



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com

August 2012

skyDIVE

the mag



INSIDE: LANDING WITHOUT A PARACHUTE! LANGAR UKSL SIXTH UK CANOPY PILOTTING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 8-WAY REVIVAL BRIT TEAM'S SOS SUCCESS NEW DEPTHS: UNDERWATER SKYDIVING SITFLY BASICS PLUS THE LATEST NEWS, REVIEWS AND EVENTS

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Just two issues ago I wrote about the crazy pace at which our sport is still evolving. Back then it was inspired by canopy/wingsuit XRW in Dubai, alongside news of Felix Baumgartner's project to beat Joe Kittinger's altitude record. As well as reporting on these events, I also included articles encouraging jumpers to try new things themselves – 'Why Not Try' backfly, CF and Speed skydiving.

This issue is similarly inspired. Just when you thought us Brits must be running out of new and weird things to try, Mike Burdon comes up with an amazing underwater skydiving photography concept and Gary Connery lands his wingsuit!

But this is a good time for a safety message: be careful out there. The people at the top of our sport are doing cooler things than ever before, and the footage of them making it look easy is so accessible thanks to social media. It can be easy to forget that jumping out of a plane hasn't suddenly got any safer, and that dabling yourself up in four GoPros and a wingsuit for your 201st jump didn't suddenly become a good idea!

This issue's 'Why Not Try' articles have got a competition slant to them – 4-way, 8-way and CP. Competition is a great environment to develop and push your skills in a controlled and supportive atmosphere, so why not put a team together in your favourite discipline and have a go at Nationals? Unless you're a highly trained team, the old adage that 'it's not about the winning, but the taking part' has never been truer. If you're a trained team, then of course it's all about the winning though!

Liz Ashley



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Cover: Tom Naef of Babylon flies his canopy underwater in a fantastic photoshoot dreamt up by Mike Burdon. The reserve tray was weighted down with lead and the canopy packed with foam – the rig weighed over 100kg before it even went in the water.

Welcome and this page: Dave Lewis organises a new Netheravon club record 60-way formation. The dive was from a Skyvan and three Caravans during the Jubilee weekend. It was the biggest formation for more than 30 per cent of the participants.
Photos by Gary Wainwright



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IT IS MANDATORY TO WEAR A HELMET AND ALTI FOR
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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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October 23
January 1

To reader
October 4
November 29
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Updates to the big-way calendar

Big-way organisers P3 announced in June that the Dubai 500-way planned for February/March 2013 has officially been postponed. The original plan had been to build a 253-way in February 2012 followed by what would be a new world record 500-way 12 months later. However, the

253-way was postponed in late 2011, leading to doubts about whether the 500-way would still happen on the original schedule. Skydive Dubai and P3 are still optimistic about building a new skydiving world record and are looking for future dates when this world-class event can be held.

Later the same day P3 announced the Square One 333-way USA Record, to be held at Skydive Arizona from November 30–December 6, 2013. The goal is to set a new official record for the largest skydiving formation completed in the USA. The current record is the Go Fast 300-way built 10 years ago in 2002. P3 says: "While this will be an official USPA-sanctioned National Record we do invite all our foreign friends to join us on this incredible event. P3 is always looking for qualified talent either new to the large formation skydiving scene or current veterans. With well over a year to prepare, there is sufficient time to train dedicated skydivers from varying experience backgrounds."

The 333-way will use 16 turbine aircraft – a combination of Skyvans and Twin Otters – and jumpsuits will be a patriotic red, white or blue. The record attempts will be from 18,000–20,000 feet with oxygen.



1 The highlight of the P3 Spring Fling event was a 151-way 'Perris Wheel'. Next year's Spring Fling will be May 15–19, 2013 and will be another unique formation. By Terry Weatherford

2 The annual PowerPlay event aims to build smaller, more complex big-ways. Typical dives have fragile bases and lots of out-facing slots, and high-level FS team jumpers tend to be successful at applying for places. By George Katsoulis

Errors and omissions

Here at *The Mag* we strive for total accuracy in everything we print. However, a mistake slipped through into the last issue. On page 28 we said that the BPA provided "financial assistance and moral support" to the UK's first wingsuit competition. In fact the event was unfunded, and we apologise for this error.

UEA Skydiving Club wins £1,000

Congratulations to the University of East Anglia Skydiving Club who have won third place in the RBS Enterprising Student Society Awards. Their short video was up against other university clubs from around the country, so well done for getting shortlisted and then making the top three. You can view their submission at youtu.be/xArRNkhvko

Irish 4-way Nationals

Just four weeks after the British 4-way Nationals, the Irish Parachute Club (IPC) will be holding their equivalent competition. Just as overseas entrants are welcome at our Nationals, those Oirish jumpers want us to know that we're all welcome at theirs. Same aircraft as ours too – Dornier G92. There are cheap flights from most UK airports so why not book your team's trip then let Ronan Whelan know you're planning to compete on September 8-9? Go on, go on, go on.

ronanwhelan33@hotmail.com

New CP Distance records

The world record under the old Distance rules for CP was 222.34 metres, set by Nick Batsch last year. However a new rule change, reported in the April *Mag*, means a clean sheet for the event and the chance to go out and set new records. The rule change actually makes it harder to get such huge distances, so new records will initially be significantly lower. However, Nick has swooped in there and grabbed the new record to add to his old one, winning the Distance event of the USPA Nationals in the process, and so the current world record under the new rules now stands at 151.95 metres.

The BPA's equivalent competition was also held recently and again new records were up for grabs. Wez Westley put the top score on the board early on, but Brian Vacher came out on top with a new UK National Distance record of 116.33 metres. See page 25 for the full report.



Dave Fairbrother

A group of skydivers have been busy raising money and doing crazy events in memory of Marine David Fairbrother, who was shot dead in Afghanistan on September 19 last year. Dave learned to skydive at Black Knights aged 16, then moved to Leeds University where he jumped at Hib, Langar and Seville. His last jump was his 108th, alongside his sister Emily who he had persuaded to do a tandem.

Since his untimely death, more than £13,000 has been raised in his honour for the Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund. Over 20 members of his family, friends and troop, ironically also nicknamed the Black Knights, completed tandem skydives in April 2012. A group of eight of his skydiving friends also entered the ToughGuy challenge. Renowned for being 'the safest most dangerous event in the world', ToughGuy comprises of an eight-mile cross-country run through a 'killing fields assault course' with over 75 obstacles, where contenders face barbed wire, burns, electric

shocks, claustrophobia, acrophobia and dehydration. Freezing weather conditions also brings the severe risk and fear of hypothermia, making the finish line even harder to reach. Dressed as fairies to mimic David's high school nickname, Dave's best friend Ben and the team completed the course in three hours 17 minutes.



Arizona Challenge

It's the season for large and complex formations, and this year's Arizona Challenge formation lived up to its reputation. It consisted of nine interlinked 8-way hope diamonds (often called "no-hope diamonds" even when there's only eight people making one of them!). As if that wasn't hard enough, an extra eight outfacers were added to the outsides of the formation to neaten things up and take it to a nice round-number 80-way. It's certainly the funkiest 80-way I've ever seen! This photo by Arizona Airspeed's cameraman Bill Schmitz shows the completed formation, with the main top camera framed nicely in the centre of the Challenge.

CLIVE FRANCIS



Clive Francis, who was Chief Pilot at Swansea Parachute Club from 1983-1992, died in June 2012.

Clive loved life – he was a bon vivant and rarely missed a club party. His passions were engineering, flying and sailing. He owned and flew his own two-seater French aircraft for many years, as well as sailing his own sea-going yacht whenever he could.

His skill and knowledge in engineering terms were invaluable to the club aircraft operations and Clive was renowned for his ability to identify a problem and come up with a workable fix. He was the living embodiment of the 'can do' approach.

He had a wicked sense of humour, as Dr Alistair Yool recalls: "I always remember Clive hitting me on the head with a hammer (I was wearing a helmet) as I sat nerve-wracked on the benches waiting for the next progression jump, something to do with easing my nerves – he had a way with students!"

Clive was responsible for the selection and training of quite a few parachute club pilots over the years and his aviation skill and experience made a significant impact on many people's flying careers.

I will remember Clive as an intrepid aviator, with superb engine management skills. He was also a good friend, who provided wise counsel. For those lucky enough to socialise with Clive, he was always mischievous, lively, and provided wonderful companionship and always brought fun to the party.

We will all miss him greatly. Our condolences go out to Anne and Mark and close colleagues at Swansea University and his family and friends in both Swansea and west Wales.

Dave Howerski



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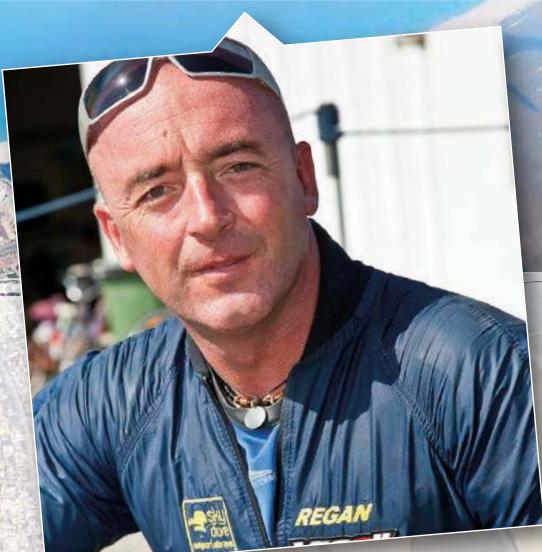
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First aid for DZ staff

The BPA Office has hosted a trial evaluation run of a one-day certificated course on first aid specifically for drop zone staff. The development of this course has kindly been sponsored by the BPA's insurers, Jelf Manson Insurance Brokers and Liberty Mutual underwriters, and the programme of training is delivered by EMC Medical Services of Blewbury, Oxfordshire. A target in the Development Committee's annual Action Plan that finished at the end of June, it is to be followed in the next Action Plan over the next 12 months by the BPA offering the course to be hosted by those BPA Affiliated Centres that may wish to take it up. More information will be sent to DZs in due course.



Location, location, location

BPA Council, as part of its strategy agreed last year, is asking the question: is the BPA Office building fit for purpose? The question may sound straightforward, but to answer it by properly evaluating all our options is quite demanding. It looks as if it may be a slow burner, needing careful evaluation of relocation (locally, so as not to risk losing experienced staff) and refurbishment options. One thing is clear: the board room at the BPA Office (why isn't it called the council room?) is the wrong shape – it's long and narrow rather than square.

STAND FOR COUNCIL?

The **BPA Council** is elected each year by you, the BPA membership. There are 15 seats available and these 15 people decide between them which Committee(s) they will sit on out of Communications, Competitions and Development, as well as who will be Chair of those Committees and of the Council as a whole. If more than 15 people stand for Council then there is an election. This election happens in December and early January, with the results being announced at the AGM which next year is on January 26, 2013 at the Leicester Marriott Hotel.

CALL TO ACTION!

The **BPA Action** Plan year 2012-3 began on July 1 and the Action Plan targets, covering Communications, Competitions and Development, can be found on the BPA website.

bpa.org.uk/about-us

Informal DZ contacts

As part of the BPA's retention strategy, new Council Member Marc Fletcher has set up an informal list of dropzone contacts. It can be daunting turning up to a new DZ for the first time and, if you do it on a busy weekend, the key staff may be juggling lots of balls and not have time to show you round properly beyond the required kit and docs check. Sometimes what's needed is a friendly face who jumps at the club regularly and can spend a bit more time making you welcome and helping you find people to jump with. This person doesn't need to be an instructor or a particularly experienced jumper, in fact it's often better if they're not so there are fewer demands on their time.

If you're at your club nearly every weekend and would be happy to be an informal contact then please sign up with Marc via the UKS website. Almost half of BPA dropzones have already got somebody signed up, so if you're thinking of visiting somewhere new then why not check out the list first?

tinyurl.com/Informal-DZ-contacts



Loading D-FLOH
by Tony Danbury

1,000 FS Coaches

Congratulations to Geoff McVey of Netheravon who has become the BPA's 1,000th FS coach since the qualification came into existence 20 years ago. There has been an upward trend in the number of FS coaches who qualify each year, so there has never been a better time to progress towards your FS1.

If you are interested in giving something back to our sport by being on Council next year then now is the time to start getting involved and coming along to the bi-monthly meetings to see what's involved. The next ones are on August 14 and October 9 and are open to all BPA members. Nominations will be due shortly after the October meeting.

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

NEW DZ

A new dropzone has been approved at Owl's Lodge Shooting School at Barton Stacey in Wiltshire. DZO Chris Ivory has initially obtained clearance for C Licence jumpers and tandems, but in due course the club may come back to the Safety and Training Committee of the BPA to request clearance for B Licence jumpers as well. As you can imagine there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes to open a new dropzone, including a full inspection of the landing area and any potential hazards, before it is cleared. This part has now happened and been approved by Council, and Chris expects to be operational within a month or two. The CCI will be Paul Floyd.



New ratings

CSBI

Robert Brown
Christopher Flowdy
Wolfgang Matussek
Steven Wall
Christopher Conlin
Callum Grant
Steve Hughes
Kelly Thomson
Alexis McNaughton
Simon Cresdee

TBI

Adam Hughes

CSI

John Reid
Samuel Bonsall
Greg Taylor
John Gibson
Advanced Packer
David Pratt (S)
Mary Barratt (S)
Richard Hughes (S)
Dennis McTaggart (S)
Dan Whitby (S)



Have you spotted a Star?

We've all heard moans about poor service. But we also know there are many examples of fantastic service within our sport, and we believe it's time for them to be recognised!

That's why we're asking A Licence holders and above to tell us about great service. Have you received a shining example of customer service at a Club or Centre from another BPA member – service above and beyond the norm that goes the extra mile? That's made a real difference by helping you to stay in the sport, to achieve your next goal, or by giving you that all-important extra support just when you needed it most? Have you received Customer Service that deserves To Achieve Recognition?

Well, now's your chance to thank that member in a special way by telling us all how they sparkle! Nominate them as a **BPA Star** and both they – and you – could be recognised on AGM Day in January. There's being helpful and then there's being super-helpful. In sorting out a problem, giving help you weren't expecting that made all the difference – that's what we're looking for. The member whose customer service shines through, who goes above and beyond the call of duty. The glittering performance that makes all the difference. A **BPA Star**!

Check out the terms and nominate at bpa.org.uk/star



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MANCHESTER

SEPTEMBER:

- **14th:** 4-Way FS Scrambles, with Simon Cathrine
- **22nd & 23rd:** VFS Skills camps, hosted by the Bad Lieutenants
- **28th:** 2-Way Freefly Scrambles, with Adam 'Killa' Mattacola

MILTON KEYNES

SEPTEMBER:

- **7th:** 3-Way FS Scrambles, with Claire 'Sparky' Scott
- **14th:** 4-Way Friday with Tarn Hollis
- **15th & 16th:** Freefly Skills Camps, hosted by Adam 'Killa' Mattacola

AUGUST

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Parachute optional

IN AN OXFORDSHIRE FIELD IN LATE MAY, BRIT GARY CONNERY MADE HISTORY. HE WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO INTENTIONALLY JUMP FROM AN AIRCRAFT AND LAND WITHOUT OPENING A PARACHUTE

WORDS GARY CONNERY, DAVE EMERSON, LIZ ASHLEY
PHOTOS KAREN SUTTON, LIMELIGHT MARKETING

2

66 Quite a daunting task to go to the CAA and ask for permission for someone to jump out of a helicopter and land without opening his parachute **99**



3



4



5



CHIEF INSTRUCTOR DAVE EMERSON EXPLAINS WHAT HAPPENED BEHIND THE SCENES

The first task was to put a creditable request to Lawrence Hay, the Parachuting Officer at the CAA. Quite a daunting task to go to the CAA and ask for permission for someone to jump out of a helicopter and land without opening his parachute. I spoke to the BPA as well to ask their view and was informed that since he was not opening the parachute, the BPA did not need to be involved. The next task was to collect as much technical and factual information as possible to prove the concept would work. Gary and Mark Sutton then spent a considerable amount of time training abroad collecting information on fall rates, forward speeds and experimenting with different wingsuits. Mark also filmed all the training jumps and collated all the information from the jumps. Gary was also very involved with Tony Uragallo in Florida working on a new wingsuit, which would fly slower, rather than faster.

After collating all the information – technical information from manuals written on the design and durability of box rigs previously used for stunt falls, Gary's stunt fall experience and my previous knowledge gained over the years – we were ready to approach Lawrence. He initially looked a bit taken aback with the proposal, but was very willing to help in any way and gave us excellent advice on how we should proceed. Over the next month we did everything Lawrence had requested, and he therefore put the proposal to his head of department. With the input from Lawrence and all the information we had, the CAA agreed in principle, with a few conditions. It took a considerable amount of confidence from Lawrence to put his neck on the block for this attempt, and shows the progressive and helpful attitude of the CAA. It was also difficult to be constantly applying for NOTAMs and then having to re-apply due to the weather. I have to say

1 *Gary Connery, the first man to land without opening a parachute*

2 Committed:
Gary past the point of no return.
By Viki Bingham

3-5 *Stuntman Gary flared the wingsuit just before entering the boxes. You can see from the impact that he had considerable forward speed from the length of the stretch of damaged boxes, which continues down to the fifth layer*

a big thank you to Squadron Leader Amanda Biggs at the CAA who went out of her way to help me and managed to do all that I requested, even at extremely short notice.

After several false starts over a seven-week period, we finally got a weather window of two or three days of good weather. It was then a question of contacting everyone involved and putting everything in motion. This included about 150 box builders, the helicopter pilot, ATC, Lawrence, medics, the film crews and the guys doing the security. Fortunately, the weather was perfect. The first day we did four practice jumps working out the exit point, approach markers and setting up the landing area, including the building of 20,000 boxes. On the day of the attempt, three more jumps were done and eventually all the boxes had been assembled. Lawrence was happy with the final practice jumps and gave the go-ahead to the attempt. →

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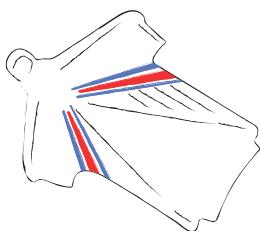
www.cypres.cc/stratos

Gary Connery

6



GARY RELIVES THE JUMP



HOW DO YOU CATEGORISE WHAT YOU'VE DONE? IS IT A RECORD?

To me, a record is something that can be broken. So if someone runs 100m in 10 seconds, then someone else runs it in 9.9, that's a record. What I did was an event, so can you have a record of an event? I think you can, and Guinness have been in touch wanting to record it, but because they didn't have any adjudicators present it doesn't count.

Q *Gary with wingsuit, BASE rig, strengthened neck brace and GoPros on a practice jump. He did not wear the GoPros for the live jump, so the groundrush of the impact from his point of view is something that only he will ever have seen*

ON THE FLIGHT ITSELF Q YOU WERE 'POTATO CHIPPING' A BIT – DID YOU EVER CONSIDER BAILING?

