

# SKYDIVE

## THE MAG



December 2011  
[skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com)

The British Parachute Association Magazine

# Come skydive in Central Spain -

## Beginner and intermediate courses available

**The Freefall University** is an independent skydiving school based in Ocaña 20 minutes south of Madrid. We are located minutes away from the modern city of Aranjuez which has all the nightlife you can handle. We have our own equipment, qualified rigger, British Instructors, facilities and professional ethic.

We cater for holiday makers who wish to do an AFF course and also have BPA coaches full time for FS1 and FF1, FF2 and CH1. Remember we have a vibrant mid week dropzone so getting the jump numbers you want on holidays is not a problem.



### One Instructor, One Student.

We provide you with your own exclusive UK AFF Instructor to personally see you through your course from ground school to completing your level 8. This means no waiting for 'your turn', leaving you free to focus on skydiving.



### Good Links with UK dropzones.

We are an established school and graduates who have completed our course have been well received on UK dropzones. We offer an unparalleled level of after course support which is why many of our students choose to return for a second holiday in the sun.



### Package Deal. What you want, when you want.

Talk to David or Lola in customer service about what type of package you would like. Whilst many things are included free such as video of all your skydives there are many options. For example you might want a car to visit Madrid or prefer to have your own hotel room. We can mix and match based on your requirements, and you can have your holiday at a time that suits you!

### Jump all day and don't get bored in the evening!

The FFU Ocaña is the home of the Madrid Skydivers. It is also host to turbine aircraft, the Swiss national teams and some of the best facilities a skydiving centre can offer, of note is a 30km<sup>2</sup> landing area, swimming pool, onsite hotel and bar/restaurant.

Aranjuez where we 'hang out' in the evenings is a modern city of 100,000 Spanish city workers who make the short daily commute to Madrid, European city of culture for 2005. Alternate activities, restaurants, music bars, clubs and skydivers bars number in the hundreds!

### Sample Package available.

**Silver Package Budget £1280**

- Return flights LGW, Luton, Lvpool.\*
- Transfers / Car Hire 7 days
- 7 days 2\*\* private hotel room
- 8 Level **AFF Course** with British Instructor

### ✓ Recommended Upgrades Prices

- 10 solo jumps **£280**  
Cost per jump £28.00

- **Group Discount** £call
- **Military Discount** £call

Call our London office on 02075588701  
7 days a week, 9am-8pm or contact us  
online at [www.freefalluniversity.co.uk](http://www.freefalluniversity.co.uk)

# FREEFALL UNIVERSITY

\* 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



**EDITOR**  
Liz Ashley  
editor@skydivethemag.com

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**  
Adam Browning  
adam.browning@archantdialogue.co.uk

**DESIGNER**  
Richard Berry  
richard.berry@archantdialogue.co.uk

**ADVERTISING**  
Advert sales  
Rob Crane  
01603 772539  
rob.crane@archant.co.uk

**Advert production**  
Kay Brown  
01603 772522  
kay.brown@archant.co.uk

*Skydive The Mag* is published by:  
Archant Dialogue Ltd,  
Prospect House,  
Rouen Road,  
Norwich NR1 1RE  
01603 664242

www.archantdialogue.co.uk

*Now that I'm into my second year on the Mag, and slightly less busy having finished teacher training, it's time to take a fresh look at the bigger picture and see how the Mag can be even better. One thing I'm really keen to do is to help retain people in the sport. Despite around 750 new A Certificates being awarded each year, the total membership stays fairly static, which must mean we're also losing about 750 members per year. Anecdotaly it's the pre-B Certificate period that is the toughest to get past, so on page 31 I'm launching Progression Zone, a new regular section aimed at helping people get on in the sport. It's only going to work with input from both experienced jumpers and beginners, so if you have something to contribute then I'd love to hear from you – editor@skydivethemag.com – even if you've never contributed before.*

*Talking about new contributors, it's been great to see new people getting involved and writing articles. Gary Crisp has done a great job telling the story of the new European 80-way head-down record. I'm also really excited to be able to bring you not one, but two wingsuit articles – one by Rob Gray about the technicalities of flying a vertical stack and the other by Jackie Harper about competitions.*

*Finally, my assistant Kirsty has decided to leave Archant, and therefore the Mag, to go gallivanting around the world in 2012. She's been fantastic and I'll really miss her – thanks for all your hard work and initiative Kirsty. I'd also like to welcome Adam who'll be filling her shoes as my assistant.*

*Liz Ashley*

## 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.

**1 Year/6 issues UK: £25 Overseas (air): Europe £30, USA £40, Other £40**

Please send me a copy of *Skydive the Mag* on each of the next six bimonthly publication dates.

I enclose a cheque/PO to the value required payable to 'BPA Limited' (UK subscriptions only)

OR: please debit my Mastercard/Visa as follows:

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_ / \_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form and post or fax to the BPA (details below) with your payment. Or email skydive@bpa.org.uk for an electronic form, which can also be downloaded from skydivethemag.com. Online subscriptions are in progress but not active yet. You can also subscribe over the phone if you prefer.

BPA Ltd, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF  
Tel +44 (0)116 278 5271 Fax +44 (0)116 247 7662

British Parachute Association Ltd.  
A company limited by guarantee  
Registered in London No 875429  
Registered office as above



*Fancy contributing to the Mag?  
The dates you need to know for 2012*

| Issue    | To readers  | Copy deadline |
|----------|-------------|---------------|
| February | 15 February | 3 January     |
| April    | 5 April     | 28 February   |
| June     | 8 June      | 24 April      |

### British Parachute Association

BPA Ltd, Wharf Way,  
Glen Parva,  
Leicester LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271  
Fax: 0116 247 7662  
skydive@bpa.org.uk  
www.bpa.org.uk

Patron

His Royal Highness

The Prince of Wales

Jim Crocker

John Lines

Chris Allen

John Smyth MVO

BPA Vice Presidents

### BPA Council

Chairman  
Martin Soulsby martin.soulsby@bpa.org.uk

Vice Chairman  
Craig Poxon craig@bpa.org.uk

Competitions Chairman  
Steve Saunders cfsteve@sky.com

Development Chairman  
Craig Poxon craig@bpa.org.uk

Communications Chairman  
Adrian Bond adrian@bpa.org.uk

### Council Members

Paul Applegate paul.applegate@tesco.net

Kieran Brady kbrady@btinternet.com

Alex Busby alex@bpa.org.uk

Richard Head tricky@bpa.org.uk

Ian Marshall marshallcf@aol.com

Paul Moore paul508@mac.com

John Page geordie@skydivelondon.co.uk

Weed Stoodley weed@stoodley.co.uk

### BPA Representatives

Treasurer  
Debbie Carter

Royal Aero Club Delegate  
John Smyth MVO

RAeC Alternate Delegate  
Jim Crocker

IPC Delegate  
John Smyth MVO

IPC Alternate Delegate  
John Hitchen

STC Chairman  
John Hitchen

john@bpa.org.uk

Riggers Chairman  
Paul Applegate

01869 277 469 paul.applegate@tesco.net

Pilots Committee Chairman  
Kieran Brady

### BPA Staff

Technical Officer  
Tony Butler

National Safety Officer  
John Hitchen

PA to above officers  
Trudy Kemp

Financial Administrator  
Jon Gretton

Secretary-General  
Martin Shuttleworth

Membership Services  
Karey Goodwin

Sue Allen

Administration Secretary  
Helen Lucas

Stock Controller  
David Lucas

© British Parachute Association Ltd 2011

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form: electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, without prior permission of the Editor.

The views expressed in *Skydive The Mag* are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the BPA. Opinions in the editorial are those of the Editor, not of the BPA. The Editor retains the right to withdraw any advertisement at her discretion and does not accept liability for delay in publication or for errors, although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes.

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** The new 80-way European  
Head Down Record over Empuriabrava  
Photo by Rolf 'Kuri' Kuratle, Babylon



*Building and breaking off from the new California State Record 200-way over Perris, by Willy Boeykens*

# CONTENTS

## IN THIS ISSUE

|             |    |
|-------------|----|
| Welcome     | 3  |
| Subscribe   | 3  |
| News Zone   | 7  |
| BPA Zone    | 11 |
| Euro Record | 15 |



|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Wingsuit Competing | 22 |
|--------------------|----|



|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Skydiving in the 1990s    | 24 |
| Progression Zone          | 31 |
| Choosing a coach          | 34 |
| Funshine Boogie           | 36 |
| Dunkeswell Boogie         | 38 |
| Vertical wingsuit diamond | 41 |
| Skydiving in Pakistan     | 45 |



|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Harry Whitworth         | 50 |
| Fran Sweeney            | 53 |
| Kit Zone                | 56 |
| Safety Zone             | 59 |
| Club Zone               | 60 |
| BPA dropzones           | 77 |
| Events Zone and Cartoon | 79 |
| Time Zone and Puzzle    | 82 |



# Smart

Aerodyne Research RESERVE



Open



Fly



Land



Smile!



Photos: Stacey Carl



BETTER GEAR BETTER VALUE BETTER SKYDIVES



## Parachuting Officer jumps!

The CAA's Parachuting Officer Lawrence Hay visited Dunkeswell in September where he did an AFF jump with instructors Jason Farrant and Andy Montriou. Lawrence said: "Apparently the opportunity to throw someone from the CAA out of an aeroplane was too good to miss!"



By Andrew Lovemore



## Brit Bronze at ESL

Admittedly the journey to Texel was a long one – 13 hours door-to-door for most of us – but it was well worth it when we got there. Team Gringo – aka Conor O'Brien (P), Jason Fox (OC), Daren Murphy (IC), Dave Wickes (T) and Tony Labbz (Cam) – arrived at the DZ on the evening of Thursday 15 September. The plan was to get as many rounds completed on the Friday, leaving Saturday to mop up any remaining rounds if weather permitted. With the draw in hand, dirt diving commenced in earnest. Texel had a great setup with a large creeper area, plenty of room for packing and kit storage, and several team rooms that the 15 teams were able to share.

Friday morning brought some great weather: blue skies and a light breeze – awesome, we were going jumping! Dirt diving complete, the two Cessna Caravans fired up their engines and the competition got under way – it soon became apparent that Texel ran a pretty slick operation. We were pretty much going all day long with no more than an hour between jumps. As always there were plenty of people around offering support and guidance and the atmosphere was superb. With some previous 'form' for seat belt restraint malfunctions, Tony

managed once again to maintain his reputation, much to the joy of the team who roared with laughter at the top when he tried to stand up.

The DZ worked very hard and managed to get 15 teams through eight rounds of the competition at the end of the first day, with *Team Gringo* sitting comfortably in third place, with some of the best averages we'd achieved to date. Conditions deteriorated through the day and the DZ managed this well, staying safe but allowing the competition to unfold. Unbelievably one of the competitors had two consecutive 'mals'. Definitely not his day and it is believed he opted for pack jobs after that!

All teams got through the two rounds by lunchtime on Saturday and judging of the last round was saved until we had all finished. This created an exciting climax with all the teams gathered in the hangar as they watched the judging of the final round. Loads of support was shown to all the teams and in the Rookie category *Hvezdy* achieved an impressive 27 points, with *Team Gringo* managing 13 – our best ever in a competition, and helping to achieve third place in the Rookie category.

With the competition over and the weather well and truly in for the day we headed off to prepare for the prize-giving and party BBQ. We were extremely proud to wear our *Team GBT*-shirts as *Team Gringo* picked up its first medal, and a fitting end to a fantastic first year competing. Many, many beers were then drunk, and Netherlands won the Spirit award.

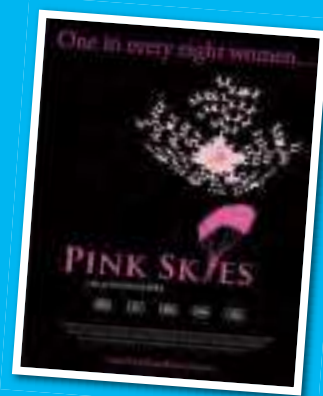
Before the prize-giving, team captains were summoned by the ESL organisers to discuss how to encourage more teams to the Finals next year. It was generally agreed that the location needs to be easier for teams to get to – ideally in central Europe. Watch this space as those teams that have competed in the past will have been asked to vote on the location for next year's competition by the time you read this *Mag*. This is a great competition and we urge other teams to consider getting this booked in the diary for next year.

**Jason Fox, Team Gringo**

## New Italian record



Marco Arrigo has been busy back in his native Italy, helping to set a new national 53-way record at Arezzo DZ. Aircraft used were two Porters, one Skyvan and one Turbo Finist. This beats the previous 48-way set by the Italians, but is notable because that record was way back in 2000. As Marco says: "The news is not about the size of the formation but the new step forward in getting interested in big-way again after a long time not doing it in Italy."



## Pink Skies

*Pink Skies – The Movie* is now available to buy on DVD. Directed by multiple award-winning director Gulcin Gilbert, it features the 2009 Women's World Record 181-way held in Perris, California. However it is a far stretch from the boogie-style 'event DVD' that you might expect. Beautifully produced and with an amazing music score, it is a thoughtful documentary which follows not only the skydiving event but also the stories behind it. The focus is on British cancer survivor Ruth Green as she prepares for the record under the shadow of breast cancer diagnosis. It is a truly moving film with an audience far beyond the event participants, so why not add it to your Christmas list?

[pinkskiesthemovie.com/getdvd](http://pinkskiesthemovie.com/getdvd)

# NEWS ZONE

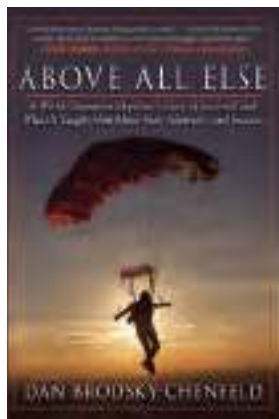
## Dubai 500

The machine that is Dubai 500 is marching on, and several new team captains have been added to the lineup. Lesley Gale and Milko Hodgkinson join Pete Allum to give the Brits three captains in total. Brit Chicks coach Marco Arrigo and popular French FS organiser Patrick Passe also join the team.

Qualifying events are peppering the calendar, and 200 skydivers recently set a new California State Record (CSR) – see the contents page for photos. This beat the previous 181-way set by the girls at Jump For The Cause in 2009. Having got the completion, they then attempted a two-point skydive which would have been a new sequential World Record but was a couple of grips short each time.

The next big event on the calendar will be held in February 2012 in Dubai and will be a 253-way trial run of the main event. It will be an opportunity to test personal oxygen systems, aircraft and much more, a full year ahead of the planned 500-way in 2013. You can apply to be a part of the project at [dubai500.com](http://dubai500.com), where there are full details of qualifying events and the application process. The UK is currently the third highest in nations applying, with eight per cent of the applications! Most popular is USA at 28 per cent, then nine per cent Russian Federation. After us are France, Canada and Australia, all at six per cent.

## Above All Else by Dan BC – one for the Xmas list



Dan BC is an extraordinary man with an extraordinary story to tell. His long-anticipated book is now on sale and he has also recently been a guest on BBC Radio 4 as well as presenting at the prestigious TED series of talks by inspirational speakers. Brit Hannah Betts, who became

World Champion 2008 with Bodyflight Storm under Dan's coaching, takes up the story...

Before I begin to review this book, I'd like to start by saying that you DO NOT have to be a skydiver to relish in this story. Nope, you don't even have to know what a parachute looks like, let alone have the first concept of what 'competitive formation skydiving' is. You will love this book, however, if you enjoy reading a comeback tale that looks as if it's leapt from the pages of a Hollywood film script – except that this story is 100 per cent true.

The book is divided into two sections. The first reads like a novel – it's the story of Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld, a now multiple World Champion Skydiver, whose 10-year quest for world domination in 4-way formation came to a dramatic halt when the plane his team were in crashed. 16 of the 22 passengers on board were killed (including one of Dan's team mates) and Dan woke up from a six-week coma with a broken skull and neck. This incredible story teaches you the power of refusing to give up on your dreams and that, with huge reserves of humility, self-reflection and pure hard work, anything is possible.

The second section, *Playing to Win*, is a motivational read that lays out very methodical key points and proven techniques that a team can use to help them reach their full potential. This includes sections titled *Pushing your Best* and *Don't Fear Losing* to name a few. What is impressive is how Dan relates every aspect of this section to everyday life – whether you are an individual with a specific work or life goal in mind, or any type of sports team at any level, I dare you to read this section of the book and not come away with an energised feeling of "I can do anything I put my mind to".

For me, one of the biggest things I took away from this book is to not wait when you have a goal in mind. The timing, moment or logistics will never be perfect to set out on your journey. Your team mates or colleagues may not be the picture-perfect people you had in mind to achieve your goal with (I was shocked to read that Dan had a real personality clash with one of his team mates, but they both dug deeper to become better team mates and made it happen regardless). To quote Dan: *"You are striving to achieve an ambitious goal. It is only ambitious because there are so many obstacles. Obstacles are what create the challenge, and the challenge is what makes it worthwhile. Pursuing an ambitious goal is nothing but obstacles."*

All in all, if you read this book, you'll become a better flyer in the sky, and more importantly, will unquestionably become a better team mate and person when your feet are firmly on the ground.

### Hannah Betts

*"13 average to 20 average in under two years, I guess he does know what he's talking about"*

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

*Above All Else is endorsed by authors Tony Robbins, Melody Beattie and Jerry Lynch PhD and is available from Amazon.*

## Pioneer Ted Strong dies at 75

Skydiving lost one of its greatest pioneers in October when American Ted Strong was killed on a test jump. Ted started jumping in 1950 and formed Strong Enterprises in 1961. Always motivated more by the safety and enjoyment of his friends than by money, he was at the forefront of the modernisation of sport skydiving equipment in the 1960s and 1970s, transforming it from the days of jumping

with a simple kit in the 1950s he was involved in the development of tandem skydiving, which needless to say has been one of the single biggest innovations in the history of the sport, making skydiving accessible to the general public.

Ted's accomplishments were many and varied, having gone beyond sport skydiving and tandem to also develop emergency bailout rigs and numerous

technological advancements for the military market. Ted's USA peers saw Ted as "an innovator and visionary" who was awarded USA's Gold Medal for Merit in 2000 and who was inducted into the first class of the National Skydiving Museum Hall of Fame in 2010. Those who knew him remember with affection his humanity, a kind and generous spirit, and the infectious smile that lit his eyes wherever he went.



*Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure: Bill Booth (right, of UPT) and Ted Strong (left) on an early tandem jump in 1983. Drogues had not yet been invented, so freefall speeds were extreme – note Ted's goggles blown up on his forehead. Side lateral straps had also not come along yet – note the interesting positioning of Bill's passenger as a result! Photo by Norman Kent*





# In 1987...

The world population hit 5 billion people  
**Work started on the Chunnel**  
Golliwogs were banned from Enid Blyton books  
**Ford bought Aston Martin**  
Margaret Thatcher won a third term in office  
Timothy Dalton became the fifth James Bond  
The Order of the Garter was opened to women  
**Joss Stone was born**  
Coventry City won the FA Cup for the first time  
Rick Astley released "Never Gonna Give You Up"  
**Sun Path opened its first facility**



**Javelin**  
Odyssey X

**JAVELIN**  
Odyssey

**JAVELIN**

**STUDENT**  
Odyssey





**Martin Shuttleworth >>**

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



The BPA AGM 2012 will be held in the Premier Suite at the Reebok Stadium, Bolton, Greater Manchester BL6 6SF, at 10.30am on Saturday 28 January 2012. The agenda is on p9 of the October 2011 issue of *Skydive the Mag*.

The agenda includes a special resolution to update the BPA's Articles of Association to bring them in line with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006. The supporting paper for this item is included as a loose insert to this issue, and can be downloaded from [bpa.org.uk/agm](http://bpa.org.uk/agm)

A member entitled to attend and vote at the AGM is entitled to appoint a proxy (who does not need to be a member) to attend and vote in their place. A form of proxy is available on request from the BPA Office.

### Associated events

A presentation ceremony of medals and awards will take place immediately after the morning AGM. During the afternoon, a choice of seminars, presentations and meetings aims to offer something for everyone. The titles of planned seminars and meetings will be posted online as the programme develops. For full information about AGM day, visit [bpa.org.uk/agm](http://bpa.org.uk/agm)

Attendance at all associated events, except for the optional dinner, is free of charge to members and their guests. This includes the evening entertainment and disco. We shall all be there to enjoy ourselves, but please note that the hotel and the BPA reserve the right to refuse admission to anyone whose behaviour is considered inappropriate.

Overnight accommodation can be booked (subject to availability) at the BPA rate at De Vere Whites Hotel BL6 6SF, which is built into the stadium. To book telephone 01204 667 788 and quote the

BPA AGM code DE 008 244 03. The cost is £80 per night for a double/twin, or £70 per night for single occupancy, both including breakfast.

The venue has a free car park and is easily accessible from Junction 6 of the M61. By rail, it's within easy walking distance from Horwich Parkway station, which has direct trains to and from Manchester and Manchester Airport. Other accommodation is available nearby, including the Premier Inn (Reebok Stadium), which can be booked online at [premierinn.com](http://premierinn.com).

### Exhibition

Space is still available at the AGM day exhibition of services, equipment and clothing etc, for the enjoyment of skydiving in the UK. 3m x 3m of space costs £125 + £25 VAT, total £150. Book through the BPA Office, telephone 0116 278 5271.

### BPA 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

This will be held at De Vere Whites Hotel on the evening of AGM day, at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Admission is by advance ticket only. Tickets cost £25 each and are available from the BPA Office, telephone 0116 278 5271. A booking form is available on the BPA website. The vegetarian option, if required, must be ordered at the time of booking. Seating will be at round tables of eight. Dress will be dinner jacket for men, evening wear for ladies, or optional fancy dress on the theme of Bond and his Baddies.

### Europe comes to Bolton!

The annual meeting of the European Parachute Union, convened by the EPU President, our very own Paul Moore, will be held around the date of the AGM at the same hotel.

## News in brief



### BPA Office – holiday closure

The BPA Office will be closed on and from Friday 23 December, reopening on Tuesday 3 January. The staff wish all members a happy holiday.

### BPA competition dates 2012

**British Open Nationals 2012**  
**Target Skysports, Hibaldstow**  
 FS 4-way & VFS  
 11-13 August

FS 8-way, Speed & Artistics  
 (FS 4-way & VFS reserve)  
 18-20 August

FS 8-way, Speed & Artistics reserve  
 25-27 August

**British Open Nationals 2012**  
**UK Parachuting, Sibson**  
 CF and 8-way Speed  
 8-9 September

**UKSL FS 4-way**  
**Meet 1 – Peterlee**  
 12-13 May

**Meet 2 – BPS, Langar**  
 9-10 June

**Meet 3 – NWPC, Cark**  
 14-15 July



Full Stop, by Gary Wainwright

### New Ratings

#### Advanced Packer

Dave Clarke (S)  
 Ricky Davies (T)  
 Chas Lawson (T)  
 Andy Shaw (T)  
 Rezzan Shiel (S)  
 Darren Stuart (S)  
 Jack Felstead (S)  
 Simon Soper (S)

John Reid  
 James Lee  
 Sara Orton  
 Christopher Sharman  
 Alec Flint  
 Sharron Davey  
 Jon Moulder  
 Niel Flanagan  
 Adam Threlfall

#### CSI

Conrad Brown  
 Anthony Lock  
 Sebastian Muntz  
 Zoe Farrell  
 Frank Millerick  
 Andrew Myers  
 Daniel Gauld  
 Kerstin Griep  
 Philip Thomas

#### TBI

Cameron Williams  
 Peter Dolbel

**Advanced Instructor**  
 Jason Webster

**Instructor Examiner**  
 Alex Busby

#### CSBI

Ruth Jordinson



## RAeC Trust

The Royal Aero Club (RAeC) Trust and Ancestry.co.uk have launched a worldwide search to uncover missing images of more than 200 pioneer aviators. Family history enthusiasts and local history communities are being urged to help find the images which accompany a number of Aviators' Certificates held in the Trust's extensive archive ([royalaeroclubcollection.org](http://royalaeroclubcollection.org)), which includes more than 28,000 index records and 34 albums, or 'volumes', containing about 13,000 photographs of early aviators.

Like a modern passport, these certificates were given to pilots who, in the early days of the First World War, successfully completed their initial training through the Royal Aero Club before joining the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) or the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) for active service. The licence required the submission of two photographs, one of which was pasted into the licence; the other was retained by the Club.

*"Unfortunately, Volume Four is missing, so volunteers from the Royal Aero Club Trust are busy compiling a 'virtual' replacement album, drawing on photographs from other sources,"* explains Andrew Dawrant, a trustee of the Royal Aero Club Trust. *"We are urging any budding history sleuths, or anyone with an interest or family connection with the early days of flying to go to <http://blogs.ancestry.com/uk/2011/08/08/help-find-the-missing-heroes-of-world-war-i/> and help us track these images down, whether they are from personal collections, school photos, newspapers or obituaries."*

If you can provide a copy of one of these missing photographs, or if you have any ideas about where may be a good place to look, please email the Trust at [royalaeroclubgb@googlemail.com](mailto:royalaeroclubgb@googlemail.com)



## Election of Council 2012

There are 16 nominations for the 15 elected seats on Council 2012. An election will therefore be held.

