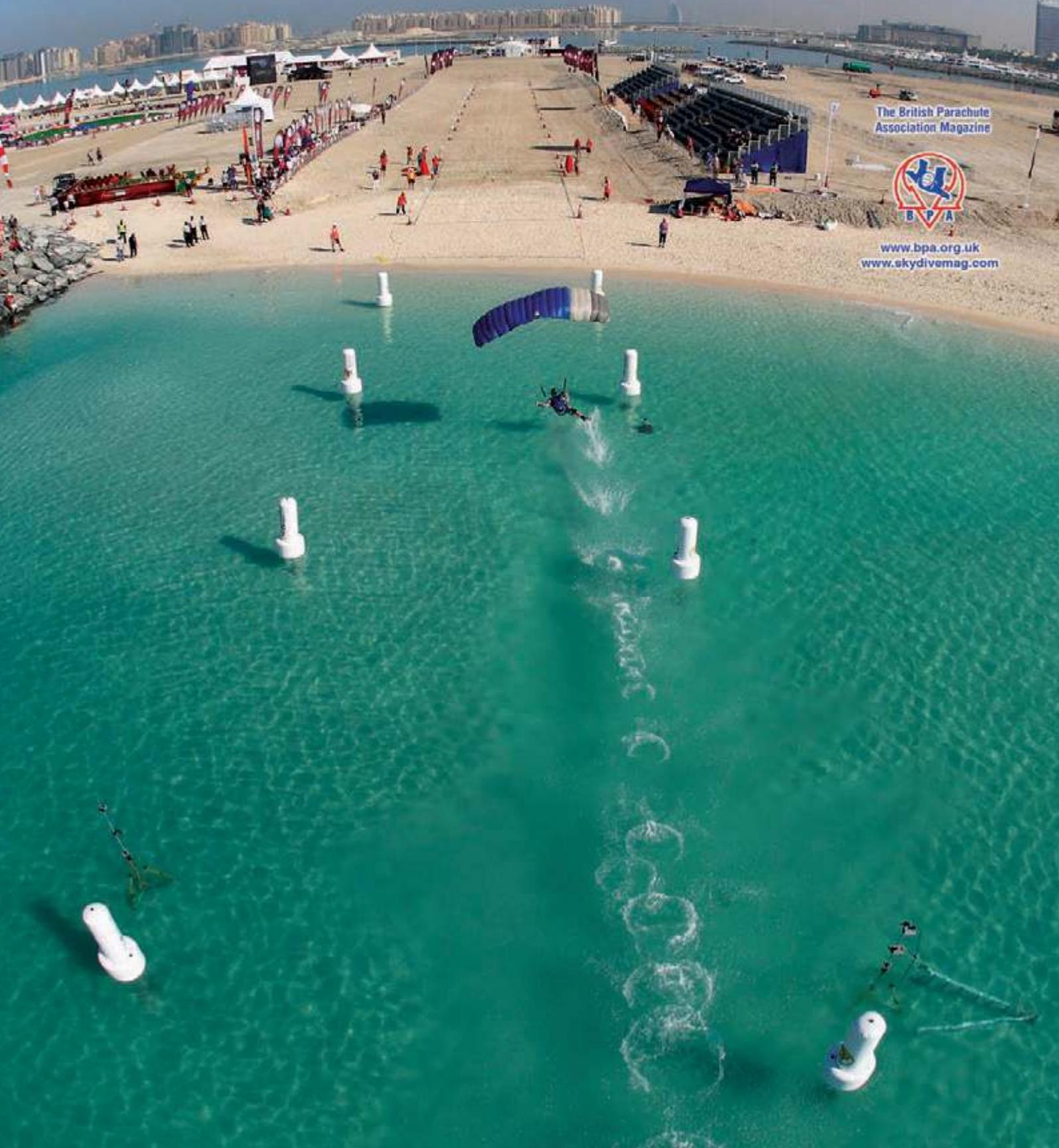


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February 2010

The Mag



The British Parachute
Association Magazine



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Congratulations to all the winners, participants and the organizers of the Dubai international Championship and Gulf Cup 2010, surely one of the most outstanding skydiving events of the last years.
- You missed being there? First hand reports and comments are still available on our web site blog and the **CYPRES Facebook FanBox**. Stay tuned, get "On Air" for future news!

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The Mag

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Welcome to your first Skydive Mag of 2010 – and the last one in this design. Your next issue will see a new look publication, alongside a brand new Skydive Mag website, which we are currently working on.

New Mag, new website – and new company! We welcome Archant Dialogue to the team of fabulous people putting your magazine together. You can find more details of the exciting changes happening on page 17.

To make sure you get your fantastic new creation, you'd better renew your BPA Membership. The form is enclosed with this magazine, or you can download one from the BPA website, or ask at your DZ.

Please also take the time to go to the BPA website and spend fifteen minutes filling out the online survey, which will help Council plan for your future, and help us maximise the advertising revenue to be gained from The Mag. Completing the questionnaire enters you into a prize draw, where you could win an Olympus 650SW Camera, which retails at £229.99. Last time only 372 members filled out the survey so your odds of winning are pretty good! But hopefully this great prize will encourage more of you to let Council know how you feel.

Right, I gotta go.. new Starter Mag, new Mag design, new website, I ain't got time to sit here and chat!



Photo: Fiona Brine

Lesley

Issue	To Reader	Copy Deadline
April 10	Sat 3 April	Tue 23 February
June 10	Sat 6 June	Tue 27 April
August 10	Sat 31 July	Tue 29 June
October 10	Sat 2 October	Tue 24 August

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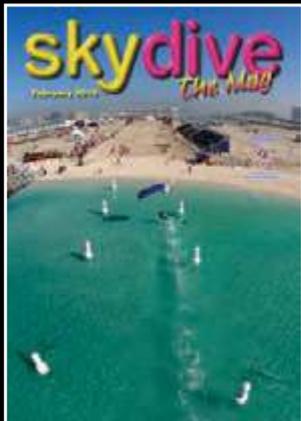
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Cover:

*Ian Bobo of the PD
Factory Team, at the
Gulf Cup in Dubai,
photo by Bruno
Brokken*



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Photo at the Mozambique Boogie, November 2009 by Gaby Meis

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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Gulf Cup IN DUBAI

Ian Bobo



How do I start to explain this event? I've been back a week and I'm still in a daze!

For me it started with a text one Sunday night in November: 'See you in Dubai, you pay the beers.' I was invited to commentate on the Canopy Piloting event for the local audience and for Dubai Sports TV. It turned out to be a bit more than that!

The Dubai International Parachuting Championships and Gulf Cup 2010 was incredible. Held 8-17 January at the base of the Palm Jumeira and hosted by the Emirates Aviation Association, the Gulf Cup was, in the words of Bruno Brokken and Shannon Pilcher, a truly world class event. Over 300 competitors attended from 45 countries, looking for a share of \$230,000 competing in CP, Accuracy and 4-way FS from the fleet of two Huey Bell 205 helicopters. The event was prepared in less than six weeks and was backed by the Crown Prince of Dubai, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum. He is a skydiver, in fact he has a wind tunnel almost in his living room. Some of the competitors were lucky enough to spend an evening playing in it.

Photo shows Smudge by Rob Kendall





"The organisation and surroundings were second to none – to be competing with the best canopy pilots in the world in Dubai was an incredible experience. It was challenging on zone accuracy due to the tide and a different time each day to compete; however both crowd and competitors loved it. It's an excellent way of keeping canopy piloting skills current – and the best way to spend a January that's for sure!"

Deane 'Smudge' Smith,
UK Canopy Pilot

Self portrait by Smudge



Photos: © Bruno Brokken
Emirates Aviation Association



"Almost forty world class swoopers from 15 countries competed for \$30,000 in prize money. The battle for top spots was heated, and very close. In accuracy alone for example, only five points separated first and third place. This outstanding world class event was an unforgettable experience that will be extremely difficult to beat. Next year should bring even more leading competitors from their respective countries making for another top notch meet."

Jonathan Tagle, USA (far left)
Canopy Pilot Overall Gold

I have never seen so many windblades. They started at the main road in front of the Dubai skyline and went the full kilometre to the arena. Each country was provided with a marquee and every third one had a bar-sized fridge full of water bottles. We were treated to fabulous dining at every hour of the day. The 45 marquees laid out in a semicircle formed the setting for the week long event, the accuracy pad being the centre and the swoop track, bulldozed out of the beach, running up the arena for 190 metres.

The temperature was in the mid 20s every day and no weather holds for the full event meant it all ran super smoothly. Television coverage every day and four airshows during the week gave the whole thing a feeling of immense scale. The opening and closing ceremonies were the best I have seen.



Hayabusa





Photo:
Danny Jacobs



"If I look at the total package of this competition, this is the best meet I've ever participated in. It seems that the Gulf Cup gets bigger and better each year, this was the second. In each category there was a big prize: \$20,000 for first place, \$15,000 for second and \$10,000 for third. The first day the organisation seemed like an Arabic diesel, it took some time to get everything running smoothly. But they were trying hard to make it as good as possible for all the competitors. Nobody is perfect and there are always things that can be better but to the organisation, I'm very sure that everybody had a great time and was impressed by jumping over the Palm Island! Next year the event will take place around the same period, so make sure your agenda is open, don't miss the show!"

Roy 'Rolls' Janssen (second left)
Hayabusa Belgian 4-way team

The 4-way featured an epic battle between the Belgies (*Hayabusa*) and the Yanks (*Airspeed*) that had everyone on the edge of their seats. The canopy piloting had to be seen to be believed, and the displays combining aerobatic aircraft with extreme canopy flying were unbelievable.

The views from altitude were breathtaking. My only jump was with the microphone in my hand and then broadcasting from under canopy, surreal experience! Hopefully next year we shall see a few more Brit teams. The Spanish girls 4-way walked away with \$10,000 for third place, they haven't stopped smiling yet!

Regan Tetlow
regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com



Results

Open 4-way

	Total/8 rounds	Average
1 USA	186	23.25
2 Belgium	181	22.62
3 France	169	21.25

Female 4-way

	Total/8 rounds	Average
1 France	142	17.75
2 Germany	109	13.63
3 Spain	84	10.5

Canopy Piloting Overall

		Points
1 USA	Johnathan Tagle	831
2 Brazil	Marat Leiras	823
3 Canada	Jay Moledzki	818
12 UK	Deane Smith	603

Team Accuracy

	Total/cm
1 Slovakia	0.48
2 Oman 1	0.50
3 UAE	0.52

Full results and more at: emiratesaviation.org



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Euro Big-way Camp



BJ's Back to the Future by Andrey Veselov

Pyrlandia dropzone near Ostrow Wielkopolski, Poland, will hold its biggest big-way event to date, with three events in one. A big-way camp is open to everyone to learn theory, develop skills and practise techniques. A second 60-way invitational group will jump in a larger group run by Herman Landsman and Lesley Gale; participants will be known players many who will have gained skills at the two previous Pyrlandia big-way camp events.

A third invitational high level group will aim to build a Euro 100-way under the watches of Kate Cooper-Jensen, Larry Henderson and BJ Worth. This is Europe's only qualifying event for World Team 2011. The inscrutable Johan Hansson also brings his expert coaching to the camp, which features a star-studded international camera team line-up including Norman Kent, Andrey Veselov & Henny Wiggers. The camp is 9-13 August, with the Pink Skyvan, five Turbolets and a Turbo Finist, with the formation flying trained pilots from previous Pyrlandia successes.

bigways.pl

Prostějov Big-way Project



Willy Boeykens



Mark Harris

A ground-breaking new event is planned, combining big-ways in FS and wingsuit. Being held 6-10 September in Prostějov, site of last year's World Cup, the Prostějov Project brings a record-breaking team of organisers in both disciplines. Kate Cooper-Jensen, Lesley Gale & Herman Landsman (World Team & JFTC) head up the FS organisers while Taya Weiss, Rolf Brombach & Mark Harris, of the recent US Wingsuit Record 68-way lead the birdpeople. This brings a well organised giant formation flock event to Europe for the first time, with proven techniques. Jumpships will be an Mi-8 helicopter and two or more Turbolets, the latter ideal for wingsuiting with its spacious seated cabin, large upright door and high tail. Monday to Friday will see a big-way camp in flat flying and wingsuiting techniques, break-off, safety, canopy procedures etc, with full video debriefing in a positive learning environment. The first Sunday (5 Sept) and the last Saturday (11 Sept) brings more boogie-style organising – and time to swap disciplines if it tickles your fancy.

jump-tandem.cz
big-ways.com
raisethesky.org

JM's Newsround

Wind Tunnel Complex

A 16 feet diameter SkyVenture wind tunnel has recently opened near Moscow. 'Freezone' previously had a 12 feet diameter tunnel (1,100HP) and has built the 16ft, 2,000HP tunnel next door! This will make it the biggest wind tunnel complex in the world.

www.realfly.ru

Royal Aero Club Trust Bursary

If you are a UK resident, aged 16-21 and want up to £1,000 for skydive progression or specific training, then you could be eligible to apply for funding from the Royal Aero Club Trust. Over the past ten years many young British skydivers have been awarded cash sums. Eight fledgling jumpers benefited from the scheme last year.

'The bursary opened doors for me and benefited my university club.'

Lucy Eldred

royalaeroclubtrust.org

The 16-way Voss Experience

The charismatic, slightly crazy Norwegian organiser, Even Rokne, is planning an informal, international 16-way competition at Voss, 4-11 July 2010. The programme includes 16-way jumps from 15,000ft, plus many 'inhoppes' out of the Beech 99 and into dazzling meadows, narrow valleys, steep mountains with vertical waterfalls, glaciers, crystal lakes and more. Martin Kristensen and the PD Factory Team will be on hand to offer advice on tracking and flying in the mountains. Current organisers are Kate Cooper-Jensen, Larry Henderson and Even Rokne.

Even – erokne@online.no
ekstremutvikling.no

Return to Russia with Love

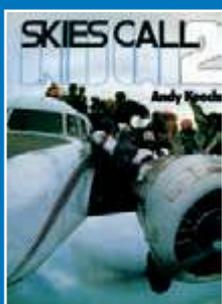
Once again Matt Abram is hosting a trip to Aerograd Kolomna, Russia, 24 July to 7 August. He's put together an all-inclusive package, which includes 50 jumps from Let 410s and an Mi-8 helicopters, flights, transfers and accommodation.

mattnomoremals@hotmail.com

Memorial Website

After the tragic loss of Mike Warren in a base jumping accident last August, a memorial website has been set up by his brother Ray where you can upload photos and comments.

mikejwarren.net



Skies Call Again

Fancy a trip down memory lane? John Partington Smith has some pristine copies of Skies Call 2 & 3, by Andy Keech. These classic books were first published in 1981, and retail from \$85 on the Amazon website but John said he will gladly post BPA Members a copy for the bargain price of £10 each.

john@jayps.plus.com



Euro Big-way Camp



Euro Big-way camp 2009 by Norman Kent

The Big-ways Europe Team in Ostrow Wielkopolski, Poland, will hold its biggest big-way event to date, with three events in one. A big-way camp is open to everyone to learn theory, develop skills and practise techniques. A second 60-way invitational group will jump in a larger group run by Herman Landsman and Lesley Gale; participants will be known players many who will have gained skills at the two previous Pyrlandia big-way camp events.

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bigways.eu

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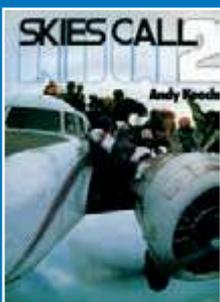
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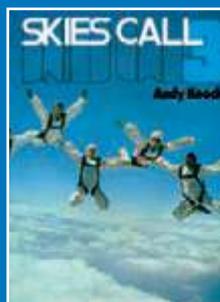
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john@jayps.plus.com



Regan's Hot Weekenders

Ex-pat Regan Tetlow – once met, never forgotten – is offering all-inclusive packages for monthly weekend trips to Empuriabrava DZ in Spain. Regan's package includes 15 skydives, FS organising, a DVD, airport transfers, bunkhouse accommodation, 50 Euro bar card and free nightclub entry – all for 400 Euros! You can upgrade to 25 jump tickets if sunny – and if not sunny, then Regan organises alternative activities, 'acting as your tour guide', as participant Tom Owen commented, going on to say, 'it's almost worth the money even without the jumps'. See Mag diary, or join Regan's Group on Facebook.

regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

Girls Go Down to Devon

Dunkeswell are aiming to build a dropzone Ladies Formation Record, 2-5 April, a 15 or 16-way out of the Beech. The Saturday night party is themed 'Famous Females', that goes for the boys too! Also at Dunkeswell this year; Mike Carpenter freefly coaching, two Twin Beech boogies, Chris Lynch's Wing Tips and a CF week, dates in the diary.

skydivethewell.com

Formations Book

Mike Truffer, ex-publisher of Skydiving Magazine in the US, has released a new book on Skydive Formations. It is an extensive guide ranging from 2-ways to 20-ways including simple and more challenging formations. There is also a chapter of tips on organising.

skydivingmagazine.com

Harry in Thailand

Ex-pat Dave Harrison, who used to operate a DZ at Chatteris, has opened one in more exotic climes. 'Harry' has set up Thai Sky Adventures at Sri Racha Airfield, one hour south of Bangkok. This is currently the only fully operational drop zone in Southeast Asia. They are open every day from 8am to 5pm, flying a Turbo Porter, registered HA-EFS, 'for those skydivers who remember the T-shirts', said Dave.

thaiskyadventures.com
harry_theacad@yahoo.com

Judges Seminar

Kate Charters is running a BPA Judges' Seminar at Hibaldstow, 20-21 March. Anyone interested in taking up judging or just learning more about it, in any discipline, should go along to the event. Also teams training for Nationals may be interested to jump at Hib that weekend, have their dives judged, and talk through any potential problems.

charters@ingliston.fsnet.co.uk



Airkix Manchester by Simon Ward



Airkix opened the doors of its second UK wind tunnel, during December 09. Airkix Manchester has been the fastest ever built tunnel in the world, taking just six months from breaking ground to the first customers flying. It is located just off the M60, near the Trafford Centre and next to the 'Chill Factore', an indoor ski slope. This recirculating

vertical wind tunnel is larger, faster, smoother and quieter than previous SkyVenture operations. It is 14ft diameter and 1,600 HP, with an airlock door for easy access, fully equipped team rooms and a café/bar where you can watch the tunnel action. Axel Zohmann, of Axis-21 fame, is managing operations, new and existing IBA instructors are on hand for coaching. They have permission for a 24-hour operation, so expect some great flying parties!

airkix.com

Bodyflight – A New Challenge!

The Bodyflight World Challenge, an indoor skydiving competition at Bedford wind tunnel, has established itself as a significant event on the international skydiving calendar, attracting some of the world's best 4-way and freefly teams. At this year's Challenge, 3-4 April, a new category will be introduced for FS. Joining AAA and AA is the Rookie class, giving less experienced teams a chance to win medals and meet their international idols. The new Rookie category will be only randoms (no blocks). A huge benefit of entering the Bodyflight World Challenge is being able to watch legends such as *Airspeed*, *Perris Fury*, *Fastrax*, *XL* and *Hayabusa* up close and personal. The prize cash purse this year for AAA 4-way is increased to £11,000, and medals are awarded in AA and Rookie.



Team Future, Freefly
Fourth place in 2009

The 2-way freefly event is bringing back the 'amateur' category, as they hope to attract some new teams. This event is a 'must' for any freeflyer entering the competition circuit this season. Being in close proximity to the likes of Fabian Raidel, Michael Mackenzie, *Volare* and *Babylon* you cannot help but progress your skills and ambitions. The prize fund for professional freefly is £6,000, the amateurs win medals and glory. Last year 48 FS teams registered and nine freefly; Bodyflight's aim is 70 this year.

worldchallenge.info

Inside-Out Tora-aroT

The Dutch freefly team *Tora Tora* are planning a freefly adventure, where they will use the new 16ft Freezone Russian tunnel and the four Turbolets and Mi-8 helicopter at Aerograd Kolomna. The programme includes 30 jumps, eight one-on-one coaching slots, free organising, half an hour (coached) in the new tunnel, accommodation, transfers and help with visas. Two 'Indoor and Outdoor' weeks are planned, beginning on 6 June and 13 June.



toratora.nl

Photo: Martijn van Dam

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Wendy Smith,
Chief co-ordinator of
skydiving operations
for Everest Skydive,
before setting her
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Gorakh Bista

Adventures over Everest

A new record for the world's highest landing was set and then broken again almost immediately. British adventure filmmaker Leo Dickinson achieved an 18-year old ambition to skydive over Everest, having almost made an emergency jump in 1991 when he wasn't sure if the balloon he was piloting would clear the summit (it did). Leo returned in September 2009 and jumped from 20,000 feet out of a Squirrel B2 helicopter, setting down his 300 sqft Navigator parachute at 16,800 feet at Gorak Shep, a dried up lake bed near Everest base camp. British instructor Ralph Mitchell and Wing Commander Ramesh Tripathi, an Indian, made the jump with Leo, who is now offering to arrange skydiving expeditions in this area, see skydivemounteverest.com

A month later an entirely separate group of Everest veterans, Wendy Smith and Tom Noonan, set a new world record by landing at Kala Pathar, at 17,192 feet. Wendy and Tom were both part of the 2008 Everest adventure, which achieved a world first skydiving in this area, as reported in December 2008's Mag. Wendy, who is a New Zealand Safety Officer & Instructor, has put a project team together aiming to offer skydives over Everest with a completely different approach. Her organisation, Everest Skydive, is now working with Explore Himalaya, to use as many Nepalese personnel and services as possible, to benefit the local economy.

Everest Skydive ran a 22-day extensive operation in October 2009, with a specialised crew of twenty qualified personnel. They made several successful skydives (solo and tandem) over Everest, landing at Syangboche DZ, as per the 2008 expedition. Though Wendy and Tom jumped into the record books at Kala Pathar as a one-off they considered this area too dangerous for tandem or commercial sport jumping. Everest Skydive has trained Nepalese pilots and dropzone staff, whose education continues this year with four Nepalese skydivers working at dropzones worldwide, with the aim that eventually skydiving over Everest can be Nepali run.

everest-skydive.com

Everest Skydive jumps will help Global Angels, a charity run by Molly Beddingfield to help children in Nepal and Asia.

globalangels.org

Photo: Andy Lovemore



Euro Sequentials

Skydive Spain is hosting a high profile European vertical sequentials event, 4-7 March 2010 (Seville). The brainchild of Andrew Lovemore, manager of Skydive Spain, the Euro Sequentials has been created in response to numerous calls for an invitational event of this magnitude in Europe. Following on from the visionary tradition of Lodi Sequentials, Project Horizon and Summerfest with European representatives from *Volare*, *Skywalkers*, *Aria*, *The Bad Lieutenants*, *Darksides Freefly* and *Babylon*, the flock will be lead by two of the world's best and most experienced lead organisers: Fabian Raidel and Mike Carpenter. *'It promises to be one of the most cutting edge freefly events on the 2010 calendar'*, said Andy Lovemore. Fabian Raidel commented, *'We're inviting some of the best flyers in Europe to make it happen, blue skies, go hard or go home!'*

eurosequentials.com

UK Para Spreads its Wings

UK Parachuting has expanded and is now operating out of two separate drop zones. The company, previously based in Norfolk, has taken over the Peterborough Parachute Centre (at Sibson airfield) from Skydive Airkix. Dave Turner has sold his 50% and Airkix its 20% to Grant Richards and Jason 'Tomo' Thompson who own UK Parachuting. The Meacock family retain their 30% shareholding in the Sibson dropzone.