I was bouncing around early on in the flight, and I put it down to two things. Firstly turbulence – you could see the heat haze and it definitely affected the suit. Secondly I was tense, and I was putting input into the suit that I wasn't used to. All my training had been about flying the suit as slowly as possible but there was a

fairly strong headwind on the day, which made it harder to be accurate from further away. I did four practice jumps while the boxes were being built, and was well short on one while overshooting on another, so made the decision to bring the spot closer to the boxes and go for a steeper approach. But I wasn't used to diving the suit and I got bounced around a bit. I remember thinking, "I haven't felt this before, shall I deploy?" but was still on course so continued. The last nine seconds of the flight were perfect – smooth and on course. →

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Gary Connery

7



Q WHAT WAS THAT LAST 100FT LIKE?

I struggle to put myself back into the mindset of feeling any fear, it was really weird. I treated it as just another test jump. The decision to land was made during the flight so there was no time for fear. I was constantly thinking "Am I on target? Am I too low to deploy?" When the answer to both was yes I remember thinking "so I am doing it". It was so intense that there was no room to have a periphery, I was totally focused on the boxes. I heard the cheer from the crowd but it was like it wasn't part of me. If

7 Gary originally hoped to jump in April but the continuous wet weather stopped him from going for it, and nearly left him with a big expensive pile of soggy cardboard! Since the jump had originally been announced on April 1, this photo was taken to announce to the press that the jump really was still happening, just on hold for the weather, and it wasn't all a big April Fool

you'd asked me when I walked out of the boxes if I'd heard that cheer I'd have said no, it's only been something that's come back since then. I feel fear before BASE jumps but strangely there was no fear this time.

Q WHAT DID THE LANDING FEEL LIKE?

You don't know what you're going to do until you do it. I had considered barrel rolling to land on my back, like you normally do with high falls into boxes, but in the end the suit was so pressurised and stable that it's actually very hard to

barrel roll anyway. Plus I didn't want to risk doing it too high and give myself a large sideways input! I dipped hard left with my shoulder and felt the boxes slowing me down. When I came to a stop I knew I was okay. I wasn't winded, not the slightest crick in my neck, nothing. It was all very peaceful. The brief was that within a minute of landing I would call my wife on the radio, as it was always going to take a while to climb out of the boxes on my own and she needed to know I was okay. If I hadn't radioed within a minute then people were standing by to come and get me. It took me 28 seconds to get on the radio then about another minute to climb out.

Q FOR ANY SKYDIVER, WATCHING YOU STROLL OUT FROM BETWEEN THE BOXES WITH A PACKED PARACHUTE ON YOUR BACK WAS JUST TOTALLY SURREAL. WILL YOU EVER DO IT AGAIN?

Yes, definitely.

Q WHAT'S NEXT?

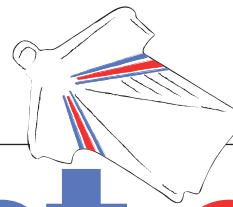
That's a really good question! There's definitely something about being the first person to do something. I had a long-held ambition to do this and now I've done it, it can never be taken away. I've not got the same passion to be the first to do anything else that I've thought of yet. I've got a few ideas but am hoping to be able to get funding off the back of this project rather than paying for it myself again. There's a documentary in the pipeline, and then I have an idea about being a human firework. I'd be encased in a rocket and fired up to 1,000ft, where the firework would go off and I'd then open a parachute. But it all costs money.

Q HOW MUCH DID THE WINGSUIT LANDING COST YOU?

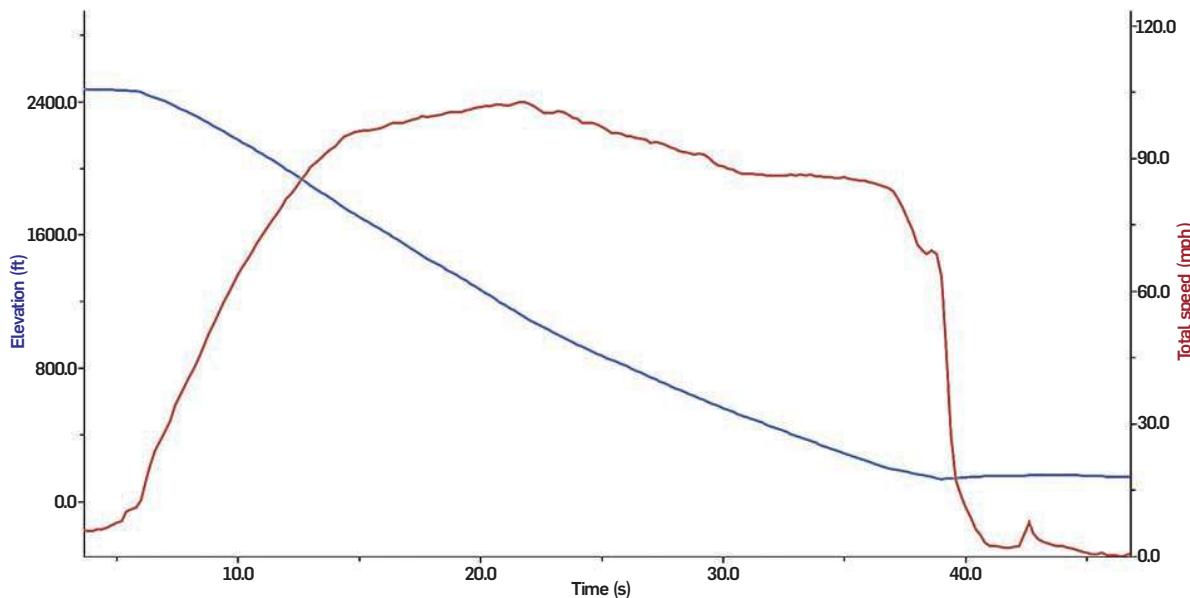
The whole day was about £30,000. That's for all the boxes, to hire a helicopter, pay for catering, toilets... I'm hoping to make some money back through sale of footage, but that's not guaranteed. But it's nothing in the grand scheme of things. I don't have a lifestyle that requires fancy cars or posh cruises. You can spend £30k on half a car in a midlife crisis. This was my dream and I hope it inspires others. It was expensive but worth it. The boxes were made from recycled cardboard and all got recycled afterwards. I couldn't have done it without the support of too many people to mention, in particular the 100-plus people who came and helped build the boxes.

Q FINALLY, DO YOU HAVE YOUR WS1?

My what?! →



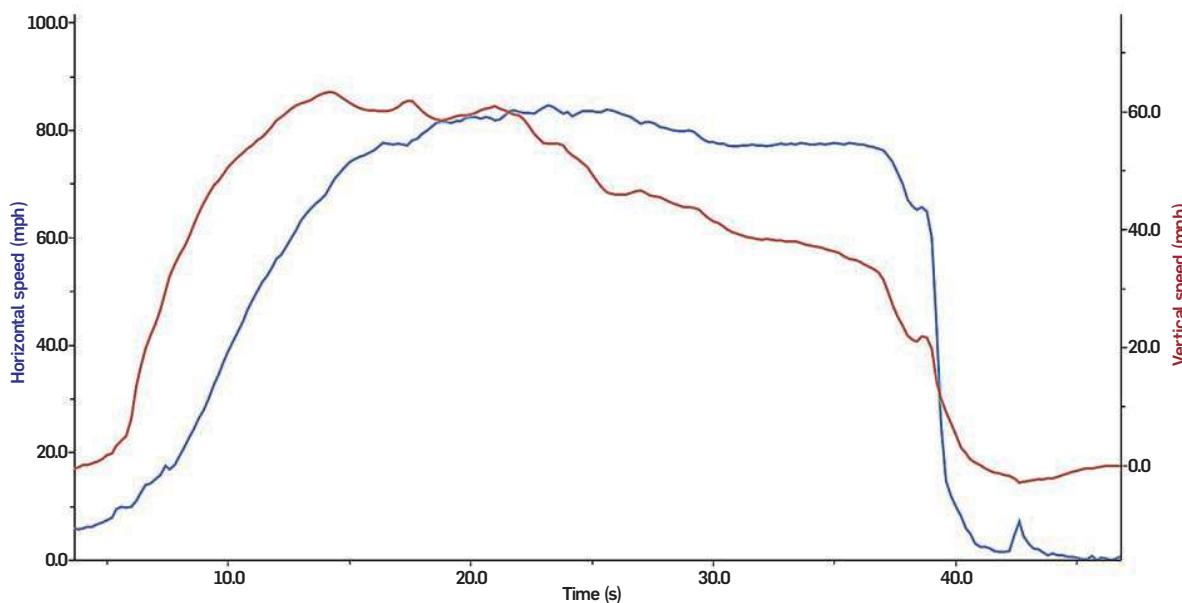
FlySight data

**GRAPH 1**

The blue line shows Gary's altitude throughout the descent. He exited the helicopter at 2,400ft and immediately his altitude started decreasing as he flew down towards the boxes. At the same time, his speed started increasing, as shown by the red line. He accelerated

rapidly in the first 15 seconds, before his total speed peaked at around 100mph just over 20 seconds in. The blue line shows he was below 1,000ft by this stage – super low by skydiving standards. The red line levels out at 30 seconds, showing him in slow flight on his final approach – although still doing around 85mph!

At about 37 seconds the blue line shows that Gary was at about 100ft and the red line drops dramatically for the first time as he flares his wingsuit down to about 70mph. A second later he hits the boxes and there is a second, more dramatic drop in his speed, this time all the way down to zero.

**GRAPH 2**

While the first graph shows Gary's total speed, this second graph breaks it down into its vertical and horizontal components. Again we can see that in the first 15 seconds Gary picked up speed

both forwards and down. However, the red line showing his vertical speed, having reached a maximum of only 60mph, then got slower and slower as he pushed everything he could out of the suit. Before he flared he was in steady slow

flight with only 30mph downward speed, and the flare brought the vertical component down to just 20mph as he entered the boxes. In contrast his forward speed (the blue line) was 55mph before the flare and still over 40mph after. ●

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Langar UKSL

IF PROOF WAS NEEDED THAT 4-WAY IS ALIVE AND KICKING, THE WHOPPING 32-TEAM TURNOUT AT THE SECOND UKSL OF THE SEASON LEFT NO DOUBT

WORDS LIZ ASHLEY

After an excellent competition briefing, teams settled down for some extreme tea drinking as Saturday's weather was somewhat cloudy, to say the least. Langar took the opportunity of having a captive audience to rerun a seminar from their recent Safety Day – great use of bad weather, many thanks Rich Wheatley.

Willed on by 150 competitors, the clouds gradually parted towards the end of Saturday and one round was completed in time for the BBQ and band to start. Sunday brought clear blue skies and Langar's two Caravans rattled through the rounds. AAA completed all six rounds while the other categories stopped after five – not bad given the write-off that was Saturday.

Rookie was by far the biggest category, with 12 teams competing. Most of them were around the four- or five-point average mark. Paul 'Dodge' Rogers of *Satori Cobalt*, one of the Satori Academy teams, commented on his first competition experience: "We

were up and down – delighted with scoring a six and seven but frustrated by two 2s. Thirty five seconds goes quickly when you've been training from 15k! It's easy to see how you can get better quickly by just fixing those low-scoring jumps, and makes you want to train more."

In Rookie, *Manifest Matt* and *4Play* were well ahead of the rest of the field, with *Manifest Matt*'s awesome round two leaving them just out of reach of *4Play*. *RAFSPA Hunter* took bronze, with an honourable mention going to *Drifters* who scored the same number of points as them but lost on countback.

In A it was a tough battle between *Anti Gravity Ninja Swans* and *NYOL* for the best team name, but Irish team *NYOL* (*Noooo... Your Other Left!*) came out ahead in the skydiving stakes with a silver medal. *4mula* and *RAFSPA Venom* took gold and bronze respectively.

In AA, *EnigmAA* may not have been at the top of the table but they had the best geeks. Winners *Hyrrokin* took their gold ahead of *Raykipo* in silver and *High Altitude Heroes* in bronze, both stepping

up from A – great to see teams moving up the categories and progressing.

Talking of progress, it was great to see *Kaizen* at the top in AAA after four years together and various personnel changes. *Kaizen* means 'continuous improvement' and they have certainly done that. Chief Judge Kate Charters commented that it had been a delight to follow their achievement over the years. They took the gold ahead of *Bodyflight Aerodyne* @*Langar* in silver and *Eclipse* in bronze. In other advice from Kate, the six teams in AAA had more busts between them than the rest of the categories put together, with *Eclipse* being the only clean AAA team. A good warning to tighten up before Nationals.

With two UKSL meets now completed, and the third happening before this *Mag* reaches its readers, the focus will now be on Nationals. It is the biggest event on the UK skydiving calendar, and an amazing experience if you've never been before. All you need is FSI and a few like-minded individuals, so why not put in a team? ●

2





1

1 Bodyflight Aerodyne@ Langar in training by Chris Cook

2 Another EnigmAA geek by Chris Cook

Prizegiving photos by Gary Wainwright



RESULTS



► AAA (six rounds)

Gold: Kaizen – 95

Silver: Bodyflight Aerodyne @Langar – 80

Bronze: Eclipse – 66



► AA (five rounds)

Gold: Hyrrokkin – 76

Silver: Raykipo – 63

Bronze: High Altitude Heroes – 57



► A (five rounds)

Gold: 4mula – 55

Silver: NYOL – 41

Bronze: RAFSPA Venom – 38



► Rookie (five rounds)

Gold: Manifest Matt – 49

Silver: 4Play – 48

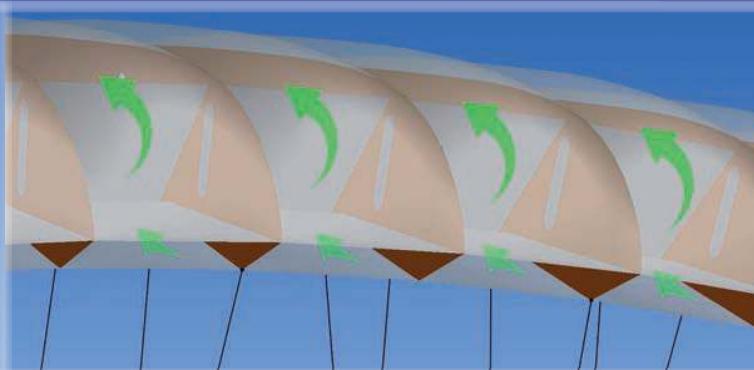
Bronze: RAFSPA Hunter – 29

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1



4



ANOTHER SAFE CP NATIONALS WITH SOME NEW DISTANCE RULES AND NEW NAMES ON THE SCOREBOARD

**WORDS PAUL MOORE, UK CANOPY PILOTING REP
PHOTOS IVETA ZITKOVA**

2



3



SIXTH UK CANOPY PILOTTING National Championships

The Rhine Army Parachute Association once again hosted the UK National Championship in Canopy Piloting June 29 to July 1 at Bad Lippspringe DZ in Germany. Again we were honoured to co-host the event with the Deutsche Fallschirmsport Verband (DFV) and this was also the third DFV National Championship in Canopy Piloting. It really makes sense to co-host an event such as this as all of the important resources such as judges and scoring equipment can be shared, as well as making for a better event for the competitors.

One of the aims of any competition is to make friends and to share experiences and this competition really did that with a

total of 38 competitors attending from 10 nations including as far afield as the USA and Japan! This ensured that the standard of Canopy Piloting was high with some of the best swoopers in the world on site.

Many of the competitors had turned up early to train on the swoop pond at RAPA, however the unseasonal bad weather did hamper training due to high winds and torrential rain. We did get a good training day the day before the competition started and this enabled competitors and judges to rehearse each event in real time. It also gave Steve Doran a bit of work to do after his cutaway! The training day ended early in order to get the pre-competition briefings completed before the start of the Germany-Spain game. The German

1 Distance bronze medallist Simon Larcombe

2 Overall bronze medallist Keiron Hayes

3 Packing for CP usually involves removable sliders, bags and pilot chutes. After the canopy is open the RDS, or Removable Deployment System, is removed and stowed in a big pocket on the trousers

4 Some CP events involve "dragging water", as Keiron Hayes demonstrates here

competitors were noticeably quiet after this and most had an early night ready for the 7am start the next day. Sadly, on this evening we also learned of the death of PD Factory Team member Jonathan Tagle in an accident in Norway. JT was a great guy and great competitor on the CP circuit and many of us raised a glass to him that night. He will be missed by the CP community and our thoughts are with his family and colleagues at PD.

JUNE 29 – COMPETITION DAY ONE

The day started with a thunderstorm and heavy rain but this did little to dampen spirits, and very soon we were into the Speed Event. Veteran swooper Brian Vacher had a cracking first round with 3.069sec closely followed by Wez Westley →

with 4.021sec. However, for the spectators the performance of Eddie Monteith at 4.842sec on his first run at a National CP Championship had everyone waiting for more. Round two saw Eddie fly a very nice 3.966sec run, although no-one could match Brian with an awesome 2.522sec which he followed in round three with 2.453sec. Brian's secret weapon is his new PD canopy. It is still on the 'experimental list' and as yet has no name – being known only as 'The White One'. It is a 79-square-foot canopy, which with the wing loading that Brian gives it certainly seemed to outperform some of the other canopies. We will have to watch PD for news of when it will be released for general sale.

Having completed two rounds of Speed we went into Zone Accuracy next. Dave Honeybone had a cutaway during the zone accuracy event and could only watch as his gear disappeared off into the ranges. It was recovered later, however Dave was able to continue with the competition as Brian loaned him his 'other rig'. Brian had a hard landing during the Zone Accuracy event and this caused him considerable pain for the rest of the competition. Subsequently, he found out he had cracked his coccyx! Keiron Hayes had a cracking first two rounds of Zone Accuracy with perfect

scores, which ensured him the gold medal despite not performing so well in round three. Having completed two rounds of Zone Accuracy in between rain showers, Meet Director Exi and Chief Judge Kate Charters called a Competitors Meeting before launching into Distance. The rule change in the Distance event had been a cause for concern in certain areas, however the USA had recently competed their CP Nationals without incident. Albert Berchtold of the PD Factory Team gave a briefing on the approach to be used – very similar to the Accuracy approach just practised – and emphasised that the best way to be safe and get a result under the new rules is to forget the old way and just fly the same as for Zone Accuracy; just drag the foot for the first gate and stay below the level of the markers. This briefing was invaluable to all of the competitors and happily there was only one safety infringement during the Distance event where a yellow card was issued to a non-UK competitor. The day ended with two rounds of Distance completed and Brian once again using 'The White One' to great effect despite his obvious pain and discomfort on landing. Some competitors were itching to get the last round completed but the right decision was made to stop at that point and within minutes it rained again!