The nominees are: Paul Applegate, Karen Bain, Adrian Bond, Kieran Brady, Alex Busby Hicks, Marc Fletcher, Richard Head, Ian Marshall, Paul Moore, John Page, Craig Poxon, Steve Saunders, Mark Skarratts, Martin Soulsby, Weed Stoodley and James Swallow.

The election will be conducted by independent election administrators. Ballot packs, including information on candidates, will be issued by post. Votes may be cast either online or by post. Please use online voting if you can – it's quick and easy, and saves the BPA paying the return postage!

Ballot packs will be mailed out to arrive early in December. Members who have not received their ballot pack by Monday 12 December (UK) or Monday 19 December (BFPO & overseas) should telephone 0845 658 1131 (from UK) or +44 (0) 1538 393 606 (from outside UK) or email [enquiries@howsons-es.net](mailto:enquiries@howsons-es.net) with the message heading 'BPA'.

The result of the election will be posted on the BPA website on Tuesday 24 January 2012 ahead of the inaugural meeting of Council 2012 immediately after the AGM and presentation ceremony on the morning of Saturday 28 January 2012.



**Members: Don't forget to use your vote – your vote really does count!**

## Pursuing excellence in all we do

Martin Soulsby, BPA Chairman, has established a strategy working party comprising the Committee Chairs and senior staff, which has presented a straightforward strategic plan that has been ratified by the full Council.

Martin says that as well as concentrating on one-year action plans, which in the economically golden years gone by were bids for UK Sport funding (which the government has now redirected into Olympic sports), it had long been recognised that the one-year plans needed to form part of a longer-term strategy. This longer-term strategy is now explicit. The keystone of the strategy is the pursuit of excellence in all that the BPA does. Already a mantra for BPA competitions, where our national teams give world-class performances to reach the podium at world meets, the philosophy will be rolled out to cover all BPA activities. *"In the BPA, safety is at the heart of everything we do, and we shall continue to pursue and build on our*

*excellence in safety. We shall also pursue excellence in communication, through our highly praised magazine and newer channels such as e-mail and social media; and excellence in membership administration, where the quality of service from the BPA Office is already well-recognised by the membership."*

The retention of members is a second strategic aim. Each year, the BPA welcomes about 750 new members but loses about the same number of existing members. Working in partnership with Affiliated Centres, the BPA seeks to identify the reasons why members leave the sport and, for those reasons it can influence, try to encourage them to stay. *"This will be a multi-stranded team effort by the BPA, Affiliated Centres and individual members,"* said Martin. Along with succession planning for key staff and a review of the facilities and efficiencies required of the BPA Office in this digital age of global economic uncertainty, this is the BPA strategy. Martin emphasises that the strategy will not divert the BPA from the need to continue to be able to react quickly and effectively to external threats to our sport, be they legislative, environmental or physical.



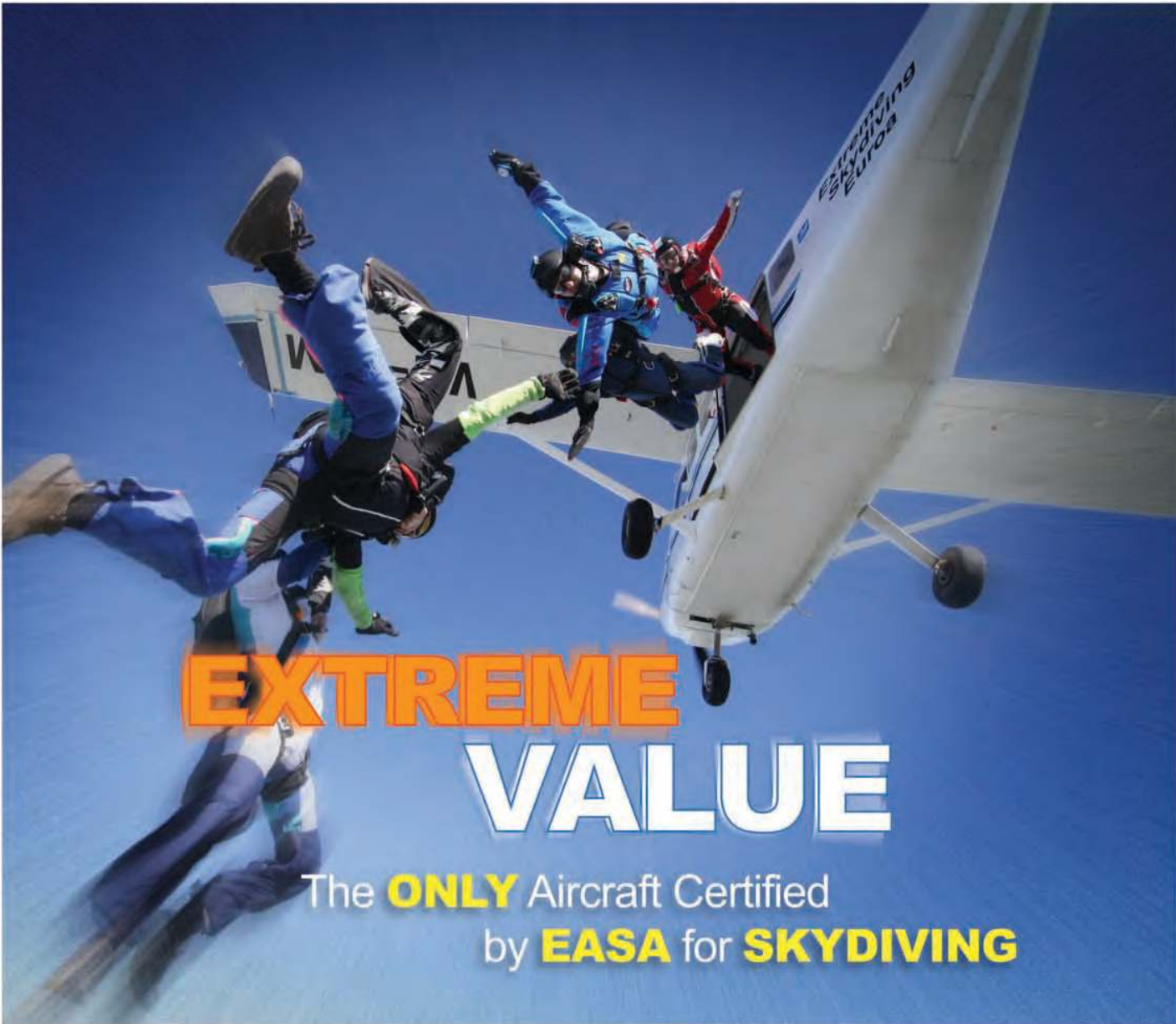
# THANK YOU!



Dedicated to the skydiving community worldwide for helping us make 2011 such an awesome anniversary!



[www.cypres.cc/20years](http://www.cypres.cc/20years)



# EXTREME VALUE

The **ONLY** Aircraft Certified  
by **EASA** for **SKYDIVING**

*Order now to secure your aircraft  
for the 2012 season*

## GA8 Airvan

*Call for a demonstration TODAY*

**+44 (0) 7540 162002**

GippsAero Pty Ltd

Kerry Ashcroft

Tel: +44 (0) 7540 162002 Fax: +44 (0) 208 711 5713

Email: [airvan@btinternet.com](mailto:airvan@btinternet.com) [www.gippsaero.com](http://www.gippsaero.com)



A Mahindra Aerospace Company

# Euro Record



By Kuri

I left the bar at 1.30am after a day of high winds and a long evening of beer. It was still blowing a gale and the thought crossed my mind to return to the bar and start on the shots, but I knew that would end badly! The next morning at the DZ more and more freeflyers from all over Europe were turning up to attend the warm-up day and to secure themselves a slot in the main event: the 2011 FAI European Head-Down Record

The weather was looking good so the guys from *Babylon* organised a few formation loads so that we could test the intended aircraft set-up and do a few training jumps to keep people moving. My biggest formation to date had been the 28-way UK record we had set a few weeks previously and if I got a slot on the Euro record it was going to be a huge increase for me – and a pretty big increase on the previous Euro record of 51 set in 2009.

The first training formation we would start with would be a three aircraft 44-way - my biggest formation to date! We made a couple of solid attempts, each time having only one or two flyers off. A few changes were made to the line-up and it was decided we'd go big and roll out another aircraft for a 57-way on the last lift of the day – if it completed, it would be the unofficial record.

On the jump the formation built really nicely but again there were a few grips off. Overall, it was a pretty solid performance considering the 2009 record was a 51-way.

The following day saw the start of the official warm-up day where we were split into small 22-way groups. We made some big-way jumps, training the approaches, a quick formation build and then a staged break-off.

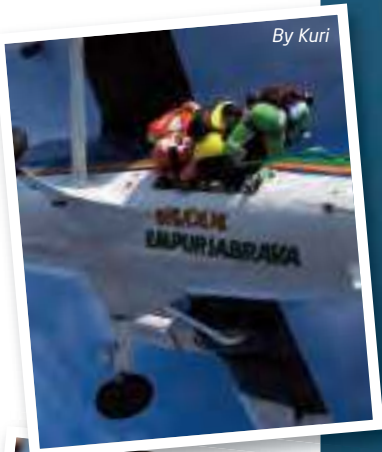
By this time all the record participants had finally arrived at the DZ, 110 of Europe's top freeflyers from 18 countries. Everyone was eager to get started and to find out if they had a slot on the first 80-way record attempt to be made the following morning.

It was announced that the last jump of the day was to be a four-aircraft 55-way. We were called to the manifest area to put it together and find out who was on the jump. Everyone stood together, waiting eagerly for their name to be read out, and then took their place in the formation dirt dive.

Eventually my name was called and I was added to the formation: second stinger on the first pod, the same slot I'd been given on all the larger formation loads from the last few days. Looking around the pods, my side was almost exclusively made up of UK flyers. Most of the other flyers had the same slots they were given in the big-ways and there was a real buzz in our sector as we had a strong line-up. Looking around the entire formation, there were many previous Euro record holders, a number of World record holders and some big names in European freefly and VFS.

We made an attempt at the 55-way and

By Kuri



By Vania da Rui



By Kuri



it built quickly and smoothly; the level was great, the formation was solid but, as had been the case on the most of the jumps so far, there were just one or two grips out due to people getting lost on approach. They ended up joining the formation just as people had started to initiate the first stage of the break-off. It was a great jump and there was a real confidence that over the coming days we would get the record.

A marquee had been set up to host the Euro record and the 16-way flat trophy being held at the weekend. An evening welcome event with free beer and food had been arranged for the participants and was opened with an introduction by the *Babylon* guys, followed by videos of the formations and the 55-way. The all-important event T-shirts were distributed in typical freeflyer fashion

(a mass free for all) then after the briefing, we were directed to a board that had appeared at the back of the marquee that had the eagerly awaited formation info on it. It detailed the 80-way formation with numbered slots; each of the four main sector pods coloured to correspond to the aircraft carrying those flyers, aircraft exit slot info for each flyer, the staged break-off info and most importantly, the list of flyers and which numbered slot they were allocated. I scanned the list and found my name; awesome! I had made the starting line-up and had the same slot I had been flying all week!

The formation had been constructed to put most of the nationalities in their own pods. Due to the amount of UK flyers selected in the starting line-up we had our own sector in the formation made up almost solely of Brits.

The morning of the first attempt arrived; the organisers built and drilled the formation on the ground and we spent some time engineering the exit set-ups and timings. The formation was to start with an 8-way base, with four main sectors, each consisting of two pods, a link pod between each sector and then a further pod built on the back of each pod link. Exit altitude would be 18,000 feet and we would have oxygen from 10,000ft upwards. The aircraft formation was to be composed of James Swallow flying the newest Dornier, two Twin Otters, a Beech 99, and a Pilatus Porter having to do a full no-show exit and all running in at ground speeds in excess of 130 knots.

It was also announced that for the first time ever in big-way freefly, we would be adopting and building on a technique



By Kuri





Looking around the entire formation there were many previous Euro record holders, a number of World record holders and some big names in European freefly and VFS



successfully used in the large flat formations to safely track away large sections of the formation on break off. However, instead of tracking we were going to trace. On the first wave of the break-off we would have the pod closer on each of the first and second pods lead their flyers away in a group tracing dive from 7,000 down to 3,500 feet. The second phase of the break-off would break off at 6,000 feet with just a short track into clear air and pull, then finally the base and first stingers would build a big round and take it down to 5,000 feet before breaking off and tracking away.

We would also be colouring the base flyers, second stingers on the first pod and each main pod closers with either red, yellow, orange or green T-shirts based on the corresponding sector's allocated colour. The hope was to make it easier for flyers to identify their sectors and navigate into their slots after exit and to make sure the pod closers and last divers further away from the formation had a much better reference and could make corrections from a greater distance.

According to the guys that had the really long diving approaches, the sector identification was a great idea and really helped their navigation and build speed, and I'm sure this will be seen again in future record attempts.

The first attempt had a real buzz about it; the formation looked like it built and flew for



By Will Penny





By Vania da Rui



By Will Penny



By Vania da Rui

a few seconds before break-off time. On landing we thought we might have cracked it on the first jump, but it turned out we had just one flyer off around the outside but, it was a great start to the event. We all knew we had the skills and that the formation flew well; it was just a matter of time before we pulled it off. Number two, started with a few problems with exit timing but everyone adapted well. Unfortunately, this resulted in the formation just not having enough time to settle and fully build. The last lift of the day ended in a similar fashion, with just one grip off.

Day two arrived and, after more exit drills, attempts four and five were again so very close with only one or two grips off. For jump number six there was a small change to the line-up and it was decided that we

would get a boost in exit altitude to 19,000 feet. Number six built really nicely and it looked like we had smashed it. On landing we really thought we had it, but unfortunately the video revealed that within the formation a grip had been lost. With the formation already built behind, as much as the flyers tried their hardest to recover, it was game over!

Attempt number seven. The last formation lift of the day had a real vibe about it. Everyone was focused and, with bad weather forecast for the next day, it really needed to happen now. Nimmo and Steph had dished out the motivation on the last dirt-dive and now it was down to us to "just do our jobs". On the ground we built a huge round with all 80 of us, and we rotated it 360. It's a lot of people and you don't quite realise the size of the thing until you take a step back and look around.

The aircrafts loaded and taxied off. Their formation was extra tight as we climbed to 19,000 feet. From the lead aircraft you could see that the aircraft set-up was perfect - the pilots really were doing an awesome job and as the attempts had progressed they were just getting tighter and tighter. The two-minute call was given, everyone got ready to go and people were making the most of the last few seconds of oxygen before exit.

The cameraman left, the base left and we fired out into our diving approaches; powering down on to level and driving into our slots, stopping and picking up the grips.

**“ The last formation lift of the day had a real vibe about it. Everyone was focused and, with bad weather forecast for the next day, it really needed to happen now**



**Everyone held their breath as they took a sneaky look towards the base to see if there was any reaction from the guys below**

Grip by grip it began to build and the set-up looked good; there was no real tension or ripples through the formation as the first pods closed and pod links built. First stingers arrived, the second pods began to appear and finally the last divers (second stingers and pod closers) approached the formation until the last pods closed.

I think everyone held their breath for a second as they took a sneaky look towards the base to see if there was any reaction from the guys below. Did we have it? It was looking good and you could feel it in the air; I think we had it.

Break-off as always was super-smooth and on turning to track away I could see in the distance three really tight tracing groups all safely driving away in front of me. It made a huge difference for us in the second wave as we had clear skies all around and I had a fantastic view of 80-plus canopies below.

I was one of the last to land and I could see everyone high-fiving in the landing area – we had it! We just needed it confirmed by the judges and it was celebration time!

The footage shot from the ground was fantastic and with the very light, high cloud it made an amazing view for the spectators of what looked like a beautiful 80-way.

The video was shown, the FAI judges confirmed it and we had our new Euro record 2011. It was built and it flew solidly for over five seconds. After so many 78-and 79-way jumps, so close but for a couple of grips, we had finally cracked it and the excitement was electric. Proudly, from the very first attempt, our UK sector was consistently built, and rock solid every time – a great effort! The celebrations went on into the night and for some, into the following morning.

Great job to everyone involved; the *Babylon* guys, the pilots and all the Brits that did a fantastic job. Roll on 2013!

**Gary Crisp**



*By Will Penny*



*Cameraflyers, by Vania da Rui*

**British FAI certificate holders on the record: Cat Adam, Will Blackie, Mike Carpenter, Gary Crisp, James Davies, Richard Frame, Jim Harris, Anna Howerski, Kurmet Jaadla, Claudio Lettieri, Adam Mattacola, Ally Milne, Matt O’Riordan, Fabian Raidel, Martin Reynolds, Frazer Smith, Ady Wild, Tim Porter (cam)**



*By Vania da Rui*

# G Love... ChutingStar Holiday Style



**CHUTINGSTAR**.COM  
PLAN+B SPECIALISTS

001★770★445★4000  
Gear@ChutingStar.com

# Wingsuit Competing

Wingsuiting has been around for a number of years, but if you thought it was just about flying a pattern on your own or sitting in slot on a flat formation until break-off, then think again. There are a number of competitions being organised around the world that are showing how much the discipline has progressed in recent years, showcasing the incredible skill levels people are attaining. We hope that a UK event planned for next spring will encourage the fast-growing British Wingsuit community to try competing for the first time and maybe even get our discipline onto the BPA Nationals syllabus. This article aims to provide a bit more information on the Performance and Artistic events to whet your appetite



FlyLikeBrick by Jarno Cordia

## GPS-Based Performance Racing

There are a few performance events currently being run internationally in Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Germany (Marl and Gransee) and the USA (Elsinore). They vary slightly in format but essentially the goal is to measure the different aspects of an individual's high-performance flying; including distance, time and horizontal speed. A fixed competition window of 3,300 feet (1,000m) is used, measured using a Flysight GPS logger and evaluated using the Paralag software. There are two classes: Intermediate (smaller suits) and Open (larger suits).

Worldwide rankings stand as follows (results from all events get collated by Paralag and posted to their website):

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Time:     | 89.8 secs – Helmut Tacke ( <i>Xbird</i> )    |
| Distance: | 3.93km – Helmut Tacke ( <i>Apache</i> )      |
| Speed:    | 282km/h – Robert Pecnik ( <i>Vampire 3</i> ) |

The Hungarian competition saw 82 competitors from 16 countries this year, with our very own Paul Cain placing third on his SBird. Not to be outdone, Elana Cain was awarded 'Top Chick' for beating all the ladies to the best score. Gransee had 18 competitors and was won by Oliver Furrer (CH)

## Artistic Wingsuit Competition

This competition is centred around 2-way teams plus camera turning points with docks and aerial moves such as loops, rolls and backfly. There are five rounds of compulsory blocks, with two blocks per round, randomly drawn from a dive-pool. The last round is a free round where teams are invited to impress the judges and fellow wingsuit pilots with creativity and flying skills. There are two classes: Senior and Intermediate (which has a slightly reduced divepool). Teams not only score points for the number of blocks shown, but also get a score for the camera work and flying style. Being judged on flying



Team Aquila



Bad Boys by Daniel Hernán-Pérez



FlyLikeBrick by Jarno Cordia

style is a crucial element as it forces teams to fly their best; style points are given for body position, smoothness of flying, controlled docks and forward flying speed. This also potentially increases working time for the flyers as the artistic teams are judged over a fixed vertical distance rather than simply time after exiting the aircraft.

Based on an idea by Costyn and Jarno of FlyLikeBrick.com, the competition was organised for the first time in 2008 at Skydive Spa. This year it was held in Gap and attended by eight Senior Teams and two Intermediate Teams. The competition has a great atmosphere with lots of coaching support available to less-experienced teams. It is attracting ever-growing media attention and sponsorship from many of the major manufacturers.

The Russian team *Defy Gravity* came back

this year to defend their 2010 title and showed the judges an impressive docked double front loop in their free round. Sadly this wasn't enough for them to beat the Spanish Team *Bad Boys*, who finished with an impressive 44-point lead.

### The UK Competition

The first UK Wingsuit competition will be held at Netheravon on the first May Bank Holiday weekend from 4-7 May 2012 inclusive. It will feature two events,

Performance and Artistics, and will be a mini version of the events described above.

Details and registration forms are available on [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com) and Facebook. There will be coaches on hand to help, and don't worry if you haven't got a complete team for the artistics as we can hook you up with other flyers and camera if needed. We will have a Skyvan plus three Caravans and will aim to follow the comp with some fun organised loads.

**Jackie Harper, Team Aquila**

Bad Boys by Daniel Hernán-Pérez



**The first UK Wingsuit competition will be held at Netheravon on the May Bank Holiday weekend, 4-7 May 2012**

# The BPA in the

## 1990s big-ways

The big story of the decade was the 100-way formation built over Langar in 1999, which still stands as the British record today. Brit 100 was a gigantic project that involved co-operation between many dropzones, organisers, cameraflyers and jumpers. Far more than 'just' an amazing 100-way, it was also a huge success in bringing our sport to the general public and creating positive publicity. Brit 100 Chairman Simon Ward co-ordinated a multitude of media appearances for the project, while the Team Captains led by Darryl Moran ensured the success of the skydives.

Many of the same people then travelled to Udon Thani, Thailand where they set a new 282-way world record as well as a 572-way mass drop, organised by World Team.

Other notable big-ways of the '90s were the 20-way European Night Record at Cranfield, organised by Sandy McRobbie, which again still stands. Although there were a few attempts to build on the female big-way records, it wasn't until 2002 that Brit Chicks kicked off and built a 40-way, then 50-way, then 60-way and finally 68-way – watch this space next issue for news from the Noughties.

All photos by Simon Ward





# '90s

## Freely, skysurf, wingsuit

Skydiving kit had developed long past the days of cumbersome front-and-back rounds, and was now generally square-on-square and relatively comfortable. This certainly helped in the development of various artistic disciplines. In about 1993 suddenly BOC (bottom of container) pilot chutes started appearing everywhere – previously they had mostly been ROL (rear of leg, in a pouch on the legstrap, not great for sit flying!) Freely and skysurf started to boom, and at the end of the decade the first commercially available wingsuit was produced. Unfortunately this also coincided with the death of the man who really pioneered it, Patrick de Gayardon.



Freeflyers and skysurfers used to wear 'wings' on the arms to provide more drag and stability in head-up



All photos by Simon Ward

# Cameras

Small-format cameras revolutionised camera flying in the 1990s. The Sony PC7 and PC5 were many people's first cameras, as suddenly you didn't need to be a dedicated cameraperson with a ton of equipment on your head. Instead you could wear it almost as a flight recorder, inside the formation

rather than only in the outside camera slot. Other kit developments included the Fridge by Cool n Groovy which was the first full-face helmet in the UK. Cool n Groovy also designed the Timeout, which was the first audible altimeter in the world to have multiple warnings.



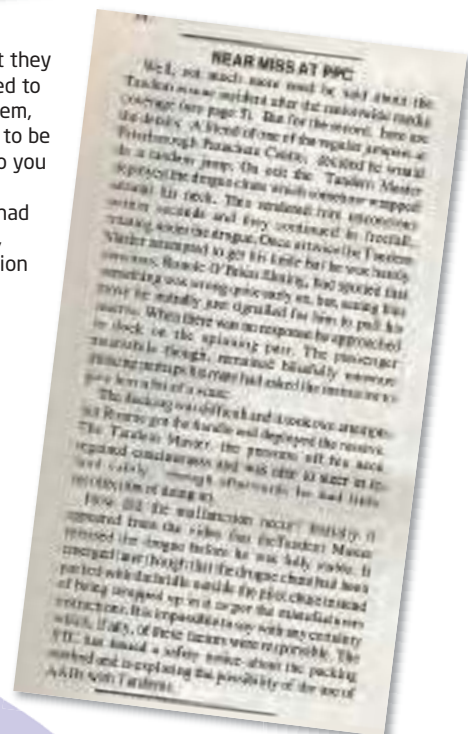
Brian Bielinski with the latest camera kit by Simon Ward

# Mid-air saves

There were AADs on the market before 1991 but they were clunky, unreliable and had a stigma attached to jumping with them. Student kit generally had them, but for an experienced jumper to wear one was to be seen as somehow an inferior skydiver – “why do you think you need that?”

By the end of the decade, however, opinion had shifted totally. Airtec had produced the Cypres, which set the standard for reliability and function of AADs. There had also been several scares where no AAD was present – Ronnie O'Brien saved the life of a tandem instructor whose drogue had wrapped around his neck, and George Pilkington's life was saved by Bruno Brokken – naked! There were also unfortunately several fatalities where an AAD would almost certainly have saved the jumper, as well as several live saves that were witnessed over DZs and which encouraged people to immediately go and buy their own AAD!

Twenty years on and close to 100 million jumps have been made with Cypres AADs, with 148,000 units made and at least 3,000 lives saved.



# Skydiving in the '90s

In 1989, fourth place at the world meet in Empuria was pretty much the end of major 8-way competition for me. The '90s are when I discovered my passion for 4-way.

