

# skydive

The Mag

October 2008



The British Parachute  
Association Magazine



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# FREEFALL

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Photo: Willy Boeykens



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There are many people who may think that they would like to give up work and just skydive for a living. How many of these, faced with the choice, the reality of leaving the cosy security of a monthly income, the actuality of not knowing where your next penny is coming from, the stark truth that you do know when your next credit card bill will arrive and you know you can't pay it... how many of those people would be brave, committed and passionate enough about their sport to actually go through with it?

To work relentlessly twelve hours a day, every day, on your ambition when training, and four hours a day the other 50% of the time? To do the same block 200 times, trying to shave another tenth of a second off the time. To get up in the dark to go to the gym, to meticulously record team stats, to put career, social life, friends & family second, to think of nothing else but winning the World Championships?

*Bodyflight Storm* gave all of this and more to be crowned World Champions. What do you think was the biggest emotion I saw on their faces when the final round was scored? Joy? Pride? Elation? Self-importance? No, it was relief. Relief that all the sacrifices had not been in vein. The shiny gold medals won't house them, feed them nor keep them warm but at least these athletes won what they wanted to trade for such essentials. They didn't know when they gave those things up what the outcome would be – but they had belief and courage enough to try.

Talent, hard work, dedication, loyalty, teamwork, ambition, resourcefulness, bravery, respect, determination, humility... all these qualities and more are needed to reach the top of the world stage, which is why I am so proud to be able to cover this magazine with the gold and bronze medals achieved by *Bodyflight Storm* and *Volairkix*.

These high achievers show that you can progress incredibly quickly in this sport. Miss Hannah Betts, now World Champion, has been the subject of my editorial before, in August '05, when she was on the cover with just 360 jumps, smiling in a perfect T wearing her jeans. In five years she has gone from first jump to World Champion. Adam 'Killa' Mattacola has come from nowhere to become one of the best freeflyers in the world, in three years. Be proud and be inspired by *Storm* and *Volairkix*. I am!

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Lesley

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

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

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



**Cover:**

*Volairkix win World Championship bronze, by Alan Thompson and Bodyflight Storm win World Championship gold by Dave Butterell*

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# World Championships

## Maubeuge

### Freestyle

There were many anxious battles throughout the World Championships this year and freestyle was no exception. There were hard fought head-to-heads between the thirteen female and five male competitors from twelve nations. There was also the fight with the weather but the organisers and Meet Director were prepared and determined to see an excellent competition and in that they succeeded, making the most of the breaks and being ready to go in an instant. The seven Pilatus Porters were taking off every three minutes into sometimes an ominous-looking sky, this could sometimes mean circling at altitude waiting for safe airspace to exit into. For the Artistic Events it is also important to see a good horizon, as some particularly difficult moves may look static without a reference.

The way in which the teams were manifested meant that for most of the time for the freestylers at least, the aircraft would be full of nothing but competitors in our own event. It was interesting to see the faces of performers and cameraflyers

deep in thought or concentration – perhaps with the exception of Dedric, flying camera for skysurfing, who'd be engrossed in his book each ride to altitude.

#### Female Freestyle

We were witness to a new level of flying in freestyle which delighted the teams and hundreds of people from Maubeuge and the local area as they watched on the huge TV screens. There were different styles, such as witnessed in Finland's Heini Elo and France's Sophie Bernier's epic struggle to snatch the gold from each other's grasp. Heini's super fast spins and loops in all orientations compared to Sophie's elegance and form proved hard for the judges to separate. So much so in fact that by the last of the seven rounds there was a tie, both teams matched at 62.3 points! It's hard to imagine how they felt after more than a year of training and sacrifice to know only one would go home with the gold... and it all rested on a jump-off. The final result decided the winner by 0.1 of a point giving gold to Finland. France had the consolation prize of silver and Switzerland's Nicole Roth and Giuliano Jezzi took bronze. The UK was represented by *Airkix Freestyle* placing ninth and *Tumbleweed* in thirteenth position.

#### Male Freestyle

France once again were in the medals in the men's event. Fred and Cyril, France 1 (*Red Coq*) scooped the gold in what is sadly, after many years of competition, their last freestyle event. They are still competing together however, as part of a new VFS team, good luck to you both. Ronald and Brice won the silver for France, 6.2 points behind gold and USA's Bryce and Craig (nine toes) secured a clear bronze.

#### The Future of Freestyle

All in all a great time was enjoyed by all the freestyle competitors. We can expect to see more teams fighting a much closer contest in the future. Many of the teams had not much experience but excelled none the less and I'm sure will return better and stronger the next time. Lessons have been learned and experience gained. In the words of Killa from *Volairkix* (these especially relate to him!) "Every day's a school day!"

Al Hodgson  
*Airkix Freestyle*





**Female Freestyle**

	Total	Avg
1	Finland 1	71.5 8.9
2	France 2	71.4 8.9
3	Switzerland	55.8 8.0
4	France 1	54.7 7.8
5	Italy 1	53.4 7.6
6	Italy 2	49.7 7.1
7	Finland 2	45.9 6.6
8	Czech Republic	43.4 6.2
9	UK 1	29.9 6.0
10	USA	28.8 5.8
11	New Zealand	26.8 5.4
12	Australia	24.7 4.9
13	UK 2	24.6 4.9

**Male Freestyle**

1	France 1	64.2 9.2
2	France 2	58.0 8.3
3	USA	56.0 8.0
4	Russia	37.9 5.4
5	Austria	25.4 3.6

*Pixie of Airkix Freestyle by Milko*



*UK delegation by Stijn Janssens*



*Tumbleweed by Gary Wainwright*



*Al Hodgson by Lucy Herrett*

# Freefly

With the return of *Babylon*, and teams such as the Norwegian *Skywalkers*, the British team *Volairkix* and last year's World Cup winners *Amnesia* of France, this year's Freefly World Championships was shaping up to be a truly exciting competition. It didn't disappoint!

With bad weather leading up to the competition and unfavourable forecasts, Maubeuge 2008 was starting to look all too familiar, just like back in Gera 2006 when shoddy weather meant the competition was decided on just four rounds.

But the show must go on, and it did... day one, round one, first free routine completed. It was only then, after all the teams had been judged and all the routines were being shown on the big screens that we would witness an evolution of modern artistic freefly.

After missing last year's World Cup in Russia, *Babylon* brought a new style of free routine; totally flown, no big tricks, no stops, just a smooth, synchronised and very well presented routine. The *Skywalkers*, who have been flying and developing this style for the past five years, finally got the credit they deserve for an equally awesome routine presented flawlessly in this new style. So after round one, *Babylon* and *Skywalkers* were tied for first place! Close behind in third was Brit team *Volairkix*, with a routine featuring more technical tricks but lacking the smooth style the judges had just been blown away by with the two first place teams.

Round two, the first speed compulsory round, all eyes were on the scoreboards. First up out of the top three were *Volairkix*, who scored a 17 point dive equalling the current world record. Obviously they were happy with that, now the pressure was on *Skywalkers* and *Babylon*. Next up were the *Skywalkers*, who also had a good round, and after some nail-biting judging confusion which saw their score range between 15 and 17 points, the judges finally awarded 17 points also. What could *Babylon* produce?

A very clean 17. The top three teams scoring the same, all equalling the current world record, with *Babylon* and *Skywalkers* still tied for first place. It was turning out to be one of the most exciting freefly competitions ever.

Round three was where we would see the shape of things to come. *Babylon* produced a



Skywalkers by Andy Lovemore

free routine that was better executed than their round one, scoring half a point higher, *Skywalkers* scored half a point lower than their first round for a seemingly equally executed routine and *Volairkix* scored the same as their previous free round. From then on the top three places looked set. Scores stayed more or less the same and *Babylon* took the gold.

In fourth place were last year's World Cup winners *Amnesia*, who had a very well presented flawless routine but was, again, not in the style of the top two teams. In fifth place were the American team *Solstice* at their first World Championships, who performed a very exciting, unique free routine featuring some new moves, but again, this was not what the judges were after.

Another exciting element to this competition was the live scoring and high quality videos of all the competition rounds posted on the Maubeuge website. This allowed people around the world to watch as the competition developed. All videos and scores are still available at [www.maubeuge2008.org](http://www.maubeuge2008.org)

So where has this new style of 'flying' free routine come from? Maybe, as VFS and turning points increase in popularity, this is the artistics' response to push the flying style to the limits. With the two disciplines branching off in totally different directions, it's definitely a very exciting time for freefly.

Mike Carpenter  
Volairkix

Louis Harwood of Avalore by Swoop



Volairkix take bronze by Dave Butterell



Volairkix by Andy Lovemore

"This was a great competition for us. Obviously we would have liked to have taken the gold but we learned so much from this competition. To finally be able to compete against the best was an awesome experience. Now we can't wait to get training, come back stronger and take that gold!"

Volairkix

**Freely**

		Total	Avg
1	France 1	64.2	9.2
2	Norway 1	61.3	8.8
3	UK 1	58.1	8.3
4	France 2	56.3	8.0
5	USA	49.9	7.1
6	Norway 2	43.2	6.2
7	Sweden 1	41.9	6.0
8	Russia	37.9	5.4
9	Italy	27.3	5.5
9	Sweden 2	27.3	5.5
11	UK 2	26.5	5.3
12	Finland	26.2	5.2
13	Israel	26.0	5.2
14	Switzerland	25.9	5.2
15	Australia	25.7	5.1

**Skysurf**

1	Russia 1	66.8	8.4
2	France 1	66.4	8.3
3	France 2	50.8	7.3
4	Portugal	48.6	6.9
5	Russia 2	39.8	5.7



World Champions – Babylon

Volairkix by Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright



Connexion by Dave Butterell



This was my first world meet experience... and what an amazing experience it was! Doug McLennan and I arrived in Maubeuge for the opening ceremony, and what a sensational sight we saw before us! It looked like the entire town had come out to celebrate the opening of the World Championships. As the procession of skydivers and supporters walked through the town, the thing that struck me was what a small world the skydiving community is; in every delegation we had people we knew coming out and saying hi – how cool is that!

The start of the meet was not the best, I'll never complain about the British weather again! Rain stopped play for day one. Yet the atmosphere in the British tent was still electric, with everyone gagging to get the first jumps out of the way. Once the calls started to come through, the vibe was amazing, I think everyone had butterflies, even if they weren't going to jump. *Fusion* were first up out of the British delegation, everybody assembled with their union flags to walk the team to the bus that would carry them off to the Porter, what an incredibly excited feeling it was.

Next up were *Bodyflight Storm*, the girls looking focused on the job in hand and, after a long wait, were eager to get this jump out of the way. With a faultless walk-through and one last chat from their coach, Dan BC, the girls boarded the bus; they looked totally relaxed on the outside – even if they weren't on the inside!

As the competition got into the swing of things, we soon got into a routine of waving flags and wishing our guys the best of luck on each of their jumps, a short wait of suspense, and then off to the landing area to celebrate with more cheering, flag-waving and, on my part, relief that all the chicks' pack-jobs

4 Way Female (6 rds)	Total	Avg
1 UK	120	20.0
2 USA	119	19.8
3 France	115	19.2

4 Way Open (8 rds)	Total	Avg
1 USA	195	24.4
2 France	194	24.3
3 Belgium	191	23.9
19 UK	76	12.7

8 Way (7 rds)	Total	Avg
1 France	151	21.6
2 USA	140	20.0
3 Italy	126	18.0
5 United Kingdom	94	13.4

full results:  
[fai.org/parachuting/node](http://fai.org/parachuting/node)

were okay and they hadn't strained anything! (Being alternate for *Storm* sounds like a jolly but it was actually very stressful in its own way!) We became very good at waving people off and also cheered for the Italians, the Americans, the Belgians and anyone else we liked the look of! The camaraderie between delegations was fantastic, only in this sport do you get that kind of thing.

### 8-way

France made a statement with their first round, scoring 23 to USA's 18 and never looked back. They won or tied every single round and finished 11 points ahead, an unbelievable performance. Silver medallists USA's *Knight Trax* combined two 4-way teams, the *Golden Knights* and *Fastrax*, who qualified for the World Meet at the US Nationals '07 as gold medallists *Airspeed* didn't wish to compete in 8-way. Uniquely, the US military team the *Knights* shared facilities and training with civilians *Fastrax* in order to represent their country.

The bronze was a hit with the Brits, going to the well-liked Italian team *Ext3mo*, who've been together some eight years, with four of the team still from the original line-up. *Connexion*, the British team, put a fantastic 13.4 average on the board, adding 1.3 points to last year's Nationals performance despite a harder exit, slower slipstream and training camps dogged by doggy weather. *Connexion* came a very creditable fifth in the world, and had added over two points to their World Meet average two years ago, having changed half their team members, great stuff guys!

The Australian 8-way featured Brits Melissa Harvey and Maxine Hopkins. The team had done over 70 training jumps from the Porter – and funnelled every single one before the World Meet! (Fortunately a few words from the French put them on the right track for this, the most challenging of aircraft for an 8-way launch.) The Belgian 8-way were mostly

Fusion by Laszlo Andacs



sleeping in their cars (admin mix-ups on accommodation) and surprised themselves with their great average. The South Africans are always up for a laugh. While other teams were trading T-shirts with close rivals as a mark of respect, the South African 8-way swapped clothes with – the cleaners! This left them all in day-glow yellow overalls, nice one guys!

### Open 4-way

The open 4-way was dominated from the start by the favourites, *Airspeed Odyssey*. Craig, Eliana, Mark and Andy, multiple 8-way World Champions on *Arizona Airspeed*, had changed their primary event focus and dedicated the last year to 4-way training. They looked strong and flew balls-out all meet, despite severe judging which lost them eight points. Their final round saw a shaky start, with a rocky exit and two 'invisible busts' but *Airspeed* powered through the glitches and were victorious. The win made Craig Girard seven times World Champion (two 4-way, five 8-way), the most ever by one person. Teammate Mark Kirkby became the holder of the most 4-way FS World Championship golds (four, he also has an 8-way gold) while Eliana Rodriguez became the first person to win all three possible FS World Championships – in open 4-way, female 4-way and 8-way.

In silver medal position were the French 4-way, all of whom were jumping on the 8-way too, incredible! The team included brothers Mathieu and Guillaume Bernier,

Connexion by Stijn Janssens





World Champions – Airspeed Odyssey by Willy Boeykens

both well known by the Brits from World Team. The popular Belgian team *Hayabusa* gained a World Meet bronze, a big crowdpleaser as Rolls and Co have coached many UK teams. Our own *Fusion* put up some fantastic scores but also had a few rounds they were disappointed with, their Nationals average reflecting more what they are capable of. They were noble ambassadors for the UK and a pleasure to be around.



Milko by Willy Boeykens



Fusion by Dave Butterell



Airspeed by Stijn Janssens

## Female 4-way

The opening round of female 4-way saw UK exactly equal to USA on 24 points! A close contest was clearly about to unfold. Round 2, *Storm* pulled away by three points, a massive number at this level of competition – but we weren't allowed to mention the scores! Rounds 3 and 4 went one to each team and round 5 was a draw. Thursday morning saw the finals. Since they had all had a night to think about this, nerves were high in the camp. The US girls were three points behind, a good margin but anything could happen...

Standing watching the last round being scored was almost too much to bear. Sarah said it was more nerve-wracking than doing the jump itself. It was obvious from seeing *Storm* landing that it wasn't exactly the best round that they'd ever flown. The question was, was it going to be enough to keep the Americans from taking the gold? *Storm* dirtdived the jump-off round just in case...

The US girls were scored first, we watched them perform a faultless round, full of confidence with some awesome flying, they scored an impressive 19. Next up were the French girls, who had demonstrated some fantastic flying throughout the competition, this line-up only got together this year so they had a tremendous meet. They scored a 17.

Watching *Storm* do their round was nail-biting stuff... we had already worked out they needed a 17 to take the gold, a 16 would mean there would be a jump-off. After a shaky block 19 out of the door and a near bust on another point the chicks really had us on the edge of our seats, the clock just seemed to be counting down so quickly, the hangar was so quiet you could have heard a penny drop... the girls didn't falter again, they just powered through, staying calm, building each point one after another, showing great mental strength as well as flying skills, the clock stopped on the seventeenth point, awesome!

There wasn't a dry eye around. Sparky had become world champion for the third time and gained her fifth world title, Kate Stephens had won her second world competition and Sarah and Hannah had become World Champions at their first IPC competition! A massive amount of champagne was consumed by all the delegation, with *Storm's* cameraman and new World Champion Swoop (Gary Wainwright) putting the most effort in.

I urge everyone to go to the next World Meet to support our teams. These guys put so much effort into securing their place to represent the UK, sheer hard work and dedication to the sport. In my opinion each person in every Brit team deserves a medal for their time and effort. I can't wait for the next World Meet, I'll be there... will you?

*Tanya Hollis*  
Alternate, *Bodyflight Storm*

World Champions *Bodyflight Storm* – Hannah Betts, Claire 'Sparky' Scott, Kate Stephens, Sarah Smith, cameraman Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright and coach Dan BC, photo by Stijn Janssens



Celebratory photos by Willy Boeykens



## Head of Delegation Report Extracts

In my opinion this was the best World Meet I have been to with regard to the facilities and organisation. The organisers ran a very efficient ship and made a real effort to present our sport to the public and to give all of the delegations a meet to remember.

The facilities at the site were of the highest level with, for example:

- Delegation tents with wooden floors
- Power into the tents, for cameras, laptops, kettles etc.
- Free wi-fi everywhere
- 12 large Plasma TVs in many locations
- Live judging shown across them all
- 2 large jumbo screens for the public

The meet was run very efficiently with a clear flow of information from the Meet Director to all competitors. Unfortunately the weather was not helpful which meant that while we completed all Artistic Events, including two jump-offs, the FS did not complete, with 4-way open doing eight rounds, female 4-way six rounds and 8-way seven rounds out of the full ten.

The desire to create a real showcase event made for a very impressive closing ceremony, which included an airshow.

The final rounds of FS were done early, all jumping to be finished by 11am. The feedback from some FS competitors was they would rather have jumped longer on the final day, rather than sit and watch an airshow. This was an example of the conflict which can occur through making our sport accessible to the public. However I do feel that in the challenging conditions Patrice Girardin ran a very successful competition, balancing the conflicting demands very well.

This was a very successful meet for the UK, not just because we won female 4-way FS gold, freestyle bronze, had a UK event judge and saw our three trainee judges qualify. But because once again I am very proud to say the whole atmosphere of the event was lifted by the humour and goodwill of the whole British delegation.

*Martin Soulsby  
Head of Delegation*



# GET GEARED UP!

Aerodyne Research is one of the few manufacturers in the world able to equip a skydiver with a full set of gear, including the main and reserve canopies and the harness-container system.

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A symbol for a new age in harness container evolution. The Icon comes standard with: Hip Rings, Stainless Steel Hardware, RSL, Mini Force 3-Ring System, and is AAD ready. Options on the Icon include: Chest Rings, Spacer Foam Back Pad, Pin Striping, Custom Embroidery, and more to come, including the skyhook to be out soon...

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The fastest most affordable reserve in the world! The Smart brings 30 years of experience into the design and with the high lift wing and advanced aerodynamics the Smart provides maximum low speed flight and comfortable landings. The Smart is certified under the US FAA TSO-C23d and the European ETSO-C23d.

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# Aerodyne

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# 2008 World Championships Maubeuge France

## Congratulations to the British Vigil teams



### Vigil medalists

**Gold:**  
FS 4 Way Female  
UK, Bodyflight Storm

FS 4 Way Open  
USA, Arizona Airspeed

Freestyle Men  
France, Red Coq

**Silver:**  
Freestyle Female  
Freestyle Men  
Skysurf Men

FS 4 way Female,  
Christy Frikken &  
Niklas Daniel (USA)

**Bronze:**  
Skysurf Men

FS 8 Way,  
Marco Arrigo (Italy)



UK national 8 way  
team Connexion

UK 4 way Female team  
Bodyflight Storm  
World Champions

UK national  
4 way  
team Fusion

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Why shouldn't you...**

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Arrière plan: Andy Rappoport / A.S. 2008 / Photo: M. G. / G. / G.

## Peterlee Turbine Success



Jonsky celebrates by Mal Smith

The community at Peterlee Parachute Centre has been celebrating, following the Planning Inspectorate's decision to dismiss an appeal by A7 Energy to erect two 110m wind turbines near to the DZ. Had they gone ahead, it would have meant so many restrictions on jumping that it would probably have closed the centre. The Planning Inspectorate stated that the benefit from the turbines could not justify the loss of the only parachuting facility in northeast England. It is hoped that this decision will help fight any future proposals for wind turbines close to any UK dropzones.

## UK Skydiver of the Year

Suggestions are invited from BPA Members for the 2008 UK Skydiver of the Year award. This will be presented at the BPA AGM on 10 January, by Hazel Causer. The trophy was donated by Hazel in memory of her daughter, the awesome Taz Causer. Email nominations to the BPA Office by **21 November 2008**. The BPA Council will vote on the recommendations in December.

[skydive@bpa.org.uk](mailto:skydive@bpa.org.uk)

## Thrupton Reunion

A reunion of the long-gone Thrupton Parachute Club, is planned at the Goodwood Suite, Thrupton Circuit, on Saturday 25 October 2008, organised by Jacqui Wright. Everyone from the RSA Parachute Club (1972-1980) and Thrupton Parachute Club (1981-1989) era is cordially invited.

[j.wright476@btinternet.com](mailto:j.wright476@btinternet.com)  
[thrupton.nolon.co.uk](http://thrupton.nolon.co.uk)

# Russian Records

Zhemchuzhiny Rossii – 'Russian Pearls', what the Russian women have dubbed their new record, set on 25 July. The 70-way, masterminded by Irena Sinicina, was built over Aerograd Kolomna, on the fourth attempt, held for five seconds, and gives Russia the largest female record. Participant

Russian National Record 135-way by Andrey Veselov



Russian Pearls 70-way by Andrey Veselov



Alexandra Volkova boasted "Now we can say that Russian women are not only plainly the most beautiful girls in the world, they are the best skydivers!" Hmmm... any comment readers?

This was followed on 29 August by a Russian national record of 135, over Kolomna, out of two Mi-8 helicopters. This event included the talents of Alexander Belaglozov and Kate Cooper-Jensen, aided by leaders from many different areas in Russia. Weather thwarted efforts to go larger but they are reconvening next year.

## Mozambique Boogie



Bazaruto Island by Willy Boeykens

The next Exotic Sky Adventures event is on Bazaruto Island, just off the coast of Mozambique. Participants will stay at the Bazaruto Lodge, which will be totally taken over by the boogie, jumping onto the private beach. The whole African adventure will also include a 3-day trip to Pilanesberg Game Reserve and some rumoured but as yet unconfirmed unusual other delights.

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

## New Jumpship



Quest Kodiak by Dave Newton

RAPA has bought number 5 in a brand new aircraft to the aviation industry. The Quest Kodiak, made in Idaho USA, arrived at RAPA on 5 July and was put straight to use for the UK Canopy Piloting and Classics Nationals, the first in the world to be utilised for parachuting. The Kodiak carries 15 jumpers, runs in at 80 knots and climbs at about 1,300 feet a minute. It has a factory-fitted roller jump door (49 x 51"), jump lights, rails, steps, high static line bar and an under wing video camera.

## Honda Bursary

Through filming the famous live TV ad, Honda was inspired to give some one-off help to grass roots FS competitors, and suggested a donation to the winners in Rookie and A Rookie at UK Nationals. *Exodus* and *ADHD* are the

happy recipients; both have confirmed their teams will continue and train using help from the Honda Bursary. Each team has £2,500 to develop their FS competition skills and move up to the next level.



