



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com August 2014

skyDIVE

the mag

1964-2014



INSIDE: WINGSUIT NATIONALS HIGHLIGHTS HOW TO RUN A UNIVERSITY CLUB THE FREEFALL CAMERA PROJECT PEOPLE IN THE SPORT – JAMIE FOWLER EXIT ZONE 8-WAY SPECIAL NEW BAHRAIN DROPZONE 2014 COMP RESULTS PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS, IDEAS AND EVENTS

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This August edition of the Mag has been carefully put together to reflect the time of year in the hope that the articles will be put to use straight away. If you're an FS competitor, perhaps a 4-way jumper wondering about entering the 8-way Nationals, then this issue's Exit Zone has been designed with you in mind. Our National team explain what to do in all nine slots (yes, nine, not eight – don't forget camera) so that you can bring your copy to the creeper pad. We're also trying something new – if you are reading this in the App or online, you can click on the article and watch *MicroClim8* come to life with a short instructional video on their 8-way exits and how to film them.

If you're a university student, then Freshers' is not that far away now – time to get your club organised with the help of Ali and Lucy's excellent article on p25. It brought back fond memories of my time as Bristol University Club Captain 2002-3. University clubs really are a fantastic route into the sport.

One thing I didn't manage at uni, though, was to incorporate skydiving into my degree like the Freefall Camera guys have done! Read their story so far on p20, and watch out for updates as they continue the project into the next academic year. They'll be presenting a seminar at Skydive The Expo, the new name for the BPA AGM, in January 2015.

Liz Ashley



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BPA Ltd, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271 Fax: 0116 247 7662 Website: www.bpa.org.uk

Membership Services: membership@bpa.org.uk Administration: skydive@bpa.org.uk

Patron His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Vice Presidents Jim Crocker, John Lines, Chris Allen, John Smyth MVO, John Hitchen

Council and Committee Chairs

Martin Soulsby **Chair** martin.soulsby@bpa.org.uk

Craig Poxon **Vice Chair** craig@bpa.org.uk

Ian Marshall **Competitions Chair** marshall@bpa.org.uk

Craig Poxon **Development Chair** craig@bpa.org.uk

Adrian Bond **Communications Chair** adrian@bpa.org.uk

John Hitchen **STC Chair** john@bpa.org.uk

Paul Applegate **Riggers Chair** 01869 277469 paul.applegate@tesco.net

Council Members

Paul Applegate paul.applegate@tesco.net

Karen Bain karen@bpa.org.uk

Alex Busby-Hicks alex@bpa.org.uk

Brian Cumming brianc@bpa.org.uk

Jackie Harper jackie@bpa.org.uk

Ian Roseninge ianr@bpa.org.uk

Mark Skarratts mark.skarratts@bpa.org.uk

James Swallow james@skydiving.co.uk

Brian Vacher brianv@bpa.org.uk

Thea Westley thea@bpa.org.uk

Representatives

Debbie Carter **Treasurer**

John Smyth MVO **Royal Aero Club Delegate**

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Sue Allen **Membership Services**

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David Lucas **Stock Controller**

Archivists

Andrew Hilton and Graham Spicer archive@bpa.org.uk



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Skydive the Mag is published by:
 Archant Dialogue Ltd, Prospect House,
 Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE
 Tel: +44 (0) 1603 664242
 www.archantdialogue.co.uk



- Liz Ashley** EDITOR
- Mike Waters** PRODUCTION EDITOR
- Richard Berry** SENIOR ART EDITOR
- Matt Copland** JUNIOR ART EDITOR
- Estelle Scott** ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE
- Andy Copland** ADVERTISING PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
- Stuart Meadows** ACCOUNT MANAGER
- Jonathan Arnold** EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
- Zoë Francis-Cox** PUBLISHING DIRECTOR
- Gavin Miller** MANAGING DIRECTOR

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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.



CONTACT

If you would like to get involved with Skydive The Mag, please contact:

-  Editorial enquiries
editor@skydivethemag.com
-  Club reps and general enquiries
mike.waters@archantdialogue.co.uk
-  Competition entries
compzone@skydivethemag.com

ADVERTISING

For advertising enquiries, please contact:

-  +44 (0) 1603 772608
-  estelle.scott@archantdialogue.co.uk
-  Andy Copland Advert Production
-  +44 (0) 1603 772896
-  andy.copland@archantdialogue.co.uk

CONTRIBUTE

Anyone can contribute to Skydive the Mag and we welcome news, articles and photos from everyone, regardless of experience.

Deadlines you need to know:

Issue	Copy deadline	To reader
October 2014	August 26	October 07
December 2014	October 21	December 02

BCPA big-way record

On July 5 2014, the BCPA finally broke their big-way record! Led by Stu Ferguson, they beat the previous record of a 22-way, set over Perris in 2011, with a 24-way over Skydive Hibaldstow on just the second attempt after having set a 2-point 20-way sequential record that morning! With an attendance of 102 at the event, just under a quarter of the Nationals contingent partook in this achievement. Congratulations to everybody involved.



By Craig Hicks

BPA 2-Way VFS Trial Competition

To many, 4-way VFS is the pinnacle of our sport and, as such, it is commonly thought that it takes thousands of jumps and tens (or hundreds) of tunnel hours to reach the level required to enter a national VFS competition. In reality, all it takes is to be able to fly head up, head down, transition, take docks and to find three willing teammates (and camera) with similar objectives.

The BPA have taken a very positive step by introducing the concept of a 2-way VFS competition in the UK as an entry route into 4-way VFS. A trial competition was hosted and supported by Skydive Hibaldstow on July 12-13. QFX, the UK's World Championship VFS Team, were drafted in to organise the event.

The dive pool was blocks and randoms designed to focus on a similar skill-set to the 4-way pool. The format for the competition was five rounds and each round would be drawn from the pool to give four or five points for each page.

After a briefing from QFX and some encouragement from Hibaldstow CCI Noel, the draw took place and the competition kicked off. Competitors prepared rounds one at a time, to prevent mixing up the draws. QFX were helping out not only by being the camera but also by providing useful tips on which exit to fly and how to link the blocks and randoms. Pete Dennett even stood in for a couple of rounds when one of the competitors had a very minor injury on landing!

There was a great atmosphere between the competitors and all of the flyers in the competition flew well - there were some very respectable scores coming in! Competition for second place was very close, which ended in equal scores and was decided on the highest scoring round.

Cherry on the cake, the weather supported the BPA's trial competition



VFS competitors and judges, by Stubert Ferglstein

by giving us blue skies and t-shirt temperatures for most of the day. This enabled us to complete all of the rounds in one day and the flyers even managed a group jump to finish off the day all together in the sky.

A big thanks to our BPA judges Bob and Tash for judging the event and presenting the prizes, which were donated by Skydive Hibaldstow.

All in all, the event was a great success enjoyed by everyone, and we are all looking forward to the next BPA 2-Way VFS event!

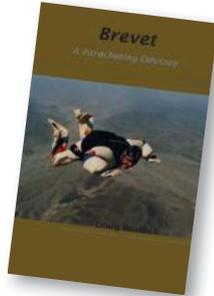
Results

- 1st *Both Barrels* (Michael and Karen Wilson Roberts) 27pts
- 2nd *Bird T*rd* (Matt Brown and Nev Cartledge) 17pts
- 3rd *Roast Beef and Petit Pois* (John Carter and Lorene Latour) 17pts

Lorene Latour

Book Review: *Brevet – A Parachuting Odyssey* by Doug Peacock D68

This is a great book by a great parachutist! I first knew Doug when, as a young PJI at Abingdon, he was a member of my team doing trials on early military freefall and a member of the first RAF Free Fall Display team – the *Falcons*. He has gone on to become one of the outstanding parachutists in British aviation history. To an eminent military career (for which he was awarded the Air Force Medal), he has added superlative achievements in sport parachuting: as a competitor, one of four jumpers winning the first British medal ever at a WPC (team bronze at the 1968 WPC); BPA National Coach; International judge; innovative instructor; writer and (always and still) a jumper. Last year, he was awarded the 50 years certificate by the BPA. Now he's written about it!



While Doug has told his own story – in typically modest style – he wraps it round the history of British parachuting over the past sixty years. Anecdote is mixed with factual background and the book is illustrated with 170 photographs – an incredible collection. While he begins his story with the presentation of his PJI brevet in 1957, he was back at the Parachute School in 2013 to become one of three people to ever receive the PJI Lifetime Achievement Award. So much has happened between those presentations. He hasn't finished yet: Doug is still jumping at Hinton, around the country and overseas. Every jumper and anyone with an interest in aviation should be reading this book. It is available for £8.50 plus P&P from DZ Sports.

Peter Hearn



Dane Kenny testing the kit

Cloud Lab on BBC2

You may have recently seen the BBC project 'Cloud Lab' that was broadcast on BBC2, under the title *Life in the Clouds* on July 16 and July 23 at 20.00.

The project was a two-part documentary series in which a group of scientists travelled from the East Coast to West Coast of the US in an airship to explore Earth's atmosphere. As part of the expedition, parachute jumps were made at Skydive DeLand in Florida and at Skydive Arizona. Long-time BPA instructor examiner Dane Kenny was the skydiving consultant on the project. Dane says:

"For the first jumps in Florida, we were trying to reveal how convection currents keep clouds afloat. The idea was that once under a big, docile canopy, the skydiver steers under the cloud, releases smoke and is measured by observing scientists and devices carried by the skydiver.

"The second jumps in Arizona were to be High Altitude, High Opening (HAHO) jumps to be done from 26,000ft, to enable the skydiver to carry petrie dishes on his clothing and equipment that will sample air and the presence of bacterial life at different altitudes.

"Now the hard part: the BBC were hoping that one of their presenters, Andy Torbet (A Licence, 26 jumps and not jumped for three years) would be able to do this and would it be possible for me to get him to the required level? If this was impossible – would I do it? The other issue was getting all the equipment together in such a tight timeframe, making sure it was capable of the task in hand, that it was safe, user-friendly and finally conducting test jumps.

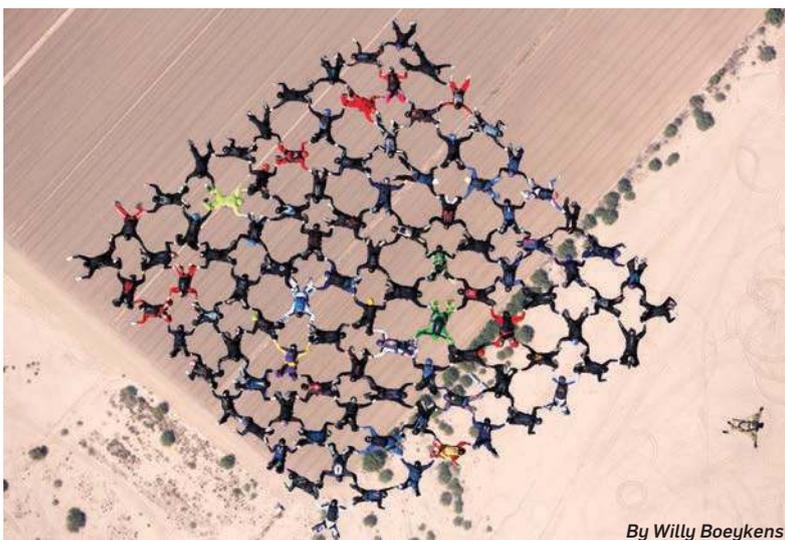
"For those of you who have worked on production projects before, you will know there is always a time constraint!

"The initial training/re-training took place at Netheravon and the Bedford wind tunnel, and we then spent a few days in Eloy and DeLand prior to the shoot starting.

"Without giving away the outcome – I'll let you all see the documentary – it was emotional!"

This was the comment made by the Executive Producer, BBC Science:

"Cloud Lab was the most ambitious TV production in which I've been involved. It was editorially complex and logistically challenging and it placed huge demands on all of you. I am very proud of what you achieved. The finished films are visually stunning, the on-camera performances are tremendous, the stories feel fresh and it has a look and tone different to anything I've seen before. I hope the audience like it, but I will continue to believe those things regardless of the viewing figures."



By Willy Boeykens

100-WAY JEWEL

This year's 20th anniversary Arizona Challenge dive was revealed to be a complex 100-way jewel: a fragile formation made entirely of donuts and bipoles. It had only been achieved once before at the very first Challenge in 1994. Back then, it completed on the fifth attempt – an impressive feat given that most people on the

dive are connected to others by at least three limbs and, for many people, all four. 2014 was a special reunion event, with twenty years of Airspeed members celebrating their achievements, so it was fitting that, not only did the jewel complete, but that it only took four attempts to get it perfect this time.



Happy Birthday to us!

To Skydive the Mag,

Congratulations on reaching your golden 50th birthday. You are, without doubt, 'simply the best' in sports publications! I am extremely proud to have been your editor for six years from 1981-87 and to have had my photographs on more than thirty of your front covers – starting with issue three in 1964. Back in the sixties and seventies, there were about three or four skydivers jumping with cameras. Now, every load seems to have at least as many. This shows in the standard of images published now on your pages. How I envy and admire your current editor Liz Ashley. What more can I say, except here's to the next fifty years and many blue skies.

David Waterman, BPA Life member

Women's World Record CHANGE!



The Women's World Record, due to be held at Skydive Perris in October, has undergone some changes in format to maximise success. The new direction is to attempt the 'double whammy' – two world records in one...

The good news is that the level of the women who have applied and been accepted to this event is amazingly high – better than any women's event ever seen and rivalling even top level 'mixed' events. The not-so-good news is that the subscription numbers are low enough to cause concern that there may be difficulty in making the planned number of 200. Rather than compromise the quality of the event, a decision has been taken to change the direction of the event.

Instead of a record in largest formation, the goal will now be a record in sequential. Not just a Women's Sequential World Record – although it will be 100% women – but also to break the 'open' FAI Sequential World Record (currently 110-way, two points)! This will not only give participants an FAI-recognised World Record in Sequential (overall) but the same jump will also give a World Record in Sequential (women). Two records! While the overall Sequential record will no doubt be broken in future events, the Women's World Record will remain on the books for quite some time.

As an extra bonus, the event cost will be lowered as this will not require so many aircraft. A smaller record (120-130 but TWO POINTS... or even THREE) will not only cost less but will be more intimate, social and fun.

UK Plane Captain Lesley Gale commented: "I LOVE the new plan! To set an open world record with an all-female group would be a massive achievement for women in the sport. I'm sure we can do this, the power of phenomenal women working together has to be seen to be believed."

By Bruno Brokken



World Air Games 2015

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, FAI (The World Air Sports Federation) has announced that the next World Air Games have been awarded to Dubai. This multi-discipline event will be organised by the Emirates Aerosports Federation and will take place over a period of 12 days in December 2015. It is the only world competition that brings together the various different air sports. The FAI World Air Games is a combination of elite competition and spectacular demonstrations, which exemplify the very best that air sports have to offer.

The fourth edition will include powered and glider aerobatics, aeromodelling, amateur-built and experimental aircraft, ballooning, gyrocopters, hang gliding, helicopters, microlights, paramotors and parachuting. The previous editions of the Games took place in Turkey (1997), Spain (2001) and Italy (2009).

Tandemonium!

Congratulations to Dunkeswell, who are the new Guinness World Record holders for the most tandems completed in a day. Jason and his team completed 281 tandems in 16 hours 10 minutes, beating the previous record of 251 held by Germany. BPA Chief Judge Kate Charters attended to record the event and praised the Dunkeswell staff for a "faultless" day. Well done!

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By Gary Wainwright

JUNE'S WINNER



By Rob Lloyd

Winner: "The groom was shocked to see the lime green theme to the wedding dress."

Gary Porter

Runner-up: "Don't break eye contact, whatever you do - this *Crocodile Dundee* thing isn't working and DZ control are headed this way!"

Lucy Mancey

CAPTION COMPETITION

– WIN A SOLO AUDIBLE ALTI!

Win a Larsen & Brusgaard SOLO audible alti, courtesy of The Jump Shop! To enter the competition, just send your caption to compzone@skydivethemag.com and include your name so we can let you know if you've won! The closing date for entries will be **September 22 2014**



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Netheravon UKSL

The second 4-way UKSL of the season was hosted at Netheravon on 14 June. The weather was kind and all 27 teams completed all six rounds in a single day! AAA was won by *Isis* with an 18.3 average, although the UKSL points

go to second-placed *Lowabusa* with 13.2 due to *Isis*' alternate Joey Jones being a competitor on another AAA team in the same season. AA was won by *Bodyflight Aero*, their 11.5 average giving them a clear margin over second place. In A, *Hard Corps* were the winners with an 11 average, although three teams tied for second

place – making it not just the largest but also the closest of the categories. Rookie was won by *RAFSPA Firefly* who scored 6.8. Full results are on the BPA website.

bpa.org.uk/competition/uksl-and-grand-prix

The Single A podium



Langar UKSL

Langar hosted the third UKSL of 2014 on 12-13 July, attracting a fantastic turnout of 25 teams. *Lowabusa* scored a 12-point average to win AAA and did it in style with a magnificent 14 launch on Round 4. *Bodyflight Aero* took the AA crown with 10.7, while *Hard Corps* pipped *SeaFury* by a point in Single A with 9.7. In Rookie, *Perpetual Chaos* were clear winners with 9.2, while Rookie also produced the 'Most Improved' team of the event – *Going Solo* was a new team of four friends who had all gained their FS1 within the last month. They may not have won any medals, but they made the most of the free BPA coaching provided by *Kaizen* and had a great time learning new skills.

Now that all three UKSL events have been held, the overall champions will be determined after the fourth event which is the British Nationals. The 4-way event will be held at Hibaldstow on 6-8 September, with a backup weekend of 13-15 September.

Going Solo, by Craig Hicks



Paul Moore stands down from Council

At the end of May, Paul Moore announced with regret that, due to the pressure of his commitments outside skydiving, he was standing down from BPA Council, including as Competitions Chair and as President of and UK Delegate to the European Parachuting Union (EPU). Martin Soulsby, BPA Chair, said: "I know I speak on behalf of all my colleagues on Council in thanking Paul for his hard work as a Council Member over the years, and his sound stewardship of the Competitions Committee. His passion for, and commitment to, our sport is absolute and I know he will remain an influential figure in skydiving and hope he may come to the Council table again in the future."

Ian Marshall is new Comps Chair

At its June meeting, Council elected Ian Marshall to succeed Paul Moore as BPA Competitions Chair. A longstanding Council and Competitions Committee member, Ian was CF discipline rep for many years before Mark Skarratts took on that role. Ian is currently Classics discipline rep.



By Paul Bayfield

Accuracy Grand Prix

Headcorn hosted the Accuracy Grand Prix on 24-25 May. Seven Senior and two Intermediate competitors took part.

SENIOR

(Total score over six rounds)

- 1: Dave Crowhurst, 20cm
- 2: Esther Reynolds, 27cm
- 3: Steve Hastings, 36cm
- 4: Pete Sizer, 54cm
- 5: Janos Leszko, 58cm
- 6: Richard Bissett, 67cm
- 7: Andy Page, 87cm

INTERMEDIATE

(Total score over five rounds)

- 1: Del Hopkins, 5.44m
- 2: Simon Beech, 19.74m

The Classics Nationals, comprising Style and Accuracy events, will take place alongside CF and Speed 8 at Sibson on 26-28 September.

CF GRAND PRIX

The first CF competition of the season was held at Black Knights on the weekend of 24-25 May. Unfortunately, the weather prevented the meet from completing, but all categories completed at least two rounds in order to determine the winners. The 2-way event saw most of the teams coming up through the ranks, with two in Rookie and three in Intermediate but only one in Senior. Winners were *Sugar Daddy*, *Cockerham Cockups* and *PH36* respectively. In the Senior 4-way Rotations event, three teams entered and all managed respectable scores. The *Mysterons* scored 11 points in three rounds, *Crewsaders* managed 17 and *CFUK* scored 16 in just two rounds. The overall winners were *CFUK*, with bad weather preventing their third round from happening and so the competition was judged by the scores at the end of Round 2. The next competition on the domestic CF circuit is another Grand Prix, this time at Netheravon on 30-31 August. The Nationals are at Sibson on 26-28 September.