However, there was one more interesting trip to Moscow in 1990 with the 8-way team *Mo*, for the first international FS competition in the USSR. We were still suffering slightly from the effect of the '80s and kept hold of the neon green grippers.

At the start of the 90s the 4-way team was *Air Time*, with Tony Uragallo, Kevin Hardwick, Chris Lynch and me. Our rivals at that time were the Red Devils, who were putting a lot of effort into their competition team and due to being pushed by them we were forced to train hard in order to win at

the UK nationals. Win we did and represented the UK in the ex-Yugoslavia at the world meet in '91.

In '92, along with Chris, we continued the 4-way dream and went to Perris to get coached by Dan BC; unfortunately one of the new team, Ben, injured himself and we picked up Andy Woodmansey and Kevin McCarthy to train for the nationals. It was not a good year for *Air Time*, we were doing just fine in free fall but due to a horrible canopy accident we lost Andy and Kevin was lucky to survive. So... being forever optimists, Chris and I picked up our old team mates Kevin and Tony and went to the World Meet in Eloy in '93.

Straight after that competition, John McIver and I flew in a DC3 to Perris and

“A dream that I had had since I was 15 then turned into reality

started what was to become the nucleus of XL, although it took a few years to swing into action. We had a shared dream and along with Chris Lynch and Toby Stafford we ended up winning the Nationals in '96 and subsequently winning the big prize of full-time sponsorship at the newly formed (UK) DZ in Sebastian Florida. A dream that I had had since I was 15 then turned into reality and for eight years we were able to train full-time 4-way.

During that period with XL we attended multiple world meets and had some awesome running battles with other international 4-way teams, unfortunately just missing out on the world meet medal position, often by as close as one point! For our services to UK sport we were also presented to Her Majesty The Queen and had fun sipping champagne and chatting to the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace.

Back in the UK, AFF was doing just fine and Tandem was starting to show itself as the new way to start skydiving. Along with Debbie and Kevin we started the Free Fall Co at Sibson. Islanders were still THE aircraft to jump from in the UK and Sibson was pretty much THE place, with most Nationals being held there.

In 1999 we were finally able to party like it was 1999 and the world meet was held in Oz, great way to finish a decade...

Pete Allum

## Notable skydiving highlights from the '90s:

- PD introduced the Velocity
- Booties
- Free Flying
- Swooping the ditch at Deland
- Airspeed dynasty begins
- Wind tunnels
- Female event started, UK winning it!



Pete Allum  
by Simon Ward



Future BPA Chairman Martin Soulsby

## VMax

There had never been a women's event at a World Cup before. We heard rumours in 1998 that there would be a test event the following year, so we formed an all-girls 4-way team made up of me, Sacha Chilton, Sarah Laughton and Liz Matthews (then Groucott), called *VMax* with Brian Vacher on camera. Later Liz had to pull out for work reasons so Kate Stephens took her place, although Liz rejoined the team in future years.

Sarah was the experienced one, with over a thousand jumps and having been on the Army 8-way team. She was also the only one of us who had ever been in a wind tunnel. The rest of us had about 500-800 jumps. We'd also never done Senior (AAA) 4-way before!

*VMax* set off for Deland where Solly Williams coached us through a two-week camp and we got an 8.8 average at the Americas Cup. We did do some 4-way in the tunnel in Orlando, but I remember a lot of bouncing off the walls! Tunnel coaching techniques were relatively new then that it was hard enough just trying to stay still!

Solly was also coaching the Swedish female team that year, so we decided to spend a week training alongside them in Sweden. They were taking it very seriously, and together with the Aussie team, were the strong favourites to win the first Women's World Cup that year in Australia. We hadn't even decided to go at that point despite the Swedish girls and

Solly's best efforts at convincing us that we should!

At the Nationals, we were hoping for a 10-point average but had an amazing competition and managed 11.5, surprising everybody. That gave us the confidence we needed and so, with less than two months to go, we begged more time off work, booked flights and got ready to fly to the other side of the world to compete as the British Women's team. *XL* and *Junction 9* were representing GB in the Open 4-way and 8-way respectively.

*XL* put in a fantastic performance, finishing with a 19-point average but unfortunately missing out on the bronze by just one point. *VMax* had almost the opposite situation – having gone into round 10 behind Australia, we overtook them to win gold by a single point! We were quite overwhelmed by the surprise result and almost embarrassed as we were the clear underdogs, however it made us even more determined to train even harder in preparation for the next World Meet in Spain in two years' time. The Women's event was still very much in its infancy and we were keen to help keep pushing the standards, something which *VMax* helped to do for the next four years.

### Sparky

The Women's event has continued ever since, and *VMax* members have continued to form teams that have won it throughout the Noughties... but that's a story for the next Mag.



*VMax* being presented with their BPA Certificates of Merit at the AGM by Simon Ward

# FOR ALL YOUR SKYDIVING GEAR



Photo courtesy of KOB

COMPLETE PARACHUTE SYSTEMS \* T-SHIRTS \* SWEATSHIRTS  
 \* HOODIES \* HEAD GEAR \* CAMERA GEAR \* JUMPSUITS \*  
 \* ALTIMETERS \* GOGGLES \* GLOVES \* LOG BOOKS \* BOOKS  
 DVDs \* COOL STUFF & GADGETS  
 + "free" demo gear available (T&C Apply)

»» CHECK OUT OUR FANTASTIC ONLINE STORE  
**WWW.DZSPORTS.COM**

EMAIL: SALES@DZSPORTS.COM \* TEL: +44 (0)1295 812 101

DZ SPORTS LTD \* HINTON AIRFIELD \* BRACKLEY \* NORTHANTS \* NN13 5NS



DEALER FOR ALL MANUFACTURERS



# SKYDIVE

# Langar .co.uk

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

**We're open every day  
of the holidays!**  
(except for Christmas Day)

so come and do some skydives  
on those crisp winter days  
and get your first jump of the year  
on New Years day!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

### NIGHT JUMPS

**Saturday 7th Jan**

(or Sunday 8th if weather prevents)

You'll need your FAI 'B' Cert (Red),  
familiar equipment with AAD &  
Audible Altimeter,  
plus a daylight jump  
at Langar the same day

## Langar Boogies 2012

**Boogie 1: 5-13 May**

*including Student Progression week  
FS Skills training midweek  
Safe Flight School 8-10th May*

**Boogie 2: 8-16 Sep**

**6-way FS competition 31 Mar - 1 Apr**

**Go Vertical 2-5 Jun**

**UK Skydiving League 4-way 9-10 Jun**



Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Tel: 01949 860878 email: [info@skydivelangar.co.uk](mailto:info@skydivelangar.co.uk)

# British Parachute Schools

# Progression Zone

The BPA recently held a special Strategy meeting in which BPA Chairman Martin Soulsby and sub-committee Chairmen Craig Poxon (Development), Steve Saunders (Competitions) and Adrian Bond (Communications) took a step back and looked at what the BPA could do better. One of the key things to come out of the meeting was a desire for the BPA to focus on retention. Each year around 750 new A Certificates are issued, yet full BPA membership stays fairly static at around 5,000 members. So who are the 750 members that we must be losing each year? Are they people who have left due to time or money constraints, and who would have gone anyway? Or is there something we could do about it?

Hi Liz

I've been a BPA member for several years now but in that time only managed to get in 60 or so jumps and three levels of WARP. Now, this is mostly to do with my commitment but I feel our sport, if I can claim a part of it, suffers in the lower levels of teaching and nurturing the newbies like myself into the bigger picture. I have an A Certificate so in theory I'm let loose, I'm qualified, I'm safe and I'm left to start the quest of finding instructors who within their busy schedule of teaching AFF or flying tandem will squeeze the new guy in; this is not as easy as it sounds! The irony sings out! I feel that unless you're a B Certificate with FS1 or above you are frowned upon when boarding the plane as you jump on your own and everyone has to work around your solo jump, yet to gain the qualification can sometimes be far harder than gaining your A Certificate.

*The Skydive Mag* itself is full of very interesting features and articles but is all written by pros for pros, yes I know you cover safety on various different things and formation procedures, but is there anything in our *Mag* that comes from the newbie or in fact relates on a simple term to the next generation of our sport? I think not!

So the reason for my mail is to offer you, with the help of your editorial skills, a write-up of a newbie's experience within our sport and my feelings of what a new person feels and what could help change the sport to accommodate the next generation. Perhaps then this sport will blossom into the next big thing.



*Joining a team can give your jumping a real focus. Here Wez films Satori Blue, aka Fox Fource*

I wonder, of those 750 members that leave the BPA each year, how many leave because of problems like this one. And, more importantly, is there something we could do about it? Stu Ferguson takes up the story...

## Integration is what you need

One of the biggest subjects raised both online and offline is the concept of retention. It is no secret that the number of skydivers in the UK has remained somewhat static over the past five to 10 years, seemingly unmoved by wars, recessions and weather trends.

Retention is something that I have been passionate about since I started skydiving. As an ex-university club president and club scene addict, I was always keen to promote retention in general and often wonder if there is something more we as a culture can do to aid retention in our sport – after all, more jumpers is absolutely the best thing that can happen to our sport.

Each DZ demographic has a different idea of whose responsibility it is to maintain the interest and progression of both up-and-coming skydivers and experienced jumpers alike. Many suggest it is the DZOs who should push harder, others suggest it is the skydiver themselves who needs to be driven.

Others place the ball in the park of the new skydiver.

There is merit in each of the three ideas of course – DZs could gain financially by making the sport popular, new skydivers do need to help themselves, and what skydiver can resist the feel of a busy, boogie-feel DZ, every weekend? We all love to surround ourselves with fellow jumpers.

If we step back a second, though, and really think, what if it was the responsibility of all these groups?

## What can DZ management do?

As a DZ professional, you have huge potential to change the way skydiving is seen to externals. Professional attitudes define how the real world sees us, so let's give them a good impression from the get-go. Remember that this is an escape for most people from their nine to five jobs in cyberspace or wherever they find their green, so let's provide a good weekend away for people, every weekend. It has to be a pleasure to jump at your DZ, or why would you bother? This goes for the casual Tandem skydiver, to the Johnny Regular who jumps every single weekend.

You can also provide sufficient events to act as melting pots for new and experienced



Jumpers that have fun tend to stay in the sport. Photo by James Stevenson



## Experienced skydivers play an equally pivotal role in retention. Every single one of us started with a first skydive

jumpers to mix and match. Considered scrambles? Both FS and now FF varieties exist and are a great way to mix it up and get people talking. Provide some good social events! Let people mix, play games, have fun... opening the bar is not enough!

One of the lossiest areas is the patch between A Certificate and FS1. A lot of people manage to qualify, only to seemingly lose interest and drift off. This is something we have tried to combat at my home DZ, with a loose mentoring system where jumpers are introduced to coaching as soon as possible after their A Certificate and pushed to get involved with groups to skydive. This need not be an expensive setup, but its success relies on finding someone enthusiastic to push newcomers forward. Solos, though always useful, get tedious pretty quickly if not supported by coaching or group fun jumping!

### What can experienced jumpers do?

Experienced skydivers play an equally pivotal role in retention. Every single one of us started with a first skydive, which, in honesty, though we don't like to speak about it much, probably sucked! Cast your mind back to how it was when you were the new kid on the block – scary stuff. It's easy to acquire a comfortable social status for some people, but it's also easy to sequester yourself in an experienced group and forget what it is like on the other side – trust me, it's much easier to extend friendship from a group you are part of, than get into one from the outside! Put yourself out there, say hi to newcomers and reap the benefits – it really is worth it!

### What can inexperienced jumpers do?

If you are the inexperienced jumper who is looking to get involved then you must hold some responsibility for your integration – don't be shy, and don't expect people to run up to you and hold your hand – the DZ is a busy, complex animal of social and political intrigue. Get out there and get integrated, it is so important!

Ultimately, retention in this sport is down to all of us, so next time you're at the DZ, why not extend a hello to a lower-experience jumper? And if you are that low-experience jumper, step up and be brave – I haven't seen many jumpers bite, well, not during the day at least!

Get involved! It will revolutionise your skydiving!

**Stubert Ferglstein,**  
FS Coach and organiser





We can learn a lot from the BCPA's approach, as they seem to be good at retention... and bar games!



### What can the BPA do?

BPA Council member Steve Saunders explains: "We found during discussions that there is an area after students attain their A Certificate where they then find themselves in a state of limbo. It is potentially one area when we lose members either by financial constraints of the sport, or being disillusioned by not knowing what their next goal should be. We would like to put together a strategy where these early skydiving members can be helped to achieve their next goal, which in reality is often B Certificate. Although I can't imagine any centre not striving to help their club members to achieve these goals we are trying to suggest ways of helping these members at this crucial time in their development to encourage them to stay in the sport.

"The question posed is "how do we go about implementing this idea and is it worthwhile?" Council already has some plans in place but feedback from members on this would help the Council to refine their strategy, which would hopefully have a beneficial impact on not only present but future membership.

"If you, as a skydiver, have found yourself in this position and think that this is a good idea, please feedback to your CCI, your Council or *The Mag*."

### Some suggestions already in the pipeline... what do you think?

- BPA Briefing Roadshows where you can guarantee to get briefings such as CH1, CH2 and JM1?
- A customer service module as part of all instructor courses?
- A welcome/info pack to be sent with new A Certificates?
- Send us your ideas!

### What can *The Mag* do?

Between student status and B Certificate can be a tough time. There is a lot to learn and a lot of questions to find answers to. What kit should I buy? Which stickers should I be working towards next? What is my knife actually for? Why am I not allowed to wear a full face, jump with whoever I like, take my camera up with me? What CAN I do?

So I am going to put a couple of pages aside each Mag for a new Progression Zone feature. It will be a place where these questions can be asked and answered, where students can write in about their experiences and coaches can write in giving answers. It will highlight dates of coaching events, have snippets of Did You Knows and Top Tips, suggest fun and useful jumps to try, and much more.

### What can you do?

Get involved! Send in your feedback – is this the right thing for the BPA to be focusing on? If you're progressing towards your A or B Certificate, send in your questions, ideas and experiences. If you're an experienced jumper, coach or instructor, send in your Top Tips or even an article.

[editor@skydivethemag.com](mailto:editor@skydivethemag.com)





By Mick Thornley

# GETTING **A COACH**

Early on in their skydiving journey *Unagi* set their goals, one of which was to invest in quality coaching. The team invested in Julia Foxwell (current British 4-way National champion), who has a proven track record and subsequently coached *Unagi* for three years. It is a given that *Unagi* wouldn't have achieved their goals if they hadn't employed quality coaching and this has certainly help build solid foundations for their future skydiving. There are, however, many questions a team might ask themselves before employing a coach and this article will hopefully help you understand the value of such an addition to your team

## Do we get a coach?

Quality vs. quantity. I often hear "we're not going to get a coach, we'll put the money towards jumping", which is fine if fun jumping and airtime are your only interest. I would argue, however, that a coach, even if only for a weekend, will enable you to progress significantly. This is fun in itself and we all want to become better skydivers. Imagine the exit you're trying, jump after jump, but it just won't fly, the block move you just can't master and have the bruises to prove it. I've forgotten how many time a coach has suggested a change of foot placement in the door, or a pause at the start of the block and, voila, there it is, nailed; how cool was that? There's no right or wrong answer here, but it's definitely worth understanding the value of a coach, whatever your level.

## What does a coach bring to the party?

Delivering tuition of the mechanics of formation skydiving is only the tip of the iceberg; a good coach gives a team so much more than technical information. These points are more relevant to team training but can also apply to short-term one-off coaching:

- **Team management** – Essentially all you have to do is turn up, listen to your coach and perform. Your coach will organise your team, manifest you, make sure you're in the right place at the right time and manage you.
- **Decision making** – Just do as you're told, the coach is generally right and will make most of your decisions for you! How many jumps are you going to do, what type of

jumps they'll be, when you should have a day off and so on. Having to make decisions can be tiring and get stressful – let the coach lead the way and do it for you. You do of course have an opinion, and they will listen.

- **Team efficiency** – Coaches are great at maximising team efficiency, which you'll soon pick up and manage yourself without realising it. Everything in your daily routine is tackled efficiently, from your preparation, walking and creeping to jumping and debriefing. Additionally, tips on energy levels and the mental approach to skydiving are all important aspects of your team training where your coach will have invaluable input.

- **Team cohesion (skills)** – We're all human, we all have our strengths and weaknesses, and often there might be one particular team



## Coaches are great at maximising team efficiency, which you'll soon pick up and manage yourself without realising it



By Mick Thornley



By Mick Thornley

member who's struggling in a certain area, causing frustration within the team. A coach can identify with that and quickly bring the team back down to ground zero, spreading the learning curve across the team, allowing everyone to realise there's a lot to learn and ultimately bring the team on together.

• **Expectation management** – Often we set ourselves unrealistic goals, be they our end-of-season average or how many jumps we're going to aim for on the next training camp. Setting realistic goals is a challenge in itself. Staying positive throughout your training, even through those low points, is another and is one your coach will understand only too well. Having an experienced coach on board will make the rocky road a smoother path to tread!

### Who to choose

I'm of the opinion that a good skydiver doesn't necessarily make a good coach, and there is much to consider before employing one:

• **Budget** – You get what you pay for and you should factor that into your training budget – although we all want the best, do we need the best? Cut your cloth to suit your needs, but make sure you get the balance right in order to get value for money. An old saying

goes "don't spoil the ship for a ha'porth of tar", which basically means don't ruin a good project (your training) by cutting corners!

• **Reputation** – Team confidence will be high if employing a reputable coach rather than an unknown quantity. Read and ask around, as teams with previous experience will be able to guide you best.

• **Respected** – Your team must respect the coach in their own right. There will be times when you feel yourself questioning the coach which, although sometimes productive, can quickly turn and become detrimental to progression. The ability to retain that level or respect and trust in their judgement is easier when a team looks up to their mentor.

• **Relationship** – Ultimately a team's goal is to progress, but a team and their coach must clearly bond to achieve best output, especially if they are to spend the season together. I don't know any team who haven't liked their coach but employed them anyway because of their ability to up their average. Be mindful, however, that familiarity can breed contempt so don't be surprised if the coach you choose, however friendly, wants to keep that professional boundary; it's for everyone's benefit and generally works, so don't take it personally.

• **Coaching style** – Most coaches have a natural coaching style forced by their character; some are over-critical and harsh, while some overdo the positive feedback. We, on the other hand, all have our individual learning styles – some of us need positive reinforcement, while some of us need hard facts to focus the mind. How to get the best out of an individual is a skill: coaching and mentoring is a big deal in employment and skydiving is no different. A good coach will be able to address these considerations, delivering positive and negative coaching points throughout, thereby maximising your team's physical and mental progression.

• **Continuity** – Ideally all of the above boxes are ticked and you've identified your coach. Whether you want a coach for a few weekends or a season, sticking with the same coach provides valuable continuity. Your previous experience, technique and strengths are all known quantities and this allows steady progression without the need to reinvent the wheel.

### Summary

Employing a coach has clear merits. It will take a bit of homework and financial commitment, but will erase all the routine hassles of team training. More importantly it is guaranteed to develop your individual and team skydiving skills, while ensuring you have great fun throughout the season.

Glen Lowerson

Marco Arrigo coaching Brit Chicks at the 2011 World Cup, by Rob Frost





# Funshine Boogie Resurrection

What happens when you take a big fat dollop of fun and add it to a giant slab of beautiful Spanish sunshine? You get the Funshine Boogie, of course, a recipe for complete freely deliciousness!

The boogie, held over five days at Skydive Spain from 14-18 September, was organised by the dynamic duo that is Mikey Carpenter (*Volare*) and Jim Harris (*Bad Lieutenants*) and was the first Funshine Boogie in 18 months (hence "the Resurrection").

It was my taste of 'Funshine pie'. I'd heard nothing but great reports from previous attendees. My expectations were high, and I was expecting nothing other than complete awesomeness. So to have the boogie meet – and actually exceed – all expectations, was unexpected. This was quite simply the most fun skydiving boogie I've attended.

The recipe for success on the surface is pretty simple, but key to this is a number of factors being brought together to create an outstanding event. Ultimately, this boogie stands out for one key reason – the emphasis, as the name suggests, is all about having FUN! This is a great boogie to chill out, not put yourself or each other under intense pressure to perform, and basically just get back to the basics – enjoying the thrill and challenge of well-organised freely jumps!

## I think the key ingredients for the boogie's success were:

**Excellent coaches and organising**  
With Mikey and Jim on the roster, we were already off to a flying start but add Mat Hill (*Kristal*), and Håvard Flaate (*Skywalkers*), and you begin to move into cherries-on-icing-on-cake territory. All these guys are not only great coaches and flyers, but they were all able to quickly understand the dynamic of the group they were working with, ensuring a great mix of challenge and fun was injected into each jump. At the end of each day, everyone was encouraged to congregate in the bar to see what cool stuff had made it to the day tape, and Jim and Mikey also put on a few events at local restaurants, which promoted a good social element to the boogie.

## Limited slots

The jumper-to-coach ratio was kept low at 6:1. This was great as it kept the coaches focused on smaller groups, and with less people it meant we could try more challenging jumps. It's not easy to keep groups engaged and challenged when you have mixed experience levels, but the limited slots and expert coaching helped here, allowing individuals to work within their group, while also challenging and pushing themselves.

## Great aircraft and facilities

The dropzone's tenacity shone through one morning when one of the Dornier engines wasn't starting. Hannah was straight on the phone to the engineer, taking advice and trying to fix the issue. Meanwhile, the Finist pilot came back into work on his day off to get the other plane in the air. Mishka produced some awesome day tapes for us. All in all, these guys are great and don't mess around!

## Fantastic weather

The 'shine' part of 'Funshine' definitely played its part! The idea was to make at least 35 jumps across the boogie's five days. Our 35th jump was made just before 6pm on the last day. We had approximately three hours of bad weather across the entire trip – it was generally wall-to-wall sunshine and 30-plus degrees every day. Waking up and having almost a 100 per cent certainty of being able to jump all day was just fantastic.

## The jumps and the jumpers

This was 100 per cent, not-from-concentrate, no artificial additives, pure freely goodness! Each morning started with the same formula – a choice to do head-up, head-down or tracking – but the organisers really pushed the boundaries with their groups. There were tracking pylon



races (around a lead and rear tracker), space ball jumps, innovative head-up transition jumps, steep tracing dives, vertical sequentials, massive two- and three- tube carveroos, two plane 24-way tracking jumps – the list goes on. Every jump was lip-smacking delicious, and my mind was blown at how they just seemed to get better and better as the boogie went on.

Finally, it was a great bunch of people attending the event, and we all enjoyed jumping with old and new friends alike. Everyone in the groups I flew with came away beaming, having learnt loads and having had a huge amount of fun doing so.

It's difficult to think of one particular highlight, but one thing that stood out for me was going out on my first space ball jumps. Håvard organised these brilliantly, and really threw out some interesting concepts, involving tracking, movement and playing with the space ball, all on the same jump. It left a palpable taste of what it feels like to truly fly and be dynamic in the air, and they were some of the most fun and challenging jumps I've had in years.

Thank you to all the jumpers, all the staff at Skydive Spain, the coaches, and especially Mikey and Jim for what was, quite simply, a fantastic boogie. I'm already hungry for more of that sweet, sweet Funshine pie, and will hopefully see you all soon for a second helping!

**Dave Geffin**

**To add your name to the Funshine Boogie mailing list and receive information about upcoming events e-mail: [funshineboogie@gmail.com](mailto:funshineboogie@gmail.com)**



*All freefall photos by Jim Harris*



By Andrew Lovemore

# Dunkeswell Boogie

Six days of non-stop skydiving from 15,000ft, two Beech 99s, lots of new friends to make, night-time drinks and parties and load organising from some of the world's best... how can you say no? So when my fellow Wild Geese Skydivers suggested a trip across the water to sample some Twin Beech Boogie action at Dunkeswell, I immediately made plans to be there!

I was definitely not disappointed! Although weather conditions on the first day of the boogie meant there were only two loads and lots of impatient skydivers staring at the windsock, the remaining days certainly made up for it. Jan's Beech joined the Black Beech on Wednesday and it was all go. I was very impressed by the fast turnarounds, the dedication of the load organisers, the friendliness of the DZ staff and, quite simply, the quality of the jumps. We had so much fun at the same time as learning new skills.

As a freeflyer I felt incredibly lucky to benefit from the superb load organising by Andy Lovemore, Tim Porter, Pete Brooks and Steve Howes. Every jump was worthwhile and progressive. There was also plenty of excitement with tubes, streamers, high-fives, super-fast tracking and even some mid-

freefall snack time. Tony Uragallo kept the wingsuiters happy and my belly-flying buddies were similarly satisfied with their organising from Dave Lewis and Pete Stone. There were 4-way, big-way and even Beech 99 two-plane formation loads! First in Europe, I hear? But who owes the beer? The spectacle was certainly impressive to watch from the ground, never mind the fab photos and video footage captured from those jumpers on either plane.

