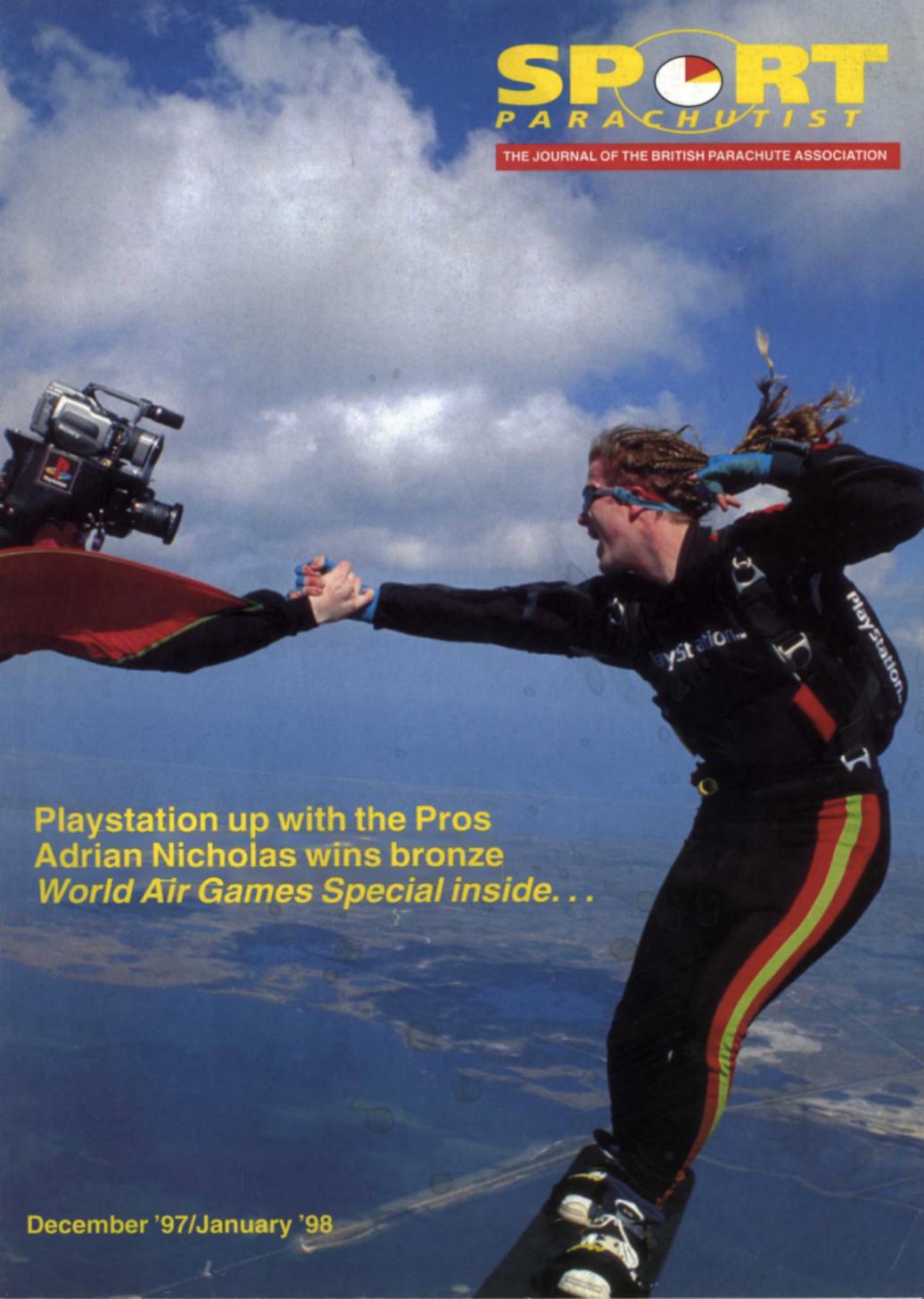


# SPORT PARACHUTIST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION



**Playstation up with the Pros**  
**Adrian Nicholas wins bronze**  
*World Air Games Special inside...*

December '97/January '98

# JAVELIN

## Standard Issue...



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## DECEMBER 1997

# SPORT PARACHUTIST

Journal of the British Parachute Association

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To subscribe to Sport Parachutist magazine fill out the coupon on page 48

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#### BPA Officers and Representatives

BPA Chairman ..... **Lofty Thomas**  
BPA Vice Chairman ..... **Phil Gibbs**  
STC Chairman ..... **Tye Boughen**  
Competitions Committee Chairman ..... **Chris Allen**  
Development Committee Chairman ..... **Phil Gibbs**  
Riggers Committee Chairman ..... **Paul Applegate**  
Pilots Committee Chairman ..... **Pat Howell**  
Treasurer ..... **Debbie Carter**  
Vice Presidents ..... **Jim Crocker and Bob Card**  
Liaison Officer to CAA ..... **Tony Knight**  
GASCo Representative & Vice President ..... **Angela Hickling**  
IPC Delegate ..... **John Hitchen**

#### Council Members

Chris Allen, Paul Applegate, Steve Apps, Tye Boughen,  
Peter Carroll, Dave Emerson, Phil Gibbs,  
Ian Marshall, Michael Matthews, Charles Ross, John Saunders,  
John Smyth, Lofty Thomas

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**Cover Photo:** *Playstation* in training for the World Air Games, photo taken by Brian Erler above Titusville, Florida. Congratulations to *Playstation* (Mike Frost and Andy Ford) for an excellent result (see pages 26 - 31 for details).

**NOTE:** Some of the photos contained in this magazine may show skydivers without helmets, in which case they were jumping abroad. In the UK it is mandatory to wear a helmet for obvious safety reasons.

The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability correct at the time of going to press. Reproduction, printing and despatch takes a total of 3 1/2 weeks so some information may be out of date or superseded.



SUPPORTED BY



# Do you want a bigger mag?



Every issue I have the same problem; an abundance of quality articles and photographs with not enough pages to put them on. I'd like to publish more of general interest and/or educational value but, after the 'must cover' events like the Nationals and World Meets there is very little space left. This issue is a case in point where we just didn't have room for regulars like People in the Sport, Dive Doctor and What's On, never mind excellent articles on canopy collisions, accident insurance, stretching and a world record skysurf.

The mag is 54 pages, half of them colour; this spec is largely for historical reasons. The advertisement content has stayed fairly constant at an average of 16 pages since I started; the highest was 18 pages, the lowest 15.

At present, the mag represents £13 of your BPA subscription which is £53. Since I started two years ago, we have increased the number of colour photographs, improved the content and brought the mag out on time. Thanks to efficient management, we have bettered *Sport Parachutist* at no extra cost to you. For next year, we will maintain the magazine subscription at the same level for the same standard.

But if you, the membership, want a larger magazine, all you have to do is pay for it. I would like to propose an item of special business at the AGM:

- that the mag is increased in size by 8 colour pages per issue, at an extra cost of £2.93 per member

Having researched other options, this seems to give the best value for money. To put this into perspective, each extra page would cost you 6 pence!

If you vote the motion in, the extra pages will not be used for adverts, only for editorial. We would do the following:

- include more general interest/educational articles
- liven up the news pages with colour photos
- include a Club Corner of photos/news from around the UK
- add a colour coded diary section

I wanted to float the idea in this December issue to give you all a chance to mull it over. Also to give those of you not at the AGM a chance to vote. Please send any



# Diary

Date	Event	Location	Contact
<b>December</b>			
1-14	Skills Camp	Skydive Sebastian	01733 755860
9	EGM	BPA Offices, Leicester	BPA 0116 278 5271
13-Jan 4	Christmas Boogie	Ampurivabrava, CPCB	00 34 72 45 01 11
13-Jan 4	Christmas Boogie	Lake Wales, Florida	00 1 941 6781003
13-14	4-way meet	Lake Wales, Florida	00 1 941 6781003
15-18	Skydive U certification course	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
19-Jan 3	Christmas Boogie	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
20-Jan 4	Z-Hills Christmas Bash	Skydive City, Z-Hills	00 1 813 783 9399
20-21	4-way money meet	Skydive City, Z-Hills	00 1 813 783 9399
28	FSL 4-way meet	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
28-Jan 2	Freefly Carnival with Adrian Nicholas	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
31	10-way speed star competition	Ampurivabrava, CPCB	00 34 72 45 01 11
<b>January 1998</b>			
10-11	South African Boogie	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
24	AGM	Posthouse Hotel, Coventry	01203 613261
24-25	4-way money meet	Skydive City, Z-Hills	00 1 813 783 9399
30- Feb1	No contact skydives with Lyle	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 581 7447
<b>February</b>			
5-22	Exotic Sky Adventures Boogie	Thailand	01252 712284
13-15	Valentines Boogie	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
19-22	Skydive U certification course	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
<b>March</b>			
14-15	America's Cup/FSL 4-way meet	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
28-29	PD Source weekend	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 581 7447
28- April12	Z-Hills Easter Boogie	Skydive City, Z-Hills	00 1 813 783 9399
28- April12	Easter Boogie	Lake Wales, Florida	00 1 941 6781003
<b>April</b>			
1-5	Skydive U Skills Camp; sequential	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
9-13	Easter Boogie	Skydive Sebastian	00 1 561 388 5672
25-26	Flanders Championship	Schaffen-Diest, Belgium	00 32 14 450 850
<b>May</b>			
2-3	POPS International	Oud-Turnhout, Belgium	01253 713841
8-18	Friends of Skydive Sebastian Boogie	Cancun, Mexico	00 1 561 388 5672
22-24	\$2,000 Accuracy meet	Oud-Turnhout, Belgium	00 32 14 450 850

comments you have to me at the address or email below. Even if you don't attend the AGM your views will count, as my proposal (or otherwise) will take them into account.

It's your mag, let me know what you want. Look forward to hearing from you.

**Sport Parachutist**

**3 Burton Street, Peterborough PE1 5HA**  
**email: sportpara@aol.com**

SPORT PARACHUTIST	Copy Deadline	News and Snippets	Stop Press and Latest Diary	To Reader
For:	Long articles & photos Dive Dr, Dive of Month	News items and Snippets with photos	Late news and dates, WoTS info	
FEBRUARY	Tues 16 December	Mon 12 January	Thurs 15 January	Sat 10 February
APRIL	Tues 17 February	Mon 2 March	Thurs 5 March	Sat 4 April

# News



## WORLD RECORD SKYSURF

Chris Gauge and Tim Porter, of *Vice Versa* skysurfing team achieved a new World Record in high altitude skysurfing, from a balloon from 24,000ft on 19 September. The jump was filmed by Leo and Mandy Dickinson and raised nearly £1,000 for a young lad, David Chapman, who was severely burned in a motorbike accident. Even though it was a hot day the record breaking team experienced temperatures of -22°C. The team trained at RAF Boscombe Down decompression chamber on high altitude safety.

## CF WORLD CUP

The fourth World Cup of Canopy Formations was held in Wyoming, USA. A closely run event, the CF rotations was won by the consistent Italian team, closely followed by USA's *Quantum Leap* with Russia taking the bronze. The Sequential event was won by France, *Quantum Leap* again came second and the other USA team, *Wild Humans*, gaining third place. *Quantum Leap* were the only team to win three medals as they placed third in the 8-way speed event, which was won by the now international

team, *Wild Humans*, the silver went to the Russians. New World Records were set in two events, due to a change in rules meaning previous records were retired. The new records are 19 rotations (set by the Italians) and 11 formations in the sequential event, set by the French.

## CF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Just to remind everyone, the seventh World Cup in CF will be held at Netheravon over the period 18-26 July 1998. If you would like to be involved as a volunteer helper or would like information, please call Mac Hutchinson on 01980 678250 or 0411 216431.

## XL NEWS

After placing fifth at the World Air Games in Turkey with an average of 17.6, *Sebastian XL* entered the US Nationals. The 4-way event was won by *Arizona Airspeed*, second place (but no silver medal) went to *Mauberge* of France and *Arizona Vortex* placed third. The *Golden Knights* had split into two teams for the 4-way event. The *Knights* teams came in fourth and sixth, *XL* splitting these teams by placing fifth with an average of 16.5. *Sebastian* teamed up with *Mauberge* for the 8-way

event where they came third.

Chris Lynch is leaving the team to return to travelling. As we went to press, auditions were being carried out for the potential new member, Chris has volunteered to train them.

## ESPACE BOOGIE DATES

The dates for the next Espace Boogie have been announced as July 25 - August 2, 1998. The aircraft will be the same as this year, an Antonov 72-74. The location is not decided yet. For details contact Joel Cruciani on 0033 6 0749 9150, fax 0033 4 7875 6050.

## WIND TUNNEL

Loz Coleman has a working wind machine called Airzone which can act as a skydiving simulator to aid training of novices or experienced skydivers. The unit is portable and has recently been used to film some of the stunts for *The Avengers*. For more details contact Loz on 01733 270743.

## ADVENTURE SPORTS DIRECTORY

A new book has been launched, aiming to provide a comprehensive guide to adventure sports. The directory at present covers 41 sports. It includes an introduction to skydiving written by Andy Guest. The Adventure Sports Directory will be an annual publication and the publishers are keen for feedback which could improve future editions. If anyone has any comments, please contact one of the Development Committee. The directory is available from Dillons, Waterstones and similar outlets, priced £9.95. For information: 0171 603 8760.

Stop Press!

## RIP

Jim Coffey, one time Red Devil, many times a member of the British classics team and ex CCI of RAPA, has died in hospital at the age of 52. His funeral was on 11 November, attended by a huge contingent of family and friends. The Red Freds Islander GO-RED did a flypast as a mark of respect.

Jim tirelessly passed on his skills to others, efficiently training many style and accuracy teams. His RAPA students speak highly of him as a very caring person who made the drop zone a great place to be. Our sympathies go out to his brothers, his ex-wife Tina and all who knew Jim; he was an unforgettable person and a dear friend of many.

## JULIA VERNON

It is with great sadness that we hear of the loss of Julia Vernon. A vibrant, funny crazy woman who was always laughing, deeply in love with her man Nigel. A hot skydiver she was on the Ladies British Record 47-way. Formerly of Langar DZ, Nigel and Julia moved to Australia a couple of years ago, finding a home in Sydney. We lost Julia on a 50 way demo out of a Herc, when she made a low turn, impacted with the ground and died a couple of hours later without regaining consciousness. Nigel, we all feel your loss.

## Did you know?

... that Sport Parachutist magazine binders are available to store your mags in order and protect them from damage. The binders hold 12 magazines, cost £5 and are available from the BPA office on 0116 278 5271

## Did you know?

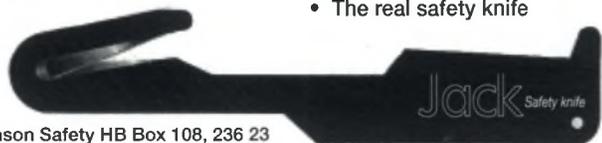
... that Headcorn Parachute Centre has a Porter in for the winter season. It has a door and a heater!