Nominations for Council 2015

Nominations for election to Council 2015 will open in September with a closing date of Monday 3 November. In the event that there are more nominees than the 15 available seats, an election will be held. If there is an election, it will be independently administered by Electoral Reform Services (ERS). It is planned to run from mid-December to Monday 19 January 2015 – still a

long election period but about a week shorter than last year, which the debrief suggested to have been a little too long. The election will be online, with an opt-out available for a hard-copy ballot pack by post instead of email. The results will be announced some days before the AGM at EMCC Nottingham on Saturday 24 January, after which Council 2015 will hold its inaugural meeting to elect Officers and Committee Chairs for the year. Further information on how to stand for election, including the nomination form, will be available in September from the BPA website.



Senior podium

NEW RATINGS

CSBI

John McGeechan
Richard Dixon
Kieran Thomson
Nick Robinson
Simon Beech
Aimee Southwell
Simon Soper
Brian Gardner
Martin Cole

AFFBI

Alexis McNaughton

TBI

Shane Hardwick
Mark Baker
John Price
Stephen Smith

CSI

Steve Hughes
Tom Grady
Chris Haughin
Steven Murfin
Scott Cordery
Mark Guyatt
James Thompson
Scott Beach

AFFI

Daniel Kelly
Russell Scott
Andy Clark
Daniel Schmidt
Danny Ball

TI

Lee Crudgington
Samuel Bonsall
Christopher Griffin
Adam Threlfall
Jamie Hart
Rob Stevenson
Daniel Schmidt
James McGroarty

Instructor Examiner

Jason Webster
Gary Stevens

Advanced Packer

Martin Bradshaw (S)



BPA Skydive the Expo 2015

The EMCC Nottingham (NG7 2RJ) will host BPA Skydive the Expo 2015 on Saturday 24 January 2015. With this new name will come even more great content for you to share in and contribute to our passion for inspiring skydiving. There'll be an exhibition, prizes, seminars, and surprises, plus the BPA AGM and the BPA Annual Dinner, entertainment and disco on the same day – and night. Party on! Details in the October issue.



By Paul Bayfield



By Paul Bayfield

BPA Approved

A new 'BPA Approved' sign is being produced in aluminium and as a window sticker for optional use by BPA Affiliated Clubs and Centres. Watch out for it soon at a DZ near you! There will also be a digital factsheet and poster: 'What does the BPA do for me?'. Send any ideas to... no, of course we all know already! It's actually quite a lot (perhaps more than you might at first think) when you come to make a list. There's not enough space here but, if you want to see how many on the list you can come up with or can think of others we've not mentioned, there's a link to the digital factsheet on the 'About us' page of the BPA website.



By Paul Bayfield

STRAP US A LINE

At the suggestion of Council and Communications Committee member Brian Cumming, the Communications Committee is considering strengthening the BPA brand by the introduction of a strapline. As a Member, your input is valuable.

Straplines, corporate slogans and taglines are all basically the same thing. What a strapline does is to quickly sum up what the organisation is about. It may be incorporated into the logo or feature in advertising. It is meant to be catchy and help people to think positively about the organisation. Some good examples are:

Nike: *Just do it*
DeBeers: *Diamonds are forever*
HSBC: *The world's local bank*

These slogans are short and snappy. They do not encompass everything about the organisation, but they do give a general idea about its philosophy. Nike is all about action, while HSBC is a global bank with a friendly service.

A strapline can be the strongest indicator of the organisation's identity and it can be seen as a signal of authority and operational

quality by members and external parties. Please let us know your opinion on the following possibilities for a BPA strapline or submit your own to Brian Cumming at <http://tinyurl.com/nl76blp>

1. **Keeping us in the air**
2. **Growing and inspiring the skydiving community**
3. **Inspiring skydiving**
4. **A passion for skydiving**



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1



WINGSUIT NATIONALS 2014 (FIRST WORLD SERIES EVENT)

THE BIGGEST COMP YET – WORLD RECORD DISTANCES, INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS AND A DIY WINGSUIT!

WORDS JACKIE HARPER
PHOTOS CRAIG POXON, TREV DAVIES AND SPIKE HARPER

Take 60 wingsuiters from seven countries exiting up to four miles from the DZ and you need a CCI with nerves of steel. Add to that a homemade wingsuit, some crazy Irish fellas and a few newbie wingsuiters who aren't 100 per cent sure they can fly in a straight line yet and you know you're in for a hell of an event.

Luckily, Netheravon CCI Mark Bayada has run the competition for three years now and knows exactly how to keep it safe.

As with previous years, there were three competitions: Performance and Tracking (where individuals fly Time, Distance and Speed rounds) and Artistics (2-way dynamic flying with camera).

PERFORMANCE COMPETITION (54 COMPETITORS)

The Brits lead the field in more ways than one with this event. The UK competition has consistently been the largest in the world using the Paralogue Performance Competition rules. Klaus Rheinwald of Paralogue has developed the competition, which is due to be officially recognised by the FAI/IPC in 2015 and is set for the first World Cup in the same year. For 2014, Klaus selected four International events to be part of a World Series. The British event was the first in that series.

What better way to kick off a World Series than to break a World Record? →





1 Rookie Artistics winners Azure

2 Dave Thornton in his homemade Machete M2

3 The Machete in action!

4 Intermediate Open Performance podium

5 Advanced Open Performance podium

6 Organiser Jackie Harper with husband Spike (L)

7 Winners of the Tracking event

8 Intermediate Artistics

9 Azure nail another 2-way Artistics exit



FULL RESULTS:

Performance (Advanced)
 Gold – Tony Uragallo
 Silver – André Taylor
 Bronze – Spike Harper

Performance (Intermediate)
 Gold – Dave Ruffell
 Silver – Mike Williams
 Bronze – Colin Preece

Artistics – Intermediate
 Gold – Tutti Frutti
 Silver – Shake 'n' Bake
 Bronze – Flying Grundles

Artistics – Rookie
 Gold – Azure
 Silver – Any Name

In the Open Competition:

Performance (Advanced)
 Gold – Tony Uragallo (GB)
 Silver – Helmut Tacke (AUT)
 Bronze – André Taylor (GB)

Performance (Intermediate)
 Gold – Dave Ruffell (GB)
 Silver – Dave Duffy (IRL)
 Bronze – Stephen Duffy (IRL)

Tracking
 Gold – Florian Kaschuba (GER)
 Silver – Spike Harper (GB)
 Bronze – Brian Cumming (GB)



British wingsuit designer and manufacturer Tony Uragallo smashed the previous record for Distance twice in one day. The previous record was 4.007 km over a 1,000m competition window and had been held for two years. Flying one of his highest-performance production suits, the Jedi, Tony achieved an astonishing 4.265km record on his second distance run, securing his overall win and making his weekend trip over from Z-Hills well worthwhile!

HOMEMADE WINGSUIT

Another competitor was also jumping one of his own creations; Dave Thornton of Scat Crew Rigging competed in the Machete M2. Dave's suit took approximately 50 hours to make on a 69-year-old sewing machine at a cost of £35. The design features include a broken fishing rod, some waders, a tent, stiffeners made from ice cream tubs, a dog lead, seat belts from a Peugeot 206, a Nike shell suit, two sleeping bags and a bit of an old pram. Fellow Scat Crew competitors Max and Sam struggled to maintain their composure when Dave scored 262km/hr in the speed event,

leaving them for dust.

The Intermediate event was won by Dave Ruffell (GBR), with second and third going to the Duffy brothers from Ireland.

Picture competitors eagerly awaited scores, which were published in real-time online. The event was being monitored worldwide as the Paralog site had more than 400 visitors during the event. For more, check out: paralog.net/ppc/selecttracks.php?select=event

ARTISTICS COMPETITION (SEVEN TEAMS)

The 2-way Artistics event was a close-run competition in the Intermediate Class, with Netheravon-based Tutti Frutti winning gold with smooth flying and precise docks. Their two-timing cameraman Kev Tucker also entered with Pete Coville as *Shake 'n' Bake* (Elana Cain on camera) and took silver. The *Flying Grundles* from Langar took bronze with some great flying and look like a force to be reckoned with in the future.

The Rookie Artistics competition was won by *Team Azure* (Black Knights), who launched some nice 2-way exits. *Team*

Any Name came second with a quickly formed scratch team who surprised themselves with some good docks and were close behind *Team Azure* on the second round.

TRACKING

This event is a fun element to the competition and was won by Florian Kaschuba (GER) with Spike Harper in second place. Brian Cumming was close behind in third place, achieving some really good scores considering he was competing in his FS suit against Florian and Spike in tracking suits.

NEXT YEAR

John Smyth (UK IPC delegate) came along to the event to spend time with the judging team led by Kate, Klaus and Michael. There is a very good chance that Netheravon will be invited to host the first World Cup in 2015, so watch this space. ●

Thanks to everyone for coming along, to all the judges and to the DZ staff who helped make the event run smoothly. See you all in 2015.

10 Most of the sixty wingsuiters who attended the competition

11 Tutti Frutti with their prizes

12 Rookie Artistics winners

13 Scat Crew Rigging is not taking orders just yet... but watch this space!



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THE FREEFALL CAMERA PROJECT

1

THE FREEFALL CAMERA IS AN ENGINEERING RESEARCH PROJECT THAT AIMS TO CREATE THE WORLD'S FIRST AUTONOMOUS SKYDIVING DRONE. A PROTOTYPE HAS FLOWN SUCCESSFULLY IN THE WIND TUNNEL AND DROP TESTS ARE ON THE HORIZON! **WORDS** PETER STOREY

Over the past year, I have been part of a team of four Mechanical Engineering students and skydivers from the University of Nottingham who have been working on a project to create the world's first autonomous skydiving robot. The Freefall Camera began as the title of our undergraduate research project, with the aim of creating a device capable of filming skydivers in freefall and landing safely, to be reused again and again.

The idea was the brainchild of David Alatorre, who has been a member of our skydiving club since first starting university. The Mechanical Engineering Masters course at the University of Nottingham spans four years and includes a Group Design and Make project in third year and an

Individual Research Project in fourth year.

During our second year, one of our lecturers offered to supervise a project involving robotics – which was when David put forward his idea to involve skydiving in a third year project. He was given the go-ahead to find three other group members and suggested the idea to Tom Shorten and myself around the time we had both gained our A Licences, and to Tom Dryden, who had just begun a RAPS course at Skydive Langar.

The aim of the year-long project was to develop the robot to a stage where it could safely fly in a wind tunnel. Every third year project is given a very limited budget, so this was a realistic goal. Despite this, the robot was designed to be parachute-ready in anticipation of further development.





DESIGN DECISIONS

We knew the robot would need to move in rotation and translation in the sky to fly relative to other skydivers, change its terminal velocity and angle the camera to keep skydivers in the centre of its vision at all times. To do this, the robot was designed with four vertical aerofoils for lateral movement, extendable drag flaps for fall rate and a 'cradle' to hold the camera and vision sensor.

It was agreed early on that the robot would have a steerable parachute rather than a round, given that we wanted the robot to be reusable and capable of avoiding hazardous landing areas. Besides, where's the challenge or innovation in strapping a round to an unmanned device?

One pivotal component for the success of the project was finding a way to track a skydiver's movements. We looked into various motion and infrared sensors before discovering a vision sensor that had recently been posted on the crowd-funding website Kickstarter. This new vision sensor is capable of detecting the size, shape and colour of multiple objects, and so could be programmed to follow a skydiver's glove, a helmet or even a formation of skydivers.

Throughout the year, we looked into sourcing sponsorship and funding for the

things we couldn't do alone. We first secured sponsorship to test a finished prototype at Airkix in Manchester, with the aim of flying for the first time at the end of March.

Delivery of the vision sensor was delayed by more than two months and finally arrived just six days before tunnel testing in the middle of April. We were immensely grateful to all the staff at Mankix, who managed to accommodate us for tunnel testing throughout the day at the start of a busy half-term.

Results from the wind tunnel testing were amazing. The robot flew in a stable position, tracking the glove on David's hand to change its position in four degrees of freedom, although the vision sensor did occasionally mistake the Airkix 'X' for the glove and darted off like a hyperactive child to focus on the logo instead. Testing highlighted issues that need further work and also showed that the base of the robot needs to be made heavier to both lower the centre of mass and increase the fall rate up to the required 120mph.

The project was handed in and marked at the end of the academic year – we received some brilliant marks. Some academics suggested that a project as successful and exciting as this would →



1 The Freefall Camera with carry case and glove used for testing. *By Photo Nottingham*

2 GoPro used for filming, a vision sensor for tracking and display board for changing variables (including angle above and distance to formation, deployment altitude and zeroing the GPS location)

3 First wind tunnel tests, with David wearing the orange glove

4 Peter, David and Tom Dryden during horizontal wind tunnel testing, prior to testing at Airkix

“ The robot flew in a stable position, tracking the glove on David's hand ”



6



only come around once in a teaching lifetime. I, for one, am immensely proud to have been part of this project.

THE FUTURE

Although the Design and Make module has now been completed, we're not done yet! The team entered several competitions over the academic year to ensure we could fund future research and development of this project. We were awarded a number of grants and aid of professional advisors, allowing us to fund the production of a custom-made parachute for the robot. The team talked to John LeBlanc from Performance Designs at the BPA AGM back in January (held on the University of Nottingham campus!) who gave us some great advice on improving and optimising our design. Since then, we have been in email contact and the company has agreed to manufacture a wing of approximately 30sqft based upon their existing Optimum Reserve. We are hoping delivery will be made later this summer

and that drop tests can begin before the season is over!

Next year, all four of us will continue to work on The Freefall Camera in our individual research projects, focusing on optimising the aerodynamics, improving the programming and electronics, investigating canopy deployment and flight and understanding the feasibility of mass manufacture.

CONCERNS AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

A concern raised by a few skydivers was that the robot would be taking more people's jobs – that people would opt for a robot over a cameraflyer. From the beginning, we never envisaged the robot as a replacement for cameraflyers, whose skill and artistic flair isn't going to be matched by a vision sensor and a small microprocessor any time in the near future. We rather imagined that The Freefall Camera could be used when a cameraflyer is not available, for debriefing training jumps for FS teams or as an addition to a cameraflyer's existing set-up

to provide an alternative angle to film from.

Further to that, we hope our research can be applied in other areas. This project title has been a perfect flagship with its relatable and exciting goal, but more applications could lie in areas we might not have considered yet. Followers of the project have proposed some interesting ones (and I'm sure Mag readers will too...).

SUMMARY

We have been incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to combine our hobby and passion with our degree. The Youtube Channel 'nottinghamscience' are creating a documentary series following our project – check out some of their videos for more detail. The Freefall Camera has provided the four of us with engaging projects two years running that instil a desire to learn, work and jump even more.

To follow the project, search for 'The Freefall Camera' on Facebook. We really appreciate all the positive feedback so far and please do contact us with any more ideas, questions or support. ●

5 Tunnel Instructor Luca was on hand to ensure the tests were safe

6 David with the The Freefall Camera

7 All set up for horizontal wind tunnel testing

8 Display board, riser attachments and container for the parachute which is yet to arrive

9 First human flight with the robot

10 Peter, David, Tom Dryden and Tom Shorten with the robot inside the wind tunnel

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RUNNING A UNI CLUB

1



UNIVERSITY FRESHERS' FAYRES ARE NEARLY HERE – GET YOUR CLUB GEARED UP FOR A STUDENT-TASTIC YEAR!

University skydiving is a major entry route into the sport and university clubs are putting hundreds of people through first jump courses every year. More and more people are graduating with a degree and a skydiving licence – breeding younger, smarter, hotter skydivers. If you want to produce more sexy young skydivers, read on...

SEEMS LIKE WORK! WHY WOULD I WANT TO START A CLUB?

From the outset, it needs to be understood that a lot of time and effort is required to run a university sports club – especially one with such logistical difficulties as requiring aircraft and landing areas. However, running a skydiving club can be hugely rewarding; it enables you to see huge progression in your students, gives you great access to dropzone facilities

and allows you to progress in your own jumping. University clubs are brilliant for newly qualified skydivers; many people find themselves at a loss after qualifying, but this route means you qualify with a group of friends and into a tight knit community that interacts on and off the DZ. The road to FS1 can be a lonely one and having an enthusiastic bunch who have recently been in the same boat makes it less daunting. Being part of a group of like-minded people who are living and studying together makes jumping life cheaper, easier and motivates you; essentially, an invaluable community.

As the club ages, the community grows and you acquire alumni. Those who learn to skydive through your club usually remain loyal and give back as they become experienced skydivers, meaning you can offer your members more through the skills they provide – whether this is coaching and instruction or just lifts to the DZ.

On a personal level, you will be required to be at the dropzone, even on bad weather weekends, supervising ground schools or progression events. You inevitably learn a lot, whether it's on the ground or in the air.

AM I EXPERIENCED ENOUGH?

If you're being handed the reins of a uni skydiving club, or trying to establish one from scratch, you may doubt your experience is sufficient. A big part of running the club is attitude and personality. You don't have to be a skygod or the big name on campus (in fact, being a massive nerd helps), but it's important to have enthusiasm, approachability and perseverance. You have to be able to take responsibility for groups of people that you can't always control and accept the occasional dressing down from a CCL. The decisions you make will never please everyone (except the decision to get the drinks in) and will sometimes be largely unpopular – for example, reallocating funds or implementing a drinking curfew before a ground school. However, most who stick it out will appreciate why →



**WE ASKED VARIOUS CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU COULD GIVE NEWBIE COMMITTEE MEMBERS?**

"Work together with your committee as there's a lot of jobs to do in running a club and it can easily catch up with you. The student unions are also often unfamiliar with skydiving, so spend time to properly explain what the sport entails – it can help with funding and support requests." **Ben Debbage, Captain, University of Southampton Skydive Club**

"Make sure you have the time to commit to your position – being in your final year IS a lot of work but, if you've run for something, you

have a job to do and people depending on you." **Tom Keyte, Vice Captain, University of Southampton Skydiving Club**

"Use every possible opportunity to promote your club. More members means a better social scene and bigger skydives." **Merlin Webster, Treasurer, University of Southampton Skydive Club**

"Don't be put off by inexperience and take on the responsibility to bring what you enjoy

about skydiving to a wider audience – some of which will become great friends for life." **Metaxas Nicolaides, former President, Bournemouth University Free Fall Club**

"Go to as many events as possible and get involved with other clubs – the social side of skydiving is what gets people hooked to keep clubs thriving." **Joe 'Mal' Mann, former Competitions and Training officer, University of Southampton Skydiving Club**



1 Stuart Reid, not giving up the geek.
By Craig Hicks

2 BCPA Tour 2013 Hybrid,
by Craig Hicks

3 BCPA Freshers 2012

4 Uni skydivers are happy skydivers.
By Craig Hicks



you do what you do. You need to be able to move smoothly between being the life of the party and the Fun Police. Keeping that balance in mind, it's also important to remember why you're at university; a skydiving club can be very absorbing. Remember your work/life balance and don't forget your studies – you've essentially taken on a part-time job, albeit a very rewarding one. University isn't just about qualifications – running a club will provide you with life skills and recruiters love to ask about skydiving in job interviews!

WORKING WITH YOUR UNIVERSITY

The first thing you have to do to establish or continue a club is a whole load of paperwork. Find out whether your university considers skydiving to be a sport and eligible to join the Sports Union or if it should be classed as a Student Union club. It is usually preferable to belong to the former, as skydiving is a sport, so the support will be more appropriate and the funding is usually better. However, many universities will not share this view of skydiving and you will be a recreational club. Go into your union and introduce yourself, make friends (these people hold the purse strings) and keep them onside because they can make your life very easy or very hard.

The biggest hoop to jump through with your university is likely to be the safety hoop – the word 'skydiving' will strike fear into the heart of the health and safety officer. Working with your DZ and a good explanation of the BPA and its cover is essential here; the union will require a risk assessment.

The university can offer you a lot. Some clubs have been lucky enough to acquire their own kit through various funding schemes, whether through the university or more commercial schemes such as the Mars Milk Fund or fundraising events run by the club itself.

This lifts a lot of the financial burden of skydiving for members who need their loans for beer fines and pot noodles.

