

skydive

The Mag

June 2009



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



www.bpa.org.uk
www.skydiving.com

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* The FFU does not book your flights, when you book with us, we will advise of the flight cost and our ATOL protected travel agent will call you to make the flight reservation.

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The Mag

Photo: Håkan Andersson



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The cover this issue is a fitting way to pay homage to one of the most well known and much loved British skydivers, Pat Hammond. He's stepping out of a G92 into blue skies as casually it seems as the way he just stepped out of this life and into the next one.

In my time as guardian of the BPA Magazine, I have seen many icons of our sport pass on. We usually cover their lives and achievements. I've shed many a tear working on these articles but I feel honoured to do so, as celebrating their life is the last thing I can do for a friend. In fourteen years I have never seen such a universal reaction countrywide to the loss of one of us. Almost everyone's Club's News mentions Pat, and the sorrow that is felt at his passing. Pat touched everyone he met with his gentle spirit, unassuming ways and willingness to give. He was, quite simply, everyone's cup of tea.

This is the second cover featuring Pat this year. The February '09 magazine was one of his photos, sent in modestly 'in case you can use it somewhere', Pat's words belying the greatness of the shot, just as he didn't seem to understand how special he himself was. That was his first cover, which I am glad he had time to see and appreciate. This issue, with his second cover, is dedicated to Pat.

You can read more in Mike Rust's touching obituary from Chatteris, 'the DZ that Pat built'. This is Pat's second one, as he is the only person I have ever published a 'livuary' for (December 06 Mag). Dave Harrison sent in a tribute to Pat, saying he didn't want to wait to write an obituary, as he thought Pat would go on forever. I think we all believed that but it must have been his time to go onwards and upwards.

Blue skies Pat. Thank you for all you did for us down here. Now angels sitting on clouds playing harps had better watch out!

Issue	To Reader	Copy Deadline
August 09	Sat 1 Aug	Tue 30 Jun
October 09	Sat 3 Oct	Tue 25 Aug

Lesley

subscribe to:
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The Mag
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We have lots of overseas subscribers, non BPA members who get The Mag because they like it.

If you're interested in skydiving, whatever nation you're from whether a first jump student, an adventure sports enthusiast, or you jump abroad, you'll enjoy The Mag.

If you subsequently join the BPA as a full member (after six jumps or when you progress to freefall) your magazine subscription amount is deducted from your BPA membership fee so, in all, **you don't pay any extra.**

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Photo by David Haygarth



Cover:

A tribute to our beloved Pat Hammond by Andy Ford



SUPPORTED BY



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The Mag

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NOTE: Some of the photos in this magazine may show skydivers without helmets or altimeters, or otherwise not obeying the BPA Operations Manual, in which case they were taken abroad. In the UK it is mandatory to wear a helmet and alti for obvious safety reasons. Students within The Mag are complying with BPA regulations.

Skydiving training and systems vary in different countries. If you are considering taking a skydiving course or qualification abroad, we recommend you first establish its relevance in the UK, through your CCI.

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The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability, correct at the time of going to press. Reproduction, printing and mailing take a total of ten days so some information may be out of date, or superseded.

LANGAR Hoolie

The old timers among you will possibly remember the Langar Regatta – the wettest Langar Boogie in history. Well, this one was quite dry but about the windiest we've ever had! You can't win, eh?! Good old bank holiday weather. We lost five days to winds with an average speed of 30 mph, but still achieved around 2,000 jumps in the remaining four days.

Nonetheless, both weekends saw eight organised FS groups under the direction of Milko, Dave Lewis, Phil Curtis, Billy Payn, Katie Woods, Brian Laithwaite and Fiona Birnie. We concentrated on single-aircraft loads and groups of around twelve, with multi-aircraft formations planned for the end of the day. We managed one! Michael Mackenzie and Al Hodgson were on hand to look after the freely contingent.

During the week, Brian Vacher ran his Safe Flight School canopy course for 15 people, and did a grand job of keeping up the interest even though the wind prevented much actual practising...





Langar staff & pilots who made it happen despite the odds





The only midweek day of proper jumping improved matters as the Antonov AN28 got under way, and we had the helicopter in to the delight of many – and the dismay of the B Certificate people who suddenly found themselves jumpmastering it! “5-back, please!”

The 25 people who registered to jump the balloon were, you guessed it, disappointed by the wind – but who wants to get up at dawn, anyway? Apparently many do, so we’re planning more balloon jumps later on in the year.

For the newer skydiver, the AN28 with its wide open tailgate was a scary prospect during take-off. It didn’t half get up there quick though and made for fun exits. The jumpers enjoyed it, so we’ll try and get it back for another go.

The biggest party of the boogie was on the final Saturday, with a great band who just kept on going to meet audience demand. The evening kicked off with Langar’s first major tombola/raffle, with about £7,000 worth of donated prizes. Over a dozen skydiving suppliers provided a host of discount vouchers, clothing items and free jumps, with major prizes from Bodyflight (an hour of tunnel time!) and Aerodyne (a Smart reserve won by Tim Aucott, pictured).

Langar Boogie 2 kicks off on 12 September for another week of madness – see you there!

Tony Danbury
tony@bpslangar.co.uk





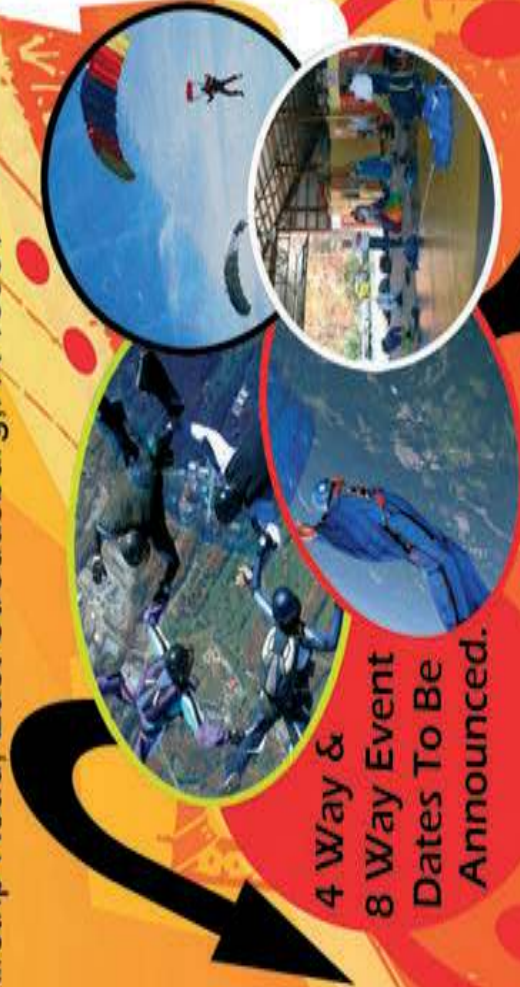
Photos by Tony Danbury,
Gary Wainwright & Chris Smith



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April 11 - Safety Day
Free Seminars All Day with our staff
Safety Topics:
Gear Check, Emergency Procedures,
Canopy Flight & Landing
Airplane Procedures & Emergencies

May 10 - 10 Way Speed Star
Jumps Organized By JP
Sign Up At Manifest



May 23/24

Memorial Day Weekend
Louis T & JP Organizing All Weekend



June 6/7 - Canopy Course
Hosted By Luigi Cani
All Levels Welcome
Sign Up At Manifest



June 13 - 70's Boogie
Louis T Big Way Camp
Sign Up At Manifest



July 4th Weekend
Freely Coaching & Organizing
With Matty Wright
Contact Manifest for Info
Louis T & JP Crazy Ways



August 8 - 16 Ways
Organized by Louis T
Reserve Your Slot Today
teresa@skysthelimit.net



September 5/6
Labor Day Weekend

Fun With Louis T & JP All Weekend



Dave Pratt

JM's Newsround



By George!

British canopy pilots Al Macartney and Smudge Smith made it into *The Sun* and *The Mail* on St George's Day by flying the St George flag in freefall, captured by Dave Pratt.

Model Performance

Britain's *Next Top Model* TV crew went to Airkix wind tunnel, Milton Keynes, to film one of their twelve challenges. Seven models had to eat a Kallo organic savoury rice cake in the tunnel and deliver a line about how they make you feel lighter than air. You can watch the show on Living TV, Monday 8 June at 9pm.

airkix.com

IN THE MEDIA

Dropzones Not Operating

Skydive Bridlington has not reopened after the fire in the DZ hangar, last November. The future is unclear, therefore if any readers plan to visit Bridlington, you are advised to telephone first, for the latest news.

skydivebrid.co.uk

01262 677 367 or 07836 276 188

Skydive St Andrews, Scotland, has had to move its operation out of Kingsmuir Airfield. As we went to press the dropzone's new home was as yet undecided so it was not currently operating. A BPA Artistics Coaching Roadshow had been planned at St Andrews, 18-19 July, with Al and Pixie Hodgson, and Leigh Birchenough. DZ Operator Jim White was trying to sort an alternative venue but this had not been agreed when we went to press. Please call or check the website for the latest information.

0845 189 5865

kingsmuir.org.uk

skydivestandrews.co.uk

PDFT Update

The PD Factory Team recently completed its third training week at Skydive Elsinore, with its five new members; Brian Vacher, Pablo Hernandez, Jessica Edgeington, Tommy Dellbac and Ian Drennan. The team were flying the new PD Competition Velocity, with a variety of wing loadings. The team familiarised themselves with the new FAI 2009 Accuracy rules. Competitors now collect a full 100 points by dragging all water gates and land in a 2 metre square box to avoid penalty. The positive scoring zones from previous years are now negative scoring zones varying in penalty depending how far from the 2 metre box first contact is made. The new layout of the new accuracy course creates different problems and strategies.



The team has a busy educational programme of canopy courses, with Brian Vacher's Safe Flight School running events in the UK and mainland Europe, and Flight-1 courses across the pond.

flight-1.com
safeflightschool.com
pdfactoryteam.com

PDFT line-up, Ian, Shannon, Tommy, JC, Brian & Pablo; (front) Ian, Jay, Jessica & Jonathan

Rolex Sponsor

Rolex, the world's leading exclusive watch manufacturer, has become the main sponsor of the FAI, the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, the international governing body for all forms of sporting aviation, including parachuting, ballooning, gliding, aerobatics and model aircraft flying. Rolex will help the FAI to develop its challenging air activities. FAI President, Pierre Portmann, commented: "We are delighted to be associated with the world's greatest name in time-keeping. Timing and precision play a crucial role in aviation. Rolex is the ideal partner for us."

fai.org

All You Can Jump Tickets

Flygang Molinella in Italy has announced an unlimited jump number package during its summer boogie, three weeks in August. A 7-day ticket is 895 euros. In case of bad weather (rare for August in Italy) you can elect to be charged per skydive, if this works out cheaper (23 euros each). The DZ has a PAC 750XL, a Super Skyvan, and a Pilatus Porter, and is well equipped with bar, restaurant, swimming pool, camping, team rooms, gear rentals. Other things are planned, such as a swooping competition with PDFT, big-ways, high altitude loads, and even an English version of the website, will that be online by the time you read this?...

flygang.com

carraramarco@yahoo.it

ESL Finals come to the UK!

The European Skydiving League Finals will be held at Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, beloved home of the FS and artistics British Nationals for the last several years. UK 4-way teams tend to do well at ESL finals, usually coming home with medals and, last year, with the coveted Spirit, the trophy for the best nation overall. The winners of the Spirit choose where the following year's finals will be held, so Hibaldstow was selected. We hope as many other European nations as possible will make the journey to compete over British soil. All summer there are linked European events leading up to the finals, with our UK Skydiving League meets timed to match those of our European counterparts, and using the same draw where possible, to allow everyone to benchmark their scores. See also page 27, BPA Matters.



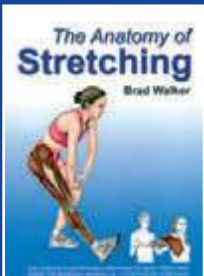
ESL Finals 2008 by Tom Hartland

Book Review

The Anatomy of Stretching

By Brad Walker
 Cost £14.99
 VFM 9/10
 Reviewed by Liz Boniface,
 Health Professional
 to flexibility
 Nutshell

If you want to learn how to develop your flexibility in a safe, no fuss way then this is the book for you. Here is a fully illustrated guide demonstrating exercises



covering every stretch imaginable. The opening chapters explain all you need to know to develop a top-notch programme. The author, Brad Walker, talks about what flexibility is, the benefits, and the different types of stretching. This will help you understand how being flexible can make a real difference to your skydiving.

As with any training, safety is very important and he sums it up nicely in this statement, 'There are no good or bad stretches; only what is appropriate for the specific requirements of the individual. So a stretch that is perfectly okay for one person may not be ok for someone else'. This really is the key point about flexibility; the super athletic sports person will have very different capabilities to someone who hasn't done any activity for a while. This book will support you to find out your limitations and develop a programme to suit your individual needs.

This is all done in the first 36 pages of the book; the remaining 114 are completely dedicated to the exercises. For each stretch there are illustrated examples demonstrating how to execute the stretch and the anatomy involved, along with which sports and injuries the stretch is beneficial for.

This is a great reference for anyone involved with sport, especially if you want to get straight to the point and keep it simple. Okay so a few of the diagrams could have been more technically correct (be alert to dodgy posture) and unsurprisingly it doesn't make any references to skydiving in the lists of sports the stretches benefit. However, overall it's good stuff that I'm sure you'll find useful so this book gets the thumbs-up from me!

Everest Rides Again

The much publicised 'world firsts' of jumping over Everest in October 2008 are set to happen again this year, with new records on the cards. Well known Kiwi skydiver Wendy Smith, last year's Director of Photography is now the European Event Organiser for the Nepali company Explore Himalaya. Returning also for this high altitude adventure is World Champion Omar Alhegellan, who will record it on film.

The project will offer jumps at 29,500 feet, in front of Everest, for both experienced and non-experienced skydivers (ie, tandem jumps). Special parachute equipment, including oxygen and thermal suits will be provided. Professional video and photo service will be available for each jump in one of the world's most extreme environments.

Swiss Boogie will once again supply a Pilatus Porter jump aircraft, taking off and landing on the world's highest DZ, Shyangboche, at 12,350 feet. Swiss boogie's director Henri Schurch will bring the technical jump and tandem instructor team plus pilot Ruedi lsenschmid.

The trip takes approximately two weeks, in order to fully acclimatise, trekking around national parks, with experienced mountain guides. Four different date

options are offered, each will have a group of 10-12 clients. Dates are as follows:
 28 September – 11 October;
 30 September – 13 October;
 2-15 October; and 4-17 October.

During the Everest skydiving expedition 2008, conditions and facilities in Nepali schools shocked the Western adventurers so much that they organised a collection, raising over \$300,000. This new project aims to take this a step further with fundraising aimed at one million for the children's further education, new school buildings, mobile health clinics and clean water.

The founder of the International Charity 'Global Angels', Molly Bedingfield (mother of singers Natasha and Daniel Bedingfield), jumped over Everest in 2008. Molly is coming again this year to head up the fundraising for the Nepali children. Molly has launched a spin-off called the Global Angels Flying Academy, where, she says, "everybody who would like to be adventurous can earn their wings by doing sponsored flying or jumping to raise awareness and funds for children's projects".

everest-skydive.com
globalangels.org



Everest jump by Wendy Smith

Wendy Smith is the new European Event Organiser for Everest Skydives 2009, photo by Omar Alhegellan



Antonov Action

Dunkeswell dropzone has added an Antonov to their aircraft line-up of two Beeches for the Twin Beech Beach Boogie, 27 July to 2 August. Numbers are limited at the boogie, to make sure everyone can do a reasonable number of jumps, so you need to register now to avoid disappointment.

skydivethewell.com

airkix.com

indoor skydiving

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Michael Mackenzie



Happy campers



Babylon at Airkix

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TUNNEL CAMPS



Michael Mackenzie Camp - 29 June to 1 July

Michael is the gold medal winner of the World Challenge 2009 and will be with us for a three day camp. He has a fiery passion and is extremely enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge. Come and be coached by one of the tunnel world's most technically advanced freeflyers.

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New EAS President

David Roberts, Chairman of the Royal Aero Club of Great Britain, has been elected



President of Europe Air Sports (EAS). This continues the excellent representation of the UK in European flying and parachuting. EAS is the association representing national aero clubs and air sports organisations in regulatory matters with European authorities and institutions.

A glider pilot of distinction, David has already served on EAS as Treasurer for five years, and Vice-President for a year. He was a fairly natural successor to Sir John Allison, as David has been actively fighting threatening legislation on our behalf for the last five years.

europe-airsports.fai.org

VFS Web Challenge

The FS Committee of IPC has posted an online VFS competition, the VFS Web Challenge, on the FAI website. Larsen and Brusgaard have kindly provided prizes for the top three teams. They hope that many teams will enter and learn more about this discipline. There is no entry fee, teams may enter as many times as they wish, preparing and performing in their own time, provided they submit their performance by the due date. The Challenge began on 1 May and ends on 31 July 2009.

All jumps will be available for downloading for other teams and judges to see. The aim is to introduce inexperienced competitors from all over the globe to the rigours of competition, and the benefits of experience to be gained from the best judges in the world, without huge travel expenses.

fai.org/parachuting/VFS_web_challenge

Aussie 100-way Record

The Australians aim to build a new 100-way National Record, over Perris Valley, USA, 1-13 June next year. Big-way camps are planned to build up to the record attempts. Coaching and organising of the camps and record dives will be done by the P3 team at Perris. Greg Jack is coordinating this event, which is open to everyone, as the Australian Parachute Federation accepts up to 25% of non-nationals on their records.

aussie100way.com

Mozambique Boogie

Exotic Sky Adventures has announced new dates for its luxury skydiving and action holiday. The Mozambique Boogie runs 16-28 November, with a safari at Pilanesburg planned for 14-16 November, to kick off your holiday adventure. This is followed by a trip to Vilanculos Coast, then participants stay in individual lodges on Bazaruto Island, in stunning scenery. Jumps will be onto the beach on Bazaruto, with various evening jumps into other tropical locations. A short stay package is also offered. It's an ideal place to take a non-jumping partner, who can relax in luxury among beautiful surroundings, watch the canopies landing, and join you by boat for the evening jump-ins, to exotic restaurants, clubs and carnivals.

exoticskyadventures.com



Bazaruto Island bliss
by Willy Boeykens

Regan's Hot Weekender

Regan's Hot Weekender is a new concept, all-inclusive skydiving, eating and partying holiday package allowing you to just get to Girona airport and to have everything else taken care of. Included in the price (400euro) is airport transfer to Empuria dropzone, bunkhouse accommodation for three nights, Empuria bar-card (50euro), 15 load organised jumps, DVD to take away, nightclub entry and a goodie bag welcome pack.



Regan's Hot Weekender by Will Penny

Each night is taken care of with discounted menus at local bars for food and drinks. The weekends are organised by the infamous ex-pat Regan Tetlow.

regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com
[Facebook.com – Regan's Group](https://www.facebook.com/RegansGroup)

Prague Boogie

Pete Marsden's Boogie Club is again offering a budget price boogie, this time in the Czech Republic. Dates are 18-26 July, flights are out of Gatwick or Stansted, and the dropzone is at Pribam, just outside Prague. Two Let 410s will fly all day to 13,500 feet for around £18 (depending on exchange rate), with plenty of other funky things to jump, such as an AN-2, L40, ultra-lights, balloons, an MD520 helicopter and more. The package price including air fare, transfer, eight nights' bunkhouse accommodation (in rooms of four) and registration is £295. For an extra £120 pp you can stay in the on-site hotel (based on 2 sharing).



Bob Boothroyd by Paul Dorward

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Royal Aero Club



Awards Ceremony

Stars of our sport shone bright at the airports night of the year, the Royal Aero Club Awards Ceremony, held on 21 April at the Royal Air Force Club in London's Piccadilly.

HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO honoured those in airsports who had soared to new heights of performance, made outstanding flights, or dedicated their lives to their sport. After several glasses of strong orange juice (fizzy type) the citations began.

Bodyflight Storm

First up from the BPA were team Bodyflight Storm; Claire 'Sparky' Scott, Hannah Betts, Sarah Smith and Kate Stephens took the prestigious Prince of Wales Cup. Starting as a

scratch team, in the space of 1,500 team jumps they won the British Nationals 2007 in 4-way FS (beating their male rivals), then stormed to victory in the 2008 FS 4-way women's World Parachuting Championships. They achieved a best-ever performance, beating the USA and France and achieving a new world record score in women's 4-way FS.



Sparky

Next up was Sparky again, to be awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Aero Club, as the highest-achieving female our sport has ever known. Sparky has won the World Championships an incredible five times in ten years. She was previously awarded the RAeC Gold medal in 2003, and was a member of two different teams that each won the Prince of Wales Cup.



Volairkix

Freefly team Volairkix, Andy Newell, Adam Mattacola and Mike Carpenter, achieved bronze at the 2008 World Freefly Championships at Mauberge, France – the first British

artistic events team to win a podium place, injecting new life into the discipline in the UK. For this milestone they were awarded the Royal Aero Club's Bronze Medal, which the guys accepted with their usual charm, charisma and cheeky smiles all round!



Phil Curtis

Phil Curtis was awarded a Certificate Of Merit for co-ordinating and taking part in the first ever television advert featuring a live skydive in May 2008. The formation dive spelled out HONDA. I'm sure we can all remember running to the TV after frantic texting to friends, waiting eagerly to see the formations build as the broadcast was timed exactly to fit a scheduled break on Channel 4. This ground-breaking event led to much public interest in the sport (as well as the car being advertised). By proving what can be done, it will help the International Parachuting Commission in its efforts to attract TV coverage of parachuting competitions.