## A Great Bite with a Perfect Grip

The JACK Safety Knife is there to help you in case of entanglement or other unplanned situations.

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- Dayglo yellow or black colour
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- No search for fingerholes
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- The real safety knife



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Made in Sweden

## Ronnie's

This month -  
Please ask about  
Christmas specials and sale items

For all kit requirements

for Parachute de France Atom - Sunpath Javelin - TSE Tear Drop containers; for Springo - Merit - BT Pro - Stiletto - Sabre - PD mains; for Techno - Tempo - PDR reserves. Also for Eureka FT 50 altis - Factory Divers - Time Out!! - Tony and Symbiosis jump suits.

For latest details call Pete on

**01832 280131 at Sibson Airfield, Sibson Peterborough, PE8 6NE**







**STILETTO ACCURACY**

The annual Headcorn LAC meet was held on 8 Sept. Due to low cloud, the launch part of the meet was dropped. The manifest was moved to the pit, so that all could watch the landings. Joey Jones of *Sebastian Air FX* 4-way (22.5 average, WOW!) was over on holiday. He swooped his Stiletto 107 into the pit, to score 10cm, 16cm, 10cm and a disc! This placed him fourth in individual accuracy. Not bad for a dude on a Stiletto! Jane Buckle and Rob Colpus fought it out for the Individual Trophy. Both had a naffish first round, followed by 2 discs each, then the HEAT WAS ON! Rob scored 8cm on the last round, Jane 10. Nice one Kool Kat! Jane's team *Why?* won the meet, nice one Pete Sizer, Dave Crowhurst and Ken Gregory. Kool Kat's team *Toxic Dog* suffered a handicap called ME, hence came in second. Headcorn staff Lisa, Kathy and Rob McGiff took the bronze with guest star Joey. YTS won the intermediate team event. The meet was great, far more fun than I thought it was possible to have doing accuracy.

**WHITE CHRISTMAS**

CPCB will be hosting its usual Christmas Boogie. This has been for many years the premier European Christmas event. There will be stacks of aircraft and Load Organisers. K-Ramba run their free fly school there and you can get instruction from them. The parties are always massive and there is the annual 10-way speed meet on New Years Day. Be Cool this Yule. 0034 7245 0111 for details.

**ALL JAVELIN JUMP**

Derro Thomas, father of the Javelin, is organising another 'All Javelin' skydive. The last was a successful 104-way at Sebastian, Florida. Should you own a Javelin and wish to be on the load then call Derro at 001 813 782 9212.

**FLYBOYZ FREEFLY**

The current ESPN Pro Tour World Champions are the *Fly Boyz*, based at Perris Valley. They run an excellent freefly school using

helmet mounted PC7 video cameras so that they can fully debrief. The *Fly Boyz* can teach you in a few jumps what it has taken them thousands to learn! If you are a fledgling freeflyer or a demi-god, get over to Perris and see Eli, Mike and Fritz. Your skydiving will take on a whole new enthusiasm. Check it out, it'll change your life.

**BEYOND THE EDGE**

Patrick de Gayardon and some friends have been doing some mind blowing stuff for Sector, Patrick's sponsors. Patrick (the Coolest skydiver in the world, in WoTS opinion) has been developing a 'Ram Air Suit' to fly in. In this suit he has achieved what you would think the impossible - 2mins 10+ secs of freefall from 13,500ft! Patrick managed to fly back into the Porter he just jumped out of, up to four times in one jump! Adrian Nicholas has flown camera for Patrick on some of these jumps. AD was wearing 16mm cameras to film jumps in Chamonix, France and the Grand Canyon, USA. He told WoTS stories of jumps that are truly awesome. "We were flying 20 metres from the cliffs, Patrick with smoke, me with cameras and alongside was the Porter we had jumped from, with a film crew in the door." Exciting is not quite a big enough word for the video produced. This is the edge then AD? "No George, this is WAY beyond!" No shit!...

**WORLD RECORD STAR**

In the 100-way camp organised by Kate Cooper and Tony Domenico, on Sunday October 26, 1997, a world record star was created. We built a 114-way from 16,500ft using a Casa, Skyvan, and 4 Otters. The first point was a 114-way starfish formation with table-topped loops zippered to a 10-way base. The second point was keyed at 6,500ft making a 104-way round with the 10-way base in the middle. Stuart McArthur (ex Sibson, ex FlashBack) did his 4,000th skydive on this load. Narce!!

**George Pilkington**

**Go Vertical 18th-25th April with Team Vice Versa**

(Tim Porter & Chris Gauge)

FREEFLY/SKYSURF/FREE STYLE/CHUTE ASSIS

\$17.00 to 16,500 ft. agl.



**TRAIN IN SPAIN**

**EASTER BOOGIE**

4-19 April 1998 No registration fee • Barbeques Free Load Organising

**Time-Out 4-Way Challenge**  
11-12 April '98

**TWIN OTTER 13,000 ft**

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- Individuals \$17

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RW 5 April	13-17	AFF Course 950 PDS

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Carreterra Bailen - Motril 6 km, E-23710 Bailen (Jaen)



## Dinner Dance Menu



*Leek & Potato Soup*  
served with chopped chives & croutons

\*\*\*

*Supreme of Chicken*  
pan fried and finished with dijonnaise sauce  
served with a selection of  
seasonal vegetables & potatoes

\*\*\*

*Vegetarian option:*  
*Aubergine and mozzarella bake*  
served with a mixed salad and garlic bread

\*\*\*

*Rick chocolate gateau*  
served with double cream

\*\*\*

*Freshly brewed coffee*  
and mints



Vegetarian option must be booked in advance

### AGM phone numbers:

**BPA: 0116 2785 271**

for dinner dance tickets @ £18 per head

**Forte Posthouse Hotel: 01203 613 261**

for accommodation @ £46 per double room  
(tell them you are a BPA member)

#### Accommodation

For Saturday night (24 January), we have reserved all 147 twin/double rooms in the hotel for BPA members at £46 per room. (Still pretty good value at £23 a head!) We have also reserved 60 rooms for the Friday night to cater for those members travelling long distances. **BOOK NOW** by calling the hotel on 01203 613 261. Don't forget to tell them that you are a BPA member.

#### Don't forget your cozy!

There is a swimming pool, sauna, solarium and gym to which residents have free access.

#### Drinks

There will be a running bar operating from lunchtime onwards in the main display area and the hotel bar will be open most of the day – and into the early hours of the following morning for residents!

#### How to get to the hotel

The easiest access is from the M6/M69 at Junction 2. Follow signs to Coventry on A4600. After 1/4 mile and straight ahead at the mini roundabout, the hotel is 100 yards ahead on the left. Watch for the sign and the slip road to the hotel, it's easy to miss. See you there!

David Oddy

After the



1992 Zanzibar Boogie  
1993 Malaysia Langkawi Boogie  
1994 Malaysia Skydive Safari  
1995 Indonesia Beach Boogie  
1996 Cuba Boogie  
1997 Madagascar Boogie

## Exotic Sky Adventures

presents the

# 'Thailand Boogie '98'

**THE ROYAL SKYDIVING EVENT OF THE YEAR**

### Date

5/6/7 to 21/22 February 1998  
(depending on departure point).

### Place

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Skydiving in Hua Hin.

### Deal

Round trip from all major European cities or Los Angeles \*  
Luxury hotel accommodation on the beach \*  
Daily breakfast, most\* dinners \*  
15 skydives, great load organizing and videos \*  
Parties and exotic jump-ins \*  
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Many other benefits...

### Price

Total package price around \$2300\*\* US dollars (exact price not determined yet). Deposit £100.

\*Some evening the participants will be on their own.

\*\*Previous customers are entitled to discounts (Cuba/Madagascar participants).

CONTACT US NOW FOR RESERVATION AS AVAILABILITY IS LIMITED

**Darryl Moran 32 Willow Way, Hale Farnham, Surrey GU9 0NU**

**Tel: 01252 712284 - Mobile: 0585 146684**

**E-mail: emdazzle@aol.com**

# AGM

## THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Association to be held at  
**The Forte Posthouse Hotel**  
**Hinckley Road, Walgrave, Coventry**

on

**Saturday 24th January 1998**  
**10.30am**

### AGM AGENDA 10.30am

1. To consider, and adopt if approved, the Report of the Council.
2. To discuss any items of Special Business (see note below).
3. To fix subscriptions payable by non-provisional members for the 12 months commencing 1 April 1998.
4. To announce the Council of the BPA for 1998.
5. Presentation of annual awards.

### OTHER EVENTS 10am - 5pm

#### Meetings

During the day, there will be meetings of Judges, Pilots, POPS and Display Teams.

#### Static Displays

There will be displays by various manufacturers and suppliers of skydiving equipment and stand featuring associated products and services.

#### Flight Line Check

Following the great success of this event last year, Rick Boardman will again be asking skydivers to do flight line checks and see if they can spot the deliberate mistakes on dummy figures kitted out like experienced jumpers ready to emplane. This is seen as being a valuable and positive exercise aimed at encouraging greater safety.

### ANNUAL DINNER 8pm

The price of tickets for the dinner is being held at last year's level of £18 – see menu on the left. Ring Sharon at the BPA on 0116 278 5271 to reserve a place, let her know if you need a vegetarian meal. Why not get together with other members of your club and book a table? Two years ago there were 80 people at the dinner. 'Word of Mouth' on the event's success put last year's attendance up to 220! We expect this year will be even bigger.

### DISCO 10pm

The disco will be open to all members, free of charge, it will start at around 10pm and go on until 1am.

### SEMINARS 2 - 5.30pm

A variety of seminars have been arranged. Many items are video supported. The provisional programme is as follows:  
*(subject to confirmation and may yet change)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Andy Allman</b>                      | <i>British 9 FS team's experiences at the World Air Games in Turkey</i>   |
| <b>Pete Allum</b><br>(or team member)   | <i>Sebastian XL's great year of success in international competition</i>  |
| <b>Darryl Moran</b><br>(or team member) | <i>Another Planet, current 16-way European Champions strike gold!</i>   |
| <b>Mike Frost</b>                       | <i>How Mike and Andy Ford of Playstation prepared and competed for Britain at the first World Championships in Skysurfing</i> |
| <b>The Red Devils</b>                   | <i>A video record of some of their display programmes</i>   |
| <b>Phil Gibbs</b>                       | <i>Category and licensing systems – the way ahead</i>   |
| <b>Charles Ross</b>                     | <i>BPA on the Internet</i>  |
| <b>Tim Scorer</b>                       | <i>A topical talk on an important issue of interest to clubs and centres in particular</i>                                    |
| <b>Steve Apps</b>                       | <i>Wind tunnel training in the USA</i>  |
| <b>George Pilkington</b>                | <i>Canopy swooping – don't be a statistic!</i>  |
| <b>Presenters to be confirmed</b>       | <i>Military freefall parachuting</i>  |

*Note: Members are reminded that under Article 31 of the Articles of Association, only such business as is notified to the BPA, in writing, at least 40 days prior to the date of the meeting (ie by midnight on Monday 15 December 1997) can be included under item 2 – Special Business*





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Director Strong Tandem Program  
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Bill as passenger on a Level IV Tandem Skydive in a Strong Tandem Certification Course

Photo: Chuck Karcher

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£74.00

#### Blindingly Cool Petrol Blue Bomber Jacket

with large embroidered logo on the back, and small breast logo detachable fake fur collar.

£59.00

#### Radical Red Bomber Jacket

with large logo embroidered on the back and small breast logo.

£54.00

#### Groovy Long-sleeved Heavy Cotton Top

with multi-coloured embroidered logos front and back (navy/grey marl/cream).

£29.99

#### Cool Baseball Cap

in navy or black wool with red leather peak.

£9.99

Postage and Packaging £2.50



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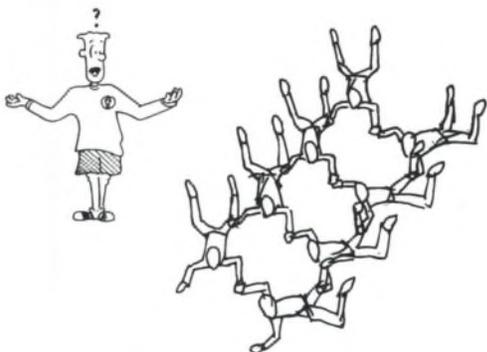
# Dive of the Month

## The Zipper Roller Coaster Dive

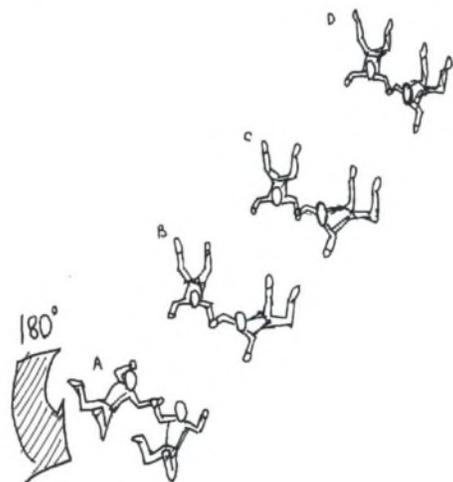
Another dive for pure fun, the aim is to have as large a laugh as possible.

The dive is a continuum suitable for an even number of participants, 8-way is ideal. No matter how large the load, you all get to fly your socks off the whole time – that is, if you're not laughing too much to fly!

### Puzzle



1. The first point is a zipper – launch it or build it.

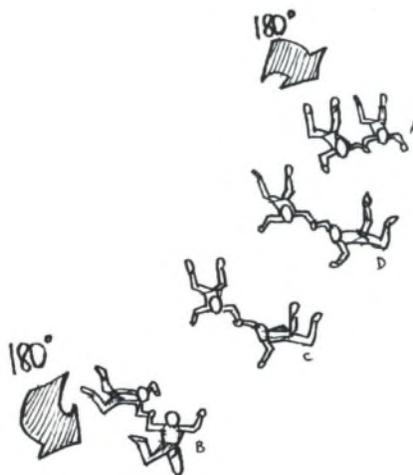


2. Then split into pairs. You are now with your partner in the 'roller coaster', you will fly with them for the whole skydive. The first pair at the front (A) do a 180° turn to face the other lines.

This dive was submitted, tried and tested by *Quality Mat Time* 8-way speed team.

Further contributions to this column are welcome, the aims are originality and fun. Send to: *Sport Parachutist*, 3 Burton Street, Peterborough PE1 5HA – or email: [sportpara@aol.com](mailto:sportpara@aol.com)

3. Now the fun starts! Pair A are going to fly *over* the second pair (B), *under* the third (C) and *over* the fourth pair (D). Then finish with a 180° turn so they face the front of the zipper.



