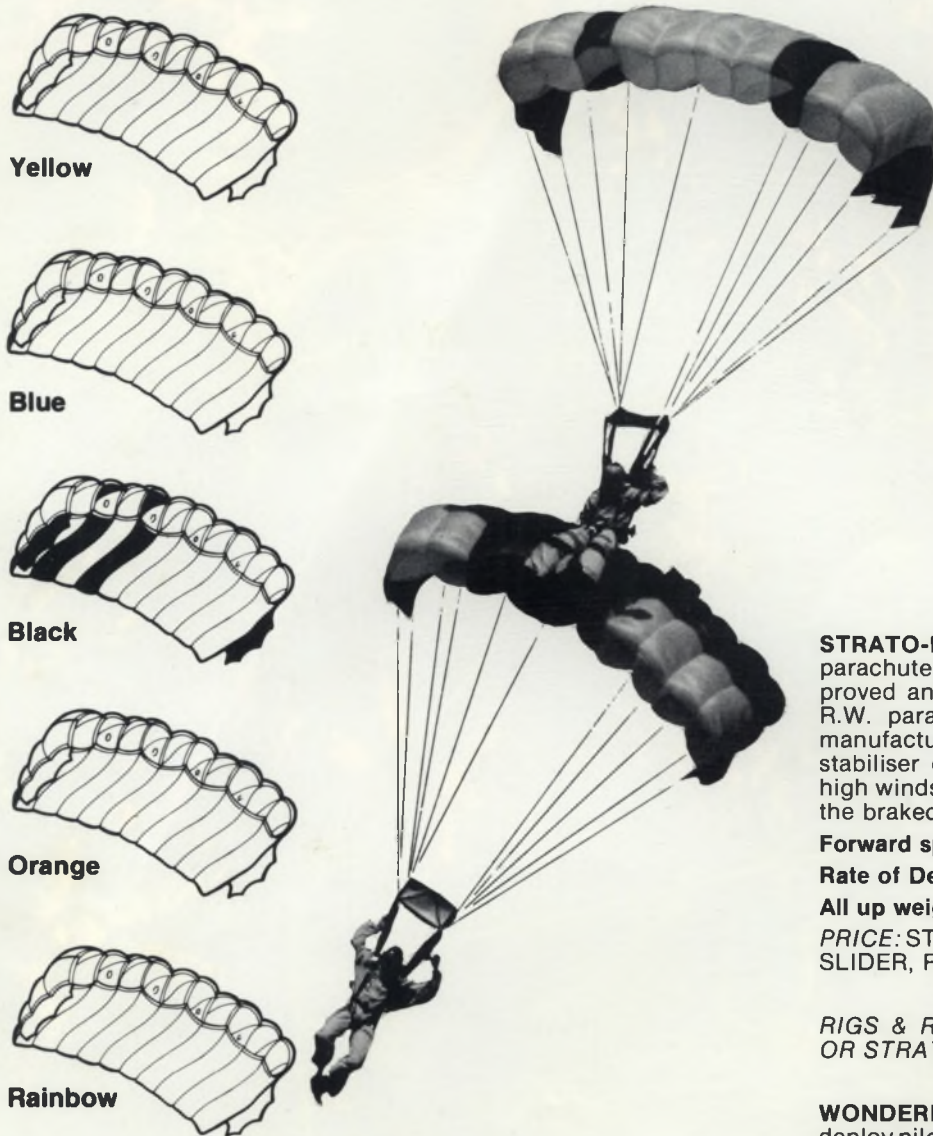




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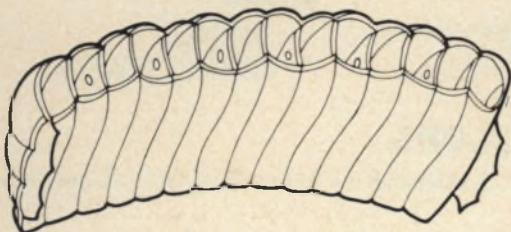
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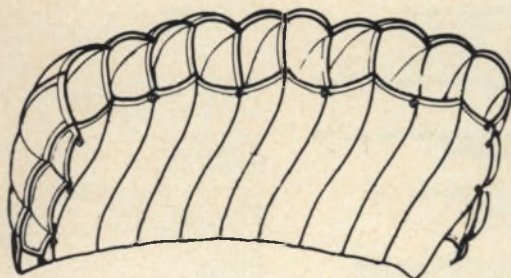
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(Information correct at time of going to press)

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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.

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Peterborough

W. J. Meacock
(at club address), Sibson Airfield
Tel: Elton 490

Hereford Parachute Club Ltd
Shobdon Aerodrome,
Leominster, Hereford
Tel: Kingsland 551

Chief Instructor
(at club address)

The Sport Parachute Club
Bridlington Aerodrome, Bridlington,
Yorkshire

Chief Instructor
(at club address)
Tel: 0262-77367

WEEKEND

Midland Parachute Centre
The Airfield,
Bickmarsh, Worcs.
Tel: Bidford on Avon 8391

Dave Deakin,
Titton 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

Eagle Sport Parachute Centre
Ashford Airport, Lympe, Kent
(Hythe 60816)

A. Black
(at club address)

East Coast Parachute Centre
Ipswich Airport
Ipswich, Suffolk

W. P. Slattery
(at club address)
Tel: 0473 70111, Ext. 10

R.S.A. Parachute Club
Thrupton Aerodrome, Andover, Hants.
Tel: Weyhill 2124

R. A. Acraman
(at club address)

Dunkeswell International Skydiving Centre
Dunkeswell Airfield, Nr. Honiton,
Devon
(Tel: Luppitt 350)

I. Loutitt
(at club address)

WEEK-END

Border Venture Parachute Club
Brunton, Nr. Alnwick,
Northumberland

K. Noble
Windy Gyle, West Street, Belford
Northumberland, NE70 7QE
Tel: 06683-289

British Parachute Club
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent

Mrs. A. Ward
13 Stainer Road, Tonbridge,
Kent

Cambridge University Free Fall Club
Waterbeach, Cambs.
Tel: Cambridge 311812 (evenings only)

P. Kettlewell
Dept. Applied Biology,
Cambridge University,
Pembroke Street, Cambridge.

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
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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,
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9 St. Andrews Road,
Stretford, Manchester M32 9JE

Manchester Skydivers

T. Bailey
157 Kenyon Lane, Moston, Manchester 10
Tel: 061-681 1740

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Mrs. L. Bennett
76 Grundisburgh Road
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Mrs. Jean Christie,
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Sheffield S12 2FS

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SPORT PARACHUTIST



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Vol. 15 No. 4
AUGUST 1978

EDITORIAL

Congratulations to the Army for cleaning up at both the Classic and RW Championships — particularly Duggie Young, our new National Parachuting Champion. The stories of both competitions are included in this issue.

Changing the subject — we never seem to learn do we? I say this because at the most recent STC meeting we learnt of incidents caused through ignorance of established danger areas. First the dangers in the use of the inefficient Irvin static line hook, secondly the inherent stiff pull situation in using the B4/B12 system for early free fall and finally the very real dangers of canopy RW being clumsily executed (see right of page 9). If we can't learn from the mistakes or bitter experience of others we can easily be lulled into a lethal situation. BE HUMBLE — BE SAFE.

Blue skies and safe parachuting.

Charlie

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.



Copy date for the next issue — Monday 18th September

Cover — Carl Boenish records break up time after a 50 man attempt.

THE DOORWAY

Calendar of Events

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 19-20 August '78 | British Collegiate Championships |
| 26-28 August '78 | Scottish RW and Accy Meet — Strathallan |
| 11-15 Sept '78 | Student Progression Course 2/78 |
| 20-24 Nov. '78 | BPA PI/Exam Course 4/78 |
| 12-16 Feb. '79 | BPA PI/Exam Course 1/79 |
| 19-20 May '79 | APA Open RW Meet — Netheravon |
| 30 May-7 June '79 | Army Championships — Netheravon |

□ □ □



BPA Instructors Course/Exam 2/78 — Bridlington

□ □ □

"Nothing Works For One Who Smirks"

John D. Prince, UZZ C.C.I.,
For an eight man he did try,
Came out seventh, the rest to show,
But alas, he went below.

Brian L, who came out last,
Smirked as Pringey whistled past.
Of glory thought "I'll soak it up",
But alas, he broke it up!

JAN



Geoff Poole (rear end view) exits the Landis Cherokee 6 on a Thunderbirds demo—

photo A. Balodis

□ □ □

DOG RAPES HORSE (Local news headline)

There are some funny 'goings on' at Cark,
That mostly take place after dark.
But we all agree, the oddest sight
That happened here, in broad daylight,
Was when Pringey's dog, by the use of force,
Tried copulating with a horse.
It was reclining of course!!!

(The horse, not the dog.)

Would the offspring be a horg or a dorse???

COOKEY

SUPERFLY

I THINK I'LL QUIT
THIS JUMPING ...



... SELL MY KIT OUTRIGHT
GET SOME MONEY TOGETHER
FOR A CHANGE

.. I COULD BUY A
NEW LAWN MOWER
ALL THOSE WEEKENDS
I COULD REALLY
GET THE
GARDENING
DONE ...

... AND THERES ALL THAT
DECORATING I DIDN'T
DO LAST SEASON

.. FREE TIME TO SEE THE
RELATIONS - ... SHOPPING.



JPS has been on holiday thus a Superfly from 3 years ago— Ed



Filwelz

"I don't think I'll wait Vic, it looks like they're coming back from lunch!"



Tony Cole sent us this photo of Derek Newberry jumping five parachutes at the Dunkeswell Air Day in May. Apparently Derek reckons this is some kind of record.



"Who's that fella with John Hitchen?"
Photo taken during recent visit of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh to Welbeck College.



Filwelz

"Hang on! it's not all bad news. This moves you up into eighth place!"

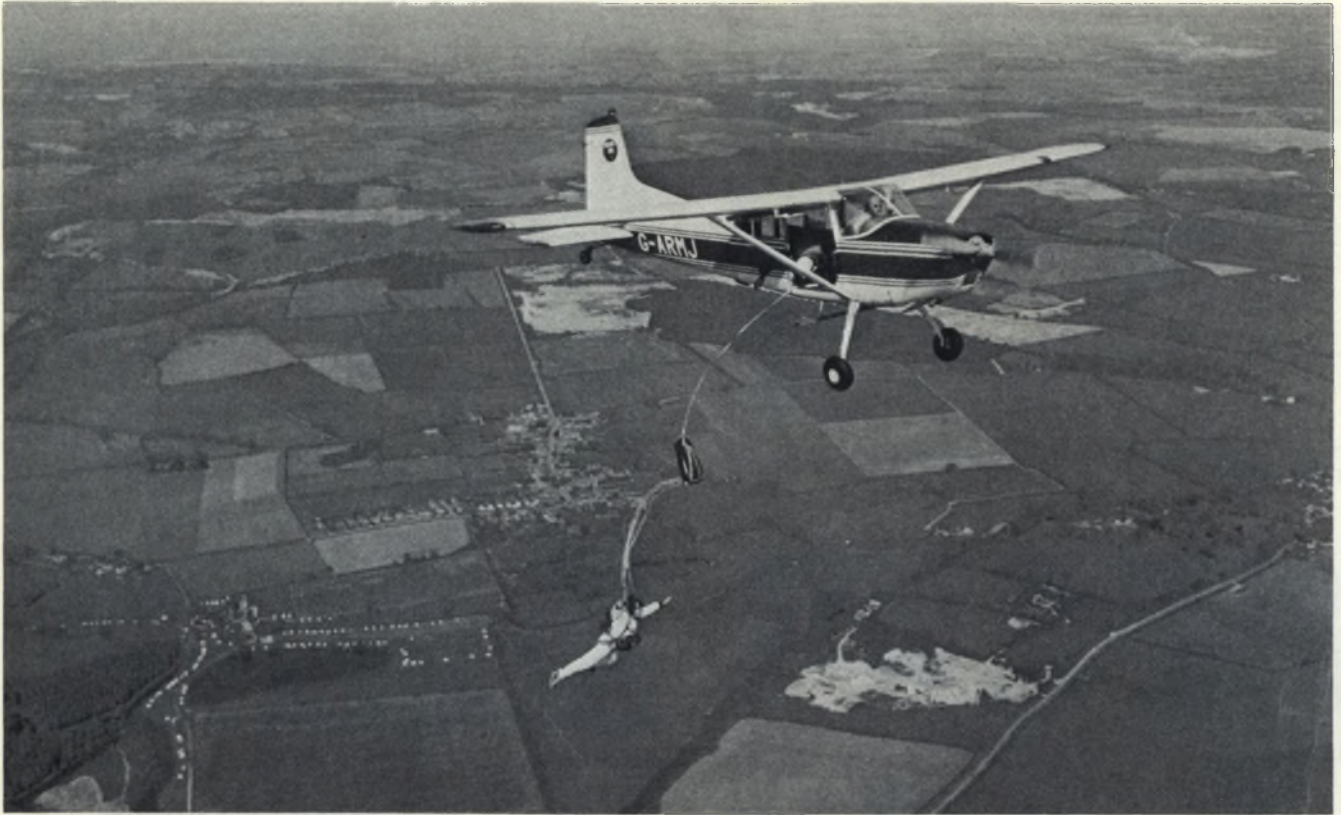
I COULD TAKE OUT MY
SUBSCRIPTION TO THE
LOCAL BALLROOM
DANCING
CLASSES.

... HI .. YEAH SURE ... EARLY START
NEXT SATURDAY ... OKAY
... COURSE I'LL BE THERE !!

- HUH! WHAT DOES
HE THINK I AM ..
DOMESTICATED
OR SOMETHING!



JPS.



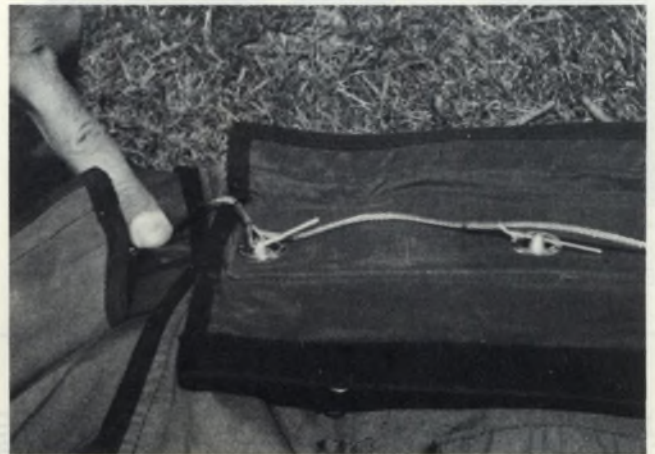
This excellent photo by Richard Cooke of Gillian Mower leaving John Meacock's 185 illustrated a very good feature on the Peterborough Parachute Centre that recently appeared in the Sunday Times Colour Supplement.

— reproduced by courtesy of The Sunday Times



World Heavyweight Boxing Contender, Richard Dunn, makes a good exit on his second sport jump over Bridlington.

