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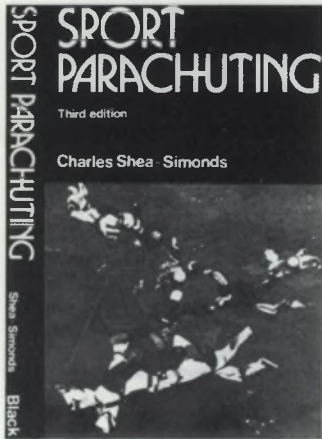
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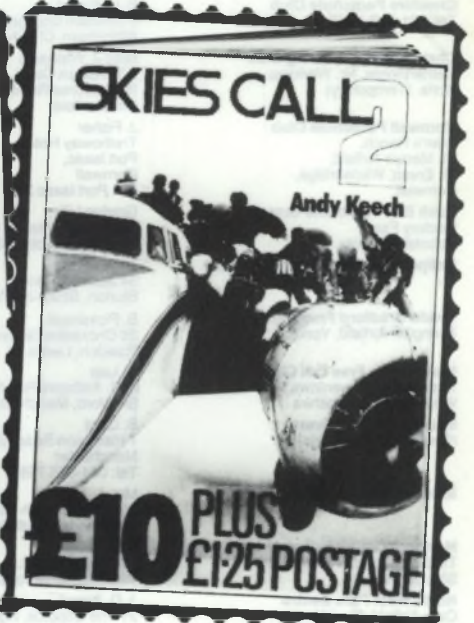
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FULL TIME		WEEK-END	
Peterborough Parachute Centre Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough	W. J. Meacock (at club address), Sibson Airfield Tel: Elton 490	Hereford Parachute Centre Shobdon Aerodrome, Leominster, Hereford Tel: Kingsford 551	Chief Instructor (at club address)
Headcorn Parachute Club Headcorn Airfield Ashford, Kent Tel: Headcorn 890862	The Secretary (at club address)	Midland Parachute Centre Long Marston Airfield Nr. Stratford-upon-Avon Warks. Tel: Stratford-upon-Avon 297959	WEEK-END Dave Deakin Titton Cottage Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. Tel: Stourport-on-Severn 5954
British Skysports Bridlington Aerodrome, Bridlington, Yorkshire	Chief Instructor (at club address) Tel: 0262-77367		

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Eagle Sport Parachute Centre Ashford Airport, Lympe, Kent Tel: Hythe 60816	A. Black (at club address)	Scottish Parachute Club Strathalan Castle, Auchterarder, Perthshire Tel: Auchterarder 2572	The Secretary (at club address)
East Coast Parachute Centre Ipswich Airport Ipswich, Suffolk	W. P. Slattery (at club address) Tel: 0473 714462	Scottish Sport Parachute Association	B. Somerville 20 Castlaway, St. Madocs Glen Carse, Perthshire
R.S.A. Parachute Club Thrupton Aerodrome, Andover, Hants. Tel: Wayhill 2124	R. A. Acraman (at club address)	The School of Free Fall Parachuting Tel: (0742) 653962	J. Hitchin 46 Newlands Drive, Sheffield S12 2FS
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		Spread Eagles Parachute Club Nr. Melcombe Bingham, Dorset	Sally Corr 24 Southlea Avenue, Tuckton, Bournemouth Tel: 0202 421108
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Cambridge University Free Fall Club Waterbeach, Cambs.	P. H. Evans 3 Dunham Grange, Delamer Road, Altrincham, Cheshire	Sturgate Parachute Club Sturgate Airfield Upton, Gainsborough, Lincs.	H. Swallow 1 Riverside Avenue, Otley, West Yorkshire Tel: 0943 464461
Cheshire Parachute Club Tel: 061-928-6918	Miss J. Wallhead 8 Tavistock Court, Racecourse Road, Newbold, Chesterfield	Sunderland Parachute Centre Sunderland Airport, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear	W. J. Barnes (at club address) Tel: Boldon 367530
Chesterfield Skydiving Club Netherhorpe, Nr. Worksop, Notts. (Temporary)	J. Fisher Trehoway Hotel, Port Isaac, Cornwall Tel: Port Isaac 214	Wales & West of England Para Club	L. Melhuish Copper Beeches, 7 Cardiff Road, Dianas Powis, S. Glamorgan Tel: 02222 514100
Cornwall Parachute Club Fran's Ranch, St. Merryn Airfield, St. Ervan, Wadebridge, Cornwall	Gordon Lilly 12 Clandon House, Clandon Gardens, Finchley, London N3	Windy Gyle Parachute & Outdoor Centre Brunton, Nr. Alnwick, Northumberland	K. Noble Windy Gyle, West Street, Belford, Northumberland, NE70 7QE Tel: 06683-289
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SPORT PARACHUTIST



THE JOURNAL OF THE
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Vol. 17 No. 4

AUGUST 1980

EDITORIAL

By the time you receive this issue the 1980 World Parachuting Championships in Bulgaria will be history. Sadly our delegation competes without a Ladies Team — we had no ladies in the Senior Style event at the Nationals — and without one of our best men, Dicky Bird. The latter, who injured himself just before the Nationals, would have been placed 3rd in the Style Event in the Nationals, assuming no improvement from his Army Championship times. The Competitions Committee, working on its mandate of pursuit of excellence, selected Bird for the Training Camp. The BPA Council took the unprecedented move of reversing the Competitions Committee's decision, which they deemed unethical, 4 days later. The past Chairman, John Meacock, himself a British Team Member many times, described this reversal as: "a serious error of judgement." As Head of Delegation to the 1980 British Team I agree entirely . . . but then the BPA Council is democratic . . .

Go safely now,

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.



Affiliated to the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale through the Royal Aero Club of the United Kingdom.

Copy date for the next issue — Monday, 22nd September
Cover photo — The Editor records some action at the Nationals.

THE DAZZLE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1980

Sept. 6-7	Cark Accuracy Meet	Cark
Sept. 8-12	PI Course 3/80	Sibson
Sept. 13-14	Radio Trent Meet	Langar
Sept. 15-19	Exam Course	Sibson
Sept. 20/21	9th Duck End Farm Meet	Abbotsley
Sept. 27/28	Shobdon Meet	Shobdon
Oct. 6-10	Scholarship/Progression Course	Headcorn
Oct. 25/26	Shobdon POPS Meet	Shobdon
Nov. 3-7	PI Course 4/80	Aldershot
Nov. 10-14	Exam Course 4/80	Aldershot



Gorgeous Judy Kay, Director of Appeals for ASBAH, who are the charity benefiting from the Cross Channel jump sponsored by Courages, recently made her first descent at Ashford — Congratulations Judy!



"I tried to get the registration of the helicopter that's been buzzing the DZ, but the wings are spinning round too fast!"

For those of us new to the sport,
 "SP" falls quite seriously short,
 Of things to relate to
 What does an R-3 do?
 I really don't know though I ought!
 It's all those initials you use
 Which are bandied about, they confuse!
 I don't like to ask
 Or they'll think I am an ass,
 So I just have to ponder and muse.
 So please use a glossary for we who are not
 Quite as expert as those 'up-on-high'
 Then maybe one day
 I could chatter away
 As I 'turn, track and dump' through the sky!

VIV, Cheshire Para Club.

SUPERFLY

I HEAR CHARLIE BUZZED
 SOME GLIDER PILOTS 'COS
 THEY WERE OVER
 THE DZ

AND ONE OF 'EM GOT CHARLIE
 ON THE GROUND AND GAVE HIM
 A GOOD SLAGGING!



I Hope He Learnt About Parachuting From That
 or
 Couldn't Happen to Me

Us Tintin, gormless, bearded, four-eyed twit
 Thought he hovered over pit,
 When Pringy's voice came from afar:
 "TURN ROUND AND RUN,
 "DON'T HIT MY CAR!"

Too low to do a second turn,
 For the manure heap he had a yearn,
 Since downwind was the perri track,
 Which he hit with a hefty crack.

So now if he's in any doubt,
 He turns off high and clears right out,
 And LANDS so blooming far away,
 Search parties look for him all day.

Moral

Wishful thinking is no substitute for sound canopy handling.

DAVE.



Chris Mills presents Jim Fieldhouse with a bottle of whisky in appreciation of his just having dropped his 1000th parachutist.



Islander Exit over Netheravon by Alan James.





Filwelz

"Most of these stiff pulls . . .

Are just figments of the imagin . . .

. . . ooff!!!"

□ □ □

This alleged poem is humbly dedicated to The Master, John McGonagall Cooke, poetaster of Cark;

Cooke Who?

When the Bard goes into verse
 They say, 'He goes from bad to worse';
 We know that Cooke's greatest vice
 Is writing things that are not nice
 About the friends of folk like us;
 (I hope I don't make too much fuss.)
 Varicose veins and sweaty feet
 Are this poet's favourite meat—
 If one of us owned up to piles,
 His verses would go on for miles;
 If someone got a dose of clap, he
 Would make our John a happy chappie,
 An inspiration to go and scribble
 A page or two of lying drivel.
 But come home John, all is forgiven,
 For we can see how you have striven
 A work to make us all rejoice—
 That smashing ode to Aunty Joyce.

DAVE.

□ □ □



Jane Buckle sent this photo of the June scholarship course at Sibson.



Andy Guest records Wendy Miller and Andy Grice over Weston on the Green.



John Richardson assists his father, Mike, prior to the latter's second descent . . . another keen POP?



Mike Winwood, CCI, of the Cyprus Club, is presented to Mrs. Colakides, wife of the Mayor of Limassol, on the occasion of his 1000th descent at a display at Episkopi.

Inge Zegel writes from Holland:

"I have made two mistakes in my life: first to start parachuting and second to think I could give it up" — Very true, Inge!



There's a rumour going around that this photo by Alan James is of Phil Gibbs.

Congratulations to Red Freds, Ian Marshall, Gray Copestake, Ray Ellis and Nish Bruce who on 27th July built a CRW Diamond over Aldershot . . . The first time it has been accomplished outside the USA.



