon as the slides were available.

Item 7

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The previous minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

Item 8

JIM PETHERBRIDGE RIPCORD HANDLES

There have been two cases reported to the NC/SO of pins on Jim Petherbridge Ripcord Handles bending on packed assemblies. Jim Petherbridge feels these are probably isolated cases but agrees that clubs should check all their JP handles.

Item 9

ADVANCED INSTRUCTORS RATING — G. LONG

G. Long was recommended for an Advanced Instructors Rating by J. Meacock and C. Shea-Simonds. He fulfils the requirements including those in item 5 above with the exception that it was not clear from his log books whether he had made 100 Ram Air descents. The Advanced Rating was approved providing he could provide evidence of having made 100 Ram Air descents.

Item 10

LAPSED RATING — C. THOMPSON

C. Thompson of RAFSPA had allowed his Instructors Rating to lapse in 1972. His CCI., R. Willis, reported that he was working a good deal with RAFSPA, that he was extremely safe and that he recommended Thompson for renewal of his rating. The meeting agreed he should attend a BPA Exam Course to requalify as an instructor.

Item 11

QUALIFICATION FOR WATER DESCENTS

E. Lewington requested a minimum category qualification before undertaking water descents. After discussion it was agreed that the existing regulations (Section 14 para. 7) were adequate.

Item 12

EXEMPTION FROM JUMP PILOT REQUIREMENTS

J. Barnes requested an exemption for a pilot, J. Christopher, from the 100 hr. P.1. rule, (he has 93 hr. P.1.), and this was approved unanimously.

Item 13

INCIDENT IN HONG KONG

A report had been received from APA concerning an incident in Hong Kong where a S/L student had been dispatched with a main ripcord still in place as temporary pins. The meeting

unanimously agreed the following:

- a. That the jumpmaster, T. J. Leary, lose his BPA Approved Instructors Rating with effect from 6th September 1977 for a period of one year, and to have to undergo a BPA Exam Course to renew it.
- b. That the NC/SO write to D. Wright, the CCI, reminding him of his responsibility in reporting such incidents immediately to STC (The incident had occurred on 3rd July).

Item 14

TRAINING AT SPORT PARACHUTE CENTRE

D. Gillies reported that two students (who both supplied corroborative reports) had received next to no training prior to their first descents from George Phillips CCI at the time. The Committee agreed that this was a serious matter and that George Phillips' Instructors Rating be suspended with immediate effect until he attended an STC Meeting to provide further information.

Item 15

CESSNA 205 INCIDENT

M. Bolton submitted a report detailing an incident where a jump pilot, Mr. John Searson, prior to a display got the fully loaded aircraft, a Cessna 205, into a spin at 2,000 feet, finally recovering at around 800 feet. The meeting agreed that this was a serious incident and the NC/SO was asked to write to Mr. Searson inviting comment before STC took any action.

Item 16

RECIPROCITY OF BPA/USPA INSTRUCTORS RATINGS

The NC/SO reported on a letter from J. Scott Hamilton which suggested a reciprocity of BPA/USPA Instructors Ratings. The meeting agreed this was an excellent idea in concept and that the following be suggested to USPA:

- a. USPA Jump Master Rating be equivalent to BPA Potential Instructor's Rating.
- b. USPA Instructors Ratings be equivalent to BPA Instructors Ratings with proviso that any USPA Instructor wishing to instruct in this country be checked out by a BPA Advanced Instructor in order to achieve standardisation.

It was also agreed that the NC/SO investigate the various insurance implications.

Item 17

RENEWAL OF INSTRUCTORS RATING

T. McCartney requested renewal of an Approved Instructors Rating with only one Examiners signature, E. Lewington, as he was stationed in Hong Kong. This request was approved by APA and unanimously by STC.

Item 18

P.I. COURSE AT RAPA

It was reported that RAPA were planning to conduct a P.I. Course at Bad Lippspringe, yet approval to do so has not been obtained from STC in accordance with BPA Regs. It was agreed that the NC/SO write to T. Oxley to obtain details of the course in order that it can be approved at the next STC Meeting.

Item 19

R2's AND R3's

D. Orton proposed, as a result of widespread use and evaluation of R2 and R3 canopy releases, that they now be permitted for Category VIII parachutists. This was agreed unanimously, but it was emphasised that all other Capewell Substitutes be restricted to D Certificate holders.