Of course, such a notorious boogie never passes without plenty of drama! We had ankle injuries (best not to drag your toe until the grass is cut... eh Wiggy?), tree surgeons and cherry pickers retrieving canopies, dodgy

singing (don't quit the skydiving Andy) and hilarious impromptu video competitions. Numerous skydiving achievements were also heard regularly over the tannoy. Congratulations to all those who completed AFF or who achieved FS1, FF1 and FF2.

After such an enjoyable boogie, 10 Irish skydivers have vowed to return to Dunkeswell again. Thanks once more to the world-class load organising and the friendly DZ staff. You made us feel very welcome and we had a wonderful experience. We are already planning our next trip!

**Eiméar Femur (you English never pronounce my name right :))**

By Rob Franklin



“Guys, what's the plan? Can I jump with you?”

By Andrew Lovemore



By Andrew Lovemore

on camera and Ryan as part of the formation. The dive went great and was so much fun, despite me getting surprised on exit at the speed of the Beech – I had forgotten all about that! So our dive was the first descent of the first load of the boogie. Excellent!

On the Wednesday I had four dives with Dave Lewis with the expectation of building some simple 10-12-ways with three or four points and then moving onto larger groups – the idea was that there would be a twin Beech formation by the end of the week no matter how many were on the dive. I had one really good dive with the group but was starting to feel the pressure with the big groups and that the skill level was a bit too advanced for me. Load 13 was the last dive for me with this group and as (bad) luck would have it, Dave Scott chopped on the dive and, as this was his first, beer was to be bought! I don't know what shocked him more: the fact that he had to chop, or there was a bright pink reserve above his head.

The twin Beech formation took place, and what a sight to see. I was excited watching from the ground. The planes had a large FS formation and a large tracking group split between them. This was the first time that two Beech 99s had flown in formation for skydiving ever, and if not in the world, in Europe at least. The fly-by after made the dive a little bit more special. Such a sight!

Phil Bannon was awarded FF1 and Aaron Cosbey was awarded FF2. Sandra McMurren decided to return two weeks later and was awarded FF1. Well done! Thanks to the staff and jumpers at Skydive UK Ltd for having us. It was a great experience and we will be back soon!

Myself, Dave Scott and Tom Darkoh manifested a 3-way, eager to get in the air and try out the Black Beech. One of the resident jumpers at Dunkeswell approached and the first thing he said was: "Guys, what's the plan? Can I jump with you?" So we now had a 4-way and, after a quick introduction had learnt that this jumper was actually Pete Stone, a world record holder in FS including the POPS and SOS records. I was excited to be jumping with someone with the wealth of knowledge in FS that he has.

The dive was made up with two more local jumpers Ryan and Roger, with Roger

Neal Fitzpatrick

WE CARRY ALL MAJOR MANUFACTURERS' PRODUCTS!

# Para Gear

SERVING THE WORLD FOR OVER 50 YEARS!

EQUIPMENT COMPANY

BRAND NEW FROM PARAGEAR

PARA GEAR'S  
**GOT IT IN STOCK READY TO SHIP**



**NEW! EDGE**  
OPEN-FACE HEADBEAR  
FROM SKYSYSTEMS  
#L14401

**NEW! CAM-X**  
CAMERA HEADBEAR  
FLAT SIDES AND TOP FOR MOUNTING  
W/ CHINLUP FROM SKYSYSTEMS  
#L14405

**COOKIE GAS**  
FULL-FACE HEADBEAR  
CARBON FIBER FINISH STANDARD  
**ON SALE NOW!** #L5701

**COOKIE B**  
FULLFACE HEADBEAR  
NEW DESIGN FLIP UP LENS  
#L5733

**HR4**  
OPEN-FACE HEADBEAR  
STANDARD COLORS  
#L4341

**BH REVOLVE**  
FULL-FACE HEADBEAR  
FULL FACE & LENS FLIP UP  
AND OUT OF THE WAY  
#L5132



**NEW! PARAGEAR**  
HEADBEAR BAG  
BLACK ONLY. POCKETED FOR ACCESSORIES  
#L12305



**BH OPTIK 210**  
CAMERA HEADBEAR  
FLAT SIDES AND TOP W/ SPOT  
FOR RYFYE OR DOMEYE BUTTON  
#L16177



**BH HELL'S HALO**  
CAMERA HEADBEAR  
FLY SIDES AND TOP FOR MOUNTING  
UNIQUE TIGHTENING SYSTEM  
#L16168



**CONTOUR BOX**  
WATERPROOF ENCLOSURE  
A MOUNTABLE WATERPROOF BOX  
FOR THE CONTOUR CAMERAS.  
#L12702  
Specify Camera Model



**CONTOUR +**  
COMPACT HD VIDEO CAMERA  
#L12720



**CONTOUR ROOM**  
COMPACT HD VIDEO CAMERA  
#L12705



**CONTOUR GPS**  
COMPACT HD VIDEO CAMERA  
#L12715



**CONCEPTUS BITE OR TONGUE SWITCH**  
ACTIVATION SWITCHES FOR CANON DIGITAL PLUS & OTHER 2.8MM FLUSH CAMERAS  
CANON DIGI-PLUG #L1332  
2.5MM PLUG #L1331  
CANON DIGI-PLUG #L1333  
2.5MM PLUG #L1334

**EVOLUTION FREELY SUIT**

OFF-THE-SHELF  
HIGH QUALITY JUMPSUIT  
NO WAITING!!!  
S-M-L-XL-XXL SIZES  
#L11199



**NEW! PARAGEAR**  
WEIGHT-BELT  
BLACK ONLY. SM-MED-LG SIZES  
SMALL - 23.5" - 28" WAIST (70cm - 72cm)  
MEDIUM - 28" - 33.5" WAIST (72cm - 85cm)  
LARGE - 33.5" - 37" WAIST (85cm - 94 cm)  
#L11425



**TRACE 103**  
NTSC DVD  
#VB1103



**CHILDREN OF THE CORN 2**  
NTSC DVD  
#VB2010



**NEW! VASST**  
ADENALIZE AUDIO CD  
30 ROYALTY FREE SONGS/MUSIC FOR  
YOUR HIGH ADRENALINE PRODUCTIONS  
#VB0822

- CONTAINERS -
- CANOPIES -
- ACCESSORIES -
- RIGGING -
- HARDWARE -

VISIT  
**PARAGEAR.COM**



**NEW! PARAGEAR GEAR BAGS**  
LARGE OR MEDIUM GEAR BAGS. BLACK ONLY. SPECIFY SIZE WHEN ORDERING  
LARGE #N12340 MEDIUM #N12330



**FLYSIGHT**  
ADVANCED AERO BPS  
PROVIDES REAL-TIME  
AUDIBLE INDICATION OF  
GLIDE RATIO AS WELL AS  
HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL SPEEDS!  
#11482



**GO PRO**  
HD HELMET HERO  
DIGITAL HEADBEAR CAMERA  
MULTIPLE MOUNT WITH MULTIPLE  
PLACEMENT/ ANGLES  
#L12601



**Royal Lens**

**SuperLow diamond .3x** **SuperLow platinum .2x**



LOW PROFILE 0.3X LENS #L1316  
LOW PROFILE 0.2X LENS #L1320  
LOW PROFILE 0.5X LENS #L1318  
LOW PROFILE 0.5X LENS #L1318  
LOW PROFILE 0.5X LENS #L1318  
LOW PROFILE 0.5X LENS #L1318

2011-12 CATALOG AVAILABLE NOW!

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS AND FOR ANY AMOUNT!



FOUNDING MEMBER **PIA**  
**Para Gear**

**www.PARAGEAR.COM**  
3839 West Oakton Street | Skokie, Illinois 60076 USA  
PHONE: 847-679-5905 | FAX: 847-679-8644



Photo by Mark Harris



Brit cameraman Mark Harris, by Drunken Sqwrl Productions



# 36-way vertical wingsuit diamond

## Skydive Carolina

### The plan

Flying in a no-contact flat diamond formation is not easy. Ask the Red Arrows! Flat wingsuit formations are challenging in precision flying, but the forward speed of wingsuits opens possibilities for relative flying that are just not possible with FS suits. The target for this event was to use those possibilities to build a 36-way vertical formation, evenly spaced in a diamond grid.

### Weather

You know when you are going abroad for a skydiving event, and the weather forecast shows clear blue skies and bright sunshine? Well that didn't happen this time!

The forecast for the first three days showed thunderstorms, with blue skies for the Saturday and Sunday. So, we anticipated lots of dirt-diving, visualising and sitting around, and a big rush to achieve a result within eight jumps.

### Day one

The first morning was not a surprise. Low mist, light rain and thick cloud did not make for a promising start. However, after a warm welcome from DZO James Le Barrie, this gave us time to go over the plan for the week. The event organisers Ed Pawlowski, Scott Callantine, Justin Shorb and Tim Hedderich briefed us on warm-up jumps of 10-12 ways, then 16-18 ways, practising the spacing, the reference points, and the danger areas before attempting 35-36 ways from two planes.

Flat-flyers would be VERY uncomfortable looking down at someone directly beneath them, whereas for wingsuits the turbulent place to be is about 45 degrees above and behind the suit in front.

Everyone in the sky had different issues to overcome, even the cameraflyers.

Starting with the base, the aim is to keep a constant speed, fall rate and direction so that everyone else can manoeuvre around a stable point.

The front row only has one reference point to keep them in line. They had to keep the person six feet below them, 45 degrees to the side, and about one or two feet behind. The whole formation is supposed to lean slightly forward, similar to a CRW stack.

Everyone behind the front row has to get to their slot past the burble of the person below, and be careful not to fall back into it. Then stay three feet forward of the person directly below, at 45 degrees below, and also occasionally to the side at the same level. All of this to avoid creating a burble for the people above you. Every movement causes a reaction in the flyers using you as a reference.

The cameramen have a different problem. From the front, the ideal shot would be from about 45 degrees down from the middle of the formation. As you can imagine, this would not



Drunken Sqwrl Productions

make them popular, or give them anything stable to film, although it would be entertaining to watch the panicked look on the faces of the people in the formation as they experienced that uncomfortable, bouncy, unstable feeling of being in a burble and dropped out of the sky.

The cloud was looking solid, so the group was released until 2pm, leaving a number to be called back in case the weather broke. Those of us that stayed were rewarded with a couple of gaps in the clouds that allowed for a 20-way mixed flat and vertical formation, with a successful jump proving the ability of this select group. The rest of the group returned on schedule, and we broke

up into the three groups as planned, and with the cloud everyone got their first real chance to test the precision required of them with a couple of 10-12 way jumps.

### Day two

Thursday 22 September started with clear blues skies and warm sunshine.... in the UK. In South Carolina they were having the worst stretch of bad weather that they had known. It had never rained so many days in a row. The group were again released until 2pm. That afternoon we put in another three jumps, each one improving on the last. The exit speed got better, everyone got to their slot quicker, giving more time to fine-tune their position and get used to the reference angles and distances.

### Day three

Just for a change, the day started with a nice refreshing rain shower. Driving in with U2 blasting out "it's a beautiful day" over the noise of the rain was a flawed attempt at influencing the weather, but good for an early morning laugh. We waded through a flooded dropzone to confirm when we would be released until, and then went exploring again. Starting jumping in the afternoon seemed to focus minds, and each jump was more finely tuned than the one before. Watching the other groups from the ground was impressive too, and looking up at a tight group moving across the sky, seeing clear straight lines of jumpers created a sense of rivalry and pushed everyone to their best performance. The three jumps for each group convinced the organisers that we were ready for multi-plane loads. Oscar had put the experience of his first jump behind him, where his swaying from side-to-side created random burbling and earned him the nickname of the Osca-lator, but had now found his form.

Almost on cue, the clouds disappeared, and with clear blue skies finally above us, almost mocking our timing, we spent the last hour of daylight slotting and dirt-diving a multi-plane 35-way. The run-outs, sheep-dogging, red-zone, referencing from the base and staggered break-off are all familiar for people used to flat big-ways, with a few minor differences.



With flat big-ways, to get a realistic view of the formation you make it flat, and lie everyone down on the floor. With a wingsuit vertical formation, just standing upright behind the people that will be below you, is a pretty good simulation of the views you want to get familiar with. The only improvement we could make is to put it on a 30-degree slope, to simulate the slight lean forward of the stack.

The base of a flat big-way will run straight out of the lead plane and then stop, so that the lines of jumpers from the other planes can approach from their exit frame. The base of a wingsuit diamond formation is one person and the formation moves at 90 degrees to the left of line of flight. To get a better idea of how the visuals change, even on the dirt-dive, the base keeps moving during the build and staggered break-off. After a thorough preparation, we left the dropzone on Friday night on a high and eagerly awaiting the predicted good weather for the weekend.



Drunken Sqwrl Productions



Drunken Sqwrl Productions



Photo by Mark Harris

#### Day four

Would you be surprised if Saturday did not give us the clear blue start that was promised? No? We weren't that shocked either. On the bright side, there was a bright side to the clouds, and for the first time that week, we were able to jump as a group before lunch.

The two-plane formation had a Grand Caravan as the lead plane, and the Twin Otter as the trail, flying to the right and above the lead. This is different to flat big-way formations for two reasons. The trail plane has slightly further to travel, and the extra height allows the divers to pick up more forward speed with a steeper descent. The other reason is to reduce the risk

if someone has an unstable exit and flies off to the right of the plane; the last thing they'd want to do is scare the pilot of the trail plane.

The quickest way to clear the floaters and get stable exits when wingsuiting is one at a time, starting from the back, with the camera flyer if there is one. With two planes, the rear float on the trail planes watch the lead plane, and the rest of the floaters watch the person directly behind them. In this case, we had Mark Harris, hanging by his fingertips, looking under the wing of the Otter for movement from the Caravan.

When the lead plane decided to wait a few minutes for a clear gap through the clouds, witnesses reported seeing his face contort into shapes that a gurning champion would have been proud of.

The video debrief of the first jump showed people were being cautious when there was movement in the formation, with gaps towards the top a little more than on the dirt-dive.

After four attempts on Saturday, there was great progress, but we couldn't quite nail everything at the same time. A couple of jumps looked SO close from the rear view, but not quite lined up into a grid. We figured another jump or two should put it all together. A last dirt-dive on Saturday night kept us visualising ready for the last day.

Skydive Carolina introduced the group to their signature dish that night: Walk-about Tacos. This consisted of a couple of bags of nachos each,

filled with spicy hot mince, cheese, and salad, and proved very popular.

Sunday proved to have the worst weather of the whole week. No jumps were possible, so we left with our target just out of reach. Skydive Carolina had fully committed their resources, but could not be accountable for the freaky weather. Better luck next time.

This event reiterated that vertical non-contact formations are tough. The degree of tolerance in your flying slot is very slim, and there is much more pressure on the camera flyers to find an angle that shows the best of the formation. Because of the three dimensions of the formation, what looks a jumbled mess from one angle could be almost perfect from another. There is much to be learned in this discipline, and much fun to be had...

**Rob Gray**



Drunken Sqwrl Productions

**Everyone behind the front row has to get to their slot past the burble of the person below, and be careful not to fall back into it**

The hearty **DZ**  
in the heart of **EU**

Free DZ transportation from  
Brno Intl. Airport  
\*) low cost tickets to Brno Airport  
(e.g. RyanAir London 20,99€)

**Jump ticket**  
from 21,5€ / 14.000ft

## 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

- VECTOR FESTIVAL (19. 6. - 24. 6.)
- CYPRES CUP (18. 7. - 22. 7.)
- OPEN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP - FS, AE (27. 8. - 2. 9.)
- EURO BIGWAY GIRLS (14. - 17. 6.)
- FREEFLY COURSES
- CANOPY PILOTING COURSES
- WORLD TEAMS TRAINING CAMPS - AE, FS (July-August)

# DROPZONE

## PROSTĚJOV



Photo by Rolf „Kuri“ Kuratle, Babylon



Photo by Matteo Arteni

**CYPRES 2**



[www.dropzoneprostějov.com](http://www.dropzoneprostějov.com)

# Something a bit different



Left: Andrew Lovmore (centre), Major Hamid (blue shirt), Syed Ajmal (red jumpsuit next to Andrew) and Soobay Khan (red jumpsuit behind Andrew)



**In July 2011 three Brits, Andrew and Michael Lovmore and Peter Huskins, became the first skydivers to jump over the Swat Valley in Pakistan. They made history by parachuting with one of the largest flags ever to be jumped over the beautiful and troubled valley in northern Pakistan**

The Swat Valley has been a battleground between Taliban militants and the Pakistani army for years until 2009, when the army announced the retreat of the Taliban, bringing an end to their strict interpretation of Sharia law. Still the mention of Swat Valley will conjure images of lawlessness and Islamic fundamentalism.

The lush Swat Valley, which lies near the Afghan-Pakistan border, used to draw

wealthy tourists to its natural beauty of high mountains, lakes, rivers and green valleys, which have earned it the nickname of Asia's Switzerland. The Swat River springs from the Hindu Kush mountains and flows southwards through the area's main town Mingora in the Khyber Pakhtun-khwa province. The many historical sites around Saidu Sharif show how the river has been the lifeblood of the area for over 3,000 years, irrigating the Swat's

staple crops of wheat and rice which provide livelihood to around 90 per cent of the population. However, as much as the river can give it can take away, and in 2010 parts of the Swat Valley were devastated by the massive floods that hit northern Pakistan.

Hamid Raza, ex-Army Major, has for years dreamed of having civilians able to skydive in Pakistan. In 2002 Major Hamid founded the Hawk Gliding Club in Islamabad which promotes adventure sports and air sports including paragliding, hang gliding and paramotoring. Over the last few years Steve Park and Ralph Mitchell have been working with Hamid and his team at Hawkgliding to make his dream a reality, including a couple of demo jumps arranged to promote the idea.

Until now there has officially only been military parachuting in Pakistan, with much of the training being carried out abroad, in Turkey for example.

Among other promotions Hamid brought Pakistani pop musician Faakhir Mehmood over to the UK to film a skydiving music video. The 'making of' film of this music video was a big hit on TV stations in Pakistan.

Early in 2011 Andrew Lovemore spent some time in Pakistan working with Hamid at Hawkgliding and negotiating with the Pakistani CAA to allow sport parachuting in the country.

Hamid saw his chance in July this year to showcase sport skydiving on a very public stage during the Spirit of Swat festival. The festival was a 45-day celebration of Swat culture, music, arts and sport to demonstrate that the area is thriving and to draw tourism back to the region. For the first time with sport parachuting being fully legal and accepted we were invited to Pakistan to show off our skills on a few demo skydives, including a flag jump in front of dignitaries, TV cameras and patriotic crowds.

**“ We were escorted at high-speed wherever we went. A pickup with a mounted 50-calibre machine gun and special forces soldiers drove ahead**

After a unscheduled five-hour stop in Lahore airport due to bad weather we eventually arrived in Islamabad and, tired and hungry, we were greeted on the tarmac by an assistant of Major Hamid's. His job as Hamid's 'protocol' guy is just to wait all day every day in the airport in case he's needed. We were immediately immersed in the chaotic hustle and bustle of Islamabad airport, standing out in our Western clothes. That night we were gifted a traditional Pashtun outfit which we wore most of the time we were there. As well as fitting in with the local fashion we also found it was the most comfortable clothing to wear in the 30°C-plus heat. From Islamabad we drove all night to arrive at 5am in the Swat Valley. We were staying in the plush Swat Valley Serena hotel, which was a secure oasis in an area where the AK47 is as common an accessory as sunglasses. We were proudly informed by the hotel manager when he invited us to dine with him that the Queen visited the hotel in 1963.

We were escorted wherever we went. A pickup with a mounted 50-calibre machine gun and half a dozen armed special forces soldiers drove ahead of us forcing all the traffic to part to let us pass at high-speed, inches from tuk tuks, horse-drawn carts and decorated juggernauts. Our driver Syed's skilful manoeuvres earned him the title of 'The best driver in Pakistan'.

On our first day in the Swat Valley we did one jump at Saidu Sharif airport with Soobay Khan and Syed Ajmal Shah; two SSG (Pakistan special forces) soldiers that would be joining us on the next two demo jumps. There was a small crowd of local army officers and personnel and the local air sports club to watch us jump from Hamid's imported piston Islander. From our DZ at



back row L-R: Michael Lovemore, Soobay Khan, Andrew Lovemore. Front row L-R: Syed Ajmal and Pete Huskins





3000ft above sea level we climbed eventually to 8,500agl, did a proper spot out the door and made our first skydive in Pakistan. Needless to say it was a freely jump!

Later as we were passing another bullet-riddled building our convoy stopped and we were invited to get out and take a look at what used to be the Taliban's HQ in the area. With Osama Bin Laden's death three months previously fresh in our memories (which was incidentally only 150 miles from where we were) it brought home to us how volatile and changing this area is. Also the Spirit of Swat festival really showed how the people of the Swat Valley are optimistic for continuing peace in the area.

There are community groups in the area with appointed members who are licensed to carry weapons for protecting their neighbourhoods. They support the work of the police and army and help uncover any Taliban sympathies in the area. It was apt



**Many of the Pakistanis we met were very patriotic and were overwhelmed to see the huge Pakistan flag being flown above their beautiful valley**

then that the next day we would fly a huge Pakistan flag over the valley to remind the people of the valley that this land did indeed belong to the Pakistani people who've worked hard to regain peace.

#### **FLAG JUMP**

Having recced our tight landing area for the flag demo on the banks of the Swat River at an exclusive beauty spot called Grassy Ground, we made our plan and prepared the flag. There were various army and local government dignitaries attending this day of the festival which celebrated air and adventure sports. All of the major TV

networks had journalists covering the event. Two soldiers lifted the 100kg flag bag into the Islander for Andrew to take up the weight on the tandem harness before we flew low above the Swat valley paddy fields. We started the show with a flypast and then climbed to 8000ft.

Soobay and Syed exited first; they flew with smoke, and with perfect accuracy, landed first on the banks of the river. By this time we had exited, deployed our mains and as Andrew unfurled the massive flag we heard gunfire from far below. We realised pretty quickly that it was celebration gunfire but throughout our stay there when out in



That evening we saw ourselves on all the major news broadcasts and were being recognised wherever we went



public we couldn't help being in a state of heightened awareness.

Many of the Pakistanis we met are very patriotic and were overwhelmed to see the huge Pakistan flag being flown above their beautiful valley. Many times we were told what a great thing we've done for their country.

That evening we saw ourselves on all the major news broadcasts and were being recognised now wherever we went and we were called upon to parade the flag through the streets of Mingora.

This was a trip of firsts and the last day was no exception. Before we left to drive back to Islamabad we took a national TV journalist for a tandem skydive. This was also the first time a tricycle has been flown in Pakistan as Andrew flew his trike next to tandem instructor Pete and *Express* news presenter, Sherin Zada. Sadly due to the fact there are no bars in the area we couldn't buy a round of beers for any of the firsts.

So all that was left to do after that was to receive a Spirit of Swat Certificate of Merit for our achievements from federal minister Amir Muqam, then have dinner with Brigadier Saqib Rasheed and head home, exhausted

and proud to have played a part in this pivotal moment in the Swat Valley's cultural history.

**Michael Lovmore**

**Brits involved in the project:**

**Andrew Lovmore**

**Steve Park**

**Ralph Mitchell**

**Pete Huskins**

**Michael Lovmore**

**Photography – Air: M Lovmore**

**Ground: M Lovmore & A Lovmore**





# OPTIMA II

AUDIBLE ALTIMETER  
DEDICATED TO SKYDIVING



Photo: Eric Johnson-MSF

Combine with L&B's Altitrack for total altitude awareness!

### FEATURES:

- Audible altimeter
- Digital accuracy
- 1, 2 or 3 warning alarms
- ~~Water resistant~~
- Variable pitch and volume
- Accessories available
- Long lasting batteries
- Canopy flight alarms
- Visual warning model available
- Set & forget technology
- Easy to use
- Reliable altitude awareness



LARSEN & BRUSGAARD  
www.L-and-B.dk

### FLIGHT PERFORMANCE

Ledreborg Alle 28 • 4000 Roskilde • Denmark • +45 46 48 24 80 • Fax » +45 46 48 24 90 • l-and-b@L-and-B.dk

Don't get stuck behind  
a caravan on the way  
to the BEECH !!!  
Skydive 99.com



The Aviator  
Coffee Bar  
& Restaurant  
JUST OPENED

2012 Events visit  
www.skydive99.com / FB skydive UK Dunkeswell  
Tel: 01404 890 222

**Skygear UK Ltd**  
for all your rigging & gear needs

harrison beaumont  
Insurance

Specialist Insurance  
for your  
**EQUIPMENT  
and  
CLOTHING**



**FREE**  
Water Bottle  
with every policy  
sold online\*

## UK or Abroad?

Specialist Travel &  
Personal Accident Insurance

Single dive / Multi dive

Buy Online at  
[www.hbinsurance.co.uk](http://www.hbinsurance.co.uk)

Call  
0844 875 3506

Quote: SKYA

Harrison Beaumont Insurance Services Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Registration Number 303968.  
Registered office: Globe House, 24 Turret Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP41DL. Registered in England & Wales. Registered Number 4582221. H1088 (0211)

\* One bottle per policy, new business only. The offer is only valid for policies sold online.