This photo of an anonymous jumper experiencing a bad canopy collapse prior to a badly broken leg at the Peebles Hydro Hotel, Scotland, contains a valuable message.



R2 INCIDENT

Whilst executing a planned cut-a-way over a Demo. the right hand "R2" release malfunctioned as described below and "locked in" the male capewell lug. This left me with the unenviable, but inevitable decision of opening my reserve whilst streaming the cut-away canopy.

The reserve opened with one and a half twists leaving the steering slots in my front. I was unable to kick out of these because of the attached cut-a-way canopy and resorted to restricted steering by pulling steering lines above the twists. This allowed me to reach a patch of grass but because of a down wind landing I am still bouncing.

Figure 1 shows the "R2" (in position A) as the slide activator begins to push the slide shoulders which in turn releases the male lug. In my case the slide activator had passed over the slide shoulders (to position B), leaving the slide (and locking it) in its closed position. The reason was a combination of the following:

- (1) Wear on slide shoulders.
- (2) Wear on pivot pin.
- (3) Opening of the arms on the slide activator.
- (4) Fairly tight fitting male lug.

The "R2" system that failed had not been subjected to great usage, as the cut-a-way rig was only used on selected demos. My advice is (A) if your kit has "R2" or "R3" releases, take a very close look at the areas mentioned in (1), (2) and (3) or (B) Change them.

Cliff Lloyd, D.605.

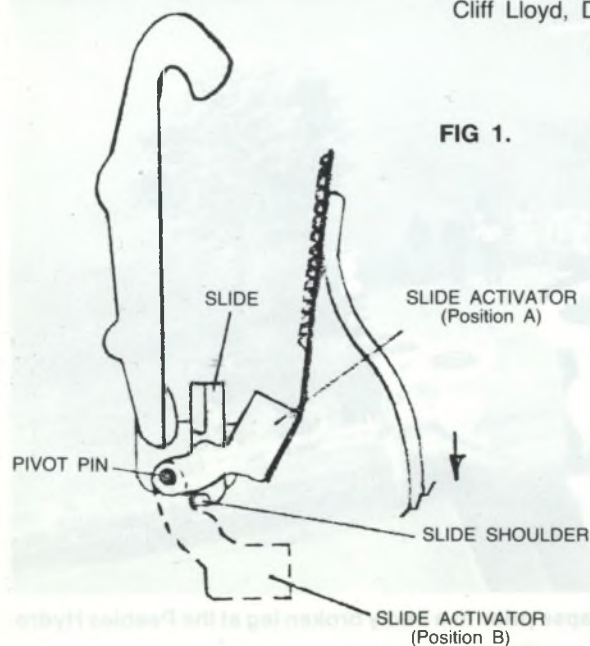


Photo by Paul Hutchinson

(This letter was sent to Doug Peacock after a BPA display at Queen Mary's Hospital for Children at Carshalton).

4 Woodcote Grove Road,
Coulston, Surrey.

Dear Sister Collis,

I am writing to thank you for taking Richard and I from Ward B3 to see the Parachute Jump on Hospital Fete Day. We left the field and returned to the ward when it started raining. As we were leaving the field we heard people saying that the jump would not take place because of bad weather, and so we were delighted when you came to take us out again and allowed us to have some crisps.

It was very exciting to see the plane circle and the parachutes open and twist and turn as they came down over the field.

We thought the men were very brave to come down among all the tents and stalls, they were really fantastic to land on the right spot.

I was very excited and it was worth having my operation to see it. Will you please thank the parachute men for me.

I am getting better from my operation now and I hope that you and all the nurses and children are well.

Thank you Sister Collis,

Neil.

Dear Charlie,

I thought other jumpers might be interested to know just how much medical costs are in the USA.

I was recently at Perris Valley in California on a jumping holiday when I was clumsy enough to break my leg, not a very serious break I'm glad to say but enough to warrant the attention of Riverside hospital, where I was treated very well by friendly but extremely professional staff.

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The enclosed is the bill that I have just received from the hospital and despite the fact that the break wasn't serious it still needed plaster, four large X-rays and three small ones (which they made copies of for me to bring home) in addition to the other services shown.

I was also told that had the injury been more serious and needed pinning they would have kept me in maybe for only one night which would have cost me \$150/night with a total bill including surgery of about \$500. This however was only an estimate by one of the doctors and not an official quote.

I hope the enclosed information is of some interest to other people planning a similar stay in America. I was very pleased with the total figure so maybe it will allay some of the fears people have of enormous bills.

I was insured with West Mercia and I think it is very important for anybody skydiving in America. I must stress that my injuries were not serious.

Bob Glover, C3353.

Dear Charlie,

After an absence from sport parachuting of over two years, due to Military, Government service and business reasons; I recently "got back into trim" by taking a two week holiday in Yorkshire and attending almost every day the British Sky Sports club at Grindale.

The reason I write is twofold. Firstly to explain that at 42 years of age I had my doubts at how I would cope, but to be fair to the young ones, they not only made me feel welcome but also a lot younger than phorty. I had a most enjoyable time, met some lovely people and despite an often wild north easterly got some terrific jumping in.

Secondly, I would like to use the magazine to thank the Grindale CCI Eric Finney for arranging my reintroduction to the sport, and to Pam, Jane Parkinson, Liz Smith, Karen Bremer, and one magic pilot, Fred, for providing good club back up, with excellent accommodation, first class food, and thorough documentation.

I have been in sport parachuting a very short time,

however, I have through the Parachute Regiment and other organisations been parachuting the world over since 1957 and have no hesitation in rating Grindale very highly.

My special thanks must go to Peter Southgate who on the authority of the CCI took me under his wing, who with total dedication, approach, attitude and for one so young expert tuition and within ten days of progressive training I was back into relative work.

As a fairly recently retired warrant officer I don't give praise lightly, however, to Peter, who himself is a CCI of the Elvington week end club, I must say how I admire him for his techniques, in the aircraft, in flight and under canopy, his friendliness at the packing table and his sociability in the club house bar.

When he leaves us later this summer for work in Saudi Arabia, I wish him God speed and will follow his career with interest.

Now that I am back in the sport I look forward to seeing some old pals, like Tony Knight and Keith Tozer (ex Kirkbride), Lennie Doran and gang, Mac in Hereford, as you can see by the way I write, I am really excited by the prospect of being back in the sport and touring the circuit.

Please excuse the writing as at this time I am watching Jim Watt thrash the American 'Davis' and retain his world title.

In closing I must now write to Cooky and get myself enrolled in "THE CLUB" POPS UK.

All my best wishes to all sport parachutists everywhere, and congratulations to John Laing on his MBE.

Mike Davies, C2594.

Dear Charlie,

I am writing to say thanks for a splendid week's jumping in the recent Scholarship/Progression Course at Sibson.

I can safely say, I learnt a lot from it and judging by the conversations I had with other people on the course they seemed to be in the same frame of mind.

One thing though. Give us more!

So thanks again to the instructors who gave their time up. Doug Peacock, Arthur with the dog, or was it the Dog with Arthur, Nick Harrison and Cookie and the big fellow Tony Keoghan for making me laugh as I went out the door, but most of all, giving me more insight into a sport which needs more than Rocks in the head.

Yours,

Barry Wilton.

P.S. Did I ever tell you the joke about the parrot?

No - but Peter Sherman did!! - Ed.

Dear Charlie,

I have just had the misfortune to have my PARALERT come apart in free-fall, which meant I lost all four batteries, (and nearly my bottle!).

The replacement of these batteries proved to be a little difficult. The instruction manual gives the American number, which do not relate to any British numbers.

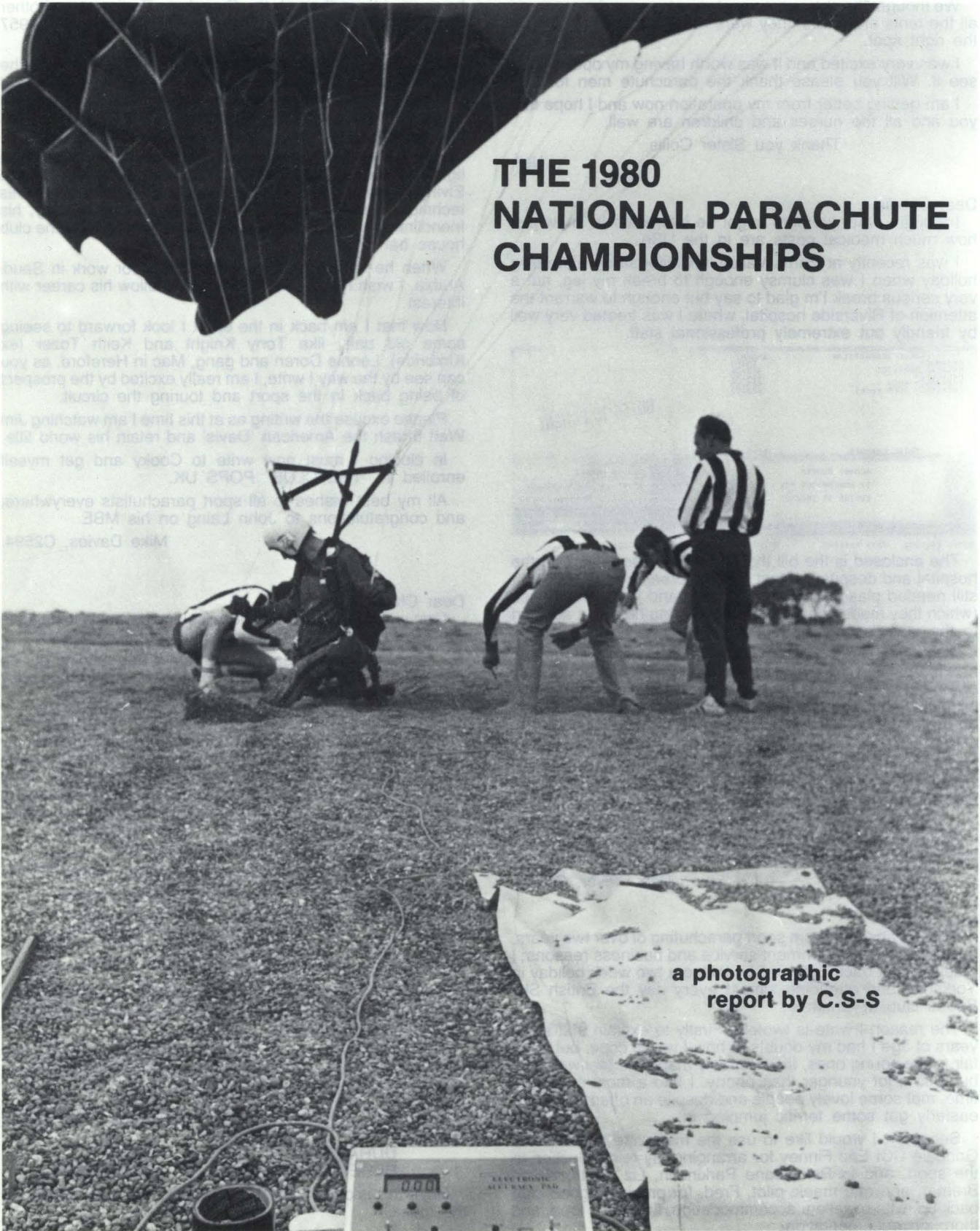
To prevent anyone else going through the run around I had, the British equivalents are:

DURACELL 10L14B2
BEREC B-SR43H

Hope this is of some help, perhaps it could be published in the mag.

