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BPA Club Approval is granted to BPA Affiliated Clubs who have attained a high minimum standard of staff, facilities and equipment as laid down by BPA. They are subject to inspection by BPA every 2 years.

FULL TIME		WEEKEND	
Peterborough Parachute Centre Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough	W. J. Meacock (at club address), Sibson Airfield Tel: Elton 490	The Sport Parachute Club Bridlington Aerodrome, Bridlington, Yorkshire	Chief Instructor (at club address) Tel: 0262-77367
Hereford Parachute Club Ltd Shobdon Aerodrome, Leominster, Hereford Tel: Kingsland 551	Chief Instructor (at club address)	Midland Parachute Centre The Airfield, Bickmarsh, Worcs. Tel: Bidford on Avon 8391	Dave Deakin, Tittton Cottage, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. Tel: Stourport on Severn 5954

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BPA Club Affiliation is granted to those clubs who have a minimum amount of equipment as laid down by BPA. All operations are strictly in accordance with BPA Regulations.

FULL TIME		WEEK-END	
Eagle Sport Parachute Centre Ashford Airport, Lympe, Kent (Hythe 60816)	A. Black (at club address)	Border Venture Parachute Club Brunton, Nr. Alnwick, Northumberland	K. Noble Windy Gyle, West Street, Belford Northumberland, NE70 7QE Tel: 06683-289
East Coast Parachute Centre Ipswich Airport Ipswich, Suffolk	W. P. Slattery (at club address) Tel: 0473 70111, Ext. 10	British Parachute Club Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent	Mrs. A. Ward 13 Stainer Road, Tonbridge, Kent
R.S.A. Parachute Club Thrxuton Aerodrome, Andover, Hants. Tel: Weyhill 2124	R. A. Acraman (at club address)	Cambridge University Free Fall Club Waterbeach, Cambs. Tel: Cambridge 311812 (evenings only)	P. Kettlewell Dept. Applied Biology, Cambridge University, Pembroke Street, Cambridge.
Dunkeswell International Skydiving Centre Dunkeswell Airfield, Nr. Honiton, Devon (Tel: Luppitt 350)	I. Loutitt (at club address)	Cheshire Parachute Club	R. W. Dyson 34 Arundel Avenue, Urmston, Manchester
		Chesterfield Skydiving Club Netherthorpe, Nr. Worksop, Notts. (Temporary)	Miss J. Wallhead 8 Tavistock Court, Racecourse Road, Newbold, Chesterfield
		Halfpenny Green Skydiving Club Halfpenny Green Aerodrome, Bobbington, Worcs. Tel: Bobbington 293	The Secretary, (at club address)
		Langar Free Fall Parachute Club Langar Airfield, Langar, Notts. Tel: Bingham 60180	N. J. Everett 2 Beech Lodge, Oak Avenue, Bingham, Notts.
		Lashenden Sport Parachute Club Headcorn Aerodrome, Nr. Ashford, Kent. Tel: (0622) 890226	Mrs. Cherry Collins (at club address)
		Leeds/Bradford Free Fall Club Leeds/Bradford Airport, Leeds, LS19 7TU	M. Fisher 54 Wrenbeck Drive Otley, Yorkshire
		Lincoln Pathfinders Free Fall Club Wickenby, Lincs.	Miss V. Cobb 7 Lammas Leas Court, Market Rasen, Lincs.
		Manchester Free Fall Club Tilstock D.Z., Twenlows Hall Farm, Whitchurch, Shropshire	N. Law 9 St. Andrews Road, Stretford, Manchester M32 9JE
		Manchester Parachute Club	T. Bailey 157 Kenyon Lane, Moston, Manchester 10 Tel: 061-681 1740
		Martlesham Heath Para. Club	Mrs. L. Bennett 76 Grundisburgh Road Woodbridge, Suffolk
		Metropolitan Police Parachute Club Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent	M. Jarvis, 20 Kilmuir House, Ebury Street London SW1
		Northern Counties Parachute Centre Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire	A. G. Knight 66 Chapel Lane, Coppul, Chorley, Lancs., PR7 4PQ Tel: 0257-791881
		North West Para Centre Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr. Grange over Sands, Lancs.	J. D. Prince 21 The Coppice, Ingol, Preston, Lancs. PR2 3OL Tel: Preston 720848
		Old Warden Flying and Parachute Group Duck End Farm, Wilstead, Beds.	D. I. Waugh 1 Kings Cottages, Stane Street, Ockley, Surrey
		Paracan Parachute Club Glenrothes, Fife	D. C. Payne 37 Cromwell Road, Burntisland, Fife
		Scottish Parachute Club Strathalan Castle, Auchterarder, Perthshire Tel: Auchterarder 2572	The Secretary (at club address)
		Scottish Sport Parachute Association	Mrs. Jean Christie, 99 West Torbain, Kirkcaldy, Fife Tel: Kirkcaldy 200042
		The School of Free Fall Parachuting	J. Hitchin, 46 Newlands Drive, Sheffield S12 2FS
		Southern Counties Para Club Hattingley Farm, Medstead, Alton Hants.	S.A.C. R. H. Swainson (270), Range Co-ordination, R.A.F. West Drayon, Uxbridge, Middx.
		Spread Eagles Parachute Club Nr. Melcombe Bingham, Dorset	Sally Corr 24 Southlea Avenue, Tuckton, Bournemouth Tel: 0202 421108
		Staffordshire Sport Skydivers c/o Stoke-on-Trent Youth and Adult Centre, Pump Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 1NQ	The Secretary (at club address)
		Tyne & Wear Parachute Club Sunderland Airport Sunderland Tyne & Wear	P. Rice (at club address) Tel: 07833-4954
		Wales & West of England Para Club Badminton, Avon	L. Melhuish Copper Beeches, 7 Cardiff Road Dinas Powis, S. Glamorgan Tel: 0222 514100
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	<i>University of Leicester</i>	<i>Hull University</i>	<i>Cardiff University</i>
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	<i>Newcastle University</i>	<i>Bath University</i>	<i>Hatfield Polytechnic</i>
	<i>Abingdon College</i>	<i>Manchester University</i>	<i>University of Sussex</i>
	<i>Birmingham University</i>		
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Rhine Army Parachute Association	The Commandant, R.A.P.A. Centre, S.T.C. Sennelager, B.F.P.O. 16		
R.A.F. Sport Parachute Association	Hon. Sec., R.A.F.S.P.A., R.A.F. Brize Norton, Oxon.		
Royal Navy and Royal Marines Sport Parachute Association	The Secretary, RN & RMSPA, Commando Training Centre RM, Lymington, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 5AR Tel: Topsham 3781, ext. 491 or at Club, Luppitt 697		
Cyprus Joint Service Adventurous Training Centre (CJSATC)	Chief Instructor (CCSPC) CJSATC Pergamos Camp, BFPO 58		
Hong Kong Parachute Club	CCI, JSPC (HK), Borneo Lines, Sek Kong, B.F.P.O. 1		

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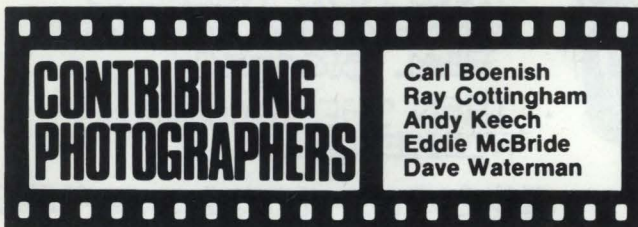
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Editor's Note

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



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APRIL 1978

EDITORIAL

It's obviously with a degree of sadness that I finish my spell as BPA National Coach and Safety Officer. It's a time I shall always remember with great affection, particularly the numerous kindnesses I've received in the course of the job from so many BPA members around the country. My sincere thanks to you all. I'm sure you'll show the same warm hospitality to Doug Peacock, my successor (see page 7).

I will, however, be continuing as Editor of Sport Parachutist and, as always, will be relying on contributions from you, the readers. Keep up the good work!

See you on the DZ,
Blue skies and soft landings,

Charlie

Cover: Canada, Norway, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, Holland and the United Kingdom (Biff and Charlie) are represented in this photo taken at the end of the World Meet
photo—Jacques Gielen

THE DROP MAN

22-23 April '78
 26-28 April '78
 2-10 May '78
 15-19 May '78

 5-11 June '78
 17-25 June '78

 8-16 July '78

 29 July-5 Aug '78
 7-11 August '78
 14-18 August '78
 19-20 August '78
 26-28 August '78

 11-15 Sept '78
 6-10 Nov. '78

Calendar of Events

All Girl Accuracy Meet — Sunderland
 B.C.P.A. Classic Nationals — Sibson
 Army Championships — Netheravon
 BPA PI/Exam Course 2/78 — Elvington

 Scottish Championships — Arbroath
 BPA RW National Championships — Sibson

 BPA Classic National Championships — Bridlington

 Rhine Army Championships
 BPA/PI/Exam Course 3/78
 Student Progression Course 1/78
 British Collegiate Championships
 Scottish RW and Accy Meet — Strathallan

 Student Progression Course 2/78
 BPA PI/Exam Course 4/78



The Team from RAPA who jumped at the Queen's Jubilee Review of the Army at Sennelager last year.



John Tidewell Junior ground training furiously for his first descent about 10 years hence!



BPA PI/Exam Course 1/78 at Shobdon.

SUPERFLY

- I'M BACK LOVE
 WOW! ANOTHER
 DYNAMITE WEEKEND!
 ...SIX JUMPS
 ON SATURDAY



... ANOTHER SIX ON SUNDAY
 - THE TEAM'S REALLY
 SHAPING UP...

 ... AND NEXT WEEKEND
 WE'RE GOING FOR SOME
 REAL BIGGEES!

 ... THEN THE FOLLOWING
 WEEKEND ...

 OH! SORRY - I DIDN'T REALISE
 YOU HAD COMPANY

OUR NEW NATIONAL COACH & SAFETY OFFICER



Our new National Coach & Safety Officer is Doug Peacock and it is with much pleasure I write this introduction for those who don't know him as I'm sure he will serve our Association well. His BPA number is 125, (the numbers started at 100), indicating he was the 25th parachutist to join BPA in 1962, although he had originally qualified as an R.A.F. P.J. 1. in 1956. He has been a BPA Instructor since 1963 and an Examiner since 1967. He was cameraman of the Falcons in 1970 and 1971 and became Chief Instructor of R.A.F.S.P.A. in 1972 until he retired from the R.A.F. in August of last year. He was a member of the British Team at the World Championships in Graz in 1968 when the team won the bronze in the Team Accuracy Event. He was also British Team Coach in 1972, 1974 and 1976 (when he qualified as an F.A.I. Judge). He's made 2,700 jumps in all five continents (including Ireland) and has in recent years been a BPA Council Member and Chairman of the Competitions Committee. And apart from all that he's a Yorkshireman, so we couldn't have a more highly qualified man for the job! We wish him well.

Charlie.



We admire the courage and determination of the four shown in this Carl Boenish photo of an Amputee Star. They are Al Krueger, arm (Captain of the 1975 World Champion 10-Man Team), Chuck Anderson, arm, Paul Henley, leg and Larry Yohn, leg.