5 The full Brit contingent

6 Overall silver medallist Wez Westley

7,9 Overall champion Brian Vacher on 'The White One'

8 The overall top three

JUNE 30 – COMPETITION DAY TWO

We had another 7am start but this time to clear skies and light winds. We had the last round of each event to complete and we started with Zone Accuracy, Distance next followed by the last round of Speed. By the time we had got to the Distance event the winds had started to pick up a little, giving the competitors a downwind approach and potentially greater distances. Several new personal bests were made under the new rules, however Brian set a new UK record in the Distance Event on 'The White One' with an awesome 116.33 metres, taking the UK record again from Wez Westley who had previously set the new record in round one.

In the Open Event we saw some cracking performances from top-class competitors such as Wuzi Wagner of Austria and Markus Scheuerman and Tobi Scherinsky of Germany. One of the most entertaining competitors was Kishi Katsuhiko of Japan who had an unusual but effective technique and was surprisingly consistent throughout the competition and came 20th overall. Brian came second overall and Wez ninth. These are both very creditable performances in such a high-performing competition.

The awards ceremony was eventually completed in the rain later in the afternoon and the dark thunderclouds overhead did nothing for good picture taking! Thanks are due to the UK judges – Kate Charters, Ann Fowler, Liz Warner, Frank Mallabone and Paul Moore, who were ably assisted by Thea Westley and Zoe Farrell, and also to the German judges – Exi Hoenle, Gundel Klement, Julia Wedel and Bjorn for the scoring system and results. We must also thank RAPA Commandant Major Seb Muntz and CCI Andy Clark for making the DZ available for the competition, and especially the lads of the RAPA Staff, Chris, Ossie, Henry and Paul, for all of their hard work setting up and helping the competition to run smoothly.

At the time of writing, Skydive UK at Dunkeswell have started to dig their new swoop pond and I am told it should be ready for use very soon. This makes it likely that the next Canopy Piloting Nationals in 2013 will be held in the UK, making it more available for aspiring UK canopy pilots to attend as well as being a focus for CP training in the UK. We watch the south west with interest! ●



Combined 6th British CP National Championship

Rank	Total Points	Nation	Name	1st Rd	2nd Rd	3rd Rd	SPEED	1st Rd	2nd Rd	3rd Rd	ACCURACY	1st Rd	2nd Rd	3rd Rd	DISTANCE			
				1st	2nd	9th	Total	Rank	3rd	4th	7th	Total	Rank	5th	6th	8th	Total	Rank
1	818.062	GBR	Brian Vacher	100.000	100.000	100.000	300.000	1	84.905	46.913	100.000	231.818	2	86.244	100.000	100.000	286.244	1
2	625.429	GBR	Wez Westley	63.733	73.606	77.586	214.925	2	0.000	82.716	44.594	127.310	4	100.000	97.189	86.005	283.194	2
3	586.960	GBR	Kieron Hayes	28.385	27.907	61.980	118.272	5	100.000	100.000	60.810	260.810	1	72.629	72.987	62.262	207.878	4
4	451.318	GBR	Eddie Monteith	46.758	47.017	45.034	138.809	3	83.018	40.740	0.000	123.758	6	64.864	66.731	57.156	188.751	6
5	411.967	GBR	Martin Reynolds	0.000	60.007	68.826	128.833	4	0.000	61.728	62.162	123.890	5	91.429	0.000	67.815	159.244	7
6	386.448	GBR	Stuart Storey	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	8	96.226	91.358	0.000	187.584	3	59.563	74.314	64.987	198.864	5
7	370.513	GBR	Simon Larcombe	0.000	51.962	0.000	51.962	6	0.000	0.000	90.540	90.540	7	83.127	72.616	72.268	228.011	3
8	122.394	GBR	Steven Doran	0.000	41.039	0.000	41.039	7	0.000	0.000	22.972	22.972	8	58.383	0.000	0.000	58.383	8
9	0.000	GBR	David Honeybone	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	8	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9

WHY NOT TRY... CP?

FIRST-TIME CP COMPETITOR DAVE HONEYBONE SHARES HIS EXPERIENCES

I decided in late 2011 that I wanted to get into CP, having done a couple of thousand jumps doing mostly 4-way FS. I was jumping a Katana 107 and on advice from Keiron Hayes I bought a Velocity and got some coaching. I went out to Florida in early 2012 and did 10 jumps with US National Champion Curt Bartholomew, then came back to Cark and set out a training plan with Keiron's assistance. I had about 80 jumps on a Velo when I headed out to RAPA.

CP has absolutely grabbed me, probably more

so than 4-way. Before I started I naively thought "how hard can it be?" – I thought all I had to do was make a turn and hit some gates. Actually there's so much more to it. With five people out on a pass there's lots of communication about what canopies people are jumping and what degree of rotation they're planning so we can arrange a safe exit order. Then the first two out will take a longer delay while the last people will hang around so they land last. As well as being in the stack removing your RDS you've also got to be aware of everyone else the whole time, not catching up the person in front of you but also not getting in the way of the person behind. Then actually making the gates is harder than it looks! There's a big step between being able to swoop the landing area at your home DZ and being able to

do it precisely enough to score the gates.

I was taken aback by the support from the other competitors. Safety was totally paramount and nobody was being stupid, and everyone was so supportive. To liken it to FS, I was at the level of a zero-point Rookie competitor, and I was getting tips off the likes of Satori. I am totally hooked now, 100 per cent. In a way it's weird being right back at the start of a new discipline, having got to a decent standard in 4-way. It feels like I've just come off AFF again. I can see how I can start putting some better scores up and what I need to work on, and can't wait to get training for next year. My advice to anyone else in a similar position would be to get coaching off any of the experienced competitors and get yourself down to the new pond at Dunkeswell! ●



WHY NOT TRY....



8-way

THE LAST DECADE HAS SEEN THE SAME FAMILIAR FACES ON TOP OF THE 8-WAY NATIONALS PODIUM EACH YEAR. 2012 COULD SHAKE THAT UP THOUGH, WITH AN 8-WAY REVIVAL SEEING MORE TEAMS TRAINING

WORDS JO HAWLEY

PHOTOS JAMES STEVENSON (IN-AIR), KATE FRENCH AND STUBERT FERGLSTEIN (GROUND)



GIRLS ON TOP

Showing once again that their finger is on the pulse of British skydiving, Hibaldstow hosted an 8-way money meet attracting a lot of interest from both seasoned 8-way jumpers as well as fresh blood keen to try a new discipline.

For those of us old enough to remember 8-way Grand Prix competitions (including the infamous one where we were only allowed to launch a 6-way), this was a welcome return offering a realistic Nationals rehearsal experience.

THE MEET

Despite the dismal British weather, Hibaldstow's speedy Dorniers ensured that four full rounds were in the bag and some teams even managed a fifth jump.

On *Brit Chicks 8*, we led from the front posting similar scores to our performances in the 2011 Nationals with some calm, smooth skydiving. Despite a nine-month lay-off over the winter and a change in team member, our recent training camp in Gap left us well-placed to take the top spot. I'm using the view from the top of the podium in my visualisations for the Nationals!

Coming a close second was *Clim8change* – a *MicroClim8* and friends line-up missing some of the National Champions' usual team members. Andy Pook pointed out that he hadn't been beaten at a UK 8-way meet since 1997!

Completing the podium was *Brit Chicks Evolution* who showed that they should not be dismissed as a low-commitment team. Their talent and homework showed through that despite only having four previous jumps under their belts; they flew some lovely exits and impressed the judges. An impressive r8 of the competitors on the podium were ladies.



The other teams – two senior and one intermediate – were all scratch teams, some with experienced 8-way and 4-way jumpers. Some pulled off exits trained teams would be very jealous of, enjoyed some successful dives and many fun dives, showing great potential despite the challenging discipline.

THE BRITISH 8-WAY SCENE

Despite well-known teams such as VNE, MicroClim8 and Sounds Grrr8, British 8-way was on a downward trend during the early noughties. Riding on the back of the UK 4-way boom, 8-way is now beginning to see a revival. On Brit Chicks, we have so many fabulous ladies wanting to try their hand at 8-way, we now have two teams. Having started off in big-way skydiving, the *Brit Chicks* project is now in its fourth year of 8-way and going stronger than ever with a trip to the World Meet planned and *Evolution* looking for a place on the National podium.

MAKING THE LEAP FROM 4-WAY TO 8-WAY

As an experienced 4-way competitor, I always loved trying my hand at 8-way in scratch teams for Nationals. This is my second year on *Brit Chicks 8* and my passion for the discipline grows every jump. The sweet power of an 8-way exit as it sails away from the plane; the complexity and precision needed to get it right; the joy of flying in a unit with seven others moving as one.

I sometimes miss the speed of 4-way, but it's nothing compared to the grace of 8-way. So if you've done a bit of 4-way and are tempted to go larger, bring an 8-way team to Nationals – it's twice the fun! ●

1 8-way exits: challenging but so rewarding! Dave West's scrambles team at an event held shortly before the 8-way Cup

2 Shell Meakins' scrambles team building up their 8-way experience before the big comp

3 Clim8change took silver

4 The two Brit Chicks teams took gold and bronze

5 Gold medal winners Brit Chicks 8

6 Shell Meakins tracking off from an 8-way

5



2012		Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Total	Avg
Rank	Senior	2, 4, P	1, D, G, 9	12, 11, H	17, N, J, O	Total	Avg
1	Brit Chicks 8	12	13	10	10	45	11.3
2	Clim8change	10	12	12	10	44	11.0
3	Brit Chicks Evolution	8	9	7	8	32	8.0
4	Reprob8s	2	5	2	4	13	3.3
5	Thundercats	2	3	1	4	10	2.5
Rank	Intermediate	14, P	B, 13	18, 21	G, F, J	Total	Avg
1	Lightw8s	2	2	3	1	8	2.0

6



Recently we sent Travis Mills a Storm for the weekend.
We forgot to tell him it wasn't crossbraced...

He didn't seem to care.

oSTORM

Redefining everything you thought you knew
about seven cell canopies.



Performance Designs, Inc. PerformanceDesigns.com ThePDBlog.com

Photo by Niklas Daniel



Did you know Skydive the Mag has a Facebook page?

This time around we asked people to share their student experiences, to motivate anyone currently working towards an A Licence. Here are some of the best...

Helen O'Boyle: I qualified in 60+ jumps. I had two reserve rides, broke my coccyx, got tangled at one point, got the fear and then got on with it. Came back after my coccyx, started from the beginning and persevered until I got my A and B within a week of each other. Keep on going! Best achievement of my life :D

Del Derrick: Jump number 10 (my first 10-second delay), back in 1991. Debrief by my instructor: "Weak exit, broke at waist, rolled on pull, sort your life out!"

Mike Colthart: I have a picture of a big k**b drawn in my logbook by my instructor after my first free fall :-)

Carol Beaumont: Level 4 – lost helmet on exit, Level 6 fell on back for about 6,000ft and kicked my instructor in the face twice (it was his birthday!) as he kept trying to flip me over and I would flip myself back, reserve ride on consol four due to 'packing problem' by the local Namibian packers – stuck pilot chute. Consol six analogue alti froze; ended up pulling at about 8,000ft. Loved every minute of it jumping over the Namibian desert. Now on 86 jumps and training for 'single A' in August :-)

Janet Wilcox: They used to call me the 'human helicopter' back in the 80s and a lot of the comments in my logbook could have put me off, but thanks to the determination of certain instructors back then. I finally made it. Thanks guys, you know who you are.

Tanya 'Bertie' Burton: Some will say I have not been the A-star student. I faced several barriers mentally (when failing levels) and financially, and suggestions to take up golf as skydiving was not for me LOL. Still, I just might as an extra hobby. But with focus and determination I have worked hard towards getting my A Licence (only a couple jumps away now). Also the support you get from fellow students/qualified jumpers makes it worthwhile. The point is don't give up it all pays off in the long run. I love the sport!

Vikki Poulton: Overanalysis was the enemy for a good few jumps. Soon as I learnt to just go with it, it seemed to get easier. Think less, smile, arch really big, bring cake and beer when you qualify :-)



Phil Hartree: I was a rubbish AFF student. I ended up doing six level repeats within a week. Following one disastrous back loop, I ended up spinning for 13 full rotations, which is why I got nicknamed Spin Doctor. I carried on and am now fortunate enough to have National medals including a few gold and I am also an AFF instructor myself, so keep at it... you never know what you might achieve!

Joanne Molloy: I started in January 2007 on a RAPS course, did four static lines before deciding I wanted to do AFF. Went to Skydive Spain in September 2007 and did my AFF, I finally qualified in the following May after a few repeat levels along the way. My first qualified jump was jump number 28 so I guess you can say I wasn't a great student skydiver or that I passed in record speed. My logbook has a lot of "arm, leg and arch signals given" for my AFF levels. After all my hard work and money spent on courses I still can't land. It's all been worth it and I'd do it all again.

Emily Doman: Consols. Got blown out of the door. Very unstable exit. Everyone had a good giggle though. Just a few jumps away from B Licence and hopefully FS1! Life savings well spent. Oh, and now some of my friends think I'm super cool!

Andy Pritchard: Been skydiving almost two years and passed on my RAPS in 20 jumps, had another 50 jumps of fun before starting my FS this year. Just completed my FS last Sunday at Black Knights on my 83rd jump. Now the fun really starts...

Andrew Pointer: Turned right like a pro but couldn't turn left! Ten mins in the Chatteris tunnel with Yo Lee sorted out some involuntary leg input. Other than that it was clear sailing. (Minus less than perfect exits that I'm still working on.)

Charlotte Fletcher: I was rrrrrubbish! Finally got my A Licence after 57 (RAPS) jumps.

Kevin Coffey: I did 16 static line jumps. Had three bad, unstable three-second delays. Thought about giving up. Then nailed the three-second delay (after a b****cking) and progressing to Cat 8. Glad I got my brain in gear! Best thing I ever did!

TOP TIPS: EXIT TIP

Solo exits are all about presentation. Group exits are all about timing and presentation. Know which direction the relative wind is coming from, and make sure your flying surface is facing it.

TOP TIPS: CANOPY TIP

If you've got clear airspace then shoot accuracy on every jump. You'll wish you'd refined this skill when you have an aircraft emergency over a built up town and your only option is a tennis court.

OPS MANUAL QUIZ

An introduction to the BPA Operations Manual forms part of the requirements for JM1. Each issue we'll ask relevant questions, and answer them in the wording of the Ops Manual.

Q1 What are the ground wind speed limits for parachutists?

Q2 Whose responsibility is it for maintaining personal documents (e.g. logbooks)?

Q3 What does the BPA advise on blood donation?

Answers on page 35

WHY NOT
TRY....

Satori Purple launch
a bow over Seville
by Sam Benmment

Joining a 4-way team?



A SEASON WITH THE SATORI ACADEMY

WORDS GEORGE GLASS

"**We were impressed** with your flying and enthusiasm and would love you to be on one of the teams we put together!" read the email from Julia Foxwell after surviving a 20-minute 4-way carnage-way in Airkix Milton Keynes in January 2011. The minimum commitment required was to attend an hour of tunnel each month and then a week-long training camp in Seville at Skydive Spain. Unfortunately, back then, I had never expected or budgeted to be in a serious 4-way team. I had to turn down the offer but decided at that point that the Academy was going to be my skydiving focus for 2011/2012.

FUN(NEL?) IN THE TUNNEL

Selections rolled on again in November 2011 and once again I got the offer, only this time I was able to accept, finding myself in one of the colour-coded teams, *Satori Tangelo* AKA Orange AKA Ginger. To ensure consistency for each team's coaching, a specific member of *Satori* was designated to be our coach, remaining so throughout the season. Ours was John McIver, always ready to dispense 4-way advice and words of wisdom with a proper Mancunian lilt. The first team training session at Bedford showed a major deficit in my flying – that I couldn't arch for Scotland. Luckily, John came up with a novel solution – 19lb of lead that kept me down close enough to my teammates but did make my exits from the door much less refined, i.e. crawling on my knees. However, throughout the session, the movements and team co-

ordination improved drastically and we simultaneously had the same realisation: "Oh (bleep), we're properly flying 4-way!". Reinforced with another hour of tunnel, we were ready to apply all of the tunnel sessions into practice in actual freefall.

DIVERSIÓN BAJO EL SOL EN SEVILLA (FUN IN THE SUN IN SEVILLE)

Our introduction to the training camp in Skydive Spain on Day One was short and direct: 4-way, all day. Be it back-to-back loads for the AA or AAA teams or alternating lifts for the others, we were going to jump and focus on nailing exits and work on the hill. From the first to the last lift, we began a cycle of kitting up, running to the plane, jumping, landing, placing the kit down for packing, debriefing and going up again. This gave us the opportunity to identify any problems in



Who needs wings? Graham Rymer filming Satori Sunshine by Sam Bemment



Satori Purple over Seville by Sam Bemment



SATORI ORANGE RISES LIKE A PHOENIX, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT

Unfortunately, towards the end of our training camp in Seville, our outside centre (OC) had an accident that led to a broken fibula, necessitating the search for a new OC. Luckily, we managed to find one through UKS just in time for another training weekend at Hibaldstow. Despite the fact that we had only two good days of jumping out of four (much like a proper British summer!), it was a great opportunity to get back in the air as a team. As I'm writing this, we have many more training weekends ahead to get ourselves ready for the Nationals.

IS IT WORTH IT? YES

The commitment needed for the team training over the past few months was considerable and, from the look of things, is going to increase over the next few weeks. It became the norm to pop in for lectures on a Monday at 9am having just returned from Bedford at 6am and to work six/seven 12-hr shifts in a row to get the time off for training camps. The budget for fun jumping has decreased to about one to two a month on average. By my count, I have missed up to four/five birthday celebrations and two/three weddings and my non-skydiving social life has more or less crumbled away. However, the wealth of knowledge and experiences I have gained, along with the strong friendships I have built over the past six months alone, makes it all worth it. While I have to return to Singapore after Nationals in August, I'm definitely going to apply all these skills in the World Challenge at iFly Singapore in December, hopefully with less lead. See you there!

The April Academy Camp



the last jump, learn how to fix it and literally do so 15 minutes later. Training in 32-35°C weather also made me appreciate why other individuals who run around in nylon like Batman and Superman choose to do so in cooler, temperate climates (ever seen them fight crime in the desert? Me neither). In short, the training was long, intense, and I loved every minute of it.

It wasn't to say that it was all hardcore 4-way training as well. While we did have an 'off', i.e. no 4-way training day, several of us made it down to the DZ to do other stuff e.g. tubes, rodeos and

taking an inflatable orca on an AFF Level 1. I and two other teammates went for Jim Harris' Safe Flight School and learnt loads on how to be a better (and safer!) canopy pilot, particularly on how to handle turbulence at 200ft without whimpering like a chihuahua at the vet.

