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October 2009

The Mag



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



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The Mag

Photo: Andy Venum



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This magazine celebrates a fabulous summer of British skydiving. The Nationals in every discipline have decided our new British Champions. The 4-way Nationals made history, with 49 teams completing the event in a single day. *Satori*, our new National Champions finally broke the 4-way British Record average set by *Sebastian XL* years ago, reaching 20.7 – and broke their own record at ESL Finals, with 21.3. Outstanding!

Volare returned from the World Games with a bronze, fantastic! The World Games is run by the International Olympic Committee and features a host of fascinating sports which are not mainstream but still have excitement and spectator appeal.

The recent World Cup in the Czech Republic saw a British Delegation larger than any other nation, indicating the strength and breadth of interest within the UK for competition; also the great work which has been done by the likes of Andy Scott and his Competitions Committee. *Kaizen* returned with a European bronze in female 4-way FS, nice one ladies! *Outbreak of the Bad Lieutenants* scored a double figure average in VFS, taking the World Cup bronze. Go *Lieutenants!* It's amazing to see the UK's standard in this fledgling discipline, with both teams at the VFS Nationals scoring a 19 in time!

Even better, *Volare* stood triumphant on the world stage, winning gold with a beautiful performance. I believe this is the first world gold for UK skydiving outside female 4-way, where we've excelled for a decade. Go *Volare*, you're an inspiration.

Sorry if you're not into competitions, as these success stories virtually fill this Mag. Yet the last BPA survey (2008) showed 37% of you compete; that had risen from 27% in 2002 and I imagine is still on the increase. In addition, many others enjoy reading about competitions. And as a seasonal sport the next few Mags will feature a majority of educational and informative articles. You'll see an incredible freestyle achievement in this one – check out the head-down record in triple figures!

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Lesley

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Cover:

Outbreak of The Bad Lieutenants VFS team at the World Cup in Prostějov by Mike Carpenter



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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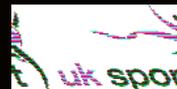
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Approved GA/101/96

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One of Simon Cathrine's complete 60-ways over Hibaldstow, by Jim Stevenson



World CUP

Prostejov Czech Republic

World Cups are run every other year in skydiving disciplines, in the 'off year' between the biennial World Championships (also called World Meets). They differ from World Meets in that you do not have to be a national team to represent your country; everyone is welcome (provided they have a stamp of approval from the National Governing Body, the BPA in this case). As such they provide great training grounds for teams aiming for future Championships, giving experience of high level international competition. Multiple entries from one country in a single event are allowed so you can compete alongside your peers from the same country. This provides great camaraderie, as you find yourself supporting your fellow countrymen who quite often are your biggest rivals on home turf.

Prostejov DZ

World Cups also provide great opportunities for dropzones to run an IPC (International Parachuting Commission) competition on a slightly smaller basis than a full blown World Meet. Thus we found ourselves in Prostejov, in the Czech Republic, normally a fairly low key dropzone but one which proved itself very capable of stepping up to the challenge. Their usual Turbolet 410 jumpship was supplemented by another two 'Lets. Combined with a week of glorious sunshine, the fleet proved easily capable of coping with a meet in five different FS and artistic disciplines. The dropzone also brought in Brian Burke from Skydive Arizona to assist in logistics of running such an operation.

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony set the scene of international sporting excellence, supported by the town of Prostejov. Nations paraded round the main square before being addressed by a range of local VIPs, dignitaries and sponsors. Excitement was added with a demo jump – four Czechs on accuracy canopies jumping right into a tiny part of the square. This was probably more impressive to the skydivers than the general public – those in the know shivered at the prospect of such folly but were awed at its smooth execution, precise piloting and excellent landings.

UK Delegation

The UK had the largest delegation; 46 competitors, plus Head of Delegation Paul Moore, judges Bob Charters & Ruth Cooper, and flag-waving, toe-painting supporters. As you can imagine, the Brits were loud and energetic, taking every opportunity for additional adventures, such as antics with the Fun Flag, skydiving booty that has been doing the international competition circuit for over twenty years. Brits Andy and Jo were also there, with the judging system Cametrix, the first time this had been used at an IPC event. (It performed flawlessly.)





8-way

A month prior to the World Cup only three 8-way teams had registered so it was a pleasant surprise to arrive and find five teams. Current French World Champions *Aerodyne Maubeuge* were defending their title. They thanked all the teams for coming, to keep 8-way competition alive in Europe,

Americans to come for a World Cup and we Europeans need to support these events for them to continue. The popular Spanish team *Fuxion* brought their good vibes and laid-back approach. The talented German team *EADS* were a late addition, persuaded to join just a fortnight earlier by their French coach.

The Russians brought a surprise 8-way entry, *Crystal Contour*, whom no-one had seen on the international circuit before. They were a fun 8-way put together for the Russian Nationals, made from two 4-way teams: *Crystal* and *Contour*. Their nationals had bad weather and was called on just one round, which *Crystal Contour* won – therefore competing at the World Cup with just seventeen 8-way jumps! The UK was represented by *XStormin8*, a project team captained by current female 4-way FS World Champion, Sarah Smith, coming to experience the vibe of a World Cup.

After one day's jumping (three rounds) the pecking order was clear, and did not vary through the rest of the meet. France displayed their mastery, the Gallic warriors posting the highest score in every round, and eventually winning with a 17.3 average. The Germans equalled the French scores on two rounds and were worthy silver

medallists, with a 13.9 average and some stonking scores all in double figures, showing great consistency.

In bronze were *Crystal Contour*, whose varied scores demonstrated their lack of 8-way training but their high figures showing impressive skills. It will be interesting to see how *Crystal Contour* fare at the 2010 World Championships, assuming they return – with training this team could be devastating! They managed to hold off the onslaught from the trained Spaniards, who were snapping at the Russian ankles all the way, eventually finishing in fourth with a double figure average. UK's *XStormin8* brought up the rear and were happy to improve on their Nationals average by 1.2.

The organisers at Prostejov dropzone should be congratulated on running a meet for the competitors. There is always pressure from sponsors to deviate from the competitors' needs and this meet was no exception, the backers wanting the meet delayed so the semi finals and finals could be run on the spectator and VIP days. Prostejov's DZ elected to continue and complete the meet, which in hindsight was the right call, as bad weather would have made completing the meet impossible. Even if the weather had proved to be good on those last days, this in my opinion was still the correct call. There are all too many occasions in recent IPC world events when meets have been called on less than the full ten rounds, which leaves an unsatisfactory feeling of non-completion, and is simply not fair on competitors who have spent as much if not more than the sponsors, and dedicated a portion of their life to the pursuit of their sporting goals. They deserve the full test of ten jumps, nice one Prostejov!

Lesley Gale
XStormin8





4-way

Mate, I love competition, not just that feeling when you are standing on a podium and basking in a warm successful

glow but everything about it; the extreme highs

and lows that are on offer throughout the event and the training leading up to it. After 24 years of world level competition I can honestly say that I have never been let down by the richness of the experience.

Just have a little think about what each team has had to do to be ready for one of these events: the thousands of hours of travelling to DZs; the financial mountain that needs to be scaled; relationships flexed; sponsors cajoled, etc, etc. One year I remember the French team spending a whole week drilling block 10! Now we see the same level of compulsiveness take place in wind tunnels. All this makes for some top level competition and a true test of nerves.

This year the test was held at Prostějov in the Czech republic, about 60 km from the closest Ryanair bus stop. There were 25 open 4-way teams and four female, but no US 4-way teams, as the US nationals was only a month away. The UK was well represented with four open teams and one female 4-way. The competition was out of three Let 410s, which had a pretty hefty blast on exit, catching some teams out. If your exit was good, you were able to work quickly out of the door, but a slight mistake could leave you struggling in the stronger air.

The draw initially looked pretty quick but on closer examination, with only two random exits and no 'all random' dives, we were realistically looking at a medium pace draw. The favourites were always *Aerodyne Maubeuge* (France) and last year's winners *Hayabusa* (Belgium), leaving the scrap for bronze amongst a group containing *Black Cats* (Russia), *Skylight Barkli* (Russia), two more French teams from Maubeuge (*Pamiers Maubeuge* and *Amada Maubeuge*) and the Italian team *Sinapsi*.

The Czech Republic had been basking in glorious weather during the training week and the first two days of the meet were blessed with similar conditions, allowing the organisers to power through the first six rounds in only a couple of days. Bear in mind no World Championships had finished in recent history due to bad weather. France exerted their dominance early on, leaving Belgium trailing by nine points after six jumps. The Russians were nipping on the Belgian heels in third place and the Italian team, after a slow start, was showing some teeth.

The next day saw all teams finish up to the semi-finals and the female 4-way, leaving a handful of teams to complete. The positions had not changed between first and second but *Sinapsi* had sneaked into third place. Day four was a test of spirit as low clouds, rain and wind stopped anyone from jumping. On the last day of the meet, someone had paid the weather bill and we were all on a call by nine o'clock. The semis and finals were finished in a couple of hours, it amazed me how quick the last two jumps of meet went; you spend days thinking about them and – bang – they are over!

The results were: France a splendid first with a 24 average; Belgium picked up their game and ended up in second with a 22.9 average; and Italy came in third after a battle royale with the Russians. The top six placed teams all had an average of over 21.

If anyone looked at the scoreboard and wondered why the Germans had such a deviation on their last round, their cameraman took the place of a teammate who had to leave in an emergency – it was his first FS jump in 15 years!

The highest placed Brit team *Sonicnutz* did a great job coming back after a nightmare start to round 1! *Phobia*, *Kaizen*, *Fusion* and *Escondido* continued their year of competition amongst themselves and put up respectable scores, showing the talent pool to build future national teams. *Kaizen* even had the pleasure of picking up a medal in the female category of the European cup.

This was a meet that finished on a personal high point, a podium placing! Although not my first, after many years of being so close it was a pleasure to stand next to my teammate Steve and pick up a medal together. Thanks to the Brit teams for their support.

*Pete Allum
Synapsi*



World Cup photos by Alan Thompson, Danny Jacobs, Ruth Cooper, Mike Carpenter, Nils Predstrup and jumptandem.cz



Arizona Arsenal



Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants



Arizona Arsenal

VFS

Teams from the USA, France, UK and Russia competed in the 4-way Vertical Formation Skydiving competition. This event was only the second World Cup of VFS and hopefully will pave the way for the discipline to become part of the World

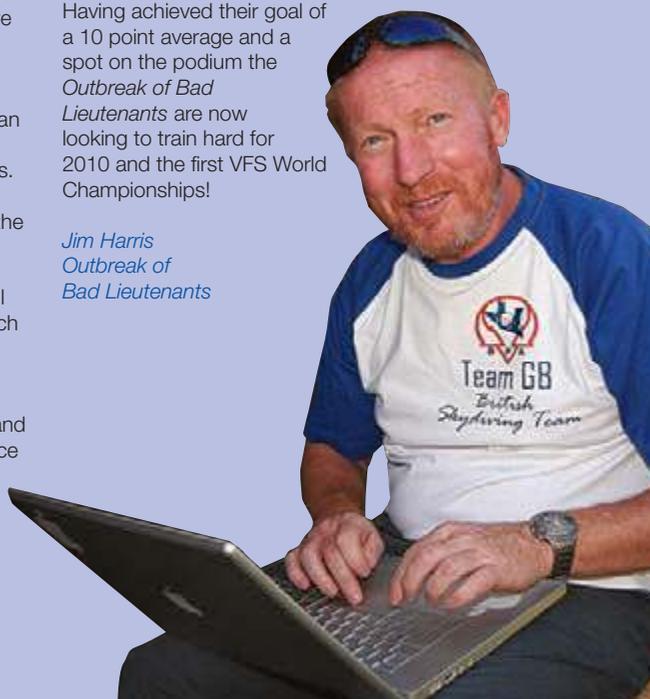
Championships in 2010. With an enlarged dive pool of fourteen blocks and twelve randoms the competition was held over eight rounds.

Arizona Arsenal of the USA led the way throughout the competition, posting the highest score of the event, 28 points, in round 1 and taking an immediate four point lead over *Team4Speed* of France. After a small hiccup in a tricky and low-scoring round two, in which the French pulled back a point, *Arsenal* steadily increased their lead right through till the end of the competition. *Team4Speed* put up a strong fight, equalling the Americans' scores in both rounds six and eight, but were unable to contend with the experience of the Arizona team, who take home the title of VFS World Cup Champions for the second time, and with an average of 20.4 points. Big thanks to *Arizona Arsenal* for journeying to Europe, the only Americans to make the trek.

The UK team *Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants*, although not in a position to compete for gold or silver, put in a solid performance to take the bronze medal. The slower rounds seemed to allow the *Lieutenants* to stay a little closer to the top teams, coming within three points of the French in round three. Unfortunately the fast rounds were another matter and in round six both USA and France posted a 27 compared with a 16 for the Brits, which was their highest score of the meet. The Russian team *Energie*, obviously new to the event and showing great spirit, took fourth place.

Having achieved their goal of a 10 point average and a spot on the podium the *Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants* are now looking to train hard for 2010 and the first VFS World Championships!

Jim Harris
Outbreak of
Bad Lieutenants



Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants



Go Freestyle

Freestyle

Freestyle is a constantly evolving dimension to our dynamic sport. This can be seen from grass roots all the way to top level

teams fighting tooth and nail for fractions of points. The World Cup (and European Cup) this year demonstrated this fact to a degree of certainty. Thirteen teams from around the globe, the best their country had to offer, came to do battle in the blue skies over Prostějov in the Czech Republic to decide who would take victory.

Freestyle, now a mixed gender discipline, posed new questions, problems and solutions for judges and competitors alike. Would the female competitors have to fly faster, more aggressively, and be less inclined to consider form and elegance? Or would the male competitors forgo some of their strength advantage for a more subtle approach? Well, the teams had done their homework and the judges had obviously considered what could be regarded as a dilemma.

Both male and female competitors had adapted their interpretation of what was required, gone up a gear and stepped up to the challenge. France 1 (*Golden Eye*), Finland (*Hekla*) and France 2 (*Akrostyle*) took the top of the table after round one, with 0.3 separating these three teams and the gap between first and sixth place was only 0.7. It looked like the meet was anyone's for the taking.

Round two, the first compulsory round, which many considered not only the most difficult but also the most frustrating, became a proving ground. The compulsories can make or break the competition. After this jump the scores below third place were radically different. This meant a short breather for some but a sleepless night for others.

France 1 showed their mettle with a storming 8.1, almost a full point ahead of their nearest rivals in this round. With competition this close, this could prove an unrecoverable blow. UK 1 (*Airkix Freestyle*) hoped this would not be their fate after dropping from joint fourth place to only 0.3 above seventh.

Finland and France 2, unperturbed now, began a relentless onslaught and never again scored lower than 8.0. So close were the free round scores that any one of the first three on the table could take gold and not until round six did the Finns make their advance to the top spot on the podium. UK 1 had a fight on their hands to repair the damage from round two but clawed back a place with consistently high free round scores, especially rounds six and seven, and proving a force to be reckoned with for next year.

After round six, Finland were ranked first followed by France 1 still holding on after their dominance in the second round. France 2 (*Akrostyle*) had different ideas in mind. *Akrostyle* were always a favourite from the start and, astonishingly, are still in their first year of competing, the obviously talented and instantly likeable Yo (performer) and Seb (camera).

The final results were: Finland first; France 2 second and France 1 third. UK 1 had clawed back to fifth place (fourth in Europe). It was a breathtaking competition, being so close and on such a high level. Finland's *Hekla* were absolutely on fire, the helicopter spins almost too fast for the camera; loops, spins and twists, all with perfect form. In France 2 (*Akrostyle*), Yo and Seb showed off a new take on the Robin Spin and of course Yo's front layouts with double twists. Congratulations to all the freestyle teams, for setting a new standard in flying.

A big thanks to DZ Prostějov, all the Brit delegation for an outstanding event and good luck to all the teams as they begin training for next year. Phew!

*Al Hodgson
Airkix Freestyle*



Volare win world freestyle gold

4-way medal winners



Kaizen win European bronze



Outbreak of Bad Lieutenants win world VFS bronze



Volare

Freefly

With the absence of *Babylon* and *The Skywalkers* it promised to be an action-packed battle for a real chance at taking home a world title. As we arrived we overheard people claiming we were the favourites coming into the meet, as the only team competing from the previous year's podium. Pre-comp you're never really sure what each team is bringing but it was still a new and exciting position for us to be in.

What was most impressive to see were the two new but very strong French teams. With both the previous French teams from last year's World Meet not putting in an appearance we were wondering what France would have to offer. What they brought were two teams who had been on the back burner for some years, quietly being funded but not going to any international competitions as those slots were taken by *Babylon* and *Amnesia*. So they were an unknown team on the international circuit, but still very well prepared. It's hard to not respect the French system for constantly being ready to throw teams into the mix capable of taking home medals.

So round one saw us score a strong 8.40, with France 2 coming closest with a 6.60. France 1 scored only 4.80 due to what some might consider a 'schoolboy error' with the videographer having his camera zoomed in. There was talk of a rejump but it wasn't granted as this is human error rather than a technical issue. This mistake shows how costly a handicap lack of competition experience can be. The more competitions we do the more we notice how new teams make unnecessary mistakes under competition pressure – but of course that's the learning curve all teams have to go through.

Round two, the first speed compulsory round saw France 2 post the highest score with a clean 7.70, the only team not to incur busts. Every other team had at least three busts! France 1 again took a hit with five busts due to some small mistakes. Round three, the second free round gave a sneak preview of what France 1 are really capable of, with a flawless routine, boasting a highly technical ending and posting an impressive 8.70, the highest score so far. We were still some five points ahead, but now fixed on beating the Frenchies' top score! Rounds four and five saw us widen our gap on second and third with a premeditated and polished routine, and posting the highest score in round five, the second speed compulsory. Round six saw us post an 8.70 to equal France 1's highest score of the meet! After that we took a confident win ahead of France 1 and France 2 respectively.

Norway's new promising young teams were notable, taking fourth and fifth behind the French. Norway also has a system like France, where they have selection for funded national teams based on input from previous year's national team members, the head of their association and psychologists, to form a steady stream of committed medal-winning teams. It's easy to see the effect this has on the results especially for the French right across the board.

Big thanks to all the organisers for a fantastic event and huge congratulations to all the teams for putting on an impressive show of modern freefly. We would also like to say a massive thank you to all of *Volare's* sponsors for their fantastic support: Skydive Spain, Performance Designs, Vector 3 Micron, Boogieman, Cypres 2, Tonfly Helmets, Larsen & Brusgaard, and Bloc Eyewear. Thanks guys!

Mike Carpenter
Volare





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Team Frost/Norwegen, sponsored by Aerodyne

Wingsuit Records Official



USPA has defined a new record category, for wingsuit formations. On 28 July, at Skydive Chicago's Summerfest, a 25-person flock was accepted by USPA judges as an official state record. Our own Mark Harris worked with Taya Weiss, Jeff Nebelkopf, and Justin Shorb to develop the judging criteria and to set the record. "Then", said Mark, "We did a 2-point 25-way just for fun!".

Wingsuit records have been hard to quantify as participants cannot take grips. Records are now judged by digitally placing a grid over a stills

photograph. A pre-declared formation must be achieved with each participant visible across the line of their assigned grid space. The goal is each flyer perfectly centred but the grid has overlapping lines to create more permissible flying areas. Organisers, including Mark, are planning a 100-way US national record at Skydive Elsinore in November. They hope for international (IPC) recognition of their giant flock records as the next step.

www.raisethe-sky.org
mark@birdman.org

Speed Skydiving World Cup Final

The final of the Speed Skydiving World Cup was held at Hinton on 8 August, organised by Clare and Andy Fryer. Competitors came from all over Europe and completed the meet in a day. Marco Wiederkehr from Liechtenstein became World Champion 2009, followed by Austrians Arnold Hohenegger in second and Alexander Diem third. Clare Fryer came first in the women's competition at Hinton. Prizes were donated by Larsen and Brusgaard, Airtec (Cyprus) and Parachutes de France.

speedskydiving.eu

Island Boogies

DZ management at Prostějov, site of the recent successful World Cup, are running three boogie events on the island of Mali Losinj, in a holiday area of Croatia. The Island Boogie is 20-29 Nov, a Christmas Island Boogie runs 19 Dec-3 Jan, and a Spring Island Boogie, 20 Feb-3 Mar. Freely organising will be by Philip Grunzweig. The jumpship is a Turbolet and more will be brought in as required by demand. They offer to pick up participants in the Turbolet from the international airports of Trieste and Zagreb and fly them straight onto Mali Losinj (30 euros, book in advance). Non jumpers are also welcome; tandems over the island offer exceptional views.

