

# SKYDIVE

## THE MAG



AUGUST 2010  
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The British Parachute Association Magazine

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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.

# SKYDIVE THE MAG



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I hope you enjoy this, my last BPA Mag, after fifteen years. It has honestly been a privilege to craft your bimonthly magazine and I thank you, the reader, for looking at my creation, and for the feedback. There are few editors who know and meet their own readership as much as I have, and this has kept my enthusiasm high. I can't tell you how many people have said they have been inspired by an article or our imagery. I have gained so much in my life through finding skydiving, and it's been wonderful to be able to pass on that passion, through these pages.

I never thought that I would be in a single occupation for so long, yet it hasn't felt like doing the same job, as there have been so many developments in skydiving there is always something different. Software, hardware and camera technology has progressed beyond belief, opening up ever-changing creative possibilities. The photographers in the sport are always making new, ever more beautiful images that it's been a joy to work with. They stimulate my artistic energy, and vice versa.

A huge thank you to everyone who has worked with me over the years; my many fabulous assistants; photographers from all around the world; writers from every aspect of the sport; the BPA staff; printers; ad agencies; and above all the unsung hero of the Mag, designer and photographer Andy Venum, who has raised the Mag's quality to a new level, taught me so much and kept my working life fun. Thank you readers for the hundreds of well-wishing emails I have had recently, and for the lovely letters I've had about my work over the years, which I will always treasure.

I'm proud of turning the BPA Mag from a community-style journal into an award-winning, internationally renowned publication. I'm delighted to hand over custody of your Mag to the excellent new Editor, Liz Ashley, and wish her every success.

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM

We have lots of overseas subscribers, non BPA members who get The Mag because they like it. If you take out a magazine subscription and subsequently join the BPA as a full member your magazine cost is deducted from your BPA membership fee so you don't pay any extra.

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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.



SUPPORTED BY

## Cover Photo

Babylon, Volare & The Skywalkers build a head-down round for the first time around The Bomb, photo by Kuri of Babylon



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Second point 104-way at the East-West Kaleidoscope event, July 2010, Aerograd Kolumna, Russia (first point shown to right). This topped their two-point 100-way on the same day, these being the first sequential 100+-ways outside the USA. Photos by Andrey Veselov.

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Andy Lovemore

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# Pilot

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For the latest news, visit the News Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

## Records Galore!



180-way Russian Record, by Andrey Veselov

## Russian Record

On 8 July, a new Russian FS Record was achieved (pictured) – a 180-way over Aeroograd-Kolomna, jumping from an Antonov 28 and five Turbolet 410s. This was a big step up from last year's 160-way record.

This success followed hot on the heels of the East West Kaleidoscope event, also at Aeroograd Kolomna, masterminded by BJ Worth. This saw multiple three-digit sequentials; a two-point 100-way and a two-point 104-way, the latter is pictured on page 2.

[aeroograd.ru](http://aeroograd.ru)

## THREE Aussie Records



Australian Record by Norman Kent

Three back-to-back Australian National Records were set over Perris, California in June – a feat never before achieved in skydiving. The event was organised by the Perris P3 team, headed by Kate Cooper-Jensen, Dan BC and Tony Domenico. Following several days of skills coaching at the famous P3 big-way camps, record attempts began out of a Skyvan and four Twin Otters. The first success was a completed 105-way held for almost six seconds, followed on the next jump by a new record, 109. A third jump saw yet another record, this time 112, and made history in itself.

[skydiveperris.com](http://skydiveperris.com)

## G&T Night - Girls & Tunnel

A new event is on the freely calendar – a monthly G&T Night. At Airkix Manchester, it caters to the growing numbers of girls interested in the freely scene. Britain's Laura Kenyon held her own on the last women's head-down world record, yet it seems girls are sometimes less confident at getting involved in organised events. The events have a mix

of group organising and one-on-one coaching – with a debrief over wine and G&Ts! They cater for all levels, so don't be afraid to join in.

The events have a world-class line up of coaches. The event on 12 August has Adam Mattacola organising, while on 10-12 November, Havard Flaot from *The Skywalkers* will be coaching, with a tunnel camp preceding it.

[lizboniface@hotmail.com](mailto:lizboniface@hotmail.com)

## YOUR NEW EDITOR



We are pleased to announce that Liz Ashley has accepted the role of *Skydive the Mag* Editor. Archant Dialogue received many outstanding applications for the role and would like to thank everyone who applied. It is a credit to the sport that so many talented people were interested.

Liz has been jumping for ten years after starting at university, becoming a BPA instructor and coach in 2003. She qualified as a rigger shortly after, now runs her own wingsuit school, and used to have her own proofreading business.

Liz has won various medals at events such as the FS Nationals and represented GB at the 2007 World Cup in Russia. She has jumped all over the world – her last job was teaching rigging in Abu Dhabi. Liz started writing feature articles for the Mag in 2007, such as *Flightline Checking* and *Becoming an Instructor* and now writes *Safety Zone* (turn to page 47).

Liz says: "I'm really excited to be increasing my involvement in the Mag, although slightly nervous about trying to live up to Lesley's great reputation! She's done a fantastic job and it'll be a new era with her gone."

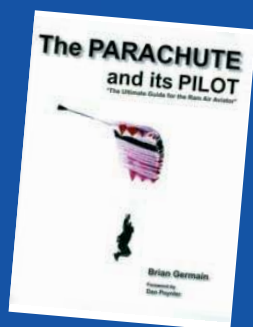
"I'm really looking forward to getting started and would like to let the membership know that, yes, I will take bribes if you want to be on the front cover... maybe!"



For the latest news, visit the News Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

## The Parachute and its Pilot

**By:** Brian Germain  
**Cost:** \$29.99  
**From:** [transcendingfear.com](http://transcendingfear.com)  
**Reviewer:** Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright  
**One Liner:** Read this book!



You need look no further than the back cover of this book for recommendations. Shannon Pilcher says that it *'is the best book on the topic of ram-air parachutes for all skill levels.'* The most important part of this statement is **all skill levels** - please don't think that this book is only aimed at those skydivers who are interested in swooping.

Brian Germain has been designing, building and flying parachutes for a long time and writes in a very informative and easy style. He has designed many parachutes such as the Lotus, Samurai and more recently Aerodyne's Sensei, yet he never tries the hard sell approach to his own designs, which is particularly refreshing. Equally impressive is his willingness to use examples of his own, sometimes painful, mistakes in the hope that you can avoid them.

The book is split into two main sections. The first is called 'The Magnet Under The Table' and explains aerodynamics, control inputs, flying in turbulence, navigation and accuracy, landings, high-speed approaches and design concepts. Of particular interest to those looking to downsize, or instructors advising on kit decisions, should be Brian's 'Wing-loading Never Exceed Chart'.

The second part of the book is called 'The Human Element' and discusses psychology and physiology, fear and learning, stress, visualisation and teaching. I didn't think I would particularly enjoy this section of the book as much as the first, but it became a real page-turner. You may think, as I did, what does all it all have to do with canopy piloting? Well, as Brian says, *'understanding ourselves is perhaps the ultimate defence against gravity.'*

This book is by no means aimed solely at swoopers. However, if you are already swooping or interested in learning how, please resist the temptation to skip straight to the 'High-speed Approaches and Landings' chapter. The book contains useful information from start to finish and made me smile - and occasionally wince!

If you have done a canopy course (such as Brian Vacher's or Chris Lynch's excellent courses) then you will find this to be a valuable resource. If you haven't done such a course then I would recommend you do one as soon as possible... and read this book!



Wingsuit diamond with a tracking suit and every model of Phoenix Fly wingsuit, by Iwan Van Der Schoor

## Flock of Suits

On 20 June at Lodi, California, *Team ILL Vision* accomplished another 'world first', this time flying a flock of wingsuits in tight formation with a tracking suit.

Jonathan Florex had realised he was able to fall at around 80mph wearing just a tracking suit and asked his fellow teammates to attempt to fly with him in every type of Phoenix Fly wingsuit. The participants matched up their wingsuit speed to Johnny's tracking suit fall rate and formed a diamond over Lodi.

[teamillvision.com](http://teamillvision.com)

## Human Flight 3D Film

The trailer for Human Flight 3D, the film that icon Eli Thompson was making when he died, has been released. Human Flight will be an incredible 3D film experience, and is set to be released this summer. It stars the Red Bull Air Force team; Mike Swanson, Charles Bryan, Jon Devore, Andy Farrington, Eli Thompson and Miles Daisher, starring as themselves, venturing into the perilous world of wingsuit proximity flying. Filmed in Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland, and in Las Vegas, the storyline is inspired by the lives of the team. It features the latest technology in live action 3D filmmaking and will appear in 3D cinema screens worldwide.

[humanflight3dmovie.com](http://humanflight3dmovie.com)



Reunion at Andalusia, Spain

## Fancy starring in an advert?

Do you own a Bev Suit and would like to be featured in their upcoming ad? Send a high-resolution image of you or your team (any discipline) in the air in your Bev Suit!

Include all names, including the photographer, along with your contact info.

[bevsuit@ptd.net](mailto:bevsuit@ptd.net)

## British Legends Reunion

Fifteen national champions in RW and accuracy, eight 10-man speed star world record holders, GB's only accuracy world champion, a world record holder in accuracy and two world record holders in large group events... all together. What an array of British talent!

June saw a reunion of GB's first 10-man speed star nationals winners (1973) and *Symbiosis*, GB's first 8-way sequential winners (1977) at

The 1973 10-man team



David Waterman's place in Andalusia, Spain. David was team leader in the seventies and also edited this magazine for six years. Those at the reunion included a judge, a jumbo jet pilot, a Sports Photographer of the Year (1974) and several grandfathers!

## Satori 71 in time

UK national team, *Satori*, achieved an incredible 71-point jump (in 35 seconds working time) during June training. Despite an imperfect exit, the 71 was achieved on a jump from 12,500ft at Skydive Spain. The video can be seen on Youtube. *Satori* will be competing in the World Meet as this Mag hits the streets.

[teamsatori.co.uk](http://teamsatori.co.uk)



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indoor skydiving

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# What's UP at Airkix...

## REGULAR EVENTS

### MANCHESTER

#### Huckjam

Freely Night with the Bad Lieutenants.

#### G 'n' T Night

Regular evening Freely fun, just for girls.

### MILTON KEYNES

#### FS & Freely Wednesdays

Any level, any discipline, hosted by Andy Ford.

#### Tuesday FS Skills Night

1 on 1 and team coaching with Andy Scott & Sparky.

At both Manchester and Milton Keynes, you will receive world class instruction from our International Bodyflight Association Instructors and we can also arrange coaching from National and World Champions, medalists and record holders. Coaching is available anytime with:

Sparky & Andy Scott • Frazer Smith • Andy Ford • Adam Mattacola • Euphoria • Yoko Okazaki • Samurai Freely

Email us at [skydive@airkix.com](mailto:skydive@airkix.com)  
for all enquiries

## FORTHCOMING TUNNEL CAMPS

### FREELY

**6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> October** **Fred Fugen & Vince Reffet**

Join Fred & Vince, two of the world's finest ever freeflyers, at Airkix Manchester.

For all enquiries contact: [fred@babylon-freefly.com](mailto:fred@babylon-freefly.com)

**5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**Frazer Smith**

Multiple VFS champion, World Record holder, thousands of hours tunnel time, be coached by the best.

For all enquiries contact: [frazer@darksidefreefly.com](mailto:frazer@darksidefreefly.com)

### FORMATION SKYDIVING

**5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**Hayabusa**

Teams & individuals of all levels are invited to join Roy Janssen of Hayabusa, Europe's premier 4-way outfit.

For all enquiries contact: [roy@skydivehayabusa.com](mailto:roy@skydivehayabusa.com)

**Manchester:**

**Tel: 0161 749 2192 / 3**

**Milton Keynes:**

**Tel: 01908 247773**

\*Let us know at the time of booking your session if this applies to you.

To keep up to date with all news, regular events, tunnel camps and offers, visit [www.airkix.com](http://www.airkix.com) or find us on Facebook

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SKYDIVING EQUIPMENT





Martin Shuttleworth >>

For the latest news from the BPA, visit [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk). BPA office phone: 0116 278 5271 e-mail: [skydive@bpa.org.uk](mailto:skydive@bpa.org.uk)

## Competition News

Minutes of BPA meetings once ratified may be downloaded from the BPA website



Satori and SonicNutz, 2009 FS 4-way Nationals, by John Williamson

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### MBE for Maggie

BPA Council congratulated Maggie Penny of Wild Geese Skydiving Centre on her award of MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours. The award is in recognition of services to hockey and sport parachuting in Northern Ireland.

### New information and safety posters

Andy Scott of the Communications Committee has been hot off the blocks in pursuing the 2010-11 Action Plan target he proposed of campaign posters to send to DZs on (i) BPA information; (ii) safety. The eye-catching posters will be at a DZ near you any time now. You can see the full BPA Action Plan on the BPA website.

### Got a team? Then get down to the Nationals

This country boasts some of the most successful Nationals in the world as well as great classes for our junior competitors. Skydive Hibaldstow is gearing up for another busy year in August.

#### FS 4-way (Rookie, A, AA and AAA) and VFS

14-16 August

#### FS 8-way, Freestyle, Freestyle, Skysurf and Speed

21-23 August

All rules are available for download at [bpa.org.uk/competitions/national](http://bpa.org.uk/competitions/national)

Plus you can beat the administration queue by registering online at [skydiving.championships.com](http://skydiving.championships.com)

### Junior teams coaching support

The Competitions Committee Action Plan for 2010/2011 has pledged targeted coaching support. Any teams or individuals winning the non-senior divisions will be eligible for funding for coaching in 2011, if they meet certain criteria. So you have to be in it to win it! What are you waiting for? See you at the Nationals!

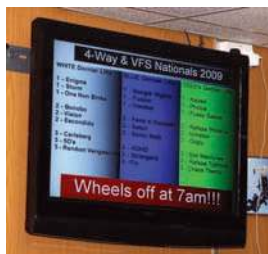


Photo by John Williamson

Weed Stoodley, VFS and Artistic rep



### BPA Film Fest sponsor

The BPA Film Fest is fast approaching, and later in this Mag (page 18) there is a fantastic article on making a skydiving movie to help get those creative juices flowing.

To help motivate you we are very pleased to announce that Airkix will be the sponsor of the Film Fest for the next three years. They will provide an annual prize fund of two hours of tunnel time plus a fantastic trophy for the overall winner, to be selected by the audience at the AGM 2011. Watch out for the new rules on the BPA website, get filming and see you in Coventry.



### We want your photos!

Fancy having one of your pictures in the 2011 BPA Calendar? Then send us your photos!

The calendar includes images from all aspects of the sport and the theme is British skydiving, so get your photos to us. The closing date is 30 September.

Send all entries to [kirsty.kelly@archant.co.uk](mailto:kirsty.kelly@archant.co.uk)



## NEWS CONTINUED

### Carry on streaming

The Communications Committee has extended its trial of live streaming and online video on demand of its meetings to a third meeting. To register to see the next meeting at noon on Tuesday 17 August, either live or later, please register at the BPA website. Applies to full members only.

### UKSL League

UKSL meets have now been completed at three venues: Cark, Netheravon and Hibaldstow. The final heat of UKSL is the 4-way FS Nationals at Hibaldstow, 14-16 August, which will decide the overall UKSL Champions. Medals will be awarded at the 2011 BPA AGM.

	Nethers	Cark	Hib	Total
<b>AAA</b>				
TLD	10	0	6	16
SonicNutz	0	0	10	10
Heat	8	0	0	8
Kaizen	0	0	8	8
<b>AA</b>				
Unagi	10	10	10	30
Slot Machines	8	0	5	13
Funakatz	0	8	0	8
Sirius	0	0	8	8
Old Skool	0	0	6	6
<b>A</b>				
Gr4vity	10	10	10	30
Eclipse	8	8	6	22
Nimeton	4	5	5	14
Tetris	0	6	8	14
RAFSPA Phoenix	5	3	3	11
Teson	3	0	4	7
Army Med Chicks	6	0	0	6
Faffdango	2	0	2	4
Luke Warm	0	4	0	4
Karma	0	2	1	3
Baby Blonds	1	0	0	1
Heads & Safety	0	1	0	1
<b>Rookie</b>				
High Alt. Heroes	10	8	8	26
Raykipo	6	6	10	22
RAFSPA Typhoon	8	4	5	17
Herding Kat	0	10	2	12
Information Overload	0	5	6	11
4mula	4	3	0	7
AGC Fact	5	0	0	5
Incognito	0	0	4	4
Enigma Fource	0	0	3	3
The Badgers	3	0	0	3
Sky Rappers	2	0	0	2
LastMinute.com	0	2	0	2
Abbasynthe	1	0	0	1
Shake Rattle 'n' Roll	0	0	1	1

### New Ratings

#### Advanced Packer

Jimmy Freemantle (S)  
Ruth Jordinson (S)  
Katie Woods (S)  
Chas Lawson (S)  
Andy Shaw (S)  
Matthew Wellington (S)

#### AFF Instructor

Jeremy Denning  
Ed Massey  
Aaron Ellen

#### Tandem Instructor

Lee Rhodes  
Michael McNulty  
Chas Lawson  
Kevin Dynan  
Alec Flint  
Michael Maguire  
Ffinch Lauer  
Barrie Bremner  
Billy Payn



Tetris exit, by Marcus Barrington

## UKSL 4-way Grand Prix, Cark



Luke Warm in action by Neil McLaren

Heroes were favourites with two points over Herding Kat, who were 3 points ahead of Raykipo.



Gr4vity, Single A gold medal winners

With pressure building, High Altitude Heroes scored two points in the final round. This left the door wide open for Herding Kat and Raykipo to fight it out for gold. Herding Kat kept up their consistent scoring with a very sound 7, taking gold with 45. High Altitude Heroes took silver with 42 and Raykipo slipped into bronze with 41. Information Overload just missed out on the medals in their first ever GP. Four girls with very strong attitudes – well done ladies!

We completed a Cark record of 40 lifts and all six rounds completed in one day. Thanks to Mike and Duncan for skilful flying; judges Bob, Kate, Frank and Ruth; meet director Dennis; Amanda Baillie for such efficient manifesting; Dave and H for the superb coaching; Mandy, Ellen and Andy and, of course, all the competitors.

There is a huge amount of talent within the UK skydiving scene, reflected in the attitudes and camaraderie of all the teams competing. From all of us at Cark, it was a pleasure; good luck in your forthcoming competitions and stay safe.

Stu Morris, Skydive North West

Seventeen teams woke to sunshine, cloudless skies and a slight breeze on Saturday 12 June.

After the brief at 8.15, Fundakatz, Unagi and Luke Warm boarded Alpha Yankee in a blaze of sunshine. Two AA, eight single A and seven Rookie teams made their commitment and round 1 began.

By 11.30, two rounds were in the bag and the forecasted increased winds had not appeared. Rounds 3, 4 and 5 progressed effortlessly. Unagi were well out in front in AA with a 20-point lead over Fundakatz. These positions remained unchanged at the winning post.

In Single A, the final round scores meant the battle at the top was won by Gr4vity with 78 points; Eclipse scored 76 points and Tetris remained in third with 35 points.

The Rookie category was even more exciting. After round 3, the top three teams were separated by only one point. By the final round, High Altitude





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Mike Vogeeler >>

Readers' reviews of skydiving gear  
Submit your own product review at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

**One morning in June 2008 I entered the hangar and found Harry Swinnen, a well-known senior rigger in Belgium, showing a new bag to a few people. It looked so clean and so simple. Was this the answer to all my prayers?**

### Personal Background

I started skydiving in 1998 in Moorsele, Belgium. I have accumulated 6,300 jumps. Half of those have been freefly jumps, and one third of my jumps have been dedicated to swooping. I'm an active competitor in both VFS and in Canopy Piloting. I'm representing my country in both these disciplines at the World Championships in Russia this year.

I now have slightly more than 1,000 jumps on the mPod. Those jumps have been a good mix of low-speed openings (hop 'n' pop, swooping) and high-speed openings at terminal velocity (freeflying). The acronym 'mPod' stands for Magnetic Parachute Opening Device and is, of course, a tongue-in-cheek reference to the Apple iPod. The mPod is a D-bag with only magnets, no rubber bands.

### Advantages

**The single most important advantage is not having to replace rubber bands ever again.**

I will never forget my amazement during the FJC when the instructor explained that stupid rubber bands are a crucial part of a parachute system. A rig is a collection of wonderful technology, held together by rubber bands. Get real! I discovered very early in my skydiving career that the probability of a rubber band breaking is inversely proportional to the time you have for packing.

**I find packing with the mPod is slightly faster.**

A nice bonus is that the mPod saves my knees while packing. Instead of moving on your knees with the D-bag towards the rig, with the mPod you slowly pull



The mPod mouthlock is sealed by a flap containing a row of magnets, then the lines are S-folded on top of the bag



The lines are secured by a second flap with magnets, fitting snugly over the first

## The mPod



Video deployment footage of the mPod shows the lines paying out straight upwards, with no S-ing of the bag from side to side, as is inevitable with bungees

the rig towards you while packing. Contrary to popular belief, this won't cause additional wear on the rig.

**If you use packers, with the mPod you can keep doing that.** The mPod is so simple that you can give it to any packer. There is no risk of packing a baglock or any other malfunction. Actually the packers love it. It saves them time; they don't have to replace any rubber bands for you; it saves their knees and it saves their fingers.

**The three major manufacturers of AADs have approved the use of the mPod** with their products. There is no need to fear the mPod would influence the AAD.

The mPod uses magnets based on a rare-earth element called Neodymium. A Neodymium magnet is currently the strongest known type of permanent magnet. The force needed to pull the lines from the mPod has been measured and is similar to the force needed to pull the lines from a regular D-bag. There is no danger of line-dump.

**It is virtually impossible to pack a baglock malfunction.** In fact, most common packing mistakes associated with regular D-bags are eliminated. While any system can be packed to malfunction, I feel that the mPod is more foolproof than any other system.

**The mPod won't affect the openings.** While I can feel subtle differences between an mPod and a normal D-bag during opening, I feel the mPod doesn't make the openings better, nor does it make the openings worse. If you are suffering from bad openings, the mPod won't fix your problem. If you have good openings, the mPod won't change that.

### Disadvantages

The mPod is slightly more expensive than a regular D-bag because of the rare-earth magnets that are used. However, if you regularly buy tube stoes at £5-£6 per set, the total cost of ownership is probably cheapest for an mPod.

**With the mPod, size does matter.** Many people use D-bags that are too small or too large for their canopy. A good packer can put a large canopy in a small D-bag and you'd probably be okay jumping it. With the mPod this won't work. The mPod must be large enough for your canopy. You cannot put a big canopy in a small mPod. The sizings of rig, canopy and mPod must match.

**Some people say that the extra weight of the mPod can be seen as a disadvantage.** While it is true that an mPod is slightly heavier than a normal D-bag, I don't think this matters much. The range of the weights of the canopies we jump is far more drastic than the small additional weight the mPod introduces. Consider a Katana 120 with a normal D-bag. This configuration is heavier than the Katana 107 with the mPod. I don't see why the little bit of extra weight in the second configuration would have any negative effects if the first configuration works fine. Myth busted.

### Summary

If you are like me, and you don't like replacing rubber bands, the mPod is for you. If you plan on buying new gear in the near future, you might want to postpone the purchase until you have your new gear and make sure you have the right size of mPod. Apart from that, get one now. You will love it.

Broken rubber bands are a thing of the past for me now. I lay down my gear and pack it. No interruptions, no surprises. I still smile when I hear the person packing next to me say, "oh, hell, not again, not now!". A better solution is available today. It has been tested, there are no real disadvantages.

More info, pics and video at <http://pgasus.be>

Review by Mike Vogeeler  
[mike.vogeeler@gmail.com](mailto:mike.vogeeler@gmail.com)

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Images by Tim Porter & Rob Jackson

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# Tube - or not Tu be?

What do you need to think about when it's your turn to take a tube by the horns?

Jumping with tubes can be so much fun it might feel like you're cheating on your girlfriend! Especially if you're the one flying around them! Although eventually we all have to take a turn at holding one.

A tube to a skydiver can be like a shipwreck to a scuba diver, something to fly with, to reference your own skills against, and to enjoy the extra special visuals of being in close proximity.

Obviously you should never embark upon a tube extravaganza without having a proper brief from a qualified freely coach or instructor who has the necessary time under a tube. There are some additional safety considerations and information you will need when it's your turn to take the tube by the horns.