FINDING AND WORKING WITH YOUR DROPZONE

If you're a new club, you need to find a dropzone. There are numerous factors to consider:

- How far is it to travel?
- Is there public transport access?
- What facilities are at the DZ? (A bunkhouse is essential for first jump courses)
- How much are courses and jump tickets?
- Can the dropzone offer you any discounts for bringing large groups?
- Does it have a good student and continuation prospects?
- What is the aircraft?
- Do they offer static line or AFF (or both) and which will you offer your students?
- Are there other universities jumping there?
- Does the dropzone actually want a new university?

The list is endless. It is important to find a dropzone that is right for your club and their needs, and these are all factors that established clubs should be reviewing every year. You may find yourself in the position that a centre is no longer suited to your club. You may outgrow a small dropzone. They may stop offering static line. Another dropzone may just offer more. Remember, you are the customers and a mutually beneficial relationship is essential. If you decide to move, explore your options fully – the BCPA can offer you support in this. Go and visit somewhere you're considering. Even if you're not looking to relocate your home DZ, making trips to other dropzones is recommended to give your members a varied experience.

A good club-dropzone match will have a symbiotic relationship; the staff will start to feel like family, so remember to →



5

treat them well. Most DZ staff will want to see good progression and achievement in your club – utilise this! Work with the staff and clean up after yourselves – while you are a customer, you are not the only customers. Be respectful of others.

RECRUITMENT AND PROMOTION

Uni sports recruitment starts with the Freshers Fair and this is where most club sign-ups happen. This is the best opportunity to show off how badass you really are. Put your jumpsuits on, get flyers printed and put some promo videos on. If you make your own video, keep in mind that a common error is showing something *technically* interesting. An outfacing glory slot is great, but remember; before lobbing yourself out of a perfectly good aircraft was a normal weekend, what was exciting? Seeing the door open 3,500ft up? Nutters clinging to the outside of an aircraft? Going back to basics will also make things seem more achievable for a totally new jumper. Having lots to look at is what gets people involved, so get your kit out and pile up your copies of the mag. This is a glimpse into a whole new world and you're competing with lots of other clubs – scuba diving has sharks!

Although you are trying to sell the sport, be realistic. You will be asked about the dangers; it's not *Point Break*, but it's not a day at the park. If your main doesn't open, you have a reserve system. If your reserve doesn't open, you go splat. Be upfront about the costs and the commitment involved. Also, acknowledge the reality of DZ living; you provide accommodation, but don't expect the Ritz. Be positive, though. Honesty is important, but don't advertise the hours spent drinking tea on bad weather days. If you love skydiving, your enthusiasm will come across and people will see how little the downsides matter to you.

Social media can be great for recruitment too, but also for retention and keeping members updated on socials, DZ visits and organising transport. It's a direct line to your members and like having access to the notice board in their bedrooms.

THE REST OF IT

So you've started the academic year and first jump courses are well under way, but how do you ensure people come back after their first jump course? The weather is often a big factor but, if people aren't prepared to sit out the bad weather days, skydiving probably isn't for them. However, you can make this easier for them by ensuring there are both productive and entertaining things to do when grounded by weather. Similarly, don't let your students be put off by a bad weather forecast – promote the ethos that the only guarantee of not jumping is not being on the dropzone. You will encounter many who don't come back and you will occasionally encounter those who are keen to come back but probably shouldn't. It's not your responsibility to tell someone they can't skydive, but you will have to deal with the aftermath if the CCI does.

A more common problem for university clubs than the wider skydiving community is language barriers. International students should be made aware that there will be an intensive period of learning involved in a ground school, with a lot of new terminology. If you have students and you are not confident in their English language ability, highlight them to their instructor so they are given the extra attention they may require.

In the wider collegiate community, the BCPA is on hand to provide activities, trips, competitions and parties to fill in the

academic calendar. BCPA events will give your newbies a taste of boogie skydiving and an unpleasant taste in their mouths the morning after the night before. Despite all your efforts, average retention is 10 per cent or less. Therefore, those you meet through the BCPA may well become friends for life even if they're not based at your local DZ.

STILL UNSURE?

This article has only brushed the surface but, if you're keen to start a club or want help with yours, the BCPA offers advice and support to all university clubs and students. You can take advantage of the committee's wealth of experience as veterans of university club work. Find them at BCPA.org.uk or email us at mail@bcpa.org.uk.

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DEALER FOR ALL MANUFACTURERS



1



JAMIE FOWLER

ONCE MET, NEVER FORGOTTEN – THAT’S HOW A LOT OF US SEE THIS FORMER ROYAL MARINE. HE IS A SKYDIVER WITH HIS OWN CHEEKY QUIRK, IS FULL OF KNOWLEDGE, HEART, COURAGE AND HUMOUR, AND HAS A TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORD ‘FAMILY’

INTERVIEW BEN WOOD, WITH JAMIE AND ANN FOWLER

As a young Royal Marine in 42 Commando, Jamie had spent time at sea along with a tour in Northern Ireland (bandit country) before joining the Parachute Display Team in 1984. He was No. 4 in the World Record 24-man canopy stack in 1986 – in his words: “carrying all the weight!” He became a National Champion for canopy rotations in 1987, with the fastest rotations in the world. Just weeks later, Jamie was involved in an accident on a parachute display where he sustained horrific near-fatal injuries that would change his life.

The answers in this sometimes emotional interview are straight from Jamie’s mouth, with a little help with translation from mum Ann.

Jamie has been back home in Cornwall since 1988, where he lived with his parents until the sad death of dad and true skydiving mentor Jack in 2005. He is often to be seen at BPA events and competitions such as the AGM and the Armies.

With the latest challenge of his life on the horizon, I thought it was an ideal opportunity to enable everyone to learn a little something about this amazing guy and his family.

When did you do your first skydive?

I did my first skydive on a round parachute back in 1980, aged just 15, out of a piston Islander in RAPA. Mac McQueen was my instructor and CCI. My dad was based at RAPA so, over the next year (when I wasn’t at school), I would be up the DZ and obtained my D Licence (200 jumps, back then) aged 16.

How did your skydiving progress in the following years?

Dad took over as CCI at RAPA, so jumping was a regular thing for me. I joined the Marines in 1981 and, after a few tours with 42 Commando, I joined the Royal Marines Parachute Display Team – part of R Company – in 1984. Numerous displays were to follow, along with World Records and National gold medals.



What is your most memorable skydive?

65-way at Z-Hills, definitely. I watched a 64-way build so I could dock on last – I’m a posing b*stard. There are many other jumps that are very special to me, but the 65-way is the one (Jamie smiles, with a wink).

Who do you admire in the sport, past or present?

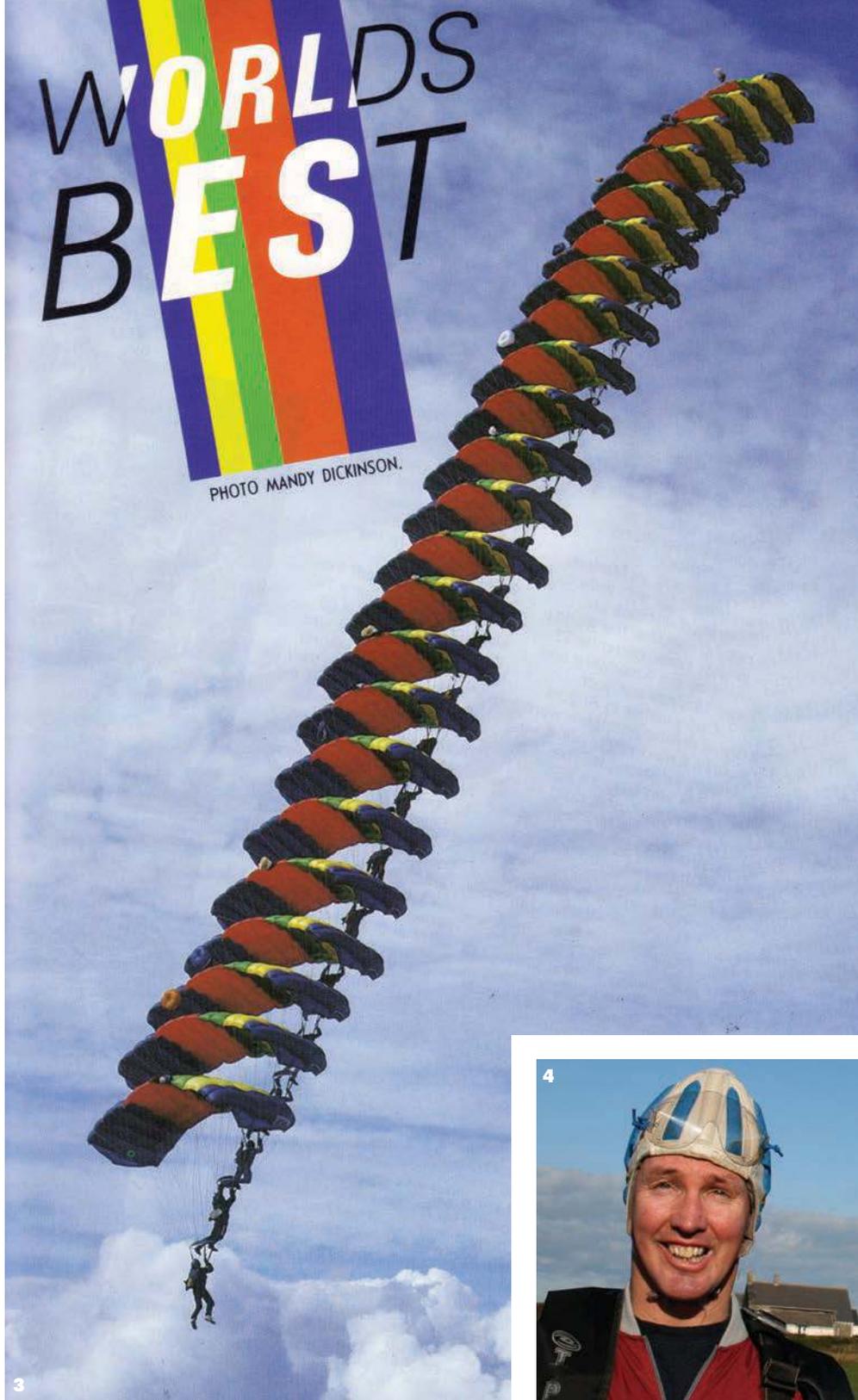
Pete Lamsden, a very good friend. He was my Drill leader when I was a trainee Marine. He had a big stick and shouted lots, but he didn’t scare me. We became →

1 The view looking up at the record stack. Photo by number 19 Malcolm Topping (TC), thanks to Simon Ward

2 Jamie’s 100th tandem over Cornwall, with (L-R) Dave Wood, TI Andy Montriou and Ben Wood

WORLDS BEST

PHOTO MANDY DICKINSON.



3 The still-standing world record 24-stack, as printed in the October 1986 BPA magazine. Jamie is number four. Photo by Mandy Dickinson

4 Jamie today



very close in the years that followed. I still miss him very much.

But my best friend related to skydiving has to be Kev Goode. I met him while I was a young marine on a ship's draft in Hong Kong. We have been close ever since.

How many skydives do you have?

I have done 4,795 jumps. I have jumped all over the world and have met some amazing people over this time. I have also done a few Tandems since.

When and where did your accident occur?

July 22 1987, one week after winning gold at the Nationals. It was a Marines

parachute display into the Butlins holiday park in North Wales and I was first out on the second pass from a Wessex helicopter from 10k. When I was released off the bottom of the 4-stack, I spiralled to land first in the arena. I collided with another jumper who was trying to do the same, which spun me off into a red brick wall surrounding the cinema. Everything happened very quickly, but it is still very clear.

Then... then I fell asleep. I fell asleep for a long time. (Jamie, Ann and I stop for a second to compose ourselves).

What happened next, Ann?

There was nothing left of Jamie's helmet and very little of the canopy (although his

mates made him a windproof jacket out of it). He was airlifted to Bangor Hospital, where they quickly realised the severity of his injuries and he was transferred to the Neurological unit at Walton Hospital in Liverpool – they saved his life. While he was there, he was visited by the Liverpool football team. James was in a coma for six months and wouldn't wake ("Lazy git!" Jamie interrupts).

Jamie, what is the first thing you remember when you woke?

Headley Court Rehabilitation Unit had been home for Christmas and New Year, but I have no memory of it. I didn't want to be at Headley – I didn't belong there – so, once they gave me a wheelchair, I made my escape. After making my way onto the M25 in my chair and stopping traffic both ways, the police asked where I was going and I told them RAPA. In my head, I was 14 years old, that was where I lived and I just wanted to get home. The chair was taken away, so I dragged myself to my feet using the dado rail in my room. The nurses had a hard time with me and mum was constantly being called – once for mooning the nurse who saw the "eyes".

When did you finally make it home?

I came back to Cornwall in February 1989. Mum and dad dedicated so much time for me. Dad would take me to the beach every day to teach me to walk and talk again. I would fall over all the time. Mum asked dad if he helped me back up again: "He fell down, he can get himself back up again," he said. It taught me to be strong – he was a good man. Mum says he should have spent more time teaching me to talk... but sh*t happens!

Later that year, I returned to RAPA and did my first Tandem with Waggy Wagstaff.

How are you still involved in the sport?

I have travelled to dropzones all over the world when mum and dad judge and have been lucky enough to do Tandems with most of them. I did one in Cyprus to raise money for the Walton Hospital, which I owe my life to. I have jumped over Dubai, and it was special to do my 100th Tandem here in Cornwall. I love watching the guys jump into our little village carnival day each year.

("Can you speak to the BPA so I can do a tandem into the demo this year?" he asks me – knowing the answer!)

Tell me about your next challenge

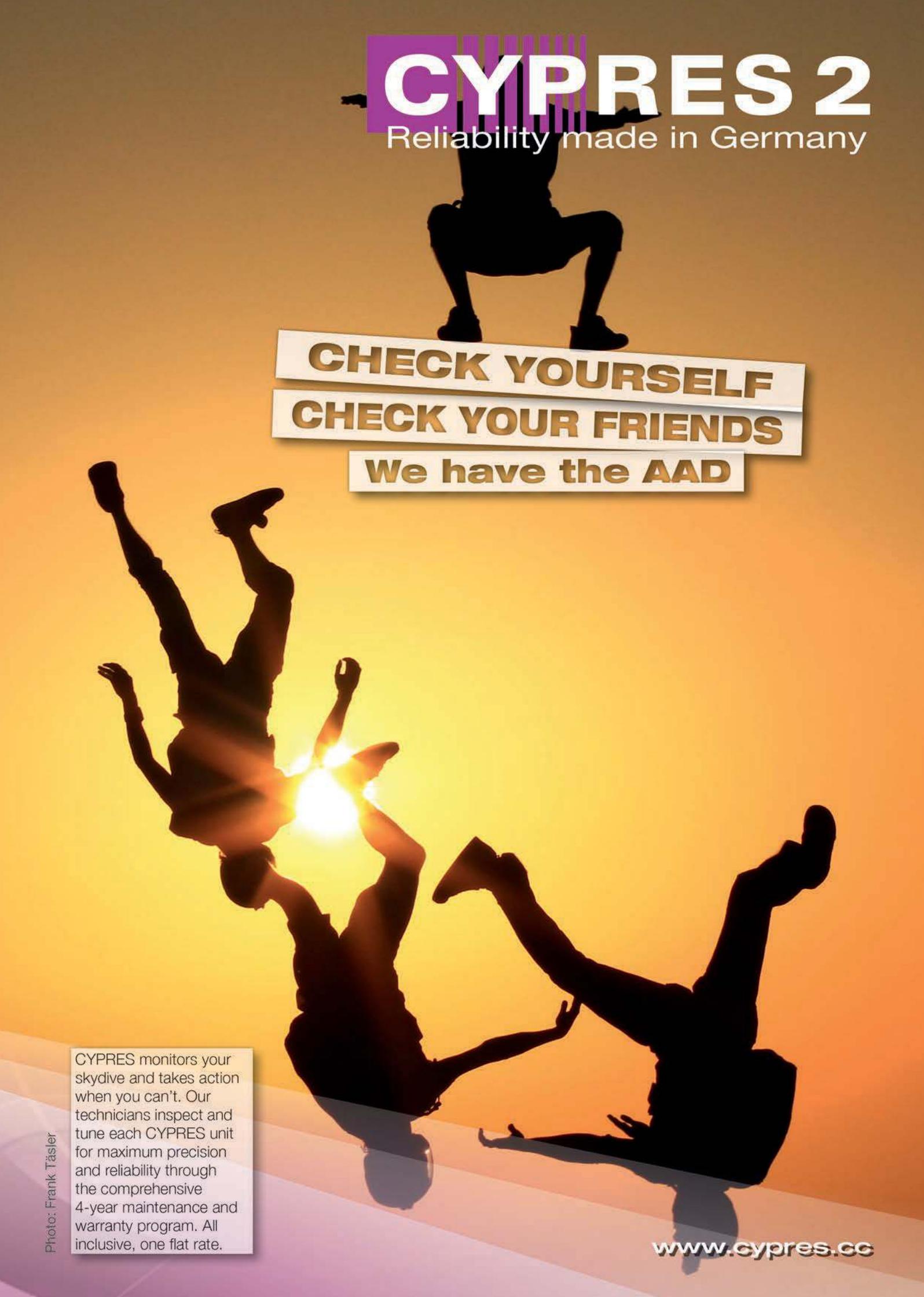
Gibraltar Rock Walk on Oct 24-27. It is a 2.5-mile walk straight uphill. I first did the run back in 1982 as a fit Marine. I'm not sure if I'm going to beat my time, but I have my brother-in-law (Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Potter RM OBE, retired) kicking my ar*e up there this time.

This year is the 350th anniversary of the Royal Marines and I am aiming to raise as much money as possible for the Royal Marines Association charity. ●

To help support Jamie in this latest milestone in his life, please donate through justgiving.com/JamieFowler

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BPA-INSPIRED IN BAHRAIN

HOW DO YOU BRING SKYDIVING TO A COUNTRY WHERE IT ISN'T MAINSTREAM? BY BORROWING ALL THE BEST IDEAS FROM THE BPA SYSTEM AND FLYING OVER BPA INSTRUCTORS TO RUN AN AFF PROGRAMME, OF COURSE!

WORDS SIÂN STOKES PHOTOS MILKO HODGKINSON

When I heard that Andy Goodall and Aaron Faith were advertising for BPA AFF Instructors to work in Bahrain for a couple of weeks, (excuse the pun) I jumped at the chance! Having held my rating for a mere year, I thought it was time to take myself out of my comfort zone of Skydive Langar just for a couple of weeks.

As a Western female, I wasn't sure what

to expect in what I perceived to be a very Middle Eastern-cultured country. However, my mind was put at ease on arrival with a very warm welcome from all of the staff and students at the dropzone.

Andy Goodall has used his knowledge and experience, which he gained while acting as a CCI, chief pilot and senior Instructor in the UK, to set up the Bahrain Parachute Federation (BPF). The BPF follows the same set up and guidelines as the BPA for the AFF course. This makes it

very user-friendly for BPA Instructors! Alongside him, Aaron Faith from the British National 4-way team *Satori* has been working hard training the next generation of Bahraini 4-way jumpers. They have already won the intermediate

category in the Bodyflight World Challenge at Bedford in April 2014 despite having only started competing together last year.

The current dropzone is just a 40-minute drive from the international airport, set within the desert with a stunning coastal line surrounding it. The airport is also just outside the main city of the island, which has a great night life too.

The AFF expedit started a week before my arrival, with other AFF Instructors arriving from as far away as Argentina, Spain and the UK teaching Ground School and packing lessons to the 54 military students.

The jumping programme was very efficient, with five Black Hawk helicopters rotating throughout the day – with the exception of an hour's down time for a beautiful buffet lunch. We managed a staggering 198 descents on the first day and similar on day two!

The weekend followed, giving us all two days to enjoy the island and some of the sights, which included a behind-

1 Siân Stokes and Phil Curtis on a fun jump from the Black Hawk helicopter

2 Breaking records over Bahrain – an 11-way on the way to the new National Record 13-way

3 AFF in military clothing instead of jumpsuits

4 BPA Instructors and Bahraini students boarding the Black Hawk helicopter





66 The BPF follows the same set up and guidelines as the BPA for the AFF course **99**

the-scenes tour of the F1 track (which is just five minutes from the dropzone).