Bob King

A Royal Aero Club (RAeC) Certificate of Merit was awarded to Bob King. Having started parachuting in 1963, Bob went on to attend 36 British Championships and 20 World Championships in Style and Accuracy; initially as a competitor winning many medals including six golds, then as the British Team Manager and, ultimately, as Chief Judge at the World Championships.



Smudge

Another winner of an RAeC Certificate of Merit was Deane 'Smudge' Smith who, whilst taking part in a Canopy Piloting competition in Holland last August, saw another competitor hit the surface of the lake at high speed, and rushed to assist. He provided first aid on the spot, took command of recovering the casualty, and directed others to assist professionals to gain access. Tragically, the casualty died an hour later but the medical staff and officials praised Smudge for his response and exceptional leadership.





BPA award-winners, supporters and officials

Garth Greyling

The Salomon's Trophy is awarded for outstanding airmanship and bravery. Garth Greyling was at the controls of a Turbine Islander at the Army Parachute Championships in Germany last year. After successfully despatching parachutists, the jumpmaster also exited, leaving Garth alone in the aircraft. Unfortunately the jumpmaster became entangled in the static line and was trapped trailing behind the aircraft. Garth climbed the aircraft to a safe height, and worked out he would have to trust the trim to keep the aircraft flying level and leave his seat to cut the static line free. He accomplished this successfully, being out of the pilot's seat for several minutes. This freed the jumpmaster, Jeremy Denning, pictured right, who then used his reserve to land safely. Garth's exemplary airmanship saved his life. This is the first time the Salomon's Trophy has been awarded to the pilot of a parachuting aircraft.



Tony Knight

Major awards from RAeC Member organisations, such as the BPA, were also presented. The Jim Crocker Sword was given to Tony Knight. The sword is awarded by the BPA, not annually, but only when there is an exceptional candidate who's made a significant contribution to UK skydiving over a long time period. Tony Knight has steered UK skydiving forward for over forty years, chairing the Safety and Training Committee for seven, establishing the BPA as a CAA-Approved organisation, becoming a long standing Chairman of the BPA's Pilots Committee and defending our sport against threatening legislation.



History

The Royal Aero Club Awards first started more than a hundred years ago, in 1908. The Wright brothers were presented with gold medals after Orville Wright piloted the first powered aeroplane up to the height of 20 feet above a beach in North Carolina, then brother Wilbur flew for 59 seconds over a distance of 852 feet. It was truly an honour to receive a Royal Aero Club award when considering its historical origin, and prestigious past recipients.

Inspiration

The evening was inspiring, seeing so much going on in the entire airports world, not just parachuting. After Mike Carpenter covertly sneaked in his cheeky pose with HRH Prince Michael of Kent the award-winners made the most of the fine wine and food displayed on the very best Wedgwood tableware. It was another excellent show again by the BPA. Our Chairman John Smyth, who proposed all the BPA award-winners to the Royal Aero Club, commented "This has been a wonderful celebration of which the BPA can be justifiably proud. It was delightful to share in the joy with the recipients, and with so many of their families and friends."

Deane 'Smudge' Smith, smudge2xs@aol.com

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What's that all about then?

What is UKSkydiver?

Around four years ago, a group of skydiving friends were sat in a bar, talking of RSLs, AADs and low pulls. Eventually the conversation got serious, culminating in a prolonged discussion on whether a dive with a pie would be accepted as a BPA PD1 sticker, Pie Dive 1. Moving on, deep into the night, we chatted about why the UK did not have its own site for skydivers to electronically discuss this and other such trivia.

And so, from the clouded minds of drunken students, UKSkydiver.co.uk was born. And though the name and the decor have changed over time, the concept of UKS has not. It is a place for British skydivers to meet, greet, chat and discuss skydiving. Sure we've bolted on a few new ideas but the core is still there – people of all experience levels sharing information, stories and banter.

So what can new or wannabe skydivers get from UKS?

The spiritual home of UKS is aiding new skydivers into the sport. One way we do this is by providing a place where people interested in the sport can ask 'those' questions without fear of looking silly. In this day and age, when friends instant message each other even though they're in the same room, most people turn to the internet as their first source of information. Newcomers can learn about many aspects of skydiving on the forum and grab a glimpse of what sordid life as a skydiver is like without spilling the dollars. Hopefully it's positive!

How about experienced skydivers?

Experienced skydivers use UKS for several reasons. They can stay up to date on all aspects of skydiving, from gear information to cutting BPA news. Equally, it's a great place to waste some time, blow off steam in a non aggressive way, trade stories, find teams, discuss tactics, review ethics or talk about anything else regarding skydiving. Yes, the pie dive debate would be acceptable!

We also run a forum for discussion of matters regarding the BPA. While it is not in any way official, it is frequented by members of the Council and is quite often used to disseminate or debate information from the BPA long before it hits the mainstream. The BPA Communications Committee even acknowledged us in February last year as an 'unofficial independent external online forum for skydivers in the UK' saying it 'welcomed the opportunity that the successful and

growing UKS website had opened for improved informal communication among skydivers'.

Lastly, and to some, most importantly, members can avoid talking shop if they wish – we have separate areas where like-minded people can discuss anything at all. Well – almost anything! And yes, we've seen all kinds of odd questions appear in there!

What about DZOs and professional skydivers?

A huge aspect of UKS is the passage of information from professionals to interested parties. Events can be actively marketed directly to UKS members. Special occasions and guest aircraft can be announced to a UK-wide membership and – even better – real time feedback can be collected, allowing changes to plans, venues, times, etc – everything can be instantly discussed.

What else does the website do?

Kit Sales

We guess that UKS holds 90% of the market for second-hand gear sales with reports of kit literally selling within minutes of it being added. Anything skydiving-related is welcome, even frappe hats. So if you are buying or selling, then check with us first. If there isn't what you need second-hand, then maybe the UKS shop stocks it.



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Media

We're currently extending our media abilities. Members can now upload videos for free, this will soon be followed by free image uploads. You can rate and comment everything that users upload. Movies stream in real time, just like Youtube, so no waiting for videos to load during your tight lunchbreak!

Blogs

We've got a brand new blogging system for people to share their weekends of fun. You can upload pictures and text with ease. There is also front page news as we get it, as well as interviews and updates on the UK scene.

Rigging

We have a fully indexed and searchable rigging database, allowing you to find out information about gear, current bulletins, notices and manuals. This is backed up by a forum to discuss any gear issues from what canopy to buy to what type of links or which colour would look best.

Events

There is an events database with details on upcoming functions, to which anyone can publish to promote their events to the UK.

BCPA

We're the home of the British Collegiate Parachute Association (BCPA) which has a huge role in student skydiving in the UK. We provide webspace for their online system, forums for discussion and, most recently, effortless administration-free forums for university clubs to use.

Giveaways

We're pretty good at giving stuff away too – companies seem to like donating goodies to hand out in silly games and competitions, so there is usually something to be won!

A website with a boogie? That's different!

Hell yeah! We set up the UKS website as a way for skydivers to meet online – logic told us the next step was to actually get them to the same dropzone! The UKS Boogie has been going for a few years now and was the highest attended event of 2008 in the UK. The 2009 boogie is shaping up well, it's at Target Skysports (Hib) over the August bank holiday and looks like being the biggest event in the UK for years.

So why haven't you joined in?

It's free to join UKS so why not check it out? If you're still under the impression that the internet is full of weirdos, well you're right! But make an exception for UKSkydiver.co.uk, we're skydiving nutters so that's okay – free your carrier pigeon, bin your signal flags and join the digital revolution!

*Stu Ferguson (pictured bottom left)
stu@ukskydiver.co.uk*

Don't Miss
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Did you know?

- UKS currently has 2,700 registered members. That's over half the BPA membership and almost as many people as live in the Falklands!
- UKSkydiver served over 70 gigabytes of information in April! That's more than some users' disk drives!
- The server is hit over 200,000 times a month. That's more hits than Take That!
- Users have posted over 100,000 messages. That's 273 more messages than Santa gets in December!



Competition Velocity

Review



PD's professional competitive pilots have been teasing the skydiving world for some time, flying a prototype Velocity at many international meets and demonstrations. Now that the Competition Velocity has finally been released to the market, British canopy piloting team HEAT have been checking it out...

UK canopy piloting team *HEAT* got our hands on two state-of-the-art Competition Velocities (known in the trade as VCs). We have been breaking them in, making most jumps at altitude. Smudge [Deane Smith], flying a VC 96 with 300 HMA lines, extended his risers to 28 inches and opened up his cheststrap, using an RDS (Removable Deployment System) to allow the canopy to fly naturally. Alastair [Macartney] was flying a VC 79 with 300 HMA lines and, for our test flights, opted to keep the slider and pilot chute on, just to judge the difference between flight characteristics. The wing loading was 2.3 for Smudge on the VC 96 and 2.65 for Al on his VC 79.

Who is the VC suitable for?

As it states on the Performance Designs website, **the VC canopy is not intended for those purchasing their first cross-braced canopy**. It has been designed specifically for the competitive pilot who is already flying to the max and is looking for extra ways to get the edge.

What are its flight characteristics?

Many of the flight characteristics for the Competition Velocity are similar to the Velocity, as we know it. The differences between those canopies may be too subtle to be noticed by pilots who are new to the Velocity. But to the highly proficient Velocity pilot, these delicate improvements, if combined with proper training, practice and technique, could make quite a difference in their competition performance.

Is this what the PD Factory Team jump?

The PD Factory team have been using a prototype version of the VC for a number of years. As some of the top pilots in the competition world they have many thousands of jumps on this canopy and have set world records flying it.

How is the VC wing different to the original Velocity?

To look at, you will notice very little difference, other than in the reduced drag brake lines, low profile pilot chute attachment point and reduced drag line attachments. The performance differences between these two canopies are due to subtle design changes in the aerofoil that are not very noticeable to the eye. If you were to lay both Velocities on top of each other, they look very similar. There are still seven cross-braced cells, the span and cord are similar and they have the same number of lines.

What sizes of VC are available?

The Competition Velocity is produced in sizes ranging from 111-71 square feet: 111, 103, 96, 90, 84, 79, 75 and 71sqft.



What type of line is used on the VC?

The canopies come with either 300 lb or 500 lb HMA. The lifespan of the 500 HMA line is greater than the 300 HMA but the 300 HMA gives the pilot less resistance as every little bit of drag is reduced. You will notice very little difference, with openings almost the same. We jump both canopies with the RDS all the time and very little has changed. The 300 HMA lines have to be replaced after 100-200 jumps and so aren't really suitable as a work canopy for everyday skydiving, and have an increased cost of maintenance.

The response to toggle input is similar although the brake lines have been extended some three inches, so the stall point is lower. In fact, the Competition Velocity will fly slower than the original Velocity before it stalls, due to a number of different factors combining to reduce the stall point.

Smudge jumped an RDS (Removable Deployment System) with his Competition Velocity 96 as the lack of drag allows the canopy to fly naturally



Photos show Smudge Smith & Al Macartney of Team HEAT, by Mick Tyler

NB: The Competition Velocity is not designed for those purchasing their first cross-braced canopy. It is an ultra high performance canopy only appropriate for competitive pilots looking to squeeze out a tiny bit more performance. If you are not currently flying a high performance competition canopy to the absolute limit then you have no need for the VC.

How does it perform with front and rear risers?

There are many opinions thrown around dropzones on what it is best to use in the final turn to build up speed for landing; harness, rear risers or front risers? Personally front risers aren't my style. I initiate a harness turn combined with a little rear riser input, my hands already on the rears ready to tweak for a long, smooth, flat swoop. I fly rears because I believe in a smooth powered flight with a good element of accuracy. I feel that the extra speed gained by using front risers can sacrifice accuracy and you need to find the balance.

In these differing flight modes the canopy provides different responses; overall there are improvements in the wing response to rear riser input for use in competitive piloting. As it suggests in the PD Canopy Characteristics documents of the VC, most pilots who have flown the canopy state that it feels more powerful on the rears.



www.performancedesigns.com

It also flies more efficiently on rears, which means it may be later before you feel the need to transfer to toggles.

The VC without doubt gives the competition pilot a chance of increasing his or her performance. The cost of a new canopy will dent your wallet some \$3,200. It is strongly recommended to approach canopy pilots who have flown the VC and are current in the CP world for tips.

Performance Designs has excellent wing loading charts, use them. It only takes a few minutes to download the 'Flight Characteristics' of any PD canopy; do you know yours?

Deane 'Smudge' Smith, smudge2xs@aol.com



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Memories of **Dave Rugg**



Dave Rugg was a true free spirit who loved adventure and open spaces. He started skydiving at Halfpenny Green Parachute Centre in 1981, moving shortly afterwards to the Midland Parachute Centre, when it was originally based at Long Marston. He eventually became a core member of the infamous 'Slug Brothers' who were renowned for their achievements in speed star competitions and drinking beer. In the 1986 National Championships they attracted much acclaim as the only team to bring their own beer tent.

Dave had other pursuits that reflected his love of adventure. He was particularly attracted to wild places, snow and mountains and was described as a fearless skier. When he met Annie Isats (at a Sibson competition) he had found a soulmate. They made a great team and their shared interests took them to many different countries together. As well as skydiving and skiing, they loved walking and travelling in remote places. In 1995 Dave and Annie got married in a downtown chapel in Las Vegas. The whole wedding cost less than \$100 but left them with a great story. In 1996 they set off for nine months travelling around the world, on a trip which included the Himalayas in Nepal, the Far East, Fiji and the Cook Islands.

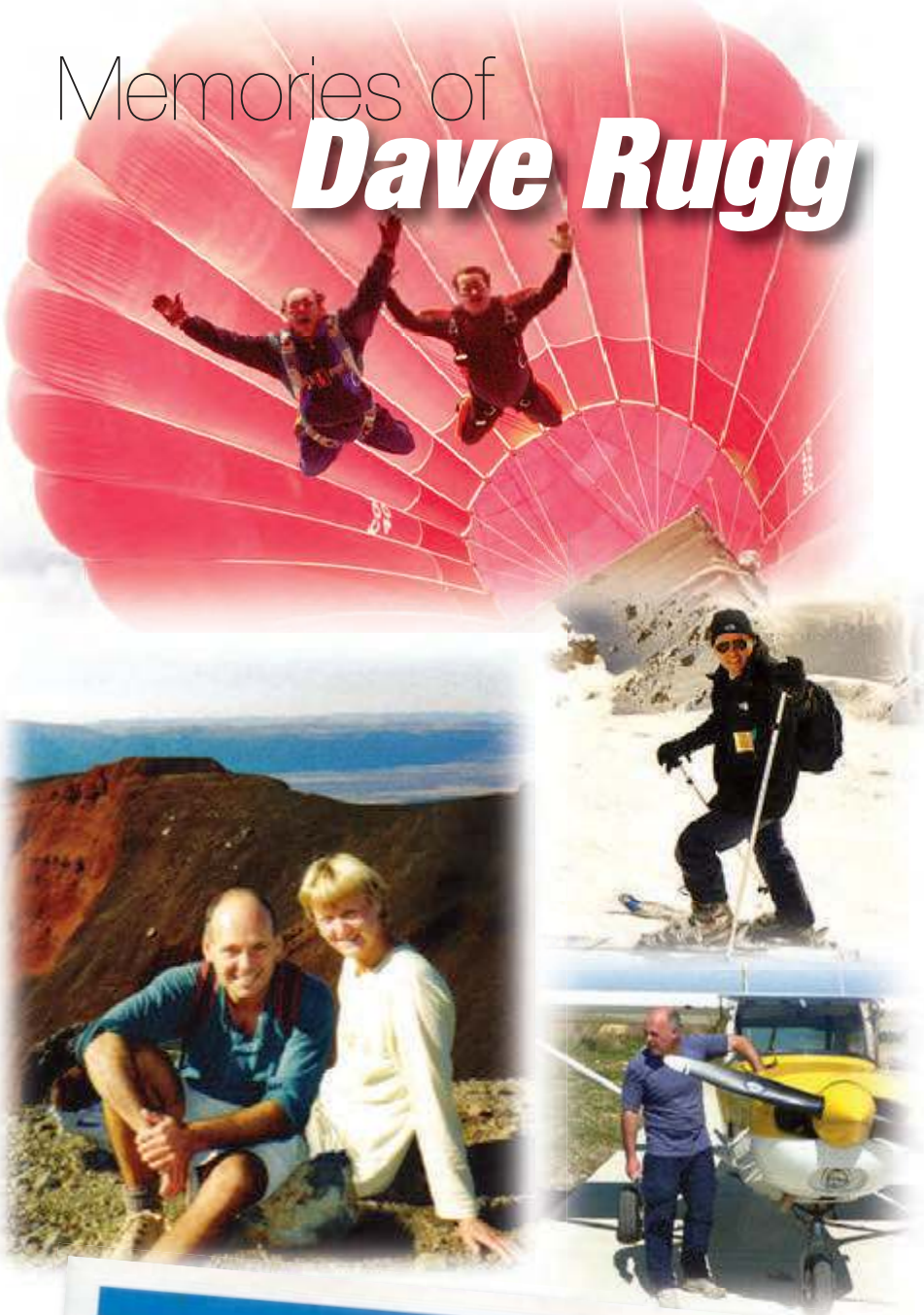
Dave and Annie initially settled in Ipswich and jumped regularly at Ipswich Parachute Centre, where Dave gained a BPA Instructor rating. In 1995 he was awarded the BPA Instructor of the Year trophy. He also gained a Tandem Instructor rating and completed over 2,000 jumps.

Dave's love of the skies eventually led him towards flying aircraft. He learned to fly at Ormond Beach in Florida and became a jump pilot in 2002 with UK Parachuting at Old Buckenham Airfield (the new Ipswich Parachute Centre).

Dave Rugg's life was one that touched many people. His popularity as a skydiver and more importantly as a person, rested on the fact that he was easy-going, generous, trustworthy and above all sincere in his dealings with others. He had an endearing personality that lacked any form of malice and because of this he attracted friends without effort. Testimony to this was well reflected at his funeral, which was a standing room only event, crowded with many friends and family.

Mark Cox, a long time friend and Slug Brother from the Long Marston days, gave a fitting eulogy for Dave at the funeral. He concluded aptly by saying "There's no question about it, the world is going to be a much lesser place without Dave in it."

Tony Knight
tony.knight@airviews.co.uk



PEOPLE IN THE SPORT

Dave has just been chosen for the 1995 Instructor of the Year award. If you feel you might like to become a BPA Instructor, this interview will give you some tips

When did you start jumping Dave?
My local DZ is Ipswich Parachute Centre where I have jumped regularly since 1987. I started jumping at Halfpenny Green in 1981 moving to the Midland Parachute Centre, then Long Marston, and now Ipswich. I have now completed 1500 jumps.

What made you decide you wanted to be an instructor?
I had thought about instructing for some time but was never willing to commit myself to regular weekend work whilst spending 14 hours a day Monday to Friday working and travelling. During 1994 I was made redundant and instructing at weekends became a realistic opportunity for me, I must have had about 1500 jumps then.

Was your BI course easier than you expected or harder?
I attended the BI course at Netheravon in February 1995. I was a little apprehensive before going, not feeling too confident about my teaching skills. It became apparent soon after the course had started that everyone was there to help and encourage you. The BI course is an enjoyable course where you are coached rather than examined.



Dave Rugg

I don't exactly know why I was chosen but consider it to be a reflection of a lot of personal endeavour and sound coaching from the permanent staff at Ipswich during the six months between the BI course and

is a platform to build on, for example, Tandem and Advanced Instructor ratings are possible qualifications to be achieved. From a personal point of view,

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BPA Film Festival

AGM, Blackpool Hilton, 16 January 2010



Main photo shows Fastrax jumping fireworks by Norman Kent

Forget the Oscars, away with BAFTAs, bring on the movie accolade that's seriously meaningful and prestigious...

The first ever BPA Film Festival will take place at the start of next year at the AGM in Blackpool, Saturday 16 January 2010.

This is your opportunity to produce and direct a short (six minute) film featuring any aspect of our amazing sport, viewed through the prism of your imagination. Films can be funny, beautiful, outrageous, satirical, edgy, or simply tell a story. All submitted films will be judged by an expert panel, the best five will be shown at the AGM 2010 in a special screening. The overall winner of 'Best Skydiving Film 2009' will be chosen by the audience at that viewing.

There will be prizes for all finalists, with a grand prize for the winning director of the Best Film.

Judging criteria

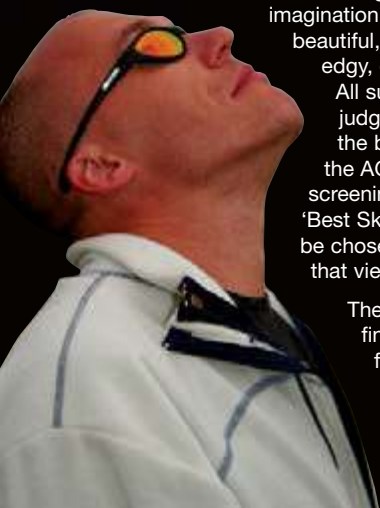
- Camera work
- Editing
- Visuals
- Story board
- Excitement
- Enjoyment

Categories

- In the Air
- Story
- Art
- Humour

How to Enter

Films should be no more than six minutes long. Competition rules and entry form will be available on the BPA website in due course. Films should be submitted to the BPA on a DVD, with the completed entry form, by Monday 9 November 2009.