## Know your Tube

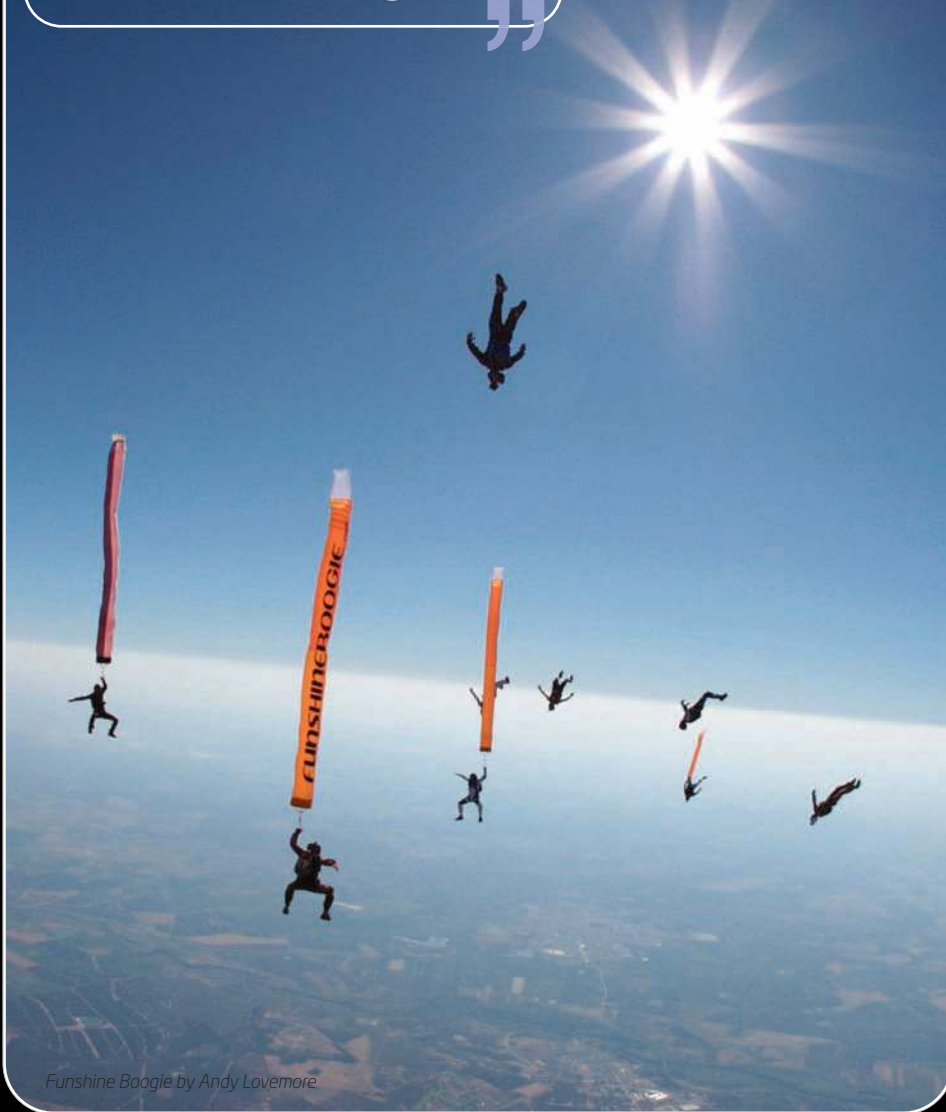
Before you get anywhere near a plane with a tube you should already have an intimate knowledge of how your particular tube functions and how much it is worth. Yes, they are all pretty similar, but they are also mostly home-made, so tubes vary greatly in operating systems. Some have closing mechanisms to keep them from coming out, some have different types of handles that can add extra sequences to your malfunction procedures. Also, if you lose it you should know how much you have to pay for it.

## Communication

The DZ must know and agree to your tube jump(s) and your system must be cleared by the CCI. >>



“Your big fat slice of tube fun has begun!”



Funshine Boogie by Andy Lovemore

### Tube Brief

A typical brief for a sit-fly tube adventure would include, but not be limited to, some of the following points...

### Exit Safety

Obviously you should not go near the door with the tube until the pilot gives 'clear drop' and the spot has been checked. Before exit you should already have the tube prepared with all the closing mechanisms opened and be holding the tube correctly for a clean launch. Once your tube is hot and ready to rock 'n' roll you should have the handle in your left hand and have the tube hugged closely to your chest with your other hand securing it. One of the most important things is to make sure your tube doesn't come out before you are clear from the plane. In the industry, such an oversight is referred to as a 'negligent discharge' (ND), these must be avoided at all costs. In the event of a negligent discharge, where the end of the tube becomes loose, make sure it doesn't go out of the door. If it does go out of the door you should follow it immediately as a tube wrapped around the tail of an aircraft always ends in tears.

### Recommended Exit

Get as many floaters as possible hanging outside the door facing in to create a 'wall of

floaters'. You then key the exit by pushing them all out onto your back so you can look back up at the plane and - once you are clear - release the tube and adopt the sit-fly position. Your big fat slice of tube fun has begun!

Once in freefall make sure to hold the tube with just one hand because if you try to hold it with both hands you could end up struggling to control your position.

The size and material of the tube determines how much drag you will experience; generally the bigger the tube, the slower it wants to go and the harder you will have to hold on, or hang on. So be strong, don't be surprised if it's not as easy as it looks. Also try to keep a little bit of forward drive on by pushing your hips slightly forward. It's very easy to end up with your hips back as you hold the tube; this could induce a backslide, which is not so cool.

### Break-off

You need to make sure everyone breaks off in a positive and orderly fashion. Typically people are having so much fun they can end up breaking off late, no matter how much you emphasise the importance during the brief. The significance for you is that if you are the Designated Tube Holder (DTH) you cannot track away from them.



So, at the break-off altitude, first you need to look up to check if anyone is above you. Generally the bigger the group the more likely there is to be a Low Experience Lurker (LEL) right above you. If you do find a persistent LEL who will not move, you may have to discard the tube and track to safety. If it is clear however, you can go to your belly and pull. Always remember to keep LELs to a minimum.

### Deployment

The deployment itself is relatively easy, just hold the tube out to the side (it was in your left hand, remember), not so far it makes you turn, just comfortably away, and pull. Spinning can cause tube/canopy entanglements (TCEs) so it's much better to hold the tube closer than push it too far out and risk turning. Be ready for some rock 'n' roll!

Generally tubes do not interfere with deployment, but every so often it might get caught between your lines and wrapped up somehow. If the canopy is flying straight, try to pull the tube down and into you. If it's causing the canopy to turn or dive, then you should let go of the tube and carry out control





Kuri of Babylon

checks on your canopy. If you cannot control the canopy then you are experiencing a malfunction. First you should clear the tube from your person as best you can, then carry out normal malfunction procedures.

### Under Canopy

Once under canopy it's best to be able to stow the tube with a carabiner to your hip-rings or harness and allow the tube to fly behind you. Avoid if possible the old school 'foot hook' on the handle as it can induce tripping or stumbling on landing, also not so cool.

### Tube Variations

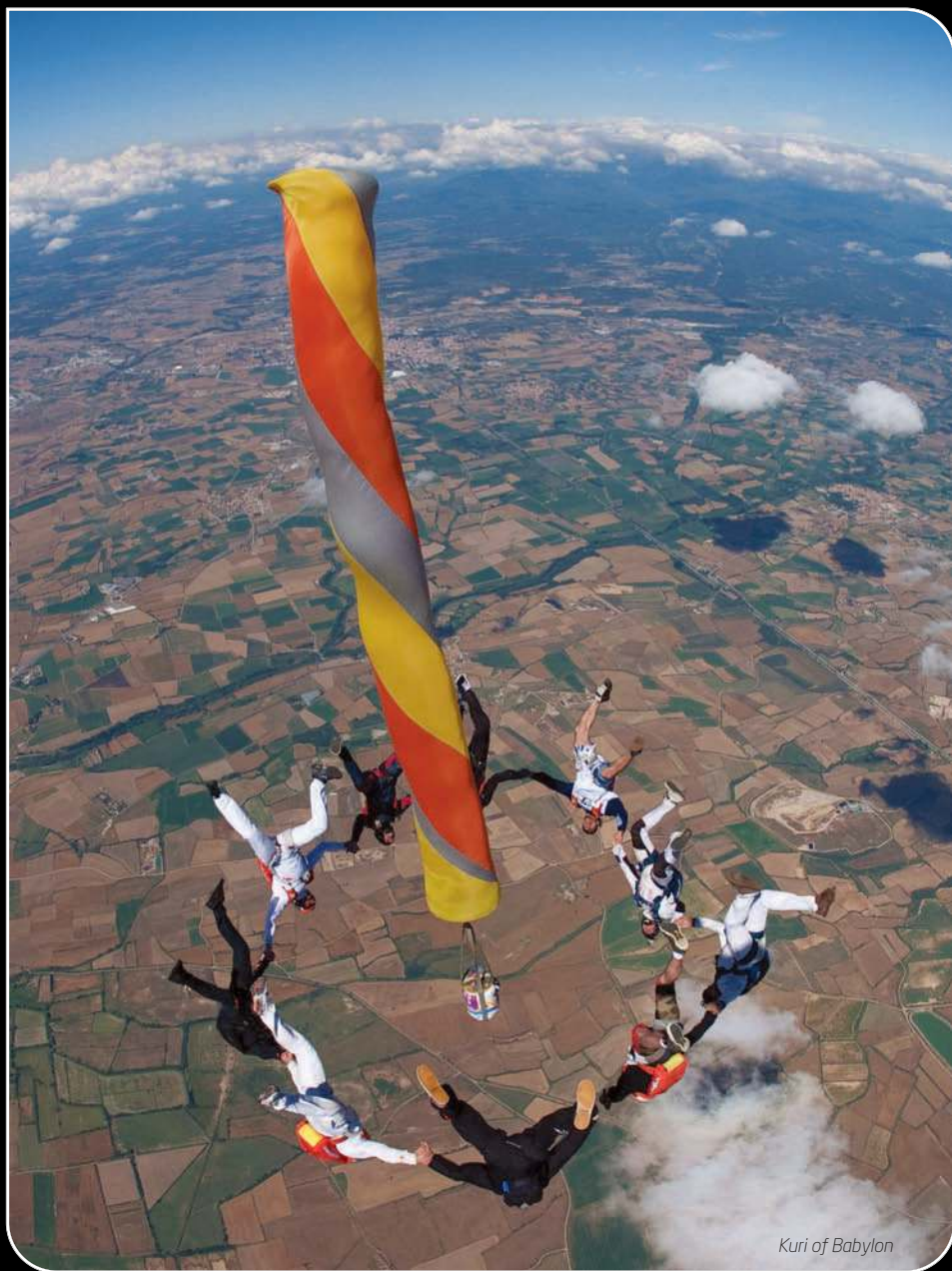
There are lots of other ways to enjoy tubes, people have strapped them to their leg whilst head-down, they can be used as pylons for Indy 500 races and even mini tubes can be great fun as they allow you to move around and track off.

So be safe, keep the groups small at first... then go massive! Just kidding, keep it small, be safe and have a wicked amount of fun.

Mike Carpenter  
mike@volare-freefly.com



Kuri of Babylon



Kuri of Babylon

### The Bomb by Babylon

It was Sylvain Turina of *Babylon* who originally conceived the idea of tubes. Then they went one better, with Sylvain and Stef Fardel inventing The Bomb, the giant un-manned flying tube featured in many of these photos. The Bomb is a magnificent symbolic icon to behold in the sky - its status is legendary and it's considered an honorary member of *Babylon*.

The Bomb consists of a six-metre tube with a plastic container suspended beneath it, containing lead weight and its own Cypres2. It was used for the first time in Empuriabrava, 1998. Due to its obvious safety issues it has only been flown a handful of times at special events, performing as a showpiece for the *Babylon* team and friends when in full-on boogie mode.

Every Bomb skydive is a demo jump, and not considered normal jumping by any means. The run-in is to a chosen specific spot north of the DZ far away, in the middle of corn fields, clear of houses and spotted by a team on the ground. After the freeflyers have broken off, The Bomb continues flying until the Cypres2 fires at 750 feet. This releases a specially designed harness from the plastic container, where the tube acts as a pilot chute deploying a round reserve, packed inside the container. Such jumps are organised like a stunt; with meticulous planning between *Babylon* and the drop zone, and a great understanding of local weather, winds and the landing area.

Bomb text by Benigale  
See [babylon-freefly.com](http://babylon-freefly.com)



Andy Lovemore

# Making Movies

## How to put a short skydiving film competition entry together

With another BPA Film Festival coming up in January 2011, we thought it would be a good idea to get tips from the top on how to make a good - if not winning - entry.

Last year a lot of people entered but, according to the judges, most of the short films tended towards the style of 'me doing my thing' and weren't much different to any end-of-day video you see at DZs all around the world. The footage was great but most lacked a storyboard.

After watching Bruno Brokken's winning entry for the recent Vector Festival Film Contest, and as he was a judge at last year's BPA competition, we thought that he could offer some good advice. We asked Bruno and some more excellent professional flyers and film makers to tell us how to put a film together, to make an entertaining short skydiving movie.

Go get filming guys - after you've read this of course!

Article and interviews by Benigale  
outfacing.com

Vector Festival Film Contest  
prizegiving by Mike Burdon;  
Will Penny and Vania Da Rui award  
the top prize to Bruno Brokken

Photo: Norman Kent Productions

## Bruno Brokken

Bruno Brokken swept the board, winning many 'Oscars' at the Vector Festival Film prizegiving ceremony 2010 in Empuriabrava with his entry entitled *The Fun Jumper* - a satirical, hilarious view on the demise of the fun jumper customer in favour of the tandem factory-style DZ. It was witty, carefully planned and produced with considered direction and many attention-to-detail elements that brought the story to life, such as the dollar signs in the DZ owner's eyes and the staff T-shirts with 'Fun Police' logos. This combined with classic casting choices added up to an exceptional, hugely entertaining movie.

Several years ago the Babylon Film Fest created a buzz and the entries were all of a high level, well planned and well made. Again Bruno won with his film *For Sale*, a humorous take on a tourist buying a house under the flight path of the DZ. We asked the man for some insight into his films...

### Why do you make these short films?

It's just great fun to make them, more than the video itself, the making of it is usually the best fun! The films I have made so far are a good way to have a laugh and yet illustrate some serious real situations. *For Sale*, for example, is about people buying a house close to an airport and then complaining about the noise.

*The Fun Jumper* is about tandem-only dropzones. I got the idea after talking with friends coming back from New Zealand who told me about places where there's nothing else other than tandems happening and fun jumping is non-existent. Movies can be a fun way to

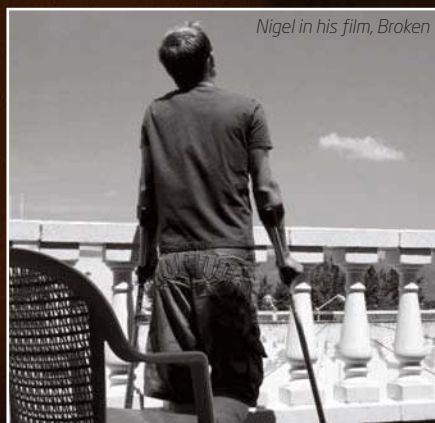
make a point and focus on serious issues in skydiving.

Also, as a skydiver or film maker, you can learn a lot whilst having a good time

**Make sure you know what the judging criteria actually are, and be clear on what you need to achieve**



## Nigel Holland



Nigel is a British skydiver and cameraflyer currently working at Empuriabrava. He was the winner of the 'Best Drama Actor' in the Vector Film Fest 2010 for his role in his own film, *Broken*, a simple but effective, moody portrayal of a frustrated, injured skydiver unable to jump.

### Was your first film competition hard?

Not at all, the festival was fun and easy to enter. I made the film with my girlfriend, Amy Carrick, and we'd will definitely do it again.

### Do you have any advice for the budding film maker?

Make your film interesting. Try to make it so it appeals to as many people as possible, not just as an in-joke for your mates - they're not the judges.

**Plan your storyboard according to what you can afford**

### How hard is it to produce a film on a low budget?

It's actually pretty easy, and working within your means can also make you more creative. The main thing is, it doesn't have to be a movie with lots of jumping in it, as my film demonstrated. In fact most of the top entries had lots more ground footage than freefall video, it's much cheaper! Plan your storyboard according to what you can afford, not what you'd like to do. Make sure any skydiving footage is carefully planned between actor(s) and cameraflyers so you don't waste any jump tickets.

### How do you get started?

If you've got an idea, make a few notes, get a basic plan and start making your film. The rest you can add and adapt once you start videoing, or even at the editing stage. I gained a lot via the process and it was truly worth the time it took and fun to take part in. Go for it, start now!

**NIGEL HOLLAND**  
[youtube.com/hollandnigel](http://youtube.com/hollandnigel)

*Prizewinners Juanma Castillo and Nigel Holland, by Amy Carrick*



doing what you like to do. Prize money or extra special prizes can also sometimes be a great extra motivation!

### Do you have any advice for potential entrants?

Have a good look at the rules! Make sure you know what the judging criteria actually are, and be clear on what you need to achieve. Look at the breakdown of the points - how much judging emphasis is put on length, editing, drama, quality of the images, originality, content, etc. Then plan to include all those elements in your film.

Keep it entertaining. If the rules say the movie can be between two and five minutes and you choose to make it five minutes long, make sure it is entertaining for all of those five minutes, or make it shorter. If the judges feel like fast-forwarding the video, you'll probably get less points.

When I have any little ideas, I write them down, then I write a simple storyboard with the images I'd like to have, relating to the ideas and thoughts behind the film.

### What skydiving shorts would you recommend our film makers watch?

One of the entries at this year's Film Festival, *Vector Hunters*. It's a very simple film in its filming and editing, but is a great idea. It's a prime example that a good idea is very important for a video.

**BRUNO BROKKEN**  
[brunobrokken.com](http://brunobrokken.com)  
[youtube.com](http://youtube.com)

Search: The Fun Jumper  
Vector Festival Film Contest 2010



Joao Tambor

## Joao Tambor



Joao Tambor is a brilliant, charismatic Brazilian freeflyer and film maker. He is the recent winner of the US skydiving film festival 'Sunsets'. He is probably best known for the *Learning to Fly* series of educational skydive training films offered through Skydive University, and has written excellent articles for *The Mag* on some of the same subjects as his videos: *Backflying*, *Sit-flying* and *Freefly Transitions* for example. We asked Joao, a prolific film maker in Brazil

**Music can be everything, especially when doing an aerial video without spoken words**

and the States, for some personal tips on skydiving filming...

**What should you remember when shooting video in freefall?**

Try not to move too much around the sky, look for the best position related to the light and stay there. If you do move around, make sure that you can show that it was intentional and make it as smooth as possible.

**How important is music to the film?**

Music can be everything, especially when doing an aerial video without spoken words. Try to make a partnership with musicians, DJs or composers - most of the ones we have worked with felt very inspired with the type of footage we shot in the sky. And together it is possible to

achieve outstanding videos and soundtracks. Use the music or soundtrack to add drama or another level of dynamic to the footage and play with it; you can change music, or stop it for a second to build up suspense, then finally go to what you really want to show in the sky.

**How important is the factor of suspense?**

A good skydive film doesn't show the best first, it builds up to it. It's also good to use ground footage, focussing on the flyers, equipment, storyline elements, background, preparation, aeroplanes, and so forth.

**Any advice on editing the film? How do you decide which footage to use?**

Know what you want to show and try to make a logical sequence of the shots.

Try not to get too emotionally attached to your own footage. There are scenes that can tell a story with a good quality image, and there is footage that can tell your own history. So try to use the best shots, quality-wise and see what you can tell with those.

Don't be afraid of cutting just because it shakes a little. Use techniques for creative cuts and speed change, so the skydive video runs smoothly even with many changes of scene.

**JOAO TAMBOR**  
Videos at: [www.joatambor.com](http://www.joatambor.com)



## Vania Da Rui



Adriano Andreola

Vania Da Rui is a professional film maker for Turbolenza. She was a co-organiser of the Vector Festival Film Contest competition 2010, and also has her own company with Will Penny, Tinkerfilms.com. They work with many action sports including skydiving, base jumping and kite surfing.

### What makes a winning entry?

Story, directing, acting and editing are definitely fundamental for success. And if in few minutes you can show a range of emotions, drama or comedy, make people laugh, or feel something, I think that's what really can make your short movie outstanding.

### What can a skydiver do to make an eye-catching film rather than 'bar tape' footage?

In cinema a movie is considered well made when the acting roles are 'believable' and when the images have a 'personal taste and style'.

You can achieve the desired personal style by using unusual points of view and camera movements, paying attention to the photography, in particular to location, scenario, lights and composition of the image.

These things are all very difficult to recreate and to control in the sky unless you have a big budget to go for it. During a normal jump, you will have pretty much the same background (sky and land), the same source of light (the sun) and the same point of view (from the videographer's camera helmet). But on the ground you can play as much as you want - and it's much cheaper - to get the result you wish for.

### What are your DOs and DON'Ts of film making?

First of all: DO it! Then make sure you get it in on time!

During the running of the Vector Festival Film Contest, I heard so many beautiful and potentially winning ideas, it was truly a shame to realise people didn't make them into reality because of bad timing or fearing they would not be good enough. Just do it! You won't regret it.

DO: Find a simple idea and believe in it. If you commit, it's development will come by itself.

DO: Pay attention to the details; they can make a huge difference to the final result.

DON'T: Waste time thinking too much. Play with your camera and you will learn by yourself very quickly. Have fun with it.

**“Pay attention to the details, they can make a huge difference to the final result”**

### Can you offer any advice on pre-planning?

Estimate your budget and work with that. Make things as easy and simple as possible. Include *everything* you will need on the set in your mental planning.

Be ready for the unpredictable. It's completely normal, even in the big Hollywood production, for everything to change and not go according to plan - but if you have a plan as a general guideline it's far easier to accommodate changes that are forced upon you.

Before shooting, check with the editing system you are going to use as to what camera settings you should use to get the best quality in post-production.

### What skydiving movies do you suggest our potential film makers watch for inspiration?

For me, *Crosswind* by Patrick Passe. Watching it, you can feel the wind on your skin while you are sitting on your couch.

### Any last words about film competitions?

The Vector Festival Film Contest was really great

because it was a way to discover hidden talent. The BPA Film Festival is coming up soon.

I'm sure there are many more competitions out there - so start filming...

**VANIA DA RUI - TURBOLENZA**  
Vania Da Rui - [www.turbolenza.eu](http://www.turbolenza.eu)  
Vania's videos on:  
[youtube.com/turbolenzaeu](http://youtube.com/turbolenzaeu)

Photo: Norman Kent Productions



Hibnosis exit by Jim Stevenson

Every year at the beginning of the skydiving season, there's an event I really look forward to - the 28-way competition at Hibaldstow. It's been going strong since 2005 and is the only 28-way competition in the world, with nothing else quite like it.

The teams are made up of a brilliant and unique cross section of jumpers, from competitive teams to the serious big-way skydivers, demonstrating the high standard of FS skills we have in this country. The atmosphere was friendly between the teams, but the competitive spirit remained a real driving force. All of this made for an electric event.

Saturday morning saw us with three full teams ready to go; *Hibnosis* captained by Simon Cathrine, *Herding Cats* headed up by Dave Lewis, and *Chasing Tails*, the winner for the last three years, led by Caroline Hughes. This year there was an exciting, challenging draw that we were itching to get our teeth into and a revision to the rules that made it harder to score points. We quickly set about puzzling the best builds and then it was just a case of waiting for the weather to pick up.

Luckily Hibaldstow are quick off the mark and as soon as the clouds cleared the first round was under way. This was a potentially high scoring one, due to some cheeky dive engineering and all three teams were hoping to rack up the points before the trickier later rounds. After a tense wait, the scores were in, with *Hibnosis* and *Herding Cats* both scoring an impressive 9, but *Chasing Tails* taking the lead with a massive 12 points. On round two, *Chasing Tails* increased their lead over the other teams by scoring a respectable 4 and the other two were still tied as each scored 1. The next two rounds were difficult dives and this was reflected in a zero score for *Hibnosis* and *Herding Cats*,

who were still locked together in a draw with 10 points. A bit of slot-switching really paid off for *Chasing Tails*, who fortunately avoided some nasty brain mals to pick up an extra 3 points. At that stage we lost the light and it was time for some drinking instead!

Most people had big expectations for the Saturday night party and they weren't disappointed; the dropzone put on an impressive barbecue and a fantastic party. There were some inventive authentic-looking 80s outfits, as well as a few dance styles that belonged to another age! The winner of the fancy dress competition was Alli Armstrong (inset), who didn't appear any different to the photo taken of her 25 years ago. It was a great opportunity to catch up with friends not seen in ages, especially the Irish contingent, as well as a chance to make new friends. The next morning saw a few sore heads and red eyes, but nothing was going to stop us completing the final round in that beautiful deep blue sky. Unfortunately a misunderstanding of the grip plan meant that *Chasing Tails* and *Herding Cats* scored a zero on the last round, whilst *Hibnosis* pulled a point out of the bag to make second place.

Finally it was all over and Simon Cathrine had to shelve his victory speech for yet another year, as Caroline and *Chasing Tails* walked away with the trophy again. Many thanks to the dropzone, pilots, Jo Hawley for judging, cameramen, packers and particularly the team captains for ensuring this fantastic event continues to go ahead. There's a whole year to get through before the next 28-way event, but at least that gives us plenty of time to work on our 4-point average!

Becky Austin, *Chasing Tails*

a misunderstanding of the grip plan meant that *Chasing Tails* and *Herding Cats* scored a zero on the last round



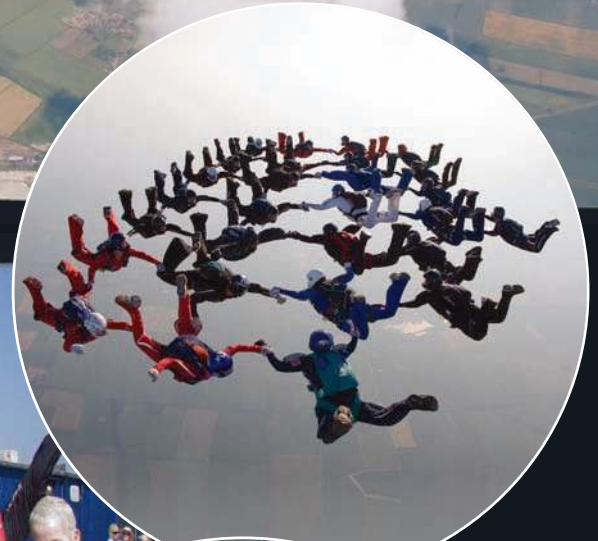


# ay Competition

Thank you to Fiona Scanlon  
for her visit and the T-shirts



Chasing Tails (above & below) by Jim Stevenson



Hibnosia by  
Jim Stevenson



Herding Cats by  
John Williamson



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Photo and artdesign Willy Boeykens

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## Jon Trevor's second article on teamwork, focussing on individual aspects of team functioning - how you can all work at your behaviour to help the team perform at its best

When teams break up, they sometimes claim that it was due to a 'personality clash' between the members. These can be strong and may appear to be inevitable - two or more people will disagree on everything, constantly wind each other up, and eventually declare they simply can't bear to be in the same room together, let alone on the same skydive!