— photo Dave Waterman

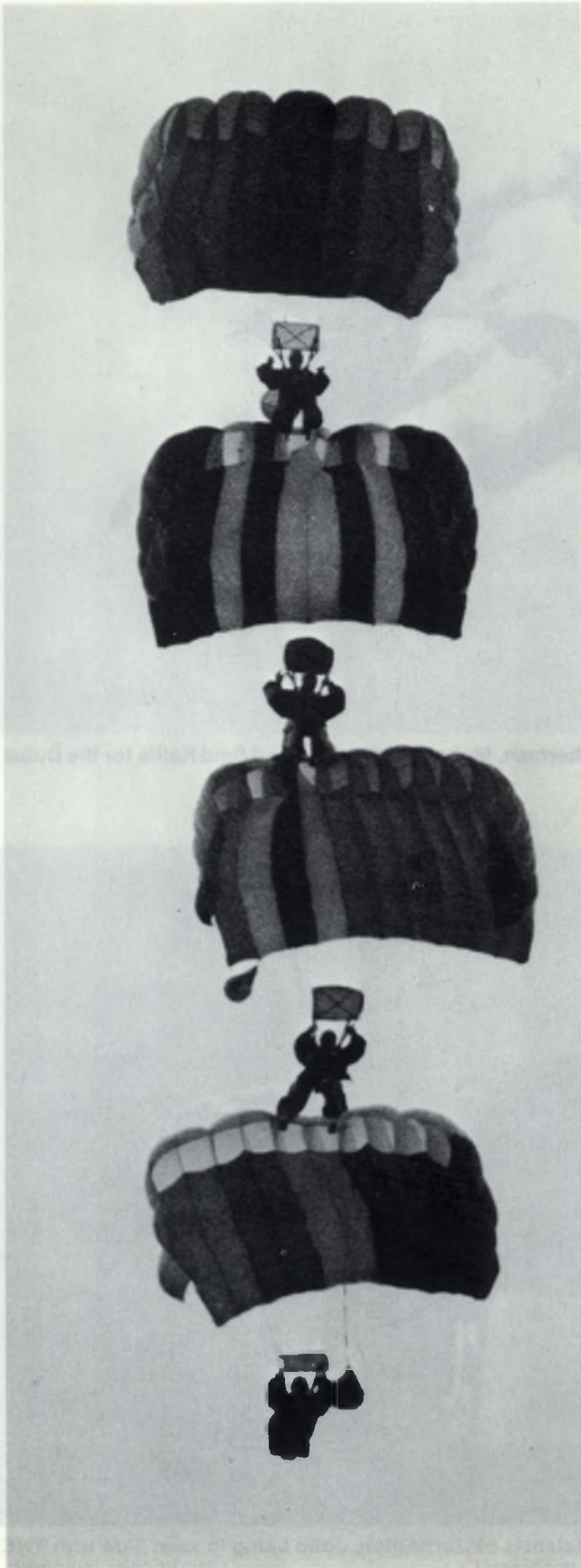


Similar photos have appeared in S.P. before but there's no harm in reproducing this one sent by John Norris to emphasise the message of clearing the top of the door on exit; also what about fitting nylon loops instead of cones?

□ □ □

B.P.A. INSTRUCTORS BADGE

Instructors who wish to receive their free issue of the new BPA Instructors Badge should apply (including S.A.E. please) to the B.P.A. Office.



THE RIGHT WAY & THE WRONG WAY TO DO CANOPY RW!

On the left a new British Record of a 4 Man Canopy Stack over Bickmarsh in May. Congratulations to participants (from the top), Tony Butler, Eamonn Broadfield, John Lines and Pete Anderson. *photo by Dave Deakin.*

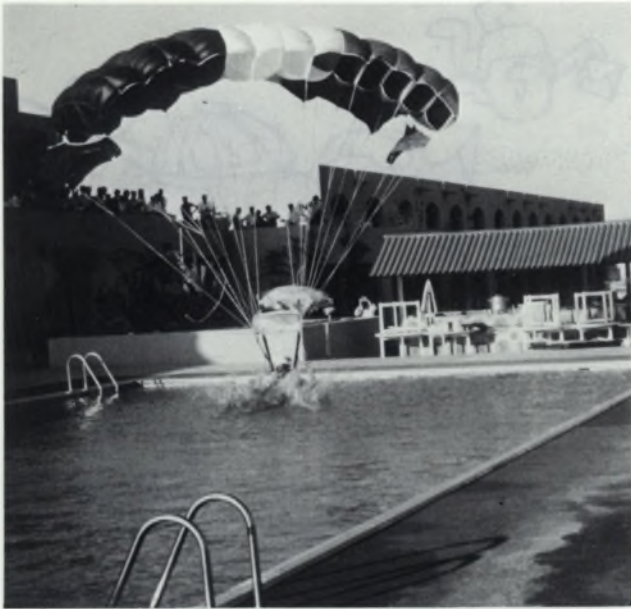
Above Eddie McBride recorded the moment when it all went wrong for Alan Derbyshire who is well wrapped up in Chris Pollett's canopy. We're sure that they both learnt something from this particular incident!



Pete Hough records the Army RW Cadre over Dubai with Peter Sherman, Mohammad Yousuf and Said Kaiifa for the Dubai record 11 Man; Pete himself closed 11th!



In a promotion for Carton Industries (1944) Ltd, packaging specialists of Durrington, John Laing is seen here with THE BOX high over Salisbury Plain— the exercise was not without its problems! *Charlie took the photo.*



Frank Fonfe sent this fun photo of his touching down in a swimming pool in Oman.



Congratulations to John Norris and his wife on their recent wedding. All in this photo, including Mrs Norris, are hard core RAFSPA Jumpers.

□ □ □

The first lady of Cark

Whuffos, tuffos and bionic men,
 All stand in line, especially when
 The blind rolls up, at the Cark canteen
 And in all her splendour, can be seen
 The lady, who with an icy stare,
 Can silence swear words in mid-air.
 Whose sausage sarnies, cheese on toast
 And beans, are known, from coast to coast.
 But beneath this facade, it must be told,
 There really beats a heart of gold.
 This lady, with the strident voice,
 This friend to all, uzz Auntie Joyce.

This 'poem' was especially requested by one of Joyce Morris's female fans, which is perhaps the greatest tribute of all.

Cookey



Well not so much a POP, more of a soggy PHUTT!. I have just sent out membership number 37. As usual, apathy reigns supreme, everyone hanging back to see what will happen. Of course nothing will happen on the POPS U.K. scene unless people join the organisation. I had hoped to arrange a POPS get together in late September, but we'd be lucky to arrange a lift, let alone any kind of a meet. Perhaps if we had a section for old women we would get more response. (Sorry ladies). Someone said it's the male age/ego thing, I think it's sheer bloody apathy. Several members have spent a good deal of time and personal money to try and get this thing going, but we need members, now. So get pen to paper, your name, address, B.P.A. number and postage stamp.

Initially, we have very little to offer to members, that is why membership is free. However there are many things that we could do with a large active membership. For my part I have offered a Canadian POP, Warren Searle, a U.K. holiday at my home, free food and accomodation, on a reciprocal basis. I know that there are however, many people unable to do this, I know that there are however, many people that are. This could lead to a lot of mutual interchange amongst jumpers. The scene is big over there, there is no reason why we couldn't have a similar scene over here. Warren tells me that he has attended four POPS meets, fantastic camaradie, guys in their seventies still jumping, a lot of fun. Age is something that happens to us all. My 15 year old daughter thinks that anyone over 21, is a geriatric.

I want to hear from every B.P.A. member over forty, now. Now that I have got that off my chest. Here is the news so far; We got our first POPS 4 man here at Cark, Richard Atherton, Alan Morris, Roy Harrison (he remembers the Andrews Sisters) and myself. We went so high that Harrison reckons that we qualify for Astronaut status, (12,000ft) and even with my myopic spotting, we all made the pit.

Don Sidebottom has offered to order the T-shirts and car stickers as these are on a cash with order basis. They will be ready sometime in August, prices to be advised later. It has been suggested that we have a POPS agenda for the A.G.M. anyone with any suggestions contact me.

John D. Prince, uzz C.C.I. That fearless master of the sky has offered to host a POPS get together here at Cark. On behalf of the membership I will accept his offer, therefore; POPS WEEKEND. Sat/Sun. September 30/31st. Large D.Z. two aircraft. Pit 14 miles from Junction 36. M6 Follow signs for Grange, thence take coast road to Flookburgh, ask for Cark airfield. Bring your doc's. Alos sleeping. bag.

There are no prizes for attending but we'll surely have a good time. Anyone wishing to attend and requiring accommodation let me know. Plenty of local accommodation or bunkhouse.

Guess that's all for now folks—You all write in now.
COOKEY, Broughton House, Field Broughton, Grange over Sands, Cumbria.



Dear Charlie,

On 26 April this year, Cornwall Parachute Centre became the newest Centre to be affiliated to the BPA giving the BPA coverage from Scotland down to Lands End. Formed in October last year, we made history by being the first and only Parachute Centre in Cornwall. Based originally at Bodmin Airfield we soon became friendly with the local people with the result that we found a new DZ near St. Breward, some 3 miles NNE Bodmin Airfield, using two fields and a group of agricultural buildings. That was the time really hard work began. A fence had to be taken down, literally millions of stones had to be cleared from 50 acres of land from small stones on the intended runway to 4 ton granite boulders on the DZ. Planning application was made for a change of use of the agricultural buildings of some 300 years old. A spacious Training Room converted out of a horse and coach building, a barn converted into a two tier club house and the outer buildings giving stores, toilets and showers. A new packing shed to be built so as to blend in with the character of the other buildings. All these surround a yard so as to make what would be a compact and complete range of facilities. Operation Facelift started immediately with first clearing the results of what comes naturally to cows!! Talk about needing wellingtons, waders were the order of the day! Next floors, windows, doors shelving and electricity were to be installed with the mighty enthusiasm of such a young club.

With jumping every weekend and Wednesday afternoon, the Centre owes much of its success to the three Mikes; Mike Bolton who travels from the Midlands every fortnight, a round trip of 600 miles no matter the weather, and has to date covered a total of 12,000 miles — that's dedication, Mike Stanton our keen CCI and Mike Timon our PI who between them have trained and dispatched over 200 first time students that has passed throughout the centre. Our display team 'TRADEWINDS' is already engaged in over 60 parachute displays, many of which are into the many beautiful areas of Cornwall. One person who can easily be taken for granted is the landowner who in our case is Guy Old who is a Cornish farmer without whose help and support there would be no Centre.

We extend a warm Cornish welcome to visit our Centre especially instructors and experienced jumpers. We have the kit and the aircraft, a Cessna 182. This aircraft is for our exclusive use giving 4 jumpers 8,500 feet for £2.80. A camera mounted on the strut gives movie and still pictures of your exit. We have plenty of accommodation in the area covering camping, caravanning, self catering and hotels. Facilities include horse riding, fishing, walking as well as

the many fine beaches — just right to keep your wife and children happy. Our social scene is very active with our local village pub, the Royal Oak, Blisland which is run by the skygod himself, 3 jump John Wolloff.

It all adds up to hassle-free parachuting and is well worth aiming your car towards Cornwall. We all look forward to seeing you. Keep smiling.

JOHN FISHER,
Secretary,
Cornwall Parachute Centre,
Trethoway Hotel,
Port Isaac,
Cornwall.
Tel: Port Isaac (020888) 214.

Dear Charlie,

Following the last council meeting, I write on the subject of relations with the news media. The reasons why a good relationship is desirable, and the best ways of obtaining such a relationship are more than well explained in your paper on the subject, which now forms part of the Instructors Manual [and see page 24-Ed]. But I wonder how many clubs have actively pursued the matter? It's only by constantly hitting the press with information that will eventually bring us to be recognised as a normal sporting activity. I think it worth reminding clubs that, particularly at a local level, it's not the spectacular event which we're losing out on, but the more "normal" club activity. A young, or old, student making their first descent, or a CCI making his 500th or 1000th descent, and so on, are the kind of items that the local press will give space to.

Parachutists are not usually modest, but we do seem to show a reluctance to sell ourselves to the outside world, and it's only by doing this that we can offset the effects of disaster reporting. If you have any event, be it competitive or otherwise, that you think could be of interest to the National Press then please send the details to me, as I hope to produce a press release on a regular basis, but obviously I must depend upon clubs for information. It will be a long time before we cease to be regarded as the lunatic fringe of sport, but I'm sure a long-time sustained effort can help to achieve this. I look forward to hearing from you.

GORDON LILLY D1611
12 Clawdon House,
Clawdon Gardens,
Finchley, N.3.

COLLEGIATE NEWS

I received this letter recently from Steve Cottrell—

Dear Dave,

This is just a few lines from the Sheffield Polytechnic Parachute Club to let you know of our existence. Unfortunately we have so far (selfishly?) not felt the need to join the B.C.P.A. since you did not seem relevant to our club's position, nor did we think we had anything special to offer the B.C.P.A. Talk of RW and accuracy competitions and college D.Z.'s with their own planes I'm afraid goes right over my head. The last two collegiate pages have altered my opinions a great deal.

Firstly Mr Pocadec's letter sums up my view very well. Only two of us are on freefall with several others close, but the remainder of our regulars hover around five or six jumps. Therefore any talk of student progression courses is exactly the correct path for the B.C.P.A. to move on in my humble opinion. Unfortunately I am a little clueless at the moment about organising a progression course of our own, so I won't comment further on this issue.

Secondly if I interpret the last collegiate page correctly we must have the largest Collegiate Club budget in the country, currently standing at £3000+ (and spent!). I would regard the club as one of the most active at present and so I am a little shamed by the news of the Birmingham University club's success with a zero budget.

However, managing £3000+ is probably more difficult than managing £300 (*I think most of us could manage it — Dave*) at least with £300 you know what you cannot spend it on. Our money has mostly gone onto a 50% refund on the course fee given to 112 students. Over 90 of these have made their jump, many more than one, but sadly a few — not for the want of trying — have fallen by the wayside. The rest has gone to transport, taking two minibus loads of folks down most weekends and allowing the subsidised use of private cars at certain times. We have a £1 refund on members initial ten jumps and had a 50% B.P.A. sub. refund, but it soon became clear how few people were carrying on so we bought a bag system with this sum and another two with a kit allocation.

At our level two things become noticeable. The Sky Gods are the ones who get packing certificates before their tenth jump and more seriously the fact that the true collegiate jumper has come straight from school and lives on his or her grant and cannot afford regular jumping. For this reason I name transport and jump subsidies as the most important constituents of a budget.

To end this letter here are a few tips that we think are valuable.

1. Join the union as a life member. Most colleges operate this scheme and you can run and benefit from any society until 60. This is useful if you get a job near your college.
2. Start the year with a bang, either a display onto the campus or the best stall at the societies fair to get vast numbers of green members, most of whom you will never see again but whose numbers give a good case for hasseling the union.
3. Try and get some union staff interested thereby getting inside the union.
4. If clubs run into the 'not a competitive sport barrier' then organise such things as hit and run competitions or simple points for performing on ordinary jumps or else a speed packing (rigs not to be used) competition. (*Be very careful in both these areas. There is a B-Certificate limit on jumping in all competition events, a student may concentrate on hitting and may not be in a fit state to get up and run! Also take care in the 'speed packing area' remember you would be performing in front of potential jumpers, and the image you would put over may not inspire their confidence — Dave*).

Our club will be affiliating to the B.C.P.A. next term. We jump at Wickenby with Sheffield and York universities and with John Hitchen as CCI. We have two D.Z.'s and a floor to kip on so please drop by on a sunny weekend.