UK Parachuting – Sibson

Grant Richards will be located in Peterborough, running the DZ every weekend recently from Friday to Sunday using a newly purchased Cessna Caravan. UK Parachuting Sibson will keep the same staff and Top Gun wingsuits will be based there. They have various events in the Mag diary covering flocking, docking and blocking, plus the 8-way Speed Nationals, BPA Roadshows and the Safe Flight School.

skydivesibson.co.uk

UK Parachuting – Beccles

The other UK Parachuting dropzone which was located at Old Buckenham has now moved to Beccles Airfield in Suffolk. It will remain open seven days a week under the watchful eye of Tomo, and using the UK Para's other Caravan.

ukparachuting.co.uk

SKYDIVE Langar.co.uk

Saturday 27th February

**D-FLOH
10**

Celebrate 10 years since the arrival of D-FLOH, Langar's first Grand Caravan Fun Jumping, Load Organising and Party in Shaggy's Bar

Daytime Jumps
for £15 all weekend!

...after the **NIGHT JUMPS!**

Saturday 27 February

FAI 'B' Certificate (Red) required

You must have jumped at Langar earlier that day, so please arrive in plenty of time to get a jump or two in before sunset. Sunday 28th is back-up day if the weather is not suitable on Saturday.



£30
Tickets
includes
Glow Sticks



Easter

2-5 April

Kick start the season over Easter weekend.
£15 jump tickets on Good Friday!!!

We've got our two Grand Caravans ready to go, Billy Payn and Dave Lewis will be here to organise more frivolities to be confirmed...



Dave Lewis'

Jump

First weekend of the month

**No-pressure FS for all levels
Starts 6-7 March**

see www.strollerweb.co.uk

**Langar
Boogie
2010**



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We've got the Beech 99 along with our two Grand Caravans for loads of jumping!
Organising and coaching available.

**Boogie Safe Flight School 4 - 6 May
(Tues to Thurs) Get in touch to book your place.**

Stick the dates in your diary... More details to follow a little closer to the time!

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14-18 July**



Freely Load Organising and Coaching
from Bullet Freely and friends
The ONLY Go Vertical in the UK this year!

British Parachute Schools

Langar Airfield, Langar, Nottingham NG13 9HY

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Performance Designs canopies are with you every step of the way, right from your novice skydives and your first set of gear. Whether you go on to become a skilled instructor who passes on their knowledge and breeds new skydivers, a fun jumper just looking for an escape and a good time with their mates, or whether your spirit drives you to pursue gold at a world championship level – we will have a canopy to suit your needs.

Ask your instructor or local PD Dealer which Performance Designs canopy is the right one for you now and for where you want to be in the sport. Please visit our website for more information.

Introducing the new Mag team at ARCHANT } DIALOGUE



I am delighted to announce a new company is joining the Skydive Mag team and will be working hard with me to create your bimonthly magazine. Archant

Dialogue, a specialist publishing house of over twenty years' standing, are the new advertising sales agency, taking over from Warners Group Publications, whom we thank for a decade of great work. Archant will now sell all advertising pages in The Mag, Skydive Starter and the 2011 BPA Calendar – which is already filling up!

Archant Dialogue will also adopt a new role, producing editorial pages for the regular items such as Club News, Diary, BPA Matters and DZ Feature, and being a point of contact for BPA DZs. The Mag's current designer, Andy of Stylaprint, will continue working closely with Lesley on the feature articles, so the design team is just expanding.

Archant Dialogue is currently creating a brand new bespoke Mag website, built especially for our Membership, which will link with the printed Mag, using the best of both media. Archant will also be heavily involved in steering Skydive Mag, in its redesign, and in developing future digital communications, such as e-newsletters and online publications. By the next (April 2010) edition of your favourite Mag, you will see a more complete package with a larger editorial team using all media to their full advantage. This partnership will go from strength to strength as we can see great long-term potential. Archant Dialogue's clients include the Harley Davidson Owners Group, Olympus Cameras, British Eventing, the Countryside Alliance and many more membership organisations.

Archant Dialogue is part of the wider Archant Group formed 150 years ago, the largest independent publishing group in the UK, employing over 2,000 staff in 30 locations, with a £195 million turnover. Our very own piece of Archant employs twenty young, vibrant personnel in its Norwich office. Four key players, Bob, Zoë, Rob and Kirsty, came to the BPA AGM in Blackpool – and were so impressed by the passion for our sport they have now committed to making a skydive. Outstanding! Well, now it's in print guys, there's no getting out of it!

Lesley Gale
Skydive Mag Managing Editor
lesley@skydivemag.com



Editorial



Kirsty Kelly
Assistant Editor
kirsty.kelly@archant.co.uk
01603 772573

Kirsty will be the main contact for Club News, chasing and editing your text, selecting photographs and adding your events to the comprehensive Mag diary, online and in print.



Phil Sumner
Web Developer

phil.sumner@archant.co.uk
Phil is currently spending every waking hour working on our brand new website to be launched in April, featuring events, news and opportunities to share and view skydiving photos.



Nick Paul
Art Director

Nick was trained at the Royal College of Art in London, and has managed the design team at Archant Dialogue for 12 years, keeping a watchful eye on the look, feel and quality of all publications.



Zoë Francis
Editorial Director

Zoë has a BA (Hons) degree in Design and Media Management and has efficiently managed Archant's editorial department for the last decade, bringing enthusiasm, creative ideas and fun to every page.

Advertising



Rob Crane
Advertising Sale
rob.crane@archantdialogue.co.uk
01603 772539

Energetic and friendly, our new sales rep Rob is getting to know our advertisers and their needs, having met many at the BPA AGM in Blackpool.



Kay Brown
Production Controller
kay.brown@archantdialogue.co.uk
01603 772522

Kay will collect your advertisement artwork or text, design your ad if needed and make sure it's all good to go by print deadline.



Samantha Overton
Advertising Sales Manager

Sam has worked for Archant Dialogue for nine years, consistently exceeding expectations, and recently winning an award, beating the whole of the Archant Group.



Bob Crawley
Managing Director

Bob has a wealth of experience across all media having worked in local and national press, television, radio and set up award-winning websites.

'Da Management'

Council Election

16 nominees stood for the 15 seats on the BPA Council 2010. The results of this election, run by the independent body Howsons Electoral Services, are as follows:

Number of eligible voters	5,075
Votes cast by post	313
Votes cast online	493
Total number of votes cast	806
Turnout	15.9%
Number of invalid votes	4
Number of valid votes	802

Results

Andy Scott	585
Paul Applegate	532
Craig Poxon	529
Weed Stoodley	529
John Horne	524
John Smyth	505
Martin Soulsby	500
Paul Moore	494
Ian Marshall	492
Richard Head	454
Adrian Bond	448
Steve Saunders	448
Paul Ledden	417
Christopher Beattie	400
Kieran Brady	381

Elected

Not elected

Kevin O'Connor	245
----------------	-----

The turnout of 15.9% was down on last year's 20.4%, perhaps because there were only 16 candidates compared with 19 last year. In the three years that web voting has been offered, this was the first time the majority of votes were cast online.

BPA Council Officers 2010

Immediately following the AGM, the following officers were elected at the inaugural BPA Council meeting 2010:

Chairman of Council	John Smyth MVO
Vice Chairman of Council	John Horne
Treasurer	Debbie Carter
STC Chairman	John Hitchen
Competitions Chairman	Steve Saunders
Development Chairman	Craig Poxon
Communications Chairman	Martin Soulsby
Royal Aero Club (RAeC) Delegate	John Smyth MVO
RAeC Alternate Delegate	Jim Crocker

Committees

The voting members of the Communications Committee are: Paul Applegate, Adrian Bond, Craig Poxon, Andy Scott, Chris Beattie and Martin Soulsby (Chairman).

In Competitions Committee, the following people are confirmed discipline reps:

Chairman & CF rep	Steve Saunders
Comps Vice Chairman	Martin Soulsby
Classics	Ian Marshall
CP	Paul Moore
FS	Richard Head
FF & VFS	Weed Stoodley

Membership of the other Committees had not been confirmed when we went to press, but will be posted on the BPA website when known, probably after the first Council meeting 23 February.

bpa.org.uk/about-us/council--committees



Inaugural Council meeting 2010

New Ratings

Advanced Packer

Madeleine Moore (S)
Dorian Harwood (S)

Rigger

Frank Millerick (BR)
Ally Milne (BR)
Chris Sharman (BR)
Andrew Hughes (PR)
Gary Marshall (PR)
Louis Saunders (PR)
Steve Thain (PR)
Noel Purcell (PR)
Andy Callender (PR)
Gerry Cepelak (PR)
Chas McNeil (PR)
Alan Westley (PR)
Dave Major (AR)

Main photo shows the build of a 2010 formation over Skydive Spain, Seville, by Andy Lovemore



BPA *Matters* www.bpa.org.uk
0116 278 5271
By Martin Shuttleworth

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

Renewal Time

Your BPA membership renewal form for the year from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 is enclosed in this Mag. To keep jumping after 31 March 2010, please return your completed renewal form before then to the BPA Office with your subscription payment of £120.10. The small rise of £1.65 on last year relates to the BPA element which, with the magazine cost, are now combined at £56.10 total. There is no increase this year in the insurance element of £64.00. The renewal form may also be obtained from your centre or downloaded from the BPA website. We are working towards an online renewal facility via the BPA website and hope to trial this next year.

Increased Jump Numbers

Annual returns from BPA Affiliated clubs, show 44,606 first time students trained in 2009 compared with 37,596 in 2008, and 35,833 in 2007.

Total sport jump numbers during 2009 were just under a quarter of a million at 249,252, compared with 211,366 in 2008 and 216,598 in 2007.

DZ Safety Management

Stuart Morris of North West Parachute Centre, who is a Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner, ran a workshop for about 40 DZOs and CCI's on developing a DZ safety management system. Also taking part were Tony Butler, Technical Officer and John Hitchen, Safety Officer, and Council member Weed Stoodley. The workshop was held at the Blackpool Hilton the day before the BPA AGM, sponsored by the BPA's insurers, Mansons Insurance Brokers and Liberty International Underwriters, who were both present. See page 24.

AGM Video

Craig Poxon videoed some of the AGM Day presentations and links are on the BPA website.

Judges' Seminar

Kate Charters is hosting a judges training seminar at Hibaldstow, 20-21 March. If anyone is interested in taking up judging in any discipline this is the perfect opportunity to see what happens. Also any teams who will be at Hib training that weekend, the judges can judge their training jumps as this will give them the opportunity to see if there are any problems.

Contact Kate Charters charters@ingliston.fsnet.co.uk

BPA Survey – Win an Olympus Camera!

Two years have passed since the last survey and we want your opinion again on a number of key areas. The process is simple – log in, complete and close – and will take only ten minutes. All the information you provide is really useful and aids the various Committees of Council, who value your input.

There are a few extra questions this time, we would appreciate you providing this information, some of which we hope to use to attract non-skydiving advertisements into your Mag, which directly brings in more revenue for the BPA. The survey will go live from Monday 15 February, finish 31 March 2010 and analysis will be provided on the BPA website in May. To get started, go to the BPA website and follow the link. The survey is completely anonymous.

You can win a fantastic Olympus 850SW camera, ideal for action shots outdoors as it is shockproof and waterproof. Just complete the survey to be entered into the free prize draw for a superb quality camera, retailing at £229.99. More details on page 79.

Adrian Bond



Canopy Piloting World Cup



Testing conditions of high altitude, high temperatures and hugely variable winds promised a challenging competition, made even more extreme by watching a veritable catalogue of injured competitors

Head of Delegation's Viewpoint

Following a very successful Canopy Piloting World Championships at Pretoria in 2008, South Africa was once again the venue for the fifth FAI CP World Cup event in 2009, running 2-6 December. A change in venue to Skydive Johannesburg was a nice variation but, once again, the location was at high altitude and the facilities superb. This was a busy little dropzone located about 70km from Johannesburg airport just outside of Carltonville, famous for being surrounded by gold mines, including the Tautona Gold Mine - the world's deepest at 3,900 metres! Skydive Johannesburg is a private members' club and the skydivers themselves own the club facilities which are excellent, including a PAC750 aircraft, huge sloop pond, swimming pool, bar, canteen and cabins for those all important sleepovers at the DZ.

UK Delegation

There were 11 personnel in the 2009 canopy piloting team including a couple of newcomers to the

world CP stage. The delegation was led by Paul Moore and consisted of the cream of UK canopy piloting talent (see results table).

There were 65 competitors from 14 nations taking part, looked after by more or less the same organisation team from last year, including a very qualified, respected team of international judges and officials.

The conditions were difficult to say the least. At over 5,000 feet above sea level and in temperatures of +30°C most days the weather was turbulent and yet fairly predictable. The conditions for training were best very early in the morning, so 5.30am wheels-off became the norm in the training days and in competition. The wind tended to pick up by about 10am and several afternoons were lost to high winds and thunderstorms.

New British & World Records

All skydiving competitions have their moments of tense excitement - they were in abundance at this competition. Due to the altitude, low air density and high temperature several competitors had broken records in training or achieved new personal best scores, so when the competition started we knew there would be new world records set. The first to fall was the Distance Record set last year by Nick Batsch (USA) which was taken by Canadian Jay Moledzki in round 2 with 175.92 metres, only for Nick to take it back in round 3 with a massive 181.70 metres.

Brian Vacher set a new British Distance Record of 167.73 metres, which I suspect will remain intact for some time yet. In the Speed event the greatest drama in British record-taking unfolded. In his first world event, Alan 'Wez' Westley of Netheravon achieved a very fast 2.424 seconds in round 2 of the Speed, setting a new British Record. Two days later this was smashed by Alastair Macartney with 2.404 seconds, and a few minutes later this too was taken by Martin 'Dangerpants' Reynolds with a very respectable time of 2.360 seconds. Wez was yet to swoop in round 3, so we were all by the pond to watch Wez burn up the course, taking back the British CP Speed Record with a cheeky little 2.347 seconds! Suffice it to say the crowd went wild and it was great to see Wez take and retake a British record in his first outing at world level. I think we will see great things from him in the future.

Serious Injuries & Worse

Unfortunately, several serious injuries occurred during training which resulted in a visit by the air ambulance for one competitor from Russia who broke his neck. There were also several lower limb injuries from high speed landings on the fully downwind course. They all received excellent first aid care by a superb paramedic team on site and I'm pleased to say the competitors are all on the road to recovery. Luckily, none of the UK team suffered much more than cuts and bruises, although some of them were fairly spectacular.





Brian Vacher by Julia Severin



Jay Moledzki by Julia Severin

Sean Sutcliffe by Paul Moore



Dangerous
Pantaloons &
Brian Vacher

I still chuckle at the thought of Smudge 'being a very brave little boy' while having tincture of benzine applied directly to a teensy-weensy little scratch!



Brave little
'Smudgy-Wudgy'!

Distressingly, on day two of the competition, the ever-present dangers of canopy piloting were brought home as one of the Russian competitors hit the water hard in round 2 of the Speed event, breaking his neck. His rescuers gave whatever aid they could but were unable to save him and he died at the scene. This tragic incident had a major impact on everyone who witnessed it, especially the Russian Delegation, who already had several other serious injuries. The competition was suspended and a competitors' meeting was held with the officials and organisers. The Russian Delegation had initially withdrawn from the competition following the fatality; however, they subsequently decided that the best thing to do would be to carry on, therefore everyone else did too. A very brave decision, yet ultimately the right one.



Ian Bobo, USA



Nick Batsch of USA enjoying a post-competition CP Freestyle jump

Inadequate Insurance

These incidents highlighted the need for insurance and, most importantly, at the correct level. Unbelievably, it was found that one seriously injured competitor had no accident insurance at all and one whole delegation only had insurance for very basic first aid which certainly did not cover them for the life-saving surgery that was required in a couple of cases. At one point a whip-round was held in order to

get one of the more serious cases treated in a private hospital rather than in a state-run hospital - they are pretty grim by all accounts. The UK Team dug deep, most giving 1,000 Rand (£84) without so much as a blink of the eye.

Several competitors noted that they had been able to get travel insurance that covered them for parachuting, but it was very hard if not impossible in some countries, to get insurance that covered them for competitive skydiving. This

has now been taken up by the IPC, and the BPA are discussing this issue with the insurers to ensure that all UK competitors are afforded an adequate level of cover in future competitions.

Risks of Canopy Piloting

In my mind, I am in no doubt that Canopy Piloting is the single most dangerous competitive event in skydiving. Canopy pilots are often negotiating the gates less than 1.5 metres above

UK Competitors' Results

	Acc	Posn	Dist	Posn	Speed	Posn	Overall	Posn
Brian Vacher	263	6	241	7	192	16	697	6
Alastair Macartney	166	21	186	25	209	11	562	16
Deane Smith	170	20	192	24	169	23	532	19
Martin Reynolds	146	23	184	27	187	18	518	20
Alan Westley	92	35	225	16	163	26	481	24
Spencer Hogg	67	40	205	21	199	13	472	27
Simon Larcombe	136	24	160	32	168	24	466	29
Sean Sutcliffe	178	16	133	41	96	47	409	34
Kieran Hayes	120	26	123	44	118	37	363	40
Stuart Storey	0	50	113	45	105	45	218	49

Complete Results
canopypiloting.co.za

CP Info and Courses

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

UK CP Nationals

21-24 July 2010
 JSPC Lippspringe (RAPA)



UK Delegation



the ground and at speeds measured in excess of 60 mph. There is no room for error.

Therefore, the training to become a serious competition canopy pilot must be rigorous, constant and conducted in stages, with good coaching. We already have that in the UK – details are in the BPA Ops Manual – however some other nations do not have that excellent progression system through CH1, CH2, CP1, etc, and it was notable that it was some of these nations who had no progression system that had the most problems. I'm not saying our system is perfect but we are well ahead of the game and are producing safe, competent canopy pilots.

UK Team

The 2009 UK CP Team all did extremely well in some very difficult conditions. Brian Vacher was the top placed Brit at sixth overall. Alastair did well too at 16th. Interestingly, the PD Factory Team took six out of the top ten places overall. There were some huge learning experiences along the way but it was great to hear some of the best canopy pilots in the world complimenting the UK Team on their competitive spirit, teamwork, safety and professionalism.

Paul Moore
Head of Delegation
paul508@mac.com

RESULTS



Accuracy Results

1	Austria	Christian Wagner	285.028
2	Canada	Jason Moledzki	276.386
2	Germany	Tobias Scherrinsky	276.386



Distance Results

1	Canada	Jay Moledzki	280.957
2	Brazil	Marat Leiras	274.151
3	USA	Nick Batsch	262.297



Speed Results

1	USA	Nick Batsch	264.723
2	USA	Greg Windmiller	256.359
3	USA	Shannon Pilcher	253.388



Overall Results

1	Canada	Jay Moledzki	750
2	Austria	Christian Wagner	745
3	Spain	Pablo Hernandez	724
4	USA	Nick Batsch	722
5	USA	Ian Bobo	701
6	UK	Brian Vacher	698
7	Germany	Tobias Scherrinsky	677
8	USA	Greg Windmiller	662
9	USA	Jessica Edgington	653
10	USA	Shannon Pilcher	604

Competitor's Viewpoint

The conditions were tough. With hot temperatures and an elevation of over a mile high this was never going to be easy. Competitors had to battle interesting run-ins and huge upper crosswinds while flying their set-ups and starting their turns before hitting a wind shear at lower altitudes. For many, just having the skill to negotiate the course safely was satisfaction enough. But then CP World Cups and Championships have a tradition of not being for the faint-hearted. Austria in '05 risked competitors flying into a café if they went too far in the Distance event; Vienna in '06 was in the middle of the city centre with no outs, cloud and turbulence; Australia in '07 had competitors sometimes unable to see the course before they exited; and South Africa in '08 exposed all international competitors to events at high altitude. It's one thing swooping the grass at your local dropzone but completely different to compete in these ultra challenging environments.

While some competitors were known to have increased their degree of rotation in training and the odd competition, it was interesting that they reverted back to form and flew consistent, lower rotation turns in this meet – probably due to limited training in such difficult conditions. The PD Factory Team were among the big names to watch. But there were also some extremely impressive pilots laying down some great scores; Marat Leiras, Christian Wagner and Grim Swinnen. Additionally, some amazing pilots were unable this year to post the impressive scores we normally see from them, such as Robbie McMillan, Pete Allum, Chris Teague and Michael Vaughan.

With the winds often going over the limits before 9am each day, the Meet Director had us all taking off as it was just getting light, to get the jumps in. But, with the winds steadily picking up, no round had similar wind conditions for all competitors. Some great performances came from the British delegation with many laying down some very solid scores in such a testing environment. Brian posted great scores in Accuracy, had a superb Distance round and some solid Speed scores despite being early on the gate. Wez's Speed scores were impressive and he was placed fourth in the third round. Sooty spent some time in third position in Zone Accuracy before unfortunately taking a zero. Dangerous Pantalons had his best ever Speed round. The rest of the British team did great as well.

Seeing Christian 'Wuzi' Wagner stand on the podium was a delight. He's such a natural flyer that he really deserved to be there. But the most impressive flying again came from PD Factory Team member Jay Moledzki. For the first time ever the competition was won by someone that took a zero in one of the rounds! He battled back and posted such strong scores that he won overall, by less than 5 points. Amazing!

In summary, it was a great but testing competition. If you can hit a set of gates then come along to this year's CP Nationals at RAPA and compete in an easier environment.

Alastair Macartney
CP Competitor
alastair@macartney.co.uk



DZ SAFETY

Management Day

A ground-breaking workshop managing DZ risk was run by DZO Stuart Morris, for all BPA DZ Operators



With ever increasing demands upon the BPA to identify how we manage risks within our sport, 2006 saw the introduction of risk assessments at drop zones across the country. Three years on and with our relatively new BPA insurers on board, our achievements have been recognised with a reduced insurance premiums in 2009 and no increase this year to boot!

Proactive Safety Management

With air regulatory bodies EASA and the CAA heavily committed to managing risk and increasing safety, and now with the inclusion of Effective Safety Management Systems (chapter 6) within CAP 660 (parachuting) the BPA proactively identified the need to introduce this requirement to dropzones, rather than have it thrust upon us by the CAA, with minimum time to implement and comply.

Stuart Morris was in a unique position to assist, as a Chartered Health and Safety Practitioner and DZ Operator of the North West Parachute Centre. Tony Butler approached Stuart in the hope of recruiting his expertise and knowledge to develop and deliver a suitable system for all BPA Affiliated clubs and centres to adopt.