### Personality

Personally, I don't think it is useful to talk about personality. 'Personality' is a complex and multifaceted thing, and quite difficult to define or measure, even for psychologists. We all tend to be very attached to an individual version of what we consider to be our 'personality', and are unwilling to admit the likelihood or necessity of it changing in any way. We also develop strong opinions about other people's 'personalities', and allow them to filter our view of everything they do.

### Behaviour

I think it's much more useful to talk about 'behaviour'. No matter what your 'personality' is, you don't always behave in the same way. For example, you might be more subdued at work than when out for a night of fun. You may be more patient with children than with adults - or vice versa! You'll probably be more sombre at a funeral, louder at a football match, and less trusting of strangers down a dark alley in a foreign country. I think we can all acknowledge that we exercise choice between many different ways to behave, especially in specific situations for a limited length of time. And while 'personality' is vague and subjective, behaviours are much more specific, objective, and directly observable.

### Desirable Behaviour

How should we choose which behaviours to display in a skydive team setting? Of course, there's no single right answer. A much more useful question to ask yourself would be:

? *Which of my behaviours do I think impact most positively on the team, and help it to perform at its best?'*

Together with its converse:

? *'Which of my behaviours do I think impact most negatively on the team, and prevent it performing at its best?'*

Even more useful would be to ask your teammates the same question about your behaviours. You may

# Teamwork 2



Arizona Arsenal by juanmayer.com

well be surprised at their response, particularly about things you may not even realise that you do. But be prepared to hear what they say with an open mind, and without trying to leap to your own defence. You have asked them for their experience of you in a team setting - and that, with luck, is what you will get.

### Intensity

It's not just the type of behaviour that matters, but the frequency and intensity with which it's played out. Our weaknesses are often the flip side of our strengths. So your upbeat energy may help the team much of the time, but can flip over into annoying



### Red Light

Which behaviours should you decrease, as they are impacting the team negatively?

### Amber Light

Which behaviours should you maintain at the current level, because they are already working well to aid the team?

### Green Light

Which behaviours could you do with increasing, and displaying more of, to aid the team?

**“ We can all acknowledge that we exercise choice between many different ways to behave ”**

yapping when everyone is tired and you've had too much Red Bull! Or your valuable concern that everything is carefully planned, rehearsed and dirtdived to perfection may at times become too controlling and obsessive for the others to cope with.

### Traffic Light List

That's why teams that are committed to being at their best might want to hold an occasional 'behaviours audit'. Working together, they can create a 'traffic light' list for each team member:-

Arizona Arsenal by Mark 'Trunk' Kirschenbaum

At the beginning of a day's training, as part of goal-setting, team members could ask themselves, what one aspect of my behaviour am I going to focus on today, to help the team? Then at the end-of-day debrief, each person can measure with their teammates how successfully he/she managed.

### Ideal Blend

There are of course no fixed set of behaviours that will guarantee a perfect team vibe - though obviously there are plenty that are liable to guarantee the opposite, like rudeness, arrogance, defensiveness, and so on. Each team needs to work to find the ideal blend of behaviours from every member, so that the focus of everyone's energy is not on infighting but completely on the skydiving.

Jon Trevor  
jon@letstalk.uk.net



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## FREEFALL COMMUNICATION

*Perris Fury by Craig O'Brien*



**Four great skydivers, each capable of regularly performing at their personal best, do not on their own make a great team. Until they develop sharp, clear and understandable freefall communication they will still only be four great individuals.**

The best teams develop their communication and timing so accurately that they appear to be glitch-free in their movement. They function like clockwork: as four parts of a machine.

The team's ability to perform at their best is a direct result of this communication. Many teams train under the assumption that communication will result naturally by simply having enough airtime together. They do not develop this communication into their training plan. The reality is that you must dedicate time and training to this from the very first jump.

### Eye Contact

Simply enough, the main tool we use for this communication is eye contact. We know everyone uses eye contact, it is the first and most basic thing you are taught when you become a skydiver. But it is never emphasised to the necessary degree. Eye contact is not just looking in the general direction of the person across from you. It is looking straight into their eyes. Seeing their thoughts,

reading their mind. Calming each other down. Firing each other up. Making well thought-out decisions together in a fraction of a second.

Look straight into each other's eyes whenever you can. Obviously when you are facing out this will be a problem. But if you can see the eyes of the person across from you, then do so. Do not just sit with a blank stare waiting for a translation. Make an effort to read each other. The language is not complex. There are only a few thoughts that come up during any jump. You will be communicating the same thing over and over again. Thoughts like, 'calm it down', 'control', 'let's turn it up', and 'better stops'. These things can easily be seen in each other's expressions. Deep philosophical or political conversations will have to wait. But everything you need to communicate about in order to get the most out of every move on every jump can be done in a flash.

### Grips

We cannot see everyone's eyes all the time. For this reason we also communicate through our grips. Taking solid, clean grips, without fumbling around will signal to the person that you are gripping what your condition is – your readiness, or lack thereof, to start the next transition. This is essential for the key people. It will enable them to make the correct decisions on keys and pace, allowing the team to continue moving in sync with each other under any conditions.

The ability for a team to really communicate this way is one of the most exciting and rewarding aspects of formation skydiving. Your team's best performance is a direct result of this.

### Stage One - Stop Drills

On stop drills we separate each skill into its own part of a transition, starting from the break of a completed formation to the complete build of the next formation.

**“ It is looking straight into their eyes... seeing their thoughts, reading their mind ”**

- 1 Anticipation and key discipline** While in the completed formation everyone anticipates their next move as they look to the key person.
- 2 Flashing** On the key all teammates flash hard with both hands as they break.
- 3 Sharp moves** Move with as much power as you can control to your position in the next formation.
- 4 Eye contact and awareness** Hold your eye contact during the entire move until you are stopped in the next formation. Stopped, no-contact, without grips. (On stop drills we think of showing the judges a completed no-contact formation that will be scored.)



Perris Fury by Willy Boeykens

- 5 Anticipation** This no-contact formation is the pre-finished picture. Everyone has finished their move and stopped in position. This is the moment when the formation is guaranteed to complete. It is at this pre-finished picture that you need to train yourself to anticipate the next point.
- 6 Grips** Match the centre flyers. See them deciding to pick up grips. When picking up your grips look directly at the grip and take them aggressively and efficiently.
- 7 Anticipation and key discipline** Back to number 1...

On these drills you execute each part of a transition one step at a time. By doing so, you give each of these skills your full, undivided attention. You train the move. You train the stop. You train communication with good eye contact. You train your awareness of the entire team. You train your anticipation. You train taking good grips. You train seeing the keys. You train team synchronicity, and you learn to do each step aggressively and together.

By looking harder and watching longer you see everything that is happening and your awareness increases dramatically. You start to stay level even when there are fall rate changes. You recognise over-movement as soon as you have gone two inches too far instead of discovering it after moving two feet. The team develops a feeling of total control. The jumps become very predictable, no surprises.

Soon you can look less and see just as much. The pre-finished picture appears during the transition, not after the stop. The formation is guaranteed earlier and you don't have to wait to pick up grips. This training builds a foundation of individual and team skills that will enable the team to rapidly and steadily progress from then on. Jumps should include all randoms and block 9 (cat & accordian). I suggest also doing skydives that use the first point of the blocks as randoms. When doing these jumps they should involve only the first points of blocks.

With the stop drills if you are not sure if you are getting on the grips too soon, you are. It's better to stay off longer at first than to pick the grips up too soon.

**Get really good at the stop drills before moving on. It will be time well spent.** By the end of stage one the team should be moving together as one. If you feel the stop drill is done successfully then repeat the sequence but not as a stop drill. Go to stage two...

### Stage Two Drills

The only difference between stage two drills and stop drills is that on stage two you don't have to build a completed no-contact formation. Still come to a complete stop. Still pick up grips when the centre does. But leave out having to show the completed no-contact formation to the judges.

Perris Fury by Craig O'Brien



At the end of stage two the team should be moving together like clockwork and scoring more points. A strong, steady team pace should have been established. The jumps should feel controlled, predictable and aggressive.

### Stage Three Drills

At this point the awareness of the team has been trained in. You are familiar with what each point looks like before it is built. The pre-finished picture comes almost immediately after the break. On stage three drills you stop thinking about going fast and stopping hard. All you have to do is see a clean break and get your grip. In the time it takes to see the clean break you will have seen enough. This is still not a speed drill. But the speed will come...

### Stage Four - Speed Drills

Now, and only now, you push it to the limit. Speed drills, stage four, will now increase a team's effectiveness at scoring points as they have developed a deep, strong freefall communication.

Craig O'Brien



Article by Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld, manager of Skydive Perris, founder of Arizona Airspeed and coach of World Champions Storm and Airkick

This is an extract from one of Dan BC's forthcoming books. The other, *Playing to Win*, is currently in the hands of Salkind Literary Agency. A film is also in the offing.

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# PEOPLE in the SPORT

LESLEY GALE



Tony Danbury

Lesley Gale has been skydiving for over 25 years and amazingly seems as enthusiastic about the sport as though she's just begun.

She has 4,000 jumps, a dozen World Records and over 100 medals from regional, national and international competitions. She is an international ambassador for the BPA, as our Mag Editor, on the British team at various IPC events, and at World Record events as a plane captain.

Lesley has organised four UK ladies' FS records through Brit Chicks, and coaches at major international events. She has won two Royal Aero Club awards.



Willy Boeykens catches Lesley's smile on completion of the Red Cross

#### How did you get into skydiving?

At Durham University, in about 1983, I joined their Freefall Club at the Freshers' Fair, did my first jump on a C9 round parachute, and never looked back.

#### Tell us something about you that people don't know

I was the first person in Europe to loop the loop while standing on an aeroplane wing. I worked as a wingwalker for a summer season in 1987 for the Yugo Car Flying Circus – still on the circuit today, now sponsored by Utterly Butterfly.

#### How have you seen the sport progress?

It's been truly amazing to watch and most especially from my privileged editorial position, as I am sent pictures of the latest developments from all around the world. AFF, tandem, RAPS, skysurfing, freeflying, canopy piloting, tubes, ground launching, proximity flying, speed flying – none of these existed when I began – and each of these aspects has experienced a huge progression curve. This is what has kept my work fascinating, I never thought I would stay in one role for 15 years but the sporting and technological developments have been so huge it's never been 'samey' or boring.

#### Where would you like to see the sport going next?

I would like to see it continue to surprise me. The characters within the sport are such that they are always seeking out new things to do, different ways to have fun and to raise the bar in every possible way. Bring it on!

#### Who are your skydiving heroes?

Rob Colpus, Craig Girard, Eliana Rodriguez, Kate Cooper-Jensen, Babylon, Mikey Carpenter, Rolls Janssen, Kirk Verner, Amy Chmelecki, Mike Truffer, Willy Boeykens, Norman Kent, Michael McGowan, Bruno Passe... and a great many more amazing people in the sport.

#### Who is your favourite coach?

Hard one; I have been coached by so many brilliant people. Kirk Verner was the most informative; Eliana completely inspirational; Kate Cooper-Jensen the best big-way organiser; Alberto Fuertes the most Spanish; but my favourite may just be Craig Girard, as he's the most entertaining, I laugh all day.

#### You won a freefly medal recently, is that a new passion?

Most certainly! The Bodyflight World Challenge was an indoor freefly competition, but lately I've also been freeflying outdoors – or free-flailing! It's frustrating to find myself so incompetent in freefall but fantastic to be so challenged.

#### Are you still competing?

Yes, with a new 8-way FS team, *Brit Chicks*. We've done two amazing camps with Kirk Verner at Raeford and Paraclete XP and a bunch of time in Bodyflight.

#### Are there advantages in being all-female?

Being small, we fit brilliantly in the 16 foot Bodyflight wind tunnel and can do 20 of the 22 blocks in the 8-way pool indoors! We hardly wear weight. Women excel at teamwork, combining their resources to beat other teams rather than competing within the team. They have the great advantage that they actually listen to their coach.

#### Are there any disadvantages?

My team members keep getting pregnant!

#### Why are you so drawn to competition?

I love the butterflies in the plane; the feeling that this jump matters. In a way it's like getting the excitement of that first jump back. Also, competitors are amazing people, there's a bond between those who have the courage to stand up and be counted. We were the least experienced freefly team at the World Challenge for example, and wouldn't have won without being brave enough to lose.



World Cup 2009, Prostějov, Czech Republic

### What personal skydiving are you most proud of?

*Brit Chicks.* It's my baby! *Brit Chicks* is still the only non-invitational record event in the world – everyone is welcome – and yet we have set a new British Record every year we've tried. We have four now, from 2002-2007, culminating in the current 68-way British Red Cross.

### How did *Brit Chicks* start?

A friend, Erica Richardson, said to me that the UK needed another British women's record, that it should be organised by a woman – not a man as that sends the wrong messages – and that I was the lady for the job. I had to agree, and I found a willing partner in Kate Stephens. We felt that a women's record would be a good way to help grow the number of women in the sport, by offering them role models and something to aspire to. Combined with the advent of the women's 4-way event in 1999, and the fantastic success of the UK ladies' teams it seems to have worked. The last Women's World Record for example was 17% British!

### Do you have more plans for *Brit Chicks*?

Yes we will most certainly do another, probably summer 2011.

### Any advice for aspiring *Brit Chicks*?

Come and join the party, it's open to everyone. Get as much experience as you can in the meantime. Many of the UK dropzones run big-way weekends for beginners, that's a great place to start. Big-way camps are offered all over the world if you want to play a bit more. Coaching will be given at the next *Brit Chicks*, as always, but you can give yourself a head start.

### How about a British Record to beat the current 100-way?

There is a lot of enthusiasm from British jumpers and UK dropzones for this project. I've been talking to various people looking for opportunities to push this record for a number of years. The main obstacle is the logistics of aircraft supply, which translates into high cost. I'm hoping that now I am free from full-time work I will have more time to pursue this exciting idea with those interested.

### How did you become Editor?

The BPA advertised the editor's position and, like the wingwalking job, I knew it had my name on. I had four years' publishing experience and I jumped at the chance to work in my beloved sport in a way that meant I could still enjoy my own personal skydiving. The work grew to a point where I was managing the whole magazine, and have steered it through a plethora of printers, designers, advertising agencies, etc, always aiming for improvement.

### How has print and magazine technology changed?

When I started we would save *The Mag* onto two floppy discs and post it to the printer, the first time I ever saw the pages with the photos placed was in the final printed copy! A few years later, I physically carried a hard drive the size of a toaster to the printer. Now we make huge files with many layers in the design stage, compress all the information onto a small pdf and transfer the files over the internet.

Camera technology is another aspect, where tremendous quality is now available at comparatively low cost. This combined with smaller and more lightweight systems has opened up the camera arena to more people, so there is an ever-increasing range of superb quality images that can be further manipulated on computer in any number of ways that were not possible only a decade ago.

### Which achievement as Editor are you most proud of?

When I started I had a personal goal to make it into the best skydiving magazine in the world, it was just my internal fire that I did not share with anyone... in case I was not successful I guess. The first time someone said he thought it was the best in the world I couldn't stop smiling. That was over a decade ago and now it seems to be generally accepted, the BPA even put it into their own requirements document when they put the magazine out to tender.

### What do you wish you'd known beforehand?

Nothing. I was very green when I started and, if I had known what I was letting myself in for, I probably would never have begun!

### How do you feel now making your last *Mag*?

Sad for the end of an era. Happy to be moving on. Proud to have taken *The Mag* to its current status. Pleased that I will always have those magazines to look back on and appreciate my own work – probably more than I did the first time around as then I can only see the faults!

### Any advice for the new editor?

Believe in yourself, you're there for a reason. Listen to feedback, but try to follow your own course and not be distracted by those who say you're going the wrong way.

### So what does your future hold, Lesley? Aren't you going to miss the deadlines?

Not at all. I am looking forward to getting my life back! It's been an all-consuming passion for me for so long I am in need of a bit of a rest. I have various big-way coaching and organising commitments around the world and hope to expand this area as I really enjoy it. Next year I am doing a DZ tour from one side of the US to the other, making a video resource to teach big-ways. This is a project made possible through the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, who have awarded me a Travelling Fellowship.

### How did you get the Travelling Fellowship?

A lot of people have been asking me this. Any British citizen can apply to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for a grant, if they have a travel project that will bring something of real value back to the UK. See [wcmf.org.uk](http://wcmf.org.uk), I really recommend it!

### How do you keep your enthusiasm?

I just love skydiving! I love the community and the special people in it. I love it that the sportsmen and women at the very top are amazingly wonderful, sporting people with good values; skydiving is a bit like the fairytales you read as a child where the good guys always win!



Simon Ward catches the joy of the first *Brit Chicks* British Women's Record

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World Record break-off by Brian Buckland

# BREAK OFF

## Freefly

The first obvious point to make is that a transition from the vertical head-down position to the slower belly position is required before deployment of the parachute. The second key point is that break-off is similar to any group jump, clear separation and air space is required before deployment.

The good news for break-offs with the head-down orientation is that a higher vertical speed than at deployment is already carried in the neutral position, so transferring the vertical speed to horizontal speed can really help with break-off. Unlike FS flyers who have to generate the power to track, head-down flyers have the added benefit of merely having to transfer the power from one direction to another.

### Break-off Plan

On completion of a formation jump, it may not be obvious to each jumper where all the other jumpers are, in particular the last stingers or cameraflyers. For this reason, pulling back from the head-down into a belly-to-earth track is not acceptable as there would be no way in knowing if obstacles existed within the trajectory. It is therefore essential that the jumpers use a forward movement position, transitioning into a back-track, before barrel rolling to the belly, checking the airspace, waving off and deploying when in a clear airspace. This allows jumpers to see what is in front of them and avoid collisions.

## The third and last instalment in our big-way series for all disciplines - how to break off from the formation safely

The precursor before this movement is normally a 180° turn away from the centrepiece of the formation. This is a good general rule, but where formations include connectors, whackers, lines and multiple pods, common sense and communication with other jumpers nearby should occur to reduce crossing of break-off trajectories.

The key points to note here are: a turn away from the formation, forward motion which neither increases or decreases vertical level, before increasing the horizontal speed of the forward movement into a back track before barrel rolling to the belly. Remember, the same rules apply as any other jump once on your belly; keep your eyes open, stay alert, check around you before giving a clear wave-off and deployment.

### Tracking Skills

Tracking skills are essential for safe big-way break-offs. Fortunately, most freeflyers are also keen trackers who regularly participate in flocks, traces, tracks, atmonauti and angle jumps. However it is also important not to neglect tracking skills purely for break-off.

### Staged Break-offs

For larger formations, staged break-offs are required. These are particularly important for head-down big-ways due to the small amount of time it can take to descend in altitude whilst in the head-down position.

Audible altimeters are a must for head-down jumps. They should not be relied upon, but without doubt help with altitude awareness and therefore staged break-offs. Whilst docked, or docked on, and attempting to stay on level with multiple markers within the formation, visual altimeters can not always be easily seen, leading to reduced altitude awareness. If you don't have an audible, get one!

Waves of jumpers, normally based on the distance from the centre of the formation, are regularly used. Recent record attempts such as the Euro Record and the World Record in 2009 both used vertical and horizontal separation at break-off. It's important to listen carefully and know at what altitude you are breaking off. You may be asked to track for a set amount of time and/or pull at a set altitude. It's essential you are able to keep a cool head and stick to the plan so as not to affect others who may be relying on you to do the job. If you're asked to track hard for a considerable amount of time, do this! It's not unusual for outside stingers to break off at 7,000 feet and track to 3,000 feet. This can be a challenging slot as 50% of the jump can be diving, 10% in the formation and 40% tracking!

### Under Canopy

As one famous American freeflyer quoted at a recent record, *'Tricks are for kids!'* Landing with so many canopies in the sky at once can be a real safety hazard. A big-way isn't really the place to try a 1080° turn and throw down a miracle man. It's normal that 180° or 90° limits are placed on the main landing areas. At the 2009 World Freefly Record, the vast majority of participants were flying cross-braced canopies. Having over 70 cross-braced canopies in the sky was no big deal as good skills, awareness and caution were displayed by all participants.

### Stay Cool

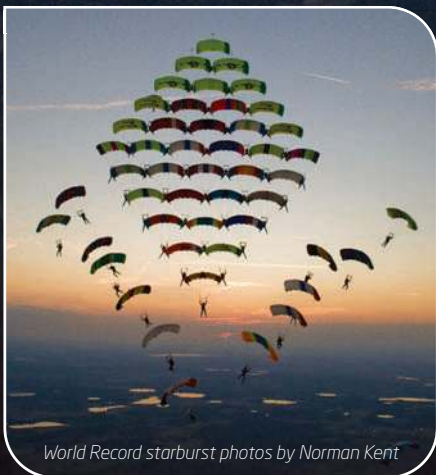
Despite break-off being one of the most important parts of a freefly big-way, it should not be something to stress about. Know the rules, get the skills and stick to the plan.

The last thing to say is to watch out for video cameras. Slow motion replays of poor break-offs can be replayed again and again - remember, nobody likes a dead dog!

The Bad Lieutenants  
[thebadlieutenants.com](http://thebadlieutenants.com)



## Canopy Formations



World Record starburst photos by Norman Kent

Break-off procedures may vary slightly depending on the size of the formation. Very large formations will start with the outer lines peeling off at a given signal until it's reduced to a manageable size for a starburst.

### Starburst

A starburst works by everyone dropping grips and moving away from the centre of the formation. It looks very similar to FS jumpers when they are tracking away from formations. 'Starburst, starburst' is shouted by a nominated jumper, a countdown then follows with all jumpers echoing the count. When 'one' is shouted everyone prepares to let go and at 'zero' lines are dropped and canopies are flown away. Canopies at the top of the formation will use brakes to move upwards, canopies at the bottom will apply risers to move down, canopies on the left and right will use a mixture of brakes or risers to move in the corresponding direction and canopies in the middle will fly forward.

at 'zero' lines are dropped and canopies are flown away

### Landing

When the starburst has been completed, jumpers should continue to fly their canopies in a safe and predictable manner towards the landing area, keeping an eye on the canopies around. Once they have landed, it's important to collapse and pick up canopies quickly to allow space for their fellow jumpers.

Sometimes starbursts are completed with airtime still available. If this is the case, please refrain from building post-formation stacks during this time and concentrate on landing safely. >>

Maria Russell  
marialrussell@yahoo.co.uk

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US National Record second phase break-off by Mark Harris

## Wingsuits

Wingsuit flyers can easily gain a huge amount of separation on break-off due to the high forward speeds generated by the suit. The vertical fall rate of a skydiver wearing a wingsuit is also much slower than average, allowing big-way formation jumps to be completed without extra altitude or oxygen loads. We stage break-offs at different levels starting around 5,500 feet in a large group, which still leaves plenty of time to create safe separation.

### Levels

Breaking off on level is very important in a wingsuit. At break-off time, the flyer has the ability to 'max out' their suit, floating above others in their sector. This creates a hazard if the person is now flying in someone else's blind spot, or in the way of another flyer's deployment. Also unsafe is a manoeuvre where the flyer dives down and then flares the suit out of the dive to gain extra speed. This kind of unpredictable variation in speed can result in a collision.

The best and safest method is a nice steady fanning out and staying on level. Sector break-off groups may start out leaving the formation together and then doing a 'secondary break-off' to create further separation once they are safely away.

We stage break-offs at different levels starting around 5,500 feet in a large group



US National Record 68-way first phase break-off by Mark Harris

### Under Canopy

The capacity for large separation has both advantages and challenges. The major advantage is that more separation allows wingsuit flyers safe time under canopy to unzip their suits after opening. (Many suit designs don't allow the flyer to reach toggles without first releasing the arm wings.) All flyers unzip or release leg wings in order to have full range of motion on landing.

The challenge is to make sure jumpers with so much separation can all land safely on a designated part of the dropzone. Generally, because of the large spread of wingsuit jumpers after break-off, the farthest break-off sectors require transport back to the packing area on every jump. Choosing a dropzone capable of accommodating a range of landings up to 3.5 miles apart is important for wingsuit big-way. >>

Taya Weiss  
wingsuitbigway.com



Australian Record break-off by Norman Kent

“  
Get moving  
on the signal,  
don't hang  
around  
”

## Formation Skydiving

It is important that everyone understands and follows the break-off plan, as it is safest to leave in an ordered manner. Formations of 40+ will have a staged break-off in various 'waves' of trackers, who leave at different times, and deploy at various altitudes to increase the separation. Make sure you understand the exact heights. Work out how long your track will be - from 6,000 feet to 3,000 feet is not unusual - that's 15-20 seconds! Expect to be tracking for some time, and enjoy it!

### Signals

Usually on large formations the break-off is keyed from the centre, most often kicking of legs or a 'pullout', where one of the base people deploys. Leave on this signal and not before. Then the break-off is synchronous and everyone can fan out evenly from the centre, with good eyes on each other. Set your audible warning altitudes with care - don't just mindlessly set them at break-off and deployment but instead think for yourself. You may wish to set them 500 feet lower or higher for example.