The weather was pretty reliable (albeit hot!); on clear weather days, you could see Saudi Arabia and Qatar. With only a couple of windy days putting a hold on the student programme, it gave the instructors the opportunity to squeeze in the odd fun jump – including setting a Bahrain big-way record of 13, with Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa participating!

The facilities at Skydive Bahrain are growing. There is currently an air-conditioned hall for packing, a massive open landing area and plans for two 16-foot wind tunnels to be built within five minutes of the DZ, all of which is supported by Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, who is the president of the BPF. ●



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- 13-15 Sept - Freely With Liz Boniface
- 20-21 Sept - FS Load Organising With Dave Lewis
- 27-28 Sept - Freely With Jay Southall
- The British National 4-way FS and VFS Championships
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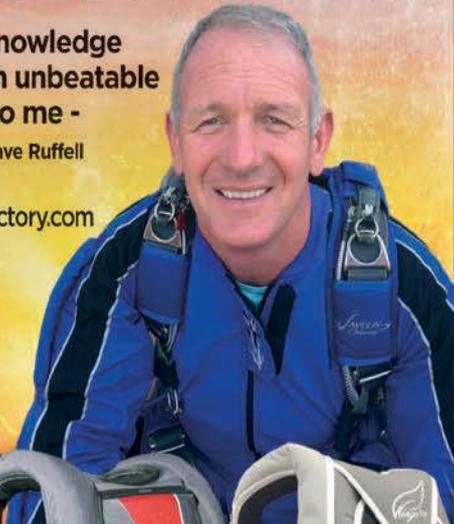


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Milko Hodgkinson and Siân Stokes practising taking hand-to-hand docks in sit, by Gary Wainwright

GETTING THE BASIC FREEFLY COACH RATING

The BPA has just introduced the new Basic Freefly Coach (BFFC) rating in a shake-up of the FF part of the BPA grading system. The BFFC can coach skills up to FF1 and doesn't require being a head down ninja. Since the rating was ratified by the STC and Council in June 2014, many people have been asking lots of questions on what the rating entails – and, more importantly, how to become one!

Before the BFFC rating, you would have to be able to coach FF1 and FF2 to get a coach rating – a very large syllabus to train and cover. The advantage of the BFFC rating is that it allows smaller progressive steps, with coaches able to concentrate on the head up flying and coaching and then move on to the FFC rating which covers both FF1 and FF2 at a later stage. A BFFC looking to progress towards a FFC rating should work closely with an experienced FFC and they will pick up, learn and develop

their own personal flying and coaching skills over time.

The first step to working towards the rating is to speak to both the FFC who knows you best and your CCI. They will have a pretty good idea of your skill level at this early stage and can give you areas you can work on. They will also confirm you meet the requirements of the rating, which can be found on the BPA website on Form 134F. They are as follows:

- Holds FF1 or equivalent
- Has a minimum of 300 descents and three hours of Freefall time
- Has been involved in Sport Parachuting for a minimum of two years
- Is fully familiar with the current FF Manual
- Is at least a;
 - Category System Basic Instructor, or

- Has attended a Sportscoach UK Course on 'Coaching Methods and Communication', or
- Has specific teaching or coaching qualifications, or
- Has attended a Methods of Instruction lecture given by a BPA Advanced Instructor, or
- Has attended a Military Methods of Instruction Course.

You can also start to assess your own level of skill. Here are some questions you can ask yourself to see if you're suitable to coach:

- Are you always in your slot on sitfly jumps?
- Do you demonstrate a good sitfly position?
- Do you have a good range (can you fall at the same rate as very fast and slow people)?
- Do you have good stand skills?
- Can you follow someone and maintain your distance with someone who falls off sitfly →



FF1 holders can jump together, initially in groups of two or three at most. By Gary Wainwright

- using slowfall/backflying?
- Can you chase after someone at a good horizontal speed?
- Can you back track?
- Do you demonstrate good break-off skills?
- Can you pick up grips consistently?
- Can you exit a variety of sitfly exit slots?
- Do you display a good example of how to organise a sitfly jump?
- Can you spot equipment that isn't FF-friendly?
- Are you aware of how the BPA Grading system works?

If the answer to any questions is no, then don't worry. This is a guide to help point out what you need to work towards. A good way of getting skills up and helping out is by taking brand new FF1s on 2-ways and showing how to have safe and fun small group jumps. Also, don't be shy asking current FFCs for some tips or coaching to get your own personal skills up. You will need to be able to fly and compensate for the student's flying ability while giving appropriate hand signals to aid the student's learning progression.

You can also shadow a busy and current BFFC or FFC and see how they work. Every coach will have a different style and, by sitting in on briefs and debriefs, you may pick up a good general method of coaching and the little tips or techniques that every coach will have that are unique to themselves. Once your CCI and FFC think your skill level is good enough, perhaps

you could film some coached jumps from an outside camera perspective, trying to keep both the coach and student in the video frame.

At some point, it's a good idea to start writing down lesson plans explaining how you are going to teach each skill and put them into a skydive. The BPA FF Coaching Manual is a guide on how to do this and you should practise these briefs until both you and your coach/CCI feel you are competent. Even if you have specific teaching qualifications, it may still be a good idea to have your own CCI give a BPA Methods of Instruction brief as he may have methods and practices he would prefer you to use and it will also give him a better understanding of your knowledge and enthusiasm which help him work with you to get the rating. A lot of the preparation for the rating can be done on bad weather days, as it can be hard to pin down the CCI or the busiest FF coaches on good weather jumping days.

For every practical skill, a good teaching philosophy is 'EDIP'. This stands for Explain, Demonstrate, Imitate and Practise.

EXPLAIN

When explaining any skills, the coach should look to answer the basic questions of What, Who, Why and When. The next section will answer the How.

DEMONSTRATE

When demonstrating the skill, show the whole

of the skill, break it down into sub-sections explaining them in detail and then demonstrate the whole of the skill again in real time. Video or pictures are very useful at this stage.

IMITATE

Get the student to practise the skill themselves, watch them carefully and make any corrections as necessary. Use the pre-agreed hand signals to correct them so that the recognition of these is included in the training.

PRACTISE

Practice makes perfect and will aid in building muscle memory. The more repetition of the skill, the more likely a positive outcome for the student. Remember, practice on the ground is free!

A good selection of teaching aids will help get the information over to the student. With any 1:1 coach rating, you must have a variety of drills and methods to explain the same skill as people will relate to things in different ways. Good teaching aids for all Freely coaches could consist of a small wooden model for body position, white boards and markers, and pictures or video of good body positions. They say a picture paints a thousand words so, by showing them some good examples (that you can also demonstrate), the student can see what they are aiming for.

Once you have completed the required prep, you will be evaluated by an Advanced



Instructor who is a BFFC/FFC or an Advanced Instructor-nominated BFFC/FFC. The evaluation will take place over two separate jumps, normally a 1:1 coaching jump and a small group jump. The candidate will be given the opportunity to show their coaching ability and shall be evaluated during:

- i) The brief and dirt dive, from the twenty-minute point
- ii) The climb to altitude
- iii) The skydive where the Evaluator will make typical student errors
- iv) The debrief
- v) Logbook entries, which should include any corrective training required.

After the evaluation, the candidate will be awarded the BFFC rating or given areas that they need to improve on to get up to the required standard. Remember, if it was easy, everyone would do it!

As you can see, there is a fair amount of work involved in preparing for and undertaking the new BFFC rating. The work can be frustrating at times, is often unpaid and may get in the way of your own personal jumping. However, for many, the satisfaction of creating a safe competent head up flier with all the tools you taught them more than outweighs any of the downsides. Who knows, they might even become future national champions... ●

Ally Milne, Team QFX
Tryskydiving.co.uk
UK European Record holder, BPA Instructor and FF Coach. With thanks to Airtec, PD, UPT, Airkix, Jedi Airwear and Cookie

OPS MANUAL QUIZ

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

Q May a BPA Tandem Instructor jump with a 'hand-cam'?

Licence parachutist acting as a Tandem Student perform 3 successful consecutive Tandem jumps with a 'C' the Tandem Instructor must demonstrate the ability to year. Prior to jumping with a hand/wrist mounted camera descents within the 12 months prior to the 31st March each descents and have completed a minimum of 250 Tandem mounted camera must have a minimum of 500 Tandem Tandem Instructors wishing to jump with a hand/wrist-

A NEW UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2014, SECTION 4, PARAGRAPHS 5.6 - 5.7

NOT SURE OF WHO CAN JUMP WITH WHOM? WANT TO KNOW THE SKILLS YOU'RE ALLOWED TO DO OR WHAT YOU CAN WORK ON NEXT? TAKE A LOOK AT THIS HANDY CHART!

	QUALIFIED TO JUMP WITH	APPROVED SKILLS	PROGRESSION AREAS
A+ Licence, new FF trainee	BFFC or FFC. Can jump solo if cleared by BFFC/FFC	A-E of FS Skills in Ops Manual Section 2	Back fly, head up and tracking skills
Newly qualified FF1	Freely with other FF1 and FF2 holders - 2/3-ways initially	Basic sitfly moves. Small groups	Improving sitfly skills, ensuring good break-offs
FF1	Freely with other FF1 and FF2 holders	All head up moves	Begin head down training, BFFC training
Basic Freely Coach (BFFC)	A+ Licence FF1 trainees	Teaching head up, backfly, tracking skills	Learning and improving head down skills. Continual skill/teaching improvements
FF2 trainee	Can complete FF2 training jumps with FFC or jump solo HD if cleared by a FFC	Head up flying	Developing head down skills
FF2	Freely with other FF1 and FF2 holders	Head up/head down flight, Tracing	Advanced FF skills (Eagles, carving, VFS), becoming a BFFC/FFC
Freely Coach (FFC)	A+ Licence FF trainees	Teach skills for FF1 and FF2	Continual skill/teaching improvements
Experienced FFC	All above levels	Teach and evaluate new FFCs	Mentoring of new BFFCs and FFCs

NEW COACHES

Plenty of new FS and FF coaches this issue, so there is no excuse not to be able to progress! The DZs given are the ones where the coach achieved their rating; they may be available to coach at other DZs. Congratulations to all.

FS COACH

- Thomas Winyard, Peterlee
- Lucy Mason, Cyprus
- Raphaelle Barbier, Langar
- Tanya Quigley, Swansea
- Anthony Andrews, Swansea
- Daniel Norris, Beccles
- Keith Gallagher, Netheravon
- Lewis Young, Beccles
- Ross Deakin, Weston
- Andrew Beney, Weston
- Stephen Smith, Peterlee
- Michael Graham, Peterlee
- John Price, Dunkeswell
- Richard Taylor, Dunkeswell
- Alan Thompson, Peterlee
- Alice Male, Sibson
- Chris Bryant, Sibson
- Colin Peters, Netheravon
- William Ferrier, Netheravon
- Christopher Flowdy, RAPA
- Mark Guyatt, RAPA

FF COACH

- Alexandra Dand, Netheravon
- Michael Longford, Dunkeswell
- Matthew Mitchell, Black Knights
- Richard Madeley, Hinton
- Ged Parker, Sibson
- Martin Roberson, Dunkeswell
- Ted Foster, Langar
- Michael Ellis, Dunkeswell
- Kevin Coffey, Cark
- John Price, Dunkeswell
- John Crampton, Hinton

WS COACH

- Eric Dangoor, Netheravon

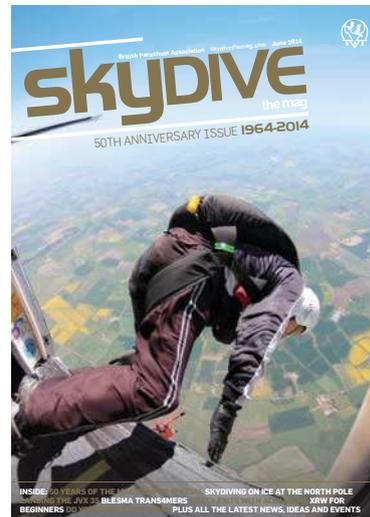
CF COACH

- Marcus Muir-Smith, Headcorn



Stuart Ferglstein's student gets an FS coached jump off to a great start with some excellent eye contact on exit.
By James Stevenson

COVER STAR



The 50th anniversary cover featured instructor Dean Fisher, who has been dispatching students for over 45 years, and prompted several lovely letters. If you're a student who's stuck on the rope or who's arching like a falling cat, here's some inspiration for you...

"I'm particularly thrilled to find myself on the cover

with Dean. Dean was my 'Skydiving Yoda' – he dispatched me on the majority of my jumps and kept me going with just the right balance of instruction, criticism and encouragement, without which I would probably have given up. On the occasions when I was fed up and angry with myself for messing up yet another five-second 'stable' delay, Dean's particular brand of humour kept me wanting to throw myself out of a plane again and again, sometimes without a parachute!

Skydiving isn't something I find easy. I'm quite poor at it and I don't learn fast, but it's great fun, I'm slowly getting better, and, if it was easy, I would have got bored long ago.

The jump on the magazine front cover was pretty memorable. It was the point where RAPS 'came right' and really got fun. I did lots of DRPs and lots and lots of five-second 'stable' delays. My usual orientation three seconds out was a *se up. Then, quite suddenly one day, it came right with two good five-seconds. I think the jump pictured is my first 10-second stable delay. I knew it was good all the way down and it was made better by Dean, without warning, following me out. I think 10 seconds is the first point in RAPS where you 'know you are skydiving'.

After that, I think I only repeated one stage (turns) once. I qualified with Dean observing my qualifying jump. The grin on his face confirmed a pass before I was on the ground. Given my high jump numbers on qualifying and reasonable canopy control, I upgraded to a 'B' licence and I'm now at a bit over 100 jumps and working (slowly) on FS1.

Dean is something of a legend. He never makes much fuss, but he is there at Langar day after day summer and winter. When the student's jump is a good one, there is an instant grin on his face followed by some comment like 'perfect!' or 'good one!' before he follows the last one out. The BPA must have several hundred members who were 'Dean Fisher trained'.

I find it really fitting that Dean should have the honour of the 50th anniversary cover, and I'm just thrilled that by chance I got to be there too."

Richard Drabble

"Thank you Liz, I'm very flattered and feel privileged. However, your description as "worthy cover star"! I think "worthy old fart" would be more appropriate – HA! HA!"

Dean Fisher

SKYDIVER SPEAK

FFC – THIS HAS TWO DIFFERENT AND SEPARATE MEANINGS:

- 1) Freely Coach – someone who coaches skydivers to their FF1 and FF2, or
- 2) First Flight Course – initial wingsuit training.

PERFORMANCE DESIGNS
SABRE2

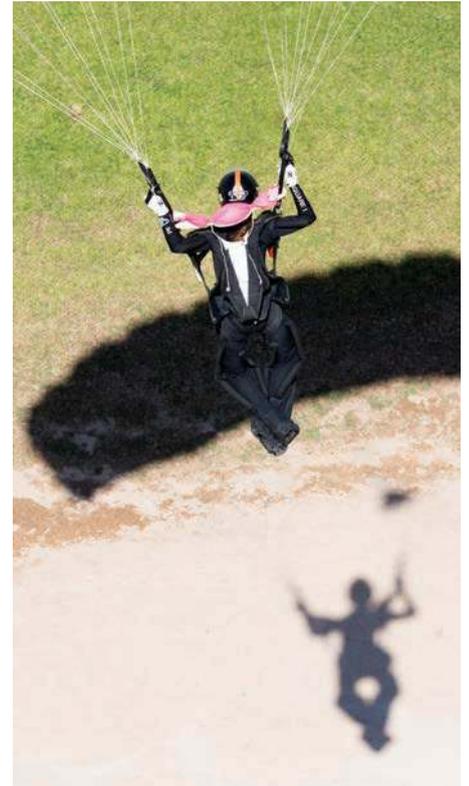


A flare you can take home to your mother.
You'll love how it flies, but the flare seals the deal.

Learn more 



Photos by Willy Boeykens



WHEN TO FLARE

One of the most common landing problems is a mis-timed flare. Flare too low and the canopy doesn't have enough time to fully slow down before dumping you on the deck. Flare too high and the canopy slows, then has time to speed up again before dumping you on the deck. Flare too high and let up, and you get the worst of both worlds – the canopy surges and your descent rate accelerates... you guessed it, dumping you on the deck!

Practice makes perfect, and videoed practice makes perfect much sooner. Canopy coaches will be able to show you how to improve and, once you know what to look for on the video,

even footage from friends on the landing area will help you to monitor your own progress. Some top tips include:

- It is hard to judge altitude when looking straight down, as depth perception while descending is difficult. It is much easier if you look out in front of you, especially if there are points of reference such as other people on the ground or a windsock.
- Practise your flare at altitude, meaning you can do dozens per jump rather than just one at the end.
- Finish the flare. If you flare late or are otherwise approaching the ground going

faster than you would like, it can be instinctive to freeze rather than continue to move your hands towards something that might hurt them. But this instinct is the opposite of what is needed and just means you hit harder!

- Try to 'not land'. Aim to plane the canopy out and fly it level along the ground for as long as possible, bleeding off as much forward speed as possible, and only put your feet down when you absolutely have to. This ensures you touch down as gently as possible, rather than using your legs or bum as an undercarriage.
- Keep your feet underneath your torso rather than stuck out in front. If you jumped off a table with your feet stuck out, you would expect to land on your bum. The physics does not change just because you are stepping down off a skydive instead of a table. Expect to land on your feet and it is much more likely to happen!



RED BULL AIR RACE AUGUST 16-17TH 2014
ASCOT RACECOURSE
WWW.REDBULLAIRRACE.COM

**EXIT
ZONE**



The 8-way Nationals will be held on the weekend after the 4-way, September 13-15. If you're considering putting a team together, then one of your main considerations will be how to launch the exit successfully. This special Exit Zone feature is timed to help you out and encourage you to take part in one of the best competitions on the calendar. **8-way: like 4-way, but twice the fun.**

WORDS MICROCLIM8, BRITISH NATIONAL 8-WAY TEAM
PHOTOS DAVE BUTTERELL



Five floaters

8-way exit slots

An 8-way exit starts off very crunched up in the door (even in an Otter or Let) and can be more than 14 feet long after it launches. There needs to be staged timing for everyone to be able to exit and present correctly, but it is a magnificent sight when it flies. This exit is the standard exit used for G92, Otter and Let aircraft and, with a small tweak, Caravan too. This exit has five floaters and three divers (camera is outside too).

Some general rules:

- It will feel tight in the door – accept this. But make sure you are balanced and you know where you are going to present.
- Everyone joins in the cadence of the count.
- Make sure you present your chest and pelvis to the relative wind and be strong.
- There is controlled energy. Aim to just step the formation away from the aircraft, not five feet.

- Look through the centre to your clone. The exit should be between 45-50 degrees so you will really see the hill.
- Floaters are on one foot. Divers are left foot forward, left shoulder down.

POINT 1

Be as far forward in the door as possible. On the G-92, you have a choice to hang low under

Three divers



Everyone gets enough space for good presentation



the wing, or stand upright behind the wing. If standing upright, place the left side of your head against the fuselage, looking backwards to see the count. With your right hand, hold onto the rail and allow Front Dive to take a grip on your arm. With your left hand, hold onto any (legal) part of the aircraft that you can – options are very limited. Keep your hips forward and as close to the fuselage as possible to make room for front float.

Focus on the count and drop onto Front Dive's arm grip as Outside Centre leaves. Aim to be a little late, and kick out and up with your left leg/hip to present to the relative wind and clear your legs from under Front Float. Target putting yourself in a stairstep diamond picture with Inside Centre while looking down the formation. A top tip is to also straighten your legs to push you up and keep you at the top of the formation.

FRONT FLOAT 2

On climb-out, leave enough space between your foot and Point's foot for Front Dive. Pick up Point's leg-strap and 'wrap around' Point to get as far forward as possible to leave space for Outside Centre to climb out (this also helps Point stay as far forward as possible). Tip – put your left forearm under the bottom of Point's container because it makes it easier to hold yourself in tighter to the aircraft. Inside Centre will take your arm grip. Watch OC for the count.