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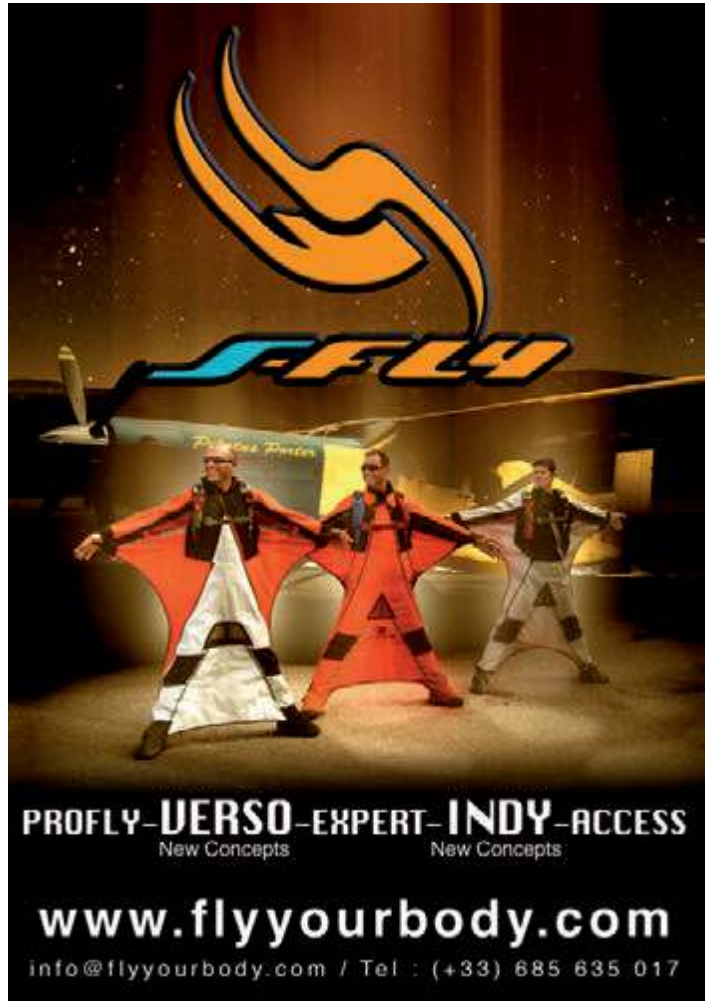
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GENERAL NEWS

Lesley Gale Wins Mag Tender

The Council at its April meeting considered the report of the Mag tender working party of the Communications Committee – Adrian Bond (Working Party Chairman, pictured below), Martin Soulsby (Communications Chairman) and Grant Richards, supported by Martin Shuttleworth, BPA Secretary-General. This was the culmination of a process started in autumn 2008 to appoint a contractor to go forward with the BPA Mag and associated publications, 2010-2. The purpose of the tender was to benchmark the BPA Mag against the market and assure best value for the membership without compromising on quality.

19 intents to tender produced seven bids that yielded a shortlist of three. The shortlisted bidders – two publishing houses and the present Editor, Lesley Gale – were invited to a presentation and discussion at the BPA Office in March. From this two bids emerged as significantly stronger than the third, which was not progressed. The Council therefore had before it two high quality bids. After extensive discussion, the vote was 9-5 in favour of Lesley Gale. A contract will now be negotiated. Congratulating Lesley Gale on her successful bid, Martin Soulsby said that the tender process had been a valuable experience for the BPA, which had surveyed the market for niche publications such as ours. He thanked all who had been involved in the tender process, in particular Adrian

Bond for driving it and the BPA Office for its excellent support. Martin (left) said he was looking forward to an even better Mag over the coming years, and that the Communications Committee was keen to progress opportunities presented by new media, which were potentially very exciting, and chimed with IPC's vision of making skydiving a spectator sport.

Sou'wester Wanted

The Development Committee is looking for a BPA Member based in the south-west of England to act as the BPA Regional Representative. The role is to keep a watching brief on sporting developments in that Sport England area, as well as being a regional contact for our sport. It's not an onerous task! If you're interested, please email the BPA Office.

Bingo Lotto Back

Bingo Lotto – which last year granted £1,200 towards the cost of running BPA Coaching Roadshows for non-seniors – is back this summer. It promises to be bigger and better than before with tickets on sale from some 27,000 Tesco tills. Dropzones can also benefit directly by selling tickets through the Buddy Programme. The BPA belongs to the Bingo Lotto scheme that makes grants available for grass roots sport. It is run through the sport and recreation umbrella body CCPR.



Chris Smith

Safeguarding in Sport

The BPA understands that the Government is to publish guidance on the effect on sport of new statutory requirements to safeguard vulnerable groups, ie, those aged under 18 and vulnerable adults including the elderly. The Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 was passed as a result of a public inquiry into the murder of two schoolgirls in Soham by a school caretaker in 2002. The BPA is networking, through CCPR and the Royal Aero Club, with other sports governing bodies, as the new requirements are phased in over the next few years. We'll keep you posted.



Martin Shuttleworth, martin@bpa.org.uk
Secretary-General



RAPA judges seminar by Paul Moore

Practical Judges Training

The judges training seminar held recently at RAPA was probably the best yet. All of the discipline-specific judges reviewed the rules for each discipline and watched video from previous competitions. There were several sessions of practical judging with classic accuracy and CP performed by Bill Sharp, Heiko Ahrens, Bish and Olly Junger. We also trialled accuracy using faster canopies onto flat and level ground and this was very successful – and safe – for competitors and judges alike.

This year we were once again accompanied by judges from the German Parachute Association – the DFV. Many thanks to Exi Hoenle, Wolfgang Thiele and Inge for joining us and sharing their knowledge and experience. Welcome also to two new BPA trainee judges – Dave McMinn and Shirley Moran. They both worked hard and contributed a lot to the group discussions and study periods.

The first competitions of the season will already be under way by the time this is in print, so look out for your competition judges, ask them questions and let's work together to make our competitors as good as they can be.

Paul Moore, paul508@mac.com
Council Member and RAPA Commandant



New Ratings

AFF Instructor

Alan Westley
Robert Millin
Steve Saunders
Mike Outen
Stuart Smith
Chris Cox
Joanne Burns
Susan Farquhar

Tandem Instructor

Daniel Williams
Lee Thomas
Thomas Pantall
Karl Hearne
Trevor Dickson
John Dunn
Benjamin Bolton
Mark Bayada
Lee Birchenough-Richards
Garry Wotton
Hans Donner
Glen Staley
Craig Aven
Darren Cookson

Advanced Packer

Greg Taylor (S)
Karen Taylor (S)
Gordon Mission (S)
David Holiday (S)



COMPETITIONS

Nationals Rules

The Competitions Committee has been busy writing the BPA Nationals rules 2009, which now reflect the eligibility criteria set out by IPC. Of course 2009 is also a funding qualification year and this criteria is also included to identify your target scores.

ESL Finals

The ESL Finals 2009 have been confirmed as 11-13 September, and will be held in the UK, as the winners of the ESL trophy, the Spirit, get to choose the venue of the next final. Target Skysports, Hibaldstow will host the three-day event, following the normal format of jumping the six rounds of 4-way (all categories) starting the morning of Friday 11 September 09. We need as many UK teams as possible to try to retain the Spirit trophy – please register with the host DZ.

UK FS & Freestyle Nationals 2010

The dates for next year's FS, VFS and Artistic Nationals have also been set for the last three weekends of August 2010, again at Target Skysports (as part of the three-year plan).

Coaching Roadshows

The BPA Action Plan continues with a number of coaching roadshows already held in CP, FS, Artistic and CF disciplines. These events are made possible by great coaches giving up time to help you out – take full advantage as they continue over the next year. Everyone is welcome!

Specific Coaching Support

Added to the funding plan will be specific coaching support to the national selected teams for 2010 events – we want to help the national 'squad' form and work on common coaching ideas as well as offer discipline-specific support. The squad will be kitted out in a refreshed uniform of jacket, polo shirt and trousers, to enhance the image of our UK teams.

World Cup

Those attending the 2009 World Cup in FS, VFS and Artistics will be preparing hard now for this event in August. Council Member Paul Moore will be the UK Head of Delegation to shoulder whatever issues need resolving.

Coach the Coach

For the coaches out there, the Loughborough University seminars continue – contact your discipline rep to find out more.

Give it a Go

The calendar is pretty full across the board – I hope there is something for everyone to try – please give it a go and best of luck to you all!

Andy Scott, andy@bpa.org.uk
BPA Competitions Committee
Chairman



World Games, Chinese Taipei

Following their exceptional results at the last World Championships, Volare freestyle team (Mikey Carpenter, Adam Mattacola and Alberto Fuertes), and canopy pilot Deane 'Smudge' Smith have been invited to demonstrate their skills at the World Games, a prestigious invitational event, 15-22 July in Chinese Taipei, funded by the IOC (International Olympic Committee). To follow their progress see: www.worldgames2009.tw/wg2009/eng/index.php

Weed, weed@bpa.org.uk
Freestyle Rep



AriA
solo per il volo



skydive

empuriabrava

VECTOR

FESTIVAL

Open to all Containers

Location

Empuriabrava, Spain

Date:

5 - 13 September 2009

Organizers:

Babylon, Aria, Philippe Vallaud,
Pete Allum, Patrick Passe, Stephane Zunino

Vendors:

UPT, PD, Vigil, AltI-2, Birdman,
Larsen and Brusgard, Viplo AltI-meters,
Boogie Man, Fly Your Body, Sonic jumpsuits,
Airtec, Icarus Canopies, Global Aeroshop, Aerodyne

Schedule:

Sat 5: Welcome BBQ with DJ and local 2 piece live music

Sun 6: DJ

Mon 7: Fun fast paced team based give away party
Tee shirts, jump tickets, key rings etc.

Tue 8: DJ

Wed 9: Main event Tombola with rock band

Thu 10: DJ

Fri 11: Half hour OPEN DJ sets

Sat 12: Jam session

Sun 13: DJ

To register go to www.skydiveempuriabrava.com

sponsored by UNITED PARACHUTE TECHNOLOGIES



VECTOR FESTIVAL

photo by: babylon-freefly.com

VECTOR FESTIVAL

FS Roadshows Rock

Thank you BPA so much for providing a roadshow! We just got back from Netheravon and we had a fantastic time!

As a team we are absolutely broke, and have to be really careful how we spend every penny. Every jump has to count because we're up against teams who all seem to have much deeper pockets than us – but we still intend to beat them in the rookies at the British Nationals!

We decided we couldn't make the Roadshow at Dunkeswell, because of the fuel and accommodation costs, and having to eat out, and joining the dropzone fee; and we consoled ourselves that the exits from the King Air wouldn't really help us. So, we decided to do other things and save the money.

Then you changed it. We're all members of Netheravon, and the plane door is similar to the one at the Nationals, so we scabbled round and tried frantically to undo our alternative arrangements. Although only two of our team made it on Saturday, Hannah and Sarah drilled us on some very good ground school (the weather was rubbish anyway), and Hannah reviewed our previous four jump videos, and gave us some constructive points.

On Sunday we all met up and got more ground school, strategy on exits, team planning on how to get the best from our meagre funds and we got two team jumps in! (To put that in perspective, that gives us a total of six now, and we try to do half an hour of tunnel a month, if we can afford it.)

Between teaching other teams, and a few individuals wishing to do FS, Hannah and Sarah drilled us on exits, then Sarah flew camera for us while Hannah drilled other teams; then Sarah debriefed us – and then we did it again!

I am sure you appreciate it is really hard for an upcoming team, we are always looking for sponsorship but have so far secured none (is anyone reading interested?). So the roadshow and the opportunity to be trained by two World Champions (who also happen to be very good teachers), was an absolute godsend to us. The staff and facilities at Netheravon were also a huge help, but then they always are! Please do more roadshows there. Thanks again.

Andrew Woodward,
info@countryco.biz
Storm4Cast

Letters

Pat Hammond

Joyce, Toni-ann, and Helen would like to thank all those who have offered support, and sent emails, cards and flowers following the sudden illness and death of Pat Hammond. It was nice to see so many of his colleagues attend the funeral.

Joyce Hammond, SkydivepatPH@aol.com

Fan of Freely Roadshows

I've always been a fan of the BPA coaching roadshows and so jumped at the chance to attend the recent freely event at Hinton. Mikey Carpenter and Dan Parker were available for free coaching all weekend and, despite there being so many eager skydivers desperate to jump with them, I think it's fair to say we all learnt a huge amount.

I completed two coached jumps over the weekend and had a go at flying head-down for the first time. I wouldn't have known where to start without the thorough brief from Mikey and Parker and certainly wouldn't have had the confidence to try it without coaching.

Both coaches gave me loads of advice on what to practise on subsequent solos and jumps with friends, so I took away knowledge above and beyond the coached jumps. They were also happy to help us with exits, provide briefs for group jumps and debrief our video footage, so we really benefited from their experience, even when they were busy jumping with other people.

I've been attending the roadshows for a while now and find they make freeflying seem so much more accessible. Every time I find myself getting stuck in my freely progression, I head to a coaching roadshow and the inspiration returns!

Emily Handley,
emily.r.handley@googlemail.com

special guests "Gypsy Sound System" pour plus d'infos sur www.boogiemanfever.com

BOOGIE MAN FEVER

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VOLARE (UK)

MARTIN KRISTENSEN (Norway)

AXIS 21 (Japan)

FABIAN RAIDEL (Austria)

MICHAEL MACKENZIE (South Africa)

J-P RICORDEAU

JIM HARRIS (Team Outbreak - UK)

DANIEL SAEUBERLI (Switzerland)

+ all Boogie Man Teams



WORLD Challenge



Babylon

Freefly

The Prodigy lyrics 'Let's jet out, we'll move at hyperspeed!' sprang to mind after witnessing some of the ultra dynamic free rounds on show at this year's World Challenge! This year proved to be the best yet with the overall level of flying being pushed, once again, to the absolute limit! After 2008's impressive performances no-one doubted that the level of technical flying would reach epic proportions this year. With the added incentive of bonus points available for new tricks and variations on set routines, the stage was set for some mind-bending freefly action!

Let's Get it On!

The first team to start were *Team Bodyflight*, last year's champions, and what a start it was. These guys really set the pace with some of the slickest flying I've ever seen. It was obvious that the *Bodyflight* boys were gonna be serious contenders for the top slot! Fast and deliberate, *Team Bodyflight* were very much at home in the big blue fun pipe and showed off some unbelievably complex freeflying that would prove hard to match. Following the fast pace of *Bodyflight*, the *Skydive University* team got stuck right in, showcasing some static body-surfing and funky centralised trick flying. Next up were *Airkix Connection* and *Bodyflight Switzerland*, who, in stark contrast to the previous team, both presented smooth and synchronised free rounds which included some nice interlocking orbits and some complex linked rotations. It was obvious that both these teams had really done their homework.

Team Future were back, quite literally bigger and better, and ready to take on the adults! Retaining their characteristic edgy style, the kids from Colorado presented a fast-paced and intricate routine that punched well above their weight. Outstanding stuff for a team with a combined age of 23! Next to enter the arena were *Infinity Freefly* who performed a nice but slightly disjointed free round. Considering both performers had only recently just 'got on their heads' it was a valiant effort.

Suddenly, like a bolt of white and slightly orange lightning, *Babylon* exploded onto the scene, showcasing a super stylish free routine that contained synchro flips, and some ultra fast carves and layouts. If *Babylon* were the lightning, then it was *Volare* who were the thunder at this year's World Challenge. Explosive and fast the *Volare* boys used up every inch of the 16 footer and filled their routine to the brim with some of the most outrageously slick tricks ever seen. Flying with such great power and attitude it was obvious that the *Volare* boys were hungry for this year's top slot.

Last but certainly not least were *Team MK*, another junior team. Meera and Maya Kansagra (aged 10 and 11), showed off a beautifully controlled and well balanced free routine mostly comprising of interlocking carves and smooth eagles. Very nice stuff for their first competition; these girls look set to go far.

The Need for Speed!

The focus changed from the stylised lines of the free rounds to the fast pace of the first compulsory round. Back and belly compulsories were the order of the day and the top teams took full advantage of the first speed round to pull ahead of the pack. Despite flying at lower wind speed and in a more relaxed orientation, the belly/back compulsories are by no means the easy option. They require a high degree of skill and self-discipline in order to complete a sequence at speed whilst maintaining a set heading.

Mixing it Up

With initial rankings now posted, participants were ready to battle it out at all levels. For the top teams this was now their chance to mix it up a little and to start adding some well-rehearsed 'power moves'. *Team Bodyflight* certainly took advantage of this and cracked out a rotating head-to-head whilst moving into an eagle! This was answered by *Volare* pulling off a double head-down outfaced carving rodeo with a super fast 360° side transition. Both tricks got the desired response; 'Oooohs' from the judges and 'What the f%*@?!' from some of the more unwitting spectators. Now it was *Babylon*'s turn to add a little more kick-ass to their routine, busting out some wicked synchro flips 'n' twists and a hard-core twisted reverse double joker! Not to be outdone *Team Future* also threw in an ultra slick outface wishbone (transition through a double grip) and held it through a linked eagle!

It's worth noting that every one of these tricks is considered extremely complex and takes an almost superhuman degree of skill and spatial awareness to pull it off. What made it truly awesome is that these teams were able to throw the tricks into existing routines in such a way as to not break or disturb the overall aesthetic. Amazing stuff!

Head to Head

The last two compulsory rounds were of the head-up and head-down variety. All the competitors were focused and ready to push their skills to the limit. For the top two teams, *Volare* and *Team Bodyflight*, the compulsory rounds would prove decisive.

From the start *Volare* had kept hold of a slight lead over *Team Bodyflight* but, by the end of the last compulsory round, *Bodyflight* had managed to pull ahead by just 0.4. Time was running out and both teams knew it was looking like a sprint finish. Would *Bodyflight* keep the lead or could *Volare* claw it back?

Cool Sounds for the Last Rounds

The last round was also to be the last of the music rounds, where the teams perform their free routine to a soundtrack of their choice. Some of the more novel accompanying tunes ranged from *Team MK*'s choice of the James Bond theme, tied in with some slightly surreal choreographed gun play and *Team Future*'s choice, the exquisite Euro synth-pop ballad 'Rin Din Dang' by the Crazy Frog. Beautiful! Not taking themselves too seriously everyone else pretty much chose techno. I personally thought *Volare*'s stuff would have gone nicely with Culture Club's 'Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?!'

Joking aside, this was crunch time for *Volare* and *Bodyflight*. With only the narrowest of margins separating the two teams it would be, excuse the pun, a flight to the finish. Focused and ready, *Team Bodyflight* literally went full speed ahead from the word go and bust out a virtually flawless free round. This last round was not only *Team Bodyflight*'s best round of the whole competition but quite simply one of the best free rounds ever executed! Incredible stuff!

As each team gave it their all for the last round, *Volare* (second last to go) prepared for the final showdown. Like miniature black and blue cruise missiles the *Volare* boys cut around the tunnel with one target in mind, the gold. It was a valiant effort but would it be enough? Sadly for *Volare* the answer was no. *Team Bodyflight* had flown an unbelievably cool last round and through its execution had retained their lead. Fabien Raidel and Michael Mackenzie had done it in style and for a second year in a row. Congrats fellas!

Special Stuff

Obviously there was so much cool stuff going on that it would be impossible to give a blow-by-blow account of all the special bits presented by the top teams. Some of the more memorable manoeuvres were:

- *Volare*'s Adam Mattacola pulling off a full 360 degree linked rotation inside a double wishbone and the team doing a double foot-to-foot rotation in a full layout position.



Infinity Freefly



Skydive University

- *Team Bodyflight* pulling off a blind (both performers facing outwards, one head-down and one head-up) linked foot-to-foot rotation followed by Mike Mackenzie's supersonic head-down helicopter in a carve.
- *Team Future* banging out one of their free rounds wearing FS suits... as if it's not hard enough! Come on guys, you're going to make the rest of us look bad!
- *Airix Connection* throwing in a non-rehearsed exit comprising Jean Charles Guinot going head-down on the net by the exit door and letting teammate, Marcus Schwarz, fly feet-first through his legs. A move that must have, quite literally, taken some balls to pull off. Now that's commitment!
- Finally who could forget Bedford's own Jed Parker who showed all the freeflyers how true artistic movement and choreography should be executed. Nice one dude.

Well Done People

Well done to all the competitors for some fantastic, ground-breaking flying. A big thanks to the judging team (Al, George, Yoko and Johanna) who did an amazing and difficult job and of course the Bodyflight Bedford team for organising and running such an amazing event.

Photos: John Williamson

Finally

If you're a freeflyer or a prospective team looking at competing in the near future, you need to come down for the next World Challenge. Even if not to put a team in, then just come along and watch to see where things are going. The World Challenge is simply the most influential freefly competition in existence and is having a profound affect on how artistic free rounds should be and are carried out. The World Challenge is the home of the cutting edge stuff, don't miss out, this is where it's happening!

Andy Newell
skycosis@hotmail.com



4-way FS

For the last three years the Bodyflight Challenge has been an exceptionally well run world class event attracting the top teams in the world, and the 2009 event was better than ever. Forty-six teams travelled to Bedford from all over the world for the meet, which is now considered one of the major events on the FS calendar.

AAA Teams

The AAA event line-up was of an extremely high calibre. Teams included the top three teams from last year's World Meet – reigning world champions *Arizona Airspeed*, unbeaten in their last 16 competitions; *France Maubeuge*, last year's silver medallists in France; and bronze placed team, Belgium's *Hayabusa Defence*. We also had our very own XL who reunited especially for the event

The Challenge sits with the US-based Valentine's Meet and the Shamrock Showdown in providing teams with an opportunity to benchmark their progress early in the year against their major rivals before the lead-up to Nationals, World Cups and World Meets. It is also one of the only competitions where newly formed and scratch teams can compete alongside the top professionals. A number of teams were also of mixed nationalities, an example of how diverse and transient our sport is.