### Direction

Tracking direction is defined by taking a straight line from the centre of the formation to your slot (your 'radial'), and tracking outward on this radial. Always use the dirt dive to define and confirm your exact radial; beware the simple 180° as this could put you on a collision course with other jumpers.

### Waves

*Outside wave* - You have a special responsibility to clear as far out from the centre as possible. Get moving on the signal, don't hang around.

*Middle wave* - Start with a good flat track outward and upward to clear air for the centre. Then look ahead, use common sense not to catch up with the wave in front. If you feel this wave is too slow then talk to the trackers (nicely) about it on the ground.

*Centre* - If you are in the base, then imagine you have only been skydiving with the base people. Go just far enough to see good separation with the people to either side.

### Lift

For the greatest horizontal travel, the track must create lift, so the departing jumpers should be higher than the formation. If they are lower they are not tracking, they are diving.

### Tracking Position

Lift is created by extending the limbs downward and backwards, de-arching and pushing on the air. The greater the de-arch - rolling the shoulders, sucking in the stomach and raising the hips - the more efficient the track. The arms are next to the body, cupping air and the legs are super-straight with toes pointed. A good position takes a lot of physical effort.

The initial turn is important; create lift now with your booties and cup air with your arms so you float upwards into your track. Be wary of a diving turn, dropping a shoulder, as this will initiate too steep an angle for your track.

### Tracking Teams

It is usual now to have tracking teams assigned, where a section tracks away in tight formation and then jumpers fan out after about 5-8 seconds. This gives more predictable separation than everyone being individual. It's important to be a team player and follow the plan; this means scooping up your team and leaving as one.

See this part of the skydive as a new pleasure; relish the chance to adjust your track position and see the effect in relation to the others. As you fan out you will have a good view of your team either side and can flare out, wave and deploy safely at your assigned altitude. You will most likely see your tracking team deploy but you know exactly who and where they are; no surprises!

Debrief with your team on the ground to see what you can all improve. This may mean the faster trackers ease off a little while the others may need to go faster or higher. The tracking leader should set an angle and pace the whole team can follow.

### Deployment

Keep your eyes and wits about you as the canopy deploys, with your hands ready to steer with rear risers if needed. Fly and land under canopy as advised in part 1 of this big-way series, 'Safety First', April 2010.

### Tracking Dives

If attending a big-way you should have a range of tracking speeds and angles in your freefall toolbox. You can improve such skills by going on a big-way camp, or by joining tracking dives - go and have some fun with the freeflyers, you'll learn some new tracking tricks!

Lesley Gale  
lesley@skydivemag.com

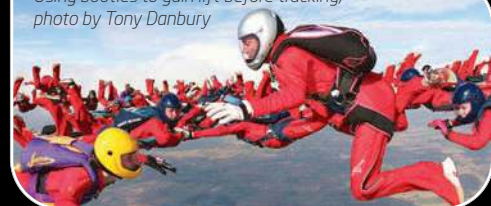
Good track position by Babylon



Poor track position (still arched)  
photo by Gary Wainwright



Using booties to gain lift before tracking,  
photo by Tony Danbury





# 2010 Prostějov bigway project

formation skydiving and wingsuit

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PROSTĚJOV  
Czech Republic

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- WS – Taya Weis, Mark Harris, Jari Kuosma, Duncan Wright, Phil Peggs
- Formation flights in Mi-8 helicopter & 2 Turbolets
- Biggest flocks in Europe

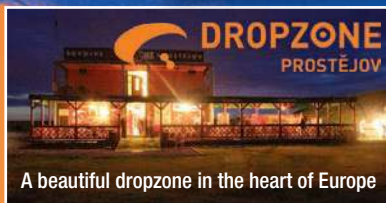


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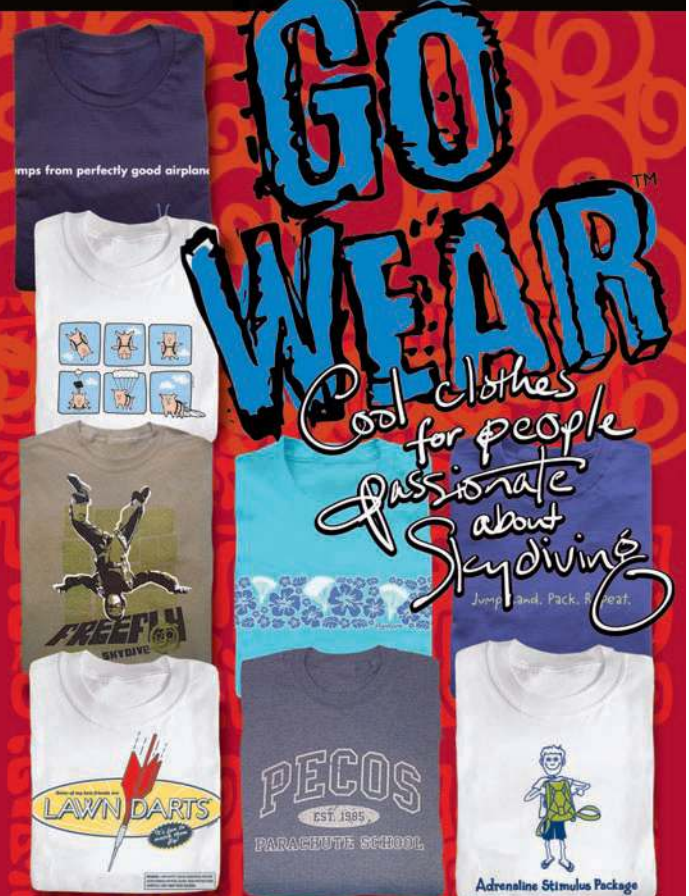
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# Arizona Challenges



This year the annual Arizona Challenge, organised by World Champion 4-way FS team *Arizona Airspeed* at Skydive Arizona was run alongside a Vertical Challenge organised by 4-way VFS World Cup Champions *Arizona Arsenal*.

*Airspeed* ran a four day FS invitational with 80 talented participants from around the world. Lead organiser Craig Girard planned two extremely challenging 80-way jumps. They did intricate 20-way jumps leading into the 80-ways. The first 80-way built and flew beautifully; the second 80-way was never completed - close but no cigar.

*Arsenal* planned their freefly event at the same time to take advantage of the formation loads flying and because they felt the idea of running the events side by side was a natural and exciting part of the sports evolution. Ty Losey led the Vertical Challenge, with 32 participants. The dives were difficult. Some of the dives were successful, others were not. That's why it is called a challenge!

**Amy Chmelecki**  
*Arizona Arsenal*



Willy Boeykens



Vertical Challenge photos  
by Brian Buckland



Willy Boeykens

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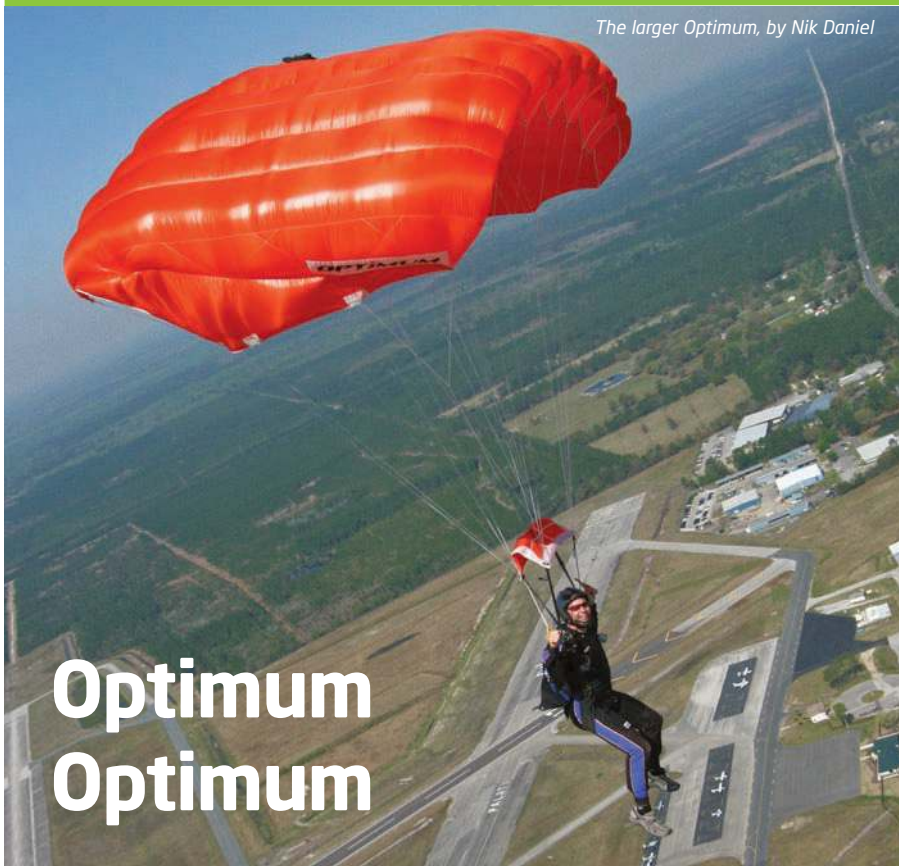
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ROB COLPUS >>



The larger Optimum, by Nik Daniel

## Optimum Optimum

It has been well over two years since Performance Designs launched its *Optimum* reserve canopy onto the market. The *Optimum* is built from PD's proprietary low bulk fabric which allows any particular canopy size to pack down one size smaller than the same size reserve made from standard F111 fabric. Since its launch the *Optimum* has only been available in the smaller sizes from 99 to 143 sq ft.

Now, after nearly a year of waiting for the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) in the States to issue TSO approvals, six more sizes are available from 160 to 253 sq ft.

PD informs us that dummy drops at weights of up to 360 pounds at speeds of up to 216 knots were carried out, although the TSO only calls for weights of 264 pounds at 180 knots.

The long delay was apparently due to the fact that the Parachute Industry Association (PIA) has been working with the FAA on a completely new set of TSO regulations which, when complete, will eventually replace the current version of the TSO.

There have been three versions/revisions of the TSO starting with the first parachute standard introduced in 1949. Each successive revision was written to improve upon perceived deficiencies of its predecessor, in the light of changing parachute technology. The process takes a long time apparently, and calls upon the working group to be brutally honest about the strengths and weaknesses of the current standard so necessary improvements can be made on the newer version. It appears that this process caused serious delay in the certification process for the larger *Optimum*s.

With all the dramatic debates involved in creating the new TSO, the FAA has developed new awareness about flight speeds with brakes set that are possible at higher weights. PD's request for TSO approval for the *Optimum* 160 through 253 included an exit weight of 300 pounds and, since 300 pounds is a higher maximum exit weight than the FAA typically sees for parachutes in this size range, this caused them new concerns.

PD's data shows that the *Optimum*s are actually slower with brakes set (at any specific weight and size) than all other reserves it had tested. The *Optimum* also satisfied all the requirements that the other PD reserves have, performance standards which have been deemed acceptable by the FAA for the past 16 years, and approved multiple times. But the FAA changed their stance on this just prior to receiving the company's TSO request.

The people at PD did not agree with the FAA's logic but, in response to their new concerns, which were presented to them nearly a year after their TSO request, they chose to voluntarily de-rate the large *Optimum*'s maximum weight rating by 10 to 35 pounds, depending on the specific size, in the interests of a greater margin of landing safety.

With that change, the FAA is apparently now satisfied, and has finally approved the company's TSO request for the larger *Optimum*s.

Though PD's TSO testing would have normally allowed for 300 pounds on the new sizes, the maximum weights now range between 265 to 290 pounds from the 160 through 253 respectively. The release of these larger sizes allows the heavier or more conservative jumper to fit a larger sized reserve canopy into their existing container.

[performancedesigns.com](http://performancedesigns.com)

## Mount Up!

The *X-Shut* is an innovative German-built quick-fitting camera mounting system.



This high-quality camera mount has a three-dimensional load capacity and can be used for many camera mounting applications including skydiving. Due to the base unit's flush and low profile, either on flat or curved sided helmets, there is no risk of snagging on parachute lines when the helmet is worn without the camera fitted.

The *X-Shut* system is lightweight, has an anti-vibration feature and is totally secure when locked. Cameras can be fitted and removed in seconds without the need for tools.

The *X-Shut* mount means the camera can be locked every 90°. When the camera is fitted there is no space left between the camera and the helmet. The *X-Shut* system can also be used in conjunction with a few other custom accessories to hand-, foot- or belly-mount a camera.

Vorsprung durch Technik!

[x-shut.com](http://x-shut.com)

## Logo Wanted!

The folks at container manufacturer Sun Path have announced that 2011 will see the tenth anniversary of their popular *Javelin Odyssey* harness container system, and to celebrate such they are holding a contest as part of the promotion.

Up until 30 November 2010 they're accepting entries in the *Javelin Odyssey* 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo Contest. The new logo will be used in place of the current *Javelin Odyssey* logo, not only on the rigs but also in all of their 2011 advertising. The designer of the winning logo will receive a free *Javelin Odyssey* with options. Yep, you read that right - a FREE, brand new *Javelin Odyssey* - that's not a prize to be sniffed at!

Contest rules and logo specs are posted on Sun Path's website and on the Sun Path Products Facebook page. Good luck!

[sunpath.com](http://sunpath.com)

## Shooting for the Sky

**Sky Shot Design is a small British company which, after 18 months of a feasibility and development process, has released a new high spec camera helmet onto the market.**

Sky Shot helmets are of a lightweight, snag-free, state-of-the-art design, which comes in, some very nice colour finishes.

Amongst the key features of the new helmet are a riser-deflecting shell design, cut back rim and sides for full range of movement and visibility, a chin-cup cutaway system, a three-point camera mounting system, dual audible alti ports and an impact-absorbing liner made from EPP (Expanded Polypropylene). EPP is an impact-resistant bead cell foam which has a good memory effect due to its molecular structure.

Options available on the Sky Shot system include a snag-free and tilting top mount with a plus or minus 5° range and three top plate configurations, *Hypeye D Pro* housing and off-centre *Zkulls* mount attachment.

You can order your Sky Shot helmet in either a polished carbon fibre black finish or one of three beautifully finished high-gloss colours – candy fire orange, candy cobalt blue or candy apple red – lovely!

[skyyshotdesign.com](http://skyyshotdesign.com)



Chris Carroll with his Sky Shot helmet and custom logo, by Gary Wainwright



The Zero, by James Paterson

## In Pursuit of Accuracy

**One area of parachute design that Performance Designs (PD) has steered clear of up till now has been the realm of parachute accuracy.**

Parachute accuracy is one of the oldest disciplines in the world of sport parachuting, with the first World Championships in Bled, Yugoslavia in 1951. PD contends that most of the jumpers partaking of this area of our sport are jumping canopy designs which were essentially created over 30 years ago.

So about three years ago the guys at PD began pursuing a new challenge – an attempt to improve on the traditional accuracy canopy with its very different set of aerodynamics qualities. In order to help them they recruited two top US names in the accuracy world – US National Champion and US team member Jimmy Hayhurst and multiple World Champion Cheryl Stearns. After several different prototypes and many test jumps they have finally announced the release of their first serious accuracy canopy named the Zero. (As in dead centre – get it?)

PD's release bumf claims that the Zero has slow flight and sink characteristics, lighter toggle pressure and smoother openings than most other accuracy canopies (have you ever heard a manufacturer claim their product has bad openings?).

The Zero is a 7-cell design with deep cells and to the non-accuracy expert looks pretty much like other accuracy veterans such as the Parafoil or Classic. The Zero comes equipped with PD's new 'Dual Mode Pocket Slider' (DMPS).

Pocket stowed = openings for hop 'n' pops  
Pocket engaged = slower openings or freefall use

The company tells us that each Zero is prepped at the factory to make common field modifications easier: it sports pre-taped soft cell port locations and wing-tip vents, plus extra control line attachment points pre-installed.

Optional accuracy risers and hard toggles are also available with the canopy. The Zero comes in eleven sizes – 205, 215, 225, 235, 245, 255, 265, 275, 285, 295 and 305.

The company states that the pack volume is slightly less than a similarly sized Classic and, compared to the Parafoil, it packs approximately 15% smaller, or about one size down. For example, a Zero 285 packs about the size of a Parafoil 2K 270, according to PD.

[performancedesigns.com](http://performancedesigns.com)

## A Bonehead with a Halo

**Bonehead, those innovative milliners from Perris, California, have come up with yet another new helmet design to join the All-Sport, Mindwarp, Optik Illusion and the many others in their headwear catalogue.**

Called the *Hell's Halo*, this new offering is a carbon fibre camera helmet which features three camera mounting surfaces. But what makes this one different is an adjustable internal 'halo' band, which can be adjusted while the helmet is worn via a ratchet at the back, allowing for last minute tightening before exit so that the cameraflyer does not have to have the helmet headache-tight while climbing to altitude or waiting during jump run.

The *Hell's Halo* comes in two shell sizes and, like their other products, it features what the guys at Bonehead call their 'thermo-fit foam', which may be heated to exactly fit one's head shape. You may choose between an adjustable chin-strap, regular chin-cup, or the new concealed chin-cup where the ratchet straps are hidden within.

The *Hell's Halo* may be ordered with an *X-Shut* fast-mounting camera mount ready integrated in the helmet's carbon fibre side. Also new from Bonehead is a carbon fibre camera protection box for the Sony CX-100 and CX-150 cameras.



[boneheadcomposites.com](http://boneheadcomposites.com)

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Photo courtesy of KOB



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Brian does a static line to celebrate his then 30 years in the sport

# Brian and



## Brian Laithwaite

### Dream, Believe, Achieve

A song came on one day in the car last year while I was driving with Brian, I looked over, he had tears pouring down his face and said it was his favourite song, Bette Midler - *Wind Beneath My Wings*. I said I sort of felt that way about *Rhodesians Never Die* and jokingly said, *'Whoever goes first gets our song played at our funeral okay?'* I was driving and never really listened to the song. When writing this tribute I remembered the conversation and friends pointed me to Youtube. As soon as I heard the song and listened to the words properly, tears hit me, I realised what he had been telling me that day. I had not heard him at the time because I didn't listen properly to the song - only as far as I am concerned, he had the strength as well and, Brian, it was never cold in your shadow, you are my sunlight.

Brian was born back in May 1945 and always lived life to the full. He grew up (honest!) and joined the sea cadets where he designed a sailing boat that became very popular. Continuing the tradition of mayhem (okay, I take that back, he didn't grow up) he was with a cadet party that did not close some lock gates and drained the entire top section of the Leeds Liverpool Canal, costing £40,000!

Work-wise Brian became an electrical apprentice at Parks at 15 where he loved the challenge. He left at 21 when he was told, *'You start night shift a week on Friday'*. He said, *'Okay, I leave a week on Friday'*. He set up his own, very successful electrical business, which he eventually gave away to a friend, not asking a penny for it.

Brian loved sailing and was also into scuba diving - he gave that up though when he went into a lake and couldn't tell mud from water. He went shooting, and owned an open licence to carry almost any gun and use it anywhere due to a slip-up in paperwork, he kept that one quiet. He enjoyed climbing in Wales, joining one of the Welsh mountain rescue teams as their medic.

When he saw skydiving he fell for it completely, and it became the only sport that hooked him for the rest of his life. He was dispatched on his first static line jump by Dave Prince and they remained good friends. Brian was the first person to do a static line descent at Cark and jumped there for many years.

Brian's first marriage to Ann did not last long as they were both too young but they stayed friends. He later met and married Jan and they

had three children; Geoff, Hazel and Rowena. From that he now has a host of grandchildren. They moved to Cumbria and lived on a smallholding with sheep, pigs and chickens. He used to recount how he cleared the field of nettles - and did it naked because he wanted to get used to nettle stings so they wouldn't bother him.

This marriage failed and he moved to Biggin Hill to become CCI at the parachute centre where we met in about 1985. Brian was ever the romantic and his proposal was at a fish 'n' chip shop in Bromley. *'How do you fancy being the third Mrs Laithwaite? ... and can you pass the tomato sauce?'* I passed the sauce and, also being romantic, muttered through a mouthful of food, *'Ya, ok'*.

We were broke, set up a new business, cooked in a kettle, had a single chair and a single bed for two fatties. It took us three years to save up for my wedding ring. We went to get it and they asked when the wedding was. *'Oh'* he said, *'we have been married three years, this is a birthday present'*. They looked at us like we were nuts; they were right. Nuts or not though, we are now into our 24<sup>th</sup> year of marriage.

We lived in Tenerife for a while, it was like a long holiday in some ways, and Brian even managed a couple of jumps on borrowed kit. I ran the Animal Rescue and Brian would help but tended to avoid the kennels as he found it too upsetting, but was always there when needed. That smiling face you all knew was often wiped as he helped with the grim reality of animal rescue. I got a job as head keeper at Tenerife Zoo. He loved going there. He helped me catch and move the 7-foot crocodile Celia to her new enclosure, it was such a three-stooges act that I still don't know how we weren't hurt. The Tenerifians were great and Brian learned Spanish, which helped him make more friends in the islands and later in life.

Back in the UK and we went along to Cark, Brian decided to do a *'quick jump'* on borrowed kit. *'Oh for God's sake'*, I moaned on the way home, *'Shut up and go get some kit, only don't spend a lot of money on it because we don't have much.'* After a lot of prevaricating he *'just got a couple of cheap bits and pieces'*, and was soon back doing what he loved.

Brian was an excellent cook and loved his music filling the house with sounds from the organ, clarinet, piano-accordion and saxophone. Brian discovered his ability to heal and liked helping people with it, he insisted he was just a conduit

for someone or something else, he was the tool. Jackie showed him the magic of auras and I still remember the look of wonder when he explained the first aura he saw. He got his formal qualification as a hypnotherapist and life coach and, although he wanted to get out of electrical work and make a living at life coaching, it was never going to happen, he hated to charge money for it.

Brian never had a lot of faith in himself and he loved jumping with everyone, but was always over-excited after he had jumped with some of you like Milko, Luc, Sian and some others *'amongst the best in the world'* (his exact words). That you had actually jumped with him, that you felt he was good enough to jump with, was a huge pride for him. I would tell him that was rubbish, he was skilled and his best skill was in teaching others. No matter how good you are if you cannot or will not pass along your skills then you are the poorer for it - making Brian a very rich man.

He would call the jumpers in his groups his fledglings and tell me he wanted them to learn to fly in the air and in life. As soon as they were ready he would wave them out of the nest to face their skydiving challenges. Followed half-proud and half-embarrassed by, *'The problem is that I can't shift the buggers from the nest. They grip onto me and refuse to go or just fly straight back!'*

Emma became Brian's ad hoc secretary and tried to organise things but got frustrated at times and Brian would give a grin when he told me of her latest annoyance. She was a fantastic lady who did her best to try and organise a friendly rabble of skydivers.

Some of the fledglings and Brian's friends are having trouble with jumping again. What happened was an awful accident. Go jump, Brian and Emma will be flying free with you. Remember Brian's words, *'Dream, Believe, Achieve'*. Live life to the fullest; it is a precious gift to savour.

What made Brian truly special and allowed him to shine was all his family and friends. You are his true riches. From the bottom of mine and Brian's hearts, thank you.

Life is a journey. Love makes it worthwhile. Brian you are my rock, my soul, my love, my friend, my life... for all eternity. I miss you.

Caro  
vetnurse\_laithwaite@blueyonder.co.uk



# nd Emma



## Emma Bramley

### The Third Pea to our Pod

Being Emma's little sister meant she did most things in life before I did. I learned from both her successes and her mistakes.

One thing she did very well before me was become a Mummy. When I became one, Emma was, of course, a pro at the parenting malarkey. She made it look easy; her children were and still are well-behaved, polite and quirky. She soon became my very own Supernanny. She always knew how to tackle the temper tantrums, the sleeping problems, the teething issues, every single bit. As she did with everything in life, Emma researched parenting with all the recommended books. She passed them on to me but I couldn't be bothered to read them, I'd just call and ask her for the answers!

It was an honour to be with her during the birth of her second little delight. In return she was there to support me for my first. All I hear when I think of this are her cheers of encouragement. I felt so much closer to her afterwards.

Before she became a skydiver Emma was a full-time Mum, ploughing every second of her life into her children. When she discovered her passion for skydiving she was still a fantastic Mum, she had just added a bit of spice to her life. She gave herself more of an identity, it added to her already fun-loving personality.

As my sister, Emma was fabulous. We had a similar sense of humour and when we got together we bounced off each other. The last time I saw Emma she had called and said, 'We're thinking of taking a drive to Mum and Dad's, are you coming? It's a surprise, they don't know.' We had a great bank holiday weekend. She bonded with my five-week old daughter, Annie. Emma was smitten. Baby Annie even gave Auntie Emma her first real smiles! I was jealous!

I remember saying, 'Em, you wouldn't want to be my bridesmaid would you?' (thinking she would rather not be the one in the dress). She replied, 'No. I don't want to be your bridesmaid, I want to be your maid of honour!' So, she picked the bridesmaids' dresses, which I had to search the earth for, but it was worth it. That was the dress she wanted! I'm not looking forward to getting married without her at my side, but I know she'll be there, watching and laughing at the drunken dancing and Dad's speech! Emma, I apologise now that there will

be no karaoke. I will however do my best to get your favourite band to play for us.

I love you babes. You are such a beautiful lady. My sister, the daredevil. The amazing mum. The third pea to our pod.

Sarah-Jayne Bramley

### Emma's 3-way Dream

Emma revealed her dream to me many years after we got together, there were three things she always wanted to do: skydive, ride in a hot air balloon and swim with dolphins. So, she did her first ever jump, a static line, as a Valentine's present in 2006, and from there she was hooked. She went to Spain the following year to take her licence, and never looked back. She took her mum up in a hot air balloon in 2007, fittingly taking off at a wedding, and landing at a funeral.