Leave at the same time as OC and rotate hard out and up with your left hip to open your pelvis to the wind (very similar to a common 4-way OC exit). Aim to be a wing of a stairstep diamond with Rear Dive. At the same time, lift Point up and out to clear their hip and help put them in a stairstep diamond with IC.

OUTSIDE CENTRE 3

You are the last of the floaters to climb out. Take a leg grip on Front Float as you swing out. Your count needs to be strong, consistent and obvious to every member of the team, including your cameraflyer. On exit, step away from the door – leaving enough space for the divers but without leaving the front behind. Make sure your presentation is strong. Try and lift Front Float and box out your arm to form a stairstep diamond with the centre four. Making that centre diamond strong will help deal with a lot of exit issues. →

Door jamming



Space for everyone



REAR FLOAT 4

Place your right foot at the back of the door, hold the rail with your right hand and hang low with a straight arm. By placing your left leg behind your right, you can rest it on the plane or front of the camera step for stability. When Outside Centre climbs out, get hold of their right leg grip with your left hand.

When the GO comes, go slightly early to give some weight to the back end. This helps the whole piece present to the relative wind and expands the formation to its full size. There should be some tension on Outside Centre's leg grip.

TAIL 5

You should have your right hand on the rail and your right foot on the camera step. Depending on the formation, you can take a grip either on Rear Float's arm or Rear Dive's arm.

You leave slightly early, but the important point is to be adding weight to the rear of the exit. You should be looking through bodies, not at the top of rigs.

Be prepared for your first move, which will generally be driving back up towards the centre, but you must concentrate on the exit flying first before you drive back up the hill.

FRONT DIVE 6

Allow Rear Dive and Inside Centre to set up in the door and then get comfortable with the room they leave. Take a right-hand grip on Point's right arm and a left-hand grip on Inside Centre's right leg. The formation is going to move to your left and down, so do not worry if only half your body is opposite the door. Aim to go through the door at the same time as Inside Centre but then allow their leg ahead of you – you are the tail of a stairstep diamond. Really present your chest and get your right shoulder up.

INSIDE CENTRE 7

Set up in the door after Rear Dive, picking up their right leg with your left hand and taking a high grip on Front Float's right arm. Have your right shoulder high, ready to present. Leave with Outside Centre, be strong and box out the stairstep diamond.

REAR DIVE 8

Pick up a high grip on Outside Centre's right arm as they climb out and then Rear Float's right arm. Put your left foot forward in the door, just back from the sill, and allow space for Rear Float. Rear Float may pick up your arm grip depending on the first point out of the door, so be prepared to help by presenting your left arm out the back of the door. Aim to be leaving at the same time as Outside Centre and push out and down, leading with the left hip.

CAMERA C

Position yourself as far back on the step and

away from the team as possible to give yourself some distance. Stay close to the plane so as not to place yourself on top of the team and its burble.

For leading (going before the team), spring back away from the team when the key comes, watching the centre of the formation. As soon as you exit, be prepared to get your legs out, cup some air and drive up and over the formation to position yourself above it. This will stop you being shallow and looking across the formation, missing grips. Be aware of Tail leaving slightly ahead of the key and ending up underneath you.

If peeling (going with or after the team), aim to exit alongside Front Dive. Watch for the key and, as Tail and Rear Float exit, begin to pivot on the camera step, following the centre of the formation with your head as it moves. As the centre reaches you, let go and either side slide down the hill or dive after the formation. Do not push away from the plane in order to stay in clear air. ●



With thanks to *MicroClim8's* sponsors, who are: the BPA, Larsen and Brusgaard, Symbiosis, Sunpath, Skydive Hibaldstow and Icarus Canopies

The end result is like two-and-a-half stairstep diamonds



VIDEO BY DAVE BUTTERELL



JINXED!

Last issue, we asked the question: "How many jumps did you have when you had your first reserve ride?". Gerry Cepelak's answer of "What's a reserve ride? (Oh no, I know I'm going to regret that!)" may have been tempting fate just a little bit...

Sure enough, on jump number 1,335 and before the last Mag even started hitting doorsteps, Gerry found himself under a streamer. Beer!

WEAR AND TEAR

Your Rigger or Advanced Packer will inspect your kit thoroughly when they pack your reserve. However, with a six-month BPA repack cycle, you also need to periodically check your gear yourself. Normal wear and tear can become critical over this period of time, so it is not safe to just throw it at a rigger every half a year and expect that to be enough. Keep your eyes open every time you pack your rig so that you know the condition of each component and would notice if it was deteriorating.

Some parts of the rig are more prone to wear and tear than others. As a rule of thumb, the parts that

get the most use are the bits you need to watch the most. Brake lines move back and forwards through the slider grommet and guide ring on the riser over the course of a jump, causing friction. They will

usually need to be replaced before the rest of the lines. If they are starting to get 'furry' or there is any visible damage to them, get them checked out even if there are months to go until your next repack.



Worn, 'furry' brake line with fingertraps starting to pull through. By Liz Ashley

Some shots just can't be missed. By Gary Wainwright



HAND-CAM

The BPA's Safety and Training Committee, STC, consists of all the CCIs and meets every two months. They discuss all safety-related matters, consider incident reports and update the Operations Manual when it is required. This document is ever-evolving as our sport constantly changes.

One of the very latest changes has been to allow experienced and current Tandem Instructors to wear 'hand-cam'. This is a topic which was debated at length over

many meetings. Many countries operate with hand-cam and it can provide a unique memory of parts of the jump such as the canopy ride, but there are also safety considerations as well. It could cause a distraction or a snag hazard, so it was not felt sensible to allow anyone and everyone to jump with hand-cam. Before the rule change, no tandem instructor was allowed to jump with a hand-cam. Now, TIs with a minimum of 500 tandem jumps (including 250 in the previous BPA year) may jump a hand-cam that is acceptable to the CCI.

So does this mean that we'll suddenly see a flood of hand-cams and that regular cameraflyers will all be out of a job? Probably not, no. The new rule simply means that a DZ is permitted to operate with hand-cam if it can meet the requirements and if it wants to. While some DZs will immediately incorporate this into their operation, many will simply carry on as before. Maybe in five or ten years hand-cam will have become mainstream but, for now at least, it is still in its infancy.

BPA Certificates of Merit were presented to this Headcorn trio, who provided first aid when another BPA member had a heart attack in the aircraft at 12,000ft. His life was saved by immediate CPR followed by a defibrillator on the runway



DEFIBRILLATOR DOSH

Arising from a referral from STC, the BPA Development Committee is pleased to announce the availability of a contribution of up to £500 to each BPA Affiliated Club/DZ towards the purchase

cost of a suitable defibrillator for use at any Affiliated DZ that does not already have one.

This initiative is a call on the BPA risk management sponsorship

fund kindly provided by the generous support of BPA's insurance brokers, Romero Sport and Leisure, together with the underwriters of BPA's third party public liability insurance, Liberty

Mutual. Claims are limited to one per DZ and must reach the BPA Office by the end of the current risk management sponsorship fund year on March 31 2015.

WHAT IF...?



We ask the questions... you provide the answers. The aim of this section is to get people thinking about abnormal skydives and considering how they might react. There often isn't a 'right' answer and the situations are sometimes deliberately vague to allow for maximum discussion around the DZ. After all, isn't it better to cover every angle while on the ground, with input from all your local hotshots, than to have to work it out for yourself under pressure when it happens? Do not change any of your drills without first consulting a BPA Instructor and/or your CCI.

What if... you have recently gained your FF1 and get invited on a head up 4-way?

See the chart on page 41. Initially, you are only allowed to freely fly with other FF1 and FF2 holders in small groups - 2/3-ways - and only with CCI approval. This is NOT a new change that has come in with the new BFFC rating, but has been the case for more than a decade!

Section 2 of the Operations Manual, paragraph 6.7.3 says: "Once FF1 has been obtained, the parachutist must not make FF descents with others without CCI approval, (a log book endorsement will suffice) and initially only small groups (e.g. 2-3 ways)."

CLUBZONE

AFFILIATED DZS
AVAILABLE TO BPA
MEMBERS – HOW MANY
HAVE YOU JUMPED AT?

A comprehensive list can
be found on the BPA website



BPA Affiliated DZs in the UK

1 Black Knights

Black Knights Parachute Centre
Hillam Lane, Cockerham,
Lancashire LA2 0DY
DZ: 01524 791820
Mob: 07970 764850
bkpcinfo@googlegmail.com
bkpc.co.uk
Blackhawk Caravan

2 Bridlington

Skydive GB
East Leys Farm, Grindale Road,
Bridlington, E Yorkshire YO16 4YB
T: 01262 228033
Mob: 07522 335713
info@skydivegb.com
skydivegb.com
GA8 Airvan

3 Cark

Skydive North West Club
Cark Airfield, Flookburgh,
Nr Grange-over-Sands,
Cumbria LA11 7LS
DZ: 01539 558672
T: 01229 889516
skydive-northwest@totalise.co.uk
skydivenorthwest.co.uk
PAC 750XL

4 Chatteris

North London Skydiving Centre
Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea,
March, Cambs PE15 0EA
DZ: 01354 740810
T: 0871 664 0113
info@ukskydiving.com
ukskydiving.com
Twin Otter, Nomad

5 Cornish

Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield,
Higher Trevelas, St Agnes,
Cornwall TR5 0XS
Mob: 07790 439653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Cessna 206, guest aircraft

6 Dunkeswell

Skydive UK Ltd
Dunkeswell Airfield, Dunkeswell,
Devon EX14 4LG
T: 01404 890222
Mob: 07718 638000
info@skydive99.com
skydive99.com
Two Beech 99s and Caravan

7 Headcorn

Skydive Headcorn
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn,
Kent TN27 9HX
T: 01622 891670
info@headcorn.com
headcorn.com
Cessna Caravan, Islander

8 Hibaldstow

Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow,
Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
DZ: 01652 648837
T: 01132 505600
info@skydiving.co.uk
skydiving.co.uk
*Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92
single turbine, Cessna Caravan*

9 Jersey

Skydive Jersey Ltd
C/O Jersey Aero Club, L'Avenue
de la Reine Elizabeth II, St Peter,
Jersey, Channel Islands, JE3 7BP
T: 01534 747410
info@skydivejersey.net
skydivejersey.net
Cessna 206, guest turbines

10 Langar

British Parachute Schools
Langar Airfield, Langar,
Nottingham NG13 9HY
T: 01949 860878
info@skydivelangar.co.uk
skydivelangar.co.uk
*Two Cessna Grand Caravans,
guest aircraft*

11 Netheravon

Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
T: 01980 628250
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
netheravon.com
*Three Cessna Caravans,
guest aircraft*

12 Paragon

Paragon Skydiving
Errol Airfield, Grange, Errol,
Perthshire PH2 7TB
T: 01821 642454
billy.gollan@btinternet.com
paragonskydiving.co.uk
Cessna 182

13 Peterlee

Peterlee Parachute Club
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery,
Co Durham DH6 2NH
T: 01915 171234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
skydiveacademy.org.uk
Cessna 182, Cessna Grand Caravan

14 Reading

London Parachute School
Chiltern Park Aerodrome, Icknield
Road, Ipsden, Oxfordshire OX10 6AS
T: 0845 1307 194
info@londonparachuteschool.com
londonparachuteschool.com
Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan

15 Salisbury

Skydive Southcoast Ltd
Hangar 3, Old Sarum Airfield,
Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
T: 01722 323628
info@skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
skydivesouthcoast.co.uk
Airvan, Cessna 206 and 172

16 The Silver Stars

Silver Stars
29 Regt, Duke of Gloucester
Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester
Gloucestershire GL7 5RD
DZ: 01285 868111
T: 07716 792942
info@silverstars.me.uk
silverstars.me.uk
Cessna Caravan

17 St Andrews

Skydive St Andrews
Osprey Road, Fife Airport,
Glenrothes KY6 2SL
T: 01592 882400
skydivestandrews@mail.com
skydivestandrews.co.uk
Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206

18 St George

Skydive St George
Durham Tees Valley Airport,
Darlington, DL2 1LU
T: 01253 592002
steve@skydivestgeorge.co.uk
skydivestgeorge.co.uk
Airvan

19 Strathallan

Skydive Strathallan
Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder,
Perthshire PH3 1LA
DZ: 01764 662572
T: 07836 201953
kbrady@btinternet.com
skydivestrathallan.co.uk
Three Cessna 206s, guest turbine

20 Swansea

Skydive Swansea
Swansea Airport, Fairwood,
Swansea SA2 7JU
T: 07779 019655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
skydiveswansea.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

21 Swindon

Blue Skies Freefall Club
Redlands Airfield, Redlands Farm,
Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AA
T: 01793 791222
info@skydivelondon.co.uk
skydivelondon.co.uk
Airvan

22 Tilstock

The Parachute Centre
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch,
Shropshire SY13 2HA
T: 01948 841111
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
theparachutecentre.com
Airvan

23 UK Para Beccles

UK Parachuting
Beccles Airfield, Ellough,
Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7TE
T: 01502 476131
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
ukparachuting.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

24 UK Para Sibson

UK Parachuting
Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
T: 01832 280490
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
skydivesibson.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

25 Weston

RAF 22 Training Group
Availability TBC

26 Wild Geese

Wild Geese Skydive Centre
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh
Road, Garvagh, Coleraine,
Co Londonderry, N Ireland BT51 5LQ
T: 028 2955 8609
jump@skydivewildgeese.com
skydivewildgeese.com
Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

BPA Overseas Affiliated DZs

Cyprus

Cyprus Parachute Centre
CJSATC, BFPO 58,
Dhekelia Garrison, Cyprus
T: 0035 724 744337
info@skydivecyprus.com.cy
skydivecyprus.com.cy
PBN Piston Islander

RAPA

Skydive Bad Lippspringe
Flugplatz 1, 33175 Bad Lippspringe,
Germany
T: 0049 5254 982 2378
info@skydive-badlippspringe.com
skydive-badlippspringe.com
Cessna Caravan 208

Parachuting Societies

BCPA

**British Collegiate Parachute
Association**
Jack Bradford, BCPA Chairman
mail@bcpa.org.uk
bcpa.org.uk
*A community for
university skydivers*

POPS

Parachutists Over Phorty
Jeff Chandler, Top POP
1 Beaulieu Road, Boscombe Down,
Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7PD
T: 07779 580399
jeffchandler@hotmail.com
pops.org.uk

SOS

Skydivers Over Sixty
John Houghland
13 Bowers Craft,
Cambridge, CB1 8RP
johnhskydive@hotmail.co.uk

Netheravon

netheravon.com

UK Competitions R Us!



Lowabusa, Isis and SAVoA on the podium, by Spike Harper

Since the last edition, Netheravon has successfully hosted two UK competitions; the 2014 UK National Wingsuit Competition and the second UKSL of 2014. We have had the pleasure of welcoming visitors from all over the UK and, indeed, the world. We hope everyone enjoyed the Nethers Experience!

THE UK NATIONAL WINGSUIT COMPETITION

The Wingsuit comp on May 23-26 attracted some of the best international wingsuit pilots and the performance event saw world records beaten and new standards set. Tony Uragallo took gold in both the Open and UK advanced categories, with Nethers jumpers André Taylor and Spike Harper receiving silver and bronze UK medals. In the intermediate category, Colin Preece took bronze and Dave Ruffell took gold! The Artistics event was judged on three rounds, with last year's winners *Tutti Frutti* repeating their gold-winning success. However, they were chased closely this year by team *Shake 'n' Bake* with Peter Coville and *Tutti Frutti's* own cameraman Kev Tucker!

UKSL: AN EPIC 24 HOURS FOR THE ARMY PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

A thousand jumps, 78 lifts, three demos, 22 tandems and 27 teams completing six rounds of the UKSL on June 14-15 – all in one day! Everything ran like clockwork, resulting in a lot of very happy, tired jumpers and a cracking World Cup party in the bar that night. Needless to say, the DZ was a little quiet on the Sunday morning. Congratulations to Netheravon teams *Isis*, *SAVoA*, *Entropy* and *Seafury*, who all took podium places and continued to help up-and-coming FS jumpers through their organised events and impromptu coaching. Special thanks go to *Isis*, who provided coaching to teams in between competing themselves.

The last weekend in April saw both *Freefly* and *FS* training events, with top coaches Paul Capsey running a FF camp and *Isis* holding an FS Team Coaching Weekend. Both events were well-supported and much appreciated by all who attended. More events are planned this year and are proving very popular. We recommend booking a place now.

FS jumpers from all over the UK enjoyed Dave and Mike Lewis's Pinch Jump weekend in June. Starting with two-plane formation loads, they quickly moved onto three-plane formation skydives. The 36- and 38-ways were only a fraction away from being complete and they looked fantastic in Sam Bemment's and Wes Guest's great photos. More FS weekends with Mike are planned for the summer and are all posted on netheravon.com.

While the DZ was operating out of Middle Wallop, *Team Crwsaders* took time out of their busy training schedule to run a Canopy Formation Weekend, completing 19 coaching jumps with a mixture of first-time students and low-experience canopy flyers. Everybody came away with a much-improved understanding of this discipline. The *Crwsaders* continued their team training with a very productive weekend in June back at Netheravon.

Our new chief pilot, James Mitton, has settled into the Netheravon team well and we are all very happy to have him on board – welcome to James. Pilot Arthur Gibson, who has APA Membership No. 1, celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary recently – congratulations. Margaret hasn't changed at all! Also celebrating was André Taylor from the Netheravon Flock, who hit the big 40 in June, although there are still no signs of him growing up!

Finally, good luck to Netheravon teams *Euphoria* and *Isis*, who are representing Great Britain at the World Championships this month. Good luck guys!

Elana Cain

ACHIEVEMENTS AFF GRADUATE Emma Cartwright **CAT8/CHI** Tommy Glavin, Leigh Marsden, Shakir Nabil, Shona Purves, James Ranken **CAT8** Matthew Perchard **CH2/JMI** Dan Anders-Brown, Kyle Kotze, Shakir Nabil, Speed Rebel, Ben Wiltshire **FSI** Emma Cartwright, Kyle Kotze, Shakir Nabil **FFI** Luke Bright, Emma Cartwright, Brian Gardner, Stuart Selley **FF2** Stuart Selley **WS1** Angelo Grubisic, Richard Holder, Keith Skelley **WS2** Angelo Grubisic **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Dan Anders-Brown, Claire Humphries, Kyle Kotze, Shakir Nabil, Paul Osborne, Samantha Patel, Speed Rebel, Ben Wiltshire **100** Luke Bright, Phil Collins **200** Jenn Hardy, Franky Lock, Anna Nowakowska **600** Zio Mau **700** Rachel King **1,000** Jim Gray, Kev Tucker **1,600** Mike Lewis **12 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Pete Hodges **26 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Mike Lewis

Jersey

skydivejersey.net

Alternative alternator

The weather gods are starting to bring us the conditions we love and we've been making the most of our opportunities to take to the sky. Mally has furnished Lima Tango with a new alternator and the jump ship is signed off for another year's action, serving the club as our trusty and luxurious sky limo. Well, it's luxurious in skydiving terms – the floor has a carpet to sit on! The lack of inflight refreshments is more than compensated for with excellent piloting and some of the most breathtaking views in the world.

A few more jumpers have earned themselves a beer fine this month. We'll start with the bad news and a get well soon to Michelle, who had

a visit to A&E which earned her a beer fine and a lovely pink cast on her leg. I'm happy to say she's already getting the urge to take to the skies again – speedy recovery, Mish, and take it easy for a while! Well done to Simon Griffiths for saving himself from a sticky situation while jumping some rented equipment in France – it's good to keep the reserve drill fresh in your mind. Congratulations to Shayne Lightfoot and Johnathon Storey, local jumpers both, who have recently taken their first plunge out of the Skydive Jersey Cessna over St Aubin. Finally, we can't forget our brother from another mother, Guernsey resident Peter Priaulx, who



Peter Dolbel and Joe Kennedy flying the Union Flag for the 70th anniversary of D-Day, by Nigel O'Brien

hopped over to Jersey to get the first couple of Skydive Jersey entries in his logbook.

There's a great vibe around the club, with all the new jumpers and lots of happy tandem students enjoying their first taste of freefall. Long live the summer!