Martin Dlouhy – m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz

Mali Losinj, site of the Island Boogies



Sparkling Tunnel Camp

Sparky Scott and Hannah Betts, reigning World Champions (*Bodyflight Storm*) are running tunnel camps at Bodyflight, 3-6 December. They offer 1-on-1, 1-on-3 and 2-on-2 coaching. The aims are for established teams to kickstart their progression, and to help skydivers of all levels find new teammates for 2010.

sparky@ukskydivingadventures.com
hannah_betts@hotmail.com

JM's Newsround

WANTED! – TOP POP

POPS UK is looking for a new Top Pop, to lead the British entrants to the forthcoming POPS World Meet, in Italy next year. Current Top Pop Dick Barton says "60 is the new 40" and invites active competitive jumpers over 40 who may not yet have felt moved to join POPS but who have the drive and talent to drive the UK movement forward. The World Meet includes 4-way, 8-way speed, 4-way scrambles, SOS 4-way (Skydivers over Seventy), classic accuracy, sport accuracy and hit 'n' rock. The last World Meet featured 27 countries. Dick said, "I am the ninth TOP POP UK and I hope the tenth is out there reading this – please come forward and take up the challenge".

dbarton@fsmail.net

Hayabusa win Military World Meet

The CISM military world event in Slovakia during August saw thirty teams competing in 4-way and classic accuracy, out of an Mi-17 helicopter. The 4-way event has different rules; the launch is a star; working time starts five seconds after exit (to equalise meets from different aircraft); and the pool includes all randoms but only eight blocks (4,7,10,11,13,19,21,22). Defending champions Belgium (*Hayabusa*) won the meet convincingly and set a new military world record for the highest average, 33.

skydivehayabusa.com

Royal Aero Club Bursaries

The Royal Aero Club Trust is again inviting UK citizens aged 16-21 to apply for its bursary scheme, which funds young aviators to progress in their chosen area. Bursaries can be worth as much as £1,000. Applications specify what qualification the grant is for (eg, FS1, FF2, WS1). The closing date is 31 March 2010. Skydivers have been particularly successful in winning previous bursaries so all eligible BPA Members are encouraged to apply.

royalaeroclubtrust.org

Shobdon Website

For old Shobdonians – and anyone who is interested in the old Hereford Parachute Club – photos, memorabilia and contacts are all now available on the new website, address below. There is also an area on the Friends Reunited site devoted to Hereford PC.

shaunmcguire.co.uk/hpc

Castellon 2009 / 2010

from
19 December 2009 until 03 January 2010
and from
13 February until 21 February 2010

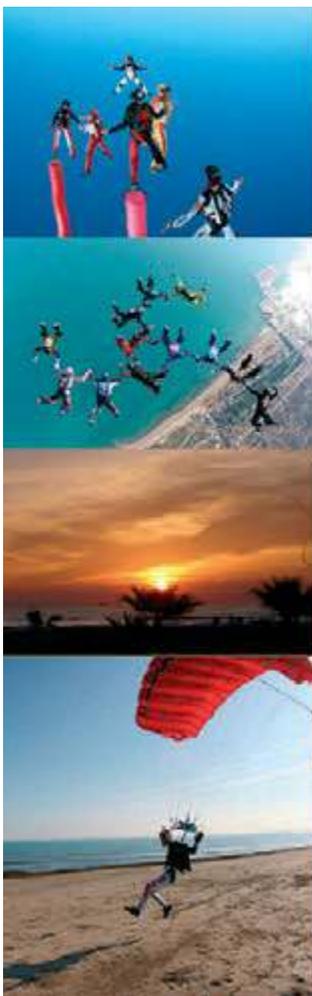


is organising the Xmas Boogie down in Spain on the DZ of
Castellon della Plana

Good atmosphere, jumping on the beach
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The 2009 National Championships for Canopy Formation saw new faces, old faces and the spirit of an old face sadly missed. It was the first national competition since Pat Hammond's death and it wasn't the same. We missed his smile, his gentle ways and the freshness of the new team of intermediates that he'd always been coaching entering the competition.

As in previous years, the Nationals were held at Hibaldstow and we were given a plane of our own to compete from so that if weather conditions that were suitable for FS weren't suitable for CF, there was not too much re-manifesting needed.

Intermediate 2-way

Pat Hammond was with us in spirit lending his name and birth year to the only intermediate 2-way team that entered. Jamie Flynn and Jason Pocock chose the name *PH36* for their team to represent Pat Hammond who was born in 1936. He introduced Jamie and Jason to each other and gave them encouragement and coaching until literally the weekend before he was taken into hospital. Mark Skaratts who flies camera for *PH36* was on *Wave*, Pat's team last year.

This was the first year of the revised intermediate 2-way rules, making it easier for the teams to know what to expect and train for the rounds that would be held at the competition. Having said that, *PH36* scored 22 in the five rounds but had an impressive 13 busts! It was in the offset rounds that so many busts were given and the judges have subsequently given the competitors some hints and tips on how to prevent busts of this type and to improve their scores in future.



Outcast Yellow – 2-way inter gold

Photo by David Newsham

Intermediate 4-way

The only 4-way team that entered was from the *Outcast* stable. Chris Taylor, Greg Taylor, Jason Snailham and Tash Higman made up *Outcast Yellow*, Blair Stent flying camera.

The team had been coached by senior members of the *Outcast* squad during 2009 and, from not being able to build a 4-stack at all this time last year, progressed to two rounds in which they made the build and three rotations, scoring 4 in the working time available. This is a demonstration of the objective of the intermediate categories – progression being made in canopy skills with a competition to act as a goal to aim for. Unfortunately, as with the 2-way there wasn't any actual competition at the event.



Outcast Yellow – 4-way inter gold

Photo by David Newsham

Senior 4-way Rotations

There were two teams in this event, so it was a competition! *Outcasts* fielded Steve Saunders, Paul Yeoman, Eugene Brennan and Biff Thornton with PD Smith on camera. *Canus Barkus* was Doug Preston, Gav McLeod, Maria Russell and Martin Robiette with John Williamson on camera. The scores were very close with both teams scoring between 8 and 10 in each round, *Outcasts'* final score of 54 versus 53 for *Canus Barkus* means that *Outcasts* are expected to represent the UK at the World Meet next year.



Outcasts – 4-way rotations senior gold

Senior 4-way Sequential

The same *Outcast* team that won the rotations also entered the sequential and here competed against *Cellmates 4*, made up of Colin Dixon, Paul Speller, Martin Robiette and Gav McLeod doing the hard work of building the formations and Doug Preston the hard work of making sure he captured it all on film without becoming personally involved! By round three *Cellmates* were leading the scoreboard and continued to do so until the end of the six rounds to win the gold medal.



Cellmates 4 – 4-way sequential gold





Senior 2-way Sequential

This was the most hotly contested competition, with three teams entering. *Canus Barkus* members Doug Preston, Gavin McLeod and Martin Robiette entered the smaller team *Yappy Dogs*, *Cellmates 2* was 'just' Colin Dixon and Paul Speller with Adam Johnson on camera, and *Outcast BKPC* was the father-and-son combo of Chris and Greg Taylor with Blair Stent on camera. From the start, there was quite a gap between the scores of the three teams, and all I can hope is that *Yappy Dogs* don't take that name to the World Meet with them when as the winners they represent Great Britain! Still, I guess it's not so bad as *Pussy Galore* in the women's FS!

Thanks from all competitors to the team at Hib for being amenable to our offset run-ins, exit altitude needs and other peculiarities that make CF different from the freefall disciplines. This enabled the event to be completed in three days rather than the possible six!

Tash Higman
Outcast Yellow

Yappy Dogs – 2-way sequential senior gold, with *Cellmates 2* in silver and *Outcast BKPC* in bronze





Nationals in a Single Day – FAwesome!

4-way Nationals continues to go from strength to strength. An incredible 49 teams completed all their jumps in a single amazing day. Hib's determination shone through once again as they pulled off arguably the most spectacular day's skydiving this country has ever seen – 142 lifts and 2,067 jumps. (How Hannah and Amy's voices kept going for all of those 15, 10 and 5 minute calls I'll never know!) This year's Nationals was not only the final UK Skydiving League (UKSL) meet of the 2009 calendar, but the competition for World Meet 2010 selection. Everyone was tucked up in bed early on Friday night ready for wheels-off at 7am. Fourteen jam-packed hours later it was all over and our tired brains tried to make sense of what had just happened!

AAA – Into the Record Books

A healthy 16 teams entered the AAA category. The race for gold looked over from round one as *Satori* scored a massive 30 points despite a slot-switching dive. Their nearest rivals, scoring 'only' (!) 23, never caught up. *Pussy Galore*, a near scratch team heavy on World Champions, showed top class flying skills to finish with an solid 16.8 average and a silver medal. What could they have done if they'd really trained, we wondered! The real competition however was for bronze with *SonicNutz* and the new *Storm* line-up battling it out in a very close fight with *SonicNutz* only pulling ahead in the very last rounds.

Satori finished the day on a massive 20.7 average claiming a new British Record despite a technical draw. With only a small number of teams in the world achieving above a 20 point average, *Satori* have proved yet again that our small, rainy island can produce talent to compete amongst the best on the planet – roll on the World Meet!

The teams stepping up from AA also posted strong averages for their first season in the top category. *Phobia* (who also claimed UKSL gold with an impressive set of scores), *Kaizen*, *Fend4Yourself* and *Escondido* will hopefully show us they have even more to come next year.

Concept team *Enigma* comprised jumpers with limited experience, but the philosophy that competing in AAA provides a steep learning curve clearly paid off. They achieved a very respectable 7.6 average and a UKSL bronze medal to boot!

AA – Military Precision

The double A field was strong again this year. *Army Nemesis* comfortably took gold, but only 9 points separated the next five teams, which made for a tense Nationals for those brave enough to watch the scoreboard! *Jet Blondes*, who also secured the UKSL gold, finished with a Nationals silver and *RAFSPA Firefly* bagged the bronze.

A – Unagi, Uvavu, U-what?

Unagi moved up from a Rookie 6.6 average in 2008 to a 11.4 average this year, thanks to a season of hard work and commitment, taking both the Nationals and UKSL gold comfortably. *Slot Machines* and *Sirius* pulled off some lovely skydives to finish in silver and bronze.

Rookie – Fully Unstoppable

Langar team *Full Stop* dominated the rookie category scoring a massive 24 points on round three and taking gold a whole 44 points ahead of the silver medalists. *Full Stop* had done only one jump together but proved yet again the value of good tunnel sessions and strong coaching. *Gr4vity* and *Baboonylon* kept their cool to take silver and bronze comfortably.



"This year's nationals was an unforgettable blur! Who'd have thought 49 teams could finish in a day? The atmosphere, the judging, the organisation and the teams were incredible!"

Julia Foxwell
Satori



Full Stop by Gary Wainwright

4-Way Results

AAA Class	Total	Avg
1 Satori	207	20.7
2 Pussy Galore	168	16.8
3 Voodoo (open)	158	15.8
4 Boogie Nights (open)	154	15.4
5 SonicNutz	149	14.9
6 Storm	142	14.2
7 Fusion	129	12.9
8 Phobia	128	12.8
9 Kaizen	111	12.3
10 Fend 4 Yourself	110	12.2
11 Vision	109	12.1
12 Escondido	108	12.0
13 Oogly	87	10.9
14 Bonobo	86	10.8
15 Enigma	61	7.6
16 One Non Bloke	47	5.9



Army Nemesis



Jet Blondes



RAFSPA Firefly

AA Class	Total	Avg
1 Army Nemesis	107	13.4
2 Jet Blondes	94	11.8
3 RAFSPA Firefly	91	11.4
4 ADHD	89	11.1
5 Strangers	86	10.8
6 Random Vengeance	85	10.6
7 Fix	78	9.8
8 Pickle	66	8.3
9 Calm	43	5.4

"It was such a great and humbling experience to watch so many people come together, enjoy the day and work hard to compete in the sport that they love."

Helen Arnold
SonicNutz





VFS – Too Close to Call

By far the most nail-biting competition of the whole meet came in the VFS category. Two teams – *Volare* and *Bad Lieutenants* – fought it out for gold. They were neck and neck all the way. One team would edge ahead by a point, then the other team would claw it back in the very next round! With *Volare* one point ahead, the teams went up for a very fast round 5. It was a real test of nerves. Scores could be high and a small mistake would cost them very dearly. Incredibly both teams scored a gigantic 19 points and so the meet hung on the final dive – a complex dive that neither team was looking forward to. After a breathless wait, the live scoring awarded both teams an 8! *Volare* took their first gold of the 2009 Nationals by a single point, and the close competition showed the incredible skills of both teams in what is still a very new discipline.

Hats Off to the Judges

Two FS judging teams – rather than one – transformed the scoring this year. No sooner had cameraflyers downloaded footage than scores were coming through on the excellent Cametrix system screened throughout the DZ. It made a huge difference to see the rounds so quickly rather than having to hang around an extra day as the scores trickled through. Although, for those of us who were avoiding the scoreboard, it made it treacherous to venture through the building to go to the loo!

Here Come the Girls

Whilst only 15% of BPA members are female, the ladies were out in force for 4-way Nationals. Almost a third of medal winners were female with only one of the podium teams not including a female member. Many of the girls I asked about it, pointed to role models such as *Storm*, *Airrix* and *VMax* for showing them how chicks can kick ass!

South African Flare

An international flavour was added

"We were a scratch team: only one member had flown the single A blocks before, I had never done any real 4-way, I was massively uncurrent flat... We came away with fifth with a 6.5 average and all our exits flew! Although next time I launch a perfect block, I might punch the air a little less enthusiastically in order to stay stable!"
Charlotte Fletcher, *Team Carlsberg* (Probably the best scratch team in the world)

by visiting South African judge and guest teams *Voodoo EXiLe* (former members of the South African national team with Stefano Hamiltoni) and *Boogie Nights* with Solly Williams. Both teams finished with very respectable 15+ averages; particularly impressive for *Voodoo* who had a poorly Steve, only 14 jumps together and almost exclusively launched a bow!

Simply the Best

No-one should underestimate what it takes to pull off an event like this. Hibaldstow's commitment was second to none and few dropzones worldwide could have coped with the challenge, let alone succeeded so impressively. No-one could have given more in terms of aircraft, organisation and sheer hard work! Thanks to the fantastic Hib team who gave us an amazing day that none of us will ever forget.

Bigger than Ever

The size of this year's meet showed the benefits of the progression system of rookie, A, AA and AAA. The huge number of teams moving through the categories shows that the structure introduced four years ago is paying dividends for 4-way with every category well represented and the largest ever field of AAA.

Pick your Own

The option of choosing your category has also made 4-way more accessible for more experienced jumpers who fancy giving it a go for the first time. Team *Old Skool*, made up of big-way jumpers with little 4-way experience, had a fantastic Nationals, yet wouldn't have entered the competition if their jump numbers had dictated that they should enter at the intimidating AAA level.

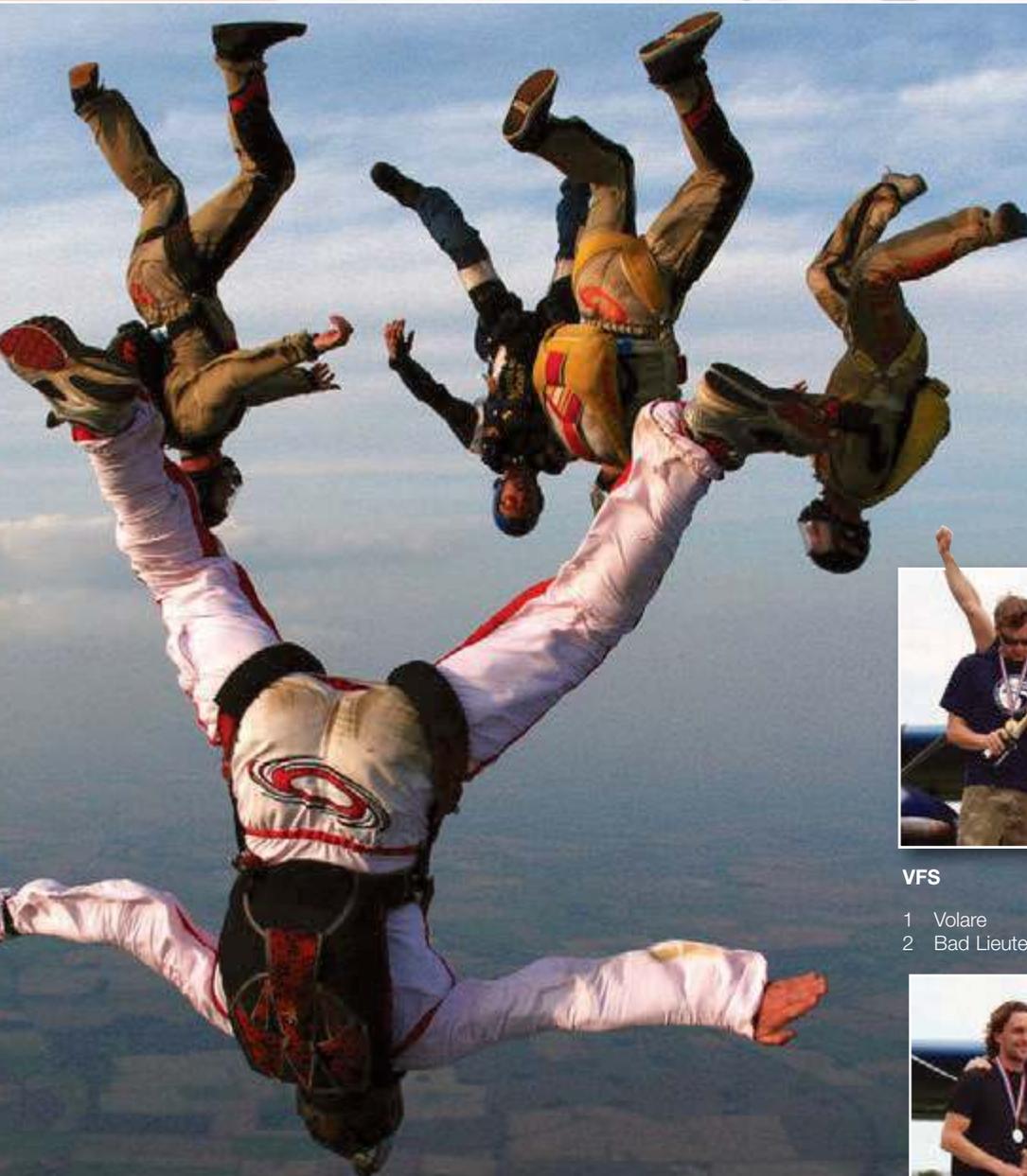
Give it a Go!

Lots of coaches were on hand both at Nationals and during UKSL meets to help teams at all levels, but few benefited more than the rookie teams. Many low experience teams came and used the opportunities to learn loads from top coaches for free – and even found themselves walking away with silverware! But remember you don't need the shiny gongs around your neck or even want to learn anything (!) to enjoy yourself at Nationals. So for any reader thinking they'd like to give 4-way a go – get out there, sign some mates up and see you at Hib next year!

Jo Hawley
Kaizen



Prizegiving photos by John Williamson



Martin 'Dirty Pants' Reynolds filming the Bad Lieutenants, by Gary Wainwright



VFS

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Total
1 Volare	7	9	5	9	19	8	57
2 Bad Lieutenants	6	10	6	7	19	8	56



A Class		Total	Avg
1	Unagi	91	11.4
2	Slot Machines	72	10.3
3	Sirius	76	9.5
4	Old Skool	64	9.1
5	Carlsberg	52	6.5
6	RAFSPA Phoenix	45	5.6
7	Uvavu	44	5.5
7	5Ds	44	5.5

Rookie		Total	Avg
1	Full Stop	131	17.0
2	Gr4vity	87	10.9
3	Baboonylon	76	10.1
4	Storm Forecast	68	8.5
5	Indecision	52	6.6
6	Faffdango	45	5.6
7	Nimeton	39	4.9
8	Karma	38	4.8
9	RAFSPA Typhoon	31	3.9
10	Beef Curtains	30	3.8
11	Chaos Theory	29	3.6
12	Fawesome	26	3.3
13	Airtight	25	3.1
14	Valhala	13	1.9

Full Stop



Gr4vity

Rookie



Baboonylon



"I was immensely proud to be standing up on that DZ control tower all day Saturday. Thank you to everyone."

H
Hibaldstow
CCI

Note: Not all teams completed all rounds, as the cut-off rule was used, to lessen the number of teams going through to semi finals and finals, to complete the meet in a day. The cut-off is often not imposed if there is sufficient time for everyone to jump all rounds.



8-Way and All That

After the 4-way completing in a single day, taking just two days for the 8-way made it feel slow! But once again Hibaldstow did a fantastic job of jumping the seven teams, especially as the 8-way was run alongside the Artistics and, for the first time this year the canopy formation too, enough to keep manifest more than fully occupied!

Senior – Take That!

There were four teams in the senior, *We'll Take It*, a scratch team – well sort of, as the whole eight had only done one practice jump together. The team was a combination of *VNE* and *Connexion* plus an ex-World Champion in female 4-way. I suppose they should have been okay... well they proved to be very okay. Helped by a kind draw *We'll Take It* averaged 12.5 with a highest score of 17 on round 6, which is just one off the current UK record (18). However this year they were very ably chased by *Brit Chicks*, an all-female team (if you don't count Alan on camera); another scratch team with just three jumps and some tunnel time, scoring a very good 84 over ten rounds.