Similarly, we followed a strict work hard, play hard attitude after training as well. Nights spent at the Phoenix Bar to cap off a great day of jumping involved great team bonding, friendships affirmed with alcohol and shots of absinthe that left your mouth tasting of copper for the rest of the night.

TOP TIPS: FREEFALL TIP

Learn to track properly. If you can do it well, it's great fun. It's also a survival skill, so don't underestimate its importance.



UK Freestyle team Airkix



To understand
risk can have consequence,
means to know the value
of risk management.

That is why I insist
on Vigil...

Alistair Hodgson

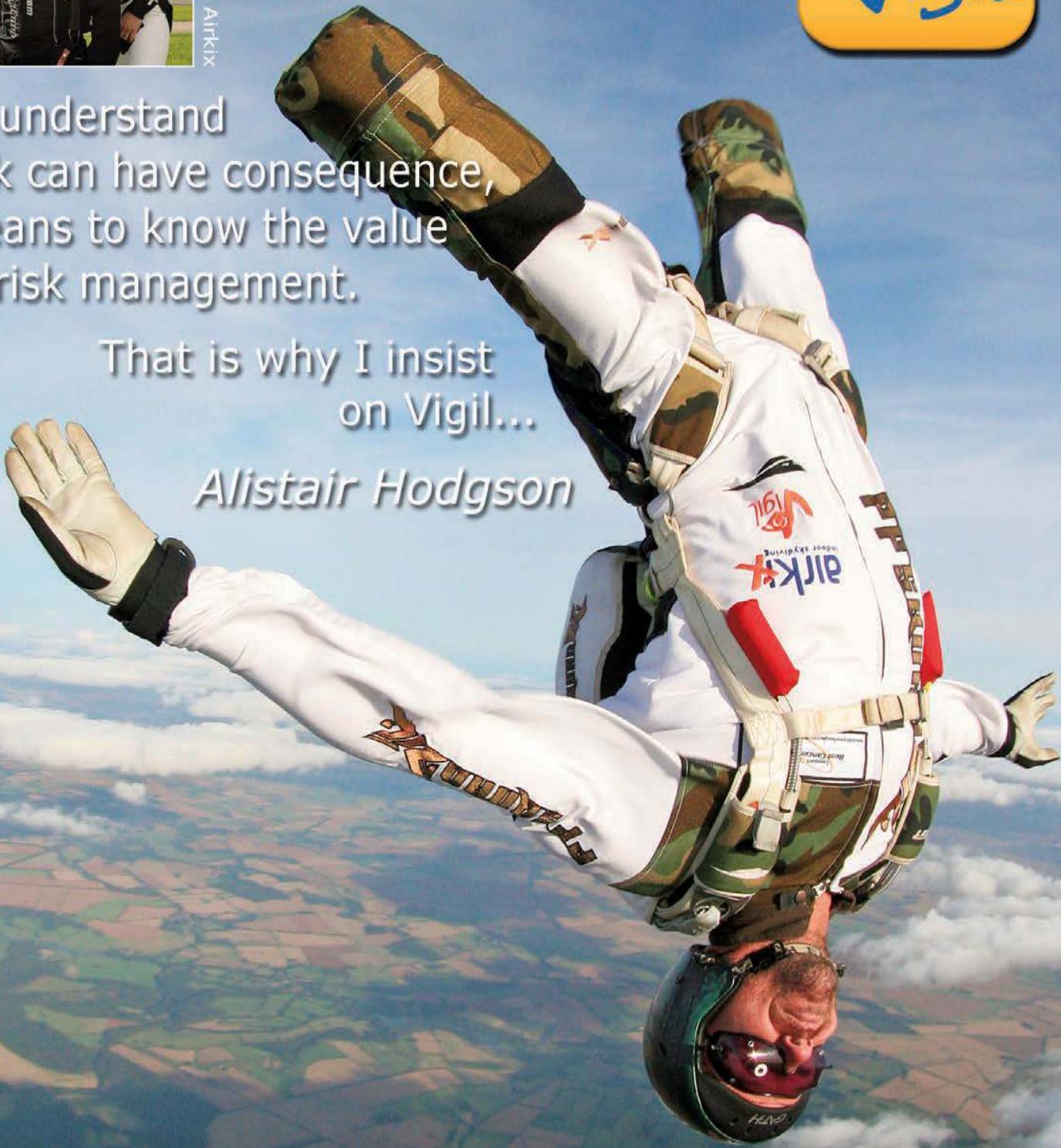


Photo: Gary Wainwright



www.vigil.aero



Billy Payn organises a 10-way group, by Chris Cook



PROGRESSION DATES

August

- Wednesday August 1**
Packing course
Location: **Black Knights**

- Monday August 13-Friday August 17**
Progression week
Location: **Peterlee**

- Monday August 20**
Packing course
Location: **Langar**

- Monday August 20-Monday August 27**
FS progression week
Location: Headcorn

- Friday August 31-Sunday September 9**
Progression week
Location: **Black Knights**

September

- Saturday September 1-Sunday September 2**
FS1+ organising
Location: Hibaldstow

- Wednesday September 5**
Packing course
Location: **Black Knights**

- Thursday September 13
B Licence day**
Location: **Hibaldstow**

- Friday September 14**
Packing day
Location: **Hibaldstow**

- Monday September 17**
Packing course
Location: **Langar**

October

- Monday October 1**
Packing course
Location: **Langar**

- Wednesday October 3**
Student Progression
(CH1, CH2, JM1)
Location: **Langar**

- Wednesday October 10**
Student Progression
(CH1, CH2, JM1)
Location: Langar

- Saturday October 20**
FS coaching weekend
Location: **Hibaldstow**

- Wednesday October 24**
Student Progression
(CH1, CH2, JM1)
Location: **Langar**

- Monday October 29**
Packing course
Location: **Langar**

- Wednesday October 31**
Student Progression
(CH1, CH2, JM1)
Location: **Langar**

Due to copy deadlines this can never be an exhaustive list, and indeed many DZs arrange their progression dates around demand or bad weather instead. Check their websites, Facebook pages or give them a call for the latest dates and info.

1.11. BPA A license paraprofessionals and above are responsible for maintaining their personal documents and ensuring that they are valid and up to date.

Students receive academic credit assigned to their initial training course.

2.1.2. FAI A License parachutists and above and Student Tandem Parachutists 20 Knots

AT 2.1.1. AFF & Category System Student Parachutists 15 Knots

Spot parachutes are advised that parachuting and giving blood are not compatible. Whilst the quantity of blood is quickly replaced after donation, the necessity oxygen-releasing qualities required at altitude are not.

A3 Sport parachutists are advised that giving blood are not compatible. Whilst

AZ 1.10. CCEs are responsible for ensuring that the personal documents of all Student Participants under

بطولة العالم
للقفز بالمظلات
دبي

FAI

World Parachuting Championships

mondial 2012

Dubai 28 Nov - 9 Dec



Under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of Dubai Sports Council, the United Arab Emirates will host the World Parachuting Championships Mondial 2012 in Dubai, where the elite of the world champions of this sport will compete to win the title. The participants will enjoy the challenge to fly over The Palm, wonder of the world and to land on Skydive Dubai and for the first time paraskiing. Do not miss the rendezvous and stay close to watch one of the world's amazing championships. More surprises will be waiting for you between 28 Nov - 9 Dec in the Mondial 2012 Dubai.



28 Nov - 9 Dec
Dubai Marina



WINNING AT THE SOS WORLD MEET

THE STORY OF A TWO-YEAR JOURNEY TO THE TOP: THIS BRIT TEAM WON THE 'SKYDIVERS OVER SIXTY' CATEGORY AT THE WORLD POPS MEET 2012

WORDS CHRIS SHAW, CHRIS@SKYSKILLS.CO.UK

Mention the names *Hayabusa* or *Airspeed* and what springs to mind? Teams of four people dedicated to being the best? Teams at the top of their game? People with dedication and focus who want to win?

Well, that attitude, those attributes, are not the preserve of the top 4-way teams. They are displayed by all truly competitive teams that want to be the best in their field. This is a story of one of those teams, *Siolfur 330*.

What makes this story more interesting is that this team has shown that 4-way and competing and pushing your learning and your abilities, being the best and winning is not just the preserve of the teams you see at the Nationals. *Siolfur 330* has shown that if you really want it badly enough, if you are prepared to commit, you can achieve, no matter where you are starting from.

So, what's in a name? The team is a Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS) 4-way FS team; *Siolfur* is the old English word for silver (the colour of the hair – or what is left of it – of the team members) and 330 is the combined age of all five of them.

FORMING THE TEAM

The team was the brainchild of Jeff Chandler in 2009. Jeff is better known for being a Style and Accuracy champion for over 25 years. In 2009 he thought there was more to skydiving than the classics and wanted to put a UK SOS 4-way FS team together to go to the World POPS meet (Parachutists Over Phorty Society) in Italy in 2010. The World POPS meet is run every two years (similar to the World Championships) and is a competitive event as well as a chance to meet friends from around the world. SOS is a branch of POPS, and that is where Jeff set his sights.

Niels Hansen (former top SOS in the UK), Freddy Deman (two-time world record holder in SOS big-way formations) and Paul French joined him in the quest and the four did their best for the UK in Italy in 2010. What they had not reckoned with was how competitive this event is, even for those who might be considered to be 'old timers'. The winning team from the USA had an average over three rounds of 13.3. The Brit team managed a 2.3 average. Most people might be discouraged by this result but Jeff, Niels and Freddy had other ideas. They knew they could do better and wanted to win. They knew this would need time, →

energy, commitment and learning and wanted to invest in going for their goal. After approaching Chris Shaw to be player/coach, the 4-way reformed, found Ian Nicholson as willing camera flyer and chose the name. *Siolfur 330* and their dream was born.

They set themselves a two-year goal to go to the World POPS meet in Teuge, Netherlands, in 2012, to compete for Britain in the SOS category and to get on the podium. This would mean they would have to effectively quadruple their average in two years.

BUILDING A TRAINING PLAN

If you have read the brilliant book by Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld – *Above All Else* – about how to become a winner, he suggests anyone thinking of winning ask themselves three straightforward questions:

1. What is it that I really want?
2. Is it possible – not probable or even likely – but is it possible, that I can achieve that goal?
3. How much do I want it? Am I prepared to do whatever it takes to achieve that goal?

If you haven't yet read Dan's book, you should: every skydiver will benefit from reading his fascinating story and understanding then using the winning tools and techniques he explains so well in the book.

Siolfur 330 asked themselves Dan's three questions and settled on a plan that stretched their budget, effort and time, comprising two training camps in Skydive Spain, a dozen hours in Bodyflight Bedford and two weekends a month to jump at Netheravon. The team was committed to wanting to win for the UK and approached the BPA to see if they were prepared to help them achieve this goal at an internationally recognised competition. They knew BPA funds were tight and thought any help would be welcomed. Sadly, the BPA were unable to help out so the team had to re-check that they were prepared to achieve their dream by being completely self-funded. They were! No question, they wanted to win! The plan was agreed and Jeff, Niels, Freddy, Chris and Ian began their quest. As part of that decision to continue, Niels had to rethink his retirement plan. He had expected to give up work in 2010. When he looked at being entirely self-funded to go to the World POPS meet in 2012, he decided he couldn't retire and achieve the dream, so he kept on working for the next two years in order to pursue and ultimately achieve his goal.

A FEW LATE HURDLES

Three months before the event, it turns out the 4 way FS rules had been changed. In Italy and previous meets the SOS 4-way FS comprised a sequence of four random formations timed over 45 seconds. For 2012 the new SOS 4-way FS rules were five random formations over 40 seconds. OK, so the World POPS meet is not an IPC-sanctioned event, but hey, changing the rules with just 12 weeks to go did not seem like a well-thought-out idea. However, dealing with that issue was minor compared to the next setback. Just a month before leaving for Teuge, Freddy Deman was run down by a DZ bus that reversed over him. Although badly bruised, nothing was broken and before seven



1 L-R: *Freddy Deman, Chris Shaw, Jeff Chandler, Niels Hansen*

2 *Building randoms in team training: Siolfur 3 30 in a K*

3 L-R: *Chris, cameraman Ian Nicholson, Freddy, Niels and Jeff*

days had passed, Freddy told the team he would do whatever it took to get to the World POPS meet.

OFF TO REPRESENT GB

The Nationals 4-way, as the event is called, ran over the first two days of the meet, with 16 international teams competing in POPS 4-way and SOS 4-way (the rules, draw and timings are the same for both categories). *Siolfur 330* scored better than every other SOS team in each of the five rounds, totalling 47 points. The next best SOS team (from Germany) scored 31. A resounding victory for *Siolfur 330* and for the UK. Not only that but in the POPS league, where participants are generally 20 years younger than in SOS, the only team to have a better score than *Siolfur 330*'s was the winning POPS team *Deland 4 US*, scoring 59.

This means that the team not only achieved their dream of winning gold in their category but did it by a substantial margin and were second overall, beating all the POPS 4-way teams bar one. This was the icing on the cake and showed that, with the right attitude and commitment, the right focus and hard work, dreams can be achieved and personal ability, knowledge and performance can be pushed and developed regardless of whatever age you are in our sport – the sport we all enjoy, love and want to be better at.

A HAUL OF MEDALS

In addition to the 4-way success, members of *Siolfur 330* entered other competitive events at the World POPS meet. Niels ended up winning Gold in the 4-way scrambles, with Jeff's team second, Chris's team third, decided by a jump-off, and Freddy's team in fourth place, all four *Siolfur* team mates enjoying leading their scrambles teams and competing against their colleagues! Niels went on to win the Individual Sport Accuracy competition. Chris also won silver in the Speed 7 event. An unusual aspect of these other team events is that the teams are chosen by the judges to give a mix of ages and skills as well as nationalities. This meant finding a common language – apart from skydiving – sometimes an impossible task. Ian, on camera, had his skills tested by volunteering to be a pool videographer, brave man!

Jeff Chandler, who has attended numerous international POPS events over the years, observed that this year the UK had the biggest haul of medals that he could remember.

SAGE ADVICE

Siolfur 330's achievements show that there is life after 40, 50 and 60 in this sport and that no matter what your age, if you are clear as to what your dream is, if it is possible to achieve that dream and if you are prepared to do whatever it takes to get there, your dream is attainable. In pursuit of that goal you will learn more, perform better and have more fun than you thought possible while going for gold. Winning is not the exclusive right for a select few. Winning is open to anyone who is prepared to take those steps, is prepared to ask themselves the hard questions and prepared to commit to becoming a winner. ●



3

Chris runs Sky Skills, a wind tunnel and skydiving coaching operation and he was delighted to join POPS and SOS in order to help pursue and achieve *Siolfur 330*'s dream.

**8 - 16
September
Beech 99**

**Two Grand Caravans
Helicopter Thursday/Friday!**

Organised flat-fly groups:

40 way with Milko - 3 aircraft!!

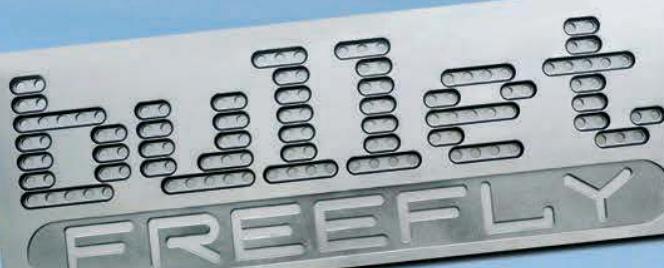
30-40 way with Dave Lewis

plus 10-18 way groups

Pre-registration is required for these groups

- register online at facebook.com/skydivelangar or strollerweb.co.uk

One-to-one coaching and smaller organised groups also available



plus organising and coaching from the Bullet Freefly guys of course!

**LIVE
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SAT 8TH
FRI 14TH
SAT 15TH**



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**Langar
Boogie
2012**

Rob Antalocy (Team Scarecrow)
from the good ol' US of A
organising and coaching throughout
and the
Bad Lieutenants organising VFS
over the 2nd weekend

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AUGUST

- 11-13th 4-way FS and VFS
British Nationals
18-20th 8-way, Artistic and Speed
British Nationals
25-27th FS and FF Bigway Weekend
with the UK Head Down
Record

SEPTEMBER

- 1-2nd Foundry FS Coaching
Weekend
7-9th Jim Harris Canopy School
8-9th HD Sequential with the BLTs
29-30th Load Organising With
Escondido

OCTOBER

- 6-7th Autumn 4-Way
FS Scrambles
13-14th First Time Formation Loads
With Simon Cathrine
20-21st Foundry FS Coaching
Weekend
27-28th Hibbleween Speed Meet
FS vs Freefly



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skydive Spain



19€ Team Training Specials
Oct 13-21, Nov 10-18

AFF 7-day Residential Courses
Sep 11-17, Oct 16-22, Nov 13-19,
Dec 11-17

TrackDayz Sep 29-30, Nov 17-18

Freefly Essentials (Small Group LO)
Nov 09-11

\$kySaver Weeks October 15-19, Nov 12-16

Funshine Boogie October 03-07

Christmas Boogie 22 Dec - 02 Jan

Don't forget the National Championships!

August 11-13 FS 4way 4way VFS

August 18-20 FS 8way, Artistic disciplines

This championship is open to competitors from all nations at **Skydive Hibaldstow**

www.skydiving.co.uk

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SkydiveSpain



UNUSUAL, UN-PHOTOSHOPPED... AND UNDERWATER. A WINDOW INTO OUR SPORT FROM A WHOLE NEW PERSPECTIVE

WORDS AND PHOTOS MIKE BURDON WWW.REDCIRCLEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

UNDERWATER SKYDIVING

The Submission Project started out being just an idea for a single photograph, to make a skydiving image that was unique and memorable. This is not an easy feat in modern skydiving with so many jumpers using cameras and their flying ability level being so high. I came up with the notion of making some aquatic skydiving images. After putting some initial emails together asking skydiving's major companies for

assistance I realised that the potential was far greater than first thought. Everyone seemed drawn by the concept of putting skydiving in a marine environment. The project would now encompass freefly, canopies, wingsuits and more.

The preparation for the project proved to be essential. It was not the kind of task that could be put together at the last minute. The canopy shot alone took about six months to organise, to test and figure out what was the best way

1 This month's cover star Tom Naef of freefly team Babylon

2 Babylon's Tom and Kuri in an underwater spock

of giving it a rigid shape. The rigs were shipped in from UPT, the Cypres unit from Airtec, suits and helmets from Tonfly, altimeters from Larsen & Brusgaard, helmet and clothing from Turbolenza, a canopy from PD, the camera housing from Nimar in Italy. There was rigging work to be done to the gear to allow better performance underwater. I had to do my PADI diving course ready for the scuba photograph shoots, having never dived before. →





7 Then there was the organisation of the actors and the backstage help, in between the hours of our normal working days, to dedicate to what became a two-year project.