STEVE COTTRELL, A2952

Thanks very much Steve for both your letter and your invitation, I will make every effort to get over there at the start of next term to see all three clubs. To bring out a couple of points that Steve brought up, the best course of action to take for organising a progression week would be to approach the CCI of your regular

weekend club, and the more college clubs which jump at the D.Z. the more worthwhile the course would be number wise — a club such as Sheffield being in an ideal position sharing a D.Z. with two other collegiate clubs. We are just moving into the best time of year for such a week. In September/October we still have reasonable weather, warm days, late(ish) evenings and students have their minimum work loading (no exams in the autumn term). If the D.Z. has an aircraft positioned there, the only problem is to get a couple of instructors and a pilot — if not you may have to make a cash offer to help position the aircraft and then try and earn this back in a cash raising effort or from the union. If you do organise one advertise it throughout all Collegiate Clubs (addresses available from B.C.P.A. Sec.), the more students jumping the better, and aircraft costs can be shared out further.

I'm glad to see that the Sheffield Club are one of those who see the importance of subsidising student jumps — yes we are involved in an expensive sport, and this is particularly hard on students, and a £1 jump subsidy will not make a great difference when we consider that experienced jumpers need about £1000 of kit to compete and need to spend at least £3000 in jumping and travelling to reach a standard to compete with the rest of Britain's jumpers, but it will help the potential C-Certificate holder through the stage where initially a student can be put off because things are made too difficult for him before he gets hooked on the sport. I'm sure that only a very small minority of jumpers become dedicated after their first jump — though on the other hand I'm sure that most of the people reading this article are amongst that minority, and the majority don't become dedicated at all and leave the sport as we know.

Just before we all collect our budget allocations for next year I would like to devote a couple of words to the purchase of kit for collegiate clubs. We have to consider a question of quality v quantity in that I'm sure that some of our clubs don't really think too much about the future when purchasing kit. Obviously the quantity purchased is a function of cost so therefore clubs have tended in the past to purchase used kit of the old type B4/B12 variety in order to boost their numbers of rigs. Today we are at a turning stage with respect to student gear, people as you will have doubtless read in the last couple of editions of Sport Parachutist and Parachutist magazines have proposed that we should concentrate on improving our own gear and making it safer, and turn our efforts towards student kit.

We must stop buying just what we can get — we must aim to get bag systems for our first timers and to totally discard those very dangerous pack opening bands of old B4/B12 gear. The richer clubs amongst us could consider the custom one pin containers now being developed by several riggers which can be used as bag systems for static liners and with a quick conversion to the pack, and a sleeve on the canopy become a very safe single pin free fall container. For those clubs who can't afford such flash gear there is a free fall alternative. At the moment there is a vast amount of single pin 'cloud containers' around, which can be attached to a B4/B12 harness in five minutes and accommodate all 28' flat circular sleeved canopies with ease. When purchasing pilot chutes for rigs clubs have tended on the whole to go for the slightly cheaper MA-1/A-3 vane types, again I suggest that it may be better to purchase the far more potent Hot Dog at £3 or £4 more. An extractor that cannot snag is far safer than one that can — and also if you operate on a D.Z. where the CCI requires two MA-1's on free fall gear you save in only having to buy one pilot chute anyway.

And finally here I pose the question is it worthwhile purchasing flash jumpsuits, helmets and boots at the expense of a rig or two? I was amazed to see one of our clubs in action this year, though I was most impressed by impression of smartness and efficiency put over by their uniform neatness, most of them spent all day on the ground through shortage of gear! If people are keen to jump they will find an overall, boots and a helmet.

The B.C.P.A. accounts for the financial year ending 30th March 1978 are now available and I will enclose copies to Collegiate Clubs along with the next routine correspondence.

SAFE JUMPING—DAVE TURNER, D2190

NATIONAL (CLASSIC)



The scene in the pit as Doug Young, 1978 National Champion, scores another disc. Hitchen is unmoved!

The British Classic Parachute Championships followed a month after the RW Nationals. Forty Four Competitors gathered at the Sport Parachute Centre at Bridlington, on Friday the 7th July, for a competition that was to select a British Team to compete in the World Championships in Yugoslavia in late August.

This year's Nationals had the support of Smirnoff Vodka in the form of a cash grant, that went to reduce the competitors' general entry fee, Dead Centre discs; and an additional accuracy meet after the competition had finished with prizes of Vodka. The sponsorship was arranged by the BPA through the Smirnoff Public Relations agents Brian Cartmell & Co., who made every effort to publicise the meet and to make it a success, both as a Competition and a PR exercise.

Of the 44 competitors, no fewer than 15 had spent time training at Raeford, North Carolina. They included the Army Team of Scotty Milne, Dickie Bird, Dave Tylcoat, Doug Young, George Cartlidge and Derek Thorne. Derek had injured himself in Raeford, (playing volleyball) and hadn't recovered sufficiently to compete, so judged. The rest of the Raeford group comprised Alan Layton, Paul Slaughter, Bob Hiatt, Gordon Lilly, Sally Smith, Paddy Byrne, Sandy Milne, Alison Peel, Dane Kenny and Jackie Smith.

Judges available were; Chief Judge; Doug Peacock, Bob Burn, Roger Flinn, Richard Atherton, John Hitchen, and John Meacock.

Meet Director Dave Prince also supported the competition with the Cark 182, flown by his 'mad' pilot Ben.

Saturday had been scheduled as practice day, but winds of over 20 knots put a stop to that. Sunday began bright and windy, but by two in the afternoon the winds had moderated sufficiently to start the Style event.

With excellent conditions of clear skies, good visibility, little free-fall drift and with three aircraft in use, it soon became clear that we had a good chance of finishing the event in the same day. It was also evident that a new talent had arrived on the competition scene as Doug Young of the Army Team powered his way through the first set, a left in 7.2 seconds, closely followed by his team mate, current National and Army Champion, Scotty Milne in 7.3 seconds.

A big gap separated Scotty from ex-Red Devil Dane Kenny on a 8.3 corrected to 8.6, with Dickie Bird a 7.7, but penalised to 8.7. Jackie Smith led the ladies with a 8.3 corrected to 8.9, with Sandy Milne 9.4 clean, and Sally Smith 9.0 to a 9.6.

Round 2, a right set, followed without delay, Milne and Young were both well ahead again with a clean 7.3 each, followed by Bird an 8.3 and Kenny 9.3. Sandy led the girls on this round with a 9.4 to 9.7. Jackie had a clean 9.8, Sally a 9.5 corrected to 10.3 and the new girl Alison Peel a decent 10.00. Tracy Rixon lost her helmet, probably executing one of her perfect Barrel/Loops.

CHAMPIONSHIPS



Grim back riser work by Steve Eversfield ...



Biff closes in on a good one by Tracy Rixon.



... followed by a judges' conference!

Round 3, a left Cross set, saw Doug Young increase his lead. Steadying to a clean 7.5, Scotty slipped to a 7.6 with a minor undershoot to a 7.9, Dickie Bird with a 7.6 but penalised to 8.2, Dane Kenny 8.6 to 8.9.

Sandy again led the ladies with a clean 9.3 followed by Sally on a 9.2 to 9.5, Jackie with a 9.0 to 9.6, continuing to cut the corners and getting picked up the judges, and Alison Peel with a respectable 9.8 and showing very nice control throughout each of her sets (someone to watch next year.)

Round 4, a Right Cross set, completed the event. Again it was Doug Young, in only his second Nationals, who raced ahead with a perfect 7.3, followed by Scotty on a 7.7, Dickie an 8.4 to 8.7, and Dane a clean 8.7.

Jackie had the fastest set of the girls in round 4 with a 9.6 corrected to a 9.9, followed by Sandy a 9.9 to 10.2, Alison Peel tying with Chris McGuire on a 10.5 and Sally Smith slipping to a 10.5 corrected to 10.8.

Round four finished the Style event and gave us a new Men's Champion in Doug Young. Doug was quick to point out that Scotty had played a major part in his coaching, whilst he had obviously taken full advantage of the Army sponsorship and their training camps in Dubai and Raeford. Even so, it was a splendid performance of the highest quality, concentrated style jumping.

As we still had a few hours of light it was decided to get in a round of Team Accuracy, and of the eight teams, two from Duck End Farm, The Army, Peterborough, two from North West Parachute Centre at Cark one from Grindale and a Symbiosis team, Peterborough were the first to jump totalling 0.30. Duck End 'A' followed, with Alan Layton getting a disc with Bob Hiatt's canopy very close behind.



Sue and John Meacock took a well earned break from Sibson.

Judge John Hitchen had JUST re-placed the disc and still had his fingers around it when it was smashed out of his hand by Bob's right foot . . . Very nice!

The Army Team dead centred the first round, as indeed they came close to doing for the remaining three. Duck End had a total of 0.14, Symbiosis 0.46 and Cark 0.56.

Monday began at 05.30 with the arrival of the Cark 182 flown by Pringie's 'mad' pilot Ben at 50ft. above the tents and caravans. Ther weather was low cloud, and the only jump was made by Richard Dunn, ex British Heavy Weight Boxing Champion and former 4 Para Soldier who found a hole in the cloud and made his second text book S/L jump. The cloud slowly lifted and jumping began with Individual Accuracy at 4.30.

This first round produced some shocks, amongst them Dane Kenny dropping short for 2.91, Bob Hiatt on a 1.61, Paul Slaughter with a 1.61, and Sandy a 1.91. Young, Lilly, Jackie Smith, King, Ray McGuire, Tylcoat, and all dead centred, but, no doubt reflecting the nerves troubling some of the competitors, it had only been after thirty minutes into the first round that Bob King scored the first disc.

Round two followed 80 minutes later with Doug Young, Steve Eversfield, Steve Knipe, Brian Shaw, Alan Layton, Jackie Smith, Ray McGuire, Bob King, George Carlidge, Dickie Bird, Dave Tylcoat and Dane Kenny all hitting the disc. Scotty picked up another 0.08, his second, and Paul Slaughter pulled back with a 0.08.

By 08.30 the third round had been completed with Doug Young, Ray McGuire, Dave Tylcoat, Bob King all with three discs each, Steve Eversfield with 0.01, Scotty with 0.16 and Gordon Lilly with 0.26.

Jackie led the ladies with three discs, with Sally Smith 0.45, Tracy Rixon 0.92.

By this time the four novices had all done three rounds and the meet moved into the second round of Team Accuracy.

Bob King was waved off with a steering problem, and on the team re-jump Paul Slaughter, who had done so much to prepare himself for the meet, tore ligaments in his right foot on a back reach that was enough to put him out of the competition. The team continued to jump, but being without a reserve picked up ten metres on each jump.

By the end of Monday, with three rounds of Individual and two rounds of the Team event complete the Army led with a total of 0.02, with Peterborough on 1.89, Symbiosis 2.66 and Cark 3.92.



Roger Flinn wisely avoids the antics of Paddy Byrne.

Tuesday's mist and fog slowly lifted to low stratus but by 11.00 it had broken sufficiently to start the fourth round of Individual Accuracy. This round proved a major upset for Sally Smith, dropping short in the slowly increasing wind for a disastrous ten metres. Chris McGuire had a bad 5.67, Sandy 0.05, Tracy 0.09 and Jackie missing the disc for the first time to pick up a 0.23. Steve Eversfield, Scotty, Andy Meysner, Bob Hiatt, Ray McGuire, Dave Tylcoat and Doug Young all got dead centres.

Round 5 followed with the winds occasionally growing to 12 knots and Bob King making an unusual blunder to pick up a 1.26. Chief Pilot Skip Giles (native of Lilly Flag, Alabama) kept the flying moving along smoothly efficiently.

Graham Vincent had the only malfunction of the meet when his hand deploy didn't hand deploy, and by 6.30 seven rounds had been completed. Steve Eversfield had a total of 0.05, Doug Young 0.08, Dave Tylcoat 0.09, Ray McGuire 0.37, Scotty 0.55.

Jackie stayed out in front of the ladies with 0.46, Sandy 2.15, Alison Peel 4.91, Tracy 5.04, and Sally, carrying a crippling ten metre, to total 10.73.

Tuesday saw the completion of the Team Accuracy with the Army making no mistakes to total 0.02 for all four rounds with Symbiosis 5.34, Peterborough 9.66 and the North West Parachute Centre 11.07.

Wednesday began much the same as the previous day with fog lifting into stratus, clearing by 2.30 to good con-



Jackie Smith having (unusually) to reach for it.

ditions for what was to be the final day of the competition. Dave Tylcoat, Dickie Bird, Doug Young, Scotty, Steve Eversfield, Jackie, Dane, Bob Hiatt, Ray McGuire and Bob King all collected discs on round eight.

On round 9 Andy Meysner, Jackie, Scotty, George Cartledge, Dane, Bob Hiatt, Gordon Lilly, Brian Shaw, Annie Hiatt, Dave Tylcoat, Doug Young, Steve Eversfield and Sally Smith all scored discs.

Into round 10, and Steve Eversfield was still ahead of Doug Young but by only 0.03. On this round the discs went to Brian Shaw, Dave Waddington, Gordon Lilly, Steve Knipe, Bob 'H', Sally, The Milnes, Jackie and Dane, Ray McGuire, Dickie, and George Cartledge.

Steve Eversfield made his characteristic, low late turn approach to score 0.05, putting him 0.02 behind Doug. Doug's approach was as good as all his others and his last disc richly deserved — a worthy all round Champion and a popular winner.

Saturday evening saw the usual BPA sponsored buffet, a Ham roll and a packet of crisps, but with a good supply of wine provided by Smirnoff, and the prize giving on the Sunday had Mark Ridgwell of Smirnoff and a charming couple in Lord Mayor, Councillor O'Brien and his wife officiating.

So for the second time in two years the Style and Accuracy Championships were completed early. What lessons can we learn from 1978?

We MUST have the Electronic Pad for the Accuracy Events. We MUST encourage more people to enter, pos-

sibly by dividing the meet into three sections, Novice, Senior, and Master, or whatever you want to call the divisions, but we must encourage new blood and we must give them the opportunity to win a medal, competing against parachutists of similar experience. Indeed, we could quite possibly offer small cash prizes in addition to the usual medals, funded by Clubs, Riggers, Commercial Centres and anyone in the Parachute Business.