4. By this time, pair B are at the front of zipper, they turn to face it and start the same roller coaster ride.

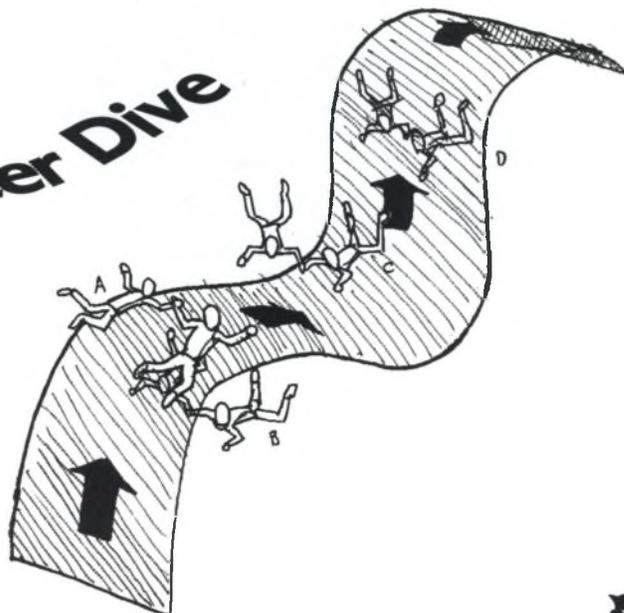
To remember the skydive, all you need is that the first pair always goes OVER. The rest will work itself out.

### Angles

When flying the roller coaster, try to keep it in a horizontal straight line.

### Keys

Someone in pair A keys the break. Thereafter, no keys are needed, just fly.



Illustrations by Chris Hollis

### Secret Stuff

To do the verticals, split the move so both pairs do some of the work. Those going *over*, just flatten the body, extend the arms and legs. When you are *over*, arch to take you *under* the next pair.



Don't overdo it, a little input goes a long way. Work with your partner, keep the grip light between you and learn as you go. Don't worry about technique, you are not going to be critiqued on this skydive!

### Video

Make sure you get a video on this one, it provides entertaining viewing. Get the cameraflyer to use their initiative; capturing the action on a level or from below will look great and give a real feel for the fun factor.

### Fun Factor

*Why do so many FS dives concentrate on points? Why do people use the IPC pool for formations rather than making up their own? Why make a 3 dimensional sport 2 dimensional?*

*Competition is great. But the vast majority of skydivers are not serious competitors. So, forget points, think in three dimensions, use your imagination and Fly for FUN!*

## OXYGEN

Sky Systems of Colorado USA have released a new version of their lifting visor *Factory Diver* full-face helmet. The new model called the *Oxygen*



slicker than the earlier *Factory Diver* flip-up visor

(pronounced Ox-ee-gene) is fitted with a thicker, pre-curved visor which seals tight against the helmet as it closes, has multiple elevation positions and does not have to tuck in or require a snap. The *Oxygen* looks a lot

model, the *FP1*, which sported large, ugly external hinge points. The new *Oxygen* retails in the UK for around £300.

**Sky Systems**  
001 303 779 9042  
or  
**Kit Store**  
01622 890967

## Flight Concepts

Flight Concepts Inc (FCI) of Atlanta, Georgia, have released a new line of main canopies called for the moment the *Pro series* (very original – Parachutes de France have had a *Pro series* for the last five years!). The new range has been designed to replace the company's lacklustre zero P 9-cell, the *Esprit*, which itself was brought out in a hurry a few years ago to replace the problematic *Glide Path Nova*. FCI tell us that the new canopy is a medium performance, zero P, 9-cell with a long control range, designed for jumpers who like to flare with the full travel of their arms without affecting a stall. The *Esprit* will still be available but FCI claim that jumpers will probably prefer the better openings and docile flare characteristics of the new series. The company intends to release a higher performance version of the canopy later in the year, a likely name of which will be the *Super-Pro* (Oh hum!)

With the aim of increasing its longevity, FCI have also released a zero P version of its stalwart workhorse student canopy, the 288sq ft *Manta*. Everything else about the canopy's design and construction is to remain the same including the F111 ribs. The company hopes to release three smaller versions of the *Manta* later this year.

FCI – 001 770 458 1516

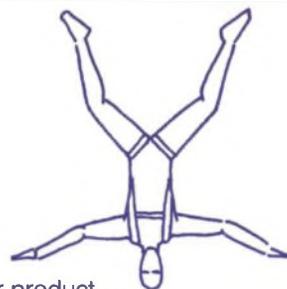
## Racer Update

Jump Shack have recently issued a product update notice for their *Racer Elite* harness/container which features the small diameter reserve pilot chute. Apparently earlier models of the *Elite/2000*, *NOS* and *Power Racer* were fitted with an 11 coil pilot chute spring, whilst the newer and current models sport an improved 7 coil unit. The new unit is lighter, stronger, easier to pack, more durable and more aesthetically pleasing. Jump Shack recommend that at the next repack the older type spring be replaced with the newer model which they will provide free of charge. They stress that this is not a recall which requires immediate action but rather an update which they would like to see carried out.

Jumpshack – 001 904 734 5867

## Symbi FreeFly

*We didn't want to blow our own trumpet, so we asked Sibson's premier freeflyers to check out our new suits and report back...*



As reported in WOTS (Oct/Nov SP), Symbiosis Suits have expanded their product range with *Symbi FreeFly*. Released during the *Espace Boogie*, the new suit received an enthusiastic response from the critical eyes of some of the world's leading freeflyers for its strong build and flying shape.

The suit is constructed from durable materials with double seams, to withstand the forces encountered during freeflying; wrists, ankles and zips are secured with large velcro tabs.



The legs are baggy (almost ballooned at ankles) to provide ample flight force during head down. Unlike most freefly suits, the body of the suit is tight fitting to prevent handle concealment and the arms have far less flying surface than the legs. The shape still allows the freeflyer to sit and stand comfortably, with ample arm power. Head down is made easier by eliminating one of the main problems – too much drag on the arms, not enough on the legs (a more stable position is attainable as the legs are trying to fly slower than the arms).

The *Symbi FreeFly* is made from 100% heavy cotton but is also available in a medium weight corduroy, lighter polycotton mix or Tactel for extremely light freeflyers. Extras include additional pockets and blocks of colour for cool 'n' groovy styling.

Since Vichy, Stuart and I have accumulated approximately 200 jumps on the suits and are impressed; they are the best suits we have used. Indeed the dogs! If you are trying to master freefly, these suits will accelerate your progress, therefore we give them *Freefly Sibson's* approval. They are also the cheapest on the market – nice one Rob!

Alex Meacock

Symbiosis Suits – 01622 890967

# KIT NEWS

by Rob Colpus



## African Heat Wave

Parachute Industries of South Africa, or PISA to their friends, tell us that their top of the range canopy – the *Heat Wave* – is proving popular with home jumpers and a growing number of other jumpers from all over the world.

PISA have had limited success over the last several years in their attempts to compete with the top zero P performers from companies such as PD and PdF. Although reportedly popular in SA, the *Pintail*, *Conquest* and *Sonic* did not really threaten the sales of *Sabres*, *Blue Tracks* or *Stiletos*. (The *Pintail* was in fact, ahead of its time for really radical performance but it suffered badly from a higher than normal malfunction rate which in effect killed off its sales by scaring off its customers.) Part of the problem for PISA in breaking into the international market, was the zero P fabric that they traditionally used, which produced rather bulky pack jobs compared to the same size canopies from France or the US. But now PISA claim that their *micro filament*



*zero P* fabric, used in the *Heat Wave*, has put an end to the bulk problem. They also claim that this new fabric is easier to handle and pack than US or French zero P because it does not have a slippery, soapy feel to it.

The *Heat Wave* has an elliptical shape and is available in five sizes from 100 to 170sq ft. It comes standard with 825 microline and stainless links. The canopy features a new concept of colour coded line attachments which assist when pro-packing, (if you're one of those people who likes to waste their time lining all the bits up). The *Heatwave 135* recently jumped by Kit News had a nice solid, stable feel to it, and produced heaps of lift when wanted with little toggle pressure. Landings are a doddle, or turf surfs are on the menu if you want them. All in all a nicely balanced canopy with some spice. Build quality is high and attention to detail is evident.

PISA – 0027 322 330333

## Return Demise of the Jedei

Air Time Designs, a Florida parachute and jumpsuit manufacturer, founded and run by ex-pat Brit Tony Uragallo, have ceased to manufacture parachutes. In a recent press release, Air Time stated that they have sold all of their canopy production equipment and designs to top canopy manufacturer Performance Designs. PD have stated that they will not continue the manufacture of Air Time's *Jedei* (featured in Aug/Sept 1997 issue of SP) or *Jonathan* designs. They stated that they believe some of Air Time's concepts, although not fully developed, have merit and may incorporate some ideas, such as Brian Germaine's patented Air-lock system into their own research and development program.

Tony Uragallo stated that the prohibitive costs involved meant that it was barely sustainable for a small company to survive in the highly competitive canopy market. Air Time Designs will now concentrate on its jumpsuit production. Air Time will maintain a service facility for all its canopies that are currently in the field.

Air Time – 001 813 788 4753



Rigging Innovations, manufacturers of the *Talon 2* and *Genera* systems have issued an advisory bulletin which recommends that when using their velcro-less toggles, the half brake setting loop on the steering line should be reduced to  $\frac{3}{4}$  by stitching the top of the loop closed.

## A Talon Toggle Tale

If the loop is allowed to pass over the point on the toggle where the steering line is attached then it may become difficult or impossible to release that brake.

Rigging Innovations  
001 909 928 1438



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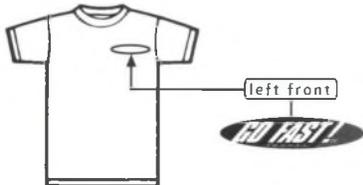
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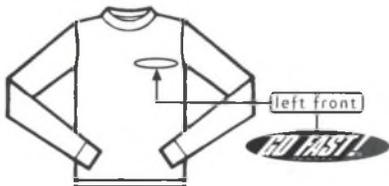
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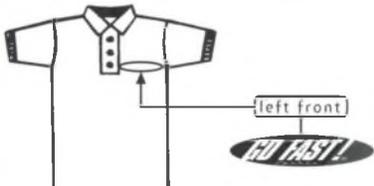
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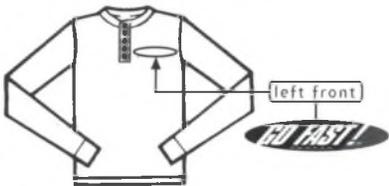
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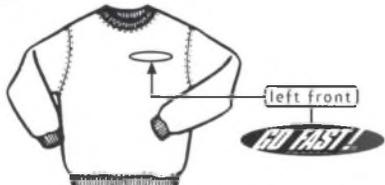
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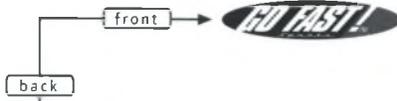
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# More KIT NEWS

by Rob Colpus

## Cutaway Cable Lengths

Kim Newton of the BPA Riggers Committee has recently released a report on the factors that determine suitable cutaway cable lengths. The report considered the following (we quote):

**"Factors governing MINIMUM lengths of cables:**

- 1 Whatever stretch there is should be contained within the housings.
- 2 To prevent 'push' on the cable ends (and therefore unintentional cutaways), the cable ends should stay within their pockets on the risers.
- 3 Pads can be knocked off the harness. A small safety margin can help prevent an unintentional cutaway
- 4 The jumper would be surprised if cutaway was initiated as the pad was peeled from the harness.

**Factors governing MAXIMUM lengths of cables:**

- 1 The distance that the pad can be moved from the end of the housing; ie, arm length or movement of the user.



- 2 The cable ends should fit within their pockets on the risers without there being any excess which can push back on the cables.

- 3 If there is a long distance of travel, it is possible that the user could pull the reserve handle before initiating the cutaway.



**Factors governing differentials in cable lengths:**

- 1 It is preferable for the riser which carries the RSL attachment to release second, unless of course both risers carry RSL attachments.
- 2 If there is no RSL it is preferable to have both risers release simultaneously, therefore the effective cable length should be even.

**The report concludes:**

"If no manufacturer's recommendations can be obtained, a safe, effective cable length may be determined by assembling the cutaway system and suspending the user by the risers. The cable lengths are then cut to fit into the pockets on the risers leaving a gap of approx 1" from the top of the pocket. The user pulls the cutaway pad slowly until the cable ends are approx 1/4" before releasing the loop. The differential can now be checked. The user now ensures that they can complete the cutaway by pulling the pad far enough for both cables to fully pull through both loops. Remember to smooth the cable ends after cutting them to prevent damage to the loops."

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December 13-14  
**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S BOOGIE**  
December 13-January 4  
**CHRISTMAS BOOGIE SCRAMBLES**  
December 27-28

**STRONG TANDEM COURSE**  
January 16-19 · February 13-16  
**SKILLS, DRILLS & THRILLS RW CAMP**  
February 21-25  
**ST. PAT'S DAY BOOGIE/ 4 & 8 WAY COMPETITION**  
March 17-20  
**EASTER BOOGIE**  
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# RAFSPA

The popularity of 16-way seemed confirmed by an excellent attendance of six teams at the annual Paul Dixon 16-way meet at Weston on the Green

Saturday got off to a dull start in seeming confirmation of the gloomy met. But an unexpected break in the cloud late Saturday afternoon had everyone kitting up in a frenzy of activity. Weston management called in another Skyvan to pack in as many jumps as possible whilst the going was good. This proved to be excellent foresight as all the teams did two jumps by the end of the day which wouldn't have been possible without the extra aircraft. This was enough to complete the meet and gave everyone something to talk about in the bar that night!

The skydives were shown in the bar and everyone agreed the standard was well above previous years. The highlight of the videos was *Another Planet's* new British Record score of 8 points in time. The team actually did 9 points despite two team members starting to track off after the eighth!

The raffle in aid of *Sebastian XL* also provided evening entertainment, everyone wanting to win the star prize. Glen was the lucky recipient, with 82 jumps to his name, he won a skydive with the guys the following morning. In all, £540 was raised, which the judges, Dona Crum, Amanda Kenny and H,

made up to a round £600 the next morning at prizegiving. Medals and the trophy were presented by Dicko's mother, Lena Dixon who always makes the annual pilgrimage.

*Another Planet* did 14 points over two rounds to win the gold. *The Firm* and *Afraid of the Dark* were equal second with an impressive 8 points over two rounds, the silver went to *Afraid of the Dark* in recognition of the highest scoring round (a 5 in round 1). It is a sign of the general rise in standards that three UK teams scored over a 4 point average, which would have easily won most meets a few years ago.