The time and energy that it took to do one shoot was far more than I ever expected; the preparation of the rigs, making sure that there was enough equipment for two 'skydivers', and my equipment (camera batteries charged, spare CF cards, the water housing port cleaned and the housing functioning correctly). Then the logistics of the shoot, getting actors and backstage helpers to the location, briefing for technique and safety and then about 30-40 minutes of shooting. After the photographs had been taken it also required the cleaning of all equipment in fresh water to stop salt corrosion and discolouration of the materials, followed eventually by downloading the images. I went through five altimeters because the faces would go rusty between photoshoots and it was important to me to have everything looking realistic.

Shooting in the water was a challenge, especially on the free-dive shoots. To get into the right position at the right time. To be able to judge when and where →

3 Tom and Kuri tracking below the surface

4 David Nimmo

5 David Nimmo and Luis Adolfo in a 2-way free dive

6 Will Penny tracking

7 Will Penny turning on his Cypres

8 Josh Caird and Pete Allum

8





9 Will Penny

**10 Will Penny
in head-up**

**11 Will Penny
and Josh Caird**

**12 Stephane Fardel
wingsuiting through
the Mediterranean
Sea**

the actors were going to be, and to capture the shot. Being a competent swimmer and being able to dive on a single breath was essential. The housing also restricted the view of the preview due to reflections of light on the plastic – I had to rely on experience far more than I thought I would have to. The shoots that used scuba gear allowed more time to adjust settings to position myself in the correct spot and to relay hand signals to the actors and safety divers. It was, however, harder being cumbersome and stopping my air bubbles entering in front of the frame. Shooting was done in early morning and evening to get the best light, and the visibility needed to be immaculate.

The canopy and wingsuit shots were certainly the most dangerous. Safety was paramount. I have a lot of thanks for both Stef and Tom from *Babylon* for putting themselves in these positions. Can you imaging yourself in a wingsuit metres beneath the sea's surface without the possibility of being able to swim? Or to be strapped into a lead-laden rig on the sea bed with a canopy and its numerous lines waiting to entrap you? Both of these shoots went to plan and the outcome was more than I had hoped for.

Weather, water conditions, water temperature, the boats (dry docked in the winter), illness, work and people's holidays were all factors which contributed to the planning. Not to mention buying and renovating a house and getting engaged.

The Submission Project has achieved what it set out to do and I consider it to be a complete success. I wish to thank all who took part, and hope everyone enjoys this underwater skydiving experience. ●



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Sitfly basics

SITFLYING IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR AND WIDELY USED FREEFLY BODY POSITIONS. IT CAN BE LEARNED RELATIVELY QUICKLY AND MAKES GROUP FREEFLY JUMPS EASILY ACCESSIBLE

WORDS ALLY MILNE

Like learning any new position it can be learnt quicker by receiving good-quality coaching and wind tunnel tuition at an early stage.

Progress in any discipline is related directly to the amount of coaching you receive and the effort you put in.

A solid core body position allows a person to learn all the other manoeuvres much easier than someone with a poor body position. Learning the basic neutral position in any discipline is like laying the foundation of a house. There's no point putting the walls or roof in if the foundations aren't strong.

One of the main reasons that we may have difficulty learning the sitfly body position is that we already have muscle

memory from sitting in a chair. When we sit in a chair our spine is often curved, our head forward and our heels close together. These are all things we must try to avoid when sitflying in the air.

A good sitfly basic body position has strong legs, relaxed arms and 90° angles between the upper body and thighs and the upper and lower legs, just as in back flying. The strength required to hold the position can be practised on the ground against a wall. Practice on the ground is free, practice in the air is expensive! To help the lower legs reach a 90° angle, you need to press your heels forward. This will help keep them stronger and prevents them folding up underneath your thighs, which can cause you to slide backwards.



2

66 Learning the basic neutral position in any discipline is like laying the foundation of a house 99



Knees should be shoulder distance apart to aid stability; the narrower, the easier it will be to turn, but that will come later.

With the torso the spine must be straight and the head backward with the chin low (think 'double chin'). This will help expand the upper body and prevent it from being 'hunched up' as we would most normally sit in a chair. Trusting the position at this point is key, and you generally need to lean back into it more than you think. A common problem is leaning too far forwards. Any time the torso isn't vertical it will cause the person to drive one way or the other. In the case of leaning forwards, which is the most common, it will cause you to move backwards rapidly.

The arms can be initially kept straight

(to aid stability) and level with the ground. They should go directly out to the sides when learning the position but once stability becomes second nature they can be brought in by bending the elbows. Like an uneven flare when landing a canopy, if your arms are not level this can cause your body to roll over. Arms should not be pressed behind the body in normal flight. If you can't remain stable with the arms directly to the sides that means your upper body is leaned too far forwards. Learning a good arm position makes it easier to perform independent hand movement, which is the ability to move one or both arms without it affecting the stability of the flier. This leads to easier grip taking and alti-checking.

A good drill dive for this is to try and

1 Babylon in training by Kuri

2 Ally Milne practises a good basic sitfly position against a wall, by Chris Cook

fly with either one or both hands on your head, then once this is achieved you can try with hands on the hips.

In this article we have looked at building a solid core sitfly position, which once learned makes many of the other key skills easier to learn and increases progression. Further skills required for the FF1 are fall rate techniques, turns and forward/backward movement. You can learn or develop these skills by talking to your BPA FF coach. Once you have achieved FF1, that's really when the learning begins, not ends! Further skills such as grip taking, transitions and carving will all be made easier with this solid foundation and it's better to be briefed correctly than to guess how to do them! ●

Sitfly troubleshooter

► Sore shoulders

This is often caused by lots of sitflying and grip taking (especially in the tunnel). Ensure you are flying with your arms in an efficient position to the side of the body. Once you have mastered the core stable position you can bend your arms at the elbows, which will reduce the lever effect of having straight arms. This works on the principle that a 10kg bag of sugar is easier to hold with bent arms rather than straight ones.

► Sliding backwards

This is caused by two factors mainly. The primary cause of drive is usually the torso: ensure this is straight. A secondary cause of backsliding is having the lower legs tucked under the thighs. Push your heels forward to correct this.

► Involuntary turning

Can be caused by a number of factors. Ensure your legs are out and keep them and your knees wide. Try to ensure even air pressure on the arms, and if required point the shoulders at a fixed point. You can always try to turn the opposite way too.

► Keep falling off

This could be caused by anything! Ensure good angles between the legs and thighs and keep the legs strong. If you're still stuck it might be worth getting an FF coach to jump with you and take a look. A coach jump can often sort a problem straight away and save you many jumps trying to guess a solution. You may even get a copy of the video!

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WINGS THINGS

Sunrise Manufacturing of

Zephyrhills Florida, makers of the Wings container system, have come up with a nice little accessory for free flyers who would like their rig to sit tighter on their back when chucking themselves about the sky.

The Wings optional, adjustable and removable Belly Band can be added to an existing container and replaced in minutes without the use of tools, and a rigger rating is not necessary.

When ordered with a Wings container the Belly Band will match the colours of the rig. It comes in 1000-denier Cordura with black binding tape and black Type 17 webbing.

The Belly Band fixes either through the lateral ring on the harness or around the main lift web.

[skydivewings.com/pdf/
wings_belly-band.pdf](http://skydivewings.com/pdf/wings_belly-band.pdf)



JFX-RATED

“Since we released it to the market in 2010 there have been posts, discussion threads, questions and queries about it. Now that we've got you curious, we thought it's about time we told you a bit about it.” So starts a recent newsletter from those aerial geniuses from the Antipodes – New Zealand Aerosports.

What they're talking about is their JFX main canopy, the latest in a long line of innovative and effective canopy designs from a very talented small group of Kiwi skydivers.

The JFX is a 21-cell Elliptical ZP Cross-braced canopy. Unlike its stable mate, the JVX, which was designed for

maximum radical swooping power and Canopy Piloting competition, the JFX design is intended to be at the highest end that the company were able to achieve for the ‘everyday canopy’ market.

Although NZ Aerosports have just started to actively market the JFX, the product has been a fully developed and tested canopy for two years and has gathered a great deal of praise from respected names in the advanced canopy world. They went on to say that the JFX was “placed on the market specifically for the already experienced small high-performance Elliptical 9-cell jumper who couldn't be bothered with a cross-braced canopy until now”.

“In a nutshell,” say the company, “the JFX has great openings, it's responsive, has a rigid wing and a modern design, but it doesn't have to be a single-purpose swooping machine. That efficient cross-braced flare can become a blazing swoop, or merely used for the easiest, gentlest touchdown.”

The JFX has a larger performance range than the company's popular Crossfire2 design and is intended for the jumper who would like to make the next step up.

“It's more bulky and more expensive than a normal 9-cell,” say the company, “but it's well worth it!”

nzaerosports.com



It's all in the timing!

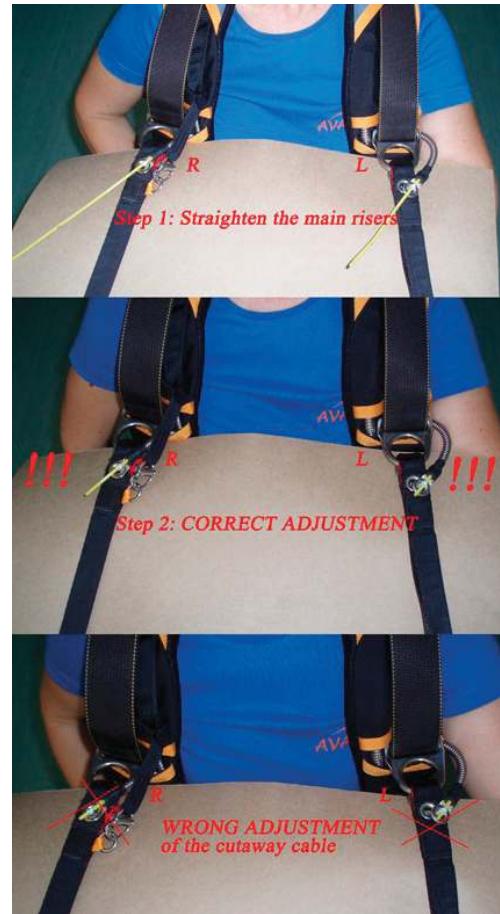
Ava Sport of Bulgaria, long-time manufacturers of paragliding harnesses and now manufacturers of the Avalon harness/container system for sport skydiving use, has issued a recent Airworthiness Directive (AD) which calls for the cutaway cable lengths to be checked on their rigs.

This AD follows a recent incident where after a main canopy malfunction and subsequent cutaway the right hand main riser with the reserve static line (RSL) attachment released fractionally before the left one. In this case due to an extra RSL strap the other riser was released and reserve deployment was normal.

However, it is always very important that the non-RSL riser should be released first before the RSL is allowed to activate the reserve deployment, possibly resulting in a main/reserve entanglement. So, for this reason Ava Sport's AD calls for an inspection of all Avalon harness/containers to ensure that the left riser releases 15mm before the right one with the RSL attachment.

The AD comes with a series of pictures showing how the check should be carried out.

avalonskydive.com





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WHAT IF...?

The scenarios in this regular 'what if?' column are deliberately vague. There could be a number of different 'correct' answers depending on your experience and other information not contained within the question. However, following feedback, it has been decided to reproduce some previously printed scenarios along with 'answers'... or at least things you might want to consider.

What if...

one of your brake lines snaps on opening?

Once you've had a think, see below for more ideas...

TOP TIPS

Safety Tip – take a moment on flightline to stand facing into wind and note the direction of the sun. That way if you end up landing off and have a choice of hazard-free landing directions, you know which one is into wind.

Kit Tip – if someone asks you for a flightline check and they have some kit you've never seen before, don't shy away. Explain that you don't know how to check it but then watch and learn while someone else does it instead. Most people are only too happy to explain the quirks of their equipment!

KIT BITS

Have you ever looked properly at your cutaway cables? They spend most of their life only partly visible in two places: firstly where they disappear from the cutaway pad into the metal anaconda housings; and then at the other end where they emerge on each side by the riser retaining loop on the three-ring release system. Where do they go in between?

The cables are not equal lengths; in fact the one that goes to the riser on the same side as the cutaway pad is much shorter than the one on the other side which has to travel all the way round the back of your neck, tucked away within the top of the container. They're actually manufactured from one long length of cable, which is bent double and the fold tucked away within the pad. It's also important that the cables don't have any nicks in them. If you need to operate the cutaway then the last thing you'll want is the cable catching on the loop and jamming.

Your rigger or Advanced Packer removes, cleans and lubricates them at the six-monthly repack – take a look next time. Dirt and dust builds up over time and leads to a black discolouration, so if you've been jumping at a particularly dusty DZ or can see the cables turning black near the pad, get a rigger to clean them even if it hasn't been six months.



Discoloured cutaway cables

- 1) What were you taught as a student? There are grey areas in skydiving and this is one of them, but centres have to make things black and white for their students. Some DZs teach students to cutaway from a broken brake line, whereas some say to do a control check. As an experienced jumper, you need to know what your personal plan is.
- 2) If your brakes were set when the line snapped, you will now be in a half-brake turn or spiral in the direction of the still-set brake, so you can make the canopy fly level by unstowing this brake. Even if both are still set, if the line has snapped on one then won't be doing anything!
- 3) If you choose to land it on rear risers, have you ever tried this before? Do you know where the rear riser stall point is? What are the winds doing? You might be more willing to land it in strong winds than light ones. Why not practise rear riser flares up high on your next jump?

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FOCUS ON...

Cornish



A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT THIS STUNNING AND RELAXED FAMILY DZ BY THE SEA

WORDS BEN WOOD

HOW DID YOUR DZ BEGIN?

The DZ began after a chance drunken conversation in a bar in Cyprus back in 2004; Dave mentioned he would leave the RAF (after 33 years' service) if he could open a small DZ in Cornwall near a beach and a golf course. Tiggs happened to know just the place, so we opened in 2005 for two weeks as a promotional period and the Cornish Parachute Club was born (beach one mile away, golf club 1½ miles, perfect!). The original set up of CPC was between Paul Yeoman, Tiggs and Dave. Skydive Cornwall (booking agent) was put together by Pickles AKA Chris Ivory and myself, but times change and Pickles, Paul and Tiggs moved on (thanks for everything guys) and now the club is a family affair amalgamating Skydive Cornwall into the scene.

WHAT FACILITIES DO YOU HAVE?

We have two old World War II buildings off the northern end of the airfield, one being

our newly refurbished club house with reception, briefing area, indoor packing area, office space, camera suite and, most importantly, beer fridge. The other is the canteen with a great view of the airfield and landing area. We also have a training and reserve packing area in the hangar.

WHAT AIRCRAFT DO YOU USE?

We operate with a Cessna 206 (which allows plenty of time to enjoy the scenic flight to altitude). We have also had guest aircraft here including Islander, Airvan and Caravan.

WHAT KIND OF DZ DO YOU TRY TO MAKE IT INTO?

We try our best to adopt the Cornish way of life up the DZ. There is no hurry and things get done "dreckly my handsome". Many visiting jumpers pass comment that it's like going back to DZs 20 years ago! We have no manifest board, no jump

1 Ben Wood
by Ross Houlston

2 Dave, Ben and Jan Wood (with Ozzy Wood in Jan's tummy)
by Ross Houlston

tickets and no timer on the counter to rush people along. The plane will start when we're all ready and jump bills are settled at the end of the weekend. We're never going to be a big, busy DZ and we don't want to be; a small family DZ with a personal touch with the tandems and club jumpers is essential to maintain a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere.

WHAT DO YOUR KEY MEMBERS OR STAFF DO?

The thing about running a small DZ is that the staff have to multitask and we're very lucky that our club members are groomed to do certain jobs from an early stage. We have a couple of guys help out with the jumping side, packing, editing and cooking bacon baps. Our chief Pilot Steve is also the reserve packer, Phil and Ross the cameramen also double up to help run the ground control on displays and our student programme at Bodmin.

Chrissy runs the office, bookings, accounts and sorts out the canteen, leaving Dave and myself to head up the jumping side. Between us we do the Tandems, AFF, displays and also some camera work. CCI Dave also maintains all the administrative tasks, leaving me to be on every lift.

HOW DO YOUR JUMPERS DEVELOP ONCE OFF STUDENT STATUS?

As well as running the DZ out of Perranporth we also use Bodmin airfield for all of our student jumping and progression training. We dedicate every Monday and Tuesday to our students and the first week of every month. No Tandems are booked in so all our time is devoted to their development. We put a lot of emphasis on canopy handling, keeping the students on a radio well into 20 jumps plus so when they have a B Licence and can jump at Perranporth they are so much more competent. We coach in FS when possible so they can jump with the other club members while myself and Dave are busy working and aim to finish a good day's jumping with a club load or two with the sun setting over the sea.

WHAT EVENTS DO YOU RUN?

We aim to offer beach jumps throughout the year at Perranporth landing outside the Watering Hole pub. Our main event each year funnily enough happens to be the end-of-season party which seems to get busier each year, with friends and jumpers travelling hundreds of miles for the live music courtesy of Tim, free beer and food. The famous fruit punch seems to be a winner with most people, although a two-glass limit is advised!

DO YOU FEEL PART OF THE BPA?

Without the support from the key figures in the BPA the dream of opening a DZ at such a stunning location would have never come to fruition. The requirement to be able to offer AFF, Static line and progression training out of Land's End and Bodmin have been fully supported and we have both Tony and John to thank for helping make this happen. We feel it important where possible to attend both STC and DZ Owner's meetings.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR DZ?

Without a doubt it has to be the stunning views, we feel confident we could compete with any DZ for the best scenery in the UK. On a clear day we can easily see the whole of Cornwall, east to west and north to south. The rugged coastline offers an amazing opportunity to see crystal-clear seas and golden beaches; the Isles of Scilly can be seen on occasions, which are 60km away. The sunset loads are nothing short of spectacular too! We have a small club base which makes the day-to-day atmosphere around the DZ fun and enjoyable, which fits well with the relaxed, slow pace of life.



3 Self portrait by Ben Wood

4 Jan Wood and Phil Symons by Ben Wood

WHAT ABOUT THE LOCAL AREA?

Obviously Cornwall is a popular holiday location for people from all over the UK so the local area has attractions to suit everyone. The DZ is situated on the cliff top above the popular resort of Perranporth boasting three miles of golden sand with plenty of pubs and restaurants. The Watering Hole on the beach is the only pub in the UK completely surrounded by sand. The hive of stag and hen parties known as Newquay is only seven miles along the coast. The other popular locations such as Land's End, Falmouth, St Ives, Padstow (Rick Stein's seafood restaurant), Eden Project, the Lizard Point, theme parks, golf courses and the 70mph go-kart track are nothing but a short drive away.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?

Now we have finally agreed a long-term lease on our buildings we aim to improve

the facilities both inside and out. Work is always ongoing and the addition of an outside packing area for the sunny days is a must. Training and progression continues with the club jumpers aiming to produce cameramen and instructors for the years to come.