All the best,

Pete Coombe, D1692.



THE 1980 NATIONAL PARACHUTE CHAMPIONSHIPS

a photographic
report by C.S-S

The Electronic Disc records another 0.00 for National Champion, Scotty Milne.

The 1980 Nationals were held at Sibson from the 3rd-13th July. The weather was the worst for 12 years but a satisfactory result was obtained in all but Team Accuracy and 4 Man RW.



Scotty Milne was again National Champion. He is seen here being presented with the trophy by Mr. Stephens, Managing Director of the Daily Telegraph, who originally donated it. Scotty also won the Accuracy Event, narrowly, by a jump-off from . . .



. . . Robin Mills, seen here scoring another disc. Robin's style just prevented him qualifying for a place in the British Team but his accuracy was excellent.



Dogie Young earned his place on the British Team by winning the style event . . .



. . . while Deke Wright earned his place by being 5th overall.



Dave Tylcoat "reaches" for his place and finished 3rd overall . . .



. . . Chris McGuire, plus little McGuire in the Mini-System, took the Ladies Senior Accuracy.



. . . whilst the love of his life, Esther Reynolds went over the top . . .



Rob Colpus captained Symbiosis to victory in the 8-Man Event while . . .



. . . to win the Ladies Intermediate Accuracy and Style and . . .



. . . fellow Team Member, Tony Uragallo, proved to be back on form in the Accuracy Event and came 9th.



Peter Fox was a member of the strong contingent from Cark which also included . . .



Alan Leyton finished 9th overall in spite of training hard whilst . . .



. . . 16 year old Andrew Morris who did well to win the Men's Intermediate Accuracy. (Perhaps his Dad, Alan Morris, joint owner of the Cark operation, can claim, some of the credit).



. . . Mark Sheridan of the Red Devils didn't really find his form and finished 14th overall.



The Arab Team from Dubai, seen here with mentor and POP, Pete Sherman, once again showed themselves to be capable and sporting competitors . . .



. . . special prize from Meet Director, John Meacock. Roy was so touched that he . . .



. . . as was Australian Team Member, Roy Marker, who not only did well in the Accuracy Event but who also provided a non-stop cabaret throughout the Championships which provoked a well earned . . .



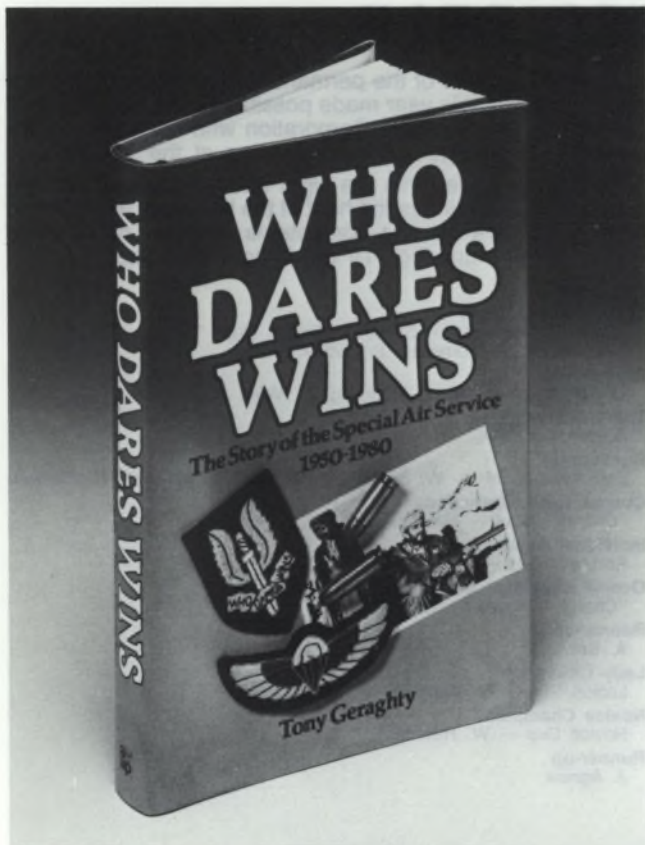
. . . turned and addressed the crowd with the delicately chosen words: "F★*k off, you Pommy bastids!!"

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1980 — Results

MEN			
Senior Accuracy	1 Milne	2 Mills	3 Coffey
Intermediate Accuracy	Morris	Frith	Vincent
Senior Style	Young	Milne	Byrne
Intermediate Style	Boardman	Carroll	Frith
Overall Champion — Milne			
LADIES			
Senior Accuracy	1 McGuire	2 Keith	3
Intermediate Accuracy	Reynolds	Pinfold	Allen
Intermediate Style	Reynolds	Pinfold	

8 WAY RW

1 Symbiosis	2 Stratosfear (Army)	3 Peterboro United
-------------	----------------------	--------------------



REVIEW -

WHO DARES WINS

by Tony Geraghty published by Arms and Armour Press, price £8.95.

This splendid book, as it is sub-titled, is the story of the special Air Service Regiment from 1950-1980... and bang up to date, literally, it is with an excellent description of the Iranian Embassy rescue 3 months ago. Tony Geraghty, Defence Correspondent of the Sunday Times and ex-16 Para Brigade soldier is a keen BPA member and his writing of this book shows a rapport with the subject that makes for easy reading. He has obviously had to leave much unsaid but his sympathy for this unique regiment puts its position in our Army in proper perspective. We should be grateful we have such a professional, skilful, determined and highly trained force at our disposal and Tony's book is one I have no hesitation in commending to you.

CS-S

BUZZ'S CANADIAN COLUMN

It seems that, as with many other matters, man never learns except by personal experience. One can tell him a thousand times that something is so, but it is only believed when seen with his own eyes. So it has been with free stow lines, by which I mean the main parachute lines coiled loosely in the pack tray, rather than secured to the bag (or other deployment mechanism) in S folds with elastics. For some time, we have heard with regularity of malfunction problems occurring where lines had been free stowed. No real details and far enough away (both physically and emotionally) to have no impact, so that one is able to put it to the back of one's mind. Besides free stowing is easier, takes less time and gives the pack a flatter, less bulky shape.

The lesson was, however, forced home in tragic fashion in late April with fatalities to two Canadian jumpers caused directly by free stowed lines. One at Abbotsford and one in Arizona. It is necessary only to give details of one. The jumper in question was very experienced and had jumped once already that day with the same piggyback equipment. On deployment, one line took a half hitch around the outer side flap and upon inflation the tension pulled it tighter. The canopy (seven cell) could not inflate. The jumper did what I suspect all of us would have done, released the canopy releases, apparently not recognising or suspecting the true cause of the malfunction. The canopy could not separate, now being held even tighter. There was of course no choice but to deploy the reserve which wound, barber pole style around the main. The impact was fatal.

It is but idle speculation to suggest that the jumper might have survived a landing under the malfunctioned main or that had the jumper been sufficiently aware to analyse the cause of the malfunction, a knife could have been used to cut the

line, allowing the canopy to inflate. Perhaps now being aware of what went wrong, a person experiencing such a hang up would recognise it and if having a knife would react correctly and quickly. Perhaps. The big question marks are the severity of the malfunction and the rate of descent.

The result has been that free stowing is no longer used by any sensible person and CSPA has issued bulletins warning its members of the danger involved. If we had but taken the time to analyse previous reports, circumstances might have been different. The moral of the story is clear (if I may be so bold as to moralise) — that in parachuting the consequences of cutting corners and opting for the easy way can be very serious. We have seen it before and no doubt will again. Society at large might also take note.

In parachuting forethought and preparedness are essential, and in that vein let me leave you with a question. On exit your reserve accidentally opens with a rapidly rotating malfunction. You are wearing a piggyback with a positive pull out deployment. What will you do?

In a previous column I mentioned the situation *vis a vis* the Sporting Code and the fact that we are allowed, by FAI Statute, to amend it only once every four years. This is of course totally unsatisfactory for a sport such as parachuting which changes so rapidly. Accordingly CSPA, through our National Aero Club, is making representation to the powers that be in FAI, to have this restrictive rule relaxed, so that the International governing body, the CIP, can react to change and new developments as they happen. I trust that BPA will be fully supportive of this move.

Till next time,

BUZZ.

SCOTTISH SCRIBBLE

The 1980 S.S.P.A. Championships were held over 3rd/4th and 10th/11th May at Glenrothes Airfield. The vagaries of Scottish weather produced mostly wind when we wanted to do accuracy and low cloud when the "Rely" boys were set to go. However triumphing over adversity, a successful meet was concluded.