AA Teams

The AA event also had an international flavour with teams *Fast Arrows* from the Czech Republic and *Team Future* from the US. *Team Future* came onto the radar last year with brother and sister duo Justin and Kayla Tinucci just 10 and 13 years respectively, competing in freefly together and in 4-way with their 'grown-up' coaches.

This year's event also presented a new challenge in that you could only enter the tunnel through one door. This made the start to each round a bit more exciting as teams strived to launch the first point intact – sometimes with hilarious consequences!

Practice Rounds and Draw

The meet kicked off at 8am with the usual pre-competition briefing which was swiftly followed by the practice rounds, giving the teams to determine the airspeed they would need during the meet. The teams were then given the competition draw which



Pussy Galore by John Williamson



Airspeed by John Williamson

Ex3Fun & Atmosfera G4 by John Williamson



was considered to be fairly average although it did include an all-random dive (A,C,E,H,K) in round 4, a flight which had the potential of winning or losing the meet.

Rounds 1-3

Round 1 kicked off promptly and as expected *Arizona Airspeed* took the lead with a 23. It was a slow round (17,10,4) and so just 3 points separated the top three teams. In AA, *Team Future* lead by 2 points.

Round 2 saw another high round score by *Airspeed*, this time shared with *France Maubeuge*, both teams scoring 26. Belgium's *Hayabusa* posted the second-highest score showing that their progression had not faltered since last year's World Meet, despite a team member change and a change of slots.

Round 3 swiftly followed with a faster sequence (G,7,D,9) and *Perris Fury* hit back with the highest score of 38, showing great mental determination following their disappointing performance in round 2 where they were busted down to 20. After three rounds *Airspeed* were leading by 5 points, whilst a tight race was developing below with just 3 points separating the next four teams. Meanwhile in AA, *Team Future* had extended their lead to 12 points and already looked to be the firm favourites.

Random Round 4

Round 4 in AAA was the all-random round that had the potential of shaking up the leader board. Mistakes would be costly. It was an exciting round to watch with lots of coohs and aaahs as teams either raced through the fast sequence glitch-free or suffered breakdowns



along the way. Good communication and staying calm was absolutely essential! *Perris Fury* continued their comeback with a 59, the highest ever score in tunnel competition history! (That's 1.7 formations every second!) Their performance whilst calm looked on fire and they outscored *Hayabusa* by 3 and *Airspeed* by 6, giving them the vital points not just to get back in the race, but to take the overall lead by 1 point. *France Maubeuge* had a bad round dropping them from second place to fifth, trailing *XL* by five points.

Close of Play on Saturday

After the excitement of round 4, the tables turned again, *Airspeed* hitting back with a 29, the high score for the round, giving them a comfortable 6 point lead at the end of the first day. *Perris Fury* were again heavily penalised, scoring just 22 putting them into second, just 1 point ahead of *Hayabusa* in third with *XL* 4 points behind in fourth.

Lower down the field, UK's *Satori* (who had brought in a big gun ringer in former *Airspeed* member Brian Johnson) were closely battling it out with the young talented team *Kaktus Hunter* from Russia, both teams winning and losing rounds against each other. Whilst there wasn't a separate women's category, an interesting race was developing between UK's *Pussy Galore* (a hybrid of *Bodyflight Storm* and *Elan*) and France's women's national team *Aerokart Deep Blue*, last year's bronze medallists in Maubeuge, who'd been training hard since. *Pussy Galore*, despite having lots of fun and grinning during every round, were keen to continue GB's dominance in this category, and led the French by 7 points at close of play.

In AA, *Team Future* had extended their lead to 16 points over *Fast Arrows* in second. An exciting race was also developing between the UK teams with *Funbar* leading the pack by 1 point over *Random Vengeance* followed by *Strangers* and then *Unagi* not far behind.

Sunday Start

So onto day two and, with the fast rounds completed, the second half of the draw was slow in comparison with just four of the fourteen randoms drawn left to do.

Airspeed continued to extend their lead showing that they are the masters in block technique, being the highest scorers in three of the five remaining rounds. In round 8, *XL* and *Hayabusa* both scored the highest (25) which, coupled with 2 points *XL* had won back from the judges in round 5, meant that *XL* were back in the race for third place. *Perris Fury* and *France Maubeuge* claimed the highest scores in round 9 with a 22.

In AA *Team Future* looked unstoppable putting up scores that could challenge some of the AAA teams. In the UK competition, *Random Vengeance* and *Funbar* continued their tight race with just 2 points separating them going into the final round.

The Final Round

The viewing of round 10 was delayed until all teams had been judged, allowing everyone to watch the round in the hangar. To increase the excitement those teams battling it out with their nearest rivals were shown at the same time on a split screen, which again produced lots of oohs and aaahs!

AAA Results

In AA it was no surprise when *Airspeed*, who had performed consistently across all rounds, again posted the highest score (their sixth of the meet), earning them their fourth consecutive World Challenge victory with a whopping 28.8 average.

Fury came second with a 27.7 average, 11 points behind *Airspeed*. They won three of the rounds over *Airspeed* and are gradually edging closer in the all-important selection year for the 2010 World Meet. Whilst *Hayabusa* and *XL*'s third and fourth places didn't change from round 4, the margin was reduced just to 2 points. *Satori* won their battle over *Kaktus Hunter* by just 1 point whilst *Pussy Galore* finished a resounding 9 points ahead of France's *Aerokart Deep Blue*.

AA Results

In AA, *Team Future* finished a clear 32 points ahead of *Fast Arrows* with an 18.4 average. *Random Vengeance* finished as the highest UK team with a 13.8 average, 12 points ahead of *Strangers* who were 6 points ahead of *Funbar*. Single A team *Unagi* did a great job adapting to the AA blocks finishing with a very respectable 11.4 average in their first AA competition.

The awards ceremony followed and, as well as the coveted cheques and medals, a number of manufacturer prizes were also awarded to teams that impressed the judges during the meet.

2010 World Challenge

So, another Bodyflight World Challenge completed and still the *Airspeed* machine seems to be unstoppable. Dates for the 2010 Challenge have already been set (3-4 April) so, if you want to compete at a world class event on your doorstep, alongside the best teams in the world, start planning now. The field of teams gets stronger every time and 2010, a World Meet year, will be no exception!

Sparky Scott, sparky-scott@hotmail.co.uk
Pussy Galore



Freefly Results

Total/9 rounds

1	Team Bodyflight	89.43
2	Volare	89.13
3	Babylon	84.56
4	Team Future	81.98
5	Bodyflight Switzerland	77.11
6	Airix Connection	76.31
7	Team MK	68.85
8	Skydive University	67.66
9	Infinity Freefly	59.50



Team Bodyflight



Volare



Babylon



Team Future



4-way Results

AAA		Total/10 rounds
1	Arizona Airspeed	288
2	Perris Fury	277
3	Hayabusa Defence	275
4	XL	273
5	France Maubeuge	268
6	GKXP	247
7	Arcteryx Nice	244
8	Satori	241
9	Aerokart Pamiers	239
9	Kaktus Hunter	239
11	Pussy Galore	229
12	Aerokart Deep Blue	220
13	Veloce	203
14	Evolution Sweden	201
15	3MD	195
15	Pro-Team	195
17	Oxygene	194
18	EX3FUN	193
19	Frost	190
20	Area 51	189
21	Voluntas	188
21	Vertigo the Zoo	188
21	Alpenglow	188
24	Sonicnutz	178
25	Monkey Circus	170
Total/9 rounds		
26	Monaco Para Team	156
27	Lithuanian Magic 4	154
28	Phobia	149
29	Boogienights	147
30	Fusion	141
31	Sequence	137
32	4 Garzy	133
33	Atmosfera G4	131
34	Escondido	124
34	Kaizen	124
36	Insomnia	119



Airspeed



Perris Fury



Hayabusa Defence



XL



Team Future FS



Team Bodyflight



Team MK

AA		Total/10 rounds
1	Team Future FS	184
2	Fast Arrows	152
3	Phantom Force	148
4	Altius	144
5	Random Vengeance	138
6	Strangers	136
7	Fun Bar	132
8	Unagi	114
9	Team Vilnius	89
10	Atmosfera	86

Full scores: worldchallenge.info

Photos: John Williamson

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Diary of Events

- June 13-14 BPA FF Roadshow
June 13-14 Canopy Formation GP
June 20-21 UKSL 4 way meet
June 27-28 28 way Sequential competition
July 4-5 Free Fly Scrabbles
July 11-12 Fusion FS Coaching & Organising
July 11-12 Outbreak FF Coaching & Organising
July 17-19 UK Funshine Boogie (registration required)
July 18-19 BPA FS Roadshow
July 25-26 Satori FS Coaching & Organising
July 25-26 Outbreak FF Coaching & Organising
Aug 8-10 British Nationals 4 way
Aug 15-17 British Nationals 8 way, Artistic, CF and Speed (4 way reserve)
Aug 22-23 60 way and Skyvan Event, Outbreak FF organising
Aug 22-24 Reserve weekend for 8 way, Artistic, CF and Speed
Aug 28-31 UKS Boogie (registration required)
Sept 11-13 European Skydiving League 4 way
Sept 26-27 FS Scrambles # 2

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Pat Hammond

"You'll be alright my boy"

"Come on young lady, let's get in the air"

...a gentle smile and a shake of the head; some of the many sayings and mannerisms that characterised Pat Hammond.

It is with great sadness that I write this obituary to commemorate Pat's life, a loss that no amount of words can ever truly describe. Although those who had the pleasure of knowing him are deeply saddened by his passing, we should also be mindful that Pat had a wonderful, fulfilled life and touched many people with his unrelenting enthusiasm for life and his incredible passion for CRW.

If you knew Pat you were indeed lucky. Not many people have such a generous nature and think of others in the way he did. On the evening I learned of his death, I sat in my garden and looked up at a brilliant blue sky and was immediately struck by the fact that Pat would never be up there again. My eyes came down to earth and I noticed that I was sitting on the patio he'd helped me build, I looked across to the wall where I'd placed the bird box he'd given me and smiled as it had become the nest for a pair of blue tits (one of Pat's little known interests).

The next day at work on the DZ, where Pat had worked for nearly ten years and had been instrumental in encouraging the local community to let us operate, there were signs of him everywhere; he had either built or been involved in building most of it.

The Early Years

Pat was born on Christmas Eve, 1936, in Cambridge where he spent his childhood years. It's a time of his life that he rarely spoke about to his family, except for telling Joyce that he was 'one of the lads'.

Pat's first love was for motorcycles and he worked as a mechanic after leaving school. In March 1955, aged 18, he joined the 1st Battalion of The Royal Norfolk Regiment as a volunteer, gaining an award for being 'the best all-round recruit' in the autumn of the same year. Pat was later promoted to Lance Corporal and worked for the Quarter Master who, when describing Pat in a report, said: *"Pat possessed sound common sense... he was honest and loyal, will work long hours without supervision and is a kind man with a pleasant personality."* He went on to say: *"I recommend this hard working, good type of man to any employer"*, a statement that is so true for everything Pat did during his life.

During his three years' service he served in Baor, Germany, twice and in Cypres before leaving when he was 21. On leaving the army Pat did a deal, exchanging a lorry-load of coal for a driving licence, but in 1967 took an advanced test to prove he was actually safe on the roads!

Pat then worked again as a motorcycle mechanic for Claude Scott, based in Cambridge. During this time he was a member of the Cambridge Matchless Motorcycle and Car Club where in 1958, he won the skilful riding contest. He later became a great motorcycle scrambler and in 1960 won the Grand National at Cadwell Park. Unfortunately, this era came to an abrupt end when he had an accident at a race meeting. Pat emerged unscathed but his bike went under the safety ropes and he broke the legs of a lady who was spectating, for which he never forgave himself.

In 1961, Pat started as a car mechanic at Mosses in Cambridge where he worked his way up to Car Servicing Manager before being made redundant when the company closed in 1991, having been with them for 30 years. He tried his hand at various jobs after this but was never able to really settle anywhere, until he started working at Chatteris.

Joyce

It was when he was home on leave from the army in 1957 that Pat met his wife-to-be, Joyce, at Horningsea Youth Club. They married on 26 August 1961 and lived in Chesterton where their first daughter, Toni-Ann, was born in July 1964. They later moved to Cambridge where Helen, their second daughter, was born in June 1966.

Pat and Joyce settled and made a family home at Green Park, Brinkley, where they lived together for 42 years. In 1999, Pat became a very proud grandad for the first time to Madison and then again to Harriet in 2002.





Pat's Other Hobbies

After Pat's first hobby of scrambling he went in a completely different direction and started breeding tropical fish before becoming interested in Australian parakeets and, when he ran out of room in the garden for them, he bought a plot of land where he kept over 70 breeding pairs of birds along with an assortment of ornamental ducks.

Pat loved to travel around Europe with his family. Every holiday they would pack their tent into the car, and in later years hitch up the caravan, to cross the channel by ferry to tour around such places as Switzerland, Italy and Norway.

Pat the Skydiver

Aged 49, Pat started skydiving, out of the blue, in 1985 after deciding to complete a sponsored static line jump in an effort to raise money for the Girl Guide group run by his daughter, to buy camping equipment. After a weekend of training at Sibson, Pat made his first and second jump on the same day.

Despite his instant love of the sport, Pat was never really a fan of freefall and very quickly found CRW and a home DZ in Ipswich Parachute Centre. 23 years and 2,492 jumps later, he was still introducing people to canopy formation (CF) and was happiest doing so. He couldn't do enough for his students, lending them his rigs to get them in the air, travelling miles around the country and flying abroad, often to Spain or Ireland, to introduce some unsuspecting newcomer to the world of CF. Most of us who knew him succumbed at some point, with some enjoying it so much that they went on to compete.

Pat's skydiving achievements speak for themselves. He entered the Guinness Book of Records in 1988 after completing 14 round jumps in an hour at Abbotsley. He was on several record CF stacks, he took part in 37 displays,



14 night jumps, a balloon jump and two water jumps. His competition record is fantastic; 13 bronze, 23 silver and 47 gold medals in his CRW/CF career. He was part of the British team that won a bronze medal at the 2006 World Championships for the 8-way CF competition.

Pat never stopped competing and collected a raft of medals at this year's AGM. He was a true leader of the UK's CRW community, working hard to progress the sport, running weekend seminars, coaching roadshows and training teams, including a female team who went on to form a record stack.

Pat was known at all UK dropzones and always encouraged those who hadn't yet tried CRW to give it a go. He passionately defended the sport to anybody who didn't understand it or thought it wasn't a good use of a skydive. His presence on any DZ always added an infectious energy and there are endless stories both in-air and on the ground that will live on across the skydiving community.

Working with Pat

Pat was of the old school and happy about it, a nightmare in the modern world of health and safety! The number of times I had to tell him, "Get off the roof, you silly old fool!"

However, despite his sometimes daring approach to work, even he would have had to admit that perhaps he wasn't the best electrician in the world. It's safe to say that the population of a village near Chatteris can sleep easy now that Pat won't be able to cut off their power supply with a JCB any more! Pat managed to mistake marsh gas, whilst digging, for a major electricity cable – all power in the local village promptly went off! It was on another occasion when, working on the canteen roof, he managed to make the whole thing live and electrocute himself, that the game was up!

I recall working with him in the cesspit one day, a particularly grim job after a pipe had burst and we had to dig a pit, ending up waist-deep – and deep in waste! – to fix the problem. Afterwards, I suggested a beer which he agreed was a good idea. It turns out he wasn't really a drinker – we shared a can and about half an hour later he told me that he was worse for wear and couldn't drive home. Two coffees and a lie-down sorted him out.

A True Friend

Pat had strong opinions and wasn't afraid to air them but he never held a grudge. Just like any good mate, if he thought you were wrong he told you so – and when you thought about it, he was mostly right. Pat was without doubt the sort of bloke that, if it all went wrong, you would want him by your side. He was as strong as an ox and could still put up a good fight at the age of 72. I bet the blokes he served with in the army were glad he was on their side.

Pat is a true legend of our sport and somebody who will be very sorely missed by his fantastic family and his many, many friends but who will always bring a smile to your face when thinking about. I would say 'rest in peace mate' but Pat wasn't a restful sort. Joyce received a message of condolence which paid perfect tribute to Pat: "I just hope God likes Canopy Relative Work. If he doesn't, Pat will teach him".

Blue skies forever, Pat.

Mike Rust with help from son, Rich Rust



Wingsuits & Reserves

**Prevention
is Better
than Cure!**

In discussions about reserve rides with wingsuits. I was asked if there might be any relationship or common factors between them. Let me try to answer that question this way – prevention is better than cure!

It is always a risk to talk about incidents that I have not personally observed. But generally I have seen many wingsuit pilots who are not 100% stable when it comes to pull time. They think they are – but they aren't! In addition to the low rate of descent caused by a wingsuit, this may be the first step in the wrong direction.

Before we start a discussion about substitutes like 'longer bridle', 'bigger pilot chutes', etc, we should address body position on deployment.

Pull High, and Stable

Always stop your wingsuit flight a little higher than a normal skydive. In the beginning, 5,000 feet (1,500m) should be pull time for you. Tell manifest that you need to pull a little higher. Step by step you can lower your pull altitude down to 3,500 feet (1,000m). No 'Bird' should pull lower; this way you allow yourself time to concentrate on a clean pull. It will also give you time enough to open all your zips – or to deal with 'Plan B' (LQRS or whatever is needed, see later). If you were caught by surprise and find yourself lower than you should be, your pull might result in a frantic, non-stable action, the result of trying to get your main out asap! So? Pull high, pull high and stable (like AFF, remember!), close all your wings before you pull – and don't forget to 'wave off' beforehand ('Birds' do that by tapping toes).

The forward speed of a wingsuit affects the deployment, photos show Steve Such by Mark Harris





Jump a Suitable Canopy

If you jump an elliptical or semi-elliptical and kind of aggressive small main canopy, you will face even more problems right after a not so stable pull and opening. Experience shows that elliptical canopies don't come out of a line twist by themselves; in most cases they make the twists worse. I have 1,200 wingsuit flights now, with only one cutaway: I had an elliptical main at that time. This is the reason all wingsuit flight manuals say 'don't jump an elliptical canopy'.

I myself like to fly my second 7-cell Spectre 120 now; the one I have today is 1,800 jumps old and still quite good! But Sabres, Quadras, everything that is non-elliptical, is okay too!

Practice Makes Deployment Perfect

Okay, when it comes to 'technique', let's talk 'body-technique'! When you are high enough on deployment, you have all the time you need to make sure you are symmetrical and stable. Even if you need a second attempt, you are not in a hurry! You can practise this if you like; think 'wingsuit' but jump without a wingsuit, practise the perfect wingsuit body position for pull time! If you find you still deviate in this moment, maybe you are not ready for a real wingsuit flight just yet. There is more information about this in the many wingsuit flight manuals? RTFM! (Read The *** Manual)

Be Ready

One technique I myself use; I put both hands on the two arm wing release handles, right after I pull. Do I need them? Well at least I'm ready. And if not? I can let them go again! And open the zips instead, as planned.

Quick Release Legs

I am a big fan of LQRS, the Leg Quick Release System. This option doesn't cost so much extra, and will always provide you with the opportunity to kick out line twists, etc.

Summary

- Read the manuals
- Altitude is safety
- Better skip elliptical canopies
- Clean stable body position at pull
- Always have a plan in case something goes wrong.

*Rolf Brombach
rolf.brombach@freenet.de
Birdman Chief Instructor*

Note: This article is written by a Birdman instructor, not a BPA instructor. The advice within is intended for experienced pilots. This article is NOT intended to replace a first flight wingsuit brief.