[DifficultIsWorthDoing.Com](http://DifficultIsWorthDoing.Com)

Rookie 4-way ADHD by Gustavo Cabana



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DEALERS WANTED

# STOMPING in Style

## Style and Accuracy World Championships Lucenec, Slovakia

The UK group met in the bar of the hotel in the quiet town of Lucenec in Slovakia just off the Hungarian border. The dropzone was only 5 minutes away and, as we arrived, everyone was preparing for this major event. The DZ and the local town took real pride in hosting the World Championships.

### Training

We had manifested for a handful of training jumps, fighting the weather on the first few days. Glenn Stephenson was impressive as ever, always giving the team helpful tips – I certainly needed them! Alastair Macartney was flying the Black Jack (Black Joker) canopy and wrongly being accused of low pulling. This clearly upset his rhythm and affected his accuracy but he soon adapted with the land, run and tap method. Sat around the tuffet watching the world's best accuracy jumpers was a bit soul-destroying as they were hitting the centre of the 2cm disc on every jump and throwing away good scores.

### USA

Our tent was next to the USA tent. It became a familiar sight to see the *Golden Knights* practising their stomping, with a friendly barrage of witty banter being slung both ways, all in good humour. Having realised Alastair and I weren't going to be too competitive against them they gave us a bunch of free coaching.

### UK

Our own Esther Reynolds was keeping in the top third with some impressive accuracy. Glenn Stephenson and Pete Sizer were working hard, with the wind conditions changing every few minutes, being forced to watch for the slightest movement on the wind indicators for the approach. For someone who is used to flying the Velocity it's a new ball game having the confidence to brake really deeply and fly these canopies over the tuffet to then drop in vertically onto the target. It took a few jumps before scores of 1cm and 2cm were being struck but, when you're in the league of the world's best, our efforts were just not good enough. The likes of Russia, Croatia, Slovenia and all the big guns were fighting it out and getting upset with any scores over 3cm – personally I would have done a lap of celebration!

Head of Delegation and Team Manager Ian Marshall was working hard on the team's relations with the locals and entertaining the Mayor – well done Ian! Nice display too! The UK team is in need of some serious training and development and, dare I say it, needs new blood that can be brought on by the guys we have at the top of our game.

(Tracksuits wouldn't go amiss either.)



*Ian Marshall gave a fine display*



*Glenn Stephenson scoring 0.01*



*Esther Reynolds who showed us how it's done on most rounds*

### Prize-giving

The prize-giving started with an impressive display with each country's representative jumping their flag into a small arena – well done Ian, again no pressure. A banquet was laid on by the town's top hotel with jugs of wine evaporating quickly. A few exchanges of T-shirts and other garments and, before we knew it, we were on an early flight home, the mind ticking over on how to better ourselves in this sport.

I can see why Style & Accuracy gets slated by the cool and groovy but only a few have the skill to hit a dead centre or turn a right cross style set in under 6 seconds – can you?

*Deane 'Smudge' Smith (pictured)*



## Striving to Stomp

As a high performance canopy pilot my accuracy experience is limited. I've done a bunch of demo jumps and a fair amount of CF on 7-cells. I qualified on my Velocity at the 2007 Accuracy Nationals to go to the 2008 World Championships but was asked not to fly it in the meet.

Not owning a Parafoil, I was at a loss where to start. However I'm also a base jumper and use a Black Jack 260. Base canopies are predominantly low aspect ratio canopies designed to produce soft, accurate landings – just what I needed. The Black Jack also has PAC (Pressure Activated and Controlled) valves and a ZP composite upper surface on the front third of the top skin – both provide added performance. So I set about doing some limited training. Conscious that I needed to simulate the high pressure environment associated with international competition I undertook short training camps in Kjerag and Voss in Norway and Rotterdam in the Netherlands. As well as improving my accuracy I learned a great deal about how my canopy flew.

How did I get on in Slovakia? I sucked. Due to its impressive glide ratio the Black Jack was more suitable for windy conditions.



Unfortunately we were mostly jumping in light variable winds. (I need an excuse for my poor scores!) It was a massive learning curve and a humbling experience. There are some seriously talented athletes that really know how to fly their canopies with absolute precision or can turn a style set with tremendous power.

The Nationals next year will select the British team for the 2010 World Championships. UK style and accuracy competitors are dwindling so, if you think you have what it takes to compete in this discipline (harder than it looks) then start training and come along. As for me, I'm on the scrounge for a Parafoil. I need a dedicated accuracy canopy to compete seriously.

Come and compete at Nationals 2009, to gain your slot for the 2010 World Meet, learn about your canopy or just have a bit of down to earth fun!

Alastair Macartney (pictured)



Pete Sizer scoring 0.04

### Classics World Meet Results

#### Male Accuracy

			Total (10 rds)
Gold	Slovenia	S Salkic	0.05
Silver	Slovenia	D Vodisek	0.06
Bronze	China	Y Laing	0.07

#### Male Style

Gold	Germany	M Pfluger	31.31
Silver	France	P Valois	32.27
Bronze	Russia	D Maximov	33.06

#### Female Accuracy

Gold	Russia	O Lepezina	0.05
Silver	Russia	L Ekshikeeva	0.07
Bronze	Slovenia	M Sajovic	0.07

#### Female Style

Gold	Slovenia	I Avbelj	34.40
Silver	USA	E Tennyson	35.27
Bronze	Russia	L Zintchenko	35.47

Full scores and results:  
[fai.org/parachuting/node](http://fai.org/parachuting/node)

UK delegation – Esther Reynolds, Al Macartney, Glenn Stephenson, Smudge Smith, Pete Sizer, and judge Bob King



Photos by Bob & Hilary King and Al Macartney



# COMPETITIONS

## World Meet

British women still on the top of the 4-way world – excellent! I just wanted to point out the amount of hard work, dedication and sacrifice it takes to get to where they are. We all love seeing the Union Jack on the top of the podium but behind every play of the national anthem there are countless scenes you don't see. Getting up before dawn for training, gruelling fitness work, never-ending travel for tunnel sessions and training camps, family and friends put second to skydiving not to mention the huge financial commitment. It takes a special breed to get through these times and with more drive than most. These details and countless others make skydivers like *Storm* not only the best at their discipline but arguably better than the Olympic heroes with the formidable financial support those sports received for Beijing.

## UKSL – 4-way FS

All meets in the 2008 4-way UK Skydiving League have completed, with a league table below. Medals will be awarded to the top three in each category, at the AGM 2009. If you want to keep 8-way on the sporting calendar, combine two 4-way teams and try your hand at next year's 8-way events. You'll be amazed how much fun you have!

## Team GB Win ESL Spirit

British skydivers beat other nations to win the European Skydiving League (ESL) Finals. 45 BPA members competing as nine individual teams attended the host drop zone in Texel, Holland and walked away with the overall champions trophy, a sword called the Spirit. Team GB also achieved two gold, two silver and two bronze medals across the four categories.

The finals are the culmination of the European Skydiving League, a series of competitions run simultaneously in different countries, to enable direct comparison with foreign teams' scores using the internet. The ESL final is the only event where the teams skydive at the same dropzone, giving them a chance to meet their fellow competitors. As the winning nation, Great Britain now looks forward to hosting the ESL finals in 2009.

Chris Hollis

## Bingo Lotto – Brilliant!

The BPA belongs to CCPR, an umbrella body for sports and recreation organisations, which set up Bingo Lotto to benefit sport. So far the BPA has received over £1,000 from Bingo Lotto, to be used for grass roots development. This is funding BPA Coaching Roadshows for non-seniors in all disciplines at DZs across the UK.

## Artistics Roadshow - This Weekend!

Therefore there will be an additional Artistics Coaching Roadshow, at Black Knights, Cockerham, 4-5 October, with Dan Parker and Mikey Carpenter. Other disciplines will also benefit.

## Buddy Scheme

Bingo Lotto re-launches next year with a buddy scheme that also benefits sports centres – ie, dropzones – which, if they sign up, could benefit by 40p for each ticket they sell. For more, see the BPA website.

## VFS World Cup, 26-28 Oct

VFS is recognised by the FAI and we have seen a successful, close-run UK Nationals. VFS teams wishing to attend the first VFS World Cup, 26-28 October in Eloy, Arizona, should contact the BPA Office or Weed immediately!

### 4-way UK Skydiving League Table 2008

AAA		Langar (May)		Nethers (Jun)		Cark (Jun)		Nats at Hib (Aug)		Total
		Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	
1	Wingnutz	2	8	2	8	1	10	4	5	31
2	Satori	1	10	1	10	-	-	2	8	28
3	Bodyflight Storm	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	10
4	Bonobo	3	6	-	-	-	-	6	3	9
5	Fusion	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	6
6	Spirit	-	-	3	6	-	-	-	-	6
7	Fend 4 Someone Else	-	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	5
8	Sonic-V	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	4
<b>AA</b>										
1	Phobia	3	6	2	8	1	10	1	10	34
2	Kaizen	4	5	3	6	2	8	2	8	27
3	Phantom	1	10	1	10	-	-	4	5	25
4	Fend 4 Yourself	2	8	-	-	-	-	5	4	1
5	Frenzy	-	-	4	5	-	-	3	6	11
6	Bacchanalia	-	-	-	-	3	6	7	2	8
7	Ai Qi Saco	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	5
8	Switch	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
9	Kate's Our Hero	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<b>A</b>										
1	Strangers	1	10	1	10	1	10	2	8	38
2	Exodus	-	-	2	8	-	-	1	10	18
3	RAFSPA Firefly	2	8	-	-	-	-	3	6	14
4	Drink, Dance & Funnel	-	-	-	-	2	8	6	3	11
5	Pogo-Boing	3	6	-	-	-	-	8	1	7
<b>Rookie</b>										
1	Zero Degrees	1	10	1	10	1	10	4	5	35
2	Burble	2	8	2	8	2	8	3	6	30
3	Innuendo	3	6	3	6	3	6	5	4	22
4	Flux	4	5	-	-	4	5	6	3	13
5	ADHD	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	10
6	Jet Blondes	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	8
7	RAFSPA Phoenix	5	4	7	2	-	-	-	-	6
8	E For Ediot	-	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	5
9	West Coast Drifters	8	1	5	4	-	-	-	-	5
10	Equilibrium	9	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	4
11	Skylark	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
12	Fallout	10	-	6	3	-	-	-	-	3
13	Flaming Pants	-	-	-	-	6	3	8	1	4
14	RAFSPA Valiant	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
15	Sorry, I'm Not Wearing	-	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	1



## GENERAL NEWS

### Stand for Council

Could your knowledge and skills help our sport? Have you new and innovative thinking to offer? Could you help our sport to seize new opportunities and help resolve often complex issues? Then stand for election to next year's Council – get a nomination form and start lobbying! Details of the nomination procedure for BPA Council Members 2009 are available on the BPA website, from clubs & centres and on request from the BPA Office. Completed nominations, each supported by a proposer and seconder, must be submitted in their entirety to reach the BPA Office by **noon on Thursday 23 October 2008**.

### Calendar Call!

There's still time to submit photos for the BPA Calendar, email to [lesley@skydivemag.com](mailto:lesley@skydivemag.com) immediately!

**BPA** *Matters*  
By Martin Shuttleworth

[www.bpa.org.uk](http://www.bpa.org.uk)  
**0116 278 5271**

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

*Photo taken over Weston by Andy Lovemore*



### One Year at a Time

John Horne, BPA Vice Chairman, invited Council to consider the suggestion that Members have made – and which has been discussed on the UKS internet newsgroup – to put to the Membership a proposal that the period of election on the BPA Council be extended from one year to three years. Under such an arrangement, one third of the 15-strong Council would retire by rotation each year, and be eligible to stand for re-election.

The Council recognised the benefits for the BPA in a three-year period, principally the assurance of continuity, because no more than five seats would come up for election at once (excluding any casual vacancies). With the existing system, all 15 seats come up for election annually and it is possible that a majority or even all 15 of the seats could change at one time, possibly leading to major change and discontinuity in policy. Arguably, a hallmark of a successful third sector member-run governing body is evolution not revolution.

However, this had to be weighed against the strong likelihood that potential new nominees to Council might not stand if it would be for three years. This might significantly reduce the potential pool of new talent available to the Association. On balance, it was felt this outweighed the possible continuity benefit and hence there was no proposal to change the status quo. Elections to Council will continue to be for a one-year tenure and include all 15 seats.

## 2009 AGM

### Sat 10 Jan – Hinckley

The AGM and associated events will be held at the Hinckley Island Hotel on the A5 Watling Street, Leicestershire.

Tickets for Saturday's three-course formal dinner including coffee cost £26 per person and are available from the BPA Office. Why not book a table (seating 10-12) for your club or society?

All BPA Members are welcome at the free after-dinner disco in the Paris Suite.

#### Accommodation

Special room rates including breakfast and parking are:

Fri 9 Jan – £79.50 dble/twin, £53.50 single

Sat 10 Jan – £94.50 dble/twin, £73.50 single

**Book direct with the hotel, quoting 'Hinckley – BPA' on 01455 898 560**

#### Exhibition

Free-of-charge bookings are now being taken for the AGM day exhibition of services, equipment, clothing etc, for the enjoyment of skydiving in the UK. Contact Helen at the BPA Office.

#### AGM Seminars

We're planning the afternoon seminars that are so popular. If you have any suggestions, please e-mail us. We're looking to put together a programme of information, education and entertainment.

#### 2010 AGM – Kiss-Me-Quick!

Tower, trams and kiss-me-quick hats. No prizes for guessing where the BPA is heading for AGM 2010. You said you wanted a change after a decade in Hinckley, so next time we're off to Blackpool, to the four-star Hilton, one of the town's top hotels, on Saturday 16 January 2010. More info next year.

### New Ratings

#### Instructor Examiner

Reg Green  
Brian Dyas

#### Advanced Instructor

Richard Wheatley

#### Cat System Instructor

Paul Farthing  
Mike Outen  
Ian Shaw  
Alan Westley  
Joanne Burns  
Trish McDonagh  
Paul Thompson

#### AFF Instructor

Thea Follett  
Anna Lea  
Mick McPhee  
Victoria Finch

#### Tandem Instructor

James Brittain  
Shane Cook  
Kenneth Craig  
Oliver Main  
Kevin Doust  
Dylan Griffith-Jones

#### AFF BI

Ceri Lewis  
Mike Colthart  
Dave Head

#### Tandem BI

Darren Cookson  
Karl Hearne  
Trevor Dickson

#### CSBI

Garry Wotton  
David Holiday  
Max McLeod  
Glen Lowerson  
Christopher Smith  
Lazar Dimitrov

#### Advanced Packer

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Dave Emerson (S)  
Alan Westley (S)  
Lee Thomas (S)  
Simon Asquith (S)

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Photo: Andrew Lovemore



11-way head down over Weston by Andy Lovemore

## BPA Magazine Tenders Invited

For BPA Editorial Services contract



Gary Mainwright

The BPA takes seriously its responsibility to ensure that the Membership always receives the best value from the Association, and that the Council applies the income received from membership subscriptions prudently. To this end, the practice of tendering for contracts has been adopted for services that require significant expenditure such as the new BPA database system that is currently being developed to allow online membership renewals through a new BPA website. Other supplier contracts will undergo a similar process.

The current contract for production of the BPA Magazine, first published in 1964, is due to expire in June 2009. The Council has therefore decided to follow best business practice for the process of awarding the next Magazine contract and will put the contract out to tender. This process will enable the BPA to benchmark

current costs against the market as an objective assurance that the Association is achieving what it believes it has always achieved with the Magazine, best value for the membership of this quality publication. There will be no compromise on quality – the Communications Committee is determined to continue to provide Members with a Magazine of high quality and world renown.

Expressions of interest are now invited for tender to edit and manage the publication of six issues per year of the BPA Magazine (6,000 copies per issue) and its associated website, which will be hosted with the BPA website, this will also include the BPA's *Starter Mag* for first-time jumpers (every two years), skydiving calendar (annually), *Freedom of the Skies* promotional brochure (as required when stocks run low), and the coordination of PR activity to ensure the profile of the sport is best communicated and maximise exposure. In addition, by mutual agreement, the contract may be extended to cover sundry other publications as the Association may from time to time require at such additional fees as may be negotiated.

The contract covers the full range of production from inception, through commissioning and editorial across the full range of content

including news, safety, information and educational articles (84-96 pages in full colour) to printing and distribution. The successful contractor will be required to work towards reducing the annual cost to Members of the Magazine each year by exploitation of non-member subscription sales and advertising sales both in the Magazine and on its associated website; and to identify to the BPA other commercial opportunities for the Magazine including opportunities online. The intellectual property of the Magazine and its associated website will remain wholly owned by British Parachute Association Ltd.

**Notice of intent to tender must be lodged in writing by no later than 5 pm Friday 28 November 2008** with Adrian Bond, BPA Communications Chairman, by letter, fax or e-mail at the BPA's registered office BPA Ltd, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF, e-mail [skydive@bpa.org.uk](mailto:skydive@bpa.org.uk), fax 0116 247 7662. A formal tender document will be issued early in January 2009. Bidders must return their tender to reach the BPA by 5pm on Friday 6 February 2009. The Communications Committee envisages that the contract, which will run from June 2009 for a period of 3 years and will be awarded in March 2009.

### British Parachute Association Ltd



Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association will be held at the BPA Office, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF on Tuesday 2 December 2008 at 18.30.

#### Agenda

- 1 To receive and adopt, if approved, the Annual Accounts of the Association and the Report of the Auditors for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.
- 2 To confirm the re-appointment of the Auditors, and to authorise the Council to fix their remuneration for the ensuing financial year.
- 3 To set the Provisional Membership Subscription for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2009.

Issued for and on behalf of the Council of the British Parachute Association Ltd 1 October 2008

### British Parachute Association Ltd



Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Hinckley Island Hotel, A5 Watling Street, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 3JA, on Saturday 10 January 2009 at 10.30.

#### Agenda

- 1 To receive and adopt, if approved, the report of the Chairman of Council.
- 2 To consider any items of Special Business\*.
- 3 To set subscriptions payable by non-provisional Members for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2009.
- 4 To close the formal proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

#### Other items of business

- a To announce the result of the election for the 2009 Council of the BPA.
- b To present various annual awards.

\*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 (by midnight on Sunday 30 November 2008) can be included under agenda item 2, Special Business.

Issued for and on behalf of the Council of the British Parachute Association Ltd 1 October 2008

# UK Skydiver Boogie



Deep into planning of bad weather activities, I tentatively checked a few internet sites for an idea of what the week's weather was to hold for us. Somewhat jaded after last year's monsoons, I tentatively opened my preferred site to find that it seemed, for the first time in five years, the weather god (John Kettle) was finally about to smile on us, with a total of one whole week of good weather this summer set to occur right over the UKS boogie weekend! Some suggested that moderators of the website had sacrificed a thousand goats, others implied devil's work with virgins but really, we just got lucky!

Pre-registration had been invariably excellent, and this, coupled with a seeming fake forecast, meant that the numbers were starting to get a little crazy!

Friday came and the DZ slowly began to fill with skydivers and kin who were due to spend the weekend at Weston. There was a definite 'intrigued' tone as, like last year, we did not reveal all of the plans for the weekend.

Jumping began as the cockerel crew, and continued solidly throughout the day. When the DZ finally stopped jumping, the bar opened and a fantastic easy-going night of meeting and greeting began, with a great deal of catching up, and a greater deal of putting forum user-names to faces! Slowly, the bar, the illegal rave in the car park, and party revellers settled down to a cosy night in a tent city, the size of which Weston had never seen before.

The Caravan, Skyvan and helicopter arrived Saturday morning, setting the scene for the

weekend; something old, new, borrowed and the sky was blue! Never bluer in fact! A huge cohort of skydivers were enlisted to come down to help out. Superstars from all over the UK were arriving to coach. Indeed, the organised roster was so large that Caroline Hughes' FS load organising leads had to be doubled the week before. There was a strong potential to bust the UKS record from 2007 with Andy Scott also volunteering to help out with the ballooning numbers of big-way jumpers. Amanda Kemp ran the FS coaching, with support from *Phobia* plus numerous walk-up coaches who offered to help as the need grew.

*Volare* proved to be very popular this year, with Mike and Adam working non-stop both days to coach everything from head-up to atmo. Marc Fletcher also stepped in to help organise some freefly and tracking jumps. The Top Gun wingsuiting team were also invited to the boogie to cover first flights, coaching and flocking, and were worked equally as hard!

UKS's home-grown idea, the 'Get Out Gang' began on Saturday afternoon, allowing less experienced skydivers to get involved in group jumps. Del Greco bravely stepped up to help organise, and many people came forward to get involved with newcomers, which really made it feel a success and helped build the community feeling.

The aircraft literally flew from 9am to 9pm to cater for the 350 skydivers who registered for the weekend. On Saturday alone Weston did 1,500 descents, breaking their own record, and proving that they know what they are





doing when it comes to boogies – not many can claim to deal with such a high number so elegantly!

With a bit of help from some members of UKS (you know who you are – thanks!) the party was shaped up, marquee raised, and decorations put up. Boogie-goers were fed with a huge free BBQ/hog roast/salad bar, which really set the scene for the night's proceedings – a massive western-themed extravaganza! Members turned out in fancy dress, sat on hay bales in our home-made barn while they ate, then moved on to the dance floor to the sounds of the live band, who ran several hours of line dancing! Rob 'Cactus Man' Bradley and Kirsty 'Dolly Parton' Richardson took home a free jump for their fantastic outfits, then the music hushed as the lights went down for Andy Lovemore's edit of the day's footage, which was very well received by everyone.

The raffle took place, where members won all kinds of goodies, kindly sponsored by companies from all over the world. We gave away almost £3,000 worth of gear and vouchers – not too shabby! The grand prize, a free Aerodyne canopy (kindly sponsored by Karnagekrew.com) was won by a good old-fashioned cowboy duel – three rounds of rock/paper/scissors, pitching Lee Saunders against Will Cooke. After a gruelling match, then rematch, Will stepped out victorious, and quite literally bagged himself a free main! Other highlights included Adam George very kindly offering to teach budding cow-tamers how to throw lassos or really crack a whip, the tentatively named 'Catch Pablo' with Paul McCormick running screaming around the bar, and a 'Yehaar Off' where the best yodeller took home goodies. The Go Fast sponsored DJ then saw the night turn to morning with some block rocking tunes.

Sunday at manifest began a little slower than yesterday, but full nonetheless – people were really taking advantage of the summer sun by getting out of their pits earlier. Quality jumping continued throughout the afternoon and evening until sadly, all that remained was the day's boogie footage and a long, long trip home.

Skydive Weston had somehow managed to fly 2,500 descents from Friday to Sunday! Though the scale was large the event was largely incident-free (with the exception of a few hangovers), thanks to excellent DZ staff and responsible skydiving from the whole community. Sadly, as many of you will have heard, there was a minor incident of the Skyvan, G-BEOL, hitting the runway a little harder than hoped, breaking the rear right wheel and sponson. Thankfully, and to the huge relief of everyone, Tony landed the ailing aircraft at a local airport, without further incident.

Feedback after the boogie was second to none and, though it would be easy to claim all this, none of it could have happened without the support offered from Ash, Steve, and the crew at Skydive Weston, who without any doubt, took the event on and made it what it was. We extend our thanks to everyone at Skydive Weston!

The team at **UKSkydiver.co.uk** and Skydive Weston thank everyone who attended the boogie – after all, what is skydiving without great people to share it with? We very much look forward to seeing you next year. If not, before!