This ground-breaking work was scheduled to run in conjunction with the BPA AGM, so Friday 15 January 2010 was set for the first ever DZ Safety Management System in air sports to be undertaken within the UK and possibly the EU. 42 representatives from dropzones all over the country descended on the Hilton at Blackpool. With assistance from BPA staff and committee

members they were broken down into groups, identified to enhance the cross section of vast knowledge that was pooled within the room.

SMS Elements

The course objectives identified, Stuart began to discuss the elements and requirements to adopt a protocol known as a Safety Management System (SMS). This is simply a method of drawing together our existing controls and working practices to produce a proactive, system of continuous improvement, a virtuous cycle. We link these key elements of assessing risk and controlling safety to form a cycle. Because of this new relationship each element reinforces the others, so the system becomes more robust. The new property that merges from the system is called integrated safety management.

For it to be effective an SMS has to be reviewed at regular intervals and a more proactive style of management would need to be adopted for the system to become established and continually improve.

Stuart identified and discussed how each individual element of the DZ SMS fitted with our existing controls; ie, BPA Operations Manual, Club Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Risk Assessments. As the day progressed the syndicate groups worked through practical exercises and gave feedback to the remaining groups in the open sessions. Knowledge and good ideas were shared throughout the day.

Discussion

A practical discussion closed out the workshop, on how we were to move forward in the next 12-18 months, with reviews to be scheduled to check progress, identify future requirements, review any amendment proposals, and define a central protocol.

Many thanks to Tony, John, Martin and Weed for the assistance with the syndicate work and to the sponsors of the whole event Manson Insurance Brokers and Liberty International Underwriters, you guys came up trumps!

One final note to the BPA Membership, there was a lot of hard work completed by your BPA staff, DZ Operators and CCLs on the day, please play your part in keeping our beloved sport safe, toe the line, but above all, never stop enjoying and appreciating what we as members sometimes take for granted, ie, what goes on behind the scenes. Have a great, safe 2010.

Stu Morris

stuanndtee@blueyonder.co.uk

Acronym Guide

BPA	British Parachute Association
CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
CAP	CAA Publication
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EU	European Union
CCI	Club Chief Instructor
DZ	Drop Zone
DZO	Drop Zone Operator
SMS	Safety Management System
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure



DZOs, BPA Staff & Council Members
and BPA Insurers

SMS Day Syllabus

Background – how we got to present day

Failures to effectively manage risks – disasters that occurred where existing SMS failed.

Identifying key elements of an effective DZ SMS – what the elements are and how they affect our risk control

Relationship between key elements and the BPA components, to fit to make a recognisable, effective SMS

Getting started back at your DZ – practical, hands-on guidance

"We all know that the legislation is coming and we know in general terms what needs to be done, but it was great to have someone with the relevant knowledge to point us in the right direction. Well worth the drive to Blackpool!"



Colin Fitzmaurice,
The Parachute Centre
(Tilstock)

"The seminar highlighted some points that all DZ operators need to be aware of, if only to learn how to help themselves in this overwhelming area. It raised valid issues that should be addressed by the BPA and the individual DZs, but it also gave us confidence that we are all seemingly doing the right things, we simply need to progress and develop the systems already in place."



Hannah Swallow
Target Skysports (Hibaldstow)

"A really worthwhile and informative day, thanks to Stuart Morris for a very professional seminar. Hopefully this will become an annual event."



Grant Richards
UK Parachuting (Beccles & Sibson)

"As the facilitator I found the day enlightening and a great discussion forum to bounce ideas off other DZ Operators. The comments on the feedback forms were positive and inspiring. To all the DZ Operators, CCI s and nominated skydivers, can I thank you for attending, your active participation made my job so much easier."



Stuart Morris
Skydive Northwest (Cark) DZO
& SMS Course Facilitator

Teamwork



Like rock bands, teams generally include strong individuals who will have different opinions. Ultimately, the success or failure of the team depends on whether you can resolve conflicts positively or whether issues multiply until the inevitable explosion.

Here are some suggested models for making your team work...



In my day job I go into companies and work with people on their interpersonal and teamworking skills. At weekends I mostly fly camera. This has given me a ringside seat for observing how skydive teams actually function. Or, more accurately, how many teams fail to function! I have lost count of the number of teams I have watched explode, implode, disintegrate or just fade away. So I thought it might be useful to look at a couple of the tools and techniques a team can use to help prevent that happening.

Belbin's Blueprint

There has been much research into teams over the years. Most famously, Dr Meredith Belbin came up in the 1980's with the idea that there are nine possible roles in any team and that people tend to have a preference for particular roles, called Team Types. For any team to function effectively, he claims, there should be a balance of Types. Or to put it a more familiar way – too many chiefs and not enough indians rarely works!

Tuckman's Theory

Another very common model is the one developed by Bruce Tuckman in 1965. He suggested that every team goes through four stages in its development, which he called:

- **Forming** – the team first agrees its goals
- **Storming** – the struggle for roles and leadership
- **Norming** – everyone understands how the team will operate
- **Performing** – the team accelerates towards its goals.

The trouble with these models, and all similar ones is that, although they tell you what might happen and what needs doing, they offer no guidance in how to go about it.

Prodigy Prognosis

My own conclusion is that skydiving teams are like rock bands. They come together for a variety

of reasons – some just for fun, hoping to play a few gigs and have the odd shag, some with ambitions of major success. Like rock bands, 4-way teams often comprise members with large egos that may or may not be matched by talent. And like rock bands, the members can have very strongly held, but extremely different, convictions about the best way of doing things. Most significantly of all, they usually have no formal leader, so everyone voices opinions on all decisions, and often very loudly! And just like rock bands, the conflict this causes surfaces when the pressure is on. Classically, rock bands tour happily together for years, then start to fall apart rapidly just after they sign a record deal and release an album, with the possibility that they might actually make it big. For skydive teams, that threat of success translates into at, or just before, the Nationals.

Conflict

Some skydiving teams incorporate Pass the Rock into their meetings. I think it started with *Arizona Airspeed*. The idea is that you go round in turn and say anything that is bothering you, get stuff off your chest, and as long as you are the one speaking (ie, holding the rock), no-one else can interrupt. It's a way of bringing up issues so that others will listen and in turn you must really listen to their response. But this still doesn't give any advice on delivering the message in a non-aggressive manner.

Alternative Approach

Perhaps I can offer an alternative model: view a team like a skydive formation. If you are on the dive, everything you do will affect everyone else. Knowing that, we have certain rules about how to approach and dock on a formation – match fall rates, approach gently and on level, dock with zero momentum, don't grab at grips, don't use the formation to stop yourself. We all know that ignoring these rules can disrupt any formation and funnel it badly. I want to suggest that we can put similar rules in place for working in a team.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Belbin's Brainstorm

Belbin's theory suggests that for a team to work effectively, all three areas (Action, Social, Thinking) need to be serviced.

Action tasks mean getting things done to further the team's aims.

Social tasks keep the team emotionally stable & running smoothly.

Thinking tasks plan for the future, and solve strategic problems.

To achieve the best balance, a team should comprise at least:

- One Co-ordinator or Shaper (not both) for leader
- Plant to stimulate ideas
- A Monitor/Evaluator to maintain honesty and clarity
- One or more: Implementer, Teamworker, Resource Investigator or Finisher to make things happen

The more balanced a team, or the more members are willing to be adaptable and take on secondary roles, the more likely it is to function well and achieve its goals.

ACTION	SOCIAL	THINKING
Completer Finisher <i>Painstaking, conscientious. Delivers on time.</i>	Co-ordinator <i>Confident, good chair. Clarifies goals, delegates well.</i>	Monitor Evaluator <i>Strategic, discerning. Sees options, judges accurately.</i>
Implementer <i>Disciplined, reliable. Turns ideas into action.</i>	Resource Investigator <i>Enthusiastic, communicative. Explores opportunities, contacts</i>	Plant <i>Creative, unorthodox – solves difficult problems.</i>
Shaper <i>Challenging, dynamic. Drives to overcome obstacles.</i>	Teamworker <i>Co-operative, diplomatic. Listens, builds, averts friction.</i>	Specialist <i>Single minded, dedicated. Provides knowledge and skills.</i>



Hamilton's Hypothesis

Steve Hamilton told us one day during training - 'After a decade of coaching, I've come to the conclusion that all 4-way teams are made up of the same four personalities:

The Mother Hen – who fusses after everyone all the time.

The Disappearer – who can never be found when it's time to start.

The Geek – who does all the computer stuff.

The Stripper – there's always one who loves any excuse to get their kit off.'

After making a careful study of my own and other 4-way teams, I think he's right!

Steve Hamilton by Simon Ward



Satori by Jim Stevenson

Say Something Nice!

Contrary to everything that comes natural to us as Brits, I would like to invite you, just occasionally, to say something nice to your teammates. Why? Two reasons. Firstly because if you want to change someone's behaviour, research shows that positive reinforcement works far more effectively than punishment. So, for example, the best way to deal with a teammate, who is always late is not to say 'Oy, tosser, you're late again,' however satisfying that feels. You are much more likely to effect a change by waiting until they are accidentally on time for something, and then heaping genuine thanks and praise on them. They might look at you strangely, sure, but I promise you after a few doses of this they will start to get more punctual – and won't even know why!

Secondly, the subconscious mind has no power to differentiate messages, and no sense of humour. That's why it's fine to watch the season's 'Bloopers' DVD once or twice for a laugh but, if you really want to improve your performance, watch your 'Best Of' tape over and over, because that's the learning you want to give your subconscious. Well, what message are we giving our teammates if all we reflect back to them are their mistakes and worst behaviour? Even as a teasing joke? I'm not suggesting that we all turn into gushing Californians but if we want our teammates to be the best they can, we should offer them an image of themselves that they can aspire to.

Positive Feedback

Most skydive coaches teach the same technique for self-debriefing after training jumps. You probably know it. You watch the tape, then:

- 1 Say what was good from your perspective
- 2 Say what you'd like to improve in your own performance
- 3 Shut up and move on.

This system works, because it focuses on the positive, and gives simple goals for improvement. But often this discipline slips, and people start apologising, accusing, being directive, criticising – all of which creates friction. So stick to being nice. Before you say anything out loud, check that it fits the debriefing criteria.



The identical system can be used in company meetings. Say what's going well for you. Say what you'd like to do better. Move on. It's amazing how much ground can be covered like that.

Conflict – 3 Step Resolution

Let me introduce you to a good formula for dealing with conflict within the team. It has three steps.

Step 1 – 'When You...'

You've heard the saying, 'love the sinner, hate the sin'. I say: discuss the behaviour, not the person. If you want to deal with another team member's actions, always start with a specific. Not, 'You're never on time', but 'When you arrive late for training, like you did today...'

Step 2 – 'Then I make it mean...'

We make assumptions about other people's behaviour – and often we are wrong. Meaning is constructed in the mind. If you see a tiger you might assume it will attack, and feel threatened. Then you might notice it is behind bars and feel sad for its endangered status. How you feel depends not on external circumstances, not on the tiger, but on the meaning you attach. So the next part of the phrase is, 'I make it mean...'. Sometimes, clarifying your assumption is enough to resolve the conflict. For example, 'When you are late for training, I make it mean you don't care about this team.' 'No, no, I'm late because I care so much about training going well that I obsessively check my kit five times, and I sit in the car an extra 15 minutes to visualise all the dives.'

At this point we have established that the problem is not actually someone's attitude to the team and can move on to practical solutions – everyone will check each other's kit, the whole team will sit and visualise together once they've met up, etc.

Step 3 – 'And then I feel...'

Only talk about your own feelings. As I outlined above, our feelings are generated from within. We choose how to feel, albeit often at an unconscious level. But our feelings are also very real, they are ours, and so no-one can contradict us. 'I feel sad.'

'No you don't', is self-evidently a ridiculous conversation.

So the last part of the phrase is 'Then I feel...'. (Crucially, **not**, 'You make me feel...')

Putting it all together

So, put all three bits together and you have a formula for discussing matters of conflict in a low-heat way. 'When you... I make it mean... and then I feel...'

For example, 'When you are late for training, like today, I make it mean you don't really care about the rest of the team, and then I feel let down.'

This is a simple statement of fact, together with ownership of the assumption and the feeling. How much less inflammatory than 'You're always late you git, you don't give a monkey's about the team'.

Shut it!

Lastly, and perhaps most powerfully, you might want to consider not talking at all. In some situations, the best teamworking tool of all is simply to shut up. Try these three questions to ask yourself before opening your mouth:

- Does it need to be said?
- Does it need to be said by me?
- Does it need to be said by me, right now?

If you can't answer 'Yes' to all three, save your breath!



Photos show Satori

Resistance

Now, I can already imagine some people reading all this and thinking 'I ain't doing that pink fluffy cr*p. This is me, this is how I am, this how I talk to everyone, and if people can't take it, then to hell with 'em. Why should I become someone I'm not?'

Fair enough. Or is it? Imagine me being debriefed after taking out a section of a formation because I docked so hard and fast, and me saying, 'I ain't doing any of that zero momentum cr*p. This is me, this is how I fly, and if people can't take it, to hell with 'em. Why should I become someone I'm not?'

I sound ridiculous because this statement denies any of the consequences of my behaviour. When someone learns how to dock on a formation, it doesn't change their personality, or even their skydiving style. They simply learn an alternative way of flying so they have a wider repertoire to choose from. Then they can crash into it, or dock gently, as the situation requires.

Similarly, learning some other communication techniques doesn't mean changing personality and becoming Counsellor Deanna Troi. It just means that you have a wider repertoire to choose from, as the situation requires. And if every member of a team chooses the 'dock with caution' approach, how much easier to keep the formation flying in balance!

The Naughty Step!

And as an afterthought, I would encourage you to watch episodes of Supernanny! Because her rules for kids are equally effective with adults

- reward good behaviour
- listen to people without interruption
- treat them with respect
- establish boundaries
- confront bad behaviour immediately.



Jim Stevenson

These are just a couple of the tools and techniques that can help a team work well. There are many more. The good news is that you don't have to actually like or be friends with your teammates – it's great if you are, but it's not necessary for good

team performance. What is necessary is mutual respect, good behaviour, and taking responsibility for 'docking gently'.

Jon Trevor
jon@letstalk.uk.net

I can't make you skydive better, but can help your teamwork, email me: jon@letstalk.uk.net



2010

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
FROM 31 MAY - 30 AUGUST 2010

DIARY OF EVENTS



FEB 27	SAFETY DAY
MAR 20-21	FS COACHING WITH SIMON CATHRINE
APR 2-4	SAFE FLIGHT COURSE WITH BRIAN VACHER
APR 5-9	SKYSAVER WEEK - OPEN 7 DAYS
APR 10-11	STICKER FEST - FS1 + FF1, FF2
APR 17-18	FS SCRAMBLES # 1
APR 24-25	SKYDIVE CHOREOGRAPHY BIG WAY BEGINNERS
MAY 1-3	FUNSHINE BOOGIE UK
MAY 3-7	SKYSAVER WEEK - OPEN 7 DAYS
MAY 8-9	INTRODUCTION TO BIG WAY WITH SIMON CATHRINE
MAY 22-23	FS COACHING + ORGANISING WITH KAIZEN
JUN 5-6	FF SCRAMBLES - BAD LIEUTENANTS
JUNE 7-11	SKYSAVER WEEK
JUN 12-13	SKYDIVE CHOREOGRAPHY EVENT
JUN 19-20	FS COACHING & ORGANISING WITH SONICNUTZ
JUN 26-27	28 WAY COMPETITION
JUN 28- JUL 2	SKYSAVER WEEK
JUL 3-4	BCPA EVENT + BAD LIEUTENANTS FF ORGANISING
JUL 10-11	UKSL 4-WAY COMPETITION
JUL 17-18	FS COACHING WITH KAIZEN + SONICNUTZ
JUL 26-30	SKYSAVER WEEK
AUG 14-16	4 WAY FS + VFS NATIONALS
AUG 21-23	ARTISTIC, SPEED + 8 WAY FS NATIONALS
AUG 28-30	RESERVE NATIONALS WEEKEND SIMON CATHRINE'S BIG WAY
SEP 11-12	FF ORGANISING WITH THE BAD LIEUTENANTS
SEP 18-19	FS COACHING + ORGANISING WITH SIMON CATHRINE
SEP 25-26	FF ORGANISING + COACHING BAD LIEUTENANTS
OCT 2-3	FIRST TIME FORMATION LOADS WITH SIMON CATHRINE
OCT 9-10	FS SCRAMBLES # 2
OCT 30-31	FF VS FS 8-WAY SPEED HALLOWEEN FROSTBITE FRIENDLY

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£16 JUMPTICKETS FOR EVERYONE ALL WEEK!
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skydive Spain



HERE ARE THE CURRENT TEAM TRAINING DATES AT SKYDIVE SPAIN, WHY NOT TRAIN ALONGSIDE OTHER TEAMS TO MAKE YOUR CAMP MORE SUCCESSFUL WITH MORE JUMPS PER DAY.

FRENCH NATIONAL FREEFLY X2 AND FREESTYLE X2 (12 PER DAY)	9 - 22 JAN
2X 4WAY TEAMS (8-10 PER DAY)	15 JAN - 8 FEB
DUTCH FREEFLY TEAM (10 PER DAY)	29 JAN - 4 FEB
GERMAN 4WAY TEAM (10-12 PER DAY)	30 JAN - 2 FEB
GERMAN 4WAY TEAM (10-12 PER DAY)	30 JAN - 7 FEB
SWISS FREEFLY TEAM COACHED BY MIKE CARPENTER (8-10 PER DAY)	5 - 14 FEB
SATORI 4WAY TEAM COACHED GARY SMITH (12-16 PER DAY)	12 - 21 FEB
FRENCH NATIONAL VFS TEAMS X2 (12 PER DAY)	1 - 12 MAR
BELGIAN WINGSUIT TEAM (8-10 PER DAY)	6 - 13 MAR
SATORI 4WAY TEAM COACHED BY GARY SMITH (12-16 PER DAY)	12 - 21 MAR
SATORI 4WAY TEAM COACHED BY GARY SMITH (12-16 PER DAY)	9 - 18 APR
GERMAN 4WAY TEAM (6/7 PER DAY)	9 - 18 APR
GERMAN 4WAY TEAM (8-10 PER DAY)	10 - 17 APR
BAD LIEUTENANTS VFS TEAM (10-12 PER DAY)	17 - 25 APR
VOLARE FF TEAM (12-16 PER DAY)	7 - 16 MAY
VOLARE FF TEAM (12-16 PER DAY)	3 - 10 JUN
SATORI 4WAY TEAM COACHED BY GARY SMITH (12-16 PER DAY)	4 - 11 JUN
SONICNUTZ 4WAY TEAM (12-16 PER DAY)	4 - 11 JUN
VOLARE FF TEAM (12-16 PER DAY)	2 - 11 JUL
SATORI 4WAY TEAM COACHED BY GARY SMITH (12-16 PER DAY)	2 - 11 JUL

SKYDIVE SPAIN CAN NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IF THE ABOVE DATES AND TEAMS CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. WE ALWAYS ADVISE YOU EMAIL US PRIOR TO YOUR TRAINING CAMPS IN ORDER WE CAN HELP TO MAKE THEM AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE.

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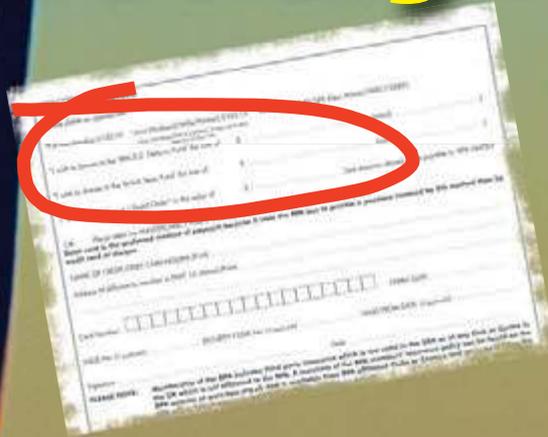


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DESIGN BY HOLLY.KILHAM@GOOGLEMAIL.COM

Please Give Generously!

Your BPA Membership Renewal Form, enclosed with this Mag, invites you to tick a box to make an optional donation to the DZDF and the British Team Fund. Clearly these are 'Good Causes' but what do they actually do?



Drop Zone Defence Fund

It's like a reserve. Most of the time it sits there doing nothing, but when you need it, you're very glad you took the trouble to have one!

DZ Threats

The DZDF was set up around 20 years ago, with the aim of helping any British DZ under threat. At the time we had seen a raft of closures – there had been an explosion of clubs in the late 70s and 80s and many simply couldn't survive long term. As the number of sites declined it became more important to protect the remaining ones – the more so as new threats have emerged. The one I thought might bite was the economic recession but in fact our main problem at the moment is the spread of the dreaded wind turbines. Green they may be – I have heard it argued convincingly both ways – but for anything that uses the air they are very bad news.

Fighting Fund

Why doesn't the BPA help directly? Well, of course it does, providing advice, moral support, expertise and contacts. But parachuting clubs are commercial businesses and the BPA is not a bank. Fighting the 'Powers That Be' can bring even a successful small business to its knees quite quickly. So we asked all skydivers to put their hands in their pockets and build up a fighting fund, the DZDF. Grants are available to any BPA DZ that needs financial assistance directly connected to fighting threats against their operations. The agreement is that all funds provided will be matched pound for pound by the club. Otherwise there are no strings attached, though we ask that if a club is given costs and gets the money back, they will return it to the fund. The DZDF is technically independent of the BPA though we receive terrific support from the folks at Leicester, particularly Jon, Martin and Trudy – thanks so much guys.

GAAC

Almost at the start we realised that with legal costs as they are, we would never have enough money to support a major case by ourselves. Ten grand or so doesn't last long once barristers get involved and, if you are fighting a Council or Government body with more or less unlimited funds, the costs spiral quickly. So we made the decision to invest some of your money in gaining goodwill with a more powerful organisation, and have regularly donated to the General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC).

This is an umbrella organisation for all air users, which is well funded, with direct links to MPs and lawmakers. Our donations give the DZDF direct representation on the GAAC Council, and means that should we need them we can call on their considerable resources to fight on our side.

Examples of Support

The Fund has made three grants in aid during my term. Two of these were against local residents trying to have a DZ shut down. London Parachute School have always had difficulties; for instance, we helped them successfully fight a closure order. The most recent grant was support for Peterlee Parachute Centre, battling against the construction of a wind turbine almost on their boundary. This would have had serious effects on their ability to continue operating. Happily, the fight was successful and the club continues; they put up an excellent case and I am delighted that we could help. To pass on the good techniques I was happy to invite CCI Ian Rosenvinge to come to the DZDF AGM (held as part of the BPA AGM each year) to report on how it should be done. The meeting was packed, and Ian has remained a stalwart supporter of the DZDF.