# Harry Whitworth

1988-2011

On 15 September, some 350 people gathered at St. Pancras Church, London for the funeral of Harry Whitworth, a true friend and loved son, who died this year while skydiving at Lake Elsinore in California.

Harry was born in Liverpool in October 1988 but for his first two years lived in Sierra Leone where his parents, Dilys and Jimmy, were doctors conducting research into tropical diseases. After a short stop in the UK he was back out again, this time for six years in Uganda. Harry spent more time growing up in Africa than in England – everyone remembers his early interest in people, and his gift to be able to talk to anyone; this mix led naturally on to his fascination with, and flair for, human geography.

He went to Haberdasher Aske's school where his leadership was recognised, along with his robust sporting presence and his buccaneering spirit. Harry then went to King's College London to follow his interest in geography, which included a successful internship at the Royal Geographical Society. Harry was about to start the final year of his degree.

Harry's love of skydiving began when he joined the University of London Officers' Training Corps and had the opportunity to attend an AFF expedition in April 2010 run by the Army Medical Services in California. Harry completed the course, gaining 'best student' award in the process and subsequently received his A certificate. His enthusiasm for the sport was unrelenting and Harry sought to develop his skills as much as possible, spending most of his summer weekends at Netheravon where he progressed toward his B Certificate and

later his FS1. Harry's enthusiasm and efforts were utterly selfless and were reflected in his nurturing of those interested in skydiving at his Officers' Training Corps. Harry helped in the running of an AFF trip to California in September 2010.

The true testament to his character and commitment was to then plan for and assist those jumpers who had recently qualified, to gain their subsequent awards as he himself had done. Harry's willingness to organise courses in Germany and help others, whether it was hiring kit or finding coaches, was a reflection of his passion of the sport and commitment to his friends. His efforts subsequently allowed dozens of his peers to qualify and enjoy the sport, which without such an unrelenting enthusiasm would not have happened.

Harry received full military honours at the funeral service held near to his unit where his commanding officer, Lt. Col. Methven, read a heartfelt eulogy that recounted many of Harry's passions and experiences while at school and university. Also included was a reading of *The Thousandth Man* by Kipling, *The St. Crispin's Day Speech* from Shakespeare's *Henry V* along with a number of prayers and hymns led by Rev. Stephen Williams. For all who attended, the service served as an apt tribute to Harry's love of pomp and ceremony. Harry was later cremated at Islington Cemetery in a private service attended by family and close friends. A wake was held at Harry's unit in Handel Street attended by some 300 individuals who all wished to pay their respects to a man whose enthusiasm for people clearly had a lasting impact on everyone he met.



Our thoughts are with Dilys and Jimmy, Melissa, his wider family and his many, many friends at this difficult time.

So we say goodbye to our comrade and staunchest of friends, sadly taken from us; and remember his love of life, the richness of that life, and his love of people. It is for us to carry that memory forward.

**Will Ferrier**

*Harry sadly died following a low canopy collision in America*



*« Being safe is not about fear, it's about walking through life with your eyes open, senses fully extended, seeing the details that others miss, and having a Vigil is giving us that secure feeling...»*

*Steve & Magali Braff*



*Photo: Jordy Zangerlé*

[www.vigil.aero](http://www.vigil.aero)





**Skydive  
Swansea**

**Open weekends  
throughout the Winter  
and  
27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December**

**tel: 01792 207035  
www.skydiveswansea.co.uk**

**RIGS & THINGS**  
*Paraservice*



For all your skydiving needs!  
**Pay less...  
Skydive more!**

**PROUD SPONSORS OF PATRICK BOULONGNE  
WINNER OF THE FRENCH NATIONALS SWOOP 2011**

www.para-service.com  
Email: info@para-service.com  
Toll free: 1-877-TOP-RIGS  
Phone: 1-239-282-8834  
Fax: 1-239-283-6241

**HARD  
TO BEAT**



**April 3-8 2012**

**WWW.SKYDIVEEXPO.COM**

**Deland, Florida**

**2012**

**KICK START YOUR SEASON WITH FUN,  
SEMINARS, EDUCATION, AND FREE LOAD ORGANIZING**

Hosted by the Skydiving Equipment Manufacturers

Find us on Facebook

**SKYDIVE EXPO**



By Gary Wainwright

# Fran Sweeney

Fran Sweeney made his first skydive in Empuriabrava in 2007. It was a tandem jump and was a huge surprise to me. Previous to that jump my brother's only interest in skydiving was to make fun of the very weird-looking jumpsuits I would wear at weekends. I can remember him saying "I think I could do my AFF course, so long as I don't have to wear one of those ridiculous-looking sausage suits you wear!" Sure enough, on our return to the UK he promptly signed up to do his AFF course at what would become his second home, BPS Langar in Nottingham. It was May and the Go Vertical Freefly Boogie was in full swing. Jumping from the Beech 99 and watching the amazing bar videos that week must have made a big impression on Fran, as freeflying went on to become his passion in life. This year, Fran had travelled to Eloy in Arizona and spent a month there skydiving, tunnel flying and, of course, partying with his friends.

As much as Fran loved skydiving and tunnel flying, the one thing he loved more was his family and friends, he lived to make everyone around him happy and for him this was as effortless as breathing.

I cannot think of a single memory of my brother that is not a happy one. He had a warmth and generosity that made a real difference in the lives of those that knew him. We can all take comfort in the knowledge that Francis never suffered in his life, and was happy, doing what he loved with his friends and family by his side all the way to the end. Shake and Bake Bro!

**Matt Sweeney, brother.**

I never knew what it was like to have a brother, but the relationship I had with Fran was the closest I could have had to that. Fran probably never knew this but I looked up to him in many ways. He was one of the most popular guys on the drop zone, his relaxed and chilled attitude made him many friends and he was the life and soul of every party, getting 100 per cent out of every night and early morning.

Some of the best times I have had over the last few years were with Fran; the balloon jump in Eloy at 6am when we had to drag him out of bed, laughing at him getting his car in the ditch, not once but twice! He was never short of volunteers to help pull it out. Getting soaked at a Black Eyed Peas concert at Alton Towers. And when we saw Paramore live and he wore my jumper all night because he was freezing! Or the time he let me drive his car around the airfield before I had my licence. And too many that I can't even mention.

I'm sure Fran is in a place much 'safer' than here and I hope he saves us all the best seats. Fran will be with us on every lift from now on, and the best thing is he won't have to pay. Fran Sweeney. Legendary.

**Ally Milne, best friend to Fran.**

Fran meant a lot to me but also to everyone he knew, he always had time for everyone – always there to help people in skydiving or any other needs, always cheerful and such an awesome flyer. He lived his life to the full, making every minute count whether it was partying in the nights or jumping in the days. While I miss him loads, I'm so grateful for all the time I got to spend with him, getting to compete with him this year and all the holidays, weekends and nights partying well into the morning in freezing caravans. He loved his skydiving and was always so happy to help others. This year he got his first taste of coaching out in Perris on the BCPA Easter tour and then our first competition at Nationals. He was my closest friend and loved by everyone who knew him; always there with a cheeky grin and one of his famous movie quotes. Shake and Bake, see you in the sky.

**Scott Calcraft, best friend and team-mate**



*Fran died suddenly and unexpectedly from a brain haemorrhage caused by a genetic condition that he didn't know he had. He was 23.*

**THE 15K EXPERIENCE**  
THE UK'S HIGHEST SKYDIVE



**SKYDIVE**  
HIBALDSTOW

**CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 10TH**



**SKYDIVE HIBALDSTOW OPEN FOR JUMPING 6 DAYS A WEEK (CLOSED TUESDAYS)  
UNTIL 18TH DECEMBER : RE-OPEN FOR 2012 ON SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH**

**VISIT OUR STAND AT THE BPA AGM ON 28TH JANUARY 2012**



**PROUD TO BE HOSTING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012**  
4WAY FS & VFS : 11TH-13TH AUGUST 2012 (RESERVE WEEKEND : 18TH-20TH AUG)  
8-WAY FS, ARTISTICS & SPEED : 18TH-20TH AUGUST 2012  
(RESERVE WEEKEND: 25TH-27TH AUG)

**LOOKING FOR THAT LAST MINUTE  
CHRISTMAS PRESENT? OUR NEW CLOTHING  
LINES ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY ONLINE**



**LOOK OUT  
FOR OUR  
STUDENT  
WEEK IN  
JANUARY**

FACEBOOK: BECOME A FAN OF 'SKYDIVE HIBALDSTOW'  
DZ: 01652 648837 / OFFICE: 0113 250 5600 / INFO@SKYDIVING.CO.UK

**WWW.SKYDIVING.CO.UK**

# Skydive Spain



## Christmas Boogie

23 Dec – 01 Jan

- 15,000 feet
  - Super fast Dornier G92 aircraft
  - Formation flying
  - FF, FS, WS load organising
- Jim Harris, Marco Arrigo, Martijn Van Dam.

## Satori Academy Camps

Apr 16-22, May 19-25

## Discounted Team Training Weeks

19 ☒ slots

Feb 18-26, Apr 21-29, May 26-Jun 05,  
Oct 13-21, Nov 10-18

## Black Jack 14way Competition

April 13-15

The first European 14way competition, if you are interested to lead a team please contact us.



## TrackDayz

Jan 14-15, Mar 17-18, May 19-20

## 3 day Canopy Courses

Jan 27-29, Mar 30-01 Apr

## Freefly Essentials

Mar 02-04, Nov 09-11

## Funshine Boogie

Jun 13-17, Oct 03-07



SkydiveSpainOficina



Skydive Spain

Skydive Spain, Aeródromo La Juliana, Bollullos de la Mitación, Sevilla

DZ Tel: +34 687 726 303 UK Tel: 0113 2505600 · info@skydivespain.com [www.skydivespain.com](http://www.skydivespain.com)





Rob Colpus >>



## Not so VIGILant!

AADs continue to be in the news for the wrong reasons as Advanced Aerospace Designs, manufacturers of the Vigil system, have issued three product service bulletins since 4 October, recalling all cutters produced in October 2007.

The background to this recall was an incident in September in Canada where a skydiver failed to deploy his main canopy and his Vigil appeared to have not fired.

During the investigation of the incident it was discovered that the reserve closing loop had not been cut or even trapped by the cutter. The reason for this was that the knife blade within the cutter was missing. Vigil's R&D department confirmed that the electronics worked correctly and fired at the correct time, but because of the total absence of the blade the loop could, of course, not be cut!

This cutter unit was part of a production batch of 299 pieces produced in October 2007.

The company has stated that the operative who normally worked at this post for the cutter manufacturer was replaced at the time this batch was manufactured. The cutter manufacturer confirmed that the problem was caused by human error during assembly. They go on to say: "This should only be looked at as an isolated case, and that this has never occurred before in all the cutters that have been produced for customers including NASA and the US Armed Forces." However, Vigil, of course, is no stranger to problems involving Cutters produced prior to 2008 – they suffered a string of cutter malfunctions in the late noughties.

One involved an incident in Russia in 2008 when the cutter head was blown off and the Vigil had not cut the loop. In another incident in 2009, the bottom of a December 2007, batch cutter separated from the body of the cutter during firing.

A service bulletin was issued by AAD at the time explaining that an error was made at the time of the final crimping of the cutter body.

There were also examples of 2007 batch cutters

failing to activate during dummy test jumps by a harness/container manufacturer. AAD claimed at the time that the batch had been loaded with an inadequate propellant charge, but this entire batch had been accounted for. These were all stated to be "isolated cases".

The current Bulletin calls for the recall of all cutters from the October 2007 batch.

AAD say that this will enable them to personally examine the entire batch before sending it back to the factory for a detailed analysis; they are hoping this will allow them to confirm that this was again an isolated incident.

The company has listed all the serial numbers of the suspect batch and demand that all cutters from this batch be returned to them before the next jump. They will be replaced free of charge.

This list is not exhaustive, however, because some cutters could have been taken off the original Vigil and been used to replace on another Vigil in the field.

Also some cutters could have a silver hologram because they were used for stock or replacement purposes via the company's dealers. Therefore verification on a next repack of the DOM on the cutter should be done. Every cutter with DOM 10-07 must be returned and replaced.

AAD informs us that it has found what it calls an easy way to do additional safety verification in the field. The test can be performed on any Vigil cutter by using a magnet to guarantee the presence of a knife. If there is a knife present the cutter will be attracted to the magnet.

AAD were keen to point out that all Cutters manufactured from June 2008 have been x-rayed to confirm that the knife is present as part of the QC process.

For an extra safety measure they recommend that the magnet test also be carried out on ALL cutters made before June 2008, when the x-ray test was introduced at the quality control stage.

[www.vigil.aero](http://www.vigil.aero)



## Under-lined in Orange

Performance Designs for Florida are now offering a new type of line for their Competition Velocity swooping machine.

The new line, known as Orange Vectran, will be available in 300 and 500 sizes, both utilising 750 for the lower steering lines.

The guys at PD have found through their R&D programme that Orange Vectran yields a longer life than the very short-lived HMA line previously used as a default line on the Comp Velocity, is smaller in diameter and, lastly, is more resistant to abrasion and maintains its strength better than HMA.

All Comp Velocities ordered or currently in production will be fitted with this new line.

Re-Lines with 300 Orange Vectran will be available through PD's maintenance department in Deland or their European centre in Belgium.

500 Orange Vectran Re-lines may be done at the above locations or field replacement line sets may be ordered from a PD Dealer and fitted by a qualified Rigger.

The price of the new line is the same as for 300 HMA (the Orange Vectran is a little more expensive than 500HMA).

[www.thepdblog.com/pdblog/2011/10/competition-velocity-now-available-with-orange-vectran-lines.html](http://www.thepdblog.com/pdblog/2011/10/competition-velocity-now-available-with-orange-vectran-lines.html)

## Argus finale

In recent issues of Kit Zone we've been reporting on the grounding by several rig manufacturers, and subsequently some National organisations including the BPA, of the Argus AAD system after an incident in Texas where an Argus fired but failed to fully sever the closing loop.

Aviacom, the Belgian manufacturers of the Argus, subsequently carried out further tests on their cutter system and have been mediating with US manufacturers with the aim of getting them to lift the ban preventing the Argus from

being used in their systems.

Well, at the end of September, after failing to convince the US rig manufacturers, Aviacom issued notice that they have ceased manufacture of the Argus for sport use. The company complained that rig manufacturers have insisted that a brand-new cutter design must be developed before they would look again at the Argus system. This demand, Aviacom say, will take 18-24 months to produce and cost upwards of US\$100,000, with no guarantee that this will placate those who issued the ban in the first place. They have therefore decided that this is not a viable

option, so the Argus AAD is in effect 'no more', as far as the sport market is concerned.

Aviacom announced, however, that their service centres will still be able to continue with the four-year check-ups, and that the remaining 'old' cutters will be exchanged for free. A limited stock of spare parts will still be available for existing Argus owners.

The company's bulletin announced that the Argus is still allowed for use in the following rigs: Mirage, Wings, Dolphin, Infinity, Next and Basik.

Aviacom claim that the Argus has saved 31 lives since 2005.

[info@aviacom.com](mailto:info@aviacom.com)





by BillSchmitz

# On top down under!

Back in December last year we reported on the release of the G2 full-faced helmet from those Antipodean milliners from Down Under known as Cookie. The G2 was developed with the help of the Arizona Airspeed FS and Arizona Arsenal VFS teams. Well, not ones to gather dust, Cookie have already released the successor to the G2 – you’ve guessed it – the G3!

The guys at Cookie state that the G3 is the result of significant refinement of their previous full-face helmets, featuring their innovative VMech Visor locking system which makes for easy opening and positive locking of the helmet visor – always a concern with older designs.

The visor is 2mm polycarbonate and features a complex curved design for extra strength, a good field of view and an anti-fog coating.

The G3’s cinching-down system is simple and secure, adjustment can be made to customise the helmet fit and once this is locked down, you can just throw the helmet on and jump.

A unique feature with the new helmet is a choice of replaceable ‘mouthpieces’ depending

on the jumper’s needs. The ‘slim mouthpiece’ can be used for jumpers who require or prefer the mouth to be visible in freefall – an option that will be popular with instructors or for tunnel flying. The second option is a ‘contoured mouthpiece’ used to direct the breath through the front vent of the helmet. This option is intended for use in more humid or fogging conditions.

Cookie informs us that the G3 ships with both mouthpieces as standard.

The company claims that their new high-impact ABS shell makes an already durable helmet almost indestructible.

It also incorporates shock-absorbing and impact-protecting D30 synthetic elastomeric polymer in the helmet liner.

The new helmet is available in six sizes and 11 different colours from stock.

A set of anodised aluminium side plates as well as custom engraving is also available if desired.



[www.cookiecomposites.com](http://www.cookiecomposites.com)

**YOUR  
HELPING  
HAND**  
rainbow  
design

Photo: Jörg Metzger



**rainbow design gmbh**

Flugplatzstraße 3 | D-16833 Fehrbellin | Germany  
T: +49 (0) 33932-72461 | F: +49 (0) 33932-72463  
E-Mail: info@rainbowsuits.com

[www.rainbowsuits.com](http://www.rainbowsuits.com)

**PROTRACK**

AUDIBLE ALTIMETER  
& FREEFALL COMPUTER

Skydiver  
Trusted  
Since 1998



Photo: Lonnie Kirk- MSF

Combine with L&B's Altitrack for  
total altitude awareness!

**FEATURES:**

- Audible altimeter
- Freefall computer
- Digital accuracy
- holds 9,999 jumps
- Detailed freefall info for the last 200 jumps
- Compatible with JumpTrack Software
- Long lasting batteries
- 1, 2 or 3 warning alarms
- Logs exit & deployment altitudes
- Calculates freefall speeds
- Sensitivity settings for wingsuit & BASE

**FLIGHT PERFORMANCE**



**LARSEN & BRUSGAARD**  
[www.L-and-B.dk](http://www.L-and-B.dk)

Ledreborg Alle 28 • 4000 Roskilde • Denmark • +45 46 48 24 80 • Fax » +45 46 48 24 90 • l-and-b@L-and-B.dk

**nzskydivingschool.com**



**progressive - proven - fun**  
- Diploma In Commercial Skydiving -



Liz Ashley >>

## Out of the loop



If you look at your risers, you'll notice that the retaining loop is made from the same material as your closing loop. The retaining loop is the bit that goes through the smallest ring, through the riser itself, through the grommet and is then held in place by the yellow cutaway cable. Just like your closing loop, it can degrade and may need replacing over time. The chances are that it will last a lot longer than your closing loop, as unlike your closing loop it isn't being worn away by the friction of a pull-up cord against it after every jump. However, if you catch it on something then you could definitely snag it or make it fray. If you stow your lines by pulling the whole rig across the ground towards you then this is more likely, so a better method is to move the bag towards the container as you stow.

Since both your riser retaining loops and your closing loops are vital bits of kit (i.e. if they snapped it could be catastrophic), they should be replaced if you can see any damage at all. You can learn to replace your closing loop yourself, but replacing the ones on the risers is a job for a Rigger.

## WHAT IF?

We ask the questions... you provide the answers. The aim of this section is to get people thinking about abnormal skydives and considering how they might react. There often isn't a 'right' answer, and the situations are deliberately vague to allow for maximum discussion around the DZ. After all, isn't it better to cover every angle while on the ground, with input from all your local hot-shots, than to have to work it out for yourself under pressure when it happens? Do not change any of your drills without first consulting a BPA instructor and/or your CCI.

### What If...

- you're on the ride to altitude and you notice you didn't turn your digital alti on?
- you're flightline checking someone and they seem a bit off-balance? There was a big party the night before and you think they might still be drunk

## Is this Safety Zone or Time Zone?!

When flicking through old 1990s *Mags* recently, I found this picture. A year ago I wrote a whole-page Safety Zone on soft links and metal links with photos from incidents where both types had been incorrectly assembled or had worn out. They're a crucial piece of kit that quite literally hold us up - failure near the ground would probably be fatal. But yet I still get sent photos of links that have been found in scarily dangerous states. I wonder what it will take to stop this alarming trend. When was the last time you checked yours...?



## Did you know?

The BPA is currently reviewing FS1, in line with the renewed focus on retention that you can read about in the new Progression Zone (page 31-33). It is only natural that once people achieve their A Certificate, they want to jump with their friends. However, they cannot do so freely until both they and their friends have achieved FS1. A discussion document has been written that considers how jumpers can be allowed to jump with their friends as soon as it is safe to do so, yet without lowering standards. Options include revising the FS1 content, or introducing new grades (e.g. we could have an FS2). Watch this space for news of any changes that happen.

This is a great example of how the BPA is continually evolving to fit the changing requirements of the sport. In the last year STC has discussed many possible changes, including tandem handycam, the viability of a 'ground instructor' rating and the development of TAFF as a training system (Tandem AFF). You can be part of this process if you have got a positive change for the better - speak to your CCI if it's a safety issue, or a Council member if it's about anything else, and all good ideas will be discussed.

## TOP 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.

# CLUB ZONE

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

## BCPA

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

BCPA Team Enigma,  
by Sam Bemment



## Big changes

The BCPA Nationals are the finale to the university skydiving year. Normally held in July, this is where the BCPA Committee is voted in to take over the day-to-day running of the British Collegiate Parachute Association. We like to make big changes each year to ensure continuous improvement, and this year is no different. The new committee is made up of myself, Sam Lee as Chairman, Tim Gaines as the Competitions and League Co-ordinator, and James Lee as the Foreign Trip Organiser. The first job of the new committee was to take the changes that were voted in at the BCPA AGM and implement them in the league rules in time for the competitions to start in September.

One of the key changes was bringing back freeflying to be included in the monthly competitions, after it had been removed a few years ago due to lack of participation. There is now a very good freeflying skill base in the BCPA, and the monthly competitions will introduce those freeflyers to competitive skydiving so that they might then move onto BPA freeflying competitions later in their skydiving careers. This is something the BCPA takes great pride in – the number of active BCPA skydivers that compete in BPA competitions on a national level. Our competitions are primarily based on FAI rules (albeit a bit more lenient on the judging!) and are a good stepping-stone into proper competitive skydiving on a national and international scale. One of the other changes was to extend the number of point-scoring positions in each competition from six to 10, to encourage greater participation from all universities around the UK.

In addition to these rule changes, we have changed the format and line-up of our events this year. We reduced the number of events by one as the skydiving events calendar for many of our members was getting too packed. We are also taking an event to a new location (Dunkeswell), and in quite a significant move will take the BCPA Nationals to UK Parachuting Sibson for the first time in many years. This will allow us to increase the size of the event, with a larger entertainment venue, more lift capacity, helicopter jumps, and, most importantly, a bigger hot tub!

All UK universities are eligible to be part of the BCPA, compete in our competitions and attend BCPA events. Affiliation instructions can be found on our website forums at [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk). We are currently in the process of developing a new website and so at the time of printing that web address may well take you to our brand-new website, with an integrated university and member database to allow quick and easy affiliations, event registrations, newsletter sign-ups and much, much more. Many thanks to Jack Bradford of Altitude Solutions Ltd for developing the website free of charge for the BCPA.  
**Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman 2011-12**

## Party time!

It's that time of year again, Christmas party time! This year we're having a hog roast and it's being held at the airfield on the 17 December at around 6.30pm. It's £20 per person and this will include copious amounts of food and alcohol! If you haven't already booked a place, get your money in quick to secure one!

The FS coaching programme has been very successful, with several people achieving FS1 since it started. Congratulations to Mike Rust for achieving 10,000 jumps.



6000 jumps for Bryn, by Lorraine Dixcey

From all of us at Skydive Chatteris, have a merry Christmas and a happy new year. We look forward to seeing you all when we reopen on 4 February. Good news, we still have £16 jump tickets!

### Lorraine Dixcey

**ACHIEVEMENTS First freefall** Adam Skerrett **Cat 8** Ross Andrews, Sean Healy, Jason 'potatoes' Broderick, Alex Pierce, Stephen Van Niekerk, Arun Cardoza, Matt Brocklebank, Christian Bote-Kwame, Vikki Poulton, James Rosling **FS1** John Payne, Sam Murray, Paul Bateman, Tim Freegard, Martin Thacker, Steve Hudson **JM1** Alison Peock, Paul Bateman, Tim Freegard **CH2** Alison Peock **FF1** Jon 'Mac' McMahon **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Paul Bateman **200** Adam Gooch, Dave Wickes **300** Conor O'Brien **600** Tony Labbz **1,000** Tim Hanlon **1,500** Oleg Naumov **2,000** Tom Pantall, Rowena Owen **6,000** Bryn Chaffe **10,000** Mike Rust

## CHATTERIS

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



Date for your Diaries:  
17 December Christmas Party

4-way training, by Lorraine Dixcey

# More ups than downs

As we come to the end of a varied season, we can reflect on some of the ups and downs at the centre: from excellent fun and sun-filled days to those filled with rain and gloomy faces – that’s England for you! Despite the weather, we’ve still had guys fulfilling their personal goals, from FS1 to CF1 and WS1. The AFF students have done exceedingly well with a very good retention rate – well done guys. A big thank you to all of the coaches who have helped the students throughout the year, we couldn’t continue to develop their skills without your hard work and input.