Congratulations to Netheravon regulars, Jan Boussekey and Peter Ritchie (seen here celebrating in the APA bar), who recently got married. It is rumoured they spent their honeymoon skiing!!





"It would help the laundry situation if you sorted out your stand ups before anything else!"



Smoke, Sun and Sea — Gary Lawry records the Royal Marine Display Team in training.



Glimpse into the past — The first 15-Man attempt prior to emplaning at Sibson!...



... and updated — the Sibson Islander seen here when it belonged to RAPA, being jumped by the Dutch 8-Man Team.
Photo Jacques Gielen



"Cherry's a bit touchy today. I merely remarked that I preferred her hair when it wasn't field-packed!"



A new 4-Man Sequential Team from up North — The "Manchester Turkey Farm" of Gruesome Grimshaw, Dirty Durrant, Baby Del and Animal Logan seen here at Elvington.

□ □ □

CAUTIONARY TALES FOR PARACHUTISTS

A graded Category Ten
 Just knew it all, had all the gen.
 His P.L.F's, his stable turns
 His track, his spotting, as for burns
 in canopies he knew the why
 and wherefore always — he was fly.
 A greater jumper never flew
 The answer to it all — he knew.
 But one day Nemesis — oh dear
 O'ertook him as you now shall hear.
 It chanced upon this fateful day
 That several jumpers passed that way,
 Who'd never ever seen the male
 in free fall, only heard his tale
 Said "Why not do a four man star
 Here's three of us, with just one more
 at base it's there; we're goodish so
 We'll jazz the locals — what a show..."
 The exit from the Cessna — oh!
 You should have timed it — it was slow
 But worse to come it soon appeared.
 The base and pin they never paired.
 Base cartwheeled round the other, sure
 While four and three just dived galore
 To catch the spinning two below,
 They aimed off right and rightly so.
 They knew their stuff — but boastful base
 Just tumbled on — to save his face.
 He grabbed at pin who losing height
 Had tracked away with all his might
 Had waved off, pulled, and then, oh shame
 the boastful base he tried the same
 Not looking at his underneath
 Collected P.C. in his teeth.
 Thus base and pin were hung up fine
 So lovingly did intertwine
 Chutes and lines — oh what a shambles!
 Until at last from both tangles
 They cut away but very slow
 Their hurtling bodies very low
 Reserves popped open, it was found
 A mere two seconds from the ground!!

Both three and four I'm glad to say
 Learned quite a lot upon that day
 'Bout jumping with an untried ace,
 They opened far from his disgrace.
 The Mickey Mouse, suffice to say
 He lived to jump another day
 But not before the C.P.I.
 Had had his say and, my oh my
 I only wish you could have heard
 his language to this awful bird
 The way he swore and did not think
 And hoped that they might strike him pink
 If ever he had seen affair
 To match this cock-up in the air
 The spastic base I blush to say
 Declined to see it in this way
 The safety aspect passed him by
 'Twas not his fault, he seemed to try
 To blame the other three, and thus
 Affected not to see the fuss
 But his cool was clearly ruffled
 And embarrassed off he shuffled
 When students now, just in grade one
 Cried out aloud "Well, eeh by gum!
 C.P.I. — although he's bonkers
 Got yon bastard by the conkers"!!
 Out of mouths of babes and sucklings
 Tyro flyers, baby ducklings
 They learned a bit about free fall
 And that's the truth — God Bless us all.

Moral

If ever you should chance to see
 This cocky ass — or such as he
 Who'll never learn — quite less atone, —
 You'll notice that he jumps alons.

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Dear Charlie,

This letter is intended as a newsletter from Aussiland following on from the World Meet in November. After the World Meet the next big event was a two week R.W. boogie at Corowa, a really nice venue on the N.S.W., Victoria border. Trevor Burns and Rod Wilson run a C47 jumpship there every third weekend or so. The C47 was there for the whole two week boogie and people turned up from all over OZ, East and West coasts and also many World Meet leftovers like ourselves were there plus other familiar pommy faces such as Nick Cullum, John Murdon, Annie Hiatt and Sooty Standring, plus many others. The C47 takes 45 jumpers per load, and is equipped with Stereo System and Cargo door. Some really nice dives were done during the boogie. Many successful 16, 20 and 24-Man sequential dives were performed by Melbourne and Sydney locals plus World Meet leftovers from England, Norway, Sweden, Holland, New Zealand and the States. Dean Westguard of the U.S.A. and Lee O'Regan (an ex-Pom) organised many million man dives to attempt to break the Aussi and World records. The largest formation built was an attempted 45-Man Penta Diamonds which built to 38 or 39.

There were many innovative dives performed which I think deserve a mention. One of which was the 'Star Wars' dive. This consisted of two teams of between 9 and 12 people. The two teams leave the A/C in two lines and the winning team is the one which builds the biggest star, however each team has attackers who have to destroy the enemy's star before it gets too big, and also defenders who have to stop them. Certain rules have to be observed for safety sake, such as no bombing the enemy star from above, it can only be taken out from the same level or below. Both teams work out their tactics in secret, which sometimes become very complex, using decoy bases, etc. Other nice dives included sky dances and a nice flying 16-Man diamond built in Tee shirts and shorts or, as far as Bruce Towers was concerned, Bare Ass.

After the Corowa boogie the next sky-diving event was the Aussi Nationals held at Gloucester N.S.W. over the New Year. The Symbiosis four man team of Will Grut, Tony Uragallo, Geoff Saunders and myself, plus Mark Miller entered the 4-Man sequential event. While Tony and Nick Cullum entered the Accuracy and Will got himself on a scratch 8-Man team 'Knobays Nuts'. The standard in the 4-Man event was high and after a disastrous third round we found ourselves in last place. However we got it together for the next six rounds and found ourselves having to score 6 points on a random round to tie for 1st place in the 10th round with the 'Airprint Team' from Queensland. 'Rapid Transit' from Melbourne needed 5 points to also tie for 1st place. But after 3 run ins and losing ground control and

having to self spot they only managed 3 points. We went up in high spirits in the last round and scored those 6 we were looking for. This left us in a jump-off situation. Random rounds were chosen for the jump-off. On the 1st and 2nd jump-off's both ourselves and 'Airprint' scored 4 points each, therefore we had to go for a 3rd. At this point much pressure was felt by both teams. On the 3rd jump-off we went first and scored 5 points and 'Airprint' jumped and scored a 3, this ending the Meet with 'Symbiosis' in 1st place, 'Airprint' 2nd and 'Rapid Transit' 3rd. The Style and Accuracy was held alongside the R.W. and the Aussi team for the 1978 World Meet was decided with Graham Winsor, Roy Marker, Sean Llewellyn (ex-Pom), Rod Whyte, Peter Nobbs and Bill Robo (ex-Pom) on the Men's team, with Liz Davies (an ex-Pom) and Kathy Silvestry on the Women's.

The Nationals ended with the 8-Man event which was won by Willie's scratch team.



A great time was had by all and much praise must go to Gene Birmingham and the 'Green Machine' Army team for the organisation and Sandy Robinson for excellent running of the judging (seen in the photo with Symbiosis).

Since the Nationals we've all been jumping the C47 at Corowa every 3rd W/E or so, and some good dives are being performed. Last W/E we were sponsored by a T.V. Channel (CHANNEL 7) to build a formation which would possibly be used on the T.V. as their programme heading. The formation required was a large circle with a figure 7 in the middle of it. We had four attempts at the dive using 23 people and 3 camera men. On the fourth

attempt we completed it — an 18-Man star with a 5-Man figure 7 inside it. It was only held for a second or two before two grips were lost due to tension. The dive was worked out by Graham Dorr of Sydney and organised by Tony Duckworth of the 'Secret Team'.

I'm sure that 'Corowa' is a word that will be heard more often in the future. If any BPA members are thinking of visiting Australia in the near future, they would be well advised to take a visit to Corowa and have a ball.

Z'hills beware!

Rob Colpus,
Symbiosis.

Dear Charlie,

Full marks to the BPA for providing such a friendly and efficient service to its members. We are lucky to have an organisation that truly represents the whole parachuting fraternity of U.K. The founder members laid down a strong framework on which subsequent Councils and full time staff have built effectively. I had not considered the BPA so remarkable until I discovered how many other national parachute associations lack the cohesion we have — in fact several lack control of the instructor system and represent only a percentage of active jumpers. Moreover, general British sports associations suffer from the same disadvantage. In some, different branches refuse to recognise the qualifications of each others' instructors.

On a different subject altogether, I wanted to tell you about the Parachute Club of Kenya. At present this consists of Ken O'Rourke (D21), who occasionally gets in a quick job in the half-hour of daylight left after the return of the Wilsons Aero Club's Rheims Rockets on a Sunday evening. But from time to time the membership increases, and visiting parachutists can be catered for at fairly short notice. The club is well off for equipment — one piggyback PC, about eight low-performance rigs with altimeters and static lines as required, hats, jumpsuits and even boots. The Aero Club has 2 Rheims Rockets, one with a pin hinge door, and there is also a possibility of using a Dornier belonging to one of the local missionary societies (though not on Sundays, dammit, they won't allow jumpers to break the Sabbath). Ken is a commercial pilot on working days, and spends most weekends either instructing student pilots of the Aero Club or sitting in the club building feeding out information like a kind of aviation oracle to all the flying and jumping aficionados who seek him out. Last month I spent 2 pleasant Sundays chatting to him and swimming in the pool while we waited to jump. Believe it or not, the perfect conditions came to an end about half an hour before the aircraft became available — it was just like U.K. But the weather is usually favourable to jumping, especially end of November to beginning of June, and I would recommend anyone who happens to be passing through Nairobi to look up Ken at Wilson Aerodrome Aero Club (the aerodrome used by airlines is called Embakasi incidentally), and, ask him to fix you a jump. It would be good for a guy who, by personal effort and determination, has founded and twice resurrected a parachute club, organised and trained jump-pilots, trained students, purchased equipment and squared jumping with the authorities, to have some company and maybe a change to do some relly. Plus Kenya is a great country for a holiday, food and av-gas are cheap; you can swim and sail practically on the DZ, so some of the agony of waiting to jump is removed. Anyone looking for somewhere to spend a jumping holiday might do worse than to consider Kenya.

Blue skies and gentle winds,
Caroline O'Hagan
(nee Franklin).

Dear Charlie,

Big Jake has instructed me to tell you he thinks yore wierd correspondent Kooky is right. All them geriatric buggers over 40 should join a club. In addition to having a medical at that age they should get a big G on their canopies and jumpsuits so as everyone else knows to get the hell outa the road as they come bombing in grunting, cackling and farting under their assorted squares, rounds and Guardian Angels.

B. J. reckons it's odds on that he will never reach phorty what with his galloping halitosis, prepucial fraying and the number of myopic oldies zooming around in freefall at our dee zed, so he will not be affected by this rule. The only trouble about getting it through the Bee Pee Ay Council is that Mister Corker, J. Meakers and even yore illustrious self would in a few year's time (Har! Har!) be bound by it, not to mention half the Safety Committee. The G need not be thought to stand for Geriatric. It could be interpreted to me 'Geroutatheway!' Or it could be a P instead, short for POPS and meaning 'Piss Off Pip Squeaks'. Such a device would make it easier for Cee Cee Eyes to demand to see medical certificates without having to resort to subterfuges like asking a guy's spouse or girl friend or boy friend for Chrissakes how often he has it off in a night as a means of determining his age, or doing a wrinkle count, or plotting a grey hair distribution curve. Cee Cee Eyes are busy enough without all that stuff. It would put an end to all the kit swopping that goes on. A hardass in his twenties is not going to take kindly to using a canopy or jumpsuit with a big G on it and it would also reduce the amount of kit getting knocked.