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Individual Overall—MEN

| No. | Name | Total | Pos. |
|-----|------------|-------|------|
| 40 | Young | 2 | 1 |
| 22 | Milne | 20 | 2 |
| 38 | Bird | 34 | 3 |
| 4 | Byrne | 89 | 4 |
| 37 | Tylcoat | 90 | 5 |
| 20 | Hiatt | 164 | 6 |
| 28 | King | 170 | 7 |
| 39 | Cartledge | 180 | 8 |
| 30 | Kenny | 185 | 9 |
| 2 | Shaw | 202 | 10 |
| 19 | Layton | 360 | 11 |
| 3 | Waddington | 365 | 12 |
| 14 | Lilly | 468 | 13 |
| 6 | Wright | 772 | 14 |
| 5 | Fisher | 785 | 15 |
| 26 | Nixon | 850 | 16 |
| 25 | Slaughter | 1000 | 17 |
| 43 | Brigham | 1130 | 18 |

Individual Overall—WOMEN

| No. | Name | Total | Pos. |
|-----|----------|-------|------|
| 24 | Smith J. | 2 | 1 |
| 23 | Milne | 8 | 2 |
| 21 | Smith S. | 25 | 3 |
| 29 | Peel | 34 | 4 |
| 33 | McGuire | 50 | 5 |
| 31 | Rixon | 61 | 6 |
| 42 | Hiatt | 98 | 7 |

Team Accuracy

| Team Name | Team Total | Position |
|---------------|------------|----------|
| Army | 0.02 | 1 |
| Symbiosis | 5.34 | 2 |
| Peterborough | 9.66 | 3 |
| NWPC | 11.07 | 4 |
| Grindale | 17.91 | 5 |
| Duck End Farm | 31.61 | 6 |
| Duck End 'B' | 39.92 | 7 |
| Ditritus | 73.48 | 8 |

Overall Team

| Team Name | Total | Position |
|-----------|-------|----------|
| Army | 285 | 1 |
| Symbiosis | 985 | 2 |
| NWPC | 2572 | 3 |
| Duck End | 2792 | 4 |

Words— John Meacock
photos— Dave Waterman
& Doug Peacock

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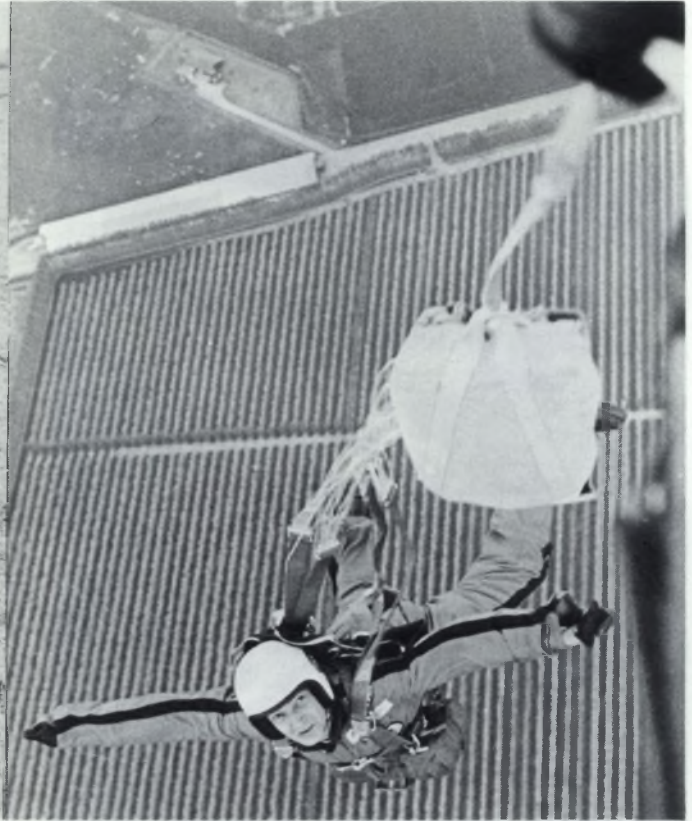
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THE BOB LEEFMANS APPEAL FUND

A couple of summers ago Sgt. Bob Leefmans, Royal Marines, was seriously injured taking part in a display jump. The result was his discharge from the Marines and paralysis of the lower limbs. He did tremendous work for the sport as CCI of the RN & RMSPA at Dunkeswell which is sadly missed as is his enthusiasm and lively personality. Already since his discharge his courage and determination have enabled him to win a silver medal swimming in the Paraplegic National Championships. Although characteristically, Bob has not asked for financial help, BPA Council is aware of his need and have launched the "Bob Leefmans Appeal Fund".

Please send your donations, however small, to the BPA Office with cheques and postal orders made out to the "Bob Leefmans Appeal fund". Bob, we wish you all success in the future.

120 JUMPS IN ONE DAY!



Congratulations to Dave Parchment for creating a British record of 120 jumps in one day at the Hereford Parachute Club at Shobdon and in so doing he raised a considerable amount of money for charity. Dave would be the first to admit it was a team effort and he is seen with all concerned below. All rigs (bag S/L) were packed by club members and there were no malfunctions. He averaged about one jump every 6 minutes . . . and slept for 6 days afterwards!

photos by Dave Waterman.



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Our Sooper Swooper Pig

RW NATIONAL

The 1978 RW Nationals must surely go down in history as the fastest ever to be completed. This was due to two main factors, perfect weather the time we needed it and lack of teams to compete. There were no entries for the 8 Man event or the novices (despite some attempts to wangle into that category!) and only five for the 4 man. Saturday was scheduled for practice but everyone said they were good enough and didn't need it so we cancelled the weather and went on the beer instead! Sunday dawned very overcast but the met' promised an improvement so we decided to get all the necessary gear together ready for an immediate start. The wind line meant that the judges had to be over a mile from the control marquee. No problem says Doug in his usual unflappable manner, I have "acquired" some radio sets, unfortunately the range of these sets proved to be limited to approximately 4ft 3½ins, God Bless the services says us as they were thrown gently back into their boxes. So proceeded the first National competition totally without communications! In the event this was so successful that no communication will ever be used again as we have decided that it must have been the factor screwing up all past competitions and we are thinking of selling the patent on the idea to the forces so that they can kill people more efficiently!

Seriously though, for once the met' was right and just after midday the clouds dispersed and a practice round got airborne. The BPA video set up was arranged in a marquee next to the manifesting/emplaning point and the new large monitor screen was placed in one end so that all the teams could watch the dives as they happened and have their own played back to see what went wrong. Unfortunately the god of printed circuits was not on our side (and even Doc Flinn couldn't fix it) the video recorder would not record so all we had were the live jumps which was a little annoying.



The winning Army Team, Tim Andrews, Pete Hough, Mike Smith and Wally Wallace.

Just after the competition was finished, yours truly, who can't even wire a plug, pushed the play button by mistake and lo and behold the world meet come on the screen! Roger Flinn was muttering something about healing hands. As the weather looked set fair, Biff (Chief Judge) said one practice only then into the first round which started around tea time. Two full rounds were managed before the light beat us and one thing was immediately apparent, the standard was generally well up on last year. An average of two formations per dive was winning class in 1977 but that was not going to get the medals this year.

The Army team of Wally Wallace, Pete Hough, Mike Smith and Tim Andrews took a convincing lead with two three proving they were almost as good at sequential as they were at consuming Ruddles County, but not quite! The Scots Team, Northern Lights, complete with Kath their lady member also showed good form and all the other teams scored on their rounds. We were up at 6am to prepare for a 7.30 start as this is the earliest we were allowed to annoy the local inhabitants! The weather was perfect so we went for a max' target of six rounds in the day. Everything went like clockwork, probably due to the lack of communications again, and by 6pm a satisfied but extremely weary bunch of competitors were stood down. The six jump rule is certainly a wise one as the teams were showing their exhaustion in their performances in the last two rounds.



Silver Medal Winners "Northern Lights".



Bronze Medal Winners — Sibson's own "Marksmen"

CHAMPIONSHIPS



Fourth place — Bickmarsh's "Jerks" . . .

As the weather and aircraft were still there it was decided to attempt a judges 8 man so under the guidance of Dave Waterman and Biff off we went. At this point I should mention that the Scots got the prize for bringing the best looking set of lady jumpers any of us had ever seen together! One of these girls, Sue Arthur, who was one of the recorders joined the load for her SCR attempt and get this, it was only her 41st jump! Yep, that's right, Cat. X. in 40 jumps, must be a record, can anyone better it, legally of course? The judges built it to 6 and Sue only went slightly below and couldn't get back due to a tight jump suit and manky old B4 kit. It always seems a shame that the people that need the good gear, i.e. the learners, are the ones that don't get it. It's amazing that they progress at all.



. . . and finally "Uranus"

Tuesday morning was another 7.30 start and at 11.00 the final round was completed. A full Nationals in under two days! The Army maintained their lead dropping to only two formations on one dive but finishing in great form with a recorded five and a sixth out of time. The obvious dedication and hard work going on North of the border showed through with a well earned silver although Harry Morgan swears they were turning in consistent fives during their training sessions at Strathallan, any witnesses Harry?

The hard work over it was decided to run an SCR scrambles and teams were picked out of the hat. The event was to be an 8 man speed event. The video, was, as men-

tioned, now working so we were able to record what little could be seen through the cloud that was moving in. What I mentioned before about the standard of British Relly was underlined by the results.

None of the 3 teams had ever jumped together before and after only a very brief exit practice they each went up and produced a very fast 7 man each! None made the 8 so a draw was declared. By this time most people were pretty well jumped out and the Army produced numerous bottles of Gin and crates of tonic to start their celebrations. Despite the fact it was only about 4.30, the circle round the table outside the club house under the clear Sibson skies grew and grew. I need say no more, the Gin made way for Ruddles and all the normal(?) things that seem to happen at these events happened.....

The prize giving was set for the Wednesday evening so everyone hoped for some fun jumping but the weather broke and stayed that way for the rest of the week. Our lady hostess, Sue Meacock, spent the Wednesday producing, single handed, the finest buffet seen at a para do and still had the strength to present the medals, thanks a lot Sue. A very welcome guest at the proceedings was Di Spinks form the South East Sports Council who do a lot for our game. After the food and medals the evening degenerated into the usual which needs no graphic description here.

As always, last but by no means least the thanks of both the BPA and the competitors to all the officials and helpers that made the meet possible and so smooth running. A special thanks to our Chairman for putting up with us all on his DZ and to Tony and his family who ran the bar and fed everyone to a very high standard. Next year is World Champs Year so we hope the standard continues to improve so dramatically and that we will have a lot more than five teams competing. See you all then.

KERRY NOBLE, D.716

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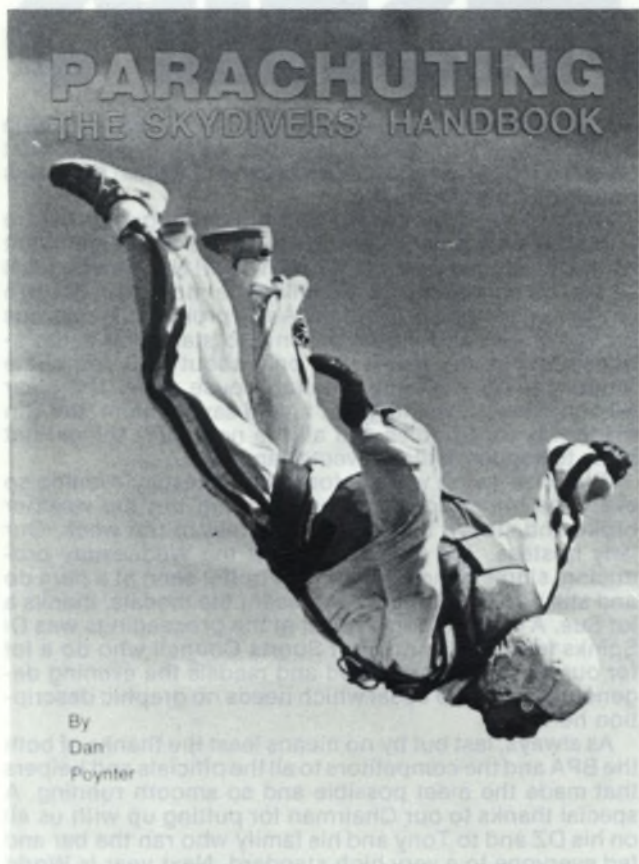


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BOOK REVIEWS



Unusually three new books have presented themselves for review in this issue, the first of these, in my opinion in order of importance, is the latest from the pen of Dan Poynter. **Parachuting — The Skydivers Handbook** is published by Parachuting Publications, Post Office Box 4232, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, USA — \$4.95. I suppose one way of getting a book a good review is to quote the would-be reviewer in it! It's a nice touch which is good for the ego, but it wasn't necessary — the book has so much to commend it otherwise. Dan Poynter has already made a major contribution to sport parachuting with his extensive 'Parachute Manual' — the ultimate technical treatise on sport parachute equipment; and to a lesser extent with 'The Parachute Rigging Course'. 'Parachuting — The Skydivers Handbook' is the best American basic textbook so far and, in spite of its American bias, is almost the ultimate handbook for the beginner; I say 'almost' as the sport progresses so fast that any new manual or text is dated even before it is published. Its contents are comprehensive and, as in the 'Parachute Manual', there are literally hundreds of photos and illustrations; the latter being a big selling point. Dan's strength as a writer lies in his technical descriptions of equipment; these are faultless. His weaknesses are in his teachings of how to attain the various skills — for instance his advice on learning RW, less than two pages, basically refers the reader to Pat Works' 'The Art of Free Fall RW' — likewise full marks for touching on Canopy RW, but, having whetted the reader's appetite, simply refers him to 'a seasoned practitioner' to discover the skills. But this is small criticism of what I consider to be a valuable collection of information about our sport in spite of

inherent differences between USPA and BPA procedures. In any event I'm glad to have a copy in my library; particularly when I'm in the middle of the production of the third edition of 'Sport Parachuting'!

'**The Book of Airsports**' by Anne Welch is published by BT Batsford Ltd, 4 Fitzhardinge Street, London W1, — £5.50. Anne has had a fascinating involvement with many aspects of aviation; she qualified as a pilot in 1934, was a wartime ATA ferry pilot, was for twenty years manager of the British Gliding Team and is Vice President of the FAI. Apart from still holding the British Gliding flight record for Ladies, she was instrumental in establishing the British Hang Gliding Association and is its current President. Anne has basically produced a recruiting book for air sports; it is well illustrated and introduces the reader to Hang Gliding, Gliding, Powered Flying, Man Powered Flight, Hot Air Ballooning, Parachuting (including Parascending) and Meteorology. Our sport is well described and this, together with the well chosen photographs, will do much for promoting new interest. My only criticism is that Parachuting and Parascending are mixed in the same chapter when they are two totally different sports with their own methods of training, techniques and governing bodies. The book will undoubtedly fulfil its purpose.

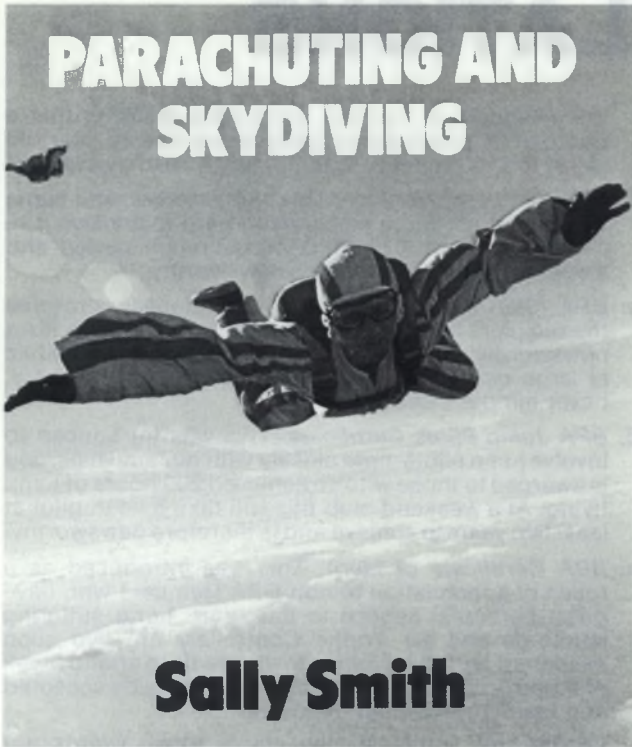
'**Lonely on the Wing**' is Peter Hearn's second book, this time a novel published by Robert Hale Ltd, Clerkenwell House, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1 — £3.75. It's certainly very different to his first, the non-fiction 'Parachutist' and I can't help feeling it was written very much tongue in cheek. It's a predictable eternal triangle plot centred around a barnstorming parachutist of the early fifties, his girl friend and his young understudy. The latter not only fancies himself as an up and coming 'sky god', but makes the big mistake of having his evil way with the former's bird. Technically, of course, it's spot on, but to the kind of reader that will enjoy the plunging and plummeting style contained therein this won't matter anyway! I don't reckon it'll ever become a best seller but it may make Peter Hearn a few bob and could while away a couple of wet afternoons on the DZ.