RAFSPA said *Another Planet* could keep the trophy in recognition of winning it for the fifth consecutive year. (Actually the sixth but who's counting? . . .)



Chris Bowden

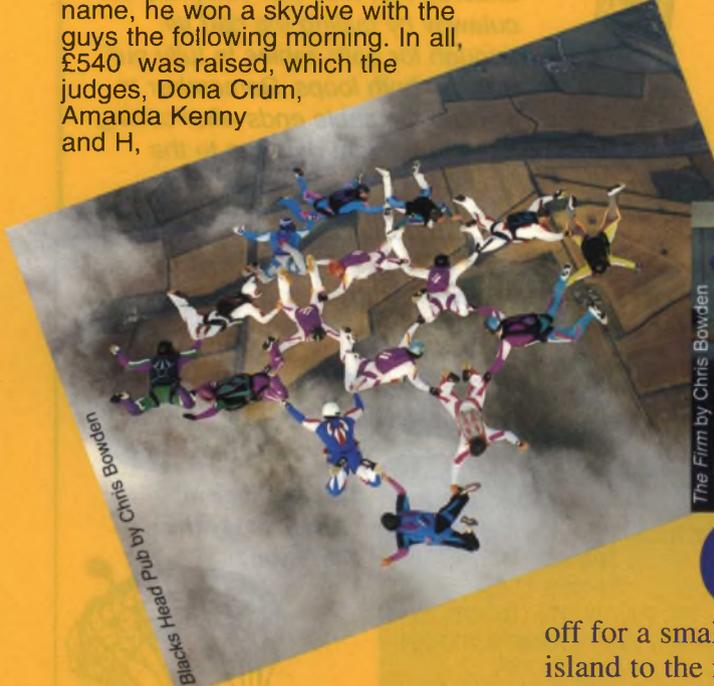
Another Planet by Colin Bridges



Lena Dixon and CCI Dave Wood



The Firm by Chris Bowden



Big Bitch's Head Put by Chris Bowden



Colin Bridges

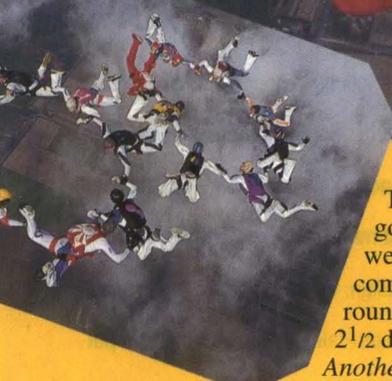
Top marks to Paracentrum Texel and meet director Alexis Perry of Boogie Performance for a smoothly run and

## It's a long way to . . . Texel

On 25 September this year two British teams set off for a small, difficult-to-reach island to the north of Holland called Texel to take part in their annual international 16-way competition. The teams were *Another Planet* and a newly formed Sibson based team named *Jigsaw* (aka *Sibson XS*, *Satellite*)

most enjoyable competition. Staff were welcoming and helpful and registration was hassle free. Texel facilities are good – a large screen where you can watch your dives at leisure, huge landing area close by, a covered packing area and a bar and restaurant on the drop zone with tables outside all of which help to create a buzzing atmosphere. The one complaint was that there were no creepers – several people commented on the noticeable difference this made to their skydives. The island itself has a lovely 'out in the country' feel and the coastal views from the air are stunning.

# 16-way's FUN!



Thanks to gorgeous weather we completed 7 rounds over 2 1/2 days.  
*Another Planet*

*Jigsaw* were placed fifth with a decidedly terrestrial 4 points.



*Jigsaw* by Aloys Palen

won gold with 30 points – an intergalactic 11 points on the next placed team *Texel Dinos*. Up for bronze were *Sweet Sixteen* with an interstellar 9 while

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*Texel Dinos* by Don Se Gerius





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Another Planet by Aloys Palen



Texel Dinos by Don Se Gerius



Jigsaw by Aloys Palen



Another Planet by Aloys Palen



**The beginning:** "I got tired of hearing sixteen people on the ground say they wished a walk up team had been organised – so even though I was almost the least experienced person there I went ahead and did it" – Tania Starling at Sibson 16-way, May.

**The next step:** Weston in August, Texel international in September. Inspired by the current interest in 16-way, impressed at the high learning curve and excited by the amount of fun it could be, all involved were keen to carry on next year.

**The idea:** A high energy, low cost team for skydivers of varying ability who want to improve their skills, take part in competition and have a good time without committing too much time and money.

**The strategy:** A squad of 18 have now committed to four days training and three competitions next year including the European Cup at La Ferte. The team is made up of quadrants with four appointed 'quarter masters', Tania Starling, Sally Kelvie, Micky Brennan and Emma Moran. This will hopefully take a lot of the hassle factor out of the organisation of the team. With promised help from *Another Planet* then maybe *Jigsaw* won't be too puzzled!

**Emma Moran**

## Team Profile - Jigsaw



Aloys Palen

# Skydive Palm Beach



photos by Bill O'Connor

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photos by Orly King

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## Keep it in the family!



Well known skydiver and ex-Fred Dave Mitchell has introduced his twin brother Harry to skydiving, doing AFF above Deland, Florida. They do look rather alike so beware of offering tandem, AFF or camera work to Harry with just 40 jumps!! The similarity has already caused mass confusion in the UK and USA (ask Pete Allum).

Picture to left shows Harry Mitchell (in black) about to do his level eight with Dave Mitchell (in white).

### Splendid Snaps Simon!

Apologies to Simon Ward who took the stunning canopy formation shots of the US skydiving team over Ampuria Brava, used in last issue's *People in the Sport*. We didn't credit him. Sorry Simon – Ed

## How D'you Do That Then?

So many people asked how Keith Larrett took the awesome cover shot last issue that we wrote and asked him...

"I was jumping a Nikon N90 with a 16mm f2.8 fish-eye lens mounted vertically. I exited from the front float position very low in the door. As I left the plane I went flat on my back, sorta in a back-to-earth tracking position with the camera clicking away. The timing of my exit was the crucial part and Pete gave me a very good leg movement. I was trying to go off somewhere in between the 'set' and 'go' as close to the 'go' as possible. I had to leave before the team as I needed to slide past and under them. Too soon and they would have just been dots in the picture, too late and we would have launched a 5-way as I went crashing through them!

"As I went off, I thought, as did Toby, that I had left too soon. I was thrilled when I got the pictures back and saw that the timing had been just right. I got pretty lucky with the position of the sun in the first two frames, John blocking it in the first shot (*the cover*) and the tail of the plane blocking it in the second shot (*shown to right*).

"I was trying to get a photo of the complete team exiting, including the videoman, but from an unusual angle. I was very pleased with the resulting shots." (So were we Keith, ...you can send us more of those 'lucky shots' anytime – Ed)

**Keith Larrett**

e-mail [visexp@aol.com](mailto:visexp@aol.com)  
http://www.visexp.com

Keith's web site is definitely worth checking out



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*Photo: Brad Hood*

*Photo: Vic Poppadado*

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**more... Keep it in the family!**

Phil Parker's son Daniel started AFF in September, the day after his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and cleared AFF after eight jumps. "He's the best I've ever videoed (I'm not biased, honest)", says his dad.

A big thank you to all at Hibaldstow, they were very good to him. His instructors were Ian Chapman, Lee Love, George Cambell, Dave Coverdale and Steve Murphy.

On level one, he had three cameramen with him. "It didn't seem to bother him but it had my bottle going!" said Phil, with more than a touch of pride.



**AFF Instructor Dave Coverdale with Daniel Parker on level six, captured by his dad**

Keith Larrett



Resident cartoonist Danny Crossman just can't stop scribbling! He drew the world's first freefall cartoon over Sebastian. What do you reckon?

**Back to the Future**



The Centro Paracaidismo Costa Brava has taken a step back in time but a major leap forward in its facilities during the '97

season. The new look centre has moved back to the original airport building which has been completely redesigned to provide a well equipped bar, restaurant and shop. The bar, complete with music, videos, pool table and 'crashed Porter' through the roof offers hot and cold meals all day and a party atmosphere at night. The centre also offers a flying school and daily pleasure flights, a tennis club with resident coach and a swimming pool.

Why not check out Ampuria Brava's annual Christmas Boogie from 13 December to 4 January? You can jump a Casa 212, two Super Twin Otters, an Otter and two Pilatus Porters. Seven organisers will be on hand including *Darryl Moran, Kevin McCarthy, Didier Boignon, Alexis Perry, Mike Brooke, Wim, Richie Hornig* for formation skydivers. Freeflyers will be catered for by *Stephan* from K-Ramba or try learning freestyle and chute assis with *Marco Manna*.



*Darryl Moran's group at Vichy are cordially invited to rendezvous at Ampuria's Christmas Boogie and will hopefully skydive at the same excellent standard.*

**Give Ampuria a call on 0034 72 45 0111 or email [cpcb@gna.es](mailto:cpcb@gna.es)**



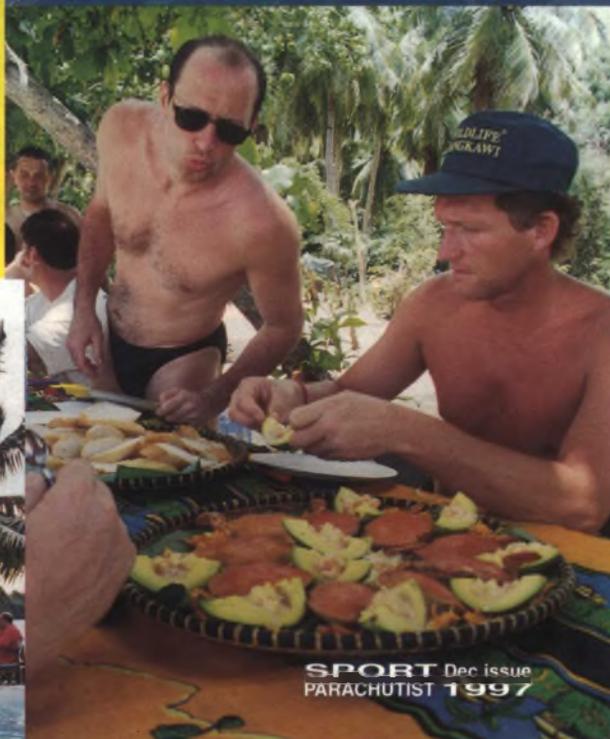
# Totally Tropical

These atmospheric photos from **Gaby Meis** and **Tim Mace** (plus a token shot by Rob Colpus) were taken at Exotic Sky Adventure's boogies and give a flavour of tropical paradise. Locations include Zanzibar, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cuba.

Where are you going this winter? Thailand is ESA's next venue in February...

... or you could settle for a new set of warmwear instead?!







Golden Knights (USA)

# THE FIRST WORLD AIR GAMES

New World Records were set at the first ever World Air Games in Turkey, an event mixing World Championships in a range of aerial sports. The UK had outstanding success in the skysurf where Playstation came fifth and in the freestyle where Adrian Nicholas took a bronze at world level. Our British formation skydiving teams both achieved excellent performances including the setting of personal bests and new British records

The site for the Air Games was Efes, Turkey from 12-21 September 1997. The skydiving events represented were 4 & 8-way Formation Skydiving, Skysurf, Freestyle ( official World Meet events) and Style & Accuracy as a World Cup event. An opening ceremony was held in Ankara including a mass parachute drop carrying flags of all the nations.

The drop zone was located at Efes airport near the small town of Selcuk. Facilities provided were basic but adequate. The competition was blessed with blue skies throughout, the only drawback being dusty conditions brought about by the daily afternoon winds.

The FS events were attended by thirty-eight 4-way and thirteen 8-way teams.

Casa 235 jumpships were provided by the Turkish military and were liked by the competitors. Run-in speed was 110 knots, allowing instant entry into terminal, giving quick transitions from exit to first point. Initially there were problems with excess time at altitude but by the end of the week this

had been sorted. Also available were two Cessna Caravans used for the freely/skysurf events and three AN2's for the Classics events.

Prior to the actual competition, the training period was organised by a multinational crew; chaos reigned supreme! An early morning manifest battle was rewarded by camping out all day to make 2-3 jumps. Thankfully, the event itself was organised by a very experienced French team lead by Patrice Girardin. Patrice did an excellent job of co-ordinating competitors, aircraft and the Turks themselves.

Apart from the competition the biggest challenge faced by competitors was illness. Many people suffered food related stomach complaints, or alternatively flu-like symptoms from the hot, dusty conditions.

One of the main areas highlighted by this year's meet was the absolute necessity for live air-to-ground transmissions. Anybody who has attended a top class event in recent years with live Omniskore will attest to the excitement and spectator interest generated. A case in point being the electric atmosphere in the screening room during the last rounds of the World Meet in Gap in 1995. This year's event suffered a great deal from lack of live transmission and this should never be allowed to happen in future.



Bob Murray

Photos by Patrick Passe unless otherwise credited



Playstation (UK) by Brian Erler

# WORLD GAMES



Equanimity 5 (South Africa)



KILL MORRIS

## 4-way

The standard of 4-way FS has risen dramatically over the past four years. Due to their success at the 1995 World Meet and their complete domination of all recent competitions, *Arizona Airspeed* representing USA were hot favourites for a gold medal, with several teams battling fiercely for silver and bronze. As always, the lure of the Excalibur produced some personal best performances and a much closer battle for ALL medal placings than could have been predicted.

### Day 1

Provided three rounds of 4-way competition. Round 1 set the standard with outstanding performances by the top five nations. *Sebastian XL* set a new British record of 24 points (well done boys!). France suffered a setback with an injury to a team member putting him out of the next round. At the day's end USA were in the lead with South Africa, a big surprise, in joint second with France, Russia and the UK were in fourth and fifth. The Danish team provided the excitement for the day by turning points through 1,500ft, breaking off below 1,000ft and having four Cypres fires! Thankfully, they all landed safely. They were jumping a prototype Pro-Dytter which had recalibrated after spending ten minutes at the same altitude in the Casa. The jump earned them a nasty scare and a 0 on round 3!

### Day 2

Brought a further three rounds of competition. USA held firm in first place with a 5 point lead over France who had opened an 8 point gap between themselves and South Africa. Russia and UK were enjoying a fierce battle for fourth and fifth.

### Day 3

Completed rounds 7 and 8, at the end of which the drop zone was buzzing with the days' results. USA had three busts in round 8 allowing France to draw level. South Africa were firmly ensconced in third, with only two points separating Russia and UK.