Officiating were Biff Burn, Martin Rennie, Ian Robertson and Bob Thomson, ably supported by the fairer sex, recording, fetching cups of tea, soothing fevered brows, defusing hassles, etc. etc. The judges claimed their rights — in a strictly parachuting sense — to the drifter runs and showed how it should be done, or even that it could still be done in Bob Thomson's case who celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of his first parachute descent, by arriving just short of the pit — downwind on a TU — with a thud that must have been heard in Glenrothes Town centre.

Flying was conducted with verve, skill and "g"-pulling climb-outs by Ronnie Groat and David Hunter in old faithful Tango Juliet.

Domestic arrangements were well looked after by Glenrothes School of Parachuting with strong emphasis on keeping the inner man satisfied, whatever the time of day — much appreciated!

Prizes, including the magnificent Chandy trophies, were presented by Hugh Phillips, the Golden Lions Team Manager, at a function held on Sunday evening in the Corsbie Hall Hotel, the base for those overnights who have been heard to say "Stay in a tent — what's a tent?"

The presentation of the permanent trophies to all winners and runners-up this year made possible by the generosity of Glenrothes Development Corporation who continue to support and encourage sport parachuting at the airfield.

As the ale flowed into the night and jumps were re-lived over and over again, as the heat of the bar-room fire soothed tired limbs, one by one contestants dropped off or stole quietly away muttering "I'll get it right next year".

Results:

Team Relative Work

"Scottish & Newcastle" Shield — Golden Lions "A"
B. Wilson, W. Forrester, T. Mackie, A. Bell.

Runners-up

The Bigfeet — B. Irving, B. Irving, L. Wake, W. Bilsland.

Team Accuracy

Golden Lions "A"

Runners-up

Somerville & Co. — W. Somerville, M. Keith, A. McMillan, R. Fleming.

Overall Team Champions

"Chandy" Bowl — Golden Lions "A"

Individual Accuracy

Accuracy Cup — W. Forrester.

Overall Individual Champion

"Chandy" Trophy — W. Forrester.

Runner-up

A. Bell.

Lady Champion

Ladies Cup — M. Keith.

Novice Champion

Novice Cup — W. Hickman.

Runner-up

J. Agnew.

THRUXTON BOOGIE 1980

On the 17th May 1980 we at the R.S.A. Parachute Club Thrupton held our first boogie for five years. It wasn't exactly over-publicised because I decided an open competition was too ambitious for my first venture as the new CCI, (I'll get around to it mind you). I organised the Category IX and X jumpers into four, four man teams for the main event and invited Category II to VIII jumpers to put their names down for the novices accuracy.

The main event was for four-man speed star and team accuracy combined, while in the novices event it was a case of landing, into wind, as close to the centre of the pit as possible and then bursting the balloon attached to the disc. Competitors were timed from landing to bursting the balloon which resulted in some amazing Kamikaze dives worthy of an England goalkeeper. Dragging of Kit was prohibited.

Preparations began a few weeks before the event notably purchasing trophies and medals, circularising potential competitors and helpers, and weeding the pit. The number of man hours spent preparing the pit still gives me nightmares as it had hardly been touched since the last Thrupton meet! Anyone thinking of visiting us make note we now have an excellent pit. I had arranged for a second pilot to be on hand for the event but the gremlins struck and the Cessna 180 went U/S during the week leading up to the competition. We despatched a member of staff to Brussels for the parts, the engineers worked over Friday night and we got it back about midday Saturday.

After a week of howling winds and the occasional, snatched, experienced jumpers only lifts Saturday dawned clear, bright and calm! We only had our ten place ultra-luxurious De Havilland Dove to start the day with, but spirits were high. We got through the first round of the seniors event very quickly with 'Terminal Force' Paul Williams, Frank



Strato — Star Accuracy.

Wright, Howard Robson and Dan O'Keefe establishing a lead they were never to lose. However 'Je Ne Sais Quoi' John Lewis, Keith Cartwright, Pete Best and Ken Townsend were fighting all the way having realised that 50% of the marks were for accuracy which was clearly the winning team's weakest forte. The team with the longest ever name 'Two pints of bitter One of Guinness and an Orange Juice Please' Kevin Hardwick, Pete Brogden, 'Molly' Maguire, and Ken Mackenzie tied for third place with 'Hunts Bitter Lemon' Dave Hunt, Graham Boshier, Neil Matthews and John Field.



A little prayer goes a long way!



Beth Taylor presented the prizes.

In the novices accuracy we failed to complete three rounds despite the timely re-appearance of the Cessna 180 (two aircraft club note) due to an increase in winds. The best accuracy displayed by a novice was Micky Doyle's one of only two jumpers in this event to make the pit. Unfortunately a change of wind direction and strength in round two left Mick out of the running and Andy Law walked off with the shield, after a consistent performance and superhuman balloon bursting antics, with Malcolm Tullet second.

Looking back on the day it was a very good start to what I hope will become a regular feature at the club. Thanks to Charlie Shea-Simonds for judging the events and jumping on our large star attempt at the end of the day. The main attraction was Beth Taylor who come along for a quiet day on the DZ and to present the prizes. Over the course of the weekend she organised the judging of Forty Eight landings, cooked for all the jumpers and their friends at the Bar-B-Q and packed twenty rigs. Thank you very much from us all. Our thanks also to Barry Bias who volunteered to run the student course down at the Sports Centre and selflessly missed everything. I believe everyone enjoyed themselves, for my part it was great to see so much activity and it's a while since we put a seven man together. DOVE DIVE.

Malcolm Snook.

DZ TIMEWASTER

SIBLING SKYDIVERS

Intending to do an interview for "Sport Parachutist" recently I approached two brothers and a sister who I knew to be keen parachutists, in constant competition with each other. The only three children of a sporting family, they have, between them, completed over 2,000 jumps even though none of them is older than 35 and the youngest is in fact 9 years younger than the eldest.

When I tracked them down at their local a very interesting situation was revealed. As Belinda put it: "We're just celebrating the fact that at the moment the ages of any two of us, when multiplied together, provide the number of jumps that the third has completed."

"That's right," said John, "and, what's more, the other two combined have only managed to complete exactly half as many jumps again as I've done free-fall."

"Ah, yes," cut in Alan, "but remember, John, all your free-fall descents have only been 5-second delays, not to mention the fact that it took you 19 static-line jumps before you got onto free-fall."

"Even so," retorted John, "I've still managed to achieve a total time in free-fall, in seconds, of 200 times my own age."

Turning to me, Belinda began to say, "My big broth . . .," when I stopped her and terminated the interview, saying that I now had sufficient information for the magazine.

From the same information, what are the respective ages of Belinda, Alan and John, and how many jumps has each done?

ALLISTER STEELE

DO YOU HOLD AN S.C.R. AND A CURRENT PILOTS LICENCE?

If so you may be interested in the pilots S.C.R. Weekend at Sibson 6/7 September. For details phone
 Jeff Ward on 0582-507700 (H)
 or 01-272 9976 (W)

THE FIRST SIBSON TRAC MEET



The first Sibson TRAC Meet over the Spring Bank Holiday brought together 21 four-way teams with a wide variety of experience; from those in their first competition to international class. Competitiveness was not lacking, however, and the results were by no means going to be clear cut. So with Saturday and Sunday evening entertainment in hand, it promised to be a memorable affair for all concerned.

Tailplane and generator problems with the Porter had been solved earlier in the week to make available a machine which would fairly "eat" into the rounds. It was to many competitors relief that the Porter was available, for this was to be their first taste of the latest addition to the Peterborough Parachute Centre.

Team names were as always varied but with a quick glance at a certain few, one might have questioned it; Pigs in Space, Pigasus, Springhogs, plus Roast Pig on Saturday night! Perhaps we should have called it the Sibson Pig Meet! Some familiar names were around; Peterborough United, always on the domestic scene, ready to show that their RW could match the standard of the accuracy their name is better known for. Mountain (Mounting?) Men CRW, more recently used to mating their canopies, keen to show they have all round skills. Pigasus, Golden Lions and the REME put in some convenient practice for the Army Championships. Thrombosis, Stable Manure, Grindale Outcasts and the Two Squared came from up North, while Sibson itself hosted Pigs in Space, Mixed Doubles, Neurosis, United, Fubar 1 and Sibson Staff. The complete Meet was to be complemented by Springhogs, Logans Run, Symbiosis, Loops, Waistlers, Lumps and Bumps, and Mercury.

The draw on Friday night put Symbiosis into the pace setting slot; not that anyone believed they would do otherwise! It was to be Saturday evening, however, before they would be allowed to set any pace at all. The morning saw nothing but dirt diving (yes, some did take it seriously) and the disappointment of having to see Anglia TV waste the time they had scheduled for the event. Even took some convincing that we couldn't organise the weather as we would like it. The afternoon provided accuracy conditions only and those who wished took the opportunity to shoot some quick practice.

So it was around 7.15pm on Saturday when the Porter

finally took a short roll off "two five" in anger. Some of those waiting at the pit to observe the "widdy" were disconcerted to see that load put together a set that many of the competitors would have been pleased to show. Still, they were partly Symbians and it is easier out of competition. Round 1 was then away. Opposed diamond, star, bunyip, snowflake, was to be repeated one and three quarters times by Symbiosis in the 35 seconds. Their finishing off was a creditable 1.05 total. But Pigasus were not to be outdone, in the accuracy at least with 0.55 total but only 3 formations in time.

Rapidly failing light and the fact that even the magic Porter has to refuel, meant calling it a day with just 10 teams jumped. Pigasus led the accuracy. Ray McGuire, Bob Higgins, Bob Charters, Tim Andrewes, Dave Spencer and Fred Keery were all evens on the individual with the centre of the electronic button.

Fortunately, real progress had been made during the day with the Pig. In fact, the outer parts of it were progressed so far they were positively cremated. But mean and hungry jumpers were not to be deterred and there was soon ample custom for Terry Scott — Melvilles' carving, (too much custom as it turned out, unluckily for some).