Stu Ferguson  
**Stu@ukskydiver.co.uk**

*UKSkydiver.co.uk would also like to apologise to skydivers who arrived at the boogie after registration had to be closed on Saturday morning. We were very unhappy to turn skydivers away but due to the sheer volume of people we had no choice but to make sure that those who had already registered would get what they paid for. Next year, registration will also be capped, so if in doubt check before travelling, or book early!*

**UKSkydiver.co.uk**

*Photos by Andy Lovemore, Mike Lovemore, Elvis, Kate Morris and Debbie Bridges*



# UK Nationals @Hib

4-way  
FS

For many, it's the skydiving event of the year. The atmosphere at Hib was already electric on Friday 22 August with teams doing warm-up jumps, stocking up on sports drinks and cereal bars, and having the annual fight for a tent space. Plenty of us spent a sleepless night waiting for wheels-off at 7am.

Standing in the bar some 13 hours and 115 loads later, it seemed unbelievable that, for many of the 45 teams, it was all over. Nothing more to do than bite our nails and wait for the scores... and maybe have a small beer to celebrate!

## Storming AAA

The story of AAA was whether *Satori's* first nationals would see them beat 2007 champions *Bodyflight Storm*, who were fresh from the World Meet and therefore used to exiting from the other side of the plane. But within a few rounds, the *Storm* girls pulled away and weren't to be caught. *Satori* put in a strong performance however and will be a force to be reckoned with after another year's training.

Bronze went to *Fusion*, also recently returned from the World Meet in Mauberge. In the first few rounds, it looked like last year's AA winners *Wingnutz* might challenge for third place, but *Fusion's* performance strengthened as the meet went on, with them finally winning bronze with a comfortable 16 point lead. *Wingnutz's* performance through the year however ensured they claim AAA gold for the UK Skydiving League (UKSL) which consists of the three regional UKSL meets and the Nationals. Well done guys, that long drive to Cark was worth it!

*Bonobo* provided us with one of the most entertaining skydives of the comp. When Chris was pushed onto his back by Brian trying to tell him he was on the wrong point, he calmly flew on his back for a while before transitioning to the right point. Gonna try VFS next, Chris?

## Phobia Rule AA

In AA, all eyes were on *Phobia* and *Kaizen* (my team). *Phobia* took the lead in round 2 and never lost it, *Kaizen* only pulling level briefly in round 6. After two years of finishing fourth, *Phobia* were ecstatic to be on the top of the podium for both the Nationals and the league. Plus they scored a new AA record of 26 points in a single jump. But these guys are seriously committed to their 4-way. Inside centre Laura is marrying outside centre Tricky next year... and their honeymoon? An Eloy training camp!

*Kaizen's* silver was won for our teammate Liz Ashley who'd broken her leg six weeks earlier. We had to stop her coming to cheer us on as we boarded the plane though, as it made us cry! Steve Hamilton kindly stood in for her. He might not be as pretty but he's not a bad jumper!

There was a real battle for bronze between *Frenzy*, *Phantom*, *Fend 4 Yourself* and *Escondido*. *Phantom* had two UKSL golds coming into the comp and *Escondido* put in some fantastic skydives on the back of little training. However, having only finalised their line-up well into the season, *Frenzy* were the surprise victors, remembering to take their cameraman with them on every jump this year! (Sorry guys, you will never live it down!)



Fusion by Jim Stevenson



AAA podium by John Williamson



AA podium by John Williamson





Satori by Jim Stevenson



Fend 4 Yourself by Jim Stevenson



Wingnutz by Jim Stevenson



**4-way AAA (10 rounds)**

	Total	Ave
1 Bodyflight Storm	188	18.8
2 Satori	176	17.6
3 Fusion	142	14.2
4 Wingnutz	126	12.6
5 Sonic-V	118	11.8
6 Bonobo	103 (9 rds)	11.4
7 Springbox	102 (9 rds)	11.3
8 Vision	97 (9 rds)	10.8
9 Paradox	90 (9 rds)	9.0

**4-way AA (8 rounds)**

	Total	Ave
1 Phobia	118	14.8
2 Kaizen	115	14.4
3 Frenzy	105	13.1
4 Phantom	103	12.9
5 Fend 4 Yourself	101	12.6
6 Escondido	99	12.4
7 Bacchanalia	83	10.4
8 No Name	81	10.1
9 SACO	70	8.8

## An Exodus in A

All season, *Strangers* (second in last year's rookies) had dominated, winning all three regional UKSL meets. At Nationals though, army team *Exodus*, coached by *Storm's Sparky*, won comfortably, 23 points ahead of *Strangers* in silver. *RAFSPA Firefly* took the bronze. The single A class seemed to suffer most from busting due to not showing clear separation and bad camera angles.

*Strangers* didn't go home too disappointed though, as they claimed overall gold for the league. Well done to them for some great skydiving this year.

## Hyperactive Rookies

Rookie was the most popular category this year with 16 teams entering. *Zero Degrees*, *Burble* and *Innuendo* had been fighting it out all year for UKSL medals (Grand Prix) but Pete Allum's *ADHD* and Amanda Kemp's *Jet Blondes* went into gold and silver position in round one and never looked back. *Burble* claimed bronze which included an impressive 19 points on round 7.

One of the most incredible jumps was done by *Team Tinkerbells*. They were seriously struggling and had a highest score of 1 up to round 7. A ten minute chat with Dan BC later and they scored a 9!

*Innuendo's* cameraman Martin also won a special prize for the most improved skydiver, having worked so hard this year on his camera skills. Martin is a real lesson in determination to improve.

Overall *Zero Degrees* secured gold for the rookie league. They've had a fantastic season. Everyone is hoping lots of the rookies carry on to single A next year.

## Rounding it Off

The G92s flew ...and flew ...and flew ...and flew...

AA and A categories were finished in one day despite a weather hold and emergency aircraft maintenance! With three Dorniers flying, rookie and AAA were soon completed the next day – yet another testament to the superb organisation of Hibaldstow. Fantastic flying from the pilots, awesome work from Lucy on manifest and all staff working incredibly hard to keep all of us fed, watered, entertained and, most importantly, jumping.

They were so organised that jumps were done much faster than the judges could watch them. An aircraft was dropping every four minutes! So much footage was generated by the loads on Saturday alone that the judges had a more stressful weekend than many of the competitors!

Thanks to everyone involved in organising this fantastic Nationals. Thanks to John Hitchen (Meet Director) and the judges for all their hard work. Most of all thanks to H, James, Hannah and all of the incredible team at Hib. An award for patience goes to injured Liz for doing 12 hours of kit 'n' docs checks on Friday, then getting up at 6am on Saturday to do some more!

It's great news that Hib has been awarded the FS Nationals for the next three years. No-one does Nationals like Hib does Nationals!

Jo Hawley

4-way A (8 rounds)		
	Total	Ave
1 Exodus	110	13.8
2 Strangers	87	10.9
3 RAFSPA Firefly	80	10.0
4 Brainstorm	65	8.1
5 Lastminute.com	59	7.4
6 Drink, Dance & Funnel	54	6.8
7 Re-Play	46	5.8
8 Pogo Boing	44	5.5
9 Unhinged	22	2.8

4-way Rookie (8 rounds)		
	Total	Ave
1 ADHD	128	16.0
2 Jet Blondes	123	15.4
3 Burble	98	12.3
4 Zero Degrees	93	11.6
5 Innuendo	89	11.1
6 Army Rookie	72	9.0
7 Flux	71	8.9
8 Storm 4Cast	63	7.8
9 Flaming Pants	55	6.9
10 Unagi	53	6.6
11 West Coast Drifters	47	5.9
12 Fallout	35	4.4
13 Equilibrium	25	3.1
14 Team Monkey Face	15	1.9
15 Peter & The Protec	13	1.6
16 Team Tinkerbells	12	1.5





Team Tinkerbells by Andy Wesley



Outbreak Vertical by Blair Stent

The first official 4-way VFS Nationals took place alongside the traditional 4-way FS. As a very new discipline with a high entry level it was never going to attract many teams.

After a period where it was believed only one team would enter it was great to have another appear at the last minute. The two teams were *Outbreak Vertical* – Andy Ford, Mark Joyner, Dan Parker, Jim Harris and Andy Lovemore on video, and *NTR* (No Training Required) consisting of *Volairkix* plus Fraser Smith with Chris Lynch on video.

The competition was very close with the teams posting very similar scores throughout. The difficulties in videoing this new discipline were clearly displayed as both teams suffered camera busts, *Outbreak* being penalised nine times during the six rounds. Chris Lynch proved a canny choice of camera for *NTR* as his competition experience in 4-way FS meant he understood the importance of showing the points to the judges. In the end, *NTR* took the title of first UK 4-way VFS champions with a total of 40 points, 5 points ahead of *Outbreak Vertical*. Well done guys!

The win gave Chris Lynch a Nationals gold medal in his sixth different discipline, is this some kind of record? Chris was National Champion in freestyle (05, 04, 03, 02), freeflying (08, 05, 04, 03, 02), 8-way FS (98, 97, 92, 91, 90), 4-way FS (97, 96, 92, 91, 90), 4-way CF Rotations (85) and now 4-way VFS. Talk about multi-talented!

For further information on 4-way VFS visit [www.vrw4way.com](http://www.vrw4way.com)

Jim Harris



West Coast Drifters by Jim Stevenson



A podium by John Williamson



Rookie podium by John Williamson



VFS podium by John Williamson

4-way VFS (6 rounds)	Total	Ave
1 NTR	40	6.7
2 Outbreak Vertical	35	5.8

# 8-way FS

After a record breaking 4-way weekend, it was surely too much to hope for that the 8-way might complete in similar style. But in true Hib fashion, even though the weather tried to play hard ball, the great operation ensured the meet was completed in a day and half, fantastic as always!

With three teams in the intermediate category and five teams in the senior, there was going to be a fight for the medals. Early wheels-off on Saturday at 7am saw the competition started in earnest.

## Senior

As expected *Connexion*, fresh from the World Meet, went straight to the lead, even with Milko carrying a DIY injury. Second place was a little more exciting with *Sleeping with the Enemy*, *Escondido8* and *Xstormin8* all capable of taking silver. The *Storm* project team *Xstormin8* had a disastrous first two rounds but then started motoring. Scratch teams *Sleeping with the Enemy* (4-way teams *Phantom* and *Kaizen*) and *Escondido8* showed how 4-way training helps in clocking up points. Both teams put up good scores but with some rocky rounds showing how harsh 8-way can be.

## Intermediate

The scratch team *K8-way*, led by Kate Stephens got off to a 'storming' start when, much to the team's surprise, the exit flew and points were built. *Blizzard*, from Langar/Weston, were less lucky, with the first few rounds below their usual standard and not showing what they are capable of doing. Scratch team *Blairkix* (named after their cameraman Blair), with a number of people having their first shot at 8-way, showed some great flying skills and built a few points on every jump.

By the end of play on Saturday, the intermediates had only one round left and the seniors had three. That night in the bar, it was a little subdued as everyone took it seriously, well, almost everyone. A few unnamed individuals were 'trying to knobble the opposition by out-drinking them' – didn't work though Kev! Wheels-off was scheduled for 9am, almost time to read the Sunday papers in bed!

Sunday was a slow start due to weather, but with only a few rounds to complete we only needed a small window of good weather. This duly arrived, though it did start to shut on us, which meant the last round of the seniors was only from 9,000 feet and slightly damp.

## Intermediate Results

*Blizzard* had fought back achieving scores equal to or better than *K8-way* in the last half of the competition but, after the final round was judged, it just wasn't quite enough to take the lead. *K8-way* were victorious, winning the gold with *Blizzard* taking silver and *Blairkix* bronze.

## Senior Results

*Connexion* took gold convincingly and *Sleeping with the Enemy* won the battle for second place, although with a non British jumper were in theory not eligible for a silver medal. But, at the insistence of the other teams, *Sleeping with the Enemy* were awarded silver at the prize-giving, a great example of sporting behaviour. *Xstormin8*'s form improved throughout the competition and, after a close-fought battle with *Escondido8* in the final rounds, they sneaked the bronze out of their grasp. A special prize was given to Pooky (Andy Pook) who, unbelievably, has won a Nationals 8-way gold medal every year for the last ten! (*Connexion*, *VNE*, *Junction 9*) Surely a record?

Thanks go to all the staff at Hib for running yet another great weekend's competition and yet again defeating the weather and completing on Sunday. Thanks also to the guys from *Connexion*, *VNE* and others who found the time to help out the less experienced or completely clueless teams, without which we certainly wouldn't have achieved what we did, which was a great weekend of jumping, with the added bonus of a rather nice shiny medal!

## The Future of 8-way

After the poor attendance at this year's 8-way Grand Prix there was concern that the Nationals might also have a low turnout. This proved to be unfounded and what was even better was that five were scratch teams, mostly made up of 4-way jumpers. Can we ask everyone to send suggestions to BPA Competitions Committee and your FS rep on how we can improve the attendance at all the 8-way meets?

Jo Gibbs & Martin Soulsby



Blizzard by Nigel Rowlan



Hibern8 by John Williamson



Senior podium by Nigel Rowlan



Intermediate podium by Nigel Rowlan





**8-way Senior** (10 rounds)

	Total	Ave
1 Connexion	129	12.9
2 Sleeping with the Enemy	66	6.6
3 Xstormin8	64	6.4
4 Escondido8	63	6.3
5 Hibern8	29	2.9

**8-way Intermediate** (8 rounds)

1 K8-way	49	6.1
2 Blizzard	45	5.6
3 Blairkix	18	2.3



# Artistics

Freeflyers, freestylers and a solitary skysurfer came together at Skydive Hibaldstow over the August bank holiday weekend to compete in the 2008 British Artistic Nationals. 19 teams entered, split between three different disciplines, each with A and B categories. Although this figure was slightly down on 2007 it was extremely encouraging to see a massive turnout in the freefly B category with nine teams battling it out for the medals.

Having been given a severe weather warning for Sunday the event kicked off at 7am Saturday in the hope of beating the forecast. Yet again Target Skysports provided an amazingly slick and efficient operation which allowed most of the artistic teams to finish in a single day, even with a long weather hold. Only those who were competing in multiple events still had further rounds to complete. Although the conditions were far from ideal on the Sunday all the necessary competition jumps were completed with ease.

## Rules in Brief

Artistic events are split into 'free' and 'compulsory' rounds. In the free rounds the teams present a skydive of their own creation following the various judging criteria laid out in the rules. The compulsory rounds are made up of pre-defined moves which must either be completed as accurately as possible, as with the freestyle event, or repeated as many times as possible in the order they are drawn, as with the freefly event. The category A teams complete seven rounds, unless there is a cut, and the category B teams complete five rounds. The compulsories are in rounds 2 and 5.

## Skysurf

It seems that skysurf may not survive as a Nationals discipline much longer, this being its last year as an internationally sanctioned event, by IPC and seeing very few entrants. This year only one team, NSR, entered the skysurfing nationals, taking part in the A category. Thanks to Rohan and Wendy for flying the flag and showing us their stuff. If you're a skysurfer and you don't want to see the end of your Nationals, now's the time to stand up and let it be known!

## Freestyle A

Five teams took part in the A category freestyle event, four British teams and one open (non British) team. The competition was tight for open gold between our Brit representatives at the world meet, *Airkix Freestyle*, and the Russian team *Afreaka*. The visitors squeezed out a marginal lead after the first round which *Airkix* pulled back to only 0.2 after the compulsories in round 2. Over rounds 3 and 4 *Afreaka* again slowly extended their lead but by less than a point per round. *Airkix* fought back well in the round 5 compulsories leaving them only 0.5 behind going into the final two

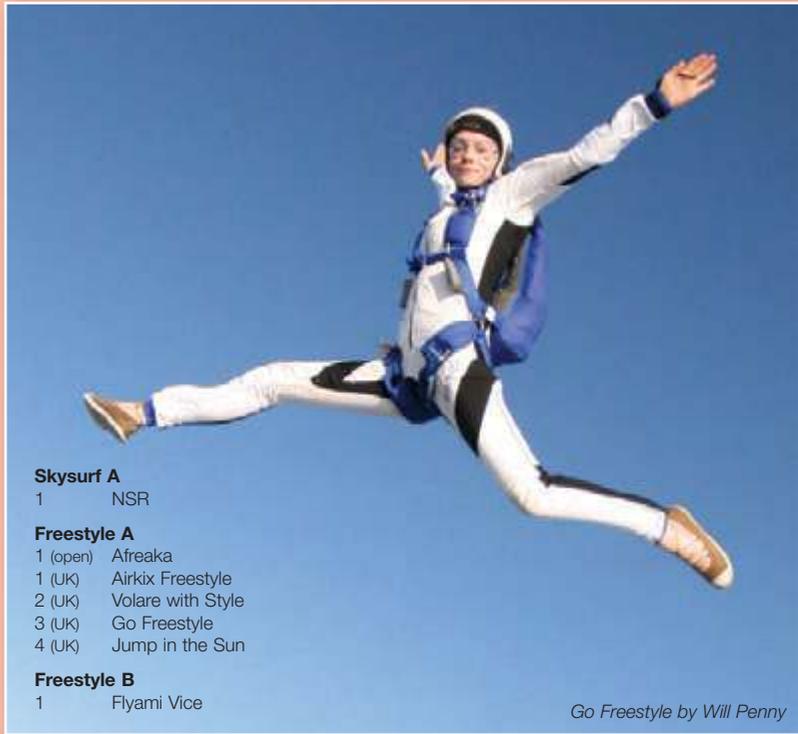
rounds. However the Brits continued to be unable to match the Russian's free round scores and finished 1.8 points behind. In the British National competition *Airkix Freestyle* took a convincing win over *Volare with Style* finishing 4.7 points ahead. The battle for silver was closely fought with *Go Freestyle* missing out by just 0.8 of a point, still a fantastic achievement for Anneke Glasius, taking on the mighty *Volare* with just 600 jumps!

## Freestyle B

Although we had a strong showing in the freefly B category this unfortunately didn't carry over into the freestyle. Mike Pilling and Liz Boniface of *Flyami Vice* were the only entrants, showing some really promising flying and walking away with a gold medal for their efforts.



*Airkix Freestyle by Milko*



### Skysurf A

- 1 NSR

### Freestyle A

- 1 (open) Afreaka
- 1 (UK) Airkix Freestyle
- 2 (UK) Volare with Style
- 3 (UK) Go Freestyle
- 4 (UK) Jump in the Sun

### Freestyle B

- 1 Flyami Vice

*Go Freestyle by Will Penny*





Airkix Freestyle by Nils Prestrup



Freestyle B winners Flyami Vice by John Williamson



Skysurf winners NSR by John Williamson



Freestyle A podium by Nigel Rowlan



## Freely A

The freely A category, under pressure from the rise of 4-way VFS, had its lowest turnout since 2003 with only three teams entering the event. Regardless of the low turnout the standard was high. *Volairkix*, fresh from their bronze medal at the World Meet, had substituted their usual cameraman Andy Newell for multiple champion Chris Lynch of *FreeFive*, the team being appropriately renamed *Volairkixjive*. Even with this change in usual line-up they were still strong favourites going into the competition.

After the first free round had been scored everyone was shocked to see that the far less experienced team *Avalore* were leading by 0.2! Unfortunately their excitement was short-lived when in round 2 *Volairkixjive* blew all the competition out of the water with a fantastic compulsory round. The less experienced *Avalore* achieved a respectable score but were now trailing well behind with a mountain to climb.

The free rounds continued to be very closely matched but *Volairkixjive* again extended their lead substantially in the second compulsory round and took the gold medal convincingly. The scratch team *Jump in the Sun* made up of coaches from Skydive Spain, managed to complete four rounds on Sunday afternoon to take the bronze. They were mainly jumping in the rain.

## Freely B

The freely B category was a very exciting event with nine teams participating. As usual it was hard to work out what the judges wanted to see. Some teams opted for traditional, head-up based routines showing clean transitions and turns with solid grips, while others were more adventurous with tracking, belly and back-fly components. Kirsten McAndrew and Leila Neathercoat of *Chixtrix* took the gold with a solid free routine incorporating a daring back-belly move and very strong compulsory rounds. Hot on their heels were *Average Dogs* taking silver and *Courtesy Flush* bronze.

## And Finally

The competition was completed, including the 8-way that was running in parallel, by Sunday afternoon, just as the weather became a little too damp to deal with. After the competition, Weed Stoodley, our BPA artistics rep, and Andy Scott, Chairman of Competitions, gave the masses an opportunity to pick their brains. This proved very popular and around 30 people attended, creating some interesting debate. It seemed like the session could have gone on all evening if it wasn't for small issue of a medals ceremony. And a party...

The British Artistic Nationals remains the largest freely event in the UK and as such it is a fantastic opportunity to meet new friends and learn from the top people in the country. Freely B winner

Kirsten McAndrew sums it up... "The whole weekend was sick! Bring on the freely A next year... can't wait!"

Jim Harris



Volairkix by Andy Lovemore



Courtesy Flush by Graeme Mackay



Freely A podium by Nigel Rowlan



Freely B podium by Nigel Rowlan





**Without Martin Reynolds defending his title and with Clare Murphy unable to compete due to injury, all the medals were up for grabs! Veteran speeder Noel Purcell dusted off his old faithful wetsuit that previously helped him set an impressive personal best of 286.21mph.**

The speed competition consists of six rounds with a competitor's final result being the average of their three best rounds. Each round's score is the average speed between 8,900ft and 5,600ft (1km), measured using two Larsen & Brusgaard Pro-Tracks and JumpTrack software.

As speed skydiving was relatively new to most, the ten competitors were all helping each other with tips on technique and sharing our tight outfits. Unsurprisingly, no-one wanted to borrow Matty's speed skating suit. It inflated like the Michelin Man in freefall and actually slowed him down. Please leave something to the imagination next time Matty!

Jo and Ruth did the female side of the comp proud by posting speeds up there with some heavier boys, good skills! Stijn Janssen showed us how efficient tracking can be by posting an impressive 97.89mph in round 1. Until his second round that was the Belgian national speed skydiving record! Stijn became the first Belgian to post an official speed, he improved steadily through the competition and was never seen without a smile on his face.

Whilst sliding some skintight leggings over his boxers, Simon Brentford kindly informed us that we were lucky he wasn't going 'al dente'. Thank you Simon; as Ruth pointed out, 'al dente' means slightly hard. He meant 'alfresco'... which doesn't really make sense either, nutcase!

Thank you very much to Clare Murphy and Andy Fryer for running the competition so efficiently. Thanks yet again to Larsen & Brusgaard for sponsoring the prizes, to Target Skysports (Hib) and to the judges for all their hard work. Clare's done a great job of promoting speed skydiving in this country and it shows by the amount of people competing. It's getting more competitive now and I have a feeling that people may even sneak in some training for next year. Who doesn't want to be the fastest person in the UK?

Clare is the BPA speed skydiving discipline rep so watch out for one of her 'Try Speed' weekends. If you want her to do a weekend at your dropzone, get your DZOs to put in a request via the BPA.