Don't Steal our Thunder Storm

The bronze was the only medal in contention. It was finally won by *XStormin8* who had done a one-week training camp in Empuria with coach Pete Allum, and were preparing to go the World Cup in the Czech Republic during September. They just beat scratch team *Oxygen8* who, once they got their exit sorted were very competitive and really gave *XStormin8* a run for their money, coming from nine points behind at round five to within one point at close of play.

Intermediate – Snow in August

After many years of competing in intermediate this was the year for *Blizzard* who, after a close-fought battle with *Awesome* overcame them and won gold. This was a well-deserved reward for all the hard work they have put into their training and their sweet launch. All of this despite the great handicap of their coach (me). *Awesome*, who unfortunately suffered from a number of busts giving those nice kisses from the judges on the scoreboard, made it a very close-run thing, losing by just two points. Some real nice jumps were led by ex-*Grrr8* teammates Kate Burns and Chirpy Housley.

Sorted for Ease & Wizz

In bronze were *Sorted* who always seemed to be having fun. Once they had sorted out their exit, they started to do some real quality skydives, reflected by their improving scores.

Someone Else Take It

And so ended another successful 8-way Nationals. It was nice to see some newer people doing well in 8-way but once again it was a Nationals dominated by the same old faces. Andy Pook won gold for the eleventh time in a row, and a host of others from *We'll Take It* winning on their tenth and ninth occasions. While there was a healthy turnout for the Nationals there was a disappointing lack of trained teams. In order to try and encourage jumpers to practise 8-way, keep your eyes out for a new 8-way competition which will be announced towards the end of the year.

XStormin8 by James Stevenson



Blizzard by Nigel Rowlan



Sorted by John Williamson

Martin Soulsby
We'll Take It



We'll Take It



"Blizzard were chuffed to finally get intermediate gold at their third nationals. As ever, it was a superbly run meet and we had a lot of fun."

Elaine Cherry
Blizzard



Brit Chicks



XStormin8



Brit Chicks by Alan Thompson

8-Way Results

Senior

		Tot/10rds
1	We'll Take It	125
2	Brit Chicks	84
3	XStormin8	57
4	Oxygen8	56

Intermediate

		Tot/8rds
1	Blizzard	46
2	Awesome	44
3	Sorted	28

Did you know?...

... where the team name *We'll Take It* comes from? It's a team catch phrase from a short movie originally made for the Fly Boyz Film Festival. Search 'Skydive - The B*st*rd' on youtube.com

Blizzard



"I was so pleased to see so many teams. 8-way has seen a decline in the UK over recent years but deserves more than a handful of scratch teams competing at a National level. XStormin8 are continuing into next year, and are already looking forward to next year's Nationals. Bring back the 8-way Grand Prix!"

Sarah Smith
XStormin8



Awesome



Sorted



Artistic



With an increase in turnout from last year, a huge improvement through training and some nail-bitingly close scores, enough to keep anyone peeking through their fingers, this year's Artistic Nationals was a storming success. 16 teams with the same goal: to show this fresh new panel of judges exactly what they could do!

Freely A

After a disappointing turnout in 2008, this year was much better and saw some fresh new faces. One of these was Charlotte Kemp of team *Kinetic*, who prevented the A category being completely dominated by men! Come on now ladies, when are we going to see an all-female team entering this event? The ability is there, we've waited long enough!

After recently returning from the World Games in China with their well earned bronze, *Volare* set the standard as the favourites for UK Nationals gold. Gary Sweeny and his team re-lit the *Euphoria* flame and entered with their new established team *Army Euphoria*. *Italian Job* and *Infinity* made the total to five teams.

Round one revealed each team's much-anticipated free routines. *Volare* unsurprisingly wowed the judges with their inspiring, flowing routine, consisting of synchronised flying sequences, fast pace acrobatics and movement on pretty much every axis, leaving onlookers out of breath.

Claudio Lettieri and the infamous Andy Lovemore of *Italian Job* used their many years of freestyle experience to pull

off a fantastic flying routine involving high difficulty, complex tracking docks. The *Army Euphoria* boys showed a tremendous amount of potential for the future and their teamwork showed signs of a fair amount of training – as opposed to team *Kinetic* (Charlotte and Pete with Mr Dan Parker on camera) who rocked up to the competition with a handful of training jumps, yet still managed to produce a very worthy routine for this level. Keep at it guys – and girls!

With *Volare* achieving a clear gold with an outstanding 59.3, the heated competition took place between the remaining four teams. After storming towards silver between round two and four, *Italian Job* seemed set for second place but being zeroed on round five set them just behind *Army Euphoria*'s final score by 1.3! Promising new teams *Kinetic* and *Infinity* followed both putting up good fights against the experienced competition.

Freely B

There may have only been four teams in this category but this did not in any way rule out an exciting competition; the scores between two teams in particular were painfully close. *Tengri* produced impressive scores on their free rounds but their rivals *CoVert* managed to sneak quietly past them on the compulsory rounds which eventually put them in first place by just 0.2. Ouch!

Not too far behind in third were *Betterfly* who, considering they were a scratch team, managed to pull off some impressive stunts in their free routine involving body surfing!

Freestyle A

Well, what a year for freestyle! With a total of five teams pretty much all of which had trained for the competition there was never going to be any disappointment in terms of aesthetics. With *Airkix Freestyle* (Al and Pixie) and *GoFreestyle* (Annie and Tim) both ready to pop along to Czech for the World Cup a few weeks later, some serious training had taken place.

Volare by Mike Carpenter



CoVert by Nigel Holland



Go Freestyle by Nils Predstrup



Army Euphoria

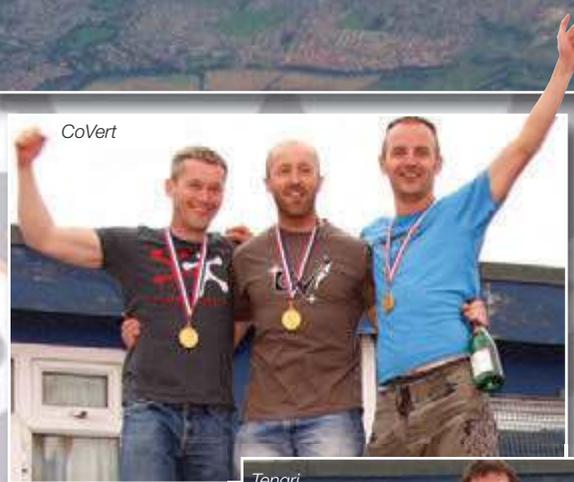




Volare by Mike Carpenter



Volare



CoVert



Italian Job

Freestyle A

Results
Freestyle A

	Total/7 rds
1 Volare	59.30
2 Army Euphoria	42.00
3 Italian Job	40.70
4 Kinetic	37.60
5 Infinity	31.30

Freestyle B

Freestyle B

	Total/5 rds
1 CoVert	27.40
2 Tengri	27.20
3 Betterfly	23.60
4 Superfly	17.60



Tengri



Betterfly





This category also saw the likes of Tiziana and Claudio of *Italian Job FS* and Liz Boniface of *Flyami Vice* with the Bad Lieutenant Matt O'Riordan on camera. For most of the teams the competition kicked off to a booming start. *Airkix* showed a massive increase in level from last year, with a speedy routine involving a rather technical and impressive layout sequence with half twists, full twists and position variations, landing this in a fast daffy spin, intentionally leaving spectators feeling slightly nauseous!

GoFreestyle displayed a technical flying routine showing tracking with speed and angle whilst performing tricks, followed by head-up and head-down spinning sequences. After conquering the B category last year, Liz Boniface of *Flyami Vice* returned after some intense training, and into the A class where she performed a definitely worthy routine and showed a big improvement in control with her head-up and head-down skills – they say the best freeflyers are freestylers!

After two years away from competition, Tiziana of *Italian Job FS* impressed the judges with her flexibility and an elegant, ballet-like routine. For each team the scores seemed pretty constant throughout the competition. With *Airkix* achieving top scores of 8.5 they were setting a high standard, however *Italian Job* were hot on their heels and finished only 2.3 points behind. They were very closely followed by *GoFreestyle* who finished just 2.5 points behind second place.

The Volare boys, aka *Midget and Meathead*, also showed some really inspirational stuff; it's amazing but sickening how Mr Mattacola can pull off these awesome moves at the click of a finger!

Freestyle B

The fact there was only one team entering the B category in freestyle did not put Cat Adam of *Chacho Rubio* off at all! The blonde pussycat doll, who travelled all the way from Dhabi, rocked the judges' TV screens in her retro pink leggings, displaying some fantastic moves showing flexibility, control and high difficulty.

With her top score being 7.50, her performance would have been worthy of the A category. Nice one Cat, hope to see you again next year!



Mike Frost by Andy Lovemore

Skysurf A

With the discipline of skysurf sadly dying in most countries and at world level, former British champ, Mike Frost of *Borderline* made a surprise comeback in an attempt to at least rescue it in Britain. With Andy Lovemore on camera, Mike made spectators dizzy with his impressive invisible man and fast back spins. With scores as high as 7.60 it seems that in all these years he has not yet lost his touch. Hopefully this competition will rekindle his love for the discipline and we will see him again next year!

Skysurf B

It was such a pleasure to see Ian Rouse and Ashley Dando of *Outlaw Skysurf* making an appearance at this year's artistics. After having some team coaching from Tim Porter followed by further training jumps throughout the year the consistency in their competition scores really reflected their disciplined training, especially as the scores for their compulsory rounds were just as high as their free rounds. With more training in the year to follow these guys could set a great standard in the A category, so why don't all of you lot out there with skysurf experience get your dusty boards from the back of your wardrobe and surf along to the 2010 nationals to give these guys some competition?!

The Verdict

Out of my previous two years of nationals this third year has been by far the best for me. The accurate judging, the fantastic manifest, the attitude and the atmosphere made this competition exactly what it should be, FUN! As a young competitor I'm thirsty for more so, hopefully I'll see you all next year!

Annie Glasius, *GoFREestyle*

Freestyle A	Total/7 rds
1 Airkix Freestyle	55.10
2 Italian Job Freestyle	52.80
3 Go Freestyle	50.30
4 Midget & Meathead	37.90
5 Flyami Vice	33.10 5



Airkix Freestyle



Italian Job

Freestyle A



Go Freestyle



Go Freestyle by Nils Predstrup

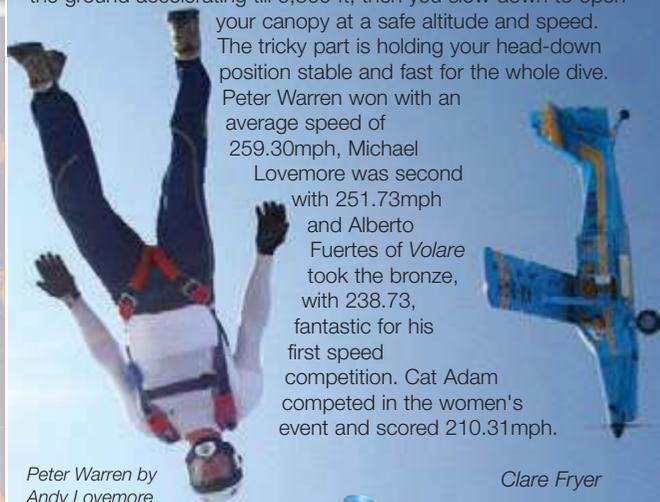
Speed Skydiving

Six competitors entered the speed skydiving, and the skill level was very high, making for a close competition. Speed skydiving is all about averages; you take the average speed measured over a vertical km. This is measured on two Pro-tracks mounted on the rig laterals, one on each side. The average speed over the vertical km is taken from the average speed from both Pro-tracks, which must be within 30kmph. The final result is the average of the best three jumps out of six rounds.

In essence you get out of the plane and dive head-first towards the ground accelerating till 5,300 ft, then you slow down to open your canopy at a safe altitude and speed.

The tricky part is holding your head-down position stable and fast for the whole dive.

Peter Warren won with an average speed of 259.30mph, Michael Lovemore was second with 251.73mph and Alberto Fuertes of Volare took the bronze, with 238.73, fantastic for his first speed competition. Cat Adam competed in the women's event and scored 210.31mph.



Peter Warren by Andy Lovemore

Clare Fryer



Freestyle B

1 Chacho Rubio 34.00



Skysurf A

1 Borderline 42.00



Skysurf B

1 Outlaw Skysurf 32.20



Speed podium, Mike, Peter, Cat & 'Alberto'



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Photo shows Jean Potvin
by Rob Franklin



COMPETITIONS

Competitions committee was proud to see the results from the IOC-driven World Games. The World Cup results were glorious, with *Volare* World Cup Champions, our VFS team winning bronze, and *Kaizen* returning with a medal in European 4-way FS (see pages 4-9). The excellent stories coming back are a testament to our athletes getting it right on an international stage.

The UK Skydiving League table to the right shows the final places; medals will be awarded at the AGM. The Nationals are compelling reading, 4-way FS again leading the turnout with 47 teams smoking the event in one day! This was thanks to an excellent effort from Target Skysports, who've hosted a number of events, all completing to schedule. We were also informed by an American judge that the turnout of 17 teams in Artistics was larger than USA! RAPA saw a healthy showing for CP and Classics, though the style requires a rerun due to weather. A massive thank you to all centres who have hosted an event – we really appreciate your sterling efforts.

Funding qualification has been achieved by *Volare* (freestyle), *Airkix* (freestyle) and *Pussy Galore* (4-way female FS). It is great to be able to offer some funding, albeit a drop in the ocean of what most teams usually spend. The delegation uniform for international events has been run really well by the BPA Office, ensuring our athletes leave the country kitted out in a fantastic new look.

The focus of the committee is now on planning the remaining events for the 2010 season (UKSLs Grand Prix and some Nationals), bids to be reviewed at the next meeting on 13 Oct. If you want one at your dropzone, ask your DZO to bid! Remember to drop a note to discipline reps to take part in the 'coach the coach' programme – ideal for new coaches or old hands wanting to refresh skills.

It's been fantastic to see results flying in all round to confirm our rise in world comps status – well done all!

Andy Scott, Competitions Chairman

4-way UK Skydiving League Table (final)

AAA	Wes	Hib	Sib	Nats	Total
Phobia	10	10	10	3	33
Fend 4 Yourself	8	5	8	1	22
Enigma	4	2	6	-	12
Fusion	-	8	-	4	12
Satori	-	-	-	10	10
Sonicnutz	-	3	-	6	9
Pussy Galore	-	-	-	8	8
Rusty Nuts	6	-	-	-	6
Vision	-	6	-	-	6
Kaizen	-	4	-	2	6
Bonobish	5	-	-	-	5
Storm	-	-	-	5	5
AA					
Jet Blondes	10	-	10	8	28
Strangers	6	8	8	4	26
ARMY Nemesis	8	-	6	10	24
Random Vengeance	-	10	5	3	18
RAFSPA Firefly	5	-	-	6	11
Pickle	-	-	4	1	5
ADHD	-	-	-	5	5
Orbital	4	-	-	-	4
Fix	-	-	-	2	2
A					
Unagi	10	10	10	10	40
Slot Machines	5	8	8	8	29
5 Ds	4	6	-	2	12
RAFSPA Phoenix	8	-	-	3	11
Uvavu	-	5	-	2	7
Ain't Gonna Suck Itself	6	-	-	-	6
Sirius	-	-	-	6	6
Old Skool	-	-	-	5	5
Carlsberg	-	-	-	4	4
Rookie					
Nimeton	4	10	10	2	26
Gr4vity	10	-	-	8	18
Karma	5	8	-	1	14
Baboonylon	-	-	8	6	14
RAFSPA Typhoon	-	6	6	-	12
Indecision	8	-	-	4	12
Full Stop	-	-	-	10	10
Beef Curtains	6	-	-	-	6
Storm Forecast	-	-	-	5	5
Katal Phillamy	3	-	-	-	3
Faffdango	-	-	-	3	3
Sh*tfly	2	-	-	-	2

New BPA Ratings CSBI

Tim Skilton
Marcus Barrington
Philip Webley
Glen Staley
Jamie Porter
Steve Studders

Tandem BI

Billy Payn
Zuzana Tillner
Darren Smith

AFF BI

David Pratt

CS Instructor

Sarah Bailey
Jared Morris
Ian Batey
Robert Camps
Simon Gearing
James France
Chris Smith

Advanced Instructor

Matty Holford
Nick Brown

AFF Instructor

Billy Blanchard
Andy Naude
Kristopher Sheppard
Craig Poxon

Tandem Instructor

Ben Wood
Neil Long
Paul Morgan
Marcus Speed
Rod Bartholomew
David Charlton
Tony Evans
Dave Alexander

Instructor Examiner

Jeff Montgomery
Brian Dyas

European Regulatory Response

Over the next few years sport parachuting in the UK will become increasingly regulated by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which will take over such functions from the British CAA. The implementation of the new European regulations is a complicated, prolonged affair which involves a consultation process with potentially affected organisations.

Because of the complex nature of EASA negotiations and the importance of strong, effective UK representation, Council has agreed to fund some of the work, engaging Tony Knight as Liaison Officer for the BPA to assist Kieran Brady (Chairman of Pilots Committee) and Tony Butler (BPA Technical Officer). These negotiations will eventually lead to new regulations governing parachuting in Europe. The main problem to be addressed will be the extent to which EASA views parachuting as an aspect of commercial flying.

This could attract additional tiers of regulation, which in turn could increase the expense of aircraft operations to DZ operators.

The role of the European Parachuting Union (EPU) will be of importance in negotiations so it is reassuring to know that Council Member Paul Moore is EPU President. 'Joe Jumper' will probably not feel the affects of the new regime for some years but should be aware that the handing over of parachuting regulation to EASA has begun and looks inevitable. If any BPA Members have questions contact Kieran Brady:

kkbrady@btinternet.com



BingoLotto Takes Off!

BingoLotto game-cards are now available at Tesco stores around Britain. Ticket sales will help to generate funds for sport – including skydiving. This is through CCPR, the umbrella body for sports organisations that is running the scheme. You can play BingoLotto and watch live on the Virgin 1 TV channel (see Freeview, Virgin Media & Sky) on Sundays at 7pm. Good luck!

www.bingolotto.tv

The BPA benefited from the short pilot last year by £1,000 which was used for coaching roadshows. BPA Bingo Lotto Coordinator Adrian Bond said, "This can really help our sport and DZs can benefit too, by selling tickets and receiving 20% of the price." For info contact:

adrian@bpa.org.uk
07836 201953

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

Stand for Council

- Would your knowledge help our sport?
- Do you have a new approach to offer?
- Will you seize opportunities?
- Could you resolve complex issues?

Then stand for election to BPA Council 2010! Nomination forms and election details are available on the BPA website, from your DZ or the BPA Office. Completed nomination forms, duly signed by a proposer and seconder, must reach the BPA Office by noon on **Thursday 22 October 2009**.

AGM Saturday 16 January 2010

Eeh by gum and ecky thump, we're up north for t'AGM! Yes, Lancashire's bracing Flyde Coast is the new stomping ground for AGM day as we pack our bucket and spade (or possibly not!) and make for the sophisticated surroundings of the Blackpool Hilton. After a decade at Hinckley, you wanted a change of venue – this is it!

www.hilton.co.uk/blackpool

We listened to feedback on the AGM questionnaire. We've kept all the things you enjoy; the AGM, awards, talks, meetings, dinner and disco. Plus we're ringing in the changes with the first BPA Film Festival and some extra surprises. We're hoping to give away a BPA goodie bag, depending on suitable sponsors to come forward with goodies!

If you have something to offer as a gift to BPA Members (pen, pull-up cords, gift vouchers, bungees, notebooks, key rings, chocolate, badges, etc) and can see the value in delivering your marketing message directly to the Membership, contact the BPA Office for more details.

Seminars & Exhibition

We're planning the afternoon seminars to educate, entertain and inform. Email any suggestions to the BPA Office. There will be an exhibition of skydiving-related services, gear and clothing. Book space in advance; it's free, just email the BPA Office.

BPA Articles

The Development Committee is redrafting and updating the BPA's Memorandum & Articles of Association. If Council is happy and the redraft is ready in time (we can't promise!), it will be circulated with the December Mag for consideration as an item of special business at the AGM.

Drinks, Dinner & Disco

The function room bar has a fixed price of £2.80 per pint (beer or lager), or glass of house wine. Tickets for the three-course annual dinner cost £21 (menu available) from the BPA Office. All Members are welcome at the after-dinner disco in the hotel's nightclub (no charge).

Overnight

Bed and breakfast costs £89 double/twin per night, or £59 for single occupancy. Book with Stephanie Hill at the hotel quoting 'BPA rate' (spaces are limited, call soon):

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Other accommodation and tourist information:

www.visitblackpool.com

British Parachute Association Ltd



GM

Notice is hereby given that a **General Meeting** of the Association will be held at BPA Office, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF on Tuesday 8 December 2009 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 2008 to 30 June 2009.
- 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 2010.