Emma managed the first two, and I am so pleased I helped her live some of her dreams. She is massively missed, an enormous void in my life and the boys, let alone her family. Emma was full of smiles. Very little got her down in life; as she would say, 'one life, live it to the max'. This is what Emma did; she brought a smile to my face every day, and she meant the world and more to me and the boys.

Just before Emma's death, she finally got to see Cory play football for the first time. I am so pleased she got to see this, she was immensely proud of both boys, and had avidly watched Mitch play many times. They miss her so much. Although I am their Dad, I don't believe Mummy can ever be replaced. She was the ultimate full-time Mum. I am trying to show the boys as much as I can of their Mum, we visit her every day to say goodnight. They sleep with one of her jumpers, and speak to her every night before they go to bed.

I would just like to thank Emma for spending thirteen years of her amazing life with me. Emma, you will never be forgotten. Love you forever babe. Love you Mummy - Mitch and Cory

Rob Bone

robbone@virginmedia.com

In memory of Brian and Emma, their wonderful beginners' group, 'L8 Arrivals' are collecting for the Air Ambulance, see [justgiving.com/L8Arrivals](http://justgiving.com/L8Arrivals)

### Emma's 4-way Dream

Emma had a dream, and that was the 4-way Nationals 2011. She dragged me back from the 'dark side' to join her quest and, with Phil and Kelly, was going to organise us into a team to be reckoned with - laminated dirt dive sheets and all. So it's for Emma that we are going to take her dream to Nationals next year and do her proud. *Team EB*, here we go!

Lisa Okane

### Life's Short, Live it to the Max

My beautiful daughter Emma loved the excitement of flying free in the blue skies and, above all, she loved her family life. Her boys, Mitchell and Cory, and fiancé Rob meant the world to her. There was nothing she wouldn't do for them. She would beam with pride as she encouraged them into telling how well they'd played in recent football matches, how many goals they'd scored and how often Mitchell had achieved 'Man of the Match'.

Emma's dad Mick was a well-known skydiver who was in the Parachute Regiment for 22 years and the two of them would often talk shop in a language unbeknown to me. It made her so proud to be his daughter.

Emma was an intelligent, thoughtful, caring and loving young woman who enjoyed life and had everything to live for. She was the life and soul of any party or family get-together, organising everybody into party games. She loved to sing, dance and would take up any challenge for a laugh. She had us in stitches whilst she bellowed out karaoke, usually with her younger brother Andy, whom she nicknamed 'Ginge', that name's now stuck!

Emma was so organised, making sure there was a place for everything and everything was in its place. No birthday was ever forgotten, no appointment missed; her calendar was always up to date. I guess what I'm trying to say is Emma was a remarkable, amazing, talented and much-loved beautiful lady, who will be greatly missed by everyone who met her - not least by her very close family who are all devastated. We love you Emma Bramley!

Annette Bramley



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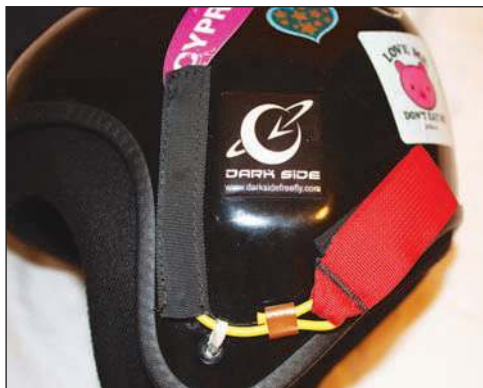
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## Helmet Cameras



A fully-functional release system put together by a rigger



Woody demonstrates a camera restraint made from a simple piece of webbing

### Go Pro

"Small, easy-to-mount cameras like the Go Pro and the Contour seem to be the next big thing at the moment for new C Certificate jumpers. Once you hit 200 jumps, it's so easy to buy a low-cost, good-quality HD camera off the shelf or over the internet and mount it to your existing helmet with minimal effort, rather than purchasing a traditional complete set-up with new helmet specially designed for cameras with a built-in cutaway.

"I bought a Go Pro in the USA when I had about 400 jumps and fixed it to my own open-face helmet, which didn't have a cutaway. I did a couple of jumps in it with friends who had similar cameras and helmets. When I got back to the UK I wasn't allowed to jump it at my DZ due to a local rule about a mandatory cutaway system if a snag hazard is present. However, the CCI and a rigger kindly made a release system for me in about half an hour." (Pictured)

Cutaway systems on camera helmets are not mandated in the BPA Ops Manual, but some dropzones require them and they're certainly a good idea. The reasoning is that if a part of your equipment, say your pilot chute, bridle or a suspension line, gets snagged on your camera, then at least you can release the helmet from your head before releasing the main canopy as well. Otherwise cutting away the main only releases the canopy at the risers, leaving all the tension loaded onto the snag and therefore making the situation much worse. There has also been a recent incident in America where a 4-way jumper got a jumpsuit sleeve caught on the empty Go Pro mount on their teammate's full-face helmet. With no option to cut away the helmet, they had to fight in freefall to untangle themselves.

As cameras have got smaller and more popular, there has sometimes been a tendency for jumpers to underestimate the associated complexities. It's been known for first-jump students to be surprised that they can't take their digital stills camera up on their AFF Level 1 or tandem skydive! There is, of course, a C Certificate minimum requirement due to the extra dimension that a camera adds to the skydive. As well as the potential extra step in reserve drills that must be rehearsed, freefall skills need to be second nature.

### Exercising Restraint

Camera helmets are the only exception to the rule that helmets must be fitted before take-off. If you are jumping with a small camera helmet, you may choose to simply wear it anyway. The exception was really aimed at people jumping heavy video and stills, who would be at risk of bad whiplash in the event of an aborted take-off or forced landing. However the Ops Manual is clear that "helmets not fitted for take-off should be securely located in the aircraft", which goes hand in hand with the seat belt rule that "where parachutists' restraints are fitted, they are to be used during take-off and landing".

It simply isn't enough to hold your camera helmet, as in the event of a crash you may not be able to hold onto it. It really does need to be clipped in somehow. Depending on the type of helmet you have, you may be able to clip it to your chest strap, or feed your seat belt through your camera helmet before clipping it to yourself. Alternatively you could make your own restraint (pictured). It has a simple piece of webbing and is even long enough to allow a cameraflyer to use the camera in the aircraft while it's still hooked up. If you're a jumpmaster and you see a cameraflyer with their helmet not properly restrained, don't let the plane take off until it's secure - it's non-negotiable.

"I do know that there is absolutely no question that everyone should wear their seat belts on every take-off and that all camera helmets should also be restrained. Even a crash that is relatively mild in comparison to ours would be enough to launch a camera helmet through the cabin, potentially causing fatal injuries.



"Wearing seat belts and securing camera helmets is the least we can do to try to guarantee our safety. No argument could be made otherwise."

Dan BC, skydiving aircraft crash survivor

## BOOGIES

It's that time of year when Brits are tempted by overseas boogies, but stay safe out there.

Other countries may have different rules to the BPA, so self-responsibility is key. BPA rules are still good ideas, so carry on getting flightline checks even if they're not technically required.

There can also be a temptation to take advantage of lower minimum requirements, eg. for wingsuiting or cameraflying. However those rules are there for a reason, so if doing something new ask yourself, "would I be allowed to do this at home?" and, if not, think about why not and therefore whether it's a good idea.

You'll have relative anonymity abroad, so you won't necessarily be stopped from doing something - but that doesn't mean it's a good idea to do it!

## WHAT IF?

We ask the questions... you provide the answers.

There often isn't a 'right' answer, and the situations are deliberately vague to allow for maximum discussion around the DZ.

Do not change any of your drills without first consulting a BPA instructor and/or your CCI.

### What If?...

- 1 ...you open after a reserve repack to find your canopy is hooked up backwards?
- 2 ...you are jumpmaster and struggling to see the ground through cloud, but the green light is on and people further up the plane are shouting at you to get out?
- 3 ...you are jumping in a group and notice another jumper's cutaway pad fly off their rig at 10,000 feet. They don't appear to have noticed?

## Safety Focus

### Toggles

Your brake lines attach to the tail of your canopy, and cascade down through the slider and a guide ring on the rear riser before attaching to the toggle. There is a setting loop, sometimes called a 'cat's eye', which is used to set the canopy on approximately half-brakes at the start of packing. This means that the tail is deflected downward slightly on opening, controlling the opening and also meaning that you don't fly forward at full speed until you release your brakes. The exact method of setting your brakes depends on the container you use, as different risers will have slightly different toggles and methods of stowing them. However, some basic principles are universal.

Firstly, the setting loop must be pulled down so that it is **below** the guide ring, not above it. Getting this wrong can cause damage to your equipment as well as increasing the chances of having a brake fire, which is where a toggle prematurely releases on opening, causing a turn.

✓ Right



✓ Setting loop is below guide ring

✗ Wrong



✗ Setting loop is above guide ring

Secondly, the action of setting the brakes creates a loop of excess line between the setting loop and the toggle itself. This excess must be correctly stowed according to the container manufacturer's instructions. If you don't have the manual for your container, you should be able to find it on the manufacturer's website. Often there will be a keeper on the back of the riser that the excess folds into, or a pocket or Velcro on the front.



✓ Correctly stowed excess

It's important that the excess is not left loose, as it can present a major snag hazard, especially if jumping camera. On some canopies, there can be quite a lot of excess – it depends on the type of canopy and also whether the jumper has configured it themselves by lengthening or shortening the brake lines.

### Toggle Incident

In the only UK fatality of 2009, the jumper had stowed his excess brake line down through the bottom toggle-keeper, although this still left a loop of line below that. He was participating in a large formation skydive, and probably did not release his toggles for some time after opening, probably steering with rear risers instead for a while. It is likely that he then accidentally put his hand through this loop of excess line to get to the toggle. As he released that brake, the excess would have pulled tight. If you did the same thing, you could get your hand trapped to the riser.

In this particular case, the jumper's hand may not have been caught, but the excess loop of line still trapped the toggle itself to the riser, causing a turn that killed him on impact.

Releasing the opposite brake may have enabled him to fly straight and level, or he could have cut away if he still had the height to do so, but it is likely that he lost altitude awareness despite his 2,000+ jumps, and spent the rest of the skydive focussed solely on the tangled toggle. Who would have ever thought that something so simple could cause such a tragic outcome, especially on a relatively docile 135 canopy?

**Always remember that you are not in full control of your canopy until you have released your brakes, so do it high enough to leave yourself plenty of options in case of a problem.**



✗ Loop of excess brake line



✗ Hand through loop of line



✗ Excess pulled tight and hand trapped



✗ Excess loop of line trapping toggle to riser

### We're Jammin'

Finally, a visual inspection of your kit is a 'must' each time you pack. In this picture below, the fabric around the grommet had started to work loose, until there was enough of it to trap the half-brake setting loop and jam it when the jumper went to release her brakes. Since the opposite brake released without a problem, the only way to fly straight and level was to pull that one down halfway. The jumper decided she wasn't happy to land the canopy with such restricted control and flaring ability, so used her reserve.



This worn toggle caused a malfunction

### Safety Tip

Always keep a spare main closing loop with your rig, tucked into the documents pocket. That way you can replace it immediately at the first sign of fuzziness rather than being tempted to wait until the end of the day.

### REPORT IN CONFIDENCE

These kind of safety articles rely on people sending me their stories - so please do!

Liz Ashley  
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# CLUB ZONE

For more news from all UK clubs, visit the Club Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

## For Brian and Emma



*"Brian and Emma will both be greatly missed by everyone"*

Missing person formation, by Gary Wainwright

## LANGAR

[skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)



Chris Cook's 1,000<sup>th</sup>, by Gary Wainwright

It seems to have been a busy start to the summer! We're lucky to have two Grand Caravans with us full time all year round and we have been making the most of them! We managed just over 1,200 jumps during our first boogie and Jan made 75 lifts in his awesome Beech 99! Bullet Freefly and friends provided top-class organising and coaching, making the most of the fast turnaround of the Beech. Meanwhile, Dave, Billy, Brian and Milko provided FS load organising for all levels of jumpers. Bullet Freefly School continues, with Ally Milne and Scott Calcraft qualifying as FF coaches. They join the host of regular Bullet coaches, as well as their friends from the tunnel to organise loads of FF and hybrid dives! Sian Stokes has also recently become an FS coach.

Good luck to all the 4-way teams who have been training with us, making good use of our midweek lift capacity in preparation for Nationals.

We were deeply saddened by the loss of Brian Laithwaite and Emma Bramley; they will both be greatly missed by everyone. Members of Brian and Emma's 8-way team, *LBArrivals*, are raising money for the Air Ambulance in their memory. See [justgiving.com/LBArrivals](http://justgiving.com/LBArrivals). Don't miss the Boogie 2 from 4-12 September. We've got Jan and his Beech returning, the helicopter and Brian Vacher's Safe Flight School!

Check [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk) for the latest news and action!

Gareth Thomas

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **FF1** Rob Walker, Nicole Calcraft, N Foreman, Dan Vandenhende **FS1** Alan Foulkes-Williams, Steve Head, Liam Byrne, Jonny Francis, Jon Rivers, Paul Clapham, Andrew Johnson, Rachel Harper, Jonny Castell, Nick Robinson **CH1** Dale Brailsford

**JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Liam Byrne, Alan Foulkes-Williams, Jonny Francis **100** Jonny Castell, Karen Neilson, Dan Vandenhende, Hannah Tillyard **200** Laura Muller, Kyle Price **300** Pete Harris **400** Ryan Briddon, Ross Lambert, Gary Davidson **500** Sian Stokes **700** Wayne Glenn **800** Des Meyer **1,000** Chris Cook, Andy Pike **1,300** Neil Butcher **1,500** Fiona Birnie **2,000** Chris Carroll **7,000** Phil Curtis **1 hour freefall** Paul Dewey, Hannah Tillyard **12 hours freefall** Bill Miller

## POPS

[pops.org.uk](http://pops.org.uk)

### POPS abroad

The 10<sup>th</sup> World POPS Meet, Reggio Emilia, Italy, in June, saw over 80 people contest the accuracy/speed event. The winner (an American POP) cracked six seconds to gain the gold. All 4-way, 8-way, accuracy, speed, scrambles and CRW events took place from a Beech 99 under a burning sun, blue skies and very little wind conditions. All events were strongly contested and the standards very high. Though our small team of 12 didn't feature in the medals, we had a number of fourth places and 'nearly's'. There were

over 20 countries and our Italian hosts did us proud with the activities they arranged.

The 11<sup>th</sup> World POPS Meet will be held in Teuge, Holland, 29 June - 8 July 2012. Ronald van Rijn was voted in as World Top POP No 8 and can be contacted on [ronaldvanrijn@pops-nl.com](mailto:ronaldvanrijn@pops-nl.com)

The quest for a new UK Top POP has been successful with Jeff Chandler, a very successful and well-known skydiver rising to the challenge. At the moment Jeff has his programme of international competitions to complete, so more about the handover later.

Dick Barton



The 10<sup>th</sup> World POPS Meet, by Inger Allum



The Bad Lieutenants,  
by Olly Burgin



Marie's 100<sup>th</sup> jump,  
by Jim Stevenson

## HIBALDSTOW

skydiving.co.uk



"The sun has been shining on the UK Funshine Boogie and our Freefly Scrambles"

FF Scrambles,  
by Olly Burgin

## Funshine and freefly!

The sun has been shining on the UK Funshine Boogie and our Freefly Scrambles. The BLTs have been busy keeping freeflyers from all over the country flocking to Hib.

The flatflyers have had Simon Cathrine's introduction to big-ways, and coaching regularly available from *SonicNutz*, accompanied by *Kaizen*. Skydive Choreography has kept even the more experienced flatflyers happy and manifesting for more.

Saturday nights have been full of fun and games with Stu Ferguson. The bar tapes have been popular – jumpers watch themselves in all their best and silliest moments, all of which can be seen on our fan page on Facebook.

Check out the online diary for upcoming events. We're open every day now until the end of August with team training and Skysaver weeks.

Mike McNulty

### ACHIEVEMENTS

**Graduated AFF** Pete Gray, Kris Cavill, Guri Melcher, Adam Blagg, Callum Todd, Kerry Foster, Rachel Hughes, Charlie Code, Henry Lewis, Simon Li **FS1** Louise Shaw

### JUMP NUMBERS

**100** Mhari Dunlop, Mick Allison **300** Mick Nunn **400** Adam Pencharz **600** Pete Mather, Ben 'The Warrior' Cornick **900** Mike McNulty **1,300** Jo Burns **2,500** Darren Atter

## BLACK KNIGHTS

bkpc.co.uk

## Swoop down to BKPC

The summer is well and truly on its way! A big well done to Mike Dodd who has completed his FS1 within a matter of days, incurring heavy beer fines for after hours.

Black Knights turned into Cockerham International during one weekend when seven microlights on their way back to Northern Ireland had to make a forced landing to shelter from a freak rainstorm. It kept everyone entertained while waiting for the sun to reappear.

We would like to welcome Darren and Andy, both of who are also available for FS coaching; they have had world-class coaching themselves, so come and take advantage.

The new central-heated club house, briefing room, toilets and showers are on the final stretch of completion. Don't forget you can come and pitch your tent, or use one of the three refurbished bunk rooms.

The Christmas party is at Garstang Golf & Country Club on Saturday 18 December 2010. We were last there three years ago and it was a great venue. Yes, we know it's only June, but it will soon be upon us, so see Sharon and Megan for further details and to pay your deposits.

Remember we have a swoop pond here, so no need to travel abroad! See bkpc.co.uk.

Sharon Beeson & Megan Bee

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **First freefall** Craig Hughes, Rhobert Williams, David Whitworth, Paul McGill, Dave Smith, Carl Daley  
**Graduated AFF** Andrew Livesey, Jo Thomas **Cat 8** Steve Owen, Dave Butterworth **FF1** Matt Wall, Pete Williams  
**FS1** Neil Davies, Tom Watson, Marvin Lloyd, Mike Dodd, Dave Simpson, Daniel Cusack, Jo Thomas, Pete Williams **WS1** Tony Strugnell, Paul Yeoman **JM1** Pete Williams **JM1 & CH2** Richard Lowe, Jean Philippe Dufraigne, Jo Thomas, Steve Searle  
**JUMP NUMBERS** **100** Darren Rose, Ben Henshall, Neil Davies, Steve Searle, Pete Williams **200** Stuart McKenzie, Richard Dixon **300** Andrew Forsyth, Debbie Williams, Mark Ryall **500** Ruth Morrison, Chris Arrowsmith, Mike Desmond, Adrian Bond **800** Gus Tomison **900** Ewan Cowie **1,000** Tal Alkunshalie **4,000** Jason Snailham, Tony Lightfoot



"Remember we have a swoop pond, so no need to travel abroad!"

Lee Rhodes



Team Sirius

### DON'T MISS!

Open Week: 6-15 August  
BPA Accuracy & CF Grand Prix: 18-19 September



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## Enjoying the HEAT

Army Nemesis and Army Euphoria, by Lelo Mras

Nethers was bathed in sunshine as 26 4-way teams entered the UKSL meet in May. All six rounds were completed in one day with the two Caravans flying over 60 lifts. The honours went to HEAT (AAA), Unagi (AA), Gr4vity (A) and High Altitude Heroes (Rookie). Thanks to all the staff for the slick organisation and to the judges: Liz and the two Ruths! Good luck to the Euphoria and HEAT lads who should be in Russia for the FF and Canopy Piloting World Meets.

Thanks go to Jerry Denning who is moving on after three years. Among his achievements was, not least, orchestrating the move to the new hangar. Rich Molloy will be stepping into his shoes as commandant.

Congrats to Lucy for finding her way back to 13k, to Mark Tether for not using the tannoy for a whole hour and to Rick for jumping 'koboyashi maru' - his home-made rig - it's amazing what a boy scout sewing badge qualifies you to do!

Kath Salisbury

## NETHERAVON

[netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)



BCPA competitors, by Simon Bristow

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall Gregory Thomson, Tom Balston Cat 8 Joaquin Perez, Neelfred Malla, Andy Martin, Dave McBride, Jamie Chappell FS1 David Lee, Sara Gaskell, CJ Kasse, Matt Gottwald, Matt Wellington, Vicky Wellington, Stuart Chalder, Chris Bryson JM1 Oli Washbrook FF1 James Lee  
**JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Margot, Gav McNae, Naomi Spencer, Jim Collins 100 Chris Frost 200 James Lee, Simon Cady, Tom Bellis, Pete Hodges 300 Martin Preston 400 Kate Blethyn, Jenna Pickering 500 Muz Sutcliffe 900 Leah Frost 1,000 Scouse Morgan, Chaz Sagar-Goldsmith 4,000 Geoff McVey  
**24 hours freefall** Ian Ridpath **60 hours freefall** Geoff McVey

## LEWKNOR

[londonparachuteschool.com](http://londonparachuteschool.com)



"Juri's 200<sup>th</sup> became a hybrid with Rachel and Tim"

Juri Puth's 200<sup>th</sup> with Rachel and Tim, by Mark Stone

## UFOs over Lewknor

It has been manic down here and the words to describe it are not printable! AFF graduation for Christophe, Sean, Alan, and Damien; FS1 for John and Alex; Tracy's 400<sup>th</sup> - yes, we put her on a tandem and three cameramen got in on the act so she didn't know who to geek at first... settling for all of them.

Juri's 200<sup>th</sup> became a hybrid with Rachel and Tim. It was good to see Rachel back in the air after doing the Three Peaks Challenge and helping raise £14k. There were also two UFOs over the DZ in the form of yours truly and Chris Buse.

Some welcome weather has made life easier, but the pilots are finding 12-15 lift days interesting! A big thanks to Tim for supplying the BBQ!

Martin Harris

## BCPA

[bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)



Team Tetris, third at UKSL Cark, by Chris Cook

## BCPA league hots up!

The weather is really hotting up and so is the BCPA league! There has been a huge increase in video submissions in our monthly 3-way FS competition and clubs are really jostling for position. We had hugely successful Southern and Scots regional competitions hosted by Netheravon and Strathallan DZs respectively; the weather did its best to scupper our Southern competition but 100 students were offered the opportunity to get up at 6am in the morning to jump in a good weather window and that's exactly what they did. Lazy students indeed! The dedication shown to attend these events was immense.

BCPA-ers have again been showing how seriously they take competition, with five BCPA teams entering UKSL at Cark, three winning medals.

Next issue the new BCPA committee will be telling you who the new BCPA national champions are. Will it be the reigning champions Warwick, the belligerent Southampton, or will there be a surprise last-minute contender?

Garrick Foster-Taylor

### BCPA LEAGUES as of 07/06/10

#### National Achievements

1. Southampton 335
2. Warwick 273
3. Durham 153

#### National Championship

1. Warwick 714
2. Southampton 668
3. Strathclyde 233

#### National Individual

1. Sam Lee, Warwick 171
2. Tim Gaines, Warwick 152
3. Garrick Taylor, Southampton 151

#### Southern Championship

1. Southampton 668
2. Kingston 166
3. Bath 157

#### Midlands Championship

1. Warwick 714
2. Loughborough 180
3. Cambridge 42

#### Northern Championship

1. Durham 76
2. Liverpool 45
3. Leeds 20

#### Scottish Championship

1. Strathclyde 233
2. Edinburgh 142
3. Stirling 74

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Andy Lovemore



Wayne's 700<sup>th</sup> jump, by Olly Denham

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

FS1 Jeff Sharpe, Simon Hayes, Dan Moore, Jim Graham FF1 Guy Wells FF2 Scott Wookey

#### JUMP NUMBERS

50 Dan Bowler, Nigel Arnold 200 Maddy Heath-Kelly 300 Rob Gray 400 Shane Hardwick 500 Shane Hardwick 700 Alistair Redler 11,000 Dave Howerski

## DUNKESWELL

[skydivethewell.com](http://skydivethewell.com)

### BBQs and boogies

The beautiful weather meant our Beech Boogie 1 was a great success, with some of the best freeflying we've seen! Dave Morris also organised countless big-ways and was impressed with our flatflyers. We did see one rainy day but we put it to good use and finished decorating the new building and indoor packing area – a huge thank you to all who helped out.



Beech Boogie big-way, by Paul Thompson

The large concrete creeper pad is now in place and we've also invested in new (clean!) bunkhouses, where you can stay from just £5 per night (booking essential).

Everyone has been enjoying the delicious BBQs and chilli nights around the campfire. There's been no shortage of beer fines with the amount of achievements.

Thanks to Dave Lewis for organising the FS big-ways weekend with our resident 'flatty' Pete Stone. Events coming up – progression weeks, the Twin Beech Boogie 2 and the UKS Boogie. Check out our website and Facebook page!

Maddy Heath-Kelly

## SWINDON

[skydivelondon.co.uk](http://skydivelondon.co.uk)

### Busy in the buff!

Redlands has been a very busy place with the recent weather and all our students are moving along nicely. Dermot and Paolo are racing to be the first ever AFF student Redlands has taught from start to finish; both are doing well. Griggy is back in business and has the Oxford Uni crew motivated again.

Mark Benson and Brucie did a naked tandem, filmed by Dylan (also in the buff), and the video can be seen on Youtube. Jerry and Rachel have been organising rounders matches, while the fire pit has been used for BBQs.

Brucie has turned back into a human after successfully completing his IMC rating; he can now fly the Airvan, which is a very scary thought. There must also be something in the water as Crazy Legs, Andy Shaw, Luke and Leonie are all expecting babies; we wish them all the best and wonder where the play area will be?