Nigel O'Brien

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Shayne Lightfoot **CH2/JMI** Michelle Traynor **JUMP NUMBERS 500** Nigel O'Brien

Sibson

skydivesibson.co.uk

In the Mick of time

The summer is here and, man, have we been busy. We are operating from every Thursday to Sunday at the moment, and we also have open weeks once per month (twice in July).

The UKSL at Sibson was a roaring success, with a record 30 teams from all over the country. We managed to get all but the Rookies and Single A finished through all of the rounds on the Saturday, thanks to a record 54 lifts. It was a long day that started with something like 60 kit and docs checks at silly o'clock, so massive thanks to all of the club members and the staff for pulling that off.

We have also just had a record tandem weekend where we completed 120 tandem jumps in one day. We started at 11.30 after poor weather but we completed by 18.30

– what a cracking effort by all. The Girls Head Down group were also here recently, trying to build a record formation. No record so far, but it's great to see the girls committed and determined. Watch this space – I know they will get it.

For those who don't already know, Mick May has finally hung up his parachute. Mick's career spans 40 years and, up until last year, he was an active jumper with us after having been skydiving at Sibson since it began. Mick is affectionately known as Mick May because he comes along with his wife and parks up his caravan for a couple of weeks every May. Mick is still going to pop up to see us and hopefully we will see him at the Christmas do. Well done Mick!

Finally, we have been cleared by STC to land by the DZ Tower. This will

Mick Thomas, by Sarah Hall



be for tandem lifts only or for teams training etc., and will be controlled by CCI Chris McCann. It is not our intention to land anyone and everyone here, but it is part of the ongoing DZ improvements. Let us know what you think and, if you have ideas or needs, come and speak to me in person or drop me an email.

I need photos and achievements! As usual, I am still looking for

good photos and achievements to go in club news.

Why not follow us on Twitter, add us to your Facebook (UK Parachuting Sibson Airfield or Sibson Skydivers) or check out our website at skydivesibson.co.uk/events to keep up to speed with all the happenings at UK Parachuting Sibson.

Paul Dorward

Wild Geese

skydivewildgeese.com

Long walks, long pauses and long drops

The poor start to the year is well and truly behind us. With the weather gods being reasonably kind, we have regularly been jumping until it gets dark on Friday evenings and we even squeezed in some Wednesday jumping too.

It's great to see Linzi back in the sky with us. With her new flower power jump suit, she has taken to the skies with *Bodyflight Fly Wild's*

Nadine Bibby to take her skydiving to the next level. Hopefully the FS1 sticker will be complete by the time we're reading this. Nadine and her *Bodyflight Fly Wild* teammates have also been team training both in the tunnel and at home at Wild Geese – hopefully it will pay off, what with the FS competition season being close at hand...

From FS skills to canopy skills! Joanne Wilson

has been off to improve her canopy skills with Flight-1 Instructor and *PD Factory Team* member Brian Vacher completing both Flight 101 and Flight 102 canopy courses. On the other end of the canopy scale, Aaron and Rod have been receiving advanced swooping training with world record holder Nick Batsch. It was great to see BPA Instructor Roger Hoe join us for a passing visit and a quick jump while doing a tour of Ireland with his wife.

Congratulations to Tom Darkoh, who was joined by Aaron, Callum, Stephen and Michael when he completed his 300th jump. Levi Hamill got his A Licence too.

A big congratulations to cameraflyer Stuart Ryan who, while on a BASE jumping trip in 'The Valley', dropped to his knee and proposed to his girlfriend Tilly Emerson. You'll be glad to know that, after an unnerving pause, she said 'yes'.

And finally, massive congratulations to Gillian Anderson for completing the London to Brighton 24hr 100km walk – rather you than me!

Until next time, swoop hard and fast!

Rod McCrory



Fly Wild, by Gillian Anderson

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Levi Hamill JUMP NUMBERS 300 Tom Darkoh

Langar

skydivelangar.co.uk

You saw them here first

With summer in full swing here at Langar, we've been training, jumping and coaching our little hearts out – as you'll see from this month's list of achievements. The FS and FF Progression Weekend at the beginning of May got things off to a flying start, with four people gaining FS1s, two new FF1 jumpers and an FF2 to boot. Nice work from the coaches all weekend!

A lot of our progression takes place from Monday to Friday (there's lots of midweek jumping in general), which is good given that weekend weather often hampers events a bit. *Bullet Freestyle's* Tracking Weekend was one such weekend, but they still got a few good dives in. The vast majority of AFF training takes place during weekdays too, and we've had some storming weeks of late.

There are quite a few up-and-coming new skydivers appearing here and you'll see their names in every Mag for a while as they race to gain BPA stickers! The same applies to the Category System trainees, particularly for the



Ally Milne organising at the Langar BPA Freestyle Roadshow, by Chris Cook

University Skydiving Club members who seem to spend their student loans exclusively at Langar! Everybody who took part in the Student Progression week in June used the available instruction to good effect.

Langar Boogie 2 runs from September 13-21 – more details are available at facebook.com/skydivelangar, of course. There's always something going on, so come and join in...

Tony Danbury

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Jessica Herman **GRADUATED AFF** Stu Andrews, Dale Donald, Martin Douglas, Fraser Gough, Oskars Gusarous, Rick Hayden, Simas Jermosenka, Will Jones, Matt Keynes, Matt Lowe, Dan Potter, Tyler Priestley, Lucy Roy, Tom Worboys **CAT8/CHI** Phil Haywood, Olivia Iannou, Rob Moore, Collette Williams, Paul Wood **FS1** Fahd Akbar, Wyn Austin, Denise Borgstrom, Ben Eyam, Nathan Fisher, Rosie Manning, Tyler Mason, Nic Mather, Sam Moule, Tom Ravet, Claudio Ribeiro, Florine Patty, Emily Sugars, Andy Thomas **FF1** Ed Cawte, Ben Mitchell, Karen Neilsen, Stefan Pacel, Guy Stanley **FF2** Christopher France **WS1** Hannah Parker **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Andy Martin **100** Rich Drabble, Tom Shorten **200** Rachel Edgson **500** Ian Rayner **1,500** Andy Pike, Nick Robinson **2,500** Siân Stokes **3,000** Baz Carey, Chris Cook, Dave Grzeskowiak **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Rich Drabble, Tyler Mason **144 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Phil Curtis

BCPA

bcpa.org.uk

Save the best for last

Summer has begun for the BCPA and we started it at Dunkeswell! When the weather was good, it was glorious – when it was bad, it was torrential. Despite the stop-start, lots of jumping was done and much was achieved; over five days, BCPA members racked up one first freefall, two FF1s, six FS1s, two WS2s, a B Licence, a C Licence and four first CF jumps! Thanks to the many coaches who gave up their time to make this possible – *Vision99*, Ryan Mancey, *XDream's* Potter and Jack had FS coaching covered, Jamie Flynn and Marcus Muir-Smith of *PH36* and Gav McLeod of *CFUK* got the BCPA doing CF, Dunkeswell's own Dan Guest had the FF in hand, Fraser Corsan did the WS coaching and Si Larcombe ran a very useful Skydive99 Canopy Course! Additional thanks to Jack Bradford and Dan Guest for coaching at our warm-up tunnel on Wednesday tunnel night.

With all that jumping, everyone should have been too worn out to party hard, but this is the BCPA! Saturday night brought a 'Beach Party' and the attire was appropriate (for the theme, not in the traditional sense of the word...), hosted at The Aviator. We had a brilliant night of cheesy dancing and spontaneous bar games, so thank you to Skydive UK Dunkeswell for enabling our members to say goodbye to exams and end the academic year in style – it was ridonkulous!

As I write this article, I am procrastinating over packing because the BCPA are off to Spain in the morning! Look out for news on how that went



A (almost) 17-way over Dunkeswell, by Craig Hicks

and the biggest event of our year, BCPA Nationals, which includes our AGM and committee elections.

Therefore, this is my last Club Zone for the BCPA – I hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I've enjoyed writing them. Best of luck to next year's committee, who will be running the 2014/15 BCPA by the time this lands on your doorstep.

Ali Woodhouse

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Black Knights

bkpc.co.uk

Winning Gold

We've had a very successful couple of months at the centre since I last wrote and there are now gold medals everywhere!

We hosted the CF Grand Prix here in May and our resident team, the *Cockerham Cockups*, cleaned up again, winning gold in the intermediate sequential competition. Our own Paul and Dave joined the *CRewsaders* to win gold in the senior category too. Amazing effort, guys! Thanks to everyone who helped organise this and to all of the visiting jumpers and judges who took part. It was a great event with a fabulous social scene and we look forward to having you all again soon.

Black Knights wingsuit Artistic team *Azure* also entered both the Wingsuit Nationals and the Easter Wings Roadshow recently. They smashed it, winning gold at both – well done! We have several coaches available here if anyone is interested in getting involved in our CRew and/or wingsuiting scenes, so please come and ask.

Our Isle of Man trip was a great success, with a team of staff, regulars and new faces joining us for tandems and fun jumping at Jurby Air Field. Everyone enjoyed themselves in the sky, watching the TT and at the various parties. Our own Roger Hughes now also owns a small piece of history in that he was the first to perform a wingsuit jump over the Isle of Man! He'd tell you himself, but he's too shy (at least, that's what he said to the journalist who interviewed him afterwards).

Our fabulous pilot Ash has been out to play recently and has been organising a variety of FS coaching, load organising and big-way for our FS gang. No, the Blackhawk hasn't been flying herself, although I'm sure she could if she wanted to. Tiggs has been in the hot seat, ferrying us to 15,000ft for all of these great events. On top of this, Ash has agreed to be part of the management team, helping Paul

with the running of the centre when we are not operating and offering help, support and coaching as required when we are. We've also hosted training for the POPS record attempt and Jack has been hard at work planning and organising for this.

By the time you're reading this, the charity jumps for the Air Ambulance Service will have taken place, with our regulars taking to the skies to brave the chill in bikinis and other skimpy clothing to raise money. We'd like to thank everyone who sponsored us, and the Air Ambulance guys for the fantastic work they do.

So what's next for the successful Black Knights team? Well, we have a variety of coaching, competitions, events, tunnel camps and parties planned, including canopy courses, student progression days, open weeks and much more. The staff are still working hard to make further improvements to the centre too, with new facilities being created on a regular basis for us all to enjoy. As ever, the details of these can be found on our website and Facebook pages. Come over and see us!

AJ Taylor



Four and five stacks, by Scott Thomas



ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Connor Lynch **CAT8/CHI** James Allen, Catherine Leather, Brad Needham **CH2/JMI** Chris White **FSI** Tom Bartlett, Steve Collins, Ben Egan, Catherine Leather, Chris White **FFI** Dan Armer **WSI** Carl Marsh, Mandy McGuinness **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Steve Collins, Catherine Leather, Brad Needham, Neil Roberts, Chris White **100** Phil Murray, Pud Waterhouse, John Welch **200** Dan Armer **300** Martyn Blundell, Briony McKenzie **400** Emily Plant **900** Roger Hughes **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Callum Fleming, Phil Murray, John Welch **TWO HOURS IN FREEFALL** Sue Nuttall **THREE HOURS IN FREEFALL** Martyn Blundell, Briony McKenzie **FOUR HOURS IN FREEFALL** AJ Taylor **SIX HOURS IN FREEFALL** Dave Bloomfield

Paragon

paragonskydiving.co.uk

If the chute fits...

The summer is well under way at Paragon, complete with lots of happy tandem and static line students and plenty progression on the RAPS front. Mark, Mark and Murray eventually got their first jumps completed after a series of appearances on bad weather days, and we also had Rob Cunnton and Allan Baird successfully progress to DRCPs. Keep up the good work, folks!

The usual monthly BBQs are up-and-running on weekends along with the RAPS courses. Feel free to come along and join the fun.

June brought with it the first demo of the year, with the guys keeping up old traditions and hitting the beer tent shortly after landing for well-deserved refreshments. Well done to the Billy, Chik and The Vowel, but especially to Lukasz (who lost his Demo virginity and ended up with a beer fine for his troubles). We can't forget Jim for his efforts in Zulu Uniform and Alice and co on the ground too. As usual, the organisers of the Errol Gala Day were pleased with the team's performance.



The Paragon display team enjoying the perks of the job!

The annual Paragon pilgrimage to Empuriabrava is coming up fast and we hope the boys and girls all have fun and return safely. Should any of you happen to come across a blue Size 10 left Adidas trainer, could you please bring it home to reunite it with its twin?

Mark McConnell

Beccles

ukparachuting.co.uk

Who put that windsock there?



LTMK, the winning team of Scrambles.
By Charlie Mowforth

As I sit here writing another edition of the club news, I can't believe what a cracking couple of months we've been rocking here at Beccles.

May kicked off with our annual Scrambles event, which was held over the first Bank Holiday. This year, we welcomed back the most awesome *Raykipo*, who took time out of their busy schedules to come and play with us in the skies. As well as this, they provided ace coaching and encouragement throughout the weekend. The competition was well-attended, with a record 11 teams participating over four rounds of planned chaos. The winning team was *LTMK*, which consisted of Mike Leggett, Tony Kerry and Lukasz Zalewski with Katy Saxby as team captain. Well done to you guys, as well as to all

you guys and gals who came along and made it the best Scrambles yet.

So many thank yous have to be said to all of you who made this year's Scrambles such an epic time. Firstly, a massive thanks has to go to Tomo for hosting the Scrambles and for providing a mega after party. The food was excellent, so thanks to Charlie too. Thank you to *Raykipo* and the other team captains for all your hard work and help, we're all so very grateful. Finally, cheers so muchly to the manifesters, cameramen and packers. Without your expertise and sterling work, this event would never be the success it is. If you missed this year's Scrambles, make sure you save the date for next year.

There's been plenty of weekday jumping happening here at Beccles, with loads of clubbies skiving off work to get a job or two in and enjoy the sunny weather. A special mention has to go out to Danny French, who has been providing superb coaching during the week as well as getting himself intimately involved with the windsock pole on landing. Note to self: pole dancing and swooping definitely don't mix. Oh yeah, and Ross? Try to remember to grab

the bar when swinging out to float otherwise you'll be doing another solo!

Our resident legend Andy Page has been out and about again. Not only did he enter the Headcorn Accuracy Regionals with only three jumps on his Accuracy canopy, he finished just 20cm behind the last British team member. Andy was also in the POPS 52-way record attempt, which will have happened in July – good luck from all of us here at Beccles.

The beginning of June saw us host a BPA FS Roadshow weekend. There was plenty of coaching on offer and an abundance of clubbies about who took advantage of it. Appreciations to Phil Hartree and our coaches for providing great pointers and tips, as well as some brilliant jumps. Congratulations go out to Duncan Watson for achieving his FS1 on the last load of the weekend – great job and about darn time, dude.

All that's left for me to say is keep an eye on the club jumpers' Facebook page for more upcoming events, and blue skies to all you clubbie funkstarz.

James Page

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT 8/CHI Simon Barney, Tom Burgess, Lee Causer, Adam Dignam, Will Fisher, Freddy Freeman, Paul Gibbs, Sam Harvey, Tom Lockhead, Kevin McCrey, James Miller, Kieran O'Driscoll, Brenn Proctor, Chris Sears, Russell Summers, Ed Charlton Weedy, Sam Wilson, Ning Yang, Stuart Young **CH2/JM1** Ed Charlton Weedy **FS1** Ross Francis, Maximus D Meridius, Daniel Norris, Chris Sears, Duncan Watson, Lukasz Zalewski **FFI** Josh Pickering **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Marty 'The Tattoo Wizard' Burgess, Ed Charlton Weedy **100** Duncan Watson **200** Sarah Law, Mike Leggett, Maximus D Meridius, Gaz Mooney, Daniel Norris, Josh Pickering, Matt Trevillion **300** Steve Niemiec **400** Andy Parker **500** James Page **1,500** Rob Bellman

Bridlington

skydivegb.com

Planks, pranks and thanks

Skydive GB has been a lot of fun over the last few months due to the improved weather and glimpses of summer. The Airvan has a shiny new three-bladed propeller, making it slightly quieter and much cooler. Nuno de Silva has completed his training to become a 'jumper dumper' and is now flying regularly too.

We have now received the go-ahead for a fully licensed bar and plan to open this in style. We are thinking that black ties, dinner jackets and shorts will be the attire for the night. DST Leonfield have presented us with the first military bar decoration and thanks go to Paul 'Gibbo' Gibbs for this – it will hold pride of place.

The new T-shirt award is a hit with the regulars. The dreaded T-shirt must be worn by the individual who makes the worst error of the day – until the next person messes up. So far, it has gone to Alec Flint for continually forgetting his helmet, Nuno for flooding the aircraft, various RAPS students for a catalogue of errors, myself for being generally inadequate and (surprisingly)

to Darren Glover for a close encounter with a cornfield. The leading candidate, however, is Liam Watt, who just messes things up on a regular basis. His most recent incident was to book a weekend off flying in the wrong month. His reply to this was that June and July sound very similar. We thought he would improve after returning Pickles, his teddy, but clearly not.

Sadly, we say a fond farewell to the lovely Hugh Boden. Hugh was a co-founder of the Hull University Skydiving Club and has put a lot of hard graft and effort into making this what it is. Hugh has now finished university and will be moving south. We will miss his craziness and, particularly, his naked planking.

Darren Glover has facilitated another canopy piloting course, which proved highly successful and was enjoyed by all who attended. Congratulations to Darren himself for completing an advanced piloting course. We may not have the swoop pond that he wants, but we have an awesome puddle for him to practise in.



Mel Orton, by Sara Orton
(yes, it is my Dad!)

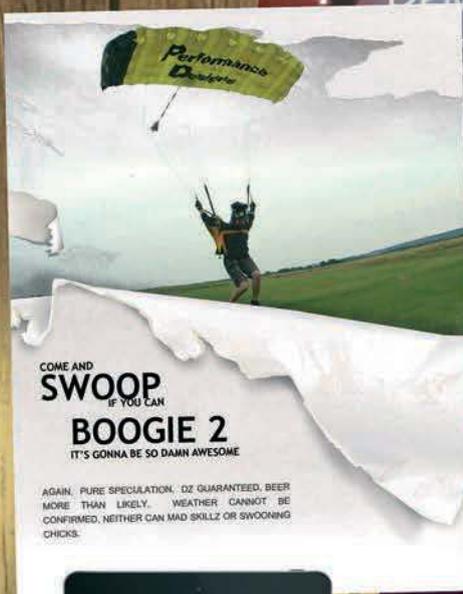
Our latest RAPS student is Tom Barker, who must get a mention for his reserve drills practice. Tom likes to learn his reserve drills in the shower at the centre and can be heard shouting the obligatory 'malfunction' while the tandem students and their families are nervously attempting to prepare for their day!

There has been a lot of progression recently from Jess Saunders, Leisl Leonard and Sophie O'Connor, all of whom are smashing through their training and loving freefall – go girls.

Overall, Skydive GB has been a happy place to be for our regular jumpers, tandem and RAPS students.

Sara Orton

2014



BOOGIE 2 IS HERE AGAIN!

We have our usual mix of aircraft, organisers and Shaggy's Bar

We have UPT, Cookie and NZ Aerosports attending with demo gear

As always, a mega party to close the Boogie!

13-21st September

Check Facebook for more info!



/skydivelangar

Check out our facebook page for more info and a full list of events!

Cyprus

skydivecyprus.com.cy

The wrath of the weather gods!

It seems we have been punished for our recent gloating over the warmer climate here at Kingsfield. Unseasonal wet weather has caused delays to jumping and thermals to remain firmly on! We have also had some maintenance issues with our old Islander causing an extended break but, due to the weather, it hasn't felt that bad!

Our RAPS students have continued their excellent progress despite the rain and, especially, the stronger winds. Under the watchful eye of Pelham and George, many are now doing unstable exits and are getting tantalisingly close to A Licence (and the extra five knots that comes with it). We have also had some new faces join our AFFIs Dylan Bartle and Chas McNeil, who have ensured that

they fly through the levels. Chad Saville has also done very well and is progressing very nicely – congratulations, Chad!

Our experienced jumpers continue to thrive and we currently have the Cyprus 4-way Nationals taking place. Well, I say "taking place", but, due to weather and availability of teams, it is taking place over a few weekends. We have five teams this year, which is an improvement on last year's four, and we have a wide mix of talents.