Tick the Box

The rest of the fund is kept in a high interest account (or as high as one can get nowadays!) waiting for the next call... and that might just be your DZ! So please tick the box on your membership renewal and give what you can afford, in the interests of British parachuting as a whole.

Chris Jones, DZDF Chairman
chris@skygod.freemove.co.uk



Amanda Kemp

British Team Fund

The fund has been running for over a decade and currently stands at around £18,000.

Fund Income

This was primarily generated at Nationals competitions across all disciplines, with £5 of the entry fee and £1 per round being paid back by the host DZ to the fund. Nationals events in a number of disciplines have rocketed in the last few years, so the growth of the British Team Fund has been equally strong. Current annual income is sitting at about £4k or greater, with an outlay of up to £2.5k. Annual donations at renewal time are always gratefully received and usually followed up by a thank-you letter from the BPA or Competitions Chairman.

Delegation Uniform

Traditionally, the fund has been able to pay for a delegation uniform for the entire national squad sent to international competitions to represent the BPA. Recent photos of ESL, World Cups and World Championships have seen a well turned-out delegation adorning magazine covers looking smart, thanks to the British Team Fund. At an international sporting event, each person on the delegation represents the UK in every area – behaviour, appearance and teamwork, as well as sporting excellence. We want Team GB to look and act like a team, regardless of how many different disciplines are included. However competitors should not have to fund any uniform themselves, it is better that they spend their personal money on training.

Special Assistance

The success and growth of our competitors gave a bitter-sweet headache recently to Comps Committee – so many teams and individuals now offer real world class performance and need financial support from the BPA, which now has less to work with, following removal of Sports Council grants. The Competitions Committee Action Plan had a prudent approach

of carrying forward 30% (£19k) of its 2008/09 budget into the 2009/10 plan – but we needed even more to offer viable support to the higher than normal number of deserving recipients at the end of the 2009 season.

Thanks to its positive growth, the committee was able to use one year's worth of income from the British Team Fund to add £4k to the pot used for funded teams. The other competitions budgets were also re-worked so we were able to give better financial support to our very best competitors. In order to stay competitive at world level, financial support is invaluable when you realise personal spend alone is over £20k per head just in the build-up for major events.

Tick that Box!

The fund strength relies on a strong turnout at Nationals and donations from BPA Members, some of whom may not compete but wish to support the BPA delegation's international performance. On behalf of the competitors and the Competitions Committee I would like to thank all those who donate at Membership renewal time and look forward to the continued strong turnout at all our National Championships. Please consider a donation, however small – especially if you have benefitted from the fund in the past. Also, some Members may be able to offer practical assistance with uniform or team clothing.

Thanks so much!

British Team Fund Summary

Annual fund income – Nationals & donations	£4,000
Annual BPA delegation uniform	£2,200
Special allocation for World Meet 2010	£4,000
Approx Brit Team Fund balance	£18,000

*Andy Scott,
Comps Committee Chairman 2009
andy@bpa.org.uk*



Danny Jacobs

Photos show the British delegation in new uniforms at the World Cup 2009 in Czech Republic

Blackpool Ro

In a bold move, the BPA's Annual General Meeting strayed from its Leicestershire home for the first time in over a decade. The draw of donkeys, the seaside and 'kiss me quick' hats had swayed Council, so Blackpool's Hilton Hotel became host to this year's event. So how did it go?



Martin Soulsby, fronting the Film Festival

AGM & Awards

There were loads of new ideas tried out during the weekend. We started the day with a goodie bag for everyone during a shorter Chairman's speech. You'll never find a skydiver complaining about a freebie! The sticks of BPA rock and mini torches went down well. Here's to even more goodies next year please!

Mikey Carpenter's video round-up of the year's events played during John Smyth's speech was just marvellous, a moving picture tells a million words. The awards ceremony seemed shorter and less tough on those ever-clapping hands. The highlight was Al Hodgson receiving the Taz Causer 'Skydiver of the Year' award, obviously the people's choice as the membership gave Al a standing ovation!

Film Festival

Next up was the all new Film Festival. This was an opportunity for members to submit their own skydiving movies to be judged by the crowds. Most of the five entries were traditional skydiving movies with awesome skills on display set to groovy music. However a motley crew from Sibson won the day with a comedy sketch with lots of heart. Narrowly beating some undeniably spectacular footage from Mikey Carpenter, 'Wake me Up Before you Go Go' captured the spirit of the Film Festival idea by producing a short story. We look forward to seeing more entries next year. Organiser Martin Soulsby has plans to grow the event, engage a sponsor and get more use out of his blue sequined Butlins-style jacket which was, if nothing else, very Blackpool!

Seminars

As the afternoon's seminars kicked off, the BPA threw open the doors to non-skydivers to attend an Introduction to Skydiving session. Led by Simon Cathrine, supported by newly-crowned skydiver of the year Al Hodgson and reigning

world champion Sparky Scott, the talk was designed to promote the sport to people considering it. Although only a limited number of non-skydivers turned up, three won first jump courses kindly donated by Black Knights, whilst others signed up for jumps. The consensus in the bar was that this was potentially a very good idea, which should be tried again with more local promotion.

Other seminars included a popular session on 4-way lead by *Phobia*, a thought-provoking discussion on the environmental impact of skydiving and a fractious competitions open forum. Despite being at the heart of much navel-gazing online, the session to discuss issues to do with The Mag was not well-attended. Most members were apparently happy or had perhaps already headed for a beer – but missed a trick since that seminar room had a bar serving throughout the session!



cks the AGM



Al Hodgson

Photos: John Williamson

Video Links

Another new aspect of the event was the live streaming of some seminars onto the internet with links posted to [Facebook](#) and the [UKSkydiver.co.uk](#) websites. Council member Craig Poxon, trialling the technology with a view to it being introduced for Council meetings, allowed members who didn't fancy the long drive to the northwest to get a real-time taste of the AGM from the comfort of their own home. Check out the videos of the seminars and everything that took place in the main hall on the BPA website. Contact Craig if you'd like to help film seminars at next year's AGM.

Trade Stands

The exhibition ran all day and had slightly fewer stands than usual. The wind tunnels were well represented, selling off plenty of discount tunnel time. Bodyflight continued its tradition of giving away time for those prepared to do crazy challenges, which led to some impressive feats from the more physically honed BPA members. Some were left barely able to hold their beer bottles after attempting 59 press-ups for 15 minutes of free tunnel!

Dinner

So, on to the evening meal, with the ladies in their finery and men in their tuxes. The food was good if unambitious, but the delayed comedian was not worth the wait. He judged the diverse crowd badly, thinking he was addressing a military audience and raised only a few laughs. At the same time in the bar, a local singer was experiencing an unappreciative skydiving audience with a set that was perhaps more aimed at the many pigeon fanciers on tour, with whom we shared the hotel. Al Macartney literally pulled the plug on her, much to the diva's disgust.

Dance

Afterwards, most headed to bars to catch up with friends, some headed downstairs for a boogie in the on-site club and others decided to gate crash the pigeon fanciers' entertainment! The dancing was curtailed at 2am despite BCPA attempts to keep things going. Many continued to chat and drink into the small hours, the only evidence of their survival the next morning in the form of Facebook updates from bed, lamenting their late night decision-making!

So, was the move to Blackpool a good idea? It seemed like numbers were down on previous years with fewer people being able to take advantage of the central location to pop in for just a few hours and some regulars being put off by the longer drive. But there were many new faces as the location made it accessible for those living further north. The AGM aficionados all still found it worth the effort to go. Our thanks to Martin, Helen and the BPA Office staff, plus Council member Adrian Bond and his working party, who put a lot of effort into ringing the changes in a new-look AGM.

Next Year

For 2011 the AGM moves to Daventry, Northamptonshire based on the scientific reasoning that it is the shortest average distance for BPA members to travel based on their postcodes. There might not be as many donkeys and sticks of rock in Daventry, but the AGM continues to grow and change, and many Members will make the most of it wherever it is.

Jo Hawley
Kaizen



The Taz Causer Trophy for Skydiver of the Year 2009
Alistair Hodgson



Instructor of the Year 2009
Jonathan Irving (Netheravon)



The Mike Forge Trophy for New Skydiver of the Year 2009
George Glass (Hibaldstow)



Pat Hammond 'Come On My Boys' Trophy
PH36



Accuracy Landings



Senior Accuracy Champion
Glenn Stephenson

Junior Accuracy Champion
Lee Harrison
(Not present)

Intermediate Accuracy Champion
James Bacon
(Not present)



BPA National Judges

Liz Warner Artistics & CP
Richard Del-Toro CP
Shirley Moran Accuracy
John Boardman (Not present)



Jump Certificates

84 Hours Freefall & 7,000 Jumps
Jim Scarratt

Rookie Podium



Joint Bronze Karma, Baboonlyon (Not present)
Silver Gr4vity (Not present) Gold Nimeton

2010 AGM

Presentations & Awards



2009 GRAND PRIX & UKSL Overall Awards

Award photos: John Williamson

Canopy Formation



4-way CF Sequential Senior Champions *Cellmates*



4-way CF Rotations Champions
Intermediate *Outcast* Yellow Senior *Outcasts*



2-way CF Sequential Champions
Intermediate *PH36* Senior *Yappy Dogs*

4-way Formation Skydiving



A Podium

Gold *Unagi*, **Silver** *Slot Machines*
Bronze *5 Ds* (Not present)



AA Podium

Bronze *Army Nemesis* (Not present)
Silver *Strangers* **Gold** *Jet Blondes*



AAA Podium

Joint Bronze *Enigma*, *Fusion*, **Gold** *Phobia*
Silver *Fend 4 Yourself*



Gary Wainwright

**Alistair Hodgson,
Skydiver of the Year.
Many of you know him
and if not, you are sure
to know of him, let's
be fair... he's pretty
hard to miss! So, why,
you may ask does he
deserve such an
accolade?**

You see, the thing about Al is that he's anything but just, 'that dude with no legs'. In fact in all the time I have know him I have never thought of him as disabled, even when he's wheeling me home in his wheelchair at 3am! Al's disability it seems has never held him back and, since he's teamed up with the driving force that is his wife Pixie, they have just been unstoppable. Working tirelessly to coach, promote and build freeflying in the UK they have now risen to the heights of competing at world level. This is, as we know, an achievement in itself, never mind considering all the extra Al has had to overcome to get there.

So, why did Al win Skydiver of the Year? Well he's a highly skilled cameraflyer, freeflyer, coach and organiser, dedicated to his sport and pursues his skydiving with love and great energy. But 2009 was extra special. Al and Pixie as *Airkix Freestyle* won the British Nationals for the second year, qualifying for an invitation to the World Championships 2010 in Russia in July. They then went on to the World Cup in August '09 and ranked fifth, also placing



BPA Skydiver of the Year

AI Hodgson

Speedkix Freestyle Videographer

Jumps: 4,800+

Time in sport: Nine years

Home DZ: Skydive Langar

Achievements:

British Skydiver of the Year 2009

UK Freestyle Record 2009

Nordic Meet 2009

4th at the European Cup 2009

5th at the World Cup 2009

National Champion Freestyle (camera) 2009

9th at the World Meet 2008

National Champion Freestyle (camera) 2008

Guinness World Record Longest Indoor Freefall 2008

National Silver Freestyle 2007 (camera)

National Champion Freestyle B 2007 (camera)

National Bronze 2005 Freestyle A (camera)

National Champion Freestyle B (performer)

BPA New Skydiver of the Year 2000

Photo by Neil Atkinson, Sunday Mirror



fourth in the European Championships. Plus Al was one of the 14 British freeflyers who became part of the new head-down British Record at Hildaldstow, October 09.

Al runs Bullet Freefly School at Skydive Langar where he is an inspiration. He also coaches at roadshows to further encourage newcomers, as he does all over the world at Go Vertical, Boogieman Fever and Skydive Voss to name but a few. Al was a volunteer organiser and coach at the Beat Cancer Boogie (Bitburg, Germany), an event that raises money for cancer survivors and fighters. Al has also judged at the Skydive Arizona money meet and the Bodyflight Bedford World Challenge. He is a Patron of Preston Disc (Disability Information Services Centre), and is constantly out to have as much fun as possible.

So, moving forward to the World Championships. The road to Russia is not paved with gold – actually you need to be sitting on a lot of gold to get there! The cost of competing at world level is slightly overwhelming but knowing the team has the drive and the talent it's just money that has to be found. Pixie and I conspired over a few cans of pear cider and the challenge began. Firstly we set about raising the team's profile in order to attract sponsors.

We really can thank the Sunday Mirror here for working so closely with us to break and syndicate the story. Also of course the mighty Bruno Brokken for producing such great shots that tickled all the media taste buds. The response to the article has been overwhelming; Al and Pix have received support and encouragement from all sides. The story was also picked up by some television networks and amongst others Al was invited to appear on 'This Morning'. With this interview fast approaching we knew we needed a website but had no budget. Alistair's brother in-law came to the rescue; Rob Girling sponsored the team with a website and branding. Check it out:

speedkix.com

So many people have pitched in to bring the project this far and we offer a deep thanks to all of you. The 'This Morning' interview was incredible, Al was so relaxed and spoke with such honesty and frankness, add to this the sexy northern tone in his voice and it was winner-winner-chicken-dinner!

The quest now is far from over and, with a lot more jive-talking ahead, I cross my fingers and toes and every other sticky-out bit that we can secure the sponsorship required.

I am proud to call Alistair and Pixie my friends, they have truly inspired me over the past few years both in the air, through their outstanding progression, and as a loving, devoted couple. They complement each other perfectly and are surely destined for great things. We can all be proud that they are ambassadors for our sport. That pride was evident at the BPA AGM in Blackpool, when Al was awarded 'Skydiver of the Year'. Every single person in the huge room rose to their feet clapping and cheering in an incredible accolade never seen before for this award. I know you will join me in wishing Al and Pixie as *Speedkix* success in training for and competing at the World Freestyle Championships 2010.

Anna Howerski
anna@theedge.no



Bruno Brokken



Milko

Speedkix Sponsors

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Photo by Gary Wainwright

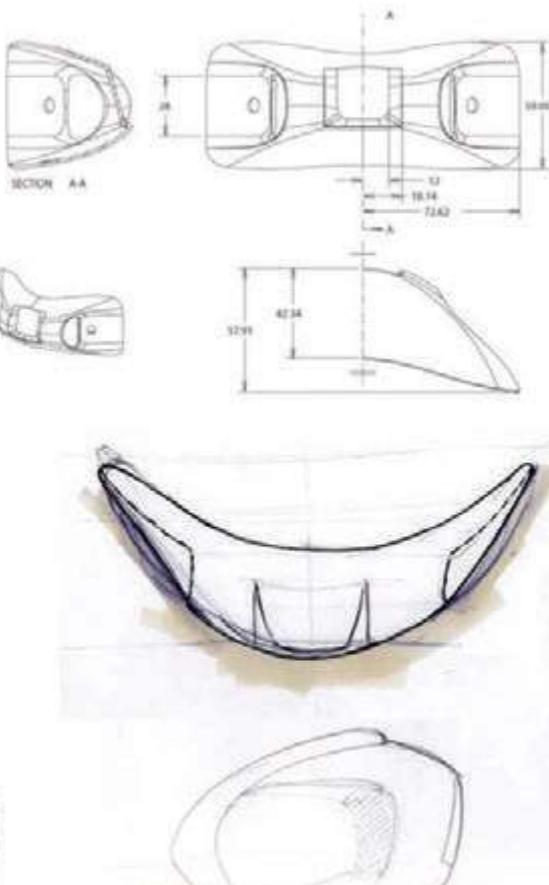


Bruno Brokken



Bruno Brokken

USER-LED Innovation!



What do you use when cameraflying?

Is it safe and effective?

Could a better helmet system be designed that is both safe and affordable?

These questions underpinned my final year's Industrial Designer project at Loughborough University. My passion for skydiving drove my ambition to create the next generation camera helmet, and the reports of two deaths internationally of skydivers resulting from entanglements with camera equipment emphasised the urgency of my work.

Market Research

Research identified the limitations of currently available equipment. It was clear that we as skydivers rely heavily on the safety and performance of our gear and that a well-designed product with an element of 'cool' factor will influence our choice when purchasing new equipment – this formed the basis of my new product design. Better still, now I had a legitimate excuse to head down to the DZ more often! I subsequently spent many hours at Langar dropzone and others, observing fellow skydivers. I concluded that most people wore unwieldy helmets with mounting platforms containing retro-fitted, unsuitable handycams. As a designer they seemed neither fit for the purpose nor aesthetically pleasing.

Discussion with Pros

Discussions with professional skydiving cameramen based at Langar dropzone including Tony Danbury, Gary Wainwright and Steve Candlish (*Red Devils*) fine-tuned my project aim

and provided the all important benchmarks from which to evolve my ideal solutions. I was surprised that there seemed to be neither regulations nor official safety standards regarding the manufacture of camera helmets for skydiving.

[Note – the BPA Ops Manual states camera helmets must be inspected and approved by a CCI, and may only be used by C licenced skydivers.]

Analysis

The next steps involved analysing currently available products and interviewing users of camera helmets. Five themes emerged:

- concerns over helmet safety
- lack of satisfaction on ease of use
- limitations on freedom of movement
- universal interaction with the housing of audible altimeters, operating switches and a variety of camera equipment
- camera technology limitations associated with extremes of temperature and altitude and increasing demand for quality images.

Design Spec

Armed with all this information I evolved a design specification which addressed all the user and

safety issues. Applying ergonomic data I identified an appropriate size range to accommodate all users, and explored various retaining and cutaway systems to offer maximum flexibility and effectiveness. The outcome was a customised, robust 3-ring release system, chosen for its load-bearing ability and simplicity. I incorporated a remote miniature bullet camera to be used with a body-worn recording device, since this has already been successfully adopted by other extreme activates such as motorsport, skiing, snowboarding, motocross and surfing.

My next challenge was to design a protective product. I researched a variety of impact-absorbing foams and consulted with materials specialist Professor Dick Heath from Loughborough University. I also investigated the latest multi-shock absorbing polymers such as d30, which is already used in a number of sporting goods with exceptional shock-absorbing properties. These materials were subsequently incorporated but modified to use with less dense foams, for a comfortable fit that would allow me to house audible devices within the helmet lining.



Camera and recording device are joined via magnetic breakaway connection for effective removal in emergencies



Cutaway system provides a discreet and highly effective emergency mechanism allowing rapid removal



Photo, taken by Tony Danbury, shows world renowned skydiving cameraman Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright modelling it. What did he think?

"The longer I jump cameras the more horror stories I hear about neck and back injuries so I welcome any attempt to reduce the weight on our heads. The helmet was a little small for me and a little big for Tony so I squeezed it on and Tony took the shots."

"It was very comfortable and the weight was negligible. Mark's cutaway system is very neat but is probably unnecessary for this helmet as it is as 'snag-free' as any design I have seen – until you start adding ring sights, stills camera, etc."

"I only had a quick look at the footage from this one jump on a laptop and it looked fine on that screen – it would certainly be great for debriefing from. To get a better idea of

the quality and suitability of this particular camera Mark needs to get more test footage with people flying in different orientations.

"I believe Mark is trying to create a 'modular' system which will be adaptable to many types of bullet-cams so there should be a certain amount of future-proofing."

Gary Wainwright

Prototype Testing

After further reviews by the Langar camera team I conducted a series of focus groups and one-to-one interviews with users across the full range of experiences – from less experienced camera flyers to professional display jumpers such as the *Red Devils*. The prototype was now complete and ready for the all-important testing. Its key features included the universal housing and operation of a compact modular bullet camera, danger-deflecting outer shell, impact-absorbing liner, fully adjustable chin-cup retaining system and a highly effective cutaway system.

I nervously awaited the outcome of this final testing; my anxiety as I waited at the dropzone was a reflection of the importance I placed on this professional opinion. Tony Danbury led this stage of development and his feedback more than fulfilled my ambitions, *"The design of Mark's helmet addresses all the aspects of safety which we highlighted during early discussions and is, in fact, the safest design we have seen."* (Tony Danbury, 22/5/2009)

Results

So, what was the outcome of my intensive Langar-based research, development and testing?

1. I successfully produced a new camera helmet which addresses the concerns of the current market.
2. The prototype is shortly to be manufactured as the 'Sky Shot' helmet.
3. I graduated from Loughborough University!

My university project provided me with the opportunity to creatively engage with my hobby and enabled me to use the skills I had acquired during my four year industrial design course to develop a potentially new and exciting skydiving

product. In this journey I have learned key business and finance skills and developed manufacturing networks, all of which will hopefully enable me to build my own career and future.

Mark Wane
mark@skyshotdesign.co.uk
skyshotdesign.co.uk



Mark modelling his invention



Flightline CHECK

“Can you give me a quick check please?”

“No! ...you can have a thorough one!”

We've all heard it, maybe due to a short call or sudden break in the weather. Maybe you've done hundreds of checks before and think you can do it properly in a hurry, or maybe you're new to it and feeling pressured to speed up to meet the plane. Either way, a flightline check is one of the most important things you do on the dropzone, the time when you really can save somebody else's life – or contribute to someone losing it – so let's slow down and do it properly.

If you've ever been guilty of uttering these words, or the even worse phrase, 'can you sign for me?', then slow down and ask for a thorough check. Most people will know at least one good bar story about the misrouted chest strap that got picked up on the flightline, or the jumper in a borrowed rig who'd picked up the wrong one by mistake. We're all capable of mistakes – flightline checks are there to cast another pair of eyes over us for a fresh view before we get in the air.

The best way to perform a flightline check is:

Don't: 'check that everything's right'

Do: 'find what's wrong.'

If you're looking for something to be wrong and can't find it, then you can be confident that the jumper is good to go. However if you're expecting everything to be right then you're actually more likely to miss any mistakes.

Think of a tennis match where Federer hits the ball right on the line. Federer fans are more likely to 'see what they want to see' and genuinely believe the ball was in, whereas someone cheering his opponent may swear blind that it was definitely out. It's the same subtle psychological difference with flightline checking, we mostly see what we're looking for – and wouldn't you rather spot the mistake if there is one? So look for what's wrong.

Flightline checking can be broken down into two broad sections:

1. Equipment – is it serviceable and worn correctly?

2. Skydiver – is he/she qualified for the planned jump?

Photo: Jim Stevenson

1. Equipment

There is no 'one size fits all' method of checking kit. However it is important to have a system and stick to it, as a regular routine reduces the chance of missing something. Some people like to start at one of the 3-rings and work their way down the harness, then back up the other side before asking the jumper to turn around, or you may prefer to check the whole of the kit from top to bottom rather than one side at a time.

Whichever system you use, here are some of the things you must check for:

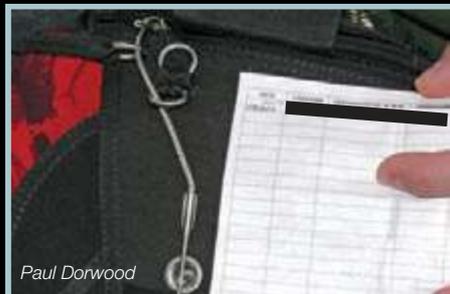
Serviceability

- Correct assembly of 3-rings
- Correct routing of RSL if there is one
- BOC pocket tight with all pilot chute fabric and bridle tucked away
- Flaps closed in correct sequence
- Reserve in date and tag present if required
- Pins tight enough and well seated
- Closing loops in perfect condition
- AAD turned on (visual check needed below B licence).