Item 20

REQUEST FROM APA

G. Laing requested that APA Netheravon be added to the list of BPA Approved Rigging Establishments now that J. Hiley had qualified as a BPA Advanced Rigger. This request was approved unanimously. G. Laing also announced a basic rigging course in the near future at Netheravon with 4 civilian vacancies— bids for these vacancies to be sent to G. Laing at Netheravon as soon as possible.

Item 21

THROW AWAY PILOT 'CHUTES

Following a tail strike by a throwaway pilot 'chute, all users are reminded to ensure they are well clear of the aircraft before releasing the pilot 'chute.



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THE BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LIMITED
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at:

THE GRAND HOTEL, GRANBY STREET, LEICESTER
ON
SATURDAY, 7th JANUARY, 1978 at 16.00 hours

AGENDA

1. To consider, and adopt if approved, the Report of the Council.
2. To consider, and adopt if approved, the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the Year Ending 31st March, 1977.
3. To fix subscriptions payable by members for the ensuing year.
4. To appoint auditors for the ensuing year and fix their remuneration.
5. To discuss any Special Business.
6. To Elect the Council.

W. PAUL,
Secretary-General

OCTOBER, 1977

Note: Members are reminded that under Article 30 of the Articles of Association only such business as is notified to the Secretary-General in writing at least 30 days prior to the date of the Meeting can be included under Item 5 — 'Special Business'.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS — A.G.M.

Friday, 6th January

Dinner Dance — Queen's Hall, Grand Hotel, Leicester at 20.00 hours.
Tickets available from BPA Office — £10.00 per double.

Saturday, 8th January

Instructor's Convention — 1100 — 1230 hours and 1400 — 1530 hours.

Annual General Meeting — 1600 — 1900 hours.

Followed by: Annual Draw in Aid of National Team Fund
Films
Bar Extension to 23.30 hours
Buffet available

(Accommodation at the Grand Hotel for Friday and or Saturday should be booked direct with the hotel — telephone Leicester (0533) 56222).

Election to Council— your nomination paper (an insert with this issue of the Journal) must reach the BPA office by **not later than Wednesday 7th December 1977** but do please submit as soon as possible.

Ballot Papers — these will be sent out as an insert with the December issue of the Journal.

Annual Draw — this is again in aid of the National Team Fund and the Secretary-General has set his sights even higher this year. He is well aware of the ever increasing demands on your pocket but is confident that the membership will support him. You will receive one book of tickets with this issue of the Journal — an early return of counterfoils and monies will be greatly appreciated. Additional books of tickets will be despatched on request. All prize-winners will be notified by post and the list of prize-winners will be sent to each club prior to being published in the February issue of the Journal.

The Secretary-General realises there are members who cannot agree with this form of fund-raising. He respects the various reasons and therefore apologises to those members if the liberty he has taken by sending draw tickets causes any offence. The system of distribution, i.e. via the Journal, makes it difficult to isolate individuals.



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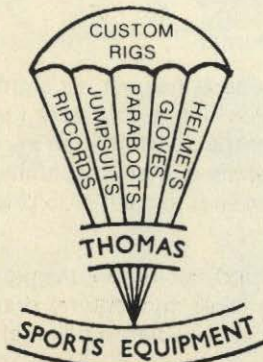
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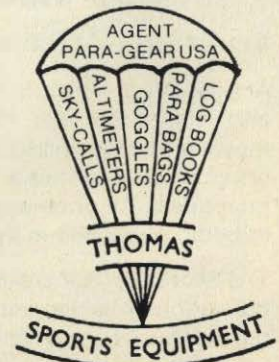
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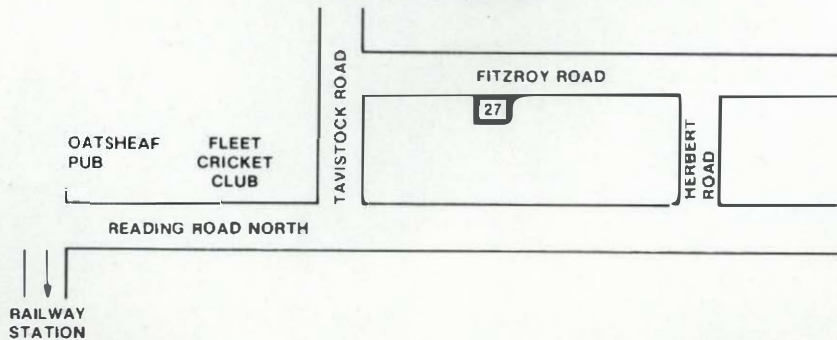
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