For what's happening worldwide in speed: [www.speedskydiving.com](http://www.speedskydiving.com)

Mike Lovemore



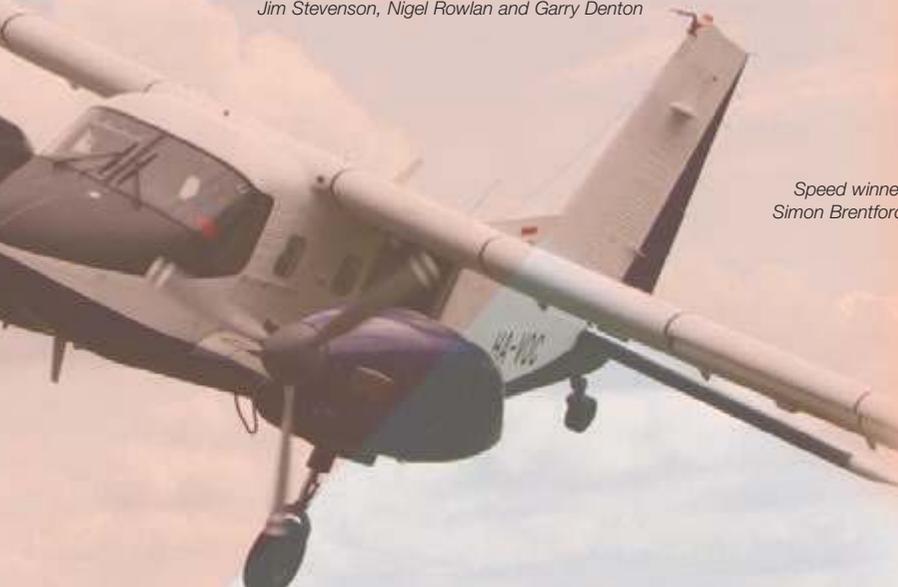
**Freely A**

- 1 Volairkixjive
- 2 Avalore
- 3 Jump in the Sun

**Freely B**

- 1 Chixtrik
- 2 Average Dogs
- 3 Courtesy Flush
- 4 Glory Hole
- 5 CoVert
- 6 Breaking Wind
- 7 Flyami Vice
- 8 Richard & the Fingers
- 9 Nice Ass

Background photos and cut-outs by John Baggaley, John Williamson, Blair Stent, Jim Stevenson, Nigel Rowlan and Garry Denton



Speed winner Simon Brentford



Speed Skydiving (6 rds)	Total (mph)
1 Simon Brentford	250.51
2 Michael Lovemore	238.90
3 Noel Purcell	234.96
4 Matty Holford	226.72
5 Ruth Covell (Female)	213.10
6 Ian Rouse	208.19
7 Jo-Anne Croft (Female)	204.77
8 Iain Ayres	196.90
9 Blair Stent	180.00
10 Stijn Janssens	141.28

# SLAVES TO FREEDOM



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... congratulates all members of the Aussie Canopy Piloting Team.

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# CP & Classics NATIONALS

## Canopy Piloting

I arrived at RAPA at 8am on the morning of the competition, Thursday 19 September. I looked out across the flat grass at probably the best pond in Europe, laid out with military precision, as I drank my tea and took in the atmosphere. Some of the competitors were pacing up and down around the speed course, which had been laid out the night before. Many of the competitors now use bright markers which they place strategically to help them make their final turn in the correct place. So, by 9am the DZ was littered with day-glow orange and green jackets and vests. Spence told me that, at the last comp in Fehrbellin, from the air he could not tell which one was his marker! I also overheard some of the other competitors plotting to attach some of the markers to the local rabbit population! The first load was called and I felt my heartbeat quicken with anticipation. It could have been competition nerves – or perhaps it was the coffee, Red Bull, and ibuprofen breakfast!

### Speed

Wind conditions were difficult for the speed rounds, with a slight cross and downwind push entering the course, turning into more crosswind and slightly into wind as we went through the course. This meant a lot of people ended up touching down early and trying to run the rest of the way while kiting a Velocity in a strongish crosswind. Some made it out, some didn't. Bish made it through all three but had a fall, aggravating a previous injury and chipping a bone in his shoulder, despite which he still finished the meet. On the first round Brian (Safe Flight School) set the standard with a sub three-second run on his Velo 79 (loaded to 2.8! ... don't try this at home kids!), sailing another 50m beyond the course. Alastair had a sub three-second run in round 2. In round 3, Alastair and Smudge (from team HEAT) had two very fast runs but unfortunately the equipment failed to record a time so they both had to rejump. Smudge narrowly missed the gate on his rejump, costing him probably third place overall. Very unlucky for him but, on the bright side, very lucky for me!

### Speed Results

Gold	Brian Vacher
Silver	Al Macartney
Bronze	Bish (John Bishop)

### Distance

Conditions were better for this event; almost no wind with a slight downwind breeze. Spence from team HEAT had been working on a new turn, the golfing equivalent of changing your swing. In round one he managed to pull out a 114m drive, the best run of the competition! However, continuing with the golf analogy, he sliced the next two into the woods! Consistency is so important in this discipline, and Brian and Alastair both showed this again to dominate this event. Ed Paxton (ex Red Fred), entering his first ever comp put in a very good performance in distance, and was so confident that he even left his bag and pilot chute attached (no RDS system) to slow him down! Nina Engle from Germany also did extremely well in distance – who knows how much further she could have gone if she'd taken my advice to shave her legs! Big respect to Ed for a bronze medal in the distance event in his first competition, however, he did specifically ask me to mention that in the overall event he was beaten by a girl!

### Distance Results

Gold	Brian Vacher
Silver	Alastair Macartney
Bronze	Ed Paxton

### Accuracy

Canopy piloting accuracy is always the most exciting event to watch and this year was no exception. Ed used this round to practise his

belly-surfing from around the third marker on the pond into the shore. Some of the other competitors also decided to go for a swim at various points. The wind conditions were the same as the distance round, but the downwind push in the accuracy event becomes a challenge rather than an aid, and many competitors landed in zones 4 and 5, only to slide into the big negative zones further on. Brian, Alastair and Smudge all took this information on board, and had consistently good runs. One of the funniest moments for me came at the end of this event. We had all completed the final round and were sat around the pond packing and just chilling out when Kiwi, the local rigger, came floating down into wind on a large slow canopy and landed a perfect stand-up in zone 5, as he shouted "Piece of p\*ss boys!".

### Accuracy Results

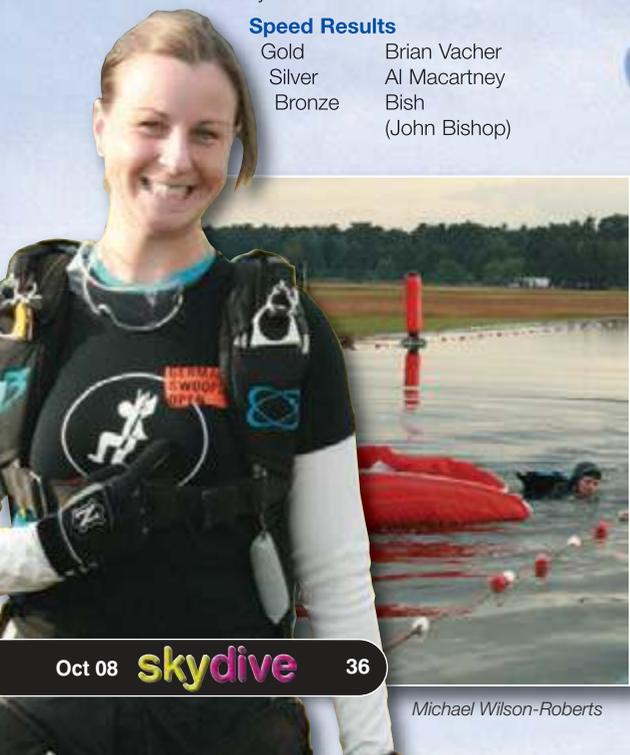
Gold	Alastair Macartney
Silver	Brian Vacher
Bronze	Smudge (Deane Smith)

### Standard

The overall standard at this year's Nationals I felt was very high, and there were nearly twice as many entrants as last year, indicating how much this discipline has evolved. Gold and silver medallists, Brian of Safe Flight School and Alastair from HEAT, have both made big improvements over the last twelve months. A lot of the competitors actually offer canopy skills coaching, and some of the 'new' kids such as Karen, Mike and Simon who are competing at this level but without thousands of jumps, are a testament to the value of this input. As with other disciplines, the guys competing are also incorporating coaching for themselves in their training regime. I know Brian has spent a lot of his pocket money on Jay Moledzki, and the same goes for myself and HEAT. Over the last year I have seen Brian find the consistency that I know he has been working towards and, if he can put in a similar performance in the World Championships in South Africa this November, he will be in contention for a medal place. Alastair had a couple of poor (by his standards) rounds but, in my opinion, is also in a position to potentially take a medal in SA if it all comes together on the day.

### Overall CP Results

Gold	Brian Vacher
Silver	Alastair Macartney
Bronze	Martin Reynolds



Michael Wilson-Roberts

Speed podium

Ollie Junger

## RAPA Course and Dropzone

The course and DZ were both a pleasure to use. With swoop courses it is sometimes difficult to set up the various events, as someone has to go in the pond (usually stagnant) to move markers around. Fortunately the military chain of command dealt with this. An order was given and passed down the respective hierarchy until eventually a young new recruit stripped down to his pants and dived in! The staff were really friendly and barbeques and drinks for €1 a beer in the evenings added to the flavour of the event. The lift capacity was good and RAPA's new jumpship, the Kodiak, arrived while we were there. We all attended the first of many Kodiak briefings and Paul Moore (the commandant) was like a cat who had the cream – the plane was shiny, spotless and new, not a freely team sticker to be seen anywhere – yet!

Martin Reynolds

[mreynolds@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:mreynolds@tinyworld.co.uk)



Photos by Des Desmond



Overall CP Champion Brian Vacher is congratulated by fiancée Sheridan, photo by Michael Wilson-Roberts

## Classics

The Rhine Army Parachute Association (RAPA) in Germany once again played host to the UK Canopy Piloting and Classics National Championships. Based on the success of the competition in 2007 there was huge anticipation for this year's battle of fast and accurate canopy precision.

### Training

Training started on Saturday 5 July with a number of competitors, including the notorious but unassuming Martin 'Dangerpants' Reynolds, turning up to make the most of the good weather, recently completed swoop course layout and the arrival of RAPA's new aircraft, the Quest Kodiak.

### Conditions

Of course after weeks of fantastic skydiving weather, the clouds gathered over RAPA just in time for the start of the competition. With around twenty competitors in each discipline though spirits remained high as we waited for our break in the weather. The meet director switched between CP and classics, alternating for the most part to allow all contestants as much opportunity to compete in as many rounds as possible given the poor weather conditions.

### Accuracy

The accuracy was first off. Jeff Chandler started in fine form for the senior men scoring a very precise 0.00m with Pete Sizer hot on his heels with 0.03m. In the intermediate event Raoul Norte was scoring exceptionally well in the open category, easily beating his nearest rival Des Desmond.

Jeff Chandler



Team accuracy podium

### Style

The style event, where you have to complete a series of turns and backloops as fast as you can, whilst staying on your original heading, got under way a little later than planned due to the low clouds. However we managed to get a full round out of the way, finding what gaps we could. Jeff Chandler took an early lead with Spence Hogg just half a second behind in the senior men's event, while in the intermediate, Liam Dornan was a clear two seconds faster than his nearest rival.

### Accuracy

About half of the jumpers were using the more traditional Foil canopy for greater accuracy on the scoring pad whilst the other half opted for a fast canopy approach. Needless to say the Foils ended up being far more accurate – as long as you have the right person steering them of course! Halfway through the rounds it was a hotly contested championship for the senior men between Glenn Stephenson, Abraham Lasschujt, Pete Sizer and Jeff Chandler with all four of them regularly scoring under 0.04m. Glenn eventually retained his title of men's Accuracy Champion, just ahead of Abraham (a non-British national) followed by Pete and Jeff. In the female event, veteran Esther Reynolds won easily (being the only entrant) but showed her class by beating all the men's scores!

In the intermediate event, Raoul Norte was extending his lead with three consecutive rounds of 0.05m and under. As a non-British national though, Raoul was not eligible for the title of intermediate National Champion, which deservedly went to Des Desmond, who also found time to take most of the photos on this page.

### Style

As the final rounds of the classic accuracy came to an end the only event left was the style, which was completed in the early evening of the final day, just in time for the prizegiving. Jeff Chandler became National Style Champion, a big improvement on last year's fifth place, and sending 2007 champion Al Macartney into silver medal position.

### And Finally

Considering the weather was against us the Canopy Piloting & Classics Nationals turned out to be another success. Thanks to the meet director Paul Moore, Kate Charters and her fellow judges and all the staff at RAPA. Hopefully we will see everyone again next year.

Dave Newton

davenewton100@hotmail.com



Intermediate accuracy podium



Senior accuracy podium





## CLASSICS RESULTS

### Classic Accuracy

Junior Men's	Intermediate Men's	Senior Men's	Senior Women's
Gold Lee Harrison	Des Desmond	Glenn Stephenson	Esther Reynolds
Silver	Liam Dornan	Pete Sizer	
Bronze	Geordie Batey	Jeff Chandler	

### Style

Gold	Liam Dornan	Jeff Chandler	Esther Reynolds
Silver	Des Desmond	Alastair Macartney	
Bronze	Geordie Batey	Spence Hogg	

### Overall Classics

Gold	Des Desmond	Jeff Chandler	Esther Reynolds
Silver	Liam Dornan	Pete Sizer	
Bronze	Geordie Batey	Alastair Macartney	

### Team Classic Accuracy

	Intermediate	Senior
Gold	LIMP	GB
Silver		HEAT



Ladies champion Esther Reynolds

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# Irish Record

## & International Boogie



**Kate Cooper-Jensen, Derek Thomas, Gordon Hodgkinson, Sally Hathaway, Sky Huminsky, Ronan Whelan, Herman Landsman... was this the next World Team event? No, these were the FS organisers lined up for the Irish International Boogie 2008 at the Irish Parachute Club.**

My main interest was the attempt to beat our current 30-way all Ireland Record. As a visiting BPA member from 'up north' at Wild Geese I'll try to give some insight into the effort, organisation and vibes that made this record so special.

### Genesis

When Gordon Hodgkinson, British ex-pat and organiser of last year's 30-way, emailed in January that he was planning a 50+way, it seemed like 18 months living in Ireland had got to him and he'd gone crazy. But the journey was just beginning...

### Exodus

The build up to the record began back in May with a series of big-way skills camps at the Wild Geese 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With his eye on a 50+, Gordon targeted these camps at those jumpers who were not on last year's 30-way – we needed more talent and he'd help develop it. Comprehensive seminars, positive coaching, fun dives, slick manifesting and the first formation loads in a very long time enthused a new bunch of Geese jumpers. More camps ran at the Irish Parachute Club (IPC), Wild Geese and abroad. Many personal bests and club records were set along the way. Skills were improving, but more importantly belief was building...

### Acts of the Apostles

Gordon hatched a plan to brush up the skills of the most experienced – take an Irish team to Dave Lewis's 28-way competition at Hibaldstow. Now that got heads turning – a 28-way sequential team from a country with a national record of a 30-way! A tunnel camp was strategically timed the day before the 28-way meet, then we arrived tired at Target in true Irish style with only 27 (due to a last minute deserter). We borrowed a 28<sup>th</sup> and completed on the first jump. This was the largest formation for five of us! Two more completions over the six rounds and respectable performances on difficult draws saw our confidence soar. The *Funnel Rats* were born and, when word got back to Ireland, everyone knew a 50+ was viable. Two more tunnel camps ran the week before the boogie and, in a country with only two 10-place turbines, it seemed everybody was thinking big-ways...

### The Gospel according to St Kate

The boogie week itself began with a big-way skills camp, run by Kate, Derek and Sky. Kate encouraged us to 'do something new', to 'learn from every jump', and that 'it's okay to make mistakes' because that is the purpose of a camp. Through single point jumps we concentrated on discipline and personal flying. Sky worked with the smaller groups – some of his jumpers arrived with 3-way bests and left with 30-ways! The weekend saw multiple 8, 14 and 20-way groups culminating in some 24-way completions.

One that held for 20 seconds was a personal best for ten jumpers. As an observation, compared to last year's 30-way, there was a higher level of calm and discipline, with very clean jumps.

### First Book of Chronicles

Monday morning, the first day of the record attempts, we arrived to find one of yesterday's 24-ways on the cover of the Irish Times! Talk about motivation! That really sealed the belief. We got into record-breaking mode with Gordon and Ronan taking a 36-way all-Irish group to nail an interim national record, whilst Kate, Derek and Sky worked with the international jumpers (ineligible for the record) and those Irish who needed to be ready for the next size up.

### Judges

Everyone was conscious that, with so many people hungry for slots, we had to perform to earn and keep a slot. Discipline was expected. If you were late for a briefing, you were given an L-plate to wear! No-one dared be late twice – isn't that right Robert?!

Photo: Mike Barrett



Irish Record by Dave Clarke

### Second Book of Chronicles

The 36-way was close on the first and second attempts, and everyone knew it was coming together... but the bar was raised when Team Ireland watched an international 30-way complete (matching last year's record) over their heads as they waited to board. Inspired by this, 30 minutes later at 9.15pm, we set a new 36-way record – which was carried on the main RTE 9pm news bulletin within minutes of landing, from a satellite van at the DZ! We enjoyed seeing ourselves on the TV that night.

### Job

On Tuesday we lost the Mediterranean weather, and showers were forecast for the next two days. Realising we may have few opportunities, the intended 45-way was skipped, and we spent the downtime dirtdiving a four-aircraft 51-way. All our eggs were now in one basket! Towards the end of Tuesday, we had our first shot at the 51, which saw 50 docked (but not all at the same time!) and one very close. We now knew without a doubt that we could build this formation, if the weather gave us a chance. Gordon announced a 7am start in jumpsuits and to "be prepared for a go-stop-go day". At 7am we were there – all dressed up with rain lashing down on the hangar! A quick pep talk and then we were on stand-by. We had a few 'Gear up', 'Stand down', 'Gear up again' calls. At least we woke up and had a walk-through each time. Finally in the afternoon we were airborne and at 14,100 feet I exited to see four planes in formation – what a sight! The multi-aircraft formation was engineered so well, it seemed even easier than from a single plane. The traffic approaching was orderly and calm, it all seemed so easy. I docked. I could feel people on my legs. Did everyone have their grips on the far side? Damn – I wasn't allowed to look: 'eyes to centre'. Everyone landed, and we were all asking everyone else. "Did we get it?" "Were you in?" "Does anyone know?"

### Lamentations

Back in the hangar, Kate starts calling for quick pack-jobs, to catch the next hole coming in. We missed it. Everyone is a little downbeaten, and quiet. It was a great jump, a fine effort, but we must have missed a grip somewhere. Gordon said that some people had landed off and called for the aircraft captains to check

their manifests. Finally he said "We need to check everyone's here" and asked us outside to pick up our grips in a rush, and check for all our buddies...

### Revelation

Gordon shouted "Grips. Take your grips. Does everyone have their grips?" When the replies are "Yes", he smiles and says "Just like we had them in freefall!". The group erupted: joy; relief; surprise; tears; hugs; high-fives. Kate, Gordon and Ronan were grinning; they had really fooled us. It was great! We had a big prize-giving with donations from a long list of generous sponsors... then the party!

### Second Book of Chronicles

The positive press that this event generated was tremendous. We had live broadcasts on the main news channels, live radio interviews, the records were in just about every Irish paper – including two front cover pages of national papers and a full 2-page photo spread across the Irish Times.

### Ruth

A quick mention for our own Andrew and Eimear, in the 51-way with 168 and 169 jumps respectively, having started the year with only 8-ways behind them. Well done guys! They were so gutted, as the prize of a cost price Javelin Odyssey went to the person with the least jump number of 161, if only they'd done a bit **less** training!

### Epistle to IPC

As a visiting jumper, I and the rest of the Geese participants, could not have been made more welcome. It was amazing to find world class coaching, multiple turbines, free camera slots, marquees etc on site with **no** registration fee or surcharge on jump tickets. The IPC run what must be one of the best boogies in the world, they did a fantastic job.

### Proverbs

The Irish skydiving scene is growing, skills are improving and it'd be great to see a few faces head over the water to make our events bigger and better. With the improvement seen, the new talent this year, the belief that the organisers instilled in jumpers and a bit of Irish luck – anything is possible! See you soon?

Francis Mullin

### Numbers

<b>Irish Record</b>	51-way
<b>Females</b>	9
<b>Personal best for</b>	45
<b>Least jumps</b>	161 (Darren Clarke)
<b>Youngest</b>	17 yrs & 8 days (Kyle Van Balderen)

### Brits (Northern Irish) 10

Francis Mullin  
Pete Lehane  
Robert Madden  
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# Irish Record

## Irish International Boogie



The IPC at Clonbullogue, located in the heart of Ireland, normally operate a Porter and a fleet of Cessnas. For the Boogie, and with much blarney, these were supplemented by a Skyvan from Tony De Bruyn and two Dorniers from Hibaldstow. IPC's excellent facilities coupled with it being a real club made for a great boogie set-up with everyone pitching in.

Big-way dives with Kate, Derek, Sky (D354) and Gordon kept getting better and bigger, with excellent coaching, and outstanding formation flying from James and Alex (Porter). This was remarkable considering many at IPC weren't so experienced, but they have tremendous spirit and will have a go at anything. Note to newer jumpers: low numbers are not a barrier to excellence. Good coaching, great organising and confidence in your abilities can make awesome things happen.

Many tried other activities too – freeflying, wingsuiting with Phil Teggs, fun jumps, chilled skydives, canopy formations with Pat Hammond, Martin Robiette and Gavin McLeod. One of the greatest raft jumps of all time was made even better by Brian 'Noodles' Farnan on air guitar and Eoin Mallon as lounge lizard (see [youtube.com](http://youtube.com), search 'raft dive'). The ladies, under the auspices of Martina Brant, pulled off a 13-way new Irish Ladies record – Brit Chicks watch out!



*Irish ladies record  
by Mike Barrett*

The parties were simply outstanding – as people's Facebook profiles will testify! Saturday night started with a pig roast and descended to the level of chaos we'd all come to love and expect. Sunday's end of boogie party saw a number of people successfully be inducted into an elite Irish society – the Paraholics!

It was a fantastic boogie. There were over 50 non-Irish participants from 11 countries including USA, Canada and NZ. During the 11 days around 4,500 descents were made – not bad for a weekend DZ that does 10,000-14,000 jumps a year. More importantly, the people made the boogie. Everyone pushed themselves and achieved great things – that have-a-go spirit can be quite infectious – Irish records were broken daily. A journalist sent to cover the record signed up to do AFF! Nothing was too much trouble with club members helping everyone out. Finally the Irish appetite for partying, often to celebrate success, knows no bounds. They do it so well and with a certain style.

*Ian 'Dennis' Taylor*

*Raft dive by Mike Barrett*



*Irish Record by Mike Barrett*



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20-22: USPA Tandem & Sigma Tandem Instructors  
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23-25: USPA Coach Rating Course

26-01 November: USPA AFF Instructor Rating Course

**November:**

1-2: Halloween Scramble Boogie

12-14: Canopy Control Course

24-26: USPA Coach Rating Course

27-29: USPA Tandem & Sigma Tandem Instructors  
Rating Course

**December:**

6-8: Kutabai Boogie

10-12: Canopy Control Course

15-17: USPA Coach Rating Course

18-20: USPA Tandem & Sigma Tandem Instructors  
Rating Course

**October:**

4-5: Re-Open Boogie

18-19: Skysurf Protour Final

**November:**

1-2: Halloween Boogie

8-9: USPA AFF Instructor Rating Course

**December:**

26 December - 4 January: Christmas Boogie

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## Second Time Around

As a 77 year old pensioner and ex para I began jumping again in 1998 at South Cerney after a lapse of 34 years. My aim was to help sponsor a new children's hospital in Bristol. Ten years later, after ten static line jumps and fourteen tandems, I achieved my target of raising £100,000.

This was achieved by tremendous teamwork – over 300 people have jumped with me over this decade. Thank you to everyone who has helped me to reach my aim. I hope I shall continue to jump until I am eighty, and raise even more money for the children's hospital.