Fitting

- Chest strap and leg straps correctly routed
- Leg straps not twisted
- Emergency handles easy to locate and not tucked under the harness
- Main deployment handle within reach and not tucked away inside spandex
- Clothing secured and not obstructing handles
- Has the accessories; helmet, goggles, alti, gloves, audible if required
- Has hook knife if not a student – does the jumper know what it's for?!
- Alti set to zero.

When checking an experienced jumper's kit, always ask permission before touching anything and then try not to do so more than necessary.



Paul Dorwood

Misrouted RSL

This misrouted RSL had been through a number of flightline checks before being spotted. Had the RSL been required, it may not have released the reserve pin.



Karen Lewis

Misrouted 3-ring

This 3-ring had been reassembled incorrectly when changing canopies and the mistake was not picked up on the flightline. On deployment, this 3-ring released giving a rotating malfunction. The jumper carried out emergency drills and landed safely. If the misrouted riser had been the other one, with RSL, opening could have fired her reserve into the main.



Dennis Sattler

Chest Strap Horror

A jumper leaves a plane with her chest strap not properly fastened through the metal buckle. Fortunately the jumper's deployment was uneventful, and she remained in the harness – but we can easily imagine what could have happened. A flightline check should have picked this up.

2. Skydiver

You need to know if the jumper is qualified to carry out their skydive, and you can't do this unless you talk! You need to know their experience level and what they plan to do on this jump. Some flightline checks are done in silence by friends checking people whose experience level they already know. Perhaps they're jumping with them too so already know the planned dive. However the rest of the time you need to ask questions.

Some of the common rules you'll need to know are as follows, and you can find these and more in the BPA Operations Manual.

- Only instructors can perform checks on students, including AFF consols
- Must be B licence to wear a full-face helmet (not just 50 jumps)
- Camera helmets must be inspected and approved by a CCI, and only worn by C licence holders (not just 200 jumps)
- Must be C licence (or tandem student) to wear a frappe hat
- If non-FS1, must be jumping solo, or with a coach, or with a non-coach acceptable to the CCI (similar rules for other disciplines)

- Audible altimeters are mandatory for tandem and AFF instructors
- Wingsuit jumpers must hold WS1 or be training towards it. CCI approval is needed before WS1 holders may jump with each other, and wingsuit groups larger than three must each hold WS2.
- If you don't recognise the jumper, have they jumped at this DZ before? Do they know everything they should – DZ orientation, local rules, landing pattern, etc?
- You can help the jumpmaster by finding out if the skydiver is planning anything out of the ordinary on this jump, such as tracking or pulling high which could affect the exit order
- Currency requirements – if an A licence jumper has not jumped for two months then always refer him/her to the CCI. From B licence upwards, just make sure that the jump is sensible and not too much of a stretch.
- If you're in doubt about anything a jumper is planning, even if they insist it is okay, always find an instructor to ask. The jumper may be unaware of their own limitations and you may be doing them a big favour! If the planned jump is one that's allowed after all then hopefully the skydiver will still appreciate you checking and looking out for him/her.

Miscellaneous

Some bits of kit need a bit of extra knowledge. Most experienced jumpers use BOC throwaway pilot chutes, so the first time you see someone wearing a 'pullout' or 'pinpull' container it can look a bit weird. Do you know how to check the pullout packer has not packed a 'total'? Similarly if a wingsuiter asks for a check you'll notice that you may not be able to see the legstraps as they can be under the suit – that doesn't mean you don't need to make sure they're on! If you're not sure, don't put your name to it. Find someone else who knows what they're looking at. Even better, get that person to show you so you know for next time!

Personal Responsibility

Finally, remember that a 'Flightline CHECK' is well named – jumpers should already have taken care that everything is in order before they ask for one. So if you ever find something



Pető Attila

Wingsuit Flightline Checks

How do you know their leg straps are fastened? A wingsuiter actually jumped (in the US) without his leg straps fastened and fell out of the harness on deployment. A flightline check could have prevented this fatality.

wrong at this stage, or if someone finds a problem when checking you, it's definitely worth beer! Personal responsibility is key.

Liz Ashley
eightwayliz@yahoo.co.uk

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BirdMania



by
Rob
Colpus
News



Birdman's Blade II

Mark Harris

Those bird people from the frozen north over there in Finland have announced the release of yet another model of wingsuit to their impressive back catalogue. Called the *Blade II*, this new suit, according to copious bird spiel is "the result of ten years worth of research and development and 100% commitment to human flight!".

The company says that the *Blade II* intended to satisfy the needs of today's experienced wingsuit pilots. It features a new leg wing design, which is wider and longer than before, affording the jumper controllable power for maximum glide and speed, say the bird men. A new, higher profile back deflector and semi-rigid leading edge helps to create extra lift and new air locks make the wings seem almost rigid, giving the pilot a feeling of maximum control. They go on to chirp that on the *Blade II* they have used extra large arm wings for the best high lift flight, without compromising access to the rig's BOC.

The new wingsuit has a short wing cutaway system located on the side of the suit in case of emergency. The new suit is made from a robust Parapack type of fabric that is lighter than the

normal Parapack used on containers, yet still strong and with low drag. They have padded up the relevant parts of the arms resulting in a semi-rigid leading edge. Also increased is the inner lining area, and two inside pockets are added.

One feature that Birdman is particularly proud of is its new 'over the shoulder quick zip attachment' that will be of assistance to those who need to change their rigs often. The new system allows the user to attach the wings to the body using a sturdy 6mm zipper. None of that time-consuming threading of yellow cables as in the past, they tweet.

Absent from the *Blade II* is the usual thumb-loop and swoop cord at the cuffs. They are not longer an option because they are simply not needed any more because the arm wing is so pressurised that the jumper will no longer need swoop cords for arm tension and the leg wing is so wide that there is no need for a LQRS, the company warbled.

The *Blade II* is custom made to order only – none available from the perch.

www.bird-man.com

A Cut Above!

Paratec of Germany has issued a Service Bulletin which states that, due to Cypres AAD manufacturer Airtec's mandatory directive for all six-flap reserve containers to change the cutter position from below flap 1 to below flap 3 above the pilot chute, their *Next* rigs have not just suffered cosmetic consequences. The company went on to explain that, because the AAD's cutter now comes to lay right on top of the pilot chute, the configuration has caused damage both to the cutter and the grommet on various rigs inspected over the last two years.

Realising this Paratec was out to find a solution. After much evaluation, it has chosen what it claims to be "the solution with the greatest problem-solving potential". Hence, their engineers have designed a foam buffer, which keeps the cutter in place and stops it from moving on the pilot chute grommet. They say it "equalises the areas around it and smoothens out flap #3 by its double-wedged shape, and results in a decrease in pressure exerted on the cutter by the flaps."

The buffer consists of a piece of hard foam material, in which the cutter is embedded, by simply placing the buffer over the cutter. Flap, cutter and buffer are then placed onto the compressed pilot chute. It is infinitely reusable on the basis of a normal inspection and repack cycle. In the case of reserve activation, the buffer will get lost (to avoid any conflict with deployment) and can be easily replaced – at a cost of only half a Euro. The fitting of this buffer is optional but recommended. All new Paratec *Next Sport*, *Next Student*, *Next Tandem* and all *Ultra H/C* systems now come standard with the buffer.

jupp@paratec.de



Paratec's Production by Mark Standen

Vigil-Anti

At the end of last year Advanced Aerospace Designs (AAD), the Belgium manufacturer of the *Vigil* AAD, released a Service Bulletin following an incident in Belgium where, after activation of a *Vigil*, the cutter's body became separated from its base. The company's bulletin states that the incident was caused by a manufacturing error during the final crimping of the cutter body to its base. This error permitted the internal pressure to move the detonator and its base backwards, instead of pushing the cutter knife forward to cut the closing loop. In this scenario, the knife was not able to do its job and stayed in its original position without cutting the loop – ouch, nasty!

This cutter was part of a production batch of 199 Type 3 pieces, produced in December 2007. AAD was keen to point out that the manufacturer of the cutters has assured it that this is an isolated case and that this has never occurred before in the millions of cutters and detonators that it has produced for its customers, which include NASA and the US Armed Forces, to drop but two names. AAD also went on to say that two cutters of the suspect batch were subsequently activated for test purposes and worked to specification.

In the interest of safety says AAD, it has been decided to recall all cutters from this batch and to replace these free of charge. The company says that this will also enable them to examine the entire batch before sending it back to the factory for a detailed analysis, and will hopefully confirm that this is an isolated incident.

An affected cutter



The cutter date of manufacture is printed under the part number 9582006 in the format 12-07-2 (mm/yy/batch). A hologram number is found on the cutter with a corresponding hologram on the main box. If your cutter has been upgraded from type 1 or 2 to type 3 after December 2007 you will need to check the date of manufacture or hologram number against the list issued as part of AAD PSB 5 – the reserve container will need to be opened to inspect this. Owners are to contact AAD or a *Vigil* dealer for a replacement cutter.

AAD's bulletin requires that because of the cutter manufacturer's assurances, replacement can wait until the next repack. However some country's governing bodies – including the BPA – have issued their own Safety Notices, which call for **replacement before next use**. Therefore in the UK any *Vigil* unit that has had a cutter replaced since December 2007, and other *Vigil 2* units listed in the Safety Bulletin are in effect grounded until the date of manufacture of the cutter has been established, and a replacement cutter fitted if required.

A list of *Vigil 2s* supplied with the said cutters, and individual replacement cutters with a DOM of 12-07-2, may be obtained from AAD or the BPA.

candace@vigil.aero
www.vigil.aero

What's Next this Century?

Early last year it was rumoured that Paratec of Germany was undertaking a 'comprehensive test-jump programme' for a proposed new tandem system. Well, the results of this can now be seen in the newly-released *Next Century* tandem system.

Paratec's basic design we're told has undergone a major overhaul, utilising the latest harness design technology, and cutting edge canopy nose designs developed for the Paratec *Rage* high performance canopies, says the company. It claims that this has resulted in a more ergonomic harness design for both instructor and student, that allows more control in freefall, as well as increased comfort under canopy.

Paratec's unique 'cut-in' backpad design is something more usually found on the latest sport rigs but, in this case, it serves a different purpose. Paratec's own barking boffin, Stefan Ertler explains "By using a cut-in backpad, it allows us to move the passenger harness hip connection point away from the bottom of the container and onto two small pads. This means that when the lateral straps are tightened, the container is not pulled forward in the same way as on conventional tandem rigs. This results in more comfort and better control for the instructor, as the student's hips remain central beneath the instructor, during the exit and throughout the drogue-fall phase."



Paratec's unique cut-in back pad and triangular pads are said to offer greater comfort and control



The *Next Century* student harness has also been redesigned, and features articulated rings on the legstraps. An adjustable webbing strap connects the back of the legstrap pads, keeping them securely in place during freefall, opening, and canopy ride. Paratec says that this means the lateral straps can be made tighter, without causing the student's knees to drop. By loosening off the webbing adjuster under canopy, the student can lift their legs more easily, reducing the chances of injury on landing.

Paratec dealer and BPA Tandem Examiner Stu Albon has carried out several test jumps on the prototype rig at the factory, and has this to say "The harness design and lateral strap connection make a real difference for the instructor – you feel a lot more in control in drogue fall, as your hips have more movement than usual on a tandem jump. At the same time, the student is much more securely held in a centralised position – this goes a long way to reducing the risk of a side-spin, as it's much more difficult for the two harnesses to become asymmetrical."

The company also claims that its new canopy design has the lightest toggle pressure of any current tandem canopy on the market, and has a powerful flare and high turn speed, making it easy and fun to fly. It comes in sizes 340 and 372 sq ft for normal sport tandem use, and 402 sq ft for military/heavy use, although the company points out that you would need 16-18 stone students and instructors on a regular basis to make the 402 the right option for most DZs.



Paratec's *Next Century* student tandem harness features articulated rings for more comfort and security



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12.- 14. February **Hot Weekender - Regan's Group**

17.-21. February **Babylon Freefly Workshop**

12.- 14. March **Hot Weekender - Regan's Group**

17.-21. March **Babylon Freefly Workshop**

27.-28. March **National League FS**

1.-5. April **Easter Boogie**

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Setting up a **University Skydiving Club**



Photo over Peterlee by Mal Smith

So you've settled in to your first term at uni, life is great, the beer is cheap but wait – there's no skydiving club at your uni! What do you do?

Well, relax and sit back because it's not the end! This guide is all about helping you make that first step towards setting up your own unique club or society for skydiving.

So why set up a club? Well, just imagine... a fab social atmosphere, subsidised jumps, great deals on group bookings abroad, epic parties and being a part of the legendary BCPA. What more should we say?!

Step 1

Your Dropzone

Get your derrière down to your local dropzone and talk to your fellow skydivers. Undoubtedly there will be other universities in the area so most likely they will already have clubs in place. Find one of their 'executive' members and ask what's the crack with their club.

For example, our club has weekly socials in the Student Union (SU) bar, is run by three 'executive' members and we run our first jump courses in groups of twelve students. We charge £150 for each student to do the training (including one jump) but some clubs will ask for

around £170 instead to include an extra jump, thus encouraging students to stay in the sport.

Step 2

CCI

Talk to the CCI, who will have seen countless uni clubs pass through. He or she can advise you on arranging weekends for your students to train, how best to advertise and, if you're lucky enough, might offer you a deal. For example, our local DZ (Peterlee) offers twelve students for the price of ten when training for RAPS. That means our uni club makes £300 for every full course of a dozen we put through. In turn, this £300 is then used to subsidise further jumps for our members.

Step 3

UK Skydiver

Join UKS (UKSkydiver.co.uk). Look for your DZ forum and no doubt there will be pages littered with student comments and thoughts about their uni clubs. Take note of these comments and start up a new thread entitled '[University name] – Skydiving Club'. Soon, your thread will be filled with skydivers and students giving you input, ideas and advice by the truckload.

Step 4

Student Union

Talk to your Student Union, to get your club running you will need their support. Hand over the research you've done and sell them your idea. If that fails, then buy them a pint! Once convinced, they will hand over a couple of short forms for you to fill in. This is where your friends come in. To start up a club/society at most universities, you will need a secretary and a

treasurer. These two key fundamental positions form the basis of the 'Executive Committee'. If you don't already have people lined up for this then all you need is two friends to sign for these positions, and you can always replace them once the club is in full swing.

Step 5

Cool Name

Your club will need a name. Make it catchy and cool so that students will be instantly attracted to the club. A name like NUPC (Newcastle University Parachute Club) is okay, but a name like NUTS (Northumbria University Trainee Skydivers) will go a lot further with students. The choice is yours but remember the forums on UKS are there to help you with any decisions!

Step 6

Risk Assessment

Get a 'Risk Assessment' form (from your CCI) and attach it to your completed paperwork. Hand it into your Student Union – et, voilà! Your club is now official. Now pat yourself on the back and have a pint. Repeat.

Step 7

Grant Money

Most new societies will receive a start-up grant which can be used for advertising. When starting up NUTS I received a whopping £50! This grant is invaluable so, if you don't receive one, you'll need to campaign for some sort of funding from the Student Body or Athletic Union. Then you need to decide how to divide this grant and what to spend it on. Here are some ideas:

Your Skydiving Club Website

Grab your nearest Computer Sciences geek and email the IT department asking for some server space and a web link. If that goes smoothly, then ask your new 'friend' if he/she can build you a website in return for some beer or RAM! If that fails then there are a lot of user-friendly web design programmes out there to get you started. Buying web space and a name is not too costly either but you may have to pay now and claim the money back from your society funds in future. I designed ours, and it was my first attempt at making a website, check it out: www.sunuts.co.uk

University Email Account

To accompany your website you will need an email account which potential members can use to contact the club. Again, speak to your IT department and ask politely for an email account. If you do not hear back in seven days, then ask again. You will find that this part of setting up a club will require a lot of effort on your behalf but don't be disheartened, it will all be worth it at the end!

Create a Facebook Group

This one's a given!

Leaflets, Flyers and Posters

This is one of the best things you can do to promote your club. Venture to various printing



Background BCPA photo by James Lee

shops and enquire about prices. You will be wanting to spend the majority, if not all of your start-up grant on this area. You will be amazed at how far a little money can get you. You can also call or email the BPA and ask if they have any bumf to help you. They have information leaflets called 'Try Skydiving' which you can put your club's details on, and they will cost next to nothing, maybe even free if you ask nicely enough and rightly plead the poverty of a new society. The BPA has posters too! Don't forget to get permission before plastering flyers around your university and if you can, get some friends to help you with this.

If you have any problems or queries, then discuss them at your DZ forum on UKS. The other university clubs will be only too eager to give you a hand. I know I certainly had a lot (and I mean a lot!) of help from Durham and Newcastle students.

Freshers Fairs

Step 8

Wait and See!

Probably the most frustrating of all steps, sit back and wait. You've done all the work, now to see if it pays off... Over the next couple of days or weeks you should see emails trundling in,



Mal Smith

enquiring about this crazy new club of yours. Eventually, after word of mouth and excessive plastering of flyers on your behalf, you should gain enough members to create a jump course. Speak to your CCI, book a course and organise the arrangements. Once again, if you have any queries or are not to sure about how to sort transport/accommodation/money for the jump course, then hop onto UKS again and get your questions answered!

Once your first jump course is complete, a couple will stay on to do further jumps but the rest unfortunately will disappear. As with life, its not for all people but you now have members with which to replace your 'exec' and lots of club/society funds. Your club is now official and word of mouth from your jumpers will spread quickly, no doubt bringing another jump course with it.

Step 9

Social Life

Congratulations on setting up your club! Now is the time to organise weekly socials and this is an integral part of the society as you want to promote a relaxed image, not just 'hard core skydivers'. All students love a drink, so chill out with a beer and enjoy some friendly banter with your members. We found that you'll retain a lot more people if you engage in these relaxed socials and try to avoid the subject of 'skydiving' in chat.

Step 10

BCPA

And finally! The last step for any uni skydiving club is to join the BCPA (British Collegiate Parachute Association). The BCPA is a volunteer-run, non-profit organisation, set up for the purpose of promoting skydiving at a collegiate level. They provide an invaluable service where several hundred university skydivers (from over 30 affiliated university clubs) can find like-minded people – with whom they can jump, compete and, most importantly, socialise!

One last note, one of the greatest difficulties facing university skydiving clubs is retaining new members during the inevitable bad weather months at the start of the academic year. To help with this, during the year, the BCPA runs half a dozen boogie-style events at drop-zones around the UK, in addition to tunnel meets and a highly acclaimed Easter foreign trip. So at the beginning of the next academic year, make sure you sign up at bcpa@ukskydiver.co.uk or go to their forum on UKS to get involved in some ridiculous fun!

So ignore all those rumours you've heard about endless amounts of paperwork and 'meetings to arrange meetings' and get those forms filled in. There's endless amounts of students out there waiting and wanting to jump!

Blue skies!

Craig Wood, NUTS
craigwood248@btinternet.com



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CLUB News

Hib

Achievements

AFF Graduate

James Leason

JM1

Mick Allison

Andy Craig

CH2, 50 Jumps

Andy Craig

Cat 8, CH1

Lee Jones

John Marshall

Mark Jacques

100 Jumps

Tom Ruttie

500 Jumps

Mike McNulty

2009 was an incredible year at Hib. We jumped every weekend since opening in January to our closing weekend in December! We saw a huge amount of events and progression throughout last year.

The Skydive Spain Christmas Boogie enjoyed our fleet of Dorniers and some of Europe's best organisers including Simon Cathrine, Ronan Whelan & Herman Landsman for FS. With Mikey & Alberto of *Volare*; our very own Jim Harris & Andy Lovemore, plus Kristian & Håvard of the *Skywalkers* and James Davies of *The Bad Lieutenants* dropping in, the freefly scene has never been so strong.

Despite the harshest weather in Spain for 45 years, when the sun shone the boogie was in full flow. Three Dorniers operated back-to-back with some amazing formation loads and exceptional jumps like the completion of the '2010' FS jump, 28-way rotating tracking dives and giant flocks of wingsuiters.

Simon Cathrine's 2010 dive by Paulo 'Ya' Braz

Happy 2010 by Paulo Ya Braz

The opening weekend at Skydive Hibaldstow brought nippy but nice weather, with many freefall addicts returning to the skies.

Congratulations to our own George Glass, awarded the BPA Student of the Year at the AGM for his continuing dedication to becoming a fully qualified skydiver. Sally must be both very proud and relived.

2010 sees our diary filling up faster and bigger than ever, with Skysaver weeks of £16 jumps, the Nationals, parties and beyond, we'll keep you manifesting for more!

Mike McNulty

Hawaiian night in Seville by Andy Lovemore



Swan

Thanks to every
that the weather
were up 50% o
weekend and b





Highlights of Hib's 2009 – UKS Boogie (left), Holly Kilham's 400th jump (main), photos by Andy Lovmore & 14-way after Nationals (above) by John Williamson

nsea

...one for supporting us for a great couple of days ... allowed after Christmas! Jumping stats in 2009 ... on 2008. We will be open 13 February for every ... ank holiday throughout the year. Let's go!

Carl Williams

Lizzi's exit by Kollo Shamburov



Paragon

After an extended break it's good to be back at Errol with Zulu Uniform finally in full working order. A big thanks to our friends in Auchterarder for extending the hand of friendship and the use of their facilities meanwhile, it's genuinely appreciated. Billy reached a milestone in January, happy birthday from everyone; you'll need to get some of Andy G's Oil of Olay to preserve those youthful good looks. Eoin can write you up a daily application process if you're stuck.

Dave's been appointed to Chief Pilot as Tommy Boyle stands down to relax a little more at weekends. Tommy is one of the most experienced jump pilots in the country with thousands of hours. I'm certain there are many of you out there who join me in wishing him all the very best for the future. You're a flying legend!



Dave, new Chief Pilot by Rab Peterson

Zulu Uniform gives birth to DZ Van by Rab





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Photo: Brit Chicks by Alan Thompson



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Gilda Sebastian by Milko



2009 was another busy year with over 29,800 jumps, on 247 days. Notably, we jumped every weekend! Okay, okay, so two weekends we just did hop 'n' pops from cloud base, but still a fantastic achievement!

We were open during Christmas as always, this year hosting our Boxing Day Mini Boogie. Skydivers joined us from all over. We even jumped on both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day – what better way is there to start and end a year?!

We graduated two AFF students over Christmas, Shane Hoggatt and Dave Epton – who's also our newest jump pilot! As Dave was completing AFF, Simon 'Spitfire Ace' Coombs, who's been flying for us for three years, decided it was time to do a tandem. We'll get him solo yet! Huge congratulations to staff member Keith Thomson for making an honest woman out of Cozza, married at an intimate ceremony on New Year's Eve in Oakham.