Issued for and on behalf of the Council of the British Parachute Association Ltd.
1 October 2009

British Parachute Association Ltd



AGM

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meeting** of the Association will be held at

The Blackpool Hilton, North Promenade, Blackpool, Lancashire FY1 2JQ on Saturday 16 January 2010 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 2010.
- 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 2010 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 Monday 7 December 2009) 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 2009

BRITS ROCK

at the World Games



The World Games is an exceptional sporting event run under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It bills itself as an alternative to the Olympics and features 31 sports that have not (yet) made it into the Olympic programme. These included canoe polo, korfbal, fistball, rugby sevens, squash, softball, billiards, bowling, tug of war, bodybuilding, water skiing, airsports, climbing, rollersports, fin swimming and many others.

The eighth edition of the World Games was officially opened in Kaohsiung, Taiwan's second largest city by Taiwan's President, Ma Ying-jeou, on 17 July. More than 4,000 athletes from 91 countries took part, entry was by invitation only, based on performance at each sport's last World Championships. This was an ideal opportunity to sell our sport and the energy it has to offer to the organisations that decide the events at the Olympics. There were five skydiving disciplines; Accuracy, CF, FS, Canopy Piloting and Freefly. The latter two included representatives from the UK so their stories are here; results from other disciplines can be found on the World Games website.

Opening Ceremony

The Tia people had worked hard and you could see their efforts displayed everywhere you looked. The stadium for the opening ceremony was in full colour, with the glass made from solar panels providing enough energy for thousands of local people. The lights, fireworks and entertainers were hugely enjoyed by athletes from all countries taking in the atmosphere, in the incredible heat of the night.

Show Arena

It was a huge challenge, as always, to catch the action and excitement above and relay it to the spectators on the ground. A specialised

Volare watch their round on screen



Volare sign autographs for two hours



company from Austria (Globe Cam) provided a live link from the exit of the helicopter (a Kawasaki BK117) to the freefall videographer, this was then relayed to the press on the ground, displayed on several large screens around the show site, and eventually sent to TV channels to be watched around the world.

Canopy Piloting

The meet began with a call for all canopy pilots – to stand by and wait! I could feel the urge to jump but happily it wasn't long before we were flying over the city of Kaohsiung and taking in the breathtaking views. Pete Allum was there competing for Italy – minus his rig that had been lost on the flight over – but he seemed unfazed

Jens, Smudge & Pete after a CP round



by the borrowed gear and was, as always, an excellent sportsman.

I felt under pressure during the first descent. How would the canopy react to the 36° temperature and high humidity during the dive? In the end I just committed and went through my usual routine to make my flight pattern. Once at the set-up point I started the turn and looked down toward the gates and went through just fine, phew! Excellent. Everyone was congratulating each other on their runs, all excited and relieved of the pressure. A technical fault had occurred and we had to run it all again! It went equally as well, round one completed, double phew.

Rules had been slightly changed and with the UK struggling to provide an IPC standard pond, the first look at the accuracy lane was a surprise! The challenge was on, to make all the gates and score in the 0 zone as not to acquire penalty points.

Canopy Piloting was fast, accurate and competitors were enjoying the challenges. All swoopers were missing gates but, true to form, Canadian Jay Molezdki was cool and professional, hitting the gates and making all the points he needed. His results showed this with a near perfect score for all rounds, taking him to victory. USA's Nick Batsch was second and Brazil's popular swooper, Marat Leiras took the bronze. Pete was not far behind in fifth with his borrowed gear, nice one!

Deane 'Smudge' Smith

Canopy Piloting podium



Freefly

The top six nations from the 2008 World Championships received a golden invites; *Babylon* of France, *Skywalkers* from Norway, British team *Volare*, and teams from USA, Sweden and Russia. It was to be the last competition for *The Skywalkers*, and possibly even *Babylon*, so both brought similar routines to Maubeuge, as the most efficient use of their training time. It was a different story for *Volare*, our first meet with a new team line-up, which meant we had to construct a completely new routine, and also get newcomer Alberto up to speed on the compulsory rounds.

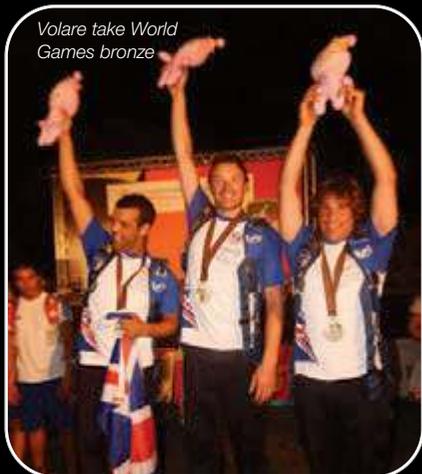
So, the stage was set for perhaps the last battle with the three biggest teams of recent years. Into round one, where it was a surprise to see *Skywalkers* take the lead over the bookies' favourite, *Babylon*. *Volare* were in strong third in front of Sweden, the USA and Russia respectively. Round one (a free routine) added to round two (compulsory) usually gives a good indication of the action to come, so all eyes were on the French.

In fact, round two saw the *Skywalkers* score a solid 16 points, just 2 shy of the World Record of 18 set last year by American team *So-cal Converge*. *Babylon* scored 15, meaning *The Skywalkers* had extended their lead, things were hotting up! It later turned out that *Babylon* had completed 20 points but got busted down to 15. Obviously they were not over the moon at these results, which served to focus the Babylonian energy even tighter on what could be their last international title.

Over the next two rounds *Babylon* improved their scores, matching those of the *Skywalkers*' own brand of faultless flowing free routine. Round 5 was the second compulsory, *Babylon* knew it was their chance to make up the deficit. The pressure was on but they did not falter. A solid 17 points to *Skywalkers*' clean 13 put *Babylon* at the top of the table with only one round to go and, bar a complete catastrophe, out of reach. Sure enough, in the final round both teams performed their best routines of the competition, with equally high scores. So Cathy Bouette, Fred Fugen and Vince Reffet of *Babylon* took the gold just ahead of *The Skywalkers*.

Volare came in a strong third which is a great result for the new team. USA just managed to push out team Sweden for fourth with Russia coming in sixth. It was a fantastic and valuable competition experience. The organisers should be congratulated on running an event of Olympic proportions.

Mike Carpenter



Volare by Andy Lovemore



worldgames2009.tw



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- 17.-20. FUXION CAMP 5
- 18.-20. EUSKADI fs record attempt

OCTOBER

- 1.-4. EMPURIABRAVA 16-WAY TROPHY

OCTOBER

- 8.-12. spanish national fs championships
- 11.-17. GO VERTICAL- autumn
- 19.-25. EMPURIAFLOCK - autumn '09

DECEMBER

- 5.-8. FUXION CAMP 6
- 25.-3./01. X-MAS BOOGIE



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VELOCITY

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Freefly

- Babylon-Gold 
- Skywalkers-Silver 
- Volare-Bronze 

Canopy Piloting

- Jay Moledzki-Gold 
- Marat Leiras-Bronze 

Canopy Formation

- Clean Air-Gold 
- Ookoonono-Bronze 

Formation Skydiving

- Arizona Airspeed-Gold 
- Blackcats-Silver 





versatile

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Tom Scanlon

Tom had three great passions; his Family, Tottenham Hotspur and Skydiving. Tom's participation in skydiving was enriched by stories from his first two loves. An absolute gentleman, Tom would listen to what you had to say and make you feel great about it, as he added some gems of his own. In Tom's eyes, whoever he spoke to was left feeling like the best skydiver Tom had ever met and was someone to aspire to be. This warm nature and thoughtfulness is what many will remember him for.

I was lucky enough to spend time in and outside of work with Tom. At work we'd climb together up large masts like two mates on a climbing holiday, cracking jokes about our respective rival football teams (Spurs vs Arsenal – a great blend). Despite dangling off a mast at silly heights, I never felt safer than with my mate there – a super experienced rope-worker and extremely switched-on man.

Tom's FS team history was dotted with a desire to make great jumps, compete against friends and have a good time. At World Team, we were all in the infamous Sector 11 of Brits and friends. Tom's contributions in the sector smoothed the way for a great and world-record-breaking experience as we achieved the 400-way. As his roomie out there, I laughed as Tom looked out of one window at the German sector, late evening walking the skydive one more time followed by a team huddle; then dragged me to another window over at the other side of the room. He was laughing and saying "Now look at how the Brits do it!", seeing a scene of empty beer bottles and shrieks of laughter – a quality observation from a quality fella.

Tom really was the type of person that all clubs need and all skydiving newcomers are indebted to. I am so grateful to have had time with him – as are so many of us. My thoughts remain with Tom's family and with fond memories of his great achievements – thanks mate and up the Spurs, eh!

Andy Scott

Tom meant so much to so many people. He taught me and Rai 4-way. He made everything so much fun and never had a negative thing to say – even when we were really rubbish! We thought so much of Tom – our 'Skydiving Yoda' as we used to call him, passing on his secrets of the magic of 4-way.

He helped us out last year when our teammate broke her leg. He took her slot in the tunnel and did our final training camp with us. We were so grateful. He kept us in the air to make sure we were ready for Nationals. He was so supportive and always told us how proud he was to see us doing well. He gave us confidence, skills, so much positive energy and shared many of his amazing stories.

Tom is the best that this world has to offer. I have never known anyone so selfless, kind, and positive. He loved his jumping; loved competing in 4-way but pretended to hate the training. He adored the World Team experience. His whole face and body language was so animated when he spoke of how much he'd loved it!

My thoughts are with Fiona and the kids whom he spoke about so much. I feel very grateful to have had Tom in my life – thank you too Fiona, for sharing him with the skydiving community. He's left a hole in our world that no-one will be able to fill, but it is so much better for having had him here. He taught us to be better skydivers and better people too. He was the best of the best.

Jo Hawley

That great man Tom Scanlon had the knack of making you feel very special, yet displaying complete modesty and humility about his own tremendous talents and achievements. He often came to Bedford tunnel in the evening after work to coach me and my friends, you could sense his love for the sport behind those piercing eyes! Then he'd travel home to Essex without so much as a moan about the long journey ahead.

Tom's passing, though tragic, has hopefully given us all pause for thought, the chance to seize life with both hands and choose to be optimistic and cheery just like he was, and remind our friends and loved ones how much they mean to us.

The world and the skydiving community is a sadder place without Tom but the pain that we feel now is a small burden to carry for the gift of his friendship. Of course there should be time for grieving but I also feel we should celebrate the life that was. To quote a famous rock band, "Only the good die young". We have lost a good 'un. So let's raise a glass to Tom, a great man, a rare breed and a missed friend.

Dean Smith



World Record



World Record

So, there we were, Skydive Chicago, the place that should be given the title of 'skydiving resort' as 'dropzone' doesn't convey how awesome a facility it is. It was Summerfest, their famous event, and we had a plan to set a new Freestyle World Record, in triple figures for the first time! It promised to be truly awesome...

The record was due to take place in the last few days of Summerfest, one of the biggest boogies stateside. There was also a 100-way FS sequential record in the first week of the boogie and a wingsuit record mid boogie, so clearly this was not the sort of event most Europeans are used to.

Unique

What was unique about this record was the talent it attracted to the boogie just prior as participants and hopefuls arrived early to warm up and get in on the action. Those of us there for that first week got to take advantage of the talent and participate in some amazing sequential and movement dives, with the help of some world class load organisers.

Planning

Before the event all the invites had been sent out, with maps of the formation showing specific slots as well as aircraft maps with your position on exit. There was even the bench list. As the record neared more and more freestyle faces showed up. It was time to get things cooking.

Warm-up 44-ways

We started with an official warm-up day with two groups of 44-ways, the first organised by Rook Nelson and Mike Swanson which was the actual 44-way base of the planned 108-way. The second group was organised by Fred Fugen and Vince Reffet from *Babylon*. There was also a 30-way, which grew throughout the day to a 45-way as more late-comers showed up, this time organised by David Gershfeld.

Babylon





Norman Kent



Babylon

108-way Record Attempts

At the end of the first day we had made a number of 108-ways, very close to completion, with a number of times having just one or two people out. This is when it started to get really interesting; one small mistake meant you were cut from the formation and one of the many strong flyers waiting on the bench had an opportunity to show they could fly your slot better. We also had the oxygen masks to contend with on the ride up to altitude as we were now exiting from 17,000 feet.

Sharp Axe

As the second day rolled around there was no room for error, with even some of the greatest flyers feeling the sharp side of the axe after making mistakes. The most common error was getting lost. Multiple references were needed to know your position, the best being the streamers on the base. If you started following someone to your slot only to realise it was the wrong person it was enough for a one-way trip to the bench, or the official line was, "We're gonna rotate you out of this one".

65-ways

This led to an afternoon of 65-ways using three aircraft. With enough time for two attempts at a 65-way, things were looking good with the last jump very nearly completing. It was also a good chance to practise launching the base from a Twin Otter, as the Skyvan had just a day earlier blown an engine, meaning the record would now be from five Twin Otters, a very exciting prospect.

80-ways

The first day of record attempts started with a warm-up 80-way, another good opportunity to get the base and mid group working fast to give the outside guys the best chance to complete the formation when they eventually arrived. After a morning of very close 80-ways it was time to go for it – as Rook put it, "We're here to do 108, not 80", so even without a fully completed 80-way we prepared to go into triple digits – 108.

Sunset jump on day two, the sixth 108-way of the day, people had been rotated in and out like Saturday morning Swap Shop. There was a question that, if someone got lost, would they learn from their mistakes? Would it make a stronger formation to give those guys a second chance or pull in some one fresh from the bench? But in the end it had to be fair and the same for everyone, so one mistake meant you were out.



Brian Buckland

Brian Buckland





Norman Kent



Norman Kent



Close

By now everyone was ready to make the record as so many jumps had been so close. This time the formation built quickly just as the five previous attempts that day had, but again it looked as if there were a few out.

The 8-way base had started communicating to each other during the skydive, nodding, "Yes, built" to signal to their opposites what was happening behind them or "Not built" by shaking their head, plus a multitude of other signals which weren't quite as clear. Those positioned mid-formation could pick up on the signals and get an idea of what was happening. On this jump we didn't see any nodding, it seemed there were again a few out.

Did We or Didn't We?

As we landed everyone was asking, "Did we get it?". After a long hour of scrutiny by the judges we headed to the auditorium. As we watched the video we saw how close it was! The whole formation was built and flying for a good ten seconds, all except one, the now infamous Pat, who was lost on the wrong side of the formation (a benchable offence) finally working out where he should be... the whole room of

freeflyers watched, screamed and shouted as Pat carved the whole formation until he found his slot, slipped in and completed the formation less than a second before the first wave of trackers broke off.

World Record

Right before Rook confirmed it was an official new World Record he asked Pat what it was like to carve the whole way around a 107-way head-down formation! This sent the whole room into an eruption of cheering and laughter.

Slick and Smooth

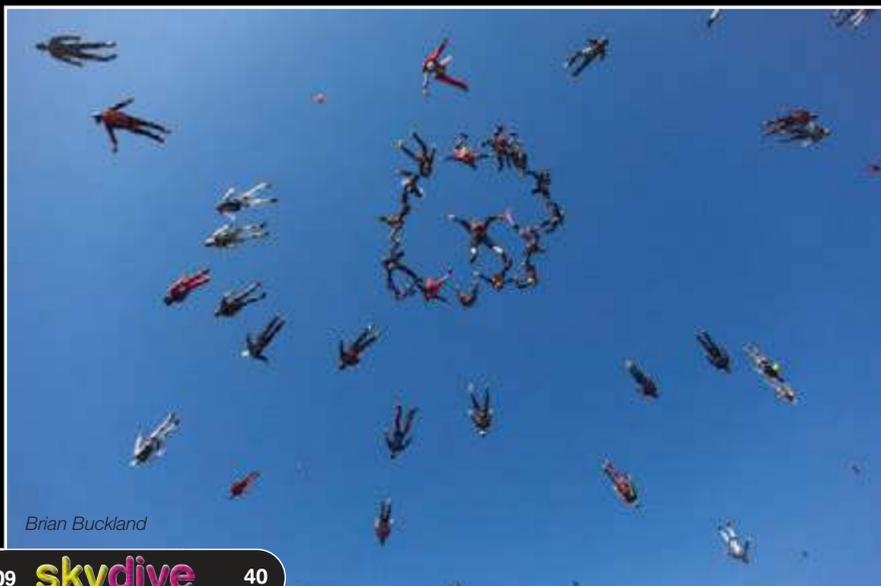
And so we built another record organised in the slick manner we have become accustomed to from the *Alchemy* boys plus a little help from their friends, *Babylon*. Of course it was only right to celebrate in the style that the organisers approached every detail of the event – BIG!

A massive thank you to Rook Nelson, Mike Swanson, Alaska Jon of *Alchemy*, Fred and Vince from *Babylon* and all the great Skydive Chicago staff for an amazing event!

Mike Carpenter
www.volareprofilght.com

Head-down World Record 108-way

over Skydive Chicago
by Brian Buckland



Brian Buckland



Record-breaking Brits

Adam Mattacola
Claudio Lettieri
Dan Parker
Frazer Smith
James Davies
Mark Joiner
Martin Reynolds
Mike Carpenter

LETTERS

Ryanair Adventure

I and two friends went to Stockholm Parachute Club booking our flights with Ryanair, whose website states:

'Parachutes of any type, recreational or sports type or paragliding wings (also known as 'canopy') can be accepted for carriage as checked-in or carry-on baggage subject to the standard restrictions for size and weight. These packs may contain an auxiliary or emergency 'chute' and a barometric mechanical activating (auto-release) device. These accessories are acceptable for check-in.

'The parachute pack must not contain pyrotechnics or smoke canisters – these accessories are not acceptable for carriage on our aircraft.'

As our parachutes would be the heaviest items (and Ryanair's luggage allowance is particularly stingy at only 15kg) we decided to take our rigs as hand luggage. When we went through security we were told that it was against Department of Transport regulations to allow parachutes as hand luggage, hence we'd have to check them in. We were less than amused, because it was only 30 minutes before our flight (and we were told that check-in had closed) and because Ryanair charge £15 per kg excess baggage so it would've cost a fortune! Some drama took place but eventually Ryanair agreed to check in our parachutes at no cost and we did a long sprint down to the departure gate and just made our flight!

I and others have taken parachutes on as hand luggage in the past but according to security there is a Department of Transport regulation prohibiting this.

Eleanor Hitchman
eleanorisfab@yahoo.com

The BPA made enquiries to the Department of Transport regarding the 'regulation' quoted by security. Their reply:

Under the UK National Aviation Security Programme, the Department has issued legally binding directions on airports and airlines in the UK requiring them not to allow into an airport's restricted zone, or onto an aircraft, any item which could be used as a potential weapon or pose a threat to the aircraft or any person travelling on it. Whilst I acknowledge that a parachute is not specifically on the list of prohibited articles, the list is not exhaustive and I confirm it is at the airport manager's discretion to prohibit any other article which, in the reasonable contemplation of the manager or aircraft operator, might be used or adapted for causing injury or incapacitation of a person. The Department's advice is to check with the airport prior to departure.

Elizabeth Shovelton
Department of Transport

Our advice: Taking a rig on as hand luggage is potentially inviting trouble. It's probably worth paying the extra to put it in the hold as you are always at the mercy of airport personnel on the day. If you decide to try taking your rig as hand luggage (this has the advantage that it's less likely to get lost), then allow an extra hour to sweet-talk security if need be, and take documentation with you about your AAD (which looks disturbing in the X-ray machine) to explain its function as a safety device.

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Photo: Andrew Lovemore

BA Baggage Change

If you ever fly with BA then this change to their baggage allowance may be relevant (effective Oct 09). Flights to USA will now only permit one checked bag at 23kgs not two as previously. A second bag can be checked for £90 on the day or £35 if booked online at time of booking. Sports equipment will no longer be accepted free in addition to the free allowance.

I know most skydivers check two bags – this will increase the cost of your trip! Learn to pack light! If you normally to wear weight to jump, check whether you can loan the pouches at the DZ's gear store, and only take your (empty) weight belt.

Vicky Scargill,

victoria.scargill@peugeot.com

I'm Cured!

As an ex-manager of Skydive Spain and AFF instructor (also ex Netheravon staff and Tigers), a lot of British people know I had a very bad car accident three years ago – I think it would great to tell them I've recovered. Despite being in a coma for 18 days, hospital for four months and a wheelchair for nearly a year, I am now near 100% recuperated! I am skydiving again, I have my own AFF school, and I'm running the London Marathon in April 2010 to show how well I am! I've even shocked doctors by how well I've recovered.

Barry Maple

barry@skydiveholiday.co.uk

Thanks for the Memories

It is eighteen months now since I last jumped owing to the fact that my wife, Sylvia, suffered a series of strokes that has left her needing 24-hour care. I had hoped for an improvement but sadly, no. So I have left the sport for good. I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the guys and gals around the world that have allowed me to share skydives, plane rides, a 'few' after-jump drinks (understatement!) and just companionship on many a wet or windy day. Skydiving rocks and so do you all. Stay safe and ENJOY!

Keith Toyer

keith.toyer@btopenworld.com

Is There Trouble Ahead?