*John Wilkins*

## National Pride

*Letter written by John Smyth to FS & Artistic Nationals competitors as he was suddenly unable to attend, at short notice.*

I am very sorry that I am not able to join you for what will be a historic National Championships in BPA history, being the first in the new 'three year cycle' initiative. Firstly may I express my pride and congratulations, and I am sure all of yours, to *Bodyflight Storm* and *Volairkix* for achieving gold and bronze at the World Championships last week. Another World Championship Sparky, how many more are you going for?! An incredible achievement! I would also like to add my congratulations to the whole FS and artistic delegation, I watched progress, via the IPC website and heard how well you all performed and brought great credit to the BPA.

I am told that most of you are also at the Nationals – for making that effort, after the intensity of the World Championships only a week ago, I would like to say a huge thank you, not only on behalf of the BPA but also, I am sure, on behalf of all the competitors at the Nationals.

While on that, may I also thank each and every one of you for supporting these Nationals. As you know, my personal belief is that the pursuit of excellence, at whatever level, is at the core of our sport, and the National Championships are the window by which we are judged on how successful we are in that pursuit.

So, please have a great and enjoyable Nationals and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on my return to the UK, back at your DZs.

*John Smyth  
Chairman BPA*



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# Letters

## Thanks for the Support

We had an incredible time at the World Championships in France and we wanted to say a big thank you to all of you for your support. The financial support we received from the BPA was essential to us getting a medal (especially one of the right colour!) and the moral support we received by people coming out to France and those following our progress on the internet gave us a real boost. We really did feel the weight of the nation behind us and it made a positive difference – thank you.

*Kate Stephens & Bodyflight Storm*

## Skydive Choreography

A big thank you to Caroline and Billy on behalf of all the up and coming skydivers who, without the organised events by Skydive Choreography, would almost certainly have taken longer to learn the big-way skills and have the opportunity to take part in larger formations.

Caroline's undoubted skills, organisational abilities and the foresight to create the next step to follow the Warp training programme, are sadly not always recognised or appreciated by many, for the great asset they are.

Along with Billy's calm and constructive approach to coaching, the Skydive Choreography events are a must for those wishing to learn the necessary skills to take part in larger formations.

As a long time participant, I have been fortunate to witness the evolution of both equipment and the training methods utilised within this unique sport, like Warp and wind tunnels, I see Skydive Choreography as a fantastic training opportunity. Long may it continue and grow.

*Brian Laithwaite D1248*



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keep track of your jumps

**LOOK TO THE FUTURE  
LEAVE A LEGACY**




The Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) Foundation was established in June 2006 to organise and co-ordinate fundraising for RAeS projects, initially the Centennial Scholarship Fund and the National Aerospace Library plus other future projects as directed by the Society's Council.

Leaving a legacy to the Royal Aeronautical Society will preserve our aviation heritage and help the next generation of aerospace professionals match the achievements of yesterday's pioneers of flight.

**If you have remembered the Royal Aeronautical Society in your will, or would like further information on legacies, please contact Keith Mans, Chief Executive, in confidence on +44 (0)20 7670 4302 or at [keith.mans@raes.org.uk](mailto:keith.mans@raes.org.uk)**



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under 12  
minutes

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Friendly  
10-way speed &  
Halloween party  
25th/26th  
October



**Student  
Friendly  
dropzone**

✈ First HUSTLE event  
(Hib Uni Student League)  
'Autumn Falls'  
1st/2nd November

✈ Progression Day 6th November  
✈ BCPA Freshers 15th/16th November

Congratulations to all the teams who entered the 2008 Nationals. Thank you for helping  
us make the events such a success and we are looking forward to next year already!

DZ: 01652 648837 OFFICE: 0113 250 5600 INFO@SKYDIVING.CO.UK

**WWW.SKYDIVING.CO.UK**

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## Freefly

Fabian Raidel (24th-3rd)  
Jim Harris (Outbreak)  
Mike Carpenter (Volare)  
Skywalkers  
Andy Lovemore

## Formation Skydiving

Caroline Hughes  
Simon Cathrine  
Gordon Hodgkinson  
+more tbc

## Canopy Formation

Pat Hammond  
Doug Preston  
21st-31st Dec

## Birdman

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# SKYDIVE

Abba! Abba!

# SAN MARCOS

## HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

OCTOBER  
24, 25 & 26

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- HALO JUMPS
- POWERED PARACHUTES
- FREEFLY ORGANIZING
- BIGWAYS
- RW SCRAMBLES
- NOVELTY JUMPS
- CARNIVAL GAMES & RAFFLES

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-MARK MONACO BAND-

\$30 registration includes T-shirt plus food and beverages  
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## G's is a Job!

The Performance Designs Factory Team (PDFT) has kicked off what it calls its X-Project, a five-month quest to select additional team members. PD's Factory Team consists at the moment of five top notch canopy flyers whose remit is to promote PD's products by, in their words "exploring all facets of canopy flight, including but not limited to high-speed CRW, high-G formation spiralling manoeuvres, 4-way formation landings, and remote location object and water swooping".

All the team's members are very experienced canopy pilots who have excelled in many skydiving disciplines: freefall formations, canopy formations, high speed freefall acrobatics, aerial cinematography, wingsuit flight, fixed object jumping (base) and high performance canopy flight, to name them all. The team's blurb states that for decades now parachute exhibitions have involved bigger, slower parachutes that glide gracefully into the target area, with the parachutist often towing a flag or banner. Although impressive and effective, this type of display is outdated they claim. The PD Factory Team on the

other hand uses much smaller, faster canopies. PDFT pilots spiral toward the ground at 80mph then, with precision and consistency, pull out of the dive and soar across the earth's surface at over 60mph and for several hundred feet – don't try this at home children!

The team has also dominated the canopy swooping competition circuit in the US and internationally for the last three years, accumulating three World Championship victories and many world records along the way. The team's selection process will involve several phases and will be open to all interested high performance canopy pilots. Information and applications are available online. Approximately 36 candidates will be chosen to submit a video interview. Of those submissions, around 15 candidates will be invited to attend PDFT try-outs in January '09. The whole process will be documented, blogged and, at the end, up to four pilots will be invited to join the team. Want a new job? Do you have what it takes?

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

### Rounds Go Full Circle

Is it just me or do certain milestones in our sport sneak up on us in soft shoes and slip away for ever without anyone noticing or caring much? One good example of this I noticed recently was the STC's decision, tucked away somewhere in the minutes, to finally remove round parachute training completely from the BPA's Operations Manual – presumably for ever – apparently no clubs or centres have taught a round parachute course for some time, so the end was nigh. Nevertheless, considering our sport was founded, nurtured and evolved at the end of a round parachute's lines it seemed a sad, quiet and anonymous demise.

### Mini Pics

Endorsed by World Superbike star Chris Walker, the Motocomm DSR-1003G is a new mini helmet camera launched in August this year in the UK. The Motocomm package, which retails at the surprising price of only £279.99, includes bullet camera, digital video/audio recorder, helmet and kit mounts as well as all of the accessories needed to get you recording.

The addition of helmet speakers means that you can record your voice in freefall or dive noise (if you like that sort of thing). Alternatively, you can make use of the inbuilt MP3 player, which comes with a 3.5mm stereo adaptor. Offering 8 hours of recording time, the compact-sized recorder accepts a 4GB SD card, comes with a USB for quick and easy transfers and a cable for direct TV playback. The Motocomm DSR-1003G is supplied by sports media company, DL Motorsports, based in Nottingham.

[liam@dlmotorsport.com](mailto:liam@dlmotorsport.com)



**It Ain't Easy Being Green!**

Unless you've been living on the moon for the last few years, you'll be painfully aware by now that the big subjects in every newspaper and on every TV channel are global warming, carbon footprint, sustainability and all matters green. In fact about the only media you have been able to retreat to, to lose yourself in delusional utopia is the skydiving press, such as the October publication in your hands at this very moment. Well I'm sorry but I'm about to shatter your tranquility by letting the 'real world' gatecrash our lovely party... (You can always skip this bit if you're feeling on the low side.)

As most skydivers have feared, environmental issues are gradually making themselves known in our playground, and now one of our leading parachute manufacturers, Performance Designs (PD) of Florida, has announced that it is taking some radical steps in order to stave off the carbon monster. Over the coming months PD say it *'will be undertaking programmes that are designed to decrease energy consumption, decrease motor vehicle use, and do what is right for our world'*.

Amongst the measures PD will be taking are a substantial decrease in electricity use at its manufacturing plant, the reduction of crude oil consumption of up to 20% by the company and its employees, a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants, a decrease in road traffic, and therefore the need for road construction and maintenance, an increase in productivity and a decrease in operational and labour costs.

They also intend to reduce PD staff's exposure to pollutants, and to *'improve the work/life balance of over 200 employees'* – more skydiving holidays should do it! In July, PD changed its factory hours to four ten-hour days, rather than five eight-hour days on a trial basis. This is a decision not taken lightly say its spokespersons: *'There was quite a bit of research, discussion and review to make sure that with all the benefits this programme might bring, they did not fall into negative traps a programme like this can hide'*. They recognised that, even with all the environmental benefits this programme could grant, there are many factors that affect its successful execution. For that reason they say PD will continuously evaluate it, in order to guarantee the quality in their production and customer service that we have come to expect from PD. On that note, they pointed out that their customer service representatives still work on Friday till noon, and finished by stating that they may revert to a normal 5-day week schedule if they encounter unforeseen insurmountable challenges. Oh dear, here we go!

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

# Tandem under the Microscope



Tandem jump at UK Parachuting by Barrie Bremner

The BPA's Safety & Training Committee (STC) decided to take a closer look recently at tandem equipment inspection procedures following an incident where a tandem drogue chute became detached on opening. The committee was concerned that the normal six month inspection at reserve repack time may not be sufficient to ensure the safe condition of hard-worked tandem equipment, the mainstay of what is now the main growth area for introducing students to our sport. It was understood that some other countries do in fact have a stricter tandem inspection regime in force.

With this in mind STC set up a Working Group (WG) which looked at all aspects of tandem equipment operations and after extensive work came up with recommendations, which were unanimously approved at a subsequent STC meeting.

The WG concluded that an inspection (excluding reserve repack) should be carried out every 100 jumps in order that the equipment may be checked as an interim measure prior to reserve repack and normal 'MOT'. A new tandem equipment main parachute packing inspection log and 100 jump equipment inspection form have been devised for this purpose.

Mike Rust, chairman of the WG, stated that the group had felt that it would also be fair to build in a 10% margin into this system so that rigs did not fall due during busy periods. This would help parachute centres and tandem operators to comply more easily.

It was also proposed that the tandem student harness, an item that is easy to forget, should be inspected on a monthly basis. A new form has also been devised for this purpose. The WG had also been concerned about the fact that tandem equipment is comprised of several separate components and a method was needed for recording this. The group proposed that a log be kept for each container and any changes eg, change of main, reserve and AAD, would be recorded.

Changes to Section 6 of the BPA Operations Manual regarding tandem equipment and the new or revised BPA Forms 112A-112E were accepted unanimously by STC. Also that the tandem pack log would become mandatory for each tandem rig by 1 October 2008.

[www.bpa.org.uk/forms/council/STC\\_2008\\_07\\_31.pdf](http://www.bpa.org.uk/forms/council/STC_2008_07_31.pdf)

# One from the Cookie Jar



Cookie's Black Box

A company called Cookie Composites (named after its founder, Jason Cooke's nickname 'Cookie') has come up with the ultimate solution to mounting Sony's new High Definition Handycam camcorder HDR-TG1 and TG3 onto a skydiving helmet. Called the Black Box TG1-3, Cookie's new camera mount box is built from matt black anodised machined aluminium, weighs only 6 ounces and is designed specifically to combat certain design challenges with the Sony HD cameras.

For instance the camera does not have a thread for a wide-angled lens – Cookie overcame this by machining the lens thread straight into the box itself. The thread size is a common 30mm; the lens will stay on the Black Box while you simply slide the camcorder into the box and up against the lens.

Also the camcorder has no viewfinder or record light, yet it's essential to have a remote switch and record light – so, once in place, the Black Box allows enough room for the camera and a Hypeye D Pro camera control switch to slide into the housing, enabling remote control of the camcorder.

A purpose-built gap between the Black Box and the helmet also allows access to the camera's power on/off. Meaning that without a remote switch you're still able to power the Camcorder up and press the record button at the rear. Cookie states that another advantage of the design is that it brings the camera away from the helmet enough to allow the clearance needed for a wide-angle lens.



A wide-angle lens screws straight into the box



A Hypeye D Pro control switch fits into the box



The purpose-built gap allows access to controls

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

# SKYDIVE Langar

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Grant Richards and Jason 'Tomo' Thompson, co-owners of UK Parachuting, based at Old Buckenham Airfield, Norfolk, talk to Lesley Gale...



**Grant Richards**  
6,700 jumps, AFFI, TI, CSI, CP/FS Coach, BPA Pilot & FF1

**Jason Thompson**  
7,500 jumps, Club CCI, Examiner, AFFI, TI, CSI, CP/FS Coach & FF1



Our new shiny Caravan

### How long have you been DZ Operators?

We became DZO's of UK Parachuting on New Year's Eve, 2004. As you can imagine, after the deal was sealed we had a heck of a party! (at The George in New Buckenham).

### What changes have you made?

When we took over, UK Parachuting was just a small operation, mainly tandems. There were a few club jumpers from Tony Knight's days at Ipswich, but no RAPS or AFF. The aircraft was a Cherokee 6, so our first move was to get a larger lift capacity. We started 2005 with a Piston Islander, the following two years we had our first Turbine, then a Nomad and now we have our very own Cessna Caravan. We have made a number of changes around the centre, making more office space, putting in classrooms and enlarging the inside and outside packing areas. We have also gone upwards and built a mezzanine floor, which now houses our office, the rigging room, AFF classroom and an area for our video flyers.

### Has the Caravan made a big difference?

A massive difference. After two years operating the Nomad, which did two loads an hour and three loads to a refuel, the Caravan does more than three loads an hour and it takes six loads before refuelling. Our daily capacity has massively increased and waiting time to get on a load has decreased.

### Have you seen much growth in the club?

A great deal. We could count the club members on one hand when we took over but now have over 200. A large number are home-grown, but we have had new experienced jumpers arriving this year, with the Caravan being here. With the business growing the staff has also increased, although there are only three full time; the two of us and Andy Page, our advanced rigger – in fact, he came as part of the purchase! We have six AFF instructors, ten tandem instructors and a number of FS, FF and CP coaches, not forgetting five pilots. Our camera pool is now franchised out to PID Adventure Sports run by Stu Murtha.

### Do you run any events?

We run Progression and Coaching Weeks every six weeks from Easter onwards, which have proved very popular with all standards. We have an annual 4-way Scrambles, which has been a great success. This year we had seven teams and completed all four rounds in a day. By the time this has gone to print we will have held our first fun Speed 8 Scrambles comp.

### When is the best time to visit?

Any time!

### Do you offer coaching?

Coaching has been a main focal point this year. We have introduced cheaper rate FS coaching jumps, at only £44 including equipment hire.

Gavin Rixon runs the FS coaching and he is doing a great job. We have run load organising on Sundays, which Grant has been looking after. Although the standard is not high it has given everyone the opportunity to join in and jump on larger formations safely. We have organised freely coaching during our Progression Weeks. This is usually run by Tim Porter when he's free. We also have Rob Silver jumping at the DZ, he lives just five miles away, so he's always available. We also offer canopy handling and piloting coaching; our resident swooper Stu Murtha is always on hand to give advice.

### What is the vibe at the dropzone?

The vibe is a friendly one, where people can ask questions of anybody and get an answer. We have a large number of our home-grown jumpers who have gone through the whole system with us; some of these guys are now instructors and coaches so they understand what it's like to be a newbie. We only train our students through the AFF system so they all get very close attention. Tim Skinner co-ordinates our AFF school and does a great job. After they qualify they are handed on to Gavin for FS coaching so we have a system in place for our students to progress in a safe and friendly environment.

### Is there much of a DZ social scene?

The social scene is good, all though we do not use the bar on the airfield much. We have a small entertainment committee and they organise our parties. Our Christmas do is always a sit-down meal with the club annual awards. Some parties stand out, like our 'Curryokee', when four of the club members came dressed as the Spice Girls! Thanks to the Ox & Plough and the Garden House for putting us with us!

### UK Parachuting was featured in the documentary 'Britain From Above', how did that come about?

The programme came about from a couple of phone calls from the production company, then they came for a site visit and liked the place, liked us and what we could offer. They were here for two days filming and everything went really well, as everyone could see on the programme. It was great advertising for the sport and the centre.



Aaron Ellen



**Have you had any other publicity?**

We're in the local papers nearly every week for fundraising events; we work closely with a number of local charities.

**Tell us about your website**

The website has been redeveloped this year and we have added some great features to keep our club jumpers informed about what's going on. Check it out at: [ukparachuting.co.uk](http://ukparachuting.co.uk). We have an emailed newsletter that is sent out monthly, or when we have some news. Our UK Parachuting Facebook group has proved really popular with club members and students alike. Stu Murtha who runs the camera pool is currently developing his website: [pidadventuresports.com](http://pidadventuresports.com) which should be online by the time this is in print. This will have an area for people to post and purchase digital images.

**How are relationships with the locals?**

Absolutely great, especially the local pubs and B&Bs.

**Where do you recommend to stay overnight?**

Camping is free on the airfield where there is a shower and toilet facility. There are a number of great B&Bs, give us a call for recommendations.

**What more could the BPA and/or The Mag do for your DZ?**

This is an easy one; continued promotion of jumping in this country, especially AFF students. We are losing too many students overseas as there is this perception that it is not possible to do AFF in this country. In 2007 we did over 800



AFF student jumps and our retention for students completing the whole course was high, but there seems to be a downturn with potential students going abroad.

**How does the work divide up between you both?**

When we first started it was quite difficult to divide the work up but over the last four years it seems to have fallen into place. In the office Tomo tends to deal with the marketing and bookings, while Grant looks after the books, daily stats and staffing. All of the major decisions about the business are done jointly and usually over a beer – our outlook and goals are very similar so this process is simple. Tomo now does a little more on the operations side as Grant

spends a lot of time flying. We have a great team of instructors, cameramen, manifestors and packers and they make our job easier.

**What are your plans for the future?**

More of the same really, keep expanding and introducing more people. When we started here four years ago we had a vision to own a Turbine aircraft within 6-8 years; we had one after three and a half, so we're ahead on that front. Our next mission is to get new jumpers to UK Parachuting; students and experienced alike. We shall keep organising Progression Weeks and other events throughout the year to promote the centre – and who knows what the future may bring?!

# PIA Symposium 2009

February 8 - 13

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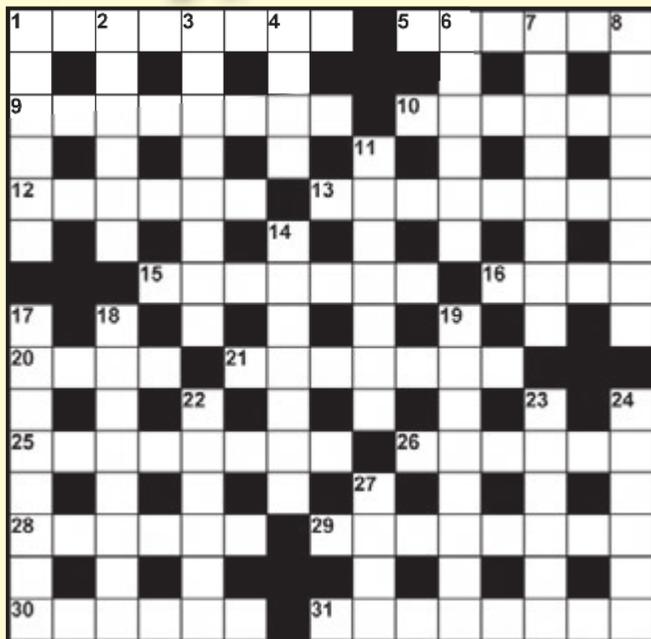
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## Main (Cryptic)

### Across

1. Taking overly long to batter last fish (8)
5. Parts of record that are made in haste? (6)
9. Joined in drunken chat during bad date (8)
10. Began to locate writer in reference book (6)
12. Silliness of a tax covering sex appeal (6)
13. Canopy developers?! (8)
15. Partially unconnected in coil assembly (7)
16. Measure tail wagging (4)
20. Skydiver's personal assistant: God (4)
21. He flies from Canada via Toronto (7)
25. Underwear malfunctions after the romance's overture (8)
26. Divas performing with eastern guide (6)
28. Gone off old diet, blown up (6)
29. Has uncle capsized small boats? (8)
30. Design allows concealed warning (6)
31. Directs the board to make blue-sky projections (8)

### Down

1. Born in musty stall (6)
2. Liable to erupt in fourth part of play with energy (6)
3. Where to shoot big cat eating ordinary cat (8)
4. Want to be dressed in Eden (4)
6. Arrange canopy (again) from salesman 'A' (6)
7. Having chills about new testament king's commands (8)
8. Team's rudeness, an oblique move (8)
11. Using fingers but hands-free (7)
14. Livens up following small malfunctions (7)
17. They observe Harry aboard ship (8)
18. Bring around, if holding education's first lesson (8)
19. Records involving a racket added charges (8)
22. Homer's barman in American Bar Association's formation (6)
23. More rank than a Scottish examination (6)
24. In conclusion optical sense focused by these (6)
27. Barracks losing centre support (4)

## Reserve

### Across

1. Losing lift
5. Flies horizontally (relatively)
9. Connected
10. Unfolded
12. Lightness of mood
13. Parachute activators
15. Committee
16. Height gauge
20. Skydiving soldier
21. Pilot
25. Upward moving air masses
26. Instruct
28. Went out the door
29. Take-offs
30. Indication
31. Dives on a board

### Down

1. Well balanced
2. In operation
3. Site
4. Require
6. Put in bag (again)
7. Operating levers, switches, etc
8. Move edgewise
11. Not analogue
14. Opens slowly
17. Look outs
18. Instructional talk
19. Weights carried
22. Single celled animal: formation
23. Above
24. Refracting parts of eyes
27. Posterior

**SOLUTION ACROSS**  
 1. Stalling, 5. Tracks, 9. Attached, 10. Opened, 12. Levity, 13. Ripcords, 15. Council, 16. Alt., 20. Para, 21. Aviator, 25. Thermals, 26. Advise, 28. Exited, 29. Launches, 30. Signal, 31. Skysurfs.  
**SOLUTION DOWN**  
 1. Stable, 2. Active, 3. Location, 4. Need, 6. Repack, 7. Controls, 8. Sideslip, 11. Digital, 14. Snivels, 17. Spotters, 18. Briefing, 19. Loadings, 22. Amoeba, 23. Higher, 24. Lenses, 27. Back.



# Fran Fisher

1942-2008

*Fran celebrating the 2008 Spring Fashion Show with her usual elderflower cordial, three weeks before she was diagnosed*

Fran started her parachuting life at Halfpenny Green Airfield, near Wolverhampton in 1975, making her first jumps out of the Tripacer and Cessna 172 aircraft. In those days the kit used was the then latest B4 pack and harness and C9 LL parachute, Dr Martens boots and the old motorcycle helmet! Her instructor was Mike Bolton, the infamous skydiver who on one particular jump exited an Islander and landed in a Rapide at 10,000 ft!

1977 saw Fran and the family move to Cornwall and start the Cornwall Parachute Centre at St Merryn Airfield, near Padstow. She was instrumental in organising a number of trips for many of the club members to attend training camps out in Florida and Chicago alongside Roger Nelson, Bob Hallet and Jack Jefferies. One of her favourite ventures was in the May of 1988 when she arranged and was part of a group of the first western parachutists to be invited by the Chinese Parachute Federation to skydive alongside their national teams and experience the culture of China.