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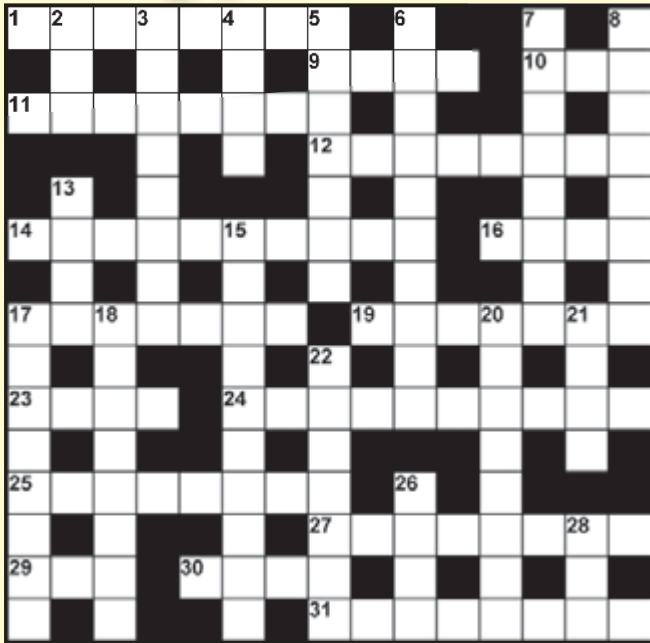
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Puzzle by Paul Boorer



Main (Cryptic)

Across

- Got out of transport scheme, caught in the act (8)
- Small instrument in section of orchestral timpani (4)
- I caught eastern diamonds (3)
- Creation with a little evolution is the opposition to revolution (8)
- Well versed in being disciplined at the DZ (8)
- Place to secure 9 boxes with snare (5,5)
- Think highly of ecstasy after grass (4)
- Nicknames of Henry and Lesley (7)
- Common but increasingly hot topic of conversation (7)
- Lord grabs an estate (4)
- Dignified departure made from deities with pox (6,4)
- Early 17th century judge with a company head (8)
- Pulls out bit-part player with carpal tunnel syndrome (8)
- Break down results from amiably dropping odd parts (3)
- More than one Isle of Skye? Ridiculous (4)
- Man's upset about beer's retailer (8)

Down

- With which you sense going up and down (3)
- Led around lunatic since it's permitted (8)
- Civilian's back turned. Can you hit it with a club? (4)
- Risks digging up gardens (7)
- Redesigned Metro shape gives a feeling of space (10)
- Flyers' watering hole (8)
- Aged 13, given the bumps and hats (8)
- Gripped by horror he announced "Its wings don't work" (4)
- Timid admiration of exotic dish (6,4)
- How an angel falls to earth (4,4)
- Not a clean line twisted this canopy (4-4)
- Hot air leaving the surface, and what prevents it (8)
- Big film of record chip (4)
- Suitability of attack on cape (7)
- It only needs a short space to upset lots (4)
- Only partially digest each meal (3)

Reserve

Across

- Left aircraft
- Height gauge
- Flight hazard in winter
- Response
- Banned from flying
- Part of rig (5,5)
- Speed
- Controls
- Climatic conditions
- Touch down
- Skydive starting position (6,4)
- Of James I of England
- Pulls out
- Eg, horseshoe or roman candle
- Cues
- Rep

Down

- Sense organ
- Permitted
- Unguis
- Hazards
- Air
- Place to wash feathers
- Hats
- Flightless bird
- Wistful amorous look (6,4)
- Extreme skydive (4,4)
- Canopy type (4-4)
- Warm clothing
- Saga
- Athleticism
- Short runway aircraft (initials)
- Best drink of the day

- SOLUTION ACROSS**
- Deplaned
 - Alt
 - Ice
 - Reaction
 - Grounded
 - Chest strap
 - Hate
 - Handles
 - Weather
 - Land
 - Polished exit
 - Jacobean
 - Extracts
 - Mal
 - Keys
 - Salesman
- SOLUTION DOWN**
- Tea
 - Stol
 - Fitness
 - Epic
 - Thermals
 - Nine-cell
 - Halo jump
 - Sheep's eyes
 - Rheas
 - Headgear
 - Birdbath
 - Atmosphere
 - Dangers
 - Nail
 - Licensed
 - Eye





Problem: Cant stop spinning
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Abuse of team mates
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Cant crack sit-flying
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Weather Hold
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: You hate packing
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Your team sucks
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Need help finding a coach
Solution: Go to Bodyflight

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all your problems
at Bodyflight**



Problem: Need help with grips
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: You're a bit rusty
Solution: Go to Bodyflight



Problem: Chased by alligators
Solution: Run to Bodyflight



Problem: You're just not cool
Solution: Go to Bodyflight

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Maggie Penny, co-owner and operator of Wild Geese Parachute Centre, Northern Ireland, talks to Lesley Gale...

Do you have good facilities?

We have excellent facilities at Wild Geese. A purpose-built hangar houses the office, aircraft and all training facilities. We operate a Cessna Caravan 208A and a Cessna 206. A soundproof classroom was recently installed in the hangar so all student training would be centralised, with six fan trainers, a Dick Gays harness, 16 sets of suspended harnesses, three mock-ups, manifest area, a competition-size accuracy tuffet, and extensive packing arenas. Outdoors there is the restaurant, bunkhouse accommodation, toilets, showers and a barbecue area.

How long have you been operating?

Wild Geese was formed on 3 May 1983, so we celebrated our quarter century last year.

How did the celebrations go?

The 25th anniversary was brilliant and well supported with Gordon Hodgkinson and Ronan Whelan organising an FS skills camp, and Ian Marshall and Pat Hammond conducting a BPA CF roadshow. That was lovely, as Ian Marshall was one of our first permanent instructors. The festivities included a pig-roast, thanks to the efforts of Jade Mullin.

How many DZs are there in Ireland?

We are the only drop zone in Northern Ireland. There are two (non-BPA) in Southern Ireland.

Do you welcome visitors?

We most certainly do! As we are isolated geographically, we are delighted to see visitors from any country.

What's the best way to travel?

We have three airports – the George Best Airport in Belfast; Belfast International which is in Antrim (very Irish!); and the City of Derry, in Londonderry. There are two ferry ports – Belfast and Larne. We are always happy to pick anyone up from an airport or ferry terminal if they let us know in advance.

And the best places to stay?

We have excellent hotels and B&Bs in the area – all along the north coast is particularly attractive to tourists, hence we also have excellent restaurants.

When is a good time to visit?

Unfortunately the Irish weather is probably more unpredictable than other areas but May-June or August-September are probably best.

Tell me about the local attractions

If people want to be active there is horse-riding, dirt-biking, paint-balling, swimming, surfing and gliding. The north coast is particularly beautiful, with the famous Giant's Causeway, Carric-a-rede rope bridge, harbour villages and sandy beaches.

How are relationships with the locals?

Relations with the local community are excellent – I was brought up in the area and most of my family still live close by. We try to include the locals in any celebrations, such as the pig-roast, official openings, competition presentations, etc.

What are the most popular disciplines?

I think the most active discipline is still flat-flying, though freeflying is becoming increasingly popular, as are wingsuits.

We have coaches for our regular weekend operations and bring coaches in from Southern Ireland when we are organising on a larger scale.

How does skydiving differ in Ireland?

Because of our position geographically we do not have the same movement of skydivers from DZ to DZ, so tend to be a more closed community, which is why we welcome visitors and encourage our own skydivers to travel to the mainland and abroad.

Do you have university clubs?

Queen's University Club is very active and jump most Wednesday afternoons in addition to weekends.

What events are planned this year?

We have another FS skills camp in July and have offered to host the Shamrock Challenge in September. That's the brainchild of Gordon Hodgkinson, who's based at the Irish Parachute Club, and aims to build bigger and better formations.

You have an annual trip abroad, where and why?

Our annual trip is to Skydive Portugal in March. One of our instructors organised it in the beginning and it grew from there, numbers increased and we were always looked after extremely well in the Algarve.

Is your membership rising or falling?

Our membership has remained fairly steady. Skill levels are improving and we should really be taking advantage of the BPA coaching roadshows.

What do you try to make Wild Geese into?

We try to cater for all disciplines but ours is really a small dropzone, numbers-wise. I always felt my responsibility was to look after students who are, after all, the next skydivers. We try at Wild Geese to make everyone feel welcome, but that is the way of the Irish anyway.

And the future?

We plan to continue to maintain our safety standards, enhance our facilities, increase our instructor pool and really push Raps courses.





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High Velocity



by
Rob
Colpus
Kit
News



Al Berchtold flies the Competition Velocity, by Andrey Veselov

Ten years ago Performance Designs launched the 'top of the range' cross-braced, 21-cell Velocity canopy onto the market. Since then the Velocity has been at the forefront of ram-air parachute performance. Of course the designers at PD did not sit back and rest on their laurels; almost immediately the Velocity was released they started with research and development that would enable them to introduce its successor some time in the future. Well, the future has arrived and the 'Competition Velocity' is now with us.

During this decade of research the company tells us it has experimented with changing stabiliser design or eliminating them altogether, adding two to four more cells, trying new bracing technology, different aerofoils and various planform shapes. PD reports that some of these ideas did improve performance, and some definitely did not. But the culmination of all this work over the years has produced a cutting edge canopy, which PD promises will have you "standing on the podium, rather than looking up at it".

The Competition Velocity differs from its stablemate in the design of the brake lines, the low profile pilot chute attachment point and

reduced drag line attachment points. The new canopy also comes with a removable deployment system (RDS) as standard. The lines of choice for the serious swoop monster are 300 HMA which, as we reported in a previous Kit News, have a very limited life and are not recommended for normal skydive use, but have the edge for serious swooping. More durable 500 HMA lines are also available.

PD points out that the new canopy was not designed or intended for those purchasing their first cross-braced canopy. The company went on to say, "*the differences between the two canopies may be too subtle to be noticed by pilots new to the Velocity, but to the highly proficient Velocity pilot these subtle differences, combined with proper training, practice and technique, could make the difference in their competition performance.*"

The Competition Velocity, which should not be seen as a replacement for the standard Velocity but as a premium product, is available in eight sizes from 71 to 111 square feet.

performancedesigns.com

Ripcord Revolution



Bill Booth, of United Parachute Technologies, the innovative designer of the Vector series of containers and the man who brought the throwaway pilot chute and the 3-ring cutaway system to our sport, has now come up with an idea, which deviates from decades of standard practice. From almost the advent of freefall parachuting, rig manufacturers have used metal ripcord cables and pins to open reserve parachute containers. Well now Bill has developed a ripcord made from Spectra line – the lightweight, thin line as used for Slink removable soft links, reserve closing loops and, most commonly of course, the suspension lines of most modern ram-air canopies.

The Spectra ripcord replaces the standard metal cable with a length of 1,000 pound test Spectre line (suspension lines are usually either 550 or 825lbs) with a finger-trapped and bar-tacked loop at each end. A short piece of bungee cord is bar-tacked inside the middle section of the Spectra to provide elasticity. One loop is larks-headed to either a Metal D-handle or soft pad and the other loop forms an 'eye' for the RSL ripcord pin to go through. The system can only be used with a Vector RSL/Skyhook system.

Bill claims that the Spectra ripcord is stronger than the steel alternative and produces lower pull forces because the Spectra is slipperier and slides through the housing with less friction. The elastic mid-section of the ripcord takes up the necessary slack, therefore there is no 'ball swadge' left hanging out from the handle to catch on things.

The elastic mid-section also means that if the handle is inadvertently dislodged from its pocket it will be automatically pulled up against its housing, making a 'floating ripcord' a problem of the past. And finally, the Spectra ripcord is cheaper to produce than the alternative.

Bill went on to assure us that Spectra ripcords have been 'tested' in all Sigma tandem systems for many years as main ripcords. The same housings were used and these main ripcords lasted for hundreds of actual pulls with no sign of wear.

uptvector.com



Visually Digital

Carrying on the legacy of Leonardo da Vinci those aerial innovators of Parasport Italia have released onto the market the latest update of their Altitron digital altimeter. The original Altitron was introduced 15 years ago and was one of the first visual altimeters with a digital, rather than an analogue (dial and needle), face.

The 2009 Altitron is a water-resistant, back-lit, digital visual altimeter, which also doubles as a speed meter and electronic 300-jump logbook. Parasport tells us that the high contrast LCD is easily readable in any light conditions and is protected by a 2mm thick anti-scratch and anti-shock methacrylate lens.

Three buttons give access to all the unit's functions, which include a visual break-off altitude signal, apart of course from the usual data now available on most freefall data processors.

The low power stand-by mode means there is no need to turn the unit on and off because battery consumption is low. Its commonly available type AAA 1.5v battery will last for about two years we're told. The Altitron comes with a velcro strap to fix the unit to forearm or wrist, but it can also be used in the pocket of a jumpsuit or on the back of the hand using a special hand-mount.

parasport.it



As JM's Newsround reported in the last issue of your fave Mag, BJ Worth and his World Team of large formation record-breakers will be setting off again in 2011 for an attempt to break the 400-way record they set in 2006.



In order to give themselves sufficient time to build a 444-way or larger, and still start the tracking and separation procedure at a safe altitude, BJ and his team feel it's necessary to go even higher than the 24,500 feet from which the 400 was built.

In order to go higher, communal 'on-board' oxygen systems that have been used for all previous

World Team individual bail-out oxygen system, photos by Willy Boeykens



large formation records, which only provide the skydiver with oxygen whilst in the aircraft, will have to give way to individual 'bail-out' oxygen bottles.

The proposed bail-out system went through its initial live trials at the Thai Sky Fest earlier this year with positive results. Plans are to continue with altitude-testing at several coming events such as Jump for the Cause.

The system, which each individual will carry, consists of a beer-bottle-shaped container fitted with a valve and pressure gauge, which is easily slipped down the front of the jumpsuit, and a plastic tube 'nasal cannular system which routes up inside a full-face helmet.

theworldteam.com



Collecting the Data

Paratec of Germany, manufacturer of the Next harness/container system and Speed reserve amongst other good things, has been carrying out test jumps on its new Century Tandem system using a highly sophisticated flight data recorder that measures parameters such as opening shock (3D G-Force recorder), rate of descent, ground speed, toggle pressure, and turn acceleration.

Although other devices of this type have been used before by parachute manufacturers, Paratec tells us that none of them have been able in the past to clock the data at 100Hz (100 readings per second).

paratec.de

Release Released

Following the successful introduction of the Z1 EVO ratchet chin-cup, Parasport Italia has now produced what it calls the HQR (Headgear Quick Release) system.

The HQR has been designed by Parasport to be purchased as an option for their Z1 EVO open-faced helmet or as a complete kit that can easily be installed on most popular open-face helmets from other manufacturers, either with a chinstrap or chin-cup, or both. The HQR is a simple and reliable emergency quick-release system, which is designed to allow a camerafflyer to escape from an entanglement between helmet and canopy.

The system consists of a chin-strap/chin-cup combined with a U-Terminal and a grub screw to install on the outside of the helmet. Detailed and simple mounting instructions are provided to allow a correct installation.

parasport.it



Skydive.ie

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WorldRecord

All photos from 2008 Irish Boogie, courtesy of Mike Barrett

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CLUB News



Phil Curtis risks going on the front for Leigh Birchenough's evaluation, photo by Chris Smith

Langar

Outcasts doing rotations by Tony Danbury



Outcasts by Tony Danbury



Matt Willson's 100th jump, photo by Tony Danbury



Achievements

AFF Graduate Joanne Woods
 Jake Thompson
Cat 8 Michelle Haslem
Cat 8, CH1 Joanne Woods
JM1, FS1 David Jones
FS1 Darren Chaney
 Karen Neilsen
 Andy Schofield
FF1 Scott Calcraft
CF1 Cheryl Farnden-Marks

Jump Numbers

50 Liz Telford
 Martin Simmonds
100 Emma Bramley
 Matt Wilson
 Jennie Hewitt
200 Ruth Jordinson
 Scott Calcraft
400 Cheryl Farnden-Marks
500 Sophie Cook
700 Weed Stoodley
800 Andy Pike
900 Jo Hawley
1,100 Neil Butcher
1,400 Leigh Birchenough
 Stan Hopkins
2,000 Ally Milne
2,500 Craig Poxon
2,800 Jumps
 Pixie MacLeod-Hodgson
1 Hour Freefall Jennie Hewitt
48 Hours Freefall
 Pixie MacLeod-Hodgson

Langar summer season got off to a great start with a stretch of 7-day-a-week jumping in April, even with the traditional dodgy Easter weather! In fact, we've jumped every weekend this year!

CF has increased now that *Outcasts* have joined us for team training. They ran a successful CF Roadshow over Easter, introducing more jumpers to the joys of rubbing nylon, under the leadership of Steve Saunders. Steve's been a generally useful feller lately, as have Keiron O'Rourke and Dan Williams; they've all made improvements to our infrastructure. Thanks guys – your rewards are guaranteed (in heaven!).

Dave Lewis's 'Pinch Jump' weekends have been a great success, with more to come, check: strollerweb.co.uk Brian Laithwaite has assumed the mantle of beginner and intermediate FS organiser. If you need to work up to big-ways, Brian's your man – he's here every weekend.

Phil Curtis has added USPA Coach and AFF ratings to his list of qualifications. Sarah Bailey has joined the Langar full-time staff. Once she's mowed the grass, swept the runways and strimmed the edges, she'll be on duty with the RAPS students. Welcome aboard! Goodbye and good luck to Sophie Cook, off to be chief packer at Voss in Norway.

As ever, we're here 7 days a week. We'll put the aircraft up with just 5 paying customers on weekdays, so get yourself down here and fill your boots!

Tony Danbury



Matt Byrne by Tony Danbury

Manchester students and skydivers were overflowing at our first Wednesday midweek skydives, in glorious tranquil weather. Hats off to all our first freefallers on your entertaining facial expressions, especially Chloe 'Ooh La La' Juyon and Robert Verity. Well done to all those listed in our hall of fame, your drive and enthusiasm is fabulous!

Many thanks to the events team, who worked hard to create a fantastic speed meet. Teams were selected to mix all experiences; very successfully as only 5 points separated first and third placed teams after three rounds. Congrats to winners *Green is not Your Enemy* (Pete, Ali, Katie, Les and Steve).

The long-awaited refurb of our washing facilities is under way, with the camera pool migrating into the recreation room to create space for a new ladies' boudoir and disabled facility. Upon completion we'll then redevelop the shower rooms. Any spare resource capacity (ie, help) would be appreciated from any club members.

Congrats to James Hallam (aka Spud) for his first day solo para-dropping – in at the deep end, the busiest day of the year and good weather to boot.

Skydive Northwest basked in 3 days of glorious Easter sunshine, with achievements in abundance. The sunset beers were a treat with many modelling their fashionable shorts for most of the evening. Reports from further south confirmed the weather was grey overcast skies – oh dear, how sad.

Geraldine managed her 200th landing, even if with a bump! Dot Riley made her first stand-up landing in 56 jumps and has kept hold of her main for over 30! Chicky, with help from chief pilot Mike, got some stunning shots of the PAC over Windermere chasing a couple of Velocities, piloted by Kie and Stevey D, check out the photos in the office.

It was great to see some different faces around Easter, including Martin 'Three Rig' Spears and friends Pete Hardacker, Shelly Eppleston and Chris Dawes. Welcome back Col Sutcliffe and congrats on your 3 hours freefall. Peter (the unhinged one) will just be getting out of his cast, after breaking his metatarsal walking in the Lake District.

Al Hodgson from Bullet Freefly spent an April weekend coaching our budding freeflyers – whilst Pixie painted their house! Saturday saw Al notch up ten jumps, eight more than he did over Easter – sorry Al! Thanks for your commitment and coaching, much appreciated. See everyone at **Cark Week, 6-13 June!**

Stu Morris



Cark

Trev Merrick's Cat 8 by Steve Nolan



Achievements

First Freefall

Cezary Krazyczkowski
Lawrence Fsadni
Chloe Juyon
Patrick Baker
Robert Verity
Nick Markham
Hannah Wilson
Trevor Merrick
James Brownhill

AFF Graduate

Neil Cheltern
Neil Hagan

Cat 8

Trevor Merrick
James Brownhill
Phil Amuzu

FS1

Fraser Dootson
Vikki Sutton

FF1

Jan Fallon
Vikki Sutton

Jump Numbers

50

Dot Riley

100

Gareth Cliff
Vikki Sutton

200

Geraldine McGuinness
Pete Mather
Gary Hall

400

Yvonne Rimington
Paul Rimington

1,300

Janet Fallon

2,200

Neil McLaren

24 Hours Freefall

Neil McLaren



Kie goes vertical by Ian Chick



Jan achieves
FF1 over the
Lakes by
Peter Hughes



Yvonne by
Pete Hughes

Main photo: Kie and
Stevey by Ian Chick



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Photo: Matt Abram

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Achievements

50 Jumps
Simon Hartland
100 Jumps
Mike Pritchard
500 Jumps
Jules Bergel



Tilstock on Tour Happy Birthday 7-way
by Mike Burdon

Tilstock

March saw an intrepid bunch heading off to Empuriabrava for the 'Tilstock on Tour' pre-season warm-up. Louise celebrated her 40th birthday in style with all the jumpers in her 7-way singing 'Happy Birthday' to her in freefall! And she didn't even know she was going till two days before, as it was a surprise present! We had such a good time that we're planning 'Tilstock on Tour 2' from 20 Sept, combining with Regan's FS1 course for those interested. If you fancy a week of sun, fun and skydiving from 20 September, contact the DZ.

Scoop showed off his skills by winning the static line accuracy competition in March – the things people do when the cloudbase is 3,000 feet! Empuria

staff were a bit bemused when checking Shelly and Christine's docs as their last logged jump was a static line!

Everyone's patience has been appreciated while the 206 has been undergoing repairs. By time you read this it should be back in the air and we'll be on full steam with both aircraft.

The Tilstock **AGM and Christmas Party is 13 December**, again at the Hill Valley Hotel as they looked after us so well last year. I know it's only June but please book as soon as possible as it takes a while to organise and we need to make sure they don't run out of booze!

Colin Fitzmaurice



Simon Hartland
exiting on the one
year anniversary of
his first jump by
Paul Lewis



Barry Jones by Paul Lewis

Dylan Griffith-Jones's 1,000th jump at Swansea by Nick Anthony



Swansea

The weather is being kind to us here in sunny Wales! Only an R44 helicopter crashing 40m from us whilst we were emplaning has stopped us, a big well done to Tom and Glynn who were first on the scene to assist and give first aid.

The club is growing well due to so many completing AFF under the watchful eye of Ryan Mancey. Every weekend we seem to have new faces arrive, which is fantastic! It's nice to see Dave Howerski back above the Gower coaching FF/FS and doing what he does best – being on every load!

Congratulations to Ricki Davies and the lovely Jo who got married in May, to Bob Prunty for his turbine

rating, and to Paul Millward, Jamie Tew and Gary Thompson for their A licences. A big well done to Lewis Thomas for his 100th jump, exceptional considering he only completed AFF in January! Also to Grayson Buckley and Dan the Man for their 200ths and congratulations to Dylan Griffith-Jones whom we poached from Redlands for the weekend to make his 1,000th skydive – the beer fridge awaits his return! The footage Dylan put on YouTube named '1,000th Jump' is hilarious! Sorry Brucie, couldn't resist mentioning it!

Carl Williams

Lewknor

What a difference a year makes! Great weather and a super fast new plane that is just eating people – so much that we seem to be putting it to bed very early in the day, still at least the beer light goes on at that point!

Two intrepid young men did naked tandems for Comic Relief (yes I am sorry for the poor instructors) and boy was it cold, so much so that one I'm told resorted to an 'Oliver Reed' to try and save the embarrassment! Comments from the girlfriends that they couldn't see any difference apparently didn't go down well.

We're filling the skies with AFF students, with most continuing after Level 1 so look forward to some newbies – with John Sharland the first of 2009!