I did my first jump in 1974 and have never tired of sport parachuting. Thirty plus years on and I've seen a lot of changes (mostly good) but the last five years or so I can't help feeling there's a bit of a problem. I'm talking about the growing propensity for tandems to dominate which, as far as I can see, serve only to provide short term income but do little to develop newcomers' interest. I've rarely met a tandem 'student' who moves on to take up the sport. Our recruitment and training of these would-be long term investors in the sport is very much under threat.

I often see a student walking around trying but failing to find an instructor and our professional pool is being distracted by tandem work (I'm talking instructors and camera operators) to the point of becoming de-skilled as category system or AFF instructors. I can personally vouch for this having recently failed to find any AFF instructors for two candidates I was endeavouring to introduce. I'm told that without tandems the clubs would not exist and that my jump fees hardly pay the cost of running the plane. I'm dubious on this point as clubs existed very well before tandems took a grip and I remain unconvinced these statements have been subjected to any sort of business modelling. I suspect the calculation has been based on margin per lift that fails to take cognisance of lost sales opportunities, given how long the plane seems to sit on the ground.

As a seasoned businessman I would beg the question of the club owners and the BPA if they have spent any time considering the impact of the current situation in terms of professional skills and recruitment. All businesses have the choice to react or drive their market; at the moment we just react. Given the disparate nature of club ownership and the BPA's agnostic focus when it comes to market issues, I'd wager there is little talk of driving the business model, without which we will drift to a

playground industry for one-off joyriders.

I long for the days when my club was a sea of people rushing to keep up with the manifest. We could easily do eight jumps a day then, these days three would be a blessing. I would equally be happier meeting fewer people who tell me they have 'done' skydiving who in fact have done little more than that required of a theme park ride.

Regards and thanks for producing such a constantly good read

Tim Bittleston D8674

I had the pleasure of reading Tim's letter and applaud and appreciate his concerns for our sport. As a BPA member, CSI and DZO I would agree that our sport has changed from my early days as well – but this is more down to the type of jumper prevalent now. I fondly remember the days of everyone being there to open up the dropzone, remaining to help close up and then having the froth off a few after jumping was done – but running a DZ is very much a commercial business and not the social activity it was then.

As anyone will appreciate, costs in all walks of life have increased. I opened a topic on UKS last year about the sharp rise in the cost of aviation fuel in 2008 and was firmly slapped with 'charge the tandems and students more' as the prevalent theme from experienced jumpers.

Running a DZ has far more costs than putting a plane in the air, but let's start there. My DZ has moved to a turbine airframe as a direct result of market forces. All competing DZs are turbine and with a piston we could not provide the facilities requested by today's jumpers, but that also means changing the infrastructure to support the aircraft and training multiple pilots at no small cost. Look at simple maths for the aircraft; at a very optimistic three lifts per hour it costs approximately £18 per bum on seat. So without kit maintenance, ground rent, advertising, office staff, etc, etc, DZs are running on roughly a 10% gross margin on experienced

jumpers. The bottom line is what it is all about in most businesses – when was the last price increase on an altitude ticket?

I understand that tandem now occasionally takes up the lion's share of lifts at some DZs but a balance has to be struck between satisfying the experienced jumper and paying the bills. A 10% margin less all other costs is not a sustainable business model. The prevalence of tandem and the decline in SL RAPS training was discussed at the last DZO's meeting and will be discussed again at the forthcoming one I am sure, so either experienced jumpers accept that the cost of running the facilities they use comes from the students or they face a substantial price rise to carry out their jumping.

With regard to instructors I have to disagree on the 'de-skilled' statement. The BPA and DZs have always insisted on the very highest standards for instructors, that is why we have such a good safety record in the UK, and I believe that the standard is raised every year.

I cannot comment on the centre you mention but if ours and the other centres I visit on a regular basis are anything to go by, it must have been an exceptionally busy day for you not to have been able to find an AFF instructor. I know from the number of students that I talk to on the DZ in a day or introduce to other instructors that there is always someone available – maybe not right this second but perhaps in ten minutes.

Regarding investors in the sport, at LPS we have had multiple tandem students sign up for AFF or static line RAPS courses. We've had a 1,000% increase in student jumpers learning to skydive compared to 2008, that is not a small increase by any terms. Sport parachuting is growing in the UK.

Regards and thanks for keeping us on our toes

Martin Harris

DZO, London Parachute School

Mike the Magnificent

Sitting around at Hib, a group of us were reflecting that there should be a BPA customer service award and that it should go to Mike Colthard. We all agreed that in the years we'd been jumping at Hib, we'd never known him to be anything other than fantastically friendly, helpful and professional, never mind what problem we threw in his direction! This letter is to show our appreciation for a fantastic member of the BPA community who is valued very much.

Kaizen & friends



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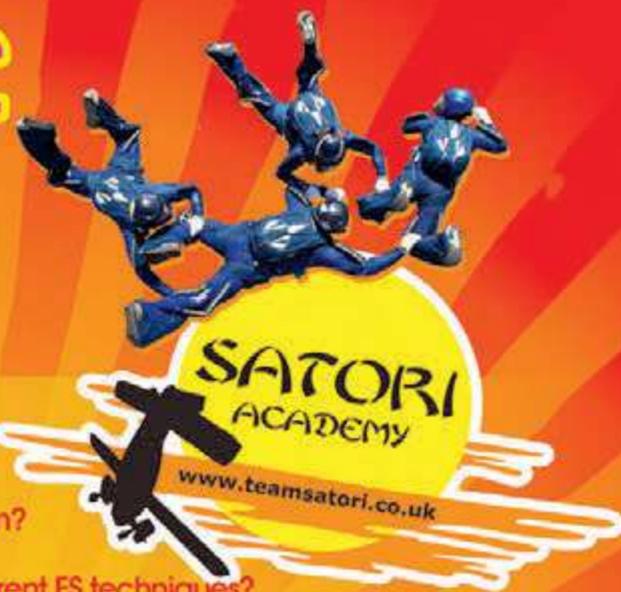
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31st Dec	2010 Challenge Jump

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CP & Classics

Nationals

Canopy Piloting

Sat around a lake, fishing rods in hand, under an overcast sky, many guys would be in heaven! And we were – this was the start of the Canopy Piloting National Championships.

Held again at Bad Lippspringe, Germany, the only BPA dropzone with an IPC regulation swoop pond, the competition was combined with the Style and Accuracy Nationals and the British Army Germany Championships (also often called the RAPA Championships). 17 competitors turned up with a sprinkling of foreigners, from Ireland, Norway, Holland and Germany, keen to get time on this impressive swoop pond. All the usual suspects were present with the exception of Deane 'Smudge' Smith who was in Chinese Taipei representing Great Britain at the World Games.

Speed

It was clear from the outset that the organisers would have their work cut out; the forecast for the whole competition was poor. But with a can-do attitude the speed event got under way. The testing conditions caught a number of competitors out with over half the field taking a zero in round one. Alastair Macartney laid down a great score from the start with 2.782 seconds through the 70m carving course. This was the only sub 3-second score of the round and the fastest time in the event. Round two saw a lot of zeros as well, with Spencer Hogg winning the round with 2.859s and Brian Vacher also scoring sub 3-seconds.

Round three saw more consistency with competitors having corrected their set-ups, though Brian Vacher narrowly missed the gate. Alastair Macartney again won the round taking a clear gold in the speed, Spencer Hogg stormed into silver and Brian Vacher took bronze.

Zone Accuracy

There has been much debate on the merits of scoreboard watching but Alastair was grateful to see the scores. Having set a demanding lead he knew he just had to maintain a consistent approach through the remainder of the competition to take the overall trophy.

This year zone accuracy had new rules. Previously points were scored on the water and then for an accurate landing. Now all the points are scored on the water, and then lost on the land. This appears to make the competition tough for the highest and lowest competitors but easier for the middle of the field. This showed – almost two thirds of the competitors took a zero on the first round. Brian Vacher stormed through to win round one convincingly. Round two was taken by Alastair despite strong competition from Simon Larcombe, Martin 'Danger Pants' Reynolds, Sooty Sutcliffe and Brian.

All competitors were scoring much better but it was clear that the meet would be a head-to-head battle between Alastair and Brian. Round three saw Brian just pipping Alastair and Danger Pants to a solid finish, taking gold ahead of Alastair in silver and Sooty Sutcliffe with a convincing bronze.

Distance

The fight was still on – despite Alastair's lead, distance was his weakest event and his tactic was still to fly only safe, consistent approaches. Brian however was keen to dominate. The rivals were flying different canopies; Alastair on a Competition Velocity 79 while Brian was flying his Competition Velocity 96. With only three rounds to go the competition was still exciting.

Brian showed his strong approach winning the first round with a score of 125.20m. Round two saw the first load jump in the evening and a questionable call to not send the second load until the following day saw some very different conditions for the two loads. Keiron Hayes won the round, narrowly followed by Stu Storey. The jump order was changed for the final round so competitors jumped in reverse order. The pressure was on...

Spencer Hogg, having previously demonstrated the incredible power he can generate, completely smashed the British National distance record (140m), laying down an amazing 149.99m. Yet his technique wasn't his most efficient flying so watch out for Spence to kick his own record into touch in future. With only Brian and Alastair left in the plane, competitors watched in awe. Brian flew the course first with a solid 113.41m. Close behind, Alastair made his approach, scored the gates, passed over the water and yelled with joy before he'd even touched down, knowing that the score was strong enough to retain the lead and to take the overall. Brian won gold in distance, Wez Westley took silver with a consistent performance, and Alastair flew into bronze. Despite setting a new national record, Spencer narrowly missed the gate in the first round, so didn't medal.

Overall

Following his early lead Alastair took gold in the overall CP event, Brian won the silver and Simon Larcombe, with his much improved and consistent performance, bagged the bronze.

Canopy Pilot Coaching

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www.h-e-a-t.co.uk

Stu Storey
Team HEAT



Brian Vacher



Wez Westley

CP Results

Overall

- 1 Alastair Macartney
- 2 Brian Vacher
- 3 Simon Larcombe

Accuracy

- 1 Brian Vacher
- 2 Alastair Macartney
- 3 Sean 'Sooty' Sutcliffe

Speed

- 1 Alastair Macartney
- 2 Spencer Hogg
- 3 Brian Vacher

Distance

- 1 Brian Vacher
- 2 Alan 'Wez' Westley
- 3 Alastair Macartney



Pete Sizer by Mick Harvey



Overall CP podium



Al Macartney wins overall



Brian Vacher wins distance & accuracy



Spencer Hogg sets new distance record



Classics

The stark contrast between the speed, crash and tumble of the canopy piloting and the more traditional classic accuracy was obvious to all. Both are great spectator sports, the speed and drama of canopy piloting over the pond and into the gravel were breathtaking, while the classic accuracy provided demonstrations of precision and control.

The championships were blessed with appalling weather, however all disciplines bar style were completed, albeit with only seven rounds of classic accuracy. Only one round of style was possible.

There were 33 competitors in the accuracy competing in senior, intermediate and novice. The weather allowed seven rounds to be completed, this included several rejumps due to unhelpful gusts. Competitors varied from members of Team GB with 8,400 jumps to soldiers with as few as 23 jumps. The German Army also entered a team in the open category. The conditions were definitely not optimal with aborted lifts, strong gusts and plenty of rain!

After a tropical rainstorm, General Andy Kennett, President of the Army Parachuting Association, presented the prizes. Then there was a party to match the force of the storm!

Sebastian Muntz
Commandant JSPC(L)

Prizegiving photos by Iain Anderson
CP action photos by Julia Severin



Team GB

Accuracy Results

Senior

- 1 Pete Sizer
- 2 Glenn Stephenson
- 3 Jeff Chandler

Intermediate

- 1 Smokey Bacon
- 2 Jay Leighton
- 3 Andy Clark

Novice

- 1 Lee Harrison
- 2 Steven Price
- 3 Bobby Fox

Team Accuracy

- 1 Team GB
- 2 Silver Stars
- 3 Smokey & the Bandits

Full results: bpa.org.uk

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Winged Warriors



by
Rob Colpus
Kit News



The S-Fly Indy, for beginners & intermediates



Those radical Gallic wingsuit flyers Loïc Jean-Albert and Stephane Zunino have released two new wingsuit designs through their company, which goes under the name of 'Fly your Body' (- baby?!)

The first, called the S-Fly Indy, is a one piece wingsuit, intended for the newbie to intermediate wingsuit flyer. It is easy to put on, allows plenty of body movement while in freefall and does not require the wings to be cut away when under canopy to grab risers and control the canopy. The S-Fly Indy has no booties and no cutaway cables for wing release. Fly your Body claims that gearing up this suit is very simple and movement on the ground is easy.

The second of the new suits is called the S-Fly Verso. This model is designed for 'experienced wingsuit flyers that want to combine increased surface with acrobatic flight,' claims the company. According to Fly your Body the Verso is easy to gear up, has high performance in the air, allows easy backflying and features what the company call the 'quick zip cut' arm wing cutaway system. The 'quick zip cut' has no handle or cable, and uses a simple action to open both arm zippers to allow complete freedom of the arms when under canopy.

Other features of the Verso are an 'auto-adjustable' zip for the harness laterals, and what are called 'recto-verso vents', an airlock system to maintain air pressure within the suit whether flying on your belly or your back. Both the Indy and the Verso are available from stock in five standard sizes and three colour schemes.

flyyourbody.com

The S-Fly Verso, for experienced flyers wanting a taste of acrobatic flight



The quick zip cut arm cutaway system

Paper Wings

The BPA recently adopted and published a Wingsuit Training Manual, reportedly based on the flight manual produced by the Birdman company of Finland.

The new manual states that to fly a wingsuit in the UK a skydiver must be an FAI 'C' Certificate parachutist with at least 500 descents, or have at least 200 freefall descents within the previous 18 months, and must also demonstrate (in a belly to earth position), the ability to:

- Control fall rate
- Control horizontal movement (forwards, backwards, sideways)
- Achieve docking techniques
- Turn in place
- Dive to approach a target.

The manual is designed for wingsuit coaches to teach experienced skydivers how to fly wingsuits safely, fully educating new wingsuit pilots with everything they need to know to keep themselves and those around them safe. It goes on to say however that the manual is not the only thing new wingsuit pilots need, they must also have instruction from a wingsuit coach.

The manual covers all aspects of wingsuiting including:

- Minimum requirements to wingsuit
- Recommended equipment
- Rigs and deployment systems
- Canopies
- Altimeters and audibles
- Qualities for beginner suits
- Wingsuit fit
- First Flight Course which covers; equipment, exits, flat spins, flight patterns, body positions, side-slipping, turn techniques, 3D awareness, hand signals, and deployment.

www.bpa.org.uk/doc_pages/training

Military Warning

A Royal Air Force Parachute training officer felt moved recently to issue a letter warning sport parachute clubs and tandem operators against the use of the Parachutes de France 'Military' BT80 tandem main canopy for normal sport tandem use.

Apparently a Vector Tandem system had been discovered packed with a 'Military' BT80, which has now been removed, but the possibility of others is still extant. The letter went on to state that the 'Military' BT80 is a heavily modified version of the standard BT80 used by civilian tandem operations.

The drogue pilot chute modification on the Military version is designed to reduce the opening forces when deployed at high altitude. Therefore, if deployed at the normal tandem deployment height of around 5,000ft AGL, military BT80 canopies will open extremely slowly, thereby compromising safety margins.

The following features identify military BT80 canopies:

- 1 The drogue pilot chute bridle line passes through the canopy and attaches to the slider.
- 2 There are no cross-port vents.
- 3 The canopy is a silver grey colour.

BPA chief Instructors, Riggers and Advanced Packers are asked to contact Tony Butler at the BPA if any are found.

tony@bpa.org.uk
0116 2785271

A Packing Case

At their meeting in August the Safety & Training Committee (STC) of the BPA decided that the old reserve packing certificates (Advanced Packing Certificates) would cease to be valid after 31 March 2010. Holders of these certificates have until then to upgrade, by taking the exam phase of the Advanced Packers Course.

The original aim of the Advanced Packing Certificate was to encourage more people into rigging, through a modular qualification, reserve packing being the first step. It was a way of qualifying more people to pack reserves and reduced the workload in training new riggers. When they began their Riggers Course they could concentrate fully on manufacturing, sewing and repairing techniques. It has proved successful in achieving these aims as we now have more qualified riggers and more reserve packers, who hopefully in future will become fully qualified riggers.

The Advance Packing Certificate was always intended to ultimately to replace the old reserve packing certificate. Originally it was thought that over the years natural wastage would gradually allow the old certificates to phase out. Whilst this has happened to a certain extent, after thirteen years, there was still a two-tier system in operation.

The point was made that a number of very old Packing Certificates also included 'mains' as well as 'reserves' and the BPA expressed concern that the holders of these certificates would not then be able to pack main parachutes after this date. This was clarified so that any main canopies listed on the old certificates will still be eligible for packing after 1 April 2010, but the reserves would not be.

As from 1 April 2010, the only persons who will be legally qualified in the UK to pack and inspect reserve parachutes are Riggers or Advanced Packers. (An Advance Packer, despite the name is not someone who holds the old Advanced Packing Certificate but someone who has passed the Advanced Packers Exam and been awarded a number).

Infinity and Beyond!

An 'Owner's Manual Supplement' relating to its Infinity harness/container system has been released by Velocity Sports Equipment of Oregon USA. The supplement illustrates a new location of the AAD cutter, from flap No 1 below the pilot chute, to flap No 2, above the pilot chute. This mod was requested by Airtec, manufacturer of the Cypres AAD, of several harness/container systems which feature a single external reserve pin closure on the outside of the reserve tray – which is most of them.

Velocity states that no action is demanded as the mod is not mandatory, but Airtec had suggested it would 'improve the effectiveness of an AAD triggered reserve deployment'. Velocity explained the company had produced the supplement to provide pictures of the AAD installation in this configuration, until such time as they update the Owner's Manual. In order to protect the cutter and reduce the bulge the company has begun installing reserve pilot chutes with recessed caps.

velocityrigs.com

Mini Marvel



The Helmet Hero Wide

The Helmet HERO Wide is claimed by its US makers, Go-Pro, to be the world's smallest, wireless helmet- or gear-mountable video camera in existence – and we can believe them!

This tiniest of mini cameras, which comes equipped with quick-release mounts that attach it to skydiving helmets, bikes, kayaks, skis, snowboards and anywhere else you dare think of, shoots 56 minutes of high resolution video and 5 megapixel stills automatically in 'photo every 2 seconds' mode. Measuring in at only 6 x 4 x 2.5 cm, this funky little device features the industry's widest 170° wide-angle lens.

Shockproof and waterproof to 100 feet/30 metres, and with a battery life of three hours of video record time when using Lithium batteries and two hours when using NIMH rechargeable batteries, the Helmet HERO Wide would seem to be the perfect choice for all skydiving applications, from fun freely footage to AFF debriefs.

The package which this nifty camera comes with includes four quick-release adhesive mounts, a vented helmet strap, headlamp-style head strap, a three-way pivoting side arm assembly, two quick-release buckles and a USB/RCA combo cable. Adhesive mounts are removable but require purposeful removal and are safe on a painted surface. The camera works with a 2GB max SD card. All of this is available from UK dealers for less than £200.

Examples of footage from various adventure sports can be viewed at:

goprocamera.com/products

Sigma Swop

United Parachute Technologies (UPT) of Florida (formerly the Relative Workshop), manufacturer of the popular Vector series of container systems is offering a trade-in programme which is intended to help Vector 2 tandem system owners to upgrade their kit. UPT's offer reads, "In an effort to update our customer's tandem fleets to the latest technology, UPT is offering a trade-in program on all Vector 2 tandem harness/containers against the purchase of a new Sigma tandem system".

The Sigma, which was released as a replacement for the original Vector tandem system in 2001, is unlike all other tandem systems where the tandem drogue was simply tacked onto an existing sport container design. The Sigma was redesigned from the ground up, with an innovative drogue/main container closing/deployment method which was designed to address every container-related problem that the company had observed since the introduction of tandem in the early eighties

UPT has not produced any Vector II tandem systems since 2001 and now says that it recognises that it is time to replace all of the outdated systems in the field. Owners and operators of Vector 2 Tandem systems are asked to contact UPT for further details.



The Sigma tandem system

uptvector.com

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Satori

National 4-way FS champions - UK



Team Bodyflight

Bodyflight World Challenge FF Gold medalists



Babylon

World Games FF Gold medalists - Taiwan

Bodyflight World Challenge Bronze medalists



Army Nemesis

AA 4-way FS Gold medalists - UK



Jet Blonds

AA 4-way FS Silver medalists - UK



December 2009 - April 2010

Beni Mellal: 13, 500 ft, 19 euros



Credit: photos: John W. Bousquet - ADRENALINEXPERIENCE.COM

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Awesome Tina



Green helmet, big-way skydiver, interesting landings(!), modest, unique sense of humour, independent and always up for an adventure – all words describing Tina Wiseman... but ultimately one adjective fits her best, quite simply: Awesome!

Tina did her first jump on 29 August 1999, starting like many with an initial tandem charity jump, which in turn led to a solo and then the rest, as they say, is history. Tina's dry sense of humour and her warm, sincere but self-deprecating personality endeared her to everyone, no matter in which discipline of skydiving they were involved. There are many with memories of sunny days spent at Langar (and there are occasionally some!), where Tina would be found chatting on the packing mats between jumps with some of her freely mates and then disappearing off for an organised jump with the flat-flying ones and then returning for more banter later. Tina's skydiving friends were 'family' to her.