December was always a particularly busy time for Fran as she organised the centre's Christmas party at the Barrowfields Hotel in Newquay – those members who took part in her pantomimes will have great memories of the rehearsals and performances!

After 26 years, Cornwall Parachute Centre closed and this saw John and Fran move to Norfolk, where she opened a ladies Italian boutique in the little village of Hingham. Fran was a lifetime vegetarian, a non-smoker, enjoyed yoga and power walking and had not seen a doctor in 32 years. It was therefore a great shock to everyone when in April of this year Fran was diagnosed with liver cancer and she peacefully and gracefully passed away on Friday 25 July 2008. She was laid to rest on the auspicious Chinese date of 08/08/08 and many friends from the skydiving world were there to celebrate her life.

On behalf of her husband John, and her children Linda and Eddie, we would like to say thank you to all of you who shared in those special times at Fran's Ranch in Cornwall and we wish you all many happy future memories within the sport of skydiving.

Family contact details: [flyingfullstop@aol.com](mailto:flyingfullstop@aol.com)



*Fran at Langar in 1976, a Cherokee exit during the Tom Sawyer era*



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# CLUB News



## Peterlee

Paul Harvey by Mal Smith

### Achievements

#### First Freefall

Don Place

#### Cat 8

Stephen Smith  
Michael Gallagher  
Steve Wood  
Peter Evans  
Tony Morbin

#### CH1

Stephen Smith

#### CH2

Trevor Garrett  
Paul Hardy

#### JM1

Paul Hardy

#### FS1

Harry Hill

### Jump Numbers

50

Trevor Garrett

300

Jade Elliott

900

Lee Saunders

1,000

Dave Taylor

2,200

Alan Thompson

The Planning Inspectorate has finally rejected the appeal from A7 Energy to build wind turbines at Edder Acres farm, which if successful could have ended skydiving in the northeast of England. The reason they gave was that it was not right to lose a rare sporting facility. Hurrah! In celebration, a wind turbine 6-way was organised and the sacred words 'free beer in the bar' were heard.

BUT... just when it seemed we could finally relax, we discovered that a company has put in a planning application on behalf of BT for a mast at the north of the airfield, to take readings with a view to building a wind farm! Even closer than Edder Acres! Seems they weren't aware of the history until Ian R spoke to them, when they asked if it was possible to compromise. Err... 'No'. We'll keep you posted of any developments.

We positively invaded the UKS Boogie at Weston – one lift had 19 Peterlee jumpers on! A fab time was had, though we did notice Oli Clark looked a bit too natural at the country and western dancing, does he have a secret hobby?!

One particular Sunday afternoon's entertainment springs to mind after a

really heavy downpour. The day's first landing by Indi caused a cheer as she aquaplaned through the biggest puddle, spraying water everywhere, soaked but smiling. Kirsty (the nurse) lost one of her trainers in a jump. You can imagine the state of her muddy 'white' sock when she got back. (The trainer was later discovered still in the Airvan!) The instructors also entertained as Paul Dorward skidded in, losing his balance at the last minute and CCI Ian slid in on his butt, to the delight of onlookers... and all caught on camera!



Ian's crowdpleaser by Sue Scott

The BBC visited PPC to film a tandem jump, by Lisa French (who was in the London bus which exploded on 7 July), to raise money for MAG (Mines Advisory Group) who do great work in Cambodia. Lisa is going to Cambodia herself next March to help build homes for people who have been injured by landmines. We all wish her well with this.

There is a new pastime in the bar inspired by Janet Willcox. You know those electric bug killers, the ones that look like a tennis racket but the wires carry an electric current? The guys are on a 'look-how-tough-us-northern-blokes-are' campaign headed by Johnny Baines. I filmed him being zapped in the bar firstly on the nose and then on the nipple with said instrument, hilarious! Who, or more interestingly, what, will be zapped next?!

Sue Scott

Jonski & Jade by Mal Smith



Peterlee jumpers at UKS Boogie by Marcus Speed



Alan Thompson  
by Sue Scott



# Chatteris

## Achievements

CH2, JM1

Nick Page

50 Jumps

Mike Appleton

200 Jumps

Rowena Owen

300 Jumps

Nick Page

800 Jumps

Tom Pantall

3,000 Jumps

Chris Beattie

3,800 Jumps

Bryn Chaffe



After three very successful tunnel sessions, with the girls showing the boys how it's done, Yo is organising some more. If you're interested let her know and she'll try her best to accommodate you. Thank you Yo, we all appreciate you taking so much time to organise us!

Congratulations to Si Chipp for flying his 2,000<sup>th</sup> hour and passing his exams with flying colours. Well done to Jo Hawley our new FS coach and Lazar Dimitrov, new CSBI. Bryn Chaffe is now an ordained clergy minister, I wonder who he'll be marrying first? After searching and searching Chris Beattie finally found his passport.

Nice one *Innuendo* for bronze at Nethers and Cark UKSLs and 5<sup>th</sup> in rookies at the Nationals. *Strangers* did great to win silver in A class, well done guys.

Lorraine Dixey

Tom & Lorraine by Yo Lee

# St Andrews

## Achievements

Cat 8

Jason Hobbs

FS1

Stuart Durie

FF1

Euan 'Jaffa' George

Emilia Vanni

200 Jumps

Rosie Miller

300 Jumps

Danny Mitchell

400 Jumps

Louise Runciman

Joshua Caird

1,500 Jumps

Graeme Mackay



Courtesy Flush training over BKPC by Graham Mackay

Welcome to our new canteen and bar staff. For the first time we have a fully trained chef! This must put us in the top ranks of UK DZ food! After several unbearably dry months the bar is now open again, in time for the long winter nights.

The poor summer weather has at least let us save our pennies, so a herd of us made our way down to the UKS boogie at Weston for the week. This and a trip to Empuria has seen huge progress with lots of achievements.

With the nights drawing in we're hoping to make the most of the tail end of summer before kicking off our winter socials with a **Halloween Party, 1 Nov** and **Bonfire night, 8 Nov**. Look out for more events: [www.kingsmuir.org.uk](http://www.kingsmuir.org.uk)

Graeme Mackay

Josh, Emilia, Ewan & his new trousers by Jaffa





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*Photo of Honda stunt skydivers by Tony Danbury*

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# Weston

July was our best month ever for jump numbers and flying hours, with the Skyvan and the

Dornier here for 3 weekends. On the first, Andy Ford invited some of the best freeflyers in the country. They produced some great dives including an 11-way head-down, equalling the British record! It was good to see previous CCI Dave Howerski again, he is always smiling!

The UKS Boogie and over 350 people descended on us, 25-27 July. To say it was mega is an understatement! The weather was outstanding, hot and the bluest of skies. The Skyvan, Cessna Caravan and Dornier produced 2,500 skydives while the Jet Ranger helicopter did 37 lifts over 2 days. The Weston Western party was great with awesome costumes; Lord Woof as a gorilla and Rob as Cactus – respect!

The POPS arrived and made the most of the weather and Skyvan, doing accuracy and Hit 'n' Rock. It was great to watch and we hope they'll come back next year.

Amanda, I and Vics flew to the World Meet, in my little plane, to cheer on the Brit teams. With Weston jumpers on *Storm* and *Connexion* we had to do our duty! Well done to Sparky, Andy Scott and Phil Hartree for an outstanding job. As always the British contingent had the best

(loudest) supporters. It was amazing to watch *Storm* win, talk about nerve-racking!



Chixtrix by Mike Lovemore

*Storm* visited before the Nationals, doing last minute training from a left hand door again. It paid off! Well done Sparky,

Sarah, Hannah, Kate and Swoop on winning the UK Nationals and the World Meet, both trophies are proudly displayed in our clubhouse.

*Storm* had us all packing as they were jumping at 5k, only taking 4 minutes! *Storm* are here for our **Scrambles, 4-5 October.**

Weston had nine teams at the 4-way Nationals. Well done to



Jet Blondes by Amanda Kemp



Phobia



Andy Ford's freefly weekend by Andy Lovemore

*Phobia* for the AA gold they worked so hard for. They definitely deserved that podium place. Nice one *Jet Blondes* – rookie silver in their first year, down to sheer hard work. *Burble* did brilliantly to get rookie bronze ahead of rivals *Zero Degrees* whom they've been sparring with throughout UKSL. In A class *Strangers* and *RAFSPA Firefly* won silver and bronze, brilliant! At the prize-giving it was funny watching Amanda changing T-shirts to go up with her 4 teams. She's worked really hard with each; it showed as they all achieved medals. Well done to Leila and Kirsten for Freefly B gold! *Blizzard* took 8-way intermediate silver, nice one guys. Everyone trained really hard, congratulations all!

Congratulations to Dave Ledward and Gurdy Tulli on their engagement. Thanks to James Swallow for lending us the Finists to cope with our busy operation, and to Gee and Chris for great flying. We're planning a trip to Eloy Christmas Boogie, let us know asap if you'd like to join.

Ash Kemp

## Achievements

**AFF Graduate**  
Beth McSoley  
**50 Jumps, FS1**  
Andy Moss  
**100 Jumps**  
Nicolas Heywood-Wakeman  
**200 Jumps**  
Victoria Bradley  
**600 Jumps**  
Kate Morris  
**800 Jumps**  
Mark Stone  
**1,000 Jumps**  
Mike Lovemore  
**2,000 Jumps**  
Josh Burrill  
Phil Hartree

Weston teams at FS Nationals by Josh Burrill





Smiling Sheri by Kris Ridley

It's been busy at Brid... and we don't just mean the drinking! Suitably inspired by Steve the Ninja getting his FS1, we've all been having a go. First Baz 'Weaner' Copeland did an impressive 3-way followed by FS1; then Ryan was successful; now everyone else realises it is indeed possible.

Mark Fairbank, happy to have finally got A licence and his own kit (how many years?!) celebrated by having his beer mal before reaching 30 jumps. Rob 'Fraggle' Johnson came back from Holland, his reserve having had more repacks than his main! George Bootland returned after a 7 month lay-off, great to see you both again.

Steve 'The Boy' Rothwell, our culinary

wizard, decided that AFF seemed a better route than RAPS. We're glad of the switch, because the stills are hilarious! The boy has a rubber face!

Old skydiving games resurfaced: Swoop 'n' Chug was suggested to a few puzzled faces and strokey chins. Once explained, we were kitted up faster than ever. CCI Ray 'Duffman' Armstrong provided hilarious video commentary in his own unique style. Instructors were gobsmacked at everyone's new found accuracy skills. Craig won with a massively impressive 12 seconds!

It's been fantastic having Kris 'Spongebob' Ridders, our truly dedicated cameraman, drive up from London every weekend to jump camera and provide us with some wonderful photos. Huge thanks from everyone.

## Bridlington

### Achievements

#### Cat 8

Seamus Hogan  
Siobhan Parrott  
Fred Dunaway  
Sasha  
Matt Nixon

#### FS1

Martin Preston  
Ian Rutherford  
Claire Louise Reynolds  
FF2  
Charlotte Kemp

### Jump Numbers

#### 100

Ian Rutherford  
Jamie Flynn  
Garrick 'Keanu' Taylor

#### 200

James Barber

#### 300

Paul Daley

#### 400

Paul 'Penny' Farthing  
Pony

#### 500

Charlotte Kemp

#### 600

Leah Frost

#### 800

Jason Legg

#### 1,000

Anna Lea  
Thea Follett

#### 1,100

Wez

#### 1,600

Phill Elston

#### 1,800

Stephan Reynolds

#### 3,800

Geoff McVey

### 1 Hour Freefall

Jamie Flynn  
Ian Rutherford  
Garrick 'Keanu' Taylor

### 12 Hours Freefall

Jason Legg  
Thea Follett

### 24 Hours Freefall

Mike Ehlis

## Nethers

There seems to have been a bit of a theme to the summer so far – wet and windy! The rescheduled Solstice Boogie was a repeat casualty – same aircraft, same weather – boo! Miraculously, our main event – the Armed Forces Parachute Championships – didn't suffer the same fate. Most of the 37 FS teams got their jumps in on the first weekend, thanks to superb organisation. *The Divas* thank all who helped when Mrs Pokie came a cropper on the mock-up – 24 hours and some pink wine sorted her ankle out and we completed nine jumps next day!

### Armies Results

#### Accuracy

Junior	Des Desmond
Inter	Daniel Kelly
Senior	Smudge Smith

#### AAA FS 4-way

1	Royal Signals
2	Where's Nige?
3	REME Goons

#### AA

1	Red Devils (Black)
2	REME Lightning
3	3 Officers and a Gent

#### A

1	Army A
2	RAFSPA Firefly
3	Nethers Blue

#### Rookie

1	Tax Dodgers
2	RAFSPA Phoenix
3	AMS Vertigo

For the first time, the competition also included artistics. Tony (*REME*) and Alex (*Sigs*) took the first and second freestyle medals, and 29 *CDO Euphoria*, and *Euphoria* (they are different teams!) won freely first and second. Thea Follett was awarded a cup for Instructor of the Year and Rob Campbell the Joe Reddick Cup for outstanding contribution to the APA. Thanks to the organisers and participants for a safe, well run meet. The only casualty (apart from bar-related) was Polly who's got a pot on. Get fixed soon!

The August bank holiday saw the 8-way speed competition – *Hedgehog* took gold

from *Norfolk'n'Chance*. The Gangsters and Molls party doubled as staff member Matty Holford's leaving do, he's off to Germany for a few months. Never fear, he's leaving the bar in Danny's capable hands. Thanks for all you've done Matty, mainly for the alcoholics among us, we'll miss you loads.

Congratulations to Claire Reynolds, daughter of regular jumper Stephan. She completed her AFF course to qualify as Category 8 on her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday out in Spain. She's since completed her FS1 with proud dad Stephan on the jump for company. Welcome back to Lucy and Ryan after a spell in New Zealand – and good luck with a mini hippie on the way!

Congratulations *Exodus* (Kim Mason, Anna Lea, Marcus Speed and Becky Austin) who took gold in A class at the Nationals and also at the Armies (under the pseudonym *Army A*). To a bruised and battered Jamie Robertson – hope you're back on top form soon, you sure know how to make an impression!

At last! It's back: [www.netheravon.com](http://www.netheravon.com)

Kath Salisbury



Matty Holford with Titch & Sandy by Kath Salisbury



Anna Lea's 1,000<sup>th</sup> jump by Ash Hollick



HEAT swooping Matty's Mustang by Mick Tyler



FS1 dive by Kris Ridley

A gigantic well done to everyone involved with the Cayton Bay demo, Ray, Kris, Ollie and Jim. Great job guys! And congratulations to Mick Dawn for 20 years in the sport!

Ryan Lee Brown

**Achievements**

**First Freefall**

- Steven Brown
- Heida Shepard
- Scott Clark
- Steven Reed
- Gavin Dickinson
- Stacey Galfskvi
- Matthew MacDirmid
- Shaun Doughwaite
- Steve Rothwell

**FS1 & 100 Jumps**

- Baz Copeland
- Ryan Brown
- Dave Dunn

**200 Jumps**

- Jerry Wood
- Steve Perkins

**500 Jumps**

- Clair Armstrong
- Kris Ridley

**600 Jumps**

- Simon Rehill



Nick Davison's inflatable face by Kris Ridley

**Cark**

The final 4-way UKSL in July attracted 16 teams.

Saturday dawned to a great looking day and the first lift was hoisted to altitude by 9.10am. Alas the winds began to howl and after round one we were blown out for the day. Sunday saw the same fate when nearing completion of round two and we called it a day at 1.30pm. With prizegiving scheduled for 2pm, a last minute appeal changed the medal sequence. With new rulings also being adhered to by Kate and Bob, teams jostled for medal positions by hundredths of a second. Wow, all this from one round! Congratulations to locals *Drink Dance and Funnel* (Duncan, Steve, Sarah & Karen) who on their first outing picked up a silver, and finished fifth in the FS Nationals. We thank all the teams and our effervescent judges Bob and Kate. Hope to see you all next year guys.

July saw the invasion of the BCPA Collegiate Nationals. This being Fletch's last year he was going out big

style – with a 20,000 watt disco and two 50" plasma TVs! Outdoors was a 24 hour hot tub, oft frequented by CCI Dennis who 'accidentally' fell in atop any scantily clad ladies! A bouncy castle, rodeo bull, and bungee run capped off the external joys. With the weather very kind the competition was close and the evening bar tape provided scary and hilarious moments. Happy retirement Fletch! We hope to see BCPA back in 2009.

Disco Diva Neil and the newly named McLaren Discotheque never stop, now we have new JBL speakers with Dolby prologic capabilities and yet another 40" inch plasma which fell off the back of another oil rig. This makes great viewing for tandem DVDs and sounds incredible once the evening sherries are flowing. Cheers Neil!

Our Skyfest, blessed with good weather, was very well attended. Hybrids, big-ways and freeflying abounded, with evening entertainment provided by beach BBQs, Dennis's infamous quiz night and Mike's zombie impression. Mark Atherton persevered with his turn problem, qualified Cat 8,

and is loving his freedom of the skies. Well done fella, we know how hard you worked. Now enjoy!

The talented and committed Dave H and Helen (*Sonic-V*) have been coaching FS at an outstanding level, benefitting many to FS1 and beyond. It's open for all, just ask if interested. The centre is providing coaching tickets at a reduced rate.

Kieran, our Safe Flight School instructor, is organising another canopy course, check the website and office noticeboard – and Kie, don't forget your scissors for the gaffer tape next time!

Kat Lawlor's farewell party (she's going round the world for 3 years) had a Mardi Gras theme. Many wore beautifully decorated face masks. Others went for a more subtle approach (sweet nothing) but were hijacked by the girls and their dainty make-up sets! Good luck travelling Kat!

We're booking for the Cark Christmas bash, at the Abbey House Hotel, see Kay for details and room availability.

Stuart Morris

**Achievements**

**First Freefall**

- David McNamara
- Jacob Hawkins
- Linda Price

**AFF Graduate**

- Vicky Parr

**Cat 8**

- Fraser Dootson
- Mark Atherton
- Helen Brookes

**FS1**

- Alison Bellaby
- Gareth Cliff
- Myles Ziebart
- Steve 'Tippex' Watkin

**FF1**

- Vicky Sutton

**50 Jumps**

- Alison Bellaby
- Mark Atherton
- Myles Ziebart

**100 Jumps**

- Vicky Sutton
- Pete Mather

**1,000 Jumps**

- Dean Thorpe

**3,000 Jumps**

- Steve 'Noggin' Nolan

Mardi Gras party by Neil McLaren



Kat's farewell by Sharon Bateman



Drink, Dance & Funnel by Tony Spruce





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# Headcorn

We've made good use of our super-duper Caravan, racking up the achievements. Chris Lynch (who clocked up jump number 12345) ran a Wing Tips seminar for 8 happy participants. Helen 'Pinky' Bishopp said it was "Fantastic and very useful, I recommend it to everyone". Pete Sizer got silver in individual accuracy at the Classics Nationals, and had a good learning experience at the World Meet, landing on the pad 8 times; a tremendous achievement and a personal best. Ruth Cooper ran a training seminar for the 3 British FS judges going on their training course. Congrats to them all for passing, especially local Penny Wiggins. Our pilot Tom qualified AFF and got his pilot examiner rating, 1,000 hours flying and a kitten – not bad going!

Lucy Smith-Willey did an 18<sup>th</sup> birthday dive. Her mum Trina bit the bullet and did a tandem on the Proms weekend, with husband Alan and daughter Lucy joining her. Alan stole Pete's trainer during a Mr Bill jump – why he'd want it we don't know! The Flying Proms weekend was fantastic, we did a demo to kick it off. Jane managed the one and only balloon jump. We're joining the Weald Aviators again for our **Christmas Do, 6 December**.



Ruth Cooper

Chris Lynch & Coralie Hughes by Simon Hughes



Coralie Hughes by Simon Hughes



'18' for Lucy Smith-Willey's 18th birthday, by Wiggy

## Achievements

### AFF Graduate

Tom Weston  
James Dodd  
Stan Parkes  
**Cat 8, CH1**  
S Burgess  
Matt Nixon  
Steve Faulkner  
Neil Appleton  
James Dodd  
Jamie Turner

### JM1, CH1

Stan Parkes  
**JM1, CH2**  
Alex Hopkins  
James White

### FS1

Peter Whilby  
Helen Bishopp  
James White

### IS1

Bob Fish

### FF1

Laura Brothers

## Jump Numbers

### 50

Jamie Turner  
Alex Hopkins

### 100

Helen Bishopp  
Alan Smith-Willey

### 200

Lucy Smith-Willey  
Scary Mary

### 500

Wendy Foster  
**1,400**

Pierre Pascal

### 1 Hour Freefall

Andrew Gill  
Helen Bishopp  
Alan Smith-Willey

Whilst the weather has been against us we haven't been resting. Every area has undergone major improvements. Wireless internet is now available and club members can use some computers in the clubhouse, kindly donated by Dave and Gill. The rigging room has had a facelift and is now offering reserve repacks.

The après jumping atmosphere is improving weekly, pig roasts are going down a treat. After a hard day's jumping, roast potatoes cooked on the barbecue are just what's needed. Dave's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday bash was a huge success with bulk champagne and age-related tales related well into the evening.

Congratulations to Paul and Karen, engaged! I hear whispers of a skydiving wedding, shhhh! Congrats also to Jay Webster for his wingsuit coach rating and to Kirstie Watson & Pete Connolly for their A licences.

South Cerney welcomes new jumpers, we have some fantastic facilities and plans for a festival of 30 balloons with early morning, evening and night jumps (weather permitting), call for details. We thank everyone at the club for your hard work in making things happen.

Dion Bingham

# South Cerney

## Achievements

### AFF Graduate

Ben Leonides  
Ross Jones  
Wayne John  
Faizal Alazeni

### 50 Jumps

Nadine Bibby  
**200 Jumps**  
Adam Dean

### 400 Jumps

Tim Roberts  
**500 Jumps**  
Chas McNeil

### 1 Hour Freefall

Adam Dean

Dave Lewis swears he was stitched up on this exit, by Martin Rhodes



# Cornish



Dave Wood's impeccable landing at Watergate demo by Ross Houlston

The good old British weather never fails to amaze us, so the club has decided to 'run to the sun' for 10 days in Nov/Dec, to Seville, Spain. We hope to have a group of club jumpers and some AFF.

A real 'beer fridge lift' included Andy Hart on his 600<sup>th</sup> jump, Ross Houlston on his 300<sup>th</sup> and Mark Finch on his 200<sup>th</sup>. We have almost completed another display season with some very memorable beach jumps. We dropped in on a private wedding anniversary for an ex Parachute Regiment soldier, congratulations Barry and Di, a very nice demo and excellent party. Constantine Carnival demo on to the village football pitch was unforgettable. The greenkeeper at the bowling green was happy that we missed his pride and joy!

Simon Williams is enjoying his new hobby of jump flying, keep up the excellent work, say Dave and Paul. Simon was very well trained by Chief Pilot Steve Clarke, so thanks to Steve as well.

August bank holiday weekend has always proved demanding – great job by everyone; Steve the pilot, Chris in the office (not often I thank myself), Paul, Shane, Ben, Ross on DZ control & Dave Lock for his help packing.

In time, this small club will find its true home on Perranporth Airfield. At the moment we have a portakabin, a marquee and a trailer as an office. We hope that a final move could take us back to our original area in 2005, with a nice restaurant and bar in some real buildings.