Sunday dawned bright as those with weak bladders after the feasting discovered, probably to their concern at the time! By 8am though things were not so good and as the day progressed the majority soon wondered whether the Meet would arrive at a suitable conclusion. Meet Director Dave Waugh, with judges Bob Hiatt, John Hitchin, Doc Flinn, Bobbie Hull, Oli Prin and Mike Batchelor were not ones to idle however. Accuracy was possible and, with half the Meet time gone, it was decided to at least put something on the score sheets.

The two rounds of team accuracy that followed were not without spirit considering the majority of teams preference (if not positive bias) for RW. After the first round, Pigasus led Golden Lions with Two Squared third. Discs (if one can call such on a pad) came from Dave Spencer, Yorky Nesbitt, Jim Keery, Ronnie O'Brien and Mai Finch. Round 2 saw Peterborough United take over in third place. Dave Ritchie, Andy Meysner, Dave Spencer, Yorky Nesbitt and Neville Howarth lit the right lamp on Amanda's electronic box.

But two rounds of team accuracy and half a round of TRAC are not sufficient to call a Meet. The organisers began to wonder what they might do with the majority of tankards which did not have "accuracy" stamped on them. A slight feeling of disheartenment, was felt throughout the Meet at the lack of RW. Bank holiday Monday was to be our last chance.

Hot chilli and disco fever served to keep spirits up on Sunday night. Robin Jones (team leader of Fubar 1, mostly in their first competition), along with brother George, provided the sounds. The disco burnt itself out in the early hours of Monday and, judging by some of the faces in the morning, many wished it had burnt out earlier.

So Monday came and brought a sky that showed promise. A decision had to be made and with between 6 and 7,000ft, 20 seconds working time was to be the basis of a fresh start on round 2. To ensure everyone jumped a round of TRAC, even though it may not count, we started off where round 1 had finished. Now round 2, although easy to dirt dive, certainly wasn't very easy compared to the standard of the other dives in the competition. Star, donut one way, star, donut the other way; this would sort the men from the boys.

The REME were to be the pace setters this time; second out of the first lift and showing a very reasonable 3 in the 20 seconds. Their accuracy only faltered by 3 centimetres. In fact they were only to be bettered in RW by Symbiosis who showed 4. Springhogs, Pigasus, Logans Run, Grindale Outcasts and Peterborough United all scored 2. Pigasus still led the accuracy with Peterborough United now 2nd and Golden Lions 3rd. Individual dead centres were provided by Fred Ryland, Dave Ritchie, John Horne, Mike Smith, Geoff Sanders, Tim Andrewes, Geoff Payne and Alan Derbyshire.

Round 1 of TRAC at this stage of course was still incomplete. At times there were promises of completing it as the cloud base moved up and down and gaps appeared, (only to be filled in again). In anticipation of restarting round

1, or taking off with round 2, dirt diving became varied (some would say confused). Early evening arrived and it was really becoming time to depart for those who had a long drive home. There still was not a regular 9,000ft, so round 3 kicked off on the same basis as round 2. Y, snowflake, monopod, star, was the required sequence. The best performances were to be from Symbiosis and Pigasus who both scored 3. Eight other team scored 2 which, as it happened, wasn't quite enough to sort out all the teams sharing third place. Steve Eversfield scored his first disc of the Meet to stay 1 centimetre ahead of Billy Forrester to win the individual accuracy. Overall winners were to be Pigasus who showed consistent form throughout the Meet.

It was around 7pm when Roy Shelton finally awarded the prizes. In terms of having sufficient parachuting to complete it, it had been a lucky Meet but nonetheless a very enjoyable one. Without the Porter it may not have reached a conclusion, and in this respect that aircraft was an undeniable bonus. Thanks go to all concerned who made the first Sibson TRAC Meet the success it was.

Prizes from:

CI Parachuting: Overall Trophy.

Roy Shelton: Shelton Cup Team Accuracy.

Peterborough Evening Telegraph: Shield for RW.

Results:

Overall

- 1st Pigasus
- 2nd Peterborough United
- 3rd Golden Lions

Team Accuracy

- 1st Pigasus
- 2nd Peterborough United
- 3rd Golden Lions

Relative Work

- 1st Symbiosis
- 2nd Pigasus
- 3rd Peterborough United
- Equal Logans Run
Thrombosis

Individual Accuracy

- 1st Steve Eversfield
- 2nd Billy Forrester
- 3rd Tim Andrewes



and a good time was had by all.

photo — Nick Cullum



Champions all: Aloys Riesenbeck, Karl-Otto Brlnkman, Siegfried Albrecht (Germany); Scotty Milne, Dougle Young (UK); Ole Petersen, Michael Petersen, Kurt Hansen (Denmark); Beny van Biesen, Dirk Buiden (Belgium).

The Joint Services Parachute Centre, Netheravon was once again the venue for the Army Parachute Championships.

Excellent organisation by the staff and firm control by the Meet Director, JSPC Commandant Major Gerry O'Hara, led to the completion of eight rounds of accuracy and sequential, and four rounds of style, plus accuracy and style events at novice and intermediate level despite the usual seasonal weather.

Early starts and late finishes in sometimes very chilly conditions tested the endurance and good humour of competitors and judges alike, the latter admirably led by Doug Peacock. with over 90 competitors and 18 teams mustering some 76,000 jumps between them, the standards varied considerably.

One competitor started the novice event with 20 jumps to his credit, and at the other end of the scale a senior and distinguished visitor from the Rhine Army admitted under pressure to "about" 6,750.

Twenty six jumpers had over 1,000 jumps each and 10 of these had over 2,000.

Aloys Riesenbeck led the German team to take the Visitors Cup, and showed the form which got him 50 consecutive dead centres in 1977, by scoring dead centres throughout the meet, matched only by his team-mate Siegfried Albrecht, the current German style and accuracy champion.

Within the British Army, Sgt Scotty Milne swept the boards by becoming Army Champion for the sixth time, but only after two jump-offs for accuracy having dropped 4cm in early rounds. The team sequential event showed some high standards with several teams scoring 5 per round.

The REME team, led by WO2 Mike Smith, scored 35 overall to win the event against stiff competition from the



The Impressive Army Video was seen for the first time operated by Graham Pierce.

RAFSPA team, led by F/Sgt Ray Willis, and fresh from a stateside training trip, and the new and inexperienced but very promising Royal Artillery team led by Gnr Paul Cook.

The new video system with its 800mm lens was used throughout on an experimental basis and attracted much favourable comment.

Quite naturally there was a high level of interest shown in it by competitors and judges alike.

Action replays were watched with intense interest and those of the intermediate style event provided compulsive and highly entertaining viewing.

A host of pilots flew the Islanders and the Royal Navy Wessex to extract the maximum benefit from the sometimes very brief periods of 'good' weather.

Many thanks to all those who gave freely of their time to help make the Championships the success they were, especially the expert and talented judges, pilots, and recorders.

SEAN LAMBE.



Mid July already and the summer has failed to live up to its early promise. This has meant many frustrating hours for the jumper, particularly the newcomers who have to learn the hard way that the only way to accumulate jumps is to be there when it happens. Fortunately this process soon eliminates the half-hearted and we continue to breed a hard core of dedicated jumpers with a totally flexible outlook and hard earned experience in a variety of conditions. (Are you listening, Hitch?) Ability is important, stickability doubly so — in this game as in so many others.

We now have two major competitions behind us — a first class Army Meet and the just concluded Nationals at Sibson — thanks, John, for being the perfect host. Netheravon 1980 saw some high class opposition to the Red Devils Classics team in the shape of the five members of the German Army Sport Group. Style standards were exceptionally high and the Meet provided several useful pointers to the forthcoming clash of these two teams augmented by top civilians on both sides, two teams at International level in Bulgaria next month. Remember this same German team took the overall bronze in Yugoslavia two years ago and there is not much between them right now.

Despite the weather, the Nationals may fairly be considered a success. We had a good classic result and a first class display of 8 way by the four teams who entered. Symbiosis proved once again they are a force to be reckoned with at any level, Scotty Milne became overall champion for the fourth time, also winning the accuracy with a jump-off. Promising 17 year old from the North West was young Andrew Morris who totalled 95 centimetres in seven jumps at his first Nationals. Andrew does not appear to have suffered unduly by going through the Category System as laid down. Ability, plus stickability, once again provide the payoff. Before

we leave the Nationals, a word on the video system provided by the APA. Video is now as essential to accurate judging of air work as is the pad to the judging of accuracy. With equipment of this calibre available, telemeters will soon be as obsolete as the PC on the competition scene. Current rules state that an RW jump may be reviewed five times and a style jump twice — all at normal speed.

These conditions ensure a fair deal for the competitor, improve the standard of judging and eliminate most arguments. In addition, of course, the use of video enables the spectator to enjoy aspects of the competition previously denied to him. Future refinements must include split screen viewing (aerial cameraman) and electronic display timing.

The club competition scene is also pretty healthy with further meets scheduled for Shobdon, Cark, Langar and Duck End. These provide essential competition experience for competitors and judges alike — a fact recognised by the Association who allow the sum of £100 to assist with running costs.

Instructor Courses continue to be well subscribed and well staffed. The next PI Course is at Sibson from 8-12 September — note change of date from that originally scheduled. The exam course will take place as planned the following week. The last Scholarship Course held in June provided some valuable lessons to all concerned. We had good weather and a fair amount of jumping from the Porter. Standards of Cat 8 and 9 jumpers were rather variable — some had difficulty in executing a tidy 360 degree turn from the basic frog position — a skill which should have been learned by Cat 7. Remember — until you have mastered the individual skills, any attempt to work with other jumpers will prove pretty frustrating for all concerned. Instructors please note! Next year we hope to run two extra progression courses for intermediate jumpers and any assistance from Club instructors will be greatly appreciated.

That's it for this month, and I leave you with a final thought: The superior parachutist exercises his superior judgement in order to avoid situations which require him to exercise his superior skill. Safe jumping to you all.

DOUG.

We were saddened and shocked to hear of the tragic E.P.9 crash at Ashford recently which killed Eagle Sports founder, Chief Instructor and Pilot Alex Black, Instructor Les Riley, their engineer and 3 German students. The crash was caused by an engine failure soon after take off. Alex had served for many years in the Parachute Brigade before leaving the Army and founding his thriving Centre — his loss will be sorely felt. To the families and friends who have experienced such awful bereavements, we send our deepest sympathy in this difficult time.