Big-way jumping for Tina started at Langar on small organised loads with Stealth and then later building up to two-plane organised loads and formations with Dave Lewis. It was around this time that Tina purchased an article of equipment that was to permanently distinguish her from the crowd – her bright green Z1 full-face helmet! A colour that often matched the colour of her jumpsuit after yet another eventful landing in the rape seed! Her first experience of big-way on a larger scale was at Brit Chicks 2004 when she joined Lesley Gale on the 60-way British Women's record. It was at this time she met Kate Cooper who was there to advise on the formation and who talked of the Big Way Camps in California. Tina was one of the first group of Brits to pick up on this opportunity and the following year made the first of several trips to Perris culminating in

2007's 100-way camp, where she completed a 105-way formation.

It was at this time she became one of the founding members of 'Team Awesome'. After many successful skydives, the other members finally managed to get the ever-reluctant Tina to admit that she was just a little bit awesome. From the original four founding members of Tina, Simon Bristow, Chris Ives and Rob Gray (pictured), there are now over 200 in this group, for people having completed at least a 50-way formation whilst retaining a slightly childish sense of humour. One of Tina's most memorable jumps was on this visit, where Team Awesome launched an inflatable raft, 'Big Bertha' from a Twin Otter, complete with Tina in the middle kneeling up and hi-fiving her team mates.

The lovely thing about Tina was that, even as she progressed so well within the sport, she never forgot her roots and the people at her local airfield, Langar. She continued to participate in locally organised events including Battle of the Sexes, the Brit Chicks Red Cross, and competing in 4-way at the Nationals with her team, YNot. Of course not to forget her part in the winning 28-way team, *Herding Cats* – who, it has to be said, have been unable to win the cup back since Tina stopped jumping! Tina's last accolade in skydiving, which she was sadly unable to fulfil, was when she obtained a slot on the Women's World Record this September for Jump for the Cause 2009.

Her interests were diverse – from being a committed Samaritans volunteer to attending gigs of various bands, and also comedians, such as Collins & Herring who actually included a tribute to Tina in their recent podcast. When not skydiving she could be found walking, climbing, skiing, caving and pot-holing – the cavers from her Salford University days being her other 'family'. She'd had her own drum set, played keyboard for a band and was an expert at bar games, being particularly skilled at climbing through the gaps in bar stools.

She had a close relationship with her 'real' family and was thrilled and proud to become an aunt last year to little Millie. Tina will be remembered as fun-loving, go-getting, yet genuine, selfless and generous, an inspiration to many and – as recently described – somebody who showed us how to be better in so many ways.

Allison Armstrong & Lisa Lewis



CLUB News



Hib

The Freefly Scrabbles (4-5 July) organised by Dan Parker and James Davies was a big success. Each competitor jumped with several other jumpers in their category (head-up or head-down) and were scored on their individual performance on the jump; the totals tallied up giving eventual winners. The head-up was won by Mark Owen with Jay Southall winning the head-down.

The Funshine Boogie tied in with pre-nationals teams training. Despite poor weather some teams got 70+ jumps done the week we were open every day. The Nationals soon followed, 142 lifts in 1 day – a new record for us. The Artistics and 8-way didn't see quite as good weather but got completed in 2 days with the CF finishing on the Monday. Well done to all competitors, see you next year!

Our 60-way weekend event was organised by Simon Cathrine with 5-plane formations. The Skyvan was a welcome return visitor – it was impressive to see G-PIGY leading two G92s flanked by two SMG 92s. Willy Boeykens and resident cameraflyers Dave Butterell and John Williamson took some amazing

photos of the largest formations done over Hibaldstow. Everyone was deeply saddened late Saturday with the unexpected loss of Tom. Our deepest sympathies are passed to his family, friends and fellow jumpers. Known to many in our skydiving community over twenty years, Tom will be greatly missed.

UKS rocked into town with a sandy bar in the marquee and more pirates than a package holiday in Tortuga. The UKS Boogie day tape opened evening festivities, with a DJ on Saturday and an Irish band on Sunday. Thanks to all the organisers who worked hard to help everyone, and to the jumpers who came – many for the first time – to Hibaldstow. The Skyvan was a first for many of our regulars with the birdmen getting the biggest cheers on the day tape for their climbing exits.

Summer's not quite out yet – the 8-way speed FS versus FF competition is October 3-4 and at Halloween our 10-way 'Frostbite Friendly' speed meet with the obligatory fancy dress. See you there!

Noel Purcell

Touretti Spaghetti; Mike Pascoe, Tally Keith, Lawrence Fanza & Con Ryan, by Andy Cliff



Hinton

We finally completed the Nish Bruce Memorial Scrambles on the third attempt, jumping all five rounds. The winning team scored a record-breaking total of 32 points, well done to *The Jackson 4*; Rich Orford, Lucy Maycock, Ben Wood & Felix Hay. Felix gained his FS1 too, a great achievement in under 50 jumps! A big thank you to all the Hinton staff for making sure the meet completed without a hitch – except maybe one or two camera issues, mentioning no names, Bob and Jon!

Thank you to Caroline White for organising, judging and the

FS1 by Jim Stevenson



60-way photos by Jim Stevenson



evening BBQ. You do a great job every year – and you managed it three times this year! A special mention to the DW boys, thanks for putting together the footage for us to watch over a beer, a great end to an awesome weekend!

We held the final round of the ISSA World Cup 2009 series speed competition in brilliant weather. Thank you Clare and Andy Fryer for organising and to the sponsors – Cypres, Larsen & Brusgaard and Pdf – who provided the prizes.

Luigi Cani came in August to run a hugely popular 2-day canopy course. Lectures and practical tuition from Luigi were brilliant and everyone learnt loads! Thank you Maddy for organising this event, sorry to those who couldn't get on, watch out for more!

We held a course for a couple of regulars to get their FS coach ratings; congratulations to Lucy Maycock and Richard Lumb! We usually have coaches available, just ask at the manifest on the day.

Tally Keith

Achievements

- Cat 8**
- Andre Parnell
- AFF Graduate, Cat 8, CH1**
- John Foreman
- Don Gillis
- FS1**
- Felix Hay
- 50 Jumps, FS1**
- Chris Morris
- Alki
- 50 Jumps**
- James Billington
- 300 Jumps**
- Lee Petherick
- 400 Jumps**
- Ian Gooberman
- 600 Jumps**
- Adam Searle
- 1,900 Jumps**
- Matt Abram

Achievements

- FS1**
- Andy Craig
- Damian O'Connor
- FF1**
- Russ George
- FF2**
- Leanne James
- CP1**
- Darren Glover
- Sally Uren
- WS1**
- Greg McEntee
- WS2**
- Gary Crisp
- Gavin Bowers
- Philip Tzourou
- Jack Johnson
- Dave Butterell

Jump Numbers

- 50**
- Andy Craig
- Damian O'Connor
- Mick Allison
- 100**
- Ryan May
- Mark Maddison
- 200**
- Fiona Millar
- Lisa Lister
- Ryan Lee Brown
- Daryl Poulton
- Chris Judd
- Matt Brown
- 300**
- Greg McEntee
- Rachel Duncan
- Adam Penchaz
- 400**
- Gavin Bowers
- Leanne James
- Holly Kilham
- 500**
- Ben Cornick
- Sarah Rhind
- Ant Hill
- Aaron Sherwood
- 600**
- Russ George
- Clara Melia
- Clair Armstrong
- Kris Ridley
- 700**
- Paul Channin
- 900**
- Rai Ahmed
- 1,000**
- Francois Cathelain
- Jason Kierman
- 1,100**
- Jo Burns
- Jane Henderson
- 2,000**
- Dave Curtain
- Dave Butterell



Scrambles winners, The Jackson 4



Touretti Spaghetti



Prizegiving photos by Chris Thorpe



Steve Murphy's got it licked, photo by Karen Baggaley

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www.cypres.cc

Swansea

DZ carpenter Shamus has been busy producing a staff kitchen area, and is now known as the Fiddler on the Roof. So, do we get a mock-up next Shamus? Well done to Ricki and Paul for their B licences and Paul for his radio licence, good luck with your apprenticeship under Tom.

When the sun gives the odd guest appearance we're making the most of things, with lots of jumps and plenty of new faces doing AFF! Big well done to Jacci for finally passing AFF, and it's good to see Adam George firing on all cylinders and back in the air again! Mr Inky, the beer fridge awaits you!

After entertaining us recently on a rainy day Ryan and Shamus know they can always earn a crust busking to Swansea shoppers! I guess if the rain continues, the rest of us will be their backstage support crew!

Carl Williams



Photo: Grason Buckley

South Coast

Catherine Hope's tandem, photos by Finch Lauer



On 23 August we had 3 generations of one family jumping with us! They were Catherine Hope (grandmother), Penny Nicholas (daughter) and Mark Walker (grandson). At 85, Catherine is the oldest lady to jump at Skydive Southcoast – and what a lady indeed! She was in the RAF in the second World War and has always wanted to do a skydive. Telling this to a friend of hers, grandson Mark overheard the conversation and organised it all, and his mother Penny decided to join in the fun. Catherine was so excited to do the jump she was fairly bursting with energy – completely charming all the men at the DZ, who couldn't do enough for her. The only worry she had was losing her teeth! She is an amazing woman who couldn't stop smiling.



Anja Blamire

Keep it in the family!

RAPA

Dave Newton has left to work with 16 Air Assault Brigade. Thanks Dave for giving us the best 2 years of your life – brilliant job on the swoop ditch for the UK CP Nationals, but remember the coupons. Congratulations to Brendan and Mary on the birth of your daughter; good to see her on the DZ so soon. Paul Moore has finally handed over after 5 years. You have left your mark at RAPA Paul – new plane, new ditch, new bar! Many thanks to Paul and Lesley; we know you'll be back!

Ben Punter has left RAPA on his way out of the Army. Iain and Pamela Anderson depart for Cyprus Parachute Centre, we know you'll be back too. The RAPA Championships and UK Canopy Piloting and Classics Nationals came and went, see page 46. This is the third CP and Classics Nationals that RAPA have hosted; it is so much fun we feel it's time someone else builds a swoop pond and shares some of the joy, pleasure, and expense! Paul Moore will be available to help when he leaves the Army next year!

Sebastian Muntz



Farewell Paul & Lesley by Iain Anderson



Lee Harrison wins the Jack Fowler cup



RAPA party

Achievements

First Freefall

Sean Elkington

AFF Graduate

Hannah Tillyard

Kev Brown

Cat 8, CH1

Paul Clapham

Debbie Collins

FS1

Ryan Briddon

Ania Bartnicka

Bart Bartnicka

Rachel Gentle

Deborah Martin

Steve Lawrence

Tom Stephenson

FF1

Laura Hampton

Jump Numbers

50

Ryan Briddon

Cliff Turner

Karen Nielson

Ania Bartnicka

Bart Bartnicka

Simon Donnelly

Deborah Martin

Steve Lawrence

Tom Stephenson

100

Kieron O'Rourke

Mark Grimwade

Ryan Briddon

300

Wes Guest

Paul Rimmington

Ross Lambert

Ruth Jordinson

Sian Stokes

400

Jonny Flowers

700

Des Meyer

800

Chris Cook

Will Cooke

900

Alli Armstrong

1,100

Jo Hawley

Chris Smith

1,200

Tim Aucott

1,300

Maria Russell

2,700

Craig Poxon

3,000

Pixie

1 Hour Freefall

Simon Donnelly

12 Hours Freefall

Angela Hickling

Des Meyer

Langar

TV gladiator 'Fox' does a tandem by Chris Smith



Huge congratulations to all the Langar jumpers returning from the Nationals with shiny medals. Between them they managed to bring back gold for 4-way, 8-way, freestyle and CF. Awesome work! Congratulations also to Ally Milne and Dave Lewis on their 2 point 107-way antics in Chicago.

Bullet Freely School has been working hard on progression, with an all-girls freely weekend in September and a head-down progression weekend planned for

24-25 October (oddi@aol.com). Shaggy's bar will be taken over by ghosts, ghouls and cobwebs for a Halloween party on 31 October, and the now famous Langar bonfire party is 7 November; remember to bring a firework.

Don't forget that we'll fly our two Grand Caravans every day through the winter, except Christmas Day. Come on down!

Sarah Bailey

Tim Skilton & Martin Reynolds by Gary Wainwright



Sarah Fletcher & Roger Broughton by Jimmy Freemantle



Scott Calcraft & Chris Cook by Tony Danbury

Elliot Martin by Gary Wainwright



Congrats to Ally Milne & Dave Lewis on this 2-point 107-way in Chicago, photos by Norman Kent

Cornish

for their help with our students meanwhile. We also thank all the CPC staff and club members for their help lately. The club needs your support for its continued success.

Chris Wood



Ben Wood & Phil Symons on Ben's tandem course



Dave Lock beach landing by Ben Wood



CPC members' beach jump by Chris Wood



Tandem Instructor Ralph Mitchell by Ben Wood

Cornish Parachute Club celebrated its fourth birthday with an unexpected staff change; Paul Yeoman decided to leave the business. CPC wish Paul & Sharon all the best for the future. The club remains in the hands of Dave & Chris Wood. Ben, as a new tandem instructor, will be more involved in the running of the club. Big thanks to Phil Symons who helped Ben on his course as a passenger. Ben remains the main cameraflyer but is slowly releasing his tight grip to allow Ross Houlston to play his part. Ross's hard work has paid off and he's producing fantastic footage and photos. Well done

Ross for your endless efforts, greatly appreciated.

We welcome Tom Chater as a new jump pilot, with over 6,000hrs. Tom and his wife are commercial pilots from the Falkland Islands (seems a long way to come each weekend, just to help jump fly). We congratulate Steve Clarke, Club Chief Pilot for over 30 years in parachuting, 2,987 jumps and over 1,000 hours jump flying.

We've made some fab beach demos this summer and we're now operating our student programme with great success at Bodmin Airfield. Many thanks to Jason and all at Dunkeswell

Photos show Guys & Dolls, winners of the scrambles by Paul Newton



UK Para

August proved to be UK Parachuting's busiest month on record! A big thanks to all the staff that worked so hard. UK Parachuting will be making yet another TV appearance, on BBC's 'Blast Lab' presented by Richard Hammond. Grant and Andy Page did a wingsuit jump, pretending to be squirrels, and on landing had to chase a man dressed as a nut. Yes, I also wish I'd been there to see it for real! Check it out in the new series, early 2010.

Our summer party at Banham Zoo was a great success, with Colin's disco, Steve Wickham's entertainment and a raffle raising £305 for Make-a-Wish Foundation UK. Thank you all those who donated prizes, such as vouchers for Banham Zoo & Africa Alive.

August saw another great turnout for our coaching week, which led into our annual scrambles. With 7 teams this year, we welcomed new club members as well as the usual suspects. Winning team *Guys and Dolls* were coached by Steve Taylor, who came all the way from San Diego just for our scrambles! (Well, okay, he was here anyway staying with Grant and me!) Second place went to *Hypoxia*, led by Dave Alexander and third

place to *The Wickham Wanderers*, coached by Steve Wickham. Thank you to scrambles sponsor Kent Property Management (Steve Wickham) who of course did not disappoint with the runner-up prizes! Each team member received a vibrating massager! Congratulations to Emelia Caverly, Michael Burns and Elliott Clapp who achieved their FS1s during the comp!

Grant and Tomo say a huge thanks to club member Steve Niemiec who spent much of the coaching week updating all the UKPS computer systems, making things much more efficient.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated! The Christmas party is in the offing, check the 'club zone': www.ukparachuting.co.uk

The early bird lift is still operating so get out of bed and take advantage before the season ends!

Susie Richards

Achievements

Cat 8

Lewis Jameson
Rob Hurren
Anthony Joy
Oskar Grass
Lewis Jameson

FS1

Andy Miller
Emelia Caverly
Michael Burns
Elliott Clapp
Rob Bellman

FF1

Russ Shearman

Jump Numbers

50

Elliott Clapp
Cathy Johnson

100

Nigel Highfield
Steve Niemiec

200

Rob Caverly
Rob Bellman

300

Russ Shearman

400

Paul Newton

1,000

Gavin Rixon
Steve Wickham





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Lewknor

Well it has gone nuts down 'on the farm', cameraflyers of long standing busting their own jumps-in-a-day record and lift numbers increasing, including multiple 12-way formation attempts (please note the 'attempt' comment). Martin made it to 1,000 jumps and promptly bought the bar down the pub for all who attended – strange how quickly it fills up when someone else is buying! AFF has gone through the roof; every lift seems to have an AFF level or several consols on.

Many thanks to Tim Lawson for the spectacular food at the bank holiday BBQ. We had the Islander in for some old-style fun



Martin Harris
by Mark Stone

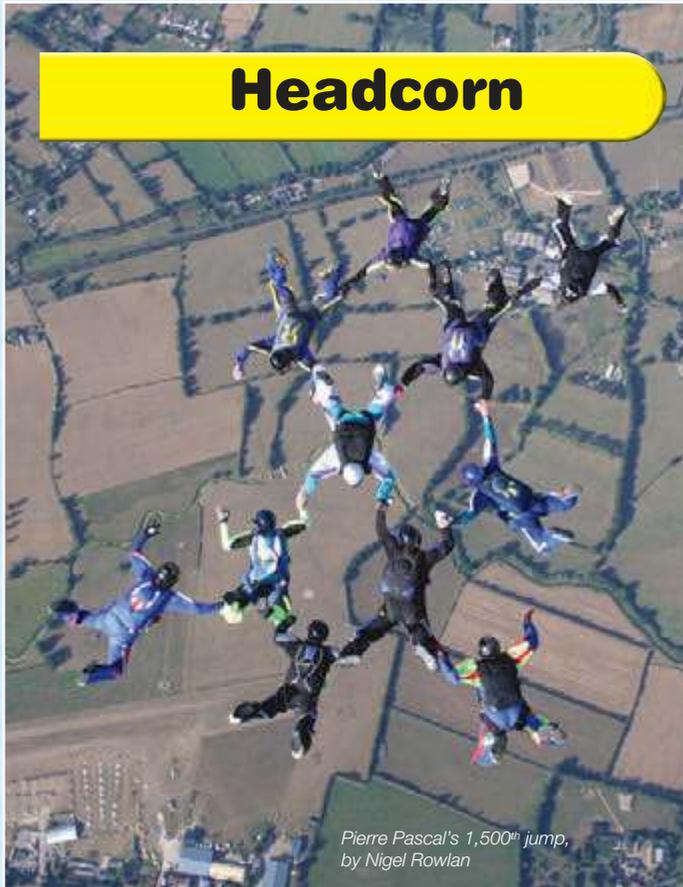


Dorz, coming home
by Mark Grayson

in September and are looking at other novelty airframes for 2010 – but we promise to keep the CCI away from the Rapide if we get it in. There's been a substantial increase in club jumpers always good to see, mainly visitors from other centres coming to see what it used to be like. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you – just remember your medical if you need one! (the culprit being the writer at WOTG).

Martin Harris

Headcorn



Pierre Pascal's 1,500th jump,
by Nigel Rowlan

Every year we have a week where we focus on developing our club members' FS skills. Inventively, we call this 'FS Week'! This year, we jumped every day, with a couple of days of scorching weather. The role call of success was wide-ranging – from Dan Bowles passing his Level 8 AFF on Monday and getting his licence on Thursday, to organised group and multiple FS1s – well done Jo, Lee & Lizzie, we're still waiting for the beer!

Chris Shaw ran seminars in bad weather, so the focus on learning never stopped. On Wednesday evening some went to Bodyflight with Chris Shaw's Sky Skills, for the best tunnel event he's ever run for FS week. It was the first time he'd heard anyone shout "Woo hoo!" loud enough to hear over the fan! Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make the week such a success.

Love's been in the air. Part time instructor Tony and Headcorn

regular Gill started their wedding with the demo team jumping in, Tony landing on the cross! Nice work. (See below) The skydiving theme carried on to their cake – bride and groom both wearing rigs, with the cake as the DZ. Also now married are Eric (a regular, and the sixth Shapland to jump at Headcorn!) and Carly (only tandems – so far!). We wish both couples long, happy futures together.

Club members did well at Nationals – Pete Sizer won gold at senior accuracy (including two dead centres), Chris Lynch gold in VFS, and Mike Dawson, Elaine Cherry, Henry Thompson & Nigel Rowlan gold at 8-way intermediate. It's great to see club members doing so well and we'd love to see more of you competing – come and ask any of the staff/medal winners/local judges if you want to know more about competitions.