G. C. P. S-S.

... AND ONE MORE!

I had no sooner written the above when through the post yet another book arrived in front of me. Surprise, surprise, Sally Smith's written a book on the sport. "**Parachuting and Skydiving**" (£4.95) is published by Pelham Books Ltd, 52 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3EF. Any new book on our sport is more than welcome in my view as it will all help to spread the gospel about parachuting to those who still regard it as death defying madness. It's well produced with good illustrations — even if the latter are a Duck End Farm benefit! In the dust jacket blurb it announces Sally's aim is to "provide helpful advice on all aspects of this up-and-coming sport;" this it does in a lucid and readable way. The blurb goes on: "and to give basic instruction on the techniques and practicalities involved;" here I feel the book has fallen short as it's excellent on some aspects — Style, Accuracy, Canopy RW (Roger Hull?) but not so good on others — Early Progression and F/F RW. Nonetheless it's an enjoyable book which will, no doubt, recruit many into the sport and retrain a number of others after their first couple of jumps. For these reasons it's good value and I'm delighted to have a copy.

G.C.P.S-S.



PARACHUTING AND SKYDIVING

Sally Smith

The cover of Sally Smith's book (see previous page) is a nice Symbiosis picture of Tony Uragallo.

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Sue Arthur's SCR attempt on her 41st jump (see page 21)

photo by Dave Waterman

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations has been defined as:

The deliberate planned and sustained effort to establish and maintain mutual understanding between an organisation and its public.

In the context of club parachuting Public Relations is important for two fundamental reasons:

- a. If carried out systematically it will greatly improve the recruiting of students.
- b. It can go a long way to improve any local anti-club movement — e.g. noise abatement, irate farmers.

Sport parachuting as a commodity lends itself to all aspects of public relations with certain reservations. Such a phrase as "the exciting space age sport providing a stimulating challenge to young people . . ." immediately springs to mind; whilst we naturally cringe at the "plunging at 120 mph, he struggled to disentangle his chute; bystanders gasped in horror as his plummeting form . . ." type of thing. Although surprisingly the latter can attract recruits, albeit sometimes of the wrong kind. As sport parachutists we're generally not very good at selling our sport for fear of "plunging, plummeting and hurtling" type of exposure. But we have got an easily sellable commodity; let's have a look at the ways in which we can benefit from it.

Ideally an individual in the club should be appointed PRO. This serves two purposes:

- a. All queries can be directed to and handled by one individual. This is preferable to a number of spokesmen; all potentially capable of giving conflicting information.
- b. One person can plan and implement club public relations effort to gain better advantage than a number of members acting independently in different directions.

The next step is to establish liaison with the media, and in a club contexts these are:

- a. Television
- b. Press
- c. Radio

Television exposure is the most valuable and, therefore, editors of the daily magazine programmes or sports news can afford to be selective. Establish a contact with the local BBC TV and Independent TV organisations, and then inform them of the most newsworthy club events.

Local press is an ideal medium for exposure of club activities, local papers thrive on "local boys" stories, particularly if accompanied by a photograph. Again the establishment of a contact in each of your local papers is an important move.

Local radio is becoming more and more popular, and a snappy interview on the early morning chat programme is an excellent way of putting club activities in the public eye. Again personal contact is an important aspect.

In each of these cases the establishment of personal contact has been stressed and there are a number of ways this can be done. For example invitations to the Sports Editor or the News Editor to important club activities or invitations to the Features Editor to do a parachute course will almost always be fruitful.

As a sport we have a number of excellent features to offer as public relation exercises — in many cases they have been introduced by BPA with this in mind:

- a. *First Jump Certificates*. Many clubs have introduced

this memento of the first jump, little realising that a photo of its presentation, particularly to a 16 year old girl or to a 60 year old grandmother, is very newsworthy.

- b. *BPA Instructors Ratings*. This club member who earns an instructors rating has worked hard to achieve it — a week's course, 6 months probationary period and a week's examination. This is newsworthy.
- c. *BPA 1000 Jump Awards*. Naturally modesty prevents the recipient making lots of noise about this, but it's a newsworthy achievement, particularly when the public at large believe survival of the first jump is unlikely, never mind a thousand!
- d. *BPA Jump Pilots Certificate*. This was introduced to involve jump pilots more closely with our activities, and is awarded to those who've achieved 200 hours of jump flying. At a weekend club this will take a keen pilot at least two years to achieve and is therefore newsworthy.
- e. *BPA Certificate of Merit*. This was introduced as a token of appreciation to non-BPA Members who have given particular service to the sport. Long suffering landlords and Air Traffic Controllers are two such examples, and an invitation to the media to attend a well planned presentation will almost certainly be accepted and result in excellent exposure.

(Application forms for the above three awards are obtainable from the BPA Office).

- f. *National Team Qualification*. Any member of the club who qualifies for a BPA National Team is obviously newsworthy and a well written press release accompanied by good photos, (the latter should ideally be 10 x 8 black and white prints), could well result in a feature article.
- g. *Family participation*. Happy families involvement, fathers and daughters, brothers and sisters' are always newsworthy. Remember the feminine angle always attracts the attention of the media.
- h. *Club Competitions*. Try and involve a sponsor for your club competition, as he will almost certainly require PR exposure — if it's a big organisation the club will certainly benefit from the former's own PR department or consultant. A local newspaper might even be approached to present a prize — this guarantees exposure!
- i. *Sponsored Jumps*. Anything the club does to raise money for charity is excellent public relations, and goes a long way in helping to combat the anti-noise, anti-landing-on-my-land and anti-anything-that-involves-other-people-enjoying-themselves movements. The problem with this one, of which clubs should be aware, is having given advance notice of a sponsored jump it may not be possible due to adverse weather. Nothing is worse than having the Gentlemen of the Press waiting for the weather to clear; their presence might provoke a wrong decision to start jumping which could have disastrous results. It's best to telephone the media as soon as it's definitely happening.

Informing the media of any newsworthy activity is best done using a Press Release. The following information is essential:

- a. State clearly from whom the information is coming. If the Press Release is produced on club headed paper this is ideal.

- b. It's best to type each individually, addressed to the club contact at whatever organisation it is being sent.
- c. It should have a clear headline stating what it's all about.
- d. It should have a contact name, address and telephone number for the obtaining of further information.
- e. The body of the release should state what, where, when, who, how and why i.e. What happened, where it happened, when it happened, to whom it happened, how it happened and why. Don't necessarily send the same press release to all and sundry — try and find a suitable angle for each paper you want to publish your story. Basically try and keep it short, clear and to the point. Obviously Press Releases can also refer to events that are going to happen in the future.
- f. Include the names and addresses of those involved and if possible conclude it with a short quote from someone in authority in the club, or from the person about whom the story is being written.

Unfortunately handling of the anti-movements is part of the PRO's responsibilities. In some cases these movements are extremely well organised, and their threat to a club's continued existence can be very real. A Club open day, to which all these people are invited, can do much to further mutual understanding. It is easy to argue the club's viewpoint emotionally and with generalisations; resist this temptation and present the club's case in a clinical way with easily proven facts — number of lifts flown on a particular day, number of days operation within a month, number of starts before nine o'clock on a Sunday, number of young people trained etc. These facts can also be used when approached by the media should they be investigating complaints about the club's operation. Be honest in these dealings, simply present the facts, and let the media make their own deductions. If the club's done its job properly, the latter will inevitably be favourable. In any event never say "No comment" — this implies the club is on the defensive and has something to hide.

Irate farmers often need careful handling. They must be informed of the BPA/National Farmers Union's agreed Code of Conduct, which, of course, should be common knowledge to all club members. They can often be won over, or kept sweet, by inviting them to present some first jump certificates or the prizes at the club competition. Have a photograph of him doing just that in the local press and the club's got it made!

Co-ordinating the club's lecture programme should be one of the PRO's responsibilities. A well produced slide show followed by one of the BPA films is not difficult to arrange and will often produce a large number of inquiries. Beware of the One-Jump-Wonder who rushes off and, with a burst of well intentioned but misguided enthusiasm, produces an hour and a half of "there I was, plunging, plummeting and hurtling . . .", these efforts can do untold damage.

Professionally produced club posters and brochures are good PR material, particularly if they are readily available at local Sports Centres, Youth Clubs, Student Unions and the like.

ves a few simple ideas but remember; PR is the DELIBERATE AND SUSTAINED EFFORT to establish and maintain mutual understanding between an organisation and its public. Your deliberate and sustained effort in this direction will be very beneficial.

References:

a. *The BPA Brochure.*

b. *"Public Relations" a Teach Yourself Publication by Herbert Lloyd.*

C. S-S.

CLASSIFIED ADS

B.P.A. does not guarantee equipment bought and sold through the medium of this journal. Purchasers are advised to use the services of approved riggers.

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US Pap in Mini System — £225
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C9TU ready to jump in pack & harness — £110
contact J. Lewis, 07842-50755

Concorde Tandem System — £130
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contact: C. Taylor 01-550-8787 (h)

Ladies boots size 5 — £8
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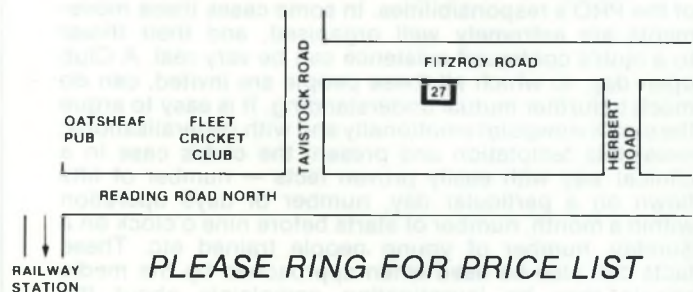
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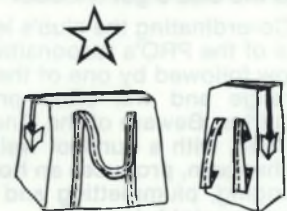
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**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING, 26th APRIL 1978
held at 'The Holiday Inn', Leicester**

PRESENT

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| W. J. Meacock — <i>Chairman BPA</i> | J. D. Prince |
| J. T. Crocker | J. R. H. Sharples |
| P. A. Howell | P. G. Slaughter |
| W/O J. Laing | R. H. Swainson |
| G. E. Lilly | J. L. Thomas |
| G. I. Long | Brig. P. I. Chiswell (<i>Co-opted</i>) |
| P. G. Mitchell | A. J. V. Geraghty (<i>Co-opted</i>) |
| J. Norris | |
| D. D. Orton | |

IN ATTENDANCE

Sqn. Ldr. W. Paul — *Sec. Gen. BPA*
D. Peacock — *NCSO BPA*
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds — *NCSO BPA (Retiring)*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

D. I. Waugh W/O E. T. Lewington
I. B. Wright (*Co-opted*)

Item 28/78

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Safety and Training Committee.** Mr. Peacock (on behalf of Mr. Crocker, Chairman STC) reported on the Minutes of S & TC Meeting of 18th April 1978 as previously distributed and the following matters arising were discussed:
 - a. It was noted that Mr. J. L. Thomas had been omitted from the list of those present.
 - b. **Fatal Accident at Bridlington** (Item 10.1). Mr. Shea-Simonds gave a resume of the circumstances but it was emphasised that the matter was sub-judice pending the inquest.
2. **Competition Committee.** In the absence of Mr. Waugh, Chairman Comps. Comm., Mr. Peacock presented the minutes of the Comp. Comm. Meeting of 11th April 1978 as previously distributed. The following matters arising were discussed:
 - a. **Smirnoff Sponsorship** (Classic Champs.) (Item 4). Mr. Peacock reported on the meeting with the Smirnoff agents who had indicated that they would be doing everything possible to achieve a large number of spectators at the Championships. The matter of the £1,500 sponsorship had been discussed and the agents would be informing BPA of what items may have to be met from the cash. The Comp. Comm's. recommendation that the money should be allotted primarily to subsidising jump costs directly towards reducing prime costs to the individual competitors could not be endorsed at this stage and would have to be considered in the light of what overhead expenditure it was necessary to meet. Any balance could of course go towards subsidising jump costs. The Sec. Gen. reported that he had raised the matter of Trophies for the Championships with the agents and awaited their decision.
 - b. **Medals.** Mr. G. Lilly raised the matter of Medals and the fact that they weren't ready in time for last years Championships and two recipients had still to receive their medals namely R. Hiatt and S. Smith. The Sec. Gen. replied that the medals had been held up by an industrial dispute and were subsequently sent to individuals. Spare medals had been used at the presentation to try and avoid the situation of Lord George Brown not having medals to present. The medals for both of this year's Championships (Classic and RW) were ordered in February and were due to be delivered in the first week of May. The Sec. Gen. would investigate the matter of Mr. Hiatt's and Mrs. Smith's medals. Mr. Lilly asked if the medals would have the date on this year. The Sec. Gen. reported that it had not been the practice to put the date on the medals since there was always the risk that one or other, or all events could not be completed and we would be left with the medals which could not be used again. It was understood that winners could have the date put on and BPA would refund the cost.

The meeting agreed that the practice of not putting the year on the medal would continue — winners could have the year engraved and BPA would refund the cost.

- c. **Prizegiving.** Mr. Lilly referred to the prizegiving at the Championships and accepted that we have to co-operate with the Sponsors but could some arrangement be come to with them whereby, should the Championship finish early, those competitors who are prizewinners need not have to wait through till the Sunday for the presentation. It was pointed out that prizegiving was set at a fixed time so that a firm arrangement could be come to with the 'Personality' invited to present the prizes and meet the wishes of the sponsors. It was also pointed out at last year's Championship £100 worth of free jumping was arranged so that prizewinners would remain till the prizegiving on the Sunday. It was Mr. Lilly's view that the sport got little out of making this arrangement. Mr. Shea-Simonds said this was the fault of the sponsors. Mr. Lilly accepted this explanation and hoped that more benefit would be forthcoming this year with the new sponsors.
3. **Forward Planning.**
 - a. **Letter to Sec. of State for Environment** (21st March 78). An acknowledgement of receipt of the letter had been received from the Department of Environment (20th April 78) stating that our letter was under consideration and would be replied to as soon as possible. The Chairman CCPR had acknowledged receipt stating interest in the outcome. Mr Howell asked that a letter be sent to the D of E to ascertain at what level the matter is being dealt with. The Sec. Gen. reported on the National Conference on Sport and Recreation which he and Mr. Howell attended. It was his view that from the air activities point of view the conference could not be described as productive — the independent contacts established could prove helpful. Mr. Howell pointed out that the common problem of noise did emerge from the 'minority sports' — we can only continue our efforts on the political front and with isolated cases as and when these occur. Mr. Geraghty offered what help he could in establishing a contact on the political front.
 - b. **Elvington — Leeds Bradford Club.** Mr. Howell reported that because of the general noise level at Elvington which is being used for model aircraft flying, motor racing and parachuting, the local Council is imposing a quota on the number of days it can be used for parachuting — it appears that one sport is affecting the other here and to some extent it may pay us to in a general sense liaise with other sports which have this particular problem. A difficulty for the Sports Council is that they don't make the decisions which matter — it is usually the planning authorities who when asked in the case of Bickmarsh what they were doing to provide facilities in their area, claimed it was not their function to provide facilities, that is the function of the BPA. That's all very well but of no value if they are going to refuse permission for attempts made by the BPA in their area.