And finally...

If you ask anyone who has jumped with us I'm sure the same key phrases will be highlighted. "Amazing views", "Stunning location", so if you're a 'skygod' with thousands of jumps and want to take yourself back in time to your early days jumping, or a newly qualified B licence holder, give us a call and come see us. If you're planning to come jump onto the beach please ensure all demo clearance is done at your local DZ. Keep your eyes and ears out for the amazing opportunity to jump a helicopter... onto the beach... outside the Watering Hole! Does it really get any better? ●



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jeffchandler@hotmail.com
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Contact: Niels Hansen
Flat 14, 21 Victoria Sq, Clifton,
Bristol BS8 4ES
nielshnsn@yahoo.co.uk

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T: 01772 717624
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info@bkpc.co.uk
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2 Bridlington

Skydive GB
East Leys Farm, Grindale Road,
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T: 01262 228033
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T: 01229 889516
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
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4 Chatteris

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T: 0871 6640113
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Twin Otter, Nomad

5 Cornish

Cornish Parachute Club
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T: 01872 553352
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cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Cessna 206, guest aircraft

6 Dunkeswell

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PETERLEE

skydiveacademy.org.uk

Celebrations all round

The end of the university year has finally arrived and things are much quieter here now. Our first progression week this year has gone well despite the poor weather, seeing the return of Daniel Love, two Teesside students on freefall and the qualification of James Perry.

We have had several old and new faces pop in to say hello. Welcome to Mike McGuire, who has recently taken on some tandems while at home on leave. It is also great to see Lee and Jade coming back over to teach on our static line courses. Nick Brown and Hayley may be moving back up north closer to us, and we wish Billy Steele a swift and full recovery after breaking his collar bone (not broken at Peterlee and not while parachuting either).

We now have the new touch-screen check in, online manifesting and online jump payment systems all up and running, all designed and provided by Mike Lehan of Ground Control and former Durham University student.

Many thanks to Dan Parker and Frazer Smith from the British Freefly team *Volare*, who came up for the BPA Freefly Coaching Roadshow on June 16-17. There has also been a mini head-up speed competition; our top two contenders are Craig Hicks who hit 203mph and Oli Hudson who reached 193mph.

The pilots here are very worried in light of the BPA Pilot Age Working Group's (PAWG) recommendations concerning those over 65 and 70 years of age – Peterlee has two pilots over 65 years and several in their 60s as well as both Jim Barnes and Alan

Finlay previously flying well into their 70s.

Tony Cowan continues to promote and involve himself in the Sky Watch Civil Air Patrol, with one of our airfield microlights piloted by Dave Lumsden making a useful and instrumental contribution in the search for a missing teenager for which we received a letter of thanks from Durham Constabulary.

In other news, we have special congratulations to Gregg Taylor for achieving his instructor's rating. Three new Sigma tandem canopies are keeping the tandem instructors happy. Both aircrafts were successful in their annual review certification, with the Caravan to be fitted with static line kit later this year in time for the return of the university students and freshers. We also welcome aboard three new manifesters: David Fusaro, Oli Hudson and Adam Boxall, who have been trained to help take on the demand.

This year Peterlee will celebrate its 25th year at Shotton airfield. Celebrations are to include a late summer ball at Shotton Hall, an old country house in Old Shotton.

Oliver Hudson



1 Lisa Wilkinson's 100th Jump (Tom Fletcher, Lisa Wilkinson, Will Wilkinson, Nick Brown, Owen Burbidge), by Mal Smith

2 UKSL group photo by Mal Smith

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Joe Burnie, Andrew Findlay **Cat 8 & CHI** James Perry, David Fusaro
JUMP NUMBERS 100 Oli Hudson **200** Owen Burbidge **300** Craig Hicks **400** Nigel Peacock

DUNKESWELL



Franky Lock's 100th jump by James Lee

CYPRUS

A busy bunch

It's been extremely busy here in Cyprus as the DZ continues to go from strength to strength with one-jump courses as the flavour of the month; we managed four courses with 48 students in eight days in June. Tandems are also proving very popular; it's either the handsome Tandem Instructors or the exceptional views of the Med from altitude that are on offer. Josh Phillips received a tandem descent for his 16th birthday; a budding skydiver has taken his first tentative step.

All our pilots are working tirelessly, along with our engineer, to keep the aircraft in the air and therefore keep the punters happy. The club held a concession weekend late in June and the members enjoyed a 10€ reduction in all jump prices; understandably the days were long as many jumpers tried to cash in. Michalis continues to be the stalwart of the packing shed, burning the midnight oil on several occasions; he will do anything for money.

Brian Vacher arrived for a three-day canopy course, which was highly appreciated by the 17 club members that attended, putting their skills to the test and changing a few bad habits into finely tuned techniques!

New arrival

Our ground has now been broken in constructing the new swoop pond and at 70m x 25m, it's not small. This competition-sized pond should be up and running by the time this goes to print. If the construction had started two months earlier, the pond would have been naturally filled by all the rain the UK has had in May and June, which is perhaps the biggest story of the last few months. Nevertheless, Dunkeswell was pleased to welcome the BCPA for the first time. After a successful competition squeezed in between the poor weather there was still time for some fun jumping. Franky Lock celebrated her 100th skydive with a day at the races, while others joined in the fun with hoop jumps and freefly jumps. We would love to see the BCPA return in the future.

Dunkeswell also hosted the Canopy Formation GP. With many visiting teams, a few of our regular club jumpers decided to take part including our CCI Gary Stevens who helped out on camera. After a successful competition we would like to thank everyone who took part and congratulate the winners *Whatever You Want* – Mary Barratt and Gavin McLeod with Pete Lindstrand on camera.

Miko

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT 8/CHI Julia Burgess, Heather Topf, Aida Stikane **FSI** Dave Hyde **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Franky Lock, Becky Stevens **200** Ted Foster, Steve Margison, Josh Clark **300** Chris Griffin **500** Martin Roberson, Guy Wells, Joe Mathews **1,100** Dan Guest



HIBALDSTOW

skydiving.co.uk

Great charity success

Historically, we have had the coldest and wettest June since records began; this, of course never seems to stop Hibaldstow skydiving! We started with Real Radio's organised tandem charity event for the British Parachute Regiment; we jumped 86 tandems in one day and raised over £14,000 – a great success. Next came the BPA CF weekend where many of our resident skydivers got involved, resulting in Duncan Cockburn and Jay Leighton achieving CF1. Simon Brentford gave a fantastic presentation and introduction to speed skydiving, which created a lot of interest; watch this space for more details in the future. *Escondido* flocked back into Hibaldstow and created a stir; almost managed a wingsuit formation, but the weather just wasn't on their side. Simon Cathrine's intro to big-way resulted in some budding skydivers enjoying a challenge.

National champions Julia Foxwell, John McIver and Aaron Faith brought the *Satori Academy* to the DZ, getting their teams ready for the Nationals 2012, hosted by us. Team training started for everyone and *MicroClim8* arrived on the Monday along with *Satori* to do some training, weather being on our side, *Satori* got in 20 jumps in one day using competition aircraft along with *MicroClim8* getting in 22 jumps over two days. AFF students Scott and Ben both ended up on consols after working hard to get through their levels in just two days.

And finally, a warm welcome to Claire Newbold, ex-regular skydiver, as our resident weekend physio. If you have any aches and pains, Claire is available on request.

Kerry Wesley

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Carmen Sumadiwiria **FF2** Charlotte Fletcher **CH2/JMI** Liam Goddard, George Glass, Charlie Pearce **CFI** Duncan Cockburn and Jay Leighton **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Paul Dodge Rogers, Patricia Hall **400** Michael Nunn **500** Sam Davis **600** Adam Pencharz **1,000** Guy Martin, George Impey **1,500** Hervé Manigas, Rai Ahmed

skydivecyprus.com.cy

We also achieved 13 lifts in a day with Raymond flying to the max, thank you so much. The poor little Islander didn't know what had hit her!

We undertook our first display of the season, on home soil, jumping into our own Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, much to the delight of 200-plus screaming children.

We completed our first school visit of the year to the DZ where we entertained 63 school children between the ages of three and five; they were shown canopies, equipment and the aircraft. The children were very excited to witness the spectacle of parachuting and their enthusiasm was certainly matched by the teachers and assistants, in fact one of the teachers was taken so much with it, she has booked herself in for a tandem.

Unfortunately we say goodbye to several jumpers who return to the UK due to work commitments, thank you and you will all be missed.

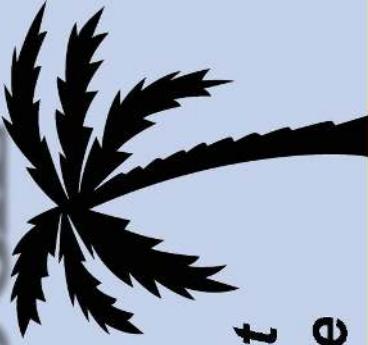
Dylan Bartle

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL George Marsden, Yvonne Whiteley, Christos Nicolaou **CAT 8/CHI** Panayiotis Sakkas **CH2/JMI** Lee Whiteley, Alex Williams, Dave Arkless **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Lee Whiteley, Alex Williams, Dave Arkless **100** Tim Pringuer **200** Mike Bates



By Dylan Bartle

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Get involved

As I write this club news it is mid-June already. There are plenty of new faces around the club on AFF courses so the instructors have been keeping busy.

At 4pm on Thursday May 24, 1978 Andy Page, our favourite rigger, tandem instructor and FS coach, did his first jump at Brunton. Thirty-four years on he is still as hooked as he was then. He is a fantastic role model for the sport; what he doesn't know about every aspect of the sport isn't really worth knowing, yet he still loves every minute of his job (well almost every!). Here at Beccles we can always rely on him to come up with a wacky idea for a fun jump at the end of the jumping day, when everyone else is scratching their heads. Well done Andy, thanks for your continued enthusiasm, and here's to the next 34 years!

The Diamond Jubilee bank holiday has come and gone, the weather was mixed but a VIP couple called in to do a cheeky jump; check out the photo, you might recognise them!

Although a date has yet to be confirmed, the club is looking into a Canopy Formation weekend later in the year, probably September or October. Quite a few people have already expressed their interest so if you fancy giving it a go let our CCI Tomo know so we can try and get a rough idea on numbers. It should be good fun and a chance to get a sticker in your book (CF1 of course) and add to those valuable canopy handling skills.

Our next event is the Beccles FS scrambles on the late August bank holiday weekend, registration must be by 9am Saturday morning please. This will include, as always, a hangar party on Sunday night with music and food available. Prizes will be handed out to the top three teams, so now is a good time to start thinking of a funky name for your team. It's always great fun, and a super way to get some 4-way jumping in, so no excuses not to be there and joining in.

Michael Wemyss

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT 8 Blaine Kinge, Josh Pickering **JUMP NUMBERS 100** James Page
200 Trevor Johnson **800** Michael Wemyss **1,000** Tibi Paven



PARAGON paragonskydiving.co.uk

It has been some considerable time since the last club news from Paragon and there have been a lot of achievements and lots of news in that time, so to bring you all up to date would take far too long. I will, however, give you the latest.

Firstly, a big hello to all of the new faces at Paragon since the last club news!

Spring/summer has brought with it some surprisingly good Scottish

weather, most of it during the week, but still we have had a quite a few good jumping weekends. With the jumps come the beer fines and I don't think many have escaped buying the beers so far this year, for those of you who haven't stumped up yet – we know who you are!

Paragon has a new DZ vehicle to take jumpers to the plane, a 26-seat bus, mainly because a lot of the regulars have bus passes but it is funny to see the look

Satori Green by Rowena Owen



CHATTERIS ukskydiving.com

Now we are well into the 'summer', the DZ has been a hive of activity. The new clubhouse is almost complete, so far it looks amazing; it's huge! There are talks of having a big cinema-style screen installed, computer stations, sun loungers, hammocks, a hot tub and a big gas barbecue. The upstairs packing area is now complete too, so now there's plenty of space to keep your kit and pack.

We have four new FS coaches – Rowena Owen, Graham Ablett, Martin Jarvis and Conor O'Brien. 'Skydive Chatteris' has an FS coaching page on Facebook, where you can see who's available when and arrange coaching.

We have also started a Chatteris based 4-way team called *ChatterChicks*; anyone is welcome to join. The idea is instead of just four people and camera, the team will consist of the regular (and willing) female jumpers at Chatteris. What this means is that it is likely that there will always at least be enough people either at the DZ to form a 4-way to practise or for competitions like ESL and the Nationals.

Congratulations Gary Small who is celebrating his 25th year in the sport, and good luck at the Nationals to our very own Jason Fox, Dave Wickes and Rowena Owen who are a part of *Satori Green*.

We are planning on having a 3-way competition and another 4-way scrambles soon, so keep an eye out for details on these.

Lorraine Dixey

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT 8/CHI Wayne Ling, Stephen Landau, David Landau, Ian Meddle, Alex Levley, Ben Wilks, Tanya Burton, Rodrigo Vaz, Sarah Whittome **CH2/JMI** Nick Griffin, Jason Broderick, Firas Erozkal, Sam Murray, Christian Botekwame **FSI** Jason Broderick, Sarah Ashworth, Robynne Haynes, Toby Cole, Stephen Landau **FFI** Gary Johnson, Paul Bateman **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Tim Freegard **200** Gregg 'Bieber' Munday **400** Adam Gooch **4 HOURS FREEFALL** Jason Fox, Adam Gooch

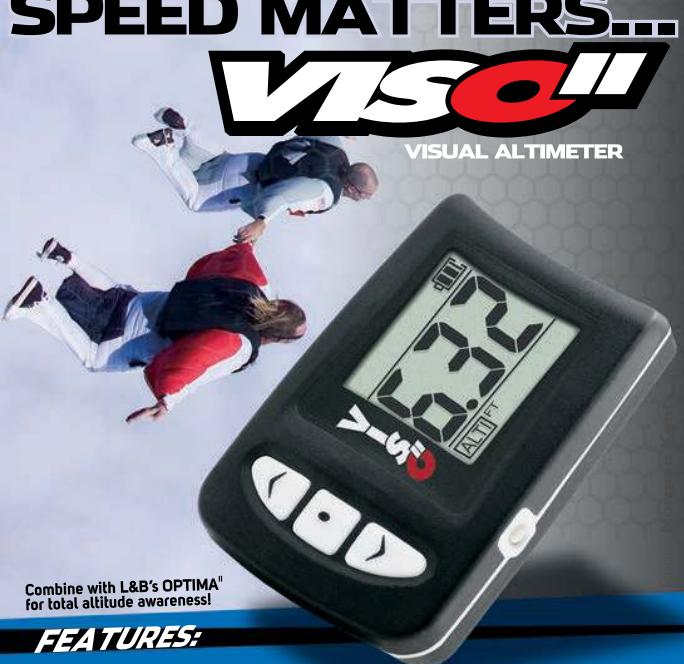
ACHIEVEMENTS JUMP NUMBERS 50 Ryan Thomson **100** Pete 'Peetay' Cuthbert
200 Lukasz Holownia-Czarny **500** Eoin 'The Vowel' Muir

Markie and Roy by Peetay



Markie McConnell

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RAPA

skydive-badlippsspringe.com

Jumping with the Bundeswehr

World-famous visitor

We enjoyed a week of Skyvan and Huey with the Bundeswehr keeping Anglo-German relations alive. In addition: a CP weekend run by the world-famous Brian Vacher arranged by Ollie; thanks.

A chilly weekender of 12-ways was organised by the world-famous Regan Tettlow and arranged by Rob; thanks. An 8-way weekend by the world famous Chris Talbot was arranged by Rob – thanks, and a CH weekend was organised by the world-famous Spence Hogg – thanks. Doc

Heinlein marked his 10,000th jump with a reserve ride over the ranges on a stand off jump on Brian's CP course. It took an extended line sweep through the forest to find his main a week later.

Joseph achieved his 500th and went in the pond after having a cream pie thrown in his face and his clothes removed by Meike and Kirsten! Joerg, likewise after his 2,000th jump.

Currently we have exercise Screaming Eagle from the Queens Dragoon Guards in residence

for two weeks, 35 engineers were with us for a week and an expedition from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for a week. Moore Campbell is back flying the Caravan; not that he really went away.

Major General James Bashall, GOC 1 (United Kingdom) Armoured Division and Brigadier Dickie Haldenby endured the experience of a one-jump course. Intent was to say goodbye to Brigadier Dickie who has been president of RAPA during a difficult evolution. It might be that we also achieved some additional top cover for RAPA; who knows?

Seb Muntz

BRIDLINGTON

skydivegb.com

High hopes for baby Oscar



Despite the weather being against us, Skydive GB has still managed to enjoy plenty of fun jumping, tandems and static line students. George McGuinness undertook his final tandem with his wife Geraldine as passenger. With over 6,000 jumps, he has finally decided that he is now good enough to jump off this one! Though this is the end of an era for George, he is still regularly seen dispatching students, coaching and generally having fun in true Glaswegian style.

Congratulations to Claire and Tipex on the birth of their beautiful boy – Oscar. He decided to make an appearance over a week late. He is a future crew dog and we have high hopes for him.

A warm welcome to our newest pilot Liam Watts – he has mastered the Airvan and is proving to be a real

asset. His lady, Rachel, went on her maiden voyage with him flying, she clearly does not entirely trust him as she felt it was the best option to be strapped to a tandem instructor as opposed to landing with him.

Captain 'bad weather' Bill has started a new sport called 'not skydiving' as this seems to be the



ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Shaun Ruffle
JUMP NUMBERS 50 Ian Davies, Si Flisher
200 Danny Coultrup **700** Mick Cosgrove

162 George and Geraldine McGuinness by Sara Orton

norm when he is due to fly. Another new sport is accuracy football, which comprises of kicking a ball on landing. Brendan Ireland is presently the reigning champion, he was the only one that got anywhere near the ball.

Static line course have been run on a weekly basis, mainly on Fridays, meaning we are open most Friday afternoons for fun jumpers to come and play. It is positive to see many coming back to continue jumping, we must be doing something right. A big thank you to Tracey and Tipex for instructing.

Overall it has been a good couple of months for Skydive GB, despite some frustrating hours waiting for the weather to break. We look forward to the next few months and hope to see more blue skies.

Sara Orton

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All change!

By Liz Fletcher

BLACK KNIGHTS ➤ bkpc.co.uk

Well it's all change at The Black Knights Parachute Centre! Jeff and Phil have decided to hand over the reigns to Tony Strugnell and Paul Yeoman after more than 40 years at the helm. All of us that are part of the Black Knights would like to wish Phil, Jeff and Alison all the

very best for the future and hope they enjoy their 'retirement'. We will miss their wit, enthusiasm and above all their many years of knowledge, plus we thank them for the amount of effort and hard work they have put in to make our drop zone the place it is today. Phil has

been in the sport for 50 years and CCI for 37 years, we believe the longest-standing CCI to date. And Jeff has done 43 years in the sport (more time for jumping now you are out of the office), both great achievements; we hope to see them both around the drop zone for many years to come. The farewell party was a great success, seeing not only present jumpers but also past jumpers too for the send off. We have a new CSI, well done to John Reid, while our jumpers have been making the most of things despite the bad weather; see the achievements box. We have CF courses running as well as team BKPC training for the CF Nationals, we wish them well. There will be a wingsuit weekend held at the DZ

and lots more to come. See the new website for events and of course everybody is welcome, as always.