The only problem remaining is what happens when they take their clothes off? Some of the old guys at our dee zed actually strip off in the occasional erratic sunshine between rainshowers and even Big Jake can't see them taking kindly to having a compulsory tattoo on their backs. Still, such problems exist to be solved and no doubt some of yore readers will come up with ideas. So 'Ph--k off you over phorties' is B. J.'s current slogan. As one of this much maligned group I only report B. J.'s sentiments without agreeing with him. After all where would we be without Old Grizz the pilot, the Secy General and McCarthy?

Yores sincerely,
Lowe Puller, L.P.

(After the last issue of SP was published I received a telephonic rocket from Cookey for not including his address for the benefit of all those interested in a U.K. POPS — to make amends here it is: Cookey, Lilac Cottage, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs. A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated. apologies Cookie! — Ed.)

1978 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Classic	8-16 July	Bridlington
RW	17-25 June	Sibson

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COLLEGIATE NEWS



At last somebody has actually put pen to paper and expressed a view about what's happening within British Collegiate parachuting at the moment and I'm so pleased to have received this letter that I've chosen to include it in this page, and answer the comments made.

Dear Dave,

As every issue of 'Sport Parachutist' drops in through the letter box, I flick through the pages with trembling hands and head straight for 'Collegiate News'. But alas, again this issue, not a word relevant to us masses on the static line.

At Bath University we run a very active and keen club, jumping whenever weather permits at Netheravon. At present however (not for long) we have the grand total of one person on free fall — he's on tens.

We, too, are of the mind that British Colleges and Universities should be represented at the top end of the league (4- and 8-Man RW teams etc.), but our eyes are centered more on 'Student progression' than on 'competition'.

You'll appreciate that a club like ours has to watch its finances, every pound has to be accounted for. Quite honestly I've heard mumbblings from the lower ranks regarding paying £10 affiliation to the B.C.P.A. with few advantages forthcoming.

Full marks to the B.C.P.A. for organising last year's Student Competition, no marks however to the weather. It's just a suggestion, but why not organise regional competition on the same principle? Also you could make more fuss about your student progression course at Shobdon 17/18 August.

Maybe in a few years, we'll be able to submit an 8-Man team representing this University — but it all depends on getting more of us off the static line. If I've stuck my size 10 para boots in the workings and contrary to the above you are doing a lot for us 'Student' Students — please let me know.

JOHN POCPADEC,
Sec. Bath University Para Club.

No John you haven't put your boot in the workings at all. I tend to agree that the most important area to concentrate on as far as the B.C.P.A. is concerned must be the 'Student' Student, basically because they must constitute 75% + of any of our clubs. But, the 'Student' Student is a very difficult person to help as we found out last year when we tried to run a student progression course at Sibson. A first jump student is really moulded to the environment of his club and it is recommended that until he picks up a certain amount of general parachuting experience he should not be encouraged to wander from DZ to DZ, changing to different aircraft, kit, rules etc. And it's for this reason I believe if any concentrated effort is to be made to help our S/L students it ought to be done on a local basis, that is at a Collegiate club's own DZ. Therefore I throw the ball back into the clubs' court as far as S/L students go — but if any club makes the effort to arrange its own progression week and let's me know I will do everything I can to help them. I'm sure I could provide a couple of extra BPA Instructors, and would probably come down myself — so it's up to you!!!

As far as post S/L Students are concerned you are all invited to attend a progression course at Shobdon on 17/18 August, and B Cert. holders can then compete in the student accuracy championships on 19/20 August, at the same time we will endeavour to keep the student progression going throughout the weekend. It was said nearly a year ago now in this page that the B.C.P.A. would do anything to help promote local, or inter-university competitions, and two were organised, though one of them was completely washed out, but again I'm going to throw the ball back to you, because the vast majority of B.C.P.A. resources are out there in the clubs, and if a thousand or so students can't organise competitions with neighbouring colleges and universities, I don't quite know what I can do sat here in Wolverhampton. In other words put pen to paper and start it off,

and again if you let me know about it I will do anything I can to help, even come down and organise the weekend!!!

In conclusion I feel that we must draw a balance between student progression and advanced competition. I feel that it is very important to compete not only at National, but at International level to give British Colleges and Universities the chance of catching up with the standards set by the rest of the World Students and inevitably I think this would benefit our sport as a whole in this country as I'm sure a rise in the upper levels. Standards must reflect themselves eventually in the lower levels of progression. But from now on where the opinions flowing and perhaps someone may feel motivated enough to write a guest Collegiate page for the next edition of *Sport Parachutist* providing an alternative view. (I must point out that if it wasn't for Dave Turner and his enthusiasm there wouldn't be a Collegiate News — Ed.)

As all clubs will by now have received an events list for 1978 you will see that the RW Competition and Student Accuracy Championships and progression week have had to be moved from Waterbeach, this is due to the uncertain position of the Drop Zone at this time, and I was really sorry to receive this news from Julia Cole. Ray Perkins has taken over as CCI of the club and hopefully the Cambridge Club and Ray can start and sort out the problems quickly. Mac McCarthy of Shobdon made the use of his DZ for the events which I gratefully accepted, and I would like to apologise if anyone has been inconvenienced. I've had a query concerning entry qualifications for the RW competition, and due to the fact that there are quite a few clubs with only one Cat VIII, IX or X jumper it has been decided that team members must not necessarily come from the same college or university.

I received a letter this week from U.S.P.A. which informed me that Ted Roland is no longer Director of the US National Collegiate parachute league, and his place has been taken over by Al King. To quote part of the letter Al says:

'I want your people to know that an open invitation is extended to you and your participation in the 1978 N.C.P.L. Championships, which would be a welcome and exciting occurrence.'

This is an offer that this year we intend to accept, following our inability to raise enough sponsorship last year, mainly due to lack of time, we are hard at work trying to interest industry in our plight — and if anyone has any contacts or ideas don't hesitate to get in touch. At both the B.C.P.A. Classic and RW Championships you are jumping for a place in a British Collegiate team!!!

Just to round off, with a couple of bits of news. Richard O'Leary has stepped down as Yorkshire area representative of the B.C.P.A., nominations for the post should be sent to me as soon as possible. I would like to thank Richard for his efforts, especially at the University DZ at Pauli Airfield, though I personally think that his efforts were not appreciated by the local university clubs, and because of this the DZ is now closed. On 10th February I sent a letter on behalf of the B.C.P.A. to Wychavon District Council to protest at the enforcement notice served to stop parachuting at Bickmarsh, the Midland Parachute Centre. I emphasised the fact that it was a valuable base for the students of Birmingham, Aston and Warwick Universities, though I think that Birmingham are the chief users of the DZ. I hope that for the first time using our weight as a National body we may have done a little to help keep the DZ open. I intend to send a similar letter to the Council threatening the closure of the Leeds/Bradford Club at Elvington.

And finally, I would like to acknowledge Miss D. Sohday of Sheffield University Parachute Club who in reply to my question in the last Collegiate page 'Where are all the parachuting women?' wrote to let me know that they are in Sheffield, where I am going for my holidays.

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REVIEW

PARAFROCKS JUMPSUITS

Amidst much hissing from onlookers I found myself the proud winner of a Parafrocks jumpsuit at the BPA Dance Raffle. Parafrocks custom made it for me within about three weeks of the order and, not only that, it was delivered personally. The suit, modelled here so duckily by Ronnie O'Brien, is well made from a 14oz. fabric and flies O.K. for me. The strong point in its favour, however, is its really competitive price of £30 — with this kind of value I can't see the point of spending £60 to £70 on an American equivalent. The sport's expensive enough as it is, so it's with pleasure I recommend the Parafrocks jumpsuit.

G.C.P.S-S.

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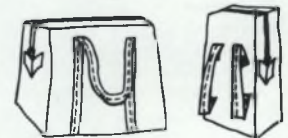
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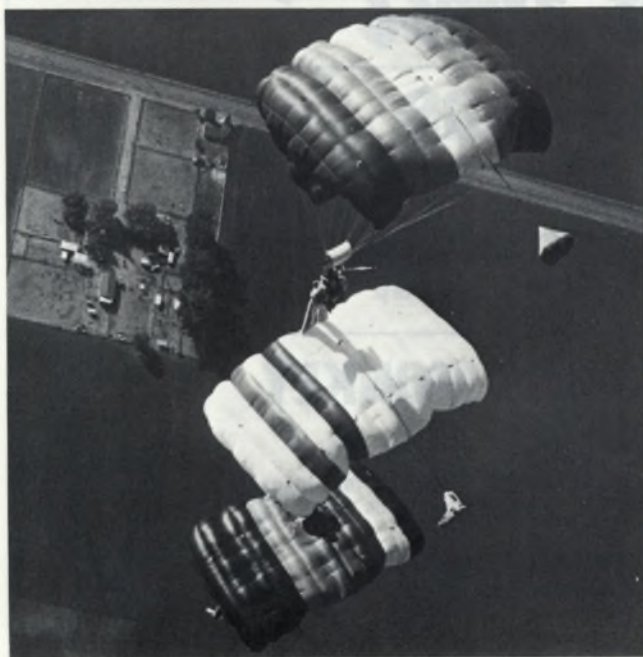
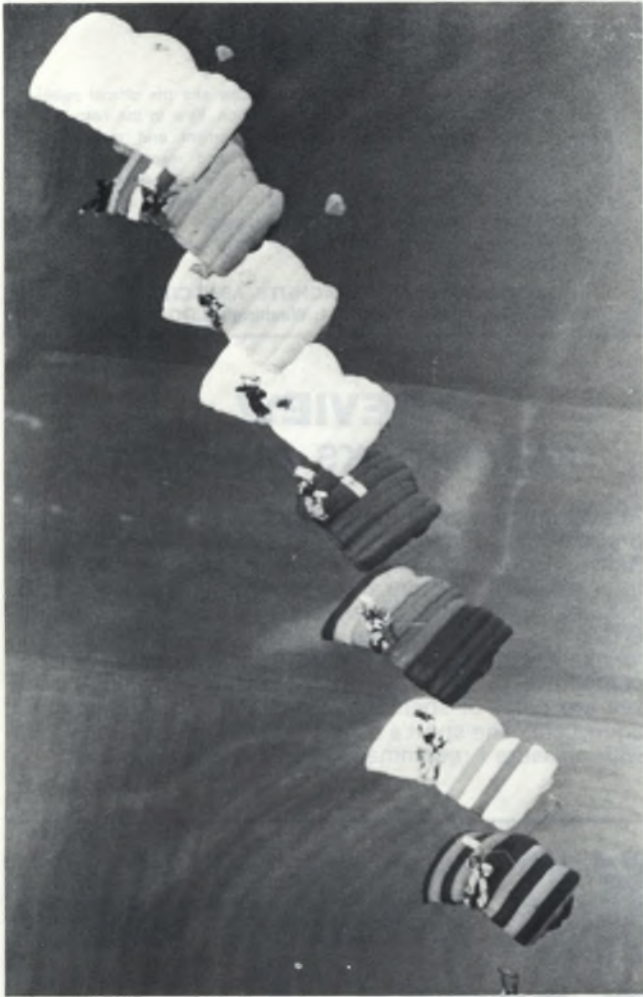
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THE U.S. "KNOW SENSE" CANOPY RW TEAM



a page of photos by Andy Keech

WORLD RECORD 50-MAN



**This Carl Boenish photo records the moment of the 50-Man
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CONCERNED**

On January 7th and 8th, at Elsinore, California, 50 flyers made five attempts at forming a 50-man penta-wedge (5 ten-man wedges linked at the point). The formation fell under a new FAI category, effective January 1, 1978, for large free fall formations. The Elsinore P. I. center partially sponsored the jumps from two formation-flying DC-3's, (15,000 feet for \$5.) Six free fall photographers filmed, four outside, two within the formation. The results were: January 7th, jump one, 39; jump two, 46; January 8th, jump three, 48; jump four, 48; jump five, 50. Contact for number fifty came at 59.5 seconds of working time and lasted less than a second (80 frames at 100 frames a second of movie film). The only record was a photographic one but another series of attempts by the same cast will be made March 4th and 5th.