Dylan Griffith-Jones

**“Dermot and Paolo are racing to be the first ever AFF student Redlands has taught from start to finish”**



Mark Benson and Brucie, by Dylan Griffith-Jones

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

First freefall Karl Pearce, Luke Valori, Tom Chambers, Rich Cowley FS1 Rachel King, Luke Shaw

#### JUMP NUMBERS

50 Jess Campbell, Jonny Moulder, Rachel King 200 Rob 'Crazy Legs' Spour 300 Mark Benson 900 Luke Ingram 1,500 Dylan Griffith-Jones 2,500 Brucie

## UK PARA BECCLES

[ukparachuting.co.uk](http://ukparachuting.co.uk)



Chris and Kate, BBC Springwatch, with Paul



Lynn Faulds Wood doing a charity tandem

### Sausage fest!

With the BBQ season in full swing and glorious weather, UK Parachuting Beccles has seen its fair share of sausages. (Where are all the girls?)

Mark Harris and the 'Top Gun' team had a productive wingsuit weekend in June. Tim Porter managed to track some of the freeflyers into the unknown (apparently he did the same at Sibson). Thanks to Tim for the FF coaching weekend.

BBC Springwatch team visited Beccles to create a spoof entrance to the studio recording of their Springwatch Unsprung programme. Twitcher Paul Newton was only too glad to assist!

We also hosted our first and very

successful BPA course, with Aaron 'Squirrel' Eilen gaining his AFF rating and Barrie 'Buttcrust' Bremner his tandem rating. Well done!

Check out Club Zone on the UK Parachuting website for more details on our summer party and 4-way Scrambles, 28-29 August.

Jason Thompson

**ACHIEVEMENTS** AFF Grad, Cat 8 & CH1 Marcelle Vaneck, Ran MacDonald, Dan Pidcock, Jeremy Bowles, Murray Aldridge, Kip Morton, Lee Colbert  
**FS1** Peter Ponicky, Danny French, Carole Challis, David Narey, Riaan Vansyl **FF1** Tony Perkins, Rob Belman **JM1 & CH2** Steve Neimic, Trev Johnson, Elliot Clapp **WS1** John Midgley, Ian Fleming  
**JUMP NUMBERS** 200 Pam Hawes 400 Russ Shearman, Mike Wymss, Rob Belman, Gareth Jones 800 Paul Newton 2,000 Nader Afsharian

# 13 to 17 August 2010

## Aérodrome Spa-La Sauvenière



Jumps at 20€ Party

exhibitions Rétrospective exposition  
Sunset jumps Big formations animations

2 SKYVANS 2 CARAVANS HÉLICOPTERS HOT-AIR BALLOONS

### ANIMATIONS

#### FS

Dario Jotti  
Wim Vanparijs  
Ludo Havelaerts  
Jimmy Mathys

#### Freefly

Matthew Hill  
(Arizona Eloy crew member)  
Rob Heron  
Laurent Vanhecke  
Arnaud Mouque  
Jordy Zangerlé

#### Wingsuit

Birdman team  
Yves Petit  
Pierre-Yves Brull

#### Swoop & flocking

Ronald Emonts  
Peter Vohwinkel

### PROGRAM

#### Friday 13

Retrospective & Vip evening

#### Saturday 14

Barbecue, tombola, mojito's & Dj's

#### Sunday 15

Big Formations

#### Every day

Every day Animations, retro, exposition, cocktail bar...

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# CLUB ZONE

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Dave, Jan and Ben on Ben's 4,000<sup>th</sup> jump, by Ross Houlston

## CORNISH [cornishparachuteclub.co.uk](http://cornishparachuteclub.co.uk)

The new buildings are taking shape and should soon be a vast improvement on last year when we only had a Portakabin and a trailer to work with. Ralph and Ryan have been a big help with our tandems and we are very grateful.

It is nice to see new club jumpers and people returning to the sport such as Dave Parker, Lee Clempson and Andy Grant – welcome to CPC. Well done to Mike Brown who has returned to the sport after nearly a year following a nasty motorbike accident.

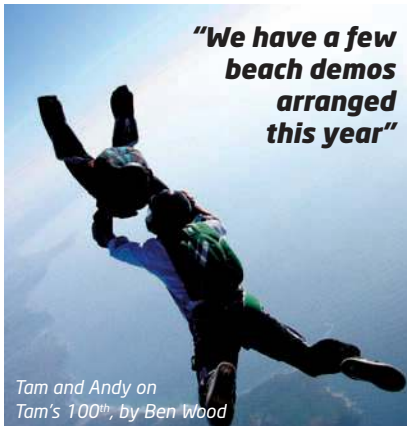
Dave Wood did his 7,500<sup>th</sup> jump and Ben Wood now has over 4,000. Dave and Jan joined him for his 4,000<sup>th</sup> with Perranporth beach in the background, while Ross Houlston has completed his 600<sup>th</sup>. Phil Symons, one of our early students at Lands End, completed his 500<sup>th</sup> jump and Tam Stephens her 100<sup>th</sup> – brilliant achievements! The club beer board has never been so full!

We have a few beach demos arranged this year (normally Friday evenings); if you wish to participate please call the club.

Chris Wood



Dave's 7,500<sup>th</sup>, by Ben Wood



**"We have a few beach demos arranged this year"**

Tam and Andy on Tam's 100<sup>th</sup>, by Ben Wood

## JERSEY

[skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)



Cark visit

### Come and visit!

Skydive Jersey is now in full swing, with regular bi-weekly openings. Welcome to all our new, local, experienced skydivers, who have joined us for fun in the sun this year. We now have a long-needed full-scale mock-up of the Airvan, which is being used for coaching, FS, and tandem exit training!

We had a group visit from Cark, with many owing beers for their first beach landings. We've also had individuals visiting from the UK thanks to the editorial in the last mag – cheers guys. Our boat got wet as we made use of the high tide for some boat handling and recovery training drills, which hopefully won't be needed for real.

Beach BBQs are planned and you're welcome to visit. Find us on Facebook, or email [mally@skydivejersey.net](mailto:mally@skydivejersey.net)

Mal Richardson

## HEADCORN

[headcornparachuteclub.co.uk](http://headcornparachuteclub.co.uk)



Pilot Simon, AFF level 1, by Lucy Smith-Wildey

### Speed 10 contest!

The Speed 10 was bravely contested by four teams, with *One Foot in the Grave* taking gold. George 'Jupiter' Raft (Jupiter being the god of the sky) didn't gloat at all! The intermediate teams put on a splendid effort, with one team challenging judge Ruth's counting ability and putting 11 team members out. *Why Us?* were in danger of only getting bronze for a while, but they solidly built 10 throughout for silver.

Our pilot Simon did his AFF level 1, the demo team have been kept busy and Mary Barrett did her first demo. Some of them were concerned that their jumpsuits had shrunk since last summer but decided it must be due to the hot weather!

Our new team *Silver Fox* finally managed to launch a meeker – can they do it consistently though, we wonder? The roads round Headcorn haven't been safe at all, with Lucy having two car crashes in two days, both not her fault... and Fleur having two in two days, both her own fault!

And finally... the new toilet/shower block is nearly complete!

Ruth Cooper

**"The intermediate teams put on a splendid effort"**



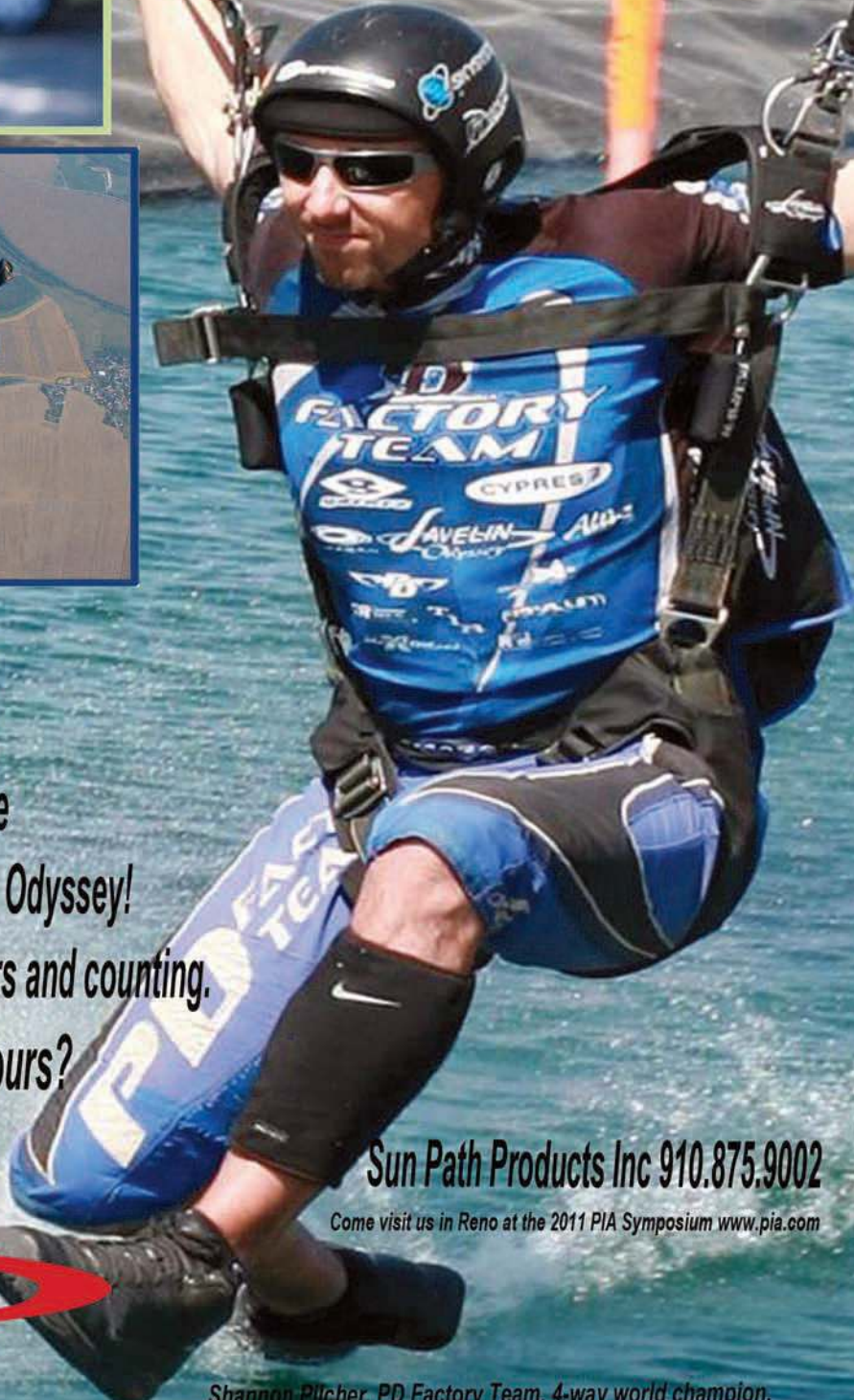
Lucy's 1,000<sup>th</sup> jump, by Squaddie

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **First freefall** Adam Dullage, Michael Goldsmith, Titus Ahciarliu **Graduated AFF** Ian Hammock, Trevor Richardson **Cat 8 & CH1** Jason Smith, Kevin Cooper, Nathan Drew, Charlie Davies, Adam Smith, Liam Hamilton, Sam Laming, Ben Broad **JM1 & CH2** Doc Davis **FS1** Craig Weller, Jez Pearce **FF1** Michael Cambridge, James Dodd **FF2** Lucy Smith-Wildey **JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Matt Verrall, Doc Davis **200** Phil Williams **300** Jamie Turner, James Dodd **400** Mary Barrett, Nadine Hall **1,000** Lucy Smith-Wildey **1 hour freefall** Stan Parkes

# What's your Odyssey?



Jump 36 was my first 4-way team jump.  
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people and I am still loving my Javelin Odyssey!  
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4 time national champion, current 4-way world record holder

# CLUB ZONE

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## PLEE is back!

Tom B, Craig, Sarah and Paul, by Tom Owen



Craig Hicks jumping and Martin Mansfield, by Tom Owen



Dave with Chloe Harvey, by Kev Dynan

## PETERLEE

[skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://skydiveacademy.org.uk)

The June Progression Week was plagued with bad weather so Ian opened the centre for a couple of extra days the following week in better jumping conditions. The next Progression Week starts on 13 August, with a Kodiak until 16 August.

John Horne made a return to Peterlee in June to run his excellent sub/post A Licence lecture with updates. He has a huge amount of knowledge, and his personality and sense of humour really make it an enjoyable way to learn.

PLEE is back with us again. A few people were surprised at how much they have missed it! The new hangar (Hangar 2) is almost complete, housing aircraft. The old one has a new packing area; we intend to add kit boxes and rig hangers.

Lucy Eldred and Mike Lehan of DUFFC graduated and will now leave Durham. Good luck and don't forget to visit. Paul Hardy also graduated, but we're hanging onto him! The new DUFFC president is Alex Rowlett, with Liam Blacklock treasurer.

A squad of 18 university students, along with Kirsty, spent some time jumping in Empuriabrava. Tom Derbyshire, Tom Owen and Oli Clark actually drove all the way from Peterlee, doing some jumping in France en route! Student Lucy Grange became a tree-hugger on her first jump. The things some girls do to get a fireman's attention!

Finally, the National Classic (style and accuracy) Championships took place at Peterlee in July. Trev didn't enter as he needs to do some work on his accuracy!

Sue Scott



Lucy 'Tree-hugger' Grange, by Tom Owen

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall Martin Mayfield, Teddy McManus **Cat 8 & CH1** Chaz Adams, Owen Burbridge, Rebecca Ormshaw **FS1** Dan Cusack, Craig Hicks **FF1** Paul Hardy, Tom Owen **CH2 & JM1** Craig Hicks

### JUMP NUMBERS

**50** Craig Hicks, Owen Burbridge **100** Sarah Boyd **200** Jonathan 'Jonsky' Brown, Lucy Eldred **500** Mal Smith **1,500** Dave Taylor, Nick Brown

## RAPA

[jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk](mailto:jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk)

## Fun in the sun



Ben, Dougie, Andy and Mick on Ben's FS1

The blistering summer weather in Germany has been well received by our faithful band of fun jumpers here at RAPA. Added to our usual crowd, we have had several successful one-jump and basic freefall courses with encouraging numbers of returning students ready to take up the sport. We are well into our demo season with great displays into Kiel and Reindalen.

It has been a month of achievements, with many of our regulars obtaining their FS1 qualification. Ben Matthews, Sam Stevens, Dougie Douglas and Lee Harrison have all earned their stickers, and Sarah Scott and Rachel Mackenzie gained Cat 8, with many more waiting in the wings.

We forecast some great jumping here in Germany. Blue skies to all!

Dougie Macpherson



Spence Hogg training for CP Nationals

## SWANSEA

[skydiveswansea.co.uk](http://skydiveswansea.co.uk)

Ant and Jordan's 100<sup>th</sup> jump, by Dan Morgan



## Best year ever?

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Graduated **AFF** Paul Robinson, Shane Leighton, Nicola Lemon **Cat 8** Jane McNamara, Sophie Phillips, Tanya Quigley **FS1** Ben Jenkins, Anthony Andrewes **FF2** Kolo Shamburov **JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Calvin Smith, Ben Jenkins **100** Toby Lewis, Paul Millward, Jordan Wilcox, Anthony Andrewes

The season so far has been outstanding – the club continues to get bigger each month and more AFF gear has been ordered to try and keep up with demand!

At the time of writing, the beer fridge duties (awarded to the newest 100<sup>th</sup> jumper at the DZ) are currently being handled by Ant Andrewes who has perfected the ideal chill for the beer by end of play each day. He's a big act to follow!

Ricki and Jo continue to organise regular BBQs to perfectly end busy Saturdays. Special thanks to Kolo, who tirelessly helps with wingsuit/FF jumps and takes great pics of anyone who wants them. Many thanks also to tandem instructors Wolfie and Karl Hearne for helping us out at short notice!

If the second half of the year is as good as the first, we're in for our best ever!

Carl Williams

Queensland Events

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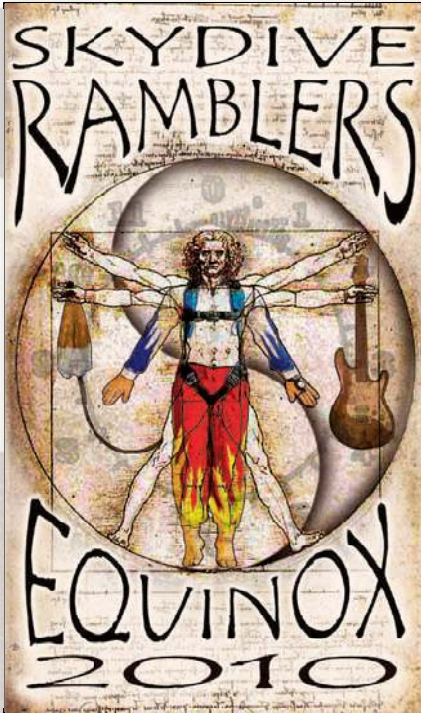
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Nick Davison by Roger Broughton

## UK PARA SIBSON

[skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

### Diamond 25



9-way diamond, by Guy Reynolds

The first UK Parachuting FS Scrambles was well attended, having seven teams in total. Congratulations to the medal winners: gold: *Like a Brick*, silver: *Sunny Side Up*, bronze: *No Eyed Deer*

Congratulations to Greg Mundy for achieving his FS1 and thanks to *Escondido* for organising a great competition.

Brian Cumming ran a docking weekend, which is about bigger FS formations aiming towards the Diamond 25 Challenge to be held in October. We had the first Caravan formation load at Sibson for a number of years. If you'd like to get involved in the Diamond 25 Challenge, come to any of the

docking weekends, advertised (along with all events) in club zone. See [skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

Sibson blocking got under way with three teams – *Escondido*, *TLD* and *Raykipo*. Claire Scott was on hand to give some expert coaching. We will try a second Caravan for these events in future.

A quick reminder for budding FS jumpers, members of *Escondido* are on hand most weekends to pass on their knowledge. We had two Caravans in for the BPA Roadshow, with a great turnout. Thanks to all the coaches – it turned out to be the best weekend so far, knocking out 50 loads. We will be running two Caravans throughout the year so check the website or register with the office to be added to our newsletter for updates.

The wingsuiters have been training for the Diamond 25 Challenge; during the Flying Circus Fun weekend there was some wingsuit stacking and a rice crispy dive! We run first flight courses most weekends.

Another first was a UK Parachuting demo; congratulations and thanks to Mark Harris for becoming a display team leader. We are still doing cheap early-bird loads; if we have 'wheels-off' by 9am, it will only cost you £17.

Grant Richards

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

**FS1** Richard Swain, Greg Mundy, Liz Soley **FF1** Caroline Moran, Derek Hancock, Guy Reynolds, Marc Fletcher

#### JUMP NUMBERS

**100** Katy Saxby, Mike Roberts **500** Dom Goy, Eric Dangoor  
**900** Brian Cumming, Andy Lapsley **1,100** Rob Gray  
**7,000** Chris McCann, Grant Richards

## TILSTOCK

[theparachutecentre.com](http://theparachutecentre.com)



Thanks Pat!

Pat Walters

After many years the 'ever-young' Pat Walters has stood down as CCI. Pat is an AFF Instructor/Examiner and Parachute Rigger. He has been CCI at several DZs including Staffordshire Skydivers, Halfpenny Green and Tilstock. He was involved in the early days of CRW and has done countless demos.

Pat has been responsible for the jumping careers of many of today's experienced skydivers, taking them from their first jump right through to training them for display teams. His passion for the sport has enabled him to encourage those around him and he will always go the extra mile – he has even flown out to Dubai to help club jumpers

complete their AFF. He has a love of fast bikes and big trucks and I've also heard he makes a decent cup of coffee and will welcome you into his home day or night. He is still to be found at the centre taking more of a support role.

We warmly welcome our new CCI Alex 'Buzz' Busby and new manifestor Vicky Thomas to the team. Vicky is tandem instructor/rigger Paul Stockwell's partner; they've moved to Tilstock after working at Headcorn for ten years where Vicky was the club secretary. Jo Pick bravely returned to skydiving after an accident four years ago. Welcome back! Dale Hesketh and Helen got married on 30 May and were shortly 'joined' by Pat, Louise, Christine, Shelly and Ray after the ceremony. The wedding party were having drinks in the rear gardens when, to everyone's surprise, the 'Airmail Angels' arrived, landing to a standing ovation from the audience. Congratulations Dale and Helen!

Our old 206 WR is back at weekends so we now have two planes! The Tilly Christmas party is at the MacDonald Hill Valley Hotel on December 11. Tickets are £25 including a meal. Ask at the manifest for more information.

Katy Tsesmelis

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **First freefall** Ashley Hatton, Nicky Marr **Cat 8** Eddy Milnes, Steve Parton **FS1** Hannah Davies **FF1** Barry Jones

**JUMP NUMBERS** **600** Liz Boniface **60 hours freefall** Chris Gilmore

Paul Wood qualifies B Licence, by Hannah Davies



Pat Walters helping Jules Bergel with AFF in Dubai



Dale and Helen's wedding, with the Airmail Angels, by Lisa Aldersley



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Photo: Eric Johnson- MSF

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## BRID

[skydivegb.com](http://skydivegb.com)

### Cheap hop 'n' pops!

The last two months has been a period of 'firsts', so the bar has been kept well stocked. Our first two AFF students have finally got all their consols completed, so congratulations to Steve Rothwell and John Chetty on their Cat 8, and to Steve Perkins for 300 jumps!

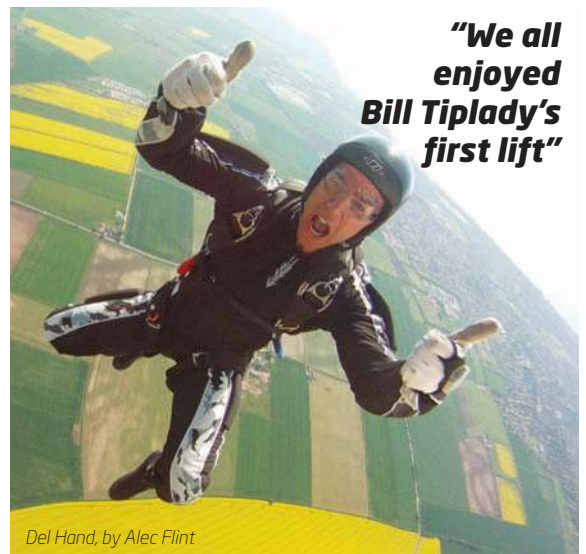
Steve 'Ninja' Perkins quite rightly got the beers in after achieving his ambition of exiting at 2,200ft and then going on to do his first static line jump for his 300<sup>th</sup>. In fact, quite a few of the regulars seem to be enjoying the cheap hop 'n' pops!

A hearty welcome goes to Bill Tiplady who has joined us as a newly qualified jump pilot. We all enjoyed his first lift, for obvious reasons. A couple of bad weather days resulted in packing lessons for a few newbies and some of the oldies, who really ought to know how by now. Congratulations to Brendan and Steve for getting their packing certificates, although they now stalk unsuspecting skydivers with unpacked kit!



Steve 'Ninja' Perkins' 300<sup>th</sup>, by Alec Flint

Alec Flint



**"We all enjoyed Bill Tiplady's first lift"**

Del Hand, by Alec Flint

## CARK

[skydivenorthwest.co.uk](http://skydivenorthwest.co.uk)

### The life of Brian

The grand opening of our new Sky-Diner has been officially completed. Now wired for sound, no one will ever miss a gear-on call! Plans are to develop it further with an extension early next year.

The shower refurbishment has amazed our jumpers. Lakeland-stone tiled floors, LED lighting and fully controllable water temperatures were met with comments of "better than I have at home!" Cheers to Ian, Kieran, Mike and John for all your hard work.

With much sadness we received the dreadful news that one of the longer-standing members of Cark, Brian Laithwaite, had been tragically killed. Brian was a gregarious skydiver, wanting to pass on his expertise and jokes and always eager to assist those less experienced than himself.

As a tribute, we boarded Alpha Yankee and formatted the letter B for *The Life of Brian*. Alpha Yankee, piloted by Duncan, paid her tribute with a very sedate low pass. Our thoughts are with both families at this sad time and, although we have lost our friends, we will never lose our memories. We had a UKSL 4-way competition on 12/13 June, see BPA Zone, page 10.

Stuart Morris



Life of Brian, by Neil McLaren

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall Lauren Choong, Sarah Todd, Tom Reid, Alistair Crossley Cat 8 Tom Reid, Lawrence Fsadni, Ian Moore  
**JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Nick Markham 100 Luke Morris 1,000 Jim Scott

## WILD GEESE

[skydivewildgeese.com](http://skydivewildgeese.com)



Wild Geese on tour, by Mike Gorman



Colin Stevenson, by Mike Murphy

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall John Cross, Karl Graham FS1 Phil Bannon FF1 James Beattie, Eiméar McGovern  
**JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Jenni Porter, Graham Wallace, Brian Kelly 200 Neal Fitzpatrick 300 Eiméar McGovern 3,000 David Ferguson 24 hours freefall Francis Mullin, Rod McCrory

### May day launches

Thanks to Gordon Hodgkinson and Colm McGovern for organising 8-ways at this year's May day weekend. With the quality of coaching, some great 8-way dives were enjoyed, including successful launches. There will be continuation training throughout the year, including tunnel and jumping.

The annual Queens University Skydive Club trip to Gap yielded its usual success with Alex Biggerstaff, Dermot McBride and Callum Thompson coming back within grasp of their Cat 8.