Referring back to Elvington, Mr. Howell stated that the problem there turns out not to be a planning problem at all. It appears the RAF say the club can operate there provided they keep the local Council happy. The local Council is seeking to restrict activities on the grounds of noise. Really, it has turned out to be a political situation in which it is the RAF's self imposed policy to adopt this attitude. It really means getting the RAF or the local Council to change their attitude. Our suggestion is for the club to go for a quota basis. The Chairman of BPA is endeavouring to meet with the Chairman of the District Council and the Amenities Council to discuss exactly this situation.
 - c. **Midland Parachute Centre, Bickmarsh.** Mr. Howell reported there had been a refusal of planning permission at Bickmarsh on three counts:
 1. Noise (although the Environmental Health Officer said it was within the accepted noise level).
 2. Likelihood of landing out.
 3. Likelihood of landing on power cables.

At present we are not in an appeal situation but really waiting for an Enforcement Notice — it is important to tie any application against refusal of planning permission, in which we have six months to appeal, with the Enforcement Notice as and when it is served. In the meantime operations are continuing. It was pointed out that the club can operate for up to 28 days in a calendar year without planning permission. There is such opposition that at the Bickmarsh meeting there was a move to put the matter to a vote without any discussion.

As Chairman of M.P.C. Bickmarsh, Mr. Crocker reported on an Emergency Meeting of the M.P.C. Committee to discuss the situation. They had agreed to hold themselves in readiness to appeal against the present planning refusal. To date no Formal Notification of the refusal had been served. If as is expected, the Formal Notification is followed fairly quickly by an Enforcement Notice, M.P.C. will appeal the Enforcement Notice. If on the other hand the Enforcement Notice doesn't arrive they will bide their time to appeal against the decisions themselves.

The difference being that if one appeals against an Enforcement Notice you have 30 days in which to do it, whereas if you appeal against a planning decision and no Enforcement Notice is served you have six months in which to appeal. Whilst reserving its rights of appeal, the club has submitted a fresh application which is restricted to experienced parachutists only.

It was agreed in principle to support any Bickmarsh appeal subject to the review of the DZ plan at the next meeting, the fact that M.P.C. would meet the first £500 of legal costs and that progress stage reports would be made at each Council meeting or as necessary for approval where a next step in legal proceedings was intended.

4. **Finance Committee.** Mr. Mitchell, Chairman of Finance Committee reported on the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 19th April 1978 as previously distributed. The following matters arising were discussed:

- a. **BPA Third Party Public Liability Insurance.** The recommendation that the BPA TPPL Insurance be increased to £250,000 and that a 15p insurance levy be placed on all new and renewal applications for membership was considered. There was agreement that the TPPL Insurance be increased to £250,000. There was an area of opinion that the 15p levy could not be placed on membership applications without reference to an A.G.M. and that any loss on insurance premiums should be carried by the BPA for this year and recouped by increasing the membership rate by 30p next year. After discussion it was subsequently proposed by W/O Laing and seconded by J. D. Prince that:

"The TPPL Insurance be increased to £250,000 and that a 15p levy to meet the increased premium cost be placed on all new and renewed memberships."

On being put to a vote the proposal was carried by 9 votes to 4.

- b. **Personal Accident Insurance — NCSO.** A quotation from Messrs. Gladwell & Greenhill (as previously distributed) was recommended for acceptance as quoted with the proviso that the policy be assigned to the BPA who would provide a letter of intent in favour of the NCSO. Mr. Mitchell pointed out that the text of the Minute (Item 3/78) which read "...that in the event of Temporary Total Disablement the benefit provided by the policy will be paid to him..." did not convey the intention of the Finance Committee and should in fact read: "that in the event of Temporary Total Disablement the NCSO would receive his normal salary for the full year...". This in effect is insuring ourselves against such a disablement and the proceeds of the insurance will enable us to hire for a year a replacement NCSO with salary paid for by the insurance.

Acceptance of the recommendation was agreed.

- c. **Travel — NCSO — Private Use of Company Car.** It was pointed out that the formula to be produced for calculating 'Private Use' was to be based on Mr. Shea-Simonds' assessment of what proportion of his travel whilst NCSO would have been private use as opposed to BPA business.

On the matter of travel between place of residence and place of duty it was noted that Mr. Peacock (NCSO) had not yet moved his place of residence and it would be of

interest to know when he might be able to move nearer to his place of duty — it was accepted that in the meantime we would continue to subsidise the commuting. Mr. Peacock in reply stated that in practice he had travelled some 3,000 miles in the past three weeks and had been moving around the country on BPA business most of the time — he had not been commuting from his house at Abingdon but had been living at Northampton. He acknowledged that commuting from Northampton to Leicester is private use. It was his hope that he could move into the Leicester area in the next 6-8 weeks. Mr. Mitchell pointed out that the matter of Mr. Peacock's move to Leicester came up because consideration of mileage from the beginning could be confused by the extra loading of the commuting distance in the meantime.

- d. **Deposit Account.** The recommendation to transfer the Association's Deposit Account to the Coventry Economic Building Society was referred to by Mr. Mitchell who explained that the benefit of an extra 1% interest could not be offered to the BPA as a limited company. To save any embarrassment the simplest way is to operate through a Trusteeship and to this end the Finance Committee had nominated Mr. Meacock, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Slaughter. The trustees would have the legal title to the money taken from BPA deposit and therefore legally entitled to the extra amount of interest. The beneficial ownership of the money would of course be that of the Association. The Trustees would ask for indemnity from Council just in case of any collapse of the Coventry Economical Building Society.

The recommendation was agreed.

- e. **Extraordinary General Meeting.** As had been previously agreed by Council an Extraordinary General Meeting would be held in October 1978 in order to present the Association's Accounts for adoption. Not wishing to disturb or take away from the A.G.M. in any way it would be best if there was only one item on the agenda i.e. simply a formal legal approval of the accounts. When the formal notice convening the Extraordinary General Meeting was published the membership would be informed that this was a legal meeting and members attending would be voting on the adoption of the accounts. All other information, Treasurer's report etc. would be presented at the full A.G.M. at the end of the year.

The Sec. Gen. reported that his understanding of information from our Auditors was that appointment of Auditors should be included on the same Agenda as Adoption of the Accounts. This was accepted as a second item subject to the Treasurer checking the requirements of the Companies Act.

- f. **Joint Membership (Husband/Wife) Rates.** The Sec. Gen. had produced a suggested Joint Membership (Husband/Wife) Rate as required by Council and this had been presented to the Finance Committee for consideration. The Committee decided to refer the matter of Joint Membership back for reconsideration by Council with the recommendation that instead of a reduced rate the practice of providing and charging for only one issue of the magazine be adopted.

The meeting considered the Finance Committee recommendation and decided that their previous decision would stand. It was proposed by Mr. Howell and seconded by W/O Laing that the scale as drawn up by the Sec. Gen. be accepted.

On being put to the vote the proposal was carried by 9 votes to 4.

- g. **Sports Council Grant Aid.** Copies of the forms of application for Sports Council Grant Aid had been supplied to the Finance Committee but there would be no action until such time as a draft could be prepared by the Sec. Gen. for consideration.

- h. **Company Car.** The Chairman referred to the fact that Mr. Crocker had negotiated a discount of 15% on the purchase of the company car, a saving of £476. The meeting accorded its appreciation to Mr. Crocker.

Item 29/78

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting of 15th March 1978 having been accepted were duly signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- a. **Sport Aid Foundation Grants** (Item 12.2e.) The Sec. Gen. reported that application in respect of Messrs. Murray, Smith and Slaughter had been considered by the S.A.F. and grants of £200, £100, and £100 respectively had been agreed and paid.

An application in respect of Mr. R. Hiatt had been considered by the Comp. Comm. and approved. This would be forwarded to S.A.F. immediately the forms were received from Chairman Comp. Comm. together with his covering letter of support.

- b. **Finance Committee** (Item 14/78). It was noted that the name of G. Lilly had been omitted from the list of members and was to be added. The Sec. Gen. should be shown in brackets as not being a Full Member of the Committee.

- c. **Grant Aid for Competition involving South Africa** (Item 19/78). Mr. Howell reported having read that the BGA had their Sports Council's sponsorship for their team withdrawn because of the involvement of S.A. in the World Championships. The Sec. Gen. would check out the facts of this.

- d. **Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977** (Item 20/78a). This matter is still in the hands of Mr. Guy Sutton but to date no rewrite to replace the indemnity on the reverse of membership applications had been received. Mr. Crocker reported that Mr. Sutton had been out of the country but the matter was top priority on his return.

- e. **Affiliation of Cornwall Parachute Club** (Item 20/78d). This matter was considered in the light of updating information received from the club and receipt of their Constitution and Rules.

It was proposed by Mr. Orton and seconded by Mr. Swainson that affiliation be approved.

Carried Unanimously.

- f. **Wessex Parachute Club — Outstanding Loan** (Item 20/78g). Papers sent to Mr. Donovan by Mr. Crocker had been returned as not being at the last known address. Mr. Crocker suggested a notice in the magazine asking members for information that may help. Mr. Slaughter offered to check with the help of information to be provided by the Sec. Gen.

- g. **Salary Increases — NCSO/Sec. Gen.** (Item 20/78j). No response had been received from the Sports Council with regard to salary increases for NCSO and Sec. Gen. other than that these were not allowed for on the grant approved for the year 1977/78 and the new scale for coaches was still awaited. Mr. Crocker's suggestion that the correspondence relating to these increases be made available to the Finance Committee so that they could apply their minds to a case for recouping from the Sports Council the amounts which they had not taken account of in the grant, was agreed.

- h. **Annual Lottery** (Item 20/78k). The Sec. Gen. reported that the Annual Lottery was under way with books of tickets having gone out to every paid-up member with the April issue of the magazine. Books of tickets were now going out to every new and renewing member as and when applications are received.

- j. **Films** (Item 24/78). It had been decided to purchase the 'Mirror Image' film by B. J. Worth. The copy was now at the BPA Office. It had been decided that this film was to be used primarily for training purposes and not to be hired out to clubs.

- k. **Outstanding Accounts** (Item 25/78). The Sec. Gen. reported that thanks to the efforts by Mr. Crocker the situation now was:

R.S.A. Para. Club. Three post dated cheques (May, June, July) totalling the full amount had been received.

G.S. Custom Parachutes. A cheque for half the total amount had been received and subsequently cleared through the bank.

Elvin Skysports. No response.

In the case of RSA, Mr. Crocker had notified Mr. Acraman that he could not say that Council would be prepared to accept post dated cheques against the account which had been outstanding for so long. The meeting confirmed that Mr. Crocker advise RSA that it was not prepared to accept post dated cheques against the debt.

In the case of G.S. Custom Parachutes Mr. Crocker would follow up regarding his previous correspondence and the balance still due.

With Elvin Skysports there had been no response and Mr. Crocker would follow up.

OTHER BUSINESS

Item 30/78

GASCO SUBSCRIPTION

It was proposed by J. T. Crocker and seconded by J. R. H. Sharples that we increase our subscription to GASCO to £70 (as against £60 paid last year).

Carried Unanimously.

Item 31/78

LASHENDEN SPORTS PARA CLUB

Mr. Brian Jarvis was invited to address the meeting on behalf of the Lashenden Sport Para Club on the matter of Council's assistance in finding an Instructor for the club which unless an instructor is found will have to close down.

Having heard Mr. Jarvis' appeal on behalf of the club it was agreed that the Sec. Gen. would send a letter to all clubs in an effort to find an instructor for the club. It was noted that the club would pay expenses involved.

Item 32/78

PRESS CAMPAIGN

Mr. Lilly referred to press coverage for the sport and felt that we didn't do enough to publicise the sport at all levels. He had established contact with several National Newspapers who had expressed interest. The Chairman expressed appreciation of Mr. Lilly's concern and suggested he consider producing a monthly press release to all National and Regional Newspapers etc. The Sec. Gen. informed Mr. Lilly of a very efficient Press Release Service available through the CCPR information officer.

The Sec. Gen. reported that he had sent a telegram to Prince Charles and Prince Andrew offering the Association's congratulations on undergoing parachute training and offering the hospitality of its clubs around the country. A reply from Prince Charles thanking the Association and all concerned was received. There was agreement that steps should now be taken to invite Prince Andrew to accept the Presidency of the Association.

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**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY 15th JUNE 1978
held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester**

PRESENT

W. J. Meacock— *Chairman*
J. L. Thomas
P. A. Howell
J. D. Prince
C. Shea-Simonds (*Co-opted*)
Wg. Cdr. J. Reynolds
(*RAFSPA Co-opted*)

WO J. Laing
J. T. Crocker
R. H. Swainson
Col. R. I. K. McPherson (*APA*)
(*Co-opted*)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sqn. Ldr. W. Paul— *Sec. Gen. BPA*
D. Peacock— *NCSO BPA*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

P. G. Mitchell
D. Orton
A. G. Geraghty

D. I. Waugh
J. Norris

Item 33/78

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Competitions.** Mr. D. Peacock reported on the meeting of 23 May 1978 (Minutes previously distributed). Points arising were:

- (1) **RW Nat. Champs.** In view of the small number of entries it was agreed that the publicity be kept 'low key' and that there be no invitations sent out as suggested at Item 2.2. of the Minutes.
- (2) **Classic Championships.** A meeting with the agents for Smirnoff was held at Blackpool on Monday June 9. Minutes of this meeting are attached. Particular reference was made to the following:
 - a. **Fuel.** Bridlington had reported difficulty in delivery of barrel fuel (Shell having ceased such deliveries). This problem had also been encountered by NWPC. Bridlington had been advised to keep Smirnoff agents and BPA informed of the situation and latest report was that 30 barrels from the May requirement had been delivered.
 - b. **End of Championship Entertainment for Competitors.** It was agreed that should the Championships not be completed by the evening of Saturday July 15 any planned entertainment (e.g. drinks provided by Smirnoff) should be held over till Sunday July 16 after the prizегiving.

3. **World Championships**

- a. To date there had been no response from Freddie Laker re assistance in flying British team to Raeford for training. Sec. Gen. to progress.
- b. The only communication from the W.P.C. Organisers had been a telegram requesting confirmation of British entry — this had been confirmed by telegram.
- c. There had been no response from FIAT re vehicle for W.P.C. The Sec. Gen. had contacted British Leyland but without success. NCSO would contact FIAT.
- d. NCSO reported a favourable deal available from Addidas & this would be followed through.
- e. **Competition Caravan.** It was agreed that the Sec. Gen. submit a case for Sports Council grant aid (Special Project) towards the cost of £2,000 for a caravan for use as a Mobile Control Unit.

2. **Safety & Training.** Mr. Crocker, Chairman STC presented the Minutes of May 30th (previously distributed). They were accepted with no matters arising.