Chris Shaw & Ruth Cooper

AFF Graduate

Dan Bowles
Graeme Hoffman
Mike Penfold
Cat 8, CH1
Dan Bowles
Graeme Hoffman
Mike Penfold
Gulmerize Muller
Callum Collins
Ross Woodgate
Richard McCarthy

FS1

Chris Sparkes
Lizzie Knowles
Lee Blackledge
Jo Whiting

CF1

Mark Bayley
Dennis McTaggart
Mary Barratt
Sarah Pilling

JM1, CH2

Craig Crosbie
Jamie Turner

FF1

Steve Powell
WS1
James Freeman
Tony Kirk-Burgess
Jane Buckle
James Dodd
John Schulze

Jump Numbers

50
Kane Clarke
Dean MacIntyre
Craig Weller
Richard McCarthy

100

Kim Read
Jeremy Hudson

200

Sarah Pilling
Craig Crosbie
Jamie Turner
Fleur Jones

300

Nadine Hall
700
Lucy Smith-Wildey

1,500

Pierre Pascal

6,000

Pete Sizer

13,000

Chris Lynch

1 Hour Freefall

Steve Powell

72 Hours Freefall

Clem Quinn

Jane Buckle



Eric and Carly Shapland's wedding by Thomas Shapland



Photo by Nigel Rowlan

Tony and Gill Kirk-Burgess
by Keith Slater



Paragon

Things have stepped up a gear and we've rattled out a decent number of jumps lately. In fact we've been so busy we've even had to create teams to keep up with manifest demands. The notion of an 'A Team' and a 'B Team' has had mixed reactions, primarily depending which team you consider yourself a member of. See Billy's reaction (right) and guess where he belongs!



Steve and James, who had both thought of heading off, have decided to stay. Dave (the pilot) managed to get his knees in the breeze for a change and it's good to see Roy Bannerman putting the students through their paces.

We'll be hooking up with the Strath crew for a couple of weeks (hi-viz vests looked out) while Zulu Uniform is away for its annual, quickly followed by Billy and Co, who are off to Empuria for their annual! It's good to see some new faces here. Remember there are usually slots available if you want to stay current but if it's big-ways you're after, you may be disappointed. Hoo Haa!

Mag7

Photos by Rab Peterson

Steve Lambert



Nethers

Pokie's lawn art



Rick Boardman kindly organised and ran our first safety weekend, via a series of classroom lectures and practical sessions. Topics covered included; kit maintenance, buying the right gear, Rick's legendary flightline checking, in-air flight safety, practical spotting, and dealing with an aircraft emergency. Everyone enjoyed it, learnt a great deal and got to know other jumpers. Many thanks to Rick for all his hard work. We're hoping this isn't a one-off, so watch the website for Top Gun Flight Safety Weekend II.

Nethers jumpers did a great job at Nationals. Well done to Aaron Faith who won 4-way AAA gold with *Satori*; Gary Sweeney, Andy Myers and Dave Pacey for freefly silver with *Euphoria*; Alison Stainer and Louis Schroeder for 4-way A gold with *Unagi*; *Nemesis* for 4-way AA gold

and Pokie & Jamie Flynn for 2-way sequential CF intermediate gold with *PH36*. Jumpers may have noticed the new-look DZ from the air, with a strange crop circle spelling out the letters 'PH36'! It could just be a coincidence but Pokie is now advertising 'lawn art services'!

Euphoria participated in tandem events to raise money for Help for Heroes on behalf of two friends from their regiment, Lt Aaron Lewis and Capt Tom Sawyer who lost their lives in Afghanistan. The team is making plans for next year's training and would like to thank everyone who has supported them including the APA, Airkix wind tunnel, Heat Sports and Carbon Phonix helmets.

After many years, Nige Allen has left the post of CCI and is retiring from the Army. Many thanks from everyone

for all your hard work over the years – there's never been a dull moment! Good luck to Sharon, whose number of children to look after has just gone up by one! And welcome to Andy Goodall who is taking over as CCI (pictured below).



Best wishes to Ian Lyons who is up and about following a mishap with demo practice earlier in the year. Chicken, aka Mrs Pokie is also well on the road to recovery following knee surgery – just watch out for those rogue bottles of pink!



Armies photos by Mick McPhee, Andy Myers & Dave Pratt

Up to the time of writing and despite the recession, we've had our busiest season for years! Unfortunately, the replacement for the 206 fell through, leaving just the Airvan to carry everyone. It's been frustrating for our regulars but we're still actively looking for a second aircraft and hopefully will have found something by the time you read this.

It's good to see Rosie Walls back in the air after a long layoff, it's as though she never went away. Welcome to Katie and Hannah, who've been travelling across the country to be Tilstock regulars. Welcome to new pilots Ollie Williams and Simon Gawne, congratulations to Dave Major on 250 hours and to Barry Maguire & Matt Wilcock for their B Certificates

After the media frenzy surrounding Paul Lewis's accident in August, he's well on the way to full recovery, we wish him well. With all the coverage he only managed to get one 'plummeted' in the papers. Well done!

Colin Fitzmaurice



Mike Pritchard by Paul Lewis

Tilstock

Achievements

First Freefall

Martin Brown

100 Jumps

Matt Wilcock



Martin Brown's first freefall by Dave Major



The Armies

The Armies week was very busy and saw 48 teams in 4-way and well over 100 in accuracy. After the introduction of artistic disciplines last year, it was encouraging to see an increase in the number and standard of freefly and freestyle teams. Excitement was high in most of the disciplines as results were close, particularly in rookie FS. Some of the civvy teams pushed the military hard, in particular *AMS Sirens* who won the A Class FS and *PH36* who pocketed gold in 2-way CF sequential.



There were some very strong performances, in particular *Army Nemesis* and *RAFSPA Firefly* who convincingly won gold and silver medals in AA Class FS; *Royal Signals Velox* who won AAA; and *Army Euphoria* taking freefly gold. On an individual note, Marcus Speed had an excellent meet, winning gold in AA and AAA FS teams, a silver in 2-way CF and a freefly bronze!

Excellent military catering provided a great curry night and a number of barbecues. The first Saturday saw the former CCI Nige Allen being 'dined out' of the Army after 26 years of service, and a number of sore heads on Sunday morning! After the prizegiving, competitors were entertained by rock covers band 'The Hyperbolics', and a lack of jumping on the Friday meant that there was plenty of energy left for dancing. The band was slightly disturbed by some of the YMCA costumes, although most Nethers regulars saw nothing out of the ordinary!

We promise a good time again next year, everyone welcome, especially civvies – put 31 July – 8 August 2010 in your diary, and we hope to see you then!

Kath Salisbury, Andy Myers & Si Bristow

Achievements

FF1

Mike Desmond

FS1

Kiera Sidford

Rich Earle

Cat 8

Will Arnold

Anna Newey

Kelly Legge

Alun Evans

Emily Chinn

Zoe Edwards

Jump Numbers

50

Ski

300

Francis Reardon

400

Karl Reynolds

600

Graham Nicholas

800

Mark Baker

Pokie

900

Chaz

1,000

Becky Austin

1,200

Billy Blanchard

1 Hr Freefall

Chris Shields

12 Hrs Freefall

Chaz



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Wild Geese

The second and final big-way skills camp at the Geese saw organising by Colum McGovern and Jim Gunning, plus milestones for Mark Redmond and Nuala Malone, both of whom I can offend since neither has ever made me carrot cake. Fed up with predictably unpredictable weather, Alison, Connor, James and Fi joined up with Eddie Monteith in Empuriabrava, now a home away from home for them.

Our resident canopy piloting coach Rod McCrory returned from more competitive swoop action and his second visit in almost as many months to RAPA. On paper Rod has all the attributes needed to literally 'go far' in swooping, namely a three-digit plus figure to put into wing loading calculations. There appear to be one (or should I say two) side effects though, judging by a particular opening during August! Staying with canopy skills, Brian Vacher returns to Wild Geese in the coming month bringing with him his Safe Flight School expertise.

Finally, and for the umpteenth time, devilishly handsome is not an achievement Paul Brennan!

Martin McLaughlin

Colum McGovern



Nuala's FS1 companions, Colum, Alison & Steve



Mark Redmond's 200th

Photos by Martin McLaughlin

Black Knights

Our open week was a great success with fab weather, everyone keen to jump, and Carole cooking meals each evening while everyone enjoyed a beer. F-GODZ set a new record of 40 lifts in a day – well done to Mark the pilot, manifest and all the jumpers. We saw loads of progression – see the mega list of achievements! Robyn Berry has joined her freefalling family, Ann and Brian Berry. Brian is considering remortgaging his house and buying a tent! Our very own Ben Henshall is rocketing through RAPS and is now on tracks after only completing his course in July. Marvin, the son of our much missed Cliff Lloyd, has started AFF and the Bee family has recruited Carole to AFF.

It's great to see so many attending packing courses – ask the office for details. Everyone was in safe hands with our Superheroes & Villains fancy dress party. As usual 'VD' Mike excelled himself as Jesus, complete with cross. Congratulations to *Sirius* and *Team Karma* at the Nationals – watch out for ESL results next Mag.

The Christmas DVD raised a whopping £170 for Unicef – thanks to all who bought it, and to Jeff and Mark Walton for being so generous. There is a reward for finding John and Jan's baby geese, who were kidnapped and held to ransom!

Sam Davis

Manuel, Ian & friends by Neil Henshall



Team Karma at the Nationals by John Williamson



Superheroes and Villains



Gosling's ransom

FS1

- David Belsire
- Robert Si-Ree
- Tristan Hirst
- Stevie Burns
- Costas Andreou
- Graham Scally
- Dave Tighe
- Carl Marsh
- Mark Bradley
- Mike Royale
- FF1**
- Martin Dunn

Jump Numbers

- 50**
- Dave Belsire
- 100**
- Mark Bradley
- 200**
- Katy Myerscough
- Tony Strugnell
- 300**
- Marta Swierczek
- Mark Ryall
- 400**
- Liz Fletcher
- Ruth Morrison
- 500**
- Mike Collinson
- 600**
- Ewan Cowie
- 900**
- Mark Massey
- 900 & 1,000 jumps**
- Paul Dobson
- 1 Hour Freefall**
- Tamzin Jackman

Achievements

First Freefall

- Helen O'Boyle
- Ben Henshall
- Martin Cookson
- Paul Astle
- Kevin Bradshaw
- John Bayly
- Andy Sampson
- Ann James
- Peter White
- Robyn Berry
- Andrea Chadwick
- Steve Searle

Cat 8

- Abraham Tavakili
- Craig Manchester
- Lawrence Devereaux
- Rene Hansen
- Jai Patel
- Kirsty Lythgoe
- Dan Armer

CF1

- Mark Bayley
- Dennis McTaggart
- Sam Lee
- Nicholas McMatton
- Sarah Pilling
- Mary Barret

Swindon



Pieter Potgieter's FS1 jump, from the archives by Luke Ingram

Leonie's mission to have all Skydive London club jumpers, (excluding Simon Cresdee as he always gets left out) pass their FS1s has gone one step closer. Em Green soared through hers, completing 8 points from 10k! It would have been more but Em was waiting for me on most of the points! Nick Brownhill was beer fined for being with the formation to 4,500ft as briefed and not the usual 6,000! Congrats to Luke Ingram for his 700 jump milestone. Rob Spour and Pieter Potgieter have taken over the refuelling reins while James has gone off to get his green card. Rob's been working hard and deserves a pat on the back for all his efforts, and for completing his A and B licences. Neil is close behind and both have become pieces of DZ furniture.

Andy Calender and James Snellgrove have been beer fined as they've both gone and done the worse thing ever – got a job! Allegedly, Cal's is to help with his Advanced Rigger cert and is only for 3 months; Layla and Santa are enjoying the walks on the South Wales beach. Babs and Bruceie have so far emptied a few packs of highlighters as they have now started to mark each other's arms with the mistakes they make. Babs no longer needs a fake tan.

The fire pit goes from strength to strength with anything not needed for skydiving being burned, and the addition of cooking plates makes BBQs the norm. Mark Benson has stopped giving canopy lessons to his instructors after a moment of madness involving a watch and a slight divot. We love you Mark.

Jerry Greeves was talked into (it didn't take long) taking a student for a tandem in a mankini. Babs took lots of photos and the majority were given a xxx rating. Luckily by the powers of photoshop she managed to remove offending items and everyone was happy (see below).



Skydive London jacket in Bruceie's bed, photo by a burglar

Dylan Griffith-Jones



Take a sleepy Devon village, add two super fast Beeches climbing to 15,000ft in less than 8 minutes, the world's largest single engine biplane, 7 mega talented load organisers from across Europe, 150 skydivers fuelled by free Red Bull and what do you get? The Twin Beech Boogie 2009!

The Beech 99 burst into Dunkeswell on Monday 27 July, greeted by a rapidly expanding rabble of skydivers keen to jump. By mid afternoon the DZ was buzzing and pilot Jan must have been getting dizzy as the Beech 99 barely touched the ground: 15,000ft in 5 minutes! The ever-bright Dave Morris was putting formation skydivers through their paces, Jim Harris & Andy Lovemore were organising freefly groups, Tim Porter was taking tracking lovers to a new level and Chris Lynch was coaching students through FF1.

The skies were littered with PD and Parachutes de France demo canopies as people took tried a new canopy – or even test jumped 'their' reserve. Boogie fever was in full swing! In the electric atmosphere a monstrous but graceful AN-2 cast a shadow as its huge airframe glided in to land, waking up any of the previous night's revellers still in their tents!

As the week progressed, so did the standard of skydives on the day video! *Kinetic*, our resident freefly team, did some training for the Nationals and gave us all something to aspire to. Michelle Larson fought her way out of the busy packing shed

to achieve FS1, well done Michelle you worked hard and very much deserve it! Star of the show was Ash Leaning from Plymouth Uni, who completed all his AFF levels and 4 consols!

On Friday Macca ran first flight wingsuit coaching, which was well received. Dave Lewis took on lesser experienced formation skydivers who were genuinely stunned at what they achieved. Free Red Bull was available for all, although some probably overdid it, mentioning no names Mr Lovemore. Zuz Tillner cut away her PD demo canopy only for it to land in a huge pile of silage (cow pooh) – well, this is Devon!

'That'll Do' followed up the raffle, playing on Saturday night, with a guest appearance from Andy Lovemore, whose moves on the dance floor were the highlight of the party – the result of all that Red Bull?!

Sunday's jumping continued till almost dark with Shane Hardwick's 200th jump, an 11-way track led by Jim Harris as the last and 108th load of the boogie! 1,690 descents, 5 days, 3 aircraft, 7 awesome load organisers, AFF, FF & FS progression, parties, BBQs, day videos, free camping... can you afford to miss it next year? www.skydivethewell.com Check our website for the autumn/winter line-up! It's so exciting it's guaranteed to warm even the coldest of winter souls!

Lou Finch



Dunkeswell

Achievements

AFF Graduates

Dawn Gardner
Vicky Stevens
Liam Baggley
Joe Downey

CH1

Vicky Stevens

FS1

Michelle Larsen
Tim Orme
Ryan Plunkett

FF1

Francesca Santilli
Russ Sherman
Laura Kemp

Jump Numbers

50

Julian Netley
Michelle Larsen
Ryan Plunkett
Francesca Santilli

100

Kirstie Booth

200

Pete McDonald
Shane Hardwick

300

Chris Kendall

2,000

Andy Halloway



Photos by Adrian Thornton, Ceri Lewis, Olly Denham, Zuz Tillner, Paul Thompson, Andy Lovemore & Romany Tampin





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The festive season is fast approaching so we've starting organising our Christmas party. Because last year's hog roast was so awesome we're going to do it again. Meet Saturday 19 December at 7.30pm, in the canteen at Chatteris, for lots of food, alcohol, good company and music – perfect! It's £20 per person, if you'd like to play, let me know asap; email video@ukskydiving.com or put your name down in the office. We hope you can join us!

Chatteris



Lorraine Dixcey

Strangers by Dorz Harwood

South Cerney

July saw team *HEAT* (Smudge, Al & Spence) conduct a very successful Inferno CP weekend at South Cerney. The weather wasn't kind but everyone got some jumps in, received detailed theory training and took something useful away to work on.

The display team are coming out of a very busy period with many sunset cocktail parties, military shows and local events. In particular, the Cotswold Show in the grounds of Cirencester Polo Club, proved a crowdpleaser, with Jay Morris stealing the limelight from the VIPs, Lady Apsley and Helen Worth (aka Gail Platt from Coronation Street).

Our mighty SMG had to have its medical recently and so a King Air (from Norway and due to live at Hib) was commandeered and we had a very successful weekend using this awesome plane.

RAPS is alive and kicking with a healthy group of eager

orange jumpsuits moving up the system. Conrad 'Must Compose Myself' Allen and Shaun 'Donkey-kicking' Stevenson are the two current RAPS gladiators. Who will get to Cat 8 first?

Mike Jasinski has been bumming around Texas causing havoc. He took part in a charity scrambles meet which raised £8,000 for a local good cause. In addition to our bevy of manifest beauties we now have 3 new packers. All ladies and, considering Glynn Somers was complaining he wasn't getting enough jumps in between his packing duties, he now spends more time in the packing hall than ever! I wonder why?!

A good show goes to Lewis Harmer on his A Licence and Mike Williams for finally getting his B Licence. There is plenty going on at Cerney and all are welcome. We have FF and FS coaches on hand most weekends and a good vibe so come and pay us a visit.

Paul Gibbs

Achievements

FS1
David Wickes
FS1 & 50 jumps
Jason Fox
JM1, CH2 & 100 jumps
Conor O'Brien
100 jumps
Ryan Jones
400 jumps
Tony Labbz
48 Hours Freefall
Bryn Chaffe

Achievements

First Freefall
Conrad Allen
Shaun Stevenson
Imogen Parsons
Ender Tamsin
Cat 8
Matt Oakley
FS1
Tim Parsons
Ed Roscoe
WS1
Chas McNeil
Dave Lewis
50 Jumps
Tim Parsons
100 Jumps
Ed Roscoe
Mike Jasinski
800 Jumps
Chas McNeil

Mike Warren

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Capt Mike Warren (Royal Logistic Corps) after a fatal base jumping accident in Norway. The hundreds of messages on Facebook are a testament to Mike who could not help but enhance the lives of everyone who worked, jumped, drunk, smoked and laughed with him.



His 'life is too short, make each day count' approach was awesome and his cheeky sense of humour meant he always got away with making rubbish brews and smoking everyone's cigarettes. He put a smile on people's faces and could be counted on to hand out good advice, help out and encourage those who needed it.

In a fitting tribute to Mike, friends in Norway wrote farewell notes and put them in an empty vodka bottle that he'd given to and drank with the local Base Club. They climbed Kjerag, had a toast, a minute's silence and then jumped with the bottle in memory of Mike.

In military circles he's been described as the epitome of an officer, others have used the word 'gentleman' but this phrase keeps ringing in my ears: 'all-round good egg, snappy dresser and diamond geezer!'. It is always a sad day in our community when we lose one of our own, and especially one who has influenced so many. Mike will be sorely missed and the world is a lesser place without him.

Paul Gibbs



Wurzel by Martin Rhodes



Demo Team at Blackbush by Paul Gibbs

Bertie Gibbs by Paul Gibbs





Neil in the mix by Neil McLaren

Cark



Phil Amuzu returns by Chicky



Tippex and Marcus on finals by Gaz Turner



Tippex down safely by Gaz Turner

Achievements

First Freefall

Graham MacDonald

George Page

AFF Graduate

Simon Widdup

Cat 8

Liam Riley

FS1

Kev Coffey

FS1, 50 Jumps

Kirstie Watson

Luke Morris

400 jumps

Pete Mather

1,600 Jumps &

24 Hours Freefall

Rob Frost

It was a very sad retirement and farewell to John & Lil after a great couple of years running our Bistro café, but a big welcome to Café Zero piloted by Dot and Mandy. Unfortunately no sooner had the paint dried on the revamped interior and just three weeks at the helm the 'who's jumping when?' dilemma struck. So, with a pit stop as quick as Lewis Hamilton's lap times it's hello again to Lynn and her water fluffer John.

Congratulations to Rob Frost for being awarded cameraman of the year at the Nationals. Dave and Helen of the Skydive Northwest events team secured a bronze medal in AAA 4-way with all but a 15 point average – absolutely brilliant! Don't forget Dave & H offer free coaching here, ask them for details or check the dates in the office.

Skyfest

Our Skyfest began with the usual busy weekend of AFF, tandems, student progression and Stuart's well-spoken voice bellowing down the mike for ten hours. After a similar Sunday we retired knowing Monday was going to be cracking weather – it always is after a weekend!

Monday dawned and Tippex rallied the troops from their pits to rustle his crew posse to an infamous 14k hop 'n' pop. While they contemplated mals and knives, Mick Lloyd doubly tightened his legstraps, Wendy shut her eyes and thought of England and Dennis blew off the cobwebs from his incident book pen. Happily, all arrived safely back at Château Cark.

It was the next lift that the pen and book came out, as Tippex's big foot caught his deployment bag. After an uneventful reserve ride Tippex went to look for his main canopy, arriving to see the local heifers (cows) not just chewing on his now-tangled main but proceeding to drop their excitement all over it! Those assisting the search suddenly vanished into thin air! Finally back at the DZ and washing the excitement off his main, Tippex managed to drag it through some more whilst trying to dry it out. Tippex, your new nickname is now 'Lucky Sh***'. Good luck with your posting to the Falklands and we'll see you after Christmas.

Wendy Lloyd had planned the week's entertainment, along with the infamous CCI pub style quiz. With the place packed out, it was a good night. Well done to the winners, whoever you were, the author was a little tipsy to remember. Sorry gang!