A group headed to the Vector Festival in Empuriabrava where Eiméar and James achieved FF1 with the awesome Tim Porter, Wendy and Solly did some excellent freefly and big-way jumps, while Phil had his own fun with a big-way. Many thanks to Regan Tetlow for his fantastic load organising and entertaining.

Finally, congratulations to the Wild Geese's very own Maggie Penny who was recognised in the Queen's birthday honours list, receiving an MBE for services to NI hockey and the BPA.

Rod McCrory



Fly-by for Brian Laithwaite by Neil McLaren

# CLUB ZONE



For more news from all UK clubs, visit the Club Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

## SOUTH CERNEY

[skydivesouthcerney.co.uk](http://skydivesouthcerney.co.uk)

### Experiencing tuffetphobia!

The DZ held a Crew GP, which saw a few teams stunning the tandem passengers (and the rest of us) with their skills, while, in April, we hosted a BPA accuracy competition, which was great fun with lots of people joining in. There were some nice skills on show with everyone getting close to the tuffet, with some jumpers experiencing tuffetphobia – 'twas like Heathrow so it was! The freeflyers created a new discipline called 'trackuracy', which means exactly what it says on the tin; we scored no off-landings and one of the chaps won third in the high-speed category. Many thanks to Matty and Gary. Well done to Chaz McDoosh for attaining his AFF rating and another well done to Deano for his first homosexual experience...

The *Rusty Stars* went for a bit of Funshine action at Skydive Spain. We are going back out later this year hopefully with a few more from Cerney.

Plenty of FS coaches are about to help you fledging sausage-lovers and the *Rusty Stars* are on hand to help with any freeflying. We also have a resident CP coach on site. A great two months so many thanks all round.

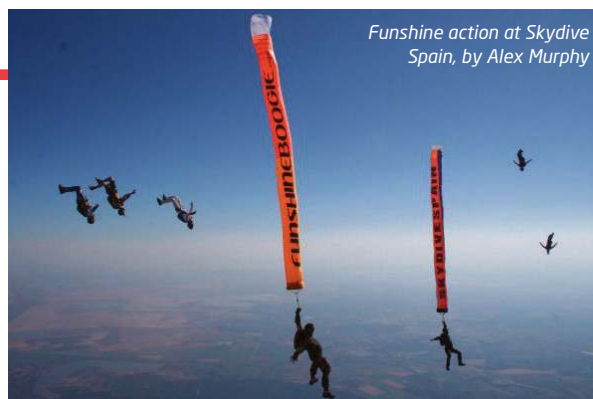
Alex Murphy

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

**First freefall**  
Elina Sansivieri  
**Cat 8** Matt Lomas,  
Sandie Morgan,  
Gary Porter  
**FS1** Jason Harris

#### JUMP NUMBERS

**50** Jason Harris,  
Emma Bowles,  
Richard Deltoro  
**100** Vaidas Grazulis  
**600** Ricky Wheeler  
**1,200** Alex Murphy



Funshine action at Skydive Spain, by Alex Murphy

Accuracy competition medal winners, by Ann Lewis

Junior bronze, silver and gold



## CHATTERIS

[ukskydiving.com](http://ukskydiving.com)

Team Gringo, by Lorraine Dixcey



### Twin Otter in operation!

We are now operating our Twin Otter! It holds 19 jumpers and takes around 13 minutes to 13,000ft. We can lift over 500 slots a day with the Otter alone so our capacity has gone through the roof!

We have new prices too! Weekend jumps are £23 for the first two, then £18 per additional jump that weekend. Weekday jumps are £18. Team jumps from £13 per slot (details on our website). Also, we are giving away 30 minutes' coached tunnel time free of charge for A and B Licence skydivers and those on AFF consols.

Si has been organising some freefly and tracking dives. So if you fancy giving freeflying a go, grab him when he's not flying and he'll happily show you the basics. Welcome to *Team Gringo*, our home grown rookie 4-way team with fabulous 'taches!

On Saturdays the bar is free, accompanied by (weather permitting) a free BBQ – the perfect way to finish off a day full of great jumps!

Keep checking our website for event details.

Lorraine Dixcey

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **Cat 8 & CH1** Dave Medcalf, Adrian Daszkowski, Toby Cole  
**FS1** Adam Gooch, Daren Murphy **JM1 & CH2** Gregg Munday, Daren Murphy **CP1** Si Chipp

**JUMP NUMBERS** **100** Mike Appleton, Jason Fox **500** Nick Page **800** Rowena Owen, Si Chipp **1,000** Phil Coates **5,000** Bryn Chaffe **9,000** Mike Rust **1 hour freefall** Daren Murphy **60 hours freefall** Lloyd Quenby

## HINTON

[skydive.co.uk](http://skydive.co.uk)

### Tent City Boogie

It has been a brilliant start to the summer. The weather has been amazing and the place is buzzing – I've never seen so much hire kit going in and out of the hangar!

Our second Tent City Boogie (luckily for us) had one of the best week of weather ever known in June. There were coached jumps, 4-way, 8-way, FS, FF and a range of student jumping throughout the week. Evenings were never quiet, with go-karting one evening and Ged Kennedy's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party on the Thursday night. Thanks as always to Geoff, Mike and Steve. I don't think anyone wanted it to end – bring on Tent City Boogie 2011!

**ACHIEVEMENTS** **AFF Grad, Cat 8, CH1, FS1** Ted Foster  
**FS1** Zaneta Vojkakova, Mark Cooper, Sean Freeman,  
Liam Nicholls **FF1** Chris Arrowsmith

**JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Rich Madeley, Aaron Kirkham,  
Debbie Wright **100** Andrew Jones, Amanda Jones,  
Isy Tomlinson, John Foreman **200** Tom Anderson  
**400** Justine Aldwinckle **2,200** Matt Abram  
**10,000** Geoff Wood **1 hour freefall** John Foreman

A massive thanks again to all the coaches, especially James Bassett who provided some great FF coaching, which is often needed more than FS. It was great to see newbie freeflyers getting the help they wanted.

Well done to Matt Gardner for being accepted into college, congratulations to Andy and Clare Fryer on the arrival of little Alfie – bring him to the DZ soon! – and good luck to all at the upcoming nationals!

Tally Ann Keith

Mark Keveren's 200<sup>th</sup>, by Sean Astley



'Lungeing', by Sean Astley



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James Swallow, owner and operator of Skydive Hibaldstow in Lincolnshire, speaks to Lesley Gale



Steve Swallow, founder of Target Skysports



Stu Ferguson, entertainer



Garry Denton, aircraft engineer



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#### How did Target Skysports come into being?

My father Steve was initially involved with the Leeds Bradford Freefall Club from 1974 when it was based at Leeds Bradford Airport; they moved to Elvington in 1976 and then later on to Topcliffe. He started a club at Sturgate Airfield in about 1980 before being asked to take over Doncaster Parachute Club in 1988. It became Target Skysports after moving to Hibaldstow in 1992, and is now called Skydive Hibaldstow. The skydiving business started as a weekend hobby for my father, while he made his living running a heavy engineering company. He has made over 3,000 skydives and has more than 5,000 hours' flying experience.

#### What is your role and what do your key staff members do?

I run Skydive Hibaldstow. It is the aircraft side of the operation that focuses most of my attention. Noel Purcell is the manager at the DZ, which involves everything from the day-to-day operation to the cafe and bar. He is also a CSI, TI, AFFI, advanced packer and rigger. Paul Hollow is our CCI, looking after the safety, teaching and instructor side. Bec Compton runs our booking office in Leeds, dealing with tandem and student bookings, as well as advertising and helping to plan events. Garry Denton is our chief aircraft engineer. Garry has been our longest-serving member of staff, having started at Doncaster. He worked on the parachute side of the operation originally, but now runs all the maintenance on our aircraft.

#### How much development have you seen?

Hib started as a weekend dropzone with a Cessna 206, and then has slowly developed into a busy full-time centre, holding all major events and operating five Turbine aircraft. We open seven days a week during June to August and then six days a week for the rest of the year. As a family we are obviously very pleased and proud of the progress, thanks to help from dedicated staff.

#### What aircraft do you operate?

We operate three DO28 G92s, two Finist SMG92s and one Cherokee Six. My father was looking for a larger aircraft when operating the Cessna 206 years ago. He got the chance to use Dornier DO28 G92s, with the option of converting them to turbines. He took a huge risk on an unknown



Olly Burgin

aircraft at the time, but they seem to be doing a reasonable job now! The same company who converted the Dorniers to a turbine then offered us the opportunity to become involved with a new prototype aircraft, the Finist SMG92, which was put forward as an alternative to the Porter.

#### Do you lease your aircraft to other DZs?

Yes, Skydive Weston uses a DO28 G92 and South Cerney uses a Finist SMG92. We will also try to help any DZ if they require an aircraft. We have a good relationship with all the other UK DZs, which can only be good for the sport as a whole.

#### What events do you run?

We try to run some sort of event every weekend during the main part of the season. This includes National competitions, FS events, FF events,



It all kicks off at Nationals, by John Williamson

# Hibaldstow



Skydive Hibaldstow has three Dornier G92s (one shown here), two Finist G92s and a Cherokee Six



CCI Paul Hollow and DZ manager Noel Purcell teaching AFF

### In what areas do you offer coaching?

FS, FF and wingsuit. This is everything from beginner level, which is available at all times, up to world-class level on an individual or team basis. We have always had a strong FS interest due to the Nationals and freefly has had a resurgence lately with *The Bad Lieutenants'* events.

### Does Hib have a good social scene?

We definitely have one of the best social scenes going if we have just had a hectic, good weather day, during a busy event. We have a bar on site and play a day tape every Saturday evening, and we all know how much skydivers like to see themselves on TV! We have a warm, clean bunkhouse on site, and free camping is available so it's a great place to stay if you want to be involved with the evening entertainment.

### How did your 'sister DZ' - Skydive Spain at Seville - come about?

The owner at the time asked if he could hire the Dornier for an event one winter and then we were offered the opportunity to take over the operation. It is mainly Hannah, my sister, who has been running it since March 2005. She spends most of her time there now whereas I am in the UK - I am not sure who got the best deal! My mother and father are still involved with both DZs, especially regarding major decisions, but they are slowly leaving Hannah and I to run the centres, although my mother Helen still does the accounts. My father is now developing his interest in sailing.

### Are they completely separate businesses?

Yes. Although Hannah believes having DZs in two different countries helps to settle new skydivers who have just finished their AFF course in Seville, especially as we operate the same aircraft and jump from 15,000 feet at both DZs. She thinks the transfer to UK skydiving is less daunting when Skydive Spain can recommend Hibaldstow for similar operation and teaching.

### Tell me something I don't know about your family

The last couple of years my father has attended various events and regattas and been involved in the Tall Ship Races. See [maybe-sailing.com](http://maybe-sailing.com). My mother's

passion is horses and she competes in Endurance racing, and has been an international judge for Angora goats for more than 20 years.

### Tell me about your sponsored teams

The main teams we sponsor are *Satori*, *SonicNutz* and *Kaizen* in 4-way, *Volare* in Artistics and *Bad Lieutenants* in VFS. We feel we can offer teams a good platform to train from so we want to be involved with their training and success. The support is mainly done in terms of jump costs in return for help with organising events and coaching on the DZ.

### How has running a UK skydiving business changed?

I believe skydiving itself changed from a club atmosphere to a leisure industry business around the turn of the century.

### What are your plans for the future?

Who knows? Our eyes and minds are always open and we will listen to any comments, suggestions or ideas people have.

scrambles, a 28-way competition and Skysaver weeks. It's busy, but it is something we decided to try and do in order to give skydivers a variety of events to attend. We believe it helps to keep the interest going and offers people the chance to try a different discipline or develop their skills in a certain area.

### What kind of DZ do you try make Hib into?

A skydiving centre for all disciplines and levels. We try to move with the times and look at what skydivers might want to see and experience in the future. I hope it comes across as a friendly, progressive centre, but in reality only the skydivers and customers can answer that.

### What do you instil into your students?

Safety, fun and progression. Students are future regulars; we want them to learn safely and turn into skydivers that always want to learn more.

### How do your jumpers develop once off student status?

This is one of the biggest problems in the sport. Students qualify but then often don't have enough experience to attend events or join in with groups so they can get ignored or left out. Suddenly the sport becomes unfriendly and boring to them. We have made a huge effort to try and stop this happening by employing Stu Ferguson (UKS) to look after all skydivers, but especially newly qualified students through FS coaching, small organised groups, and general dropzone entertainment during the day and evenings.



Hibnos over the DZ



Formation load exit, by Jim Stevenson

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photo by Dmitry Yezhov



# DROP ZONES

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### 1 Black Knights

**Black Knights Parachute Centre**  
Hillam Lane, Cockerham,  
Lancashire LA2 0DY  
DZ: 01524 791820  
T: 01772 717624  
Mobs: 07501 223151/2  
info@bkpc.co.uk  
bkpc.co.uk  
*Turbine Porter*

### 2 Bridlington

**Skydive GB**  
East Leys Farm, Grindale Road,  
Bridlington, E Yorkshire YO16 4YB  
01262 228 033 / 07595 952 802  
info@skydivegb.com  
skydivegb.com  
*Cessna 206*

### 3 Cark

**North West Parachute Centre**  
Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,  
Nr Grange-over-Sands,  
Cumbria LA11 7LS  
DZ: 01539 558 672  
T: 01229 889 516  
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk  
skydivenorthwest.co.uk  
*PAC 750XL*

### 4 Chatteris

**North London Skydiving Centre**  
Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea,  
March, Cambs PE15 0EA  
DZ: 01354 740 810  
T: 0871 664 0113  
info@ukskydiving.com  
ukskydiving.com  
*Twin Otter, Nomad*

### 5 Cornish

**Cornish Parachute Club**  
Perranporth Airfield,  
Higher Trevellas, St Agnes,  
Cornwall TR5 0XS  
01872 553 352 / 07790 439 653  
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk  
cornishparachuteclub.co.uk  
*Cessna 206, guest aircraft*

### 6 Dunkeswell

**Skydive UK Ltd**  
Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell,  
Devon EX14 4LG  
01404 890 222 / 07718 638 000  
info@skydiveuktd.com  
skydivethewell.com  
*Cessna Caravan*

### 7 Headcorn

**Headcorn Parachute Centre**  
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn,  
Kent TN27 9HX  
01622 890 862  
info@headcornparachuteclub.co.uk  
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk  
*Cessna Caravan, Islander*

### 8 Hibaldstow

**Target Skysports**  
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Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN  
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T: 0113 250 5600  
info@skydiving.co.uk  
skydiving.co.uk  
*Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6*

### 9 Hinton

**Hinton Skydiving Centre**  
Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley,  
Northants NN13 5NS  
01295 812 300  
info@skydive.co.uk  
skydive.co.uk  
*PAC 750XL*

### 10 Jersey

**Skydive Jersey Ltd**  
States Airport, St Peter,  
Jersey JE3 7ZR  
01534 747 410  
info@skydivejersey.net  
skydivejersey.net  
*Airvan, guest Turbines*

### 11 Langar

**British Parachute Schools**  
Langar Airfield, Langar,  
Nottingham NG13 9HY  
01949 860 878  
info@skydivelangar.co.uk  
skydivelangar.co.uk  
*2 Cessna Grand Caravans, guest aircraft*

### 12 Lewknor

**London Parachute School**  
The Byre, Woods Farm,  
Easthampstead Rd, Wokingham,  
Berks RG40 3AE  
0845 130 7194  
info@londonparachuteschool.com  
londonparachuteschool.com  
*Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan*

### 13 Netheravon

**Army Parachute Association**  
Airfield Camp, Netheravon,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
01980 628 250  
generalenquiries@netheravon.com  
netheravon.com  
*2 Cessna Caravans, guest aircraft*

### 14 Paragon

**Paragon Skydiving**  
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol,  
Perthshire PH2 7TB  
01821 642 454  
billy.gollan@btinternet.com  
paragonskydiving.co.uk  
*Cessna 182*

### 15 Peterlee

**Peterlee Parachute Centre**  
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,  
Co Durham DH6 2NH  
0191 517 1234  
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk  
skydiveacademy.org.uk  
*Airvan, Cessna 182*

### 16 Salisbury

**Skydive Southcoast Ltd**  
Hangar 3, Old Sarum Airfield,  
Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ  
01722 323 628  
info@skydivesouthcoast.co.uk  
skydivesouthcoast.co.uk  
*Cessna 206*

### 17 Skydive Sth Cerney

**Silver Stars**  
Duke of Gloucester Barracks,  
South Cerney, Cirencester,  
Gloucester GL7 5RD  
07775 934399  
info@skydivesouthcerney.co.uk  
skydivesouthcerney.co.uk  
*Finist SMG*

### 18 St Andrews

**Skydive St Andrews**  
Osprey Road, Fife Airport,  
Glenrothes KY6 2SL  
0845 189 5865  
skydivestandrews@mail.com  
skydivestandrews.co.uk  
*Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206*

### 19 Strathallan

**Skydive Strathallan**  
Strathallan Airfield,  
Nr Auchterarder,  
Perthshire PH3 1LA  
DZ: 01764 662 572  
T: 07774 686 161  
kkbrady@btinternet.com  
skydivestrathallan.co.uk  
*3 Cessna 206, guest Turbine*

### 20 Swansea

**Skydive Swansea**  
Swansea Airport, Fairwood,  
Swansea SA2 7JU  
07779 019 655  
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk  
skydiveswansea.co.uk  
*Turbine Islander*

### 21 Swindon

**Skydive London**  
Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm,  
Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AA  
01793 791 222  
info@skydivelondon.co.uk  
skydivelondon.co.uk  
*Airvan*



## BPA Overseas Affiliated DZs

### Cyprus

**Cyprus Parachute Centre**  
CJSATC, BFPO 58,  
Dhekalia Garrison, Cyprus,  
0035 724 744337  
info@skydivecyprus.com.cy  
skydivecyprus.com.cy  
*PBN Piston Islander*

### RAPA

**Rhine Army Parachute Assoc.**  
Flugplatz, Bielefelder Strasse,  
33175, Bad Lippspringe, Germany  
0049 5254 982 2378  
jpscl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk  
Turbine Islander, Quest Kodiak,  
Dornier G92 on call

## Parachuting Societies

### BCPA

**British Collegiate Parachute Association**  
Contact: Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman  
07912 526642  
mail@bcpa.org.uk  
bcpa.org.uk  
*A community for university skydivers*

### POPS

**Parachutists Over Phorty**  
Contact: Dick Barton, Top POP  
9 Mansion House Mews, Pickwick  
Road, Corsham, Wilts SN13 9BB  
01249 701805 / 07860 5591 12  
dbarton@fsmail.net  
pops.org.uk

### SOS

**Skydivers Over Sixty**  
Contact: Niels Hanson  
Flat 14, 21 Victoria Sq, Clifton,  
Bristol BS8 4ES  
nielshsn@yahoo.co.uk

### 22 Tilstock

**The Parachute Centre**  
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch,  
Shropshire SY13 2HA  
01948 841 111  
skydive@theparachutecentre.com  
theparachutecentre.com  
*Airvan*

### 23 UK Para Beccles

**UK Parachuting**  
Beccles Airfield, Ellough,  
Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7TE  
01502 476 131  
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk  
ukparachuting.co.uk  
*Cessna Caravan*

### 24 UK Para Sibson

**UK Parachuting**  
Sibson Airfield, Wansford,  
Peterborough PE8 6NE  
01832 280 490  
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk  
skydivesibson.co.uk  
*Cessna Caravan*

### 25 Weston

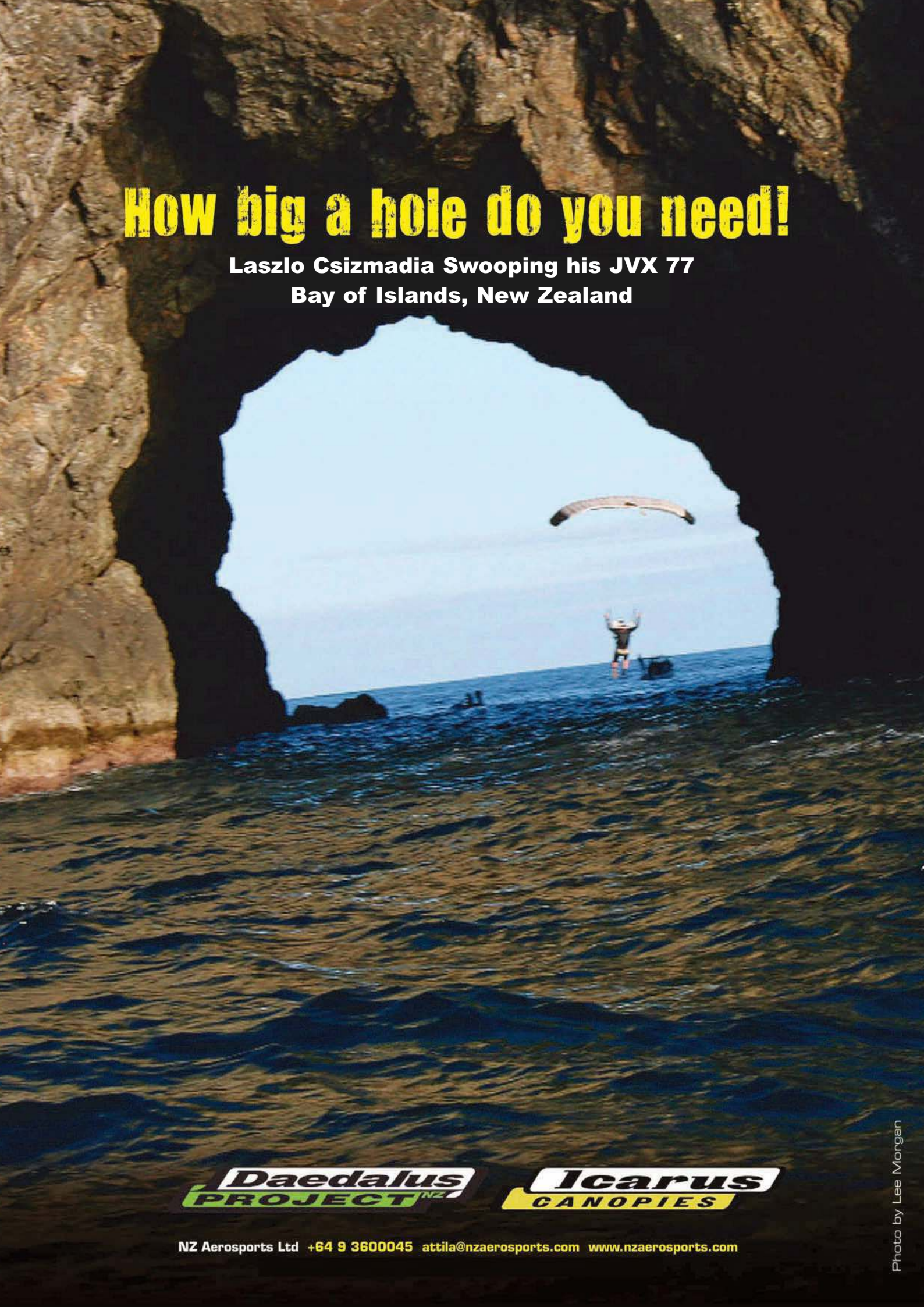
**Skydive Weston**  
RAF Weston on the Green,  
Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TQ  
01869 343 201  
skydiveweston@fsmail.net  
skydiveweston.com  
*G92 Dornier, guest aircraft*

### 26 Wild Geese

**Wild Geese Skydive Centre**  
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh  
Rd, Garvagh, Coleraine,  
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ  
028 2955 8609  
jump@skydivewildgeese.com  
skydivewildgeese.com  
*Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan*

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# EVENTS ZONE

For more event details, visit the Events Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

## Spa 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Boogie



Spa record 48-way, by Edward Blaauw

Celebrate 50 years of skydiving on Spa airfield with its Anniversary Boogie from 13-17 August.

Jumpers from every discipline are welcome to join international coaches such as Dario Jotti, Rob Heron, the Birdman team and Ronald Emonts (full list on website) at the scenic Belgium DZ. There will be two Caravans, two Skyvans, helicopters and a hot air balloon. Registration fee is €25 (includes one jump ticket) and Caravan and Skyvan jumps are €20.

An exhibition of old pictures and films showing how the sport has evolved will be featured. Anyone who still has an airworthy and in-date old parachute is welcome to jump it!

[50ansparaspa.be](http://50ansparaspa.be)

## Prostejov Big-way Project



Mark Harris

The only event worldwide combining wingsuit and FS big-ways, the Prostejov Project takes place 5-11 September, in Prostejov, Czech Republic. FS organisers will be Kate Cooper-Jensen, Lesley Gale and Herman Landsman; numerous wingsuit organisers include Taya Weiss, Mark Harris and Jari Kuosma.

It will be a week of high-level flying, skills building and three-aircraft formation loads. Jumpships will be an Mi-8 helicopter and two or more Turbolet 410s. Monday to Friday sees a big-way camp in both disciplines on exit and freefall skills, break-off, safety and canopy procedures with full video debriefing.