Don't forget open weeks run on the first week of each month and that packing courses are run during these weeks on a Wednesday, don't miss your place! To enquire or book a place, ring up to get your name down. Bunk house facilities and campers are forever welcome but why not bring your tent along for the open weeks.

We look forward to welcoming new faces and old and bid a fond farewell to Jeff, Phil and Alison.

Megan Bee

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Adam Gray, Lorraine Seville, John Hayhurst, Nicola Merryfield **CAT 8** Jonathan Tate **AFF LEVEL 8** Chris Parrot, Faris Dahlani **FFI** Dave Bloomfield **FSI** Pete Brown **WSI** Matt Jennings, Mike Dodd **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Pete Brown **200** Dan Dixon, Lewis Gwinnett **300** Dave Simpson **400** Marvin Lloyd, Steve Searle



WILD GEESE ➤ skydivewildgeese.co.uk

Keep up the good work...

While summer hadn't really kicked in, our wee drop zone has had enough blue spells to get our knees in the breeze.

Long time Wild Geese pilot Alex brought his son Euan to Wild Geese to complete a static line course and jump out of a 'perfectly safe aircraft for no sane reason'; although the training day was not favourable for jumping, Euan took full advantage of the following day's weather and did four! Keep up the good work.

A big shout out has to go to Pete Lehane who recently completed jump number 2,000 and 24hrs freefall, nice one Pete.

And finally Wild Geese welcome Lizzy and Kate, who joined their 'Well Wild' team mates Wendy and Nadine for some 4-way training. After some spectacular progress over the weekend all I can say is watch out Rookie class at the Nationals. Your number-one fan will certainly be cheering for you!

Rod McCrory

CORNISH ➤ cornishparachuteclub.co.uk

Blown away

Since the last Mag we have been working hard around the inclement, windy weather managing to get lots done at Perranporth, along with a few nice days at Bodmin. Well done to Mark and Chris on your AFF level ones (thanks for waiting), massive congrats to Tim for achieving your 'B' Licence and thanks for

all your help at the DZ. We know it's been hard watching everyone else jumping, at least now you can join in the fun at Perranporth. Phil is another one who has been forced to watch in recent weeks, DZ control has never been so happy. Speedy recovery mate! Same applies to Tam.



The monthly beach jumps are now under way and we're looking forward to our favourite yearly displays at Constantine



1 Ben, Dave & Ozzy

for old friends Anne and Jamie Fowler (looking forward to our free beer) and the beachside golf club here at Perranporth.

we can't drink all this Doom on our own!

Please call for details of beach jumps and also the Cessna Caravan weekend August 26-28.

Ben Wood

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HEADCORN

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The skies are buzzing

Although the weather has been more like autumn, summer has arrived at Skydive Headcorn and the skies are buzzing.

Pete Sizer made a welcome return from injury to compete in the Regional accuracy meet in May and came in second with Glen Stephenson taking the gold. Del Hopkins won the intermediate again and a win is a win even if you are the only competitor! James Stancomb won the Juniors with Kaz Bain taking the silver.

On the same weekend Jane Buckle-Hopkins' twin daughters Amy and Ella kept up the family tradition by completing AFF level ones on their 16th birthday! Jane and Del appeared nervous in the aircraft, and who wouldn't be carrying the responsibility of taking your own children into freefall, but both jumps went really well and the girls landed on target and did the parents proud. It would be fair to say they have a tough act to follow... but what a great head start to have!

Lee Andrews, cameraman extraordinaire, learnt the hard way not surf the tuffet and suffered a broken ankle in the process. We wish him well and hope to see him back in the air very soon.

The free fly scene continues to build with no less than 4 FF1s passed in one day for Alex Hopkins, Peter Collins, Aimee Goodayle and Simon Beech. Beer, beer and more beer on that day. Many of the regulars have been heading to the tunnel to hone their head-down skills under the watchful eye of the legendary Adam 'Killa' Mattacola. Big things to come here... watch this space!

We had a very low-key Speed Meet this year with only two teams, so well done to *One Foot* for beating *Why Us*. It was good to see Clem Quinn jumping solo and still coming up with the goods. He was heard



1 *Ella Buckle*
by Simon Hughes

to comment about how light and comfortable his sport rig was.

2 *Amy Buckle with her friend Sophie Hazelton*
by Simon Hughes

On the flying front we saw a welcome return to Simon 'Tizz' Tizzard now his medical has been reinstated. 'Captain combover' aka Richard 'Polly' Parrott has officially lost interest in being a tandem instructor now that he has been set free to fly the Caravan, not forgetting Drew Moon who has spent many a long hour in the cockpit recently.



So as always, come down and check us out. We always look forward to seeing new and regular faces and I'm sure summer is going to produce its best weather very soon.

Simon Beech, Jane Buckle and Ruth Cooper

TILSTOCK

theparachutecentre.com



ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Adam Roberts WSI Dave Major FFI Paul Wood FSI Martyn Berry **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Nicky Marr 200 Eddie Milnes, Arthur O'Brien



at Langar UKSL and gold at Peterlee UKSL. Well done guys.

There has been lots of 4-way jumping happening with Tilly jumpers competing with their teams. Steve Lamb with *RAFSPA Hunter* and Ellie Southworth with *Tequila Says* competing in rookie and I'm competing in A with *Satori Green*. Steve's team won a bronze medal

Mike Allsopp and Phil Jenks took part in the successful 60-Way at Netheravon to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee despite the bad weather that tried to ruin the fun.

We've lost quite a few days to the horrible English weather but we have been making

1 Adam Roberts' first freefall

2 Eddie and Arthur's 200th jump

the most of the blustery skies when they show up. We've had a lot of static line students completing their first jumps and Adam Roberts completed his first freefall.

Buzz's tunnel trips have continued with quite a few newly qualified jumpers attending to help them through their FS1.

Eddie Milnes and Arthur O'Brien completed their 200th jumps on the same lift. Arthur returned to jumping last year after more than a 30-year break!

The Tilstock is expanding with Dave Major achieving his WSI. I'm pretty sure Roger Hughes will be joining the flock anytime soon as well!

We are open on Fridays, Saturdays, bank holiday Mondays and some Thursday dates TBC. We are also taking names for the next packing course, which will be run on a Sunday; if you would like a place give the DZ a call.

Ann Fleming

1

NETHERAVON

netheravon.com

A memorable day for Netheravon

Well summer's here, and teams are training hard, including Nethers-based 4-way team *Cirrus*, who formed at the start of the year with the intention of having some fun, travel to some new DZs and meet some new people by competing at Rookie in the UKSLs and Nationals this year. The team is Beverley Lindsell, Lippi Hossack-Lodge, Louise Spiers and Polly Chandler. Due to an injury Louise has not yet been able to jump with the team and they have had support from Chris Holloway and Paul Morgan who have been filling in until Louise is fit to jump. They have competed at both Peterlee and Langar so far, scoring 17 over six rounds (third place) and 25 over five rounds (sixth place) respectively. Beverley completed her 100th jump at Peterlee on the last jump of the competition and Lippi did her 200th and gained her C Licence at Netheravon last weekend. They have now set their sights on Cark and the Nationals next month and hopefully continue to improve as the season continues. There are already rumblings of further training over the winter and competing at 'A' next year....

Team *Siofur 330*, are also hard at work and by the time the *Mag* goes to print, they will have competed at the world POPS meet in Teuge in the Netherlands. All team members are over 60, which gives you a clue as to what the '330' stands for in the team name! *Siofur* are passionate about demonstrating that age and competitive skydiving are not mutually exclusive. In fact, the experience, both physical and mental, that an older skydiver brings into a competition is undoubtedly an advantage. Read about their success on page 37.

A team of Netheravon skydivers had the privilege of being part of the ground crew for Gary Connery's amazing wingsuit landing. From 6.30 in the morning it was a full-on affair building 18,000 boxes and arranging them in the specific 'Box Rig' configuration. The organisation team certainly knew how keep

us all motivated with great food and drink being served throughout the day. After the unbelievable spectacle of Gary's wingsuit landing and the ensuing celebrations came the task of collapsing all the boxes ready for recycling. It was heart-warming to see Gary Connery himself helping until the very last box was flattened. To say it was a memorable day is a gross understatement and you can rest assured that all the Netheravon ground crew team will be telling the tale for years to come.

The Nethers Ground Crew: Steve Murfin, Colin Preece, Del Derrick, Hans Donner, Alex Dand, Jackie Harper, Spike Harper, Jonny Mauder, Elana Cain, Liz Ashley, Jamie Flynn – packer for Gary Connery – we never did find out what that last pack job was like!

Congrats to all involved in the 60-Way event over the Jubilee BH weekend. Despite the best

attempts of the weather to thwart it, and an interesting choice of landing area, the team succeeded at the third time of asking on the Jubilee day itself. Many thanks to all involved – Dave Lewis, Caroline Allen and apparently Si Guest for organising, all the jumpers and all the pilots – even Tony with his dodgy '80s music!

And finally... get well soon from everyone at the DZ to Si Goodman – I can't actually put here all the achievements he's (allegedly) made since starting jumping in April 2011, but I can say he has got 250 jumps, FS1, WS1... and a broken leg! Thanks for taking the abuse so well... but can Simone have her bag of chips back please!?

Polly Chandler, Elana Cain, Kath Salisbury

1 Freestyle by Andy Godwin

2 Alex Dand by Andy Godwin

3 Hans Donner boxed in

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST

FREEFALL Head Hog CAT 8

Lucky Luciano Marisi, Dan Anderson, Tristan Bowyer, Matt Stowell, Mark Andrews, Ruth Marlow, James Colley, Scott Ranger, Joe Gross, Jules Clayton FSI Sam Eason, Steve Hill, Pete Gates, Katie Townsend, Becky Haggert JUMP NUMBERS 200 Lizzi Hossack-Lodge

2



LANGARskydivelangar.co.uk

1



2



3



Impressive turnout

While the Boogie 1 weather didn't do us any favours, we made best use of what we did get. Brian Vacher's Safe Flight course went well, and we even got in some midweek progression jumping. The second Saturday turned out great, and our jumpers got up to every sort of skydiving you can think of. Organised stuff by Dave Lewis, Billy Payn, Milko, Sarah Cannon, Becs and Vics Bradley, Sian Stokes and Tiny Howland kept flat-flyers at all levels busy. Of course, the freeflyers were out in force with their regular Scrambles competition and plenty of organised stuff – including a 19-Way tracking dive for Anna Howerski's 1,000th jump. A great flypast by a WWII Hurricane, a barbecue organised by the Bullet Freefly guys and a storming gig by Faulty New Goods topped the day off nicely. If you want to see a good selection of what went on check out Mark Wane's day video, which you can find at bulletfreefly.com

The Beech 99 came back for Go Vertical – and stayed for 10 days, so we ended up with an impromptu second Boogie culminating in the UKSL 4-Way competition. Dave Lewis's monthly 'Pinch Jump' weekend coincided with the Beech and his jumpers got a whole bunch of jumps in. See his schedule at Langar at strollerweb.co.uk

UKSL attracted 32 teams this time round, so completing five rounds for everybody plus the sixth round for the 'AAA'

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST
FREEFALL Alan Lomas **CAT**
8/CHI Dave Saint, Simon Perry,
Rebecca Mansfield, Alan Lomas
FSI Roy Wimmer, Christine
Fleming, Jim Coupe, Don Blacker
FF1 Paul Wood, Gerard Vejrych
FF2 Chris Cook **JUMP**
NUMBERS **100** Jen Saville,
Steven Chew **200** Wez Thompson
300 Steve Lawrence, Liam Byrne
400 Karen Neilsen **500** Laura
Hampton, Henry Cressey, Nick
Robinson **600** Keiron O'Rourke,
James Pritchard **700** Paul
Fletcher **800** Leah Parle, Lee
Attenborough **900** Weed
Stoodley **1,000** Wayne Glenn,
Anna Howerski **1,100** Des Meyer
1,300 Sian Stokes **1,600** Dan
Williams **1,800** Chris Cook,
Fiona Birnie **1,900** Chris Cook

1 Baz Carey by Tony Danbury

2 Dave Lewis' group
by Chris Cook

3 Martine Howland's
8-way group by Wes Guest

teams was quite an achievement considering most of it took place on the Sunday. On that one day, we did 63 lifts and very nearly 1,000 jumps! Chief Judge Kate Charters thinks it was the biggest Grand Prix event to date! Nearly a third of the teams – 10 – train at Langar, and four Langar teams were in the medals – congratulations to *BodyFlight Aerodyne @ Langar* ('AAA' Silver), *Hyrrokkin* ('AA' Gold), *Manifest Matt and the Langarettes* (Rookie Gold) and *4 Play* (Rookie Silver).

Leeds and Birmingham universities ran a progression week with us recently, and made good progress on 'B' Licence briefings, packing courses and FS training.

We're increasingly busy midweek, so it's a fair bet you can get a load of jumps in if you're not at work! The Army Parachute Display Team The Red Devils regularly come and jump with us midweek too, and that makes it even easier to get in the air!

Some of you will know that Dave Hickling has been under the weather recently, but the good news is that he's back at work and recovering well. What's next? Langar Boogie 2 of course! Details at skydivelangar.co.uk.

Tony Danbury

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Beni Mellal

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New aircraft alert

As Club News goes to press we have taken delivery of our brand-new Cessna Grand Caravan with a Blackhawk engine upgrade, which in layman's terms means it is like a rocket. We managed to do eight lifts in it on its first operating day and scored some record times to altitude. Why not come and see what the fuss is all about and be amazed by the most powerful Cessna Caravan in the UK?

In other news, our home-grown 4-way team *Raykipo* have been at it again at the UKSL 4-way meet at Langar. *Raykipo* brought home a silver medal with an outstanding performance in AA category, with none other than Grant as their full-time cameraman.

SILVER STARS

silverstars.me.uk

Skydive ambition

After an exciting and changeable few months at South Cerney, our club jumpers have racked up a fair few qualifications, achievements and trips between them. As I write, a large group are at the Funshine Boogie in Seville and another trip is planned to Skydive Algarve from October 6-12, through Skydive Jumpschool (jumpschool.co.uk).

We also welcome a new packer, fresh from the freefly heaven of New Zealand, Hatti Osbourne, who has been a real asset on the very busy weekends and has even managed to squeeze in getting her FF1 qualification in between packing, coached by one of our resident FF coaches, Alex Murphy. The very recent addition of two brand-new club rigs and canopies, a Safire 2 210 and 190, should get the A Licence jumpers moving onto their own kit quicker. I had my first reserve save, which was very kindly tested by my partner Nick Anthony, though I didn't ask him to!

The Silver Stars military display team have been busy doing demos up and down the UK, with demos in Scotland. One of the team, the previous magazine contributor Paul Wheeler, has been granted his redundancy request from the Army and we wish him all the best in his adventures.

The club has had a temporary move out of the hangar into military tents on the grass which makes for a great party/boogie atmosphere at the weekends and a whole lot cooler to pack, plus we're closer to the plane, making the lifts run that little bit quicker! We're operating a big black

SIBSON

skydivesibson.co.uk

We would like to formally welcome Matt Cunningham as one of a growing group of new pilots; before he knows it he will be strapped to the front of Chris on a tandem wondering what happened. Speaking of pilots James Graham-White should be back with us soon, he is currently finishing his command training on the Citation Jet.

This issue all of the team at UK Parachuting would like to congratulate Mick Thomas on completing 700 jumps. Mick has been jumping at Sibson since before I was born (so nearly as long as Pete Grey.) You will normally see Mick and his wife during the May bank holidays, hence his fond nickname Mick May! I'm sure he will be about for the boogie week at the end of July.

As promised more changes to the DZ are under way. We have installed a covered outdoor packing area with a rig rack for use by club jumpers. One request we repeatedly had was to buy more student equipment, which after buying so much tandem gear was a long shot, however, with increased demand Grant went for it and bought six new sets of student gear. We are also currently installing a departure viewer in the diner so you can enjoy a coffee while waiting for your jump.

Check us out on Facebook and Twitter for more up-to-date events info.

Paul Dorward

ACHIEVEMENTS FSI Asa Murphy, Blanaid O'Sullivan, Seb Mulder, Kerrie Smith, Hendrick Worschach, Holly Steward **WSI** Jonathan Mulder **CH2/JMI** Simon Fisher **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Andre Harrington, Simon Fisher **200** Giuseppe Damiano **300** Dan Pestatia **400** Sam Lee, Jono Cole, Fiona Miller **600** Peter Coville, Derek Hancock **700** Mick Thomas **1,000** Anthea Harrison **8,000** Chris McCann **12 HOURS FREEFALL** Peter Coville **90 HOURS FREEFALL** Chris McCann

Cessna Caravan, with altitude up to 15,000ft and a two-tier price structure of £15.00 to £22.50 depending upon the load.

There is a new crop of ambitious students coming through Cerney, with Becca Peters reaching 50 jumps and her FS1 and Michelle Hughes achieving her first freefall off static line. Spencer Bailey and James Harris are recently qualified A Licence holders and even our current club jumpers aren't doing so badly, with Jamie Dobson and Rachel King reaching 300 jumps and Rachel also getting her FS coach rating. Martin Rhodes has now got 600 jumps and George Clack 1,000 jumps.

We welcome into the world two potential skydiving superstars in the form of Noah Montgomery, son of Fern and Jeff, our CCI at Cerney and Cerys Floyd, a daughter born to Sharon and Paul. Congratulations from all at the club!

Hannah Davies



Alex Murphy
by Joe Newrick

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The BIG 40



Party goers by Stu Morris

Just mention the word 'summer' in the north west and we get more rainfall in a day than we ever receive in one year. Typically it was on our 40th-anniversary celebration weekend, the heavens opened the day before our summer ball leaving the airfield sodden and waterlogged.

Saturday evening set off with all the ladies donning their best summer frocks and gents in black ties along with a multitude of decorated wellington boots as we braved the wet conditions.

Guests were greeted with 40 years

of photos many from the bygone age. Years do tell, as the odd waistline had expanded and some hairstyles had receded from the early '70s to the millennium.

Fed by a giant hog roast, and somewhat watered, we served up the champers and duly invited our guests to step outside into the blustery conditions for the inaugural photo. Shot in the bag, we returned indoors to our regular band Supernova who played for the next two hours. We finally consumed all the champers by midnight and following the departure of the band the tunes kicked in and the disco continued up until most people's bedtime. The morning was a quiet affair, blown out as usual and lucky for

some as many laid in bed sleeping of the effects of the evening previous. Sore heads, croaky voices and very tired-looking skydivers emerged as the sun rose across the cloudy skies.