### Day 4

After a hotly contested protest for round 8 and, no doubt, some soul searching, the USA showed their experience and fierce competitive spirit in the semi-finals to take a 3 point lead over France. Other placings remained the same with Britain dropping back after suffering a frustrating bust. The finals themselves brought forth an outstanding round by *Airspeed* to clinch a gold medal and their second world title. France took silver and South Africa took bronze with a great performance. Russia placed fourth with *Sebastian XL* performing excellently to finish in fifth place. The team's average,

17.6, was the highest ever by a British team in a ten round meet – a world class performance!

## 8-way

The past eight years has seen an ongoing battle between France and USA, providing some closely fought contests. This year, the American *Golden Knights* squad was particularly strong, and the French had a very new 8-way team.

### Day 1

Two rounds of 8-way were completed, with the *Golden Knights* forging a 13 point lead over Russia in second and France in third place. *British 9* opened the meet strongly, posting 32 points after round 3, putting them in seventh place.

### Day 2

A further three rounds of 8-way were completed, with the *Golden Knights* setting an impressive new World Record of 30 points in round 4. At the day's end they had stormed ahead with a 25 point lead over Russia, France remaining in third. Germany and Australia were enjoying a battle for fourth and fifth places. *British 9* began the day well with a 12 on round 4 and remained in seventh place after round 6.



### 4-way FS (38 entrants)

Round	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Average
1 United States	26	20	18	23	27	15	20	16	21	24	210	21.0
2 France	25	19	17	22	25	16	20	21	20	21	206	20.6
3 South Africa	25	20	16	20	20	15	17	20	21	19	193	19.3
4 Russia	24	18	17	17	23	14	12	19	17	19	180	18.0
5 United Kingdom	24	17	14	21	19	13	16	19	15	18	176	17.6
6 Norway	20	14	12	18	20	12	14	17	16	18	161	16.1
7 Switzerland	21	15	13	17	18	13	14	16	16	16	159	15.9
8 Australia	17	17	14	17	19	10	14	17	17	16	158	15.8

#### Day 3

Saw rounds 7 and 8 completed. It was another day of outstanding performances that set the drop zone alight. As the *Golden Knights* landed at the end of round 8, Scott Rhodes, their team leader was heard to remark that it was the best 8-way skydive he had ever done. He is not normally an effusive character, so competitors raced to the screening room in droves to watch the best display of 8-way skydiving ever seen. The *Golden Knights* set another new world record – a stunning 31 points! At the end of the day all placings remained the same. *British 9* finished the competition in seventh place with a 9.78 average – the highest achieved by a British 8-way team at a World Meet – well done! It was especially good to see their contentious decision to train rather than compete at the British Nationals vindicated in the light of the average achieved at the World Meet.

#### Day 4

Although the semi's and finals produced no major upsets, there was no lack of atmosphere on the last day of competition. The sheer scale of the *Golden Knights'* performance had all competitors glued to the screens. They not only took the gold medal and their sixth Excalibur, but also finished with a 53 point lead (WOW!) over second place Russia. France took bronze with a very young talented team; one to watch out for at the next World Meet.

Anne Maxwell

#### Style and Accuracy World Cup

Britain was represented by Carl Williams and Katherine Andrewes, National Champions in 1996. Both reached the semi finals with Carl finishing 24<sup>th</sup> in the style, 13<sup>th</sup> in the Accuracy and 21<sup>st</sup> overall out of 34 male entrants. Katherine did exceptionally well to finish 8<sup>th</sup> in the Accuracy. She was 18<sup>th</sup> in the Style which put her 14<sup>th</sup> overall out of 34 ladies. Congratulations to both.

### Was the first World Air Games a success?

Despite the numbers in attendance, the enthusiasm of the competitors for their individual events and the heroic scale of efforts made by the hosts (the Turkish Aeronautical Association, THK) in staging such a comprehensive flying circus, it's hard to say whether the Games achieved the FAI's ambition of presenting a unified image of sport aviation to the competitors, let alone the public or the world's cameras. Communication between the different sites, some of them hundreds of miles apart, was poor. It simply wasn't possible to take an interest in other areas because you didn't know what was going on. The paragliding contingent from Honaz mountain might have been kidnapped by Kurdish separatists for all the guys at the

parachuting events at Ephesus knew.

In the event, the Games received only the barest coverage outside Eurosport. Admittedly this satellite station reaches large audiences but its viewers are for the most part already committed to the excitement of air sports.

Literally years in the planning, the World Air Games have been, gone and caused no more ripples on the media pond than any other air sport World Championship. And that's a bloody shame because Britain brought home three golds, a silver and two bronze medals in microlighting, two golds and a bronze in paragliding, a silver and a bronze in the ballooning and a

bronze in the freestyle skydiving.

It is good news to hear that five countries have already indicated their intention to bid to host the next Games. If France, South Africa, the USA or Australia are among them (as they are rumoured to be) the Games should be able to move forward from this year's excellent beginnings and grow into an event which genuinely takes air games to the world.

Dave Roberts

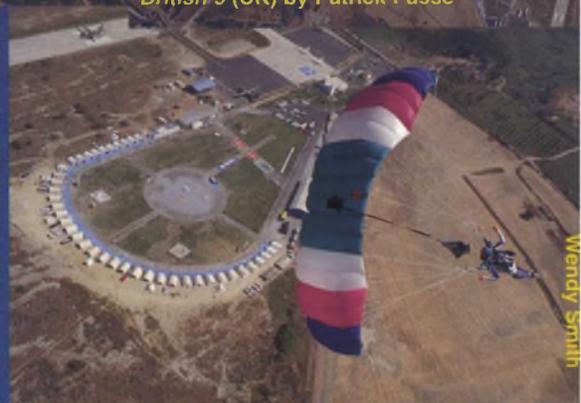




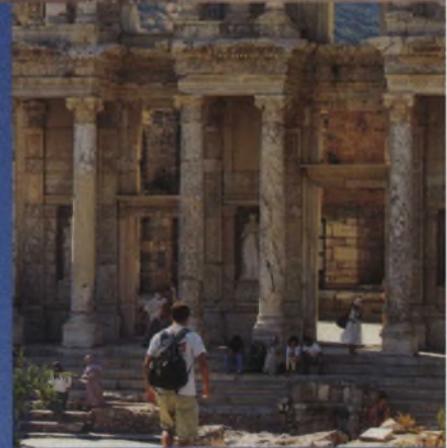
*Mauberge (France) by Patrick Passe*



*British 9 (UK) by Patrick Passe*



Wendy Smith



<b>8-way FS</b>		(13 entrants)										<b>Total</b>	<b>Average</b>
	<b>Round</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>		
1	United States	22	21	23	30	16	18	24	31	22	17	224	22.4
2	Russia	20	17	16	21	17	14	20	14	19	13	171	17.1
3	France	16	15	17	19	14	14	17	19	11	13	155	15.5
4	Germany	13	11	15	16	12	12	14	18	12	10	133	13.3
5	Australia	15	14	14	15	12	11	13	12	12	9	127	12.7
6	Canada	13	12	11	10	11	10	13	14	11	9	114	11.4
7	United Kingdom	10	11	11	12	8	7	11	11	7		88	9.8
8	Japan	9	8	9	10	4	9	10	11	5		75	8.3



Freestyle medallists / flags by Mike Frost  
 – also Zipser / Nicholas photo bottom right



Photos by Wendy Smith unless otherwise credited

## Skysurfing

Competing at the first World Air Games was certainly the highlight of the year for Team *Playstation*. We decided that we wouldn't look at the scoreboard until the end of the meet. We would jump for ourselves, trying to achieve the best results and striving to get better through the rounds.

When we arrived in Turkey we couldn't believe our eyes as the local town looked like downtown Beirut. The drop zone was adjacent to the ancient ruins of Efes – a spectacular city built 1000BC. The organisation at the DZ was incredible, bearing in mind the lack of it all over Turkey. There were over 1,000 skydivers to jump and multiple aircraft to fly with the aim of dropping them all into a small arena. The 4-way and freestyle jumped on alternate days, whilst the style & accuracy landed at another site. The skysurf competition was run over 10 rounds: 1, 2, & 8 were compulsory routines and the rest were free.

We decided to use two of our routines from the Pro Tour in the free rounds, including one of my favourite moves – an inverted drop straight out of the tailgate. All of our rounds were smooth and fast – the invisible man was the finest I have ever done! The stability was there and the speed – I span so fast that my head created a void of air and everything went quiet and Andy became a solid line in my vision. We were having a great meet. Andy was carving around me on his head and our timing was immaculate. We were feeling very relaxed about things with the only exception when my sunglasses broke on run-in as I put them on! Andy improvised and we left to do a kicking routine.

### Skysurfing – Men (20 entrants)

1	Furrer & Schmidt	Switzerland	806.4
2	Klaus & Pacheco	Switzerland/Brazil	689.0
3	Choford & Padua	Brazil	682.8
4	Rozov & Krishtopa	Russia	651.2
5	Frost & Ford	United Kingdom	646.2
6	Smith & Raymond	United States	633.8
7	Hrdlicka & Stuart	United States	633.6
8	Ivanov & Andrey	Russia	621.8

### Skysurfing – Women (4 entrants)

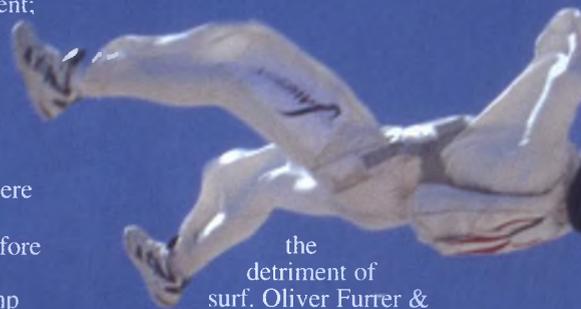
1	Wegrath & Heggli	Switzerland	724.4
2	Hoffmann & Ritter	Austria/Germany	451.8
3	Ryabikova & Knyazhev	Russia	400.4

We knew we were doing well as we enjoyed the privilege of a second camera following us out. Into round 8 we were in fourth place but Valerie Rozov, the Russian surfer, had a great compulsory round and pulled ahead of us again. Going into round 10 we were only a few points behind. Because we were in the top few teams, we were sharing a plane with the *Knights* – an awesome team. We were escorted to the emplaning point by the British contingent; following us were the Americans with their party and then the Russians plus entourage. In all there were over 150 people there all cheering and waving national flags and windblades. Truly overwhelming. We boarded the plane and did circuits to altitude. We were last out on the last pass.

Andy and I do some team breathing before exit to focus the mind and calm the system. We made our way onto the ramp and savoured the moment before taking position. We were having a great time! We did a wicked last skydive and were really pleased with our performance as we opened and headed back to the DZ. On approach all I could see was a mass of people in the arena to welcome the *Knights* and previous teams. Surfing in next to Andy took a lot of concentration! There to meet us was the British contingent with loads of beer. I'm certainly proud to be British.

We consistently beat Valerie in the free rounds but he out performed us on the compulsories and we couldn't pull it all back. We finished only four points behind him. Valerie Rozov and Alex Krishtopa (Russia) have impressed everyone all year, turning professional and steadily climbing into the top ranking's. We have all become very good friends.

As the only non professional team in the top 10 we were delighted with our performance. When I finally looked at the scoreboard I was glad I had avoided it! I was really impressed by the level of competition. A world class team was Scott Smith and Peter Raymond (also USA), who decided to focus most of their training on the freestyle. They did a superb silver medal performance in the freestyle but to



the detriment of surf. Oliver Furrer & Christian Schmid – what can I say – they kicked everyone's ass.

The biggest shock of the meet was the silver medallist team of Stefan Klaus & Edson Pacheco. Stefan is the protégé of Oliver and has trained hard with him all year. After the Pro Tour in Germany they were unhappy with their results and didn't know if they would continue. At the World Air Games, things were totally different. He was smooooth and their scores reflected it. Stefan even lost his board,

when his dilapidated old trainers were pulled off in a chicken. It was so funny as he continued to spin on his head without it. We all had a good laugh and the judges didn't see it as it was just out of time.

In the women's surf, Vivien Wegrath and her new partner Marcus Heggli were brilliant. If she was competing in the men's event, she would have finished second. This type of competition really suited her style and the training she has put in really showed.

The only injury all week was Richard, one of the cameramen, who broke his foot falling down the bar steps on the last night – as you can imagine, it was one hell of a party. A fantastic meet, good vibes and new friends. That was Turkey.

Mike Frost



## Freestyle

The standard of freestyle skydiving was extremely high with, once again, the creation of new moves that in previous years would not have been thought possible. Most accomplished skydivers choreographed their routines to best display the skills of both skydivers to produce some outstanding footage of teamwork.

Omar Alhegelan and Orly King won the gold in the men's event with some incredibly dynamic and fluid skydiving. A special mention must go to American Olav Zipser and our own Adrian Nicholas who won the bronze. There seems to be no ends to Olav's creativity and skill. This year he showed us all true body flight, wearing only a pair of shorts – and of course his rig! Adrian skilfully captured it all on camera, despite nursing an injured ankle. It was a fantastic

feeling to see Adrian on the podium; although part of a US team, we still felt proud. And a light and truly British note was added to the medal ceremony when the flags were raised and one of Adrian's many supporters had stapled a Union Jack to the Stars and Stripes!

The Swiss were the outstanding medal winners in the women's event taking gold and silver with fantastically visual routines combining grace and power. Stephania Martinengo from Italy (who came fourth with Olav on camera) not only performed original, ice-skating-inspired, moves but in true freefly style she inverted them!

From a personal point of view, the diabolical organisation and inadequate facilities had a less than positive effect on us. Despite our best efforts to remain calm, our relative lack of training (three months to some people's two years) and competition experience showed. With hindsight and access

## Freestyle – Men (16 entrants)

1	Alhegelan & King	United States	765.4
2	Smith & Raymond	United States	746.8
3	Zipser & Nicholas	US/UK	717.4

## Freestyle – Women (15 entrants)

1	Manni Hold & Duff	Switzerland	729.4
2	Schwab & Dieck	Switzerland	721.6
3	Sakakibara & Mizoi	Japan	701.2

to the scoresheets, it wasn't as bad as it felt – in two rounds some of our scores were actually better than Chifumi Sakakibaras (bronze medallist).

The BPA has recognized Freestyle as a discipline to support which is excellent. But British freestyle is at least two years behind countries such as USA and Switzerland. For the future, we would like to see a long term plan which includes financial support, coaching (technical team work and competition experience), information about international developments and, of course, timing of future nationals to allow for maximum training for selected teams.

Ann Beckitt



Bill Morris



Sam Morris



Wegrath / Heggill



Alhegelan / King



Zipser / Nicholas



Park / Zipser by Colon Berry

Main photo shows Furrer / Schmidt

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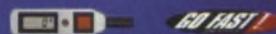
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## Jamie Bachell 1968 – 1997

Jamie died on Monday 8 September after a tragic motorbike accident.