The centre will be closed till 16 October due to the Everest skydive. (Note: Ben has now jumped in front of the Eiger and Mount Everest, this is a first!) Our season ends on the weekend of 22-23 November.

Chris Wood



Ben, George, Dave & Paul wish the Andrews a happy anniversary, photo by Barry Andrews



Ross Houlston over Perranporth by Ben Wood

# Black Knights

## Achievements

### First Freefall

Tracy Williams  
Drew Rucastle  
Matthew Anderson  
Lance Buzzard  
Carl Marsh  
Tony Strugnell  
Rob Pappini  
Jane Callan  
Kirsty Lythgoe

### Cat 8

Tracy Williams  
Chris Evans  
Keith Bee  
Phil Allsopp  
Tony Strugnell  
Jeff Horrocks

### FS1

Frank Barlow  
Richard Dixon  
Karen Saunders  
Katy Myerscough

### 50 Jumps

Keith Bee  
Katy Myerscough

### 100 Jumps

Karen Saunders  
Martin Dunn

### 400 Jumps

Greg Taylor

Dave Dand can be spotted from space in his new camera suit! Everyone's been issued with protective goggles as a precaution, with warnings to not look directly at him!



Dave Dand by Lee Rhodes

The third Eddie Davies Cup was shadowed by bad weather the first weekend so jumps were made the following weekend with a mish-mash of teams. Chris T did a fab job of judging whilst I was more of a hindrance as an assistant with clipboard and delicate head. Some excellent 'flybys' and 'exits' were seen on camera – the Billies were actually the stable ones in the sky! Special awards were given for such skill – most seemed quite excited at getting

wooden spoons (I like to think it's because they were lovingly hand-painted gold not because of the free pull-up round them). Huge thank you to everyone that took part and a mega thumbs-up to Mark for flying all day.

The 'Into the Future' party saw amazing outfits and two Buzz Lightyears!



Eddie Davies Cup winners and competitors by Neil Henshall



Chris & Frank 'Lightyear' by Anne Berry



Lee Rhodes

Richard, the phantom clothes snatcher, can be seen in numerous photos with different people's fancy dress on. Adrian excelled himself with his fab DJing and funky light display. The party games were hilarious with Dave Parry almost having a heart attack during the dance-off when Laura stripped off for him ... the things people do for free jump tickets!

Massive congrats to all of the teams in the Nationals, a record number from BKPC this year. HUGE pats on the backs to 4-way FS teams *Equilibrium*, *Peter and the Protecs* and *West Coast Drifters* (aka Bay City Rollers), and freestyle/freestyle team *Flyami Vice*, who won gold in freestyle!

Book your place for the Christmas Party. Mark's started on the end of year DVD which I'm sure will entertain!

Sam Davis

# Dunkeswell

Olly Denham



## Achievements

### AFF Graduate, CH1

Daniel Guest  
Michelle Larsen

### CF1

Jason Legg

### FS1

Rob Fone  
Pamela Jones

### FS1, CH2

Dan Goldie

### FF1

Ray Norton

### 50 Jumps

Si 'Scooby' Ward  
Garry Powell

### 100 Jumps

Paul Gardiner

Wes Guest

### 200 Jumps

Alex Lioubine  
Louise Finch

### 300 Jumps

Ray Norton

### 700 Jumps

Zuz Tillner

Zuz Tillner



It feels like we've only had one week of sunshine this year – luckily enough just in time for the Twin Beech Boogie! Dunkeswell's first boogie was a huge success! It opened in style, as Jan's Beech 99 dropped Dedric and Tim Porter to swoop in, marking the start of a great week, followed by a BBQ and drinks around the fire pit. Many visitors from far and wide were pleasantly surprised at how close we were, only 3 hours from London!

The atmosphere was fantastic, with lightning lift turnarounds, awesome load organising, helicopter jumps (so popular the helicopter made a return visit) and Dunkeswell's first ever twin Beech formation load. Many took advantage of the high hop 'n' pops, really enjoying the amazing views of the 3 coastlines of Devon, Dorset and Wales. A massive thanks to load organisers Tim Porter, Chris Lynch and Dave Morris as well as Fat Leigh for coordinating the Boogie DVD, which I am told is on its way guys!

PD and Aerodyne did a sterling job with the demo kit and we thank all

our sponsors for the brilliant raffle prizes, too many to mention. DJ Richie went down a storm as always, with Dave Morris on the dance floor the entire night! Jumpers of all experiences had a wonderful boogie, whether it was getting to grips with VRW (pardon the pun) to gaining their FS1 stickers, well done Dan, Rob and Pamela! Thanks to everyone who came down to make it truly fantastic. Look out for 2009's boogie, guaranteed bigger and better!

Well done Michelle Larsen and Daniel Guest (who joins his brother and carries on the Guest name in skydiving) for graduating AFF. Our summer ball had a Mexican theme with copious amounts of tequila as the starter. The rodeo got everyone in the spirit, with a few bumps and bruises as well as bareback riding by Andy Montriou, who won the event with a triumphant 3-minute ride wearing a fluorescent green Borat minkini! (Sorry but the photos were far too traumatic to send in to The Mag!)

Olly Denham



Join the **CF Roadshow, 10-12 Oct**, and **night jumps, 11-12 Oct**, all welcome! Keep your eyes on [www.skydivethewell.com](http://www.skydivethewell.com)

Leanne Milligan

Ceri Lewis



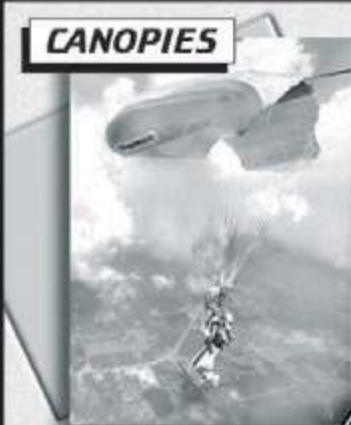
Phil Stenning



Olly Denham



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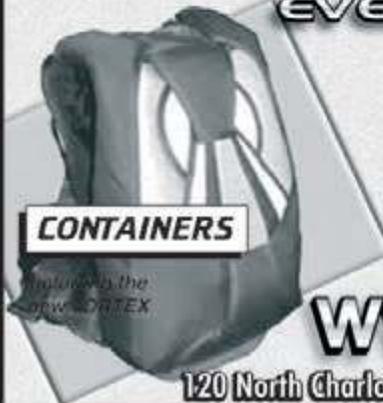
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"This is great now I can fly my high performance canopy on a wingsuit jump" - David Gershfeld

# Hinton

Alan Gayton by Matt Abram



Chloe Vickers' FS1 with Alan, Matt & Jim by Matt Abram



## Achievements

**AFF Graduate**  
Chris Sparks  
Tim Bendall  
Jamie Cartwright  
Anastacio Pandis  
**CH1**  
Charlotte Waitt  
**FS1, JM1**  
Thomas Lumb  
**FS1, FF1, 50 Jumps**  
Chloe Vickers  
**100 Jumps**  
Matt Gardner  
Grayson Buckley  
Lee Petherick  
**200 Jumps**  
Martyn Gray  
Paul Pants  
**300 Jumps**  
Adam Searle  
**500 Jumps**  
Alan Eastwood  
**1,400 Jumps**  
Matt Abram  
**7,000 Jumps**  
Andy Ford  
**1 Hour Freefall**  
Thomas Lumb  
**24 Hours Freefall**  
Bob Miller

We welcome Andy Ford and all the Infinite Skydiving team, now operating here and bringing a wealth of skydiving experience which all are benefiting from. In July a group from Hinton went to Aerograd in Russia for loads of jumping (91 lifts achieved one day). Alan Gayton coached 4, including Chloe Vickers, FS1 & FF1 in just 29 jumps. Well done Chloe, all that tunnel time paid off! The group saw the Russian women's 70-way which, according to the boys, was brilliant – 30° heat means women in hotpants! Well done to Bryan Chaffin who won the Danish Lottery! A big thank you to Matt Abram for organising such a brilliant trip. Same again next year please!

It is great to see Elaine Park back in the sky with us again. Just remember your grip management! Thanks to everyone

for the get well messages for Dave 'Jedi Rigger' Gould who broke his arms in a motorcycle accident in August.

Goodbye to Michael van der Vliet, resident PAC pilot since August 2007, leaving to convert his New Zealand licence to a European airline licence. Thanks for your safe flying and good luck in your career. We'll make sure the next pilot knows not to polish the camera step!

Well done to the Hinton jumpers at the Nationals. *Fallout* improved their average by a point; Richard 'The Daddy' Orford was proud, after all his coaching. Adam Searle entered A category with a scratch team, *Unhinged*. He's never done blocks before but did us proud. Congratulations to Claire Tuckett and *Strangers* for their

Aerograd Boogie by Ruthie Covell



silver medal in A class. Teams are already forming for next year. We're open all year, check: [www.skydive.co.uk](http://www.skydive.co.uk)

Natalie Keith

# Tilstock



**Achievements**  
**50 Jumps**  
Mike Pritchard  
**200 Jumps**  
Michelle Eppleston

**1,000 Jumps**  
Steve Smith  
**1 Hour Freefall**  
Craig Powell

Gareth Hughes and Micky Cox by Dave Major

The big news; after fifteen years of being closed on Sundays, we have finally achieved the first step. By the time this is printed, there will be canopies in the sky over Tilstock on the sabbath! Shropshire Aero Club, based at nearby airfield Sleaf, has given us the go-ahead to emplane there on Sundays, as there was never a ban on jumping at Tilstock on Sundays, just flying from there. Initially we'll restrict Sunday jumping to a minimum of B Certificate holders and tandems but hopefully we will be able to relax this in the future.

Congratulations to *West Coast Drifters* who doubled their points average at the Nationals! Well done to Jules Bergel for achieving her biggest formation, a 36-way.

After forty years of people telling him to take up golf, Arthur Collingwood's finally taking their advice. He's retiring to his golf clubs and his sheep, handing the reins of the canteen over to Kenny Lloyd. Good luck in your retirement Arthur and don't trip over the grass chasing those sheep!

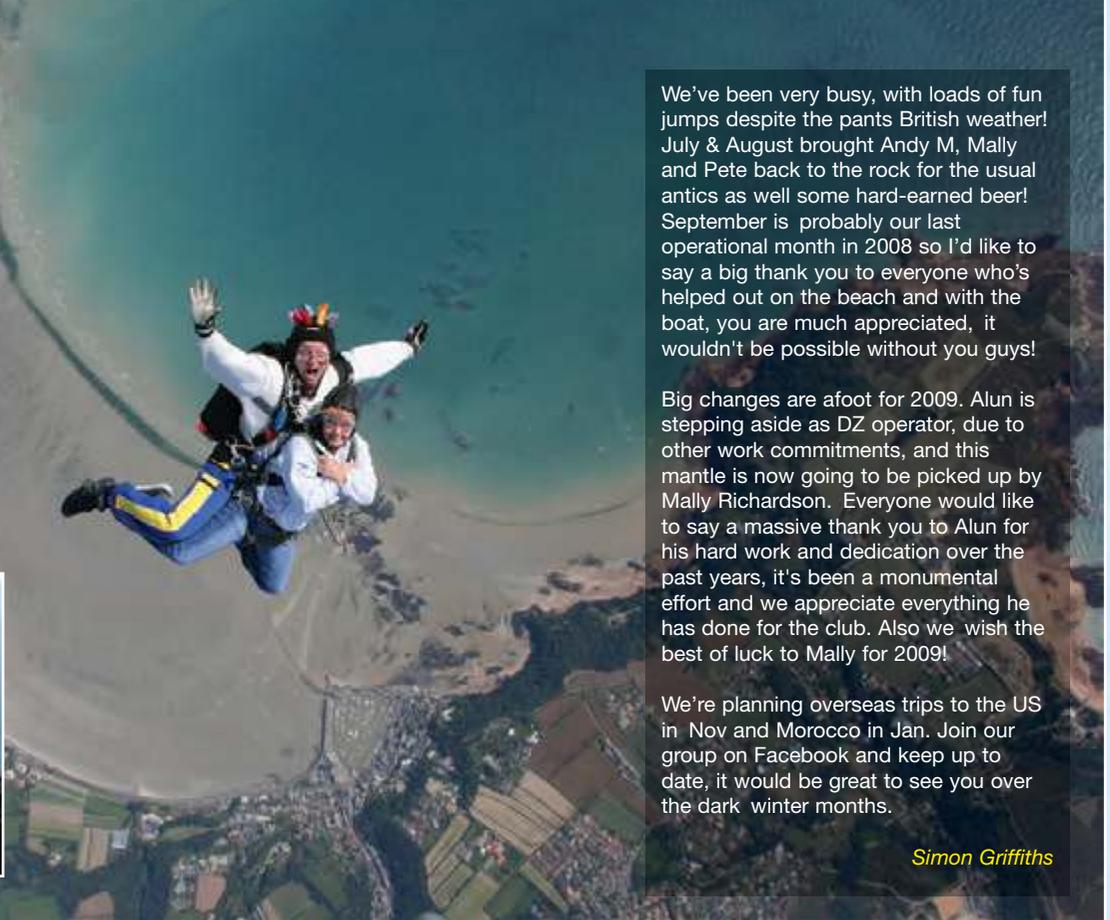
Colin Fitzmaurice

# Jersey

Alun Griffiths



Alun Griffiths by Mal Richardson



We've been very busy, with loads of fun jumps despite the pants British weather! July & August brought Andy M, Mally and Pete back to the rock for the usual antics as well some hard-earned beer! September is probably our last operational month in 2008 so I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who's helped out on the beach and with the boat, you are much appreciated, it wouldn't be possible without you guys!

Big changes are afoot for 2009. Alun is stepping aside as DZ operator, due to other work commitments, and this mantle is now going to be picked up by Mally Richardson. Everyone would like to say a massive thank you to Alun for his hard work and dedication over the past years, it's been a monumental effort and we appreciate everything he has done for the club. Also we wish the best of luck to Mally for 2009!

We're planning overseas trips to the US in Nov and Morocco in Jan. Join our group on Facebook and keep up to date, it would be great to see you over the dark winter months.

Simon Griffiths

# RAPA

## Achievements

### First Freefall

Dave Quinell  
James Valentine  
Matt Leonard  
Freya Cowan  
Kate Porter  
Rob Steele  
Paddy Dahill

### Cat 8

Tom Bellis  
Bruce Yell

### FS1

Colin Nealey  
**50 Jumps**  
Katie Sills  
Scotty Garrett  
Liam Dornan  
Scottie Findlay  
Des Desmond

### 100 Jumps

Paul Fish  
Geordie Batey  
Colin Nealey

### 1 Hour Freefall

Geordie Batey  
Colin Nealey



Kelly & Liam

July saw RAPA host the BPA Canopy Piloting, BPA Classic Nationals and the 44<sup>th</sup> British Army (Germany) Champs. Definitely the busiest month and a chance for all the hard work preparing the centre to be put to the test.

The week saw the last of the great weather that we'd had for weeks! Despite the cloud, all the BPA events completed apart from a couple of rounds in style. Prizegiving was on Sunday evening with our new Quest Kodiak as the backdrop. While most of the BPA competitors left, a load more turned up for the BA(G) Champs kicking off next day.

The weather still wasn't doing us any favours so it was wait for the gap and go for it. Well done Netheravon, picking up a host of trophies and



Leanne, Lesley & Thea

medals (4-way & accuracy) and the *Red Devils* who won the rookie 4-way.

A big welcome to new staff members, instructor Billy Steele and Garth Greyling, our heroic second pilot. Congrats to Mark Tether who cycled around the Alps to raise money for charity (don't know how you reached the pedals mate).

Dave Newton



Mark Tether waterskiing



Alan Westley

RAPA photos by Des Desmond



Photo: Andy Lovemore

We hosted the POPS annual meet again, and they managed some Hit'n'Rock jumps. The 8-way and CF Grand Prix ran on the same weekend and all teams completed every round, a rare event with the recent weather! Check the BPA website for results.

The 28-way competition continues to go from strength to strength, with 4 teams this year, including a large Irish contingent demonstrating the largest number of landing patterns on one lift! This comp looks like it's going to grow much larger, with even rumours of a Dutch team next year!

The BPA FS Coaching Roadshow was well attended, with coaches Chris Hollis, Jo Burns, Jo Hawley and Sue Farquhar keeping everyone well organised and entertained with a lot of progression. We hosted a variety of BPA instructor courses and Richie Rich has continued his very successful packing courses.

We've been continuously running 3 turbines on most weekends, an indicator of how many jumps we're doing here.

Mike Colthart



4-way competitors do a big-way after the Nationals, by Dave Butterell

Nationals at Hib by Garry Denton



## Achievements

### AFF Graduate

Rachael Eyton

### JM1

Nick Lord

### CH1

James Ingham

Chris Maltby

### CH2

Nick Lord

Matt Brown

### FS1

Mike McNulty

Zoe Williams

Adam Bell

Johnny Baines

### FF1

Jono Cole

Amy Kitson

### FF2

Chris Brook

Liz Boniface

Ben Cornick

## Jump Numbers

### 50

Mike McNulty

Rachael Eyton

### 100

Eamonn Henshall

### 200

Ryan Moores

Al Holt

Blair Stent

### 300

Holly Kilham

Paul Geary

Lee Armstrong

### 400

Scott Mackenzie

Ben Cornick

### 500

Brian Cumming

Chris Brook

### 600

Oli Pitchers

### 700

Jo Gibbs

Ane Brentford

### 800

Jo Hawley

### 900

Rachel Stott

Jo Burns

### 1,000

Jane Henderson

### 1,300

Rob Frost

### 1,400

Andy Wesley

Ian Ridpath

### 1,700

Dave Butterell

### 2,000

Darren Atter

Simon Nath

### 5,000 (logged)

Baldrick

### 24 Hours Freefall

Andy Wesley

Simon Nath



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## UK Para

The progression week was another success; Old Buckenham had never seen as many tents! The annual Scrambles competition saw a record 7 teams. With Grant at the controls of the Caravan we completed all four rounds in a day and making a record 20 lifts! *Scissor Sisters*, consisting of Andy Page, Ben White, John Skidmore and Mike Pollard, came first. Mike must be a lucky charm as he's been in the winning team for the last 3 years! Second were *Da Vinci* (Damian, Andy, Pam and Paul) and third place went to *Fumbled Grip* (Rod, Jenny, Ian and Clare). Appropriately named, Jenny has just about forgiven Taff (Ian) for accidentally deploying her canopy at seven grand!

The Scrambles was topped off with a presentation and curry at the Garden House with lots of laughs watching the footage. Thank you to the Jump Shop for donating the prizes, to the comp sponsors, Kent Property Management and not forgetting Steve Wickham, who donated juicers for the 4<sup>th</sup> place team. Steve you never cease to amaze us!

Damian Hewitt is officially the new proprietor of the Jump Shop. There is no longer a full time DZ shop but you can still buy your skydiving essentials from Damian, here most weekends, or from the website [www.thejumpshop.co.uk](http://www.thejumpshop.co.uk). Damian can see you by arrangement to discuss rigs or measure for a jumpsuit, contact [sales@thejumpshop.co.uk](mailto:sales@thejumpshop.co.uk).

Grant has been running some great coaching days, organising 4-ways to 14-ways. See newsletters or Facebook newsgroup for more. Gavin Rixon has been doing a great job coaching. A special mention for Rob Caverly, the first student Gav's taken all the way to FS1. Well done both! Congratulations to Steve Howes for his FS coach rating, he'll join Gav's pool. UKPS welcomes new pilot Ben Thorsen to the weird and wonderful world of skydiving.



Steve Wickham (L), Russell Shearman (R) & Damian Hewitt by Gavin Rixon

Elliott Clapp and Pete Watson went from AFF level 1 to consol 8 in 5 days! Well done and welcome!

Thanks to Tommy and Ryan Dellibec who have been visiting from California and helping out (they had to keep busy to stay warm!). The Dellibec's efforts and good looks will be missed when they return to Perris.

Belated congratulations to Tomo who qualified as an Examiner earlier in 2008, he recently ran an instructor course here.

The **Christmas Ball is 13 Dec**, at a change of venue: Applewoods at Banham Zoo! Tickets are on sale from October at £25 for a 2-course carvery, disco and usual cabaret act from The Wickham. Dress code is 'posh frocks or black tie' – whichever you prefer Wickham!

Susie Hayne



Steve Howes by Rob Silver

### Achievements

**Cat 8**  
Steve Niemiec  
David Gray  
Stuart Baker  
Rob Bellman  
David Narey

**FS1**  
Chris Packer  
Ben White  
John Skidmore

**FS1, JM1**  
Rob Caverly  
Pam Hawes

**CP1**  
Steve Howes

**CH2**  
Pam Hawes

**50 Jumps**  
Pam Hawes  
Chris Packer

**100 Jumps**  
Paul Wilson  
Dave Wall

**300 Jumps**  
Steve Howes  
Jon Reed

## Swansea

The big news: Skydive Swansea has bought G-LEAP, the turbine Islander! Stationed here full time, it goes to 12k in 12 minutes! We're already seeing an influx of jumpers making the most of the quick plane and stunning Gower scenery. We're operating every weekend in winter (weather permitting) including the **Mini Welsh Boogie, 27- 31 Dec!** (Wrap up warm but it should be fun!)

Carl Williams (right) celebrates buying the Turbine Islander G-LEAP



We've taken on more space at Swansea Airport, with plenty of room to pack and chill out – not that the turbine allows much time for that! We've also got free (if a teensy-weensy bit slow) broadband for club members.

Angie 'Stumpybum-Brambles' Griffiths went from first tandem to A licence in about 6 weeks. Congratulations Ben, qualifying A licence in August. Congrats to Dan 'The Man' on his FS1. Rob finally sorted his packing certificate – it wasn't that the test was hard but more everyone standing round being 'helpful'!

Tom Ramsden-Hare



# Wild Geese



Claude being stalked under canopy above the Geese, by Martin McLaughlin

## Achievements

### First Freefall

Joe Forker  
Nuala Malone  
Karen Gallagher  
Ciaran Wilkinson  
Rory Corr  
Brian Kelly

### Cat 8

Joe Forker  
Nuala Malone  
James Beattie  
Chris McAlorum  
Karen Gallagher

### FS1

Neal Fitzpatrick

### CF1

Alison Owen  
Colin Stevenson

### 100 Jumps

Neal Fitzpatrick  
Fionnuala McCloskey

### 1 Hour Freefall

Fionnuala McCloskey

The start of the summer once again saw the departure of QUB Skydive Club students from Wild Geese to the slightly sunnier climate of Gap, France. They owe an awful lot of beer by racking up first helicopter jumps, FS1s and first boxer short jumps. Andrew McCorkell, Eimear McGovern and Paul Brennan sampled their first wingsuit delights.

Andy, Tim, James, Neal, Fi, Paul & Eimear in Gap



Fionnuala McCloskey started freefly coaching with Tim Porter; hence the new term 'fi-fly'! FS jumpers took advantage of the international talent through coaching by Damien Sorlin (French 8-way team) and Marco Arrigo (Italian Ext3mo 8-way). Marco in particular made an impression, with endless cries of "Extremo" heard since they got back.

Back in Ireland, a group from the Geese took part in some record breaking Irish big-way jumps and got on RTE news and the front of many Irish national newspapers.

Eddie Monteith celebrated his A level results with his first skysurfing jump, closely followed by Colin Stevenson and Alison Owen wrapping up their CF1s (sorry about the pun). We're taking bets on which qualification Alison will get for the next Mag!