With Tuesday weathered out we awoke Wednesday to glorious sunshine. Even Kay & Stuart got their knees in the breeze whilst the office was quiet. To celebrate the coming of age (50) of Pete Speds we all trooped down to the beach for a sunset BBQ. In the beautiful setting of Humphrey Head, regulars laughed and joked why Speds couldn't attend his own party, which was topped off by a cracking firework display from Pete Mather. Cheers to both Petes.

Thursday's good weather meant a 15-lift sortie and a nice 16-way sunset load filmed by budding cameraman

Gary Hall, remember to put your skills on next time mate! A mass pilgrimage to the rec room saw the annual 'Play Your Cards Right', with outright winner 4-year-old Brandon Turner with a nice £32.00.

The fab weather brought out the Friday workers and sixteen lifts later saw the Race Night run by Wendy and Mick. Cheers for your hard efforts, it was brilliant. Saturday we were all back on duty for the next round of budding first timers. 21 lifts in the bag, we settled down to the evening's fun – space-hopper racing and outdoor ten pin bowling.

Fantastic progression was made by Graham MacDonald who only completed his RAPS course the previous weekend and at close of the Skyfest was on 20 second delays. Well done Graham! Congratulations to all in this month's hall of fame and, for those still nibbling away, keep up the hard work.

Stu Morris

Dot sees a ghost by Pete Hughes



GGRRRRREEEAT by Stu Morris

Kie swoops the course by Gaz Turner



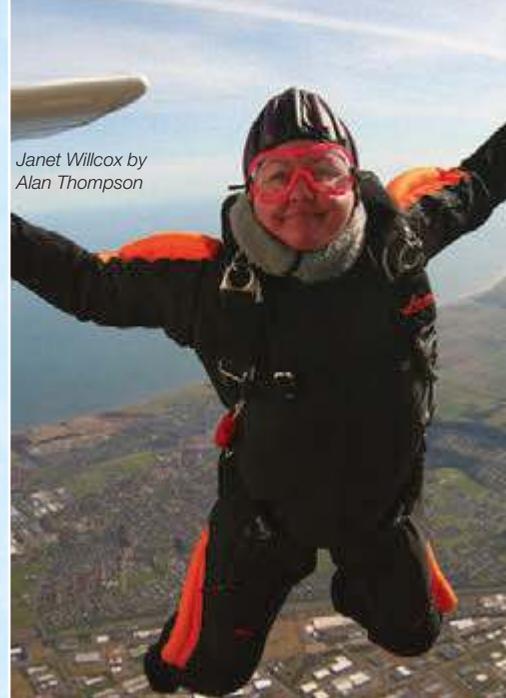
Sped's 50th birthday beach party by Gaz Turner

Peterlee

Living Legend Roy
by Mal Smith



Janet Willcox by
Alan Thompson



Great news! The centre's planning application to build a new hangar has been accepted by the council. When finished it will provide much-needed space for planes and equipment – no longer will the poor Airvan have to sit outside alone in the cold.

Wind turbine proposal applications continue to be sent in to the local council but so far we have been 100% successful in blocking any that threaten the centre. There are still two applications pending, from PWR and Junction House but we hope our arguments will continue to triumph. No doubt turbine proposals will continue but here at Peterlee we're known for not giving in, even when we know there's a fight on our hands!

August's progression week was kicked off by Kev Dynan with a camera seminar. The healthy turnout shows we have several budding cameramen and women. Sue O'Connor kept the bar open during the week, manned by Janet Willcox, much appreciated as the weather wasn't kind. Michael Law's dedication paid off when he went from beginner to AFF graduate in only 2 days of jumpable weather – big well done on completing his last 5 jumps on the last Saturday! Go on Michael!

Congratulations to Alan Thompson, who reached jump number 2,500, won silver medal at the senior 8-way FS Nationals and filmed the *Brit Chicks*. What a guy!

We normally can't let club news go without a 'Colin' story but the latest one's too bad to print. Shall we just say, when lesser folk were having their nipples zapped with an electric shock from Janet Willcox's electronic fly swatter, he just had to go one better!

Sue Scott

Achievements

First Freefall

Antonio Morote

Cat 8

Craig Hicks
Nigel Peacock
Simon Minto

CH1

Craig Hicks
Nigel Peacock

CH2

Haley Nelson
Kirsty Richardson
Darren Harvey

JM1

Haley Nelson
Kirsty Richardson
Darren Harvey

50 Jumps

Haley Nelson
Darren Harvey

2,500 Jumps

Alan Thompson



Paul Dorward
swoop by Alan
Thompson

We're refurbishing the reception area, which was looking a bit sorry for itself. It will soon house 18 seats, which will be much appreciated when the bar is closed and the weather not so nice.

Jeremy Beckingham is looking to restart the Teesside University Club – some competition for the end of year Uni trophy! Kirsty Richardson and her partner Mal Smith now have matching jumpsuits! Aw bless, must be love!

At the second POPS meet in July at Skydive Weston, Ash and Steve did all they could but the weather only allowed us 3 rounds of Sport Accuracy. Our medallists deserve extra credit for persevering through adverse conditions and were: Colin Sutcliffe, gold; Mike Nunn, silver; and John Flower, bronze. Hopefully we can stage an impromptu competition later in the year to make up.

Arrangements for the tenth World POPS Meet are going ahead with some speed. It is in Reggio Emilia, Northern Italy, 4-12 June 2010. The drop zone website is www.bfu.it and the competition website is www.pops2010.it

The competitions include for the first time, 4-way SOS. Some countries have already chosen their SOS 4-way teams and are training now! We have the talent here in the UK to compete with the best, and Neils Hansen is coordinating people, and putting teams together, see above.

Dick Barton, dbarton@fsmail.net

Anyone interested to go to the world POPS meet in Italy next year, 4-12 June, in a 4-way team, now is the time to get started! Are any of you POPS out there into jumping camera or flying 4-way? Email me your details and I will arrange a time for us all to meet up, say at Airkix, to fly together and make up teams. Please also let me know how many minutes flying you'd like.

Niels Hansen,
niels_hansen514@hotmail.com



Jeff Chandler & Niels Hansen,
half of their SOS 4-way team

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France

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BPA Affiliated Drop Zones



1 Black Knights

01524 791 820



Black Knights Parachute Centre
Patty's Farm, Hillam Lane, Cockerham, Lancashire LA2 0DY
Tel (DZ): 01524 791 820
Tel/Fax: 01772 717 624
www.bkpc.co.uk bkpcinfo@googlemail.com
Aircraft: Cessna 185, Turbine Porter
Open: Fri-Mon every week. All week for the first week of every month.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Always a warm welcome at the north-west's most accessible drop zone. Resident freely school.

LO FS CF FF WP CP

2 Bridlington

01262 677 367



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

This centre was not operating when we went to press

3 Cark

01229 889 516



North West Parachute Centre
Cark Airfield, Flookburgh, Nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7LS
Tel: 01229 889 516 Weekends: 01539 558 672
Fax: 01772 787 106
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
www.skydivenorthwest.co.uk
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
Open: 9am-9pm, weekends & bank hols, weekdays by arrangement.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Set in beautiful surroundings of the Lake District. We aim to make everyone feel welcome.

LO FS CF FF WP

4 Chatteris

01354 740 810



North London Parachute Centre
Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea, March, Cambs PE15 0EA
Tel: 0871 664 0113 Fax: 0870 787 4909
info@ukskydiving.com www.ukskydiving.com
Aircraft: Nomad
Open: 8am-8pm Tuesday-Sunday in summer. 9am-dusk, Wednesday-Sunday in winter.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, rounds, tandem
A friendly, progressive drop zone with excellent facilities that are constantly being updated.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

5 Cornish

01872 553 352



Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield, Higher Trevellas, St Agnes, Cornwall TR5 0XS
Tel: 01872 553 352 or 07790 439 653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
www.cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206, guest aircraft by arrangement
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends. Open most other days in summer, call for details
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
A small but developing club with friendly staff, nice facilities & fantastic views of the Cornish peninsula.

WP FS CF CP

6 Dunkeswell

01404 890 222



Skydive UK Ltd
Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell, Devon EX14 4LG
Tel: 01404 890 222 or 07718 638 000
info@skydiveukltd.com
www.skydivethewell.com
Aircraft: Cessna 206, Twin Turbine Beech King Air
Open: 8am-dusk, Thurs-Sun and bank hol Mons.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
For midweek operation please call the DZ first.

LO FS CF FF WP SU

7 Headcorn

01622 890 862



Headcorn Parachute Centre
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
Tel: 01622 890 862 Fax: 01622 890 641
info@headcornparachuteclub.com
www.headcornparachuteclub.com
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan, Islander
Open: 9am-dusk, Tuesday-Sunday. 1pm-dusk on Monday in summer.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Come and join in the fun here at Headcorn!

LO FS CF FF AC WP

8 Hibaldstow

0113 250 5600



Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow, Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
Tel/Fax: 0113 250 5600 DZ: 01652 648 837
info@skydiving.co.uk www.skydiving.co.uk
Aircraft: Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cherokee 6
Open: 9am-dusk every day.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
15,000ft on most lifts, host to the BPA FS and Artistic Nationals 2008.

LO FS FF WP SU

9 Hinton

01295 812 300



Hinton Skydiving Centre
Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley, Northants NN13 5NS
Tel: 01295 812 300 Fax: 01295 812 400
info@skydive.co.uk www.skydive.co.uk
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
Open: 8am-9pm at weekends. 9am-7pm Tuesday-Friday.
First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem
Small and friendly. Bunkhouse, camping & showers on site.

FS CF FF AC WP

10 Jersey

01534 747 410



Skydive Jersey Ltd
States Airport, St Peter, Jersey JE3 7ZR
Tel: 01534 747 410
info@skydivejersey.net www.skydivejersey.net
Aircraft: 8-place Airvan, occasional turbines
Open: Regular scheduled opening days, dates in Diary at back of the Mag. Hours vary with the tide. Please call first before travelling, to confirm.
First Jump Courses: Tandem, occasional AFF trips
The only GB beach landing DZ. Operate from international airport. Stunning views of the island, with landings on the beach in St Aubin's Bay.

LO FS FF WP

11 Langar

01949 860 878



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

LO FS CF FF WP CP

12 Lewknor
0845 130 7194



London Parachute School
The Byre, Woods Farm, Easthampstead Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 3AE
Drop Zone located off Junction 6 of M40
Tel: 0845 130 7194 Fax: 0845 130 7195
info@londonparachuteschool.com

www.londonparachuteschool.com
Aircraft: Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends.
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem

LO FS CF AC WP

13 Netheravon
01980 678 250



Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury,
Wiltshire SP4 9SF
Tel: 01980 678 250 Fax: 01980 678 275
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
www.netheravon.com

Aircraft: 2 Cessna Caravans, regular guest aircraft
Open: Weekends & bank holidays, 8.30am – dark;
Wednesdays, 12 noon – dark; Fridays, 10am – dark
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
Both civilian and military jumpers are very welcome

LO FS FF WP CP WI

14 Paragon
01821 642 454



Paragon Skydiving
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol, Perthshire PH2 7TB
Tel: 01821 642 454 Fax: 01821 642 656
billy.gollan@btinternet.com

www.paragonskydiving.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 182
Open: 9am-6pm Saturday, 10am-6pm Sunday, all
year. 9am-7pm Wed-Fri in summer for courses &
tandems only.
First Jump Courses: RAPS, tandem
Nice friendly DZ, beautiful scenery, barbecue every
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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
Aircraft: Airvan, Cessna 182
Open: 8.30am-8.30pm weekends & bank holidays.
1pm-8.30pm Wed & Fri, weather permitting
First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
15 minutes drive from Durham city, 25 minutes from
Newcastle, centrally located for NE England.

FS CF WP

16 Salisbury
01722 323 628



Skydive Southcoast Ltd
Old Sarum Airfield, Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
Tel/Fax: 01722 323 628

info@skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
www.skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206
Open: 8 am-8pm, weekends & bank holidays
First Jump Courses: Tandem
Small and friendly. Excellent facilities, 5 minutes drive
from Salisbury city centre.

LO FS FF AC

17 Sibson
01832 280 490



Skydive Airkix
Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
skydivesibson@aol.com
www.skydiveairkix.com
Aircraft: Turbolet 410
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Wed-Sun in December & February. Closed in January.
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LO FS FF AC WP SU

18 South Cerney
01285 868 259



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

LO FS FF CF AC WP CP

19 St Andrews
0845 189 5865



Skydive St Andrews
Osprey Road, Fife Airport, Glenrothes KY6 2SL
Tel: 0845 189 5865
skydivestandrews@mail.com
www.skydivestandrews.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206,
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professional service await you at Scotland's newest
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LO FS CF FF WP SU

20 Strathallan
07774 686 161



Skydive Strathallan
Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder,
Perthshire PH3 1LA
Weekends: 01764 662 572
Tel: 07774 686 161 Fax: 01236 732 461
kkbrady@btinternet.com
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

21 Swansea
07779 019 655



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

LO FS CF WP

22 Swindon
01793 791 222



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

FS CF AC WP

23 Tilstock
01948 841 111



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

LO FS WP

24 UK Para
01953 861 030



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

LO FS CF FF WP CP

25 Weston
01869 343 201



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

LO FS FF WP

26 Wild Geese
028 2955 8609



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



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BPA Overseas Affiliated Drop Zones

Cyprus

0035 724 744 337



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

Tel: 0035 724 744 337

Fax: 0035 724 724 330

info@skydivencyprus.com.cy

www.skydivencyprus.com.cy

Aircraft: PBN Piston Islander

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

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

FF FS FF WP SU CP

RAPA

0049 5254 982 2378



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

Tel: 0049 5254 982 2378

Fax: 0049 5254 982 2740

jspcl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

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

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

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

LO FS CF AC WP CP

Parachuting Societies

British Collegiate Parachute Association

www.bcpa.org.uk

mail@bcpa.org.uk

Contact: Sam Lee, BCPA Chairman

Tel: 07912 526642

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

POPS UK

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

Tel: 01249 701805 or 07860 559112

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

Contact: Dick Barton, Top POP

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

SOS UK

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

Tel: 01179 738341

nielshsn@yahoo.co.uk

Contact: Niels Hanson

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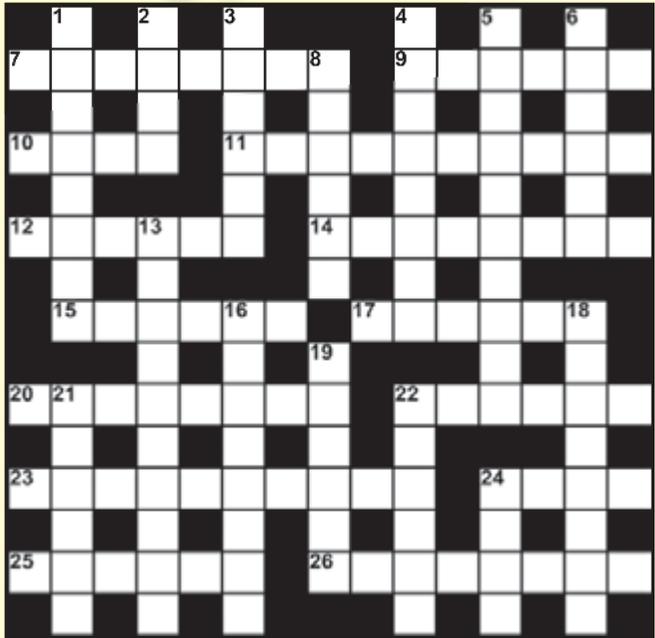
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www.vigil.aero

Photo & artwork: Willy Gorenberg



OCTOBER

- 3-4 F5 Coaching with Simon Cathrine**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 3-4 8-way Speed F5 vs FF**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 3-4 Pinch Jump with Dave Lewis**
Langar strollerweb.co.uk
- 5-9 BPA Instructor Course (AFF,Tan,Pre-Adv)**
Chatteris trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 8-12 Spanish Nationals**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 10-11 Skydive Choreography**
Hibaldstow skydivechoreography.com
- 10-25 Swiss Cow Boogie**
Marche, Italy skydivemarche.com
- 11-17 Go Vertical**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 12-18 Volare Tunnel Camp**
Bodyflight Bedford info@volareproflight.com
- 13 Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk
- 16-18 Satori Basics Camp**
Seville, Spain teamsatori.co.uk
- 17-18 First Time Formation Loads**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 19-25 Empuria Flock**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 23-25 Safe Flight School Basics**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 24-25 Head-down Progression with Al**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk
- 31-Nov 1 Frostbite Friendly 10-way Speed**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 31 Halloween Party**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

- 16-28 Mozambique Boogie**
Bazaruto Lodge exoticskyadventures.com
- 20-29 Island Boogie**
Mali Lonsinj, Croatia m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz
- 26 STC & Riggers Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

DECEMBER

- 3-6 Sparky Tunnel Camp**
Bedford sparky@ukskydivingadventures.com
- 5-8 Fuxion Camp**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 2-6 Canopy Piloting World Cup**
Johannesburg, SA fai.org/parachuting
- 8 BPA General & Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk
- 12 Christmas Party**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 13 Tilstock AGM & Christmas Party**
Hill Valley Hotel theparachutecentre.com
- 14-20 Volare Tunnel Camp**
Bodyflight Bedford info@volareproflight.com
- 17-21 Satori 4-way Skills Camp**
Seville, Spain teamsatori.co.uk
- 19 Christmas Party**
Chatteris video@ukskydiving.com
- 19-Jan 3 Christmas Island Boogie**
Mali Lonsinj, Croatia m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz
- 19-Jan 3 Seville Christmas Boogie**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 19-Jan 3 Castellon Christmas Boogie**
Castellon skydivecenterspa.be
- 21-22 FF1 Camp**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 22-24 Safe Flight School Basics**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 25-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 25-Jan 3 Holiday Boogie**
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com
- 25-Jan 3 Christmas Boogie**
Perris Valley, USA skydiverperris.com
- 26-Jan 3 Christmas Feelgood Boogie**
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

NOVEMBER

- 7 Bonfire Party**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk
- 9-13 BPA Instructor Course (BI/Adv)**
Hibaldstow trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 16-20 BPA Instructor Course (CSI/Pre-Adv)**
Hibaldstow trudy@bpa.org.uk

Main (Cryptic)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>7. Waving wand – prim helmet appears (8)
 9. Unkempt welder is not as clean (6)
 10. Last piece of brass in old American soldier's waistcoat (4)
 11. Bank gets vital eastern investment returned? Absolutely not! (10)
 12. Chokes on black hair (6)
 14. Noiselessly landing in rubbish old aircraft (8)
 15. Spikes drinks to get love (6)
 17. Deserves to move short distance backwards (6)
 20. Take a plunge in 'Le Raffle' abroad (4,4)
 22. Fixed broken digger (6)
 23. Valuation of a piece of property includes ship and chess pieces (10)
 24. Left a drink (4)
 25. It moves socks to cool skydivers' knees (6)
 26. Carol admits 24 into games (8)</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1. Team's edge creates lateral movement (8)
 2. Volubly sum up passage (4)
 3. Brass alloy coating electronic weapons (6)
 4. Pass on apartment trade (8)
 5. Turning to poke 50 fish (10)
 6. The little birdie who instructed Arthur (6)
 8. Encrypting spoilt early programmes (6)
 13. Point made by oriental golf supporter (7,3)
 16. Posting RAF's rent after a move (8)
 18. Directional control is interesting when tin part is lost and broken (8)
 19. Insect Queen's bills (6)
 21. Regularly trains zebras to turn by tugging on these (6)
 22. Re-arranged roster, cause of a slowdown (6)
 24. Holy saint takes a turn for the worst (4)</p> |
|---|---|

Reserve

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>7. Bonehead helmet
 9. More obscene
 10. String undergarment
 11. In comparison
 12. Multi-part formations
 14. Old aircraft
 15. Formations
 17. Parachutes de France canopies: earns
 20. Unrestrained movement in gravitational field (4,4)
 22. Fitted together (parts of parachute kit)
 23. Evaluation
 24. Left: harbour
 25. Light wind
 26. Fair and generous</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1. Drift crabwise
 2. An opening into a mine
 3. PD canopies: swords
 4. Cease to register on a heart monitor
 5. Turning on a pivot
 6. Old Lancastrian DZ: small falcon
 8. Aeronauts
 13. 4-way formation (7,3)
 16. Shift
 18. Controlling direction
 19. Aeronauts
 21. Parachute connecting straps
 22. Rocket brakes
 24. Jump targets</p> |
|--|---|

SOLUTION ACROSS
 7. Mindwarp
 9. Lewder
 10. Vest
 11. Relatively
 12. Blocks
 14. Tripplane
 15. Points
 17. Ments
 20. Free fall
 22. Riggged
 23. Assessment
 24. Port
 26. Breze
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 Mali Lonsinj, Croatia m.dlouhy@jump-tandem.cz

MARCH

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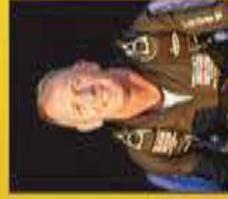
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