Jamie was one of life's characters who made friends wherever he went. His infectious humour, ready wit and cheerful nature made him great company to be with and he will leave a big void in the life of everyone who knew him. His love of skydiving and motorbikes made him the person he was and he has left many friends from both of his hobbies. In addition to his other interests, Jamie was also a qualified pilot.

Jamie had real potential as a skydiver; whether in FS, sit flying, camerawork or skysurfing, he frustrated everyone who has struggled to master the various techniques by doing everything with consummate ease. He always seemed to breeze through everything with exactly the same easy manner and cheery nature.

He certainly made a lot of friends judging by the turnout at his funeral on 16 September. His passing will be most felt by his family, fiancée Louise and his best friend Bruce.

All our love to you Jamie, wherever you've gone. Life will never be the same without you. Thanks for being part of our lives.

Mick Cooper



Jamie's first board jump over Perris



Top: Stiletto 107 Bottom: Sabre 135  
Jumpers: Roly Hopwood & Paul Barnicoat

Dave Morris  
and tandem  
student Mike  
Clump over  
Langar with  
Tony Danbury  
filming



# SKY SCIENCE

The Royal British Legion Enterprise Units  
Unit 1, Ordnance Road, Tidworth, Hants SP9 7QD

Welcome to Sky Science, this is a company that was started in March 1994 to provide a one stop source for all your parachute equipment, here is a brief resume of my qualifications.

**BPA Advanced Rigger / Examiner, Instructor, Tandem Instructor, AFF Instructor and Relative Work Coach. I have worked as a full time rigger for over 11 years.**

**I have specialised in parachute equipment, not only with my BPA qualifications but also working with major canopy and container manufacturers. My aim is to give you the best service possible. If I can be of any assistance at all, then please give me a call.**

Allan Hewitt

## Shop

Since the beginning of April 1997 we have been running the drop zone shop on behalf of the APA. We have a large stock of all types of accessories, and we aim to increase this on a weekly basis. If you can not see what you want please let us know and we will order it.

Open every weekend



## Rigging Work

We operate a full time rigging workshop to take care of all your service and repair work. We have the knowledge, the experience, the tools and we are current in all aspects of rigging work. Trying to go that extra mile to insure that your equipment gets the best service available and sound advice when needed. We deal with all types of work, from basic velcro replacement to major repairs.



Left: Complete harness replacement  
Below: Reserve tray replacement



## New Equipment

We have a large product range to choose from, as we are dealers for all the major canopy and container manufacturers world wide. As professionals we pride ourselves on doing business with integrity, we want to provide you with the absolute best equipment for your given skill level, type of jumping and of course budget.

We are not high pressure sales people, we believe in giving you the information necessary to make an educated decision on what gear is best suited to you. Compare our prices, including prices quoted from abroad even when you think your getting a good deal, and find out how much of a good deal you can really get.

Our after sales service is just as important as the sale itself, we aim to prevent any after sale problems based on experience, we can prevent the pit falls before they occur.

Work with us and I am sure we can provide the best real deal available. Visit our shop and ask for a price list.

## Used Equipment

We have a stock of used gear for sale and each one will undergo a thorough inspection before we sell it.

Buying used gear and not knowing the pitfalls has proven to be expensive for many skydivers, now you can buy used gear with confidence and have peace of mind.

Pick up a used kit stock list from the shop.

## Reserve Repacks

Parachute equipment has become more sophisticated in both the technical and cosmetic sense, reserve packing has become more specialised, the inspection of your reserve and container requires a considerable level of background knowledge and experience. It is essential that reserve packers stay current and up to date. We are very current, with over 300 reserves packed each year, all are checked against over 900 safety notices that we hold on file.

Book your next reserve repack with Sky Science.

# Everything you need from one UK Source!



## Custom Equipment

We can supply custom equipment with canopy artwork supplied, giant display flags, free-fall flags and much more for all your sponsorship deals.

Contact us for more information to impress your potential sponsor.

## Design Work

We can help design, build and test all types of equipment whether its for a particular job or to assist with instructional techniques.

**SKY  
SCIENCE**

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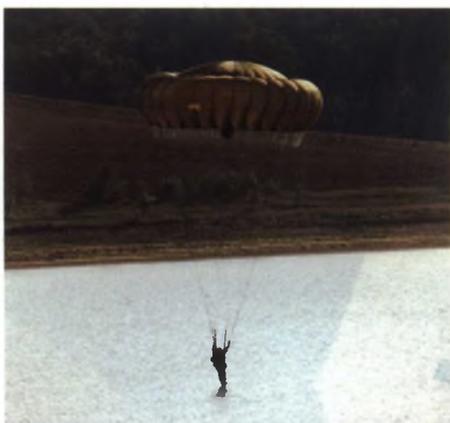
## Did You Know?

...that one of the first official parachuting competitions was for the longest delay – effectively a low pull contest!!

All photographs courtesy of DERA



The jumpers took just ten seconds between leaving the Herc and landing in the water



As an added safety precaution, the jumpers wore wetsuits to act as a splint in case of broken bones



From L to R; DZ Controller John Conrad, intrepid jumpers Gordon Bucknell, Steve Cowell, Mark Smith, Chris Headley, Wayne Loxton and Flight Sgt Phil Kelley

In addition, Hugo Fletcher, Chris Clegg and Stig Molloy jumped, they experienced the soldier's perspective wearing reserves

The parachute team was justifiably elated on 24 September after making descents from 298ft, which is thought to be the lowest height from which parachutists have jumped on a static line with full military equipment. Base jumpers and other foreign parachutists may have made descents from similar heights, but none that are ready and prepared to go straight into military operations upon landing.

The trial was organised and conducted by the Parachute Test Team from Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) at RAF Boscombe Down.

They proved that the Irvin Low Level Parachute (LLP) performed correctly at the low heights for which it was designed. The LLP has been in military service since

*"It was a great experience, the biggest rush was horizontally over the water as the LLP's were opening; I can still see how close the ripples were even now."*

**Wayne Loxton**

*"I am pleased to have completed the trial and proved the capability, especially after eight years of personal involvement on a project that first saw light ten years ago."*

**Mark Smith**

1993, but is only currently used in training at heights of 800ft, a restriction that is partly due the availability of a viable reserve parachute. The parachute has, however, been subjected to rigorous dummy testing and does have an operational clearance to 250ft, enabling the aircraft to fly and drop paratroopers whilst flying at a height at which it can not easily be detected by enemy radar thermal imaging. The DERA Parachute Test Team is leading the world in testing low level parachutes.

*"...The lake was in a valley and when we walked to the door of the Hercules, we were looking UP at people on the hills."*

*"This focused the mind and made us realise just how low we were. The aircraft was flying faster than normal at 135 knots which made the exit more difficult and the ground speed seemed exaggerated as we crossed over the lake. Landing into the water was a great feeling after the heat and tension experienced on the aircraft. The trial was significant as it was the first time any of us had jumped without a reserve."*

**Chris Headley**



A huge support team of Herc crew, DZ controllers, equipment fitters, prep teams, drivers, medics, photographers and boat support were the unsung heroes, whose expert co-ordination ensured success

# HOW LOW can you go??

The idyllic setting of a lake lost among the rolling countryside of Southern France disguised the potential risks of the trial. If complications had arisen, the chances of survival would have been minimal – especially as the RAF Parachute Instructor contingent from Boscombe Down did not wear reserves! The dangers were such that the risk assessments were scrutinised severely right up to Senior Director level at DERA.

One precaution as a result was the guarantee of not flying below 250ft, which is lower than the height at which

the parachute was designed to open. The Hercules therefore employed two altimeters and, as all aircraft altimeters have in-built errors, the reading was taken

*"We asked one of the military doctors if there was any additional equipment which would be useful to take with us. He comfortingly replied 'A body bag?'"*

**Wayne Loxton**

from the more pessimistic of the two. During the actual jump, the pressure altimeter on the Hercules was reading 250ft but, following the descent, the

analysis of the kinetheodolite data, calculated the actual exit height to be 298ft above the surface of the water. Mike Kempster, captain of the aircraft, commented upon the ability of any aircraft to absolutely guarantee altitudes as low as 250ft. "We were limited by the accuracy of the altimeters. Unless more sophisticated equipment is built into the aircraft, the error reading will always be present". This means that the team performed descents at the lowest height permissible from any aircraft at present with the LLP. The descent was into water, partly on the grounds of safety, to reduce the potential risk of injury upon impact, but also to give an absolute flat surface on which to accurately measure the correct altitude.

The point of the trial was to prove that it was feasible operationally and that all parachutists' drills could be completed by the average British soldier.

The Parachute Test Team at DERA is responsible for the testing and evaluation of all airborne forces equipment prior to its introduction into British Airborne Forces. The role is extremely diverse and wide ranging and the team is currently involved in over 20 different projects including the testing of High Altitude Parachutes, Automatic Activation Devices, Low Level Reserve parachutes and the dropping of many different aerial delivery systems.

It's a hell of a job but we get by!!!

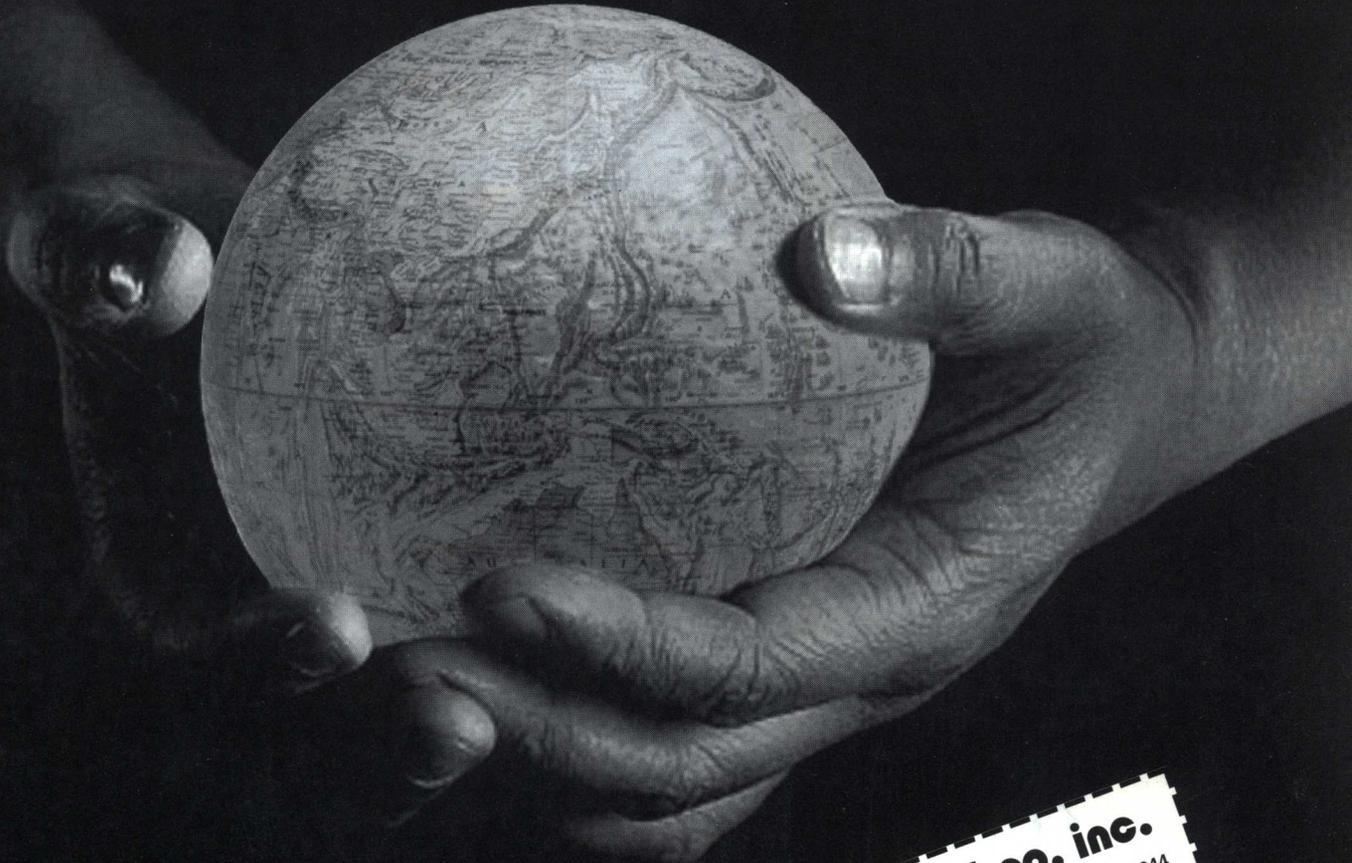
**Wayne Loxton**  
(adapted from an article  
by Helen Boddy)



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# Incident Reports



## LINE TWISTS

**Description:** Further to a previous report we have had some 20 reports of cutaways from high performance zero porosity canopies, mostly elliptical designs, because of line twists. Several jumpers record the 'winding in' of twists faster than they could be cleared. In some cases they were spiralling and, in at least two, the residual spin after cutaway led to twists in the reserve lines – which cleared without further problems.

**Comment:** Just for interest, I did a rough calculation of each wing loading, the measure of the weight carried by each unit area of the canopy. The average wing loading on these canopies was 1.42, leaving out two exceptions. The highest was 1.57. High loadings mean higher speed, sink rate, stall speed, landing speed, performance and more violent malfunctions. In these cases, what could have been an irritation on milder canopies turned into a malfunction.

**Conclusions:** Choose a canopy the correct size for your weight and experience level. If you are spinning on opening, grasp and pull down on both brakes. If this doesn't cure the problem don't waste any time in cutting away.

## BUM LANDINGS

**Description:** There is a spate of reports of injuries caused, mainly to students – on both round and square canopies – by landing with the legs too far forward in front of the body.

**Conclusions:** Be aware of the correct landing position.

## Confidential Reporting

If you have any safety related occurrences you would like to report IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE, write to:

**Confidential Report,**  
Allan Hewitt,  
103 Grosvenor Road,  
Aldershot,  
Hants GU11 3EE.

Tel: 01252 27412  
Fax: 01252 350 377

E-mail:  
100770.402@compuserve.com

## TOO LOW

**Description:** A recent D-licencee failed to locate the leg-strap throwaway toggle at normal deployment height because it was tucked down right into the pocket (note: one of a number of such incidents reported recently involving both leg-strap and BOC systems). He then made five attempts to locate it, eventually opting for reserve drills at 600-700 feet. He landed safely after a 22-second canopy ride.