JERRY TYSON, D.202.

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**WHEN DID YOU LAST
REPACK YOUR RESERVE?**



EARLY FREEFALL — A CRITICAL APPROACH

Introduction

This paper is an examination of problems encountered by students in early freefalls, specifically in regard to the pull. It sets out to isolate a variety of factors seen from an instructor's as opposed to a rigger's viewpoint although the best answer will emerge from the overlap of these two sources.

With the advent of static line bag deployment, surplus B4/B12 assemblies are being phased out as static line systems. They are however, almost universally used for initial and intermediate freefall training. Apart from considerations of length and weight, the most serious disadvantage is that of the stiff pull. One reason for this is that the containers were not designed to accommodate the increased bulk of a sleeved canopy, and that the pressure on the pins is thus greater. In short, we are belatedly recognising the familiar situation — by no means unique to our own sport — of the least experienced having to use the roughest kit. The inherent limitations of this equipment is afforded official recognition in our own training manual — see Lesson X — Briefing for first 5 second delay — paragraphs 3 and 4.

The Problem

What are the factors involved in opening the parachute in a stable face to earth position, and remaining in that position during deployment? Do we use sleeve or bag? One extractor or two? Cross pull, outboard pull, upward pull or throwaway pilot chute? D handle, Cloverleaf handle? Semi-Floating housing, housing stitched to pocket? Metal cones or nylon loops? The permutations are numerous and each have their advocates.

The fact remains that freefall deployment depends on drag exerted by a pilot chute. The training and the equipment must be so designed that the student has the best chance of remaining face to earth as the pilot chute lifts off, given the twin limiting factors of low airspeed and a non-guaranteed correct body position, either before, during or after the pull.

The Training

The student is solo from the word go — literally. It follows therefore, that his mental and physical conditioning must be as thorough as possible in order to prepare him for the first freefall. No matter how blase he may have become about static line parachuting, this is still the big one where his continued existence depends entirely on him or herself.

In a strain situation, the individual reacts in instinctive fashion. The pull and recovery — with emphasis on the arched position throughout — must therefore be practised in a horizontal position, preferably in a suspended harness, until the movement becomes second nature.

There is no substitute for repetition in this process of grooving. It should go without saying that the relevant dummy pulls on static line jumps should be flawless. Again, some students are more confident and co-ordinated than others, more 'switched on' and may be expected to progress more rapidly. This is a matter of instructor observation, and the decision to put a student on the first freefall must be made by an instructor whose knowledge of the student is soundly based, preferably by personal observation over a number of jumps. There is a minority of students who may legitimately be confined to static line jumping for all time, and who are perfectly happy with this situation.

There is nothing original in these training principles, they are followed, or should be, by all of us all over the country. They are merely repeated here as a reminder that, whereas static line systems can be designed that are virtually student proof, a freefall descent involves considerations that extend far beyond basic parachute design features.

The Equipment

Sleeve or bag

A Horseshoe malfunction, which is, after all, what we are discussing, occurs when the pilot chute or bridle line becomes entangled with a student's arm, leg, body, or equipment. The pilot chute causes the problem, not primarily the sleeve. The top of the sleeve is light, has assister pockets, 'lifts off' easily, and deploys progressively. With bag deployment, the whole weight of the canopy and lines are transferred to the pilot chute immediately and bag lift off may be delayed.

One extractor or two

Twin extractors were introduced in order to double the drag force in an attempt to eliminate pilot chute hesitations, particularly at the low airspeeds involved in short delays. Twin extractors, however, are far more likely to snag in an unstable pull situation. By common consent, pilot chute hesitation is the lesser of the two evils, and student assemblies should have one efficient extractor.

Cross pull, Outboard pull, Upward pull

The relative merits of the cross pull and the outboard pull have been debated at length and it is not proposed to reopen the discussion here. The outboard pull is simple and the arm is working to maximum mechanical advantage, as the triceps extend the arm and the pronators rotate the wrist in a strong and efficient movement.

Advantages claimed for an upward pull, i.e. with the ripcord housing being routed from the bottom of the container, are that it would assist a high recovery by the natural follow through of the right arm. The muscle groups involved in such an upward movement are by no means so strong and it is felt that more serious difficulties could be involved if the pull was, for any reason sticky.

The essence of the pull is that it must be easy to teach and to learn. At the moment, we teach a natural punching extension of the right arm, which seems to fit all criteria most satisfactorily.

Throwaway pilot chute

Not yet universally accepted by all advanced jumpers, and could cause more snagging than it was intended to prevent.

D handle, Cloverleaf handle

The considerations here are primarily of pocket design. The D handle should be eased from the pocket by a twisting movement of the wrist prior to punching the arm out. This is a somewhat complicated concept to teach, and negates the principle KEEP IT SIMPLE. An associated problem arises when the pocket spring tacking breaks and the pocket becomes too slack, allowing the handle to fall out prematurely. This is a maintenance problem rather than an inherent design fault.

A cloverleaf handle, secured in a tailored elasticated webbing band would seem on balance to allow the smoothest pull with the thumb hooked firmly behind the handle.

Semi-Floating housing, housing stitched to pocket

If the housing is secured to the main suspension, allowing 2-3 inches of float, a mechanical advantage is gained in that there is no friction between the ripcord cable and the mouth of the housing.

Metal cones or nylon loops

Nylon loops offer less friction. They do not bend pins. Critical however, whether cones or loops are used, is the angle and positioning of the container end of the ripcord housing. If this is badly angled, or placed too close to the top pin, even a nylon loop can jam.

Conclusion

Horseshoe malfunctions are caused primarily by instability before, during or after the pull. Stability problems during early freefall will never entirely be eliminated. Stability problems caused by 'sticky pulls' or, in other words, by equipment design/maintenance deficiency are unacceptable. The last four years have seen a revolution in canopy, container and harness design. These benefits must now filter down to the student. His gear must be light, simple to operate and free of design limitations. The task of the instructor will be simplified and the confidence of the student increased. Economics dictate that existing student freefall equipment will not be phased out overnight. Nor need it be, so long as a considerate and imaginative approach is extended toward the user who is most at risk — the student.

DOUG PEACOCK
F.A.I. D68.

National Coach and Safety Officer

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BUZZ'S CANADIAN COLUMN

At a regularly convened meeting, held on December 17/18 1977, the Board of Directors, as a result of reports filed by the Head of Delegation and the Team leader of the 1977 Canadian Parachute Team on our participation at the World Championships, barred the members of that team from International Competition until December 31 1979. The reason for the 'suspension' was that the Board was extremely dissatisfied with the standard of personal behaviour of the team members.

All of this would have caused no great stir as it was considered an internal matter with no need to publicise the 'suspension', but for the fact that an enterprising CBC reporter saw an opportunity to do a story and thereby make a name for herself. She was helped by the fact that she herself was a parachutist and a member of previous style and accuracy teams, so that in effect she had an 'inside track' on obtaining information. She also recorded telephone conversations without first informing the person she was talking to that they were being recorded. This I suppose did not prevent them from talking more freely than they otherwise might have done.

The report was 'aired' on CBC National Radio on January 15 1978, a full month after the Directors' original decision. It contained nothing that might be called sensational or newsworthy, until one of the interviewees, a team member, admitted to the use of certain illegal hard drugs and stated that other teams also were users.

The report brought about an occurrence of the proverbial hitting the fan, though how much is attributable to the above revelation is unknown. The media, the following morning, was full of it. Our office in Ottawa was besieged with reporters etc., and for a sport, whose main complaint is lack of it, the attendant publicity was not the kind that we would rather have. In addition, I, as Head of Delegation, was interviewed by the Vancouver

newspapers, as were some of the team members.

Of major importance to us, was the fact that the Minister of Sport and Recreation Director of Sport Canada, the federal government sport funding agency, also wanted to speak with our Executive Director. In addition, I understand, although I have no definite confirmation, that the Department of External Affairs began to make enquiries of the Canadian Embassy in Canberra as to what, if anything, actually went on at the World Championships.

It surely is a measure of the interests of the media, in that an event of this nature rates columns and columns of space, time and effort spent in getting interviews and large headlines, while the fact that this same team won two gold medals at a World Championship (one of the few, if not the only, Canadian teams to do so) rated at the most two inches on the back page. Such are our priorities.

Prior to the World Championships, we had nominated the team for the Sports Federation of Canada 'Team of the Year' award. When the team won the gold medals in Australia, they were given the award, which was to be presented at a dinner in January. We have withdrawn the nomination in the light of these events.

At the time of writing the 'suspension' has become a non-event as far as the media is concerned; having had their kick at the cat, they have now forgotten it and gone on to other things. The Federal Government, to be sure, has not forgotten and what the final outcome will be, no one can be sure. Sufficient to say that at this point in time, the Directors of CSPA have had an object lesson in what it means to be a mature, responsible sport governing body, which is evermore under close scrutiny from the regulatory agencies and the press.

BUZZ

WINTER IN CYPRUS

After the Army trip to the Pope Valley Parachute Ranch during Christmas 1976, the Army Parachute Association decided to continue to improve the standard of competition parachuting in the Army.

Two Cadres were set up by Major Ewan Houston one classic and one RW. The Army has always done well in classic competition and entered the RW Nationals for the first time in 1977 with a four man team led by Wally Wallace.

Because of the British winter weather it was decided that a DZ outside the country would have to be used. After many discussions as to where the training would take place it was finally decided to make use of the military facilities at the Cyprus Joint Services Adventurous Training Centre in Dhekelia.

The aim of the exercise was to provide a concentrated training session for the Army Classic and RW Cadres and also to provide certain non-Cadre members employed at the various Army centres with the opportunity to practice and improve their techniques.

The only aircraft available to the parachute centre in Cyprus is a battered old Cessna 172 and this was obviously no use to the RW Cadre. It was therefore necessary to take an aircraft with us.

The aircraft was the Military Britten Norman Islander from Netheravon and it was flown out to Cyprus by Major Gerald Stacey MBE and Lt. Cdr. Courtney Horscroft who staged at Nice and Rome during the three day trip. The members of the Cadres and centres travelled by RAF Hercules and VC10 aircraft from Brize Norton to Akrotiri.