Langar

Achievements

First Freefall

Heeral Poria
Pranay Shah
Nick Robinson
Cat 8

Nicola Yates
Pete Tudor

AFF Graduate

Mark Wallace
Shane Hoggatt
Dave Epton

FF1

Ryan Briddon

FF2

Ally Milne

Jump Numbers

50

Paul Clapham
200

Emma Bramley
Jacqueline Woodward

Derek O'Neill

400

Sian Stokes

Gilda Sebastian

2,500

Baz Carey

1 Hour Freefall

Liz Telford



2010 is shaping up nicely with night jumps at the end of February, Dave Lewis' **Kick Start Easter Boogie** and **Jan's Beech 99 Langar Boogie 1 (1-9 May), Go Vertical (14-18 July) and Langar Boogie 2 (4-12 September)**. Why not join us?

Gareth Thomas

Brian Laithwaite's 38th Anniversary jumps by Gary Wainwright

Brian Laithwaite



Wedded bliss for Keith and Cozza by Swoop

Nethers



Bish & Sarah's wedding

Early December was bittersweet for many APA members with the final weekend at the hangar that's been home to the APA for over 40 years. In typical APA style, we had a party! Thanks for great efforts with the 'Ghosts of APA Past' fancy dress. Del Derrick deserves a special mention for his version of a very well known judging face around the DZ for many years! As usual, the naval representative was in a skirt and there were a few sets of bare buttocks, but happily no Speedo Man – saving himself for the opening of the new bar! It was nice to see some of the longer standing club members – Keith, Jackie, Chris and Esther to name a few.

Remember to put your news and achievements on the Club News poster in reception to get in the Mag's hall of fame. Congratulations to winter wonder Jenna Pickering on her 300th jump. News about improved APA accommodation and details of 2010 events is at netheravon.com

Kath Salisbury



Alana O'Sullivan



Kenny Craigs

Nethers photos by Ian Nicholson

UK Para Beccles

Barrie Bremner by Paul Newton



We had a great day on 12 December with not only the Christmas party but also flying eight loads and achieving a club FS record. Well done to all those who braved the cold to support us! The fun-filled party was at the Banham Barrel, less informal than normal and we had a really good turnout. The food was excellent, special thanks to Hannah and Jane for not only organising the food, but preparing it as well – a great spread. Congratulations to Lewis Jamison, Student of the Year and James Langdale, Club Jumper of the Year, nice one guys.

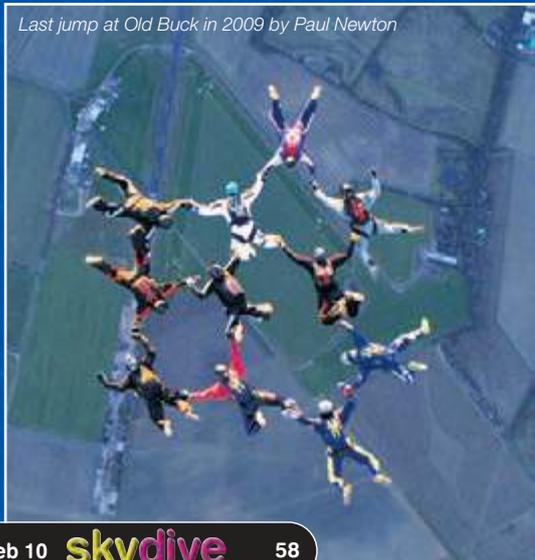
2009 saw the end of jumping for UK Parachuting at Old Buckenham Airfield. During the last months we've been setting up new facilities at Beccles Airfield, Suffolk. Tomo has been working hard laying foundations for the new hangar, with a new member of our team, Jules, who I expect to see jumping out of a plane by spring. Paul, Gizmo, James & Aaron helped Grant move all the equipment across. Facilities at Beccles are growing by the second and currently we have reception, CCI's office, kit store, club room, two classrooms, video and debriefing room, and a rigging loft. As the year goes on the bunkhouse will be completed with showers and toilets. A diner/bar should be up and running by the summer and we have a mobile catering facility until then.

Congratulation to Terry Wilsoncroft for his 100th jump and thanks for all the business he brings in, also Majid Khan who achieved Cat 8 travelling all the way from Bolton. 2010 events include a **BPA Roadshow**, our annual **Scrambles** competition and many more tbc. Watch the club zone on: ukparachuting.co.uk

Finally, thanks to everyone who has supported UK Parachuting at Old Buckenham over the last six years. We hope everyone will come to see us at Beccles Airfield, with stunning views of the Suffolk coastline.

Grant Richards

Last jump at Old Buck in 2009 by Paul Newton



UK Para Sibson



Come and check out the flock at Sibson, photo by Mark Harris

All change at Sibson! UK Parachuting, previously at Old Buckenham, has now expanded and is looking forward to an exciting year running Sibson. 2010 brings in a new look with some changes. Tomo will be staying in Suffolk to look after Beccles (new DZ location, moved from Old Buck) and I (Grant) will be managing Sibson. CCI Chris McCann remains with the same instructor team. Andy is continuing to run the diner and we hope to hold some parties! On the aircraft front we bid a sad farewell to the Let and chief pilot G Watkins, both have been great assets. I would like to thank G for all his help and wish him well in his future flying. The new aircraft is a Cessna Caravan. Confirmed events are **BCPA Regionals**, **BPA FS and CF Roadshows**, **Safe Flight School** canopy course and the **Nationals Speed 8-way**, with more to come, keep checking the all-new website. We also have Facebook, Twitter and Club Zone pages, accessed from the home page skydivesibson.co.uk



Mark Harris

Congratulations to all the Sibson jumpers who took part in the US Wingsuit Record of 68. Duncan Wright was a Team Captain; Steve Such, Rob Gray in the flock and Mark Harris cameraman. We're hoping that Mark will be organising wingsuits at Sibson, maybe a UK record attempt later in the year.

I'd like to thank everyone who has supported Skydive Airkix over the last couple of years and hope that you will continue to support UK Parachuting, let's have a fun and safe 2010.

Grant Richards



UK Para Sibson's new Caravan

Silly flocks! By Mark Harris



Jan Higgins with Ben
Wood by Ross Houlston



Cornish



Mark Finch landing on his own beach by Ben Wood

The end of season party was again a great success, with members of the airfield's Gliding and Flying Schools very welcome, as always. This year we opted to go for a slightly warmer venue at the local hotel/bar by the beach. The buffet and presentations were smashing and everyone enjoyed a drink or two.

Ross Houlston was awarded Skydiver of the Year! He's been here since we started back in August 2005, and worked hard to get on the cameraflying team. Ross has contributed several very good

photographs for the Mag this year, none more so than the amazing picture of Ben over Perranporth Airfield in the BPA Calendar.

We have a lot of interest for 2010. CPC and Skydive Cornwall at long last have amalgamated, to benefit everyone. The Cornish Parachute Club at Perranporth Airfield will now be the home of Skydive Cornwall as well. During the winter we hope to move forward yet again and soon we could have some very good news.

Chris Wood

Headcorn

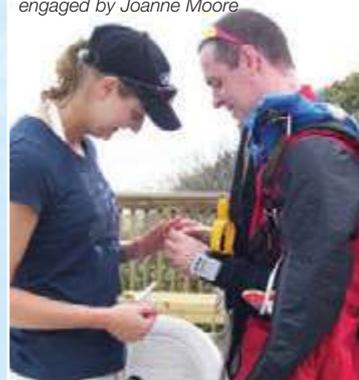
Peter Sizer has finally got his degree – well done – BSc Hons! Congrats to Richard Parkin who proposed to his girlfriend on the beach at Sebastian after a wingsuit dive, and to Del Hopkins and Jane Buckle who got engaged on Christmas Day. Nice one all round!

Ruth Cooper



Snowdiver & Clem Quinn
by Ruth Cooper

Richard Parkin & Cornelia Potgieter get engaged by Joanne Moore



Achievements

Cat 8, CH1
Gareth Corfield
Matthew Verrall
Matt Gibson
Nick Stoppard
Jez Pearce
FS1
James Grayson
200 Jumps
Alex Hopkins
400 Jumps, FF1
Karl Horton
800 Jumps
Lucy Smith-Wildey

Hinton

Sandi's 1,000th jump on the last lift of the year was brilliant fun, although a bit chilly at -22°! We reopened after Christmas just in time for the snow! Much fun was had with sledges and skis but unfortunately no jumping.

Coming up are B licence progression sessions and the Nish Memorial Scrambles so keep a lookout on our website and check with the staff. The **Hinton Tent City Boogie** – a real success last year – is **22-27 June**, stick it in your diary now.

Natalie Keith



Lucy and Sandi have fun in the snow, by Joel Keith

Achievements

FS1
Allan Russell
1,000 Jumps
Sandi Keith





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Weston

Our 2009 season ended with our now traditional black-tie event at the Ben Jonson pub. Food was fantastic and the

bevvies flowed all night including an hour of free drinks. Everyone looked fabulous and the evening flew by before we moved back to the clubhouse to make use of our well-stocked bar.

We look forward to supporting the new *Team Bodyflight* female 4-way so we can keep the World Championship trophy on our clubhouse wall for another two years. We wish Amanda, Tarn, Sarah and Liz good luck in their quest.

We have always supported lots of teams and hope as many as before choose to train here this year. Team tickets, 4-way and camera, are £100 a jump. Our experienced prices remain the same – £20 for civilians and £15 for military (13,000ft) – whilst our static line jumps (after a course) are £35 including packing and kit hire. Club membership remains at £25 for civvies and £15 for military.

We will hopefully have the use of a second aircraft for our busy weekends, doubling capacity. We will also have the Skyvan coming back for some weekends. Look out on the website for night jumps.

We have a new events team to organise clubhouse events and parties – they are even looking at bringing back the Weston Summer Ball. They have an events page on the Skydive Weston website. Our new bar manager, Sam Lee, will make sure the bar is well stocked and open Fridays, Saturday and Sunday evenings. We'll have more BBQ nights in summer and the bar will offer discounted beer now and again.

We ask all of our students, static line and AFF, to return as soon as possible for refresher training. If you haven't returned by the end of February, there will be a refresher charge. We have two timings for this training, one at 9am and the other at midday. Unfortunately, if you miss the 9am session you may have to wait until noon for retraining if we are busy with students – so it pays to be prompt.

Ash Kemp



Doug McIlwraith Senior in Eloy over Christmas by Doug McIlwraith Junior



John, Paul, Steve, Chris and Andy by Mark Rayson

Achievements
CH2, 50 Jumps
 Oli Loney
WS1
 David Lee Smith
50 Jumps
 Kye Bromley
200 Jumps
 Antonio Val
 Tim Gaines

Peterlee

NUPC kicked off to a great start this term by putting 70 students through RAPS between September and December. Go Newcastle! Our last day in 2009 Janet Willcox laid on one of her famous curries and Sue O'Connor served pints at £1 as we said fond farewells to Nick Brown and Ralph Weatherburn, both off down south to take up post-uni careers. They will be hugely missed, especially Nick who progressed from 40 SLs himself to Advanced Instructor and who's put huge effort into the progression of hundreds of students. Good luck to you both, come back and visit.

The usual Christmas Party was truly a great night at the Masonic

Hall in Durham. This year's awards were presented by Ian before the usual partying, PPC-style, ensued including Thomas Berryman doing dirty dancing with Ian! I know, not a nice thought! The 2009 University Club of the Year went to DUFFC, with NUPC second and Northumbria (NUTS) third. Simon Minto won the Most Progressed Student and Nigel Peacock won the Most Persistent Student. Most Entertaining Landing went to Paul Bloomfield. Special thanks to Mal Smith for his very entertaining end of year video.

We hoped the new Airvan hangar would be ready for re-opening on 23 January but 8 inches of snow scotched that! Ian R and Paul Moore were visiting the Airvan almost daily to remove snow from its wings. The water pipe to

the coffee machine froze, so Paul melted snow in a kettle to make a brew! Can I just mention that during all of the heavy snow this winter I've been in Savannah, USA. However, Paul Bloomfield has still been a regular at Peterlee, that just confirms that it is he who should be crowned Weather Witch!

Plans for 2010 include completing the new hangar, a resultant move of aircraft, followed by the laying of new mats on the east side of the existing hangar to make a better training/packing area. Later we'll have the construction of the long awaited toilet and accommodation block, so we won't have to walk outside to get to the netty! Yahooooooo! Roll on 2010!

Sue Scott

Tom Berryman Dirty Dancing with Ian by Mike Lehan



Achievements
FF1
 Charlie Mayo
CH2
 Mike Lehan
100 Jumps
 Stephen Smith



Becca of DUFFC with Uni Trophy by Mike Lehan



Most Progressed Student Simon Minto by Alan Thompson



University Club Winners 2009 by Alan Thompson

Tilstock

Dave Major by
Simon Wilkinson



Herbie by Simon Wilkinson



Achievements

Cat 8
Wayne Powell
FS1, 1 Hour
Freefall
Barry Maguire
600 Jumps
Jules Bergel

As our busiest year of recent times drew to a close it was party time with the annual fancy dress and bonfire at the end of October and the Christmas party and AGM in December.

Congratulations to Jules Bergel for the Club Member of the Year and Wayne Powell for Student of the Year with John Newsome a very close runner-up.

Heavy snow on the runway gave a slightly slower start to the year than intended but this gave rise to a training day. Several jumpers braved the snow to catch up on B Certificate and packing briefings.

Now that the Manchester tunnel is open just up the road we're planning tunnel camps and FS competitions this year. We are also offering free FS1 coaching to those that require it, you only pay your own slot!

After the stonking success of previous **Tilstock on Tour** trips to Empuria, we're going again in **March**, contact the centre for details.

Colin Fitzmaurice

Wild Geese

Francis and Graham with Wendy about
to close by Martin McLaughlin



Graham Wallace & Brian Kelly with the joint
Student of the Year award by Ralf Tartaglia

At our Christmas dinner the Student of the Year trophy was shared between Graham Wallace and Brian Kelly. It came as a surprise – not because they didn't deserve it, just that they've been jumping so much we'd forgotten they were students only last year! I remember videoing Graham doing a tandem not too long ago, it's much more fun filming his 4-ways now, usually with Brian!

Skydiver of the Year went to Francis Mullin, I doubt for the last time. It's hard to think of someone here who has put so much into the club over such a long period. He's always near the top of the list for most jumps year after year. Most of you will have been dispatched by him in RAPS and gained your FS1 thanks to him.

We all bade a fond farewell to Alison Owen, now departed for sunny Perth, Australia. There were times when she

Achievements

First Freefall
Chris Retalic
JM1, CH2
Neal Fitzpatrick
100 Jumps
Karen Gallagher



single-handedly propped up the achievements list last year, her skydiving (and drinking) talents will be sorely missed. Rod McCrory took part in the Dubai Parachuting Championship and Gulf Cup 2010, the landing zone being on the palm islands. He says he's not moving out there – but returning to the coldest winter of 30 years may

change his mind! Finally, to everyone who helped make 2009 such a success – special thanks to Maggie & Dave Penny, the dropzone running duo of Andrew Davies & Judith Lees, pilots Drew Galloway & Alex Brand, all the staff – and you, the jumpers of Wild Geese.

Martin McLaughlin



Francis Mullin
accepts the
Skydiver of the
Year award
from PD by
Ralf Tartaglia

Sth Cerney

Our year ended in traditional style with a good old fashioned knees-up using the tried and tested theme of 'drink loads'! Many of our regulars took the festive opportunity to get some Californian sunshine, hosted by our ex-CCI, Tony Goodman, now Chief Instructor of Military Operations at Perris.

With the centre closed over the Christmas period, hard work continued behind the scenes. Gary and Marie-Ann Stevens have taken the civilian side of the operation out of the shadows of the military and are now the owners of the new 'Skydive South Cerney'. With Matty Holford remaining as CCI, we are now a club

in our own right running alongside the military operation. It's thanks to their efforts, and many others, that Skydive South Cerney has been born and will move forward this coming year.

We're hoping to sort out the camping facilities and get a fuel bowser on site. Stu Albon is looking after the AFF school, while Cairan & Alex are up and running with the Rusty Stars freefly school. FS coaches and instructors will be on hand to deliver progression briefs and help RAPS students. Glynn Somers' empire sees packers on site every weekend and he also delivers packing lessons, both flat and pro. Our plans include a **CF Grand Prix in May** and an **Accuracy Grand Prix, 5-6 June**.

Congratulations to Matty & Sarah on their engagement – hope you know what you've let yourself in for Sarah!



George Clack winging it over Deland by The Dude

We look forward to seeing the old faces back at Cerney this year and hopefully many new ones too! Although still quite new, check out our website at skydivesouthcerney.co.uk

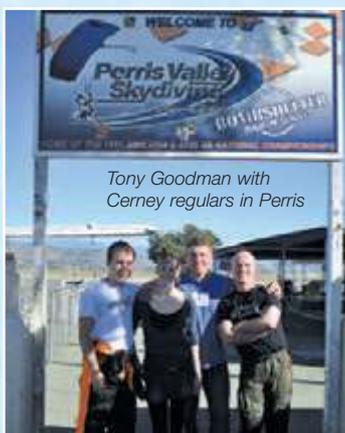
Paul Gibbs

Achievements

FF1
Ed Ruscoe
FF1, 100 Jumps
Tim Parsons
FS1, 100 Jumps
Adam Dare
200 Jumps
Stella Guilding



Winter manifest by Gary Stevens



Tony Goodman with Cerney regulars in Perris



Paul Kendal helps Marie-Ann redecorate by Gary Stevens

Black Knights

The Christmas party rocked till dawn with a record turnout. Many thanks to Megan Bee for arranging and to everyone for rounding off 2009 in style.

Whilst most choose a funky freefall jump for their 200th landmark, Brian Berry went back to basics with a static line jump. Brian and his instructor were keeping quiet as to whether he was signed off the rope – but his FF1 cleared up any doubt! Whilst most downsize their canopies Deano's old age is forcing him to upsize to a 135. Booties complete with a zimmer next!

Everyone is excited now us Northerners have our very own wind tunnel. Why not mix tunnel training and jumping with Jeff's special RAPS, AFF & FS1 jump/tunnel packages, with coaching in the tunnel and practice in the sky. Ask Jeff for details, he has oodles of tunnel time available.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of student jumper Mike Philburn, he will be dearly missed.

We were lucky enough to have the AGM 'up north' in Blackpool – a huge special thanks to our very own Mr Bond who busily organised and negotiated with the Hilton – including the bar! For the first time the AGM opened its doors to the general public with Jeff kindly donating a tandem, static-line jump and AFF level 1 as

prizes as well as providing gear for them to have a look at – hopefully we'll have plenty of new recruits from the AGM and the tunnel! Steve Saunders did a very informative talk and Tony Lightfoot modelled his tandem gear, with lovely assistant Rich on an 'Introduction to Skydiving' talk by Simon Cathrine.

Work has been zooming along on the DZ and BKPC is completely transformed. We have a new camera room, a large new club room, a seated briefing tandem room complete with AV system, plus new toilets, showers and picnic benches to catch the rays – not that Jeff & Alison need to, looking at their tans! What a great environment whilst waiting to jump the speedy F-GODZ! See you all there!

Achievements

First Freefall
Ian Hodson
Jean Philippe Dufraigne
AFF Graduate
Stewart Vincent
Jayne Girdham
FS1
Oliver Tolson
Anthony McGrath
FS1, 1 Hour Freefall
Barry McGuire
1 Hour Freefall
Dave Belsire
FF1, 200 Jumps
Andy Gleeson
FF1
Brian Berry
50 Jumps
Dinesh Pall
Ben Henshall
200 Jumps
Martin Dunn



Take That and Party



Brian Berry's 200th by Robyn Berry



A thorn between two roses by Graham Scally

GODZ by Graham Scally



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Cark



Courtney Benson
by Steve Nolan

Achievements
Cat 8
Courtney Benson
50 Jumps
Phil Amuzu



Steve Hankey
by Stu Morris

James Hallam is now a resident pilot and flies in for his weekend's fix on the adrenaline-packed XL750. Not happy flying Stelios or the Dornier harem, he now has the New Zealand brand on his licence. Chief Pilot Mike, has made good progress training James. 'Spud' it's great to have you on board, and even more of a pleasure to see Kirsty jumping.

Horrendous rain saw our Christmas dinner dance washed out by floods as we found the White Water Hotel (no pun intended) under eight feet of water! With only four days to dry out we all thought the worst and many unpacked their glad rags and wondered what else to do that weekend. But the show must go on! Kay rallied around with phone calls and threats of legal action if we didn't get our money back and the glorious party was back on by Thursday at the Hydro (ha, ha) in Windermere. Being a good 200 feet above any water level, this baby was not going to be flooded out – only drunk out, as Myles said in the bar that evening.

Our evening guests were greeted with a champagne reception; tables filled and wine glasses chinked as we delved into the delicious five course meal. Rumours spread about this year's awards and Dennis did his best to impersonate John McQuirick as the odds changed from rank outsiders to joint favourites. Stu and Mike adorned their usual poses, glasses in hand, for the unveiling of this year's presentation ceremony.

Congratulations to our deserving award winners and we thank you all for your continued support:

Student of the Year
Outstanding Achievement
Commitment to the Sport/NWPC

Simon Widdup
Dot Riley
Kie Hayes
Ian Chick
Liam Riley
Marcus Barrington

Skydiver of the Year
Little & Large Award

Dennis did his usual ten minute comedy act followed by his personal DAFTA Award. Then it was fun, frolics and dancing, with the music non-stop until 2am and a mega crowded dance floor. Like a herd of majestic wildebeeste we migrated back to the bar for the 6.15 challenge. Last one up was Dennis who actually didn't go to bed but at 7.55 just left the bar and went for breakfast. Top show.

2009's last weekend of ops saw beautiful blue skies and sub-zero temperatures – thank God for gloves and thermals. It was great to get some of our first timers in the air – who swiftly followed up with another three jumps. With Alpha Yankee safely in the hangar we closed shop and were looking forward to a little rest prior to reopening in 2010.

Stu Morris



James Hallam by
Mike Carruthers



Donut stars by
Neil McLaren

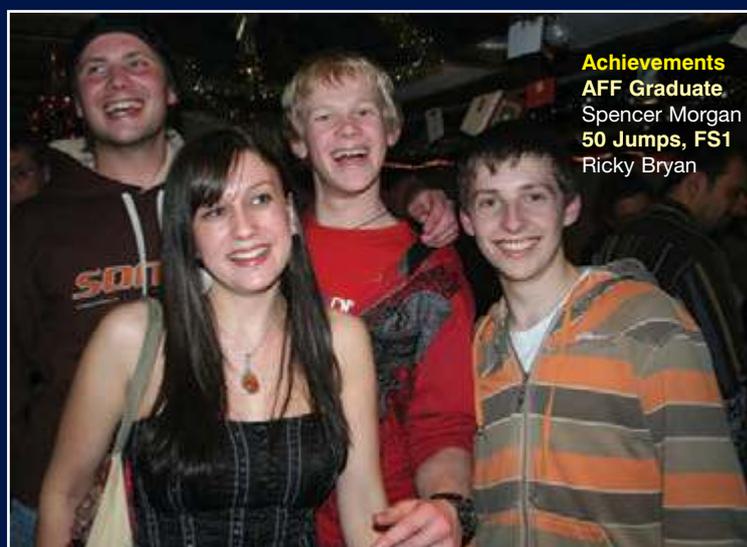
Dunkeswell

The clubhouse has been spruced up ready for a busy 2010. With two Twin Beech Boogies, Skills Camps, Progression Weeks, a BPA CF Roadshow, Mike Wills speed 10-way, loads of themed parties and a third boogie (date tbc) – there's a lot to look forward to!