# Paragon

As I write this, the usual suspects are digging out their passports, sorting out the double booked accommodation and getting ready for the annual pilgrimage to Empuria. So, the spectre of the dreaded baggage allowance rears its ugly head once more! All over the DZ can be witnessed the age old practice of weighing everything to the ounce and persuading – nay, begging – the better half to leave a few pairs of shoes or that new bikini behind and maybe, just maybe, squeeze this little helmet with its even smaller camera attached into the suitcase instead? Please ... pretty please... and 'Why do you need that make-up bag anyway honey, you look just as beautiful without it?'

Various better halves, accustomed to this pitiful annual display have learned to milk it to the extreme. So, for the last few weeks many a bunch of flowers, candlelit dinner or in extreme cases, item of indeterminate bling, has been produced in the hope that a few ounces of the precious allowance can be traded. All I can say is, it's never worked for me lads. Not worth the trouble! Pack up and pay up!

The really depressing thing is that, by the time this is in print, we'll have been there, done it, got the T-shirt and be back home staring wide-eyed at the credit card statements. Ah well!

Bob Henderson

Dave Scott, Fionnuala McCloskey & Paul Brennan by Martin McLaughlin



A huge contingent from BCPA came for a summer outing, making Langar bar busy just like the old days, for the first of Shaggy's themed nights. We hosted Brian Vacher's Safe Flight School on the same weekend. Everyone who took part learnt a lot; and the spectators got into the spirit of things, scoring each landing for style and skill!

We had a Cessna 182 in for jumping in July, it was great going back in time flying piston aircraft and seeing Tony D fitting right in with his tie-die T-shirt, pink spotty frappe hat and 7-cell canopy! Our new pilot Gareth 'Junior' Thomas is busy flying our warm, heated, Cessna Grand Caravans, 7 days a week. University season is upon us, and our busy student programme supported by our team of instructors and coaches makes us one of the UK's most progressive dropzones.

Well done to the Langar jumpers who went to the World Meet. A special mention to Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright for becoming a World Champion, saving the 'fun flag', being the most drunken man in the world – and walking into a closed window on his way out. Classy!



Storm & coach  
Dan BC take  
all by John  
Baggaley



Ash Tubman by Gareth Thomas

I suppose that we should mention Milko, who has completed over 200 hours in freefall... that's 9 days! It probably doesn't sound like a lot, but you try spending 9 days with Milko – ask *Connexion!*

*Tony Danbury*



Milko by Swoop

## Swindon

It's been madly busy so Geoff Kent (aka BPWT) has now sworn at various skydivers whilst

in charge of the aircraft for more than 3,000 lifts! Andy Parkin has learnt a new joke and 'Parkin Bingo' is being played on most of the lifts he's involved in. Jez has learnt the Ferrari joke and is now a true tandem instructor.

Brucie's been hobbling around with shin splints, he then jumped off the A-frame, landed funny and bruised his 'ickle foot stopping him from jumping. Eddie Robson felt this wasn't a real reason to hobble, so broke his leg! Various pins and bolts later Mr Robson was waved at every time we flew past his private room at Swindon General! Luckily Eddie turned up at the DZ in time for our reconstruction of the para-Olympics. Eddie won a gold medal for not moving off the sofa all day and Ann won gold for playing with the wheelchair the most.

Tim has a new job at Nandos and is now turning up for both Saturday and Sunday. Pieter Potgeiter again turned up to learn how to pack but managed to forget to learn again.

*Dylan Griffith-Jones*



Photo: Steve Bunce

### Achievements

**First Freefall**  
Dan Finn  
**AFF Graduate**  
Simran Dialani  
**AFF Graduate, CH1**  
Jenny Hewitt  
**Cat 8, CH1**  
Simran Dialani  
Ash Tubman  
Tom Stephenson  
Gemma Haslop  
Lisa Okane  
**CP1**  
Ally Milne

### Jump Numbers

**50**  
John Newcombe  
**100**  
Wez Thompson  
Scott Calcraft  
Debbie Bridges  
**300**  
Graham Nicholas  
Stefan Price  
Steve Ward  
Liz Fletcher  
**500**  
Ed Morley  
Matt Sweeney  
**600**  
Will Cooke  
**800**  
Chris Smith  
**900**  
Dan Williams  
**1,000**  
Blake Hooper  
Tim Aucott  
Guy Dickson  
**1,100**  
Gareth Thomas  
**1,400**  
Tom Hartland  
**1,500**  
Ally Milne  
**2,500**  
Pixie Hodgson-MacLeod  
**4,000**  
Alistair Hodgson  
**6,000**  
Gary Wainwright  
**7,000**  
Rich Wheatley  
**13,000**  
Ian 'Milko' Hodgkinson  
**1 Hour Freefall**  
Wez Thompson  
**24 Hours Freefall**  
Ally Milne  
**108 Hours Freefall**  
Phil Curtis  
**204 Hours Freefall**  
Ian 'Milko' Hodgkinson

# Congratulations Bodyflight Storm!

Bodyflight Storm have made it a double Gold this summer after they were crowned **Women's 4-way World Champions** in France and they won the **AAA British Nationals** for the second year in a row!

The team are now offering exclusive coaching slots at Bodyflight this Autumn. Catering for skydivers of all levels; If you are looking to get your FS1 or to increase your 4-way skills, Bodyflight Storm have a wealth of knowledge and experience and can tailor their coaching to suit you or your team's specific needs.



## 1on1 individual coaching:

Just off AFF, looking to get your FS1 or looking to improve your skills to get on a 4-way team? The team will devise programmes to suit your specific needs. They can introduce you to a whole range of fun exercises which will help you to develop and practice new skills.

## 2on2 4-way team coaching:

Committed to another year on a team? Got a brand new team? Looking for a new team? Bodyflight Storm can offer 2on2 coaching to help kick start your FS team's progression as well as provide valuable coaching from the outside.



They can help you work through a number of different areas including stop drills, communication, randoms, Competition styles and block techniques.

To book please contact a member of the team through their website:  
[www.stormskydivingteam.co.uk](http://www.stormskydivingteam.co.uk)

## Dare you try Bodyflight's newest attraction?

Bodyflight Vertigo is a state of the art Fan Descender, giving customers the chance to jump from the top of the Bodyflight tower and descend 120ft in complete safety.

A cable is attached to a full body harness which controls your descent, allowing you to gently land on your feet at the bottom.

Vertigo isn't just the thrill of a lifetime, but it can also help train for BASE jump exits.

Jumps are £30 each. You can book a combined flying and jumping visit for a great discount: If you are flying on the same day, jumps are just £20 - call for more details.



# bodyflight

# VERTIGO

[www.bodyflight.co.uk](http://www.bodyflight.co.uk) - 0845 200 2960



# Red Devils

The team have had a very busy summer travelling the length of the country for displays, including Farnborough Airshow and water jumps into Swanage Bay and Brixton Harbour. Celebrity tandems are still going strong with page 3 stunner Peta Todd jumping for the charity Help For Heroes. Our rookie 4-way team won gold at RAPA and bronze in the Armies, whilst the AA 4-way team won gold. We also won team and individual accuracy.

We say goodbye and wish a safe return to Maj Nick Visher and L/Cpl Lee Read who've both left the team on operations in Afghanistan. We welcome new OC Maj Paul Blair.

Danny Kelly

This will be our last Club News entry. You can keep up with our activities on:

[www.reddevilsonline.com/news](http://www.reddevilsonline.com/news)

POPS at Weston by Tracey Kemp



## POPS

Despite prayers our POPS meet at Weston in July opened to howling winds... but we've seen it all before so were happy renewing friendships, socialising and catching up. Ash kindly put on a barbie for us so we spent a very pleasant evening. Next day the winds had abated a little (not a lot as they say) so, on with the competition!

We held three rounds of accuracy in challenging winds. One (nameless) competitor protested the judge's decision of not awarding him the extra point for a stand-up landing because he was too far away to see clearly! Well done Mike, you got your point back. Gold deservedly went to Lennie Mobbs with silver and bronze going to Niels Hansen and Clive Plummer. The Hit 'n' Rock also saw interesting winds, ensuring that no-one hit the under 10 second result we'd expect. Niels Hansen pipped Pete Shew's time by half a second, to be awarded the gold. Clive Plummer collected bronze. Niels received Pete's Pot for the second year running. Well done Niels, keep it polished for next year! Our thanks to Ash, Steve and their staff for your assistance and understanding of the problems.

My tenure as Top POP UK is due to expire. I don't have a successor yet (hint, hint!) but I would like to express my thanks and admiration for the stalwart POPS and partners who've supported me and still turn up at the meets, regardless of adverse weather forecasts. Although skydiving has altered in the last decade to be almost unrecognisable, our members show great enthusiasm and determination to move with the times.

Dick Barton

## BCPA

BCPA photos by Ed Landamore



Once again Cark kindly hosted the BCPA Nationals for 5 unforgettable days in July. The temptation of a week filled with skydiving, partying and inflatables gave a great turnout from all over the country!

The PAC was running continuously as we took advantage of the UK's last bit of summer. Usual BCPA competitions ran alongside student progression and fun jumping, highlighted by hoop jump carnage!

Evening entertainment was excellent with free alcohol, awesome DJ-ing, lasers, smoke, glow sticks, dancing, and staying up till sunrise all making for some rather happy (and extremely tired!) BCPA members.

The week ended with the amazing BCPA raffle, competition and league results and the end of year AGM. Most squeezed in a couple more jumps before hitting the massive traffic M6 jam.

The new committee looks forward to seeing you at BCPA Freshers in November. For news and affiliation information for the new BCPA year, see: [UKSkydiver.co.uk/BCPA](http://UKSkydiver.co.uk/BCPA)

Jenny Buckle

Warwick, Achievements League winners



### BCPA AGM Election Results

Chair	Ed Morley
Secretary	Jenny Buckle
Treasurer	Will Cooke

### BCPA League Results 2007-08

#### Achievements League

1	Warwick	338 points
2	Loughborough	259 points
3	Nottingham	172 points

#### Competitions League

1	Loughborough	128 points
2	Warwick	104 points
3	Edinburgh	58 points

#### Individual League

1	Jenny Buckle (Loughborough)	72 points
2	Philip Tzourou (Warwick)	59 points
3	Ed Landamore (Bath)	56 points

Loughborough, Competitions League winners



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Photo by Dmitry Yakovlev

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WI Wingsuit Instruction

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Skydive UK Ltd  
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info@skydiveukltd.com

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

LO FS CF FF WP SU

**7 Headcorn**  
01622 890 862



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

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

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**8 Hibaldstow**  
0113 250 5600



Target Skysports  
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info@skydiving.co.uk [www.skydiving.co.uk](http://www.skydiving.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6  
**Open:** 9am-dusk every day.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem  
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**1 Black Knights**  
01524 791 820



Black Knights Parachute Centre  
Patty's Farm, Hillam Lane, Cockerham, Lancashire LA2 0DY  
Tel (DZ): 01524 791 820  
Tel/Fax: 01772 717 624  
[www.bkpc.co.uk](http://www.bkpc.co.uk) bkpcinfo@googlemail.com  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 185, Turbine Porter  
**Open:** Fri-Mon every week. All week for the first week of every month.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem  
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**2 Bridlington**  
01262 677 367



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Tel: 01262 677 367 or 07836 276 188  
Fax: 01262 401 871 info@skydivebrid.co.uk  
[www.skydivebrid.co.uk](http://www.skydivebrid.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Turbine Porter  
**Open:** 8am-8pm, every day.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem

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**4 Chatteris**  
01354 740 810

NLPC

North London Parachute Centre  
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Tel: 0871 664 0113 Fax: 0870 787 4909  
info@ukskydiving.com [www.ukskydiving.com](http://www.ukskydiving.com)  
**Aircraft:** 2 Nomads, Cessna 206

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

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**9 Hinton**  
01295 812 300



Hinton Skydiving Centre  
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Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400  
info@skydive.co.uk [www.skydive.co.uk](http://www.skydive.co.uk)

**Aircraft:** PAC 750XL  
**Open:** 8am-9pm at weekends. 9am-7pm Tuesday-Friday.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, tandem  
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**3 Cark**  
01229 889 516



North West Parachute Centre  
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Tel: 01229 889 516 Weekends: 01539 558 672  
Fax: 01772 787 106  
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk  
[www.skydive-northwest.com](http://www.skydive-northwest.com)

**Aircraft:** PAC 750XL  
**Open:** 9am-9pm, weekends & bank hols, weekdays by arrangement.

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

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**5 Cornish**  
01872 553 352



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

**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, guest aircraft by arrangement  
**Open:** 9am-dusk at weekends. Open most other days in summer, call for details  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem

A small but developing club with friendly staff, nice facilities & fantastic views of the Cornish peninsula.

WP FS CF CP

**10 Jersey**  
01534 747 410



Skydive Jersey Ltd  
States Airport, St Peter, Jersey JE3 7ZR  
Tel: 01534 747 410 Fax: 08708 313 107  
info@skydivejersey.net [www.skydivejersey.net](http://www.skydivejersey.net)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, occasional turbines

**Open:** Every day, hours vary with tide, call first before visiting.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, tandem  
Stunning views jumping onto the beach in St Aubin's Bay. Good deals with local hotel.

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**11 Langar**  
01949 860 878



**British Parachute Schools**  
Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY  
Tel: 01949 860 878 Fax: 01949 860 012  
[www.bpslangar.co.uk](http://www.bpslangar.co.uk) info@bpslangar.co.uk  
**Aircraft:** 2 Cessna Grand Caravans, Skyvan occasionally  
**Open:** 9am-8pm (or dusk) every day. 10am start on Sunday. Office open every day, 8.30am-6pm.  
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**12 Lewknor**  
0845 130 7194



**London Parachute School**  
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Tel: 0845 130 7194 Fax: 0845 130 7195  
info@londonparachuteschool.com  
[www.londonparachuteschool.com](http://www.londonparachuteschool.com)  
**Aircraft:** Islander, Cessna 206  
**Open:** 9am-dusk at weekends.  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem

LO FS CF AC WP

**13 Netheravon**  
01980 678 250



**Army Parachute Association**  
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF  
Tel: 01980 678 250 Fax: 01980 678 275  
apa@netheravon.com [www.netheravon.com](http://www.netheravon.com)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna Caravan, Turbine Islander, Piston Islander  
**Open:** Wednesday & Friday afternoons from 12pm. Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays 8pm.  
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**14 Paragon**  
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billy.gollan@btinternet.com  
[www.paragonskydiving.co.uk](http://www.paragonskydiving.co.uk)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 182  
**Open:** 9am-6pm Saturday, 10am-6pm Sunday, all year. 9am-7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses & tandems only.  
**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem  
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FS CF WP

**15 Peterlee**  
0191 517 1234



**Peterlee Parachute Centre**  
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH  
Tel/Fax: 0191 517 1234  
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk  
[www.skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://www.skydiveacademy.org.uk)  
**Aircraft:** Airvan, Cessna 182  
**Open:** 8.30am-8.30pm weekends & bank holidays. 1pm-8.30pm Wed & Fri, weather permitting  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem  
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**16 Sibson**  
01832 280 490



**Skydive Airkix**  
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Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409  
skydivesibson@aol.com  
[www.skydiveairkix.com](http://www.skydiveairkix.com)  
**Aircraft:** Turbolet 410  
**Open:** 8am-8pm, Tue-Sun in March to December, Wed-Sun in December & February. Closed in January.  
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**17 South Cerney**  
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Tel: 01285 868 259 Fax: 01285 861 344  
info@silverstars.org.uk [www.silverstars.org.uk](http://www.silverstars.org.uk)  
**Aircraft:** Islander, Airvan & Cessna Caravan  
**Open:** Wednesday-Sunday 9am-7pm  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem  
*Military and civilian jumpers are very welcome. Photo ID is required. Call or check website for prices.*

LO FS FF CF WP CP

**18 St Andrews**  
0845 189 5865



**Skydive St Andrews**  
Kingsmuir Airfield, Saint Andrews, Fife KY16 8QQ  
Tel: 0845 189 5865  
skydivestandrews@mail.com  
[www.skydivestandrews.co.uk](http://www.skydivestandrews.co.uk)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206, Turbine (for special events)  
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kk.brady@btinternet.com  
[www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk](http://www.skydivestrathallan.co.uk)  
**Aircraft:** 3 Cessna 206, Turbine (for various events)  
**Open:** 9am-9pm weekends & bank holidays. 5pm-9pm Fridays in summer.  
**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, rounds, tandem

LO FS CF FF AC WP

**20 Swansea**  
07779 019 655



**Skydive Swansea**  
Swansea Airport, Fairwood, Swansea, SA2 7JU  
Tel: 07779 019 655  
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk  
[www.skydiveswansea.co.uk](http://www.skydiveswansea.co.uk)  
**Aircraft:** Airvan  
**Open:** Weekends, weekdays by appointment  
**First Jump Courses:** AFF, tandem  
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LO FS CF WP

**21 Swindon**  
01793 791 222



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

FS CF AC WP

**22 Tilstock**  
01948 841 111



**The Parachute Centre**  
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA  
Tel: 01948 841 111  
skydive@theparachutecentre.com  
[www.theparachutecentre.com](http://www.theparachutecentre.com)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Airvan  
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**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem  
*A small but friendly dropzone serving Manchester, Liverpool, Wales and the West Midlands.*

LO FS WP

**23 UK Para**  
01953 861 030



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

LO FS CF FF WP CP

**24 Weston**  
01869 343 201



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

LO FS FF WP

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028 2955 8609



**Wild Geese Skydive Centre**  
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Tel: 028 2955 8609 Fax: 028 2955 7050  
jump@skydivewildgeese.com  
[www.skydivewildgeese.com](http://www.skydivewildgeese.com)  
**Aircraft:** Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan  
**Open:** Dawn-dusk w'kends, 9.30am-5pm w'kdays.  
**First Jump Courses:** RAPS, tandem  
*Friendly atmosphere, fantastic views of north coast, excellent facilities, no restrictions, plenty of local entertainment.*

LO FS CF WP

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info@skydivencyprus.com.cy

[www.skydivencyprus.com.cy](http://www.skydivencyprus.com.cy)

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

**First Jump Courses:** AFF, RAPS, tandem  
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FF FS WP SU CP

## RAPA

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**Rhine Army Parachute Association**  
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Bad Lippspringe, Germany

Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378

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## Parachuting Societies

**British Collegiate Parachute Association**

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

chairman@bcpa.org.uk

**Contact:** Marc Fletcher, BCPA  
Chairman

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Tel: 01249 701805 or 07860 559112

dbarton@fsmail.net [www.pops.org.uk](http://www.pops.org.uk)

**Contact:** Dick Barton, Top POP

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**SOS UK**

Flat 14, 21 Victoria Square, Clifton,  
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## OCTOBER

**3-5 Chicks Rock Boogie**  
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com

**3-5 POPS World Record Attempt**  
Perris Valley, USA thepops.org

**4-5 Artistics Coaching Roadshow**  
BKPC, Cockerham bkpc.co.uk

**4-5 Scrambles**  
Weston skydiveweston.com

**4-5 Re-Open Boogie**  
Proença, Portugal paraquedismoportugal.com

**4-5 Swoopmeet**  
Fehrbellin, Germany swooping.de

**4-5 Beginners Big-way Skills**  
Langar skydivechoreography.com

**6-10 Pre-Nox Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

**7 BPA Council Meeting**  
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

**10-12 BPA CF Roadshow**  
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

**10-11 Night Jumps**  
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

**11 APA Autumn Ball**  
Netheravon netheravon.com

**11-12 4-way & Freefly Tunnel Meet**  
Skyventure Arizona skyventureaz.com

**11-19 Equinox Boogie**  
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

**13-17 BPA Instructor Course (AFF/Tan)**  
Langar trudy@bpa.org.uk

**13-19 Fermano Boogie**  
Skydive Marche aeroclubdelfermano.it

**15 Competitions Committee Mtg**  
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

**15-17 Canopy Piloting Course**  
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

**18-19 Sky Rats Open**  
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

**19-25 USPA Nationals**  
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com

**18-19 Skysurf Protour Final**  
Proença, Portugal paraquedismoportugal.com

**25-26 Halloween 10-way Speed**  
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

**26-28 VFS World Cup**  
Eloy, USA fai.org

**29-Nov 2 Halloween Boogie**  
Marche, Italy atmonauti.com

**31 Halloween Party**  
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

**31-Nov 2 Halloween Boogie**  
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com

**1 Halloween Party**  
St Andrews kingsmuir.org.uk

**1-2 Hustle Autumn Falls**  
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

**1-2 Women's UK CF Rec Att**  
Langar shellm1@yahoo.com

**1-2 Halloween Scramble Boogie**  
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

**1-2 Halloween Boogie**  
Proença, Portugal paraquedismoportugal.com

**3-7 BPA Instructor Course (BI/Adv)**  
Chatteris trudy@bpa.org.uk

## NOVEMBER

**5-7 Big-way Camp**  
Spaceland, Texas skydivespaceland.com

**6 Progression Day**  
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

**7-9 Italian FF Record Attempt**  
Marche, Italy atmonauti.com

**7-9 Tunnel Camp**  
Paraclete, Raeford paracletexp.com

**7-14 German Record Attempt**  
Eloy, USA

**7-16 Team Mong Boogie**  
Lake Wales, USA floridaskydiving.com

**8 Bonfire Night**  
St Andrews kingsmuir.org.uk

**8 Bonfire Party**  
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

**8-16 SpeedFly/Grd Launch Camp**  
Utah flitesolutions.com

**8-9 Big-way Invitational**  
Spaceland, Texas bigways.com

**10-14 BPA Instructor Course (CSI, preAdv)**  
Chatteris trudy@bpa.org.uk

**10-14 Learning Curve Camp**  
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

**12-14 Canopy Piloting Course**  
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

**14-15 Cafress Open Competition**  
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

**14-23 Canopy Piloting World Meet**  
Pretoria, S Africa fai.org

**15-16 BCPA Freshers**  
Hibaldstow bcpa.org.uk

**15-16 Wingsuit Big-way Invitational**  
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com

**18-22 Airspeed 4-way Camp**  
Eloy, Arizona skydiveaz.com

**20 BPA STC Meeting**  
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

**27-30 Thanksgiving Boogie**  
Eloy, Arizona skydiveaz.com

## DECEMBER

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

**6 Headcorn Christmas Party**  
Headcorn headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

**6-8 Kutabai Boogie**  
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

**10-12 Canopy Piloting Course**  
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

**12-14 Tunnel Camp**  
Paraclete, Raeford paracletexp.com

**13 UK Para Christmas Ball**  
Applewoods, Banham Zoo ukparachuting.co.uk

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

**20-Jan 4 Christmas Boogie**  
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

**22-24 Canopy Skills Course**  
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com

**24-Jan 4 Holiday Boogie**  
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com

**17-Jan 4 Christmas Boogie**  
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com

**26-Jan 1 Christmas Feelgood Boogie**  
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

**26-Jan 4 Christmas Boogie**  
Proença, Portugal paraquedismoportugal.com

**27-Jan 4 African Freefall Convention**  
Mafikeng, SA africanfreefall.com

**27-31 Mini Welsh Boogie**  
Swansea skydiveswansea.co.uk

## JANUARY 2009

**9-11 Kirk Verner 4-way Tunnel Camp**  
Paraclete, Raeford paracletexp.com

**10 Jan BPA AGM**  
Hinckley Island Hotel ww.bpa.org.uk

**15-18 Jan SOS World Record Att**  
Deland, USA flycustoms@bellsouth

## FEBRUARY

**14-28 Mozambique Boogie**  
Bazaruto exoticskyadventures.com

## MARCH

**10-15 Mar 09 Para-Ski World Meet**  
Donnersbachwald, Austria fai.org

## KEY

**BPA**  
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**Canopy Formation**  
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