[jump-tandem.com](http://jump-tandem.com)  
[wingsuitbigway.com](http://wingsuitbigway.com)

### KEY

BPA EVENTS  
CANOPY PILOTING  
FORMATION SKYDIVING  
CANOPY FORMATION  
STYLE & ACCURACY  
BOOGIES/FUN  
FREEFLY & SKYSURF  
WINGSUIT  
UNCLASSIFIED (inc POPS)

### AUGUST

**1-2 Irish Boogie**  
Irish Parachute Club • [skydive.ie](http://skydive.ie)

**1-6 FS, CF, Artistics World Meet**  
Menzelinsk, Russia • [fai.org/parachuting](http://fai.org/parachuting)

**2-5 Jersey DZ Open**  
Jersey • [skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)

**5 STC & Riggers Meetings**  
BPA Offices, Leicester • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

**5-6 Wingsuit Course**  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**5-8 Maubeuge Sonic Boogie**  
Maubeuge, France • [skydivemaubeuge.fr](http://skydivemaubeuge.fr)

**6-8 Summer Bonanza**  
Elsinore, USA • [skydiveelsinore.com](http://skydiveelsinore.com)

**6-15 Open Week**  
BKPC, Cockerham • [bkpc.co.uk](http://bkpc.co.uk)

**7-8 Docking Weekend**  
UK Para (Sibson) • [skydivechoreography.com](http://skydivechoreography.com)

**7-8 4-way Team Special**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**7-8 Freely Weekend**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**7-15 The Army Championships (open)**  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

**9-13 Euro Big-ways**  
Wloclawek, Poland • [bigways.pl](http://bigways.pl)

**9-13 BPA Inst Course (CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv)**  
Langar • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

**9-16 World CP Championships**  
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia • [wcpc2010.com](http://wcpc2010.com)

**12 G&T Night**  
Airkix, Manc • [lizboniface@hotmail.com](mailto:lizboniface@hotmail.com)

**12-15 Fly Vertical**  
Nuggets, Germany • [skydive-nuggets.de](http://skydive-nuggets.de)

**12-15 Lapalisse Picnic Boogie**  
Lapalisse, France • [lapalisse-aero.com](http://lapalisse-aero.com)

**13-16 Peterlee Turbine Periods: Kodiak**  
Peterlee • [skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://skydiveacademy.org.uk)

**13-20 Progression Week**  
Peterlee • [skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://skydiveacademy.org.uk)

**14-15 Flocking Weekend**  
UK Para (Sibson) • [skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

**14-15 8-way Speed**  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

**14-15 FS Walk-up**  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

**14-16 4-way FS & VFS Nationals**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**16-19 Jersey DZ Open**  
Jersey • [skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)

**16-20 BPA Instructor Course (CSI)**  
Langar • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

**16-20 Ramblers Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

**17 BPA Council Meeting**  
BPA Offices, Leicester • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

**20-22 36-ways**  
Dallas, USA • [skydivedallas.com](http://skydivedallas.com)

**20-22 Swoop Meet**  
Fehrbellin, Germany • [swooping.de](http://swooping.de)

**21 Freely Money Meet**  
Crosskeys, USA • [skydivecrosskeys.com](http://skydivecrosskeys.com)

**21-22 Big-ways**  
Teuge, Holland • [paracentrumteuge.nl](http://paracentrumteuge.nl)

**21-22 Hot Weekender**  
Empuria • [regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com](mailto:regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**21-23 4-way & VFS Nationals Reserve**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**21-23 8-way/Artistic Championships**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**21-29 Mountain Gravity**  
Ambri, Switzerland • [toratora.nl](http://toratora.nl)

**23-27 Coaching Week**  
UK Para (Beccles) • [ukparachuting.co.uk](http://ukparachuting.co.uk)

**25-27 Head-down Record Training**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**26-28 European Swoop Tour**  
Bussloo, Netherlands • [euroswoop.com](http://euroswoop.com)

**26-29 Rainbow Boogie**  
Crosskeys, USA • [skydivecrosskeys.com](http://skydivecrosskeys.com)

**27-29 Freely Big-way Camp**  
Perris, USA • [elementsofflight@gmail.com](mailto:elementsofflight@gmail.com)

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Email: [airsports@bhpa.co.uk](mailto:airsports@bhpa.co.uk)  
48 Alexandra Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight. PO31 7JT

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## ESL Finals 2010



Random Vengeance, ESL 2009 at Hibaldstow, by Simon Nath

Fly the flag for the UK at the European Skydiving League Finals! The UK has always done well at this event and, in 2008, we won The Sword for the best overall team - let's go get it back!

As last year's winners, the Netherlands will be this year's host, with the competition running from 10-12 September at the island dropzone of Texel. There are three Cessna Caravans confirmed. With four 4-way categories, and points going towards The Sword awarded in each category, the more teams that go the higher the UK's chance of winning! The finals will feature teams from a huge range of European countries.

[paracentrumtexel.nl](http://paracentrumtexel.nl)  
[euro-skyleague.com](http://euro-skyleague.com)

### 27-29 Safe Flight School

Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

### 28 Wild West Fancy Dress

Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

### 28-29 Canopy Control Weekend

Teuge, Holland • [paracentrumteuge.nl](http://paracentrumteuge.nl)

### 28-29 4-way Scrambles & Summer Bash

UK Para (Beccles) • [ukparachuting.co.uk](http://ukparachuting.co.uk)

### 28-29 British Head-down Record Att

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 28-29 Academy Skills

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 28-30 8-way/Artistic/Spd Nats Reserve

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 28-30 Mike Wills Speed 10 Competition

Dunkeswell • [skydivethewell.com](http://skydivethewell.com)

### 28-Sep 5 Style & Accuracy World Meet

Montenegro • [fai.org/parachuting](http://fai.org/parachuting)

### 30-Sep 2 Jersey DZ Open

Jersey • [skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)

## SEPTEMBER

### 1-4 USA CP Nationals

Spaceland, Texas • [uspa.org](http://uspa.org)

### 1-5 Atmonauti Boogie

Berlin, Germany • [gojump.de](http://gojump.de)

### 2-6 Dollar Daze Boogie

Eloy, Arizona • [desmoinesskydivers.com](http://desmoinesskydivers.com)

### 3-5 FS Camp

Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 4-5 8-way Speed Nationals

UK Para (Sibson) • [skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

### 4-5 FS Scrambles

Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

### 4-6 Cross Keys, The Musical

Crosskeys, USA • [skydivecrosskeys.com](http://skydivecrosskeys.com)

### 4-12 Langar Boogie 2

Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

### 5-10 Prostejov Big-way Project

Prostejov, Czech Republic • [jump-tandem.com](http://jump-tandem.com)

### 6-8 Skydive Guernsey

Guernsey • [skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)

### 6-10 Progression Week

Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

### 9-12 Euro Sequentials Camp

Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

### 9-10 Track Dayz

Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

### 10-12 HALO Jumps 30,000ft

California, USA • [skydance.net](http://skydance.net)

### 10-12 Safe Flight School

Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

### 10-12 ESL Finals

Texel, Netherlands • [euro-skyleague.com](http://euro-skyleague.com)

### 10-24 USA Nationals

Chicago, USA • [uspa.org](http://uspa.org)

### 11-12 CF Coaching

UK Para (Beccles) • [ukparachuting.co.uk](http://ukparachuting.co.uk)

### 11-12 FS Weekend

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

# EVENTS ZONE

For more event details, visit the Events Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)

### 11-12 Freely Scrambles

Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

### 11-12 Speed 10-way

Nuggets, Germany • [skydive-nuggets.de](http://skydive-nuggets.de)

### 13-16 Jersey DZ Open

Jersey • [skydivejersey.net](http://skydivejersey.net)

### 13-23 Russian Boogie

Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 16-17 Wingsuit Course

Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 16-19 Euro Sequentials

Seville, Spain • [eurosequentials.com](http://eurosequentials.com)

### 17-19 Wingsuit DFV Cup

Berlin, Germany • [gojump.de](http://gojump.de)

### 18-19 Freely Weekend

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 18-19 Skyvan Boogie

Grenoble, France • [parachutisme38.fr](http://parachutisme38.fr)

### 18-19 Walk-up Load Organising

Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

### 18-19 Accuracy & CF Grand Prix

BKPC, Cockerham • [bkpc.co.uk](http://bkpc.co.uk)

### 21-27 POPS USA Nationals

Raeford, USA • [jumpraeford.com](http://jumpraeford.com)

### 23-26 MOAB Boogie

Utah, USA • [skydivemoab.com](http://skydivemoab.com)

### 23-26 Intensive 4-way Camp

Empuria, Spain • [innerrhythmcoaching.com](http://innerrhythmcoaching.com)

### 24-26 Safe Flight School

Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

### 24-26 UKS Boogie

Dunkeswell • [ukskydiver.co.uk](http://ukskydiver.co.uk)

### 24-26 Swoop Meet

Fehrbellin, Germany • [swooping.de](http://swooping.de)

### 25 Oktoberfest

Weston • [skydiveweston.com](http://skydiveweston.com)

### 25-26 Big-ways

Teuge, Holland • [paracentrumteuge.nl](http://paracentrumteuge.nl)

### 25-26 Big-ways for Beginners

Langar • [skydivechoreography.com](http://skydivechoreography.com)

### 25-26 First Timer Big-ways

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 25-26 Academy Skills

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 25-26 Hot Weekender

Empuria • [regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com](mailto:regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 25-26 BPA Freely Roadshow

Dunkeswell • [skydivethewell.com](http://skydivethewell.com)

### 30 STC & Riggers Meetings

BPA Offices, Leicester • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

### 30-Oct 3 Empuriabrava 16-way Trophy

Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 30-Oct 3 Chicks Rock Boogie

Elsinore, USA • [skydiveelsinore.com](http://skydiveelsinore.com)

## OCTOBER

### 2-3 Pinch Jump FS Loads

Langar • [strollerweb.co.uk](http://strollerweb.co.uk)

### 2-3 FS Scrambles

Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

### 6-10 Freely Tunnel Camp

Airix, Manchester • [airix.com](http://airix.com)

### 7-10 Freely Workshop

Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

### 7-10 Big-way Camp

Perris Valley, USA • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

### 8-10 Diamond 25 Flocking Weekend

UK Para (Sibson) • [skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

## UKS Boogie

This year's UKS Boogie will be held at Dunkeswell DZ from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 September.

This great event is always over-subscribed so numbers have been limited this year to ensure everyone can get enough jumps in.

With a Beech 99 and Hughes 500 helicopter guaranteed, and a hot air balloon and Skyvan both TBC, Dunkeswell is set to host another great UKS Boogie with the usual fabulous daily load organising followed by outstanding evening entertainment. For anyone interested in freeflying, *Kinetic*, *The Bad Lieutenants* and Andy Lovemore will be there for coaching.



Olly Denham

[ukskydiving.co.uk](http://ukskydiving.co.uk)

# CYPRES 2

model change for free

2010  
aug-oct

# upcoming events

21.- 22. August **Hot Weekender** - Regan's Group

3.- 5. September **Fuxion Camp 5**

11.- 18. September **1<sup>st</sup> Russian Boogie** - Empuriabrava

18.- 19. September **National League FS**

25.- 26. September **Hot Weekender** - Regan's Group

30.- 3. October **Empuriabrava 16-way Trophy**

8.- 12. October **Spanish National Championship FS**

23.- 24. October **Hot Weekender** - Regan's Group

16  
empuriabrava  
16-way trophy  
30.-3. Oct

For more event details, visit the Events Zone at [skydivemag.com](http://skydivemag.com)



Bruno Brokken

## Philippines Boogie

On 6-21 November, Subic Bay and its airstrip will host the Philippine Parachuting Phun Phestival, run by Exotic Sky Adventures. There will be the usual FS, freefly, swoop and wingsuiting action all with leading load organisers such as Herman Landsman. The aircraft will be multiple Turbolet 410s.

This boogie has a truly laid-back, holiday atmosphere. The landing area located on Subic Bay's stunning beach means you can skydive while enjoying a real getaway, even with your family or partner. With excursions and free time to get involved with anything from jungle adventures, water sports and a bit of tropical shopping, the boogie is not to be missed.

[exoticskyadventures.com](http://exoticskyadventures.com)

**8-10 Diamond 25 Docking Weekend**  
UK Para (Sibson) • [skydivechoreography.com](http://skydivechoreography.com)

**8-10 Skydive Lillo Formation Record**  
Lillo, Spain • [skydivelillo.com](http://skydivelillo.com)

**8-10 Safe Flight School**  
Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**8-12 Spanish Nationals**  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**9-10 Canopy Control Weekend**  
Teuge, Holland • [paracentrumteuge.nl](http://paracentrumteuge.nl)

**9-10 Academy Skills**  
Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

**9-10 FF vs FS 8-way Speed**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

**11-14 PreNox Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

**13-17 Intensive 4-way Camp**  
Empuria, Spain • [innerrhythmcoaching.com](http://innerrhythmcoaching.com)

**14 BPA Council Meeting**  
BPA Offices, Leicester • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

**14-15 Wingsuit Course**  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**14-17 100-way Camp**  
Perris Valley, USA • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

**15-17 Swoop Meet**  
Fehrbellin, Germany • [swooping.de](http://swooping.de)

**15-17 Safe Flight School**  
Seville, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**15-23 Equinox Boogie**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

**16-17 Big-ways**  
Teuge, Holland • [paracentrumteuge.nl](http://paracentrumteuge.nl)

**16-17 12/24-ways**  
Langar • [strollerweb.co.uk](http://strollerweb.co.uk)

**16-17 Gauntlet Tunnel Competition**  
Eloy, USA • [skyventureaz.com](http://skyventureaz.com)

**20-24 200-way Sequentials**  
Eloy, USA • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

**22-24 Safe Flight School**  
Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**25-31 Post Nox Detox**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

**23-24 Hot Weekender**  
Empuria • [regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com](mailto:regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**28-29 Women's Vertical WR Skills Camp**  
Eloy, USA • [amyhmelecki@hotmail.com](mailto:amyhmelecki@hotmail.com)

**29-31 Halloween Carnival**  
Eloy, USA • [skydiveaz.com](http://skydiveaz.com)

**30 Halloween and Fireworks Party**  
Weston • [skydiveweston.com](http://skydiveweston.com)

**30-31 Halloween Frostbite Friendly**  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

## NOVEMBER

**5-7 Freely Tunnel Camp**  
Airkix, Manchester • [airkix.com](http://airkix.com)

**5-7 FS Tunnel Camp**  
Airkix, Manchester • [airkix.com](http://airkix.com)

**5-12 40-ways**  
Z Hills, USA • [skydivecity.com](http://skydivecity.com)

**6 Bonfire & Fireworks Extravaganza**  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

**6-21 Philippine Phun Phestival**  
Philippines • [exoticskyadventures.com](http://exoticskyadventures.com)

**8-12 BPA Inst Course (CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv)**  
Hibaldstow • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

**9-13 4-way FS Camp**  
Eloy, Arizona • [airspeed.org](http://airspeed.org)

**10-12 G&T Night and Tunnel Camp**  
Airkix, Manc • [lizboniface@hotmail.com](mailto:lizboniface@hotmail.com)

**10-14 California State FF Record**  
Perris, USA • [elementsofflight@gmail.com](mailto:elementsofflight@gmail.com)

**10-14 Intensive 4-way Camp**  
Empuria, Spain • [innerrhythmcoaching.com](http://innerrhythmcoaching.com)

**12-14 Safe Flight School**  
Seville, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**12-19 100-way Camp**  
Z Hills, USA • [skydivecity.com](http://skydivecity.com)

**11-12 Wingsuit Course**  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**15-19 BPA Instructor Course (CSI)**  
Hibaldstow • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

**18-28 British Invasion**  
Z Hills, USA • [skydivecity.com](http://skydivecity.com)

**20-21 Hot Weekender**  
Empuria • [regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com](mailto:regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**20-21 Track Dayz**  
Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

**20-28 Thanksgiving Boogie**  
Z Hills, USA • [skydivecity.com](http://skydivecity.com)

**25 STC & Riggers Meetings**  
BPA Offices, Leicester • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

**25-28 Thanksgiving Celebration**  
Eloy, Arizona • [skydiveaz.com](http://skydiveaz.com)

**25-28 Women's Vertical World Record Att**  
Eloy, USA • [amyhmelecki@hotmail.com](mailto:amyhmelecki@hotmail.com)

**26-28 Team-building Weekend**  
Perris, USA • [frikkencc@yahoo.com](mailto:frikkencc@yahoo.com)

**26-28 Safe Flight School**  
Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**28 16-way Turkey Meet**  
Perris, USA • [frikkencc@yahoo.com](mailto:frikkencc@yahoo.com)

## DECEMBER

**6-10 Ramblers Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

**11 Christmas Party**  
Tilstock • [theparachutecentre.com](http://theparachutecentre.com)

**10-12 Safe Flight School**  
Empuria, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**17-19 Safe Flight School**  
Seville, Spain • [safeflightschool.com](http://safeflightschool.com)

**18 Christmas Party**  
BKPC, Cockerham • [bkpc.co.uk](http://bkpc.co.uk)

**18-Jan 2 Christmas Boogie**  
Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

**18-Jan 2 Christmas Boogie**  
Z Hills, USA • [skydivecity.com](http://skydivecity.com)

**24-Jan 2 Christmas Boogie**  
Eloy, USA • [skydiveaz.com](http://skydiveaz.com)

**25-Jan 2 Christmas Boogie**  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

**26-Jan 2 Xmas Feelgood Boogie**  
Ramblers, Australia • [ramblers.com.au](http://ramblers.com.au)

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## Travel Tip

When visiting foreign dropzones, take tea bags, chocolate and marmite - for the grateful ex-pats you're bound to find

Pete Allum

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Dr Margaret Clamp	+44 (0)7802 850 084	mclamp@doctors.org.uk	52
DZ Sports	+44 (0)1295 812 101	dzsports.com	45
Empuriabrava Apartment (Des)	+97 1 5026 41242	empuriabravaapartment.co.uk	52
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Finch Group (Extreme Plus)	+44 (0)845 6760700	extremepus.co.uk	56
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North London Parachute Centre	+44 (0)871 664 0113	ukskydiving.com	67
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Para Jump Shop	+32 473 13 99 27	parajumpshop.net	8
Para-Service	+1 239 282 8834	para-service.com	64
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Skydive City	+1 813 783 9399	skydivecity.com	IBC
Sky Cover	+44(0)1329 228 787	sky-cover.co.uk	11
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The Kit Store	+44 (0) 1622 890 967	thekitstoretd.co.uk	48
Thomas Sports Equipment	+44 (0)1262 678 299	thomas-sports.com	OCB
Tony Suits	+1 813 782-5484	tonysuits.com	64
Wingglider (Skydive Hibaldstow)	+44 (0)113 250 5600	skydiving.co.uk	26, 27
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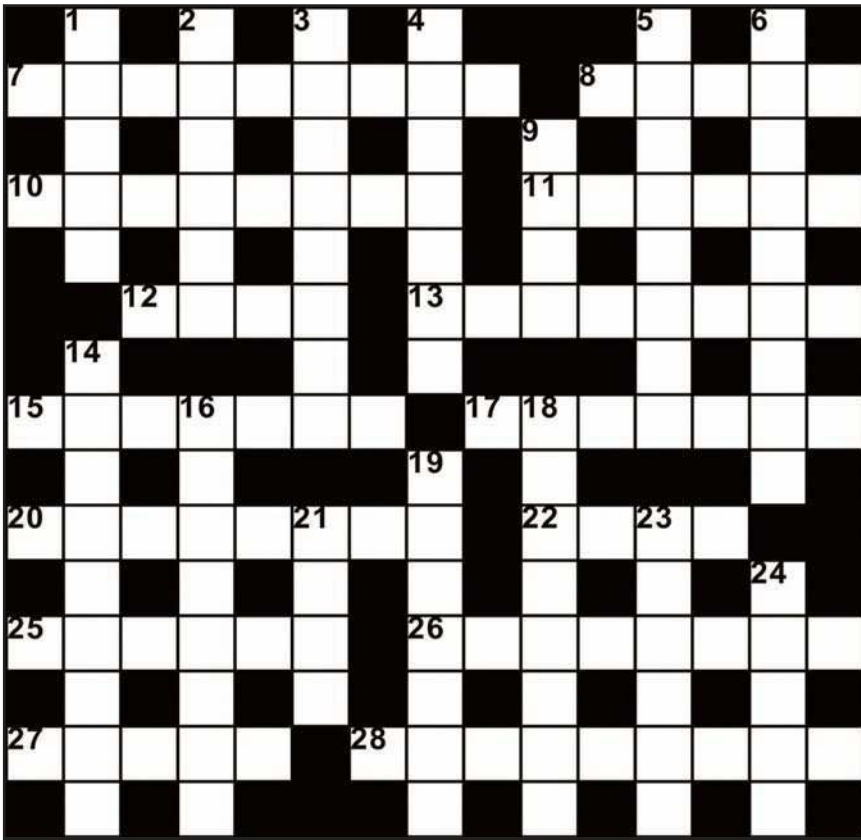
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# PUZZLE



PAUL BOORER >>



## MAIN (CRYPTIC)

### Across

- 7 Stopped taking silver as your mouth is putting you in danger (3-6)
- 8 Is it Shakespeare holding love for those in charge? (5)
- 10 Where to fix your camera on Everest? (3-5)
- 11 See where the sun sets, furthest from the zenith (6)
- 12 Bus pass covers those who jump in the States (initials)
- 13 Going abroad, Drake MBE, went aboard (8)
- 15 Strips, wary with sun coming out (7)
- 17 Took it easy mixing soda etc (7)
- 20 Sumatran's ferocity conceals sideways move (8)
- 22 Having reached base place sixth letter in self addressed envelope (4)
- 25 Place of education that yooof says is great (6)
- 26 It lets the air out of affected posy trio (8)
- 27 Cut the top off small piece of wood for the bit in the middle (5)
- 28 Shot-putter has good control of release (9)

### Down

- 1 Hospital only provides means of causing injury (5)
- 2 Increases discussion of environments (6)
- 3 Precision of car reversed into uprooted yucca (8)
- 4 Stand her under a wet sprinkling (7)
- 5 The way we're heading, Will the ConDems pay \_\_\_\_\_? (8)
- 6 Restored Fender he's playing (9)
- 9 Young lion eating head of lizard; one in a suit? (4)
- 14 Swirling air churned mostly! (9)
- 16 Ignore VW performing unlikely manoeuvre (8)
- 18 Saw ex student waited on (8)
- 19 Good modern music inside. It protects the ears? (4,3)
- 21 English soccer - 50/50 on failure (4)
- 23 Big meal consumer loses energy more quickly (6)
- 24 Small shop is a small part of coastal living (5)

## RESERVE (QUICK)

### Across

- 7 Having a malfunction (3-6)
- 8 Committee
- 10 Camera fixing position (3-5)
- 11 Least high
- 12 American jumpers group (initials)
- 13 Got aboard
- 15 Airstrips
- 17 Freewheeled
- 20 Go from one canopy to another
- 22 Having risks controlled
- 25 Place of instruction
- 26 Quality of not being air-tight
- 27 Formation manoeuvre: bury
- 28 Early release mechanisms

### Down

- 1 Rigging Innovations container: claw
- 2 Increase altitude
- 3 Competition that goes with style
- 4 Atmospheric conditions
- 5 To the front
- 6 Rose (of wind)
- 9 Association of people
- 14 Parachute Systems Europe canopy: cyclone
- 16 Extreme aerobatic manoeuvre
- 18 Watched
- 19 Soft helmet (4,3)
- 21 Descend quickly
- 23 Less slow
- 24 Lose too much air speed

# TIME ZONE

Historical news stories from yesteryear

## 40 Years Ago



SPORT PARACHUTIST

John Shankland, John Beard, Mike O'Brien, Jim Crocker, Guy Sutton, Tony Unwin, Terry Hagan, John Harrison, photo by Charlie Shea-Simonds

## First British 8-way Star

Members of the *Green Jackets* Free Fall Team achieved the first British '8-man' star over Dunkeswell on 17 October 1970. After nine months of planning they used the then new Short Skyvan and held the formation for seven seconds.

## 20 Years Ago

## Corn Circles over Sibson

This skydive in August 1990 was organised by George Pilkington over Peterborough Parachute Centre, after the mysterious appearance of several crop circles on the airfield. George and photographer Stuart Meacock made a cunning plan to get all five corn rings in the photo.



Crop Circle dive over Peterborough by Stuart Meacock

## Golden Oldies



Who is in this photo, also at Peterborough Parachute Centre, 1984, submitted by Golden Oldie himself Rob Colpus?

Readers, keep sending your old skydiving memories in, we love 'em!

**SOLUTIONS**  
 ACROSS 7. Bag-locked 8. Beard 10. Top-mount 11. Lowest 12. USPA 13. Embarked 15. Runways 17. Coated 20. Transfer 22. Safe  
 DOWN 1. Talon 2. Climbs 3. Accuracy 4. Weather 5. Forwards 6. Freshened 9. Club 14. Hurrlicane 16. Wifegover 18. Observed 19. Trap hat 21. Fall 23. Faster 24. Still  
 Golden Oldie Dave Morris, Heather Leach, Gary Grapp & Bob Thompson

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Skydive Ratings • Free Load Organizers

D.R. FUN (Dave Ruffell Organizing)  
SkyVenture Orlando • Tandem • AFF

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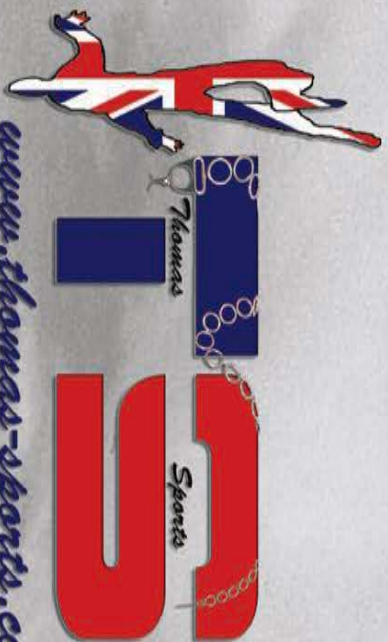
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## Contact:

**Physical Address:** Skydive City Inc. • 4241 Sky Dive Lane • Zephyrhills, FL 33542

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