The Christmas party is looming so if you still want a place you need to let Megan know as soon as possible. Don’t forget the date: 17 December. It looks like it’s going to be another fun-filled evening, with John completing the end-of-year DVD.

Congratulations to Ben, who has finally passed his driving test. Just let us know when and where you are so we can all get out of the way!

Congratulations also go to Martin and Sue Dunn who now have a beautiful little girl named Jessica Kate.

On a sad note, we would like to give our very best wishes to Neil Henshall who injured his leg in October. We’ll look forward to his return at the drop zone next year.

We are closing on the 18 December and reopening on the 4 February and look forward to welcoming old and new faces.

**Sharon Beeson**

**ACHIEVEMENTS First freefall** Matthew Flood, Lorraine Seville **Cat 8** Craig Hughes, Jenny Mayes, Pete Brown **AFF Graduate** Achala Withanage, Greg Anthony, Fraser Callaghan, Fraser Wiseman, Jack Heathcote, Katrina Taylor, Steve Burton, Tyler Guerin **WS1** Dave Butterworth, Pete Williams **JUMP NUMBERS 200** Carl Marsh, Dave Simpson, Neil Davies, Richard Lowe **300** Marvin Lloyd, Dave Butterworth **1,000** Gus Tomison **1,200** Ewan Cowie **Arthur O’Brien returned to the sport after 35 years**

# BLACK KNIGHTS

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



*Pictures by Ewan Cowie*



**ACHIEVEMENTS Cat 8** Ben Hewitt, Brad Dimmode, Gareth Corpe, Roger Dunce **FS1** Andrew Cob, Jody Prior, Sean Thompson, Gerard Veijch, Greg Lainsbury, Trevor Johnson **JUMP NUMBERS 400** David Ney **9,000** Andy Page

# BECCLES

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

## Scrambles success

Over the August bank holiday weekend the annual scrambles competition was held and, as always, was very well attended. The management supplied an extra aircraft for the competition and arranged for the members from *Raykipo* to help organise the teams, which was a great help.

The standards over the four rounds was fantastic, and congratulations to *Team Don't Know*, comprising members Damo Hewitt, Andres Gonzalez Von Walter, Gerard Veijch, and Eric Dangoor, who came in first place. Many thanks to *Raykipo* and Steve Wickham of Kent Management who both sponsored the event again this year and supplied all the prizes, which were presented at the hangar party which followed the event.

It’s been a very busy 2011 and we’re looking forward to even bigger and better things in 2012 at UK Para Beccles

**Michael Wemyss**



*Winning scrambles team Don't Know, by Paul Newton*

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:**  
UK Para Beccles Christmas Party: Taking place at the Wine Vaults, Beccles on Friday 9 December. No tickets required, just turn up on the night from 7pm. Food is being provided.



Simon Beech and friends, by Ruth Cooper

## HEADCORN

headcorn.com

Del Hopkins is making his presence felt in the States for two weeks doing lots of AFF training – hangovers are ripe from what we hear!

The annual Headcorn Florida skydiving trip is beginning to take shape. We have 23 people so far booked to go, of which two are students ready to start their rapid progression. Spaces are still available.

We're pleased to say Dennis McTaggart is now recovering from a pretty brutal opening from his Lightning canopy, and a short stay in hospital was all it took to get Dennis on the road to recovery. Chris Lynch, after a few months off through illness is now starting to get back jumping again, just in time for the sub-zero temperatures!

The newly married Jane and Del Hopkins are now up and running with married life and are off on their honeymoon in January 2012, with not a skydiving rig in sight!

We thank Mary Barratt and Judy Walker for the great work they've done on Headcorn reception, keeping everything super-efficient and fun for all the jumpers and visitors over the years as Jo Hunter now becomes our full-time receptionist, good luck Jo! So come down and check us out!

*Simon Beech, Jane Buckle and Ruth Cooper*

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall Marcus Muir-Smith, Rory Cox **Cat 8 & CH1** Dominic Bentley, Ben Holten, Mike Hitchcock, Aimee Goodayle, Dan Honey, Karen Firmin, Ben Rosenquist **CH2 & JM1** Paula Nash, Joe Laming, Tristan O'Brien **FS1** Nick Woods, Oscar Lozades **WS1** Brian Uggielietti **WS2** Sam Laming  
**JUMP NUMBERS 100** Simon Beech, Joe Laming **200** James Chattell, Peri Rocha **300** Alex Hopkins, Ben Broad, Tristan O'Brien, Sam Laming **500** Mary Barratt **800** Peter Collins **1,000** Frank Millerick, Adam Hughes **6,000** Simon Hughes **1 hour freefall** Simon Beech **FF coach** Paul 'Diggers' Digby

## Memorable moments

Yet another high-paced two months of fun and progression has passed at Skydive Headcorn since the last club news. Some memorable moments over the last eight weeks have been: Simon Beech with a 6-way jump in no more than boxer shorts; big-way tracking dives for Ben Broad; Alex Hopkins and Tristan O'Brien's 300th jump; and a 6-way sit fly for Adam Hughes' 1,000th. Sam Laming and Chris Davies went to Dunkeswell to do some CF training and Stan Parkes did his first CF jump at Headcorn with Frank Millerick.

Wings bar is now under new management after Bernie decided to take a well-earned break in France for six months. Thanks to Bernie and Lynn for their hard work there over the last few years and we wish Jon and Jacqui all the best running it in the future.

Paul Digby gained his FF coach qualification after taking Pete Sizer up for some teaching. We're now pleased to have two qualified FF coaches at the DZ going into 2012.

## Cyprus

skydivecyprus.com.cy

## A warm welcome

This year saw the 2nd Cyprus FS & Accuracy Mini Meet, run and organised by Stavros Kypragoras and with the much-appreciated co-operation of Mark Bayada and Phil Bell.

Judges from the UK arrived on the island and after a warm welcome it was down to business. Phil opened proceedings by welcoming all competitors, swiftly followed by a no-nonsense DZ safety brief. The competition got under way early on Saturday morning with good weather. By lunchtime all teams had completed two rounds of FS and team accuracy but a few hold-offs by Larnaca Air Traffic had Phil pulling out what little hair he has left! As evening came it was time to relax, and what better way than by celebrating Ann Fowler's 61st birthday? All the judges and pilots enjoyed a traditional Cypriot mezze for dinner and, to show their appreciation, Stavros presented Ann with a gift from all the competitors.

Another bright and early start on Sunday morning soon had everyone in the air and the competition was back under way. Again the weather in Cyprus did not disappoint us and by lunchtime the meet was complete. The judges got down to business and soon we were ready for the prize-giving.

The meet was well-run and hassle-free and a fantastic time was had by all. A lot of progression had been made since last year from the up-and-coming skydivers of Cyprus – none more so than that shown by Michalis Violantis. Last year Michalis took the award for landing the closest to the town of Famagusta, but his determination paid off once more as he won the accolade of landing closest to the capital, Nicosia! **John Boardman**



Team MVP, 1st in FS and Team Accuracy

### Cyprus Mini Meet 2011 – The Results

#### Formation Skydiving

1st MVP 2nd Lynx 3rd Keli Team 4th 3LER

#### Team Accuracy

1st MVP 2nd Lynx 3rd 3LER 4th Keli Team

#### Individual Accuracy

1st Demetris Demetriou 2nd Charis Katsafados 3rd Georgios Kakkis

Simon Hirst from Capital FM radio, by Sara Orton



# CLUB ZONE

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

## Jumping for charity

Skydive GB has experienced a couple of eventful months and, despite a few weekends of typical Yorkshire weather, we've been jumping regularly and ensuring that both tandem students and fun jumpers are enjoying themselves.

On the charity front, Simon Hirst, otherwise known as Hirsty from the Capital FM breakfast show, completed a tandem skydive for Help a Capital Child. Choosing to wear a microphone for the jump, Hirsty was clearly suffering from skydiving Tourette's and all I can say is it's a good job it wasn't being broadcasted live! Hirsty proved to be very good fun and has talked about the centre and skydiving ever since!

Jerry Wood has finally achieved his FS1, after a period of approximately 20 years. He actually completed the jump four months ago but seeing as he wasn't in a hurry to achieve it, I didn't see any hurry to publish it! Well done Jerry.

We have been utilising Pete Marsden's Airvan while our plane was poorly but we finally have our much-loved Lima Tango back at the dropzone. Improvements have been made and she now flies in a straight line again. The regular jumpers enjoyed the luxury of the Airvan, though in true Yorkshire style, they missed being cold and a slow climb to altitude. Our pilot Bill (Captain Dipstick) Tiplady was not quite so pleased at the return of Lima Tango and developed quite an attachment to the Airvan.

George McGuinness has reached the milestone of 72 hours in freefall and recently took a tandem student aged 88. Their combined ages totaled 152 and much to my amusement as a camera flyer, they both fell asleep during the plane ride. This proves one of two things - either you reach a certain age and are fazed by nothing - or they were simply 'resting their eyes'.

## BRIDLINGTON

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



George McGuinness with tandem student Lynn (aged 88) by Sara Orton

Steve (Tippex) Watkin has been running CRW coaching, Samuel Cavendish and Mick Cosgrove have been converted to the world of chest mounts and frap hats!

Andy Haggis continues to turn up at the DZ on bad weather days - I think he'll soon hold the record for the most dummy pulls ever completed! Keep going Andy; freefall is just around the corner (providing you turn up when it isn't snowing).

Overall it has been a successful and fun few months.

Sara Orton

**ACHIEVEMENTS FS1** Jerry Wood **72 hours' freefall** George McGuinness

## CORNISH

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

## A foodie thank you



Ryan Jackson and Jo Baker by Phil Symons

Well that's the summer (if we had one) over and then October gave us a heat wave for the first weekend followed closely by freezing temperatures above the DZ the next week. Club and visiting jumpers made the most of the good weather and amazing views of the Cornish peninsula. A very welcomed return to the sky to Russell, don't leave it so long next time (but perhaps leave the expensive Oakleys on the ground!).

It's not every DZ that can have a private meal cooked for them by one of Rick Stein's finest seafood chefs, but CPC were lucky enough to sample Joe Baker's amazing culinary talents as his way of saying thanks to all the staff as he heads off up the line for his next cooking chapter. Don't become a stranger mate!

Massive thanks to Jan for organising my birthday treat which saw the club members pitting their wits around the UK's fastest kart track - 70mph! 12 racers took on the 20-lap Grand Prix, which was finally won by Phil, Lee came a close second and myself third. I feel a yearly competition coming on!

After a club jumping day on Saturday 3 December and the following party, our doors will close for the season. We will again take to the skies (weather permitting) on Saturday 4th February 2012.

Thanks to all involved at the club for yet another fantastic, safe skydiving season. Let's hope the hangovers from the end-of-season bash clear quickly.

Ben Wood

Jo Baker doing scallops, by Ben Wood



# LANGAR

skydivelangar.co.uk



CFUK and PH36 build a 6-way box, by Pete Lindstrand



Warm weather, blue skies, and a plane full of CRW Dawgs!  
Photo by Doug Preston

**ACHIEVEMENTS** Cat 8 & CH1 Melissa Ong, Al Campbell **FS1** Sion Roberts, Bryan Buswell, Stuart Murray **FF1** Jon Bielik, Nigel Machin **JUMP NUMBERS 200** Matt Willson **300** Jonny Francis, Tamsin Jackman **400** Simon Donnelly **500** Emma Pilkington **1,000** Des Meyer, Scott Calcraft, Gary Davidson **1,500** Dan Williams **1,600** Chris Cook, Stan Hopkins **1,700** Fiona Birnie **3,000** Martyn Score **4,000** John Baggaley

## A great end to the year

We finished the 2011 season off with a bunch of great weekend events during September and October with organised stuff for Formation Skydiving beginners through to experienced jumpers, and even some intermediate Canopy Formation work.

Skydive Choreography Big-Way Beginners 8 got plenty of newbies off to a good start with six separate groups organised by both visiting and local hot-shots. Great weekend, despite a bit of adverse weather here and there, but that just made for some lovely photos.

Dave Lewis and Billy Payn's annual 12-24 weekend culminated in some very nice multi-plane formations, and some very happy participants.

The Canopy Formation weekend was organised by CF teams Aerodyne PH36 and CFUK. Fourteen up-and-coming CRew Dogs took part with the main goal of progressing beyond the basics of CF1 and they spent the weekend building a variety of diamonds, stacks and kites. Nice to see canopy formations in the

air – and it's real value-for-money jumping on a pound-per-minute basis, so an ideal discipline in these times of dire financial straits!

The sad news of Fran Sweeney's sudden death from a brain haemorrhage was a devastating blow to his friends and relatives. He's greatly missed by everybody at Langar. See page 53 for his obituary.

The University Freshers' skydiving season is now in full swing – there seem to be hordes of 'em and they're having a great time both in the air and (of course) in the bar!

We're running a Night Jump programme on Saturday 7 January with a backup day on the 8 January in case of weather problems. You'll need your FAI B Certificate, and you must have jumped at Langar during daylight on the same day.

Don't forget, the only day we close is Christmas Day itself, so come and do some skydives on those crisp winter days and get your first jump of the year on New Year's Day!

**Tony Danbury**

# HINTON

skydive.co.uk



## Party animals!

We have a few months of news to catch up on as we've had a very busy season! Congratulations to all the Hinton teams that competed in the FS.

Lucy and Sarah Maycock's 40th and Jussa's 30-something birthday were celebrated with a 'chavtastic' themed party where the pink velour tracksuits were dragged out of some people's cupboards as well as a very fetching shellsuit sported by Bob Miller. The party was a great success and a good time was had by all with many saying on the night "how well sick" the party was. The Chavtastic 8-way the following day was a sight to behold: never has so much nylon and velour taken to the skies since Vicky Pollard went on

holiday with her mates. Lucy has now left our skies for the next couple of months to visit Australia and New Zealand and we wish her well on her travels.

There have been many more new faces this year with a phenomenal amount of AFF students graduating this season. Various teams have already started muttering about next year and *Team Broken Ninja* and *Team Bob* are making good progress in the tunnel. We've also welcomed lots more freeflyers, which has spiced things up. All in all it's been a record-breaking season and with the weather gods on our side jump numbers have been through the roof! So a huge thank you to all the staff who have helped make it a huge success.

This year's Christmas party will be held at The Fox at Farthinghoe on 17 December and we hope to see you all there! We shall then be closed from Sunday 18 December and will open again on Saturday 7 January 2012.

**SJ Peart & Isy Davies**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AFF Graduates** Gary Johnson, John Scamp, Carollyn Terry, Vikki Topliss, Alex Buckland, Guillaume Dhamelin-court, Chris Vassallo, Alex Shepherd, Lee Waite, Karim Halwagi, Joseph Edmund, Luke Hayman, Pax Bittoun, David Chase, Rachel Walker, Hercules Du Plessis, Russell Follett, Russell Andrews, Chris Bain **FS1** Mark Demmery, SJ Peart, Jennie Fitzstanley, Carol Beaumont, Andy Collett, Max Valentine, Gary Johnson, Daryn Liddle **FF1** Dave Reader, Matt Le Berre, Juliane Klemp, Justine Tiley **FF2** Dave Reader **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Clive Fiddes, SJ Peart, Carol Beaumont, Tim Freegard, Don Gillies, Francesca Lock **100** Gareth Jones, Darren Hallett, Aaron Kirkham, Gary Johnson, John Hutchinson, Becky Charles **200** Amanda Jones, Andy Jones, Chris Horrobin, Jamie Cartwright, Ben Wood, Bob Shears, Juliane Klemp **700** Mark Beardsley **800** Phil Wakefield **1,300** Caroline O'Hagan **3,000** Maddy Moore **11,000** Geoff Wood **12,000** Stuart Meacock **12 hours' freefall** Phil Wakefield



"Absolutely, Positively, Without Any Doubt,  
**THE BEST DARN JUMPSUIT  
 IN THE WORLD!!**"

Photo by Edson Pacheco



**Bev Suits**

8398 LYON VALLEY RD, NEW TRIPOLI, PA 18066 USA  
 PHONE/FAX: 1+610-285-6994 WWW.BEVSUIT.COM

## HAD A RESERVE REPACK RECENTLY? DID YOU GET....?

- Thorough inspection, air, repack of reserve canopy?
- Thorough inspection and air of main canopy?
- Thorough inspection of harness/container?
- New main and reserve closure loops?
- New bungees on deployment bag?
- Comprehensive advice on any rigging requirements?

**NO? YOU DO HERE**



## BE SAFE

While you wait reserve repacks  
 available by appointment

Rig courier service available  
 Evening drop off/collection (ring first)

Point Zero Ltd, Hinton Airfield, Brackley,  
 Northants. NN13 5NS UNITED KINGDOM

Tel: +44 (0)1295 810600 sales@pointzero.co.uk

[www.pointzero.co.uk](http://www.pointzero.co.uk)



**Skycover** is a specialist provider of skydiving insurance. We provide high levels of Personal Accident cover for skydivers at competitive prices.

Single jump cover is available for just £25\*, and provides £100,000 of death benefit, one of the highest amounts available for skydiving in the UK.

Frequent jumper? For just £80\* you can take advantage of an annual policy, covering you for each and every jump throughout the year.

\*including insurance premium tax.

sky diving insurance  
**skycover**

Buy online at [www.sky-cover.co.uk](http://www.sky-cover.co.uk)  
 Or call 0844 892 1515 for more information

The policy is underwritten by ACE European Group Limited. Sky Cover, Towergate Risk Solutions and Towergate Risk Solutions Fareham are trading names of Towergate Underwriting Group Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.



# AIRSPORTS

**Fast, reliable and friendly advice for skydiving, air/activity sports and domestic insurance needs.**

can you afford to be without it?

- Copied sent to the extent of death, loss of limb/eye (or loss thereof) or total disability
- Weekly benefit up to a maximum of 100 weeks (yes, but 11 days) so long as there is no other source of sufficient normal occupation
- Activity sport equipment worldwide
- Personal baggage for a total insurance (includes related life insurance added out of the 100)
- Medical expenses covering medical or surgical treatment (includes skydiving, air/activity accident)
- Air transport for repatriation, including medical treatment for an injury or loss of insured person
- Cost of recovery to hospital following a parachuting accident
- Buildings/contents insurance

Contact Jackie Prince Tel/Fax 01983 298480 (24 hours)  
Email: [airsports@bhpa.co.uk](mailto:airsports@bhpa.co.uk)  
48 Alexandra Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7JT

## EMPURIABRAVA APARTMENT TO LET

**ONLY 5 MINUTES WALK FROM DROP ZONE**

Sleeps 6/8 persons with 3 Double Bedrooms, large living/kitchen area, balcony overlooking Sant Maurici lake & includes UK TV, Satellite, VCR, DVD, Stereo, Video Library &

Nintendo Wii

For details See Our Web Site:

[www.mauriciapartment.biz](http://www.mauriciapartment.biz)

Or Contact:

Tel:

+44 (0)17721 011615 (Anytime)

+44 (0)1844 345566 (Evening)

Email:

[enquiries@mauriciapartment.biz](mailto:enquiries@mauriciapartment.biz)



# Come skydiving in Australia



Visit the **Ramblers Drop Zone at Toogoolawah** for excellent weather, aircraft, facilities, accommodation, coaches, student training and equipment.

Next **Equinox Boogie**  
20th-28th October 2012



Check out our new website and find out why  
*Skydive Ramblers is Famous for Fun!*

Email: [skydive@ramblers.com.au](mailto:skydive@ramblers.com.au)

**+61 7 5423 1159**

**[www.ramblers.com.au](http://www.ramblers.com.au)**

TOOGOOLAWAH, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA



HIGH PERFORMANCE ALUMINUM EYEWEAR



GO UNHINGED

- RX Prescription Ready
- Hingeless Design
- Adjustable Aluminum Frame
- Optional Foam Insert
- Meets ANSI Z87.1 - 2010
- Made in USA

NEW Titan



Phone (928) 329-0006  
[www.LiquidPolarized.com](http://www.LiquidPolarized.com)



Dave Rowell jumping at Peterlee DZ  
by Alan Thompson



## Return to the air

# PETERLEE

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

These past few weeks have seen some notable milestones with Paul Moore notching up his 1,000th flying hour and David Rowell (former Sunderland regular and BPA Instructor) making his first jump in 25 years.

In the build-up to the Peterlee Parachute Centre presentation of annual awards, Andy Brumby is now in pole position for 'Landing of the Year'. There are also many contenders for our Most Progressed and Most Persistent student parachutists.

The new bunk rooms now have new mattresses – many thanks to Paul Moore for the investment – and the bar is now more than adequately heated by two portable gas fires – indeed there have actually been requests to turn them down! This was all in preparation of our busy freshers' season during October and November with Durham, Newcastle, Northumbria, Teesside and Sunderland Universities all booking in several aspiring parachutists. Well done to their Club Management and Executive Committees for all the work they put into this.

We welcome two new manifesters to the manifest team; Jonathon 'Teddy' McManus on Wednesday afternoons and Owen Burbridge on Sundays, with Gary Lorrison rejoining the team for Fridays. We offer many thanks to Colin Daley and Lisa Stephenson who recently relinquished their manifest posts, although we still hope to see them jumping at the Centre; Lisa will hopefully jump again soon after a successful fixing of her dislocated shoulder.

We must also pass on very many thanks to Sue Scott who after a very successful spell as our Club Rep for *Skydive Mag* is now to hand over her pen to another – I'm just filling in!

We have just heard that we have secured host venue for the first UK Skydiving League Meet for 2012 to be held over the weekend of 12-13 May 2012, when in addition to our own Cessna Grand Caravan we have made provision to hire in another.

**Ian Rosenvinge**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FS1** Alex Rowlett, Rebecca Ormshaw **JUMP NUMBERS 200** Stephen Smith **2,000** Dave Taylor **1,000 flying hours** Paul Moore

# CLUB ZONE

## HIBALDSTOW

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

## FS1+ weekend success

Autumn is here, but the jumping is still non-stop! It's been a huge month for students with what feels like more progression than ever – loads of people qualifying for their A-certificates and starting to get involved in coaching and group jumps. Stubert's new FS1+ organised weekend was very well received with two 6-way groups taking on the concepts of how to approach and dock on a small formation. We'll be seeing more courses in the new year, so if you have your FS1 and want to progress keep an eye out for dates.

For the more experienced, Simon Cathrine's excellent First Time Formation Loads was very well attended as ever. Skydivers from around the country got involved in some amazing multi-aircraft jumps (up to 28-ways) including recent Hib FS graduate Cat Lees, who completed her first 28-way with less than 100 jumps.

Our big autumn blow-out meet, the Frostbite Friendly, was once again well attended and with loads of jumping. The 10-way meet was joined by 5-way speed this year allowing everyone to participate in one of the year's great spectacles. The dancefloor heaved all night as jumpers continued the tradition of grand costumes and wild special effects. Don't miss the revamp next year!

October brings university season and York Uni are thriving on the new student intake – loads of courses and evening fun, with Stubert to keep the long nights alive. Don't miss out! There is something every weekend from now until the end-of-year finale and the Christmas Party on 10 December, so keep an eye on the website for more details. See you soon!

### Stu Ferguson

**ACHIEVEMENTS Cat 8 & CH1** Lucy Westgarth, Bradley White, Metaxas Nicolaidis, Gareth Smith, Claire Humphreys, Billy McHale, Marcin Grzleinski, Chris Titley, Kenn Brodhurst, Oliver Gettings, Dan Wilson, Hannah Broughton, John McIntosh, Tom England, Ben Martin **FS1** Andrew Mellor, Lee Jagger, Lawrence Fsadni **FF1** Darren Graham **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Richard Cotton **200** Darren Graham **500** Laura Muller **800** Clair Armstrong **2,100** Mike McNulty **1 hour freefall** Patricia Hall, Richard Dunn, Nigel Thurston



Photos by James Stevenson



## READING

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

We're back! Well after the farmer's actions and all kinds of interest from the powers that be, we are finally up and running.

So a new location after all these years of 28 days maximum, LPS now has a home with full planning permission. Obviously all we now have to do is scale up the operation to match this, so keep an eye out for our move to full weekends during 2012.

First lift at the new DZ and Martin's filling in paperwork (thanks Tim), but it was a very successful day. Seven tandem students from the Booby Birds raised over £180,000 between them – and no you didn't read that wrong!

We're still operating out of the lorry at the moment but two large portacabins are en route – and for anyone who remembers the Lewknor loos, there are now separate compartments with multiple traps, hot water, sinks, paper towels and even heaters. What next, showers we hear them cry? There's even an indoor cafe with air conditioning and loads of hard standing for parking.

Initially we had difficulties with NATS but since a rethink between both parties a process has been worked out that makes life easy all round. In fact, they've been so helpful that it deserves a mention. So a merry Christmas to you all and lets jump our butts off in 2012.