3. **Forward Planning.** Mr. Howell reported as follows:

(1) **Planning Problems**

- a. **Cornwall Parachute Club.** As a result of threatened enforcement notice and objections he had written to, on the clubs behalf, the local planning authority pointing out that it was intended to parachute for 28 days on to one field then 28 days on another and so on and in any event parachuting didn't require planning permission. A separate application was being made for the conversion of a farm building into club headquarters — this shouldn't present too much of a problem since previous permission had been granted to turn the building into a holiday chalet centre. If however there

is a problem with objection to parachuting in the area, they could get a refusal. NCSO reported that he had been invited by a local Councillor to meet at the drop zone to discuss the situation, with particular reference to the planning permission for change of use of the building. The NCSO would be visiting the club prior to his meeting with the local Councillor. He would keep Mr. Howell informed.

- b. **Letter to The Secretary of State for the Environment.** A reply had been received to BPA letter of 21 March (distributed at Meeting). Mr. Howell's immediate reaction was one of disappointment. He would draft a reply which the Sec. Gen. would circulate to all previous addressees plus the Councils for Sport and Recreation.
 - c. **Elvington (Leeds/Bradford Para. Club).** The Chairman reported on a meeting with the incoming Chairman of Selby District Council and the Chairman of its Amenities Committee which he and the NCSO attended. The outcome was that they had undertaken to re-think the restrictions which had been placed on Elvington but nothing could be done until after a period of four months. The Council was also considering a review of the use of Elvington and it could be that any such review would see parachuting more favourably placed than at present.
2. **Finance.** There had not been a meeting of the Finance Committee but the Sec. Gen. was in the throes of preparing a draft submission for Annual Sport Council Grant Aid and it was hoped to have draft for the Finance Committee to consider before the end of June when other matters arising from previous Council Meetings would be included on the Agenda.

Item 34/78

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes as published were agreed. Proposed by Mr. Crocker and Seconded by Mr. Howell.

- a. **Fatal Accident at Bridlington.** (Item 28/78 1.a) A letter of appreciation for the work of the Board of Inquiry had been received from the South Humberside Police. Mr. Thomas had attended the inquest and the verdict was 'Death by mis-adventure'.
- b. **Midland Parachute Centre — Bickmarsh.** (Item 28/78 3c) Mr. Howell reported that the enforcement had not yet been served. The Bickmarsh DZ situation was discussed and it was decided to await the result of the current application due for hearing on July 6th.
- c. **Personal Accident Insurance — NCSO.** (Item 28/78 4.b) This had been concluded and a letter of intent handed over to the NCSO.
- d. **Travel — NCSO — Private Use of Company Car.** (Item 28/78 4.c) The Sec. Gen. reported that an estimate of 'private use' by the previous NCSO was between 15% and 20%. It was the Sec. Gen's view that this was in fact irrelevant to the case of the current NCSO. The previous NCSO used his own car and was paid only for the mileage he did on BPA duty. The Sec. Gen. presented a suggested system of drivers log in which all mileage, duty and private, is recorded daily. Any mileage other than that on duty will be deemed to be private and will not be re-imbursed. It was agreed to try the system for three months after which it would be reviewed by the Treasurer.
- e. **Deposit Account.** (Item 28/78 4.d) The Sec. Gen. reported that he had arranged for the account with Alliance Building Society to be closed on June 30th and the capital transferred to our Bank Account pending arrangements being made to set up a trusteeship and the money being transferred to the Coventry Economic Building Society. Mr. Crocker would prepare the necessary Trusteeship papers.
- f. **Sports Foundation Grants.** (Item 29/78 a) The application for Grant Aid in respect of Mr. R. Hiatt had been considered by the SAF and the sum of £400 had been offered.
- g. **Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977.** (Item 29/78 d) A reply had now been received from Mr. Guy Sutton who expressed his apology for the delay which was due in part to him being out of the country. The agreement to replace the Indemnity on the reverse of the membership application form had been

agreed. New forms were being printed and a supply would be sent to each club.

- h. **Wessex Para. Club — Outstanding Loan.** (Item 29/78 f) This matter was still being followed up by Mr. Crocker.
- j. **Outstanding Accounts.** (Item 29/78 k)
 - (1) **R.S.A. Parachute Club.** Two post dated cheques had now been paid through the bank. The third which would settle the account would be paid in on 1 July.
 - (2) **G. S. Custom Parachutes.** This outstanding account had now been reduced from £344 to £50 with promise to pay the balance A.S.P.
 - (3) **Elvin Skysports.** No response to date.

Item 35/78

**OTHER BUSINESS
PRESIDENT OF BPA**

The Sec. Gen. read a letter he had sent to H.R.H. Prince Andrew inviting him to become the First President of the Association. A reply was awaited.

Item 36/78

VIDEO & ADDITIONAL MONITOR

The NCSO outlined his plan for an additional monitor screen to be used with the existing monitor. The meeting unanimously agreed the purchase of a 20" monitor at a cost of £250.00 (proposed by Mr. J. T. Crocker and seconded by Mr. J. D. Prince).

Item 37/78

STAFF

The Sec. Gen. informed the meeting that he had been considering the staff situation in relation to the increasing work-load and would be preparing a case for submission to the Finance Comm. recommending the employment of a junior clerk. Sports Council approval of such addition to staff was necessary if we were to get 75% of the wages paid by them.

Item 38/78

BPA INSTRUCTOR BADGE

The Sec. Gen. reported that the BPA Instructor Badge was now available. The meeting agreed that the badge be made available to instructors at no cost. A notice to be inserted in the S.P. informing instructors to write to the BPA Office enclosing a S.A.E. for the return of the badge.

**8th ANNUAL CHARLES WELLS
ACCURACY MEET
DUCK END FARM**



WILSTEAD, BEDS.

(TEAM & INDIVIDUAL)

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY
23rd/24th SEPTEMBER, 1978
(practice 22nd September, 1978)**

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**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY & TRAINING COMMITTEE, TUESDAY 30th MAY 1978
held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester**

PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| J. Crocker | <i>Chairman</i> |
| D. Peacock | <i>NCSO</i> |
| W. J. Meacock | <i>PPC</i> |
| A. E. Rose | <i>Buccaneers</i> |
| A. Collingwood | <i>SPC</i> |
| P. Young | <i>RSA</i> |
| E. Finney | <i>MSPC</i> |
| J. Hitchen | <i>SFFP</i> |
| P. Hibberd | <i>Halfpenny Green</i> |
| J. Sharples | <i>MPC</i> |
| R. Swainson | <i>SCPC</i> |
| T. Knight | <i>NCPG</i> |
| G. C. P. Shea-Simonds | <i>Co-opted</i> |

OBSERVERS

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| W. Edkins | B. D. Ritchie |
| R. Gays | M. Harris |
| A. J. Keoghan | N. Perks |
| B. Nelson-West | G. Phillips |
| R. Fothergill | J. Hiley |

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| D. Hickling | M. Purves |
| L. Melhuish | M. Winwood |
| B. Jones | R. Willis |

Item 1

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- Paul Young stated that a proposal made by him was not recorded in the minutes. He re-proposed the following: "That student parachutists should receive training only from Advanced, Approved or Potential Instructors; and that an addendum to this effect be inserted in BSRs Sec. 10 (Training)" This proposal failed to attract a seconder.

Item 10.6 The proposal by D. Hickling with regard to the re-naming of Instructor grades was discussed. The NCSO stated that only one reply had been received from CCIs on this matter. It was the general feeling of the meeting that the existing nomenclature was both descriptive and unambiguous and therefore perfectly satisfactory.

The previous minutes were then approved.

Item 2

STUDENT FREEFALL CONTAINER

W. J. Meacock gave a report on a student freefall container manufactured at JSPC (Netheravon). Special features included nylon cones and a staged deployment in which the sleeve was retained in the container until the extractor was positively clear. Some 15 descents with this equipment had been made to date at the Peterborough Parachute Centre. These had been incident free and evaluation was continuing.

J. Hiley stated he would make two further containers of the same pattern available for field trials by clubs. Allocation would be via the BPA Office and interested CCIs should contact the NCSO. He further stated that 30 of these assemblies would be given an extended trial at JSPC Netheravon.

Item 3

CO-OPTION TO STC

- A request from the former NCSO, G. C. P. Shea-Simonds, for co-option on the STC was considered by the meeting. This was approved with one abstention (P. Young).
- A proposal by E. Finney, seconded by A. Collingwood, that all Examiners be co-opted on to STC was discussed. It was felt that:
 - The committee was sufficiently representative as it stood and
 - That any Examiner was always assured of a hearing at STC on matters appertaining to safety and training. The proposal was rejected by 8 votes to 2.

Item 4

S. TALBOT — RIGGERS RATING EXAMINATION

The complainant, R. Fothergill was present and his letter was read out to the meeting. S. Talbot was unable to attend the meeting to answer the allegations made because of family sickness. It was decided that it was not necessary for R. Fothergill to re-attend the next STC on this matter and that the NCSO write to S. Talbot again.

Item 5

R. LUTZ — APPLICATION TO ACT AS C.C.I.

An application by WO Lutz to act as CCI to the REME Free Fall Team was considered. Dispensation was sought from the ruling that only Advanced Instructors be appointed CCIs. Dispensation was granted, R. Lutz having stated his intention to attend the next Examination course for upgrading.

Item 6

D. BOERSMA — APPLICATION TO ACT AS POTENTIAL INSTRUCTOR

The qualifications of D. Boersma, a Rhodesian Parachute Instructor who qualified as such in 1974 were read out to the meeting. The application was proposed by W. J. Meacock and seconded by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds. It was unanimously agreed that Boersma be permitted to act as a BPA Potential Instructor.

Item 7

INCIDENT REPORT — CORNWALL PARACHUTE CENTRE

A report on a Strato Star malfunction at a display given by the Cornwall Parachute Centre was read out to the meeting.

A further report, concerning the conduct of the display with regard to DZ control, windspeeds and safety precautions was also read out. Both these reports were submitted by the CCI, Mike Stanton, who also supplied photographs of the DZ at the time of the display. It was agreed that the NCSO write to Mike Stanton for clarification of the following points:

- Dimensions of the DZ used.
- Distance of power cables (as shown in the photographs) from the DZ used.

A copy of the notification given to the CAA for this display was also to be forwarded to STC.

Item 8

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Low pull incident at Sibson.** W. J. Meacock reported an incident on 19 April at Sibson in which a visiting Irish parachutist jumped from 7,000 and made a delayed fall of 35.2 seconds. The freefall was insufficiently controlled, most of the delay being spent in correcting an involuntary turn. Photostat copies of the jumpers logbook were available, these showed evidence of a too rapid progression and inadequate critiques.

G. C. P. Shea-Simonds stated that on previous visits to Irish Parachute Clubs he had noted that standards of safety, training and equipment generally were lower than acceptable within the BPA.

The meeting felt that all clubs should be aware of the discrepancies between the respective safety and training standards of the two countries and that CCIs should examine the log books of visiting Irish parachutists extremely critically before deciding at what level they be allowed to jump.

The NCSO was to forward copies of these minutes to Irish Clubs along with a covering letter.

A. J. Keoghan, currently under suspension by the STC since April 1977, requested reinstatement as an Approved Instructor on the grounds of his successful completion of the course. The Chairman stated that the question of A. J. Keoghan's technical competence as an instructor was not in doubt. The only question was that whether the original suspension of eighteen months should not now be reviewed.

After considerable discussion it was proposed by J. Sharpies and seconded by W. J. Meacock that A. J. Keoghan be reinstated as an Approved Instructor with the Proviso that he could not apply for exemption to act as a CCI for at least six months. This motion was carried by 8 votes to 4.

T. Leary, also currently under suspension until 6th September requested reinstatement on the grounds of his successful completion of the course. As he was based in Hong Kong this course was the only one which he could attend this year.

It was proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by P. Young that, as a result of his successful completion of the Course T. Leary's rating be re-validated automatically on 6th September 1978. This was carried unanimously and the NCSO was to write to T. Leary to this effect.

As a result of these two decisions it was proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by T. Rose that all future requests for exemption be forwarded to STC **before** any course attended. This was carried unanimously.

A recommendation by the NCSO that future PI courses be extended to seven days to give extra instruction and despatching practise to trainees was considered by the meeting. It was considered that, as such extended absence could cause financial hardship, the duration of the course remain at five days for the time being.

The NCSO further reminded clubs that, as a matter of administrative courtesy and in accordance with BSRs Sec. 2 Para 4 that CCIs notify the Association in writing at least ten days beforehand of nominees for PI courses. The same ruling applied equally to examination candidates.

4. **Richard Atherton — Status as Rigger.** A statement by B. Ritchie was made querying the status of R. Atherton as a BPA Advanced Rigger — Sec. 27 BSRs applies. The NCSO was to write to R. Atherton to ascertain the position.

5. **M. Pebworth — PI Status.** A letter from L. Melhuish dated 21.5.78 was read to the meeting stating that M. Pebworth had now achieved BPA Cat X and requesting that her PI rating now be confirmed as per STC Minutes of 13 Dec. 1977 Item 3b. The meeting felt that in this instance an examination of the log book would not be inappropriate and the NCSO was to write to L. Melhuish requesting that M. Pebworth's Log Book be made available to the next meeting.

6. **Steven Russell — Exemption from 100 hour Pilot Rule.** A letter from M. Purves requesting the exemption on behalf of S. Russell, a pilot with 73.30 hours P1 and a BPA Instructor was read out to the meeting. The request was supported by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds. The application was approved subject to the appropriate form being filed with BPA Office.

7. **G. Phillips — Reinstatement as Approved Instructor.** G. Phillips made a personal appearance to answer allegations of unsatisfactory training by two student parachutists — STC minutes 6th September 1977 Item 14 refers.

After discussion it was felt that the statements of the two students in question were insufficient evidence to warrant the continued suspension of G. Phillips Instructor rating. G. Phillips flatly denied any dereliction of training on his part. It was unanimously agreed that G. Phillips Instructor Rating (lapsed since 31 March 1978) be renewed in the normal way by the countersignature of two examiners and that of a CCI.

8. **Standardisation of Student Count.** A proposal by P. Corr that the word 'Check' was no longer appropriate in the student S/L count was discussed. P. Corr felt that with the increasing use of the S/L bag system the original reason for 'check' had disappeared. Some centres taught a count of 1-6 thousand for S/L jumps. Others used 1-4 thousand followed by 'check'. He felt that in the interests of standardisation and student confidence a common system be introduced.

After discussion it was the consensus that no change in the current system was appropriate.

2. **Centre base tie incident — Peterborough.** W. J. Meacock reported an incident at Sibson in which a first jump student experienced a streamer malfunction. The student successfully operated the reserve parachute by 1500 feet. Inspection of the main canopy revealed that the centre base tie of the Irvin deployment bag had been tied directly round the suspension lines at the peripheral band and not routed through the beackets on the bag.

The checks had been signed for by a visiting parachutist who held a valid packing certificate. A letter from this parachutist was read to the meeting, which stated he was fully familiar with the centre base tie system and could not understand how the tie had been misrouted.

W. J. Meacock stated the following remedial measures come into immediate effect at the PPC:

a) No visiting jumpers will be allowed to give checks on the bag system.

b) The cord used for the centre base tie will be dyed a bright colour.

c) An aperture will be cut in the lower part of the outer container with a velcro fastener and the pre-jump checks will include a centre base tie inspection.

d) The introduction of Sentinel 2000 AODs for reserve parachutes will be expedited.