The 3-way Scrambles also took place and, as with all Scrambles events, this was good fun with lots of footage for the bloopers reel! We also have a new member to our ever-increasing wingsuit flock,

Steve Thomas, who has been busy and has helped Charalambos Charalambous gain his WS1 with ease.

Preparations for the Cyprus Parachute Festival are nearly complete at the time of writing. The Festival will have taken place on July 5-6 but, if you didn't visit us then, swing by and pay us a visit if you find yourself on holiday over here another time. We welcome visitors all through the year so, if you would like to experience our beautiful part over the world, call ahead before you make your travel plans to avoid disappointment.

Blue skies!

Biggy Biggadyke

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Tony Oliver, Chad Saville **CAT8/CHI** Demetris Hadjonny, George Theodoulou **CAT8** Nicholas Charalambous, Liam Crutehley, Rhys Hawkey, Richard Kimber **FSI** George Theodoulou **WS1** Charalambos Charalambous **JUMP NUMBERS 300** Nasos Ktorides **700** Marios Christodoulou **NINE HOURS IN FREEFALL** Marcus Fountain

Dunkeswell

skydive99.com

SWOOP!

This has been an extremely busy summer. There is always something going on here, so we have been open for jumping almost every day of the week as well as at the weekends.

Summer started with the BCPA Boogie, which was a massive success. There were loads of them, they almost didn't break anything and they did lots of good quality jumping instead. Some students got on the Canopy Course with Simon Larcombe from Swoop99 and many of them cracked out their FS coaching, with an impressive number of FS1s awarded within the Boogie. Simon Guest from our AAA team *Vision99* organised FS big-ways and our resident FF Coach Dan Guest organised tracking and freefly jumps. There was a fantastic skill level from the BCPA members! We hope to hold the BCPA Boogie again next year, complete with fire pits and late nights (until 5am). They sure showed us how you do it.

World Champion swooper Nick Batsch held CP Coaching here in June. This was the first time Nick had been in the UK and he fell in love with our pond. The course proved to be popular with people travelling from far away and, as always, some of us did a little swim in the pond. But hey:

"That's what it's there for, maaaaan!" All in all, unbelievable progress in only four days for both the beginners and experienced swoopers. The feedback about Nick was so good that we have invited him back and he will be holding another course here in September. Please check on our Facebook for the date and don't be slow to book.

The second year of CP Nationals was held here in July and we are very happy to host this amazing event – full report next issue.

We broke the Guinness World Record for the most tandem skydives completed at a single venue in 24 hours. The previous record of 251, held by Germany, was a piece of cake and all we needed was a good day's weather on June 21 – we got it. See p8 for more.

In August, we have two major events. Get ready for the Twin Beech Boogie 2 with some of the best load organisers in the world. Dave Morris will be here on FS big-ways and Killa (Adam Mattacola) and Chris Lynch will be on FF. People had already started to register for this Boogie at the beginning of the summer and are flying in from Europe for this so, if you are local, there simply is no excuse to miss out on the boogie of the year.

Finally, we will hold a FS big-way event at the end of August to build a formation of

36-46-way. This will be organised by the very experienced *Vision99* team member Simon Guest. If you would like to register for this, you will need an FS1, a minimum of 150 jumps and to be confident on 12-way (or larger) formations at any slot. We will be building up to the formation from Wednesday until Friday and will be doing the big formation at the weekend. We highly recommend that less-experienced people get here earlier in the week.

If you would like to progress with your jumping, this is the place for you. Just check out the number of achievements!

Hope to see you soon.

Miko



Dan Guest's tracking group during the BCPA Boogie, by Chris Mayhew

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Charlie Barden, Denzel Manyande, Edward Masson, Max Rimington, Laura Rush **CAT8/CHI** Alex Baker, Chris Baker, Rob Colclough, James Duerden, Connor Figg, George Godfrey, Conor Hall, Renata Lambert, Martin Lambert, Shayne Lightfoot, Callum Shales, Ben Spalding, Steven Turner, Stuart Wright **CH2/JMI** Dominic Barratt-Bentley, Bill Booth, Jim Graham, Simon King, Stephen Mains **FSI** Matt Aland, Tom Bird, Stuart Blick, Connor Figg, Lisa Gibson, Simon King, William Miller, Cara Pritchard, Josh Rex, Ally Tellbutt, Merlin Webster **FF1** Lizzie Attwood, Sebastiaan Mulder, Ben Simpson, Guy Stanley, Adam Thomas **WS1** Lucia Hosekova, Adam Thomas **WS2** Heather Gibbons, Ali Woodhouse **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Arthur Amarra, Dave Eatock, Elliott Fry, Tom Keyte, James Sutton **200** Bill Booth, Lucia Hosekova, Adam Thomas **300** Shaun Butler **500** Dan Whitby **700** Richie Taylor **800** Clare Smith **1,000** Chris Griffin

Cark

skydivenorthwest.co.uk

Cark Week One

Nadeem, Karim, Kev and Gunner started our open week with a seven-jump day and great weather on Saturday blossomed as we completed a comfortable 22 loads. With a very busy student programme over the weekend, the first freefallers came flourishing. Congratulations to Scott, Adam, Andy, Holly, Daniel and Karan for their first freefalls.

With quite a few beer fines, you could hear the popping of corks and hissing of beer cans into the early hours of Sunday morning. BBQs heaved a sigh of relief after tons of meat was cooked to satisfy the club members.

Dawn chorus was met with Stu on manifest calling up the first Sunday load of tandems and students, followed by a scurry of club members taking advantage of yet another sunny day. The smell of coconut drifted across our nostrils around the DZ as last year's holiday cream was broken out and applied. Another epic 20-plus loads were

completed, and it was the ideal start to our first open week.

It was very pleasant to receive a number of visiting jumpers over the weekend and to provide many blocks of ten altitude tickets. Speds and Anna were kept very busy load organising some nice 8-ways, while Georgina kept her beady eyes on Ollie and Sonny. To all our visiting jumpers, it was great to meet you all and we hope you will visit us again.

Monday and Tuesday were a little more laid back as we all recovered from a very busy weekend. With a 14-lift and respectable 12-lift on Tuesday, the remaining students who stayed gained from the one-on-one instruction and many progressed rapidly. A special mention goes to Scott McKinnon, who shot from five-second delays to his track turns over a four-day stint. Amazing what decent weather and continuous jumping can achieve! Well done, Scotty – by the time you read this, Cat 8 will be in the bag.



Dunc and Dan, by Kev Coffey

With new additions in the canteen in the form of Janet and Becky and plenty of fresh pastures day-on-day, we are all getting a little wider on the waist! Girls, you do a sterling job and, for that, we thank you.

High chair Andy Friar is shooting through the category system following his retrain and is already rock solid on 10-second delays. Becky also experienced her first-time flight with a tandem and now has the bug. That's gonna cost you, Andy!

Thanks to Dave McMinn for the fab work on our flight line area –

amazing what a morning's poor weather can do to lift the spirit of the DZ! Dave also drives our CRW coaching with Jim Scott. Congratulations also to Elliot and Don for your CF1 achievements.

On Friday, we woke to blue skies after two days of cloud and drizzle. Another 20-plus load was completed as the Friday's finishers arrived.

A big thank you goes to all those who supported the week and to those that made it happen. Roll on Cark Week 2!

Stuart Morris

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Andy Friar, Scott McKinnon, Adam McQuire, Karan Singh, Holly Tann, Daniel Taylor **CHI** John Robinson **FSI** John Robinson, Karin Shokrae **FFI** Karin Shokrae **CFI** Elliot Brown, Don Tomkinson **ISI** John Robinson **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Katie Hayes, John Robins, Karin Shokrae **100** David Hunter, Karin Shokrae **200** George Neate **300** Scott Allender **400** Steve 'Gunner' Steward **500** Nik 'Smiley' Barnett **TWO HOURS IN FREEFALL** Sam Hart **FOUR HOURS IN FREEFALL** Scott Allender

RAPA

skydive-badlippspringe.com

Skydive Bad Lippspringe goes global!

We're still not quite sure whose idea it was but, as beer fines go, this event involved almost every member of staff at the centre and then some...

On June 7, Amy Matthews from the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC) and DJ Jason Webster from the British Forces Broadcasting Corporation (BFBS) turned up with cameras, microphones and crew to see what we get up to at the DZ. The PLA had been reduced in size for the Whitsun holiday weekend due to the Scouts International Intercamp taking over one side of the airfield, meaning that, unfortunately, students weren't able to jump for safety reasons. Apart from that, normal service for licence holders continued. Yes, our PLA is large enough to host a global Scout Jamboree and continue to function as a DZ!

Temperatures in the mid-30s and cloudless blue skies provided the ideal backdrop to introduce the media to the DZ – what better way to do that than from 13,500ft on the front of a tandem? To find out how they got on, take a look at the footage they put together around the DZ, the interviews with jumpers and staff and, of course, the great views from the skies above Skydive Bad Lippspringe at forces.tv/35983323

As the weather picks up, so too do the extracurricular commitments. We've had requests for a number of demos from various events in and around the local area, involving both the British and German communities. Within days of each other, demos took place at Hamlin and the Kur Park at Bad Oeynhausen at the start of June involving four and three jumpers respectively.



Ludwig Schmude flies the German flag in at the Kur Park, Bad Oeynhausen. By Jay Dudding

As this article goes to press, the 50th Anniversary will have been and gone. If you weren't there, you'll be sure to have missed arguably one of the best boogies this DZ will have seen and probably ever will...

Looking forward to trying to remember that!

Rich Oakley

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Ray Clement, Adam Dover **CAT3/CHI** Ray Clement, Adam Dover **CH2/JMI** Mark Hutchinson **FSI** Mark Hutchinson, Rich Oakley, Moritz Ortjohann

Swiss movement, English heart



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Offside at 15k?

We kicked off the busy summer months by hosting a BPA Coaching Roadshow in wingsuiting. We were fortunate enough to have jet-setting wingsuiter Sam Laming visit us for the weekend and share his knowledge and skills with regular and visiting jumpers. Tim Freegard managed to progress onto WS2 in record time and many others learned new skills such as backflying and safe flocking. We're very thankful for Sam's visit and also for the kind words he had to say about our DZ – we hope he'll visit again soon.

Next issue, I'll also have a round-up report on our BPA FS Coaching Roadshow, hosted by the lovely ladies of UK 4-way team *Kaizen*.

In other DZ news, the shiny super-awesome BBQ is now fully up and

running with a solid roof overhead, just in time for the summer months of free beer and BBQ after jumping on Saturday nights! We have also welcomed new packer Dex, who is here to lighten the load and make jumping smoother for tandems and those hiring kit.

You may remember I mentioned that our DZ regular and FS Coach Graham Ablett had taken part in filming a new TV show which features the combination of football tricks and extraordinary challenges. Well, I'm happy to announce that you can now view the episode featuring our lot and superstar Graham at www.londonlive.co.uk/programmes/f2-kicks-off. But does it go in?

A quick mention and massive congratulations goes out to Lewis

Wingsuit flocking, by Glen Wainwright



Jones, who competed in his first-ever BASE competition a couple of months back – the ProBASE World Cup. He did amazingly well, competing with professionals from all over the world, and placed fourth overall. Of course, this meant he missed Sam Laming's Wingsuit Roadshow. Just another reason for Sam to come back soon...

We currently have a lot of students working their way through AFF and progressing onto FS. Don't forget that we have regular coaches at the dropzone every weekend and often throughout the week too for those who fancy a spot of mid-week jumping!

Robynne Haynes

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT 8/CHI Jordan Bathija, Paula Fischerova, Jack Howes **JMI** Robin Auld **FF2** Paul Bateman **WS2** Tim Freegard **JUMP NUMBERS 300** Sean Healy

Beech Party

The club has been buzzing! With so many different forms of progression and general flying, it's hard to know where to start.

Firstly, it has been great seeing so many new faces progressing through AFF and static line and then going on to gain their A Licences.

The first demos of the season have taken place, with 'Big Tony' leading the team on a jump into the school where he is deputy head – 700 screaming girls made for a very successful display! 'Exotic parrot' Simon Soper did his first display jump into the local grass track race too. It is always good to get that first 'real' one out of the way, so well done to him for an awesome job.

Si Beech's Cutaway Party is firmly in the history books with what can only be described as a fantastic day, with FS, FF, CRW, wingsuiting, static line, AFF and no shortage of lucky students attached to our team of tandem instructors during the day. The evening was supported by our local DZ bar Wings with a purpose-built stage outside the bar and a marquee for the awesome live band Mental

Block to get the party rocking all night – which they did in spectacular fashion. Great to see such a wide range of skydivers and airfield staff come out to enjoy the evening. Watch this space, because Cutaway Night 2 is already being planned later in the year!

Temperatures rocketed in June and the weekday jumping picked up. Ken Gregory has been down on Wednesdays to organise anyone who wants to progress either in FS or towards A or B Licence. Apparently it is healthy to take some sick days, so come on down and join in the fun.

Del has put his building skills to use with the creation of a new brick-built BBQ and we look forward to using this throughout the summer. Well, once the beer light is on, of course!

Captain Jez Britcher, our Monday/Tuesday pilot, took to the skies on his AFF Level 1 and now can't wait to get his licence. He has finally realised it's fun in the back of the plane as well as the front!

The Regional Accuracy Meet took place in May, with new faces in the form of Andy Page and Steve Hastings turning up to jump. After a bit of juggling with random winds, it was successfully finished on the Sunday. The gold was won by

Dave Crowhurst, who returned after breaking his back last September, with Esther Reynolds taking silver in the senior. Del Hopkins won the intermediate on his Velo, while Si Beech put in a sterling effort on his Sabre 120 to take silver.

Dave Crowhurst will be joining Peter Sizer and Janos Leszko on the British Accuracy Team for the World Championships in Bosnia this August, although they still insist this is a working trip. Good luck guys!

Del has not cutaway since the last club news, which is an achievement in itself, while Mutian Li decided to test the temperature of the water in the stream and this kept Jane busy packing his reserve instead.

Simon Beech



Ben Broad, by Tom Ireland

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Pietro Marone, Yiyu Xiang **AFF GRADUATE** Kata Farrago, Meg Hughes, Jacob Rees, Ashley Watkins **CAT8/CHI** Lio Arias, Katy Baker, Stacey Bennett, Alec Gorringe, Katerina Forde, Callum McKay, Kelly Peto, Sarah Reilly, Michael Southgate, Adam Swierczynski, Tom Watson **CH2/JMI** Sam Everett, Wayne Kennedy, Georgie Rhodes, Steve Street, Eddie Wearing **FS1** Sean Cawley **FF1** Stewart Taylor, Jose Videria **CF1** Kai Bedford, Charlie Wakeham **JUMP NUMBERS 200** Sarah Wilks **500** Marcus Muir Smith, Pete Norman **800** Tim Birtlestone **1,500** Joe Laming **1,700** Paul 'Diggers' Digby **4,000** Del Hopkins

Swindon

skydivelondon.co.uk

The first rule of Swindon is...

Well, as usual, we don't have a lot of news. We probably do, but no-one writes anything down anymore and, to be fair, I probably wouldn't take any notice if they did.

Our students are enjoying the weather and our AFF programme goes from strength to strength. Natalia Szczepanek has now realised what it's like to become a skydiver and is racing through her AFF after struggling with getting off the rope. Karen, Pat and Mandy are all moving forward and every time I turn up there are new faces steaming through. Jenny Bouquet has finally hit 800 jumps and, better still, is a qualified sports masseuse. Cresdee's 1,000th jump was a strange affair – a morph suit static line – which makes a change from the usual naked malarky. The Freefly skills of the *Red Angels* increase week on week and some can even exit stable, but the shapes Snake makes on exit are second to none and keep the rest of us amused. Rockstar Sue is now FS1 – not yet at time of writing, but I have faith and I couldn't be prouder. Mark, James and Snake also have their FS1s after help from Chrissy/Jenny et al. Rayner defies logic by being able to rock up, do three jumps a year and then scream her FS1 – shame Dan isn't at the DZ as much anymore, though. Adam Duncan finally made 100 jumps

and Phil Drenning also hit the same mark. They can both land standing up as well, mainly after watching Doog and his efforts. So you can teach an old dog new tricks...

The beer fridge is being filled regularly and the beer fines are almost being paid. It's not like the old days of Dylan and then Crazy's collecting skills, but Andy Tyyrrreelll tries his best. Lucy seems to be making our DZ look cooler each month. There is a distinct lack of me in the videos, but I am sure this will be resolved soon (otherwise a long overdue hissy fit will happen). Paul brought a tube and even jumped it, which was a first for Redlands, as was the jump with a hula hoop. Who'd have thought it possible above Swindon? We thought 4-way flat was our limit, but the Basingstoke Tunnel and Brucie's Tuesday night Tunnel camps and fight club have meant skill sets have improved massively.

But the highlight of the season so far was at 9:10am on a Sunday morning as I was caught pushing my pride and joy into the staff car park after it broke down... again. It soon didn't matter, though, as I did my 2,500th jump, a tandem and then hit 24 hours in freefall followed by an AFF jump – boom.



Dylan on his 2,500th jump, by Lucy Wildey-Smith

We are still awaiting the bikinis for the best-looking packers in the country – I sense this will be soon. Emma and Hazel are still making sure everyone gets booked in happily and on time and Mattridge still thinks he is Brucie's favourite (but really Luke is). Brucie is, of course and as ever, still awesome.

Dylan Griffith-Jones

ACHIEVEMENTS FS1 Adam Duncan, Mark James, Rayner Killingback, Sue 'Rockstar' Read **JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Phillip Drenning, Adam Duncan 800 Jenny Bouquet 1,000 Simon Cresdee 2,500 Dylan Griffith-Jones **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Dylan Griffith-Jones

Cornish

cornishparachuteclub.co.uk



Tim Porter and Justin, by Ben Wood

A first flight to remember

It's been achievements galore at the club as the sun continues to shine in Cornwall, with newly qualified jumpers for our coastal DZ in the form of Joe Robinson, Sam Smith and Pete Sutton, A Licences for some of the 'moorland crew' and plenty of jumpers going through AFF. Andy Mon of the well-known 'Monty's Chop Shop' racked up his 8,000th skydive and 108th hour in freefall on the same skydive while doing AFF over Bodmin.

Justin, the new CPC cameraman, did his 300th jump and continues to post amazing edits on social media, receiving masses of hits as people talk about the views. Jon, the new DZ control, also spends his downtime editing all of our DVDs along with creating a compilation or two himself. Thanks, guys – you do a great job.

Maddy and Neil came down with a mission and so jumped hard all day in the baking sun and clear blue skies to get demo cleared and ready for the beach jumps (which will be a much more

frequent event soon). It's always great to have Tim Porter on the DZ too, even when he is trying to burble you and bash into your feet when you're filming a tandem. The tracking dives were awesome and we're looking forward to next time already. Cheers!

The club had its oldest tandem jumper back in June when Nora Smith, aged 87, signed up for a skydive for charity through a friend without actually knowing what one was. She had never been in a plane before and raised thousands of pounds for the Children's Hospice South West.

The club also wish James Cook a safe trip to NZ.

Ben Wood

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI Rich Abbott, Dodge, Jon Boy, Aaron Polhill, Sam Smith, Pete Sutton **JUMP NUMBERS** 300 Justin 8,000 Andy Montriou **108 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Andy Montriou



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Hibaldstow

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Triple whammy

Darren Graham swoops, by Cristian Stanciu



Summer is really hotting up at Hibaldstow – you can tell because it's nonstop 'til sunset! Luckily, we love it and so long may it last! The teams are taking advantage of the triples and quads we offer to 10.5k to squeeze as many jumps as they like into a single day. Hopefully the training will pay off, so good luck at the Hibaldstow Cup in August and, of course, the British Nationals at Hibaldstow!

Congratulations to our newest AFF Instructors, Kris Cavill and Jordan Wilcox, who passed their course with flying colours. A quick check in the history books tells us that both Jordan and Kris have managed to achieve the triple (CSI, TI and AFFI ratings) within a year. We can't tell – are the beers on you or us?