We've taken the plunge to avoid refuelling delays and have ordered a nice shiny new bowser, so we'll be fuelling on the DZ. That means lighter fuel loads and more bodies on the plane, so even more fun on the farm!



Mark Stone



Alan Bates by Mark Stone

Martin Harris



Caroline's dive by Zuz Tillner
See pages 26-27



Zuz Tillner



Jim & Jack Scarratt
by Micky Doyle



Robin's leaving do by
Charlie Shea-Simonds

Swindon

With the wonderful weather at 'holiday

hot spot' Swindon, we haven't had the usual backlog of tandems so we've been benefitting from the extra space in the Airvan. FS1s at Skydive London seem to be like buses; for ages we have been trying to get over 'Bensongate' after his FS1 fiasco and now, with big thanks to coaches Sally Uren, Leonie Needham and Chris Steele, they all came at once. First to get FS1 was Ann Lewis, after changing her instructor to a better one who listened, then James Snellgrove, followed by Pieter Potgieter using the force to complete the first ever Obi FS Wan. A special mention to Nick Brownhill who forgot to change his Dytter from tandem pull height of 6,000ft to the usual break-off of 4,500ft. Luckily for Pieter he'd already completed 5 points, but Nick will never hear the last of it!

Stu Albon's double beer fine by Howard White



Fitting the fire pit by Babs Burnell

Neil Halliday, Rob Spour and Mateusz Oblucki are all steaming through RAPS, which means Leonie and Chris will soon have more Warp victims. Kim is back from Basra and completed her first hour of freefall.

Brucie has finally owned up to kidnapping my baby blue jumpsuit but I am told it now has more friends on Facebook than me! (To join the fun look up 'Jump Suit'). Geoff Kent celebrated his 60th birthday with Ann and her family, while Bob O'Hara tried to keep his 50th quiet – hope the surprise party was good.

Simon, Cal, Luke and friends dug a hole in the middle of our picnic area and, thanks to Neil Long for the metal and Buncey for the welding, we now have a fire pit. So, from now on if it's flammable, not nailed down and isn't used for skydiving, it will get burnt. For the opening night there were plenty of beer fines made up and gathered in for food, drink and Stilton (still in the fridge) for Brucie to put on the barbecue. Finally, Rob Zealley hasn't crashed anything yet this year.

Dylan Griffith-Jones

Achievements

FS1

Ann Lewis
James Snelgrove
Pieter Potgieter
Jim Morham

600 Jumps

Luke Ingram

1,000 Jumps

Dylan Griffith-Jones

1,500 Jumps

Jez Cooper

AFF Graduates, CH1

Julie Swindlehurst
Jess Sanderson

RAPA



Nethers

Nemesis, who represent the Army in AA 4-way, have been coaching individuals and teams. The *Nemesis School of FS* produced 14 FS1 qualifications over two weekends alone (kindly helped out by *Team Phantom*).

Euphoria have been coaching FF and managed 100 lifts between them over Easter, resulting in lots of progression. They ran a fab introductory FF seminar when the weather was grim, rumour has it that some big-way jumpers were taking more than a passing interest. The boys plan a **Head-down Skills Weekend, 4-5 July** with the possibility of setting a club record.

Easter also featured Skydive Choreography organising 90 jumpers. Five groups were led by Caroline Hughes, Doug McLelland, Ronan Whelan, Kate Burn and Paul Seymour. We set a new Nethers record on Easter Saturday, of 866 descents over 66 lifts in one day! 23 of these were in the Skyvan, a UK best for pilot Tony de Bruyn. We couldn't let the weekend go by without a party, the theme was TV and film characters. Terminator Trev pulled out all the stops as usual but no-one understood who one of *HEAT* was supposed to be in his all-too-familiar pink dress.

Check netheravon.com as we have plenty of events, including coaching by *Nemesis*, *Euphoria* and friends, Skyvan weekends and the Solstice Boogie. Doug McLelland will be organising some weekends – don't worry Lou, we're considering equipping him with subtitles!

Congrats to Jack Scarratt, son of long time club member Jim who did a tandem with his proud dad just after his 16th birthday. At the other end of the spectrum, Micky Jeng took George Moyse on a tandem days before George's 98th birthday which we think is a UK record.

Well done to newly-qualified FF coach Charlotte Kemp. Everyone wishes Ian Lyons a speedy recovery following his mishap – told you demo practice was more dangerous than teaching a static line course!

Robin has handed over the role of APA secretary to Mike Smith, marked in time-honoured fashion in the local curry house with emotional speeches. Andrew Kennett and Robin did the speeches, Cossie supplied the emotion!

Kath Salisbury, Andy Myers & Anna Lea



Euphoria by Finch Lauer



Achievements

Cat 8

Rick Foti
David Rodgers
Paul Rigby
P Wilkinson
B Heydari
Alex Pond
Wally
Francesca Santilli
James Lee
David Day
Peter Winstanley
Pete Shepherd
Mark 'Mega' Baker
Victoria Langdon
Elspeth Frudd

FS1

Garrick 'Keanu' Taylor
Tim Bacon
Alex Lovell
Max Bruffell
James Lee
Peter Winstanley
Chris Shields
Tolga 'Turkish' Kavak

FF1

Jenna Pickering

FF2

Steve Lewis

Jump Numbers

50

Chris Shields
Tim Bacon
Claire Reynolds

100

Andy Charlton
Seamus Hogan
Lisa Coggle

500

Ian Thomas
Sarah Churchill
Pony
Shaka
Steve Lewis

600

Chris Young
Charlotte Kemp

700

Andy 'Terry Nutkins' Myers

800

Lou 'Fuzzy' Gower

1,000

Ben Bolton

Rob Millin

Mike Outen

3,900

Geoff McVey

Golden Lions by Kev Doust

The *Golden Lions* display team conducted 2 weeks of pre-season training here, and the RAPA display team started theirs. Marcus Di Meola showed the benefits of training by nailing the tuffet. Visitors from Loughborough University and Sandhurst joined with the *Lions* for night jumps, a BBQ and a few sociable drinks around the fire.

17 judges from the UK were joined by 3 German judges for another successful BPA judges' training seminar, kicking off with a cheese and wine night provided by Lesley Moore.

All staff are now busy preparing for the **UK Classic and CP Nationals, 22-25 July** and the **45th RAPA Championships, 18-25 July**, with training scheduled for 11-18 July.

Andy Clark

Achievements

Cat 8

Jay Leighton
Ben Punter
James Bacon
Vicki Browne
Jack Newell

FS1

Gary Chapman

200 Jumps

Alex Pascoe
Ben Woollan



Dave Newton display training by Kev Doust

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Dunkeswell

This summer has been cracking, with a record number of AFF students reaching Cat 8! Well done all – the fun starts here! Star of the show was Guy Wells, qualified AFF 3 days after his 16th birthday! Guy's already familiar around the DZ (since the age of 11) and we'll be seeing even more of him now, working hard in the packing shed!

Thank you to competitors in Dunkeswell's first Speed 6 competition. (Yes that was beer for the CCI!) The winners (Paul, Andy, Dave, Chris, John and Pete) bagged 6 crates of beer! Well done, and thanks for sharing it with everyone!



Guy Wells by Olly Denham



Andy Montriou by Paul Thompson

BBQ season is in full swing and the beer fridge bursting. Huge thanks to the Safe Flight Canopy School, Mike Gorman visited in May. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the course and learned a lot. Highly recommended! Mikey and Adam 'Killa' Mattacola returned, their head-down formation load organising was fantastic!

On **27-28 June** we have the **BPA Artistic Roadshow** with Dan Parker and James Davies for FREE freefly coaching (or seminars if bad weather). Watch skydivethewell.com for the rescheduled **BPA FS Roadshow**.

Next month it's **Twin Beech Boogie (27 Jul-2 Aug)** The helicopter will be flying on 24 July, PLEASE REGISTER to avoid disappointment! Barbecue and acoustic set on Saturday 25 July, then the Beech 99 and the Antonov arrive on Sunday evening. Despite rumours, registration for the boogie is still OPEN (£30), call 01404 890 222 NOW, places are limited! Register on our website for weekly boogie updates.

Lou Finch



Fraser Corsan



Speed 6 competition by Paul Thompson

Achievements

AFF Graduate

Rob Mandy
Maddy Heath-Kelly
Kirstie Booth
Guy Wells
Ricky Bryan
Neil Andrews
Gareth Temple
Dean Millward

CH1

Shaun Ferris
Jacqueline Day

CH2

Dan Whitby
Shane Hardwick

JM1

Dan Whitby
Shane Hardwick

FS1

Lucy Eldred
Simon 'Scooby Snax' Ward
Sarah Law
Paul Gardner
Neil Andrews

FF1

Dan Guest

Jump Numbers

50

Matt Nixon
Shane Hardwick
Dan Whitby

100

Lucy Eldred

200

Dan Guest

300

Andrew Donovan
Paul Thompson
Lou Finch

700

Damo Hewitt

1,700

Olly Denham

St Andrews

Spring brought unsettled weather and a change of scenery to St Andrews. As you read this we should be setting up the dropzone at a new site, having moved out of Kingsmuir at the end of March. Details will be posted on our club and DZ websites at kingsmuir.org.uk and skydivestandrews.co.uk

RAPS progression has been great with more first freefalls and our first Cat 8 of the year, well done Tamzin! Others are only a few jumps away from qualifying and should be terrorising the skies on their own soon.

Congratulations to me and Louise who got married in April just 5 miles from the dropzone – see shameless wedding photo!

Graeme Mackay

Graeme and Louise's Wedding
by Bob Montgomery



Achievements

First Freefall

Simon Sauper

Cat 8, FS1

Tamzin Jackman



Shane Wood & friend by Ed Massey

Weston

It's been a cracking start to the season, with already 10 AFF graduates. Our busy instructors, Sparky, Andy Scott, Dunny, Paul Floyd, Tex and Adele Marshall and Si Bristow, are doing a great job getting these guys through. Well done to Coxy who passed his AFF course, finally!

The Uni guys have set up WUSS (Weston University Social Society) to promote university jumping and organise mega parties – their Hawaiian night saw a drinking competition between them, the regular jumpers and the glider pilots! I won't mention who won but it wasn't the Uni! They have some jumping Wednesdays planned; to join in, check our website or email Sam Lee.



Team Burble by Ed Massey

The crew dogs descended on us, in April, with a BPA Roadshow that proved very popular. We haven't seen CF over Weston for years. Steve Saunders and his gang did a great job and a couple of people qualified CF1s – good job!

We have some great FS coaches here. We're open 17-19 June and 15-17 July for anyone wishing to

jump out of the Nationals aircraft alongside the teams training here, just come along and join in.

Congratulations to Laura and Richard Head on their wedding and to Adele and Tex Marshall on the announcement of their first baby.

Ash Kemp

Mike Carpenter
by Joel Keith



Hinton

Achievements

FS1

Ged Kennedy
Pete Greener
Mike Steers

Cat 8

Damon Tai

CH2

Steve Franklin

CH2, JM1

Lee Petherick

Jump Numbers

100

Michael Brodbin

200

Grayson Buckley
Gaz Grainger
Matt Gardner
Lee Petherick
Tom Lumb
Brian Chaffin

300

Ian Gooderham
Sam Friedrich
Justine Aldwinckle

1,600

Matt Abram

2,500

Maddy Moore

1 Hour Freefall

Chris Murphy
Michael Brodbin



Ged Kennedy and James France
by Matt Abram

Hinton has been really busy with the sun shining and fair-weather jumpers coming out of the woodwork! The annual Nish Memorial Scrambles in April had a brilliant turnout of 10 teams, although sadly we only managed one round. Despite this everyone dusted off their suits and posh frocks for a party night with band. Cocktails aplenty dealt a valuable lesson – drinking, high heels and gravel don't go together!

The following weekend's Freely Roadshow with Dan Parker and Mike Carpenter was complete with awesome weather. Everyone got loads out of the reduced rate one-on-one coaching. A big thanks to Dan and Mike who worked really hard, and to Geoff and Mike for the reduced prices. April also saw a chance to try skysurfing, with Mike Frost. A brave few tried a board for the first time – meaning frantic kicking at 50 feet and lots of beer! Thanks to Mike for his coaching, we now have some converts.

Congratulations to Pieter and Nikki Malan on their little boy Reuben. Good luck to Andy Fryer and Clare Murphy for their upcoming wedding, we hope you have a fantastic day. We said goodbye to Matt Gardner, who's left Hinton to join the military. We will miss you, good luck in your new career.

In June we have the Tent City Boogie as mentioned last Mag – get your tents out and come down for some fun in the sun! Also please note that Hinton is not usually closed midweek, we're open six days a week (closed on Mondays, except for bank holidays).

Natalie Keith

Achievements

AFF Graduate

Marni Horton
 Rob Willis
 Mark Allison
 Mariusz Pelka
 Chris Worth

FS1

Max Hill
 Conor O'Brien
 Ruth Leach
 Julia Halstead
 Lauren Sauvage
 Greg Lucas
 Katie Mitchell
 Jason Kelleher
 Oliver Loney

FF1

Geir Rasmussen
 Jacinta O'Donnell
 Georgie Humberstone

Jump Numbers

50
 Julia Halstead
 Jason Kelleher
 Dave Lee Smith
100
 Tim Gaines
 Sam Lee
 Jonny Rigby

150

Antonia Val

200

Marcus Wallen
 Geidre Domazite
 Aidan Onn
 Georgie Roles
 Antonia Nilsson

300

Jans-Klass Kollhof
 Rebecca Bradley
 Victoria Bradley

400

Doug McIlwraith
500

Laura Head

600

Graham Wilkins

700

Kate Morris

900

Richard Head

1,300

Chris Cox

1,500

Shane Wood

2,200

Phil Hartree

JSAT staff by Ed Massey



Richard and Laura's wedding



UK Para



Top Gun team over UK Para by Mark Harris

Mark Harris's Top Gun birdman team came for a weekend in March. We were washed out on Saturday but the team used the time for first flight briefs and ground training. Sunday's weather was kinder so Steve Wickham, Steve Howes and Barrie Bremner took the plunge doing their first wingsuit jump. The day ended with an 8-way flock, including the 3 newbies and Grant – exciting stuff! After such a successful fun time we hope to see the team return, thanks for your expertise and enthusiasm.

Easter was a good excuse for a fancy dress party at the Garden House. The 'Anything Goes' theme led to Dr Evil (Barrie Bremner), Banana Man (Tomo – must've been his favourite childhood cartoon!) and Batman 'n' Robin (Gav Rixon & Steve Wickham). My favourite was the Skinners as Shrek & Fiona – though we figured Tim looked more like an Oompa-Loompa!

Tim Porter has been here, teaching his daughter and club members how to freestyle. Tim is available for coaching by arrangement so if you fancy it, call the DZ. For details of future coaching weeks (FF, FS, CP, CH, JM and whatever you need!), plus the Summer Cocktail Party on 8 August, check out our club zone on ukparachuting.co.uk

The new computerised manifest system 'Jump Run' is up, running, and working really well. No more tickets – but you need credit on your account to get on a lift. The early bird lift is still £15 so get up and take advantage!

Rob Ward did his final tandem in March, with his lovely girlfriend Jenny as passenger, and a plane full of club jumpers cheering them on! Now he is 'retired' they are enjoying fun jumping together, Jenny is teaching Rob to sit-fly! It appears you can teach an old dog new tricks – though we've not actually seen any footage to prove it!

We had a visit from a 'Loose Woman' in April! Andrea Mclean, also an ex GMTV weather girl, turned up with her man, whom she'd bought a tandem for.

UKPS and other skydiving friends said a very sad farewell to long time skydiver and jump pilot Dave Rugg, who passed away in March. Our thoughts and best wishes go to his family and wife, Annie. Dave will be missed very much by the many friends he made throughout his skydiving and flying years.

Susie Richards

Achievements

FS1

James Langdale
FS1, 50 jumps
 Simon Dodsworth

FF1

David Narey
 Tibi Paven
 Gareth Jones
 Steve Howes

100 Jumps

David Narey
 Chris Durbin
 Pam Hawes
 Mark Clayton



Gav Rixon & Steve Wickham by Susie Richards



Tracey & Tim Skinner by Susie Richards

'Loose Woman' Andrea Mclean with fiance Steve and Tim Skinner by Steve Wickham

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Ralph Weatherburn by Mal Smith



Peterlee



Trev's FS1 qualifying jump by Kev Dynan

Spring began with the Spanish Boogie and Scrambles. Henry Chow was on hand for FS coaching but due to numbers ended up on one of the teams – guess which team won! The Spanish party theme went down a treat with drinking games, flamenco dancing and even a heart-felt serenade from Henry to Mandy Tydd, singing Barry Manilow's 'Mandy'. We hope Henry's ribs have healed after his buckaroo session with the infamous Colin!

During a weekend of FS coaching from Sparky and Andy Scott, Saturday's bad weather actually worked in our favour, as the hubby and wife team concentrated on theory and ground work. When Sunday came with the nice weather, the place was buzzing with cool FS jumps. As a result we have a fat list of new FS1s. A big thank you to Andy and Sparky for your very informative and entertaining coaching. Thanks also to everyone who's helped out, particularly Paul and Audrey Rowe who've done lots of coaching, it's very much appreciated.

Easter was celebrated with an egg painting competition, won by Olivia Rowe, Paul and Audrey's daughter. Mal Smith, who's supplied lots of good photos for club news and jumped camera for our special events, has now joined the Phoenix Video team. Even the Airvan celebrated recently when it reached 1,000 tacho hours. A special mention to Alan Jackson, who finally got his Cat 8 and CH1, it's been a long time coming. Yes Alan, you still need a haircut!

Everyone would like to give Lisa Stephenson and Mandy Tydd a big pat on the back for their time and effort organising the social evenings. Lisa has spent many hours making special food for the themed events, which all went down really well. As a result the bar menu is evolving, if there's anything you'd like to see on the menu, then let Sue, the bar's proprietor, know.

The next **Progression Week** is the first week of June. Plenty of events will keep everyone entertained; a pie 'n' pea supper and **quiz night on Wednesday 10 June; barbeque on Thursday, pool/darts on Friday and the Ori'ental Evening on Saturday 13 June**. This grand finale will feature Chinese food, Oriental lanterns and an Eastern dress code (optional), plus disco with The Divas back by popular demand. Tickets are £5. The bar will be opening late all week. See you there!

Sue Scott



Kev and Jane's wedding by Ann Shepherd



Sparky and Andy's FS Coaching Roadshow at Peterlee by Old Roy

Achievements

- First Freefall**
Ben Rogers
- JM1**
Sarah Boyd
Steve Wood
Stephen Smith
- CH2**
Steve Wood
Sarah Boyd
- FS1**
Paul Hardy
Ralph Weatherburn
Trevor Garrett
Lucy Eldred

Jump Numbers

- 50**
Stephen Smith
Sarah Boyd
Steve Wood
- 100**
Paul Hardy
Lucy Eldred
Ralph Weatherburn
Tom Derbyshire
Oli Clark
- 200**
Trevor Garrett
- 1,200**
Kev Dynan
- 1 Hour Freefall**
Paul Hardy
Lucy Eldred
Steve Wood

Tom Pantall's 1,000th by Lorraine Dixcey



As many of you probably already know, our colleague and great friend Pat Hammond sadly passed away on 20 April. Our thoughts and greatest sympathies go out to his family. Pat was a wonderful guy and I think I speak for everyone who knew him when I say he'll be sorely missed.

Congratulations to Tom Pantall on becoming a tandem instructor and for his 1,000th jump. Well done to Jason Fox for achieving Cat 8 and for surviving his first malfunction on the previous jump. In true 'first' tradition he had a lot of beer to buy – oh, and an Easter egg for me!

Lorraine Dixcey

Chatteris



Achievements

- Cat 8**
Jason Fox
Darren Murphy
David Wickes
- 50 jumps & FS1**
Conor O'Brien
- 100 jumps**
Donna Jenkins

Pat Hammond



Jersey

Photos: Alun Griffiths

Lee Thomas & Pete Dolbel



Pete



Jiri bought a surprise birthday present for girlfriend Jana, a tandem with Mally

Sth Cerney

Lucy McConnell's tandem with Paul Kendal, Barry Joss on left, Chas McNeil on right by Gary Stevens



Achievements

- First Freefall**
- LJ Gillis
- Glynn Duggan
- AFF Graduate**
- Dave Quinn
- FF1**
- Stella Guilding

Jump Numbers

- 100**
- Glynn Somers
- Stella Guilding
- 300**
- Dave Lewis
- 400**
- Tim Roberts
- 500**
- Paul Gibbs
- 600**
- George Clack
- 700**
- Chas McNeil
- Alex Murphy

The big change at Cerney has been the departure of our CCI, Tony Goodman. After a long colourful military and skydiving career he has decided to call it a day, put Blighty behind him and head over the pond to Perris. Tony has been a breath of fresh air here, and our loss will be Perris's gain. We wish him and his family all the best in their new adventure. Our best wishes also go to packers Adam and Dionne Dean who've left for a new life in Australia.

We say hello to Buzz as the new CCI, Matty Holford, charged with the daily running of the dropzone, plus Ces and Lee who are welcome additions. Matty and the team have been doing an outstanding job finding aircraft – a hard task but they've kept us going every weekend, mainly with the SMG. This awesome chariot is now a regular visitor to our skies.



Big Al exits for a demo over South Cerney by Paul Gibbs



Paul and Karen's wedding by Big Al

Tandem season is really getting under way as are AFF and RAPS, much thanks to the hard work of Chas McNeil. A packing course saw all participants qualifying. Congratulations to Mr Bassadone who finally got his A Licence. Richie 'Wurzel' McConnell has come out of the closet as a sausage-grabber and his good lady, Lucy, finally did a tandem after 5 years of thinking about it. Well done Lucy! Wurzel and Cairan both got their reserves out, on the same lift! Being the scrooge that he is, Wurzel is still hunting for his handles in the fields, rather than buy new ones.