**Martin Harris**

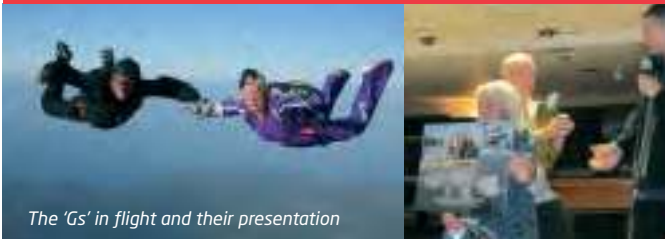
## £180,000 Booby Birds charity day



Photo by Tim Lawson

## JERSEY

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



The 'Gs' in flight and their presentation

Skydive Jersey has finally closed its doors for the 2011 season. Dark nights and worsening weather make it even more difficult to operate, so we hibernate until next Easter. The presentation evening saw awards to newly

qualified TBI Pete Dolbel for completing the most jumps and Pete Marsden for achieving his jump pilot's ticket.

We also wished a fond farewell to George and Geraldine after giving us two years of service. The club presented them with a canvas of Jersey scenes to hang on the wall at Brid! We will miss you, and thanks for all your hard work.

Thanks also to Billy and Paul, this year's regular pilots, who couldn't make the party due to other commitments. We'll take you to Chambers, any time you want to visit.

Plans are under way for next year's season with Mally already studying the tide tables. Visiting jumpers are welcome from the UK. We are a BPA club and you need minimum A Certificate to skydive here. Keep an eye on the website, and book your days off work for next year!

**Mal Richardson**

## TILSTOCK

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



Nicky Marr after her FS1 qualifying jump with Steve Cooper, Phil Jenks and Mike Allsopp, by Simon Wilkinson

## Get well Martin

We've had another busy couple of months at Tilly with six jumpers gaining their FS1. We've also had quite a few static line students completing their first jumps when the wind hasn't been spoiling their fun!

The Tilly tunnel trips have been continuing and due to our large number of newly qualified FS1 jumpers we have been utilising the time to work on our 4-way skills with three of our FS coaches – Steve Cooper, Juliana Bergel and Phil Jenks.

We've run another successful packing course and are taking names for the next one, which will be run on a Sunday. Call the DZ for details.

There's been some running taking place as well. Caroline Vaughan completed the Chester Marathon and Juliana Bergel completed a half marathon, both in very impressive times. Well done both of you. I know we were all very impressed and tired just at the thought of it!

Martin Wilshaw, one of our most experienced instructors, and dear friend had a serious car crash on 14 October. I'm very relieved to say he is recovering in hospital and we hope he will be home by the time this issue goes to print. Martin has been in the sport for over 40 years and is known and loved by many skydivers. Once you have met Martin you don't forget him. We all miss him dearly at Tilly and can't wait for him to return. He has promised to come out for one of the now infamous Tilly curries when he is better and hopes to be at the Christmas party on 3 December.

Looking into next year Buzz is planning some great stuff:

HEAT canopy course: 9-10 March,  
BPA FF Coaching Roadshow: 13-14 April,  
BPA FS Coaching Roadshow: TBC,  
and a CF Coaching Roadshow by PH36 with an FS coach coming up at the same time to do FS coaching, TBC.

2012 is going to be awesome!

**Ann Furredge**

**ACHIEVEMENTS** Cat 8 & CH1 Adam Smith FS1 Caroline Vaughan, Ann Furredge, Roger Hughes, Eddie Milnes, Nicola Marr, Stuart Selley **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Seth Pierce, Roger Hughes 300 Barry Jones 7,000 Chris Gilmore 1 hour freefall Roger Hughes

# Life Insurance & Disability Cover

For Skydivers



Online Enquiries: [www.sports-fs.co.uk](http://www.sports-fs.co.uk)  
or Call a Consultant: 0844 579 1006

# SIMPLE BRILLIANCE

# SOLO II

AUDIBLE ALTIMETER



Photo: Norman Kent

Combine with L&B's Altitrack for total altitude awareness!

## FEATURES:

- Audible Altimeter
- Digital accuracy
- 1, 2 or 3 alarms
- ~~Water resistant~~
- Small, compact, comfortable
- Accessories available
- Easy to use
- Reliable altitude awareness
- Loud alarm sound
- State-of-the-art components and firmware
- Set & forget technology

## FLIGHT PERFORMANCE



LARSEN & BRUSGAARD  
[www.L-and-B.dk](http://www.L-and-B.dk)

Ledborg Alle 28 • 4000 Roskilde • Denmark • +45 46 48 24 80 • Fax » +45 46 48 24 90 • l-and-b@L-and-B.dk



**10% Discount**  
off all Winter Skydiving Gear

## With the right warm gear you can skydive all year



Balaclavas Facemasks Helmet Liners Goggles



Windproof Buffs Glove Liners Helly Hansen Long Johns



Mid Layers Helly Hansen Thermal Vest

Photo by Yolande Lee.

Order your warm gear from the Skydiving section of our website -

[www.shoptopgear.co.uk](http://www.shoptopgear.co.uk)

Enter the coupon code 'SKYDIVE MAG' for a 10% discount\*

3-5 Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 1PA  
Tel: 01702 713165 Email: [sales@shoptopgear.co.uk](mailto:sales@shoptopgear.co.uk)



# DUBAI 500

SKYDIVING WORLD RECORD

WILL YOU BE THERE?<sup>2013</sup>

**APPLY TODAY**

[WWW.DUBAI500.COM](http://WWW.DUBAI500.COM)





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

# CLUB ZONE

## Preparing for 2012

The year is drawing to a close and before we know it the winter will be gone and spring will be here again.

Next year sees the 11th World POPS meet taking place in Holland, from June 28-July 8. The events programme is online at [pops-nl.com](http://pops-nl.com) together with the pre-registration form. So if you're thinking of attending the meet, getting together a 4-way POPS team or SOS 4-way team (up to three National POPS and SOS teams can enter) and meeting up with fellow POPS from all over the world, it's time to sign up.

Disciplines are: Classic Accuracy, Hit and Rock, 4-way National Teams, 4-way Scramble, 7-way Speedstar and Sport Accuracy. Let our top POP Jeff know if you are going, so he can get an idea how many there will be from the UK.

**Jeff Chandler**

## POPS

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



Taken at SOS 4-way team Siolfur's training camp at Skydive Spain Seville

## RAPA

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

*Advanced Course! by Stu Storey*



## Last JSAT course

As winter has arrived only the hardened few are left to battle the conditions. JSPC(L) completed the last JSAT course in early November, bringing to an end almost 30 years of JSAT courses. Highlights of this period included an advanced course; it was particularly pleasing to see some of the less-experienced military jumpers on the advanced course making the end-of-course video more difficult to follow!

Also 35 RAPA members completed night jumps on 14 October; a mixture of hop and pops and FS. No difficulties apart from when the

soup ran out and the carnage in the bar afterwards!

RAPA's intent is to continue delivering parachuting to the British Army Germany community after the military manpower from JSPC(L) will have gone on 31 March 2012. There are several low-wire entanglements still to be negotiated before this can be confirmed, but so far so good. The plan is to continue weekend activity, to offer initial RAPS courses and to be able to host expeditions. The Islander has been sold, although it is still here awaiting collection; does anyone need a Kodiak?

**Seb Muntz**

## Strathallan's sweet music

Well the weather outside is frightful, but the banter's still delightful and Strathallan is the only place to be on a rainy weekend. We've had the odd moment of acceptable weather in between the rain and howling wind and we've squeezed in a fair whack of jumping and progression. What we have absolutely not been short of is good craic. One washout Saturday the club members decided that what we really need and, have up until now woefully lacked, is a dropzone piano. Within three hours of having the notion, an ancient second-hand piano was pushed in and the canteen was filled with the sound of Justin Wilmot tinkling away and Elaine trashing the dropzone drumkit, which we've had for ages – obviously.

The start of the first semester at universities across the county means there are many new student members coming for the Strathallan Experience. To these young and probably naive newbies I have three

words of warning: K Cider Challenge – the 'challenge' being to drink four cans of this lethal brew and not humiliate yourself in some way. There really are no winners to this game and all it leads to is folk setting fire to crisps and eating them, a smacked arse for Jen and copious amounts of standard Barra banana abuse.

Some of the troops took Elaine off on holiday to see Italy and to do a bit of jumping at The Zoo. Apparently it's really nice, the people are very friendly and everyone had a rare old time.

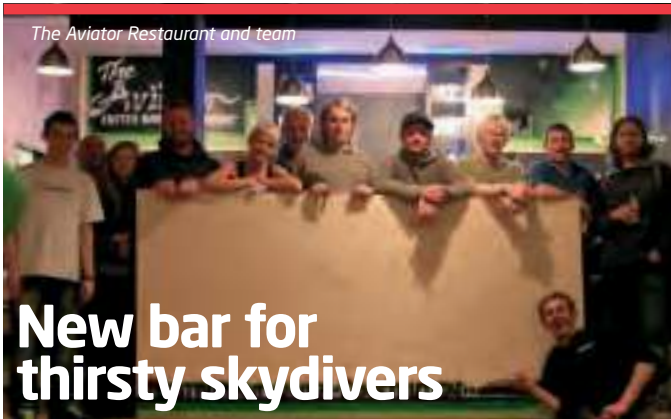
The Boss has been practising his fire-starting: his twisted fire-starting. A firework detonated inside the canteen (handily emptied minutes earlier by Justin McCall's smoke grenade) led to a ruined hoodie and a burnt out chair. A display put on for the gaffers at Strathallan Castle led to singed hair and scorched hands. SO! Bonfire night is bound to have been absolutely cracking. **Jonny Danks**

## STRATHALLAN

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



**ACHIEVEMENTS** First freefall Chris Watt **Cat 8 & CH1** Briony McKenzie **Cat 8** Bruce Stevenson **FS1** Ian Millar **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Stephen Smith **300** David Hart



The Aviator Restaurant and team

## New bar for thirsty skydivers

In September we hosted the second Twin Beech Boogie of the year and although the weekend weather was less than ideal, we sure made up for it midweek. With plenty of organisers to go around everyone was making the most of the valuable free coaching. The freeflyers put some really impressive stuff together including a 12-way with two tubes and streamers! Equally the flat flyers, under the superb organisation of Dave Lewis, were doing some 18-way formation loads out of both the Beech 99s.

Tim Porter was also putting the trackers through their paces with some formation tracking loads. Tony Uragallo took time out of his busy schedule to bring his fleet of demo wingsuits down and provided people with the opportunity for first flight courses. Plans are already under way for the Twin Beech Boogies 2012, so keep an eye out for dates.



## SIBSON

skydivesibson.co.uk

## A busy end to 2011

Who'd have thought that after an amazingly busy Boogie and open weeks that we'd go on and make record numbers of jumps? Fun jumpers old and new have been coming out to play in the sunshine over UK Parachuting Sibson in some of this amazing weather we've been having.

We've had an unusual amount of tracking dives and tube jumps recently. Alex Meacock set the pace with the tracking and took some large groups around the skies over Sibson. Speak to manifest to register for the sunset tracking loads.

We've now started up a static line programme for the universities. This involved a lot of behind-the-scenes admin and sorting out of equipment with the testing undertaken by some of our instructors and regular jumpers. You'd never have imagined that there were more than 15,000 jumps between us judging by some of the exits. In fact Johnny Moore has been advised to do a few more before he goes back on to freefall!

Our first university on board was Warwick and we are now in talks with the University of East Anglia. Our first RAPS course was held on Saturday 22 October and was a full compliment of 12. Warwick also brought us eight AFF students and a bunch of their normal regulars.

More interestingly the CCI Chris McCann has been learning to freefly with our resident freefly school, UK Free Fly. Rob Titchner and Nick Davison have had their work more than cut out getting the old boy sit-flying. Chris has awarded himself FF1 following his achievements with the guys and is working towards FF2. Grant Richards (the Boss) has also been working with Rob and Nick on his FF2. Rumour has it I have also managed one freefly jump and therefore doubled my number of freeflying jumps.

A massive congratulations from all the fun jumpers and staff goes to Dan Dixon who proposed to his girlfriend Nicola Burgess while she was on a

## DUNKESWELL

skydive99.com

With progression the key, recent British National silver medallists *Kinetic* hosted a freely coaching weekend where they were kept busy organising and coaching FF1s, FF2s and some VFS. Congrats to everyone who got their new stickers.

The following weekend 4-way team *Gr4vity* ran an FS progression weekend that focused on getting people through FS1, sharing their knowledge and skills in 4-way and putting teams together for next year. The weekend was well received and, with triple the expected number of people, everyone still got in lots of jumping. We will be running more of these events next year!

On 1 October we took over the Air Centre café on the airfield and, after lots of hard work and late nights from club members and other volunteers, five days later we opened the new Aviator Coffee Bar & Restaurant. This is the perfect solution to help cater for everyone now that the club is getting busier. This means no more having to worry about getting food late after jumping as it will always be open and, more importantly, we finally have our own DZ bar to go drinking in! On 17 December we will have our last jumping day before Christmas and will have our Christmas party in the new Aviator. Hopefully we'll see you all there!

Jason Farrant

**ACHIEVEMENTS** Cat 8 & CH1 Stefan Pollitt, Agi Mills, Wayne Sawyer, David Hyde, Neil Kirby, Earl Richards, Charlie Robertson **FS1** Dawn Gardner, Denesh Pall, Emily Boland **FF1** Aiden Glennie, Andy Lock, Philip Bannon, Sandra McMurrin **FF2** Aaron Cosbey **WS1** Martin Roberson **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Tom Bodely, Ollie Dixon **100** Sandie Morgan, Dawn Gardner, Steve Margison, Gary Porter, Neil Empringham **200** Conrad Vaughan, Kathrynne Vaughan, Lance Barr, Peter Price **300** Aaron Cosbey **400** John Price, Guy Wells, Mike Williams **500** Matthew Brady, Rob Franklin **1,000** Tim Cooke, Shane Hardwick **3,000** Andy Halloway

tandem skydive attached to chief instructor Chris McCann. Dan, who is one of our regular jumpers, had made around 50 practice jumps following Chris on tandem over a number of months to get it just right. On the day in question Dan had a set of gloves printed up with the words "Marry Me" on them and waved them in freefall at Nicola. Then on landing there was a big sign printed on the landing area that said, "Marry me Nicola". We are pleased to report she immediately said yes and they are making plans for the big day. The story made front-page local news and even a spot in the *Sun* newspaper. Well done Dan and Nicola. Maybe we can jump into your wedding!



Dan Dixon's proposal

Make sure you watch out for the progression weekends coming up. If you need any of the A and B Certificate briefs then keep an eye on the events pages and the Facebook page. If you need any briefs in particular, let me know and I will arrange it.

The Christmas dinner and annual awards will be held on the 17 December starting at 7.00pm at The Haycock hotel in Wansford. This is limited to 50 places, so come to manifest to get your tickets. There will be drinks at the bar followed by the meal at 7.30pm and then dancing until late. **Paul Dorward**

**ACHIEVEMENTS** FS1 Garrick Taylor, Alex Kirk **WS1** Derik Hancock, Marcella Van Eck **WS2** Marcella Van Eck **FF1** Chris McCann, Iwona Kochanska **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Alex Kirk **100** Elliot Clapp, Dan Dixon, Emily Plant **200** Lesley Kent, Marcella Van Eck **300** Caroline Moran **400** Ben Terrell **2,000** Mike Wilson-Roberts, Grant Lancaster **1 hour freefall** Andrew Cobb

## SWANSEA

skydiveswansea.co.uk

Not a lot of club news as we've been battling with bad weather over autumn. Everyone is looking forward to seeing the Caravan finally arrive and we do intend to operate it throughout the winter. We will be open 27-30 December (weather permitting) for anyone fed up watching Christmas repeats on TV!

Thanks to all the Staff and club jumpers for your efforts and support this year, have a great Christmas and New Year and hopefully we'll see you in between! Big Congratulations to Paul Robinson for becoming Skydive Swansea's Skydiver of the Year 2011!

Carl, Sara & Basil (DZ Cat)



**Are you often near aircraft  
and wind tunnel noise?**

**Have you experienced:**

- \* Ear Problems?
- \* Ringing in the Ears?
- \* Deteriorating Hearing?
- \* Perforated Ear Drum?
- \* Concentration Loss from Sound Distraction?



See us at the  
BPA AGM in  
January 2012

Anatomical ear defenders are moulded to fit the individual's own ears, providing a comfortable custom fit. With proper care, Custom Made Ear Defenders will last for years, proving inexpensive in the long term. Specifically manufactured to fit your ears perfectly, allowing you to enjoy skydiving and tunnel flying in comfort.

Call Antone to book an appointment for a fitting, he will come to your choice of dropzone or wind tunnel.

### Custom Made Ear Protection

For more details call Antone on:  
01305 264021 or 07971 679363  
info@customearprotection.co.uk  
www.customearprotection.co.uk

Custom Ear Protection, 99 High Street, Fordington,  
Dorchester DT1 1 LD. Established 1995

## Skydiving & Sport Scuba Diving Medicals

Dr Margaret Clamp  
MC Occupational Health  
The Corner House  
Rectory Road, Colwick  
Nottingham NG4 2DU.  
Mobile: 0780 2850084  
Email: mclamp@doctors.org.uk

# £50

## Service & Repairs



28 High Street  
Whitchurch  
Shropshire.  
SY13 1AU  
01948 662179

*Dodington's Sports Instruments*

PARACLETE PRESENTS:

# INDOOR SKYDIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

## 2012 Feb. 4 - 5

# The Podium is Waiting For You....

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US ONLINE AT  
[WWW.PARACLETEXP.COM](http://WWW.PARACLETEXP.COM)

# 1

Over \$20,000 USD in Cash and Prizes!

\$5,000 FS/VFS 1st Place Prize

\$1,000 Prize For Best Trick

PARACLETE X  
SKY VENTURE

4-Way FS Open and Intermediate | 4-Way VFS/Freefly Open and Advanced  
2-Way VFS/Freefly Open and Advanced | 1-Way Open Best Trick | 8-Way Open

# Beni Mellal

4000m  
20€

18<sup>th</sup> november 2011 to 15<sup>th</sup> april 2012

Under French Skydiving Federation  
BPA and USPA members welcomed

photos: Yohan Robespau - Bruno Pesse



**International  
skydiving  
championship**

PA, Voltige, FF, VR3 and VR4  
05<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> march 2012



*Should you require further information  
do not hesitate to contact us.*

[www.pacma.ma](http://www.pacma.ma) - [info@pacma.ma](mailto:info@pacma.ma)

Karim ZAZ (+212 6 47 00 00 10)  
Omar Benizi (+212 6 40 14 97 99)  
Georges Mineegher (+33 6 71 63 83 05)



[Jet4you.com](http://Jet4you.com)



**AeroStore**  
CORP.  
PARACHUTE SALES & SERVICE USA

XVIII  
International

**BOOGIE IN BRAZIL!**

**MARCH 16-18, 2012**

Whether you travel to Brazil with us, March 14-25, or travel on your own, we have a vacation package that can't be beat. From Rio de Janeiro, to Buzios for the Boogie, then back to Rio for more fun activities, this is the party of the year! Join us for 3 days of spectacular skydiving with one of the most beautiful backdrops in the world. Skydive all day, party all night Brazilian style! Packages include hotel in Buzios, hotel in Rio, reception dinner, a luau at the beach, scuba trips, Brazilian barbecues and much more! Call today to book your slot.

**1-800-AEROSKY**  
More details on [www.aerostore.com](http://www.aerostore.com)



# CLUB ZONE

**ACHIEVEMENTS** First Freefall Steph (Google) Stephens  
**AFF Graduates** Mark Reid, Rob Cartledge, Martyn Bridge  
**Cat 8** Matthew Fraser  
**JUMP NUMBERS**  
**400** Kev Coffey **3,400** Peter Connor **3,500** Steve Nolan

Date for your Diaries  
 14-15 July UKSL FS 4-way

You could have heard a pin drop in the recreation room when Steph (Google) Stephens from the Manchester posse got cleared for freefall. After a long, hard nine months of static lines she put in her best performance yet. Steph, you have stuck at it and your happy-go-lucky attitude has paid off. Steph is now cleared for 15 second delays and is going strong.

A large warm welcome goes to Lucy, Oli, Steph and James from Edinburgh University. It's a great pleasure to have you guys on board. Your enthusiasm is great to see and we hope you'll have a little inter-uni rivalry between yourselves and the Liverpool and Manchester fraternities. Bring it on! Also, Kieran has been busy with his canopy courses. Seven budding skydivers completed the weekend course and were able to make a number of descents thanks to the weather. The courses are worthwhile and we endorse any club member to enrol. Thanks to Kieran for the coaching and to Chicky for the photos.

## NETHERAVON

netheravon.com

The Scrambles held in September had a very good turnout with 11 teams in all. It was completed over two days on the hottest weekend of the year! The results were: in first place *Team 7*, in second *Lady and the Tramps*, and in third *Freeflyers on Holiday*. *Team Mega* did really well with one of its members using round one to get their FS1 – congratulations to Madeleine Leong.

The CF Nationals saw six teams turn up despite the dodgy forecast, but the competition was completed in two days with *CF UK* taking the honours in the senior 2-way sequential and *Aerodyne PH 36* in second. Congratulations to all medal winners.

Nethers based SOS 4-way team *Sioifur* have been busy training both at home and overseas, most recently in Seville where they achieved a 10.8 average. Back home now, and recovering well from the hard Spanish landings, they are looking forward to racking up the tunnel time with an eye on the 2012 World POPS meet in Holland.

Many thanks to Sandy Wibrew, who recently finished work at the APA after eight years as she has a 'Titchy' bun in the oven – sorry Sandy! Good luck and we'll miss you in manifest! Congrats on more nuptials to Ed and Sharon Bowyer. Well done to Devon Corbett and Jack Scarratt who both recently completed their AFF Level 1. Watch out Tanya and Jim – this could be about to get expensive!

## Record breakers

What a year 2011 has been! It's been a record-breaking one for us with our 2,000th Tandem completed in October. More students have also been jumping – our AFF and Static Line programmes are going strong even if the weather hasn't helped.

Claire Briggs has again been showing the way and now has her FS1. The jump wasn't smooth but we had to exit from 9,000ft, she showed control and we are proud. Chrissy now has her C Certificate so will be doing more and more FS coaching, helped by Leonie who has promised me to come back soon.

But our proudest moment of 2011 was Hazel Gibson and her 50th jump. Three years after 'having a go' she is now much better than her punching-above-his-weight-soon-to-be-husband, Andy Ttyyrreell. Congrats guys.

I think a big thanks needs to be given to the Redlands faithful who turn up most weekends to jump but end up helping, mainly when I manifest! I apologise, but it does add to our most wonderful atmosphere.

## CARK

skydivenorthwest.co.uk

Further to our 4-way UKSL bid we secured the July dates at Skydive North West.

Having been established in 1972 means that next year Skydive North West will be celebrating its 40th year of operation. We will have a number of events lined up for next year to mark the occasion.

From Martine, Kay, Mike and Stuart we would like to thank our staff for all their hard work this year. Enormous thanks must go to our university fraternities for your continued recruitment drives and brilliant organisational skills. Of course, many thanks to all our regular and student skydivers for your custom and continued support to our club. We reopen the first weekend in February.

Stu Morris

## The results are in



Long-time Netheravon club member Jim Scarratt's son Jack doing his AFF level 1

2012 is the 50th anniversary of the APA, and with that in mind we have lots of lovely skydiving stuff planned for next year. Patrick Passe and Caroline Hughes will be running a 32-way sequential event over the first May Bank Holiday. The Skyvan is back for the Jubilee weekend (2-5 June) when Caroline Allen and Dave Lewis will be organising a 60-way event and *Euphoria* will be running a freefly boogie.

**Kath Salibury, Liz Warner and Niels Hansen**

**ACHIEVEMENTS** Cat 8 Lydia Glynski, Chris Pudsey-Dansun, Tom Dunaway, Elise Sharp, Oliver Hebden, Michael Jones  
**FF1** Charlie Lambert  
**FS1** Madeleine Leong, Terri Judd  
**CP1** Baz Loftus  
**JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Peter Toth, Scott Minton  
**200** Danny Kelly  
**300** Vince Blandford, Jack Bradford, Paul Aubrey Rees  
**700** James Lee  
**800** Ed Bowyer  
**3,000** Ruth Green  
**3,333** David Pratt

## SWINDON

skydivelondon.co.uk



Em and Bruce will be organising the tour of Snowdon National Park and again, all are welcome. We also look forward to the Christmas Party, which will no doubt end in Mark Benson paying his £20 to me so we can finally end the stupid 'no drinking' bet!

The new plane goes from strength to strength and we are expecting a busier year next year, which we all hope makes Dunny a lot happier as he is grumpy. It can't be all of us now, can it?

Dylan Griffith-Jones

IF YOUR MIND IS SET ON THE  
SWOOP POND, THEN THIS MIGHT  
BE YOUR CHOICE...

www.paratec.de

FOR EVERYTHING ELSE, THERE'S THE...