**Comment:** Too close! This was nearly a fatality. If you are concentrating on something else, it is easy to lose altitude awareness. Most instructors would say that, if you cannot immediately find your deployment system, have one further try at finding the handle before initiating reserve drills – providing there is no other factor such as already being low. If you are already low when you have difficulty locating your main deployment then initiate your reserve drills immediately.

## TOO HIGH

**Description:** An experienced jumper made a kit familiarisation jump. He deployed, as planned, at 4,000 feet. Ten seconds later, under canopy, his AAD fired. After an uneventful landing, the AAD was found to have been set by the jumper to activate at 2,500 feet.

**Comment:** Both the jumper and the colleague who did the flight line check, were spoken to by the CCI who stressed that AADs should always be

set to fire low; for experienced jumpers, that usually means 1,000 feet for an FXC-12000. (A Cypres is factory set for 750 feet and cannot be changed by the user.) At 2,500 feet a jumper has plenty of time to respond to an emergency themselves.

**Conclusions:** It cannot be too often re-stated that an AAD is a last resort backup, nothing more. This conclusion is underlined by a report from an Italian centre, detailing the permanent grounding of a jumper who made no attempt at reserve drills but simply waited for his AAD to fire.

## THE WAY WE WERE

**Description:** A student had made over 500 freefall jumps before giving up in 1976; now, in 1997, he returned to the sport and was performing a static-line dummy ripcord pull. He had recently completed a full training course, including suspended harness drills, and briefing for the DRCP exercise. After a perfect exit he cleanly pulled his cutaway pad instead of the DRCP. The static line deployed the main and detached it, which in turn deployed the square reserve via the RSL. The jumper made a good landing under his reserve.

**Comment:** The jumper was said to be on 'auto-pilot' – the cutaway pad of a modern rig is in roughly the same place as the ripcord handle on front-and-back kit, which this jumper used over 20 years ago.



This illustrates what safety experts call 'reversion' – under stress, anyone is liable to revert to previously learned behaviour.

**Conclusions:** It is important to avoid, if possible, changing reserve drills. Never be too big to practice your reserve drills repeatedly. If you change kit, be doubly vigilant.

## FLYING THE FLAG

**Description:** The experienced jumper was doing a display with a waist-mounted flag. This opened prematurely during main deployment and became entangled with the canopy. He carried out successful reserve drills, selected a safe alternative to the arena and landed without incident.

**Comment:** This report underlines the need to be vigilant if adding any extra equipment. Seek as much advice as possible and make sure you are able to cut it away if necessary.



## TRAPPED IN A CASCADE

**Description:** There are three reports all substantially the same, dealing with brake toggles which fired before or during deployment and became trapped in one of the cascades. In two cases the jumper went through reserve drills – in the third the report is not clear but appears to indicate reserve drills also. Those affected were a first-time jumper, an instructor and an extremely experienced freefaller.

**Comment:** Take time to stow your brakes properly; if you are using a packer, always set your own brakes as there are many systems on the market.

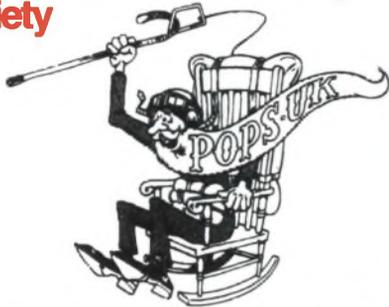
**Conclusions:** If in any doubt about the controllability of your canopy and/or whether you can land it safely, initiate reserve drills. Make this decision with sufficient altitude to do so.

Chris Jones

As always I welcome comments, ideally on email [cjones@new-coll-cf.ac.uk](mailto:cjones@new-coll-cf.ac.uk). However due to a major local upgrade, there is a very small chance of disruption to my incoming email. I normally acknowledge all email very quickly. If you do not get an answer please try again or you can phone or fax me on 01446 774624.

# POPS CORNER

Parachutists Over Phorty  
Society



## New POPS 15-way European Record

At Langar, in September, with the help of resident organisers Dave Morris, Andy Crawford and Stealth, five attempts at a new POPS record were made.

After a blown out Saturday, two attempts were made on Sunday, only one jumper out both times – pretty good for a first time effort!

The following weekend another two attempts were made with the same result on the Saturday. However, on Sunday, 15 Langar jumpers achieved what the rest of the over 40's across UK and Europe have not.

The support and encouragement of everyone at Langar made the record a success.

### Next Year

The record held is already under review in order to improve it in a two aircraft dive during 1998.

- Are you a skydiver?
- Are you over 40?
- Do you like large formations?
- Want to be in the record books?
- Willing to put in time and effort?
- Are you self motivated?

If you answered **YES** to **ALL** these questions, give me a call in March '98 and let's make a two aircraft dive.

In the meantime, keep practising and make sure you join POPS.

**Jack Felstead**  
Tel: 0161 3011 710



← POPS, Pups and future PUPS at Border PC

**POPS record 15-way.**  
POPS are Jack Felstead, Tony Bradbury, Nick Everett, Sonny Ford, Margaret Hacking, Chris Harrison, Dave Heatley, Dave Hickling, Phil Latham, Ian Loveday, Martin Monks, Dave Morris, Ray Parker, Tony (Bones) Smith, Paul Webb. Camera: Tony Danbury ↓



Tony Danbury

**Border Parachute Centre**

August Bank Holiday at Brunton was the last meet of the year and it was a great as usual. Tim and Katherine Andrewes, staff and members made us very welcome. We arrived on Friday and a few managed to jump on Friday evening, then went to find campsites and B&B's.

Saturday dawned and the weather had changed. After the previous weeks of glorious sunshine, it was disappointing to wake up to low cloud, drizzle and a chilly wind but we made the best of it. Twelve jumpers registered for the meet, although there were lots of family supporters as well. Nine competed in the accuracy which started at midday, allowing people chance to go shopping for some warmer clothing, after only bringing T shirts and shorts with them!

**Results – Border****Accuracy**

1 Tim Andrewes	2.32m
2 Glen Stephenson	2.67m
3 Michael Allum	20.87m

**Hit & Rock (kit off)**

1 Pat Carpenter	8.28 secs
2 John Coyle	8.53 secs
3 Val Clapham	9.21 secs

The weather didn't make for good scores but for those judging it was interesting. After two rounds we started the Hit and Rock. Ten members entered this event. After the Hit and Rock, some third round accuracy was done with a few competitors still to complete the round, hopefully the next morning. The BBQ went very well despite the continuing rain and drizzle, it didn't dampen a very good evening.

Sunday morning and the weather was no better. Only one lift was flown, completing the accuracy competition. Then the medals were awarded to the winners and the raffle was drawn.

Monday wasn't much better and most decided to make an early start home to miss the traffic back and, for some, nurse an ageing VW camper back home Will it survive to next year?

**AGM**

The AGM date is 24 Jan 1998, we will have a POPS meeting at 5pm, after all the other seminars so we won't miss out on anything. Please try to attend –

**Fancy Some Winter Sun?**

**March 28-April 5** – 27th Annual Winter POPS Meet/Boogie, hosted by Skydive Orlando, at Umitilla, Florida.

**April 4-5** – Hit & Rock, Accuracy, Fun Jumps. **Contact Sue on 01253 713 841 for more info.**

without any input from you, it makes it difficult to decide on where to hold meets, or what you want from POPS.

**Next Year**

I hope more of you will attend the meets next year, we now have over 720 members so the more the better. Provisional dates and venues – to be confirmed in next issue of SP:

June	20-21	Peterborough PC
June	22-27	Moorsele, Belgium.
August	15-16	Hibaldstow.
September		TBA

**Sue Hill Hon Sec/Treasurer**

**New POPS Members – Welcome!**

Pete Mitchell, Derek "Derro" Thomas, David Heatley, Margaret Hacking, Ray Parker, Phil Latham, Sharon Green, Tony Danbury, Nick Everett, Phil Gibbs, Paul Webb, Tony Smith, Dave Morris, Walt Bilstrand

# SKYDIVE SEBASTIAN

## Schedule of Events December to May

### December 1997

- Dec 6:** Toys for Tots – Bring a toy and get a FREE jump!
- Dec 15-18:** Skydive University Coach Certification Course
- Dec 19-Jan 3:** Christmas Boogie FL Style! New Year's Eve Live Reggae Band, Free Beer & Food, Fireworks and Light Show
- Dec 28-Jan 3:** First 16-Way Team USA try outs and selection camp. Contact Andy Grimwade for further information (561) 388-9222 or USPA1@aol.com
- Dec 28:** FSL (Florida Skydiving League)
- Dec 30-Jan 2:** Free Fly Carnival with Adrian Nicholas and Friends. \$25 registration for scrambles, skills and seminars.

### 1998 Schedule

- Jan 10-11:** South African Boogie – Nelson who?
- Jan 25-30:** Second Team USA 16-Way try outs

- Jan 20-Feb 1:** No Contact Skydives with Lyle. Contact Lyle (561) 581-7447 or Lylesflex@aol.com
- Feb 13-15:** Valentine's Boogie with Roger Ponce de Leon and Color Concepts
- Feb 19-22:** Skydive University Coach Certification Course
- Mar 5-9:** Skydive University Company Picnic and Open House
- Mar 14-15:** The America's Cup Tour in 4 & 8-way round two and Florida Skydiving League
- Mar 28-29:** PD Source customer appreciation weekend. Prizes, seminars, organizing. Contact PD Source at (561) 581-7447 or Sebastian@pdsources.com
- Apr 1-5:** Skydive University Skills Camp; Sequential
- Apr 4-12:** 4th Latin Challenge with Fernando Gallegos, Alberto Alibrandi and Friends. Latino Party Night April 11
- Apr 9-13:** Easter Boogie 20 & 40-Way Florida Fax Meet
- May 8-18:** Friends of Skydive Sebastian Boogie in Cancun, Mexico. Contact Andy Grimwade

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For all your travel arrangements contact Ali Mayo at 01869 227548 or E-mail at skysebuk@aol.com

## BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



The map shows  
**BPA Affiliated  
Drop Zones**

Numbers 1 - 24  
refer to civilian BPA  
Affiliated drop  
zones  
(listed to the right)

Letters A - E refer  
to military BPA  
Affiliated drop  
zones  
(listed overleaf)

All 'Affiliated'  
centres in the UK  
are run under the  
BPA Operations  
Manual.

### KEY TO SYMBOLS

- opening hours
- First jump courses offered**
- static line courses (round parachutes)
- RAPS courses (square parachutes)
- AFF** - AFF courses
- tandem skydives
- Experienced skydivers**
- LO** - load organisers
- FS** - formation skydiving coaching
- CF** - canopy formation coaching
- FF** - freeflying coaching
- AC** - accuracy coaching
- WP** - WARP coaching
- SU** - Skydive U coaching
- Facilities on the drop zone**
- aircraft type
- rigging facilities
- video room
- parachute equipment shop
- canteen
- evening food
- bar
- bunkhouse
- camping welcome
- caravans welcome
- showers

### 1 BLACK KNIGHTS PARACHUTE CENTRE

Patty's Farm, Hilliam Lane,  
Cockerham, Nr Lancaster  
Tel: W/end 01524 791820 or 0151 924 5560

Weekends, bank holidays 8am - 8pm

Islander  
CF AC WP

### 2 BORDER PARACHUTE CENTRE

Brunton Airfield, Chathill,  
Northumberland NE67 5ER  
Tel: 01665 589000 Fax: 01665 721053

B&B, camping, bars locally. Beach jumps and barbecues  
in summer. Scenic views!

Fri pm, weekends 9am - dark, weekdays by arrangement

AFF  
Cessna 207 & 206, Islander on call  
FS AC WP

### 3 BRITISH PARACHUTE SCHOOLS

The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,  
Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Tel/Fax: 01949 860878/860882

Friendly helpful staff. We are here to help you skydive.

Turbines go to 13,000 ft!

Every day 9am to 10pm (or dark), 10am start Sunday

AFF  
Porter, Islander & Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)

LO FS FF WP

### 4 BRITISH SKYSPOOTS, BRIDLINGTON

East Leys Farm, Grindale, Bridlington,  
East Yorkshire YO16 4YB  
Tel: 01262 677367 / 0836 276188  
Fax: 01262 401871

Small friendly club atmosphere. Visitors and spectators  
welcome.

Every day 8am - 8pm

AFF  
Cessna 206, Islander

LO FS CF AC WP

### 5 CORNWALL PARACHUTE CLUB

Frans Ranch, Old Naval Airfield,  
St Merryn, Cornwall  
Tel: 01841 540691

Weekend 8am - dark, Wed & Fri (summer)

Cessna 182  
FS WP SU

### 6 DEVON & SOMERSET PARACHUTE SCHOOL

30 Tower Way, Highfield,  
Dunkeswell, Nr Honiton, Devon  
Tel: 01404 891690

Local accommodation available

9am - dark, Wed - Sun

AFF

### 7 EAGLESCOTT PARACHUTE CENTRE

Eaglescott Airfield, Ashreigney,  
Chumleigh, Devon EX18 7PH  
Tel: 01769 560726 / 01769 520552  
Fax: 01769 560726

Weekends 9am - 9pm. Friday courses available

Cessna 180  
FS AC WP

### 8 HEADCORN PARACHUTE CENTRE

Headcorn Aerodrome,  
Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX  
Tel: 01622 890862 Fax: 01622 890641

Progression weeks, competitions, organised jollies.

Every day 9am - dark

Islander, Porter

AFF  
AC WP

### 9 IPSWICH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Ipswich Airport, Nacton Road,  
Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9QF  
Tel: 01473 710044 Fax: 01473 271055

Currently operating out of North London Parachute  
Centre. Excellent rigging facility still open.

### 10 LONDON PARACHUTE SCHOOL

53 Columbine Road, Widmer End,  
High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6BS  
Tel/Fax: 01494 712734

Small but friendly club. Catering for complete begin-  
ners to experienced skydivers.

Weekends 8am - dark

Islander, Cessna 206  
WP

### 11 MERLIN PARACHUTE CENTRE

Alanbrooke Barracks, Topcliffe,  
Near Thirsk, North Yorkshire  
Tel: Weekdays 01274 631044  
Any day 01748 875367

Friendly atmosphere, bring two passport photos for  
camp pass. Camping, B&B close to airfield at local  
pub.

Weekends and bank holidays 9am - dark

AFF  
Islander

### 12 NORTH LONDON PARACHUTE CENTRE LTD

Chatteris Airfield, Manea  
March Cambs PE15 0EA  
Tel: Office 01725 513330  
Airfield 01354 740810  
Fax: 01725 510690

Airfield is owned by the parachute centre. Large indoor  
parking area. Unrestricted altitude, full planning  
permission.

Fri pm, weekends 9am - 8.30pm, weekdays by arrangement

AFF  
Islander

LO FS CF WP

### 13 NORTH WEST PARACHUTE CENTRE

Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,  
Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria  
Tel: Airfield 015395 58672/58555  
Weekdays 01772 720848

In fabulous lakeland scenery, visitors welcome.