Everyone was greeted by a wonderfully warm climate and clear, cloudless skies. The ideal location for parachuting in November had been found.

The training started on the afternoon of 14 November once everyone had been accommodated and all administrative arrangements had been made. During the first few days the lucky members of the advance party found themselves doing 4 jumps a day, all from 9000 feet or above.

A great deal of progress was made by the RW group who for the first time were starting to put four man sequential together. The style and accuracy training was also progressing under the expert eye of Dicky Bird who found himself as classic coach for the trip due to the absence of Scotty Milne who was not available because of military commitments.



The UK based Army four man team, namely Wally Wallace, Ron Lutz, Arthur Gibson, Mac McQueen and Mike Smith (including reserve) made 41 training descents and it was very apparent just how much progress could be made by jumping the same group continuously over an extended training period. We rotated the group around the five jumpers so that everyone was compatible and could jump in any combination (most important in case of injury during a competition).

The fifth man either critiqued from the ground or jumped the camera, exiting after the four man group. The camera was the Olympus OMI which belongs to the APA and was jumped by Ron Lutz and Arthur Gibson who discovered that there is a lot more to free fall photography than getting to the group and pointing, even with a 28 mm lens.

The RAPA based RW squad were also making good progress in the sequential field and the results achieved underline the benefits of a concentrated training session like this.

A few 8 man attempts were made during the stay but although 8 jumpers got together a couple of times, it was never the intended formation that was achieved so there were SCRs or SCSs to be had on this trip.

The weather continued to be perfect for the full three weeks, consequently parachuting took place every day with the exception of Thursday 24 November when the DZ was required for a military exercise. That day was therefore chosen for the 50 hour servicing of the aircraft.

The classic squad practiced their fallaways, turns, loops and accuracy with great success. It is a great pleasure to watch a dedicated and proficient style jumper executing his various precise movements and it was certainly a joy to watch this keen, enthusiastic and young squad progress so well. Dicky Bird constantly made sure his squad were well briefed and critiqued, consequently not a jump was wasted.

On Friday 25 November a 10 person Joint Services basic student course jumped for the first time and they managed to slot in on lifts and make maximum use of the Islander. Continuation students from units based in Cyprus also came along to fill up the aircraft and consequently everyone was happy.

The safety record for the trip was pretty good, the only injury occurred during the student course and there were three malfunctions in the 807 descents completed. The first of these to occur was a brain malfunction rather than an equipment one. Jack Fowler from RAPA inadvertently operated his '3 Ring Circus' canopy release and obviously necessitated the activation of his reserve. The other malfunctions were Pinky Panther's, who had a line over his PC, and Martin Togher's first, a violent rotation on a Strato Cloud. Martin also has a '3 Ring Circus' release system and he now swears by it.

All the jumpers would like to thank Major Ewan Houston for setting the exercise up in the first place, Major Gerald Stacey and Lt. Cdr. Courtney Horscroft who flew the Islander throughout the trip. Thanks also to Mac McQueen who took care of many of the administrative duties and manifesting, Sgt. Gallimore the ground engineer, the volunteer refuelling team from Pirbright and most sincere thanks to the Cyprus CCI Jim Walmsley and his wife Margaret who played such marvellous hosts to the squad.

LOTT 12



Sunset over Cyprus

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B.C.P.A. CLASSIC NATIONALS

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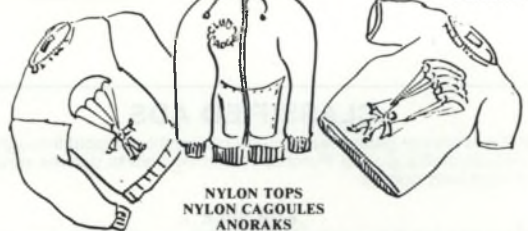
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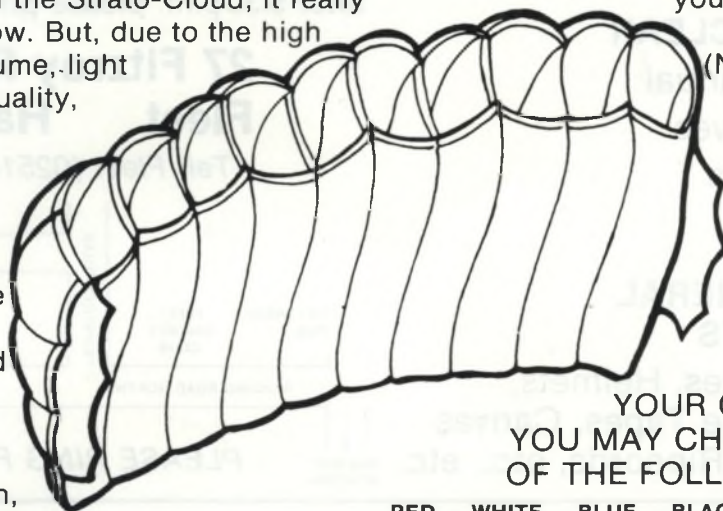
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IN DESIGNING YOUR CUSTOM PATTERN YOU MAY CHOOSE ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING COLOURS:

RED — WHITE — BLUE — BLACK — YELLOW
GREEN — ORANGE — PURPLE — LIGHT BLUE — GOLD

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

	RATE OF DESCENT	SPEED RANGE
Glide	16-18f.p.s.	20-30m.p.h.
50% Brakes	12-14f.p.s.	10-15m.p.h.
75% Brakes	12-14f.p.s.	5-10m.p.h.
100% Brakes	16-18f.p.s.	0-5m.p.h.
Stall	20-26f.p.s.	0-unstable flight
Full Glide to Flared Landing		2.5f.p.s.
	(With proper technique)	
Glide Ratio (Lift over Drag)	3:1 (approx.)	
Turn Rates		
Full Glide	4-6secs.	
After one revolution	3-4secs.	
Maximum Bank Angle Capability	75 (approx.)	
Stall Turn	1.5 sec. (180)	

PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Wing Span	14ft.
Wing Chord	(approx.) 12ft.
Wing Area	(approx.) 160sq.ft.
Suspended Weight	100-185lbs.
Canopy Material	13oz. ripstop nylon, calendered 0-5c.f.m. porosity
Line Test Strength	450lbs.
Launching Device	Deployment Bag
Pilot Chute	One MA-1 or equivalent

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STOCK STANDARD COLOURS

White/Blue, White/Red, White/Yellow, White/Violet, White/Black, White/Orange and White/Green.

STOCK CUSTOM COLOUR PATTERNS

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- No. 2 DOUBLE SPECTRUM (Single Surface) Blue/Green/Yellow/Orange/Red/Red/Orange/Yellow/Green/Blue with White ribs and top and Blue stabilisers.
- No. 3 U.S.A. White canopy with Red/White/Blue stripe (top and bottom) on the right side.
- No. 4 FULL SPECTRUM (Top and Bottom) Blue/Green/Yellow/Orange/Red/Red/Orange/Yellow/Green/Blue with Blue stabilisers.
- No. 5 STAR WARRIOR Black/Black/Red/Orange/Yellow/Yellow/Orange/Red/Black/Black with Black stabilisers.
- No. 6 SUNRAY Red/Yellow/Orange/White/Orange/Yellow/Red with White ribs, top and stabilisers.
- No. 7 LIGHTING RAINBOW Blue/Green/Yellow/Orange/Red with White ribs, top and a right Red and left Blue stabiliser.

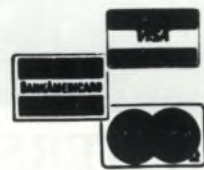
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BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING, WEDNESDAY 8th FEBRUARY, 1978 held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT:

W. J. Meacock — *Chairman*
D. Peacock
W/O J. Laing
D. D. Orton
J. L. Thomas
J. R. H. Sharples
P. A. Howell

R. H. Swainson
P. G. Mitchell
J. D. Prince
D. I. Waugh
G. E. Lilly
P. G. Slaughter

In Attendance:

Sqn. Ldr. W. Paul — *Sec. Gen. BPA*
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds — *NCSO BPA*
R. Atherton
G. C. Sutton

R. K. Burns

Apologies for Absence:

Brig. P. I. Chiswell
J. T. Crocker
W/O E. T. Lewington

Wg. Cdr. J. Reynolds
G. I. Long

Item 6/78

UNFAIR CONTRACT TERMS ACT 1977

Mr. G. C. Sutton (Solicitor), engaged to advise the Association on the matter of its existing Form of Indemnity and associated insurance requirements outlined the situation as affected by the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977.

It was pointed out that the existing Indemnity was now simply ineffective. It was agreed that Mr. Sutton would prepare a form of replacement for the existing Indemnity based on the content of his letter of 3rd February and including reference to the individual members Third Party Public Liability as suggested by the Sec.-Gen. who would forward to Mr. Sutton a suggested wording for his consideration. The Sec.-Gen. would enter into negotiations with the Association's current Insurance Broker to discuss the necessary insurances appropriate to the new situation, taking account of the Association's wish to avoid affiliated clubs being burdened with additional insurance costs, i.e. clubs to be embodied in such policies as the Association decides are required.

Item 7/78

PLANNING PERMISSIONS

Mr. P. A. Howell as Chairman Forward Planning Committee (F.P. Comm.) referred to the planning 'umbrella' under which parachuting activities throughout the country fall:

1. Parachuting which was commenced prior to the end of 1963, and has continued ever since. This is referred to as an established use, and has the same effect as a Planning Permission.
2. Where parachuting takes place with the benefit of a specific planning permission. In both this and the previous case,

parachuting can only be stopped (assuming the permission is a permanent one) by service of a discontinuance notice, and payment of compensation by the Local Planning Authority.

3. Without the benefit of any Planning Permission, either on or off an airfield, whether licensed or otherwise. Until the Ashbourne decision it was generally assumed that parachuting either did not need permission at all (the argument being that this was not *development* within the Town and Country Planning Acts) or where it took place on an airfield, which airfield use existed either by reason of an established user or a specific planning permission, it was thought that parachuting was part and parcel of the activities of the airfield, i.e. ancillary to that use. However, the Ashbourne decision was taken merely on the facts of that case, and in any event, if the Secretary of State for Environment followed his previous decision on any Appeal, that decision could be challenged as a matter of law in the High Court.
4. Occasional parachuting which takes place for 28 days in the year or less requires no planning permission at all. It is not thought that this is of general application to the majority of parachuting clubs in the sense that they operate throughout the year, and therefore — even with our bad weather — more than 28 days.

It was agreed that a survey of all clubs be undertaken as soon as possible to ascertain under which of the above categories the various clubs operate. He emphasised that the Ashbourne decision which was well documented could adversely effect any planning applications and in fact imperil the future of existing clubs.

It was agreed that:

- a. Mr. Howell draft a summary of the background to the situation for use in a presentation to the Sports Council should we require to seek its assistance.
- b. That a survey of all clubs be conducted. Mr. Howell would prepare a questionnaire.
- c. The NCSO to seek the guidance and assistance of the C.A.A.