Congratulations to Paul and Karen who tied the knot in Leeds, a big well done to you both. Everyone is welcome to pop over for some great jumping and enjoy a South African braai (BBQ but better!) at the end of the day. A trip to Perris is planned for the New Year, if you want to tag along have a chat with Dave Lewis.

Paul Gibbs

Skydive Jersey reopened in April, the locals eagerly awaited the aircraft's arrival, itching to get in the air again. Pete Dolbel made the first leap of 2009 over the Channel Islands, closely followed by Alun, of course, plus a few tandems and plenty of fun jumpers.

Winter efforts by Wayne and Mally have given the centre a makeover, providing a pleasant environment, with a nice new packing carpet, day room with TV and drinks facilities, plus we even now boast our own toilet!

Final negotiations with the Guernsey authorities are looking hopeful. The long process may soon result in seeing parachutes again, over the fields of L'Eree. Fingers crossed for the Guernsey skydiving community!

Events include an **AFF trip to France, 6 June**, and **beach BBQ at the Gunsite slipway, Wed 17 June**. Everyone is welcome, contact Mally for details and/or visit our website, for the scheduled openings: skydivejersey.net

Mal Richardson

Paragon

They say that if at first you don't succeed, skydiving's not for you... well if the same were true when writing the Paragon news, this would never have made it to print! Now that we've all kissed and made up, here goes with the latest round-up from Errol...

A dismal start to the year in terms of weather has seen us grounded for more days than we'd like to admit. To keep the troops amused, Rob has kept us going with tales of when he was a lad and, to be honest, he's got a few crackers. Thankfully things have improved lately and with the addition of an extra tandem instructor, Steve, we've rattled out a few good weekends and made a solid attempt to catch up on jump numbers. Connie's making great progress on RAPS and with a fair wind will get qualified soon, just in time to really enjoy the summer.

Finally, we've got two new, fully trained pilots – Michael and James, both now free from the watchful eye of Club Chief Pilot Tommy and keen to impress. It all adds to the general excitement of skydiving at Paragon.

Mag7 – Hoo Haal



Eoin Muir by Rab

Bobby Bayne and Abe Hills by Rab



Hib



Photo: Nick Davison

We've had many organised freely events, including tube jumps. Piers Roberts and his freely gang have been building impressive big formations. Piers does need reminding that it's 'tomatoes' in the canteen, not 'tomaytoes'!

Congratulations to Brian Cumming and Paul Geary for their FS Coaches' ratings. One of our staff, Lewis, finally did his first jump, a tandem with Baldrick, plus a host of regulars along for the ride. AFF next Lewis!

Stu Ferguson, of UK Skydiver fame, organised a weekend of bar fun, with the Hibaldstow versions of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* and *X-Factor*, hilarious!

A progression week for York Uni saw many AFF Level 7s by the end of the week, well done all. Poor weather over Easter still saw us grab every chance to jump, with a few of our regulars working for their demo ratings during the hop 'n' pop weather! Well done to Dave Butterell, Mike McNulty, Noel Purcell and Gary Crisp. Also to Leanne James for learning demo DZ control, she popped her first smoke, surely a beer call!

Our 4-way Scrambles had a really good turnout with 7 teams, who all completed all the rounds, a rare event! Many thanks to the coaches and organisers. We've set up a high performance landing area for swoopers, contact the DZ for details of who is eligible to use it. Lots of teams have been training here; *Unagi, Karma, Fend for Yourselves* and *Kaizen*. Also the fantastic *Satori* and *Fusion*, both teams are available for coaching. There are many events in the offing, check: skydiving.co.uk

Mike Colthart



X-Factor Hib style by Blair Stent



Paul Geary's 600th Jump by Blair Stent

Achievements

AFF Graduate
Blyth Davies
CH1
Lisa Stephenson
CH2
Clint Bacon
JM1
Clint Bacon
FS1
Rachael Eyton
Alan Wilson
Ryan May
Mick Thornley
Anna Boast
Claire Atley
FF1
Ryan Moores

Jump Numbers

50
Michael Woodward
100
Claire Atley
Phil James
Rob J Simpson
Max Hill
200
Gordon Menhennet
300
Leanne James
Sam Davis
Scott Marrison
400
Clara Melia
Paul Geary
500
Mick Hampton
700
Rai Ahmed
1,000
Gary Crisp
Jo Burns
1,200
Olly Burgin
1 Hour Freefall
Mick Thornley
Lucas Hall
Claire Armstrong
Max Hill

Chris Brook by Blair Stent



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France

Irish Boogie 2009
24th July - 3rd August
Irish Parachute Club
Ireland



PERFORMANCE DESIGNS

Headcorn

Top Gun gave Headcorn their undivided attention for a weekend in April. As the first morning was bad weather, they trained 5 for their first wingsuit flight, with a crowd of interested onlookers. By the time the weather cleared, folk had either gone home or had to work, so the Top Gun team did a few jumps themselves, and spent a good evening in Wings Bar.

Sunday started bad again, giving a chance to brief 6 people for the impact tracking suits, and run an interesting, well-attended seminar. When the weather cleared they managed 3 first flights – Big Tony, John Schulz and our very own Auntie Jane. It was very strange to see people with thousands of jumps as nervous as first-timers! All of them absolutely loved their wingsuit jumps! The 6 people jumped the tracking suits, with more wanting to but we ran out of daylight. Everyone had a great weekend and it definitely created more interest in wingsuiting.

Thanks and farewell to Vicky and Paul, no longer running Wings, the airfield bar. A very warm welcome to the new management, Bernie and Lynn. Will it be re-named the Bernie Inn? We wish them well – together with their long-suffering family, who will be helping out! We have competitions planned, check out our website or the Mag Diary for what's on – come on down!

Ruth Cooper

Achievements

First Freefall

James Lisney
JM1, CH2
 Tom Weston
Cat 8, CH1
 Craig Weller
 Dean MacIntyre
 James Lisney
FS1
 Nicola Triscott
 Tim Price
CP1
 Del Hopkins
 Alex Turner

Jump Numbers

50
 Nick Mentz
 Tom 'The Pilot' Weston
100
 Alex Hopkins
200
 Michael Cambridge
 Helen Bishopp (& a Mr Bill!)
400
 Lucy Smith-Willey
2,000
 Nigel Rowlan
5,000 Tandems
 Clem Quinn



Training session by Mark Harris



Richard Bissett by Nigel Rowlan



Steve with Tony after his first flight by Dean Smith

Main photo shows Jane's first flight by David Haygarth

Skydive Airkix



Brett (the non Aussie) doing FF1 with Sarah Hall

Achievements

AFF Graduate, CH1

Liz Soley
 Karl Richardson
 Tim Shigabutdinov
 Lesley Kent
100 Jumps
 Chanda Webb
1,000 Jumps
 Andy Sauer
72 Hours Freefall
 Chris McCann



Sarah Neale on a CF course with Pat Hammond in the background by Andy Lapsley

Skydive Airkix has had a fantastic start to 2010, jumping every weekend in March and April, with the Let climbing faster than ever. By the time you read this, our brand new shower block will have been built by Trev and Chris. The bar and restaurant will finally be fitted and in full working order. Andy Lapsley and his lovely wife Lesley will be running the facility. Saturday night barbecues and parties will be back! Thanks to Lee and Chris, we even have a fire pit for the colder nights – Andy nearly lost an eye in the process!

We say a very sad farewell to Pat Hammond who's been running CF courses at Sibson. Sarah Neale did a few successful CF jumps, despite losing sensation in her fingertips on a very cold day. She went on to do her first wingsuit jump, well done Sarah.

It's great to see Mark Harris back in the UK, he's doing a fab job recruiting new Birdmen. He will be coaching wingsuits at Sibson occasionally, contact us to arrange a date.

Brian Knight has been load organising at Sibson (his dates are on the website), all experience levels are catered for and everyone is welcome. There's some fab events coming up, check the website: **Chris Lynch's Wingtips (5-6 June), BPA CF Roadshow, 4-way Grand Prix, FS and FF Progression** and it's great to have the **8-way Speed Nationals** back! We're still running BOGOF, if you'd like notifying of the next one, contact: info@skydiveairkix.com

Sarah Hall



Brian Knight's organised load by Sarah Hall

Wild Geese

Achievements

First Freefall

Ryan McCreanor

CH1

Graham Wallace

JM1, CH2

Paul Brennan

Eimear McGovern

Dave Scott

Andrew McCorkell

FS1

Brian Kelly

FF1

Mark McGarvey

50 Jumps

Karen Gallagher

Nuala Malone

200 Jumps

Eimear McGovern

1,500 Jumps

Pete Lehane



8-way star and the river Bann by Mike Murphy



Pete Lehane and Andy McCorkell by Mike Murphy



Aaron and Amy by Mike Murphy

Apologies to Aaron Edgar, accidentally put in for first freefall as Aaron Hughes about four magazines back. Paul Brennan and Eimear McGovern, who've had full-face helmets for what seems like forever but haven't been able to jump them, finally completed their JM1s. Brian Kelly, who qualified Cat 8 in January wasted no time getting FS1, and was last heard on Facebook announcing he was turning to the dark side. Mark 'Chainsaw' McGarvey joins the rapidly growing freefly group at the Geese. Connor Campbell was signed off as the newest WARP coach while Rod McCrory added CH and CP coach to his long list of skills.

A 3-way competition that never was quickly became an impromptu QUB 8-way get-together, organised by Connor. *Team Anvil* as a 4-way base ensured the fall rate was brisk. Some good dives were followed up by the first barbecue of the year and what seems like the annual spring tradition of hunting for a gas cylinder that isn't empty.

QUB Skydive Club received monies from the Queens University, Belfast Annual Fund, while Eddie Monteith and James Beattie were both awarded Royal Aero Club bursaries. These were announced one Friday night by a bizarre alcohol-induced text message, which I won't repeat here. Instead and for the sake of the paintwork on Paul's car, I'll just remind James that under no circumstances can gin be passed off as a soft drink, especially not when mixed with vodka.

The build up to this year's Irish big-way record is beginning with Gordon Hodgkinson and Ronan Whelan hosting two skills camps at the Geese. Later in June, our jumpers will be joining forces with the Irish Parachute Club to hit the UK mainland for the Hibaldstow 28-way competition. It's going to be a busy summer!

Martin McLaughlin

Fergie & friends by Martin McLaughlin



Achievements

First Freefall

Daniel Armer

Matthew Knight

Luke Davis

Vera Novy

Stuart Henderson

Jayne Girdham

Cat 8

Tom Ingham

Rob Bullen

Steven Boland

Graham Scally

David Belsire

Rob Pappini

Jump Numbers

50

Tamsin Jackman

Carl March

100

Phil Kimpton

Tom Anderson

200

Jim Coupe

Craig Harrop

Christine Dawes

400

Simon Chittick

500

Greg Taylor

3,000

Jeff Illidge

4,000

John Reid

Black Knights

Karma did some team training out of the Porter with some very funky exits – the right hand door confused them a tad, bless!

The Easter Chick party when down 'a tweet' with Matt, the naked chef, back again trying to barbecue anyone dressed as a chick that stood still!

Megan celebrated her 16th birthday with a surprise tandem jump with John Reid. An army of cameramen joined in to make sure it was all caught on film – another budding skydiver addition to the family!

Glenn Stephenson went on holiday to Lodi, California. He turned up at the DZ to find there was an accuracy competition on, entered and won gold! Congrats Glenn. Huge congratulations also go to Tony Lightfoot, in the sport for 25 years! He can often be seen on bad weather days gathering students to sing 'anti wind songs'.

There is a **BPA FS Roadshow, 13-14 June**, all you pay for is your slot so come along and learn new skills.

Sam Davis



Glenn Stephenson winning gold at accuracy at Lodi



Alison and Jan by Jeff Illidge



Megan's 16th birthday tandem with friends by Katy Myerscough

Ross Houlston



Cornish

Great weather, cool skydiving and awesome views, that's been our 2009 so far! Tandems have been coming in thick and fast keeping us all busy but there's always time for fun jumps. FS coaching with Ben has been going well – maybe we'll have a CPC team in the Nationals?!

Ross is working hard training on camera and getting some great shots, while Phil has done his first flag jump, some CF and is getting ready for demos and beach jumps, which continue all summer. We'll be landing outside The Watering Hole, see our website: cornishparachuteclub.co.uk

Ross Houlston

Easter weekend was full of merriment with visiting skydivers from far and wide. Perranporth residents are getting used to our team building and communication skills! Needless to say our beer board is very full.

April saw the sad loss of our good friend Pat Hammond, our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this sad time. May he rest in peace.

Paul Yeoman



Phil Symons' first flag jump by Paul Yeoman

Photo: Dave Lewis



POPS

The first POPS UK Meet is **13-14 June at Hibaldstow**, registration 9.30-10.30am on Saturday (phone if you're on the way but going to be late, 07860 559 112). Accuracy will be followed by 4-way FS Scrambles (dependant on numbers), then on Sunday morning, as tradition demands, the Hit 'n' Rock. The venue is settled, the weather prayed for, the trophies are awaiting new names. Come and have a great weekend! The dropzone offers camping with all facilities on site – B&Bs can be accessed through their website.

The following meet is at **Weston, 18-19 July**. Unfortunately the numbers for our proposed POPS sunshine meet in Crete weren't enough to make it viable, so I had to pull the plug. My thanks to those who contacted me and to Pete Marsden who did preliminary investigations. Maybe next year?

My tenure as Top POP UK was due to expire at the POPS AGM on 10 January but no shining knight on a white charger rode into the frame to release me. I will move permanently abroad Sep/Oct this year and already spend much of my time there now. A Top POP needs to be able to visit DZs around the country, show support at big-way training and attempts, keep the hand on the rudder to co-ordinate POPS activities and answer membership correspondence quickly. With the best will in the world I cannot do that from my little beach hut in a foreign land.

It would be a travesty if we allow our UK POPS society to flounder, especially when in other countries POPS is going from strength to strength. POPS UK membership includes countless responsible people with talent, drive and enthusiasm – we need one or more such candidates for Top POP to come forward now!

Dick Barton

BCPA

70 university students and friends, 24 apartments, 7 people carriers... 1 Ryan Air flight! It was the BCPA foreign trip 2009.

Ed successfully led the group from Stansted to Seville, where we were greeted by the friendly Skydive Spain staff.

On the second day the sun shone, the Dorniers roared and this would be the norm for the rest of the holiday. The next 10 days saw endless achievements and progression halted only by hangovers disguised as gastro-enteritis and minibus suspension springs finding their way from under the wheel arch to the passenger seat!

Congratulations to all those AFF graduates, A certificates, FS1s, FF1s and other achievers! Hundreds of beers were bought. The sound of clanging bottles resulted in mobs that only the quickest and those with the longest arms would benefit from. Marc took groups for their first tracking, inflatable and spaceball jumps and a lift enjoyed the weather by playing under canopy at 10,000ft. Unfortunately we were unable to broadcast the B-C-P-A dive live but it will be online soon. Several lost their clothes in the annual naked jump (and in the pool, and in the bar, and in...!).

The BCPA foreign trip was a truly exceptional event, so a massive thank you to all those that helped organise. Good times!

Will Cooke

RAPS guys raring to go by Harun Mamus



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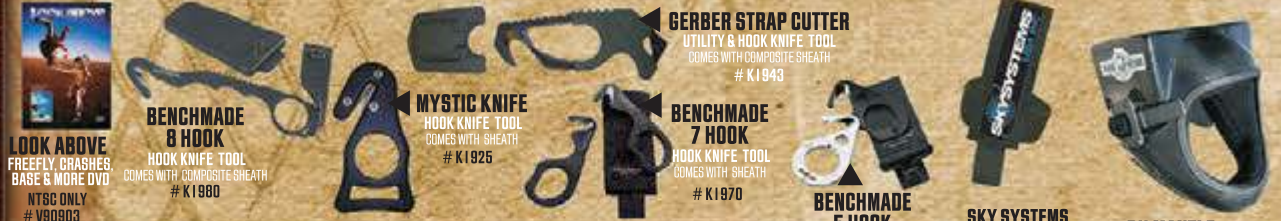
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FF Freeflying
AC Accuracy
WP WARP
SU Skydive U
CP Canopy Piloting
WI Wingsuit Instruction

BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



6 Dunkeswell
01404 890 222



Skydive UK Ltd
Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell, Devon EX14 4LG
Tel: 01404 890 222 or 07718 638 000
info@skydiveukltd.com

www.skydivethewell.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Twin Turbine Beech King Air
Open: 8am-dusk, Thurs-Sun and bank hol Mons.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
For midweek operation please call the DZ first.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

7 Headcorn
01622 890 862



Headcorn Parachute Centre
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641
info@headcornparachuteclub.com

www.headcornparachuteclub.com
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan, Islander
Open: 9am-dusk, Tuesday-Sunday. 1pm-dusk on Monday in summer.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Come and join in the fun here at Headcorn!

LO FS CF FF AC WP

8 Hibaldstow
0113 250 5600



Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow, Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 DZ: 01652 648 837
info@skydiving.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk

Aircraft: Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6
Open: 9am-dusk every day.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
15,000ft on most lifts, host to the BPA FS and Artistic Nationals 2008.

LO FS FF WP SU

1 Black Knights
01524 791 820



Black Knights Parachute Centre
Patty's Farm, Hillam Lane, Cockerham, Lancashire LA2 0DY
Tel (DZ): 01524 791 820
Tel/Fax: 01772 717 624

www.bkpc.co.uk bkpcinfo@googlemail.com
Aircraft: Cessna 185, Turbine Porter
Open: Fri-Mon every week. All week for the first week of every month.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Always a warm welcome at the north-west's most accessible drop zone. Resident freefly school.

LO FS CF FF WP CP

2 Bridlington
01262 677 367



Skydive Brid
East Leys Farm, Grindale Rd, Bridlington, E Yorks YO16 4YB
Tel: 01262 677 367 or 07836 276 188
Fax: 01262 401 871 info@skydivebrid.co.uk
www.skydivebrid.co.uk

This centre was not operating when we went to press

4 Chatteris
01354 740 810

NLPC

North London Parachute Centre
Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea, March, Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 0871 664 0113 Fax: 0870 787 4909
info@ukskydiving.com www.ukskydiving.com
Aircraft: 2 Nomads, Cessna 206

Open: 8am-8pm Tuesday-Sunday in summer. 9am-dusk, Wednesday-Sunday in winter.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, rounds, tandem
A friendly, progressive drop zone with excellent facilities that are constantly being updated.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

9 Hinton
01295 812 300



Hinton Skydiving Centre
Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk

Aircraft: PAC 750XL
Open: 8am-9pm at weekends. 9am-7pm Tuesday-Friday.
First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem
Small and friendly. Bunkhouse, camping & showers on site.

FS CF FF AC WP

3 Cark
01229 889 516



North West Parachute Centre
Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7LS
Tel: 01229 889 516 Weekends: 01539 558 672
Fax: 01772 787 106
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

www.skydive-northwest.com
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
Open: 9am-9pm, weekends & bank hols, weekdays by arrangement.

First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Set in beautiful surroundings of the Lake District. We aim to make everyone feel welcome.

LO FS CF FF WP

5 Cornish
01872 553 352



Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield, Higher Trevellas, St Agnes, Cornwall TR5 0XS
Tel: 01872 553 352 or 07790 439 653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
www.cornishparachuteclub.co.uk

Aircraft: Cessna 206, guest aircraft by arrangement
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends. Open most other days in summer, call for details
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
A small but developing club with friendly staff, nice facilities & fantastic views of the Cornish peninsula.

WP FS CF CP

10 Jersey
01534 747 410



Skydive Jersey Ltd
States Airport, St Peter, Jersey JE3 7ZR
Tel: 01534 747 410

info@skydivejersey.net www.skydivejersey.net
Aircraft: 8-place Airvan, occasional turbines
Open: Regular scheduled opening days, dates in Diary at back of the Mag. Hours vary with the tide. Please call first before travelling, to confirm.
First Jump Courses: Tandem, occasional AFF trips
The only GB beach landing DZ. Operate from international airport. Stunning views of the island, with landings on the beach in St Aubin's Bay.

LO FS FF WP


11 Langar
01949 860 878



British Parachute Schools
Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY
Tel: 01949 860 878 Fax: 01949 860 012
www.bpslangar.co.uk info@bpslangar.co.uk
Aircraft: 2 Cessna Grand Caravans, Skyvan occasionally
Open: 9am-8pm (or dusk) every day. 10am start on Sunday. Office open every day, 8.30am-6pm.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Lots of aircraft, always lots of jumping, busy every day – midweek too!

LO FS CF FF WP CP

12 Lewknor
0845 130 7194



London Parachute School
The Byre, Woods Farm, Easthampstead Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 3AE
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 0845 130 7194 Fax: 0845 130 7195
info@londonparachuteschool.com
www.londonparachuteschool.com
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem

LO FS CF AC WP


13 Netheravon
01980 678 250



Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678 250 Fax: 01980 678 275
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
www.netheravon.com
Aircraft: 2 Cessna Caravans, regular guest aircraft
Open: Weekends & bank holidays, 8.30am – dark; Wednesdays, 12 noon – dark; Fridays, 10am – dark
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Both civilian and military jumpers are very welcome

LO FS FF WP CP WI

14 Paragon
01821 642 454



Paragon Skydiving
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol, Perthshire PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656
billy.gollan@btinternet.com
www.paragonskydiving.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182
Open: 9am-6pm Saturday, 10am-6pm Sunday, all year. 9am-7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses & tandems only.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
Nice friendly DZ, beautiful scenery, barbecue every Saturday night so come along and chill out.