It is with regret that we report the sudden death of Joe Wemyss (34). Those who knew Joe well will remember him only as a very keen and responsible jump pilot at Sunderland and Brunton. He was an enthusiastic parachutist himself and always found time to help with packing and helping students. His friendly presence will be sorely missed.

THE POPS GO EAST

It all started over a few beers at the BPA Dinner and Dance. I was nattering to Major Tom Oxley (Pops 151) the CO of JSPC Bad Lippspringe and saying that we needed a venue for the POPS Spring Meet. Quick as a flash, Tom suggested that we go to Germany, and given our somewhat inebriated state at the time, this seemed a brilliant idea. But how the hell were we going to get there? Seated on my left, none other than that famous coach proprietor and entrepreneur, David Corbel also a member of Pops!, the very thing.

So it was that on May 26th, 39 Pops, wives, families, friends met at Victoria Station, London, to board the coach. By ferry from Folkestone to Ostend, thence by road to arrive at Bad Lippspringe, at 11am on the Saturday morning.

The weather on arrival was a bit grotty but most of us managed a couple of lobs from cloudbase, during the afternoon. Then it was back to the various hotels for the quick dab of the underarm and a splash of the aftershave.

We had been warned that a barbecue would be laid on that evening and sure enough it was, I have described it elsewhere, as being of heroic proportions. Then it was into the bar where we found the liquid refreshments to be plentiful and moderately priced. Sufficient to say that we made a lot of friends and we also discovered that not only did Edith Summers (hitherto known as 'the elegant iceberg'), rather like Bacardi with a touch of Coke, but had in fact latent tendencies to remove her clothes. She had to be dragged off the table when she reached the 'liberty bodice' stage and is henceforth to be known as the Phyllis Dixey of Sport Parachuting!

Sunday dawned as all Pops' Sundays do, bloody awful, so it was decided to take the coach to Fun City, a pseudo Wild West town in the mountains. An unlikely setting for what was to follow, but we felt that it might please the kiddies (including those on their second time around). The highlight of the day was to be a shootout between the goodies and the baddies, 3pm at the saloon. Zero hour found many of the Pops at the bar, partaking liberally of the local Hofbrau. After the somewhat bizarre sight and sound of a gunfight in German, the floor was taken by your actual, 100%, rootin' tootin' American, saloon type, honky tonk pianist, complete with the brown derby, striped waistcoat, armbands and a face like a brown prune. He was soon to be the focal point for all the Brits and his renderings of Fats Waller and Hoky Carmichael, warmed the hearts and breasts of many of our older members. Nigel Yonge (of the eyepatch and monocle) gave us a superb Noel Coward-type rendering of 'Ain't misbehavin'.



The POP party.



Grand-POP Archie meets a cowboy.

Then followed a general sing-song, a Tiller girl routine and a Conga, much to the consternation of the locals. When I went round with the brown derby collecting money, they were totally bemused, and when I finally presented the pianist with a hatful of money, he couldn't believe it.

After that we just went back to the camp and got sloshed again! Much, much later on, in the wee small hours when we were leaving the camp the coach was stopped for the umpteenth time at the check point and the guard commander boarded us to check our credentials. (At this point Edith had to be forcibly restrained.) Just as we started to pull away, two of our more flamboyant members (male) mooned through the back window and then did a couple of 'pressed hams' as an encore.

Yes, Sunday was a very enjoyable day!

Monday morning was superb and we just managed a quickie from 8,000ft before making our sad farewells to a great bunch of people. Many, many thanks Tom, Mac, Jack, Rina and Ann, and all the rest of you guys, you did us proud.

It was a long haul back to Ostend but as we had taken along some bottles of lager, it didn't seem to take too long. The trip was conducted in the time honoured tradition of all British coach parties and only once did a Customs official attempt to check our passports. One look at all the bright red Brit faces, the rising beer fumes, the ribald laughter, and the sight of Edith leering at him from the hooligan section and he beat a hasty retreat.

Next year we think we'll go to Holland.

COOKEY.

AUTOMATIC OPENING DEVICES

1. Introduction

The use of automatic opening devices on manually operated parachutes has for many years been an integral part of Eastern European sport parachute training. The most common type of AOD is the ruggedly constructed and barometrically triggered KAP3. This is used in a backup role for freefall and as a substitute for the static line during early training. With the dramatic expansion of student training both in this country and the States over the past five years, there has been a concomitant increase in the use of automatic opening devices to provide added security for the student. Discussion in this paper will be confined to the use of two types of Automatic Opening Device currently on the market and their function when used on front-mounted reserve parachutes for student jumpers — BPA Categories 1-7 inclusive.

Both these AODs, the Sentinel 2000 and the FXC 12000 differ in one important aspect from the KAP3 previously mentioned. They are activated by an acceleration sensor which is guarded by the barometric sensor. Thus, the device will fire when the rate of descent exceeds 35-50 feet per second *provided the jumper is below his pre-set altitude.*

2. Method of Evaluation

A study was made of the experience gained in the use of both types of AOD over the past four years at four parachute centres — the Hereford Parachute Club and the Joint Service Parachute Centres at Weston, Netheravon and Bad Lipp-springe. Hereford has experience of the Sentinel 2000 only, Weston and Lipp-springe of the EXC 12000 only, whilst Netheravon has had experience of both and is currently using the FXC. Other variables include the use or non-use of a Kicker Spring in the reserve itself. A statistical summary, comprising figures from all the centres follows below.

3. The Sentinel 2000

Manufactured by Steve Snyder Enterprises Ltd. Electro-mechanical in operation. Originally designed for use on front mounted reserves, now convertible for hogbacks. Current retail price in USA is \$235.00.

Time in service: 2 years.

No. of descents: 23,000.

No. of live firings: 2.

Details:

1. 30 sec delay — no main pulled (Netheravon)

2. 1st 5 sec delay — no main pulled (Hereford)

No. of inadvertent firings — 11.

Details:

1. Mainly on exit, after approx 2 years service (10) (Netheravon).

2. Under open canopy — possibly incorrectly calibrated (1) (Hereford).

Serviceability

Netheravon: These AODs were replaced after two years service as they became increasingly prone to inadvertent firings toward the end of this period. Problems had included long delays in major servicing/repairs as the units had to be returned to the States. Replacement power handles and cartridges were expensive. Isolated instances also occurred when the electronics were unreliable — the lights lit up but the cartridge was found to be U/S. All AODs were serviced and checked in a test chamber every 60 days.

Hereford: Serviceability generally good, although plugs fragile and plastic sleeves frequently lost. Tested every 6 months and batteries replaced.

Weston: N/A.

Lipp-springe: N/A.

4. The FXC 12000

Manufactured by the FXC Corporation, California. Mechanical in operation. Designed for use on front mounted reserves, hog back reserves or ripcord operated main parachutes. Current USA retail price \$300.000.

Time in service: 3 years.

No. of descents: 50,000.

No. of live firings: 7.

Details:

1. Squid malfunction of S/L parachute. Fired at about 1400ft. Set for 15000ft (Netheravon).

2. Student on 20 sec delay lost stability. Did not pull main. AOD fired at 1800ft. Set for 1500ft (Netheravon).

3. Student on 5 sec delay failed to pull. AOD fired at 1000ft. Set for 1000ft (Weston).

4/5/6/7. Failure to pull on early freefall — AOD fired at 1000ft (Lipp-springe).

Number of inadvertent firings: 35.

1. 7 under fully inflated main.

2. 6 at 2000ft on activation of main.

3. 10 prior to activation of main (i.e. above 2000ft). It is suspected that the cause in paras 2 and 3 was in most cases the re-setting of the device in the aircraft by the student.

4. Approx 12 on landing impact.

Kicker Spring assisted:

Netheravon: yes Weston: no Lipp-springe: no.

Serviceability:

Netheravon: These AODs have performed well during the past 2 years. Out of 58 in service, 6 have been returned to the manufacturer for rectification during the period. AODs are now checked every 90 days at the reserve repack cycle.

Weston: Also satisfied with the performance, although a total of 15 had been returned to the manufacturer for rectification, the main problem area being the setting mechanism. The AODs are checked in a pressure chamber every 90 days. Permitted tolerance is ± 200 ft.

Lipp-springe: AODs checked at the reserve repack cycle. Generally good serviceability, but poor response from manufacturers who refuse to supply all but minor spares. This situation should be improved now with the establishment of a European agency (France).

5. Training policy and limitations

At the three military centres, the use of the AOD is mandatory for BPA Categories 1-7. At Hereford they are mandatory for Categories 1-5.

During training, it is emphasised that the AOD is solely a backup and reserve drills are naturally taught as normal.

Kicker Springs are used at Netheravon only.

Weston consider that the advantages of a Kicker Spring are outweighed by the greater vulnerability should an accidental firing occur in the aircraft.

BSRs state that all student reserves should have a top pull handle. Exemptions to this regulation have been obtained by these Centres because of the mechanics involved. The side pull handles were definitely more exposed, and strong emphasis throughout training was placed on the guarding of reserve handles. Netheravon are currently conducting trials with a top handle, incorporating a teflon covered cable in place of conventional pins. Loops are used in place of cones

and teflon washers are used to reduce friction.

One more constraint is the necessity to switch off the AOD in a rapidly descending aircraft (refusal or aborted sortie). Operating instructions as practised at Lippspringe are given below.

6. Conclusions

Both types of AOD are reliable and efficient devices. The Sentinel 2000 does not have a setting knob and the circuit must be broken to disarm it. As it is electro-mechanical in operation it appears to be more prone to unserviceability if roughly handled. Originally designed for use on front mounted reserves only. Modification Kits are now available for hog back reserves.

The FXC 12000 is more versatile and experience at Netheravon, Weston and Lippspringe indicates a greater tolerance to hard use. It is understood that the FXC 12000 is the only AOD model which currently meets the specifications and requirements of the US Armed Forces.