# RAGE<sub>2</sub>

Different by

## DESIGN

Visit [www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de)



SOFTER, SMOOTHER OPENINGS THAN ANY OTHER CANOPY IN ITS CLASS\*

BUILT WITH CAD, LASER-CUT PANELS AND RAGE TECHNOLOGY,  
TO REDUCE DRAG AND IMPROVE LAMINAR AIRFLOW

LIGHT AND CONTROLLABLE FRONT RISER PRESSURE

LONG, PREDICTABLE SWOOPS WITH A POWERFUL FLARE,  
WITHOUT THE PACK VOLUME OF CROSS BRACING

LANDING IN  
SPRING  
2012

*\*Our unique R&D programme uses computer controlled telemetry to measure all aspects of canopy performance. Typical openings from terminal velocity, with optimum wing loading averaged 4.2 seconds, with a maximum opening peak force of 1.9G.*

Paratec GmbH  
Flugplatz - D -66798 Wallerfangen  
Tel: +49-6837 - 7375 - [www.paratec.de](http://www.paratec.de) - [info@paratec.de](mailto:info@paratec.de)

**paratec**  
dare to be different

# DROP ZONES



## BPA Affiliated DZs in the UK

### 1 Black Knights

**Black Knights Parachute Centre**  
Hillam Lane, Cockerham,  
Lancashire LA2 0DY  
DZ: 01524 791820  
T: 01772 717624  
Mob: 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 / 07522 335713  
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 Trevelas, 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@skydive99.com  
skydive99.com  
*Beech 99*

### 7 Headcorn

**Skydive Headcorn**  
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn,  
Kent TN27 9HX  
01622 891 670  
info@headcorn.com  
headcorn.com  
*Cessna Caravan, Islander*

### 8 Hibaldstow

**Target Skysports**  
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,  
Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN  
DZ: 01652 648 837  
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 Netheravon

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

### 13 Paragon

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

### 14 Peterlee

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

### 15 Reading

**London Parachute School**  
Chiltern Park Aerodrome  
Icknield Road  
Ipsden, Oxfordshire  
OX10 6AS  
0845 1307194  
info@londonparachuteschool.com  
londonparachuteschool.com  
*Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan*

### 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  
*Airvan, Cessna 206 and 172*

### 17 The Silver Stars

**Silver Stars**  
29 Regt, Duke of Gloucester  
Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester  
Gloucestershire GL7 5RD  
DZ: 01285 868111  
T: 07716 792942  
info@silverstars.me.uk  
silverstars.me.uk  
*Finist SMG*

### 18 St Andrews

**Skydive St Andrews**  
Osprey Road, Fife Airport,  
Glenrothes KY6 2SL  
0845 189 5865  
skydivestandrews@gmail.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: 07836 201953  
kkbrady@btinternet.com  
skydivesthathallan.co.uk  
*3 Cessna 206, guest Turbine*

### 20 Swansea

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

### 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

**RAF 22 Training Group**  
Availability TBC

### 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*

## BPA Overseas Affiliated DZs

### Cyprus

**Cyprus Parachute Centre**  
CJSATC, BFPO 58,  
Dhekelia 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  
jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk  
*Turbine Islander, Quest Kodiak,  
Dornier G92 on call*

## Parachuting Societies

### BCPA

**British Collegiate  
Parachute Association**  
Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman  
07969 210201  
mail@bcpa.org.uk  
bcpa.org.uk  
*A community for university  
skydivers*

### POPS

**Parachutists Over Phorty**  
Jeff Chandler, Top POP  
1 Beaulieu Road, Boscombe Down,  
Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7PD  
07779 580399  
jeffchandler@hotmail.com  
pops.org.uk

### SOS

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



**GIFT  
VOUCHERS  
AVAILABLE**

[www.symbiosissuits.co.uk](http://www.symbiosissuits.co.uk)

**A full range of skydiving suits for every aspect of the sport:**



**LARGE STOCK LIST OF NEW AND USED RIGS AND CANOPIES ON OUR WEBSITE**

*"I received the suit today and to say I'm highly impressed is an understatement!" - Matt*

*"You just made the first Saudi female Skydiver a very happy person....." - Samar*

*"I received my LOPO suit recently and it is brilliant, very pleased with the service and workmanship." - John B*

- Formation Skydiving
- Free Fly
- Style and Accuracy
- Canopy Formation
- Tandem
- Student training

- Airtec
- Icarus
- Mirage
- Sunpath
- Aerodyne
- Bonehead
- Chute Shop
- Sky Systems
- Thomas Sports
- Symbiosis Suits
- Performance Designs



**Dealers for Tonfly camera helmets**



*Run by Rob Colpus (Kit Zone author)*

**"YES we mail order too" [www.thekitstoreltd.co.uk](http://www.thekitstoreltd.co.uk)**

**The Kit Store Ltd**

**Headcorn Airfield, Kent TN27 9HX Tel: 01622 890 967 Fax: 01622 891 236 Email: [symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com](mailto:symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com)**

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

# EVENTS ZONE

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



## KEY

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

## DECEMBER

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

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

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

9-11 Safe Flight School  
Empuria, Spain • [safeflightsschool.com](http://safeflightsschool.com)

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

15-16 Wingsuit Course  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

17 Black Knights Christmas Party  
Black Knights • [bkpc.co.uk](http://bkpc.co.uk)

17 Chatteris Christmas Party  
Chatteris • [ukskydiving.com](http://ukskydiving.com)

17 Dunkeswell Christmas Party  
Dunkeswell • [skydive99.com](http://skydive99.com)

17 Hinton Christmas Party  
Hinton • [skydive.co.uk](http://skydive.co.uk)

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

23-Jan 1 Christmas Boogie  
Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

24-Jan 1 Christmas Boogie  
Empuria, Spain • [skydiveempuriabrava.com](http://skydiveempuriabrava.com)

26-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie  
Sebastian, Florida • [skydiveseb.com](http://skydiveseb.com)

28-31 6-way Weekend  
Seville, Spain • [skydivespain.com](http://skydivespain.com)

## JANUARY 2012

7 Night Jump programme  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

28 BPA AGM & 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner  
Reebok Stadium, Bolton • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

30-Feb 3 BPA Instructor Course (CSBI)  
Netheravon • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

## FEBRUARY

6-10 BPA Instructor Course (CSI)  
Netheravon • [trudy@bpa.org.uk](mailto:trudy@bpa.org.uk)

19-27 Dubai 253-Way  
Dubai • [dubai500.com](http://dubai500.com)

## MARCH

16-17 HEAT Canopy Coaching Course  
Tilstock • [theparachutecentre.com](http://theparachutecentre.com)

16-18 Shamrock Showdown  
Deland, Florida • [skyleague.com](http://skyleague.com)

31-April 1 6-way FS Competition  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

## APRIL

3-8 Skydive EXPO  
DeLand Florida • [skydiveexpo.com](http://skydiveexpo.com)

6-8 Bodyflight World Challenge  
Bedford • [bodyflight.co.uk](http://bodyflight.co.uk)

13-14 BPA Freely coaching roadshow  
Tilstock • [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk)

## MAY

3-6 P3 Big-Way Camp  
Perris, California • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

4-7 Patrick Passe 32-way Sequential  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

4-7 Wingsuit Competition  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

4-7 BCPA Dunkeswell 2012  
Dunkeswell • [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)

5-13 Langar Boogie 1  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

10-13 P3 100-Way Camp  
Perris, California • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

12-13 UKSL FS 4-way  
Peterlee • [skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://skydiveacademy.org.uk)

16-20 P3 200-Way Camp  
Perris, California • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

30-June 10 Aussie National Record '12  
Perris, California • [p3skydiving.com](http://p3skydiving.com)

## JUNE

1-4 BCPA Scots On Tour 2012  
Cark • [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)

2-5 60-way weekend & Freely Boogie  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

2-5 Go Vertical  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

9-10 UKSL FS 4-way  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)

16-30 BCPA Tour  
Elsinore • [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)

19-24 Vector Festival  
Prostejov, CZ • [vectorfestival.com](http://vectorfestival.com)

28-July 8 11th World POPS Meet  
Teuge, Holland • [pops-nl.com](http://pops-nl.com)

## JULY

4-8 BCPA Nationals 2012  
Sibson • [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)

7-13 Armed Forces Parachute Championships  
Netheravon • [netheravon.com](http://netheravon.com)

14-15 UKSL FS 4-way  
Cark • [skydivenorthwest.co.uk](http://skydivenorthwest.co.uk)

24-29 Twin Beech Boogie  
Dunkeswell • [bcpa.org.uk](http://bcpa.org.uk)

## AUGUST

11-13 FS 4-way & VFS Nationals  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

18-20 FS 8-way & Artistics Nationals  
FS 4-way & VFS Nationals reserve  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

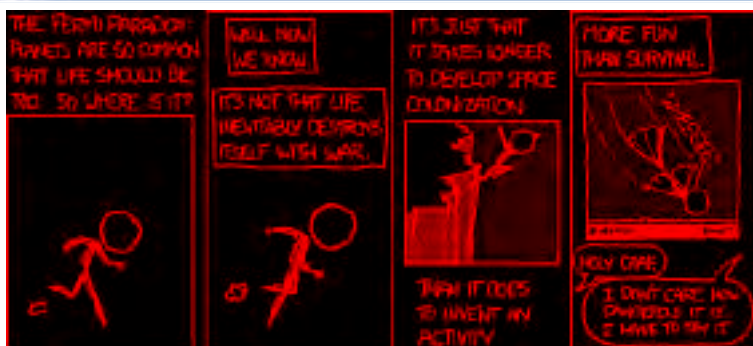
25-27 FS 8way & Artistics Nationals reserve  
Hibaldstow • [skydiving.co.uk](http://skydiving.co.uk)

26-Sept 2 FS & Artistics European Championships  
Prostejov, Czech Rep. • [fai.org](http://fai.org)

## SEPTEMBER

8-9 8-way speed & CF Nationals  
Sibson • [skydivesibson.co.uk](http://skydivesibson.co.uk)

8-16 Langar Boogie 2  
Langar • [skydivelangar.co.uk](http://skydivelangar.co.uk)



Many years ago the Mag had a regular cartoon, drawn by Phil Wells and John Partington Smith. Along with previous Editor Dave Waterman, their book *Superfly, Mal and Filwelz* was published in 2010. The cartoons featured skydiving humour, usually laughing at ourselves! It would be great to resurrect this old Mag tradition with a modern feel, **so if any budding cartoonists fancy getting published then please contact [editor@skydivethemag.com](mailto:editor@skydivethemag.com)**. In the meantime, thanks to [xkcd](http://xkcd.com) for providing this month's humour.

**CYPRES 2**  
highest reliability

**CYPRES**  
unlimited guarantee



**sports**  
**oxyshot**<sup>TM</sup>

**oxygen for  
enhanced  
body & mind performance**

enhances body strength, stamina and recovery

optimises mind focus and concentration

no calories, natural ingredients

# Oxygen

## – the totally fair advantage

As any nutritionist will gladly tell you, oxygen plays a vital role in maintaining a healthy body and mind. It's the single most important nutrient in energy production and provides vital fuel for our bodies. But it's not just about stamina. Our brains divert up to 20% of our oxygen intake just to function, using it to boost concentration and maintain our sense of wellbeing.

**What is OxyShot?** A breakthrough oxygen technology! In the form of a liquid electrolyte nutritional supplement that's pH balanced and made from natural ingredients.

**What does it do?** Can help to increase oxygen, reduce lactic acid and carbon dioxide levels in the blood.

**What is it like?** Like an energy drink but without the fizz, caffeine, sugar or taurine - It's an "Oxygen Shot" - making it purer! It won't rot your teeth or make you hyperactive. With absolutely zero calories it won't even make you fat, in fact it will help you burn those calories faster!

**How does it work?** Under stress and physical exertion, the body's demand for oxygen increases. OxyShot can help to counteract oxygen debt and keep body and mind in peak condition.

**Who invented it?** The secret of OxyShot lies in Charged Stabilised Oxygen - CSO<sup>2</sup><sup>TM</sup>, a literally space-age technology pioneered by NASA, who else!

**Is it legal?** OxyShot is certified free of banned substances by IOC and WADA accredited laboratories.

**Who uses it?** Anyone! Internationally recognised and endorsed by professionals to improve mental focus, boost peak performance and speed up recovery times. See what the professionals say or post your own experience on our website.

**The effects aren't just limited to sport!** If you've been flat out at work or partied too hard, a timely boost of oxygen will help clear your head, maintain focus and keep you in control.

**Training or Competition, Classroom or Boardroom - give yourself the edge**

nutritional  
supplement

CSO<sup>2</sup>  
CHARGED  
STABILISED OXYGEN

puralife

Tel : +44(0)1527 857 920 info@puralife.co.uk www.puralife.co.uk





# SPEED MATTERS...

## VISCO II

VISUAL ALTIMETER



Combine with L&B's OPTIMA<sup>®</sup> for total altitude awareness!

### FEATURES:

- Visual altimeter
- Digital accuracy
- Datalogging for review
- Back-lit face
- Hand or wrist mounted
- Accessories available
- Long lasting batteries
- Playback of jumps
- ~~Video Assistant~~
- Freefall speed measurement
- Standard or Metric

### FLIGHT PERFORMANCE



**LARSEN & BRUSGAARD**  
www.L-and-B.dk

Ledreborg Alle 28 • 4000 Roskilde • Denmark • +45 46 48 24 80 • Fax » +45 46 48 24 90 • l-and-b@L-and-B.dk

# ADVERTISER INDEX

|                                    |                     |                           |                |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| A1 SKYDIVING                       | +44 (0)7984 841513  | a1skydiving@gmail.com     | 81             |
| AERODYNE RESEARCH                  | +1 8138 916 300     | flyaerodyne.com           | 6              |
| AEROSTORE CORP                     | +1 6103 278 555     | aerostore.com             | 74             |
| AIRSPORTS INSURANCE                | +44 (0)1983 298480  | airsports@bhpa.co.uk      | 66             |
| BEV SUITS                          | +1 6102 856 994     | bevsuit.com               | 65             |
| BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS (LANGAR) | +44 (0)1949 860878  | skydivelangar.co.uk       | 30             |
| CHUTING STAR                       | +1 7704 454 000     | chutingstar.com           | 21             |
| CUSTOM MADE EAR PROTECTION         | +44 (0) 1305 264021 | customearprotection.co.uk | 73             |
| CYPRES                             | +49 2953 989 947    | cypres.cc                 | 13             |
| DAVE COX (Maurici apartment)       | +44 (0)1844 273200  | mauriciapartment.biz      | 66             |
| DODDINGTONS                        | +44 (0) 1948 662179 | jwojda46@aol.com          | 73             |
| DR MARGARET CLAMP                  | +44 (0)7802 850084  | mclamp@doctors.org.u      | 73             |
| DUBAI 500                          | +1 951 657 8260     | dubai500.com              | 70             |
| DZ SPORTS                          | +44 (0)1295 812101  | dzsports.com              | 29             |
| FREEFALL UNIVERSITY                | +44 (0)2078 702505  | freefalluni.co.uk         | 2              |
| GIPPS AERO                         | +44 (0)7540 162002  | gippsaero.com             | 14             |
| HARRISON BEAUMONT                  | +44 (0)1473 384830  | hbinsurance.co.uk         | 49             |
| JUMP-TANDEM                        | +42 072 417 5175    | jump-tandem.cz            | 44             |
| KIT STORE                          | +44 (0)1622 890967  | thekitstoreltd.co.uk      | 78             |
| LARSEN & BRUSGAARD                 | +45 464 824 80      | L-and-B.dk                | 49, 58, 69, 81 |
| LIQUID EYEWEAR                     | +1 9283 290 006     | liquidpolarized.com       | 66             |
| NZ SKYDIVING SCHOOL                | +6 433 029 143      | skydivingnz.com           | 58             |
| OXYSHOT                            | +44 (0)1527 857920  | puralife.co.uk            | 80             |
| PARACLETE XP                       | +1 910 8482 600     | paracletexp.com           | 73             |
| PARA GEAR EQUIPMENT                | +1 8476 795 905     | paragear.com              | 40             |
| PARA-SERVICE                       | +1 2392 828 834     | para-service.com          | 52             |
| PARATEC                            | +49 683 773 75      | paratec.de                | 76             |
| PERFORMANCE DESIGNS                | +1 3867 382 224     | performancedesigns.com    | 9              |
| POINT ZERO                         | +44 (0)1295 810600  | pointzero.co.uk           | 65             |
| RAINBOW DESIGN                     | +49 3393 272 461    | rainbowsuits.com          | 58             |
| RAMBLERS PARACHUTING               | +61 754 231 159     | ramblers.com.au           | 66             |
| SKY COVER                          | +44 (0)844 892 1515 | sky-cover.co.uk           | 65             |
| SKYDIVE EXPO                       | +1 386 490 4499     | skydiveexpo.com           | 52             |
| SKYDIVE HIBALDSTOW                 | +44 (0)113 250 5600 | skydiving.co.uk           | 54, 55         |
| SKYDIVE MOROCCO                    | +21 2647000010      | karim@zaz.ma              | 74             |
| SKYDIVE SWANSEA                    | +44 (0) 1792 207035 | skydiveswansea.co.uk      | 52             |
| SKYDIVE UK LTD (DUNKESWELL)        | +44 (0)1404 890222  | skydivethewell.com        | 49             |
| SPORTS FINANCIAL SERVICES          | +44 (0)844 579 1006 | sports-fs.co.uk           | 69             |
| SQUARE 1                           | +1 951 657 8260     | square1.com               | 83             |
| SUN PATH                           | +1 910 875 9002     | sunpath.com               | 10             |
| SYMBIOSIS SUITS                    | +44 (0)1622 890967  | thekitstoreltd.co.uk      | 78             |
| THE JUMP SHOP                      | +44 (0)7939 030339  | thejumpshop.co.uk         | 81             |
| THOMAS SPORTS EQUIPMENT            | +44 (0)1262 678299  | thomas-sports.com         | 84             |
| TOP GEAR                           | +44 (0) 1702 713165 | shoptopgear.co.uk         | 69             |
| VIGIL                              | +32 2 732 6552      | vigil.aero                | 51             |



## THE JUMPSHOP

Simply The Best Parachute Equipment.



- Altimeters & Log Books • Books, DVDs & Gifts  
• Complete Parachute Systems  
• Gloves & Goggles • Jump Suits & Clothing  
• Skydive Bookings • Skydiving Gear Packages

Buy online or visit one of our three DZ stores  
Alternatively, give us a call or drop us an email

www.buyskydivegear.com E:buyskydivegear@thomassports.co.uk

# A1 skydiving

## 2nd-hand skydiving equipment sales

Located just off the A1 at Sibson Airfield

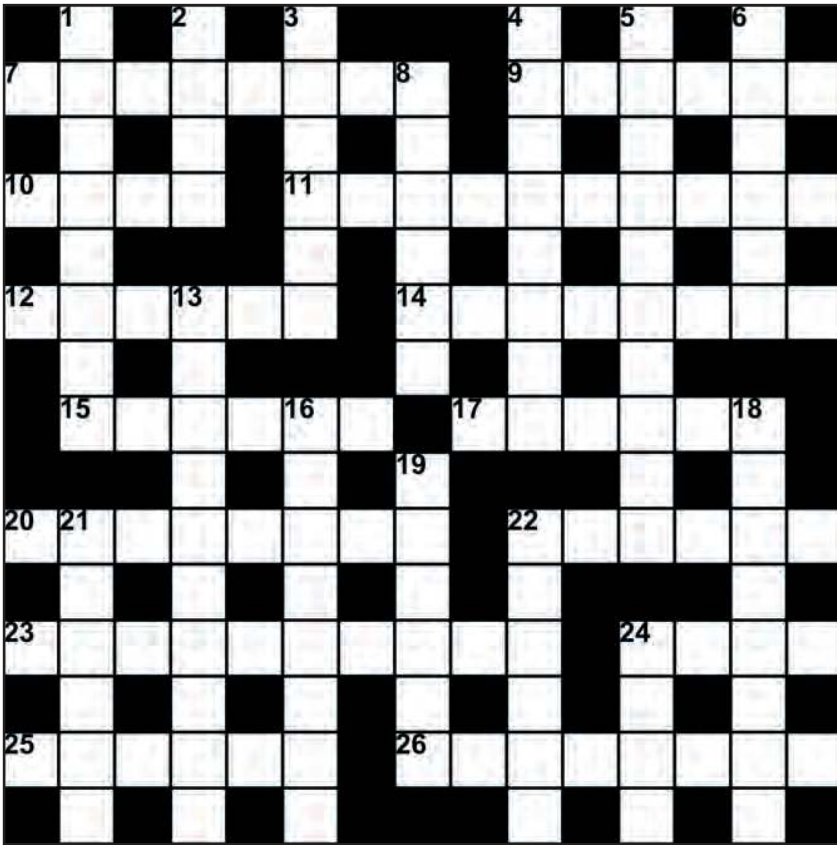
### GOOD PRICES PAID FOR YOUR USED GEAR!

Call 07984841513  
Email a1skydiving@gmail.com

# PUZZLE



Paul Boorer >>



## CLUES

- Across**
- 7. Upside-down
  - 9. Sporting contests
  - 10. Lateral half
  - 11. Steering connectors (5,5)
  - 12. Save
  - 14. Malfunction; 24 down
  - 15. Salad fruit
  - 17. Of the air
  - 20. Unrestricted descent (4,4)
  - 22. Not automatic
- Down**
- 1. Occurrence
  - 2. Lake
  - 3. Firm
  - 4. DZ of Skydive Academy
  - 5. Brief pause
  - 23. Examination
  - 24. Miss
  - 25. Fortune teller
  - 26. Hearing protectors
  - 6. More than one de Havilland DHC-3
  - 8. Un-bow (2-4)
  - 13. Ability; skill
  - 16. Move across
  - 18. Inclinations
  - 19. Sheep's clothing?
  - 21. Canopy connectors
  - 22. Measurers
  - 24. Autumn

**ACROSS** 7. Inverted 9. Events 10. Side 11. Brake lines 12. Rescue 14. Collapse 15. Tomato 17. Aerial 20. Free fall 22. Manual 23. Assessment 24. Fall 25. Oracle 26. Earplugs  
**DOWN** 1. Incident 2. Mere 3. Stable 4. Parolee 5. Hesitation 6. Otters 8. De-arch 13. Competence 16. Transfer 18. Leanings 19. Fleece 21. Risers 22. Meters 24. Fall

# TIME ZONE

Sue Ashley >>

This September 1898 cutting from the *Windsor Express* recounts a demo parachute jump from a balloon, complete with non-PC language of the era...



Although it happened in the century before last, it wasn't the first English parachute descent – that honour goes to John Hampton who made a similar balloon jump 60 years earlier from 9,000 feet over Cheltenham.

His parachute was made of canvas over a framework of whalebone ribs and bamboo stretchers, attached by a copper tube to a small wicker basket. After his triumphant jump, a delighted Mr Hampton is reported as telling how his descent began so rapidly it "knocked the breath right out of me". Then his parachute inflated fully and he drifted more slowly to the ground.

His descent lasted 12 minutes 40 seconds and he landed with only a scratch to his forehead.

In the 20th century houses were built on the neighbouring field where the Windsor balloon landed, one of which Editor Liz later grew up in!

**Thanks to Liz's history-detective mum for finding the cutting.**

# CYPRES 2

## 24 hours waterproof

# PHANTOM

THE NEXT GENERATION SKYDIVING HELMET



2MM THICK FLIP-UP LENS



EASY CHANGE LENS



ADJUSTABLE SNAP



## 2MM POLYCARBONATE LENS

- >> OFFERS SUPERIOR PROTECTION
- >> OPENS AND CLOSES WITH EASE
- >> ANTI-FOG COATED
- >> ANTI-SCRATCH COATED
- >> EASY TO CLEAN

## EASY CHANGE LENS SYSTEM

- >> CHANGE YOUR LENS IN 30 SECS
- >> NO TOOLS REQUIRED
- >> NO LOOSE PARTS
- >> NO NEED FOR SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH

## INTELLIGENT ENGINEERING

- >> WIDEST FIELD OF VISION
- >> DUAL LENS LOCKS (1 EACH SIDE)
- >> SECURE AUDIBLE POCKET
- >> PROVEN TIGHTENING SYSTEM WITH ADJUSTABLE SNAP

OFFICIAL HELMET OF THE DUBAI 500 WORLD RECORD [WWW.DUBAI500.COM](http://WWW.DUBAI500.COM)

**SQUARE 1**.com  
PARACHUTE SALES & SERVICE

PHONE +1 (951) 657-8260 FAX +1 (951) 657-8179 EMAIL [sales@square1.com](mailto:sales@square1.com)



[squareonesales](http://squareonesales.com) / [squareonejackie](http://squareonejackie.com)



....your  
mission  
is our  
mission.



# Panthera Onca 2012

Tel. +44 (0)1262 678299  
[www.thomas-sports.com](http://www.thomas-sports.com)  
[mail@thomas-sports.com](mailto:mail@thomas-sports.com)



THOMAS DEFENCE  
SYSTEMS

ISO 9001-2008