Item 8/78

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Safety and Training** (Minutes of 24 Jan 1978). The following matters arose:

- a. **Incident at Dunkeswell** (Item 3c). The RN & RMSPA did not accept the reasons quoted for the failure of the AOD. The NCSO stated that the reasons quoted were as given to the S.T.C. but in the light of the RN & RMSPA objection the matter would be reconsidered.
- b. **Riggers Insurance** (Item 6c). The recommendation that Riggers Insurance be paid for by the BPA, as in the case of Instructors Insurance was accepted. The Sec.-Gen. was investigating the insurances for 1978/79 (see Item 6/78 of these minutes).

- c. **Blast Handles** (Item 8b). Requests had been received for exemption to the ban.
 - d. **R.W. Seminar** (Item 9c). Agreement was given for Mr. Roger Hull to be brought from U.S.A. to conduct a R.W. Seminar at Sibson, 3-7 April. The Sec.-Gen. would include the cost of the Seminar in the annual bid for grant aid from the Sports Council.
 - e. **Equipment** (Item 9d). The meeting approved a sum of £200 for research and development and introduction of student free fall equipment to eliminate pilot chutes/rip cord or reduce the type of malfunction caused by instability. To be progressed by S.T.C.
2. **Competitions** (Minutes of 6 Feb 78). The Minutes as published were accepted. An application from Mr. A. Layton for Sports Aid Foundation Grant (Item 6a) which had not been progressed on the grounds that he did not appear to meet the necessary criteria was passed to the Sec.-Gen. for retention.

3. Forward Planning.

Sports Council Grant Memorandum. A final memorandum was now available based on the draft by Mr. Howell. All clubs would be advised that before submitting an application for grant aid to Regional Sports Council a copy of the Memorandum should be requested from the BPA Office.

Regional Representative. All Regions of the Sports Council had been notified of the appointment of BPA Representatives to their respective Region.

Item 9/78

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/DINNER DANCE

- a. **Dinner Dance.** Proposed by D. Orton seconded by D. Peacock that a Dinner Dance be held on the evening preceding the A.G.M.

Carried by 12 votes to 1.

- b. **Venue/Dates.** Proposed by D. J. Prince seconded by J. L. Thomas that the venue be Grand Hotel, Leicester on 5th and 6th January 1979.

Carried by 12 votes to 1.

- c. **Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.** The Sec.-Gen. suggested that since under the Companies Act we are now required to approve the Accounts within six months (with one month's grace) from the end of the financial year and since it was impracticable to bring the A.G.M. forward, we should consider holding an Extraordinary General Meeting on the night of the Council Meeting in October. It was the Sec.-Gen.'s understanding that this was acceptable and subject to official confirmation his suggestion was agreed.

Item 10/78

PREVIOUS MINUTES (15 Dec 77) and MATTERS ARISING.

Sports Aid Foundation (Item 69(b) 2). The Sec.-Gen. confirmed that applications in respect of S. Murray, D. Smith and P. Slaughter were with the S.A.F. and that additional information requested by the S.A.F. had been supplied. Final decision was awaited.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Item 70).

Reports. Team Coach — not yet received.

Team Leader — not yet received.

H of D — received and distributed.

Scholarship Course (Item 72 b). The Sec.-Gen. distributed his proposed form of application copies of which would be sent to all CCIs. The plan was to hold two courses in each of the periods March to June and July to October. For 1978, only the latter period would be used. It was agreed that the Student Progression Course already scheduled for 14-18th August be used for the Scholarship Course purpose.

Sport Parachute Centre (Bridlington) (Item 72 k). The award of approved club status awarded at the previous meeting had not been actioned because of a change of circumstances at the centre, i.e. the CCI who was in situ at the time of application was no longer with the club. Written confirmation that a CCI of Advanced Instructor Rating standard was operating the club was awaited. A telephone message had been received that Mr. A. Collingwood was now the CCI — it was understood that he was not an Advanced Instructor. It was agreed that Approved Club Status be withheld for the time being.

Aviation Fuel (Item 73.5). The case for a renewal of tax

exemption on Aviation Fuel for aircraft engaged on sport parachuting would be channelled into the CCPR at the next appropriate meeting.

Resignation of N.C.S.O. (Item 73.7). As a result of the resignation of the current N.C.S.O. applications had been called for to fill the forthcoming vacancy and the Chairman had set up an Interviewing Committee. Four candidates had applied but two of these withdrew — the remaining two were interviewed by the committee on 8th February and it was recommended to Council that the appointment be offered to Mr. D. Peacock whose experience in the sport is as follows:

1. 19 years in the sport.
2. Advanced BPA Instructor since 1963.
3. Completed 2670 descents.
4. Ex. C.C.I. RAFSPA.
5. International Judge (FAI Registered).
6. British Team Coach — 1972/74/76.
7. Member of 1968 World Championship British Team (Bronze Medal winners).
8. Member of the RAF 'Falcons' and its cameraman for 2 years.

A proposal by Mr. Howell seconded by Mr. Thomas that the Committee's recommendation be accepted was unanimously agreed.

It was further agreed that the contract of employment be as per the Current Employment Manual including:

- a. The appointment, in the first instance, be on a one year trial period and thereafter be subject to a notice of three months, binding on both the employer and the employee.
- b. The salary to be set at £4,000 p.a. plus £500 unsocial hours payment.
- c. Consideration to be given to the provision of a company car.

The Sec.-Gen. to draw up the necessary Terms of Contract and to investigate the provision of a company car.

Item 11/78

OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Affiliation Cornwall Parachute Centre.** An application for affiliation was considered but deferred till the next meeting by which time the N.C.S.O. will have visited and reported on the centre.

- b. **Application for Loan — Wales & West of England P.C.** An application for a Loan of £2,000 towards the purchase of an aircraft was received. It was pointed out that current BPA policy on loans was that any loan to any applicant would not exceed £1,000. Whilst there was general support for the application it was considered that in the best interest of all concerned a club representative should attend the next meeting of Council to amplify the financial details in the club's application. It was noted that the present loan situation was:

Southern Counties	(£1,000) — current loan.
Martlesham Para Club	(£1,000) — current loan.
Wessex Para Club	(£600) — outstanding.

Mr. Howell observed there was no reference in the minutes to 'outstanding loan' due from Wessex Para Club and asked about the present position. This matter had been passed to Mr. Crocker and the Sec.-Gen. would check and report back.

- c. **Scottish Championships.** A request from the SSPA for BPA assistance with the Scottish Championships was favourably received and the Sec.-Gen. was authorised to reply that BPA would assist in any way possible but to emphasise that services of the N.C.S.O. would depend on his programme with BPA.
- d. **Royal Aero Club (FAI Subscription).** The request for payment by BPA of its share of the British FAI annual subscription was received. This totalled £750 being the same as last year since the FAI had decided not to increase the subscription payable by member countries. It was suggested that with the change in the value of the French Franc the Sterling amount should be down on last year. There was also the matter of whether or not the BPA share of the total subscription was a fair proportion. The Sec.-Gen. would investigate both the observations made. It was agreed that when the R. Ae. C. next discusses the Annual Subscription, the Chairman of BPA should attend.
- e. **Full Membership of BPA.** The Chairman had received a request from the British Para Club that, as one of the few

clubs insisting that all its students are Full Members of the BPA, the club should be provided with, at no cost, one Provisional Jump Log Card with each membership. This was agreed.

f. **Salary Increases — N.C.S.O. & Sec.-Gen.** The Chairman referred to the proposed increases of the meeting of 30th June 1977 and asked of any response from the Sports Council. The Sec.-Gen. reported that these have been included with the annual application for Grant Aid. An official reply to that application was expected in a few days. In a telephone conversation (6 Feb 78) with the Sports Council it had been indicated that since the proposed increases were outside the approved scales and outside the Government's pay guide lines there was little likelihood that the Sports Council could grant aid the increases. The Chairman expressed surprise that the increase in respect of the N.C.S.O. had not been linked with a case for Promotion since that had been Council's intention. The Sec.-Gen. referred to the text of the Minute which had been approved at the meeting of 4th August for inclusion in the Minutes of 30th June. This Minute referred to the increased responsibilities of the Sec.-Gen. combined with his length of service but did not refer to promotion. Both posts were governed by approved scales, the Sports Council Scale in respect of the Sec.-Gen. and the Pelham Scale in the case of the N.C.S.O. The Pelham Scale was being reconsidered and the N.C.S.O. had already attended an

interview connected with assimilation under a new scale to be drawn up — the result of this is expected within the next month (telecon with Sports Council 6 Feb 1978). The Sec.-Gen. would keep the Chairman informed of responses from the Sports Council.

g. **Annual Lottery.** The Sec.-Gen. outlined suggested changes to the form of the Association's Annual Lottery whereby one book of 20 tickets at 20p each would be sent to every member with the April issue of Sport Parachutist and thereafter to every new and renewing member with their membership card. He outlined the system of prizes and drawing. There would be a £75 and a £25 prize drawn for in June, August and October with two main prizes of £1000 and £500 drawn for in January. All tickets sold would be eligible for each of the bi-monthly draws following the date of purchase and for the main draw in January. If all tickets were sold the net profit would be in the region of £37,000. Under the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976 it would be necessary to register with the Gaming Board of Great Britain in addition to the local Council with whom we are currently registered. It was suggested that with such a large profit potential it would be prudent to provision for any surplus after meeting World Championship expenditure, to be allocated for a specific purpose. It was agreed that the Sec.-Gen. progress the annual lottery scheme as outlined and that it be in aid of 'The British National Team and Sport Development Funds'.

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 24th JANUARY 1978 held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT

J. Crocker	<i>Chairman</i>
C. Shea-Simonds	<i>NCSO</i>
M. Winwood	<i>LIFFT</i>
R. Swainson	<i>SCPC</i>
D. Peacock	<i>Co-Opt</i>
J. Meacock	<i>PPC</i>
E. Strawson	<i>RGJ</i>
E. Lewington	<i>PRFFT</i>
L. Melhuish	<i>WWPC</i>
E. Finney	<i>MSPC</i>
P. Young	<i>RSA</i>
D. Fisher	<i>Langar</i>
J. Sharples	<i>MPC</i>
G. Robinson	<i>LUPC</i>
J. Barnes	<i>TWPC</i>
J. Laing	<i>JSPC</i>
G. Long	<i>RAFSPA</i>
D. Hickling	<i>Halfpenny Green</i>
D. Prince	<i>NWPC</i>
G. Lilly	<i>Duck End</i>
A. Collingwood	<i>SPC</i>
A. Knight	<i>NCPC</i>
M. Purves	<i>MHPC</i>
J. Hitchen	<i>SFFP</i>
B. Jones	<i>LBFFC</i>

OBSERVERS

D. Hillas	D. Douglas
S. Hillas	M. Inglehearn
S. Clark	D. Turner
J. Durrant	R. Hicks
S. Freedman	E. Hartley
J. Hartley	M. Haskoe
R. Harrison	A. Sinclair
D. Waterman	B. Reed
R. Watts	J. Nickolls
A. Young	J. Curtis
R. Gays	M. Snook
R. Watts	J. Field
J. Oakes	D. Cox
J. Shankland	P. Fisher
L. Townsend	L. Kimm
J. Moxon	R. Acraman
J. Wright	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

R. Willis	N. Law
D. McCarthy	

Item 1

EXEMPTIONS

- a. N. O'Brien from Hong Kong applied for an Advanced Rating (recommended by E. Lewington and K. Mapplebeck) with a request for an exemption from the rule of attending a BPA PI/Exam Course. This was granted subject to his attending a BPA PI/Exam Course within 6 months of his return to the U.K.
- b. J. Laing requested an exemption from the 150 jump rule for Sgt. Instr. Panther of J.S.P.C. to attend a PI Course. He has all the other qualifications. This exemption was granted.
- c. M. Rennie requested permission to use an Eagle 3 with a Strong single point cutaway system. He gave no indication of his experience. It was agreed the NCSO write to Mr. Rennie to find out this information.
- d. M. Haskoe, a USPA Instructor and current BPA member requested a BPA Instructors Rating without having to attend a Course. It was agreed subject to his being checked out by J. Meacock at the Peterborough Parachute Centre.