Weekends and bank holidays

Islander

LO FS CF AC WP

### 14 OXON & NORTHANTS PARACHUTE CENTRE

Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airfield, Steane,  
Nr Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS  
Tel: 01384 393373 Mobile: 0850 762349

Friendly atmosphere, visitors welcome, good local pub.

Weekends, midweek by arrangement during summer.

Cessna 182 and 206

### 15 PETERBOROUGH PARACHUTE CENTRE

Sibson Airfield, Wansford,  
Peterborough PE8 6NE  
Tel: 01832 280490 Fax: 01832 280409  
Birdland Bar: 01832 280404

PPC boasts 27 years of experience in running a safe,  
fun drop zone. Skydive Sibson!

8am - 8pm, Tue - Sun(summer), Wed - Sun(winter)

AFF

Islander, Cessna 206, Turbolet (summer)

LO FS FF WP

### 16 PETERLEE PARACHUTE CENTRE

The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,  
Peterlee, Co Durham DH6 2NF  
Tel: DZ 0191 517 1234  
Tel/Fax: Office 0191 386 5261

E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com  
www.members.aol.com/skydiveamy/index.htm  
AFF, tandem and video available through Skydive  
Academy Ltd. B&B locally from £12.50.

Every day 8.30am to 8.30 pm (phone Mon,Tue,Thur)

AFF  
Cessna 182

FS CF WP

### 17 SKYDIVE SCOTLAND

The Parachute Centre,  
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol PH2 7TB  
Tel: 01821 642673  
Fax: 01821 642004

Friendly, fun centre with emphasis on safety.

Fri - Sun

AFF

Islander, Cessna 207, Caravan

CF WP AC

### 18 SKYDIVE STRATHALLAN

Strathallan Airfield,  
Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA  
Tel: Mobile 0374 686161  
Weekend 01764 662572

A club run by the members for the members with the  
lowest possible costs.

Fri 5pm - 9pm, weekends 9am - 9p

AFF

Islander, 2 x Cessna 206

FS WP

### 19 STIRLING PARACHUTE CENTRE

Thornhill, Nr Stirling,  
Scotland FK8 3QT  
Tel: 01786 870788 Fax: 01786 870748  
E-mail: parajump@aol.com

Weekends 9.30am - 9pm, sometimes midweek

PA-32, Cherokee 6  
LO FS CF WP

### 20 TARGET SKYSPOOTS

Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,  
Brigg, North Lincolnshire  
Tel: 0113 250 5600 or 01652 648837 DZ  
Fax: 0113 250 5600

Competitive jump prices, unrestricted altitude, friendly  
atmosphere, everyone welcome.

9am - 9pm every day (summer), Wed - Sun (winter)

AFF

2 x Dornier, Cessna 206

LO FS WP

### 21 THE PARACHUTE CENTRE

Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch,  
Shropshire SY13 2HA  
Tel: 01948 841111 Fax: 01948 840638  
E-mail: skydive@tilstock.demon.co.uk  
www.tilstock.demon.co.uk

Friendly atmosphere, everybody is welcome. No  
Sunday operation due to local planning restrictions.

Sat 8.30am - dark, Fri 2pm - dark (summer)

AFF

2 x Cessna 206

LO FS CF AC WP

### 22 WEST WILTS PARACHUTE CLUB

Kemble Airfield,  
Cirencester, Gloucester GL7 6BA  
Tel: 01285 770856

### 23 WILD GEESSE SKYDIVE CENTRE

Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road,  
Garvagh, Coleraine,  
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ  
Tel: 012665 58609 Fax: 012665 57050

Every day 8am - dark

AFF

Cessna 206, Porter

CF WP

# BPA ORGANISATIONS

## AFFILIATED MILITARY DROP ZONES

### A ARMY PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

The Commandant, JSPC  
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury  
Wilts. SP4 9SF  
Tel: Bulford Camp 01980 633371  
Tel: ext Commandant 8245  
Chief Instructor 8229 Staff 8277

### B RAFSPA

**& RAFSPA Hawks Parachute Team**  
JSPC (W) RAF Weston-on-the-Green,  
Nr Bicester, Oxon OX6 8TQ  
Tel: 01869 343343/343201 Fax: 01869 343676

### C RN & RM SPA

Dunkeswell Airfield,  
Dunkeswell,  
Honiton, Devon  
Tel: 01404 891697/891716

### D SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE

Shackleton Barracks,  
BFPO 802,  
Tel: 01504 - 721472 Fax: 01504 - 721342  
Mobile: 0802 - 328755  
E-mail: SPC NI@aol.com

### E SILVER STARS PARACHUTE TEAM

Duke of Gloucester Barracks,  
South Cerney,  
Cirencester, Gloucester GL5 5RD  
Tel: 01285 861344  
01285 860551 x8259

## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFILIATED DROP ZONES

### CYPRUS COMBINED SERVICES PARACHUTE CLUB (CCSPC)

Contact: Club CCI,  
CJSATC Pergamos Camp, BFPO 58  
Tel (from the UK):  
Office 00 357 47 44337  
Drop Zone 00 357 47 44245

### HONG KONG PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o JSPC (HK),  
Borneo Lines, Shek Kong, BFPO 1  
Hong Kong,  
CCI: Mr. Gary Lai  
Tel: 00 852 2488 5447  
Fax: 00 852 2488 9341  
(Not operating at present)

### RAPA JSPC(L)

(Rhine Army Parachute Association)  
Flugplatz, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,  
Germany, British Forces Post Office 16  
Tel: 00 49 5254 98 2378 or 98 2740  
Fax: 00 49 5254 98 2740

## ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The organisations listed below, when operating at a **BPA Affiliated Centre**, are run under the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for training or advice given by those organisations when operating at **non affiliated centres**.

### AIRWAVES

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### BRITISH COLLEGIATE PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

c/o Jason Brister - Chairman,  
77 Trafford Road, Eccles,  
Salford, Greater Manchester M30 0JT  
Tel: 0161 661 9759  
E-mail: jason@bcpa.u-net.com  
Affiliations: Bristol University, Exeter University, Lancaster  
University, Loughborough University, Newcastle University,  
Nottingham University, University College of St. Martin,  
University of East Anglia, University of Plymouth, University  
of Portsmouth, University of Sheffield, University of St.  
Andrews, University of Surrey, University of Sussex,  
University West of England, Warwick University.

### COTSWOLD SKYDIVING CENTRE

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Staverton, Gloucester GL51 5SR  
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Fax: 01452 854029  
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jump in the Gloucestershire countryside. A smile and a  
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### EAST COAST PARACHUTE CENTRE

8 Burns Crescent,  
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School at Lewknor drop zone.

### THE FREE-FALL COMPANY

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Peterborough PE8 6NE  
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Mobile: 0468 278663  
E-mail: freefalluk@aol.com  
<http://members.aol.com/freefalluk>  
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suit YOU!

### MANCHESTER PARACHUTE SCHOOL

23 Heywood Gardens,  
Prestwich, Manchester M25 1FW  
Contact: Chris Miller  
Tel: 0161 798 6895  
Mobile: 0370 575621  
E-mail: chris.miller@zetnet.co.uk  
Based in Stockport, Manchester with 2,000 sq ft of full  
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courses (Ram Air Progression System). We also offer  
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conjunction with Target Skysports, Hibaldstow.

### NATURAL BORN THRILLERS

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### POPS UK

Hon Treas/Sec: Sue Hill  
40 The Hamlet, St Annes  
Lancashire FY8 3LE  
Tel: 01253 713841  
Fax: 0151 448 1172  
A society of skydivers over forty. Regular national and  
international meets at host parachute centres.

### THE RED DEVILS

Airfield Camp, Netheravon,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
Tel: 01980 678211 (Chief Instructor)  
Tel: 01980 678212 (Students)  
Tel: 01980 678203 (Rigging)  
Fax: 01980 678349

### SCOTTISH SPORT PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

Anne Johnson (Secretary, SSPA),  
Strathallan Airfield,  
Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1BE  
Dedicated to the promotion and development  
of parachuting in Scotland. Services provided include equip-  
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etc), sponsorship of the Scottish National Championships and  
other competitions, provision of the only student progression,  
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gers' and instructors' training grants and much much more.

### SKYDIVE ACADEMY LTD

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Durham DH1 5WD  
Contact: Ian Rosenvinge  
Tel/Fax: 0191 386 5261 Mobile: 0860 156779  
E-mail: skydiveamy@aol.com  
[www.members.aol.com/skydiveamy/index.htm](http://www.members.aol.com/skydiveamy/index.htm)  
Run by Ian Rosenvinge (BPA Advanced/AFF/Tandem  
Examiner & USPA AFF JM/I). Offers AFF, tandem,  
video and FS coaching at Peterlee Parachute Centre.  
AFF courses also run in Florida and Southern Europe,  
autumn through spring.

### SKYDIVE INTERNATIONAL

45 Legge Crescent,  
Aldershot, Hants GU11 3NT  
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E-mail: 100722.2744@compuserve.com  
Chris Allen, Ex Red Devil, CCI, BPA AFF/Tandem  
Examiner, USPA Safety and Training advisor and Skydive  
University UK coordinator. Offers AFF courses in America,  
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### SKYDIVE UNLIMITED

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Salisbury, Wilts SP4 9QG  
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Tel/Fax: 01980 670100 Mobile: 0468 037671  
E-mail: jablquinto@aol.com  
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instructor can offer AFF, static line courses and tandem  
skydives 7 days a week near Salisbury (75 miles from  
London). AFF courses in the UK, Spain, Florida and  
Germany (package includes flights, accommodation, car  
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### SKYDIVE WINDRUSH

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Gestingthorpe,  
Essex CO9 3AX  
Tel/Fax: Weekdays 01787 461621  
Weekends: 01451 844422 or 844449  
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## FOREIGN ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

The organisations listed below do **not** operate in accordance with the requirements of the BPA operations manual. The BPA takes no responsibility for any training or advice given by those organisations.

### CPCB

PO Box 194, 17487 Empuriabrava, Spain  
Tel: 00 34 72 45 01 11 Fax: 00 34 72 45 07 49  
E-mail: cpcb@gna.es  
http://www.gna.es/dlleure/Paraca/cpcb.htm  
Skydive Spain! AFF courses (1 tandem, 7 jumps with air-to-air video), tandem flights, freestyle school, K-Ramba freestyle school, Skydive U, free load organising, team coaching (special rates), gear hire (with Cyprus). 2 Pilatus Porters all year and other aircraft. All jumps from 12,500ft. Open all year – and now club house, tennis and pool!

### SKYDIVE CROSS KEYS

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skydive@freefalladventures.com  
www.freefalladventures.com  
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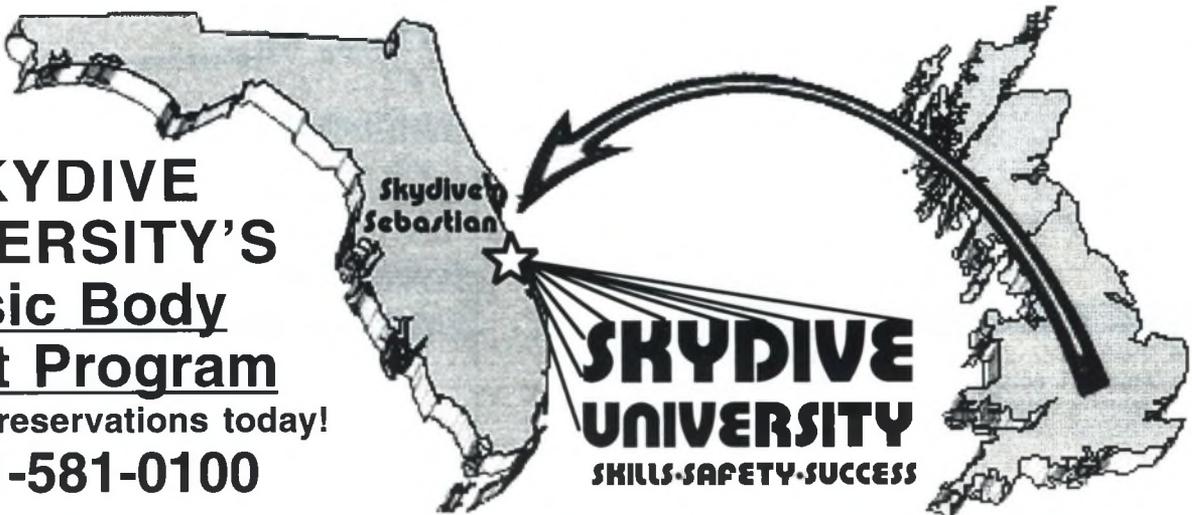
### SKYDIVE SEBASTIAN

400 W Airport Drive, Sebastian, FL 32958, USA  
Tel: 00 1 561 388 5672 Fax: 561 388 2105  
E-mail: skydiveseb@aol.com  
SebastianXL: pete\_allum@compuserve.com

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# Letters



## GRAMMAR GOING TO THE DOGS?

Members of the 4-way team *Sabakas Yitesers* will be shocked to discover that their name is hopelessly grammatically muddled.

Consider:

Naturally the 'yitsa' belong to the 'sobaka', putting the 'soboka' into the genitive case, 'sobakoi' and leaving 'yitsa' in the nominative. Obviously genitive always follows nominative, changing the word order and hence your name to *Yitsa Sobakoi*.

Please be less careless in future!

Emma Moran

## COACH WANTED!

Dear Friends

The Danish Parachute Association is searching for a new coach for our National

team in Style and Accuracy. We would like to get a highly skilled trainer willing to spend up to ten to fifteen weeks per year on a mixed team consisting of 50% world class Style and Accuracy jumpers and 50% new talented jumpers. The goal is to get them into the top three at the World Championships in the year 2000. The team consists of up to fifteen male and female jumpers all willing and able to train for long term success.

Responsibilities of the coach will be to:

- train the whole group in training camps and at competitions
- select national team(s) for international competitions
- assist in planning, coordinating and scheduling training

- advise on training less experienced jumpers and assist in selecting new members of the team

We will prefer a trainer with English language skills in writing and speech but can also accept German as language of communication. We would like to have a coach with experience as a top competitor, or other experience to be capable of understanding the thinking of high level competitors and capable of motivating these sportspeople to achieve their best.

Apart from paid travel and accommodation, the coach will receive payment for every active training day. The coach will report to our board and will cooperate with the Danish Style & Accuracy Committee. Please send applications to: *Style & Accuracy Committee Danish Parachute Association Mejlgade 67 st th DK 8000 Arhus C Telephone + 45 86 19 61 61 Telefax + 45 86 29 94 30 E-mail: cr@cci.dk*

Best regards  
Christian Ratenburg

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