T. Rose raised the question of basic bag design. He stated that the current Irvin bag in use at the PPC incorporated both centre base tie and conventional short mouthlock. His view was that incorporation of a centre base tie rendered the mouthlock superfluous, and, indeed positively dangerous in that it effectively concealed the centre base tie. He felt that a centre base tie which kept the entire mouth of the bag closed as in the military PX inner bag was a more satisfactory system.

G. C. P. Shea-Simonds re-stated the advantages and limitations of the centre base tie system currently in use. He agreed that the tie eliminated the possibility of tail strikes but felt that this had to be weighed against the certain malfunction caused by incorrect routing of the tie. His view was that tail strikes were caused by a too high dropping speed. The onus should be placed on the pilot and jumpmaster. If a centre base tie system were employed, the safe operation of such system relied on one hundred percent infallibility of a variety of checkers.

D. Jones stated that all excess length of the centre base tie should be trimmed off in case the student should attempt to "tidy it up" by tying the surplus round the suspension lines.

The consensus of opinion was that clubs employing this system should operate the strictest standards of control over packing checks. If such standards could not be GUARANTEED then the system was potentially lethal. CCIs were reminded of their responsibilities in this area.

3. **Instructor Course — Bridlington.** The NCSO gave a brief summary of results achieved on this course. The following instructors were recommended for upgrading to Advanced Instructor:

D. Jones *JSPC Netheravon*

P. F. Smout *RAFSPA*

B. Wheller *RMSPC*

The STC felt that it was no longer necessary for an Instructor to attend an STC Meeting in person for the purpose of upgrading, provided that the basic qualifications were met and were checked by the Examiners on the Course attended. The STC reserved the right to require personal attendance cases of doubt.

The following candidates were awarded PI ratings:

S. Inglis, D. Chadwick, G. Robinson, M. Timon, P. Leighton, D. Johnson, G. Vincent, S. Knipe, N. Townsend and F. Ryland.

T. Webster withdrew at his own request and was recommended to re-apply in three months. B. Went was recommended to re-apply in six months.

The following candidates were awarded Instructor ratings: R. Fisher, A. Farrow, R. Harrison, J. Oosterveer.

M. Thurman was recommended to re-apply for examination in three months time.

WORLD PARACHUTING CHAMPIONSHIPS (CLASSIC)

If you have any strong ideas for changes in the Style and Accuracy Events, Steve Brosted, Chairman of the C.I.P. W.P.C. Rules Sub Committee, would like to hear from you by 1st October. His address is:

Georginevej 14, 2970 Horsholm, DENMARK

**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY & TRAINING COMMITTEE, TUESDAY 4th JULY 1978
held at BPA Offices, Kimberley House, Leicester**

PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| W. J. Meacock | PPC |
| D. Peacock | NCSO |
| D. D. Orton | Staffs |
| M. Winwood | LIFFT |
| P. Young | RSA |
| J. Sharples | MPC |
| P. Hibberd | Halfpenny Green |
| J. Barnes | TWPC |
| J. Laing | JSPC(N) |
| N. Addison | Scottish PC |
| J. Hitchen | SFFP |
| A. Collingwood | SPC |
| G. C. P. Shea-Simonds | Co-opt |
| A. E. Rose | Buccaneers |
| B. D. Wheller | RN/RMSPC |
| A. Riddick | Cambridge UFFC |
| R. Willis | RAFSPA |
| L. Melhuish | WWPC |
| E. Finney | MSPC |

OBSERVERS:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| D. T. Hickling | P. Timen |
| A. Young | S. Cooper |
| R. Burgess | J. Moxon |
| J. Curtis | S. Addison |
| C. J. B. Copeland | R. J. Harman |
| N. Perks | A. Ashton |
| P. A. Blud | J. Cordell |
| P. Curtis | |

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| J. Crocker | J. D. Prince |
|------------|--------------|

In the absence of J. Crocker, the meeting was chaired by W. J. Meacock.

Item 1

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Item 4. A letter from S. Talbot in which he replied to the allegations made by R. Fothergill was read to the meeting. It was agreed that the matter constituted a private dispute between two members and that no action on the part of STC was necessary.

Item 7. To date no reply had been received from the Cornwall Parachute Centre concerning a display incident. The NCSO was to write again to the CPC.

Item 8.2. W. J. Meacock demonstrated the PPC modified S/L System which incorporated a velcro flap covering an inspection panel to enable the centre base tie to be checked on the flight line prior to emplaning. He further stated that the centre base tie in use at the PPC was specifically of such a length that no surplus remained after the tying of the knots.

G. C. P. Shea-Simonds recommended that all S/L Systems which relied on a centre base tie should have an inspection panel incorporated or some other means of checking the tie on the flight line.

Item 8.3. A letter from T. Leary was read out to the meeting, requesting that his instructor rating be re-validated with immediate effect. It was decided that the original ruling should stand, i.e. re-instatement w.e.f. 6 September 1978, but that he be granted PI status until that date to enable him to instruct under supervision at a British centre before returning to Hong Kong. The NCSO was to write to T. Leary to this effect.

Item 8.5. L. Melhuish produced the log book of M. Pebworth for inspection. It was confirmed that she had obtained Cat. X within the previously stipulated time and that she be granted PI status w.e.f. 4 July 1978.

It was proposed by A. E. Rose and seconded by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds that the minutes be approved.

Item 2

MIDLAND PARACHUTE CENTRE—BICKMARSH

This matter had been referred to the STC by Council. The Chairman quoted from a letter from the local District Council referring to three incidents at Bickmarsh involving parachutists striking power cables.

J. Sharples then made a statement concerning the location and dimensions of the student DZ at Bickmarsh, with particular reference to the said power cables. After discussion it was decided that the DZ be approved for student parachuting.

Item 3

MAJOR J. GOLDSWORTHY — RE-INSTATEMENT AS BPA INSTRUCTOR

A letter from Major Goldsworthy was read to the meeting, together with a supporting letter from B. Wheller, CCI, RN and RMSPC. After considerable discussion it was proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by D. Orton that Major Goldsworthy be accorded PI status with immediate effect and that he attend the November 1978 examination course for re-validation of his Instructor Rating. This proposal was carried by 16-1.

Item 4

AOD TEST DROP JSPC(N)

A report on a dummy free drop and successful live firing of a Sentinel 2000 mounted on a standard I24 reserve with a covered spring packed between the stowed lines and the canopy was read to the meeting. It was stated that on the pins being released the compressed spring ejected the canopy clearly and a good deployment ensued. It was stated that previous reserve trials incorporating this system had been carried out by the RAF at A and AEE Boscombe Down. The NCSO was to request information on these trials.

The NCSO requested that Clubs trying out this system conduct live trials to ascertain the problems, if any, of manually deploying the reserve canopy when this kicker spring was incorporated.

Item 5

INCIDENT REPORTS

1. Netheravon — J. Laing gave a brief report on an incident at JSPC (Netheravon) in which two static lines were severed during an Islander sortie. He stated that a military inquiry into the incident was proceeding and the findings would be presented to STC when available. P. Young queried why two parachutists were involved. J. Laing said that this aspect of the matter would also be covered in the military enquiry.
2. Thruxton — P. Young described an incident at Thruxton in which a student S/L Jumper experienced twists. The risers were crossed around her throat, obstructing the air passages. She successfully deployed her reserve canopy then cut away the main. She landed safely, with only a minor foot injury.
3. Strathallan — A report concerning a total malfunction and successful reserve deployment by a student on his seventh descent was read to the meeting. This report was submitted by B. Charters. A second report on the same incident was read to the meeting. This was the report of the CCI N. Addison.

The aircraft was a Cessna 207, the equipment was a B4 container with break tie S/L system, C9 canopy, Sleeve and pilot chute. The strong point was 2000lb tubular webbing secured at both ends. The S/L hook was the Irvin sliding type.

As this hook could not be fastened directly to the strong point (no free movement) the practice was to loop the S/L round the strong point and fasten the hook back on to the S/L. The hook became disengaged when the student made his exit, and went through the hands of the jumpmaster.

The following points arose:

- a) The jumpmaster, S. Addison, was reprimanded for failing correctly to control the static line.
- b) G. C. P. Shea-Simonds stated that the Irvin sliding snap hook were unsatisfactory. He recommended clubs to use the military AML snap hooks which could be purchased from:
AML, Olds Approach, Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts.
- c) The NCSO reminded clubs of their responsibility to fit standard BPA strong points in parachuting a/c.

- d) It was proposed by A. Riddick and seconded by D. Orton that the Irvin sliding snap hook be banned w.e.f. 1 August 1978. This was carried.
4. Red Devils, Golden Lions, Ansell's Paramen — Reports from these three display teams were read to the meeting. Each concerned entanglements during CRW attempts and subsequent cutaway action. In the case of Ansell's Paramen, both parachutists had to cutaway. No injury to persons or property was involved. The Red Devils have now banned all CRW for display purposes until further expertise has been obtained. Ansell's Paramen have a ruling of no CRW attempts below 1500' for display purposes. In the case of the Golden Lions, the entanglement involved the lines of one canopy and the rapier deployment system of the other. The meeting felt that no further STC ruling on the subject of CRW was appropriate at this time.
 5. JSPC (Lippspringle) — A summary of a fatal accident to a student parachutist at JSPC (L) was given to the meeting. A military Board of Inquiry had been convened and the findings would be made available to STC in due course. The fatality was caused by a streamer malfunction of the main canopy due to incorrect routing of the centre base tie. This had been tied correctly through the beackets of the bag and the surplus then tied around the suspension lines — **NB** STC Meeting 30 May 1978 Item 8.2 para 6 D. Jones —
The AOD on the reserve had fired but the reserve was prevented from deploying by the actions of the student who kept his arms clasped around the reserve for the whole of the descent.
It was stated that the whole course had been given two specific briefings and demonstrations of the correct method to make this CB tie and of the dangers of incorrect routing.
The ends of CB ties at JSPC(L) are now being trimmed at the check stage to prevent recurrence of this problem.
 6. RAFSPA — R. Willis reported an incident at Weston in which a student on a 5 sec. delay using a standard B12 container experienced a stiff pull and failed to operate the reserve. The AOD on the reserve fired successfully at about 800'.
Clubs were again reminded of the limitations of this type of equipment and of the need to develop a more satisfactory student free fall system.
 7. Royal Navy and Royal Marines SPC — Student with partial malfunction deployed reserve successfully and struck 11KV power cables causing severe burns to the backs of her knees.

Item 6

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. R2 and R3 Canopy Releases A demonstration of the limitations of these canopy releases was given by L. Thomas. He emphasised the importance of the velcro pad being firmly and squarely positioned. Any kinks in the velcro base pad could result in the locking slider dropping loose and disengaging.
2. L. Thomas requested permission to live test the Thomas single point release system manufactured by him under licence from Chuck Embry. This was approved.
3. An application from R. Colpus, R. Mills and T. Uragallo to use a blast handle on their reserves was rejected unanimously.
4. An application from R. Measor, a 'C' licence holder with 102 jumps to use a single point release system was supported by R. Willis, his CCI. This was approved.
5. An application from M. Buxton, a 'C' licence holder to use a 3 ring circus release system was not supported at this point in time by his CCI. He was to re-apply when he had gained more parachuting experience.
6. An application by S. Talbot to fly a parachuting a/c, having only 79 hours P1, was granted subject to recommendation by his CFI and CCI.
7. An application by M. Reeves supported by his CCI P. Slattery to attend a PI Course after being in the sport 16 months was not approved.
8. An application by D. McCarthy for D. Parchment to despatch S/L students unsupervised in the a/c was refused on the grounds that he had not attended a PI Course.
9. An application by P. K. Hibberd for E. Robertson to have a six month extension of his PI rating, due to expire in August, on the grounds of injury was approved.

BUZZ'S CANADIAN COLUMN

The 1978 Annual General Meeting of CSPA took place in Halifax, Nova Scotia the weekend of April 1/2. There are some who would say the date was most appropriate. The hot topic was, of course, the action of the Board in banning eight members of the 1977 Canadian Parachute Team from International Competition for the next two years.

The team exercised their right of appeal and chose to appeal as a unit, rather than on an individual basis. Their appeal was heard by the Board on the Thursday preceding the general meeting. Considerable time was spent to ensure a fair hearing, before the Board reaffirmed their earlier decision by a strong 4-1 vote.

A standard procedure at our general meetings is for the membership to ratify the actions and decisions of the Board for the preceding year. A vote of confidence if you will. Naturally the subject of the 1977 team was singled out for discussion. Some four hours were spent in which the membership had its say. The oratory ranged from lucid and effective to downright ludicrous, but served to show that there was a polarisation of opinion.

One opinion feeling (in agreement with Board) that the National Team are representing their country and the Association and should conduct themselves accordingly. The opposing view seemed to feel that no-one has a right to impose behaviour standards or require certain conduct of a team member as this infringes upon "democratic" rights and personal freedoms. One is tempted to ask whether the rights and freedoms of the parachuting community as a whole are not more important than the selfish boorish lifestyle of a very small minority.

In any event, the decision was ratified by a 2 to 1 margin, and it never ceases to amaze me that there are those among us who do condone such standards and conduct. I suppose they are a product of their environment — the "let it all hang out" fraternity who, never having been in the real world, do not understand what efforts it has taken and continues to take to keep airspace available for parachuting.

Fortunately this misguided, but vocal, group is a minority, and the majority, albeit relatively silent, is more interested in a national sport governing body that has mature concerned leadership and direction and that is and is seen to be responsible and respected. One trusts that latest episode has helped us along the road to achieving that end.

While Halifax is a very hospitable place, Maritimers being what they are, the meeting had one sad note. Kathy Fox, after six years as President, has stepped down. We owe her much, as in that time we have progressed from a small basement office to space in the National Sports and Recreation Centre in Ottawa.

In addition to the team accuracy event at the Nationals, we have decided to include a Junior 4-Man Relative Work Event. Single Formation jump from 7200'; the idea being to encourage younger relative workers to enter competitions. One member of the team may have an unlimited number of jumps, while the other three may have no more than 400 in aggregate, nor any one of them more than 200 individually. The purpose is for the "Skygod" to teach the other members of his team.

We also intend, starting in 1979, to set up a pre-Nationals training camp, where team members from the prior years team will be available to coach and teach in the off year event. This is still in the embryo stage but has great promise.

That's all for now; have a good summer jumping.

BUZZ

BPA LOTTERY

No. 1 Draw—30th June 1978

The Winners were as follows:

| Ticket No: | Name & Address | Prize |
|------------|--|-------|
| 038745 | Mr. J. Craven, 10 Copper Street, Roath, Cardiff. | £100 |
| 123797 | Mr. G. S. George, 65 Farnhurst Road, Hodge Hill, Birmingham. | £75 |
| 167879 | Mary Hemming Peterborough Parachute Centre Sibson Airfield, Peterborough. | £50 |

Have you sold your BPA Lottery Tickets?

The following draws are still to take place and your tickets will be eligible for each draw held subsequent to the counterfoils and monies being received at the BPA. The sooner you buy the more chances you have of winning.

Draw No. 2 — 31st August '78 Prizes £100 £75 and £50.

Draw No. 3 — 31st October '78 Prizes £100 £75 and £50.

Draw No. 4 — 31st January '79 Prizes £1000 £500 and £250.

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