Item 2

CLUB CHIEF INSTRUCTORS

It was pointed out that there were a number of CCI's who were not Advanced Instructors in accordance with BPA Regs. Section 2 Para. 2. It was agreed that the words "or Approved Instructors specifically authorised by STC" be added after "BPA Advanced Instructor" in the first line. The following who are only Approved Instructors are authorised to act as CCI's with immediate effect:

A. Black (<i>Eagle</i>)	R. Swainson (<i>SCPC</i>)
K. Noble (<i>BVPC</i>)	P. Corr (<i>SEPC</i>)
A. Riddick (<i>Cambridge</i>)	P. Evans (<i>CPC</i>)
A. Linley (<i>BPC</i>)	M. Purves (<i>MHPC</i>)
N. Law (<i>MFFC</i>)	P. Young (<i>RSA</i>)
J. Hitchen (<i>SFFP</i>)	D. Fisher (<i>Langar</i>)
G. Lilly (<i>Duck End</i>)	M. Stanton (<i>CPC</i>)

Any CCI who is not an Advanced Instructor and who is not on this list should apply to STC for authorisation.

Item 3

INCIDENTS

- a. **Bodmin.** An incident was discussed where a PI, B. Hill, had trained and dispatched, without Instructor supervision, a student who had landed on a parked aircraft. The CCI, J. Nickolls, informed the meeting that he did not authorise B. Hill to act without the required Instructor supervision. After some discussion it was agreed to suspend B. Hill's PI qualification until such time as he presents himself at an STC meeting to put his version of the incident. The CCI, J. Nickolls, was given a strong reprimand for the lax way in which the club appeared to operate.
- b. **Diapers.** The NCSO elaborated on the Safety Notice of 19th December 1977. The reserve concerned was a Strong 26ft LoPo and during a routine repack, when being pulled out on the table, the diaper malfunctioned when the two elastics became snagged. It had been correctly packed according to the manufacturer's instructions. Users of this system are warned of the possibility of this malfunction and that it can be eliminated by placing the grommets at least 2½ inches apart. Users should also note that to the knowledge of STC Strong 26ft LoPo reserves have not been drop tested without diapers fitted. The NCSO was instructed to write to Ted Strong and National and produce photographs in Sport Parachutist.
- c. **Dunkeswell.** The NCSO reported on an incident where a student with a stiff pull had finally deployed his reserve at around 100 feet AGL. It was subsequently discovered that the Sentinel AOD had not worked as:
 1. The battery was flat.
 2. It had not been calibrated.Clubs using AOD's should take note.

Item 4

FATALITY

The NCSO reported on the fatality at Elvington on 7th January, where a student, B. Thacker, had had a double malfunction caused by instability on his 18th jump (his 2nd free fall). Although he had activated the reserve quickly it fouled with the main which had malfunctioned when the pilot chute had become snagged. After some discussion STC agreed the following additions to the Regulations:

- a. Appendix F, Category III add second sentence as follows: "Progression to free fall from static line may be approved by BPA Advanced Instructors or Approved Instructors only."
- b. Add second NOTE at bottom of page 29: "Details of release, count, position, pull and recovery must be entered in all student log books for Categories II-IV inclusive."

STC also stressed the need for caution when progressing a student back onto free fall who had been reverted to static line because of stability problems. Additionally it was agreed that the use of the suspended harness was a valuable aid in the training for the first free fall descent. (NOTE — BPA still has a number of suspended harnesses and frames for sale at subsidised rates for BPA Affiliated Clubs.)

Item 5

CANOPY RW

The meeting discussed this topic at length and the Army Regulations for Canopy RW recently introduced. It was finally agreed that the following be STC Recommendations for Canopy RW:

- a. Parachutists must be D Licence holders and have completed 100 ram air parachute descents.
- b. Individuals must be specifically cleared for CRW by Club Chief Instructors by an endorsement to that effect in their log books. This must be made before any CRW is carried out.
- c. Parachutists intending to carry out CRW at displays are to have their log books endorsed by Club Chief Instructors, that they are competent to do so.
- d. If a hook up has not been achieved by 1000ft AGL, no further CRW should take place.

Item 6

RIGGERS

The NCSO reported on the Riggers Meeting he had chaired on

19th January. The Meeting approved the following:

- a. A new Section 27, Riggers, be added to BPA Regulations (see Annex A).
- b. The riggers on the list at Annex B have their ratings valid for 2 years with effect from 1st April 1978, from which time Section 27 should be effective.
- c. Block insurance for riggers should be investigated and that it be automatically available to riggers in the same way as for instructors.

Item 7

ADVANCED RATINGS

A. Knight, recommended by J. Meacock and C. Shea-Simonds, was granted a BPA Advanced Instructors Rating.

Item 8

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- a. Item 14 of Minutes of 6th September 1977. The NCSO read a letter from G. Phillips denying the allegations originally made about his training of Miss Callison and Miss Jackson. It was agreed that G. Phillips rating remain suspended and that he, Miss Callison and Miss Jackson be invited to the next æTC Meeting in order to resolve the matter finally.
- b. Item 1 of the meeting of 13th December 1977. The banning of blast handles was again discussed. The meeting confirmed the ban with effect from 1st February 1978 by 22 votes to 2 with one abstention. The Chairman wished it recorded that he did not agree with this decision.

Item 9

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. R. Acraman requested permission to train students with a view to dropping them in large sticks in a military parachuting manner. The meeting agreed that R. Acraman produce all his detailed plans in writing to the NCSO for distribution before discussion at the next meeting.
- b. **Drugs.** The NCSO reported that two CCIs had requested advice on how to deal with the use of illegal drugs. BPA Regulations Section 9, Para. 10, spells this out unequivocally, and the meeting agreed that in no way should any drug abuse be tolerated, not on any moral grounds but simply because it is illegal. (Since the meeting a letter has been received from which the following is a quote: "... a CCI runs the risk of personal prosecution for the little known offence of permitting the use of cannabis. This offence can be committed simply by doing nothing about it.")
- c. **RW Seminar.** The NCSO reported on an idea to run an RW Seminar at Sibson from 3rd-7th April for Instructors and Potential Instructors with the aim of teaching them to teach RW. A provisional invitation to Roger Hull to run the seminar has been accepted and Council approval will be required to authorise the expenditure involved (his air fare). Sports Council Coaching Grant Aid could probably be obtained for the latter. STC agreed this was an excellent idea and authorised the NCSO to go ahead with the detailed planning.
- d. **Equipment.** J. Meacock proposed that the next meeting of STC give thought to the introduction of student free fall equipment that either eliminates the pilot chute/ripcord or of a system that reduces the type of malfunction caused by instability. It was agreed that input should be sent to the NCSO prior to the next meeting where the matter would be discussed fully.
- e. **Exemption.** S. Freedman requested permission to use the 3 Ring Circus Canopy release system with 170 jumps instead of a 'D' Certificate. This request was supported by his CCI, E. Finney. It was approved unanimously.

ANNEX A

SECTION 27 RIGGERS

1. The British Parachute Association recognises two standards of qualified Rigger, they are:
 - a. **BPA Advanced Rigger.** Cleared for all parachute repair and servicing work including the manufacture of new components and assemblies.

- b. **BPA Approved Rigger.** Cleared for all general maintenance work on parachute assemblies including the manufacture of new component parts, (sleeves, bags, S/Ls etc.). NOT cleared for modifications to reserve canopies or containers. NOT cleared for harness manufacture or work affecting the airworthiness of the harness/reserve relationship.
2. The initial qualification to attend an Approved Riggers Course is a BPA Packers Certificate, held for at least one year, endorsed for a. Ram Air Canopies, b. Advanced Canopies and c. Student Canopies. Riggers Ratings are initially issued after successful examination of the candidate by two Advanced Riggers at an STC approved full time Rigging Establishment.
 3. All Riggers Ratings are valid for a period of 2 years at the end of which time revalidation must be obtained with a certificate of competency signed by two Advanced Riggers. Riggers Ratings are only valid if the Rigger concerned is a member of the British Parachute Association.
 4. An Approved Riggers Rating must be held for a minimum period of 2 years before upgrading to Advanced Rigger. Upgrading is achieved after successful examination of the candidate by two Advanced Riggers.
 5. Maintenance and manufacture, (as given in paras 1a and b above), of all parachute equipment may only be carried out by BPA Advanced and Approved Riggers.
 6. Manufacture of major components (harnesses, containers,

sleeves, bags, pilot chutes, etc.) and repair of reserve canopies must be identified by the Rigger concerned with his label or stamp.

ANNEX B

BPA RIGGERS RATINGS

BPA ADVANCED RIGGERS BPA APPROVED RIGGERS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. A. Hooker | 6. R. O'Brien |
| 2. S. W. Talbot | 7. Mrs. M. Reed |
| 3. G. B. Shone | 8. I. S. Robertson |
| 4. J. Reddick | 9. R. Card |
| 5. J. L. Thomas | 10. J. R. Nickolls |
| 9. D. Hogg | 12. B. Richards |
| 10. H. Becker | 13. K. McNair |
| 11. A. Collingwood | 15. G. Raine |
| 12. R. Nevins | 16. B. Scoular |
| 13. J. Walmsley | 18. L. C. Sedgebeer |
| 14. E. Vine | 19. R. Taylor |
| 15. B. Reed | 20. P. Leighton |
| 16. J. Oosterveer | 21. Sgt. Arden |
| 17. J. Hiley | 22. Cpl. Lawry |
| 18. H. Curtis | 23. Mne. Wood |
| 19. A. Sinclair | 24. J. Wright |
| 20. R. Peakin | 25. N. Addison |
| 21. A. Cowley | 26. Cpl. J. Cordell |
| 22. J. Harbutt | 27. Sgt. Winwood |
| | 28. Cpl. Douglas |

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 7TH MARCH 1978 held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT

J. Crocker	<i>Chairman</i>
C. Shea-Simonds	<i>NC/SO</i>
R. Willis	<i>RAFSPA</i>
J. Laing	<i>APA</i>
J. Meacock	<i>PPC</i>
M. Winwood	<i>LIFFT</i>
G. Lilly	<i>Duck End</i>
P. Young	<i>RSA</i>
D. Orton	<i>APM</i>
J. Sharples	<i>MPC</i>
A. Douglas	<i>RGJ</i>
J. Barnes	<i>TWPC</i>
A. Collingwood	<i>SPC</i>
A. Riddick	<i>CUPC</i>
D. Hickling	<i>Halfpenny Green</i>
B. Jones	<i>LBFFC</i>
E. Finney	<i>MFFC</i>
D. McCarthy	<i>HPC</i>

OBSERVERS

D. Scofield	D. Palmer
K. Allen	J. Curtis
A. Oakes	R. Gays
D. Cox	W. Ardern
A. Sinclair	A. Young
L. Sinclair	J. Looker
P. Fisher	C. Homer
P. Hibbard	N. Perks
J. Norris	D. Humberstone
B. Mason	M. Haskoe
M. Stirrup	B. West
S. Talbot	L. Thomas
J. Simons	D. Callison
P. Jackson	

APOLOGIES

P. Slattery	A. Black
J. Hitchen	T. Knight
T. Strawson	T. Lewington
M. Purves	

Item 1

EXEMPTIONS

Exemptions were requested as follows:

- a. M. Haskoe. To use a 'blast' handle. Rejected by 11 votes to 5.
- b. B. Mason and M. Stirrup. Recommended by J. Norris to use '3 ring Circus' whilst only C Certificates holders with about 100 jumps each. Approved unanimously.
- c. R. Hiatt. To use a cloth helmet previously shown to STC. Rejected unanimously. NC/SO to write to R. Hiatt.
- d. T. Andrews. To be granted a PI rating without attending a PI Course having carried out nearly 900 descents assisting regularly at RAPA. Recommended by T. Oxley. It was agreed unanimously that T. Andrews should attend a PI Course. NC/SO to write to T. Oxley.
- e. P. Hewitt. To have his PI period extended, recommended by A. Riddick. It was agreed unanimously that he be granted an exemption of 6 months from the date of the meeting.