Either AOD will serve you well. The use of AODs for student jumpers is mandatory at the four centres in question and I personally endorse this policy.

Doug Peacock, *National Coach and Safety Officer.*



Gordon Lilly sent this nice photo of a S/L Exit over Abbotsley.

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING, 26th JUNE, 1980 held at Kimberley House, Leicester

PRESENT

D. I. Waugh	<i>Chairman</i>
J. Laing, MBE	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds	
A. J. Meysner	
R. Hiatt	
D. D. Orton	
P. Corr	
J. L. Thomas	
J. G. Starling, MBE, MC	
C. Bruce	
R. E. Gays	

CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

D. Hennessy	<i>F/AFSPA</i>
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IN ATTENDANCE

C. W. Port

APOLOGIES

P. Byrne
P. G. Mitchell
J. R. H. Sharples
J. L. Thomas
D. Prince
J. T. Crocker

OBSERVERS

G. Corr
M. Gauntlett
J. Peck

Item 30/80

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by J. Hitchen that the minutes of the Council Meeting of 13th May 1980 be accepted as a true record.

Carried unanimously

MATTERS ARISING

Item 12/80 BSC and BCR Awards

The Secretary General updated the situation regarding these awards. The applications were coming in and were being processed in date order. As soon as the badges and certificates were received the awards would be sent out. It was agreed that as soon as the badges were received one should be sent to D. Orton for onward transmission to Mrs. Lou Johnson.

Item 9/80 P.R.

Miss Jane Sword of Deesons PR Services presented her apologies for being absent but was away on holiday. The Secretary General brought Council up to date with the overall PR situation.

National Championship coverage — the pre-run went out on 11th June. The individual publicity for competitors is being processed as it arrives. Local and national media coverage — Jane Sword is hoping

to have some cover by Anglia TV. G. C. P. Shea-Simonds agreed to send a film of landings taken on one of the training days to Deesons in order that these shots can be used for publicity purposes. Miss Sword is coming to see the first two days of the Championships. The Secretary General has arranged for Mr. Tim Marshall outside broadcast division of the BBC to come to see the first two days of the Championships, this it is hoped may lead to a film on parachuting being made during the coming year dependent on budget finances and agreement of the BBC.

Mr. Meacock was to be approached as PR link man at Peterborough.

World Championships — it is hoped to have some coverage of the British team leaving for their training in the USA and also when they leave for the actual World Championship event.

26/80.2. CAA Meeting

G. C. P. Shea-Simonds reported on the Meeting with the CAA. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. K. Drew. The BPA objected to the situation on three main grounds:

1. That the cost suggested was not realistic.
2. That there would be a lot of extra paperwork for the office to deal with.
3. If the Association finds anyone infringing the jump flying regulations we could not take the PPL away from them, we could only recommend to the CAA that it was withdrawn, and even then the CAA might not take the rating away. The discipline side is totally unacceptable. The CAA are going to get their legal department to look at the definition of hire and reward or remuneration which is the basic premise of the idea. We do not believe that the jump pilot is doing the job to make his living *per-se*. There is no reaction to date from BALPA, the main reason being that the CAA had not taken this into account. All the aviation sports represented were adamant that they would fight this situation as hard as possible, and it must be fought as a united body.

Aircraft Purchase Paper

The paper is almost complete and the first draft should be ready to go out next week. There is one problem that G. C. P. Shea-Simonds has agreed to look at the legal aspect of private or public transport C. of A. which he will check out with the CAA.

25/80 Proxy Voting

In the absence of J. Crocker the Secretary General would again check to see whether this decision should be included in the Association's Articles and Memoranda of Association.

National Championships Prize Giving

A letter had been received from Mr. M. Stevens the MD of the Daily Telegraph confirming that he would indeed be available to present the prizes on Sunday, 13th July.

Adventure Sport Exhibition

The Secretary General reported to Council on the National Adventure Sport Exhibition held at Bristol from the 18th to 22nd June 1980. The only problem was that unbeknown to the Association the organisers had also circulated clubs, and RSA and British Skysports also took stands for the week. The Secretary General asked for Council approval, which was given, to circulate all Clubs to ask whether they would care to become involved for the Exhibition for next year. In this case the Association could take a large space to promote Sport Parachuting. The Secretary General would make the initial enquiries and provisionally book space for next year. The full benefit of the BPA stand could not be measured at this time, the results would come through via any membership increase.

Item 31/80

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Safety and Training Meeting 12th June 1980.

Item 2 I. Louttit — Dunkeswell

There was considerable discussion on this item and the Council decided that the Chairman would write to I. Louttit to the effect that his individual membership and club affiliation is withdrawn, and draw attention to the ramifications of this withdrawal.

As I. Louttit and the Dunkeswell International Skydiving Centre are now operating outside the Rules and Regulations of the BPA, both I. Louttit and the Club are now outside the help and protection of this Association. The Club name will no longer appear in the magazine or on club lists. In the case of any incident arising the Association cannot undertake any board of enquiry. Should I. Louttit decide to operate within the Rules and Regulations of the BPA then the situation could be reviewed.

The Chairman was also to write to the CAA informing them of the situation. J. Laing and G. C. P. Shea-Simonds agreed to visit the CAA.

A letter to be sent to all instructors and riggers explaining the fact that there is no longer any BPA insurance cover if they operate at D.I.S.C.

Item 4 Parascending

BAPC to be included in the distribution list of STC Minutes.

BSRs Section 8.10 include the following, "Parascending is controlled by the British Association of Parascending Clubs".

Proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by D. Orton that the minutes of the STC on 12th June 1980 be ratified.

Carried unanimously

2. Competition Committee

There was no meeting of the Competition Committee but in respect of the National Championships the Secretary General was tasked with informing all Clubs that registration for the Nationals would remain open until 8pm on Friday 4th July. The Clubs would be contacted by telephone and a notice was to be sent to underline this situation. The Rules would be amended for next year's Championships.

3. Finance Committee

The recommendation of the Finance Committee on item 4/80 was read by J. Starling and following this it was proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by D. Gays that a sum of £500 be offered to Mrs. D. Paul in order to lessen the financial problem following the death of Sqn. Ldr. Paul.

Carried unanimously

Item 32/80

APA CHAMPIONSHIPS

J. Starling wished to record the thanks of the APA for the assistance of the NCSO and judges at the APA Championships.

Item 33/80

PERSONAL INTEREST FREE LOAN

D. I. Waugh explained to Council the situation regarding a loan to the NCSO of £1200. This was due to sudden extenuating family problems. The Finance Committee was tasked with the details of securing the loan and the repayment of the sum involved. A letter was read from the NCSO who offered to repay the loan during the next 12 months.

Item 34/80

LOANS TO CLUBS

The Black Knights had made formal request for a loan towards the purchase of an aircraft. The letter came too late for inclusion at the Finance Committee Meeting. This item to be a subject in the next Finance Committee Meeting. The Secretary General was tasked with writing to the Club to explain the situation and to request further details, security of the loan etc.

Item 35/80

AOB

1. The Secretary General appraised Council that a letter had been received from T. Sawyer stating that the ASP had in fact been disbanded. There was also a request from T. Sawyer requesting personal membership of the BPA.

Proposed by J. Hitchen and seconded by A. Meysner that T. Sawyer be afforded membership of the BPA.

For 10; Against 1

D. D. Orton requested that the fact that he voted against this motion be noted in the minutes.

2. SSPA

A letter had been received asking whether they could issue their own C and D licences. It was agreed that there was no objection to this so long as they did not have FAI appearing on these licences or badges.

Proposed by G. C. P. Shea-Simonds and seconded by J. G. Starling.

Carried unanimously

3. RAFSPA — Air Space

D. Hennessy appraised Council of the situation regarding loss of air space at Weston on the Green. Due to an expansion westwards and a lowering of the airways the use of Weston at weekends has been reduced to Flight Level 80, about 8000ft. Monday through to Friday military use is not affected. At the outset it had been implicitly understood that upon request higher flight levels would be available when needed. But this has since been found not to be the case, and there is a blanket reduction to 8000ft at week-ends. MOD Air are at present fighting this situation, and are attempting to obtain clearance to 9500ft and occasionally to 11,000ft.

Much disquiet was felt by Council at this development, as it was considered it could be the thin end of the wedge, i.e. if it has happened at Weston it could easily happen elsewhere. G. C. P. Shea-Simonds undertook to investigate the situation on behalf of the BPA, and will draft a letter for signature by the Chairman. In the meanwhile the BPA has offered to help Weston should any help be required or requested.

4. CRW Championships

J. Laing brought up the matter of the CRW Championships to be held in the USA. To date no-one had come forward to challenge the Army team, and it was requested that they be afforded the title British Team, and as such the BPA provide some financial help. The matter is to be a subject for the Finance Committee and for the next Council Meeting. J. Laing will furnish details of the situation.

5. The Chairman asked that as many Council Members as possible attend the Prize Giving at the National Championships. The Secretary General would arrange for name tags to be available for all official guests at the prize giving, and also for all Council Members and Officials.

6. The Chairman offered his personal congratulations and those of the Council to G. C. P. Shea-Simonds on being awarded the Lennox-Boyd Trophy for 1979. This is only the second time that an individual has been awarded this trophy, which is awarded for service to flying training and standards.

7. Safety Notice

J. H. Hitchen brought Council's attention to a fault on the single point release. The NCSO was to contact J. Hitchen, and send out a Safety Notice as soon as possible.

8. Use of Army Video System

It was requested by J. Starling that when the Army Video was being used at the Nationals only G. Pierce be allowed to use it.

**BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE, THURSDAY, 12th JUNE, 1980
held at Kimberley House, Leicester.**

PRESENT

J. Laing	<i>Chairman</i>
D. Peacock	<i>NCSO</i>
J. Meacock	<i>PPC</i>
D. McCarthy	<i>HPC</i>
K. Noble	<i>Windy Gyle</i>
A. Collingwood	<i>BPOPC</i>
D. Parker	<i>Headcorn</i>
M. Snook	<i>RSA</i>
A. G. Knight	<i>NPC</i>
J. L. Thomas	<i>Riggers</i>
P. Orr	<i>Spreadeagles</i>
G. C. P. Shea-Simonds	<i>Co-opted</i>
J. Lines	<i>MPC</i>
J. Barnes	<i>TWPC</i>
D. Hickling	<i>Langar</i>

OBSERVERS

S. Talbot, J. Davis, Micki Merry, T. Butler, A. Wakelin, J. Harbutt, S. Shillitoe, D. Wright, I. Bishop, M. Kempson, G. Corr, B. Large, Margaret Jackson, R. Peakin, I. Louttit.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

J. T. Crocker, M. Beynon, A. Chandler, D. Palmer, P. Padley, R. Willis, N. Law.

In the absence of J. T. Crocker the chair was taken by J. Laing.

Item 1

APPLICATIONS FOR STC VOTING RIGHTS

Under the terms of Item 1.2 of the minutes of 10 April, the following applications were considered and approved:

P. Padley — *REME*; D. Palmer — *LIFFT*; D. Tylcoat — *Headcorn*; M. Snook — *RSA*; G. C. P. Shea-Simonds — *Previous NCSO*.

In the case of the four first named, such rights were in force for the duration of their appointment at the clubs concerned. It was decided that all applications for voting rights should be made either in person or in writing.

Item 2

IAN LOUTTIT — DUNKESWELL

Ian Louttit attended to answer allegations that he was continuing to instruct and despatch student jumpers in contravention of the personal ban imposed by STC on 2 January. He stated that he had been unable to find a CCI and agreed that he had been instructing and despatching student jumpers. He further stated that all BSRs were being observed with the exception of 2.2 (CCI must be an Advanced Instructor unless exemption is granted).

He requested an exemption from BSR to enable him to comply with the Regulations. He cited the case of P. Slattery, to whom an exemption had been granted. He was reminded that, at the Meeting of 2nd January, he had been debarred from applying for an exemption for a period of two years and that on these grounds the Slattery case was irrelevant. It was decided that no exemption could be granted and Ian Louttit was advised that such continuing and persistent contravention of BSRs called into question his personal membership of the Association and his Club's affiliation thereto. These matters were to be considered by Council at the next Meeting.

Item 3

INSTRUCTOR COURSE 2-80

The Course report had previously been distributed and the following recommendations were ratified by the Meeting:

R. Harman, A. Rose and A. G. Knight, having been recommended by A. Smith, J. Sharples and the NCSO, were upgraded to Examiner status.

E. Smith (APA) was granted PI status with immediate effect on the grounds of his previous instructor status, his recent attendance at the APA Centre and his results on the Instructor Course.

Item 4

PARASCENDING

The Meeting was addressed by Andrew Wakelin of the BAPC. By

way of introduction, he informed the Committee that BAPC members made some 70,000 "flights" per year, that BAPC were members of the Royal Aero Club and that BAPC operated under the control of a stringent Safety and Training Committee. He urged closer co-operation between BPA and BAPC on the grounds of overlap in the equipment field and the fact that there existed a growing demand for parascending facilities at certain BPA Clubs and Centres. Regarding this latter, his organisation naturally felt it was desirable that parascending instruction be given only by persons with the appropriate BAPC qualifications.

The Committee agreed with these sentiments but felt that it was incumbent upon BAPC to approach the Centres concerned if they were in doubt as to the quality of any instruction being given in the Parascending field. With regard to future co-operation it was agreed that BAPC should be included in the distribution list of STC Minutes, also that BSRs Sec. 8.10 should include the following addendum: After "Ascending Parachutes" insert:

"Parascending is controlled by the British Association of Parascending Clubs".

Item 5

PLASTIC RIPCORD REPORT

W. J. Meacock drew the attention of the Meeting to an item which recently appeared in Skydiving Magazine and to a Safety Notice in Parachutist. Both concerned failures of a certain type of plastic ripcord. The consensus of these two items was that any type of plastic was liable to structural failure under variable conditions of stress, temperature change and contact with chemicals. The final recommendation was that metal ripcords, proof loaded to at least 300lb, had a long record of reliability and were preferable to any plastic variety.

With regard to safety notices generally, it was decided that in future two per Club should be sent out, one copy for display and the second to be filed.

A distinctive colour should be selected and adhered to. The NCSO was to investigate the possibility of printing safety notices on card as opposed to paper.

Item 6

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The NCSO stated that ten applications had been received so far for the October Course. These had been vetted and the candidates fulfilled the necessary criteria. All applications were approved by the Committee and it was agreed that any application over and above the quota of twelve should be placed on a reserve list.

Item 7

DISPLAY TEAM REGISTRATION

It was agreed that all applications, for Display Team Registration (Display Manual Appendix A) should in future be signed by the D Certificate holder primarily responsible for the team. As well as the signature, the name in BLOCK LETTERS together with the D Certificate number, was required.

Item 8

EXEMPTIONS

1. P. Kibblewhite to act as CCI Hereford vice D. P. McCarthy for a period of four weeks. This application was granted.
2. J. McCreedy (RAFSPA) having passed the final examination after a three month probationary period, to be given Approved Instructor status. Granted.

Item 9

LT. MIKE DUNFORD

A letter had been received from this jumper regarding his commencement. It was decided that the terms imposed in August 1979 should not be varied.

Item 10

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The previous minutes were considered. There were no matters arising and the minutes were passed.

Item 11

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Student minimum training programme

A paper on this subject had been submitted by Kerry Noble. It was agreed that this paper be circulated for discussion at the next Meeting.

2. Free line stowage

A Safety Notice, originating from the Jump Shack, had previously been circulated. A similar incident had occurred at Badminton with an Eagle Tandem system, cutaway procedures had been initiated but the main remained attached by the lines snagging on the container. The reserve deployed without entanglement. Reports had been received of two fatalities in the States caused by free stowed lines snagging on the container. Jumpers were urged seriously to consider this potential hazard and recommended to adopt some method of line stowage, either in bungees or in a pocket.

3. Ian Gray

A letter had been received from W. MacLennan of the Highland Parachute School. He requested PI status for Ian Gray, whose previous rating had lapsed due to injury and other factors. It was decided that in view of the length of time involved that Ian Gray could not be granted immediate PI status, but that he should attend the next PI Course in September.

4. Paddy Mulvey — request to take part in demo jumps

This request was made on the jumper's behalf by D. P. McCarthy of the HPC. Paddy Mulvey has been jumping since 1972 and has made a total of 372 descents. Most of these are static line jumps and all his current jumping is on the static line. He has made some 57 PC jumps, having received an exemption to do so (not being Cat 8 or FAI C Certificate). It was stated he is fully capable of spotting himself accurately; it was requested on the above grounds that he be granted an exemption to make demo jumps on the C Certificate DZs using a static line operated PC.

D. McCarthy further stated he was not short of demo jumpers, but the request was to enable a loyal and enthusiastic Club member to participate more fully in Club activities instead of being confined to a perpetual role on the DZ for demos. In view of the implications, this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

5. S. Sherrif — Pilot exemption from 100 hour rule.

This was requested by P. Slattery of the ECPC. The pilot had 80 hours PI, including a night rating and IMC rating. He had in excess of 15 hours on type (Tri pacer).

An exemption was granted and the appropriate authorisation was to be issued.



Chris Thomas' camera catches Fred and Jim Keery together making their 800th and 1000th jumps respectively. Congratulations lads!



Jim Lowe clearly records Tony Butler and Eammon Broadfield in a Bi-plane over Long Marston.



Wot's this? Designer and test jumper, Dick Gay explains in the next issue.

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Mk 1 PC, 2 Pin PA Mini-System — £250
 contact: G. Hinsley, Rickmansworth 74558

Comp PC in Mini-System — £120
 contact: George Devine 0252-24431 Mont. 580 (W)
 02514-5997 (H)

PTCH 8M plus I24 in GS Custom Mini-System £300
 contact: P. Wells 01-942 6885

Strato Cloud, Tri-Con in Starlite tandem £525
Strato Star — £200, Altmaster III — £35, Brand X — £35
 contact: N. O'Brien, Gatenby (Yorks) 23074

Irvin Lo Po 7TU plus I24 in B4 and Altmaster II — £265
 contact: P. Jennessen 0482-792068

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American Pap in Pioneer pack and harness — £225
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C9LL, B4 — £95 o.n.o. Suit — £10
 contact: G. Clements 021-459 7577

6 Altmaster II — £45 each. North Star Alti — £35. North Alti plus lights — £45
 contact: P. M. Griffin, Coalville 38893

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REVIEW

The Best of Sport Parachutist

Edited & Published by John Meacock and Charles Shea-Simonds
 price — £8.50

Anthology (n.) — a choice collection of passages from literature. Late GK. (*The Concise Oxford Dictionary*).

Who better, indeed, to choose a collection of passages from the literature of British parachuting than John Meacock and Charles Shea-Simonds. Not only have they, in succession, edited the journal for the past nine years but have also made a massive personal contribution to the history of the Sport in this country during the lifetime of the journal. As friends and as sporting adversaries I have watched the progress of these two gentlemen over the years with, as they say, considerable interest.

I have no hesitation in recommending to all jumpers this their latest contribution to the parachuting scene. I confidently predict it will be a sell out with the generation who were in at the beginning and will prove equally popular with the newcomers to the sport by virtue of the premise that history is the key to the understanding of the present. The compilation provides a balanced assortment of technical information, history and humour over the period. Contributors range from Vladimir Gurnij on Style to Roger Hull on the philosophy of Sequential RW training. Humour abounds — anecdotes, from the early Rapide days to the more improbable activities of Big Jake being prime examples; whilst personalities spanning the time from Dumbo Willans to Jackie Smith are featured. This book mirrors the British parachuting scene over the last sixteen years — the expeditions, competitions, demos, triumphs and near misses. Above all, it reflects the humour and camaraderie of the British jumper. Being one of those jumpers you will no doubt try to beg, steal or borrow this book. I suggest you buy it, even if it hurts.

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