Thank you to everyone that braved the freezing winter weather and came to the Christmas party, photos at skydivethewell.com

Everyone wishes Lou & Oly all the best on their epic European road trip.

A new event is our **Girls Formation weekend, 2-5 April**, with a party on Saturday. Other dates: **28 April – 3 May is CF week, Mike Carpenter coaching 1-3 May, Chris Lynch's canopy progression week is 12-16 May**, and our first **Twin Beech Boogie, 17-23 May**.



Achievements
AFF Graduate
Spencer Morgan
50 Jumps, FS1
Ricky Bryan

Scoby

Slim Shaney, Hippy, Guy Wells and
Dan Guest by Jason Farrant



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intense
intense

Aria
solo per il volo



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ORGANIZERS:



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Volare - Skywalkers - Patrick Passe - Babylo

BCPA

The 09-10 season kicked off in November with the BCPA Freshers, hosted for the first time in some years by BPS Langar. Over 120 students from 21 universities attended, with very high participation in the Accuracy and the ever-feared BCPA Scrambles! The weather even broke tradition by allowing us to jump on the Sunday.

The quality of the Accuracy was astounding with several dead centres despite unpredictable high winds just on limits. The Scrambles FS comp is designed to mix novices with the more experienced BCPA jumpers. And the results? Well, there is a video kicking about on the internet; cue Benny Hill music.

Saturday evening was non-stop entertainment, starting with announcements, followed by an expertly choreographed firework display, and another legendary BCPA fancy dress party, which went on until silly o'clock in the morning and included the first ever BCPA wedding! It wasn't until the next morning that it was discovered a marriage is null and void if the participants are intoxicated – I guess that invalidates more than a few!

This year because the (over?) keen committee wanted to do something special the BCPA Easter Tour is to Perris in CALIFORNIA baby! Amazingly, despite the price of flights the trip met with huge enthusiasm, and all 100 original places sold out in a week. The final count is 112 students from 18 universities – now you know the real reason for the increased airport security in America!

The first ever BCPA Indoor Skydiving Championships is being held at the new Manchester Airkix, with the available tunnel time selling out in a few days. And people say students have no money! With free coaching from world-class coaches, a very competitive 4-way meet and a Tunnel Twister competition, it ought to be out of this world!

The BCPA's sponsorship deal with **UKSkydiver.co.uk** is going well with huge discounts on equipment from the UKS Shop and special deals with manufacturers. UKS are also sponsoring some of the 2010 BCPA events, and topping up the beer fund for BCPA Nationals to bring it to nearly

£500! That will be another unforgettable Nationals that we won't be able to remember then!

Garrick Taylor,
league@bcpa.org.uk
Competitions and Leagues Coordinator

League Update as of 1 January 2010

Achievements League

1	Southampton	115
2	Warwick	89
3	Durham	73

Competition League

1	Southampton	206
2	Warwick	176
3	Edinburgh	76

Individual League

1	Sam Lee (Warwick)	57
2	Garrick Taylor (Southampton)	55
3	Sam Bemment (Loughborough)	49

Upcoming BCPA Events

26-28 Feb	Midlands Comp	UK Para (Sibson)
29 Mar-13 Apr	Easter Trip	Perris, USA
30 Apr-3 May	Southerns Comp	Netheravon
28-31 May	Scots Comp	Strathallan
2-4 July	Northerns Comp	Hibaldstow
14-18 July	BCPA Nationals	Cark



Photo: David Wilkinson



BCPA Wedding by Kye Bromley



The Wheel of Hangovers
by Michelangelo Siracusa



The Strathclyde group by
David Wilkinson

POPS

2010 promises opportunities for active members to compete and/or get on a record.

POPS big-way record possibilities are being discussed again for 2010 and I am more than hopeful!

Last year culminated in a new UK SOS record, well done to those involved! It now shines like a beacon, begging to be improved upon this year. Contact nielshnsn@yahoo.co.uk for SOS membership. A World SOS Record attempt is due at Lake Elsinore, California, 14-18 April, aiming to raise the present 48-way record to 60. If you're keen to be a 60-year-old record

breaker contact Carol Redding on carold17918@msn.com or visit: rudolf-albrecht.at/SOS/SOS2010.html

Diary dates for 2010 are **Euro POPS Meet** at Bad Lippspringe, Germany (RAPA), **8-10 May**, contact jspc-comdt@atgg.mod.uk and a **POPS UK Meet** at Weston, July (date tbc). It will be a Sat/Sun competition encompassing 4-way Scrambles, Accuracy, Hit 'n' Rock and more. Contact me or see pops.org.uk

The tenth **World POPS Meet** in Reggio, Emilia Italy (70 miles south of Verona), **4-12 June 2010** sees 4-way, 8-way, Speed Star, Classic and Sport Accuracy competitions, with maybe even CRW and Flock Meets. Contact pops2010.it for info and registration and Dick

Barton for updates on the Brit contingent. 200 competitors from over 25 countries are expected – don't miss out!

Dick Barton
dbarton@fsmail.net





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YOUR HOME DROPZONE *We're looking for a cool new name.*

AIRCRAFT FLEET: *Sometimes a Porter on weekends but it usually rains on the weekend. We do have... the full-time cessna.*

WORLD CHAMP TEAMS: *None, but my friend did meet Craig from Arizona Airspeed one time when he was in Eloy. That was cool!*

WIND TUNNEL *I think there is single engine one at about a 6 hour drive away depending on traffic, but I heard it was broken or something.*

AMENITIES *Soda machine, a new snack machine, a run down fridge and one pump...and, we have a rigger and also a tree to pack away from the rain... and the new portaloos.*

AVERAGE # OF GOOD WEATHER DAYS: *Huh... it's hard to say as we jump though all kinds of nasty stuff. It's not rare to see hail stones can be coming into the open door, "good weather" like Arizona doesn't really happen.*

FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATE FOR VISITORS: *No idea, I live here. plus do I look like I'm good with finances?*

CONTACT INFO: *Are you serious???*

YOUR DROPZONE LOGO HERE

We don't have a logo per say yet, but we are working on it, the DZ-O's nephew is good with computers. I heard.

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AIRCRAFT FLEET: 4 TWIN OTTERS, 4 SKYVANS, 1 PORTER, 1 BEECH 18, 1 DC3 AND HOT AIR BALLOONS.

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AVERAGE # OF GOOD WEATHER DAYS: 350+ DAYS!

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LO FS FF WP SU

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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
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FS CF FF AC WP

9 Jersey
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info@skydivejersey.net www.skydivejersey.net

Aircraft: 8-place Airvan, occasional turbines
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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

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
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LO FS CF FF WP CP

2 Cark
01229 889 516



North West Parachute Centre
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Tel: 01229 889 516 Weekends: 01539 558 672
Fax: 01772 787 106
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk

www.skydivenorthwest.co.uk
Aircraft: PAC 750XL
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First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
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LO FS CF FF WP

3 Chatteris
01354 740 810



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Tel: 0871 664 0113 Fax: 0870 787 4909
info@ukskydiving.com www.ukskydiving.com

Aircraft: Nomad
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LO FS CF FF WP SU

4 Cornish
01872 553 352



Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield, Higher Trevellass, St Agnes, Cornwall TR5 0XS
Tel: 01872 553 352 or 07790 439 653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk

www.cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Aircraft: Cessna 206, occasional guest aircraft
Open: 9am-dusk at weekends. Open most other days in summer, call for details
Perranporth DZ is B Licence only, students & A licence can jump at Bodmin

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

5 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

11 Lewknor

0845 130 7194



London Parachute School

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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

12 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

13 Paragon

01821 642 454



Paragon Skydiving

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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 Saturday night so come along and chill out.

FS CF WP

14 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

15 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

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LO FS FF AC

16 South Cerney

01285 868 259



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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

17 St Andrews

0845 189 5865



Skydive St Andrews

Osprey Road, Fife Airport, Glenrothes KY6 2SL
Tel: 0845 189 5865
skydivestandrews@gmail.com

www.skydivestandrews.co.uk

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First Jump Courses: Tandem

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18 Strathallan

07774 686 161



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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

19 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

20 Swindon

01793 791 222



Skydive London

Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm, Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AA
Tel: 01793 791 222
info@skydivelondon.co.uk

www.skydivelondon.co.uk

Aircraft: Airvan

Open: Sat 8am-7pm, Sun 9am-6pm

First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem

FS CF AC WP

21 Tilstock

01948 841 111

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Aircraft: Cessna Caravan

Open: Every day.

First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem

LO FS WI FF WP CP

23 UK Para Sibson

01832 280 490



UK Parachuting

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Tel: 01832 280 490 Fax: 01832 280 409
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk

www.skydivesibson.co.uk

Aircraft: Cessna Caravan

Open: Fri-Sun 8am-8pm.

First Jump Courses: AFF, tandem

LO FS FF WI WP CP

24 Weston

01869 343 201



Skydive Weston

RAF Weston on the Green, Bicester, Oxon OX25 3TQ
Tel: 01869 343 201 Fax: 01869 343 194
skydiveweston@fsmail.net

www.skydiveweston.com

Aircraft: G92 Dornier

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25 Wild Geese

028 2955 8609



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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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LO FS CF WP

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@skydivecyprus.com.cy

www.skydivecyprus.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.

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

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February to November.

First Jump Courses: AFF, RAPS, tandem
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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

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SOS UK

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Bristol BS8 4ES

Tel: 01179 738341

nielshnsn@yahoo.co.uk

Contact: Niels Hanson

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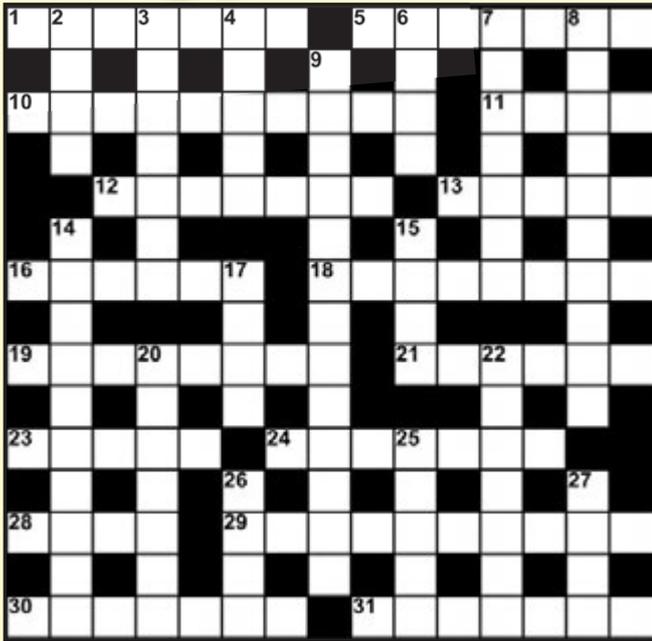
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Main (Cryptic)

Across

1. Jerry Springer perhaps leads the heartless work (7)
5. Drunkenly hits rib in local (7)
10. Air-traffic controller conceals wooden erection in woolly (10)
11. Hindus have many of these gutless forces (4)
12. Went with the flow and acted so strangely (7)
13. Move smoothly north as the escapee birds have (5)
16. Daisy's vehicle transporting me and Troy first (6)
18. Police may have such a room 101 in move to the right (8)
19. Following cart back to west part of Kingston (8)
21. Deceived about last of them being abandoned (6)
23. Runs from insects (5)
24. Small dam is just enough (7)
28. It's rumoured he'll sew on what's cut off (4)
29. 'Steps' chart busting piece of kit (5,5)
30. Parachute parts for winter sportsmen? (7)
31. Gets upset by these strops (7)

Down

2. It taps the juice with three or two pins (4)
3. Re-write CD 'Prior's an opener' (7)
4. Mates arranged them (5)
6. Covered in lacquer, a respray's not well done (4)
7. Switched to outspoken child's horse and went first (7)
8. Foolishly drew to inside straight? It doesn't go like that (10)
9. Engineer's list broken down to show controlling parts (8,5)
14. Error with ball spoiling end of baseball manoeuvre (6,4)
15. It's a throw of the dice flying in this condition (4)
17. A skydiver could be happy under this sea (4)
20. Stopped half of cheats with stacked deck (7)
22. Nude Tom frolicked and got a leg-over (7)
25. Bury piece of Mandarin terracotta (5)
26. Cliff's car's crashed (4)
27. Esteem animal energy (4)

Reserve

Across

1. Work (a device)
5. Nationality
10. Leading skydiver (10)
11. Olympians
12. Moved without power
13. Gone by air
16. Two-person jump
18. Specific event
19. Breaking-off
21. Threw out
23. Goes by air
24. Least
28. Join a formation
29. Rig part (5,5)
30. Rig parts
31. Rig parts

Down

2. Shoot (slang)
3. Rig part (7)
4. Groups working together
6. Unusual
7. Controlled brakes
8. Snake: unorthodox landing
9. Rig parts (8,5)
14. Aerobatic manoeuvre (6,4)
15. Froze over
17. Rig part
20. Examined
22. Attached in position
25. Bury: Formation flying manoeuvre
26. Mark from a wound
27. Speed

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10. Dumpraster
11. Gods
12. Coasted
13. Flown
16. Tandem
18. Incident
19. Tracking
21. Dumped
23. Flies
24. Minimum
28. Dock
29. Chest strap
30. Silbers
31. Bndies

SOLUTION DOWN
2. Ping
3. Ripcord
4. Teams
6. Rare
7. Toggled
8. Stowinder
9. Steering lines
14. Barrel roll
15. Lead
17. Main
20. Checked
22. Mounted
23. Inter
26. Scar
27. Rate



Steve Scott and John Dunn
by Marcus Goodsell



Skydive weston



Interview with
Ash Kemp,
Director of
Skydive
Weston



What is your role?

I'm a Co-Director along with my business partner Steve Scott. Basically Steve runs everything in the air as CCI and I sort everything on the ground. He's the Air Boss and I'm the Ground Boss.

How long have you been running the DZ?

I first started when it was run by the Military (Royal Air Force Sport Parachute Association, RAFSPA), as their manager five years ago. Steve and I then set up Skydive Weston and have been running it as a civilian run club for four years now. Weston still is a military dropzone during the week, with the Joint Services Adventurous Training Centre (JSAT) and the odd Hercules/Skyvan drops now and again. Midday on Fridays we take over the centre and return it Monday morning. The weekends it's run as a joint military/civilian DZ, offering military discounted jump rates.

What have you changed?

The first thing we did was build a new clubhouse, converting the old mess building. Another thing was the flying hours. In RAFSPA days Sundays were restricted to only seven hours (10am to 5pm) which was a real pain in the summer! Now Saturdays are 9am-8pm and Sundays 10am-8pm, in summer. In the winter we jump till dusk.

There was also the stigma that, as a military centre, Weston was regimented and not very

friendly, so that was one thing we felt we had to change and I think we have done that. We have also stopped low and medium altitude tickets. It wasn't cost effective to run in at low level to drop one person off, this also slowed turnaround times so stopping it made the operation more efficient.

Have you seen much growth?

Definitely in membership numbers – with RAFSPA on average we had around 400-500 registered members but in 2009 that was close to 600. Static line and AFF doubled in 2009 as we have encouraged more universities and cadet forces to jump with us. We offer very good deals which encourage the students to return and jump within their skydiving clubs.

Who have been your skydiving influences?

There are two CCIs I've taken great pleasure in appreciating their wisdom during my 19 years of skydiving – I still listen and ask their advice today. Dave Emerson was my first CCI. I met him on my first day I went to Weston for a RAPS course. Dave always greeted you with a warm welcome and has vast amounts of knowledge that he is forever willing to share. I'm lucky Dave is still at

Weston and he is always on hand if I need guiding – or a laugh as he is never without a joke or story!

Dave 'Chainsaw' Wood is another CCI I had the pleasure of working with on two occasions with RAFSPA. Dave had loads of time for you, always helpful, encouraging and grateful when you did something for him. I can't tell you how many beers he bought people as thank-yous! But you knew when you had done something wrong! That arm would start going and you just couldn't argue back! He was always right. As long as you listened and took it all in he'd be buying you a beer later!

What aircraft do you operate and why?

We operate a Dornier G92. Although it's a twin turbine, so fuel-thirsty, the advantage is it's quick to altitude, low turnaround times, five or six lift cycles, and very quiet compared to other jump aircraft. The maintenance if something goes wrong is superb. The aircraft is leased from James Swallow, so a quick phone call usually resolves any problems with minimal down time, something we have not found from other I easing companies.

Dornier G92, Weston's jumpship



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How about visiting aircraft, like the Skyvan?

The Skyvan is a great aircraft and will definitely be here this year. As it will practically be based here, for the Military, we should be able to use it on busy weekends. We usually get other aircraft in when we have a lot on in the summer.

What's planned for 2010?

We have a new events team organising things this year so the best thing is to check our web page. In the past we've had some very good events, such as the UKS Boogie and UKSL Meet and we hope to do something similar.

When is the best time to visit?

We're only open weekends and bank holidays, we sometimes open midweek but this is very ad hoc (usually announced on our web page). Basically, any time between February and December we are very happy to see people.

What are the most popular disciplines?

The most popular is FS. Weston has always produced some very good 4-way teams including the old RAFSPA 4-way Nationals team which had Steve in and more recently the women's 4-way teams of *Airkix* and *Storm* trained here and include our club members. I've always encouraged and supported 4-way and I think this shows. Each year Weston enters the most 4-way teams in the Nationals, and they always bring a clutch of medals back. Freely is also very popular and always has been.

Who are your resident coaches?

We are lucky enough to have World and National Champions here. Amanda (my wife) and Sparky were National & World Champions with *Team Airkix* in 2006. Sparky is a current World Champion along with her teammate from *Storm*, Sarah Cannon, who also jumps here. Andy Scott



Team Airkix

(VNE 8-way National Champion) regularly coaches and teaches AFF along with Paul Floyd (the younger). We only charge two slots (£20 a jump) for FS and FF coaching, payment to the coach comes out of that.

What is the club vibe?

Steve and I have always tried to make Weston friendly and safe. We are straightforward and honest with people and will listen to anyone that may have an idea or even a gripe. There isn't much we don't let people do as long as they respect the place and keep themselves safe. If you do something wrong we will tell you about it and hope it goes in – the Dave Wood method! I think the vibe is great as we have a complete mix of people. A chilled approach to operating a DZ is better than barking at jumpers all the time.

Tell us about your facilities

We have a great clubhouse with bean bags, sofas, pool table, fruit machine, large dining table, two huge flat screen TVs. A good canteen



Weston's massive packing and training area

that sells hot and cold food all day. After flying has stopped the bar takes over from the canteen. We have a huge packing and training area and probably the largest landing area in the country. The kit store is very well stocked with both student and experienced kit, jumpsuits, etc. There is plenty of grass for free camping, and hot showers in the morning

Do you have a DZ shop?

The shop is under my management and we sell just about everything. We have a dealership with Sunpath, for Javelin rigs, as well as all canopies, Cypres and Vigil. We sell all skydiving accessories, T-shirts, jackets, Gatorz sunglasses, Ben and Jerrys, sodas and more.

How is the social scene?

Weston has always had a good social scene. The summer months are by far the best when we fire up the barbecue or Sharon takes over the evening food. On many an occasion the club has



Party scene by Shane Wood

bought in a load of free pizzas for the members to enjoy at the end of very busy days. The parties are always great and the beer is cheap!

Where's the best pub & place to stay overnight?

We have two excellent pubs close by. The Ben Jonson is half a mile and the Chequers about 300 yards further. There is a very good B&B in the local village, which does a great breakfast or there is the Holiday Inn and Travelodge just down the road. Anyone can camp for free at the weekend.

What are your prices like?

We haven't really changed our prices since we started. Altitude is 13,000 feet, for which military pay £15 and civilians £20. RAPS jumps are £25 for military and £35 for civvies. AFF Level 1 is £300 for military and £350 for civilians. We give universities and cadets very good deals for RAPS and AFF.

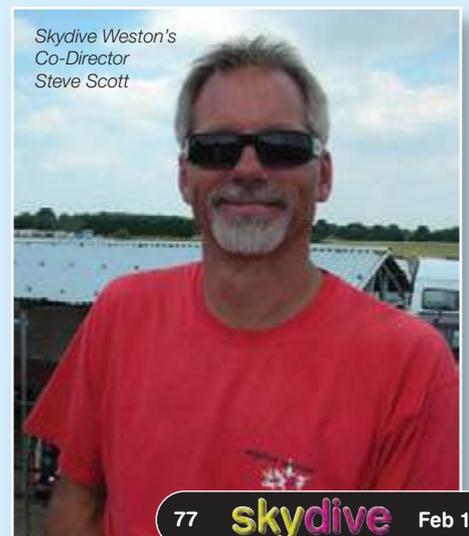


DZ gear store

Is there anything more the BPA and/or the Mag could be doing for your DZ?

Personally I think the BPA are too insular and do not interact fairly with all DZs. You have your Council, then you have your 'old school' network which looks after its own. You will only see a BPA Council member at your DZ if they work there or something has gone wrong! How many Council members visited your DZ last year asking how it's going and can we do anything to help you or your DZ? The only people worth talking to are the full-time staff in the BPA offices, they're brilliant.

The Mag itself should be a choice. I used to enjoy the Mag but now I don't, so I don't see why I should continue to pay for it. It doesn't hold my attention long enough with too many adverts, and pages and pages of pictures for an article that look the same. It's just not informative enough to keep you reading it. It's great to show head-down World Records, JFTC, Nationals etc but it doesn't inform you how you too can get involved or strive to become as good. More articles on safety, flying canopies, landing, kit, big formations, jumping abroad, etc, need to fill the pages. The DZ Feature is great but I think the Mag should include three or four features an issue so you can identify and see easily what other DZs are doing and have to offer.