With the stage in our new bar, it's a shame not to use it. We've booked a selection of live acts for throughout the season, starting with local talent. *Hibaldstow X Factor* was as well frequented as ever, with eight acts playing the night out. Ranging from Matt Lancaster's classic cover of Queen's 'Don't stop me now' to York University singing their own version of *The Lion King*. There can only be one winner, though, and this year's winner with a late entry was Henry Chow, who belted out 'Grace Kelly' by Mika and somehow hit all the high notes!

Another four FS1s have been achieved, so congratulations to Jack, Leon, Kieren and Marwa for their efforts and a shout out to Sam Murray for finally getting his FF1 after 87 years of trying thanks to the support of our always-amazing Freefly coaches and organisers. The guys have really put their heart into the Freefly scene at Hibaldstow this year. Fly free! But, if you do, do it from 15k!

The belly brigade soldiers on, with weekends of fun jumping and load organising – always progressive! Big shout outs to Rob Spour, Gordon Menhennet and Sophie McDonald, who all scored their first formation load in May as part of an organised weekend. The successful 19-way was Sophie's biggest formation, was on her 20th birthday and was with less than 100 jumps. Nice!

Many of our biggest events are taking place right now, so keep an eye out for hot events throughout the summer and autumn. Don't forget, there's never a better time to visit than NOW.

Look at our website or Facebook for details or, if you want the personal touch, send Stu@Skydiving.co.uk an email and we'll cherrypick the weekends for you. See you soon, crazy cats!

Stubert Ferglstein

ACHIEVEMENTS CATB/CHI Zoe Allen, Harrison Holt-McHale, Rob Jennings, Charlotte Perry, Mat Taylor **CH2** Tom Chan, Jack Davies, Lucy Ford, Leander Hambley **FSI** Marwa Albloshi, Leon Cross, Jack Davies, Kieren Tuffin **FFI** Sam Murray **CFI** Jonathon Charles **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Jack Davies, Ash Mohanty **100** Lee Jagger, Sophie McDonald **200** Jamie Gray, Leander Hambley **600** Adam Potter **900** Adam Pencharz **1,600** Kris Cavill **2,000** Henry Chow, Ewan Cowie, Audrey Rowe **2,100** Rob Spour **2,400** Liz Ashley **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Jack Davies

Peterlee

skydiveacademy.org.uk

Summer is here

As the summer arrives, more jumping is taking place at Peterlee. More lifts are happening due to the sun staying out longer, which means more progression too – from students getting A Licences to fun jumpers becoming coaches.

Speaking of progression, 'The Weather Witch' – a.k.a. Jamie Metcalf – has finally got his A Licence. Despite bringing all the rain and wind to the dropzone, there have been some odd bits of good weather when he has jumped. Congratulations, Jamie – no more revision training for you.

After two long years of no skydiving, Martin Mansfield and Andrew Brumby have returned. It's great to see some of our most well-known regulars back in the air and having fun with big smiles on their faces. We hope to see you both jumping more often now. Welcome back, guys.

Another of our regular jumpers, Stephen Smith, now has his FS Coach rating. After so long paying for his own slot to help people progress in the sport, he now gets to do it for free. Congratulations to you, Stephen.



Peterlee Progression week, by Lisa Stephenson

We have had a great Progression Week at Peterlee recently, with more than 500 jumps completed – that's including 60 static line, 26 freefall, 53 AFF, 26 AFF Consolidation and 75 tandems. We also had some excellent FS, FF and CH coaching, including a Flight-1 Canopy Course run by Brian Vacher.

We jumped every day except June 7, although some days did see limited opportunities for certain jumps at certain times (such as for limited periods when the wind limited solo student parachutists or cloud limiting tandem and AFF).

Aaron Wilkinson

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL John Welsh **CAT8** Jamie Metcalf, Peter Muse, Sam Parker **CH2/JMI** Paul Bantock, Martin Mansfield **FSI** Ben Boucher, Joe Burnie, Gaz Jones, Lee Sample **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Paul Bantock, Martin Mansfield **200** David Fusaro **800** Simon Minto, Janet Wilcox **1,000** Steve Burdon, Trevor Garret **3,000** Dave Taylor

Swansea

skydiveswansea.co.uk

Happy Birthday Swansea Airport!

I would like to start by wishing Swansea Airport a happy 73rd birthday! With all the recent work that has been carried out, the airport certainly doesn't look its age and I'm sure it will continue to allow us to drop people out of planes for a long time to come.

Lots of freefly going on here at Skydive Swansea, with lots of new faces and three new ninjas who have come over to the dark side. Well done to Darren Porter, Blake Johnston and Aled Mason on getting their FF1 stickers signed, sealed and delivered (after your obligatory beverages were added to the beer fridge, of course!). We have welcomed tons of new faces to the DZ in recent months, with many taking advantage of our 15k lifts every Friday afternoon – nice to meet you, guys! It's lovely to see the UK's oldest skydiver, Dilys Price, back over the Gower skies too. She's such an inspiration to all of us – you go girl!

We have had a few film crews visiting the airport over the last few months. Welsh channel S4C

presenters came by to do a tandem for their program *Clic* and piqued the interest of our camera guys with all their fancy gear. It appears Anthony Andrews is in the market for a new camera following their visit – I'm sure it won't be a snag hazard! We also welcomed filmmakers who filmed a scene for their fact-based investigative thriller *A Dark Reflection*, in which: "A journalist digs deep into the world of aviation and discovers some uncomfortable truths. And a conspiracy trail dating back to 1954. But why is no one saying anything?" Intense, huh? The movie should hopefully be aired in Cannes this month. We wish them every success!

Congratulations to Kristian Davey, Lewis Butcher and Mike Gough on gaining their A Licences, Catherine Owen on gaining her B Licence, Shane Daniels on his 100th jump and Anthony Andrews on his 1,000th jump and D Licence. A special welcome back goes to Louise Fisher who, after a long hiatus, finally returned to the DZ and absolutely smashed her AFF Level 5! Massive

thumbs up to you, Louise. Let's not leave it quite so long for the next one, yeah? We want you to come and play in the sky!

Blue skies everyone!

Laura Turner



*Teej Quigley being awesome in her new badass suit!
By Darren Porter*

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Lewis Butcher, Kristian Davey, Mike Gough **CH2/JM1** Catherine Owen **FF1** Blake Johnston, Aled Mason, Darren Porter **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Shane Daniels **1,000** Anthony Andrews

Tilstock

theparachutecentre.com

Summer, shenanigans and skygods

We have been blessed with the beautiful sunshine at Skydive Tilstock once again. It's been non-stop jumping for experienced jumpers, students and tandems.

Firstly, we would like to say a massive welcome to Conrad Allen, who is our new CSI at Tilstock. He joined us in June and, what with all of this lovely sunshine, it has certainly not been a relaxing few weeks for him. The static line students are showing some massive progression and it's been freefalls galore with Jack Busby, Laura Hemmings, Paul Swan, Piotr Czartoiomny and Victoria Taylor all recently achieving their first freefalls. Good job, ladies and gentlemen.

It's not just students having all the fun, though. Our experienced jumpers have also been enjoying the sky. Lyndsay Morris-Berry gave us all some

entertainment when she literally got blown off the side of the Airvan on climb out and it's all been captured on video to brighten the mood on wet weather days – thanks Lyndsay. Dan Cope, Dan Griffiths and I have been having some fun learning the 4-way blocks with a lot of help from Ellie Southworth.

Also, Gary Windon has been putting a little bit of religion into his jumps... **WANTED: Skygods. Other ministers of religion who skydive? If you would like to get in touch, contact Gary Windon at revgwindon@gmail.com**

A special mention goes to Tony Lightfoot, who celebrated 30 years of jumping in April this year. Tony did his first jump in 1984 and it's nice to see the smile on someone's face 30 years on. Congratulations, Tony.

Finally, just to let you all know (a little bit in advance) that our Christmas Party has been planned and will be taking place on December 13 at Hawkstone Park. If you haven't been to a Tilstock Christmas Party before, then you definitely have to come along – it's always a night full of unusual shenanigans. Give Colin a call on 01948 841111 or let us know at the DZ if you would like to attend.

Mary Carbutt



Jack Busby after his first static line jump, with his Dad CCI Alex Busby-Hicks. By Kat Busby-Hicks

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Jack Busby, Piotr Czartoiomny, Laura Hemmings, Paul Swan, Victoria Taylor **CH2/JM1** Pete Dickens, Laura Jones, Gary Windon **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Pete Dickens, Laura Jones **100** Dave Smith **200** Lyndsey Morris-Berry, Rich Scott **400** Mike Pritchard **500** Ian Rayner



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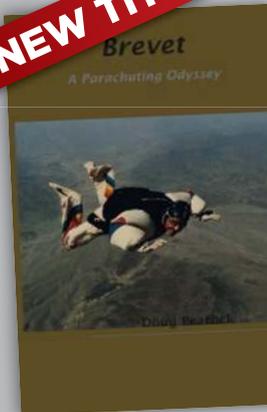
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Photo: Eric Johnson - MSF

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Rob Gray and girlfriend Bel Lucas strike the same pose in the sky and in the sea



November 11-16

U **First Indoor Skydiving World Cup (IPC-sanctioned)**

Location: **iFly Austin, Texas**

November 13-21

U **World Parachutists Over Phorty (POPS) Meet**

Location: **Argentina** · aeroclubsanjuan.com.ar

November 15-16

FS **Load Organising with Stubert**

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

November 20

BPA **STC Meeting**

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

November 20-21

U **B Licence and Packing Days**

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

November 22-23

A **Freefly with Paul Cooper**

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

November 29

B/F **Christmas Party**

Location: **Peterlee** · skydiveacademy.org.uk



September 27

U **Packing Course**

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October

October 4

U **B Licence Progression Day**

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 4

FS **Bodyflight Revenge Tunnel Meet**

Location: **Bodyflight Bedford** · bodyflight.co.uk

October 4-12

B/F **Equinox Boogie**

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

October 7

BPA **Council Meeting**

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

October 8-12

CP **SunPath CP Open Championships**

Location: **Raeford, NC, USA** · sunpath.com

October 12-18

FS **Women's World Record and Men's World Record**

Location: **Perris, California** · p3.com

October 13-17

U **Freshers' Progression Week**

Location: **Peterlee** · skydiveacademy.org.uk

October 18

CP **Basic Canopy Skills with Wez Westley**

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 18-19

FS **Multiplane Skydiving with Dave West**

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

October 23-24

U **B Licence and Packing Days**

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

October 25

U **Packing Course**

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 25-26

FS **Hibbleween 12-way Meet**

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

November

November 1-8

CP **CP World Championships**

Location: **Z-Hills, FL, USA**

November 3-7

BPA **CSBI, AFFBI, TBI and Advanced Instructor Course**

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

November 10-14

BPA **CSI Instructor Course**

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

December

December 6

BPA **Saturday BPA Council Meeting**

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

December 13

B/F **Christmas Party**

Location: **Paragon** · paragonskydiving.co.uk

December 13

B/F **Christmas Party**

Location: **Tilstock** · theparachutecentre.com

2015/16

April 3-4 2015

FS **A** **Bodyflight World Challenge 10-year Anniversary Meet**

Location: **Bodyflight Bedford** · worldchallenge.info

August 19-28 2015

S&A **European Championships in Style and Accuracy 2015**

Location: **Bulgaria**

August 23-30 2015

CP **CP World Cup 2015**

Location: **Montreal, Canada**

September 9-23 2016

BPA **CP** **FS** **CF** **S&A** **B/F** **A** **WS** **U**

Mondial 2016

Location: **Skydive Chicago**

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Photo: Lonnie Kirk- MSF

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ROUND ON SQUARE

In the beginning, there were round parachutes. People jumped 'round on round' – round mains with round reserves. Nowadays, almost all skydiving is 'square on square'. In the transition between the two, 'square on round' was common – a square main with a round reserve. Square malfunctions were common in the early days and, when it came

down to the last chance, people believed "round was sound" for a reserve, but "square got you there" for the main.

Anyway, in a twist on the same theme, here is some early CRW (now called CF) which could be captioned 'round on square' and 'triangular on square on square'!



By Ken Guest (1979)



Delta II Parawing on top, by Ken Guest



BPA Life member Tony Dale, second from the right

NIFTY FIFTY

Hi Liz,

Another great Mag! The 50th article and pics certainly brought back some old memories.

I did my first freefall, a five-second from the Rapide, at Weston on the Green on December 7 1963. On December 7 2013, I did a couple of nice

5-way RW jumps at the Pinjarra DZ here in Western Australia.

Fifty years to the day, and I have skydived every year since. I wonder how many BPA members can claim half a century of continuous skydiving?

Keep up the great work! Blue skies and best regards.

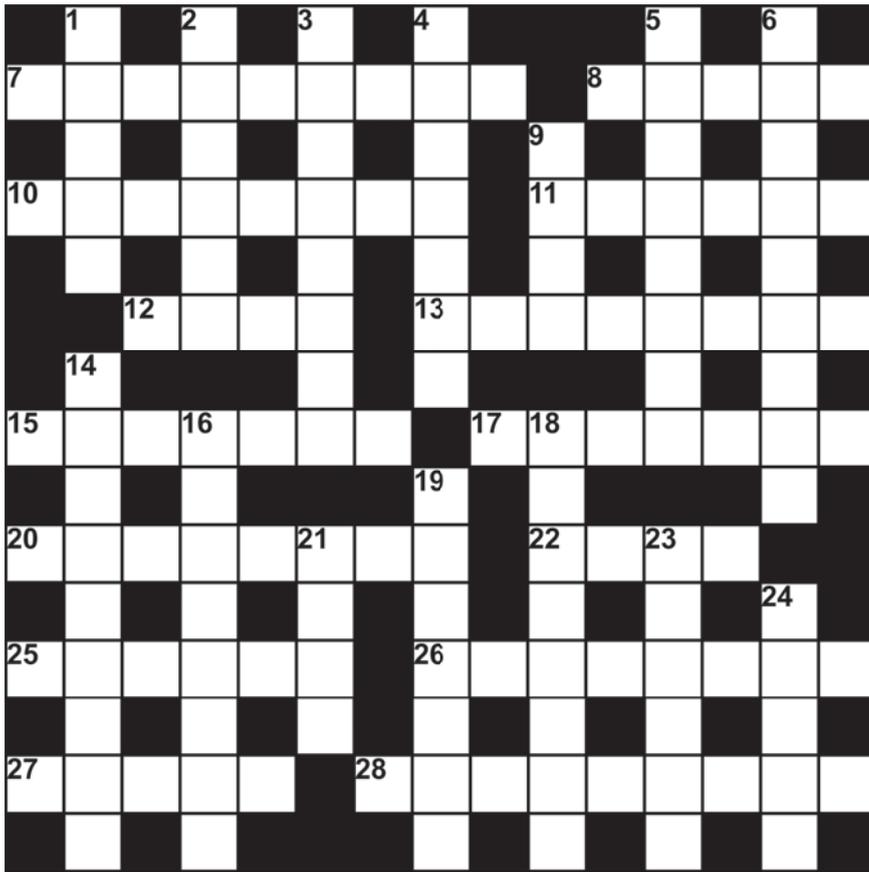
Tony Dale

BPA 845
Life member #1
D319(UK), F57(Australia)
SCR 883
POPS (UK) 277
SOS 751

PUZZLE



Paul Boorer



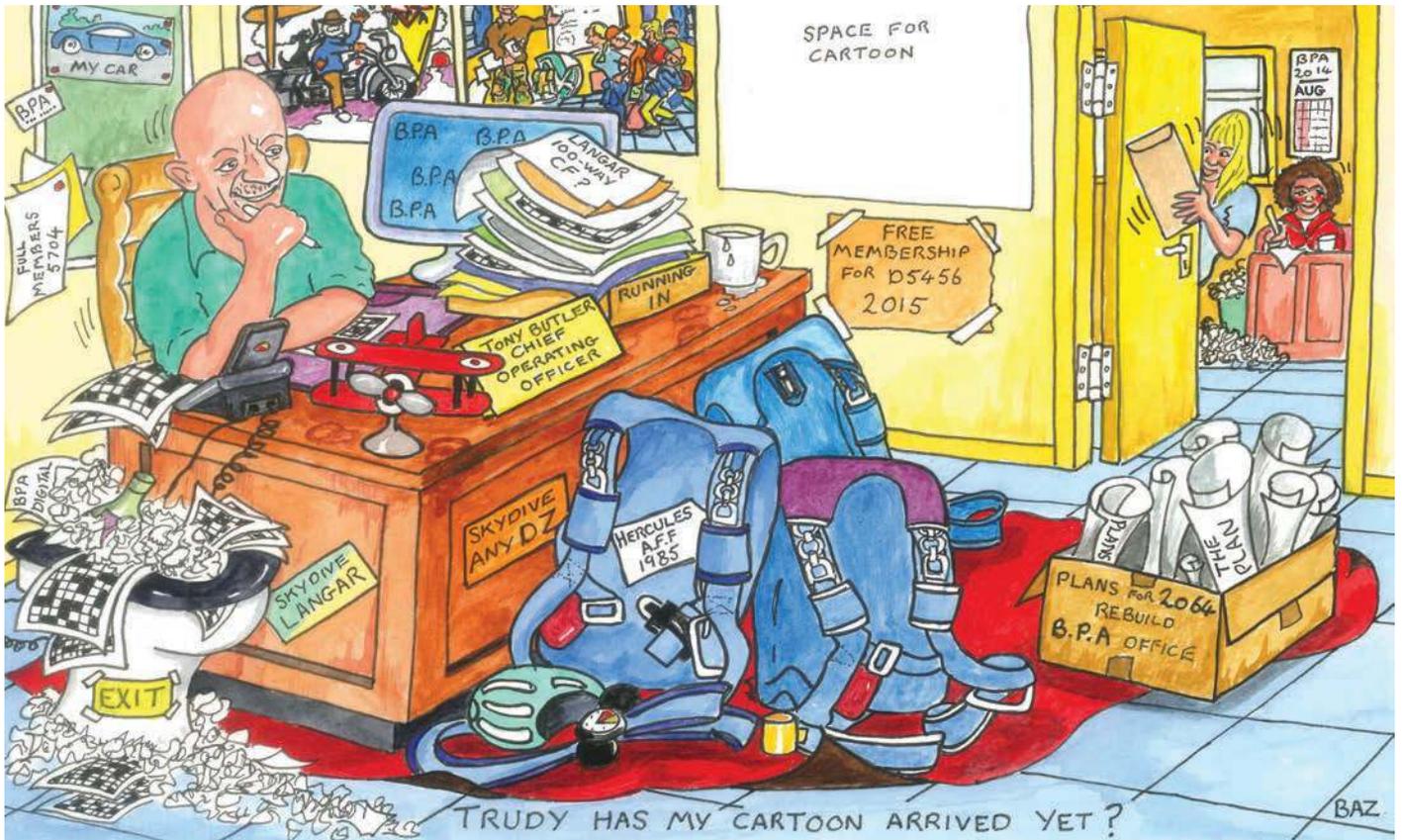
Across

- 7. Move skilfully
- 8. Woody plants
- 10. Damaging mistake
- 11. Go onboard
- 12. Competitive side
- 13. Maintained equipment
- 15. Turning on ski edges
- 17. Small canopies
- 20. Flying person (probably you)
- 22. Fall short
- 25. Spinning air streams
- 26. Practising formations
- 27. Unfolds
- 28. Canopy with several compartments (5-4)

Down

- 1. Grab from the air
- 2. Easily manageable
- 3. Flying person (of steel)
- 4. From England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland (currently)
- 5. Moving sideways
- 6. Questioned after event
- 9. Equipment
- 14. Reverse flips (4,5)
- 16. Making a film
- 18. Fliteline containers
- 19. Flew quickly from formation
- 21. Undershirt
- 23. Collision
- 24. Difference in direction between two lines

CARTOON



Across
 7. Manoeuvre 8. Trees 10. Accident 11. Embark 12. Team 13. Serviced 15. Carving 17. Drogues
 20. Skydiver 22. Fall 25. Rotors 26. Creeping 27. Opens 28. Seven-cell

Down
 1. Catch 2. Dozzle 3. Superman 4. British 5. Grabbing 6. Debriefed 9. Gear 14. Back loops
 16. Videolog 18. Reflexes 19. Tracked 21. Vest 23. Impact 24. Angle



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