Item 2

STUDENT FREE FALL EQUIPMENT

As a result of discussion at the last meeting and a letter sent by the NC/SO to all BPA Chief Riggers the following presented Student free fall equipment to STC for discussion and evaluation:

- a. R. Peakin produced a simple one pin container with nylon loop (similar to the TSE Bag S/L container) which utilised a single 'Hot Dog' pilot chute.
- b. APA produced a two pin container with double nylon loops which incorporated an upward pull and 'controlled' pilot chute ('Hot Dog') deployment. It also had a custom built harness.
- c. T.S.E. produced a container which featured a staged deployment incorporating an inner container held together by velcro until the pilot chute pulled it open. This system was still being developed.

Ken Allen showed the meeting the GS Custom System the REME club have been using for two years which features nylon loops and POD deployment. There was considerable discussion about the merits of each system and it was agreed that further development be encouraged. By a large majority in each case the following were considered desirable features in any student free fall system:

- i Nylon loops are preferable to cones.
- ii Sleeves are preferable to bags or PODs.
- iii One good pilot chute preferable to two.
- iv Clover leaf handle with simple elastic pocket preferable to large 'D' handle in B4/B12 type pocket.
- v A system that featured a positive launch for the pilot chute with some form of inner flap.

It was also agreed that the three riggers who built systems specially for the meeting should be development grant aided with £30 each (Peakin, APA and TSE). This figure was well within the £200 agreed by Council at their last meeting.

J. Laing then produced a student reserve system on which he was conducting tests at Netheravon. It features a free pilot chute spring located between the stowed lines and the bulk of the canopy — the idea being to project the canopy from the pack tray on ripcord activation. The meeting showed considerable interest in the idea and J. Laing agreed to produce the final results of the tests in due course.

Item 3

ADVANCED RATINGS

A. Sinclair, recommended by C. Shea-Simonds and D. Peacock, requested an Advanced Rating. He had all qualifications including assessment on the recent BPA Instructors' Course. This was approved unanimously.

Item 4

SUSPENSION OF INSTRUCTORS RATING. G. Phillips.

The two students involved in this matter (Miss D. Callison and Miss P. Jackson), were present at the meeting and were asked various questions by members of the committee on the student training they had received from G. Phillips; the latter who was not present although he had been notified. It was agreed unanimously that G. Phillips' Instructors Rating remain suspended until he attends an STC Meeting and that he should give the NC/SO prior notice of his attendance.

Item 5

APPROVED INSTRUCTORS AS CCI'S

The following requested approval to act as CCI's although not Advanced Instructors: N. Addison — Scottish Parachute Centre, B. Charters — Golden Lions, E. Strawson — Green Jackets. These were approved unanimously. The case of K. Allen was deferred until the next meeting as there was doubt as to the validity of his Instructors Rating.

D. Peacock proposed that at the next meeting consideration should be given to a time limit being imposed for Approved Instructors acting as CCI's and that they should be encouraged to qualify as Advanced Instructors. This was agreed unanimously.

Item 6

INCIDENTS

The only incident was the malfunctioning of a reserve ripcord handle produced for the meeting by M. Purves. It was a 'nail and solder' job where one of the pins had become detached from the cable.

It was agreed that clubs regularly check their ripcord handles for serviceability and withdraw from use those of dubious manufacture or origin.

Item 7

INSTRUCTORS COURSE

The NC/SO reported on the results of the recent Instructors Course at Shobdon as follows:

- a. J. Orr had attended the course without prior notification as he was stationed in Muscat with no CCI to recommend him or to supervise him during his PI Period. He had achieved a satisfactory result on the course. The meeting agreed that he should be given a PI rating on his return to U.K. on further application to STC.
- b. Four PI's had failed the Exam Course and it was agreed to ratify the decision taken at the time that their PI ratings be valid for a further 12 months but that they can resit the Exam Course within 3 months if recommended by their CCI's. The four concerned are V. Pickard, I. McTavish, C. Riley and G. Dunn.

Item 8

JUMP PILOTS BRIEF

As a result of an initial idea and draft by M. Purves a new section of the Instructors Manual, Jump Pilots Brief, was now available free of charge to all those in possession of the Manual. CCI's are requested to inform their instructors.

Item 9

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The previous minutes were approved and the following matters were arising:

Item 1e. The request from M. Rennie to use '3 ring Circus' was now supported by a recommendation from N. Addison. This was approved unanimously.

Item 3b. The NC/SO reported that no reply had yet been received from Strong to his letter seeking clarification on use of diapers. He also reported that the National Reserve was cleared for use with or without the diaper, but that the Strong Reserve was only to be used with it.

Item 3c. On the malfunction of the AOD at Dunkeswell, the CCI of the Marine Club reported to the NC/SO that the battery was serviceable at the time of the incident and that the instrument had been calibrated properly. The meeting emphasised the need for AOD's to be 100% serviceable and properly calibrated if they were used.

Item 9a. The NC/SO reported that nothing further had been received from R. Acraman concerning his proposal presented at the last meeting.

Item 10

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following matters were discussed:

- a. E. Finney requested guidance on a potential student who had previously been a polio victim. It was agreed that this was a matter for the BPA Medical Adviser, Dr. C. Murray-Leslie. His address for this and other Sport Parachuting medical problems is:
Department of Rheumatology and Rehabilitation,
Derbyshire Royal Infirmary,
Derby DE1 2QY
Telephone: (0332) 47141 Extension 2551.
- b. The NC/SO reminded the meeting that 70 Instructors Ratings expire on 31st March, 1978.
- c. D. McCarthy informed the meeting of a student from Langar, Miss J. Anderson, who revealed that she had made 5 descents in one day 23rd February 1978) and that the last of these had been her first free fall descent. She had told D. McCarthy that the instructor concerned (believed to be D. Fisher) had told her to spread the descents over two dates in her log book. She provided a written statement to this effect. It was agreed that D. Fisher be invited by the NC/SO to attend the next STC Meeting when the matter would be discussed further.
- d. D. McCarthy expressed to the meeting his concern over i. Nomadic Students who frequent different clubs in their early progression and ii. Instructors who operate outside normal club operations training *ab initio* students at colleges, universities etc. with no DZ, aircraft and little or no equipment. It was agreed that both were undesirable and that i. should be actively discouraged and that ii. was up to individual clubs and CCI's to deal with as they see fit.
- e. Major T. Ridgway requested an Exam Course in June for T. Leary whose rating STC removed following an incident in Hong Kong a year ago. It was agreed that if T. Leary requires a BPA Instructors Rating he must undergo the full BPA qualification system. NC/SO to write to Major Ridgway.
- f. The Sec. Gen. had requested the committee to review a sample boot for a manufacturer for possible use for sport parachuting. The meeting examined the boot and agreed it was too large and heavy for experienced parachutists but that it might be suitable for student use if it was marketed at a competitive price. It was also agreed that the manufacturer concerned might consider providing two or three pairs for evaluation.
- g. L. Thomas produced a modified Cooper Hockey helmet for approval. It was agreed that it could be used by K. Davidson on a trial basis and that L. Thomas report the results to STC as soon as possible.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Mk1 PC I24 in Jerry Bird system — offers
Contact T. Bird, 0796-2555

New black mini-system — £140 o.n.o.
Contact A. Blaney, 0992-713764

C9 7TU in B12 pack and harness — £120
Contact M. Stirrup (W) 01-743 8000, ext. 2917 — (H) 01-597 3618

Strato Star & I24 in TSE hand deploy hog back
Contact T. Butler 07898-88391 (weekends)

3 Strato Stars — £250 each
Contact K. Allen, 0734-884026 (evenings)

Strato Cloud, harness and reserve container
Offers to Penny Wilson 040489-697

Pathfinder in custom pack and harness, reserve tray and altimeter
£245 o.n.o.
Contact S. Scott, 02405-6083

Irvin Skydiver complete £120, Altimaster £25, Altimeter £10,
Paraboots (7) £15
Contact Maureen 06075-2835 or 32696

2 U.S. Paps both with sleeve, risers and MAIs, £180 and £200.
Olympic, sleeve and pilot chute £120. B4 pack and harness £25.
Mini system container and ripcord £30
Contact C. Wilson, 0266-2312

Pathfinder B4 pack and harness and reserve tray, £175
Contact B. Allen, 041-637-6092

Strato Flyer, slider, risers and bag — £260
Contact W. Boyd, 51 Messines Pk, Londonderry, N. Ireland

Mk1 PC in B4 pack and harness — £170 o.n.o.
Contact P. Guest, 09062-4723

French Pap, B4 pack and harness, 2 MAIs, Altimeter £15
Contact J. Brewer, 0226-203720

Mk1 PC in style pack and harness £200, Talisman complete £150,
Cutaway rig plus two canopies £150
Contact J. Forster, 0602-50621 (W), 0476-71514 (H)

Russian PC in B4 pack and harness, Jumpsuit, Altimaster £220
Contact J. Park, 0783-866005 (evenings)

SST £70 o.n.o. Lightweight harness £25, French Pap in Super-Pro
and reserve tray £160 o.n.o.
phone: 0252-311966

Taffeta Tri-Con — £160
Contact T. Savage 0243-527802 (H), 0243-86211, ext. 234 (W)

Hornet plus pack & harness £240, Strato Stars plus pack & harness
£295
Contact J. Sharples 0789-3057 (W)
078988-8391 (weekends)

Mk1 PC in mini system plus I24 — £250
Contact E. Green, 0245-67039

PTCH 7 plus sleeve & drogue £125, I24 complete £50,
Paraboots (11) £15
Contact S. Collyer 051-928-7264

Paraplane Cloud, Stylemaster harness & packs, offers.
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