Skydive Weston's Co-Director Steve Scott

DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 13-21** **Castellon Spring Boogie**
Castellon skydivecenterspa.be
- 14** **Valentine's Day Saver**
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com
- 15-19** **BPA Inst Course (CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv/CSI)**
Netheravon trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 15-21** **Volare Tunnel Camp**
Bodyflight Bedford info@volareproflight.com
- 17-21** **Freerfly Workshop**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 19-21** **Freerfly Money Meet**
Eloy, USA skydiveaz.com
- 19-21** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 20-21** **Teacher Memorial Trophy**
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com
- 20-Mar 1** **Boogie in Belize VI**
San Pedro, Belize skydivebelize.com
- 23** **BPA Council Meeting**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk
- 25-26** **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 26-28** **BCPA Midlands**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 26-28** **Safe Flight School**
Seville, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 27** **Safety Day**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 27** **Night Jumps & D-FLOH 10th Party**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk
- 27** **10-way Rumble Rules Meet**
Perris Valley, USA skydiveperris.com
- 27-28** **Cross Country**
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com
- 27-28** **CF Weekend**
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com
- 28** **2-way League**
Lillo, Spain skydivelillo.com

MARCH

- 1** **Season Opening**
Marche, Italy skydivemarche.com
- 2-6** **Airspeed 4-way Skills Camp**
Skydive Arizona, Eloy todd@airspeed.org
- 4-7** **Euro Sequentials**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 5-7** **Safe Flight School (Adv)**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 6-7** **Pinch Jump**
Langar strollerweb.co.uk
- 6-7** **16-way Invitational**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 6-7** **Perris Moxie Tunnel Camp**
Perris Valley, USA skydiveperris.com
- 11-14** **Skydive Expo**
Deland skydiveexpo.com
- 12-14** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 12-14** **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 12-14** **Muff Brother Reunion**
Zephyrhills, Florida skydivecity.com

- 13** **Tunnel League**
Perris Valley, USA skydiveperris.com
- 15-21** **Volare Tunnel Camp**
Bodyflight Bedford info@volareproflight.com
- 17-21** **Freerfly Workshop**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 18-21** **Florida POPS State Record**
DeLand, USA skydivedeland.com
- 19-21** **Z-Flock 'n' Dock**
Zephyrhills, Florida skydivecity.com
- 20-21** **F5 Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 20-21** **Judges Seminar**
Hibaldstow charters@ingliston.fsnet.co.uk
- 25-26** **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 25-28** **Z-Team Big-ways**
Zephyrhills, Florida guywright.com
- 26-28** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 26-28** **Safe Flight School**
Seville, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 26-Apr 4** **Easter Boogie**
Zephyrhills, Florida skydivecity.com
- 27-29** **Arizona Airspeed Camp**
Airfix, Manchester airfix.com
- 28-Apr 13** **BCPA Foreign Trip**
Perris Valley, USA mail@bcpa.org.uk
- 29-Apr 2** **BPA Inst Course (Tan/AFF/Pre-Adv)**
Langar trudy@bpa.org.uk

APRIL

- 1-5** **Easter Boogie**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 2-4** **Safe Flight School**
Hibaldstow safeflightschool.com
- 2-5** **Easter Boogie**
Seville, Spain skydivespain.com
- 2-5** **Girls Formation DZ Record**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 2-5** **Easter Mini-boogie**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk
- 3-4** **World Challenge**
Bodyflight Bedford worldchallenge.info
- 3-4** **Flocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 3-5** **Easter Boogie**
Prostejov, Czech Republic jump-tandem.cz
- 3-11** **Spring Boogie**
Marche, Italy skydivemarche.com
- 4-10** **Go Vertical Spring**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 5-9** **Skysavers**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 6-9** **Easter Open Week**
BKPC, Cockerham bkpc.co.uk
- 7-11** **Freerfly Workshop**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 8** **STC & Riggers Meetings**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk
- 9-11** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 9-11** **Escape to Elsinore Boogie**
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com
- 10-11** **Sticker Fest**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

- 16-18** **Tracking Weekend**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 16-18** **Blocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 17-18** **Canopy Handling & Accuracy**
Headcorn headcomparachuteclub.co.uk
- 17-18** **F5 Scrambles**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 17-18** **2-way F5 Competition**
Prostejov, Czech Republic jump-tandem.cz
- 22-25** **Free 2 Fly**
Rotterdam skydiverotterdam.com
- 22-25** **Big-way Tune-up**
Spaceland, Texas bigways.com
- 23-25** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 24-25** **Big-way for Beginners**
Hibaldstow skydivechoreography.com
- 24-25** **BPA FF Coaching Roadshow**
Cark skydivenorthwest.co.uk
- 24-25** **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 24-25** **Season Opener Boogie**
Crosskeys, USA skydivecrosskeys.com
- 26-30** **BPA Inst Course (Tan/AFF/Pre-Adv)**
Hibaldstow trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 27** **Royal Aero Club Awards Ceremony**
RAF Museum, Hendon royalaeroclub.org
- 28-May 3** **CF & Progression Week**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 29-30** **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 29-May 2** **Big-way Camp**
Perris Valley, USA p3skydiving.com
- 29-May 2** **Free 2 Fly**
Texel paracentrumtexel.nl
- 30-May 2** **Freerfly Camp**
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru
- 30-May 2** **F5 Scrambles**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 30-May 2** **Animal House Boogie**
Terni, Italy the-zoo.it
- 30-May 3** **Freerfly Weekend**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 30-May 3** **BCPA Southern**
Netheravon netheravon.com

MAY

- 1-2** **Accuracy Grand Prix**
Headcorn headcomparachuteclub.co.uk
- 1-2** **Bridge the Gap**
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com
- 1-3** **Funshine Boogie UK**
Hibaldstow funshineboogie.com
- 1-3** **Freerfly Weekend**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 1-3** **Canopy Flight Workshop**
Tortuga, Italy skydivetortuga.com

- 1-4** **2-way, 4-way, 10-way Comp**
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru
- 1-9** **Langar Boogie**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk
- 3-7** **Skysavers**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 4-6** **Safe Flight School (Basic/Adv)**
Langar safeflightschool.com
- 4-7** **Spring Open Week**
BKPC, Cockerham bkpc.co.uk
- 6-9** **100-way Camp**
Perris Valley, USA p3skydiving.com
- 7-9** **Freerfly Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 7-9** **Freerfly Camp**
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru
- 8-9** **EuroPOPS**
RAPA, Germany pops.org.uk
- 8-9** **Big-way Introduction**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 8-9** **BPA F5 Roadshow**
UK Para (Beccles) ukparachuting.co.uk
- 12-16** **Wing Tips Canopy Flight Training**
Dunkeswell gottaflychris@yahoo.co.uk

- 14-16** **Freerfly Weekend**
UK Para (Beccles) ukparachuting.co.uk
- 14-16** **Blocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk
- 14-16** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 14-16** **FF Film Festival**
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com
- 15-16** **CF Grand Prix**
South Cerney skydivesouthcerney.co.uk
- 15-16** **40-ways**
Spaceland, Texas bigways.com
- 17-21** **BPA Inst Course (CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv)**
Strathallan trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 17-23** **Twin Beech Boogie 1**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com
- 21-23** **Safe Flight School**
Empuriabrava, Spain safeflightschool.com
- 22-23** **F5 Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk
- 22-23** **UKSL 4-way F5**
Netheravon netheravon.com
- 22-23** **Docking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivechoreography.com
- 22-23** **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com
- 22-23** **Speed Star Competition**
Prostejov, Czech Republic jump-tandem.cz
- 22-24** **Freerfly Weekend**
Crosskeys, USA skydivecrosskeys.com
- 24-28** **BPA Instructor Course (CSI)**
Strathallan trudy@bpa.org.uk
- 24-28** **Big-way Camp 100**
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia aerograd.ru



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bpa.org.uk follow the link to the survey

27-28
Empuriabrava
Wingsuit Course
skydiveempuriabrava.com

28-31
Strathallan
BCPA Scots
mail@bcpa.org.uk

28-31
Eloy, USA
Arizona Challenge
skydiveaz.com

29-Jun 2
Reggio Emilia, Italy
International Boogie
bfu.it

29-Jun 2
Seville, Spain
Funshine Boogie
funshineboogie.com

JUNE

1-4
BKPC, Cockerham
Summer Open Week
bkpc.co.uk

2-4
Empuriabrava, Spain
Flock & Swoop Camp
safeflightschool.com

2-13
Perris Valley
Australian Record 100-way Att
aussie100way.com

4-6
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia
Freelyfly Camp
aerograd.ru

4-12
Reggio Emilia, Italy
POPS World Meet
pops2010.it

5-6
Headcorn
Speed Star 10-way
headcornparachuteclub.co.uk

5-6
Hibaldstow
FF Scrambles
skydiving.co.uk

5-6
South Cerney
Accuracy Grand Prix
skydivesouthcerney.co.uk

5-6
Göteborg, Sweden
Nordic Freelyfly Babes
skydivesweden.se

5-20
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia
In & Outdoor Freelyfly
toratora.nl

7-11
Hibaldstow
Skysavers
skydiving.co.uk

7-11
Göteborg, Sweden
Nordic Freelyfly Project
skydivesweden.se

10
BPA Offices, Leicester
STC & Riggers Meetings
bpa.org.uk

11-13
Empuriabrava, Spain
Safe Flight School
safeflightschool.com

11-13
Raeford, USA
48-way Sequentials
bigways.com

11-13
Prostejov, Czech Republic
Freelyfly Competition
jump-tandem.cz

12-13
UK Para (Beccles)
Wingsuit Coaching
ukparachuting.co.uk

12-13
Cark
UKSL 4-way FS
skydivenorthwest.co.uk

12-13
Dunkeswell
FS Weekend
skydivethewell.com

12-13
Hibaldstow
Summer Sequentials
skydivechoreography.com

12-13
Molinella, Italy
Freelyfly Coaching
flygang.com

15-22
Raeford, USA
Skyfest Boogie
skyfestboogie.com

16-20
Empuriabrava
Vector Festival
skydiveempuriabrava.com

16-20
Empuriabrava
Freelyfly Workshop
skydiveempuriabrava.com

17-18
Empuriabrava
Wingsuit Course
skydiveempuriabrava.com

18-20
UK Para (Sibson)
Blocking Weekend
skydivesibson.co.uk

19-20
Hibaldstow
FS Weekend
skydiving.co.uk

19-20
Langar
CF Grand Prix
bpslangar.co.uk

19-20
Molinella, Italy
Swoop Competition
flygang.com

19-20
Crosskeys, USA
Sunpath Demo Weekend
skydivecrosskeys.com

21-27
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia
FS & CF Russian Cup
aerograd.ru

22-25
Dunkeswell
Progression Week
skydivethewell.com

22-27
Hinton
Tent City Boogie
skydive.co.uk

26-27
UK Para (Sibson)
BPA FS Roadshow
skydivesibson.co.uk

26-27
Hibaldstow
28-way Sequential
skydiving.co.uk

26-27
Empuria
Hot Weekender
regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

27-Jul 4
Voss, Norway
Extreme Week
ekstremesportveko.com

28-Jul 2
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia
Kaleidoscope East-West
bigways.com

28-Jul 2
Hibaldstow
Skysavers
skydiving.co.uk

JULY

1-4
Perris Valley
Power Play
danbc@skydiveperris.com

1-4
Skydive Dallas
44-ways
bigways.com

1-5
Skydive Dallas
American Revolution Boogie
skydivedallas.com

2-4
Peterlee
Classics Nationals
skydiveacademy.org.uk

2-4
Hibaldstow
BCPA Northerns
mail@bcpa.org.uk

2-4
UK Para (Sibson)
Blocking Weekend
skydivesibson.co.uk

2-4
Empuriabrava, Spain
Safe Flight School
safeflightschool.com

3-4
Hibaldstow
FF Weekend
skydiving.co.uk

3-4
Göteborg, Sweden
Swedish Cup
skydivesweden.se

3-5
BKPC, Cockerham
CF Nationals
bkpc.co.uk

4-11
Voss, Norway
Voss 16-Way Experience
ekstremutvikling.no

5-11
Aerograd Kolomna, Russia
Russian Record 200-way Atmpt
aerograd.ru

8-11
Crosskeys, USA
Big-way Sequentials
skydivecrosskeys.com

9-11
UK Para (Sibson)
Safe Flight School
safeflightschool.com

10-11
Hibaldstow
UKSL 4-way FS
skydiving.co.uk

10-11
Crosskeys, USA
Beaver Canuck Weekend
skydivecrosskeys.com



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skydiveexpo.com

Skydive Marche 52
+39 347 875 2507 skydivemarche.com

Skydive Spain (Target Skysports) 30-31
+34 687 726 303 skydivespain.com

Skydive UK Ltd (Dunkeswell) 52
+44 (0)1404 890 222 skydivethewell.com

Smart Rigs 77
+44 (0)845 680 2470 smartrigs.com

Sunshine Factory IBC
+1 813 788 9831 sunshine-factory.com

Symbiosis Suits 56
+44 (0)1622 890 967 symbiosissuits.co.uk

Target Skysports (inc DZ Shop) 30-31
+44 (0)1132 505 600 skydiving.co.uk

Thomas Sports Equipment OBC
+44 (0)1262 678 299 thomas-sports.com

United Parachute Technologies 66
+1 386 736 7589 uptvector.com

Volare Concepts 74
+44 (0)7961 926 011 volareproflight.com

KEY

BPA
Canopy Piloting
Formation Skydiving
Canopy Formation
Style & Accuracy
Boogies/Fun
Freestyle & Skysurf
POPS
Wingsuit
Unclassified

10-12 **CF Nationals Reserve**
BKPC, Cockerham bkpc.co.uk

14-16 **Progression Week**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

14-17 **CP Russian Cup**
Aerograd Kolonna, Russia aerograd.ru

14-18 **BPA CF Roadshow**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

14-18 **Go Vertical**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

14-18 **BCPA Nationals**
Cark mail@bcpa.org.uk

15-16 **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

17-18 **BPA FS Roadshow**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

17-18 **Docking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivechoreography.com

17-18 **FF Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

17-24 **BAG/RAPA Champs**
RAPA, Germany jspl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

21-24 **CP Nationals**
RAPA, Germany jspl-comdt@atgg.mod.uk

21-24 **Russian Freestyle Record Atmpt**
Aerograd Kolonna, Russia aerograd.ru

24-25 **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

24-25 **Freefly Coaching**
Malinella, Italy flygang.com

24-Aug 7 **Aerograd Trip**
Russia mattnomoreals@hotmail.com

26-30 **Skysavers**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

26-Aug 1 **Twin Beech Boogie 2**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

29-Aug 1 **Canopy Piloting Course**
Crosskeys, USA skydivecrosskeys.com

30-Aug 1 **Safe Flight School**
BKPC, Cockerham safeflightsschool.com

30-Aug 1 **Blocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk

31-Aug 8 **Army Championships**
Netheravon netheravon.com

31-Aug 8 **International Xpiders Boogie**
Prostejov, Czech Republic jump-tandem.cz

AUGUST

1-6 **FS, CF, Artistics World Meet**
Menzelinsk, Russia fai.org/parachuting

5 **STC & Riggers Meetings**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

5-6 **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

6-8 **Summer Bonanza**
Elsinore, USA skydiveelsinore.com

7-8 **Docking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivechoreography.com

9-13 **Euro Big-ways**
Pyrlandia, Poland bigways.pl

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

12-15 **Fly Vertical**
Nuggets, Germany skydive-nuggets.de

12-15 **Lapalisse Picnic Boogie**
Lapalisse, France lapalisse-aero.com

14-15 **Flocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk

14-16 **4-way FS & VFS Nationals**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

16-20 **BPA Instructor Course (CSI)**
Langar trudy@bpa.org.uk

21-22 **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

21-23 **4-way & VFS Nationals Reserve**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

21-23 **8-way/Artistics/Speed Nationals**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-29 **Big-ways**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-29 **FF Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-30 **8-way/Arts/Spd Nats Reserve**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

28-30 **Mike Wills Speed 10 Comp**
Dunkeswell skydivethewell.com

28-Sep 5 **Style & Accuracy World Meet**
Montenegro fai.org/parachuting

SEPTEMBER

1-4 **USA CP Nationals**
Spaceland, Texas uspa.org

4-5 **8-way Speed Nationals**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk

4-5 **F5 Scrambles**
Netheravon netheravon.com

4-12 **Langar Boogie 2**
Langar bpslangar.co.uk

5-10 **Prostejov Big-way Project**
Prostejov, Czech Republic jump-tandem.cz

10-12 **ESL Finals**
Texel euro-skyleague.com

10-24 **USA Nationals**
Chicago, USA uspa.org

11-12 **FF Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

11-12 **Speed 10-way**
Nuggets, Germany skydive-nuggets.de

16-17 **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

18-19 **FF Weekend**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

18-19 **Accuracy & CF Grand Prix**
BKPC, Cockerham bkpc.co.uk

21-27 **POPS USA Nationals**
Raeford, USA jumpraeford.com

25-26 **Big-way for Beginners**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

25-26 **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

30 **STC & Riggers Meetings**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

30-Oct 3 **Empuriabrava 16-way Trophy**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

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

OCTOBER

2-3 **F5 Scrambles**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

7-10 **Big-way Camp**
Perris Valley, USA p3skydiving.com

8-10 **Diamond 25 Flocking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivesibson.co.uk

8-10 **Diamond 25 Docking Weekend**
UK Para (Sibson) skydivechoreography.com

8-12 **Spanish Nationals**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

9-10 **FF vs FS 8-way Speed**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

14-15 **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

14-17 **100-way Camp**
Perris Valley, USA p3skydiving.com

15-23 **Equinox Boogie**
Ramblers, Australia ramblers.com.au

20-24 **200-way Sequential**
Eloy, USA p3skydiving.com

23-24 **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

30-31 **Halloween Frostbite Friendly**
Hibaldstow skydiving.co.uk

NOVEMBER

8-12 **BPA Inst Course (CSBI/TBI/AFFBI/Adv)**
Hibaldstow trudy@bpa.org.uk

11-12 **Wingsuit Course**
Empuriabrava skydiveempuriabrava.com

15-19 **BPA Instructor Course (CSI)**
Hibaldstow trudy@bpa.org.uk

20-21 **Hot Weekender**
Empuria regan@skydiveempuriabrava.com

25 **STC & Riggers Meetings**
BPA Offices, Leicester bpa.org.uk

CLASSIFIED ADS

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300 hrs Pic.Twin rated – Piston Islander
Qualified. BPA Jump Pilot Qualified
Contact CCI
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Email: parawing@cytanet.com.cy

COMPLETE RIG
Atom Legend R, blue/grey container,
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Cyres 2 (10/07) Articulated
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Laterals/Kill Line. Great condition, 50
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Fenton. Tel: +44 (0)7747 110708
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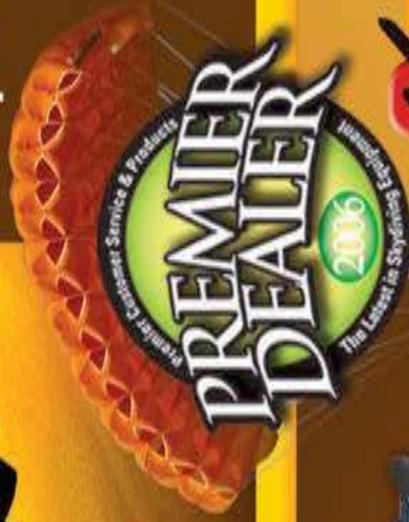
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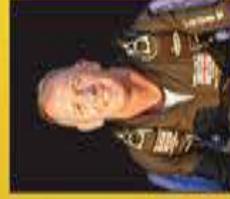


photo: Gary Wainwright

Dave Ruffell, Member Team Connexion 2005/2008
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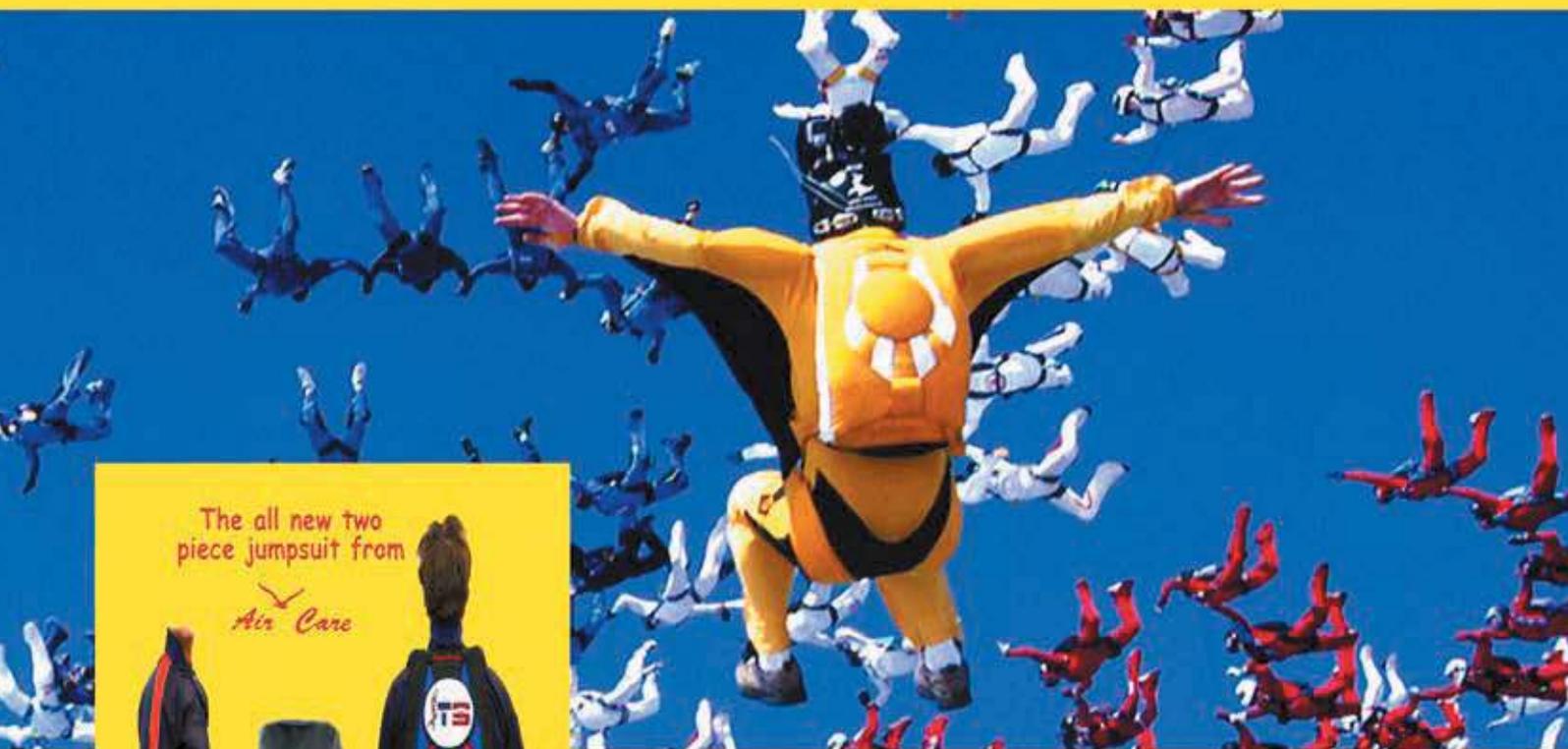




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