The party was complete, 40 years of operation 1972-2012. For those that braved it with us we thank you for those that couldn't make it you missed probably the best party we have had.

To all our club regulars, students and staff we thank you for your continued support, without all of you we wouldn't have been able to celebrate such a milestone. What does the future hold? Don't miss out on our diamond celebration.

Stu Morris

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Dez Blyth, Carmen Riva **CAT 8** Ming Chu, Ana Storrie, Eddie Corcoran **AFF QUALIFIED** Brett Millar, Jason Neath, Paul Henshaw **FFI** Steve 'Gunner' Steward, Gary 'WDI' Yello **FSI** Steph 'Google' Stephens, Steph Heron **CH2/JMI** Steph 'Google' Stephens **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Steph 'Google' Stephens **100** Kieran Bridges **400** Dan Gauld **4,000** Mike Carruthers

AFF Grad Matei Mihai, Paul Townsend, David Small, Steve Wood, Kurt Morris, Max Norfolk **FFI** Rich Madeley **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Carol Beaumont, Rachael Walker **200** Claire Davies **300** Lance Barr **500** Brem **2 HOURS FREEFALL** Felix Hay **36 HOURS FREEFALL** Bob Miller

Dirt dive scrambles



Although the weather has been typically British, windy and wet (oh how we love a summer drought!) so far this season we have been very busy with all the staff working hard to make the most of the good weather days. We are sad to announce that Lottie who has worked in the shop for the past four years left us in July but would like to congratulate her on passing her nursing degree. Lottie has now gone and left the countryside to go live with 'my Martin on the island' but hopefully she will come up and visit us regularly. Another congratulations goes out to Sarah Roberts-Grey and Martyn Grey on their new arrival, little baby Chloe.

The annual Nish Bruce memorial scrambles were held on the June 2 but someone forgot to order the weather (a typical British bank holiday)! After a lot of tea drinking and cloud watching it was decided to hold the first ever Hinton dirt dive scrambles instead. This involved each team member starting in one of the four corners of the packing hangar and being timed from there until they came together and started their dirt dive, lasting for 40 seconds. The point scoring was obviously high due to the fact that there were no funnelled exits etc. to contend with. This lead to team *Dirtbox Rebellion* adapting a game plan that ignored whether the formation would fly or not and instead just

HINTON

skydive.co.uk



reached for the grips with minimal movement on the creepers. The result was that not all grips could be easily seen and instead of gaining the winning points they went down to fourth place. The overall winners were *Hand Me My Sausage* with a grand total of 80 points over four rounds, and a dirt dive scrambles record speed star time of 12.47. Second place went to *Franelis*, third place to *Tammel i Pompen* and the team who achieved the wooden spoon (last place) was *Where's My Martin*.

A new FS coaching school has been set up by Sandi Keith, Georgie Roles and Lucy Maycock based at Hinton for those wishing to gain their FS1 and for those who wish to brush up on their FS skills. The main aim of the school is to set good standards for those who want to take part in formation skydiving. So far they have been very busy this summer and one particular weekend they did 50 coaching between the three of them. With their valuable skills being passed on to jumpers at Hinton this should mean we have a good skills base for a few more teams next year. If you're interested in getting some coaching please email coaching@beyondthehedges.co.uk

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Gary Crisp, Pete Dennett, Mick Hampton and Matt Brown by Oli Clark



August

August 1-4

A Vertical World Record

Location: **Skydive Chicago** · skydivechicago.com

August 2

BPA BPA Riggers and STC Meetings

Location: **BPA Offices** · bpa.org.uk

August 4-5

BPA BPA FS Coaching Roadshow

Location: **Langar** · skydivelangar.co.uk

August 4-5

FS Academy 99 4-way FS coaching

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

August 4-6

WS Irish Wingsuit Nationals and B/F Boogie. Load organising with Ronan Whelan and Tony Higgins

Location: **IPC** · skydive.ie

August 4-12

B/F Cark Week 2: Organised loads, student progression, BBQs/beer

Location: **Cark** · skydivenorthwest.co.uk

August 7-11

CP CP 2012 World Games Test Event

Location: **Cali, Colombia** · fai.org

August 11-12

A Freefly Scrambles League

Location: **Langar** · bulletfreefly.com

August 11-12

FS FS99 weekend

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

August 11-13

FS FS 4-way & A VFS Nationals

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 12-16

A HD record and Sequentials

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

August 13-17

BPA BPA Instructor Course – CSBI/TBI/AFFBI

Location: **Langar** · bpa.org.uk

August 14

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA offices** · bpa.org.uk

August 18-20

FS FS 8-way and A Artistics Nationals **FS FS 4-way and A VFS Nationals Reserve**

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 19-24

B/F Jersey Island Boogie

Location: **Skydive Jersey** · skydivejersey.net

August 20-24

BPA BPA Instructor Course – CSI/Tandem/AFF

Location: **Langar** · bpa.org.uk

August 21-26

B/F AN28 Boogie

Location: **Magdeburg, Germany** · strollerweb.co.uk

August 22-24

A Head Down Record warm-up

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 24-26

CP Safe Flight School with Brian Vacher

Location: **Sibson** · safeflightschool.com

August 25-27

A Head Down Record Attempts

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 25-27

FS FS 8-way & A Artistics Nationals Reserve

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

August 26-2

FS & A Artistics European Championships and World Cup

Location: **Prostejov, CZ** · fai.org

30 August-September 2

FS P3 Big-way camp

Location: **Perris, California** · p3skydiving.com

August 31-September 9

B/F Open Week

Location: **Black Knights** · bkpc.co.uk

KEY

BPA BPA EVENTS

CP CANOPY PILOTING

FS FORMATION SKYDIVING

CF CANOPY FORMATION

S&A STYLE & ACCURACY

B/F BOOGIES/FUN

A ARTISTICS

WS WINGSUIT

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September

September 1-2

CF CF Roadshow

Location: **Sibson** · skydivesibson.co.uk

September 1-2

FS Pinch Jump with Dave Lewis

Location: **Langar** · skydivelangar.co.uk

September 6-9

FS P3 100-way camp

Location: **Perris, California** · p3skydiving.com

September 7-9

FS ESL Finals

Location: **Moosele, Belgium**

September 8-9

FS FS99 weekend

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

September 8-9

A High Experience Freefly Sequentials

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

September 8-9

FS Irish 4-way Nationals

Location: **IPC** · skydive.ie

September 8-9

A Freefly Scrambles League

Location: **Langar** · bulletfreefly.com

September 8-9

FS 8-way Speed **CF** CF Nationals

and **S&A** Accuracy Nationals

Location: **Sibson** · skydivesibson.co.uk

September 8-16

B/F Langar Boogie 2

Location: **Langar** · skydivelangar.co.uk

September 11-13

CP Safe Flight School with Brian Vacher

Location: **Langar** · safeflightschool.com

September 15-17

WS Wingsuit World Record Camp

Location: **Perris, California** · wingsuitworldrecord.com

September 19-23

WS Wingsuit World Record

Location: **Perris, California** · wingsuitworldrecord.com

September 22-25

FS 16-way Trophy

Location: **Empuriabrava** · skydiveempuriabrava.com

September 27

BPA BPA Riggers and STC Meetings

Location: **BPA offices** · bpa.org.uk

September 29-30

A TrackDayz

Location: **Skydive Spain** · skydivespain.com

October

October 3-7

B/F Funshine Boogie

Location: **Skydive Spain** · skydivespain.com

October 6-7

FS FS Scrambles

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

October 9

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA Offices** · bpa.org.uk

October 13-14

FS FS99 weekend

Location: **Dunkeswell** · skydive99.com

October 13-14

FS First Time Formation Loads

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

October 19-20

FS 12/24-ways

Location: **Langar** · skydivelangar.co.uk

October 20

B/F APA 50th Anniversary Ball

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 20-28

B/F Equinox Boogie, Toogoolawah

Location: **Toogoolawah, Australia** · ramblers.com.au

October 27-28

A Euphoria Skills Camp

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 27-28

FS Hibbleween Speed Meet

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

November

November 5-9

BPA BPA Instructor Course – CSBI/TBI/AFFBI

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

November 9-11

A Freefly Essentials

Location: **Skydive Spain** · skydivespain.com

November 12-16

BPA BPA Instructor Course – CSI

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

Otter exit by Tony Danbury



November 17-18

A TrackDayz

Location: **Skydive Spain** · skydivespain.com

November 17-18

A Euphoria Skills Camp

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

November 22

BPA BPA Riggers and STC Meetings

Location: **BPA offices** · bpa.org.uk

November 28-December 9

U FAI World Parachuting

Championships and 2012 Mondial

Location: **Dubai** · fai.org

December

December 5-9

B POPS World Record Attempt

Location: **Eloy, Arizona** · bigwayjumpers.org

December 8

B/F Xmas Party

Location: **Hibaldstow** · skydiving.co.uk

December 8

B/F Xmas Party

Location: **Tilstock** · theparachutecentre.com

December 13

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA offices** · bpa.org.uk

December 13-16

U Indoor Skydiving World

Championships

Location: **Singapore** · iflysingapore.com

December 22-January 6

B/F Empuria Christmas Boogie

Location: **Empuriabrava** · skydiveempuriabrava.com

December 26-January 2

B/F Skydive Sebastian Invasion

Location: **Florida** · skydivesebastian.com

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KEY

BPA BPA EVENTS

CP CANOPY PILOTING

FS FORMATION SKYDIVING

CF CANOPY FORMATION

S&A STYLE & ACCURACY

B/F BOOGIES/FUN

A ARTISTIC

WS WINGSUIT

U UNCLASSIFIED (inc POPS)

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Mag scanning project



winning 4-way teams at the British Nationals in 1987 and 1994.

The Autumn 1967 Mag shows Bill Scarratt landing. Bill's son Jim is a long-time Netheravon jumper with over 7,000 jumps, and Jim's son Jack has also recently started jumping. Grandad Bill was National Champion in 1966 and 1967.

We reported last issue that the very first Summer 1964 edition of this magazine has now been scanned and placed online at skydivethemag.com/archive. This is just the first step in a much larger project by the Archivists... to create a complete digital record of every back issue so far. The last five years' worth are already online, but in the meantime we bring you a couple of old covers. The one from 1985 shows Steve Scott doing some sit flying, long before it was officially 'invented'! Steve is still a jumper and jump pilot, and you may have seen him recently flying the aircraft at Hinton. He was on the



This cartoon appeared in the December 1979 issue of The Sport Parachutist, the previous name for SkydiveT heM ag. In just 33 years we've gone from it being a joke to being reality – see page 14

BPA HISTORY VIDEO

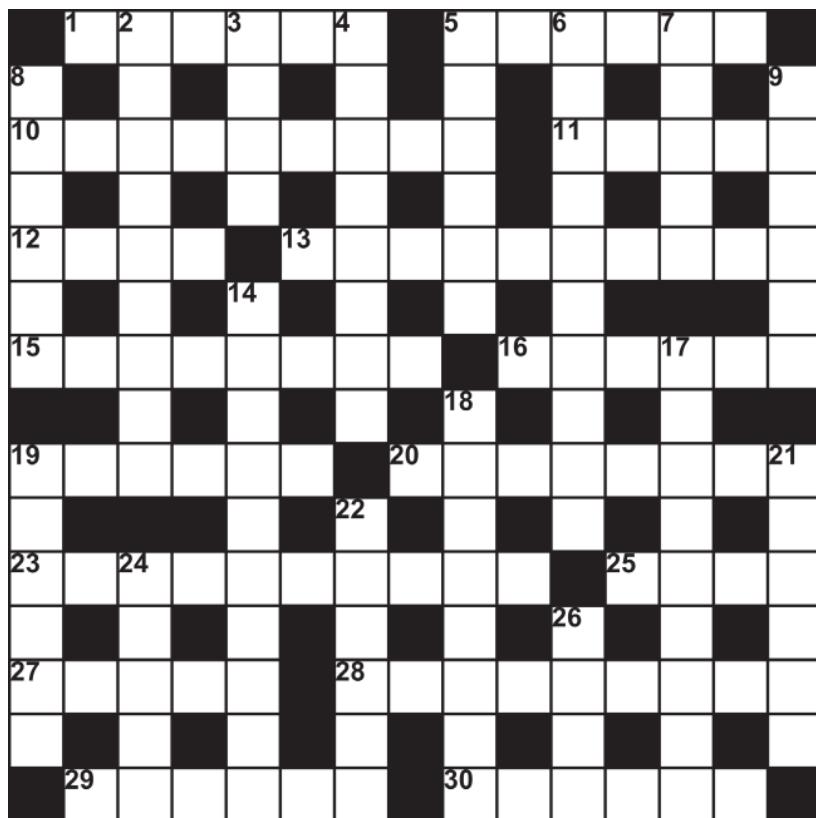
Skydiving cameraman Blair Stent has produced a 10-minute video on parachuting history as part of his final project for his degree. In it he tracks developments in the sport, from kit to competitions, and interviews key people in the BPA. These include our National Coach and Safety Officer John Hitchen as well as BPA Archivist Andrew Hilton. Well worth a look!

tinyurl.com/BPA-history-video

PUZZLE



Paul Boorer



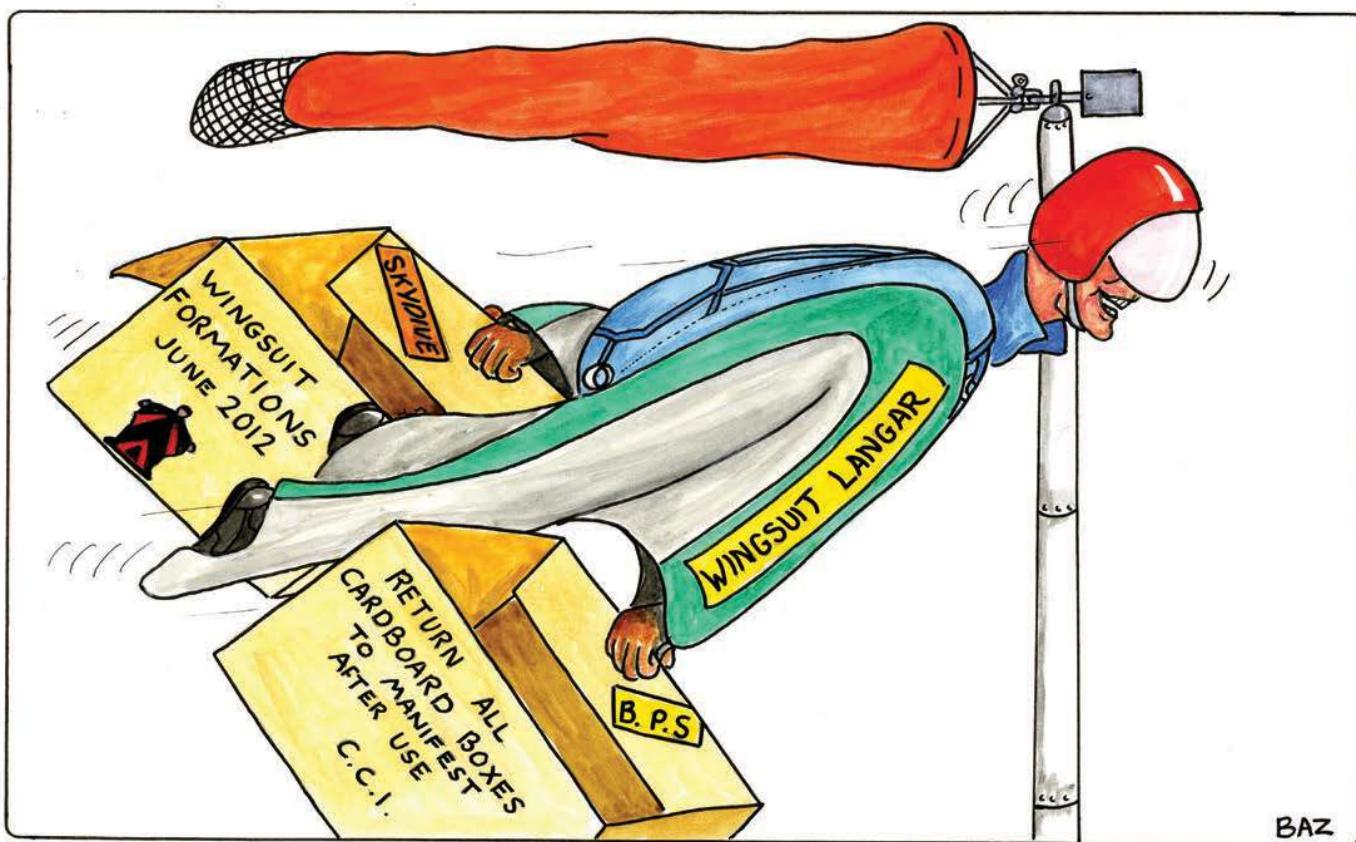
Across

1. Reserve (4-2)
5. Fold and stow again
10. Flow of atmosphere
11. Icarus canopy:
- Greek letter
12. Recedes like the tide
13. Passenger list
- organiser
15. Connected
16. Cutting edges
19. Put in a container
20. Thomas Sports
- Equipment container
- (4,4)
23. Learner skydiver's
- start position (6,4)
25. Crepe paper
- parachuting aids
- (initials)
27. D-Day beach
28. A skilful movement
29. Least high
30. Circular canopies

Down

14. Speed up
17. Practised skydiving
- (4,5)
18. Learner
19. Reserve cover (3-3)
21. Goes by
22. Head protector
24. US state – capital
- Boise
26. Bill of fare
2. Gymnastic
3. Flying toy
4. Ready
5. 'Square' type
- of canopy (3-3)
6. Aeroplane thrusters
7. Upper torso
8. Photograph maker
9. Performance Designs
- canopies

CARTOON



BAZ

Across
1. Omaha 28. Maneuvre 29. Lowest 30. Rounds
2. Accordion 3. Kite 4. Prepared 5. Ram-air 6. Propellers 7. Chest
8. Camera 9. Sabres 14. Accelerate 17. Dift divided 18. Beginner
12. Bungee 16. Blades 19. Packaged 20. Tether drop 23. Poised exit 25. WDI
13. Repack 10. Airstream 11. Ebbs 13. Manufacturer
15. Attached 16. Maneuver 17. Omega 12. Maneuver 29. Lowest 30. Rounds
17. Pop-top 21. Passes 22. Helmet 24. Idaho 26. Menu
18. Blades 19. Packaged 20. Tether drop 23. Poised exit 25. WDI
19. Pop-top 21. Passes 22. Helmet 24. Idaho 26. Menu
27. Omaha 28. Maneuvre 29. Lowest 30. Rounds

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