FS CF WP

15 Peterlee
0191 517 1234



Peterlee Parachute Centre
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
Tel/Fax: 0191 517 1234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
www.skydiveacademy.org.uk
Aircraft: Airvan, Cessna 182
Open: 8.30am-8.30pm weekends & bank holidays. 1pm-8.30pm Wed & Fri, weather permitting
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
15 minutes drive from Durham city, 25 minutes from Newcastle, centrally located for NE England.

FS CF WP

16 Sibson
01832 280 490



Skydive Airkix
Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
skydivesibson@aol.com
www.skydiveairkix.com
Aircraft: Turbolet 410
Open: 8am-8pm, Tue-Sun in March to December, Wed-Sun in December & February. Closed in January.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Unrestricted altitude, fast climbing aircraft, brand new facilities and best of all, one of the cheapest UK jump prices.

LO FS FF AC WP SU

17 South Cerney
01285 868 259



Silver Stars
Duke of Gloucester Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucester GL7 5RD
Tel: 01285 868 259 Fax: 01285 861 344
info@silverstars.org.uk www.silverstars.org.uk
Aircraft: Finist SMG
Open: Wednesday-Sunday 9am-7pm
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Military and civilian jumpers are very welcome. Photo ID is required. Call or check website for prices.

LO FS FF CF AC WP CP

18 St Andrews
0845 189 5865



Skydive St Andrews
Kingsmuir Airfield, Saint Andrews, Fife KY16 8QQ
Tel: 0845 189 5865
skydivestandrews@mail.com
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk

This centre was not operating when we went to press


19 Strathallan
07774 686 161



Skydive Strathallan
Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
Weekends: 01764 662 572
Tel: 07774 686 161 Fax: 01236 732 461
kk.brady@btinternet.com
www.skydivesthathallan.co.uk
Aircraft: 3 Cessna 206, Turbine (for various events)
Open: 9am-9pm weekends & bank holidays. 5pm-9pm Fridays in summer.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, rounds, tandem

LO FS CF FF AC WP

20 Swansea
07779 019 655



Skydive Swansea
Swansea Airport, Fairwood, Swansea, SA2 7JU
Tel: 07779 019 655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
www.skydiveswansea.co.uk
Aircraft: Turbine Islander
Open: Weekends, weekdays by appointment
First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem
A friendly club with stunning coastline views on three sides.

LO FS CF WP

21 Swindon
01793 791 222



Skydive London
Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm, Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AA
Tel: 01793 791 222 or 01384 351 050
Fax: 01793 791 133
info@skydivelondon.co.uk
www.skydivelondon.co.uk
Aircraft: Airvan
Open: 8am-7pm Mon-Sat. 9am-6pm on Sundays.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem

FS CF AC WP

22 Tilstock
01948 841 111



The Parachute Centre
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
Tel: 01948 841 111
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
www.theparachutecentre.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Airvan
Open: 9am-dusk Fridays & bank holidays. 8am-dusk on Saturdays. Closed on Sunday.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
A small but friendly dropzone serving Manchester, Liverpool, Wales and the West Midlands.

LO FS WP


23 UK Para
01953 861 030



UK Parachuting
Old Buckenham Airfield, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1PU
Tel: 01953 861 030
Fax: 01953 861 031
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
www.ukparachuting.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan
Open: Every day.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem

LO FS CF FF WP CP

24 Weston
01869 343 201



Skydive Weston
RAF Weston on the Green, Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TQ
Tel: 01869 343 201 Fax: 01869 343 194
skydiveweston@fsmail.net
www.skydiveweston.com
Aircraft: G92 Dornier
Open: 12pm-8pm Fri. 9am-8pm Sat. 10am-7pm Sun.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
A friendly drop zone with some of the largest facilities and best equipment in the country.

LO FS FF WP

25 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609



Wild Geese Skydive Centre
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh, Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
Tel: 028 2955 8609 Fax: 028 2955 7050
jump@skydivewildgeese.com
www.skydivewildgeese.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan
Open: Dawn-dusk w'kends, 9.30am-5pm w'kdays.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
Friendly atmosphere, fantastic views of north coast, excellent facilities, no restrictions, plenty of local entertainment.

LO FS CF WP



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Email: symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com

Call, fax or email Rob Colpus for help or a brochure, or drop in to the Kit Store at Headcorn DZ at any time

BPA Overseas Affiliated Drop Zones

Cyprus

0035 724 744 337



Cyprus Parachute Centre
CJSATC, BFPO 58, Dhekelia Garrison,
Cyprus

Tel: 0035 724 744 337
Fax: 0035 724 724 330

info@skydivencyprus.com.cy

www.skydivencyprus.com.cy

Aircraft: PBN Piston Islander

Open: 7am-1pm weekends. Midweek by arrangement.

First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Please contact the centre before visiting to ensure availability. Equipment available for modest hire charges.

FF FS FP WP SU CP

RAPA

0049 5254 982 2378



Rhine Army Parachute Association
Flugplatz, Bielefelder Strasse, 33175,
Bad Lippspringe, Germany

Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378
Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740

jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

Aircraft: Turbine Islander, Quest Kodiak,
Dornier G92 on call

Open: 9am-7pm (or dusk) every day,
February to November.

First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Lippspringe DZ is the only BPA drop zone on mainland Europe and it has a swoop pond.

LO FS CF AC WP CP

Parachuting Societies

British Collegiate Parachute Association

www.ukskydiver.co.uk/bcpa

bcpa@ukskydiver.co.uk

Contact: Ed Morley, BCPA Chairman
Tel: 07817 803805

The BCPA aims to promote skydiving at collegiate level. We run regional and national events for over 30 affiliated university clubs. The BCPA provides a community where university skydivers can find like-minded people for jumping, competing and socialising.

POPS UK

9 Mansion House Mews, Pickwick Road,
Corsham, Wilts SN13 9BB

Tel: 01249 701805 or 07860 559112

dbarton@fsmail.net www.pops.org.uk

Contact: Dick Barton, Top POP

A society of skydivers over forty. We hold regular meets at host parachute centres.

SOS UK

Flat 14, 21 Victoria Square, Clifton,
Bristol BS8 4ES

Tel: 01179 738341

nielshsn@yahoo.co.uk

Contact: Niels Hanson

A society of skydivers over sixty.

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DIARY

JUNE

- 1-4** Jersey **Jersey DZ Open**
skydivejersey.net
- 1-4** BKPC, Cockerham **Safe Flight School Course**
safeflightschool.com
- 1-5** Weston **BPA Instructor Course (Tand/AFF)**
trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 5-6** Skydive Airkix, P'boro **Wing Tips Canopy Course**
skydiveairkix.com
- 5-7** Weston **Safe Flight School Course**
safeflightschool.com
- 6** Jersey **AFF Trip, France**
skydivejersey.net
- 6-7** Skydive Airkix, Sibson **BPA CF Coaching Roadshow**
skydiveairkix.com
- 6-7** Headcorn **Woodmouse Speed 10 Comp**
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
- 6-7** Hibaldstow **Skydive Choreography**
skydivechoreography.com
- 6-10** Empuriabrava **Euro Freefly Record Attempt**
skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 6-14** Peterlee **Progression Week**
skydiveacademy.org.uk
- 6-14** Cark **Cark Week**
skydive-northwest.com
- 7-13** Turin, Italy **World Air Games**
wag2009.com
- 8-10** Empuriabrava, Spain **Safe Flight School Course**
safeflightschool.com
- 8-12** UK Para, Old Buck **Coaching Week**
ukparachuting.co.uk
- 11** BPA Offices, Leicester **STC & Riggers Meeting**
bpa.org.uk
- 12-14** Utti, Finland **Speed World Cup Meet**
speedskydiving.eu
- 12-15** Paraclete XP, USA **FF & FS Tunnel Money Meet**
paracletexp.com
- 13** Peterlee **Orie'mental Evening**
skydiveacademy.org.uk
- 13** Elsinore, USA **Poker Run**
skydiveelsinore.com
- 13-14** BKPC, Cockerham **BPA FS Coaching Roadshow**
bkpc.co.uk
- 13-14** Hibaldstow **BPA FF Coaching Roadshow**
skydiving.co.uk
- 13-14** Hibaldstow **POPS Meet**
pops.org.uk
- 13-14** Cark **Free FS Coaching & Big-ways**
skydive-northwest.com
- 13-14** Hibaldstow **CF Grand Prix**
skydiving.co.uk
- 15-18** Jersey **Jersey DZ Open**
skydivejersey.net

- 15-19** Ostrow, Poland **Euro Record 100/Big-way Camp**
big-ways.pl
- 15-19** Hibaldstow **Discount Week**
skydiving.co.uk
- 17** Gunsite Slipway, Jersey **Beach BBQ**
skydivejersey.net
- 17-21** Weston **Team Training**
skydiveweston.com
- 18-21** Cerfontaine, Belgium **Mission Impossible**
4xtremetime.com
- 18-21** Empuriabrava **Beach Boogie**
skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 18-21** Empuriabrava, Spain **Safe Flight School Course**
safeflightschool.com
- 19-21** Netheravon **Solstice Boogie**
solsticeboogie.info
- 19-21** Molinella, Italy **PD Factory Team**
flygang.com
- 20-21** Hibaldstow **UKSL 4-way FS**
skydiving.co.uk
- 21-28** Voss, Norway **Extreme Sport Week**
ekstremesportveik.com
- 22-28** Hinton **Tent City Boogie**
freeflyguy@lavabit.com
- 23** BPA Offices, Leicester **Council Meeting**
bpa.org.uk
- 23-28** Berlin, Germany **Kate Cooper German 40-Ways**
gojump.de
- 24-28** Berlin, Germany **Norman Kent Camera Workshop**
gojump.de
- 26-29** Chalon sur Saone **32-way Open Diamond Camp**
chalon-sur-saone-net
- 27-28** Hibaldstow **28-way Comp**
skydiving.co.uk
- 27-28** Dunkeswell **BPA FF Coaching Roadshow**
skydivethewell.com
- 27-28** Black Knights, Cockerham **Accuracy Grand Prix**
bkpc.co.uk
- 29-Jul 1** Airkix, Milton Keynes **Mike Mackenzie Tunnel Camp**
airkix.com
- 29-Jul 2** Jersey **Jersey DZ Open**
skydivejersey.net
- 29-Jul 7** Seville, Spain **Free Volare Coaching**
skydivespain.com

JULY

- 1-5** Cerfontaine, Belgium **Big-way Camp**
4xtremetime.com
- 2-5** Perris Valley, USA **P3 Power Play**
danbc@skydiveperris.com
- 4-5** Hibaldstow **Freefly Scrabbles Meet**
skydiving.co.uk
- 4-5** Netheravon **Skyvan Wingsuit W/e**
netheravon.com

- 4-5** Netheravon **Euphoria Head-down Skills**
netheravon.com
- 4-5** Cark **Free FS Coaching & Organising**
skydive-northwest.com
- 4-5** BKPC, Cockerham **BPA CF Coaching Roadshow**
bkpc.co.uk
- 4-5** Fano, Italy **Synapsi Skills Camp**
skydivefano.eu
- 4-5** Langar **Pinch Jump**
strollerweb.co.uk
- 6-8** Empuriabrava, Spain **Safe Flight School Course**
safeflightschool.com
- 6-10** UK Para, Old Buck **Coaching Week**
ukparachuting.co.uk
- 10-12** Triegen, Switzerland **Speed World Cup Meet**
speedskydiving.eu
- 11-12** Langar **Multi-level Sequential**
skydivechoreography.com
- 11-12** Skydive Airkix, Sibson **UKSL 4-way FS**
skydiveairkix.com
- 11-12** Hibaldstow **Fusion Coaching**
skydiving.co.uk
- 11-12** Hibaldstow **Outbreak Coaching**
skydiving.co.uk
- 11-14** Lapalisse, France **Boogieman Fever**
boogiemanfever.com
- 11-19** Peterlee **Progression Week**
skydiveacademy.org.uk
- 12** Dunkeswell **Jump for Heroes**
skydivethewell.com
- 13-16** Jersey **Jersey DZ Open**
skydivejersey.net
- 15-19** Weston **Team Training**
skydiveweston.com
- 16-26** Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei **World Games**
worldgames2009.tw
- 17-19** Hibaldstow **UK Funshine Boogie**
skydiving.co.uk
- 18-19** Hibaldstow **BPA FS & Camera Roadshow**
skydiving.co.uk
- 18-19** Black Knights, Cockerham **CF Grand Prix**
bkpc.co.uk
- 18-19** Weston **POPS Meet**
pops.org.uk
- 18-25** RAPA, Lipp Springs, Germany **BA(G)/RAPA Championships**
- 18-26** Pribram **Prague Boogie**
boogieclub.co.uk
- 18-26** Soulac sur Mer, France **Airboss 4 Fun Summer Boogie**
www.toratora.nl
- 20-24** Hibaldstow **Team Training & Discount Week**
skydiving.co.uk
- 22-25** RAPA, Germany **Classics & CP Nationals**
jpspl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

- 24** Dunkeswell **Hughes 500 Heli Jumps**
skydivethewell.com
- 24-Aug 3** Irish Parachute Club **Irish Boogie**
skydive.ie
- 25** Headcorn **Headcorn Flying Prom**
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk
- 25-26** Langar **Pinch Jump**
strollerweb.co.uk
- 25-26** Dunkeswell **Boogie Warm-up W/e**
skydivethewell.com
- 25-26** Hibaldstow **Satori Coaching**
skydiving.co.uk
- 25-26** Hibaldstow **Outbreak Coaching**
skydiving.co.uk
- 25-29** Irish Parachute Club **Big-way Camp & Irish Record**
skydive.ie
- 25-Aug 2** Chicago, USA **Summerfest Boogie**
skydivechicago.com
- 25-Aug 23** Fano, Italy **Summer Boogie**
skydivefano.eu
- 27-30** Jersey **Jersey DZ Open**
skydivejersey.net
- 27-Aug 2** Dunkeswell **Twin Beech Beach Boogie**
skydivethewell.com
- 27-Aug 2** Dunkeswell **SOS Record Attempt**
nielshsn@yahoo.co.uk
- 30-Aug 2** Chicago, USA **World Freefly Record 100-way**
skydivechicago.com
- 31** Headcorn **Headcorn Closed for Jumping**
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

AUGUST

- 1-2** RAPA, Bad Lipp Springs, Germany **BPA CF Coaching Roadshow**
- 1-2** Langar **Pinch Jump**
strollerweb.co.uk
- 1-3** Irish Parachute Club **Men's World Record**
skydive.ie
- 1-9** Cark **Cark Week**
skydive-northwest.com
- 1-15** Russia **Aerograd Boogie**
mattnomore@mails@hotmail.com
- 6** BPA Offices, Leicester **STC & Riggers Meeting**
bpa.org.uk
- 7-9** Hinton **Speed World Cup Meet**
speedskydiving.eu
- 8** Applewoods **UK Para Summer Cocktail Party**
ukparachuting.co.uk
- 8-9** Fano, Italy **High Altitude & Night Jumps**
skydivefano.eu
- 8-10** Hibaldstow **4-way FS Nationals**
skydiving.co.uk
- 8-10** Hibaldstow **VFS Nationals**
skydiving.co.uk

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Irish Parachute Club 51
+353 4697 30103 skydive.ie/boogie2009

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9-16 Lapalisse Picnic Boogie
lapalisse-aero.com

10-13 Jersey Jersey DZ Open
skydivejersey.net

10-14 Langar BPA Instructor Course (BI/Adv)
trudy@bpa.org.uk

14-16 Skydive Pink Klatovy, Czech Canopy Piloting Comp
pinkskyvan.com

15-17 Hibaldstow 8-way FS Nats & 4-way Reserve
skydiving.co.uk

15-17 Hibaldstow Artistic & Speed Nationals
skydiving.co.uk

15-17 Hibaldstow CF Nationals
skydiving.co.uk

15-23 Peterlee Progression Week
skydiveacademy.org.uk

17-19 Cerfontaine, Belgium ToraTora Artistic FF Comp
4xtremetime.com

17-21 Langar BPA Instructor Course(CSI/Pre-Adv)
trudy@bpa.org.uk

17-21 Headcorn FS Week
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

18 BPA Offices, Leicester Council Meeting
bpa.org.uk

20-23 Cerfontaine, Belgium Tailgate Freestyle Boogie
4xtremetime.com

21-23 Wild Geese, Ireland Safe Flight School Course
safeflightschool.com

21 Hibaldstow Warm-up for 60-Way Challenge
skydiving.co.uk

22-23 Hibaldstow Skyvan and 60-Way Challenge
skydiving.co.uk

22-23 Hibaldstow Outbreak Coaching
skydiving.co.uk

22-24 Hibaldstow 8-way, Artistic & Speed Nats Reserve
skydiving.co.uk

22-28 Netheravon Armed Forces Championships
netheravon.com

24-27 Jersey Jersey DZ Open
skydivejersey.net

24-28 UK Para, Old Buck Coaching Week
ukparachuting.co.uk

28-31 Hibaldstow UKS Boogie
ukskydiver.co.uk

29-31 Hibaldstow Skydive Choreography
skydivechoreography.com

29-30 UK Para, Old Buck 4-way Scrambles
ukparachuting.co.uk

29-30 Netheravon Speed 8
netheravon.com

30-Sep 6 Prostějov, Czech Republic World Cup (FS & Artistic)
ec2009.info

SEPTEMBER

3-6 Perris Valley, USA Big-way Camp
jen@square1.com

5-6 Langar Pinch Jump
strollerweb.co.uk

5-6 Skydive Airkix, Sibson 8-way Speed Nationals
skydiveairkix.com

5-6 Headcorn Andy Kelly 4-way/LAC Meet
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

5-13 Empuriabrava UPT Vector Festival
skydiveempuriabrava.com

7-10 Jersey Jersey DZ Open
skydivejersey.net

11-13 Hibaldstow ESL Finals
skydiving.co.uk

12-20 Langar Langar Boogie 2
bpslangar.co.uk

17-20 Perris Valley, USA POPS World Record Attempt
cpeckskydiving@yahoo.com

19-20 Cark Free FS Coaching & Organising
skydive-northwest.com

21-25 UK Para, Old Buck Coaching Week
ukparachuting.co.uk

21-27 Perris Valley, USA Women's World Record Attempt
jumpforthecause.com

23-27 Perris Valley, USA Men's World Record Attempt
bigways.com

24-30 Mafikeng, SA African Freefall Convention
africanfreefall.com

26-27 Molineella, Italy Italian CP Nationals
flygang.com

26-27 Hibaldstow FS Scrambles
skydiving.co.uk

26-27 Netheravon Scrambles
netheravon.com

28-Oct 17 Shyangboche, Nepal Everest Skydive Adventures
everest-skydive.com

OCTOBER

1 BPA Offices, Leicester STC & Riggers Meeting
bpa.org.uk

3-4 Hibaldstow FS Coaching
skydiving.co.uk

13 BPA Offices, Leicester Council Meeting
bpa.org.uk

17-18 Hibaldstow First Time Formation Loads
skydiving.co.uk

31-Nov 1 Hibaldstow Frostbite Friendly 10-way Speed
skydiving.co.uk

NOVEMBER

9-13 Hibaldstow BPA Instructor Course (BI/Adv)
trudy@bpa.org.uk

16-20 Hibaldstow BPA Instructor Course (CSI/Pre-Adv)
trudy@bpa.org.uk

16-28 Bazaruto Mozambique Boogie
exoticskyadventures.com

26 BPA Offices, Leicester STC & Riggers Meeting
bpa.org.uk

DECEMBER

2-6 Johannesburg, SA Canopy Piloting World Cup
fai.org/parachuting

8 BPA Offices, Leicester BPA EGM & Council Meeting
bpa.org.uk

13 Hill Valley Hotel Tilstock AGM & Christmas Party
theparachutecentre.com

19-Jan 3 Seville, Spain Seville Christmas Boogie
skydivespain.com

25-Jan 3 Empuriabrava Christmas Boogie
skydiveempuriabrava.com

25-Jan 3 Eloy, USA Holiday Boogie
skydiveaz.com

26-Jan 3 Ramblers, Australia Christmas Feelgood Boogie
ramblers.com.au

KEY

BPA
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Canopy Formation
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Boogies/Fun
Freestyle & Skysurf
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CLASSIFIED ADS

COMPLETE RIG Javelin Odyssey, black with yellow lettering, pristine condition. Cypres 2, Feb 2005. Reserve PD126R (0 jumps). Main, Sabre 135 (400 jumps) Cost: £1,975. Location: Falkirk, Scotland. Contact : Alex Tel: 07974 009 270

ALEX.2

COMPLETE RIG Black & blue Vector 3 container ('96); main blue Sabre 170 ('97) 250 jumps. Reserve PD 160, used once. Needs new Cypres. Has not been used since 06, bought used at Deland Skycenter, 05. 1 previous owner. £ 900, offers. Location: London. Cost £ 900, or offers. Contact: Nina Smith. Tel: 07884 038 093. Email: nina_reiser@hotmail.com

NISM

COMPLETE RIG As new condition - black/white & blue Wings container to fit 5ft 10+, Sabre2 170 (120 jumps), PD reserve 160 (0 jumps), Cypres 2. All new as 04/2005. Location: Northamptonshire. Cost: £ 2,950, or offers. Contact: Will Smith. Tel: 07711 821210. Email: willsmith198@gmail.com

WISM

FAST ATOM DELIVERY! Parachutes de France yellow Atom container, Springo 120 (c 600 jumps) and Tempo 120 reserve (1 jump). With or without Vigil AAD (virtually unused). Will split. All offers considered. Location: Peterborough. Contact: Lesley Gale. Tel: 01733 380 568. Email: lesley@skydivemag.com

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